

CHAPTER 20

POVERTY LINE IN DELHI

Poverty is a situation where the individual or communities lack the resources, ability and environment to meet the basic needs of life. Poverty is one of the issues, attracting the attention of sociologists, economists, governments, civil society organizations and almost all other organizations related to human welfare and development. It indicates a status wherein a person fails to maintain a living standard adequate for a comfortable lifestyle.

2. On the basis of the National Sample Survey Organisation's 68th Round (June 2011 - July 2012), the Planning Commission published the State Specific poverty line for rural and urban. The poverty line was estimated at ₹ 1145 for rural and ₹ 1134 urban Delhi as against the national level of ₹ 816 for rural and ₹ 1000 for urban India respectively. The specific poverty line of Delhi is presented in Statement 20.1.

Statement 20.1

LEVEL OF POVERTY LINE OF DELHI

(₹ Per Capita per Month)

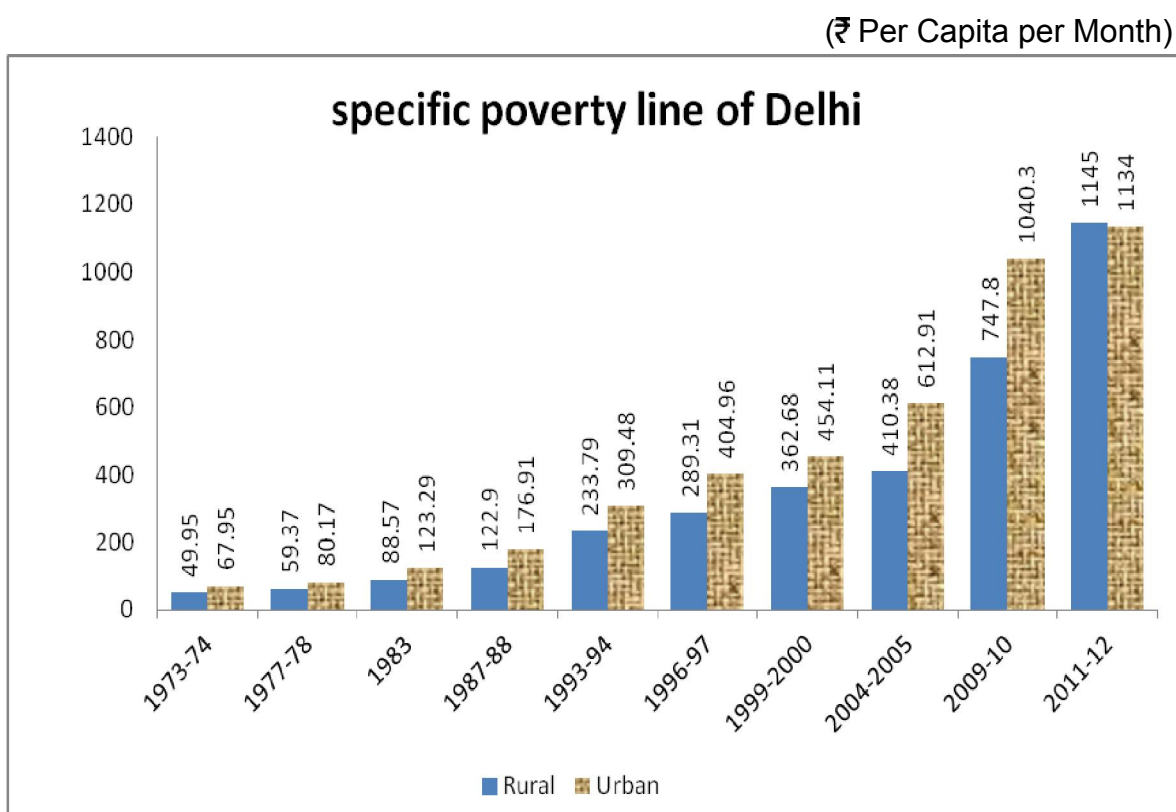
S. No.	Years	Rural	Urban
1.	1973-74	49.95	67.95
2.	1977-78	59.37	80.17
3.	1983	88.57	123.29
4.	1987-88	122.90	176.91
5.	1993-94	233.79	309.48
6.	1996-97	289.31	404.96
7.	1999-2000	362.68	454.11
8.	2004-2005	541.39	642.47
9.	2009-10	747.80	1040.3
10.	2011-12	1145.00	1134.00

