

Save Loktak Lake Campaign

29th November 2009
India Gate, New Delhi



Photo by Khuraijam Jibankumar Singh

A campaign “Save Loktak Lake” was organised at India Gate, Delhi. The campaign was an attempt to create awareness about the treats and need for conserving this natural heritage of Manipur. The campaign was organised by North East Centre for Environmental Education and Research (NECEER), Imphal. NECEER, Imphal has been organising campaigns for the conservation of endangered species and fragile ecosystems of Manipur. “Save Loktak Lake” campaign at India Gate, Delhi was built up for the Nationwide Save Loktak Lake which will be organised on 7th March (Sunday) 2010 at 10 plus cities of the country. The campaign will be also be organised at Imphal, Bishenpur and Thoubal.

Loktak Lake is the largest fresh water lake in Northeast India. It has an area of 300sq km and 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 species. 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.



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