



# Gateway to History

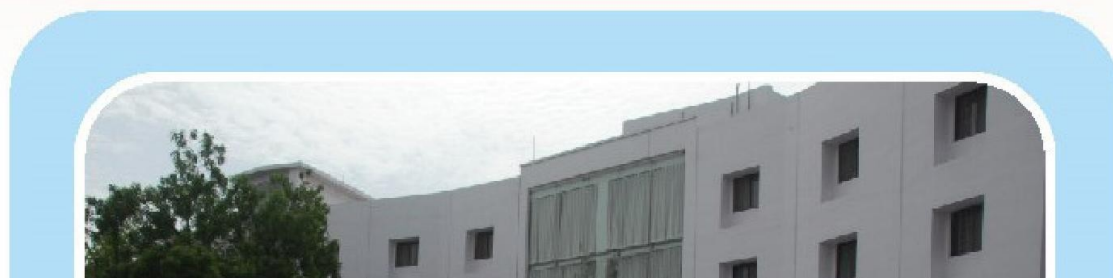
## A Legacy of Royal Heritage



**W**arangal, 144km from Hyderabad, is noted for its beautiful lakes, splendid temples and wildlife. Proud of its rich past Warangal or Orugallu as it was known in ancient times, presents a dramatic landscape steeped in history and a wealth of architecture. Situated 144 km from Hyderabad, Warangal takes its mystique from one of Telangana's most fascinating dynasties - the Kakatiyas. Among the magnificent historic Kakatiya Ekasila Gate, the richly carved, amazingly beautiful Thousand Pillar temple, the stunning 15th century Ramappa Temple and lake, with its rich and intricate sculpture, Bhadrakali Temple and many more architectural gems. Warangal Fort with its grand granite gateways, is an imposing sight. One of India's best bird-watching spots, the Pakhal Lake and the Pakhal Wildlife sanctuary are not to be missed. Telangana Tourism provides accommodation for a comfortable stay at Warangal.

## **Thousand Pillar Temple**

The famous “Thousand Pillar Temple” built in 1163 A.D. by Rudra Deva is situated between Hanamkonda and Warangal. An excellent example of Kakatiya architecture, built in the style of Chalukya temples - a star-shaped and triple-shrined, with perforated screens, exquisite icons and rock cut elephants. The temples are dedicated to Shiva,







**Vishnu and Surya. The added attraction is the splendid six-foot monolith Nandi carved out of granite with a smooth finish. The one thousand pillars themselves are richly carved. Telangana Tourism has set up a Sound & Light Show at the Thousand Pillar Temple and Warangal Fort**

## **Warangal Fort**

**Warangal Fort existed in its full glory since at least the 13th century AD. Historians and archaeologists generally accept that an earlier brick-walled structure was replaced with stone by Ganapatideva, before 1262 AD and that his successors - Rudramadevi and Prataparudra - added to its height and added gateways, square bastions and additional circular earthen walls prior to 1323. The construction of the fort was completed towards the end of the Kakatiya period. There were later modifications between the 15th and 17th centuries, comprising principally the addition of barbicans**



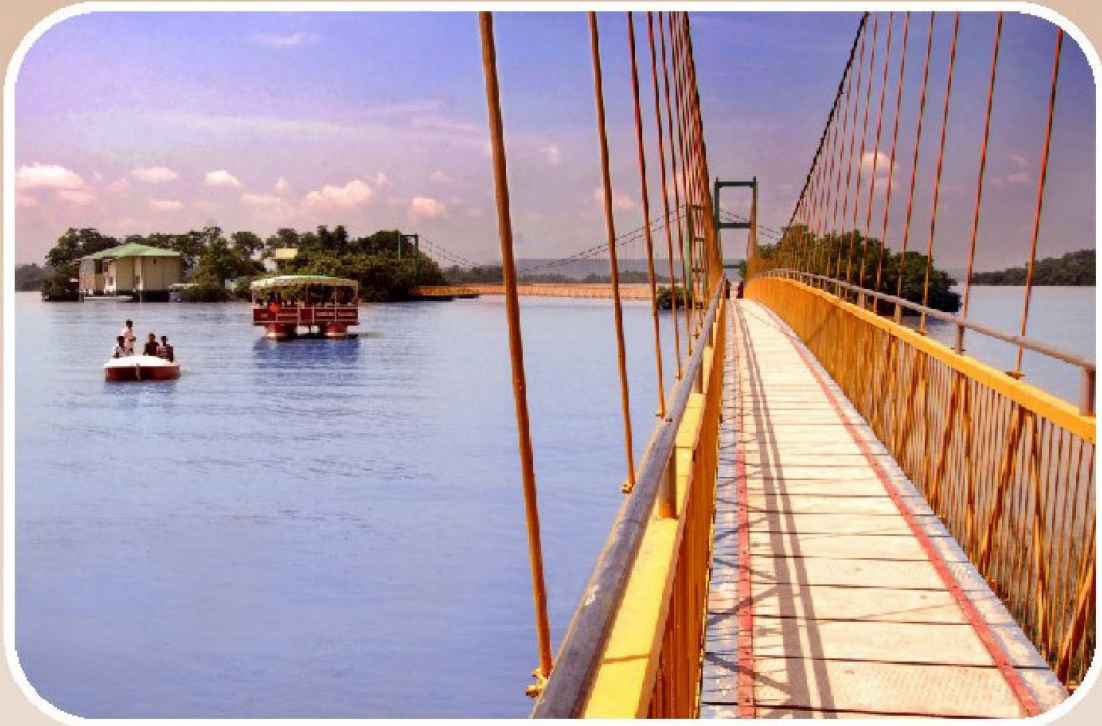
lighting system accompanied by excellent sound track. The show mesmerises the audience and takes backs to the history of Kakatiyas. 1st Show: 06-30 PM to 07-20 PM - Telugu, 2nd Show: 07-30 PM to 08-20 PM - English or Telugu as per the demand.

