

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

CRWP No.7241 of 2021

Date of Decision:-04.08.2021

Geeta and another

.....Petitioners.

Versus

State of Punjab and others

.....Respondents.

(Heard through Video-Conferencing)

CORAM: *HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE MEENAKSHI I. MEHTA*

Present:- Mr. S.K. Choudhary, Advocate
 for the petitioners.

MEENAKSHI I. MEHTA, J.(Oral)

By way of the instant petition, both the petitioners seek the indulgence of this Court for the issuance of a writ in the nature of mandamus directing respondents No.1 to 3 to protect their lives and liberty as they apprehend threat to the same at the hands of respondent No.4 because they (petitioners) have solemnized their marriage against the wishes of this respondent. It has also been mentioned in this petition that a representation (Annexure P-5) has already been moved to respondents No.2 and 3 in this regard.

Ms. Samina Dhir, learned Deputy Advocate General, Punjab, has joined the proceedings on behalf of respondents No.1 to 3 in this case in pursuance of the copies of this petition having been sent to the respondent-State in advance.

Heard.

Learned counsel for the petitioners restricts his prayer to the issuance of a direction to respondent No.2 to look into and take appropriate action on the said representation (Annexure P-5) of the petitioners.

Learned State counsel has no objection for the same.

However, it is pertinent to mention here that in para 14 of the petition, it has specifically been mentioned that the first marriage of petitioner No.1 with one Narinder Kumar stands dissolved by way of a decree of divorce dated 13.07.2021 but however, the said document has not been placed on the record.

Be that as it may, keeping in view the intent of the fundamental right enshrined in Article 21 of the Constitution of India which ensures the protection of life and liberty to the citizens and also the above-discussed limited prayer as made by learned counsel for the petitioners and without commenting or expressing any opinion on the legality and validity of the marriage, as stated to have been solemnized between the petitioners, respondent No.2-Senior Superintendent of Police, Batala, District Gurdaspur, is hereby directed to look into the said representation (Annexure P-5) of the petitioners and if it is found that the petitioners genuinely deserve any protection, then to take appropriate action in accordance with law.

It is further clarified that this order shall not be construed to be a shield to the petitioners against any proceedings already initiated or intended/contemplated to be initiated against them by any competent

authority/person on account of their afore-said marriage and permissible under the relevant provisions of law.

This petition stands disposed of accordingly.

August 04, 2021

Yag Dutt

(MEENAKSHI I. MEHTA)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned: *Yes*

Whether Reportable: *No*