



CS Santosh, Oriol Mena keep it steady for Hero MotoSports Team Rally in Stage 2

Shrugging off the unfortunate events of the Day 1, Hero MotoSports team Rally regained the momentum to make a solid show on the 2nd day of the Rally Dakar 2018. Stage 2 was the first full-length stage of the Dakar with a short 12km liaison section followed by a 267 km loop of Pisco. Competitors were challenged by the tricky canyons in the first 40 km of the stage made only tougher by the series of dunes that follows.



With a tough stage on the cards, both the Hero riders decided to be cautious and steady. Oriol Mena finished the the stage at 27th place and CS at a steady 29th. On 8th January, the 3rd stage of the rally will move to the next location of San Juan De Marcona, where the competitors can expect to encounter a Chott (dry/marshy saline lake), a number of canyons and 60% sand only to get worn down by 504 kms of riding.

C.S Santosh (Comp No: 49): *"The Dakar really kicked off today with a really difficult stage today. The sand was really soft and some of the dunes were really massive. I started really slow but then gained a good rhythm. I had fun today and really happy to make it to the end of day 2."*

Oriol Mena (Comp No: 61): *"It was a really hard day today but I covered the 1st half at really good speed and caught up with 3 riders in front of me. Before the refuelling station I had slight problem and lost a few minutes there but happy that I finished one day more and now have one day less to arrive at Cordoba."*

Joaquim Rodrigues (Comp No: 26): *"Thanks to all the friends and my team for the support and wishes. I am doing ok now and will be flying back home soon to complete my recovery. Sorry for the short Dakar this year and I will come back stronger. All the best to CS and Mena to make it to the finish line at Cordoba safely"*

Provisional Stage 2 General Classifications

1. Joan Bort Barreda	Honda Racing	Honda	02h56m44s
2. Adrian Van Beveren	YAMAHA OFFICIAL RALLY TEAM	Yamaha	+2m 54s
3. Matthias Walkner	redBull KTM Factory Racing	KTM	+4m 24s
27. Oriol Mena	Hero Motosports Team Rally	Hero MotoSports	+24m 55s
29. C.S. Santosh	Hero Motosports Team Rally	Hero MotoSports	+26m 07s

Provisional Stage 2 General Classifications

1. Joan Bort Barreda	Honda Racing	Honda	03h18m36s
2. Adrian Van Beveren	YAMAHA OFFICIAL RALLY TEAM	Yamaha	+2m 30s
3. Matthias Walkner	redBull KTM Factory Racing	KTM	+4m 50s
27. Oriol Mena	Hero Motosports Team Rally	Hero MotoSports	+28m 12s
28. C.S. Santosh	Hero Motosports Team Rally	Hero MotoSports	+28m 26s

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