Guidelines for the Designation of India's Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures (I-OECMs), 2026

Prelims: *Current events of National and International importance| Environment*

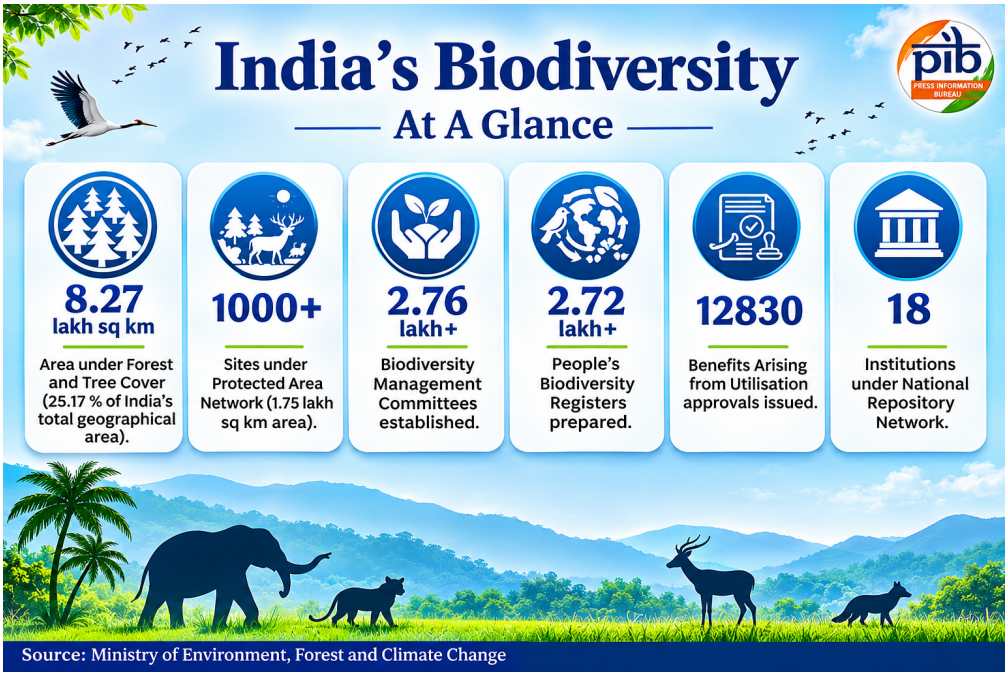
Why in News?

Recently, Guidelines for the Designation of India's Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures (I-OECMs), 2026 were released by the Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change.

Overview of Guidelines

- **Ecosystems & Sites**– Encompasses terrestrial, inland water, and coastal/marine ecosystems—including sacred groves, biodiversity parks, and community-managed areas—while aligning with Kunming-Montreal Target 3 (30x30) and the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (2024–2030).
- **Core Criteria**– Sites must exist outside the formal Protected Area network, possess defined boundaries without database overlaps, maintain current governance and regulatory regimes, and operate under recognized local or government bodies.
- **Management & Oversight**– Final designation rests with the National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) via an Inter-Departmental Committee.
- Sites undergo review at least once every five years and are supported by a GEF-8 demonstration project (May 2026–May 2032) implemented through the NBA and UNDP.

To know more about OECMs Click *here*



Reference

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