

ROYAL HARBINGER

Reporting Fact of the Matter

Weekly



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UDAIPUR'S LAKES AND WILDLIFE SANCTUARIES

Udaipur has verdant woods and valleys, lofty mountain peaks that seem to kiss the sky, ever-flowing gurgling streams, glistening lakes and a wide variety of fauna and flora. Studded with several lakes, Udaipur has a Venice like view and stands out in stark contrast with its desert neighbourhood. Quite a few sanctuaries with their unique features add to the attraction of the region.

The picturesque lake Picchola by Pichhu Banjara in 1362 during the reign of Lakha and named after him. It was later on enlarged by Maharana Udaisingh, the founder of the city. It was the first of the lake system of Udaipur. On the eastern bank of the lake lie important places like the splendid City Palace, the home of Mewar rulers, famous temples, beautiful bathing ghats like the well-known Gangaur Ghat and the historic embankment. The lake has two heritage island hotels in it. The Lake Palace hotel has played host to eminent personalities and still attracts elite tourists. The other one Jagmandir where Prince Khurram stayed for some time and it is believed that some ideas from it were used in building the famous Taj Mahal. It now hosts celebrations like marriages and birthdays of the super rich from all over the globe. Hemmed in, on three sides by the green Aravali hills and by Pratap Memorial Moti Magri on the fourth is the beautiful Fateh Sagar lake. Maharana Jaisingh built it in 1678 but it was damaged due to heavy floods in the reign of Bhim Singh. Later on Maharana Fatehsingh got it rebuilt and it was named after him. A lesser known fact is that the dam was inaugurated by Duke of Connaught, the third son of Queen Victoria, in the late 19th century and was known as the Duke of Connaught Bund for several years. Called 'FS' by the youth this pear-shaped lake, is their favourite haunt. It has three islands. Nehru Park has a boat-shaped restaurant and a small zoo for children. The second island has brilliant water-jet fountains. On the third one is the famous Solar Observatory one of the rare ones located in a lake which takes photographs of the sun

Veteran journalist Ashok Mathur's blog (ashokmathuronudaipur.com) with over forty articles on udaipur's palaces, temples, lakes, gardens, festivals, fairs, wildlife etc. is getting very popular. It has interesting content for udaipurites as well as tourists.

and passes them on to other observatories where the sun is out at a time other than that in Lake City.

Jaisamand lake one of the biggest man-made lakes and the second largest in Asia, was built by Maharana Jaisingh in the 17th Century. Exquisite marble 'chhatris' flank the embankment and beautiful summer palaces of the Udaipur Maharanas line both sides of the lake. The lake comprises seven islands some of which are still inhabited by the Bhil Meena tribe who travel from one island to another through boats. They hunt with traditional arms and their main food is fish. On the hillock near

the bank of the lake is a palace called Roothi Rani Ka Mahal built by Maharana Jaisingh from where one can have a beautiful view of the expansive waters of the lake.

Built by Maharana Rajsingh in 1660 the Rajsamand lake has an interesting story related to it. It is said that the Maharana in a burst of defiance, built this beautiful complex after he married a Rajput princess Charumati from Kishangarh state, despite knowing that Aurengzeb too had proposed to marry her. The beautiful embankment has elaborately carved archways and pavilions called 'nauchowki'. There are exquisite carvings of the sun, chariots, gods and birds. The history of Mewar is inscribed in 1017 stanzas, on 27 marble slabs, that are called Raj Prashtati. It has also been acknowledged as one of the longest etchings in India. Udaipur can also boast of having several unique sanctuaries. About 5 kms from Udaipur is the Sajjanganth sanctuary which has Sajjanganth Palace or Monsoon Palace. Here is found the smallest cat in the world called Rusty Spotted cat which weighs 1.6 kilos and looks like a small panther. It gives birth to one kitten a time and can climb up trees. Among the carnivorous animals found here, the panther is the topmost predator besides hyena, jackal, jungle cat and common fox. Herbivorous fauna of this sanctuary includes a variety of deer, wild boar, common langur, civet, mongoose etc. Here can be found rare white naped teal, 'laraku jhapta murga', Alpine swift, fast running slender snake, the nocturnal blind snake, heart-shaped barn owl and large flocks of small bats. The plants found here include 79 species of flowering and 4 species of non-flowering ones. There are a lot of 'mahua' groves and 'gugal' plants. Also seen here are birds like babblers, quails, parakeets, barbets etc. The Kumbhalgarh Sanctuary has the distinction of being the origin of a river which starts in the west and falls into Arabian Sea as well as the another originating in the east and falling into the Bay of Bengal. This is so because the Great Water Dividing line falls in this region. Besides the famous Kumbhalgarh fort, where Maharana Pratap was born, other important places in the sanctuary area are the famous Ranakpur temple, Muchhala Mahavir Jain temple, Foota Dewal temple and Parshuram Mahadev temple. The sanctuary spread over 6.11 sq.km. has the Jarga mountain, the highest Aravali peak second only to Guru Sikkhar at Mount Abu. Kumbhalgarh fort has the longest wall measuring 38 km, second only to the Chinese Wall. Bear, panther, wolf, wild fowl, and four-horned stag can be seen here. The sanctuary with lofty peaks and valleys has a rare combination of flora of South India and Himalayan



