

ಪತ್ರಿಕಾ ತುಣುಕುಗಳು
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President

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New museum celebrates Gen Thimayya's legacy

G Rajendra | TNN
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Madikeri: The memorial museum celebrating the life of Kodandera Subayya Thimayya, who was the Chief of Army Staff from 1957 to 1961, was dedicated to the nation on Saturday by President Ram Nath Kovind. It houses a variety of antique weaponry and war relics.

'Sunny Side', the erstwhile ancestral residence of General Thimayya, has been renovated and converted into a museum that also showcases Kodagu district's immense contribution to the defence sector.

PREZ IN KODAGU

Chief of Defence Staff Gen Bipin Rawat, ministers and officers from the armed forces were present. "Gen Thimayya's museum preserves special aspects of the extraordinary character and contribution of one of the finest soldiers in the Army's history. It also highlights sterling features of our brave force. Kodagu has the honour of having enriched our armed forces with stalwarts like Field Marshal Cariappa and Gen Thimayya. I am sure the museum will inspire our youth to carry forward the legacy," the President wrote in the visitors' book.

Many recalled Gen. Thimayya's role in the crucial years leading up to the conflict with China in 1962. "He



TRIBUTE TO HERO: President Ram Nath Kovind inaugurated the General Thimayya Memorial Museum in Madikeri on Saturday

The museum's key attractions include battle tank 'Himmat' and a decommissioned MiG-21 fighter jet that had played a vital role in the 1971 India-Pakistan war

inspired soldiers to carry parts of Army tanks up to a height of 12,000ft to the snow-clad mountains of Zojila Pass when Pakistan planned to annex Kashmir by force in 1947-48. It was a daring move and the Pakistan army retracted after seeing the tanks at such a height," some noted.

The museum's key attractions include battle tank 'Himmat' that was transported by road from Kirkee War Cemetery at Khadki near Pune and a decommissioned MiG-21 fighter jet that had played a vital role in the 1971 India-Pakistan war. A collection of artworks, books and articles is also on display. There's a mural that shows Field Marshal Claude John

Eyre Auchinleck, who was a British Army Commander during the Second World War, coming down to 'Sunny Side' to meet the General.

The museum acknowledges the contribution of Gen. Thimayya's wife Nina, who was bestowed with 'Kaiser-e-Hind' award for social service. The museum earlier housed the office of the regional transport officer that has now been shifted after a decade-long campaign. There was a delay in the work due to fund shortage and lack of a concrete plan, though the government had proposed it in 2006. Earlier in the day, the President and family visited Talacauvery, the birthplace of river Cauvery.