

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

CRWP-2924-2023

Date of Decision: March 27, 2023

PRAVEEN KAUR

..... Petitioner

Versus

STATE OF PUNJAB AND ORS

..... Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE HARKESH MANUJA

Present: Mr. Kuldip Singh, Advocate for petitioner.
Mr. Tarun Aggarwal, Sr. D.A.G. Punjab.

HARKESH MANUJA, J. (ORAL)

Present criminal writ petition has been filed under Article 226/227 of the Constitution of India for issuance of direction to the respondents No.1 to 3 so as to protect the life and liberty of the petitioner.

As per contents made in the petition along with the documents attached, it appears that the petitioner is in live-in relation with her friend Gurdev Singh.

It has been contended that petitioner is in live-in-relationship out of her own free wish and will and without there being any threat at the hands of her friend Gurdev Singh. It has been further submitted that the petitioner and her friend are having continuous threat at the hands of private respondents and in this regard they have already submitted representation dated 16.03.2023 (Annexure P-2 at page 12) to official respondent No.2. It has also been contended that despite there being a continuous threat to the life and liberty of the petitioner, at the hands of private respondents, the official respondents have failed to take any action in this regard.

Learned counsel for the petitioner also relies upon two decisions rendered by this Court in the case of “**Shilpa and another Vs. State of Punjab and others**” passed in CRWP-10101-2021 on 22.10.2021 and “**Pardeep Singh and another Vs. State of Haryana**” passed in CRWP No.4521 of 2021 (O&M) on 18.05.2021. The relevant paragraph No.6 from Pardeep Singh and another's case (supra) is reproduced as under for reference:-

“6. *Let us examine the issue from another view-point. The Constitutional Courts grant protection to couples, who have married against the wishes of their respective parents. They seek protection of life and liberty from their parents and family members, who disapprove of the alliance. An identical situation exists where the couple has entered into a live-in- relationship. The only difference is that the relationship is not universally accepted. Would that make any difference? In my considered opinion, it would not. The couple fears for their safety from relatives in both situations and not from the society. They are thus, entitled to the same relief. No citizen can be permitted to take law in his own hands in a country governed by Rule of Law.*”

Keeping in view the proposition of law laid down in the aforementioned cases and without expressing any opinion upon the relationship being maintained by the petitioner and her friend, however, considering their age, the present petition is disposed of with a direction to respondent No.2 to consider the representation dated 16.03.2023 (Annexure P-2) and assess the threat perception to the petitioner and

her friend and after considering the same, pass necessary directions to respondent No.3 in this regard.

Accordingly, the Criminal Writ Petition stands disposed of in the aforesaid manner.

It is, however, clarified that this order shall not debar the State from proceedings against the petitioner, if involved in any other case.

27.03.2023
tejwinder

(HARKESH MANUJA)
JUDGE

<i>Whether speaking/reasoned</i>	<i>Yes/No</i>
<i>Whether Reportable</i>	<i>Yes/No</i>

