

### The Brahmaputra

On a boat ride on the Brahmaputra in the year 2016, what struck me most was the colour theme all along the trip – different shades of grey. The sky, the waters, all a spectrum of grey but the banks were a riot of green hues and dotted with people wearing vibrant colours.

The animal life, also. Is mostly shades of grey except for the colourful kingfisher and other birds and the golden hued deer.

People had happy faces, living in settlements all along the river. They seem to have simple lifestyles, dependent on river biodiversity, taking only as much as is required for sustenance.

Other species live peaceably, well camouflaged and perhaps instinctively staying away from poachers.

The River has a vibrant ecosystem whose constituents complement each other.

--*Narayani Ganesh*