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# Dead tigress hit by tourist jeep?

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**Bhopal:** A tigress, which died in Bandhavgarh tiger reserve four days ago was possibly hit by a tourist jeep, officials said here on Saturday after autopsy showed that she succumbed to internal injuries.

The feline did not die due a territorial fight as was assumed earlier, National Tiger

Conservation Authority (NTCA) representative A B Shrivastava said.

"It died of a liver rupture following which blood rushed to her abdomen after being hit by some blunt object," he said. The tigress, which has three cubs, died on Wednesday in the Tala range of the reserve.

"We are of the view that a tourist vehicle had hit the tigress after which she died," Badhavgarh tiger reserve field director C K Patil said, adding the animal was 10 years old. "We are investigating the case."

Patil added that around eight tourist vehicles had entered Tala range on May 19. PFI