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Ganga Pollution – A Threat to Society

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Abstract : *River Ganga has great religious significance but, its physical state has left a lot to be desired, due to its constantly falling level of purity, especially along the Patna region. This is due to streams of untreated waste, chemical wastes, idol immersion as well as human and animal remains, finding their way into the river. In the capital area alone, there are six major drains, which carry untreated water directly into the river. The increase in the pollution level has led to an increase in skin disease of people taking a dip in the Ganga. A comprehensive solution to the Ganga Pollution lies in dealing with 3 problem areas: first, finding water to dilute and*

assimilate waste, second, finding innovative ways to check the growing amount of untreated sewage discharge into the river; and third, to stop industries from discharging waste in to this river.

Key Words: *Ganga, pollution, threat, religious significance.*

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Introduction :

The Ganges, also known as Ganga, is a trans-boundary river in Asia, which flows through the nations of India and Bangladesh. The 2,525 km (1,569 miles) river rises in the western Himalayas in the Indian State of Uttarakhand and flows south and east through the Gangetic Plain of North India. The Ganga is the most sacred river to Hindus. It is also a lifeline to millions of Indians who live along its course and depend on it for their daily needs. It is worshipped in Hinduism as the Goddess Ganga. The 2,525 km (1,569 mile) river rises in the western Himalayas in the Indian State of Uttarakhand and flows south and east through the Gangetic Plain of North India. The total area of the Ganga Basin in India is 861,404 sq.km., which accounts for 26.3 percent of the country. The total length of the Ganga in Bihar is 445 km. According to a World Bank Sponsored Study, "State of Environment Report"