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#### ABOUT HYDERABAD AND PLACES TO VISIT:

Hyderabad is the capital of the Indian state of Telangana and de jure capital of Andhra Pradesh. Occupying 650 square kilometres (250 sq mi) along the banks of the Musi River, it has a population of about 6.9 million and a metropolitan population of about 7.75 million, making it the fourth most populous city and sixth most populous urban agglomeration in India. At an average altitude of 542 metres (1,778 ft), much of Hyderabad is situated on hilly terrain around artificial lakes, including Hussain Sagar—predating the city's founding—north of the city centre.

Established in 1591 by Muhammad Quli Qutb Shah, Hyderabad remained under the rule of the Qutb Shahi dynasty for nearly a century before the Mughals captured the region. In 1724, Mughal viceroy Asif Jah I declared his sovereignty and created his own dynasty, known as the Nizams of Hyderabad. The Nizam's dominions became a princely state during the British Raj, and remained so for 150 years, with the city serving as its capital. The city continued as the capital of Hyderabad State after it was brought into the Indian Union in 1948, and became the capital of Andhra Pradesh after the States Reorganisation Act, 1956. Since 1956, Rashtrapati Nilayam in the city has been the winter office of the President of India. In 2014, the newly formed state of Telangana split from Andhra Pradesh and the city became the joint capital of the two states, a transitional arrangement scheduled to end by 2025.

Relics of Qutb Shahi and Nizam rule remain visible today; the Charminar—commissioned by Muhammad Quli Qutb Shah—has come to symbolise Hyderabad. Golconda fort is another major landmark. The influence of Mughlai culture is also evident in the region's distinctive cuisine, which includes Hyderabadi biryani and Hyderabadi haleem. The Qutb Shahis and Nizams established Hyderabad as a cultural hub, attracting men of letters from different parts of the world. Hyderabad emerged as the foremost centre of culture in India with the decline of the Mughal Empire in the mid-19th century, with artists migrating to the city from the rest of the Indian subcontinent. The Telugu film industry based in the city is the country's second-largest producer of motion pictures.

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Hyderabad was historically known as a pearl and diamond trading centre, and it continues to be known as the "City of Pearls". Many of the city's traditional bazaars remain open, including Laad Bazaar, Begum Bazaar and Sultan Bazaar. Industrialisation throughout the 20th century attracted major Indian research, manufacturing and financial institutions, including Defence Research and Development Organization, Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited, Indian Institute of Chemical Technology, the National Geophysical Research Institute and the Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology. Special economic zones dedicated to information technology have encouraged companies from India and around the world to set up operations in Hyderabad. The emergence of pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries in the 1990s led to the areas naming as India's "Genome Valley". With an output of US\$74 billion, Hyderabad is the fifth-largest contributor to India's overall gross domestic product.

#### **Charminar:**

The Charminar ("Four Minarets"), constructed in 1591, is a monument and mosque located in Hyderabad, Telangana, India. The landmark has become a global icon of Hyderabad, listed among the most recognized structures of India. Charminar has been a historical place with Mosque on the top floor for over 400 years and also known for its surrounding markets. It is one of the tourist attractions in Hyderabad. It is where many famous festivals are celebrated, such as Eid-ul-adha and Eid-ul-fitr.

The Charminar is situated on the east bank of Musi river. To the west lies the Laad Bazaar, and to the southwest lies the richly ornamented granite Makkah Masjid. It is listed as an

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archaeological and architectural treasure on the official "List of Monuments" prepared by the Archaeological Survey of India. The English name is a translation and combination of the Urdu words Chār and Minar or meenar, translating to "Four Pillars"; the eponymous towers are ornate minarets attached and supported by four grand arches.



#### At night



#### Golkonda:

Golkonda, also known as Golconda, Gol konda ("Round shaped hill"), or Golla konda, (Shepherd's Hill) is a citadel and fort in Southern India and was the capital of the medieval sultanate of the Qutb Shahi dynasty (c.1512–1687), is situated 11 km (6.8 mi) west of Hyderabad. It is also a tehsil of Hyderabad district, Telangana, India. The region is known for the mines that have produced some of the world's most famous gems, including the Koh-i-Noor, the Hope Diamond, Nassak Diamond and the Noor-ul-Ain.

