

## **Kuno Cheetah Captured in Rajasthan**

## Why in News?

One of the <u>Cheetahs</u> from <u>Kuno National Park</u> in Madhya Pradesh wandered around 50km and ended up in **Karauli, Rajasthan.** 

However, it was tranquilized and safely returned the same evening.

## **Key Points**

- According to forest department officials, the cheetah may have followed a route along the <u>Chambal river</u>, which flows through Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan's Karauli.
  - Chambal river is one of the most pollution-free rivers of India.
  - It's 960 km. long river that originates at the Singar Chouri peak in the northern slopes of the Vindhya mountains (Indore, Madhya Pradesh). From there, it flows in the North direction in Madhya Pradesh for a length of about 346 km and then follows a north-easterly direction for a length of 225 km through Rajasthan.
  - It enters UP and flows for about 32 km before joining the Yamuna River in Etawah District.
  - It is a rainfed river and its basin is bounded by the Vindhyan mountain ranges and the Aravallis. The Chambal and its tributaries drain the Malwa region of northwestern Madhya Pradesh.
  - o Tributaries: Banas, Kali Sindh, Parbati.
  - Main Power Projects/ Dam: Gandhi Sagar Dam, Rana Pratap Sagar Dam, Jawahar Sagar Dam, and Kota Barrage.
  - The National Chambal Sanctuary is located along river Chambal on the tri-junction of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh. It is known for critically endangered gharial, the red-crowned roof turtle, and the endangered Ganges river dolphin.

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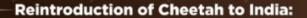


## Cheetah

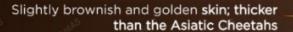
Common Name - Cheetah

Scientific Name - Acinonyx jubatus

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



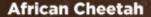
- The "Action Plan for Introduction of Cheetah in India" was released by MoEF&CC at the 19th meeting of the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) (January 2022).
  - Such a plan was first proposed in 2009.
- In September 2022, eight cheetahs landed in India from Namibia.
  - The 8 cheetahs have 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.



More prominent spots and lines on the face

Found all over the African continent

**IUCN Red List Status - Vulnerable** 



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** 





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