

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

CRWP No. 6667 of 2023

Date of decision: 07.07.2023

Meenu Rani and another

..... Petitioners

Versus

State of Punjab and others

..... Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ANUPINDER SINGH GREWAL

Present:- Mr. Harpal Singh Sidhu, Advocate, for
Mr. Gurbir Singh Sandhu, Advocate, for the petitioners.

Mr. Luvinder Sofat, DAG, Punjab, for respondents No. 1 to 3.

ANUPINDER SINGH GREWAL, J. (ORAL)

1. The petitioners are seeking a direction to the official respondents to protect their life and liberty, as they are stated to be in a live-in relationship.

2. Learned counsel for the petitioners contends that petitioner No. 1 is stated to be 33 years of age while petitioner No. 2 is stated to be 62 years of age. He also submits that petitioner No. 1 is stated to be married and has been living separately from her husband. The petitioners are in a live-in relationship. He has referred to the judgment of this Court in the case of Sarabjeet Kaur and another versus State of Punjab and others, CRWP No. 102 of 2022, decided on 07.01.2022, wherein under somewhat similar circumstances when the parties, who were earlier married and divorce had not been obtained, were in live-in relationship, this Court had directed the respondents to consider and decide their representation and after assessing

threat perception, take appropriate action in accordance with law. He has drawn my attention to the representation dated 03.07.2023 (Annexure P-3) sent by the petitioners to the Senior Superintendent of Police, Patiala (respondent No. 2).

3. Issue notice to respondents No. 1 to 3 only at this stage.
4. At the asking of the Court, Mr. Luvinder Sofat, DAG, Punjab, accepts notice on behalf of respondents No. 1 to 3.
5. Heard. Without making any observations on the legality of the relationship or expressing any opinion on the merits of the case, the petition is disposed of with a direction to the Senior Superintendent of Police, Patiala (respondent No.2) to look into the representation dated 03.07.2023 (Annexure P-3) and after assessing threat perception, take appropriate action, if necessary, in accordance with law to protect the life and liberty of the petitioners.
6. However, it is clarified that this order shall not protect the petitioners from any legal proceedings instituted against them in accordance with law.

(ANUPINDER SINGH GREWAL)
JUDGE

07.07.2023
Ramesh

Whether speaking/reasoned : Yes/No

Whether reportable : Yes/No