Issue:01 [January 2026]

CPCC BULLETIN

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF CPCC WHICH IS A PLATFORM TO KNOW THE ENVIRONMENT WE ARE LIVING IN.

Chandigarh Pollution Control Committee

संदेश

श्री गुलाब चंद कटारिया
प्रशासक, चंडीगढ़ प्रशासन

मुझे यह जानकर हार्दिक प्रसन्नता हो रही है कि चंडीगढ़ प्रदूषण नियंत्रण समिति (CPCC) द्वारा त्रैमासिक पत्रिका की शुरुआत की गई है। यह पहल पर्यावरणीय जागरूकता बढ़ाने तथा पर्यावरण से संबंधित सूचनाओं के प्रभावी प्रसार की दिशा में एक महत्वपूर्ण कदम है।

यह पत्रिका न केवल पर्यावरणीय विषयों पर जागरूकता बढ़ाने का माध्यम बनेगी, बल्कि नीति, प्रयासों एवं उपलब्धियों को साझा करने हेतु एक प्रभावी मंच के रूप में भी अपनी महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाएगी।

स्वच्छ वायु, स्वच्छ जल तथा प्राकृतिक संसाधनों का संरक्षण एक सुरक्षित और रहने योग्य शहर बनाने के लिए जरूरी है, और यह चंडीगढ़ प्रशासन की सतत शहरी विकास नीति का एक महत्वपूर्ण हिस्सा है। इसे सुनिश्चित करने में चंडीगढ़ प्रदूषण नियंत्रण समिति द्वारा वैज्ञानिक नियमों, प्रभावी उपायों तथा नागरिकों की सहभागिता के माध्यम से निरंतर प्रयास किए जा रहे हैं।

समिति द्वारा किए जा रहे ये प्रयास अत्यंत प्रशंसनीय हैं। मुझे पूर्ण विश्वास है कि यह प्रकाशन पर्यावरण संरक्षण के उद्देश्य को सुदृढ़ करने में उल्लेखनीय योगदान देगा। इस त्रैमासिक पत्रिका की सफलता के लिए मैं चंडीगढ़ प्रदूषण नियंत्रण समिति को अपनी हार्दिक शुभकामनाएँ देता हूँ।

(गुलाब चंद कटारिया)

"पर्यावरण संरक्षण – संस्थानों, उद्योगों और नागरिकों की सामूहिक जिम्मेदारी है।"

MESSAGE

Shri. H. Rajesh Prasad, IAS
Chief Secretary,
Chandigarh Administration

The inaugural issue of the Quarterly Newsletter of the Chandigarh Pollution Control Committee (CPCC) brings out as part of the Administration's sustained efforts to strengthen environmental governance and ensure effective implementation of policies for sustainable urban development.

Focused action on air and water quality management, waste reduction, and resource efficiency remains central to Chandigarh's sustainable development agenda. CPCC plays a key role in translating national policies into effective local implementation through robust monitoring, regulation, and citizen engagement.

Efforts of CPCC are appreciable and I am confident that the quarterly newsletter will provide a clear and effective platform to share environmental status, policy actions, progress, and best practices, supporting a cleaner, healthier, and more resilient Chandigarh.

"We must change our lifestyle and move towards Sustainable Development."

MESSAGE

Mandip Singh Brar, IAS
Chairperson, CPCC

I am pleased to present the inaugural edition of the Quarterly Newsletter of the CPCC. This publication has been introduced as an important institutional communication platform to disseminate authentic and timely information on the environmental status of the city, regulatory initiatives, and the measures being undertaken for the protection and improvement of the environment.

The introduction of this newsletter reflects the CPCC's commitment to strengthening transparency, coordination, and constructive engagement among line departments, institutions, stakeholders, and the citizens of Chandigarh. Recognizing that environmental conservation is a shared responsibility, this initiative aims to enhance public awareness, promote informed participation, and encourage collective accountability in matters relating to air quality management, water pollution control, and scientific waste management.

I am confident that this Quarterly Newsletter will serve as an effective and enduring interface between CPCC and the public, facilitating knowledge dissemination, awareness, and constructive public participation. I look forward to the continued cooperation and support of all stakeholders in our collective endeavour to preserve the environmental balance, ecological integrity, and natural beauty of Chandigarh for the benefit of present and future generations.

"पर्यावरण की रक्षा एक दिन का कार्य नहीं,
इसे जीवनशैली बनाना होगा।"

MESSAGE

Saurabh Kumar, IFS
Member Secretary, CPCC

I am delighted to share with you the inaugural issue of the Quarterly Newsletter of the Chandigarh Pollution Control Committee (CPCC). This publication has been envisioned as a window into the environmental landscape of our city—a space where we bring you updates, insights, and initiatives that shape the quality of the environment we are living in.

As the implementing arm of environmental regulations and monitoring in Chandigarh, CPCC is committed to strengthening systems that promote transparency, accuracy and timely action. Over the past quarter, we have intensified our efforts in real-time monitoring of air and water quality, expanded field inspections and collaborated closely with government departments, industries, institutions, and community stakeholders. These steps have enabled us to respond more effectively to environmental concerns while also promoting sustainable practices at the grassroots level.

Our goal with this newsletter is to provide citizens with straightforward, valuable and ready-to-use information that encourages responsible environmental participation. Whether it is understanding pollution trends, learning about waste management practices, or getting acquainted with new environmental initiatives, we hope this platform becomes a valuable resource for every reader.

This newsletter covers the information on environmental monitoring, regulatory compliances, awareness drives, community engagements, achievements of CPCC, best practices, new initiatives undertaken, special reports on env. matters etc.

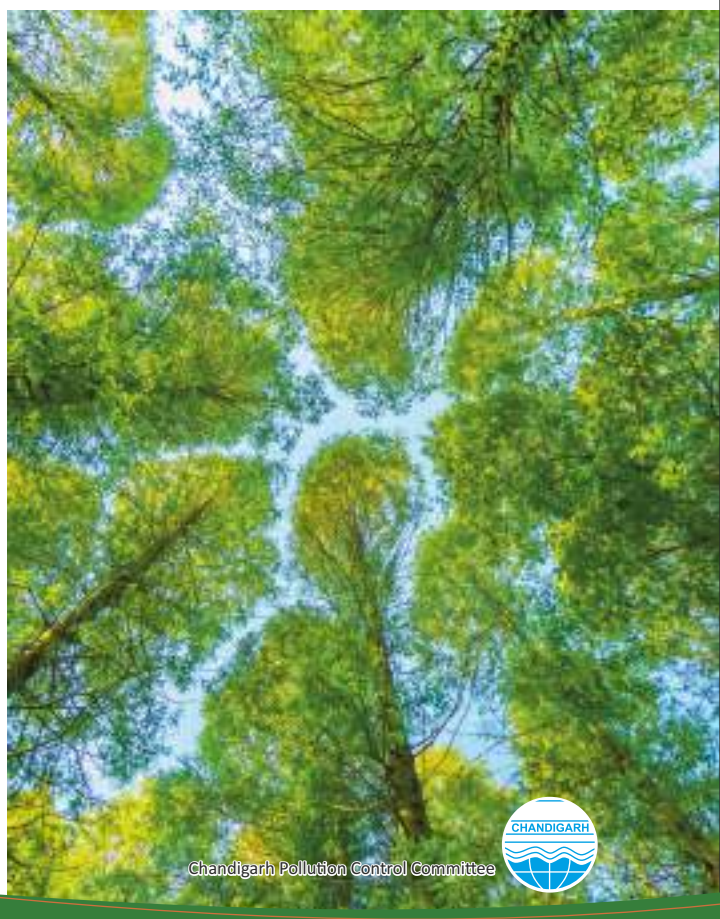
> "The only way forward, if we are going to improve the quality of the environment is to get everybody involved."

Chandigarh's environment is a shared treasure and its protection requires collective awareness and participation. I invite each of you to use this newsletter as a tool for learning, engagement and environmental stewardship. Together, we can ensure that Chandigarh continues to stand out as a model of clean, green, and sustainable urban living.

ABOUT US

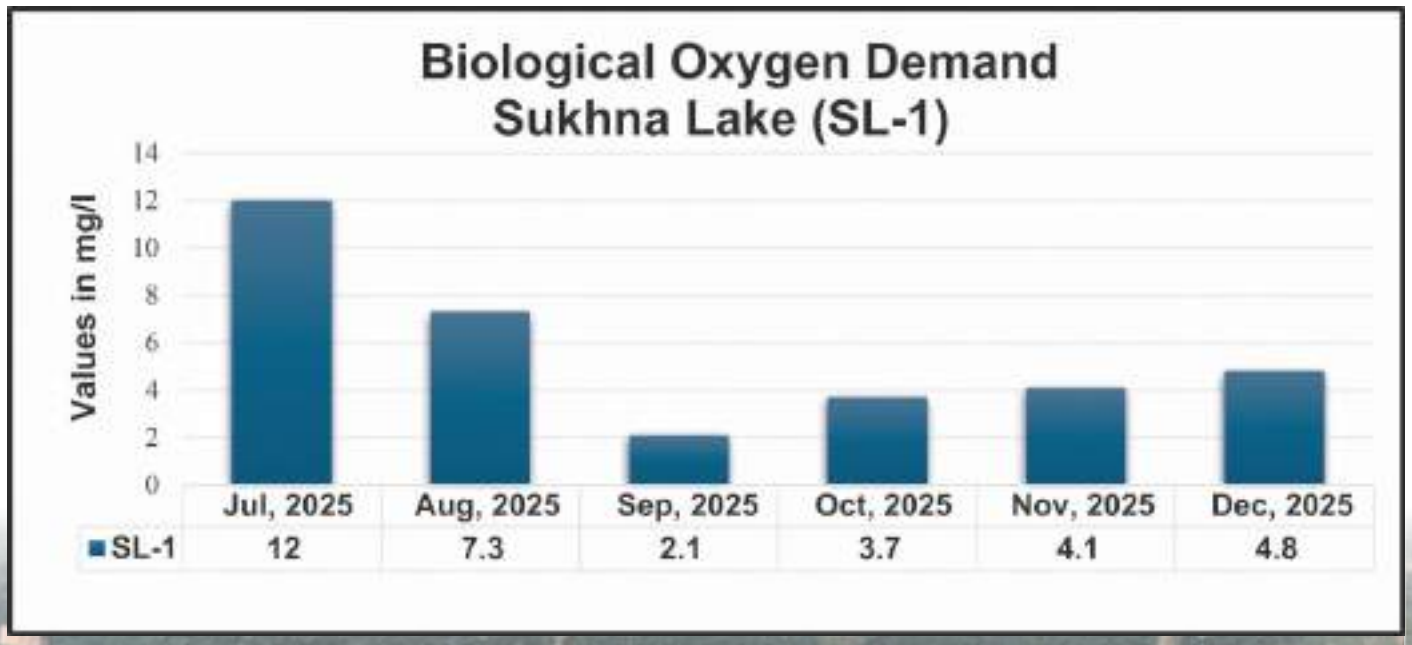
The Chandigarh Pollution Control Committee constituted under the provision of Section 4(4) of Water Act, 1974 and section 6 of Air Act, 1981 acts as a regulatory body for implementation of various Pollution Control Acts and Rules in Union Territory of Chandigarh. It is responsible for monitoring, controlling, and preventing environmental pollution in the Union Territory of Chandigarh. Functioning under the provisions of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, CPCC plays a crucial role in ensuring compliance with environmental laws and promoting sustainable development. Its activities include monitoring air and water quality, granting consent for establishment and operation of industries, managing hazardous waste, and raising public awareness about environmental conservation. The Committee also implements various national and regional programs in collaboration with the Central Pollution Control Board, with a focus on improving the city's environmental standards and addressing emerging challenges related to pollution.

