

## MP-Rajasthan Joint Panel on Cheetah Conservation | Madhya Pradesh | 07 Nov 2024

#### Why in News?

Following recent incidents of <u>cheetahs</u> 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 <u>Kuno National Park (KNP)</u> and <u>Gandhi Sagar Sanctuary</u>.
    - Recommendations will include habitat improvements, particularly for the preaugmentation base.
  - The committee will evaluate options for joint tourist routes, potentially covering border areas like the <u>National Chambal Gharial Sanctuary</u>, KNP, and <u>Ranthambore National Park</u>.
- 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.

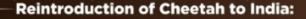
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# Cheetah

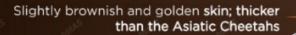
Common Name - Cheetah

Scientific Name - Acinonyx jubatus

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



- 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** 

**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** 





