GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA

No.CRT-2015/CR-37/T.C.2/TC-1 Environment and Climate Change Department, New Administrative Building, 15th floor, Mantralaya, Mumbai 400 032. Date: 29.12.2022

To,

All Divisional Commissioners / All District Magistrates and Collectors / All Municipal Commissioners / All Commissioners of Police / All District Superintendents of Police / Director General of Information and Public Relations, Mantralaya, Mumbai.

Sub: Compliance of directions issued by Hon'ble High Court of Judicature at Bombay, Bench at Aurangabad in Suo-Moto Public Interest Litigation No. 08 of 2020 vide order dated 20th December, 2022.

Ref: 1. Letter received from the Office of the Government Pleader, Aurangabad vide O.No.GP /WP/DRK/11933/2022, dated 29.12.2022.

- 2. This Office Circular No. CRT 2015/P.K.37/TC-2 dated 21.12.2021.
- 3. This Office Letter No.CRT 2015/P.K.37/TC-1 dated 16.12.2021.
- 4. This Office letter no. CRT-2015/CR-37/TC-2 dt. 18.06.2016.

With reference to above, Hon'ble High Court of Judicature at Bombay, Bench at Aurangabad, in Suo-Moto Public Interest Litigation No. 08 of 2020 has taken cognizance of the issues pertaining to "Nylon Manja" and issued directions vide order dated 20th December, 2022, which shall be perused.

It may be noted that this office has issued directions regarding injury caused to the birds and humans by threads made of plastic/synthetic material commonly known as Nylon Manja wherein following directions dated 18.06.2016 were issued:

- Not to allow the use of the Pucca threads commonly known as Nylon Manja, made out
 of plastic or any such synthetic material, which is likely to cause grievous injury to the
 birds as well as to human beings specially during the festivals where kite flying is played.
- 2. The wholesalers / retailers / stockiest dealing in such thread be stopped well in advance so that they do not handle, stock and sell such so called Nylon Manja throughout the year.
- 3. To prevent the adverse effects on soil, water ways and cattle population caused by cutting or falling of such threads used in kite flying which are non-biodegradable and can cause immense injury to ecology and animals, once they touch the soil strata.
- 4. To sensitize people that use of such Nylon Manja threads, which are non-biodegradable in nature and often result in flash-over on the power lines and substations causing power interruptions to consumers, straining and damaging electrical assets, causing accidents, injuries and loss of life, damage to environment, and therefore prevent use of such Nylon threads for kite flying.

Above directions issued under section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 are hereby reiterated again.

Page 1 of 2

All the Divisional Commissioners, all District Magistrates and Collectors, all Municipal Commissioners, all Commissioners of Police, and all District Superintendents of Police are hereby directed to ensure strict compliance of these directions, as well as the order issued by Hon'ble Court. You are also directed to hold review meeting before Makar Sankrant for the same.

It is also hereby directed that all the local authorities should undertake Public Awareness Program every year before the Makarsankrant Festival at School/College /Public at Large through Print/Electronic & Social Media, to sensitize people regarding the ill effects of nylon manjha thread, which are non-biodegradable in nature and often results in accidents, causing grievous injuries & inconvenience to animals, birds as well as human beings during the festival, loss of life and damage to the environment.

(Pravin C. Darade) Secretary

Copy submitted for information to:

- 1. Addl. Chief Secretary, Revenue Department, Mantralaya
- 2. Addl. Chief Secretary, Urban Development Department(1/2), Mantralaya.
- 3. Addl. Chief Secretary, Home Department, Mantralaya
- 4. Addl. Chief Secretary, Rural Development Department, Mantralaya

Copy to:

- 1. Joint Director (Water), Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Sion, Mumbai: he is informed to consolidate monthly compliance report from the above authorities and submit to Environment Department, Government of Maharashtra.
- 2. PS to Minister (Environment& Climate Change), Government of Maharashtra.
- 3. All Desks, Env & CC Dept., Mantralaya, Mumbai-32 / Select File (TC-1/2).