

National Catalogue of Butterflies and Moths

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Why in News?

Recently, The Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) announced the completion of the National Catalogue of Lepidoptera (Butterflies and Moths), the final volume was published in Zootaxa.

- **Authored by** - Dr. Rahul Joshi and Dr. Navneet Singh
- **Project** - 22 distinct catalogue volumes covering Indian Lepidoptera.
- **Indian Lepidoptera** - 13,703 species across 3,705 genera, 240 subfamilies, 102 families, 31 superfamilies.
- Representing approximately 8.25% of all known butterfly and moth species worldwide.
- **Geometroidea in India** - 2,205 species across 479 genera, 13 subfamilies, 4 families
- Accounting for 8.80% of the world's known species in this superfamily.
- **Final Volume** - Catalogued 1,689 species, resolving long-standing taxonomic gaps.
- **Family Composition**
 - **Geometridae** - 2,100 species, 445 genera.
 - **Uraniidae** - 95 species, 27 genera.
 - **Epicopeiidae** - 9 species, 6 genera.
 - **Pseudobistonidae** - 1 species, 1 genus.
- **Subfamilies**
 - Ennominae (895 species),
 - Larentiinae (565 species),
 - Geometrinae (309 species).
 - Epidesmiinae (Geometridae) and Heraculinae (Pseudobistonidae) are each represented by a single species in India.

The family Sematuridae is absent from Indian fauna, being largely restricted to the New World.

Reference

[PIB | Butterflies and Moths](#)

