

Animal lovers seek justice for Avni

STAFF REPORTER
COIMBATORE

Animal lovers from Coimbatore came together for a silent march here on Sunday to protest against the killing of tigress Avni ('T1') at Borati forest in Maharashtra on the night of November 2.

The march commenced at Women's Polytechnic College junction and culminated at VOC Park premises.

A release issued by the organisers of the protest said that the tigress was killed in cold blood with mere circumstantial evidences. She was held responsible for the deaths of humans without proving her role through DNA or scat analysis, they said.

Apart from these, the guidelines laid down by the Supreme Court of India for the capture of the tigress, first to secure her two cubs and at-



Members of Humane Animal Society and nature lovers took out a silent march in Coimbatore on Sunday. ■ M. PERIASAMY

tempt to tranquilize her, were not followed, said the release.

Also, a notorious trophy hunter was hired for killing the tigress which is against the recommendations of the National Tiger Conservation Authority of India.

With the tigress killed, its cubs that are incapable of

feeding for themselves have been orphaned. Avni's mate named 'T2' is also in danger of being eliminated, the release said.

The organisers wanted those involved in the killing of the tigress to be tried before the court and stricter wildlife laws be made and adhered to.