

Economic Survey

of U.T. of Puducherry

2025-26



सत्यमेव जयते

Government of Puducherry
Directorate of Economics and Statistics



Economic Survey of U.T. of Puducherry 2025-26

DIRECTORATE OF ECONOMICS AND STATISTICS,
PUDUCHERRY



**Shri. RATNAGHOSH KISHOR
CHAURE
DIRECTOR**



Chief Secretariat,
Goubert Avenue,
Puducherry - 605 001.

PREFACE

The Economic Survey of U.T. of Puducherry 2025-26 has been prepared by the Directorate of Economics and Statistics with the objective of presenting a comprehensive account of the socio-economic development of the Union Territory and providing an analytical assessment of the performance of various sectors of the economy.

This publication assumes special significance as it represents the first comprehensive Economic Survey of the Union Territory of Puducherry prepared for presentation before the Legislative Assembly. It marks an important milestone in strengthening the use of official statistics and economic analysis for informed legislative deliberations, policy formulation and development planning.

The Survey presents an overview of major sectors of the economy, including State Income, Public Finance, Agriculture and Allied Activities, Industry, Infrastructure, Prices and Social Services. Key statistical indicators and analytical observations have been incorporated to facilitate an understanding of recent trends and developments in the Union Territory.

The publication is based on information furnished by various Departments of the Government of Puducherry, Government of India agencies, Public Sector Undertakings, Local Bodies and other institutions. The Directorate gratefully acknowledges the cooperation extended by all the Departments and Organisations that contributed data and information for the preparation of this publication. I also place on record my appreciation of the officers and staff of the Directorate whose dedicated efforts made this publication possible.

It is hoped that the Economic Survey of U.T. of Puducherry 2025-26 will serve as a useful reference for legislators, policymakers, administrators, researchers, students and the general public in understanding the developmental progress and economic prospects of the Union Territory.

(RATNAGHOSH KISHOR CHAURE)
DIRECTOR

Puducherry,
15th June, 2026.



Chief Secretariat,
Goubert Avenue,
Puducherry - 605 001.

Shri. Pankaj Kumar Jha, I.A.S.
Secretary to Government
(Economics and Statistics)

FOREWORD

It gives me great pleasure to present the Economic Survey of the Union Territory of Puducherry 2025-26, which provides a comprehensive overview of the economic and social development of the Union Territory.

The Survey presents the latest trends and developments across major sectors of the economy, including State Income, Public Finance, Agriculture, Industry, Infrastructure and Social Services. It serves as an important source of statistical information and analysis for understanding the performance of the economy.

In an era of evidence-based governance, reliable statistical information is essential for effective planning and informed decision-making. The data and analysis contained in this publication are expected to be useful to policymakers, legislators, administrators, researchers and the public.

I appreciate the efforts of the Directorate of Economics and Statistics in bringing out this publication and acknowledge the cooperation extended by various Departments, Public Sector Undertakings and other agencies in providing the required information.

I am confident that the Economic Survey of U.T. of Puducherry 2025-26 will serve as a valuable reference document for development planning and policy formulation.

(PANKAJ KUMAR JHA, I.A.S.)
Secretary to Government
(Economics and Statistics)

Puducherry,
15th June, 2026.

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Abbreviations

AAI	Airports Authority of India
AAY	Antyodaya Anna Yojana
AC	Air-Conditioned
AFS	Annual Financial Statement
AISHE	All India Survey on Higher Education
APL	Above Poverty Line
APY	Atal Pension Yojana
ASI	Annual Survey of Industries
ATF	Aviation Turbine Fuel
AWC	Anganwadi Centre
B2B	Business-to-Business
BC	Backward Classes
BCG	Bacillus Calmette-Guerin
BE	Budget Estimates
BOT	Build-Operate-Transfer
BPL	Below Poverty Line
BR	Birth Rate
BSBDA	Basic Savings Bank Deposit Account
CAGR	Compound Annual Growth Rate
CCZM	Colour Coded Zoning Map
CD	Credit-Deposit
CNG	Compressed Natural Gas
COVID	Coronavirus Disease
CPI-IW	Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers
DAT	Directorate of Accounts and Treasuries
DBT	Direct Benefit Transfer
DES	Directorate of Economics and Statistics
DfG	Demands for Grants
DL	Driving Licence
DPT	Diphtheria, Pertussis and Tetanus
DR	Death Rate

eAIP	Electronic Aeronautical Information Publication
EPC	Engineering, Procurement and Construction
EWS	Economically Weaker Sections
FIR	First Information Report
FPS	Fair Price Shop
GCA	Gross Cropped Area
GER	Gross Enrolment Ratio
GoI	Government of India
GSDP	Gross State Domestic Product
GST	Goods and Services Tax
GSVA	Gross State Value Added
GVA	Gross Value Added
Ha.	Hectare
HT	High Tension
ICD	Inland Container Depot
ICDS	Integrated Child Development Services
IGST	Integrated Goods and Services Tax
IIP	Index of Industrial Production
IMR	Infant Mortality Rate
ISO	International Organization for Standardization
JF	Job Fair
JIPMER	Jawaharlal Institute of Postgraduate Medical Education and Research
KCC	Kisan Credit Card
kg	Kilogram
km	Kilometre
KW/KVA	Kilowatt / Kilovolt-ampere
LED	Light Emitting Diode
LPG	Liquefied Petroleum Gas
LT/HT	Low Tension / High Tension
MBC	Most Backward Classes
MCV-1	Measles-Containing Vaccine - First Dose
MMPA	Million Metric Tonnes Per Annum
MSME	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises

MT	Metric Tonne
MU	Million Units
MW	Megawatt
NA	Not Available / Not Applicable
NG	Non-Gazetted
NIC	National Industrial Classification
NOC	No Objection Certificate
No. / Nos.	Number / Numbers
NPHH	Non-Priority Household
NSDP	Net State Domestic Product
NSVA	Net State Value Added
NVA	Net Value Added
OPV-0	Oral Polio Vaccine - Zero Dose
PAPSCO	Puducherry Agro Products, Food and Civil Supplies Corporation Limited
PCCLDB	Puducherry Co-operative Central Land Development Bank
PD	Public Debt
PDS	Public Distribution System
PHH	Priority Household
PMMVY	Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana
PMRC	Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Centre
POS	Point of Sale
POSHAN	Prime Minister's Overarching Scheme for Holistic Nourishment
p.p.	Percentage points
PRS	Passenger Reservation System
PSCB	Puducherry State Co-operative Bank
PWD	Public Works Department / Persons with Disabilities
RC	Registration Certificate
RE	Revised Estimates
RRB	Regional Rural Bank
Rs. / ₹	Rupees / Indian Rupee
SC	Scheduled Caste
SGST	State Goods and Services Tax
SIDBI	Small Industries Development Bank of India

Sq. km	Square Kilometre
SRS	Sample Registration System
T&D	Transmission and Distribution
TDS/TCS	Tax Deducted at Source / Tax Collected at Source
TGPP/NCP	Technical Group on Population Projections / National Commission on Population
TT	Tetanus Toxoid
TTE	Travelling Ticket Examiner
U.T. / UT	Union Territory
VAHAN	National vehicle registration database / application
VAT	Value Added Tax
VOPC	Puducherry Airport ICAO location indicator
WPR	Work Participation Rate

OVERVIEW OF PUDUCHERRY

Heritage, Harmony and Holistic Development

A unique blend of rich cultural heritage, strategic location and inclusive growth aspirations, Puducherry continues to advance on the path of sustainable and people-centric development.



PROMENADE BEACH

AUROVILLE
MATRIMANDIR

BACKWATERS

KARAIKAL
HERITAGE CHURCH

MAHE
COASTAL SCENERY



PEOPLE-CENTRIC
Good governance and
social well-being



SUSTAINABLE GROWTH
Building a resilient and
diversified economy



ENVIRONMENTAL CARE
Promoting green growth
and conservation



HERITAGE & CULTURE
Preserving our legacy,
embracing our diversity



INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT
Empowering every citizen,
ensuring opportunities



OVERVIEW OF U.T. OF PUDUCHERRY

Puducherry, formerly known as Pondicherry, is a Union Territory of India comprising the four former French enclaves of Puducherry, Karaikal, Mahe and Yanam. The de facto transfer to the Republic of India took place on 1 November 1954 and the de jure transfer was completed on 16 August 1962, marking the formal end of French administration in India.

The name “Pondicherry” was officially changed to “Puducherry” in September 2006. The word Puducherry signifies “new settlement” or “new town”. The Union Territory occupies a distinctive position in the Indian federal structure: it is geographically compact, administratively composite and historically shaped by Indian and French cultural influences.

The four regions are geographically separated. Puducherry and Karaikal are surrounded by Tamil Nadu, Yanam by Andhra Pradesh and Mahe by Kerala. This discontinuous geography gives Puducherry a unique development profile, requiring attention to coastal livelihoods, inter-State connectivity, region-wise service delivery and balanced public investment.

Puducherry city, the capital, is known for the old Boulevard Town, planned streets, colonial architecture and a blend of Tamil and French urban design traditions. The Union Territory has a coastline of about 45 kilometres. It has an elected Legislative Assembly with thirty constituencies, one Lok Sabha constituency and one seat in the Rajya Sabha. Tamil and English are the official languages; Telugu is additionally recognised in Yanam and Malayalam in Mahe.

Important Indicators of Puducherry

The following profile uses authorised projected population figures for 2026 and the PLFS 2025 literacy estimate for persons aged 7 years and above.

Table 1.1: Important Indicators of Puducherry

Indicator	Unit	Figure / Value
Area	Square kilometre	490
Regions	Number	4
Revenue districts	Number	2
Population, 2026	Lakh persons	17.57
Male population, 2026	Lakh persons	8.29
Female population, 2026	Lakh persons	9.28
Sex ratio, 2026	Females per 1,000 males	1,119
Population density, 2026	Persons per sq. km.	3,586
Literacy rate (PLFS 2025, 7+)	Percentage	94.7
Coastline	Kilometre	45
Assembly constituencies	Number	30
Lok Sabha / Rajya Sabha seats	Number	1 / 1

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry; Puducherry at a Glance 2023; Report of the Technical Group on Population Projections for India and States, 2011-2036, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, Table 21; Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS), 2025. Note: Population, sex ratio and density are based on the 2026 projection; 2011 is the Census base year in the projection series.

Economic Profile

Puducherry's economy combines a strong service orientation with an important industrial base and a livelihood-sensitive primary sector. Under the 2011-12 base year series, GSDP at current prices is estimated at ₹56,396.41 crore in 2025-26 (Provisional), as against ₹52,162.67 crore in 2024-25, registering growth of 8.12 per cent. At constant prices, GSDP is estimated at ₹31,507.24 crore in 2025-26 (Provisional), recording real growth of 7.47 per cent.

The turnaround after 2020-21 is a notable feature of the recent economic trajectory. The current-price GSDP growth rate moved from -2.21 per cent in 2020-21 to 8.12 per cent in 2025-26 (Provisional), indicating recovery and consolidation after the pandemic-related contraction. Per Capita GSDP at current prices is estimated at ₹3,23,745 in 2025-26 (Provisional).

In 2025-26 (Provisional), the tertiary sector accounted for 54.74 per cent of GSVA at current prices, followed by the secondary sector at 39.62 per cent and the primary sector at 5.64 per cent. This structure is consistent with Puducherry's role as an education, health, tourism, trade and public service centre, while manufacturing, construction and utilities continue to support the secondary sector.

The compact size of the Union Territory provides administrative advantages, but its discontinuous regional geography calls for careful region-wise planning, infrastructure strengthening and inclusive delivery of services. The estimates in this overview are under the 2011-12 base year series. After revision of the base year to 2022-23, the absolute values and related indicators such as growth rates, sectoral shares and per capita estimates may vary.

Source for economic indicators: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry. Note: Base year 2011-12. Figures for 2025-26 are Provisional.

IMPORTANT INDICATORS OF PUDUCHERRY

The “Important Indicators of Puducherry” chapter provides a compact but traceable statistical entry point to the Economic Survey of U.T. of Puducherry 2025-26. It brings together the principal administrative, demographic, economic and social indicators of the Union Territory and places them in a form suitable for quick reference before the sectoral chapters are taken up in detail.

The statistical profile of Puducherry is distinctive in the Indian federal setting. The Union Territory is small in geographical area, highly urbanised in structure, service-oriented in economic composition and geographically distributed across the four coastal regions of Puducherry, Karaikal, Mahe and Yanam. These features make per capita indicators, density measures, banking penetration, social infrastructure and sectoral composition especially relevant for policy interpretation.

In the present chapter, special attention has been given to replacing Census 2011 population figures wherever official projected or estimated figures are available. Accordingly, the latest U.T.-level projected population by sex for 2026 has been used in the demographic summary, and the literacy indicator has been updated using the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) 2025 data for Puducherry. Census 2011 figures are retained only for structural indicators for which no later official projected substitute is available, such as urban-rural classification, child sex ratio and Scheduled Caste population; such figures are explicitly labelled as structural reference indicators.

The State Income indicators used in this chapter relate to the series with base year 2011-12. The estimate for 2025-26 is Provisional. After the revision of the base year to 2022-23, the absolute values, growth rates, sectoral shares and other derived indicators may vary. This note is important for all future comparisons of GSDP, GSVA, sectoral shares and per capita income.

Table 1. Selected Latest Indicators of Puducherry

Indicator	Unit	Latest Value	Reference
Area	sq. km.	490	Puducherry at a Glance 2024
Projected population as on 1st March 2026	Number	17,57,000	Projected Total Population by Sex as on 1st March, 2011-2036
Projected male population as on 1st March 2026	Number	8,29,000	Projected Total Population by Sex as on 1st March, 2011-2036
Projected female population as on 1st March 2026	Number	9,28,000	Projected Total Population by Sex as on 1st March, 2011-2036
Projected population density, 2026	Persons per sq. km.	3,586	Calculated from projected population and area

Indicator	Unit	Latest Value	Reference
Projected sex ratio, 2026	Females per 1,000 males	1,119	Calculated from projected male and female population
Literacy rate - persons aged 7 years & above	Percentage	94.7	Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) data, 2025
Literacy rate - persons aged 5 years & above	Percentage	93.2	Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) data, 2025
GSDP at current prices	₹ crore	56,396.41	2025-26 (Provisional), Base Year 2011-12
GSDP growth rate at current prices	Percentage	8.12	2025-26 (Provisional), Base Year 2011-12
Per capita GSDP at current prices	₹	3,23,745	2025-26 (Provisional), Base Year 2011-12
Tertiary sector share in GSVA	Percentage	54.7	2025-26 (Provisional), Base Year 2011-12
Bank deposits	₹ crore	27,936.70	Puducherry at a Glance 2024
Tourist arrivals	Number	23,27,799	Puducherry at a Glance 2024
All ration cards	Number	3,62,540	Puducherry at a Glance 2024
Gross irrigated area as percentage of net area sown	Percentage	159.5	Puducherry at a Glance 2024

Source: Puducherry at a Glance 2024, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry; Projected Total Population by Sex as on 1st March - 2011-2036: India, States and Union Territories; Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) data, 2025; and Gross State Value Added by economic activity at current prices (Base Year = 2011-12), Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry. 2025-26 State Income estimates are Provisional.

1. Administrative and Demographic Base

Puducherry's administrative geography consists of four non-contiguous coastal regions. Puducherry and Karaikal are situated within the territorial surroundings of Tamil Nadu, Mahe within Kerala and Yanam within Andhra Pradesh. The compact area of 490 sq. km. gives the Union Territory a high population density and makes urban management, public service delivery and transport connectivity central to development planning.

The projected population of the Union Territory, as on 1st March 2026, is 17,57,000 persons, comprising 8,29,000 males and 9,28,000 females. Based on this projected population and the geographical area of 490 sq. km., the projected density works out to 3,586 persons per sq. km. The sex ratio, computed from the projected male and female

population, works out to 1,119 females per 1,000 males. These projected indicators are used as the current demographic reference wherever U.T.-level projections are required.

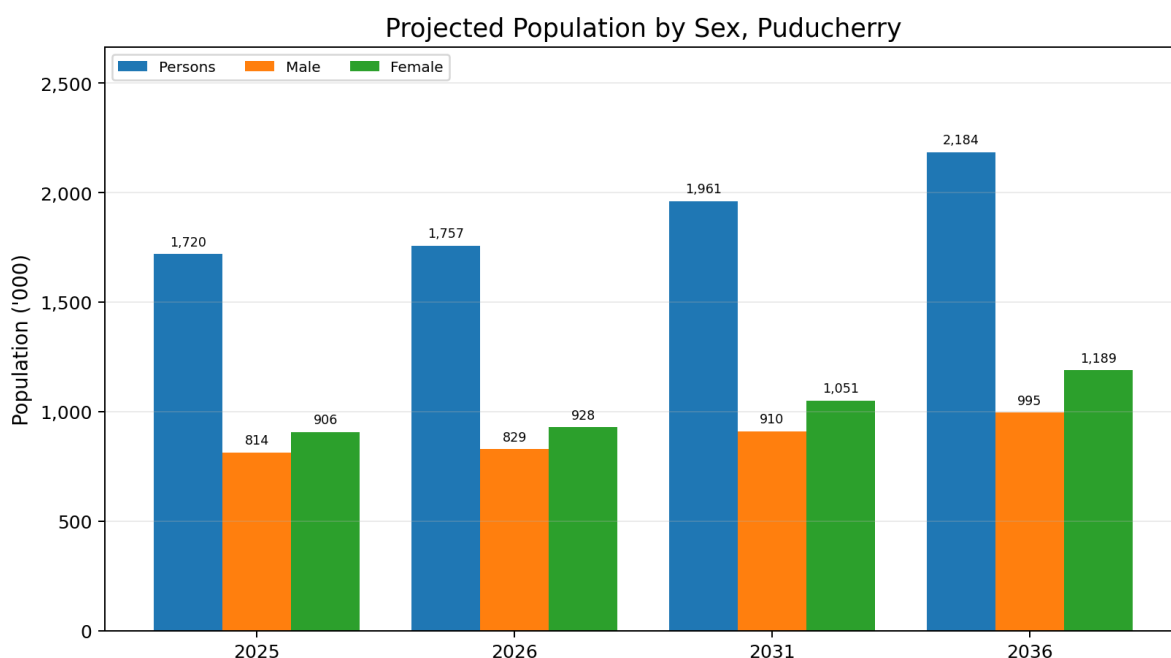
At the same time, certain region-wise and structural demographic details are available only from the Census 2011 framework or from the Directorate's region-wise estimated population series. Such figures are therefore not mixed with the U.T.-level national projection in the same derived calculation. They are retained in the annexure with clear source and reference-period labels so that readers do not treat unlike series as a single annual time series.

Table 2. Projected Population by Sex - Puducherry

Year	Projected Persons (Number)	Projected Male (Number)	Projected Female (Number)	Sex Ratio (Females per 1,000 males)
2025	1,720	814	906	1,113
2026	1,757	829	928	1,119
2031	1,961	910	1,051	1,155
2036	2,184	995	1,189	1,195

Source: Projected Total Population by Sex as on 1st March - 2011-2036: India, States and Union Territories. Source values are in thousands and have been converted into number. Sex ratio is calculated from projected male and female population.

Chart 1. Projected Population by Sex - Puducherry



Source: Projected Total Population by Sex as on 1st March - 2011-2036: India, States and Union Territories. Values are shown on the chart; source details are placed below the chart.

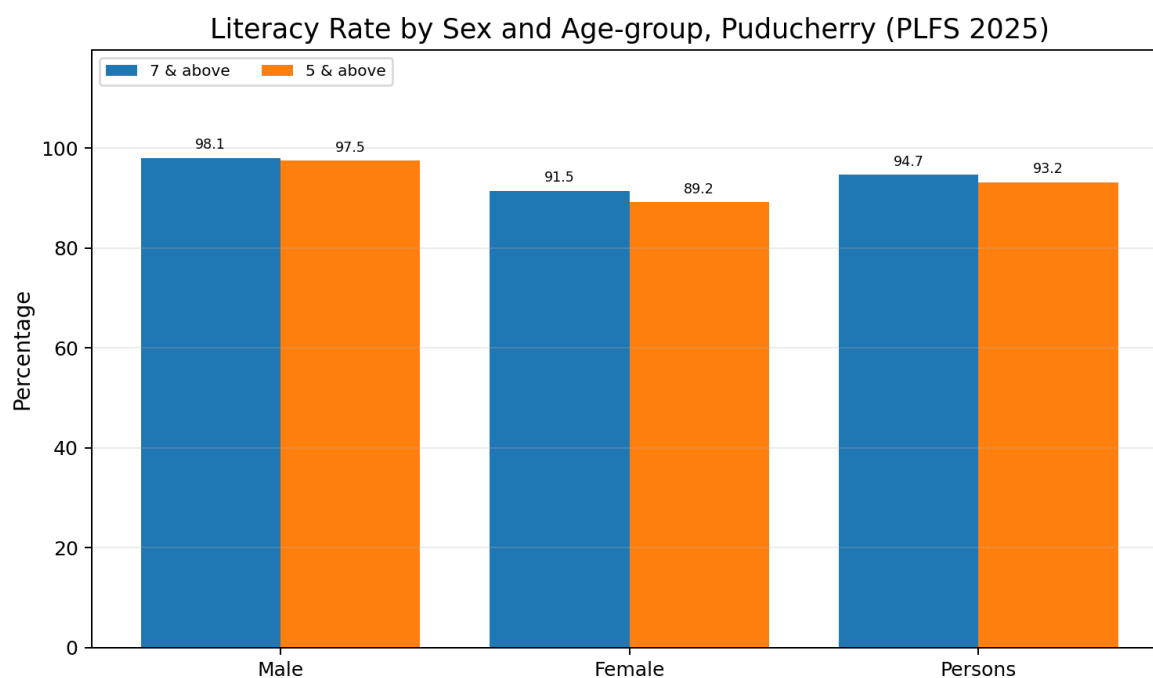
Table 3. Literacy Rate by Sex and Age-group - Puducherry

Sex	Literacy rate, 7 years & above (%)	Literacy rate, 5 years & above (%)
Male	98.1	97.5
Female	91.5	89.2
Persons	94.7	93.2

Source: Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) data, 2025. Rural-urban literacy rate table for States/UTs; Puducherry row.

The PLFS 2025 literacy data place Puducherry's literacy rate for persons aged 7 years and above at 94.7 per cent. The corresponding male and female literacy rates are 98.1 per cent and 91.5 per cent respectively. For persons aged 5 years and above, the overall literacy rate is 93.2 per cent, with male and female rates of 97.5 per cent and 89.2 per cent respectively.

The updated PLFS figure is substantially more suitable for the current "Important Indicators" summary than the Census 2011 literacy rate. However, PLFS provides the U.T.-level estimate in the table used here; hence, older region-wise Census literacy figures, where presented in the annexure, are retained only as regional structural references.

Chart 2. Literacy Rate by Sex and Age-group - Puducherry

Source: Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) data, 2025. Values are shown on the chart; source details are placed below the chart.

2. Economic Size, Growth Turnaround and Base-year Caution

At current prices, GSDP increased from ₹36,998.74 crore in 2019-20 to ₹56,396.41 crore in 2025-26 (Provisional). Over this period, the current-price size of the economy expanded by 52.4 per cent. The increase is not merely a nominal expansion in a small

economy; it also reflects the recovery from the pandemic-period contraction and the subsequent strengthening of the services and allied productive base.

The current-price GSDP growth rate moved from -2.21 per cent in 2020-21 to 8.12 per cent in 2025-26 (Provisional). This is the same turnaround highlighted in the Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor's address under the theme "Economic Growth and Development", which noted that the economy of Puducherry had moved from a negative growth position during 2020-21 to an 8.12 per cent growth in 2025-26, aided by policy interventions, infrastructure investments and sectoral development initiatives.

Per capita GSDP at current prices increased from ₹2,40,408 in 2019-20 to ₹3,23,745 in 2025-26 (Provisional). The statistical tables in this chapter, however, are confined to the official State Income series available up to 2025-26 (Provisional).

The State Income series is currently presented with base year 2011-12. As the base-year revision to 2022-23 is taken up, absolute levels, growth rates, sectoral shares and per capita values may undergo revision. The present analysis should therefore be read as the position under the 2011-12 series and not as a pre-commitment to future revised levels.

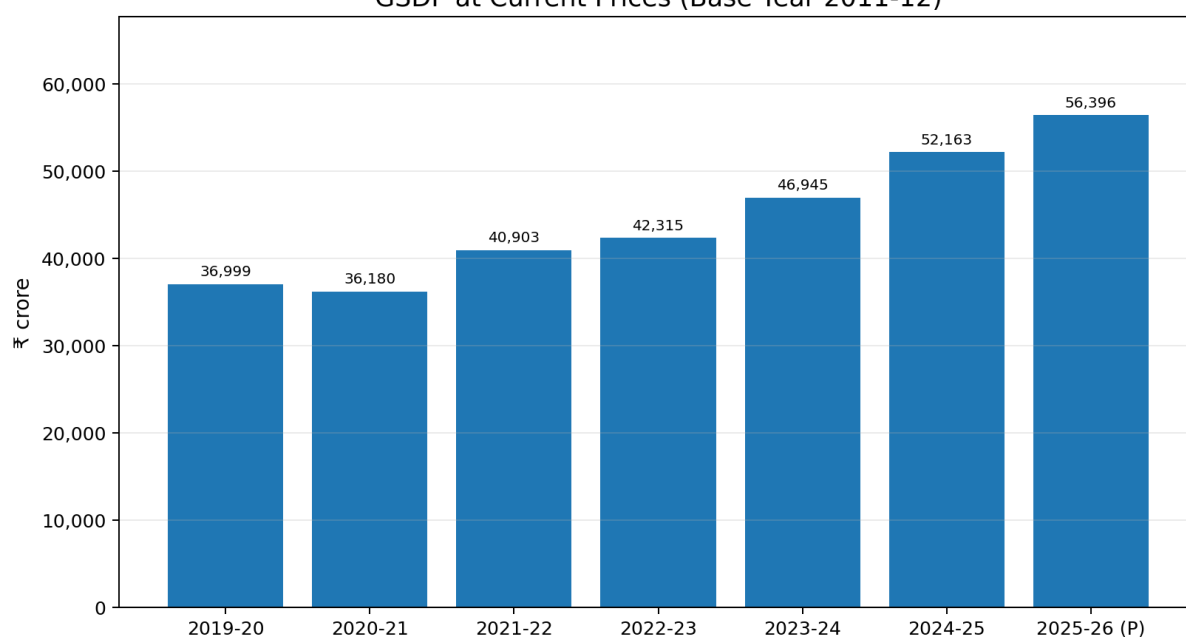
Table 4. State Income Indicators at Current Prices (Base Year 2011-12)

Year	GSDP at Current Prices (₹ crore)	GSDP Growth Rate at Current Prices (%)	GSVA at Basic Prices (₹ crore)	Taxes on Products (₹ crore)	Subsidies on Products (₹ crore)	Per Capita GSDP (₹)
2019-20	36,998.74	-	33,008.40	4,268.64	278.30	2,40,408
2020-21	36,179.58	-2.21	32,696.65	3,783.01	300.08	2,32,367
2021-22	40,902.92	13.06	35,567.57	5,694.86	359.51	2,56,767
2022-23	42,315.29	3.45	37,939.09	4,776.12	399.92	2,59,603
2023-24	46,944.98	10.94	41,912.99	5,371.22	339.23	2,81,614
2024-25	52,162.67	11.11	46,374.76	6,207.19	419.28	3,06,119
2025-26 (Provisional)	56,396.41	8.12	50,376.98	6,455.48	436.05	3,23,745

Source: Gross State Value Added by economic activity at current prices (Base Year = 2011-12), Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry. Source values in ₹ lakh have been converted into ₹ crore wherever applicable. 2025-26 estimates are Provisional. Per capita GSDP is reproduced from the State Income series and should not be recomputed using a separate demographic projection series.

Chart 3. GSDP at Current Prices

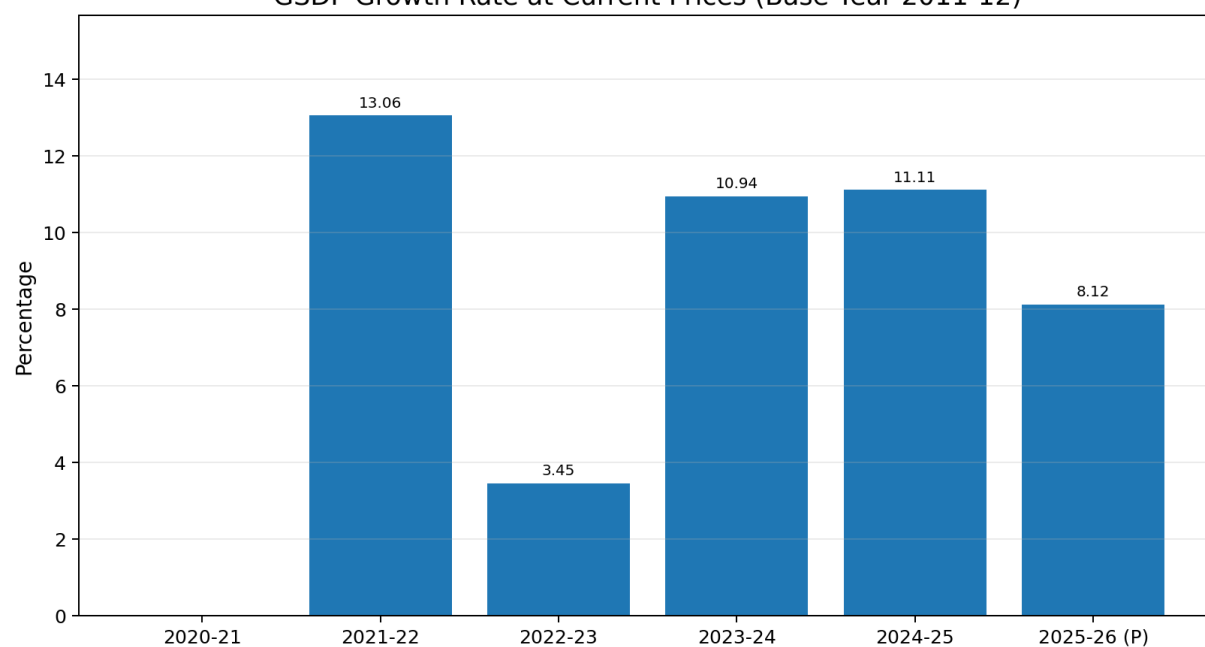
GSDP at Current Prices (Base Year 2011-12)



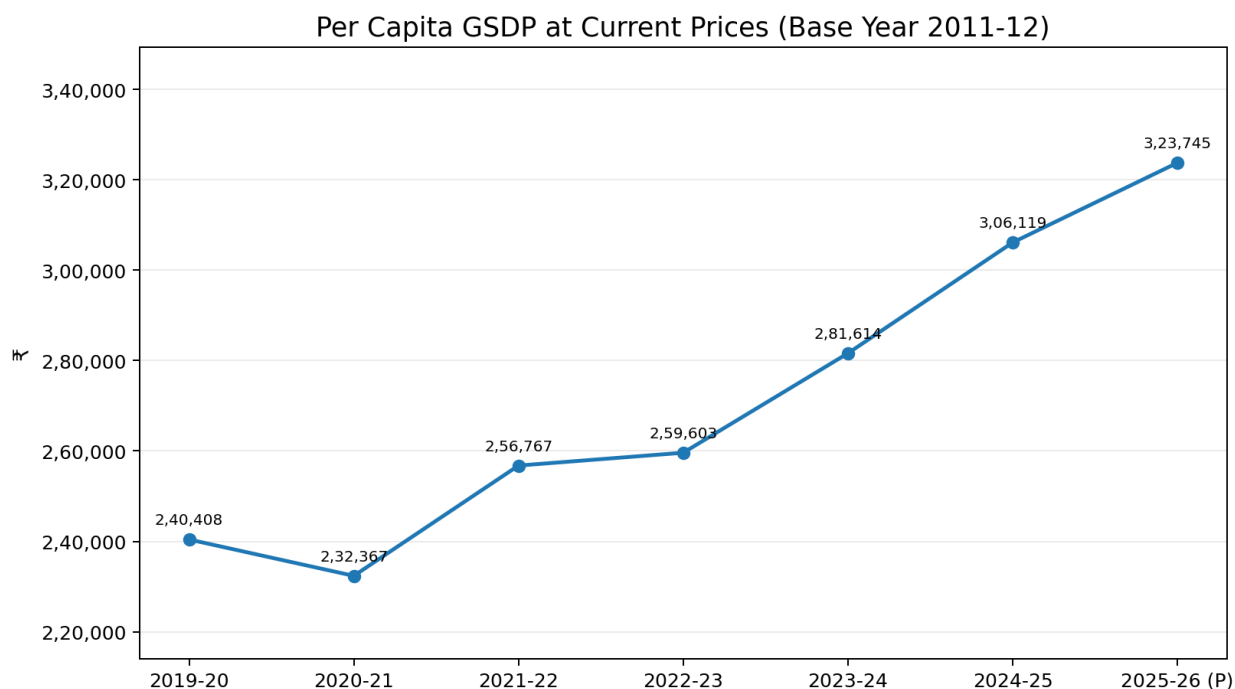
Source: Gross State Value Added by economic activity at current prices (Base Year = 2011-12), Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry. 2025-26 is Provisional. Values are shown on the chart; source details are placed below the chart.

Chart 4. GSDP Growth Rate at Current Prices

GSDP Growth Rate at Current Prices (Base Year 2011-12)



Source: Calculated from GSDP at current prices (Base Year = 2011-12), Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry. 2025-26 is Provisional. Values are shown on the chart; source details are placed below the chart.

Chart 5. Per Capita GSDP at Current Prices

Source: Gross State Value Added by economic activity at current prices (Base Year = 2011-12), Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry. 2025-26 is Provisional. Values are shown on the chart; source details are placed below the chart.

3. Sectoral Composition of the Economy

The current-price GSVA structure confirms the service-oriented character of Puducherry's economy while also showing the continued relevance of the secondary sector. The tertiary sector accounted for 54.7 per cent of GSVA at basic prices in 2025-26 (Provisional), while the secondary sector accounted for 39.6 per cent and the primary sector for 5.6 per cent.

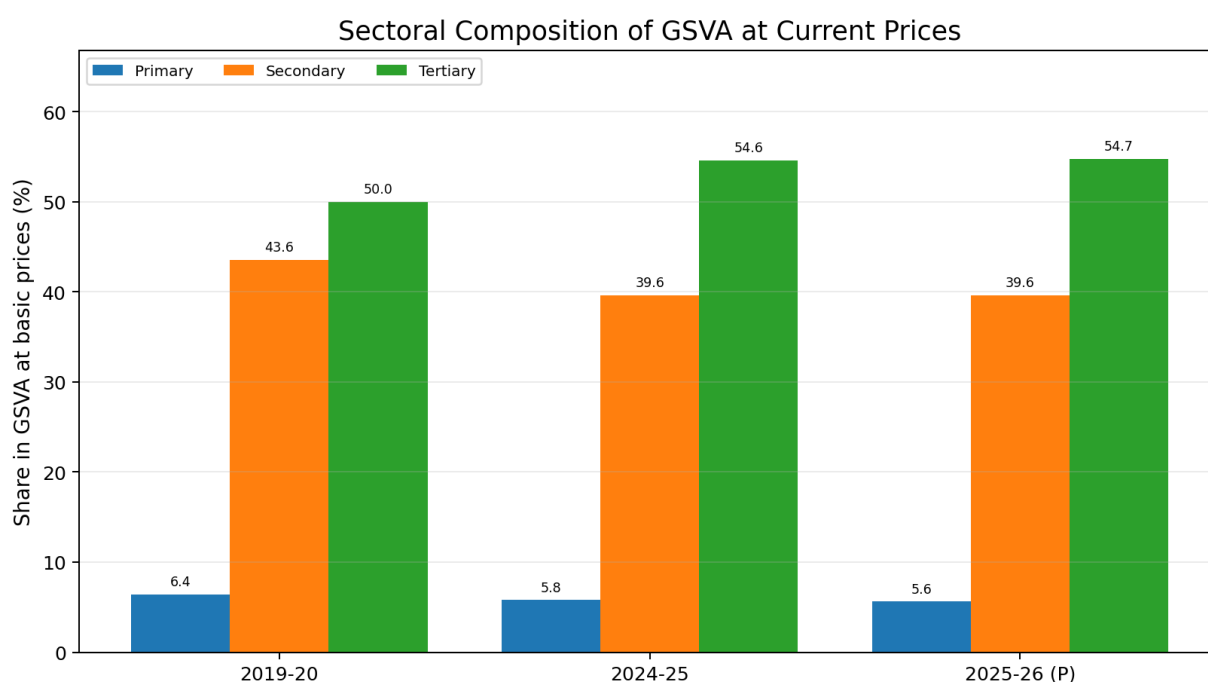
The movement from 2019-20 to 2025-26 (Provisional) shows an increase in the tertiary share and a moderation in the secondary share. This should not be read as an absolute decline in manufacturing or allied secondary activities; rather, it indicates that the service economy expanded at a pace sufficient to raise its share in the current-price GSVA structure. For a small, urban and tourism-linked Union Territory, this pattern is consistent with the importance of trade, hotels and restaurants, transport, real estate, public administration and other services.

The sectoral improvement referred to in the Lieutenant Governor's speech is therefore visible not only as aggregate GSDP growth but also as a broadening of activity across sectors. From a policy standpoint, the priority is to preserve the services momentum while ensuring that manufacturing, fisheries, agriculture and infrastructure-linked activities continue to contribute to employment and regional balance.

Table 5. Sectoral Composition of GSVA at Current Prices (Base Year 2011-12)

Year	Primary (₹ crore)	Primary Share (%)	Secondary (₹ crore)	Secondary Share (%)	Tertiary (₹ crore)	Tertiary Share (%)
2019-20	2,119.88	6.4	14,381.10	43.6	16,507.42	50.0
2024-25	2,678.15	5.8	18,376.44	39.6	25,320.17	54.6
2025-26 (Provisional)	2,840.57	5.6	19,961.40	39.6	27,575.01	54.7

Source: Gross State Value Added by economic activity at current prices (Base Year = 2011-12), Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry. Source values in ₹ lakh have been converted into ₹ crore. 2025-26 estimates are Provisional. Shares are calculated against total GSVA at basic prices.

Chart 6. Sectoral Composition of GSVA at Current Prices

Source: Gross State Value Added by economic activity at current prices (Base Year = 2011-12), Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry. 2025-26 is Provisional. Values are shown on the chart; source details are placed below the chart.

4. Financial Intermediation, Tourism and Service Delivery Indicators

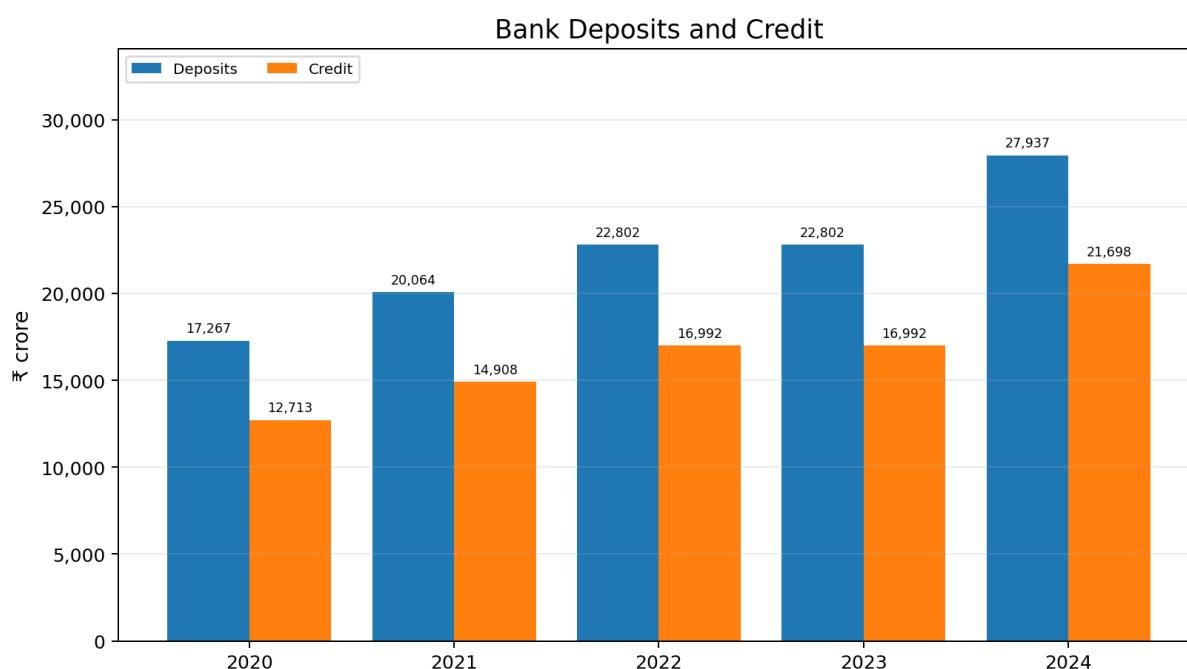
Banking indicators show a clear expansion of financial intermediation. Deposits increased from ₹17,267.47 crore in Puducherry at a Glance 2020 to ₹27,936.70 crore in Puducherry at a Glance 2024, while credit increased from ₹12,712.59 crore to ₹21,698.08 crore over the same publication series. The credit-deposit ratio improved to 77.7 per cent in the 2024 publication series, indicating that the banking system has expanded both its deposit base and lending activity.

The latest tourism figure reported in Puducherry at a Glance 2024 records 23,27,799 tourist arrivals. The movement across the five publication years shows the disruption caused by the pandemic period and the subsequent recovery in mobility-sensitive

activities. Since tourism supports trade, transport, hotels and restaurants and other services, this recovery has wider implications for the tertiary sector.

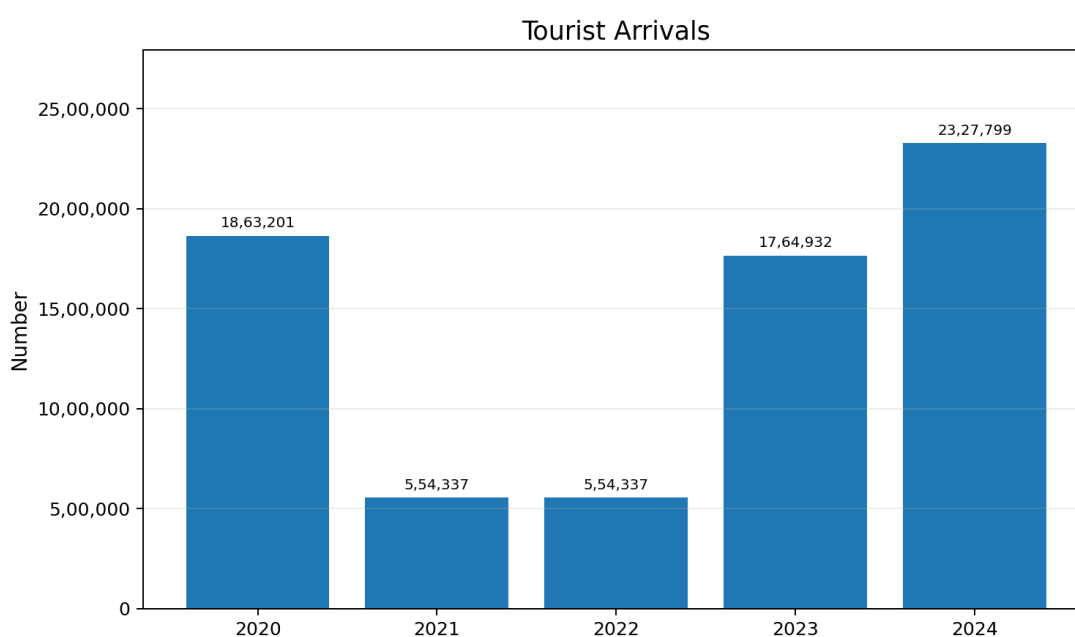
Civil supplies indicators show a large and stable household interface with the public distribution system. All ration cards increased from 3,44,718 in Puducherry at a Glance 2020 to 3,62,540 in Puducherry at a Glance 2024, while the BPL share in all ration cards increased from 51.7 per cent to 57.0 per cent. These indicators should be interpreted as administrative coverage indicators and not as independent poverty estimates.

Chart 7. Bank Deposits and Credit



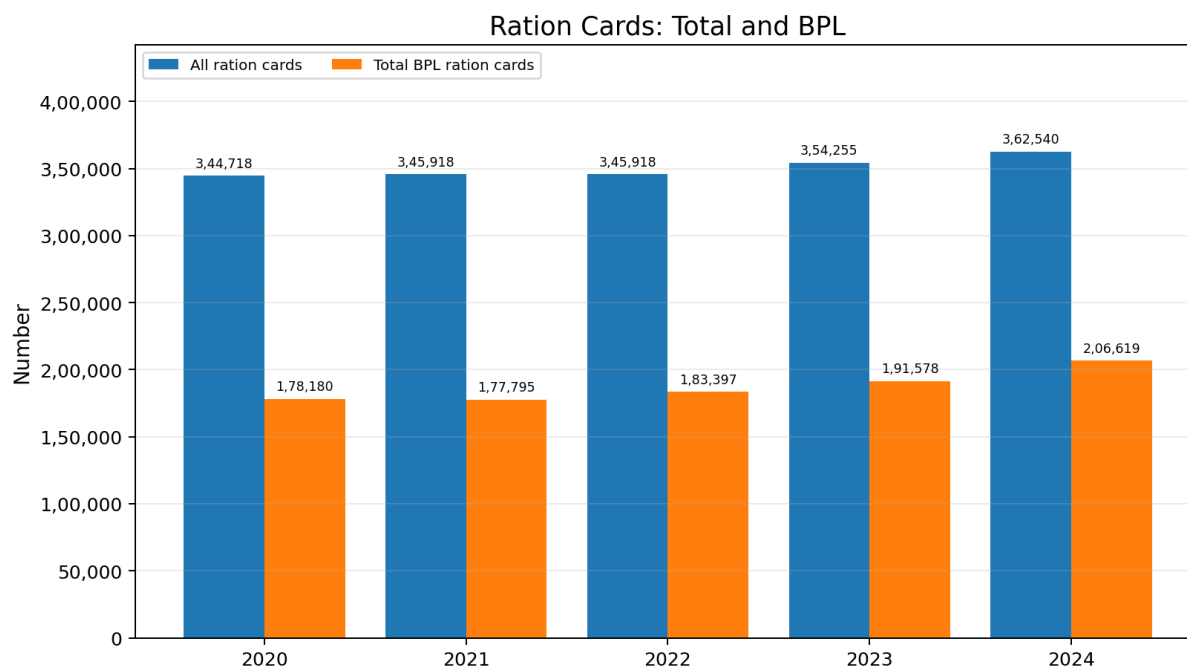
Source: Puducherry at a Glance 2020, Puducherry at a Glance 2021, Puducherry at a Glance 2022, Puducherry at a Glance 2023 and Puducherry at a Glance 2024, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry. Values are shown on the chart; source details are placed below the chart.

Chart 8. Tourist Arrivals



Source: Puducherry at a Glance 2020, Puducherry at a Glance 2021, Puducherry at a Glance 2022, Puducherry at a Glance 2023 and Puducherry at a Glance 2024, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry. Values are shown on the chart; source details are placed below the chart.

Chart 9. Ration Cards: Total and BPL



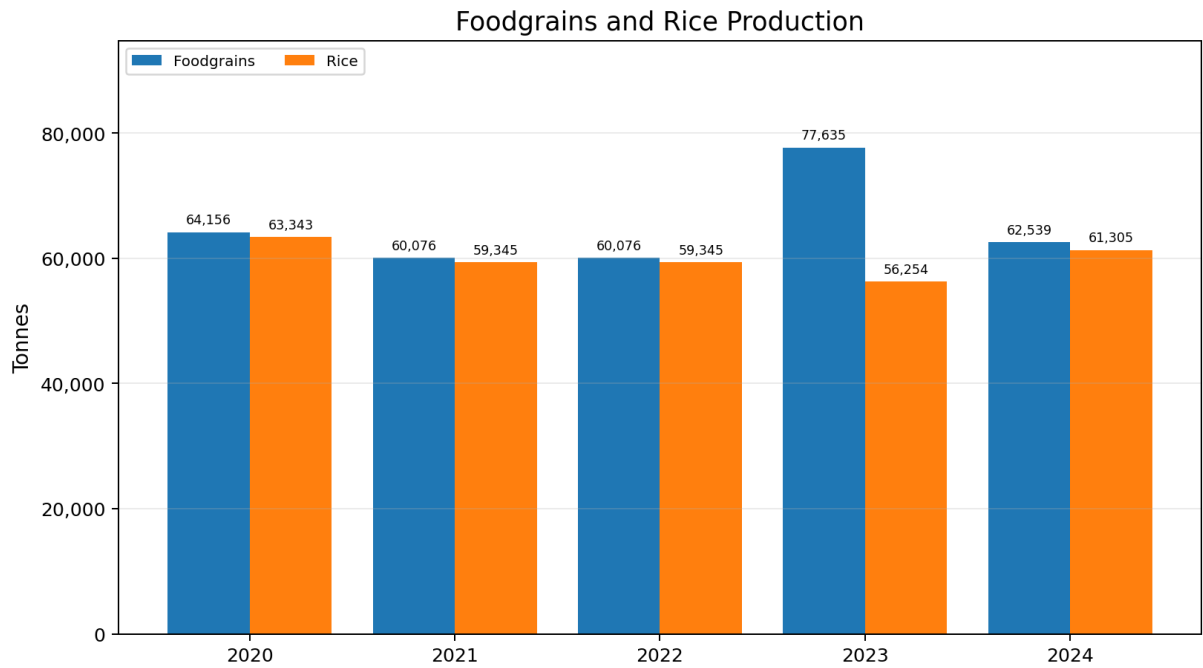
Source: Puducherry at a Glance 2020, Puducherry at a Glance 2021, Puducherry at a Glance 2022, Puducherry at a Glance 2023 and Puducherry at a Glance 2024, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry. Values are shown on the chart; source details are placed below the chart.

5. Agriculture, Irrigation and Fisheries Indicators

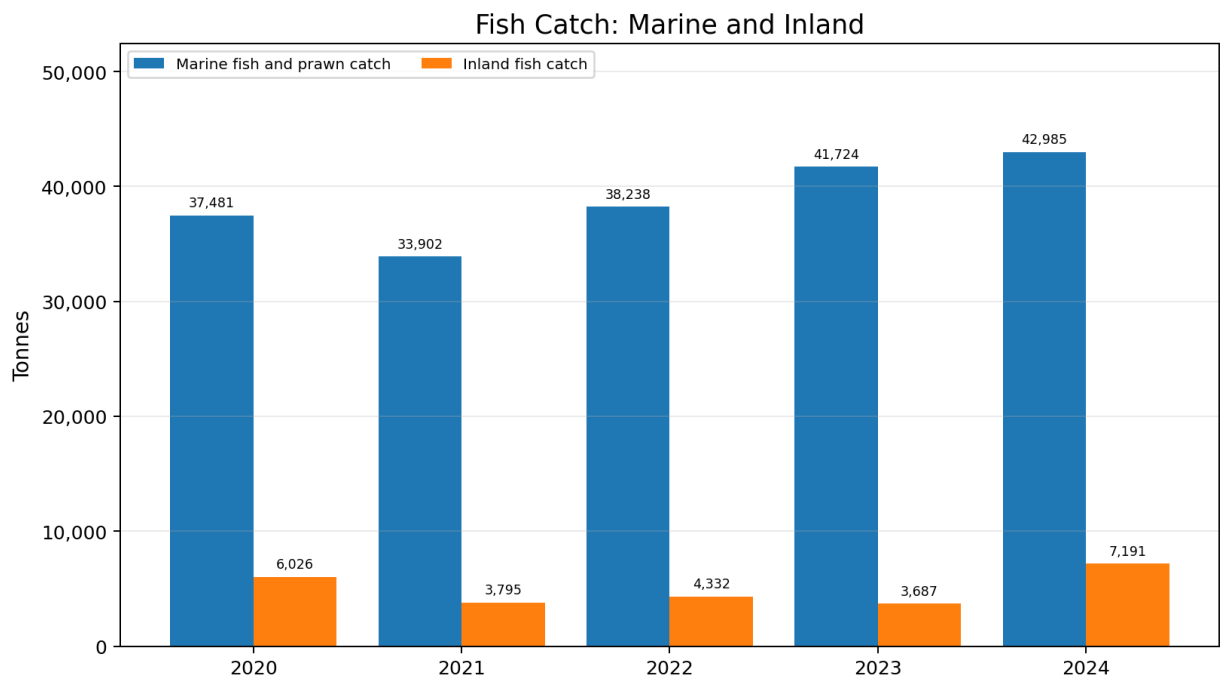
Agriculture occupies a small share in GSVA but remains significant for livelihoods, food systems and the region-wise balance of the Union Territory. The gross irrigated area as a percentage of net area sown increased from 147.6 per cent in Puducherry at a Glance 2020 to 159.5 per cent in Puducherry at a Glance 2024. This indicates repeated irrigation over the net sown area and points to the importance of water management in a compact territory with limited agricultural land.

Foodgrains production moved unevenly across the five publication years, with a higher value in Puducherry at a Glance 2023 followed by moderation in Puducherry at a Glance 2024. Rice continues to dominate foodgrains output. Such movements should be read together with rainfall, acreage, irrigation and crop-specific conditions in the agriculture chapter rather than in isolation.

Fisheries remain an important coastal livelihood sector. Marine fish and prawn catch increased to 42,985.45 tonnes in Puducherry at a Glance 2024, while inland fish catch increased to 7,191.45 tonnes. The combined catch therefore shows an improvement in the latest publication year, with potential implications for incomes, nutrition and allied value chains.

Chart 10. Foodgrains and Rice Production

Source: Puducherry at a Glance 2020, Puducherry at a Glance 2021, Puducherry at a Glance 2022, Puducherry at a Glance 2023 and Puducherry at a Glance 2024, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry. Values are shown on the chart; source details are placed below the chart.

Chart 11. Fish Catch: Marine and Inland

Source: Puducherry at a Glance 2020, Puducherry at a Glance 2021, Puducherry at a Glance 2022, Puducherry at a Glance 2023 and Puducherry at a Glance 2024, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry. Values are shown on the chart; source details are placed below the chart.

Table 6. Selected Derived Development Indicators

Puducherry at a Glance Publication Year	Credit-Deposit Ratio (%)	BPL Cards as % of All Ration Cards	Foreign Tourist Share (%)	Gross Irrigated Area as % of Net Area Sown
2020	73.6	51.7	8.05	147.6
2021	74.3	51.4	7.53	150.5
2022	74.5	53.0	7.53	150.5
2023	74.5	54.1	0.05	153.9
2024	77.7	57.0	2.47	159.5

Source: Calculated from Puducherry at a Glance 2020, Puducherry at a Glance 2021, Puducherry at a Glance 2022, Puducherry at a Glance 2023 and Puducherry at a Glance 2024, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry. Formulas are shown in Annexure Table A7.

6. Summary of Key Inferences

First, the demographic base of Puducherry is compact but dense. The official U.T.-level projected population for 2026, together with the limited area of 490 sq. km., confirms that planning has to be sensitive to density, urban services, transport and public infrastructure. The PLFS 2025 literacy rate of 94.7 per cent for persons aged 7 years and above indicates a high human-capital base relative to the earlier Census 2011 reference.

Second, the State Income series shows a clear current-price recovery from the contraction of 2020-21. GSDP at current prices reached ₹56,396.41 crore in 2025-26 (Provisional), with current-price growth of 8.12 per cent and per capita GSDP of ₹3,23,745. These figures are consistent with the growth emphasis highlighted in the Lieutenant Governor's address.

Third, the tertiary sector remains the main driver of the U.T. economy, accounting for 54.7 per cent of current-price GSVA in 2025-26 (Provisional). The importance of tourism, banking, civil supplies, public administration and other services reinforces the need for data-driven monitoring of service delivery and urban economic activity.

Fourth, the chapter deliberately distinguishes between current projected indicators and older structural indicators. This is necessary for statistical integrity. Projected population and PLFS literacy are used wherever available, while Census 2011 values are retained only as labelled structural references where no later authorised projected figures are available.

ANNEXURE TABLES

Annexure Table A1. Region-wise Administrative and Demographic Profile

Indicator	Unit	Puducherry	Karaikal	Mahe	Yanam	U.T. Total
Area	sq. km.	294	157	9	30	490
Estimated population (2025, DES regional series)	Number	13,60,744	2,50,138	49,954	1,23,902	17,84,738
Urban population (Census 2011 structural reference)	Number	6,57,209	98,102	41,816	55,626	8,52,753
Rural population (Census 2011 structural reference)	Number	2,93,080	1,02,120	-	-	3,95,200
Estimated population density (2025, DES regional series)	Persons per sq. km.	4,628	1,593	5,550	4,130	3,642
Sex ratio (Census 2011 structural reference)	Females per 1,000 males	1,029	1,047	1,184	1,038	1,037
Child sex ratio (Census 2011 structural reference)	Female children per 1,000 male children	970	969	978	921	967
Literacy rate (Census 2011 regional reference)	Percentage	85.4	87.1	97.9	79.5	85.8
Scheduled Caste population (Census 2011 structural reference)	Number	1,48,839	29,066	144	15,671	1,93,720

Source: Puducherry at a Glance 2024, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry. Estimated population is from the Directorate's regional Estimated Population series. Census 2011 values are retained only as structural reference indicators where no later official projected substitute is available.

Annexure Table A2. Projected Population of Puducherry by Sex, 2011-2036

Year	Projected Persons (Number)	Projected Male (Number)	Projected Female (Number)	Sex Ratio (Females per 1,000 males)
2011	12,48,000	6,13,000	6,35,000	1,037
2012	12,79,000	6,26,000	6,53,000	1,043
2013	13,10,000	6,40,000	6,70,000	1,047
2014	13,40,000	6,53,000	6,87,000	1,052
2015	13,71,000	6,67,000	7,04,000	1,055
2016	14,02,000	6,80,000	7,22,000	1,062
2017	14,36,000	6,95,000	7,41,000	1,066
2018	14,70,000	7,09,000	7,60,000	1,072
2019	15,04,000	7,24,000	7,80,000	1,077
2020	15,37,000	7,38,000	7,99,000	1,083
2021	15,71,000	7,53,000	8,19,000	1,088
2022	16,08,000	7,68,000	8,40,000	1,094
2023	16,46,000	7,83,000	8,62,000	1,101
2024	16,83,000	7,99,000	8,84,000	1,106
2025	17,20,000	8,14,000	9,06,000	1,113
2026	17,57,000	8,29,000	9,28,000	1,119
2027	17,98,000	8,45,000	9,52,000	1,127
2028	18,38,000	8,62,000	9,77,000	1,133
2029	18,79,000	8,78,000	10,02,000	1,141
2030	19,20,000	8,94,000	10,26,000	1,148
2031	19,61,000	9,10,000	10,51,000	1,155
2032	20,05,000	9,27,000	10,78,000	1,163
2033	20,50,000	9,44,000	11,06,000	1,172
2034	20,94,000	9,61,000	11,33,000	1,179
2035	21,39,000	9,78,000	11,61,000	1,187

Year	Projected Persons (Number)	Projected Male (Number)	Projected Female (Number)	Sex Ratio (Females per 1,000 males)
2036	21,84,000	9,95,000	11,89,000	1,195

Source: Projected Total Population by Sex as on 1st March – 2011–2036: India, States and Union Territories. Source population values are in thousands and have been converted into numbers. For 2011, the official Census 2011 sex ratio of 1,037 females per 1,000 males has been adopted. Sex ratios for 2012–2036 are calculated from the projected male and female population.

Annexure Table A3. State Income Indicators at Current Prices (Base Year 2011-12)

Year	GSDP at Current Prices (₹ crore)	GSDP Growth Rate at Current Prices (%)	GSVA at Basic Prices (₹ crore)	Taxes on Products (₹ crore)	Subsidies on Products (₹ crore)	Per Capita GSDP (₹)
2019-20	36,998.74	-	33,008.40	4,268.64	278.30	2,40,408
2020-21	36,179.58	-2.21	32,696.65	3,783.01	300.08	2,32,367
2021-22	40,902.92	13.06	35,567.57	5,694.86	359.51	2,56,767
2022-23	42,315.29	3.45	37,939.09	4,776.12	399.92	2,59,603
2023-24	46,944.98	10.94	41,912.99	5,371.22	339.23	2,81,614
2024-25	52,162.67	11.11	46,374.76	6,207.19	419.28	3,06,119
2025-26 (Provisional)	56,396.41	8.12	50,376.98	6,455.48	436.05	3,23,745

Source: Gross State Value Added by economic activity at current prices (Base Year = 2011-12), Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry. Source values in ₹ lakh have been converted into ₹ crore wherever applicable. 2025-26 estimates are Provisional. After the base year revision to 2022-23, values and indicators may vary.

Annexure Table A4. Consolidated Indicators: Administration, Demography and Health

Sector	Indicator	Unit	Puducherry at a Glance 2020	Puducherry at a Glance 2021	Puducherry at a Glance 2022	Puducherry at a Glance 2023	Puducherry at a Glance 2024
Administration	Area	sq. km.	490	490	490	490	490
Administration	Municipalities	Number	5	5	5	5	5

Sector	Indicator	Unit	Puducherry at a Glance 2020	Puducherry at a Glance 2021	Puducherry at a Glance 2022	Puducherry at a Glance 2023	Puducherry at a Glance 2024
Administration	Commune Panchayats	Number	10	10	10	10	10
Administration	Revenue villages	Number	129	129	129	129	129
Demography	Estimated population (as on 1 March, DES series)	Number	15,67,974	16,08,849	16,50,921	16,94,231	17,38,822
Demography	Urban population - Census 2011 structural reference	Number	8,52,753	8,52,753	8,52,753	8,52,753	8,52,753
Demography	Rural population - Census 2011 structural reference	Number	3,95,200	3,95,200	3,95,200	3,95,200	3,95,200
Demography	Literacy rate - Census 2011 structural reference	Percentage	85.8	85.8	85.8	85.8	85.8
Demography	Sex ratio - Census 2011 structural reference	Females per 1,000 males	1,037	1,037	1,037	1,037	1,037
Health	Hospitals - Government institutions	Number	8	8	8	8	8
Health	Doctors - U.T. Government	Number	483	483	463	464	449
Health	Nurses - U.T. Government	Number	1,190	1,190	1,007	995	1,061

Sector	Indicator	Unit	Puducherry at a Glance 2020	Puducherry at a Glance 2021	Puducherry at a Glance 2022	Puducherry at a Glance 2023	Puducherry at a Glance 2024
Health	Beds - U.T. Government institutions	Number	2,404	2,404	3,293	3,064	3,293
Health	Birth rate - SRS	Per 1,000 population	13.7	13.7	13.3	13.1	13.1
Health	Death rate - SRS	Per 1,000 population	6.9	6.9	6.8	6.5	6.5
Health	Infant mortality rate - SRS	Per 1,000 live births	11	11	9	6	6

Source: Puducherry at a Glance 2020, Puducherry at a Glance 2021, Puducherry at a Glance 2022, Puducherry at a Glance 2023 and Puducherry at a Glance 2024, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry. Census 2011 values are shown only as structural reference indicators.

Annexure Table A5. Consolidated Indicators: Agriculture and Fisheries

Sector	Indicator	Unit	Puducherry at a Glance 2020	Puducherry at a Glance 2021	Puducherry at a Glance 2022	Puducherry at a Glance 2023	Puducherry at a Glance 2024
Agriculture	Net area sown	Hectares	15,307	15,382	15,382	16,448	16,274
Agriculture	Gross area irrigated	Hectares	22,589	23,156	23,156	25,317	25,951
Agriculture	Foodgrains production	Tonnes	64,156	60,076	60,076	77,635	62,539
Agriculture	Rice production	Tonnes	63,343	59,345	59,345	56,254	61,305
Agriculture	Sugarcane production	Tonnes	1,87,720	1,83,120	1,83,120	1,53,360	1,50,798
Fisheries	Marine fish and prawn catch	Tonnes	37,481.43	33,902.00	38,238.03	41,724.13	42,985.45
Fisheries	Inland fish catch	Tonnes	6,025.66	3,795.40	4,332.29	3,686.90	7,191.45

Sector	Indicator	Unit	Puducherry at a Glance 2020	Puducherry at a Glance 2021	Puducherry at a Glance 2022	Puducherry at a Glance 2023	Puducherry at a Glance 2024
Fisheries	Total fish catch	Tonnes	43,507.09	37,697.40	42,570.32	45,411.03	50,176.90

Source: Puducherry at a Glance 2020, Puducherry at a Glance 2021, Puducherry at a Glance 2022, Puducherry at a Glance 2023 and Puducherry at a Glance 2024, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry.

Annexure Table A6. Consolidated Indicators: Banking, Transport, Tourism and Civil Supplies

Sector	Indicator	Unit	Puducherry at a Glance 2020	Puducherry at a Glance 2021	Puducherry at a Glance 2022	Puducherry at a Glance 2023	Puducherry at a Glance 2024
Banking	Scheduled commercial banks, PSCB, PCCLDB and RRB branches	Number	276	277	277	277	297
Banking	Deposits	₹ crore	17,267.47	20,063.58	22,802.00	22,802.02	27,936.70
Banking	Credit	₹ crore	12,712.59	14,908.08	16,992.00	16,991.50	21,698.08
Banking	Population per bank branch	Persons	4,605	4,605	4,605	4,505	4,190
Transport	Road length by PWD	km.	741.79	720.68	720.68	723.052	712.89
Tourism	Tourist arrivals - total	Number	18,63,201	5,54,337	5,54,337	17,64,932	23,27,799
Tourism	Foreign tourist arrivals	Number	1,49,919	41,754	41,754	862	57,538
Civil Supplies	All ration cards	Number	3,44,718	3,45,918	3,45,918	3,54,255	3,62,540
Civil Supplies	Total BPL ration cards	Number	1,78,180	1,77,795	1,83,397	1,91,578	2,06,619
Civil Supplies	Fair price shops	Number	513	513	513	513	513

Source: Puducherry at a Glance 2020, Puducherry at a Glance 2021, Puducherry at a Glance 2022, Puducherry at a Glance 2023 and Puducherry at a Glance 2024, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry.

Annexure Table A7. Formulae Used for Derived Indicators

Derived Indicator	Unit	Formula Used
Credit-Deposit Ratio	Percentage	$\text{Credit} \div \text{Deposits} \times 100$
BPL Share in Ration Cards	Percentage	$\text{Total BPL ration cards} \div \text{All ration cards} \times 100$
Foreign Tourist Share	Percentage	$\text{Foreign tourist arrivals} \div \text{Total tourist arrivals} \times 100$
Gross Irrigated Area Intensity	Percentage	$\text{Gross area irrigated} \div \text{Net area sown} \times 100$
Projected Sex Ratio	Females per 1,000 males	$\text{Projected female population} \div \text{Projected male population} \times 1,000$
Projected Population Density	Persons per sq. km.	$\text{Projected total population} \div \text{Geographical area}$

Source: Derived by Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry from the source tables cited in this chapter.

Annexure Table A8. Reference-period and Series Notes

Indicator Group	Unit / Nature	Reference-period Note
Demographic indicators	Reference-period note	U.T.-level projected population by sex is based on the 2011-2036 projection table. Region-wise estimated population is based on the Directorate's regional series. Census 2011 structural indicators are retained only where no later official projected substitute is available.
Literacy indicators	Reference-period note	U.T.-level literacy rate has been updated using PLFS 2025. Region-wise literacy, where shown, is retained only as Census 2011 regional reference.
Health indicators	Reference-period note	As reproduced from the respective editions of Puducherry at a Glance published by the Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry.

Indicator Group	Unit / Nature	Reference-period Note
Agriculture indicators	Reference-period note	Reference years vary across publications; values are reproduced publication-wise without interpolation.
Banking indicators	Reference-period note	As-on dates vary across publications as printed in the source tables.
Tourism indicators	Reference-period note	Reference periods vary across editions; the movement is interpreted publication-wise.
State Income indicators	Reference-period note	Base Year 2011-12 series; 2025-26 estimates are Provisional. Values, growth rates and shares may vary after the revision of base year to 2022-23.

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry. Notes compiled for the Economic Survey of U.T. of Puducherry 2025-26.



COMPARISON OF U.T. OF PUDUCHERRY WITH INDIA



*A shared journey of development
and prosperity*



COMPARISON OF U.T. OF PUDUCHERRY WITH INDIA

Selected Major Socio-Economic Indicators

The comparative position of the Union Territory of Puducherry with India has to be understood not merely in terms of absolute size, but in terms of development intensity. Puducherry occupies a very small geographical area, but the available indicators show a relatively high concentration of population, economic activity, service-sector relevance, health outcomes and income generation. The comparison therefore presents two dimensions: Puducherry's numerical share in the national total, and its relative standing in rates, ratios and per capita indicators.

The present comparison uses the latest available official values for each indicator. In respect of population, the 2011 Census total has been replaced by the latest available projected population wherever an authorised projected figure is available. Indicators such as urban-rural distribution, sex ratio, child sex ratio, Scheduled Caste population and literacy continue to be shown on the 2011 Census basis wherever matching projected disaggregations are not available in the official source used for this chapter.

For absolute indicators, the comparison percentage represents Puducherry's share in the all-India total. For rates, ratios and percentages, it represents Puducherry's level relative to India, taking India as 100. This distinction is essential because a small territorial unit may have a very small absolute share but a very high relative value in density, per capita income or human development indicators.

Table 1: U.T. of Puducherry and India - Selected Comparative Indicators

Indicator	Year	Unit	U.T. of Puducherry	India	Compare (%)
Area	Latest available	Sq. km.	490	32,87,263	0.01
Population	2025 Projected	Crore persons	0.18	141.10	0.13
Density of population	2025 Projected	Persons per sq. km.	3,642.32	429.24	848.56
Literacy rate - Persons	2011 Census	Percentage	85.85	74.04	115.95
Infant mortality rate	SRS 2022	Per 1,000 live births	6.00	26.00	23.08
GSDP/GDP at current prices	2025-26 (Provisional)	₹ crore	56,396.41	3,57,13,886	0.16
Per Capita Income at current prices	2025-26 (Provisional)	₹	3,23,745	2,19,575	147.44

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry; Puducherry at a Glance 2023; Census of India 2011; SRS 2022; NCP/MoHFW Population Projections; and MoSPI First Advance Estimates 2025-26.

Note: Population is shown on projected basis for 2025. State Income figures are at current prices in the current series with base year 2011-12. The year 2025-26 is Provisional. Following the revision of the base year to 2022-23, the values and related indicators may vary.

1. Scale, population concentration and spatial intensity

Puducherry's area of 490 sq. km. forms only 0.01 per cent of India's geographical area. In population terms, the projected population of the Union Territory is 17,84,738 in 2025, forming 0.13 per cent of India's projected population of 1,41,10,16,000. The updated population figure is important because reliance only on the 2011 Census population would understate the denominator for current per capita and density-related interpretation.

