



STATE PCS CA

(CONSOLIDATION)

MADHYA PRADESH

**AUGUST
2024**

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Industrial Growth in Madhya Pradesh

Why in News?

Recently, **Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister** emphasised that the establishment of **industrial units is a significant growth** in transforming the state into a hub of economic activity at **the Regional Industry Conclave in Gwalior**.

Key Points

- **The Chief Minister inaugurated and laid the foundation for 47 new industrial units** with a total investment of **Rs 1,586 crore**. This initiative is expected to generate around 4,752 jobs in the state.
- **The event was themed around 'heritage, history, and industry'**, underscoring the convergence of **Madhya Pradesh's rich cultural legacy** and its modern industrial ambitions.
- Eight district-level industry facilitation centers in the **Gwalior-Chambal region** were announced.
 - These centers in Gwalior, Morena, Bhind, Sheopur, Shivpuri, Datia, Guna, and Ashoknagar, aim to **streamline the establishment and growth of industries** by providing necessary administrative support and resources.
- The CM also visited an exhibition showcasing the development prospects of the **micro, small, and medium enterprise (MSME) sector** in the region.
- **The Regional Industry Conclave** witnessed the **participation of international representatives from Mexico and Zambia**, reflecting Madhya Pradesh's growing global appeal as an investment destination.
 - In a major announcement aimed at enhancing connectivity and encouraging industrial growth, eight new airports would be completed in Madhya Pradesh in the next few months, bringing the total number of new airports in the state to 11.
- According to the officials, preparations are underway for **the Global Investors Summit to be held in Bhopal in February 2025**.

Another Cheetah Dies in Kuno National Park

Why in News?

According to the forest officials from Madhya Pradesh, **one more cheetah** has died in the **Kuno National Park**. The **Preliminary cause of death** seems to be due to **drowning**.

Key Points

- This marks the **death of the eighth cheetah** out of the 20 **relocated from South Africa and Namibia to India**.
- Most of the **cheetahs** are currently in **special enclosures** and are **expected to be released into the wild starting in October**, once the monsoon season ends.
 - All the **animals are reportedly under surveillance** via radio-collars and their movement is getting tracked.

Kuno National Park

- Kuno National Park which is **located in Madhya Pradesh's Sheopur district** is **home to several cheetahs translocated from Namibia and South Africa**.
 - **Project Cheetah** in India formally **commenced on September 17, 2022**, to restore the population of cheetahs, which were declared **extinct in the country in 1952**.

Radio Collars

- Radio collars are used to **track and monitor animals in the wild**.
- They consist of a **collar with a small radio transmitter**.
- Collars provide **data on animal behavior, migration, and population dynamics**.
 - They can be combined with GPS or accelerometers for additional information.
- Collars are designed to be **lightweight and comfortable for animals**.

Note:



Cheetah

Common Name - Cheetah

Scientific Name - *Acinonyx jubatus*

- *Acinonyx jubatus jubatus* (African Cheetah)
- *Acinonyx jubatus venaticus* (Asiatic Cheetah)



Reintroduction of Cheetah to India:

- The "Action Plan for Introduction of Cheetah in India" was released by MoEF&CC at the 19th meeting of the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) (January 2022).
 - Such a plan was first proposed in 2009.
- In September 2022, eight cheetahs landed in India from Namibia.
 - The 8 cheetahs have been relocated to the Kuno-Palpur National Park, Madhya Pradesh.
 - The relocation of cheetahs to India from Namibia is the world's first inter-continental large wild carnivore translocation project.

Slightly brownish and golden skin; thicker than the Asiatic Cheetahs

More prominent spots and lines on the face

Found all over the African continent

IUCN Red List Status - Vulnerable



African Cheetah

Slightly smaller than the African ones.

Pale yellowish fawn coloured skin - more fur under body, belly specifically.

Found only in Iran; the country claims there are only 12 of them left. Year 1952 - Asiatic Cheetah officially declared extinct from India.

IUCN Red List Status - Critically Endangered



Asiatic Cheetah

Madhya Pradesh to Develop Places Associated with Deities

Why in News?

On the occasion of **Janmashtami**, the Madhya Pradesh government has decided to **develop places connected to** the two revered deities **Lord Ram** and **Krishna**.

Key Points

- Madhya Pradesh has a glorious history as **Lord Ram spent 11 years in the state** while **Lord Krishna got education in Acharya Sandipani Ashram in Ujjain**.
- The initiative to **establish 'Geeta Bhawans' in various urban areas** of the state **aims to promote the study of Lord Krishna**.

