

Calamaria mizoramensis

Prelims: Current events of national and international importance | Species

Why in News?

The new reed snake species was identified in Mizoram recently.

- It is a **non-venomous reed snake** species discovered in Mizoram.
- **Scientific Name** - Calamaria mizoramensis
- **Genus** - Calamaria, includes 69 recognised species globally, most of which are small, secretive and poorly studied.
- **Habitat** - It inhabits **humid, forested hill regions** between 670 and 1,295 metres in elevation, often near human settlements.
- **Distribution** - It is confirmed in Mizoram, whereas the possible presence is in Manipur, Nagaland, Assam, and Chittagong (Bangladesh).
- **Features** - It is **small, secretive**, with a **dark brown to blackish body** with faint stripes and a yellow underside.
- It adapted to underground habitats and poses no threat to humans.



- **Behaviour** - It is **nocturnal** (active at night) and **semi-fossorial** (lives partially underground or under leaf litter).
- **Genetic comparisons** - The Mizoram reed snake exhibits over 15% genetic divergence from related species, confirming its status as a new taxon.
- **Conservation Status** - Based on current data, it is tentatively listed as '**Least Concern**' under the IUCN Red List criteria.

References

1. [Hindustan Times | New reed snake species identified in Mizoram](#)
2. [Assam Tribune | New snake species discovered in Mizoram](#)