The compact spatial character of Puducherry is reflected more clearly in density. On the 2025 projected population, the density works out to about 3,642 persons per sq. km., compared with about 429 persons per sq. km. for India on the same broad projected basis. Thus, Puducherry's population density is around 848.6 per cent of the all-India level, showing that land, housing, mobility, public utilities and social infrastructure have to function under a much higher intensity of use than in the national average.

This compactness has two policy implications. First, public services can reach citizens with relatively lower geographical dispersion costs. Secondly, urban services, environmental management, waste handling, transport, water supply and health infrastructure require careful capacity planning because small absolute increments in population can translate into high local pressure on land and infrastructure.

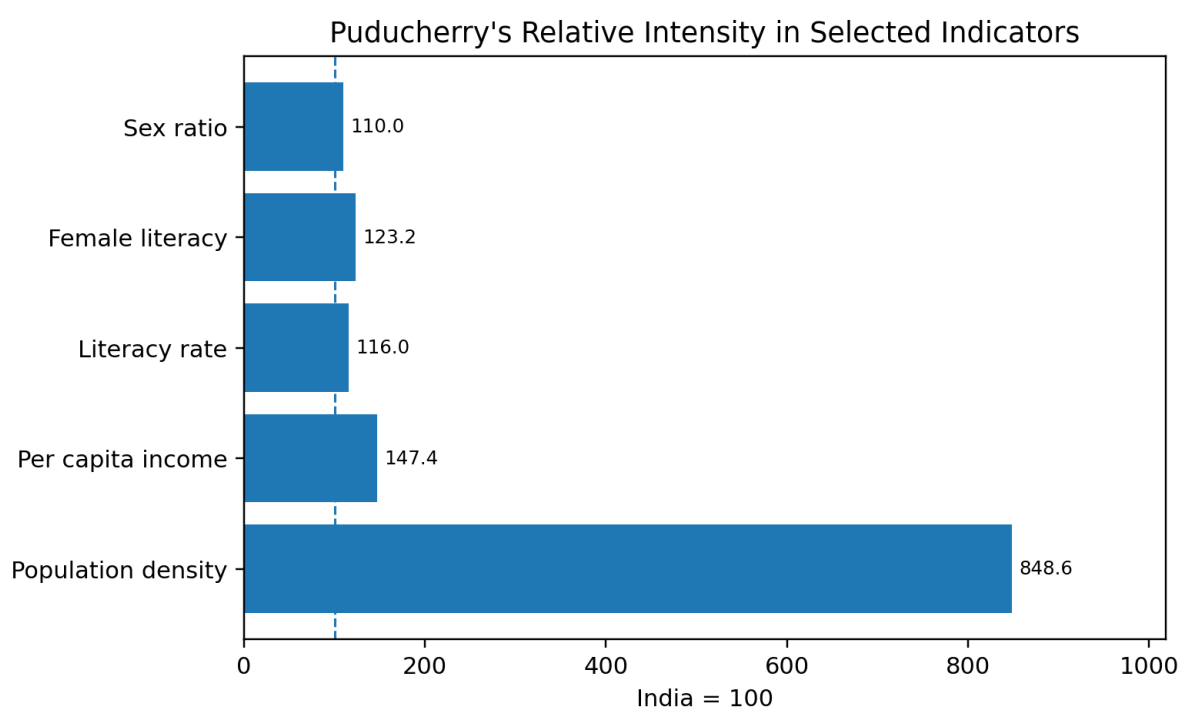


Figure 1: Puducherry's Relative Intensity in Selected Indicators (India = 100)

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry; Census of India 2011; MoSPI First Advance Estimates 2025-26; National Commission on Population, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.

2. Human development indicators

The human development profile of Puducherry is comparatively stronger than the national average. As per the latest available PLFS rural and urban combined literacy figures for persons aged seven years and above, the literacy rate of the Union Territory stood at 94.70 per cent against 81.10 per cent for India. The advantage is particularly visible in female literacy, where Puducherry recorded 91.50 per cent compared with the all-India level of 74.90 per cent. This higher educational base strengthens the employability potential

of the population and supports the transition towards knowledge-intensive and service-led activities.

Gender-related indicators also show a favourable position. The sex ratio of Puducherry stood at 1,037 females per 1,000 males, above the all-India level of 943. The child sex ratio was also higher at 967 girls per 1,000 boys compared with 919 for India. These indicators point to a better demographic balance, although continuous attention is needed to ensure that improvements in education, health and safety translate into wider labour-force participation and social empowerment.

3. Health outcomes and social infrastructure

The comparison of health indicators shows Puducherry's distinct position in basic demographic transition and health outcomes. As per SRS 2022, the birth rate in Puducherry was 12.40 per 1,000 population as against 19.10 at the all-India level. The death rate was 6.60 per 1,000 population, close to but lower than India's 6.80. The most significant difference is in infant mortality: Puducherry recorded 6 infant deaths per 1,000 live births, compared with 26 for India.

The lower infant mortality rate is a strong indicator of access to maternal and child health services, institutional delivery support, immunisation and referral care. For a compact territory, such outcomes also indicate the advantage of service proximity. Going forward, the challenge is to maintain these outcomes while responding to lifestyle diseases, ageing-related health demands and the urban health burden emerging from higher density.

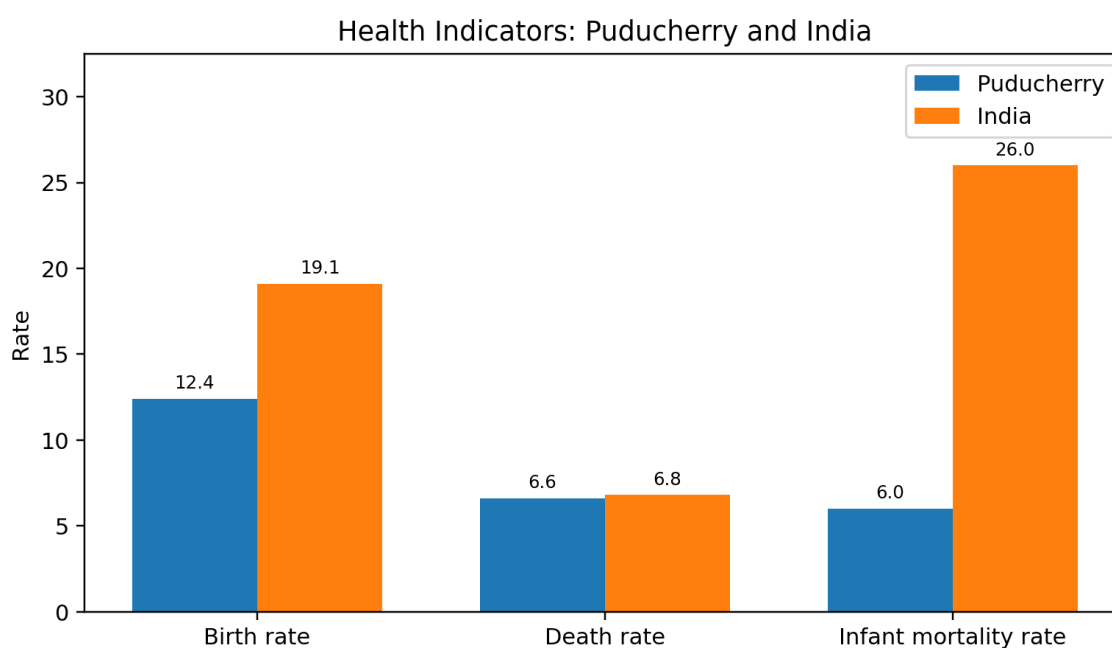


Figure 2: Health Indicators - Puducherry and India

Source: Sample Registration System Statistical Report 2022.

4. Economic growth, income intensity and the LG address

In the State Income series at current prices, Puducherry's GSDP increased from ₹36,998.74 crore in 2019-20 to ₹56,396.41 crore in 2025-26 (Provisional). The turnaround noted in the Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor's address is reflected in the data: GSDP growth at current prices moved from (-)2.21 per cent in 2020-21 to 8.12 per cent in 2025-26. The address also records that the per capita income of Puducherry increased to ₹3,23,745 in 2025-26 and is expected to rise further to ₹3,44,926 in 2026-27, indicating continued income momentum.

Against the national macro-economic context, India's nominal GDP was estimated at ₹3,57,13,886 crore in 2025-26 in the First Advance Estimates, with nominal growth of 8.0 per cent and real GDP growth of 7.4 per cent. Puducherry's GSDP at current prices formed about 0.16 per cent of India's GDP. The share is necessarily small because of the territorial size of the Union Territory, but the per capita comparison shows a much stronger position.

Per capita income at current prices in Puducherry was ₹3,23,745 in 2025-26 (Provisional), compared with the national per capita income of ₹2,19,575. This places Puducherry at about 147.44 per cent of the all-India per capita level. The comparison indicates that Puducherry's economy generates a higher income per person than the national average, supported by its service orientation, urban concentration, fisheries, tourism and relatively strong social infrastructure.

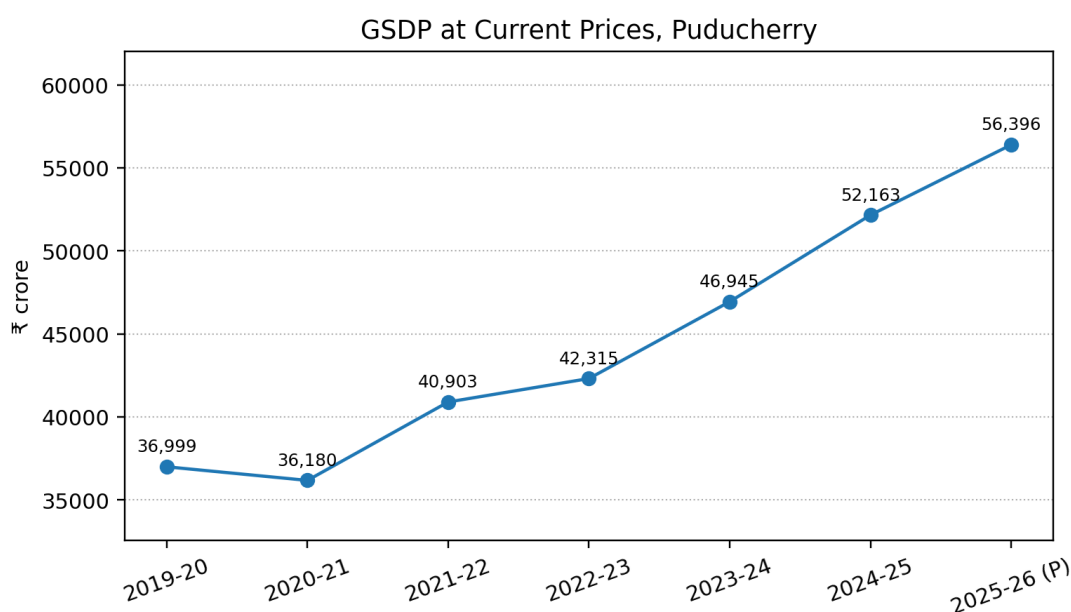


Figure 3: GSDP at Current Prices, Puducherry

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry. Base year: 2011-12. 2025-26: Provisional.

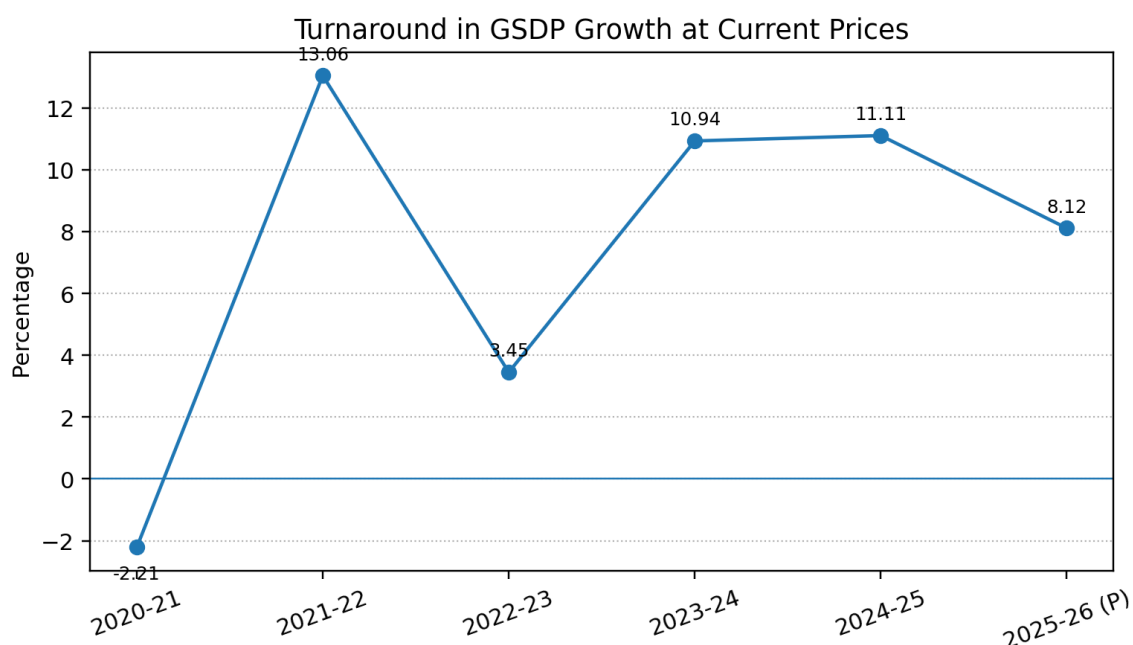


Figure 4: Turnaround in GSDP Growth at Current Prices

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry. Growth rates calculated from GSDP at current prices. Base year: 2011-12. 2025-26: Provisional.

Table 2: GSDP of Puducherry at Current and Constant Prices

Year	GSDP at current prices (₹ crore)	Growth at current prices (%)	GSDP at constant prices (₹ crore)	Growth at constant prices (%)
2019-20	36,998.74		26,411.98	
2020-21	36,179.58	-2.21	24,136.74	-8.61
2021-22	40,902.92	13.06	24,604.46	1.94
2022-23	42,315.29	3.45	25,167.25	2.29
2023-24	46,944.98	10.94	27,164.02	7.93
2024-25	52,162.67	11.11	29,316.44	7.92
2025-26 (Provisional)	56,396.41	8.12	31,507.24	7.47

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry. Base year: 2011-12.

Note: The year 2025-26 is Provisional. Following the revision of the base year to 2022-23, the values and growth rates may vary.

5. Sectoral signatures: fisheries, tourism and agriculture

In agriculture, Puducherry's national share remains naturally modest because of its limited geographical area. However, agricultural activity continues to have local significance in food security, rural livelihoods and land-use balance. The net area sown during 2024-25 was 14,523 hectares. Foodgrains production stood at 48,062 metric tonnes, with rice accounting for the major part of foodgrain output.

Fisheries is a relatively more visible area in the national comparison. Total fish production of 50,176.90 metric tonnes constituted about 0.25 per cent of India's fish production. This share is much higher than Puducherry's area share, indicating the importance of fisheries in the local economy, coastal livelihoods and allied value chains.

Tourism also gives Puducherry a larger functional presence than its territorial size suggests. In calendar year 2024, total tourist arrivals were 21,37,609, consisting mainly of

domestic tourists. Puducherry's share in India's total tourist arrivals was about 0.07 per cent, while its share in foreign tourist arrivals was about 0.09 per cent. The tourism economy is sustained by coastal appeal, heritage assets, cultural identity, institutions, hospitality services and weekend travel demand from neighbouring States.

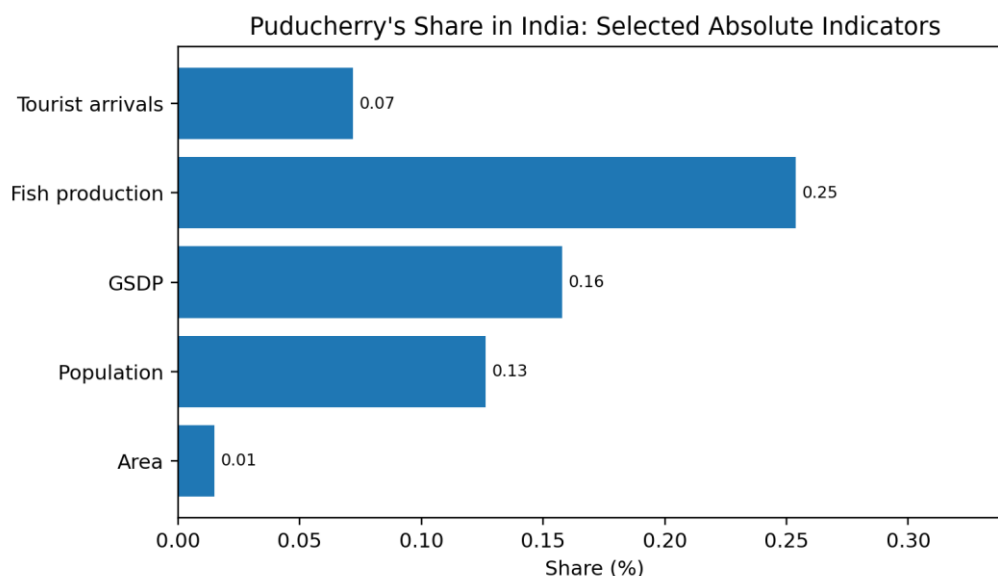


Figure 5: Puducherry's Share in India - Selected Absolute Indicators

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry; Puducherry at a Glance 2023; Census of India 2011; NCP/MoHFW Population Projections; MoSPI First Advance Estimates 2025-26; tourism and fisheries source tables.

6. Overall interpretation

The comparison reveals a clear pattern. Puducherry's contribution to India in absolute terms is necessarily limited by area and population. However, its relative indicators point to a compact, urbanised, comparatively higher-income and socially advanced Union Territory. The density of population, literacy advantage, female literacy, favourable sex ratio, lower infant mortality and higher per capita income together indicate a development profile that is qualitatively stronger than its small numerical scale would suggest.

The policy implication is that Puducherry's development strategy has to be intensity-based rather than scale-based. The emphasis should be on preserving social-sector gains, raising productivity, strengthening urban infrastructure, supporting tourism and fisheries value chains, maintaining fiscal prudence, and preparing public services for a high-density urban environment. In this sense, the comparison with India is not merely a statistical exercise; it is a guide to the specific developmental responsibilities of a small but economically active Union Territory.

Important interpretation note

For absolute indicators, the comparison percentage means Puducherry's share in India. For rates, ratios and percentages, it means Puducherry's level relative to India, with India = 100. State Income figures are at current prices and are based on the current series with 2011-12 as base year. The year 2025-26, wherever shown, is Provisional. After the base year revision to 2022-23, the values and related indicators may vary.

ANNEXURE TABLES

Annexure Table 1: Comparison of U.T. of Puducherry with India - Selected Major Socio-Economic Indicators

Sector	Indicator	Year	Unit	U.T. of Puducherry	India	Comparison with India (%)
Demography	Area	Latest available	Sq. km.	490	32,87,263	0.01
Demography	Population	2025 Projected	Persons	17,84,738	1,41,10,16,000	0.13
Demography	Density of population	2025 Projected	Persons per sq. km.	3,642.32	429.24	848.56
Demography	Urban population	2011 Census	Persons	8,52,753	37,71,06,125	0.23
Demography	Rural population	2011 Census	Persons	3,95,200	83,37,48,852	0.05
Demography	Male population	2011 Census	Persons	6,12,511	62,32,70,258	0.10
Demography	Female population	2011 Census	Persons	6,35,442	58,75,84,719	0.11
Demography	Decadal growth	2011 Census	Percentage	28.10	17.70	158.76
Demography	Sex ratio	2011 Census	Females per 1,000 males	1,037	943	109.97
Demography	Child sex ratio (0-6)	2011 Census	Girls per 1,000 boys	967	919	105.22
Demography	Scheduled Caste population	2011 Census	Persons	1,96,325	20,13,78,086	0.10
Literacy	Literacy rate - Persons	2011 Census	Percentage	85.85	74.04	115.95
Literacy	Literacy rate - Male	2011 Census	Percentage	91.26	82.14	111.10
Literacy	Literacy rate - Female	2011 Census	Percentage	80.67	65.46	123.24
Health	Birth rate	SRS 2022	Per 1,000 population	12.40	19.10	64.92
Health	Death rate	SRS 2022	Per 1,000 population	6.60	6.80	97.06
Health	Infant mortality rate	SRS 2022	Per 1,000 live births	6.00	26.00	23.08
Agriculture	Net area sown	2024-25	Hectares	14,523	14,07,05,000	0.01
Agriculture	Foodgrains production	2024-25	Metric tonnes	48,062	35,39,59,000	0.01
Agriculture	Rice production	2024-25	Metric tonnes	47,049	14,90,74,000	0.03
Agriculture	Sugarcane production	2024-25	Metric tonnes	92,250	45,01,16,000	0.02
Fisheries	Total fish production	2024-25 / latest	Metric tonnes	50,176.90	1,97,75,000	0.25
Animal Husbandry	Milk production	2023-24 / latest	Thousand metric tonnes	49.75	2,39,300	0.02
Animal Husbandry	Egg production	2023-24 / latest	Lakh numbers	114.09	14,27,700	0.01
Tourism	Tourist arrivals - Total	Calendar year 2024	Number	21,37,609	2,96,77,10,252	0.07
Tourism	Domestic tourist arrivals	Calendar year 2024	Number	21,19,790	2,94,71,41,630	0.07
Tourism	Foreign tourist arrivals	Calendar year 2024	Number	17,819	2,05,68,622	0.09
State Income	Gross Domestic Product / GSDP at current prices	2025-26 (Provisional)	₹ lakh	56,39,640.89	3,57,13,88,600.00	0.16

Sector	Indicator	Year	Unit	U.T. of Puducherry	India	Comparison with India (%)
State Income	Per Capita Income at current prices	2025-26 (Provisional)	₹	3,23,745	2,19,575	147.44
State Income	GSDP/GDP growth at current prices	2025-26 (Provisional)	Percentage	8.12	8.00	101.46

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry; Puducherry at a Glance 2023; Census of India 2011; Sample Registration System Statistical Report 2022; Report of the Technical Group on Population Projections, National Commission on Population, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare; MoSPI First Advance Estimates of National Income 2025-26; and respective source tables of agriculture, fisheries, animal husbandry and tourism.

Note: The comparison percentage has different meanings depending on the indicator: share in India for absolute values, and relative level with India = 100 for rates, ratios and percentages. State Income figures use base year 2011-12. The year 2025-26 is Provisional.

Annexure Table 2: Region-wise Estimated Population of the Union Territory of Puducherry, 2011-2025

Year	Puducherry Region (Persons)	Karaikal Region (Persons)	Mahe Region (Persons)	Yanam Region (Persons)	U.T. of Puducherry (Persons)
2011*	9,50,289	2,00,222	41,816	55,626	12,47,953
2012	9,74,973	2,03,431	42,351	58,901	12,79,656
2013	10,00,299	2,06,691	42,892	62,368	13,12,250
2014	10,26,283	2,10,003	43,440	66,040	13,45,766
2015	10,52,942	2,13,369	43,995	69,928	13,80,234
2016	10,80,293	2,16,788	44,558	74,044	14,15,683
2017	11,08,355	2,20,263	45,127	78,404	14,52,149
2018	11,37,145	2,23,793	45,704	83,019	14,89,661
2019	11,66,684	2,27,379	46,289	87,907	15,28,259
2020	11,96,989	2,31,023	46,880	93,082	15,67,974
2021	12,28,082	2,34,725	47,480	98,562	16,08,849
2022	12,59,983	2,38,487	48,086	1,04,364	16,50,920
2023	12,92,712	2,42,309	48,701	1,10,508	16,94,230
2024	13,26,292	2,46,192	49,324	1,17,014	17,38,822
2025	13,60,744	2,50,138	49,954	1,23,902	17,84,738

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry, Area and Population. Figures are as on 1st March. *Actual population.

Note: The 2025 projected population has been used for updating the population-based comparison in this chapter wherever applicable.

Annexure Table 3: GSDP of Puducherry at Current and Constant Prices, 2019-20 to 2025-26

Year	GSDP at current prices (₹ crore)	Growth at current prices (%)	GSDP at constant prices (₹ crore)	Growth at constant prices (%)
2019-20	36,998.74		26,411.98	
2020-21	36,179.58	-2.21	24,136.74	-8.61
2021-22	40,902.92	13.06	24,604.46	1.94
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2023-24	46,944.98	10.94	27,164.02	7.93
2024-25	52,162.67	11.11	29,316.44	7.92
2025-26 (Provisional)	56,396.41	8.12	31,507.24	7.47

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry. Base year: 2011-12.

Note: The year 2025-26 is Provisional. After the base year revision to 2022-23, the values and related indicators may vary.

STATE ECONOMY



*Building a Resilient, Inclusive and
Sustainable Puducherry*

The State economy of Puducherry has demonstrated resilience and steady progress in recent years, underpinned by strong growth in the services sector, a stable industrial base and improving socio-economic indicators. With a focus on inclusive development, diversification and sustainability, the economy is well placed to accelerate growth and enhance the quality of life for all its citizens.



CHAPTER - 1

STATE ECONOMY

1.1 Puducherry is a compact Union Territory with a distinctive regional composition, consisting of Puducherry, Karaikal, Mahe and Yanam. The economy is shaped by a services-led production structure, an important manufacturing and construction base, high population density, coastal livelihoods, public administration, education, health, trade, transport and tourism-linked activities.

1.2 The Union Territory has a non-contiguous geography and each region is linked to a different neighbouring State. This gives the economy a special policy character: growth depends not only on sectoral performance, but also on connectivity, urban services, administrative coordination, market access and reliable public infrastructure across the four regions.

1.3 This chapter presents an integrated overview of the principal economic and social developments covered in the Survey. It brings together the major findings relating to State Income, Population, Prices, Public Distribution, Public Finance, Institutional Finance, Agriculture, Industry, Infrastructure and the Social Sector.

Indicator	Latest position
GSDP at current prices, 2025-26*	₹ 56,396.41 crore
GSDP at constant prices, 2025-26*	₹ 31,507.24 crore
Real GSDP growth, 2025-26*	7.47 per cent
Per capita GSDP at current prices, 2025-26*	₹ 3,23,745
Projected population, 2026	17.57 lakh persons
Revenue Receipts, 2025-26 (BE)	₹ 11,498.58 crore
SCB deposits and credit, 2025-26	₹ 36,049.45 crore and ₹ 29,515.66 crore
Total vehicle registrations, 2025-26	77,576

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry; Annual Financial Statement 2025-26, Government of Puducherry; Lead Bank, Puducherry; Transport Department, Government of Puducherry.

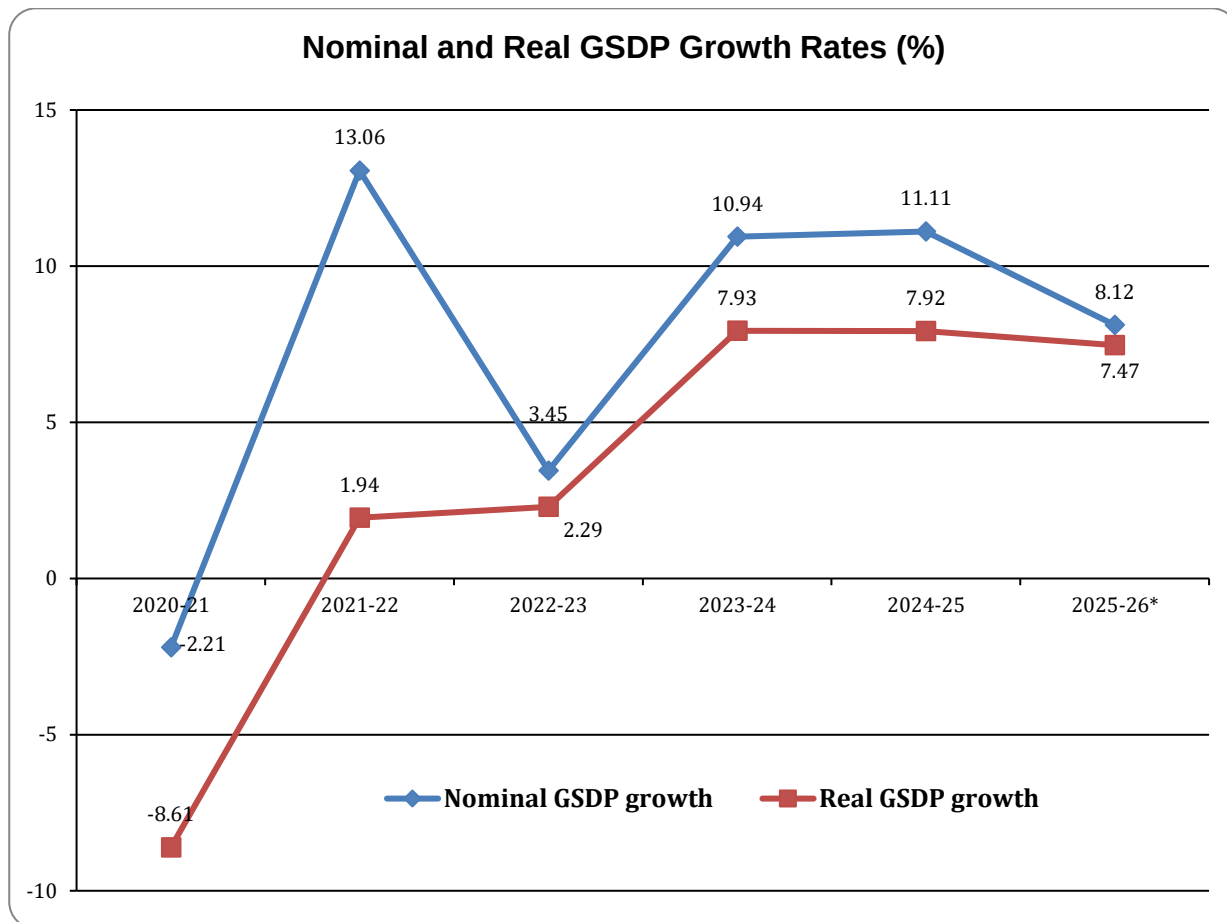
Note: State Income estimates for 2025-26 are Provisional. Revenue Receipts relate to Budget Estimates 2025-26. Other indicators relate to the latest available official data.

State Income

1.4 As per the 2011-12 base year series, the Gross State Domestic Product at current prices is placed at ₹ 56,396.41 crore in 2025-26 (Provisional), compared with ₹ 52,162.67 crore in 2024-25. At constant prices, GSDP is placed at ₹ 31,507.24 crore in 2025-26 (Provisional), compared with ₹ 29,316.44 crore in 2024-25. The nominal growth rate is 8.12 per cent and the real growth rate is 7.47 per cent in 2025-26 (Provisional).

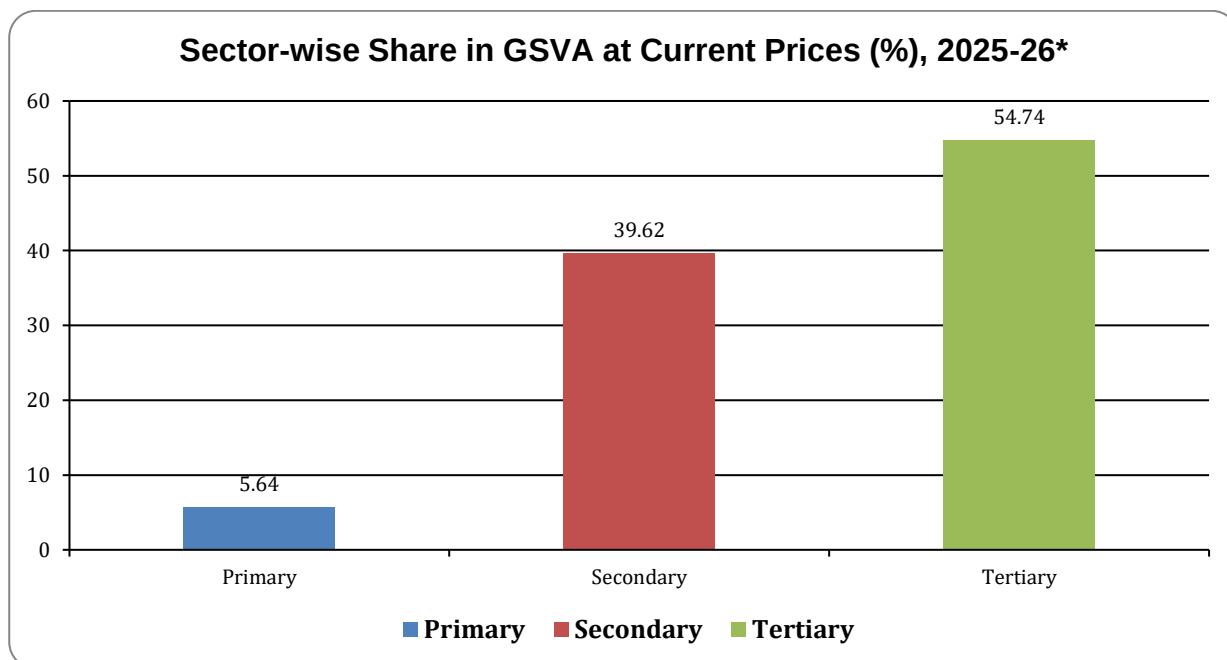
1.5 The structure of value addition confirms the character of Puducherry as a services-led and secondary-sector-supported economy. In 2025-26 (Provisional), the tertiary sector accounts for 54.74 per cent of GSVA at current prices, the secondary sector for 39.62 per cent and the primary sector for 5.64 per cent. After adoption of the revised 2022-23 base year, the absolute values, growth rates, sectoral shares and related indicators may vary from the present 2011-12 base series.

Chart 1. Nominal and Real GSDP Growth Rates



Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Government of Puducherry. Base year: 2011-12. Note: 2025-26 is Provisional.

Chart 2. Sector-wise Share in GSVA at Current Prices



Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Government of Puducherry. Base year: 2011-12. Note: 2025-26 is Provisional.

Population

1.6 The projected population of the Union Territory is 17.57 lakh in 2026, with 8.29 lakh males and 9.28 lakh females. The projected sex ratio is 1,119 females per 1,000 males and the density is about 3,586 persons per sq. km. Literacy among persons aged seven years and above is 94.7 per cent as per PLFS 2025. These indicators show a human-resource base with favourable literacy and gender composition, but they also point to pressure on land, schools, health facilities, housing, transport and civic services.

Prices

1.7 The Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers (CPI-IW), base 2016=100, recorded an annual average index of 158.8 for Puducherry Centre during calendar year 2024, compared with the All-India General Index of 141.6. These index levels measure cumulative movement from the 2016 base and should not be interpreted as a direct comparison of absolute cost-of-living levels.

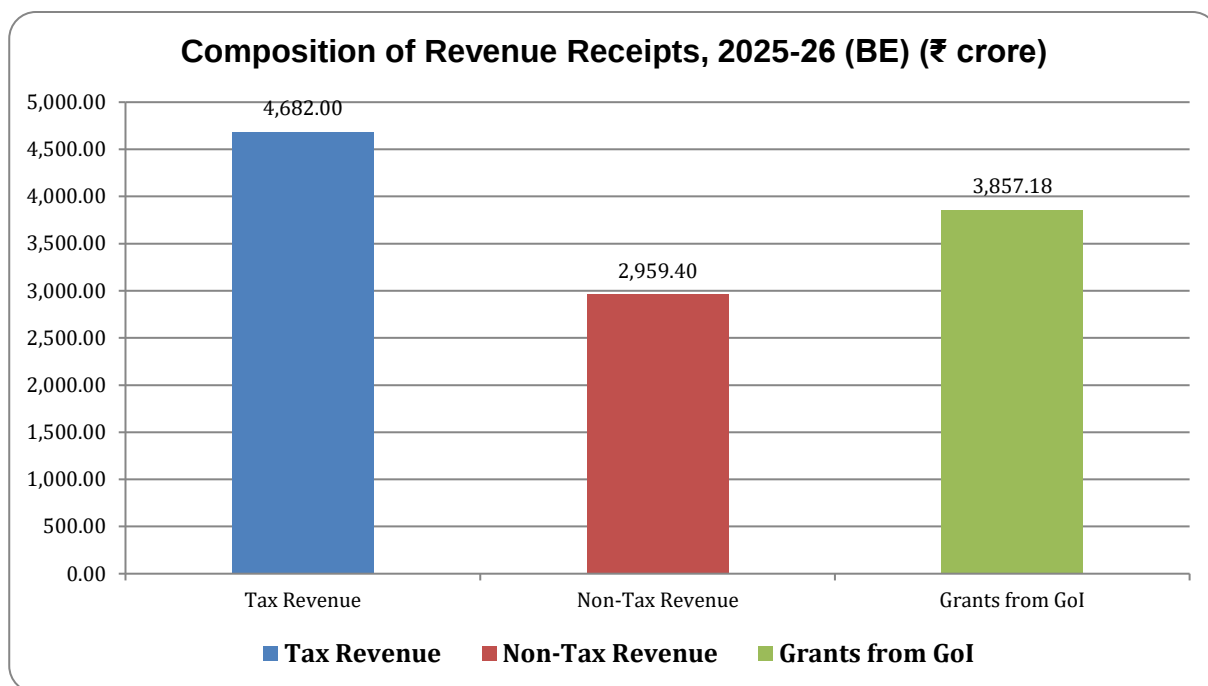
Public Distribution

1.8 Public distribution in Puducherry has a strong welfare orientation. As on 31 March 2024, the Union Territory had 3,62,540 ration cards and 516 Fair Price Shops, with an average of about 703 ration cards per Fair Price Shop. PHH and AAY cardholders together formed about 57.0 per cent of total ration cards, while NPHH cardholders accounted for 43.0 per cent. Food-grain support is largely administered through Direct Benefit Transfer, which places importance on timely credit, beneficiary database accuracy and close monitoring of market prices.

Public Finance

1.9 As per the Annual Financial Statement, the Consolidated Fund for 2025-26 is placed at ₹13,600 crore on both the receipts and disbursements sides. Revenue Receipts are budgeted at ₹11,498.58 crore, comprising Tax Revenue of ₹4,682.00 crore, Non-Tax Revenue of ₹2,959.40 crore and Grants from the Government of India of ₹3,857.18 crore. Own Revenue, consisting of tax and non-tax receipts, amounts to ₹7,641.40 crore and accounts for 66.46 per cent of total Revenue Receipts, while Grants from the Government of India constitute 33.54 per cent. The composition indicates that own resources form the larger part of the revenue base, though Central assistance continues to be an important fiscal component.

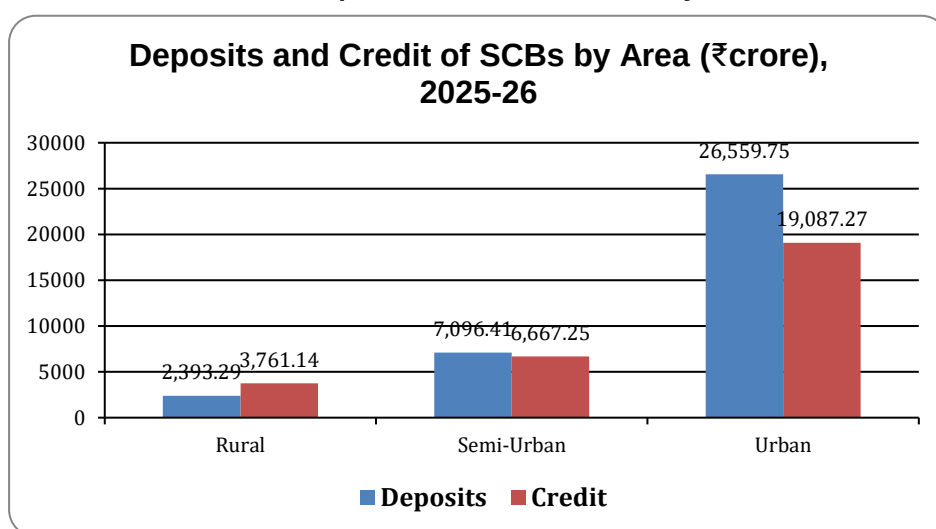
1.10 The Demands for Grants for 2025-26 aggregate to ₹13,600 crore. Electricity constitutes the largest demand at ₹2,899.39 crore, followed by Public Debt at ₹1,866.57 crore, Finance at ₹1,579.53 crore, Education at ₹1,364.60 crore and Health at ₹1,061.10 crore. The concentration of allocations under these major heads highlights the fiscal importance of the power sector, debt servicing, financial administration and human-development services.

Chart 3. Composition of Revenue Receipts

Source: Annual Financial Statement / Budget Estimate 2025-26, Government of Puducherry.

Institutional Finance

1.11 The scheduled commercial banking system reported 315 banking offices in 2025-26. Deposits stood at ₹ 36,049.45 crore and credit at ₹ 29,515.66 crore, resulting in an overall Credit-Deposit Ratio of 81.88 per cent. Rural branches recorded a high CD ratio of 157.15 per cent, indicating credit deployment in excess of rural deposit mobilisation. Priority-sector outstanding advances stood at ₹ 16,258.08 crore in 2025-26, of which agriculture and allied activities accounted for 55.52 per cent and MSMEs for 34.30 per cent.

Chart 4. Deposits and Credit of SCBs by Area

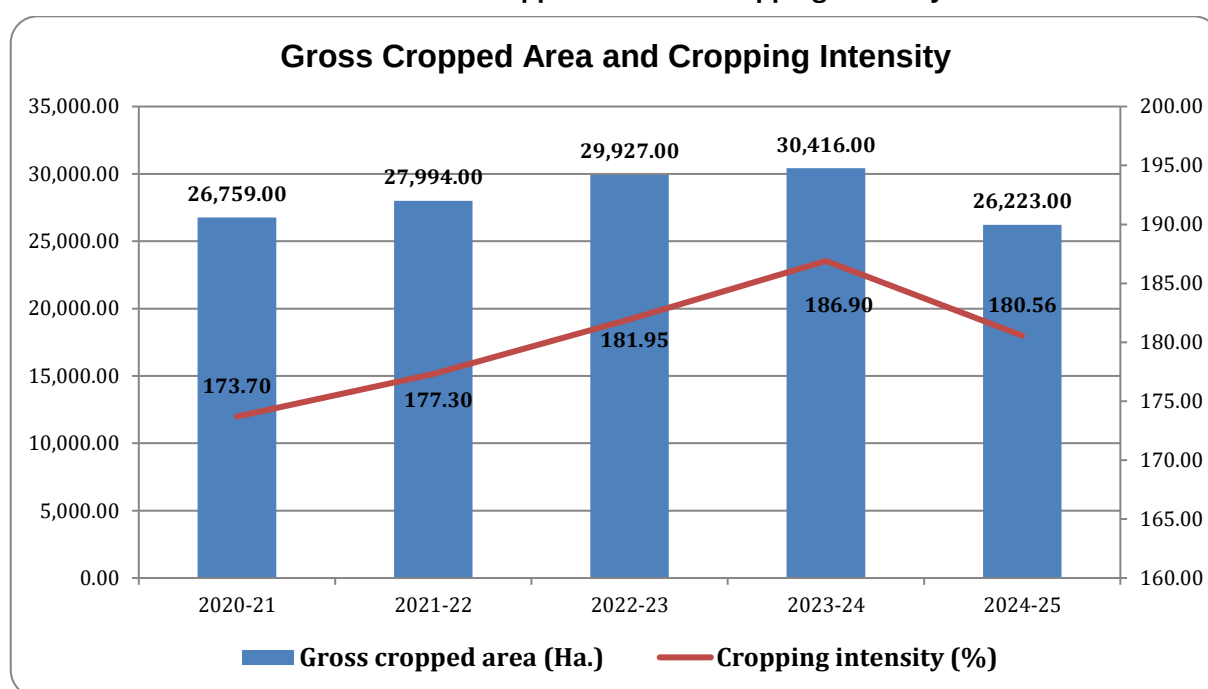
Source: Lead Bank, Puducherry.

Agriculture & allied activities

1.12 Agriculture and allied activities form a compact but strategically important livelihood system in Puducherry. In 2024-25, net area sown was 14,523 hectares, gross cropped area was 26,223 hectares and cropping intensity remained high at 180.56 per cent. Net irrigated area stood at 13,789 hectares. Fertilizer use was 25,110.680 MT in 2025-26 and registered farmers numbered 21,311. The sectoral message is clear: in a land-scarce economy, productivity, irrigation reliability, crop planning, allied activities and value addition matter more than area expansion.

1.13 Allied activities give the primary sector its livelihood depth. Total livestock was 1,51,368 and poultry population was 2,35,999 as per the Livestock Census 2019. Fisheries population was 1,14,014 and total fish production was 46,772.35 MT in 2023-24. These activities remain important for nutrition, household income and region-specific livelihoods, even though the primary sector accounts for a relatively small share of GSVA.

Chart 5. Gross Cropped Area and Cropping Intensity



Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry.

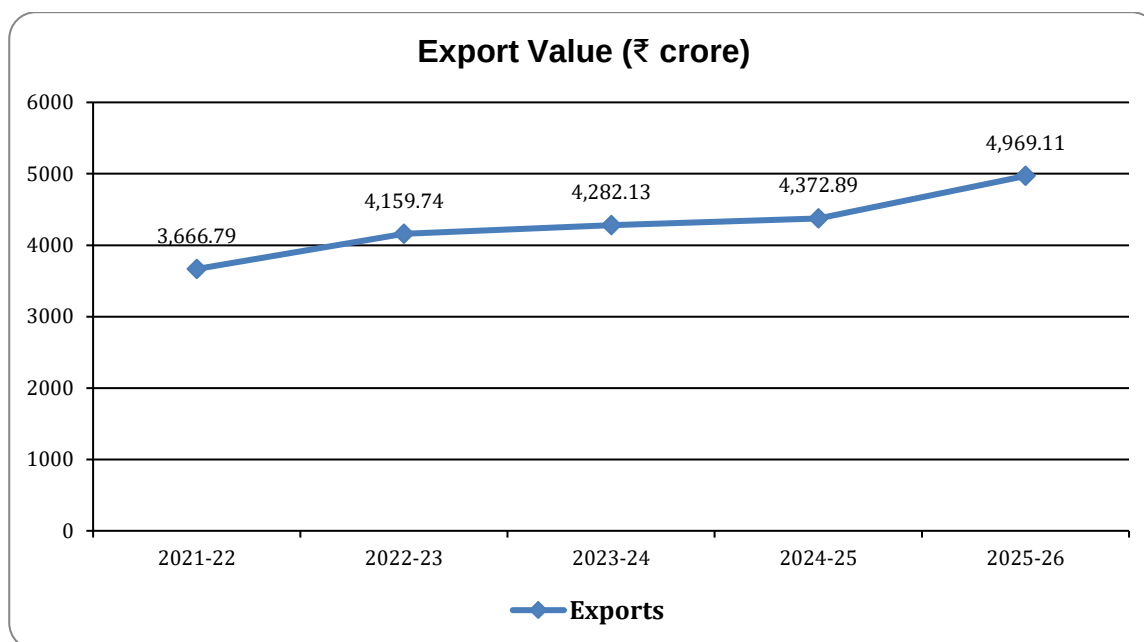
Industry and Co-operation

1.14 Industry remains central to Puducherry's secondary sector. The Industries Department's administrative return reported 69 manufacturing units in 2025-26, with employment of 1,395 persons and investment of ₹13,966.89 lakh. Export value increased steadily from ₹ 3,666.79 crore in 2021-22 to ₹ 4,969.11 crore in 2025-26, showing the continued relevance of external market linkage. The ASI factory-sector series also shows improvement in value addition, with GVA rising to ₹ 7,89,106 lakh in 2023-24.

1.15 The co-operative sector complements industrial and livelihood activity. The number of functional co-operative societies and banks remained at 445 as on 31 March 2022 and 31 March 2023, and increased to 470 as on 31 March 2024. Non-credit co-

operatives formed the larger segment, supporting milk producers, fishermen, housing, labour, consumers and community-based activities. This institutional network gives the economy a channel for inclusive participation beyond purely private enterprise.

Chart 6. Export Value



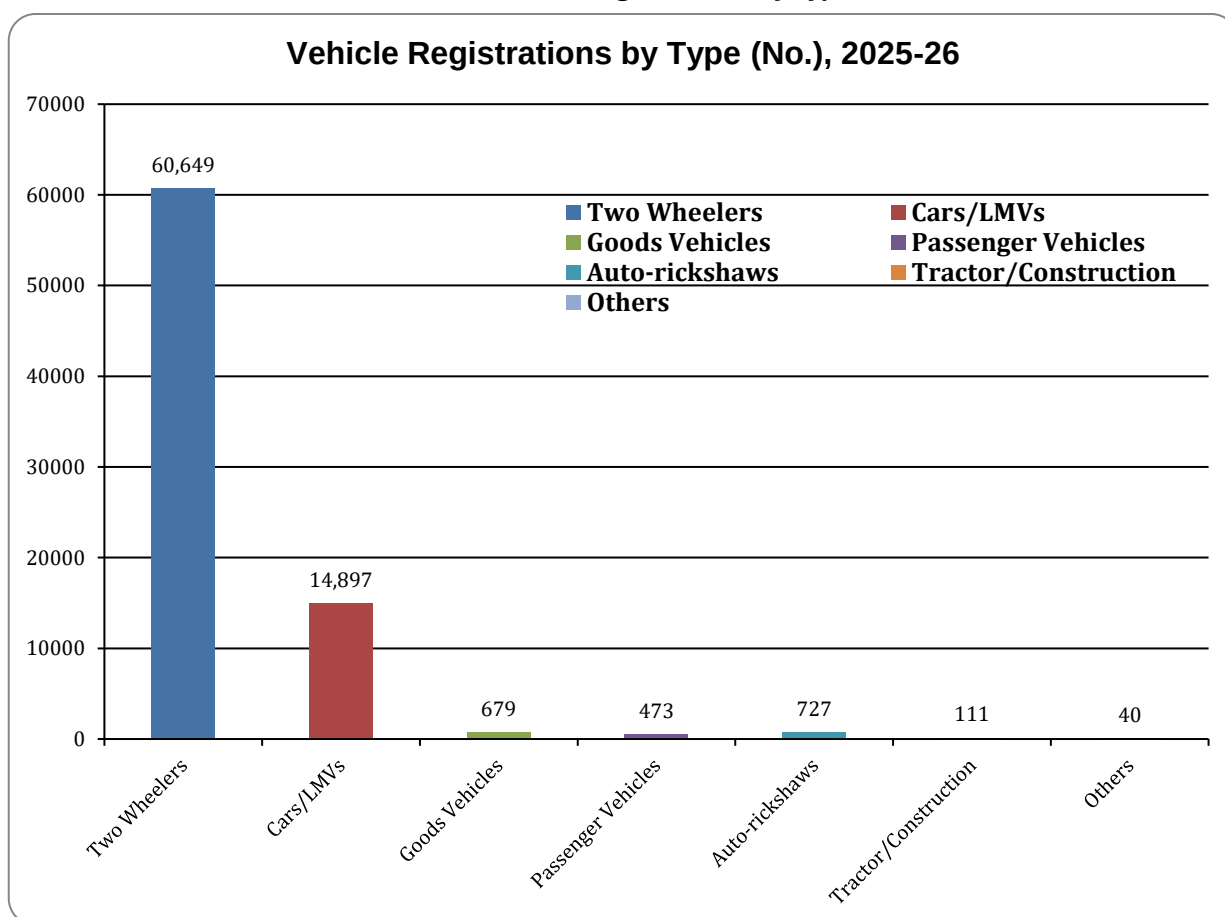
Source: Industries Department, Puducherry.

Infrastructure

1.16 Infrastructure provides the operating base for economic activity and public service delivery. High-tension electricity lines increased to 2,458.122 km and transformers to 3,532 in 2025-26. Peak demand stood at 565.12 MW and reported transmission and distribution loss was 10.00 per cent. The electricity consumer base reached 5,46,782 connections in 2025-26, dominated by domestic consumers, followed by other and commercial connections.

1.17 Road transport indicators show rising mobility demand. Total vehicle registrations increased from 43,323 in 2021-22 to 77,576 in 2025-26, with two-wheelers accounting for the major share. Transport Department receipts from the reported components increased to ₹ 138.37 crore in 2025-26. The airport handled 1,216 aircraft movements and 34,190 passengers during April-March 2024-25, while port infrastructure retains long-term relevance for coastal logistics and regional connectivity.

Chart 7. Vehicle Registrations by Type



Source: Transport Department, Government of Puducherry.

Social sector

1.18 Social sector outcomes are central to the quality and inclusiveness of growth. In 2025-26, the school education system comprised 762 institutions, with an enrolment of 2,32,266 students and 13,852 teachers, resulting in a student-teacher ratio of 16.77. As per AISHE 2021-22, higher education enrolment stood at 94,643, of whom female students accounted for 52.64 per cent. These indicators reflect the strength of Puducherry's human-capital base, while also underlining the need to sustain educational quality, improve retention and strengthen the transition from education to employability.

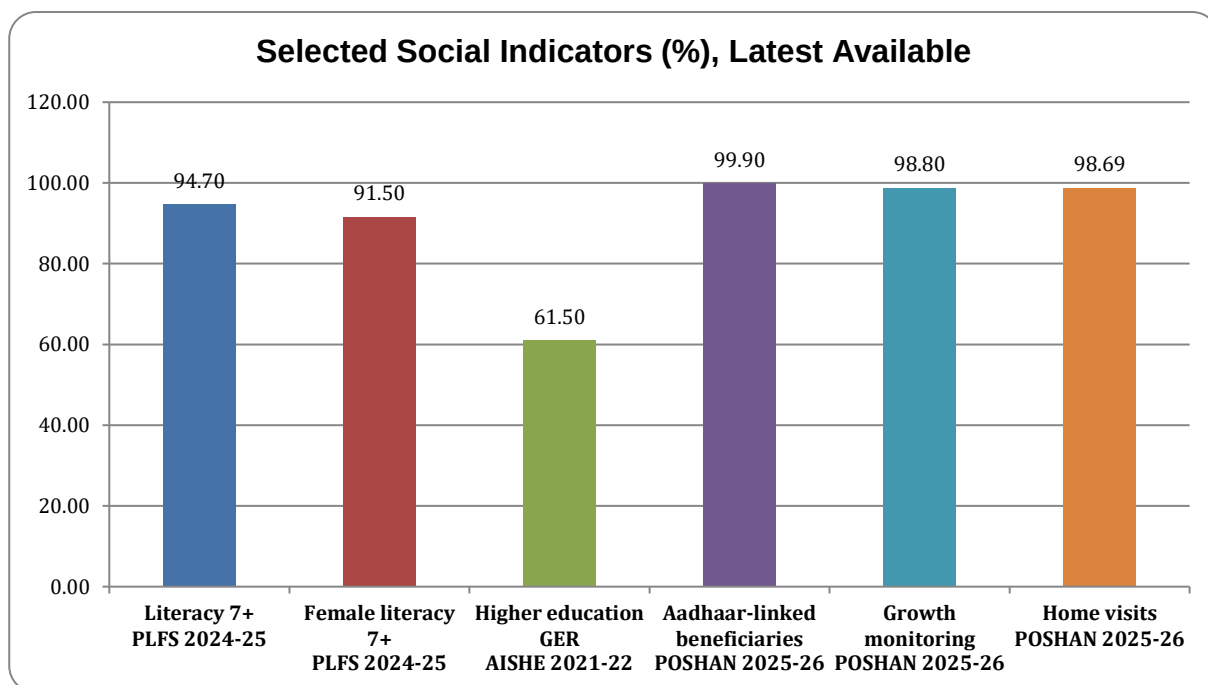
1.19 The U.T. Government health network comprised 5 hospitals, 2 medical college hospitals, 4 Community Health Centres, 47 Primary Health Centres and 84 Sub-Centres in 2025-26. The number of beds in U.T. Government hospitals stood at 700, while JIPMER had 2,210 beds. Per capita health expenditure was ₹5,478. Although the institutional network constitutes an important strength, the decline in the number of specialists to 50 in 2025-26 highlights the need for sustained planning and recruitment of specialised medical personnel.

1.20 The Women and Child Development network had 855 Anganwadi Centres, all operational, with 26,932 beneficiaries in the 0-6 age group in 2025-26. POSHAN Tracker indicators show major administrative improvement: Aadhaar-linked beneficiaries stood at 99.90 per cent, growth monitoring at 98.80 per cent and home visits at 98.69 per cent.

Women welfare beneficiaries increased to 63,996 in 2025-26, and financial assistance to differently abled persons increased to ₹ 8,862 lakh. These indicators show the welfare system moving towards beneficiary-level tracking and income-support intensity.

Note: School education, health, Women and Child Development and social-welfare figures for 2025-26 are Provisional. PLFS and AISHE indicators relate to the reference years stated.

Chart 8. Selected Social Indicators



Source: PLFS 2025; AISHE 2021-22; Department of Women and Child Development, Puducherry, 2025-26.

Note: The POSHAN 2025 figures mentioned in Chart-8 are provisional.

Conclusion

1.21 The overall picture is that Puducherry has a service-led economy supported by secondary-sector activity, high literacy, a favourable sex ratio, an active banking system, rising exports, expanding mobility demand and a broad social welfare network. The immediate policy emphasis lies in strengthening real growth, improving fiscal space, raising the productivity of agriculture and allied activities, supporting MSMEs and manufacturing, modernising infrastructure, and converting strong social-sector coverage into better human-capital and livelihood outcomes.

ANNEXURE TABLES

Annexure Table 1. Selected indicators used for State Economy overview

Sl. No.	Indicator	Unit	Latest value / reference period
1	GSDP at current prices	₹ crore	56,396.41; 2025-26 (Provisional)
2	GSDP at constant prices	₹ crore	31,507.24; 2025-26 (Provisional)
3	Tertiary sector share in GSVA	Per cent	54.74; 2025-26 (Provisional)
4	Projected population	Lakh persons	17.57; 2026
5	Literacy rate, 7 years and above	Per cent	94.7; PLFS 2025
6	Revenue receipts	₹ crore	11,498.58; 2025-26 (BE)
7	Credit-Deposit Ratio	Per cent	81.88; 2025-26
8	Gross cropped area	Hectare	26,223; 2024-25
9	Export value	₹ crore	4,969.11; 2025-26
10	Vehicle registrations	Number	77,576; 2025-26
11	School students	Number	2,32,266; 2025-26
12	Women welfare beneficiaries	Number	63,996; 2025-26

Source: Compiled from the relevant chapters of the Economic Survey of U.T. of Puducherry 2025-26. State Income indicators for 2025-26 are Provisional and relate to the 2011-12 base year series. Revenue Receipts relate to Budget Estimates 2025-26. Other indicators relate to the reference periods indicated in the table.

Annexure Table 2. Chart data series and source linkage

Chart No.	Chart title	Data series used	Source linkage
1	Nominal and Real GSDP Growth Rates (%)	Nominal GSDP growth; Real GSDP growth	DES, Puducherry
2	Sector-wise Share in GSVA at Current Prices (%), 2025-26*	Share in GSVA	DES, Puducherry
3	Composition of Revenue Receipts, 2025-26 (BE) (₹ crore)	Amount	Annual Financial Statement / Budget Estimate 2025-26, Government of Puducherry
4	Deposits and Credit of SCBs by Area (₹ crore), 2025-26	Deposits; Credit	Lead Bank, Puducherry
5	Gross Cropped Area and Cropping Intensity	Gross cropped area (Ha.); Cropping intensity (%)	DES, Puducherry
6	Export Value (₹ crore)	Exports	Industries Department, Puducherry
7	Vehicle Registrations by Type (No.), 2025-26	Registrations	Transport Department, Puducherry
8	Selected Social Indicators (%), Latest Available	Percentage	PLFS, AISHE and WCD Department, Puducherry

POPULATION

*People are the real wealth of a nation.
Understanding our population today
shapes a stronger tomorrow.*



CHAPTER - 2

POPULATION

Population is the basic human resource of an economy and the most important denominator for public policy. It determines the scale of demand for education, health care, housing, transport, drinking water, sanitation, social security and employment. In a compact Union Territory such as Puducherry, demographic change carries a distinctive policy significance: even moderate increases in population translate into visible pressure on land, urban services and civic infrastructure, while improvements in literacy, health and gender balance directly strengthen the productive capacity of the economy.

This chapter uses official projected population figures wherever such figures are available. The population size, sex composition and related derived ratios have therefore been updated using the Government of India population projection series for 2011-2036. Census 2011 figures are retained only for structural indicators for which comparable post-Census official disaggregated figures are not available, such as region-wise rural-urban distribution, Scheduled Caste population and child sex ratio. Literacy and current labour-market indicators have been updated using the Annual Report, Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS), 2025 (January–December 2025).

Note: Population projection values are as on 1st March of the respective year and are shown in thousand persons in the official source. Sex ratio and female share are calculated from the projected male and female population values; density is calculated using the projected population and the U.T. area of 490 sq. km. Census 2011 values are used only as a historical and structural benchmark wherever current projected or survey-based figures are not available.

2.1 Demographic Size and Official Projection Benchmark

As per the Government of India population projection series, the population of the Union Territory of Puducherry is projected at 1,757 thousand persons, or 17.57 lakh, in 2026. The corresponding male population is projected at 8.29 lakh and female population at 9.28 lakh. This represents an increase of 509 thousand persons over 2011, equivalent to a rise of 40.8 per cent over the fifteen-year period. The projected population is expected to reach 21.84 lakh by 2036.

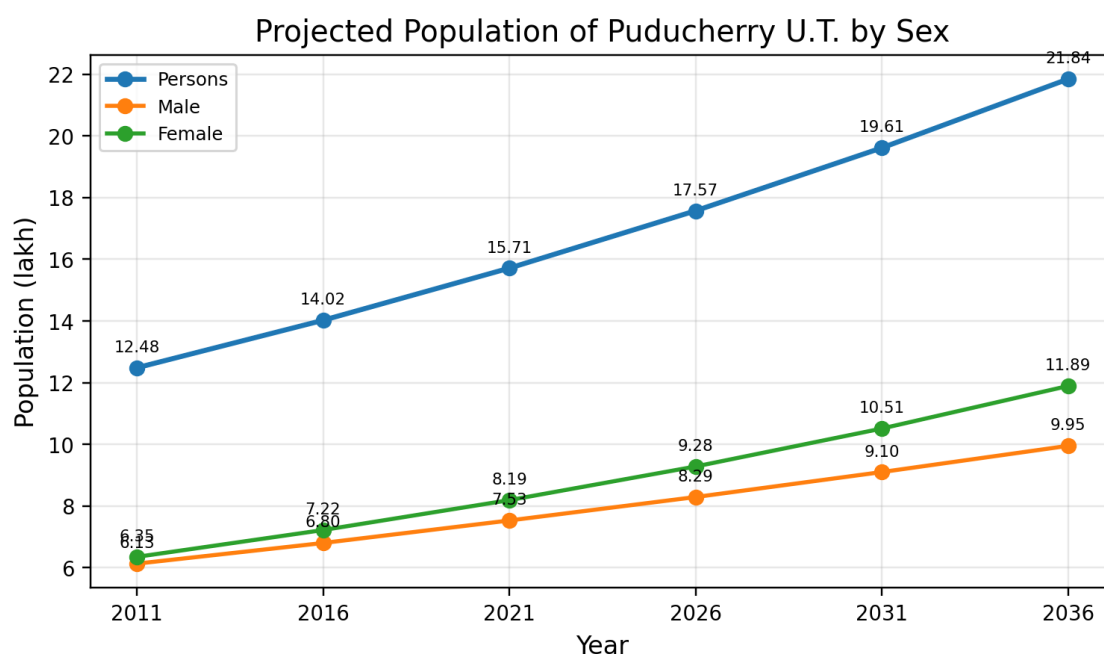
The official projection indicates a steady rather than abrupt demographic expansion. The compound annual growth implied by the projection is about 2.31 per cent during 2011-2026 and 2.20 per cent during 2026-2036. In policy terms, this is sufficient to affect school enrolment norms, hospital catchments, urban service capacities, housing demand and public distribution logistics. With the area of the Union Territory at 490 sq. km., the projected 2026 population implies an overall density of about 3,586 persons per sq. km., underlining the need for compact and efficient service delivery.

Table 2.1: Projected Population of Puducherry U.T. by Sex

Year	Persons (000)	Persons (lakh)	Male (000)	Female (000)	Female share (%)	Sex ratio (females per 1,000 males)
2011	1,248	12.48	613	635	50.9	1,036
2016	1,402	14.02	680	722	51.5	1,062
2021	1,571	15.71	753	819	52.1	1,088
2026	1,757	17.57	829	928	52.8	1,119
2031	1,961	19.61	910	1,051	53.6	1,155
2036	2,184	21.84	995	1,189	54.4	1,195

Source: Report of the Technical Group on Population Projections for India and States, 2011-2036, National Commission on Population, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, Table 8 (Contd.).

Note: Values are as on 1st March of each year. Figures in lakh and derived ratios are calculated from the official values in thousand persons. Male and female figures may not add exactly to persons because of rounding.

**Figure 2.1: Projected Population of Puducherry U.T. by Sex**

Source: Same as Table 2.1.

2.2 Sex Composition and Gender Balance

The projected sex composition remains favourable to females throughout the projection period. The sex ratio is projected to increase from 1,036 females per 1,000 males in 2011 to 1,119 in 2026 and 1,195 in 2036. The female share in the total projected population is 52.8 per cent in 2026. This demographic strength has important implications for health services, education, women-oriented livelihood programmes, urban safety, elderly care and social protection.

A favourable overall sex ratio is a development asset, but it does not reduce the importance of continued attention to the girl child and adolescent health. The child sex ratio

is still available only from Census 2011 at region level and is therefore retained as a structural benchmark in the annexure. Future survey and administrative systems may usefully track gender indicators at the regional level to support targeted interventions.

Table 2.2: Projected Gender Composition of Puducherry U.T.

Year	Male population (000)	Female population (000)	Female share (%)	Sex ratio (females per 1,000 males)
2011	613	635	50.9	1,036
2016	680	722	51.5	1,062
2021	753	819	52.1	1,088
2026	829	928	52.8	1,119
2031	910	1,051	53.6	1,155
2036	995	1,189	54.4	1,195

Source: Calculated from Report of the Technical Group on Population Projections for India and States, 2011-2036, National Commission on Population, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, Table 8 (Contd.).

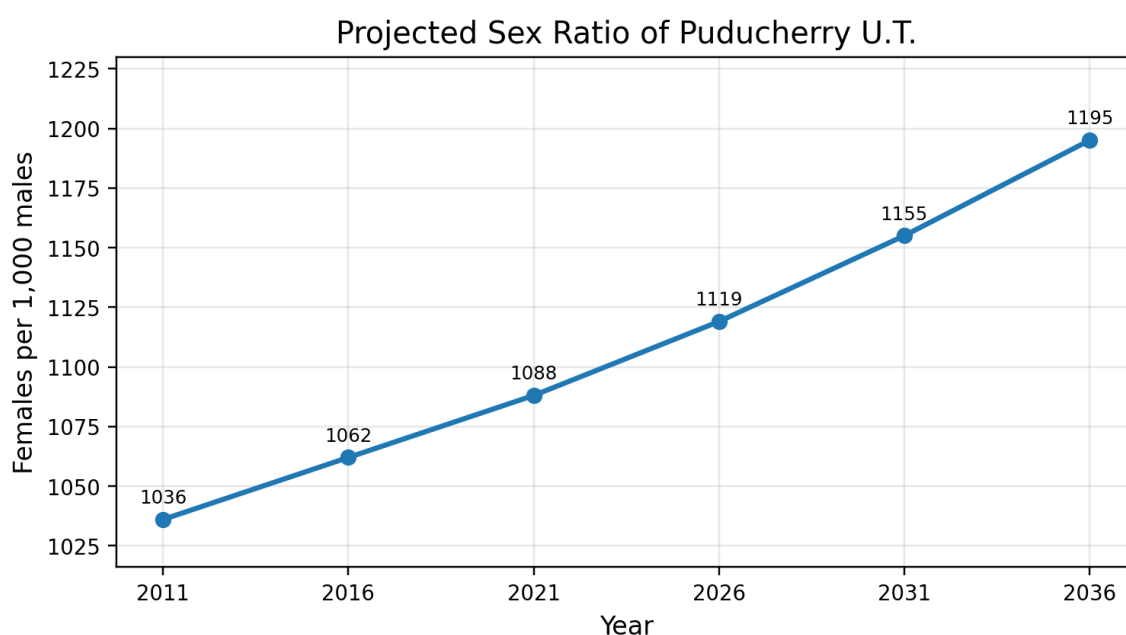


Figure 2.2: Projected Sex Ratio of Puducherry U.T.

Source: Same as Table 2.2.

2.3 Regional Distribution, Density and Urbanisation

Region-wise projected population figures are not available in the projection source. Accordingly, the regional distribution is presented from Census 2011 as a structural baseline. This baseline remains useful for understanding the geography of population concentration: the Puducherry region accounted for more than three-fourths of the population, while Karaikal, Mahe and Yanam together formed the remaining one-fourth. The compact geography also gives Puducherry a high population density, especially in Mahe and the Puducherry region.

The regional pattern has planning relevance. Concentration in the Puducherry region strengthens the economies of scale in tertiary services, education, health and administration, but it also increases the need for integrated urban mobility, water security, solid waste management, drainage and affordable housing. For the outlying regions, the policy requirement is not merely population-based allocation but region-sensitive service design, given the geographical separation of the four regions.

Table 2.3: Regional Distribution and Density, Census 2011

Region	Population (number)	Share in U.T. population (%)	Area (sq. km.)	Density (persons per sq. km.)
Puducherry	950,289	76.1	294	3,232
Karaikal	200,222	16.0	157	1,275
Mahe	41,816	3.4	9	4,646
Yanam	55,626	4.5	30	1,854
U.T.	1,247,953	100.0	490	2,547

Source: Statistical Handbook 2023-24, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Government of Puducherry; Directorate of Census Operations, Puducherry.

Note: Region-wise projected population is not available in the official projection table; hence Census 2011 is retained as the structural regional benchmark.

Puducherry is also among the highly urbanised territories of India. As per the Census 2011 classification, 68.3 per cent of the population lived in urban areas. Mahe and Yanam were entirely urban in the 2011 classification, while the Puducherry region recorded an urban share of 69.2 per cent. Urbanisation improves access to public and private services, but in a compact territory it requires careful land-use management and climate-resilient infrastructure.