Janmashtami

- **Janmashtami**, also called **Gokulashtami** or **Shrikrishna Jayanti**, is a major Hindu festival celebrating the birth of Lord Krishna, the **eighth avatar of Vishnu**.
- It is celebrated on the **Ashtami (eighth day) of Krishna Paksha** in the **Bhadrapada month** of the **lunisolar Hindu calendar**, usually in **August or September**.
- One of the key highlights of Janmashtami is the **"Dahi Handi"** event.

Acharya Sandipani Ashram

- **Ancient Ujjain**, apart from its political and religious importance, was a **prestigious center of learning at the beginning of the Mahabharata period**.
- **Lord Krishna and Sudama** received regular **education in the ashram of Guru Sandipani**.
 - The area near the ashram is known as **Ankpat**, a place believed to have been used by Lord Krishna to wash his writings.
- The numbers 1 to 100 found on a stone are believed to have been engraved by Guru Sandipani.
- The **Gomti Kund** mentioned in **the Puranas** was the source of water supply to the ashram in the olden days.
- The followers of the **Vallabh sect** consider this place as the 73rd seat out of the 84 seats of **Vallabhacharya** where he gave his discourses across India.

Intense Rain Warning by IMD

Why in News?

Recently, **the India Meteorological Department** has **warned of heavy to extremely heavy rainfall** in parts of **Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Gujarat, Goa and Maharashtra**.

Key Points

- They have advised fisherfolk to avoid venturing into **the Arabian Sea** and **Bay of Bengal**.
 - Small ships and exploration and production operators have been asked to **monitor weather developments** and take necessary precautions.
- People are recommended to **avoid locations susceptible to waterlogging** and check for traffic alerts before commuting.
- Farmers in the impacted regions should **ensure adequate drainage in their fields** and offer support to their crops.
 - There is a risk of **landslides** and **damage to horticultural crops** due to inundation in the affected regions.

India Meteorological Department

- IMD was **established in 1875**. It is the **National Meteorological Service** of the country and the principal government agency in all **matters relating to meteorology and allied subjects**.
- It works as an **agency of the Ministry of Earth Sciences** of the Government of India.
- It is headquartered in **New Delhi**.
- IMD is also one of the **six Regional Specialized Meteorological Centres** of the **World Meteorological Organization**.

New Ramsar Site in Madhya Pradesh

Why in News?

Recently, the centre declared the **Tawa Reservoir** in **Madhya Pradesh** as a new **Ramsar Site**.

Key Points

- **The Tawa Reservoir:**
 - It is situated at the confluence of the **Tawa and Denwa rivers** near **Itarsi town**, was originally built

Note:

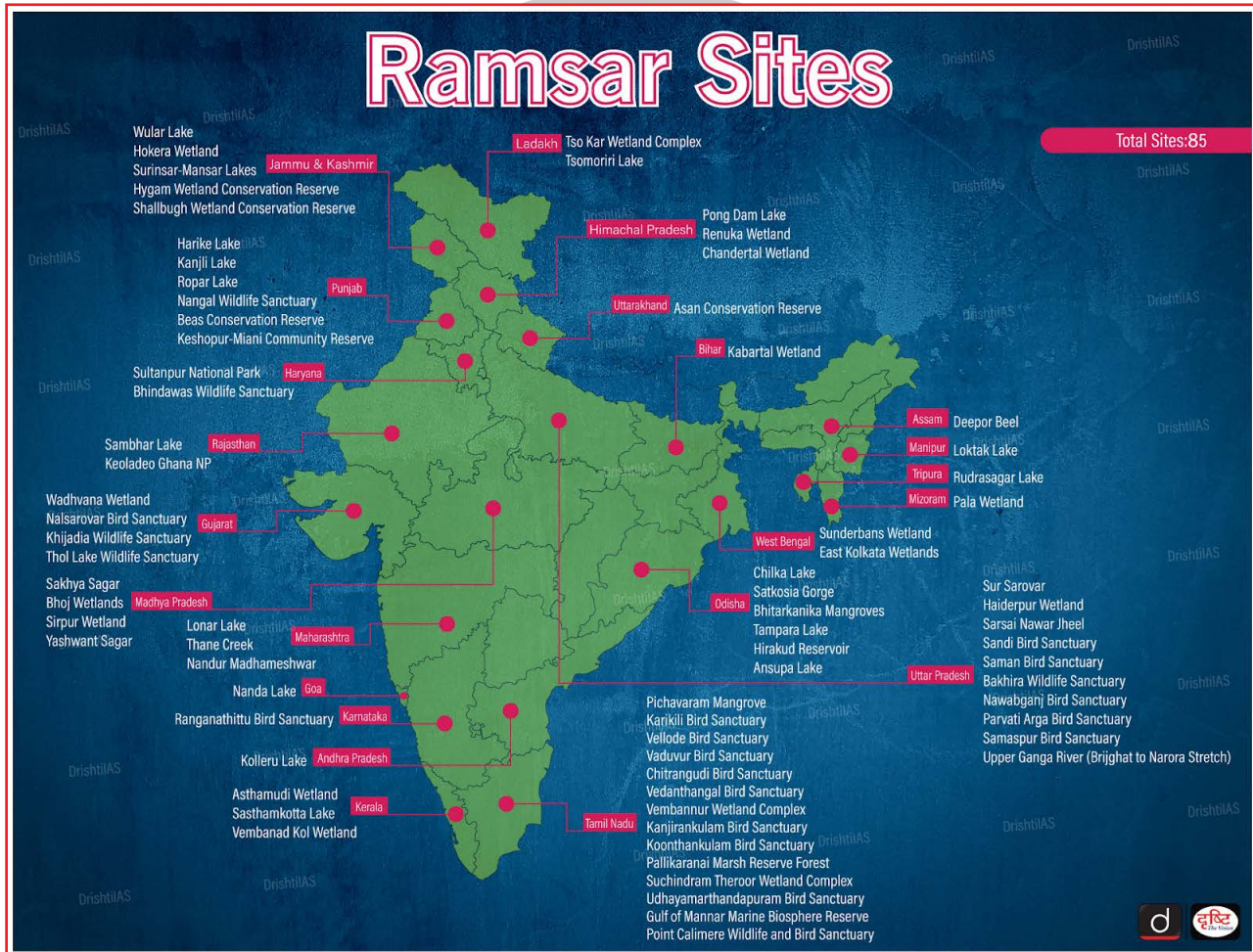


for irrigation and now also supports power generation and aquaculture.

- The reservoir lies within the **Satpura Tiger Reserve**, bordering the **Satpura National Park** and **Bori Wildlife Sanctuary**.
- **River Malani, Sonbhadra, and Nagdwari** are the major tributaries of the Tawa reservoir.
- The **Tawa River**, a left-bank tributary of Narmada river, originates in the **Mahadeo Hills** of **Chhindwara district**, flows through **Betul district**, and meets the **Narmada River** in Narmadapuram district.
 - It is the longest tributary of the Narmada river.
- The reservoir hosts **Spotted deer** and **Painted Stork**.

The Ramsar Convention

- The **Ramsar Convention** is an international treaty signed in 1971 in Ramsar, Iran, under the auspices of **UNESCO**, aimed at conserving wetlands of international importance.
 - In India, it came into force on **1st February 1982**, under which wetlands of international importance are declared as Ramsar sites.
- **Montreux Record** is a register of **wetland sites** of International Importance where **changes in ecological character have occurred, are occurring, or are likely to occur** as a result of technological developments, pollution or other human interference.
 - It is maintained as part of the **Ramsar List**.



Note:

Japanese Encephalitis Outbreak in Madhya Pradesh

Why in News?

According to the **Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW)**, eight people have died after **Japanese Encephalitis (JE)** infection in Madhya Pradesh since 2019.

Key Points

- Due to the rise in JE cases in Madhya Pradesh the situation is being closely observed as it poses a **direct risk to public well-being**.
 - Earlier in 2024, Japanese Encephalitis was **identified in 29 districts of Madhya Pradesh**.

Japanese Encephalitis

➤ About:

- **Japanese Encephalitis (JE)** is a **viral infection** that can cause inflammation in the brain.
 - It is caused by a flavivirus that **belongs to the same genus as dengue, yellow fever and West Nile viruses**.
- Japanese encephalitis virus (JEV) is also a major cause of **Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES)** in India.

➤ Transmission:

- The disease is transmitted to humans through bites from **infected mosquitoes** of the **Culex species**.
- These mosquitoes breed mainly in **rice fields** and large water bodies rich in **aquatic vegetation**.

➤ Treatment:

- There is **no antiviral treatment** for patients with JE.
 - Treatment, available, is **supportive to relieve symptoms** and stabilise the patient.

➤ Prevention:

- **Safe and effective JE vaccines** are available to prevent the disease.
- **JE vaccination** is also included under the **Universal Immunisation Program** of the Government of India.

