



LAST MINUTE PRELIMS RECKONER 2025

GEOGRAPHY

LAKES IN INDIA

LAKE	STATE/UT	DRAINAGE	SIGNIFICANCE
<u>NATURAL LAKES</u>			
Kolleru Lake	Andhra Pradesh	Located between Krishna and Godavari delta.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One of the largest fresh water lake in India. Only Ramsar site in Andhra Pradesh Atapaka Bird Sanctuary is located on the Kolleru Lake.
Pulicat Lake	Andhra Pradesh–Tamil Nadu border	Two rivers which feed the lagoon are the Arani River at the southern tip and the Kalangi River from the northwest, in addition to some smaller streams.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Second largest brackish-water lake or lagoon in India. The large spindle-shaped barrier island named Sriharikota separates the lake from the Bay of Bengal. The island is home to the Satish Dhawan Space Centre
Sambhar Lake	Rajasthan	This inland lake receives water from five small rivers, namely Samaod, Khari, Mantha, Khandela, Medtha, and Roopangarh.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Salt water lake It is a bowl shape lake encircles historical Sambhar Lake Town located 96 km south west of the city of Jaipur (Northwest India) and 64 km north east of Ajmer Mahabharata mentions the Sambhar Lake as part of the kingdom of the demon king Brishparva. Ramsar site Didwana Kuchaman Sargol Khatu, Panchpadra etc other salt lakes in Rajasthan
Pushkar lake	Ajmer, Rajasthan		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Freshwater lake According to Hindu scriptures, the sacred Pushkar Lake is described as 'Tirtha Raj', the king of all pilgrimage sites. No pilgrimage is considered to be complete without a dip in the holy Pushkar Lake. Semi-circular in shape and about 8-10 metres deep, Pushkar Lake is surrounded by 52 bathing ghats and over 400 temples and is truly a magnificent sight to behold.
Wular Lake	Jammu Kashmir	The Jhelum River flows into the lake, 40-km downstream from Srinagar, and then out again.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One of the Largest Freshwater Lake in India. Jhelum river flows through Wular Lake Wular lake can spread over nearly 200-sq-kms but its actual surface area tends to vary during the year. Lake basin was formed as a result of tectonic activity Ramsar Site
Dal Lake	Jammu Kashmir		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Freshwater lake Dal Lake is a lake in Srinagar and is integral to tourism known as the

			<p>“Jewel in the crown of Kashmir” or “Srinagar’s Jewel”.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asia’s largest Tulip garden is on the banks of Dal Lake. Mughal gardens, Shalimar Bagh and the Nishat Bagh are on the banks of Dal Lake.
Nainital Lake	Uttarakhand	Balia Nala	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nainital Lake, a natural freshwater body, situated amidst the township of Nainital Kidney shaped or crescent shaped. The lake is deduced to have been formed tectonically. Balia Nala, which is the main stream feeding the lake is along a fault line and the subsequent streams align parallel to major joints and faults
Loktak Lake	Manipur	Manipur river	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Largest freshwater lake in North - East India It is famous for the phumdi (heterogeneous mass of vegetation, soil and organic matter at various stages of decomposition) floating over it. The largest of all the phumdi’s covers an area of 40 km² and is situated on the southeastern shore of the lake. Located on this phumdi, Keibul Lamjao National Park is the only floating national park in the world. The park is the last natural refuge of the endangered Sangai or Manipur brow-antlered deer. Ramsar site + included in Montreux Record
Sasthamcotta Lake	Kerala		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Largest fresh water lake in Kerala. The purity of the lake water for drinking use is attributed to the presence of large population of larva called cavaborus that consumes bacteria in the lake water. Ramsar site
Vembanad Lake	Kerala	Central Kerala rivers like Meenachil, Achankoil, Pampa, Manimala etc flows into the lake.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vembanad (Vembanad Kayal or Vembanad Kol) is the longest lake in India, and the largest lake in the state of Kerala. Being a lagoon it is a brackish water lake It is known as Punnamada Lake in Kuttanad and Kochi Lake in Kochi. The Nehru Trophy Boat Race is conducted in a portion of the lake. Ramsar Site

