

Highlights of Tamil Nadu Economy

- Growth of **SGDP** in Tamil Nadu has been among the **fastest in India since 2005**.
- **Poverty reduction** in Tamil Nadu has been **faster** than that in many other States.
- **Tamil Nadu** contains a **smaller proportion** of India's poor population.
- Tamil Nadu is the **second largest contributor** to India's GDP.
- Tamil Nadu ranks **3rd in Human Development Index** (source: UNDP- 2015) Tamil Nadu ranks **3rd** in terms of **invested capital (Rs.2.92 lakh crore)** and value of total industrial output (**Rs.6.19 lakh crore**).
- Tamil Nadu ranks **first** among the states in terms of **number of factories with 17% share** and **industrial workers (16% share)** of the country.
- Tamil Nadu is placed **third** in health index as per the **NITI AAYOG report**.
- Tamil Nadu has a **highest Gross Enrolment Ratio** in higher education.
- Tamil Nadu has the largest number of **engineering colleges**.
- Tamil Nadu has emerged as a major **hub for renewable energy**.
- Tamil Nadu has **highest credit Deposit Ratio** in commercial and Cooperative banks.
- Has highest ranks **first** on **investment proposals** filed by **MSMEs**.

Performance of Tamil Nadu Economy

- Some of the States like **Gujarat** and **Maharashtra** seem to perform well in some of the economic indicators.
- **Kerala** tops in literacy, IMR and MMR.
- In recent years Tamil Nadu's performance is outstanding and far ahead of all other states in the spheres of health, higher education, growth of MSMEs, poverty alleviation and employment generation.

Tamil Nadu is placed third in health index

- The Tamil Nadu state has come third after **Kerala** and **Punjab** in a health index report.
- The neo natal mortality rate is 14 lower than that of many other states and that the under 5 mortality has dropped from 21 in 2014 to 20 in 2015 - Healthy States,
- **Progressive India Report, (2018)** –NITI AAYOG The reasons for the relative success of Tamil Nadu lie in extending social policies to cover most of the population.
- For instance **the Public Distribution System**, midday meals and public health infrastructure have near universal coverage.

Natural Resource

Water Resources

- Tamil Nadu is not endowed with **rich natural resources** compared to other States.

- It accounts for **three per cent of water sources, four per cent of land area** against six per cent of population.
- **North East monsoon** is the major source of **rainfall** followed by **South West monsoon**. There are **17 river basins** in Tamil Nadu.
- The main rivers are Palar, Cheyyar, Ponnaiyar, Cauvery, Bhavani, Vaigai, Chittar, Tamiraparani, Vellar, Noyyal Siruvani, Gundar, Vaipar, Valparai etc.



- Wells are the largest source of irrigation in Tamil Nadu (56%)

Water Resources

Source of Irrigation	Numbers
Reservoirs	81
Canals	2239
Tanks	41262
Tube Wells	3,20,707
Open Wells	14,92,359

- Source: Tamil Nadu Government Season & Crop Report 2012-13

Mineral Resources

- Tamil Nadu has a few mining projects based on Titanium, Lignite, Magnesite, Graphite, Limestone, Granite and Bauxite.
- The first one is the **Neyveli Lignite Corporation** that has led development of large industrial complex around Neyveli in **Cuddalore district** with Thermal power plants, Fertilizer and Carbonisation plants.



- **Magnesite mining** is at **Salem** from which **mining of Bauxite ores** are carried out at **Yercaud** and this region is also **rich in Iron Ore at Kanjamalai**.
- **Molybdenum** is found in **Dharmapuri**, and is the only source in the country.

Mineral Resources

Mineral	Reserve (Tonnes)	National Share
Lignite	30,275,000	87%
Vermiculite	2,000,000	66%
Garnet	23,000,000	42%
Zircon	8,000,000	38%
Graphite	2,000,000	33%
Ilmenite	98,000,000	28%
Rutile	5,000,000	27%
Monazite	2,000,000	25%
Magnesite	73,000,000	17%

- (Source: Department. of Geology and Mining)

Population

- Tamil Nadu stands sixth in population with **7.21 crore** against **India's 121 crore** as per **2011 census**.
- However, Tamil Nadu's population is higher than that of several countries according to **UN Report**.

Population

State / Country	Population (in Crore)
Tamil Nadu	7.2
U.K.	6.5
France	6.5
Italy	5.9
South Africa	5.6
Spain	4.7
Sri Lanka	2.1

- (Source: Projections published by the United Nations in the 2017 Revision of World Population Prospects.)

Density

- The density of population which measures population **per sq.km is 555** (2011) against 480 (2001).
- Tamil Nadu ranks **12th in density** among the Indian States and overall it is 382 for India.

Urbanisation

- Tamil Nadu is the most urbanized state with **48.4% of urban population** against 31.5% for India as a whole.
- The State accounts for **9.61% of total urbanites** in India against 6% share of total population.

Sex ratio (Number of female per 1000 males)

- Balanced sex ratio implies improvement in quality of life of female population.
- The sex ratio in Tamil Nadu is nearing balance with **995** which is far better compared to most of the States and all India level.
- Tamil Nadu stands third next only to **Kerala state and Puduchery Union Territory** in sex ratio.

