PROFILE
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Prior to discuss the findings of the study, it is essential to sketch briefly the salient features of the study area. The following are the brief features of district Kanpur.

District Kanpur

Kanpur is said to be the correction of Kanhaiyapur or Kanhpur, which was an unimportant village till its first contact with the British. According to a local tradition, the name of Kanhpur Kohna owes its origin to Hindu Singh, Raja of Sachendi, who came here about 1750, to bath in the holy river, the Ganga and established a village, which he (possibly) named Kanhpur, the name changed to Kanpur in due course of time. Britishers used to write it as Cawnpore.

Kanpur Nagar is divided into six zones, having 110 wards divided into 390 slums.

Location

The district Kanpur occupies the north-western part of the Allahabad division and belongs to the tract known as the lower doab (which comprises the eastern extremity of the strip of country lying between the Ganga and the Yamuna rivers). In shape, it is an irregular quadrilateral and lies between the parallels 25°26' and 26°58' north latitude and 70°31' and 80°34' east longitude. To the north-east, beyond the Ganga, the deep stream of which forms the boundary of the district, lie the districts of
Hardoi and Unnao, while to the south, across the Yamuna, are the districts of Hamirpur and Jalaun. On the south-east, the boundary marches with that of Bindki (a tahsil of Fatehpur) and to the west and north-west are the Auraiya and Bidhuna tahsils of district Etawah) and that of Kannauj of district Farrukhabad.

Area

According to the Central Statistical Organization, the district had an area of 3015 sq.km. (Census, 1991).

Population

According to the census of 1991, the district had a population of 32,53,572 in which males are 17,76,197 and females are 14,77,375. The rural areas were inhabited by 11,68,866 persons, 5,36,259 being females and 6,32,607 being males and the urban areas by 20,84,706 persons in which 9,41,116 being females and 11,43,590 being males.

Sub-divisions Tahsils

The district has been divided into three tahsils, Kanpur Sadar, Bilhaur and Ghatampur and further divided into ten blocks – Ghatampur, Vidhnu, Sarsaul, Bilhaur, Shivrajpur, Chaubeypur, Kakvan, Ghatampur, Patara and Vaikunthpur.

Tahsil Kanpur Sadar is the northern most tahsil of the district. Kanpur Sadar tahsil comprises with three blocks – Kalyanpur, Vidhnu and Sarsaul. According to the census 1991, it had 158 villages and covered an area of 792.2 sq.km. with a population of 3,81,154 (females 1,73,775).
The Bilhaur tahsil lies in west. Tahsil comprises of four blocks – Bilhaur, Shivrajpur, Chaubeypur and Kakvan. According the census 1991, it has 203 villages and covered an area of 867.1 sq.km. with a population of 3,66,092 (females 1,68,051).

The Ghatampur tahsil lies in south. Tahsil comprises of three blocks – Patara, Bheetargaon and Ghatampur. According the census 1991, it had 196 villages and covered an area of 1083.7 sq.km. with a population of 4,21,620 (females 1,94,433).

**River system and water resources**

The two chief rivers of the district are the Ganga and the Yamuna. The Isan and the Non are the tributaries of the Ganga and the Rind and Sengar are the chief tributaries of the Yamuna. The main water resources are rivers Ganga, Yamuna and lakes.

**Climate**

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

**Rainfall**

Records of rainfall in the district are available for 8 stations for periods ranging from 51 to 97 years. The average annual rainfall in the
district is 778.9 mm (30.67") The rainfall in the district varies from 642.3 mm (25.29") at Narwal to 884.8 mm (34.83") at Kanpur. About 89 per cent of the annual rainfall is received during the monsoon months (June to September) August being the rainiest month.

**Temperature**

About the beginning of March there is a rapid rise in temperature. May and the early part of June constitute the hottest part of the year. The mean daily maximum temperature in May is 41.3°C (106.3°F) or above. Hot, dry and dust laden westerly winds are common in the hot season.

January is generally the coldest month with the mean daily maximum temperature at 22.3°C (72.1°F) and the mean daily minimum at 7.8°C (16.0°F). During the cold season, in association with passing western disturbances, cold waves affect the district and the minimum temperature drops down to about the freezing point of water and frosts occur.

**Humidity**

During the monsoon season, the humidity generally exceeds 70 per cent but after that is decreases. The driest part of the year is the summer season when in the afternoon the humidity is less than 30 per cent.

**Cloudiness**

During the monsoon season and for brief spells of a day or two during the cold season when the district is affected by passing western disturbances, heavily clouded or over east skies prevail. In the rest of the year skies are mostly clear or lightly clouded.
Winds

Winds are generally light with some strengthening in force during the summer and early monsoon seasons. In the non-monsoon months, winds blow mostly from direction between south-west and north-west with northerlies and north-westerlies predominating in the afternoon from May, winds from direction between north-east and south-east begin to blow and in the south-west monsoon season they are either from directions between south-east and north-east or between south-west and north-west.

Pre-junior Basic Stage

Pre-junior Basic Schools (commonly known as nursery schools) are meant for children of the age-group of 5 to 10 years. They seek to inculcate school going habits and a sense of comradeship. There are a number of schools of this type in the district, some of which are managed by the municipal corporation, but the majority are private institution.

Number of pre-schools in Kanpur district are 320 under Nagar Nigam.