Police remove closed covers from 1,500 autos

Special inspections are being conducted at major traffic junctions

Dasari Srinivasa Rao
Vijayawada



Traffic Inspector Ramarao supervising the removal of closed covers fitted at the rear of auto rickshaws during a special enforcement drive in Vijayawada

IN a special drive to prevent road accidents and ensure the safety of passengers, particularly women and children, NTR District Police Commissionerate traffic police have removed closed covers fitted at the rear of around 1,500 auto rickshaws over the past two days. On the directions of Police Commissioner SV Rajasekhara Babu, the special inspections are being conducted at major traffic junctions across the Commissionerate under the supervision of Traffic DCP Shareen Begum and Traffic ACPs. Traffic inspectors, along with their staff, are participating in the enforcement drive.

Traffic DCP Shareen Begum said closed covers at the rear of autos restricted drivers' visibility of vehicles approaching from behind, increasing the risk of accidents while overtaking and taking turns. She also pointed out that such covers prevented outsiders from seeing passengers inside the vehicles, potentially posing security risks to women, children and other commuters. She instructed auto drivers not to install closed covers at the rear of their vehicles and not to carry passengers beyond the permitted capacity. Drivers were also warned against using mobile phones while driving and operating vehicles under the influence of alcohol.

Drivers were directed to keep their registration certificates (RC), driving licences, fitness certificates and insurance documents readily available. They were also advised to take special care while transporting school children.

Shareen Begum further instructed drivers to display the auto registration number and emergency helpline number 112 behind the driver's seat in a manner clearly visible to passengers. She warned that violations would attract penalties under the Motor Vehicles Act, while serious offences could lead to vehicle seizure and further legal action.

Training for 56 master trainers on crop insurance from today

- Two-day programme to focus on effective implementation of PMFBY and speedy settlement of farmers' claims
- Experts from ICRISAT, insurance companies and Central and State departments to share technical knowledge and field experiences



Agriculture Department Director Manazir Jeelani Samoon

Dasari Srinivasa Rao
Vijayawada

A two-day State-level training programme for master trainers on the implementation and strengthening of the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) will be held at the Metropolitan Hotel near Benz Circle in Vijayawada on November 12 and 13.

Organised by the Agriculture Department, the programme aims to strengthen the crop insurance mechanism and create greater awareness among farmers about insurance coverage, claim procedures and the benefits of the scheme.

A total of 56 master trainers, two from each district, will participate in the training.

Agriculture Department Special Chief Secretary B Rajasekhar will inaugurate the programme along with Agriculture Director Dr Manazir Jeelani Samoon, Horticulture Director Dr K Srinivasulu and Director of Economics and Statistics B Gopal.

The training sessions will cover the implementation of yield-based and weather-based insurance, crop-cutting experiments for yield estimation, login procedures on the National Crop Insurance Portal, satellite-based yield estimation through the YES-TECH methodology, and claim settlement procedures and calculations.

Agriculture Director Dr Manazir Jeelani Samoon said representatives from ICRISAT, the Disaster Management Department, insurance companies, the Union Ministry of Agriculture and the State Agriculture and Horticulture departments would participate and share their expertise.

Medical staff told not to roam in scrubs

Naresh Nandam
Ongole

DOCTORS and staff working in operation theatres and intensive care units must not roam in scrubs, the special dress used to contain infections, outside those areas, ordered the Superintendent of the Government General Hospital in Ongole, Dr S Manikyarao, on Wednesday.

Dr Manikyarao informed that the Director of Medical Education, Dr Vishnuvardhan, has issued orders to control infections in hospitals. Earlier, the orders were only oral, and now written orders have been issued for the first time. He said germs can spread if the dress is worn elsewhere, raising the risk of infection for patients. After duty in the designated areas, staff must not move in general wards, OPDs, corridors, offices and canteens in the same dress, the superintendent said. Staff must wear the special dress only in operation theatre complexes, ICUs, labour rooms, cath labs, and sterile zones. Staff must remove caps, masks and shoe covers before going out. In an emergency, a clean gown that fully covers the body must be worn over the dress, he explained.

Dr Manikyarao said that the infection control committee will make surprise checks. First-time violators will be counselled, and repeated violations will lead to disciplinary action.

He urged everyone to follow the rules.

Training programme held on fingerprint science

Hans News Service
Mangalagiri



Dr Ravi Shankar Ayyanar, Director General of Police, CID and Dr K V Srinivasa Rao, Director of the Fingerprint Bureau (FPB) addressing judicial officers at CID headquarters on Wednesday

THE Crime Investigation Department (CID) organised a one-day training and awareness programme on fingerprint science and its evidentiary value for 18 judicial officers at the CID headquarters here on Wednesday. The programme was conducted under the guidance of Dr. Ravi Shankar Ayyanar, Director General of Police, CID with the objective of enhancing judicial officers' understanding of fingerprint examination, forensic procedures and the legal aspects of fingerprint evidence.