Sex Ratio

Sl.No	Indicator	Tamil Nadu	India

1	IMR	17	34
2	MMR	79	159
3	Life Expectancy		67.9
	Total	70.6	66.4
	Male	68.6	69.6
	Female	72.7	
4	Literacy Rate		
	Total	80.33%	74.04%
	Male	86.81%	82.14%
	Female	73.86%	65.46%
5	Sex Ratio	995	940

Infant Mortality Rate (mortality before completing 1 year)

- Tamil Nadu is well ahead of national average and other states in IMR.
- According to NITI AAYOG, the **IMR is 17** (per 1000) for Tamil Nadu which is just half of national average of 34 as on 2016.

Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR) (Mother's death at the time of delivery per 1 lakh)

- Tamil Nadu has a good record of controlling **MMR**, ranking **third** with **79** (Kerala 61, Maharashtra 67) against national **average of 159** again half of the national average [NITI AAYOG].

Life Expectancy at birth

- The average period that a person may expect to live is called **life expectancy**.
- However, life expectancy in India still falls short of most **developed** and **developing** nations.

Literacy

- The literacy rate of **Tamil Nadu** is **higher** than in many States

Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP)

- Just like GDP, **the Gross State Domestic Product** refers to the total money value of all the goods and services produced annually in the State.
- Tamil Nadu is the second largest economy in India with a **GSDP of \$ 207.8 billion** in 2016-17 according to the Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Tamil Nadu.
- **The GSDP of Tamil Nadu** is equal to **the GDP of Kuwait** on nominal term and GDP of UAE on PPP terms.

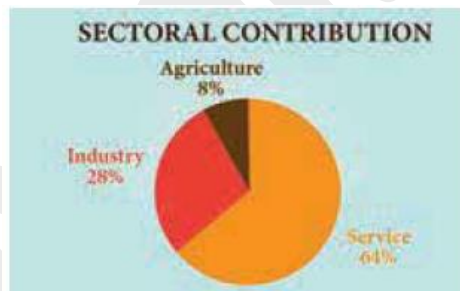
- The GSDP of Tamil Nadu is far higher compared to many countries as shown below. This is mainly due to population effect.
- **Per capita GSDP** would be better for inter country or interstate comparisons.
- Tamil Nadu may go below if **per capita GSDP** is considered for comparison.

Gross State Domestic Product

State / Country	GSDP /GDP (Billion)
Tamil Nadu-GSDP	\$ 207.8
Iraq-GDP	\$ 171
New Zealand-GDP	\$ 184
Sri Lanka-GDP	\$ 81

- (Source: IMF Outlook, April 2017)

