UP Lead in Pulling People Out of Poverty | Uttar Pradesh | 17 Jan 2024

Why in News?

According to '**Multidimensional Poverty in India since 2005-06'**, a paper issued by the NITI Aayog, **Uttar Pradesh** maintained its **lead** among states **in pulling the maximum number of people out** of multidimensional poverty (MDP) in the past nine years.

- The organisation flagged that **5.94 crore people in UP** had **emerged from MDP.**

Key Points

- In the paper, it had pointed out that from **37.68% in 2015-16,** the **number of multi-dimensional poor** in UP **came down to 22.95% in 2019-21.**
- In the NITI Aayog's paper, it states that in **2022-23**, this **figure is reduced to 17.40%.**
  - NITI Aayog **considered 12 indicators aligned with sustainable development goals** to measure multidimensional poverty.
- **Oxford Policy and Human Development Initiative (OPHI)** and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), also contributed to the paper.
  - According to the report, **multidimensional poverty** in India was found to have **declined from 29.17% in 2013-14 to 11.28% in 2022-23** with 24.82 crore people escaping poverty during this period.

NITI Aayog

- The **Planning Commission was replaced by a new institution – NITI Aayog** on 1st January, 2015 with emphasis on 'Bottom –Up' approach to envisage the vision of Maximum Governance, Minimum Government, echoing the spirit of 'Cooperative Federalism'.
- **It has two Hubs:**
  - Team India Hub acts as an interface between States and Centre.
  - Knowledge and Innovation Hub builds the think-tank acumen of NITI Aayog.

Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI)

- OPHI is an economic research and policy centre within the Oxford Department of International Development at the University of Oxford. **It was established in 2007.**
- It aims to build and advance a more systematic methodological and economic framework for reducing multidimensional poverty, grounded in people's experiences and values.

Accounts Linked to Cybercriminals Frozen | Jharkhand | 17 Jan 2024

Why in News?

Recently, **8,674 bank accounts,** allegedly **linked to** cybercriminals, have been frozen in Jharkhand on suspicion that these **were being used** for phishing **activities.**

- The maximum of **2002 accounts** were **frozen in Deoghar district,** followed by **1,183 in Dhanbad and 959 in Ranchi.**

Key Points

- The details of frozen accounts were received from the **Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre** and a district and bank-wise list of such information was prepared.
- The data will be shared with the superintendent of police of all districts and the banks for verification of the accounts.
- The **Criminal Investigation Department (CID)** has been carrying out a massive operation against cybercriminals in Jharkhand.
    - **495 people** have been **arrested** for allegedly being involved in cybercrimes, and **First Information Report (FIRs)** lodged **against 107** for cyber frauds in the past three months.
    - **1,164 mobile phones** and **1,725 SIM cards** have also been **seized** during operations against cybercrimes.
    - **Raids against cybercriminals** are being conducted regularly in various districts, including Deoghar, Giridih, Bokaro, Jamtara and Ranchi.

Cyber Crime

- Cybercrime is **defined as a crime where a computer is the object of the crime** or is used as a tool to commit an offense.
- It **involves illegal or unauthorized activities** that exploit technology to commit various forms of crimes.
- **Types:**
    - **Distributed Denial-of-Service (DDoS) Attacks:** These are used to make an online service unavailable and take the network down by overwhelming the site with traffic from a variety of sources.
    - **Botnets:** Botnets are networks from compromised computers that are controlled externally by remote hackers. The remote hackers then send spam or attack other computers through these botnets.
    - **Identity Theft:** This cybercrime occurs when a criminal gains access to a user's personal information or confidential information and then tries to tarnish reputation or seek a ransom.
    - **Cyberstalking:** This kind of cybercrime involves online harassment where the user is subjected to a plethora of online messages and emails. Typically, cyberstalks use social media, websites, and search engines to intimidate a user and instill fear.

