

In virtual Court

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

**CRWP-2254-2021 (O&M)
Date of decision: 05.03.2021**

Krishma Rani and another

... Petitioners

Vs.

State of Punjab and others

... Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ARVIND SINGH SANGWAN

Present: Mr. K.S. Brar, Advocate
for the petitioners.

Mr. Joginder Pal Ratra, DAG, Punjab.

ARVIND SINGH SANGWAN, J. (ORAL)

Prayer in this petition is for issuance of directions to the official respondents to protect the life and liberty of petitioner No.1, aged about 17 years and 03 months and petitioner No.2, aged about 21 years.

Learned counsel for the petitioners submits that petitioner No.1 has left her home and has started living with petitioner No.2 in live-in relationship.

Learned State counsel has, however, opposed the prayer on the ground that as per the provisions of Prohibition of Children from Sexual Offences Act, a girl below the age of 18 years and a boy below the age of 21

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years is not competent to perform marriage. It is submitted that since the law has fixed the age limit for performing marriage, the same will apply *mutatis mutandis* in case of live-in relationship, as petitioner No.1 has not attained the age of 18 years and she cannot claim that she is in live-in relationship, which is legally not permissible.

In view of the above, present petition is dismissed.

[ARVIND SINGH SANGWAN]
JUDGE

05.03.2021

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Whether speaking/reasoned : Yes/No

Whether Reportable : Yes/No