



50
YEARS IN INDIA

MoEFCC



UPPER GANGA

Location: Hapur, Sambhal, Amroha and Bulandshahr (28°33' N; 78°12' E)

Area: 23630.3 ha

Depth: Max 5.9 m

Source of Water: Rainfall, groundwater, catchment runoff and direct/indirect inflow from river. This is the main channel of River Ganga from Brijghat to Narora Barrage, thus receives water from its upper catchment as well.

Values and Benefits:

- **Part of India's National River Ganga**

- The most significant fauna of the site includes the endangered **Ganges River Dolphin** (*Platanista gangetica gangetica*) India's National Aquatic Animal. Dolphin numbers recorded as per census during 2015-2019 range between 4 to 17 individuals.

- **Supports rich biodiversity and socio-cultural values**

- Other noteworthy fauna includes critically endangered **gharials, red-crowned roofed turtle, endangered Indian narrow-headed softshell turtle, Tor putitora, black-bellied tern, vulnerable Wallago attu, common pochard.**

- **Capture fisheries**

- **Source of irrigation:**

Lower Ganga canal originates at Narora barrage

- **Has significant cultural and religious values:**

Site has three major bathing ghats of religious value namely Brijghat, Anoopshahr Ghat and Rajghat.

Biodiversity: Number of Species

12 turtles **99** birds

82 species of fish

Threats:

- **Fluctuation in flows**

- **Pollution:** due to the inflow of chemical rich agricultural residue

- **Spread of invasive species:** *Eichhornia crassipes, Cyprinus carpio, Pangasius pangasius, Clarias magur.*

- **Encroachment**

- **Siltation**

- **Mining**

- **Water hyacinth in the stagnant areas of the wetland.**

