Ahoy Hyderabad...!

Holidays end; return journey sparks traffic snarls on highways

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Hyderabad

- Commuters face hours of waiting
- Ongoing flyover construction slows traffic at Choutuppal
- Over 7,000 special buses deployed to ease rush

WITH the conclusion of the Dasara festival, massive traffic congestion was witnessed on the major highways as a large number of people who travelled to their native places especially in Andhra Pradesh for the Dasara festival began their return journey.

Long queues of vehicles were witnessed, causing severe inconvenience to commuters. Heavy rush was also reported at key toll plazas where vehicles were made to wait for hours.

The National Highway 65, the Hyderabad – Vijayawada stretch triggered long bumper-to-bumper traffic across multiple stretches.

Traffic movement slowed significantly since Wednesday due to the surge in vehicles heading towards Hyderabad. Congestion was also reported at other places due to the heavy inflow of vehicles towards Hyderabad.

Traffic police and highway officials were seen making efforts to regulate vehicle movement and clear congestion at the affected stretch. However, due to the continuous inflow of vehicles returning after the Dasara holidays, traffic remained heavy for most of the day.

Although educational institutions are scheduled to reopen on October 23 after the Dasara holidays, many people had started their journey a day in advance to avoid congestion.

Traffic moved slowly near Choutuppal due to ongoing flyover bridge construction work, causing delays for vehicles heading towards Hyderabad.

Heavy traffic was also reported on the Nagpur, Mumbai and Warangal highways as commuters returned from Andhra Pradesh and Telangana districts, including Medak, Siddipet and Sangareddy.

Meanwhile, TGSRTC has finalised arrangements to handle the return journey rush starting October 22, with peak crowds expected over the weekend of October 25 and 26. To accommodate festival travellers across Telangana, the corporation is deploying over 7,000 special buses.

According to TGSRTC officials, the Karimnagar zone alone will operate 3,533 special services.

The regional breakdown includes 431 buses from Adilabad, 719 from Nizamabad, 1,175 from Karimnagar, 530 from Warangal, and 678 from Khammam.

The Hyderabad zone will operate 2,155 special buses, including 645 from Mahbubnagar, 255 from Medak, 815 from Nalgonda and 440 from Rangareddy. In addition, the Greater Hyderabad Zone will operate 1,312 special services.

Authorities have advised commuters to plan travel during off-peak hours and follow traffic advisories to avoid inconvenience. The traffic situation is expected to remain tense over the next two days as the festive exodus continues.

Adluri Laxman Kumar reviews Dharmapuri bus station modernisation preparations

Foundation stone ceremony scheduled for October 25; officials directed to complete arrangements in time

Hans News Service
Karimnagar

STATE Welfare Minister Adluri Laxman Kumar on Thursday inspected arrangements for the foundation stone-laying ceremony for the modernisation of Dharmapuri bus station, scheduled for October 25.

Accompanied by Road Transport Corporation officials, local public representatives and party leaders, the minister reviewed preparations ahead of the visit of State Transport Minister Ponnam Prabhakar, who is expected to lay the foundation stone for the proposed works.

During the inspection, Laxman Kumar discussed the modernisation plans and arrangements for the programme with officials.

He stressed the need for coordination among all concerned departments to ensure the smooth conduct of the ceremony.

The minister directed officials to complete all necessary arrangements well in advance and ensure that the programme is organised efficiently.

The proposed modernisation is aimed at improving facilities at the Dharmapuri bus station.

Dasara festivities boost excise revenue in Warangal

Sadanandam Sirimalle
Hanumakonda

- The combined Warangal district records liquor sales worth Rs 239.37 crore between October 1 and 21
- Hanumakonda Urban leads district-wise sales with Rs 88 crore, followed by Hanumakonda Rural at Rs 44 crore, while Mahabubabad recorded Rs 37 crore and Jangaon and Bhupalpally registered Rs 36 crore each
- The surge in sales was attributed to festive celebrations, consecutive holidays, population growth, expanding urban areas and increased commercial activity

LIQUOR sales across the combined Warangal district witnessed a significant surge during the Dussehra festival, generating revenue of Rs 239.37 crore between October 1 and 21. The total represents an increase of Rs 75.81 crore compared with the Rs 163.56 crore recorded during the corresponding period last year.