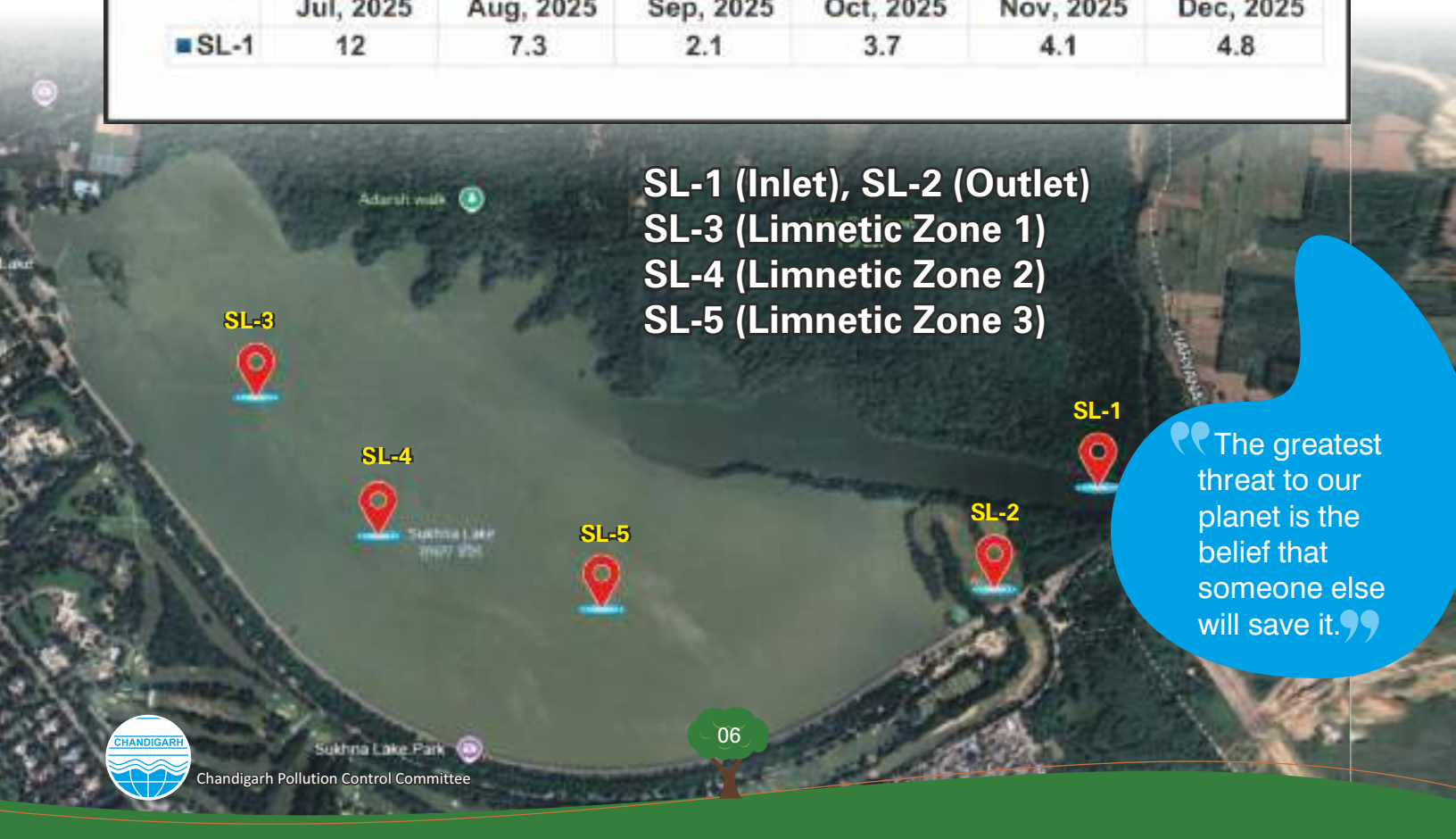
"स्वच्छता और पर्यावरण संरक्षण के लिए उठाया गया छोटा कदम भी बड़ा बदलाव ला सकता है।"



Environmental Monitoring

In addition to its regulatory and advisory functions, Chandigarh Pollution Control Committee (CPCC) conducts systematic and scientifically structured monitoring of environmental quality parameters across multiple environmental media. Regular monitoring is undertaken for ambient air quality, surface and ground water, noise levels, and environmental indicators in lakes, choes, and sewage treatment plants (STPs), in accordance with prescribed national standards and protocols. The monitoring programme includes assessment of physical, chemical, and biological parameters to evaluate pollution loads, compliance status, and temporal trends. The data generated through this comprehensive monitoring framework supports regulatory oversight, environmental planning, and evidence-based decision-making for effective pollution prevention and sustainable environmental management in Chandigarh.



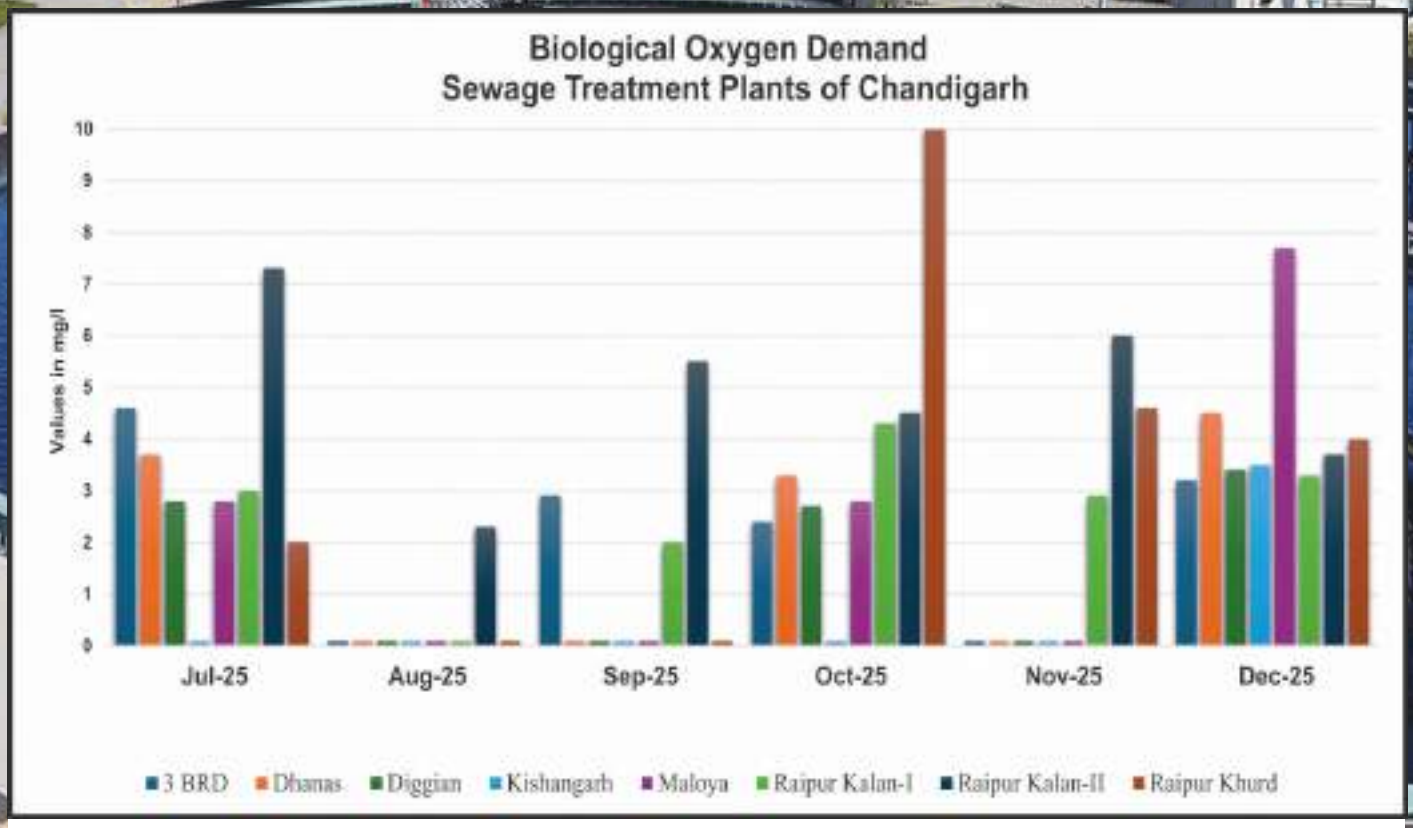


"The greatest threat to our planet is the belief that someone else will save it."

"Water is the driving force of all nature, so preserve water."

