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SABARIMALA PRESS RELEASE

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Kerala Government honours sanitation workers of Sabarimala in a rare gesture

Sabarimala: The sanitation activities of Sabarimala gathers momentum again after the Makaravilakku festival here on Monday morning. Devaswom Minister Kadakampally Surendran inaugurated the activities of Sabarimala Sanitation Society at Sannidhanam. Minister praised the efforts of the 800 sanitation workers who have toiled day and night in preserving the cleanliness of the abode of Lord Ayyappa and his premises. He also thanked them for their valiant efforts.

Sabarimala Sanitation Society has been operating for the past 24 years in the regions of Sannidhanam, Pampa, Nilakkal, Pandalam, and Kulanada. Pathanamthitta District Collector R Girija who is also the chairperson of the society hailed the selfless service of the volunteers from Tamil Nadu. Devaswom Board president A Padmakumar, Duty Magistrate Santhosh Kumar also heaped praise on the workers and their efforts.

The 800 of the sanitation workers are from Tamil Nadu. Akhila Bharatha Ayyappa Seva Sanghom is bringing them to Sabarimala every year. K Raju, a

Salem native, is the head of these workers. Ramalingam, the team leader, is a panchayath vice-president of the Valimadevi Panchayath near Selam. Most of them are educated and working in various private firms in Tamil Nadu.

It was in the year 1995 that the Sabarimala Sanitation Society was formed under the patronage of District Collector, RDO and District Police chief. They had taken charge of the sanitation activities this year from 12 November and would only leave the place after completing the cleaning activities on 20 January after the Guruthi pooja.

This time the state government honours the members who have completed 24 years of service at Sabarimala under the Sanitation Society. The function will be held on 19 January at Pampa riverside.

Sheeveli of Alangattu Yogam and Ambalappuzha turns Sabarimala pious

Sabarimala: While the Holy eighteen steps to the Sanctum Sanctorum glowed in the camphor light, the sheeveli (a ritual) performed by Alangattu Yogam and Ambalappuzha Sanghom here on Monday evening has turned the air at Sabarimala pious. Though the Makaravilakku was over the rituals that have been observed in the temple was conducted with all reverence and respect.

The team of devotees from both Alangadu and Ambalapuzha had charged with their dance steps and Sarana mantra chantings. The tunes of the udukku (a percussion instrument) performed scintillating steps before their god.

The sheevali was performed thereafter. The Yogam members are all clad in white clothes and wrote their eyes with Kajol, came with the accompaniment of chenda and other percussion instruments. After the holy steps were cleaned they performed camphor pooja. After the camphor pooja, the team went ahead visiting Lord Ayyappa. After completing their rituals they returned to the Malikappuram.

The yogam members have started their journey on 2 January and while on their journey, they have visited many temples. On 11 January they conducted the Erumeli petta thullal and also conducted the Pampa

sadya before their ascension of the holy hillocks.

Meanwhile, the sheevali of the Amaballapuzha team was also conducted at Sabarimala on Monday. The procession that started from the Malikappuram temple had reached the holy steps. They after cleaning the steps and lighting the camphor, go before Lord Ayyappa to pay their respect and reverence. They also returned to Malikappuram once after completing the rituals.

They had started their journey along with 275 ayyappans and 75 Malikappurams on 6 January from Ambalappuzha Sree Krishna temple.



The banner features a dark background 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 consists of a white circle containing a stylized figure of Lord Ayyappa with a bow and arrow, and the text 'PRD LIVE' below it. To the right of the logo is another white rounded rectangle containing the Malayalam text: 'ഒരു മൊബൈൽ ആപ്ലിക്കേഷനാണ്. ആൻഡ്രോയിഡ് വേർഷനിലുള്ള എല്ലാ സ്മാർട്ട് ഫോണിലും PRD LIVE ലഭ്യമാകും. പ്ലേ സ്റ്റോറിൽ നിന്നും PRD LIVE ഡൗൺലോഡ് ചെയ്യൂം.' To the right of the banner is an ellipsis '(...)'.

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