

## **Chapter-3**

### **Study Area**

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Mahendergarh is one of the twenty one district of Haryana state. It is one of the oldest districts in the state which was formed in 1948 by grouping different tracts of erstwhile princely states: Narnaul and Mahendergarh tehsils from Patiala state, Dadri from Jind State and part of BawalNizamat from Nabha State<sup>1</sup>. In November 1980, Rewari was carved out of Mahendergarh district and made a separate district. At present headquarters of Mahendergarh district are located at Narnaul.

Narnaul town is well known on historical map of India as the famous battle of 1857 was fought at Nasibpur village of this district which is only three kilometres from this town.<sup>2</sup>Narnaul town is the district headquarters and is situated on Rewari-Singhana road at a distance of 27 Kms. from Mahendergarh town. The town is well connected with railway and has its own station on Rewari-Bikaner line. Soil of the block area is less fertile and there is no big canal in this area and water level is very deep. Dohan River has an important status for this block. Banking institutions are sufficient in the area and there is substantial untapped potential for industrial growth.

#### **3.1 Origin and History of Mahendergarh**

The main town of Mahendergarh district viz., Narnaul dates back to the Mahabharata as Nai-Rashtra according to legend. Another one puts it to be about 900 years old, where, lions roamed free in jungles thus the name Naharnaul (Lion's fear).<sup>3</sup> There is still another story about how this town got its name: one Raja Laun Karan named it Narlaun after his wife, which with the passage of time changed and now it is call Narnaul. The town was under the Tughluks and remained with them till the regime of Akbar and his successors. Afterwards, it was under the rule of Sikhs and Maharaja of Jind.<sup>4</sup>

However, after uprising of 1857 against the British, Narnaul passed into the hands of the ruler of Patiala, Maharaja Narinder Singh, for helping the British. The battle of Narnaul was

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<sup>1</sup> Haryana District Gazetteers MahendraGarh, Haryana Gazetteers Organisation, Revenue Department Chandigarh (India) 1988, p.1

<sup>2</sup>ADC cum CDPO, Narnaul, District Plan Documents, (City Planning and Development officer) Report 2010-11.

<sup>3</sup> NarnaulTown, History, <http://www.Indiasite.com/haryana/narnaul/index.html>.

<sup>4</sup> Narnaul Town, City Planning and Development officer, District Plan Documents report 2011, p-5

undoubtedly one of the most decisive battles of the uprising of 1857. Rao Tula Ram was the Hero of first battle of independence who fought against British rule at Narnaul.<sup>5</sup>

After independence and consequent upon the formation of the PEPSU in 1948 the three tracts of Narnaul viz Mahendergarh from Patiala, Dadri from Jind, and Ateli from Nabha were combined to form the district Mahendergarh. The entire state of PEPSU was merged into Punjab in November 1956 and later on Mahendergarh became one of the districts of Haryana state when this state was carved out of Punjab in November 1966.<sup>6</sup>

Mahendergarh district was previously known as Kanaud which took its name from Kanandia group of Brahmans. It was founded by Malik Muhmed Khan, a servant of Babar<sup>7</sup>. There was a fort at Mahendergarh which was built by Maratha Ruler, Tantia Tope during the seventeenth century. The above Fort was named as Mahendergarh in 1861 by Narinder Singh, than ruler of the erstwhile princely sate of Patiala, in honour of his son Mohinder Singh and perhaps since then the town came to be known as Mahendergarh.<sup>8</sup>

### 3.2 Location and Boundaries

The district lies between north latitude 27° 48<sup>1</sup> to 28° 28<sup>1</sup> and earth longitude 75° 56<sup>1</sup> to 76° 52<sup>1</sup>.<sup>9</sup> It is bounded on the north by Bhiwani and Rohtak districts, on east by Rewari district and Alwar district of Rajasthan, on the south by Alwar, Jaipur and Sikar districts and on the west by Sikar and Jhunjhunu districts of Rajasthan.

### 3.3 Area

The district has an area of 1722.24 square kilometres. It comprises two tehsils covering the area given below:

Tehsil	Area (Sq.KM)		
	Rural	Urban	Total
Narnaul	950.17	7.13	957.30

<sup>5</sup> <http://www.indiasite.com/haryana/narnaul/index.html>.

<sup>6</sup> Narnaul, History, City Planning and Development officer, District Plan Documents, Narnaul, CPDO cum ADC.

<sup>7</sup> SGSY, Annual Action Plan, DRDA, Narnaul, District Mahendragarh, Haryana, 2009-10, p.5

<sup>8</sup> [www.mahendragarh.nic.in/April.21.2011](http://www.mahendragarh.nic.in/April.21.2011)

<sup>9</sup> SGSY, Annual Action Plan, op-cit, p.5

MahendraGarh	753.51	11.43	764.94
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Source: Haryana District Gazetteers Mahendergarh

### 3.4 Demography

Population of the Mahendergarh district according to the Census 2011 is 921680 out of which 486553 are males and 435127 are females. A sex ratio 894 females per 1000 males and 778 girls of per 1000 boys, which is the second lowest among the districts in the state. The district has a literacy rate of 78.9 percent in which 91.3 percent of males which is higher than that of the state average and 65.3 percent females are literate.<sup>10</sup> According to revenue record of Mahendergarh, the total area of the district is 1683 sq. kms.

