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* **IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI**

+ **W.P.(C) 2041/2023**

ZAKIR HUSSAIN Petitioner
Through: Ms. Shahrukh Alam and Mr
Shantanu, Adv. (M: 9892982325)
versus

UNION OF INDIA Respondent
Through: Mr Arnav Kumar CGSC with Mr
Hardik Bedi GP, Mr Gurdas
Khurana & Mr Suprateek Negi,
Adv. for R-1. (M: 9873657406)

CORAM:

JUSTICE PRATHIBA M. SINGH

ORDER

% **21.04.2023**

1. This hearing has been done through hybrid mode.
2. The status report has been filed, as per which the Embassy has placed on record all the steps which have been taken in respect of the Petitioner's son. The Petitioner's son is stated to have been convicted and is currently in prison. Consular access has been provided. However, it is not clear to the Petitioner as to what is the allegation against the Petitioner's son.
3. Paragraph 8 of the short affidavit filed by the Ministry of External Affairs reads as under:

"8. During informal discussions with the UAE authorities, the Embassy learnt that Mr. Saleem Sheikh Hussain has been sentenced to 15 years imprisonment and deportation under National Security Case No 98/2019. Later the sentence was reduced to 10 years imprisonment and deportation to India after completion of sentence. Mr. Saleem

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is presently lodged in Al Sader jail, Abu Dhabi since 24.01.2020. Mr. Saleem was working with M/s Saal Operating System Proprietorship, Abu Dhabi at the time of his arrest. However, it may be noted that this information was shared by the UAE police authorities informally and no written confirmation regarding the same has been provided to the Embassy by the UAE authorities.”

4. Ld. counsel for the Petitioner also submits that while the Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty (MLAT) may not be applicable, however there are other treaties which could be used to help the case of the Petitioner’s son.
5. Considering the nature of the matter, it is requested that a senior official from the Ministry of External Affairs or Embassy in UAE shall join the proceedings virtually in order to inform the Court as to the steps which have been taken in the matter in order to assist the Petitioner.
6. List on 12th May, 2023 at 2:30 pm.

PRATHIBA M. SINGH, J.

APRIL 21, 2023/dk/rp