

Cub Dies in Madhya Pradesh's Kuno National Park

Why in News?

A five-month-old cheetah cub, born to the African cheetah Gamini, died at <u>Kuno National Park</u> in Madhya Pradesh.

Kuno National Park now has 13 adult cheetahs and 12 cubs remaining.

Key Points

- The five-month-old cheetah cub, whose health suddenly deteriorated and was found dragging its hind portion due to a fractured vertebral column, has died; the cause of death will be confirmed after an autopsy.
- Kuno National Park:
 - Kuno National Park, located in Madhya Pradesh's Sheopur district is home to several cheetahs translocated from Namibia and South Africa.
 - It is named after the **Kuno River**, one of the main tributaries of the <u>Chambal River</u>, which flows through the area.



Cheetah

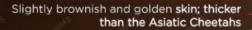
Common Name - Cheetah

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.



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





