

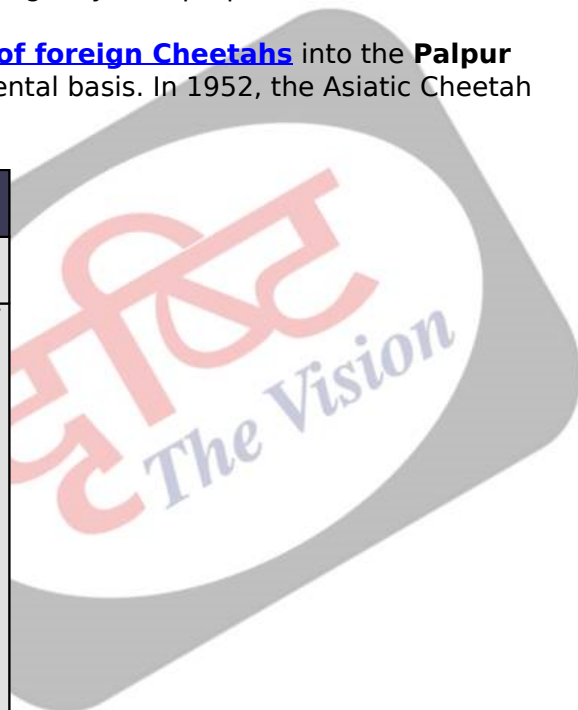


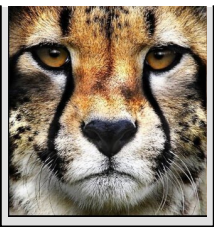

Introduction of African Cheetah in India

Why in News

- Recently, the Supreme Court has lifted its seven-year-long stay on a proposal to introduce **African Cheetahs from Namibia into the Indian habitat.**
- Court has now allowed to initiate the [re-introduction of foreign Cheetahs](#) into the **Palpur Kuno sanctuary in Madhya Pradesh** on an experimental basis. In 1952, the Asiatic Cheetah was **officially declared extinct** from India.

| Sr. No. | Parameter | African Cheetah | Asiatic Cheetah |
|---------|---------------------------------|---|---|
| 1. | IUCN status | Vulnerable | Critically Endangered. |
| 2. | CITES status | Appendix-I of the List. This List comprises of migratory species that have been assessed as being in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of their range. | Appendix-I of the List. |
| 3. | Habitat | Around 6,500-7,000 African cheetahs present in the wild. | 40-50 found only in Iran. |
| 4. | Physical Characteristics | Bigger in size as compared to Asiatic Cheetah. | Smaller and paler than the African cheetah. Has more fur, a smaller head and a longer neck. Usually have red eyes and they have a more cat-like appearance. |



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| 5. | Image |  |  |
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Note:

- According to the **United Nations**, Cheetahs are listed as “Vulnerable” by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List of Threatened Species, but a recent study revealed the decline in its significant population. Hence, scientists are demanding for cheetahs to be uplisted to “Endangered” category.
- In North Africa and Asia, they are considered to be “Critically Endangered.”

Source: IE

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