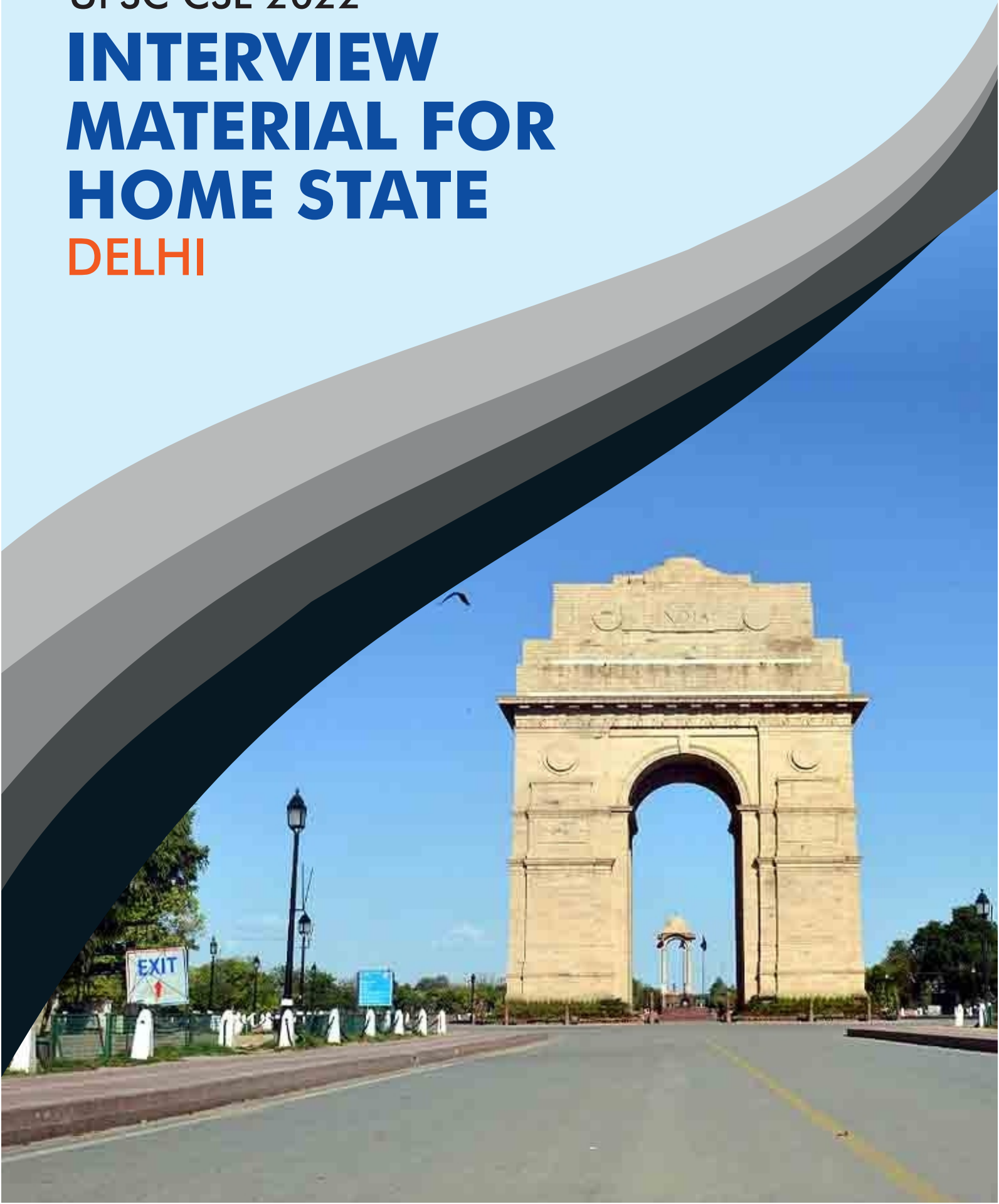


UPSC CSE 2022

**INTERVIEW
MATERIAL FOR
HOME STATE
DELHI**





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DELHI

Introduction

- Delhi, officially the National Capital Territory (NCT) of Delhi, is a city and a union territory of India containing New Delhi, the capital of India. Delhi was the capital of two major empires, the Delhi sultanate, and the Mughal Empire, which covered large parts of South Asia. Delhi was the early centre of Sufism and Qawwali music. Delhi was a major centre of the Indian Rebellion of 1857. In 1911, New Delhi, a southern region within Delhi, became the capital of the British Indian Empire. During the Partition of India in 1947, Delhi was transformed from a Mughal city to a Punjabi one, losing two-thirds of its Muslim residents, in part due to the pressure brought to bear by arriving Hindu refugees from western Punjab. After independence in 1947, New Delhi continued as the capital of the Dominion of India, and after 1950 the Republic of India.

HISTORY

- Delhi has a long historical past dating back to the pre-historic 6th Century BC era when it was founded as 'Indraprastha', the capital of the Pandavas of the Mahabharata epic. It was earlier known as 'Hastinapur' or 'Elephant City' according to the ancient Hindu Sanskrit text. Relics dating back to the Mauryan Period include two sandstone Pillars with the inscription of Emperor Ashoka discovered near Noida that were brought to the city by Firoz Shah Tughlaq in the 14th Century.
- Earlier named 'Dhillika' and 'Dhilli' in short, the first medieval town located on the south-western border of the present Mehrauli area of the city and founded by King Dhillu in 800 BC according to Satyarth Prakash of Swami Dayanand.
- From the 8th Century, the Tomar Rajput dynasty reigned. Anangpal, a Tomar Rajput founded Lal-Kot in 736 BC near the famous Qutub Minar in the Mehrauli area of Delhi. His name is inscribed into the Iron Pillar that lies with the Qutub Complex of the Chandragupta II era. Lal-Kot was the centre of learning and people spoke eloquent languages. King Anangpal also built a Citadel in 731 BC situated 10 km from 'Surajkund'.
- In 1180, Lal-Kot was conquered by the Chauhan Rajput Kings of Ajmer and renamed it 'Qila Rai Pithora'. Later in 1192, King Prithviraj Chauhan III was defeated by the Afghan Muhammad Ghori and since 1206, 'Dhilli', was made the capital of the Delhi Sultanate under the Slave Dynasty by Qutub-ud-din Aibak, a former slave who rose to the ranks of a general, then a governor and finally the first Sultan of Delhi. He constructed the famous Qutub Minar but died before its completion.
- The City was then succeeded by Turkic and Afghan Rulers followed by the Khilji, the Tughlaq, the Sayyid and the Lodi dynasties that ruled during the late medieval period and constructed forts and towns. Later in 1398, Timur Lenk invaded India and left Delhi in ruins. In 1526, in the first Battle of Panipat, Zahiruddin Babar defeated the last surviving Afghan Lodi Sultan and established the Mughal Empire in Lahore, Delhi and Agra.
- Later in the 16th Century, Sher Shah Suri defeated Emperor Humayun, son of Emperor Zahiruddin Babar. Humayun escaped to Afghanistan and Persia and Sher Shah Suri rebuilt the 6th medieval town of Delhi and constructed the Old Fort or 'Purana Quila'. Emperor Humayun reclaimed the Delhi Throne with assistance from the Persian Rulers after Sher Shah Suri's reign from 1540 to 1556 and demise. The throne was then succeeded by Akbar, son of Emperor Humayun who moved the capital to Agra and between 1553 - 1556, Delhi was taken over by Hemu Vikramaditya who defeated the Mughal forces of Akbar in Agra. Later Akbar reclaimed the throne after defeating Hemu in the second Battle of Panipat. Later Akbar's son, Shahjahan [1628-1658] succeeded the Throne and moved the capital back to Delhi and restored its fortunes which had then declined and constructed the 7th medieval town of Delhi that was named 'Shahjahanabad' after him and now is popularly known as 'Old City' or 'Old Delhi'. Many architectural delights are still visible like the 'Red Fort' or 'Lal Quila' and the 'Jama Masjid'. Later Aurangzeb grabbed the Throne in 1658 and crowned himself in the famous 'Shalimar Garden' or 'Aizzabad Bagh' and ruled till his death in 1707.
- On February 1739, the Mughal army was then defeated by Nader Shah in the Battle of Karnal. He captured and looted Delhi including the famous Peacock Throne after which a treaty was signed in 1752 for the Marathas to protect the Mughal Throne and its belongings. The Maratha's rule accelerated through the entire North and Central India until they were defeated by Ahmed Shah Abdali in 1761 during the third Battle of Panipat and again

Delhi remained just a fragment after it was raided by Abdali. On 11th September 1803, the British forces overpowered the Marathas and the Mughals reigned over the city and took over Delhi in 1857 and the remaining Mughal territories. Bahadur Shah Zafar II, the Last Mughal Emperor was exiled to Rangoon.

- The British moved their capital to Delhi in 1911 and pulled down parts of Old Delhi to construct New Delhi. Government buildings and offices were designed by Edwin Lutyens and constructed in a beautiful English Colonial style. The British held the seat of the Government till 1947 and Post-Independence, Delhi was still made the seat of the Indian Government with Jawaharlal Nehru as their first Prime Minister of India.

Seven Cities of Delhi

- (13th - 19th century)
- Lalkot, Siri, Tughlakabad, Jahanpanah, Firuzabad, Sher Shahi (Purana Quila), Shahjahanabad
- **Delhi - The Historic Walled City** Built-in 1638 A.D. by Shahjahan
- Fortified with a wall of 6 km circumference
- **Planning:** Broad main roads and narrow streets
- **Famous architectural buildings:** Jama Masjid, Lal Quila, Qutab Minar
- **New Delhi** - The National Capital Came into existence in 1911 by the British Empire, and construction was completed in 1931, Sir Edwin Lutyens - the head architect o Planned a hexagonal grid system, dominated by wide vistas, enormous buildings and large gardens o Continued as the capital of India after independence.

