Leptobrachium Aryatium

Prelims (GS I) – *Current events of national and international importance| General issues on Environmental ecology, Bio-diversity and Climate Change.*

Mains (GS III) – *Conservation.*

Why in News?

Leptobrachium aryatium, a new-to-science frog recorded from Garbhanga Reserve Forest on the southwestern part of Guwahati bordering Meghalaya.

- **Genus** – Leptobrachium.
  - It comprising a group of stocky frogs with broad heads, relatively short hind limbs, and distinctively coloured eyes, currently consists of 38 species.
  - It is widely distributed across Southern China and India to islands of the Sunda Shelf and the Philippines.
- **Nomenclature** –Named to honour Arya Vidyapeeth College's enduring contribution to education and science.
- **Appearance –** It has fiery orange-and-black eyes, a unique reticulated throat pattern, and a smooth, rhythmic call at dusk.
- **Distinction -** Scientific analysis of its appearance, DNA, and call patterns confirmed that this was a previously unknown species.



Garbhanga Reserve Forest

- It is located ***southwest of Guwahati***, near the Assam-Meghalaya border.
- The forest is dominated by evergreen and deciduous trees, bamboo groves, and medicinal plants.
- **Notable species -** Hoolock Gibbon, Leopards, Elephants, Deer species (barking deer and sambar deer), Various reptiles and amphibians (Rare frogs, snakes, and monitor lizards).

- **Threats –** Poaching, Timber smuggling, and illegal mining.

Reference

The Hindu | Leptobrachium aryatium

