



STATE OF ENVIRONMENT CHANDIGARH - 2014

State of ENVIRONMENT

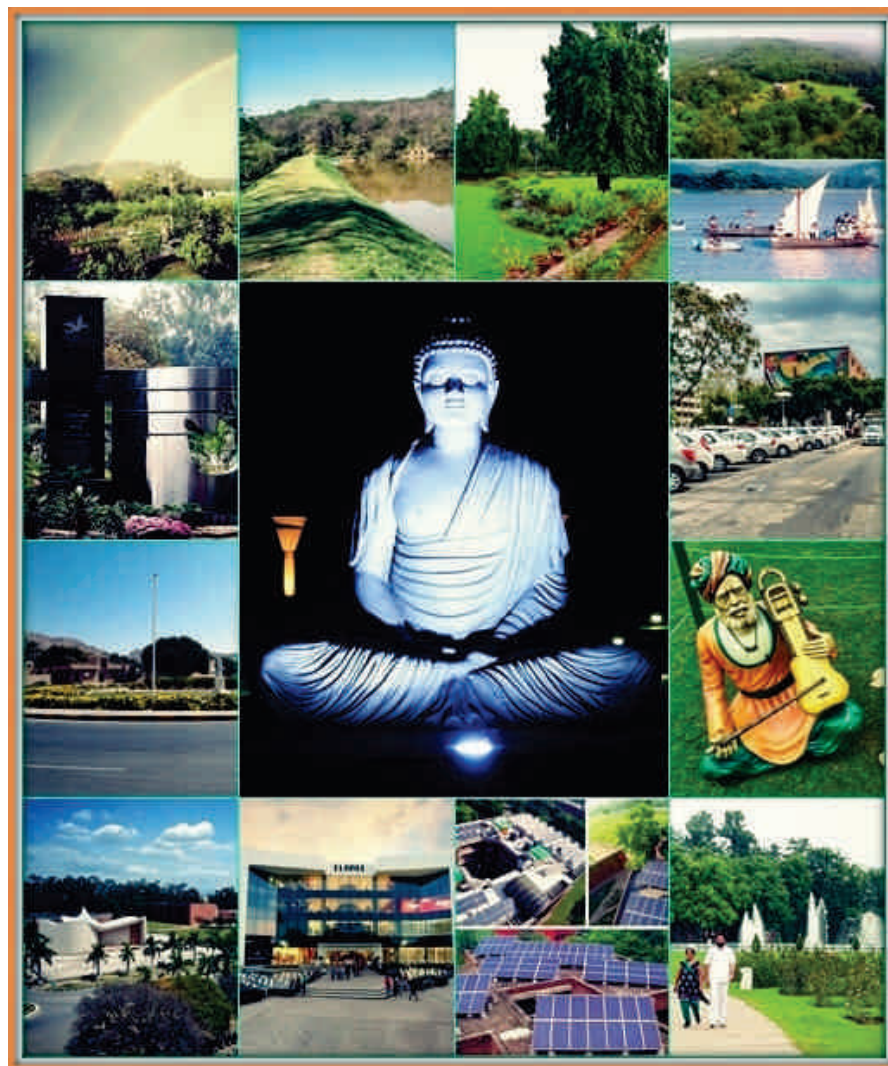
Chandigarh - 2014



ENVIS CENTRE,
Department of Environment,
Chandigarh

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Advisor to Administration

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Message

Raising awareness on the most pressing environmental issues of our time is important than ever. As per the “National Environmental policy of India”, the most secure basis for the conservation of environment is to ensure that people dependent on particular resources, obtain a better livelihood from the process of conservation than from degradation of the resources. Adopting this policy very sincerely and dedicatedly, the Chandigarh Administration has initiated a number of schemes for the sustainable development and prudent conservation of the healthy environment of the city. The Chandigarh Administration is committed to create a clean and healthy environment for its residents, commuters and tourists visiting the “City Beautiful”. At the same time, all of us have to discharge our legal and ethical responsibilities, towards environmental conservation.

In order to ensure dignified life style along with healthy environment for the dwellers, the Chandigarh administration is making continuous efforts to keep the city more cleaner with the latest technology, greener by planting maximum saplings every year, smoke free by banning the smoking publically and slum free by providing home to everyone.

I am glad that ENVIS Centre of The Department of Environment, Chandigarh Administration, U.T., Chandigarh has brought out a report on the “State of Environment of Chandigarh 2014”. This report will be a valuable document for all, concerned with the environment and its development. This will not only help to formulate, execute action plans and strategies but also will improve the state of environment of Chandigarh and the welfare of its people.

I am highly confident that various departments located in Tri-city will make full use of this report for the sustainable development of Chandigarh and its surroundings.


