Tamil Nadu Economy – GSDP & Growth, Per Capita Income, Sectors, Industrial Clusters & MSMEs, Urbanisation, SDG & Poverty Indices, $1 Trillion Target | TNPSC Notes

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Tamil Nadu's economy is the **second-largest State economy in India** after Maharashtra. As per the **RBI Handbook of Statistics on Indian States 2024-25** and the **Tamil Nadu Economic Survey 2025-26**, its **Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP)** at current prices was about **Rs 31.2 lakh crore in 2024-25**, and as per **MoSPI** its real growth that year was **11.19%**, the highest among the major States. With about 4% of India's land and 6% of its people, it produces about 9% of India's GDP, leads the country in the **number of factories** and **electronics exports**, is the **most urbanised large State** (Census 2011) and is among the best performers in NITI Aayog's **SDG India Index** and **Multidimensional Poverty Index**.

தமிழில் படிக்க

These notes are written for TNPSC Group 1, 2/2A and 4 aspirants and are meant to be complete on their own. The topic is a core part of **Indian Economy and Development Administration in Tamil Nadu** (State income, sectors, industry, MSMEs, poverty, human development, social and economic indicators). Industrial clusters and urbanisation are also asked under **Geography of India** (economic geography of Tamil Nadu), and new survey numbers, index ranks and budget targets are asked under **Current Events**. Every figure below is given with its year and source, because examiners often change the year in the options. Read each section, then use the tables, the quick revision table and the key points at the end.

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Tamil Nadu Economy at a Glance

Indicator	Figure	Year	Source
GSDP at current prices	About Rs 31.2 lakh crore	2024-25	RBI Handbook 2024-25; TN Economic Survey 2025-26
Nominal GSDP growth	About 16%	2024-25	RBI Handbook 2024-25; TN Economic Survey 2025-26
Real GSDP growth (constant 2011-12 prices)	11.19% – highest among major States	2024-25	MoSPI (Aug 2025); TN Economic Survey 2025-26
Rank by size of economy	2nd among States (after Maharashtra)	2024-25	RBI Handbook 2024-25
Share of India's GDP	About 9%	2023-24 / 2024-25	TN Economic Surveys 2024-25 and 2025-26
Per capita income (per capita NSDP, current prices)	About Rs 3.62 lakh (Rs 3,61,619)	2024-25	RBI Handbook 2024-25; TN Economic Survey 2025-26
Sector shares of GSVA	Services 53.6%, Industry 33.1%, Primary 13.4%	2024-25	TN Economic Survey 2025-26; MoSPI data
Number of factories	41,221 – 1st in India	2024-25	Annual Survey of Industries (MoSPI, Sep 2026)
Electronics exports	USD 14.65 billion – 1st in India (about 41% share)	2024-25	TN Industries Department, as reported
Urban population	48.40% (India: about 31%)	2011	Census 2011
Sex ratio / literacy	996 females per 1,000 males / 80.09%	2011	Census 2011
SDG India Index	Score 78 – 3rd	2023-24	NITI Aayog
Multidimensional poverty (headcount)	2.20% of population	2019-21 (NFHS-5)	NITI Aayog MPI Progress Review 2023
Export Preparedness Index	1st	2022	NITI Aayog

Background: Key Terms and Data Sources

Before learning the numbers, be clear about what each indicator measures and who publishes it. TNPSC questions often test the difference between these terms.

- **GSDP (Gross State Domestic Product):** the value of all final goods and services produced within the State in a year. It is the State-level version of GDP.
- **GSVA (Gross State Value Added):** output minus inputs, measured sector-wise (agriculture, industry, services). Sector shares are worked out from GSVA, not GSDP.
- **NSDP and per capita income:** Net State Domestic Product (GSDP minus depreciation) divided by the population gives **per capita NSDP**, generally called **per capita income**. Per capita GSDP is a different, higher number.

- **Current prices vs constant prices:** current-price (nominal) figures include inflation; constant-price (real) figures use the prices of a **base year**. State accounts in these notes use the **2011-12** base. 'Real growth' always means growth at constant prices.
- **Who publishes:** the **Department of Economics and Statistics (DES), Tamil Nadu** prepares the State's income estimates; **MoSPI** (National Statistics Office) publishes them for all States; the **RBI Handbook of Statistics on Indian States** compiles them each year; the **Tamil Nadu Economic Survey** (from 2025) and the **State Budget** give the State's own analysis; **NITI Aayog** publishes the SDG India Index, the Multidimensional Poverty Index and the Export Preparedness Index; the **Census** (latest completed: 2011) gives population and urbanisation.

