

Water Body Kambar Talav at Solapur Maharashtra as Recreation Center

Swati G. Ghadge ¹, Ashwinkumar A. Bhople ², Aanad A. Wardole ³

¹ Assistant Professor, General Science Engineering Department, Brahmdevdada Mane Institute of Technology, Solapur, Maharashtra.

² Head of the Department, General Science Engineering Department, Brahmdevdada Mane Institute of Technology, Solapur, Maharashtra.

³ Assistant Professor, General Science Engineering Department, Brahmdevdada Mane Institute of Technology, Solapur, Maharashtra.

Abstract

The paper categorized Kambar Talav's development into Past scenario, Preset condition and Future Facilities. This will tell all information of Kambar Talav from its origin to till a date and the future scope too.

Keywords: Recreation, Development, Water bodies

1. Introduction

Water is one of the most important natural resources on earth. The accumulation of water is known as waterbody. Kambar Talav is the main water body of city and play important role in the Solapur city located in Maharashtra.

The original name of Sambhaji Lake (Kambar Talav) was QAMAR Lake. But now this is known as Kambar Talav. It is also known as Sambhaji Lake. The Sambhaji Lake is a well-known attraction in the city where you will see locals flocking in the evening and weekends for a fresh breath of air or just a long walk along the banks. It is a great bird watching centre with the many migratory birds found flocking here in winter. This tank was filled with white and pink lotuses. Best Season to Visit is October to February
Recreation things refer to all those activities that people choose to do to refresh their bodies and minds and make their leisure time more interesting and enjoyable. Whereas the Recreation of places means creating or renewing the places in such manner that it will serve the many purposes at a time and give the pleasure to visitors. Introducing Kambar Talav as recreation centre will leads to development of city in all aspect and it will also provide cash flow among the city. The large area of natural lake will be used for various purposes keeping environmental factors into consideration. This is the big deal for citizens and tourists of Solapur city.

2. Water Bodies in Solapur City

2.1 Siddheshwar Lake:

Siddheshwar Temple is the temple of “Lord Shiddheswara”. The temple, situated in the middle of the lake, which is known as Siddheswara Lake. It is picturesque; with a backdrop of the fort looming behind it. The temple is of yogi, Shri Siddharameshwar, who was a devotee of Sri Mallikarjuna of Srisailam. Siddheshwar Lake is the best attraction of Solapur town. Accompanied by Bhuikot Fort on the left side and Shri Siddheshwar Temple in the middle of it, the lake presents blend of royal history and spirituality. There are two theories about the origin of the lake. One says that muslim sultan of Bahamani built the lake to accompany his Bhuikot Fort and other says that it was built by the great Shiva devotee Shri Siddharameshwar. Per legend’s, all the holy rivers asked permission to reside inside the great lake, making important from religious point of view.

The lake looks amazing in the night when the reflection of the temple lighting fills the atmosphere. Clean water of the holy lake is full of various types of water creatures.

2.2 Ekruk Lake:

The Ekruk lake, the largest artificial lake in the Bombay Presidency, lies five miles north-east of Solapur. It is also known as Hipparga Lake.

Here the building scheme of Ekruk Lake was prepared in 1863 and sanctioned in 1866. It comprises a reservoir formed by an earthen dam 7,200 feet long and seventy-two feet in greatest height and three canals. The dam is thrown across the valley of the Adhila, a feeder of the Sina, which has a drainage area of 160 square miles above the lake. The lake is sixty feet deep when full, and holds 3,350 million of cubic feet water. The area of water surface is 4,640 acres or 7 square miles. Of the canals one on each bank is at a high level, designed for four months' watering, and the third on the left bank is at a low level, designed for a twelve months discharge. Of the two high level canals the right bank canal is eighteen miles long, discharges sixty cubic feet a second, and commands 565 acres; and the left bank canal is four miles long, discharges twenty-five cubic feet a second, and commands 856 acres. The low-level left bank canal is twenty-six miles long, discharges seventy cubic feet a second, and commands 10,601 gross acres. The canals are bridged and regulated throughout and can be lengthened so as to command a larger area. The low-level canal flows close past the town of Solapur. The work was begun in 1866. Some water was supplied to the kharif or rain crop of 1871- 72. At the end of 1876-77 the work was completed, except the masonry heads to distributaries and the last two miles of the low-level canals and the last twelve miles of the high-level right bank canal. By the end of 1881-82 all the works connected with the Ekruk lake were completed at a total cost of about 121,262 (Rs. 12,12,620). In 1882-83, of 15,320 acres, the arable area under command, 1,306 acres were watered and paid 524 (Rs. 5,240) for water rates. Besides tillage water, the Ekruk Lake supplies drinking water to the town of Solapur.