Environmental Monitoring

Water
Sewage Treatment Plants



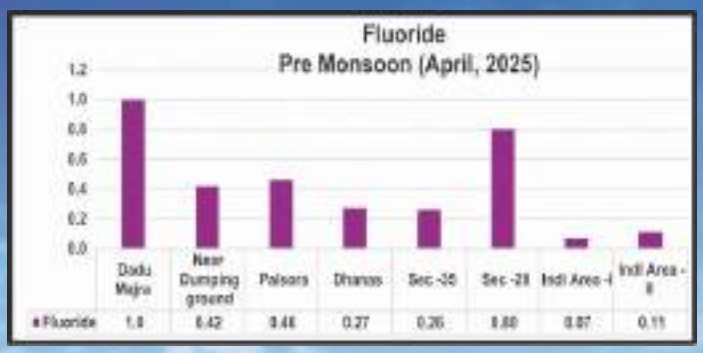
The graph depicting the Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD) levels at various Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) in Chandigarh from July to December 2025 indicates that, overall, BOD values largely remain within acceptable limits, reflecting satisfactory treatment performance across most facilities. During the monsoon and post-monsoon months (July to September), BOD levels are generally low to moderate, with only marginal fluctuations across STPs such as 3BRD, Dhanas, Diggian, Maloya, Kishangarh, and Raipur Kalan-I and II. However, a noticeable increase in BOD levels is observed during October to December 2025, particularly at certain locations such as Raipur Khurd and Raipur Kalan-II, suggesting localized variations in treatment efficiency or increased organic load during the post-monsoon period. Despite these occasional spikes, the overall trend indicates stable operational performance of STPs in Chandigarh, supported by continuous monitoring and timely operational interventions by the Chandigarh Administration to ensure compliance with prescribed effluent standards and to maintain the quality of treated wastewater.

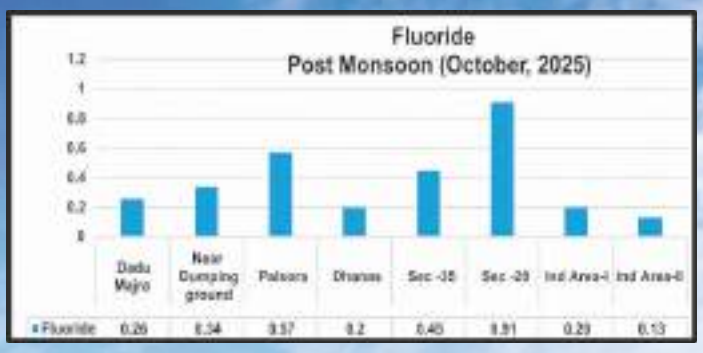
Drains Monitoring

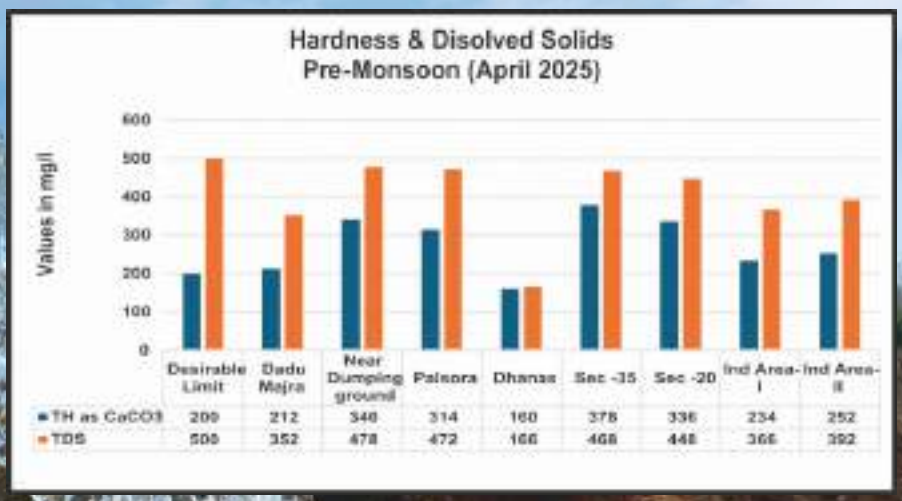
CPCC carries out systematic monitoring of water quality in all drains of Chandigarh, and the findings are communicated to the concerned agencies/departments to facilitate timely regulatory and remedial measures.

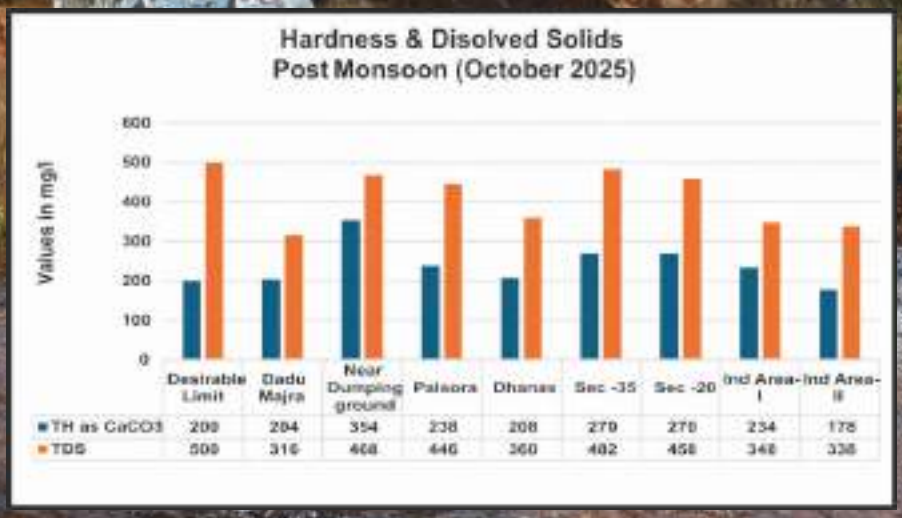
"The Earth, The Air,
The Land and The Water
are not an inheritance
from our forefathers
but on loan from our children."

Ground Water Monitoring

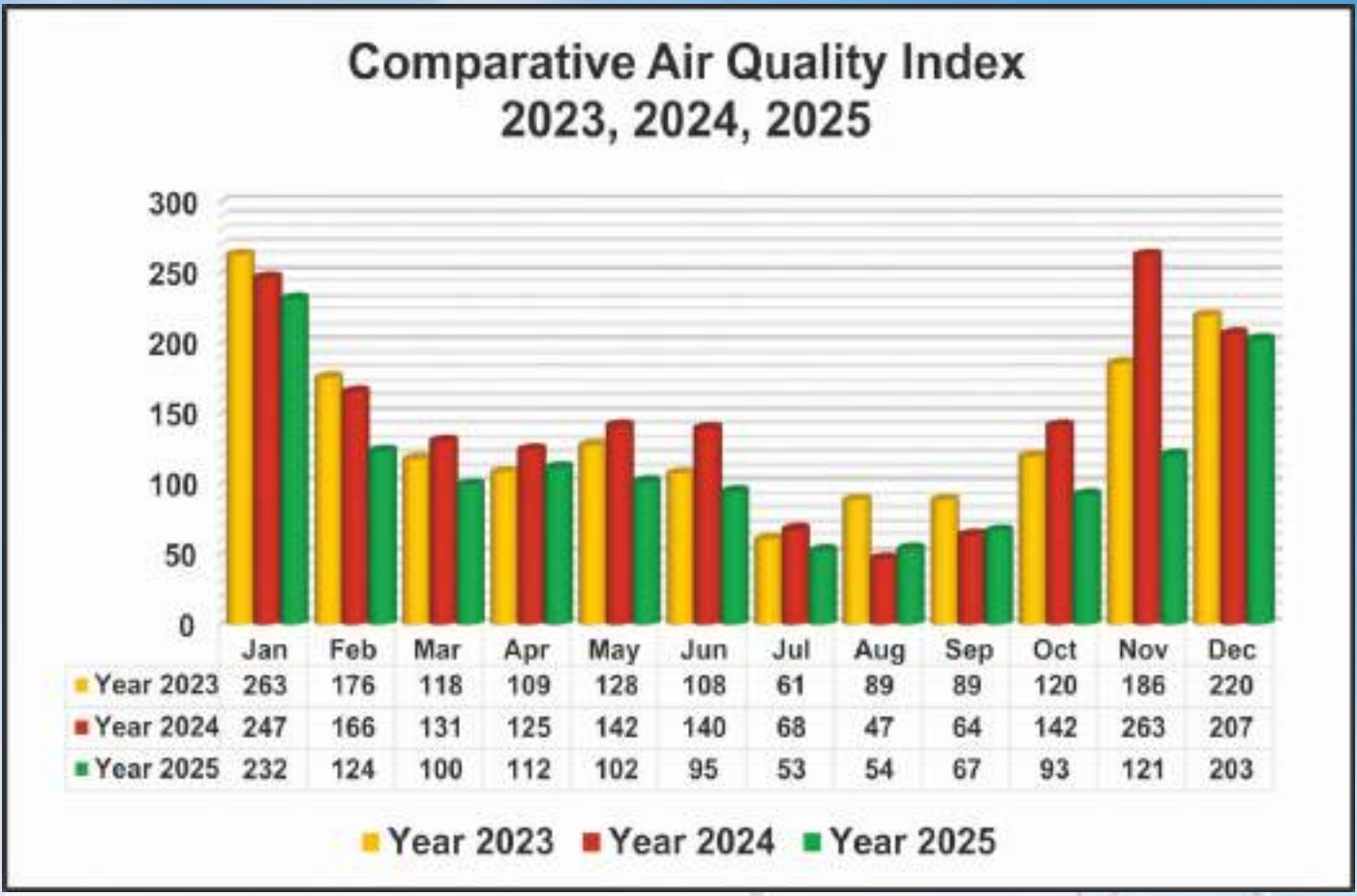








"हम एक ऐसी संस्कृति से आते हैं जहाँ धरती को माता माना जाता है। इसलिए पर्यावरण संरक्षण हमारा कर्तव्य है।"

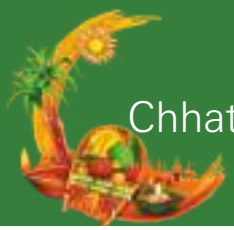


	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Year 2023	263	176	118	109	128	108	61	89	89	120	186	220
Year 2024	247	166	131	125	142	140	68	47	64	142	263	207
Year 2025	232	124	100	112	102	95	53	54	67	93	121	203

The comparative analysis of the Air Quality Index (AQI) for the years 2023, 2024, and 2025 reveals a clear seasonal pattern and an overall improvement in air quality in 2025. Across all three years, AQI levels are consistently higher during the winter months (November to January) due to adverse meteorological conditions and increased emission sources, while the lowest levels are observed during the monsoon period (July to September) owing to enhanced atmospheric dispersion and rainfall. The year 2024 records comparatively higher AQI values in several months, particularly during the post-monsoon and winter seasons, indicating relatively poorer air quality. In contrast, 2025 shows consistently lower AQI values in most months, especially during the pre-monsoon and post-monsoon periods, reflecting a positive trend in air quality. This improvement can be attributed, inter alia, to the sustained efforts of the Chandigarh Administration, including strengthened air quality monitoring, implementation of pollution control measures, enforcement actions against polluting sources, promotion of cleaner fuels and sustainable mobility, regulation of construction and demolition activities, enhanced public awareness initiatives and favourable meteorological conditions. Overall, while seasonal variations continue to significantly influence air quality, the declining AQI trend in 2025 indicates gradual progress towards improved air quality, though continued and targeted interventions remain essential to address peak pollution during critical periods.

