

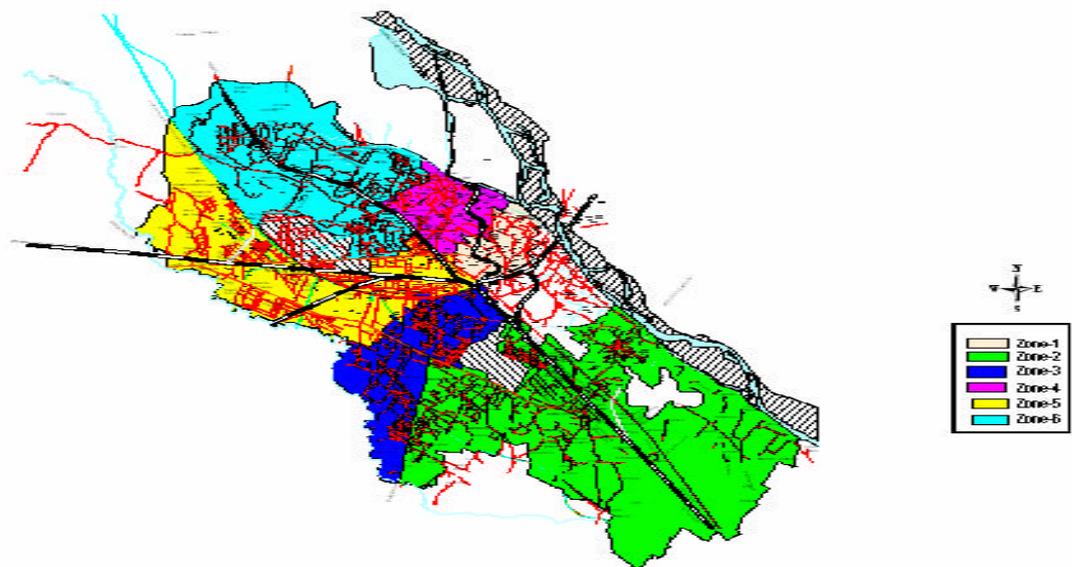
2. CITY PROFILE

Kanpur is a metropolitan city, sprawling over an area of 260 sq km. According to the census 2001, Kanpur has a population of 25.51 lakhs. It is administratively divided into 6 zones and 110 wards with an average ward population range of 19000 to 26000 (refer Map no. 2.1).

It is situated on the southern bank of Ganga River and has been an important place in the history of modern India. Kanpur is the biggest city of the State of Uttar Pradesh and is main centre of commercial and industrial activities. The City formerly known as Manchester of the country is now also called the commercial capital of the state. It is known for its cotton and woolen textile and leather industries. Kanpur is one of the biggest producers of Textile and Leather products. Apart from leather and textile industry, the fertilizer, chemicals, two wheelers, soaps, Pan Masala, hosiery and engineering industries are also operating prominently in the city.

Kanpur is situated on the most important national highways no. 2 & 25 and on the main Delhi-Howrah railway trunk line. Kanpur is divided into two districts namely Kanpur-Nagar and Kanpur-Dehat. Kanpur comprises of 3 tehsil, 2 Municipal Board, 2 Nagar Panchayats and 10 statutory Towns. Kanpur is also divisional headquarters of Kanpur commissionerary consisting of Kanpur-Nagar, Kanpur-Dehat, Etawah, Auraiya, Farrukhabad and Kannauj districts. The town's population is nearly 2.5 million with an average annual growth rate of 2.6 per cent.

Map 1: Zonal Map of Kanpur City



It was believed by some scholars that Kanpur has derived its name from Kanhiyapur. In the course of time, Kanhiyapur probably was abbreviated as Kanhapur and subsequently as Kanpur. The Kanhapur owes its origin to Hindu Singh, raja of Saehendi who came here in 1750 to bathe in holy river, the Ganga and established a village, which he named Kanhapur, the name which became Kanpur in the course of time. During British rule, it was spelled as Cawnpore. Others believe that the name is derived from Karnapur and is associated with Karna, one of the heroes of Mahabharata. Duryodhana made Karna a king, seeing him as a fitting match to Arjuna, and gifted him this area; hence the name Karnapur, which later became Kanpur.

2.1 EVOLUTION OF KANPUR

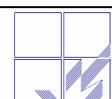
Kanpur has traditionally been an industrial city. Prior to Independence, it was the second most industrialized city in India after Calcutta. It was called the ‘Manchester of India’ due to the existence of large number of cotton textile units.

During British era, Kanpur was of strategic importance due to the important role which it has played during the great revolt of 1857. This led to the development of a large cantonment base at Kanpur. After independence, Kanpur continued to be an important city and large public sector companies made their existence in the city.



