

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

CRWP-9199-2022

Date of Decision: September 22, 2022

Sapna Bhatia and another

...Petitioners

Versus

State of Punjab and others

...Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANJAY VASHISTH

Present: Mr. Khalid Tauru, Advocate,
for the petitioners.

Mr. Anmol Singh Sandhu, AAG, Punjab.

SANJAY VASHISTH, J.

1. Prayer in the instant petition, filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, is for issuance of directions to respondents No. 2 and 3, to provide protection of life and liberty to the petitioners, who have married against the wishes of private respondents No. 4 to 7.

2. Learned counsel for the petitioners submits that Petitioner No.1 – Sapna Bhatia, aged about 20 years and petitioner No.2 – Sukhpreet Singh, aged about 28 years, have got married on 19.09.2022, against the wishes of their family members, arrayed as respondents No. 4 to 7. It has been further submitted that the private respondents are threatening and trying to interfere in the marital life of the petitioners. Hence, they are seeking protection in that regard and have approached this Court by way of filing the instant petition.

3. Notice of motion.

4. On asking of the Court, Mr. Anmol Singh Sandhu, AAG,

Punjab, who is present in the Court, accepts notice on behalf of respondent Nos. 1 to 3 (State).

5. In view of the above, the present petition is disposed of with a direction to respondent No. 2 – Senior Superintendent of Police, Batala, District Gurdaspur, to look into the representation dated 19.09.2022 (Annexure P-5) *qua* threat perception, if any, and take necessary steps, if any required, in accordance with law, to ensure that the life and liberty of the petitioners is not jeopardized at the hands of the private respondent. However, this direction will not validate the marriage said to have taken place between the parties and will have no effect on any civil or criminal action, which could be initiated in the matter in accordance with law.

(SANJAY VASHISTH)
JUDGE

September 22, 2022

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Whether Speaking/Reasoned: **YES/NO**

Whether Reportable: **YES/NO**