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

CRWP-334-2022

Date of decision : 13.01.2022

Seema

...Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab and others

...Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE VIKAS BAHL

Present: Mr. H.P.S. Sidhu, Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. Sukhbeer Singh, AAG, Punjab.

(Through Video Conferencing)

VIKAS BAHL, J. (ORAL)

This is a Criminal Writ Petition filed under Articles 226/227 of the Constitution of India praying for issuance of a writ in the nature of mandamus directing the official respondents not to harass the petitioner and to protect the life and liberty of the petitioner.

Learned counsel for the petitioner has submitted that in the present case, the petitioner, whose date of birth is 29.06.2001 and is major, had submitted a representation dated 08.01.2022 to respondent No.2 for protection of her life and liberty inasmuch she had raised an

apprehension to her well being as her parents are wanting to get her forcibly married to a boy of their own choice, which the petitioner had refused and on account of that, she had also been beaten up and was given threats, on account of which, she had to leave the house.

Learned counsel for the petitioner has submitted that the petitioner would be satisfied in case respondent No.2 is directed to look into representation dated 08.01.2022 (Annexure P-2) only with respect to protection of her life and liberty and after seeing threat perception, take appropriate action in accordance with law.

Notice of motion to respondent Nos.1 to 3 only.

On advance notice, Mr. Sukhbeer Singh, AAG, 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 looks into the representation dated 08.01.2022 (Annexure P-2) with a limited prayer for only protection of life and liberty of the petitioner 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 to look into the representation dated 08.01.2022 (Annexure P-2) with a limited prayer for only protection of life and liberty of the petitioner and after making necessary enquiries and assessing the threat perception to the petitioner, 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 representations 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.

13.01.2022

Pawan

**(VIKAS BAHL)
JUDGE**

Whether speaking/reasoned:- Yes/No

Whether reportable:- Yes/No