

## **INTERIM REPORT: 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY TIGER (DATE: March 26, 2006)**

### **K. Ullas Karanth, WCS-India and Niren Jain, Kudremukh Wildlife Foundation**

The implementation of the project we had submitted for consolidating tiger habitats in Kudremukh national park has been delayed for several reasons. As a fall out of the advocacy campaign by Wildlife First that led to the closure of mining operations at Kudremukh, several moves to harass and intimidate persons associated with Wildlife First using official agencies like the forest department. Secondly, as a temporary consequence, mine workers who are losing their jobs are being instigated to be hostile to Wildlife First conservationists. These unexpected events have hindered our principal person Niren Jain's movements in the area and slowed down the task of approaching settlers in the park who want to move out and negotiating with them for land acquisitions.

Secondly, there has been delay on the part of government in processing the paper work to establish an official process to notify the areas that are acquired by us through direct payment of compensation to land owners as a part of the park. Therefore, to secure these lands from other potential encroachers after the original owners move out, we have evolved a new strategy of protecting these lands using our own nominees and resources.

In spite of these delays and handicaps, the first parcel of land, which is a privately owned enclave within Kudremukh National Park, has been acquired. The attached images show the land parcel and surrounding areas.

Out of the total extent 20 acres of existing legal land holding within the Bhagawathi enclosure that are owned by 3 different families (none of whom live there), an area of 5.23 acres of agricultural land (paddy fields) has been purchased from the seller Mr. Nemirajaiah. A sale deed was executed by the seller in favour of our nominee Mr. S. Sathyanarayana on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2006 at the sub-registrar of Mudigere, Chikmagalur District.

A total amount Rs.4,75,500/- (US\$ 10,600) was paid to the seller through a Demand Draft No. 881294 dated 24-2-2006 drawn at Karnataka Bank Ltd., Balmatta Branch,

Mangalore. Stamp duty of Rs.43,080/- (US\$ 1,000) was paid to the Sub-Registrar of Mudigere, Chikmagalur District via Demand Draft No.881293 dated 24-2-2006 drawn at Karnataka Bank Ltd., Balmatta Branch, Mangalore. Registration Fees of Rs.5,065/- (US\$ 115) was paid in cash to the Sub-Registrar of Mudigere. Further, General Power of Attorney was executed by Mr. Sathyanarayana in favour of Mr.Niren Jain, Coordinator of the Kudremukh Wildlife Foundation, on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2006 empowering the latter to manage the land and take up any conservation activity.

Details of expenses:

Total Amount Received: **Rs.7,61,277 (US \$ 17,300)** (conversion rate @ US\$=Rs.44)

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>Expenses</i>	<i>Amount in Rs.</i>	<i>Amount in US Dollars</i>
1	Towards Purchase of Land	4,75,500	10,806
2	Towards Stamp Duty and Registration Fees	48,145	1,094
3	Provision for possible Income tax payment	1,90,112	4,320
4	Expenses towards Legal fees, drafting of procurement of sale documents and co-ordination of land registration	47,500	1,080
	<b>TOTAL AMOUNT</b>	<b>761,277</b>	<b>17,300</b>

**Address of the seller:**

Mr.Nemirajaiah, s/o Late Mr. Nagaraja Ajila, Samse, Kalasa Hobli, Mudigere Taluk, Chikmagalur District, Karnataka.

**Address of Buyer:**

Mr.Sathyanarayana S., s/o S.Gopala Bhat, Montepadavu Post, via Kurnad, Bantwal Taluk, Dakshina Kannada District – 574153.

**Address of Power of Attorney Holder:**

Mr.Niren Jain, Kudremukh Wildlife Foundation, Mangalore, Karnataka

Figure 1: Foreground shows the land parcel that was acquired recently. The homesteads in the background do not exist now because they were similarly acquired under another WCS supported project in 2003 and are a part of the national park now.



Figure 2: The entire private enclosure is the low-lying area at center of the panoramic view. The surrounding areas are forests and grasslands of the national park.

