BLOCK AND VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR PALWAL, HARYANA, 2031

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The block and village development plan for Palwal 2031 as a Studio exercise has been taken up in second semester to prepare a sub-regional plan of substantial geographical size having a rural and urban composition.

The analysis was carried out in four phases: pre-study, literature survey and identification of villages, field survey comprising of qualitative and quantitative data collection, data analysis data and identification of issues and potentials, followed by formulation of policies and proposals. The study has integrated sectoral and spatial planning approach. Various sectors such as regional setting, demography, economy, traffic and transportation, housing, infrastructure, environment, disaster management, governance and finance are studied. The spatial approach is achieved by dealing with each sector, their spatial distribution and areal differentiation. The interrelationship between each sector and the spatial pattern of development is analysed.

Palwal district being part of National Capital Region (N.C.R.) and Haryana sub-region is proposed as a regional centre in 2021. It serves as a potential region for economic development in Palwal as well as adjoining districts. Moreover, the Dedicated Freight Corridor (D.F.C.) alignment along with Kundli Manesar Palwal (K.M.P.) and Kundli Ghaziabad Palwal (K.G.P.) expressway is passing through Palwal, giving a boost to economic development of the district. This development shall trickle down to rural region for balanced regional development. Hence, an efficient plan is required for inducing uniform development over the space.

The population of Palwal district in 2011 was 10, 42,708 with Palwal block having a share of 32 percent population. The decadal growth rate of Palwal block is 43 percent for the year 2001-2011, which is highest amongst the blocks in the district. Palwal block has highest density of more than 900 persons/sq km among all the blocks in the district owing to the concentration of educational, health and economic activities in Palwal district headquarters. The population density is high in areas lying in the vicinity of Palwal town, National Highway and State Highway outstretching from the Urban Node as compared to the distant rural villages. The workforce participation is also found higher in the adjacent region of the city with higher percentage of marginal workers as compared to other villages.
The agricultural production is higher in Khadar (new alluvium) belt as compared to Bhangar (old alluvium) belt and lowest in some of the villages along SH13 due to high salinity of soil. Due to upcoming infrastructural projects like DFC, KMP and KGP, Palwal is likely to have stimulated economic development. According to survey conducted of secondary sector, there are 32 industries in Palwal block out of which 13 micro, 13 small and 6 medium scale industries are concentrated in Palwal city and Dhatir village. The availability of data for study of tertiary sector spatially in the block is restricted to the analysis of storage facilities, employment under MGNREGA and banking facilities in the block.

The housing condition in the Khadar belt is not good as compared to the other villages. The housing shortage is largest in Palwal block due to increased urbanization and therefore, growth in number of slums is observed. The road network in the block comprises of two National Highways, one State Highway, one Major District Road and two Other District Roads. The total length of NH 2 and NH 71B in the block is 26 km, SH 13 is eight k.m long, MDR 135 is seven km in length, and ODR is 23 k.m. respectively The National Highway and State Highway serve 32 percent and 15 percent of the population of the block. All villages of the block are connected with all weather roads. A higher number of transport options and their frequency from Palwal to Delhi and Gurgaon show inter dependency of people for employment, health and education facilities. All villages of the block are connected by all weather roads and there is a higher frequency and number of bus connectivity to Gurgaon and Delhi as compared to other routes thus indicating higher interdependency of people for employment, health and education facilities.

Palwal block ranks first among the five blocks of the district in the terms of Physical Infrastructure facilities. Through composite ranking method, it is observed that Khadar belt lies in under developed condition as compared to other settlements in the block. Major thrust was given to increase safe drinking water provision, construction of toilets under Nirmal Bharat Programme, maintenance of johad in the settlements and achieving 100 percent electrification by 2031. Palwal block has better position in terms of provision of educational infrastructure provision of educational institutions as it is as per norms in Palwal block. However, sufficient educational infrastructure is not helping in promoting female literacy rate in the villages which is lower than 56 percent in all villages. Provision of health infrastructure is not upto the mark as 8 out of the 17 sub-centres is serving population in excess by 60 percent in the block than the norms.

According to land suitability analysis, the eastern Khadar belt of Palwal block is highly
suitable for agriculture. The western side of Palwal town has very critical water depth and the water is saline. Badha and Nagli Pachanki are two villages where the soil quality is very poor leading to lesser yield.

In terms of hazards and disaster, out of five blocks of the district, Palwal is more prone to environmental and human induced hazards and disaster. Khadar belt is flood prone whereas south-west is drought prone area. The fire accidents have a higher occurrence in rural areas due to stubble burning carried out in agricultural fields. The road and rail accidents are frequent along NH2 and the Railway line.

Palwal District comprises of 266 Villages, 237 Gram Panchayats, 3 Municipal Committee, 3 Sub Divisions, 5 Development Blocks and 3 Tehsils. The district is under the overall charge of the Deputy Commissioner who is also the chairman of the District Rural Development Agency. Sub Division is under the control of Sub Divisional Magistrate while each Development Block is under the control of Block Development Officer. The Additional Deputy Commissioner cum Chief Executive Officer, Palwal, is looking after developmental programmes.

Six villages were selected for detailed village survey based on the criteria of population, accessibility from Palwal town and nearness to the main roads. The selected villages were given ranking based on 15 indicators from demography, primary sector, secondary sector, transport, housing, physical and social infrastructure sectors. Chandhat village is selected for detailed village development plan. The reason for its selection is that it trails behind in level of development and occupies third last position. The Lalwa village with lowest level of development was not considered due to very less population and Hassapur was a resettlement village.

For the Block Development Plan, policy zones (most developed, moderately developed, less developed) were identified. Hence A, B, C were identified based on parameters indicating respective sectors. Vision and development objectives based on policy zones are framed. Strategies were formulated based on issues of respective sectors, which is later divided into policy zones and phasing for the perspective year of 2031.

For the village development plan, issues were identified with best possible solutions proposed in the larger perspective and guidance of the vision for the block.