

## Economics of Urbanisation in Chennai City: Kaleidoscopic View

S. VEERAMANI

*Associate Professor & Head, Department of Economics, DRBCCCC Hindu College, Pattabiram, Chennai. Email: drsvmani@gmail.com*

---

### ARTICLE INFO

Received: 14 February 2023

Revised: 12 March 2023

Accepted: 29 March 2022

Online: 28 June 2023

### TO CITE THIS PAPERS

S. Veeramani (2023). Economics of Urbanisation in Chennai City: Kaleidoscopic View. *Journal of Applied Development Economics*. 1(2): pp. 1-16.

**Abstract:** Chennai, the capital of Tamil Nadu, is located on the Coromandel Coast of the Bay of Bengal. Representing the highest various elements of Dravidian civilization, it has played a very important role in the cultural, historical and educational development of the country. Today, the capital Chennai is India's 4th largest city and the leading commercial center of South India. Credit for the city's growing economy goes to leading industries including automobiles, software services, petrochemicals, financial services, textiles and hardware manufacturing. Also, Chennai, being an important metropolis, is well connected to all the major cities of India and countries abroad. Also, it is considered as the cultural center of South India, famous for its rich heritage in classical dance, music, architecture, sculpture, handicrafts etc. Below are some interesting facts and statistics about Chennai. Central and state government projects, Smart City and Singara Chennai respectively, have failed to deliver on their promises. Urban development includes infrastructure for education, health, justice, solid waste, markets, street pavements and cultural heritage protection. These constructs are usually part of specific sector programs including capacity building activities. Special attention is also paid to the slums of the big cities. The most important factors are sustainability, water sensitivity, urban renewal, climate change, heritage and conservation. The goals of the strategic plan include facilitating transportation throughout the city, creating more social spaces, improving the quality of life of citizens, or encouraging people to move to or from the city. This paper explores the historical growth of Chennai city and helps to understand an overview of historical growth.

**Keywords:** Chennai city, Urban Growth, Rich Tradition, Historical Perspective

### 1. Chennai Gateway of South India

Urbanization does not mean increasing the number of urban dwellers or expanding the area of cities. More importantly, it is about a complete shift from

rural to urban style in terms of industrial structure, employment, living environment and social security.

Called the “Gateway of South India”, Chennai is located in Tamil Nadu in South India and is one of the largest cities in the country. Previously called Madras, Chennai is the biggest cultural and economic center in southern India. It is the country’s biggest automotive manufacturing hub which is how it got its nickname The Detroit of India. So, whether you are planning a trip or are just curious to learn more, here are some of the most interesting facts about Chennai. The term urbanisation refers to “as the movement of people from rural areas city with a focus on economic activities other than agriculture Industries such as business, manufacturing and management”. Every day urban development raises lot of issues to manage various “Sectoral Growth”. If we learn urban history we can plan many things including lifestyle with modern amenities. If we fail to do so it affects urban growth. If managed well, urbanization can contribute to sustainable development by creating a sustainable model where people are closer to work, by increasing productivity, as well as by allowing innovation and new ideas to emerge through smart cities and better infrastructure.

## **2. Chennai Urbanisation: Historical Fact Sheet**

The right to the city is far more than the individual liberty to access urban resources: it is a right to change ourselves by changing the city.

Chennai as a city is hundreds of years old. But the history of Chennai is more in the past, i.e. thousands of years. The city, as a whole, has a very valuable and interesting history.

- Pallavaram is a Paleolithic cultural establishment in Chennai and the Archaeological Survey of India has shown that many prehistoric communities lived in the area.
- There were many dynasties and empires in this region and the most important were Pallava dynasty, Chera dynasty, Chola dynasty, Pandya dynasty and Vijayanagara empire. Many ancient coins dating back to these empires have been excavated from this city.
- Chennai, particularly the Mylapore area, is the birthplace of India’s famous poet and philosopher Thiruvalluvar. He is known for writing Thirukkuralai, a beloved work based on ethics, politics, economics and love.

