



# India's Tallest Air Purifier: Chandigarh

## Why in News

India's **tallest air purifier** will be inaugurated in Chandigarh on the **International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies**.

- Earlier, in August 2021 country's first '**smog tower**' was inaugurated in Connaught Place, **New Delhi**.

## Key Points

### ▪ About:

- It is a **24 meter long** outdoor air purification tower and is capable of purifying the air of a **radius of around 1 km**.
- It will also **show the quality index of the air it inhales** and the quality index of the air it will **exhale**. It functions through electricity.
  - **Air purifiers** are structures designed as large-scale air purifiers to **reduce air pollution particles**.
- Chandigarh is one of the **non-attainment cities in the country according to National Clean Air Programme (NCAP)** norms, which means it has over a five-year period not consistently met the **National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS)** for harmful PM 10 (particulate matter that is 10 microns or less in diameter), PM 2.5 or NO<sub>2</sub> (nitrogen dioxide).
  - After remaining "satisfactory" and "moderate" during the lockdown period and a few months after, the **Air Quality Index (AQI)** had again turned "poor" for the first time in November 2020.

### ▪ International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies:

- The **United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)** in December 2019, adopted a resolution by which **7<sup>th</sup> September** became the International Day of Clean Air for blue skies.
- It aims to **prioritize the need for healthy air** for all while keeping conversations broad enough to encompass other critical issues such as **climate change, human and planetary health** as well as the **Sustainable Development Goals**.
- The resolution was adopted in recognition of the **necessity to bring down the number of casualties and ailments** from pollutants like chemicals in the air, water and soil **by the year 2030**.
- For **2021** the theme is **Healthy Air, Healthy Planet**.

**Source: IE**

