

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

CRWP No.9394 of 2020

Date of Decision: 12.11.2020

Meeja and another

..... Petitioners

Versus

State of Punjab and others

..... Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SUDIP AHLUWALIA

Present: Mr. Kapil Khanna, Advocate
for the Petitioners.

SUDIP AHLUWALIA J. (ORAL)

Both the Petitioners are present through Video Conferencing and identified by their Counsel. They seek protection of their life and liberty by contending that both are living together in a live-in-relationship against the wishes of their respective family members Respondents No.4 and 5, and so seek appropriate protection from the Authorities. They submitted a Representation (Annexure P-3) in this regard to the Senior Superintendent of Police, Sangrur on 04.11.2020, but are still apprehensive about their security in view of the apparent inaction and alleged clout of their family members-respondents.

2. Both of them do appear to have crossed the age of majority as seen from the copies of documents being their Aadhar Cards.

3. For the aforesaid reasons, this appears to be a fit case for this Court to invoke the inherent powers under Section 482 of the Cr.P.C. and in view of the mandate contained in Article 21 of the Constitution of India to protect the citizen's right to life and liberty.

4. Thus the Senior Superintendent of Police, Sangrur is directed to consider the Representation dated 04.11.2020 (Annexure P-3) and take appropriate steps to ensure that no harm is caused to the life and liberty of the petitioners.

5. It is, however, observed that the Petitioners would not be entitled to any protection against their arrest or continuance of any criminal proceedings, if otherwise, found to be involved in punishable cognizable offence.

6. The Petition is disposed off with the above direction.

November 12, 2020

Dpr

**(SUDIP AHLUWALIA)
JUDGE**

Whether speaking/reasoned : Yes/No

Whether reportable : Yes/No