- The first British settlement, Fort St. George, was established on land acquired by Francis Day of the East India Company in 1639, and the area was called Madrasapatnam. The area was a fishing village.
- Madras was the only city in India to be attacked during World War I, where in 1914 a German light cruiser hit an oil depot, causing significant disruption to shipping lanes in the Indian Ocean.
- In 1844, Abel Joshua Higginbotham, a librarian, bought a non-paying bookshop on Mount Road, Madras and started selling publications, which today are known as Higginbotham's Bookshops and Publishers. Today, Higginbotham Bookstore on Mount Road is the oldest bookstore in India.
- After independence, Madras was declared the capital of Madras State, and Madras State was known as Tamil Nadu after 1969.
- In 1996, Madras was renamed, and Chennai was declared the new official name by Tamil Nadu.
- The name Chennai comes from the name Damarla Mudirasa Chennappa Nayakudu, and it was from the son of this ruler the British acquired the first piece of land in 1639.
- Madras is a port city located on the Coromandel coast on the Bay of Bengal in South India.
- The city we know today began as a British settlement at Fort St. George.
- The land was ruled by the Vijayanagaras and they appointed chiefs called Nayaks who ruled the different parts of the province almost independently.
- When the British East India Company came to set up its trade and other commercial activities, Damarla Venkatadri Nayaka was the head of the present-day Chennai region.
- The British, looking for a new settlement along the coast, obtained a grant from Tamarla Venkatadri Nayaka to give the EIC a three-mile stretch of land in the fishing village of Madrasapatnam.
- Signed on August 22, 1639 by EIC's Francis Day with his interpreter Peri Thimmappa and high official Andrew Cogan.
- In February 1640, Day and Cogan went ashore to start a new English factory and build a fort, as Grant had permitted, for a period of two years.

- On the expiry of the grant, a new grant was issued in 1645 by the new king, Sri Rangarayulu, authorizing the company to expand its holdings by annexing additional land, thus laying the foundation for the expansion of Madras to its present form.
- The British reinforced their settlement, followed by the crumbling Portuguese and Dutch settlements.
- In 1646, Golconda forces under Mir Jumla captured Madras and massacred or sold most of its Christian inhabitants and associated Indian communities into slavery.
- In the late 17th century, the city rebuilt with new English and European settlers, although the plague, genocide, and racial violence dramatically reduced the population and nearly destroyed the city.
- In 1687, after the fall of Golconda, the region came under the control of the Mughals, who granted the rights of the EIC of Chennai and the city flourished and expanded.
- The city was later attacked by the French and Mysore Sultan Hyder Ali in the First Anglo-Mysore War, but the British regained control to prevent further attacks, eventually driving out the French, Dutch and Danes.
- In the 18th century, with the development of Chennai port, the city became a major center for trade between India and Europe.
- During World War I, Madras was the only Indian city bombed by the German light cruiser SMS Emden.
- After independence, Chennai became the capital of the state of Tamil Nadu.
- In 1998 the name was changed to Chennai (from Chennapatnam, a nearby city named by Damarla Venkatadri Nayak after his father Damarla Chennappa Nayakudu) and some Indian cities were also renamed.

### **3. ABC of Chennai Rich Tradition and Multi Linguistic Ethnic and Cultural Diversity**

Chennai is one of the fastest growing cities in India in many aspects starting from population, culture, economy and Chennai is a great example of Tamil Nadu's diverse heritage.

- About 98% of the population follows Hinduism, Islam or Christianity, with Hinduism accounting for over 80% of the population. Chennai is one of the very few cities in India where ethnic communities live.
- After London, Chennai is the second oldest corporation in the world, dating back to 1687.
- As we celebrate the founding of the city of Madras (now Chennai), here are some fun facts:
  - BMW's first production plant was set up
  - Built in 1678, St. Mary's Church in the Fort St. George complex is the oldest Anglican church in India.
  - Chennai has the largest artificial sea port in India and the largest port in the Bay of Bengal region.
  - Chennai is also known as the 'Gateway of South India'.
  - Chennai is also the birthplace of Bharatanatyam, the oldest Indian classical dance. Kalakshetra, an important cultural academy located in Chennai, is entirely dedicated to the education of Bharatanatyam, Gandharvavedic music and various Indian arts and crafts.
  - Chennai is India's oldest municipal corporation still active. It was opened in 1688.
  - Chennai is one of the cosmopolitan cities of modern India and hence the city celebrates almost all local and major festivals including Pongal, Diwali, Eid and Christmas.
  - Chennai is the oldest railway station in Asia. Rayapetta railway station was started in 1856.
  - Chennai is the second leading exporter of Information Technology (IT) and Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) services in India.
  - Chennai Mofusil Bus Terminus (CBMT) at Koyambedu is the leading bus terminal in Asia.
  - Chennai was earlier a fishing village named Madrasapatnam. Later, the East India Company made Fort St. George the first major English settlement in India. Thus, Chennai became the first British settlement on the Desi shores.
  - Chennai was the only city in India to be attacked during the First World War (28 July 1914 to 11 November 1918).

