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Through Video Conferencing

Present: Mr. Jamshed Ahmed, Advocate for the petitioners.

The present petition has been filed under Articles 226/227 of the Constitution of India with a prayer for issuance of directions to respondents No.2 and 3 to protect the life and liberty of the petitioners and to respondents No.4 to 12 not to harass or to interfere in the peaceful married life of the petitioners.

Notice of motion to the respondents.

Mr. Deepak Manchanda, Addl. A.G., Haryana accepts notice on behalf of the respondents No.1, 2 and 3.

It is a shocking case where the protection is being sought by two petitioners i.e. petitioner No.1 being a girl of 19 years of age and petitioner No.2 being a man of the age of 67 years and they are stated to have married each other vide Annexure P-3. It is not clear from the pleadings or from the arguments raised by the learned counsel for the petitioners as to whether petitioner No.2 has solemnized his first marriage or multiple marriages or under what circumstances a girl of 19 years of age had got married with an old man of 67 years of age.

Prima facie this Court is of the view that there is some suspicion with regard to the aforesaid marriage and the possibility of forced marriage can also be not ruled out at this stage.

In view of the peculiar facts and circumstances of the case, it is directed that Superintendent of Police, Palwal shall forthwith today

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itself depute a team of police officials including lady police officials to reach out to petitioner No.1, namely, Sanjida and ensure her protection forthwith thereafter. The team constituted by the Superintendent of Police, Palwal shall enquire into the entire matter not only with the present marriage but also with regard to the background of petitioner No.2 and produce petitioner No.1 before the Ilaqa Magistrate for recording her statement. The Ilaqa Magistrate shall record the statement of petitioner No.1 after ascertaining the voluntariness of petitioner No.1. Thereafter the Superintendent of Police, Palwal shall also file his affidavit himself in this Court.

Let the entire exercise be carried out within a period of one week from today. So far as the protection to be granted to petitioner No.1 is concerned, the same shall be done forthwith.

Mr. Manchanda, learned Addl. A.G., Haryana is requested to inform the Superintendent of Police, Palwal immediately.

Adjourned to 10.8.2021.

The Secretaries of this court are directed to upload the copy of the present order during the lunch time break.

(JASGURPREET SINGH PURI) JUDGE

August 02, 2021 ajay-1