MP Prohibits Hindu Students from Enrolling in Madrasas

Why in News?

Recently, the **Madhya Pradesh** government has issued an order barring Hindu students from enrolling in the **madrasas**, regulated by the state madrasa board or those receiving government aid.

Key Points

- The decision is a result of complaints that **several madrasas in the state were enrolling fictitious Hindu students to get government aid**.
 - An investigation found that **thousands of Hindu students have been enrolled in madrasas**, which were **operating only on paper**.
- According to the authorities, the **madrasas cannot force the students to participate in the religious activities or religious studies without written consent from them or their parents**, if they are minors.
 - All institutes, including madrasas, government-aided, and private institutes, must comply with the provisions of the **New Education Policy 2020**.

New Education Policy (NEP) 2020

- The **NEP 2020** seeks to tackle the evolving development needs of India.
 - It calls for a **comprehensive overhaul of the education system**, including its **regulations and management**, to establish a modern system that aligns with 21st-century educational goals, including **Sustainable Development Goal 4 (SDG4)**, while respecting **India's cultural heritage and values**.
- It replaces the thirty-four year old **National Policy on Education, 1986, modified in 1992 (NPE 1986/92)**.

Initiatives of Madhya Pradesh For Promoting Menstrual Health

Why in News?

Recently, the India unit of the **United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF)** praised the **Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister's initiatives** for promoting **menstrual health** among adolescents in the state.

Note:

Key Points

- During an event, Chief Minister transferred a collective sum of **Rs 57.18 crore to the accounts of 19 lakh girl students** under the '**Samagra Shiksha' programme for sanitation and hygiene.**
- Under the sanitation and hygiene scheme, funds have been transferred for **sanitary napkins to girl students of Classes VII to XII.**
 - School and college Girls are also being educated about the **importance of cleanliness and its measures.**

Samagra Shiksha Scheme

- It was **launched by the Ministry of Education in 2018.**
- It is an **integrated scheme for school education** covering the entire gamut from **pre-school to class XII.**
- It aims to deliver inclusive, equitable, and affordable school education.
- It **subsumes** the three Schemes of **Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) and Teacher Education (TE).**
- It is being implemented as a **centrally sponsored scheme.**
 - It involves a 60:40 split in funding between the Centre and most States.

United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF)

- UNICEF was **created in 1946 as International Children's Emergency Fund (ICEF)** by the **UN relief Rehabilitation Administration** to help children affected by World War II.
- UNICEF became a **permanent part of the United Nations in 1953.**
- It is **mandated by the United Nations General Assembly to advocate for the protection of children's rights**, to help meet their basic needs and to expand their opportunities to reach their full potential.
- UNICEF is guided by the **Convention on the Rights of the Child, 1989.**
 - It strives to establish **children's rights as enduring ethical principles** and international standards of behaviour towards children.
- Awarded the **Nobel Prize for Peace in 1965** for "**promotion of brotherhood among the nations**".
- **Headquarters:** New York City.

High Court Ruled Garlic a Vegetable

Why in News?

Recently, the Indore bench of the **Madhya Pradesh High Court** has officially **declared garlic as a vegetable.**

Key Points

- This ruling is expected to **benefit farmers by enabling them to sell garlic directly in the market** without paying commissions to agents.
- In 2015, a **farmers' organisation in Madhya Pradesh urged the Mandi Board to classify garlic as a vegetable.**
 - However, the Agriculture Department soon reversed this decision, reclassifying garlic as a spice under the **Agricultural Produce Market Committee Act, 1972.**
 - This led to a legal challenge by the **Potato, Onion, and Garlic Commission Agent Association in 2016.**
 - **In 2017**, a single judge ruled in favour of the association, allowing garlic to be sold as a vegetable.

Garlic

- Botanically, **garlic (*Allium sativum*)** is considered a vegetable, as it has a bulb, tall stem, and long leaves.
 - The distinctive smell of **garlic and onion is due to the presence of sulphur-containing chemicals.**
- Garlic grows best in well-drained, fertile loamy soil with a **pH range of 6-8. Soils rich in organic matter are preferred** for their moisture and nutrient retention and reduced risk of crusting and compaction. **Heavy soils may cause deformed bulbs**, while poorly drained soils can lead to discoloured bulbs.
- Garlic thrives at **1200–2000 meters above sea level.** Requires cool, moist climate during growth and warm, dry weather during maturity.
- **Production:** India is the **world's second-largest garlic exporter**, with record-high exports in 2023 due to supply chain issues in China.
 - Indian garlic flakes have become more popular in **West Asian countries**, with the United States, Malaysia, Brazil, Germany, and the United Kingdom being India's main garlic export markets.
- **Geographical Indication Tag:**
- **Riyawan Garlic**, a GI-tagged garlic from **Madhya Pradesh**, is renowned for its **high yield, pungent and robust flavour, and higher oil content** compared to other varieties.