"Stopping Pollution is the best Solution"

Special Monitoring



Chhath Puja

Chhath Puja is celebrated with great devotion and cultural fervour at Sector 42 Lake, Chandigarh, where devotees gather in large numbers to offer prayers to the Sun God (Surya) and Chhathi Maiya. CPCC monitored the water quality of the man made lake during Chhath Puja and post festival to assess the water quality.

S. No.	Parameters	Unit	Per Chat Pooja (27.10.2025)	After Chatt Pooja (29.10.2025)
1	pH	-	8.2	7.8
2	Conductivity	µs/cm	502	523
3	DO	mg/l	9.3	BDL
4	COD	mg/l	BDL (DL:4.0)	66
5	BOD	mg/l	BDL (DL:2.0)	17
6	Total Solid	mg/l	292	320
7	Total Dissolved Solid	mg/l	288	302
8	Total Suspended Solid	mg/l	BDL (DL:5.0)	16
9	Turbidity	NTU	BDL (DL:1.0)	16
10	NH_3-N	mg/l	BDL	BDL
11	PO_4-P	mg/l	0.02	0.02

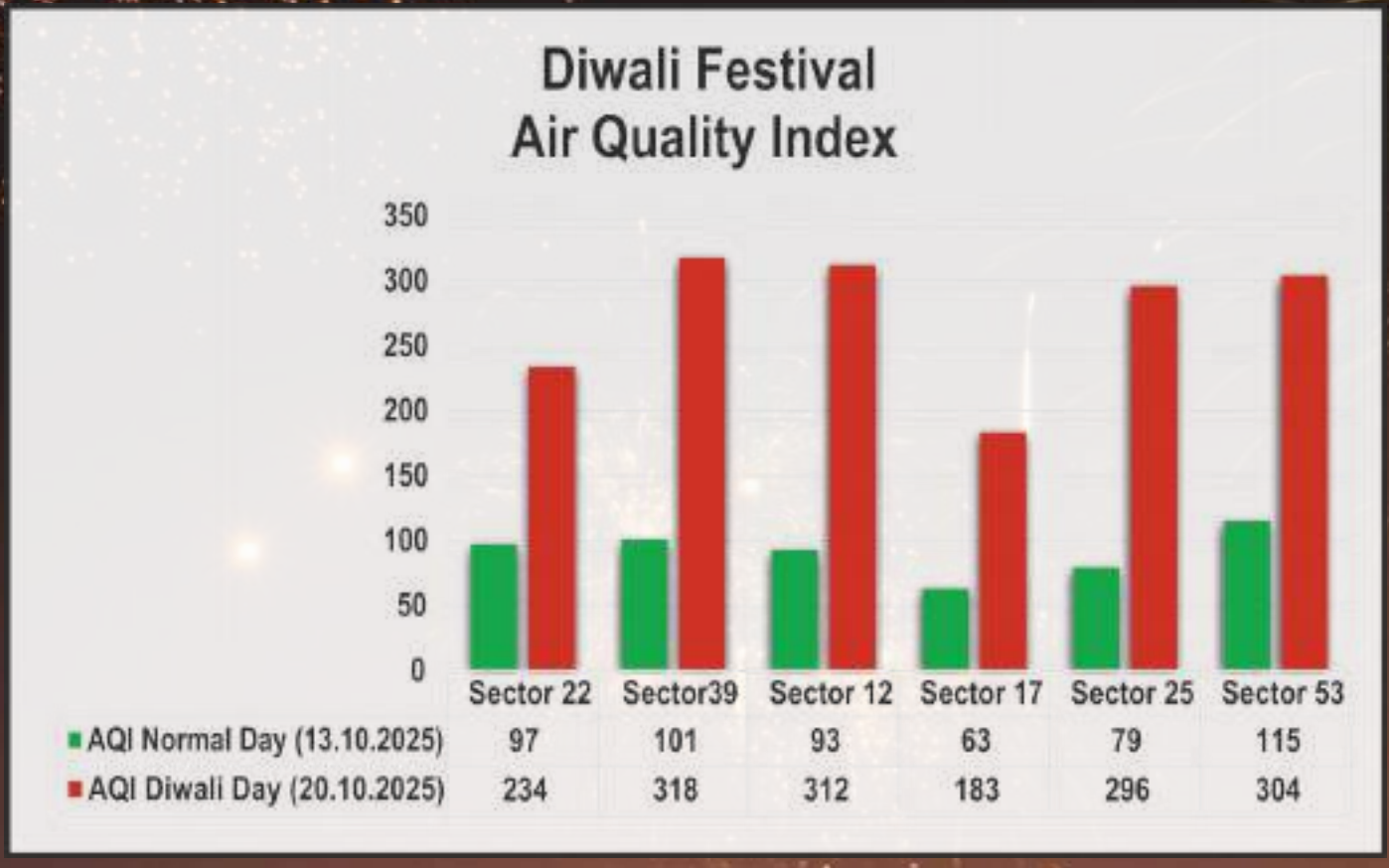
BDL: Below Detection Limit, DL: Detection Limit

"याद रखिए, जल चक्र और जीवन चक्र एक ही हैं । इसलिए कृपया जल बचाइए।"

Special Monitoring

Diwali Monitoring

CPCC undertakes special, intensified monitoring of ambient air quality and noise levels during the Diwali festival period in order to assess the environmental impact of festive activities. Monitoring is conducted one week prior to Diwali and on the day of Diwali at designated monitoring locations across Chandigarh, in accordance with prescribed standards and protocols. Key air quality parameters, including particulate matter and gaseous pollutants, along with ambient noise levels, are systematically measured and analyzed to identify temporal variations and pollution trends. The data generated through this targeted monitoring exercise is utilized for impact assessment, regulatory review, and formulation of appropriate preventive and corrective measures to mitigate pollution during the festive period.

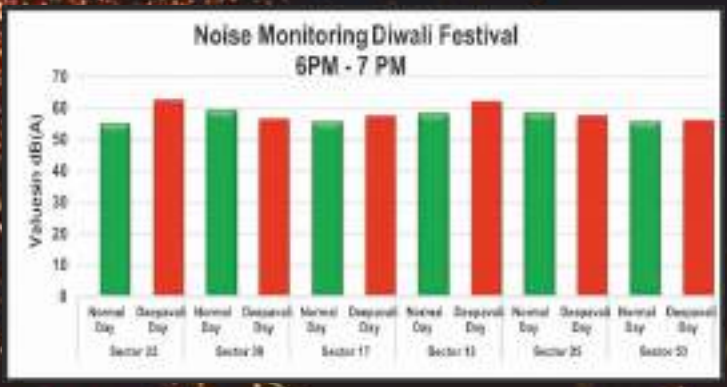


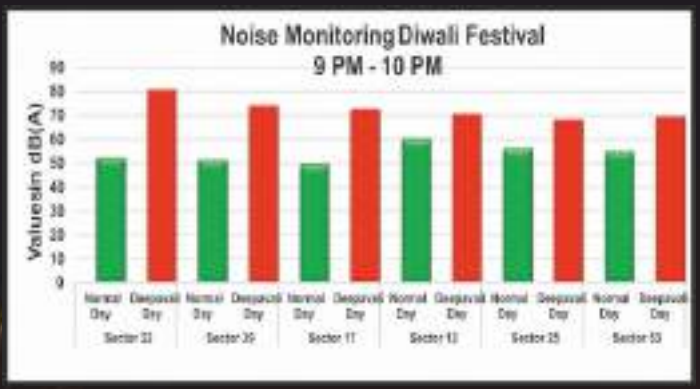
	Sector 22	Sector39	Sector 12	Sector 17	Sector 25	Sector 53
AQI Normal Day (13.10.2025)	97	101	93	63	79	115
AQI Diwali Day (20.10.2025)	234	318	312	183	296	304

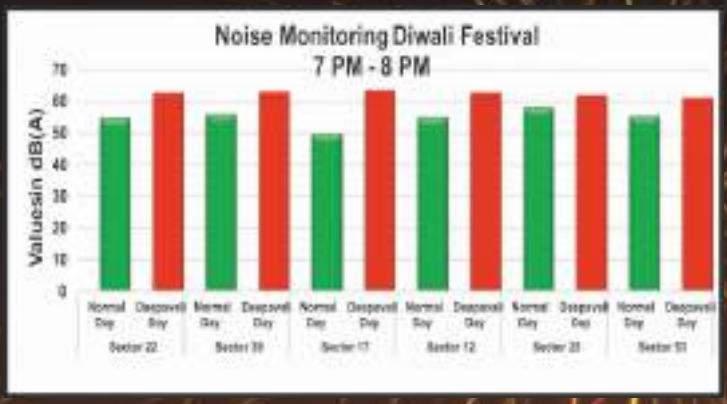
"वायुः जीवनस्य आधारः,
तस्य संरक्षणं कर्तव्यम्।"

