This work is a study of some aspects of the administration of a planned city in India: Chandigarh. Brought into existence after the partition of India, Chandigarh has been planned as the new capital city of the Indian state of Punjab. Besides, at that time of turmoil and chaos after partition, Chandigarh was also intended to provide a focal point for the region and the country as a symbol of hope and aspiration, after the newly earned freedom. Therefore, the design and execution of Chandigarh engaged the talents of several distinguished architects and administrators - the most noted among whom being Le Corbusier.

Political developments in the region have, however, caused a sudden transformation, in the year 1966, of a small administrative sub-system of the state government at Chandigarh into a full-fledged union territory administration. The scope of the present work has, therefore, to be extended to the study of the entire union territory administration, which is not only responsible primarily for the execution of the Master Plan of this huge urban project but also for the planned growth of the city on the lines its planners had envisioned.

The study covers three broad aspects: the description and analysis of the organizational structure of Chandigarh administration with all its parts; an examination of the dynamics of administration through two case-studies of administrative
decisions and actions; and, the evaluation of the performance of various services of Chandigarh administration, such as - general administrative services, social services, economic services and miscellaneous services.

In view of the anticipated merger of the territory with an adjoining state, the administrative arrangements in Chandigarh are of transitory nature. Yet, the major provisions of the Master Plan of the city have been completely pre-defined. It, therefore, seems to be an opportune time to take stock of the development of the city and the role of the administration in this regard. Though the architectural and social aspects of Chandigarh have received considerable attention, and some very useful studies have been published, the study of the administration of the project and of the later general administration of the planned city has been an unexplored field. The present work is an effort to provide some insight into this aspect.

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Chandigarh.
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( Shyam Kala )