

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

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**CRWP No.3213 of 2021(O&M)
Date of Decision: 05.04.2021**

Priyanka Chauhan and another

....Petitioners

Versus

State of Punjab and others

....Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE LALIT BATRA

Present: Ms. Manisha Nehra, Advocate for the petitioners.

Lalit Batra, J.(Oral)

Case has been taken up for hearing through Video Conferencing.

Learned counsel for the petitioners has placed on record photocopy of order dated 11.12.2020 passed by Additional Principal Judge (Family Court), Ambala, in terms of which, earlier marriage of petitioner No.2 - Sunil Kumar with Neha has been dissolved by decree of divorce by mutual consent as envisaged under Section 13-B of the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955.

Petitioners have sought protection of their life *and* liberty, *inter alia*, taking the plea that they performed the marriage with each other, whereas private respondents are not accepting their marriage and now they are apprehending danger to their life and liberty from private respondents. Learned counsel for the petitioners contended that the petitioners performed marriage on 24.03.2021.

At the asking of Court, Mr. Mehardeep Singh, Additional Advocate General, Punjab, accepts notice on behalf of respondents No.1 to 3. Complete copy of paper book has been supplied to him.

Having considered the submissions made by learned counsel for the petitioners and perusal of record, respondent No.2 – Senior Superintendent of Police, Mohali, is directed to consider the representation dated 25.03.2021 (Annexure P/5) and issue necessary orders, as warranted by law, so as to ensure that no harm is caused to the life and liberty of the petitioners at the hands of private respondents.

However, it is also made clear that this order shall not be taken to validate the alleged marriage of the petitioners or entitle them for any protection against their arrest or continuance of any criminal proceedings, if they are found involved in the commission of any cognizable offence. In case, the petitioners had committed any offence, the law will take its own course.

With the above said observations made and directions issued, the present petition stands disposed of.

(LALIT BATRA)
JUDGE

05.04.2021
D.Gulati

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