

Hon'ble Prime Minister, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission, Chief ministers of the states and the distinguished members of the National Development Council and friends. At the outset, I thank the Hon'ble Prime Minister for having convened this important meeting to consider the Draft 12th Five Year Plan (2012-17) for approval in this August Council.

Union Territory of Chandigarh- capital of two states - Punjab and Haryana was commissioned by Pt. Jawahar Lai Nehru to reflect the new nation's modern and progressive outlook. Since then the city has expanded rapidly and has grown into a modern metropolitan city with an area of 114 sq. Km. and a population of 10,54,686. Today, it stands as a symbol of planned urbanization in the country.

In the 11th Five year plan, UT Chandigarh's plan performance has been impressive. Against an outlay of Rs.2380.12 crore, Rs.2352.14 crore was spent which is 99% of the total outlay. Human Development, Infrastructure Development and environment Protection were the major priorities and accounted for approximately 84% of the 11th Plan allocation. I would like to mention here that Chandigarh does not place any extra burden on Union Government's Budget. For last many years we have been giving a very healthy surplus on the Non Plan side which even finances major portion of our plan expenditure. During the year 2011-12, total collection of receipt from UT Chandigarh was Rs.2321.70 crore against net non plan budget of Rs. 1810.74 crore showing a surplus of Rs.510.96 crore.

In the last 5 years The State economy has registered annual GSDP growth rate between 11% to 17% at current prices. With per capita income of Rs. 140073 the city stands third in the list of Indian states and Union Territories. Tertiary sector, with 85.04% share is the largest contributor to our GSDP. Secondary Sector contributes 14.50% whereas the contribution of primary sector to GSDP is approximately 0.46%.

During the last decade, literacy rate has increased from 81% to 86%. IMR fell from 47.28 in 2001 to 20.96 in 2011. Also, with our initiatives for promoting institutional deliveries, the MMR has come down to 16. Nevertheless, we are striving towards bringing both IMR and MMR down further. The last decade also saw an increase in Female Sex ratio of Chandigarh which has increased from 777 to 818. Similarly, sex ratio of child population in the age group of 0-6 years has increased from 845 to 867 during 2001-2011. However, this still remains an area of concern and Chandigarh Administration has been continuously striving to improve it further by taking all possible steps to check female foeticide.

In the 12th Five Year Plan, our vision is to ensure a broad-based improvement in living standards of all sections of the people through a growth process which is more inclusive and also more environmentally sustainable. Our endeavour would be to make Chandigarh a premier city in the world not only in terms of its heritage, urban amenities, modern transport system, education, health and other infrastructural facilities but also in terms of inclusivity and sustainability.

In line with the Govt, of India's Approach Paper for 12th Five year Plan, my Administration has formulated plan schemes of Rs.5530.79 crore for 12th Five Year Plan. Health, Education, Social Security, Power, Public Transport, Urban Development, Environment are the key focus area of the Chandigarh Administration in the 12th Five Year Plan and constitutes about 88% of the total projected outlay.

In the Education sector, Sarv Siksha Abhiyan has effectively strengthened the school education system in Chandigarh. With effective implementation of Mid Day

meal scheme, student retention rate has increased significantly. Implementation of Right to Education act, has resulted in a substantial increase in the enrolments in Government schools. To cope up with the same we are in the process of creating more Schools and upgrade the existing infrastructural facilities in the UT of Chandigarh. Despite massive increase in physical infrastructure, quality of learning outcomes still remain the biggest challenge. To improve the same, on one hand our focus is on capacity building of the teachers and school management and on the other hand we are making the classroom an interesting experience by employing I.T. aids and innovative learning material. To promote the scientific temper amongst the children, Science clubs are being strengthened and popularized in the schools. Further, to achieve the stipulated target of covering 25% students population under vocational education, 14 new vocational sections are proposed to be introduced during 12th Five Year Plan.

In Higher education, Chandigarh has got a good infrastructure. In 12th five year plan, our main focus is on improving the quality of learning and bridging the gap between the institutions and the Industry.

In health sector, Chandigarh has an extensive and effective network of primary, secondary and tertiary health care institutions including the prestigious Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research and the Govt. Medical College and Hospital, Sector-32. However at present, our health care facilities are under tremendous pressure because of the rush of patients from entire northern region. During 12th Five Year Plan, emphasis has been there for adding augmenting the existing capacity and modernizing the existing infrastructure to be in sync with time. In this direction, completion of ambitious project of Govt. Medical College & Hospital is a priority of the Administration and sufficient provision of funds have been kept in 12th Plan. Proposal for establishing a Trauma centre has also been included in the 12th plan. Apart from this, provision of funds have been made for upgradation of Govt multi specialty Hospital, up-gradation of two existing CHCs to 100 bedded hospital for M.C.H. services and upgradation of a polyclinic to 50 bedded hospital during 12th plan.

Clean drinking water is one of the key determinant of health. Chandigarh Administration is committed to provide clean drinking water to its population. Today we are able to provide 87 MGD of water by tapping both the underground and surface water resources as against the estimated requirement of 116 MGD. The Administration had worked out a plan to augment the availability of water by laying new lines of 40 MGD to bring portable water to Chandigarh from Bhakra Canal. This project costing about Rs. 193.00 crore has been proposed under JNNURM. However, due to water disputes between states of Punjab and Haryana, this project could not be taken up since long. I would use this platform to request both the Chief Ministers to support the project so that we can fulfill our commitment of providing clean drinking water to all the residents of capital of Punjab and Haryana.

