

**Title:** Need for proper investigation into mysterious deaths of tigers at Nandan Kanan Zoo in Orissa and also provide adequate treatment Facilities in Zoo hospital there.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO (DHENKANAL): It is a matter of great shock and sorrow that a dozen Royal Bengal Tigers and a majority of them are white tigers with recessive genes through too much of inbreeding died in a couple of days under mysterious circumstances at Nandan Kanan Zoo in Orissa. This kind of a tragic incident is unheard of in the 34 years of the history of that Zoo. The causes of the death of these rare species are yet to be known. As stated in the Press, these tigers were sick for quite some time. The Zoo doctors suspected that they were suffering from 'trypanosomiasis' a vector-borne disease carried by flies. This was supposed to be a dangerous disease for animals. Keeping this in mind these tigers were administered 'Bernyl' injection. It is a matter of great regret that a few minutes after the injection was administered the tigers died one after another in two days. The lives of these tigers could have been saved had their blood test been done the moment the sickness was noticed and specific treatment been given.

It is a matter of great regret that the lives of these Royal Bengal Tigers could not be saved despite the fact that a Zoo hospital has been there. Due to lack of proper treatment these rare species which were on the verge of extinction were allowed to die.

In view of the mysterious circumstances in which these tigers died and since this is in the Concurrent List, I suggest the Government to provide adequate modern diagnostic and treatment facilities in the Zoo hospital at Nandan Kanan.