Partition and Post-Independence

- During the partition of India, around five lakh Hindu and Sikh refugees, mainly from West Punjab fled to Delhi, while around three lakh Muslim residents of the city migrated to Pakistan. Ethnic Punjabis are believed to account for at least 40% of Delhi's total population and are predominantly Hindi-speaking Punjabi Hindus. Migration to Delhi from the rest of India continues, contributing more to the rise of Delhi's population than the birth rate, which is declining.
- The States Reorganisation Act, of 1956 created the Union Territory of Delhi from its predecessor, the Chief Commissioner's Province of Delhi. The Constitution (Sixty-ninth Amendment) Act, 1991 declared the Union Territory of Delhi to be formally known as the National Capital Territory of Delhi. The Act gave Delhi its legislative assembly along Civil lines, though with limited powers.
- Delhi was the primary site in the nationwide anti-Sikh pogroms of 1984, which resulted in the death of around 2,800 people in the city according to government figures, though independent estimates of the number of people killed tend to be higher. The riots were set off by the assassination of Indira Gandhi – the Prime Minister of India at the time – by her Sikh bodyguards.

Administrative setup

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 the 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. On 16th March 1927, it was re-designated as the New Delhi Municipal Committee. In 1932, it was upgraded to the status of a first-class municipality entrusted with the responsibility of providing civic services. New Delhi Municipal Committee has been reorganized under the New Delhi Municipal Council Act, 1994.

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). Accordingly, the Council of Ministers and Legislative Assembly of Delhi ceased to exist on 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.

Formation of the Local Bodies

- 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, of 1957. The first Master Plan, 1961-1981 was published by DDA in 1962.
- The Delhi Administration Act 1966 was enacted by Parliament to provide for the 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 69th Constitutional Amendment by way of the 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, several 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 have 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 subdivisions have been created since January 1997.

Culture

- **Delhi** has a rich history and it was ruled by many rulers in the past being the capital of India people from every corner of India reside here. So, you can find a mixture of all cultures here in Delhi.
- Being the capital of India, it is the centre of politics of the country which paved the way for the **cosmopolitan lifestyle** of the people. **Delhiites** are a merger of **modern lifestyles** as well as they follow **old traditions** and **values**. Numerous fairs and festivals are celebrated in the city bringing a colourful aspect to its culture.
- **Muslims** celebrate Eid-ul-Fitr, the **Punjabis** celebrate Lohri, and **Biharis** celebrate their Chhat Puja while **Bengali** has their Durga Puja. So, the culture of Delhi has the influence of the people of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, and Rajasthan since these states border the capital.

Architecture of Delhi

- The history of architecture in Delhi has a mythological past which dates to the period of Mahabharata, the Indian epic. Delhi has been mentioned there as a city named Indraprastha. Mahabharata speaks volumes of the beautiful architecture that the city was endowed with.
- **Rajput Kingdom:** The few surviving structures from before the Delhi Sultanate period include Agrasen ki Baoli, Surajkund reservoir, Lal Kot and Qila Rai Pithora. There were several temples built during this period, remnants of which are still present in the Qutub complex.
- The first Muslim building to be constructed in Delhi was the Quwwat-ul-Islam Mosque, built in 1206 A.D. by Qutb-Ud-Din Aibak who started the Slave Dynasty. The construction was based on the Islamic style of architecture but more proficient traditional Muslim construction techniques are seen in the tomb of Iltutmish and in Alai Darwaza. The Qutub complex is an excellent example of Indo-Islamic style of architecture. The tomb of Ghiyas-ud-din Tughlaq is an important architectural specimen of Delhi. This period also saw the building of many forts and cities like Siri Fort, Tughlaqabad and Feroz Shah Kotla. Many tombs were built around this period which is still present in many locations like Qutb Minar complex, Hauz Khas Complex and Lodi Gardens.
- **In the Mughal era**, there were considerable modifications in the architecture of Delhi for example the garden architecture or Char bagh was introduced in India by the Mughals. One of the earliest constructions of the Mughal era is the Tomb of Humayun. Red sandstone and marble were extensively used as materials for construction. The Red fort for example is built of red colour sandstones. The royal prayer room called the Moti Masjid is a small marble structure built in the Baroque style. The Jama Masjid in Delhi is the biggest mosque in

India is built in a combination of red sandstone and marble and has three domes crowning it. The construction style of the Jama Masjid is like that of Humayun's Tomb. The Jantar Mantar of Delhi is built as per the Rajput style of construction by Maharaja Sawai Jai Singh II, the ruler of the Rajput state of Amber.

Colonial Period

- The capital of India was shifted from Kolkata to Delhi by the Britishers and they renamed it New Delhi which is to the south of the old city. Under the colonisers, the architecture of New Delhi was designed systematically by combining the elements of Gothic, imperial, English renaissance, and Victorian styles of architecture.
- The Rashtrapati Bhavan or the Viceroy's house in Delhi is a classical European building with some features of the Mughal architectural style. The Secretariat, built in the western classical style is a set of twin buildings that face each other in front of Rashtrapati Bhavan. The British National Church was devoid of any influences of Indian traditional style and the structure is very neat and graceful.
- The British invited Edwin Lutyens and Herbert Baker to design the government buildings. This area would also be called Lutyens' Delhi in honour of the architect. Members of Lutyens' team of architects included Walter Sykes George, Arthur Gordon Shoomsmith and Henry Medd. It is reported that Lutyens was reluctant to incorporate Indian features in his style, but later conceded.

Post-Independence

- The Supreme Court of India was designed by Ganesh Bhikaji Deolalikar in the same style as that of the other major buildings in Lutyens' Delhi. However, modernist architecture became prevalent in Delhi as well as all over India, especially after the influence of Le Corbusier.
- After Independence, the best examples of modern architecture in Delhi include IIT Delhi (1961) by Jugal Kishore Choudhury, Hall of Nations (1972) and Asian Games Village (1982) by Raj Rewal, Palika Kendra building (1984) by Kuldip Singh, and Lotus Temple (1986) by Fariborz Sahba.
- In 2017, the demolition of the Hall of Nations received worldwide condemnation from architectural enthusiasts. It was one of the best examples of modernist architecture in India

Paintings

- The painting style of the Delhi Sultanate borrowed heavily from the flourishing traditions of Islamic painting abroad, resulting in the development of an Indo-Persian style. This style was based essentially on the schools of Iran but influenced by the individual tastes of Indian rulers and local styles, including the Jain styles of painting. Features of Delhi Sultanate paintings that are based on Indian traditions include groups of people standing in rows and identical poses, narrow bands of decoration running across the width of the painting, and bright and unusual colours that replace the muted hues found in earlier Timurid paintings.
- Mughal painting is a style of painting on paper confined to miniatures either as book illustrations or as single works to be kept in albums (muraqqa), from the territory of the Mughal Empire in South Asia. It emerged from Persian miniature painting (itself partly of Chinese origin) and developed in the court of the Mughal Empire of the 16th to 18th centuries. Battles, legendary stories, hunting scenes, wildlife, royal life, mythology, as well as other subjects have all been frequently depicted in paintings. Animals and plants were the main subject of many miniatures for albums and were more realistically depicted. Although many classic works of Persian literature continued to be illustrated, as well as Indian works, the taste of the Mughal emperors for writing memoirs or diaries, begun by Babur, provided some of the most lavishly decorated texts, such as the Padshahnama genre of official histories. Subjects are rich in variety and include portraits, events and scenes from court life, wildlife and hunting scenes, and illustrations of battles. The Persian tradition of richly decorated borders framing the central image (mostly trimmed in the images shown here) was continued, as was a modified form of the Persian convention of an elevated viewpoint.

Language

- With most of the Hindu population, Hindi is the main and basic language of Delhi. The same language is split up into various accents and used by the people. Apart from Hindi various other languages are also practised in Delhi. Urdu is a common language used in Delhi which occupies its own history. The language is familiar in Old

Delhi or Purana Dilli where a lot of Muslim people reside. Punjabi is another vital and widely spoken language spoken by Delhi people where a few Punjabis and Sikhs are present.

- English is yet another language spoken by almost all people in the city. The youngsters use this language as it's trendy for them to converse. Tourists also make use of English as it's easy to communicate with travel guides, shopkeepers, taxi drivers and other locals of Delhi. With English, tourists can complete their trip without hindrances.

Music and Dance of Delhi

- Delhi's culture cannot stand apart without its wealth of music and dance. Delhi is still under the spell of the Mughal aura and it is prevalent in the rampant practice of Indian classical music and dancing styles. Whether Indian classical, Hindustani, or Carnatic or the lighter ghazals, there is no paucity of selection in New Delhi. Music connoisseurs have a variety of sounds to choose from in New Delhi. The people of Delhi are acquainted with raga, the melodic modes, and talas the rhythmical notes of classical music. Carnatic music, an important subdivision of the Indian classical music genre, is completely melodious, with extemporized editions. Music is sung vocally and compositions that are prepared, are mostly written to be hummed, and even when played on instruments, they are meant to be performed in a singing style, called gayaki. The city is mushroomed by numerous auditoria and concerts are observed with great enthusiasm. Folk music too is nurtured by the various regional tribes like Gujjars, Gonda, and Mundas.
- Lavani is a popular folk form performed mainly by females. Dandiya is a form of dance-oriented folk music that has also been adapted for pop music worldwide. Delhi culture perfectly amalgamates dance styles of genres of both classical and desi dance forms. Kathak, Bharatnatyam, Mohiniattam stand at par with the desi styles. Bhangra is a form of dance-oriented folk music that has been deduced from the conventional accompaniment called bhangra. Jhoomar is also another dance form. Dancers create a circle with a person playing the drum in the centerfield.

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Sufism in Delhi

- Delhi was one of the major centres of Sufism in the world. People of all faiths found shelter and spiritual solace at the city's many khanqahs or retreats run by Sufis, who believed that the route to divinity was through introspection and the dissolving of the self or the ego in the aura of God.
- There are several orders within the ambit of Sufism and many of the prominent pirs in the subcontinent belonged to the Chishti school, which originated in present-day Afghanistan and was brought to India when its adherents

migrated here to escape persecution from the Mongols in the 13th and 14th centuries. Delhi was where many of them settled and under the reign of first the Sultanate kings and then the Mughals, they practised and popularised a faith rooted in the principles of love, compassion and openness.

