

Tarantula Spider

April 7, 2020

Why in news?

- Genus can be identified based on the **banding patterns on the underside of the legs.**
- IUCN status – Peacock **Parachute Spider or Gooty Tarantula** was spotted by a team of researchers in the Pakkamalai Reserve Forests near Gingee in Villupuram district of Tamilnadu.

About it:

- The spider belongs to the genus Poecilotheria.
- It is **endemic to India.**
- Its **known habitat** is in degraded forests near Nandyal in Andhra Pradesh (**Eastern Ghats**).
- For the first time it has been sighted beyond its known habitat.
- Species of this **Critically Endangered.**