GSDP: Size, Growth and Rank

- **Size:** GSDP at current prices was about **Rs 31.2 lakh crore in 2024-25** (RBI Handbook 2024-25: Rs 31.18 lakh crore; Economic Survey 2025-26: Rs 31.19 lakh crore), up from about Rs 26.9 lakh crore in 2023-24 (RBI Handbook).
- **Nominal growth:** about **16%** in 2024-25 (RBI Handbook: 15.98%).
- **Real growth: 11.19%** in 2024-25 as per MoSPI estimates released in August 2025 – the **highest among the major States** and the State's first double-digit real growth in more than a decade. The Economic Survey 2025-26 rounds this to 11.2%.
- **Rank:** Tamil Nadu is the **second-largest State economy**; **Maharashtra** is first (RBI Handbook 2024-25).
- **Share of India:** about **9% of India's GDP** – the first Economic Survey put it at 9.21% for 2023-24 and the second at 9.4% for 2024-25 – from about **4% of the land area** and **6% of the population**.
- **Drivers in 2024-25:** the Economic Survey 2025-26 credits growth mainly to the **secondary sector**; manufacturing grew by more than 14% in real terms, along with strong services growth.

Exam tip: **11.19%** is the **real** growth rate; **about 16%** is the **nominal** growth rate of the same year. Do not mix them up.

Per Capita Income

- **2024-25:** per capita income (per capita NSDP at current prices) was **Rs 3,61,619** as per the RBI Handbook 2024-25; the Economic Survey 2025-26 gives it as **Rs 3.62 lakh**, against a national average of about **Rs 2.05 lakh**.
- **Rank:** the Economic Survey 2025-26 places Tamil Nadu **third among large States** in per capita income (2024-25). Small States and Union Territories such as Delhi and Goa have higher figures, so always read whether the question says 'large States' or 'all States/UTs'.
- **Earlier:** the first Economic Survey reported **Rs 2.78 lakh in 2022-23**, when Tamil Nadu was **fourth** among major States, after Telangana, Karnataka and Haryana.

Sectoral Composition of the Economy

Tamil Nadu has a services-led economy with a large manufacturing base. The shares of Gross State Value Added (GSVA) at current prices in 2024-25 were:

Sector	Share of GSVA (2024-25)	Main activities
Primary	About 13.4%	Agriculture, livestock, fisheries, forestry, mining
Secondary (industry)	About 33.1%	Manufacturing, construction, electricity, gas and water supply
Tertiary (services)	About 53.6%	Trade, transport, IT and software, finance, real estate, public administration

- Source: Tamil Nadu Economic Survey 2025-26, matching MoSPI State-wise GSVA data (services 53.60%, secondary 33.05%, primary 13.35%).
- The first Economic Survey also showed a similar pattern for 2022-23 – secondary sector about 33% and primary sector about 13%, with services the largest.
- A secondary-sector share of about one-third is high among Indian States and reflects Tamil Nadu's manufacturing strength.

Industry and Manufacturing

The **Annual Survey of Industries (ASI)** of MoSPI covers registered factories. Its results for 2024-25 were released on 30 September 2026.

ASI indicator	Tamil Nadu (2024-25)	Leader
Number of factories	41,221 – **1st** (Gujarat 33,084; Maharashtra 27,379)	Tamil Nadu
Persons engaged in factories	**1st** – about 15% of India	Tamil Nadu
Manufacturing GVA	**3rd**	Maharashtra (1st), Gujarat (2nd)

- Tamil Nadu was also first in both the number of factories and factory employment in **ASI 2023-24**.
- Remember the pattern: Tamil Nadu leads in **count of factories and jobs** (many small and medium units), while Maharashtra and Gujarat lead in **value added** (larger capital-intensive units such as refineries and chemicals).

Industrial Clusters of Tamil Nadu

An **industrial cluster** is a group of firms in one area that share a common market, skills and technology. The Class 10 Social Science textbook of Tamil Nadu describes the following major clusters.

