



MP-Rajasthan Joint Panel on Cheetah Conservation

Why in News?

Following recent incidents of [cheetahs](#) from Madhya Pradesh straying into Rajasthan, a **joint corridor management committee** has been established by both states to support cheetah conservation.

Key Points

- **About the Joint Corridor Management Committee:**
 - The committee will assess suitable areas for the future relocation of cheetahs from **Madhya Pradesh's [Kuno National Park \(KNP\)](#) and [Gandhi Sagar Sanctuary](#).**
 - Recommendations will include habitat improvements, particularly for the pre-augmentation base.
 - The committee will evaluate options for joint tourist routes, potentially covering border areas like the [National Chambal Gharial Sanctuary](#), KNP, and [Ranthambore National Park](#).
- **Cheetah Reintroduction Project in KNP:**
 - As part of the reintroduction project, **eight cheetahs from Namibia were brought to KNP** in September 2022, followed by twelve cheetahs from South Africa in February 2023.
 - The initiative **aims to restore the cheetah population**, which was declared extinct in India in 1952.
 - However, since its inception, the **project has faced numerous challenges**, including the deaths of many adult cheetahs and the mortalities of cubs reported over the past two years.
 - As of now, **KNP is home to 24 cheetahs**, including cubs.

Kuno National Park (KNP)

- KNP which is **located in Madhya Pradesh's Sheopur district** is home to several cheetahs translocated from Namibia and South Africa.
- It was initially established as a **wildlife sanctuary in 1981** and later **designated as a national park in 2018**.

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Cheetah

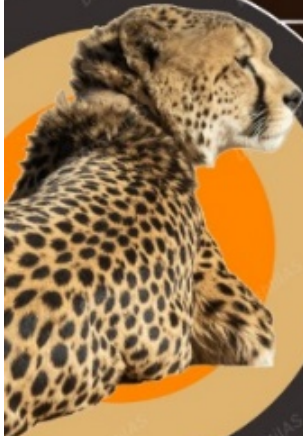
Common Name - Cheetah

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

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