

# Chapter 3

## A Brief Profile of the Study Area

---

### 3.1 Haryana Profile<sup>1</sup>

Haryana is a state in India. Historically it is a part of Kuru region of North India. The name, Haryana, is found mentioned in the 12th century AD by the apabhramsha writer Vibudh Shridhar (VS 1189-1230). Haryana was the cradle of the Indus Valley and Vedic Civilizations, both flourishing on the banks of the now lost Sarasvati River. Several decisive battles were fought in the area, which shaped much of the history of India. These include the epic battle of Mahabharata at Kurukshetra (including the recital of the Bhagavad Gita by Lord Krishna), and the three battles of Panipat. Haryana was administered as part of the Punjab province of British India and as a part of Punjab state after independence. Haryana emerged as a separate State in India on November 1, 1966. It has only 1.37% of the total geographical area and less than 2% of India's population. Haryana has a total of 81 cities and towns. It has 6759 villages

For administrative purpose the whole state is divided into four divisions - Ambala, Rohtak, Gurgaon and Hissar. Haryana is situated in the north between 27 deg 37' to 30 deg 35' latitude and between 74 deg 28' to 77 deg 36' longitude. Haryana is a landlocked state in northern India; its northern part is surrounded by Punjab and Himachal Pradesh and Rajasthan to the west and south. Its eastern border touches Uttaranchal & Uttar Pradesh which is defined by river Yamuna. The state also surrounds Delhi from three sides, forming the northern, western and southern borders of Delhi. It is one of the most agrarian states in India covered with greenery all around. The state is famous for wheat and milk production. The vast plains that stretch between river Indus and Gangetic belt have fertile soil and hence have improved the crop productivity of the country.

The climate of Haryana is very hot in summer (up to a high of 50 deg Celsius) and cold in winters (down to a low of 1 deg Celsius). The hottest months are May and June and the coldest months are December and January. Rainfall is varied with Shivalik Hills region being the wettest and the

---

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.haryanaonline.in/profile/>

Aravali Hills region being the driest. About 80% of the rainfall occurs in the monsoon season (July-September) and sometimes causes local flooding. The river Yamuna flows along its eastern boundary. The ancient Saraswati river was thought to have flowed through Haryana but it has now disappeared. The river Ghaggar is its main seasonal river.

In Haryana there are four main geographical features 1. Shivalik Hills, 2. Ghaggar 3. Yamuna Plain, 4. Aravalli hills. Rivers like Saraswati, Ghaggar, Tangri and Markanda originate from the Shivalik Hills. Most of the land of Haryana is flat, covered with loamy soil which is very suitable for agriculture. Haryana significantly contributed to the Green Revolution which started in 1960. The main languages of Haryana are Hindi, Punjabi and Urdu but Haryanvi and Jatu which are spoken in villages. The foods of the state have distinguishing flavors and are prepared especially during festive occasions.

Haryana has been successful in preserving its rich cultural heritage despite turbulent political upheavals. With rapid urbanization and close proximity to Delhi the cultural aspects are making a more modern hue. The people of Haryana are tradition bound and have preserved their rich culture in the form of dance, drama, music, arts, and celebration of various fairs and festivals throughout the year. Haryana's folk culture is based on old customs of meditation, Yoga and chanting of Vedic Mantras. The seasonal and religious festivals bring affability among the people. They take great delight in saang (a folk dance), dramas, ballads and songs during these occasions.

The economy of Haryana is largely dependent on agriculture. About 70% people of the total population are engaged in farming. Wheat and rice are the major crops grown in the state. Haryana is self-sufficient in food production and the second largest contributor to India's central pool of food grains. Haryana greatly contributed to the Green Revolution in India in the 1970s as a result of which the country has become self-sufficient in food production. Dairy farming is essential part of the rural economy. Haryana has a livestock population of 98.97 lakh. Milk and milk products form an essential part of the local diet. There is the saying *Desaan main des Haryana, jit doodh dahi ka khaana*, which means "Best among all the countries in the world is Haryana, where the staple food is milk and yoghurt".

In Haryana, the availability of milk for per capita per day is 660 grams. It has 2<sup>nd</sup> rank in the country as against the national average of 232 grams. There is a vast network of milk societies

that support the dairy industry. The National Dairy Research Institute at Karnal is Asia's largest and oldest dairy, and the Central Institute for Research on Buffaloes at Hissar are instrumental in development of new breeds of cattle and propagation of these breeds through embryo transfer technology. The Murrah breed of water buffalo from Haryana is world-famous for its milk production.

