

Mizoram Parachute Gecko

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About Mizoram Parachute Gecko:

- It is a **newly discovered species of gliding geckos**.
- The Mizoram parachute gecko, or **Gekko mizoramensis**, is **one of the 14 geckos known to take to the air**.
- It is thought that the species **evolved as a result of being separated from its closest relative, G. popaensis, by the Arakan Mountains**.
- **Features:**
 - **Unlike other gliding reptiles, which use the bone to form their flying surfaces, these geckos have flaps of skin.**
 - **When the lizards leap off a tall structure, air resistance pushes the flaps out to their full extent, much like a parachute, slowing the speed at which they fall.**
 - **The skin flaps also help to break up their shape, acting as a camouflage against predators.**

- Their specialised **camouflage and body shape are shared by multiple species**, making it hard to tell them apart from one another.

What are Geckos?

- They are **reptiles and are found on all continents except Antarctica**.
- They are believed to be **among the earliest evolving squamates, the group that contains all lizards, snakes** and their close relatives.
- There are **more than 1,200 species of gecko** today, making up **around a fifth of all known lizards**.
- They have adapted to **habitats from rain forests, to deserts, to cold mountain slopes**.
- **Features:**
 - They had **evolved the adhesive pads on their feet which allow them to climb almost any surface** using a network of microscopic hairs.
 - Like snakes, **most geckos have a clear protective covering over their eyes**.
 - A gecko's **tail may be long and tapering, short and blunt, or even globular**.
 - The **tail serves in many species as a storehouse of fat** upon which the animal can draw during unfavourable conditions.
 - Unlike other reptiles, **most geckos have a voice**, the call differing with the species and **ranging from a feeble click or chirp to a shrill cackle or bark**.

Q1) What are Geckos?

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Source: [New species of flying geckos uncovered in Mizoram](#)

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/mizoram-parachute-gecko/>

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