- Here are a few Sufis who made Delhi home and whose legacy is still nourished by the city's believers.
1. **Qutbuddin Bakhtiyar Kaki (1173-1235)** - The first dargah in Delhi was established by Qutbuddin Bakhtiyar Kaki, a Sufi from Fergana (present-day Uzbekistan) who was equally loved by kings and commoners. He arrived in the city on the advice of his teacher, the revered Ajmeri saint Hazrat Moinuddin Chishti, to spread the message of Sufism. It's believed that the QutbMinar was named by Sultan Iltutmish after his favourite Sufi rather than for the Minar's actual founder, Qutb Al-Din Aibak. Qutbuddin Bakhtiyar Kaki's dargah in Mehrauli is the destination of a charming annual procession called Phoolwaalon ki Sair. A tradition that began in 1812 under the reign of Akbar Shah II, the flower-laden, multi-faith procession winds its way from Chandni Chowk and halts to offer a ceremonial fan at the Yogmaya Temple before finally paying its respects to Delhi's oldest Sufi.
 2. **Hazrat Shah Turkman Bayabani** - A contemporary of Qutbuddin Bakhtiyar Kaki, this Sufi belonged to the Bayabani order whose followers were required to live in isolation and in the densest wilderness. In those days, this area (Daryaganj) was a jungle that roamed with many wild beasts, but this man of God did not have anything to fear. His needs were simple and he ate wild fruits and drank water from the pond that occupied the place where the Ramlila Ground is now situated."
 3. **Muhammad Nizamuddin Auliya (1238 - 1325)** - Auliya meaning 'friend of Allah' is a term attached to many Sufis but the personality most synonymous with that title is Hazrat Nizamuddin, for whom a whole neighbourhood is named in Delhi. A Sufi of tremendous influence, Nizamuddin counts among his successors such luminaries like Naseeruddin Chirag-e-Dehlvi and Amir Khusrau. His dargah welcomed everyone and hosted a particular kind of Sufi ceremony called Sama, where worship of the almighty takes the form of singing, dancing and making music. The form most closely associated with Nizamuddin is the qawwali, which is still performed for the thousands of pilgrims who gather at his dargah every day. It was believed that being buried near a Sufi granted one an auspicious start to the afterlife, so the Nizamuddin Dargah complex also contains the tombs of Mughal royalty, like Princess Jahanara and Muhammad Shah Rangeela.
 4. **Women Sufis** - There are a few notable exceptions, like the tomb of Bibi Fatima Sam. Believed to be the adopted sister of Baba Farid, Hazrat Nizamuddin's pir or spiritual master, Bibi Fatima is buried in Kaka Nagar and her shrine is open all day to everyone—read more here. Another such is the dargah of Bibi Zulekha or Mai Sahiba, Nizamuddin's mother, and her daughter Bibi Jannat at Adhchini village.
 5. **Naseeruddin Chirag-e-Dehlvi (1274-1356)** - The last of the great Chishti Sufis of Delhi, Naseeruddin Chirag-e-Dehlvi was the mureed or disciple of Nizamuddin Auliya. Although in his 40s when he moved to Delhi from Ayodhya, he proved himself worthy of the mantle passed on by his pir and came to be known lovingly as Chirag-i-Delhi or 'Lamp of Delhi'. There's an interesting story about how he earned that moniker. Legend has it that when the Sultan of Delhi Ghiyasuddin Tughlaq tried to sabotage the construction of a well for Nizamuddin Auliya by prohibiting the sale of lamp oil to the workers, Chirag-e-Dehlvi performed a miracle by turning water into oil for all the lamps so the baoli could be built. His dargah lends its name to the village of Chirag Delhi, and it's a quiet and peaceful complex that was built up over time by the Tughlaq and Lodi dynasties.

Fairs and Festivals

1. India International Trade Fair

India International Trade Fair or the IITF is an annual fair that takes place at the grounds of Pragati Maidan. Organized by the India Trade Promotion Organization (ITPO), it starts on the 14th of November every year. India International Trade Fair at Delhi was held for the first time in 1980 and since then it is an annual event much awaited by people from all over the country. The fair provides a kind of platform for the manufacturers, traders, exporters, and importers of the country to showcase their products.

2. Delhi Auto Expo

Delhi Auto Expo, held at the Pragati Maidan, serves as a platform to showcase the Indian automobile and auto-component industry. Being organized for the past 18 years, this expo has on display all the automobile models that have been recently introduced in the market. In fact, the Auto Expo of Delhi even proves to be the launching

pad for numerous new vehicles as well as new technology components. Apart from that, it also provides an opportunity for business visitors to make contacts in the automobile industry.

3. Surajkund Crafts Mela

Surajkund Crafts Mela is a handloom and handicrafts fair organized annually by Haryana Tourism. Held at Surajkund, near Delhi, it takes place in the month of February and goes on for two weeks. Delhi SurajKund Crafts Mela was organized for the first time in the year 1981. Skilled artists, painters, weavers, sculptors and craftsmen from all over India come to take part in this fair, which showcases folk arts and crafts.

4. Phoolwalon Ki Sair

Phoolwalon ki Sair festival, literally meaning Procession of Flower Sellers, takes place in the Mehrauli area of Delhi. An annual event, it mainly consists of a procession taken out by flower sellers down the flower-seller's promenade. Phoolwalon-ki-Sair at Delhi opens with the recital of the shehnai (an Indian musical instrument). Thereafter, the procession starts by offering flowers first at the temple of Jog Maya and goes through the Mehrauli Bazaar.

5. Delhi Book Fair

Delhi Book Fair is an annual fair, organized by the India Trade Promotion Organization (ITPO) at Pragati Maidan. From all types of books to different magazines to maps to teaching aids and computer software, it exhibits a wide range of items. At the Book Fair of Delhi, you can expect to get all the books that have been recently published, that to at discounted prices. Also, if you want to buy even the rarest of books, then the Delhi Book Fair is the place to be.

6. International Mango Festival Delhi

The international Mango Festival of Delhi is organized in the month of July. Held at the Talkatora stadium, it is one of the most awaited fairs in the capital city. This is because most of the other fairs appeal to our intellect or aesthetics, while the Delhi International Mango Festival is for our taste buds. This festival also marks the advent of mangoes and presents one with as many as almost 500 varieties of the king of fruits.

7. Qutub Festival of Classical Music and Dance

Qutub Festival is organized at the famous Qutub Minar during the Hindu Month of Sharad Purnima (October-November). A classical music and dance extravaganza, it is arranged by Delhi Tourism for three days. With the backdrop of the magnificent Qutab Minar bathed in the silver glow of the moon, Delhi Qutub Festival offers an awe-inspiring experience. Some of the most graceful and elegant performers can be seen dancing to the music here.

8. Garden Tourism Festival Delhi

Garden Tourism Festival of Delhi, organized by Delhi Tourism, is held at the Talkatora Stadium. Held towards the end of February, the festival goes on for three days. The month of February is the perfect time for hosting the Delhi Garden Tourism Festival as during this period the capital city is covered under a blanket of flowers. Wide varieties of flowers like roses and dahlias, potted plants; home plants, bonsai, etc are exhibited at the tourism festival. An ideal place for flower enthusiasts, the Garden Tourism Festival of Delhi offers some other attractions also. Painting competitions for children, children's programs and a few cultural shows further entertain the visitors to the festival. Then, it also serves as the perfect meeting ground for people fond of gardening.

9. Bhai Dooj Festival

Bhai Dooj Festival is celebrated in the month of October or November. The date is not fixed and is calculated every year by the Pandits. It falls on the new moon night, approximately one day after the festival of Diwali. The name Bhai Dooj, with "bhai" meaning brother and "dooj" meaning the second day after the new moon (the day of the festival), literally means the day of the brother. Bhai Dooj is also known as the festival of Tikka.

10. Chhat Festival

The Chhath Festival is basically a major festival of Bihar but is celebrated with equal devotion in Delhi as well. This festival, which honours the Sun God, is celebrated six days after the festival of Diwali. The Chhath puja celebrations do not include much fanfare, rather, it is a festival of prayer and propitiation that is undertaken with somberness.

11. Lohri Festival

Lohri Festival is celebrated every year on the 13th of January (the Hindu month of Paush or Magh). It is the harvest festival of Punjab, which welcomes the onset of the spring season and the end of the winter season. The festival of Lohri marks the entry of the sun in the Rashi (zodiac) of Makara (Capricorn).

12. Guru Nanak Jayanti

Guru Nanak Jayanti festival commemorates the birthday of Guru Nanak Dev the founder of the Sikh faith. Guru Nanak Dev was born in the Hindu Month of Kartik (October-November) in 1469 AD at Talwandi, almost 30 miles from Lahore. Sikhs celebrate the birthdays of all the ten gurus and call them Gurburabs.

Handicrafts

1. Carpet Weaving

Carpet weaving came into fame through the Mughal era, when Akbar brought Persian weavers to India. The chief centres of carpet making were Srinagar, Lahore, Amritsar, Sind, Multan, and Allahabad. At one time Delhi was a centre for the manufacture of Herati carpets, which were designed after the way of those made in Herat, Afghanistan. Famous for their pleasant colours, the design of these carpets was kind of customary.

2. Bamboo Work

Chicks are window screens made of bamboo plank and are tied with plain or coloured string in designs all over northern India. Delhi also happens to be a vital centre for chairs and stools made of the tall golden-white sarkanda grass, which grows plenty in the capital's area.

3. Gems, Kundan and Meenakari Jewellery

Delhi is home to two very extraordinary kinds of jewelleries encouraged and utilized to the level of an art form by the Mughals. The meeting of Hindu and Muslim cultures in the Mughal rule created a rich diversity of designs and during this time the art of Kundan was introduced to India. Western power during the British rule prompted the utilization of open-claw settings in favour to the traditional kundangulband (choker), dastband (bracelet) and karnaphul (earrings) settings.

4. Ivory Carving

Delhi is where the art of ivory carving grew under the influence of the Mughal princes. The art developed a feature form with the use of floral motifs and complicated geometrical patterns worked in fine jali-web work. Delhi craftsmen also make the elephant with the hoodah, the entire structure carved out of just one piece. The chains and jewels decorating the elephant are all delicately carved out of a solid piece of ivory and each link can be separately lifted. Delhi has also grown in significance as a manufacturing centre of ivory jewellery.

Craftsmen over here also shine in manufacturing small items, such as intricately made beaded necklaces where each bead is worked in the form of a rosebud in full blossom with its leaves and stem in the surroundings carved in a complicated jali. Carved ivory bangles, ear-studs and a variety of other utility items such as paper knives, cocktail pins, decorative hairpins, ivory cuff links and buttons are some articles produced in Delhi in large quantities.

5. Leather ware

During the Mughal period, Delhi was a significant centre of leatherwork. Traditional leather jooties or cultural footwear and slippers, which were at times ornamented with pearls, gold and silver were the pieces beyond resistance. Embroidered bags, shoes, leather garments, leather seats, puffs or pidis were other trendy items.

