

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT CHANDIGARH

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CRWP- 4426 of 2022

Date of Decision:10.05.2022

Neha Devi and another

---Petitioners

versus

State of Punjab and others

---Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE VINOD S. BHARDWAJ

Present: Mr. Hitesh Chopra, Advocate
for the petitioners
Ms. Amarjit Kaur Khurana, DAG Punjab
for respondents No. 2 to 4

VINOD S. BHARDWAJ, J. (ORAL)

The petitioners namely Neha Devi and Nishal have approached this Court under Article 226/227 of the Constitution of India for seeking protection of their lives and personal liberty from private respondents No. 5 to 7.

The contention of the petitioners is that both are major, aged 22 years and 28 years respectively. In support thereof, copies of the Aadhaar Cards pertaining to the petitioners have been appended. The petitioners further contend that they have performed marriage against the wishes of their parents. The marriage of the petitioners was solemnized on 05.05.2022 at Shri Krishan Mandir, Malikpur Tehsil and District Pathankot. A copy of marriage certificate (Annexure P-1) issued by the aforesaid Mandir has also been appended. The petitioners apprehend threat to their lives and claim that there is a constant danger of being implicated in a false case.

Notice of motion restricted to respondents No. 2 to 4 only.

Pursuant to supply of advance copy, Ms. Amarjit Kaur has appeared and accepted notice on behalf of respondents No. 2 to 4.

Learned counsel for the petitioners states that a representation dated 05.05.2022 (Annexure P-3) has also been submitted by the petitioners to the respondent No.2-Senior Superintendent of Police, Pathankot.

Learned State counsel has no objection if appropriate direction for providing requisite protection to the petitioners is given.

Without examining the question of legality and validity of the marriage and expressing any opinion thereon, the present petition is disposed of with the directions to respondent No. 2 -Senior Superintendent of Police, Pathankot, to look into the grievances of the petitioners as set out in the petition and also expressed in the representation (Annexure P-3) and take appropriate action for protection of their lives and liberty as may be warranted by the circumstances.

However, it is clarified that in case any criminal case has been/is registered against the petitioners nothing in this order shall be construed as a bar for taking appropriate action by the police authorities in respect thereof in accordance with law.

The Registry is directed to send a copy of this order along with copy of the petition and above-said representation to respondent No.2-Senior Superintendent of Police, Pathankot, for requisite compliance

The petition is disposed of.

(VINOD S. BHARDWAJ)
JUDGE

10.05.2022

PARAMJIT Whether speaking/reasoned : Yes/No
Whether reportable : Yes/No