



Cheetah Cubs in Kuno National Park

Why in News?

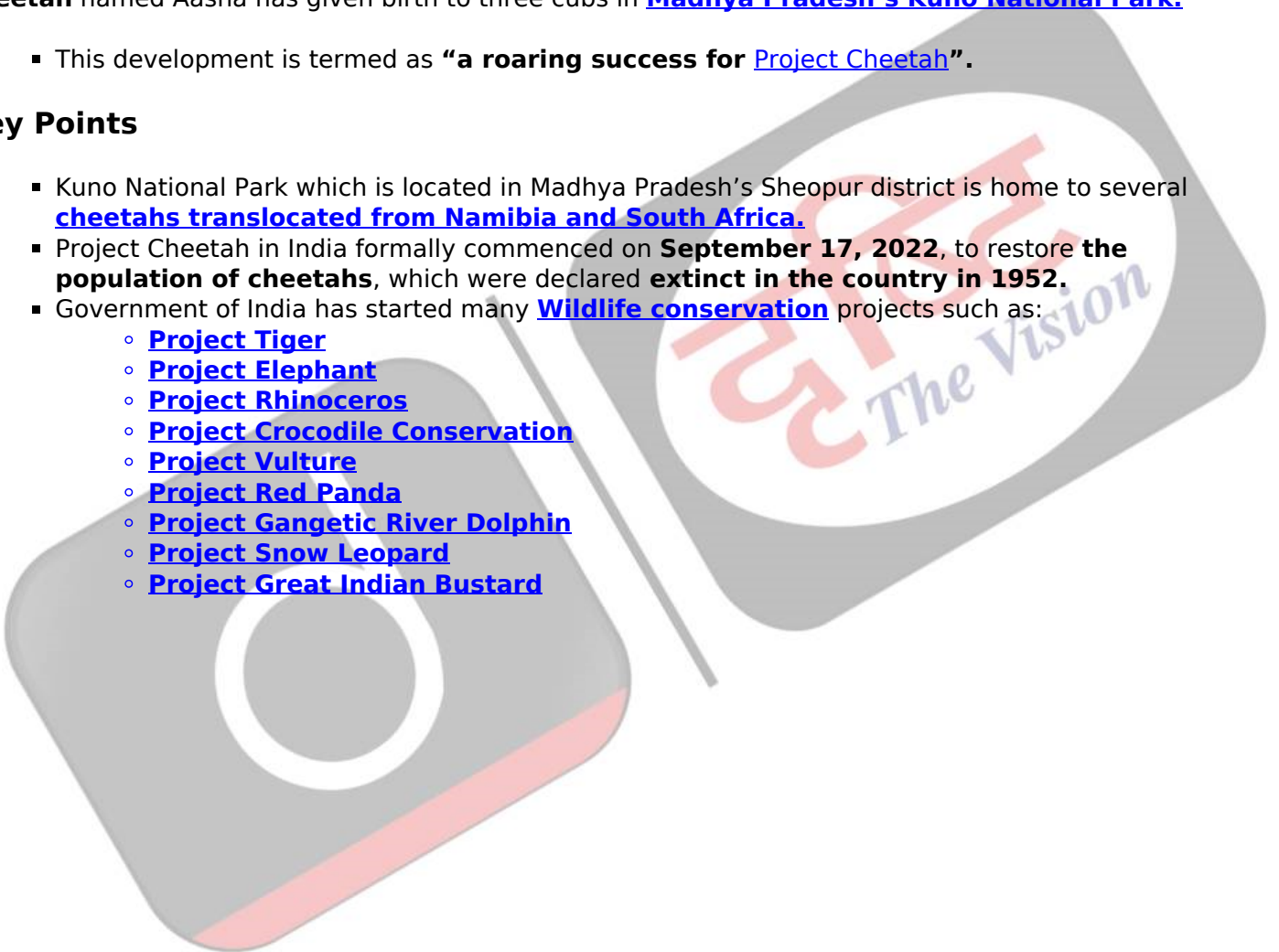
According to the **Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change**, a **Namibian cheetah** named Aasha has given birth to three cubs in [Madhya Pradesh's Kuno National Park](#).

- This development is termed as **“a roaring success for [Project Cheetah](#)”**.

Key Points

- Kuno National Park which is located in Madhya Pradesh's Sheopur district is home to several [cheetahs translocated from Namibia and South Africa](#).
- Project Cheetah in India formally commenced on **September 17, 2022**, to restore **the population of cheetahs**, which were declared **extinct in the country in 1952**.
- Government of India has started many [Wildlife conservation](#) projects such as:
 - [Project Tiger](#)
 - [Project Elephant](#)
 - [Project Rhinoceros](#)
 - [Project Crocodile Conservation](#)
 - [Project Vulture](#)
 - [Project Red Panda](#)
 - [Project Gangetic River Dolphin](#)
 - [Project Snow Leopard](#)
 - [Project Great Indian Bustard](#)

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Cheetah

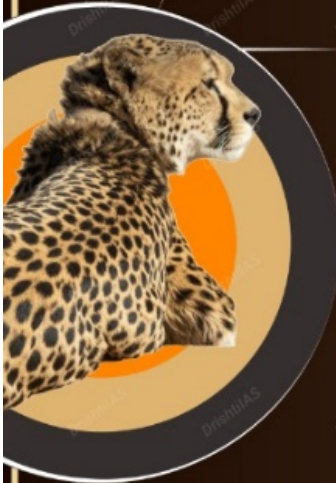
Common Name - Cheetah

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



