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

**CRWP-9239-2023 (O&M)**

**Date of Decision: 11.10.2023**

DAVINDER SINGH AND ANOTHER

.. Petitioners

Vs.

STATE OF PUNJAB AND OTHERS

..Respondents

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE MAHABIR SINGH SINDHU**

Present: Mr. Nitin Sharma, Advocate for the petitioners.

Mr. C.L. Pawar, Addl. A.G., Punjab.

...

**MAHABIR SINGH SINDHU, J.**

Present writ petition has been filed under Article 226 of Constitution for issuance of directions to respondent Nos.2 and 3 to protect the life and liberty of the petitioners, as they have solemnized marriage on 08.09.2023 against the wishes of private respondent Nos.4 and 5.

2. This Court while issuing notice of motion on 18.09.2023, passed the following order:

*“1. Notice of motion to respondent Nos.1 to 3 only for 10.10.2023.*

*2. In the meanwhile, respondent No.3-Station House Officer, Police Station Mehatpur, District Jalandhar to protect life and liberty of both petitioners as per law.*

*3. However, it is made clear that in case, there is any criminal case pending against petitioner No.1, this order be not treated as any hindrance for the Investigating Officer to proceed in accordance with law.*

*4. OSD (Listing) of this Court shall apprise about the total number of petitions filed by run away couples within the last three years i.e. 01.07.2020 to 30.06.2023.*

*5. Needful be done before the date fixed.”*

3. In pursuance of the aforesaid order, the report of OSD (Listing) has been received and relevant part of the same read as under:

*“In connection with above reference orders, it is submitted here that total 31549 cases regarding run away couples had been filed in this Hon'ble Court w.e.f. 01.07.2020 to 30.06.2023.”*

4. A perusal of the above extract reveals that in the last three years, total 31549 cases have been filed by the run away couples for seeking protection of life and liberty before this Court.

5. Learned counsel for petitioners, on instructions, submits that there is no threat to life & liberty of petitioners, at this stage; hence prayed for withdrawal of the petition.

6. At the same time, it is worthwhile to observe that filing of so many petitions by the run-away couples for seeking protection for life & liberty is not a good sign for well being of the society; rather, it is a wake-up call for the quarter concerned to take remedial measures and to educate the people at grass-root level.

7. Disposed off with the observations made above.

8. Pending application(s), if any, shall also stand disposed off.

9. Copy of this order be sent to the following for information and further necessary action:-

(a) Chief Secretary, Government of Punjab.

(b) Chief Secretary, Government of Haryana.

(MAHABIR SINGH SINDHU)  
JUDGE

11.10.2023  
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