Cluster / place	Product	Popular name / note
Chennai (with Sriperumbudur, Oragadam, Hosur nearby)	Automobiles and auto components	"Detroit of Asia"
Chennai region	Electronics and hardware (mobile phones, components)	Main centre of electronics exports
Coimbatore	Textiles (spinning mills), pumps and motors	"Manchester of South India"
Tiruppur	Cotton knitwear (hosiery) for export	Knitwear hub of India
Karur	Home furnishings (bed linen, curtains)	Export-oriented home textiles; TNPL paper mill at Kagithapuram nearby
Erode, Salem, Palladam, Somanur	Powerloom weaving	Part of the western textile belt
Kancheepuram, Arani, Kumbakonam	Silk sarees	Handloom silk weaving
Vellore, Ambur, Vaniyambadi, Ranipet	Leather tanning, footwear, leather goods	Leading leather export cluster; CLRI is in Chennai
Sivakasi	Fireworks, safety matches, printing	"Little Japan"
Namakkal – Tiruchengode	Truck and bus body building; poultry	Lorry body-building centre
Hosur	Automobiles, engineering, electronics	Industrial estate developed by the State

- **Public sector base:** Integral Coach Factory (Chennai), BHEL (Tiruchirappalli), Heavy Vehicles Factory (Avadi) and Salem Steel Plant laid the early industrial base.
- **Export zone:** the Madras Export Processing Zone (**MEPZ**) at Tambaram was set up in 1984; many SEZs, including IT SEZs, came up later around Chennai.
- **Three phases** (textbook): the colonial phase (cotton, textiles, ports at Chennai and Thoothukudi); the post-Independence phase up to the early 1990s (public sector units, industrial estates, textile clusters); and the post-liberalisation phase (export growth, multinational automobile and electronics firms, SEZs).

Electronics and Exports

- **Electronics exports:** Tamil Nadu's electronics exports were **USD 14.65 billion in 2024-25**, up from USD 9.56 billion in 2023-24, making it India's **largest electronics-exporting State** with about **41%** of the national total.
- **Export Preparedness Index 2022:** in this NITI Aayog index (third edition, released in July 2023) Tamil Nadu was ranked **first**, ahead of Maharashtra, Karnataka and Gujarat.
- Mobile phones made in the Chennai region are a major part of these electronics exports.

Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs)

MSMEs are the backbone of Tamil Nadu's clusters – knitwear units in Tiruppur, foundries and pump makers in Coimbatore, fireworks units in Sivakasi and auto-component suppliers around Chennai and Hosur.

- **Registration:** MSMEs register on the Union Government's **Udyam portal**, which began on **1 July 2020**. Tamil Nadu is among the **top three States** in Udyam registrations, along with Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh (MSME Ministry data in Parliament, December 2025; Udyam-based industry reports).
- **State support:** the State has a separate MSME Department, and agencies such as TIIC and SIPCOT (below) support small and large units.

Category (from 1 April 2025)	Investment in plant, machinery or equipment	Annual turnover
Micro	Up to Rs 2.5 crore	Up to Rs 10 crore
Small	Up to Rs 25 crore	Up to Rs 100 crore
Medium	Up to Rs 125 crore	Up to Rs 500 crore

The earlier limits (from 1 July 2020) were Rs 1 crore / Rs 5 crore for micro, Rs 10 crore / Rs 50 crore for small and Rs 50 crore / Rs 250 crore for medium enterprises.

Industrial Promotion Agencies and Investment

Agency	Year set up	Role
TIIC – Tamil Nadu Industrial Investment Corporation	1949	Term loans to industries, mainly MSMEs; describes itself as the first State-level development financial institution
TIDCO – Tamil Nadu Industrial Development Corporation	1965	Promotes large and medium industries, often as joint ventures
SIPCOT – State Industries Promotion Corporation of Tamil Nadu	1971	Develops industrial parks and estates with land and infrastructure

- **Global Investors Meet 2024:** held in Chennai on **7–8 January 2024**; MoUs worth about **Rs 6.64 lakh crore** were signed, with about 26.9 lakh jobs expected.

Urbanisation and Population (Census 2011)

Indicator (Census 2011)	Tamil Nadu
Population	7,21,47,030 (about 7.21 crore)
Urban population	48.40% (about 3.49 crore); India about 31%
Sex ratio	996 females per 1,000 males
Literacy rate	80.09%
Area	1,30,058 sq km

- **Most urbanised large State:** Tamil Nadu ranks **first among large States** in the share of urban population. Among all States, Goa (62.17%) and Mizoram (52.11%) are ahead, and Kerala (47.70%) is just behind.
- The provisional Census figure was 48.45%; the final figure is **48.40%**.
- High urbanisation goes with the spread of manufacturing and services beyond Chennai to cities such as Coimbatore, Madurai, Tiruchirappalli, Salem and Tiruppur.

