

Chandigarh at Glance:

Chandigarh, the dream city of India's first Prime Minister, Sh. Jawahar Lal Nehru, was planned by the famous French architect Le Corbusier. Picturesquely located at the foothills of Shivaliks, it is known as one of the best experiments in urban planning and modern architecture in the twentieth century in India.

Chandigarh derives its name from the temple of "Chandi Mandir" located in the vicinity of the site selected for the city. The deity 'Chandi', the goddess of power and a fort of 'garh' laying beyond the temple gave the city its name "Chandigarh-The City Beautiful".

The city has a pre-historic past. The gently sloping plains on which modern Chandigarh exists, was in the ancient past, a wide lake ringed by a marsh. The fossil remains found at the site indicate a large variety of aquatic and amphibian life, which was supported by that environment. About 8000 years ago the area was also known to be a home to the Harappans.

Since the medieval through modern era, the area was part of the large and prosperous Punjab Province which was divided into East & West Punjab during partition of the country in 1947. The city was conceived not only to serve as the capital of East Punjab, but also to resettle thousands of refugees who had been uprooted from West Punjab.

In March, 1948, the Government of Punjab, in consultation with the Government of India, approved the area of the foothills of the Shivaliks as the site for the new capital. The location of the city site was a part of the erstwhile Ambala district as per the 1892-93 gazetteer of District Ambala. The foundation stone of the city was laid in 1952. Subsequently, at the time of reorganization of the state on 01.11.1966 into Punjab, Haryana and Himachal Pardesh, the city assumed the unique distinction of being the capital city of both, Punjab and Haryana while it itself was declared as a Union Territory and under the direct control of the Central Government.

Fact File

The basic geographical and demographic profile of Chandigarh is as under:

Area	114 sq kms
Longitude	76 ⁰ 47' 14E
Latitude	30 ⁰ 44' 14N
Altitude	304-365 meters above MSL with 1% drainage gradient
Annual Rainfall (average)	1110.7 mm
Monsoon	July-September
Temperature	Winter Min. (Nov.-Jan, 2006) 1 ⁰ C-16 ⁰ C
	Summer Max. (April-July, 2004) 27 ⁰ C-44 ⁰ C

Prevalent Winds	From the North West to South East in Winter and reverse in Summer
Total Population (2001 census)	9,00,635 (Rural population-92120 (10.2%) (Urban population-808515 (89.8%))
Density of population/sq. km.	7,900
Birth Rate (per 1000)	21.45 (2005)
Death Rate (per 1000)	10.22 (2005)
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000)	44.13
Sex Ratio (females per 1000 males)	777
Decennial Population Growth	40.33%
Literacy Rate	81.9%

Geology

The Union Territory of Chandigarh is located in the foothills of the Shivalik hill ranges in the north, which form a part of the fragile Himalayan ecosystem. It is occupied by Kandi (Bhabhar) in the north east and Sirowal (Tarai) and alluvial plains in the remaining part. The subsurface formation comprises of beds of boulders, pebbles, gravel, sand, silt, clays and some kankar. The area is drained by two seasonal rivulets viz. Sukhna Choe in the east and Patiala-Ki-Rao Choe in the west. The central part forms a surface water divide and has two minor streams. The stream passing through the central part is called N-Choe and the other is Choe Nala which initiates at Sector 29.

Climate

Chandigarh falls under Koeppen's CWG category i.e. it has cold dry winter, hot summer and sub tropical monsoon. Evaporation usually exceeds precipitation and the weather is generally dry.



The area experiences four seasons : (i) Summer or hot season (mid-March to Mid-June) (ii) Rainy season (late-June to mid-September); (iii) Post monsoon autumn/transition season (mid September to mid-November); (iv) Winter (mid November to mid-March). The dry spell of summer is long but with the occasional drizzles or thunder storms. May and June are the hottest months of the year with the mean daily maximum & minimum temperatures being about 37°C & 25°C, respectively. Maximum temperatures can rise up to 44°C. Southwest monsoons with high intensity showers commence in late June. The weather at this time is hot and humid. The variation in annual rainfall on year to year basis is appreciable i.e. 700 mm to 1200 mm. The 20 year average rainfall for Chandigarh is 1100.7 mm. January is the coldest month with mean maximum and minimum temperatures being around 23°C

and 3.60C respectively. Winds are generally light and blow from northwest to southeast direction with exception of easterly to southeasterly winds that blow on some days during the summer season.

