

News

The Delhi High Court ruled that two adults' freedom to choose one another as their life partners cannot be restricted by family disapproval.



The Delhi Police were ordered by the court to protect a couple who had eloped and married against their family's wishes.

Following their elopement and marriage against the desires of the woman's family, the Delhi High Court recently ordered the Delhi police to provide security to a couple who said they were being threatened [**Prince Tyagi And Anr Vs State of NCT of Delhi And Ors**].

According to Justice Sanjeev Narula, the freedom of two consenting adults to select one another as life partners is protected by Article 21 of the Indian Constitution and cannot be restricted by familial disapproval.

One aspect of two consenting adults' personal liberty, privacy, and dignity that is safeguarded by Article 21 is their ability to select one another as life partners and cohabit peacefully. Disapproval from family cannot limit such independence. ***The Supreme Court has upheld this stance on several occasions and instructed law enforcement to protect these couples from harassment or injury, the Court said.***

Following allegations of life threats from the woman's relatives via text messages, phone calls, and video conversations, the married pair went to court.

The woman's relatives had also filed a missing person case. She voluntarily left her parents' home and got married, the police discovered after a preliminary investigation.

Following consideration of their arguments, the court ordered the Delhi police to assign beat officers to monitor the couple's safety in order to provide them with proper security.

Regarding the Petitioners' fear of danger, Respondent No. 1 (Delhi police/State of Delhi) would make sure they are adequately protected. The SHO of the relevant police station will assign a beat officer, educate him or her on the current order, and provide the petitioners with the beat officer's cell phone number and the station's 24-hour contact. When a threat is reported, the police must submit a DD entry right away and provide aid right away. In order to facilitate cooperation, the Petitioners' attorney will provide the Investigating Officer with the Petitioners' current address and contact information today, the Court said in its August 5 order.

The couple was represented by attorneys **Anjaneya Mishra, Nidish Gupta, Sahil, and Abhishek Shukla.**

Advocates **Sangeet Sibou, Priyansh Raj Singh Senger,** and Aniket Kumar Singh represented the State with Special Counsel Rahul Tyagi.