

Q1. Crab, Flamingo, Gull, Prawns, Sea Eagle, Dolphin, black-tailed godwits, pelican, sandpiper, golden plovers

Q2. Example foodchain - Phytoplankton < Zooplankton < Minnows < Gangetic leaf fish < Sea Eagle

Trophic Levels - 1 - Phytoplankton

2 - Zooplankton

3 - Minnows

4 - Gangetic leaf fish

Apex Predator - Sea Eagle

Q3. Plants adapted to deeper water may have floating leaves arising from long stems, resting on the water surface and these types of plants are commonly seen across the video. Chilika buffaloes have unique characteristics, owing to their adaptation to the tropical habitat and the saline brackish water lagoons of Chilika Lake.

Dolphins interacted to the presence of the fishing nets and used them to their advantage to force fish near them to restrict their movement and eat them. Gulls pretend to be a part of the cormorant group and hope to get a stray fish they have caught.

Q4. Fishnets installed in the lake block the passage of the fishes from the lake to the sea which is essential for fish growth. Fishermen blocking this movement can hamper the biodiversity of Chilika by a lot for a few bucks but allowing movement would still benefit them because fish populations would greatly increase.

Commercial activities in the lake is also a big problem. The dolphins are a big tourist attraction and local people have set up a big fleet of boats in the river for dolphin spotting. These boats disrupt movement of dolphins. Being a tourist place attracts garbage which disturbs the biodiversity.

Q5. Chilika is one of the hotspots of biodiversity in India with unique ecological status having both the fresh water and salt water characteristics creating an extremely productive environment due to efficient nutrient cycle. The lake is rich with variety of fishes and such richness in biodiversity attracts a lot of species of animals from across the world. The birds mostly eat fishes and other smaller organisms and not compete with themselves which is also another factor for such variety. Sustenance of fisheries in Lake Chilika is closely linked to ecological processes influenced by water, sediment, and nutrient exchange with the lake basin and the coastal zone.