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### **Hussain Sagar:**

Hussain Sagar is a necklace shaped lake in Hyderabad built by Ibrahim Quli Qutb Shah, and named after Hussain Shah Wali. It is spread across an area of 5.7 square kilometers and is fed by River Musi. A large monolithic statue of the Gautama Buddha, erected in 1992, stands on Gibraltar Rock in the middle of the lake. It also separates Hyderabad from its twin city Secunderabad.[1] The maximum depth of the lake is 57 feet.

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#### Salar Jung Museum:

The Salar Jung Museum is an art museum located at Dar-ul-Shifa, on the southern bank of the Musi River in the city of Hyderabad, Telangana, India. It is one of the three National Museums of India.

It has a collection of sculptures, paintings, carvings, textiles, manuscripts, ceramics, metallic artifacts, carpets, clocks, and furniture from Japan, China, Burma, Nepal, India, Persia, Egypt, Europe, and North America. The museum's collection was sourced from the property of the Salar Jung family, after whom it is named. It is one of the largest museums in the world.

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#### Nehru Zoological Park:

Nehru Zoological Park (also known as Hyderabad Zoo or Zoo Park) is a zoo located near Mir Alam Tank in Hyderabad, Telangana, India. It is one of the most visited destinations in Hyderabad.[2] Zoo hours vary by season, and the zoo is closed on Mondays.

Nehru Zoological Park, Hyderabad was established in vide G.O.Ms. No.247, dated 26 October 1959 and opened to the public on 6 October 1963. The Park is run by forest department, Government of Telangana, and is named after the first Prime Minister of India, Jawaharlal Nehru.

The Nehru Zoological Park, Hyderabad was opened to the public in the year 1963 in pursuance of recommendations of Indian Board for Wildlife, Govt. of India.On 6th October, 1963, General S.M. Sri.Nagesh, the then Governor of Andhra Pradesh inaugurated this Zoological Park.Nehru Zoological Park was one of the largest Zoo of the Country. The Zoo has many initiations to its credit Eg.1stSafari Park in the country in the year in 1974, Nocturnal Animal house in the Year 1982 and Open Butterfly Park in the year 1998.In the year 2013 celebrated 50thGolden jubilee celebrations. In 2014 after formation of Telangana State at present zoo has 155 Species and 1550 Specimens.

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### Ramoji Film City:

The Ramoji Film City in India is located in Hyderabad. Spread over 1666 acres, it is the largest integrated film city in Telangana and has been certified by the Guinness World Records as the largest studio complex in the world. It was built by Telugu film producer Ramoji Rao in 1996.

It is also a popular tourism and recreation centre, containing natural and artificial attractions including an amusement park. Around 1.5 million tourists visit the place every year.



#### **Snow World:**

Snow World is an amusement park located in Hyderabad, Telangana, India within an area of about 2 acres (0.81 ha). Located beside Indira Park and along the Hussain Sagar lake, the park was inaugurated on 28 January 2004.

Ocean Park Multitech Ltd. took the 2 acres (0.81 ha) plot on a 33-year lease from the Government of Andhra Pradesh at the rate of ₹3.6 million (US\$50,000) per year. The lease amount was to go up by 5% every year. Constructed at a cost of ₹20 million (US\$280,000), the 17,000 square feet facility was designed by Nitish Roy, a well-known Indian art director, production designer and architect. The facility, which was built in collaboration with the local tourism department, is India's first and the biggest in the world and was only the third such snow park after the ones in Malaysia and Singapore.

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On 28 January 2004, the then Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh Chandrababu Naidu inaugurated the facility. Though it was not intended to be open for visitors on that day, some of them ventured into the facility. They experienced giddiness from inhaling excess nitrogen in the air, which is used to produce snow. Some of them also got swollen hands, feet and faces due to the snow and air.





#### Wonderla:

Wonderla Holidays, is one of the largest amusement park operators in India, headquartered near Bidadi, 28 kilometres (17 mi) from Bengaluru, Karnataka. Wonderla Holidays Limited currently operates 3 amusement parks in Kochi, Bengaluru and Hyderabad, and 1 resort in

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Bengaluru. It is promoted by Kochouseph Chittilappilly and his son Arun Chittilappilly as a subsidiary of V-Guard Industries. The first amusement park, Wonderla Kochi, was set up in 2000. The third amusement park project Wonderla Hyderabad was commissioned in April 2016. Wonderla holidays is currently planning to open its 4th amusement park in Chennai, expected to be operational by the end of 2018. Wonderla amusement parks offers a variety of rides for all ages to enjoy, some of their rides are Recoil, Maverick, Y-Scream, and their latest addition Mission interstellar.



### Reference:

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