

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH**

CRM-M-12552 of 2017(O&M)

Date of Decision: 11.04.2017

Neetu and anr.

...Petitioners

Versus

State of Haryana and others

...Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE HARINDER SINGH SIDHU

Present: - Mr. Vikram Singh, Advocate
for the petitioners.

HARINDER SINGH SIDHU, J.

The present petition has been filed under Section 482 Cr.P.C. seeking direction to respondents Nos. 2 and 3 to provide protection to the lives and liberty of the petitioners at the hands of private respondents No. 4 to 7.

It has been averred that petitioner no.1(Neetu) is two months short of 18 years. Date of birth of petitioner No.2 is 06.09.1995 and copies of Aadhar Card of petitioner No.1 and affidavit of petitioner No.2 to this effect are attached as Annexures P-1 and P-2 respectively.

It has been submitted that the marriage of the petitioners was solemnized on 10.04.2017 according to Hindu rites. Private respondents No. 4 to 7 are opposed to the marriage, as the petitioners had performed the marriage without their consent. The petitioners have submitted representation dated 10.04.2017 (Annexure P-4) to respondent No.2 seeking protection of their lives and liberty at the hands of the private respondents.

Learned counsel relies on a decision of this Court in Crl. Misc. No.M-35410 of 2010 titled as Neelam Rani and another vs. State of Haryana and ors., decided on 06.12.2010 and contends that protection cannot be

denied in the instant case where the girl is slightly less than 18 years of age.

After hearing counsel for the petitioners and without expressing any opinion on the merits of the case or the validity of the marriage and the age of the petitioners and keeping in view the binding precedent of the Hon'ble Apex Court in *Lata Singh v.State of U.P. And another, 2006(2) SCC (Criminal) 478*, the present petition is disposed of with direction to respondent No.2 to look into the said issue and take necessary action in accordance with law.

April 11, 2017

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(HARINDER SINGH SIDHU)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/ reasoned:

Yes/No

Whether Reportable:

Yes/No