

INVASIVE WEEDS THREATENING TIGER HABITATS IN ADILABAD

Relevant for: Environment | Topic: Biodiversity, Ecology, and Wildlife Related Issues

A recent camera trap picture of a tiger ambling through invasive weeds in Kadem forest. special arrangement

It was way back in 1992 at the Rio de Janeiro Convention on Biodiversity that biological invasion of alien species of plants was recognised as the second worst threat to the environment after habitat destruction. But nothing much was done subsequently to contain the spread of invasive weed species in environmentally-sensitive areas like the former composite Adilabad district, where plants are threatening to obliterate pastures from precious habitats.

And like never before, Adilabad is now in need of grasslands for herbivores to thrive and in turn support the swelling influx of tigers from forests across the border in Maharashtra. "Action should be taken to stem the propagation of invasive weeds and remove those that have already propagated as they do not allow the grasses palatable to wild herbivores to grow," said a forest official.

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