

MCQ Question · mcqquestion.com

Punjab: Capital, Government, and the Food Bowl of India

Free · Share

Punjab: Capital, Government, and the Food Bowl of India

Punjab is a state in north-west India. It is known for its wheat fields and for the Golden Temple at Amritsar. This lesson covers the facts exams ask about: how the state was formed, why it is called a granary, and what its main places are.

The lesson ends with the state's present leaders. Read each short card, then try the quick checks.

Granary: a place where grain is stored, or a region that grows a lot of it. Punjab is called the Granary of India because it grows large amounts of wheat. The title is about farming, not about storage buildings.

Reorganisation of states: redrawing state borders on a set plan. In 1966 the old Punjab was divided. This created a smaller Punjab and a new state, Haryana.

Union territory: an area ruled directly by the Centre instead of a state government. Chandigarh became one in 1966. It also serves as the capital of both Punjab and Haryana.

Partition: the division of British India in 1947 into India and Pakistan. The old Punjab was cut between the two countries. Millions of people crossed the new border.

Where Is Punjab, and How Was the State Formed?

Where is Punjab?

Punjab lies in north-west India. It covers 50,362 square kilometres and has 22 districts. Census 2011 counted about 27.7 million people.

Only two big rivers, the **Sutlej** and the **Beas**, flow inside the state today. Its literacy rate was 76.7 per cent in Census 2011.

Sources: ssapunjab.org

> **Quick check 1.** Punjab has an area of about 50,362 square kilometres. *(True or False?)* See answer ↓

When was Punjab formed in its present shape?

The present Punjab came into being on **1 November 1966**. The Punjab Reorganisation Act, 1966 divided the old state. The Act came into force on 18 September 1966, and 1 November was the appointed day.

The division created a new state, **Haryana**. Hill areas such as Simla, Kangra and Kulu went to Himachal Pradesh.

Chandigarh became a Union territory. It is the joint capital of Punjab and Haryana.

Sources: casemine.com; ssapunjab.org

> **Quick check 2.** Chandigarh is the joint capital of Punjab and Haryana. *(True or False?)* See answer ↓

Who got what in 1966?

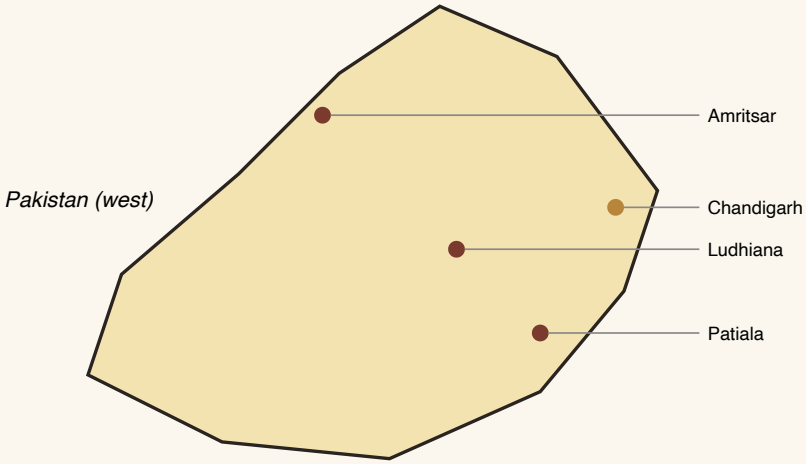
The 1966 division moved land and a city into new hands. This table shows the main changes.

Part	Where it went	Why it matters
Plains, Punjabi-speaking areas	Punjab	The state kept its core farmland and the Golden Temple city.
Plains, Hindi-speaking areas	Haryana	A new state came into being on 1 November 1966.
Hill areas (Simla, Kangra, Kulu and others)	Himachal Pradesh	The hill districts joined a hill state.
Chandigarh	Union territory	It serves as the capital of both Punjab and Haryana.

So one old state became three units. Learn the table as a single memory block.

Sources: casemine.com

> **Quick check 3.** The hill areas of the old Punjab were given to Haryana. *(True or False?)* See answer ↓



Punjab sits in the north-west, with Pakistan to its west. Amritsar, home of the Golden Temple, is near the border. Chandigarh, the shared capital, lies on the eastern edge. This is a simple sketch, not a survey map.