Human Development: TNHDR 2017 and the SDG India Index

The Government of India does not publish an annual official Human Development Index (HDI) for States. The official measures used in exams are the State's own **Human Development Report** and NITI Aayog's **SDG India Index**.

- **Tamil Nadu Human Development Report 2017** (State Planning Commission; the earlier report was of 2003) ranked districts by HDI: **Kanniyakumari** first, followed by Virudhunagar, Thoothukudi, Chennai and Kancheepuram; **Ariyalur** was last.
- **SDG India Index 2023-24** (fourth edition, NITI Aayog, released on 12 July 2024): Tamil Nadu scored **78** and was **third**. Kerala and Uttarakhand were joint first (79), Goa scored 77 and Bihar was last (57). India's composite score rose to 71 from 66 in 2020-21.

Poverty: NITI Aayog Multidimensional Poverty Index

The **Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI)** measures deprivation in **three dimensions** – health, education and standard of living – using **12 indicators** from the National Family Health Survey (NFHS).

Report	Data year	Tamil Nadu headcount
National MPI Baseline Report (November 2021)	2015-16 (NFHS-4)	4.89%
National MPI: A Progress Review 2023 (July 2023)	2019-21 (NFHS-5)	**2.20%** – third lowest among States, after Kerala (0.55%) and Goa (0.84%)

Note: in the 2023 Progress Review the 2015-16 figure for Tamil Nadu was revised to 4.76%, so the fall is shown as about 2.6 percentage points. Nationally, the 2023 review estimated that about 13.5 crore people moved out of multidimensional poverty between 2015-16 and 2019-21.

The Tamil Nadu Economic Survey

Survey	Released on	Key points
Economic Survey 2024-25 – the **first** Economic Survey of Tamil Nadu	13 March 2025, a day before the Budget 2025-26	Real growth of 8% or more each year since 2021-22; per capita income Rs 2.78 lakh (2022-23); about 9% of India's GDP; noted regional differences in growth within the State
Economic Survey 2025-26 – the second survey	16 February 2026, a day before the interim Budget 2026-27	GSDP Rs 31.19 lakh crore (2024-25); real growth 11.2%, nominal 16%; per capita income Rs 3.62 lakh; USD 1 trillion possible by 2031

- Both surveys were prepared by the **State Planning Commission** with the **Finance Department** and released before the Budget, following the practice of the Union Economic Survey.

- Note the wording: it was Tamil Nadu's own first Economic Survey. Several other States had published economic surveys before 2025.

The Trillion-Dollar Target

Year	Target / estimate	Source
2021	USD 1 trillion economy by **2030**	Announced by the State Government (Investment Conclave, 2021)
2025	Above 12% growth a year needed to reach USD 1 trillion by 2030	Economic Survey 2024-25
2026 (February)	USD 1 trillion by **2031** if about 16% nominal growth continues	Economic Survey 2025-26
2026 (August)	USD **1.5 trillion** economy by **2036**	Budget 2026-27 (presented on 5 August 2026)

At about Rs 31.2 lakh crore, the 2024-25 GSDP is roughly a third of the way to USD 1 trillion in dollar terms, so the target depends on sustained double-digit nominal growth and on the rupee–dollar exchange rate.

Key Institutions and People

Institution / person	Role in this topic
Department of Economics and Statistics (DES), Tamil Nadu	Prepares State income (GSDP, per capita income) estimates and statistical handbooks
MoSPI / National Statistics Office	Publishes GSDP for all States; conducts the Annual Survey of Industries
Reserve Bank of India	Publishes the Handbook of Statistics on Indian States
State Planning Commission, Tamil Nadu	Prepared the Economic Surveys (2024-25, 2025-26) and the Human Development Report 2017
NITI Aayog	SDG India Index, Multidimensional Poverty Index, Export Preparedness Index
Thangam Thennarasu	Finance Minister who presented the Budget 2025-26 and the interim Budget 2026-27
N. Marie Wilson	Finance Minister who presented the Budget 2026-27 on 5 August 2026

Outcomes and Significance: Strengths and Challenges

Strengths	Challenges
Diversified economy – services about 54%, industry about 33%	Outstanding liabilities about 27% of GSDP (Budget 2026-27 estimates)
Highest number of factories and factory jobs (ASI)	Lower value added per factory than Maharashtra and Gujarat
Low multidimensional poverty (2.20%) and high SDG score (78)	Regional differences in growth within the State (Economic Survey 2024-25)
Leading electronics exporter; first in Export Preparedness Index 2022; high urbanisation across many cities	Urban services – housing, water, transport – must keep pace with urban growth

Writing Mains Answers on the Tamil Nadu Economy (Group 1 / Group 2)

Descriptive papers ask about the structure of the State economy, its industrial strength and its social indicators. Quote each figure with its year and source – that is where marks are gained.