- Chennai was the only city in India to be attacked during World War I (28 July 1914 to 11 November 1918).
- Chepakkam MA in this city. Chidambaram Stadium is the oldest cricket ground in India.
- Cricket was a popular sport in Chennai and started as a result of the establishment of the Madras Cricket Club in 1846.
- Do you know where is India's oldest jail? It is Chennai Central Jail.
- Established in 1920, Cancer Institute is one of the oldest cancer hospitals in India.
- For the first time in India, the University of Madras introduced a Bachelor of Music degree in 1930.
- For the first time in India, the University of Madras introduced a Bachelor of Music degree in 1930.
- Here are some mind-blowing facts you need to know about Madras Day!
- In India, Chennai hosts the Madras Music Season every year, one of the most important cultural events in the world.
- India's first cancer hospital was established in Chennai in 1920.
- India's oldest cricket stadium is Chepakkam MA in Chennai. It is called Chidambaram Maidan.
- India's oldest shopping mall was built in 1863 during British rule at Spencer Plaza in Annasalai.
- It houses some of the leading foreign banks including Bank of America, Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi, Citibank, Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India Limited, Ryan Services and Standard Chartered Bank.
- It is also known as the Detroit of India due to its automobile industry which produces more than 40% of auto parts and motor vehicles in India.
- It was during this week in 1639 that Madrasapatnam was acquired by the East India Company, setting the ball rolling on the creation of the famous city that it is today. The year 2022 marks the 383rd anniversary of Chennai.
- Kollywood, one of the South Indian film industries, produces more than 100 Tamil films annually and is the second largest film industry

in India. In India, Chennai has some of the most technologically advanced studios, and Tamil films and soundtracks are recognized worldwide.

- MA located in Cheppak. Chidambaram Stadium was built in 1916 and is one of the oldest stadiums in the country.
- Madras is the only Presidency not affected by Zamindari system.
- Madras was the first metropolis of India.
- Madras was the first to adopt Indian Standard Time, 5.30 hours ahead of GMT.
- Rayapuram railway station is located in Rayapuram area of Chennai. It started functioning in 1856 and is now the oldest railway station still in operation in India.
- Since most of the residents of Chennai are Hindus, hundreds of temples have been established in the city. According to tradition, people take bath, wear clean traditional clothes, wear beautiful and colorful flowers in their hair, and then visit temples.
- Tamil is the most widely used language by the residents of Chennai, followed by Telugu, Urdu, Malayalam and so on. English is spoken by most of the white collar workers. Chennai is also home to thousands of foreigners; Thus, many foreign languages are spoken in the city.
- Tamil Nadu cuisine is one of the best in India; Chennai local dishes mainly include Idli, Dosa, Pongal, Vada, Paniyaram, Parotta, Bunch Parotta, Chilli Parotta and many more.
- The Anna Centenary Library in the capital of Tamil Nadu is the largest library in Asia.
- The 'Bank of Madras' was established in 1683, heralding the first European-style banking system in India.
- The capital's Tidal Park is Asia's largest IT park; It also houses the headquarters of leading software companies.
- The city is famous for Bharatanatyam, one of India's famous and oldest classical dance forms, which originated in Tamil Nadu.
- The city limits of Chennai were almost doubled in 2011, after which the name of Chennai Municipal Corporation was changed to Greater Chennai Corporation. This also led to an increase in population, which, according to the 2011 census, was estimated at nearly 7.1 million.

- The city's earlier name, Madras, is believed to be derived from Madrasapatnam, a fishing village north of Fort St. George.
- The first city in India to have a wide network of Wi-Fi is none other than Chennai.
- The first village to be annexed to Chennai was the village of Triplicane, which was leased from the Sultan of Golconda in 1676.
- The Fort Museum in the Fort St. George complex holds the distinction of hoisting the first Tricolor flag after Indian Independence.
- The Madras High Court building is the second largest judicial structure in the world. The number one spot is occupied by a building in London.
- The Madras Regiment was the first regiment raised under the British Indian Army.
- The oldest shopping mall in India was built in 1863 during the British rule. It is Spencer Plaza in Annasalai.
- Vandalur Zoo located in Chennai was established in 1855 and was the first public zoo in India and the largest in the country.
- World chess champion Viswanathan Anand grew up in Chennai.

