

Cheetah numbers in India reach 53, as Jwala gives birth to five cubs at Kuno National Park; Indian-born Cubs rise to 33

10th successful Cheetah litter on Indian soil, reflecting dedicated efforts, skill and commitment of Veterinarians, Field Staff: Shri Bhupender Yadav

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Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change Shri Bhupender Yadav on Monday informed that Jwala, a Namibian cheetah and a successful third-time mother, gave birth to five cubs at Kuno National Park.

In a post on social media platform X, the Minister said that with this birth, the number of Indian-born thriving cubs had risen to 33, marking the 10th successful cheetah litter on Indian soil and another important milestone in India's cheetah conservation journey.

Cheetahs cross half-century 🐆

A moment of great pride for Project Cheetah as Jwala, the Namibian Cheetah and a successful third-time mother, gave birth to five cubs today at the Kuno National Park.

With this birth, the number of Indian-born thriving cubs has risen to 33,... pic.twitter.com/tzxYYmLPtM

— Bhupender Yadav (@byadavbjp) March 9, 2026

Shri Yadav said it was a moment of great pride for Project Cheetah and added that the achievement reflected the dedicated efforts, skill and commitment of veterinarians, field staff and all those involved who continue to work tirelessly on the ground. He added that with the arrival of these cubs, the total Cheetah population in India had reached 53.

Describing it as a historic and heart-warming moment for wildlife conservation, the Minister expressed hope that Jwala and her cubs would grow strong and race ahead, carrying India's Cheetah story to even greater heights.

Recently, Gamini, a South African Cheetah, became a mother for the second time, giving birth to four cubs. Further, on February 28, 2026, Shri Yadav, released nine cheetahs – 6 females and 3 males – received from Botswana into quarantine enclosures at Kuno National Park in Madhya Pradesh. The

animals are undergoing an acclimatisation and health monitoring phase before their gradual release into the larger landscape.

VM/GS

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