



ENVIS CENTRE, CHANDIGARH

NewsLetter

P a r y a v a r a n - P a t r a

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Chandigarh State of Environment



EDITORIAL

GREEN CHANDIGARH: FORESTS AND THEIR CONSERVATION

Trees and Forests are mankind's lifeline and are given great importance in our culture, tradition, mythology and legends. From the oxygen that we breath in, the food we eat, to the clothes we wear; we owe it all to the trees and forests. Forests perform variety of functions like land conservation, securing water resources, control of climate change. Forests act as the natural lungs of the earth and work continuously for the purification of air and control of temperature of troposphere. Due to increased biotic pressure, these versatile, renewable resources are under tremendous pressure all around the globe.

As per Indian State Forest Report 2015, the Forest Cover of the country is 701,673 Sq. Km, which constitutes about 21.34 % of the total geographical area of the country. Whereas, the tree cover of the country is estimated to be 92,572 Sq km, which is merely 2.82 % of the geographical area.

However, as far as the scenario of Chandigarh (ISFR 2015) is concerned the city beautiful has shown a remarkable increase in the forest and tree cover of the city. The green cover of the city has been increased from 53 Sq. km to 58.04 Sq. Km. in last two years due to sustained and sincere efforts of all the greening agencies and other stakeholders comprising a total of 40.73% of the total geographic area.



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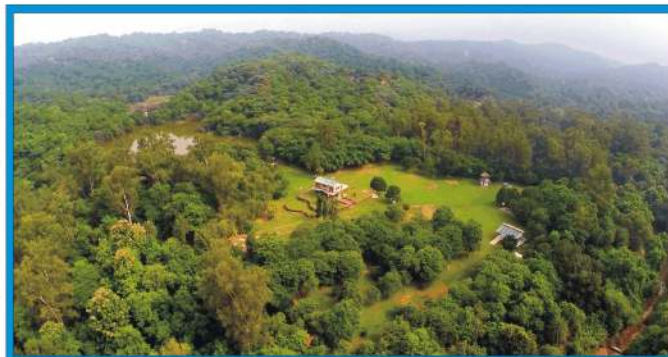
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Statistical Details of Forests and Tree Cover of U.T., Chandigarh

Forest Cover

The term 'Forest Area' (or recorded forest area) generally refers to all the geographic areas recorded as forest in government records. Recorded forest areas largely comprises Reserved Forests (RF) and Protected Forests (PF), which have been constituted under the provisions of Indian Forest Act, 1927.

The term 'Forest Cover' as used in the 'SFR' refers to all lands more than one hectare in area, having a tree canopy density of more than 10%.



Tree Cover

Tree Cover is defined as tree patches outside recorded forest areas exclusive of forest cover and less than the minimum map-able area of one hectare. The term refers to all plantation that is present between the residential houses, roadsides, parks, gardens and orchards.