The rise in sales has been attributed to festive demand, celebrations and consecutive holidays. The district has 139 bars and 295 liquor shops, which recorded substantial business during the 21-day period.

Hanumakonda Urban district topped the sales chart, with liquor worth Rs 88 crore sold during the festival period.

Hanumakonda Rural recorded sales of Rs 44 crore, reflecting strong demand across the district.

Other districts also reported considerable sales. Mahabubabad recorded liquor sales worth Rs 37 crore, while Jangaon and Bhupalpally each registered sales of Rs 36 crore.

The figures highlight the substantial increase in liquor consumption during the festive season across the combined Warangal district. The overall sales rose by nearly 46 per cent compared with last year, underlining the impact of festive activity on the excise department's revenue.

Hanumakonda Urban's leading position was attributed to its growing population, expanding urban areas and commercial activity, which contribute to higher demand for liquor, particularly during major festivals.

Agarwal completes one year as Rajanna Sircilla collector

Hans News Service
Rajanna-Sircilla

Housing, education, healthcare and infrastructure top development agenda

DISTRICT Collector Garima Agarwal has completed one year in office, with a focus on welfare delivery and development across Rajanna Sircilla district.

During the year, more than 3,000 houses were completed under the Indiramma housing scheme, while 48 anganwadi buildings were completed at a cost of Rs 3 crore. Educational infrastructure was strengthened through improvements to government schools and residential institutions.

In agriculture, awareness programmes encouraged farmers to adopt alternative crops, including pulses, vegetables and oil palm, which was cultivated on more than 700 acres.

Healthcare initiatives included distributing nutritional kits to 421 tuberculosis patients and monitoring services at government hospitals and primary health centres.

The administration also promoted women's self-help groups, improved facilities at the Mandepalli old-age home and monitored development works at Vemulawada's Sri Rajarajeshwara Swamy temple. Road improvements, warehouse construction, tourism development and public infrastructure remained key priorities during her first year.

Jhansi Rajender Reddy meets Telugu NRIs in North Carolina

Hans News Service
Hanumakonda

HANUMANDLA Jhansi Rajender Reddy, vice-president of the Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC), Congress in-charge for Palakurti constituency and founder of the Women Empowerment Telugu Association (WETA), attended a meet-and-greet programme with Telugu non-resident Indians (NRIs) at Apex, North Carolina, USA. The event was hosted by Karunakar Vanguru.

During the informal gathering, NRIs interacted with Jhansi Rajender Reddy and shared their views on Telangana's political and social developments.

Through WETA, she has been working to empower Telugu women by promoting their development, encouraging their potential and creating opportunities for greater recognition in society. She also seeks to strengthen unity and mutual cooperation among Telugu communities.

In her political role, Jhansi Rajender Reddy has been actively involved in Congress activities in Palakurti constituency, focusing on public issues, constituency development and coordination with party leaders and workers.

The programme provided an opportunity for Telugu NRIs to engage with Telangana leadership and maintain closer ties with their home state. It also highlighted her continued efforts towards women's empowerment and political engagement.

Panduga Sayanna remains an inspiration for generations: SP

Hans News Service
Jayashankar Bhupalpally

THE life of Panduga Sayanna, celebrated as a people's hero for standing up for the poor and fighting oppression and exploitation, continues to inspire future generations, Jayashankar Bhupalpally District Superintendent of Police Sirisetti Sankeerth, IPS, said. The district police office organised celebrations marking Sayanna's birth anniversary on Thursday. On the occasion, Sankeerth garlanded Sayanna's portrait and paid floral tributes. The SP said that defending the poor and fighting for the self-respect of weaker sections were the defining values of Sayanna's life. He urged people to uphold equality, humanity and a spirit of service, while extending support to marginalised communities. He emphasised the need to pass on Sayanna's fighting spirit and ideals to future generations, describing his life as a source of inspiration for building a more just and inclusive society.

