



## World Lion Day

[Source: PIB](#)

[World Lion Day](#), established by Big Cat Rescue and celebrated on **10th August since 2013**, highlights the urgent need for lion conservation due to threats like habitat loss, human-wildlife conflict, and poaching.

- As apex predators, **lions control herbivore populations** and support ecosystem health, with a **lifespan of 10-14 years in the wild and a birth interval of around 2 years**.
- In India, the [Asiatic lion](#), a symbol of strength in the national emblem, has seen its **population increase from 523 in 2015 to about 674 in 2020** due to successful conservation efforts.
- Launched on 15th August 2020, '[Project Lion](#)' aims to secure the future of Asiatic lions through habitat improvement, advanced monitoring, and addressing human-wildlife conflict.

# Asiatic Lion

*Panthera Leo Persica*

### Features

- Asiatic lions are slightly smaller than African lions.
- The most striking morphological character, which is always seen in Asiatic lions, and rarely in African lions, is a longitudinal fold of skin running along its belly.

### Habitat

- At present Gir National Park and Wildlife Sanctuary (Gujarat) is the only abode of the Asiatic lion.

### Protection Status

- Endangered: IUCN Red List
- Appendix I: CITES
- Schedule I: Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972

### Threats

- Human Animal Conflict
- Poaching
- Genetic Inbreeding
- Diseases such as plague, canine distemper

### Conservation Efforts

- Asiatic Lion Conservation Project
- Project Lion
- World Lion Day (10<sup>th</sup> August)



Read More: [World Lion Day 2022, Asiatic Lion Conservation Project](#)

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