## Ramappa Temple

The Ramalingeswara Temple is popularly known as the Ramappa temple is situated in Palampet Village 70 km from Warangal. The temple was built in 1213 under the patronage of the Kakatiya King Ganapati Deva and is standing testimony to the beauty and brilliance of Kakatiya temple art. Made of sandstone and black basalt, this temple is built on a steep star shaped platform. Shiva is the main deity worshipped here. Showcasing an ancient culture with predominance of music and dance, this exuberance is brought out by various beautiful figurines that adorn the temple.







situated about 80 km from Warangal. Spread over an area of 10,000 acres, and as one approaches it the imagery of a seemingly endless lake fills the horizon. This huge natural lake was discovered by Kakatiya rulers who constructed a sluice gate to monitor the water-flow. The lake has about 13 small islands scattered amidst the forests. There is a suspension bridge that connects three islands of the lake and is a great attraction to tourists. One can have a relaxing picnic by the lake, away from the hustle and bustle of the city and enjoy moments alone with nature.

**TSTDC Facilities:** Telangana Tourism has established a Haritha Hotel at Laknavaram 7 A/C Rooms with attached Restaurant so that tourists may enjoy the incredible natural ambience, in comfort. Contact Ph: **88970 65307**

## Pakhal Lake

The sanctuary around the





used sheet metal art to adorn chariots and temples. But the art lost its significance with the collapse of the empire. However during the rule of Nizams of Hyderabad the brass work got back its lost glory. Today, Pembrothi Art is a much prized. The demand for carvings of deities and other Koranic carvings has declined but the artisans are busy making prize shields, commemoratives, gifts and wall plaques. The Pembrothi craftsmen keen on passing this craft tradition to their children and hope to find this art in a very widespread state in the coming future. Pembrothi is a must visit for all the lovers of art and crafts and specially for those who are keen to know a great deal about the sheet metal art.



## **Kolanupaka**

Located on the Warangal Hyderabad road (80 km from Hyderabad and 50 km from Warangal), Kolanupaka is an





images of the mother goddess is with pleasant looking eyes holding weapons in her eight hands. A statue of a Lion, on which the Goddess is said to ride sits grandly opposite the sanctum sanctorum. As per the writings on the temple wall this temple is believed to be constructed by the King Pulakesi II of Chalukya dynasty around 625 A.D The lake was built later by Ganapathi Deva, a minister in Kakatiya Dynasty. A road leading to the temple was also added during that period. The deity and temple are renowned to be power and the Goddess fulfils the wishes of her devotees who come to seek blessings from far and wide.





## Accessing

**Air:** Rajiv Gandhi International Airport in Hyderabad is the nearest major airport to Warangal which is at a distance of 144 km from the city.

**Rail:** Warangal is well connected to all major Indian cities. Warangal railway station and Kazipet junction are two major stations under south central railway Secunderabad division. Warangal railway station is located on Delhi-Vijayawada-Chennai route. Kazipet railway station is located on Delhi-Kazipet-Secunderabad route. Kazipet junction acts as gateway between north and south India. Junction has a high traffic of more than 100 trains passing through it every day.

**Road:** National Highway 202 under construction from Hyderabad to Bhopalapatnam in Chattisgarh passes through Warangal District. Warangal Bus station is located in Hanamkonda which connects Warangal to other cities of Telangana. Telangana State Road Transport Corporation (TSRTC) runs number of buses from Warangal to distant locations like Bengaluru, Tirupati, Shirdi, Visakhapatnam, Rajahmundry, Guntur. All areas in the city are well connected by local buses which operates in various routes.

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**Customised packages can be  
organised by TSTDC**

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# **Telangana State Tourism Development Corporation Ltd.**

## **CENTRAL RESERVATION OFFICES:**

### **Hyderabad**

**Basheerbagh Ph: 040-66745986, Cell: 9848540371**

### **Tank Bund Road**

**Ph: 040-65581555 Cell: 9848125720**

**Tourism Plaza - Ph: 040-23414334, Cell: 9848306435**

### **Shilparamam**

**Ph: 040-23119557 Cell: 9666578880**

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### **Secunderabad**

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**[www.telanganatourism.gov.in](http://www.telanganatourism.gov.in)**