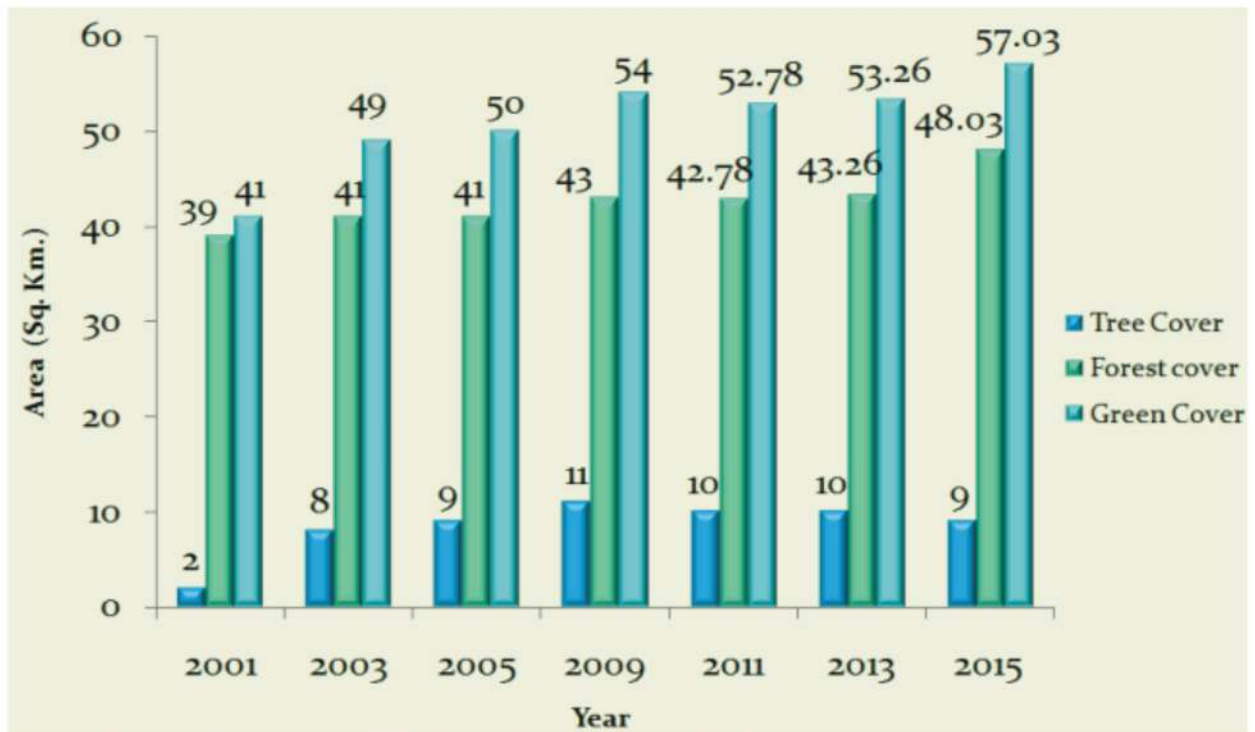
India's National Forest Policy aims at maintaining 33 percent of country's geographical area under forest and tree cover.

SFR Report of FSI (km ²)	Forests Cover as per SFR Report (km ²)	Tree Cover as per SFR Report (km ²)	Green Cover as per Chandigarh Administration (km ²)	Green Cover % of total Geographical area (140 km) as per Chandigarh Administration
1997	07	-	7+26* = 33	23.5
1999	07	-	7+26* = 33	23.5
2001	13	02	13+2+26* = 41	26
2003	15	08	15+8+26* = 49	35
2005	15	09	15+9+26* = 50	35.7
2009	17	11	17+11+26* = 54	38.8
2011	16.78	10	16.78+10+26* = 52.78	37.7
2013	17.26	10	17.26+10+26* = 53.26	38.04
2015	22.03	09	22.03+09+26 = 57.03	40.73

* The 26 Sq Km is of Sukhna WL Sanctuary, the area vests with the Union Territory of Chandigarh as per Section 48(5) Read with Schedule XIII of Punjab (Reorganization) Act 1966. The ownership as per revenue record is with Haryana & Punjab. To make requisite entry in the revenue record process is under progress.

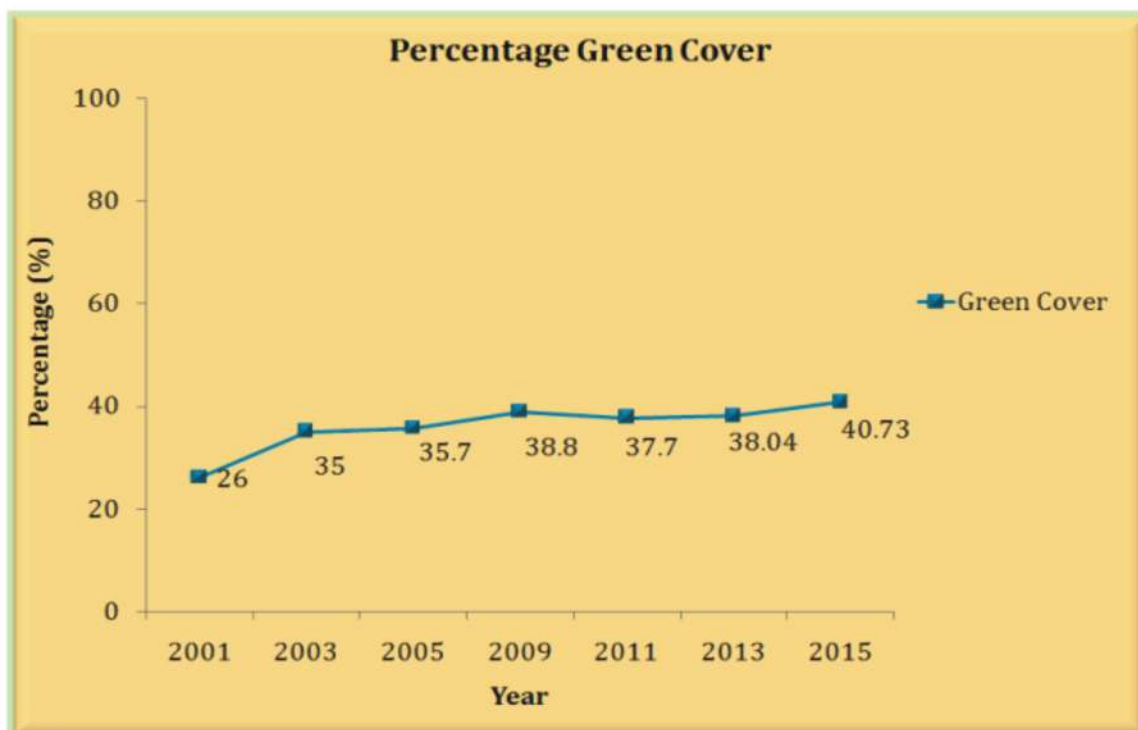
Source: India State of Forest Reports (ISFR) 1997,1999,2001,2003,2005,2009,2011,2013,2015

