Hipposideros Srilankaensis

Why in News?

A global research team from Osmania University have identified and described a new species of bat.

- It is a new species of ***leaf-nosed bat species***.
- **Endemic to -** Sri Lanka.
- **Taxonomy**
  - **Scientific Name** – Hipposideros srilankaensis.
  - **Family** – Hipposideridae.
- **Named after** –Its ***endemic nature to Sri Lanka***.
- **Habitat** – Found in *dense forests to caves*.
- **Morphology** – A broad noseleaf, distinct ear shape, and cranial characteristics distinct from the Indian Hipposideros brachyotus.
- **Uniqueness** - Genetic analysis further confirmed its distinctiveness from other closely related species in the region.



Hipposideros brachyotus

- It is a species previously considered a subspecies of ***Hipposideros galeritus.***
- The research confirmed that it is a distinct species *endemic to India* and reclassified it as Hipposideros brachyotus.

- **Uniqueness** – Genetic analysis further confirmed its distinctiveness from other known species in the region.
- Echolocation call analysis further supported its classification.

36 species of bats are found in India and that Hyderabad is home to 14 different species of bats.

References

1. The Hindu| New Bat Species
2. Zootaxa| Hipposideros Srilankaensis

