



## Web Portal for Registering Live-in Relationships | Rajasthan | 30 Jan 2025

### Why in News?

The [Rajasthan High Court](#) has directed the **state government** to launch a **web portal** for **registering live-in relationships**.

### Key Points

- **Reason for the Order:** Several live-in couples face threats from family and society, leading them to file petitions under [Article 226](#) seeking protection under [Article 21](#).
  - **Article 226** provides the **High Courts** the authority to bring a lawsuit against a **government entity** if any **citizen's rights** and **freedoms** are violated.
  - The High Court has **broad powers** to **issue orders and writs** to any person or authority under Article 226 of the Indian Constitution.
- The court noted that while **live-in relationships** are not explicitly addressed in Indian law, SC has ruled in several cases such as [Khushboo vs Kanniammal \(2010\)](#), [Lata Singh vs State of UP \(2006\)](#) and [Indira Sarma vs V.K. Sarma \(2013\)](#) that such relationships are **not criminal** and fall under the **right to life and personal liberty** guaranteed by **Article 21**.
- **Necessity to Regulate:** The court highlighted the need to regulate **live-in relationships**, noting that they **lack social approval** and may create legal complications, especially for women and children.
- **Establishment of Authority:** Until a law is enacted, the court ordered the creation of a competent authority in each district to register and address grievances of live-in couples.
  - The government must submit a compliance report by **1st March, 2025**, outlining the steps taken.
- **Legal Clarification on Married Persons:** The court referred to a larger bench the issue of whether married individuals in live-in relationships, without divorce, can seek protection.
- **New Legal Format for Live-in Couples:**
  - The court's order also included the preparation of a formal registration format that all couples entering into live-in relationships must complete. The document would require couples to agree to specific terms before entering such relationships. Key provisions in the format would include the following:
    - **Child Support:** Both partners would be obligated to agree on a **"child plan"** outlining their respective responsibilities for the [education, healthcare,](#) and **general upbringing** of any children born from the relationship.
    - **Maintenance:** The male partner would be held responsible for financially supporting the non-earning female partner and any children resulting from the relationship, ensuring their economic security.

### Landmark Judgments Upholding Constitutional Morality

- **Lata Singh vs State of UP (2006):**
  - Directed protection for inter-caste and inter-religious couples from harassment and violence.
- **S. Khushboo vs Kanniammal & Anr. (2010):**
  - Declared sexual relations between **consenting adults outside marriage** as legal and within the right to privacy.

- **[Naz Foundation vs Government of NCT of Delhi \(2009\):](#)**
  - Decriminalized consensual homosexual acts between adults, declaring **[Section 377](#)** of the Indian Penal Code as a violation of rights.
- **[Joseph Shine vs Union of India \(2018\):](#)**
  - Decriminalized **[adultery](#)** and **declared it a violation of the rights to equality, dignity, privacy, and autonomy.**
- **[Navtej Singh Johar vs Union of India \(2018\):](#)**
  - Affirmed the **[rights of LGBTQ+](#)** individuals to express their sexual orientation and identity with dignity.
- **[Shafin Jahan vs Asokan K.M. \(2018\):](#)**
  - Upheld the right to marry a person of one's choice regardless of religion or caste, nullifying the annulment of a Hindu-Muslim marriage.
- **[Shakti Vahini vs Union of India \(2018\):](#)**
  - Condemned honour killings and violence against inter-caste and inter-religious couples, issuing guidelines for prevention and protection.

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