



Incredible India



National Institute of Tourism & Hospitality Management

(Jointly Promoted by Ministry of Tourism Govt. of India & Govt. of Telangana)

(Under the aegis of YAT&C Department)

FIELD VISIT REPORT – TEKMAL VILLAGE

The meeting Conducted on May 6, 2026, by Spl. Chief Secretary (YAT&C) at Secretariate Office, with following agenda points

- Best Tourism Villages (BTV) 2026: Discussion on the marking scheme and evaluation pillars for national and international village rankings.
- Global Destination Framework: Establishing an internal ranking system to develop local sites into global-standard destinations.
- Rural Heritage Documentation: Mapping "Mandva" style houses, local crafts (Pambarthi/Toys), and festival circuits for tourism.

In Connection to agenda at one, the Director, NITHM constituted 3 members committee (Dr. N. Yadagiri, Dr. Niraj Gohil, Smt. Vijaya Lakshimi Ravi), to visit Tekmal village and surrounding with aims of marking scheme and evaluation pillars for national and international village rankings for Telangana Tourism.

Objective of the visit

- To access the Tourism Potential of Tekmal Village
- To Analysis the Tourism Resources of the Tekmal Village
- To Identify the Tourism Infrastructure at the Village
- To do SOWT Analysis of the Tekmal Village

Geography and Demography of the Tekmal Village

Located in the Medak district of Telangana, Tekmal is a significant rural settlement situated approximately 100 km from Hyderabad and 36 km from Medak town. Geographically, it serves as a central hub for the surrounding hamlets, benefiting from a multi-modal transport network that includes public and private bus services as well as nearby railway access. According to the 2011 Census, the village has a population of 8,212, characterized by a diverse social structure comprising 15.49% Scheduled Tribes and 12.58% Scheduled Castes. The demographic profile also highlights a significant youth population with 1,101 children in the 0–6 age group, while the literacy landscape presents a developmental opportunity, with a recorded literacy rate of 45.92% representing 3,771 literate residents.

Tourism resources of Tekmal Village

Tekmal is a unique rural destination that preserves nearly 100-year-old commercial traditions, cultural heritage, religious harmony, and natural attractions. The weekly "Santa" (traditional market/fair), held every Saturday, attracts people from 29 surrounding villages for commercial activities. The village is also known for its centuries-old dargahs, traditional architectural houses suitable for conversion into home stays, and proximity to important heritage and religious sites associated with the Kakatiya dynasty.

Within a radius of approximately 15 to 20 kilometres from Tekmal are important tourist attractions such as the Chamundeshwari Temple at Jogipet, Tumbureshwara Temple at Velpugonda, and Edupayala, where a famous annual Jatara is celebrated. The region is also blessed with scenic water bodies and natural landscapes that can support tourism activities such as boating, trekking, and eco-tourism.

Tekmal offers an authentic and immersive rural tourism experience to visitors.

Site Observations

- **Traditional Heritage Houses**

Approximately 15–20 traditional houses of heritage value are presently unused, as many owners have settled in cities. These houses have excellent potential to be converted into heritage homestays through suitable restoration and tourism development initiatives.

- **Charaka Cotton Mill**

An old Charaka Cotton Mill exists in the village but is presently neglected and unused. As the property is located on government land, it can be renovated immediately and repurposed for tourism-related activities such as a heritage home stay or rural craft centre.

- **Dorala Gadi Heritage Structure**

A heritage structure known as “Dorala Gadi,” estimated to be around 400 years old, is located in the village. During the Nizam era, it served as the seat of local administration and reflects the region’s feudal architectural style. The descendants of the fifth generation presently visit the property once a year. Discussions were held with them, and they have expressed willingness for collaboration in heritage conservation and tourism development. The structure can be restored and utilised effectively for heritage tourism purposes. ASI & INTACH efforts will take the place a long way

- **Safety and Civic Infrastructure**

The village has a police station, Government High School, Junior College, and a public library, ensuring adequate civic and safety infrastructure for visitors and residents.

