

## Chapter II

## NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY - DELHI

## 2.1 General Characteristics

Delhi is located in northern India between the latitudes of 28°-24'-17" and 28°-53'-00" North and longitudes of 76°-50'-24" and 77°-20'-37" East. Delhi shares bordering with the States of Uttar Pradesh and Haryana. Delhi has an area of 1,483 sq. kms. Its maximum length is 51.90 kms and greatest width is 48.48 kms.

**BASIC STATISTICS ABOUT DELHI**

- Area: 1,483 sq.Km
- Number of districts: 9
- Number of Urban villages:
- Per Capita income: Rs. 38,864

(As per Census 2000-01)

Delhi is situated on the right bank of the river Yamuna at the periphery of the Gangetic plains. It lies a little north of 28° N latitude and a little to the west of 78° longitude. To the west and south-west is the great Indian Thar desert of Rajasthan state, formerly known as Rajputana and, to the east lies the river Yamuna across which has spread the greater Delhi of today. The ridges of the Aravalli range extend right into Delhi proper, towards the western side of the city, and this has given an undulating character to some parts of Delhi. The meandering course of the river Yamuna meets the ridge of Wazirabad to the north; while to the south, the ridge branches off from Mehrauli. The main city is situated on the west bank of the river.

## 2.2 Physical Features

## 2.2.1 Geography

Delhi is bounded by the Indo-Gangetic alluvial plains in the North and East, by Thar desert in the West and by Aravalli hill ranges in the South. The terrain of Delhi is flat in general except for a low

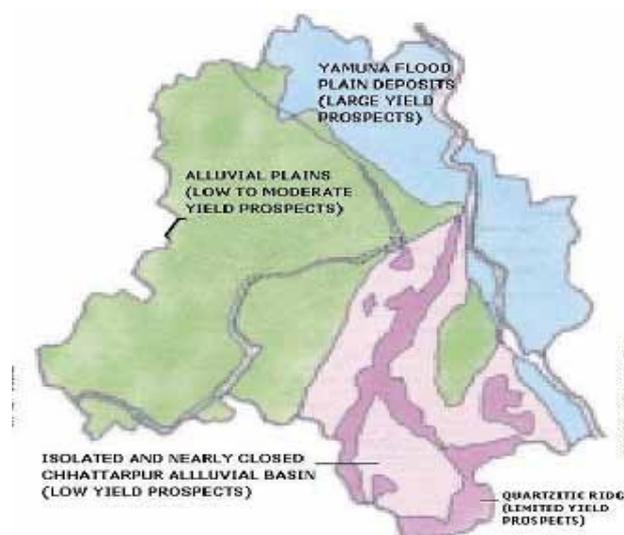


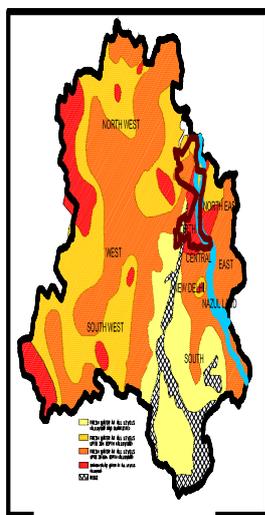
Figure 1: Soil Characteristics of Delhi

NNE-SSW trending ridge that is considered an extension of the Aravalli hills of Rajasthan.

The ridge may be said to enter Delhi from the SW. The eastern part of the ridge extends up to Okhla in the South and disappears below Yamuna alluvium in the NE on the right bank of the river.

**2.2.2. Hydrology**

In 90% of the land in Delhi fresh water is available up to 60 m depth and the quality of water is also all right i.e. in drinkable condition. Only some 10 % of the area comprises the ridge and some has saline and brackish waters.