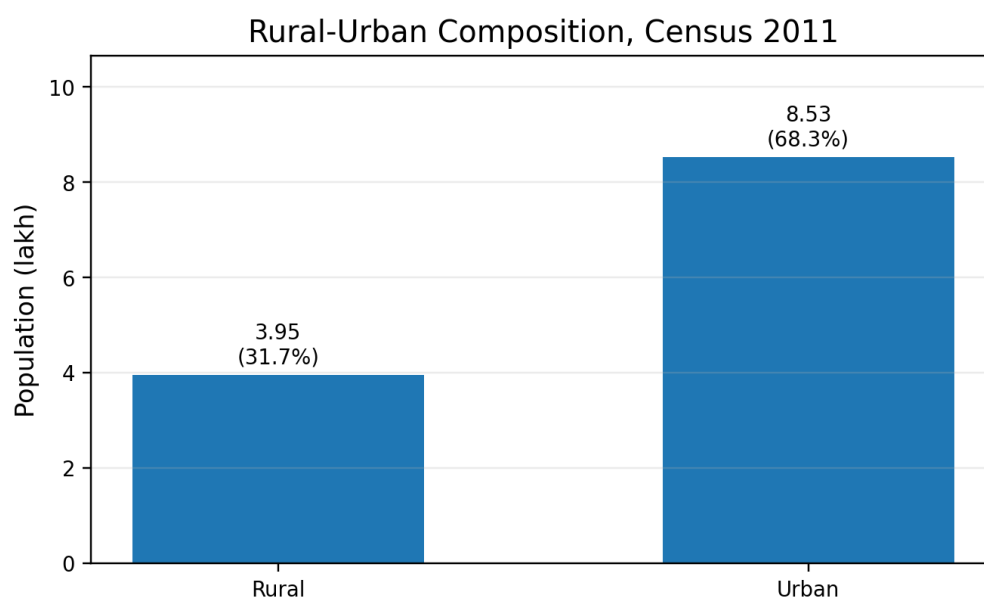


Figure 2.3: Rural-Urban Composition, Census 2011

Source: Statistical Handbook 2023-24, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Government of Puducherry; Directorate of Census Operations, Puducherry.

2.4 Literacy and Human Capital

Literacy is the bridge through which demographic strength is converted into human capital. The latest survey-based literacy figures available from PLFS 2025 show Puducherry in a strong position compared with the national average. For persons aged 7 years and above, the literacy rate of Puducherry is 94.7 per cent against the all-India figure of 81.1 per cent. Male literacy in Puducherry is 98.1 per cent and female literacy is 91.5 per cent for the same age group.

The literacy advantage is especially important for a service-oriented, urbanised economy. It improves employability, public health awareness, digital adoption, civic participation and the capacity of the workforce to move into higher-productivity activities. The remaining policy challenge is to translate high literacy into market-relevant skills, higher female labour force participation, enterprise development and continuous learning.

Table 2.4: Literacy Rate by Sex and Age Group, PLFS 2025

State / UT	Male: 7 & above (%)	Male: 5 & above (%)	Female: 7 & above (%)	Female: 5 & above (%)	Persons: 7 & above (%)	Persons: 5 & above (%)
Puducherry	98.1	97.5	91.5	89.2	94.7	93.2
All India	87.5	86.2	74.9	74.0	81.1	80.1

Source: Periodic Labour Force Survey, Annual Report 2025, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, Government of India, Table 7: Literacy rate of persons of different age groups for each State/UT, rural+urban.

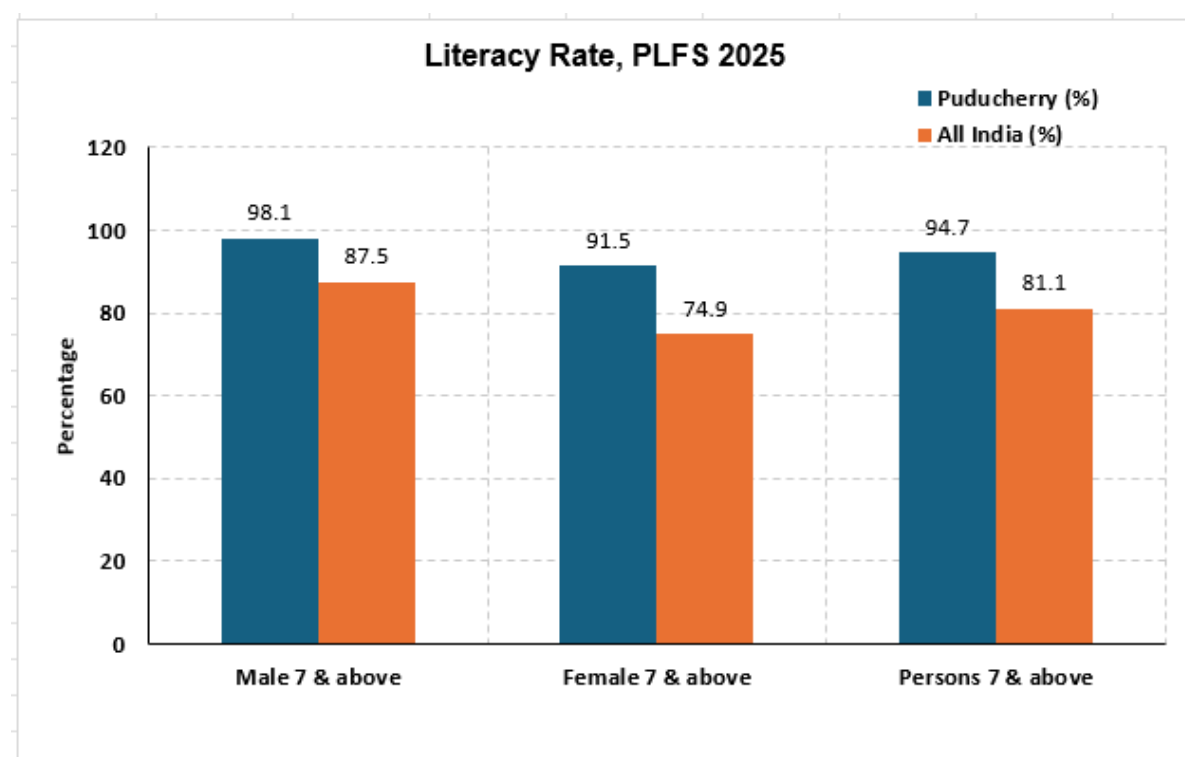


Figure 2.4: Literacy Rate, Puducherry and All India, PLFS 2025

Source: Same as Table 2.4.

2.5 Social Composition and Inclusive Development

Projected population by social group is not available in the official projection table. Hence, Scheduled Caste population is retained from Census 2011 as a structural reference indicator. The Scheduled Caste population of Puducherry was 1,96,325 in Census 2011, accounting for 15.7 per cent of the total population. The concentration was highest in the Puducherry region in absolute terms, while Karaikal recorded the highest regional share at 17.7 per cent.

These structural indicators are important because the effectiveness of welfare programmes depends not only on the aggregate size of the population but also on its spatial and social distribution. Education support, housing, health care, skill development, entrepreneurship assistance and livelihood programmes need to be designed with sensitivity to region-wise and community-wise patterns available from the Census baseline.

Table 2.5: Scheduled Caste Population by Region, Census 2011

Region	Scheduled Caste population (number)	Share in regional population (%)
Puducherry	152,406	16.0
Karaikal	35,348	17.7
Mahe	144	0.3
Yanam	8,427	15.1
U.T.	196,325	15.7

Source: Statistical Handbook 2023-24, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Government of Puducherry; Directorate of Census Operations, Puducherry.

Note: Projected Scheduled Caste population by region is not available in the official projection source.

2.6 Workforce Characteristics and Demographic Dividend

The economic value of population growth depends on how effectively the working-age population is educated, skilled and absorbed into productive employment. Since updated Census-based workforce enumeration is not available, the latest labour market position of the Union Territory is assessed using the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) 2025. Unlike Census 2011, which provides counts of main workers, marginal workers and non-workers, PLFS provides current labour market indicators such as Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR), Worker Population Ratio (WPR) and Unemployment Rate (UR). These indicators are therefore more suitable for presenting the current labour market position of Puducherry.

As per PLFS 2025, the Labour Force Participation Rate for persons aged 15 years and above in Puducherry was 51.8 per cent, while the Worker Population Ratio was 49.0 per cent. The corresponding unemployment rate was 5.4 per cent. The all-India figures for the same age group were 59.3 per cent for LFPR, 57.4 per cent for WPR and 3.1 per cent for UR. The figures indicate that while Puducherry has a strong human capital base supported by high literacy, the conversion of this human capital into labour force participation and employment remains an important policy priority.

The gender dimension is particularly significant. Female LFPR in Puducherry stood at 32.7 per cent and female WPR at 30.1 per cent, compared with 40.0 per cent and 38.8 per cent respectively at the all-India level. Youth unemployment also requires attention, with the unemployment rate for persons aged 15-29 years in Puducherry at 19.1 per cent. For Puducherry, the demographic dividend will therefore be realised most effectively through skill development, employment-intensive services, support for small and emerging enterprises, tourism-linked employment, entrepreneurship promotion and safer enabling conditions for women and youth to participate in the labour market.

Table 2.6: Key Labour Market Indicators of Puducherry and India, PLFS 2025

Indicator	Age group / basis	Puducherry (%)	India (%)
Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR)	15 years & above, usual status (ps+ss)	51.8	59.3
Worker Population Ratio (WPR)	15 years & above, usual status (ps+ss)	49.0	57.4
Unemployment Rate (UR)	15 years & above, usual status (ps+ss)	5.4	3.1
Youth Unemployment Rate (UR)	15-29 years, usual status (ps+ss)	19.1	9.9

Source: National Statistics Office, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, Government of India, Annual Report, PLFS, 2025 (January–December 2025), Tables 16.0, 17.0 and 18.0.

Note: Figures relate to rural+urban estimates under usual status (ps+ss). The official report cautions that estimates for smaller States/UTs may have limited sample support for some employment and unemployment characteristics. Owing to the revised PLFS sampling design from January 2025, the 2025 annual estimates are not strictly comparable with earlier PLFS annual estimates.

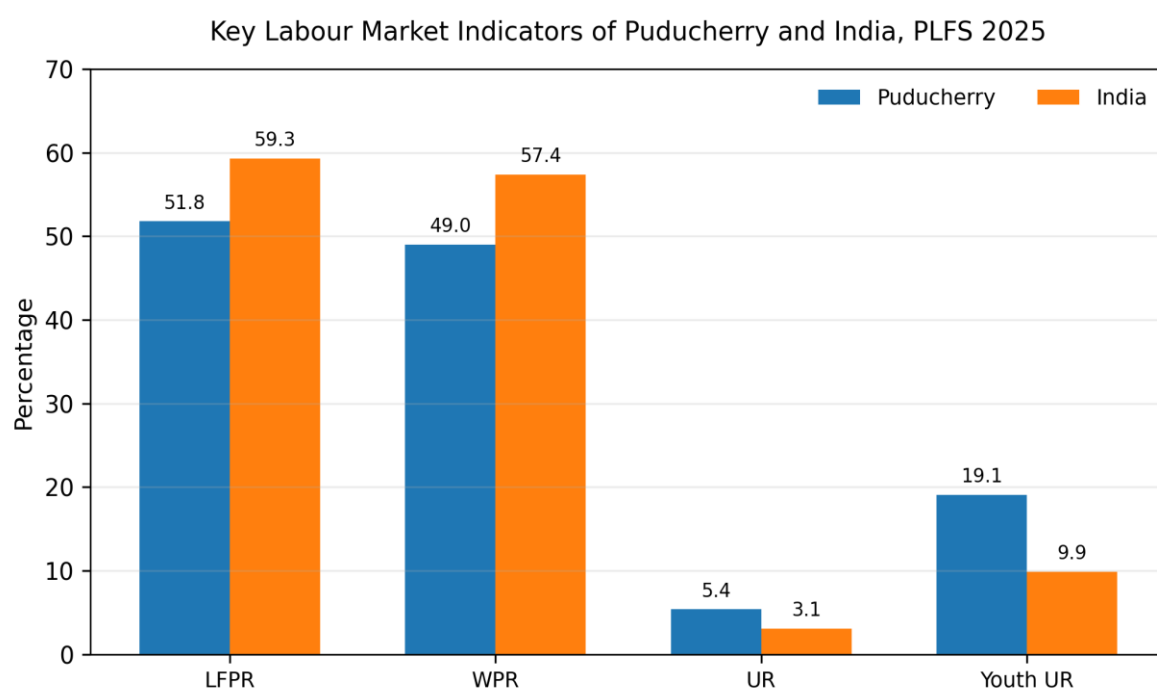


Figure 2.5: Key Labour Market Indicators of Puducherry and India, PLFS 2025

Source: Same as Table 2.6.

Note: Figures are PLFS 2025 rural+urban estimates under usual status (ps+ss). LFPR, WPR and UR relate to persons aged 15 years and above; youth unemployment rate relates to persons aged 15-29 years.

2.7 Vital Statistics and Health Transition

The Sample Registration System indicators point to an advanced demographic and health transition. Puducherry birth rate declined from 16.1 in 2011 to 13.1 in 2020, while the infant mortality rate declined sharply from 21 to 6 over the same period. The death rate remained within a relatively narrow range and stood at 6.5 in 2020. This pattern suggests improvements in child survival, maternal and child health services, health awareness and institutional access.

The next stage of the demographic transition will require equal attention to non-communicable diseases, geriatric care, mental health, preventive screening, chronic disease management and health services close to urban and peri-urban settlements. In a densely populated territory, the public health system must increasingly combine hospital capacity with preventive, community-level and digital health systems.

Table 2.7: Selected SRS Indicators for India and Puducherry

Year	India birth rate	India death rate	India IMR	Puducherry birth rate	Puducherry death rate	Puducherry IMR
2011	21.8	7.1	44	16.1	7.2	21
2012	21.6	7.0	42	15.8	7.1	17
2013	21.4	7.0	40	15.7	7.0	17
2014	21.0	6.7	39	14.6	6.6	14
2015	20.8	6.5	37	13.8	6.8	11
2016	20.4	6.4	34	13.9	7.2	10
2017	20.2	6.3	33	13.2	7.3	11
2018	20.0	6.2	32	13.7	6.9	11
2019	19.7	6.0	30	13.3	6.8	9
2020	19.5	6.0	28	13.1	6.5	6

Source: Statistical Handbook 2023-24, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Government of Puducherry; Registrar General of India, SRS Bulletin.

Note: The 2019 Puducherry row in the Handbook appears visibly misprinted and is therefore not used in the chart or analysis.

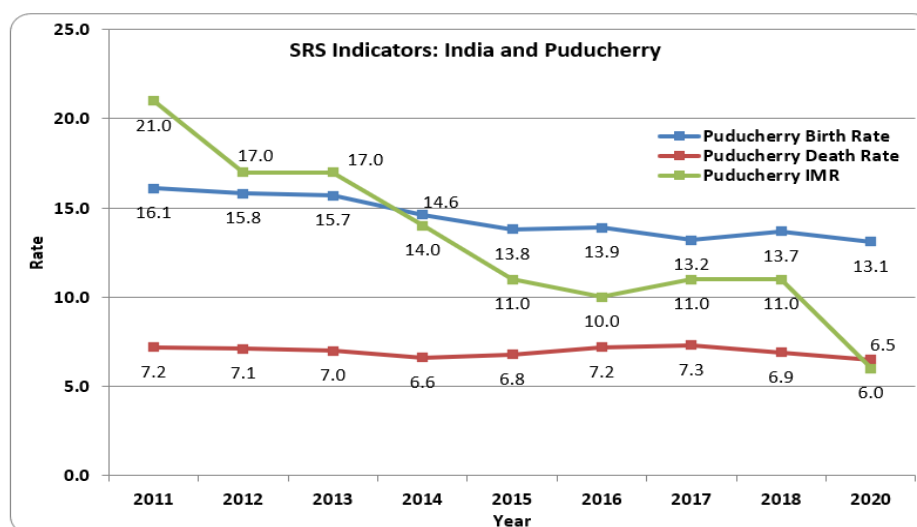


Figure 2.6: SRS Indicators for Puducherry U.T.

Source: Same as Table 2.7.

2.8 Demographic Context for Economic Growth

Demographic planning has to support the growth objective placed before the House. The economy of Puducherry has been stated to have registered a turnaround in Gross State Domestic Product growth from (-) 2.21 per cent in 2020-21 to 8.12 per cent in 2025-26 (Provisional), and per capita income at current prices has been stated to increase from ₹3,06,119 in 2024-25 to ₹3,23,745 in 2025-26 (Provisional). For the population chapter, these macroeconomic figures are used only as developmental context: sustained growth requires a literate, healthy, skilled and economically active population, while rising incomes increase the demand for better urban amenities, health care, education and housing.

Note: The macroeconomic values referred to in this paragraph relate to the current series with base year 2011-12, and 2025-26 is Provisional. After the base year revision to 2022-23, the values and related indicators may vary. These macroeconomic references are not population estimates.

2.9 Policy Implications

The projected population of 17.57 lakh in 2026 and 21.84 lakh in 2036 indicates that Puducherry must plan for a larger population, with service requirements shaped by its already high level of urbanisation and density. The high literacy levels indicated by the Annual Report, PLFS, 2025 provide a favourable platform, but the development outcome will depend on skill quality, job creation, women's economic participation and the ability of public services to expand without losing quality.

Five priorities emerge from the demographic evidence. First, population projections should be used explicitly in per capita indicators and service norms. Second, land and infrastructure planning should recognise high density and high urbanisation. Third, health policy should respond to both child survival gains and the emerging needs of an ageing and chronically ill population. Fourth, high literacy must be converted into skills, employability and entrepreneurship. Fifth, regional and social inclusion should remain central because many important structural indicators are still available only from the Census baseline.

2.10 Data Basis and Verification Note

Table 2.8: Data Basis Adopted in the Population Chapter

Indicator group	Primary source	Treatment in this chapter
Population size, male-female composition and sex ratio	Government of India population projections, 2011-2036	Projected figures used
Literacy rate	Annual Report, PLFS, 2025, Table 7	Latest survey-based annual figures used.
Regional distribution, rural-urban composition, child sex ratio and Scheduled Caste population	Census 2011 / Statistical Handbook 2023-24	Retained as structural baseline because comparable post-Census official disaggregated figures are not available.
Vital statistics	Latest verified SRS Bulletin / Statistical Report	Latest consistent official series used; rates and units stated explicitly.
Labour-market indicators (LFPR, WPR and UR)	Annual Report, PLFS, 2025, Tables 16.0, 17.0 and 18.0	Current survey-based annual estimates used, subject to the official small-State/UT and comparability cautions.

Source: Compiled for Economic Survey of U.T. of Puducherry 2025-26 from official demographic, survey and administrative sources.

Note: After the base year revision of State Income estimates to 2022-23, macroeconomic values and related indicators may vary. This note does not affect the official population projection values used in this chapter.

Sources

Government of India, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, National Commission on Population, Report of the Technical Group on Population Projections for India and States, 2011-2036, Table 8 (Contd.).

Government of India, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, National Statistics Office, Annual Report, Periodic Labour Force Survey, 2025 (January–December 2025), Tables 7, 16.0, 17.0 and 18.0.

Government of Puducherry, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Statistical Handbook 2023-24, Selected Socio-Economic Indicators and Appendix I: Area and Population.

Registrar General of India, Sample Registration System Bulletin, as reproduced in Statistical Handbook 2023-24.

Office of the Registrar General and Census Commissioner, India / Directorate of Census Operations, Puducherry, Census 2011.

ANNEXURES - POPULATION

Note: The annexure set has been revised to retain Census 2011 only for structural region-wise demographic particulars for which post-Census official disaggregated data are not available. Current or projected sources have been used for population projection, literacy and vital statistics wherever available.

Annexure 1: Projected Population of Puducherry U.T. by Sex, 2011-2036

Year	Persons (000)	Persons (lakh)	Male (000)	Female (000)	Female share (%)	Sex ratio (females per 1,000 males)
2011	1,248	12.48	613	635	50.9	1,036
2012	1,279	12.79	626	653	51.1	1,043
2013	1,310	13.10	640	670	51.1	1,047
2014	1,340	13.40	653	687	51.3	1,052
2015	1,371	13.71	667	704	51.3	1,055
2016	1,402	14.02	680	722	51.5	1,062
2017	1,436	14.36	695	741	51.6	1,066
2018	1,470	14.70	709	760	51.7	1,072
2019	1,504	15.04	724	780	51.9	1,077
2020	1,537	15.37	738	799	52.0	1,083
2021	1,571	15.71	753	819	52.1	1,088
2022	1,608	16.08	768	840	52.2	1,094
2023	1,646	16.46	783	862	52.4	1,101
2024	1,683	16.83	799	884	52.5	1,106
2025	1,720	17.20	814	906	52.7	1,113
2026	1,757	17.57	829	928	52.8	1,119
2027	1,798	17.98	845	952	52.9	1,127
2028	1,838	18.38	862	977	53.2	1,133
2029	1,879	18.79	878	1,002	53.3	1,141
2030	1,920	19.20	894	1,026	53.4	1,148
2031	1,961	19.61	910	1,051	53.6	1,155
2032	2,005	20.05	927	1,078	53.8	1,163
2033	2,050	20.50	944	1,106	54.0	1,172
2034	2,094	20.94	961	1,133	54.1	1,179
2035	2,139	21.39	978	1,161	54.3	1,187
2036	2,184	21.84	995	1,189	54.4	1,195

Source: Report of the Technical Group on Population Projections for India and States, 2011-2036, National Commission on Population, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, Table 8 (Contd.).

Note: Figures are as on 1st March of each year. Sex ratio and female share are calculated from the official male and female population values. Figures may not add exactly due to rounding.

Annexure 2: Regional Distribution, Area and Density, Census 2011

Region	Population (number)	Share in U.T. population (%)	Area (sq. km.)	Density (persons per sq. km.)
Puducherry	950,289	76.1	294	3,232
Karaikal	200,222	16.0	157	1,275
Mahe	41,816	3.4	9	4,646
Yanam	55,626	4.5	30	1,854
U.T.	1,247,953	100.0	490	2,547

Source: Statistical Handbook 2023-24, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Government of Puducherry; Directorate of Census Operations, Puducherry.

Note: Retained as a structural region-wise Census benchmark because post-Census official disaggregated estimates at regional level are not available.

Annexure 3: Rural and Urban Population by Region, Census 2011

Region	Rural population (number)	Urban population (number)	Total population (number)	Rural share (%)	Urban share (%)
Puducherry	293,080	657,209	950,289	30.8	69.2
Karaikal	102,120	98,102	200,222	51.0	49.0
Mahe	0	41,816	41,816	0.0	100.0
Yanam	0	55,626	55,626	0.0	100.0
U.T.	395,200	852,753	1,247,953	31.7	68.3

Source: Statistical Handbook 2023-24, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Government of Puducherry; Directorate of Census Operations, Puducherry.

Note: Retained as a structural region-wise Census benchmark because post-Census official rural-urban estimates at regional level are not available.

Annexure 4: Sex Ratio and Child Sex Ratio by Region, Census 2011

Region	Males (number)	Females (number)	Persons (number)	Sex ratio (females per 1,000 males)	Child sex ratio (girls per 1,000 boys)
Puducherry	468,258	482,031	950,289	1,029	970
Karaikal	97,809	102,413	200,222	1,047	969
Mahe	19,143	22,673	41,816	1,184	978
Yanam	27,301	28,325	55,626	1,038	921
U.T.	612,511	635,442	1,247,953	1,037	967

Source: Statistical Handbook 2023-24, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Government of Puducherry; Directorate of Census Operations, Puducherry.

Note: Retained as a structural region-wise Census benchmark because post-Census official sex-ratio estimates at regional level are not available.

Annexure 5: Literacy Rate by Sex and Age Group, PLFS 2025

State / UT	Male: 7 & above (%)	Male: 5 & above (%)	Female: 7 & above (%)	Female: 5 & above (%)	Persons: 7 & above (%)	Persons: 5 & above (%)
Puducherry	98.1	97.5	91.5	89.2	94.7	93.2
All India	87.5	86.2	74.9	74.0	81.1	80.1

Source: Periodic Labour Force Survey, Annual Report 2025, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, Government of India, Table 7: rural+urban.

Annexure 6: Selected Vital Statistics Indicators

Year	India birth rate	India death rate	India IMR	Puducherry birth rate	Puducherry death rate	Puducherry IMR
2011	21.8	7.1	44	16.1	7.2	21
2012	21.6	7.0	42	15.8	7.1	17
2013	21.4	7.0	40	15.7	7.0	17
2014	21.0	6.7	39	14.6	6.6	14
2015	20.8	6.5	37	13.8	6.8	11
2016	20.4	6.4	34	13.9	7.2	10
2017	20.2	6.3	33	13.2	7.3	11
2018	20.0	6.2	32	13.7	6.9	11
2019	19.7	6.0	30	13.3	6.8	9
2020	19.5	6.0	28	13.1	6.5	6

Source: Statistical Handbook 2023-24, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Government of Puducherry; Registrar General of India, SRS Bulletin.

Note: Birth rate and death rate are per 1,000 population. IMR denotes infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births.

STATE INCOME

*The Engine of Growth,
The Promise of Prosperity*



PUDUCHERRY



KARAIKAL



YANAM



MAHE

“

*Sustained economic growth and rising per capita income
reflect the strength of Puducherry's economy and the well-being
of its people.*

”

CHAPTER - 3

STATE INCOME

1. Introduction

State Income estimates constitute the principal macro-economic measure of the production activity generated within the Union Territory. They provide a consolidated view of Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP), Gross State Value Added (GSVA), net product taxes, sectoral composition and per capita income indicators emerging from the State domestic product series.

In a small and spatially non-contiguous economy such as Puducherry, State Income statistics acquire particular importance because they capture the combined effect of manufacturing activity, services, public administration, construction, trade, transport and allied primary activities across the regions of the Union Territory. The estimates therefore serve not only as an accounting framework, but also as an analytical base for understanding the direction and quality of economic change.

2. Coverage, base year and interpretative caution

The estimates presented in this chapter are compiled under the 2011-12 base year series. The gross series at current prices and constant prices is available up to 2025-26, with 2025-26 treated as Provisional. The net series is available up to 2024-25 and is therefore analysed only up to that year. No 2025-26 estimate is presented for NSVA or NSDP.

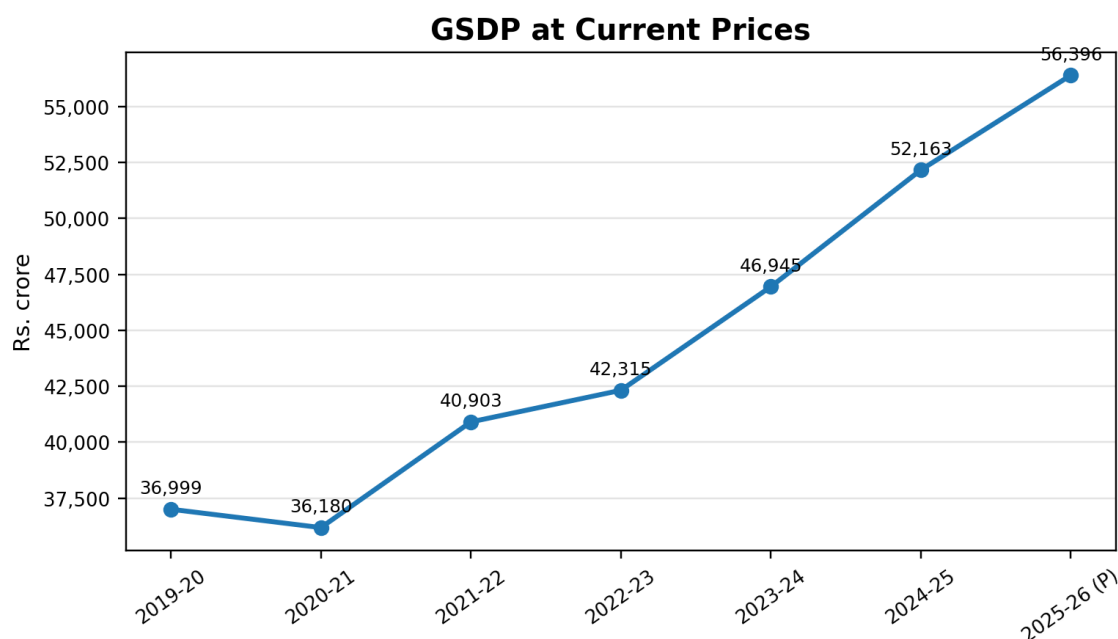
At the national level, the base year of the National Accounts has been revised to 2022-23, replacing the 2011-12 series. Accordingly, after the base year revision to 2022-23 is adopted in the State estimates, the absolute values, growth rates, sectoral shares, per capita indicators and other derived ratios may vary. The figures in this chapter should therefore be read as estimates under the 2011-12 series unless otherwise stated.

Table 1: GSDP and Per Capita GSDP at Current Prices (Base year: 2011-12)

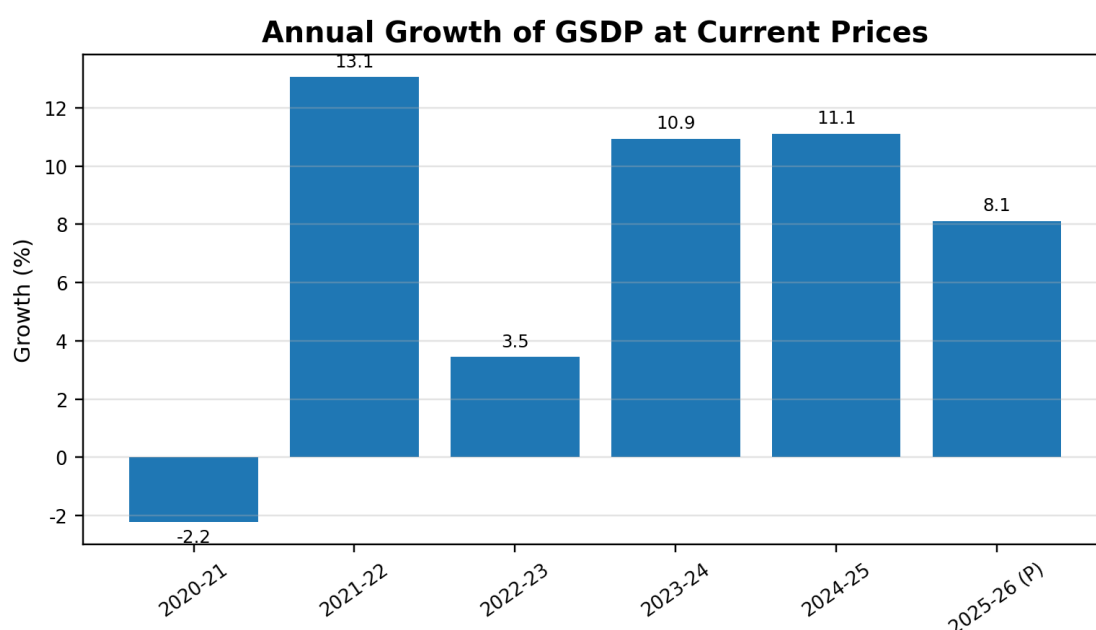
Year	GSDP at current prices (Rs. crore)	Annual growth (%)	Per Capita GSDP at current prices (Rupees)
2019-20	36,998.74	NA	240,407.67
2020-21	36,179.58	-2.21	232,367.25
2021-22	40,902.92	13.06	256,766.61
2022-23	42,315.29	3.45	259,603.02
2023-24	46,944.98	10.94	281,613.56
2024-25	52,162.67	11.11	306,118.96
2025-26 (Provisional)	56,396.41	8.12	323,745.17

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Government of Puducherry.

Note: The figures pertaining to 2025-26 are Provisional. Annual growth is calculated over the previous year. Figures in Rs. crore are derived from source values in Rs. lakh and rounded to two decimal places.

Chart 1: Movement of GSDP at Current Prices

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Government of Puducherry. Note: 2025-26 is Provisional. Values displayed on the chart are rounded for presentation.

Chart 2: Annual Growth of GSDP at Current Prices

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Government of Puducherry. Note: 2025-26 is Provisional. Growth rates are calculated over the previous year.

3. Movement of GSDP at current prices

The GSDP at current prices increased from Rs. 36,998.74 crore in 2019-20 to Rs. 56,396.41 crore in 2025-26 (Provisional). This represents an overall increase of 52.43 per cent over the period, with a compound annual growth rate of 7.28 per cent. The current-price series reflects both real expansion and price effects and is therefore useful for

assessing the nominal size of the economy and the resource base associated with economic activity.

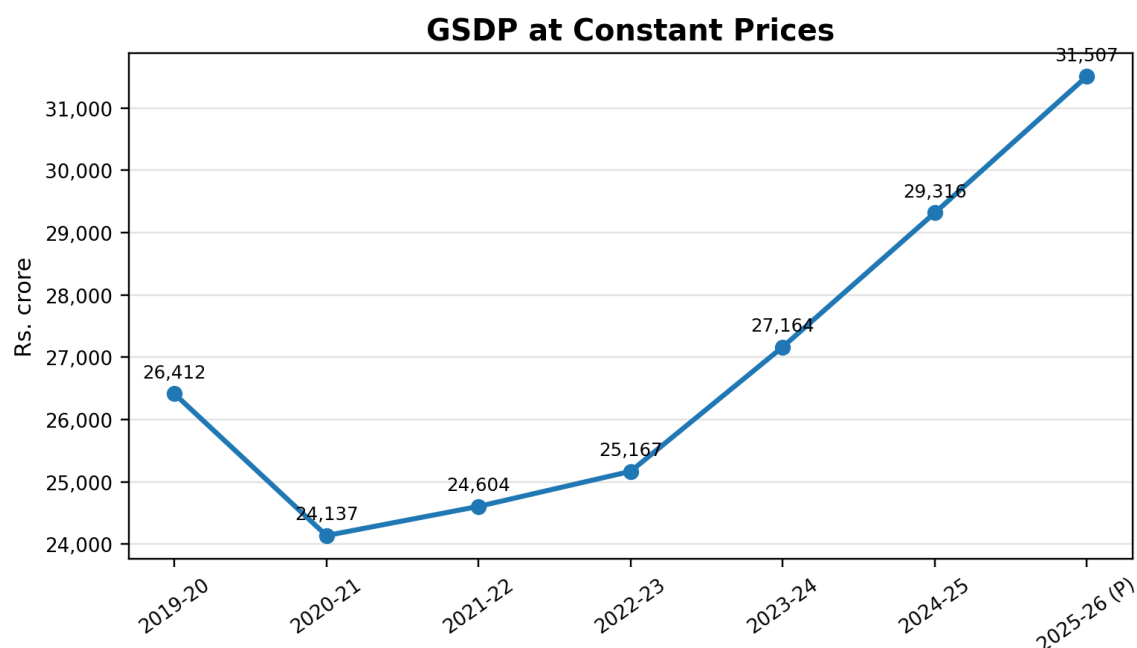
The annual movement shows a contraction of 2.21 per cent in 2020-21, followed by a recovery of 13.06 per cent in 2021-22. Subsequently, the GSDP continued to expand, with growth of 10.94 per cent in 2023-24, 11.11 per cent in 2024-25 and 8.12 per cent in 2025-26 (Provisional). The pattern indicates that the nominal economy regained momentum after the pandemic-period disruption and continued to move upward in the subsequent years.

The latest estimates also reflect the statistical content of the growth message placed before the Legislature: the Gross State Domestic Product growth rate at current prices, which was -2.21 per cent in 2020-21, improved to 8.12 per cent in 2025-26 (Provisional), representing a significant turnaround. The movement points to the positive influence of policy interventions, infrastructure investment and sectoral development initiatives, while the increase in per capita GSDP at current prices to Rs. 323,745.17 in 2025-26 (Provisional) indicates the latest nominal income position of the Union Territory. The GSVA composition for the same year shows a services-led and secondary-sector-supported structure, with the tertiary sector accounting for 54.74 per cent, the secondary sector for 39.62 per cent and the primary sector for 5.64 per cent.

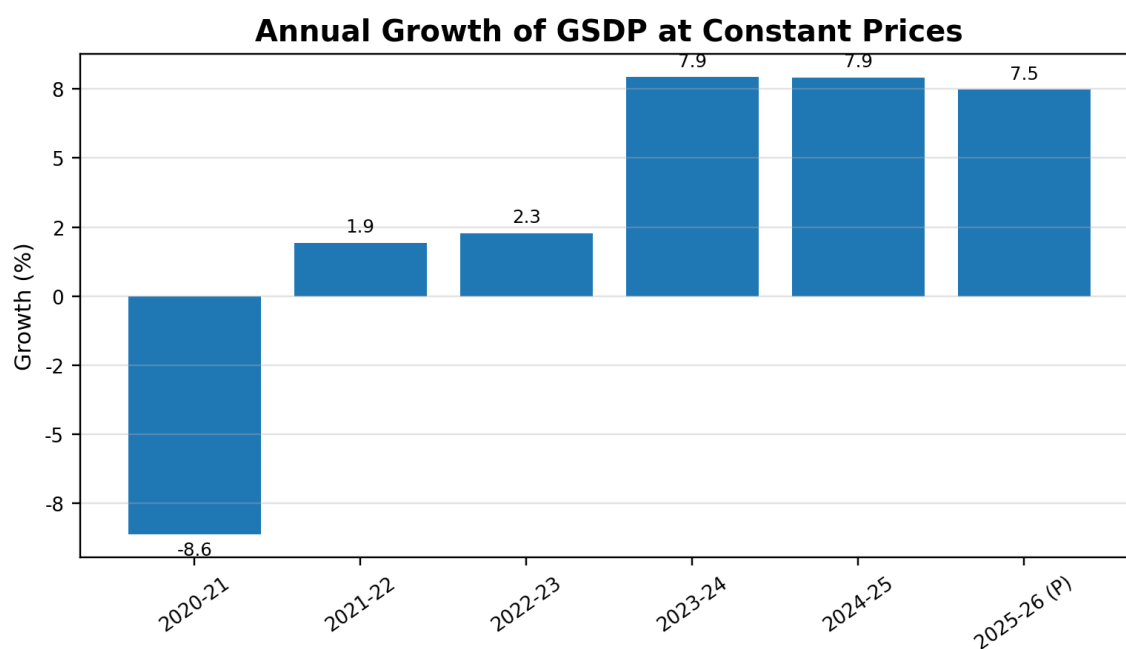
Table 2: GSDP and Per Capita GSDP at Constant Prices (Base year: 2011-12)

Year	GSDP at constant prices (Rs. crore)	Real growth (%)	Per Capita GSDP at constant prices (Rupees)
2019-20	26,411.98	NA	171,617.80
2020-21	24,136.74	-8.61	155,020.81
2021-22	24,604.46	1.94	154,453.64
2022-23	25,167.25	2.29	154,400.31
2023-24	27,164.02	7.93	162,951.56
2024-25	29,316.44	7.92	172,044.84
2025-26 (Provisional)	31,507.24	7.47	180,868.17

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Government of Puducherry. Note: 2025-26 is Provisional. Real growth is calculated over the previous year. Figures in Rs. crore are derived from source values in Rs. lakh and rounded to two decimal places.

Chart 3: Movement of GSDP at Constant Prices

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Government of Puducherry. Note: 2025-26 is Provisional. Values displayed on the chart are rounded for presentation.

Chart 4: Annual Growth of GSDP at Constant Prices

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Government of Puducherry. Note: 2025-26 is Provisional. Growth rates are calculated over the previous year.

4. Real growth and constant-price movement

At constant prices, GSDP increased from Rs. 26,411.98 crore in 2019-20 to Rs. 31,507.24 crore in 2025-26 (Provisional). The constant-price series provides a clearer indication of volume growth by neutralising the effect of price changes. The real GSDP contracted by 8.61 per cent in 2020-21 and thereafter returned to positive growth.

The real growth rate was 2.29 per cent in 2022-23, 7.93 per cent in 2023-24, 7.92 per cent in 2024-25 and 7.47 per cent in 2025-26 (Provisional). The continuation of real growth in 2025-26 shows that the expansion is not merely nominal; it is also reflected in the volume of output. Over the full period from 2019-20 to 2025-26 (Provisional), constant-price GSDP increased by 19.29 per cent, implying a compound annual growth rate of 2.98 per cent.

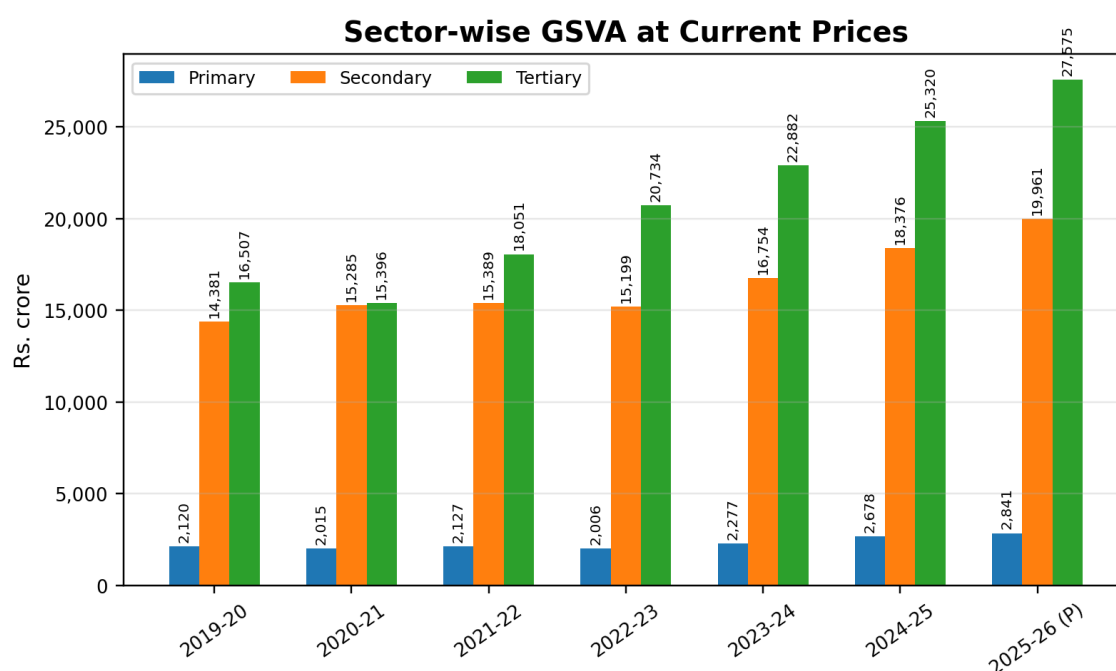
The difference between current-price growth and constant-price growth is analytically important. It indicates that the widening of the nominal economy has been influenced by both real expansion and price-related effects. For policy interpretation, the constant-price series should be treated as the primary indicator of real production movement, while the current-price series is more relevant for assessing the nominal size of the economy and related fiscal and market aggregates.

Table 3: Sector-wise GSVA at Current Prices and Sectoral Shares (Base year: 2011-12)

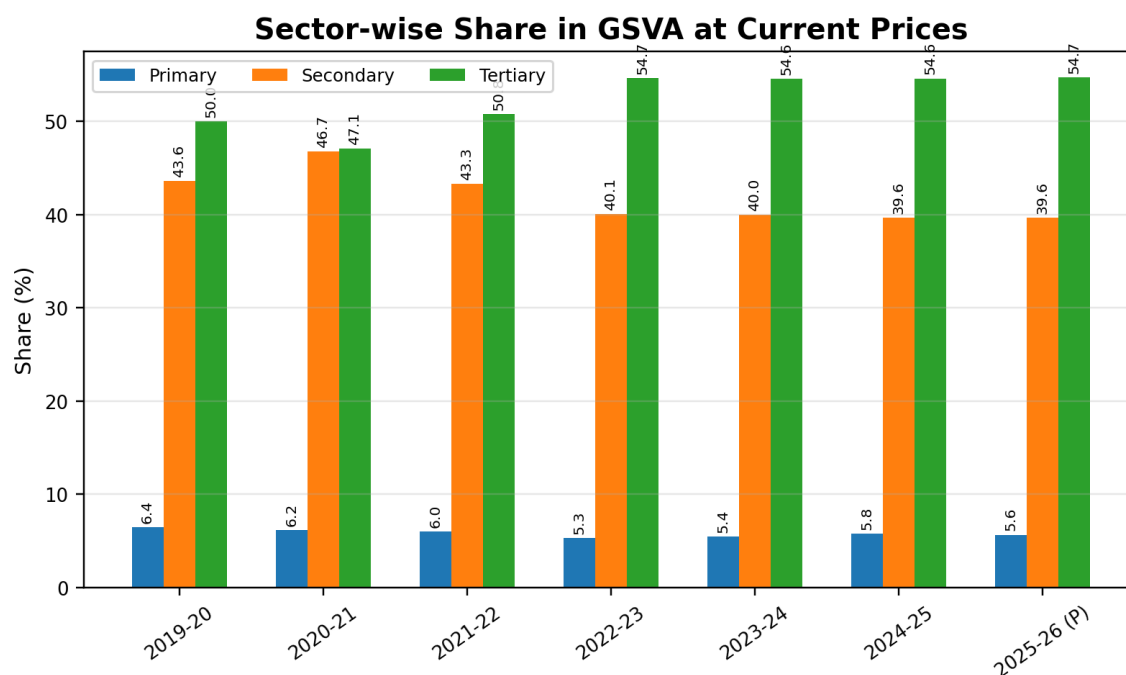
Year	Primary GSVA (Rs. crore)	Primary share (%)	Secondary GSVA (Rs. crore)	Secondary share (%)	Tertiary GSVA (Rs. crore)	Tertiary share (%)	Total GSVA (Rs. crore)
2019-20	2,119.88	6.42	14,381.10	43.57	16,507.42	50.01	33,008.40
2020-21	2,014.99	6.16	15,285.16	46.75	15,396.50	47.09	32,696.65
2021-22	2,127.24	5.98	15,389.00	43.27	18,051.33	50.75	35,567.57
2022-23	2,005.60	5.29	15,198.99	40.06	20,734.50	54.65	37,939.09
2023-24	2,276.68	5.43	16,753.98	39.97	22,882.33	54.59	41,912.99
2024-25	2,678.15	5.78	18,376.44	39.63	25,320.17	54.60	46,374.76
2025-26 (Provisional)	2,840.57	5.64	19,961.40	39.62	27,575.01	54.74	50,376.98

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Government of Puducherry. Note: 2025-26 is Provisional. Sectoral shares are calculated with reference to total GSVA at basic prices.

Chart 5: Sector-wise GSVA at Current Prices



Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Government of Puducherry. Note: 2025-26 is Provisional. Values displayed on the chart are rounded for presentation.

Chart 6: Sector-wise Share in GSVA at Current Prices

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Government of Puducherry. Note: 2025-26 is Provisional. Sectoral shares are calculated with reference to total GSVA at basic prices.

5. Sectoral composition of the economy

The sectoral distribution of GSVA shows that the tertiary sector continued to account for the largest share of the Union Territory's value added. In 2025-26 (Provisional), the tertiary sector contributed 54.74 per cent of GSVA at current prices, followed by the secondary sector at 39.62 per cent and the primary sector at 5.64 per cent.

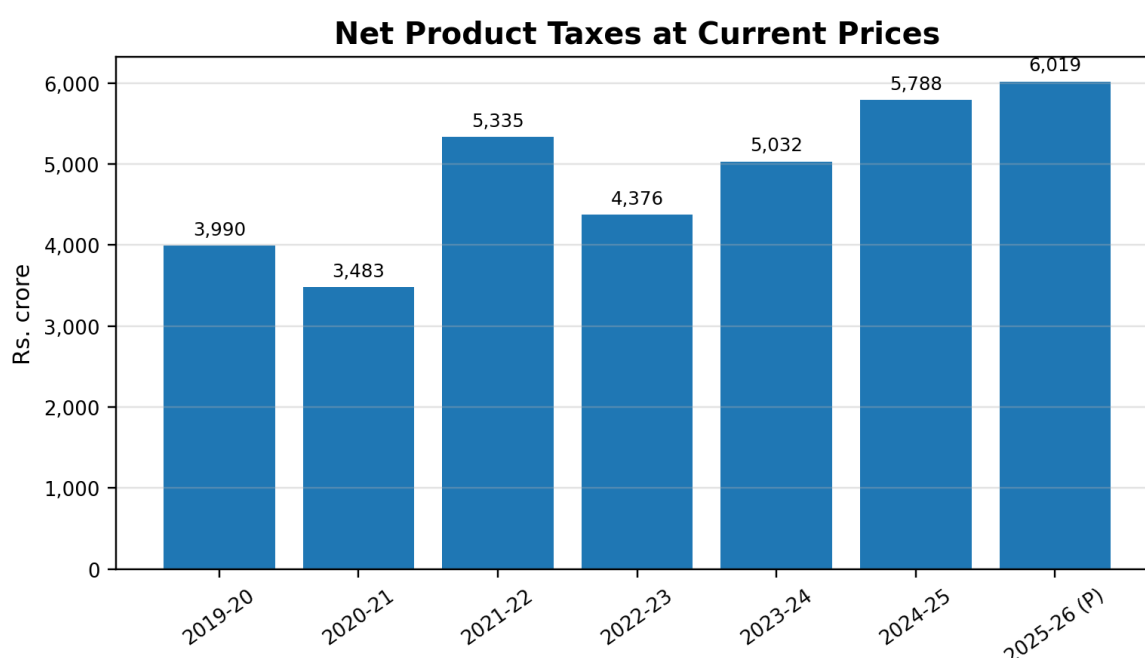
This composition is consistent with the economic character of Puducherry, where services, trade, public administration, real estate and other service activities operate along with a sizeable manufacturing and construction base. The primary sector remains comparatively small in aggregate share, but it is significant from the standpoint of regional livelihoods, allied activities and food-linked economic functions.

Between 2019-20 and 2025-26 (Provisional), the secondary sector increased from Rs. 14,381.10 crore to Rs. 19,961.40 crore, while the tertiary sector increased from Rs. 16,507.42 crore to Rs. 27,575.01 crore. The expansion of these two sectors has been the principal driver of the increase in current-price GSVA. The service-led structure, supported by an industrial base, underlines the need for policy attention to urban infrastructure, logistics, labour skills, enterprise support and public service delivery.

Table 4: From GSVA to GSDP at Current Prices (Base year: 2011-12)

Year	Total GSVA at basic prices (Rs. crore)	Taxes on products (Rs. crore)	Subsidies on products (Rs. crore)	Net product taxes (Rs. crore)	GSDP at current prices (Rs. crore)
2019-20	33,008.40	4,268.64	278.30	3,990.34	36,998.74
2020-21	32,696.65	3,783.01	300.08	3,482.93	36,179.58
2021-22	35,567.57	5,694.86	359.51	5,335.35	40,902.92
2022-23	37,939.09	4,776.12	399.92	4,376.20	42,315.29
2023-24	41,912.99	5,371.22	339.23	5,031.99	46,944.98
2024-25	46,374.76	6,207.19	419.28	5,787.91	52,162.67
2025-26 (Provisional)	50,376.98	6,455.48	436.05	6,019.43	56,396.41

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Government of Puducherry. Note: 2025-26 is Provisional. GSDP at market prices is obtained by adding taxes on products and deducting subsidies on products from GSVA at basic prices.

Chart 7: Net Product Taxes at Current Prices

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Government of Puducherry. Note: 2025-26 is Provisional. Values displayed on the chart are rounded for presentation.

6. Product taxes, subsidies and the market-price estimate

The conversion from GSVA at basic prices to GSDP at market prices is influenced by the movement of taxes on products and subsidies on products. In 2025-26 (Provisional), total GSVA at basic prices stood at Rs. 50,376.98 crore, taxes on products at Rs. 6,455.48 crore and subsidies on products at Rs. 436.05 crore, resulting in GSDP at current prices of Rs. 56,396.41 crore.

Net product taxes increased from Rs. 3,990.34 crore in 2019-20 to Rs. 6,019.43 crore in 2025-26 (Provisional). Net product taxes form an important bridge between the production-side measure of value added and the market-price measure of State domestic product. For an economy with substantial services and manufacturing activity, the movement of product

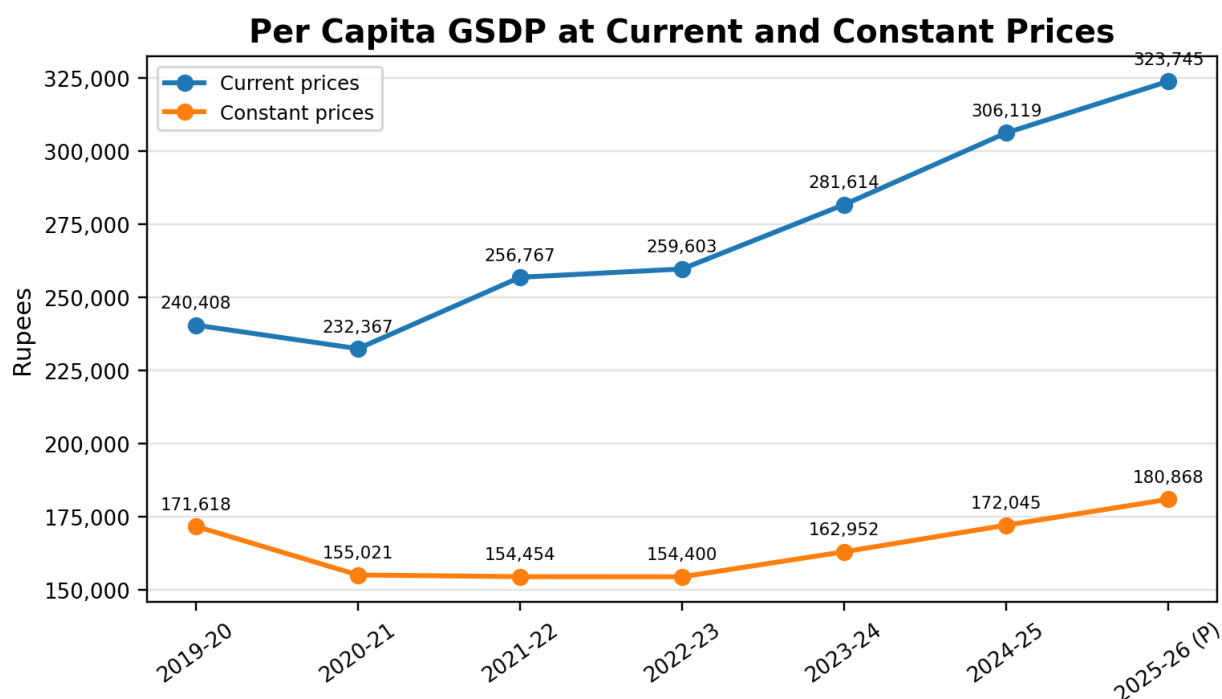
taxes can affect the final GSDP estimate even when the underlying GSVA trend remains broadly stable.

Table 5: Per Capita GSDP and Population Used in the Series (Base year: 2011-12)

Year	Per Capita GSDP at current prices (Rupees)	Per Capita GSDP at constant prices (Rupees)	Population used in estimates (hundred persons)
2019-20	240,407.67	171,617.80	15,390
2020-21	232,367.25	155,020.81	15,570
2021-22	256,766.61	154,453.64	15,930
2022-23	259,603.02	154,400.31	16,300
2023-24	281,613.56	162,951.56	16,670
2024-25	306,118.96	172,044.84	17,040
2025-26 (Provisional)	323,745.17	180,868.17	17,420

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Government of Puducherry. Note: 2025-26 is Provisional. Population used in the State Income series is shown in hundred persons as available in the source series.

Chart 8: Per Capita GSDP at Current and Constant Prices



Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Government of Puducherry. Note: 2025-26 is Provisional. Values displayed on the chart are rounded for presentation.

7. Per capita GSDP

Per capita GSDP at current prices increased from Rs. 240,407.67 in 2019-20 to Rs. 323,745.17 in 2025-26 (Provisional). The increase broadly reflects the combined effect of growth in nominal GSDP and the population series used for estimation.

At constant prices, per capita GSDP increased from Rs. 171,617.80 in 2019-20 to Rs. 180,868.17 in 2025-26 (Provisional). The constant-price per capita indicator provides a more useful basis for assessing improvement in real output per person, while the current-

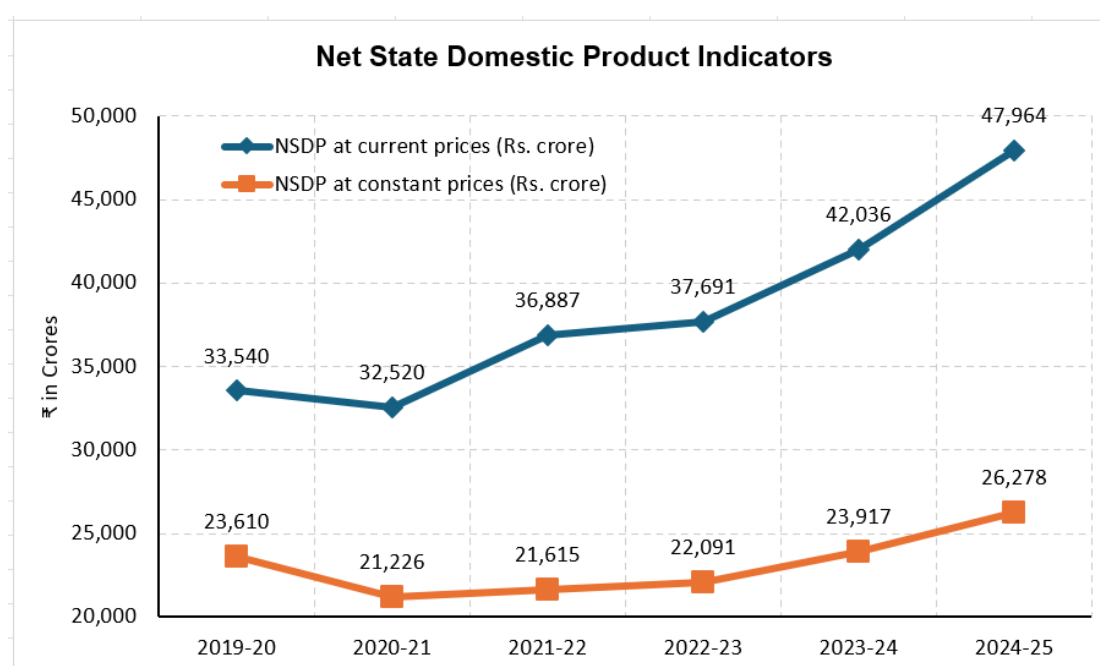
price indicator is relevant for assessing the nominal size of income generated per head of population.

Table 6: Net State Domestic Product Indicators Available in the Series (Base year: 2011-12)

Year	NSDP at current prices (Rs. crore)	NSDP at constant prices (Rs. crore)	Per Capita NSDP at current prices (Rupees)	Per Capita NSDP at constant prices (Rupees)
2019-20	33,540.44	23,609.97	217,936.57	153,411.10
2020-21	32,519.78	21,226.05	208,861.80	136,326.56
2021-22	36,886.97	21,614.50	231,556.60	135,684.24
2022-23	37,690.73	22,091.14	231,231.47	135,528.47
2023-24	42,035.73	23,916.53	252,163.96	143,470.46
2024-25	47,963.84	26,277.96	281,477.95	154,213.35

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Government of Puducherry. Note: Net series indicators are available up to 2024-25; figures in Rs. crore are rounded to two decimal places.

Chart 9: Net State Domestic Product Indicators



Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Government of Puducherry. Net series indicators are available up to 2024-25. Values displayed on the chart are rounded for presentation.

8. Net income indicators

Net income indicators provide a complementary perspective by adjusting the gross series for consumption of fixed capital within the production process. Since the net series available here extends up to 2024-25, the discussion is limited to that period and no provisional estimate for 2025-26 is presented for net aggregates.

At current prices, NSDP increased from Rs. 33,540.44 crore in 2019-20 to Rs. 47,963.84 crore in 2024-25. At constant prices, it increased from Rs. 23,609.97 crore to Rs. 26,277.96 crore over the same period. The movement broadly indicates the expansion in net value after allowing for depreciation-related adjustments.

Per capita NSDP at current prices stood at Rs. 281,477.95 in 2024-25, while per capita NSDP at constant prices stood at Rs. 154,213.35. These indicators should be read together with the gross series because the latter is available up to 2025-26 whereas the net series is currently available only up to 2024-25.

9. Conclusion

The State Income series points to a clear recovery and expansion in the Puducherry economy after the decline witnessed in 2020-21. The current-price GSDP reached Rs. 56,396.41 crore in 2025-26 (Provisional), while the constant-price GSDP reached Rs. 31,507.24 crore in the same year. The latest estimates therefore show expansion in both nominal and real terms.

The services sector remains the largest contributor to GSVA, with the secondary sector providing a strong production base through manufacturing, construction and utility services. The primary sector has a smaller aggregate share, but retains importance for livelihoods, allied activities and regional economic balance. The combined evidence suggests that Puducherry's growth profile is service-led, industry-supported and increasingly dependent on the quality of urban infrastructure, connectivity, skills and public service delivery.

For policy interpretation, three features are particularly relevant. First, growth in nominal GSDP strengthens the macroeconomic base of the Union Territory. Secondly, the availability of 2025-26 constant-price GSDP enables a clearer reading of real growth than in earlier versions of the series. Thirdly, the forthcoming base-year transition to 2022-23 will require careful interpretation of changes in levels, growth rates and shares, because revision of base year generally incorporates updated data sources, sectoral weights and improved compilation methods.

ANNEXURE TABLES

Annexure 3.1: GSVa by Economic Activity at Current Prices - Part 1

Economic activity / aggregate	2019-20 (Rs. lakh)	2020-21 (Rs. lakh)	2021-22 (Rs. lakh)	2022-23 (Rs. lakh)
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	158,075.45	153,723.11	161,529.70	153,846.66
Crops	55,577.45	48,946.83	49,984.99	39,423.95
Livestock	55,967.99	63,857.73	68,696.47	73,821.11
Forestry and logging	6,854.77	6,846.15	7,051.05	7,831.33
Fishing and aquaculture	39,675.24	34,072.40	35,797.19	32,770.28
Mining and quarrying	53,912.99	47,775.96	51,194.53	46,713.44
Primary	211,988.44	201,499.07	212,724.23	200,560.10
Manufacturing	936,496.02	1,049,780.05	909,066.42	852,646.39
Electricity, gas, water supply & other utility services	50,431.57	46,336.63	49,593.97	50,014.13
Construction	451,182.14	432,399.76	580,239.92	617,238.78
Secondary	1,438,109.74	1,528,516.44	1,538,900.31	1,519,899.30
Trade, repair, hotels and restaurants	346,061.19	268,580.10	335,129.01	411,353.72
Trade & repair services	304,018.93	246,500.90	301,586.97	352,731.35
Hotels & restaurants	42,042.27	22,079.20	33,542.04	58,622.37
Transport, storage, communication	131,821.45	108,476.87	142,860.43	160,669.42
Railways	454.00	114.00	242.00	304.00
Road transport	71,459.65	52,368.58	78,086.25	80,709.47
Water transport	8,144.85	6,411.98	6,691.80	12,374.29
Air transport	449.92	1.96	5.96	420.58
Services incidental to transport	2,983.06	1,395.06	1,168.55	2,395.90
Storage	61.97	13.97	20.93	52.67
Communication & services related to broadcasting	48,268.00	48,171.32	56,644.94	64,412.51
Financial services	111,402.00	122,248.00	127,453.00	151,297.18
Real estate, ownership of dwelling & professional services	407,793.97	408,243.96	460,241.30	504,924.26
Public administration	129,203.00	144,649.00	149,550.37	157,060.57
Other services	524,460.32	487,451.67	589,898.46	688,144.66
Tertiary	1,650,741.93	1,539,649.60	1,805,132.58	2,073,449.81
TOTAL GSVa at basic prices	3,300,840.10	3,269,665.11	3,556,757.11	3,793,909.21
Taxes on Products	426,864.00	378,301.00	569,486.00	477,612.00
Subsidies on products	27,830.00	30,008.00	35,951.00	39,992.00
Gross State Domestic Product	3,699,874.10	3,617,958.11	4,090,292.11	4,231,529.21
Population ('00)	15,390.00	15,570.00	15,930.00	16,300.00
Per Capita GSDP (Rs.)	240,407.67	232,367.25	256,766.61	259,603.02

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Government of Puducherry. Base year: 2011-12.

Annexure 3.2: GSVA by Economic Activity at Current Prices - Part 2

Economic activity / aggregate	2023-24 (Rs. lakh)	2024-25 (Rs. lakh)	2025-26 (Provisional) (Rs. lakh)
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	185,776.17	230,281.13	246,410.07
Crops	52,209.51	69,213.35	77,144.80
Livestock	76,150.58	78,546.22	82,133.87
Forestry and logging	8,176.31	8,535.93	8,706.64
Fishing and aquaculture	49,239.78	73,985.63	78,424.76
Mining and quarrying	41,891.77	37,534.16	37,646.77
Primary	227,667.94	267,815.29	284,056.84
Manufacturing	943,675.52	1,038,043.07	1,131,466.95
Electricity, gas, water supply & other utility services	53,008.64	55,221.13	60,743.25
Construction	678,714.22	744,379.82	803,930.21
Secondary	1,675,398.38	1,837,644.03	1,996,140.40
Trade, repair, hotels and restaurants	444,350.32	481,495.70	516,792.95
Trade & repair services	375,659.89	400,935.38	433,010.21
Hotels & restaurants	68,690.44	80,560.33	83,782.74
Transport, storage, communication	170,058.16	180,440.21	191,251.03
Railways	325.00	347.45	399.57
Road transport	82,365.74	84,140.35	86,664.56
Water transport	14,502.13	17,012.94	18,714.23
Air transport	399.65	380.15	402.96
Services incidental to transport	2,725.69	3,104.00	3,414.40
Storage	35.16	23.46	25.81
Communication & services related to broadcasting	69,704.78	75,431.87	81,629.51
Financial services	161,761.62	172,949.83	190,244.81
Real estate, ownership of dwelling & professional services	537,298.98	571,697.19	617,432.97
Public administration	171,060.40	186,308.14	199,349.71
Other services	803,703.25	939,125.72	1,042,429.55
Tertiary	2,288,232.74	2,532,016.80	2,757,501.01
TOTAL GSVA at basic prices	4,191,299.07	4,637,476.11	5,037,698.25
Taxes on Products	537,122.00	620,719.00	645,547.76
Subsidies on products	33,923.00	41,928.00	43,605.12
Gross State Domestic Product	4,694,498.07	5,216,267.11	5,639,640.89
Population ('00)	16,670.00	17,040.00	17,420.00
Per Capita GSDP (Rs.)	281,613.56	306,118.96	323,745.17

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Government of Puducherry. Base year: 2011-12. Note: 2025-26 is Provisional.

Annexure 3.3: GSVa by Economic Activity at Constant Prices - Part 1

Economic activity / aggregate	2019-20 (Rs. lakh)	2020-21 (Rs. lakh)	2021-22 (Rs. lakh)	2022-23 (Rs. lakh)
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	89,987.69	84,994.18	95,567.00	95,966.11
Crops	23,585.53	21,754.97	31,062.94	23,196.14
Livestock	35,601.24	35,526.61	35,655.35	45,540.14
Forestry and logging	4,081.27	4,299.82	4,428.50	4,979.93
Fishing and aquaculture	26,719.64	23,412.78	24,420.20	22,249.90
Mining and quarrying	51,171.31	46,371.22	49,671.14	45,361.52
Primary	141,158.99	131,365.40	145,238.13	141,327.63
Manufacturing	859,318.35	861,034.52	658,695.51	554,150.89
Electricity, gas, water supply & other utility services	26,310.71	25,500.79	28,088.88	29,053.54
Construction	344,904.66	291,654.85	352,252.88	492,464.01
Secondary	1,230,533.73	1,178,190.16	1,039,037.27	1,075,668.43
Trade, repair, hotels and restaurants	166,241.07	116,410.66	133,252.27	149,812.37
Trade & repair services	146,201.50	107,053.63	120,144.45	128,646.15
Hotels & restaurants	20,039.57	9,357.03	13,107.83	21,166.22
Transport, storage, communication	92,201.27	69,405.66	85,181.99	96,229.42
Railways	276.00	58.00	168.00	175.00
Road transport	49,757.20	33,506.31	46,496.21	46,615.42
Water transport	5,670.87	4,102.41	3,984.80	7,146.75
Air transport	313.52	0.98	3.93	243.56
Services incidental to transport	2,076.70	875.32	696.09	1,383.78
Storage	42.98	8.98	12.95	30.91
Communication & services related to broadcasting	34,064.00	30,853.66	33,820.00	40,634.00
Financial services	85,049.00	92,757.00	81,575.00	94,086.00
Real estate, ownership of dwelling & professional services	237,594.04	229,780.03	250,552.29	266,660.37
Public administration	80,101.00	83,641.00	84,654.00	80,755.00
Other services	323,463.86	279,764.05	320,016.49	351,908.87
Tertiary	984,650.24	871,758.41	955,232.03	1,039,452.03
TOTAL GSVa at basic prices	2,356,342.95	2,181,313.97	2,139,507.44	2,256,448.09
Taxes on Products	304,722.00	252,379.00	342,565.00	284,062.00
Subsidies on products	19,867.00	20,019.00	21,626.00	23,785.00
Gross State Domestic Product	2,641,197.95	2,413,673.97	2,460,446.44	2,516,725.09
Population ('00)	15,390.00	15,570.00	15,930.00	16,300.00
Per Capita GSDP (Rs.)	171,617.80	155,020.81	154,453.64	154,400.31

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Government of Puducherry. Base year: 2011-12.

Annexure 3.4: GSVA by Economic Activity at Constant Prices - Part 2

Economic activity / aggregate	2023-24 (Rs. lakh)	2024-25 (Rs. lakh)	2025-26 (Provisional) (Rs. lakh)
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	98,626.45	103,294.94	107,252.75
Crops	23,559.28	23,776.19	24,071.63
Livestock	47,458.90	49,452.91	51,533.62
Forestry and logging	5,599.55	6,295.76	7,078.81
Fishing and aquaculture	22,008.72	23,770.08	24,568.68
Mining and quarrying	40,672.62	36,441.84	32,663.04
Primary	139,299.07	139,736.78	139,915.79
Manufacturing	608,369.91	662,857.57	724,963.78
Electricity, gas, water supply & other utility services	31,658.32	33,672.55	36,250.54
Construction	547,517.32	607,089.05	674,048.82
Secondary	1,187,545.55	1,303,619.17	1,435,263.14
Trade, repair, hotels and restaurants	147,414.88	145,485.59	150,557.52
Trade & repair services	124,830.60	121,403.79	124,870.61
Hotels & restaurants	22,584.28	24,081.81	25,686.91
Transport, storage, communication	100,106.72	104,356.21	108,961.38
Railways	185.00	195.57	206.75
Road transport	46,866.80	47,148.39	47,417.16
Water transport	8,252.03	9,534.08	11,011.94
Air transport	227.64	212.89	199.04
Services incidental to transport	1,551.30	1,740.17	1,951.43
Storage	19.95	12.87	8.31
Communication & services related to broadcasting	43,004.00	45,512.23	48,166.76
Financial services	98,570.00	103,267.70	108,189.29
Real estate, ownership of dwelling & professional services	278,706.44	291,225.72	304,344.43
Public administration	83,542.00	86,425.18	89,407.87
Other services	390,048.81	432,235.64	479,033.35
Tertiary	1,098,388.85	1,162,996.05	1,240,493.84
TOTAL GSVA at basic prices	2,425,233.46	2,606,351.99	2,815,672.77
Taxes on Products	310,798.00	348,856.00	359,321.68
Subsidies on products	19,629.00	23,564.00	24,270.92
Gross State Domestic Product	2,716,402.46	2,931,643.99	3,150,723.53
Population ('00)	16,670.00	17,040.00	17,420.00
Per Capita GSDP (Rs.)	162,951.56	172,044.84	180,868.17

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Government of Puducherry. Base year: 2011-12. Note: 2025-26 is Provisional.

