



## SPECIES IN NEWS: EXOSTOMA SENTIYONOAЕ

### Exostoma sentiyonoae:

- **Distinct Traits:** Adipose fin attached to upper caudal-fin rays, tubercles on dorsal-fin spine, slender head, large gap between dorsal and adipose fins, small eyes, 41 vertebrae.
- **Comparison with Related Species:**
  - **E. berdmorei:** Exostoma sentiyonoae has a shorter dorsal-fin base, larger dorsal-adipose fin gap, smaller eyes.
  - **E. gaoligongense:** It has a shorter pectoral-pelvic distance and smaller eyes.
- **Biodiversity:** Fourth species discovered in Barak drainage area, highlighting the region's rich biodiversity.
- **Discovery:** First species of its genus found in the Dzuleke River, Nagaland.



### Barak River System:

- **Geographic Importance:** Second largest river in Northeast India, after Brahmaputra.
- **Origin:** Starts from Liyai village, Manipur.
- **Length:** 900 km (564 km in India).
- **Drainage Path:** Flows through Manipur, Nagaland, Mizoram, Assam, then enters Bangladesh.
- **Confluence:** Joins Brahmaputra and Ganga in Bangladesh.