Pollution Control Board's Permanent lab started

Chairman of the Pollution Control Board, Dr Ajith Haridas, inaugurated new lab set up at the Sewage Treatment Plant near Bayiley Bridge.

A permanent lab has been started to test water purification for the first time in Sannidhanam. Earlier, the water testing lab had only functioned in Pampa. This system can be useful for checking the quantity of water collected from different locations and the purity of the drinking water supplied.

The Chairman said that necessary measures will be taken to maintain the purity of the water in the Bhasmakkulam. The amount of water in Pampa is now satisfactory. However, if the rains are low and the summer is hot, the water levels in Pampa may be reduced. Steps will be taken to address this. Waste disposal systems are working effectively. Alexander George, District Environmental Engineer, Pathanamthitta, Josmon J and Aniger KR, Assistant Environmental Engineers also take part.

(PR-107)
**Massage therapy facility at Sannidhanam Ayurveda Hospital**

Ayurvedic Hospital at Sannidhanam has begun massage therapy to cure the ailments of Ayyappa devotees who are tired of climbing the holy hillock. Massage Therapy is a great relief for those devotees who are experiencing severe muscle pains and joint pain after a long trek of steep hikes and descents.

Newly available for this is the service of two therapists. It is a combination of infrared and marma treatment. Hospital authorities are trying to expand this facility to serve more devotees.

The hospital's medical officer Dr. R V Ajith said that around 700 devotees daily use the hospital for various health problems. A total of 18,822 patients have been treated so far this season. The medical officer said that the medicines are distributed in convenient packaging to reduce the use of antibiotics.

It is a medicine that uses an effective ingredient to treat respiratory disturbances caused by dust and snow. This season it is now the fifth batch of Ayurveda medicos to run. Each batch has a team of 14 people. There are five doctors, two pharmacists, two therapists and two nursing assistants. More than 100 patients a day can use evapreiser facility.

For the convenience of pilgrims, special teams work in three locations - Erumeli, Pampa and Sannidhanam.

(PR-108)
Sabarimala sees great inflow of devotees

Monday and Sunday were the busiest days of the season at Sabarimala. The number of devotees who visited the temple on Sunday is more than 72,000. On Monday, an average of 70 people climbed the eighteen steps in a minute. The total number exceeds 800,000. The queue of devotees extended to the queue complex last day.

Special Officer R Aditya said the main responsibility of the police is to control the congestion. The police force has been vigilant to help those who are tired and help them to have a safe darshan.

Around 678 police personnel have been deployed in Sannidhanam alone to curb congestion. Apart from this, the central army also has been deployed. It also ensures the mob control with efficiency.

Solar Eclipse on December 26:
Sabarimala temple will be closed for four hours

The temples at Sabarimala will be closed from 7.30 am to 11.30 am on the 26th of December due to Solar Eclipse. The same applies to temples like Malikappuram and Pampa. This was after the Tantri Kandararu Mahesh Mohanar informed that it was not
advisable to open the temple during the eclipse. The temple, which opens at three o'clock in the morning, will be closed at 7:30 am after Abhishekam and Neyya Bhishekam. It is only after the eclipse that it will be opened at 11.30 am. Sabarimala executive officer said that the puja times at the temples will be arranged accordingly.

(PR-110)