Chilika Lake	Odisha	Daya River, a distributary of Mahanadi flows into the lake	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chilika Lake is a brackish water lagoon, spread over the Puri, Khurda and Ganjam districts It is the largest coastal lagoon in India and the second largest lagoon in the world. Chilika Lake is the largest wintering ground for migratory birds, on the Indian sub-continent. Ramsar Site
Nalsarovar Lake	Gujarat		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Natural freshwater lake The Nalsarovar Lake is probably the largest water bird sanctuary in the country. The Nalsarovar Lake is mainly inhabited by migratory birds in winter and spring, it is the largest wetland bird sanctuary in Gujarat, and one of the largest in India. It was declared a bird sanctuary in April 1969. Ramsar site
Tsomo Lake	Sikkim		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tsongmo Lake or Changu Lake, is a glacial lake (freshwater) in the East Sikkim. The lake is the venue for the Guru Purnima festival in which Jhakris of Sikkim assemble at the lake area to derive benefits from the healing qualities of the lake waters.
Kanwar Lake	Bihar	Formed due to meandering of Burhi Gandak river	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kanwar Lake Bird Sanctuary comprising water ponds, marshes and forests is a home for different species of wild animals, birds, plants etc. The Kanwar Taal or Kabar Taal Lake is Asia's largest freshwater oxbow lake. In November 2020 it was declared as Ramsar site (First Ramsar site in Bihar)
Pangong Tso	Ladakh	Formerly, Pangong Tso had an outlet to Shyok River, a tributary of Indus River, but it was closed off due to natural damming.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pangong Lake is an endorheic brackish water lake in the Himalayas situated at a height of about 4,350 m. It is 134 km long and extends from Ladakh to the Tibetan Autonomous Region, China. Approximately 40% of the length of the lake lies within the Ladakh UT.
Maguri-Motapung Wetland	Assam	Brahmaputra	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Freshwater Maguri Motapung Beel is less than 10 km from Dibru-Saikhowa National Park and part of the Dibru-Saikhowa Biosphere Reserve.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The wetland derives its name from “Magur”, the local word for the catfish ‘Clarius batrachus’. It is an Important Bird Area notified by the Bombay Natural History Society.
Chandra Taal (Chandertal)	Himachal Pradesh	Chandra Taal lake outflows into Chandra river (a source river of the Chenab)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chandra Tal is a lake in the Spiti part of the Lahul and Spiti district It is a high altitude freshwater lake. It is a Ramsar Site It supports IUCN Redlisted Snow Leopard
Tso Moriri	Ladakh		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tso Moriri is a lake in the Changthang Plateau in Ladakh in Northern India. The lake and surrounding area are protected as the Tso Moriri Wetland Conservation Reserve. The lake now has the distinction of being the highest Ramsar site in the world surpassing Salar de Tara in Chile. It is fed by a number of small glacial streams and has no external drainage. This fact coupled with a high rate of evaporation, has resulted in the waters being brackish and bereft of any life. The lake is the only breeding ground outside of China for one of the most endangered cranes, the Black-necked crane.
Renuka Wetland	Himachal Pradesh	Fed by small streams flowing from the lower Himalayas out to the Giri river.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A natural wetland with freshwater springs and inland subterranean karst formations The lake has high religious significance and is named after the mother of Hindu sage Parshuram, and is thus visited by thousands of pilgrims and tourists. Ramsar Site
Lonar Lake	Maharashtra		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Also known as Lonar crater, is a notified National Geo-heritage Monument, saline, soda lake, located at Lonar in Buldhana district Lonar Lake was created by an asteroid collision with earth impact during the Pleistocene Epoch

