



Accession Number: -Z00006

Scientific Name: - *Paraschistura montana*

Family: Nemacheilidae

Common Name: Chitai, Gadera

Physical Characteristics:

They were previously placed in the genus *Schistura*. It has a distinctive appearance, characterised by a torpedo-shaped body and a pointed snout. It typically has a silver body with a black lateral stripe that runs from the tip of the snout to the base of the tail.



This stripe is bordered above and below by thin red-orange lines. These loaches can grow to 5-7 cm.

Geographical Distribution:

It is native to South Asia. Its geographical distribution includes India, particularly in the Southern part of the Western Ghats.

Economic Importance: -

Their value lies in their contribution to the aquarium trade, potential for captive breeding, and their role in ecotourism and conservation efforts in their native habitats.