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Makaravilakku Festival: Arrangements are in its final stages, says Devaswom Board President

Sabarimala: Travancore Devaswom Board President A Padmakumar on Tuesday opined that the board does not allow any attempt to undermine the prominence of Pandalam Royal family with the Sabarimala temple. In fact, the board is thinking of honoring the family as a testimony to their guardianship of Sabarimala temple all this while. He said this while speaking at a review meeting at the Conference Hall at Sannidhanam regarding the Makaravilakku festival arrangements.

He added that the festival preparations are in its final stages. The thiruvabharana procession would start on January 12th afternoon at 1 from Pandalam Palace. A master plan will be prepared immediately to develop the 83-kilometer stretch of Thiruvabharana procession path. Ten resting places in between every eight-kilometer would be constructed soon. A representation will also be given to the Union government and the Forest department regarding the renovation of the 2-kilometer path inside the forest.

The state police and forest department have made necessary security arrangements for the 'Makarajyothi darshan'. If in need of more lights and barricades, it would be made available on an immediate notice. He added that the Devaswom Minister Kadakkampally Surendran takes note of the arrangement on an everyday basis.

Board member K Raghavan, Duty Magistrate S Santhoshkumar, Devaswom Executive Officer V N Chandrasekharan, RAF deputy commandant G Dinesh, Festival controller K S Vinod, PRO Murali Kottakakkam and various other representatives of government departments took part in the review meeting. Another review meeting will also be held on January 13th morning, said the Devaswom president.

Duty magistrate stops illegal sale at Sabarimala

Sabarimala: The raid conducted by Sabarimala duty magistrate on Tuesday prevented the illegal sale of dry-ginger coffee in an unhygienic condition at Sannidhanam. Dry-ginger coffee is a medicinal decoction largely served among the devotees while they were at wait at the long-queue for holy darshan. The magistrate took nine people into custody in connection with this and handed over to the police. The arrested were Zaheer, Pallanathara, Haripad, Rasheed Dali, Puthukkerivadakkathil, Sivan, Paratharayil, Muttom, Reji, Karutharayil, Sabu Krishnalayam of. During the time of the raid, the team was spotted selling medicinal coffee in an unhygienic condition near to a public toilet at Sannidhanam. They even had lacked any license to sell the edible items in Sabarimala.

Murukan and Ramesh from Theni, MR Rajeev from Kattapana and Saji from Idukki were also taken into custody for selling coffee at Sannidhanam without permission. Duty Magistrate S Santhoshkumar said that they have found people preparing food themselves in the traditional path. This would in a great deal contribute to a dangerous situation of a fire break out and necessary steps will be taken immediately to prevent this. He said that the squad's work will be further expanded in the coming days and strict monitoring will be done prevent any untoward incidents.

KSRTC with larger plans to tackle travel woes of devotees on Makaravilakku day

Sabarimala: Kerala State Road Transport (KSRTC) has made wide plans to tackle the travel woes of the devotees who ascend the holy hillocks once after the Makarajyothi darsham. The department has made available 400 buses to conduct 800 chain services to Nilakkal on the day. More buses have also been made available to various parts of the state on the day. Recovery vans with the service of mechanics have been made available at various points like Nilakkal, Perinad, Plappally, and Pampa. A mobile squad has also been arranged with the help of Tata and TVS to face any emergency. The service of ten reserve drivers and conductors are already been made.

KSRTC special officer D Rajendran said that necessary arrangements have already been made to face any challenge even if rush goes up on the Makaravilakku day.

Wild boar that spread panic at Sabarimala captured

Sabarimala: The wild boar that attacked several devotees at Sabarimala the other day was captured and transferred to the Ranni forest range. It was after tranquilizing the animal that the doctors and the forest officials shifted the animal from Sannidhanam. The swine on the other day has spread panic after attacking few of the devotees. Dr Abdul Fathar of Periyar Tiger Reserve and Dr T S Arun of Munnar Wild Life Division lead the mission successfully.



The banner features the PRD LIVE logo in the center, which consists of a stylized animal head profile. To the left of the logo, the Malayalam text reads: 'വാർത്തകൾ ഇനി കാണാം... കേൾക്കാം... വായിക്കാം...'. To the right, the text reads: 'PRD LIVE ഒരു മൊബൈൽ ആപ്ലിക്കേഷനാണ്. ആൻഡ്രോയിഡ് വേർഷനിലുള്ള ഏല്ലാ സ്മാർട്ട് ഫോണിലും PRD LIVE ലഭ്യമാകും. പ്ലേ സ്റ്റോറിൽ നിന്നും PRD LIVE ഡൗൺലോഡ് ചെയ്യാം.' The entire banner is set against a dark background with white text and logo.

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