

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB & HARYANA AT
CHANDIGARH

CRWP-10470-2021

Date of decision : 03.11.2021

Priyanka

... Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab and others

... Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE VIKAS BAHL

Present: Ms.Surinder Kaur, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr.N.K.Banka, DAG, Punjab.

(Through Video Conferencing)

VIKAS BAHL, J.(ORAL)

This is the criminal writ petition under Articles 226/227 of the Constitution of India for issuance of direction to respondents no.1 to 3 to protect the life and liberty of the petitioner from the hands of respondents no.4 to 9.

Learned counsel for the petitioner has referred to representation dated 21.10.2021, which has been given to respondent no.2, in which it has been stated that one Payal, who is 16 years of age and is doing matriculation, is being forced by her maternal aunt and parents to marry a person, who is twice her age and is a drug addict, only on account of him being rich and the said marriage is fixed for 10.12.2021 and the said Payal was beaten up on account of refusal to marry and is now residing with the present petitioner, who is a family friend. It is submitted that the petitioner would be satisfied in case respondent no.2 looks into representation dated

said Payal and takes appropriate action therefrom, in accordance with law.

Notice of motion.

On advance notice, Mr. N.K. Banka, DAG, Punjab, appears and accepts notice on behalf of respondent Nos.1 to 3 and on a specific query put by this Court, he has stated that he has no objection in case, respondent No.2-Commissioner of Police, Ludhiana, looks into the representation dated 21.10.2021 (Annexure P-1) with a limited prayer for only protection of life and liberty of the petitioner and Payal and takes appropriate action, in accordance with law.

After considering the facts and circumstances of the present case, this Court deems it appropriate to direct respondent No.2-Commissioner of Police, Ludhiana, to look into the representation dated 21.10.2021 (Annexure P-1) with a limited prayer for only protection of life and liberty of the petitioner and Payal and after making necessary enquiries, respondent No.2 shall take appropriate action in accordance with law.

It is, however, clarified that this Court has not gone into the merits of the allegations made by the petitioner and it would be open to respondent No.2 to make his independent enquiry/assessment with regard to the representation with a limited prayer aforesaid.

In view of what has been observed above, the present Criminal Writ petition is disposed of in the abovesaid terms.

It is, however, clarified that this order shall not debar the State from proceeding against the petitioner, if involved in any case.

(VIKAS BAHL)
JUDGE

November 03, 2021

Davinder Kumar

Whether speaking / reasoned

Yes/No

Whether reportable

Yes/No