Note:

- **Kodaikanal Malai poondu (Hill Garlic)** a GI-tagged garlic from Tamil Nadu, is known for its medicinal and preservative properties due to its **antioxidant** and antimicrobial potential, which are attributed to the presence of the **higher amount of organosulfur compounds, phenols and flavonoids compared to the garlic varieties.**
- **Kanthalloor Vattavada Veluthuli**, a GI-tagged garlic from **Kerala**, is renowned for its strong aroma and flavour. Grown in the high-altitude areas of Kanthalloor and Vattavada, this **small-sized garlic is prized for its medicinal properties and culinary use.**

Floating Solar Project in Madhya Pradesh

Why in News?

According to the sources, The **largest floating solar**

project in central and north India, generating **90 MW of energy**, has been commissioned at **Omkareshwar** in **Madhya Pradesh.**

Key Points

- The project is executed by **SJVN Green Energy Limited (SGEL)**. It is a **Mini Ratna Schedule 'A'** Central Public Sector Undertaking (CPSU) under the Ministry of Power, Government of India.
- **Omkareshwar Floating Solar Project:**
 - Located in the **Omkareshwar Floating Solar Park** on **Narmada river** in **Khandwa, Madhya Pradesh.**
 - The project aims to significantly **reduce carbon emissions** by **2.3 lakh tons of CO2**, supporting India's goal of achieving **net-zero emissions by 2070.**
 - It will also help in **water conservation** by reducing water evaporation.

Narmada River

➤ About:

- The Narmada River (also known as Rewa) serves as a traditional boundary between North and South India.
- It is 1,312 km west of its origin from the **Amarkantak peak** of **Maikal mountain**. It flows into the **Gulf of Khambhat.**
- It drains a large area in Madhya Pradesh besides some areas in the states of Maharashtra and Gujarat.



- It is a **West flowing river of the peninsular region** flowing through a rift valley between the **Vindhya Range** on the north and the **Satpura Range** on the south.

➤ Tributaries:

- The **predominant tributaries from the right** are – Hiran, Tendori, Barna, Kolar, Man, Uri, Hatni, and Orsang.
- The **predominant left tributaries** are – Burner, Banjar, Sher, Shakkar, Dudhi, Tawa, Ganjal, Chhota Tawa, Kundi, Goi, and Karjan.

➤ Dams:

- The Major dams on the river include **Omkareshwar and Maheshwar dams.**

Note:

Government Denies Threat to Bhoj Wetland

Why in News?

Recently, The Union Government has denied that the [Ramsar site, Bhoj Wetland](#) in Bhopal faces threat of delisting from the [Ramsar Convention list](#).

Key Points

- According to the sources, a proposed road through the Bhoj wetland catchment prompted a local activist to file a complaint against the wetland to the Ramsar Conventions secretariat.
- [The Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change \(MoEF&CC\)](#) is implementing the [National Plan for Conservation of Aquatic Ecosystems \(NPCA\)](#) for conservation and management of wetlands in the country, including Madhya Pradesh.
 - The scheme covers activities such as [wastewater treatment](#), [shoreline protection](#), [in-situ cleaning](#), [stormwater management](#), [bioremediation](#), [catchment area treatment](#), [lake beautification](#), [survey & demarcation](#), [fisheries development](#), [weed control](#), [biodiversity conservation](#), [education and awareness](#), and [community participation](#).

Bhoj Wetland

- The **Bhoj Wetland**, also known as **Bhopal Lake** is a **designated Ramsar site** and hence, a **wetland of international importance (Ramsar Convention 1971)**.
- It consists of two contiguous human-made reservoirs -
 - **“Upper Lake”** - created in the 11th century by construction of an earthen dam across the Kolans River.
 - **“Lower Lake”** - constructed 200 years ago, largely from leakage from the Upper lake. It is surrounded by the city of Bhopal.

National Plan for Conservation of Aquatic Ecosystems (NPCA)

- NPCA is a **single conservation programme for both wetlands and lakes**.
- It is a **centrally sponsored scheme**, currently being implemented by the **Union Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF)**.
 - It was **formulated in 2015** by merging of the National Lake Conservation Plan and the National Wetlands Conservation Programme.
- NPCA seeks to **promote better synergy and avoid overlap of administrative functions**.

