

## **CHAPTER-II**

### **LOCALE OF THE STUDY: NEW DELHI**

#### **2.1 INTRODUCTION**

New Delhi is the capital of the Union of India also the centre of the government and power in this country located in northern India and considered one of the fastest growing cities in the world. There are eleven districts in the National Capital Territory of Delhi. The metropolis of Delhi is known as New Delhi, globally entire National Capital Territory is known as New Delhi; therefore, the same has been taken as a locale of this study.

#### **2.2 THE HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE**

New Delhi has a long history. It starts around 5300 years ago as the capital Indraprastha city of the Pandav kings in the period of Mahabharat. In the year 736 C.E. (Common Era), the city of Lal Kot, was set up at the site of the present Delhi. Delhi was rebuilt frequently to suit the demands of seven different dynasties and its rulers. These cities were Kila Rai Pithora, Siri Fort, Tughluqabad, Jahanapanah, Kotla Firoz Shah, Dinpanah and Shahjahanabad. Delhi had been chosen as capital by Pritviraj Chauhan, Mughals and British Government.

In December 1911, Delhi again came into limelight when the British government moved India's capital from Calcutta (now Kolkata) to Delhi and decided to build a highly planned new city adjacent to Delhi. British architect Edwin Lutyens and Becker planned the capital of British India with the Viceroy's residence (now Rashtrapati Bhawan), the Kingsway

(now Rajpath), the Secretariat, Connaught Place and others. New Delhi was completed in 1931 and the old city became Old Delhi. After the independence, migration led to scarcity of accommodation resulting indiscriminate construction of colonies and growth of slums increased the Delhi population from 7 lakh to 17 lakh by 1951.

### **2.3 POLITICAL FEATURES**

After independence of India, New Delhi was given some limited independence. Chief Commissioner was appointed as administrator by the Indian government. New Delhi was become a union territory and a Lieutenant Governor took the charge of administration in 1956. The Constitution Act (1991) changed Union Territory of Delhi to National Capital Territory of Delhi. However, New Delhi is still waiting for fully fledged statehood. Presently, The Government of India and the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi jointly administer New Delhi. New Delhi has its own Lieutenant Governor, Chief Minister, Legislative Assembly and council of ministers.

NCT of Delhi has seventy assembly seats and seven Lok Sabha (lower house of Indian parliament) constituencies. New Delhi area is governed by the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) and rest of area is governed by the Municipal Corporation of Delhi. The Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) handles civic administration for the city as part of the Panchayati Raj Act. The centre of the Indian government Rashtrapati Bhavan, Parliament of India, Supreme Court of India, and Cabinet Secretariat are located in the municipal district of New Delhi.

The Indian National Congress formed all the governments in New Delhi till 2013, except the 1990-1998 period of Bharatiya Janata Party. In 2013, the newly Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) formed the government with outside support of Indian National Congress for 49 days only. In 2014, Aam Aadmi Party gained full majority and formed the government after one year President Rule. New media were widely used for the election campaign by both main contestant parties.

## **2.4 CULTURAL AND HERITAGE**

New Delhi has very vast cultural history and historic association as it has many historic monuments, buildings, festivals like Independence Day, Republic Day and many other religious festivals. Delhi's arts and crafts include, Zardozi embroidery done with gold thread and Meenakari, the art of enamelling. Chandni Chowk market established in 17th-century, is most popular shopping areas for jewellery and Zari saris.

The Archaeological Survey of India registered 1200 architecturally buildings and 175 monuments as national heritage sites in New Delhi. Several unique buildings such as Jama Masjid, Red Fort, Qutab Minar and Humayun's Tomb, Jantar Mantar, and Purana Qila constructed during the Mughals and the Turkics rulers. Some regal havelis (palatial residences) in the old city are preserved as heritage. New Delhi has several government buildings and official residences reminiscent of British colonial architecture like Rashtrapati Bhavan and Parliament of India. Some examples of modern architecture are Akshardham temple, Lotus temple, Laxminarayan temple and ISKCON temple. Memorials of Mahatma Gandhi and other notable personalities are also situated in New Delhi.

## **2.5 CLIMATE CONDITIONS**

New Delhi is located on the intersection of 77.12°E longitude and 28.38°N latitude between the Great Himalayas and Aravali Hills. An area of 1483 square km of which 783 square km is designated rural and 700 square km urban make New Delhi the largest city in terms of area in the country. It has a length of 51.9 km and a width of 48.48 km. New Delhi experiences the extremes of weather like hot summers and cool winters because of the geological location. The climate of New Delhi is considered humid subtropical and it is highly influenced by the seasonal monsoon. The summers start in April and continue till July with temperature soaring up to 45°C, after that the rainy season continues till the month of October with very high humidity level. Temperature levels often dip between 5°C to 0°C in winters. By 2030, the temperatures of New Delhi are predicted to rise by 2°C due to intense growth and industrialization. The months of October, November, February and March have ideal and pleasant weather.

## **2.6 POPULATION, LITERACY AND SEX RATIO**

Delhi is witnessing a huge growth in its population every year. There is growth of 20.96% after 2001 census. Population of Delhi was 1,67,53,235 which is 1.38% of the All India population, and population density was 11,297 persons per square km with a sex ratio of 866 women per 1000 men, and a literacy rate of 86.34% comprising 91.03% of men and 80.93% of women. Delhi has the 9<sup>th</sup> place in literacy rate among all states and Union Territories. **(Census of India, 2011)**

According to **population census 2011**, 1483 Sq. Km area of New Delhi divided into 369.35 Sq. Km rural and 111.65 Sq. Km urban.

