

Melting Glacier in Uttarakhand

Why in News?

Recently, a <u>glacier</u> slid down towards the <u>Johar Valley</u> along the strategically important **Munsiyari-Milam road** in Uttarakhand's **Pithoragarh district**, affecting crucial connectivity to the <u>India-China border</u> and villages in the region.

Key Points

- The <u>Border Roads Organisation (BRO)</u> has initiated efforts to clear the road, but significant challenges persist due to the extensive snow cover.
 - Experts underscore that the glacier's rupture serves as a stark reminder of the escalating impacts of climate change.
 - The <u>Himalayan region</u>, vulnerable to the effects of <u>global warming</u>, faces mounting risks, including accelerated glacier melt.
- **Snowfall** was observed in the upper regions of Pithoragarh in March 2024. Now, with temperatures rising, the glaciers are melting, leading to avalanches and occasional break-offs.

Border Road Organisation

- BRO was conceived and raised in 1960 by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru for coordinating the speedy development of a network of roads in the North and the North Eastern border regions of the country.
- It works under the administrative control of the Ministry of Defence.
- It has diversified into a large spectrum of construction and development works comprising airfields, building projects, defence works and tunneling and has endeared itself to the people.

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