

Visakhapatnam/Region

IN BRIEF

Leopard spotted in Paderu fields, locals told to stay alert

A suspected leopard was spotted in the agriculture fields at Ladaputru village under Iradapalli panchayat in Paderu mandal of Alluri Sitharama Raju (ASR) district on Tuesday, causing concern among the local residents. According to the local residents, a farmer first noticed the animal while he was working in the fields and recorded a video of it. The farmer alerted the Forest Department officials, who later reached the area and inspected the fields and the surrounding locations. Forest officials also visited the nearby village and interacted with the residents. They advised the villagers to remain cautious while venturing into isolated fields especially during early morning and evening hours and asked them not to approach or attempt to chase the animal if it was spotted again. Forest personnel said efforts were underway to verify the animal's movement.

Text & Context and Science

Weekday features on *The Hindu* epaper (epaper@hindu.com) carry explainers, special articles and quizzes. In the latest issue (September 30, Wednesday), the following articles are available:

- What are the provisions of AFSPA? [newsh.hindu.com/whatsfpa](https://www.hindu.com/whatsfpa)
 - Amazon v. Perplexity: who's in control when an AI agent acts for you? [newsh.hindu.com/controlquestion](https://www.hindu.com/controlquestion)
- You can use your smartphone's built features to access these articles. If it's an Android phone, use Google Lens to read and tap the url to access an article. If it's an iPhone, use Live Text on camera to do the same.

Passenger safety in focus after private bus drivers found drunk on duty

Drivers found operating long-distance buses under the influence of alcohol in two incidents in the past three months; traffic police urge people to call 100 if they suspect a driver or crew member is intoxicated; checks to intensify

Harish Gilai
VISAKHAPATNAM

Passengers travelling by private buses, particularly on overnight journeys, have been advised to exercise caution and alert the police if they suspect a driver or other crew member is under the influence of alcohol.

The warning comes in the wake of two incidents in the past three months in which private bus drivers were found to be driving in an inebriated condition while carrying passengers on long-distance routes.

In the latest incident, Gajuwaka traffic police, during a random drunken-driving check about a week ago, intercepted a private sleeper bus bound for Chennai. The driver was found to have a blood alcohol concentration of more than 100 mg, against the



Passengers board a private travel bus near Satiyam Junction in Visakhapatnam on Tuesday. R. RAJU

permissible limit of 30 mg.

The co-driver was also found to be under the influence of alcohol.

The bus was carrying a full complement of passengers when it was intercepted. The police booked cases against the travel operator and initiated legal action against the drivers.

To avoid leaving the passengers stranded midway, the police arranged replacement drivers and allowed the bus to continue its journey after completing the necessary formalities.

This was not the first such incident involving a private travel bus. On June

27, another private bus carrying 26 passengers from Visakhapatnam to Vijayawada was intercepted during a check. Its driver was found to have a blood alcohol concentration of nearly 250 mg.

Several private travel operators run overnight and long-distance services from Visakhapatnam to destinations such as Vijayawada, Hyderabad, Bengaluru, Tirupati and Chennai. With a large number of passengers depending on these services, drunken driving by bus drivers poses a serious risk to passengers and other road users.

The incidents have also raised questions about the number of such cases that may go undetected, particularly as many buses operate during late-night hours.

The traffic police do not currently conduct exclusive, fixed-time drunken-driving checks targeting

private buses. Instead, multiple teams equipped with body-worn cameras conduct random checks at different locations within the limits of various police stations. The checks cover two-wheelers, cars, lorries and private buses.

Drivers found operating vehicles under the influence of alcohol are taken into custody and produced before the courts. Depending on the circumstances and court orders, offenders can face fines, imprisonment, community or social service and temporary suspension of their driving licences.

"Drunken-driving checks will definitely be intensified. If passengers notice anything suspicious or suspect that a driver is unsteady, they should immediately contact the police on 100," said Gajuwaka Traffic Inspector Sheikh Hussain.

Update OTPR details before applying, says APPSC

The Hindu Bureau
VIJAYAWADA

The Andhra Pradesh Public Service Commission (APPSC) has advised all applicants and candidates to update their One-Time Profile Registration (OTPR) details from September 30, 2026, in view of changes introduced to determine local status in the State.

