

# Resource Inventory and Development Plan Proposal for Sonipat District of Haryana Sub-Region in context of NCR

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## ABSTRACT

*Planning is an important step in development process. Keeping this in mind, Government of India enacted the Planning Board Act in 1985 with the concurrence of the constituent states of Haryana, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. Union Territory of Delhi, a few ring towns around it were conceived for being developed as a Metropolitan Region i.e. National Capital Region to reduce the population pressure on Delhi and to bring about harmonized and balanced pattern of development. Thus, the motive was to shift the poly-nodal model of development from mono-nodal model of development. Various functional plans were prepared under Regional Plan-2001. But, Regional Plan-2001 failed to deliver the desired model. National Capital Region has not been able to come up as poly-nodal or multi node development region.*

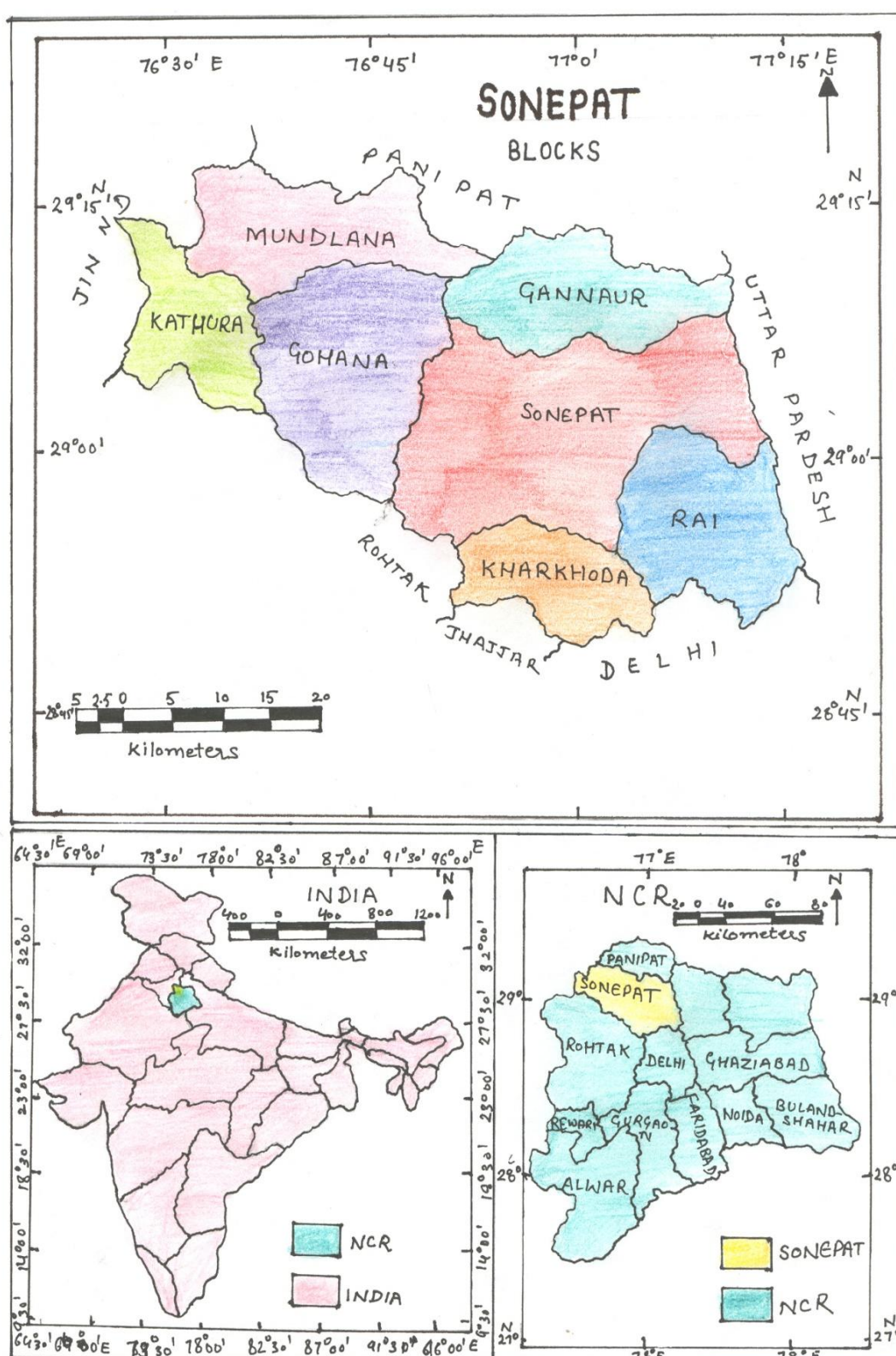
*Only Gurgaon and Faridabad has been able to play their assigned role. Sonipat like many other districts of NCR, which was given a major role as sub-regional growth centre failed to play its assignment role. As a nation, we are excellent in planning out but, very weak in implementation. And Sonipat suffered a lot due to this. It has the potential to establish itself on the map of NCR. It can play a major role in fulfillment of objective of formation of National Capital as well as various plans that NCRPB frames, but only if plans are implemented.*

**Keywords:** Development, Master Plan for Delhi, NCRPB, Regional Plan, Multi-nodal Development and Spatial Development etc.

