

REVIVAL OF SATELLITE AND RING CITIES

Background

The National Capital Territory of Delhi (NCTD) is a giant metropolis, which has witnessed phenomenal growth and challenges both in terms of population and urban activities during the last five decades. Delhi being the capital of India and the city full of opportunities and convenient linkages is attracting almost every trade and activity, for function and economic growth towards the city. It has been observed that within 75 miles of the central city all towns and centres feel its influence to some degree, but the intensity of contact and interaction increases as we come closer and closer to the city itself. Any establishment desiring a role to play in a larger part of India finds it convenient and meaningful to get located in the city of Delhi, not only for business at national level but also at global level. The added population in the NCR causes pressure on Delhi's infrastructure and services. Moreover, the larger population base of National Capital Region (NCR) promotes additional business, people related services and employment opportunities in Delhi. This development brings in more migrants to Delhi, and thus results in accelerated growth rate of the city.



National Capital Region (NCR)

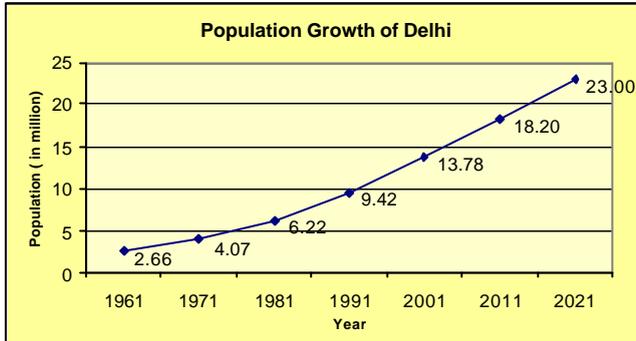
The Total area of NCR is 30,242 sqkm, shared by NCTD (1483 sq.km), Uttar Pradesh (10,853 sq km), Haryana(13343 sq.km) and Rajasthan(4493 sq km).

- Delhi (5% area, 39% Population).
- Noida, Ghaziabad, Meerut, Bahadurgarh, Baghpat in UP (36% area, 28% Population)
- Alwar (15% area, 9% Population) in Rajasthan and
- Gurgaon, Faridabad, Panipat, Rohtak, Jhajjar, Rewari and Sonipat in Haryana (44% area, 24% Population)
- Total Area = 30,242 sq Km, Population 32,798,662 (2001 Census)

NCR has 12 ring towns (within a radius of 30Km of Delhi) and 8 satellite towns(around 45 Km from Delhi). The present policy has been of developing NCR without National urbanization policy and without promoting development of other metropolitan regions. This has resulted in influx of migrant population from other parts to the country to settle in NCR.

Population Scenario of NCTD

Delhi has grown at a breathless pace in the past few decades. Six decades ago New Delhi was planned as the capital of British India, to cater to a population of 70,000, but the total urban population of Delhi now exceeds 13 million. The population increase in the past few decades has been as follows:



Decadal Population Growth of Delhi

Year	Population (in million)
1961	2.66
1971	4.07
1981	6.22
1991	9.42
2001	13.78
2011 (Projected)	18.20
2021(Projected)	23.00

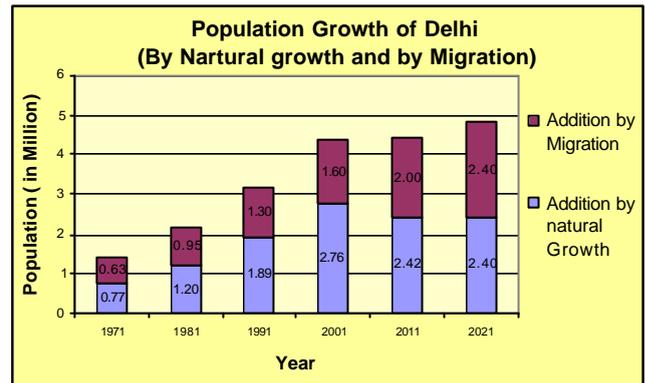
Source: Census of India

Rate of Migration

Migration plays a major role in the growth of population of NCT Delhi. Delhi has been receiving population through international and internal migration. Migrants constitute about two-fifth of Delhi's population (38%).

