



## Government of Kerala Dept. of Information & Public Relations

DECEMBER 26 2016

### Press Release



Tel: 04735-202664

Website: [www.prd.kerala.gov.in](http://www.prd.kerala.gov.in)

[www.sabarimala.kerala.gov.in](http://www.sabarimala.kerala.gov.in)

Email: [prdsannidanam@gmail.com](mailto:prdsannidanam@gmail.com)

Facebook: [facebook.com/sabarimalaprd](https://www.facebook.com/sabarimalaprd)

### Pamba to made gateway

Pamba would be made the entry to the Poonkavanam in Sabarimala, Minister for Devaswom, Cooperation and Tourism Kadakampally Surendran has said.

Addressing reporters at Sabarimala, the Minister said that development works worth Rs.90 crore would be taken up under the Prasadam project, a component of Sabarimala Master Plan. The High Power Committee would supervise the implementation. Projects for changing th face of Sabarimala are being planned.

A prproject for beautifying Sabrimala is being planned. A new scheme, Suchitwa Pamba is being planed for conserving River Pamba. A new waste management plant would be set up. As in the case of swimming pools, a shower facility would be provided for pilgrims before taking a dip in the Pamba. These have been planned to keep the river pollution free.

A new brisge would be constructed parallel to the Thriveni bridge. The Valiya Nadapanthal' at Sannidanam would be renovated. Seating arrangements would be made. Drinking water and coupons for making offerings would be distributed at the panthal. The new aravana plant donated by entrepreneur would be commissioned soon. The cost has been pegged at Rs.4 crore. Work on the plant that would double the production, would be entrusted with the Kerala State Industrial Enterprises.

A project for segregating plastic and bio-waste at Sabarimala is on the anvil. Green protocol would be implemented.

A holding tank incepted at Pamba with 600 lakh litre capacity has helped to prevent the flow of human excreta to the Pamba. The government was able to make the Mandalam festival an environment friendly festival. The system of counting money would be made more transparent. The festival could be completed without much complaints. Department coordination could be ensured for the conduct of the festival.

Preparations for the next Mandalam festival would commence soon after the Makara Vilakku festival. Consultations would begin by January and works would be taken up by February. A calendar would be prepared for executing the works. Pressure would be mounted on the Centre for providing more forest land for development works.

TDB president Prayar Gopalakrishnan, members K.Raghavan and Ajay Tharayil, commissioner C.P.Ramaraja Prema Prasad, Chief Engineer Murali Krishnan and PRO, Murali Kottakakom were also present.

## Government to bear expenses

The Government would bear the medical expenses of those injured in the accident that took place following the collapse of barricades at Sabarimala, the Minister said. The accident took place following the rush of pilgrims soon after the deeparadhana. Scientific arrangements would be made to prevent such incidents, he said.

## Women's entry

The Government is bound to honour the verdict of the Supreme Court on the entry of women below 50 years in Sabarimala. The existing system would be followed till the verdict is passed. The Government has informed its stance at the court. Still there are different views in the society. The verdict is expected to be passed on the basis of such opinions too, he said.