Source: Planning Commission (Now NITI Aayog) Govt. of India

3. It may be observed from Statement 20.1 that the ₹ 1134 was the minimum monetary requirement of a person per month in urban Delhi for maintaining a minimum standard of living as prescribed by the Planning Commission during the year 2011-12. In a rural area, it was estimated at ₹ 1145 per month per person. The above statement clearly indicates that in every year the amount required per persons per month increased considerably both in rural and

urban areas. The information regarding the specific poverty line of Delhi is depicted in Chart 20.1.

Chart 20.1
SPECIFIC POVERTY LINE OF DELHI



4. The information regarding the number of persons below the poverty line in Delhi during 1973-2012 is presented in Statement 20.2.

Statement 20.2

PERSONS BELOW THE POVERTY LINE IN DELHI- URBAN AND RURAL

(Number in Lakhs)

S. No.	Years	Urban		Rural		Total	
		Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
1.	1973-74	21.78	95.36	1.06	4.64	22.84	100.0 (49.61)
2.	1977-78	16.81	92.57	1.35	7.43	18.16	100.0 (33.23)
3.	1983	17.95	97.61	0.44	2.39	18.39	100.0 (26.22)
4.	1987-88	10.15	99.02	0.10	0.98	10.25	100.0 (12.41)
5.	1993-94	15.32	98.78	0.19	1.22	15.51	100.0 (14.69)
6.	1999-2000	11.42	99.39	0.07	0.61	11.49	100.0 (8.23)
7.	2004-2005	18.90	93.10	1.40	6.90	20.40	100.0 (13.1)
8.	2009-10	22.90	98.28	0.30	1.29	23.30	100.0 (14.2)
9.	2011-12	16.46	97.05	0.50	2.95	16.96	100.0 (9.91)

Source: Delhi Statistical Handbook, 2017.

Note: Figures in brackets relate to a percentage of the total population.

5. It is evident from the above statement 20.2 & 20.3, that during 1973-74 near about one half of the population of Delhi was below the poverty line. The number of persons below the poverty line in Delhi during 2011-12 was estimated at 16.96 lakh and it worked out to 9.91 per cent of the total population of Delhi. Persons below poverty level in Delhi fell to the single digit at 8 per cent of the total population in 1999-2000. Due to various poverty alleviation programmes initiated by the Government of India and Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi the poverty level in India and Delhi has decreased considerably. The reduction of the poverty level in Delhi and at National level may be due to various reasons such as higher growth in the service sector. The information regarding the poverty level in India and Delhi during the period covered the study is presented in Statement 20.3.