Why Is Punjab Called the Food Bowl of India?

What makes Punjab the food bowl?

Punjab is called the **Granary of India**. It is the second-largest wheat producer in the country. Its farms feed people far beyond its own borders.

The grain goes to the central food pool, which supplies the public food system. That is why the state matters far more for food than its size suggests.

Sources: ssapunjab.org

> **Quick check 4.** Punjab is known as the Granary of India. *(True or False?)* See answer ↓

Why does Punjab grow so much grain?

Wheat needs flat land, deep soil and steady water. The plains of Punjab supply all three. Rivers and canals carry water to the fields.

Three things matter most for the high output:

- **Flat plains** that are easy to plough and irrigate.
- **Canal and river water** from the Sutlej and Beas.
- **Farmers** who adopted better seeds and methods.

Together these keep the state at the top of India’s grain output.

Sources: ssapunjab.org

Which rivers flow through Punjab?

The name Punjab means the land of five rivers. Most of those rivers now lie across the border or in other states.

Only the Sutlej and the Beas flow within the present state. Canals carry their water to the wheat fields, which links geography to farming.

Sources: ssapunjab.org

What Is the Golden Temple, and Why Does Amritsar Matter?

What is the Golden Temple?

The **Golden Temple** is also called Sri Harmandir Sahib. It stands in Amritsar and is the holiest shrine of the Sikhs. The temple sits in the middle of a sacred pool.

Guru Ram Das began the pool, and Guru Arjan Dev built the shrine in the late 16th century. Sources differ slightly on exact years, so exams rarely ask for them.

Sources: incredibleindia.gov.in

> **Quick check 5.** The Golden Temple stands in Ludhiana. *(True or False?)* See answer ↓

Why is Amritsar important?

Amritsar is the spiritual centre of Sikh faith in Punjab. Its most famous place is the Golden Temple. Visitors from India and abroad come to see it.

The city also lies close to the Pakistan border. This makes it a key place in the story of Partition.

Sources: incredibleindia.gov.in; thewire.in

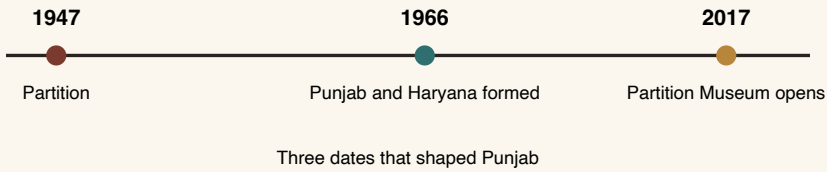
What is the Partition Museum?

The **Partition Museum** in Amritsar is the first museum in the world devoted to the Partition of 1947. It is housed in the old Town Hall and opened in 2017. It keeps the stories of people who crossed the new border.

The museum fits Amritsar well. Punjab was cut between India and Pakistan, and the city sits very near the line.

Sources: thewire.in; mcqquestion.com

> **Quick check 6.** The world's first Partition Museum opened in Amritsar. *(True or False?)* See answer ↓



Three dates that shaped Punjab

How Have Exams Asked About Punjab?

Which exam questions touch Amritsar?

Three questions from past papers fit this lesson. Try each one before you read the answer.

- **CDS (II) 2017, Q113:** asks where the first Partition Museum opened. The answer is **Amritsar**.
- **NDA (II) 2016, Q127:** asks where the largest biomass cookstove system was installed. The answer is the community kitchen at **Amritsar**.

- **CAPF (AC) 2020, Q101:** asks about the **Treaty of Amritsar** of 1809, which fixed the Sutlej as a boundary.

All three full papers are on this site, so you can see the options there.

Sources: mcqquestion.com

Who Runs Punjab Now?

Who are the leaders?

Bhagwant Mann is the Chief Minister of Punjab. He belongs to the Aam Aadmi Party.

Gulab Chand Kataria became Governor in July 2024. He took over from Banwarilal Purohit.

