## THEMOMHINDU

## I told President to formulate programmes to protect nature, says Thimmakka

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Former students of MVM High School of Keelara honouring environmentalist Thimmakka in Mandya on Sunday.

## Environmentalist plants sapling on the premises of City Club in Mandya

What did centenarian environmentalist 'Saalumarada' Thimmakka say while blessing President Ram Nath Govind at the Durbar Hall of Rashtrapati Bhavan on March 16 while receiving the Padma Shri? Ms. Thimmakka, known for planting and parenting 384 saplings along a 5-km stretch from Kudur to Hulikal Main Road along with her late-husband Bikkala Chikkaiah, was awarded the Padma Shri for her distinguished service to the field of environment. While receiving the award, she affectionately touched the forehead of the President and spoke to him. Most of the guests and staff at Durbar Hall were surprised when the centenarian violated strict protocol at the Rashtrapati Bhavan in this manner, but her blessings brought smiles to the faces of Mr. Kovind, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and other dignitaries in the hall. "I blessed the Rashtrapati and asked him to formulate programmes to protect nature," she said on Sunday. She attended a get-together of old students of MVM High School of Keelara, organised at the City Club here, and said that she got an opportunity to bless the President while receiving the award. Ms. Thimmakka said she told the President to "fulfil the needs of the people and protect nature for the development of the country and for people to live a peaceful life". The centenarian planted a sapling on the club's premises. K.T. Hanumanthu, Krishika Lions' Club guardian, students and club members honoured her and took selfies with her on theoccasion.

Source:- <a href="https://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-national/tp-karnataka/i-told-president-to-formulate-programmes-to-protect-nature-says-thimmakka/article27043744.ece">https://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-national/tp-karnataka/i-told-president-to-formulate-programmes-to-protect-nature-says-thimmakka/article27043744.ece</a>