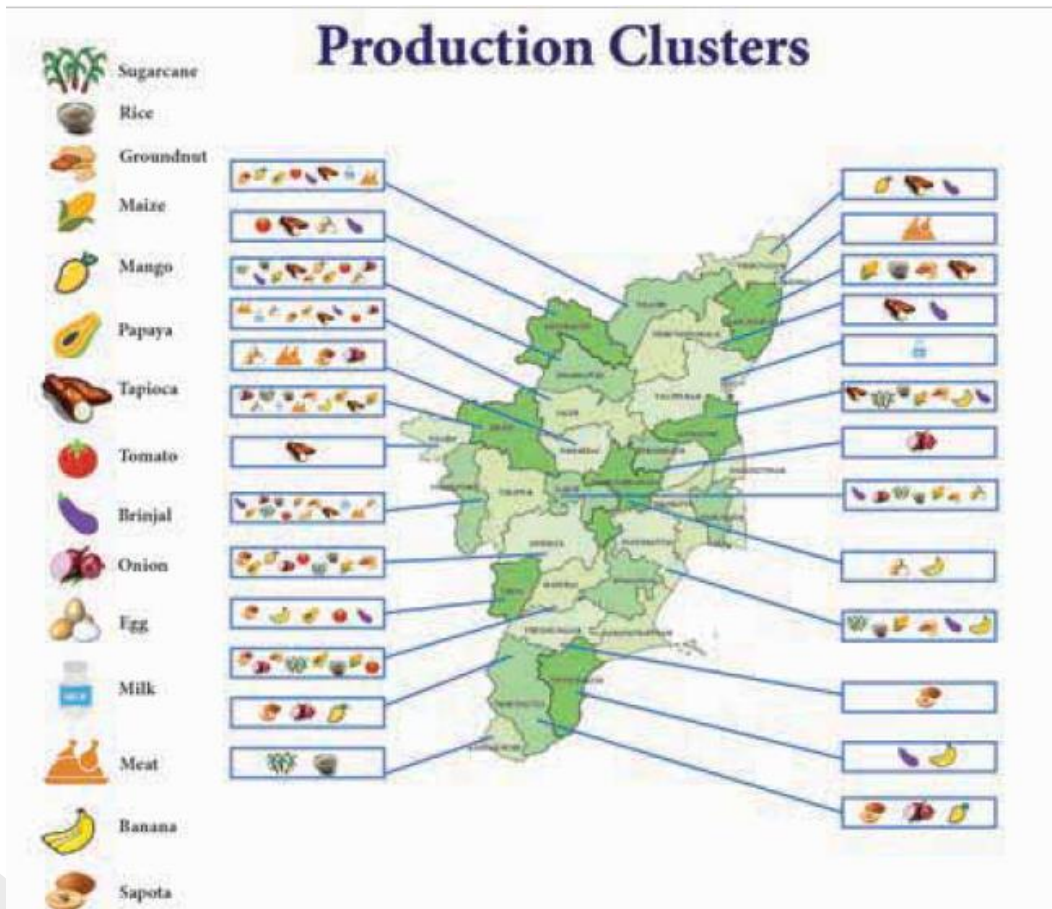
Sectoral Contribution



- **The tertiary sector (service sector)** is the major contributor to **Tamil Nadu's GSDP at 63.70%**.
- **The secondary sector (Industry)** contribution is gradually on the rise and now it is 28.5%.
- **Agriculture** occupies a prominent position in occupation but its contribution to GSDP is declining and now it is just 7.76%.
- This means that the tertiary and secondary sectors have grown faster, the agricultural sector has grown slow.
- **Agriculture** sector provides **employment** and **food** to larger proportion of **Indians** and **Tamils**.
- But, the same sector is growing slowly means it is not good.
- With this trend sustainable development may not be possible.

Per capita Income

- The Per capita GSDP of Tamil Nadu also (\$ 2,200) which is higher than that of many other States in India.
- Per capita GSDP of Tamil Nadu is nearly 1.75 times higher than the national average, as per 2018 data.
- In term of the Rs per capita income in Tamil Nadu was Rs 1,03,600 in 2010-11 and it has increased to Rs 1,88,492 in 2017-18 as per the Budget figures 2018.



Per capita income

State / Country	Per capita Income (in USD)
Tamil Nadu	2200
India	1670
Nigeria	2175
Nicaragua	2151
Pakistan	1443

Bangladesh	1358
Zimbabwe	1029
Nepal	729

- (Source: World Bank National Accounts data, and OECD National Accounts data files. - <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/NY.GDP.PCAP.CD>)
- The Per capita income of Tamil Nadu among **the southern States** is given below:

Per capita Income (2015-16)

State	PI (Rs)
Tamil Nadu	1,57,116
Kerala	1,55,516
Karnataka	1,46,416
Telangana	1,58,360
Andhra Pradesh	1,37,000

- (Source: Reserve Bank of India, New Delhi. February 2017.)

Agriculture

- Tamil Nadu, with **seven agro climatic zones** and varied soil types is better suited for the production of fruits, vegetables, spices, plantation crops, flowers and medicinal plants.
- The State is the largest producer of loose flowers and the third largest producer of fruits. **Tamil Nadu has historically been an agricultural State.**
- At present, Tamil Nadu is the India's **second biggest producer of rice**, next only to **West Bengal**. The state is one of the **major producers of turmeric**.
- It is also the leading producer of Kambu, Corn, Groundnut, Oil seeds and Sugarcane.
- It ranks first in production of plantation crops and banana and coconut, second in rubber and cashew nut, third in pepper and fourth in sugarcane.
- The gross cropped area under all crops was **58.97 lakh hectares** in the **year 2013-14**.
- The area under **food crops** account for **72.9%** and that of **non-food crops** is **27.1%**.
- Among the **food crops paddy** takes a major share. Among the **non-food crops, groundnut and coconut** take a major share.

- Net sown area has been gradually declining; and, rural land, labour and capital are **moving towards urban projects**.
- As a result, villages are emptied and cities are over-crowded and congested, leading to spatially unbalanced bulging.

Food grain Production



- Rice production dominates among food grain production with **79.49 lakh tones** on 2014-15 followed by **millets at 40.79 lakh tons**.
- There is significant jump in pulses production from **3.59 lakhs ton** in 2011- 12 to **7.67 lakh ton in 2014-15**.
- There may be changes in these statistics. Hence updation is unavoidable.

Productivity Position of Tamil Nadu and India

- The Government of Tamil Nadu lays emphasis on **agricultural production** and **productivity**.
- As a result, **Tamil Nadu tops in productivity**, in food crops as well as non-food crops, among the States in India.

Productivity Position of Tamil Nadu

Crop	Position of Tamil Nadu at National Level
Maize	1
Cumbu	1
Groundnut	1
Total Oilseeds	1
Cotton	1
Coconut	2
Rice	2
Sugarcane	3
Sunflower	3
Jowar	3
Coarse cereals	4