Statement 20.3**PERSONS BELOW THE POVERTY LINE IN DELHI AND INDIA**

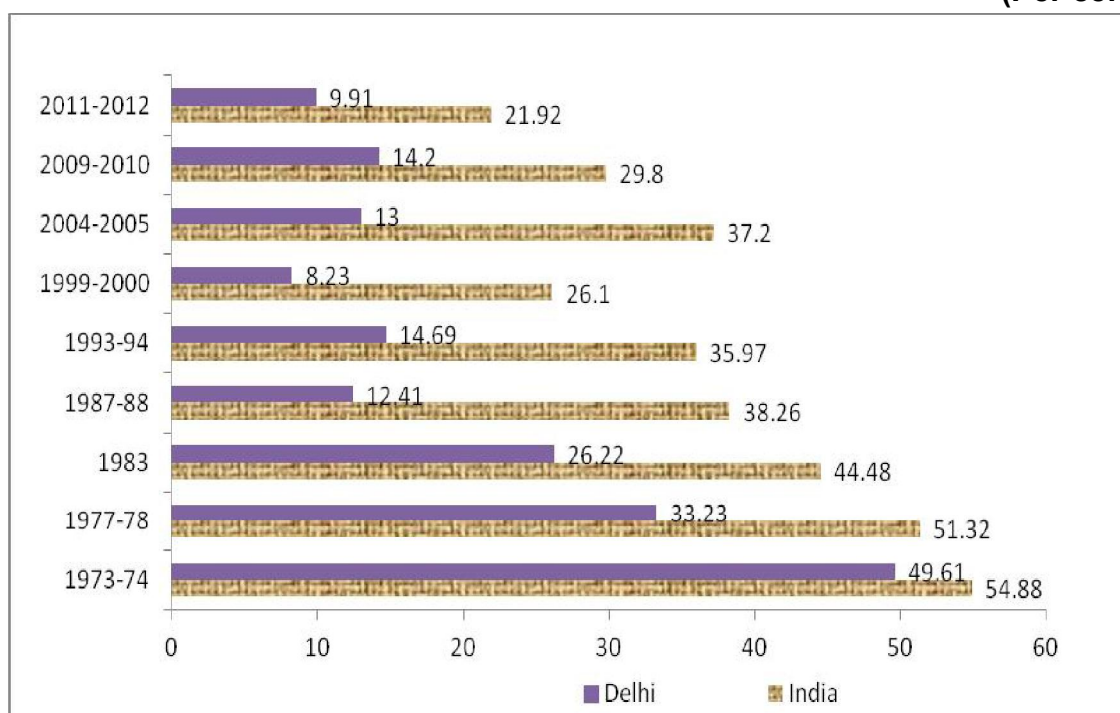
(Per cent)

S. No.	Years	India	Delhi
1.	1973-74	54.88	49.61
2.	1977-78	51.32	33.23
3.	1983	44.48	26.22
4.	1987-88	38.26	12.41
5.	1993-94	35.97	14.69
6.	1999-2000	26.10	8.23
7.	2004-2005	37.2	13.1
8	2009-2010	29.8	14.2
9	2011-2012	21.92	9.91

Source: - *Delhi Statistical Handbook, 2017.*

6. It may be observed from Statement 20.3 that the percent of the population below the poverty in Delhi was less than the national level in all period covered under the study. During 2011-12, 21.92 per cent of the population of India was under below poverty; while it was 9.91 per cent in Delhi. The information regarding the population below the poverty line in India and Delhi during 1973-74 to 2011-12 is depicted in Chart 20.2.

Chart 20.2
PERSONS BELOW THE POVERTY LINE IN DELHI AND INDIA
(Per cent)



7. Level and Pattern of Household Consumer Expenditure Pattern

- 7.1 Directorate of Economics and Statistics is publishing a report titled "Level and Pattern of Household Consumer Expenditure of Delhi" on the basis of sample surveys conducted under National Sample Survey Organizations Rounds from time to time. The information regarding per capita expenditure on food and non-food items as per 64th round (July 2007-June 2008), 66th Round (July 2009- June 2010) and 68th Round (July 2011-June 2012) is presented in Statement 20.4.

Statement 20.4**PER CAPITA MONTHLY EXPENDITURE ON FOOD & NON-FOOD IN DELHI**

S. No.	Rounds / Area	Food	Non-Food	Total
1.	63rd Round (July 2006- to June 2007)			
	a. Urban	733.53	1238.66	1972.19
	b. Rural	553.05	751.22	1304.27
	c. Total	697.40	1141.07	1838.47
2	64th Round (July 2007-June 2008)			
	a. Urban	770.21	1307.83	2078.04
	b. Rural	740.72	962.58	1703.30
	c. Total	767.22	1278.71	2046.43
3	66th Round (July 2009- June 2010)			
	a. Urban	1036.21	1868.66	2904.87
	b. Rural	771.28	989.75	1761.03
	c. Total	1014.48	1796.57	2811.05
4	68th Round (July 2011- June 2012)			
	a. Urban	1489.02	2352.52	3841.54
	b. Rural	1182.74	1378.41	2561.16
	c. Total	1461.54	2265.12	3726.66

