

August 9, 2019

Press Release

I Day Advisory: Don't Fly Kites Near Electrical Installations

Metal Coated Manjha Can Lead to Trippings and Even Electrocutions

- **BSES' multi-pronged campaign, including a 3 –minute video, promotes safe 'kite flying'**
- **Tripping of a single 33/66 KV line can disrupt power supply to over 10,000 consumers**
- **Tripping related outages can take upto 2 hours to rectify**
- **Disrupting power supply and causing damage to power equipment is punishable under Electricity and the Delhi Police Acts**

Kite flying is an integral part of the Independence Day celebrations in Delhi. Sometimes this otherwise innocent & fun activity can be hazardous, even fatal. Flying kites in itself is not the problem; it's the metal coated thread or manjha which becomes a real threat. The wide-spread use of metal coated *manjha* – being a good conductor of electricity – poses a great danger not only to the person flying the kite, but may also disrupt electricity supply of an area. Each year, there are several instances on this count.

Even though, disrupting power supply and causing damage to power equipment is punishable under the Electricity Act and the Delhi Police Act, there seems to be little consideration shown for the law as well as power supply.

According to a BSES spokesperson, "People should enjoy kite flying, but they should do it responsibly. We advise residents not to fly kites near electricity installations, including overhead cables and certainly avoid using metal or metal coated *manjha*. These two simple mantras will ensure safe I-Day celebrations."

Dangers of flying kites near electricity installations

According to estimates, Tripping of just one 33/66 KV overhead line can disrupt power supply to over 10,000 residents of an area and tripping of a single 11 KV line to over 2500 residents. Each year, there are several instances of kite-flying related trippings. Last year, there were 12 instances of kite-flying related trappings in BSES' area. Keeping this in mind, in the run-up to the Independence Day, we have put our Operations and Maintenance teams on high alert to take care of any kite-flying related contingencies.

Risk to life

Not just electrical equipments get affected, the risk to life is a bigger danger of reckless kite flying. Moreover, if the entangled *manjha* happens to be metal coated, it can even lead to electrocution of the 'kite-flyer'.

Appeal to Elders

In the run-up to the Independence Day, though we put our Operations and Maintenance teams on high alert to take care of any kite-flying related contingency, elders and parents are also requested to inform and counsel children not to enter prohibited/ barricaded electrical installations to retrieve kites because life is more precious than a kite of a few rupees. Any carelessness can lead to a major power failure, and even electrocutions.

Special film on Kite flying safety

To make consumers aware of the perils of flying kites - especially with the metal coated manjha- near electricity installations, BSES' multi-pronged campaign, including that on social media, sensitises its consumers (and children). An important part of the campaign is a 3 minute film for the occasion, giving simple tips on precautions to take while flying kites.

Handy numbers

In case of any emergency, apart from the 24 x 7 call centre numbers, consumers are can reach BSES through its emergency numbers (BRPL- 1800 10 39707, BYPL- 41999808) or through its Mobile App.

BRPL & BYPL are premier distribution companies and Joint Ventures between Reliance Infrastructure Limited and GoNCT.

Follow us Facebook and Twitter



www.facebook.com/bsesdelhi



<https://twitter.com/BSESDELHI>