



## **World Forest Day 2026**

### **NCPC Massive Tree Plantation Campaign on its Rise**

The International forest day is observed annually on March 21 to celebrate and raise awareness about the importance of all types of forests and trees. It was proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly on November 28, 2012. Each year, events are organized worldwide to emphasize the importance of forests and trees outside forests for the benefit of present and future generations.

According to a report by the World Bank, Pakistan ranks 113th out of 143 countries in terms of forest cover. Additionally, the World Wide Fund for Nature reports that Pakistan lost approximately 43,000 hectares of forest annually between 2000 and 2010, one of the highest deforestation rates in Asia.

In response, the National Cleaner Production Centre (NCPC) has launched a large-scale spring plantation campaign, recognizing tree planting as a driver of environmental sustainability and prosperity. Trees are being planted across diverse settings, including universities, schools, hospitals, housing societies, villages, places of worship, industrial areas, and public parks. To date, approximately 5,500 trees have been planted with the active participation of various sectors of society during spring plantation drive 2026.

As part of this campaign, a plantation activity was conducted on March 31, 2026, at Biodiversity Park and Government Elliot High School for Boys, Morgah, Rawalpindi, with the participation of the EPA Deputy Director and the Assistant Commissioner Rawalpindi Cantt. Biodiversity Park, located at Latitude 33.546360° and Longitude 73.078604°, is dedicated to preserving the native ecosystem of the Potohar region. A total of 5 plants were planted at the park and 75 plants at Government Elliot High School for Boys during the activity.

In addition to the plantation effort, color-coded waste bins were installed in the park to support the implementation of the EPA's Smart Waste Management initiative. A set of five bins

designated for organic, metal, glass, plastic, and paper waste were installed to promote proper waste segregation and environmentally responsible practices.