2.2 ABOUT THE PAST: HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT

Kanpur origin until the thirteenth century was shrouded in the mist. Though no reference to Kanpur is found in history, two of its suburbs, Jajmau, which dates back to the Vedic age and Bithoor, where Lord Brahma performed the Ashvamedh Yajna and where the famous sage Valmiki has written the Sanskrit epic Ramayana, can be traced back to legendary times. The region covered by the present district of Kanpur was once included in the ancient kingdom of Panchala which extended from the Himalayan mountains in the north to the Chambal river in the south. Kanpur's first mention was found in 1207 AD when Raja Kanti Deo of Prayag was attached to the throne of Kannauj and established the village Kohna, which later came to be known as Kanpur. Kanpur continued its association with Kannauj during the reigns of Harsha Vardhan, Bhoj, Mihir, Jai Chand and early Muslim rulers. Later it came under the Jaunpur rulers and the Sur Dynasty. The first mention of Kanpur was made in 1579 during Sher Shah's regime. From 1773 to 1801, it was part of the Oudh kingdom.



In 1801, it came under the control of the British. In 1803 Kanpur became a district and also an important military station of the country. At that time British infantry lines and the parade grounds were established in the south of Parmat. Indian infantry too occupied the space in Kanpur. The Company Bagh was laid in 1847 and the construction of the Ganga canal was commenced in 1854.

Kanpur has become an important centre during the great revolt of 1857. It was the time when Nana Saheb Peshwa succeeded in liberating the city from the British for a short period. Sati-Chauraha Ghat (Cantonment) from where the British were to leave Kanpur was a scene of a terrible conflict and consequently came to be known as Massacre Ghat; so was Bibi Ghar where some British families were taking shelter.

Besides military importance, Kanpur has also made significant contribution in the literature and fine arts. The legendary Birbal, a minister in the court of Akbar and known for his wit and wisdom was born in a village, Takuapur, of Kanpur District. Various acclaimed writers and poets of Hindi literature belonged to this area. Kanpur had been the centre of patriotic Hindi magazines and newspapers such as Brahman, Saraswati, Vishwamitra, Veer Arjun and Pratap.

2.2.1 Industrialization Starts

The waves of industrialization reached the city in 1858. The first major industry, the Harness and Saddlery, was established in 1860. Other mills such as The Elgin Mills, The Cawnpore Woolen Mills (Lal Imla at present) and the Victoria Mills were set up in 1864, 1870 and 1885 respectively. After the First World War, several mills, the Swadeshi, the JK and the Lakshmi Ratan Cotton Mills were established. The first re-rolling mill of India was established in 1928 by the Singh Engineering Work. The Second World War gave fresh impetus to industrial complex. In the post independence years, Kanpur has changed from a town of mill owners and mill workers to that of a city consisting of large middle class population of entrepreneurs and artisans. To cope with the industrial growth a second thermal power station was built at Panki in 1966 for augmenting the older riverside power station. Panki now produces a total of 284 MW of power.

2.2.2 An Educational Centre

The city has gradually emerged as a dynamic city of academic importance. Kanpur's beginning as a knowledge centre was in the mid 19th century when Christ Church College, the oldest educational institution in the city, was started as a high school and became a degree college in 1919. Modern day Kanpur is host of several institutes of repute such as Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur, two universities, viz. Kanpur University and Chandra Sekhar Azad University of Agriculture and Technology, a Medical College and technical institutions such as the National Sugar Institute, the Central Textile Institute and the Leather Institute etc.

Table 2.1 Importance of Kanpur

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Locational Advantage ▪ Raw Material Availability ▪ Strong Industrial Base ▪ Skilled Labour ▪ entrepreneurial spirit of large number of population ▪ Access to big local market of U.P. ▪ Enough Sub Soil Water ▪ Educational Base – I.I.T, AU, Dental Colleges, Leather Institute, Sugar Institute ▪ Potential to attract new industries viz. Information Technology Enabled Services (ITES) such as call centers that are very cost sensitive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Major textile and hosiery manufacturing and distribution centre ▪ Famous for its leather industry ▪ Contributes 13.5 % of countries leather exports ▪ Strong Trade and Commerce ▪ Huge Upper and Middle Class population providing strong demand base ▪ Strong base of Ordinance factories ▪ Air force base ▪ Setting up of Special Economic Zone ▪ 2500 sq. feet Software Technology Park established by UPSIDC ▪ potential to grow existing food processing industry
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2.3 LINKAGE AND CONNECTIVITY

Kanpur City is situated between the parallels of 25°26’ and 26°58’ north latitude and 79°31’ and 80°34’ east longitude. It is situated on the most important national highways no. 2 and 25 and state highway. It is also situated on the main Delhi-Howrah railway trunk line. It is situated on bank of holy river Ganga and is about 126 meters above the sea level. Within the city only one Civil Aerodrome is located at Kanpur Cantonment. Though presently there is no civilian air-service available for the city but a 9,000 feet air strip is available at civilian air terminal Chakeri (Ahirwan) which is approximately 11 km. away and one at I.I.T (Kalyanpur) which is 23 Km away. The nearest civilian air port Amausi (Lucknow) is 65Km. away from Kanpur.

