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SABARIMALA PRESS RELEASE

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All roads lead to Sabarimala for Makaravilakku

The two-month long festivities at Sabarimala would see its culmination on Sunday as the temple is all decked up for the Makaravilakku darshan and Makara Sankrathi pooja on Sunday. Devotees from various parts of the country have been flowing into Sabarimala for the last few days. It is after observing the Erumeli pettathullal that the devotees are heading towards Sabarimala. Sannidhanam and the premises have been already filled with devotees. Pulmedu and other nice vantage points in and around Sabarimala have been flooded with devotees.

The thiruvabharana procession would reach Saramkuthy by evening where it will be received by the Board Members. After that, it will be brought to Sabarimala, and adorn it on the deity. The Deeparadhana would take place with the Lord Ayyappa wearing the sacred jewels. Thousands of devotees have come already for this.

The police and other department authorities have already necessitated plans in controlling the sudden rush. A detailed plan has been made days before.

Sabarimala is all set for Makaravilakku, says Board President A Padmakumar

Sabarimala: Efforts have been made in place for the devotees to view the Makaravilakku here said A Padmakumar, the Travancore Devaswom Board President. He said this while talking at a meeting convened to review the arrangements here on Saturday morning. He said that no devotees will be obstructed or disallowed from viewing the Makaravilakku. KSRTC has made necessary services already scheduled for the devotees once they descend after watching the Makaravilakku here. Security and Drinking Water are the two concerns of the Board and sufficient programme has been charted in handling it.

Appam and Aravana are in stock with sufficient number. Three lakh appam and 16 tonnes of Aravanana are in stock. He also added that from next year onwards the Annadanamandapam here will be equipped full-fledged. The Board has also given instruction to the District Collector R Girija regarding the complaints from the hotels. It is alleged that these hotels are serving stale food.

Collector meanwhile said to the meeting that first aid facilities have been made at various places. Ambulances have also been arranged to deal any emergency situation. The control room of the Kerala Forest Department and the service of Elephant Squad were assured at Sannidhanam.

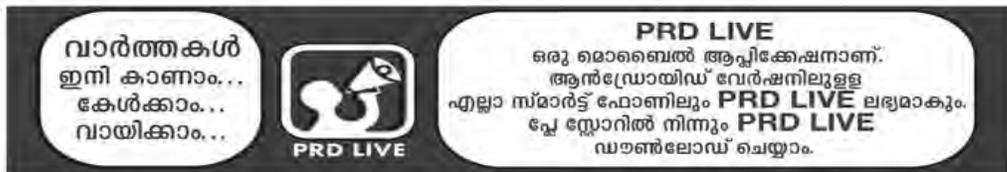
Sabarimala this time records 40.80 increase in income

Sabarimala: Sabarimala temple this season has recorded an increase of 40.80 crores in the income. As per the data, this season it is 40,80,27, 913 increase in the income compared to last year, said the Board President A Padmakumar. It was 205 crores last year. In the Makaravilakku season alone it recorded a 72 crore 55 lakh in income. President said that the board has spent over 6 crore rupees for annadanam in Sabarimala this season.

KS Chitra to get Harivarasana Puraskaram

Sabarimala: Singer KS Chitra will be given this year's Harivarasana Puraskaram on Sunday. The puraskaram will be handed over to the singer by Devaswom, Co-operation Minister Kadakampally Surendran at the Sree Dharmasastha Auditorium here at Sannidhanam. The prize comprised of one lakh rupee, citation, and a sculpture. After that, the singer and her team will perform at the auditorium.

It was in 2012 that the Harivarasana Puraskaram was given. K J Yesudas was the first recipient followed by Jayan, P Jayachandran, SP Balasubramanuyam, MG Sreekumar, Gangai Amaran.



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