

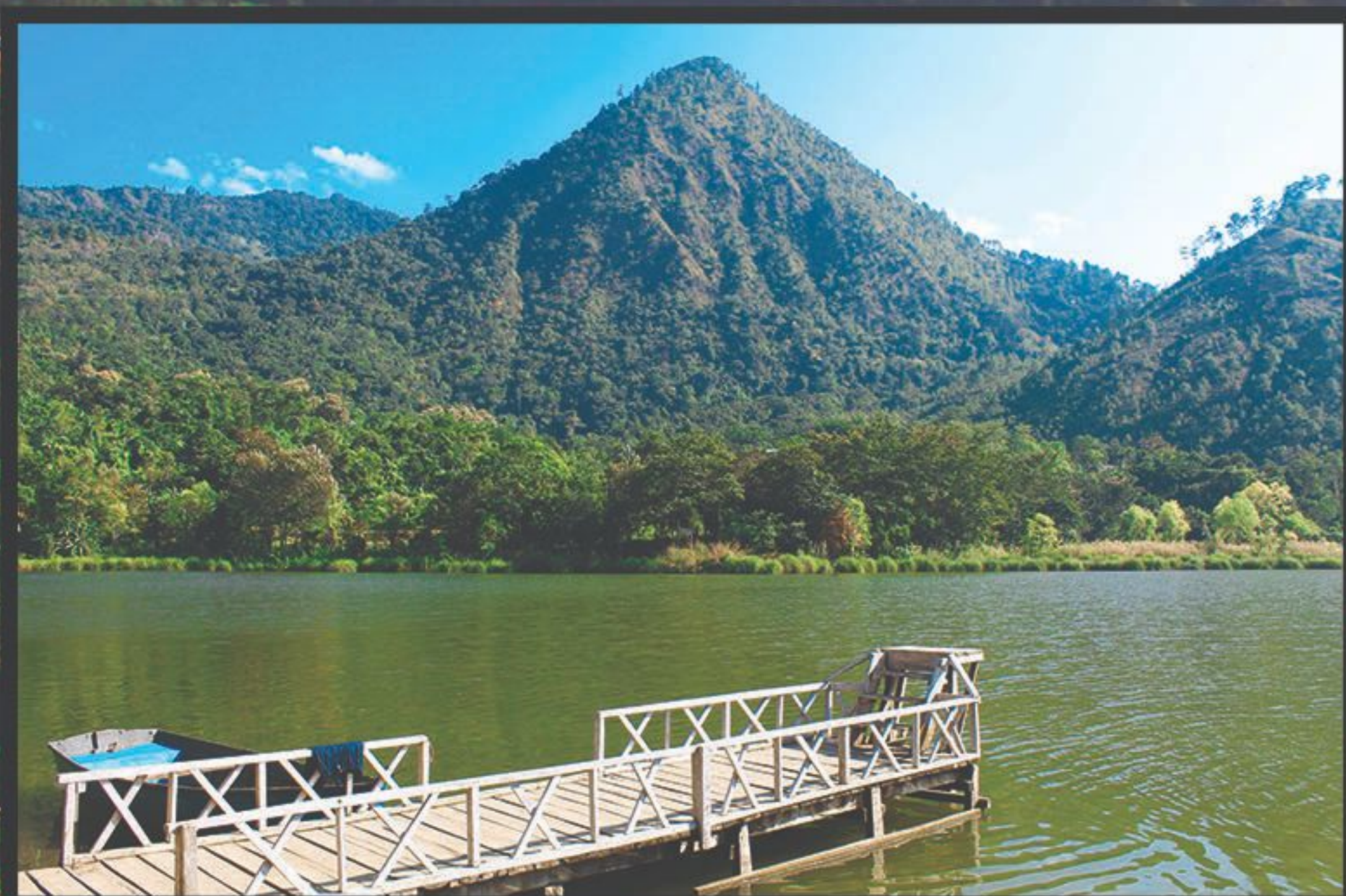


# World Wetlands Day

2 February 2022

*Theme: "Wetlands Action for People and Nature"*

It is also a place of great scenic beauty and important tourist spot. Major Fish species such as Grass carp, silver carp, Labeo rohita, Catla catla, ***Neolissocheilus hexagonolepsis*** (Chocolate Mahseer) etc, have been introduced by the Department of Fishery, Government of Nagaland and ***Neolissocheilus hexagonolepsis*** has been declared as the State fish.



