



GOVT. OF KERALA

INFORMATION & PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT

JANUARY

14

2019



PRESS RELEASE-1

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Singer Susheela presented with Harivarasana Award

Veteran singer P Susheela was presented with the Harivarasana Award instituted by the state government on Monday at a function held here at the Swami Ayyappan Auditorium at Sannidhanam. She has been selected for the award for her contribution to religious harmony and national building and also for her contribution in spreading the teachings of Lord Ayyappa. Devaswom Minister Kadakampally Surendran awarded the prize to her. This is the eighth Harivarasana Award. He also inaugurated the function. Susheela has been in the heart of every Malayalee though her native place in Tamil Nadu. She has entered into the Guinness Book of World for Records for rendering her voice to more than 25,000 songs, said the Minister. He also added that she is the Lata Mangeshkar of south India. Minister also said that it has been a blessed moment for him to present the award to the singer who has sung more than 100 devotional songs of Lord Ayyappa.

She in her reply speech thanked all. She also sang a few lines from her songs. She even did sing the first few lines of the Harivarasanam song. She said that she is thankful to have such an award in the name of a song that is the favourite of the Lord Ayyappa.

(PR-177)

Braving difficulties Board has made Makarajyothi festival a success: Devaswom Minister

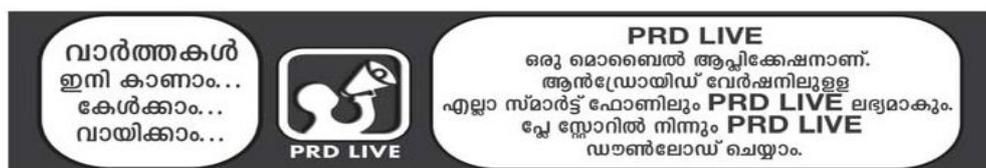
Devaswom Minister Kadakampally Surendran has said Monday that the government was able to make the Makarajyothi a success amidst all the difficulties by braving the floods and the responsibility to implement the supreme court verdict. He said that they have also able to make the Nilakkal the base camp as planned in the Sabarimala master plan. He was speaking at the function of presenting the Harivarasana Award to the singer P Susheela.

Minister also said that it has become a sad incident that the social media has spread the fake news of P Susheela's death. Minister also said that he too has been subjected to the spread of fake news. Though the culprits were arrested he has to go through the mockery of the society said the minister.

Minister also honoured the Tata Projects Limited CEO Sathyanarayana, Ramesh Krishna, Bhanu Prasad at the function for reinstating the Pamba to its original form in a record two-months time as they have offered.

Raju Abraham MLA presided the function. Travancore Devaswom Board president welcome the gathering and Board members K P Sankardas, N Vijayakumar, Special Commissioner M Manoj, former Supreme Court judge Arijit Pasayath, High Court monitoring committee members Justice P R Raman, Justice S Sirijagan, Devaswom Chief Engineer V Sankaran Potti also spoke at the function. Famous Tamil actor Jayam Ravi was also part of the function.

(PR-178)





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PRESS RELEASE-2

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Thousands witness Makarajyothi at Sabarimala

The light that flickered for three times above Ponnambalamedu here has filled the hearts of thousands of waiting devotees. Soon after the Makarajyothi was visible, the tranquility of patience has burst and devotees started to chant the Sarana mantras. It was 6.37 in the evening that the light or Jyothi was visible.

The Thiruvabharanam (golden jewels) was received earlier in the evening by the Kandararu Rajeevaru and chief priest Vasudevan Nampoothiri and adored the diety. The jewels were brought to here following all the rituals from the Valiyakoickal Sree Dharmasastha temple at Pandalam. The procession was received by Minister Kadakampally Surendran, Devaswom Board president A Padmakumar, Board members K P Sankardas, Adv N Vijayakumar, Rtd Justice Arijith Pasayath, Travancore-Cochin Devaswom Board ombudsman Rtd Justice P R Raman, High Power Committee Chairman Justice Sirijagan, DGP A Hemachandran, IG Balram Kumar Upadhyay, Sabarimala special commissioner M Manoj, Pathanamthitta District Collector P B Nooh, NDRF deputy commandant G Vijayan, RAF deputy commandant G Dinesh, Chief Engineer Sankaran Potti and Ayyappa Seva Sanghom representative Velayudhan Nair.

The deeparadhana took place at 6.32 in the evening and around 7.52 the Makarasamkrama Pooja took place.

The Sannidhanam went full before the evening and a large contingent of people was patiently awaiting the Makarjyothi to happen. It appeared, then the crowd burst into joyful chanting of Saranamanthra. Each and every department at Sabarimala worked like a well-oiled machine to run the festival a success. This makes it a victory of one mind and cooperation.

(PR-179)

