S. No. 21

Supp. Cause List

## IN THE HIGH COURT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR AND LADAKH AT SRINAGAR

WP (C) No. 1350/2024 CM No. 3665/2024

Ulfat Rashid and Anr.

...Appellant/Petitioner(s)

Through: Mr. Sheikh Aijaz Ahmad, Adv.

Vs.

UT of JK and Ors.

...Respondent(s)

Through:

Mr. Mohsin Qadri, Sr. AAG with

Ms. Maha Majeed, Assisting counsel.

## **CORAM:**

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE WASIM SADIQ NARGAL, JUDGE

The petitioners seek a direction to respondents 1 to 5 to provide them the police protection as they apprehend danger to their lives from respondents 6 to 9. It is submitted that the petitioners are major and out of their free will they got married. Copy of Nikahnama has been placed on record. They submit that since they have contracted the marriage against the wishes of respondents 6 to 9, as such, they are facing harassment at their hands. Petitioners in support of their age proof have placed on record date of birth certificates issued by Govt. Higher Secondary School Quilmuqam Bandipora and Govt. Higher Secondary School Madwan.

2. Learned counsel for the petitioners refers to the decision of the Supreme Court in Lata Singh v. State of U.P. and anr., 2006 (5) SCC 475, and submits that in absence of there being any legal impediment, the petitioners are entitled to marry according to their choice and the official respondents are duty bound to protect the life and liberty of the petitioners.

3. Any person having attained the age of majority is entitled to contract the marriage as per his/her wishes and the police department is duty bound to protect the life and liberty, if approached. However, it appears that the petitioners have not ever approached the official respondents for their

indulgence in the matter for providing protection to them.

4. In this view of the matter, this petition is disposed of, at this stage, by providing that the respondents 1 to 5 shall look into the grievance of the petitioners for providing them adequate security and ensure that nobody interferes in their married life, if they approach them. It is made clear that no opinion has been expressed with regard to the validity of their marriage.

5. The writ petition is, accordingly, disposed of.

(W.

(WASIM SADIQ NARGAL) JUDGE

SRINAGAR 28.06.2024 Sakeena