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## 3rd Indian Analytical Congress (IAC) in Dehradun | Uttarakhand | 06 Jun 2024

### Why in News?

Recently, the **3rd Indian Analytical Congress (IAC) was inaugurated** at the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research-Indian Institute of Petroleum (CSIR-IIP) in **Dehradun, Uttarakhand**.

- It is a **three-day International Conference cum Exhibition IAC-2024 being jointly organised** by CSIR-IIP and the Indian Society of Analytical Scientists (ISAS-Delhi Chapter).

### Key Points

- The theme of the conference is: "**Role of Science and Technology in Green Transitions**".
- The conference **will provide a platform for industries, academia, scientists, and technologists in the Analytical Sciences** to present the prevalent and upcoming solutions in this area.
  - The conference shall **witness five technical sessions** comprising invited talks by eminent speakers, presentations by researchers, and special and plenary sessions.

### Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)

- **About:** [CSIR](#) is the largest research and development (R&D) organisation in India. CSIR has a pan-India presence and has a dynamic network of 37 national laboratories, 39 outreach centres, 3 Innovation Complexes and 5 units.
  - CSIR is **funded by the Ministry of Science and Technology** and it operates as an **autonomous body through the Societies Registration Act, 1860**.
  - **CSIR covers a wide spectrum of streams** - from radio and space physics, oceanography, geophysics, chemicals, drugs, genomics, biotechnology and nanotechnology to mining, aeronautics, instrumentation, environmental engineering and information technology.
    - It **provides significant technological intervention in many areas with regard to societal efforts** which include the environment, health, drinking water, food, housing, energy, and farm and non-farm sectors.
- **Established:** September 1942
- **Headquarters:** New Delhi

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## World Environment Day | Uttarakhand | 06 Jun 2024

### Why in News?

[World Environment Day](#) is celebrated on 5<sup>th</sup> June every year to encourage awareness and environmental protection.

## Key Points

- Recently, in a remarkable initiative to combat deforestation two environmentalists, Jai Dhar Gupta and Vijay Dhasmana **created India's first biosphere in a tiger reserve**, called the **Rajaji Raghati Biosphere (RRB)** within the Rajaji National Park in Uttarakhand.
- The biosphere is a 35-acre private forest initiative **aimed at identifying and reviving rare and endangered species** of native trees while protecting the area from poachers and mining.
  - The land earmarked for RRB **was previously barren and in a state of degradation.**
- They are also **developing a second biosphere** above the Koyna River in the buffer zone of the Sahyadri Tiger Reserve near Pune, Maharashtra, along the [Western Ghats](#).

## World Environment Day

- **About:**
  - The [United Nations Assembly](#) established World Environment Day in 1972, which was the first day of the [Stockholm Conference](#) on the human environment.
  - World Environment Day (WED) is **celebrated every year with a specific theme and slogan** that focuses on the major environmental issues of that time.
    - WED 2024 is **hosted by Saudi Arabia.**
    - India hosted the 45th celebration of World Environment Day in 2018 under the **theme 'Beat Plastic Pollution'.**
  - WED celebration in 2021 kicked off the [UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration \(2021-2030\)](#) which is a global mission to revive billions of hectares, from forests to farmlands, from the top of mountains to the depth of the seas.
- **The Theme for 2024:**
  - Land Restoration, Desertification and Drought Resilience
  - Year 2024 also marks the **30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the [UN Convention to Combat Desertification \(UNCCD\)](#).**

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## GST Bhawan in Haryana | Haryana | 06 Jun 2024

### Why in News?

Recently, the **Chairman of the [Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs \(CBIC\)](#), inaugurated the [Goods and Services Tax \(GST\) Bhawan](#), an official complex of Central Goods & Services Tax (CGST) at Rohtak, Haryana.**

### Key Points

- Located at **one of the most preferred locations** in Rohtak, the project sits at **the hub of connectivity to major districts of Haryana** and has easy and quick access to facilitate GST Taxpayers.
  - The inauguration of project in Amrit Kaal **showcases the strength of New India.**
- CBIC is a **part of the Department of Revenue** under the Ministry of Finance.
  - The Central Board of Excise and Customs (CBEC) was **renamed as the CBIC in 2018 after the roll out of the GST.**
  - It **deals with the tasks of formulation of policy concerning levy and collection of**

**Customs**, Central Excise duties, Central Goods & Services Tax and IGST, prevention of smuggling and administration of matters relating to Customs, Central Excise, Central Goods & Services Tax (CGST), Integrated GST and Narcotics to the extent under CBIC's purview.

