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

CRWP No. 7991 of 2023

Date of Decision: 16.08.2023

Sukhan Lal Rastogi and others

...Petitioners

Versus

State of Punjab and others

...Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ANOOP CHITKARA

Present: Mr. Jagdeep Singh Rana, Advocate for the petitioners.

Mr. Karunesh Kaushal, AAG, Punjab.

ANOOP CHITKARA, J.

Fearing for life and liberty at the hands of the private respondents, the petitioners, invoking the fundamental right of life guaranteed under Article 21 of the Constitution of India, has come up before this Court seeking protection through the State.

2. Notices served upon the official respondents through the State's counsel. Given the nature of the order that this Court proposes to pass, neither the response of official respondents nor the issuance of notices to the private 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 petitioners for one week from today. However, if the petitioners no longer requires the protection, then at their 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 petitioners.

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 petitioners is required in any cognizable case. It shall also be open for the petitioners to approach this Court again in case of any fresh threat perception.

5. ***This order shall eclipse after fifteen days from today.***

6. Liberty reserved to the petitioners to file a fresh representation to the concerned Senior Superintendent of Police/ Commissioner of Police, within fifteen days from today. If the petitioners file a representation with in the above-mentioned time period of fifteen days, then, the same shall be decided by the concerned Senior Superintendent of Police/ Commissioner of Police, within two months. It is clarified that such order must be a reasoned order, and the same be communicated to counsel for the petitioners as well as representationists without delay. In the representation, petitioners to mention the email I'd of their counsel so that the concerned officer could communicate them outcome.

7. *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

16.08.2023
Jyoti-II

Whether speaking/reasoned: Yes
Whether reportable: No.