The Rapid industrialization has been recorded in the state over the last two decades. More than a thousand medium and large companies with a capital investment of Rs.200 billion have been established in the state. There are more than 80,000 small-scale industries in the state which cumulatively bring in a substantial income for the state and its people. Haryana is the top rankers in the country in the production of cars, motorcycles, tractors, sanitary ware, gas stoves and scientific instruments. Yamunanagar district is the largest industrial town wholly within in Haryana. It has Asia's largest paper mill BILT and Asia's largest Sugar Mill. Yamunanagar has Asia's largest timber industry, an HPGCL thermal power plant, a hydro power plant and India's largest Railway workshop. It is also famous for its old steel and brass industry.

Faridabad is another big industrial town of Haryana. It is home to hundreds of large scale companies like Orient Paper & Industries, JCB India Limited, Nirigemes, Agri Machinery Group (Escorts Limited), India Yamaha Motor Pvt. Ltd., Now Haryana occupies 3rd rank among states in software exports from India. Establishment of Nano City at Panchkula a joint venture between the Haryana State Industrial and Infrastructure Development Corporation (HSIIDC) and Nano Works Developers Private Ltd, a company promoted by Sabeer Bhatia, the creator of Hotmail will further boost the state position in this sector. The Gurgaon city is considered the best city for setting up a software or BPO centre in India.

Haryana is a trend setter in the field of passenger transport. It has a total road length of 23,684 kilometers. The remotest parts of the state are linked with metaled roads. Its modern bus fleet of 3,864 buses covers a distance of 1.15 million Kilometers per day. It was the first State in the country to introduce luxury video coaches. Grand Trunk Road, commonly abbreviated to GT Road, is one of South Asia's oldest and longest major roads. It passes through the district of Sonapat, Panipat, Kurukshetra and Ambala in north Haryana where it enters Delhi and subsequently the industrial town of Faridabad on its way. The state government proposes to

construct Express highways and freeways for speedier vehicular traffic. The 135.6-km long Kundli-Manesar-Palwal Expressway (KMP) will provide high-speed link to northern Haryana with its southern districts such as Sonapat, Jhajjar, Gurgaon and Faridabad. Haryana and Delhi government have also constructed Delhi-Gurgaon Expressway which has the largest toll plaza in Asia and 3rd largest in the world.

Haryana has a state-wide network of highly efficient telecommunication facilities. Haryana Government has its own state-wide area network by which all government offices of 21 districts and 127 blocks across the state are connected with each other thus making it the first SWAN of the country. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited and most of the leading private sector players such as Reliance Info com, Tata , Bharti Telecom, Idea, Vodafone Essar, Aircel, Uninor and Videocon have operations in the state. The major newspapers of Haryana are *Aaj ka Samaj*, Dainik Tribune, Punjab Kesari, Jag Bani, Deink Jagran, The Tribune, Amar Ujala, Hindustan Times, Dainik Bhaskar, The Times of India and Hari-Bhumi. Keeping pace with time, Haryana has its first 24x7 online news and Info portal Haryana Live fully dedicated to news and information from all around the state. Government of Haryana has decided to provide plot areas in all four divisions for "Press Bhawan". Haryana Press Club has been authorized to build & operate those press bhawans, by Haryana government.

Haryana is the first state in the country to achieve 100% rural electrification in 1970, first in the country to link all villages with all-weather roads and first in the country to provide safe drinking water facilities throughout the state. Haryana is well connected on the railway network as well. The main railway routes passing through Haryana are: Amritsar-delhi, Rewari-ahmedabad, Bhiwani-rohtak-delhi, Ambala-ferozepur, Kalka-jodhpur, Kalka-howrah, Amritsar Howrah and Delhi-Shimla. Haryana has a large chain of educational institutions be it primary school or schools for higher education.

There are many types of schools in Haryana like government, government aided and private. These schools have affiliation from apex bodies like Central Board of Secondary Education CBSE or Haryana Education Board, etc. The literacy rate in Haryana is 55.85%, which is more than the All India Average of literacy rate. Stress is given on the enhancement of primary education so as to check the dropout rate at the lower classes. Many other incentives are also given to students so as to attract them to the educational institutes.

