

Newly discovered Slender Arm Frogs

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Why in News?

Recently, scientists from the University of Delhi have discovered two new slender-armed frogs from the remote mountain habitats of Arunachal Pradesh.

- The slender arm frog is a **small-sized frog** that tends to have more slender forelimbs.

	Soman's Slender Arm Frog	Mechuka Slender Arm Frog
Scientific name	Leptobrachium somani	Leptobrachium mechuka
Discovered in	Tiwarigaon and <u>named after Somanath in honour of the late journalist E. Somanath.</u>	It was first collected near Mechuka town in Arunachal Pradesh
Morphology	It is about ~55 mm, with a greyish-brown body with irregular light-grey markings and silver-grey to light-blue eyes.	It is about ~60 mm, with a uniformly brown body with a reddish tinge, and silvery-white eyes.
Family	Megophryidae	
Genus	Leptobrachium	
Habitat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Evergreen forests, adjoining grasslands, and stream banks. Both species were observed in isolated mountain regions over multiple years. 	
Endemism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is restricted to the Northern side of the Brahmaputra River in Arunachal Pradesh. 	
Behaviour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Males call from stream banks during breeding. Populations form along streams and grasslands. 	

Conservation Status

- It has not yet been assessed or assigned a conservation category.

- **Biogeographical barrier** - All other known members of the same genus occur south of the Brahmaputra River.
- **Ecological Significance** - Highlights the exceptional amphibian diversity of the Himalaya biodiversity hotspot.



Soman's Slender Arm Frog Photo | Express



Mechuka Slender Arm Frog (*Leptobrachium mechuka*)

References

1. [The New Indian Express | Two new frog species discovered.](#)
2. [The Hindu | Two new slender-armed frog species identified](#)