## I. INTRODUCTION

Sonipat district is well endowed with agro and livestock resource manpower, water and land resources. However potential resources are yet to be exploited effectively Sonipat has a locational advantage with proximity to Delhi and is fast coming on the map of NCR but the development is only restricted to Sonipat and Rai block and too to National Highway-1 belt. So there is a need to identify potential areas and growth centres to diffuse the development in the whole district. Selection of the sub-regions can be on the basis of block boundaries and investment strategies can be drawn for various sectors. Government sector firstly should ensure infrastructure development and then private investment should be attracted in the district. The lack of initiative, poor motivation & dependence on traditional occupation has been observed in rural area. So, there is a need to provide better educational facilities in rural area. This regional approach can help to eliminate uneven spatial development in NCR. Thus, Sonipat has the potential to play an important role in bringing about even, harmonized and

balanced pattern of development in NCR. The need is just to adopt a multi-nodal approach of development to ensure balanced spatial development in NCR.



Source: Census Atlas of Haryana, 2001

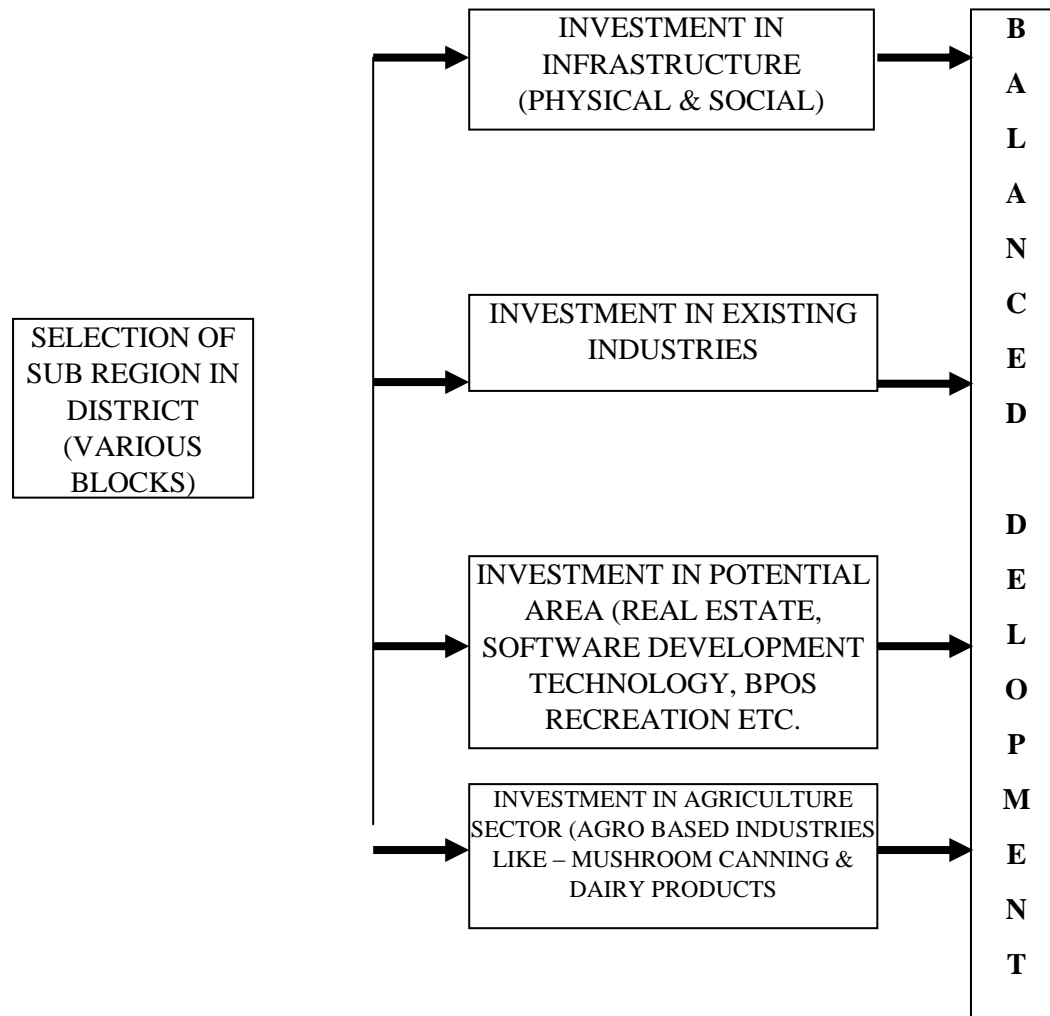
## II. RESOURCE INVENTORY OF SONIPAT

Sonipat district is endowed with agro and livestock resource manpower, water and land resources. However, potential resources are yet to be exploited effectively. Sonipat has a locational advantage with proximity to Delhi and is fast coming on the map of NCR, but the development is only restricted to Sonipat and Rai block and also to National Highway No.-1 belt only. So, there is need to identify potential areas and growth centres to diffuse the development in the whole district. A strategy can be drawn for better implementation of plans. A multi-nodal growth strategy should be adopted so that harmonized and balanced pattern of development can be ensured. As told earlier regional plan 2001 aimed at bringing about a balanced and harmonized pattern of development in National capital region. Although it has been partially successful in achieving its aim but there are some points which prove Sonipat like few other comparatively backward peripheral units of NCR is an issue for development these are as follows:

- ❖ The first and for most issue is of sustainability of NCR. If balanced development is ensured sustainability can be ensured for NCR but if the failure of Regional Plans continue, few districts of National Capital region would result in mono-nodal model of development Gurgaon and NOIDA which can boast of better infrastructure i.e. again water shortage, electricity shortage, illegal construction, slums would become part of these cities like Delhi has experienced these problems.
- ❖ The govt. which is supporting such mono modal development would be feeling more helpless in coming years than it is feeling today. The diffusion of hap hazed development will become a part and parcel of NCR. So the unaccounted resources of other district like Sonipat should also be civilized in order to have a planned, balanced, harmonized pattern of development.
- ❖ Major reason that why Sonipat is an issue to development is to ensure spatial diffusion development. The innovation factor may differ further to another priority town which do not have proximity to Delhi like – development in Sonipat district can be diffused towards Jind district and new area for development would emerge.
- ❖ Another important reason is because Sonipat has a sustainable natural resource base which can be a multiplier for development. Like it has Yamuna river flowing through its, water supply, good agriculture production to suffice the food needs of the whole region, sand for real estate development etc.
- ❖ The untapped manpower also adds to its natural resources and makes it can issues for development.
- ❖ Sonipat has the potential for employment opportunities in construction, trade, commerce, education and transport activities.
- ❖ So, this can be said that Sonipat district is an issue for development of NCR and it should get the desired focus.

### III. DEVELOPMENT MODEL

A strategy can be drawn for better implementation of plans. A multi-nodal growth strategy should be adopted so that harmonized and balanced pattern of development can be ensured. This may include following steps:

