



# Project Cheetah

## Why in News?

Recently, a **Kenyan delegation visited India to discuss collaboration on wildlife conservation efforts**, with a particular emphasis on the ongoing **Cheetah Reintroduction Project** ([Project Cheetah](#)).

## Key Points

- The delegation presented a draft MoU to the [National Tiger Conservation Authority \(NTCA\)](#) proposing collaboration.
  - It along with capacity building and knowledge sharing, also included provisions for supplying equipment to Kenyan forest rangers to **enhance field patrolling and wildlife preservation efforts**.
- **Project Cheetah:**
  - The Phase-1 of the project started in 2022, to restore the population of cheetahs, which were declared extinct in the country in 1952.
    - It **involves the translocation of cheetahs from South Africa and Namibia to Kuno National Park**.
    - The project is implemented by the NTCA in collaboration with the Madhya Pradesh Forest Department, and [Wildlife Institute of India \(WII\)](#).
  - Under Phase-2 of the Project India is **considering sourcing cheetahs from Kenya due to similar habitats**.
    - Cheetahs will be translocated to [Kuno National Park](#) and **Gandhi Sagar Wildlife Sanctuary (Madhya Pradesh)**.

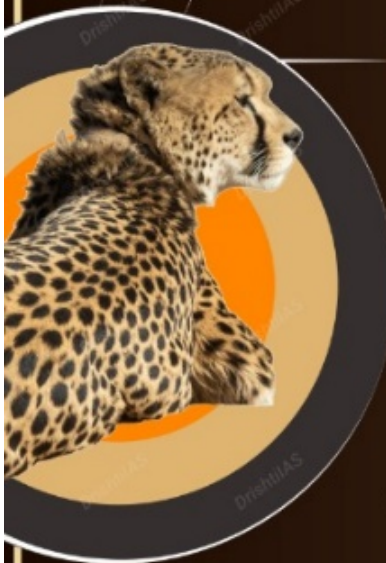
//

# Cheetah

**Common Name** - Cheetah

**Scientific Name** - *Acinonyx jubatus*

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



## Reintroduction of Cheetah to India:

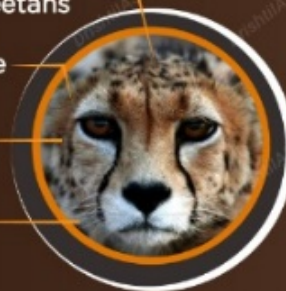
- The "Action Plan for Introduction of Cheetah in India" was released by MoEF&CC at the 19th meeting of the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) (January 2022).
  - Such a plan was first proposed in 2009.
- In September 2022, eight cheetahs landed in India from Namibia.
  - The 8 cheetahs have 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



Drishti IAS

PDF Refernece URL: <https://www.drishtias.com/printpdf/project-cheetah-2>