Annexure 3.5: Net State Value Added by Economic Activity at Current Prices - Part 1

Economic activity / aggregate	2019-20 (Rs. lakh)	2020-21 (Rs. lakh)	2021-22 (Rs. lakh)
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	132,615.85	126,049.84	130,530.13
Crops	33,540.45	24,524.61	22,421.90
Livestock	55,434.41	63,260.00	67,984.31
Forestry and logging	6,794.31	6,781.75	6,975.29
Fishing and aquaculture	36,846.69	31,483.48	33,148.63
Mining and quarrying	44,361.72	37,563.63	42,762.25
Primary	176,977.57	163,613.47	173,292.39
Manufacturing	840,761.38	961,068.91	810,851.67
Electricity, gas, water supply & other utility services	35,013.78	24,420.81	33,580.10
Construction	419,317.98	394,601.42	536,730.95
Secondary	1,295,093.14	1,380,091.15	1,381,162.72
Trade, repair, hotels and restaurants	330,777.96	251,578.84	315,024.81
Trade & repair services	291,179.63	232,415.46	284,966.23
Hotels & restaurants	39,598.33	19,163.38	30,058.58
Transport, storage, communication	101,811.40	78,590.75	110,430.31
Railways	350.55	88.95	177.90
Road transport	60,654.66	41,376.83	66,032.49
Water transport	6,347.78	4,905.17	5,463.27
Air transport	274.15	0.58	0.42
Services incidental to transport	2,477.96	1,114.28	968.43
Storage	56.17	12.54	18.52
Communication & services related to broadcasting	31,650.12	31,092.38	37,769.29
Financial services	108,829.47	119,250.76	124,096.99
Real estate, ownership of dwelling & professional services	338,080.16	333,919.34	375,449.62
Public administration	107,444.63	119,910.89	123,418.61
Other services	495,995.45	456,730.09	552,286.20
Tertiary	1,482,939.06	1,359,980.66	1,600,706.55
TOTAL NSVA at basic prices	2,955,009.77	2,903,685.28	3,155,161.66
Taxes on Products	426,864.00	378,301.00	569,486.00
Subsidies on products	27,830.00	30,008.00	35,951.00
Gross State Domestic Product	3,354,043.77	3,251,978.28	3,688,696.66
Population ('00)	15,390.00	15,570.00	15,930.00
Per Capita GSDP (Rs.)	217,936.57	208,861.80	231,556.60

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Government of Puducherry. Base year: 2011-12.

Annexure 3.6: Net State Value Added by Economic Activity at Current Prices - Part 2

Economic activity / aggregate	2022-23 (Rs. lakh)	2023-24 (Rs. lakh)	2024-25 (Rs. lakh)
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	121,472.26	149,481.61	199,604.73
Crops	10,356.17	20,265.06	42,057.58
Livestock	73,003.34	75,317.57	77,844.92
Forestry and logging	7,748.14	8,088.10	8,458.54
Fishing and aquaculture	30,364.62	45,810.89	71,243.68
Mining and quarrying	39,530.09	35,174.92	28,838.55
Primary	161,002.35	184,656.53	228,443.28
Manufacturing	736,039.92	821,786.62	936,774.33
Electricity, gas, water supply & other utility services	33,197.69	37,844.93	28,225.35
Construction	560,132.71	616,487.39	700,199.74
Secondary	1,329,370.32	1,476,118.94	1,665,199.42
Trade, repair, hotels and restaurants	387,126.01	418,354.58	461,381.69
Trade & repair services	332,661.22	354,322.86	384,234.82
Hotels & restaurants	54,464.78	64,031.72	77,146.87
Transport, storage, communication	124,517.99	130,492.26	147,891.94
Railways	220.93	234.61	304.52
Road transport	68,200.04	68,771.79	72,113.74
Water transport	10,211.81	11,804.83	15,775.80
Air transport	162.45	244.07	374.46
Services incidental to transport	2,007.99	2,327.36	2,822.17
Storage	46.22	30.41	21.03
Communication & services related to broadcasting	43,668.55	47,079.19	56,480.21
Financial services	147,750.71	158,008.80	169,616.55
Real estate, ownership of dwelling & professional services	408,088.86	435,086.85	486,452.55
Public administration	129,409.16	142,267.57	156,523.51
Other services	644,187.60	755,388.67	902,084.39
Tertiary	1,841,080.32	2,039,598.74	2,323,950.63
TOTAL NSVA at basic prices	3,331,453.00	3,700,374.21	4,217,593.33
Taxes on Products	477,612.00	537,122.00	620,719.00
Subsidies on products	39,992.00	33,923.00	41,928.00
Gross State Domestic Product	3,769,073.00	4,203,573.21	4,796,384.33
Population ('00)	16,300.00	16,670.00	17,040.00
Per Capita GSDP (Rs.)	231,231.47	252,163.96	281,477.95

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Government of Puducherry. Base year: 2011-12.

Annexure 3.7: Net State Value Added by Economic Activity at Constant Prices - Part 1

Economic activity / aggregate	2019-20 (Rs. lakh)	2020-21 (Rs. lakh)	2021-22 (Rs. lakh)
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	71,854.45	66,081.00	75,508.53
Crops	8,293.73	5,474.22	13,631.47
Livestock	35,189.88	35,077.58	35,184.40
Forestry and logging	4,035.13	4,251.99	4,378.29
Fishing and aquaculture	24,335.71	21,277.20	22,314.37
Mining and quarrying	43,979.08	38,923.32	43,817.14
Primary	115,833.54	105,004.32	119,325.67
Manufacturing	779,479.18	788,104.52	582,640.19
Electricity, gas, water supply & other utility services	13,332.95	7,479.58	15,879.79
Construction	315,538.57	256,824.14	314,102.88
Secondary	1,108,350.70	1,052,408.24	912,622.86
Trade, repair, hotels and restaurants	154,009.39	103,127.71	118,921.27
Trade & repair services	135,916.13	96,042.39	108,280.45
Hotels & restaurants	18,093.26	7,085.33	10,640.83
Transport, storage, communication	67,627.64	45,662.98	60,426.83
Railways	195.45	38.98	122.13
Road transport	40,706.84	24,852.29	37,438.21
Water transport	4,173.03	2,918.23	3,060.38
Air transport	166.65	-0.11	-0.23
Services incidental to transport	1,671.39	654.13	547.48
Storage	38.40	7.88	11.28
Communication & services related to broadcasting	20,675.89	17,191.58	19,247.57
Financial services	82,975.45	90,361.96	79,027.38
Real estate, ownership of dwelling & professional services	184,779.33	174,663.75	192,327.29
Public administration	61,910.25	63,385.18	64,936.05
Other services	300,655.56	255,630.38	292,923.49
Tertiary	851,957.62	732,831.96	808,562.30
TOTAL NSVA at basic prices	2,076,141.85	1,890,244.52	1,840,510.83
Taxes on Products	304,722.00	252,379.00	342,565.00
Subsidies on products	19,867.00	20,019.00	21,626.00
Gross State Domestic Product	2,360,996.85	2,122,604.52	2,161,449.83
Population ('00)	15,390.00	15,570.00	15,930.00
Per Capita GSDP (Rs.)	153,411.10	136,326.56	135,684.24

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Government of Puducherry. Base year: 2011-12.

Annexure 3.8: Net State Value Added by Economic Activity at Constant Prices - Part 2

Economic activity / aggregate	2022-23 (Rs. lakh)	2023-24 (Rs. lakh)	2024-25 (Rs. lakh)
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	74,765.45	74,953.50	81,888.28
Crops	4,368.74	3,138.48	5,023.19
Livestock	45,043.49	46,952.09	48,989.13
Forestry and logging	4,929.02	5,545.86	6,244.49
Fishing and aquaculture	20,424.19	19,317.07	21,631.48
Mining and quarrying	40,607.75	36,354.87	30,408.08
Primary	115,373.20	111,308.37	112,296.36
Manufacturing	477,022.59	527,689.10	586,985.56
Electricity, gas, water supply & other utility services	16,892.53	20,828.49	21,071.55
Construction	454,345.64	505,941.22	568,548.82
Secondary	948,260.76	1,054,458.81	1,176,605.93
Trade, repair, hotels and restaurants	133,985.33	130,545.85	131,166.01
Trade & repair services	115,519.62	110,965.77	109,501.86
Hotels & restaurants	18,465.70	19,580.08	21,664.15
Transport, storage, communication	70,303.72	72,060.10	79,589.13
Railways	118.06	123.64	164.85
Road transport	38,263.45	37,804.71	38,197.55
Water transport	5,586.09	6,372.37	8,603.02
Air transport	57.87	120.00	208.62
Services incidental to transport	1,108.36	1,271.77	1,530.90
Storage	26.73	16.86	11.19
Communication & services related to broadcasting	25,143.15	26,350.75	30,872.99
Financial services	91,504.26	95,870.44	100,736.34
Real estate, ownership of dwelling & professional services	205,940.06	214,996.18	232,605.30
Public administration	61,212.86	63,461.22	63,955.03
Other services	322,256.86	357,782.67	405,549.46
Tertiary	885,203.10	934,716.46	1,013,601.28
TOTAL NSVA at basic prices	1,948,837.06	2,100,483.63	2,302,503.57
Taxes on Products	284,062.00	310,798.00	348,856.00
Subsidies on products	23,785.00	19,629.00	23,564.00
Gross State Domestic Product	2,209,114.06	2,391,652.63	2,627,795.57
Population ('00)	16,300.00	16,670.00	17,040.00
Per Capita GSDP (Rs.)	135,528.47	143,470.46	154,213.35

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Government of Puducherry. Base year: 2011-12.

PRICES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM



FAIR PRICE SHOP



CHAPTER - 4

PRICES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

Sources: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry; Directorate of Accounts and Treasuries, Puducherry, Department of Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs, Puducherry; Labour Bureau, Shimla.

1. Introduction

Price statistics and public distribution arrangements together occupy a central place in the economic administration of a small, open and consumption-oriented Union Territory such as Puducherry. Prices influence the real purchasing power of households, the cost conditions of small traders and the budgetary requirements of welfare transfers. The Public Distribution System, while no longer operating only as a physical grain distribution channel in Puducherry, continues to perform an income-support and food-security function through Direct Benefit Transfer for eligible households.

This chapter analyses CPI-IW trends for calendar year 2024, retail and wholesale prices for 2024-25, and public distribution and civil supplies indicators available up to 2023-24, using official data furnished for this publication. The analysis is confined to the official price tables, CPI-IW series and civil supplies returns so that every numerical statement remains traceable to its source.

2. Overall Price Situation

The Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers (CPI-IW), base 2016=100, recorded an annual average index of 158.8 for Puducherry Centre during calendar year 2024, compared with the All-India General Index of 141.6. The Puducherry Centre index was numerically above the All-India General Index throughout 2024. This indicates a higher cumulative increase from the respective 2016 base and should not be interpreted as a direct comparison of absolute cost-of-living levels.

Within the Puducherry CPI-IW basket, the annual average group indices for 2024 varied across the six major groups. Fuel & Light recorded the highest annual average index, while Housing recorded the lowest. The other groups—Food & Beverages; Pan, Supari, Tobacco & Intoxicants; Clothing & Footwear; and Miscellaneous—occupied intermediate positions. These indices reflect cumulative price movements from the 2016 base and should not be interpreted as the individual groups' contributions to inflation during 2024.

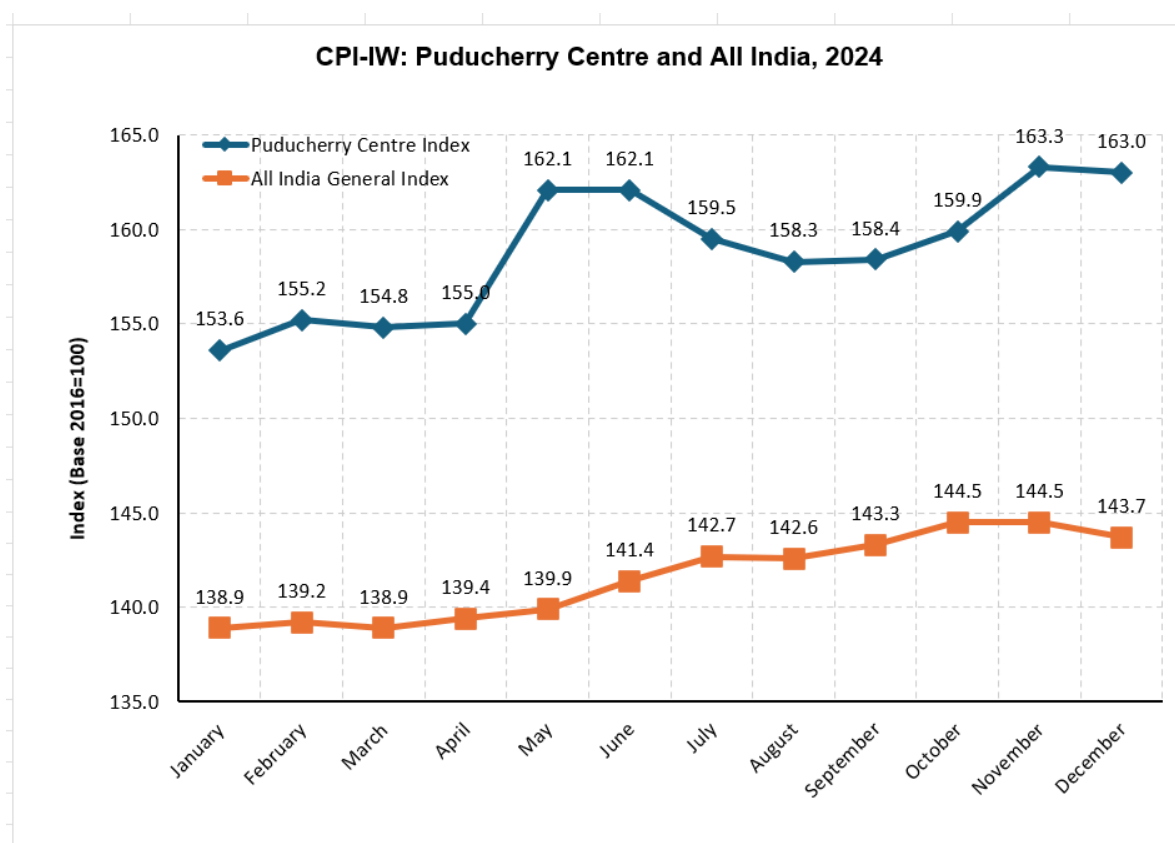


Chart 1. CPI-IW: Puducherry Centre and All India, 2024

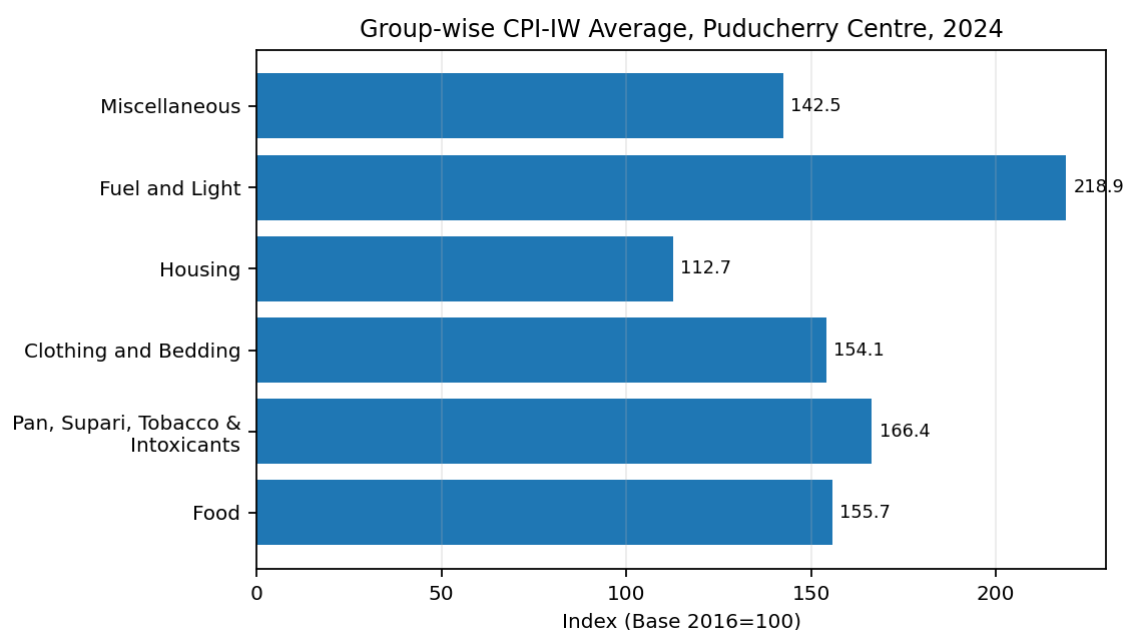


Chart 2. Group-wise CPI-IW Average, Puducherry Centre, 2024

Source: Labour Bureau, Shimla, as reproduced in Statistical Handbook 2024-25 of Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry

3. Retail Price Pattern in 2024-25

The retail price tables for 2024-25 show the average prices of essential commodities across the four regions. The figures confirm that price experience is spatially differentiated within the Union Territory. Differences are visible for staples, pulses, vegetables and fuel,

reflecting the fact that Puducherry, Karaikal, Mahe and Yanam are geographically separated markets linked to different neighbouring States and supply chains.

In Puducherry region, the average retail price of Vellai Ponni rice was Rs. 62.60 per kg, while wheat was Rs. 42.75 per kg. Among pulses, Redgram dhal I Sort stood at Rs. 168.67 per kg and Blackgram dhal at Rs. 144.90 per kg. Sugar was comparatively moderate at Rs. 41.93 per kg. These figures establish a commodity basket in which pulses and edible oils occupy a higher price band than cereals and sugar.

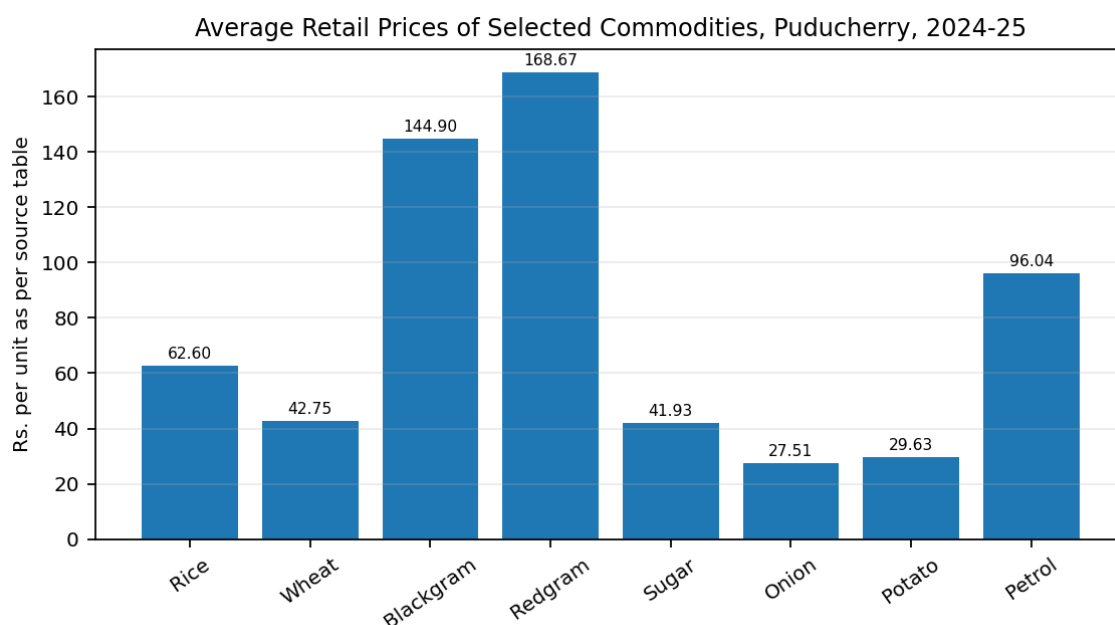


Chart 3. Average retail prices of selected commodities, Puducherry, 2024-25

Table 1. Selected Average Retail Prices by Region, 2024-25

Commodity	Puducherry	Karaikal	Mahe	Yanam
Rice - preferred variety	62.60	55.05	57.17	51.83
Wheat	42.75	40.42	42.67	46.67
Blackgram dhal	144.90	126.25	143.83	127.92
Redgram dhal	168.67	163.17	158.71	163.33
Sugar	41.93	42.02	42.32	42.58
Onion	27.51	40.67	39.10	30.42
Potato	29.63	37.92	35.10	30.00
Petrol	96.04	95.86	-	-

Source: Statistical Handbook 2024-25, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry

Note: Prices are in ₹ per kg, except petrol, which is ₹ per litre.

4. Wholesale Price Pattern and Data Caution

Wholesale price information is available for major commodities in each region. As expected, wholesale values are generally reported per quintal for food commodities and other appropriate units for items such as cement. These data are useful for understanding the upstream price environment faced by traders and retailers. However, a publication-level caution is necessary: in the Mahe wholesale sheet, the value reported for Ponni rice

appears as 541667.00 per quintal. Since the value is not consistent with comparable rice entries in the same and other regional tables, it has not been used for analytical conclusions in this chapter and is flagged for source-level verification.

Excluding such ambiguous values, the wholesale tables indicate elevated values for spices, pulses and edible oils relative to cereals. This is consistent with the retail structure observed in Puducherry region. The analytical implication is that food price management in the Union Territory should not be viewed merely through cereal prices; household food expenditure is also materially affected by protein-rich pulses, edible oils and spices.

5. Public Distribution System: Institutional Structure

As on 31.03.2024, the Union Territory had 516 Fair Price Shops and 362,540 ration cards. The average number of ration cards per Fair Price Shop was 703. The number of Fair Price Shops was almost unchanged over the period under review, while ration cards increased from 345,918 in 2020-21 to 362,540 in 2023-24, an increase of 4.8 per cent.

The dealer composition shows a strong public and co-operative character. Out of 516 Fair Price Shops in March 2024, 434 were run by co-operatives, 47 by PAPSCO, 26 by private dealers and 9 by others. Co-operative shops alone accounted for 84.1 per cent of Fair Price Shops, while co-operative and PAPSCO outlets together accounted for 93.2 per cent. This structure suggests that the PDS network remains institutionally anchored in public/co-operative delivery even after the transition to cash transfer.

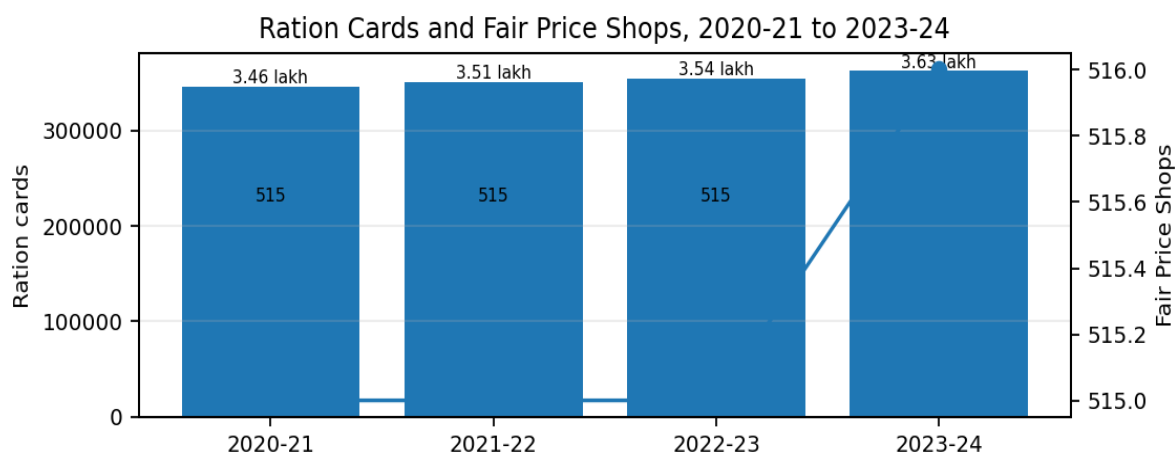


Chart 4. Ration Cards and Fair Price Shops, 2020-21 to 2023-24

Table 2. Basic Civil Supplies Indicators

Year	Ration cards	Fair Price Shops	Average cards per FPS
2020-21	3,45,918	515	672
2021-22	3,50,750	515	681
2022-23	3,54,255	515	688
2023-24	3,62,540	516	703

Source: Statistical Handbook 2024-25, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry

6. Ration Card Coverage and Beneficiary Profile

The detailed ration card composition as on 31.03.2024 shows 362,540 total ration cards, comprising 155,921 Non-Priority Household cards and 206,619 Priority Household cards including AAY. Priority households formed 57.0 per cent of all ration cards, while Non-Priority Households formed 43.0 per cent. This composition reveals that the PDS-linked beneficiary base is welfare-oriented, with PHH/AAY households constituting the majority of ration-card coverage.

Regionally, Puducherry accounted for 275,513 ration cards, followed by Karaikal with 62,458, Yanam with 15,937 and Mahe with 8,632. The concentration of ration cards in Puducherry region is expected, given its demographic and administrative weight, but the fair price shop network also serves the smaller outlying regions.

Ration Card Composition, 2023-24

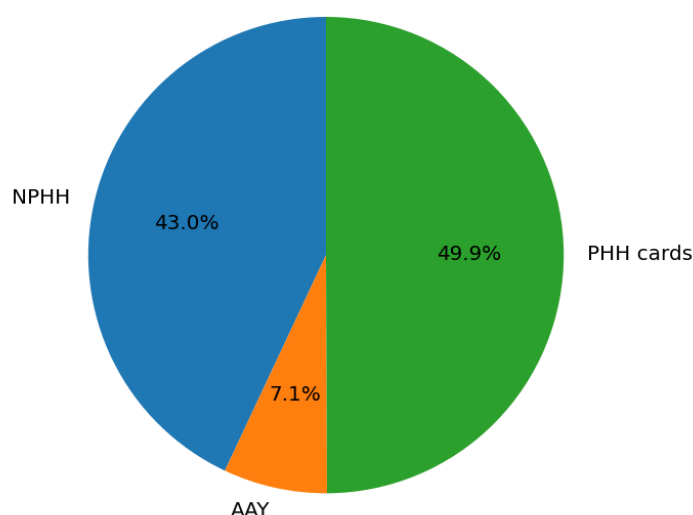


Chart 5. Ration Card Composition, 2023-24

7. Direct Benefit Transfer and Scale of Assistance

The civil supplies records indicate that the food-grain support architecture operates through Direct Benefit Transfer. For rice under the food-grains scheme in 2023-24, the reported assistance was Rs. 1,438.50 per AAY card for 35 kg of rice and Rs. 205.50 per BPL person for 5 kg of rice. Under the State Government scheme for Single Boiled Rice, the financial assistance was Rs. 600 per card per month for PHH/AAY/BPL households and Rs. 300 per card per month for APL households, credited through DBT/electronic mode.

The source tables also record that wheat, sugar and kerosene allocations under the earlier arrangements were stopped or nil. This establishes that Puducherry's PDS has moved substantially from physical commodity distribution to targeted cash-equivalent support. The economic implication is two-fold: the model reduces logistical handling of commodities, but it also places importance on timely DBT credit, beneficiary database integrity and monitoring of open-market prices for the commodities whose physical issue has ceased.

8. LPG Distribution and Clean Cooking Access

Active domestic LPG customers increased from 378,761 in 2020-21 to 440,456 in 2023-24, recording a growth of 16.3 per cent over the period. This increase indicates expansion in the number of active domestic LPG customer connections. It is consistent with wider use of clean cooking fuel, but the customer count alone does not establish the extent of household coverage or the reduction in use of traditional fuels. In 2023-24, Puducherry region alone accounted for 359,114 active domestic customers, followed by Karaikal with 47,804, Yanam with 21,861 and Mahe with 11,677.

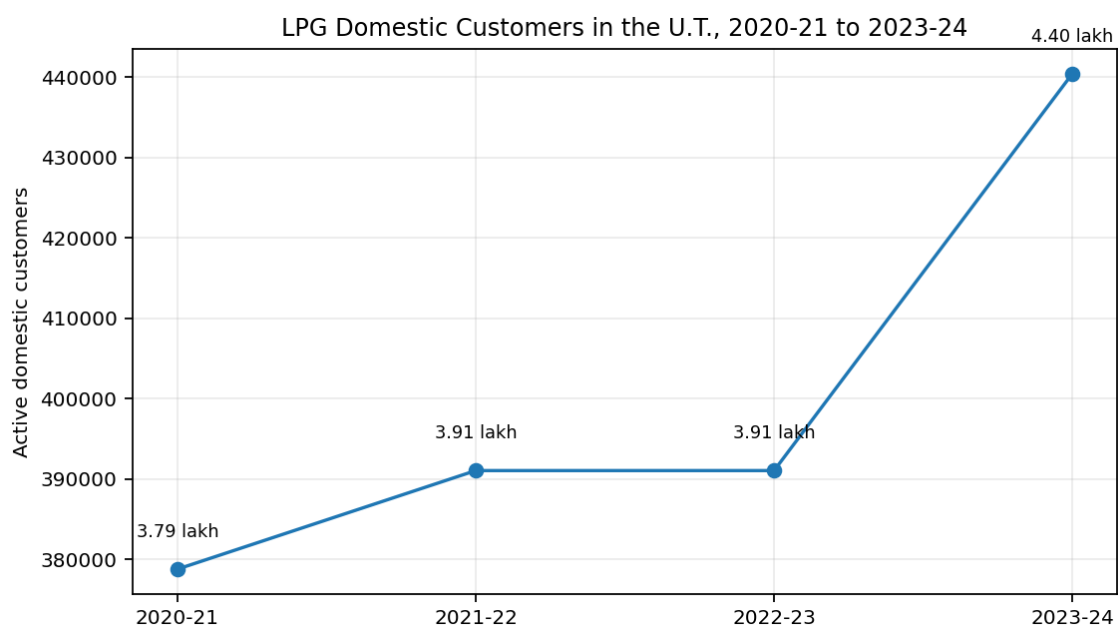


Chart 6. LPG Domestic Customers, 2020-21 to 2023-24

9. Policy Perspective

The evidence points to three broad policy messages. First, price monitoring should remain commodity-specific and region-specific. Puducherry's separated geography means that a single market reading can hide regional variations. Second, the shift to DBT-based PDS support makes price surveillance more important, because beneficiaries purchase in the market and the real value of cash assistance depends on prevailing prices. Third, the stability of the Fair Price Shop network and the increase in the number of ration cards and active domestic LPG customers show that civil supplies administration continues to be a significant welfare interface, even when the mode of benefit delivery changes.

Future strengthening may therefore focus on periodic reconciliation of ration-card databases, prompt verification of ambiguous entries in source returns, region-wise price intelligence for essential commodities, and closer linkage between DBT adequacy and observed market prices. The aim should be not only to maintain coverage, but also to ensure that assistance retains purchasing power in the face of changing prices.

ANNEXURE TABLES

Annexure 1. CPI-IW for Puducherry Centre and All India, 2024

Month	Food	Fuel & Light	Miscellaneous	Puducherry Centre Index	All India General Index
January	149.6	212.1	130.5	153.6	138.9
February	145.3	212.1	130.5	155.2	139.2
March	145	220.5	131.5	154.8	138.9
April	146.9	221.3	132.8	155.0	139.4
May	151.2	221.3	132.9	162.1	139.9
June	164.6	221.3	132.9	162.1	141.4
July	181.2	238.6	131.3	159.5	142.7
August	165.7	241.5	149.1	158.3	142.6
September	155.7	209.6	158.9	158.4	143.3
October	153.5	209.6	159.5	159.9	144.5
November	153.3	209.6	159.8	163.3	144.5
December	156.2	209.6	159.9	163.0	143.7
Average 2024	155.7	218.9	142.5	158.8	141.6

Source: Labour Bureau, Government of India, CPI-IW Centre Index (base 2016=100), monthly records for January-December 2024. Annual averages are arithmetic means rounded to one decimal.

Annexure 2. Average Retail Prices in Puducherry Region, 2024-25

Sl.No	Commodity / Variety / Quality	Unit	Average 2024-25
1	Vellai Ponni	Kg.	62.60
2	Ponmani	„	38.77
3	Cumbu -Traditional Variety	„	83.00
4	Ragi	„	42.84
5	Wheat	„	42.75
6	Blackgram Dhall	„	144.90
7	Greengram Dhall	„	122.02
8	Bengalgram Dhall	„	84.75
9	Redgram Dhall I Sort	„	168.67
10	Sugar (O.P)	„	41.93
11	Cane Jaggery	„	57.73
12	Chillies - Long	„	290.08
13	Tamarind - I Sort	„	185.83
14	Turmeric - Curry	„	182.75
15	Arecanuts - Pheton	„	1410.42
16	Coriander	„	115.83
17	Garlic	„	211.54
18	Groundnut Oil	„	200.90
19	Gingelly Oil (Agmark)	„	374.78
20	Coconut Oil (VVD)	„	225.09
21	Sunflower Oil	„	106.62
22	Vanaspathy	„	136.44
23	Salt (Crystal)	„	13.00
24	Onion (Bellary)	"	27.51
25	Potato	"	29.63
26	Coconut	each	17.58
27	Tea - Three Roses	500 gms.	310.67
28	Coffee Powder - Lakshmi	Kg.	720.00
29	Milk- Cow's	Lit.	46.00
30	Butter	Kg.	617.08
31	Ghee	„	650.00
32	Mutton	„	818.75
33	Poultry (Chicken Dressed)	„	189.38
34	Egg (Hen)	Each	105.90
35	Fire Wood (Dry Split)	20 Kgs.	257.92
36	Petrol (Indian Oil)	Lit.	96.04

Source: Statistical Handbook 2024-25, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry

Annexure 3. Average Wholesale Prices in Puducherry Region, 2024-25

Sl.No	Commodity / Variety / Quality	Unit	Average 2024-25
1	Vellai Ponni	Qtl	6007.50
2	Ponmani	„	3657.50
3	Cumbu -Traditional Variety	„	7084.22
4	Ragi	„	3456.13
5	Wheat (O.P.)	„	4043.33
6	Blackgram Dhall	„	13203.33
7	Greengram Dhall	„	10817.08
8	Bengalgram Dhall	„	7603.75
9	Redgram Dhall I Sort	„	15461.25
10	Sugar (O.P.)	„	3963.50
11	Cane Jaggery	„	5322.50
12	Chillies (Long)	„	27540.00
13	Tamarind - I Sort	„	17147.50
14	Turmeric - Curry	„	155583.75
15	Coriander	„	10177.08
16	Garlic	„	19083.33
17	Groundnut Oil	„	19569.17
18	Gingelly Oil (Agmark)	„	36868.61
19	Coconut Oil (VVD)	„	22053.61
20	Sunflower oil	„	10341.11
21	Vanaspathy	„	14769.23
22	Onion (Bellary)	„	2517.50
23	Potatoes	„	2699.58
24	Cement (Dalmia)	50 kg.	361.29

Source: Statistical Handbook 2024-25, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry

Annexure 4. Ration Cards and Fair Price Shops by Region, 2023-24

Region	Ration cards	Fair Price Shops
Puducherry	275,513	385
Karaikal	62,458	91
Mahe	8,632	18
Yanam	15,937	22
U.T. Total	362,540	516

Source: Statistical Handbook 2024-25, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry

Annexure 5. Ration Card Composition, 2023-24

Category	Number of cards
NPHH	155,921
AAY cards	25,588
PHH cards	181,031
Total Priority Household cards (PHH + AAY)	206,619
All ration cards	362,540

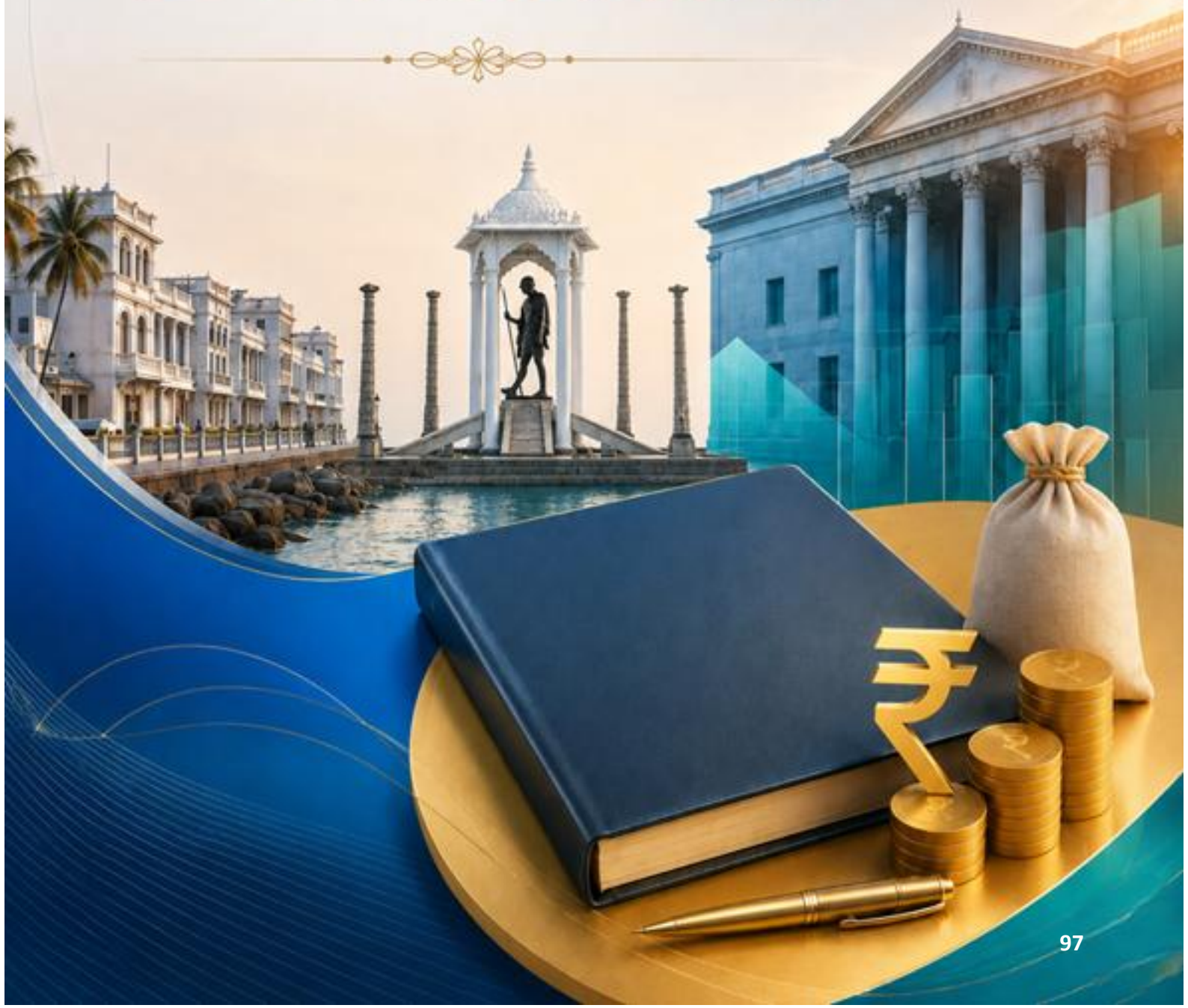
Source: Statistical Handbook 2024-25, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry

Annexure 6. LPG Domestic Customers by Region

Year	Puducherry	Karaikal	Mahe	Yanam	U.T. Total
2020-21	300,323	51,957	9,415	17,066	378,761
2021-22	311,669	52,549	9,415	17,400	391,033
2022-23	311,669	52,549	9,415	17,400	391,033
2023-24	359,114	47,804	11,677	21,861	440,456

Source: Statistical Handbook 2024-25, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry

Public Finance



CHAPTER - 5

PUBLIC FINANCE

Public finance is concerned with the mobilisation of public resources, their allocation across competing developmental and administrative needs, and the management of deficits and debt in a manner consistent with fiscal sustainability. In the Union Territory of Puducherry, budgetary policy has to reconcile developmental expenditure, welfare commitments and infrastructure requirements within the broad parameters laid down under the fiscal responsibility framework.

The fiscal profile during 2025-26 reflects continued dependence on a combination of own receipts, Central assistance and borrowings. Revenue performance remained resilient, while expenditure management continued to emphasise developmental and welfare commitments. At the same time, the quality of expenditure, the balance between revenue and capital spending and the trajectory of debt remain central to the assessment of fiscal health.

Unless otherwise stated, the ratios involving Gross State Domestic Product are based on the GSDP series with base year 2011-12. Figures for 2025-26 are provisional wherever applicable. After the revision of national and state income series to base year 2022-23, the levels of aggregates and the derived fiscal ratios may undergo change.

Table 5.1 Important fiscal indicators

Indicator	Value / Position	Interpretation
Total receipts (₹ crore)	13,397.69	Receipts realised at 95.02 per cent of the revised estimate in 2025-26.
Total expenditure (₹ crore)	13,111.45	Expenditure incurred amounted to 92.99 per cent of the revised estimate in 2025-26.
UT's own receipts (₹ crore)	7,631.53	Own receipts constituted 56.96 per cent of total receipts.
Central assistance and other specific transfers (₹ crore)	3,737.91	Central support remained an important resource pillar.
Capital receipts / borrowings (₹ crore)	2,028.25	Capital receipts, including borrowings, SASCI and recoveries, formed 15.14 per cent of total receipts.
Revenue surplus - Provisional Actual (₹ crore)	22.81	Revenue receipts exceeded revenue expenditure on a provisional basis.
Outstanding debt as on 31.03.2026 (₹ crore)	11,876.38	Debt-to-GSDP ratio stood at 21.06 per cent, below the 25 per cent ceiling.

Source: Finance Department Budget Presentation; Directorate of Accounts and Treasuries; Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Government of Puducherry.

State Budget 2025-26

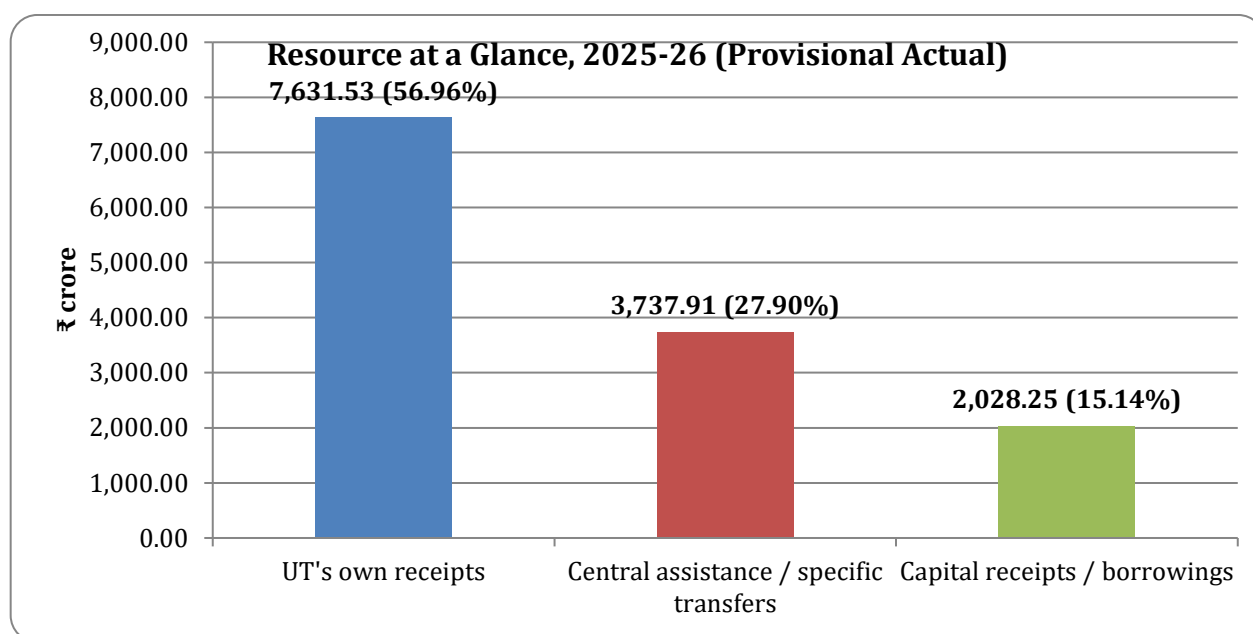
The budgetary structure for 2025-26 reveals that resource mobilisation in Puducherry rested primarily on the Union Territory's own receipts, supplemented by Central assistance and capital receipts. Provisional actual total receipts amounted to ₹ 13,397.69 crore as against the revised estimate of ₹ 14,100.00 crore. The corresponding actual expenditure stood at ₹ 13,111.45 crore, indicating expenditure compression relative to the revised estimate. Within the receipts structure, the share of the Union Territory's own receipts remained the largest, followed by Central assistance and borrowings.

Table 5.2 Resource at a glance, 2025-26

Item	BE 2025-26 (₹ crore)	RE 2025-26 (₹ crore)	Actual 2025-26 (₹ crore)	Actual as % of RE
UT's own receipts	7,641.40	7,744.87	7,631.53	98.54
Normal Central Assistance	3,427.18	3,512.85	3,512.86	100
Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS)	400	400	204.09	51.02
Central Road Fund (CRF)	25	25	10.86	43.44
Disaster Response Fund	5	38.38	5	13.03
e-Vidhan	0	3.40	5.10	150.00
Total - Central assistance / other specific transfers	3,857.18	3,979.63	3,737.91	93.93
Open Market Borrowings	1,731.42	1,855.42	1,600	86.23
Negotiated Loan	370	246	136.65	55.55
SASCI	0	274.08	291.50	106.36
Recoveries of Loans and Advances	0	0	0.10	NA
Total - Capital receipts / borrowings	2,101.42	2,375.50	2,028.25	85.38
Total Receipts	13,600	14,100	13,397.69	95.02

Note: Actual figures for 2025-26 are provisional.

Source: Finance Department Budget Presentation, Government of Puducherry.

Figure 5.1 Resource at a glance, 2025-26

Note: Values are in ₹ crore. Actual figures for 2025-26 are provisional.

Source: Finance Department Budget Presentation, Government of Puducherry.

Revenue Receipts

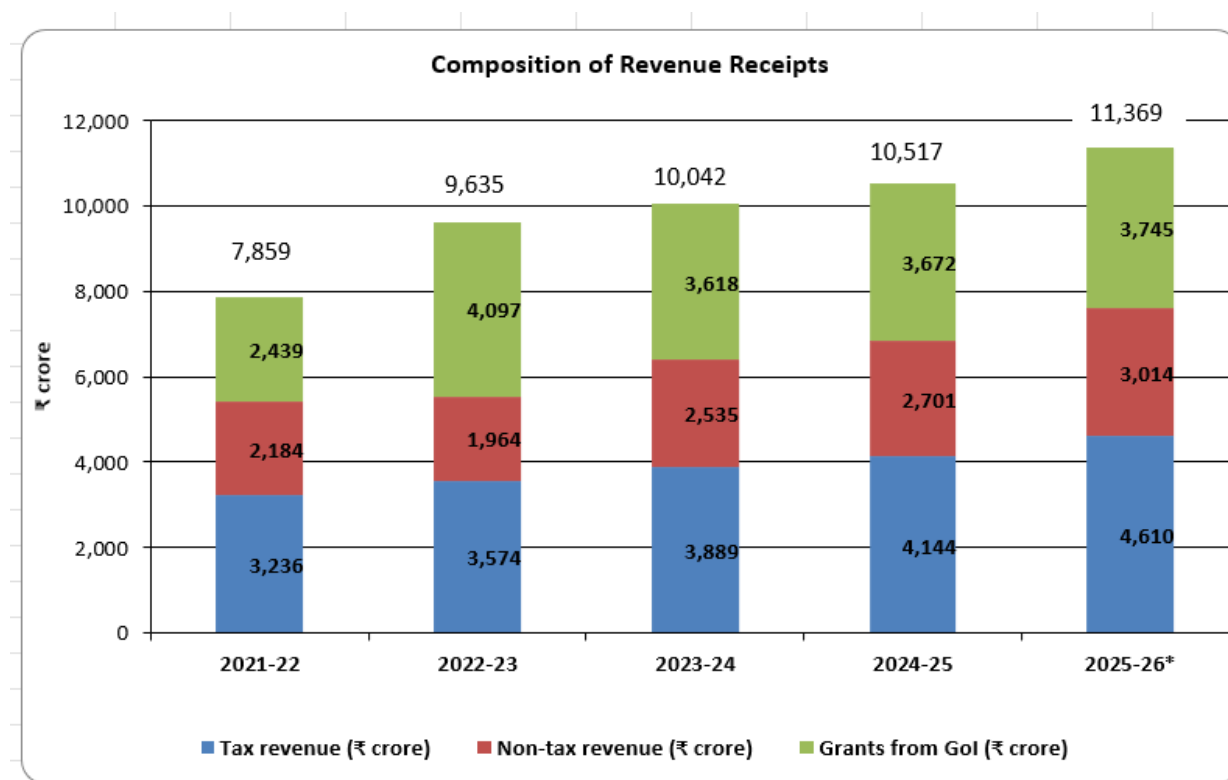
Revenue receipts comprise tax revenue, non-tax revenue and grants from the Government of India. Over the period from 2021-22 to 2025-26, revenue receipts recorded a steady expansion, rising from ₹ 7,859 crore to ₹ 11,369 crore. Tax revenue remained the dominant internal component, while grants from the Government of India continued to play an important stabilising role. The expansion of non-tax receipts, led overwhelmingly by the power sector, also contributed to strengthening the revenue base.

Table 5.3 Componentwise revenue receipts

Year	Tax revenue (₹ crore)	Non-tax revenue (₹ crore)	Grants from Gol (₹ crore)	Total revenue receipts (₹ crore)
2021-22	3,236	2,184	2,439	7,859
2022-23	3,574	1,964	4,097	9,635
2023-24	3,889	2,535	3,618	10,042
2024-25	4,144	2,701	3,672	10,517
2025-26*	4,610	3,014	3,745	11,369

Note: Figures are rounded to the nearest crore and the 2025-26 figures are provisional. This table follows the Directorate of Accounts and Treasuries series. Table 5.4 follows the Finance Department Budget Presentation series. Owing to differences in reporting and classification, the two series are not directly comparable.

Source: Directorate of Accounts and Treasuries, Government of Puducherry.

Figure 5.2(a) Composition of revenue receipts

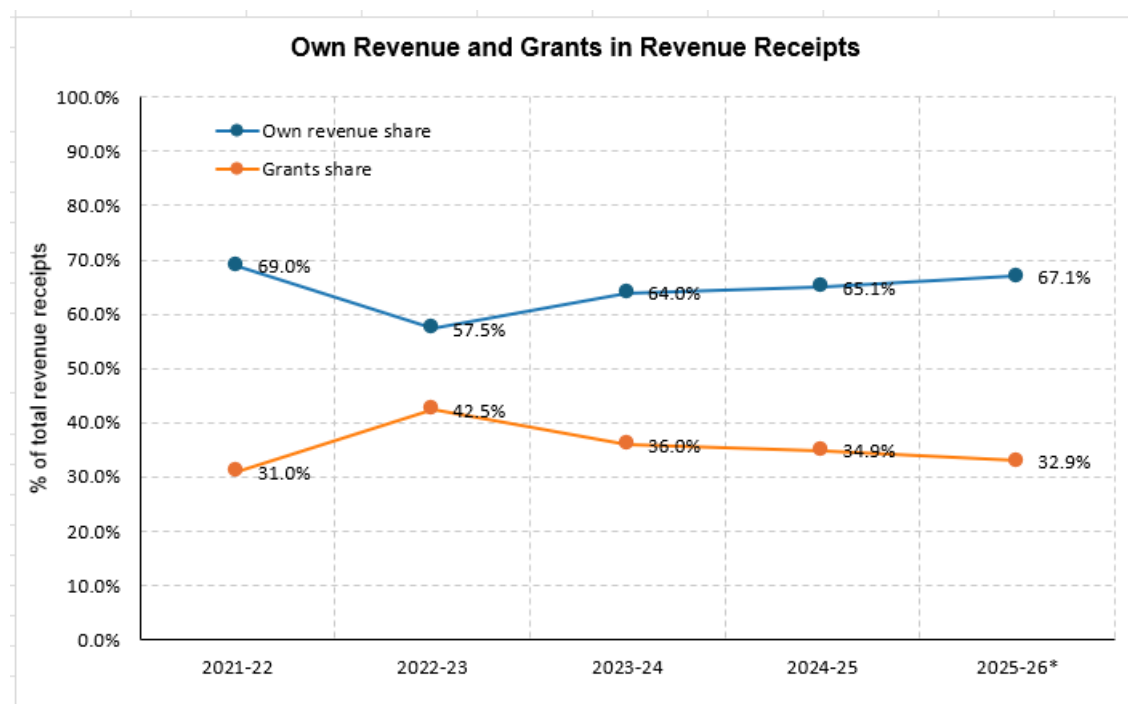
Note: Values are in ₹ crore. 2025-26 figure is provisional.

Source: Directorate of Accounts and Treasuries, Government of Puducherry.

Own Revenue and Grants in Revenue Receipts

The relative composition of revenue receipts indicates a strengthening of the Union Territory's own revenue base after 2022-23. Own revenue, comprising tax and non-tax revenue, accounted for 69.0 per cent of total revenue receipts in 2021-22. Its share declined to 57.5 per cent in 2022-23 owing to the higher grant component, but subsequently increased to 64.0 per cent in 2023-24, 65.1 per cent in 2024-25 and 67.1 per cent in 2025-26.

Correspondingly, the share of grants increased from 31.0 per cent in 2021-22 to 42.5 per cent in 2022-23 and thereafter declined to 32.9 per cent in 2025-26. The trend indicates an improvement in own-resource mobilisation and a reduction in the relative dependence on grants. Nevertheless, grants from the Government of India continue to constitute an important component of Puducherry's revenue framework.

Figure 5.2(b) Own revenue and grants in revenue receipts

Note: Own revenue comprises tax revenue and non-tax revenue. Shares are calculated as a percentage of total revenue receipts. Figures for 2025-26 are provisional. Percentages may not add exactly to 100 due to rounding.

Source: Directorate of Accounts and Treasuries, Government of Puducherry, Proforma I

Tax Revenue

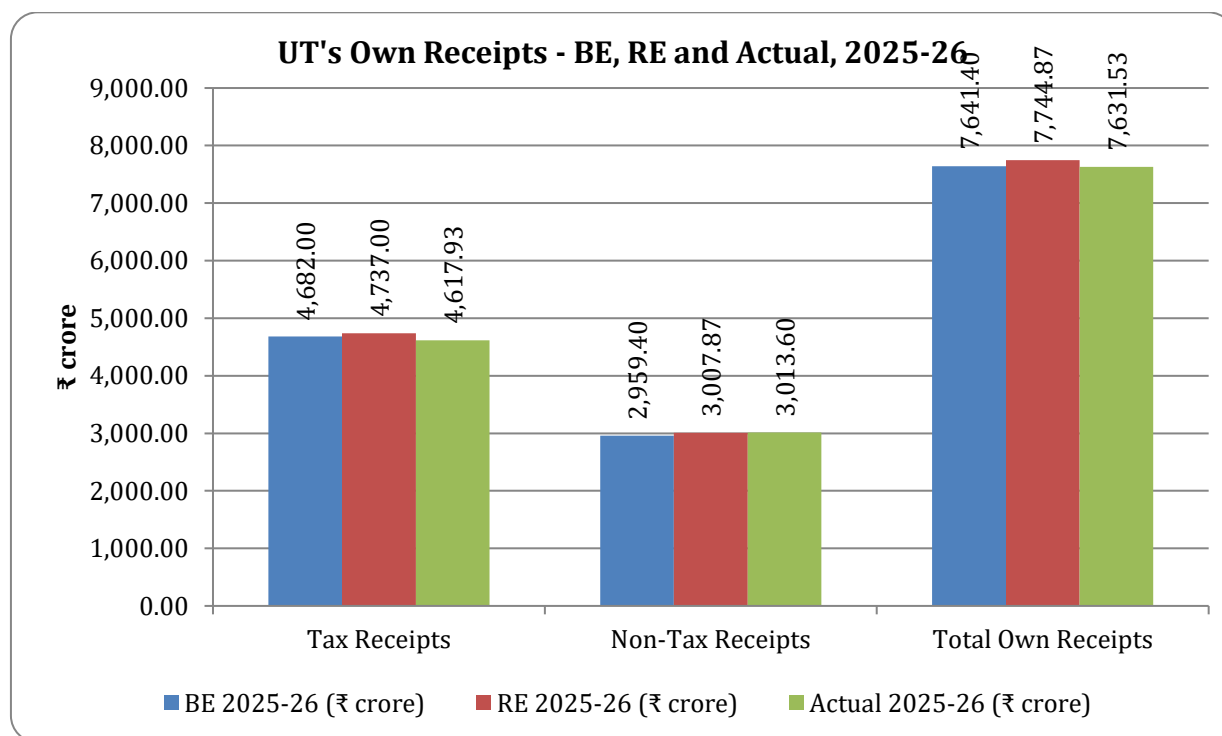
Tax revenue accounted for the largest share of the Union Territory's own receipts. Within tax revenue, Commercial Taxes remained the principal contributor, followed by State Excise. Stamps and Registration as well as Transport taxes, though smaller in magnitude, recorded notable contributions. The tax structure underscores the central role of consumption-based and excise-related levies in Puducherry's own revenue mobilisation.

Table 5.4 Component-wise own receipts

Component	2023-24 Actual (₹ crore)	2024-25 Actual (₹ crore)	2025-26 BE (₹ crore)	2025-26 RE (₹ crore)	2025-26 Actual (₹ crore)
Commercial Tax	2,128.36	2,299.46	2,530	2,495	2,432.41
Stamps & Registration	132.55	120.25	150	180	220.81
State Excise	1,487.66	1,542.59	1,800	1,860	1,765.60
Transport	159.12	182.76	200	200	197.15
Others (Tax)	0.70	2.53	2	2	1.96
Total - Tax Receipts	3,908.39	4,147.59	4,682	4,737	4,617.93
Power	2,283.56	2,355.87	2,570	2,600	2,690.95
PWD	35.46	30.23	45	30	22.75
Others (Non-Tax)	215.98	314.60	344.40	377.87	299.90
Total - Non-Tax Receipts	2,535	2,700.70	2,959.40	3,007.87	3,013.60
Grand Total	6,443.39	6,848.29	7,641.40	7,744.87	7,631.53

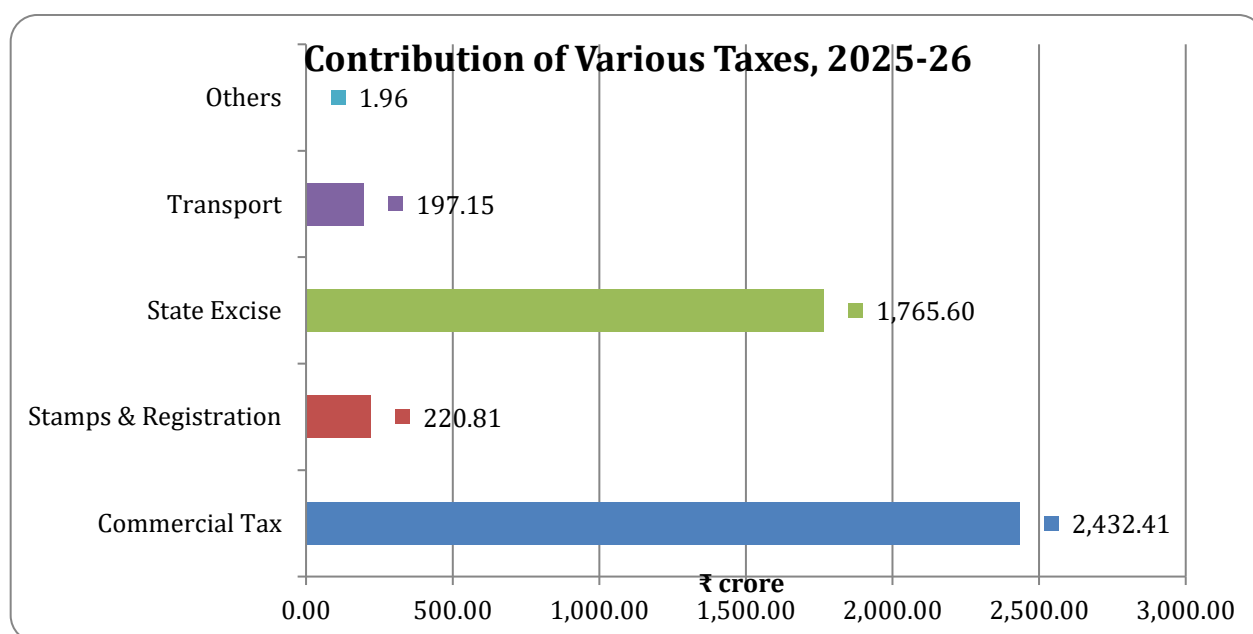
Note: Actual figures for 2025-26 are provisional.

Source: Finance Department Budget Presentation, Government of Puducherry.

Figure 5.3 UT's own receipts: BE, RE and actual

Note: Values are in ₹ crore. Actual figures for 2025-26 are provisional.

Source: Finance Department Budget Presentation, Government of Puducherry.

Figure 5.4(a) Contribution of various taxes, 2025-26

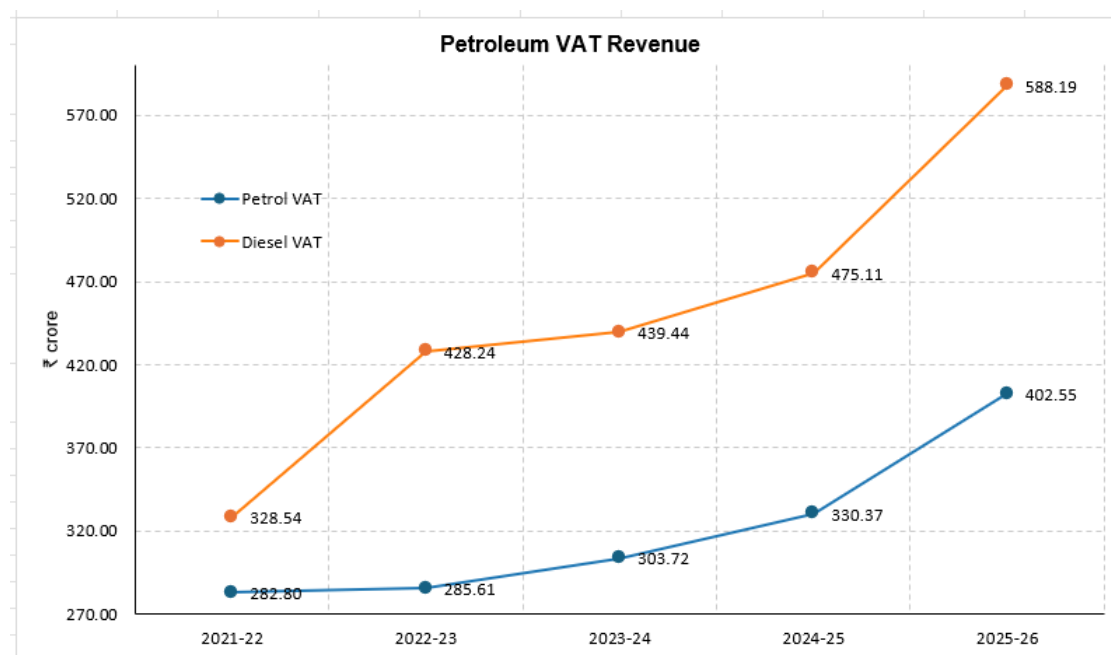
Note: Values are in ₹ crore. Actual figures for 2025-26 are provisional.

Source: Finance Department Budget Presentation, Government of Puducherry.

Petroleum VAT Revenue

Petroleum products remain outside the Goods and Services Tax framework and continue to constitute an important source of own tax revenue in Puducherry. Petrol VAT revenue increased from ₹282.80 crore in 2021-22 to ₹402.55 crore in 2025-26. Diesel VAT revenue recorded a comparatively sharper increase, rising from ₹328.54 crore to ₹588.19 crore during the same period.

Diesel VAT remained higher than petrol VAT throughout the period and formed the larger component of petroleum-related VAT receipts. The sustained increase in both revenue streams underscores the continuing fiscal significance of non-GST petroleum taxation. However, such receipts remain sensitive to changes in fuel prices, consumption volumes and applicable tax rates.

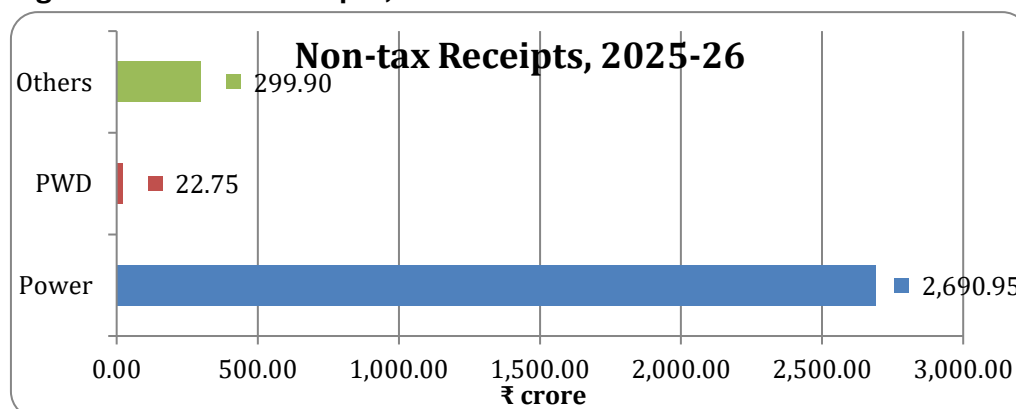
Figure 5.4(b) Petroleum VAT revenue

Note: Values are in ₹ crore. Data labels are rounded to the nearest crore. Figures for 2025-26 are provisional.

Source: Commercial Taxes Department, Government of Puducherry, Proforma VI.

Non-Tax Revenue

Non-tax revenue in Puducherry is heavily concentrated in the power sector. During 2025-26, receipts from power formed the overwhelming part of non-tax revenue, while receipts from the Public Works Department and other sources together represented only a modest share. The structure of non-tax revenue therefore indicates both the importance of the electricity sector and the need to diversify other non-tax sources.

Figure 5.5 Non-tax receipts, 2025-26

Note: Values are in ₹ crore. Actual figures for 2025-26 are provisional.

Source: Finance Department Budget Presentation, Government of Puducherry.

Central Assistance and Specific Transfers

Grants and transfers from the Government of India remain an important component of Puducherry's fiscal system. During 2025-26, Central assistance was composed mainly of Normal Central Assistance, supplemented by Centrally Sponsored Schemes, Central Road Fund, Disaster Response Fund and e-Vidhan support. The relative predominance of Normal Central Assistance highlights the continuing significance of Union support for the fiscal operations of the Union Territory.

Table 5.5 Transfer of financial resources from GoI to the Union Territory

Particular	BE 2025-26 (₹ crore)	RE 2025-26 (₹ crore)	Actual 2025-26 (₹ crore)
Normal Central Assistance	3,427.18	3,512.85	3,512.86
Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS)	400	400	204.09
Central Road Fund (CRF)	25	25	10.86
Disaster Response Fund	5	38.38	5
e-Vidhan	0	3.40	5.10
Total	3,857.18	3,979.63	3,737.91

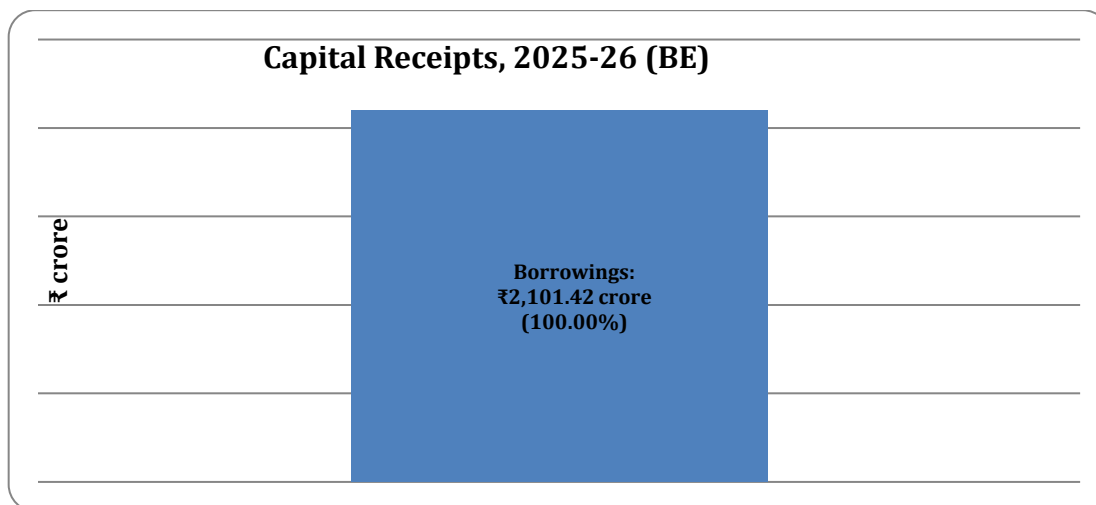
Note: Actual figures for 2025-26 are provisional.

Source: Finance Department Budget Presentation, Government of Puducherry.

Capital Receipts

Capital receipts consist mainly of borrowings and recoveries of loans and advances. As per the budget estimates for 2025-26, capital receipts were budgeted at ₹ 2,101.42 crore, consisting entirely of Open Market Borrowings of ₹1,731.42 crore and Negotiated Loans of ₹370.00 crore. This indicates that incremental financing requirements were expected to be met principally through debt instruments.

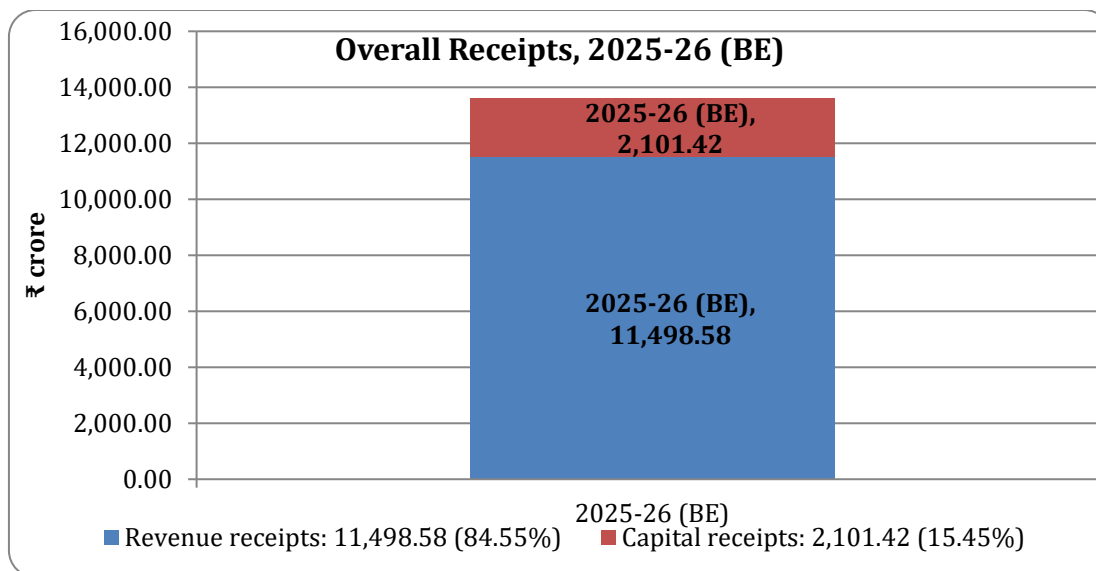
Figure 5.6 Capital receipts, 2025-26 (BE)



Note: Capital receipts in the Budget Estimate for 2025-26 consisted entirely of borrowings, comprising Open Market Borrowings of ₹1,731.42 crore and Negotiated Loans of ₹370.00 crore.

