



**In the High Court for the States of Punjab and Haryana at
Chandigarh**

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CRWP-4407-2026 (O&M)
Date of Decision:- 17.04.2026

Ms. Neha Devi and another ... Petitioners

Versus

State of Punjab and others ... Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SUBHAS MEHLA

Present:- Ms. Lovepreet Kaur, Advocate for the petitioners.

SUBHAS MEHLA, J. (Oral)

1. The prayer in the instant criminal writ petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India seeking issuance of a writ in the nature of mandamus directing the official respondents to protect the lives and personal liberty of the petitioners as they apprehend threat to the same at the hands of private respondents, having married against the wishes of their families.

2. Learned counsel for the petitioners contends that the petitioners are major and they have solemnized marriage with each other, but they apprehend threat to their life and liberty from the private respondents. While drawing the attention of this Court to representation dated 15.04.2026 (Annexure P-5), learned counsel has submitted that the matter was reported to Superintendent of Police, Gurdaspur, seeking police protection, however, it went in vain. Learned counsel further submitted that the petitioners would be satisfied if directions are issued to respondent No.2 to look into the aforesaid representation and take appropriate steps at the earliest.



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3. Notice of motion.
4. Mr. Surinderjit Singh Nahar, AAG, Punjab, accepted notice on behalf of respondent-State and has submitted that the competent authority will look into the matter and take appropriate action, if required, in accordance with law.
5. Heard.
6. In this regard, this Court has already given the directions in **Asha and another vs. State of Haryana and others, CWP No.6717 of 2009 (2012 SCC Online P&H 12746)**, decided on 25.07.2012 and in compliance of the same, the State Government had taken steps to protect the life and liberty of run away couple.
7. Apart from that the State of Punjab vide notification dated 23.01.2025 also notified the SOPs for the protection of life and liberty of the petitioners in similar situations, in compliance of the **Criminal Writ Petition No.12562 of 2023** titled as **“Kajal Vs. State of Haryana and others”**.
8. In the light of the above directions, the present petition is disposed of with a direction to respondent No.2–Superintendent of Police, Batala, District Gurdaspur, to consider and to take necessary action on the representation dated 15.04.2026 (Annexure P-5) in accordance with law.

18.03.2026
Geeta

(SUBHAS MEHLA)
JUDGE

Whether speaking /reasoned	Yes / No
Whether Reportable	Yes / No