

Big cats get a raw deal in MP

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The all-round efforts for conserving big cats seems to be proving worthless in the State after three felines lost their lives in separate incidents last week. Five persons were arrested in connection with the death of leopard at Pachmarhi but perpetrators are still at large in the death of the tigress at Bandhavgarh and death of a leopard in Kanha.

Meanwhile, Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forest Dharmendra Shukla reached Bandhavgarh and started the probe into the death of the tigress on Tuesday. He held a meeting of park administration and sought details of the incident, in which the big cat was killed last week. Shukla reached the park in the morning and started the inquiry into the tigress death case.

Meanwhile, there is still no headway in the death of a leopard, whose body was found in the buffer zone of the Kanha National Park on May 22. The leopard was found dead in a deep nullah in Shijoura area with three claws missing.



Assistant Director Sijhaura SP Jain on the issue said that the post mortem report is yet to be received and added that no arrest had been made in the case till date. However, sources claimed that the autopsy had revealed that the big cat died due to drowning and its claws were chopped off afterwards. Sources claimed that locals might have chopped off the claws for nails.

The persons arrested in the death of a female leopard, whose body was recovered at Apsara Vihar gate of Pachmari's Satpura National Park were produced in court.

The female leopard, about one-year-old was found dead by the park employees, who immediately informed senior officials about the matter.