Warangal police warn against QVSE investment fraud

Fraudsters promise huge returns on Rs 54,000 investment; 56 cases registered across TG

Hans News Service
Hanumakonda

WARANGAL Police Commissioner N. Shweta, IPS, has urged the public to remain vigilant against the QVSE (Quantum West Stock Exchange) app, which is allegedly being used to cheat people through fraudulent online investment schemes.

According to the Commissioner, fraudsters persuade victims to download the app through APK files and convert Indian rupees into cryptocurrency using Binance. They promise a huge profit on an investment of 500 USDT, approximately Rs 54,000, along with referral bonuses of 50 USDT and 25 USDT for first- and second-level referrals.

As many as 56 cases linked to this fraud have been registered across Telangana.

Shweta advised people to avoid suspicious apps, unverified trading platforms and schemes promising guaranteed returns. Victims should immediately call 1930 or file a complaint at www.cybercrime.gov.in.

NHM employees continue indefinite strike in Karimnagar

Hans News Service
Karimnagar

Protesters stand on one leg outside Collectorate, demand regularisation, pay hike and pending arrears

NATIONAL Health Mission (NHM) employees continued their indefinite strike in Karimnagar on Thursday, staging a novel protest by standing on one leg outside the Collectorate to press for the resolution of their long-pending demands.

Organised by the NHM Joint Action Committee (JAC), the protest highlighted demands for job security, regularisation, cadre fixation and equal pay for equal work.

The employees also sought 100 per cent gross salary, direct salary payments under the SPARSH system, a 5 per cent annual increment, an 8 per cent loyalty bonus and release of arrears pending since 2022.

Other demands include medical coverage under EHS, 180 days of paid maternity leave, restoration of reduced salaries and implementation of revised pay scales.

The JAC also demanded Rs. 20 lakh ex-gratia for families of employees who die in service, a job for one eligible family member and Rs. 30,000 towards funeral expenses. Leaders said the peaceful agitation would continue until the government addressed their grievances.

Satish accuses Cong of misusing power

Hans News Service
Karimnagar

FORMER Husnabad MLA Vodithala Satish Kumar has accused the Congress government of targeting Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) leaders and workers through politically motivated cases, alleging that such actions undermine democratic values. On Thursday, he visited BRS leaders and workers facing cases in Dharmasagarpalli village of Koheda mandal and assured them of the party's support. Satish Kumar alleged that Congress leaders were intimidating opposition workers instead of addressing public issues and fulfilling electoral promises. He said BRS workers would not succumb to political pressure, stressing that power was temporary and public service should remain the priority. He assured the affected workers and their families that the party would provide support and pursue legal remedies, including approaching the High Court if necessary, to seek the quashing of cases. He also criticised the alleged interference of elected representatives' relatives in administration and urged BRS workers to remain confident.

Warangal road expansion aimed at future growth: MLA

Hans News Service
Hanumakonda

WARANGAL West MLA Naini Rajender Reddy on Thursday laid the foundation stone for road expansion works worth Rs 2 crore from Hanumakonda bus stand via JNS Stadium to DCC Bhavan.

Speaking on the occasion, Naini said the project aimed to ease traffic congestion, improve road safety and meet the city's growing transportation needs. He urged residents and traders not to obstruct development in the name of vote-bank politics and called for collective support.

He said narrow roads and increasing vehicle numbers had created difficulties for commuters and local businesses. Stressing planned infrastructure development, he called for constructive suggestions from opposition parties. Naini also announced plans to develop areas around JNS Stadium, improve commercial opportunities and provide better facilities for hostel students. He said coordinated efforts were essential to ensure Warangal's sustainable growth and better infrastructure for future generations.