

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

CRWP-10623-2020

Date of decision : 22.12.2020

SHIVANI AND ANOTHER

... Petitioner(s)

Versus

STATE OF PUNJAB AND OTHERS

... Respondent(s)

CORAM: HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE ALKA SARIN

Present: Mr. Parvesh Sachdeva, Advocate for the petitioners.
Mr. Amit Mehta, Senior DAG, Punjab.

ALKA SARIN, J. (ORAL)

Heard through video conferencing.

Learned counsel for the petitioners has contended that both the petitioners are major and have got married against the wishes of their parents and relatives. The copies of their Aadhaar Cards have been annexed with the petition as Annexures P-1 and P-2. It is further contended that the petitioners are receiving serious threats and apprehend grave danger to their life and liberty at the hands of respondent Nos.4 to 6. The petitioners had also sent a representation dated 14.12.2020 (Annexure P-5) to the Senior Superintendent of Police, Fazilka, District Fazilka, respondent No.2, for providing adequate security. However, no action has been taken till date. The counsel for the petitioners would further contend that he limits his prayer in the present petition and would be satisfied at this stage if directions are issued for deciding the said representation in accordance with law.

On 18.12.2020 the State was asked to verify the age of petitioner No.1 as she did not look to be 24 years of age in the photograph appended with the petition.

Learned State counsel, on instructions from ASI Ravikant Sharma, has stated that the age of petitioner No.1 has since been verified and the date of birth of petitioner No.1 is 13.08.1996.

In view of the above and keeping in view the averments made in the petition regarding prayer of the petitioners seeking protection of life and liberty at the hands of respondent No.4 to 6, without expressing any opinion with regard to the veracity of the contents of the petition and the submissions made by learned counsel for the petitioners, the present petition is disposed off with a direction to the Senior Superintendent of Police, Fazilka, District Fazilka (respondent No.2) to consider the representation dated 14.12.2020 (Annexure P-5) and take necessary action as per law.

It is, however, made clear that this order shall not, in any manner, be construed as an expression of opinion on the veracity of the statements made by the petitioners or on the validity of the alleged marriage and shall have no effect on any other civil or criminal proceedings, if any, instituted/pending against them.

22.12.2020

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**(ALKA SARIN)
JUDGE**

**NOTE: Whether speaking/non-speaking: Speaking
Whether reportable: YES/NO**