

CRM-M No.21738 of 2017

Date of Decision: June 13, 2017

Satpal Verma and another

.....Petitioner(s)

Versus

State of Punjab and others

....Respondent(s)

CORAM:- HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE AMOL RATTAN SINGH

Present : Mohd. Yousaf, Advocate
for the petitioner(s).

AMOL RATTAN SINGH, J. (ORAL)

The petitioners, who are present in the Court, are seeking protection of their lives and liberty at the hands of respondents No.4 to 6, who are stated to be the father, brother and mother of petitioner No.2, on account of the fact that they have married each other of their own free will on 24.01.2017. Photographs of what is stated to be a marriage ceremony have been annexed with the petition.

In support of proof of age of the petitioners, though copies of their Aadhar Cards have been annexed with the petition, showing the date of birth of petitioner No.1 to be 13.10.1994, and that of petitioner No.2 to be 27.01.1996, their original Matriculation Examination Certificates issued by the Punjab School Education Board, have also been produced in Court. As per the said documents both the petitioners are above the legally marriageable age.

On a specific query put to learned counsel for the petitioners, it has been stated that neither are the petitioners in any prohibited relationship to each other, nor has any of them been married earlier. He states that he has obtained specific instructions from the petitioners in that regard.

Consequently, since protection of lives and liberty is a fundamental right of every citizen enshrined in Article 21 of the Constitution of India, this petition is disposed of with a direction to respondents No.2 & 3 to ensure that the life and liberty of the petitioners are not put to any harm or threat at the hands of the aforesaid respondents or at their behest.

However, it is made clear that if any of the averments made in the petition is found to be incorrect, specifically with regard to either the petitioners being in any prohibited relationship to each other, or as regards their previous marital status, or with regard to their age, this order shall not be construed to be a bar on any proceedings initiated as per law.

June 13, 2017
ps-I/harsha

(AMOL RATTAN SINGH)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned : Yes/No

Whether reportable : Yes/No