

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

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CRWP-5470-2020

Date of Decision: 31.07.2020.

Nisha Bhatia and another

....Petitioners.

Versus

State of Punjab and others

....Respondents.

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SUVIR SEHGAL

Present: Mr. Ithlesh Kumar, Advocate for the petitioners.

Suvir Sehgal, J. (Oral)

The Court has been convened through video conferencing due to Covid-19 pandemic.

Nisha Bhatia (petitioner No.1) claims to be 21 years and Sukhjeet Gill son of Kuldeep Chand (petitioner No.2) claims to be 18 years of age. They have pleaded that they have married against the wishes of respondents No.4 to 6 and seek protection to their life and liberty. They apprehend danger from respondents No.4 to 6. They have placed on record photographs and marriage certificate, Annexure P-3 and P-4 respectively, evidencing their marriage according to Hindu rites and ceremonies. The petitioners have submitted a representation Annexure P-5 to Senior Superintendent of Police, Hoshiarpur.

Learned counsel for the petitioners has relied upon the judgment of this Court passed by a Division Bench in **LPA No.385 of 2016 titled as Elaichi and another Vs. State of Punjab and others, decided on 16.05.2016** and a judgment of Co-ordinate Bench of this Court passed in

of Punjab and others, decided on 24.06.2019 to submit that even though boy was not of marriageable age, this Court had entertained their petitions for protection of their life and liberty.

Without entering upon an exercise to evaluate the evidentiary value of the documents placed on the file, I dispose of the petition with directions to respondents No.2 to decide the representation of the petitioners, Annexure P-5 and grant them protection, if any threat to their life and liberty is perceived.

It is clarified that this order shall not be treated as a stamp of this Court for the marriage of the petitioners.

(SUVIR SEHGAL)
JUDGE

31.07.2020

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Whether speaking/ reasoned	:	Yes/ No
Whether Reportable	:	Yes/ No