

## **Aadhaar for Chinar Trees**

## Source: IE

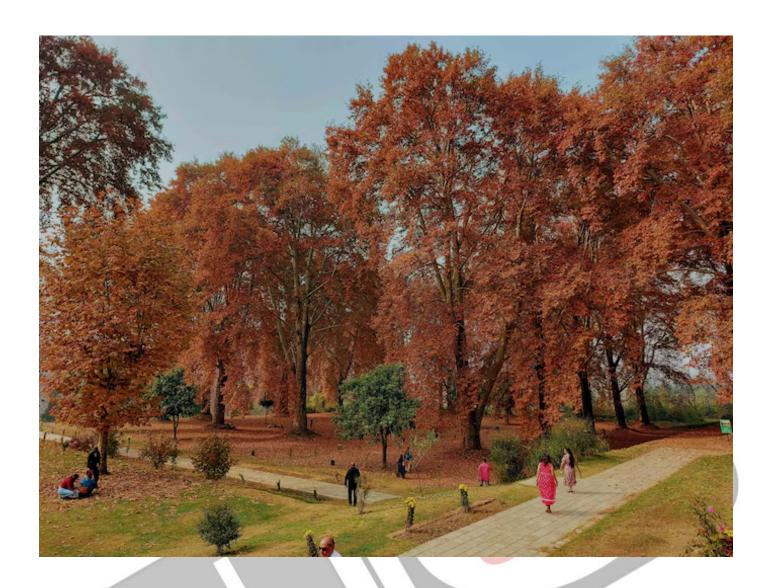
The Jammu & Kashmir (J&K) government has initiated the "Tree Aadhaar" mission to conserve the region's iconic chinar trees (*Platanus orientalis var. cashmeriana*) by geo-tagging and mapping trees, giving each tree a unique ID through a detailed census.

- Chinar Tree:
- **Type: Deciduous tree** from the *Platanaceae family*.
- Characteristics: It is native to cool, water-rich regions of the Eastern Himalayas, can grow up to 30 meters tall with a girth of 10-15 meters.
  - It takes 30-50 years to mature and up to 150 years to reach full size.
- Protection Status:
  - IUCN: Data Deficient
- Significance: The tree, named during the Mughal era (Jahangir), is the state tree of J&K, and is a major tourist attraction, particularly in autumn.
  - It holds cultural significance in local art, literature, and crafts such as paper-mâché and carpets.

## **Tree Aadhaar Mission:**

- Launched in 2021, the mission tracks Chinar trees to prevent unauthorized cutting.
- Over 28,560 trees have been geo-tagged with unique Tree Aadhaar numbers.
- Each tree features a QR code, using GIS technology, providing details on its location, height, girth, health, and ecological threats.

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Read More: <u>IUCN's First Global Tree Assessment</u>

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