

ROYAL HARBINGER

Reporting Fact of the Matter

Weekly



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Fatehsagar



The second biggest lake in Udaipur after Picchola, Fatehsagar is the favourite haunt of the old and the young, men and women. While boating in or otherwise strolling around the lake in the evening or in moonlight one can feast one's eyes and imagination with this bewitching gift of nature. As the sun sets behind the hills in the west, a deep crimson light bathes the hillside and the glen in rich glory and the still water becomes a mirror of burnished gold. At night, from the serpentine road along the lake, popularly known as Marine Drive of Udaipur, can be watched the reflection of lights in the serene water.

Earlier, where Fatehsagar exists now, there was a small lake created during the reign of Maharana Jaisingh. It was known as Dewali Ka Talab, after village Dewali where it was located. The dam was badly damaged by floods during the reign of Maharana Bheemsingh. In 1888, Maharana Fatehsingh built a new high dam that was about 800 meters long and the lake covered an area of about 3 three

square kms. with an average depth of about 9 meters. The foundation stone of the embankment was laid by Duke of Connaught, the third son of Queen Victoria.

So, it was called Cannought Bandh for several years. But later on, as desired by the prince, it was named Fatehsagar. Stone 'bansis' were built around the lake at a cost of about six lacs.

As the lake was close to Picchola, a canal was built to connect the two water-bodies. When Picchola is full the water flows down to Fatehsagar through the wooden gate called Kala Kiwad. The excess water of Fatehsagar feeds Udaisar through river Ayad.

On one of the three islands in the lake is Nehru Garden named after former Prime Minister Jawahar Lal Nehru. Maharana Fatehsingh intended to build an island palace and a lot of construction work was done in his time but when he died the work was stopped. Later on, the state govt. converted the island into a beautiful park.

The park is rectangular in shape with

semi-circular ends. It is crowned by 'chhatris' on each corner and by a 'baradari' on the northern fringe. On the southern end is an inviting suite. All these faces the vast sheet of the lustrous water of the lake. The park is dotted with lush green lawns and studded with rows of flowers of multitude enchanting hues. It is enlivened by the play of colourful fountains. Lit in the night they enliven the ripples in the lake. All this creates the scene of an enchanting palace afloat on water. A 375-feet RCC bridge links the 80-seat boat shaped cafe with the park and provides a delightful walk.

On another island in the lake is located the famous solar observatory designed on the model of the one in Big Bear lake in California. It is one of the rare ones located in a lake that takes photographs of the sun and passes them on to other observatories where the sun is out at a time other than that in Lake City.

Sharp images of the sun can be taken easily from here as air turbulence here is lesser as compared to other places when it gets hot, especially in summer. The lesser quantity of dust particles in the air and slower velocity of wind here are some other plus points Rajasthan gets the maximum exposure to sunlight and this is yet another advantage.

Another island in the lake has been converted into a beautiful garden with several brilliant water jet fountains.

On the hill on the north was built the temple of Neemajmata, the 'Kuldevi' of Kayasthas. Once on Hariyal Amawas when the lake was full, Maharana Fatehsingh thought of holding a fair on the 'Paal'. An announcement was made asking the public to take part in it. There were stalls from the 'Paal' to

Neemajmata side. The Maharana accompanied by Maharani Chadi visited the fair. They had 'darshan' of the Mata. The Maharani was extremely happy. She wanted that it should be a two-day fair and on the second day only ladies should be allowed to take part in it so that they could enjoy themselves fully and freely. Her wish was granted and now the fair on the second day is exclusively for ladies.

Perched at a height of over 2100 feet from the sea level atop a hillock on the bank of Fatehsagar, Moti Magri, Hillock of Pearls, has a ruined fort and palaces reminiscent of the exquisite architecture of Mewar. The fort walls have been ravaged by time and weather and now only the roofless palaces in ruins dominate the site to tell the visitors the thrilling history of this land.

On the hillock Maharana Bhagwatsingh built Maharana Pratap Memorial. The central figure here is the gigantic bronze statue of Maharana Pratap mounted on his loyal steed Chetak that is symbolic as it tells the story of courage, faithfulness, and deep love between men and animals.

There are also statues of other heroes like Hakim Khan Suri, Bhamashah, Bhiluraja and Jhalaman. The memorial is set in landscaped Japanese style Rock Garden.

The entry in this 70-acre memorial is through a fort-like gate facing the vast sheet of Fatehsagar lake. Climbing up the ascent of about 150 ft. through a well asphalted serpentine road is really exhilarating.

On arrival at the top of the hillock, one is greeted by cool refreshing breeze and bewitching beauty of the enchant-

ing environs of Lake City, its towering palaces, verdant valley and shimmering lakes, all girded and guarded by a ring of lofty hills. The light and sound show is an added attraction.

Along the bank below Moti Magri, is a beautiful gallery that has exquisite paintings of heroes of Mewar and historic events like the battle of Haldighati.

There are 'chhatris' on the 'paal' and in the middle is a beautiful small marble structure Moti Mahal built by Maharana Kamasingh that was located earlier in the Kunwarpada Mahal. Later on, it was shifted to the bank of the lake.

The recently built beautiful fish aquarium is also a big attraction for visitors.

The artificial waterfall near the overflow is also quite fascinating.

The clean environment, the unmatched scenic beauty and closeness to the city attract a big number of Udaipurites who come here for a walk especially in the morning and evening. They have formed friendly F.S. groups.

During monsoon, Udaipurites eagerly wait for the time when Fatehsagar would overflow. The Municipal Corporation makes special arrangement with multi-coloured lighting at the overflow point that becomes a wonderful scene watched by big excited crowds.

Carved out of a rugged rock the Municipal Rock Garden located at a prominent point along the drive on the bank of the lake provides a vantage point from where can be savoured the beauty of the vast sheet of shimmering water and the hills around.

The scene of the glowing crimson rays of the setting sun playing with the water-body is simply mesmerising. No wonder the 'paal' has become a popular venue



of the annual flower show and that of several other events all through the year.

- Ashok Mathur

1. Would you like to know?
2. Which is the second largest lake in Udaipur?
3. Which Lake is most haunted by Udaipurites?
4. Who built the new big dam?
5. What was its first name?
6. Which is the biggest island in this lake?
7. What is located in the north of this lake?
8. Which memorial is located near the lake?
9. What are some other attractions near the lake?

Dear Viewers,
We have great pleasure in presenting an article out of over thirty posted so far on veteran journalist Ashok Mathur's blog (ashokmathuronudaipur.com).
Your comments on this and other articles are most welcome.

Paras J. K. Hospital Udaipur's unique initiative



Udaipur: Paras J. K. The hospital is distributing medicines prescribed by the doctor during Lockdown to the homes of Udaipur residents free of cost. For this, no additional charge is being charged for the delivery of medicines.

Vishwajit, director of the Paras J. K. hospital Udaipur, told that in the event of a lockdown, patients have to leave the house to bring medicines. Due to this, they are more likely to become infected. Keeping this in mind, for the convenience of common people, Paras J. K. The hospital has taken this step. For this, the cost of the patient's medicine should be at least Rs 500, and medicines are given only by the prescription written by the doctor.

Sanitization Chamber started in Geetanjali

Udaipur: Geetanjali Medical College and Hospital, Udaipur, has started the Sanitization and Disinfection Chamber at both the main entrances of Emergency and OPD.

It is known that the hospital's medical personnel and duty staff are ready to give their services despite the corona crisis. In order to prevent infection, entering the premises after being completely cleansed using this modern sanitization chamber is a very effective way to prevent infection. Therefore, all duty staff and doctors are happy with this initiative. Thanking the service personnel on this occasion, GMCH CEO Prateem Tamboli said that the safety of staff and medical personnel is the first priority of the institute. These transition discharge chambers have been installed. Servicemen were also thanked as Corona Warriors at the time of this epidemic.

Food packets for the helpless and needy peoples

Udaipur: Food packets for the helpless and needy were distributed at various places, after the permission of the administration, from April 1, 2020, to April 19, 2020, during the Lockdown by Pareek Parishad Udaipur. Financial support for this work was provided by some members of the Pareek Council Udaipur. All these Bhamashah also urged to keep his name a secret. Many thanks and wholehearted gratitude from all these Bhamashah on behalf of the Council. Council funds have not been used for this charitable work.



In the end, Raj Kumar expresses his gratitude to Pareek and all his family members, who took the responsibility of successfully completing this task is difficult and unfavorable times.

UCCI President Mr. Ramesh Singhvi handed over ten thousand N-95 masks to District Collector Mrs. Anandi

Udaipur: Chairman of Udaipur Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Mr. Ramesh Singhvi, handed over ten thousand N-95 masks of 3M Company to District Collector Mrs. Anandi on behalf of UCCI regarding Coronavirus. Senior Vice President of UCCI Mr. Hemant Jain, Vice President Mr. Manish Galundia, and Executive Member Mr. Subhash Singhvi were also present on occasion. The use of N-95 masks is necessary to provide protection from virus infection to medical staff posted in the treatment of persons infected with the Coronavirus.

In order to prevent the spread of coronavirus infection in Udaipur division, the UCCI is providing all possible help with the state government and district administration. Members of UCCI have contributed immensely to the disaster relief fund of the central and state government during the Lockdown.

10,000 Masks handed over to LG

Udaipur: On behalf of the Bandoowala family residing in the city 10,000 ten thousand surgical masks, was given to Inspector General of Police, Mrs. Vinita Thakur, for the police department fighting Coronavirus. Abbas Ali and Zahid Ali Bandoowala were present on occasion.

