



**GOVT. OF KERALA**

**INFORMATION & PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT**

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PHONE : 04735-202664

[www.prd.kerala.gov.in](http://www.prd.kerala.gov.in), [prdsabarimala2020@gmail.com](mailto:prdsabarimala2020@gmail.com)

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## **Green Sabarimala project: Distribution of cloth bags started at Nilakkal**

As part of the Mission Green Sabarimala project implemented by the district administration, and under Suchitwa Mission started the cloth distribution at Nilakkal. The cloth bag is provided free of charge to the devotees who carry the plastic carry bag. The cloth supply counter near the KSRTC bus stand at Nilakkal will operate 24 hours a day throughout the pilgrimage. District Panchayat President Annapoornadevi inaugurated the functioning of the Counter. The activities of the District Suchitwa Mission in connection with the Mission Green Sabarimala project is exemplary. The amount of plastic goods has been greatly reduced, said the president.

Sabarimala Additional District Magistrate NSK Umesh, Special Officer of Police KK Aji, Nilakkal Duty Magistrate Biju, Nilakkal Devaswom Board Assistant Engineer Sripad and District Suchitwa Mission Coordinator C Radhakrishnan, Assistant Coordinator TM Joseph, Program Officer KR Ajay, Technical Consultant Jerin James Varghese, Chris Global Traders CEO Christopher spoke on the occasion. IDBI Bank Pathanamthitta, Joey Alukkas, Josco Jewelers and Srivatsam Silks sponsored the bags for the cloth distribution counter. The remaining fifty thousand cloth bags have been provided directly by the District Suchitwa Mission.

(PR-35)

## **Travancore Devaswom Board stocks enough Appam and Aravana**

The Travancore Devaswom Board has made enough arrangements at Sabarimala for the distribution of Appam and Aravana. In the wake of any heavy rush, the unavailability of Appam and Aravana is not in question as the Board has piled up enough in the reserve store. To sell the favorite prasadam of Lord Ayyappa here in Sabarimala, ten cash counters have been opened at Sannidhanam and Malikappuram. In three counters, those who have booked online can purchase Appam and Aravana. There is also the facility arranged for the devotees to purchase it through the ATMs.

The Special Officer of the Devaswom Board has said that enough stock is in the reserve and there is no worry of unavailability of the prasadams. One lakh eighty thousand tin aravana is sold a day while appam sale is about 60,000 covers since the start of the Mandalam-Makaravilakku pilgrimage season. The reserve stock of Aravana is twenty-one lakh and above and also a one and a half covers of appam is also in the reserve.

The Appam and Aravana plant is working round the clock with 256 devaswom employees and 239 daily wage workers taking turns of duties. In a shift, 40 or more people are present in the plants. Two such plants are there working in Sannidhanam. The plants also have facilities to increase production in a hurry. The Devaswom Board has taken steps to provide appam and aravana to the devotees.

(PR-36)

## **Devotees should follow the rule to make Sabarimala clean**

The devotees coming to Sabarimala to have the darshan of Lord Ayyappa has the responsibility to keep the forest around clean and tidy. They should take it a vow that it is their responsibility to keep it safe from plastic wastes. Devotees should follow these steps to avoid littering Sabarimala with plastic wastages.

1. Do not bring anything harmful to the garden of the Lord Ayyappa, especially plastic. Take the wastes to home and dispose of it.
2. Avoid using soap or oil while bathing in the Pamba river. Do not leave clothes in the river.
3. Break the coconut before taking holy eighteen steps and don't break elsewhere other than the place allotted.

4. Avoid urinating in open areas.
5. Keep the toilets clean.

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