

Minutes of the Meeting held with Deputy Head of Mission, Republic of Namibia on 7.1.2025 at High Commission of Namibia, B-9/6, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi

The Interim Director General, International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA) briefed His Excellency Deputy Head of Mission, Republic of Namibia in India about establishment of International Big Cat Alliance, with headquarters in India.

2. It was informed that IBCA is established with a Mission and Vision to provide platform for partnership and cooperation among big cat range countries so as to ensure a viable population of big cats. It was also informed that India has five (5) out of seven (7) big cats and is global leader in Tiger, Lion, Leopard and Snow Leopard conservation. Interim DG also referred about successful inter-continental wild to wild Cheetah translocation from Namibia and its re-introduction in India. In view of this, India has a lot to offer (best practices and expertise) to other range countries for conservation of big cats. IBCA would be a platform through which the expertise and best practices could be shared with all the range countries.

3. India has gained extensive experience in habitat restoration, increase in forest cover and wildlife conservation. The intensive management of wildlife areas, mitigation of human wildlife conflict, eco-tourism biodiversity conservation, community involvement are considered key to the improved state of affairs. With a strong legal and Government support with practical policies to dovetail conservation in the course of development are also considered important in the present status of forest and wildlife.

4. Interim DG also sought cooperation and support of Republic of Namibia to take forward the initiative for conservation of the seven big cat species. He also requested that Republic of Namibia to consider joining the IBCA.

5. Deputy Head of Mission asked for detailed information about aims and objective of IBCA and procedure for becoming member of IBCA. He also assured to take up the matter with his Government to join IBCA.

List of participants-High Commission of Republic of Namibia

- (i) H.E. Mr. Tangeni Mulunga, Deputy Head of Mission.

List of participants- IBCA

- (i) Dr S.P. Yadav, Interim DG, IBCA
- (ii) Mr. Soumitra Dasgupta
- (ii) Mr. Juglal Singh, Admn and Communication Analyst