

**\*PRESS RELEASE\***

**\*Rescue of Palapitta Bird from ECIL area Opp: Vasundhara Inter college\***

This is to inform that, on receipt of information by the Forest & WL Crime Control Cell, Aranya Bhavan, Hyderabad, a team of Officials, Anti-poaching Squad, Hyderabad and volunteers of Friends of Snakes Society proceeded to Opp: Vasundhara Inter college, ECIL area, Hyderabad where a Pandal was erected and Dusherra festivities were in progress.

In the Pandal, one cage was detected with a Palapitta bird (Indian Roller or Blue Jay) in the cage. The bird was put on display for the visitors attending the festivities. With the help of Police & Cooperation of the organizers of the festivities, the Palapitta was rescued and taken to animal shelter where it was provided with water and food in form of insects, grasshoppers etc., The bird was weak and dehydrated when it was rescued, but after providing food and water, it became active and by morning it was trying to fly out.

The bird was taken to a scrub forest near cantonment area and was released safely. The bird flew off swiftly.

**\*Few more Details on Forest dept activity on Festival days\***

Forest dept field staff quite active in festive season. To stop poaching of Birds, animals for meat. Timber also seized and arrested few culprits in warangal range. Vehicle / cart seizures from same Warangal Circle.

Snares removed by Bejjur Range staff from forest area.

**\*Some of instructions given by senior officers\***

Do investigate each case thoroughly to

1. Trace the origin of the timber.
2. Identify the fellers.
3. Identify the saw mills / Carpenters/ Dugoda machine owners who converted the timber.
4. Identify how the transport was organised (hiring of vehicles/ cart)
5. Find out where and to whom the illegal timber is to be delivered.
6. Find out the details of consumers / final users.
7. Active monitor, inspection in every beat to cut down poaching of birds and animals.

**\*Use every seizure as an opportunity to break the smuggling racket\***