

DESCRIPTION OF TWO NEW SPECIES OF CRAB-SPIDERS OF THE GENERA
DIAEA AND *BOMIS* (FAMILY : THOMISIDAE) FROM INDIA

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ABSTRACT

The two new species of spiders, described in this paper, were collected from Calcutta. The new species belong to the genera *Diaea* Thorell and *Bomis* Koch.

INTRODUCTION

Spiders of the family Thomisidae have received attention very recently by Tikader (1960-1980). *The Fauna of India* (Family : Thomisidae) has been published by Tikader (1980) after the *Fauna of British India, Arachnida* by Pocock (1900) where the family Thomisidae were not included, though the thomisid spiders are abundant in our country. While examining the spider collection deposited in the Arachnida Section, we came across two new species of spiders of the genera *Diaea* and *Bomis*, which are described in this paper.

All the type specimens are deposited in the National Collection of the Zoological Survey of India, Calcutta.

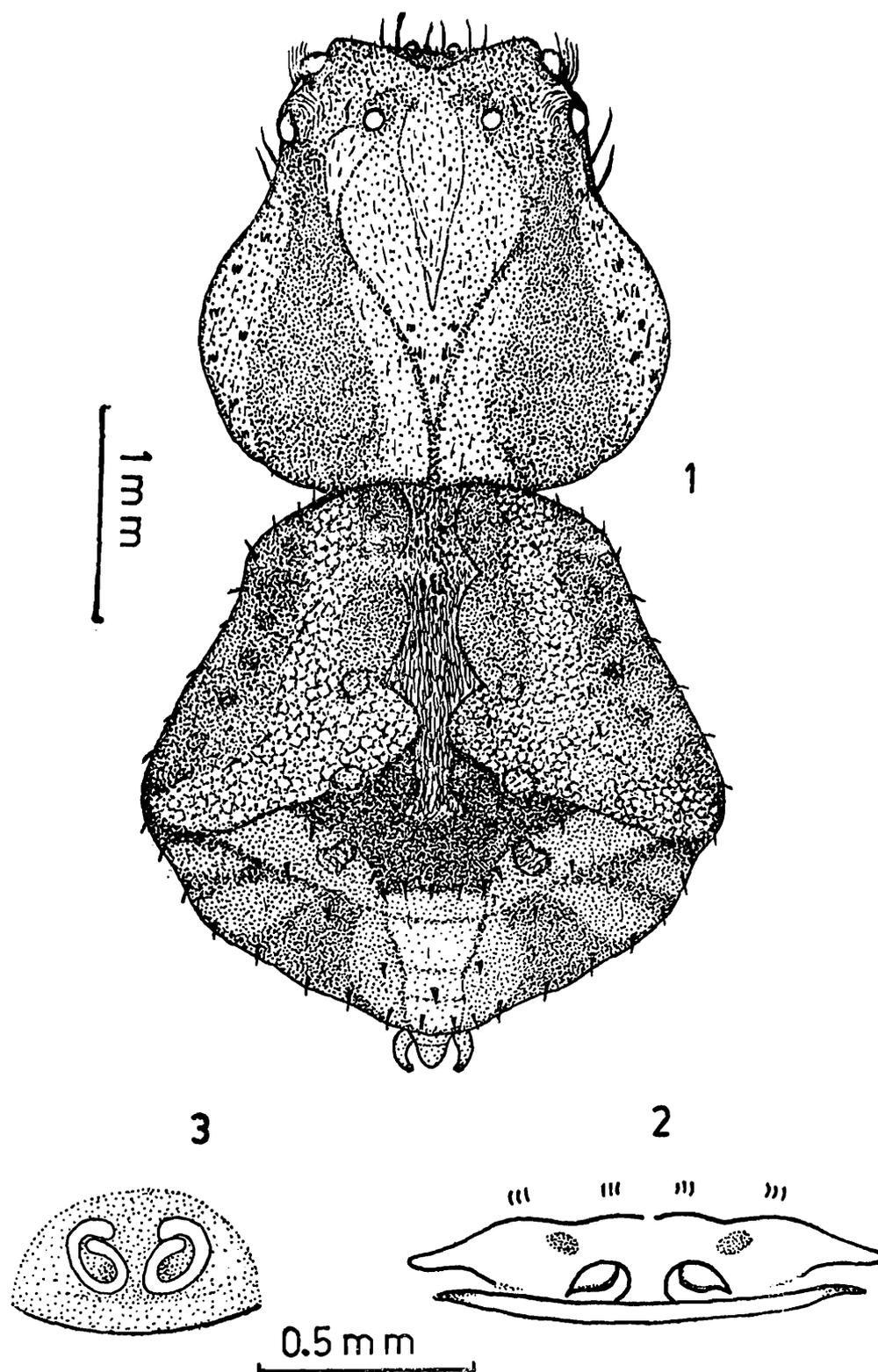
1. *Diaea bengalensis* sp. nov.