Candidates can update their details through the website, psc.ap.gov.in.

The APPSC also announced the schedule for the Screening / Written Test, to be conducted through Computer Based Tests (CBT) for recruitment to Assistant Professor posts in various universities and Lecturer posts in the Rajiv Gandhi University of Knowledge Technologies (RGUT).

The examinations for the posts notified by 19-2026 will be held from December 1 to 5, 2026. The tests will be conducted across the erstwhile 13 districts of the State.

GITAM researcher tracks pollutants in the Arctic

Paul Nicodemus
VISAKHAPATNAM

Polar regions may appear remote on a map, but their isolation makes them important sites for climate research, says Manoj Panayarthatharayath, Assistant Professor, Department of Chemistry, GITAM School of Science. "To study climate change, we need research in these isolated areas," he says. What is released elsewhere can eventually reach the Arctic. "If you dispose of some chemical here, it can reach the Arctic because all the oceans are interconnected," he says.

Mr. Manoj recently completed a research assignment at Ny-Alesund in Svalbard, Norway, as part of the Indian Arctic Expedition 2026-27.

His days in the Arctic were shaped by water and wind. He collected fjord water and glacier meltwater from a boat, while rough weather often forced the team to suspend sampling. Temperatures remained between 2°C and 4°C.

The glacier-fed rivers



Manoj P. Rayaroth holds a water sample near a glacier at Ny-Alesund during the Indian Arctic Expedition 2026-27.

He was constantly changing. "The melting changes every day, and if you check every six hours, the weather changes," he says.

He stayed at Himadri, India's research station. It rained for two or three days during his stay. "They were saying that there was not this much rain before," he recalls.

His journey to the Arctic began years ago. As a B.Sc. student, he was among 35 students taken to the National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research (NCPOR) in Goa, where scientists who had returned from the Arctic spoke about their work. "That excitement was in our minds at that time," he says.

In 2011, as a project fellow at Mahatma Gandhi

University, Kerala, he worked on the removal of endosulfan from environmental samples and visited affected areas in Kasargod, near his native Kanur.

After completing his Ph.D. in 2017, he pursued postdoctoral research in South Korea, Germany, Poland, France and the United States before joining GITAM in 2024.

His opportunity to join the Arctic expedition came through a call for research proposals on the NCPOR website. His proposal, with N.V.S. Venugopal, Professor, GITAM School of Science, as Co-Principal Investigator, was defended before a panel and subsequently accepted, with one berth allotted to the team.

The project seeks to study how organic pollutants transform in Arctic ice and meltwater and how they eventually reach the sea. The samples are expected to reach Visakhapatnam in a month or two, the research team has not yet arrived at any findings, Mr. Manoj, however, says his next objective is to move beyond monitoring towards mitigation.

TOURISM CORPORATION OF GUJARAT LIMITED (TCGL)
(A Government of Gujarat undertaking)
Udyog Bhavan, Block No. 16, 4th Floor,
Sector - 11, Gandhinagar - 382 011
Website: <https://www.gujarattourism.com>

TENDER NOTICE
Bids are invited from reputed and experienced agencies for providing services towards "Operation & Maintenance of National Salt Satyagrah Memorial (NSM), Saffee Villa and Tourist Facilitation Centre at Dandi, Gujarat".
The project requirements, technical specifications, eligibility criteria, selection process, etc. are included in the Tender document, which shall be available for download from the website: <https://tender.nprocure.com/> and <https://www.gujarattourism.com> from 30/09/2026 onwards. The last date for submission of the Technical and Financial Bid (online only) is 23/10/2026 up to 6:00 pm, and Technical Bid (physical only) is 26/10/2026 up to 3:00 pm.
Managing Director

Municipal Corporation, Bharatpur
New Metro City, Ghat Road, Bharatpur
Telephone: +91-5644-22718 email: aharipd@bharatpur.gov.in, info@bharatpur.gov.in
No. BMC/Technical/Drainage/2026/2613638 Date: 25.09.2026

