

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

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CRWP-7867-2021 (O&M)

Date of Decision: 19.08.2021

Fatma & another ...Petitioners

Versus

State of Punjab & others ...Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE GURVINDER SINGH GILL

Present: Mr. Amit Khari, Advocate, for the petitioners.

(proceedings conducted through video conferencing)

GURVINDER SINGH GILL, J. (Oral)

Petitioner No.1 - Fatma, aged about 17 years & 7 months (Muslim by religion) and petitioner No.2 - Ankush Kumar, aged about 21 years (Hindu by religion) have approached this Court seeking issuance of a direction to official respondents to protect their lives and liberty, as they apprehend threat to the same at the hands of private respondents, who are relatives of both the petitioners.

Learned counsel for the petitioners submits that the petitioners are known to each other and are fond of each other and intend to solemnize marriage after attaining the marriageable age, but the friendship and the prospects of marriage of the petitioners were not acceptable to their families, who have been threatening them with dire consequences. Learned counsel further submits that in fact the parents of petitioner No.1 have been trying to fix her marriage with her brother-in-law (*Jija*) despite the fact that his first wife is alive. It is submitted that in

view of the aforesaid apprehensions, both the petitioners left their respective parental homes and are presently residing and hiding in Village Balongi. It has further been submitted that although the petitioners had submitted a representation to respondent No.2 – Senior Superintendent of Police, SAS Nagar (Mohali) seeking protection of their lives and liberty, but to no avail.

Without commenting as regards the veracity of the averments made in the petition, the petition is disposed of with a direction to respondent No.2 i.e. Senior Superintendent of Police, SAS Nagar (Mohali) to look into the matter and to dispose of the representation dated 13.08.2021 (Annexure P-3) in accordance with law. In case, it is found that there is a genuine threat to the lives and liberty of the petitioners, then necessary steps warranted under law be taken thereupon at the earliest so as to ensure that no harm is caused to the petitioners.

A copy of this order alongwith copy of the representation dated 13.08.2021 be sent to Senior Superintendent of Police, SAS Nagar (Mohali) (respondent No.2), so as to enable him to do the needful expeditiously.

It is, however, clarified that the aforesaid order shall not confer any immunity upon the petitioners, in case it is found that they have committed any wrong.

19.08.2021

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(GURVINDER SINGH GILL)**JUDGE**Whether speaking/reasoned: **Yes/No**Whether reportable: **Yes/No**