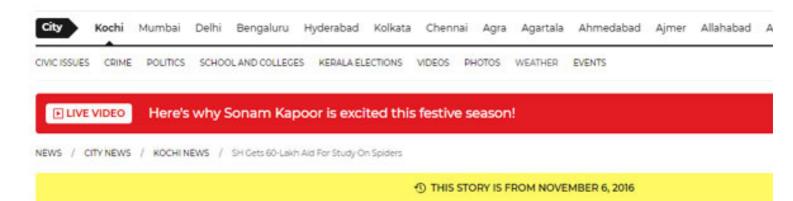
## THE TIMES OF INDIA



## SH gets 60-lakh aid for study on spiders

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



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"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.