Sources: tribuneindia.com; punjabrajbhavan.gov.in

> **Quick check 7.** Gulab Chand Kataria became Governor of Punjab in 2024. *(True or False?)* See answer ↓

What should you remember?

These points cover the whole lesson. Keep them ready for quick recall.

- **Formed:** 1 November 1966; Haryana was created at the same time.
- **Capital:** Chandigarh, shared with Haryana.
- **Farming:** the Granary of India, second-largest wheat producer.
- **Amritsar:** the Golden Temple and the first Partition Museum.
- **Leaders:** Bhagwant Mann (CM) and Gulab Chand Kataria (Governor).

A good tip is to pair each fact with one place or date.

Sources: casemine.com; ssapunjab.org; thewire.in

Practice MCQs

1. On which date was the present Punjab formed?

A. 1 November 1966

B. 1 November 1956

C. 15 August 1947

D. 26 January 1950

See answer ↓

2. Which state received hill areas such as Simla, Kangra and Kulu in the 1966 reorganisation?

A. Haryana

B. Himachal Pradesh

C. Rajasthan

D. Uttarakhand

See answer ↓

3. In which city does the Golden Temple (Sri Harmandir Sahib) stand?

A. Patiala

B. Ludhiana

C. Jalandhar

D. Amritsar

See answer ↓

4. Where was the world's first Partition Museum opened?

A. Lahore

B. Delhi

C. Kolkata

D. Amritsar

See answer ↓

5. Who is the Chief Minister of Punjab?

A. Sukhbir Singh Badal

B. Charanjit Singh Channi

C. Amarinder Singh

D. Bhagwant Mann

See answer ↓

6. What is the administrative status of Chandigarh?

A. A district of Punjab

B. A separate state

C. A district of Haryana

D. A Union territory and joint capital

See answer ↓

Answer Key

1. **A.**
   The Punjab Reorganisation Act, 1966 named 1 November 1966 as the appointed day. The old state was divided on that date. Haryana was created at the same time.
   Sources: Punjab Reorganisation Act, 1966 · Punjab Samagra Shiksha: state profile.
   ↑ Q1
2. **B.**
   These hill areas went to Himachal Pradesh. The plains were split between Punjab and Haryana. Chandigarh became a Union territory.
   Sources: Punjab Reorganisation Act, 1966 · Punjab Samagra Shiksha: state profile.
   ↑ Q2
3. **D.**
   The Golden Temple stands in Amritsar, in a sacred pool. It is the holiest shrine of the Sikhs. Ludhiana, Patiala and Jalandhar are other Punjab cities.
   Sources: Incredible India: Golden Temple · Smithsonian: Partition Museum report.
   ↑ Q3
4. **D.**
   The museum opened in the old Town Hall at Amritsar in 2017. It keeps stories of the 1947 Partition. Amritsar lies close to the Pakistan border.
   Sources: Smithsonian: Partition Museum report · CDS (II) 2017 paper, Q113.
   ↑ Q4
5. **D.**
   Bhagwant Mann of the Aam Aadmi Party leads the state government. Gulab Chand Kataria is the Governor. The Governor is the formal head of the state.
   Sources: The Tribune: new Governor report · Punjab Raj Bhavan: press release.
   ↑ Q5

6. **D.**
   Chandigarh is a Union territory. It serves as the capital of both Punjab and Haryana. The Centre administers it.
   Sources: Punjab Reorganisation Act, 1966 · Punjab Samagra Shiksha: state profile.
   ↑ Q6

Quick-check answers

1. **True.** The state also has 22 districts. ↑ 1
2. **True.** It is a Union territory and serves both states. ↑ 2
3. **False.** They went to Himachal Pradesh. ↑ 3
4. **True.** It grows large amounts of wheat for the whole country. ↑ 4
5. **False.** It stands in Amritsar. ↑ 5
6. **True.** It opened in the Town Hall in 2017. ↑ 6
7. **True.** He replaced Banwarilal Purohit in July 2024. ↑ 7

Curated by Arsalan Zuberi · mcqquestion.com

Scan to read online

https://mcqquestion.com/articles/punjab-state-profile/