- **Phishing:** It is a type of social engineering attack often used to steal user data, including login credentials and credit card numbers. It occurs when an attacker, masquerading as a trusted entity, dupes a victim into opening an email, instant message, or text message.

Criminal Investigation Department (CID)

- **Established in 1902 by the British Government,** CID is an investigation and intelligence department of state police. On the other hand, CBI is an agency of the Central Government.
- CID is **looking into murder, assault, riot or any cases as directed by respective High Courts.**

Medical College and Hospital in Panchkula | Haryana | 17 Jan 2024

Why in News?

Recently, Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar laid the **foundation stone of a medical college and hospital in Panchkula.**

Key Points

- The **project is expected** to cost **over Rs 800 crore**, to be **constructed** over 30 acres of land at **Sector 32 in Panchkula by the Haryana Shahri Vikas Pradhikarn (HSVP).**
- The initial phase will involve an expenditure of Rs 500 crore, with an anticipated additional expenditure of Rs 300 crore. The entire **project is slated to be completed within 30 months.**
- The **number of medical colleges in the state** will increase to **29 in the future** and the **MBBS seats will go up to 3,500.**
  - The number of **postgraduate medical seats** in the state is **set to rise from 851 to 1,200**, addressing the need for specialised doctors.
  - **Para-medical colleges and physiotherapy colleges** will also be set up within these medical colleges.
  - Medical colleges are being established across the state, such as **Shri Krishna Ayurveda Vishwavidyalaya in Kurukshetra,** an **Ayush AIIMS in Panchkula for natural treatment,** and the **Kalpana Chawla University of Health Sciences in Kutail.**

Haryana Panel to Decide Aid in Accidents Due to Stray Animals | Haryana | 17 Jan 2024

Why in News?

According to Haryana chief secretary Sanjeev Kaushal, the **state government** was taking **significant steps to address accidents/incidents caused by stray animals.**

Key Points

- A committee, chaired by the deputy commissioner, **in all districts** has been established to determine compensation in such cases, with **decisions expected within four months of claim submission.**
- The committee includes members such as the superintendent of police or deputy superintendent of police (traffic), sub-divisional magistrate, and a representative of the chief medical officer.
    - The committee **will adhere to the guidelines and standards of the** Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, while deciding on compensation for such cases.
    - The decision will be forwarded to the principal secretary of the department concerned or the project director of the NHAI (National Highways Authority of India), who must disburse compensation to **the claimant within six weeks**.
- **Stray animals**, for the **purpose of compensation, encompass** animals like **cows, bulls, dogs, donkeys, nilgai and buffaloes.**
- The **Chandigarh high court has specified compensation amounts,** such as Rs 10,000 for a dog's bite and a minimum of Rs 20,000 for injuries caused by a dog bite.
- 'Deen Dayal Antyodaya Parivar Suraksha Yojana' was already in operation to provide compensation for such accidents.

Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Antyodaya Parivar Suraksha Yojana

- Government of Haryana announced the launch of 'Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Antyodaya Parivar Suraksha Yojana' **in the budget for the financial year 2023-24.**
- Under this scheme, on the basis of the **data verified in Family Information Data Repository (FIDR)**, financial assistance will be **provided on the death or permanent disability of a member of a family above the age of 6 years and upto the age of 60 years** having an annual income less than Rs 1.80 lakh.
- The scheme **will provide assistance based on the age of the individual at the time of death or permanent disability.**

Cheetah Dies at Kuno National Park | Madhya Pradesh | 17 Jan 2024

Why in News?

Recently, **another Namibian cheetah dies** in Madhya Pradesh's Kuno National Park.