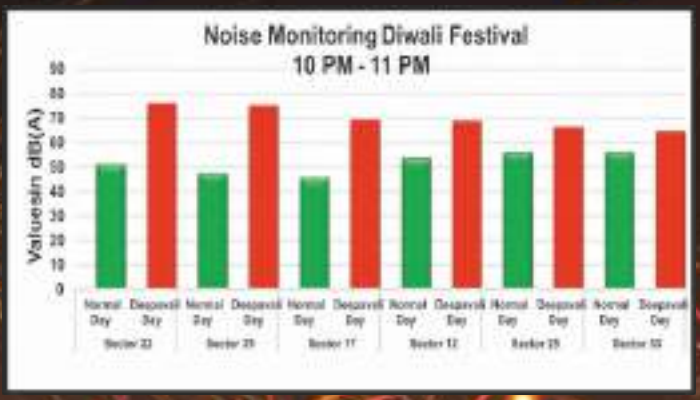
Special Monitoring

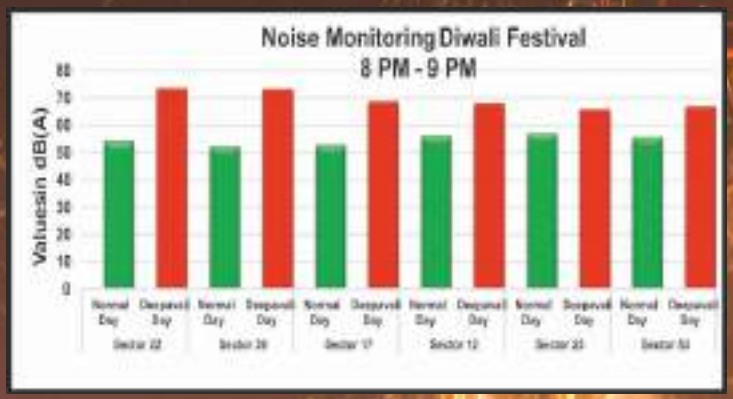
NOISE

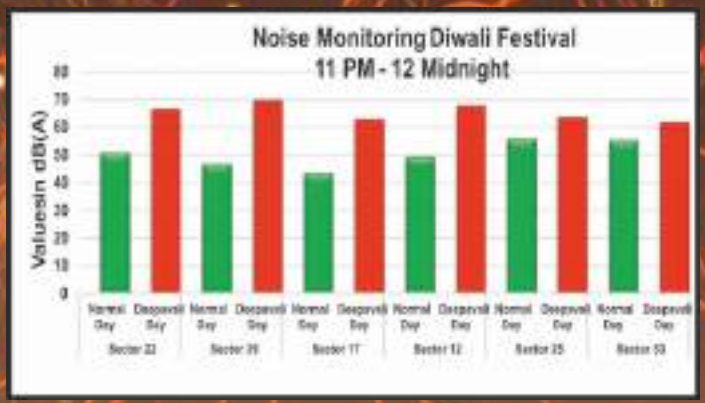








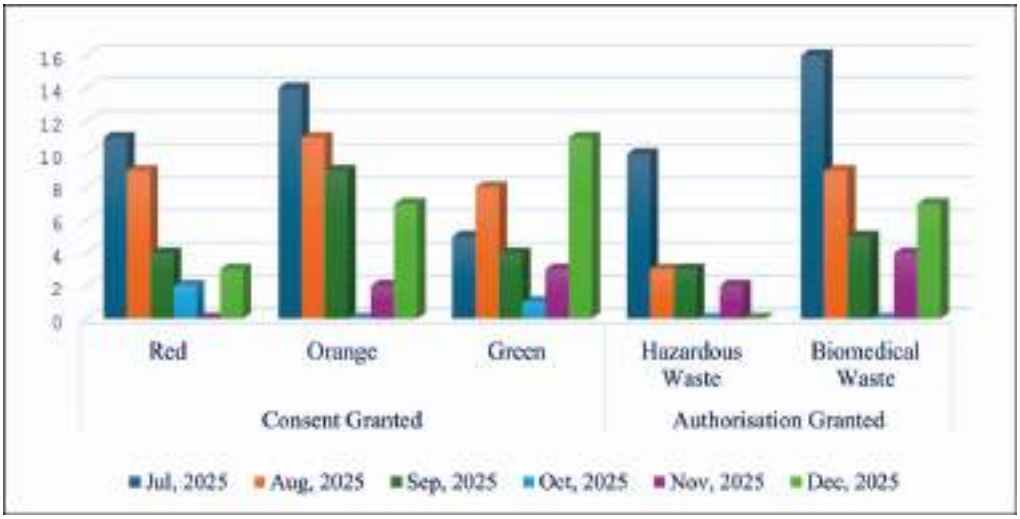




REGULATORY/ENFORCEMENT COMPLIANCES

Consent/ Authorisation

	Consent Granted			Authorisation Granted		Total
	Red	Orange	Green	Hazardous Waste	Biomedical Waste	
Jul, 2025	11	14	5	10	16	56
Aug, 2025	9	11	8	3	9	40
Sep, 2025	4	9	4	3	5	25
Oct, 2025	2	0	1	0	0	3
Nov, 2025	0	2	3	2	4	11
Dec, 2025	3	7	11	0	7	28



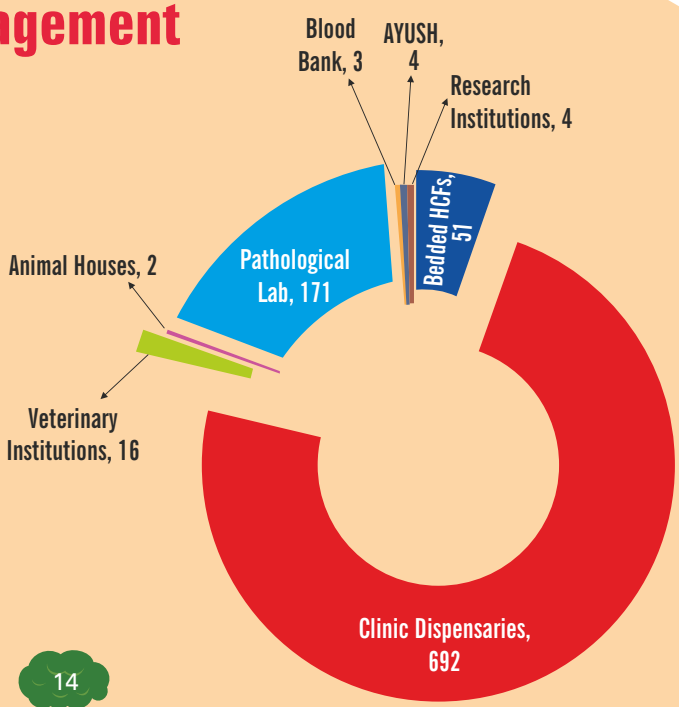
"Our efforts towards environmental conservation should not be limited to one day. It must become a way of life."

Biomedical Waste Management

Healthcare Statistics of Chandigarh

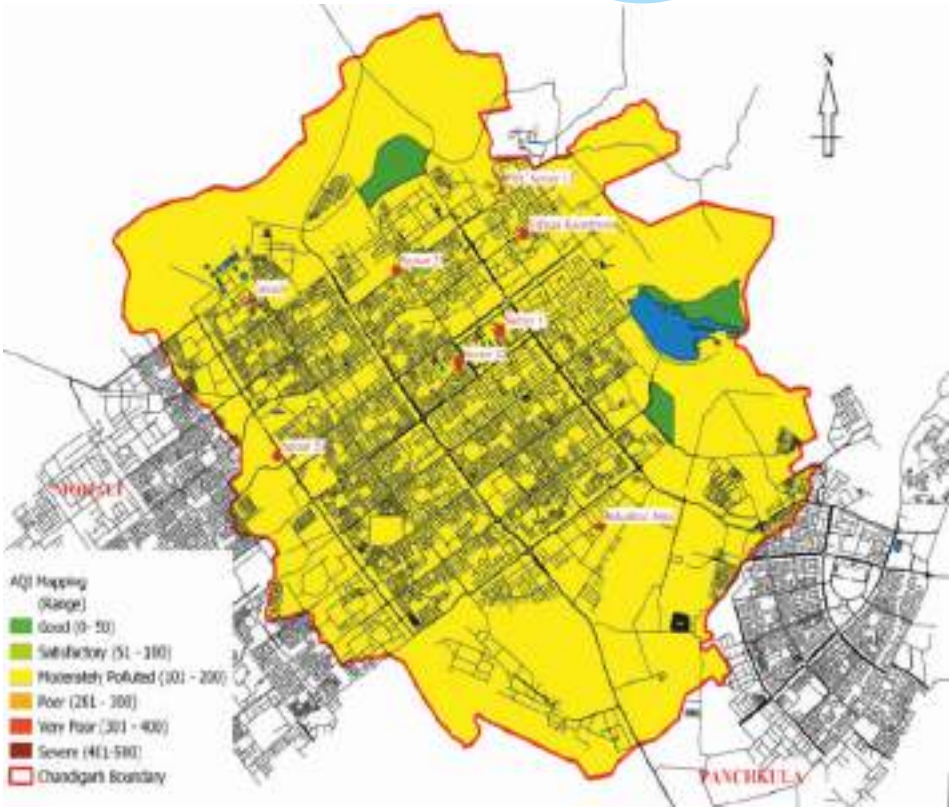
Total No. of Healthcare Facilities (HCFs)	**943**
Bedded HCFs	51
Total No. of Beds	4962
Biomedical waste generated by Bedded HCFs (in kgs/day)	5510
Biomedical Waste generated by non-bedded HCFs (in kgs/day)	1089
Total biomedical waste (in kgs/day)	6599

As per 2024 Annual Report



Air Quality in Chandigarh – Current Scenario and Challenges

Chandigarh, known for its greenery and planned layout, is facing growing air quality concerns in recent years. Current measurements place the city's Air Quality Index (AQI) in the "moderate" range at around 100-115, which means the air is generally safe for most people, but those with respiratory issues, children, and the elderly should take some precautions. The main pollutants are particulate matter (PM10 and PM2.5), largely arising from high vehicular density, roadside dust, and seasonal activities like stubble burning in neighbouring Punjab and Haryana. With over 13.7 lakh registered vehicles—more than the city's population—traffic-related emissions have emerged as a major contributor to urban air pollution.



The air quality of Chandigarh is influenced by both local and regional factors. One of the primary causes is roadside dust, which is aggravated by the city's unusually high vehicle density—there are now more registered vehicles than residents. During the winter months, the situation often worsens due to low temperatures and stagnant air, which trap particulate matter close to the ground. Measurements of PM10 have shown little to no improvement over the past several years despite significant investments under the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP). CPCC has introduced various measures such as mechanical road sweeping, water sprinkling, green belts, and an expanding fleet of electric buses to curb emissions. However, the city's air is also affected by regional pollution sources, including stubble burning in Punjab and Haryana, and industrial emissions from nearby States including thermal power plants. These combined factors make it clear that while local efforts are crucial, coordinated regional action is equally important to achieve sustainable improvement in Chandigarh's air quality.

