

## Cyrtodactylus jayadityai

*Prelims: Current events of national and international importance | Biodiversity*

### Why in News?

*A team of researchers has described a new species of bent-toed gecko from Tripura.*

- It is a **new bent-toed gecko species** discovered in Tripura.

*Geckos are small, mostly carnivorous lizards known for their incredible climbing skills and unique vocalizations.*

- **Nomenclature** - Named after their Assam-based herpetologist mentor Jayaditya Purkayastha.
- **Genus** - *Cyrtodactylus*, commonly known as bent-toed geckos, widely distributed across Asia.
- **Closest relative** - *Cyrtodactylus tripuraensis*, based on mitochondrial DNA data.
- **Habitat** - Inhabits lowland forest patches in North Tripura district, occupying a **highly restricted range** of 8-12 square km.
- **Behaviour** - It is primarily **nocturnal**, emerging at night to forage and retreating into burrows and crevices during the day.
- **Classification** - The researchers categorised the gecko as '**data deficient**' due to limited data on its distribution and exposure to habitat disturbance.
- **Threats** - Increasing human activity and environmental degradation.



## Reference

[The Hindu | Cyrtodactylus jayadityai](#)

