

A letter of Dr. A.G.K. Menon to Dr. Muhammad Ramzan Mirza: Discussion on the status of taxonomy of some fishes

DR. A.G.K. Menon

Zoological Survey of India
100, Santhome High Road,
Madras-600 028.
17.th. Sept.

My dear DR. Mirza,

I am in receipt of your letter dated 22. Aug. and the photographs of the Noemacheilus [?]. The locality is not mentioned. Is it from Western Pakistan?

Talwar and Jhingran have synonymised several species without examining any material or studying them critically. The merging of N.zhabensis with N.chelynooides is one such instance. Anyway, I am preparing a Check-list of freshwater fishes of India in which I hope to rectify these mistakes.

Yes, Schizothoracichthys Misra is not a valid species. I have received your paper on Schizothoracine fishes. Thank you very much.

I had been to Calcutta but I could not check up the validity of the occurrence of S.progastus in Kashmir valley. I have requested DR. R.P. Barman of the Fish Division to check up the specimens of the so-called S.progastus from Kashmir and write to you direct. DR. Barman will attend to the other enquiry regarding R.chrysochlora and S.intermedius as well.

The Jammu Univ. Rev. is not available in our library at Calcutta. You have to get it from Kashmir University or elsewhere.

Hope this finds you in the best of health.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,



(A.G.K. MENON)

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PS [⊗] From the colouration of the fish I think it resembles Triplophysa shehensis (Tibet) from Ladakh, it has 20-22 irregular black lateral bands on the side. There is a coloured illustration of the fish in my Fauna volume.

Replied on 26-10-92 