



IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY
NAGPUR BENCH, NAGPUR.

SUO MOTO PUBLIC INTEREST LITIGATION NO.1 OF 2021

Court on its own motion

.Vs.

State of Maharashtra and others

Office Notes, Office Memoranda of Coram,
appearances, Court's orders of directions
and Registrar's Orders.

Court's or Judge's orders.

Mr N. Jadhav, Advocate to assist the Court
Mr S. M. Ukey, Add.G.P. for the State
Mr J. B. Kasat, Advocate for respondent Nos. 3 and 17
Mr M. I. Dhatrak, Advocate for respondent Nos. 15, 19 and 23
Mr S. A. Sahu, Advocate for respondent No. 19
Mr S. S. Sanyal, Advocate for respondent No. 27
Mr C. B. Dharmadhikari, Advocate for respondent No. 31

CORAM : ANIL S. KILOR AND
RAJ D. WAKODE, JJ.

DATED : JANUARY 12, 2026.

Heard.

2. This *suo moto* public interest litigation was initiated on the basis of the newspaper reports relating to the use of nylon/synthetic thread (manja).

3. This petition is pending since 2021 and till date numerous orders came to be passed to address the menace of nylon manja. However, despite many efforts and orders it is noticed that rampant use of nylon manja is still continued. In absence of any statute or regulation framed by the State Government in this regard the authorities are also facing difficulties to some extent to deal with this serious issue.

4. Every year because of use of nylon manja many people loose their lives or many get injured. Every year through newspapers and other modes, the consequences of use of such manja is being highlighted. Despite the same, there is no change in the situation which prompted this Court to adopt a different mode and thereby impose deterrent punishment by way of fine to be recovered from the individual, who fly the kite with nylon manja or vendor, who sales such nylon manja.

5. This Court, therefore, on 24.12.2025 passed an order and thereby proposed to impose fine of Rs.50,000/- on individual and Rs.2,50,000/- on the vendors.

6. This Court directed the respondents - Collectors to publish public notices in all the leading newspapers, to bring this fact to the notice of public at large, with an intention that the public at large shall get an opportunity to give suggestions or to make submissions either in favour or against such proposed action.

7. Accordingly, Public notices were published. Even all the leading newspapers have given wide publicity, on their own in the interest of public at large, by publishing news of the order dated 24.12.2025.

8. Certain suggestions were received by this Court in view of such wide publicity given by the newspapers as well as public notices published by the Collectors of all the Districts. Some of the suggestions are in respect of reducing

fine or increasing the same or to make the punishment more deterrent including adding punishment of imprisonment.

9. The purpose of giving notice to public at large, about the punishment which Court had proposed vide order dated 24.12.2025, has been achieved by wide publicity given by all the leading newspapers about the order dated 24.12.2025 and order dated 05.01.2026.

10. Thus, considering the suggestions received from the individuals and as there are no suggestions opposing imposition of fine received by this Court, according to us, the parents are held liable to pay this amount for the reasons that it is the duty of the parents to teach their children about the responsible behaviour and self control, from which the children can learn about the consequences and taking responsibility of their own action, which would help discourage the inappropriate behaviour. It is the duty of the parents to make known to their child the consequences of his/ her action and to make aware the child what is good and what is bad for him/her and others. It is expected that the parents shall make aware their children about the serious consequences of use of nylon manja.

11. Accordingly, we pass the following order:

ORDER

i] If any individual is found flying kite with nylon manja he/she shall be liable to pay fine of Rs.25,000/-

(Rupees Twenty Five Thousand only). In case of minor, the amount shall be recoverable from the parents of the minor.

ii] Similarly, in case if any vendor who is found with the stock of nylon manja, he/she shall be liable to pay fine of Rs.2,50,000/- (Rupees Two lacs Fifty Thousand only).

iii] The above referred fine of Rs.25,000/- to be recovered from the individual/parents of the minor or fine of Rs.2,50,000/- to be recovered from the Vendor, is for each default.

iv] The above referred amount collected in case of default by the individual/parents of the minor or vendor shall be deposited in a bank account, which shall be opened by the Committee consisting of the Collector, Nagpur, Municipal Commissioner, Nagpur and the Registrar (Administration), High Court of Bombay, Nagpur Bench, Nagpur in the name of '**Public Welfare Account**'.

v] All the amount of fine recovered from all Districts of Vidarbha Region shall be deposited in such account.

vi] The fine so collected shall be utilized for the purpose of treatment of any victim of nylon manja and decision regarding the extent of financial help to be provided to such victim shall be taken by the Committee.

vii] While opening the bank account the QR code be generated and the same shall be circulated to the officers of the Police Department or/and Municipal Corporation/Chief

Officer of Municipal Council and Nagar Parishad, who will be conducting the raids.

If the individual/parents of the minor is not in a position to pay the amount on the spot, the concerned officer shall issue a memo imposing such fine which would be recoverable as land revenue, if such person fails to deposit the amount of fine within 15 days in the above referred account. The concerned Revenue Officer on failure of the person, who is imposed with a fine, to deposit the amount in the account within 15 days shall initiate the proceeding for recovery of such fine as land revenue and recover such amount by following due process of law.

viii] The cyber cell of each Districts shall generate one Whats App group to receive complaints or information about use of nylon manja. The Commissioner of Police/ Superintendent of Police/Deputy Commissioner of Police shall evolve the procedure to deal with such complaints, if received on such App.

ix] If any untoward incident because of nylon manja is reported, the concern Police Officer of that zone or area, within whose jurisdiction such incident is reported, shall be served with the notice by the Commissioner of Police/ Superintendent of Police as to why the action shall not be taken against such Officer for not performing the duties diligently in compliance with the orders of this Court. Such matter shall be reported to this Court alongwith action taken against such officer.

x] The Commissioner of Police/Superintendent of Police of concerned Districts, shall publish a public notice informing the amount of fine which will be imposed for use of nylon manja in all leading newspapers on 13.01.2026 and 14.01.2026.

xi] Ignorance of such public notice will not be the ground available for anyone to raise a dispute about the payment of such fine.

12. The respondents-authorities are expected to submit the affidavits about the action taken by them till **16.01.2026.**

13. Place this matter on **20.01.2026.**

[RAJ D. WAKODE, J.]

[ANIL S. KILOR, J.]

Namrata