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and
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RAJ BHAVAN, PUNJAB
CHANDIGARH - 160 019

MESSAGE

Trees and Forests are the 'Green Lungs' of the Mother earth. They act as a carbon sink and pollution scavengers. Due to increased biotic pressure these versatile, renewable natural resources are under tremendous pressure all round the globe. To insure Ecological balance, Environmental stability and Livelihood security, we have to join hands to Protect, Conserve & Propagate these valuable natural resources.

In Chandigarh commendable work is being done by Residents, NGOs, Schools, Colleges, & Greening Chandigarh Task Group to increase the green cover of the city. I am happy to know that Union Territory of Chandigarh has been awarded the prestigious Indira Priyadarshini Vriksha Mitra Award-2010, by the Ministry of Environment & Forest, Government of India for outstanding work in improving the forests and tree cover in the city. I congratulate all concerned for this great achievement.

I am happy to note that Chandigarh Administration has formulated the Greening Chandigarh Action Plan-2011-12 to further improve the greenery of city beautiful.

On the auspicious occasion of the "World Environment Day", I take great pleasure in releasing the Greening Chandigarh Action Plan 2011-12.

I extend my best wishes and heartiest congratulations to all participants of 'Greening Chandigarh Campaign' and wish them success in their endeavours.

(Shivraj V. Patil)



K.K. Sharma



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MESSAGE

Forest and trees are invaluable wealth of a society. To highlight importance of forests for the people, the United Nations has declared 2011 as the International Year of Forest. Forests are beneficial to humans in several ways. They provide shelter to people and habitat to biodiversity; are a source of food, fodder, fuel wood, medicine, and clean water. Forests also play a vital role in maintaining stable global climate and environment. India had abundant forest cover in ancient times, but due to increased biotic and abiotic factors and indiscriminate felling of trees, the forest cover in the country has greatly reduced. It's time we all join hands to protect forests & trees to save life on the earth.

I am glad to know that Union Territory of Chandigarh has been awarded the prestigious Indira Priyadarshini Vriksha Mitra Award-2010 for outstanding increase in forest and tree cover in the city. The concerted and sincere endeavour of all agencies, departments, Non Government Organizations, students and citizens of Chandigarh has yielded excellent results. I congratulate all for this significant achievement.

Like in the past, this year also the Greening Chandigarh Task group has formulated the Greening Chandigarh Action Plan for 2011-12. I request all the citizens of Chandigarh to actively participate in the tree plantation drive in the coming rainy season to make the city beautiful, more clean and green.

I wish all the success for the plantation drive.

(K.K. Sharma)



V.K. Singh, IAS



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MESSAGE

Forest and trees play a vital role in the life and culture of the people. Forests are intimately linked with our culture and civilization and are useful to us in many ways. Trees provide a wide range of the environmental, social, economical and cultural benefits and services to mankind. It is our moral duty to contribute towards greenery by planting at least one sapling during the coming monsoon.

The sincere efforts made over the years by the residents, school, colleges, resident welfare associations and environmental NGOs, Greening Chandigarh Task Group have fruited excellent results. The Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India has recognized the outstanding work for increasing the forests and tree cover in the city and has awarded the prestigious Indira Priyadarshini Vriksha Mitra Award-2010 to the Union Territory of Chandigarh. I congratulate all the stakeholders for this remarkable achievement.

It gives me great pleasure to note that United Nation is celebrating 2011 as 'International Year of Forests'. It should be our endeavour to work wholeheartedly for the cause of increasing Forest & Green cover in our country in general and Chandigarh in particular.

I am glad that the Greening Chandigarh Task Group has brought out a detailed Action Plan for the year 2011-12, highlighting the plantation targets of various departments and agencies like Forests Department, Horticulture Wing of Engineering Department, Municipal Corporation, Educational Institutions, NGOs etc. Like previous year, active involvement of students, NGOs, Resident Welfare Associations and all greening agencies is solicited in this year's greening campaign.

I wish the efforts all success.



(V. K. Singh)

Acknowledgement

Encouraged by excellent results of annual 'Greening Action Plans' of previous years, Chandigarh Administration has formulated 'Greening Action Plan 2011-12' for U.T. Chandigarh. The plan prescribes the plantation targets of various Departments/agencies and the strategies to achieve the desired results by streamlining and synergizing the efforts and inputs of all stakeholders viz. Government Departments/agencies, N.G.O.'s and educational institutions involved in this missionary task. During 2011-12, **2,30,897 saplings** will be planted on govt. and private land. The green cover of Chandigarh has increased from 50 sq.km. (SFR-2005) to 54.00 sq.km. (ISFR-2009). It is a matter of great pleasure that Union Territory of Chandigarh was bestowed with Indira Priyadarshini Vriksha Mitra (IPVM) Award-2010 for raising green cover in the city. All Govt. Departments/ organisations, N.G.O.'s, Educational Institutions and all residents of Chandigarh deserve appreciation for their untiring efforts to increase the green cover.

I am extremely indebted to His Excellency, Shri Shivraj V. Patil, the Governor of Punjab and the Administrator, U.T. Chandigarh for his constant guidance & encouragement for preparing this comprehensive Action Plan. His concern for the people and the environment of Chandigarh has been a constant source of inspiration to all of us.

I am indebted to Shri K. K. Sharma, Advisor to the Administrator, for his valuable suggestions, inputs and guidance for preparation of this Annual Plan. I owe gratitude to Shri V.K.Singh, Secretary [Environment & Forests], Chandigarh Administration for his immense support and guidance in formulation of this plan.

I am highly grateful to Sh.Saurabh Kumar, Deputy Conservator of Forests, U.T., Dr.Satish Narula, Senior Horticulturist - Panjab Agricultural University, Chandigarh, Shri Arun Kumar, Executive Engineer (Horticulture)-Municipal Corporation and Mrs. Jigna K. Sanghadia, Executive Engineer (Hort.) Engineering Department, for their valuable inputs and support in carrying out this gigantic task. Thanks are also due to Shri Kulbhushan Kanwar, a keen wildlife activist & photographer, whose few photographs on butterfly & parks have been used in this book.

My thanks are due to Sh.Jatinder Verma, Senior Stenographer (Environment) and all Officers and staff of Forest Department for their efforts to get this Action Plan prepared.

With valuable suggestions from all, I am sure this Action Plan would prove to be another milestone in making Chandigarh a more green & clean City.



(Santosh Kumar)
Conservator of Forests &
Director Environment
Chandigarh Administration