Structure and growth of the Tamil Nadu economy (about 150–250 words)

- **Introduction:** second-largest State economy; GSDP about Rs 31.2 lakh crore (2024-25, RBI Handbook); about 9% of India's GDP from 6% of the population.
- **Growth:** real growth 11.19% in 2024-25 (MoSPI) – highest among major States; nominal growth about 16%.
- **Structure:** services 53.6%, industry 33.1%, primary 13.4% of GSVA (2024-25).
- **Income:** per capita income about Rs 3.62 lakh (2024-25), well above the national average of about Rs 2.05 lakh.
- **Policy focus:** first Economic Survey (2025); targets of USD 1 trillion (by 2030, later estimated 2031) and USD 1.5 trillion by 2036.
- **Conclusion:** growth is broad-based, but fiscal space and regional balance need attention.

Industrial clusters and MSMEs in Tamil Nadu (about 150–250 words)

- **Definition:** groups of firms sharing markets, skills and technology in one area.
- **Examples:** Chennai automobiles (Detroit of Asia), Coimbatore textiles and pumps, Tiruppur knitwear, Karur home furnishings, Vellore–Ambur leather, Sivakasi fireworks and printing, Namakkal body building.
- **Evidence:** first in number of factories (41,221) and factory employment (ASI 2024-25); first in electronics exports (USD 14.65 billion, 2024-25).
- **MSMEs:** among top three States in Udyam registrations; new limits from 1 April 2025.
- **Institutions:** TIIC (1949), TIDCO (1965), SIPCOT (1971); Global Investors Meet 2024.
- **Way forward:** raise value added, skills and technology adoption; spread industry more evenly across districts.

Human development and poverty in Tamil Nadu (about 150 words)

- SDG India Index 2023-24: score 78, third rank (NITI Aayog).
- MPI: 2.20% multidimensionally poor in 2019-21 (NITI Aayog Progress Review 2023), third lowest.
- Census 2011: literacy 80.09%, sex ratio 996, urbanisation 48.40%.
- TNHDR 2017: Kanniyakumari first and Ariyalur last among districts – shows intra-State gaps to be addressed.

Practice: Match the Following

Item	Match
Chennai	Detroit of Asia – automobiles
Coimbatore	Manchester of South India – textiles, pumps
Tiruppur	Cotton knitwear exports
Karur	Home furnishings
Sivakasi	Little Japan – fireworks, printing
Ambur – Vaniyambadi	Leather and footwear
1949	TIIC set up
1971	SIPCOT set up
13 March 2025	First Tamil Nadu Economic Survey
2.20%	Tamil Nadu MPI headcount, 2019-21
48.40%	Urban population, Census 2011
78	SDG India Index 2023-24 score

Common Mistakes to Avoid

- **Real vs nominal growth:** 11.19% is real growth (2024-25); about 16% is nominal growth.
- **Largest State economy:** Maharashtra is first; Tamil Nadu is second.
- **ASI ranks:** Tamil Nadu is first in number of factories and employment, but third in manufacturing GVA.
- **Most urbanised:** Tamil Nadu is first among **large** States; Goa has the highest urban share among all States. Final Census figure is 48.40%, not the provisional 48.45%.
- **SDG India Index 2023-24:** Tamil Nadu was third (78); Kerala and Uttarakhand were first (79).
- **MPI years:** 2.20% is for 2019-21 (NFHS-5); 4.89% was the 2015-16 figure in the 2021 baseline report.
- **Per capita income vs per capita GSDP:** Rs 3.62 lakh is per capita NSDP (income) for 2024-25; per capita GSDP is a higher figure.
- **Trillion-dollar years:** 2030 was the original target; 2031 is the Economic Survey 2025-26 estimate; USD 1.5 trillion by 2036 is the Budget 2026-27 goal.
- **First Economic Survey:** 2024-25 survey, released in March 2025 – Tamil Nadu's first, not India's first State survey.