6. Paper Craft

The colourful, feather-light kites come in all shapes and sizes, as kite flying is an essential national pastime. Tazia is the next most well-liked paper craft. A tribute paper structure, consists of coloured bits of paper pasted on a bamboo frame and carried in the Moharram procession. Tazias are used for a happy purpose too through the Phoolwalon ki Sair held every September in the capital. Another paper craft that takes a lot of hard work is Effigy-Making. The actual effect of this art can be seen when the Hindu festival of Dussehra comes round. Huge statue of Ravana, Kumbhkarna and Meghnath are erected and then burnt on Dusshera to uphold the victory of truth and justice.

7. Pottery

In Delhi, terracotta pottery is the one whose products make perfect souvenirs to take home. Some famous terracotta items include cutwork lamps, long necked surahis (water-pots), gamle (flowerpots), pitchers and cups of all shapes and sizes. To get hold of quality earthenware one can check the Crafts Museum in Pragati Maidan, Dilli Haat and just outside the New Delhi Railway Station.

The art of making blue glaze pottery came to Delhi via Kashmir, the Mughal emperors' favorite retreat, and rolled on to Jaipur. Apart from the predictable vase, jars, pots and vases, one can also find tea sets, cups and saucers, plates and glasses, jugs, ashtrays and even napkin rings. The colour palette is restricted to blue derived from the oxide of cobalt, green from the oxide of copper and white, though other non-conventional colours such as yellow and brown have jumped into the fray too.

8. Shellac Bangles

Delhi and Rajasthan are two main places in India, which are regarded as the home of shellac work. Do check out the brightly coloured glittery bangles, often studded with glass gems, spirals of base-metal wire, foil and spangles.

9. Zari, Gota, Kinari and Zardozi

Zari is gold, and zardozi embroidery is the magnificently ornate, heavily covered gold thread work practiced in Delhi and a few other cities of India. Zari threads are used extensively in handloom and power loom saris, which are manufactured all over India. Either real silver thread, gold-plated thread or an artificial, which has a copper base gilded with gold or silver color, is used for zari work.

10. National Crafts Museum

National Handicrafts and Handlooms Museum (NHHM), usually known as National Crafts Museum is situated on Bhairon Marg, New Delhi. The museum was set up in 1958 by the late freedom fighter and ecologist Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay, with an aim to preserve traditional art and crafts and make them commercially workable. Today, the five-acre premises holds 35,000 unique pieces reflecting Indian craft traditions throughout painting, embroidery, textiles, clay, stone and wood, all housed in the building designed by architect Charles Correa in the 1970s.

GEOGRAPHY

- Delhi, the capital of India is bounded by the Indo-Gangetic alluvial plains in the North and East, by the Thar desert in the West and by the Aravalli hill ranges in the South. The terrain of Delhi is flat in general except for a low NNE-SSW trending ridge which 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. Delhi has an area of 1,483 sq. km. Its maximum length is 51.90 km and its greatest width is 48.48 km.

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 area 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 degrees Celsius. February, March, October, and November are climatically the best months.

Political Geography

- There are eleven administrative or revenue districts in Delhi. Each of this district is headed by a District Magistrate (DM) also called a Deputy Commissioner (DC), who reports to the Divisional Commissioner of Delhi. These 11 districts are divided into 33 sub-divisions of Delhi, each headed by a Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM).



Physiography

- The physiography of Delhi is dominated by the river Yamuna, and the Aravalli range, and the plains in between, formed by alluvium deposits of recent formation. 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 forests 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 Yamnatri glacier in the lower Himalayas at an elevation of about 6387 meter above mean sea level. From Tajewala, the river sluggishly meanders via Delhi to its confluence with the Ganga at Allahabad after flowing about 1200 km. The total length of the river from its origin to the confluence point at Allahabad is 1376 km. The catchment of the Yamuna River system covers parts of Uttaranchal, Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan, Delhi, and Madhya Pradesh.

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 have saline and brackish waters

Soil Classification & Distribution

The soils of the Delhi area are mostly light with a subordinate number of medium-texture soils. The light texture soils are represented by sandy, loamy, sand, and sandy loam; whereas medium-texture soils are represented by loam silty loam. The soils that occur in all the blocks are generally suitable for irrigating moderately salt-resistant crops such as wheat, barley, and mustard.

Types of Forests

- The government of NCT of Delhi has taken initiatives to increase forests and tree cover areas to keep the environment green in Delhi. As a result of the initiatives taken by the Government of NCT of Delhi, forest and tree cover area increased to 342 sq. km in 2021 thereby increasing the share of forests in the total geographical area to 23.06 per cent.
- The vegetation of Delhi is thorny scrub which is found in arid and semi-arid Zone. The main forest i.e., Ridge Forest falls in the forest type in the category of 'Tropical Thorn Forest' and more especially as 'Semi-Arid Open Scrub'.

Flora

- A habitat's floral diversity includes wildlife and genetic differences that can be used to advance agriculture, pharmacy, and commerce. The Delhi ridge, as well as the Yamuna River and its banks, play a vital role in Delhi's biodiversity. The Delhi Ridge is a continuation of the Aravallis, India's oldest mountain range. This runs from Tughlakabad Bhatti mines in Haryana to the Dera Mandi axis in Delhi, covering parts of Delhi Cantt., Lutyen's Zone, and ending at Delhi University. Numerous wild plant species of Delhi's flora can be found on the Delhi Ridge and the Yamuna River's shores.

Fauna

- The Jamuna River Valley, the dry bushland woods of the northern Ridge, and the marshy marsh of the Sultanpur fir hill south of the city all provide a diverse range of bird habitats. The grassy regions that surround Delhi's historic landmarks such as the Lodi tombs, Humayun's tomb, Surajkund, and the Tughlaqabad fort, though, have a robust community of birds. Numerous migratory birds flock to the Delhi Zoo's manmade lakes throughout the winter, transforming it into a little bird sanctuary.

ECONOMY

GSDP

- The Gross State Domestic Product of Delhi at current prices during 2021-22 is Rs 9.23 lakh crore which recorded a growth of 17.65% over the previous year.

Per Capita Income

- The average Per Capita Income of Delhi is almost three times higher than the Per Capita Income of India. 2020-21 shows a growth of 16.81 per cent. In real terms, Per Capita Income of Delhi has been estimated at Rs 2.63 lakh crore in 2021-22 as against Rs 2.43 crore in 2020-21 registering a growth of 8.38 percent. The Per Capita Income of Delhi is ranked at 3rd place among States/ UTs while Goa stood at 1st place and Sikkim at 2nd place.
- Contribution of different sectors: Delhi's economy has a predominant service sector with its share of contribution to Gross State Value Added (at current prices) at 83.94 per cent during 2021-22 followed by the contribution of the Secondary sector (13.78%) and Primary Sector (2.28 per cent). The tertiary sector plays a pivotal role in the State economy both in terms of employment generation and contribution to State Income.

Trade and Commerce

- Trade and Commerce have played a pivotal role in promoting the growth of Delhi's economy by making a significant contribution in terms of tax revenues and providing gainful employment to a large section of society. Delhi is the biggest trade and consumption centre in North India. Delhi distinguishes itself as a centre for entry port of trade which means that large part of its economic activity is concerned with the redistribution of goods produced elsewhere and imported for local sales as well as for export to other states i.e. interstate sales. It has attained the status of a major distribution centre by virtue of its geographical location and other historical factors, availability of infrastructure facilities etc. The income from trade, hotels and restaurants in Delhi is nearly 11.66 per cent of Gross State Value Added of Delhi (the base year 2011-12).

Land Usage

- The total operated area in Delhi showed a decrease of 2.21% as per Agriculture Census 2015-16 as compared to Agriculture Census 2010-11.
- The total gross cropped area in Delhi got increased to 43569 hectares in 2020- 21 which was at 35178 hectares during 2012-13. The remaining areas of Delhi are being used for various other uses such as non-agricultural purposes, forest, fallow land, uncultivable land, etc. The main reasons behind the reduction in agriculture area in Delhi are fast urbanization and the shift in occupational patterns, especially during the last two decades.

Crop Intensity

- The index of crop intensity is 100 if one crop has been grown in a year and it is 200 if two crops are raised. The higher the index, the greater the efficiency of land use. The cropping intensity has a direct correlation with assured irrigation which enables farmers to go in for multiple cropping and use a higher dose of fertilizers and HYV seeds. The cropping intensity got increased from 152% in 2012-13 to 165% in 2021-22 (Est). In addition, the area under the food-grain crops have been decreased during this period but the same in vegetables increased being one of the fast-growing mega cities in India, showing the importance of agriculture activity with the limited available land.

Cropping Pattern

- Cropping pattern is the sequential arrangement of crops of Paddy, Jowar and Bajra during Kharif and Wheat & Mustard crops during the Rabi seasons are the major crops in Delhi. The cultivation of vegetables is a continuous process throughout the year.

From the right table it can be observed that wheat was the main food crop in Delhi during 2020-21.

| S. No. | Name of the Crops | Area (Hectare) | Production (Metric Ton) | Yield (Kg. per Hectare) |
|--------|-------------------|----------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. | Wheat | 19,180 | 83,631 | 4,360 |
| 2. | Barley | 50 | 150 | 3,000 |
| 3. | Bajra | 1,325 | 5,340 | 4,030 |
| 4. | Maize | 22 | 112 | 5091 |
| 5. | Paddy | 6,171 | 29,620 | 4,800 |
| 6. | Mustard | 3,650 | 7,300 | 2,000 |

Source: Development Department, Govt. of NCT of Delhi.

Irrigation in Delhi

- Irrigation in Delhi mainly depends upon groundwater and partly upon surface water. Irrigation from the groundwater is provided through the shallow cavity and the deep cavity state tube-wells, whereas surface irrigation provided by way of utilizing treated effluent available from existing sewage treatment plants located at coronation pillar, Okhla and Keshopur. Water from the Western Yamuna Canal system is also utilized for irrigation purpose.

