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Cover: Mixed media illustration of a Blue bird and Sunbird. © Lakshmi Niranjana.



First record of *Proszynskia diatrete* (Simon, 1902) (Araneae: Salticidae) from Gujarat, India

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The genus *Proszynskia* Kanesharatnam & Benjamin, 2019 was established with *Proszynskia diatrete* (Simon, 1902) as its type species (Kanesharatnam & Benjamin 2019; World Spider Catalog 2024). *P. diatrete* is presently known from India and Sri Lanka (Kanesharatnam & Benjamin 2019). In India, the species has been documented only from two localities in Tamil Nadu (Caleb 2016). In this study, we report the discovery of *P. diatrete* in Gujarat, making it the northernmost distributional record of this species.

The specimen was hand-collected and studied under a Leica M205 A stereomicroscope and microphotographic images were taken by a Leica DFC2900 digital camera attached to the stereomicroscope and enabled with the software package Leica Application Suite (LAS), version 4.5.0. Left palp was studied and photographed by placing in a cavity block filled with ethanol. The species was identified based on Kanesharatnam & Benjamin (2019). The examined specimen has been deposited in the reference collection of the Web of Nature (WON) Research Foundation, Gujarat, India (curator: Dhruv A. Prajapati).

Family Salticidae Blackwall, 1841

Genus *Proszynskia* Kanesharatnam & Benjamin, 2019

Type species: *Viciria diatrete* Simon, 1902

***Proszynskia diatrete* (Simon, 1902)** (Images 1–3)

Viciria diatrete Simon, 1902: 366

Viciria diatrete Prószyński, 1984: 433, figs 42–43

Viciria diatrete Caleb & Mathai, 2014: 65, figs 38–46

Phintella diatrete Caleb, 2016: 274

Proszynskia diatrete Kanesharatnam & Benjamin, 2019: 54, figs 23E–H, 24A–E, 25A–E, 26A–D

Material examined: WON102495A, 3.viii.2016, 1 male, India, Gujarat, Ahwa village in Dang district (20.7488 °N, 73.6916 °E), 461 m, leg. D. Prajapati.

Diagnosis: The species can be easily identified by the short, straight and robust embolus directed at 12 o'clock position ventrally (Image 2); tegulum with significant prolateral proximal lobe (Image 2); retrolateral tibial apophysis bent at the tip and directed at 10 o'clock position (Image 3).

Distribution: India and Sri Lanka (Simon 1902; Kanesharatnam & Benjamin 2019) (Figure 1).

Distribution in India: Tamil Nadu (Simon 1902) and Gujarat.

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Image 1–3. Male *Proszynskia diatrete* (Simon, 1902) from Gujarat, India: 1—habitus, dorsal view | 2—left pedipalp, ventral view | 3—same, retrolateral view. Scale bars: 2 mm (1), 0.5 mm (2–3). © WON Research Foundation.

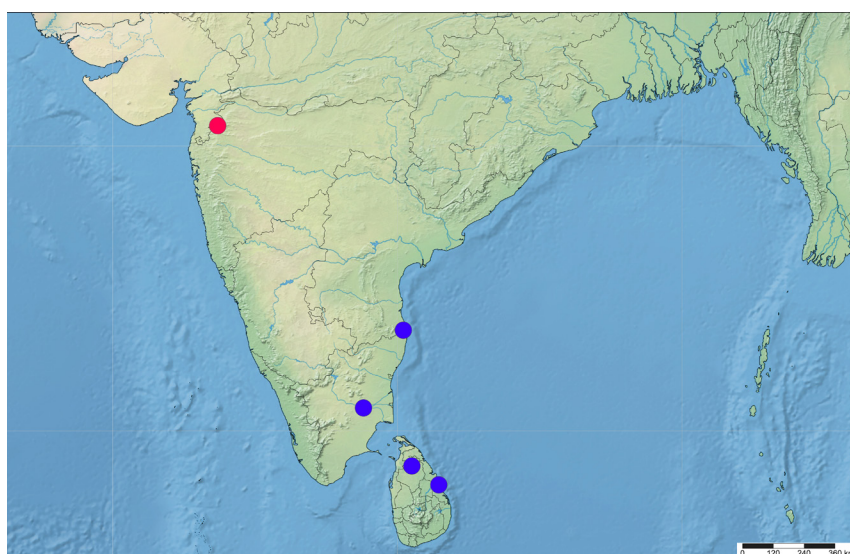


Figure 1. Distribution of *Proszynskia diatrete* (Simon, 1902). (pink circle—new record; blue circles—previous records)

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