



Two Wetlands in Bihar Designated as Ramsar Sites | Bihar | 29 Sep 2025

Why in News?

India has added two new wetlands from Bihar — **Gokul Jalashay in Buxar** and **Udaipur Jheel in West Champaran** — to the global list of [Ramsar Convention Sites](#) of International Importance.

- With these additions, India's Ramsar tally now stands at **93 sites**, covering 13,60,719 hectares, maintaining its **top position in Asia** and third globally after the UK (176) and Mexico (144).

Key Points

- **Gokul Jalashay, Buxar District:**
 - **Type:** [Oxbow lake](#) located on the **southern edge of the river Ganga**.
 - **Ecological Role:** Functions as a natural flood buffer for nearby villages while providing habitat for over 50 bird species.
 - **Community Linkages:** Provides livelihood through **fishing, farming, and irrigation**.
 - **Local Tradition:** Villagers clean the catchment annually during a **festival**.
 - **Udaipur Jheel, West Champaran District:**
 - **Type:** Oxbow lake surrounding a village.
 - **Biodiversity:** Home to **280 plant species**, including ***Alysicarpus roxburghianus*** (endemic to India).
 - It is an important wintering ground for **35 migratory bird species**, including the **vulnerable common pochard**.
 - **About Wetlands:** They are areas of **marsh, fen, peatland, or water (natural or artificial)** with **water that is static or flowing**, including **marine areas with a depth not exceeding six meters**.
 - Wetlands are an [ecotone](#), having land transitional between **terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems**.
 - **About Ramsar Convention:** It was adopted in **1971** in **Ramsar, Iran**, and provides a global framework for **wetland conservation and wise use**. **India joined it in 1982**.
 - The [Montreux Record](#) (threatened list) lists wetlands with **deteriorating ecological character** due to human activity or pollution. India has **two wetlands** in the Montreux Record:
 - **Keoladeo National Park, Rajasthan (1990):** A **UNESCO World Heritage Site**.
 - [Loktak Lake, Manipur \(1993\):](#) The **largest freshwater lake in Northeast India**, known for its **Phumdis** (floating masses of **vegetation, soil, and organic matter**)
 - [Chilika Lake](#) was included in the Montreux Record in **1993** but was removed in **2002 (the first site from Asia)**.
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Birth Anniversary of Bhagat Singh | National Current Affairs | 29 Sep 2025

Why in News?

Prime Minister Narendra Modi paid tribute to revolutionary Bhagat Singh on his **birth anniversary**, praising his courage as a great source of inspiration.



Key Points

- **Birth:** Bhagat Singh was born on 28th September, 1907, in Banga, Punjab, British India (now in Pakistan). He came from a Sikh family actively involved in anti-colonial activities; his father, Kishan Singh, and uncle, Ajit Singh, were prominent freedom fighters.
- **Early Life:** Witnessed the [Jallianwala Bagh massacre](#) at the age of 12, which instilled a deep sense of patriotism and a vow to fight for India's freedom.
- **Education:** Joined the National College, Lahore, founded by [Lala Lajpat Rai](#), which emphasised the [Swadeshi Movement](#) and provided a platform for revolutionary ideas.
- **Revolutionary Organisations:** Bhagat Singh became a member of the [Hindustan Republican Association \(HRA\)](#) in 1924, later renaming it the Hindustan Socialist Republican Association (HSRA) in 1928.
 - Naujawan Bharat Sabha was founded by Bhagat Singh in 1926, aimed at mobilising youth for the freedom struggle.
- **Major Actions:** Involved in the assassination of police officer J.P. Saunders in 1928 (Lahore Conspiracy Case) as retaliation for [Lala Lajpat Rai's](#) death due to police brutality.
 - Threw a bomb in the **Central Legislative Assembly** on 18th April 1929, with B.K. Dutt to protest against repressive British laws.
- **Arrest and Trial:** Arrested in 1929 for the bomb incident and later charged with murder in the [Lahore Conspiracy Case](#). He was tried, convicted, and sentenced to death.
 - Executed on 23rd March 1931, along with fellow revolutionaries Sukhdev and Rajguru, in Lahore. Bhagat Singh is affectionately known as Shahid-e-Azam, the greatest of martyrs.
- **Literary Contributions:** Authored significant works, including **Why I Am an Atheist**, The Jail Notebook and Other Writings, and several political manifestos advocating for socialism and revolution.
 - In his early work, Vishwa Prem (Universal Love), Singh proclaimed the importance of equality. He envisioned a **world free of hunger and war**, where humanity transcends boundaries of race and nationality.
- **Ideologies:** Advocated **Marxist and socialist ideologies**, emphasising rationalism, equality, and justice. **Critiqued organised religion**, viewing it as a form of mental and physical slavery.
- **Legacy:** Celebrated as a national hero and martyr; his birth anniversary and the date of his execution are observed annually to honour his contributions to India's freedom struggle.

- Every year, 23rd March is observed as **Martyrs' Day** as a tribute to freedom fighters Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev, and Rajguru.

India Wins Asia Cup | National Current Affairs | 29 Sep 2025

Why in News?

India beat Pakistan by 5 wickets in the Asia Cup 2025 final at Dubai to clinch their **ninth title**, staying unbeaten with three wins against Pakistan in the tournament.



Key Points

- **Asia Cup Records:**
 - **India:** 9 titles (most by any team).
 - **Sri Lanka:** 6 titles.
 - **Pakistan:** 2 titles.
- **Player Of The Match:** Tilak Varma
- **Player Of The Series:** Abhishek Sharma
- **Asia Cup Format:** Alternates between ODI and T20I formats.
 - This is India's **second consecutive title** after winning the Asia Cup 2023 (ODI format).