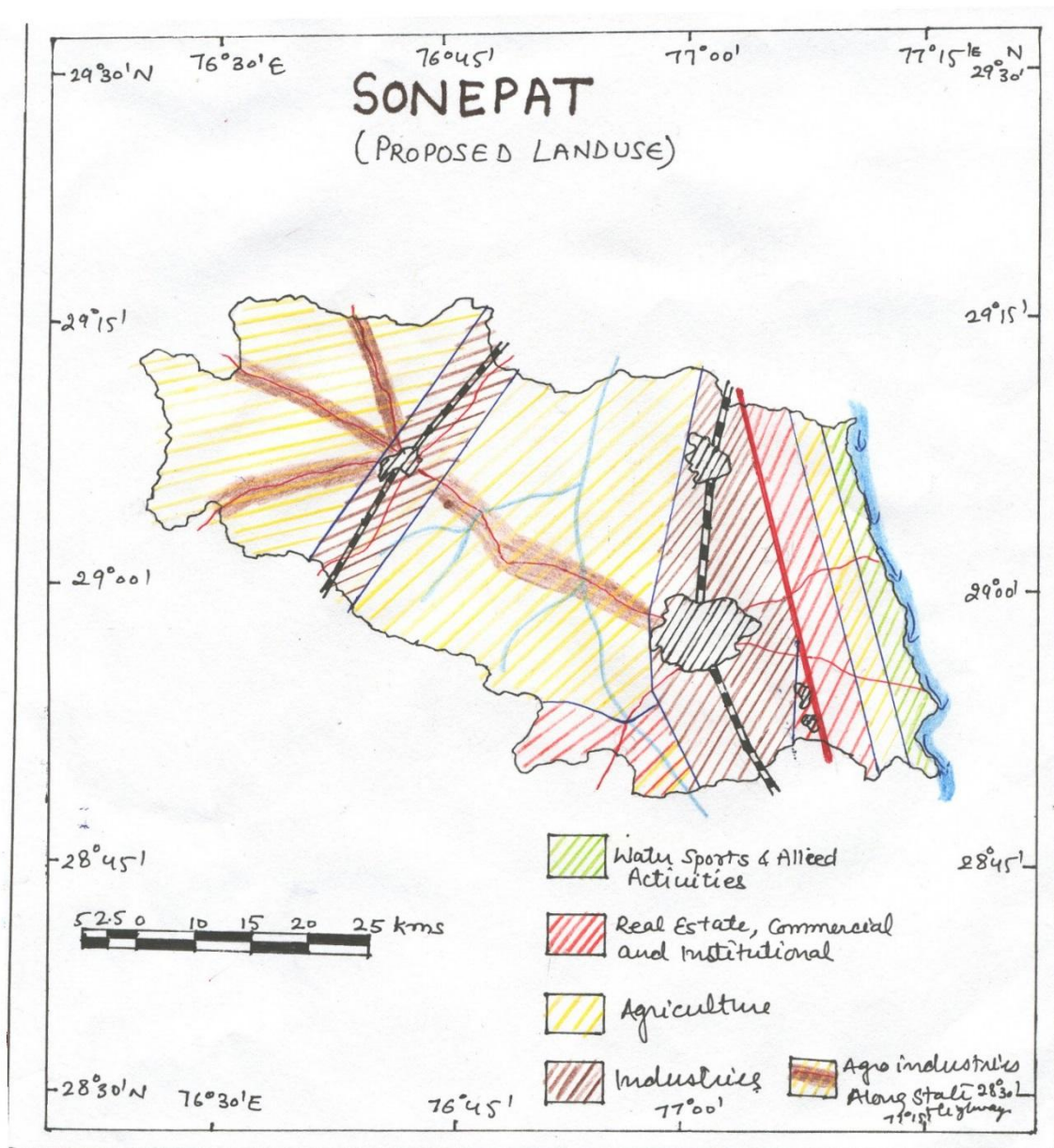


**Diag. 1: Development model for Sonipat**

### IV. DEVELOPMENT PLAN PROPOSAL

People should be encouraged to experiments with newer options like Mushroom, Flowers and Herbs like Moosli etc. Recreational activities along the bank of Yamuna can give desired boom to the economy of Sonipat. The road side food joints on NH-1 can be converted into organized industry in order to provide better facilities and more employment opportunities. Extension of metro till Kundli can ensure better connectivity and mobility thus, ensuring the reach of people of Sonipat. This regional approach can help to eliminate uneven spatial development in NCR. Thus Sonipat has the potential to play an important role in bringing about even, harmonized and balanced pattern of development in NCR





**Diag.3: Proposed land use in Sonipat**

A plan can be suggested which would lead to balanced spatial development. It includes following suggestion:

- ❖ Recreational activities like water sports & amusement parks can be set up along the bank of Yamuna.
- ❖ Real estate & Housing complex development should be ensured not only by NH 1 rather new spots like Kharkhoda should be developed.
- ❖ The area between railway line & NH 1 must be reserved for industrial establishments.
- ❖ The area between two railway lines should be used for agricultural purpose mixed with agro-processing industries.

- ❖ The area along with railway line passing through Gohana&Mundlana blocks should be seen as catalyst for industrial development in this area.
- ❖ Area lying in west to this railway line should be developed in terms of social & physical infrastructure to enhance further development.

## V. CONCLUSION

People should be encouraged to experiment with newer options, like mushroom, flowers, herbs like moosli etc. Recreation activities along the bank of Yamuna can give desired boom to Sonapat economy. The Roadside food joints on NH-1 can be converted into organized industry in order to provide better facilities and more employment opportunities. Expansion of Metro till Kundli can ensure better connectivity and mobility thus, ensuring the reach of people of Sonapat. Kharkhoda can be planned as next 'Kundli' in order to provide better residential choice for people of North Delhi the proximity of Delhi vegetables markets should be mingled with increased transport facilities. Many recreational activities can be set up alongside river Yamuna bank. Water sports complexes can be set up. With upcoming canal parallel to Western Yamuna canal a prospect of bird sanctuary can be seen. Project on the tradition and culture of Haryana can be initiated to attract tourists. Last but not least sustainability must be the central concept to all development initiatives and steps should be taken to ensure better environment for a healthy development.

Thus through above study we can adopt a regional approach to bring even spatial development in NCR. The whole Sonapat should be seen as a combination of regional divisions. Kharkhoda can be planned as next Kundli in order to provide better residential choice for the people of North Delhi. The proximity of Delhi vegetables markets should be mingled with increased transport facilities. Last but not least, sustainability must be the central concept to all development initiatives and steps should be taken to ensure better environment for a healthy development. The need is just to adopt a multinodal approach of development to ensure balanced spatial development in NCR.

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