

Greater One-Horned Rhinoceros

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Greater One-Horned Rhinoceros Latest News

Recently, the central government approved a landmark conservation initiative to create a DNA-based indexing system for the greater one-horned rhinoceros.

About Greater One-Horned Rhinoceros

- The greater one-horned rhino, also known as **Indian rhinoceros**, is the largest of the three Asian rhinos.
- **Habitat:** It is found in **semi-aquatic** and often takes up residence **in swamps, forests, riversides**, and anywhere that is near nutritious mineral licks.
- **Distribution**
 - It can be found in **India and Nepal**, particularly in the **foothills of the Himalayas**.
 - In the past, Greater one-horned rhinos roamed freely in the floodplains and forests alongside the **Brahmaputra, Ganges, and Indus River valley**.
 - **Kaziranga National Park** in Assam, India, **contains the largest population**.
- **Features**

- It is **identified by a single black horn** and a grey-brown hide with skin folds, which gives it an **armor-plated appearance**.
- The **species is solitary**, except for females with small calves. Males maintain loosely defended territories.
- **Diet:** Indian rhinos **are herbivores** (graminivores, folivores, frugivores, lignivores). They eat grass, leaves, fruit, branches, aquatic plants, as well as cultivated crops.
- **Threats:** Hunting is largely responsible for the Indian rhino decline.

- **Conservation Status**

- **IUCN:** Vulnerable

Source: NIE

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/greater-one-horned-rhino/>

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