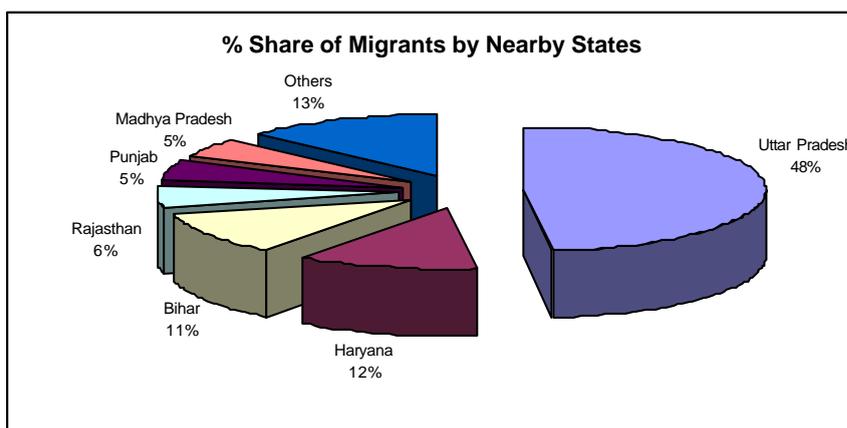
Population Growth (natural increase and by migration) in NCTD

Year	Population (Million)	Net Increase (Million)	Addition by Natural Growth		Addition by Migration	
			Million	%	Million	%
1971	4.06	1.40	0.77	54.90%	0.63	45.10%
1981	6.22	2.15	1.20	55.80%	0.95	44.20%
1991	9.42	3.20	1.89	59.20%	1.30	40.80%
2001	13.78	4.36	2.76	63.30%	1.60	36.70%
2011	18.2	4.42	2.42	54.80%	2.00	45.20%
2021	23.00	4.80	2.40	50.00%	2.40	50.00%



Source: Delhi Development Authority

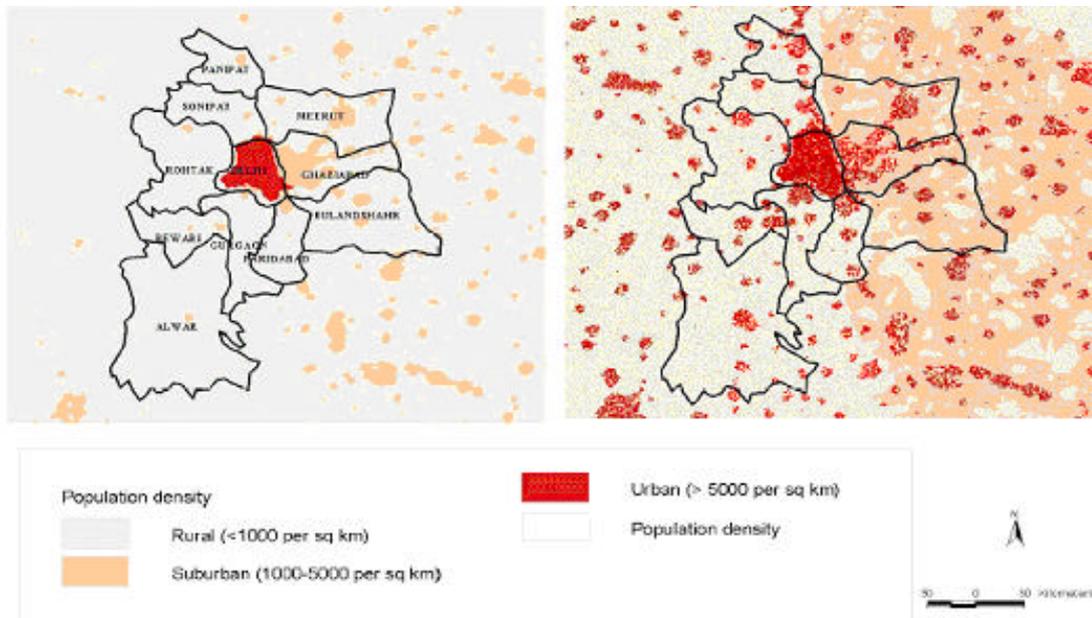
Amongst the migrants, majority of the population belongs to the states of NCR (67.9%). The state of Uttar Pradesh alone contributes nearly half of the migrants (49.9%). The share of NCR states is 11.82% of Haryana and 6.17% of Rajasthan. Most of the Population is migrating for employment purposes. To a certain extent, the number of migrants determines Delhi's nature of economic activity, as 56% of workers are migrants.



