

Shri Amarnathji Yatra 2018

Governor reviews Yatra arrangements: emphasizes sanitation arrangements

Jammu, February 2: The status of arrangements being made for Shri Amarnathji Yatra, which is scheduled to begin on 28th June, 2018 and conclude on 26th August 2018, was reviewed by Governor N.N. Vohra, Chairman of Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board. The review meeting was attended by Shri Umang Narula, Principal Secretary to Governor and Chief Executive Officer; Shri Bhupinder Kumar, Additional Chief Executive Officer; Shri R. K. Pandita, General Manager (Works) and other officers of the Shrine Board.



Governor was informed that Advance Registration of Yatris will commence from 1st March 2018 through 440 bank branches of Punjab National Bank (PNB), Jammu and Kashmir Bank and YES Bank spread in 32 States and UTs, across the country. Through PN Bank a Special Registration facility will also be available for ex-India pilgrims and for large groups directly from the offices of the Shrine Board.

Governor directed CEO: (i) to obtain details of registrations done, on a daily basis, from each of the Bank branches; (ii) to clearly caution all registering Bank branches to ensure that the number of pilgrims registered does not exceed the allotted daily route-wise quota and (iii) no person below the age of 13 years or above 75 years is registered even though he/ she may have obtained a Compulsory Health Certificate.

Governor was given a detailed report about the arrangements being made in the Yatra area along both the Pahalgam and Baltal routes which, inter-alia, include facilities for providing water supply, electricity, overnight stay accommodation, temporary latrines and baths for the Yatris and sanitation arrangements. As approved by the Governor CEO shall be

incurring an expenditure of nearly Rs 1.50 crore for procuring 629 new pre-fabricated latrines and baths which include 243 European type and 286 Indian type latrines and 100 baths to replace the damaged units as also to augment the overall number of toilets and baths. It was further informed that 2750 latrines, of which 499 are English type, shall be installed during the ensuing Yatra, which is 157 more than in the previous year.

Governor directed that timely action should be taken to ensure timely registration of Ponies, Pony-wallas, Dandi-wallas and Palki-wallas and provide insurance cover for the pilgrims, Service Providers and Ponies. He further directed CEO to ensure the timely issuance of permissions for pitching Tents and Shops by Deputy Commissioners of Anantnag and Ganderbal Districts and to see that these permissions were strictly as per the Layout Plan of each Yatra Camp. No unauthorised tent or shop should be pitched in any Camp.

Sh. Narula, CEO, informed Governor that adequate arrangements would be in place for extending medical facilities to the Yatris by the State Health Department, Army and the Security Forces. These will include Base Hospitals, Medical Aid Centers and Emergency Aid Centers which are adequately equipped with trained Doctors and Paramedicals; Cardiac support facilities, High Altitude medicines, oxygen and other required aids.

Governor was informed about the to-date status of the project to upgrade the technology of the Sewage Treatment Plant at the Nunwan Base Camp. A detailed Project Report for modernization of this STP has been prepared and the process of tendering this work has been initiated.

Governor stressed the need to continuously review the arrangements being made for the Yatra to ensure timely action and emphasized continuous updation of all the relevant Yatra related information on the official website of Shrine Board (<http://www.shriamarnathjishrine.com>) for the convenience of all intending Yatris.