

PUNGANUR

Punganur has piligrim centers surrounded and is considered as the junction between Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh. The famous <u>Boyakonda Gangamma</u> Temple is located near to this town. It is basically a market town, with a lot of motor ancillary mini-industries.

It has a very nice and cool climate when compared to other places of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka. However, it is still not developed when compared to other places of Chittoor District. The place was famous for its breed of cows. This breed of cows were very small in size, very tame and domesticated. The breed is almost extinct now.



Punganur Breed of Cows

Maharaja Palace

Koneru

It was a Zamindari before independence. There is a fort with a palace inside. At present both are in ruins. There is a school "BASAVA RAJA BOARD HIGH SCHOOL" which was established more than 100 years ago. One of the oldest high schools in the Chittoor district. The place was ruled by a benovelent zamindari family. Most of the employees in the palace were from (Mala and Madiga castes) Daliths, in those days when Untouchability was very prevalent. Children from the zamindari family were also studying the same school along with commoners and were given no special treatment. Sri Basava Raja the then Zamindar was elected as an MLA in 1959 or so on an independent ticket with maximum majority. It was very famous for its tamarind business, its have lot of tamarind trees round the city. In addition to Telugu people Tamil and Muslim people are also staying here in a large number. Punganur is also called as **Temple town** because of various old and fine temples in it.

HOW TO REACH : It is located at a distance of 20 kms from Madanapalle and 70 Kms from Chittoor & 120 Kms from Tirupati cities. One has to reach Madanapalle/Chittoor/Tirupati and take a Bus or Taxi to reach.

OTHER PLACES OF INTEREST : MADANPALLE : RISHI VALLY : HORSLEY HILLS : GURRAMKONDA: