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**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & COOPERATION  
KRISHI BHAWAN, DR. RAJENDRA PRASAD ROAD, NEW DELHI-110001**

To,

The Secretary (Fisheries),  
Government of Assam,  
Dispur

Sub : Unauthorised introduction of exotic magur and big head – controlling measures-reg.

Sir,

I am to invite your kind attention on the subject cited above and to say that the First Meeting of the National Committee to Oversee and Regulate Introduction of Exotic Aquatic Species in India Waters was held under the Chairmanship of Joint Secretary (Fisheries) at Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi on 9.10.97. The Committee discussed the issue of "Unauthorised introduction of exotic magur and big head" as one of the Agenda Items and recommended as follows –

"The Ministry of Agriculture should write to all the States /UTs to take immediate steps to destroy the existing stock of exotic magur and big head which have been introduced into the country without official sanctions. All hatcheries may be identified and destroyed by the concerned states. It was stressed that exotic magur (*Clarias gapiepirus*) should not establish in the natural environment and cross with the endemic species *Clarius batrachus*. A strict controlling measure should also be adopted to avoid spread of exotic disease (s) from *Clarius gapiepirus* to the endemic fishes."

2. It is requested that necessary action may be taken immediately on the above said recommendations made by the Committee under intimation to this Ministry.

Yours truly

Sd/-

(Y.S. Yadava)

Fisheries Development Commissioner

Copy for information necessary action to :-

Director of Fisheries

Government \_\_\_\_\_

Copy also for information to :

(as per list attached)

All member of the National Committee on "Introduction of Exotic Aquatic Species in Indian Waters"