## Goods & Services Tax (GST)

- **About:** ST is a **value-added tax system that is levied on the supply of goods and services** in India.
  - It is a **comprehensive indirect tax** that was **introduced in India on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2017**, through the **101<sup>st</sup> Constitution Amendment Act, 2016**, with the slogan of **'One Nation One Tax'**.
- **GST Council:** It is a constitutional body responsible for making recommendations on issues related to the implementation of the GST in India.
  - As per **Article 279A (1) of the amended Constitution**, the **GST Council was constituted by the President**.
- **CGST:** Under GST, CGST is a tax levied on intrastate supplies of both goods and services by the Central Government and collected by the Central Government and contributes to its funds.
- **IGST:** It is a tax levied on all interstate supplies of goods and/or services or across two or more states/Union Territories.
- **SGST:** An equivalent amount of SGST is a tax levied on intrastate supplies of both goods and services by the particular state government where the product sold is consumed.

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## Project Cheetah | Madhya Pradesh | 06 Jun 2024

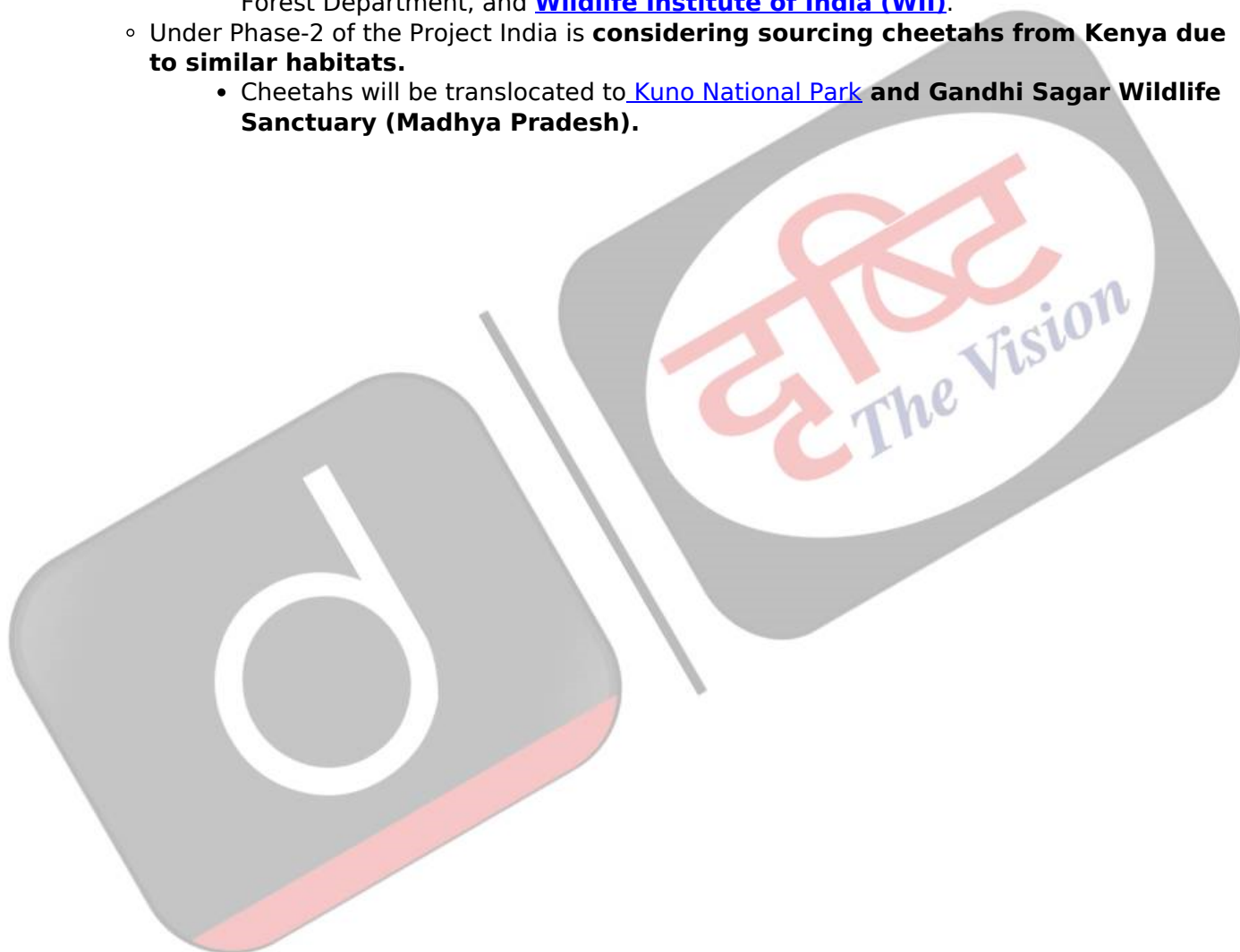
### Why in News?