Tiger Attack in Kanha Reserve

Why in News?

Recently, A woman was fatally attacked by a [tiger](#) at the [Kanha Tiger Reserve \(KTR\)](#) in [Balaghat district](#) of Madhya Pradesh.

Note:



HUMAN-WILDLIFE CONFLICT



When encounters between humans and wildlife lead to negative results, such as loss of property, livelihoods, and even life

Causes of HWC

- Agricultural Expansion
- Urbanization
- Infrastructure Development
- Climate Change
- Wildlife Populations Growth and Range Expansion

Impacts of HWC

- Grave injuries, Loss of life
- Damage to farms and crops
- ↑ violence against animals

WWF India during 2003-2004 developed the Sonitpur Model by which community members were connected with Assam Forest Dept and given training on how to drive elephants away from crop fields and human habitations safely.

In 2020, the SC upheld Madras HC's decision on the Nilgiris elephant corridor, affirming the right of passage of the animals and closure of resorts in the area.

Data on HWC

- Tigers killed 125 humans between 2019 and 2021
- Death of 329 tigers due to poaching, natural and unnatural causes.
- Elephants killed 1,579 humans in three years
- Death of 307 elephants due to poaching, electrocution, poisoning and train accidents

Advisory for HWC Management

(Standing Committee of the National Board of Wildlife)

- Gram Panchayats empowered to deal with problematic wild animals (WPA 1972)
- Compensation against crop damage due to HWC (PM Fasal Bima Yojna)
- Local/State depts. to adopt early warning systems and create barriers
- Paying a part of ex-gratia as interim relief within 24 hours of the incident to the victim/family

State – Specific Initiatives

- UP - Man-animal conflict under **listed disasters** (in State Disaster Response Fund)
- Uttarakhand - **Bio-fencing** carried out by growing various species of plants in areas
- Odisha - Casting **seed balls** inside different forests to **enrich food stock for wild elephants**



Key Points

- **Kanha Tiger Reserve:**
 - It stretches over an area of 940 square km in the **two districts - Mandla and Balaghat - of Madhya Pradesh.**
 - The present-day Kanha area **was divided into two sanctuaries, Hallon and Banjar.**
 - **Kanha National Park was created in 1955** and in **1973** was made the **Kanha Tiger Reserve.**
 - Kanha National Park is the **largest National Park in Central India.**

Note:

Swine Flu Cases in Madhya Pradesh

Why in News?

Recently, Eleven cases of **Swine Flu** have been detected in **Jabalpur district of Madhya Pradesh**.

Key Points

- The **infected persons had complained of cold, cough and fever** before testing positive for swine flu. They are residents of different areas in the district.
- To curb the spread of the disease, **health department teams are conducting tests in various areas**.

Swine Flu

- It is caused by the **swine flu virus**, the **H1N1**.
- It is an **infection of the respiratory tract** characterized by the usual **symptoms of flu** like cough, nasal secretions, fever, loss of appetite, fatigue and headache.
- It is called swine flu because in the past it was known to occur in people who had been in the **vicinity of pigs**.
- The virus is **transmitted by short-distance airborne transmission**, particularly in crowded enclosed spaces. **Hand contamination** and **direct contact** are other possible sources of transmission.

Cub Dies in Madhya Pradesh's Kuno National Park

Why in News?

A **five-month-old cheetah cub**, born to the **African cheetah Gamini**, died at **Kuno National Park** in Madhya Pradesh.

- **Kuno National Park** now has **13 adult cheetahs** and **12 cubs** remaining.

Key Points

- The five-month-old cheetah cub, whose health suddenly deteriorated and was found dragging its hind portion due to a fractured vertebral column, has died; **the cause of death will be confirmed after an autopsy**.
- Kuno National Park:
 - **Kuno National Park**, located in **Madhya Pradesh's Sheopur** district is home to several cheetahs translocated from **Namibia** and **South Africa**.
 - It is named after the **Kuno River**, one of the main tributaries of the **Chambal River**, which flows through the area.

43 Tiger Deaths in Madhya Pradesh

Why in News?

The deaths of **43 tigers** between **2021 and 2023** were investigated, with **34 deaths** in **Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve** and **9** in **Shahdol Forest Circle**.

