तमिलनाडु और पुदुच्चेरी

TAMIL NĀDU & PUDUCHERRY

STATE MAP

Scale 1:1,000,000

VALLUVARKOTTAM

भारतीय सर्वेक्षण विभाग | SURVEY OF INDIA

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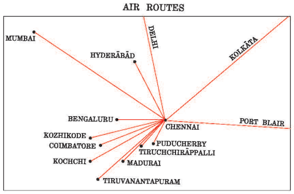
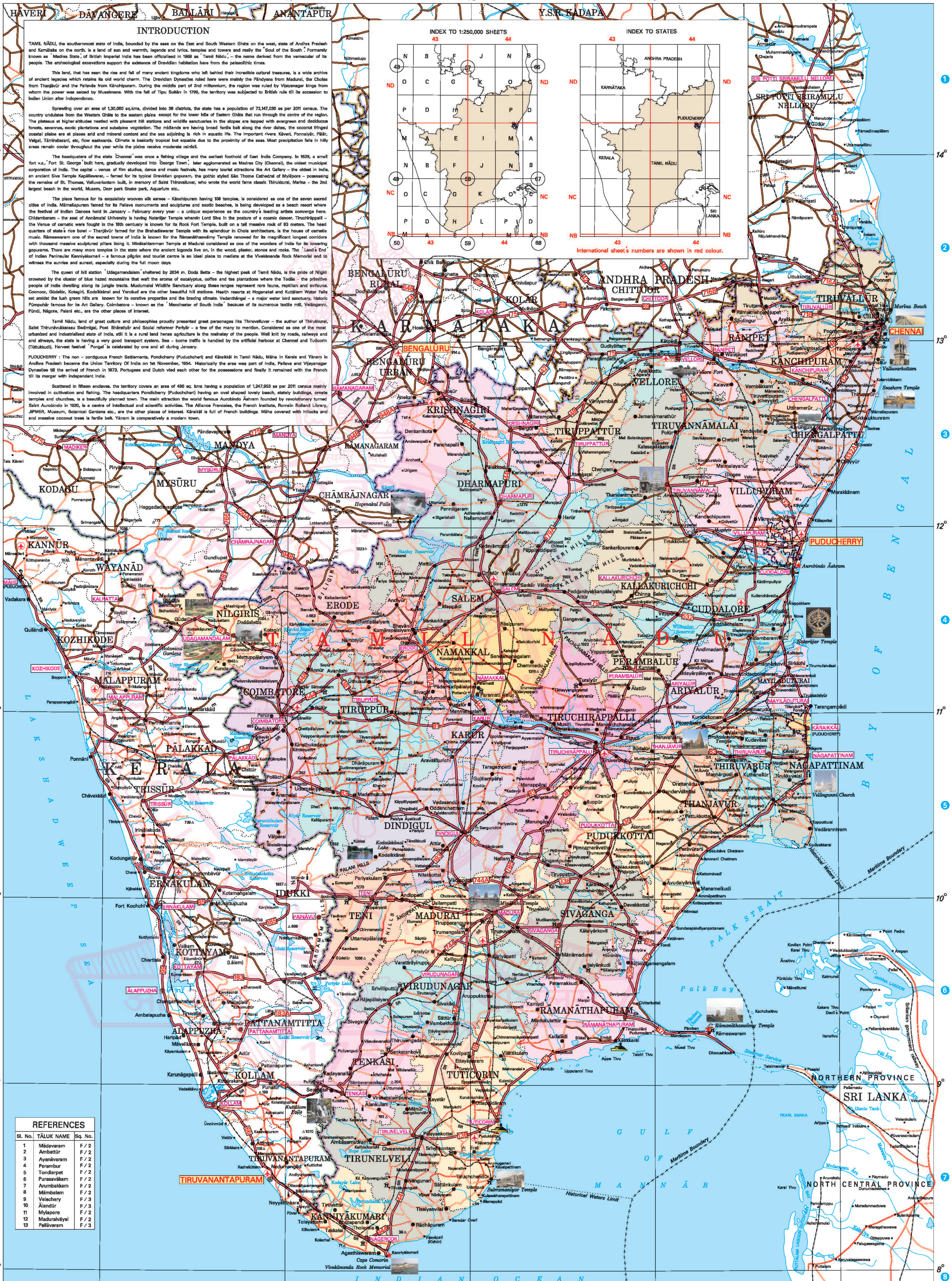
AIR ROUTES





