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## Leopard Strayed from Pilibhit Tiger Reserve | Uttar Pradesh | 01 May 2024

### Why in News?

Recently, Forest officials captured a [leopard](#) which had strayed into Aliganj village from the nearby [Pilibhit Tiger Reserve](#) in Pilibhit district of Uttar Pradesh.

### Key Points

- The **Pilibhit Tiger reserve** is spread over the three districts of Pilibhit, Lakhimpur Kheri and Bahraich in Uttar Pradesh.
  - It covers an area of more than 700 square km and is home to a variety of wild animals including leopards and [tigers](#).
  - It forms part of **Terai Arc Landscape** in the **upper Gangetic Plain**.
  - The **northern edge of the reserve lies along the [Indo-Nepal border](#)** while the **southern boundary is marked by the river Sharada and Khakra**.

### Leopards

- **Scientific Name:** *Panthera pardus*
  - **About:**
    - The leopard is the smallest of the Big Cat family (of **genus Panthera** namely the **Tiger, Lion (*Panthera leo*), Jaguar, Leopard, and Snow Leopard**), and is known for its ability to adapt in a variety of habitats.
    - A **nocturnal animal**, feeds on smaller species of herbivores found in its range, such as the chital, hog deer and wild boar.
    - Melanism is a common occurrence in leopards, wherein the entire skin of the animal is black in colour, including its spots.
    - A melanistic leopard is often called a **black panther** and is mistakenly thought to be a different species.
  - **Habitat:**
    - It occurs in a wide range in **sub-Saharan Africa**, in small parts of Western and Central Asia, on the Indian subcontinent to Southeast and East Asia.
    - The **Indian leopard (*Panthera pardus fusca*)** is a leopard widely distributed on the Indian subcontinent.
  - **Threats:**
    - Poaching for the illegal trade of skins and body parts.
    - Habitat loss and fragmentation
    - Human-Leopard conflict
  - **Conservation Status:**
    - [IUCN Red List](#): Vulnerable
    - [CITES](#): Appendix-I
    - [Indian Wildlife \(Protection\) Act, 1972](#): Schedule-I
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# Cyber Police Stations in Uttar Pradesh | Uttar Pradesh | 01 May 2024

## Why in News?

The Uttar Pradesh government is to establish **cyber police stations in 57 districts** after the **parliamentary polls** with each cyber police station having 25 posts for officers and employees.

## Key Points

- The state government, in response to the rising incidents of [cybercrime](#) nationally and globally, has decided to establish cyber police stations across all 75 districts of the state.
  - While cyber stations are already operational in 18 divisions, the remaining 57 districts will also get such stations following the Lok Sabha elections.
- The finalisation of these stations will occur following the lifting of the [Model Code of Conduct \(MCC\)](#) and the conclusion of the general elections.

## Model Code of Conduct (MCC)

- The MCC is a **consensus document**. The political parties have themselves agreed to keep their conduct during elections in check and to work within the Code.
- It helps the [Election Commission \(EC\)](#) in keeping with the mandate it has been given under Article 324 of the Constitution, which gives it the **power to supervise** and conduct free and fair elections to the Parliament and State Legislatures.
- The MCC is operational from the date on **which the election schedule is announced until the date of the result announcement**.
- The government **cannot announce any financial grants**, promise construction of roads or other facilities, and make any ad hoc appointments in government or public undertaking during the time the Code is in force.
- **Enforceability of MCC:**
  - Though the **MCC does not have any statutory backing**, it has come to acquire strength in the past decade because of its strict enforcement by the EC.
  - Certain provisions of the MCC may be enforced by invoking corresponding provisions in other statutes such as the [Indian Penal Code \(IPC\) 1860](#), [Code of Criminal Procedure \(CrPC\) 1973](#), and [Representation of Peoples's Act \(RPA\) 1951](#).

## Cybercrime

- It is defined as a crime where a **computer is the object of the crime or is used as a tool** to commit an offense.
    - Cybercrimes fall under State subjects as per the **Seventh Schedule of the Constitution** of India.
  - It involves illegal or unauthorized activities that **exploit technology to commit various forms of crimes**.
  - Cybercrime covers a wide range of offenses and can affect individuals, organizations, and even governments.
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# IMS-BHU gets Ultrasound, Echocardiogram Machines | Uttar Pradesh | 01 May 2024

## Why in News?

The department of Geriatric Medicine at the Institute of Medical Sciences, **Banaras Hindu University**, officially unveiled **two new portable ultrasound and echocardiogram machines**.

## Key Points

- The department offers complimentary in-house bedside **electrocardiogram and spirometry services**, along with body composition analyzer and hand grip dynamometer for frailty assessment, all provided at no cost.
- IMS BHU gave a presentation on the range of **Ankylosing Spondylitis** impacting the bone.
  - The event was arranged by [AIIMS, Jammu](#) as part of the **Asia Pacific Orthopaedic Association Young Surgeons Forum**.

## Ankylosing Spondylitis (AS)

- It is a **type of arthritis** that mainly **affects the back, by causing inflammation in the spine**. This can make your back, rib cage and neck stiff and painful.
- It often starts in people who are in their late teens or 20s.
- In response to the inflammation, **the body produces extra calcium around the bones of the spine**. This can make extra bits of bone grow and cause your back and neck to be more stiff.

## The Asia Pacific Orthopaedic Association (APOA)

- It is a regional organisation of orthopaedic surgeons from the **Asia Pacific region**.
- It **began in 1962** as the Western Pacific Orthopaedic Association. With the inclusion of countries of the Indian sub-continent in 2000, the association was renamed as the Asia Pacific Orthopaedic Association.
- It has **24 member chapters** and more than 65,000 members from over 40 countries.
- Its **core mission** is to promote the education, research and fellowship amongst orthopaedic surgeons in this region.

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