5. Women Empowerment and Community Participation

A highly active network of Mahila Mandalis, DWCRA groups, and Self-Help Groups contributes significantly to women’s empowerment and community participation in local economic activities.

6. Historic Saturday Market (Angadi/Santa)

Tekmal hosts a nearly 100-year-old Saturday market (Angadi), which is vibrant and commercially active. The market serves as a trading centre for cattle such as cows, buffaloes, and goats. Its unique feature is the participation of people from 29 surrounding villages who come to sell their products. Women actively participate by selling fresh vegetables from their gardens, traditional textiles, and locally made garments.

7. Syncretic Cultural Heritage

The village reflects a strong tradition of communal harmony and syncretic culture. A 198-year-old dargah attracts both Hindu and Muslim devotees during the “Peerla Pandaga” festival, associated with the local slogan: “Bolo Shantapathi Shaniwar.”

8. Religious and Heritage Tourism Potential

Tekmal is home to Durgamma, Pochamma, and Venkateswara Swamy temples, where grand jatara celebrations are conducted annually. Approximately 15 kilometres from Tekmal is the Tumburanatha Temple at Velpugonda, dating back to the 11th century AD and associated

with the Kakatiya dynasty. The temple is situated beside a picturesque lake and rocky terrain, making it suitable for boating, trekking, and nature-based tourism activities.

9. Festivals and Cultural Celebrations

Traditional festivals such as Bonalu and Bathukamma are celebrated with great enthusiasm and grandeur at the Mahankali and Anjaneya temples, reflecting the vibrant cultural identity of the region.

10. Water Resources and Irrigation Heritage

The village is sustained by the Manjeera River basin and maintains two major irrigation tanks: Pedda Cheruvu and Chinna Cheruvu.

11. Traditional Water Conservation Systems

Ancient stepwells preserved throughout the village showcase traditional water conservation practices and indigenous engineering methods.

12. Connectivity and Agricultural Experience

Tekmal is well connected by road and is located approximately two hours from Hyderabad. Visitors can also experience authentic agricultural practices, including harvesting, sun-drying of produce, and traditional packaging methods.

13. Sports and Recreational Infrastructure

The village also has a sports arena that can be utilised for organising recreational and tourism-related activities.

Conclusion

Tekmal fulfils the criteria for recognition as the “Best Tourism Village – 2026.” Its unique combination of rich cultural heritage, traditional rural lifestyle, religious harmony, historic markets, heritage structures, scenic natural resources, and community participation makes it an ideal destination for promoting rural tourism in Telangana.

The village offers visitors an authentic rural experience while also possessing significant potential for sustainable tourism development through heritage conservation, home stay promotion, eco-tourism activities, and community-based tourism initiatives.

Outcome

1. Identified manduva house no 50 potentials for homestay for tourist
2. Identified and suggested for Tourism Circuit (Tekmal-Jogipet-Yedupayala-Velupugonda-Chintakutta-Medak)
3. Ideal destination for Weekend Tourism (Activities – Swimming, Boat rides, Angling, Trekking)
4. Tourist Experience of Communal harmony through peerla Festival (Moharam)
5. Fairs and Festivals Annually Durgamma & Pochamma 5 Days Jatara
6. Every Saturday Angadi (Weekly Market) Ideal to rural tourism
7. Tumbureshwara Temple at Velupugonda – Unexplored mini-Ramappa Temple combined with beautiful lake, and mountainous terrain
8. Its and Ideal Rural Tourism Destination

Visited Team:

1. Dr. Niraj Gohil, Dean (T),
2. Dr. N. Yadagiri, Librarian & Faculty,
3. Ms. Ravi Vijaya Lakshmi
4. Mr. Danish Kousar, BBA Student



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NITHM On-Going Home Stay Project Report on Tekmal Village

Director, NITHM

Team Members:

Dr. Niraj Gohil

Dr. N. Yadagiri

Smt. Vijaya Lakshmi Ravi

Mr. Danish Kousar, Student

FIELD VISIT REPORT: TEKMAL VILLAGE, MEDAK DISTRICT

Field Analysis and Findings

ARCHITECTURAL



Highlights:

- Feudal Gadi walls, ~400 years old.
- Unique Gadi architecture of Telangana.
- Conservation status: Sound but requires support.
- 5th-gen descendants willing to collaborate.
- Action: Boutique hotel (PPP model).

