

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING
DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 835
TO BE ANSWERED ON 7TH FEBRUARY, 2023

Extinction of Ornamental Fishes

835. SHRIMATI SARMISTHA SETHI:

Will the Minister of **FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING** मत्स्यपालन, पशुपालन और डेयरी मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry is aware of smuggling of rare fishes both in domestic market and to other countries;
- (b) If so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to prevent this;
- (c) whether the Ministry is aware of extinction of several rare ornamental fishes in India; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to ensure that the extinction does not take place?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING:

(SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)

(a) and (b): The Government of India under Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) has set up a Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB) to gather intelligence about poaching and unlawful trade in wild animals and animal articles and to achieve inter-state and transboundary coordination in enforcement of wildlife laws. A total of five incidents of shark fin smuggling from 2019 have been reported by WCCB and action has been taken by the concerned authorities as per the provisions of Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 as well as the Custom Act, 1962 read with FT (D&R) Act, 1992. The Wildlife Crime Control Bureau issues regular alerts, advisories and also assists and advises Custom authorities in inspection of the consignments of flora & fauna as per the provisions of Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and EXIM Policy governing such items.

(c) and (d): The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) have reported that there is no extinction of ornamental fish species in India. For conservation of declining indigenous ornamental fish stock, the research institutes under aegis of ICAR are organizing sensitization and awareness programme. Further, ICAR has launched All India Network Project on Ornamental Fish Culture for developing seed production and culture technologies of potential ornamental finfish/shellfish.