Rural Development

- As per the Population Census 2011, the total area of Delhi was 1483 Sq. km out of which the rural area of Delhi was 369.35 sq. km (24.91%). 2.5% population of Delhi was residing in a rural area. As an economy moves towards a progressive state, rural areas are automatically converted into urban area,

| S. No | Years | Villages (Number) | Population | | |
|-------|-------|-------------------|------------|----------|---------------------|
| | | | Rural | Total | % of Rural to Total |
| 1 | 1951 | 304 | 306938 | 1744072 | 17.60 |
| 2. | 1961 | 276 | 299204 | 2658612 | 11.25 |
| 3. | 1971 | 243 | 418675 | 4065698 | 10.30 |
| 4. | 1981 | 214 | 452206 | 6220406 | 7.27 |
| 5. | 1991 | 199 | 949019 | 9420644 | 10.07 |
| 6. | 2001 | 165 | 944727 | 13850507 | 6.82 |
| 7. | 2011 | 112 | 419042 | 16787941 | 2.50 |

Source: Delhi Statistical Hand Book, 2021

consequently reducing the number of villages and the rural population. The number of villages in Delhi reduced from 304 in 1951 to 112 in 2011.

Education

- New Education policy 2020 emphasizes systemic and institutional improvement in regulation, governance and promotion of multi-disciplinary academics and research in Indian Higher Educational Institutions. Further, the policy promotes accessibility, equality, quality, affordability, and accountability. Govt. of NCT of Delhi has already been working to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and to promote lifelong opportunity for all by 2030 (as reflected in the sustainable development goal (SDG-04) of 2030 agenda).
- Government of NCT of Delhi, through huge public investment in Education, has continuously been thriving to bring the transformation of human beings, to make the children compassionate, value-oriented, and responsible citizens of the country. Almost a quarter of the total annual budget of the Government is meant for school education and higher education in Delhi for improving infrastructure facilities, quality of learning outcomes, creating highly skilled teaching faculty, innovative methods of learning, promotion of talent in sports etc.
- “Education model of Delhi” has now become widely appreciated not only in the country but across the world. Highly innovative teaching strategies in school education system make Delhi’s education Model unique, which constantly improved the learning experience of children by making it more interesting and enjoyable. The Happiness Curriculum in school helped the children in developing skills like empathy, critical thinking, problem solving, communication and collaboration to build meaningful relationships in the society. Many quality improvement programmes in schools like Chunnauti, Mission Buniyad, Pragati learning materials, Spoken English classes etc. have started yielding quality learning outcomes.
- Some of the strategies of the Government in Education sector are ensuring access to quality and affordable education, prevent school dropouts; improve student and teacher attendance; conduct periodic assessments of learning outcomes: to undertake State Achievement Survey on the pattern of National Achievement Survey; continuous research and improvement of pedagogy and curricula; creating highly skilled and quality teaching faculties, supply of trained teachers; increase enrolment at secondary /senior secondary levels; and allocating highest share of annual budget to education every year.

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New Initiatives Taken Under Education

The following initiatives have been taken for providing the best quality education through active participation of all stakeholders viz students, parents, and Teachers: -

- 1. Delhi Board of School Education:** Delhi Board of School Education (DBSE) was launched in March 2021 and the Board entered into partnership with International Baccalaureate (IB) to inculcate the cutting edge pedagogy and assessments in the schools of Delhi. The board started functioning with 30 schools of Delhi Government. In next few years, all schools of the Delhi Government and willing private schools may be affiliated with DBSE. The mandate of the DBSE is to effect a paradigm shift in the area of learning assessment. Taking inspiration from the best practices across the world and leveraging expert partners in the field, DBSE will design and facilitate learning assessments from Nursery to grade 12.
- 2. Schools of Specialized Excellence:** Schools of Specialized Excellence (SoSE) are world-class schools that cater to students who possess deep interests and aptitude in specific domains of study. Inspired by the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, the SoSEs seek to nurture the students so that they realize their full potential. Presently, 20 SoSEs are in their pilot year of operations covering the domains of STEM, Humanities, Performing and Visual Arts and High-end 21st Century Skills with about 2300 students. These choice-based schools are from grades 9 to 12. The SoSEs have needed curricula and assessment practices, high-tech infrastructure, and strong teaching faculty who are being trained by global and local education experts. The schools also feature partnerships with premier universities, domain experts and industry leaders to support experiential learning and enrichment through internships, apprenticeships, master classes, guest lectures, and field visits among others. By facilitating specialization at an early age, the SoSEs seek to prepare students for their chosen higher education pathways and aspirational careers in their respective fields.
- 3. Business Blasters:** The Business Blasters project is a practical component of the Entrepreneurship Mindset Curriculum for classes XI and XII, where participating students are given seed money of Rs 2000 per student, to work in teams and come up with and implement a business idea to earn profit or solve a social problem by applying their entrepreneurial mindset in real life. With a seed capital of 60 crore, approx. 3 lakh students participated across the 1000 Delhi govt. schools, coming up with innovations across domains. 24 teams also got the opportunity to participate on the business blasters TV show telecasted in December 2021, where they received investments from judges ranging from Rs 50, 000 to 2 lakhs.
- 4. Deshbhakti Curriculum:** On 28 September 2021, Deshbhakti Curriculum was launched across all Delhi Government schools with the aim of making students true patriots. It is a K-12 citizenship curriculum which seeks to inculcate a spirit of empathy, tolerance and brotherhood which are enshrined in the Constitution of India and a sense of collective belonging in students. Desh bhakti curriculum is a facilitator-driven curriculum where within the classroom, students have discussions on the themes of love and respect for the country, identifying strengths and challenges of the country and reflecting on what one can do to contribute to India's progress. It aims to inspire children to think and share, without any inhibitions, their thoughts, opinions, and experiences vis-a-vis themselves, their home, society and their country.
- 5. Students Mentor Programme (Youth for Education Programme):** This programme has been launched on 11th October 2021 with the objective to build a community of youth who are part of a culture of volunteering working to create spaces for students to have an open dialogue about their careers, opinions and everyday choices. The program aims at the participation of active youth in shaping the future of our country by providing guidance to students of classes 9th to 12th of Delhi government schools for their overall development. In this regard, Programme Management Unit has been set up.

Industries

- Delhi ranked on the top among the UTs in Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)-9 i.e. "Inclusive Sustainable Industrialization, Foster Innovation" as per the assessment made by NITI Aayog in its report on SDG India Index 3.0.

Literacy

- As per Census 2011, Delhi's literacy rate of 86.2 per cent comprising a male literacy rate of 90.9% and a Female literacy rate of 80.8% is higher than the all-Indian average of 73 per cent with a male literacy rate of 80.9% and Female literacy rate of 64.6%. In Delhi, the gender gap in literacy has declined moderately over the years from 12.62 per cent in 2001 to 10.1 per cent in 2011. As per the 75th NSS report, Delhi stands at number two after Kerala with an 88.7% literacy rate.

Demography

- More than 97 per cent of the population was in urban areas in 2011 as compared to 53 per cent in 1901. This clearly indicates the fast growth of urbanization in the national capital. Delhi's rural population has decreased from 9.49 lakh in 1991 lakh, to 4.19 lakh in 2011. This pace of urbanization has reduced the number of rural villages in Delhi from 300 in 1961 to 165 in 2001 and 112 in 2011.

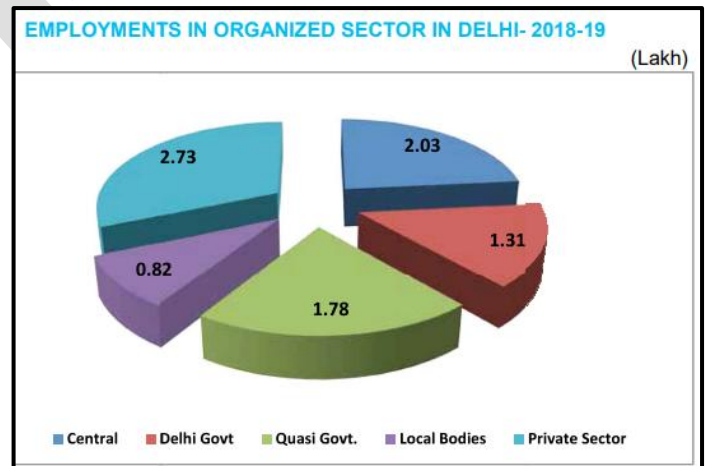
Tourism

- The number of domestic tourists visiting the state has been rising continuously in Delhi: it was about 1.85 crore in 2012, which grew to 3.65 crore in 2019 (Indian Tourism Statistics, 2020).
- Tourist attractions in Delhi are: Akshardham Temple, Azad Hind Gram, Lotus Temple, Birla Mandir, Dilli Haats, Garden of Five Senses, Humayun's Tomb, India Gate, Iskcon Temple, Jama Masjid, Jantar Mantar, Lodi Tomb, Kalam Memorial, Parliament House, Purana Quila, Qutab Minar, Rashtrapati Bhavan, Red Fort, Safdarjang Tomb, Gurudwara Bangla Sahib, Guru Tegh Bahadur Memorial, National police Memorial, National Museum, National War Memorial.

Employment and Unemployment

- As per Census 2001, the population of Delhi was 138.50 lakh. In 2011 census, the population of Delhi increased to the level of 167.88 lakh which indicates the fact that on average, the population of Delhi increased at 2.12 per cent per annum during 2001-2011. During the same period, the proportion of the working population to the total population in Delhi increased at the rate of 0.46 per cent.

- Organized Sector Employment in Delhi** - As the capital city of the country, Delhi accommodates almost all the government offices. Thus, job opportunities in the government sector are in plenty. Among all the jobs available, aspirants choose from the administrative, financial, management and executive level jobs of their choice. These jobs have lucrative remuneration offers.



Unemployment scenario in Delhi

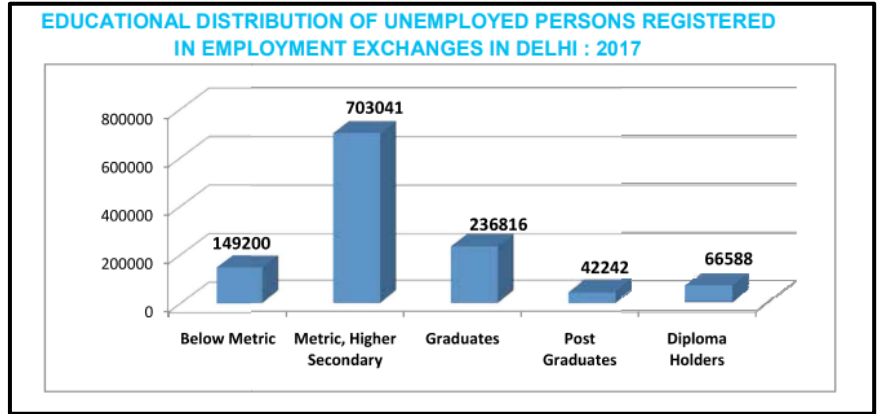
- 29 % of unemployed persons registered in an employment exchange in Delhi had the educational qualification of graduation and above - in the year 2017. More than 71% of unemployed persons registered in employment exchanges in Delhi were in the matriculate in the category of higher secondary level education.

