



**ANIMAL WELFARE BOARD OF INDIA**

Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Govt. of India  
(Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying)  
42 Mile Stone, Delhi-Agra Highway, NH-2,  
Ballabgarh, Haryana-121004

Email: [support-awbi@gov.in](mailto:support-awbi@gov.in) Website: [www.awbi.gov.in](http://www.awbi.gov.in)

File No.AC-0103/1/2024-AWBI

To,

1. The Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC).
2. The Chief Secretaries of all the State/UT's.
3. The PCCF/ HoFF of All the State/UT's.

**Subject: Request to issue necessary amendment in the notification issued under Environmental Protection Act, 1986, for prohibition of all harmful sharp threads or Manjha used for kite flying activities - regarding.**

Reference:

1. D. O Letter No. 17/16/2014-AWD dated 9<sup>th</sup> September 2014.
2. The AWBI letters dated 14.05.2013 addressed to PS to the Hon'ble Minister of Forest of all State /UT's.
3. The AWBI letters dated 13.01.2016 addressed to the Chief Secretaries of all the State/ UT's.

Sir/Madam,

The Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI) is a Statutory Body established under Section 4 of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (PCA) Act, 1960, with the primary mandate of promoting animal welfare and preventing unnecessary pain or suffering inflicted upon animals. As an advisory board to the Government, on matters pertaining to animal protection, issuing circulars and guidelines to safeguard animal welfare falls well within our statutory powers as prescribed under applicable law.

2. In this regard, it is submitted that the AWBI through its letters dated 14.05.2013, addressed to all the PS to Honorable Ministers of Forest of all States/Union Territories, and letter dated 13.01.2016 addressed to the Chief Secretary of all States / UTs, has emphasized the necessity of banning glass-coated metal, plastic, or other sharp Manjha threads. Additionally, the MoEF&CC issued a directive dated 09.09.2014 to all Chief Secretaries of State/UTs to address the issue of harmful Manjha threads, particularly those made from nylon, glass, or metal, which pose significant threats to wildlife.

3. Further, the National Green Tribunal, in its judgment dated 11.07.2017, acknowledged the efforts of various stakeholders, including the AWBI and MoEF&CC, in advocating for the ban on synthetic Manjha threads. The tribunal directed all the State Governments and Union Territories to enforce a total ban on Manjha threads made up of nylon or any synthetic material, coated with synthetic substances, and non-biodegradable. Also, giving the gravity of the situation and the environmental and wildlife conservation concerns associated with the use of harmful Manjha threads, it is imperative that immediate action be taken.

I/4125/2024

4. In light of the foregoing, it is kindly requested to amend respective notifications under Environmental Protection Act, 1986, to put complete prohibition of all harmful sharp threads or Manjha made up of nylon other threads gummed or coated with powder glass (including powder glass or metal coated cotton thread) used for kite flying activities and permit only plain cotton thread for kite flying. This proactive measure aligns with the directives of the National Green Tribunal and reflects our commitment to environmental sustainability and wildlife protection.

5. This issues with the approval of the competent authority.

Yours sincerely,

**Signed by Sujit Kumar  
Dutta**

**Date: 25-04-2024 13:08:01**

**Reason: Approved  
(Dr. S.K. Dutta)  
Secretary**



## ANIMAL WELFARE BOARD OF INDIA

भारतीय जीव जन्तु कल्याण बोर्ड

(Ministry of Environment and Forests, Govt. of India)  
(पर्यावरण एवं वन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)

**S. UMA RANI**  
**SECRETARY**

No.8-5/2013-14/HE

Dated 14<sup>th</sup> May, 13

To

The P.S. to the Hon'ble Minister of  
Forest of all States / U.T.s

Sir/Madam,

Sub: Request for Ban on glass-coated, metal, plastic or other sharp Manja thread – Reg

I am directed to bring to your kind notice that the Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI), a statutory body under the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India was established for promotion of animal welfare generally and for the purpose of protecting animals from being subjected to unnecessary pain or suffering, in particular. One of the important functions of the Board is to impart education in relation to humane treatment of animals and to encourage the formation of public opinion against the infliction of unnecessary pain or suffering to animals and for the promotion of animal welfare by means of lectures, books, posters, cinematographic exhibitions etc.

