

LIVE VIDEO Here's why Sonam Kapoor is excited this festive season!

NEWS / CITY NEWS / KOCHI NEWS / SH Gets 60-Lakh Aid For Study On Spiders

THIS STORY IS FROM NOVEMBER 6, 2016

SH gets 60-lakh aid for study on spiders

TNN / Updated: Nov 7, 2016, 06:56 IST

[f](#) [t](#) [in](#) [✉](#) [👑 45 PTS](#)

[📄](#) [AA](#)



The Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB) has awarded a grant of Rs 60 lakh to Sacred Heart College, Thevara, for conducting study on Indian spiders. The grant would help the college's arachnology research division to focus on bridging gaps in the taxonomic knowledge of Indian spiders.

SH gets 60-lakh aid for study on spiders

TNN / Updated: Nov 7, 2016, 06:56 IST



KOCHI: The [Science and Engineering Research Board](#) (SERB) has awarded a grant of Rs 60 lakh to Sacred Heart College, Thevara, for conducting [study on Indian spiders](#).

The grant would help the college's [arachnology research division](#) to focus on bridging gaps in the [taxonomic knowledge of Indian spiders](#).

"An integrated approach using morphological studies, DNA analysis and behavioural studies of spiders is being implemented," said P A Sebastian, who heads the research team.

"Such an integrated approach is being done for the first time on Indian spiders," said M J Mathew, assistant professor of zoology and co-investigator of the new research project.

The team had recently discovered six rare spiders from the forests of Western Ghats of Kerala. They also discovered another group of ant-mimicking spiders of the family Zodariidae (two of them) from Western Ghats. One among them is named as *Tropizodium Kalami* as a tribute to former President A P J Abdul Kalam, while the other been named as *Tropizodium viridurbium*.

Another significant finding is the discovery of a rare spider known as "armoured spider" of the family Tetrablemmidae. It is named as *Shearella alii* in honour of ornithologist Salim Ali. The team currently has three central government-funded projects concurrently with a total grant of Rs 1.5crore.