

Asemonea Dentis and Colyttus Nongwar

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Asemonea dentis and Colyttus nongwar Latest News

Scientists of the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) recently identified two new species of jumping spiders, *Asemonea dentis* and *Colyttus nongwar*, in the forested terrains of the Northeast.

About *Asemonea dentis* and *Colyttus nongwar*

- These are two **new species of jumping spiders** discovered in **Meghalaya**.
- Both species belong to the **Salticidae family**, the tribe of “**jumping spiders**” known for their **sharp vision, rapid reflexes** and **predatory precision**.
- **Unlike traditional web-weavers**, these spiders **stalk their prey with stealth before springing in a split-second leap**.
- **Asemonea dentis:**
 - Only the third Indian species identified under the *Asemonea* genus, a group that remains sparsely documented in the country.
 - The species is **named ‘dentis’** for a **distinctive tooth-like projection** on the male’s palpal femur.

- **Males** carry a **greenish-brown body** marked by a **pale-yellow V-shaped pattern on the abdomen.**
- **Females**, by contrast, appear **creamy white** with **delicate black markings.**
- **Colyttus nongwar:**
 - It is the second Indian member of the little-known Oriental genus Colyttus.
 - It draws its **name from Nongwar**, the **Khasi Hills village** where it was documented.
 - **Both sexes** display an **oval, reddish-brown carapace** and a **light-brown abdomen** framed by a creamy band at the front and five crisp chevron-shaped patches toward the rear.

Source: TELE

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