

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

106

CRWP-11443-2025

Date of decision: 24.10.2025

Mandeep Kaur and Another

...Petitioners

versus

State of Punjab and Others

...Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE PARMOD GOYAL

Present: Mr. Rahul Garg, Advocate
for petitioners through VC.

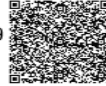
Mr. Puru Jarewal, D.A.G., Punjab.

PARMOD GOYAL, J. (ORAL)

1. In the present case, petitioners got married of their own free will but are apprehending threat to their lives from respondent Nos.4 and 5, who happens to be father and brother of petitioner No.1.

2. It is the case of the petitioners that they had approached the authorities by way of representation dated 19.10.2025 (Annexure P/5) seeking protection, however, no action has been taken. Learned Counsel for State, on instructions from SHO concerned, asserts that he has received representation of the petitioners yesterday only and the same shall be decided in due course.

3. In protection matter, the State authorities are bound to first provide protection and thereafter proceed further to find out whether any threat perception is made out or not. The statement of learned counsel for State is totally non-committal regarding protection rather warrants discretion at the hands of SHO to decide whether to grant protection or not. In a protection matter, authorities must act quickly and matter cannot



be allowed to be tangled in bureaucratic red-tapism. It is the duty of Nodal Officer to immediately extend protection on receipt of application for protection and make appropriate inquiry thereafter. The threat to life is of urgent nature and has to be decided immediately and cannot be delayed. In case an application for protection is received by Nodal Officer, Nodal Officer must extend the protection immediately and thereafter take step to find out whether threat perception exists or not. In case protection is denied, the same can only be denied by passing a detailed speaking order giving reasons for denial of protection at the initial stage. Denial of protection amounts to violation of right to life vested in a citizen.

4. In fact, in case protection is not awarded immediately on receipt of application made by citizen especially in case of marriage then the authorities shall be made liable for their inaction for not giving protection timely and seeking one or other report if any untoward incident takes place.

5. The purpose of protection is defeated if a person remains unprotected despite approaching the authorities for protection. This Court on various occasions has already gone in detail as to need of protection in such cases where young boys and girls have entered in matrimonial alliance against wishes of their parents. The Court has always been fully aware about the prevalent socio-economic situation in the society and also the fact that violence in the name of honour killing or protecting honour takes place against such young boys and girls, who go against wishes of their parents or norms set by society and therefore, the authorities cannot be vested with the power to delay the protection to



young couple without passing a speaking order giving reasons for denial of the protection. The authorities must take responsibility of their actions.

6. In view of the above, respondent No.2 is directed to provide protection to petitioners and decide their representation (Annexure P-5) by passing a speaking order accordingly. Petitioners shall be free to approach Nodal Officer directly or through their counsel. The application shall be decided on same day.

7. Petition is disposed of accordingly.

(PARMOD GOYAL)
JUDGE

24.10.2025
Sunil Chander

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