



**Here's your specially curated update of fresh insights with news, books, films and art on environment and climate action**

## Know Your Local River

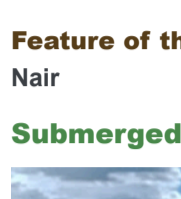
We are just a few weeks away from the onset of the South West Monsoon, here is our May 2026 edition of the GLF newsletter. While we are caught in geopolitics and looming climate threats, India's rivers are facing unprecedented risks. This issue focuses on literature that holds a mirror to India's riverine geography and disasters.

In an interview with conservation writer Lakshmi Nair, Vaishali Shroff, the author of *Submerged Worlds and Other Amazing Stories of India's Mighty Rivers*, speaks about the state of the rivers covered in her book and insists that ecological preservation is nation-building and that the two cannot be pitted against each other.

In an excerpt from *River Traveller: Journeys on the Tsangpo-Brahmaputra from Tibet to the Bay of Bengal*, published by Speaking Tiger Books, author and journalist Sanjoy Hazarika chronicles his encounters with the Gangetic Dolphins and people who depend on its blubber for a livelihood.

In Spotlight is a list of some of the most interesting books on Indian rivers chosen by the GLF team. Read a piece by renowned conservationist Zai Whitaker from our archive. Browse through our New Releases to pick your next read.

Enjoy your monsoon rains and take some time to learn about your local rivers, and do share some insights with us.



Monisha Raman  
editor@greenlitfest.com

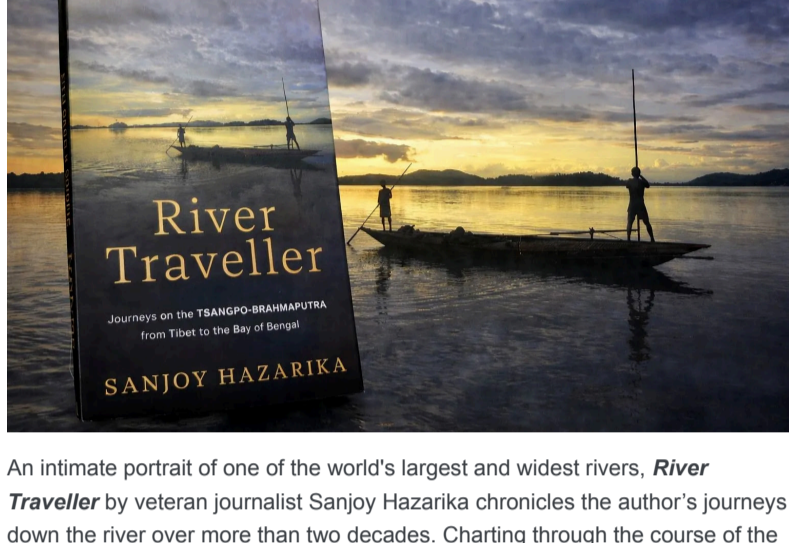
## Feature of the Month by Lakshmi Ravinder Nair

### Submerged Worlds



Did you know that humanity's first mirror was a body of water? Long before metal and glass surfaces, our ancestors peered into rivers and ponds to see what they looked like without a fellow being having to groom them to their liking. This discovery was so captivating (as the Greek legend goes) that Narcissus, son of the river god Cephissus, was unable to look away when he caught sight of his reflection. [Read More>>](#)

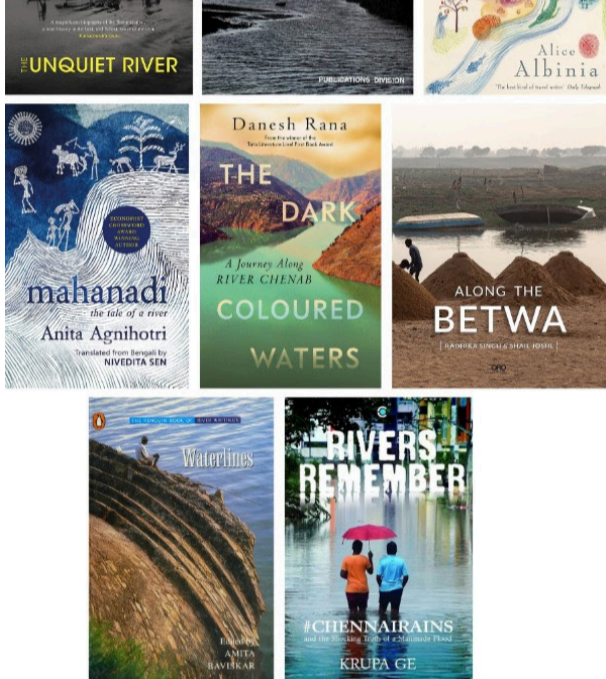
## Book Extract



An intimate portrait of one of the world's largest and widest rivers, *River Traveller* by veteran journalist Sanjoy Hazarika chronicles the author's journeys down the river over more than two decades. Charting through the course of the river from Tibet to Arunachal Pradesh, Assam and Bangladesh, documenting history and observing the lives of people depending on it for a living, this book touches on multiple subjects. [Read More>>](#)

## Spotlight

### Books on Indian Rivers



Rivers - the birthplace of civilisations, the carriers of history, the protagonists of many myths, and also the seats of many a conflict and resolution. What secrets do they carry? Here are some of our favourite books on Indian rivers – from tracing history, to contemporary commentary, these books give a lot more insight into our rivers that are the nation's lifelines. [Read More>>](#)

## From the Archive

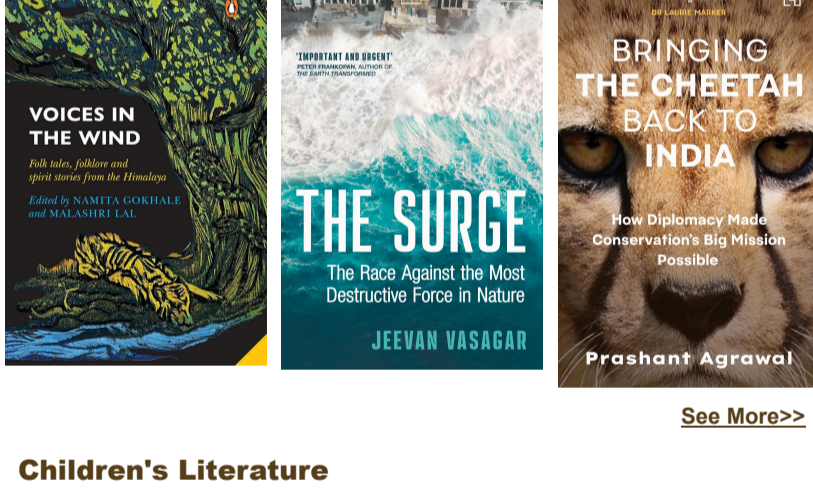


Author Zai Whitaker talks about some fond memories of the monsoon from her childhood.

## It's Raining Memories! – Greenlitfest

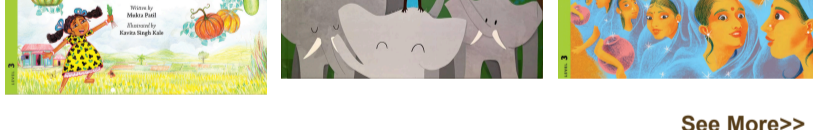
## New Book Releases

### Fiction/Non-fiction



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## Children's Literature



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## Green Business



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## Calling Greenlit Enthusiasts!

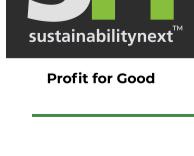
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[editor@greenlitfest.com](mailto:editor@greenlitfest.com)

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