

April 18, 2017

Press Release

**‘Oil Thieves’ steal oil from around 70 transformers
causing disruption of power supply**

- **Removal of oil can damage transformers, besides causing outages**
- **BSES has increased surveillance and sought Police assistance in catching ‘oil’ gangs**

In the last few weeks, oil from around 70 transformers has been stolen in BSES areas. Besides causing monetary loss to BSES, this has also caused inconvenience to our consumers as it disrupts power supply. Removing oil from the transformer has the potential of severely damaging it, besides causing power outages. Leaking oil from a transformer can also lead to a fire hazard. BSES has taken these incidents very seriously and registered FIRs in various police stations.

Even in the wee hours of the morning today, oil from a transformer in Chander Vihar (near IP Extension) was stolen by a gang of ‘oil’ thieves. Alert BSES teams deployed a mobile transformer as soon as possible to minimize the inconvenience to consumers.

During the last few weeks, apart from the areas mentioned above, oil has been stolen from transformers in several areas including Neb Sarai, Sarita Vihar, Palam, Raghubir Nagar, R K Puram, Baldev Park, Nirman Vihar, Jitar Nagar (Jagatpuri), Samaspur Village (Pandav Nagar), Krishna Nagar, Vinod Nagar and Chilla.

Such incidents have taken place earlier also but the number was substantially less. The situation was brought under control with the help of the Police and other civic organizations. There is a sudden spurt in such cases in last few weeks.

Meanwhile, BSES has written letters to senior Police officials, stating that incidents of theft of oil have been reported from live transformers, even when they were surrounded by steel fencing and properly locked. BSES has requested the police to keep an eye on these ‘oil’ thieves during night patrolling.

On its part, BSES too has increased vigilance. The Discoms have increased surveillance and deployed Quick Response Teams to keep an eye on the gang of oil thieves.

As per a BSES spokesperson, “These continuous incidents of oil theft are causing a lot of inconvenience to consumers in summer months. We appeal to our consumers to be vigilant and if they find something suspicious, they should immediately call police on 100 to report such cases. Our teams have also been maintaining extra vigil to curb such practices.”



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