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PRESS RELEASE

Kerala to host Nehru Trophy Boat Race on August 31

- **First race of Champions Boat League to start the same day**

Kochi, Aug 19: The Nehru Trophy Boat Race and the first race of the maiden Champions Boat League (CBL) will be held on August 31.

Both the events were to be flagged off on August 10, but were postponed due to floods during the last fortnight.

Kerala Tourism today said the first race of the CBL will be held on the sidelines of the Nehru Trophy Boat Race at the sprawling Punnamada Lake in Alappuzha city.

Tourism Director Shri P Bala Kiran said the schedule of the remaining 11 races of the CBL, the country's first-ever boat racing patterned on the IPL format of cricket, will be announced soon.

Nine teams are to vie for top honours and prize monies totalling Rs 5.9 crore at the CBL.

The participating teams remain the same: Tropical Titans (traditionally, Village Boat Club), Backwater Knights (Village Boat Club), Backwater Ninja (Brothers Boat Club), Backwater Warriors (Town Boat Club), Coast Dominators (United Boat Club), Mighty Oars (NCDC), Pride Chasers (Vembanad Boat Club), Raging Rowers (Police Boat Club) and Thunder Oars (KBC/SFBC).

While the first three winners of each CBL match will get Rs 5 lakh, Rs 3 lakh and Rs 1 lakh respectively, all participants are to win a bonus prize of Rs 4 lakh for each match. The overall CBL league winner after the accumulation of all the points from the 12 races will get a cash prize of Rs 25 lakh, while those finishing second and third will get Rs 15 lakh and Rs 10 lakh, respectively.

The races, being held from 2 pm to 5 pm, will be broadcast live. Star Sports 2, Star Sports 2 HD, Star Sports 1 Tamil, Asianet Worldwide, Asianet Plus, Hotstar, ETV Andhra Pradesh and ETV Telangana will beam the event for an hour from 4 pm.

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