#### **4. Popular Places in Chennai**

Chennai has a colonial past and is an important city in South India. It was earlier known as Madras. Go through the article to know some interesting facts about Chennai, India. It is true that Chennai was popular even during the British colonial period. Although it was just a fishing village in the beginning, Chennai has come a long way and now, the city has some of the most famous attractions from the East India Company era and even now.

- Chennai is a historical place, it has some ancient places; Madras Boat Club is one of them. Located on the banks of the Adyar River, it is one of the oldest sailing centers in India.
- Chennai is known as the automobile hub of India; Almost 40% of the country's automobile production is done in this city.
- Fort St. George was the first building established by the British in India, now Fort St. George Museum is open for tourists.
- George Town is known as the Black City of Portugal and is a very popular place to find pre-colonial buildings; some of the most important



structures include Fort St. George, Armenian Church and Madras High Court Building.

- Indian Institute of Technology Madras is consistently ranked nationally and internationally for education, research and innovation.
- Madras Cricket Club is a fledgling colonial city and still stands today and is considered one of the oldest cricket clubs in India.
- Marina Beach should never be missed from the list of places to visit in Chennai because it is beautiful and don't forget that Marina Beach is the longest beach in India and the second longest beach in the world.
- Rayapuram Railway Station in Chennai is the oldest railway station structure in India which is still standing.
- The big banyan tree at Chennai Theosophical Society is one of the oldest banyan trees in the world and is said to be older than the city itself.
- Valluvar Kottam is a monument in Chennai built in memory of famous poet and philosopher Thiruvalluvar; the monument has a chariot with an idol of Thiruvalluvar and all the murals are engraved on the base of the chariot.
- Chennai has been ruled by many kingdoms
- Chennai has one of the longest urban beaches in the world
- Chennai is one of the largest cities in India
- Chennai is the Detroit of India
- Chennai was attacked during the First World War
- The Madras High Court is one of the largest courts in the world
- The original name of Chennai was Madras

## **5. From Madrasapatnam To Chennai**

Madras, now Chennai is the short name of the fishing village of Madrasapatnam, which was originally a collection of small villages. In the history of Chennai, the Pallavar, Chola, Pandya and Vijayanagara dynasties are among the dynasties that ruled the city. The Portuguese and the French ruled Madras from the 16th to the 18th century. In 1639, the land was acquired by the British East India Company to start a trade. So a factory and Fort St. George were built, which became an important part of the city's major commercial deals. In 1746, the

city was attacked by the French who captured Fort St. George and Madras. But control soon returned to British hands in 1749 with the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle. To ward off further attacks by the French and Hyder Ali, the Sultan of Mysore strengthened the city's fort wall. Under British rule, the city began to grow tremendously as a major urban center and naval base. With the railway system invented in India in the 19th century, Chennai was further connected to the major cities of India, which encouraged trade. During World War I, Madras became the only Indian city to be attacked by German light cruisers that destroyed shipping lanes in the Indian Ocean. After India gained independence from the British in 1947, Chennai became the capital of Madras State. Later in 1969 Madras State was converted into Tamil Nadu State. In 1996, the name was changed to Chennai by the Tamil Nadu government.

Chennai is said to have been a major contributor to the administrative, military and economic center since the 1st century. Pallavar, Chola, Pandyar and Vijayanagaram dynasties ruled Chennai. Mylapore was the main port of the Pallavas. In 1522, the Portuguese built a port called Sao Dom. 52 and 70 AD. Named after St. Thomas, a Christian reformer who preached in the Madras region, it derives its name from Madraspatnam, a fishing village north of Fort St. George. There are various versions regarding the origin of the name Madras. One theory says that the name Madre de Deus was given to the village when the Portuguese arrived in the 16th century. Whereas, historians believe that it was named after a prominent Madeiros family who in 1575 declared the Matre de Deus in San Thome as a holy church. The church was demolished in 1997. On the contrary, the other theory says that the village. Named after the Islamic College 'A Madrasah' located in the same area.