Forty Days of Lockdown A Relentless fight Against Covid-19, Much Severe Fight Against Hunger and Destitution

Even as this piece is being written the number of people infected with Corona in India has crossed ten thousand and reached 10,815. 31 deaths, and over 1,200 fresh cases have been reported in last 24 Hrs. Prime Minister Narendra Modi in his address to nation on 14th April announced further extension of the nationwide lockdown till May 3, 2020. This will make a total of forty days of lockdown all over the country. At 6.00pm on 14th April, 2020 it is being reported that more than three thousand people, mostly labourers, gathered near Bandra West bus station in Mumbai demanding authorities to arrange transport means to send them back to their hometowns. These people are saying they are not ready for lockdown extension till May 4 as they do not have food and money to survive.

A lot of debate in the world media has been going on about the origin of COVID-19 and all kinds of conspiracy theories have also been floated. A close historical study of epidemics in the world reveals that in all such cases there is a tendency to find out a culprit and the blame game continues from the global level to the local. The capitalist world has blamed China for the spread of this virus. However, the way USA has neglected it in the initial days to safeguard its economic interests is also not a secret. In fact the US media has been very critical of the measures taken (not taken) by the Trump administration to control it. It is tragic that Italy, France, Germany and the Latin American countries have suffered the most in this epidemic.

Indian government and people have so far succeeded in containing it to some extent. But the rise is gradual and incessant. Many people including doctors and nursing staff have also died. To add to this

suffering is the suffering of people who were caught in the places of their work because of a sudden announcement of lockdown. A study says that there are about a hundred million workers in the unorganized sector in India. They migrate from their home towns to work in cities where employment is available. When the PM announced lockdown on 24th of March 2020, only three hours and forty minutes were left before all transport halted. People could not move out. The factories closed down and no shelter was available to the workers. No money, no shelter and nowhere to go, nearly five lakhs of them started walking down to their homes in villages some three hundred to two thousand kms. away. On the way dozens of them died, were ill treated and finally put in quarantine at the border of their states. What becomes crystal clear is that the present leadership in the country has no idea of the condition of the working and labour classes. Their entire planning rests on their perception of the middle and upper class in the society. The action seen during the decision of demonetization, action taken at the time of announcement of lockdown and now when a second lockdown has been announced shows that the government is at a loss as to what planning is required for peasants, landless labour, industrial labour, labour in unorganized sector, people in slums, daily wage earners, contract labourers, petty shopkeepers and street vendors. What is good at is sheer theatrics. At eight PM somebody comes and makes an announcement. All of a sudden some announcement is made which affects millions of people. Clapping, ringing bells and beating plates, lighting lamps and raising slogans could be theatrics to use as political propaganda but in no way helps in fac-



ing the menace that this disease is. What is more heinous is the propaganda carried on by some news channels and the right wing organizations suggesting that the spread of this disease in India is a Jihad of the Muslims of the world. This is obnoxious and hurts not just democracy but the psyche of the people. Unfortunately the Prime Minister who talks so much does not say anything to curb such divisive propaganda.

It is essential to remain at home, also to sanitize, support the people who are at the forefront like doctors, nurses, para medical staff, police, administrative officers, NGO workers, political activists but it is also important to sanitize the media-mainstream as well as the social media to disrupt the propagation of misinformation. It is equally important to plan about the safety, health and hygiene of millions of workers stranded at different places and also to provide them and their families food, shelter and security. Much more than all this is the necessity of rethinking about the economic model of development which makes millions of people destitute in the wake of a medical emergency like this.

- Dr.H.S.Chandalia

Rotary's Participation in dealing with Corona is 3.3 Percent



Udaipur: According to the report of the who, Rotary International has made a contribution of 3.3 percent in the world from its service works in COVID-19. This was said by Hansraj Chaudhary, former Assistant Governor of Rotary and patron of Rotary Mewar while providing 50000 fifty thousand masks to Qummer Chaudhary, chairman of Udaipur Smart City Company.

He told that in this, 20,000 masks had been made available to the Rotary Mewar Service Trust and 30000 thirty thousand masks to the administration. Rotary Mewar has been continuously supporting the administration since day one to tackle the global epidemic of Covid.

Club Secretary Dinamay Choudhary said that the club Mewar had served more than thirty lakh rupees since the first day of Lockdown in Udaipur city. Club President Chetan Prakash told during a meeting with Qummer Chaudhary that since the first day of Lockdown to date, 60000 food packets have been prepared in Rotary Mewar Kitchen in collaboration with club members Bhamashah and distributed in the city through Municipal Corporation. Program convener Ashish told that the members of Club Mewar are ready to serve in Lockdown. Nitesh Kothari, Mukesh Gurani, Mukesh Chaudhary, etc. were present on this occasion.