



Weak Monsoon in Haryana | Haryana | 30 Jul 2024

Why in News?

According to the [India Meteorological Department](#), due to weak monsoon Haryana may need to contemplate **relief efforts for farmers who depend on monsoon rainfall** and methods to alleviate water shortages.

Key Points

- According to the data, **Haryana ended in a deficit of 38% from its normal** as the state recorded rainfall at 114.6mm.
- Monsoon conditions were in a "weak phase" through June and July in the region due to the **delay in formation of La Nina**, a phenomenon that **typically brings favourable monsoon rainfall to the Indian subcontinent.**
 - Rainfall in deficit zones is expected to improve with the formation of La Nina later in August or early September.
- A researcher from the [Center for Study of Science, Technology and Policy \(CSTEP\)](#) think-tank stated that another climate phenomenon known as the [Indian Ocean Dipole](#), which **impacts the waters in the Indian Ocean, is currently in a neutral phase.**
 - A **positive Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD)** brings favorable rainfall during the monsoon season.
- In the event of lower-than-expected rainfall following the withdrawal of the monsoon season, experts have indicated that the **government will need to implement contingency plans.**
 - These plans may include providing **additional support to farmers, ensuring the availability of water for irrigation purposes**, and implementing **other water conservation measures.**

La Nina

- La Nina **means 'The Little Girl' in Spanish.** It is also sometimes called El Viejo, anti-El Nino, or simply "a cold event."
- La Nina events represent periods of **below-average sea surface temperatures** across the [east-central Equatorial Pacific.](#)
 - It is indicated by sea-surface temperature decreased by more than 0.9°F for at least five successive three-month seasons.
- The La Nina event is observed when the **water temperature in the Eastern Pacific gets comparatively colder than normal**, as a consequence of which, there is a **strong high pressure over the eastern equatorial Pacific.**

The Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD)

- IOD, sometimes referred to as the **Indian Nino**, is similar to the **El Nino** phenomenon, **occurring in the relatively smaller area** of the Indian Ocean between the **Indonesian and Malaysian coastline in the east and the African coastline near Somalia** in the west.
 - **The El Nino** is the warmer-than-normal phase of the [El Nino Southern Oscillation \(ENSO\) phenomenon](#), during which there are generally warmer temperatures and less rainfall than normal in many regions of the world, including India.
- One side of the ocean, along the equator, gets warmer than the other.

- IOD is said to be positive when the western side of the Indian Ocean, near the **Somalia coast**, becomes warmer than the eastern Indian Ocean.
- It is negative when the **western Indian Ocean is cooler**.

Manu Bhaker Wins Olympic Bronze | Haryana | 30 Jul 2024

Why in News?

Recently, **Manu Bhaker** who hails from **Jhajjar, Haryana** won a **bronze medal** in the **women's 10m air pistol event** and **bronze at 10m mixed team pistol event** at the [Paris 2024 Olympics](#).

- She is the first Indian female shooter to win an Olympic medal.



Key Points

- **Medal in 10m air pistol event** is the **first medal for India at the Paris 2024 Olympics** and the **first Olympic medal in shooting** for India since the London 2012 Games.
 - She also **won bronze at 10m mixed team pistol event** along with **Sarabjot Singh**.
- She is the **fifth Indian shooter to win an Olympic medal**, following **Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore (2004 Athens)**, **Abhinav Bindra (2008 Beijing)**, **Vijay Kumar (2012 London)**, and **Gagan Narang (2012 London)**.
- Manu has also won medals at [Asian Games \(2022\)](#), [World Championship, Baku \(2023\)](#), [Asian Shooting Championship, Changwon \(2023\)](#), [World Cup, Bhopal \(2023\)](#), [World Championship, Cairo \(2022\)](#), [World University Games, Chengdu \(2021\)](#) sports events.

Olympics

▪ About:

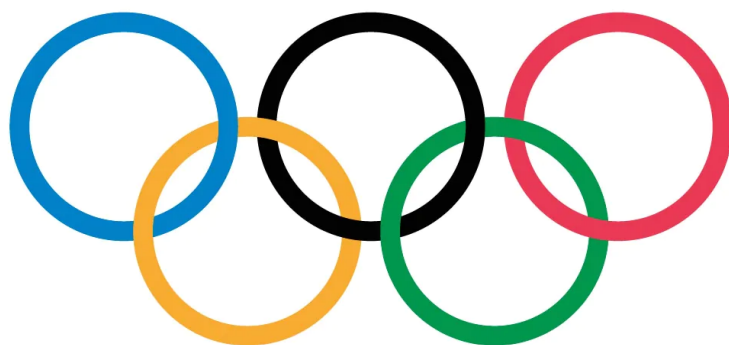
- The **Olympics are an international sporting event that takes place every four years.**
 - The goals of the Olympics are to **cultivate human beings through sport and contribute to world peace.**
- The Olympics include: **Summer Games, Winter Games, Youth Olympics Games.**

