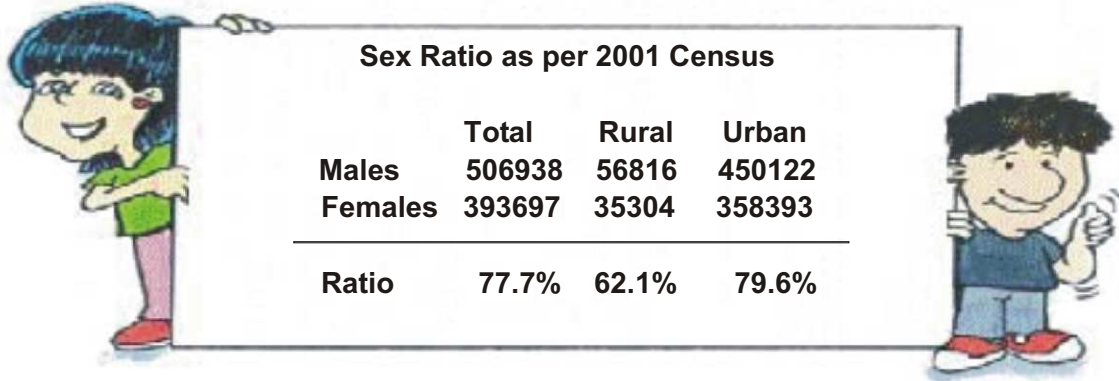




ENVIS CENTRE, CHANDIGARH
NewsLetter
 P a r y a v a r a n P a t r a

Chandigarh
 State of Environment

Chandigarh Statistics



Sex Ratio as per 2001 Census			
	Total	Rural	Urban
Males	506938	56816	450122
Females	393697	35304	358393
Ratio	77.7%	62.1%	79.6%

GREEN STATUS OF CITY BEAUTIFUL YEAR 2006-07

Chandigarh the city beautiful is characterized as 'clean & green city'. It is topping the country in number of trees per hectares of culturable non- forest area. As per the latest report of the Forest Survey of India on the State of Forest Report -2003 (SFR-2003), Chandigarh has 33.6 trees per hectares of the culturable non-forest area, which is highest in the country. The total geographical area of U.T. Chandigarh including Sukhna Wildlife Sanctuary is 140 sq. kms As per SFR-2003, the forest cover of Chandigarh has increased by 7.5 sq. kms and the tree cover has increased by 6 sq. kms in comparison to the previous assessment (SFR-2001). Thus, the total forest cover in Chandigarh as per SFR-2003 is 42 sq. Kms and total tree cover is 8 sq.kms. Thus, the total green cover of Chandigarh is 50 sq. kms which constitutes 35.7% of its total geographical area. As per SFR-2001, the total green cover of Chandigarh was 26% which has now been increased to 35.7% of its geographical area.

There is perceptible increase in the quality of forest cover also in Sukhna Wildlife Sanctuary and other Reserve Forests. The role of Greening Departments like Forest Department, Horticulture Wings of Municipal Corporation and Engineering Department, Central Public Works Department etc. along with the support of environmental NGOs, Eco Clubs in the Schools and Colleges and other Government organizations, Resident Welfare Associations have played a vital role in increasing the green cover of Chandigarh.

Source: Ishwar Singh (IFS), DCF & Chief Wildlife Warden, U.T. Chandigarh

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Paryavaran Patra

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 Deptt. Of Environment
 Chandigarh

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GREEN STATUS OF CITY BEAUTIFUL YEAR 2006-07

Department/Organization	No. Of Saplings		
	Targets	Achievement	
Forest Department, Chandigarh Administration	60,000	68,590	
Municipal Corporation, Chandigarh	13,420	17,589	
Horticulture Division, Engineering Deptt., Chandigarh	13,785	14,869	
Free distribution of saplings by Forest Department to Educational Institutions, Religious Institutions, NGO's, Resident Welfare Associations and others etc.	12,000	19,098	
Distribution/selling of saplings at subsidized rates by Horticulture Wings of Municipal Corporation and Engineering Department to individuals, institutions etc.	3,000	41,209	
ACTIVITIES GALLERY	TOTAL:	1,02,205	1,61,355



Gen. S.F.Rodrigues, Administrator Chandigarh planting saplings



Mr.Lalit Sharma Advisor to Administrator releasing the SOER-2004 Report



Gen. S.F.Rodrigues, Administrator Chandigarh inaugurating Green Belt



Mr.Ishwar Singh, Director (Deptt. of Environment & Forest, Chandigarh) planting saplings.