The Haryana Government is chiefly concerned about literacy among females. Haryana government offers concessions and incentives for girls and especially to those belonging to backward. The free education, free books, free grants provided for EWS and schedule castes given scholarships and reimbursement of tuition fees. Education is free for female candidates up to graduation level. Free Computer training to the students of classes 6th to 12th will be provided to 1232 Govt. Senior Secondary Schools in order to make education system more flexible, Semester System has been introduced in Haryana State.

Haryana is the first State in the country which has started Semester System the State Government has decided to introduce Project Based Learning in all the classes. Politics of Haryana is mainly dominated by Jats. Haryana's legislature is unicameral; its one house, the Haryana Legislative Assembly, consists of 90 members. Haryana has five seats in the Rajya Sabha, the upper house of India's national parliament, and ten in the Lok Sabha, the lower house. The largest political parties in Haryana are the Indian National Lok Dal, Haryana Janhit Congress, Bhartiya Janata Party, Bahujan Samaj Party and Indian National Congress. The present political scenario of the state is clear and it has a stable government under Bhupinder Singh Hooda who is presently the Chief Minister of the state. During his presidency American president Jimmy Carter visited Carterpuri village in Gurgaon.

### **3.2 Jhajjar District<sup>2</sup>**

Jhajjar is one of the 21th districts of Haryana in India. Jhajjar district was carved of Rohtak district on July 15, 1997. The district headquarter is situated in Jhajjar town, at a distance of 65 km from Delhi. It is derived from Jharnaghar, a natural fountain. The district lies in the south east of Haryana state.

Jhajjar District is one among the important districts of Haryana State. The District lies between 28 o 33' N and 28 o 42' S latitude and 76o 28' 45'' W and 76 o 84' 15'' E longitude. On its north lies the Rohtak Subdivision of Rohtak District and in the South lies the Subdivision

---

<sup>2</sup> [http://cgwb.gov.in/District\\_Profile/Haryana/Jhajjar.pdf](http://cgwb.gov.in/District_Profile/Haryana/Jhajjar.pdf)

Rewari of Rewari District. In the East lies Tikri border of delhi and in the West lies Charkhi Dadri Sub Division of bhiwani district. The altitude of the Distirct is about 715 above mean sea level (MSL) and a slope from South to North from Rewari towards Jhajjar is around 40 feet.. The district falls within the classified arid and semi-arid zones. Broadly three types of soil are available in the District are 1. clay, 2. loamy clay, 3. loamy sandy. The total population of the District is 880072, (684975 in Rural). It is alluvial in nature and fertile. However, the soil is deficient in Nitrogen. Hot summer, cold winter and meager rain fall are the main climatic characteristics of Jhajjar District

The district is having an area of 1834 square Kms which is 195097 in Urban Areas as per the Census 2001. Rural population is 77.83% of the total population. Population density is 484 people per sq. km. Population of Jhajjar town are 39002. The other towns are Bahadurgarh with population of 139933 & Beri with population of 16162. In the District ground water occurs under semi confined to unconfined aquifer conditions. The unconfined aquifers are tapped by dug wells whereas the semi confined aquifers are tapped by shallow tube wells, which are 37000 out of which 3455 are electric motor driven and 33545 are diesel engine driven. The depth of water table in the area of the district ranges for minimum 1.37 meters to maximum 20.72 meters below ground level. (June, 2005) 91.05% of the area fall under 10 meters of water level depth.

Ten million years ago most of the area of the district was submerged under bay of ocean hence the quality of ground water is saline at deeper depths because of seepage for intensive network of canal and drainage system, the quality of ground water near and along the water bodies is fresh to marginal. As per June 2005, 13.5% of area falls under fresh quality of ground water, 52% under marginal to marginal saline and of the 34.5% under saliva zone. The overall stage of ground water development in the district is 87% with minimum 53% in Matanhail block and maximum 107% in Jhajjar block.

The economy of the district is primarily agriculture. About 57.58 of total workers are engaged in agriculture and allied activities. Jhajjar is famous for its cattle wealth. There is no dearth of milk and milk products in the cuisine of Haryana. People prepare ghee and butter at home and you can see a liberal usage of ghee in their regular diet. The Home made butter is called tindi or

nooni ghee and in most homes they daily churn fresh ghee. In weddings, it is customary for people to give gifts prepared from ghee to the bride's family. Buttermilk, Lassi and tea are common drinks.

