



Conservation Breeding in Indira Gandhi Zoological Park (IGZP)

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Why in News?

Recently, the [Indira Gandhi Zoological Park \(IGZP\)](#) in Visakhapatnam has been at the forefront of [wildlife conservation](#) in India, particularly in the successful breeding and nurturing of [Striped hyenas](#) and [Asiatic wild dogs \(Dhole\)](#).

What are the Key Points About Indira Gandhi Zoological Park (IGZP)?

- It is an **ex-situ facility established in 1977**, located amidst **Seethakonda Reserve Forest** in the Visakhapatnam district of Andhra Pradesh.
 - It is surrounded by [Eastern Ghats](#) on three sides and the **Bay of Bengal** on the fourth side.
- It is a large category zoo recognised by the [Central Zoo Authority](#).
 - Due to its close proximity to **Kambalakonda Wildlife Sanctuary** it is also home to many free-ranging animals and birds.
- **IGZP has successfully bred** striped hyenas, [wild dogs](#), [Indian grey wolves](#), [ring-tailed lemurs](#), [Indian bison](#), [blue](#) and [gold macaws](#), jungle cats, and [eclectus parrots](#).

Asiatic Wild Dogs (Dhole)

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Photo by: Stan Wood / Flickr

▪ **About:**

- **Dhole (*Cuon alpinus*)** is a wild carnivorous animal and is a member of the family **Canidae** and the **class Mammalia**.

▪ **Habitat:**

- Historically widespread across southern Russia to southeast Asia, they are now mainly found in south and southeast Asia, with northern populations in China.
- In India, they are clustered in the **Western and Eastern Ghats**, central India, and northeast India.

▪ **Conservation:**

- [Wildlife Protection Act, 1972](#): Schedule II
- [International Union for Conservation of Nature's Red List](#): Endangered
- [The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora \(CITES\)](#): Appendix II
- The creation of reserves under [Project Tiger](#) provided some protection for dhole populations sympatric with tigers.

Striped Hyenas

▪ **About:**

- The Striped hyenas (*Hyaena hyaena*) are **one of the three hyena species**.
 - Other **hyena species include** Brown hyenas, and Spotted hyenas (the largest).
- They are **smaller and less social than the more well-known Spotted hyena**.

▪ **Challenges to Conservation:** Habitat loss, human-wildlife conflict, poaching, and illegal wildlife trade.

▪ **Protection Status:**

- [IUCN Status](#): Near Threatened
- [Wildlife Protection Act, 1972](#): Schedule I



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