

Kanchuria Tripuraensis and Kanchuria Priyasankari

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Latest News

Conservation activists have expressed concern over tourism promotion through wildlife safari in the Kali Tiger Reserve.

About Kanchuria Tripuraensis and Kanchuria Priyasankari

- These are two **new species of earthworms** discovered in **Tripura**.
- **Kanchuria tripuraensis** has been **named after Tripura**, where it was found thriving in **rubber and pineapple plantations** — highlighting the ecological diversity of even agriculturally modified landscapes.

- **Kanchuria priyasankari** is a tribute to **Prof. Priyasankar Chaudhuri**, whose four-decade-long dedication to earthworm taxonomy has placed Tripura on the national and international map for soil biodiversity studies.
- *K. tripuraensis* is unique within its genus for having single ventromedian spermathecae in segments 7 and 8—a distinguishing morphological feature.
- *K. priyasankari*, a member of the *turaensis* species group, is characterised by its comparatively smaller size and a distinctive spermathecal structure that sets it apart from its close relative, *K. turaensis*.
- With these additions, the **genus Kanchuria**—which is **endemic to Northeast India**—the genus **count reaches 10**.
- This discovery also **raises** the number of **documented megadrile earthworm species in Tripura to 38**, cementing the **Eastern Himalaya-Northeastern Hills** as the **second-richest region in India** in terms of **earthworm diversity**.

Source: IT

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