

Three new species of fish of genus *Aborichthys*

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In news- Recently, the Department of Zoology of Dera Natung **Government College of Itanagar in Arunachal Pradesh** has discovered three new species of fish of genus *Aborichthys* of family Nemachelidae.

About three new species of fish-

- The three new species have been named *Aborichthys uniobarensis*, *Aborichthys barapensis* and *Aborichthys palinensis*.
- **The three fish species are distributed in streams like Senki, Barap and Palin, which are the tributaries of Brahmaputra river system.**

Genus *Aborichthys*-

- *Aborichthys* is an **elongate and slender-bodied bottom dwelling freshwater stone loach** that inhabits the moderate-to-fast flowing water of mountain rivers, streams and drainages of the Brahmaputra river basin.
- They are **freshwater, benthic (bottom-dwelling) fish.**
- The species is **characterised by narrow oblique bars on the body.**
- It is **endemic to the eastern Himalayas.**
- Eastern Himalaya is endemic to more than 20 per cent fauna of India, including the fish species.
- **These species are vulnerable to climate change** as it leads to their habitat alteration.
- Previously, **11 species of the genus *Aborichthys*** were discovered in the Eastern Himalayan region across a century, starting from the early **1900s.**
- Besides, three of them were outside Arunachal Pradesh –

in Bhutan, Meghalaya and West Bengal.