INTRODUCTION

TAMIL NĀDU, the southernmost state of India, bounded by the seas on the East and South Western Ghāts on the west, state of Andhra Pradesh and Karnātaka on the north, is a land of sun and warmth, legends and lyrics, temples and towers and really the "Soul of the South". Formerely known as 'Madras State', of British Imperial India has been officialised in 1968 as 'Tamil Nādu', – the name derived from the vernacular of its people. The archeological excavations support the existence of Dravidian habitation here from the palaeolithic times.

This land, that has seen the rise and fall of many ancient kingdoms who left behind their incredible cultural treasures, is a wide archive of ancient legacies which retains its old world charm. The Dravidian Dynasties ruled here were mainly the Pāndyans from Madurai, the Cholas from Thanjāvūr and the Pallavās from Kānchipuram. During the middle part of 2nd millennium, the region was ruled by Vijayanagar kings from whom the power was seized by Musslmans. With the fall of Tipu Sultān in 1799, the territory was subjected to British rule till its accession to Indian Union after independence.

Sprawling over an area of 1,30,060 sq.kms, divided into 38 districts, the state has a population of 72,147,030 as per 2011 census. The country undulates from the Western Ghāts to the eastern plains except for the lower hills of Eastern Ghāts that run through the centre of the region. The plateaus at higher altitudes nestled with pleasant hill stations and wildlife sanctuaries in the slopes are lapped with evergreen and deciduous forests, savannas, exotic plantations and subalpine vegetation. The midlands are having broad fertile belt along the river deltas, the coconut fringed coastal plains are at places arid and mineral content and the sea adjoining is rich in aquatic life. The important rivers Kāveri, Ponnaiyār, Pālār, Vaigai, Tāmiraberani, etc, flow eastwards. Climate is basically tropical but equable due to the proximity of the seas. Most precipitation falls in hilly areas remain cooler throughout the year while the plains receive moderate rainfall.

The headquaters of the state 'Chennai' was once a fishing village and the earliest foothold of East India Company. In 1639, a small fort v.z., 'Fort St. George' built here, gradually developed into 'George Town', later agglomerated as Madras City (Chennai), the oldest municipal corporation of India. The capital – venue of film studios, dance and music festivals, has many tourist attractions like Art Gallery – the oldest in India, an ancient Siva Temple Kapālīswarar, – famed for its typical Dravidian gopuram, the gothic styled Sān Thome Cathedral of Mylāpore – possessing the remains of St. Thomas, Valluvarkottam built, in memory of Saint Thiruvalluvar, who wrote the world fame classic Thirukkural, Marina – the 2nd largest beach in the world, Musem, Deer park Snake park, Aquarium etc..

The place famous for its exquisitely wooven silk sarees – Kānchipuram having 108 temples, is considered as one of the seven sacred cities of India. Māmallapuram famed for its Pallava monuments and sculptures and exotic beaches, is being developed as a beach resort where the festival of Indian Dances held in January – February every year – a unique experience as the country's leading artists converge here. Chidambaram – the seat of Annāmalai University is having Natarājar Temple wherein Lord Siva in the posture of a cosmic dancer. Tiruchirāppalli – the Venue of carnatic wars fought in the 18th centuary is known for its Rock Fort Temple, built on a tall massive rock of 83 meters. The head quarters of state's rice bowl – Thanjāvūr famed for the Brahadiswarar Temple with its splendour in Chola architecture, is the house of carnatic music. Rāmeswaram one of the sacred towns of India is known for the Rāmanāthaswāmy Temple renowed for its magnificent longest corridors with thousand massive sculptured pillars lining it. Minākshiamman Temple at Madurai considered as one of the wonders of India for its towering gopurams. There are many more temples in the state where the ancient legends live on, in the wood, plaster, stones and rocks. The 'Land's End' of Indian Peninsular Kanniyākumari – a famous pilgrim and tourist centre is an ideal place to mediate at the Vivekānanda Rock Memorial and to witness the sunrise and sunset, especially during the full moon days.

