The greater one-horned rhinoceros

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

Why in News?

Rare greater one-horned rhino born at Chester Zoo in the UK

- The greater one-horned rhinoceros (*Rhinoceros unicornis*) is classified as **Vulnerable** on the IUCN Red List, with roughly 4,000 individuals remaining in the wild across India and Nepal.
- **Physical Traits–** The largest rhino species in Asia and second-largest living rhino overall, weighing roughly 1,800 to 2,800 kg with a single horn and thick, folded, armor-like skin.
- **Wild Range–** Primarily inhabits tall alluvial grasslands, wetlands, and riverine forests in India (including Kaziranga, Pobitara, Orang, and Manas in Assam, plus protected areas in West Bengal and Uttar Pradesh) and southern Nepal.
- **Main Threats–** Poaching for its horn, habitat loss and fragmentation, and human-wildlife conflict.



Reference

Down to Earth| The greater one-horned rhinoceros



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