vegetation. Dhok is the main species of the forest. The other trees include ber, khair, gular, salar, neem, kumtha, ardu, khejri etc. At the higher altitudes bamboo, salar, khirni, siris, godal, thur etc. are a common occurrence. During rainy season the sanctuary is full of zinia and other flowering plants.

Jaisamand sanctuary is about 52 km. from Udaipur. The lake is 14 km long and 9 km wide. The sanctuary includes Saladia Kot, Gamdhar Odi and Deemda dams. Rajas and Maharajas used to come here for hunting panthers. It houses famous temples like Rakeshwar Mahadev and Karodia Behron.

Due to the huge lake, there is a large variety of water creatures like, crocodiles, tortoise, various species of fishes and birds. Chinkaras in small groups can be seen here. Panthers, wild boar, snakes, peacocks, butterflies also are in abundance here. Sitamata the greenest sanctuary of Rajasthan lies about 100 kms from Udaipur. A mixed form of plateau of Aravali, Vindhyaachal and Malwa can be seen here. It is said that Sita brought up her sons Luv and Kush at Valmiki Ashram near Sitamata temple. Near the Ashram there are two streams, one hot and another cold. The Jakhm river and dam are worth seeing. A rare species of frog is found here. It lives in trees and lays its eggs there. It can jump over long distances and climb up straight walls. The sanctuary is also the abode of the rare flying squirrel which can glide from high trees. Long-billed vultures are present here in large numbers. Other creatures that inhabit the place include panthers, wild boar, wild cats, snakes, etc. There are famous 'sagwan' forests, huge 'mahua' trees and a large variety of rare plants and creepers. Its enchanting lakes and fascinating sanctuaries make Mewar a great destination for tourists and nature lovers.

Ram-Laxman pair will establish Ram Rajya

Bhilwara: Municipal Council welcomes newly elected Chairman, Deputy Chairman - took over with appreciation.

The occasion was the inauguration and reception ceremony of the city council Bhilwara in which a new tradition was introduced this time, for the first time, the council commissioner Durga Kumari, along with the Chairman and deputy chairman, came down from the stage and garlanded all the elected councilors, wearing the saffron dupatta, turban. Will give good governance by taking all the society together. District in-charge and Municipal Elections District in-charge Dinesh Bhatt, Udaipur, said that all-round development would take place with all the society in Bhilwara, expressing heartfelt gratitude to the people of Bhilwara, where the Chairman and Deputy Chairman Gave us confidence that we will be able to give good governance in the city council.

Board will meet public expectations

On this occasion, BJP District President Ladu Lal Teli said that my fellow friends of 30 years had reached Chairman and Deputy Chairman's post while working in various positions of BJP. I want the team of all the councilors to stay together on a positive and co-ordinated public expectation. Will try to live up to the integrity "Ram-Laxman pair will establish Ram Rajya". Former minister Kalulal Gurjar, while assuming the office of the newly elected Chairman, told the Chairman and Deputy Chairman to set Ram Rajya in Bhilwara, adding this to the district head, Barji Bai Bhil said that the pair of Pathak and Yogi Ram Laxman be immortal, all work will be good.

The board will give new dimensions to the development of the city

Former District President and BJP State Representative Rajsamand District In-charge Damodar Agarwal said that the coming 5-year tenure should be memorable and a matter of inspiration for all of us. Besides, he hoped that the common



people had supported the BJP with great hope. Live up to expectations. Will rectify the mistake made in the previous board Bhilwara MLA Vitthal Shankar Awasthi prayed with good luck and congratulations to God to give all of us so much strength that we can work with full expectation in public with the hope of the same. Despite the shortcomings, the people of Bhilwara won us this time with a pledge to fulfill those shortcomings. Office bearers of various societies, morchas, officers of the cell, city council officers, builders associations, district Saraswat Sabha, district Brahmin Mahasabha, Panchal Lohar Mahasabha, Koli Mahasabha, Muslim society officials welcomed Chairman and deputy chairman by offering garlands and Mewari turban. All the councilors of BJP, including Kodi Pradhan Karan Singh Belwa, Prashant Mewada Umaid Singh Rathore, Amit Saraswat, were present at the ceremony. Mukesh Sharma conducted the function on this occasion. Vice-Chairman, Pradhan, Deputy Pradhan, Chairman, Municipality of the district The head, sarpanch public representative, office bearers, senior workers were present.

