

## **Sabarimala pilgrimage turns fatal for youth**

An 18-year-old youth was killed and 30 others were injured when a private bus carrying Ayyappa devotees dashed against a stationary lorry on the Chennai-kolkata National Highway No.16 at Jagarlamudivaripalem in Prakasam District in the wee hours of Thursday.

The driver of the bus failed to notice the lorry which was parked on the road margin for setting right the punctured tyre, J. Pangalur Sub-Inspector B. Jaganmohana Rao said.

Five of the injured were rushed to a hospital in Vijayawada, while the rest were treated in the Government Hospital at Addanki, the Sub-Inspector said.

The pilgrims from Harishchandrapuram in Srikakulam District were returning from Sabarimala to their native place when the mishap occurred. The deceased, Manikanta is the son of the bus driver, the SI added.