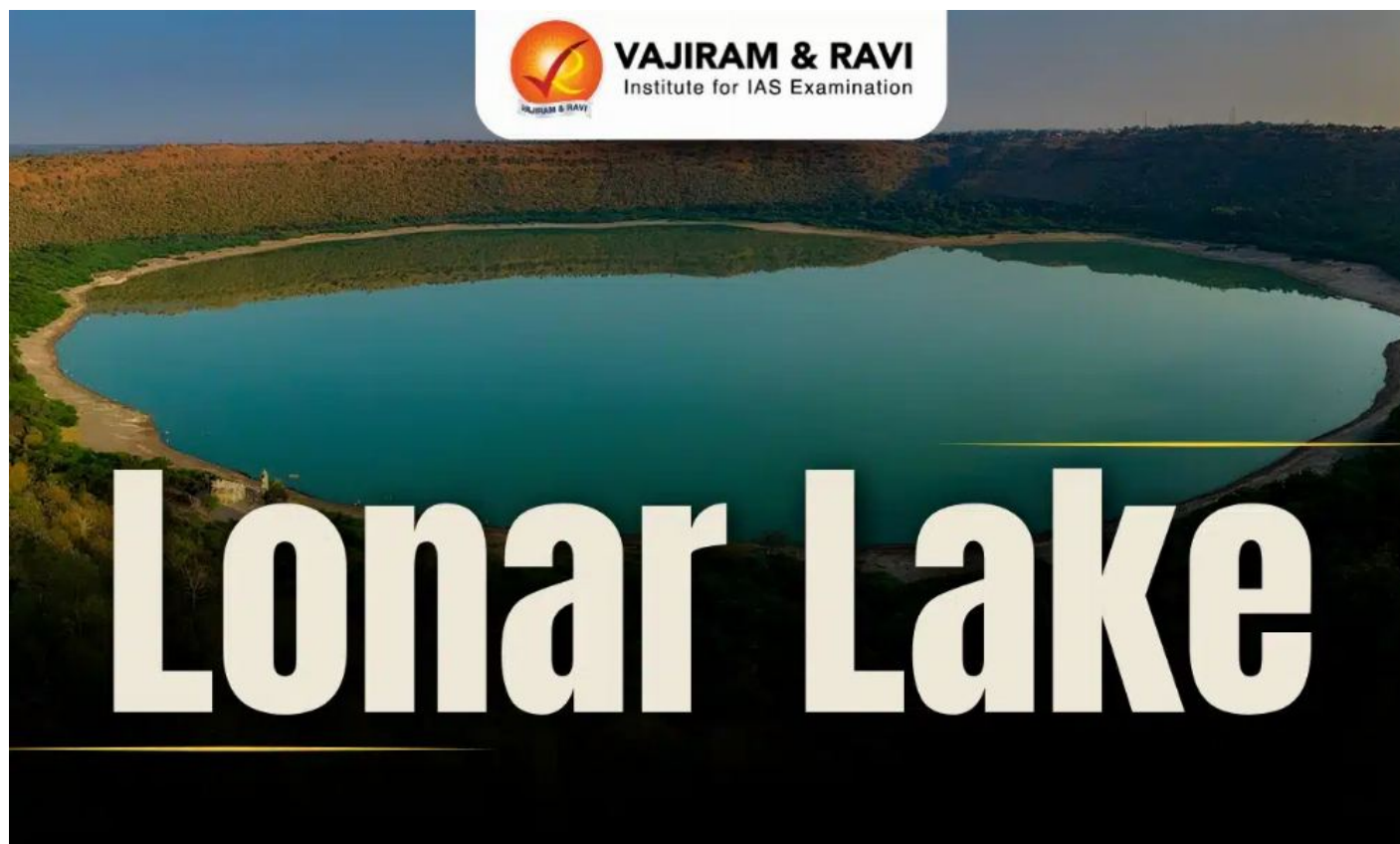


Lonar Lake

June 27, 2026 • vajiramandravi.com



Lonar Lake Latest News

At a time when water levels in reservoirs and lakes are receding and groundwater is depleting across Maharashtra, the Lonar crater-lake is throwing up a mystery — its water level is rising.

About Lonar Lake

- Lonar Lake (also known as **Lonar Crater**) is situated in the Buldhana district of **Maharashtra**.
- It is less than 1.6 km in diameter, and **sits in a nearly circular bowl**.
- It sits inside the **Deccan Plateau**—a massive **plain of volcanic basalt rock** leftover from eruptions some 65 million years ago.
- Its location in this basalt field suggested to some geologists that it was a volcanic crater.
- Today, however, Lonar Crater is understood to **result from a meteorite impact** that occurred around **50,000 years ago**.
- It is the **only known impact crater lake in basaltic rock in the world**.

- It is the **only known saline crater lake in the world**. Its water is **seven times saltier than seawater** due to the presence of basalt rock.
- The basin is **surrounded by steep slopes** and **centuries-old temples**.
- It has **several springs around** the lake that supply water to the lake.
- It has **several vents around** the lake that **release gases** such as methane, carbon dioxide, hydrogen sulphide, etc.
- One of the most striking aspects is its **color**, which **changes from green to pink depending on the season** and the water conditions.
 - This is **caused by the presence of microorganisms** that thrive in the saline and alkaline environment of the lake.
- It finds its **inclusion in the Puranas** and other ancient scriptures, including the **Aaina-i-Akbari**.

News: DH

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/lonar-lake/>

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