- Fresh Water at all levels (Alluvium and Quartzite)
- Fresh Water at all levels Upto 30 m depth (Alluvium)
- Fresh Water at all levels 30 – 60 m depth (Alluvium)
- Brackish/Saline water at all levels (Alluvium)
- Ridge

**Figure 2: Water table in Delhi**



**Figure 3: Ground water Quality map of Delhi**

### **2.2.3 Physiography**

The river Yamuna, the Aravalli range, and the plains in between both of these from alluvium deposits of recent formation dominate the physiography of Delhi. The Delhi Ridge and its four sections, the northern, the central, the south central and the southern constitute the farthest extension of the Aravalli range, its spurs meeting the Yamuna at two points, in the north and the east. Ecologically, the Ridge acts a barrier between the Thar desert and the plains and slows down the movement of dust and wind from the desert. This green belt, a natural forest, has a moderating influence on temperature, besides bestowing other known benefits on the people

The Yamuna river and terminal part of the Aravali hill range are the two main geographical features of the city. The Aravali hill range is covered with forest and is called the Ridges; they are the city's lungs and help maintain its environment. The Yamuna river is Delhi's source of drinking water and a sacred river for most of the inhabitants.

The Yamuna river originates from the Yamnotri glacier in the lower Himalayas at an elevation of about 6387 mtr. above mean sea level. From Tajewala, the river sluggishly meanders via Delhi to its confluence with the Ganga at Allahabad after flowing a distance of about 1200 kms. The total length of the river from origin to the confluence point at Allahabad is 1376 kms. The catchments of the Yamuna river system cover parts of Uttranchal, Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan, Delhi and Madhya Pradesh.

## **2.3 Administrative Setup**

### **2.3.1 Under the British**

The British began their rule in Delhi in 1805 with the operation of General Regulations made by the British under the charge of the Resident and Chief Commissioner of Delhi. The system continued with periodic modifications till 1857. In 1858, the British made Delhi a provincial town of the Frontier Province

and later transferred it to the newly formed Punjab province under a Lieutenant Governor. Delhi continued to be administered directly by the Government of India through a Chief Commissioner till 1950.

With the shifting of the capital from Calcutta to Delhi, a separate Committee known as Imperial Delhi Committee was formed on 25 March 1913 to oversee construction and management of the civic affairs of the new capital. In 1916, it was notified as the Raisina Municipal Committee under the Punjab Municipal Act 1911 primarily for meeting the sanitary needs of the workers engaged in the construction of the capital.

Delhi district had a Deputy Commissioner who was the Chief District Officer, having revenue and Registration powers. He was also the head of urban administration, being President of the District Board and the Municipality.

### **2.3.2 After Independence**

Delhi became a Part-C state in 1951 with a Council of Ministers and a Legislature.

The States Reorganization Commission, set-up in December 1953, recommended that Delhi, as the national capital, must remain under the effective control of the national government. It also suggested the formation of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD). The Municipality evolved into the MCD, in which the DC had no role after 1958. The development works were transferred to the Development Commissioner, the industries work to the Directorate of Industries and the work of transport to the Department of Transport. Accordingly, the Council of Ministers and Legislative Assembly of Delhi ceased to exist from November 1, 1956. Delhi, as a Union Territory was administered thereafter by the President of India through a Chief Commissioner appointed under Article 239 till the Delhi Administration Act 1966 came into force.

### 2.3.3 Formation Of The 9 Districts

The Municipal Corporation of Delhi Act was enacted by Parliament in 1957 and the Municipal Corporation of Delhi was formed with elected members in 1958. The Delhi Development Authority was created under the Delhi Development Act, 1957. The first Master Plan, 1961-1981 was published by DDA in 1962.

The Delhi Administration Act 1966 (No.19 of 1966) was enacted by Parliament to provide for limited representative government for Delhi with the creation of a Metropolitan Council comprising 56 elected and 5 nominated members. An Executive Council was also constituted by the President, and four Executive Councillors, including the Chief Executive Councillor, were appointed by the President. Delhi's administrative set-up has seen another change through the 69<sup>th</sup> Constitutional Amendment by way of insertion of Article 239 AA and the passage of the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi Act, 1991.

With the new administrative set-up in Delhi, a number of other changes have followed, such as the transfer of the Delhi Transport Corporation from the Central Government to the Delhi government. Similarly, the Delhi Electricity Supply Undertaking has been reorganised as the Delhi Vidyut Board(DVB). The Delhi Water Supply and Sewage Disposal Undertaking has been reorganised into the Delhi Jal Board (DJB). Both DVB and DJB have been transferred from MCD to the Delhi Government. In place of the single district that existed in Delhi, 9 districts with 27 sub-divisions have been created since January 1997.