- This is the **tenth death among cheetahs** brought **from South Africa's Namibia in 2022.**

Key Points

- Cheetahs have been extinct in India for around 70 years. Project Cheetah is an initiative to reintroduce the species into the country.
- According to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC), this is the **first intercontinental reintroduction of a wild, large carnivore species.**
- The **Cheetah Conservation Fund (CCF),** a non-profit organisation **in Namibia**, was invited by the government of India **to participate in a programme to reintroduce cheetahs** to India.
- The then MoEF shared the first overview of Project Cheetah in September 2010.
    - This **outlined the current status of cheetahs around the world**, the **benefits and complexities of reintroducing cheetahs** into India, and areas where they may be reintroduced, along with information about the task force.
    - In **January 2020,** the **Supreme Court approved the pilot programme** to reintroduce cheetahs into the country.
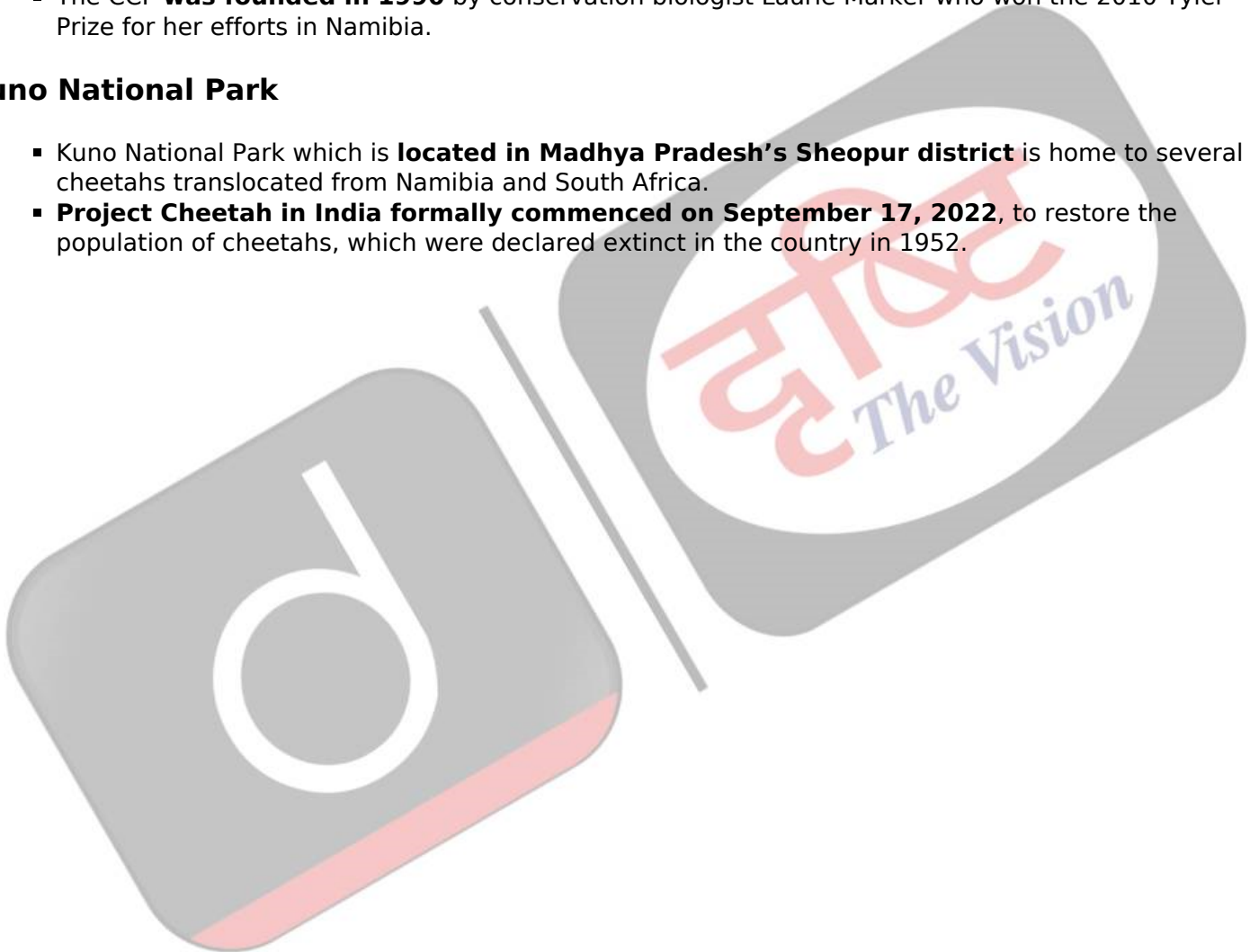
- In **July 2020, India and the Republic of Namibia signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)**, where the Namibian government agreed to donate the eight felines to the programme.
- **Five female** and **three male Southeast African cheetahs** between the **ages of four and six** were **brought to India** and kept in quarantine **in Kuno National Park (KNP) in Madhya Pradesh.**
- In **February 2023, 12 more cheetahs were brought from South Africa** to expand on the project. The MoEFCC further planned "to translocate a further 12 annually for the next eight to 10 years,"

