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

CRM-M-8801 of 2017

Date of decision: March 15, 2017

Pooja Devi and another

.....Petitioners

Versus

State of Punjab and others

.....Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE A.B. CHAUDHARI

Present: Mr. M.S. Bajwa, Advocate for the petitioners.

A.B. CHAUDHARI, J (Oral)

Notice of motion.

Mr. Jasjit Singh, Advocate appears and accepts notice on behalf of respondents No.4 to 10.

Petitioners have filed this petition under Section 482 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 for issuance of directions to respondents No.2 and 3 to protect their life and liberty from the hands of respondents No.4 to 10.

Division Bench of this Court in the case of **Asha and another versus State of Haryana and others**, in CWP No.6717 of 2009, decided on 25.07.2012, had made an interim order on 31.03.2010, which reads as under:-

“Therefore, all the District and Sessions Judges in Punjab, Haryana and also U.T. Chandigarh are directed to ensure that if such run away couples approach them for help and assistance, interim protection shall be provided by the learned District and Sessions Judge, pending

further orders of this Court. In case the District and Sessions Judge is not available, the senior-most Additional District and Sessions Judge will provide such protection.”

While disposing of the said writ petition, the Division Bench has made the above order absolute which is reproduced below:-

“(i) The direction of this Court dated 31.3.2010 granting liberty to couples who have married against the wishes of their parents to approach the District and Sessions Judges in Punjab, Haryana and U.T. Chandigarh for grant of protection is made absolute.”

In view of the above order made by the Division Bench, this Court has no option but to make the following order:-

ORDER

- (i) CRM-M-8801 of 2017 stands disposed of with a liberty in favour of the petitioners to approach the Sessions Court concerned in accordance with the above said directions made by the Division Bench.
- (ii) By way of interim measure, concerned police authority, respondent No.2 shall provide protection to the petitioners for a period of 7 days only to enable them to seek necessary relief from the Sessions Court.

(A.B. CHAUDHARI)
JUDGE

March 15, 2017

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Whether speaking/ reasoned: Yes/No

Whether Reportable: Yes/No