Kanpur is connected by road with all the major cities of the country. It is situated on National Highway No. 2 on the Delhi-Agra-Allahabad-Calcutta route and on National Highway No. 25 on the Lucknow-Jhansi-Shivpuri route. It is located at the distance of 79 km from Lucknow, 193 km from Allahabad, 329 km from Varanasi, 398 km. Khajuraho, 269 km Agra and 222 kms from Jhansi.

2.4 CLIMATE AND GEOLOGY

Kanpur’s climate is characterized by hot summer and dryness except in the south west monsoon season. The climate in Kanpur can be divided broadly into four seasons. The period from March to the mid of June is the summer season which is followed by the south-west monsoon, which lasts till the end of September, October and first half of November from the post-monsoon or transition period. The cold season spreads from about the middle of November to February.



The climate is of a tropical nature and shade temperature varies from 2°C to 48°C. Rainy season extends from June to September, with the period of maximum rainfall normally occurring during the months of July and August. About 89 percent of the annual rainfall is received during the monsoon months (June to September). The total rainfall in the district varies from between 450 mm to 750 mm. The annual rainfall in Kanpur Nagar was recorded 441 mm in actual in 2004 and 783 mm in general (Statistics Diary 2005). On an average there are 40 rainy days i.e. days with rainfall of 2.5 mm or more in a year in the district. This number varies from 35 mm at Narwal to 45 mm at Kanpur. The relative humidity varies from 15% to 85%. The relative humidity in Kanpur ranges from less than 30 percent in the summer season to 70 percent in monsoon season.

The district lies in the Ganga basin which is formed of alluvium of the early quaternary period. In the district, no hard or consolidated rock exposures are encountered. The main constituents (sand, silt and clay) of alluvium occur in variable proportions in different sections. The mineral products of the district of saline earth from which salt petre and salt are derived and limestone conglomerates (U.P. District Gazetteers Kanpur).

2.5 KANPUR MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

Kanpur municipality came into existence on 22nd November 1861, which was recognized first under the Act XX of 1856 and later under Act VI of 1868, then under Act XV of 1873 and again acts I of 1900. It became a municipal corporation in 1959. The corporation is administered under the Uttar Pradesh Municipal Corporation Adhiniyam, 1959. This has been amended in 1994 by UP Act 12 of 1994 (w.e.f. 30 May, 1994), UP Act 26 of 1995 (w.e.f. 30 May 1995) and takes care of amendments made in 74th CAA, 1992 including the functions given in 12th schedule of the constitution. The duties and powers of the Corporation and Corporation authorities are detailed in Sections 114 of the said Act. The Municipal Act lists the functions under two categories namely obligatory functions and discretionary functions. The major functions being performed by Kanpur Nagar Nigam are:

- Public health, sanitation, conservancy and solid waste management
- Urban poverty alleviation
- Provision and maintenance of urban amenities and facilities such as parks, gardens, playgrounds.
- Provide and maintain the lighting of the public streets, corporation markets, and public buildings and other places vested in the corporation
- Maintenance of ambulance services
- Registration of vital statistics including births and deaths.
- Regulation of slaughter houses and tanneries
- Burial grounds, cremation grounds, etc.

Though Water Supply and sewerage are also obligatory functions of Municipal Corporation as per the 12th schedule of 74th Constitutional Amendment Act (CAA), in the case of Kanpur they are looked after by Kanpur Jal Nigam and Jal Sansthan.

The corporation is headed by a Municipal Commissioner appointed by state government and supported by two Addl. Commissioners also appointed by the state government.

The previous Municipal Council headed by an elected mayor completed its full term and as per provisions of the Act, the process of election has to be completed within six months. According to municipal act, strength of the council is 110 in addition to Mayor. The inner core area of Kanpur has 67 wards out of total of 110 wards.

The total sanctioned strength of employees of Kanpur Nagar Nigam is about 9605 whereas current employment strength is only 5579. This shows that still 42 percent seats are left vacant.

The main sources of revenue of KNN are taxes (mainly property), License fees, rent of the municipal properties, interest, etc. The total receipt on revenue account including grants-in-aid has been estimated by KNN at Rs.193.25 crores and capital receipts are expected to be Rs.6.90 crores for the year 2006-07. Against this the expenditure on revenue a/c are estimated at Rs.189.78 crores and outgo on capital accounts is estimated at Rs.958 crores. The opening cash balance as on 1.04.06 has been estimated Rs.5.68 crores which is expected to go up and close at Rs.6.47 crores at the end of the year i.e., as on 31.3.2007.