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## **Thanka Anki procession starts from Aranmula**

The procession carrying the sacred golden attire (Thanka Anki) to be adorned on the Lord Ayyappa idol as part of the Mandala Pooja has started from Parthasarathy Temple. The procession will reach Sabarimala in December. The procession will be given a reception in the temples that it is passing. The Thanka Anki was put for public view on Sunday morning 5 from 7. The Anki was later transferred to the vehicle that is modeled on the Sabarimala temple in the morning at 7.18. The procession to Sabarimala started soon afterward. Travancore Devaswom Board president A Padmakumar, Devaswom Board members K P Sankaradas, N Vijayakumar, Devaswom Commissioner N Vasu, District Police chief T Narayanan, and former MLA Malethu Saraladevi were present during the occasion.

The first day of the procession ended on Rakthakanda Swami temple at Omallur. On 24th December the procession takes Pathanamthitta, Kadamanitta, Kottappara, Mekkozhu, Mylapra, Kumbazha, Pulimukku, Vettoor, Ilakollur, Chitturmukku, Konnu route and ends at Muringamangalam temple. On the next day, ie on 25th the procession goes through the Attachakkal, Vettoor, Malayalappuzha, Mannarkkulanji, Ranni, Idakkulam, Vadasserikara, Madaman and ends at Perunadu temple. On 26th through Laha, Plappally, Nilakkal, Chalakkayam to Pamba. The procession then will take a rest and will re-start its journey in the evening at 3 from the Ganapathy Temple at Pamba. The Devaswom officials will receive the procession with a warm welcome. They will take the procession to Sabarimala.

The deity will be adorned with the Anki prior Deeparadhana by evening. The Mandalapuja to be performed during the Utchapuja on December 27.

The procession is under the strict watch of Thanka Anki special officer S Ajith Kumar, Aranmula Devaswom Accountant V Arunkumar, Sub Group Officers V Krishnayar, Radhakrishnan and 25 other Devaswom Board officials. DySP Suresh Kumar along with 70 police officials are giving security to the procession.

(PR-122)

## Devotees while climbing holy hillocks should not rush

Devotees who were not fit or ailing from diseases should not rush while climbing the holy hillocks, said the Sannidhanam medical officer Vipin Vijayan. He said that they should take proper rest while climbing and unwanted rush can cause cardiac arrest. Those are fit also should take rest while climbing the hillocks. The other day a devotee was died due to cardiac arrest. The devotees having heart diseases, hypertension, diabetic should take extra care and seek medical advice from the doctors. Those are taking medicines for a while should keep prescription details with them.

Those who feeling unwell while climbing should necessarily seek the help of expert doctors and should not take it easy said the medical officer.

(PR-123)

## Devotees should distance from wild animals

Devotees should keep away from the wild animals while they climb the holy hillocks here, informed Devaswom Executive Officer D Sudheesh Kumar. They should not venture in to giving food to these animals and don't go near them for taking selfies. They also not provoke these animals. The executive officer also said that warning will be given to the other state devotees through the mic.

(PR-124)

