

THIS PONGAL, HYDERABAD WILL FLY REMOTE-CONTROLLED KITES

By P Pavan | Jan 7, 2017, 09.49 PM IST

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Hyderabad: Come Pongal, the people of Hyderabad will fly remote-controlled kites, perhaps for the first time in India. This is the unique feature of the week-long International Kite Festival 2017, which will commence on January 12.

Remote kites are not dependent on wind. They use propellers powered by rechargeable batteries. "The joy of remote-controlled kite flying offers a new experience", said Dr Geoffrey Fisher, head of Aga Khan Academy, the principle organizer of the event.

These kites will be flown at a special night flying curtain raiser event at People's Plaza on the Necklace Road on the banks of Hussain Sagar lake on the first day of the festival. On all the other days, the festival will be held at a 100-acre site of the Aga Khan Academy near Rajiv Gandhi International Airport.

Renowned kite fliers from 16 countries are expected to participate in the grand event. Ten Indian clubs will also take part.

PV Sindhu, the first Indian woman to win a silver medal at the Olympics, will be the face of the festival that is conducted jointly by the Telangana Department of Tourism, Incredible India and Aga Khan Academy, with the theme of "women empowerment and girl child education".

Telangana state tourism secretary B Venkatesham said this emerging state festival would take place in Hyderabad and surrounding districts.

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