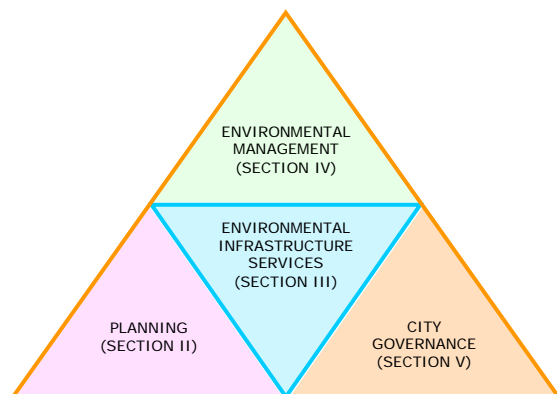


1. Overview

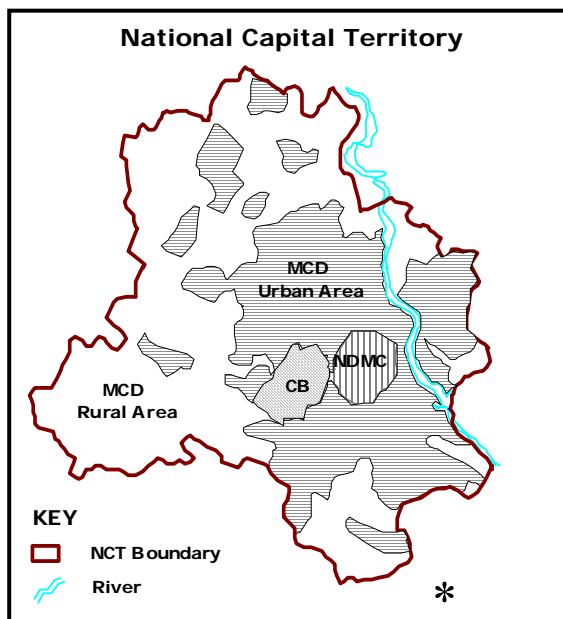
1.1 Context

This Report outlines the course of actions to make Delhi a more environmentally sustainable and liveable city by 2021 and is presented by the *Policy Framework Triangle* below, it is clear that the strength is in the triangle.



A well managed and healthy environment is built on the solid foundation of effective planning and good city governance providing sustainable environmental services.

The study area is the National Capital Territory of Delhi (NCTD) but takes into consideration the strategic importance of the surrounding towns of the Delhi Metropolitan Area (DMA) and the National Capital Region (NCR).



1.2 An Environment and Infrastructure Statement for Delhi in 2000

Delhi with its many green spaces, gardens, trees and forests has become a polluted city, while at the same time it has high levels of income in the Indian context.

Much of this report could be considered to be an environmental impact statement on Delhi. To politicians and residents alike, the description of the existing situation might make a dismal reading. Response to it must not be negative however, on the contrary, its purpose is to:-

- Bring about a change in the way “Delhi” responds to its development and related environmental impacts;
- Inspire and galvanise its readers into action; and
- To make Delhi an internationally competitive and productive city.

In order to succeed, all levels and sections of the Delhi Community should, and indeed must, cooperate and make a positive contribution to the environment of Delhi.

1.2.1 Legacy of the Past Governance

Ever since 1911, however, the governance of Delhi has been problematic. It has been difficult to reconcile the Central Government’s desire to be involved in what it correctly regards as a “special place” and the universal belief that no area (not even the metropolitan area) should be deprived of the right of self-government.

This dilemma, which began in 1911, still exists today, and probably gives rise to the environmental situation that now prevails. Throughout its history as the national capital, Delhi’s environment, apart from a privileged enclave, has steadily deteriorated.

This is caused by a failure to address the issues emanating from urban development and management. The central government’s influence on the day to day affairs of the city, through legislation and

the administrative set up, is too strong and pervasive. In short *the majority of the citizens of the national capital are not in control of their own destiny.*

The sharing of powers and different perceptions and understanding of the local problems *between the Gol and Delhi government* goes right to the heart of the *environmental problem.* This is the reason why this report devotes so much space to the issues arising from urban growth management and its related institutions. Concern for the environment and environmental health is, however, a thread that runs right through the report.