Health and Family Welfare

- Health & Family Welfare Department, GNCTD is committed to provide preventive, promotive and curative health care services to the citizens of Delhi. Health care delivery system in Delhi has been re-organized as per order dated 25.07.2015 in the following manner:-
 - Mohalla Clinics (Aam Aadmi Mohalla Clinics)

- Multi Specialty Clinics (Polyclinics)
- Multi Specialty Hospitals (earlier called Secondary Level Hospitals)
- Super Specialty Hospitals (earlier called Tertiary Level Hospitals)

- By December 2021, there are 38 Multispecialty and Super Specialty Hospitals, 175 Allopathic Dispensaries, 520 Aam Aadmi Mohalla Clinics, 29 Polyclinics, 60 Seed Primary Urban Health Centers (PUHCs), 49 Ayurvedic, 22 Unani, 108 Homeopathic Dispensaries, 22 Mobile Clinics, covering 78-day shelters & 311-night shelters and 61 School Health Clinics are providing preventive, promotive and curative health care services to the citizens of Delhi.



- 212 diagnostic investigation types of tests are conducted daily and the facility of X-ray and Ultrasound through Delhi Arogya Kosh for the residents of Delhi is already functioning at 520 Aam Aadmi Mohalla Clinics in Delhi. Around 15 Lakh people per month are availing of the facilities of the Aam Aadmi Mohalla Clinics. Aam Aadmi Mohalla Clinics also provide 75 essential drugs/ medicines to the patients.
- Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) under the Health & Family Welfare Department, Government of NCT of Delhi, is the agency committed to providing better health care. It coordinates with other government and non-government organizations to deliver medical facilities in Delhi. The Delhi Govt. alone is a significant contributor in the case of primary health care having 944 (60%) dispensaries as of date.

Environmental Concerns

- Delhi is a landlocked City in Northern India with limited resources. The rapid Urbanization of Delhi along with growth in economic activities in its surrounding areas is responsible for environmental problems. Air pollution, water pollution, loss of biodiversity, noise pollution etc. are the major environmental challenges. In Delhi, Government has taken several steps in the recent past to improve the environmental condition which includes a massive focus on afforestation, installation of Anti SmogGuns at construction sites, promotion of bio-decomposer developed by IARI Pusa for stubble management, closing of thermal power plants, deployment of Mechanical Road Sweepers (MRS) & Water Sprinklers (WS), implementation of Electric Vehicle Policy, ban on single-use plastic, better management of solid waste, treatment of wastewater, prohibition on open burning of garbage/ dry leaves etc, improvement of sewage system, stringent industrial emission norms etc.
- Besides Air and Water Pollution, Hazardous Waste, Bio-medical Waste, Construction & Demolition and Electronic Waste are other serious threats to the environment. To mitigate environmental degradation, the Government has taken steps to increase the Green cover of the state, promote electric vehicles, encourage use of treated waste water, decentralised waste management etc. To combat air pollution Delhi Govt. announced followings 10-point "winter action plan" that focuses on dust control, using the bio-decomposer, installation of smog tower and checking waste burning and vehicular emissions.
 1. Decomposer for parali
 2. Anti-dust campaign
 3. Fine on waste burning
 4. Ban on crackers
 5. Smog tower
 6. Monitor hotspot
 7. Green war room
 8. Green Delhi app
 9. India's first e-waste park
 10. Stop vehicular pollution
- The Delhi Government has set up a "Green War Room" (24X7 services for monitoring the grievance uploaded on Green Delhi App) to reduce vehicular pollution in the National Capital. Delhi government started the awareness campaign "Red Light On, Gadi Off" in Delhi.

- To improve Delhi's air quality and create an entire supply-chain ecosystem for this new segment of vehicles, Delhi Govt. established a policy 'Delhi Electric Vehicles Policy, 2020'. In order to significantly benefit Delhi's air quality, the policy intends to deploy 25% of all new vehicles to be battery-operated vehicles by 2024.
- As a result of the initiatives taken by the Government of NCT of Delhi, the forest and tree cover area has been increasing steadily since 1997. The forest and tree cover area increased to 342 sq km in 2021 increasing thereby the share of forests in the total area to 23.06 per cent. The growth of forests and tree cover has particularly been monumental post-1997. Delhi has the second-highest tree cover as a percentage (9.91%) of the total geographical area of the States/ UTs after Chandigarh (13.16%). The overall increase in Delhi's green cover is a good sign.

Other Measures that are continuously being taken to Control Air Pollution in Delhi

1. Monitoring and Action against persons for burning of waste material/ garbage in open
2. Monitoring and Action against violators of dust control measures
3. Implementation of a Comprehensive Action Plan (CAP)
4. Promotion of Battery-Operated Vehicles
5. Ban on bursting and sale of Firecrackers
6. Imposition of Charge on lights and heavy-duty commercial vehicles entering Delhi
7. Greening of City

Implementation of Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP): Effective implementation of Comprehensive Action Plan (CAP) and Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) are being done in Delhi. As per the recommendation of the Environment Pollution (Prevention and Control) Authority (EPCA), provisions of the very poor/ severe category of the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP), have been enforced from 15th October 2020. An order dated 16.02.2022 has been issued for the implementation of GRAP in Delhi NCR.

To Control local Sources of Air Pollution at source, 13 Hotspots namely, Narela, Bawana, Mundka, Wazirpur, Rohini, R.K. Puram, Okhla Ph-II, Jahangirpuri, Anand Vihar, Vivek Vihar, Punjabi Bagh, Mayapuri and Dwarka have been identified on the basis of Annual concentration of PM 2.5 & PM 10 in Delhi. Specific action plans have been drawn up for identifying and mitigating the local sources of air pollution such as plastic & garbage, Malba / C&D waste removal, road patches and potholes repair, De-congestion of congested traffic points, Mechanical road sweeping and Water sprinkling of roads, Closure of polluting & unauthorized industries, Night patrolling to check violations with respect to Bio-mass burning, C&D waste dumping etc, greenery development etc so that there is an immediate impact on the improvement in the air quality around these hotspots. The Dy. Commissioners of MCD zones have been made responsible as Nodal Officers for the execution of the action plan and the officers from other concerned line agencies have been made members of the execution team on the ground so as to ensure effective coordinated action.

Compliance to the directions of CAQM: A Commission on Air Quality Management in the National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas has been constituted through an Ordinance and promulgated by the Hon'ble President of India on 28th October 2020. Necessary steps are being taken by all stakeholder departments for compliance to various decisions/ directions of the Commission.

Water Pollution

- The river Yamuna, the reason for Delhi's existence, has suffered heavily from pollution. The entire stretch of the Yamuna River in Delhi is highly polluted due to the flow of untreated sewage and the discharge of inadequately treated industrial effluents.
- 54 KM Stretch in Delhi from Palla to Badarpur (Delhi-Haryana border).
- 22 KM Stretch from Wazirabad (Downside of Wazirabad Barrage) to Asgarpur Village (after Okhla Barrage), which is less than 2% of the river length, accounts for about 76% of the pollution load in the river.
- During the dry season, spreading over nearly nine months of the year, the river has no fresh water downstream of Wazirabad Barrage and the only flow available is sewage (both treated and untreated).
- 18 Major Drains outfall into river Yamuna with the discharge of huge quantities of wastewater into the River.

Famous Personalities

1. **M.F. Hussain:** Maqbool Fida Husain (B. 1915) is India's most famous Painter and Filmmaker who enjoys a multifarious range of occupations interests and passions. In 1967 he made his first film, Through the Eyes of a Painter. It was shown at the Berlin Festival and won a Golden Bear.
2. **Ravi Shankar:** Pandit Ravi Shankar, the legendary sitarist and composer is India's most esteemed musical Ambassador and a singular phenomenon in the classical music worlds of East and West. As a performer, composer, teacher and writer, he has done more for Indian music than any other musician. He is well known for his pioneering work in bringing Indian music to the West.
3. **Yaseen Anwer:** Yaseen Anwer is a poet who helped to launch the Delhi Poetry Festival. He is also the founder and managing editor of Poets Corner Group. The group was established in June 2011 and now has many members from across the world, plus printed anthologies wherein hundreds of poets have been published. Anwar has been published in anthologies alongside A. P. J. Abdul Kalam, Gulzar, Ruskin Bond, Nida Fazli, Mohammed Fakhruddin, Deepti Naval, Shashi Tharoor, Irshad Kamil, and Kapil Sibal. His work has appeared in more than 70 national and international magazines and journals. He is the winner of the "Young Poet Award 2012" by the Indian Poetry Society.
4. **Amrita Pritam:** Amrita Pritam was an Indian novelist, essayist, and poet, who wrote in Punjabi and Hindi. She is considered the first prominent female Punjabi poet, novelist, essayist, and the leading 20th-century poet of the Punjabi language, who is equally loved on both sides of the India–Pakistan border. With a career spanning over six decades, she produced over 100 books of poetry, fiction, biographies, essays, a collection of Punjabi folk songs and an autobiography that were all translated into several Indian and foreign languages. The Padma Shri came her way in 1969 and finally, Padma Vibhushan, India's second highest civilian award, in 2004, and in the same year she was honoured with India's highest literary award, given by the Sahitya Akademi (India's Academy of Letters), the Sahitya Akademi Fellowship given to the "immortals of literature" for lifetime achievement.
5. **Geet Sethi:** Geet Siriram Sethi was born in Delhi on 17 April 1961. He grew up in Ahmedabad. He is a professional player of English billiards who dominated the sport throughout much of the 1990s, and a notable amateur (ex-pro) snooker player. He is a six-time winner of the professional level and a three-time winner of the amateur World Championships, and holder of two world records, in English billiards.
6. **Virat Kohli:** Virat Kohli is an Indian cricketer. A right-handed top-order batsman, Kohli is regarded as one of the best batsmen in the world. He plays for Royal Challengers Bangalore in the Indian Premier League and has been the team's captain since 2013. The Government of India, conferred India Men's captain Virat Kohli with the prestigious Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award.



