

Sabarimala authorities to give drinking water, biscuits to pilgrims.



Sabarimala: The Travancore Devaswom Board has ordered Sabarimala officials to distribute drinking water and biscuits to pilgrims waiting at the Q complexes, acting on repeated complaints and suggestions to provide basic facilities at the newly built complexes thronged by thousands of devotees of Lord Ayyappa.

The Sabarimala authorities had spent Rs 9.60 crore on six Q complexes as part of a master plan. Manorama had reported that the temple managers were not taking any steps to cater to the crowd on these complexes.

The decision to distribute drinking water and biscuits to pilgrims follows the intervention of Devaswom Board president Prayar Gopalakrishnan. Six temporary employees have been put on the job apart from two cleaning staff.

Chief Engineer (general) G Muraleekrishnan has been entrusted with the job of looking into the complaints that the complexes did not benefit pilgrims as intended. Two overseers from the Public Works Department visited the buildings to do the necessary arrangements.