

Powai Lake

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Powai Lake Latest News

The BMC recently proposed appointing infrastructure consultancy firm AECOM Asia Company Limited to prepare a comprehensive redevelopment plan for a stretch of Powai Lake along Adi Shankaracharya Marg at a consultancy cost of Rs 1.85 crore.

About Powai Lake

- It is an **artificial lake** situated in the **northern suburb of Mumbai, Maharashtra**.
- The lake was **built** by the **British in 1890**, after **constructing two dams** between two hillocks **across Mithi River**, to augment the **water supply to Bombay**.
- The **hillocks seen on the south** end of the lake are the **lowest slopes of the Western Ghats**.
- The catchment area of the lake is 6.6 sq.km., with the depth varying from 3 to 12 metres.
- **Around Powai Lake** are two famed institutions-**Indian Institute of Technology-Bombay (IIT-B)** and the **National Institute of Industrial Engineering (NITIE)**.

- The **Padmavati Devi Temple**, situated on the bank of the lake **inside IIT Bombay campus** **dates** back to the **10th century AD**.
- The lake is **surrounded by the Powai Bird Sanctuary**.
- It is an important resting, feeding, and breeding site of several **bird species, resident and migratory**.
- Among some of the lake's rare and distinguished residents and visitors are the **Watercock, Pheasant-tailed Jacana, Slaty-legged Crane, Ruddy-breasted Crane**, Woolly-necked Stork, Caspian Tern, and Peregrine Falcon.
- It is also home to a small population of the **marsh crocodile**.
- It has been extensively used for fishing over the years. Currently, it is being used for the **conservation of the Indian mahaseer**.
- In recent times, **40% of the lake has disappeared**. The lake has deteriorated due to accelerated growth of residential, commercial, and industrial areas around the lake.

News: TOI

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