As per census 2001, only 7548 households are engaged in industrial labour and rests are engaged in other activities. Out of total geographical area of the district only 77.38% area is under cultivation. The main crops in Rabi season are Wheat, Gram, Barley, Mustard, and Sugar Cane and in Kharif season are Cotton, Paddy, Jawar, Bajra, Gawar, Arhar and Moong. Steel pipe & C.R. Strips, Biscuits, Glazed Tiles, Glass Bottles & Tumblers, Sanitary ware, Decorated Laminated Sheets, Refractory, Bottling of L.P.G. Cylinders, Rubber Footwear, Coated Papers, Coated Cotton Fabric, Transfer Sheets, Woven Labels, Embroidered Fabric & Motifs, HDPE Woven Fabrics, Atta & Maida, Steel Wires, Ball Bearing Socks and Bituminous.

Bhindawas Complex in district Jhajjar is known for best tourist complex. This complex is situated around 15 K.M from Jhajjar City. The birds and the lake is the main attraction of the complex. The lake spread over in 1074 acres of land with beautiful gardens. The lake area is 440 hectare and peripheral embankment is 12 KM is manmade and basically constructed to store the escaped water of Jawaharlal Nehru canal through an escape channel at the time of power failure of Lift Canal System. The water of Bhindawas Lake (now Bhindawas Bird Sanctuary) is being used by the migratory birds of about 200 species.

There are many other religious places in this district like Mata Bhimeshwari Devi Mandir, Budha Mahadev Mandir, Baba Parsak Firi Mandir, Shiv Mandir, Teen Murti Mandir, Hanuman Mandir, Mahadev Mandir and Masjid in city Jhajjar. Besides this following educational institutions are functioning in this district for imparting education to the students. Nehru College Jhajjar, Maharaja Agrasain College Jhajjar. Polytechnic. College Jhajjar, ITI Bahadurgarh, Govt. Women College Bhadurgarh, Govt. College Bhadurgarh and Vaish Mahila Mahavidyalay Bhadurgarh.

### **3.3 Silani Village**

Silani village is a part of Jhajjar district in Haryana state. It is situated on Rewari-Jhajjar road in Jhajjar district. The village is 5 k.m. away from Jhajjar. The village is surrounded by relatively smaller villages from all sides. Silani village is a multicasite village. The residence of this

village belong to different castes which include brahmin, chamar, kumahar, khati, nai, bania, saini and jat. The jat are in majority in the village. Regarding the arrangement of houses, these are built close to each other and every pair of houses share a common wall. All the streets are not pucca.

Most of the houses are built in old and traditional style. There are also houses which are quite spacious and with urban architectural touch. The cultivation of land is main source of income or employment. All the agriculture land of village is cultivable. Two main crops are sown in the village, rabi and kharif. The main kharif crops of silani village are; rice, jawar, bajra, maize, and sugercana etc and the major rabi crops are wheat, pulses, lined etc. the main source of irrigation of agricultural land are tube-bells and canal. The canal flows at a distance of one kilometers from the village. The ground water is suitable for crops and available at 50 feet depth. There are several means of communication and entertainment like radio, tv, newspaper, with the help of which the village remains connected with the rest of the world.

Services of haryana roadways buses and private buses are available at the interval of about 30 minutes. Another source of transport is auto riksa. There are three govt. schools and two private schools in the village. One bank and one dispensary and a veterinary hospital are also available in the village to meet the demand for basic health services of residents and livestock. The village has two temples for religious purposes and a panchyat ghar. There are four chaupals in the village, to be utilized by different communities for their social gatherings and celebrations. Teej is the main festival of the rainy season. Diwali and holi are the main festivals of the villagers. Wrestling, kabadhi, gullidanda are the main games which are played by the villagers.

People in general dress in a simple manner, the male costume consists of a dhoti and kurta, shirts, a turban and pair of shoes. Young male wear pant and shirts. The woman wears a paticot, kurta and a traditional type of odhna. The simple salwar and kurta are being adopted by the young girls, young girls use dupatta and chuni also. The people of this village celebrate their religious functions in their own house but apart from this they believe in certain superstitions also. So this type of culture and blindness in this village is a sign of backwardness and low standard of living. Most of the people in this village believe in superstitions because attributable to low level of literacy rate.