Government and other agencies in Delhi offer better roads, good living standard, education and other facilities which attract people from all over India. The overall population density of Delhi has increased from 9340 persons/sq.km in 2001 to 11297 persons/sq.km in 2011 which is highest as compare to all India. By 2016 end, Delhi is expected to be the third-largest city in the world after Tokyo and Mumbai. The population of New Delhi is expected to rise 40% and cross 2crore in 2020. UN Reports also predict that New Delhi population will be 2.86crore by 2025. Around 3lakh people migrate yearly to Delhi permanently from other states. More than 30lakh people commute to Delhi from the NCR for their job, service and business. New Delhi is a part of NCR, the most populous Metropolitan area in India, which has been given special status under the Constitution of India.

## **2.7 RELIGION AND LANGUAGE**

Approximately 82.7% of population in New Delhi practice Hinduism. This city has large communities of Muslims (10%), Sikhs (5%), Jains (1.1%) and Christians (0.94%) and other minority religions include Buddhism, Bahai, Judaism and Zoroastrianism. Majority of the Muslim population lives in Old Delhi areas.

English is the foremost written language of the city. Hindi, Urdu, Punjabi and Haryanvi are the widely spoken languages in Delhi. Urdu also has official language status other than Hindi, English and Punjabi in New Delhi.

## 2.8 ECONOMY

New Delhi has a strong and vibrant economy which is quite vivid from its Gross Domestic Product. The annual economic growth rate of Delhi was 9.9%. As per economic survey of New Delhi, the primary, secondary and tertiary sectors contributing 1.4%, 20.2% and 78.4% of Delhi's GDP respectively. **As of 2015, the per capita income Rs. 2.41lakh of New Delhi was highest in India.** New Delhi has always been the commercial hub and an important trade route. Large consumer market and the availability of skilled labour have attracted foreign investment. Consumer goods companies established manufacturing units and headquarters in New Delhi. It is one of India's largest and fastest growing retail industries. Growth in Delhi's economy can also be attributed to industrial growth which includes export, textile, fashion, corporate, BPO, IT, health, community services, real estate, hotels, banking, media, tourism, and many others adds to the overall GDP growth.

## 2.9 EDUCATION

Schools in New Delhi are affiliated to one of three administering bodies, the Council for Indian School Certificate Examinations (CISCE), Central Board for Secondary Education (CBSE) or National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS). Female students represented 49% of the total enrolment. The Delhi government spent between 1.58% and 1.95% of its gross state domestic product on education. English and Hindi are the main language of instruction. Schools and higher educational institutions in Delhi are administered by Directorate of Education of NCT of Delhi, Central Government or private organizations. New Delhi as a hub of education, has several colleges and Universities like IIT, Indraprastha

Institute of Information Technology, Delhi Technological University, GGSIP University, Jamia Humdard University, Dr. Ambedkar University, IGT University for Women and National Law University, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Jamia Millia Islamia, South Asian University, TERI University, Delhi University and Indira Gandhi National Open University (for distance education) are few of them. As of 2015, about 19% of all Delhi residents possessed at least a college graduate degree.

## **2.10 EMPLOYMENT**

New Delhi is the governmental, political, commercial and financial centre of India. Governmental employees represent a large portion of workforce, while much of the rest population is employed in the expanding service sector. The main industries in New Delhi include IT, telecommunications and tourism. According to data from the 2009-10, National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO), 8% of women above the age of 15 in urban Delhi are in the work force, compared to the national average of almost 20%. This number has been steadily declining, in 2004-5, it was 8.8%. The corresponding numbers for men are close to 75% both in Delhi and nationally.

## **2.11 MEDIA**

New Delhi is the focus of political reportage, including regular television broadcasts of Parliament sessions. Mostly all national and international media agencies including Press Trust of India, UNI, Media Trust of India Doordarshan, BBC and CNN are based in the city. In addition to television programming includes free terrestrial transmission offered by Doordarshan, several regional language cable channels offered by multi

system operators. DTH satellite television has also gained huge subscribers.

Print journalism remains a popular news medium in Delhi. Most circulated Hindi newspapers include Dainik Jagran, Navbharat Times, Hindustan, Punjab Kesari, and Dainik Bhaskar when English language newspapers include The Times of India, The Hindustan Times, The Hindu, Indian Express, Business Standard, Pioneer and Asian Age. There are several regional language newspapers like Malayalam daily Malayala Manorama, Tamil dailies Dinamalar and Dinakaran, Urdu daily Rashtriya Sahara and Roznamcha are also being subscribed.

Most of the TV news channels and newspaper are online now. News channels are providing live streaming to the viewers on their smartphone and laptop via internet. Radio is a less popular mass medium in Delhi, although FM radio like Rainbow, Big FM and radio city has gained popularity since the inauguration of several new stations in 2006. A number of government owned and private radio stations broadcast from Delhi.

New media is widely used in New Delhi. Most of the residents of New Delhi are tech savvy as they have direct or indirect exposure to the internet. Youth of New Delhi are more aware about surroundings and actively engaged in citizen journalism too. They generate content for online medium, put their views, react on social issues and upload pictures of whatever happening around them on Facebook, Instagram, Whatsapp or any other online media.



## **2.12 SUMMARY**

To conduct a study on any subject, it's essential to understand its populace, the society, the infrastructure and other factors that stands important in the research. The second chapter presents a demographic picture of Delhi. Commencing with its historical background, the chapter deliberates on its political, economical and other relevant issues that decides its demography. For a broader perspective, the chapter also includes relevant research studies of others. Apart from its socio political information, the chapter cites ample content and data of different strata residing in Delhi. Besides economical stratification it also talks about their religion, language and other activities that make them distinct from other parts of the country.