2.3 Sambhaji Lake:

The original name of Sambhaji Lake (KambarTalav) was QAMAR Lake. This was named after daughter’s name of Aurangzeb-the Mughal Emperor. But now this is known as Kambar Talav. It is also known as Sambhaji Lake. The Sambhaji Lake is a well-known attraction in the city where you will see locals flocking in the evening and weekends for a fresh breath of air or just a long walk along the banks. It is a

great bird watching centre with the many migratory birds found flocking here in winter. This lake was filled with white and pink lotuses. Best Season to Visit is October to February.



Fig.2.1 Sidheswar Lake



Fig.2.2 Ekruk Lake



Fig.2.3 Kambar Talav

3. Recreation

Recreation is an activity of leisure, leisure being discretionary time. The need of doing “something for recreation” is an essential element of human biology and psychology. Recreational activities are often done for enjoyment, amusement, or pleasure and are considered to be "fun".

Recreation is an essential part of human life and finds many different forms which are shaped naturally by individual interests but also by the surrounding social construction. Recreational activities can be communal or solitary, active or passive, outdoors or indoors, healthy or harmful, and useful for society or detrimental. A significant section of recreational activities are designated as hobbies which are activities done for pleasure on a regular basis. Some recreational activities – such as Games, Fishing, Backpacking, Horse riding, Boating, Walking, Performing arts like Dance, Music, Drawing, Painting, Literature, Photography. A list of typical activities could be almost endless

4. Past Scenario of Kambar Talav. (Till 2010)

After the formation of SMC efforts were made to make a various improvement in this place. Some proposals were developed and implemented to develop it as an outdoor beauty spot. Boating was arranged. However the real development of the area took place between 2002 and 2005 for these then Mayor Nalini Chande, Deputy Mayor Padmakar Kale, Commissioner S.V.R. Srinivas, Municipal Engineer Subhash Savaskar and Park head Gyanraj Mhetras made continuous effort and followed up. Also park has been created in the vicinity of the lake and the equestrian statue of Rani Lakshmibai attracts attention. Tourist and travellers travelling from Bijapur to Solapur get off at this place and then proceed. This park has definitely added to the beauty of the city.



Fig.5.1 Dharmaveer Sambhaji Lake 1960

4.1 Development and facilities provided in past

In 2002 – 2005 real development is done in following areas

4.1.1 Boating

In those days of development, “Boating” was the major attraction for solapur residents as well as tourists. There were number of boat rides at different rate for perticular time period.

Which had 1) Pedal Boat

2) Engine Boat

3) Scooter Boat

It was really fascinating ad relax moment for solapurkar and tourists as well. In evening lot of people came at lake side for boating and spent plenty of time. But now due to jalparni and losses Boating is stopped.



Fig.4.1 Ticket Counter



Fig.4.2 Boating

4.1.2 Rani Lakshmbai Garden

The biggest attraction for childrens and solapurkar is Rani Lakshmbai Garden. The garden is at south west of Kambar Talav. There is huge statue of Rani Lakshmbai which is major attraction for many. Garden had playstation for children , lawns , coconut trees , offices.



Fig.4.3 Rani Lakshmbai Garden



Fig. 4.4 Rani Lakshmbai Statue

4.1.3 Benches and Security wall

For relaxation benches was provided. Near ticket counter benches spot was created for people.

Along with this, sequiry wall was constructed along boundary of lake , people can also use this wall for sitting purpose. For more safety at some spot steel security grills also provided. Overall safety is taken into account.



Fig.4.5 Benches



Fig.4.6 Security Wall

4.1.4 Walking Track and Sloping Garden

Parallel to road, there was provision of jogging and walking track along the length. The track is made up of concrete smooth finish footpath paver blocks. Which was the best choice considering durability and ease in access.

