

The end of a tiger, 'Most unfortunate' - says WWF official



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Dibya J Borthakur 24 March 2009 19000 views

A full grown Royal Bengal tiger that had strayed into human habitation in Jakhalabandha area in Nagaon district four days back was shot dead on monday in a joint operation launched by Forest department and Police. The tiger created panic in the area for several days and attacked some over enthusiastic onlookers and killed a person named Uttam Saikia (45) of Sakhmutha village under Koliabor subdivision. On commenting the whole episode directed by State Forest department and Police, a WWF official said to Assam Times, "It was a really tragic moment for all nature and animal lovers. He said that there was little coordination between the participants who engaged in this task and they neither tried to tranquilize nor capture the tiger nor prevent villagers from making undue intervention. "At a time when tiger conservation has become a major global issue, it is tragic that the tiger was killed. He could have been captured as he was not a man-eater", the official further said. Dr Prashanta Bodo, the vet from Wildlife Trust of India, working with the Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation Centre, Kaziranga, also received a bullet injury on his arm in the melee that prevailed after the tiger attack. According to the Forest officials, the tiger had strayed out from either Kaziranga or the Karbi Anglong hills.

Dibya J Borthakur

Roha, Nagaon

BY DIBYA J BORTHAKUR

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