

PLANKTON DIVERSITY AND ECOLOGY OF RIVER GANGA

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Plankton is used to monitor the riverine ecosystems, as they can indicate the riverine health status. The present investigation was conducted to explore description about the plankton dynamics in a large perennial river, the Ganga. A total of 89 genera of phytoplankton and 43 genera of zooplankton belonging to 10 phyla were recorded during study period. Out of the twenty algal genera listed as pollution indicators by Palmer (1969), eighteen genera were recorded from the river Ganga during the different seasons. The changes of composition pattern of the plankton population are especially dominated by Cyanobacteria and Rotifera in the stretch between Kanpur to Bhagalpur, indicating the stretch is under stress incorporated climate and anthropogenic.