However, Deputy Commissioner, Delhi continued to be the Head of the District Administration, responsible for law and order, excise, issue of arms and explosive licenses, and citizenship certificates, apart from revenue and criminal judicial work. In the mid-seventies, the DC office was organized as follows – there were four administrative districts – New, Central, North and South, looked after by three ADMs, amongst whom the various powers and functions, such as treasuries, excise, entertainment etc., were divided. Revenue and Land

Acquisition work was supervised by ADM (Revenue) and ADM (LA) respectively. There were 12 Sub-Divisions, each headed by SDM, which was later reduced to even.

Two major changes greatly diluted the role of DC Office. The first was the separation of the executive and the judiciary in 1969, after which Sessions Courts dealt heinous crimes and Judicial Magistrates dealt other offences including IPC offences. The Executive Magistrates were to look after executive and administrative matters such as licensing, sanction of prosecution, and preventive sections of the Cr.P.C. such as Section 107,109,110,133,144 and 145.



**Figure 4: the nine administrative districts of Delhi**

In 1978, the Delhi Police Act was promulgated, by which Delhi came under the Commissioner of Police system. Almost all powers of the District Magistrates as per the Cr.P.C. were vested in the Police Commissioner. Section 107 and Section 144 Cr.P.C., which are very important viz a viz law and order, since then have been directly dealt with by the Police. Furthermore, powers of licensing and entertainment, which earlier vested in the D.C., were also given to the Police.

This was the situation in 1996 when the exercise of decentralizing the DC office by setting up 27 SDM offices and 9 DC offices was started. While the SDMs were put in place in mid-1996, the DCs began functioning from 1.1.97

## 2.4 Climate

The average annual rainfall in Delhi is 714 mm, three-fourths of which falls in July, August and September. Heavy rainfall in the catchment areas of the Yamuna can result in a dangerous flood situation for the city. During the summer months of April, May and June, temperatures can rise to 40-45 degrees Celsius; winters are typically cold with temperatures during December and January falling to 4 to 5 degree Celsius. February, March, October and November are climatically the best months.

The forest cover has increased from 0.76% of total area in 1980-81 to 1.75% in 1994-95 and 5.93% in 2000-01. Delhi's mineral resources are primarily sand and stone that are useful for construction activities. However, the stone quarries in the Ridge area have been shut down since 1984 on account of environmental considerations.

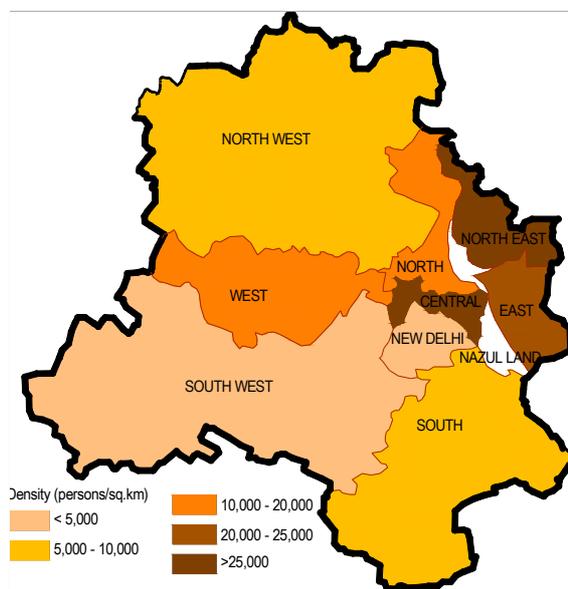
**Table 1: Annual Temperature & Rainfall in Delhi**

Months	Temperature (Max) in °C	Temperature (Min) in °C	Rainfall (in mm)
January	21	07	25
February	24	10	22
March	30	15	17
April	36	21	07
May	41	27	08
June	40	29	65
July	35	27	211
August	34	26	173
September	34	25	150
October	35	19	31
November	29	12	01
December	23	08	05

## 2.5 Socio- Economic Conditions

### 2.5.1 Demographic Profile

Delhi is still partly rural. Delhi tehsil consists of 144 villages and covers an area of 541.5 sq. km. Mehrauli tehsil covers an area of 337.8 sq. km. and has 87 villages. In the 1901 Census, more than 48 per cent of Delhi's population lived in rural areas which showed a gradual decline from 43.7 per cent in 1911 to 7.3 per cent in 1981, though there has been a slight reversal of the trend i.e. 10.07 per cent in 1991. This has



been due to the process of urbanization. During the 1981 Census 27 villages have been declared as census towns. Delhi villages which have coexisted with the sprawling urban settlements still retain a great deal of rural tradition. But farm houses of the nouveau riche are mushrooming, bringing urban culture of a different kind to the rural people. It is only a matter of time before the villages become solidly a part of an urban culture, retaining no doubt a bit of the past, but also losing a great deal of it.

