

# TSPL holds plantation drive, 2 lakh saplings planted in 1 hour

**TOP SCORE** To apply for entry in The Guinness Book of World Records as the organisers claim to have broken previous record of over 1 lakh saplings in one hour

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**MANS:** The Talwandi Sabo Power Limited (TSPL), a 1,980-MW thermal power plant of Vedanta Limited, located at Banawala village of the district, organised a mega plantation drive under which more than 2 lakh saplings were planted within an hour.

Over 5,800 people, including students from schools and colleges, villagers and the city volunteered to make this feat possible. The TSPL has decided to apply to 'The Guinness Book of World Records' to feature the drive as a record for planting the highest number of saplings within an hour.

With this drive, the TSPL claimed to surpass the previous record of 1,00,450 saplings within one hour held by 'Men of the Trees', at the Whiteman Park, in Perth, Australia. The drive began at 11.35 am and within than an hour, 2,06,000 saplings were planted on 200-acre land.

Considering the small forest cover in Punjab, these trees will help improve biodiversity in the region, specifically in Mansa.

"TSPL is strongly committed to economic development of the state. This plantation drive is not only a symbol of our deep



■ Volunteers planting saplings during a drive at the thermal power plant at Talwandi Sabo on Friday. HTPHOTO

connect with the state, but also a personification of our motive to make it one of the most promising regions globally. With a Guinness Book of World Records entry, the district of Mansa and the state of Punjab will become even more prominent across the world," said Philip Chacko, CEO, TSPL. "There was a high level of energy and enthusiasm among the participants. Our college stu-

dents acted as stewards for this historic event. Congratulations to TSPL for this feat," said Raghveer Kaur, a student of BSc (Agriculture).

As many as 23 varieties of indigenous and other species of trees were planted during the campaign.

Ramesh Rajamani and Kiran Radhakrishnan, auditors from independent audit firm DNV

GL, assigned to examine the campaign, expressed their satisfaction.

"For any operation where more than 5,000 people are involved, an independent audit firm has to examine the whole process. We have been staying here for the past 3 days and today the plantation drive ended on a successful note," said Ramesh Rajamani.