Source: Finance Department Budget Presentation, Government of Puducherry.

Figure 5.7 Overall receipts, 2025-26 (BE)



Note: The chart shows the value and percentage contribution of each component.

Source: Compiled from budget estimates, Government of Puducherry.

Revenue Expenditure

Revenue expenditure represents the current expenditure necessary for administration, public service delivery, welfare measures and debt servicing. In 2025-26 (BE), total revenue account disbursements were placed at ₹11,624.72 crore. By service classification, Social Services accounted for ₹4,170.67 crore, Economic Services for ₹4,113.84 crore and General Services for ₹3,340.21 crore.

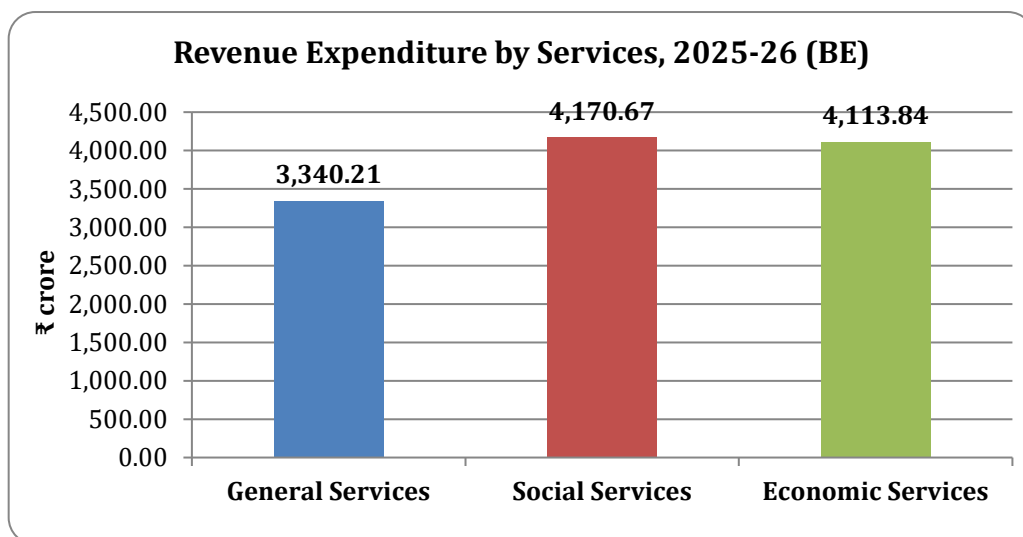
In terms of economic composition, salaries and wages together with pension accounted for ₹3,044.35 crore, or 26.19 per cent of total revenue expenditure. Grants-in-aid constituted 14.14 per cent, interest payments 7.13 per cent, subsidies 6.10 per cent and maintenance expenditure 3.52 per cent. The remaining expenditure, grouped under “Others”, accounted for 42.92 per cent. The composition reflects the importance of employee-related commitments, grants, debt servicing, subsidies and routine service-delivery expenditure in the revenue account.

Table 5.6 Revenue expenditure by service classification

Service	2023-24 Actual (₹ crore)	2024-25 BE (₹ crore)	2024-25 RE (₹ crore)	2025-26 BE (₹ crore)
General Services	3,107.06	3,142.28	3,273.73	3,340.21
Social Services	3,813.57	4,058.45	4,423.47	4,170.67
Economic Services	3,145.83	3,769.07	3,875.46	4,113.84
Total Revenue Account Disbursements	10,066.45	10,969.80	11,572.67	11,624.72

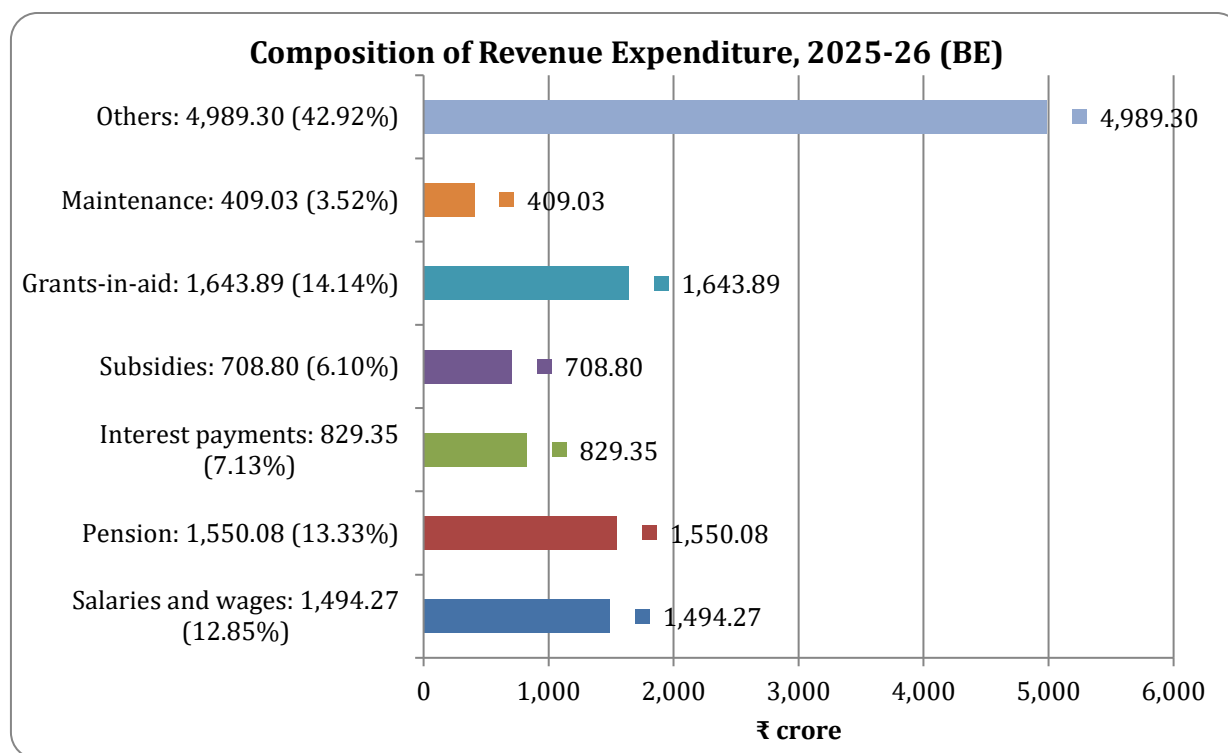
Note: Figures are in ₹ crore. Totals may not tally exactly due to rounding.

Source: Annual Financial Statement, Budget 2025-26, Government of Puducherry.

Figure 5.8 Revenue expenditure by services, 2025-26 (BE)

Note: Values are in ₹ crore.

Source: Annual Financial Statement, Budget 2025-26, Government of Puducherry.

Figure 5.9 Composition of revenue expenditure, 2025-26 (BE)

Note: Values are in ₹ crore and percentages indicate shares in total revenue expenditure of ₹11,624.72 crore. Interest payments include provisions under Major Head 2049—Interest Payments and other departmental interest provisions. “Others” represents the residual expenditure required for reconciliation with total revenue expenditure. Percentages may not add exactly to 100 due to rounding.

Source: Compiled from Demand for Grants and Annual Financial Statement, Budget 2025-26, Government of Puducherry.

Capital Account Disbursements and Capital Outlay

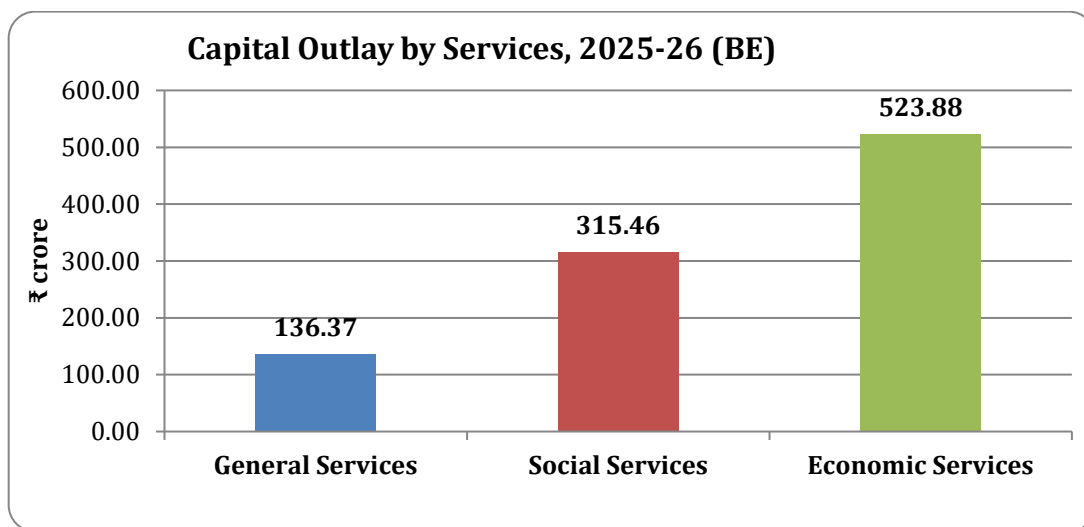
Capital outlay represents expenditure on asset creation and long-term infrastructure development. In 2025-26 (BE), capital outlay on General, Social and Economic Services amounted to ₹975.71 crore. Total capital account disbursements were placed at ₹1,975.28 crore, comprising capital outlay of ₹975.71 crore, public debt repayment of ₹999.06 crore and loans and advances of ₹0.50 crore.

Table 5.7 Details of capital account disbursements

Item	2023-24 Actual (₹ crore)	2024-25 BE (₹ crore)	2024-25 RE (₹ crore)	2025-26 BE (₹ crore)
Capital Account of General Services	49.04	114.35	81.82	136.37
Capital Account of Social Services	118.70	303.77	276.68	315.46
Capital Account of Economic Services	271.41	358.28	360.10	523.88
Public Debt Repayment	956.74	953.05	943.62	999.06
Loans and Advances	0.08	0.74	0.10	0.50
Total Capital Account Disbursements	1,395.98	1,730.20	1,662.33	1,975.28

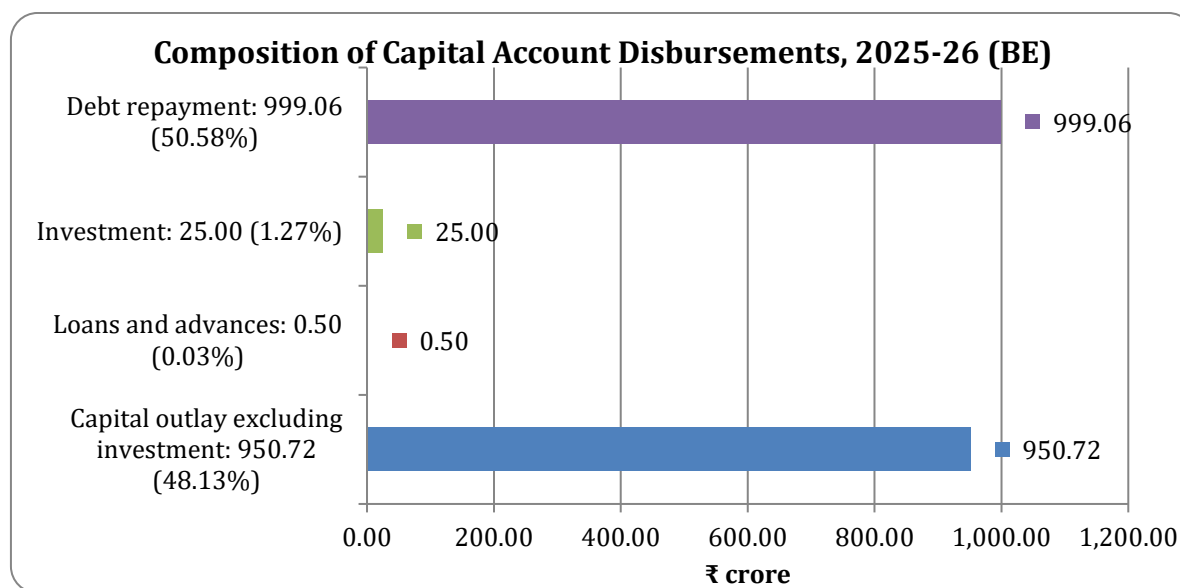
Note: Capital outlay comprises expenditure under the Capital Account of General, Social and Economic Services. Total capital account disbursements also include public debt repayment and loans and advances. Figures are in ₹ crore. Totals may not tally exactly due to rounding.

Source: Annual Financial Statement, Budget 2025-26, Government of Puducherry.

Figure 5.10 Capital outlay by services, 2025-26 (BE)

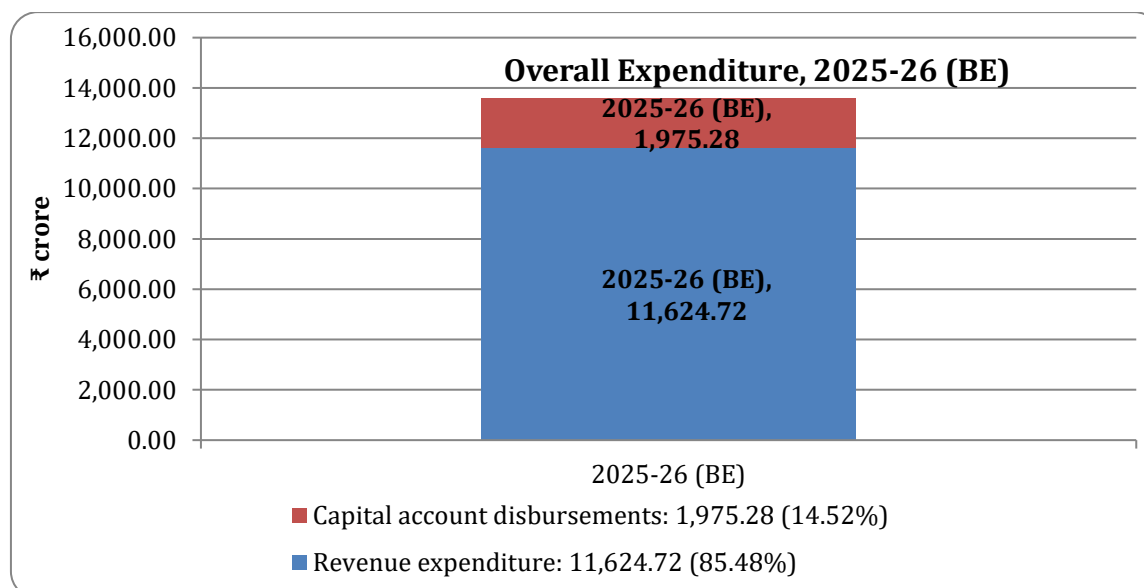
Note: Capital outlay comprises expenditure under General, Social and Economic Services. Values are in ₹ crore.

Source: Annual Financial Statement, Budget 2025-26, Government of Puducherry.

Figure 5.11 Composition of capital account disbursements, 2025-26 (BE)

Note: Values are in ₹ crore and percentages indicate shares in total capital account disbursements of ₹1,975.28 crore. Investment is shown separately from capital outlay excluding investment. Together, these components represent total capital outlay. Totals and percentages may not tally exactly due to rounding.

Source: Compiled from Annual Financial Statement and Demand for Grants, Budget 2025-26, Government of Puducherry.

Figure 5.12 Overall expenditure, 2025-26 (BE)

Note: The chart shows the value and percentage contribution of revenue expenditure and capital account disbursements.

Source: Annual Financial Statement, Budget 2025-26, Government of Puducherry.

Expenditure incurred during 2025-26

The composition of actual expenditure during 2025-26 indicates that salaries, wages and pension together formed the largest broad expenditure group, followed by power purchase, public debt, welfare schemes and grants-in-aid. This distribution highlights the preponderance of committed and welfare-oriented spending in the expenditure structure of the Union Territory.

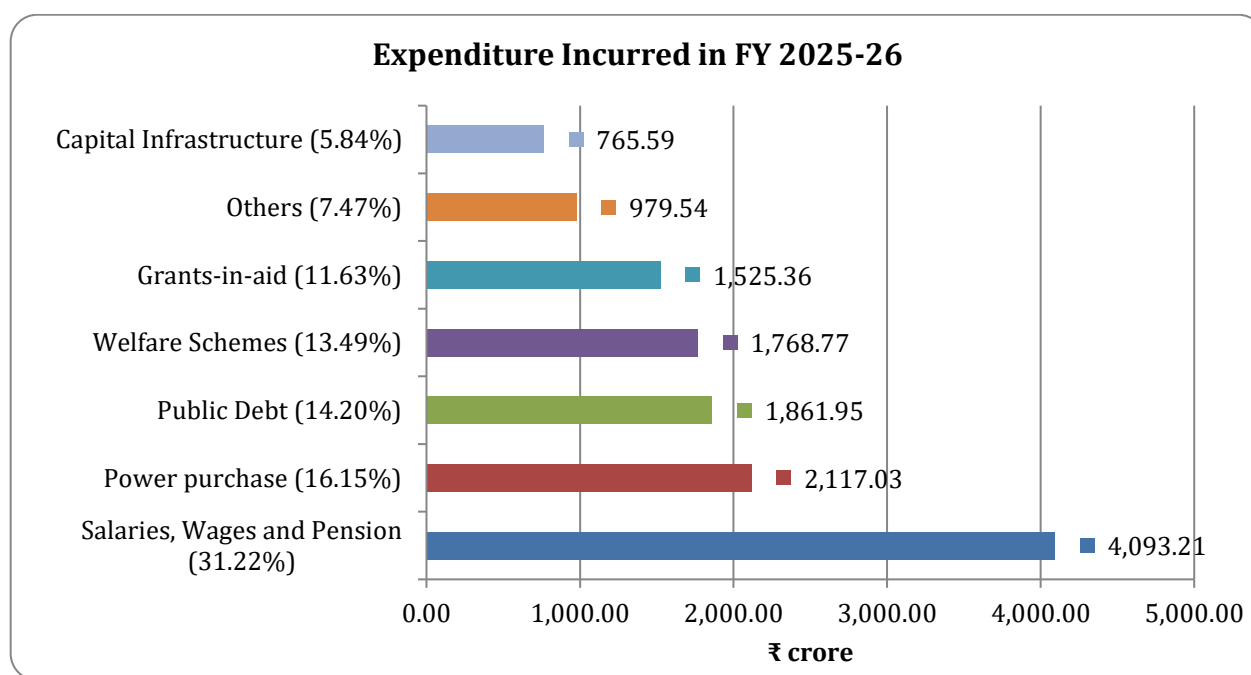
Table 5.8 Expenditure incurred in FY 2025-26

Description	Amount (₹ crore)	Share in total expenditure (%)
Salaries, Wages and Pension	4,093.21	31.22
Power purchase	2,117.03	16.15
Public Debt	1,861.95	14.20
Welfare Schemes	1,768.77	13.49
Grants-in-aid	1,525.36	11.63
Others	979.54	7.47
Capital Infrastructure	765.59	5.84

Note: Figures are provisional actual for 2025-26.

Source: Finance Department Budget Presentation, Government of Puducherry.

Figure 5.13 Expenditure incurred in FY 2025-26



Note: "Capital infrastructure" excludes repayment of borrowings. "Others" is the residual required to reconcile the listed components with provisional actual total expenditure of ₹13,111.45 crore.

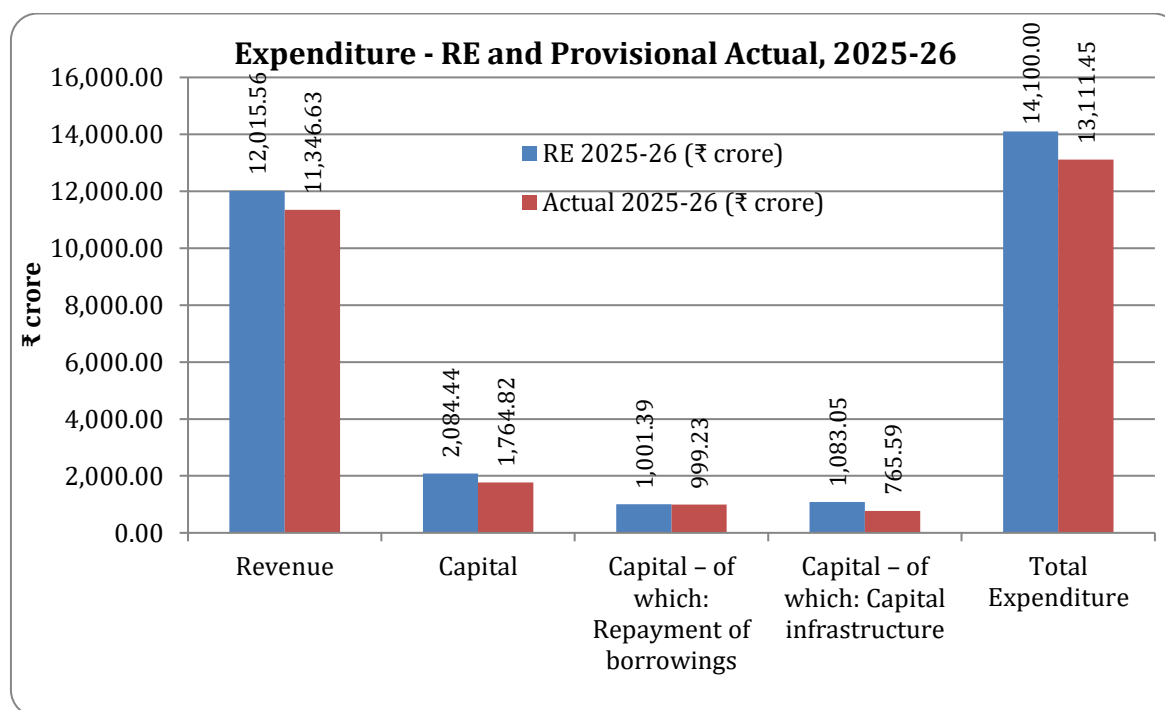
Source: Finance Department Budget Presentation, Government of Puducherry.

Table 5.9 Expenditure - revised estimate and provisional actual, 2025-26

Description	RE 2025-26 (₹ crore)	Actual 2025-26 (₹ crore)	Actual as % of RE
Revenue Expenditure	12,015.56	11,346.63	94.43
Capital Expenditure	2,084.44	1,764.82	84.67
Of which: Repayment of borrowings	1,001.39	999.23	99.78
Of which: Capital infrastructure	1,083.05	765.59	70.69
Total Expenditure	14,100	13,111.45	92.99

Note: Repayment of borrowings and capital infrastructure are components of capital expenditure and should not be added separately to total expenditure. Figures for 2025-26 are provisional actuals.

Source: Finance Department Budget Presentation, Government of Puducherry.

Figure 5.14 Expenditure: RE and actual, 2025-26

Note: Values are in ₹ crore. Repayment of borrowings and capital infrastructure are components of capital expenditure. Figures for 2025-26 are provisional actuals.

Source: Finance Department Budget Presentation, Government of Puducherry.

Subsidies and Transfer Commitments

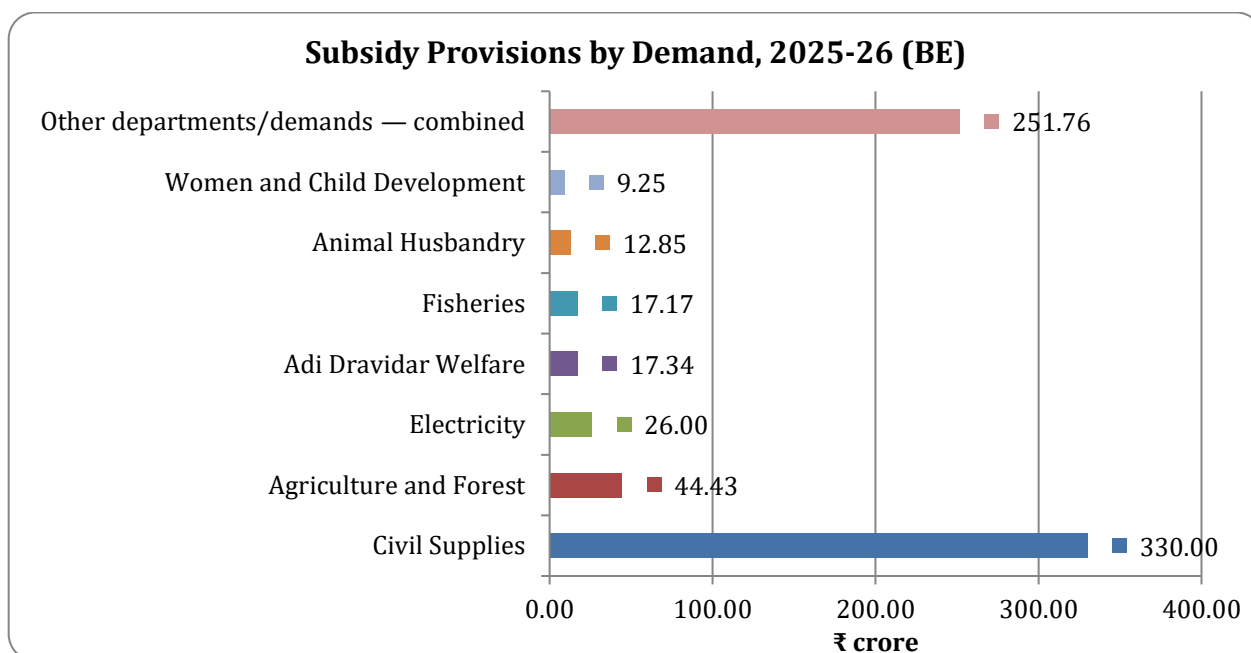
Subsidies form an important part of revenue expenditure, especially in relation to food security, agriculture and electricity. The largest budgetary provision under subsidies during 2025-26 pertained to Civil Supplies, followed by Agriculture and Forest, Electricity and selected welfare-oriented departments. The concentration of subsidies in a few sectors reflects the Territory's emphasis on consumer support and livelihood security.

Table 5.10 Subsidy provisions by demand, 2025-26 (BE)

Demand / Department	Subsidy provision (₹ crore)
Civil Supplies	330
Agriculture and Forest	44.43
Electricity	26
Adi Dravidar Welfare	17.34
Fisheries	17.17
Animal Husbandry	12.85
Women and Child Development	9.25
Other departments/demands - combined	251.76

Note: Compiled from object head 33 - Subsidies. Figures are in ₹ crore.

Source: Demand for Grants, Budget 2025-26, Government of Puducherry.

Figure 5.15 Subsidy provisions by demand, 2025-26 (BE)

Note: Values are in ₹ crore.

Source: Demand for Grants, Budget 2025-26, Government of Puducherry.

Table 5.11 Selected major subsidy provisions, 2025-26 (BE)

Subsidy item	Provision (₹ crore)
Civil Supplies - Distribution of essential commodities	252
Civil Supplies - Distribution under Special Component Plan	48
Electricity - subsidy on power consumption charges	26
Civil Supplies - subsidy for LPG cylinder	25
Agriculture and Forest - crop husbandry, Puducherry region	16.89
Agriculture and Forest - crop husbandry, Karaikal region	7.43
Adi Dravidar Welfare - PMAY (Urban) 2.0 State Share	7

Note: Compiled from object head 33 - Subsidies. Figures are in ₹ crore.

Source: Demand for Grants, Budget 2025-26, Government of Puducherry.

Table 5.12 Revenue expenditure to capital outlay ratio — selected reporting stages

Year	Revenue expenditure (₹ crore)	Capital outlay / capital infrastructure (₹ crore)	Ratio (number)
2023-24 Actual	10,066.45	439.15	22.92
2024-25 RE	11,572.67	718.60	16.10
2025-26 BE	11,624.72	975.71	11.91
2025-26 Provisional Actual	11,346.63	765.59	14.82

Note: Ratio = Revenue expenditure ÷ Capital outlay or capital infrastructure expenditure. Capital outlay comprises expenditure under General, Social and Economic Services and excludes public debt repayment and loans and advances. The rows relate to different reporting stages—Actual, Revised Estimate, Budget Estimate and Provisional Actual—and should not be interpreted as a continuous all-actual series. Totals may not tally exactly due to rounding.

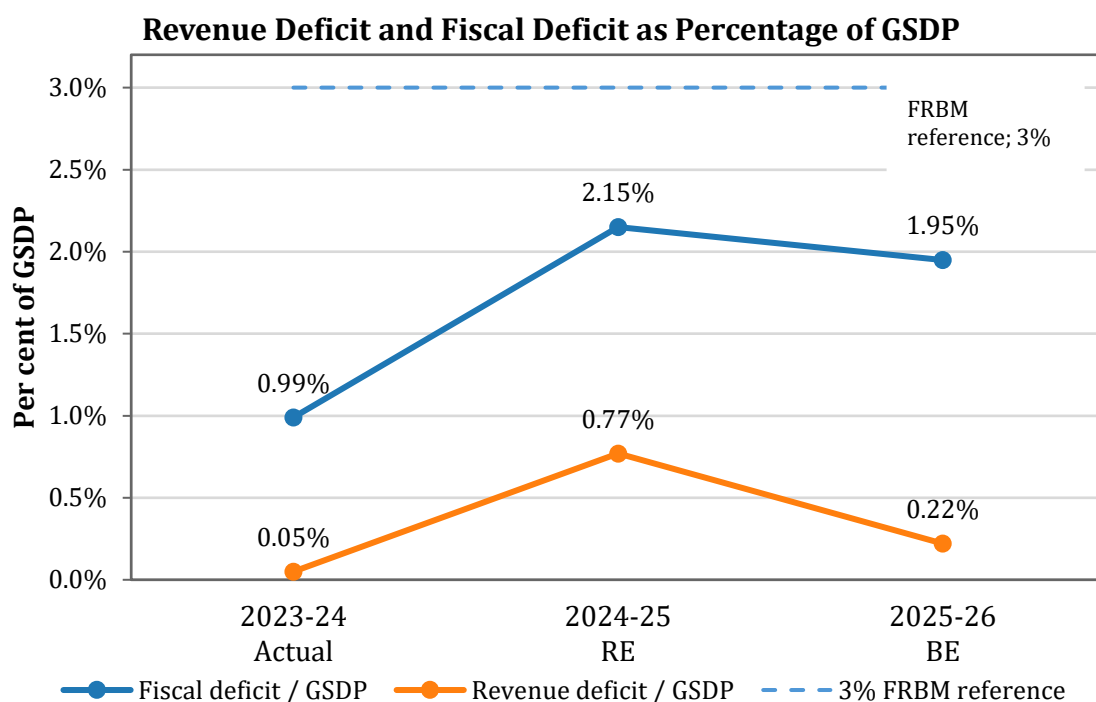
Source: Annual Financial Statement, Budget 2025-26; Finance Department Budget Presentation, Government of Puducherry.

The revenue expenditure-to-capital outlay ratio stood at 22.92 in 2023-24 Actual. It was placed at 16.10 in the 2024-25 Revised Estimate and 11.91 in the 2025-26 Budget Estimate. Based on the provisional actual figures for 2025-26, the ratio stood at 14.82. The higher provisional actual ratio compared with the Budget Estimate mainly reflects the lower realisation of capital infrastructure expenditure. A lower ratio generally indicates a relatively stronger capital orientation of expenditure.

Fiscal Deficit, Revenue Balance and Debt Position

The fiscal deficit-to-GSDP ratio stood at 0.99 per cent in 2023-24 Actual, increased to 2.15 per cent in the 2024-25 Revised Estimate and was placed at 1.95 per cent in the 2025-26 Budget Estimate. The corresponding revenue deficit-to-GSDP ratios were 0.05 per cent, 0.77 per cent and 0.22 per cent, respectively. The fiscal deficit remained below the 3 per cent reference level at all three reporting stages, while the 2025-26 Budget Estimate indicated an improvement over the 2024-25 Revised Estimate.

Figure 5.16(a) Revenue deficit and fiscal deficit as percentage of GSDP

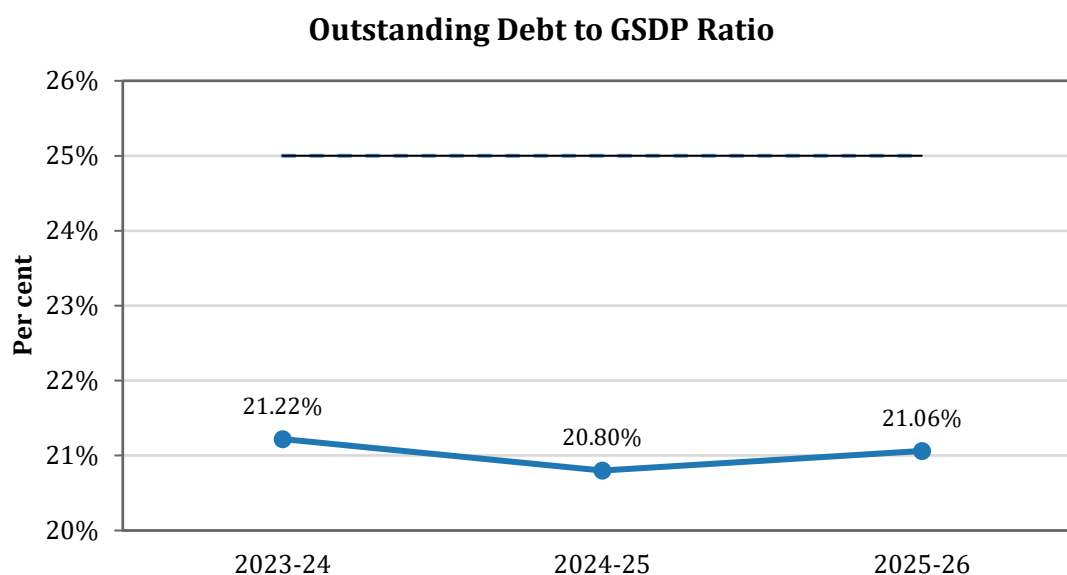


Note: The figures relate to 2023-24 Actual, 2024-25 Revised Estimate and 2025-26 Budget Estimate. Ratios have been calculated using GSDP at current prices under the 2011-12 base-year series. The dashed line indicates the 3 per cent fiscal-deficit reference level.

Source: Annual Financial Statement, Budget 2025-26, Government of Puducherry; Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry.

The provisional actual position for 2025-26 subsequently showed a fiscal deficit-to-GSDP ratio of 1.32 per cent and a revenue surplus equivalent to 0.04 per cent of GSDP. The Budget Estimate ratios presented in Figure 5.16(a) and the provisional actual ratios presented in Table 5.13 therefore relate to different reporting stages.

Outstanding debt increased from ₹9,959.96 crore in 2023-24 to ₹10,847.42 crore in 2024-25 and ₹11,876.38 crore in 2025-26. Despite the increase in the absolute debt level, the debt-to-GSDP ratio remained broadly stable at 21.22 per cent, 20.80 per cent and 21.06 per cent, respectively. The ratio remained below the 25 per cent ceiling throughout the period.

Figure 5.16(b) Outstanding debt and debt-to-GSDP ratio

Note: GSDP relates to the current-price series with base year 2011-12. Figures for 2025-26 are provisional. The dashed line indicates the 25 per cent debt-to-GSDP ceiling.

Source: Finance Department Budget Presentation, Government of Puducherry; Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry.

Table 5.13 consolidates the latest provisional fiscal discipline indicators for 2025-26 and presents them against the applicable fiscal-deficit and debt reference levels.

Table 5.13 Fiscal discipline indicators

Particulars	Parameter	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
GSDP at current prices (base year 2011-12) (₹ crore)		46,944.98	52,162.67	56,396.41
Fiscal Deficit-to-GSDP (%)	Reference level: 3% of GSDP	0.99	1.63	1.32
Revenue Deficit-to-GSDP (%)	Reference position: no revenue deficit	0.05	0.77	-0.04
Outstanding Debt (₹ crore)		9,959.96	10,847.42	11,876.38
Outstanding Debt-to-GSDP (%)	Ceiling: 25% of GSDP	21.22	20.80	21.06

Note: GSDP relates to the 2011-12 base-year series. Figures for 2025-26 are provisional. A negative revenue-deficit ratio indicates a revenue surplus.

Source: Finance Department Budget Presentation, Government of Puducherry; Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry. Ratios have been calculated using the GSDP at current prices under the 2011-12 base-year series.

Debt Profile

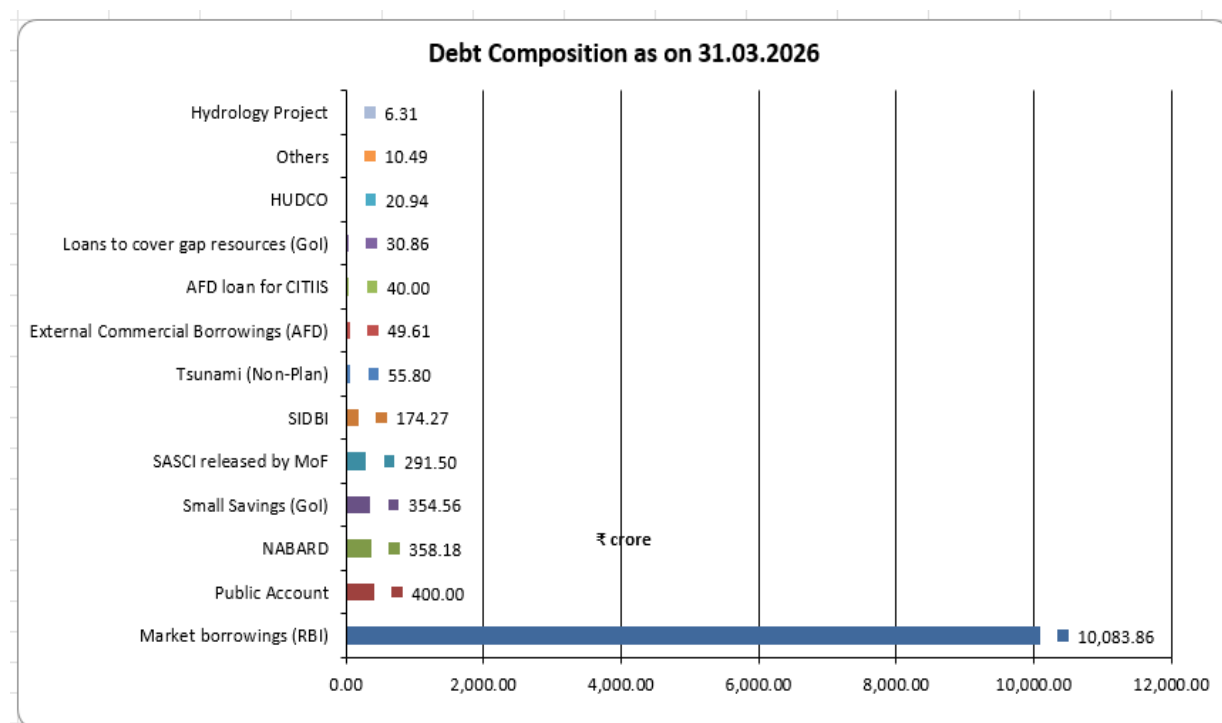
The debt profile of Puducherry as on 31 March 2026 was dominated by market borrowings, with other components such as NABARD, SIDBI, Small Savings, Public Account liabilities and SASCI forming comparatively smaller shares. The debt composition indicates that internal and institutional borrowing sources continue to finance a large part of the Territory's borrowing requirement. While the outstanding debt-to-GSDP ratio remained within prudent limits, the composition and maturity profile of liabilities require continued monitoring to manage refinancing and debt-servicing risks.

Table 5.14 Debt composition as on 31.03.2026

Description of debt	Balance (₹ crore)
Market borrowings (RBI)	10,083.86
HUDCO	20.94
NABARD	358.18
SIDBI	174.27
External Commercial Borrowings (AFD)	49.61
Loans to cover gap resources (GoI) (Non-Plan)	30.86
Small Savings (GoI)	354.56
Tsunami (Non-Plan)	55.80
Hydrology Project	6.31
Public Account	400.00
AFD loan for CITIIS	40.00
Others	10.49
SASCI released by MoF	291.50
Total	11,876.38

Note: Total includes SASCI released by Ministry of Finance.

Source: Finance Department Budget Presentation, Government of Puducherry.

Figure 5.17 Debt composition as on 31.03.2026

Note: Values are in ₹ crore.

Source: Finance Department Budget Presentation, Government of Puducherry.

Table 5.15 Details of pending legacy loans as on 31.03.2026

Name of loan	Loan outstanding as on 17.12.2007 (₹ crore)	Repayment made up to 31.03.2026 (₹ crore)	Balance as on 31.03.2026 (₹ crore)
National Small Savings Fund	1,176.28	931.39	244.89
Tsunami Loans	93	37.20	55.80
Total of listed components	1,269.28	968.59	300.69

Note: The totals have been calculated from the individual loan components shown above. The source presentation reports ₹2,176.97 crore as the original outstanding amount and ₹1,876.28 crore as repayment made; these figures do not reconcile with the listed components and require confirmation from the Finance Department.

Source: Finance Department Budget Presentation, Government of Puducherry.

Treasury operations and fiscal administration

Treasury operations provide a useful operational dimension to the analysis of public finance. Most treasury indicators increased over the period, although the number and value of bills passed fluctuated from year to year. E-payments, pensioners served and treasury receipts showed a sustained increase, indicating expanding transaction volumes and increasing reliance on electronic processes within the treasury system.

Table 5.16 Treasury operations

Year	Bills passed (number)	Value of bills passed (₹ crore)	E-payments (number)	Pensioners served (number)	Treasury receipts (₹ crore)
2021-22	104,911	3,746.65	129,674	17,239	3,978.64
2022-23	123,923	5,179.80	908,526	18,309	4,773.51
2023-24	110,652	6,209.73	945,582	18,996	5,446.44
2024-25	101,692	6,046.89	961,287	19,762	5,667.12
2025-26	114,961	7,111.82	1,028,188	20,463	6,225.33

Note: Values of bills passed and treasury receipts are converted from rupees to ₹ crore.

Source: Directorate of Accounts and Treasuries, Government of Puducherry.

Concluding Observations

The public finance position of Puducherry during 2025-26 points to a stable fiscal framework supported by a combination of own receipts, Central assistance and calibrated borrowing. Revenue mobilisation improved, with own receipts continuing to provide the principal resource base.

Expenditure management remained oriented towards committed expenditure, welfare obligations and public service delivery. At the same time, the relative size of capital outlay vis-à-vis revenue expenditure underscores the need for continued efforts to improve the quality of expenditure and strengthen the capital orientation of the budget.

The fiscal deficit and outstanding debt ratios remained within the prescribed limits in relation to GSDP, while the revenue account recorded a small provisional surplus during 2025-26. Sustained strengthening of own tax and non-tax revenue, continued monitoring of subsidies and grants, and a greater emphasis on productive capital expenditure would further enhance the fiscal resilience of the Union Territory.

ANNEXURES

Annexure 5.1 Selected fiscal aggregates by reporting stage

Item	2023-24 Actual (₹ crore)	2024-25 BE (₹ crore)	2024-25 RE (₹ crore)	2025-26 BE (₹ crore)	2025-26 Provisional Actual (₹ crore)
Revenue account receipts	10,042.41	10,633.64	11,168.64	11,498.58	11,369.44
Revenue account disbursements	10,066.45	10,969.80	11,572.67	11,624.72	11,346.63
Revenue surplus (+) / deficit (-)	-24.04	-336.16	-404.03	-126.14	+22.81
Capital account receipts	1,269.51	2,066.36	2,066.36	2,101.42	2,028.25
Capital account disbursements	1,395.98	1,730.20	1,662.33	1,975.28	1,764.82
Total Consolidated Fund receipts	11,311.93	12,700.00	13,235.00	13,600.00	13,397.69
Total Consolidated Fund disbursements	11,462.43	12,700.00	13,235.00	13,600.00	13,111.45

Note: Figures are in ₹ crore. Revenue surplus/deficit is calculated as revenue account receipts minus revenue account disbursements; a positive value indicates a revenue surplus and a negative value indicates a revenue deficit. The columns represent different reporting stages—Actual, Budget Estimate, Revised Estimate and Provisional Actual—and should not be interpreted as a continuous all-actual series. Totals may not tally exactly due to rounding.

Source: Annual Financial Statement, Budget 2025-26; Finance Department Budget Presentation, Government of Puducherry.

Annexure 5.2 Details of Component-wise revenue receipts

Item	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Tax Revenue	3,236	3,574	3,889	4,144	4,610
Non-Tax Revenue	2,184	1,964	2,535	2,701	3,014
Grants from Gol	2,439	4,097	3,618	3,672	3,745
Total Revenue Receipts	7,859	9,635	10,042	10,517	11,369

Note: Figures are rounded to the nearest crore. Figures for 2021-22 to 2024-25 are actual and the 2025-26 figures are provisional.

Source: Directorate of Accounts and Treasuries, Government of Puducherry.

Annexure 5.3 Revenue expenditure by service classification

Service	2023-24 Actual (₹ crore)	2024-25 BE (₹ crore)	2024-25 RE (₹ crore)	2025-26 BE (₹ crore)
General Services	3,107.06	3,142.28	3,273.73	3,340.21
Social Services	3,813.57	4,058.45	4,423.47	4,170.67
Economic Services	3,145.83	3,769.07	3,875.46	4,113.84
Total Revenue Account Disbursements	10,066.45	10,969.80	11,572.67	11,624.72

Note: Figures are in ₹ crore.

Source: Annual Financial Statement, Budget 2025-26, Government of Puducherry.

Annexure 5.4 Capital account disbursements

Item	2023-24 Actual (₹ crore)	2024-25 BE (₹ crore)	2024-25 RE (₹ crore)	2025-26 BE (₹ crore)
Capital Account of General Services	49.04	114.35	81.82	136.37
Capital Account of Social Services	118.70	303.77	276.68	315.46
Capital Account of Economic Services	271.41	358.28	360.10	523.88
Public Debt Repayment	956.74	953.05	943.62	999.06
Loans and Advances	0.08	0.74	0.10	0.50
Total Capital Account Disbursements	1,395.98	1,730.20	1,662.33	1,975.28

Note: Figures are in ₹ crore.

Source: Annual Financial Statement, Budget 2025-26, Government of Puducherry.

Annexure 5.5 Subsidy provisions by demand

Demand / Department	Subsidy provision (₹ crore)
Civil Supplies	330
Agriculture and Forest	44.43
Electricity	26
Adi Dravidar Welfare	17.34
Fisheries	17.17
Animal Husbandry	12.85
Women and Child Development	9.25
Other departments/demands - combined	251.76

Note: Compiled from object head 33 - Subsidies. Figures are in ₹ crore.

Source: Demand for Grants, Budget 2025-26, Government of Puducherry.

Annexure 5.6 Debt details

Description of debt	Balance (₹ crore)
Market borrowings (RBI)	10,083.86
HUDCO	20.94
NABARD	358.18
SIDBI	174.27
External Commercial Borrowings (AFD)	49.61
Loans to cover gap resources (Gol) (Non-Plan)	30.86
Small Savings (Gol)	354.56
Tsunami (Non-Plan)	55.80
Hydrology Project	6.31
Public Account	400.00
AFD loan for CITIIS	40.00
Others	10.49
SASCI released by MoF	291.50
Total	11,876.38

Note: Total includes SASCI released by Ministry of Finance.

Source: Finance Department Budget Presentation, Government of Puducherry.

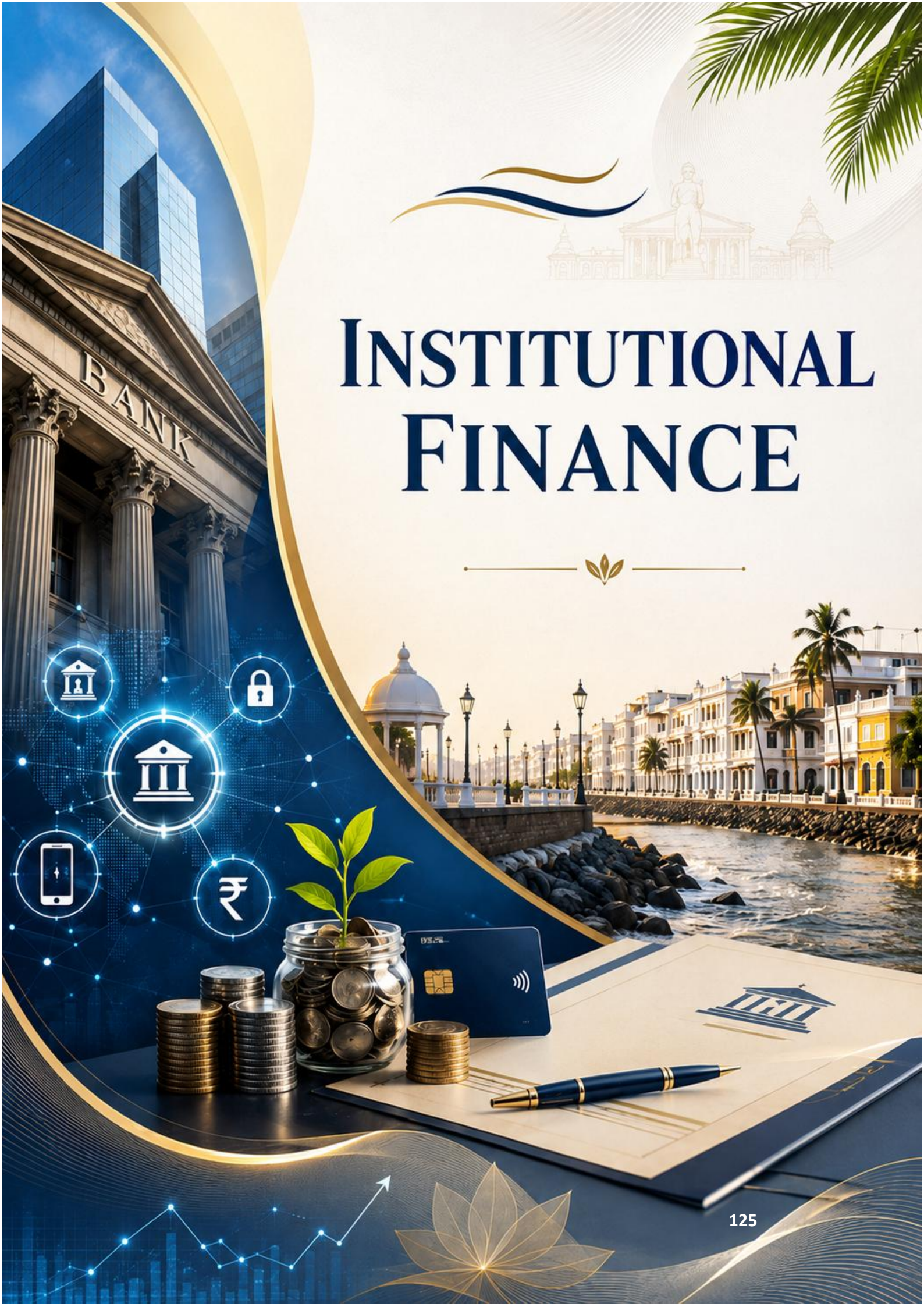
Annexure 5.7 Treasury operations

Year	Bills passed (number)	Value of bills passed (₹ crore)	E-payments (number)	Pensioners served (number)	Treasury receipts (₹ crore)
2021-22	104,911	3,746.65	129,674	17,239	3,978.64
2022-23	123,923	5,179.80	908,526	18,309	4,773.51
2023-24	110,652	6,209.73	945,582	18,996	5,446.44
2024-25	101,692	6,046.89	961,287	19,762	5,667.12
2025-26	114,961	7,111.82	1,028,188	20,463	6,225.33

Note: Values of bills passed and treasury receipts are converted from rupees to ₹ crore.

Source: Directorate of Accounts and Treasuries, Government of Puducherry.

INSTITUTIONAL FINANCE



CHAPTER - 6

INSTITUTIONAL FINANCE

Institutional finance is the operational channel through which savings are mobilised, credit is allocated and productive capacity is supported in a regional economy. In a compact and service-oriented Union Territory such as Puducherry, the banking system has a particularly important developmental role: it links household savings with enterprise finance, sustains agricultural and allied activities, supports MSME credit, enables housing and education finance, and carries financial-inclusion programmes to villages and vulnerable households.

This chapter presents an assessment of banking infrastructure, deposit mobilisation, credit deployment, credit-deposit behaviour, priority-sector lending, Annual Credit Plan performance, financial inclusion indicators and pension enrolment. The analysis is based on data furnished by the Lead Bank, the Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry, and the Statistical Handbook 2023-24.

A statistical note is necessary at the outset. In the Annual Credit Plan table, the grand-total target for 2025-26 is printed as a non-numeric entry in the source. Hence, while the sector-wise targets and achievements are analysed, the printed grand-total target for 2025-26 is not used as a source value. Where a component-sum view is mentioned, it is explicitly identified as a derived value from the sectoral rows.

1. Banking Infrastructure and Aggregate Intermediation

The scheduled commercial banking network and associated institutional banking structure remained broadly stable in 2025-26. The total number of banking offices increased marginally from 314 in 2024-25 to 315 in 2025-26. This numerical stability, however, conceals a small spatial adjustment: semi-urban offices increased from 88 to 94, urban offices declined from 156 to 151, and rural offices remained unchanged at 70.

Total deposits increased from Rs. 31,585.93 crore in 2024-25 to Rs. 36,049.45 crore in 2025-26, recording a growth of 14.13 per cent. Total credit increased from Rs. 24,269.72 crore to Rs. 29,515.66 crore, registering a higher growth of 21.62 per cent. The faster expansion of credit compared with deposits pushed the credit-deposit ratio from 76.84 per cent to 81.88 per cent.

Table 1: Deposit and Credit of SCBs by Area

Particulars	Rural 2025-26	Semi-Urban 2025-26	Urban 2025-26	Total 2025-26
Banking offices	70	94	151	315
Deposits (Rs. crore)	2,393.29	7,096.41	26,559.75	36,049.45
Credit (Rs. crore)	3,761.14	6,667.25	19,087.27	29,515.66
CD ratio (%)	157.15	93.95	71.87	81.88

Source: Lead Bank, Puducherry.

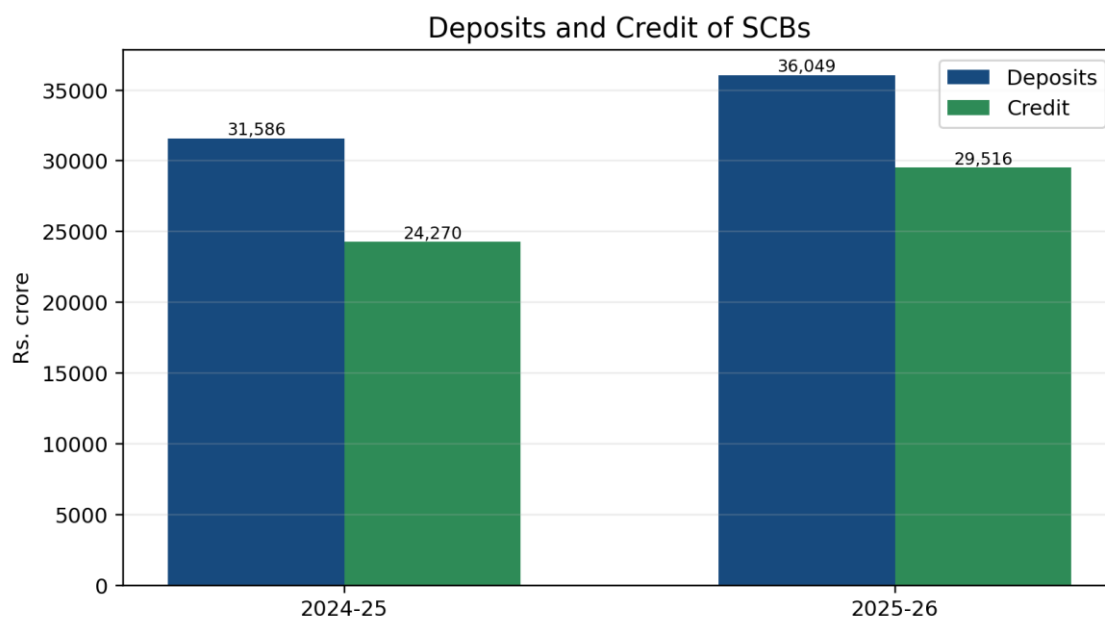


Figure 1: Deposits and Credit of SCBs. Source: Annexure 1

The widening of the credit-deposit ratio is analytically significant. It indicates that the formal banking system deployed a larger share of mobilised funds as credit within the economy in 2025-26 than in the previous year. A rising ratio is desirable when it reflects productive credit absorption, but it also calls for careful monitoring of credit quality, sectoral concentration and repayment conditions.

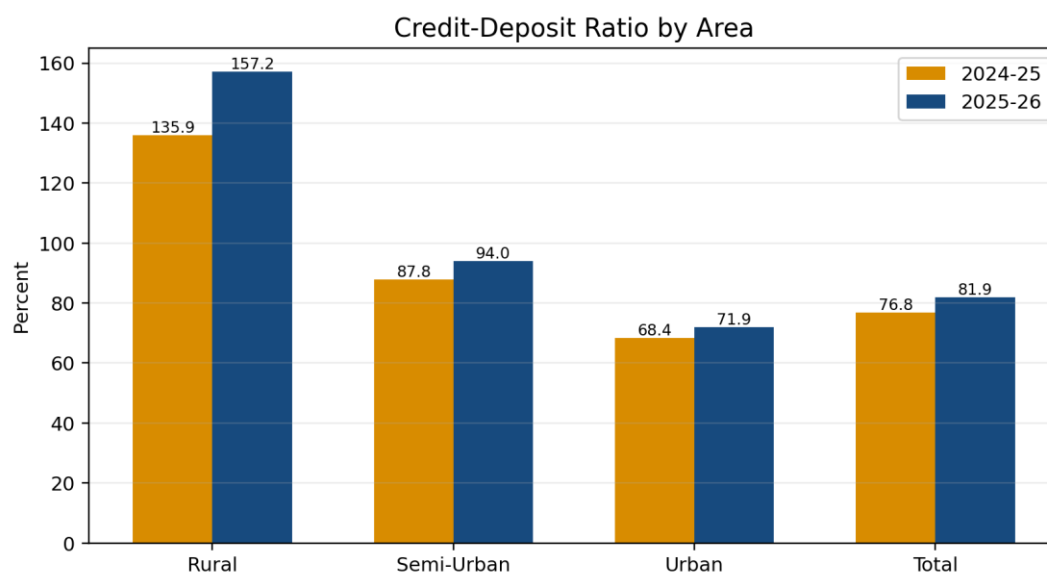


Figure 2: Credit-Deposit Ratio by Area. Source: Annexure 1

The rural credit-deposit ratio stood at 157.15 per cent in 2025-26, much higher than the semi-urban ratio of 93.95 per cent and the urban ratio of 71.87 per cent. This suggests that rural credit deployment exceeded rural deposit mobilisation by a considerable margin. Urban areas, by contrast, continued to serve as the principal deposit base, accounting for 73.68 per cent of total deposits, while absorbing 64.67 per cent of total credit.

2. Bank Group-wise Structure

Public sector banks remained the anchor of the formal banking system. In 2025-26, they accounted for 63.58 per cent of total deposits and 56.03 per cent of total credit. Private sector banks formed the second major institutional segment, with deposit and credit shares of 26.21 per cent and 29.47 per cent respectively.

The institutional pattern also shows differentiated credit intensity. Small Finance Bank recorded a credit-deposit ratio of 145.61 per cent and Regional Rural Banks recorded 109.83 per cent. These ratios are higher than the overall banking-system ratio, indicating their stronger orientation toward credit deployment relative to deposit mobilisation. The CD ratio of public sector banks increased from 64.38 per cent to 72.15 per cent.

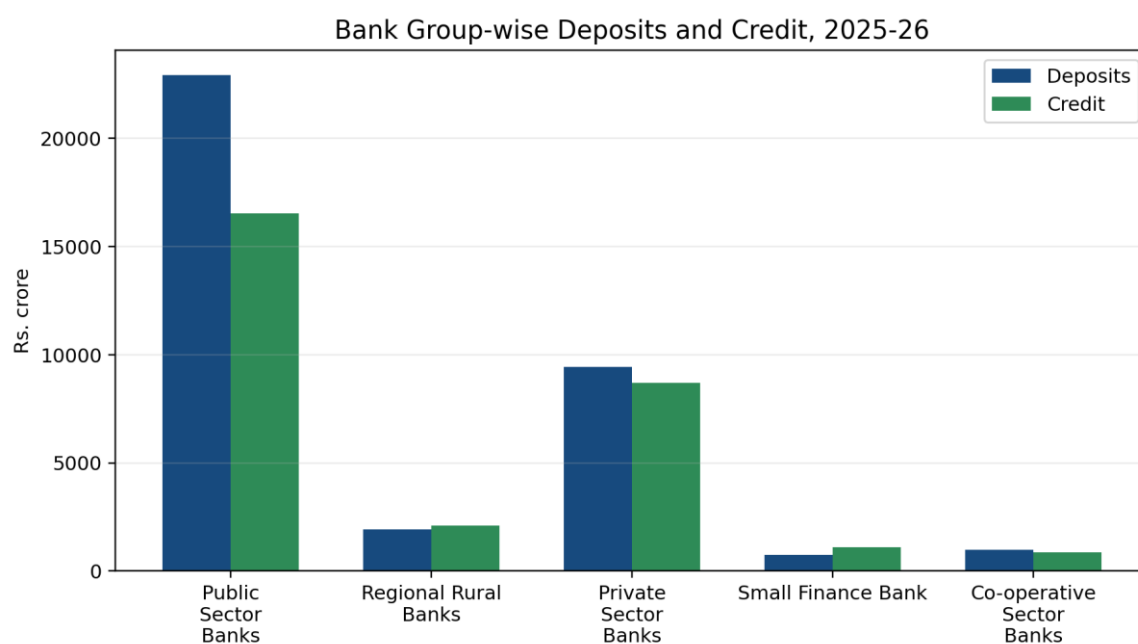


Figure 3: Bank Group-wise Deposits and Credit, 2025-26. Source: Table 2

Note: Payment Bank and SIDBI are omitted from the chart because of scale; their values are shown in Table 2.

Table 2: Bank Group-wise Deposits, Credit and CD Ratio, 2025-26

Bank group	Offices	Deposits (Rs. crore)	Credit (Rs. crore)	CD ratio (%)
Public Sector Banks	144	22,920.20	16,537.43	72.15
Regional Rural Banks	48	1,923.22	2,112.24	109.83
Private Sector Banks	77	9,447.81	8,699.09	92.08
Small Finance Bank	18	753.72	1,097.48	145.61
Co-operative Sector Banks	25	989.24	867.49	87.69
Payment Bank	2	15.27	0.00	-
Others (SIDBI)	1	0.00	201.94	-
Grand Total	315	36,049.45	29,515.66	81.88

Source: Lead Bank, Puducherry.

Note: Component totals may not tally with the grand total due to rounding.

3. Outstanding Credit and Institutional Momentum

Outstanding credit of SCBs increased from Rs. 24,269.72 crore in 2024-25 to Rs. 29,515.66 crore in 2025-26, showing a growth of 21.62 per cent. The largest absolute expansion was in public sector banks, where outstanding credit rose by Rs. 3,666.26 crore. Regional Rural Banks and public sector banks both recorded growth above 28 per cent, while private sector banks recorded a more moderate growth of 9.77 per cent.

The faster expansion in public sector and regional rural bank credit points to the continuing relevance of mainstream institutional channels in public-policy-linked and priority-linked credit delivery. The SIDBI category, though small in absolute size, shows a high growth rate of 56.58 per cent owing to a low base.

4. Priority-sector Advances

Priority-sector outstanding advances rose from Rs. 12,905.68 crore in 2024-25 to Rs. 16,258.08 crore in 2025-26, an increase of 25.98 per cent. At the same time, the number of accounts declined from 553,487 to 523,885. The simultaneous rise in outstanding amount and decline in accounts implies an increase in average outstanding credit per account.

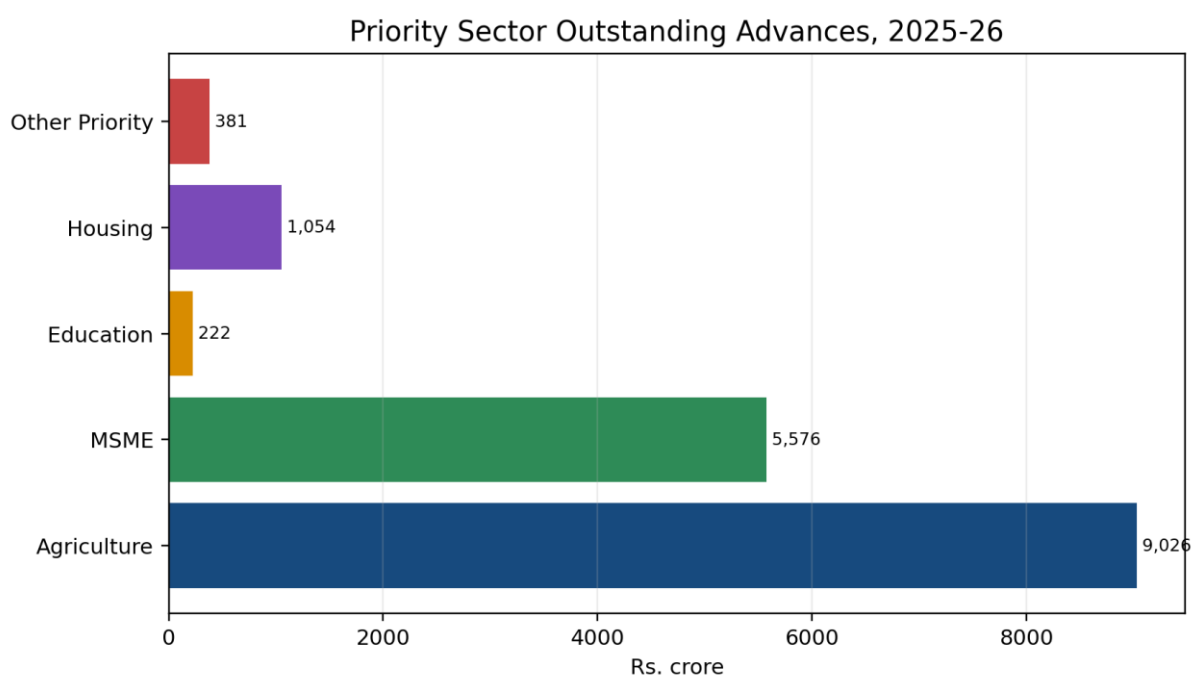


Figure 4: Priority Sector Outstanding Advances, 2025-26. Source: Table 3

Agriculture and allied activities formed the dominant component of priority-sector outstanding advances in 2025-26, with Rs. 9,025.82 crore, representing 55.52 per cent of total priority advances. MSME advances stood at Rs. 5,576.07 crore, accounting for 34.30 per cent. Housing credit under priority sector increased from Rs. 621.55 crore to Rs. 1,053.59 crore, indicating the growing role of institutional finance in household asset creation.

Table 3: Priority Sector Outstanding Advances of SCBs

Sector	Accounts 2024-25 (₹ in crore)	Accounts 2025-26 (₹ in crore)	Advances 2024-25 (₹ in crore)	Advances 2025-26 (₹ in crore)	Growth (%)
Agriculture & Allied Activities	431,407	418,617	6,924.65	9,025.82	30.34
Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises	60,208	56,273	4,903.50	5,576.07	13.72
Education	6,855	6,408	202.07	222.02	9.87
Housing	10,206	12,896	621.55	1,053.59	69.51
Export	0	0	0.00	0.00	—
Other Priority	44,811	29,691	253.91	380.58	49.89
Total Priority Sector	553,487	523,885	12,905.68	16,258.08	25.98

Source: Lead Bank, Puducherry.

5. Annual Credit Plan: Disbursement Performance

Credit disbursement under the Annual Credit Plan increased from Rs. 11,773.27 crore in 2024-25 to Rs. 17,000.16 crore in 2025-26, registering a growth of 44.40 per cent. Beneficiaries also increased from 490,297 to 544,106.

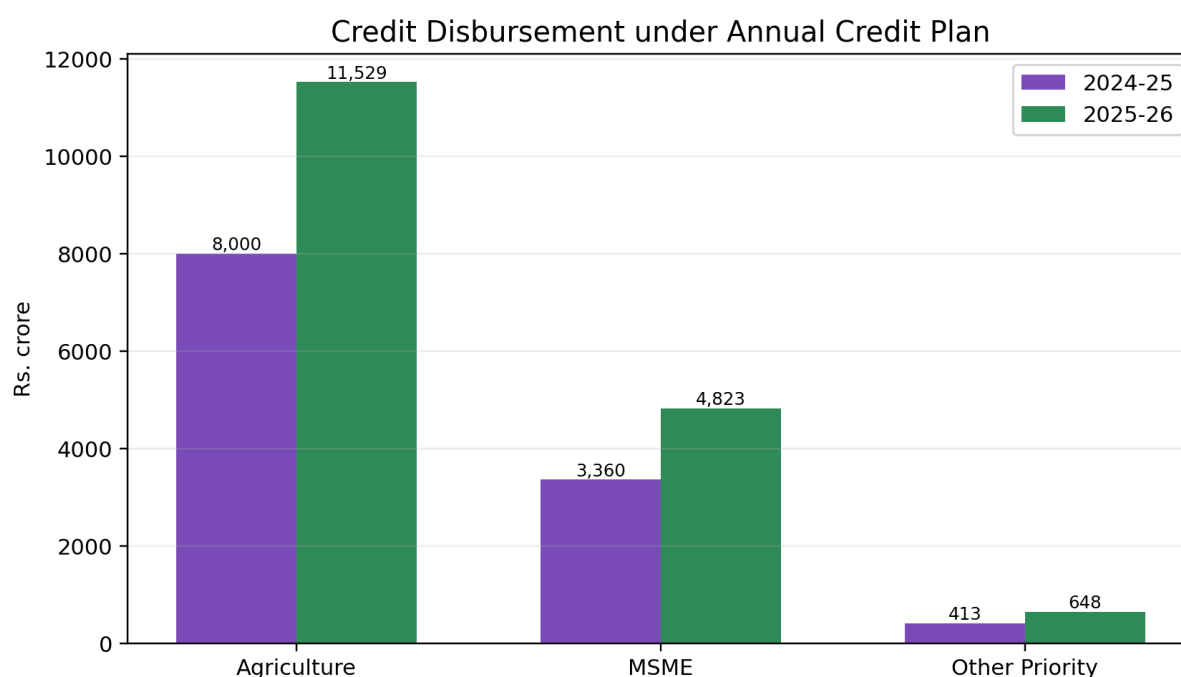


Figure 5: Credit Disbursement under Annual Credit Plan. Source: Table 4

Agriculture accounted for the largest part of disbursement in 2025-26, with achievement of Rs. 11,529.28 crore. MSME disbursement stood at Rs. 4,822.58 crore. Sector-wise achievements exceeded the respective targets in 2025-26: agriculture achieved 158.91 per cent of target, MSME achieved 111.50 per cent, and other priority achieved 124.68 per cent. However, the grand-total target for 2025-26 is not quoted because the source cell contains a non-numeric entry.

