



Landslides Block Badrinath National Highway

Why in News?

Recently, a landslide blocked the **Jyotirmath-Malari road**, which connects to the [India-China border](#), as well as the **Karnaprayag-Gwaldam national highway**.

Key Points

- Landslides triggered by heavy rain have blocked the highway at **Pagalnala, Patalganga, and Nandaprayag**.
- **Jyotirmath-Malari Road**: A high mountain road within the [Nanda Devi National Park](#), linking Jyotirmath (1,934 m) and Malari (3,033 m).
 - Extremely steep with numerous hairpin turns along the [Dhauliganga River](#), subjected to periodic damage from winter snow, ice, and river flooding.
- **Dhauliganga**: It originates from [Vasudhara Tal](#), perhaps the largest glacial lake in Uttarakhand.
 - Dhauliganga is one of the important tributaries of [Alaknanda](#), the other being the Nandakini, Pindar, Mandakini and Bhagirathi.
 - It merges with the Alaknanda at [Vishnuprayag](#).
- **Nanda Devi National Park**: Situated around the peak of [Nanda Devi](#) (**7,816 m**) in Uttarakhand, India; includes the **Nanda Devi Sanctuary**, a glacial basin surrounded by peaks and drained by the [Rishi Ganga](#).
 - Established as **Sanjay Gandhi National Park in 1982**, renamed **Nanda Devi National Park**; inscribed as a [UNESCO World Heritage Site](#) in 1988.

Landslide

- A **landslide** is the **movement of rock, earth, or debris** down a slope due to **gravity**, often triggered by factors such as **heavy rain, earthquakes**, or the instability of the slope. It results in the **displacement of material**, which can lead to significant damage and destruction.