▪ History and Origin:

- Olympics trace their roots back around **3,000 years to Ancient Greece's Peloponnese region.**
- While the precise starting date remains uncertain, **776 BC is a commonly mentioned year in historical records.**
 - The first modern Olympics were held in **Athens, Greece in 1896** based on the **plan of Pierre de Coubertin.**

▪ Olympic Rings:

- The Olympic symbol consists of **five interlocking rings of different colors (blue, yellow, black, green, and red)** on a white background.
- These rings represent the **five continents of the world** and symbolize the **unity and diversity of nations through sports.**



Ek
The Vision

Safety Inspection of Coaching Centres in Madhya Pradesh | Madhya Pradesh | 30 Jul 2024

Why in News?

Recently, Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister directed officials to **inspect the coaching institutes in the State that have operations in basements.**

- This order came after **three UPSC aspirants died by drowning due to water-logging in the basement of a coaching centre in Delhi.**

Key Points

- Instructions have already been issued to the 16 municipal corporations of the State to conduct inspections of **coaching institutes, hostels or other accommodation facilities, and any such establishments** in their area.
 - The **State government has asked the civic bodies to submit a report** in this regard.
 - Many cities in Madhya Pradesh like **Bhopal, Indore, Gwalior and Jabalpur** have a number of **coaching institutes for various competitive exams**, including **UPSC, judicial services and JEE and NEET entrances**.
 - The State has also been receiving heavy rainfall for more than a week with **several parts** such as Vidisha, Raisen and Ujjain **facing flood-like situations**.
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Cheetahs in Gandhinagar Sanctuary | Madhya Pradesh | 30 Jul 2024

Why in News?

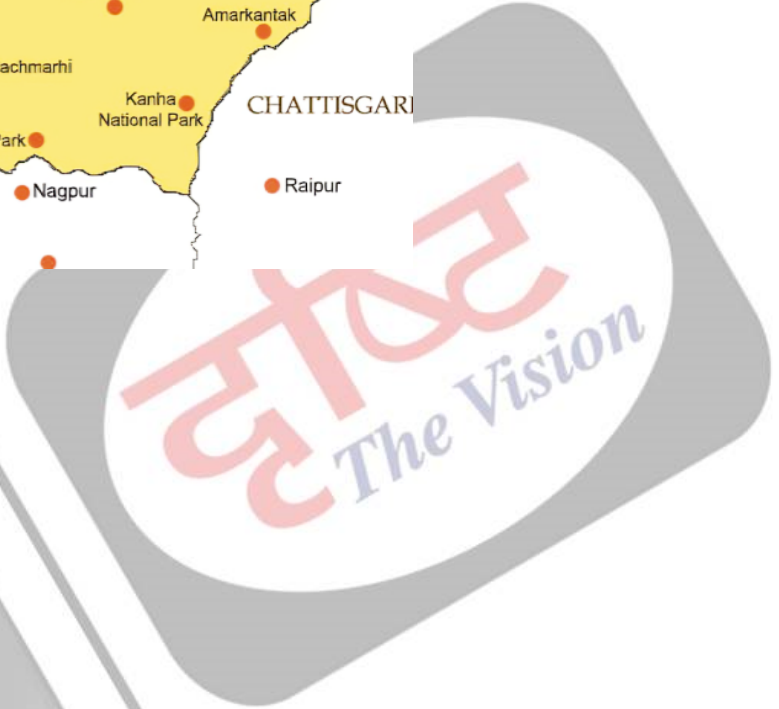
Recently, Madhya Pradesh chief minister announced that **cheetahs would be released soon** in the **Gandhinagar Sanctuary** in **Mandsaur district**.

Key Points

- The Chief Minister made the announcement on the occasion of **World Tiger Day**.
- On January 26, 2022, the **Indian and South African governments signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU)** to facilitate the relocation of cheetahs.
 - The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) establishes the **restoration of the cheetah population as a priority** for India.
 - This initiative is expected to have **significant and wide-ranging conservation implications**.
 - The primary goals are to **re-establish the cheetah's functional role** within its historical habitat in India and enhance the livelihoods and economies of the local communities.

