

तार : हिन्द्धर्म Gram: "HINDUDHARMA" Telefax: 91-11-26178992, 26103495

≫ VISHVA HINDU PARISHAD

टेलीफॅक्स : 91- 11 26178992, 26103495 Registered Under Societies Registration Act 1860 No. S 3106 of 1966-67 with Registrar of Societies, Delhi संकट मोचन आश्रम, (हनुमान मंदिर) सेक्टर-६, रामकृष्ण पुरम्, नई दिल्ली -११००२२(भारत) SANKAT MOCHAN ASHRAM (HANUMAN MANDIR), SECTOR-VI, RAMAKRISHNA PURAM, NEW DELHI-110 022 (BHARAT)

VHP/YATRA-01/2017

Date: 2nd May 2017

Shri N.N.Vohra, Hon'ble Chairman, Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board, Raj Bhawan, Srinagar.

Subject: Shri Amarnathji Yatra 2017

Hon'ble Sir,

First of all I would like to appreciate the hard efforts by the Board in providing facilities and building infrastructure for Yatra as per the directives of Hon'ble Supreme Court. I am sure that the remaining work will be completed very soon. You are very well aware that Vishwa Hindu Parishad is associated with Shri Amarnathji Yatra for a very long time in various forms, especially since 1995. I am on a visit to Jammu to meet various sections of the society who are either stake holders of Yatra or provide valuable help in various forms for successful conduct of the Yatra. On the basis of the discussions and feed-back from these sections I want to give certain suggestions which are very necessary and can be implemented for the Yatra 2017 in the remaining time:

- 1. In view of our experience of disruptions in Yatras during previous years when anti national elements operating in Kashmir caused obstructions in conduct of Yatra and which resulted in steep decline in Yatra numbers too, and the same is a matter of great concern for all stake holders including SASB; an immediate alternate safe Yatra route is required to be put in place and advertised appropriately among the visiting pilgrims. Though we strongly advocate the need of opening up of all the trek routes to Holy Cave as submitted in Hon'ble Supreme Court and to SASB; but for Yatra 2017, interested Yatris should be encouraged and facilitated to use air/land route via Leh- Kargil- Drass- Baltal to Holy Cave. This route involves least additional facilities and pilgrims can even start early morning from Drass and return to Drass in the evening after having Darshans provided traffic management at Jozilla Pass is undertaken professionally. I suggest opening up of current Yatra registration counters at Kargil and Drass for facilitating the intending Yatris.
- 2. I understand the circumstances wherein SASB shifted its registration process from online to offline mode. It is also a fact that the pilgrims from far off places face hardships in getting their Yatra registrations done and coordinating the Yatra registration dates with their travel reservations and holiday plans. In order to facilitate intending Yatris and to simultaneously ensure that no indiscipline in Yatra registration takes place, I suggest opening of online advance registration for all for periods excluding first 15 days of Yatra. It is a fact that during last more than 5 years, upper limits of Yatra numbers allowed have started declining

after an average of 15 days of Yatra and thus there is no chance of over-crowding after first 15 days.

3. BABA Yatri Niyas was formed as unified representative body as per the suggestions of SASB and with a special purpose, i.e., for ensuring a smooth coordination between stake holders and SASB; and as such it was an understanding that BABA Niyas representatives would be made part of important decision making processes of the SASB. I request your goodself for giving due representation to BABA Nivas in Yatra's decision making processes.

4. VHP had been demanding the earliest start of Yatra every year. The request gets contested for want of snow clearance and other infrastructural facilities. I once again request your goodself to order opening up of at least one route (Baltal) on possible earlier dates if the trek from that side gets cleared earlier; as suggested by Justice Mukharjee Commission & Justice Kohli Commission, and current Yatra registration should be opened for that route for available preponed period.

5. It is the need of time to create an atmosphere of confidence among Shiv Bhakts that no stone pelter or other separatists will be allowed to disturb the Yatra and it

will be a safe Yatra from any man made calamity.

We offer all sorts of help in successful conduct of Yatra,

Yours,

In services of Bhole Nath,

Dr. Surendra Kumar Jain

International Jt. General Secretary

Vishwa Hindu Parishad