Cheetah Conservation Fund (CCF)

- The CCF is **a research and lobby institution in Namibia concerned with the study and sustenance of the country's cheetah population**, the largest and healthiest in the world.
- Its Research and Education Centre, **located east of Otjiwarongo.**
- The CCF **was founded in 1990** by conservation biologist Laurie Marker who won the 2010 Tyler Prize for her efforts in Namibia.

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.
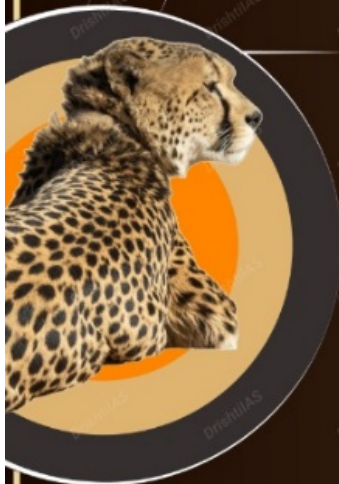
Cheetah

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

Project e-Adhigam and iDream Education | Haryana | 17 Jan 2024

Why in News?

In 2022, **the School Education Department, Government of Haryana** has launched **project e-Adhigam** giving **Samsung tablets to every Government School student** of **classes 10th, 11th and 12th in Haryana.**

- It comes with an **integrated Personalised Adaptive Learning (PAL) solution** for **remedial and supplementary learning** support.

Key Points

- **For the PAL platform** on these tablets, **the Department has awarded work to three PAL solution providers to iDream Education.**
    - **iPrep PAL** has been designed to become the **one-stop, all-inclusive supplementary learning platform** for students, including **adaptive and dynamic access to animated video lessons**, DIKSHA (Digital Infrastructure for Knowledge Sharing) content, practice **questions, digital books** and **reference material**, and practicals with simulations.
- **e-Adhigam (Advanced Digital Haryana Initiative of Government with Adaptive Module)** became the first of its kind, planned PAL on tablets project in the country.
    - **Digital devices with pre-installed Personalized adaptive learning applications** have been **provided to all students** for both **in-school and at-home learning** under teacher guidance and monitoring.
    - The tablets are issued to **every student at the beginning of the academic year,** they use it for learning in classrooms and revision at home throughout the year.
    - The tablets are then **returned to the school at the end of the academic year**, before being **reissued to the new batch.**
- Every **student's usage and learning outcomes** data are **deeply tracked through central reporting dashboards**, and student level usage and learning improvements are monitored through detailed analytics.
- **PAL** on tablets is one of the **best ways to empower government school students** to **cover** their previous year's **learning gaps** in a **personalized, enjoyable and non-judgemental learning environment** and achieve their grade-level learning objectives.

Note:

- iDream Education **works with a vision to facilitate universal access to learning and growth**. Solutions are **designed to break the learning barriers** and empower students to learn unlimitedly.
- To achieve this, **it partners with System Integrators, Government, CSR, NGOs, and other ecosystem partners** working with schools and students to deliver its digital content and learning platform through Smart Classrooms, ICT Labs, Tablets, Notebooks, and Mobile Devices.