



Low Water Level in Bhimtal Lake

Why in News?

According to the sources, the water level of the [Bhimtal Lake](#), located in Uttarakhand's **Nainital district**, has **dropped to 17 metres, from 22 metres** due to the **rainfall and snowfall scarcity** in the state's [Kumaon region](#).

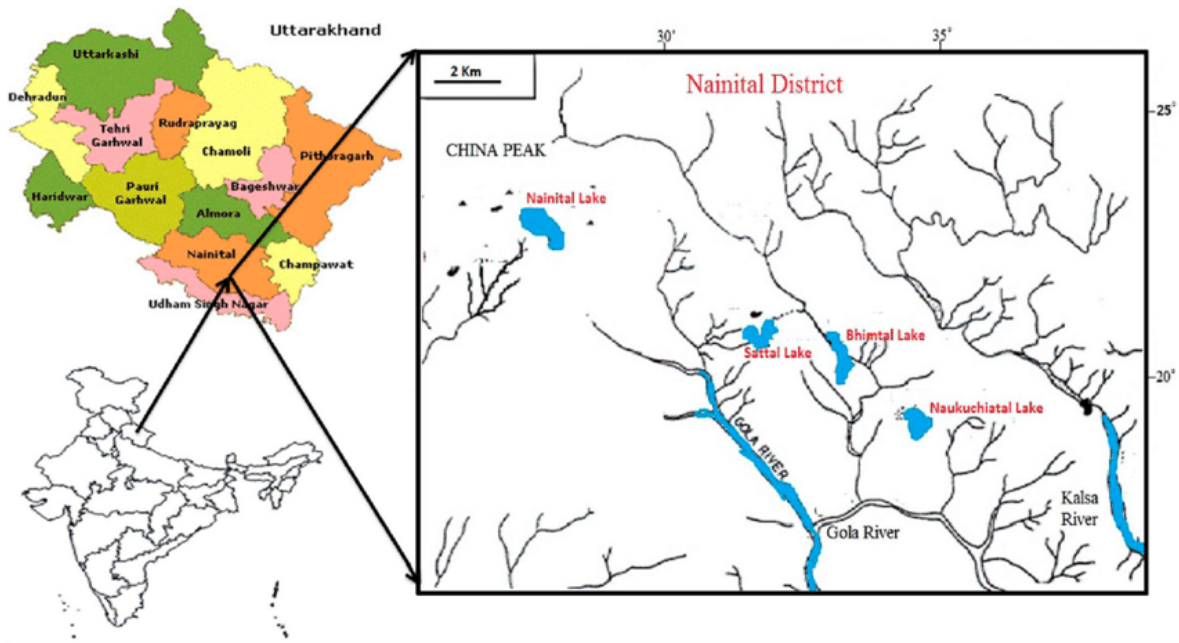
Key Points

- The prevailing situation has also resulted in a sharp **decline in the number of tourists** in the hill town.
 - Low water levels in the lake will **affect the livelihood of thousands** who are **dependent on the [tourism industry](#)**, including hotels and resorts.
- The continuous neglect of the lake by the authorities and the flushing of many drains across the area in the lake has aggravated the situation.

Bhimtal Lake

- Bhimtal Lake is the **largest lake in the Nainital district**. It is the largest lake in the Kumaon region, known as the "**lake district of India**".
 - It is named after the second **Pandava called Bhima** of the famous epic Mahabharata.
- It is a **natural lake** and its origin is attributed to **several faults** that occurred due to the shifting of the **Earth's crust**.
- The lake was built during **British time in 1883** and has a **masonry dam** built on it.
- The lake has rich flora and fauna around it and thick forests of **pine and oak cover** the hill slopes around the lake.
 - It is home to **a number of migratory birds** in the winter months.
 - Famous species found in the area include **bulbul, wall creeper, Emerald Dove, Black Eagle, and Tawny fish owl**.

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