



**National Agricultural Higher Education Project  
Office of the Vice-Chancellor  
Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat**

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**UG Students of College of Fisheries Science, Raha, AAU develops innovative techniques  
for fish breeding**

College of Fisheries Science, Raha is a constituent college of Assam Agricultural University located at a distance of 205 km from the headquarter. College of Fisheries Science, Raha is a beneficiary college under NAHEP. Hence some infrastructures related to fish farming, classroom and computer facilities were created. A batch of 8 students was sent to Asian Institute of Technology, Bangkok under Students exposure visit under IDP, NAHEP, AAU under the leadership of Dr. R. C. Agrawal, DDG-Education and National Director, NAHEP. These have boosted the students to work differently and utilize their knowledge, skill and infrastructures for fish breeding activities.

**Innovation in Catfish (*Magur*) breeding.**

The Catfish (*Magur*) is a highly valued fish in Indian subcontinent and is highly revered for its nutritious flesh which is therapeutic in nature. Due to non-availability of stocking material & proper feed, the culture of this species is not popular among the fish farmers of the region in ponds of monoculture or poly-culture along with carps. Its fishery is mostly based on capture from natural resources.

Procuring seed of *magur* in requisite amount from natural resources has been declining continuously due to loss of natural breeding grounds, disappearance of village ponds, indiscriminate fishing of brood stock, increasing use of agrochemicals in rice fields and other shallow agricultural fields which are the main breeding grounds of this fish. Moreover, harvesting stocking material of *magur* from nature is very labour intensive, time taking and quantum of availability is uncertain.

Common methods of production are not very friendly and expensive. Hence, new method of *magur* seed production was need of the hour.

**Achievement of UG students of College of Fisheries Science, AAU**

Two 3<sup>rd</sup> year students of College of Fisheries Science, AAU, Raha viz. Bijit Bania & Jakir Hussain under the guidance of Dr. Sushanta Borthakur, Nodal officer, Miss Dharitri Baruah (JRF, NAHEP) & Mr. Mustahid Hussain have attempted to breed *magur* in the laboratory in a farmers friendly way.

- The attempt was undertaken utilizing facilities created under NAHEP in the month of June, 2019.

- The breeding trial was found to be successful where the *magur* seed was produced and marketed to one of the farmer of Nagaland initially.
- The students earned Rs.10,000 in the first year and this year they earned Rs. 30,000.00 with their own efforts.
- Two of the students have established fish based laboratory to provide advisory and inputs to fish farmers of their area.

**Plates:**



**Gravid Female**



**Potential Male**



**Tank prepared under IDP, NAHEP is used for hatching fingerlings**



**Selling of Magur fish to Nagaland farmer by the students**

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PI/IDP, NAHEP,  
AAU, Jorhat