

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

**CRWP No.5388 of 2021 (O&M)**

**Date of decision: 15.06.2021**

Akshay Rakatbeej and another

.....Petitioners

Versus

State of Punjab and others

.....Respondents

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE MAHABIR SINGH SINDHU**

Present: Mr. Navinderjit Singh Dandiwal, Advocate for the petitioners.

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**MAHABIR SINGH SINDHU, J.**

1. Present criminal writ petition under Articles 226/227 of the Constitution of India has been filed by the petitioners praying for protection to their life and liberty in view of the marriage solemnized by them against the wishes of respondent Nos.4 to 9.
2. Notice of motion.
3. On the asking of the Court, Mr. Mehardeep Singh Dullat, Addl. A.G., Punjab, who is present through Video-Conference, accepts notice on behalf of official respondent Nos.1 to 3 and requisite copies of the petition have already been supplied to the State by the learned Counsel for the petitioners.
4. Paper-book reveals that marriage of the petitioners was solemnized on 03.06.2021. The documents annexed by the petitioners with the petition including their Aadhaar Cards (P-1 and P-2, respectively) show that both are major and duly identified by their Counsel, but apprehending danger to their life and liberty at the hands of respondent Nos.4 to 9.

5. Therefore, the present petition is disposed off with a direction to respondent No.3-Station House Officer, Police Station Malout, Tehsil Malout, District Sri Muktsar Sahib to protect the life and liberty of the petitioners as per law.
6. However, it is made clear that this order may not be construed as expression of an opinion on legality and validity of the marriage of the petitioners.
7. In case any criminal case is pending against petitioner No.1, this order shall not be any hindrance for the Investigating Officer to proceed according to law.

June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
Gagan

( MAHABIR SINGH SINDHU )  
JUDGE

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|---------------------------|--------|
| Whether speaking/reasoned | Yes/No |
| Whether Reportable        | Yes/No |