

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

CRWP-2756-2021

Date of Decision: 19.03.2021

Radhika Sharma & another ...Petitioners

Versus

State of Haryana & others ...Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE GURVINDER SINGH GILL

Present: Mr. Barjesh Kumar Sharma, Advocate, for the petitioners.

(proceedings conducted through video conferencing)

GURVINDER SINGH GILL, J. (Oral)

The petitioners have approached this Court seeking issuance of a direction to official respondents to protect their lives and liberty as they apprehend threat to the same at the hands of private respondents.

Learned counsel for the petitioners has submitted that while petitioner No.2 was unmarried earlier, but petitioner No.1 had earlier been married and her marriage was dissolved by way of a '*Panchayati Divorce*'.

I have heard learned counsel for the petitioners.

A '*Panchayati Divorce*' cannot be said to be a divorce granted by the court of law and as such, it will not be possible to hold that petitioner No.1 is a divorcee. In any case, since the petitioners apprehend threat to their lives and liberty, the same certainly needs to be taken care of.

Accordingly, without commenting as regards the veracity of the averments made in the petition and also as regards the validity of

alleged marriage of the petitioners, the petition is disposed of with a direction to respondent No.2 i.e. Superintendent of Police, Yamuna Nagar to look into the matter and to dispose of the representation dated 16.03.2021 (Annexure P-5) in accordance with law. In case, it is found that there is a genuine threat to the lives and liberty of the petitioners, then necessary steps warranted under law be taken thereupon at the earliest so as to ensure that no harm is caused to the petitioners.

A copy of this order alongwith copy of the representation dated 16.03.2021 be sent to Superintendent of Police, Yamuna Nagar (respondent No.2), so as to enable him to do the needful expeditiously.

It is, however, clarified that the aforesaid order shall not be taken to be any expression as regards the validity of marriage of the petitioners and shall not confer any immunity upon the petitioners, in case it is found that they have committed any wrong.

19.03.2021

Vimal

(GURVINDER SINGH GILL)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned: **Yes/No**

Whether reportable: **Yes/No**