

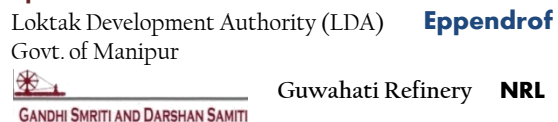
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# KNOW LOKTAK SAVE LOKTAK



Glitters like a diamond  
at the heart of Manipur,  
Loktak is one of the  
wonders of India.



**NECEER  
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Organised by  
**North East Centre for Environmental  
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in association with  
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# Worldwide Save Loktak lake Campaign

25 Cities in 3 Continents

# Save Loktak Lake Lifeline of Manipur



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# SAVE LOKTAK Awareness Campaign

## Loktak Lake:

Loktak Lake is the largest fresh water lake in Northeast India. It has been recognised as Ramsar site in 1990. Keibul Lamjao, the only floating national park in the world is situated at the south west part of the lake. It is home to the endangered Manipur brow antlered deer 'Sangai' - *Cervus eldi eldi* and many plant and animal species. Due to the presence of significant numbers of globally threatened species, or other species of global conservation concern, Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS) has identified Loktak Lake and Keibul Lamjao National Park as an Important Bird Area (IBA).

The lake has been a main source of income and sustenance for inhabitants of the area. For the last few decades the lake has been facing all round destructions due to both natural and anthropogenic activities. Rapid expansion of 'Phumdis\*', siltation, pollution, agriculture and adverse effect from Loktak Hydropower Project are some of the main problems which had led to an alarming destruction of the lake.

\* *Phumdis* are floating islands of heterogeneous masses of vegetation, soil and organic matter in different stages of decay. They cover a substantial part of the lake area and are found in different shapes and sizes. Keibul Lamjao National Park, the largest single mass of phumdi is the world's only floating national park covers an area of 40 km<sup>2</sup>; the park is the natural habitat of endangered Sangai, found only in this area.

**Don't pollute rivers  
Don't cut trees  
Don't kill birds & animals**

## LOVE NATURE

LIFELINE OF MANIPUR IS AT RISK

CAUSE for CONCERN: Need for an Urgency

1. Loss of vegetal cover in the catchment area
2. Deforestation and shifting cultivation in the catchment areas causing accelerated soil erosion resulting in the lake's shrinkage due to siltation. The annual silt flow into the lake is estimated to be 336,325 tons .
3. The thickness of *phumdis* has decreased in the Keibul Lamjao National Park thereby threatening the survival of Sangai deer.
4. The population of a number of economic plants and the major food plants has decreased resulting in starvation conditions for the endangered Sangai.
5. Plants have also degraded due to polluted water.
6. Avifauna and Aquatic lives are in danger due to pollution, poaching and habitat destruction.



## UNIQUENESS

- Largest freshwater lake in northeast India
- Declared Ramsar site in 1990
- Phumdis and ataphums – floating landmass
- Largest phumdi – Keibul Lamjao national park (World's only floating national park)
- Home to the endangered deer – Sangai (*Cervus eldi eldi*)

## MAJOR THREATS

- Rapid expansion of 'phumdis'
- Siltation
- Pollution
- Encroachments

Issued in public interest by NECEER, Imphal

