

**In Chamber**

**Case :-** P.I.L. CRIMINAL No. - 8206 of 2020

**Petitioner :-** Shivam Pandey

**Respondent :-** State Of U.P. Thru. Prin. Secy. Home. Lko & Others

**Counsel for Petitioner :-** Pranjal Krishna

**Counsel for Respondent :-** Govt. Advocate, Anand Shikhar

**Hon'ble Anil Kumar, J.**

**Hon'ble Manish Mathur, J.**

Heard Mr. Pranjal Krishna, learned counsel for petitioner, Mr. S.K. Singh and Mr. Anand Shikhar, appearing on behalf of opposite parties through video conferencing in view of Covid-19 pandemic and perused the record.

Present petition has been filed with following main relief:-

*"(i) To issue a Writ, Order or Direction in nature of Mandamus thereby directing respondents to take proper steps and arrangements to as to ensure the meetings of inmates with their deponents, family members, friends and lawyers with immediate effect, while insuring the guidelines of social distancing and proper sanitization issued in this regard by the competent authorities, so as to protect the Fundamental Rights of the inmates;*

*(ii) To issue a Writ, Order or Direction in nature of Mandamus thereby directing respondent(s) to devise a mechanism to ensure social distancing and sanitization norms along-with other such safety measures so as to prevent the spreading of the Corona Virus in the Jails of Uttar Pradesh."*

Mr. S.K. Singh as well as Mr. Anand Shikhar, learned counsel appearing on behalf of respondents submit that the present petition filed by petitioner under the garb of Public Interest Litigation is not maintainable. They pray for and are granted time to file counter affidavit within a period of ten days, a copy of which shall be given to learned counsel for the petitioner. After receiving a copy of the counter affidavit filed by respondents, the petitioner shall file rejoinder affidavit within a period of three days. It will be open for the respondents to raise their objection in regard to maintainability of the petition.

List/put up this case on 15.06.2020.

**Order Date :-** 29.5.2020

Subodh/-