Source: - Directorate of Economics and Statistics, GNCTD

- 7.2 It may be inferred from Statement 20.4 that the per capita expenditure on non-food items was higher than the food items and total per capita expenditure in all the NSS Rounds and the last Rounds (66th & 68th) increased at 32.57 per cent. The per capita expenditure on food items constituted at 39.22 per cent and the remaining 60.78 per cent on non-food items as per 68th round of National Sample Survey.
- 7.3 The information regarding average monthly household expenditure (with an average family size of 4.06) of food and non-food items during the last four rounds of the National Sample Survey is presented in Statement 20.5.

Statement 20.5
AVERAGE MONTHLY HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE IN DELHI

N o	Rounds / Area	Food	Non-Food	Total
1	63rd Round (July 2006- to June 2007)			
	a. Urban	3312.26	5593.14	8905.40
	b. Rural	2929.21	3978.85	6908.06
	c. Total	3244.89	5309.22	8554.11
2	64th Round (July 2007-June 2008)			
	a. Urban	3445.38	5850.37	9295.75
	b. Rural	3308.01	4298.86	7606.87
	c. Total	3433.78	5719.28	9153.06
3	66th Round (July 2009- June 2010)			
	a. Urban	4407.12	7947.66	12354.78
	b. Rural	3647.99	4681.26	8329.25
	c. Total	4350.67	7704.73	12055.40
4	68th Round (July 2011- June 2012)			
	a. Urban	6055.23	9566.70	15621.93
	b. Rural	4696.16	5473.08	10169.24
	c. Total	5930.61	9191.34	15121.95

Source: - Directorate of Economics and Statistics, GNCTD.

- 7.4 It may be seen from Statement 20.5 that average monthly household expenditure on food and non-food items during the last two Rounds (66th & 68th) has increased at 25.44 per cent in Delhi. The percentage of average monthly household expenditure on non-food items was 60.78 per cent in the 68th round and it was the same as that per capita monthly expenditure on non-food items in the 68th round.
- 7.5 Percentage distribution of monthly per capita consumer expenditure for food and non-food items in urban Delhi and urban India is presented in Statement 20.6.

Statement 20.6

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF MPCE FOR FOOD AND NON-FOOD ITEMS IN URBAN DELHI AND INDIA IN 2011-12

S. No	Items	Urban	
		Delhi	India
I.	Food Items		
1.	Cereals and Cereal Substitutes	5	7
2.	Pulses and Products	1	2
3.	Milk and Milk Products	11	7
4.	Edible Oil	2	3
5.	Meat, Egg	1	4
6.	Vegetables	5	4
7.	Fruits (Fresh and Dry)	3	3
8.	Sugar/Salt/Spices	3	4
9.	Beverages	9	9
	Sub Total	40	43
II.	Non-food Items		
1.	Pan/ Tobacco/ Intoxicant	1	2
2.	Fuel and Light	6	7
3.	Clothing, Bedding and Footwear	7	6
4.	Miscellaneous Consumer Goods*	4	4
5.	Miscellaneous Consumer Services@	17	14
6.	Rent	6	6
7.	Consumer Taxes	1	1
8.	Durable Goods	7	5
9.	Education	8	7
10	Medical (Institutional and Non-institutional)	3	5
	Sub Total	60	57
	Total Expenditure	100.00	100.00

Source:- Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi (National Sample Survey 68th Round of Socio-Economic Survey 2011-12)

Notes: - 1. * Miscellaneous Consumer goods include expenditure on goods for personal care, toilet articles and sundry articles.

2. @ Miscellaneous consumer services includes expenditure on entertainment, consumer services and conveyances.

7.6 It may be inferred from Statement 20.6 that every 100 rupees spent by households in urban Delhi about ₹ 40 were on food items and the remaining ₹ 60 on non-food items. In India, it was ₹ 43 and ₹ 57 for food and non-food items respectively.