

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

CRWP No.3966 of 2023
Date of decision: 26th April, 2023

Anu & another

... Petitioners

Versus

State of Punjab & others

... Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE MANJARI NEHRU KAUL

Present: Mr. Aazam Khan, Advocate for
Mr. Parveen K. Garg, Advocate for the petitioners.

MANJARI NEHRU KAUL, J. (ORAL)

The instant petition has been filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India for issuance of writ in the nature of mandamus seeking directions to the official respondents to protect the life and liberty of the petitioners at the hands of private respondents.

Petitioners are apprehending threats at the hands of private respondents (family members of petitioner No.1). Learned counsel submits that ever since the petitioners have solemnized marriage on 21.04.2023 against the wishes of the private respondents, they are being continuously threatened with dire consequences.

On a pointed query put to the learned counsel as to what was the age of petitioner No.1, he has drawn the attention of this Court to the Aadhaar Card of petitioner No.1 (Annexure P-1), wherein her date of birth has been mentioned as 01.01.2005. On a further query put to the learned counsel, as to whether any criminal case had been registered

against petitioner No.2 subsequent to the date when petitioner No.1 went missing from her house, he has replied in the negative.

It has been further submitted that representation (Annexure P-5) dated 21.04.2023 was also made to respondent No.2 – SSP, District Fatehgarh Sahib, however, it had proved to be in vain.

Notice of motion to the official respondents.

At the asking of Court, Mr. Ramdeep Pratap Singh, Sr. DAG, Punjab accepts notice on behalf of the said respondents.

In view of the submissions made by learned counsel for the petitioners, the petition is disposed of with a direction to respondent No.2 – Senior Superintendent of Police, District Fatehgarh Sahib to look into the representation (Annexure P-5) dated 21.04.2023 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 respondents. However, this direction will not validate the marriage alleged 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.

(MANJARI NEHRU KAUL)
JUDGE

April 26, 2023

rps

Whether speaking/reasoned
Whether reportable

Yes/No
Yes/No