



Varun Sagar

Why in News?

Rajasthan Assembly Speaker **changed the name** of the famous **Foy Sagar Lake in Ajmer** to '**Varun Sagar**'.

Key Points

- **About the issue:**
 - According to the speaker the name of Faisagar in Ajmer was a **symbol of slavery**. This lake was built by the people of Ajmer and religious and social faith of all communities including Sindhis is attached to it.
 - **Lord Varun** has been revered by all communities, including the [Sindhi community](#). Therefore, this lake will now be known as "Varun Sagar."
- **About the lake:**
 - This lake is an **artificial lake** located in **Ajmer district**.
 - This lake was **constructed in the year 1891-1892** under the direction of **Foy**, an English engineer **of the British Raj**, as part of **the flood and famine relief project**.
 - This is the **second famine relief lake of Rajasthan**, first being [Rajsamand Lake](#).

Rajsamand Lake

- **About:**
 - It is a popular tourist destination in Rajasthan. It was built in **the 17th century** by **Maharana Raj Singh**.
 - The lake is also known as **Rajsamudra Lake**.
- **Construction:**
 - Construction of the lake **began in 1662** and was **completed in 1676**.
 - It was the **oldest famine relief work in Rajasthan**.
 - The lake was **built across the [Gomati](#), Kelwa, and Tali rivers**.
 - It has a **catchment area of about 196 square miles**.
- **Features:**
 - The lake is 4 miles long, 1.7 miles wide, and 60 feet deep.
 - The **white marble embankment** at the southern end is **called Nauchowki**.
 - The **Ghats**, or stone steps leading to the lake, have inscriptions about the history of Mewar.
 - **The Raj-Prashasti viewpoint** atop the dam has the **world's longest and largest stone inscription in Sanskrit**.

