Sarees out, women constables in Telangana to slip into smart uniform soon

City designer sends two options to Police Department for approval
Khaki salwar-kameez with dupatta and sarees worn by women constables have often proved a hindrance in tackling protesters on the streets and enforcing law and order in general. But things are set to change soon as Telangana policewomen are likely to have a new dress code. Two options for the dress code have been suggested to the Police Department by a designer from a city fashion studio. Aakansha Maheshwari, creative executive of I-Brand and alumni of National Institute of Fashion Technology, said the police approached them and asked to develop new uniform for women constables in the State.

“After submitting several prototypes, the Police Department has shortlisted two outfits. However, they are yet to finalise one,” she says.

The shortlisted designs, include pant-shirt with waistcoat and salwar kameez with a waistcoat. This also works in terms of comfort, she adds. “The waistcoat will be of olive green colour and rest will be of khaki fabric,” she says, adding that the waistcoat can have pockets and belt for easy movement.

The decision to change the prevailing uniform code was taken to eliminate the role of dupatta and saree to make women cops ‘more confident’ while discharging their duties.

Meanwhile, In-charge Director General of Police M. Mahender Reddy told The Hindu that the proposal to change the uniform for women constables was being considered and the final decision is yet to be taken.

He said the women cops in their current attire are facing difficulties while attending to their duties. Hence, a proposal was made a few years ago to change their uniform.