Quick Revision Table

Year / date	Event / figure
1949	TIIC set up
1965	TIDCO incorporated
1971	SIPCOT established
1984	Madras Export Processing Zone (MEPZ), Tambaram
2003	First Tamil Nadu Human Development Report
2011	Census: population 7.21 crore; urban 48.40%; sex ratio 996; literacy 80.09%
2017	Tamil Nadu Human Development Report – Kanniyakumari first, Ariyalur last
2020 (1 Jul)	Udyam MSME registration begins
2021	USD 1 trillion by 2030 target announced
2021 (Nov)	NITI MPI baseline – Tamil Nadu 4.89% (2015-16)
2023 (Jul)	NITI MPI Progress Review – Tamil Nadu 2.20% (2019-21); Export Preparedness Index 2022 – Tamil Nadu first
2024 (7–8 Jan)	Global Investors Meet, Chennai – MoUs about Rs 6.64 lakh crore
2024 (12 Jul)	SDG India Index 2023-24 – Tamil Nadu third (78)
2024-25	GSDP about Rs 31.2 lakh crore; real growth 11.19%; per capita income Rs 3.62 lakh; electronics exports USD 14.65 billion
2025 (13 Mar)	First Tamil Nadu Economic Survey (2024-25)
2025 (1 Apr)	New MSME investment and turnover limits
2026 (16 Feb)	Second Economic Survey (2025-26) – USD 1 trillion by 2031
2026 (5 Aug)	Budget 2026-27 – USD 1.5 trillion by 2036
2026 (30 Sep)	ASI 2024-25 – Tamil Nadu first in factories (41,221)

TNPSC Key Points (PYQ-style facts)

- Tamil Nadu: second-largest State economy (after Maharashtra).
- GSDP 2024-25 (current prices): about Rs 31.2 lakh crore; nominal growth about 16%.
- Real GSDP growth 2024-25: 11.19% – highest among major States (MoSPI).
- Share of India's GDP: about 9%; share of area about 4%, of population about 6%.
- Per capita income 2024-25: Rs 3,61,619 (about Rs 3.62 lakh); third among large States (Economic Survey 2025-26).
- Sector shares 2024-25: services 53.6%, industry 33.1%, primary 13.4%.
- ASI 2024-25: first in number of factories (41,221) and factory employment; third in manufacturing GVA.
- Electronics exports 2024-25: USD 14.65 billion – first in India (about 41%).

- NITI Export Preparedness Index 2022: Tamil Nadu first.
- Chennai – Detroit of Asia; Coimbatore – Manchester of South India; Sivakasi – Little Japan; Tiruppur – knitwear; Karur – home furnishings.
- TIIC 1949; TIDCO 1965; SIPCOT 1971.
- MSME limits from 1 April 2025: micro Rs 2.5 crore / Rs 10 crore; small Rs 25 crore / Rs 100 crore; medium Rs 125 crore / Rs 500 crore.
- Census 2011: urban 48.40% (first among large States); sex ratio 996; literacy 80.09%.
- SDG India Index 2023-24: score 78, third.
- NITI MPI: 2.20% (2019-21), third lowest after Kerala and Goa.
- TNHDR 2017: Kanniyakumari first, Ariyalur last.
- First Tamil Nadu Economic Survey: 13 March 2025 (2024-25); second: 16 February 2026 (2025-26).
- Targets: USD 1 trillion by 2030 (2021); by 2031 (Economic Survey 2025-26); USD 1.5 trillion by 2036 (Budget 2026-27).
- Global Investors Meet 2024: 7–8 January 2024, Chennai; MoUs about Rs 6.64 lakh crore.

Frequently Asked Questions

What was Tamil Nadu's GSDP and growth rate in 2024-25?

As per the RBI Handbook of Statistics on Indian States 2024-25 and the Tamil Nadu Economic Survey 2025-26, Tamil Nadu's GSDP at current prices in 2024-25 was about Rs 31.2 lakh crore, a nominal growth of about 16%. As per MoSPI estimates (August 2025), real GSDP growth (constant 2011-12 prices) was 11.19%, the highest among the major States. Tamil Nadu is the second-largest State economy after Maharashtra.

When was Tamil Nadu's first Economic Survey released?

The first Economic Survey of Tamil Nadu (2024-25) was released on 13 March 2025, a day before the State Budget for 2025-26. It was prepared by the State Planning Commission with the Finance Department. The second survey (2025-26) was released on 16 February 2026, a day before the interim Budget for 2026-27.

What is Tamil Nadu's rank in the SDG India Index and the NITI Aayog poverty index?