"स्वच्छ वायु के लिए हमें कुछ कर दिखाना होगा, इन पेड़ों और बाग बगीचों को कटने से हमें बचाना होगा।"

2024

January, 2024						
239	220	276	215	169	216	227
222	273	273	287	298	381	370
230	348	368	315	355	373	262
330	345	304	233	256	287	277
325	339	353				

February, 2024						
197	92	88	166	102	105	127
167	214	248	293	237	270	227
215	251	253	288	304	121	237
110	88	126	120	122	159	164
142						

March, 2024						
181	154	58	106	107	139	146
105	115	154	207	194	130	116
97	113	134	120	139	109	142
130	134	101	113	101	132	114
122	127	88				

April, 2024						
94	98	110	118	105	110	106
85	98	104	90	100	161	121
183	140	99	128	111	89	117
138	107	91	105	113	111	101
131	103					

May, 2024						
100	95	134	115	106	145	150
164	135	132	224	119	113	137
196	154	204	237	184	147	147
154	137	125	148	129	153	155
148	176	139				

June, 2024						
182	170	215	156	182	132	135
155	134	133	136	144	150	152
156	138	129	111	152	128	190
160	146	121	94	116	91	73
70	76					

July, 2024						
92	97	68	51	90	46	37
61	74	91	141	100	85	86
101	76	89	59	72	84	84
53	49	61	59	56	68	45
42	60	71				

August, 2024						
48	53	50	50	46	47	40
40	42	48	48	43	58	128
65	70	64	94	58	70	72
104	78	68	54	53	39	44
45	57	66				

September, 2024						
58	52	44	46	58	98	68
134	156	98	70	96	50	52
70	52	114	77	74	66	98
120	162	139	106	56	57	68
88	100					

October, 2024						
85	115	94	97	108	105	87
114	98	96	94	89	98	107
160	146	141	141	156	164	162
191	215	206	149	160	163	261
197	200	210				

November, 2024						
302	277	223	258	192	283	290
310	332	339	331	343	372	412
309	277	287	268	207	201	211
175	198	233	267	233	167	187
183	215					

December, 2024						
240	201	140	114	154	179	181
149	104	150	142	229	200	221
322	288	255	267	285	242	271
282	287	150	190	258	225	144
88	158	291				

2025

January, 2025						
290	255	312	294	238	215	301
279	302	361	297	244	147	244
232	319	227	248	300	232	188
194	167	134	210	234	209	249
235	165	155				

Febuary, 2025						
220	196	171	226	167	118	101
102	166	142	173	101	94	101
100	115	184	96	93	113	55
101	95	102	123	126	82	57

March, 2025						
71	88	87	74	70	74	89
94	131	123	121	94	97	90
51	60	66	78	78	78	78
86	141	152	163	158	117	134
106	81	80				

April, 2025						
88	138	117	106	101	106	128
151	148	137	92	73	91	111
106	123	97	119	87	93	100
136	144	109	100	104	119	139
143	118					

May, 2025						
112	73	81	80	55	62	83
81	92	82	122	132	166	134
200	104	176	141	102	170	150
72	91	94	66	86	106	118
142	108	152				

June, 2025						
156	128	109	90	177	212	148
171	155	188	160	148	136	125
107	80	71	57	71	76	51
53	120	64	48	56	49	50
48	56					

July, 2025						
39	56	48	53	55	49	75
58	119	53	49	80	90	146
49	45	47	47	57	100	57
53	65	98	59	68	61	55
81	53	48				

August, 2025						
49	60	60	61	58	47	48
65	51	64	64	41	68	66
44	47	50	36	50	48	56
56	58	58	58	52	56	70
44	43	42				

September, 2025						
34			52	39	50	41
104	55	49	53	50	49	48
51	58	52	48	56	61	57
70	77	68	84	76	64	64
82	82					

October, 2025						
58	97	59	71	61	52	31
37	54	61	83	86	107	102
132	146	123	135	118	113	147
174	122	124	117	105	136	124
219	125	135				

November, 2025						
170	233	216	115	152	156	113
133	105	82	80	77	103	102
122	104	137	93	132	140	142
194	154	152	140	156	124	104
93	109					

December, 2025						
156	143	197	187	213	189	198
135	135	182	176	251	199	106
150	126	275	266	254	302	217
204	198	101	186	276	242	223
253	277	274				

GRAP is a tiered, emergency air quality management protocol designed to kick in when the Air Quality Index (AQI) crosses specified thresholds, such as "Poor," "Very Poor," or "Severe." Its goal is to curb pollution through escalating, targeted actions as the situation worsens. Chandigarh notified its GRAP to tackle air quality during winter season when it starts deteriorating because of natural as well as anthropogenic factors.

GRAP ensures that as AQI levels worsen, actions escalate—from ramped-up road cleaning and traffic curbs to bans on construction or open burning. This structured, zone-based approach allows faster and more effective interventions, protecting public health and improving resilience during severe pollution events.

Smog in Chandigarh during winters

ARTICLE

Air Quality of Chandigarh: Temporal Trends, Determinants and Regulatory Interventions

Saurabh Kumar, IFS
Member Secretary, Chandigarh Pollution Control Committee

Concept and Regulatory Significance of Air Quality Index (AQI)

The Air Quality Index (AQI) is a scientifically standardized metric designed to evaluate, integrate, and communicate ambient air quality conditions in relation to their potential health impacts. It translates multi-pollutant concentration data into a single composite index value, enabling effective risk communication to policymakers, regulators, and the general public. As per the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in India, the Air Quality Index (AQI) is a tool that translates complex air quality data for 8 major pollutants (PM10, PM2.5, NO2, SO2, CO, O3, NH3, Pb) into a single, easy-to-understand number, color, and descriptor, indicating air pollution levels and associated health impacts, ranging from "Good" to "Severe" for public communication and health advisories.

AQI values are categorized into six bands—Good (0–50), Satisfactory (51–100), Moderate (101–200), Poor (201–300), Very Poor (301–400), and Severe (401–500). These categories are aligned with short-term health advisories and epidemiological evidence, indicating progressively increasing health risks with rising AQI values. Elevated AQI levels disproportionately affect vulnerable populations, including children, elderly individuals, and persons with pre-existing respiratory or cardiovascular conditions.

Temporal Comparison of AQI in Chandigarh: Year 2022 to Year 2025

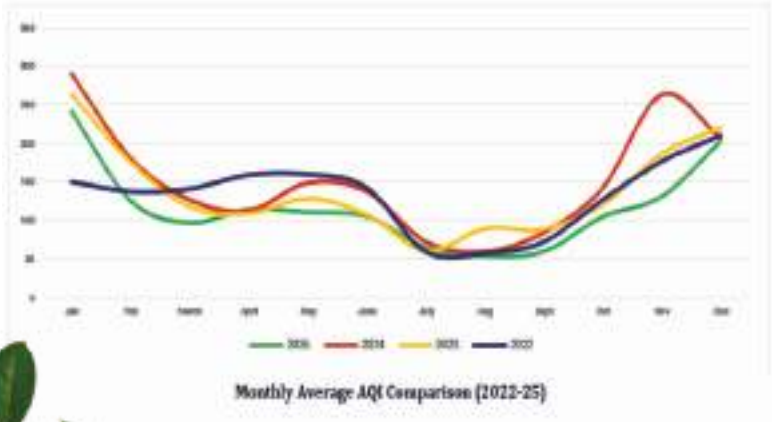
A temporal analysis of Air Quality Index (AQI) data for Chandigarh from 2022 to 2025 indicates clear seasonal and inter-annual variations. Across all years, AQI levels are consistently higher during the winter and post-monsoon months (October to January), with peak values observed in November and January, reflecting the combined impact of adverse meteorological conditions and increased emission loads.

Among the four years, 2024 recorded the highest overall AQI levels, particularly during January and November, indicating comparatively poorer air quality. In contrast, 2025 shows a marked improvement, with lower AQI values in most months, especially during the pre-monsoon, monsoon, and post-monsoon transition periods (March to September). The lowest AQI levels across the study period were observed during the monsoon months, with August 2025 recording the minimum AQI, highlighting the beneficial effect of rainfall and enhanced dispersion.

The year 2023 exhibited higher AQI levels than 2022 in several months, notably during the winter and post-monsoon seasons, while 2022 showed comparatively lower winter AQI but relatively higher values during summer months.

Overall, the temporal comparison suggests an improving trend in air quality in 2025, while also reaffirming that winter and post-monsoon periods remain critical for air quality management in Chandigarh, necessitating sustained and targeted mitigation measures during these seasons.

This improvement is also substantiated by Chandigarh's enhanced performance in national air quality governance benchmarks. The city recorded a significant advancement from 27th position in Swachh Vayu Survekshan 2024 to 8th position in Swachh Vayu Survekshan 2025 in Category-I cities (population exceeding 10 lakh). This advancement underscores improved compliance, planning, and execution of air pollution control strategies.



Monthly Average AQI Comparison (2022-25)

Determinants of Air Quality in Chandigarh

Chandigarh's ambient air quality is influenced by a combination of local emission sources and regional atmospheric dynamics. Primary contributors include vehicular emissions, re-suspended road dust, construction and demolition (C&D) activities, and emissions from legacy waste disposal sites. Seasonal meteorological phenomena, particularly winter inversion and long-range transport of pollutants from adjoining regions, further exacerbate pollution levels during colder months.

The city benefits from a planned urban design, limited industrial presence, and comparatively higher green cover, which provide inherent mitigation advantages. To scientifically quantify source-wise contributions, a Source Apportionment Study is currently being undertaken by IIT Kanpur and IIT Ropar. A source apportionment study is a scientific assessment carried out to identify and quantify the contribution of various pollution sources to ambient air quality at a given location. The outcomes of a source apportionment study provide evidence-based inputs for air quality management by identifying major contributing sources and their seasonal variations. These findings support formulation of targeted, sector-specific mitigation measures, prioritisation of control strategies, and evaluation of the effectiveness of existing regulatory interventions.

Regulatory and Mitigation Measures Implemented

Under the NCAP framework of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), the Chandigarh Pollution Control Committee, in coordination with line departments, has implemented a multi-sectoral action plan. Key interventions include expansion of Continuous Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Stations (CAAQMS) for real-time data acquisition, mechanized road sweeping, end-to-end road paving, water sprinkling, and stringent enforcement of C&D waste management norms.

Legacy waste remediation through bioremediation, promotion of electric mobility, intelligent traffic management systems, enhancement of public transport, and development of green buffers and high density plantations have further contributed to emission reduction. Regulatory enforcement under the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 has been strengthened, particularly during high-AQI episodes. Chandigarh Pollution Control Committee (CPCC) has issued directions to various institutions and establishments under Section 31-A of the Air Act for effective control and prevention of air pollution. These directions mandate compliance with prescribed emission norms, adoption of pollution control measures, and timely implementation of corrective actions, thereby strengthening regulatory enforcement and ensuring protection of ambient air quality in Chandigarh.

During high-pollution episodes, CPCC ensured implementation of the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP), as notified by CPCB. GRAP measures were activated based on AQI levels and included restrictions on dry manual sweeping, intensified mechanized road sweeping, enhanced water sprinkling, regulation of construction activities, control of vehicular emissions, and issuance of health advisories. Timely enforcement of GRAP measures played a critical role in preventing escalation of pollution levels during adverse meteorological conditions.

The observed improvement in Chandigarh's AQI profile reflects the effectiveness of an integrated air quality management approach that combines continuous monitoring, regulatory enforcement, infrastructure development, ecological restoration, and active public participation, alongside informed communication and increasing environmental awareness among citizens. The media has supported these efforts by disseminating accurate air quality information, communicating public advisories, and facilitating public understanding of air pollution issues and health impacts.