Population Data Sheet

State/ Districts	Number of Villages	Total Population			
		Persons	Male	Female	
Haryana	6764	25353081	1350130	11847951	
MahandraGarh	404	921680	486553	435127	
Sex Ratio	Sex Ratio 0-6	% of 0-6 total Population	Literacy Rates %		
			Persons	Male	Females
877	830	13	76.6	85.4	66.8
894	778	11.9	78.9	91.3	65.3

Source :- <http://www.censusindia.gov.in/may,5,2011>

### 3.5 Economic Profile

The economy of the district is primarily based on agriculture. The main kharif crops are bajra and guar. The main rabi crops are wheat, gram and mustard. The area genes a good output on mustard.<sup>11</sup> The major problem here is the declining water table coupled with very scanty rainfall, absence of rivers and sand soil. As far as canals are concerned, they are not able to fulfil the water needs of the people whose fields are at the tail and of the canal. Since there is no streams and scanty

<sup>10</sup> <http://www.censusindia.gov.in/may,5,2011>

<sup>11</sup> BRGF, Annual Action Plan, Year 2010-2011, District Rural development Agency Narnaul, p-15.

rain, there is no recharge of grounder water. Till about 1500 feet also water is not available. The soils are deficient in organic matter and require heavy doses of manure but heavy growing is not possible without abundant water supply which is not available. The soil is also bedded with lime, Kankar, stone, rock. According to Revenue Department 35 thousand Hectares area (18% of district area) was not available for cultivation. 22 thousand Hectares was put under non agriculture and 13 thousand hectares was barrani. Hence total cropped area is 274 thousand hectares.<sup>12</sup>

The district is known for its murrh and Haryana breeds of buffaloes. There are two chilling centers in Narnaul. It has also been told that the district has a good catch of fish from its ponds.<sup>13</sup>

Agriculture is basically rain based. The years with a good rain are able to give a high productivity. The district is also experimenting with crop diversification to the ongoing National Horticulture Mission. The government is also trying to reach an agreement with neighbouring states to enable it to complete the Hansi-Butana Link Canal. Once this link canal System becomes operational, the district will become one of the most prosperous districts in the state. There are some mines and minerals in many villages such as Dancholi, Rambas, Dhanota, Ragunathpura, Ghatasear, Mehrampur, Nangal-Khata, Gelhi, Jakhni, Khatoti-Kalan, Khototi-Khurd, Bhankari and Khoodma. The biggest irony is that this district has the maximum tourist places but Haryana tourism has no business here, no office and no hotel.

Hence the economic condition of the people is not very well due to some natural problems and due to some political problems. People of this area are living a simple life but they are not advance in politics and this is the main reason of their backwardness. Shortage of water and rainfall is second main reason for their backwardness.

### **3.6 Activities of Industrial Department**

Mahendergarh district has been declared industrially backward under New Industrial Policy, 2005 and the following schemes are being provided to the new industrial units: Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme, Haryana Industrial Promotion Rules, 2007, Incentives for Mega Projects in Backward Area Incentives for Food Processing Industries, Small

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<sup>12</sup> Narnaul, ADC cum CPDO, District Plan Documents, 2010-11, p-9.

<sup>13</sup> BRGF, Annual Action Plan, Year-2010-2011, District Rural Development Agency, Narnaul, Distt-Mahendergarh, p-16.

Scale Industrial Undertaking Registration of Firms and Societies.<sup>14</sup> Sand and Calcite are the main products used for construction of buildings. Banking institutions are sufficient in the area and a potential is there for the industrial growth.<sup>15</sup> Commercial Banks as on 31 March, 2008 in the district are total 72 in number. Cooperatives Societies are 250 in number in the District<sup>16</sup> and provide necessary services to the peoples.

### 3.7 Administrative

Mahendergarh district has two sub divisions: Narnaul and Mahendergarh. It has two tehsils: Narnaul and Mahendergarh. It has three sub-tehsils Ateli, Kanina and NangalChoudhary. Mahendergarh district has five blocks Narnaul, NangalChoudhary, Ateli, Kanina and Mahendergarh. The structure of the district administration is as follows:

Sub Division	Tehsil	Sub Tehsil	Blocks	Villages
1. Narnaul	1. Narnaul	1. NangalChaudhary	1. Mahendergarh	370 Villages
2. Mahendergarh	2. Mahendergarh	2. AteliNangal	2. Kanina	
		3. Kanina	3. Narnaul	
			4. Ateli	
			5. NangalChaudhary	

Mahendergarh is part of the Bhiwani-Mahendergarh parliamentary constituency. There are four legislative constituencies in Mahendergarh district: Mahendergarh, Narnaul, Ateli, NangalChaudhary.<sup>17</sup> Narnaul became a class-III Municipality in 1950 and Mahendergarh, Ateli, and Kanina in 1956. With the passage of the Haryana Municipal Act 1973, Kanina, Mahendergarh and Ateli were declared notified areas.<sup>18</sup> The ZilaParishad at the district level was abolished in 1973, which was restored in 1977-78. There are 566 Gram Panchayats with 670 SC Panches and 566 Woman Panches.

<sup>14</sup> NIC, National Informaticentre, Narnaul, <http://mahendergarh.gov.in/industry.aspx>.

<sup>15</sup> NarnaulTown, ADC cum CPDO, Annual Action Plan 2010-11, p-18.

<sup>16</sup> Statistical Information of District, <http://mahendergarh.gov.in/district.administration>.

<sup>17</sup> Election Commission of India, Constituency wise report of electors in the Finalroll-2011, Date of Final Publication, 5-01-2011, State Haryana.

<sup>18</sup> BRGF, Annual Action Plan, Year 2010-2011, District Rural Development AgencyNarnaul, District Mahendergarh, p-22.

There are total 370 villages in district Mahendergarh out of which 221 villages are under administration of Narnaul Tehsil and 149 villages are under administration of Mahendergarh Tehsil.<sup>19</sup>

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<sup>19</sup> DSO-report, District social-economic revolution Report 2008-09, District Mahendergarh,