



National Review Meeting on Conservation Breeding of Vulture Species Held

Why in News

- Recently the [Central Zoo Authority \(CZA\)](#) at [Vulture Conservation Breeding Center \(VCBC\)](#), Pinjore, Haryana along with [Bombay Natural History Society](#) organized a National Review Meeting on Conservation Breeding of Vulture Species in India.

Key Points

- According to a government spokesperson, Vulture Conservation Breeding Centre, Pinjore Coordinating Zoo and five other zoos - **Nandankanan Biological Park, Bhubaneswar (Odisha), Van Vihar National Park and Zoo, Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh), Sakkarbagh Zoo, Junagadh (Gujarat)** will participate in the event, according to a government spokesperson, **Nehru Zoological Park, Hyderabad (Telangana) and Assam State Zoo, Guwahati (Assam)** are the participating zoos in the programme.
- An official spokesperson said that Rajabhatkhawa (West Bengal) and VCBC, Rani (Assam) centres which have been set up in collaboration with the respective state governments also participated in the meeting.
- Directors of all centres, veterinarians or biologists participated in this review meeting. During this a 'Manual for Vulture Keepers' developed by VCBC, Pinjore was released.
- The meeting recommended that the Action Plan for Conservation of Vultures in India (APVC), 2020-2025, coordinate the two additional species identified for conservation - the red-headed vulture (*Sarcogyps calvus*) and the Egyptian vulture (*Neophron percnopterus*). Can be taken under protection breeding.
- In the mid-nineties, the population of three gypsum vultures—white-backed, long-billed and slender-billed—had a sharp decline due to the use of diclofenac. The program was initiated after the CZA released the Action Plan for Vulture Conservation in 2006 to prevent their possible extinction.