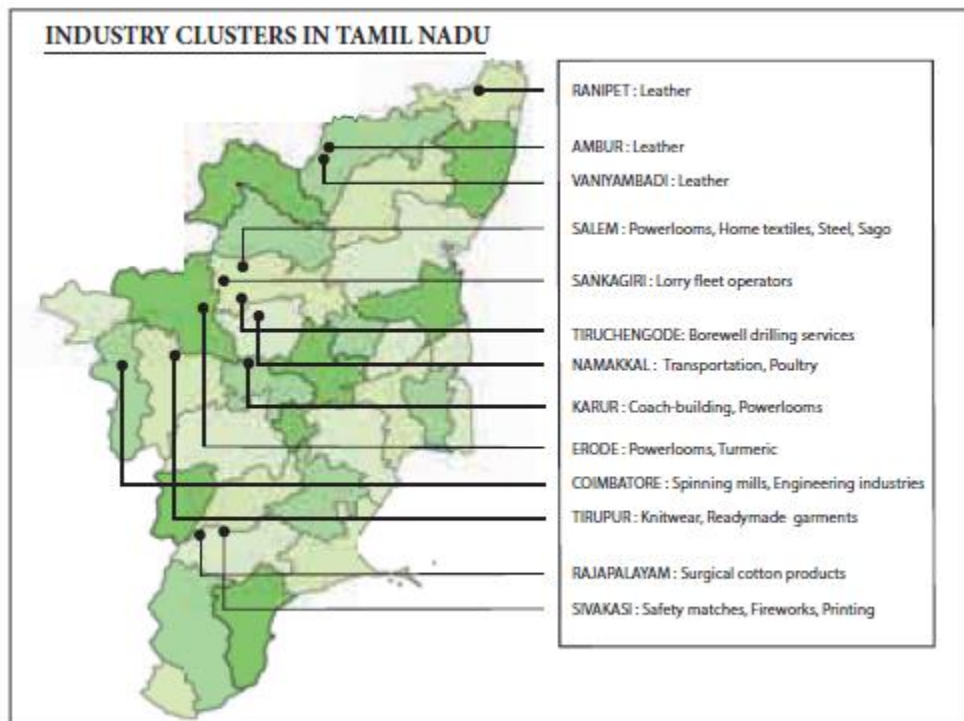
Total Pulses

8

- Source: Tamil Nadu Agriculture Department Policy Note 2017-18)
- **Tamil Nadu ranks first** in maize, cumbu, groundnut, oil seeds and cotton; second in rice and coconut, third in sugarcane, sunflower and jowar.

Industry

- **Chennai** is sometimes referred to as the **Health Capital of India** or the **Banking Capital of India**, having attracted investments from **International Finance Corporations** and the **World Bank**.
- It is also called as **Detroit of Asia**. Tamil Nadu has a network of about 110 industrial parks/estates that offer developed plots with supporting infrastructure.
- Also, the Government is promoting other industrial parks like Rubber Park, Apparel Park, Floriculture Park, **TICEL** Park for Biotechnology, **Siruseri IT Park** and Agro Export Zones.



- The heavy engineering manufacturing companies are centered around the suburbs of Chennai.
- **Chennai** boasts of **global car manufacturing** giants as well as home grown companies.
- **Karur** is known for its **bus body building** which contributes 80% of South Indian bus body building.
- **TNPL** is the **Asia's largest ecofriendly paper mill**. **Salem** is called as **steel city** and has many sago producing units and mineral wealth.
- **Sivakasi** is the leader in printing, fireworks, safety matches production in India.

- It contributes to 80% of India's total safety matches production and 90% of India's total fireworks production.
- **Thoothukudi** is the gateway of Tamil Nadu. It is a major chemical producer next only to Chennai.

Textiles

- Tamil Nadu is the **largest textile hub of India**.
- Tamil Nadu is known as the **"Yarn Bowl"** of the country accounting for 41% of India's cotton yarn production.



- The textile industry plays a significant role in the Indian economy by providing direct employment to an estimated **35 million people**, and thereby contributing **4% of GDP** and **35% of gross export earnings**.
- The textile sector contributes to **14% of the manufacturing sector**.
- From spinning to garment manufacturing, entire textile production chain facilities are in Tamil Nadu.
- About **half of India's total spinning mill** capacity is in Tamil Nadu.
- **The western part of Tamil Nadu** comprising Coimbatore, Tirupur, Erode, Dindigul and Karur has the majority of spinning mills manufacturing cotton/polyester/blended yarn and silk yarn used by garment units in Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra etc.
- **Yarn** is also exported to **China, Bangladesh** etc.
- Tirupur known as **"Knitting City"** is the exporter of garments worth USD 3 Billion.
- **Karur** is the major home for **textile manufacturing** (Curtain cloth, bed linens, kitchen linens, toilet linens, table linens, wall hangings etc.) and export hub in India.
- **Erode** is the main **cloth market in South India** for both retail and wholesale ready-mades.

Leather

- Tamil Nadu accounts for **30 per cent of leather exports** and about **70 per cent of leather production** in the country.
- Hundreds of **leather and tannery industries** are located around Vellore, Dindigul and Erode.
- Every year the State hosts the **India International Leather Fair in Chennai**.

Electronics

- **Chennai** has emerged as **EMS Hub of India**.
- Many **multi – national companies** have chosen Chennai as their South Asian manufacturing hub.

Automotives

- Chennai nicknamed as **"The Detroit of Asia"** is home to a large number of auto component industries.
- **Tamil Nadu has 28% share** each in **automotive** and auto components industries, **19% in the trucks segment** and **18% each in passenger cars and two wheelers**.

