



കേരള സർക്കാർ

ഇൻഫർമേഷൻ & പബ്ലിക് റിലേഷൻസ് വകുപ്പ്

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ശബരിമല പത്രക്കുറിപ്പ്

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Drinking water shortage to be addressed

The Public Works Department would take steps to end the drinking water shortage of pilgrims from Thursday. Water tanks with 10,000 litre capacity would be set up for clearing hitches in supply. As many as 15 drinking water kiosks would be installed at Pandithavalam and other places frequented by the pilgrims. There are six plants and UP plants at Sannidanam. More medicated water counters too would be opened, the executive engineer has informed. Drinking water is being provided through 232 taps. Water supply between Pamba and Chelikuzhy is being done by Kerala Water Authority. As many as 127 taps and kiosks have been set up between Pamba and Marakkootam at a span of every 30 metres. About 5,000 litres of water is being distributed an hour. A 7.1 lakh litre storage facility has been set up for providing drinking water, the Kerala Water Authority has informed. Medicated water supply is still on, but kiosks with 10 taps each would be set up considering the rise in summer heat.

200 electric lights on Urakuzhi-Pulmedu route

The Kerala State Electricity Board has started work for setting up 200 lights on the Urakuzhi-Pulmedu route. Maintenance of lights on the other routes would continue, the board has informed. The resting facility set up at Marakoottam has

hidden the lights and cast a shadow. This would be rectified. Complaints about lights can be alerted at 202024, the board has informed. The board would post more officials at Sabarimala in view of the Makara Vilakku festival. It is ready to face any exigency, the board has informed.

Virtual queue booking crosses 16 lakh

The number of pilgrims availing themselves of the virtual queue introduced by the police to ease the hardships of pilgrims has crossed 16 lakh. As many as 7,72,849 pilgrims used the facility till Wednesday. Pilgrims booking the virtual queue should contact the verification centre at Pamba and confirm their bookings before proceeding. They can reach the Nadapanthal through Marakootam, Chandranandan Road.

Pilgrims from Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka were the ones who used the facility. After reservation, if the pilgrims do not reach on the appointed date, they would not be allowed to have darshan through the facility. The queue is being managed by the State Crime Records Bureau. Pilgrims can book through

www.sabarimalaq.com till January 12. The mobile app released by the police has also turned out to be very helpful for the pilgrims. It provides details of the darshan time, availability of parking space, climate, nearest petrol pumps, hospitals and such others too. Increase in time makes darshan easy:

Six days after the reopening of Sabarimala Ayyappa temple for the Makara Vilakku, the queue of pilgrims waiting for darshan has come down and there is not much crowd before the temple. This has been attained by increasing the darshan time by six hours. The decision has been made as per the directions of Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan when he visited Sabarimala since his take over. Board president Prayar Gopalakrishnan and the Melsanthi too say that the decision has helped to reduce the woes of the pilgrims who otherwise had to wait for long hours in the queue. The police direction that pilgrims should start return journey soon after darshan has also helped to reduce the crowd.

The time for Neyyabhishekam too has been increased. Well before the temple opens at 3 a.m., pilgrims line up for the offering. Those reaching the top after 11 a.m. stay overnight mainly for the same purpose. This has also been mitigated. There is 10 per cent increase in the number of pilgrims this year. Those using the virtual queue has crossed 16 lakh.

Fund sanctioned

The Cabinet which met today has sanctioned Rs.75 lakh as mess allowance for the policemen on duty at Sabarimala.

Breaking coconuts:

Fire and Rescue Special Officer P.Renjith has directed pilgrims to break coconut before ascending the Holy Steps at the designated spot itself. The system has been introduced considering the heavy flow of pilgrims. On breaking coconuts on the steps, it would become slippery and may lead to mishaps. He has warned against lighting camphor while standing in a row. While hurling coconuts on the 'Aazhi,' he has requested the pilgrims to throw it on either sides so that the flame would not catch up in the wind and lead to accidents



The banner is a horizontal black bar with white text and a logo. On the left, a white rounded rectangle contains the Malayalam text: 'വാർത്തകൾ ഇനി കാണാം... കേൾക്കാം... വായിക്കാം...'. In the center is the PRD LIVE logo, which features a stylized white figure holding a coconut, with the text 'PRD LIVE' below it. On the right, another white rounded rectangle contains the Malayalam text: 'ഒരു മൊബൈൽ ആപ്ലിക്കേഷനാണ്. ആൻഡ്രോയിഡ് വേർഷനിലുള്ള ഏല്ലാ സ്മാർട്ട് ഫോണിലും PRD LIVE ലഭ്യമാകും. പ്ലേ സ്റ്റോറിൽ നിന്നും PRD LIVE ഡൗൺലോഡ് ചെയ്യാം.'