



Fishing Cat Sighting in Ramgarh Vishdhari Tiger Reserve | Rajasthan | 23 Sep 2025

Why in News?

The **first-ever sighting** of a [Fishing Cat](#) in [Ramgarh Vishdhari Tiger Reserve \(RVTR\)](#) marks a significant addition to its small cat population, underscoring the reserve's ecological importance and the health of its wetland habitats.

Key Points

- **About:** The Fishing Cat was captured on camera during routine tiger monitoring by RVTR's biologist and Dalelpura tracking team in the Ramgarh Range, Bundi, confirming its presence.
- **Existing Species:** Before this discovery, RVTR was home to **four small cat species**, namely, Jungle Cat (*Felis chaus*), Rusty-spotted Cat (*Prionailurus rubiginosus*), Asiatic Wildcat (*Felis lybica ornata*), and Caracal (*Caracal caracal*).
 - The addition of the Fishing Cat brings the total to five small cat species, further enriching the **reserve's carnivore population**.
- **Habitat:** Typically found in [wetlands](#) and **riverine environments**, its presence in RVTR highlights the health of the reserve's aquatic ecosystems, essential for the species' survival.
- **Diet:** The Fishing Cat primarily preys on fish and aquatic invertebrates, making **wetlands essential for its survival**.
- **Protection Status:**
 - **IUCN Red List:** Vulnerable
 - **CITES:** Appendix II
 - **Indian Wildlife Protection Act, 1972:** Schedule I
- **Significance:** The discovery contributes to the growing recognition of RVTR as a [biodiversity hotspot](#) in Rajasthan, home to **apex predators** such as tigers and leopards, as well as smaller carnivores that play a crucial role in maintaining ecosystem balance.



Region	IUCN Listing
 South and Southeast Asia	 Vulnerable
Aquatic Adaptations	Threats
 Partially-webbed feet	 Human encroachment into habitat
 Long, protruding claws	 Human-conflict due to food competition
 Can fully submerge underwater	 Overfishing and pollution to aquatic habitats

International Day of Sign Languages 2025 | National Current Affairs

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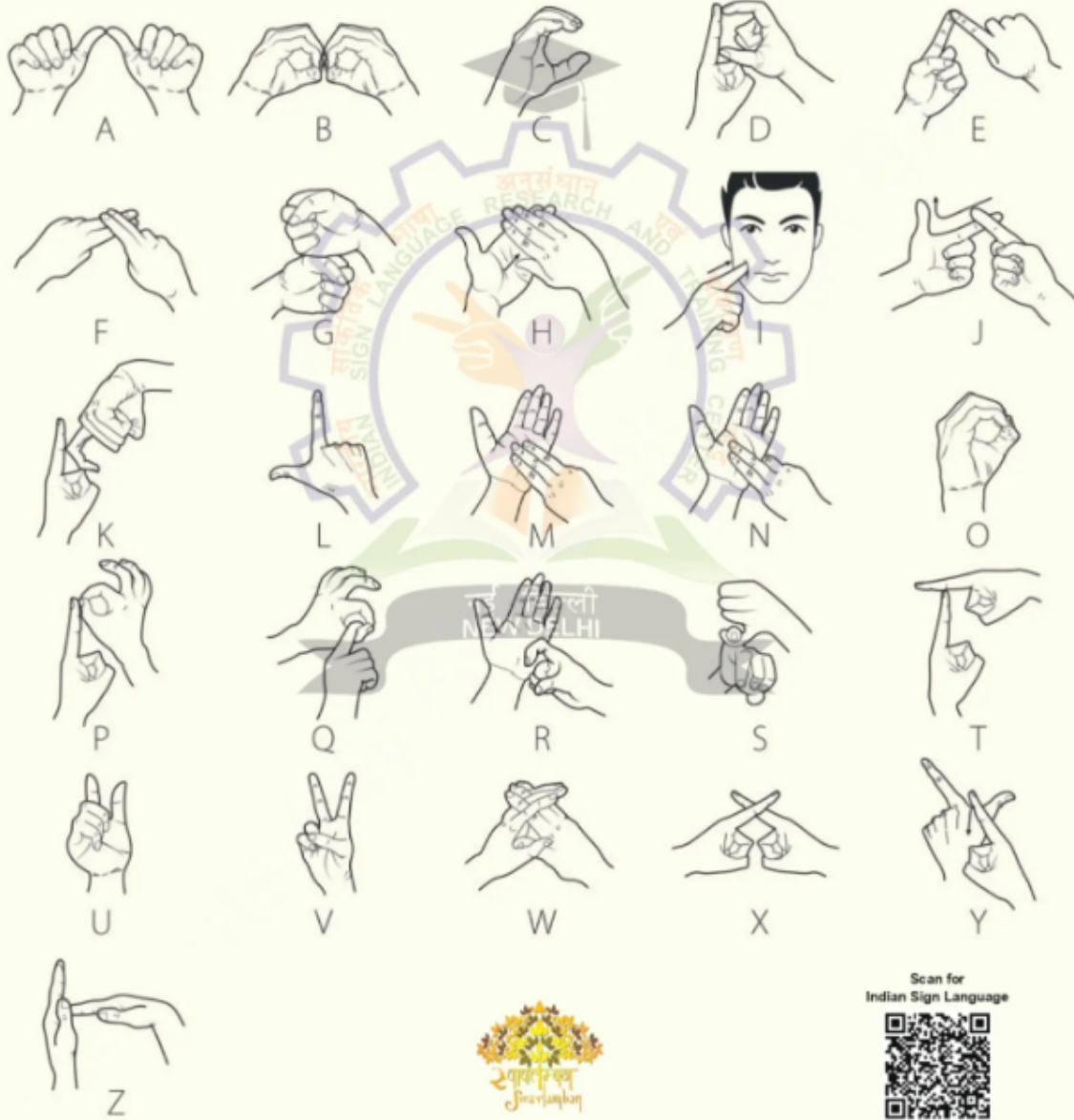
The **Indian Sign Language Research and Training Centre (ISLRTC)**, an autonomous body under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, organized a grand celebration for "**Sign Language Day - 2025**" on 23rd September 2025.

- The Ministry of Education, in partnership with the Central Institute of Educational Technology (CIET) and [NCERT](#), also held a Special Five-Day Live Programme on **Indian Sign Language** from 15th to 19th September 2025.

Key Points

- **About:**
 - The [United Nations General Assembly](#) declared 23rd September as International Day of Sign Languages to underscore the significance of sign language in realizing the **human rights of Deaf people**.
 - The date marks the establishment of the **World Federation of the Deaf (WFD)** in 1951, which advocates for the rights and recognition of deaf individuals globally.
 - The **Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities**, which was adopted by the UN in 2006, recognizes sign languages as equal to spoken languages and **obligates states to promote** the linguistic identity of the Deaf community.
 - India was one of the first countries to ratify the Convention in 2007.
- **Theme:** This year's theme, "**No Human Rights Without Sign Language Rights**," calls for increased recognition of sign language as a tool for ensuring equality and dignity for individuals who are Deaf.
- **8th National Indian Sign Language Competition:** As part of the celebration, the winners of the 8th National Indian Sign Language Competition, which saw participants from schools across the country in 13 categories, were honored for **showcasing creativity and talent** within the Deaf community.

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