(Figs. 1-3)

General : Cephalothorax and abdomen light to deep brown, legs light brown. Total length 5.00 mm. Carapace 2.20 mm. long, 2.40 mm. wide, abdomen 2.80 mm. long, 2.80 mm. wide.

Cephalothorax : Longer than wide, convex narrowing in front, clothed with hairs, lateral two sides provided with conspicuous longitudinal light brown patches extending from base of lateral eyes to near the base of thorax, mid-dorsally with a longitudinal light brown broad patch extending from ocular area to base of thorax. Eyes black, lateral eyes situated on the shallow tubercles, ocular quad wider than long and narrowing in front. Clypeus moderate. Sternum heart-shaped, clothed with hairs. Legs I and II conspicuously long, clothed with hairs and spines ; II pair of legs darker than I pair, metatarsi of I and II pairs of legs provided with four pairs of ventral spines, III and IV pairs of legs comparatively very short and without ventral spine.

Abdomen : Oval and broader behind, clothed with spine-like hairs, spines arranged in longitudinal rows on the dorsum. Two longitudinal white patch on the anterolateral sides. Presence of three pairs of sigilla on the dorsum. Ventral side uniform pale colour. Epigyne and internal genitalia as in Figs. 2 and 3,



Figs. 1-3. *Diaea bengalensis* sp. nov.

1. Dorsal view of female, legs omitted. 2. Epigyne. 3. Internal genitalia.

Holotype: Female, *paratype* one female (immature) in spirit, deposited at Z. S. I., Calcutta Regd. No. 5099-5100/18,

Type-locality: The Agri-Horticultural Society of India, 1, Alipore Road, Calcutta, India, 26. v. 1981, Coll. *Bijan Biswas*.

This species in general resembles *Diaea jaintious* Tikader, but it is separated as follows : (i) Metatarsi of I and II pair of legs provided with four pairs of ventral spines but in *D. jaintious* I and II pair of legs with six pairs of ventral spines, (ii) Presence of three pairs of sigilla on the dorsum of abdomen but in *D. jaintious* no such sigilla, (iii) Epigyne also structurally different.

2. *Bomis calcuttaensis*, sp. nov.

(Figs. 4-6)

General : Cephalothorax and legs light yellowish green, abdomen light yellow. Total length 4.40 mm. Carapace 1.90 mm. long, 2.00 mm. wide, abdomen 2.50 mm. long, 3.10 mm. wide.

Cephalothorax : Rectangular, wider behind, convex, clothed with short hairs. Eyes round, dark ringed with white tubercles, both rows recurved but posterior row less recurved than anterior and longer ; ocular quad longer than wide, lateral eyes slightly larger and tubercles contiguous. Posterior medians further away from each other than from the adjacent laterals. There are two white semi-circular line obliquely run from the postero-lateral eyes and unite in the middle of posterior extremity of the cephalothorax. Clypeus high and sloping downwards. Legs stout, short, clothed with hairs and spine-like hairs, legs nearly equal in length, claw tufts very prominent. Sternum heart-shaped, clothed with fine hairs.

Abdomen : Wider than long, nearly semi-circular in the shape, clothed with characteristic white spine-like tubercles decorated on the whole area of the dorsum of abdomen. Presence of longitudinally branched centrally

placed stripes. Two pairs of sigilla present on the dorsum. Ventral side uniform pale brown but posterior portion encircled by three ridge of semi-circular white spine-like pattern. Presence of two deep brown area on the postero-lateral side. Epigyne and internal genitalia as in Figs. 5 and 6.

