

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB & HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

137

CRWP-10466-2023
Date of decision: 23.10.2023

Priya Devi and another

.....Petitioners

VERSUS

State of Punjab and others

.....Respondents

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

Present:- Mr. Rimple Saini, Advocate
for the petitioners.

Ms. Niharika Sharma, AAG, Punjab.

VINOD S. BHARDWAJ, J. (Oral)

The petitioners namely Priya Devi and Bharat Bushan have approached this Court under Articles 226/227 of the Constitution of India for seeking protection of their lives and personal liberty from private respondents No.4 to 9.

The contention of the petitioners is that both are major, both are aged above 24 years. In support thereof, copy 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 19.10.2023 at Prachin Pashupati Nath Shiv Mandir, MDC, Sector 6, Panchkula as per Hindu rites and rituals. A copy of Marriage Certificate (Annexure P-4) 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 respondent Nos. 1 to 3 only.

Pursuant to supply of advance copy, Ms. Niharika Sharma, AAG, Punjab has appeared and accepted notice on behalf of respondent Nos. 1 to 3.

Learned counsel for the petitioners states that a representation dated 19.10.2023 (Annexure P-5) 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 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-5) 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

23.10.2023
PRY

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