Cement Industry

- Tamil Nadu ranks **third in cement production** in India (First Andhra Pradesh, Second Rajasthan).
- Among 10 largest cement companies in India as on 2018, **Ramco Cement** and **India Cement** find prominent place.
- And also Tamil Nadu stands **second in number of cement plants** with 21 units against **35 units in Andhra Pradesh**.

Fire works

- The town of **Sivakasi** is a **leader** in the areas of printing, fireworks, and safety matches.

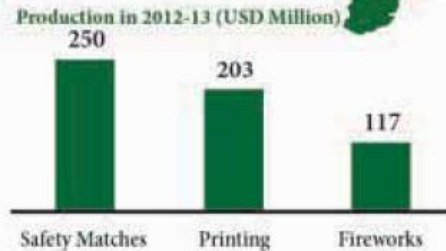


- It was fondly called as **"Little Japan"** by **Jawaharlal Nehru**. It contributes to 80% of India's fireworks production.
- **Sivakasi** provides over **60% of India's total offset printing solutions**.

Sivakasi-A fireworks manufacturing hub

- Sivakasi is a town in Virudhunagar District of Tamil Nadu
- World renowned for firework Production
- Accounts for USD 80 Million exports of safety Matches, printing and Firework in 2013-14

90% India's Firework Production	450 Firework Factories
0.5 Million direct employment	0.2 Million indirect employment
60% of safety match production	4500 match units



Other Industries

- One of the global electrical equipment public sector companies viz **BHEL** has manufacturing plants at **Tiruchirappalli** and **Ranipet**.
- The Tamil Nadu State Government owns the Tamil Nadu Newsprint and Papers (**TNPL**), the **world's biggest bagasse** based paper mill in **Karur**.
- Tamil Nadu is a **leading producer of cement** in India and with manufacturing units located at Ariyalur, Virudhunagar, Coimbatore and Tirunelveli.
- The region around **Salem is rich in mineral ores**. The country's largest steel public sector undertaking, **SAIL** has a steel plant in Salem.
- Coimbatore is also referred to as "**the Pump City**" as it supplies two thirds of India's requirements of motors and pumps.
- The city is one of the largest exporters of jewellery, wet grinders and auto components and the term "**Coimbatore Wet Grinder**" has been given a Geographical indication Thoothukudi is known as "**Gateway of Tamil Nadu**".
- **Thoothukudi** is the major **chemical producer** in the state. It produces the **70 per cent** of the total **salt production** in the State and **30 per cent** in the country.

MSMEs

- The **Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises** are defined under the **MSMED Act 2006**.
- The enterprises are classified as **Manufacturing and Service enterprises** based on the **investment in plant and machinery and equipment** (excluding land and building)
- The classification of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises is given in Tamil Nadu accounts of **15.07%** Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (**MSMEs**) in the country (the highest among all States) with **6.89 lakhs** registered MSMEs.
- **Producing over 8000 varieties of product** for a total investment of more than **Rs.32,008crore**.
- MSMEs produce a wide variety of products in almost all sectors.

- The prominent among them are the engineering, electrical, chemicals, plastics, steel paper, matches, textiles, hosiery and garments sector.
- Around **15.61 lakh entrepreneurs** have registered, providing **employment** opportunities to about **99.7 lakhs persons** with total **investment of Rs. 1,68,331 crore**.

Energy

- Tamil Nadu **tops in power generation** among the southern States as seen in following table.
- **Installed capacity of power** utilities in States in southern region

Energy

State	Units	Ranks
Tamil Nadu	26,865 MW	I
Karnataka	18,641 MW	II
Andhra Pradesh	17,289 MW	III
Telungana	12,691 MW	IV
Kerala	4,141 MW	V
	79,627 MW	

- (Source: Central Electricity Authority, Ministry of Power, Government of India. Retrieved Jan.2017.)
- **Tamil Nadu** is in the **forefront** of all other Indian States in installed capacity.
- **Muppandal** wind farm is a renewable energy source, supplying the villagers with electricity for work.
- **Wind farms** were built in Nagercoil and Tuticorin apart from already existing ones around Coimbatore, Pollachi, Dharapuram and Udumalaipettai.
- These areas generate about **half of India's 2,000 megawatts of wind energy** or two percent of the total power output of India.

Nuclear Energy

- The **Kalpakkam Nuclear Power Plant** and the **Koodankulam Nuclear Power Plant** are the major nuclear energy plants for the **energy grid**.



Nuclear Energy

Units	Existing Installed capacity (2018)
Kudankulam	1834 MW (2 x 917)
Kalpakkam	470 MW (2 x 235)



Thermal Power

- In Tamil Nadu the share of **thermal power** in total energy sources is **very high** and the thermal power plants are at **Athippattu** (North Chennai) **Ennore**, **Mettur**, **Neyveli** and **Thoothukudi**.
- The **generation of power** under various sources is given below.

