

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

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**CRWP-7594-2021
Date of Decision:12.08.2021**

PRIYANKA DEVI AND ANR

...PETITIONERS

VERSUS

STATE OF PUNJAB AND OTHERS

...RESPONDENTS

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SUVIR SEHGAL

Present: Mr. Sachin Puri, Advocate
for the petitioners.

SUVIR SEHGAL, J.(ORAL)

The Court has been convened through video conferencing due to Covid-19 pandemic.

Priyanka Devi wife of Gurwinder Singh (petitioner No.1) claims to be 18 years and Gurwinder Singh (petitioner No.2) son of Gurbaksh Singh claims to be 20 years of age. Petitioner No.2 is not of marriageable age, though he claims to have married with petitioner No.1. They have pleaded that they have married against the wishes of respondents no.5 to 8 and seek protection of their life and liberty. They apprehend danger from respondents No.5 to 8. They have placed on record Marriage Certificate, Annexure P-3, evidencing their marriage. The petitioners have submitted a representation, Annexure P-4 to the Senior Superintendent of Police, Kapurthala, respondent No.2.

Counsel for the petitioners has relied upon the judgment of this Court passed by a Division Bench in LPA No.385 of 2016 titled as **Elaichi and another vs. State of Punjab and others**, decided on 16.05.2016 and a judgment of Co-ordinate Bench of this Court passed in CWP No.17069 of 2019 titled as **Kawaljeet Kaur and another vs. State of Punjab** and others, decided on 24.06.2019 to submit that even though the boy was not of marriageable age, this Court had entertained petition for protection of their life and liberty.

Without entering upon an exercise to evaluate the evidentiary value of the documents placed on the file, petition is disposed of with directions to respondent No.2 to decide the representation of the petitioners, Annexure P-4 and grant them protection, if any threat to their life and liberty is perceived.

It is clarified that this order shall not be treated as a stamp of this Court for the marriage of the petitioners.

12.08.2021
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(SUVIR SEHGAL)
JUDGE

Whether Speaking/Reasoned	Yes/No
Whether Reportable	Yes/No