

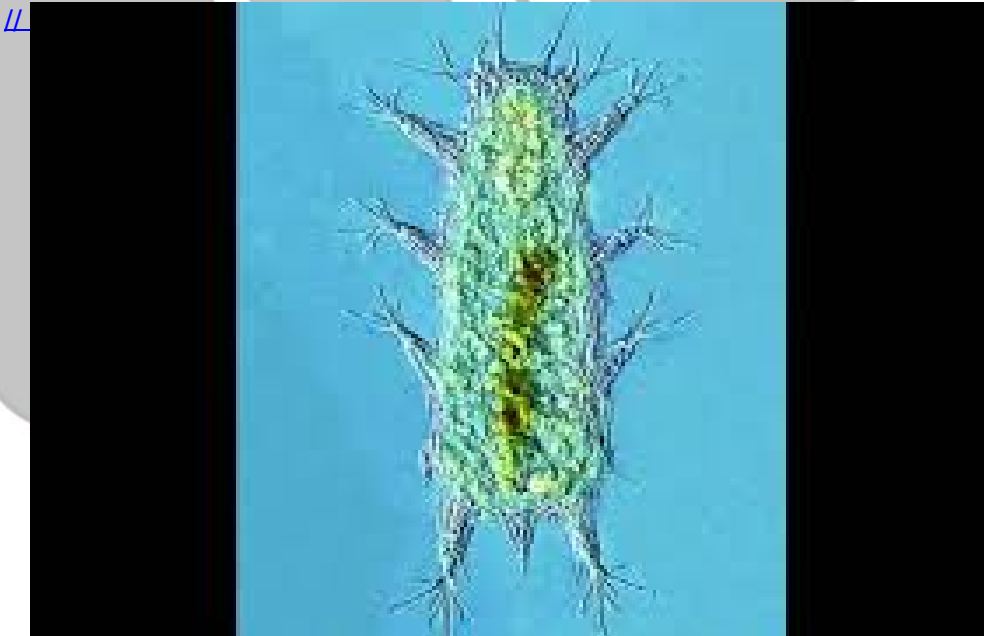


Batillipes Chandrayaani

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Researchers at **Cochin University of Science and Technology** have named a newly discovered marine tardigrade species from the **southeast coast** of Tamil Nadu as **Batillipes Chandrayaani**, in honour of the Chandrayaan-3 moon mission.

- It was found in the sandy area between the **high and low tide** marks at **Mandapam in Tamil Nadu**.
- This tardigrade is the **39th** type of tardigrade classified under the name Batillipes.
- It has a head that looks like a **trapezoid and four pairs of legs** with pointy spines for sensing things.
- **Tardigrades:**
 - These tiny creatures, often called "**water bears,**" are **microscopic wonders**.
 - Marine tardigrades make up 17% of all tardigrade species known to us, and they inhabit every ocean.
 - Tardigrades have adapted to environmental stress by undergoing a process known as **cryptobiosis**.
 - Cryptobiosis is defined as a state in which metabolic activities come to a reversible standstill.
 - Despite their small size, these **micro-metazoans** are incredibly resilient, surviving **mass extinctions** and earning recognition for their remarkable survival abilities.



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