In the SDG India Index 2023-24 (fourth edition, released by NITI Aayog in July 2024), Tamil Nadu scored 78 and was third, behind Kerala and Uttarakhand (79 each). In NITI Aayog's National Multidimensional Poverty Index: A Progress Review 2023, only 2.20% of Tamil Nadu's population was multidimensionally poor in 2019-21 (NFHS-5), the third lowest among States after Kerala and Goa.

How urbanised is Tamil Nadu?

As per Census 2011, 48.40% of Tamil Nadu's 7.21 crore people lived in urban areas, against an all-India level of about 31%. Tamil Nadu is the most urbanised among the large States; only smaller States such as Goa and Mizoram have a higher urban share.

What is Tamil Nadu's trillion-dollar target?

In 2021 the State Government set a goal of a USD 1 trillion economy by 2030. The Tamil Nadu Economic Survey 2025-26 estimated that, if nominal growth of about 16% is kept up, the State can reach USD 1 trillion by 2031. The Budget for 2026-27, presented on 5 August 2026, set a goal of a USD 1.5 trillion economy by 2036.

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Practice questions

1. When was Tamil Nadu's first Economic Survey (2024-25) released?

A. March 2023
B. March 2024
C. March 2025
D. February 2026

2. Which body prepared the Tamil Nadu Economic Survey?

A. Reserve Bank of India
B. State Planning Commission (with the Finance Department)
C. NITI Aayog
D. National Statistics Office

3. As per MoSPI, what was Tamil Nadu's real (constant-price) GSDP growth in 2024-25?

A. 6.5%
B. 8.2%
C. 11.19%
D. 16%

4. What is Tamil Nadu's rank among Indian States by size of economy (GSDP)?

A. First
B. Second
C. Third
D. Fourth

5. What was Tamil Nadu's GSDP at current prices in 2024-25, approximately?

A. Rs 18.5 lakh crore
B. Rs 26.9 lakh crore
C. Rs 31.2 lakh crore
D. Rs 40.7 lakh crore

6. Which sector had the largest share in Tamil Nadu's GSVA in 2024-25?

A. Primary
B. Secondary
C. Tertiary (services)
D. Mining

7. What was the approximate share of the primary sector in Tamil Nadu's GSVA in 2024-25?

A. About 6%
B. About 13%
C. About 25%
D. About 33%

8. In the Annual Survey of Industries 2024-25, Tamil Nadu ranked first in:

A. Manufacturing GVA
B. Number of factories
C. Value of output
D. Input consumption

9. Which city is called the 'Detroit of Asia' in the Tamil Nadu textbook?

A. Coimbatore
B. Hosur
C. Chennai
D. Tiruppur

10. Which city is called the 'Manchester of South India'?

A. Madurai
B. Coimbatore
C. Erode
D. Salem

11. Match: (A) Tiruppur (B) Karur (C) Sivakasi (D) Ambur — (1) Home furnishings (2) Knitwear (3) Leather and footwear (4) Fireworks and printing

A. A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3
B. A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4
C. A-2, B-4, C-1, D-3
D. A-4, B-1, C-2, D-3

12. Which town in Tamil Nadu is called 'Little Japan'?

A. Sivakasi
B. Namakkal
C. Vaniyambadi
D. Kancheepuram

13. What was the value of Tamil Nadu's electronics exports in 2024-25?

A. USD 9.56 billion
B. USD 14.65 billion
C. USD 7.85 billion
D. USD 35.5 billion

14. Which State topped NITI Aayog's Export Preparedness Index 2022?

A. Gujarat
B. Maharashtra
C. Karnataka
D. Tamil Nadu

15. What is the limit for a 'micro' enterprise from 1 April 2025?

A. Investment Rs 1 crore, turnover Rs 5 crore
B. Investment Rs 2.5 crore, turnover Rs 10 crore
C. Investment Rs 10 crore, turnover Rs 50 crore
D. Investment Rs 25 crore, turnover Rs 100 crore

16. In which year was SIPCOT established?

A. 1949
B. 1965
C. 1971
D. 1984

17. Which Tamil Nadu institution, set up in 1949, describes itself as the first State-level development financial institution?

A. TIDCO
B. SIPCOT
C. TIIC
D. TANSI

18. As per Census 2011, what share of Tamil Nadu's population was urban?

A. 31.14%
B. 45.22%
C. 47.70%
D. 48.40%

19. Which statement about urbanisation as per Census 2011 is correct?

A. Tamil Nadu has the highest urban share among all States
B. Tamil Nadu has the highest urban share among large States
C. Kerala is more urbanised than Tamil Nadu
D. Tamil Nadu's final figure is 48.45%

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20. As per Census 2011, what was Tamil Nadu's sex ratio (females per 1,000 males)?