Thermal Power

Source	Million Units	%
Thermal	13304	49.52
Hydel	2203	8.20
Nuclear	986	3.67
Others (Wind,Solar)	10372	38.61

Total	26865	100.00
-------	-------	--------

- (Source: Central Electricity Authority, Ministry of Power, Government of India. Retrieved 15 Jan 2017)

Hydel Energy

- There are about **20 hydro electric units** in Tamil Nadu.
- The prominent units are **Hundah, Mettur, Periyar, Maravakandy, Parson Valley** etc.

Solar Energy

- **Tamil Nadu tops in solar power** generation in India as seen in following table.
- **Southern Tamil Nadu** is considered as one of the **most suitable regions** in the country for developing solar power projects.

Solar Energy

Ranking	States	Total capacity (MW) 2017
1	Tamil Nadu	1590.97
2	Rajasthan	1317.64
3	Gujarat	1159.76
4	Telangana	1073.41
5	Andhra Pradesh	979.65

- (Source :Data from MNRE)

Wind Energy

- Tamil Nadu has the **highest installed wind energy** capacity in India.
- The State has very high quality of **off shore wind energy** potential off the **Tirunelveli** coast and southern **Thoothukudi** and **Rameswaram** coast.

SERVICES

- **Banking, insurance, energy, transport and communication** fall under **tertiary sector** i.e., services.

Banking

- In Tamil Nadu, Nationalised banks account for 52% with 5,337 branches, Private Commercial Banks 30% (3,060) branches,
- State Bank of India and its associates 13% (1,364), Regional Rural Banks 5% (537) branches and the remaining **22 foreign bank branches**.
- Total deposits of the banks in Tamil Nadu registered an year-on year increase of 14.32% by March 2017 and touched 6,65,068.59 crores.
- **Total credit of the banks** in Tamil Nadu registered a **year-on year increase of 13.50% by March 2017** and touched 6,95,500.31 crores.
- The share of **Priority Sector Advances** stands at **45.54%** as against the national average of 40%.
- **The percentage of Agricultural** advances to total advances as at the end of **March 2017** works out to **19.81%** as against the national average of 18%.
- Banks in Tamil Nadu have maintained one of the highest **Credit Deposit Ratio** of **119.15%** in the country whereas this ratio is 77.5% at the national level.

Education

a. School Education

- **Tamil Nadu** is grouped among high **Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER)** States.
- It **ranks third** next only to **Kerala (81%)** and **Himachal Pradesh (74%)**.
- The all India average is 43% and the world average is 59%.

Tamil Nadu's primary education statistics 2016-17

Number of schools	
Primary	35,414
Middle	9,708
High and Higher Secondary	12,911

- (Source: Tamil Nadu State portal, State interim Budget 2016-17)
- **Gross Enrolment Ratio** is 118.8% for **primary level**(class 1-5); 112.3% for **upper primary level** (class 6-8), 62.7% for **secondary level** (class 9-10), 49.26% at **Higher Secondary level** (class 11-12).
- This has been possible mainly due to the supply of free food, cloth, foot-wear, scholarship, laptop etc.

b. Higher Education

- In **Gross Enrolment Ratio** under higher education (Tertiary level) Tamil Nadu continues to be at the top level well ahead of other states.
- **The GER is 46.9% in Tamil Nadu** which is far higher against national average and all other States
- This **higher GER** is thanks to the distribution of free food, cloth, footwear, laptop and scholarship.

Gross Enrolment Rate %

State	2016-17
Tamil Nadu	46.9
Maharashtra	30.2
Uttar Pradesh	24.9
Odisha	21.0
Bihar	14.4
All India	25.2

- (Source: All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE) released by the Ministry of Human Resource Development- January 2018)
- Tamil Nadu has 59 Universities, 40 Medical colleges, 517 Engineering colleges, 2,260 Arts and Science colleges, 447 Polytechnics and 20 dental colleges.
- **Tamil Nadu produces nearly four lakh engineering and polytechnic students every year, the highest in the country.**

Educational Loans

- As far as **educational loans** disbursed by **Public Sector Banks** under priority sector are concerned, 20.8% of the total amount was disbursed in **Tamil Nadu** between 2013-14 and 2015-16.
- **Andhra Pradesh** was **second** with 11.2% of the total loan amount followed by **Maharashtra** (10.2%).
- Of the total amount of educational loans disbursed by Private Banks during the same period, **Kerala** accounted for **37.8%** followed by **Tamil Nadu** with **24.8%**.
- Both **Karnataka & Kerala** together accounted for more than 60% of the total educational loan amount by Private Banks.

Health

- Tamil Nadu has a **three – tier health infrastructure** comprising hospitals, primary health centres, health units, community health centres and sub centres.
- As of **March 2015**, the State had 34 district hospitals, 229 sub-divisional hospitals, 1,254 primary health centres, 7,555 Sub-centres and 313 community health centres.

Communication

- **Maharashtra** has the highest number of internet subscribers in the country at **29.47 million**, followed by States like **Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka**.
- According to government data, India had a total of **342.65 million** internet subscribers at the end of **March, 2016**.
- **Tamil Nadu** had **28.01 million** subscribers, while its neighbours **Andhra Pradesh** and **Karnataka** had **24.87 million** and **22.63 million**, respectively.