ARTIFICIAL LAKES

Bhimtal Lake	Uttarakhand		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bhimtal Lake is a lake in the town of Bhimtal, with a masonry dam built in 1883 creating the storage facility It is the largest lake in Kumaon region, known as the “lake district of India”. “C” shaped lake.
Barapani Lake	Meghalaya	Umiam River	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Barapani or Umiam Lake is in Shillong The origin of Lake in 1965 is due to the Umiam Umtru Hydro Electric Power Project, the first Hydel power project in the North-east region of India.
Hussain Sagar Lake	Telangana	It is fed by Musi river	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The lake is in Hyderabad, built by Hazrat Hussain Shah Wali in 1562, during the rule of Ibrahim Quli Qutub Shah. Connects the twin cities of Hyderabad and Secunderabad. A major attraction at the Hussain Sagar is the 16-meter high, 350 tonne monolithic Buddha statue on the ‘Rock of Gibraltar’ installed at the center of the lake.
Pichola lake	Udaipur, Rajasthan		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lake Pichola, is an artificial fresh water lake, created in the year 1362 AD, named after the nearby Picholi village. It is one of the several contiguous lakes, developed over the last few centuries in and around Udaipur city.
Rajsamand Lake	Rajasthan		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction of the lake started in 1662 AD and completed in 1676 AD, this is the oldest known famine relief work in Rajasthan, which provided relief to starving population. It was built across the Gomti, Kelwa and Tali rivers
Dhebar Lake (Jaisamand Lake)	Rajasthan		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dhebar Lake, built by Maharana Jai Singh in 1685 across Gomati River. It is one of oldest and largest artificial freshwater lake in India. Jaisamand Wildlife Sanctuary is located on the shores of the lake.
Nakki Lake	Rajasthan		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is a very ancient sacred Lake, according to the Hindu legend. It is called by this name because it was dug out from Nails (Nakh). Nakki Lake is situated in the Indian hill station of Mount Abu in Aravalli range.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mahatma Gandhi's ashes were immersed in this Holy Lake on 12 February 1948 and Gandhi Ghat was constructed.
Bhojtal Lake	Madhya Pradesh	The lake was created by constructing an earthen dam across the Kolans River.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Also known as Upper Lake lies on the western side of the capital city of Bhopal. • It is a major source of drinking water for the residents of the city, serving around 40% of the residents with nearly 30 million gallons (140,000 m³) of water per day. • Bada talaab, along with the nearby Chhota Talaab, constitute Bhoj Wetland, which is a Ramsar site.
Surajkund	Haryana		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surajkund is an ancient reservoir of the 10th century located on Southern Delhi Ridge of Aravalli range in Faridabad city • Surajkund is an artificial Kund built in the backdrop of the Aravalli hills with an amphitheatre shaped embankment constructed in semicircular form.
Ulsoor lake	Bangalore, Karnataka		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ulsoor Lake' or Halasuru Lake, one of the biggest lakes in Bangalore, is located on the eastern side of the city. • It is part of a network of hundreds of reservoirs in Bangalore built by the Gowda Kings to provide the city with a sustainable potable water supply. The lakes were connected by stormwater channels known as Nalahs. • It is one of the largest lakes remaining of this network, suffering from environmental challenges including poor water quality, degraded landscape and ecology, poor public realm, as well as the abundance of surrounding vehicular traffic.
Bellandur Lake	Bengaluru, Karnataka		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Until the Eighties, the lake was a vibrant ecosystem that nurtured a variety of birds, fish and insects, and a popular picnicking, boating and fishing site. • The dramatic growth of Bengaluru over the last two decades has led to massive amounts of domestic and industrial waste flowing into the lake. • Encroachments of over 90% of its catchment area by settlements, and the dumping of garbage on its shores, have throttled the flow of water into it.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The lake's water is currently unusable even for irrigation, and the lake's surface is infamous for gigantic froth clouds that cover its entire surface. Often, froth also spills over into the many busy roads that skirt its shores.
Periyar Lake	Kerala	Mullaperiyar River	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Periyar Lake is formed by the construction of the dam across the Mullaperiyar River in 1895. The notable elephant reserve and a tiger reserve, Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary is located on the banks of Periyar lake
Nagarjuna Sagar Lake	The border between Guntur district, Andhra Pradesh and Nalgonda district, Telangana.	Krishna river	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Nagarjuna Sagar Dam on River Krishna is considered to be the largest stone masonry dam in the world. Constructed between 1955 and 1967, the dam created a water reservoir with gross storage capacity of 11.472 billion cubic metres. A lake has been built behind the dam, which is one of the largest man-made lakes in the world. With beautifully landscaped gardens surrounding it, the lake makes for an ideal picnic spot in winter.
Ooty lake	Tamil Nadu	The water flowing down mountain streams in the Ooty valley was dammed to form the lake.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Also called as ooty boat house is located in Ooty in the Nilgiris district The lake was originally intended to be used for fishing with ferries being used to travel across the lake. It gradually shrunk from its original size giving place to the current bus stand race course, and the lake park.
Harike Wetland	Punjab	It came into existence in 1952 after the construction of barrage near the confluence of rivers Sutlej and Beas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is a shallow water reservoir with thirteen islands, at the confluence of two rivers. It is a Ramsar Site Dense floating vegetation covers 70% of the lake. An important site for breeding, wintering and staging birds, supporting over 200,000 Anatidae (ducks, geese, swans, etc.) during migration.
Isapur Reservoir	Maharashtra	Penganga river	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Isapur Dam is an earthfill dam near Kalamnuri.
Kangsabati Reservoir	West Bengal	Kangsabati	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Kangsabati Reservoir Project, is a project started in 1956 as part of the Indian Second Five-year Plan.
Aliyar Reservoir	Tamil Nadu	Aliyar river	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aliyar reservoir or Aliyar dam is located in the foothills of Valparai, in the Anaimalai Hills of the Western Ghats

