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## INDEPENDENT

### India plants 66 million trees in 12 hours as part of record-breaking environmental campaign

More than 1.5 million volunteers were involved in the huge operation

- [Chris Baynes](#)



Guinness World Records are expected to confirm the achievement in the coming weeks *Madhya Pradesh Government*

Volunteers in [India](#) planted more than 66 million trees in just 12 hours in a record-breaking environmental [drive](#).

About 1.5 million people were involved in the huge plantation campaign, in which saplings were placed along the Narmada river in the [state](#) of Madhya Pradesh throughout Sunday.

India committed under the Paris Agreement to increasing its forests by five million hectares before 2030 to [combat climate change](#).

Last year volunteers in Uttar Pradesh state set a world record by planting more than 50 million trees in one day. Observers from Guinness World Records also monitored Sunday's plantation and are expected to confirm in the coming weeks that the effort set a new high.

The campaign was organised by the Madhya Pradesh government, with 24 districts of the Narmada river basin chosen as planting sites to increase the saplings' chances of survival. Volunteers planted more than 20 different species of trees.

Shivraj Singh Chouhan, the state's chief minister, described the efforts as a "historic day".

He said volunteers including children and the elderly had planted 66.3 million saplings between 7am and 7pm, adding in a tweet: "By planting trees we are not only serving Madhya Pradesh but the world at large."



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