Exploitation of Nature affects Biodiversity

Is humans a part or master of nature? This has become a very important question in the present perspective because the behavior of humans seems to be like as he has the authority to rule this nature and no one else like trees, animals and birds belongs to it. Even neither of rivers nor mountains. In the present times when the exploitation of nature and increasing cruelty on animals has become a matter of concern and the depletion of forest area and melting of glaciers has posed the question of human life in front of wildlife. Often we look at the data of various research reports in the newspapers on how the number of birds like vultures, coves, sparrows, fireflies etc. is continuously decreasing. The same situation is happening with bees. Research suggests that the number of European bees is declining rapidly. Man is not only exploiting nature for his greed but is also causing great harm to nature, wildlife and environment.

The forests are being cut. The habitats of wildlife are being snatched from them. Due to this, the number of animal species has also reduced considerably. Overall, the balance of nature is deteriorating. Due to which we have to face the day of natural disasters. It is a part of wildlife nature. If we destroy them, then the entire system of biodiversity will go away. Animals also have the right to live as freely as human beings in this world, this thinking needs to be pursued. If we do not protect the environment, wildlife and birds, then there will be a big crisis on the earth.



mountains. Glaciers have been melting rapidly in the last decades. The existence of rivers is beginning to be questioned. There is no doubt that the effort needed to stop the glacier from melting is not being done. Not only this, the process of excavation and harvesting on the mountains continues.

Constant construction and basic infrastructure, such as roads, facility construction on the mountains are under increasing threat. Construction of houses in very inaccessible places is bound to increase the risk. When convenience is increasing on the mountains, then the number of people living there is also increasing.

We have spoiled the surroundings of the plains, now we are ready to destroy the mountains too. Not only is it tempting to settle on the mountains, but there are industries, hotels and other business activities. The effect is clearly visible on the mountains; where there used to be greenery on the mountains, concrete forests have started to appear, and the result is very horrible. From time to time, mountains and glaciers make us sad due to loss of many people. After this accident we should start thinking honestly about mountains and nature in particular. Show off in the name of environmental protection should now be abandoned.

There is a very deep connection between nature and man. The two complement each other. For man, the earth is the courtyard of his house, the sky is terrace, the sun-moon-stars are lamps, the ocean-river water pots, animals are for to balance the environment and the means food are plants. Not only this, there is no better teacher than nature for man. Till date, humans have achieved all that they have learned from nature or from nature. Nature has taught many lessons, including gravity, to great scientists like Newton, while poets have written poems more than one by staying in nature.

Similarly, the common man understood all the qualities of nature and made positive changes in his life. Actually, nature teaches us many important lessons. As autumn does not mean the end of the tree. The person who imbibed this lesson in his life was never afraid of failure. Such individuals try to get new success without getting distracted after every failure. They keep doing this until they get success. Likewise, trees laden with fruits, but the trees leaning downwards teach us to remain humble and modest despite getting success and fame or being prosperous. According to the novelist Premchand, idealism in literature has the same place as nature in life.

Most importantly, everyone has their own importance in nature. A small insect is also useful for nature, while in the 'Matasya Pura' a tree is described as hundred sons. That is why we have an eternal tradition of worshiping trees. It has been said in the Puranas that a man who plants new trees flourishes in heaven for the same number of years, the number of trees in which he grows.

There is some magical world and adventure in wildlife and forests. One of the many joys, satisfaction and thrill of life is that we forget ourselves for some time and get lost somewhere in the forests, but this does not mean that the forests should be thrown into the fire of destruction. It is a reality that there are many animals and birds in the world, due to which not only the posture of human life is made, but their existence is inseparably connected in human life. The shocking fact is that only twenty-five percent of the earth is left where human activity is negligible. It is horrible that this area will reduce to ten percent in 2050. Earth has its own alarm clock, which is trying to awaken the entire human race. Even now, if we do not wake up, then it is just a shuddering thought that we will give the future generation an ugly world.

CPS Children became English champions, received a trophy in an award

Udaipur: The English champs' results were announced, and prizes were distributed to the winners at Central Public Secondary School located in New Bhupalpura.

The first phase of competition starts from the beginning. Monthly competitions like Mega dictation, Spice spotting, Recitation, Grammar Wizard, Famous Speeches, Just a Minute, Penal Decision, No Your Whistle, etc., were held to develop the English language every month.

Ten winners excelled in the English Champs competition - Gishika Khatik, Disha Janwa, Dakshal Kataria, Heeral Badala, Ishika Songara, Pranav Kumar, Devanshi Tyagi, Mimansa Gaur, Yomin Dangi, and Pranay Tyagi - were awarded trophies. The awards were distributed by Director - Deepak Sharma and Principal - Mrs. Poonam Rathore.