



## Introduction of African Cheetah in India

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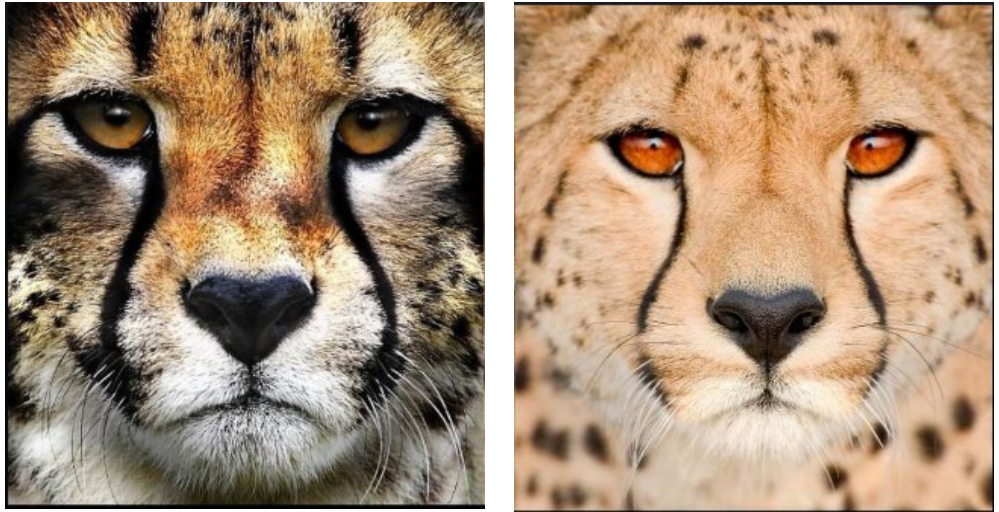
### Why in News

- Recently, the Supreme Court has lifted its seven-year-long stay on a proposal to introduce **African Cheetahs from Namibia into the Indian habitat.**
- Court has now allowed to initiate the **re-introduction of foreign Cheetahs** into the **Palpur Kuno sanctuary in Madhya Pradesh** on an experimental basis. In 1952, the Asiatic Cheetah was **officially declared extinct** from India.

Sr. No.	Parameter	African Cheetah	Asiatic Cheetah
1.	<b><u>IUCN</u> status</b>	Vulnerable	Critically Endangered.
2.	<b><u>CITES</u> status</b>	<b>Appendix-I</b> of the List. This List comprises of migratory species that have been assessed as being in <b>danger of extinction</b> throughout all or a significant portion of their range.	<b>Appendix-I</b> of the List.
3.	<b>Habitat</b>	Around 6,500-7,000 African cheetahs present in the wild.	40-50 found only in <b>Iran.</b>
4.	<b>Physical Characteristics</b>	<b>Bigger</b> in size as compared to Asiatic Cheetah.	<b>Smaller and paler</b> than the African cheetah. Has more fur, a smaller head and a longer neck. Usually have red eyes and they have a more <b>cat-like</b> appearance.

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5. **Image**



**Note:**

- According to the **United Nations**, Cheetahs are listed as “Vulnerable” by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List of Threatened Species, but a recent study revealed the decline in its significant population. Hence, scientists are demanding for cheetahs to be uplisted to “Endangered” category.
- In North Africa and Asia, they are considered to be “Critically Endangered.”

**Source: IE**