

Minutes of the Meeting held with H.E. Mr. Nurlan Zhalgasbayev , Ambassador of Republic of Kazakhstan, at 10.00 am on 9.10.2024, at Embassy of Kazakhstan, 40/1 Bangla Sahib, Hanuman Road, New Delhi

After exchanging the pleasantries, Dr. S.P. Yadav, Interim Director General, International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA) briefed H.E. Mr. Nurlan Zhalgasbayev, Ambassador of Republic of Kazakhstan about the establishment of International Big Cat Alliance, with headquarters in India. It was informed that twenty five (25) countries, including India, have already given their consent to join IBCA and four countries, namely, Republic of Nicaragua, Kingdom of Eswatini, Federal Republic of Somalia and Republic of India have already signed the Framework Agreement for becoming member of IBCA.

2. Interim Director General, IBCA congratulated H.E. the Ambassador on successful reintroduction of Amur Tigers in Kazakhstan. This is inspiring and crucial for protecting these magnificent species and indicates commitment of the Government of Kazakhstan for big cat conservation.

3. Dr. Yadav informed that India has five (5) out of seven (7) major big cats and is global leader in conservation of Tiger, Lion, Leopard and Snow Leopard. India has also demonstrated successful inter-continental wild to wild Cheetah translocation from African countries and its re-introduction in central part of India. He also mentioned that India aims to share the expertise and implement effective strategies to ensure the survival of these iconic species across their natural habitats. With this objective, the International Big Cat Alliance, was launched by Hon'ble Prime Minister of India.

4. Dr. Yadav stated that IBCA is a platform through which the expertise and best practices could be shared with all the range countries so as to ensure a viable population of big cats. There is no membership fee for joining the alliance, therefore, there is no financial liability on the Range Countries.

5. The Ambassador enquired about the modalities for joining IBCA. He was told that for becoming member of IBCA, the Framework Agreement has to be signed by the country. The Framework Agreement duly signed may be sent to the Ministry of External Affairs, Republic of India.

6. Dr. Yadav also sought cooperation and support of the Government of Kazakhstan to take forward the initiative for conservation of the big cat species and requested to consider joining the IBCA. The Ambassador assured to take up the matter with the concerned authorities in his Government for becoming member of IBCA.

List of participants- Embassy of Kazakhstan

- i. H.E. Mr. Nurlan Zhalgasbayev , Ambassador of Republic of Kazakhstan
- ii. Mr. Yermek Aitmagambetov, Second Secretary

List of participants- IBCA

- i. Dr S.P. Yadav, Interim Director General
- ii. Dr. Soumetra Dasgupta, Director (Programme)
- iii. Mr. Juglal Singh, Admn. and Communication Analyst