

09– 08 – 2023

- News: International cheetah experts will be consulted, govt. tells SC
- The Supreme Court on Monday asked the Centre to address the “public concern” about the deaths of six of the 20 adult cheetahs, translocated from South Africa and Namibia, at the Kuno National Park in Madhya Pradesh.

Asiatic Cheetah

- Asiatic Cheetah is also known as **Iranian or Persian Cheetah**.
- Presently, it is found **only in Iran that too around 40-50 individuals**.
- Its habitat once ranged from **Arabian Peninsula to India, but extirpated** from these area.
- IUCN Status: **Critically Endangered**.
- CITES Status: **Appendix I**
- It is a **smaller Cheetah** compared to that of African Cheetah having a cat-like appearance.

African Cheetah

- IUCN Status: **Vulnerable**
- CITES Status: **Appendix I**
- There are about 6500-7000 individuals present.

- Recently, Supreme Court lifted its 7-year stay on proposal to re-introduce African Cheetah from Namibia to Palpur Kuno Sanctuary in Madhya Pradesh.
- Once abundant, cheetahs were extinct in India since 1952, due to poaching, habitat destruction & reduction in prey (due to their poaching).
- India, first approached Iran to relocate Asian Cheetahs, but the proposal was declined by Iran as the number of Asiatic Cheetah is too low.