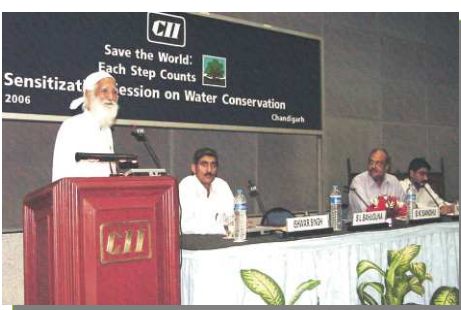
Sahaj Safai Kendra



Khad Banao Kendra



Shri B.L.Joshi Lt. Governor, Delhi visiting Herbal Garden Chandigarh



CHIPKO movement founder Mr.S.L.Bahuguna at Chandigarh



Mr. S.K.Sandhu Finance Secretary inaugurating Silt Retention Dam

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AMBIENT AIR QUALITY OF CHANDIGARH DURING DIWALI FESTIVAL 2006

Chandigarh Pollution Control Committee monitored Ambient air quality and noise levels at 7 different locations in Chandigarh i.e. Sector – 9, Sector – 29, Sector – 22, Punjab University, Village – Kaimbwala Manimajra, Village - Kajheri

The results of the monitoring and the highlights of the analysis are as below:-



Noise Levels as monitored by CPCC



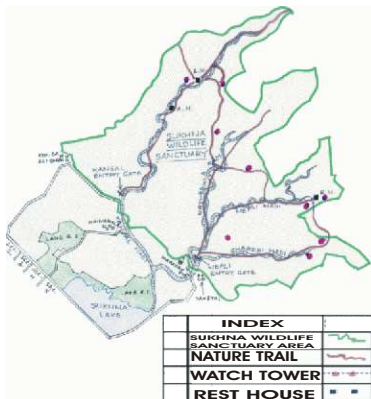
1. SO₂ & NO_x levels are within limits at all the locations.
2. SO₂ levels at all the locations are lower than the Previous year.
3. NO_x levels at all the locations are higher than the previous year.
4. SPM level except at village Kaimbwala exceeded the limits at all the locations.
5. SPM levels at all locations are lower than the previous year.
6. Sound levels exceeded the limits at all the locations.
7. Sound levels at all the locations except at Sec-29 are higher than the previous year.

[Source: Chandigarh Pollution Control Committee, U.T.Chandigarh]



Lantana (Weed) Eradication : A Success Story

Chandigarh spreading 140 sq.kms is having 34.43 sq.kms. of forest area under Sukhna Wildlife Sanctuary, reserve forests, un-classed forests, botanical garden and plantations.



Sr. No.	Name of Forest	Area in Hact.
1.	Sukhna Wildlife Sanctuary	2611
2.	Lake Reserve Forests	120
3.	Sukhna Choe Reserve Forests	400
4.	Patiali-ki-Rao Forests	140
5.	Botanical Garden	72
6.	Plantations	100
	Total	3443

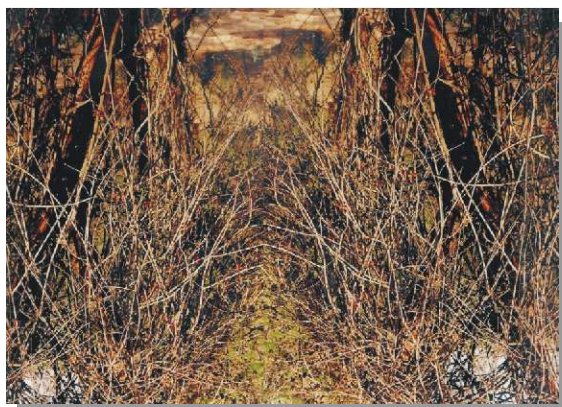
Lantana Camara: a noxious weed in Chandigarh

Lantana posed a serious threat to the Biodiversity of Chandigarh. Lantana camara is one of most common and worst weeds which is perhaps the most obnoxious in the Shivalik hills. Basically a native of tropical central America it was introduced in India from Australia around 1810 A.D. as an ornamental garden plant. Lantana forces a wide variety of endemic medicinal herbs, shrubs and trees to go extinct.