Dr K V Srinivasa Rao, Director of the Fingerprint Bureau (FPB), attended the programme along with seven District Judges, 11 Junior Civil Judges and representatives of the Andhra Pradesh Judicial Academy. During the sessions, FPB Inspectors Abdul Rahim, Vinod Kumar and Arjuna Rao, along with Sub-Inspector Bharat Ratna, have delivered detailed presentations on various aspects of fingerprint science.

They explained the evidentiary value of fingerprints, the importance of maintaining the chain of custody and legal issues associated with the presentation and admissibility of fingerprint evidence. CID Legal Advisor Lakshman Rao and several Superintendents of Police from the CID also participated in the programme.



Rotary Club of Rajamahendravaram Icons office-bearers distributing financial support to poor visually impaired students pursuing higher education at SKVT Government College on Wednesday

RCRI extends support to visually impaired students

Deekshitula Subrahmanyam
Rajamahendravaram

ROTARY Club of Rajamahendravaram Icons has extended financial support to poor visually impaired students pursuing higher education at SKVT Government College. The club has come forward to provide financial assistance of Rs 50,000 to ten visually impaired students of the college to meet their educational needs throughout the current academic year. College Principal Dr BV Tirupanayam appreciated the initiative and said that financial constraints should never become an obstacle to the academic progress of talented students. Rotary Club of Rajamahendravaram Icons president T Lakshminarayana said that financial assistance extended to a student was not merely monetary help but also a source of assurance and support to an entire family.

Club secretary Shyam Ponnada described assistance to students as a ray of hope for young lives and an investment in the future of society.

Treasurer Mukesh Vasan, College faculty Dr PVB Sanjeeva Rao observed that a better future for meritorious students from economically weaker sections could be ensured when service-minded organisations came forward to support education. Teegala Raja, G Sarath Babu, S Raj Kumar, Palli Sudha and G Suguna, among others, participated.

Cyclone damages paddy in 8,430 hectares

Hans News Service
Guntur

HEAVY rains followed by strong winds, triggered by Cyclone Murasu, damaged paddy, cotton and black gram crops in Guntur district. According to official sources, paddy crop was worst affected in 8,430 hectares, cotton in 1188 hectares followed by black gram crop in 1000 hectares.

According to the guidelines issued by the government, the farmers whose crops were damaged more than 33 percent are eligible for input subsidy. The farmers whose crops were covered under the crop insurance scheme will get compensation for crop damage. The farmers whose crops were damaged less than 33 per cent are not eligible for any compensation. They would have to bear the loss.

Agriculture department officials sent the crop damage reports through the concerned district collectors to the government for further steps. Rainwater stranded in the agriculture fields caused crop damage and paddy was discoloured. Similarly, cotton and black gram crops were damaged.

Cyclones Arnab and Murasu damaged the crops. The farmers whose crops were damaged due to recent cyclones, are not in a position to recover from the losses and are seeking a helping hand from the government.

Arrangements reviewed for MPP, ZP chairman elections

Naresh Nandam
Markapur

DISTRICT collector M Vijaya Suneetha directed the officials to make proper arrangements for the elections of Mandal Parishad presidents and Zilla Parishad chairman in Markapur district.

The collector, along with joint collector P Srinivasulu, held a review meeting with district-level officers, MPDOs and election officers in Markapur on Wednesday. She said the MPTC and ZPTC election process is over, and the next step is the election of Mandal Parishad presidents, vice presidents, Zilla Parishad chairman and vice chairman.

She reviewed the procedures and officials' duties. She told them to follow the guidelines of the State Election Commission and conduct the process peacefully and transparently.

The collector asked the officers to work in coordination and give special attention to election notices, meetings, staff appointments, and facilities. She said no mistakes should happen.



Markapur collector M Vijaya Suneetha speaking at a meeting with officials in Markapur on Wednesday

Employees who worked on Oct 19 can avail Nov 14 holiday

Dasari Srinivasa Rao
Vijayawada

EMPLOYEES from Gram Sachivalayams to district-level offices who attended duties on October 19 in connection with elections, Dasara celebrations, the SARAS programme and other official assignments can avail November 14, the second Saturday, as a holiday, the State government has clarified.

AP JAC Amaravati Chairman Bopparaju Venkateswarlu and Secretary General Palisetti Damodara Rao, in a statement issued on Wednesday, welcomed the government's decision and thanked it for accepting their request to extend the holiday benefit to employees who had worked on October 19.

