

Mehak Padda and another

..... Petitioners

Versus

State of Punjab and others

.....Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE RAJESH BHARDWAJ

Present: Ms. Swati Verma, Advocate, for the petitioners.

RAJESH BHARDWAJ, J. (ORAL)

Matter has been taken up through video conferencing via Webex facility in the light of the Pandemic Covid-19 situation and as per instructions.

This petition has been filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India for directing respondents No. 2 and 3 to protect the life and liberty of the petitioners from the hands of respondents No.4 to 9.

Learned counsel for the petitioners states that both the petitioners are major, have married against the wishes of respondents No.4 to 9 and have sought protection to their life and liberty. They apprehend danger from respondents No.4 to 9. Their marriage certificate as well as marriage photographs as evidence of their marriage are on record as Annexures P-3 and P-4. The petitioners have submitted a representation dated 23.6.2021 Annexure P-5 to Sr. Superintendent of Police, Ludhiana.

Notice of motion to respondents No. 1 to 3- State only.

On asking of this Court, Mr. Ajay Pal Singh Gill, Deputy Advocate General, Punjab accepts notice on behalf of the State.

Without entering upon an exercise to evaluate the evidentiary value of the documents placed on the file, I dispose of the petition with directions to respondent No. 2 i.e. Commissioner of Police, Ludhiana, Punjab to decide the representation of the petitioners, Annexure P-5 (if not filed, the petitioners may file the same before respondent No.2 within three days) and grant them protection, if any threat to their life and liberty is perceived. It is made clear that this order shall not be taken to protect the petitioners from any legal action for violation of law if any committed by them. This order would not be understood having expressed any opinion whatsoever by this Court on the validity of the marriage of the petitioners.

(RAJESH BHARDWAJ)
JUDGE

25.6.2021
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Whether Speaking/Reasoned	:	Yes/No
Whether Reportable	:	Yes/No