

No. EN/ 659/3C-05/2020

Dated, Kolkata 20th March, 2020

Notification

1. Whereas, although kite flying is an age-old tradition during various festivals in the state of West Bengal, it has now become an issue of serious concern for last few years due to indiscriminate use of thread made out of plastic or similar such synthetic material commonly known as *Chinese-manjha/Synthetic/Nylon-manjha* for kite flying. Such threads do not snap easily. It can inflict razor like sharp cut if it comes into contact with human flesh. There have been occasions when unsuspecting motor cyclists or cyclists have sustained severe injury by coming in the way of kite flying. Others have also been reported to have suffered serious injuries from such *Chinese-manjha*. In the above stated circumstances, the Government of West Bengal has been seriously contemplating for some time past for putting restriction on use of *Chinese/Plastic/Nylon-manjha* in flying of kites.

2. And Whereas, the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Principal Bench, New Delhi vide its judgement dated 11.07.2017 passed in Original Application No 386 of 2016 with Original Application No 442 of 2016 (Khalid Ashraf – Vs- Union of India & Ors) and M.A No 1247 of 2106 and M.A No 317 of 2017, had issued certain directions for ban on the *Chinese-manjha* and other matters connected therewith;

3. Now therefore, in exercise of the power conferred under section 5 of the Environment Protection Act, 1986 (29 of 1986) and in compliance of the directions of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Principal Bench, New Delhi, the Governor is hereby pleased to direct the following :-

- i) There shall be a total ban on the use of *Chinese/nylon/plastic-manjha* or thread for kite flying which is made of nylon or any synthetic material and/or is ~~is~~ coated with synthetic substance and/or is non-biodegradable.

ii) Any kind of manufacture, import, sale, store, purchase and use of *Chinese synthetic nylon manpha* thread used for kite flying is prohibited throughout the State of West Bengal.

4. Whoever violates any of the above directions shall be liable to be prosecuted under the provisions of the Environment Protection Act, 1986; Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960; Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 and the Indian Penal Code, 1860.
5. The District Administration, Superintendents of Police and the Commissioners of Police will take necessary steps for causing wide publicity of the ban being imposed and will also take action for enforcement in compliance of directions given by the Hon'ble NGT in this regard from time to time.
6. This notification shall come into effect immediately.

By the order of the Governor

Sd -

(Rajiva Sinha)

Chief Secretary to the
Government of West Bengal