Bird rescue camps set up for Makar Sankranti

Vijay.Singh@timesgroup.com

Mumbai: Several bird rescue camps will be set up by animal rights groups in the city and suburbs during Makar Sankranti on January 14 and 15, to help birds that get injured due to kite-flying.

“We are publishing addresses and phone numbers of bird rescue camps to be set up so that citizens can immediately rush the injured birds to the closest camp during Makar Sankranti. We are also urging citizens to avoid flying kites, and shun the use of the sharp glass-coated ‘manja' as it can slice through birds flying in the sky,” said honorary district animal welfare officer Mitesh Jain.

He added that Chinese ‘manja' must also be avoided as it can be fatal for the feathered species.

Besides NGOs like Karuna Trust, Bird Helpline, PAWS-Mumbai, Bombay SPCA will also look out for treating birds injured during the festival.

Meanwhile, Adani Electricity officials cautioned people to stay away and refrain from flying kites near high-tension overhead power transmission lines. Versova, Oshiwara, Goregaon, Malad, Kandivli and Borivli are some areas where there are high voltage transmission line networks, an official said. “In case people notice or learn of any untoward incident as a result of unsafe kite-flying near transmission lines, they can call 19122,” he added.