

Clinidium lalitae

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Clinidium lalitae Latest News

Scientists from the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) recently identified a new species of beetle named, Clinidium lalitae, from the northeast.

About Clinidium lalitae

- It is a newly found **species of beetle**.
- It was discovered in the **Talle Valley Wildlife Sanctuary in Arunachal Pradesh**.
- It has been named 'Clinidium lalitae', in **tribute to the late Dr. Lalita Ray Chaudhury, a respected coleopterologist** and former scientist at Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) .
- The 'Clinidium lalitae' beetle is characterised by its unique morphology and belongs to a rare **group of ground beetles** that **inhabit forest floors**.
- These beetles play a significant ecological **role in nutrient cycling and soil health**.

Key Facts about Talle Valley Wildlife Sanctuary

- It is located in the Lower Subansiri district of **Arunachal Pradesh**.
- Situated at an elevation range of 1,200 to 3,000 meters above sea level, it spans an area of approximately 337 sq.km.
- It **contains 20 percent of the floral and faunal species in India**.
- **Rivers like Pange, Sipu, Karing, and Subansiri** flow through the sanctuary.
- The sanctuary is home to the **Apatani tribe**, known for their unique customs, traditions, and handicrafts.
- **Flora:**
 - It has a stunning spectrum of **subtropical and alpine forests** like silver **fir trees, ferns, orchids, bamboo, and rhododendron**.
 - **Pleioblastus simone** is a **bamboo variety only found in Talley Valley**.
 - It is also home to several **medicinal plants** and herbs used by the local tribes for traditional medicine.
- **Fauna:** It is home to a variety of animal species such as **elephants, barking deer, giant squirrels, porcupines, leopards, clouded leopards, wild boars, etc.**

Source: AT

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