

State of ENVIRONMENT

Chandigarh - 2016



ENVIS CENTRE,
Department of Environment,
Chandigarh

Sponsored by
Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change,
Govt. of India

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V.P Singh Badnore
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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. The survival and well-being of a nation depends on sustainable development, which ensure the social & economic betterment of all interest groups without foreclosing future options. To this end, we must ensure that the demand on the environment from which we derive our sustenance, does not exceed its carrying capacity for the present as well as future generations.

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.

I am glad that ENVIS Centre of The Department of Environment, Chandigarh Administration, U.T., Chandigarh has brought out the report on “State of Environment of Chandigarh-2016”, to provide the baseline environment data of the city, which will aid in the formulation of an appropriate policy for environmental management.

This report 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 congratulate the Department of Environment for bringing out this report. It is my sincere wish that this comprehensive report on the city of Chandigarh will be a benchmark for sound environmental planning in the future and for conserving the environmental resources of the area.

(V.P. Singh Badnore)



Parimal Rai, IAS



Adviser to Administrator
Union Territory, Chandigarh,
U.T., Secretariat, Sector 9,
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Message

The greatest threat to our planet is the belief that “Someone else will save it”. Everyone is aware and threatened of the changing environmental conditions of the planet but very few think about the reasons behind it and initiate actions to control them. In recognition of serious threats posed to the environment by mankind, the Ministry of Environment Forest & Climate Change (Govt. of India) has been taking bold measures to ensure the country's development in a sustainable manner.

Today, Chandigarh has grown beyond expectations in terms of population and development; therefore, the efforts to protect and preserve the environment of the city also need to be exaggerated at the same proportions. Chandigarh's infrastructure designed by Le Corbusier was planned for a population of merely 5 lakh ; but it expanded rapidly over the last three decades and has crossed the figure of 11 lakh . Increasing population leads to the excessive consumption of natural resources, excessive emissions in air, water & soil, along with the over burden of vehicles on the roads. However, the UT administration is consistently working to fulfil the emerging demands & managing pressure on the environmental quality of the city.

I appreciate the sincere efforts of ENVIS Centre of Department of Environment, Chandigarh Administration, U.T. Chandigarh for regularly bringing out the detailed report on State of Environment (SoER) of the city, on biennial basis. I hope that the present addition of SOER-2016 will be a valuable document for all, concerned with the environment, its development and conservation.

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

(Parimal Rai)



Anurag Agarwal, IAS



Secretary Home,
Secretary, Environment & Forests
Secretariat, Sector 9,
(U.T.) 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 40% 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, encouraging solar power, development & maintenance of new parks and water bodies etc.

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 - 2016" detailing the present environmental conditions of the city beautiful and the practices for its conservation. This report covers the status and initiatives of the Administration on six key environmental issues including Air, Water, Forests, Energy, Waste Management and Transportation.

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 help to promote affirmative action in future to achieve sustainable development based on sound principles of the environment management.

(Anurag Agarwal)



Santosh Kumar, IFS



Director,
Department of Environment,
Chandigarh Administration,
(U.T.) Chandigarh.

Message

“There are no passengers on Spaceship Earth. We are all crew”. The true sense of these lines teaches us the only lesson of Protecting our Environment. Sustainable development of any state rests on three main pillars: Economic growth, Social progress and Protection of Environment.

The city beautiful Chandigarh with 'State-of-the-Art' infrastructure, is a well planned city of India. Exotic gardens, green belts, flowering trees, well managed water bodies and beautiful road avenues are few of the main attractions of the city. The high per capita income and modern life style of the people, however, exerting high pressure on the daily energy demands. Taking account of the changing climatic trends nationwide, the Chandigarh Administration is consistently progressing towards harnessing the renewable energy from ultimate power of “Sun Rays” to meet a part of high energy demand. With an aim **to install and generate a targeted mark of 50 MW energy by Solar PVs by 2022**; Chandigarh Administration is well ahead in terms of achievement and total aggregate capacity of 13.50 MWp Grid tied Rooftop Solar plants have been installed and commissioned at 282 Nos. sites in Chandigarh including Private Sectors, as on 31st July, 2017.

The present report entitled “State of Environment of Chandigarh - 2016”, brought out by the ENVIS Centre of Department of Environment, Chandigarh Administration, brings out various issues pertaining to the environment of Chandigarh. It is a bench-marking exercise of Chandigarh Administration to provide a clear image of the present environmental status on 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 and will be useful to all the departments of the Government, researchers and students for environment planning and management.

I would like to thank entire team of ENVIS Centre, Chandigarh for making efforts in preparing and designing an appreciable piece of environmental information in the form of “State of Environment Report”.

(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-2016) 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, 2012, and 2014. 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 thankful to Shri Anurag Agarwal, 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 Er. Mohit Badhwar (Programme Officer), Dr. 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, Chandigarh Pollution Control Committee, 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 departments/agencies, I am sure, this report would prove to be another milestone in making Chandigarh a clean & eco-friendly city.



(P.J.S. Dadhwal)
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Chandigarh Administration, Chandigarh