

GOVT. OF KERALA

INFORMATION & PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT

NOVEMBER

24

2018

PRESS RELEASE-1

PHONE: 04735-202664

www.prd.kerala.gov.in, prdsannidhanam2019@gmail.com



Justice C T Ravikumar becomes part of 'Punyam Poonkavanam'

'Punyam Poonkavanam', the programme that aims at keeping Sabarimala clean and tidy, invites great support from devotees this year. On Saturday, High Court Justice C T Ravikumar becames the part of the programme. Sabarimala special commissioner M Manoj was also present. RAF commandant B Jayakrishnan, RAF deputy commandant G Dinesh, NDRF deputy commandant G Vijayan too joined the programme. The activities took place by dividing the team into four. Each team cleaned the places at Malikapuram, Bhasmakulam, Thidappally. After the cleaning drive, the teams took part in spreading awareness among the devotees.

Ayyappa Seva Sanghom, Ayyappa Seva Samajam, Forest, Excise, Bank employees, Devaswom employees were also part of the programme.

At Pamba, the 'Punyam Poonkavanam' was conducted under the guidance of Special Officer Harisankar IPS. RAF deputy commandant Madhu, NDRF Inspector C B Singh, Pamba CI Vijayan were also part of the programme.

(PR 34)

<u>Devotees should own responsibility for the waste they are bringing:</u>
<u>Justice C T Ravikumar</u>

It is the responsibility of the devotees to treat and dispose of the wastes that they are bringing to Sabarimala, said High Court Justice C T Ravikumar. He said this while taking part in the programme 'Punyam Poonkavanam'. Devotees should treat wastes as part of their 'bhakthi' and such a mentality followed every day would make the country a clean and divine place, opined the Justice. He added that if devotees should take care in the treatment of the wastes then the Sannidhanam would lie clean even after the annual pilgrimage season. He also urged all the devotees to take part in the 'Punyam Poonkavanam'.

(PR 35)



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More facilities for devotees to lay viri at Sannidhanam

Travancore Devaswom Board has made sufficient facilities to lay the viri for the devotees at Sabarimala. Viri facilities under roofed space have been opened at Magunda Ayyappa Nilayam, Malikappuram Nadapanthal, Prasadam Nadapanthal. At the opposite side of the Maramath office and North Nada facilities are available under open space. Space has also been opened at the opposite of Sabari guest house and Pandithavalam, informed Devaswom Board assistant engineer Sunil Kumar. He also said that devotees can use the space on top of the Annadana mandapam by paying Rs 30 for a viri. Moreover, basic amenities have also been made near to all these viri centres.

(PR 36)

Suresh Babu braves his difficulty to reach Sabarimala for the sixth time

Suresh Babu, a pharmacist by profession, has lost his legs to Polio at the age of one and a half. He had to make a life braving all the odds without legs. He believes this has all become a possibility because of his untiring devotion to Lord Ayyappa. A native of Vellore in Tamil Nadu, Suresh ascended Sabarimala five times earlier. And this time too he braved all the odds to reach Pamba and climb the holy hillocks. He this time had sought the help of dolly to reach here. Police also helped him when he reached the Valiya Nadapanthal. He said that this time he had able to see Ayyappa without much difficulty. Police helped him to climb the holy

Forest Department steps up vigil against wild animal attacks

Forest Department has stepped up vigil in helping devotees from wild animals and snakes at Sannidhanam. They have snatched 45 snakes so far from Sannidhanam and nearby places since the start of the pilgrimage season. Forest Department has sought the service of seasoned snake catcher Gopi Selvan to catch the snakes. The snakes were later freed inside the forest. Forest Department range officer Aravind Balakrishnan has said that devotees and employees working in Sannidhanam should take extra care for the snakes in hiding. He also added that devotees too should keep away from the wild pigs wandering around Sannidhanam. Since this time is the period of their mating, there are chances of it getting easily agitated.

Forest Department has opened a control room near to the Bungalow of Deputy Director, Periyar Tiger Reserve. In case of any emergency related to wild animal attacks, devotees can contact at the control room. Contact: 04735-202077.

(PR 38)



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IG Vijay Sakhare reviews security arrangements at Sabarimala

IG Vijay Sakhare, who is in-charge of the security at Sannidhanam, on Saturday visited and reviewed security arrangements at Sabarimala. He said that the security arrangements at Sannidhanam have been made in such a way to help the devotees and that would continue without affecting devotees in the coming days. IG along with other police officials inspected the arrangements from Sannidhanam to Marakkoottam.

He also interacted with the devotees and most of them are heard saying to him that the police is doing a commendable job.

Sannidhanam special officer Pratheesh Kumar, ASO Prajeesh Thottathil, Police Superintendent Vikram and other officers accompanied the IG.

(PR 39)

Special services by KSRTC turn to be of great help to devotees

The special services of the KSRTC to Sabarimala is turning to be of great help to the devotees. On Friday (23-11-18) alone 144 buses reached Pamba and 151 buses have departed from the Pamba bus station. 604 services in between Nilakkal and Pamba have also taken on the day.

In it 143 AC buses and 442 non- ac buses are included. 19 electric buses have also been used in the Nilakkal-Pamba stretch. the department runs free services in between Triveni and Pamba station round the clock.

(PR 40)

Health Department conducts fogging and spraying

The Health Department is taking extra care in safeguarding the health of the devotees and people at Sabarimala. On Saturday, the department has done fogging and spraying at Sannidhanam. More such steps will be taken in the coming days, said the authorities. Inspections are taking place on a daily basis along with awareness campaigns, informed the officials.

(PR 41)



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