



Department of Tourism

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Press Release

Onam fete: Reg for artistes for staging performances from July 21-31

• **Tourism Minister chairs high-level preparatory meet**

Thiruvananthapuram, July 19: Minister for Tourism and Public Works Shri PA Mohamed Riyas today said artistes representing different genres, who would like to perform at the state-level and at different venues in districts across the state during the Onam celebrations, can register from July 21 till 31.

Shri Riyas chaired a high-level preparatory meeting here, following the announcement by Chief Minister Shri Pinarayi Vijayan that the state-level week-long Onam celebrations, organised by the Kerala Tourism Department, will start from September 3.

Artistes can register for state-level programmes with Tourism Department and with respective DTPCs for performing at various district venues till 5 pm on July 31, he said.

As in previous editions, the state-level inaugural of the Onam celebrations will be held in the capital city and will conclude with a grand colourful pageantry and procession on September 9. During the Onam celebrations, from Kowdiar to Manacaud in the city will be declared festival zone, besides decking up those areas with illumination.

Minister for Education Shri V Sivankutty and Minister for Food and Civil Supplies Shri GR Anil were also present at the meeting, which was also attended by MLAs, People's Representatives, Kerala Tourism Secretary Shri K Biju; Director Smt Sikha Surendran, District Collector Smt Anukumari; City Police Commissioner Shri Thomson Jose; Rural SP Shri K S Sudharshan; and Department of Tourism officials.

Chief Minister is the Chief Patron of the organising committee of the mega event with Tourism Minister its Chairman and Education Minister the Working Chairman.

Patrons of the event are Speaker of the Kerala Legislative Assembly Shri A N Shamseer; Deputy Speaker Shri Chittayam Gopakumar; Opposition Leader Shri VD Satheesan; Minister Shri GR Anil; Minister for Fisheries, Culture and Youth Affairs Shri Saji Cherian; Minister for Local Self Governments and Excise Shri MB Rajesh; MPs Shri Shashi Tharoor and Shri Adoor Prakash; Shri AA Rahim and Dr John Brittas; MLAs Shri Kadakampally Surendran and Shri Antony Raju.

Considering the iconic status of the Onam celebrations, the quality of programmes will be ensured this year too, Shri Sivankutty said.



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Shri Anil sought the cooperation of all for conduct of Onam celebrations and the grand procession which marks the finale of the week-long cultural festival.

Various subject-specific committees and sub-committees will also be formed for the smooth conduct of the event before July 28, Shri Riyas said.

Mayor Smt Arya Rajendran and District Panchayat President Shri D Suresh Kumar will be Vice Chairmen of the organising Committee. Kerala Tourism Secretary will be the Chief Coordinator and Tourism Director the Convenor.

Over the years, the week-long event organised by the Tourism Department has emerged Kerala's most popular cultural festival, attracting both tourists and local crowd to multiple venues in the state capital and scores of other centres across the state.

Ends