The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1960 makes causing unnecessary suffering to any animal illegal. The manja used in kite-flying competitions is gummed and coated with powdered and finely crushed glass or made sharp using other materials. Killing wildlife is illegal under the Wildlife Protection Act 1972 which states, "No person shall hunt any wild animal as specified in Schedules I, II, III, IV or V of the Act." The act in Chapter I (16) (a) defines hunting as "capturing, killing, poisoning, snaring, and trapping of any wild animal and every attempt to do so" and (c) "injuring or destroying or taking any part of the body of any such animal, or in the case of wild birds or reptiles, damaging the eggs of such birds or reptiles, or disturbing the eggs or nests of such birds or reptiles". Yet manja is deadly for thousands of pigeons, crows, owls, kites, vultures and other birds—including those whose species are endangered—who get slashed, wounded or killed when they become entangled in the manja.

In order to uphold our nation's animal protection laws and our Constitutional mandate under Article 51A(g) "to protect and improve the natural environment including forests, lakes, rivers and wild life, and to have compassion for living creatures", the sale and use of glass-coated, metal, plastic or other sharp manja must be banned. As you know, sharp manja is used to cut opponents' kites but it also causes criminal cruelty to animals and people, resulting in them suffering severe injuries and death, and disrupts power lines, sometimes causing electrocution. Manja is already banned in some places, such as Gujarat, Mumbai, Chennai and the Punjab province of Pakistan but is often not well enforced.

A bird rescuer in Ahmedabad estimates that 2,000 birds are injured every year during Uttarayan in that city alone and that 500 of them die from their injuries. Of course, these are only reported cases. Many other bird injuries and deaths go unreported.

In addition to its horrific toll on birds, every year manja results in injury, death or electrocution of people as the sharp string accidentally slits the throats of people travelling on motorbikes, or cuts power lines as children fly kites.

In view of the above, it is therefore requested that necessary steps be taken by the State to issue an immediate notice banning the sale and use of glass-coated, metal, plastic or other sharp manja thread in your state and our streets, parks and trees from this indiscriminate killer. Your action would help safeguard the environment for people and for animals.

**DESPATCHED**

Yours faithfully,  
  
(S. UMA RANI)  
Secretary

20/5/13

AWBI : Post Box No. 8672, 13/1, Third Seaward Road, Valmiki Nagar, Thiruvanniyur, Chennai - 600 041.

E-mail : awbi@md3.vsnl.net.in / secretary@awbi.org Website : www.awbi.org

Tel.: +91 44 24571025 / 24571024 Fax : +91 44 24571016

Done by  
Hon  
S. Uma Rani

dl

HEM PANDE  
ADDITIONAL SECRETARY  
Tele : 011-24695130/24695137



भारत सरकार  
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE

इंदिरा पर्यावरण भवन, जोर बाग रोड,  
नई दिल्ली-110 003

INDIRA PARYAVARAN BHAWAN, JOR BAGH ROAD,  
NEW DELHI-110 003  
Website : moef.nic.in

9<sup>th</sup> September, 2014

31-23  
मुख्य सचिवांचे कार्यालय

मंत्रालय, मुंबई-३२

दिनांक : 23 SEP 2014

ई-ऑफिस क्र. : 716564

*Handwritten signature*  
26/9

मुख्य सचिव  
पर्यावरण व वन  
Secy / Forest

22 SEP 2014

D.O. No. 17/16/2014-AWD

Dear *Shri Kshatriya*,

This is regarding use of Chinese string made of nylon commonly called 'Chinese Dor' and other thread gummed and coated with powdered and finely crushed glass, used for kite flying. Kite fliers who use such strings endanger life of flying birds, namely, pigeons, crows, owls, kites, vultures and also rare and threatened species of birds.

2. A number of incidences of killing of birds and injury, death or electrocution take place because of use of Chinese Dor and glass coated *manja* for flying kites. In W.P. (PIL) number 15793/2011, the Hon'ble High Court of Rajasthan has directed the concerned authorities to ensure that pucca thread made of plastic or any such synthetic material of Chinese make or other toxic materials like iron powder, glass powder etc. is not used in kite flying.

