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INDIA

Ball-shaped firefighting device hits market

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Kolkata: Dousing a fire can now be done better than by grabbing a fire extinguisher or splashing buckets of water. Just free your arms and throw a ball into the leaping flames. And voila! The blaze would be gone.

Siam Safety Premier Company Limited, a Thailand-based company, has come out with an environment-friendly technology to douse fire. The fire extinguisher is marketed in India by Shree Shyam Bearings Private Limited (SSBPL).

When tossed into a fire, the ball activates within 3-10 seconds and disperses fire-retarding chemicals. One ball can cover a fire with a radius of 1,296 metres.

"We are targeting the corporate sector, private organisations, public utilities like the railways, transport, oil and gas, coal and other sectors to market the fire extinguisher in India," said SSBPL marketing director Suryakant Khemka.

"We are already in talks with the state fire department to use this innovative technology during Durga Puja and Diwali to avert any fire-related accidents in pandals (marquees)," Khemka said.

Ease of use

He said the 1.3-kg Elide Fire Extinguishing Ball had been designed in such a manner that even a child could use it to stop rapid spread of fire.

When a fire occurs and no one is present, the fire-extinguishing ball would self-activate and sound out a 101-140 decibel fire alarm. It can be placed in fire-prone zones or fire-risk areas such as electrical circuit breakers, kitchens, storage sections and other areas to pre-empt fires.

"We decided to launch the product in Kolkata and the eastern region and would soon begin marketing it in other states," Khemka said.

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