NOTICE INVITING BIDS
No. N-19/2026-26
Online Bids are invited from 25.09.2026 12:00 PM to 26.09.2026 6:00 PM and Pre-Bid Meeting 08.09.2026 11:00 AM Technical Bid Opening date 22.10.2026 11:00 AM
PM Registration and List of RNFCD (Rajasthan Nagarik Food Control Board) from Kurum road to Jagdishrao Gate, Bharatpur (Raj.) & Co., Estimated cost of Rs. 1008.34 lacs. The last date for applying bid and making Payment RTGS/NEFT favour Commissioner Nagar Nigam Bharatpur upto 5:00 PM of 22/10/2026. Details may be seen in the Bidding Document at our office and the State P.U. Procurement Portal website <https://www.apscsrajasthan.gov.in> and www.apscsrajasthan.gov.in (UDIN No. DL02672706-082993)
To participate in the bid, bidder has to be:
1. Tender Cost and Processing Fees deposited through RTGS/NEFT in the account of Commissioner Municipal Corporation Bharatpur having account number 665601701018 with ICICI Bank, Metro City, Ghat Road, Bharatpur (Raj.) & Co., payable to Bharatpur, Rajasthan (IFSC Code: ICIC0008656)
2. Registered on e-procurement Portal of Government of Rajasthan www.apscsrajasthan.gov.in for the e-bid submission
Commissioner
Municipal Corporation Bharatpur
No. BMC/2026/1948

BEFORE THE HONOURABLE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL
B-1, Sakinaka, Dabagardens, Visakhapatnam-530020
O.A. No. 775/2026

Summons under sub-section (4) of section 19 of the Act, read with sub-rule (2A) of rule 5 of the Debt Recovery Tribunal (Procedure) Rules, 1993.
Canara Bank
Vs.
Mrs. Sree Saravana Industries and others

To
2. Mrs. Kanaka Sandhya, D/o K. Apparao, Occ: Business, R/o H No 32-9-5-1, Muradshah Street, Kobbari Talu, Bowdara Road, Visakhapatnam-530011
3. Mrs. Kanugula Virekshanthi, W/o China Rao, Occ: Business, R/o H No 12-4-36, Kuntum Street, Sriharikam-530011
4. Mr. Teku Satyanarayana, S/o Sanyasi Rao, Occ: Not Known, R/o H No 13-9-20, Yerramatti Vairi Street, Mandapeta-533306
SUMMONS BY PAPER PUBLICATION IN SHOWING CAUSE AS TO WHY THE RELIEFS PRAYED FOR SHOULD NOT BE GRANTED
WHEREAS, O.A.775/2026 to be listed before Hon'ble Presiding Officer/Registrar on 23-10-2026.
WHEREAS this Hon'ble Tribunal is pleased to issue summons/notice on the said Application (under Section 19(4) of the Act, (OA) filed against you for recovery of debts of Rs.35,13,595.000/- (application along with copies of documents etc., annexed).
In accordance with sub-section (4) of section 19 of the Act, you the defendants are directed as under:-
(i) To show cause within 30 days of the service of summons as to why relief prayed for should not be granted.
(ii) You are restrained from dealing with or disposing of secured assets or other assets and properties disclosed under serial number 3A of the original application.
(iii) You shall not transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise, except in ordinary course of business any of the assets over which security interest is created and/or other assets and properties specified or disclosed under serial number 3A of the original application without the prior approval of the Tribunal.
(iv) You shall be liable to account for the sale proceeds realized by sale of secured assets or other properties in the ordinary course of business and deposit such sale proceeds in the account maintained with the bank or financial institution holding security interest over such assets.
(v) You are also directed to file the written statement with a copy thereof furnished to the applicant and to appear before Presiding Officer/Registrar on 23-10-2026 at 10:30 A.M. failing the application shall be heard and decided in your absence.
Given under my hand and the seal of this Tribunal on the 29th Day of September, 2026
Sd/- Registrar, Debts Recovery Tribunal Visakhapatnam

Karnataka Soaps & Detergents Limited
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
Sandal City, PB No. 5531, Bengaluru - Pune Highway, Bengaluru - 560055. Ph: 080-22164879, 22164886
Website: www.mysocanddetergents.com E-mail: kadl.dgms@gmail.com Date: 29.09.2026

