



**Accession Number: - Z00033**

**Scientific Name: *Botia birdi***

**Family: *Botiidae***

**Common Name: Birdi Loach**

**Physical Characteristics:**

It has an elongated, cylindrical body, like other loaches, and is slightly flattened. It has barbels on both sides of the upper jaw, a series of small barbels around the mouth, and an elongated body. They are known for their striking colouration, which often includes bold stripes, spots, or patterns. Some species may have barbels around their mouths, which they use to forage for food. Dorsal fin short, paired fins present, anal fin well developed and caudal fin forked.

**Geographical Distribution:**

*Botia* species are native to freshwater habitats in Asia, particularly in countries such as India, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Thailand, Sri Lanka, and Indonesia.

**Economic Importance:**

They are economically significant in the aquarium trade, prized for their beauty and for their usefulness in controlling pest snails. Their popularity among hobbyists and enthusiasts contributes to the aquarium trade industry while also raising awareness about the conservation of freshwater habitats.

