



ONE HORNED RHINO : ENVIRONMENT

NEWS : Kaziranga and other protected habitats of the one-horned rhinoceros in Assam recorded an 86% drop in poaching of the herbivore since 2016, Chief Minister said recently.

WHAT'S IN THE NEWS ?

Kaziranga National Park, the one-horned animal's best-known home, has a surveillance camp every 5.82 sq. km

Greater One-Horned Rhino

Common Name: Indian Rhinoceros, largest of the three Asian rhino species.

Scientific Name: *Rhinoceros unicornis*.

Distribution:

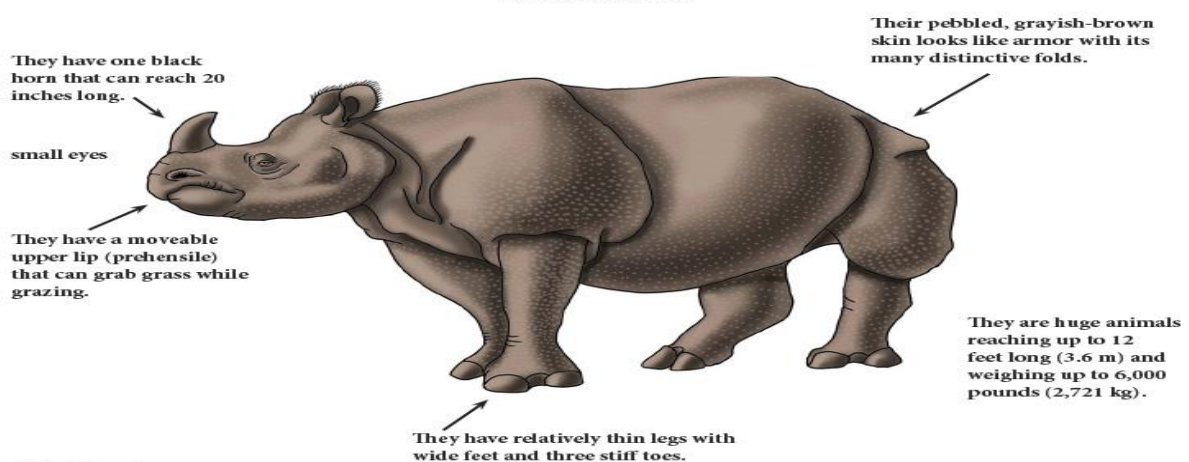
- Found in India and Nepal, especially in the Himalayan foothills.
- Historically roamed in the Brahmaputra, Ganges, and Indus River valleys.
- Largest population in **Kaziranga National Park**, Assam, India, with 2,401 rhinos.

Habitat: Semi-aquatic; lives in swamps, forests, riversides, and nutrient-rich mineral licks.

Physical Features:

- Males weigh around 2,200 kg and stand 170-186 cm tall.
- Single black horn (8-25 inches), with grey-brown skin and armor-like folds.

Indian Rhino (Greater One-horned Rhino)
Rhinoceros unicornis



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Behavior: Solitary, except for females with calves; males defend territories loosely.

Diet: Primarily grazes on grasses, but also consumes leaves, branches, fruit, and aquatic plants.

Conservation Status: Listed as **Vulnerable** on the IUCN Red List.

Source : <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/assam/assam-records-86-drop-in-rhino-poaching-since-2016-cm/article68670734.ece>