Heavy infestation of Lantana in Sukhna Wildlife Sanctuary

Due to reduction in floral biodiversity caused by heavy infestation of lantana in wildlife sanctuary, there was a decline in faunal biodiversity as well. It is not palatable for wild animals. It is poisonous and many children in Africa were reported killed after consuming its berries. It is a strong ALLELOPATHIC plant. It releases certain toxic compounds in the environment which in turn adversely affect the neighboring vegetation and tree growth. It adversely affects the undergrowth too, particularly Bhabbar and other fodder grasses which are good soil binders.



Lantana climber killing trees like Acacia catechu [Khair], Butea monosperma [Dhak] and Zizyphus species by infesting them.



Lantana catches fire [shown in photo] very quickly and thus poses a great fire threat to Wildlife Sanctuary and other forest areas.



Lantana Camara. -Management Procedures

In Chandigarh wild Growth of Lantana had practically choked all natural regeneration, there was heavy proliferation of various species of Lantana which was invading and ill-affecting the bio-diversity of the indigenous flora of Sukhna Wildlife Sanctuary and other Forests. In March, 2001, Forests & Wildlife Department of Chandigarh Administration chalked out a 5 year plan to make the forests of Chandigarh including Sukhna Wildlife Sanctuary, free from lantana.

A three- pronged strategy was adopted:-

A) Removal of the cause of weed infestation :-

- * Lantana weed was removed from infested areas before fruiting and seeding.
- * There was no thinning & clear felling of trees in infestation areas.

B) Physical removal of lantana :-

- * Lantana was uprooted physically.
- * Removal was planned in a phased manner (from 2001 to 2006) to avoid habitat loss.
- * Uprooting was planned in successive 3 years at the same site to ensure non-recurrence of lantana.

C) Encouraging Natural regeneration & enrichment planting

- * Natural regeneration of indigenous species was to be encouraged by seed dispersal.
- * Plantation of indigenous fruit species carried out.



Physical removal of lantana by manual uprooting had costed Rs. 5000/- to Rs.6000/- per hectare as the wage rates in U.T. Chandigarh were quite high. The success rate [Non-occurrence of lantana] is about 80% and it requires at least two successive clearings of the weed.



In the photographs the natural regeneration of indigenous species like Adhatoda vasica [Vansa], Muraya cognii [Kari patta], Butea monosperma [Dhak], Tinospora cordifolia [giloe], Abrus Precatorius [Ratti]. have covered the land vacated by the removal of lantana. This prevented further infestation of lantana.



Lantana has been eradicated completely from the forests of U. T Chandigarh. Thus Chandigarh is the only U.T among the all states and U.T's which is completely free from Lantana weed.

Results Achieved :-

- Restoration of floral and faunal biodiversity.
- Improvement of wildlife habitat.
- Restoration of palatable grasses & shrubs.
- Minimization of fire hazard in forests. For the last 5 years, there was no forest fire in U.T.



ENVIRONMENT Through Our Eyes

Chandigarh, a capital of two states is famous for its architecture and lush green, clean and healthy environment. Chandigarh not only enjoys the nature's wonder like foothills of Shivalik, Himalaya but also man made wonder like Sukhna Lake, Rock Garden etc. Strengthening and supporting health of residents and environment of Chandigarh, Chandigarh Administration has come up with more of projects like Botanical Garden and Herbal Garden etc. People of Chandigarh are on a verge to get one more Lake in Botanical Garden also that is situated right into the heart of nature surrounded by Indian Ayurveda. This fills my heart with joy promising that we are committed to the best of our efforts for the best of residents of Chandigarh.

Source: Additional Director, Department of Environment, U.T. Chandigarh

ENVIRONMENTAL RELATED ISSUES (State of Agriculture in Chandigarh)

Out of a total area of 114Sq.Kms in Chandigarh, the cultivated area is now reduced to 1250 hectares from 5441 hectares in 1966 when U.T. was formed. The farmers keep a large number of milch cattle because of the heavy consumption of milk with in Chandigarh, and for this reason, they have taken to fodder cultivation on large scale. Consequently, the area under cultivation of cash crops has reduced to negligible and fodder has become the main crop in the Union Territory. Selling of the milk has become the main occupation of farmers in Chandigarh. As the crop of fodder hardly requires any pesticides therefore plenty of Farm Yard Manure (Desi khad) is available with them and they prefer to apply Farm Yard Manure in their crops instead of using Chemical Fertilizer. Therefore the consumption of fertilizer is also decreasing day by day in Union Territory Chandigarh.