A. 943
B. 980
C. 996
D. 1,084

21. What were Tamil Nadu's score and rank in NITI Aayog's SDG India Index 2023-24?

A. 79 – first
B. 78 – third
C. 77 – fourth
D. 71 – tenth

22. As per NITI Aayog's MPI Progress Review 2023, what share of Tamil Nadu's people were multidimensionally poor in 2019-21?

A. 0.55%
B. 2.20%
C. 4.89%
D. 14.96%

23. Which district ranked first in HDI in the Tamil Nadu Human Development Report 2017?

A. Chennai
B. Coimbatore
C. Kanniyakumari
D. Virudhunagar

24. The Tamil Nadu Budget 2026-27, presented on 5 August 2026, set a goal of a USD 1.5 trillion economy by which year?

A. 2030
B. 2031
C. 2036
D. 2047

25. Which statement about the Global Investors Meet 2024 (Chennai, 7–8 January 2024) is correct?

A. MoUs worth about Rs 6.64 lakh crore were signed
B. It was held in Madurai
C. MoUs worth about Rs 31.2 lakh crore were signed
D. It was held in 2021

Answers with explanations

1. **C) March 2025** – The first survey was released on 13 March 2025, a day before the Budget 2025-26.

2. **B) State Planning Commission (with the Finance Department)** – It was prepared by the State Planning Commission with the Finance Department.

3. **C) 11.19%** – Real growth was 11.19%, the highest among major States; about 16% was nominal growth.

4. **B) Second** – Tamil Nadu is the second-largest State economy after Maharashtra (RBI Handbook 2024-25).

5. **C) Rs 31.2 lakh crore** – RBI Handbook gives Rs 31.18 lakh crore and Economic Survey 2025-26 gives Rs 31.19 lakh crore.

6. **C) Tertiary (services)** – Services about 53.6%, industry 33.1%, primary 13.4%.

7. **B) About 13%** – The primary sector share was about 13.4%; about 33% is the secondary sector.

8. **B) Number of factories** – First with 41,221 factories; third in manufacturing GVA.

9. **C) Chennai** – Chennai, the automobile hub, is called the Detroit of Asia.

10. **B) Coimbatore** – Coimbatore earned this name for its spinning mills and textile industry.

11. **A) A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3** – Tiruppur–knitwear; Karur–home furnishings; Sivakasi–fireworks, printing; Ambur–leather.

12. **A) Sivakasi** – Sivakasi is called Little Japan for its fireworks, matches and printing industries.

13. **B) USD 14.65 billion** – USD 14.65 billion in 2024-25, first in India; USD 9.56 billion was the 2023-24 figure.

14. **D) Tamil Nadu** – Tamil Nadu ranked first in this index, released in July 2023.

15. **B) Investment Rs 2.5 crore, turnover Rs 10 crore** – The new limit is Rs 2.5 crore / Rs 10 crore; Rs 1 crore / Rs 5 crore was the 2020 limit.

16. **C) 1971** – SIPCOT 1971; TIIC 1949; TIDCO 1965; MEPZ 1984.

17. **C) TIIC** – The Tamil Nadu Industrial Investment Corporation (TIIC) was set up in 1949.

18. **D) 48.40%** – Tamil Nadu 48.40%; Kerala 47.70%; India about 31%.

19. **B) Tamil Nadu has the highest urban share among large States** – First among large States; Goa leads among all States; 48.45% was the provisional figure.

20. **C) 996** – Tamil Nadu's sex ratio was 996.

21. **B) 78 – third** – Kerala and Uttarakhand 79 (first); Tamil Nadu 78 (third); Goa 77; India 71.

22. **B) 2.20%** – Tamil Nadu 2.20%; 0.55% is Kerala; 4.89% was the 2015-16 baseline figure.

23. **C) Kanniyakumari** – Kanniyakumari first, Virudhunagar second, Ariyalur last.

24. **C) 2036** – Budget 2026-27 goal: USD 1.5 trillion by 2036. 2030 was the original USD 1 trillion target; 2031 was the Economic Survey 2025-26 estimate.

25. **A) MoUs worth about Rs 6.64 lakh crore were signed** – MoUs worth about Rs 6.64 lakh crore were signed at the meet in Chennai.

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