

ENDEMIC ANURIAN SPECIES OF WESTERN GHATS

Western Ghats is one of the Hot spots of Bio-diversity. India has only 4 hotspots; the World 38. Western Ghats is known for rich endemism of Frogs and Toads. 179 amphibian species have been recorded in Western Ghats. 93 Anurians are endemic. Most of these endemic species are threatened by habitat loss, fragmentation and disruption of the habitat quality.

87% of all Western Ghats frogs are endemic and found nowhere else on the planet.....

NUMBER OF ENDEMIC ANURIAN SPECIES	WORLD	INDIA	WESTERN GHATS
	4,800	153	93



Nyctibatrachus kempholeyensis

Commonly called 'Night Frogs'.

Found in Tropical moist low land forest and Rivers.

Make a distinct cricket (insect) like call.

Not seen for almost 75 years and rediscovered recently.

First described by the Herpetologist C.R. Narayan Rao in 1937.

Rhachophorus lateralis

Commonly called 'Rhacophorid Tree Frog'.

Found in tropical, sub-tropical and moist lowland forests'.

Green and brown in color with blue spot.



Micrixalus species

Commonly called 'Dancing Frog' or 'Torrent Frog'.

Found in high altitude evergreen forest.

Described as "Foot Flagging" amphibians as males wave their feet to attract females for breeding – a wonderful communication indeed.

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Rhachophorus malabaricus

Also called 'Malabar gliding frog' or flying frog.
The gliding abilities are aided by web, which allow them to cover remarkable distances of upto 1 ft in one leap!
They also build foam nests
Interesting behavior such as cannibalism among tadpoles has been observed.



Ramanella trangularis

Commonly called as 'Narrow Mouthed Frogs'.
They are bright grey and yellow colored
Uses strategic locations such as crevices and tree holes to amplify its calls.
Calls of males is about 30 pulses the frequency range of 0.6 and 1.1kHz, emitted every 3 seconds

Roarchestes luteolus

'The Blue Eyed Bush Frog' and is fairly common in Ghats.
Are of varied colours - yellowish brown or golden yellow with faint spots.
Iris is light brown in color with a bluish green outer ring.
The male frogs start calling out in systematic way. Firstly, they call out under the leaf litter and then ascending down the vegetation



Roarchestes glandulosus

Also known as 'Glandular Bush Frog' or 'Southern Bubble Nest Frog'
Arboreal often found in Rain forests, Coffee plantations and Gardens.
The distinct features its yellow dorsal surface of the fore arm.

Polypedates masculatus

Commonly called 'Indian Tree Frog'.
They are about 7-8 cm brownish, yellowish or grayish with darker spots.
Males have internal vocal sacs.
Adapt lighter colors if required and secrete mucous to regulate moisture loss.



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Nyctibatrachus dattatreyaensis

Commonly called as 'Dattatreya Night Frog'.

The upper surface is reddish black –stone black, with two yellow lateral bands

Found in the Shola forests around the DattatreyaPeeta in the Chikkamagluru district of Karnataka

In day time the frog prefers to hide below small boulders and damp leaf litter along the slow flowing stream.

Still known only in the part of Western Ghats.

Duttaphrynus melanosticus

Commonly called 'Asian Common Frog' or 'Black Spectacled Toad.

Dorsal side is yellowish and brownish in color, spines and ridges are black.

20 cm in size with a unique wart pattern and several bony ridges region.



Nyctibatrachus grandis

Commonly called 'Dayanand Night Frog'.

Grows to the size of a baseball and leaps from rock-rock.

They have a unique owl like call and the males defend the egg clutches aggressively.

NOTE:

Two new frog genera discovered in India's Western Ghats, but restricted to threatened swamp – ecosystem

The misty mountains of the Western Ghats seem to unravel new secrets the more you explore it.

The researchers have discovered two new Frog genera, possibly restricted to rare and threatened swamps in the Southern Western Ghats of India.

