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* **IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI**

+ **W.P.(CRL) 2295/2018**

SHEEBA @ SHARLIN & ANR. Petitioners
Through: Nr. Satya Prakash Gautam, Mr. Sunil
Kumar and Ms. Jyoti Sheel, Advocates with
Petitioners in person.
Versus
GOVT OF NCT OF DELHI & ORS. Respondents
Through: Mr. Avi Singh, Additional Standing Counsel
for State.

CORAM:
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE NAJMI WAZIRI

ORDER
% **02.08.2018**

The petitioners are legal adults. They rely upon the Aadhar Cards issued by the Unique Identification Authority of India in their favour, which shows their date of births as 30.03.1997 and 27.10.1993 respectively. They claim to have married each other of their free volition. They fear for their life, limb and liberty from respondents No. 3 to 6, who are relatives of petitioner No.1 because the marriage is not with their consent and they are inimical to the petitioners. They seek protection from police from anything untoward happening to them at the hands of the said respondents or at their behest.

Mr. Avi Singh, the learned Additional Standing Counsel for the State submits that the address furnished by the petitioners was verified and the father of petitioner No. 2 has stated that they do not reside at the said address any more.

The learned counsel for the petitioners submits that being fearful of their present status and the threat as apprehended by them, the petitioners are on the move in trepidation. It is not uncommon that young couple marrying of their free volition and not necessarily with the blessings of the family often lead a persecuted life till such time that they are granted protection by way of a judicial intervention. In the circumstances, the petitioners shall be provided due protection by the Station House Officer (SHO) of the area of their residence in Delhi. They will be interacted with and will be provided three telephone numbers of police officers including one of the lady police officer. The address of the petitioners shall not be disclosed to anybody by the police. These numbers shall be kept operational at all times so that any exigency can be intimated on either of the numbers by the petitioners. The Court is assured by the learned counsel for the State that any message received on the said numbers or on any other telephone number of the police either by way of a telephone call or SMS shall be immediately responded to. Additionally, the Beat Constable/Division Staff of the area shall regularly visit the residence of the petitioners on a daily basis and report the same in the *Roznamcha*. The safety and security of the petitioners shall be assessed by the SHO on a weekly basis with due endorsement of the same in the *Roznamcha*. The Beat Constable shall record entries in his Beat Book.

The learned counsel for the petitioners submits that the present address of the petitioners shall be furnished to Mr. Avi Singh, the learned Additional Standing Counsel for the State in the course of the day.

The learned counsel for the State submits that the SHO concerned shall duly sensitize respondents No. 3 to 6 about the petitioners' right to choose a life partner; to marry as per their free volition; to live a life

according to their choice and nobody has a right to interfere in the same.

Should the petitioners shift their address to the jurisdiction of any other Police Station in Delhi, the same protection shall be granted to them by the SHO of the subsequent Police Station as well.

No further orders are required.

The petition stands disposed-off in terms of the above.

A copy of this order be given *dasti* to the learned counsel for the parties.

NAJMI WAZIRI, J.

AUGUST 02, 2018

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