Radical change and reform is urgently required; even then Delhi in 2021 might not be a "*City beautiful*" chiselled in stone.

1.2.2 Urban development overtaken by Uncontrolled Growth

Delhi has been growing at about 1,000 persons per day (350,000 per annum) for a number of years. Approx. 225,000 of these results from Delhi's own growth (14 million growing at 1.6% per annum) with the balance coming from in-migration. Assuming 100,000 of the growth is absorbed in the existing fabric of the city, serviced land is needed to settle 250,000 per annum; 500 ha at a gross density of 500 persons per ha or 1000 ha at a moderate density of 250 persons per ha.

Release of land for providing housing with the requisite on and off-site infrastructure services like water supply, drainage, roads plus social infrastructure such as clinics, hospitals, schools, police and fire stations etc. has not matched this growth. As a result service infrastructure has failed to provide the city with a healthy environment.

1.2.3 Water and Wastes (Liquid and Solid) a Threat to the Environment

- Water borne and waste related disease outbreaks occur annually;
- Less than 40 percent of liquid waste is treated;

- Solid waste management is grossly inefficient, labour productivity at 0.15 tonnes per sweeper per day is low, there are no transfer stations and the capacity of the existing and formally identified landfill sites is critically low.; and
- Solid wastes and street sweepings find their way into drains, waterways and sewers; flooding is a regular occurrence in the monsoon season.

1.2.4 Air and Noise Environment a Threat to Health

Incidence of respiratory diseases in Delhi is 12 times the national average, and 30% of Delhi's population suffers from respiratory disorders.

Only 30% of the residential colonies of Delhi have a noise level within internationally prescribed limits. Almost 20% of the residential colonies are exposed to excessive levels of day and night noise pollution.

(Source: CSE 5th Annual Citizen Reports, 1999)

Air pollution comes from 4 main sources:	
a)	Vehicular discharge 67%
b)	Thermal Plants 13%
c)	Industrial Activity 12%
d)	Domestic Combustion 8%

(Source: CPCB, Delhi)

1.2.5 Institutional Situation

At present, administrative control of the institutions and authorities responsible for the governance of Delhi is split between Gol and GNCTD. The results of the existing multiplicity of policy making authorities and lack of an orderly line of control can be seen from the table 1.2.5

1.2.6 Delhi Beyond 2000 – Business As Usual?

In the year 2000, all the trends in the relevant data, *forecast deterioration in the environment and deterioration in the quality of life.* The "*Business as Usual*" scenario is littered with thoughts of gloom and despondency. The *present system of governance is failing the vast majority of the citizens.*

Table 1.2.5: Multiplicity of Policy Making Authorities and Implementing Agencies - a Complexity of Governance

Issue	Concerned Agencies	Result
Provision of serviced plots for housing to accommodate growth	DDA, MoUD, DoLD, GNCTD, MCD, NDMC, DJB, DVB, Private Sector.	Lack of enough houses / plots, growth of unauthorised colonies, growth of JJs, spread out colonies with problems in infrastructure provision.
Journey to work and transportation	MoRlys, CPWD, PWD, GNCTD, DoTr, DTC, MCD, NDMC, Private Sector	Lack of adequate mass transportation capacity and routes, resulting in growth of personalised vehicles with resultant problems of traffic congestion, air and noise pollution etc.
Environmental Pollution	CPCB, DPCC, DoEd, GNCTD, DoTr, MCD, NDMC, DJB, Transport Operators	Land, water, air and noise pollution, environmental health problems, etc.
Improving Habitat for Urban Poor	MCD, NDMC, DDA, MoUD, DoUD, GNCTD, other public agencies owning land like Rlys, I & FC	Slum up-gradation or relocation programme cannot pick up momentum.