

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

CRWP-1420-2023

Date of decision : 14.02.2023

Sahila and another

.....Petitioners

VERSUS

State of Punjab and others

....Respondents

CORAM:- HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANJAY VASHISTH

Present: Mr. Talim Hussain, Advocate, for the petitioner.

SANJAY VASHISTH, J. (ORAL)

Prayer in the instant petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, is for issuance of directions to respondents No.2 and 3, to provide protection of lives and liberty of the petitioners, who have not solemnized their marriage so far and are living in a live-in relationship and are under eminent threat at the hands of respondents No.4 to 7.

Learned counsel for the petitioners submits that petitioners are in a live-in relationship against the wishes of respondent No. 4 to 7, and have sought protection to their life and liberty. It is submitted that petitioner No. 1- Sahila, is aged about 22 years and petitioner No. 2 – Praduman Singh, is aged about 25 years and they apprehend danger at the hands of private respondents No.4 to 7, who will eliminate them if they intend to solemnize the marriage at relevant time.

In the context of threat perception at the hands of private respondents No.4 to 7, petitioners have allegedly moved representation dated 04.02.2023 (Annexure P-3) to the Commissioner of Police, Ludhiana (respondent No.2), sent through a courier dated 08.02.2023 wherein, all the apprehensions qua their lives and liberty have been expressed.

Notice of motion to respondents No.1 to 3.

On advance notice, Mr. Gurlal Singh Dhillon, AAG, Punjab, puts in appearance on behalf of respondents No.1 to 3.

Since petitioners have not contracted any marriage and seek only protection qua their lives and personal liberty, and for the same already representation dated 04.02.2023 (Annexure P-3) is pending, it would be appropriate to direct the Commissioner of Police, Ludhiana (respondent No.2) to have a fair look to the said representation, on the grievance of the petitioners in order to ascertain veracity of allegations made by them.

The Commissioner of Police, Ludhiana (respondent No.2) would be at liberty to devise his/her own mechanism to ascertain the truth. He/she would also be at liberty to join the petitioners or any other person acquainted with facts in issue. If the innocence of the petitioners are established, then respondent No.2 shall proceed to take appropriate action in order to protect lives and personal liberty of the petitioners from being invaded by private respondents No.4 to 7.

The aforesaid order is being passed at this stage without meaning anything on the status of the parties on the basis of live-in relationship and age of petitioners. Respondent No.2 would consider and pass necessary order without being influenced by any statement of fact recorded hereinabove.

Petition stands disposed of accordingly.

(SANJAY VASHISTH)
JUDGE

14.02.2023

Nisha-I

Whether speaking/reasoned
Whether reportable

Yes/No
Yes/No