Year-wise Progress in the Green Cover (Forests & Tree Cover) of U.T. Chandigarh



Source: India State of Forest Reports (ISFR) 2001, 2003, 2005, 2009, 2011, 2013, 2015

Trend of Increase in Green Cover of UT Chandigarh (% of Total geographical area)



Source: India State of Forest Reports (ISFR) 2001, 2003, 2005, 2009, 2011, 2013, 2015

Classification of Forest Area

Total forest area in U.T. Chandigarh is 3295.77 hectares as shown in the following table:-

Sr.No.	Unclassed Forest	Area in hectares
1.	Lake Reserved forests	48.33
2.	Sukhna Choe Reserved forests	45.23
3.	Patiala-ki-Rao forests	113.18
	Total	206.74
Sr.No.	Compensatory Afforestation Sites	Area in hectares
1.	Maloya (Non Forest land received in lieu of diverted forest land)	6.76
2.	Sarangpur (Non Forest land received in lieu of diverted forest land)	1.34
	Total	8.10
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Achievements and Awards earned for Greening Chandigarh

- For outstanding work in increasing forest & tree cover in the city, Union Territory of Chandigarh was presented the prestigious “**Indira Priyadarshini Vriksha Mitra (IPVM) Award**” for the year 2010 by Director General (Forests) & Special Secretary, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Govt. of India and Award money of Rupees Five lakh.
- As per Planning Commissions Environmental performance index (PC-EPI) 2012, the Forest of UT Chandigarh has been ranked No. 1. The cumulative Environmental Performance Index (EPI) is a measure of the environmental well being of the States, i.e., the States with a score of 1 are characterized by cleaner environment, adherence to environmental standards including implementation of legislation and institutional mechanisms and efforts towards Natural resource conservation. With a EPI score of 0.8123, 0.7316, 0.7270, 0.7149 and 0.7147 Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Chandigarh, Sikkim and Andhra Pradesh in that order have been ranked as the best performing States respectively.
- As per State Forest Report 2015 published by Forest Survey of India (FSI), there is an increase of Forest cover by 13.8%.

Greening Chandigarh Action Plan 2015-16

S.N	Name of Activities	Targets (in Numbers)	Achievement
1	Plantation	205000	248338
2	Free Distribution of Seedlings	40000	67137
3	Distribution of Fruit and Ornamental Tree species	40000	48793

Source: Greening Chandigarh Action Plan 2016-17

Plantation Target For 2016-17

S.N	Department/Organization	Saplings to be planted (in Nos.)	Seed Sowing in Patches
1	Forest Department, U.T., Chandigarh	50000	300000
2	Horticulture Division, Municipal Corporation, Chandigarh Administration	40000	--
3	Horticulture Division, Engineering Department, Chandigarh Administration	20000	--
4	Schools, Colleges, Resident Welfare Associations, Market Association, NGO's, Rotary Clubs, Lion's Club, Farmers, Individuals and Govt. Organizations.	110000	--
Total:		220000	300000