Transport

- Tamil Nadu has a well established **transportation system** that connects all parts of the State.
- This is partly responsible for the **investment** in the State.
- Tamil Nadu is served by an **extensive road network** in terms of its spread and quality, providing links between urban centres, agricultural market-places and rural habitations in the countryside.
- However, there is scope for improvement.

a. Road

- There are **28 national highways** in the State, covering a total **distance of 5,036 km**.
- The State has a total road length of 167,000 km, of which 60,628 km are maintained by **Highways Department**.
- It ranks second in India with a share of over **20% in total road projects** under operation in the **public-private partnership (PPP) model**.

b. Rail

- Tamil Nadu has a well-developed rail network as part of **Southern Railway, Headquartered at Chennai**.
- The present **Southern Railway** network extends over a large area of India's Southern Peninsula, covering the States of Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Puducherry, minor portions of Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh.



- **Tamil Nadu has a total railway track length of 6,693 km and there are 690 railway stations in the State.**
- The system connects it with most major cities in India.
- Main rail junctions in the State include Chennai, Coimbatore, Erode, Madurai, Salem, **Tiruchirapalli** and **Tirunelveli**.
- **Chennai** has a well-established **Suburban Railway network**, a Mass Rapid Transport System and is currently **developing a Metro system**, with its **first underground** stretch operational since **May 2017**.

c. Air

- Tamil Nadu has four major international airports.
- **Chennai International Airport** is currently the **third largest airport in India** after **Mumbai and Delhi**.
- Other international airports in Tamil Nadu include **Coimbatore International Airport**, **Madurai International Airport** and **Tiruchirapalli International Airport**.
- It also has **domestic airports** at Tuticorin, Salem, and Madurai which connect several parts of the country.
- **Increased industrial activity** has given rise to an increase in passenger traffic as well as freight movement which has been **growing** at over **18 per cent per year**.

d. Ports

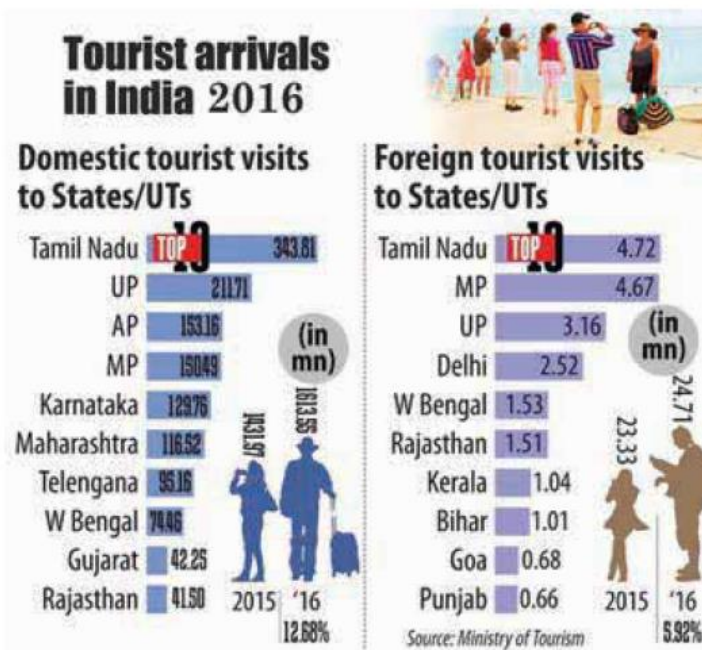
- Tamil Nadu has three **major ports**; one each at **Chennai**, **Ennore**, and **Tuticorin**, as well as one intermediate port in **Nagapattinam**, and **23 minor ports**.
- The ports are currently capable of handling over **73 million metric tonnes of cargo** annually (24 per cent share of India).
- All the minor ports are managed by the **Tamil Nadu Maritime Board**, **Chennai Port**.
- This is an **artificial harbour** and the **second principal port** in the country for handling containers.



- It is currently being upgraded to have a dedicated terminal for cars capable of handling **4,00,000 vehicles**.
- **Ennore Port** was recently converted from an **intermediate port to a major port** and handles all the **coal and ore traffic** in Tamil Nadu.

Tourism

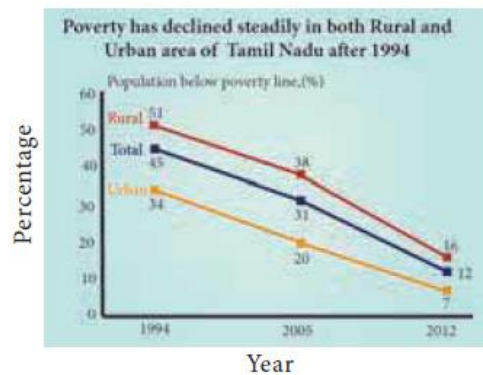
- Tamil Nadu has since ancient past been a **hub for tourism**.
- In recent years, the state has emerged as one of the **leading tourist destinations** for both **domestic and foreign tourists**.
- Tourism in Tamil Nadu is promoted by **Tamil Nadu Tourism Development Corporation (TTDC)**, a Government of Tamil Nadu undertaking.
- The State currently ranks the highest among Indian States with about 25 crore arrivals (in 2013).



