

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

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CRWP-7131-2022 (O&M)

Date of decision: 26.07.2022

SUKHPREET KAUR AND ANR

...Petitioners

Versus

STATE OF PUNJAB AND ORS

.....Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE HARNARESH SINGH GILL

Present:- Mr. Gulrej Khan, Advocate for
Mr. Sandeep Kumar Bansal, Advocate,
for the petitioners.

HARNARESH SINGH GILL, J. (ORAL)

This petition has been filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India for issuance of a writ in the nature of mandamus directing the official respondents to protect the life and liberty of the petitioners at the hands of the private respondents.

Learned counsel for the petitioners submits that petitioner No.1 is major, but petitioner No.2-boy, though major, yet not of a marriageable age and that the petitioners are living together in live-in relationship. He further submits that parents of petitioners were informed, but they are issuing threats to the petitioners regarding their live-in relationship. The petitioners have already submitted a representation dated 21.07.2022 (Annexure P-5) to respondent No.2-Senior Superintendent of Police, Police Station Thuliwal, District Barnala, for redressal of their grievance, but no action has been taken thereupon.

Learned counsel for the petitioners further submits that the

petitioners are living in a constant danger as they have every apprehension that the private respondents would catch them and carry out their threats and might go to the extent of even committing their murder. The petitioners are, therefore, running from pillar to posts for protection of their life and liberty.

In support of his contentions, learned counsel for the petitioners relies upon the judgment delivered by the Hon'ble Apex Court in Nandakumar and Anr. Vs. The State of Kerala and others, 2018(2) RCR(Civil) 899.

Notice of motion to the respondents No.1 to 3-State only.

On the asking of this Court, Mr. Harbir Sandhu, AAG Punjab, accepts notice on behalf of respondents No.1 to 3-State only.

I have heard the learned counsel for the parties.

Article 21 of the Constitution stipulates protection of life and liberty to every citizen and that no person shall be deprived of his life and personal liberty except according to procedure established by law.

It is the bounden duty of the State as per the Constitutional obligations caste upon it to protect the life and liberty of every citizen. Mere fact that petitioner No.2 is not of a marriageable age would not deprive the petitioners of their fundamental right as envisaged in the Constitution, being citizens of India.

In view of the above discussion, I dispose of the present petition with a direction to respondent No.2-Senior Superintendent of Police, Police Station Thuliwal, District Barnala, to decide the

representation dated 21.07.2022 (Annexure P-5), moved by the petitioners in accordance with law and grant protection to them, if any threat to their life and liberty is perceived.

It is made clear that this order shall not be taken to protect the petitioners from legal action for violation of law if any committed by them.

26.07.2022
Aman Jain

(HARNARESH SINGH GILL)
JUDGE

Whether reasoned/speaking?	Yes/No
Whether reportable?	Yes/No