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UNESCO World Heritage Sites

There are three UNESCO World Heritage Sites in Delhi.

- Humayun's Tomb:** this tomb was built for the Mughal emperor Humayun in the year 1570. It was commissioned by Bega Begum or Haji Begum, the chief consort cum first wife of the emperor and designed by Persian architects Mirak Mirza Ghiyas and his son, Sayyid Muhammad. The design of the tomb depicts *charbagh* (four quadrant gardens with four rivers, which is a representation of Quranic paradise) where the pools are joined by channels. The gigantic tomb rests on a tall and wide terraced platform and is surmounted by a marble-clad double dome. Overall, this "dormitory of the Mughals" as it is called, is a beautiful ensemble of red sandstone with black and white inlaid marble.
- The Red Fort:** The Red Fort, built in 1639, served as the palace fort of Shahjahanabad, the new capital of the great Shah Jahan, the fifth Mughal emperor who ruled India. The fort consists of massive enclosing walls made up of red sandstone, and the pavilions inside this majestic structure depict a subtle blend of Persian, Hindu, and Timurid traditions. This architectural beauty is also based on the garden design and incorporates water channels called Nahr-i-Behisht (or Stream of Paradise) connecting the pavilions that are present in the private apartments. Adjacent to this monumental fort stands the Salimgarh fort which, together with the Red Fort forms the Red Fort Complex.
- Qutub Minar:** The Minar, which is touted to be the world's tallest minaret made up of bricks, is 73 meters or 293.5 feet tall, and consisting of five stories. The monument is a relic of the Delhi Sultanate and its construction was completed by many kings over the years. Founder of the Delhi Sultanate, Qutb-Ud-din-Aibak (the Sufi saint after whom the structure was named), began building this gigantic structure in 1192 and went up to constructing the first story while the remaining stories were completed by Iltutmish and Firoz Shah Tughlaq. The three lower stories are made up of sandstone, the fourth of marble, and the final tower of marble and sandstone. The minaret consists of Parsi-Arabic and Nagari inscriptions in various sections that reveal the history of its making.

State Symbols

| | |
|--------------|---------------|
| State Animal | Nilgai |
| State Bird | House Sparrow |
| State Tree | Gulmohar |
| State Flower | Alfalfa |

State Government Schemes

- Ladli Yojana :** The main objective of this scheme is to put an end on the female foeticide and to improve sex ratio. Delhi Ladli Yojna lay emphasis on protection of girls and promote education by providing financial assistance. Moreover, the Delhi Ladli Yojana also emphasises on promoting awareness of the importance of girls in society.
- Dilli Ki Yogshala:** It is an initiative of the Government of the NCT of Delhi to make yoga reach door-to-door and to transform it into a mass movement by providing a certified yoga instructor to the public, free of cost. The aim is to highlight the importance of meditation and yoga in improving the physical and mental health of citizens. As an ancient practice, yoga has proven to be an effective means of improving the quality of one's life. Through daily practice, one can inculcate mindfulness and be in greater harmony with their environment.
- DIY Kit Scheme 2022:** As announced in Delhi Budget 2022-23, the govt. of National Capital Territory (NCT) of Delhi will provide Do it Yourself kits to promote urban farming. The city government has launched an urban farming campaign to encourage residents of the city to grow vegetables on their rooftops and verandahs. All these kits will have some items related to agriculture which a beneficiary person must arrange to do farming at home.
- Saheli Samanvay Kendra Scheme:** The main objective of Delhi Saheli Samanvay Kendra Yojana is to empower women and to give them a larger role in the economy. Women empowerment would be achieved through the establishment of 500 Anganwadi hubs in various parts of the city. Delhi govt. will make special arrangements in the Anganwadi hubs for required training for women. This training would be provided in order to enable women to open micro-economic units and for holding meetings of self-help groups. Anganwadi Hubs shall be used by women of nearby areas for 4 hours everyday morning.
- Atal Aahar Yojana:** Under Atal Aahar Yojna, lower-income group people will be at the centre of the project as due to financial constraints, they mostly partake of unhygienic food which risks their health. As per the stated

proposal, 10 kiosks with inbuilt kitchen mobile vans (IKMV) will be placed in each of the four zones initially. The standing committee proposal also reflected that depending upon the requirement it'll increase or decrease the number of kiosks in each zone.

6. **Electric Vehicles Subsidy Scheme:** The scheme aims to achieve the overarching objective to improve Delhi's air quality and create an entire supply-chain ecosystem for this new segment of vehicles. In order to significantly benefit Delhi's air quality, the new EV policy intends to deploy 25% of all new vehicles to be battery-operated vehicles by 2024.
7. **Mukhyamantri Street Light Yojana:** In this CM Street Light Scheme, the state govt. will install around 2.1 lakh street lights to light up dark spots. This scheme is a major step towards strengthening women's safety. The 3 DISCOMS will have the responsibility of installing these street lights and each Discom will install 70,000 street lights.
8. **Shramik Mitra Scheme:** With the help of this scheme, construction workers can avail of pension, tools, loans, house, marriage, education, and maternity benefits. Delhi govt. wants to connect unorganized sector workers with the relevant govt. schemes and ensure that no worker is left out of any programmes.
9. **Mission Kushal Karmi:** Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia launched 'Mission Kushal Karmi' to upgrade the skills of construction workers. The Delhi government launched this programme with the help of Delhi Skill and Entrepreneurship University (DSEU) and the Delhi Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board.
10. **Business Blasters Programme:** Under this programme, students who are studying in classes 11 and 12 are mentored and then provided a financial capital of Rs 2,000 as seed money so that their business ideas can be financed.

This programme is a part of the Entrepreneur Mindset Curriculum (EMC) that has been developed by the Delhi government for high school students.

This programme is also being implemented so that the government can nurture all the future CEOs and entrepreneurs from an early age.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

1. **National Museum, India and Kolding Museum, Denmark sign Memorandum of Understanding:** At the beginning of March, 2023 Museum Kolding and the National Museum in New Delhi will open the joint exhibition "Silver treasures from Denmark and India". The exhibition is focused on the Danish and Indian Silver artefacts where both museums will show the best silver objects from their collections.
2. **IIT Delhi in top 50 of Times Higher Education Employability Rankings:** The Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi is the only Indian educational institution among top 50 in the Global University Employability Rankings by Times Higher Education (THE).
3. **BEL, DMRC inks MoU to jointly develop i-CBTC:** Navratna Defence PSU Bharat Electronics Ltd (BEL) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Delhi Metro Rail Corporation Ltd (DMRC) for jointly developing the Indigenous Communication-based Train Control System (i-CBTC), an important milestone in India's journey towards self-reliance in Rail and Metro operations.
4. **Delhi CM announces a 15-point Winter Action Plan to check air pollution:** Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal announced a 15-point Winter Action Plan to curb air pollution in the national capital. It includes the introduction of an electric vehicle policy in 2020 and a 24-hour electricity supply, and air-pollution levels had declined in the last four years. It will also install anti-smog guns and mobile anti-smog guns to curb pollution.
5. **Delhi LG launches one-time property tax amnesty scheme 'SAMRIDDHI 2022-23':** Delhi Lieutenant Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena launched a one-time property tax amnesty scheme 'SAMRIDDHI 2022-23', saying it will provide a major relief to lakhs of residential and commercial property owners in the city. SAMRIDDHI is an acronym for Strengthening and Augmentation of Municipal Revenue for Infrastructure Development in Delhi.
6. **New Delhi's historic Rajpath & Central Vista lawns to be renamed 'Kartavya Path':** The government has decided to rename the historic Rajpath and Central Vista lawns in the national capital as 'Kartavya Path'. Rajpath was known as Kingsway during British Rule. Earlier, the name of the road on which PM's residence is located was changed from Race Course Road to Lok Kalyan Marg.
7. **Central government fixes a maximum number of wards at 250 in MCD:** Central government has fixed the

maximum number of wards in the Municipal Corporation of Delhi at 250. 42 wards will be reserved for Scheduled Castes. Earlier, the total number of seats in the three MCDs was 272. In May this year, a notification was issued for the unification of three civic bodies of Delhi.

8. **Delhi Police first force to make a collection of forensic evidence mandatory:** Delhi Police has become the first police force in the country to make a collection of forensic evidence mandatory in crimes punishable by more than six years. Delhi Police Commissioner Sanjay Arora issued a 'standard order' to all police units. The recently released NCRB report showed a 40% increase in crimes against women in Delhi, the highest among all metropolitan cities
9. **Railway Ministry Unveils '4,700 crore Plan To Revamp New Delhi Station, To Fund It Internally And Not Via PPP Route:** Indian Railways has unveiled a Rs 4,700 crore plan to redevelop the New Delhi Railway Station. While the Railways had initially planned to pursue the New Delhi station redevelopment through Public Private Partnership (PPP) by offering real estate development rights on approximately 86 hectares, it has now decided to fund the project through state exchequer.
10. **Lok Sabha passes Bill to rename arbitration centre:** The Lok Sabha passed the New Delhi International Arbitration Centre (Amendment) Bill, in 2022 today. The Bill amended the New Delhi International Arbitration Centre Act, 2019. It also renamed the New Delhi International Arbitration Centre the India International Arbitration Centre.
11. **CAQM formulates Comprehensive Policy to abate menace of air pollution in Delhi-NCR:** The Commission for Air Quality Management, CAQM, has formulated a Comprehensive Policy to abate the menace of air pollution and improve the air quality in Delhi-NCR through a differentiated geographical approach. It focuses on abating air pollution through greening and plantation on a large scale, among other mitigation measures.
12. **Delhi airport becomes India's first to run entirely on hydro and solar energy:** GMR Group-run Delhi Airport has become first airport in India to run entirely on hydro and solar power from June 1st in a major step toward achieving the goal of becoming a Net Zero Carbon Emission Airport by 2030. Delhi International Airport Limited has signed a long-term power purchase agreement (PPA) with a Himachal Pradesh-based hydropower-producing company for supply.
13. **Delhi govt to name colonies & streets after Babasaheb Ambedkar:** Following the Central government's guideline advising against the usage of the word 'Harijan', the Delhi government is set to replace the word 'Harijan' from names of colonies & streets and name them after B.R. Ambedkar instead. Delhi will be one of the first states in the country to curb the use of the word which many people claim is "offensive and derogatory".
14. **Delhi Customs launches Project 'NIGAH' at ICD GarhiHarsaru, Gurugram:** Chief Commissioner, Delhi Customs Zone, Shri Surjit Bhujabal inaugurated project 'NIGAH' at ICD GarhiHarsaru, Gurugram. Project NIGAH is an initiative to track container by using ICTM (ICD Container Tracking Module) which will help in better visibility of the container movement inside the ICD.
15. **New scheme to set up 'Hobby Hubs' in Delhi government schools in works:** A project to set up 'Hobby Hubs' in government schools in Delhi with after-school dance, music, arts and crafts activities during this new academic session is in the works. For the 2022-2023 academic session, this project will only be implemented in single shift government schools.
16. **Delhi all set to build India's first ever e-waste eco-park:** In a bid to boost tourism, the Delhi government has decided to build India's first ever e-waste eco-park. The announcement was made by Delhi's Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia. He said that soon Delhi will be home to the "country's first" e-waste eco-park which will take care of rising e-waste. The park will be built on 20 acres of land.
17. **Delhi Police launches new digital initiative ' Anubhuti, e-Chitta:** Delhi police launched three new digital initiatives - Anubhuti, a QR code-based feedback system, a refurbished Delhi Police website and e-Chittha portal. Anubhuti - Feedback Management System, will establish two-way communication between the public and the police, and the analysis of the feedback received will help improve the functioning of the department.
18. **DMRC, CPWD sign pact for Central Vista 'Metro loop':** The Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) and the Central Public Works Department (CPWD) signed an MoU under which the former will provide technical assistance and execute finishing and service works for construction of a loop corridor connecting the existing Metro network with the new Central Secretariat buildings coming up as part of the Central Vista revamp project. DMRC's Managing Director- Dr.Mangu Singh. Shailendra Sharma-Director General, CPWD.