The population of Chandigarh and its surrounding towns of Panchkula and Mohali has been growing fast. Also, there has been a phenomenal growth in the population of vehicles. Most of the major roads are beginning to become congested. As such, there is an urgent need for strengthening the urban transport system. The Administration had got prepared a Comprehensive Mobility Plan (CMP) for better transportation in city. The CMP has recommended the introduction of Metro Railway and Bus Rapid Transport Corridor as a long term solution to reduce congestion. A

Detailed Project Report for metro project for Chandigarh urban complex which include neighbouring fast growing towns of Mohali in Punjab and Panchkula in Haryana has been prepared by DMRC which is under active consideration. We seek support of the Govt, of India during 12th Plan period for the proposed Metro Rail Project. Besides, 208 buses on the completion of their life are proposed to be replaced by city buses during 12th Five Year Plan period which will further strengthen the public transport within the tricity area.

Chandigarh is known for unique heritage buildings constructed on design made by the famous architect Le Corbusier. Sufficient funds have been proposed to be kept for the first time for maintenance of such building and other technical help for their proper preservation and conservation etc.

To improve the quality and quantity of the green cover, enrichment plantations are carried out in forest and non forest areas. As per Forest Survey of India Report, our green cover has increased significantly in previous years & continues to increase today. The outstanding work carried out by Chandigarh Administration is acknowledged by the Govt, of India, Ministry of Environment & Forest, by awarding prestigious Indira Priyadarshini Vriksha Mitra Award in 2010. The state of Forest in UT Chandigarh has been ranked first amongst all States and UT's by the Planning Commission in its Environment Performance Index-2012. The Administration will take up the work of enrichment plantation in the Forest & Non Forest Area to improve the quality and quantity of the Green Cover during the 12th plan period.

With the objective of reducing the dependence on fossil fuels for energy needs and to limit emission levels to sustainable levels even while maintaining the desired socio-economic development growth, Chandigarh Administration has got approved a Solar City Master Plan from MNRE, GOI. The Target for 12th Five year plan is installation of 5 MWp SPV Plant.

Housing has been a major area of concern for all of us. Chandigarh Housing Board has constructed more than 50000 dwelling units for the residents of Chandigarh. Out of this, almost 66% of the houses have been constructed for EWS and LIG categories. To achieve the objectives of the Rajiv Awas Yojana of making Chandigarh a slum free city, you will be happy to know that an ambitious slum rehabilitation project involving construction of almost 25000 dwelling units, for rehabilitation of slum dwellers living in Chandigarh under JNNURM, is already being implemented in order to provide dignified life in a better and healthy environment to all the slum dwellers.

Chandigarh is a planned city, with a high standard of civic amenities. The rapid growth in population along with its concomitant stress on urban infrastructure needs to be tackled urgently. In the 12th Five Year Plan, therefore, we have laid strong emphasis on urban development. The Municipal corporation of Chandigarh (MCC) has been in existence as an elected body since 1996. The administration has been providing budgetary support to MCC to carry out various development projects/schemes in the city. Recently, the administration has transferred additional important functions like primary schools, dispensaries and V-III roads in the city to MCC. To meet the 12th five year plan targets and to further strengthen this urban local body, It has been decided to provide adequate Grant in Aid (GIA) to Municipal corporation under the plan budget of Chandigarh administration. The main thrust of this GIA (Plan) is on major infrastructure projects relating to water supply including sanitation, sewerage, solid waste management, road network, Education and health.

Functioning of the Electricity Department is now regulated as per Electricity Act 2003 under the control of Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission (JERC). Keeping in view JERC regulations, the Administration has made adequate provisions for strengthening/ upgradation and restructuring of power distribution network in 12th five year plan.

We have also taken up number of steps to have an accelerated and exclusive growth of the weaker sections of our society. We are already implementing a schemes of old age pension covering all senior citizens of 60 years and above for the economically weaker section of the society. Looking at the need of widows who have no other means of financial support, we have launched another scheme of monthly widow pension. In ICDS programme, 420 anganwadi centres are being run in villages, labour colonies and various sectors of Chandigarh, where there is concentration of economically weaker sections of the society. 80 more anganwadi centres are to be opened during 12th Plan. We have strengthened our Mid-day-Meal network further by adding by all aided Non Govt. Schools in UT Chandigarh. Chandigarh Administration has engaged four cooking institutes for preparing and providing cooked meal under Mid-day-Meal Scheme. Besides 420 Anganwadi Centres are providing cooked food / morning snakes to the ICDS beneficiaries through 7 Non Profit Organizations.

Sir, with the support from the Govt, of India we plan make UT Chandigarh a modern welfare administration in the country and set example for other to emulate.

I assure that despite facing many challenges, the Chandigarh Administration will constantly work towards improving the quality of life of the residents and preserving the unique character of the city of Chandigarh. Our endeavour will be to make Chandigarh a betterplacetolive.

I once again thank you for giving me an opportunity to address this august gathering.