



IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY

BENCH AT AURANGABAD

SUO MOTO PUBLIC INTEREST LITIGATION NO.8 OF 2020

THE REGISTRAR (JUDICIAL), HIGH COURT OF BOMBAY,
BENCH AT AURANGABAD

VERSUS

THE STATE OF MAHARASHTRA AND OTHERS

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Mr. Satyajeeet S. Bora Advocate appointed as Amicus Curiae.
Mr. A.B. Girase, Government Pleader for Resp. Nos.1, 4, 5, 6
and 7.

Mr. Rahul Bagul, Senior Panel Advocate for Resp. No.2.

Mr. A.P. Bhandari Advocate for Resp. No.8.

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**CORAM: SMT. VIBHA KANKANWADI AND
HITEN S. VENEGAVKAR, JJ.**

DATE : 8th DECEMBER, 2025

ORDER :

1. Not on Board. Taken on Board in view of the news item reported in Daily Lokmat and Divya Marathi Newspaper, dated 7th December 2025, that serious injury was caused to a boy aged three years due to Nylon manja. This Court had taken Suo Moto Public Interest Litigation by order dated 30th September 2020, taking into consideration two news items with headline "Nylon Manja kills woman in Nashik" and "Ban sought on Nylon Manja

ahead of Sankranti". Since then various orders have been passed and directions have been given. On 8th January 2025, even the observations have been made that the Government had not come with the policy decision. Directions were given to the police machinery and the local body across the Districts falling under the territorial jurisdiction of this Court that they should be on alert and on guard for at least a month taking into consideration the festival of Sankranti.

2. However, again it appears that as Sankranti is approaching, the shops are getting Nylon Manjas for sale. Learned Government Pleader submits a letter to him by Senior Police Inspector, Crime Branch, Chhatrapati Sambhaji Nagar stating that after the news item appeared, including the said incident, three offences came to be registered, one is Crime No.726 of 2025 registered with CIDCO Police Station, which is in respect of unfortunate incident where the child suffered serious injuries, second is Crime No.323 of 2025 registered with Jinsi Police Station wherein 51 reels of Nylon Manja are seized. Third is Crime No.534 of 2025 registered with Satara Police Station where four reels have been found. It has been tried to be submitted as to what steps are being taken.

3. We have heard learned Advocate Mr. Bhandari for Aurangabad Municipal Corporation. He as well as learned Government Pleader submit that every effort is being taken for public awareness. It is then also stated by learned Amicus Curiae that Nylon Manja is available for sale online. Here, when banned item is available for sale online, then it is for the State Government to take such steps so that such banned item is not ordered or not available for sale in the State of Maharashtra. In some other States the sale of Nylon Manja is specifically prohibited.

4. Taking into consideration the news item, it can be seen that unfortunately the child boy aged three years received serious injuries and it is reported that about twenty stitches were required to be applied to the injuries and the photograph shows that it is just near the neck. It can thus be seen that it was a mere escape of the child. Fortunately he survived. But the pain and the agony that he would be required to undergo when it is absolutely not his fault, we are of the prima facie opinion that when it is failure on the part of the State to completely prohibit

the article, we propose to grant compensation. However, we reserve the same till the detailed order is passed.

5. In the meantime we direct the learned Government Pleader to get the fresh data regarding the action taken (which ought to have been a continuous action) in all the Districts within the territorial jurisdiction of this Bench and get the specific plans from the Superintendent of Police or the Commissioner of Police, as the case may be, regarding the proposed action to curb this menace, as the Sankranti is approaching, possibility of such storage or such articles coming into the local area of the Districts cannot be ruled out.

6. Place the matter for further consideration on 16th December 2025.

[HITEN S. VENEGAVKAR]
JUDGE

[SMT. VIBHA KANKANWADI]
JUDGE