

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT CHANDIGARH

Sr. No. 243

CRWP-1528-2016

Decided on : 27.03.2017

Manpreet Singh

..... Petitioner

VERSUS

State of Punjab and others

..... Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE DEEPAK SIBAL

Present: Mr. Brijesh Nandan, Advocate, for the petitioner.

Mr. K. S. Sidhu, DAG, Punjab.

Mr. S. K. Gupta, Advocate, for respondents No. 4 to 9.

DEEPAK SIBAL, J. (ORAL)

The present petition has been filed under Articles 226/227 of the Constitution of India, praying for the issuance of a writ in the nature of *habeas corpus* seeking release of the detenue-Meenu from the custody of respondents No. 4 to 9.

The detenue-Meenu who is identified by counsel for the petitioner, has appeared before me and got recorded her statement which is to the following effect: -

“Stated that I, Meenu, being major, have married with the petitioner Manpreet Singh out of my own free will and without any pressure from anybody. Since my parents are against my marriage, I apprehend danger to our lives and liberty at the hands of my family members. Now, I wish to live with my husband Manpreet Singh in my matrimonial home.”

It is not disputed by the parties that the detenue-Meenu is a major and that being so, it is entirely up to her to stay with whomsoever she wishes to as per her own will. Resultantly, she is free to leave this Court in the company of the petitioner, if she so desires.

The afore-quoted statement of the detenue-Meenu reveals that she and the petitioner apprehend danger to their lives and liberty at the hands of the private respondents. That being so, they shall be escorted to the office of the SSP, Tarn Taran by SI Jasbir Singh, who is attending the Court to assist the State counsel in this very case. On such production before the SSP, Tarn Taran, the threat perception expressed by the detenue would be considered by the SSP and appropriate steps would be taken by him forthwith to ensure the protection of life and liberty of the detenue as also the petitioner.

It is made clear that this order shall not be taken to validate the alleged marriage of the petitioners or protect them from legal action for violation of law, if any, committed by them.

A copy of this order be handed over to learned State counsel under the signatures of the Bench Secretary.

27.03.2017
shamsher

[DEEPAK SIBAL]
JUDGE