

Van Vihar National Park

August 2, 2020

- A pair of lions were brought to Madhya Pradesh's Van Vihar National Park from Bilaspur Chhattisgarh

About Van Vihar National Park

- It was notified as National Park in 1983
- In 1994 the Central Zoo Authority recognized it as a medium-sized Zoo
- It is **situated right next to the famous Upper Lake of Bhopal also known as the "Bada Talab" which is a Ramsar Site** and one of the two lakes of Bhoj Wetland.
- Van Vihar is a part of Upper Lake catchment area
- It is the only place in central India where its rescue center harbors a number of Lions and Tigers rescued from the circuses, Sloth Bears rescued from the madaris and/or circuses along with abandoned/distressed animals like Tigers, Panthers and Bears rescued from the wild or from the zones of human-wildlife conflict.
- Van Vihar is also a **designated coordinating zoo and "Conservation Breeding Centre" for the Royal Bengal Tiger and a participating zoo for the Asiatic Lion**, as well as for the **Hard Ground Barasingha**, the state animal of Madhya Pradesh and two species of Gyps Vultures.