Road embankment was beautifully used as sloping garden, where people can sit. It enhances track's look.



Fig.4.7 Walking Track



Fig.4.8 Sloping Garden

Overall there was considerably good development done till 2010.

5. Present Condition of Kambar Talaw (2010 To 2020)

The present scenario of Kambar Talaw is not up to the mark. Solapur is nominated as SMART CITY; still there was no development of Kambar Talaw under smart city development till August-2020. The ray of light was appeared in august-2020. In this month the development of Kambar Talaw was declared by Central Government under Rashtriya Sarovar Savardhan Yogana (National Lake Conservation Program) with NEERI (National Environmental Engineering Research Institute). Present condition of lake points advantages as well as disadvantages.

5.1 Walking Track and Sloping Garden

Condition is not to mark. Some paver blocks are broken. Grass has grown on track as well as on slopes.



Fig.5.1 Walking tracks

5.2. Security Wall

The security walls are almost in good condition. At some places maintenance is required.



Fig.5.2 Security wall

5.3. Rani Lakshuibai Garden

This garden is in its worst condition. Nothing is good here. Children's play station is destructed. Ticket counter is not in working condition. Lawns are not maintained. No structure is in working condition. There were security issues due to short boundary walls and no security guards.



Fig.5.3 Ticket counter



Fig.5.4 Play station



Fig.5.5 Drinking water structure



Fig.5.6 Increased grass



Fig.5.7 Tracks



Fig.5.8 Statue

5.4. Open Theatre

There was one open theatre at north east of lake. This was built for small programs and environmental friendly events. There was stadium like structure but not in workable condition.



Fig.5.9 Open Theatre

5.5. Culvert

There was small culvert at east of lake, joining left lake ad main lake. It is not in good condition. The road above it is also narrow due to which two heavy vehicles cannot pass at time. Redesign of culvert and road are required.



Fig.5.10 Culvert



Fig.5.11 Road

Some pictures of present scenario:



Fig.5.12 Ticket Counter



Fig.5.13 Lake View

6. Future Facilities at Kambar Talaw.

Kambar Talaw is the lung of the city. Solapur city have only few water bodies and Kambar Talaw is most important among them. So many citizens of solapur were visiting this water body in early days of its development. But today everyone is unhappy about its condition. For the tourist travelling towards Vijapur this is the best place to take halt and enjoy the scenery of nature. Hence we have great scope to convert the Kambar Talaw into recreation centre. This will also bring work for empty hands and money cash flow in city.

Taking into consideration present condition of Kambar Talaw I worked on it to suggest some of the recreation facilities we can provide at Kambar Talaw as follow.

For this purpose I have gone through case studies of Rankala Lake of Kolhapur, and Husain Sagar Lake of Hyderabad.

Following Recreation Facilities We Can Provide at Kambar Talaw:

6.1. Attractive Walking Track and Railings

Already there is one track present along the lakeside; we can make it more attractive, by providing coloured paver blocks. Here we can use pervious paver blocks also. These types of blocks allow water to percolate through them. So in few minutes the track will become dry and also the percolation of rainwater is done without wasting the water into gutter. We can provide the drainage system in such way that this water will directly go into lake. This is the best way to utilise the fresh water.

There is already one protection wall along the lake, for more safety we can provide the attractive railings too. This will increase beauty as well as safety.



Fig.6.1 Walking track and Railings on protection wall

6.2 Design of Embankment Structure

Between the highway and the track there is road embankment, we can use it as follow. Approximate 1km track is present along lake side and 500 m of embankment is there. We can split this embankment into 5 sections along the length. At alternate 2 portion of embankment we can provide steps for sitting purpose. We can enlighten these steps too.

Among the remaining sections at two portions we can provide sloping gardens by increasing the height of lower portion of embankment to maintain desirable slope of embankment. So that people can sit comfortably on this sloping garden which will have lush green lawns.

And the last portion can be decorated with rare species of plants and fragrant flowers on slope at middle of embankment. We can provide these rare species' informative boards for public information. The fragrant flowers will definitely enlight the area with their fragrance.



