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* **IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI**

+ W.P.(CRL) 1305/2026

MUKUL AHLAWAT AND ANR.

.....Petitioners

Through: Mr. Khursheed Alam, Adv. with
petitioners in person

versus

THE STATE GOVT OF NCT DELHI AND ORS.Respondents

Through: Mr. Anand V. Khatri, SC for the
State

CORAM:

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SAURABH BANERJEE

ORDER

% **22.04.2026**

CRL.M.A. 12603-12604/2026 (Exemption)

1. Allowed, subject to all just exceptions.
2. The present applications are disposed of.

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3. By virtue of the present petition under *Article 226* of the Constitution of India read with *Sections 528* of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023, the petitioners seek issuance of a writ of mandamus directing the respondent nos.1 and 2 to provide them with Police protection against the threat to their life and limb at the hands of respondent no.3, being the father of petitioner no.2.
4. Learned counsel for the petitioners submits the petitioners are consenting adults who, out of their own free will and volition, got married as per Hindu Rites and Ceremonies at the Arya Samaj Vaidic Sanskar Trust, Delhi on 06.03.2026, and subsequently also got their marriage



registered on 12.03.2026. Upon learning about the same, the family members of petitioner no.2 got extremely agitated and threatened the petitioners with dire consequences. In fact, on 10.04.2026 the respondent no.3/ father of the petitioner no.2 who is an Assistant Sub-Inspector in Delhi Police even arrived at the house of the petitioner no.1 to threaten his entire family. Thereafter, on 15.04.2026 the respondent no.3 brought other henchmen with him and tried coercing the petitioner no.1 to break apart his marriage with the petitioner no.2, and again threatened him. In view thereof, he prays that Police protection be granted to the petitioners.

5. Issue notice.

6. Learned Standing Counsel for State accepts notice.

7. The petitioners, being consenting adults, have chosen to enter into the bond of matrimony with each other as life partners, out of their free will, intent and choice. Thus, they are entitled to lead their lives with liberty and dignity as guaranteed under *Part III* of the Constitution of India. In view thereof, they have to be accorded protection, be it from the hands of the general public comprising their own parents/ relatives/ friends/ known persons. The Hon'ble Supreme Court in ***Shafin Jahan vs. Asokan K.M.*** [(2018) 16 SCC 368] and also in ***Lata Singh vs. State of U.P. & Another*** [(2006) 5 SCC 475] while highlighting the same has held that the right to marry a person of one's choice is integral to *Article 21* of the Constitution and the right to exercise the said choice cannot be interfered with by their parents/ relatives/ friends, based on caste/ creed/ colour/ religion.

8. Accordingly, as per the aforesaid existing position, the present petition is allowed and the petitioners shall be at liberty to seek Police



protection/ assistance if, as and when required by them. They shall be free to get in touch with either the Head/ Beat Constable, i.e. Mr. Balram (+91-8010556871), or the SHO, i.e. Mr. Ashu (+91-8750871128), PS: Baba Haridas Nagar, Delhi. Upon being contacted, the SHO and/ or the Head/ Beat Constable are directed to take all possible steps to provide adequate assistance and protection, as and when needed by the petitioners, in accordance with law.

9. However, if the petitioners choose to reside within the jurisdiction of any other Police Station, they shall apprise about the same and give complete details including the address to the SHO of the concerned Police Station within a period of *three days* from shifting and the concerned SHO shall also take all possible steps to provide adequate assistance and protection, as and when needed by the petitioners, in accordance with law.

10. Accordingly, the present petition is disposed of in the aforesaid terms.

SAURABH BANERJEE, J

APRIL 22, 2026/So