

# Minervarya Pentali

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**In news-** A team of Delhi University (DU) researchers has discovered a new frog species and has named it after **former DU Vice-Chancellor and plant geneticist Deepak Pental**.

## **More information-**

- The new frog species, Minervarya Pentali, was **discovered from the Western Ghats biodiversity hotspot** at multiple localities in Kerala and Tamil Nadu.
- This new species is **endemic to the southern Western Ghats**.
- This species is **also among the smallest known Minervarya frogs**.
- It belongs to the **family Dicroglossidae**.
- The new species was identified on the basis of multiple criteria including “external morphology, DNA and calling pattern.”
- The study was funded by DU, Department of Science and Technology (DoST), CSIR, Critical Ecosystem partnership Fund from the US, and Global Wildlife Conservation in the US.

**Minervarya sahyadris** is a species of frog that is **also endemic to Western Ghats** of India. Its IUCN status is **Endangered**.