INDUSTRIAL



Proposed Uses:

- Repurpose as Tekmal Craft Hub.
- Focus on local textile tradition.
- Action: Clean and document for Phase I.

COMMERCIAL



Proposed Market:

- 'Saturday Santa' serving 29 villages.
- More than 100 years of active trade.
- Tourist experience of cattle market.
- Economic Linkage: Creation of a 'Tourist Zone'.

SPIRITUAL



- 198-year-old Dargah and Kakatiya Tumburanatha Temple.
- Integration with Edupayala Jatara calendar.
- Action: Multi-faith pilgrimage circuit promotion.

REGIONAL TOURISM CIRCUIT



Velpugonda



Jogipet



Edupayala

TEKMAL



SUSTAINABILITY & COMMUNITY



Village Kitchen



Stepwell Restoration

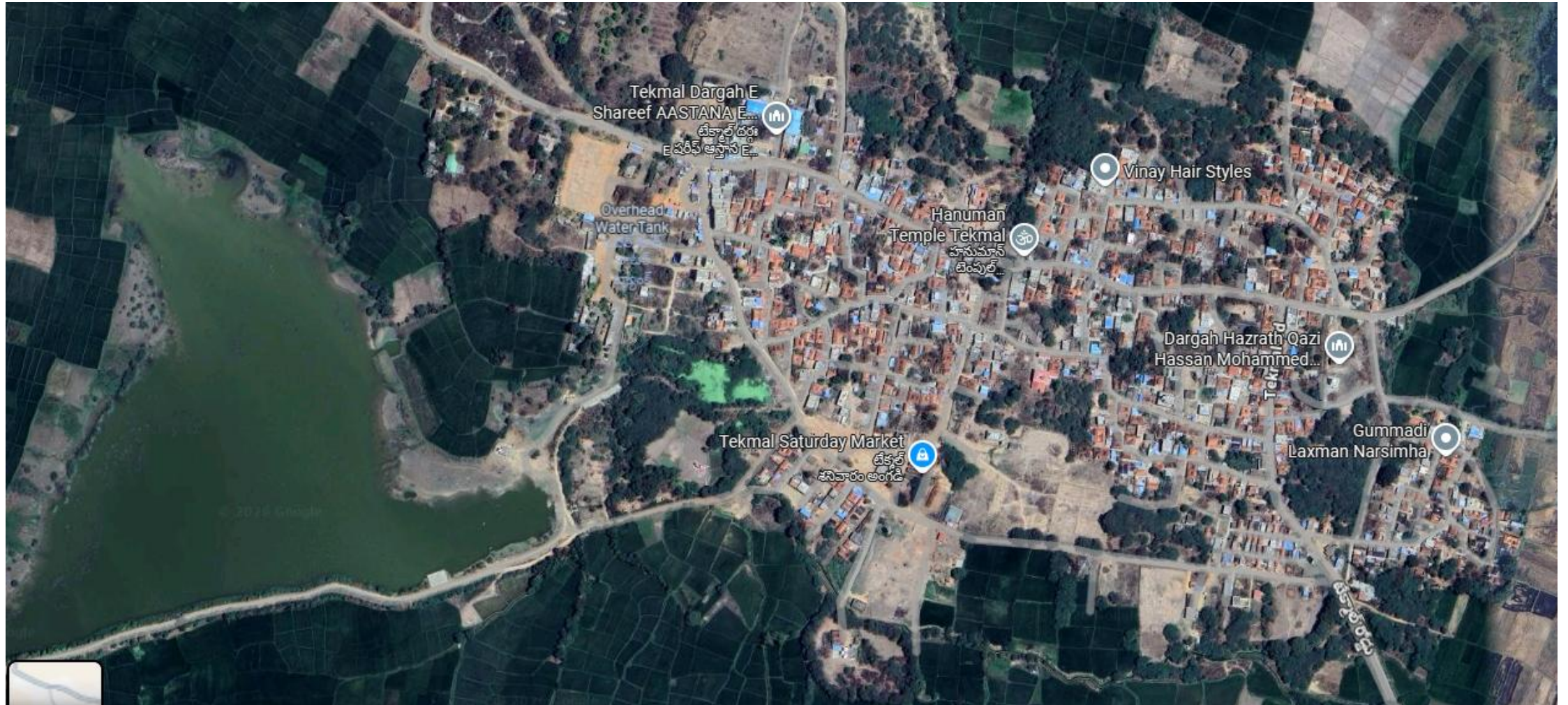
PROPOSED TIMELINE

3 months
Phase I

11 months
Phase II

12 months
Phase III

GPS Map – Google Areal View Map



Note: Tekmal Madal, Medak District, Telangana at Coordinates: 17.9723^N, 78.0415^E.

Traditional Heritage Houses

400-year-old *Dorala Gadi* – East Face Entrance