The queen of hill station 'Udagamandalam' sheltered by 2634 m. Doda Betta – the highest peak of Tamil Nādu, is the pride of Nilgiri crowned by the cluster of blue hazed mountains that waft the aroma of eucalyptus, coffee and tea plantations where the Todās – the primitive people of India dwelling along its jungle tracts. Mudumalai Wildlife Sanctuary along these ranges represent rare fauna, reptilian and avifauna. Coonoor, Gūdalūr, Kotagiri, Kodaikkānal and Yercāud are the other beautiful hill stations. Health resorts at Hogenakal and Kuttālam Water Falls set amidst the lush green hills are known for its curative properties and the bracing climate. Vedanthāngal – a major water bird sanctuary, historic Pūmpuhār famous for its Art Gallery. Coimbatore – known as the 'Manchester of South India' because of its numerous textile mill, Velānganni, Pūndi, Nāgore, Palani etc., are the other places of interest.

Tamil Nādu, land of great culture and philosophies proudly presented great personages like Thiruvalluvar – the author of Thirukkural, Saint Thirunāvukkarasu Swāmigal, Poet Bhāratiyār and Social reformer Periyār – a few of the many to mention. Considered as one of the most urbanized and industrialised state of India, still it is a rural land hense agriculture is the mainstay of the people. Well knit by roads, railways and and airways, the state is having a very good transport system. Sea – borne traffic is handled by the artificial harbour at Chennai and Tuticorin (Tūttukkudi). Harvest festival 'Pongal' is celebrated by one and all during January.

PUDUCHERRY : The non – contiguous French Settlements, Pondicherry (Puduchcheri) and Kāraikkāl in Tamil Nādu, Māhe in Kerala and Yānam in Andhra Pradesh became the Union Territory Of India on 1st November, 1954. Historically the area was part of India, Pallava and Vijayanagar Dynasties till the arrival of French in 1673. Portugese and Dutch vied each other for the possessions and finally it remained with the French till its merger with independent India.

Scattered in fifteen enclaves, the territory covers an area of 490 sq. kms having a population of 1,247,953 as per 2011 census mainly involved in cultivation and fishing. The headquarters Pondicherry (Puduchcheri) having an oval shaped lovely beach, stately buildings, ornate temples and churches, is a beautifully planned town. The main attraction the world famous Aurobindo Āshram founded by revolutionary turned Saint Aurobindo in 1920, is a centre of intellectual and scientific activities. The Alliance Francaise, the French Institute, Romain Rolland Library, JIPMER, Museum, Botanical Gardens etc., are the other places of interest. Kāraikāl is full of French buildings. Māhe covered with hillocks and and massive coconut trees is fertile belt. Yānam is comparatively a modern town.

REFERENCES

Sl. No.	TĀLUK NAME	Sq. No.
1	Mādavaram	F / 2
2	Ambattūr	F / 2
3	Ayanāvaram	F / 2
4	Perambur	F / 2
5	Tondiarpet	F / 2
6	Purasavākam	F / 2
7	Arumbakkam	F / 2
8	Māmbalam	F / 2
9	Velachery	F / 3
10	Ālandūr	F / 3
11	Mylapore	F / 2
12	Maduraivāyal	F / 2
13	Pallāvaram	F / 3

LEGEND

Name of headquarters of state	CHENNAI
Name of headquarters of district	KĀRAIKĀL
Name of district	KARŪR
Name of headquarters of tahsīl	Sivakāsi
Name of important town	Udangudi
Name of mountain or hill range	KOLLIMALAI HILLS
Headquarters of state; district; Tahsil; other town	
Height. Trigonometrical station with height	5700 / Δ 5857
Rest House, Historical place, Fort	
Railway, broad gauge: double line; single line, other gauge	
Roads: National Highway, State Highway	44
Roads: other	
Temple. Church. mosque	
Airport. Port. Light house	
Stream: perennial, non perennial	
Canal	
Lake: Fresh water, Salt water, Dry	
Boundaries: State, District	

1 centimetre = 10 Kilometres

Kilometres 10 5 0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 Kilometres

Projection : Lambert Conformal Conic
Datum : WGS 84

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