Source: Greening Chandigarh Action Plan 2016-17

S. No.	Main Schemes and Activities of the Administration
1	Forest Conservation & Development The main Activities carried out under these schemes are to reduce the silt in-flow to Sukhna Lake by carrying out various kinds of Soil Conservation works like Construction of Silt Retention Dams, Check Dams, Spur/Revetments/ Desiltation of Dams, Construction of Grade Stabilizer, Planting of Live hedge and opening of Choe beds etc.
2	Plantation Scheme(Hilly Catchment) The main Activities carried out under these schemes is to provide a carpet of vegetation in open patches/hill tops to reduce soil erosion by planting/sowing of seeds. Plantations activities are also being done in the newly acquired land. The works like plantation, patch-sowing & installation of chain link fencing etc. are being undertaken under this schemes.
3	Greening of City beautiful The main Activities carried out under this scheme is to raise plantation in and around city to provide pollution free environment to the people of the city beautiful. Seedlings are being supplied to the institutions/ NGO's & public free of cost from Nurseries of Forest Dept.
4	Communication & Building The main Activities carried out under this scheme is to provide easy access to the forest area for the effective check on forest offences, control on Forest Fires, maintenance works and to maintain the staff quarters and Rest house/Inspection hut, jeepable roads and causeway etc.
5	Preservation of wildlife The main Activities carried out under this scheme is to protect, preserve and propagate the wildlife of the area by creating & improving natural habitats and promoting water facilities by constructing water holes, provision of salt licks etc.
6	Acquisition of Land The main Activities carried out under this scheme is to acquire land for Wildlife Corridor, payment of enhancement of compensation for acquisition of land etc.
7	Forestry Research, Extension & Training The main Activities carried out under this scheme to generate more awareness among masses about Forest & Wildlife, publication of various Brochures, Books , Celebration of Wetland Day, Earth Day, World Environment Day, Vannahotsav and Wildlife Week etc.
8	Establishment of Botanical Garden The main Activities carried out under this scheme is to conduct studies on the diversity of plant life occurring in a region/ country and research, public sensitization and Education, creating awareness among the school children's about Medicinal Plant, Solar System, Aquatic Plants etc.





Dear Information Seeker,

ENVIS CENTRE, Chandigarh furnishes you with the services to collect and disseminate information related to environment of Chandigarh. To share information with us you are requested to fill up the form given below.

Your feedback is valuable to us and will be highly appreciated



■ Name _____
 ■ Designation _____
 ■ Department _____
 ■ Address _____
 _____ City _____
 ■ State _____ Country _____ Pin _____
 ■ Phone _____ Fax _____
 ■ Email _____

Your views on scope of improvement :

Interest Area

I would like to have information on following :



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(Project Coordinator)

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(Programme Officer)

Mr. Abhishek Sraw
(Information Officer)

Mr. Surinder Sharma
(I.T. Assistant)

S.No.**Restricted Activities**

1	Felling of Trees
2	Drastic change of land use pattern & Agriculture Systems
3	Erection of Electric cables
4	Construction and widening of Roads
5	Movement of Vehicular traffic at night
6	Use and Protection of hill slopes and river banks
7	Air and vehicular pollution
8	Sign Board and Hoardings
9	Construction of all types of buildings and houses

S. No.**Activities Prohibited**

1	Commercial Mining
2	Commercial use of Firewood
3	Setting of Saw Mills
4	Setting of Heavy Industries causing Pollution (Water, Air, Soil, Noise, etc.)
5	Establishment of Hotels & Resorts
6	Commercial use of natural water resources including ground water harvesting
7	Establishment of Hydro-electric power projects
8	Fencing of premises of Hotels & lodges
9	Use of Polythene bags
10	Introduction of Invasive Alien Species
11	Use or production of any hazardous substance
12	Discharge of effluents and solid wastes in natural water bodies or terrestrial area
13	Erection of Mobile Tower

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To,

Note : While every care has been taken in compilation of the information available for this newsletter. However, readers must make thorough confirmation/enquiries at their own level before acting upon any data/information provided to the readers. Any discrepancy brought in the notice of ENVIS CENTRE, Chandigarh will be highly appreciated.

