

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

**CRM-M-34894-2018
Date of Decision:14.08.2018**

Monika Khanna @ Monika Rani & anr.

.... Petitioners

Versus

State of Punjab & ors.

.... Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE RAMENDRA JAIN

Present: - Mr. SK Arya, Advocate,
for the petitioners.

RAMENDRA JAIN, J. (ORAL)

In the instant petition under Section 482 Cr.P.C. prayer has been made for direction to respondents No.1 to 3 to protect the life and liberty of the petitioners at the hands of respondents No.4 and 5.

Learned counsel for the petitioners submits that the petitioners have solemnized marriage against the wishes of their parents in Shiv Durga Mandir, Village Ferojpur, Sector 19, Panchkula.

Heard.

It has become dire necessity to take judicial note of the fact that every day large number of protection petitions by runaway couples after solemnising their marriage against the wishes of their respective parents and family members are being filed in this Court, annexing a certificate of self-styled Pandits/Purohits/Granthis and fake institutions certifying their marriage. Such Pandits/Purohits/Granthis and fake institutions are indulged in illegal activities and solemnise marriages by charging huge lump sum contractual amount without following legal procedure enshrined under the Hindu Marriage Act or any other Act under which the parties fall.

Needless to mention here that such type of Purohits/Pandits/

Granthis and fake institutions act as a team consisting of cameraman, who is

master in dubbing photographs of the persons, who contact him to give a colour of marriage.

In these circumstances, there is no option left with the Court, but to curb down such menace by ordering to close down such fake and self-styled institutions which are indulged in illegal activities of solemnising marriages against the wishes of the parents of the parties and normal norms of the society.

Deputy Commissioner of Police, Panchkula, is directed to get the matter investigated as to how many illegal marriages have been got solemnised by the Purohits/Pandits of the aforesaid Mandir in a span of one year without the consent of the parents/family members of the persons and how many letter pads of different fake self-styled institutions/trust etc. have been got printed by him to issue different marriage certificates. If need be or found guilty, such Pandits/Purohits/Granthis be taken to task by registering FIR against them to send a meaningful message in the society.

However, without commenting on the legality and validity of marriage between the petitioners, respondent No.2–Commissioner of Police, Amritsar, is directed to inquire as to whether the petitioners genuinely need any protection and if so, do the needful.

Disposed of .

14.08.2018
monika

(RAMENDRA JAIN)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned
Whether Reportable

Yes/No
Yes/No