Similar to the versions of the origin of the name Madras, there are various versions regarding the origin of the name Chennai. It was considered part of the empire of King Chandragiri, 1639 AD. And the time when the British came; It was named Chennapatnam when the British captured it from Chennappa Naikkar, the ruler of Vijayanagara. In Tamil language 'chenni' means face and Chenna Kesava Perumal Temple was considered as the face of the city. Hence, some believed that Chennapatnam was named after the Sennakesava Perumal temple. Over time the two cities of Madraspatnam and Chennapatnam merged in the 17th century i.e. when the British conquered the region. The combined city was referred to as Madraspatnam by the British, while the locals referred to it as 'Chennapatnam'. On 22 August 1639, a small piece of land was purchased by the British East India Company from Vijayanagara king Beda

Venkata Rayar, located on the Coromandel coast at Chandragiri. For commercial purposes, Tamarla Venkatapati, the ruler of the Vandavasi region, allowed the British to build a factory and a warehouse. Fort St. George was built by the British the following year and became an important part of the growing colonial city.

In 1746, the French under General La Bourdonnais, Governor of Mauritius, captured Fort St. George and Madras, plundering the city and nearby villages. By the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle in 1749 control passed back into British hands. They fortified the city wall to ward off French and other threats from Mysore Sultan Hyder Ali. Along with Tamil Nadu, the other northern modern states of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka were conquered by the British in the late 18th century. It was during this period that the Madras Presidency was established with Madras as its capital. Under British rule, the city grew into a major urban center and naval base. During World War I, the German light cruiser ‘SMS Emden’ attacked an oil depot in Madras. The attack destroyed shipping lanes in the Indian Ocean and disrupted shipping. Madras was the only Indian city to be attacked during World War I. After India gained independence in 1947, Chennai became the capital of Madras State. Madras State was renamed as Tamil Nadu State in 1969. Chennai, the birthplace of the Indian Railways, was also home to the country’s first electric trams in 1895. Unfortunately, politicians ended the service in the early 1950s with the idea of building “modern” roads and bridges for cars. By 1985, Chennai, then known as Madras, had grown its car and motorcycle population to over 200,000. It rose to 600,000 in 1992, 3.6



**Figure 1: Formerly Chennai**

million in 2012, and almost six million today. Coupled with the emphasis on building roads and elevated highways, the city quickly began to see worsening air quality and growing travel times due to the city's lack of adequate public transportation.

Chennai, the capital of the state of Tamil Nadu, is a city of ten million located on the Bay of Bengal in southern India. Chennai is a technology hub and home to Tamil cinema studios and most of India's automotive industry. Chennai is also a city at the forefront of climate change, with increased flooding causing loss of life and urban damage. Fortunately, Chennai is starting to move in the right direction, with a budgetary commitment to redesign streets to prioritize cycling and walking, with an emphasis on improved traffic management.

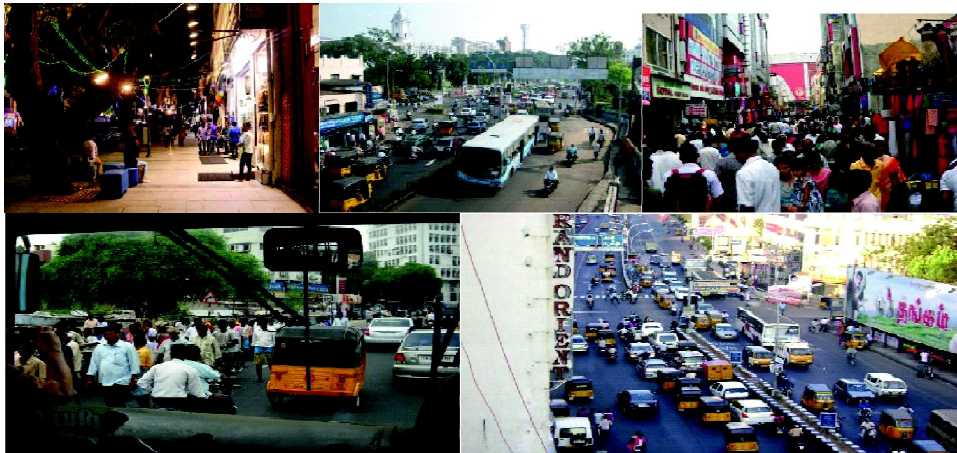


Figure 2: Chennai Today

- As of 2017, there are more than 2.2 million households, with 40 percent of residents not owning a home.
- As of 2018, the city had 14.9 percent green cover against the WHO recommendation of 9 square meters of green cover per capita in cities.
- Chennai Central Jail is the oldest jail in India.
- Chennai is also known as the 'Gateway of South India'.
- Chennai is famous for Bharatanatyam, one of India's famous and oldest classical dance forms that originated in Tamil Nadu.
- Chennai is the automobile capital of India, referred to as the Detroit of South Asia.