Fig.6.2 Design of Embankment Structure

6.3 Lighting along the Road of Lake

The major problem of fear and insecurity rises due to lack of lighting. Lighting is essential to attract the people hence we can provide attractive lighting along the lake side

Here we can provide design light poles with ancient look of warm white colour. As well as we can provide the lights to protective wall on the both side of it. The reflection of these lights will bring beauty in the view.

We can take reference of Necklace Road of Hydrabad city as well as Sidheswar Temple of Solapur city.



Fig.6.3 Lighting along the Road of Lake

6.4 Innovative Sitting Arrangement

Sitting arrangement should be adequately attractive then only people will spend time at that place. Hence we can provide the attractive sitting arrangement at required places.

We can also convert the embankment wall into sitting structure as shown in fig. So the walls serve both the purposes. Likewise, we can use number of small structure for sitting.

The group of sitting blocks can accommodate many people in small place. Such sitting blocks looks attractive and innovating. By varying the height of blocks, we can make it usable for many purposes, such as keeping books, laptops and other stuffs on it at appropriate eye level. It will serve the purpose of table too. This will take less space that's the advantage of such sitting arrangement.

The various types of different structures at different locations will encourage the tourist and visitors to wonder more and they will spend more time here, so that other dependent facilities like food stalls and shopping stalls get advantage of this.

Innovative sitting structures also attract people to capture photos. Providing glorious lights and ear soothing sound system will give comfort and relax feeling to visitors. We can provide sound systems along the track as well.

There are so many places present at Kamar Talaw where we can use the right sitting arrangement at right place according to the place and its purpose.



Fig.6.4 Innovative Sitting Arrangement and Sound system

6.5 Fountains along the Lake

Aeration is process in which water get oxygenated and cleaned by fountains or cascades. Due to which air get more surface area of water, which leads to dissolution of more oxygen into water. This process also cleans the water.

Hence to serve the scientific purpose of cleaning the water and for attractive look we can provide small fountains inside lake along the protective wall. This will enhance the look with colourful lights. We will manage intake of water in such a way that the water from specific depth get aerated with the help of pipe lines. This will clean water each depth.

We can also provide step like structure of cascade aerator on small portion of embankment.

To operate these fountains we can use solar energy, by providing the solar panels at one of the site. This will reduce the running cost.



Fig.6.5 Fountains

6.6 Statue in Lake

We can provide the Grand Statue of Gramdaivat Shree Sidheswar Maharaj at one corner of lake. This grand statue will represent the tradition of Solapur. There will be informative boards along the periphery of statue. This will provide the information of Shree Sidheswar Maharaj. It will be a good place for enjoying overall view of lake from inside the lake. We can provide boat rides upto this statue.

As Katraj lake has statue of Chatrapati Shivaji Maharaj and Hussain Sagar Lake has statue of Gautam Budhha, taking into consideration to this we can also establish the statue of Shree Sidheswar Maharaj. This will enhance the beauty of lake and make it grand.

Around the statue we can give path so that visitors enjoy 360 degree view of lake.

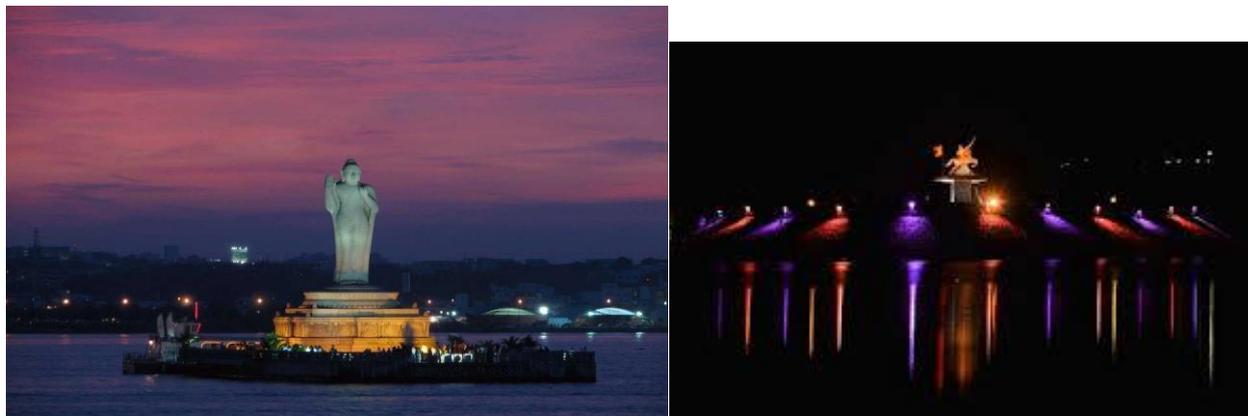


Fig.6.6 Statue in Lake

6.7 Boating

In past days there were boating facilities. But due to Jalparni and some issues boating is stopped

