



**GREENING CHANDIGARH ACTION PLAN 2013-2014
CHANDIGARH ADMINISTRATION**

CHAPTER IV

URBAN FORESTRY IN CHANDIGARH

1. CITY FOREST NEAR IT PARK :

Department of Forests and Wildlife, UT Chandigarh has established a City Forest near Rajiv Gandhi Information & Technology Park. The Total area of this city forest is 12.35 Acre. This and other areas, a total of 125 Acres of Manimajra village, was acquired by the erstwhile Punjab Government prior to 1966 for establishing Brick kilns for preparation of bricks required for the development work.

After creation of Chandigarh as per Punjab Reorganization Act, 1966 this area was transferred to Union Territory of Chandigarh. Chandigarh Administration closed the brick kilns, in late 1980's, and area was kept as land bank to be used in lieu of Forest Land diverted for Non-Forestry purposes. Possession of 12.35 Acre of area near IT Park was handed over to the Forest Department during the year 2000-01 in lieu of diversion of forest land elsewhere in the city.

When Forest Department took possession this 12.35 Acre of land, it was a barren land, as the top soil was used for a longer period for preparation of bricks. It was a challenging and cumbersome task endowed to the Forest Department to create a green belt in this 12.35 Acre barren area. Forest Department took this challenge with high spirit and motivation to reclaim the waste land by raising the plantation in this land where top soil was left with no nutrients. Extra efforts were put by the officials and variety of plants suitable to this area and situation were planted during 2000-01 & onwards.

“One Earth One Family”



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As a result of dedicated and sincere endeavor of the forest officials once a barren land, is now a Green Belt. More than 40 Species are growing in this area. This city forest is a paradise for morning & evening walkers & storehouse of fresh oxygen & relaxing place for the I.T. professionals

- **Facilities available in City Forest are :-**

- o Natural Trail
- o Rain Shelters
- o Sitting Benches
- o Meditation Huts
- o Interpretative sinages.

2. **SHIVALIK ARBORETUM:**

Forest Department Chandigarh has established an Arboretum near Transport Chowk, Sector-26 Chandigarh. Total area of Shivalik Arboretum is 11.115 Acres. After taking over the area in 1993-94, the Forest Department took up the challenging task of converting this barren land, full with industrial waste into a green belt, with high spirit and motivation. Today this Shivalik Arboretum is full of prominent species found in Shivalik region and the citizen can enjoy their presence while walking along the natural trail.

“Our Earth, Our Habitat, Our Home”



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3. BUTTERFLY PARK:

The Department has developed a Butterfly Park in Sector-26, Chandigarh. This park spreads over 7 acres of land. The objective of this Butterfly Park is to establish a center for Conservation of Butterflies, Education, Recreation & to provide information about the valuable Bioresource. The Butterfly park was inaugurated on 21st March, 2012 on the occasion of World Forestry Day & was dedicated to the citizens of Chandigarh by Sh.K.K.Sharma, Advisor to the Administrator.

The endeavor of the department is to develop a park full of host & nectar plants so as to make the habitat congenial to butterflies. Apart from this Following works have been carried out in the Butterfly Park:

1. Landscaping
2. Nature Trail for the visitors
3. Butterfly conservatory (20 m X 10 m)
4. Interpretive Boards depicting details of Butterflies
5. Signages

4 PEACOCK PARK :

Department is developing a 5.7 acre green area in Sector-39. This area is full of vegetation & a potential habitat for Pea fowls. The area has been fenced from all sides to provide a secluded place for resting of our National Bird. Adequate arrangement has been made for provision of water for the Pea Fowls inside the Park in the form of artificial ponds.



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City Forest near I.T. Park, Chandigarh



Shivalik Arboretum near Transport Chowk on Madhya Marg, Chandigarh

“Confidence is a thing that cannot be produced by compulsion”



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Shri K.K. Sharma, IAS, Advisor to Administrator inaugurating the Butterfly Park, in Sector-26 on 21st March, 2012 on the occasion of World Forestry Day.



Shri K.K. Sharma, IAS, Advisor to Administrator, planting Kachnar sapling during the inaugural function of the Butterfly Park.

“Poverty and the Environment – We have to break the Vicious Circle



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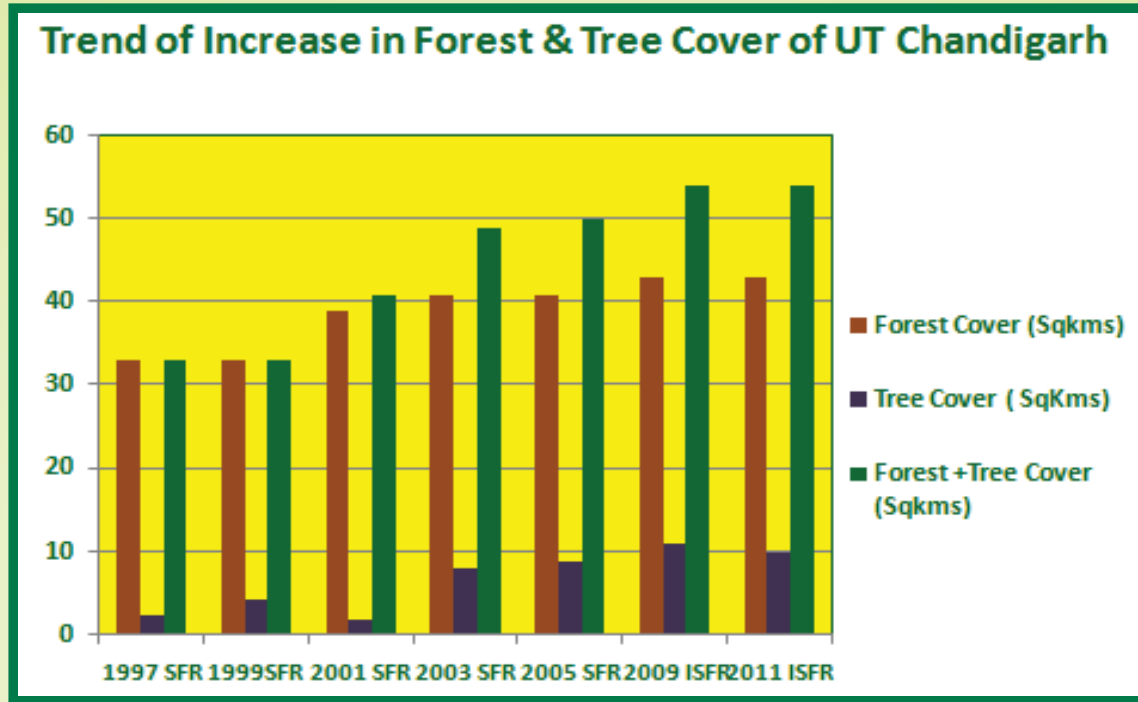
Excursion trips of School Students organized by Forest Department in co-ordination with DEEKSHA-NGO in Butterfly Park.



Prize winning Tableau of Department of Forests & Wildlife on the occasion of Republic Day-2013 in Parade Ground, Sector-17, Chandigarh.



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Display of Photo frames on Migratory & Resident birds for generating awareness among masses, during Celebration of World Wetland Day on 2nd February, 2013 at Sukhna Lake.

“Character is property. It is the noblest of possession”