- Chennai is the first city in India to have the largest Wi-Fi network.
- Chennai is twinned with: Volgograd, Russia; Denver, USA; San Antonio, USA; Kuala Lumpur Malaysia; Chongqing, China
- Chennai was the only city in India that was attacked during World War.
- In 1996, the Tamil Nadu government officially changed the name of Madras to Chennai. Many Indian cities were renamed during that time.
- Marina Beach, the second largest beach in the world, is located in Chennai.
- The name Chennai is of Telugu origin. It is derived from the name of a Telugu ruler, Damarla Mudhirasa Chennappa Nayakudu, father of Damarla Venkatapati Nayak, a Nayak ruler who captured the city in 1639 and served as a general under Venkata III of the Vijayanagara Empire.
- Vandalur Zoo located in Chennai was established in 1855 and was the first public zoo in India and the largest in the country.

## **6. Economics of Urbanisation and Development**

Urbanization positively affects economic growth. However, the relationship between urbanization and economic growth is not linear. Urbanization reaches a threshold after which it can inhibit economic growth. Rapid urban expansion leaves Indian megacity Chennai without essential ecosystem services. Urban development patterns in Chennai have become increasingly important as cities centers for Foreign Direct Investment and Economic Transformation Country. The metropolitan area of Chennai, India has a peculiar urban structure Indian city its size; Very high and increasing population density in the city center and rapid low-density expansion at the periphery.

- Experts opined that the aftermath of rapid urbanization, diversion of water bodies for residential needs and unscientific approach to city development have led to water logging.
- Researchers at the Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IITM) have predicted that Chennai will emit 231.9 million tonnes of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) by 2040 from construction and building activities alone, due to rapid urbanisation.
- Between 1991 and 2016, urban areas in Chennai, India increased by 70 percent, mainly on the periphery.

- Forecasts predict urban growth will swallow up almost all valuable forests, mangroves and agricultural land by 2027.
- A combination of methods used to measure urban sprawl will be an important tool for future urban planning.
- Chennai is already highly vulnerable to flash floods: when it rains heavily, the water has nowhere to go and the city is flooded. There are also darker issues like biodiversity loss, rising city temperatures and air pollution. And it will get worse before it gets better.

This study examines the evidence that Chennai metropolitan area has a distinct urban area shape compared to similar Indian cities. For a city of its size, it has a very dense core. It continues to add to the population. Meanwhile, changes in land use indicate that the region is growing into a wider form. Peripheral population growth is evident in the transport corridors in the north, south and west of the city. In addition, an analysis of trends in Chennai's spatial pattern demonstrates that this is possible and practical for conducting comprehensive urban land market assessments in Indian cities, and this method can be extended to non-residential applications as well. The researchers recommend switching to renewable energy sources for the operational needs of buildings, a key driver for reducing emissions. There is a dire need for urban commission to look after urban planning and developmental projects. There are no quick fixes – but a change is needed. According to Avith Bhowmick, one solution to slowing down urban growth could be city density and tall buildings. But forget any silver bullets. “People need to be accommodated. But there are no easy solutions, and immigrants often settle in the suburbs for good reasons: it's what they can afford. However, the combination of methods used in the study provides a valuable tool for monitoring urban sprawl in Chennai. It also provides information on sustainable urban development and city planning that authorities can use to mitigate, for example, the loss of ecosystem services and impacts on residents in the future.

## 6. Closing Remarks

“Urbanization in India is a slow but sure death for her villages and villagers”.

