

# 22. REJUVENATION OF LAKES – UDAIPUR

*“Eternal Udaipur – World’s favorite Lakeside Heritage City”*

– Vision of Udaipur, as expressed in its Smart City Proposal (SCP)

## CONTEXT

Udaipur is a major city in Rajasthan, which is rapidly urbanizing, with about half a million population and a decadal growth rate of 16%. Udaipur is a leading holiday destination in India, famous for its history and lakes, along with palaces. Udaipur’s pristine lakes have been the key attraction for visitors to the city. Today,

Lakes are the lifeline and identity of Udaipur. These are also the most preferred places for denizens of the city for regular stroll/ outings. However, as in case of many other cities in India, the civic infrastructure in terms of water supply, sewerage and drainage distribution networks has not been upgraded to the level required for the growing population of the city. This has resulted in pollution to the lakes. The main contributing factor being, discharge of sewage water into the lakes; and pollution by local lake side activities like throwing of garbage etc. The discharges also contributed to siltation of the lakes.

## THE INTERVENTION

### Project description

In the recent past, Udaipur has taken multiple steps to abate pollution of the lake and beautification of the lake vicinity, some of the prominent steps being:

- The sewage discharge points closure and commissioning of sewage treatment plants
- Prohibition of idol immersion in the lakes
- Deployment of de-weeding machines for regular clearing of weeds from the lake
- Patrolling as well as CCTV based surveillance of the lakes
- Commissioning of Open Gyms

### Key outputs/ outcomes

The emerging benefits of various interventions with respect to rejuvenated of lakes has been:

- Sewage discharge in the lakes has been stopped almost completely
- Idol immersion in the lakes has now completely stopped, the separate tank provided for the purpose is being used by devotees

- De-weeding is being done regularly in the lakes, contributing to its beauty
- Adverse local activities contributing to lake pollution/ detonation has been severely curtailed due to robust surveillance
- Open Gyms is being regularly used by citizens/ tourists

### Impacts

The lakes in Udaipur are increasingly getting better in terms to cleanliness and beauty and the same is reflected in increased footfall/ gradual increase in numbers of people coming to these places.

### Support and mobilized resources

Project components are accessing funding from various sources including the Smart Cities Mission (SCM) funds, Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) and National Lake Conservation Program (NLCP).



*Open gym at lakefront*