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IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY
BENCH AT AURANGABAD

985 SUO MOTO (PIL) NO. 8 OF 2020

THE REGISTRAR JUDICIAL HIGH COURT OF BOMBAY BENCH AT
AURANGABAD

VERSUS

THE STATE OF MAHARASHTRA AND OTHERS

Mr.S.S.Bora, Amicus Curiae for the petitioner.
Mr.A.B.Girase, Government Pleader for the respondent/State.
Mr.A.P.Bhandari, Advocate for respondent No.8.
Mr.R.K.Ingole, Advocate for respondent No.37.
Mr.K.N.Lokhande, Advocate for respondent No.33.
Mr.L.V.Sangit, Advocate for respondent No.31.
Mr.P.V.Ambade, Advocate for respondent Nos. 43 and 44.
Mr.S.S.Thombre, Advocate for respondent No.42.
Mr.U.B.Bondar, Advocate for respondent No.3.
Mr.D.M.Shinde, Advocate for respondent No.35.
Mr.A.V.Hon, Advocate for respondent No.36.
Mr.Amol Sawant, Advocate for respondent No.32.

(CORAM : MANGESH S. PATIL AND
PRAFULLA S. KHUBALKAR, JJ.)

DATE : JANUARY 8, 2025

PER COURT :

1. We have extensively heard both the sides.
2. The learned Government Pleader, pursuant to the directions on the last date, tenders across the bar progress reports in

respect of few districts, indicating the steps being taken to curb the menace of synthetic thread/nylon manja being used for flying kites. It is being pointed out that offences have been registered, combing operations have been taken, camps have been held in the educational institutes. They have also set up dedicated cells.

3. On a query, on instructions, the learned Government Pleader also informs that even a supplier of the nylon manja has been arrested, however, he concedes inability of the Police to reach the manufacturer/s.

4. This is an unending process. The menace of nylon manja can easily be appreciated as the Society has been coming across with the incident of the persons getting injured.

5. We, for the time being, are exploring the directives to be issued in the light of ensuing 'Makar Sankranti', which is the auspicious day, when there is increase in the persons indulging in flying kites.

6. We direct that the police machinery and even the local

bodies across the districts falling under the territorial jurisdiction of this Court shall be on alert and on guard for atleast a month hereafter so that use of nylon manja can be asserted. However, establishments engaged in selling kites and manjas, shall be kept under vigil and appropriate actions shall be initiated in accordance with Law against those supplying, selling and even using nylon manja. They shall maintain a record in respect of the steps to be taken during this period and report compliance of such steps by the next date.

7. Independently, in spite of our directions on the last date, the learned Government Pleader is unable to inform us about the State Government's stand in the matter of policy decision and the law to curb this menace as has been done by 14 other States. This is unbecoming of the State. In spite of the fact that few other States have already done that, indifference of the State regarding the issue is deprecated.

8. Stand over to 16.01.2025.

(PRAFULLA S. KHUBALKAR, J.)

(MANGESH S. PATIL, J.)