We can reopen boating for people. By providing different types of boats we can attract people. This will provide employability up to some extent. People will enjoy this facility and number of visitors will also increase. For this, we can provide speed boats, padal boats, scooter boats and one medium ship ride too.

With safety measures water sports can also be provided at lake.



Fig.6.7 Boating

6.8 Boating Ramp

Every lake has boating ramp which is used for boating purpose. Along with it this provide aesthetically grand look to lake. People can go 10-15m inside lake. This will give joy. With safety railings this will serve its best purpose.



Fig.6.8 Boating Ramp

6.9 Shops, Stalls, Street Food

On the left side of the lake there is open space near to railway rails. This place can be utilised for Shops, Stalls and Street Food.

Navi Peth is far away to Jule Solapur citizens. There is no quick shopping place for them. Hence we can provide street bazaar stalls at open space to fulfil the requirement of citizens. This will increase the cash flow among that area. This will be the best place for quick shopping.

Along with shopping we can utilise this place for street food purpose. Different stalls can be open here to fulfil the hunger of people. Lake side and open to sky meal will definitely give satisfaction to visitors. And they won't need to go to other place for food when they visit Kamar Talaw.

Stalls of different materials can be provided here. The place is considerably large hence by allocating sufficient place for shops and stall we can plan this space as like Chaupati.

Along with shops and stalls vendors can also start selling Ice-creams, Bangola, Cotton Candy, Kulfi with attractive carts.

This all stalls, shops, carts will be in new attractive look which will take less space and serve the purpose of attracting people at their shop.