As per the method suggested in the package of practice published by the Punjab Agriculture University Ludhiana to minimize residual toxicity to crops sown after these crops, the pesticides namely Butachlor 50EC and Atrataf 50WP is used to control weeds in paddy and maize crops. Similarly, Isoproturon 75WP is being used to control Phalaris Minor (Weed) in feed crop. No agriculture produce is being sold by the farmers rather it is used by the farmers / cattle themselves in the Union Territory, who are much aware of the adverse affect of the pesticides as they are regularly taught by the field staff of the Agriculture Department and moreover, since whole of the produce is being consumed by the farmers and their cattle, therefore they avoid using pesticides.

It has also been noticed that because of the continuous reduction of the cultivable area and decreasing the sale of pesticides, the dealers of the pesticides are shifting to other businesses of selling seeds, seedlings, plants, agriculture tools and doing pest control operations. The city residents purchase small quantity of pesticides for use in their kitchen gardens especially for flower beds.

Source: Agriculture Officer, U.T. Chandigarh.

POWER in Chandigarh

Chandigarh has no generation of its own & to meet with the requirement of Power, the same is being purchased from BBMB, NTPC, NHPC, NPCIL & Nathpa Jhakri Power Stations. At the time of creation of U.T. of Chandigarh the peak demand was only 13 MW & the Power requirement was of the order of 1.38 LU per day. The power requirement in the city on account of development of city & population growth has risen to such extent that average power requirement of UT Chandigarh has touched 48 LU / day and the peak demand has been recorded 272 MW during summer of 2006. In order to meet with the Power demand & to combat the Power crisis in UT Chandigarh the alternative left is to increase its availability. Accordingly, the Chd. Admn. has signed power purchase agreements time to time with various Central generating companies to meet with its future Power requirements.

The purchase of Power by U T Chandigarh from various generating companies does not affect the Environment of U T Chandigarh since Chandigarh Electy. Deptt. only purchases the power from different sources and selsl the same to the respective consumers of the city.

Source: Superintending Engineer, Elect, 'OP' Circle, U.T. Chandigarh





Response Centre Feedback Form

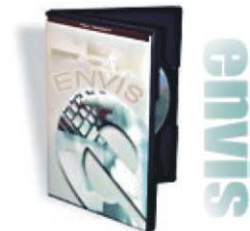


YES ! I WANT TO KNOW
ABOUT ENVIS CHANDIGARH
Chandigarhenvis



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 :

The diagram shows a circular process with three blue arrows forming a clockwise cycle. The top arrow is labeled 'Ask', the right arrow is labeled 'Act', and the left arrow is labeled 'Analyze'. In the center of the cycle is a globe with the text 'Feedback Culture' overlaid on it.

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At the End of...



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(Project Coordinator)

Er. Arun Bansal
(Information Officer)

Mr. Shiven Chaudhary
(Web Assistant)

Mr. Surinder Kumar
(Data Entry Operator)

SUGGESTION TO PROTECT ENVIRONMENT

1. Do not keep the water running while brushing your teeth.
2. Put a brick or a full (capped) bottle of water into your Water Closet(flush tank). This will decrease the quantity of water used per flush.
3. Carry own ceramic mug to school to avoid using paper or plastic cups.
4. Use cloth shopping bags. Never plastic!
5. Share your books and magazines with friends instead of buying new ones.
6. If the family uses a washing machine, make sure it contains a full load of clothes. The amount of energy utilized is the same.
7. Follow the four Rs: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Refuse(to consume too much).

Quotes

"We won't have a society if we destroy the environment." - Margaret Mead

"In the end, our society will be defined not only by what we create, but by what we refuse to destroy."
- John C. Sawhill

"I'd put my money on the sun and solar energy. What a source of power! I hope we don't have to wait till oil and coal run out before we tackle that." - Thomas Edison

"Now I see the secret of the making of the best persons; it is to grow in the open air and eat and sleep with the Earth"- Walt Whitman

"You must be the change you wish to see in the world." - M. Gandhi

www.solarhaven.org/Quotes.htm

"The ultimate test of man's conscience may be his willingness to sacrifice something today for future generations whose words of thanks will not be heard."

— Gaylord Nelson former governor of Wisconsin, co-founder of Earth Day

www.grinningplanet.com/6001/environmental-quotes.htm

USEFUL ENVIRONMENTAL WEB LINKS

www.eicinformaton.org

www.cleantechindia.com

www.indiafocus.indiainfo.com

www.envirolink.org

www.cseindia.org

www.rainwaterharvesting.orgw

www.renewingindia.org

www.indiatogether.org/environment/

www.iloveindia.com

www.saveourevironment.org/

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To,

Book Post

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.