Kodaikanal Lake	Tamil Nadu		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kodaikanal Lake is a manmade lake located in the Kodaikanal city in Dindigul district
Vallabh Sagar	Gujarat	Tapi River	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Ukai Dam, constructed across the Tapi River, is the second largest reservoir in Gujarat after the Sardar Sarovar. A fort built by the Gaekwad dynasty of Baroda was submerged in the reservoir. It can be spotted when water levels in the reservoir goes down

Reservoirs & Dams in Chambal River

Gandhi Sagar	Madhya Pradesh	Chambal river	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was formed by the construction of Gandhi Sagar Dam across Chambal River in Madhya Pradesh. It is majorly used for power generation. It attracts many migratory and non-migratory birds throughout the year.
Rana Pratap Sagar	Rajasthan	Chambal river	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Located to the downstream of Gandhi Sagar Dam in Rajasthan. The direct benefit from the dam is hydropower generation of 172 MW. The reservoir area supports considerable population of resident and migratory birds.
Jawahar Sagar	Rajasthan	Chambal river	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Located to the downstream of Rana Pratap Sagar Dam in Rajasthan. It is used for power generation
Kota Barrage	Rajasthan	Chambal river	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kota Barrage is the fourth in the series of Chambal Valley Projects, located near Kota City in Rajasthan. Water released after power generation at Gandhi Sagar dam, Rana Pratap Sagar dam and Jawahar Sagar Dams, is diverted by Kota Barrage for irrigation in Rajasthan and in Madhya Pradesh through canals on the left and the right sides of the river.

Dams & Reservoirs in Damodar Valley Projects

Tilaiya Dam	Jharkhand	Barakar river (Tributary of Damodar River)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tilaiya Dam was the first of the four multi-purpose dams included in the first phase of the Damodar Valley Corporation.
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Konar Dam	Jharkhand	Konar river (a tributary of Damodar River)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Konar dam is the second of the four multi-purpose dams included in the first phase of the Damodar Valley Corporation. It was constructed across the Konar River, a tributary of the Damodar River in Jharkhand.
Maithon Dam	Jharkhand	Barakar river (Tributary of Damodar River)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Maithon Dam is located at Maithon, in Dhanbad district, in the state of Jharkhand. This dam was specially designed for flood control and generates 60,000 kW of electric power. The reservoir spreads over the states of Jharkhand and West Bengal
Panchet Dam	Jharkhand	Damodar river	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Panchet Dam was the last of the four multi-purpose dams included in the first phase of the Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC). It was constructed across the Damodar River at Panchet in Dhanbad district in the state of Jharkhand. The reservoir spreads over Jharkhand and West Bengal

Reservoirs & Dams in Narmada River

Bargi Dam	Madhya Pradesh	Narmada River	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bargi Dam is one of the first completed dams on Narmada River in Madhya Pradesh. Two major irrigation projects, named Bargi Diversion Project and Rani Avantibai Lodhi Sagar Project, have been developed by the Bargi Dam administration.
Indira Sagar Dam	Madhya Pradesh	Narmada River	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Indira Sagar Dam is the largest dam in India, in terms of volume of water stored in the reservoir. It is located on the Narmada River in the state of Madhya Pradesh Indira Sagar Project is a multipurpose Project with an installed capacity of 1,000 MW and annual irrigation of 2.65 Lakh Hectares
Omkareshwar Dam	Madhya Pradesh	Narmada River	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Omkareshwar Dam is a gravity dam on the Narmada River downstream of Indira Sagar Dam in Madhya Pradesh. It is named after the Omkareshwar temple located just downstream.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The dam was constructed with the purpose of providing water for irrigation of 132,500 hectares. An associated hydroelectric power station located at the base of the dam has an installed capacity of 520 MW.
Sardar Sarovar Dam	Gujarat	Narmada river	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Sardar Sarovar Dam is a concrete gravity dam built on the Narmada River in the Indian state of Gujarat. The dam was constructed to provide water and electricity to the Indian states of Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Rajasthan.

Salt pans in India

Marakkanam Salt Pans	Tamil Nadu		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Long the Tamil Nadu coast 120 km south of Chennai. Spread over 4000 acres
Naupada Swamp	Andhra Pradesh		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is located along the coast of Northern Andhra Pradesh It is famous for salt fields and called the "Salt Bowl of Andhra Pradesh". In 2022, a nematode infestation has led to mass mortality of adult spot-billed pelicans at Telineelapuram Important Bird Area (IBA) in Naupada swamp.