200-years ago-old *Dorala Gadi* – South Face – Entrance



400-year-old *Dorala Gadi* – Heritage Building



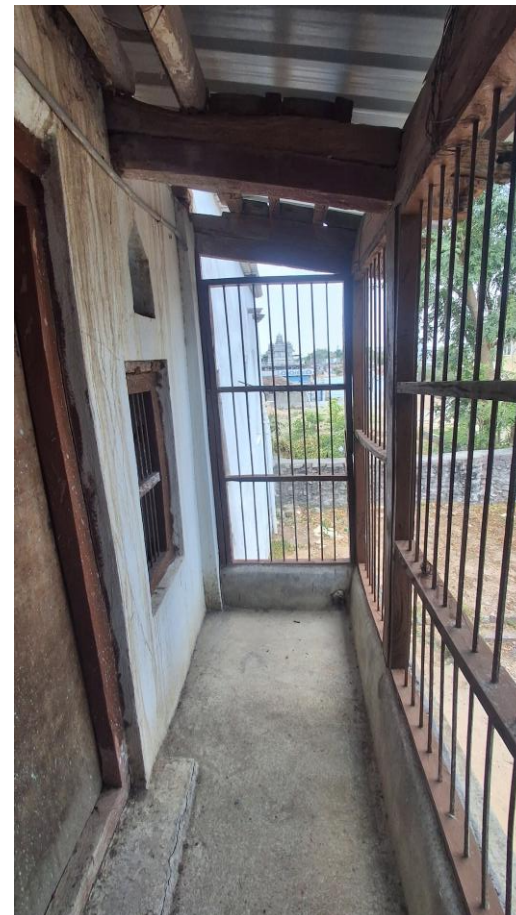
Inside entrance



Building Inside View



Building Inside View ; approximately 20 Rooms and Open Space etc.



Traditional Village Houses



Saturday Santha – Angadi /Weekly Market)



Sri Durgamma Sri Pochamma Jatara 2026 Schedule

S. No	Date	Day	Event / Ritual
1	08-03-2026	Sunday	Bonam (బోనాలు)
2	09-03-2026	Monday	Bandla Pradakshina (బండ్ల ప్రదక్షిణ)
3	10-03-2026	Tuesday	Bandi shidi
4	11-03-2026	Wednesday	Kusti Potilu, Rathotsavam (కుస్తీ పోటీలు, రథోత్సవము)
5	12-03-2026	Thursday	Panchi Bandla Meravimpu (పాంచి బండ్ల మెరవింపు)

Sri Durgamma Sri Pochamma Jatara – market yard



Durgamma & Pochamma Temple - 5 Days Festivals



Wrestling Competitions : టేక్
కరలో హోరా హోరిగా కుస్తీ పోట్
Wrestling Competitions : మెదక్ జిల్లా
పర్లమ్మ, పోచమ్మ జాతర సందర్భంగా
లును నిరంశించారు సజ్జి నీటు హోలీ

