

August 10, 2021

Press Release

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

### **Metal Coated Manjha Can Lead to Trippings and Even Electrocutions**

- **BSES 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**

New Delhi: 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. As India gears-up for the 75<sup>th</sup> Independence Day celebrations, kite-flying activities may see increased activity on this momentous occasion, which may also witness an increased kite flying related incidents.

Disrupting power supply and causing damage to power equipment is punishable under the Electricity Act and the Delhi Police Act.

**According to a Reliance Infrastructure led BSES spokesperson,** "People should enjoy kite flying, but they should do it responsibly. We advise residents not to fly kites near electrical 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 electrical 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 14 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, Reliance Infrastructure led BSES' multi-pronged campaign 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, consumers can reach-out to BSES through multiple channels, including toll-free numbers, Mobile App, WhatsApp and SMS.

	BRPL	BYPL
Call-Centre (Toll-free)	19123	19122
WhatsApp	Simply type 'Hi' & send it to 8800919123	Simply type 'Hi' & send it to 8745999808
Mobile App	BRPL Power App	BYPL Connect
SMS	BSESRP<space> NC<space> 9digit CA N and send to 5616107	BSESYN<space> NC<space> 9digit CA N and send to 5616108

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