

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

CRM-M-1944-2018

Date of Decision: 16.03.2018

Priti and another

.....Petitioners

Vs.

State of Haryana and others

.....Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE AMOL RATTAN SINGH

Present: None for the petitioners.

Mr. B.S. Virk, DAG, Haryana.

AMOL RATTAN SINGH, J. (ORAL)

By this petition, the petitioners are seeking protection of their lives and liberty at the hands of respondents no. 2 to 5, on account of the fact that they have married each other of their own free will, against the wishes of the said respondents on 15.01.2018. Notice had been ordered to be issued vide order dated 17.01.2018, observing therein that even as per the date of birth given in the Aadhar card of petitioner no. 2, he was below 21 years of age. However, naturally, interim protection had been ordered as regards the lives and liberty of the petitioners, further observing that the said order would not prohibit proceedings initiated under the provisions of the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006, if instituted by a competent person.

As per the report of the registry, process fee was not filed and as a result, the notice could not be issued.

Today, none appears for the petitioners even on second call.

Consequently, this petition is disposed of with a direction to respondents no. 2 and 3, i.e. the Senior Superintendent of Police, Karnal and

the S.H.O. Police Station Madhbun, District Karnal, to ensure that the lives and liberty of the petitioners continue to be protected at the hands of respondents no. 4 and 5 and any other person, as per law. However, since the offence punishable under Section 10 of the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006 is a cognizable offence, the said respondents would initiate proceedings under Section 10 against petitioner no. 2 and any other persons seen to be involved in the performance of a 'child marriage'.

March 16, 2018
Divyanshi

(AMOL RATTAN SINGH)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned	Yes
Whether Reportable	No