The Chandigarh Pollution Control Committee acknowledges the cooperation extended by residents, institutions, resident welfare associations, civil society organisations, and media organisations in promoting cleaner mobility choices, ensuring compliance with pollution control norms, and supporting citywide clean air initiatives. Clean air is a shared public good, and its protection requires collective responsibility.

The Committee encourages citizens to sustain and strengthen these positive actions by reducing unnecessary vehicle use, avoiding open burning of waste, managing construction-related dust responsibly, conserving energy, and adopting sustainable daily practices. Continued factual and responsible reporting by the media will remain important in maintaining public awareness and accountability. When individual and community efforts come together, they can significantly reduce air pollution and help ensure a healthier, more liveable city for all.

> "Human awareness & collective action are foundation of sustainable environmental protection"

AWARENESS

Workshop on Single-Use Plastic

CPCC organized an awareness workshop on the management and elimination of single-use plastics, in line with the Government of India's Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016 (as amended). The event brought together representatives from government departments, market associations, educational institutions, and resident welfare bodies. Experts from CPCC and other organisation working in this field highlighted the harmful environmental impacts of single-use plastics, including littering, soil and water contamination, and threats to wildlife.

Audience during the workshop

Chief Guest interacting with stakeholders regarding alternates of plastic

The workshop also showcased eco-friendly alternatives such as cloth and jute bags, biodegradable cutlery, and compostable packaging. Participants were encouraged to adopt sustainable practices, reduce plastic consumption at the source, and spread awareness within their communities. The initiative reinforced CPCC's commitment to fostering a plastic-free, cleaner, and greener Chandigarh.

CPCC also released a booklet on alternatives to single-use plastic, aiming to promote sustainable practices and raise public awareness about eco-friendly substitutes. This initiative supports the city's continuous efforts to minimize plastic waste and promote sustainable behavioral changes among residents, businesses, and institutions. The booklet provides practical guidance on replacing commonly used single-use plastic items with environmentally responsible alternatives, supporting Chandigarh's vision of becoming a cleaner and greener city.

Release of booklet on "Alternates to SUPs"

Plantation Drive

On 20th June 2025, CPCC, in collaboration with the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), Regional Office, Chandigarh, organized a focused plantation drive at a single location in the city. Around 50 saplings of indigenous species such as neem, jamun, and amaltas were planted to enhance green cover, improve air quality, and support local biodiversity. The event was attended by officials from both CPCC and CPCB, who emphasized the need for regular care of the saplings to ensure their healthy growth. This initiative highlights the shared commitment of CPCC and CPCB towards creating a cleaner and greener Chandigarh, while inspiring the community to take small but meaningful steps for environmental protection.

"Water pollution is a global crisis;
every drop matters,
and every action counts."

Oath Ceremony in Schools, Colleges & Government Offices

To foster environmental consciousness and encourage responsible environmental behaviour, oath-taking ceremonies were conducted across schools, colleges, and government offices in Chandigarh. During these ceremonies, students, faculty members, government officials, and staff members pledged to adopt eco-friendly practices in their daily lives, minimize waste generation, promote segregation and recycling, conserve natural resources, and support sustainable lifestyle choices. The initiative aimed at strengthening collective responsibility towards environmental protection and enhancing public commitment to sustainable development, thereby reinforcing the culture of environmental stewardship across diverse sections of society.

Cleanliness Drive of Sukhna Choe

A cleanliness drive was conducted along the Sukhna Choe near Kishangarh village, Chandigarh, to address the accumulation and scattering of waste along the drain and to promote ecosystem cleanliness. The initiative was supported by volunteer students from the Department of Public Health, Panjab University, whose active participation strengthened community engagement and enhanced awareness on proper waste management and environmental responsibility.

Awareness Campaign

On the eve of World Environment Day (WED) 2025, i.e., 04.06.2025, an environmental awareness campaign was organized in the market area of Sector 7, Chandigarh, in collaboration with the Environment Society of India (NGO). The campaign aimed at sensitizing local residents, shopkeepers, and visitors towards sustainable lifestyles, waste reduction practices, and environmental responsibility. The initiative witnessed active participation from stakeholders and contributed to strengthening public awareness on environmental protection and sustainable development.

"We don't need a handful of people doing zero waste perfectly. We need million of people doing it imperfectly."

AWARENESS

Industrial Meet on Recent Guidelines and Pro-Industry Initiatives

On 23rd July 2025, CPCC organized an industrial meet at its office to engage with local industrial stakeholders. The primary objective of the session was to educate industrialists about the recent amendments in environmental guidelines and regulatory requirements. Officials from CPCC also highlighted several new industry-friendly initiatives introduced to streamline compliance processes, promote sustainable practices, and support environmentally responsible growth. The meet provided an open platform for dialogue, enabling participants to seek clarifications, share feedback, and better understand the opportunities and responsibilities arising from the updated framework. The event reaffirmed CPCC's commitment to fostering a collaborative relationship with industries for cleaner production and improved environmental management in Chandigarh.

Member Secretary CPCC addressing the industrial stakeholders regarding the recent amendments in environmental guidelines and regulatory requirements.

ACHIEVEMENTS

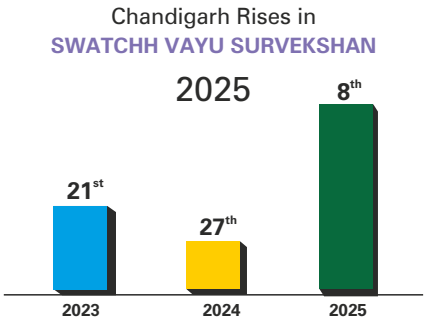
Swatchh Vayu Survekshan

Meeting with various institutions regarding air quality improvement.

In a significant achievement ranking of UT Chandigarh improved from 27th to 8th in "Swachh Vayu Survekshan -2025" conducted by MoEF&CC, GoI to assess 130 Non-attainment cites in the country on basis of implementation of activities approved under National Clean Air Programme. The ranking is based on key parameters like the monitoring of air pollution levels, the effectiveness of pollution control measures, the implementation of green initiatives, and public participation in environmental programs. This year, Chandigarh focused on stricter enforcement of dust control, reduction of vehicular emissions, and increased tree plantation. The city's emphasis on data-driven monitoring and community involvement has played a crucial role in its significant improvement, making it a model for other cities to follow in tackling air pollution.

CPCC is actively engaging with various stakeholder departments, urging them to implement necessary actions for controlling air pollution. In fact, it has issued directives under Section 31-A of the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, mandating key stakeholders to take concrete steps toward air pollution control.

> "To leave the world better than you found it — that is the essence of environmental responsibility."



NABL Accreditation of the Laboratory of CPCC

CPCC has got NABL Accreditation for various air and water parameterin Februrary 2025. It is a process of continual improvement and improves laboratory quality, credibility and competitiveness etc.

- Accuracy and Reliability of Result: NABL Accreditation ensures the accuracy and raliability of laboratory results.
- Client Confidence: NABL accreditation increases client confidence, enhancing the laboratory reputation and business.
- Continuous Improvement: Due to NABL accreditation it improves the ongoing process and enhancing the laboratory's quality and performance.

About NABL

NABL stands for National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories. It is an autonomous body under the Quality Council of India (QCI) that provides accreditation to Testing laboratories, Calibration laboratories, Medical laboratories, Proficiency testing providers, Reference material producers

What NABL Does:

- Ensures that laboratories follow international standards such as ISO/IEC 17025, ISO 15189, etc.
- Confirms that labs produce accurate, reliable, and valid results.
- Improves the quality, competence, and credibility of labs in India.
- Provides recognition that is accepted globally due to international mutual recognition arrangements.

Why NABL Accreditation Matters:

- Increases trust in laboratory results.
- Required for many regulatory and compliance-related tests.
- Enhances acceptance of test reports within India and abroad.

National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories

CERTIFICATE OF ACCREDITATION

CHANDIGARH POLLUTION CONTROL COMMITTEE-LABORATORY

has been assessed and accredited in accordance with the standard

ISO/IEC 17025:2017

"General Requirements for the Competence of Testing & Calibration Laboratories"

for its facilities at

PARYAVARAN BHAWAN, GROUND FLOOR, SECTOR 19-B, MADHYA MARG, CHANDIGARH, INDIA

in the field of

TESTING

Certificate Number: TC-15479

Issue Date: 11/02/2025 Valid Until: 10/02/2029

This certificate remains valid for the Scope of Accreditation as specified in the annexure subject to continued satisfactory compliance to the above standard & the relevant requirements of NABL.

(To see the scope of accreditation of this laboratory, you may also visit NABL website www.nabl-india.org)

Name of Legal Entity: CHANDIGARH POLLUTION CONTROL COMMITTEE

Signed for and on behalf of NABL

Anita Rani
Director

N. Venkateswarlu
Chief Executive Officer

"Every tree you plant is a gift to generations yet to come."

Reduction in time frame for disposal of Consent/Authorisation to the Industrial Unit under Air Act, Water and Environment (Protection) Act

As per the Water Act and Air Act, the maximum period of grant of consent to industrial units are 120 days. However, as per the recommendations of National Task Force on Compliance Reduction and De-Regulation, CPCC has reduced time frame for processing of the online application to maximum 21 days which was effective from 1st April 2025.

S. No.	Application	Period (in working days)					
		Red		Orange		Green	
		Previous	Existing	Previous	Existing	Previous	Existing
1	Consent to Establish – Fresh	45	21	30	21	21	15
2	Consent to Operate - Fresh	45	21	30	21	21	15
3	Renewal of CTE/CTO	45	21	30	21	21	15

In addition to it, Auto Generation of Certificates was done after self Registration in White Category by the non polluting industrial unit. Pre-Inspection checklist on the online portal was also made available to the industries for their readiness.

SOURCE APPORTIONMENT STUDY

Discussion on source Apportionment Study with team of IIT, Kanpur and IIT, Ropar.

The Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Government of India, is implementing the National Clean Air Program (NCAP) across the country with the objective to improve air quality and is providing funds to some states to carry out certain activities. In this context, to address the air pollution issues of the City of Chandigarh, the CPCC has given the study i.e. 'Source Apportionment, Emission Inventory and Carrying Capacity for UT Chandigarh" to Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur (IITK) and Indian Institute of Technology Ropar (IITRPR). The main objectives of the study are the preparation of emission inventory, air quality monitoring in three seasons, the chemical composition of PM10 and PM2.5, apportionment sources to ambient air quality, and trend analysis in historical air quality data.

