



TAMILNADU



Area

- 1,30,058 sq.km

Population

- 7,21,47,030

Capital

- Chennai

Language

- Tamil

History

- The southern states of India were under the hegemony of the Cholas, the Cheras and the Pandyas for centuries.
- The Pallavas held supremacy from about the second quarter of the fourth century A.D.
- They were the originators of the famous Dravidian style of temple architecture.



- The last Pallava ruler was Aparajita, in whose reign the later Cholas under Vijayalaya and Aditya asserted themselves by about the 10th century.
- At the end of the 11th century, Tamil Nadu was ruled by several dynasties like the Chalukyas, Cholas and Pandyas. In the two centuries that followed, the imperial Cholas gained paramouncy over South India.
- Muslims gradually strengthened their position, which led to the establishment of the Bahamani Sultanate, by the middle of the 14th century.
- At the same time, the Vijayanagar Kingdom quickly consolidated itself and extended its sway over the whole of South India, and at the close of the century, Vijayanagar became the supreme power in South.
- However, it crumbled at the battle of Talikota in 1564 to the confederate forces of the Deccan Sultans.
- The Portuguese, the Dutch, the French and the English came in quick succession and established trading centres known as 'Factories'.
- East India Company, which had established its factory at Masulipatnam (now in Andhra Pradesh) in 1611

Present Day

- Tamil Nadu is bounded on north by Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka, on the west by Kerala, on the east by the Bay of Bengal, and on the south by the Indian Ocean.

AGRICULTURE

Principal food crops

- paddy, millets and pulses.

Commercial crops

- sugarcane, cotton, sunflower, coconut, cashew, chillies, gingelly and groundnut.

Plantation crops



- Tea, coffee, cardamom and rubber.

Major forest produces

- Timber, sandalwood, pulp wood and fuel wood.
- Tamilnadu occupies a premier position in the production and extensive application of bio-fertilizers.

Industry and Minerals

- Cotton, heavy commercial vehicles, auto components, railway coaches, power pumps, leather tanning industries, cement, sugar, paper, automobiles and safety matches.

Administration

District Statistics	32
Revenue Divisions	87
Taluks	301
Firkas	1,349
Revenue Villages	17,680
Municipal Corporations	10
Municipalities	125
Panchayat Unions (Blocks)	385
Town Panchayats	561
Village Panchayats	12,618
Lok Sabha Constituencies	39
Assembly Constituencies	234

Power

- The total installed capacity for electricity in the State is 8,249 MW.

Transport

- **Roads:** The length of roads network in Tamil Nadu is 1, 93,918 km.
- **Railways:** The total length of railways is 4,181 km,



- **Aviation:** Chennai being the international airport in the southern region is the main centre of airline routes. Besides, there are airports at Tiruchirappalli, Madurai, Coimbatore and Salem.

Ports

- Tamil Nadu has three major seaports located at Chennai, Ennore and Thoothukudi
- Seven other minor ports including Cuddalore and Nagapattinam.

Cities

Largest cities or towns in Tamil Nadu As of the 2011 Census				
Rank	Name	District	Pop.	
1	Chennai	Chennai	8,696,010	
2	Coimbatore	Coimbatore	2,151,466	
3	Madurai	Madurai	1,462,420	
4	Tiruchirappalli	Tiruchirappalli	1,021,717	
5	Tiruppur	Tiruppur	962,982	
6	Salem	Salem	919,150	
7	Erode	Erode	521,776	
8	Tirunelveli	Tirunelveli	498,984	
9	Vellore	Vellore	481,966	
10	Thoothukudi	Thoothukudi	410,760	