The Master Plan of Chandigarh

Le Corbusier conceived the master plan of Chandigarh as analogous to human body, with a clearly defined head (the Capitol Complex, Sector 1), heart (the City Centre Sector-17), lungs (the leisure valley, innumerable open spaces and sector greens), the intellect (the cultural and educational institutions), the circulatory system (the network of roads, the 7Vs) and the viscera (the Industrial Area). The concept of the city is based on four major functions: living, working, care of the



body and spirit and circulation. Residential sectors constitute the living part whereas the Capitol Complex, City Centre, Educational Zone (Post Graduate Institute, Punjab Engineering College, Panjab University) and the Industrial Area constitute the working part. The Leisure Valley, Gardens, Sector Greens and Open Courtyards etc. are for the care of body and spirit. The circulation system comprises of 7 different types of roads known as 7Vs. Later on, a pathway for cyclists called V8 were added to this circulation system.

The Capital complex comprises three architectural masterpieces: the "Secretariat", the "High Court" and the "Legislative Assembly", separated by large piazzas. In the heart of the Capital Complex stands the giant metallic sculpture of The Open Hand, the official emblem of Chandigarh, signifying the city's credo of "open to given, open to receive".

The city centre (Sector 17) is the heart of Chandigarh's activities. It comprises the Inter-State Bus Terminus, Parade Ground, District Courts, etc. on one hand, and vast business and shopping center on the other. The 4-storey concrete buildings house banks and offices above and showrooms/shops at the ground level with wide pedestrian concourses. The Neelam piazza in the center has fountains with light and water features. Proposal to set up an eleven storey building in Sector 17 is in the offing. Sector 34 is another newly developed commercial sector.

Park Areas



Ample areas have been provided in the master plan of the Capital for parks. Out of a total area of 20,000 acres acquired for the first phase, about 2000 acres are meant for development of parks. Leisure Valley, Rajendra park, Bougainvillea Park, Zakir Rose Garden, Shanti Kunj, Hibiscus Garden, Garden of Fragrance, Botanical Garden, Smriti Upavan, Topiary garden and Terraced Garden are some of the famous parks of Chandigarh. Sukhna Lake, Rock Garden, Government Museum and Art Gallery are major

tourist attractions of Chandigarh.

One unique feature in the layout of Chandigarh is its roads, classified in accordance with their functions. An integrated system of seven roads was designed to ensure efficient traffic circulation. Corbusier referred to these as the 7'Vs. the city's vertical roads run northeast/southwest (the 'Paths'). The horizontal roads run northwest/southwest ('The Margs'). The intersect at right angles, forming a grid or network for movement.

This arrangement of road-use leads to a remarkable hierarchy of movement, which also ensures that the residential areas are segregated from the noise and pollution of traffic.

Each 'Sector' or the neighboured unit, is quite similar to the traditional Indian 'mohalla'. Typically, each sectors measures 800 metres by 1200 metres, covering 250 acres of area. Each Sector is surrounded by V-2 or V-3 roads, with no buildings opening on to them. Access from the surrounding roads is available only at 4 controlled points, which roughly mark the middle of each side. Typically a sector is divided in four parts by a V-4 road running from east to west and a V-5 road running from north to south. These four parts are easily identifiable as A, B, C and D corresponding to North, East, South and West sides. Each Sector is meant to be self-sufficient, with shopping and community facilities within reasonable walking distance.



Though educational, cultural and medical facilities are spread all over city, however, major institutions are located in Sectors 10, 11, 12, 14 and 26.

The industrial area comprises 2.35 sq kms, set-aside in the Master Plan for non-polluting, light industry on the extreme southeastern side of the city near the railway line, as far away from the Educational Sectors and Capitol Complex as possible.

