



Haryana Day, 2024

Why in News?

[Haryana Day](#), celebrated on **1st November** each year, commemorates the state's establishment in **1966**, when it was carved from Punjab.

Key Points

▪ Background:

- **Linguistic and Cultural Identity:** Haryana, culturally and linguistically distinct, sought autonomy from Punjab post-independence.
- **Demand for Statehood:** Key leaders advocated for a Hindi-speaking state, emphasizing Haryana's cultural and linguistic uniqueness.
- **Punjab Reorganisation Act, 1966:** Enacted by the Indian [Parliament](#), this was crucial in creating the states of Haryana and Punjab, as well as the [Union Territory of Chandigarh](#).
- **Shah Commission (1966):** Formed under Justice JC Shah, it recommended specific boundaries based on [linguistic demographics](#).
- **Recommendation:** Allocated regions to Haryana, including districts like **Hisar and Gurgaon**, aligning with the Hindi-speaking population.

▪ Important Personalities:

- **Pandit Bhagwat Dayal Sharma:** Haryana's first Chief Minister, he was a prominent advocate for statehood.
- **Justice JC Shah:** Chaired the Shah Commission, crucial in delineating Haryana's boundaries.

Punjab Reorganisation Act, 1966

- The Punjab Reorganisation Act, 1966 separated parts of the state of Punjab to form new states and a union territory.
- **Haryana** a new state was formed from the Hindi-speaking areas of the state, including the districts of Hissar, Rohtak, Gurgaon, Karnal, and Mahendragarh.
- **Himachal Pradesh** the mountainous regions of Punjab were merged with Himachal Pradesh, which was then a union territory. Himachal Pradesh became a state in 1971.
- **Chandigarh** the capital of Punjab, Chandigarh, was made a union territory to serve as the provisional capital of both Punjab and Haryana.
- The Punjab Reorganisation Act, 1966 was passed by the Indian Parliament on **18th September, 1966**. It was the result of the Punjabi Suba movement, which sought to create a Punjabi-speaking state.