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Mass death of Indian carp raises pollution concerns at Ooty Lake

OOTY – 17 Nov, 2026 A mass die-off of Indian carp at the Ooty Lake and Boat House on Monday (November 16, 2026) has once again raised concerns about pollutants entering the waterbody.

According to officials at the Ooty Lake and Boat House, around 250 Indian carp were found dead along the periphery of the Ooty Lake on Monday morning. Officials said that the dead fish were removed from the lake and that the Tourism Department would soon notify the Nilgiris district administration of the fish deaths so that further investigations could be undertaken to determine the cause of the die-off.

Concerns have been raised by ecologists over the health of the Ooty Lake for the past few years. Despite a massive “clean-up” of the lake having been undertaken just over two years ago, water hyacinth has taken over vast swathes of the lake since the beginning of the year. Local conservationists and ecologists attribute the proliferation of water hyacinth to the high nutrient load entering the lake from Udhagamandalam town’s untreated sewage, which is directly discharged into the Kodappamund channel that flows into the waterbody.