Cheetah

Common Name - Cheetah

Scientific Name - *Acinonyx jubatus*
 • *Acinonyx jubatus jubatus* (African Cheetah)
 • *Acinonyx jubatus venaticus* (Asiatic Cheetah)

Reintroduction of Cheetah to India:

- The "Action Plan for Introduction of Cheetah in India" was released by MoEF&CC at the 19th meeting of the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) (January 2022).
- Such a plan was first proposed in 2009.
- In September 2022, eight cheetahs landed in India from Namibia.
- The 8 cheetahs have been relocated to the **Kuno-Palpur National Park, Madhya Pradesh**.
- The relocation of cheetahs to India from Namibia is the world's first inter-continental large wild carnivore translocation project.




Slightly brownish and golden skin; thicker than the Asiatic Cheetahs

More prominent spots and lines on the face

Found all over the African continent

IUCN Red List Status - Vulnerable

African Cheetah




Slightly smaller than the African ones.

Pale yellowish fawn coloured skin - more fur under body, belly specifically.

Found only in Iran; the country claims there are only 12 of them left. **Year 1952** - Asiatic Cheetah officially declared extinct from India.

IUCN Red List Status - Critically Endangered

Asiatic Cheetah



Drishti IAS

Note:

Key Points

- **Special Investigation Team (SIT) Report:** The SIT, headed by **State Tiger Strike Force** in-charge, submitted its report to the acting Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (PCCF) and the Principal Chief Conservator of Forest & Head of the Forest Force (PCCF-HoFF) on July 15.
- **Lack of Investigation:** The report highlighted **insufficient investigation** into at least 10 tiger death cases, disinterest by higher authorities and Forest Range Officers, and missing body parts in 10 out of 34 cases.
- **Formation of SIT:** The SIT was formed on the orders of the **state's Chief Wildlife Warden** to investigate the high number of tiger deaths.

TIGER

Royal Bengal Tiger (*Panthera Tigris*) is the National animal of India.

Subspecies of Tiger

- * The continental (*Panthera tigris tigris*)
- * The Sunda (*Panthera tigris sondaica*)

Habitat

Tropical rainforests, evergreen forests, temperate forests, mangrove swamps, grasslands, and savannas



Countries Where Tiger Population Is Found

- ▣ Found only in 13 **Tiger Range countries**- India, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Russia, China, Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam
- ◆ As per the latest report by IUCN, tiger has gone extinct in Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam

Protection Status

- ▣ **IUCN Red List:** Endangered
- ▣ **CITES:** Appendix I
- ▣ **WPA 1972:** Schedule I

Threats

- ▣ Habitat loss
- ▣ Poaching and illegal trade
- ▣ Human-Wildlife conflict

Conservation Efforts

- ▣ **International Big Cats Alliance (IBCA):** For conservation of seven big cats namely Tiger, Lion, Leopard, Snow Leopard, Cheetah, Jaguar and Puma (launched by India)
- ▣ **Tx2 campaign:** Launched by WWF; stands for 'Tiger times 2' signaling the goal to double the tiger population by 2022
- ▣ **National Tiger Conservation authority (NTCA):** Constituted under the WPA, 1972
- ▣ **Project Tiger:** Launched in 1973
- ▣ **Tiger Census:** Every 4 years

Tigers In India

- ▣ India has the **largest** population
 - ◆ As of 2022, India has 3167 tigers
 - ◆ Largest population has been found in Central Indian Highlands & Eastern Ghats Landscape
- ▣ **Tiger Reserves:** India now has 53 tiger reserves
 - ◆ **Ranipur in UP** is the latest
 - ◆ **Nagarjun Sagar (Andhra Pradesh)** is the **largest** while **Orang (Assam)** is the **smallest** (Core area)

Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve (BTR)

- It is located in the **Umaria district of Madhya Pradesh** and is spread over the **Vindhya hills**.
- In 1968, it was notified as a **national park** and in **1993** was declared a tiger reserve- under the **Project Tiger Network** at the neighbouring **Panpatha Sanctuary**.
- It is known for the **Royal Bengal Tigers**. The density of the tiger population at Bandhavgarh is the highest known in India as well as in the world.
 - These streams then merge into the **Son river** (an important southern tributary to the river Ganga).
- The important prey species consists of **chital, sambhar, barking deer, nilgai, chinkara, wild pig, chowsingha, langur and rhesus macaque**.
 - Dependent upon them are the major predators like **tiger, leopard, wild dog, wolf and jackal**.

New Flight Schedule to Boost Regional Tourism

Why in News?

Recently, the **Madhya Pradesh government** expanded **air services routes to boost regional tourism** and announced a new flight schedule for the **PM Shri Tourism Air Service**.