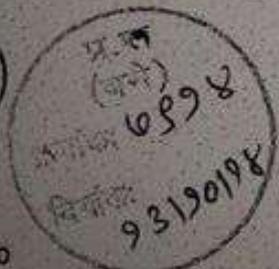
3. Killing wildlife is illegal under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and causing injury to animals is a violation of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960. Article 51 A (g) of the Indian constitution also states that "It shall be the duty of every citizen of India to protect and improve the natural environment including forests, lakes, rivers and wildlife, and to have compassion for living creatures".

4. I shall be grateful, if you would look into the issue and take appropriate action in the matter.

*interfered,*

Yours sincerely,  
*Hem Pande*  
(Hem Pande)

JS (F)

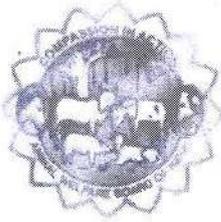


To  
Shri Swadheen S Kshatriya,  
Chief Secretary,  
Government of Maharashtra,  
Mantralaya,  
Mumbai - 400 032, (Maharashtra).  
Fax: 022-22028594

22/6

Pl. See remarks to the birds  
harmful/synthetic material  
kite flying





## **Animal Welfare Board of India**

**(Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Govt. of India)**  
**13/1, Third Seaward Road, Valmiki Nagar, Thiruvanniyur,**  
**Chennai - 600 041 PostBoxNo.8672 Email: [awbi@md3.vsnl.net.in](mailto:awbi@md3.vsnl.net.in),**  
**[animalwelfareboard@gmail.com](mailto:animalwelfareboard@gmail.com) [website:www.awbi.org](http://www.awbi.org),**  
**Phone:044-24571025, 24571024, Fax: 044-24571016.**

No.8-5/2013-14/HE

Dated 13<sup>th</sup> January, 16

To

The Chief Secretary of  
All States and UTs

P.S. to the Hon'ble Minister of  
Forest of all States / U.T.s

Sir/Madam,

Sub: Request for Ban the use of glass-coated, metal, plastic or other sharp  
Manja thread – Reg

Ref.: Our office letter of even number dated 14<sup>th</sup> May, 2013 (copy enclosed)

2) D.O. Letter No.17/16/2014-AWD dated 9<sup>th</sup> September, 2014 addressed to Chief  
Secretary, Govt. of Maharastra on the above subject (copy enclosed)

Kindly refer to the letter no.8-5/2013-14/HE dated 14<sup>th</sup> May, 2013 addressed to the  
Hon'ble Minister of Forest of all States/UTs.

In this connection, I am directed to bring to your kind notice that the one of the  
important functions of the Board is to impart education in relation to humane treatment of  
animals and to encourage the formation of public opinion against the infliction of  
unnecessary pain or suffering to animals and for the promotion of animal welfare by means  
of lectures, books, posters, cinematographic exhibitions etc.

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to any animal illegal. The manja used in kite-flying competitions is gummed and coated with  
powdered and finely crushed glass or made sharp using other materials. Killing wildlife is  
illegal under the Wildlife Protection Act 1972 which states, "No person shall hunt any wild  
animal as specified in Schedules I, II, III, IV or V of the Act." The act in Chapter I (16) (a)  
defines hunting as "capturing, killing, poisoning, snaring, and trapping of any wild animal and  
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Chennai and the Punjab province of Pakistan but is often not well enforced. The Ministry has  
also addressed a letter on the above subject.

In addition to its horrific toll on birds, every year manja results in injury, death or electrocution of people as the sharp string accidentally slits the throats of people travelling on motorbikes, or cuts power lines as children fly kites.

In view of the above, it is therefore requested that necessary steps be taken by the State to issue directions to all the concerned authorities to take immediate action against the use of glass-coated, metal, plastic or other sharp manja thread in your state and our streets, parks and trees from this indiscriminate killer. Your action would help safeguard the environment for people and for animals.

A copy of the action taken report may kindly be forwarded to the Board for information and further necessary action.

Yours faithfully,



(S. VINOD KUMAAR)  
Assistant Secretary

Encl. as above.

Copy to: The Director General of Police of all States and UTs  
2) Chairman, AWBI and Vice-Chairman, AWBI