Besides these there are a large number of daily migrants (floating population). The major reasons for these commuters visit Delhi everyday generally are

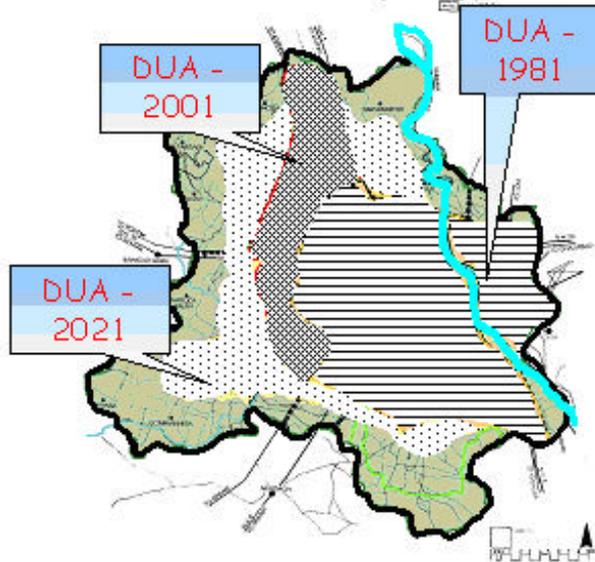
- 1) Movement of goods and services in the process of economic activity. At present the most important of these activities is probably the provision of foodstuffs for the central city of Delhi.
- 2) The growth of manufacturing and secondary productive activities in the general Delhi region leads to a higher variety of goods in the market, and increase the strength of Delhi's position as a wholesale and retail trading centre, where the presence of a variety of goods is in itself an indispensable service.
- 3) The movement of people primarily for the purposes of production and distribution. As an example. Retailers and wholesalers of cloth of nearby areas are accustomed to travel regularly to Delhi and to seek accommodation near the railway station and cloth market for transacting their substantial business in the market. This creates a regular flow of movement and requires accommodation in a pattern which is typical of Delhi's role as a commercial centre but sharply accentuated in the cloth trade.
- 4) Cultural and shopping trips of people from a large region centred on Delhi in regular and occasional trips to the metropolitan centre for routine household needs and specialised needs.
- 5) Most important reason of this floating population is Employment. Large number of people travel daily to Delhi for work. Given an opportunity they would prefer to live in Delhi rather than commute from neighbouring towns to avoid transport hassles.

As a result of the influx of population to Delhi the following pattern of Population density has been observed in the past few decades.



Not only has the density of population increased in NCTD, but most of the areas in NCR have also been greatly influenced. A large number of rural villages have now been declared as Census towns.

