

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

CWP-33472-2019

Date of decision: 18.11.2019

Rajat Bhatti and another

.....Petitioners

vs.

State of Punjab and others

.....Respondents

CORAM: - HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANJAY KUMAR

Present: - Petitioners in person with
Mr. R.S. Dhillon, Advocate.

.....

Sanjay Kumar, J. (ORAL)

The petitioners seek a direction to the police authorities of the State of Punjab to protect their lives and liberty which are allegedly under threat from respondents No. 4 to 6, the relations of Priya, the second petitioner. Perusal of the record reflects that the second petitioner, Priya, is aged 17 ½ years as her date of birth is 11.11.2002. She is therefore a minor as on date. However, she claims to have married the first petitioner, Rajat Bhatti, and Marriage Certificate dated 11.11.2019 issued by Akhil Bhartiya Jyotish Karam Kand Prishad India (Regd.), is produced in evidence thereof.

As this Court does not propose to go into the merits of the matter, be it in the context of the validity of the marriage of the petitioners or the alleged threat that they perceive from the unofficial respondents, it is not necessary to put respondents No. 4 to 6 on notice or afford them an opportunity of hearing. This Court is only concerned with the prayer of the petitioners to protect their lives and liberty. The

State would be under a duty to extend such protection under Article 21 of the Constitution of India.

Though the second petitioner, Priya, is a minor, as she claims to have married the first petitioner, Rajat Bhatti, who would now be in the position of her legal guardian, this Court is of the opinion that they would be entitled to relief in this writ petition. As the petitioners are stated to have submitted representation dated 11.11.2019 to the Senior Superintendent of Police, SBS Nagar, District Nawanshahr, the second respondent herein, the writ petition is disposed of with a direction to the second respondent, the Senior Superintendent of Police, SBS Nagar, District Nawanshahr, to take appropriate action, as warranted, upon the said representation in accordance with law.

No order as to costs.

(SANJAY KUMAR)
JUDGE

18.11.2019

rakesh

whether speaking/non speaking : Yes/no

whether reportable/non reportable : Yes/no