

## **BRIEF HISTORY OF THE TOWN**

Kapurthala Town is said to have been founded in the early part of the eleventh century in the times of *Sultan Mahmud of Ghaznavi* by *Rana Kapoor*, ascion of the ruling Rajput house of Jaisalmer Kapurthala. Kapurthala Town did not figure till the rise of Jassa Singh Ahluwalia in the mid-eighteenth century.

Sardar Jassa Singh Was the contemporary of Nadir Shah and Ahmed Shah Abdali and taking advantages of the troubled times he annexed territory on a large scale and made himself by his intelligence and bravery the leading Sikh of the day. At a time when Punjab was reeling under the frequent raids and ravages of the Afghans and the Mughhals, it was Sardar Jassa Singh who fought the invaders and saved it, protected its people with his indomitable courage, determination and self sacrifice which has few parallels in the history of Northen Punjab.

A well-planned city with a colorful past, Kapurthala, Capital of the erstwhile Kapurthala State, is the headquarter of the District. It is said to have being founded by Nawab Kapoor Singh. The Maharaja of Kapurthala were renowned for their tastes and many of them were influenced by Western fashions and trends. The most colorful of them was Maharaja Jagatjit Singh who is believed to have been 'one of the most enlightened princes' in pre Independence. Kapurthala' striking building owe their existence to Maharaja Jagatjit Singh. A great Admirer of the French architecture, he had a Louis the XIV palace Fontainebleau- the classic Mansard roofed chateau, built for himself by a French architect Monsieur M.Marcel in 1906. Its gilded Rocco ceilings, lapis lazuli pillars, Gobelin tapestries, moasaic topped tables, Serves vases, Aubusson carpets, and chandeliers impressed everyone. This Lovely palace, which harmonizes French architecture with oriental surroundings; is now a Sainik School.

On the banks of the Bein/Rivulet Kanji surrounded by natural scenery is a favorite rendezvous for Picnic, Boating and Fishing. The Villa Bouna Vista a delightful, an Italianate shooting lodge on the banks of the Rivulet, a tributary of the Beas, the present family home of H.H .the Maharaja of Kapurthala, was built in 1846 by J.O.S. Elmore. The lake, which is an extension of the Bein, is embedded in beautiful natural surroundings.

The Palace looks charming as it is set in the midst of a beautifully laid out garden, and extensive lawns, which run down in terraces to the banks of the river water.

The Moorish Mosque designed by famous French architect, M.Manteaux, is a unique building in India built in 1930 in Moorish style. The Mosque, which resembles Qutbya Mosque in Marakash, Morocco, has a large compound paved with the purest Indian marble. The artists of the Mayo School of Art, Lahore, have decorated inner dome.

Shalimar garden is a lovely small garden, has a Swimming pool and a Library having' Samadhies ' cenotaphs of the former ruler of the erstwhile Kapurthala State, which have some of them, embellished with the fine filigree work.

Durbar Hall, Picturesque Rest Houses at Sultanpur, and Phagwara were also constructed during the reign of Maharaja Jagatjit Singh who epitomizes perhaps all that was best in the blending of feudal traditions and modern, liberal ideas. The State Gurudwara, Jubilee Hall and the Clock Tower are some other landmarks of the town.

The most striking building in the town (build in 1831) is a fine Hindu temple called the Panj Mandir built by Sardar Fateh Singh in the heart of the Kapurthala town. The principle dome in the center is surrounded by several smaller temples dedicated to different deities. A replica of this was exhibited in the pre-partition Punjab Museum at Lahore.

Kapurthala Town got prominence during the regime of Nawab Jassa Singh Ahluwalia in the middle of 18th century. The Town is known for its gardens and palaces. The Municipal Council was constituted in the year 1867. The population of the town as per census year 2001 is 84361. The Municipal Council Kapurthala was transferred from Class-II to Ist Class vide Government Notification No.11 (I) USLG (3)-79/35(SPL) dated 9th April,1979. At present this town is divided into 27 wards with a population approximate 1.00 lacs people.

### **General Description of Municipality regarding Finances, water supply, Sewerage & Street Lights**

Budget details are as below

Year	Budget (Rs.in lacs)	Actual Income (Rs.in lacs)
2005-06	1092.00	1025.00
2006-07	1200.00	1103.43
2007-08	1020.00	1034.00

### **Water Supply**

The Municipal Council is providing potable water to 90% of its total population. There are about 16125 water connections taken by the inhabitants which are fitted with metered water supply. The Municipal Council Kapurthala have adopted new water supply and sewerage rates. The same was implemented with effect from 28.12.03. The Council has provided 21 tubewells which are operational. The average discharge of each tubewell is 20000 gallons of water per hour. These Tubewells are fitted with automatic dozers for injecting chloring. As and when water sample are collected by any agency the result was always positive and water have been declared potable. The Municipal Council Kapurthala has installed center control panel with auto timer system on almost all the tubewells. This has improved the working of the tubewells and water supply is being provided to the inhabitants regularly. Apart from this the Municipal Council have provided 6 generator

sets on different tubewells and the Council have provided hot line on two tubewells for uninterrupted water supply to the inhabitants of the town. Municipal Council Kapurthala is providing water supply to the inhabitants of the town round the clock. The tubewells are put to operations from 3 a.m to 11 pm. The Municipal Council is providing water supply directly from the tubewells to the water supply mains. The total length of Water Supply laid 133 KMs which is covering 90% of population. In near future Council is planning to lay the Water Supply pipe line in the remaining parts of the city.

### **SEWERAGE:-**

The sewerage facility is being provided to 80% of the population of town. The Municipal Council has sanctioned 7075 sewerage connection. The Municipal Council as per its bye-laws levy sewer charges where it has laid down the sewer though the inhabitant has not obtained the sewer connection. The other main feature of sewer system is that the sewer water goes by gravity and sewer water is not required to be pumped out by mechanical means and no disposal system has been installed. Even during heavy rains there is no water logging in any part of the city. At present total length of sewerage line is about 72.00 KM. The Municipal Council intends to provide water supply and sewerage facility to cover 100% population. For this DPR for the 16.44 Crore has been prepared by the Punjab Water Supply Sewerage Board & this has been approved by Government of India under UIDSSMT Scheme.

### **STREET LIGHT**

1) Total Number of Street Light Points = 5590

#### **Details of Points**

1.	Tube point 40 watt	:	3035
2.	H.P.S.V. Lamp 70 watt	:	359
3.	H.P.S.V. Lamp 150 watt	:	1940
4.	H.P.S.V. Lamp 250 watt	:	152
5.	M.H.Lamp 250 watt	:	66
6.	Mercury Lamp 125 watt	:	27
7.	Lamp 200 watt	:	5
8.	High Mast Post Light System in four places	;	6

**Total** **5590**

**Executive Officer,  
Municipal Council,  
Kapurthala.**