

123 IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

CRWP No.7384-2023
Date of decision: July 27, 2023

Pooja Rani ...Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab and others ...Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ANOOP CHITKARA

Present: Ms. Vertika Gupta, Advocate for
Mr. Lupil Gupta, Advocate for the petitioner(s).

Mr. Shiva Khurmi, AAG, Punjab.

ANOOP CHITKARA, J.

Fearing for their lives and liberty at the hands of the private respondents, the petitioner, who claim to be living in live-in-relationship, against the wishes of the private respondents, have come up before this Court by invoking their fundamental rights of life guaranteed under Article 21 of the Constitution of India, seeking direction to the State to protect her.

2. Notices served upon the official respondents through the State's counsel. Given the nature of the order that this Court proposes to pass, no response of official respondents is required.

3. If the allegations of apprehension of threat to life turn out to be true, it might lead to an irreversible loss. Thus, in the facts and circumstances peculiar to this case, it shall be appropriate that the concerned Superintendent of Police, SHO, or any officer to whom such powers have been delegated or have been authorized in this regard, provide appropriate protection to the petitioner and her family members for one week from today. However, if the petitioner and her family members no longer require the protection, then at her request, it may be discontinued even before the expiry of one week. After that, the concerned officers shall extend the protection on day-to-day analysis of the ground realities or upon the oral or written request of the petitioner.

4. It is clarified that there is no adjudication on merits and that **this order is not a blanket bail in any FIR.** It is further clarified that this order shall not come in the way if the interrogation of the petitioner is required in any cognizable case. It shall also be open for the petitioner to approach this Court again in case of any fresh threat perception.

5. **This order shall eclipse after fifteen days from today.**
6. *There would be no need for a certified copy of this order, and any Advocate for the Petitioner and State can download this order and other relevant particulars from the official web page of this court and attest it to be a true copy. The concerned officer can also verify its authenticity and may download and use the downloaded copy for immediate use.*

Petition is allowed to the extent mentioned above. All pending applications, if any, stand disposed.

(ANOOP CHITKARA)
JUDGE

July 27, 2023
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Whether speaking/reasoned: Yes

Whether reportable: No.