

Jayanti spider cricket

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In news- Jayanti has become the **twelfth subgenus**, or species, of cricket identified **under the genus Arachnomimus Saussure, 1897.**

More about the insect-

- It was **found in the Kurra caves of Chhattisgarh** in April 2021 by a team of zoologists of Panjab University, Chandigarh.
- The new subgenus was **named Jayanti after Professor Jayant Biswas**, one of the leading cave explorers in the country, who assisted the team.
- **Arachnomimus is the genus name** given by Swiss Entomologist Henri Louis Frédéric de Saussure in 1878 to **crickets that resembled spiders.**
- The word Arachnomimus is derived from two Ancient Greek words **arakhne** means “spider” and **mimos**, means “imitator, actor”.
- The crickets of this group are commonly called spider crickets because of their **smaller body size and long legs.**
- The **newly discovered subgenus, Indimimus**, is different from the two subgenera, Arachnomimus and Euarachnomimus because of the male genitalia structure.
- Insects have a lock-and-key model genitalia structure which is unique to each subgenus.
- Male crickets produce loud sounds by rubbing their wings against each other to attract females.
- The females listen to these calls using ears located on their legs and approach the males for mating and reproduction.
- But **males of the new Jayanti subgenus cannot produce sound and their females don't have ears.**
- They may communicate by beating their abdomen or any

other body part on the cave walls.

- Further studies on their skills of vibrational communication may help in designing hearing aids for humans which can capture quietest signals and amplify to an audible hearing range.
- Though the distribution of these species is very wide, ranging from Brazil to Malaysia, in India, the diversity of spider crickets is still unexplored.