Agra:

The Aligarh administration has banned religious activities on roads after fringe right-wing outfits started reciting ‘Hanuman Chalisa’ and performing ‘maha-aarti’ on the streets every Tuesday and Saturday in an apparent response to Muslims offering namaz on the roads.

The ban is also applicable on offering namaz on roads except on some occasions like Eid, when a large number of people gather, Aligarh DM CB Singh said on Thursday. No religious activities, including the Friday namaz, are allowed on roads without prior permission, Singh said.

“Everyone has religious freedom at their own places of worship,” the DM added.

“I spoke to representatives of organisations that indulged in such activities and told them about the sensitivity of the issue,” he said, adding the law and order situation could be affected by such activities since some areas are communally sensitive.

At Jaipur’s SMS hospital, patients have to mention their religion during registration

Patients registering for treatment at Rajasthan’s SMS Medical College and all hospitals attached to it are required to disclose their religion under a new system that the authorities say is meant to help create a database of population-specific diseases, reports Intishab Ali. “This information will help us research diseases that are prevalent among the beef-eating population and vegetarian population,” hospital superintendent D S Meena said.