5 Days Festivals _ Bonalu Bapulu, Natakalu (Drama) Bandla Pradakshna



Sri Venkateshwara Swamy temple and Hanuman Temple Tekmal



Aastana – E Shahediya – Durga Tekmal village



Gandhi Bhawan and Library



Tekmal Mosque and Sarai



Charaka Cotton Mill

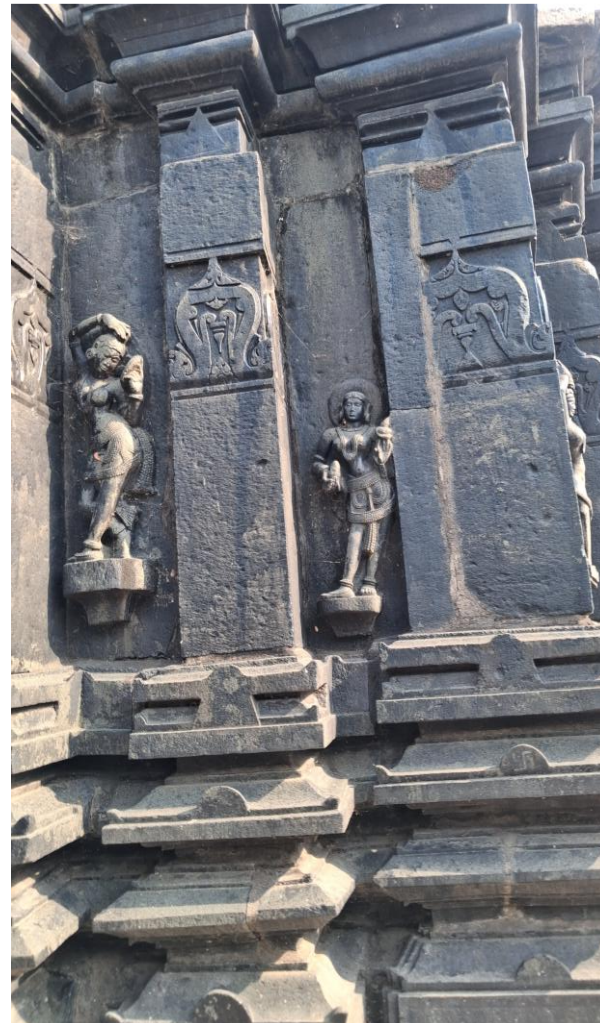


Tumbureshwara Temple at Velpugonda –

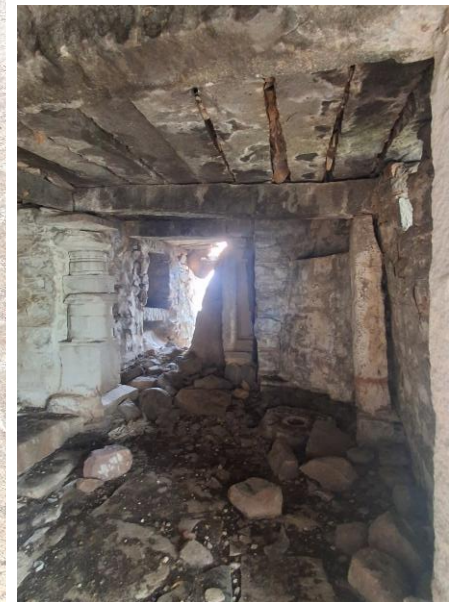
(Medak district, Telangana) is an ancient shrine, sometimes called a "Mini-Ramappa" due to its Kakatiya-era architecture and intricate sculptures resembling the Ramappa Temple.



Architectural Features: The temple features intricate carvings, Darpana Sundari figures, celestial dancers, and naga shilpas.