Table 4: Credit Disbursement under Annual Credit Plan

Sector	2024-25			2025-26		
	Target (₹ in crore)	Achievement (₹ in crore)	Beneficiaries (₹ in crore)	Target (₹ in crore)	Achievement (₹ in crore)	Beneficiaries (Nos.)
Agriculture	5,960.73	8,000.48	433,447	7,255.00	11,529.28	480,581
MSME	3,394.94	3,359.81	30,836	4,325.01	4,822.58	31,855
Other Priority	461.49	412.98	26,014	519.99	648.30	31,670
Grand Total	9,817.16	11,773.27	490,297	12,100.00	17,000.16	544,106

Source: Lead Bank, Puducherry.

6. Financial Inclusion and Banking Facilities

Financial inclusion indicators show mixed movements. Basic Savings Bank Deposit Accounts increased from 250,058 in 2024-25 to 284,416 in 2025-26, with the amount rising from Rs. 115.06 crore to Rs. 148.46 crore. This indicates both expansion in account coverage and a higher deposit balance in inclusion-oriented accounts.

In contrast, the number of Kisan Credit Cards declined from 29,930 to 20,888, while the outstanding amount declined from Rs. 530.99 crore to Rs. 406.95 crore. The number of banking outlets in villages also declined from 1,172 to 1,043. These indicators warrant close administrative review to identify whether the decline reflects consolidation, digitisation, reporting changes, or a reduction in functional rural access points.

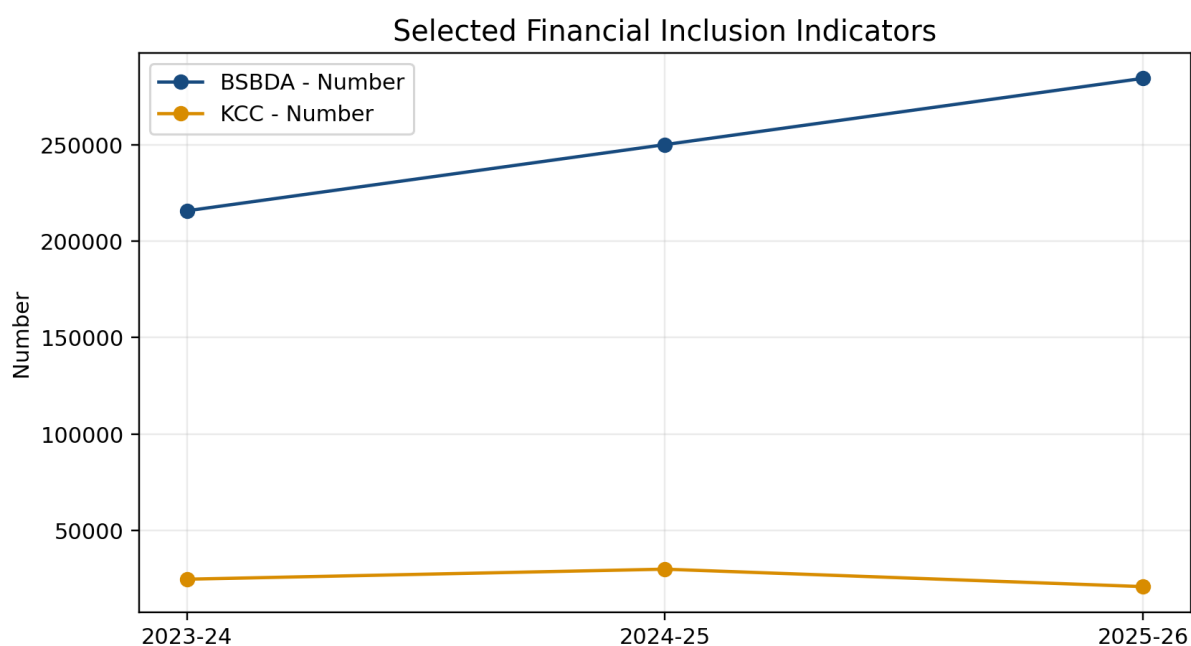


Figure 6: Selected Financial Inclusion Indicators. Source: Annexure 5

Atal Pension Yojana enrolment increased from 13,945 in 2024-25 to 17,132 in 2025-26, recording a growth of 22.85 per cent. This reflects an expansion of contributory social-security coverage through institutional channels.

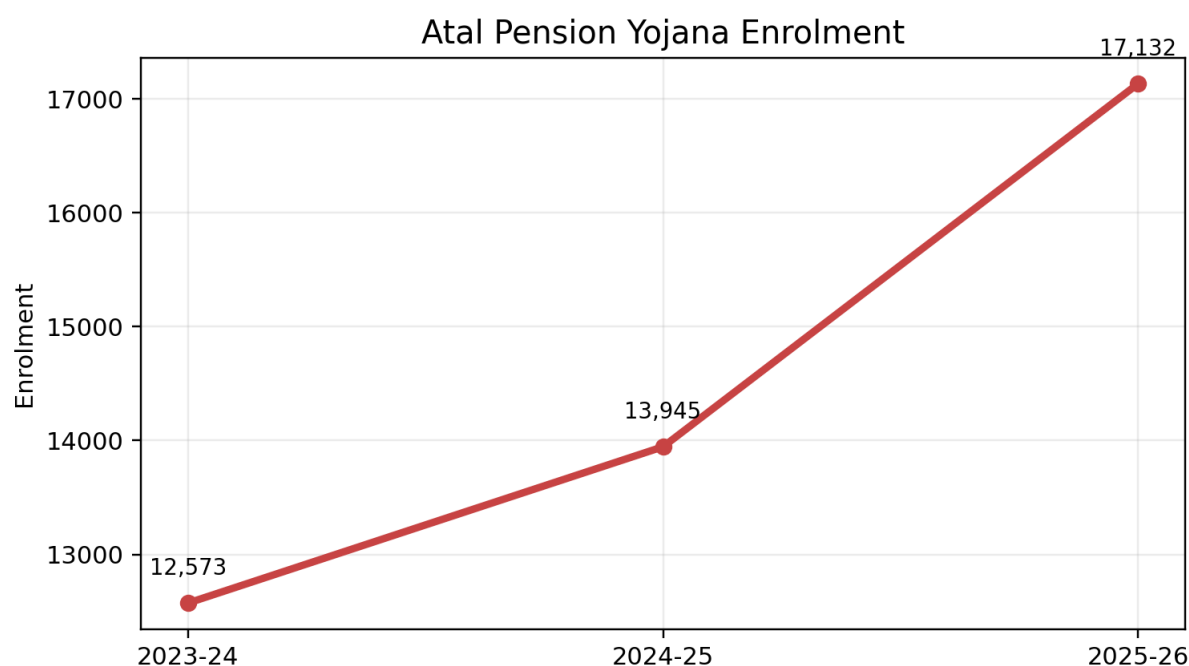


Figure 7: Atal Pension Yojana Enrolment. Source: Annexure 6

7. Capital Market Access

Capital-market participation in Puducherry takes place mainly through nationally regulated financial platforms, including equity, debt securities and pooled investment products such as mutual funds. Although detailed Puducherry-specific statistics on demat accounts, investor registrations, mutual fund folios and related market activity are limited, these financial instruments provide households and enterprises with additional avenues for savings, investment and mobilisation of long-term funds.

Institutional credit and market-based finance perform complementary roles in the financial system. Banks directly support households, agriculture, MSMEs and government-sponsored credit programmes, while capital-market instruments broaden investment opportunities and enable eligible enterprises to access equity and debt financing. Strengthening investor awareness, financial literacy and the availability of reliable local-level statistics would facilitate a better assessment of capital-market participation in the Union Territory.

8. Co-operative Banking: Statistical Handbook Evidence

The Statistical Handbook material provides balance-sheet indicators for the State Co-operative Bank and the Co-operative Urban Bank up to 2023-24. In the State Co-operative Bank, deposits increased from Rs. 79,901.99 lakh in 2021-22 to Rs. 83,479.93 lakh in 2023-24, while loans issued increased from Rs. 55,508.91 lakh to Rs. 74,249.93 lakh. In the Co-operative Urban Bank, deposits declined from Rs. 14,218.17 lakh to Rs. 12,309.65 lakh, while loans issued increased to Rs. 8,708.19 lakh in 2023-24.

These figures indicate that the co-operative segment cannot be treated as a single homogeneous block. The State Co-operative Bank data show deposit stability and growth in lending, whereas the Co-operative Urban Bank data show a contraction in deposits over the period covered by the Handbook. This distinction is important for policy because co-

operative finance is often linked to localised clientele, community-based banking relationships and small-borrower access.

9. Policy Interpretation and Way Forward

The institutional finance profile of Puducherry in 2025-26 is marked by four important features. First, banking infrastructure is stable in numerical terms, but spatial redistribution and the decline in village banking outlets require monitoring. Secondly, credit growth outpaced deposit growth, raising the overall credit-deposit ratio. Thirdly, priority-sector credit expanded sharply in outstanding amount, especially in agriculture, MSME and housing. Fourthly, inclusion indicators show progress in BSBDA accounts and APY enrolment but weakness in KCC numbers and village banking outlets.

The policy agenda should therefore focus on strengthening rural and semi-urban credit delivery, deepening MSME appraisal and follow-up systems, improving renewal and utilisation of Kisan Credit Cards, strengthening financial literacy for pension and savings products, and developing a data system for capital-market participation at the UT level. The Lead Bank and line departments may also consider a regular reconciliation framework so that Annual Credit Plan targets, achievements and beneficiary counts are reported in a clean and machine-readable format.

Overall, the data point to a banking system that is expanding its credit role in Puducherry. The quality of this expansion will depend on maintaining sectoral balance, ensuring that credit reaches productive and inclusion-oriented uses, and improving the traceability and reliability of financial-sector statistics for future Economic Survey publications.

Annexure Tables

Annexure 1: Deposit and Credit of SCBs by Area

Area	Offices		Deposits		Credit		CD	
	2024-25	2025-26	2024-25	2025-26	2024-25	2025-26	2024-25	2025-26
Rural	70	70	2,221.48	2,393.29	3,019.02	3,761.14	135.90	157.15
Semi-Urban	88	94	5,999.04	7,096.41	5,269.01	6,667.25	87.83	93.95
Urban	156	151	23,365.41	26,559.75	15,981.69	19,087.27	68.40	71.87
Total	314	315	31,585.93	36,049.45	24,269.72	29,515.66	76.84	81.88

Source: Lead Bank, Puducherry.

Annexure 2: Bank Group-wise Deposits and Credits

Bank Group	Offices		Deposits		Credit		CD	
	2024-25	2025-26	2024-25	2025-26	2024-25	2025-26	2024-25	2025-26
Public Sector Banks	146	144	19,993.68	22,920.20	12,871.17	16,537.43	64.38	72.15
Regional Rural Banks	47	48	1,517.73	1,923.22	1,642.50	2,112.24	108.22	109.83
Private Sector Banks	75	77	8,538.70	9,447.81	7,924.79	8,699.09	92.81	92.08
Small Finance Bank	18	18	627.26	753.72	935.30	1,097.48	149.11	145.61
Co-operative Sector Banks	25	25	897.14	989.24	766.99	867.49	85.49	87.69
Payment Bank	2	2	11.41	15.27	0.00	0.00	-	-
Others (SIDBI)	1	1	0.00	0.00	128.97	201.94	-	-
Grand Total	314	315	31,585.93	36,049.45	24,269.72	29,515.66	76.84	81.88

Source: Lead Bank, Puducherry.

Note: Component totals may not tally with the grand total due to rounding.

Annexure 3: Priority Sector Outstanding Advances

Sector	Accounts 2024-25 (₹ in crore)	Accounts 2025-26 (₹ in crore)	Outstanding 2024-25 (₹ in crore)	Outstanding 2025-26 (₹ in crore)
Agriculture & Allied Activities	431,407	418,617	6,924.65	9,025.82
Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises	60,208	56,273	4,903.50	5,576.07
Education	6,855	6,408	202.07	222.02
Housing	10,206	12,896	621.55	1,053.59
Export	0	0	0.00	0.00
Other Priority	44,811	29,691	253.91	380.58
Total Priority Sector	553,487	523,885	12,905.68	16,258.08

Source: Lead Bank, Puducherry.

Annexure 4: Credit Disbursement under Annual Credit Plan

Sector	Target 2024-25	Achievement 2024-25	Beneficiaries 2024-25	Target 2025-26	Achievement 2025-26	Beneficiaries 2025-26
Agriculture	5,960.73	8,000.48	433,447	7,255.00	11,529.28	480,581
MSME	3,394.94	3,359.81	30,836	4,325.01	4,822.58	31,855
Other Priority	461.49	412.98	26,014	519.99	648.30	31,670
Grand Total	9,817.16	11,773.27	490,297	12,100.00	17,000.16	544,106

Source: Lead Bank, Puducherry.

Annexure 5: Banking Facilities and Financial Inclusion Indicators

Particulars	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Banking outlets in villages (No.)	1,215	1,172	1,043
BSBDA - Number	215,740	250,058	284,416
BSBDA - Amount (Rs. Crore)	107.47	115.06	148.46
Kisan Credit Cards - Number	24,721	29,930	20,888
Kisan Credit Cards - Outstanding amount (Rs. Crore)	373.20	530.99	406.95

Source: Lead Bank, Puducherry.

Annexure 6: Atal Pension Yojana (APY) Enrolment

Category	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Atal Pension Yojana (APY)	12,573	13,945	17,132

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry.

Annexure 7: Selected Balance Sheet Indicators of State Co-operative Bank (Rs. lakh)

Item	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Share Capital Paid	2,884.92	3,090.69	3,298.48
Deposits	79,901.99	82,863.40	83,479.93
Borrowings	0.00	0.00	4,000.00
Loans issued	55,508.91	60,632.53	74,249.93

Source: Statistical Handbook 2023-24, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry

Annexure 8: Selected Balance Sheet Indicators of Co-operative Urban Bank (Rs. lakh)

Item	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Share Capital Paid	1,104.74	1,542.34	1,572.37
Deposits	14,218.17	13,191.52	12,309.65
Loans issued	8,459.93	7,539.07	8,708.19
Accumulated Loss	1,385.40	1,513.76	1,513.12

Source: Statistical Handbook 2023-24, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry

Agriculture — and — Allied Activities



CHAPTER - 7

AGRICULTURE AND ALLIED ACTIVITIES

Agriculture and allied activities constitute a compact but strategically important production system in the Union Territory of Puducherry. The sector is not merely a crop economy; it is an interlinked rural livelihood complex composed of crop cultivation, irrigation, animal husbandry, fisheries and forestry-related ecological services.

1. Sectoral setting and data base

The data base for the chapter comprises (i) agricultural land use, irrigation, crop area, production and agricultural wages from the Directorate of Economics and Statistics; (ii) fertilizer use, farmer registration and crop insurance coverage from the Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare; (iii) livestock census, veterinary services, infrastructure and livestock products from the Department of Animal Husbandry and Animal Welfare; (iv) fisheries population, infrastructure and fish production from the Department of Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare; and (v) forest administration, enforcement, plantation, nursery production and distribution from the Forest Department.

The chapter is arranged to move from land and water to production and livelihoods. The structure is deliberate: in a land-scarce Union Territory, the economic interpretation of agriculture rests less on expansion of area and more on irrigation reliability, cropping intensity, diversification, labour cost conditions and the allied sectors that support household incomes.

Table 1.1: Selected indicators of agriculture and allied activities

Indicator with unit	Value	Reference year
Total village-paper area (Ha.)	48,651	2024-25
Net area sown (Ha.)	14,523	2024-25
Gross cropped area (Ha.)	26,223	2024-25
Cropping intensity (%)	180.56	2024-25
Net irrigated area (Ha.)	13,789	2024-25
Gross irrigated area (Ha.)	22,238	2024-25
Fertilizer used (MT)	25,110.680	2025-26
Registered farmers (No.)	21,311	2025-26
Total livestock (No.)	1,51,368	2019 Census
Total poultry (No.)	2,35,999	2019 Census
Fishermen population (No.)	1,14,014	2023-24
Total fish production (MT)	46,772.35	2023-24
Total plantation (No.)	11.16 lakh	2025-26
Saplings produced (No.)	5,60,266	2025-26

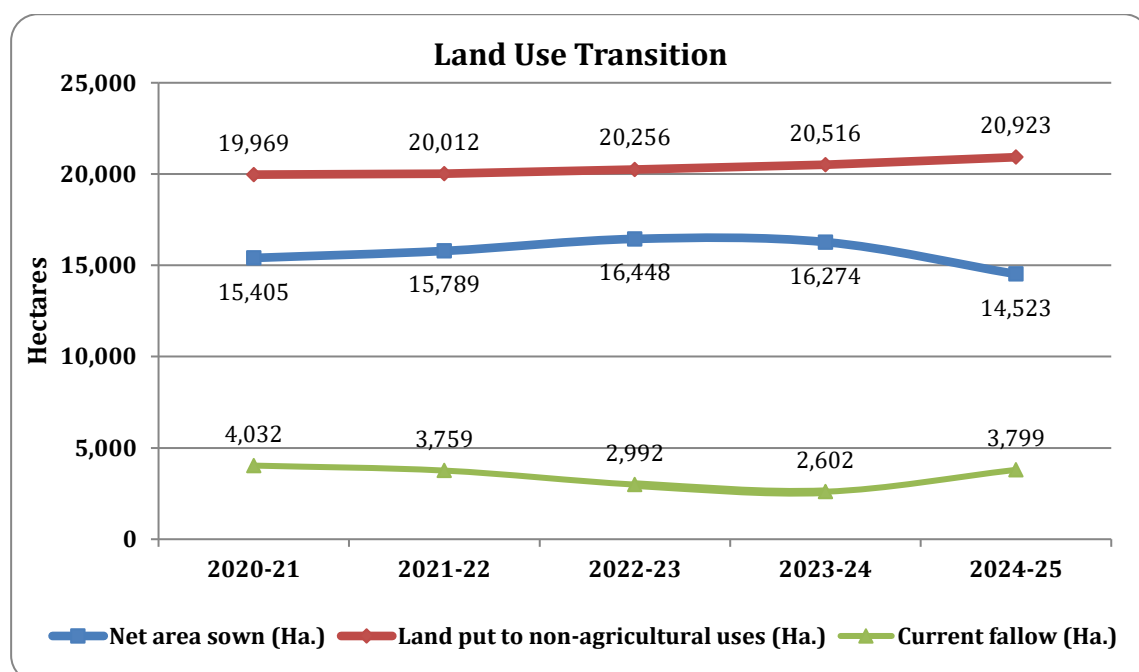
Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics; Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare; Department of Animal Husbandry and Animal Welfare; Department of Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare; and Forest Department, Puducherry.

2. Land use: urban pressure within a fixed area base

The total area according to village papers remained constant at 48,651 hectares during 2020-21 to 2024-25. Within this fixed geographical base, the most important structural movement is the gradual rise in land put to non-agricultural uses and the decline in net area sown after 2022-23. Land under non-agricultural uses increased from 19,969 hectares in 2020-21 to 20,923 hectares in 2024-25, raising its share from 41.05 per cent to 43.01 per cent. Net area sown, after increasing up to 16,448 hectares in 2022-23, declined to 14,523 hectares in 2024-25, equivalent to 29.85 per cent of the village-paper area.

The evidence indicates that the agricultural area base is under visible spatial pressure. This is consistent with the economic geography of Puducherry, where urbanisation, housing, institutional land use and infrastructure compete directly with cultivable land. The policy implication is not simply to arrest land conversion, but to raise productivity, water efficiency and value realisation from the remaining cultivated area.

Chart 2.1: Land use transition



Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry

Table 2.1: Land use movement and selected shares

Year	Non-agricultural use (Ha.)	Non-agricultural use (%)	Net area sown (Ha.)	Net area sown (%)	Current fallow (Ha.)	Current fallow (%)
2020-21	19,969	41.05	15,405	31.66	4,032	8.29
2021-22	20,012	41.13	15,789	32.45	3,759	7.73
2022-23	20,256	41.64	16,448	33.81	2,992	6.15
2023-24	20,516	42.17	16,274	33.45	2,602	5.35
2024-25	20,923	43.01	14,523	29.85	3,799	7.81

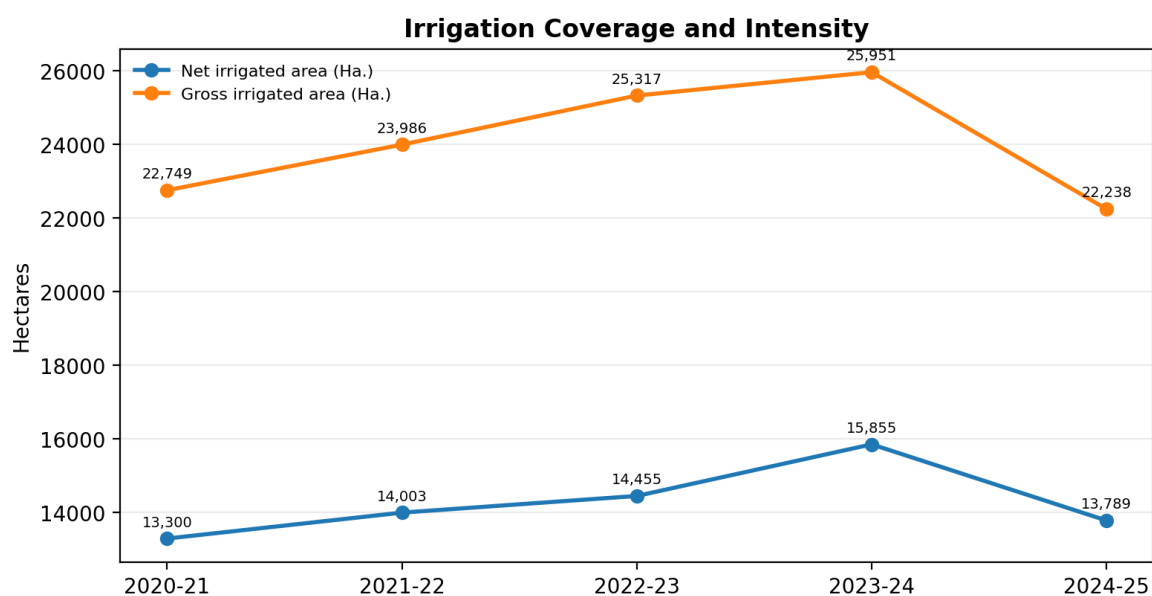
Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry

3. Irrigation and the water base of cultivation

Irrigation is the principal stabilising factor of the crop economy. Net irrigated area increased from 13,300 hectares in 2020-21 to 15,855 hectares in 2023-24 and stood at 13,789 hectares in 2024-25. Even with the moderation in 2024-25, the net irrigated area represented 94.95 per cent of net area sown. Gross irrigated area remained above 22,000 hectares throughout the period and accounted for 84.80 per cent of total cropped area in 2024-25.

The source composition reveals a pronounced dependence on tube wells. In 2024-25, tube wells irrigated 9,277 hectares, or 67.28 per cent of net irrigated area. Canals accounted for 4,477 hectares. Tanks reported no net irrigated area across the period. The data therefore point to a groundwater-centred irrigation regime, where energy, aquifer sustainability and well maintenance become central to agricultural resilience.

Chart 3.1: Net and gross irrigation



Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry

Table 3.1: Irrigation sources and coverage

Year	Canals (Ha.)	Tube wells (Ha.)	Other sources (Ha.)	Net irrigated area (Ha.)	Net irrigated to net sown (%)	Gross irrigated area (Ha.)	Gross irrigated to GCA (%)
2020-21	4,526	8,731	43	13,300	86.34	22,749	85.01
2021-22	4,691	9,277	35	14,003	88.69	23,986	85.68
2022-23	4,630	9,792	33	14,455	87.88	25,317	84.60
2023-24	4,799	11,020	36	15,855	97.43	25,951	85.32
2024-25	4,477	9,277	35	13,789	94.95	22,238	84.80

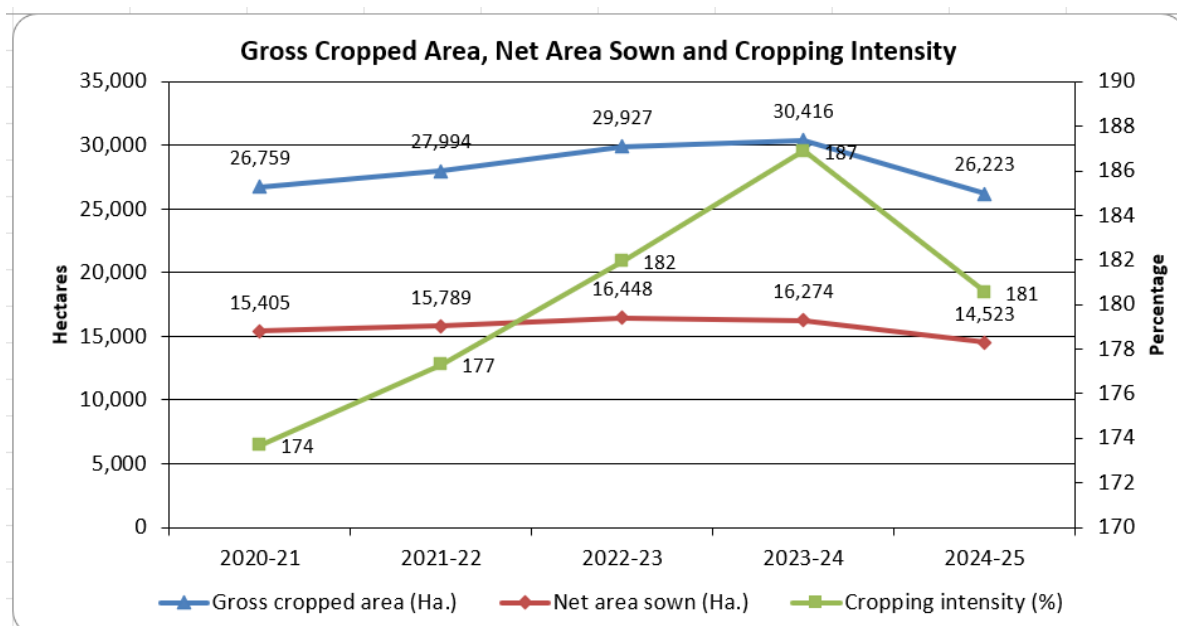
Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry

4. Cropping intensity and crop pattern

Gross cropped area rose from 26,759 hectares in 2020-21 to 30,416 hectares in 2023-24, before declining to 26,223 hectares in 2024-25. Since net area sown also declined in 2024-25, cropping intensity remained high at 180.56 per cent. The high intensity indicates that repeated cultivation on the same area continues to be the main means by which Puducherry sustains agricultural output within a fixed and narrowing land base.

Food crops occupied 20,137 hectares in 2024-25, forming 76.79 per cent of gross cropped area, while non-food crops occupied 6,086 hectares, or 23.21 per cent. Paddy remained the dominant crop group, with total paddy area of 17,043 hectares in 2024-25. However, the reduction from 19,571 hectares in 2023-24 indicates a contraction in the rice area in the latest year. Sugarcane area declined from 1,226 hectares in 2023-24 to 750 hectares in 2024-25. Cotton, on the other hand, remained substantial at 881 hectares in 2024-25 after a sharp expansion in 2023-24.

Chart 4.1: Gross cropped area and cropping intensity



Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry

Table 4.1: Crop area composition and intensity

Year	Food crops (Ha.)	Non-food crops (Ha.)	Gross cropped area (Ha.)	Net area sown (Ha.)	Cropping intensity (%)
2020-21	21,918	4,841	26,759	15,405	173.70
2021-22	22,481	5,513	27,994	15,789	177.30
2022-23	23,850	6,077	29,927	16,448	181.95
2023-24	23,333	7,083	30,416	16,274	186.90
2024-25	20,137	6,086	26,223	14,523	180.56

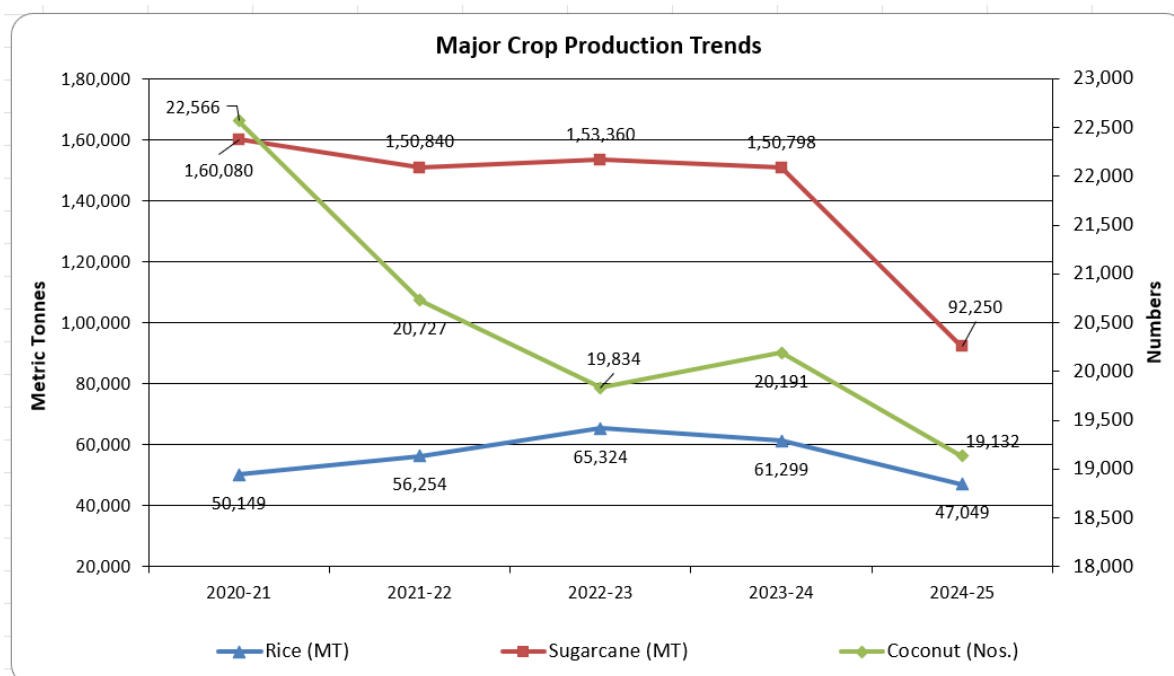
Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry

5. Crop production: output shifts and productivity signals

Rice production increased up to 65,324 metric tonnes in 2022-23 and then declined to 47,049 metric tonnes in 2024-25. This fall mirrors the reduction in paddy area. Based on reported rice production and paddy area, the derived rice yield in 2024-25 works out to about 2761 kg per hectare. Sugarcane production declined to 92,250 metric tonnes in 2024-25, from 1,50,798 metric tonnes in 2023-24, largely reflecting the reduction in area. The derived sugarcane yield in 2024-25 is about 123.00 metric tonnes per hectare.

Vegetables and horticultural crops show mixed movements. Plantain production fell to 4,562 metric tonnes in 2024-25, while brinjal production declined to 557 metric tonnes. Coconut production was 19,132 numbers in 2024-25 as reported in the source table. Cotton production remained relatively high at 1,848 metric tonnes in 2024-25, following 2,043 metric tonnes in 2023-24. The output pattern suggests that land and water conditions are shaping crop choices as much as market prices.

Chart 5.1: Major crop production trends



Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry

Table 5.1: Selected crop production

Year	Rice (MT)	Sugarcane (MT)	Plantain (MT)	Tapioca (MT)	Cotton kapas (MT)	Coconut (Nos.)
2020-21	50,149	160,080	15,765	6,400	731	22,566
2021-22	56,254	150,840	8,774	3,668	1,139	20,727
2022-23	65,324	153,360	9,910	3,590	1,058	19,834
2023-24	61,299	150,798	10,861	4,301	2,043	20,191
2024-25	47,049	92,250	4,562	2,288	1,848	19,132

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry

6. Inputs, farmer coverage and agricultural wages

Fertilizer use fluctuated over the six-year period. It was 26,483.187 MT in 2020-21, moderated to 21,511.919 MT in 2023-24, rose to 26,962.616 MT in 2024-25 and stood at 25,110.680 MT in 2025-26. Farmers registered under the departmental return were 21,311 from 2022-23 to 2025-26, and crop insurance coverage was reported as 100 per cent for the same years. Pesticide use is marked as unavailable in the source table and is therefore not analysed.

Agricultural wages show a clear increase over time, especially for transplanting, weeding and general agricultural labour. In Puducherry region, male sowers and transplanters increased from Rs. 326.67 per day in 2020-21 to Rs. 708.33 per day in 2024-25, while female sowers and transplanters rose from Rs. 185.71 to Rs. 462.50. In Karaikal and Yanam, male wage levels for several agricultural operations were already at or above Rs. 750 to Rs. 900 per day in 2024-25. Rising wage costs underline the importance of mechanisation, crop planning and value addition, particularly where crop margins are thin.

Table 6.1: Agriculture inputs and farmer coverage

Year	Fertilizer used (MT)	Farmers registered (No.)	Crop insurance coverage (%)
2020-21	26,483.187	-	-
2021-22	24,521.716	-	-
2022-23	25,476.220	21,311	100.00
2023-24	21,511.919	21,311	100.00
2024-25	26,962.616	21,311	100.00
2025-26	25,110.680	21,311	100.00

Source: Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Puducherry

Table 6.2: Selected agricultural wages

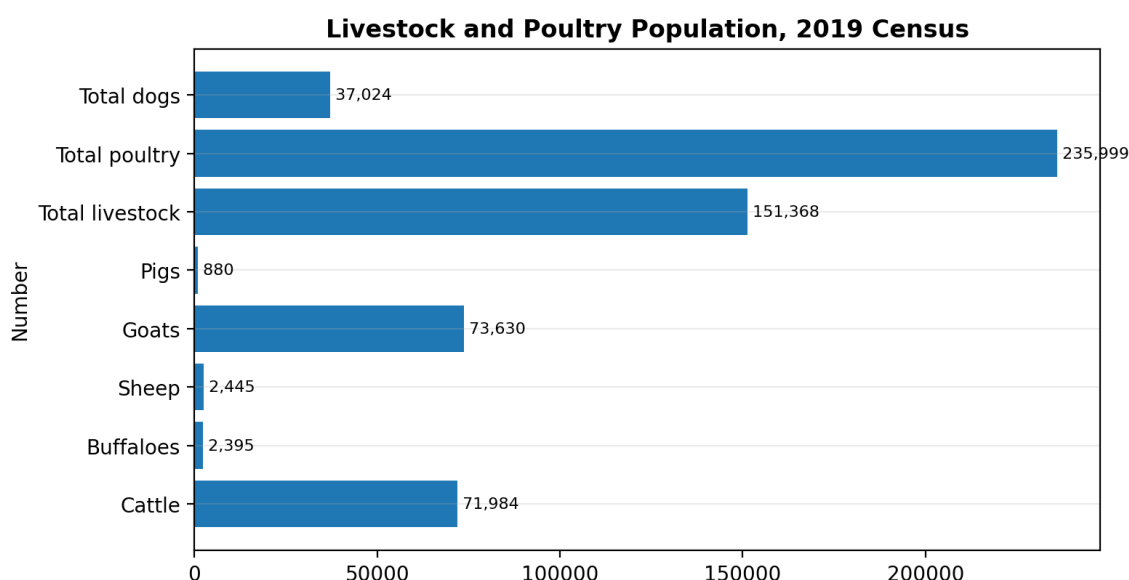
Region	Category of labour	Sex / skill	2020-21 (Rs. per day)	2024-25 (Rs. per day)
Puducherry	Sowers & transplanters	Men	326.67	708.33
Puducherry	Sowers & transplanters	Women	185.71	462.50
Puducherry	Other agricultural labourers	Men	372.92	800.00
Puducherry	Other agricultural labourers	Women	160.83	500.00
Karaikal	Sowers & transplanters	Men	700.00	750.00
Karaikal	Sowers & transplanters	Women	300.00	450.00
Yanam	Reapers & harvesters	Men	800.00	900.00
Yanam	Reapers & harvesters	Women	500.00	600.00

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry

7. Animal husbandry: livestock base, services and products

Animal husbandry is an important allied livelihood system. The 2019 Livestock Census reported total livestock of 1,51,368 and total poultry of 2,35,999. Goats numbered 73,630 and cattle numbered 71,984, together forming the principal livestock base. The figures indicate that livestock is not marginal to the rural economy; it is an income-smoothing and nutrition-supporting asset, particularly for smaller households.

Chart 7.1: Livestock and poultry population



Source: Department of Animal Husbandry and Animal Welfare, Puducherry

Veterinary service delivery remained substantial. Daily clinic cases were 3,31,110 in 2025-26, after reaching 3,52,991 in 2024-25. Vaccinations were 96,914 in 2025-26, compared with 97,964 in 2024-25. Infrastructure remained broadly stable: one veterinary hospital/teaching veterinary campus, 17 veterinary dispensaries, 18 minor veterinary dispensaries and 73 urban/mobile artificial insemination centres were reported in 2025-26. Milk production increased from 49,750 tonnes in 2023-24 to 58,050 tonnes in 2024-25, while egg production increased from 114.092 lakh numbers to 122.855 lakh numbers.

Table 7.1: Livestock and poultry population

Category	Population (No.)
Cattle	71,984
Buffaloes	2,395
Sheep	2,445
Goats	73,630
Pigs	880
Total livestock	151,368
Total poultry	235,999
Total dogs	37,024

Source: Department of Animal Husbandry and Animal Welfare, Puducherry

Note: Total livestock includes 34 animals under other livestock categories not shown separately.

Table 7.2: Selected veterinary services

Year	Daily clinic cases (No.)	Vaccinations (No.)	Operations (No.)	Anti-rabies vaccination to dogs (No.)
2021-22	298,197	67,364	1,874	3,057
2022-23	303,323	143,140	1,417	3,057
2023-24	341,289	164,699	2,877	6,482
2024-25	352,991	97,964	2,021	4,984
2025-26	331,110	96,914	1,812	5,144

Source: Department of Animal Husbandry and Animal Welfare, Puducherry

Table 7.3: Major livestock products

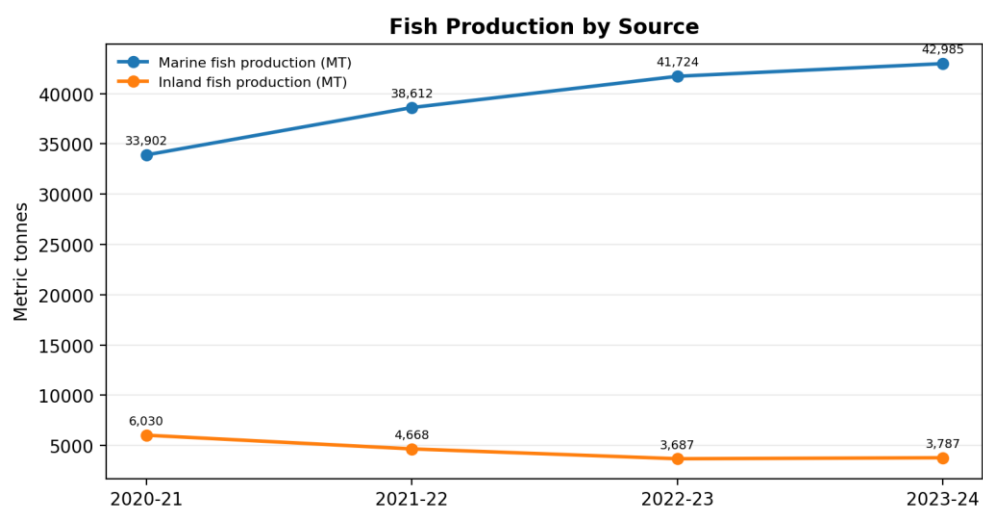
Year	Milk (Tonnes)	Egg (Lakh Nos.)	Livestock meat (MT)	Poultry meat (MT)
2021-22	49,970	113.870	7,270	7,370
2022-23	49,650	113.920	7,299	7,349
2023-24	49,750	114.092	7,319	7,345
2024-25	58,050	122.855	7,272	7,785

Source: Department of Animal Husbandry and Animal Welfare, Puducherry

8. Fisheries: coastal livelihood and production base

Fisheries form a distinct allied activity because the sector links production, coastal infrastructure and livelihood security. The fishermen population increased from 1,09,417 in 2021 to 1,14,014 in 2023-24. Active fishermen were reported at 25,000 in 2023-24. There were 50 fishing villages, of which 38 were marine and 12 inland. The infrastructure return records six ice plant-cum-cold storages, six fish farms, four diesel outlets and three fishing harbours in 2023-24, with a note that one additional fishing harbour at Mahe was under construction.

Fish production was dominated by marine catch. In 2023-24, marine production was 42,985.45 MT and inland production was 3,786.90 MT, giving total fish production of 46772.35 MT. Marine fish accounted for 91.90 per cent of total fish production in 2023-24.

Chart 8.1: Fish production by source

Source: Department of Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare, Puducherry

Table 8.1: Fisheries population and villages

Year	Fishermen population (No.)	Active fishermen (No.)	Fishing villages (No.)	Marine villages (No.)	Inland villages (No.)
2020-21	109,417	28,767	50	38	12
2021-22	111,605	22,343	50	38	12
2022-23	113,790	23,000	50	38	12
2023-24	114,014	25,000	50	38	12

Source: Department of Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare, Puducherry

Table 8.2: Fish production

Year	Marine fish production (MT)	Inland fish production (MT)	Total fish production (MT)
2020-21	33,902.50	6,030.00	39,932.50
2021-22	38,612.07	4,667.90	43,279.97
2022-23	41,724.13	3,686.90	45,411.03
2023-24	42,985.45	3,786.90	46,772.35

Source: Department of Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare, Puducherry

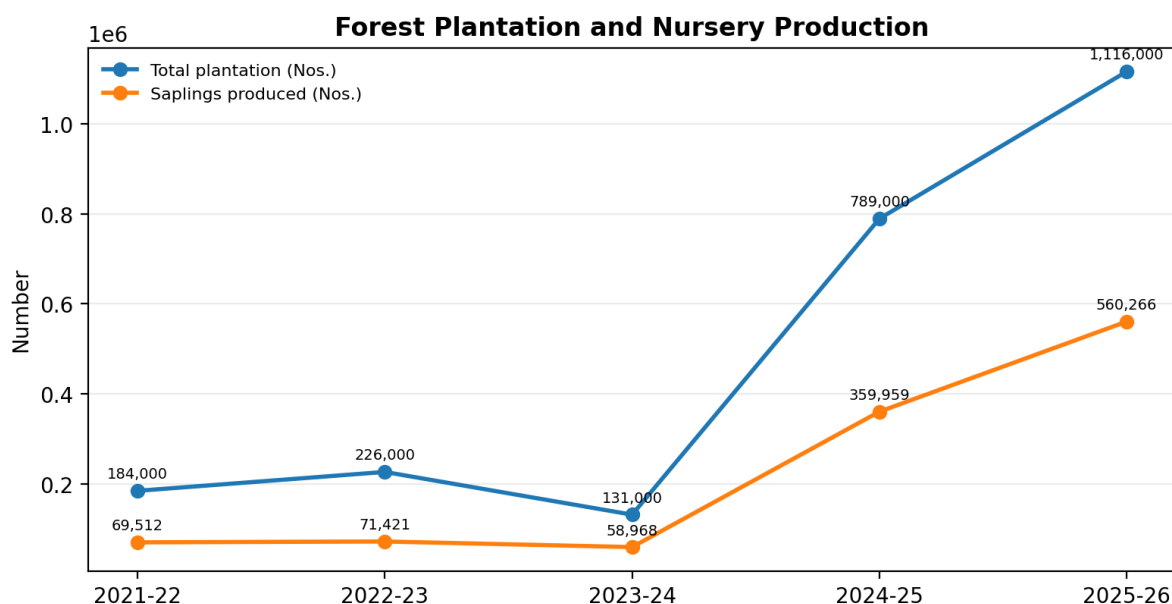
9. Forestry, plantation and ecological services

The forest data show administrative stability and a marked expansion of plantation activity. Total staff strength remained 131 during 2021-22 to 2025-26. Wildlife rescue remained consistently high, with 1,581 rescues in 2025-26. Forest offence cases and illegal felling cases were few in number across the reported period.

Tree plantation and nursery activities expanded sharply in the latest years. Total plantation increased from 1.31 lakh numbers in 2023-24 to 7.89 lakh in 2024-25 and 11.16 lakh in 2025-26. Area planted increased from 13.1 hectares in 2023-24 to 111.6 hectares in

2025-26. Saplings produced by nurseries increased from 58,968 in 2023-24 to 3,59,959 in 2024-25 and 5,60,266 in 2025-26. This movement indicates a shift from maintenance-oriented forestry to a more visible urban forestry and coastal ecological activity profile.

Chart 9.1: Plantation and nursery expansion



Source: Forest Department, Puducherry

Table 9.1: Plantation and nursery activities

Year	Total plantation (No.)	Area planted (Ha.)	Survival rate (%)	Saplings produced (No.)	Saplings distributed free (No.)
2021-22	184,000	18.4	77.00	69,512	11,080
2022-23	226,000	22.6	76.00	71,421	42,222
2023-24	131,000	13.1	81.00	58,968	31,128
2024-25	789,000	78.9	85.00	359,959	31,089
2025-26	1,116,000	111.6	-	560,266	25,809

Source: Forest Department, Puducherry

10. Conclusion

First, Puducherry agriculture is operating under a fixed and contracting land base. The policy objective must therefore be framed around productivity per hectare, water efficiency, multiple cropping sustainability and value realisation rather than area expansion.

Second, irrigation coverage is high, but its composition is groundwater-heavy. Tube well dependence requires careful monitoring of groundwater extraction, power use, well efficiency and micro-irrigation adoption. High irrigation coverage is an advantage only if the water base remains sustainable.

Third, the crop pattern remains food-crop dominated, with paddy at the centre. The recent moderation in paddy area and rice production indicates the need to watch whether

this is a climatic, water, labour-cost or market-induced shift. Sugarcane contraction is also significant because the crop is water-intensive and area-sensitive.

Fourth, allied sectors are not peripheral. Animal husbandry, fisheries and forestry together widen the rural economy beyond field crops. Livestock services show continued demand; fisheries support a large coastal population; and forestry/nursery activities provide ecological and public-good benefits in a dense urbanising territory.

Fifth, wage increases point to a structural cost transition in agriculture. Mechanisation, aggregation of services, farmer-producer coordination, crop diversification and post-harvest value addition are therefore essential to protect farm margins.

Annexure Tables

Annexure Table A1: Selected land use classifications

Year	Total area (Ha.)	Forests (Ha.)	Non-agricultural use (Ha.)	Culturable waste (Ha.)	Other fallow (Ha.)	Current fallow (Ha.)	Net area sown (Ha.)	Total cropped area (Ha.)
2020-21	48,651	393	19,969	4,735	2,773	4,032	15,405	26,759
2021-22	48,651	393	20,012	4,723	2,615	3,759	15,789	27,994
2022-23	48,651	384	20,256	4,641	2,573	2,992	16,448	29,927
2023-24	48,651	384	20,516	4,735	2,865	2,602	16,274	30,416
2024-25	48,651	384	20,923	4,603	3,048	3,799	14,523	26,223

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry

Annexure Table A2: Sources of water supply and irrigated area

Year	Canals (Ha.)	Tanks (Ha.)	Tube wells (Ha.)	Other sources (Ha.)	Net irrigated area (Ha.)	Area irrigated more than once (Ha.)	Gross irrigated area (Ha.)
2020-21	4,526	0	8,731	43	13,300	9,449	22,749
2021-22	4,691	0	9,277	35	14,003	9,983	23,986
2022-23	4,630	0	9,792	33	14,455	10,862	25,317
2023-24	4,799	0	11,020	36	15,855	10,096	25,951
2024-25	4,477	0	9,277	35	13,789	8,449	22,238

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry

Annexure Table A3: Area under selected crops and crop groups

Year	Paddy total (Ha.)	Total cereals (Ha.)	Total pulses (Ha.)	Total foodgrains (Ha.)	Sugarcane (Ha.)	Fruits & vegetables (Ha.)	Food crops (Ha.)	Non-food crops (Ha.)
2020-21	18,206	18,269	1,132	19,401	1,334	987	21,918	4,841
2021-22	18,896	18,967	1,088	20,055	1,257	969	22,481	5,513
2022-23	19,767	19,874	1,467	21,341	1,278	1,042	23,850	6,077
2023-24	19,571	19,716	1,123	20,839	1,226	1,080	23,333	7,083
2024-25	17,043	17,199	1,061	18,260	750	953	20,137	6,086

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry

Annexure Table A4: Production of selected crops

Year	Rice (MT)	Sugarcane (MT)	Plantain (MT)	Mango (MT)	Guava (MT)	Tapioca (MT)	Cotton kapas (MT)	Groundnut kernels	Coconut (Nos.)
2020-21	50,149	160,080	15,765	1,726	480	6,400	731	605	22,566
2021-22	56,254	150,840	8,774	1,117	528	3,668	1,139	983	20,727
2022-23	65,324	153,360	9,910	1,161	940	3,590	1,058	894	19,834
2023-24	61,299	150,798	10,861	1,196	906	4,301	2,043	1,104	20,191
2024-25	47,049	92,250	4,562	904	728	2,288	1,848	781	19,132

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry

Annexure Table A5: Veterinary aid provided

Year	Daily clinic cases (No.)	Night clinic cases (No.)	Vaccinations (No.)	Clinical lab specimens (No.)	Post-bite treatments (No.)
2021-22	298,197	637	67,364	527	772
2022-23	303,323	637	143,140	85	772
2023-24	341,289	1,610	164,699	5,470	1,050
2024-25	352,991	998	97,964	4,010	1,639
2025-26	331,110	1,011	96,914	3,942	1,542

Source: Department of Animal Husbandry and Animal Welfare, Puducherry

Annexure Table A6: Fisheries profile

Year	Fishermen population (No.)	Active fishermen (No.)	Ice plant-cum-cold storage (No.)	Fish farms (No.)	Fishing harbours (No.)
2020-21	109,417	28,767	6	6	0
2021-22	111,605	22,343	6	6	3
2022-23	113,790	23,000	6	6	3
2023-24	114,014	25,000	6	6	3

Source: Department of Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare, Puducherry

Annexure Table A7: Forest protection and nursery production

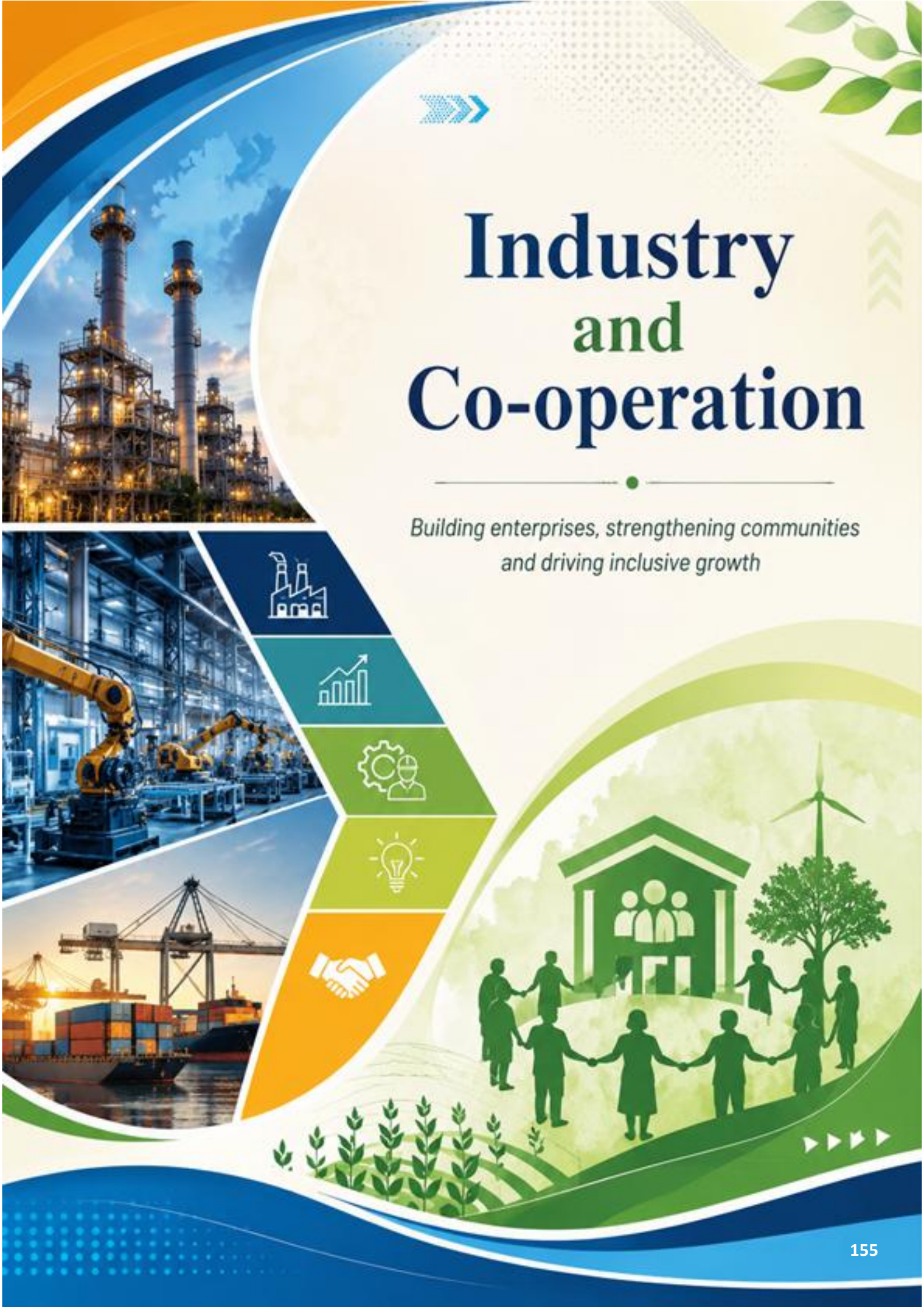
Year	Forest offence cases (No.)	Illegal felling cases (No.)	Wildlife rescue (No.)	Compound fees collected (Rs.)	Total nurseries (No.)	Saplings produced (No.)
2021-22	1	0	1,576	5,000	4	69,512
2022-23	3	0	1,568	62,000	4	71,421
2023-24	0	1	1,556	100,000	4	58,968
2024-25	0	0	1,585	0	7	359,959
2025-26	1	0	1,581	10,000	7	560,266

Source: Forest Department, Puducherry



Industry and Co-operation

*Building enterprises, strengthening communities
and driving inclusive growth*



INDUSTRY AND COOPERATION

1. Introduction

Industry and co-operation occupy a distinctive position in the economic structure of the Union Territory of Puducherry. The industrial sector converts the advantages of location, skills, entrepreneurship and infrastructure into production, employment and value addition, while the co-operative sector provides an institutional framework for credit, marketing, consumer services, housing, labour and community-based economic activity. Together, these two sectors link enterprise development with inclusive participation.

Puducherry has a compact industrial geography. Its industrial performance is therefore better understood not merely through the number of units, but through the quality of investment, employment intensity, factory-sector value addition, export orientation, logistics readiness and the depth of institutional outreach through co-operative societies. This chapter presents an integrated assessment of these dimensions, using official figures from the Industries Department, the Index of Industrial Production series, the Annual Survey of Industries and the Co-operative Department.

The analysis follows a conservative statistical approach. Where a source table contains blank values, those items are not estimated. Where figures belong to different statistical systems, such as administrative returns and ASI estimates, they are interpreted within their respective scope and are not forced into artificial reconciliation. This approach preserves traceability and supports responsible use of official statistics.

2. Data Coverage

The analysis in this chapter is based on official statistics relating to the industrial and co-operative sectors of the Union Territory of Puducherry. The industrial sector has been examined with reference to manufacturing units, employment, investment, industrial classification, joint stock companies, external trade, trade infrastructure and the Index of Industrial Production at the two-digit NIC level with base year 2011-12=100. The co-operative sector has been analysed on the basis of functioning co-operative societies and banks by category, with reference to the position as on 31st March 2022, 31st March 2023 and 31st March 2024. The factory sector analysis is based on the Annual Survey of Industries for 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24.

3. Manufacturing Units, Employment and Investment

Administrative data on manufacturing industries show that the number of units has fluctuated within a relatively narrow range, while employment and investment display sharper year-to-year movement. The number of units stood at 76 in 2021-22, declined to 72 in 2022-23, rose to 80 in 2023-24, fell to 60 in 2024-25 and recovered to 69 in 2025-26. The movement suggests a moderate churn in the registered manufacturing base rather than a linear expansion.

Total employment, as reported in Proforma I, increased from 1,931 persons in 2021-22 to 4,587 persons in 2023-24, before moderating to 1,491 in 2024-25 and 1,395 in 2025-26. The pattern is indicative of project-specific or unit-specific employment variation, a common feature in smaller industrial territories where a few larger units can influence the yearly aggregate.

Investment shows the sharpest swing. It increased from ₹7,982.90 lakh in 2021-22 to ₹32,522.39 lakh in 2022-23 and further to ₹76,823.94 lakh in 2023-24. Thereafter it moderated to ₹25,787.88 lakh in 2024-25 and ₹13,966.89 lakh in 2025-26. The 2023-24 peak, therefore, appears to be the major investment year in the five-year series.

Table 1: Manufacturing Industries - Units, Employment and Investment

Year	Units (No.)	Employment (No.)	Investment (₹ lakh)	Investment per unit (₹ lakh per unit)
2021-22	76	1,931	7,982.90	105.04
2022-23	72	2,635	32,522.39	451.70
2023-24	80	4,587	76,823.94	960.30
2024-25	60	1,491	25,787.88	429.80
2025-26	69	1,395	13,966.89	202.42

Source: Industries Department, Proforma I; investment per unit computed from source figures.

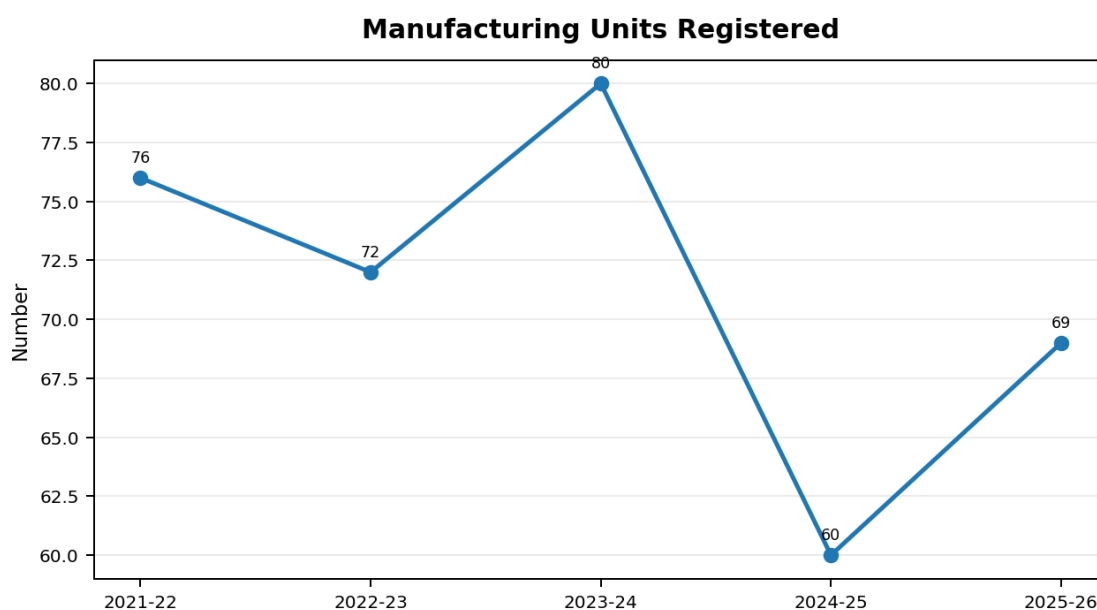


Figure 1: Manufacturing units registered. Source: Industries Department, Puducherry

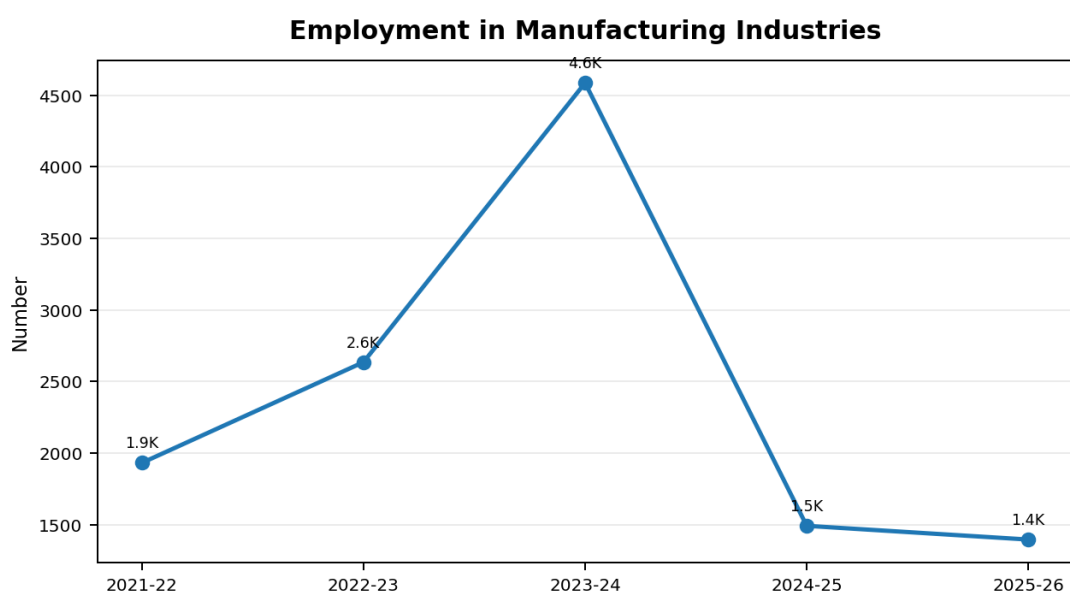


Figure 2: Employment in manufacturing industries. Source: Industries Department, Puducherry

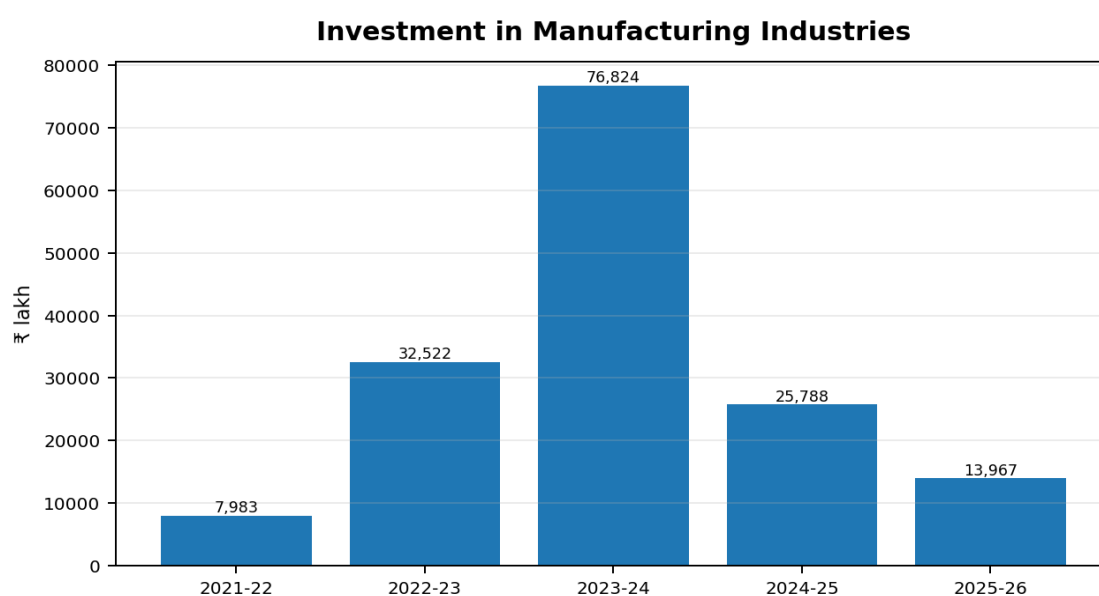


Figure 3: Investment in manufacturing industries Source: Industries Department, Puducherry

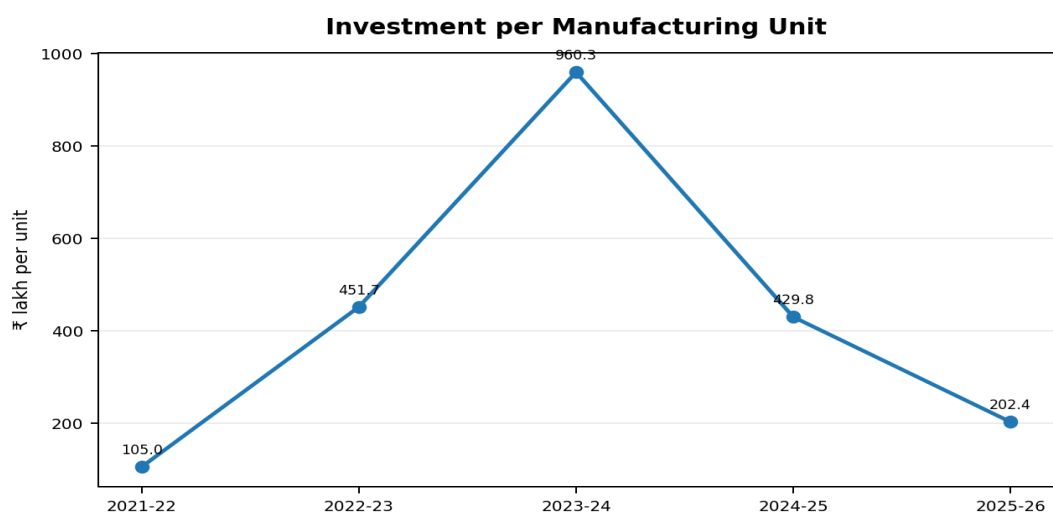


Figure 4: Investment per manufacturing unit. Source: Computed from Industries Department, Proforma I.

4. Scale-wise Structure of Industries

The scale-wise classification indicates that Puducherry's industrial structure is predominantly composed of small-scale industries. In 2025-26, out of 69 industries reported, 68 were small-scale industries, accounting for about 98.6 per cent of the total, while one was a medium-scale industry and no large-scale industry was reported. Small-scale industries employed 1,283 workers, while the single medium-scale industry accounted for 426 workers. Thus, although medium-scale industries constituted only a very small proportion of the units, they accounted for nearly one-fourth of the employment reported during the year.

Over the five-year period, the total number of industries increased from 63 in 2021-22 to 80 in 2023-24, before declining to 60 in 2024-25 and recovering to 69 in 2025-26. Large-scale industries were reported only in 2022-23 and 2023-24, numbering two and three respectively. The year 2023-24 recorded the highest number of industries (80) as well as the highest employment (4,647 workers) during the period. In that year, the seven medium-scale industries alone employed 2,495 workers, exceeding employment in the small-scale segment. Nevertheless, small-scale industries remained the dominant category throughout the period in terms of number of units.

Table 2: Scale-wise Industries and Workers

Sl. No.	Items	2021-22		2022-23		2023-24		2024-25		2025-26	
		No. of Industries	No. of Workers	No. of Industries	No. of Workers	No. of Industries	No. of Workers	No. of Industries	No. of Workers	No. of Industries	No. of Workers
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	Small Scale Industries	62	1743	63	1749	70	1743	56	1065	68	1283
2	Medium Scale Industries	1	115	5	784	7	2495	4	112	1	426
3	Large Scale Industries	0	0	2	102	3	409	0	0	0	0
	Total	63	1858	70	2635	80	4647	60	1177	69	1709

Source: Industries Department, Puducherry.

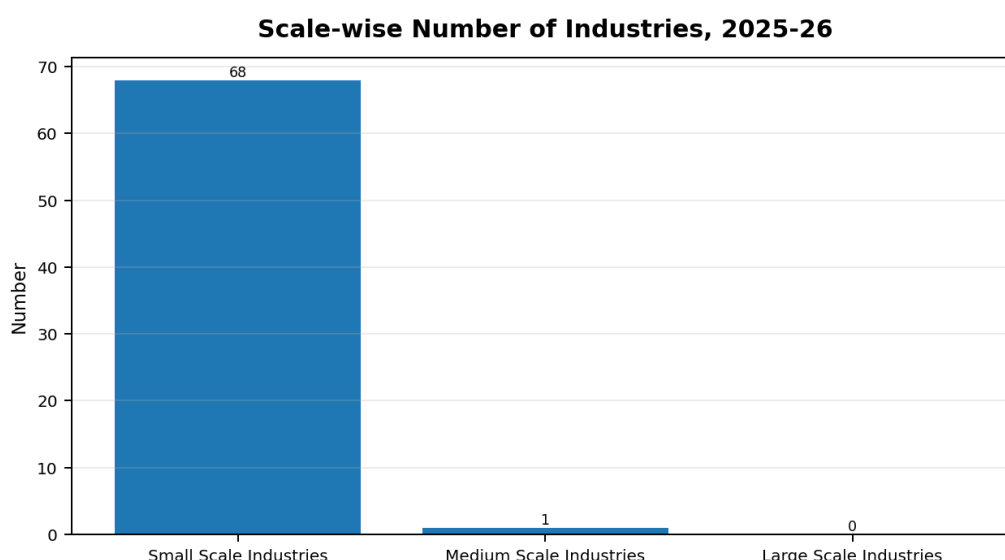


Figure 5: Scale-wise number of industries, 2025-26. Source: Industries Department, Puducherry

5. Joint Stock Companies at Work

Joint stock company statistics provide an additional window into formal corporate activity. The total number of companies at work increased from 71 in 2022-23 to 80 in 2023-24, declined to 60 in 2024-25 and recovered to 69 in 2025-26. Authorised capital, however, moved more sharply: from ₹325.14 crore in 2022-23 to ₹768.11 crore in 2023-24, before moderating to ₹255.96 crore in 2024-25 and ₹140.16 crore in 2025-26.

