

Grizzled Giant Squirrel

April 5, 2020

Why in news?

The researchers have sighted nests of the grizzled giant squirrel, at Pakkamalai Reserve Forests near Gingee in the Eastern Ghats, for the first time.

About it:

- The species is usually known to **nest only in the Western Ghats** in South India.
- Found in the highlands of the Central and Uva provinces of Sri Lanka, along the Kaveri River and in the hill forests of Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Kerala.
- It has got its common name from the white flecks of hair over its greyish body.
- IUCN status – **Near threatened**
- Pakkamalai Reserve Forest in Villupuram district, Tamil Nadu has several diverse and endangered species including the Golden Gecko, Bamboo Pit Viper and Mouse Deer.