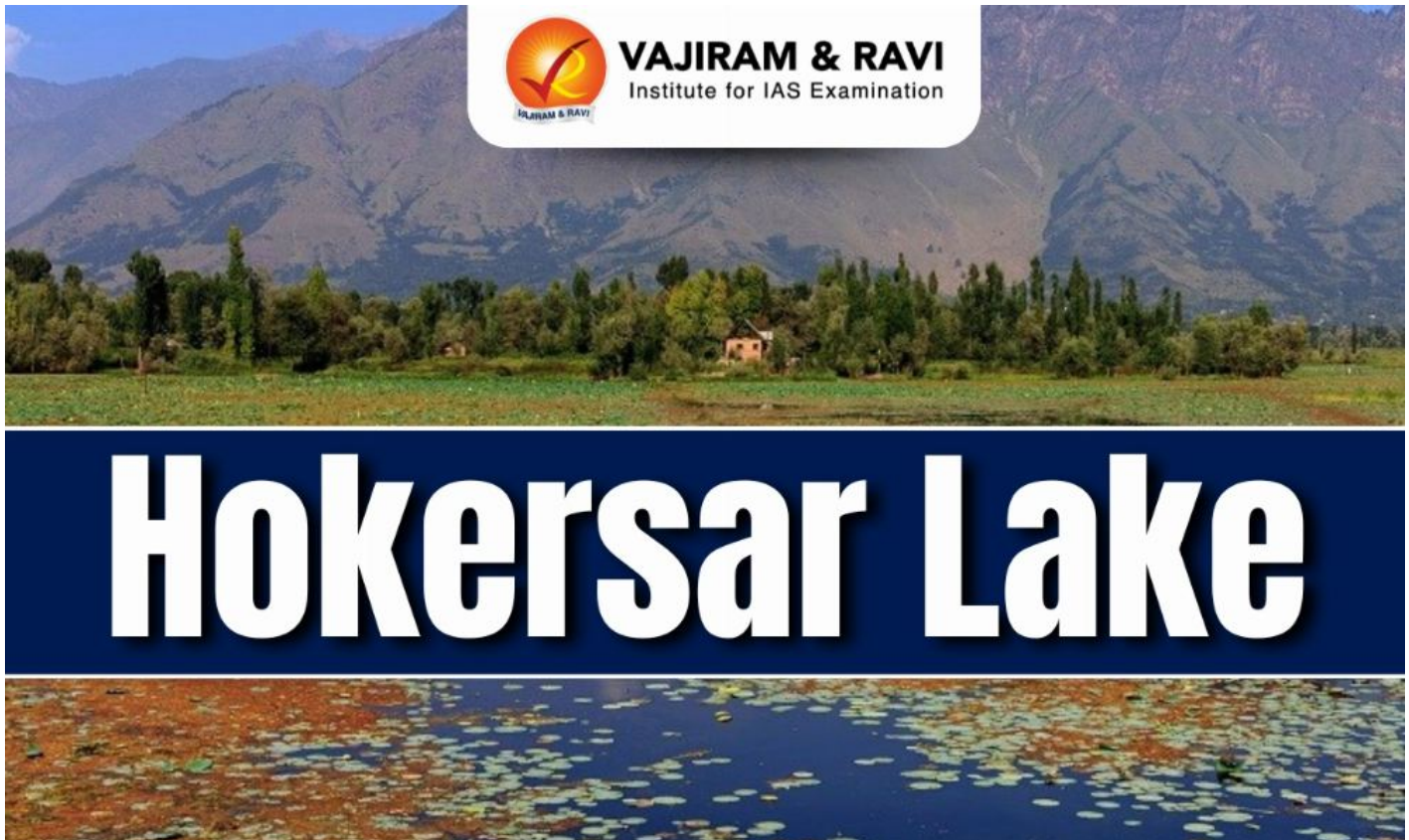


Hokersar Lake

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Hokersar Lake

Hokersar Lake Latest News

The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) recently warned of severe ecological degradation of Hokersar Lake, with over 2,500 kanals encroached.

About Hokersar Lake

- Hokersar, also known as **Hokera**, is a large **natural wetland near Srinagar in Jammu and Kashmir**.
- It spans 13.75 sq.km. and rests at 1,585 meters above sea level.
- The wetland lies in the **Jhelum River basin** and **receives water mainly from the Doodhganga River (a tributary of Jhelum)**.
- It is located in the **northwest Himalayan biogeographic province of Kashmir, behind the snow-draped Pir Panchal**.
- It is the **largest bird sanctuary in the Kashmir Valley** and a designated **Ramsar site**, recognized for its international ecological importance.

- It serves as a critical habitat and **resting place for various migratory waterbirds from Siberia, Central Asia, and Northern Europe**, hosting around 68 waterfowl species, including some endangered ones.
- Hokersar is **rich in aquatic vegetation** such as **reedbeds and water chestnuts**, which provide food and shelter for fish and birds.
- Apart from biodiversity conservation, the wetland acts as a **floodwater absorption basin** and supports local livelihoods.
- However, it faces **threats from human encroachment, pollution**, and conversion to agriculture, which have **reduced its size over time**.

Source: DEVD

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

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