

# Telangana Today

## Maharashtra pats Telangana for measures in forest conservation

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**Hyderabad:** Impressed with the Telangana Government's initiatives in increasing the green cover, especially the new rules introduced in Panchayat Raj and Municipal Acts to ensure survival of saplings, Maharashtra Government is keen to replicate these measures. Maharashtra Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (PCCF) G.Sai Prakash appreciated Telangana forest department for its effective work in forest conservation, besides measures taken for increasing the green cover. "Efforts are being made to replicate few measures taken up by Telangana Government to increase green cover in Maharashtra" G. Sai Prakash said. He is in the city on a two-day visit and on Monday, he met Telangana PCCF R Shobha and other officials at Aranya Bhavan.

During the meeting, Maharashtra forest officials discussed on the steps taken for increasing greenery in Telangana, rules introduced in Panchayat Raj and Municipal Acts for plant conservation, management of saw mills, maintenance of zoo parks and evacuation of human settlements within Tiger Reserves. Social Forestry PCCF R.M. Dobrial gave a power point presentation during the meeting.

Maharashtra PCCF G Sai Prakash said the successful implementation of measures in Telangana and the subsequent increase in greenery as targeted was commendable.

The commitment of Chief Minister K. Chandrashekhar Rao and active involvement of Ministers, officials from all departments and diverse communities in enhancing the green cover were paying rich dividends, PCCF R Sobha said.

She further informed that under Palle and Pattana Pragathi programme, each village was allotted a tanker, nursery, tractor, making the local sarpanch, secretary and officials responsible for 85 per cent survival of saplings, levying of fines on pet animals' owners for damages, if any and more importantly monthly financial assistance to ULBs were key factors that were aiding in increasing green cover in the State.

As part of the meeting, it was agreed to allot two lions of same genes at Nagpur Zoo to Telangana in exchange of two lions with Maharashtra.

Telangana forest department officials discussed measures on tigers' movement between two States, besides Maharashtra policies for curbing poaching, controlling forest smuggling, check posts and relocation of human settlements in tiger sanctuaries. They also discussed on the measures being taken up in the two states for protection of vultures.

Source: <https://telanganatoday.com/maharashtra-pats-telangana-for-measures-in-forest-conservation>