



## Project Cheetah Wins Innovative Initiative Award | Madhya Pradesh | 12 Sep 2025

### Why in News?

**Project Cheetah** has been honored with the prestigious '**Innovative Initiative Award**' at the **3rd Eco Warrior Awards**, which was hosted by the **Indian Forest Service (IFS) Association** and Indian Mastermind in Delhi.

- The award was presented to **Uttam Sharma**, the field director of [Project Cheetah](#).

### Key Points

- **About:** The **Eco Warrior Awards** recognize exceptional efforts in conservation and sustainability.
  - The **IFS Association** specifically chose Project Cheetah for its remarkable achievement in **reviving an extinct species in India** and for its commitment to involve local communities in the project's success.
- **Newsletter:** As the project marked its third anniversary, the forest department also released a special newsletter documenting the journey of Project Cheetah from the arrival of the first cheetahs at [Kuno National Park](#) in 2022 to the successful births of cubs and ongoing habitat management efforts.

### Project Cheetah

- **About:** Project Cheetah (Cheetah Reintroduction Project) was launched in **2022**, with the aim to reintroduce cheetahs to India (declared extinct in 1952) as part of global cheetah conservation efforts.
- **Implementing Agencies:** [National Tiger Conservation Authority \(NTCA\)](#), Madhya Pradesh Forest Department, and [Wildlife Institute of India \(WII\)](#).
- **Implementation: Phase 1** involved translocating cheetahs from Namibia (2022) and South Africa (2023) to Kuno National Park, Madhya Pradesh.
  - 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

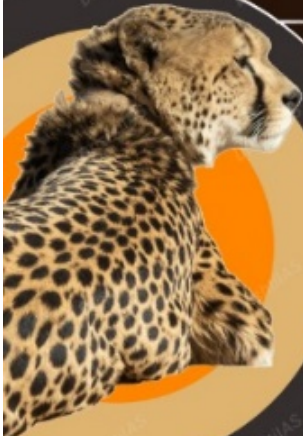
**Common Name** - Cheetah

**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.

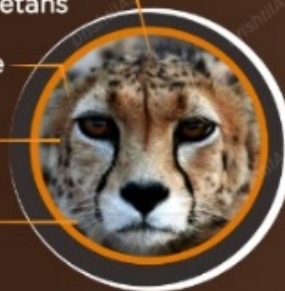


Slightly brownish and golden skin; thicker than the Asiatic Cheetahs

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**

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## Government to Audit Ladli Behna List | Madhya Pradesh | 12 Sep 2025

### Why in News?

The state government will audit the "**Ladli Behna**" **beneficiary list** to remove ineligible names before the monthly assistance **increases from Rs 1,250 to Rs 1,500 after Diwali**.

- A public appeal will be made, urging women who do not qualify for the scheme to **voluntarily withdraw**, followed by **departmental scrutiny** to remove any ineligible entries from the list.

### Ladli Behna Yojana

- **About:** The scheme was **launched on 10th June 2023** by the then Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan.
  - Under this, **married women between 23 and 60 years of age** were initially given assistance of Rs 1,000, which was later increased to Rs 1,250 per month.
- **Objective:** Its main objective is to **economically empower the women of Madhya Pradesh**.
- **Eligibility and Rules:**
  - The annual income of the woman's family should be less than **Rs 2.5 lakh**.
  - No member of the family holds a government job.
  - Apart from this, the family should not have more than **5 acres of land, a tractor, or a four-wheeler**.
- **Current Status:** The scheme currently has over **1.26 crore women enrolled**, making it the state's largest [direct benefit transfer](#) programme, costing around **Rs 1,550 crore per month**.

### Other Women-Centric Schemes

- **Ladli Laxmi Yojana:** **Launched in 2006**, the scheme **aims to secure the future of girl children** by improving their educational and economic status.
  - It also seeks to **promote a positive societal mindset towards the birth of a girl child** and reduce gender discrimination.
  - **Eligibility Criteria:** The scheme benefits parents who have **adopted family planning** after having two living children, ensuring population control.
    - Families must be **registered with an Anganwadi centre** and should not be income tax payers to qualify for the scheme.
  - **Financial Benefits:** The state government purchases [National Savings Certificates](#) worth Rs 6,000 annually in the girl's name from birth until the total reaches Rs 30,000.
    - When the girl turns 21 years old and if she has not married before the age of 18, she **receives a lump sum amount of Rs 1 lakh** as the final benefit under the scheme.
- **Usha Kiran Yojana:** The Usha Kiran Yojana, **launched** by the Government of Madhya Pradesh **in 2006**, **provides protection and legal support to women and children facing [domestic violence](#)**.
  - It functions under the provisions of the [Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005](#).
  - **Core Objectives:** The scheme seeks to safeguard victims from **physical, sexual,**



mental, emotional, and economic abuse.

- It aims to **ensure justice, dignity, and security** for women and children affected by domestic violence.
- **Target Beneficiaries:** The scheme **supports women of all ages**, irrespective of marital status.
  - It also **includes children under 18 years** who may be directly or indirectly affected by domestic violence.

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## Madhya Pradesh's Student Welfare Initiatives | Madhya Pradesh | 12 Sep 2025

### Why in News?

The Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh, Mohan Yadav, handed over **scooter keys to 7832 students**.

- Additionally, money was transferred to the accounts of female students under the **Sanitation-Hygiene Scheme (Samagra Shiksha)** and the **Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya Scheme**.

### Key Points

- **Free e-Scooty Scheme:**
  - **Launched:** Operational since the academic session 2022-23.
  - **Eligibility:** Students who topped their Class 12 exams in government higher secondary schools.
    - The scheme **applies to regular candidates** who studied in government schools run by the School Education Department or the Tribal Affairs Department.
- **Sanitation and Hygiene Scheme (Samagra Shiksha)**
  - **Transfer of Funds:** Rs 61 crore
  - **Beneficiaries:** 20,37,439 girls studying from Class 7 to Class 12 in government schools.
  - **Purpose:** To provide Rs 300 annually to girl students for personal health and hygiene under the sanitation and hygiene scheme.
- **Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya Type (IV) Scheme:**
  - **Amount Transferred:** Rs 7 crore
  - **Beneficiaries:** 20,100 girls
  - **Purpose:** Under the Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya Type (IV) Scheme, girls living in hostels received Rs. 3,400 for TLM (Teaching Learning Material) and stipend.

### Samagra Shiksha Scheme

- It was launched by the **Ministry of Education in 2018**.
- It is an integrated scheme for school education covering the entire gamut from pre-school to class XII.
- It aims to deliver **inclusive, equitable**, and affordable school education.
- It subsumes the three Schemes of **Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA)**, Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA), and Teacher Education (TE).
- It is being implemented as a **centrally sponsored scheme**.
  - Funding split is 60:40 for most states, but 90:10 for NE/Himalayan states and 100% Centre for UTs.

## Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalyaya (KGBV) Scheme

- **Launched in 2004**, it aims to provide quality education through residential schools at the upper primary level to girls belonging to the **Scheduled Castes (SC)**, **Scheduled Tribes (ST)**, **Other Backward Classes (OBC)**, and minority communities in remote and educationally backward areas.
  - The KGBV scheme is implemented in **educationally backward blocks (EBB)** where the **rural female literacy rate** is lower than the national average, and the gender literacy gap is higher than the national average.

Type	Facility	Classes Covered
Type-II	School + Hostel	VI–X
Type-III	School + Hostel	VI–XII
Type-IV	Hostel only	IX–XII (no school)

PDF Reference URL: <https://www.drishtiias.com/statepcs/15-09-2025/madhya-pradesh/print>