

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

113

CRWP-10490-2022

DECIDED ON: 4th NOVEMBER, 2022

POOJA DEVI AND ANOTHER

.....PETITIONERS

VERSUS

STATE OF PUNJAB AND OTHERS

.....RESPONDENTS

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANDEEP MOUDGIL.

Present: None.

SANDEEP MOUDGIL, J (ORAL)

Lawyers are abstaining from work.

Prayer in the present petition under Article 226 of the Constitution of India is for issuance of necessary directions to respondents No.1 to 3 to protect the lives and liberty of the petitioners, who have solemnized marriage against the wishes of private respondents.

Both the petitioners do appear to have crossed the age of majority as seen from the copies of documents filed and have married with each other, in support of which, Adhar cards of both the petitioners (Annexures P-1 and P-2), respectively, have been placed on record.

For the afore-said reasons, this appears to be a fit case for this Court to invoke the inherent powers under Section 482 Cr.P.C and in view of the mandate contained in Article 21 of the Constitution of India to protect the citizen's right to life and liberty.

Thus, Senior Superintendent of Police, Rupnagar is directed to consider the representation dated 01.11.2022 (Annexure P-6) and take appropriate steps to ensure that no harm is caused to the lives and liberty of

the petitioners.

It is nevertheless clarified that this order is issued only on the premise that the petitioners have crossed the age of majority as seen from the documents placed on record being their Adhar Cards as Annexures P-1 and P-2, respectively. This would not *ipso facto* amounts to granting any seal of approval on the legality of their marriage which essentially would come in the domain of the concerned Matrimonial Courts. Further, they would not be entitled for any protection against their arrest or continuance of any criminal proceedings, if otherwise, found to be involved in commission of any cognizable offence(s).

The petition is disposed of with the above direction.

04.11.2022

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(SANDEEP MOUDGIL)
JUDGE

<i>Whether speaking/reasoned</i>	<i>Yes/No</i>
<i>Whether reportable</i>	<i>Yes/No</i>