

RIVER BIODIVERSITY: A STUDY OF RIVER BAGAD (A TRIBUTARY OF GANGA)

Pravesh Kumar, Seema Sharma and Sunil Kumar

Department of Zoology, Meerut College, Meerut-250001, U.P. (India)

E-mail:- (pksainiamr@gmail.com)

Abstract : River boundaries are transitional zones between the terrestrial and aquatic environment. These habitats perform major ecological role in the biosphere. Many of the fossil fuels are known to be produced and preserved by the swampy environment of the carboniferous period. Rivers are of immense use to mankind both economically and ecologically. They are unique habitats and substantial biodiversity. A large number of aquatic plant and animals species restricted only to river. Their survival depends totally on the existence of these habitats. The rivers of India are defined as "one of the richest regions in terms of biodiversity and it is often referred to as a biodiversity hotspot". The ecosystem of river has experienced tumultuous changes due to river valley and other development projects in the last 60 years. Inventorying and monitoring the biodiversity and ecology of river would help in the formulation and implementation of appropriate conservation and management strategies in the Bagad river. This report documents the biodiversity significance of the Bagad river. The trees were cut at that time and the openings created resulted in the extinction of most of swamps. River are one of the most productive ecosystems and thus subjected to human greed which is yet another reason for their extinction. In winters it provides a good habitat for migrating waterfowls, that come here in large numbers.

Keywords : Bagad River, Biodiversity, Phytoplankton, Swamps, Zooplankton

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