



KAMARAJ IAS ACADEMY
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Protosticta sooryaparakashi

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A new species of damselfly named, *Protosticta sooryaparakashi*, sporting vibrant sky-blue markings, has been recently discovered in the biodiversity hotspots of India's Western Ghats.

About *Protosticta sooryaparakashi*

It is a new species of damselfly.

Named the KodagShadowdamsel, it was discovered in Karnataka's Kodag district.

The species has been named in honour of the late Dr. Sooryaparakash Shenoy, a renowned botanist.

Sporting striking sky-blue markings, the KodagShadowdamsel thrives in low-light habitats and requires pristine environmental conditions to breed.

Entomologists say its presence is a strong indicator of a healthy ecosystem with minimal pollution.

Despite its resemblance to its close relatives, its slender build makes it the thinnest member of the damselfly family.

Its distinguishing features include a unique blue spot on its neck and at the tip of its body.

Unlike dragonflies, which inhabit bright, sunny spaces, damselflies like the KodagShadowdamsel favour cool, shaded areas, making sightings rare and significant.

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