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
Tenders are invited by KSDSL in two cover system through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal (Website: <https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/>) with respect to supply of following Goods/Services/Works.
Sl. No. Tender Number Tender Name Tender Quantity/ Tender Category Published date Last date of submission
1 KSDSL/2026-27/IND1310 Procurement of Sandalwood Oil 9200 Kgs 28.09.2026 29.10.2026
For any queries contact the undersigned
Sd/- Asst. Gen. Manager (Materials)

Directorate of Civil Aviation, Uttar Pradesh, Lucknow
E-mail: dgca.up@nic.in
E-Tender No-01/2026-27/Helicopter

Interested organizations may download the tender document from the Uttar Pradesh e-tender portal (<http://e-tender.upnic.in>) and submit their bids along with the prescribed fees (in accordance with e-tendering rules) by 11:00 AM on 12-10-2026. The e-tenders will be opened after the said date in the presence of the undersigned or officials authorized. The undersigned reserves the full right to cancel the tender without assigning any reason.
RO no: 257259
RO date: 29-09-26
Website: www.up.gov.in (Director)

S. No	Details of work	Date of uploading E-Tender	Date of Opening E-Tender
1	Selection of valuer for providing Market Realizable Value for sale of Agusta A109S VT-UPL Helicopter along with its Spares, Rotables etc.	28-09-2026	12-10-2026

Government of Karnataka
DEPARTMENT OF MINES & GEOLOGY
Office of the Director, No. 49, Khanija Bhavan, South Block,
Race Course Road, Bengaluru-560 001 Phone No.22384134/35
No. DMG-17012/26/2025/2026-27 Dated: 29.09.2026

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
The Department of Mines and Geology is calling tender for auction of seized Iron Ore stocks in cancelled stockyards under notification through MSTC.

Eligibility conditions, terms and conditions, date and time for participating in the electronic auction are provided in the Tender Document. Separate Lot wise auction notifications are published in MSTC portal. Tender Documents, notifications, updates and other details for the e-auction process of respective lots shall be available in electronic form only at the website of MSTC Ltd. <https://www.mstccommerce.com/auction/home/auctionsearch/search.jsp>

The auction of old stock for each lot is "AS IS WHERE IS AND NO COMPLAINT BASIS". The interested bidders shall ascertain the quantity and quality of the Iron/Manganese ore before participation. The Department is not responsible for any dispute arising after confirmation of the bid. Interested bidders may visit the MSTC Ltd website.

Sd/- Director,
Department of Mines & Geology
DIPR/CP/2990/NR/2026-27

LIC HFL LIC HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED
LIC HOUSING FINANCE LTD. LIC ANEX Building, Thikkanna Road, Visakhapatnam-530004. Ph: 0891-2746480
E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE
Sale of immovable Assets Charged under Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.

WHEREAS the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of LIC Housing Finance Ltd (LICHFL) under Securitisation & Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 & in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 had issued Demand Notice to the following Borrowers/Mortgagors calling upon them to repay the outstanding due amount mentioned in the said notices and the Borrowers/Mortgagors having failed to repay the said due amount, the undersigned has taken SYMBOLIC POSSESSION of the following property in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules.

1) Borrower: Mr. Gadela Rakesh Chalapathi Rao & Co. Borrower: Smt. Gadela Annapurna & Gajuwaka
Loan A/c No.: 711700002454 & 711700012584 & 711700010515, Area Office: Visakhapatnam & Gajuwaka
ENTIRE PROPERTY SCHEDULE PROPERTY: All that piece and parcel of the site measuring 163.55 sq yds or 136.749 sq sqs together with RCC Slab Residential House situated At Door No.14-2801 (Near Door No.4-45 as per sale deed) and the land measuring 163.55 sq yds or 136.749 sq sqs (near panchayat, Anakapalli Mandal, Anakapalli S.R.O. limits, Visakhapatnam district and vide regd. Sale deed no.4465/2012 Dated 05.09.2012 and bounded by: East: 12 feet wide road; West: 8 feet wide common passage and property of Boddada ramana babu & others, North: The vacant land of Boddada ramana babu & others, South: Compound wall of Property belongs to Sree Satyam.