The government had earlier declared October 19 a holiday ahead of the Dasara festival, which fell on October 20. In lieu of the holiday, November 14 was declared a working day. However, AP JAC Amaravati represented to the government on October 21 that a large number of employees across the State, from Gram Sachivalayams to district-level offices, had attended duties on October 19 in connection with local body election arrangements, the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) programme, Dasara celebrations and the SARAS programme.

Responding positively to their representation, the General Administration (Political-B) Department issued a memo on Wednesday (November 11), permitting employees who attended election, Dasara, SARAS and other related duties on October 19 to avail November 14 as a holiday.

Paddy, cotton worst affected in Palnadu

Hans News Service
Guntur

PADDY, cotton, red gram, jute and maize crops were worst affected due to Cyclone Murasu in Palnadu district. According to official sources, paddy crop was damaged in 1397 hectares, cotton in 826 and red gram in 130 hectares. Jute, maize, black gram and bajra crops were damaged in 79 hectares. Over 2,432 farmers were affected in the district.

These crops were damaged more than 33 percent, according to enumeration conducted by the officials. The farmers whose crops were damaged more than 33% are eligible for input subsidy. The government has to pay input subsidies to 2,432 farmers in the district. The farmers whose crops were covered under crop insurance scheme will get compensation from the insurance companies. The farmers whose crops were damaged less than 33% are not eligible for input subsidy.

Cops question Ambati

Deekshitula Subrahmanyam
Kakinada

YSR Congress Party leader and former minister Ambati Rambabu appeared before the Kirlampudi police in Kakinada district in connection with a case registered against him for allegedly obstructing police personnel from discharging their duties during the funeral of former minister Mudragada Padmanabham.

The police questioned Ambati for around one-and-a-half hours at the police station. After the inquiry, speaking to the media, Ambati said appearing at a police station was nothing new to him.

He alleged that police personnel had acted in an overenthusiastic manner by attempting to offer a police salute near the mortal remains despite objections from members of Mudragada's family. He said they had intervened and prevented the police from doing so.



Ambati Rambabu and others coming outside of the Kirlampudi police station after questioning

Goddess Durga draped in glass bangles

Dasari Srinivasa Rao
Vijayawada

INDRAKEELADRI, the abode of Goddess Kanaka Durga in Vijayawada, wore a festive look on Wednesday as the presiding deity was adorned with 'Gajula Alankaram' (bangle decoration) on the auspicious occasion of Kartika Shuddha Vidiya, observed as 'Bhagini Hastha Bhojanam'.

More than eight lakh colourful glass bangles were used to adorn the Goddess and decorate the premises of Sri Durga Malleswara Swamy Varla Devasthanam atop Indrakeeladri. The elaborate decoration extended to the sanctum sanctorum, corridors, ceilings and sub-shrines. Bangles in vibrant shades of green, red, yellow and blue were intricately arranged into attractive garlands and decorative patterns, lending a spectacular appearance to the temple. Temple Executive Officer VK Seena Naik said all arrangements had been completed in accordance with temple traditions and customs. Inspecting the decorations on the sixth floor of Mallikhana Maha Mandapam, he said the temple had used more than four lakh bangles last year, while the number had been doubled this year to decorate both the main deity and the entire temple premises.

He said devotees and donors had contributed bangles in large numbers, while the temple administration made additional arrangements to meet the requirement. Women devotees from various parts of the State thronged Indrakeeladri to have Goddess darshan in the special alankaram. After the completion of rituals, the bangles offered to and worshipped in the presence of the deity were distributed to women devotees as prasadam. Temple officials closely monitored queue management, drinking water supply and prasadam distribution to ensure the smooth movement of devotees.



Goddess Kanaka Durga adorned with colourful glass bangles during 'Gajula Utsavam' at Sri Durga Malleswara Swamy Varla Devasthanam atop Indrakeeladri on Wednesday



APCPDCL Director for Projects and HRD TVSN Murthy inspecting power restoration works in Prakasam district on Wednesday

Power restoration works inspected

Naresh Nandam
Ongole

TVSN Murthy, Director for Projects and HRD of the Andhra Pradesh Central Power Distribution Corporation Limited, inspected power restoration work in cyclone-hit areas of Prakasam district on Wednesday.

Murthy visited Uppugundur, Ammanabrolu, Kanaparthi, VR Palem and other villages. He inspected damaged electrical lines, Distribution Transformers, electric poles, and wires lying in agricultural fields, along with other power equipment hit by the cyclone, and reviewed the progress of the restoration work. Officials explained to him the measures they had taken. He enquired about the steps being taken to restore power supply. He directed the officials to take all necessary measures to restore power supply to the affected villages and agricultural fields at the earliest.