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Unruly urbanisation on Delhi's fringe

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GLOSSARY

Acre: 0.405 hectare.

Abadi: Built-up area of the village; the area encircled by the 'lal dora'.

Assami right: Ownership structure of land with limited sale and inheritance rights.

BDO (Block Development Office): Government representation in the rural areas in charge of e.g. cadastres and basic health services.

Bhiga: Local land measurement: a little less than 0.1 hectare.

Bihar: Poor state in north-east India.

Biharis: People from Bihar; a name used by villagers to denote migrant labour.

Brahmins: The highest caste in Indian society, dominant in the village Ibrahimpur. In the study area they traditionally are land-owning cultivators.

Caste: Complex societal hierarchy in the population in India. There are four main caste groups. 1. Brahmins are traditionally the priests/teachers (e.g. Brahmins, Tyagis). 2. Ksatriyas are the warrior caste; presently, they are often land-owning cultivators (e.g. Jats, Rajputs, Thakurs). 3. Banias are the traditional traders/money-lenders. 4. Shudras include the labour and artisan castes. Below that are Dalits (or Untouchables or Harijans) who are outside the caste system. Officially, the Dalits are called Scheduled Castes (SC). Some of the Shudra castes are included in the category 'Other Backward Castes' (OBC).

Census town: Some larger villages and towns in rural Delhi have been classified as census towns. The definition from the Census of India in 1991 includes the census areas that were projected in 1981 to have a minimum population of 5,000, at least 75% of the male working population engaged in non-agricultural occupations, and a density of population of at least 400 per km² in 1991.

Colony: Indian English for neighbourhood/settlement.

DDA (Delhi Development Authority): Delhi's government agency in charge of land supply, urban and regional planning, and construction of mass housing.

Degradation (land, environmental): In a physical sense: reduction of quality of soil, water and/or vegetation. In a socio-economic sense: "reduction of a particular use" (according to Blaikie and Brookfield 1987, p. 6).

Desakota: Typically Asian rural area characterised by intensive small-holder cultivation accompanied by a high density of population, economic growth, and spatial interaction near and between large metropolises (see McGee 1991).

DESU: Delhi Electrical Supply.

DMA (Delhi Metropolitan Area): The National Capital Territory (NCT) and a few adjacent towns (see Figure 2.1).

DUT (Delhi Union Territory): The name for the National Capital Territory (NCT) before 1995.

DTC (Delhi Transport Corporation): State-owned bus company.

DWS: Delhi Water Supply.

Excavation: site for extraction of loam and sand.

Externalities: "Externalities are variously known as external effects, external economies and diseconomies, spillovers and neighbourhood effects" (Pierce 1981), for which there is no functioning compensation mechanism.

Gher: Cattle shed in the residential area of a village, currently sometimes used for other purposes.

GIS (Geographical Information Systems): Computer-based applications of spatial databases and spatial analysis.

Green Revolution: a generic name for the intensification of agriculture in developing countries that started in the 1960s. The core area of the green revolution in North India includes Punjab, Haryana, and Western Uttar Pradesh. Delhi is located in the middle of it.

GT Road (Grand Trunk Road): Main road through the Indian Subcontinent, crossing the study area from north to south.

Gujjars: An intermediary caste, dominant in the village of Jagatpur. In the study area they are traditionally involved in keeping cattle.

Haryana: State surrounding Delhi to the north, south, and west (see Figure 2.1).

Horticulture: Cultivation of vegetables (fruit is also part of horticulture, but its cultivation is hardly found in the research area).

Household: A group of persons who live together and share a single kitchen.

Household, joint: Two or more generations in a household comprising elders and married brothers.

Household, nuclear: The head of the household and/or his/her spouse and/or his non-working children, comprising a maximum of two generations.

Kotadesasi: *Desakota* implying a process (see McGee 1991).

Lal dora: Literally 'red line'. Designated border of the built-up area (village *abadi*).

Living standard: Referring to the economic situation of the household. In this thesis it is measured as an index including the following variables: available rooms per household member, number of motorcycles/scooters, and number of TVs in the household.

Jajmani system: Traditional economic obligatory and reciprocal system in villages based on the castes. (E.g. the landless had to work on the land of the land-owning castes and provide services in exchange for a share of the crop.)

Jats: A high caste from the martial category, dominant in the villages of Zindpur, Nangli Poona, and Pehladpur Bangar. In the study area they traditionally are land-owning cultivators.

MCD (Metropolitan Corporation of Delhi): Government of Delhi.

NCR (National Capital Region): Delhi and its region extending to approximately 80 km from the city limits used as a (future) planning framework.

NCT (National Capital Territory): The urban area of Delhi and surrounding rural areas.

OBC (Other Backward Castes): See Caste.

Panchayat: A locally elected village administrative body in charge of village-level issues. In some states the Panchayat system is working quite well (e.g. Haryana). But in other states (e.g. Uttar Pradesh) the system is defunct due to political controversy. In Delhi the system was abolished in 1986 because the Delhi Administration saw it as an obstacle to land acquisition, infrastructural development, etc.

Pradhan: Village headman. Head of the Panchayat.

PWD (Public Works Department): Government body in charge of roads and other infrastructure.

Rajputs: A high caste from the martial category, dominant in the village of Sungarpur. In the study area they are traditionally land-owning cultivators.

RS (Remote Sensing): Observation of the earth from a device in the sky or in space, mostly referring to satellite imagery.

Rupee (Rs.): Indian currency: about 40 Rs. = US\$ 1 or NLG 2.

Rural-urban fringe: Area extending from the contiguous built-up area of the city (no rural land use) to where most villages show a majority of workers engaged in non-agricultural occupations (many of whom commute).

Sainis: An intermediary caste, dominant in the village of Khushk. In the study area they are traditionally involved in growing vegetables.

Sanscritisation: Lower castes adopting the morals and values from higher castes, leading to more occupational inhibitions among lower castes.

SC (Scheduled Castes): see Caste.

Speculation (land): Temporarily unproductive or underproductive ownership of asset with the goal of making profit upon later sale, involving a degree of risk.

Suitcase farmer: Migrant who leases land to cultivate high-yielding market-oriented crops, usually hiring workers (also migrants).

Tempo: Small truck

Tyagis: A high caste split off from the Brahmins, dominant in the villages of Ibrahimpur and Pehladpur Bangar. In the study area they are traditionally land-owning cultivators.

Urbanisation: In this thesis: process in the (formerly) rural areas implying one or more of the following developments: growth of urban land use, settlement of non-agricultural economic activities, expansion of (urban) amenities, and/or increased access to urban areas.

Uttar Pradesh: Large Indian state, adjacent to Delhi to the east.

Yadavs: an intermediary caste (in most states OBC), dominant in the village of Samaipur. They are traditionally involved in keeping dairy animals.