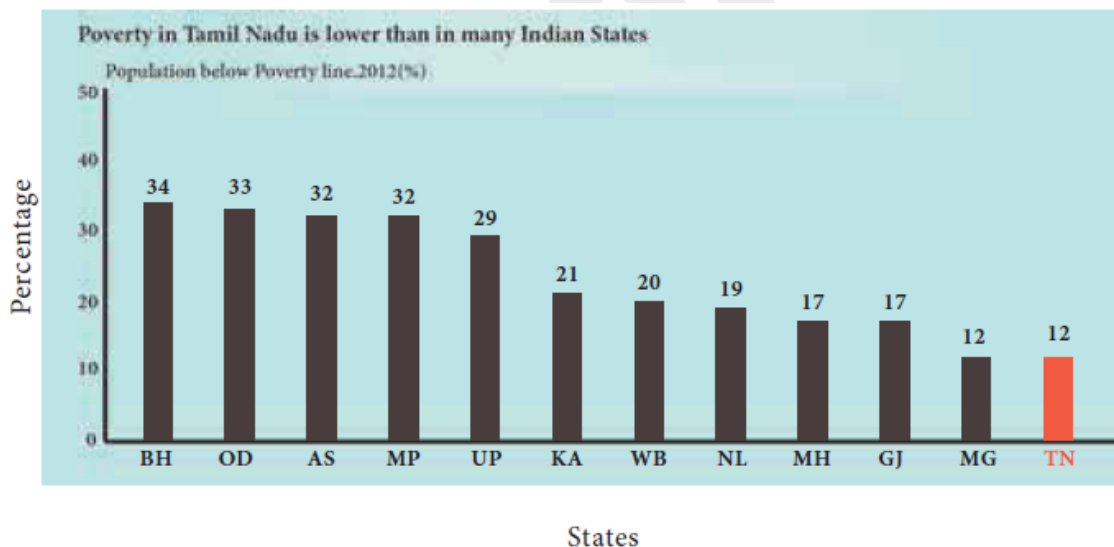
- The annual growth rate of this industry stood at 16 per cent.
- Approximately **28 lakh foreign** and **11 crore domestic tourists** visit the State.

Unemployment and Poverty

- National average of unemployment rate stands at **50** and Tamil Nadu ranks **22nd** with **unemployment rate of 42 per 1000**.



- There are different kinds of unemployment with **different economic implications**.
- All those aspects need to be studied to fully understand the employment situation.
- Tamil Nadu** is one of **India's richest states** Since **1994**, the state has seen a steady decline in poverty.



- Today, Tamil Nadu has **lower levels of poverty** than most other States in the country.
- After **2005**, **Tamil Nadu** was among **India's fastest growing states**, with growth being driven mainly by services.

Conclusion

- The **Tamil Nadu economy** which is not rich in natural resources has good record of agricultural growth, industrial progress, infrastructural development and good record of **robust growth of service sector** especially banking, education, transport and tourism.
- It occupies **top three ranks** in **health index, education, development of MSMEs**.
- It has a good record of **poverty alleviation and employment generation**.

- However, India in general and Tamil Nadu in particular need to work more to eliminate female foeticide, reduce the population living in slums, sleeping on roadsides, beggars and rag pickers.
- Development is meaningless as long as the above eyesore continues.

Appendix-I

Population Growth in Tami Nadu: At a Glance (2011 Census)	
• Total Population	72138958
• Male	36158871
• Female	35980087
• Crude birth rate (per thousand)	15.7
• Crude death rate (per thousand)	7.4
• Growth Rate (per thousand)	8.3
• Districts with Highest Population	(Chennai, Kancheepuram, Vellore and Thiruvallur)
• Districts with Lowest Population	(Perambalur, The Nilgiris, Ariyalur and Theni)
• Population Density (per sq km):	555 (2011), 480 (2001)
• Maximum Density	Chennai (26903); Kanyakumari (1106)
• Minimum Density	The Nilgiris (288); Thiruchirappalli (602)
• Sex Ratio (per 1000 males)	995 females (2011) 987 females (2001)
• District with Highest Sex Ratio	The Nilgiris (1041 females) Thanjavur (1031 females) Nagapattinam (1025 females)
• District with Lowest Sex Ratio	Theni (900 females) Dharmapuri (946 females)
• Child Sex Ratio (0-6 age group)	946 female children (2011) 942 female children (2001)
• District with Highest Child Sex Ratio	The Nilgiris (985), Kanyakumari (964)
• District with Lowest Child Sex Ratio	Cuddalore (896); Ariyalur (897)

• Literacy Rate	80.33% (2011) 73.45% (2001)
• Male Literacy	86.81% (2011) 82.33% (2001)
• Female Literacy	73.86% (2011) 64.55% (2001)
• District with Highest Literacy	Kanyakumari (92.14%); Chennai 90.33%
• District with Lowest Literacy	Dharmapuri (64.71%); Ariyalur (71.99%)