—*Mahatma Gandhi*

Overall, the scale and extent of urban sprawl is expected to increase at an alarming rate and cause degradation of urban ecosystem services. As of 2020, the

population of Chennai is estimated to be around 10 million. Chennai is located on the southeastern coast of India in the northeastern part of Tamil Nadu on a flat coastal plain known as the East Coastal Plain. Its average height is about 6.7 meters (22 ft), and its highest point is 60 m (200 ft). Chennai is classified as being in Seismic Zone III, which indicates a moderate risk of damage from earthquakes. Chennai is divided into four broad regions: North, Central, South and West. The city is served by two major ports, Chennai Port, one of the largest artificial ports in India, and Ennore Port. Chennai is one of four Indian cities connected to the rest of the world by undersea fiber-optic cables, the other three being Mumbai, Kochi and Tuticorin. Chennai is one of the 100 Indian cities to be developed as a smart city under the Smart Cities programme. As of 2020, India is the world's fifth largest car manufacturer by volume and value. Chennai is a major center of automobile manufacturing, earning it the nickname "The Detroit of India". Major automobile manufacturers in Chennai are Ashok Leyland, Renault, Hyundai, Mitsubishi, Yamaha, BMW, Hindustan Motors, Daimler, TAFE Tractors, Ford and Royal Enfield. The city also has a heavy vehicle factory that manufactures military related vehicles and a lot of tire manufacturing factories. Chennai accounts for 60 percent of the country's vehicle exports. Chennai urban development: fact sheet.

"First we shape the cities – then they shape us." "The city throughout the history of mankind has been the meeting place for people. Much of the culture of mankind has happened in the public space. Public space is a very important aspect of a good and well functioning city."

### *References*

- Christin Mathew Philip (2015): Flood: Chennai corporation learned little from CAG advice. In *The Times of India*, 11/20/2015. Available online at <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/chennai/Flood-Chennai-corporn-learned-little-from-CAG-advice/articleshow/49852204.cms>, checked on 11/24/2015.
- CMDA FMP (2011): Review of FMP. Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority. Available online at [http://www.cmdachennai.gov.in/Volume1\\_English\\_PDF/Vol1\\_Chapter01\\_FMP%20Review.pdf](http://www.cmdachennai.gov.in/Volume1_English_PDF/Vol1_Chapter01_FMP%20Review.pdf), checked on 2/22/2016.
- CMDA SMP.
- Cultural History of India. (2005): New Age International Limited Publications. 2005. p. 3. ISBN 81- 224-1587-3.
- GDP Real total of countries. INDIA. Available online at [https://www.bluenomics.com/data#!data/country\\_overview/key\\_indicators\\_1/gdp\\_real\\_total/gdp\\_](https://www.bluenomics.com/data#!data/country_overview/key_indicators_1/gdp_real_total/gdp_)

real\_total\_quarterly\_yoy\_in\_sa\_wda\_real%7Cchart/line& countries=india&sorting=list//title, checked on 2/23/2016.

Geetam Tiwari (2007): Urban India: Understanding the Maximum City. Urban Transport in Indian Cities. Available online at <https://lsecities.net/media/objects/articles/urban-transport-in-indian-cities/en-gb/>, checked on 2/13/2016.

[http://www.cmdachennai.gov.in/pdfs/seminar\\_heritage\\_buildings/History\\_of\\_Historical\\_Monuments\\_in\\_and\\_around\\_Chennai.pdf](http://www.cmdachennai.gov.in/pdfs/seminar_heritage_buildings/History_of_Historical_Monuments_in_and_around_Chennai.pdf)

<https://chennai.nic.in/history/>

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chennai>

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/chennai/why-tamil-nadu-needs-an-urban-commission-to-manage-its-cities/articleshow/90253419.cms>

<https://www.britannica.com/place/Chennai>

<https://www.chennai.org.uk/history.html>

<https://www.ftd.travel/chennai-history>

<https://www.indiator.com/destinations/chennai/history-of-chennai>

<https://www.newsclick.in/Unscientific-Urban-Expansion-Land-Use-Faulty-Stormwater-Drains-Flooding-Chennai>

<https://www.tamilnadutourism.com/chennai/history-culture.php>

<https://www.thebetterindia.com/150762/news-chennai-madras-tamil-nadu-history/>

<https://www.thehindu.com/features/kids/story-of-madras/article5041625.ece>

<https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/rapid-urbanisation-pose-serious-threat-to-chennais-environment/article66343318.ece>

[https://www.tn.gov.in/district\\_details/535](https://www.tn.gov.in/district_details/535)

<https://www.worldtravelguide.net/guides/asia/india/chennai-madras/history/>

India Pips US and China as no 1 foreign direct Investment destination (2015). In The Times Of India,, 2015. Available online at <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/India-pips-US-China-as-No-1-foreign-direct-investment-destination/articleshow/49160838.cms>, checked on 2/23/2016.

John Keay: India: A History. second: Grove Press / Harper Collins.