The classification titled Manufacturing (Metal and Chemicals, and Products thereof) dominates the joint stock company profile in terms of company count across the available years. In 2025-26, this category accounted for 39 companies with authorised capital of ₹91.18 crore. Manufacturing (Machinery and Equipment) also showed a notable increase in number of companies in 2025-26, rising to 8 companies with authorised capital of ₹20.50 crore.

Table 3: Joint Stock Companies - Total Companies and Authorised Capital

Year	Companies (No.)	Authorised capital (₹ crore)	Authorised capital per company (₹ crore per company)
2022-23	71	325.14	4.58
2023-24	80	768.11	9.60
2024-25	60	255.96	4.27
2025-26	69	140.16	2.03

Source: Industries Department, Puducherry.

6. External Trade and Logistics

Export value has increased in each year of the available series. It stood at ₹3,666.792 crore in 2021-22, ₹4,159.739 crore in 2022-23, ₹4,282.127 crore in 2023-24, ₹4,372.894 crore in 2024-25 and ₹4,969.107 crore in 2025-26. The export series therefore indicates steady external market linkage while corresponding import data are not available in the official series.

Trade infrastructure indicators are stable in terms of physical facilities. The table reports 2 public warehouses, 5 private warehouses and 6 logistics operators throughout 2021-22 to 2025-26. Freight handled increased from 7.33 tonnes in 2021-22 to 13.02 tonnes in 2025-26 as per the unit indicated in the source table. Since the source table uses “Tonnes” and does not provide a higher unit qualifier, the same unit is retained without conversion.

Table 4: External Trade and Logistics Facilities

Year	Exports (₹ crore)	Major export commodities (No.)	Public warehouses (No.)	Private warehouses (No.)	Logistics operators (No.)	Customs/ICD facilities (No.)	Freight handled (Tonnes)
2021-22	3,666.79	9	2	5	6	0	7.33
2022-23	4,159.74	8	2	5	6	0	5.84
2023-24	4,282.13	9	2	5	6	0	10.12
2024-25	4,372.89	10	2	5	6	0	11.31
2025-26	4,969.11	11	2	5	6	0	13.02

Source: Industries Department, Puducherry.

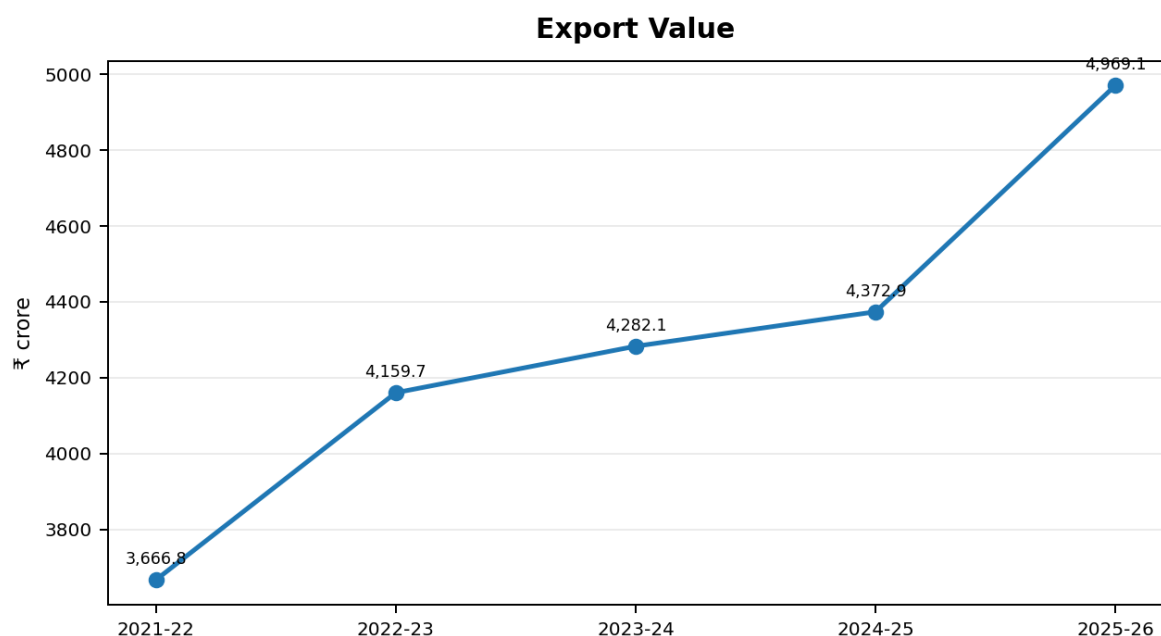


Figure 6: Export value. Source: Industries Department, Puducherry

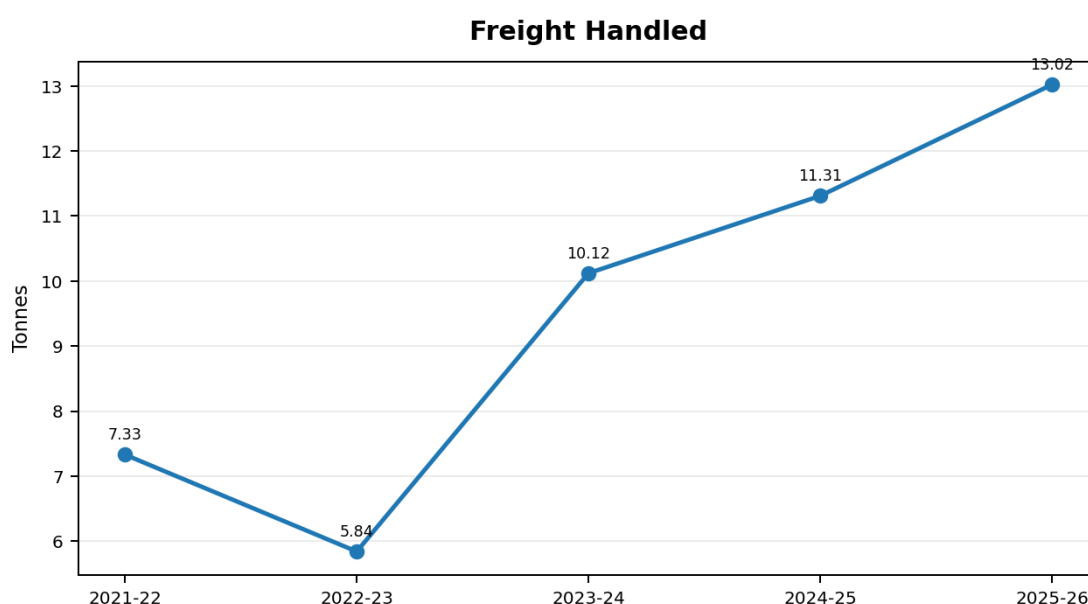


Figure 7: Freight handled. Source: Industries Department, Puducherry

7. Factory Sector Performance: Annual Survey of Industries

The Annual Survey of Industries provides the most comprehensive measure of the organised factory sector. The ASI series shows that while factories in operation declined from 664 in 2021-22 to 622 in 2023-24, total output increased from ₹35,87,704 lakh to ₹38,96,547 lakh over the same period. This simultaneous decline in operating factories and increase in output points to consolidation and higher average output among operational establishments.

Gross Value Added declined from ₹6,77,681 lakh in 2021-22 to ₹6,49,446 lakh in 2022-23, but increased substantially to ₹7,89,106 lakh in 2023-24. Net Value Added also rose to ₹7,16,296 lakh in 2023-24. The recovery in value addition during 2023-24 is analytically significant because it occurred alongside a lower number of operating factories and almost stable employment, implying improved value productivity.

Table 5: ASI Key Factory Sector Indicators

Year	Factories (No.)	Factories in operation (No.)	Fixed capital (₹ lakh)	Invested capital (₹ lakh)	Total output (₹ lakh)	Total inputs (₹ lakh)	GVA (₹ lakh)	NVA (₹ lakh)
2021-22	760	664	595,069	1,008,152	3,587,704	2,910,023	677,681	618,109
2022-23	765	639	646,215	1,059,565	3,660,274	3,010,828	649,446	583,105
2023-24	761	622	698,985	1,114,708	3,896,547	3,107,441	789,106	716,296

Source: Annual Survey of Industries, Tables 2a for Puducherry.

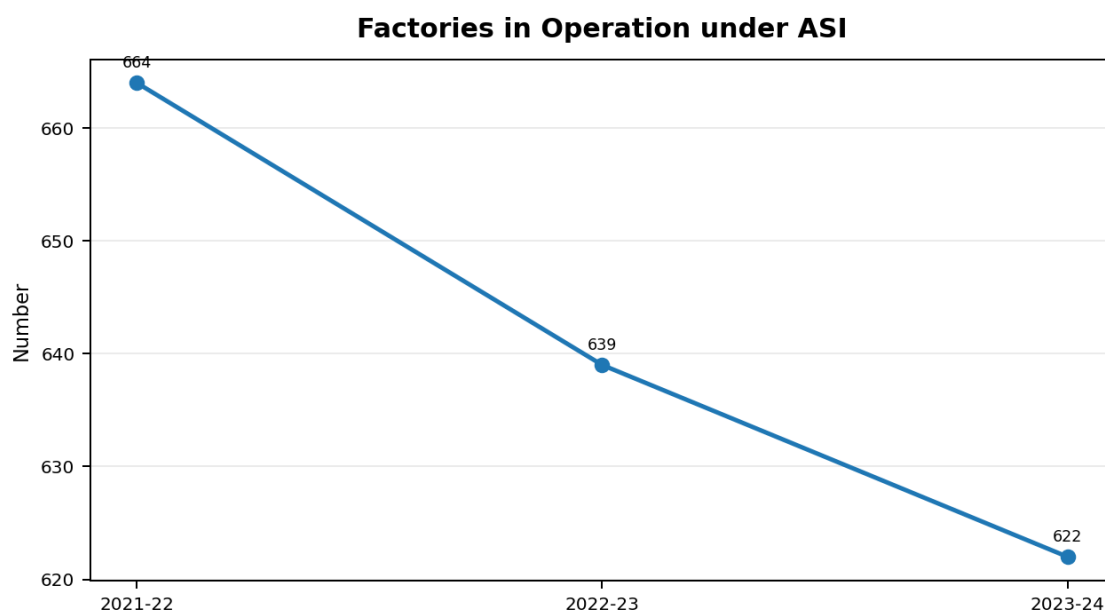


Figure 8: Factories in operation under ASI. Source: ASI Tables 2a, Puducherry.

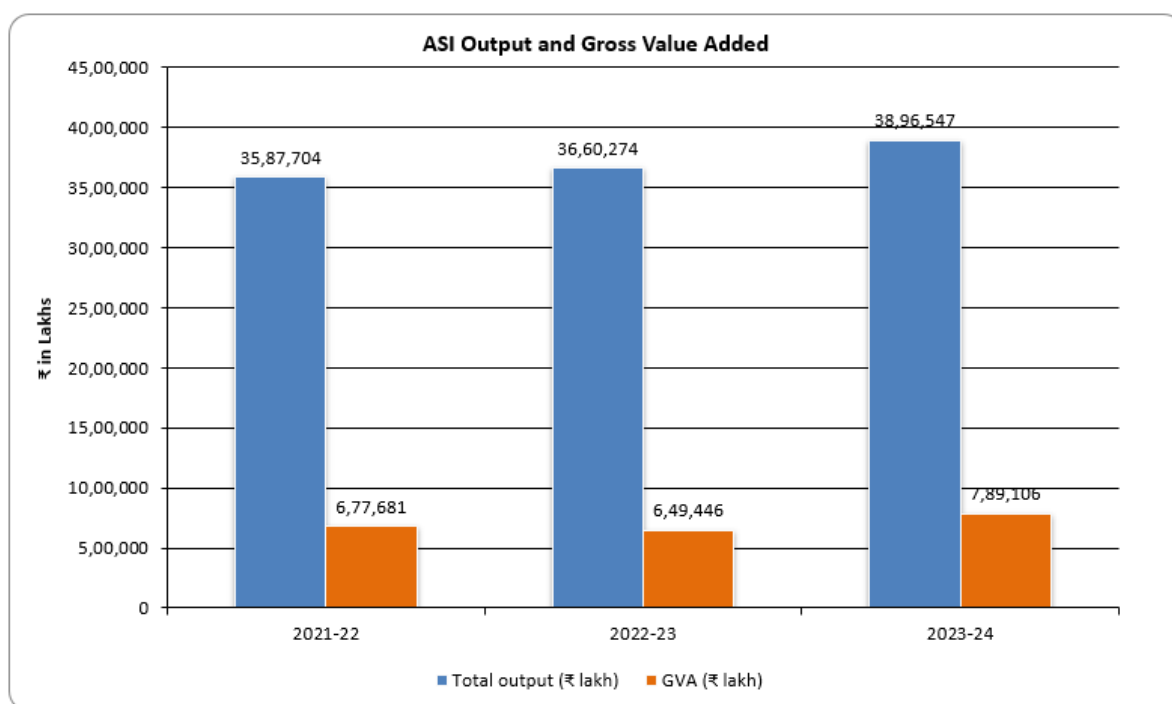


Figure 9: ASI output and gross value added. Source: ASI Tables 2a, Puducherry.

8. Industrial Productivity and Value-Addition Ratios

GVA per person engaged increased from ₹12.76 lakh in 2021-22 to ₹14.90 lakh in 2023-24. The improvement was particularly marked in 2023-24, when GVA expanded while persons engaged declined marginally from 53,578 to 52,977. This suggests that the factory sector moved towards higher value generation per engaged person in the latest ASI year.

The GVA-to-output ratio increased from 18.89 per cent in 2021-22 to 20.25 per cent in 2023-24. The input-output ratio declined from 82.26 per cent in 2022-23 to 79.75 per cent in 2023-24. The two ratios together indicate a better value-addition profile in 2023-24.

Table 6: Derived ASI Productivity Indicators

Year	GVA per person engaged (₹ lakh)	GVA/output (%)	Input/output (%)	Wages and salaries per person engaged (₹ lakh)
2021-22	12.76	18.89	81.11	3.53
2022-23	12.12	17.74	82.26	4.06
2023-24	14.90	20.25	79.75	4.41

Source: ASI Tables 2a and 4a for Puducherry.

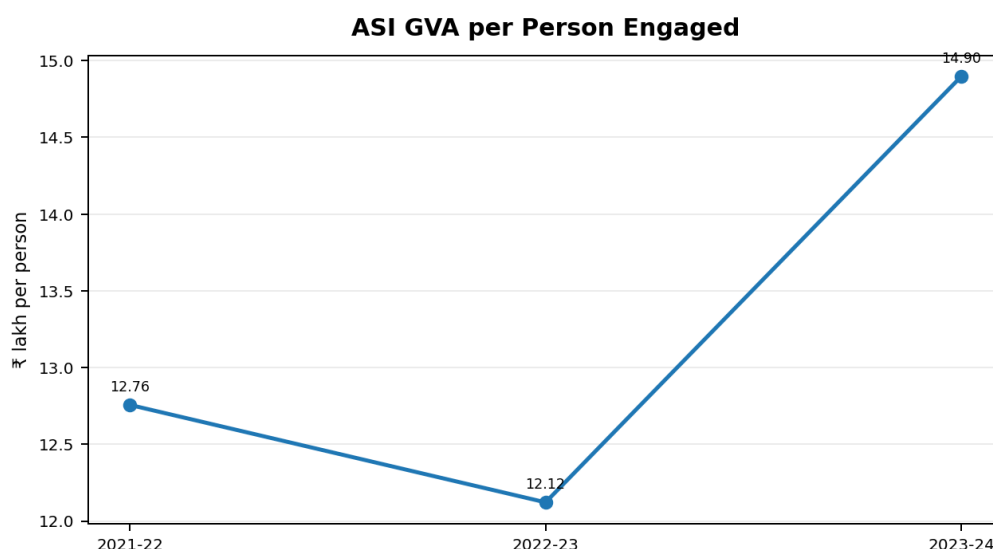


Figure 10: ASI GVA per person engaged. Source: ASI Tables 2a and 4a.

9. Industrial Employment and Wages in the Factory Sector

Employment in the ASI factory sector remained broadly stable across the three years. Persons engaged were 53,126 in 2021-22, 53,578 in 2022-23 and 52,977 in 2023-24. Workers accounted for the major share of persons engaged, with 42,240 workers in 2023-24. The stability of employment alongside higher output and GVA in 2023-24 indicates an improvement in average output and value addition per worker/person rather than simple expansion through additional labour.

Wages and salaries including employers' contribution increased consistently from ₹1,87,424 lakh in 2021-22 to ₹2,17,590 lakh in 2022-23 and ₹2,33,553 lakh in 2023-24. The increase in emoluments, in a context of broadly stable employment, suggests rising compensation outgo and a possible shift towards more skilled or higher-wage industrial operations.

Table 7: ASI Employment, Mandays and Emoluments

Year	Persons engaged (No.)	Workers (No.)	Mandays employed (000)	Wages and salaries incl. employers' contribution (₹ lakh)
2021-22	53,126	42,048	16,134	187,424
2022-23	53,578	42,601	16,559	217,590
2023-24	52,977	42,240	16,176	233,553

Source: Annual Survey of Industries, Tables 4a for Puducherry.

10. Index of Industrial Production

The Annual General Index of Industrial Production, with base year 2011-12=100, increased from 142.66 in 2017-18 to 151.58 in 2018-19 and 163.39 in 2019-20, before moderating to 154.93 in 2020-21. The moderation in 2020-21 is consistent with a broad-based disturbance in industrial activity during the period, though the source table itself is limited to the index values and does not provide causal information.

At the two-digit NIC level, the highest index values in 2020-21 were recorded in beverages, textiles, motor vehicles and trailers, pharmaceuticals and medicinal chemicals, rubber and plastics, paper products, wearing apparel, and wood products. These groups indicate the diversity of Puducherry's manufacturing profile across consumption goods, chemicals/pharmaceuticals, engineering-linked activity and other manufacturing segments.

Table 8: Annual General Index of Industrial Production

Year	Annual General Index (Base 2011-12=100)
2017-18	142.66
2018-19	151.58
2019-20	163.39
2020-21	154.93

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry

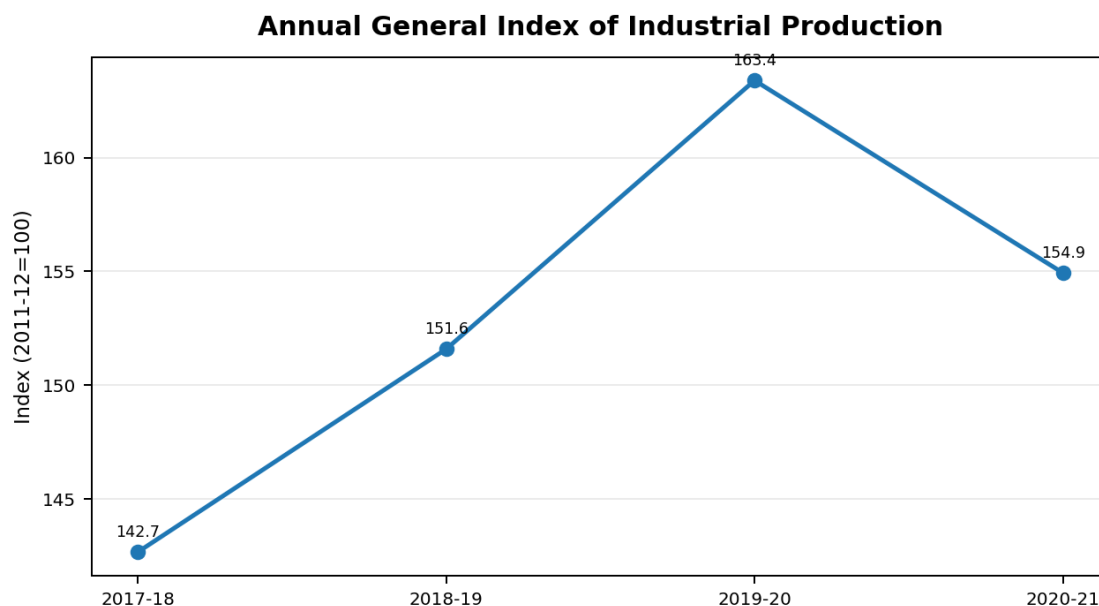


Figure 11: Annual General Index of Industrial Production. Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics

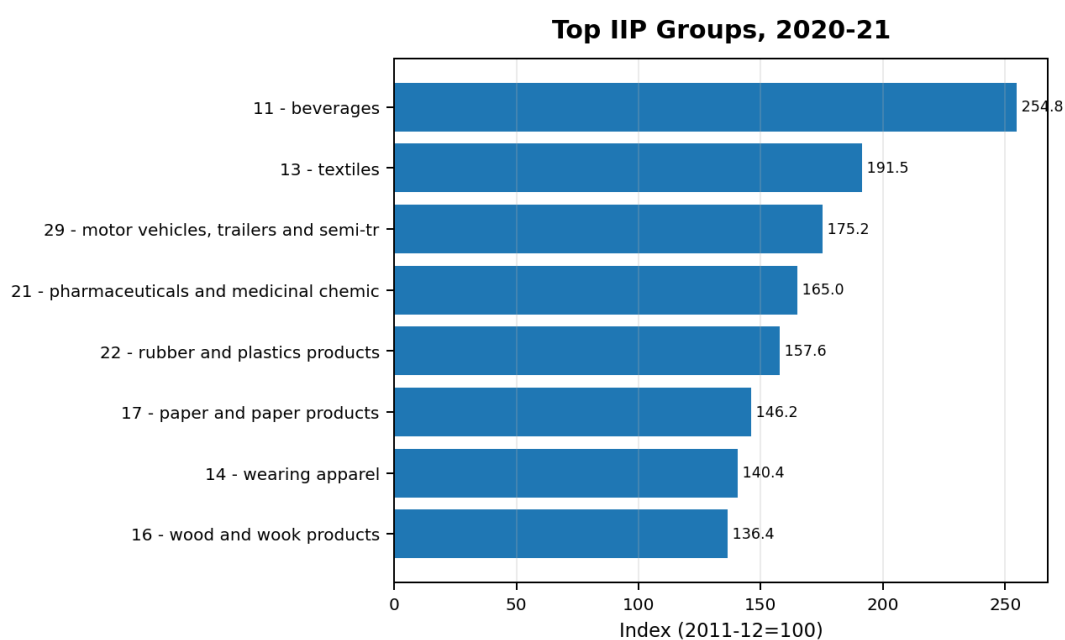


Figure 12: Top IIP groups, 2020-21. Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics

11. Co-operative Movement in Puducherry

The co-operative movement remains an important institutional channel in Puducherry for credit, primary agriculture, salary earners, milk producers, fisheries, housing, consumers, labour, transport and other community-based activities. The official data indicate that the total number of functioning co-operative societies and banks remained at 445 as on 31 March 2022 and 31 March 2023, and increased to 470 as on 31 March 2024.

The increase during 2023-24 came mainly through the credit segment. Credit societies and banks increased from 113 to 134, while non-credit societies increased from 332 to 336. Within the credit segment, Primary Agricultural Banks increased from 51 to 59 and Salary Earners Co-operative Societies increased from 59 to 72 as on 31 March 2024.

Table 9: Functional Co-operative Societies/Banks by Broad Category

Category	31.03.2022 (No.)	31.03.2023 (No.)	31.03.2024 (No.)
Credit Societies/Banks Total	113	113	134
Non-Credit Societies Total	332	332	336
Grand Total	445	445	470

Source: Co-operative Department, Govt. of Puducherry.

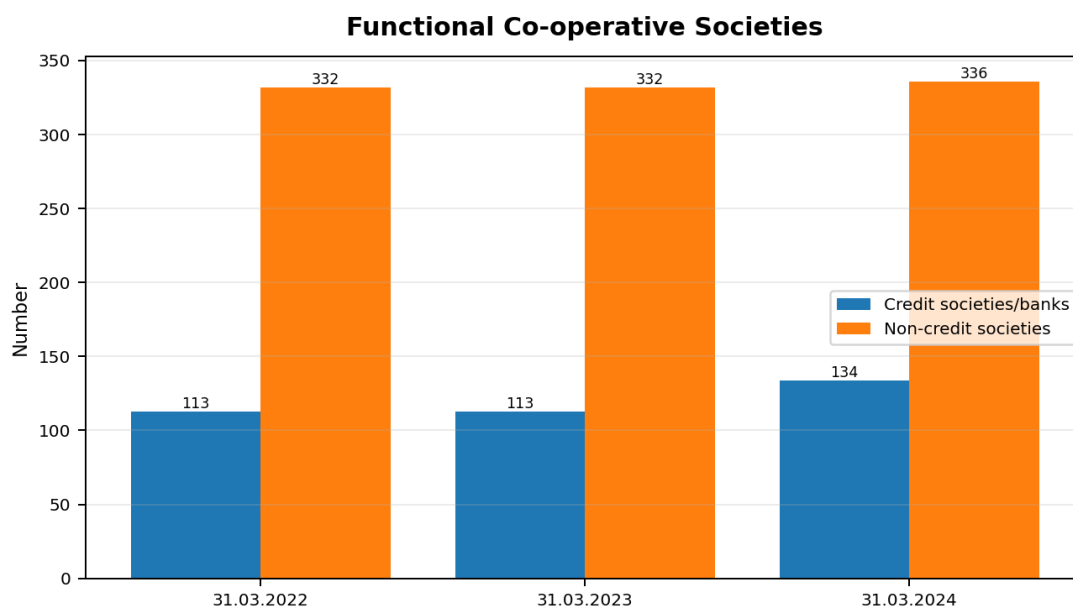


Figure 13: Functional co-operative societies by broad category. Source: Co-operative Department data.

12. Structure of Non-Credit Co-operatives

Non-credit co-operatives form the larger part of the co-operative structure. As on 31 March 2024, non-credit societies numbered 336, compared with 134 credit societies and banks. Milk Producer Societies were the largest non-credit category, with 122 societies, followed by Fisherman Societies with 69, Housing Societies with 36, Labour Contract Societies with 25 and Student Stores with 18.

This structure reflects the territorial and occupational character of Puducherry. Milk, fisheries, housing, labour and consumer-related societies indicate that co-operation in the Union Territory is not confined to credit delivery; it also supports livelihood organisation, community enterprise, local service delivery and sectoral mobilisation.

Table 10: Selected Co-operative Societies/Banks by Category

Type of co-operative society/bank	31.03.2022 (No.)	31.03.2023 (No.)	31.03.2024 (No.)
Milk Producers Societies	124	124	122
Salary Earners Co-operative Societies	59	59	72
Fisherman Societies	69	69	69
Primary Agricultural Bank	51	51	59
Housing Societies	36	36	36
Labour Contract Societies	23	23	25
Student Stores	17	17	18
Other Non-Credit Societies	12	12	18
Weavers Societies	13	13	11
Women co-operative Societies	10	10	11

Source: Source: Co-operative Department, Government of Puducherry. Note: The categories shown are the ten largest by count as on 31.03.2024.

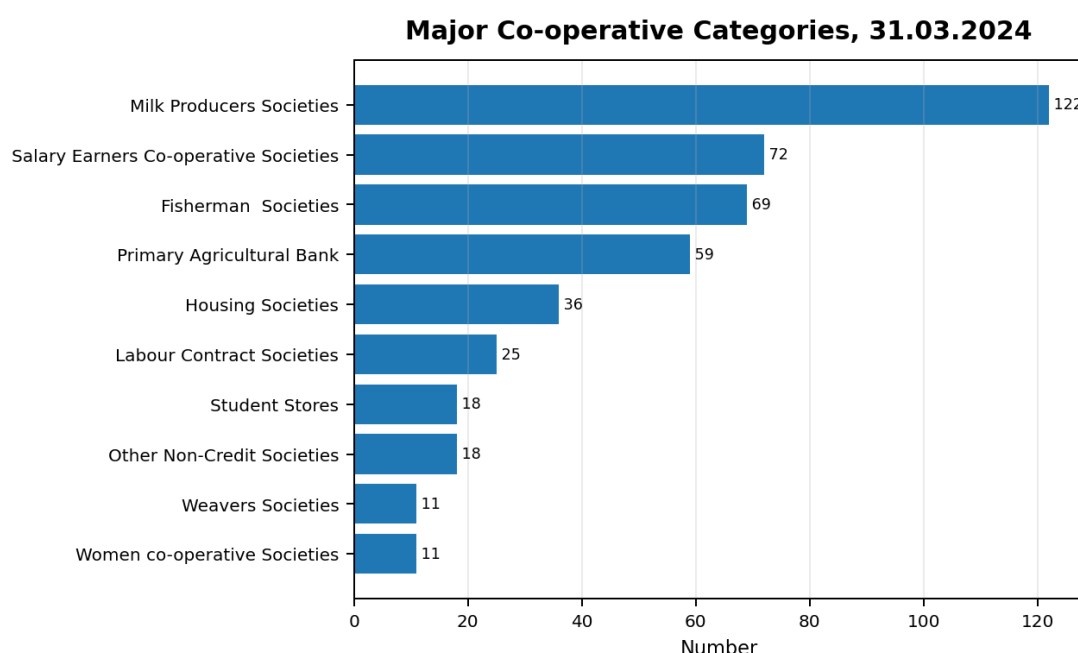


Figure 14: Major co-operative categories as on 31.03.2024. Source: Co-operative Department, Puducherry.

13. Policy Perspective

The evidence in this chapter suggests that Puducherry's industrial economy is characterised by compact scale, variable investment inflows, steady export growth and improving factory-sector value addition in the latest ASI year. The decline in factories in operation under ASI, accompanied by rising output and GVA, points towards consolidation and productivity improvement. From a policy perspective, this reinforces the need to focus not only on the number of units, but also on investment quality, technology adoption, logistics efficiency and employment intensity.

The administrative data also show that small scale industries remain central to the industrial structure. This calls for continuing support to MSMEs through facilitation, common infrastructure, credit linkage, market access, timely approvals and digital compliance support. At the same time, the presence of manufacturing-linked joint stock companies and export growth suggests scope for attracting more capital-intensive and export-oriented units in suitable clusters.

The co-operative sector has expanded institutionally by 2023-24, with a visible rise in credit societies and banks. The broad spread of non-credit societies across milk, fisheries, housing, labour, consumer and student segments underlines the importance of co-operatives as socio-economic institutions. Strengthening governance, timely audit, digital records, professional management and member participation would help the sector move from mere institutional presence to measurable economic performance.

14. Conclusion

Industry and co-operation together reveal two complementary strands of Puducherry's development path. The industrial sector contributes through production, investment, exports, factory-sector value addition and employment, while the co-operative sector provides a participatory institutional platform across credit and non-credit activities. The latest available statistics show a stronger value-addition performance in the factory sector,

steady export growth, stable logistics infrastructure and an increase in functioning co-operative societies as on 31 March 2024.

The evidence also points to areas that require continued attention: strengthening the small industry base, improving investment continuity, ensuring better correspondence between administrative data systems, deepening export and logistics capabilities, and enabling co-operatives to function as financially sound and community-oriented institutions. The statistical picture, when read as a whole, supports a strategy that combines industrial competitiveness with co-operative inclusion.

ANNEXURE TABLES

Annexure I: Production and Employment of Manufacturing Industries

Annexure Table I: Manufacturing Industries

Item	Unit	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Number of Units	Nos.	76	72	80	60	69
Total Employment	Nos.	1,931	2,635	4,587	1,491	1,395
Total Investment	₹ lakh	7,982.90	32,522.39	76,823.94	25,787.88	13,966.89

Source: Industries Department, Proforma I.

Annexure II: Scale-wise Industries and Workers

Annexure Table II: Small, Medium and Large-Scale Industries and Workers

Category	2021-22 industries (No.)	2022-23 industries (No.)	2023-24 industries (No.)	2024-25 industries (No.)	2025-26 industries (No.)	2021-22 workers (No.)	2022-23 workers (No.)	2023-24 workers (No.)	2024-25 workers (No.)	2025-26 workers (No.)
Small Scale Industries	62	63	70	56	68	1,743	1,749	1,743	1,065	1,283
Medium Scale Industries	1	5	7	4	1	115	784	2,495	112	426
Large Scale Industries	0	2	3	0	0	0	102	409	0	0
Total	63	70	80	60	69	1,858	2,635	4,647	1,177	1,709

Source: Industries Department, Puducherry

Annexure III: Joint Stock Companies at Work

Annexure Table III: Joint Stock Companies by Industrial Classification

Industrial classification	2022-23 companies (No.)	2023-24 companies (No.)	2024-25 companies (No.)	2025-26 companies (No.)	2022-23 authorised capital (₹ crore)	2023-24 authorised capital (₹ crore)	2024-25 authorised capital (₹ crore)	2025-26 authorised capital (₹ crore)
Agriculture and Allied Activities	5	0	3	1	3.06	0	6	0.65
Business Service	3	4	1	3	0.99	4.28	18	1.61
Community, Personal and Social Service	1	0	0	1	1.10	0	0	0.95
Construction	1	3	1	0	0.86	26.59	1.90	0
Electricity, Gas & Water companies	0	0	1	0	0	0	4	0
Finance	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Insurance	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Manufacturing (Food stuffs)	2	4	1	4	1.05	7	1.26	5.57
Manufacturing (Leather & Product thereof)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Manufacturing (Machinery and Equipment)	0	1	3	8	0	0.85	3.20	20.50
Manufacturing (Metal and Chemicals, and Products thereof)	27	39	28	39	128.17	444.23	106.34	91.18
Manufacturing (Others)	7	3	1	2	9.51	5.30	0.97	5.70
Manufacturing (Paper & Paper products, Publishing, printing and reproduction of recorded media)	5	3	0	0	2.65	32.36	0	0
Manufacturing (Textile)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Manufacturing (Wood Products)	1	0	2	0	1.01	0	3	0
Mining and Quarrying	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Real Estate and Renting	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Trading	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transport, Storage and Communications	1	0	0	0	1.58	0	0	0
Others	18	23	19	11	175.14	247.50	111.29	14
Total	71	80	60	69	325.14	768.11	255.96	140.16

Source: Industries Department, Puducherry

Annexure IV: External Trade and Logistics

Annexure Table IV: External Trade and Logistics Facilities

Year	Exports (₹ crore)	Major export commodities (No.)	Public warehouses (No.)	Private warehouses (No.)	Logistics operators (No.)	Customs/ICD facilities (No.)	Freight handled (Tonnes)
2021-22	3,666.79	9	2	5	6	0	7.33
2022-23	4,159.74	8	2	5	6	0	5.84
2023-24	4,282.13	9	2	5	6	0	10.12
2024-25	4,372.89	10	2	5	6	0	11.31
2025-26	4,969.11	11	2	5	6	0	13.02

Source: Industries Department, Puducherry

Annexure V: ASI Key Indicators

Annexure Table V: Factory Sector Indicators under ASI

Year	Factories (No.)	Factories in operation (No.)	Fixed capital (₹ lakh)	Invested capital (₹ lakh)	Total output (₹ lakh)	Total inputs (₹ lakh)	GVA (₹ lakh)	NVA (₹ lakh)	Persons engaged (No.)	Workers (No.)	Mandays (000)	Wages & salaries (₹ lakh)
2021-22	760	664	595,069	1,008,152	3,587,704	2,910,023	677,681	618,109	53,126	42,048	16,134	187,424
2022-23	765	639	646,215	1,059,565	3,660,274	3,010,828	649,446	583,105	53,578	42,601	16,559	217,590
2023-24	761	622	698,985	1,114,708	3,896,547	3,107,441	789,106	716,296	52,977	42,240	16,176	233,553

Source: Annual Survey of Industries, Tables 2a and 4a for Puducherry.

Annexure VI: Index of Industrial Production

Annexure Table VI: Annual Index of Industrial Production by 2-digit NIC

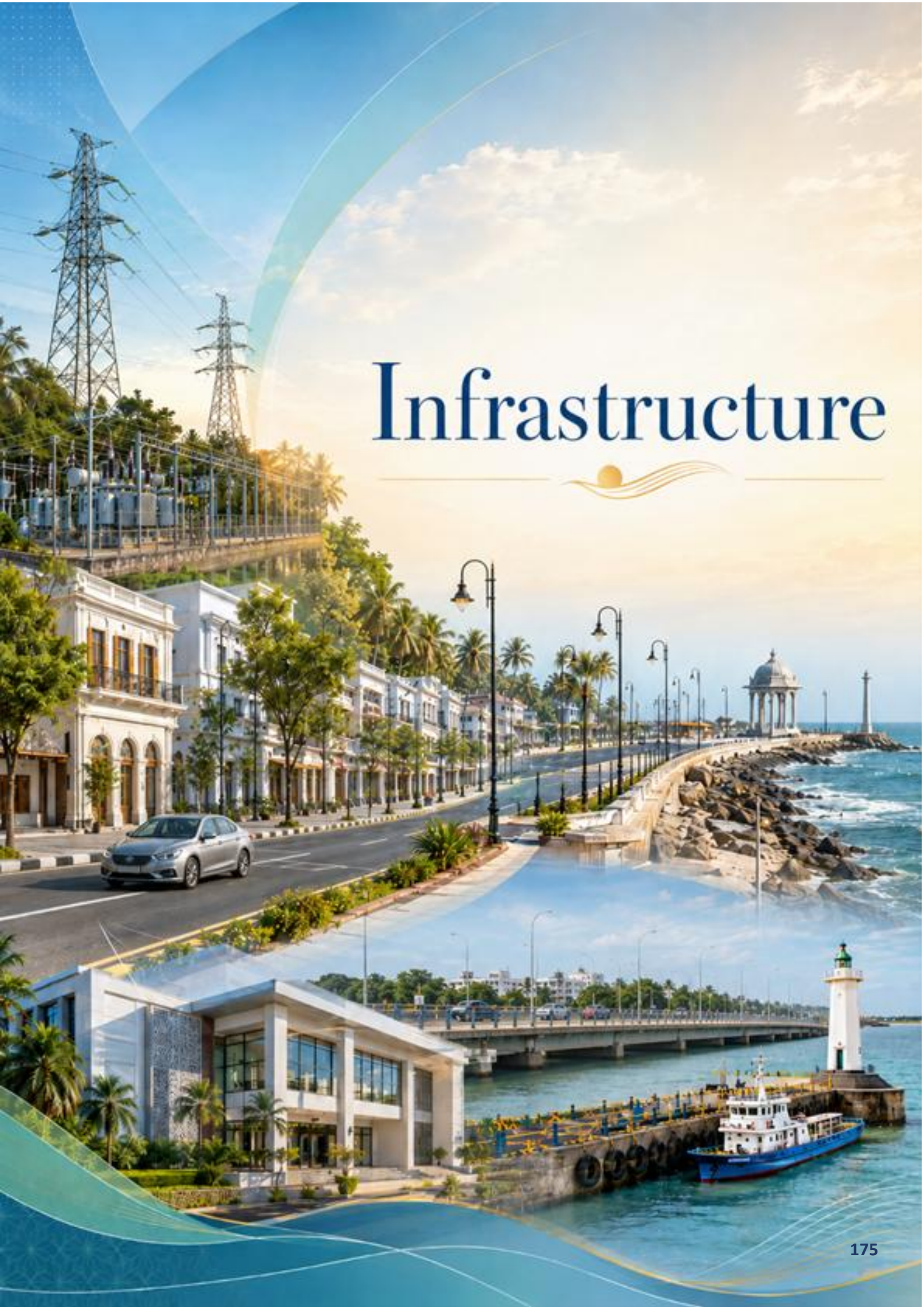
Sl. No.	NIC 2-digit	Description	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
1	10	Mfe. of food products	109.09	111.07	112.85	110.53
2	11	Mfe. of beverages	232.13	227.92	260.27	254.80
3	13	Mfe. of textiles	181.55	145.85	191.81	191.48
4	14	Mfe. of wearing apparel	183.92	181.94	181.25	140.45
5	15	Mfe. of lather and related products	123.90	157.91	144.36	130.41
6	16	Mfe. of wood and wood products	103.32	148.12	159.87	136.43
7	17	Mfe. of paper and paper products	113.10	165.77	158.93	146.19
8	18	Printing and reproduction of recorded media	99.17	87.84	104.91	104.04
9	20	Mfe. of chemical and chemical products	133.46	150.98	147.06	128.13
10	21	Mfe. of pharmaceuticals and medicinal chemicals	150.17	108.32	158.88	165.03
11	22	Mfe. of rubber and plastics products	147.18	207.02	178.75	157.59
12	23	Mfe. of other non-metallic mineral products	111.45	109.71	151.02	130.16
13	24	Mfe. of basic metals	101.50	116.54	104.33	101.37
14	25	Mfe. of fabricated metal products	122.36	118.29	134.15	122.48
15	26	Mfe. of computer, electronic and optical products	101.33	101.45	107.16	102.93
16	27	Mfe. of electrical equipment	100.60	105.67	100.05	99.84
17	28	Mfe. of machinery and equipment	114.87	123.51	113.64	105.50
18	29	Mfe. of motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers	105.69	149.52	197.03	175.19
19	30	Mfe. of other transport equipment	82.39	86.18	120.34	115.20
20	32	Mfe. of other manufacturing	108.83	131.69	150.80	131.49
21	35	Electricity generation	97.92	101.98	100.79	96.43
		Annual General Index	142.66	151.58	163.39	154.93

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, IIP data with Base year 2011-12=100.

Annexure VII: Co-operative Societies/Banks**Annexure Table VII: Functional Co-operative Societies/Banks**

Type of co-operative society/bank	31.03.2022	31.03.2023	31.03.2024
State Co-operative Bank	1	1	1
Central Land Development Bank	1	1	1
Urban Bank	1	1	1
Primary Agricultural Bank	51	51	59
Salary Earners Co-operative Societies	59	59	72
State Co-operative Union	1	1	1
Marketing Societies	2	2	2
Sugar Factory	1	1	1
Milk Producers Societies	124	124	122
Fisherman Societies	69	69	69
Spinning Mills	2	2	2
Weavers Societies	13	13	11
Housing Societies	36	36	36
Industrial Societies	10	10	8
Women co-operative Societies	10	10	11
Consumer Societies	8	8	7
Student Stores	17	17	18
Labour Contract Societies	23	23	25
Transport Societies	4	4	5
Other Non-Credit Societies	12	12	18
Credit Societies/Banks Total	113	113	134
Non-Credit Societies Total	332	332	336
Grand Total	445	445	470

Source: Co-operative Department, Puducherry

The background of the page is a collage of infrastructure-related images. In the top left, there are high-voltage power lines and pylons. Below them is a coastal road with a silver car driving. To the right of the road is a rocky coastline with a lighthouse and a small temple-like structure. In the bottom left, there is a modern white building with large windows. In the bottom right, a blue and white ship is docked at a pier. The entire page is decorated with blue and green wavy lines and a sun-like graphic behind the title.

Infrastructure

CHAPTER – 9

INFRASTRUCTURE

1. Overview

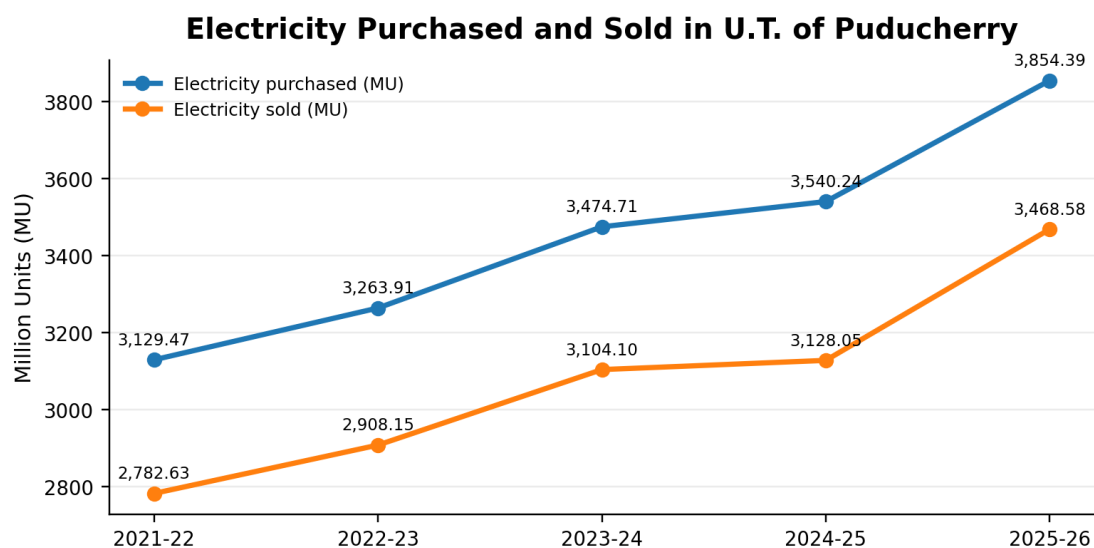
Infrastructure is the material platform on which economic activity, social services and administrative reach are built. In a compact and geographically non-contiguous Union Territory such as Puducherry, infrastructure performs a dual role: it supports intensive urban and semi-urban service delivery within the regions, and it anchors external connectivity with neighbouring States and national markets. Electricity supply, road transport services, rail access, airport facilities and port infrastructure together determine the ease with which households, enterprises, tourists and public institutions interact across space.

The present chapter examines official data on electricity and transport, supplemented by authorised information on railways, civil aviation and port facilities. The analysis is restricted to verified official figures. Where annual operational series were not available, the chapter confines itself to factual description and avoids extrapolation.

2. Electricity Infrastructure and Power Supply

The electricity system shows a marked expansion in H.T. line length and rising load requirements over the reference period. L.T. line length, however, declined sharply in 2024-25 and recovered only partly in 2025-26. High-tension lines increased from 1,380.775 km as on 31-03-2022 to 2,458.122 km as on 31-03-2026. Low-tension lines stood at 3,925.59 km as on 31-03-2026, while the number of transformers increased to 3,532. These indicators point to the continued strengthening of the distribution backbone, which is essential in a territory with dense residential, commercial and service-sector loads.

Electricity purchased increased from 3,129.47 MU in 2021-22 to 3,854.39 MU in 2025-26. Electricity sold also increased from 2,782.63 MU to 3,468.58 MU during the same period. The gap between purchase and sale, which includes technical and commercial losses and accounting differences, was 385.81 MU in 2025-26. The reported transmission and distribution loss was 10.00 per cent in 2025-26, lower than 11.08 per cent in 2021-22.

Figure 1: Electricity purchased and sold

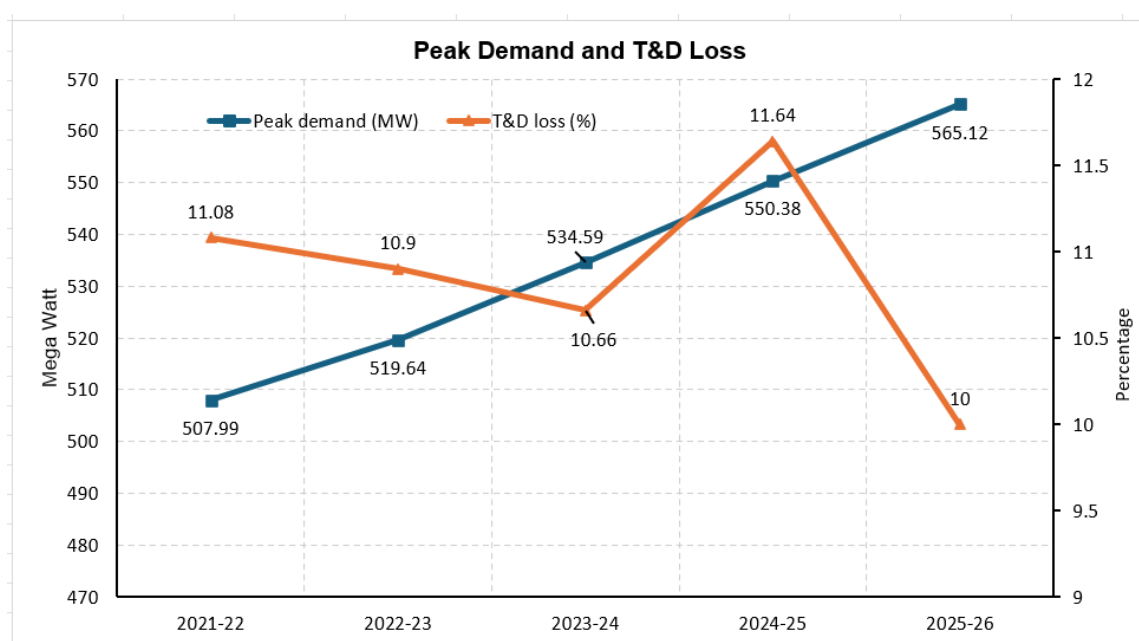
Source: Electricity Department, Government of Puducherry.

Table 1: Selected electricity infrastructure indicators

Indicator	Unit	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
H.T. Lines	Km	1,380.775	1,394.740	1,414.030	2,427.000	2,458.122
L.T. Lines	Km	4,955.639	5,015.95	5,112.96	3,839.05	3,925.59
Transformers	Number	3,123	3,332	3,403	3,451	3,532
Street lights	Number	51,368	51,844	58,176	59,006	60,660

Source: Electricity Department, Government of Puducherry.

Peak demand increased steadily from 507.99 MW in 2021-22 to 565.12 MW in 2025-26. This trend is consistent with the expansion of connected load and consumer demand. The pressure is not merely quantitative; it also reflects a changing composition of demand across domestic, commercial and industrial users.

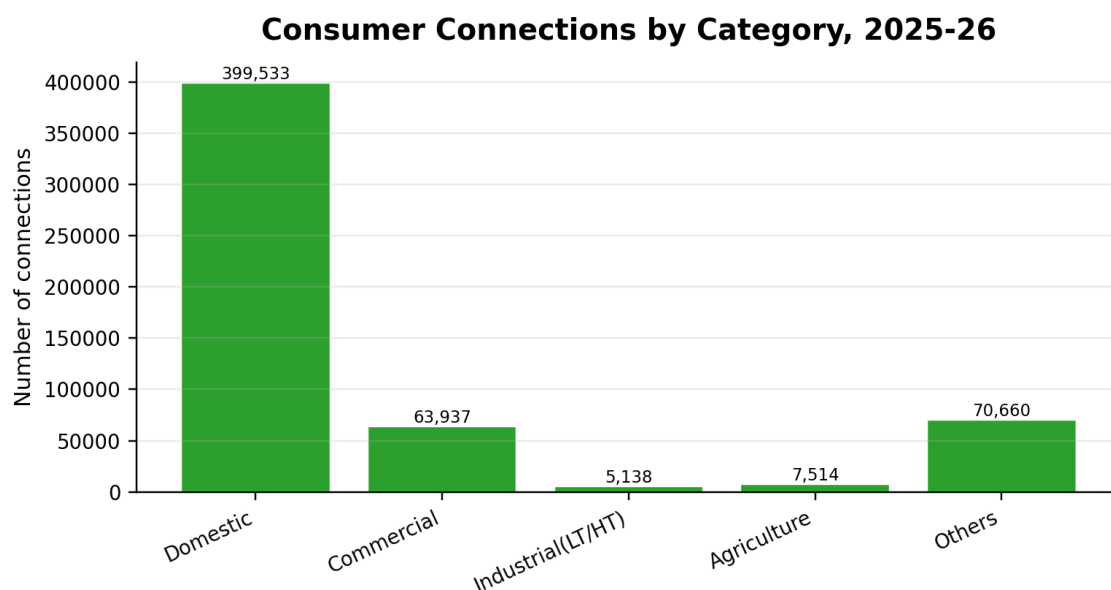
Figure 2: Peak demand and transmission & distribution loss

Source: Electricity Department, Government of Puducherry.

2.1 Consumer Profile and Connected Load

The total number of electricity consumers stood at 546,782 in 2025-26. Domestic consumers constituted the largest category with 399,533 connections, followed by other connections at 70,660 and commercial connections at 63,937. This pattern reflects the service and household-led load structure of Puducherry's economy.

Figure 3: Consumer connections by category, 2025-26



Source: Electricity Department, Government of Puducherry.

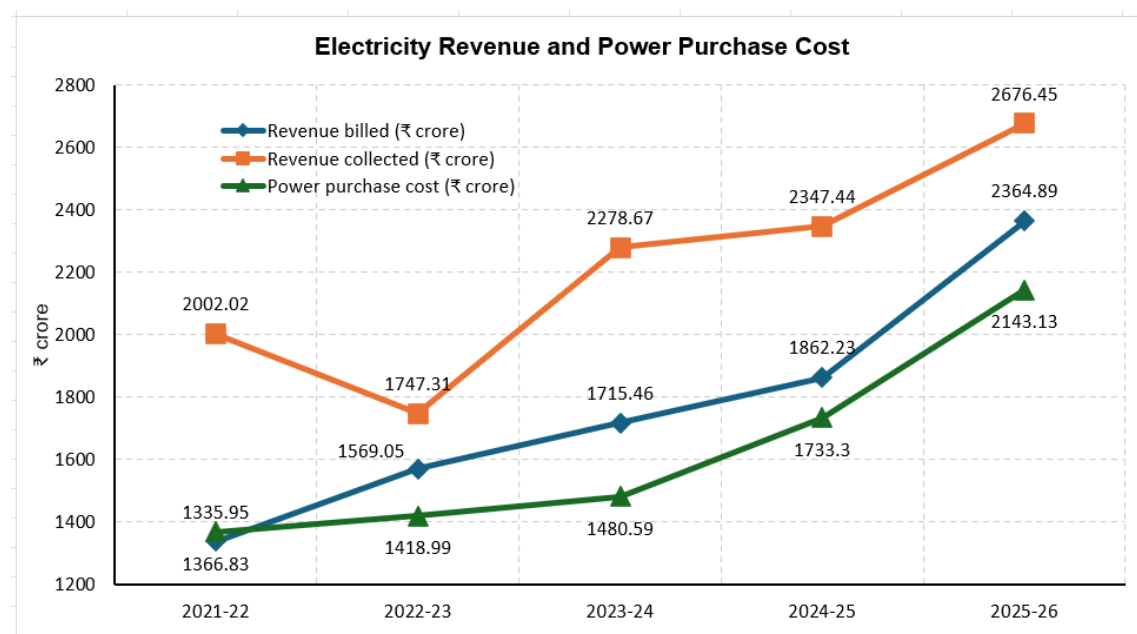
Table 2: Electricity consumer profile and connected load, 2025-26

Category	Connections (Number)	Connected load (KW/KVA)
Domestic	399,533	1,586,801.9
Commercial	63,937	258,294.0
Industrial(LT/HT)	5,138	585,203.8
Agriculture	7,514	64,370.0
Others	70,660	90,172.3
Total	546,782	2,584,842.0

Source: Electricity Department, Government of Puducherry.

2.2 Revenue and Expenditure Pattern

Revenue billed by the Electricity Department increased from ₹1,335.95 crore in 2021-22 to ₹2,364.89 crore in 2025-26. Revenue collected, including arrears, increased to ₹2,676.45 crore in 2025-26. Power purchase cost also rose to ₹2,143.13 crore, underlining the need to manage supply cost, collection efficiency, loss reduction and demand-side efficiency in an integrated manner.

Figure 4: Electricity revenue and power purchase cost

Source: Electricity Department, Government of Puducherry. Note: Revenue collected includes arrears as stated in the source.

Table 3: Revenue and expenditure summary of Electricity Department

Item	Unit	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Revenue billed	₹ crore	1,335.95	1,569.05	1,715.46	1,862.23	2,364.89
Revenue collected	₹ crore	2,002.02	1,747.31	2,278.67	2,347.44	2,676.45
Collection efficiency	Per cent	149.86	111.36	132.83	126.06	113.17
Power purchase cost	₹ crore	1,366.83	1,418.99	1,480.59	1,733.30	2,143.13
Capital expenditure	₹ crore	217.18	85.00	99.11	160.16	85.00

Source: Electricity Department, Government of Puducherry. Note: Revenue collected includes arrears as stated in the source.

3. Road Transport Infrastructure and Service Delivery

Road transport is the most visible mobility infrastructure in the Union Territory. It supports daily commuting, delivery of services, tourism movement, access to markets and connectivity between urban centres and surrounding settlements. The available data cover departmental infrastructure, staff strength, revenue receipts, vehicle registration and digital service delivery through VAHAN-related systems.

The Transport Department had 3 Regional Transport Offices and 4 Unit Offices throughout the reference period. Pollution testing centres increased to 19 in 2025-26, while computerised service counters were reported from 2024-25 onwards. Automated testing tracks were reported as Nil in the official departmental data.

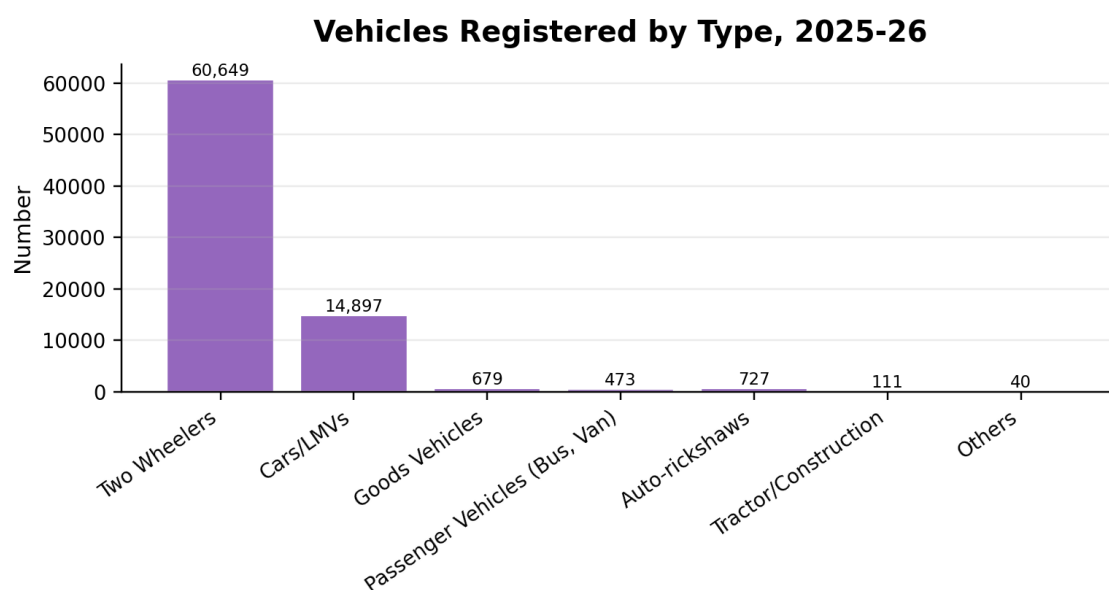
Table 4: Infrastructure of Transport Department

Facility	Unit	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
RTOs/Unit Offices	Number/text	3 RTOs and 4 Unit Offices	3 RTOs and 4 Unit Offices	3 RTOs and 4 Unit Offices	3 RTOs and 4 Unit Offices	3 RTOs and 4 Unit Offices
Automated Testing Tracks	Number	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Pollution Testing Centres	Number	10	13	Nil	15	19
Computerised Service Counters	Number	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	1

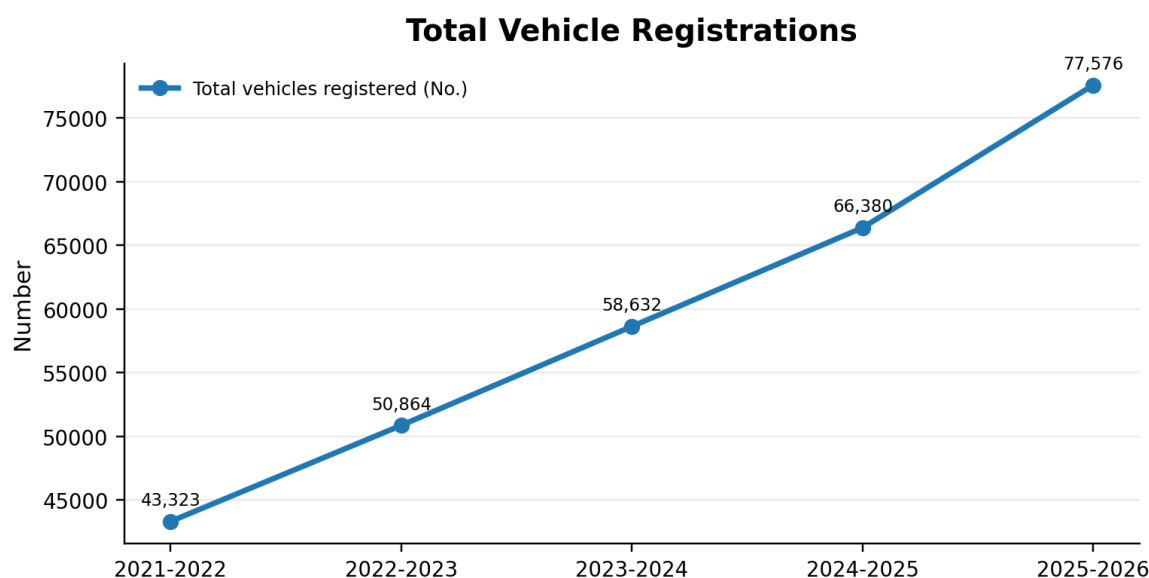
Source: Transport Department, Government of Puducherry.

3.1 Vehicle Registration

Total vehicles registered increased from 43,323 in 2021-22 to 77,576 in 2025-26. Two-wheelers dominate the registration profile, with 60,649 registrations in 2025-26, followed by cars/LMVs with 14,897. This confirms the household-oriented and urban-mobility character of transport demand in Puducherry.

Figure 5: Vehicles registered by type, 2025-26

Source: Transport Department, Government of Puducherry.

Figure 6: Total vehicle registrations

Source: Transport Department, Government of Puducherry.

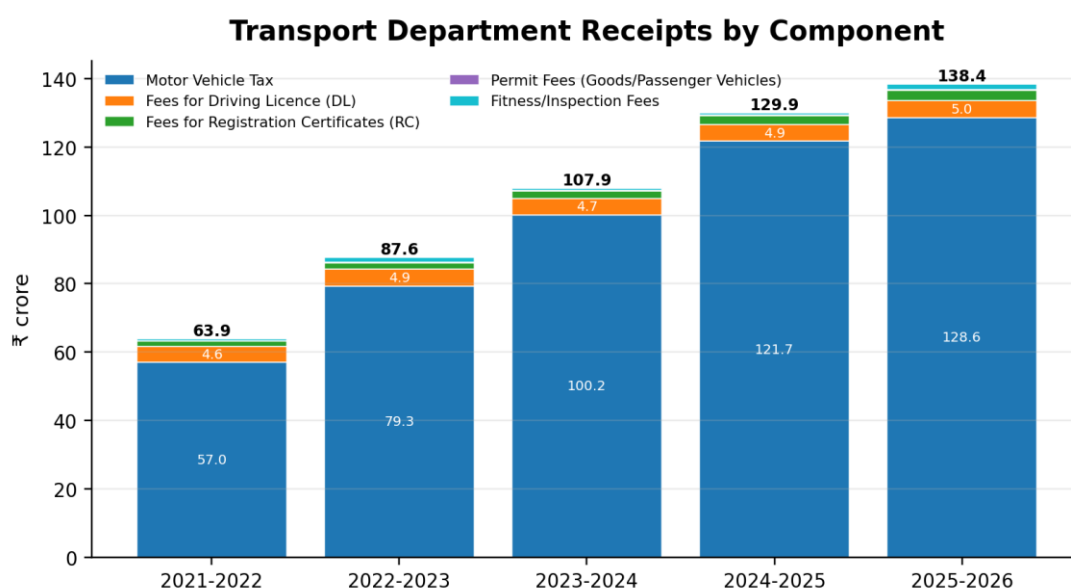
Table 5: Vehicle registrations by type

Type of vehicle	Unit	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Two Wheelers	Number	35,387	40,662	46,096	51,099	60,649
Cars/LMVs	Number	7,445	9,508	11,522	13,915	14,897
Goods Vehicles	Number	355	441	442	444	679
Passenger Vehicles (Bus, Van)	Number	14	86	280	350	473
Auto-rickshaws	Number	94	127	241	455	727
Tractor/Construction	Number	NIL	2	13	74	111
Others	Number	28	38	38	43	40
Total	Number	43,323	50,864	58,632	66,380	77,576

Source: Transport Department, Government of Puducherry.

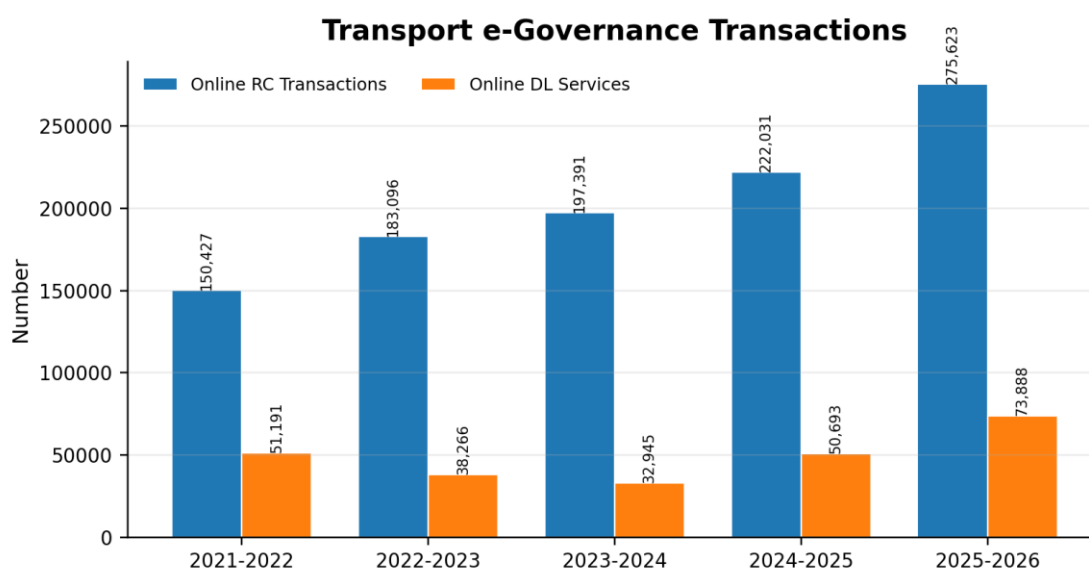
3.2 Departmental Receipts and Digital Service Delivery

Motor vehicle tax remained the largest reported component of Transport Department receipts. It increased from ₹56.97 crore in 2021-22 to ₹128.57 crore in 2025-26. Reported receipts from registration certificate fees, driving licence fees, permit fees and fitness/inspection fees also indicate the service-linked revenue base of the department.

Figure 7: Transport Department receipts by component

Source: Transport Department, Government of Puducherry. Note: Totals shown in the chart are computed from reported numeric receipt components.

Transport e-governance indicators show a clear shift towards online service delivery. Online RC transactions increased from 150,427 in 2021-22 to 275,623 in 2025-26. Online DL services, after declining in the middle years, reached 73,888 in 2025-26. This expansion has administrative significance because it reduces physical interface, improves service traceability and supports faster service delivery.

Figure 8: Transport e-governance transactions

Source: Transport Department, Government of Puducherry.

Table 6: Transport Department receipts

Revenue component	Unit	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Motor Vehicle Tax	₹ crore	56.97	79.26	100.19	121.68	128.57
Fees for Driving Licence (DL)	₹ crore	4.65	4.95	4.68	4.89	5.00
Fees for Registration Certificates (RC)	₹ crore	1.59	1.87	2.24	2.55	2.95
Permit Fees (Goods/Passenger Vehicles)	₹ crore	0.11	0.15	0.18	0.20	0.27
Fitness/Inspection Fees	₹ crore	0.55	1.41	0.57	0.58	1.58
Total reported receipt components	₹ crore	63.87	87.64	107.86	129.90	138.37

Source: Transport Department, Government of Puducherry. Note: Rupee values converted to ₹ crore;

4. Railways, Civil Aviation and Port Infrastructure

Railways, civil aviation and ports constitute the external connectivity layer of the infrastructure system of the Union Territory. In a compact but regionally dispersed territory such as Puducherry, these facilities perform roles that go beyond physical movement. They connect the capital region, Karaikal and Mahe with wider passenger, tourism, administrative and cargo networks, while also supporting resilience, market access and regional integration. The following assessment is based exclusively on Government and other official institutional sources relating to Railways, Civil Aviation and Ports, including information from the Port Department and Karaikal Port.

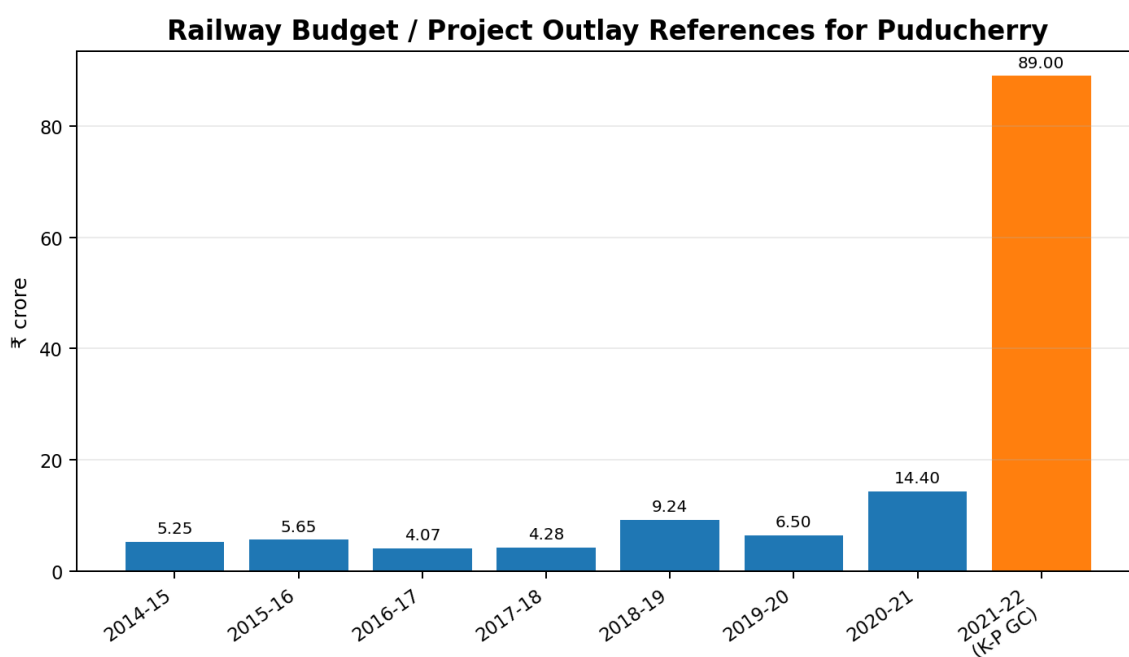
4.1 Railways

Rail infrastructure in Puducherry has historic and functional significance. The Ministry of Railways booklet for Puducherry records the Puducherry railway line as one of the oldest rail links in India, constructed in 1879. It also identifies Puducherry, Karaikal and Mahe as the three major railway stations covered by the Union Territory. Puducherry Railway Station and Karaikal Railway Station fall under the Tiruchchirappalli Division of Southern Railway, while Mahe Railway Station falls under Palakkad Division. This distribution reflects the geographically discontinuous nature of the Union Territory, where railway access is embedded in the operating systems of neighbouring States but serves Puducherry-specific mobility requirements.