The area is known for its fishing spots. The best season to fish is between June and September. Being a haven for migratory birds like Siberian Cranes, the lake is the best place for birdwatching in the state. The lake plays an important role in advancing tourism in Nagaland.

## What is World Wetlands Day?

World Wetlands Day is celebrated each year on 2 February to raise awareness about wetlands. This day also marks the anniversary of the Convention on Wetlands, which was adopted as an international treaty in 1971, in the Iranian city of Ramsar.

The Theme for 2022 World Wetlands Day is "Wetlands Action for People and Nature", and it highlights the importance of actions to ensure the conservation and sustainable use of wetlands for human and planetary health. It's an appeal to invest financial, human and political capital to save the world's wetlands from disappearing and to restore those we have degraded.

## What is Wetland?

Wetlands are geographical regions that are either continuously or periodically saturated or inundated with water. Wetlands are areas where water covers the soil, or is present either at or near the surface of the soil all year or for varying periods of time during the year, including during the growing season. Water saturation (hydrology) largely determines how the soil develops and the types of plant and animal communities living in and on the soil. Wetlands may support both aquatic and terrestrial species. The prolonged presence of water creates conditions that favour the growth of specially adapted plants (hydrophytes) and promote the development of characteristic wetland (hydric) soils.

**#WorldWetlandsDay**  
**#ActforWetlands**



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Nagaland Pollution Control Board  
(State Nodal Agency, NGC Eco Club)





## Types of Wetlands:

The Convention on Wetland uses a broad definition of wetlands that includes both freshwater and marine and coastal ecosystems such as all lakes and rivers, underground aquifers, swamps and marshes, wet grasslands, peatlands, oases, estuaries, deltas and tidal flats, mangroves and other coastal areas, coral reefs, and all human-made sites such as fishponds, rice paddies, reservoirs and saltpans.

## Why World Wetlands Day?

The world has lost 85% of its wetlands since the 1700s, and they are disappearing three times faster than forests. Wetlands are critically important ecosystems that contribute to biodiversity, climate mitigation and adaptation, freshwater availability, world economies and more.

It is urgent that we raise national and global awareness about wetlands in order to reverse their rapid loss and encourage actions to conserve and restore them. World Wetlands Day is the ideal time to increase people's understanding of these critically important ecosystems.

The overriding message behind this year's campaign is to Value, Manage, Restore, and of course - Love - Wetlands, because if we are to inspire action, we also must ignite greater empathy for these rapidly disappearing ecosystems.

This year's campaign highlights three main messages:

- Value wetlands for the multiple benefits and nature-based solutions they provide for human well-being and a healthy planet.
- Manage wetlands wisely and use them sustainably so we can conserve them and maintain the health of these critically important ecosystems.
- Restore lost and degraded wetlands to revive the rich biodiversity and life found in these life-sustaining ecosystems.

## What Loss of Wetlands means?

### **FOR PEOPLE**

- Water scarcity
- Exposure to flooding and extreme weather events
- Lost livelihoods and well-being
- Food insecurity

### **FOR THE PLANET**

- Biodiversity decline
- Increased carbon and methane emissions
- Loss of natural freshwater Filtration

**What we can do to encourage our community to act now to value, manage, restore — and love — local wetlands.**

- Become a wetland's champion who advocates for protecting local wetlands.
- Use water sparingly and avoid toxic products that could flow into area wetlands.
- Support actions and local officials who seek to restore degraded wetlands.
- Create an advocacy effort that encourages local, state and national governments to prioritize wetlands as part of their sustainable development and climate action efforts

Nagaland has an area of 16,579 sq km. It has 421 wetlands in small, medium and big sizes, spread over 215 sq km across the state. Doyang Lake, Chathe Reservoir, Shilloi Lake and part of Tizu River are some of the important wetlands of Nagaland, and the Largest Natural lake in Nagaland is Shilloi Lake.

Shilloi Lake is located in Lütsam Village of Phokhungri area under the Meluri sub-division in Phek district. It spreads over an area of 0.25-0.30 sq km, in the shape of a footprint.

Shilloi Lake is a beautiful natural lake in Nagaland and falls in a valley surrounded with pine forest and interesting landscapes. The actual name of the lake is Lütsam meaning "a place where water is collected". It was called Shiloh by the British but today it is officially known as Shilloi.