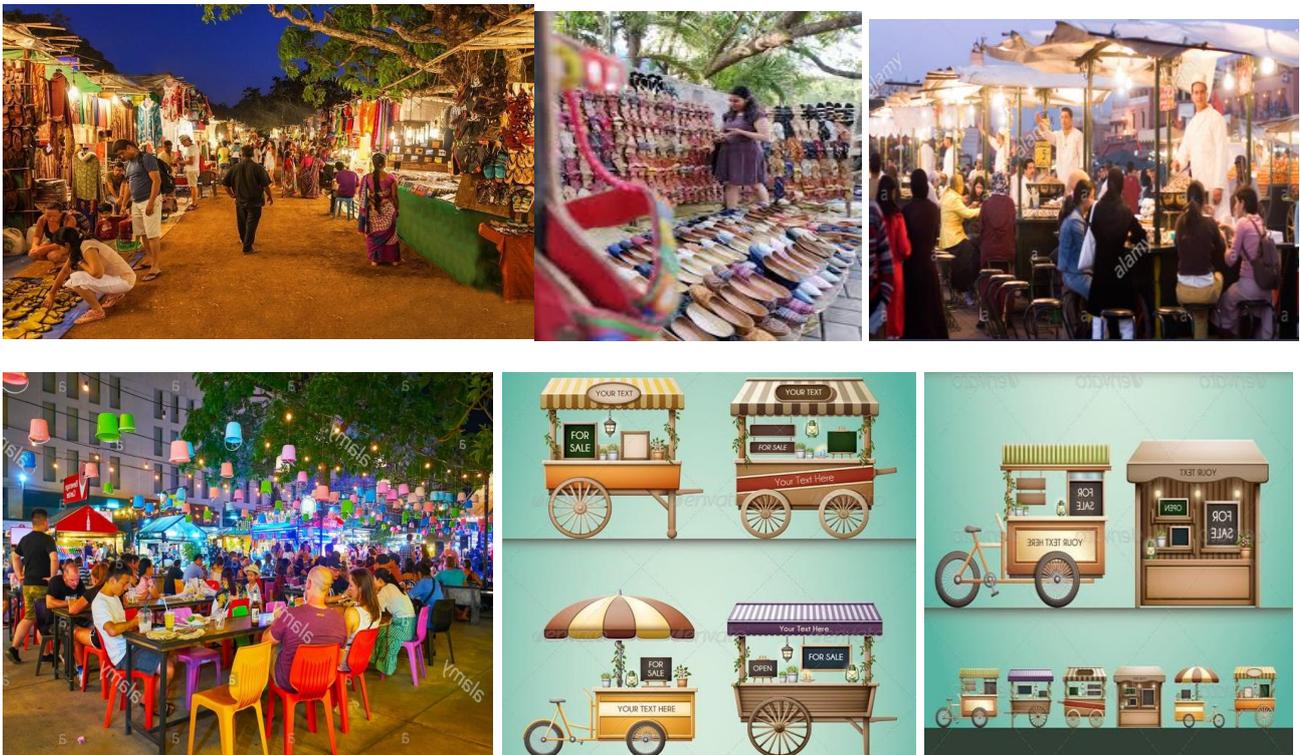


Fig.6.9 Shops, Stalls, Street Food, Carts

6.10 Sound and Water Show

Sound and water show attracts large number of visitors at recreation centre. It will provide breathtaking views of water and light. This shows are rare, hence people show lot of interest in this type of shows.

Sound and water show can be arranged in front of Rani Lakshmi Bai Garden and sitting arrangement can be provided in this garden for this show. This will be best and most attractive part of recreation centre.



Fig.6.10 Sound and water show

6.11 Open Theatre

There is one open theatre already present. But it is not in good condition. Hence we can redevelop this open theatre. And give it new modern look.

Here we can show documentaries of nature related subject to aware people. We can show birds, animals, plants information on screen and can arrange small programs here. We can plan it as multipurpose theatre.



Fig.6.11 Open Theatre

6.12 Indian Flag

Solapur city doesn't have many tall Indian flag in city. We can provide huge Indian flag at one corner of lake. It's always delightful and patriotic feeling to see Indian flag in the sky.



Fig.6.12 Indian Flag

6.13 Selfie Point

Now a day's selfies are trending tremendously. People are crazy about photography. Hence we can provide such points to attract mob.

We can provide I LOVE SOLAPUR photography place near lake.



Fig. 6.13 Selfie Point

6.14 Parking Space

Parking space is much needed at any place. There is space available on both the sides of lake. We can provide parking space near road for two wheeler at Kambar Talaw. As well as there is big space present near garden, here we can provide four wheeler parking.



Fig.6.14 Parking

6.15 Rock Sculpture

We can provide Rock Sculpture along the track. We can provide the information through such sculptures. These are creative thing which can enhance the beauty and inspire people towards creativity.



Fig.6.15 Rock Sculpture

7. Conclusion

1. Lake conservation and development is the big issue in urban cities. Only the effective steps and proper maintenance will lead its development in all area. We raise these steps through our project which will ultimately take care of nature and need of people in urban city life.

2. Smart city really become smart in all aspect after completion of this Recreation Centre. Waterbody Kambar Talav as Recreation Centre project is example of sustainable development in Lake Conservation and Development. This project not only brings cash flow among city but also provide joy to all people. The development in this field will definitely lead to development of that area. The standard of living of city will also raised by this project.
3. All essential things of people and environment have been taken into consideration while designing this project. Recreational activity will reduce human life stress. This is the best place for tourist and citizens of Solapur.
4. Boating, sound and watershow, sloping garden, open theatre are some of the rare things in city. We can bring this all at this place to create one of the best Recreation Centre in country. This will set an example for waterfront development and will inspire other lake development project in country.
5. The informative boards will provide information of plants, natural species to people. It will also bring traditional heritage of Shri Siddheswar Maharaj in front of all people. It will leads to tradition sharing. Information will be passing over to next generation with easy steps by this project.
6. Such creative projects are necessary for renovation of typical places. Due to this creative minds will get generated among city which will exponentially increase the life style and appearance city.
7. The recreated relax place with nature's beauty will definitely brings change in economical, social, cultural welfare of city.

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