

New Solitary Bee Species

Prelims: Current events of national and international importance | Environment

Why in News?

Recently, researchers from the Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment (ATREE), Bengaluru, have discovered 2 new species of rare solitary bees in the Siang Valley of Arunachal Pradesh.

Key Highlights

- **Species identified -**
 - ***Elaphropoda triangulata*** - Named after triangular markings on its abdomen.
 - ***Habropoda adi*** - Named in honour of the Adi indigenous community of Arunachal Pradesh.



- **Specimen** - Both the species currently known from only male specimen, making the discovery significant.
- **Ecological role** - Solitary bees are vital pollinators, maintaining healthy

ecosystems and supporting agriculture.

- **Distinct trait** - Unlike honeybees, solitary bees do not live in colonies; they usually nest alone.

Strategic Significance

- **Biodiversity** - Highlights the rich and under-explored biodiversity of Arunachal Pradesh's rainforests.
- **Conservation** - Discovery underscores the importance of protecting fragile ecosystems in the Northeast.
- **Agriculture** - Reinforces the role of pollinators in sustaining crop productivity and ecological balance.

Reference

[The Print | Bees](#)

