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

**CRM-M-42850-2017
Date of Decision: 13.11.2017**

Reshma and another

..... Petitioners

Versus

State of Punjab and others

..... Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SUDIP AHLUWALIA

Present: Mr. Gautam Kaile, Advocate,
for the petitioners.

SUDIP AHLUWALIA J. (ORAL)

Both the petitioners are present in person and identified by their counsel. They seek protection of their life and liberty by contending that both of them having attained the age of majority, are living together in a live-in-relationship against the wishes of their respective family members respondent Nos.4 to 10, and so seek appropriate protection from the authorities. They submitted a representation (Annexure P-3) in this regard to the Commissioner of Police, Ludhiana and the Station House Officer, Police Station Mullanpur, District Ludhiana on 07.11.2017, but are still apprehensive about their security in view of the apparent inaction and alleged clout of their family members-respondents.

2. Both of them do appear to have crossed the age of majority as seen from the copies of documents being their Aadhaar Cards.

3. For the aforesaid reasons, this appears to be a fit case for this Court to invoke the inherent powers under Section 482 of the Cr.P.C. and in

view of the mandate contained in Article 21 of the Constitution of India to

protect the citizen's right to life and liberty.

4. Thus the Commissioner of Police, Ludhiana and the Station House Officer, Police Station Mullanpur, District Ludhiana are directed to consider the representation dated 07.11.2017 (Annexure P-3) and take appropriate steps to ensure that no harm is caused to the life and liberty of the petitioners.

5. It is, however, observed that the petitioners would not be entitled to any protection against their arrest of continuance of any criminal proceedings, if otherwise, found to be involved in punishable cognizable offence.

6. The petition is disposed off with the above direction.

13.11.2017

Bhumika

**(SUDIP AHLUWALIA)
JUDGE**

1. Whether speaking/reasoned: Yes

2. Whether reportable: No