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IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY  
BENCH AT AURANGABAD

1215 SUO MOTO (PIL) NO. 8 OF 2020

THE REGISTRAR JUDICIAL HIGH COURT OF BOMBAY  
BENCH AT AURANGABAD

....Petitioner

**VERSUS**

THE STATE OF MAHARASHTRA AND OTHERS

.....Respondent

.....

Advocate for the Petitioner : Mr. Satyajeet Bora (AMICUS CURIAE)

AGP for Respondents/State : Mr. P.K. Lakhotiya

Advocate for R/2 : Mr. S.W. Munde

Advocate for R/8 : Mr. A.P. Bhandari

Advocate for R/37 : Mr. R.K. Ingole

Advocate for R/32: Mr. A.D. Mane h/f. Amol Sawant

Advocate for R/31 : Mr. L.V. Sangit

Advocate for R/41 : Mr. H.K. Munde

Advocate for R/42 : Mr. S.S. Thombre

.....

**CORAM : RAVINDRA V. GHUGE &  
Y.G. KHOBRAGADE, JJ.**

**DATE : 9<sup>th</sup> January, 2024**

**PC. :-**

1. The *amicus curiae* has placed before us a colour compilation of five newspaper cuttings which indicate a grim picture about the serious injuries being caused by the use of the nylon manja. The said compilation is marked as 'X-5' for identification. Shri Bora has also placed before us two pages of a colour screenshot indicating the online sale of nylon manja. The same is marked as 'X-6' for identification.

2. Looking at the situation before us, we find that we are short of words in noting the agonies suffered by the victims of this nylon manja thread which is used for flying kites. Though the learned AGP has attempted to indicate that the local administration is vigilant, we find that too little is being done and much remains to be done. We are also shocked by the fact that the nylon thread which is under severe restrictions in so far as its use for flying kites, is available on e-commerce sites. We had passed an order on 16.03.2023 directing the learned DSGI to inform the Court as to what steps are being adopted by the Government of India for banning the China manufactured nylon manja. Besides merely making a statement that nylon manja is no longer imported from China, he conceded that it is now manufactured in India.

3. The learned advocate Shri Bora has produced before the Court a bundle of the nylon manja which is woven around an instrument which is normally called as "Bhingri" / Chakri" in Marathi. The length of the thread woven around the Chakri is 5,000 meters. Shri Bora has drawn our attention to the lab report which is published in one of the newspaper (X-5) which indicates the strength of the nylon thread which is multiple times more than the normal thread i.e. not under restriction.

4. In view of the above, we direct the police authorities and the local administration in the entire state to commence combing operations and raid all such premises in which the nylon thread is being sold. The shops shall be sealed and offences shall be registered. The police authorities would initiate action against all e-commerce sites and ensure that a mechanism is followed for banning the sale of nylon thread on such e-commerce sites and also in the light of the directions set out in paragraph 3 of the order dated 25.02.2021 passed by this Court at the Nagpur Bench in *Suo Moto P.I.L. No. 1 of 2021*. Similar are the directions issued by this Court vide its order on 13.01.2023 in this *Suo Moto P.I.L.* We also direct the authorities concerned to register offences against all such persons who are found to be flying kites with the nylon thread in their hands.

5. If young children are found to be using the nylon thread for flying kites the presumption being, the said thread shall be confiscated and it shall be investigated as to the source of the said manja and if the parents are involved, offences be registered against the parents.

6. List this petition on 12.01.2024.

7. Needless to state, the learned AGP as well as the learned advocate representing the Corporation shall ensure that this order is made known to all

the police authorities and the local administration in the State and shall tender a report of the steps taken on the next date.

[Y.G. KHOBRADE, J.]

[RAVINDRA V. GHUGE, J.]