Gandhi Sagar Wildlife Sanctuary

- **Location:**
 - Notified in 1974, encompassing the districts of **Mandsaur and Neemuch** in western Madhya Pradesh, bordering Rajasthan.
 - The **Chambal River** bifurcates the sanctuary into two nearly equal parts, with the Gandhi Sagar Dam situated within the sanctuary.
- **Ecosystem:**
 - Its ecosystem is characterised by its **rocky terrain** and **shallow topsoil**, which supports a **savanna ecosystem**.
 - This comprises **open grasslands** interspersed with **dry deciduous trees** and shrubs. Additionally, the riverine valleys within the sanctuary are evergreen.
- **Ideal Habitat for Cheetahs:**
 - The sanctuary's resemblance to the **Maasai Mara**, a renowned national reserve in **Kenya** known for its savanna wilderness and abundant wildlife, highlights its suitability for cheetahs.



AFRICAN CHEETAH VS ASIATIC CHEETAH



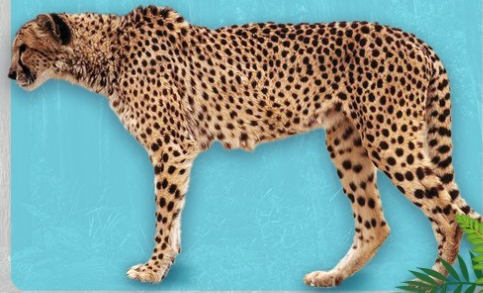
AFRICAN CHEETAH

- 🐾 **SCIENTIFIC NAME:**
Acinonyx Jubatus
- 🐾 **DISTRIBUTION:**
Across Africa from North-west Africa, East Africa, & Southern Africa
- 🐾 **SIZE:**
Slightly bigger build with sturdier legs and neck
- 🐾 **SKIN:**
Light brown to golden brown fur color, thicker than the Asiatic ones
- 🐾 **IUCN RED LIST STATUS:**
Vulnerable



ASIATIC CHEETAH

- 🐾 **SCIENTIFIC NAME:**
Acinonyx Jubatus Venaticus
- 🐾 **DISTRIBUTION:**
Only 12 Asiatic cheetahs, 9 males, and 3 females are left in Iran
- 🐾 **SIZE:**
Slightly smaller and slender than the African cheetah
- 🐾 **SKIN:**
Buff to light fawn color bordering pale yellow skin, has more fur underbelly and back of neck
- 🐾 **IUCN RED LIST STATUS:**
Critically Endangered



SC Declines Interim Stay of Patna HC Decision | Bihar | 30 Jul 2024

Why in News?

Recently, [The Supreme Court](#) has refused to stay the Patna High Court's order that set aside the increase in reservation for [SC/STs](#), [Backward Classes](#), and [Extremely Backward Classes](#) in Bihar from **50% to 65%** in public employment and educational institutions.

Key Points

- The Patna High Court set aside the **amended reservation laws in Bihar**, which **increased quotas for Dalits, tribals and backward classes from 50% to 65%**, declaring the amendments as **"ultra vires" of the Constitution, "bad in law" and "violative of the equality clause"**.
 - The amendments had followed a **caste survey**, which put the percentage of Other **Backward Classes and Extremely Backward Classes at 63%** of the state's total population, while **SCs and STs were stated to have accounted for more than 21%**.
- **After the quotas were hiked, reserved seats in the state**, including those for the economically weaker sections, **came to be 75%** of the total.

Reservation

- **Reservation** is a **form of positive discrimination**, created to **promote equality among marginalised sections** and to protect them from social and historical injustice.
- It gives **preferential treatment to marginalised sections of society in employment and access to education**.
- It was also originally developed to correct years of discrimination and to give a boost to disadvantaged groups.

Supreme Court Notice on Collapsing Bridges | Bihar | 30 Jul 2024

Why in News?

Recently, **The Supreme Court** has asked the Bihar government to respond to a **writ petition** that highlights the **recurring incidents of bridge collapses in the state**.

Key Points

- The **Chief Justice of India** issued notice **on the petition filed** for a **high-level structural audit of bridges in Bihar** along with demolition or retrofitting of weak constructions to save lives.
- The petition has requested the court to establish a policy or system for the real-time monitoring of bridges, similar to the mechanism developed by the **Roads and Transport Ministry** for the preservation of **National Highways and Centrally Sponsored Schemes**.
 - The focus of the policy should be on the **"identification and implementation of real-time health monitoring of bridges using sensors"**.