**POSSIBLE SCENARIO :
DELHI URBAN AREA (DUA) – 2021**



Source: Delhi Development Authority, Office of MPD 2021

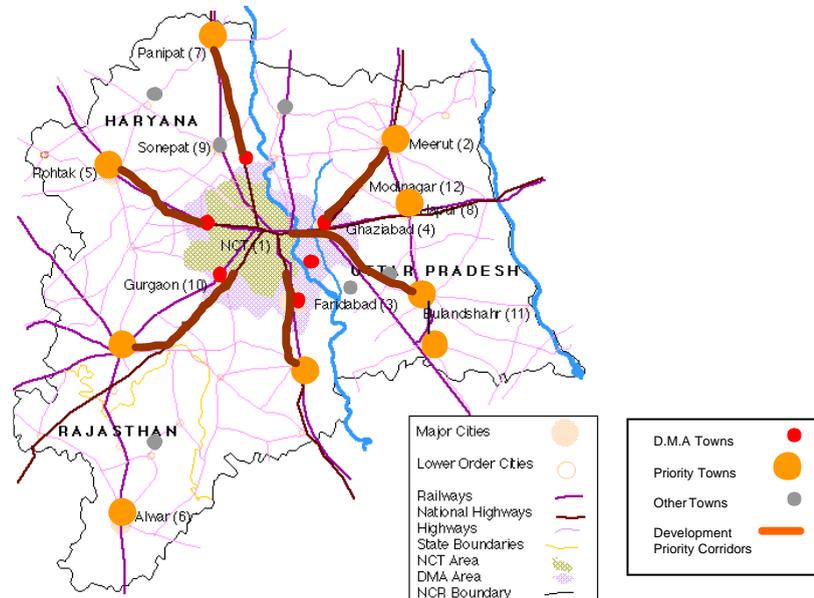
Issues

- Unlike other metropolitan cities, Delhi has a limited area, where the orbit of influence is well beyond its administrative limits. Out of 1483 sq. km of NCT Delhi about 50% of its area is urbanised and it is expected that large part of NCTDE will be under pressure of urbanisation.
- Rapid Urbanisation and increase of population at a tremendous rate has given rise to issues like
 - Stress on Infrastructure
 - Traffic Congestion
 - Emergence of unplanned areas, Jhuggi - jhopari colonies, Slum and Squatter settlements etc
 - Degradation of the environment
 - Conservation of built up areas
- As long as Delhi remains the only completely developed centre and has a wide variety of economic opportunities, migration will be focused towards Delhi in preference to other towns in the whole region.
- The major towns of the ring are not adequately planned for the great upsurge of growth. They lack in adequate provisions of social and physical infrastructure and have haphazard and piecemeal planning. The municipal boundaries ordinarily do not extend much beyond the areas which have already been built upon.

Development Options

- NCTD needs to be planned together with NCR. NCTD cannot sustain itself for long time without depending on National Capital Region. Land being limited in administrative boundaries of NCTD at present and near future, it has to co-survive with NCR in terms of population and economic activities. Thus the planning of identified areas consisting of NCTD and adjoining areas of NCR needs to be done together which will require identification of the planning boundary.

- Ring and satellite towns need to be developed on priority basis.
- Poly-nodal concept with corridor form of development to be encouraged



Source: Delhi Development Authority, Office of MPD 2021

- Considering the development potential and economic forces of some of the Satellite/ Ring towns(towns like Meerut Khurja, Palwal, Panipat, Rewari combined with Bhiwadi and Dharuhera, Rohtak and NOIDA) need to be promoted on priority and their existing economic activity may further be enhanced by inducing more developmental impulses so that they act as economic nodes in the region and may result balanced development by retaining considerable population, which otherwise would move towards the mother city of Delhi.
- Land component for economic activities, along with NCR shelter and other related facilities need to be made in those towns thus; the Plan of the concentrated towns may be drafted/ incorporated accordingly with help of Planning Department of the Delhi Development Authority., NCRPB and that of respective States.
- The land provisions for different activities in different satellite/ ring towns need to be specific so that there is no unintended duplicacy in such provisions which may encourage development in one town in comparison to other.
- The provision/location of economic activities need to be located in such a way that establishments meeting the requirement of NCTD are also located in NCTD but the establishments serving the need of larger region in the country may be located in towns outside NCTD in Satellite/ ring towns within NCR to reduce the goods movement within NCTD. However, the establishments which are located outside the NCTD may also cater to the needs of NCTD

- Development of counter wholesale markets, industrial areas, educational institutions and other facilities in the satellite towns to promote voluntary shifting of establishments located in Delhi and upcoming of establishments due to enhanced need of the future.
- The rampant conversion of rural land into unauthorised or residential areas need to be checked not only in NCTD but also in Satellite/ Ring towns within the identified boundary of NCR so that unintended urban growth does not distort the Plan provisions in the NCTD & NCR.
- The implementation may be done jointly having offices of implementing agencies of NCTD, NCR Planning Board and respective states having their own staff at one place with simplified system without any confusion so that the requests/ applications can be considered by the concerned Agencies without any duplicacy and any inconvenience to the entrepreneur.
- The revenue generated by implementation needs to go to the respective states of which the development areas are parts of. Only a small share of revenue may go to other agencies i.e. NCTD and NCR Planning Board to meet out their expenditures at no profit, no loss basis.
- To increase the mobility of people and goods, the transport linkages need to be strengthened with NCR in a big way. It is felt that the development in NCR will directly depend on the level of development of transport linkages. The MRTS network needs to be extend up to adjoining towns in NCR.
- To facilitate development in NCR and thereby restricting the growth of NCTD, the development of satellite and ring towns needs to be done along with the development of corridors on priority basis.
- To retain the population which otherwise would have migrated to Delhi
- The Satellite towns should offer incentives such as low cost of living, in accordance with their capacities to pay, Relief in taxation, provision of adequate social and physical infrastructure facilities etc.
- The state governments should be made to think rationally and not with profit making minds. The planning priorities should not be combined with political priorities and contradictions with ruling Governments.

Thus, in short, Satellite and Ring towns need to be developed with proper infrastructure to take off the choking situation of all the metropolitan cities of the world