Recently, a **Kenyan delegation visited India to discuss collaboration on wildlife conservation**

efforts, with a particular emphasis on the ongoing **Cheetah Reintroduction Project** ([Project Cheetah](#)).

## Key Points

- The delegation presented a draft MoU to the [National Tiger Conservation Authority \(NTCA\)](#) proposing collaboration.
  - It along with capacity building and knowledge sharing, also included provisions for supplying equipment to Kenyan forest rangers to **enhance field patrolling and wildlife preservation efforts.**
- **Project Cheetah:**
  - The Phase-1 of the project started in 2022, to restore the population of cheetahs, which were declared extinct in the country in 1952.
    - It **involves the translocation of cheetahs from South Africa and Namibia to Kuno National Park.**
    - The project is implemented by the NTCA in collaboration with the Madhya Pradesh Forest Department, and [Wildlife Institute of India \(WII\)](#).
  - Under Phase-2 of the Project India is **considering sourcing cheetahs from Kenya due to similar habitats.**
    - Cheetahs will be translocated to [Kuno National Park](#) and **Gandhi Sagar Wildlife Sanctuary (Madhya Pradesh).**





# Cheetah

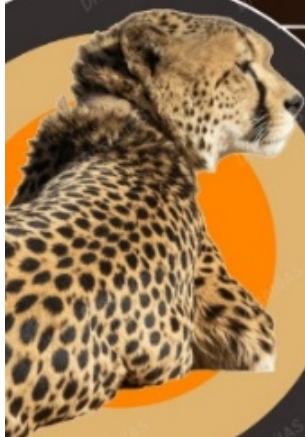
**Common Name** - Cheetah

**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.

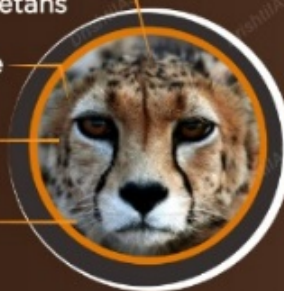


Slightly brownish and golden skin; thicker than the Asiatic Cheetahs

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

Dr  
Vision

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## World's Largest Grain Storage Plan | Uttar Pradesh | 06 Jun 2024

### Why in News?

Recently, the **National Level Coordination Committee (NLCC) for the World's largest grain storage plan held its maiden meeting** in New Delhi.

- The plan envisages **transforming [Primary Agricultural Credit Societies \(PACS\)](#) into **Multi-Service Societies**.**

### Key Points

- The Pilot project has been **implemented by [National Cooperative Development Corporation \(NCDC\)](#)** with the support of **[National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development \(NABARD\)](#), [Food Corporation of India \(FCI\)](#)**, Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC), NABARD Consultancy Services (NABCONS) in coordination with States/ UTs concerned.
  - NCDC was **established by an Act of Parliament in 1963 as a statutory Corporation** under the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare.
    - NCDC **functions through its Head Office at New Delhi** and multiple Regional Offices.
- The committee **reviewed the status of implementation of its pilot project in 11 States**, which was initiated in 2023.
  - States of Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Assam, Tripura, Uttarakhand and Telangana have implemented its pilot project.
- The Plan envisages **creation of various agricultural infrastructure at PACS level, including** warehouses, custom hiring center, processing units, Fair Price Shops, etc. through convergence of various existing schemes:
  - **[Agriculture Infrastructure Fund \(AIF\)](#)**, [Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure Scheme \(AMI\)](#), **[Sub Mission on Agricultural Mechanization \(SMAM\)](#)**, **[Pradhan Mantri Formalization of Micro Food Processing Enterprises Scheme \(PMFME\)](#)** etc.