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## Panna confirms presence of fourth tiger cub

Vivek Trivedi ■ Bhopal

At a time when the Bandhavgarh tigress death case is deeply entangled in controversy, the news of a fourth cub being spotted inside Panna National Park has given animal lovers many reasons to smile. Earlier the park administration had revealed that that Bandhavgarh tigress translocated to Panna, had given birth to three cubs, which were spotted on May 7.

The success of the tiger revival plan at Panna Tiger Reserve, the country's most infamous tiger reserve has been strengthened further with the presence of the fifth member of the Bandhavgarh tigress family being confirmed by the park administration. "The presence of the fourth cub has been confirmed twice on May 20 and 24," said park field director RS Murthy, while talking to

*The Pioneer* on Thursday.

He clarified that on earlier occasions, the park staff could not spot the fourth cub and only three cubs were visible at a time. He added that in early months of life, the cubs mostly of black and gray colour, are hidden in the bushes or grass by the tigress. "Now the tigress family has eventually come in the open and the presence of fourth cub has been confirmed," stated Murthy.

He however added that still the park staff was monitoring the tigress family round the clock. Murthy however, declined the possibility of moving another male to the park in the near future, owing to the blistering heat at present. Security has been strengthened after confirmation of birth of these cubs and tourist activities have been prohibited in that area of the park for ensuring safety of the newborn cubs.