Bank details (EMD to be transferred to): Account Number: LHFV7K711700002461
IFSC Code: HDFC0004011, Bank: HDFC Bank, Seethamadhara, VSP
Beneficiary Name: LIC HOUSING FINANCE LTD

Reserve Price: Rs. 4,50,000/- EMD Rs. 5,00,000/- Bid Increment: Rs. 10,000/-

2) Borrower: Mr. Kommanamanchi Kameswara Sharma Area Office: Gajuwaka
Loan A/c No.: 711700002454
ENTIRE PROPERTY SCHEDULE PROPERTY: All that piece and parcel of the site measuring 42 sq yds or 35.11 sq sqs being an undivided and unspecified share out of the total extent of 4102.56 sq yds or 3402.28 sq sqs along with completed flat, bearing flat no.808 with a plot area of 1056 sq ft (inclusive of common areas and balconies) in the fourth floor of "GEETANAJALI ELITE" covered by survey no.718/17, 18 and 729/5.6 of Anakapalli, within the limits of Anakapalli municipality within the registration sub district of Anakapalli sub division of Anakapalli District and Bounded by: East: Zeroyathy Wet land of Konathala Varaha Narasinga Rao & Srinivasulu Others, West: Road leading to anakapalle to pudumadaka and zeroyathy wet land of P. Srinivasa Rao, B. Noorakaram and others, North: Zeroyathy wet land of Konathala Mahalakshmi Narasimha and others, South: Zeroyathy wet land of Konathala Musli Naidu, Sheemarswami Noorakaram and others.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY (B): Two bed room flat no.508 measuring 1095 sq ft, in fourth floor of the RCC roofed 8th+4 Floors building "GEETANAJALI ELITE" including 60 sq ft. of car parking in the fourth floor, Flat No.508 in the Fourth Floor, The Fourth Floor, East: Corridor & Flat No.502, West: Corridor & Flat No.515, North: Duct, South: Duct.

Bank details (EMD to be transferred to): Account Number: LHFV7K711700002454
IFSC Code: HDFC0004011, Bank: HDFC Bank, Seethamadhara, VSP
Beneficiary Name: LIC HOUSING FINANCE LTD

Reserve Price: Rs. 25,70,000/- EMD Rs. 2,57,000/- Bid Increment: Rs. 10,000/-

Website of e-Auction: <https://bankauctions.com>

Date & time of inspection of Property: 28-10-2026 from 11.00 AM to 4.00 PM
Last date of submission of online Tender/Bid: 02-11-2026 before 4.00 PM (online mode only)

E-Auction Date and Time: 03-11-2026 from 11.00 AM to 1.00 PM

Further to this PUBLIC NOTICE for E-Auction Sale of the above said Assets/property (in terms and conditions of the SARFESI) Act, 2002 and rules thereunder LIC HFL invites OFERS either in Online mode to purchase the said assets/properties on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" and "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS".
TERMS & CONDITIONS OF THE AUCTION SALE ARE AS FOLLOWS
1) E-Auction is being held on "As is where is Basis", "As is what is Basis", "Whatever there is Basis" And "Without Any Reserve Basis" and will be conducted "Online". The Auction will be conducted through LIC Housing Finance Ltd., approved E-auction service provider "M/s. C1 India Pvt Ltd".
2) The intending bidders should register their names at portal <https://www.bankauctions.com> and get their user-id and password free of cost. Prospective bidders may avail online training on E-auction from the service provider M/s. C1 India Pvt. Ltd, Plot No. 44, Sector 44, Gurugram-122003, Haryana, India. Helpline support team: 91-71919811242526, Mr. Dharni Krishna, Contact No.95481 82222, E-mail: info@licindia.com, licindia@licindia.com.
3) Bidding increment fixed at Rs.10,000/- increment per Bid.
4) The terms and conditions of the above said properties can be arranged in prior application on the dates mentioned above. For inspection of property contact at Mobile: 94907 38398 & 93922 22077.

All other terms & conditions of the auction are mentioned as Annexure 2 in the Official Website - <https://online.bankauctions.com/auction>

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale and full description of the property please refer to the website of approved e-auction service provider "M/s. C1 India Pvt Ltd" at <https://www.bankauctions.com>

Date: 29/09/2026, Place: Visakhapatnam Sd/- Authorised Officer, LIC Housing Finance Ltd