

WONDERBALL

The new fire extinguishing gadget



The Fire Services department is thinking of purchasing Elide Fire, the latest fire-extinguishing gadget to enter the market. Here's how it works:

WHAT IS ELIDE FIRE?

A ball, little less in size than a foot-ball. Weighing 1.3 kg, the ball is hurled into the fire. In a span of three to seven seconds, it releases chemicals to check the spread of flames,

eventually extinguishing the fire.

WHOSE CREATION IS IT?

The fire-extinguishing technology is the brainchild of Woradech Kaimart of Thailand, Shree Shyam Bearings Private Limited

EXPLAINED

launched it in India on Thursday.

WHERE CAN IT BE USED?

The ball can cover a 1.296-m radius fire. It can also be installed in fire-prone zones like electrical circuit breakers, kitchens and storage sections to prevent fires. It contains dry chemicals, which create a blanket between the inflammable substance and air. The ball will be particularly effective in areas where there are logistical problems, like narrow approach lanes or dearth of water resources.

CAN I USE IT?

No special skills are required to operate the device. Easy to install, the red and yellow ball is self-activated, capable of extinguishing flames without human intervention.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

When fire spreads, the extinguisher will sound out a 101 to 140 decibel fire alarm and then burst to extinguish the flames. No toxic chemicals are released into the environment.

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

The Elide Fire costs Rs 9,000 and has a five-year maintenance free shelf life.

WHAT DOES THE MINISTER SAY?

State Fire and Emergency Services minister Pratim Chatterjee was satisfied with the device after a test trial. "It seems to be quite effective. We will decide whether to acquire the device after a discussion in the department."

Express photo by Sandipan Chatterjee