

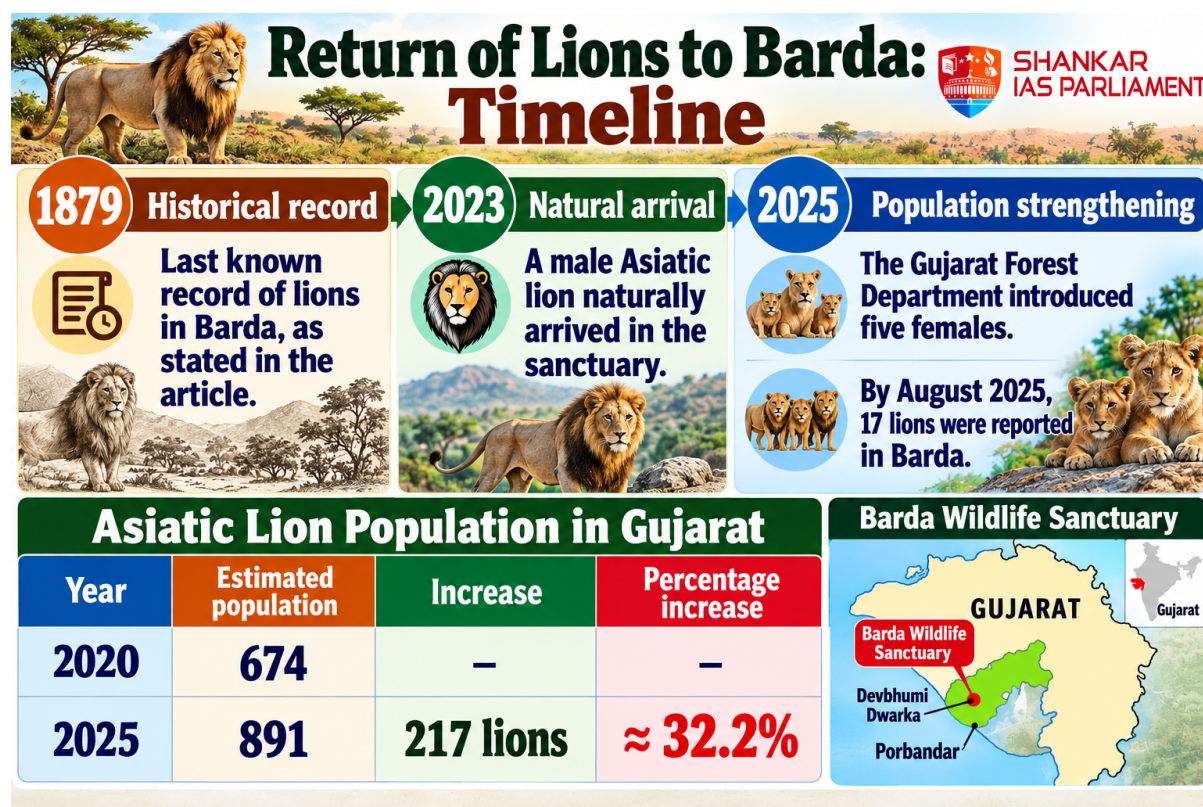
Asiatic Lions Return to Barda Wildlife Sanctuary

Prelims: Current events of national and international importance | Environment

Why in News?

Asiatic lions have returned to Barda Wildlife Sanctuary in Gujarat after nearly 144 years.

Barda Wildlife Sanctuary



- **Located in** - Saurashtra region of Gujarat.
- **Spans parts of** - Porbandar and Devbhumi Dwarka districts.
- **Characterised by** - Rugged terrain, forests and grasslands.
- **Significance**
 - **Habitat expansion** - Barda has the potential to serve as an additional habitat beyond the Gir landscape.
 - **Conservation resilience** - A broader distribution of the population may mitigate risks associated with geographic concentration.
 - **Scientific monitoring** - Radio-collaring facilitates the collection of data on movement patterns and home-range requirements.
 - **Prey restoration** - The reintroduction of spotted deer and sambar is expected to

enhance prey availability.

- **Conflict management** - Implementing livestock protection measures and fostering community engagement are essential for promoting coexistence.

Asiatic Lion



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	Scientific name	<i>Panthera leo persica</i>
	Natural range in India	Primarily the Gir landscape of Gujarat, with the recent return to Barda Wildlife Sanctuary.
	IUCN Red List	Endangered.
	CITES	Appendix I.
	Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972	Schedule I.
	Distinctive feature	
	Asiatic lions generally have a prominent longitudinal fold of skin along the belly.	

Reference

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