(Vijay Dev)



Vikram Dev Dutt, IAS



Secretary Environment

Chandigarh Administration, Chandigarh

Message

We assume that everything is becoming more efficient, and in an immediate sense that is true; our lives are better in many ways. This improvement though has been gained through an inefficient use of natural resources. To sustain healthy and happy life system, we must need to conserve our nature and Mother earth carefully and intelligently.

Chandigarh is one of the greenest cities of India with more than 38% of the total geographical area covered under green cover. It has many feathers in its cap like one of the best planned cities, wider roads, better solid waste management and high living standards. Chandigarh Administration has taken firm steps to control the projected deterioration in the environment of the city by initiating various environment friendly steps like establishment of botanical gardens, increasing green belts, development & maintenance of new parks and water bodies.

I am glad that ENVIS Centre of The Department of Environment, Chandigarh Administration, U.T., Chandigarh has prepared a report on the “State of Environment of Chandigarh 2014”. This report covers the status and initiatives of the Administration on five key environmental issues including Land, Air, Water, Waste Management and Energy.

I hope that the data presented in the report will help all to reflect on the past actions & achievements of the city and trigger a thought process which will promote affirmative action in future to achieve sustainable development based on sound principles of the environment.


(Vikram Dev Dutt)



Santosh KUMAR, IFS



Director, Department of Environment
Chandigarh Administration, Chandigarh

Message

Chandigarh with 'State-of-the-Art' infrastructure is a well planned city of India. Exotic gardens, green belts, and beautiful road avenues are few of the main attractions of the city. Chandigarh is one of the least polluted cities of India with high dispersion rate of pollutants due to open spaces all over the city.

The present report entitled "State of Environment of Chandigarh - 2014", brought out by the ENVIS Centre of Department of Environment, Chandigarh Administration, brings in notice various issues pertaining to the environment of Chandigarh. Rapid growth of the city in terms of urbanization and commercialization has affected the pattern of land use significantly. There is steep increase in the number of motorized vehicles in the city that adversely affects the quality of air.

Administration has been keen on monitoring and controlling the air quality by taking effective steps such as introduction of battery operated vehicles, ban on dry leaves burning, jam free traffic routes and increasing tree cover. Chandigarh has recorded the highest household coverage of solid waste collection (more than 97 %) in the country.

The present report on the "State of Environment of Chandigarh 2014", is a bench-marking exercise of Chandigarh Administration to provide a clear image of the present environmental status on five key issues and provide collective knowledge to the concerned persons and departments. I am sure that, this State of Environment report will provide the basis for a coherent, sustained and systematic plan of action for improving the quality life of Chandigarh.

(Santosh Kumar)

Acknowledgement

Environment Information System (ENVIS Centre) of the Department of Environment, Chandigarh (U.T.) has taken up the challenging task of bringing out State of Environment Report (SoER-2014) to highlight the major environmental concerns, trends and significant remedial action being undertaken in the city, related to five important environmental issues that include Land Use Pattern, Air Quality, Water, Waste Management and Energy. The present report is next in the series of reports brought out by the department in year 2004, 2008 and 2012.

Government of India initiated the SoE reporting process with all State Governments and Union Territories of India under 10th Five-Year Plan. The process was started in October 2002 and merged with the ENVIS Scheme in 2008-09. It was anticipated that through the SoER's, the State Governments and UT Administrations would be able to integrate environmental dimensions in their social, economic and sustainable development planning.

I am extremely indebted to Honourable, Shri Vijay Dev (IAS), the Advisor to Administration, Chandigarh, for his constant guidance & encouragement for preparing the comprehensive report. His concern for the people and environment of Chandigarh has been a constant source of inspiration for all of us.

I am extremely thankful to Shri Vikram Dev Dutt (IAS), Secretary (Environment & Forests), Chandigarh Administration, for sparing his valuable time and putting in extra efforts in giving final shape to the report.

I express my sincere thanks and gratitude to Shri Santosh Kumar (IFS), Director Environment, Chandigarh Administration, for actively supporting this initiative.

I am highly grateful to ENVIS Centre team comprising of Mr. Mohit Badhwar (Programme Officer), Mr. Abhishek Sraw (Information Officer) & Mr. Surinder Sharma (IT cum Data Assistant), who have compiled, designed and prepared this report.

The co-operation in providing useful inputs by the departments of Engineering UT, Deputy Commissioner's office, Municipal Corporation Chandigarh, Registering & Licensing Authority, Transport, Land Acquisition office, Industries Department, Town Planning, Tourism Department, Economics & Statistics Department and Panjab University is highly appreciated. My thanks are due to all the staff members of Environment Department for their constant support.

With valuable inputs & suggestions from all the department s/agencies, I am sure, this report would prove to be another milestone in making Chandigarh a clean & eco-friendly city.

(P.J.S. Dadhwal)
Additional Director, Department of Environment & ENVIS Coordinator
Chandigarh Administration, Chandigarh