

TIGER TAKES SHELTER IN BANANA PLANTATION

- Forest officials inform that the big cat entered the area around midnight on Saturday, triggering fear among residents of nearby habitations
- Officers deployed trap cameras and drone surveillance and installed cages to capture the tiger



The tiger's pugmarks near banana plantation at Thorredu of Rajamahendravaram Rural mandal

PANIC gripped Thorredu and the surrounding villages in East Godavari district after a tiger entered the region via Eluru, reportedly taking shelter in a banana plantation at Thorredu village. Forest officials said the big cat entered the area around midnight on Saturday, triggering fear among residents of nearby habitations.

According to officials, the tiger attacked a cattle shed located beside the main road, killing two cows and a four-month-old calf. The carcasses were dragged into

a nearby banana plantation, where the animal is believed to be resting. The incident came to light on Sunday morning, following which forest department officials rushed to the spot.

District Forest Officer V Prabhakara Rao, Range Officer N David and other officials inspected the area.

Even as officials and local leaders were present, reports emerged that the tiger fled deeper into the plantation, intensifying anxiety among villagers. Forest officials said the tiger is likely to remain inside the plantation for at least 48 hours, as it had fed sufficiently. They cautioned locals against cre-

ating disturbances, warning that the animal could turn aggressive if provoked.

To monitor its movement, the forest department deployed trap cameras and drone surveillance and installed cages to capture the tiger. A joint rapid response team comprising forest, police and revenue officials has been stationed in the area.

Speaking to 'The Hans India', DFO Prabhakara Rao said there were inputs suggesting that two male tigers had migrated from Chhattisgarh through Maharashtra forests. One is reportedly located in Vikarabad district of Telangana, while the other could be the animal sighted in East Godavari. He clarified that the decision was taken considering the possible movement of the tiger in these areas.

However, Regional Intermediate Education Officer I Sarada stated that Intermediate practical examinations on Monday were conducted as per schedule and that the holiday would not apply to these exams.

Officials advised parents to ensure children do not venture outdoors unnecessarily and urged residents to keep lights on near cattle sheds at night and avoid moving alone in vulnerable areas.

Budget boosts hopes of sandalwood farmers

HANS NEWS SERVICE
VIJAYAWADA

ALL India Sandalwood (Srigandham) Growers Federation national general secretary Thummala Murali Krishna has welcomed the announcement made by Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in the Union Budget, assuring full support from the Central government for marketing sandalwood cultivated by farmers across the country.

Addressing a press conference at the Federation's office on Mahatma Gandhi Road in Vijayawada on Monday, Murali Krishna expressed happiness over the Centre's commitment to support sandalwood farmers, particularly in marketing their produce. He stated that keeping in view the challenges faced by sandalwood cultivators, the Union government had taken a positive step by addressing marketing issues



All India Sandalwood Growers Federation national general secretary Thummala Murali Krishna addressing the media in Vijayawada on Monday

in the Budget, as per the directions of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Recalling that Indian sandalwood once enjoyed huge global demand, Murali Krishna said the sector had fallen behind in recent years. He said the assurance given by the Centre to restore the glory of Indian

sandalwood and ensure justice to cultivators had boosted the confidence and morale of farmers.

Federation president K Amar Narayana, Vice-president Garapati Poornachandra Rao, member Kotapati Narasimha Rao, and others were present.

Amaravati Centralised Hackathon organised

HANS NEWS SERVICE
GUNTUR

AMARAVATI Centralised Hackathon-2026 was held grandly at Chalapathi Institute of Technology, Mothadaka on Monday organised by CSE-AI with FEBE. Leaders highlighted AI's industry relevance. The 24-hour event featured coding, innova-



Amaravati Centralised Hackathon-2026 held at Chalapathi Institute of Technology, Mothadaka on Monday. The college chairman Dr YV Anjaneyulu is also seen

tion challenges, DJ Night, Robo Race, and Tech Treasure Hunt, with enthusiastic multi-college participation, involving students from various colleges.

Chairman of the engineering college Dr YV Anjaneyulu, FEBE director Monica RK, founder Mahan, college principal Kolla Naga Srinivas were present.

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