

Hyderabad gets recognition as Tree City of the World

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HYDERABAD: In another feather in the cap of the city, Greater Hyderabad has been recognized as a 2020 Tree City of the World by the Arbor Day Foundation and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).

Telangana's capital is the only city from India to have been recognized as a Tree City. The city was chosen for this recognition for its commitment towards growing and maintaining the urban forest.

According to the state government, through this recognition, Hyderabad City will join a network of like-minded cities, who recognise the importance of trees in building healthy, resilient and happy cities.

“Hyderabad has earned recognition in the Foundation's second year of the programme along with 51 other cities in the world (during 2020 & cumulative 120 cities from 63 countries) while being the only City in India to get this recognition so far. Most of the cities were from countries – US, UK, Canada, Australia etc,” officials said.

Municipal Administration & Urban Development Department (MA&UD) has applied to this recognition based on an online submission done on Jan 31, 2021. The state government has been implementing the Haritha Haram program since 2015. Apart from that, urban forest blocks are also being developed in identified pockets.

TRS working president and municipal minister KT Rama Rao tweeted ‘Happy to share that @arbordav foundation (which works

with FAO of UN) has recognized Hyderabad as a tree city of the world. The only Indian city to be included in this list. This is an acknowledgement of our efforts to improve green cover as part of #HarithaHaram programme.”

Congratulating Hyderabad on earning 2020 Tree Cities of the world recognition alongside 120 cities from 63 countries, Dan Lambe, President, Arbor Day Foundation said that “your city is part of an important global network leading the way in urban and community forestry. He also said to further celebrate this distinction we will recognise Hyderabad in a global press release on or around March 1, 2021”.