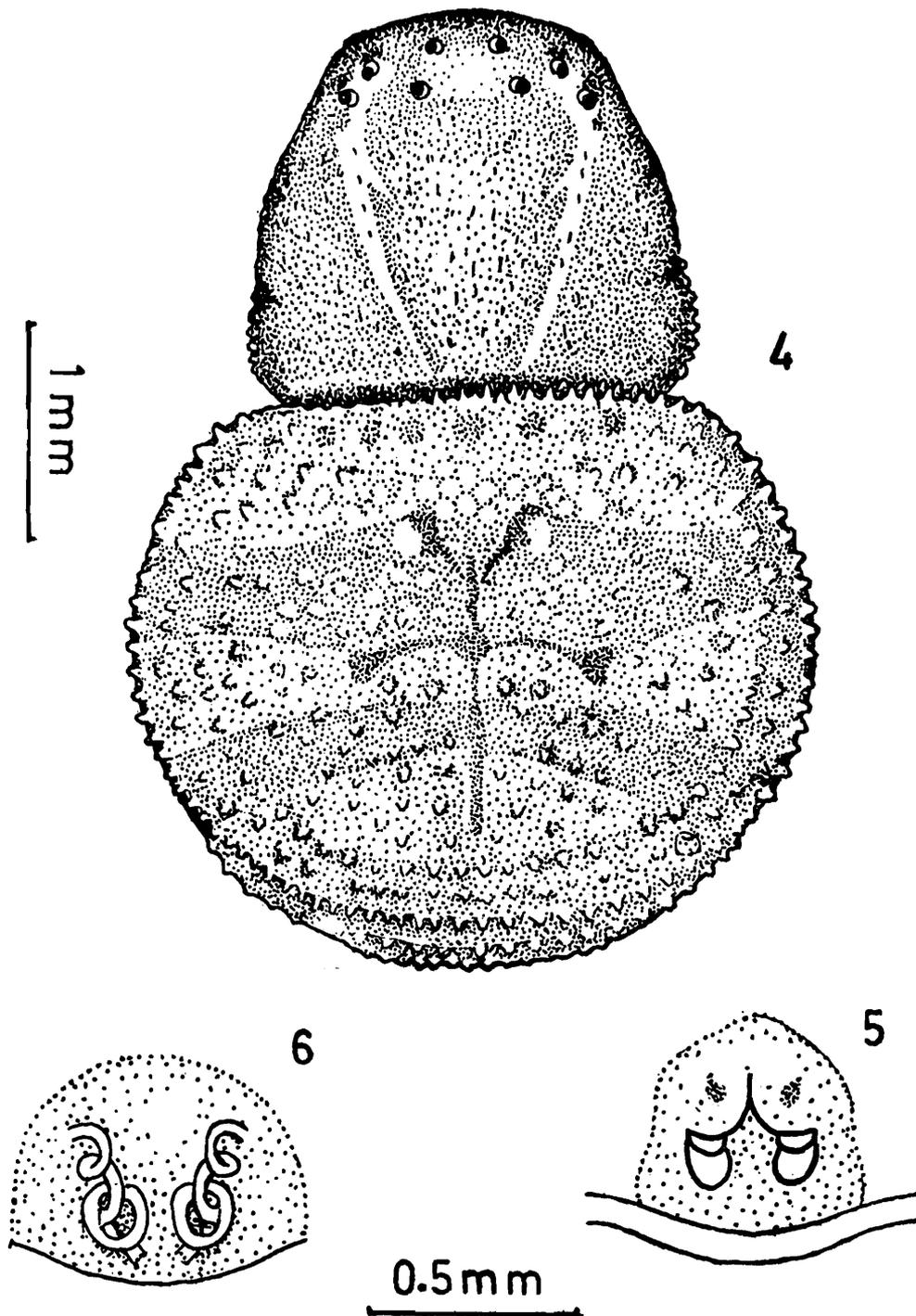
Holotype : Female, **paratype** one female and **allotype**, one sub adult male in spirit, deposited at Z.S.I., Calcutta Regd. No.5101/18—5103/18.

Type-locality : The Agri-Horticultural Society of India, 1 Alipore Road, Calcutta, India, 26. v. 1981, Coll. *Bijan Biswas*.

This species in general resembles *Bomis khajuriai* Tikader, but it is separated as follows : (i) Presence of white semi-circular line on the cephalothorax which arises from the postero-lateral eyes and runs obliquely and unite in the middle of posterior extremity of the cephalothorax but in *B. khajuriai* no such line. (ii) Abdomen decorated with characteristic white spine-like tubercles on the whole dorsal area and presence of two pairs of sigilla which attached on the branched stripes but in *B. khajuriai* no such pattern, (iii) Epigyne also structurally different.

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Figs. 4-6. *Bomis calcuttaensis* sp. nov.

4. Dorsal view of female, legs omitted. 5. Epigyne.
6. Internal genitalia.

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