Recently, a meeting was held with Dr. Mukesh Sharma, Professor from IITK and Dr. Indiramani Dhanda, Asstt. Professor from IITRPR to discuss the progress made on it. The current status of the SAS is as under:

1. Winter sampling was conducted in between December 5, 2024 – April 1, 2025, and the chemical analysis of ions, metals, EC_OC, VOCs, PAHs and Molecular markers is going on.
2. Sampling of the second season (summer season) was completed on 24 July 2025. Chemical analysis of ions, metals, EC_OC, VOCs, PAHs and Molecular markers is going on.
3. Sampling of the third season (monsoon/post-monsoon season) was completed on November 30, 2025 and chemical analysis is being going on.
4. Source apportionment of all three seasons and action plan to be completed by March 2026.
5. Development of emission inventory is in progress and is expected to be completed soon.
6. Draft final report including all components to be submitted by March 31, 2026.

"जीवन में जो लाए निखार,
स्वच्छ वायु ही एक ऐसा आधार।"

ACHIEVEMENTS/NEW INITIATIVES

Compliance of Municipal Solid Waste Rules, 2016

Hon'ble National Green Tribunal matter in O.A. No. 606/2018 "Compliance of Municipal Solid Waste Rules, 2016 and other Environmental Issues" is regularly reviewed for compliance of solid and liquid waste management in U.T. Chandigarh. Significant progress has been made on ground both in the areas of solid as well as liquid waste management.

Waste Water Management

Chandigarh has 08 no. of Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) with capacity of approx. 255 MLD against the generation of approx. 232 MLD hence having more than 100 % capacity for the treatment of waste water. Further, distribution lines are being laid in all over Chandigarh including in industrial areas so that Tertiary Treated water can be used wherever possible to reduce the consumption of fresh water. CPCC regularly checks all Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) in the city to ensure its compliance with the stringent discharge standards set by the National Green Tribunal (NGT). This achievement follows extensive upgradation works, including the installation of advanced treatment technologies, improved aeration systems, and enhanced sludge management. The upgraded STPs now consistently meet prescribed limits for parameters such as Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD), Total Suspended Solids (TSS), and faecal coliform levels before discharge. This milestone marks a significant step towards safeguarding local water bodies, improving the health of the N-Choe and Sukhna Choe, and contributing to the overall water quality of the region. The CPCC continues to monitor all STPs regularly to ensure sustained compliance and long-term environmental protection.

Solid Waste Management

Chandigarh generates Approx. 500 TPD Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) which is collected door to door by MCC through compartmentalized vehicles. Chandigarh has treatment facilities of all categories of solid waste i.e. Dry Waste, Wet Waste, Horticulture Waste & Coconut Shell Waste. The collected sanitary waste and domestic hazardous waste are sent to authorized agencies for processing. A new machine has also been installed for the processing of mixed waste. Leachate generated in landfill site is being treated through two nos. of Leachate Treatment Plants (LTPs).

CPCB/MoEFCC's New Initiatives

Empanelment of original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) of Air Pollution Control Devices (APCDs) by National Productivity Council (NPC)

CPCB has taken an initiative for empanelment of original equipment manufacturer (OEMs) of Air Pollution Control Devices (APCDs) in order to have properly designed APCDs which will help in addressing the issue of control of Air Pollution. In this context, NPC has been given a task for the empanelment of OEMs of APCDs and NPC has initiated the empanelment process of OEMs. Further, in order to encourage the manufacturer of 'Make in India' APCDs, CPCB has provided a 'fee reimbursement scheme' for 'Make in India' manufacturer

New Online Continuous Emissions Monitoring System developed

Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has developed a New OCEMS Portal for direct transmission of data from industries to CPCB Server. The new portal can be accessed at https://cems.cpcb.gov.in.

"जल है तो कल है
—जल बचाइये।"

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE QUARTER/ ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION

- **All the STPs are compliant w.r.t. Environmental Standards**
- **Chandigarh got 8th Rank in Swatchh Vayu Survekshan 2025 declared by MoEF&CC on 9th September 2025.**
- **Almost all the legacy waste has been remediated by Municipal Corporation Chandigarh from the dumping ground.**

Environmental Information - you must know

Environmental Sustainable Model in Chandigarh

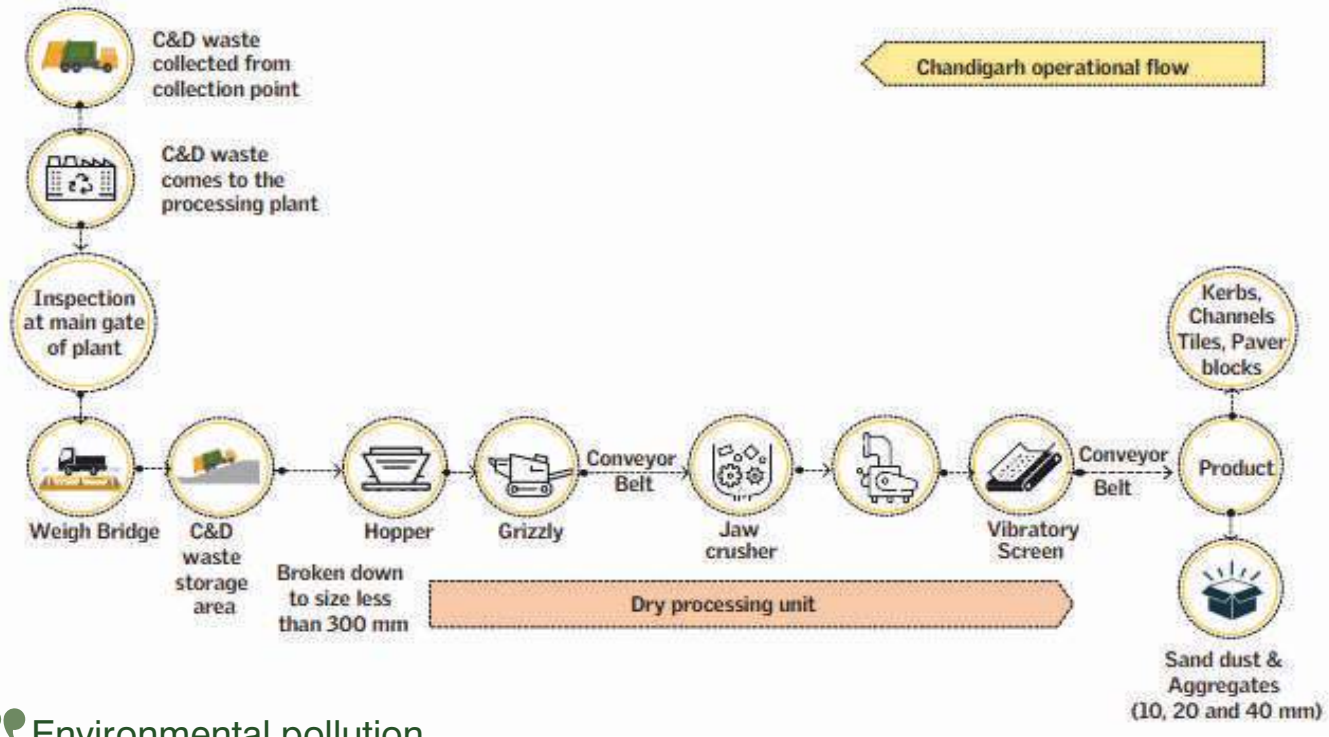
Construction and Demolition Waste Processing Facility in Industrial Area - I, Chandigarh

- Materials suitable for cement works, including washed sand and crushed aggregates (10 mm, 20 mm, 40 mm) is produced.
- Road components (kerbs, channels, tiles, and paver blocks made of plain cement concrete or PCC) are produced at a cost-effective rate.
- In-house construction costs reduced by around 10%, and lower processing charges are maintained, compared to other cities.
- Residents of Chandigarh can responsibly dispose of construction waste through the plant's authorised process.

Benefits of this Sustainability Model

- The C&D waste processing plant reduced landfill burden, conserved resources, and promoted recycling.
- Recycled materials lowered costs, and carbon footprints, contributed to local employment, and enhanced urban sustainability, promoting sustainable construction.
- The enforced guidelines encouraged residents and institutions to responsibly reuse recycled materials, fostering responsible construction practices.

Operational flow of C&D waste management ecosystem in Chandigarh



"Environmental pollution is an incurable disease. It can only be prevented."

DO'S AND DON'TS FOR THE CONTROL OF AIR POLLUTION IN CHANDIGARH DURING THE WINTER MONTHS

DO'S

Use Public Transport or Carpool
Reduce the number of vehicles on the road by using buses, cycling, walking, or carpooling.

Maintain Vehicles Regularly
Ensure your vehicle is well-maintained and pollution under control (PUC) certified.

Switch to Cleaner Fuels
Use cleaner fuels like CNG or electric vehicles wherever possible.

Reduce Use of Generators
Use inverters or solar energy instead of diesel generators, especially during power outages.

Dispose of Waste Responsibly
Segregate and compost biodegradable waste.
Use designated sites for disposal

Report Pollution Sources
Use helplines or apps to report open burning, construction dust, or industrial emissions.

Use Eco-Friendly Heating Methods
Choose cleaner options like electric or solar heaters over wood or coal burning.

Follow Construction Norms
Cover construction sites, use water sprinkling to reduce dust, and follow CPCB guidelines.

Plant and Protect Trees
Support urban greenery which helps absorb pollutants.

DON'TS

Do Not Burn Waste
Avoid burning leaves, garbage, or any other waste in the open, which releases toxic fumes.

Avoid Using Firecrackers
Refrain from bursting firecrackers, especially during festivals and celebrations.

Do Not Overuse Personal Vehicles
Avoid unnecessary use of personal vehicles, especially diesel ones.

Don't Use Coal or Wood for Heating
These fuels release large amounts of smoke and particulate matter.

Do Not Ignore Construction Dust
Uncovered construction material or demolition waste contributes heavily to air pollution.

Avoid Idling Vehicles
Don't keep your engine running unnecessarily while waiting or parked.

Do Not Violate Waste Segregation Rules
Improper disposal increases the likelihood of open burning and unmanaged waste.

Let's Make the Skies Blue Again

UPCOMING EVENTS & IMPORTANT DATES

Month	Event / Deadline	Location / Notes
[Feb.]	Workshop on Air Quality Management	Chandigarh

Contact & Feedback

Office Address: Paryavaran Bhawan, Sector 19-B, Chandigarh
Email: cpcc-chd@nic.in | Phone: 0172-2700311 | Website: www.cpcc.chd.gov.in

Your feedback is important to us. Please share your suggestions to help us serve Chandigarh better.


"To leave the world better than you found it — that is the essence of environmental responsibility."

CHANDIGARH

Contact & Feedback

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Your feedback is important to us.
Please share your suggestions to help us serve Chandigarh better.