

Indian Black Honeybee

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About Indian Black Honeybee:

- The new species has been named *Apis karinjodian* and given the common name Indian black honeybee.
- It is after a gap of more than 200 years that a new species of honeybee has been spotted in the Western Ghats.
- The last honeybee described from India was *Apis indica* in 1798 by Fabricius. Although Fabricius named the Indian bee *Apis indica*, it was not considered a valid species till now.
- The research team restored the status of *Apis indica* based on a new measure for species discrimination in honeybees termed 'Radio-Medial Index (RMI)'.
- While proving the distinct identity of *Apis indica*, led to the discovery of *Apis karinjodian*.
- *Apis karinjodian* has evolved from *Apis cerana* morphotypes that got acclimatised to the hot and humid environment of the Western Ghats.
- The distribution of *Apis karinjodian* ranges from the central Western Ghats and Nilgiris to the southern Western Ghats, covering the States of Goa, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu.

Source : The Hindu

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/indian-black-honeybee/>

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