**Table 2: Population Projection of Delhi**

Year	Population in lakhs	Annual compound growth rate			
1901	4.06				
1911	4.14	0.20			
1921	4.89	1.67			
1931	6.36	2.68			
1941	9.18	3.74			
1951	17.44	6.60			
1961	26.59	<b>Districts</b>	<b>SEX RATIO</b>		
1971	40.66		2001	1991	
1981	62.20	North-East	4.34	851	837
1991	94.21	East	4.24	845	846
2001	137.83	Central	3.88	843	872
2011	195.07	West	3.54	830	848
2021	220.00	North	1.21	826	819
		North West		820	822
		South		797	807
		New Delhi		791	793
		South west		783	795

Source: Census 2001

**Table 3: Sex Ratio as per Districts**

Sex ratio in Delhi had been declining from 862 in 1901 to 715 in 1914. This could also be due, among other factors, to female infanticide widely reported in the northwest. From 1951 onwards there has been improvement from 768 in 1951 to 827 females per 1000 males in 1991, owing to the improvement in the status of women, fall in death rate during pre-and post-natal periods, availability of better medical facilities and immigration of women from other states for better employment opportunities. There is variation in the distribution of sex ratio in different parts of Delhi; there are more women in the old and concentrated settlements. However, compared to the sex ratio of the country as a whole (927 females per 1000 males), Delhi has a low sex ratio of 827 (1991 census), which in some respects has been a cause for concern.

### **2.5.3 Economic Situations in Delhi**

With the rapid pace of urbanization the rural area of Delhi is shrinking. The number of rural villages has decreased from 314 in 1921 to 165 in 2001 census. The percentage of rural population of Delhi has also declined from 47.24% in 1901 to 6.99% in 2001.

As the country's capital, with vibrant trade and commerce and excellent employment opportunities. Delhi has attracted people from all over the country and its population today reflects the characteristics of almost every region. Delhi truly reflects the wealth and diversity of India wherein diverse religions, languages, customs and cultures co-exist in splendid plural harmony. Religious, cultural and social functions of different socio-cultural groups have transformed Delhi into a city of festivals.

Delhi is among the top three States/Union Territories in terms of per capita income (Rs. 38864 in 2000-01), current prices. More than 80% of the state income is from the tertiary sector. However, with the continuous inflow of

labourers and unemployed persons, the number of people living in sub-standard areas is increasing. (*Economic Survey of Delhi, 2001-2021*)

**Table 4: Economic Situations in Delhi**

<b>S.No</b>		<b>As on 31.3.2001</b>
1.	No. of Industries	1.37 lakhs
	(i) Production Value	6310.00 crore
	(ii) Employment	11.36 lakh
	(iii) Investment	Rs. 2524 crore
2.	No. of Small Scale Industries registered with Industries Department	19740
3.	(a) No. of Industrial Estates	
	(b) No. of Industrial Estates under the control of DSIDC	19
4.	No. of Flatted Factories under the control of the Industries Department	1297
5.	No. of Industrial Plots	28098
6.	No. of Industrial Work sheds/Centers/Spaces as informed by DSIDC	5422
7.	Khadi & Village Industries	
	(i) Number	6783
	(ii) Production Value (Rs. in lakhs)	2862.47
	(iii) Sale (Rs. in lakh)	3469.35
	(iv) Employment	14554
8.	Handloom Industries	
	(i) Number (Looms)	4000
	(ii) Production (Million Mtrs.)	12.60
	(iii) Employment	6000
9.	Handicrafts	
	(i) Number (Units)	1100
	(ii) Production Value (Rs. in crore)	3.60
	(iii) Employment	6600