## **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 <u>geo-tagging</u> 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:
  - <u>IUCN</u>: 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 <u>GIS technology</u>, providing details on its location, height, girth, health, and ecological threats.
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Read More: IUCN's First Global Tree Assessment

PDF Refernece URL: https://www.drishtiias.com/printpdf/aadhaar-for-chinar-trees