List of Chief Ministers of Delhi

| No. | Name | Term of office | | | Party |
|--|---------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|--|
| 1 | Brahm Prakash | 17 March 1952 | 12 February 1955 | 2 years, 332 days | Indian National Congress |
| 2 | Gurmukh Nihal Singh | 12 February 1955 | 1 November 1956 | 1 year, 263 days | |
| Office abolished (1 November 1956 - 1 December 1993) | | | | | |
| 3 | Madan Lal Khurana | 2 December 1993 | 26 February 1996[RES] | 2 years, 86 days | Bharatiya Janata Party Indian National Congress |
| 4 | Sahib Singh Verma | 26 February 1996 | 12 October 1998[RES] | 2 years, 228 days | |
| 5 | Sushma Swaraj | 12 October 1998 | 3 December 1998 | 52 days | |
| 6 | Sheila Dikshit | 3 December 1998 | 1 December 2003 | 15 years, 25 days | |
| | | 2 December 2003 | 29 November 2008 | | |
| | | 30 November 2008 | 28 December 2013 | | |
| 7 | Arvind Kejriwal | 28 December 2013 | 14 February 2014[RES] | 48 days | Aam Aadmi Party |
| - | Vacant (President's rule) | 14 February 2014 | 14 February 2015 | 1 year, 0 days | - |
| 8 | Arvind Kejriwal | 14 February 2015 | 15 February 2020 | 7 years, 306 days | |
| | | | | | |

List of lieutenant governors of Delhi

| List of Lieutenant Governors of Delhi | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| S. No. | Name | Took office | Left office |
| 1 | Aditya Nath Jha, ICS | 7 November 1966 | 19 January 1972 |
| 2 | M.C. Pimputkar, ICS | 19 January 1972 | 23 April 1972 |
| 3 | Baleshwar Prasad, IAS | 24 April 1972 | 3 October 1974 |
| 4 | Krishan Chand, ICS | 3 October 1974 | 30 March 1978 |
| 5 | Dalip Rai Kohli, ICS | 30 March 1978 | 17 February 1980 |
| 6 | Jagmohan Malhotra, IAS | 17 February 1980 | 30 March 1981 |
| 7 | Sundar Lal Khurana, IAS | 30 March 1981 | 2 September 1982 |
| 8 | Jagmohan Malhotra, IAS | 2 September 1982 | 25 April 1984 |
| 9 | P. G. Gavai, IAS | 25 April 1984 | Nov 1984 |
| 10 | Mohan M.K. Wali, IAS | Nov 1984 | Nov 1985 |
| 11 | AVM H. L. Kapur, PVSM, AVSM | Nov 1985 | Aug 1988 |
| 12 | Romesh Bhandari, IFS | Aug 1988 | Dec 1989 |
| 13 | ACM Arjan Singh, DFC | Dec 1989 | Dec 1990 |
| 14 | Markandey Singh, IPS | Dec 1990 | 4 May 1992 |
| 15 | Prasannabhai Karunashankar Dave, IAS | 4 May 1992 | 4 January 1997 |
| 16 | Tejendra Khanna, IAS | 4 January 1997 | 20 April 1998 |
| 17 | Vijai Kapoor, IAS | 20 April 1998 | 9 June 2004 |
| 18 | Banwari Lal Joshi, IPS | 9 June 2004 | 9 April 2007 |
| 19 | Tejendra Khanna, IAS | 9 April 2007 | 9 July 2013 |
| 20 | Najeeb Jung, IAS | 9 July 2013 | 22 December 2016 |
| 21 | Anil Baijal, IAS | 31 December 2016 | 18 May 2022 |
| 22 | Vinai Kumar Saxena | 26 May 2022 | Incumbent |

Delhi Full Statehood Issue

Special Provisions for Delhi – Article 239aa

- The 69th Constitutional Amendment Act of 1991 conferred the UT of Delhi with a special status, and redesignated it the National Capital Territory of Delhi and designated the Delhi’s administrator as the Lieutenant Governor (LG).
- The Act created a legislative assembly and a council of ministers for Delhi.
- The Assembly is empowered to make laws on all the matters of the State List (except public order, police, and land) and the Concurrent List. However, the laws of Parliament prevail over those made by the Delhi Assembly.
- The council of ministers headed by the Delhi Chief Minister assist and advise the LG in the exercise of his or her functions except in the cases the LG has to act in his/her own discretion. If there is a difference of opinion between the ministers and the LG, the latter should refer the matter to the President of the country for a decision and act in accordance with that.
- The LG is authorised to promulgate ordinances during recess of the legislative assembly. An ordinance has the same force as an act of the assembly. Each such ordinance should be approved by the legislative assembly within 6 weeks from its reassembly. The LG may also withdraw an ordinance at any time. But, he or she cannot promulgate an ordinance when the assembly is dissolved or suspended. In addition, no such ordinance can be promulgated or withdrawn without the prior permission of the Indian President.

Background:

When did the demand for Delhi’s statehood first emerge?

- The demand for statehood arose because of the Committee on Reorganisation of Delhi Set-Up or the Balakrishnan Committee’s report in the year 1987. The committee suggested setting up a legislative system and studying the overlapping of authorities in matters of municipal governance. It agreed to give the national capital a special status and the UT to have a legislative assembly that would be provided powers to form laws on matters under the state list except in matters related to police, land and public order.
- Not long after the AAP government registered a victory of 67 on 70 seats in the Delhi Assembly election of 2015, the Ministry of Home Affairs pulled back the services of the Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) from the Delhi government. This move removed the right of the government of Delhi to take any kind of disciplinary or removal action against officers who involve in corrupt practices.

Why is there a demand for complete statehood?

- Statehood will make the control of administration completely under the state government. This setup would prevent the multiplicity of authorities and the resultant confusion.
- The government of Delhi claims that its lack of control over police, public order and land obstructs its ability to efficiently plan the development of the city.
- The pitfalls of not having full statehood status have been experienced by many elected regimes in Delhi. But the extent of bitterness has been most severe at present.
- There have been spars in the political and judicial arenas over whether a subject falls under the Delhi government or under the exclusive domain of the Central government.

Should Delhi be given complete statehood?

| Arguments for | Arguments against |
|---|---|
| So far as granting statehood to Delhi is concerned, it is important to note that whichever party has come to power, every party while in power has said that Delhi should be granted statehood. But we need to look at the background of the issue. | When Delhi was declared the National Capital Territory (NCT) in the year 1991, by a Constitutional Amendment, the concept was pretty clear, and that is that when Delhi is the seat of the Union Government, there can’t be 2 authorities. Also, when we look at examples from the world over, the practice is the same. Example: Washington DC. In Washington, there is only a mayor. There isn’t an elected government there. |

| | |
|---|---|
| Delhi which has a growing population of 2.7 crore people, as of today, is no longer just a Union Territory. In Delhi, issues such as housing, water, electricity, transport, etc. | Being the national capital, Delhi hosts various critical infrastructures such as parliament, presidential estates, and embassies. Maintenance of these is extremely important and cannot be handed over to a different entity. |
| The government also has no say in the issues pertaining to recruitment and conditions of service of officials of IAS, clerks etc. Also, the present Delhi government has accused the centre to be meddling in its work and putting barricades through LG. | Granting statehood might lead to various administrative problems, especially in law and order which would be detrimental to the national capital. |
| Delhi Development Authority (DDA): The Delhi government has no say over the affairs of the DDA. This hinders the effective allocation, use of land and implementation of welfare schemes. | Quality of governance might decline due to the impact on finances. |
| Police: Due to the absence of control over the police force, the Delhi government faces problems in the proper maintenance of law and order in the state. | Security concerns: Security of embassies, parliaments. Further, there is the issue of safety and security of visiting dignitaries from different countries and also heads of state. The responsibility of ensuring security to them lies at the Centre and the state cannot be entrusted with it. |
| Municipal Corporation of Delhi: Government of Delhi has no control over the MCD. The government is of the opinion that it hinders in implementing development measures. | Control over land is required especially in areas with central government institutions, embassies. |
| Role of LG: The role and power of LG and Delhi government's Council of Ministers has always been an area of contestation. The LG has often been accused of delays and disruptions in the work of the elected government. | |
| Statehood will bring control of administration under one umbrella - the state government, led by the CM and his Council of Ministers and avoid multiplicity of authorities. | |

A Constitution Bench ruling provided a framework to resolve issues between the Central Government and the Government of Delhi.

- It held that the LG should act either on the aid and advice of the COM, or accept the decision of the Indian President on a reference made by him.
- The power to refer to "any matter" to the President did not mean "every matter" should go that way.
- The Bench upheld the Delhi government's authority to appoint prosecutors, impose and revise stamp duty on property transactions and issue notifications under the Delhi Electricity Reform Act.