



GOVT. OF KERALA

INFORMATION & PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT

JANUARY

08

2019



PRESS RELEASE

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Makarajyothi: Facilities made at Sabarimala

With only a week left for the Makarajyothi festival here at Sabarimala, there has been made more facilities for the devotees to see the holy light that flicker for three times in the twilight of Makarasankranthi day. Nine places that include on the top of the Annadana mandapam, Pandithavalam, Malikappuram, Aravana counter and Maramath complex for the devotees to take rest. There has also improved the facility for toileting here. The food and drinking water will be supplied and in the meantime, those in the queue for darshan will be given warm medicinal drinking water, glucose, and biscuits. The 400 volunteers of the Travancore Devaswom Board and Ayyappa Seva Sanghom has already allotted for this. 50 more taps have been additionally made at the places where people take rest to view the Makarajyothi. Four more counters will be made to distribute medicinal water.

The cleaning activities of the place devotees take rest are in its final stages. Meanwhile, the Devaswom Member Adv N Vijayakumar has said that the preparations as part of the Makarajyothi festival are almost completed and the

necessary arrangements are made at the viewpoints for the devotees to see the holy light without any trouble.

(PR-158)

Excise fined Rs 14200

The Excise Department fined Rs 14200 in various cases at Sannidhanam, Pamba, and Nilakkal. They have conducted around 10 raids on Monday alone and has seized eight kilograms of tobacco. They have also taken to custody 45 packets of cigarette, 80 packets of beedi and has also registered 71 cases for public smoking. Devotees can report to Excise on 04735 203432, 205010,202203.

(PR-159)

General Strike not affected KSRTC services

As promised by the KSRTC, the general strike on its first day (January 8) has not affected the services at Sabarimala. The services, according to authorities, have run smoothly without any interruption. The chain services to Pamba from Nilakkal and long route services to Chengannur, Kumali, Kottayam, Ernakulam, Thiruvananthapuram ran smoothly. The inter-state service to Palani, Thekasi, Coimbatore, Theni, Madurai too went successfully. The authorities have brought in a sufficient number of employees to run the services.

(PR-160)