Evidence of Jain heritage, including a Parshwanatha Tirthankara Digambara Idle



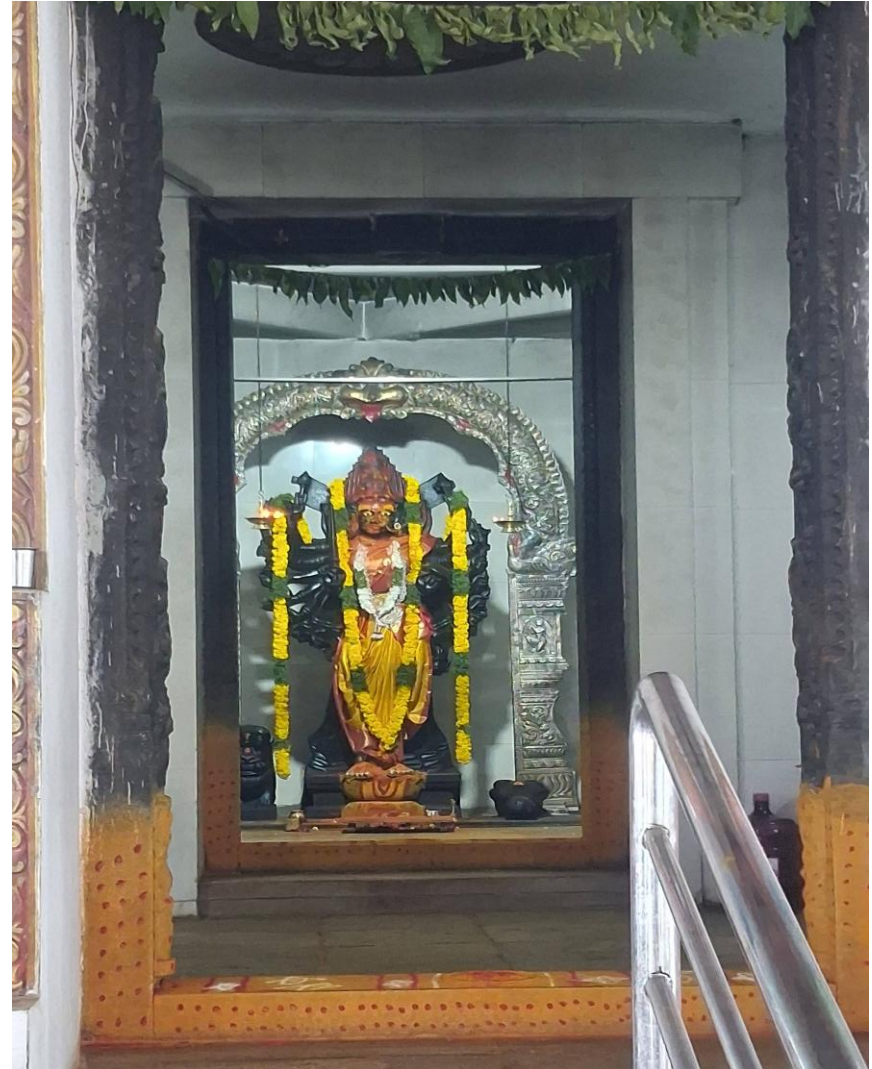
Thumbureshwara Devalayam (Yelupu Gonda, Tekmal)

Surampally, Bodagat, Telangana 502303. It is situated on a hill known locally as "Yelupu Gonda" or "Munula Gutta" (Hill of Sages).

The temple is set in a peaceful, natural environment, often described as a hidden gem surrounded by hills and a local water body (Devathala Cheruvu).



Sri Chamundeshwari Devi Temple



Sri Chamundeshwari Devi Temple

Sri Chamundeshwari Devi

Temple in Chitkul is on the Eastern banks of the River Manjira, a tributary of river Godavari.

About 7 Kilometers from Jogipet, the road curves East to cross the river Manjira and the Majestic Chamundeshwari Devi temple reveals itself in great glory



The Jogipet Clock Tower

The Jogipet Clock Tower,

located in the Medak district of Telangana, is a prominent historical landmark believed to be over 150 years old.

Jogipet is a historically significant town, having hosted the first Andhra Mahasabha in 1930.



Andole Lake & Fort Entrance

Andole Lake.

"The lake located near the entrance of the Andole temple is famous as the 'Andole Lake.' It connects Andole and Jogipet.

Singur Dam/Project, and the historic **Heritage Jail Museum** in Sangareddy.

