



Saturday, Jan 28, 2023

EPAPER TODAY'S PAPER

# The Indian EXPRESS

JOURNALISM OF COURAGE

Home Explained Political Pulse India Cities Opinion Entertainment Lifestyle Technology Videos Sports

TRENDING Daily Republic Health Union Movie Daily UPSC  
Home / India / India, South Africa sign pact, 12 cheetahs to be brought to Kuno in February

# India, South Africa sign pact, 12 cheetahs to be brought to Kuno in February

India had been waiting for the signing of this MoU to bring more big cats to supplement the first batch of eight cheetahs brought from Namibia last year.

Written by **Esha Roy** [Follow](#)

New Delhi | Updated: January 28, 2023 07:39 IST





The first batch of eight cheetahs from Namibia arrived at Kuno National Park in Madhya Pradesh last year. Express file

### Listen to this article

01:45 1x 1.5x 1.8x

A second batch of 12 cheetahs — seven male and five female — will be **brought from South Africa to Kuno National Park** in Madhya Pradesh next month. The central government on Friday confirmed that a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on cooperation in reintroduction of cheetahs has been signed between the two countries.

India had been waiting for the signing of this MoU to bring more big cats to **supplement the first batch of eight cheetahs brought from Namibia last year.** The South African cheetahs range from 18 months to 4 years in age.

## EXPLAINED

### Chasing the big cat

In India, the big cat population got completely wiped out in the early 1950s, mainly due to over-hunting and habitat loss. Under the 'Action Plan for

Reintroduction of Cheetah in India', 50 cheetahs will be brought from African countries to various national parks over 5 years.

“In terms of the agreement, an initial batch of 12 cheetahs are to be flown in from South Africa to India during February 2023. The cats will join **eight cheetahs introduced to India** from Namibia during 2022,” said a statement from the Environment Ministry.

## SUBSCRIBER ONLY STORIES

[View All](#)



**At international checkpoint, online system helps vehicles cross over sea...**



**Experts say Adani Group stock sell-off may not affect market, but deepens...**



**Delhi Confidential: Lok Sabha Speaker wants MPs to learn lessons from Pad...**



**January 28, 1983, Forty Years Ago: Congress-I Shake-up**

“The exact date of bringing the cheetahs has not been fixed yet. We are sending an Indian delegation to South Africa in the first week of February and once they give the green light, we will decide on the date,” said S P Yadav, additional director, Project Tiger, and member secretary, National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA).

### **Also Read** | How cheetahs went extinct in India, and how they are being brought back

Yadav said while the protocol for bringing the second batch of cheetahs remains the same, **some improvements have been made to the existing bomas (wildlife enclosures built usually for the treatment or quarantine of animals)** based on the observations of the last few months.

These improvements include building a gallery around the acclimatisation enclosure where food and water can be given to the big cats as unobtrusively as

possible.

Yadav added one female cheetah named Sasha, who had kidney problems, has been recovering well.

© The Indian Express (P) Ltd

First published on: 28-01-2023 at 02:33 IST



**NEXT STORY ▶**

Naatu Naatu faces competition from Applause, a song set in Mumbai

**TAGS:** African Cheetah Cheetah

**IN Republic Day Special Price** | This limited offer gives you an annual subscription at Rs 999 along with added benefits

[SEE OFFER >](#)

**TOP NEWS**

**EXPLAINED**

Ramcharitmanas of Tulsidas, and criticism of the holy book



**BOLLYWOOD REWIND**

Way before Pathaan vowed to save Bharat Mata, Dharmendra played fan-favourite spy in Ankhen



PM Modi in Rajasthan today for birth anniversary celebrations of Lord Devnarayan



**LATEST NEWS**

What is Crunchyroll? How to watch anime online in India for free

If Allah can create Pakistan then He can also make it prosper, says Finance Minister

Jharkhand: Two doctors among five killed in Dhanbad nursing home fire

Two days after CPI(M) drops MLA Mabashwar Ali from candidate list, he joins BJP with ex-MLA Subal Bhowmik

Priyanka Chopra reveals she and Nick Jonas have matching tattoos: 'When he