Tree plantation and landscaping has been an integral part of the city's Master Plan. Twenty six different types of flowering and 22 species of evergreen trees (Sing et. Al., 1998) have been planted

along the roads, in parking areas, shopping complexes, residential areas and in the city parks, to ameliorate the harsh climate of the region, especially the hot and scorching summers.

Population Growth in the City

Chandigarh was planned for a population of half-a-million. In Phase I, 36 sq km of land was acquired by the city administration for construction of 30 sectors. Land for seventeen additional sectors (Sector 31 to 47) was acquired and developed during the second phase to cater for a population of 350,000. The predominance of $\frac{3}{4}$ storey apartments in the second phase provide for higher population dimension. However, Chandigarh has now grown beyond its planned capacity. Hence, development in the third phase has started in sectors 48 and beyond. Demographic data indicate that between 1961 and 1971, the population increased by 144.59 percent, one of the highest for urban areas in India. According to 1981 census, it grew by another 75.55 percent, followed by 42.16 percent in 1991 and by 40.33 per cent in 2001 (with a total population of 9,00,635). By 2021 the population of Chandigarh is projected to be around 19.5 lacs (at current rate of growth) almost four times for which it was originally built.

Administrator

Prof. Kaptan Singh Solanki

Raj Bhawan, Chandigarh

The Adviser

The Adviser to the Administrator is an officer belonging to the Indian Administrative Services of AGMUT Cadre and is appointed by Ministry of Home Affairs. He advises the Administrator on policy matters and oversees the day-to-day administration of the Union Territory. All financial powers of the Administrator stand delegated to him. Adviser acts as Revisional Authority under the Capital of Punjab (Development & Regulations) Act 1952 and an Appellate Authority under various rules framed under the Act.

Sr. No.	Name	Cadre	From	To
Chief Commissioner				
1.	Shri. M.S. Randhawa	I.C.S.	01.11.1966	31.10.1968
2.	Shri Damodar Dass	I.A.S.	31.10.1968	08.04.1969
3.	Shri B.P. Bagchi	I.C.S.	08.04.1969	01.09.1972
4.	Shri M.P.Mathur	I.A.S.	01.09. 1972	31.12.1975
5.	Shri G.P. Gupta	I.A.S.	04.12.1975	15.06.1976
6.	Shri T.N.Chaturvedi	I.A.S.	15.06.1976	05.06.1978
7.	Shri J.C.Aggarwal	I.A.S.	15.06.1978	19.07.1980
8.	Shri B.S. Sarao	I.A.S.	19.07.1980	08.03.1982
9.	Shri K. Banarjee	I.A.S.	08.03.1982	02.08.1984
			02.06.1984	30.05.1985
Adviser to Administrator				
10.	Shri K Banerjee	I.A.S	03.06.1984	31.05.1985
			01.08.1984	30.11.1987
11.	Shri Ashok Pradhan	I.A.S	30.11.1987	05.07.1990

12.	Shri Baleshwar Rai	I.A.S.	05.07.1990	22.04.1993
13.	Shri Ramesh Chandra	I.A.S.	22.04.1993	27.09.1993
14.	Shri V.K.Duggal	I.A.S.	27.09.1993	06.11.1995
15.	Shri Pradip Mehra	I.A.S.	06.11.1995	13.02.1997
16.	Shri Jagdish Sagar	I.A.S.	13.02.1997	19.04.1999
17.	Smt. Vineeta Rai	I.A.S.	19.04.1999	12.01.2001
18.	Ms. Neeru Nanda	I.A.S.	12.01.2001	08.01.2003
19.	Shri Virendra Singh	I.A.S.	08.01.2003	11.09.2003
20.	Shri R. S. Gujral	I.A.S.	11.09.2003	21.11.2003
21.	Shri Lalit Sharma	I.A.S.	21.11.2003	30.09.2007
22.	Shri Pradip Mehra	I.A.S.	30.09.2007	15.04.2011
23.	Shri K. K. Sharma	I.A.S.	15.04.2011	24.12.2014
24.	Shri Vijay Kumar Dev	I.A.S.	24.12.2014	