Key Points

- The scheme **aimed at enhancing tourism and improving air connectivity**, has announced a **new scheme scheduled to start from 1st August 2024**.
 - The service will now incorporate **cluster routes linking Khajuraho to Bhopal, Gwalior, Rewa and Singrauli**.
 - Flights from **Bhopal and Jabalpur to Ujjain** will be offered on Sunday, while services to Khajuraho will operate on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.
 - The **state is classified into five regions**-Gwalior and Chambal, Baghelkhand region, Bundelkhand region, Mahakaushal region, Malwa-Nimar region and Narmadapuram.
- The state government is set to host an ambitious **39th IATO (Indian Association of Tour Operators) Annual Convention** in **Bhopal** to boost tourism in MP.
 - This event is **expected to draw over 1000 delegates**, including tour operators, hoteliers, and other key

stakeholders from across the country, **promising to enhance both domestic and international tourism in Madhya Pradesh**.

PM Shri Tourism Air Service

- The PM Shri Tourism Air Service was **inaugurated on 13th June 2024**.
- It is an **intra-state air service that connects Madhya Pradesh's religious and tourist spots**, aiming to improve connectivity for domestic and international tourists.

Toxic Waste Disposal of Bhopal Gas Tragedy

Why in News?

Recently, the **Madhya Pradesh government** decided to **incinerate 337 Metric Tons (MT) of toxic waste** from the Union Carbide facility, nearly 40 years after **the Bhopal gas tragedy, 1984**.

Key Points

- The **central government** has earmarked **Rs 126 crore for the disposal of the waste**.
 - The **disposal process is expected to be executed in 180 days**, at the incinerator of the **Treatment Storage Disposal Facility (TSDF) in Pithampur, Indore**.
- The disposal process involves transporting the waste from the contaminated site to the disposal site, blending it with reagents, and then incinerating it.
 - The Madhya Pradesh Department of **Bhopal Gas Tragedy Relief and Rehabilitation (BGTRR)** will oversee the disposal.
- **Challenges and Concerns:**
 - The plan to **incinerate the waste at the Pithampur TSDF has faced opposition from residents**, leading to the suspension of further plans in 2015.
 - A 2021 **National Green Tribunal (NGT)** report directed the remediation of the **Solar Evaporation Ponds (SEPs)** located north of the factory, indicating **ongoing environmental contamination**.
 - The Solar Evaporation Ponds (SEPs) were **used primarily to store low-level radioactive wastes contaminated with high concentrations of nitrate**.

Note:

- Traces of heavy metals and other contaminants have been found in the borewell water around the site, exceeding acceptable limits.
- Social groups working for the rehabilitation of the gas tragedy victims have refuted claims about the safety of the incineration process, citing **high levels of Dioxins and Furans** detected during trial runs.

The Bhopal Gas Tragedy 1984

- The **Bhopal gas tragedy** was one of the **worst industrial accidents in history that occurred on the night of 2-3 December 1984** at the **Union Carbide India Limited (UCIL) pesticide plant in Bhopal, MP**.
- It exposed people and animals to the highly toxic gas **methyl isocyanate (MIC)**, causing immediate and long-term health effects and deaths.

Capacity Building Workshop in Madhya Pradesh

Why in News?

Recently, a **State Capacity-Building workshop** was conducted for the **Chief Information Security Officers (CISOs)** of the Government of Madhya Pradesh in Bhopal.

Key Points

- This programme was conducted by the **National e-Governance Division (NeGD), Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)**, in collaboration with the Home Department, Government of Madhya Pradesh (MP) and **MP-CERT, Department of Science and Technology, Government of Madhya Pradesh**.
- The workshop was intended to **raise awareness, build capacities, and enable government departments to create a cyber-resilient ecosystem**.
 - It provides **holistic information and knowledge about cybersecurity** to help government departments maintain their **cyber hygiene, safety, and security, facilitating the Digital India programme**.

The National e-Governance Division (NeGD)

- It was **created in 2009 under the Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology** to support the **implementation of e-Governance projects** and provide technical and advisory support to Central and State Ministries/Departments.
- NeGD manages several national public digital platforms such as **DigiLocker, UMANG**, Rapid Assessment System, OpenForge, API Setu, Poshan Tracker, Academic Bank of Credits, National Academic Depositories, **National AI Portal, MyScheme**, India Stack Global, and **Meri Pehchaan**.

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Note:



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Key Points

Details

Summary

Key Points

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