3/19/25, 12:22 PM Bhopal - Wikipedia

his article is about the city in Madhya Pradesh, India. For other uses, see Bhopal (disambiguation).

Bhopal (/boʊˈpɑːl/; ISO: Bhōpāla, Hindi: [bhoːpaːl] (i) is the capital city of the Indian state of Madhya Pradesh and the administrative headquarters of both Bhopal district and Bhopal division [10][11] It is known as the City of Lakes, [12] due to presence of various natural and artificial lakes near the city boundary. It is also one of the greenest cities in India.[13] It is the 16th largest city in India and 131st^[14] in the world. After the formation of Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal was part of the Sehore district. It was bifurcated in 1972 and a new district, Bhopal, was formed. Flourishing around 1707, the city was the capital of the former Bhopal State, a princely state of the British ruled by the Nawabs of Bhopal until India's independence in 1947. India achieved independence on 15 August 1947. Bhopal was one of the last states to sign the 'Instrument of Accession'. The ruler of Bhopal acceded to the Indian government, and Bhopal became an Indian state on 1 May 1949. Sindhi refugees from Pakistan were accommodated in Bairagarh, a western suburb of Bhopal.

Bhopal has a strong economic base with many large and medium industries. Bhopal, along with Indore, is one the central financial and economic pillars of Madhya Pradesh. Bhopal's GDP (nominal) was estimated at INR 44,175 crores (2020–21) by the Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Madhya Pradesh. A Y-class city,^[15] Bhopal houses various educational and research institutions and installations of national importance, including ISRO's Master Control Facility,^[16] BHEL and AMPRI. Bhopal is home to a large number of institutes of National Importance in India,

namely, IISER, MANIT, SPA, AIIMS, NLIU, IIFM, NIF T, NIDMP and IIIT (currently functioning from a temporary campus inside MANIT).

Bhopal city also has Regional Science Centre, Bhopal, one of the constituent units of the National Council of Science Museums (NCSM).

The city attracted international attention in December 1984 after the Bhopal disaster, when a Union Carbide pesticide manufacturing plant (now owned by Dow Chemical Company) leaked a mixture of deadly gases composed mainly of methyl isocyanate, leading to the worst industrial disaster in history. [17] The Bhopal disaster continues to be a

Bhopal

Bhōpāla (Hindi)

Metropolis



(from top to bottom) Bhojtaal, Tribal Museum Bhopal, Van Vihar National Park, Museum of Man, Taj-ul-Masajid, Rani Kamlapati Railway Station



Logo of Bhopal Smart City

Nickname: The City of Lakes



part of the socio-political debate and a logistical challenge for the people of Bhopal.[18]

Bhopal was selected as one of the first twenty Indian cities (the first phase) to be developed as a smart city the Smart Cities Mission. [19] Bhopal was also rated as the cleanest state capital city in India for three consecutive years, 2017, 2018, and 2019. [20] Bhopal has also been awarded a 5-star Garbage Free City (GFC) rating, making it the cleanest State capital in the country in 2023.[21]

Etymology [edit]

Bhopal - Wikipedia Show map of Madhya Pradesh O Show map of India O Show all Coordinates: 23°15'35.6"N 77°24'45.4"E[1] Country India **State** Madhya Pradesh Bhopal District **Bhopal Division** Region 85 wards^[1] Ward Raja Bhoja Named after Government Type Mayor-Council Body **Bhopal Municipal Corporation** Mayor Malti Rai (BJP) Alok Sharma (BJP) Member of **Parliament** Area^{[2][3][4]} Metropolis 463 km² (179 sq mi) 648.24 km² (250.29 sq mi) • Metro^[5] **Elevation** 518.73 m (1,701.87 ft) Population (2011)^[4] Metropolis 1,798,218 • Rank 20th Density $3,900/\text{km}^2$ (10,000/sq mi) Metro 1.917.051 (Bhopal + Arera Colony + Berasia urban areas) Metro density $3,000/\text{km}^2$ (7,700/sq mi) Metro rank 18th **Demonym** Bhopali Time zone UTC+5:30 (IST) **Pincode** 462001 to 462050 **Telephone** 0755 **Vehicle** MP-04 registration Per capita GDP \$2,087 or ₹1.47 lakh^[6] **GDP** ₹44,175 crore (US\$5.1 billion) **Nominal (Bhopal** $(2020-21)^{[/]}$ District) Official Hindi language 80.37%[8] **Literacy Rate** (2011)**Precipitation** 1,123.1 millimetres (44.22 in) Avg. high 31.7 °C (89.1 °F) temperature

Avg. low temperature	18.6 °C (65.5 °F)	
HDI (2016)	0.77 (High) ^[9]	
Website	bhopal.nic.in	
	bhopal.city	
	smartbhopal.city	



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Bhopal is named after the legendary ancient king Raja Bhoja, with 'Bho' possibly originating from his name. Additionally, 'Pal' signifies 'dam' or 'reservoir,' reflecting the city's abundance of lakes. Therefore, Bhopal's etymology suggests it may mean 'City of Raja Bhoja' or 'City of Lakes,' owing to its historical association with the king and its numerous water bodies.^[22]