The railway system is relevant to the economy of Puducherry mainly through affordable inter-State passenger movement, tourism-related access and regional linkage. Puducherry Railway Station is especially important because of its proximity to major tourist and administrative locations in the capital region, including the beach-front, Secretariat area and other urban attractions. In Karaikal, rail connectivity has relevance for passenger movement and for integration with the broader transport and logistics network of the Cauvery delta and port-linked hinterland.

Official railway material reports that a total budget outlay of Rs.49.39 crore was invested on the rail network in Puducherry during 2014-21. The same source records the Karaikal-Peralam gauge conversion project of 23 km and states that Rs.89 crore was allotted in Budget 2021-22. The project cost is also indicated at Rs.177.69 crore in the infrastructure-thrust section of the booklet. Since the booklet itself notes that project budgets are not apportioned State-wise, these figures are used in this chapter as project and network investment references, and not as a complete State-wise expenditure series.

Figure 9: Railway budget and project outlay references



Source: Ministry of Railways, *New Railways New Puducherry*, 2014-2021. Note: The 2021-22 figure relates to Karaikal-Peralam gauge conversion project allocation; project budgets are not apportioned State-wise as noted in the source.

Table 7: Railway infrastructure and investment references

Indicator	Unit	Value / description
Major railway stations in U.T.	Number	3 - Puducherry, Karaikal and Mahe
Puducherry station administrative division	Text	Tiruchchirappalli Division, Southern Railway
Karaikal station administrative division	Text	Tiruchchirappalli Division, Southern Railway
Mahe station administrative division	Text	Palakkad Division, Southern Railway
Railway line heritage reference	Year	Puducherry railway line constructed in 1879
Total budget outlay on rail network	Rs. crore, 2014-21	49.39
Karaikal-Peralam gauge conversion	Km / Rs. crore	23 km / project cost 177.69
Electrified railway track during 2014-20	Route km	13.82
Electrification completion	Per cent / year	100 per cent completed in 2019-20

Source: Ministry of Railways; Southern Railway.

The infrastructure thrust in railways is visible in electrification, road over bridges, level-crossing elimination and station amenities. The official booklet records that 13.82 route kilometres of railway tracks in Puducherry were electrified during 2014-20 and that 100 per cent electrification was completed in 2019-20. The completed electrification works include the Mahe section of 3.69 km and the Nagore-Karaikal section of 10.13 km. The source also records two road over bridges provided since 2014, closure of two unmanned level-crossing gates, complete elimination of unmanned level crossings in March 2015 and elimination of one manned level-crossing gate since 2014. These works are important not only for railway operations but also for road safety and uninterrupted road movement in built-up areas.

Passenger amenities have also received attention. The Ministry of Railways booklet reports that ₹2.91 crore was spent on passenger amenities during 2014–21. Works completed at Puducherry included new platform shelters on platforms 1 and 2, extension of platforms 3 and 4, construction and extension of foot over bridges, construction of compound wall along the front periphery of the station and toilets with facilities for Divyangjan passengers. At Mahe, the works included a new pay-and-use toilet complex, repairs to the pond, parking and circulating areas and compound wall at platforms 1 and 2. At Villiyannur, a new station building was constructed.

Developmental works in progress were reported at a cost of Rs.6 crore. In Puducherry, these included provision of escalators, Wi-Fi facilities, extension of platform 3 with overhead equipment modification and provision of a new platform 4. In Karaikal, the reported works included improvement to the station building with platform shelter for six bays, provision of borewell, AC retiring room and augmentation of water supply. These works improve station usability and directly influence passenger comfort, accessibility and service quality.

The redevelopment of Puducherry Railway Station adds a further urban-infrastructure dimension to railway development. Southern Railway reported that the redevelopment work was awarded as an EPC contract at a cost of Rs.93 crore, with a 24-month time frame for completion, and that project management services were entrusted at a cost of Rs.4.06 crore. The redevelopment package covers facilities such as new operation building, parcel office, TTE rest room, driver rest room, officer rest house, substation and underground sump. Once completed, such station redevelopment can improve passenger circulation, waiting-space quality, accessibility and the interface between the railway station and the urban mobility system.

Digital and environmental initiatives further strengthen the quality of railway infrastructure. The official booklet records high-speed free Wi-Fi network access at two stations, seven POS machines at PRS counters in Puducherry and Karaikal, on-board housekeeping services in two popular trains and ISO 14001 certification for Puducherry Railway Station. The green initiatives include vertical gardens at Puducherry, installation of a plastic bottle crushing machine and 100 per cent LED lighting at Puducherry, Karaikal and Mahe. These indicators show that infrastructure improvement is not confined to track or station buildings; it also extends to passenger interface, energy efficiency, cleanliness and environmental management.

Table 8: Railway passenger amenities, digital and safety-related infrastructure

Indicator	Unit	Value / description
Passenger amenities expenditure	Rs. crore	₹2.91 crore spent during 2014–21.
Developmental works reported as in progress in the 2014–21 Ministry of Railways booklet	Rs. crore	6.00
Puducherry station redevelopment	Rs. crore	93.00 EPC contract cost
Project management services for redevelopment	Rs. crore	4.06
High-speed free Wi-Fi	Number of stations	2
POS machines at PRS counters	Number	7 in Puducherry and Karaikal
Road over bridges provided since 2014	Number	2
Unmanned level crossing gates closed since 2014	Number	2
LED lighting	Coverage	100 per cent at Puducherry, Karaikal and Mahe

Source: Ministry of Railways, *New Railways New Puducherry, 2014-2021*; Southern Railway Press Release No.404/2023-24 dated 25-08-2023.

4.2 Civil Aviation

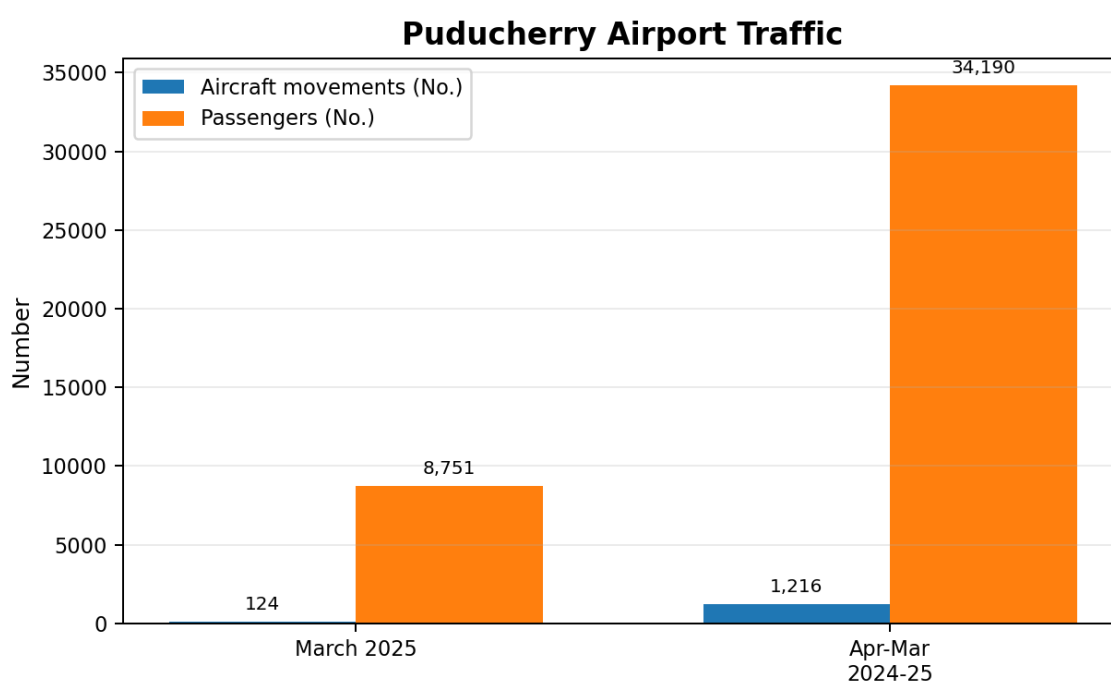
Puducherry Airport represents the civil aviation infrastructure base of the Union Territory. The official Aeronautical Information Publication identifies the airport as VOPC - Puducherry Airport, with the aerodrome reference point located at 11°58'02"N and 79°48'41"E. The aerodrome is situated about 4 km north-east of Puducherry city and is operated by the Airports Authority of India. The aerodrome elevation is reported as 141 feet.

These facts establish the facility as a recognised airport in the national aeronautical information system rather than merely a local transport asset.

The Colour Coded Zoning Map of Puducherry Airport, issued by the Airports Authority of India, provides the official runway and regulated-zoning details of the airport. The map shows runway 07/25 and indicates a runway dimension of 1502 x 45 metres, along with a proposed runway extension reference. The importance of such airport mapping lies in land-use compatibility and obstacle control. For a growing urban region such as Puducherry, airport infrastructure cannot be considered only in terms of passenger traffic; it also requires protection of approach surfaces, height restrictions, compatible development around the aerodrome and coordination between planning authorities and aviation authorities.

Operationally, the aviation role of Puducherry is modest but significant. The AAI traffic annexure records Puducherry separately in the State/Union Territory traffic statement. During March 2025, Puducherry recorded 124 aircraft movements and 8,751 passengers. For April-March 2024-25, the corresponding figures were 1,216 aircraft movements and 34,190 passengers, with freight reported as 0.0 MT. The passenger figures should therefore be interpreted as a connectivity indicator rather than as evidence of large-scale air-cargo activity.

Figure 10: Puducherry airport traffic



Source: Airports Authority of India, Traffic Annexure. Note: March 2025 and April-March 2024-25 are different reporting periods and are shown separately.

Table 9: Civil aviation infrastructure and traffic indicators

Indicator	Unit	Value / description
Aerodrome name / code	Text	VOPC - Puducherry Airport
Operator	Text	Airports Authority of India
Distance from city centre	Km	About 4 km north-east of Puducherry city
Aerodrome elevation	Feet	141
Runway orientation	Text	07/25
Runway dimension shown in CCZM	Metre	1502 x 45
Aircraft movements	Number, March 2025	124
Passengers handled	Number, March 2025	8,751
Aircraft movements	Number, April-March 2024-25	1,216
Passengers handled	Number, April-March 2024-25	34,190
Freight handled	MT, April-March 2024-25	0.0

Source: Airports Authority of India/eAIP; Airports Authority of India Traffic Annexure; Puducherry Planning Authority airport map issued by AAI.

From a policy perspective, the airport has strategic relevance for tourism, medical access, official travel and regional business connectivity. However, the low freight figure and the limited scale of aircraft movements indicate that the airport should presently be treated as a passenger-connectivity and regional-access facility rather than as a major freight node. Any future expansion of services would require sustained airline operations, demand aggregation, last-mile connectivity and coordinated land-use planning around the airport.

4.3 Ports

Puducherry's coastal location gives port infrastructure a continuing role in the long-term economic and logistics profile of the Union Territory. Official information from the Port Department describes Puducherry Port as a minor port on the east coast of India, situated between Chennai and Tuticorin. It functions as an open roadstead anchorage port suitable for lighterage operations during fair weather months from February to September. The source records its position at 11°56' N and 79°50' E and places it about 170 km south of Chennai. Even where present cargo scale is limited, the port remains relevant for coastal infrastructure, fisheries-linked activity, dredging, harbour management and waterfront planning.

Official information relating to Karaikal Port describes the facility as an all-weather, deep-water, multi-commodity port developed under BOT basis by the Government of Puducherry. The port has five operational berths and an overall cargo-handling capacity of 21.5 MTPA, while Phase III is envisaged to increase the facility to nine berths and 47 MMTPA. Its connectivity through national highways and railway sidings gives it significance for the wider hinterland of central Tamil Nadu and Puducherry.

Table 10: Port infrastructure - selected indicators

Indicator	Unit	Value / description
Puducherry Port location	Text	East Coast of India; about 170 km south of Chennai
Puducherry Port coordinates	Latitude/Longitude	11°56' N / 79°50' E
Operating character	Text	Open roadstead anchorage port
Fair weather operating months	Months	February to September
Maximum tidal height	Metre	1.30
Karaikal Port character	Text	All-weather deep-water multi-commodity port
Karaikal Port Phase I & II berths/capacity	Number / MTPA	The port has 5 operational berths and an overall cargo-handling capacity of 21.5 MTPA.
Karaikal Port Phase III envisaged berths/capacity	Number / MTPA	The port has 9 operational berths and an overall cargo-handling capacity of 47 MTPA.

Source: Port Department, Government of Puducherry; Karaikal Port official information.

5. Analytical Assessment and Policy Relevance

The evidence points to three broad infrastructure messages. First, electricity infrastructure and power supply continue to expand in response to rising peak demand and connected load. The moderate improvement in reported T&D loss in 2025-26 is encouraging, but sustained loss reduction and demand-side efficiency remain central to cost management.

Second, transport infrastructure has a clear service-delivery dimension. Vehicle registration growth, departmental receipts and online transactions show that mobility demand and digital interface with citizens are both increasing. This requires continued strengthening of transport offices, pollution testing arrangements, digital service capacity and road-safety enforcement data systems.

Third, the inclusion of rail, air and port infrastructure locates Puducherry within a wider multimodal connectivity framework. Railways support affordable inter-State movement and tourism-linked access, the airport provides regional passenger connectivity and the ports offer coastal and logistics potential. The revised rail and airport discussion is based on Government and official sources only. Detailed annual operational series such as railway passenger footfall, passenger earnings and airport route-wise performance may be incorporated in future after receipt of department-certified data from the concerned agencies.

ANNEXURE TABLES

Annexure 1: Electricity infrastructure and connections

Sl. No.	Item	Unit	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
1	H.T. Lines	Km	1,380.775	1,394.740	1,414.030	2,427.000	2,458.122
2	L.T. Lines	Km	4,955.639	5,015.950	5,112.960	3,839.050	3,925.590
3	Transformers	Number	3,123	3,332	3,403	3,451	3,532
4	Domestic connections - Light, fan and small power	Number	3,76,518	3,79,088	3,91,883	3,94,738	3,99,533
5	Domestic connections - Hut services	Number	8,808	2,528	2,528	2,528	2,528
6	Commercial connections	Number	61,242	59,005	60,868	62,203	63,937
7	Agricultural connections	Number	7,102	7,109	7,300	7,420	7,514
8	Street lights	Number	51,368	51,844	58,176	59,006	60,660

Source: Electricity Department, Government of Puducherry.

Annexure 2: Electricity purchased, sold and consumption by category

Item	Unit	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Electricity purchased	MU	3,129.47	3,263.91	3,474.71	3,540.24	3,854.39
Electricity sold	MU	2,782.63	2,908.15	3,104.10	3,128.05	3,468.58
Domestic heat, small power, light and fans	MU	803.76	780.40	856.54	848.37	1,018.87
Hut Services	MU	3.62	1.59	2.26	4.77	2.21
Commercial light and fans	MU	174.45	206.64	236.90	244.70	269.81
Industrial Low and Medium voltage with Public water works & Sewage pumping	MU	170.07	164.92	179.87	174.58	180.74
Industrial high voltage and Extra High Voltage and other HT	MU	1,546.87	630.59	1,744.54	1,768.99	1,901.92
Public lighting	MU	19.95	18.23	21.00	23.17	26.14
Irrigation	MU	60.06	59.34	59.24	59.91	63.72
Temporary supply	MU	3.85	2.78	3.78	3.56	3.26
Unscheduled interchange sale of power	MU	117.70	149.74	132.62	114.12	87.15

Source: Electricity Department, Government of Puducherry.

Annexure 3: Power supply overview

Indicator	Unit	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Total connected load	KW/KVA	1,576,052	1,417,640	2,506,424	2,514,053	2,584,842
Peak demand	MW	507.99	519.64	534.59	550.38	565.12
Energy requirement	MU	3,129.47	3,263.91	3,474.71	3,540.24	3,854.39
Energy supplied	MU	2,782.63	2,908.15	3,104.10	3,128.05	3,468.58
T&D loss	Per cent	11.08	10.90	10.66	11.64	10.00

Source: Electricity Department, Government of Puducherry.

Annexure 4: Electricity consumer profile

Category	Unit	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Domestic	Number	376,518	379,088	391,883	394,738	399,533
Commercial	Number	61,242	59,005	60,868	62,203	63,937
Industrial(LT/HT)	Number	7,401	4,876	4,957	4,968	5,138
Agriculture	Number	7,102	7,109	7,300	7,420	7,514
Others	Number	103,631	54,444	60,778	62,101	70,660
Total Consumers	Number	555,894	504,522	525,786	531,430	546,782

Source: Electricity Department, Government of Puducherry.

Annexure 5: Electricity revenue and expenditure summary

Item	Unit	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Revenue Billed	₹ crore	1,335.95	1,569.05	1,715.46	1,862.23	2,364.89
Revenue Collected	₹ crore	2,002.02	1,747.31	2,278.67	2,347.44	2,676.45
Collection Efficiency (%)	Per cent	149.86	111.36	132.83	126.06	113.17
Power Purchase Cost	₹ crore	1,366.83	1,418.99	1,480.59	1,733.30	2,143.13
Operation and Maintenance Cost	₹ crore	142.28	139.06	162.08	151.27	151.61
Capital Expenditure	₹ crore	217.18	85.00	99.11	160.16	85.00
Non-Revenue Collection Details /Non tariff income	₹ crore	5.19	3.91	39.94	28.46	8.89

Source: Electricity Department, Government of Puducherry.

Annexure 6: Transport Department staff strength

Category of post	Sanctioned posts (Number)	Posts in position (Number)	Vacant posts (Number)	2021-22 vacant (Number)	2022-23 vacant (Number)	2023-24 vacant (Number)	2024-25 vacant (Number)	2025-26 vacant (Number)
Group -A	1	1	-	-NIL-	—	—	—	—
Group -B (G)	8	8	-	-NIL-	—	—	—	—
Group- B (NG)	29	18	11	3	1	1	6	-
Group -C	45	30	15	4	5	1	5	-
Group -D	-	-	-	-NIL-	—	—	—	—
Total	83	57	26	7	6	2	11	—

Source: Transport Department, Government of Puducherry.

Annexure 7: Transport Department receipts

Revenue component	Unit	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Motor Vehicle Tax	₹ crore	56.97	79.26	100.19	121.68	128.57
Fees for Driving Licence (DL)	₹ crore	4.65	4.95	4.68	4.89	5.00
Fees for Registration Certificates (RC)	₹ crore	1.59	1.87	2.24	2.55	2.95
Permit Fees (Goods/Passenger Vehicles)	₹ crore	0.11	0.15	0.18	0.20	0.27
Fitness/Inspection Fees	₹ crore	0.55	1.41	0.57	0.58	1.58

Source: Transport Department, Government of Puducherry. Note: Rupee values converted to ₹ crore.

Annexure 8: Transport service delivery metrics

Indicator	Unit	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Driving Licences Issued (Fresh)	Number	16,948	15,505	16,178	15,571	15,700
Driving Licences Renewed	Number	18,631	18,932	15,896	26,539	37,682
Registration Certificates Issued	Number	43,395	50,953	58,924	66,390	10,073
Fitness Certificates Issued	Number	988	1,188	1,485	4,212	10,073
Permits Issued (Goods Vehicles)	Number	86	84	90	135	199
Permits Issued (Passenger Vehicles)	Number	194	637	1,200	1,340	1,355
RC Transfer of Ownership	Number	12,358	14,752	14,285	15,230	14,049
Change of Address	Number	190	222	224	354	366
Duplicate RC	Number	1,152	1,292	1,310	1,543	1,421
NOC Issued	Number	797	942	898	993	1,365

Source: Transport Department, Government of Puducherry.

Annexure 9: Vehicles registered by type

Type of vehicle	Unit	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Two Wheelers	Number	35,387	40,662	46,096	51,099	60,649
Cars/LMVs	Number	7,445	9,508	11,522	13,915	14,897
Goods Vehicles	Number	355	441	442	444	679
Passenger Vehicles (Bus, Van)	Number	14	86	280	350	473
Auto-rickshaws	Number	94	127	241	455	727
Tractor/Construction	Number	NIL	2	13	74	111
Others	Number	28	38	38	43	40
Total	Number	43,323	50,864	58,632	66,380	77,576

Source: Transport Department, Government of Puducherry.

Annexure 10: Transport e-governance indicators

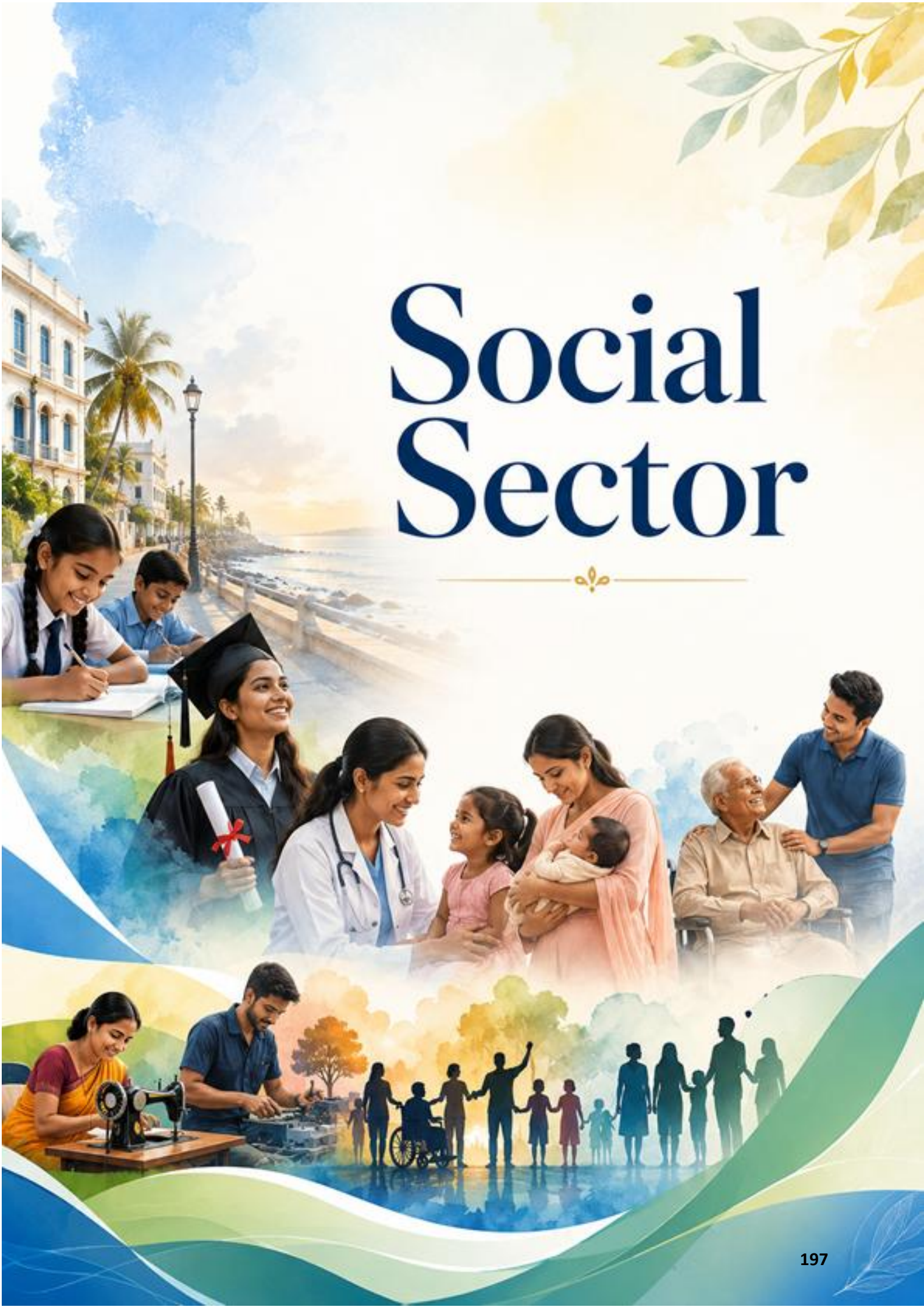
e-Service	Unit	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Online RC Transactions	Number	150,427	183,096	197,391	222,031	275,623
Online DL Services	Number	51,191	38,266	32,945	50,693	73,888

Source: Transport Department, Government of Puducherry.

Annexure 11: Railways, civil aviation and ports - selected official source facts

Sector	Indicator	Unit	Value / details
Railways	Major railway stations in U.T.	Number / text	3 - Puducherry, Karaikal and Mahe
Railways	Puducherry station	Division	Tiruchchirappalli Division, Southern Railway
Railways	Karaikal station	Division	Tiruchchirappalli Division, Southern Railway
Railways	Mahe station	Division	Palakkad Division, Southern Railway
Railways	Rail network budget outlay	Rs. crore, 2014-21	49.39
Railways	Karaikal-Peralam gauge conversion	Km / Rs. crore	23 km / 177.69
Railways	Electrified railway track	Route km, 2014-20	13.82
Railways	Passenger amenities expenditure	Rs. crore	2.91
Railways	Puducherry station redevelopment	Rs. crore	93.00
Civil aviation	Aerodrome name / code	Text	VOPC - Puducherry Airport
Civil aviation	Operator	Text	Airports Authority of India
Civil aviation	Distance from city	Km	About 4 km north-east of Puducherry city
Civil aviation	Runway orientation / dimension shown in CCZM	Text / metre	07/25; 1502 x 45 m
Civil aviation	Aircraft movements	Number, March 2025	124
Civil aviation	Passengers	Number, March 2025	8,751
Civil aviation	Aircraft movements	Number, Apr-Mar 2024-25	1,216
Civil aviation	Passengers	Number, Apr-Mar 2024-25	34,190
Civil aviation	Freight	MT, Apr-Mar 2024-25	0.0
Puducherry Port	Location	Text	East Coast of India; about 170 km south of Chennai
Puducherry Port	Maximum tidal height	Metre	1.30
Karaikal Port	Phase I & II berths/capacity	Number / MMTPA	5 berths / 21 MMTPA
Karaikal Port	Phase III envisaged berths/capacity	Number / MMTPA	9 berths / 47 MMTPA

Source: Ministry of Railways; Southern Railway; Airports Authority of India/eAIP; Airports Authority of India Traffic Annexure; Puducherry Planning Authority airport map issued by AAI; Port Department, Government of Puducherry; Karaikal Port official information.



Social Sector

CHAPTER - 10

SOCIAL SECTOR

The social sector constitutes the capability foundation of the economy. In a compact and highly urbanised Union Territory such as Puducherry, education, public health, women and child development, social protection, minority and backward class welfare, and employment facilitation are not isolated administrative streams; together they determine the quality of human capital, the inclusiveness of growth and the resilience of households. The chapter therefore examines social outcomes not merely as departmental statistics, but as indicators of access, service intensity, institutional capacity and human development readiness.

The Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor, in the address to the Legislative Assembly, highlighted the sustained turnaround in the economy, with GSDP growth improving from (-) 2.21 per cent in 2020-21 to 8.12 per cent in 2025-26 (Provisional), supported by policy interventions, infrastructure investment and sectoral development initiatives. The social sector is the principal channel through which such growth is translated into durable human development outcomes. For Puducherry, the policy significance of social spending is therefore twofold: it protects vulnerable households in the short run and strengthens the capability base required for higher productivity in the long run.

The analysis in this chapter is based on departmental returns, official statistical publications and authorised source material. Figures for 2025-26 are treated as Provisional wherever the year is used. The National Accounts series referred to in the Economic Survey is on the base year 2011-12. After the proposed revision of the base year to 2022-23, values and indicators linked to economic aggregates may vary. Since most of the social sector tables are physical or administrative service indicators, they are not re-based; however, their interpretation may change where they are compared with economic aggregates.

A specific data treatment has been adopted for demographic indicators. Census 2011 population figures have been replaced by authorised projected population figures wherever a direct projected substitute is available. Indicators for which projected disaggregation is not available, such as rural and urban population, child sex ratio, Scheduled Caste population and household characteristics, have been retained on the Census 2011 basis and are explicitly identified as such. Blank, NIL and NA entries have not been used for ratios, growth rates or charted comparisons.

Note: For all tables in this chapter and Annexures, 2025-26 is Provisional wherever the year appears. National Accounts references are on the base year 2011-12 unless stated otherwise.

1. Demographic and socio-economic setting

Puducherry's social sector functions in a demographic setting marked by small geographical size, high density and a favourable sex composition. The projected population for 2026 is 1,757 thousand persons, consisting of 829 thousand males and 928 thousand females. The projected increase from 1,571 thousand persons in 2021 to 1,757 thousand persons in 2026 works out to 11.84 per cent. This has a direct implication for the sizing of schools, health facilities, Anganwadi centres, pension rolls, nutrition programmes and employment facilitation services.

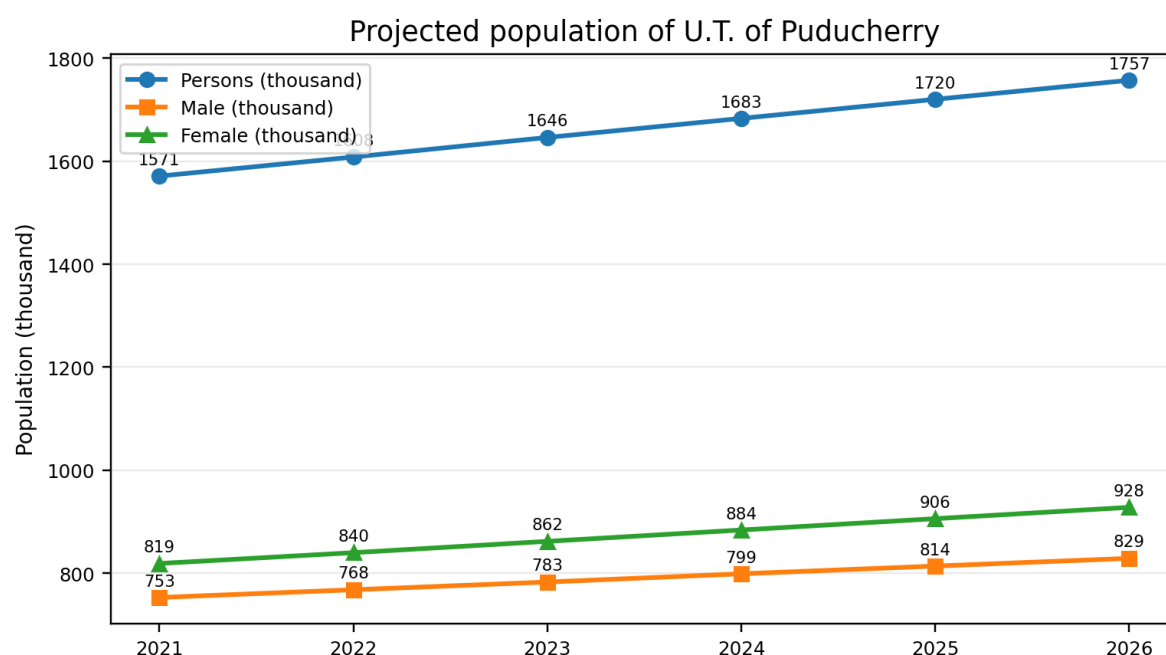
On the basis of the projected 2026 population and an area of 490 sq. km., the implied population density is about 3,586 persons per sq. km. The projected sex ratio is about 1,119 females per 1,000 males, indicating a demographic composition in which women-specific welfare, health and livelihood support programmes assume added importance. The latest literacy series available from PLFS places Puducherry at 94.7 per cent for persons aged 7 years and above, substantially above the all-India rate of 81.1 per cent in the same table.

Table 1. Selected demographic and socio-economic indicators of U.T. of Puducherry

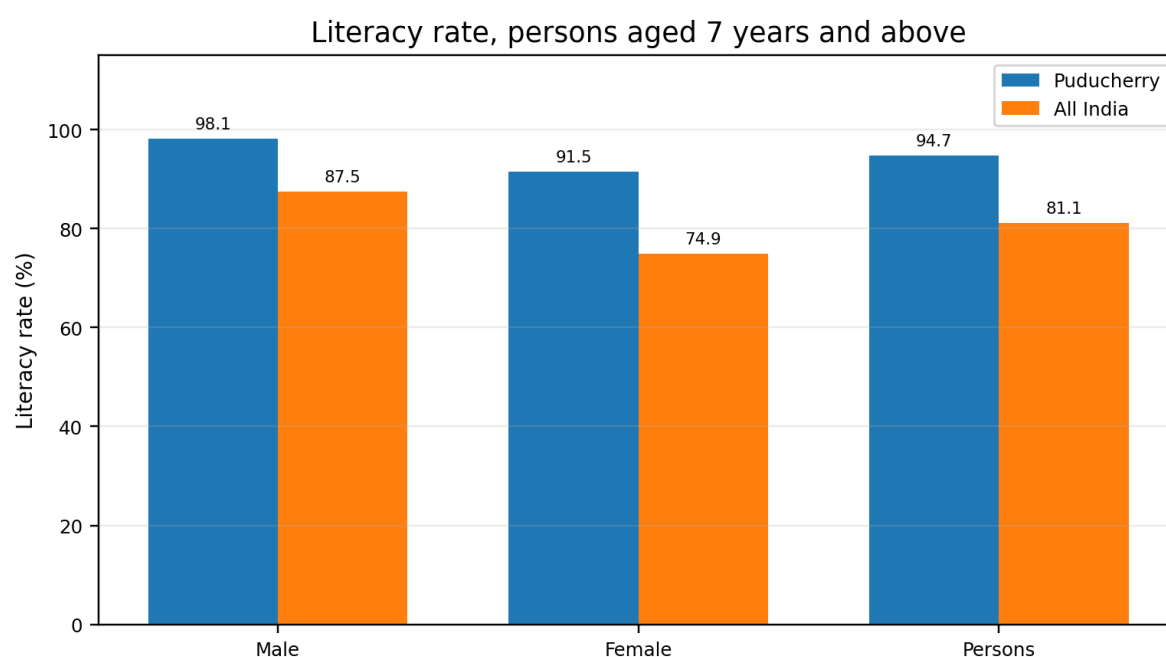
Indicator	Year / Basis	Unit	U.T. of Puducherry
Area	--	Sq. km.	490
Projected population	2026	Persons (thousand)	1,757
Projected male population	2026	Persons (thousand)	829
Projected female population	2026	Persons (thousand)	928
Projected population density	2026	Persons per sq. km.	3,586
Projected sex ratio	2026	Females per 1,000 males	1,119
Female share in projected population	2026	Percentage	52.82
Urban population	2011 Census	Persons (%)	852,753 (68.3)
Rural population	2011 Census	Persons (%)	395,200 (31.7)
Literacy rate - persons aged 7 years and above	PLFS, Table 7	Percentage	94.7
Literacy rate - male aged 7 years and above	PLFS, Table 7	Percentage	98.1
Literacy rate - female aged 7 years and above	PLFS, Table 7	Percentage	91.5
Child sex ratio (0-6 age group)	2011 Census	Female children per 1,000 male children	967
Scheduled Caste population	2011 Census	Persons (%)	196,325 (15.7)

Source: Area, rural/urban population, child sex ratio and Scheduled Caste population: Selected Socio-Economic Indicators / Census 2011; projected population: Technical Group on Population Projections, National Commission on Population, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare; literacy: Periodic Labour Force Survey 2025, MoSPI, Table 7.

Note: Projected population figures are in thousand. Rural/urban and other disaggregated demographic indicators are retained on the Census 2011 basis because authorised projected disaggregation is not available in the source series.

Figure 1. Projected population of U.T. of Puducherry

Source: Report of the Technical Group on Population Projections, National Commission on Population, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Population Projections for India and States 2011-2036.

Figure 2. Literacy rate of persons aged 7 years and above

Source: Periodic Labour Force Survey 2025, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, Table 7: Literacy rate of persons of different age groups for each State/UT.

The demographic inference is clear. Puducherry is no longer to be read only through the 2011 Census population count for current service planning. The projected 2026 population expands the denominator against which school participation, health resources, Anganwadi coverage, nutrition delivery and employment services must be interpreted. At the same time, the absence of projected rural-urban and social group disaggregation means that administrative datasets should continue to be read carefully wherever spatial or social-group targeting is involved.

2. Education: access, transition and human capital formation

Education remains Puducherry's most important long-term social investment. The school education series demonstrates the breadth of the institutional network and the large enrolment base, while higher education data show a strong post-secondary presence and a favourable female participation profile. The available data also point to an important planning issue: enrolment has declined in school education during the period, even as the teacher base and institutional network have improved. The policy question is therefore not simply one of expansion, but of consolidation, retention, quality enhancement and transition into higher education and skills.

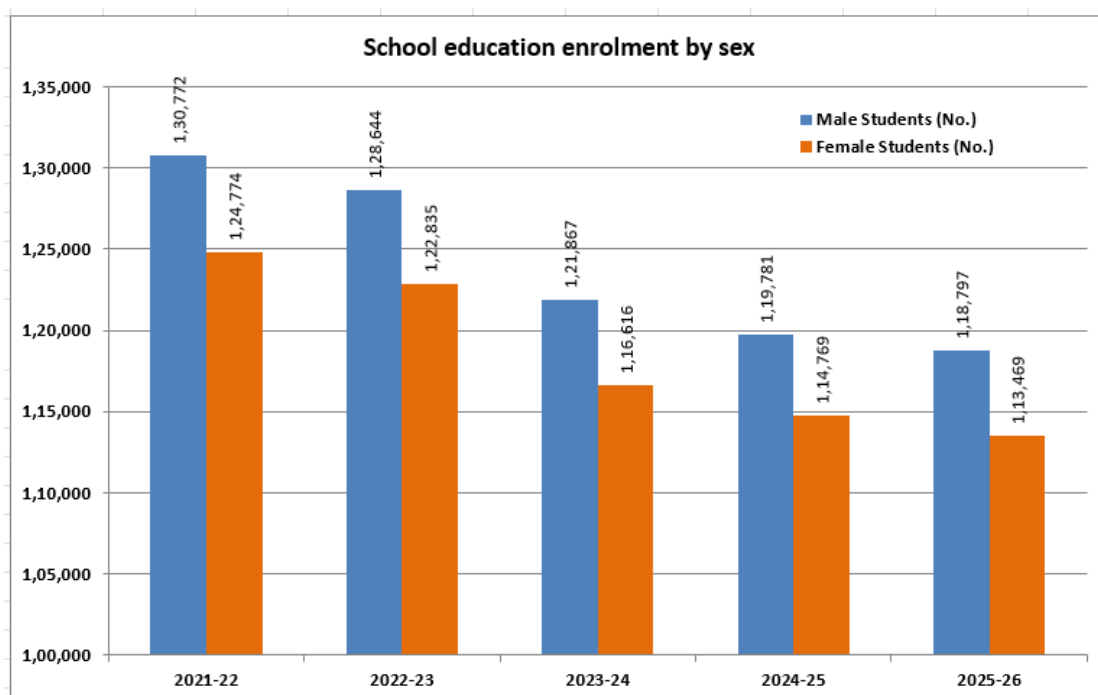
2.1 School education

The school system consisted of 762 institutions and 13,852 teachers in 2025-26 (Provisional), serving 232,266 students. Total student enrolment declined from 255,546 in 2021-22 to 232,266 in 2025-26, a reduction of 23,280 students or 9.11 per cent. The decline was spread across boys and girls, and the female share of enrolment remained stable at around 49 per cent. This stability suggests that the observed decline is not a gender-specific withdrawal from school education but a broader enrolment trend that requires interpretation alongside demographic change, private-public movement, migration and age-cohort effects.

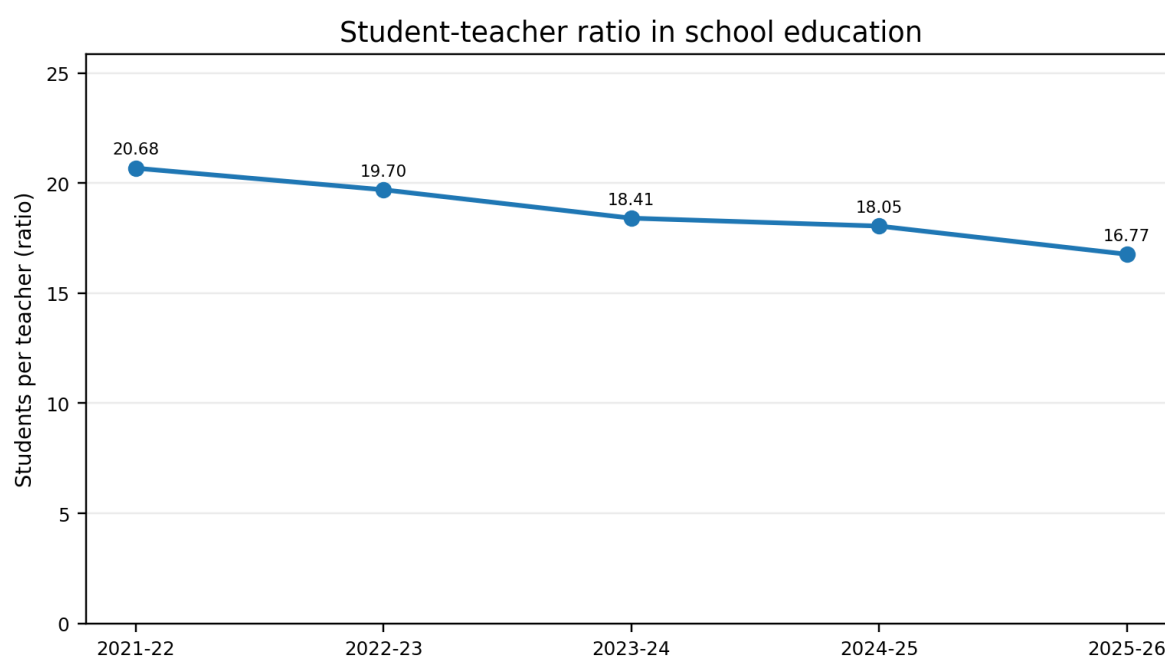
Table 2. School education: institutions, students and teachers

Year	Institutions (No.)	Students (No.)	Teachers (No.)	Students per Teacher (Ratio)
2021-22	736	255,546	12,355	20.68
2022-23	729	251,479	12,768	19.7
2023-24	727	238,483	12,956	18.41
2024-25	755	234,550	12,993	18.05
2025-26	762	232,266	13,852	16.77

Source: Department of School Education, Puducherry.

Figure 3. School education enrolment by sex

Source: Department of School Education, Puducherry.

Figure 4. Student-teacher ratio in school education

Source: Department of School Education, Puducherry. Ratio derived from total students and total teachers.

The student-teacher ratio improved from 20.68 in 2021-22 to 16.77 in 2025-26 (Provisional). This is a favourable capacity indicator, but it must be interpreted with care. A lower ratio improves the scope for classroom attention and learning support; however, if the ratio falls mainly because enrolment contracts, the system must also examine school utilisation, grade-wise retention and the balance between institutional spread and demographic demand. In a small and spatially compact Union Territory, rationalisation should aim at quality and access rather than numerical contraction alone.

Table 3. Category-wise school enrolment

Year	All Categories (No.)	Scheduled Caste (No.)	Scheduled Tribe (No.)	Other Backward Classes (No.)
2021-22	255,546	46,210	917	180,078
2022-23	251,479	44,837	1,170	185,090
2023-24	238,483	42,575	868	176,436
2024-25	234,550	42,144	837	172,032
2025-26	232,266	42,265	879	168,616

Source: Department of School Education, Puducherry.

Category-wise enrolment shows a large OBC student base and a sizeable Scheduled Caste enrolment. In 2025-26 (Provisional), Scheduled Caste students numbered 42,265 and Other Backward Classes students numbered 168,616. The continued presence of these groups in the school enrolment base underscores the importance of scholarships, transport support, hostels, counselling and learning reinforcement as instruments of social mobility.

Table 4. School education: GER and gender parity

Year	GER Both (%)	GER Male (%)	GER Female (%)	Gender Parity Index (Ratio)
2021-22	106.04	108.57	103.49	0.95
2022-23	99.6	97.99	101.33	1.03
2023-24	96.37	92.9	100.13	1.08
2024-25	96.27	91.97	101.13	1.1

Source: Department of School Education, Puducherry.

Note: The GER series is available up to 2024-25 in the source; 2025-26 is marked as not available and is not used for comparison.

The GER and GPI series point to a favourable gender position in school education. Female GER exceeded male GER during 2022-23 to 2024-25, and the Gender Parity Index was above one in these years. The policy challenge is therefore to convert enrolment equality into learning equality, smooth transition to higher classes and effective pathways into technical, vocational and higher education.

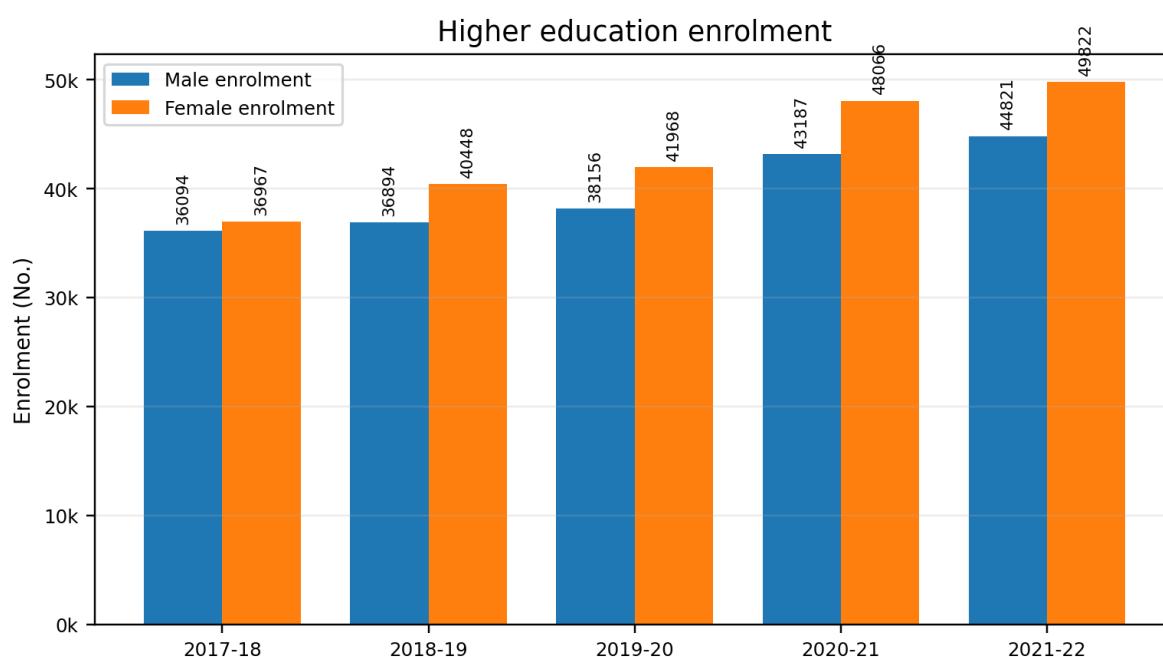
2.2 Higher education

Higher education in Puducherry shows a strong enrolment base relative to the size of the Union Territory. Based on the AISHE source series, total enrolment increased from 73,061 in 2017-18 to 94,643 in 2021-22, an increase of 21,582 students or 29.54 per cent. Female enrolment increased faster than male enrolment over this period and accounted for 52.64 per cent of total higher education enrolment in 2021-22.

Table 5. Higher education enrolment

Year	Male Enrolment (No.)	Female Enrolment (No.)	Total Enrolment (No.)	Female Share (%)
2017-18	36,094	36,967	73,061	50.6
2018-19	36,894	40,448	77,342	52.3
2019-20	38,156	41,968	80,124	52.38
2020-21	43,187	48,066	91,253	52.67
2021-22	44,821	49,822	94,643	52.64

Source: Report on All India Survey on Higher Education, Ministry of Education, Government of India.

Figure 5. Higher education enrolment

Source: Report on All India Survey on Higher Education, Ministry of Education, Government of India.

Table 6. Higher education GER and gender parity

Year	GER Both (%)	GER Male (%)	GER Female (%)	Gender Parity Index (Ratio)
2017-18	52.4	54.8	50.2	0.92
2018-19	54.1	54.5	53.7	0.99
2019-20	54.6	54.8	54.5	1.00
2020-21	60.8	60.3	61.1	1.01
2021-22	61.5	61.0	62.1	1.02

Source: AISHE Final Report 2021-22, Ministry of Education, Tables 47 and 48.

The higher education Gender Parity Index improved from 0.92 in 2017-18 to 1.02 in 2021-22, reaching parity in 2019-20 and moving above unity thereafter. The Gross Enrolment Ratio reached 61.5 per cent in 2021-22, indicating that Puducherry has a

relatively strong higher education footprint. The next stage of policy emphasis should be on course relevance, employability, industry linkage, research orientation and the transition from degree acquisition to productive employment.

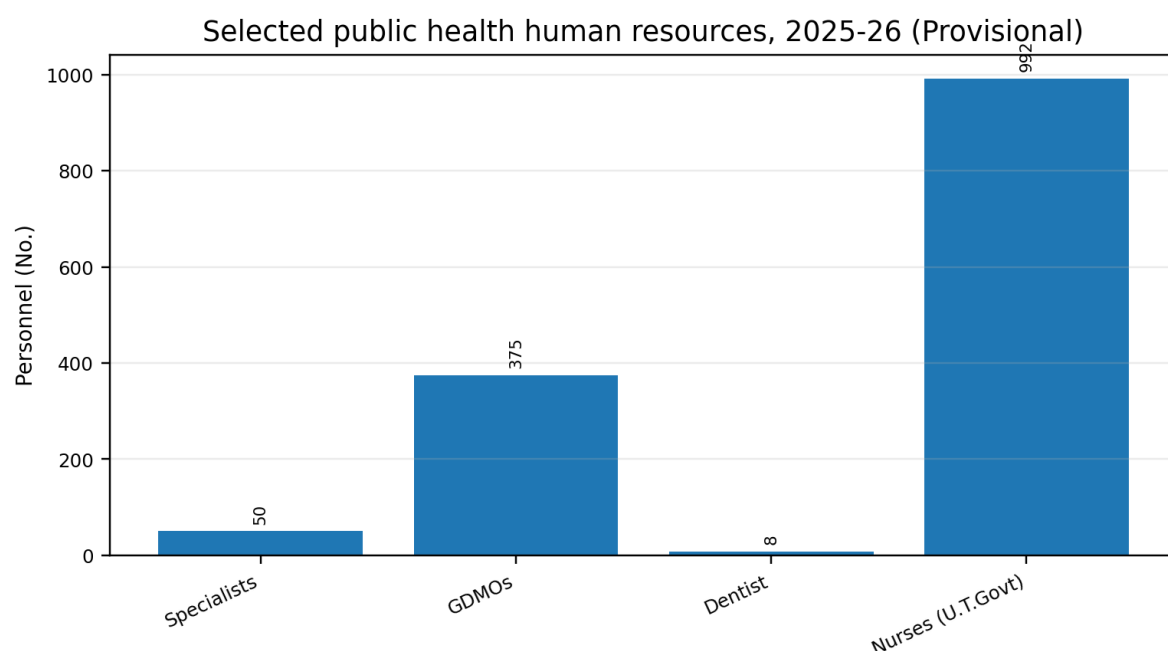
3. Health and vital statistics

Health indicators in the chapter are organised around two dimensions: institutional capacity and vital events. In a small Union Territory, proximity of services is a strength, but the demand placed on health infrastructure is shaped by projected population growth, the ageing of the population, maternal and child health needs, and the burden of non-communicable diseases. The Health Department series indicates continuity in core institutions, marginal expansion in primary-level facilities and mixed movement in human resources.

Table 7. Public health institutions and resources

Indicator	Unit	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Hospitals	Nos.	5	5	5	5	5
Medical College & Hospital	Nos.	1	1	2	2	2
Community Health Centre	Nos.	4	4	4	4	4
Primary Health Centre	Nos.	46	46	46	47	47
Sub Centres	Nos.	83	83	83	83	84
Hospital Beds (U.T. Govt.)	Nos.	700	700	700	700	700
JIPMER Beds	Nos.	2,210	2,210	2,210	2,210	2,210
Specialists	Nos.	79	95	67	59	50
GDMOs	Nos.	375	360	373	375	375
Nurses (U.T.Govt)	Nos.	1,012	949	1,094	1,062	992
Eligible couples protected	Nos.	139,737	145,360	149,121	149,366	147,338
Per-capita health expenditure	Rs.	5,235	4,697	4,538	5,358	5,478

Source: Health and Family Welfare Department, Puducherry.

Figure 6. Selected public health human resources, 2025-26 (Provisional)

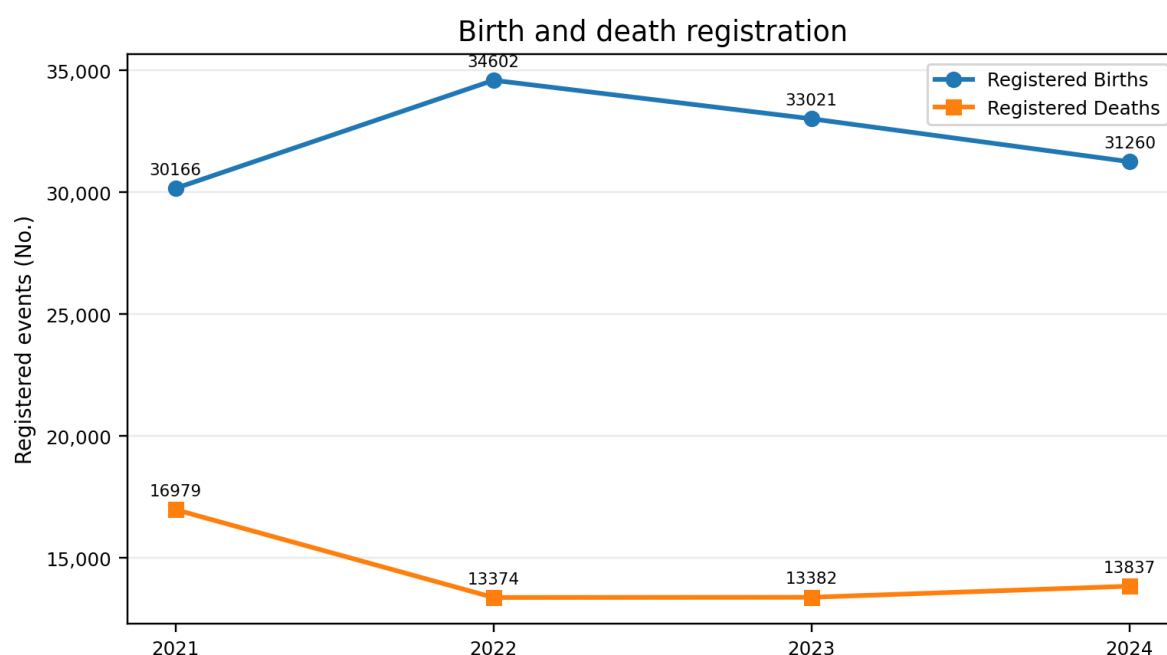
Source: Health and Family Welfare Department, Puducherry.

Primary Health Centres increased from 46 in 2021-22 to 47 in 2025-26 (Provisional), while sub-centres increased from 83 to 84. Per-capita expenditure on medical and health services rose from Rs. 5,235 to Rs. 5,478 over the same period. The specialist count declined from 79 to 50, while GDMOs remained at 375 in 2025-26. This pattern underlines the importance of human resource planning, especially for specialised services, even where institutional coverage is stable.

Table 8. Birth and death registration

Year	Registered Births (No.)	Registered Deaths (No.)	Delayed Registrations >30 days (No.)	Registration Centres (No.)
2021	30,166	16,979	1,372	15
2022	34,602	13,374	655	15
2023	33,021	13,382	1,112	15
2024	31,260	13,837	1,177	15

Source: Local Administration Department, Birth and Death Registration data, Puducherry.

Figure 7. Birth and death registration

Source: Local Administration Department, Birth and Death Registration data, Puducherry.

Registered births increased from 30,166 in 2021 to 34,602 in 2022 and then declined to 31,260 in 2024. Registered deaths were 16,979 in 2021 and 13,837 in 2024. The decline in delayed registrations after 2021 and the maintenance of 15 registration centres reflect an administrative system with high registration capacity. However, delayed registrations rose again in 2023 and 2024, indicating the need to continue phased digitisation, public awareness and local-body monitoring.

Table 9. Selected immunisation service volumes

Vaccine / Dose	2021-22 (No.)	2022-23 (No.)	2023-24 (No.)	2024-25 (No.)	2025-26 (No.)
BCG	31,645	31,466	30,392	30,870	28,469
Pentavalent-1	15,894	15,326	15,988	14,834	13,415
Pentavalent-3	14,854	13,661	15,267	13,982	12,116
MCV-1	14,678	13,661	15,265	13,983	12,114
OPV Booster	13,777	14,854	14,727	13,534	11,912
DPT 5 Years	13,632	12,033	14,609	14,205	11,763
TT 10 Years	12,801	14,960	15,852	15,635	14,111

Source: Health and Family Welfare Department, Puducherry.

Note: The immunisation figures are service-volume counts of children/women immunised and are not expressed as coverage rates against eligible population.

The immunisation series is best read as an administrative service-volume series rather than a coverage-rate series, because the eligible denominator is not part of the same source table. Counts for several infant vaccine doses are lower in 2025-26 (Provisional) than in earlier years, broadly consistent with the decline in young child cohorts and recorded births. Programme monitoring should therefore combine service counts with cohort denominators to assess actual coverage.

4. Women and Child Development: nutrition, care and protection

Women and child development is one of the most data-rich components of the social sector. The source series covers Anganwadi infrastructure, supplementary nutrition, POSHAN Tracker indicators, women welfare schemes, protection services and institutional care. The data indicate a stable Anganwadi network, strong digital monitoring gains and a broad welfare base for women, particularly widows and destitute women.

Table 10. ICDS and Anganwadi coverage

Year	Total AWCs (No.)	Operational AWCs (No.)	Beneficiaries 0-6 yrs (No.)	Pregnant Women (No.)	Lactating Mothers (No.)	AWC Workers (No.)	AWC Helpers (No.)
2021-22	855	855	28,457	4,187	5,251	855	855
2022-23	855	855	28,910	4,354	5,213	855	855
2023-24	855	855	27,970	3,759	4,540	685	751
2024-25	855	855	28,732	3,897	4,362	548	621
2025-26	855	855	26,932	3,973	4,238	568	701

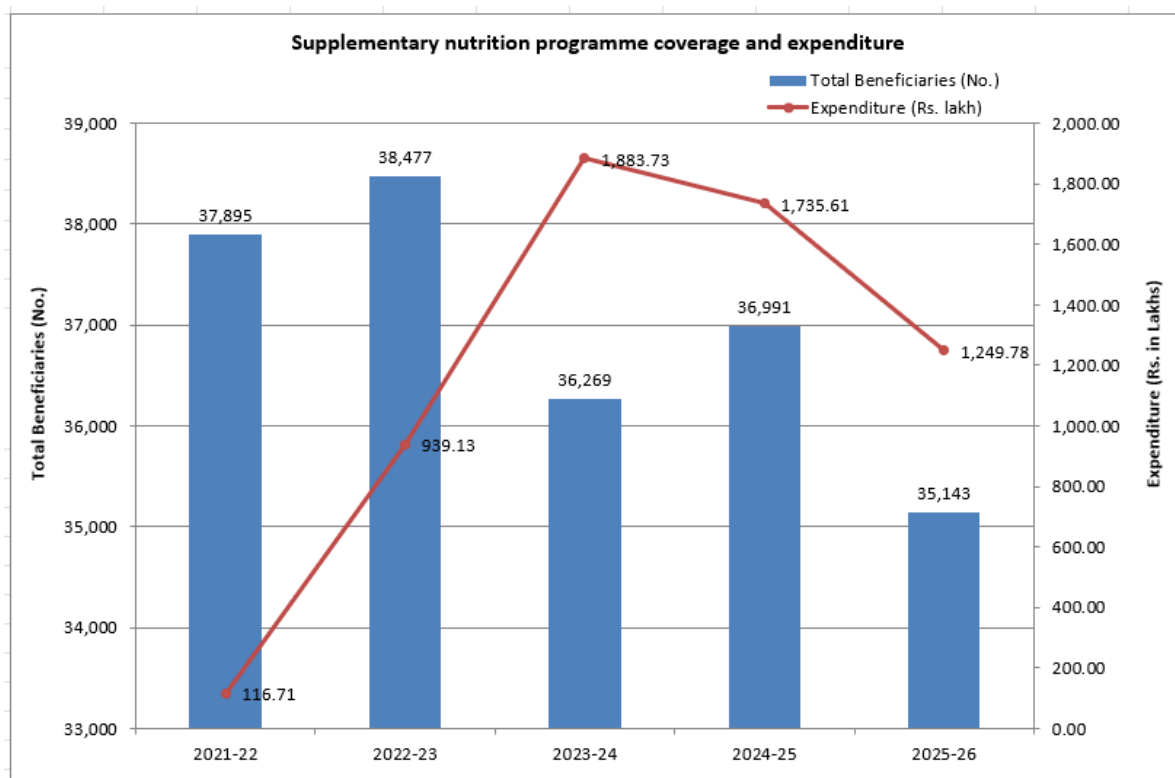
Source: Department of Women and Child Development, Puducherry.

The number of Anganwadi Centres remained unchanged at 855 throughout the period, with all centres operational. Beneficiaries in the 0-6 years age group stood at 26,932 in 2025-26 (Provisional). The stability of the physical network is an advantage for service delivery; however, the fall in child beneficiaries relative to earlier years calls for micro-level review of demographic trends, enrolment updating, migration and attendance records.

Table 11. Supplementary nutrition programme

Year	Children 0-6 yrs (No.)	Severely malnourished (No.)	Pregnant women (No.)	Lactating mothers (No.)	Total beneficiaries (No.)	Expenditure (Rs. lakh)
2021-22	28,457	53	4,187	5,251	37,895	116.71
2022-23	28,910	197	4,354	5,213	38,477	939.13
2023-24	27,970	844	3,759	4,540	36,269	1,883.73
2024-25	28,732	717	3,897	4,362	36,991	1,735.61
2025-26	26,932	550	3,973	4,238	35,143	1,249.78

Source: Department of Women and Child Development, Puducherry.

Figure 8. Supplementary nutrition programme coverage and expenditure

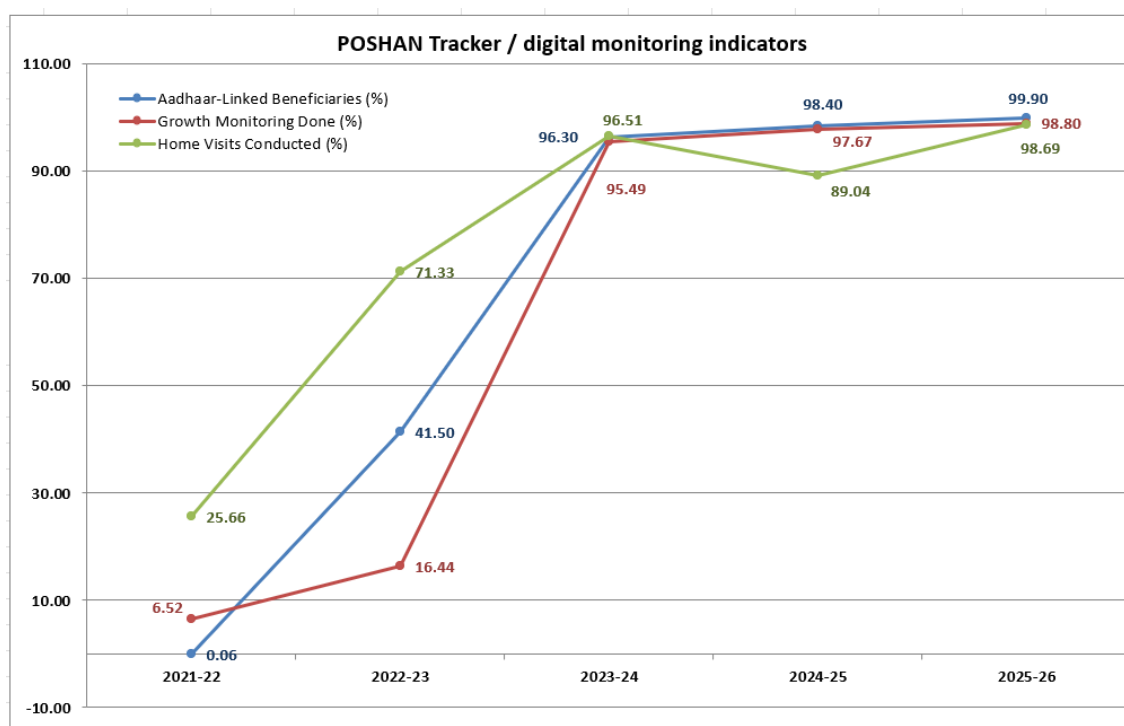
Source: Department of Women and Child Development, Puducherry. Expenditure converted from rupees to Rs. lakh.

Total supplementary nutrition beneficiaries were 37,895 in 2021-22 and 35,143 in 2025-26 (Provisional). Expenditure under the programme was Rs. 1,249.78 lakh in 2025-26. The rise and subsequent moderation in expenditure should be read against changes in beneficiary counts, input costs and programme norms. The presence of severely malnourished children in the series also reinforces the need for targeted growth monitoring rather than only aggregate beneficiary accounting.

Table 12. POSHAN Tracker / digital monitoring indicators

Year	AWCs Digitally Tracking (No.)	Beneficiaries on Tracker App (No.)	Aadhaar-linked Beneficiaries (%)	Growth Monitoring Done (%)	Home Visits Conducted (%)
2021-22	60,045	60,045	0.06	6.52	25.66
2022-23	40,708	40,708	41.5	16.44	71.33
2023-24	37,728	37,728	96.3	95.49	96.51
2024-25	37,200	37,200	98.4	97.67	89.04
2025-26	37,727	37,727	99.9	98.8	98.69

Source: Department of Women and Child Development, Puducherry.

Figure 9. POSHAN Tracker / digital monitoring indicators

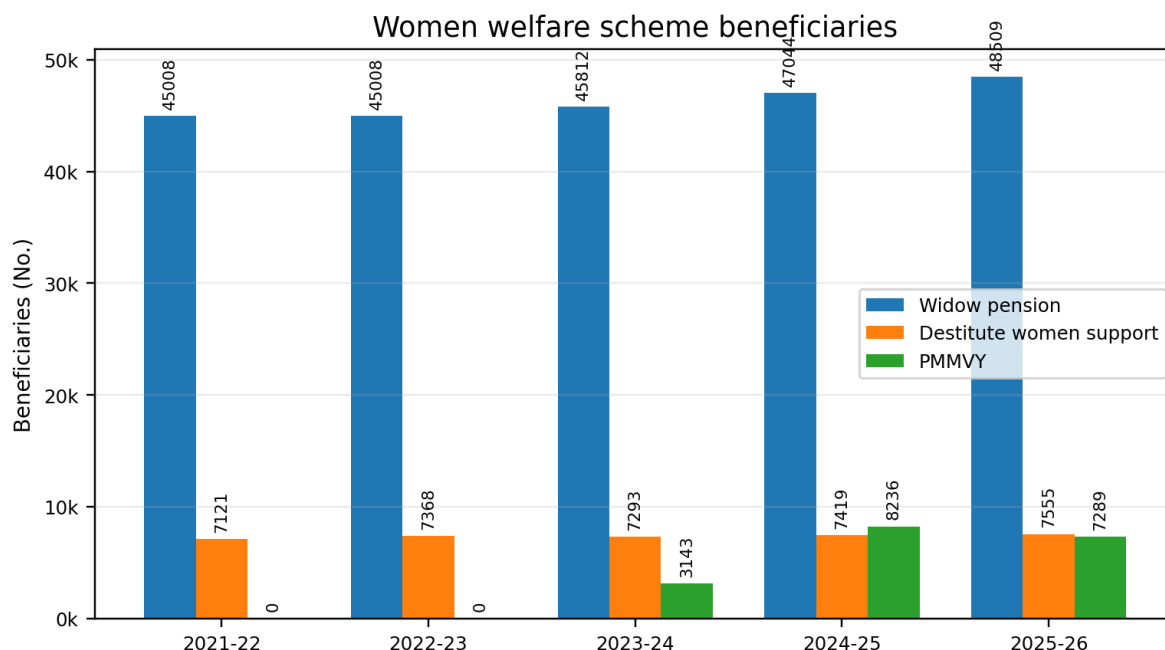
Source: Department of Women and Child Development, Puducherry.

The most striking improvement is in digital monitoring. Aadhaar-linked beneficiaries rose from 0.06 per cent in 2021-22 to 99.90 per cent in 2025-26 (Provisional), while growth monitoring increased from 6.52 per cent to 98.80 per cent. Home visits also improved to 98.69 per cent. This is a major administrative gain because it strengthens the ability to identify service gaps, track nutrition risk and undertake beneficiary-level follow-up.

Table 13. Women welfare scheme beneficiaries

Year	Widow pension (No.)	Destitute women (No.)	Marriage assistance (No.)	PMMVY (No.)	Skill training (No.)	Total women (No.)
2021-22	45,008	7,121	500	0	0	52,629
2022-23	45,008	7,368	2,216	0	78	54,670
2023-24	45,812	7,293	1,616	3,143	35	57,899
2024-25	47,044	7,419	1,217	8,236	31	63,947
2025-26	48,509	7,555	617	7,289	26	63,996

Source: Department of Women and Child Development, Puducherry.

Figure 10. Women welfare scheme beneficiaries

Source: Department of Women and Child Development, Puducherry.

Total women beneficiaries increased from 52,629 in 2021-22 to 63,996 in 2025-26 (Provisional), an increase of 21.60 per cent. Widow pension beneficiaries formed the largest component, rising from 45,008 to 48,509. The introduction and scaling of PMMVY beneficiaries added a maternal-health-linked welfare dimension to the women welfare profile. The reduction in marriage assistance beneficiaries in the latest year should be assessed administratively in terms of eligibility, applications and sanction timing.

Table 14. Domestic violence, helpline and protection services

Year	Complain ts (No.)	Counsell ing (No.)	FIRs (No.)	Cases closed (No.)	Protectio n orders (No.)	181 calls (No.)	Shelter admissio ns (No.)
2021-22	26	23	0	0	0	26	104
2022-23	59	48	4	0	0	59	109
2023-24	31	19	6	1	5	66	48
2024-25	59	49	5	32	3	852	50
2025-26	387	163	10	0	5	2,237	59

Source: Department of Women and Child Development, Puducherry.

Protection service data show a sharp rise in recorded service interaction. Complaints received increased from 26 in 2021-22 to 387 in 2025-26 (Provisional), and 181 helpline calls increased from 26 to 2,237. This should not be read only as an increase in incidence; it may also indicate increased awareness, reporting, service availability and institutional responsiveness. The policy response must therefore combine prevention, counselling, legal support, shelter services and data-driven follow-up.

5. Social protection and welfare delivery

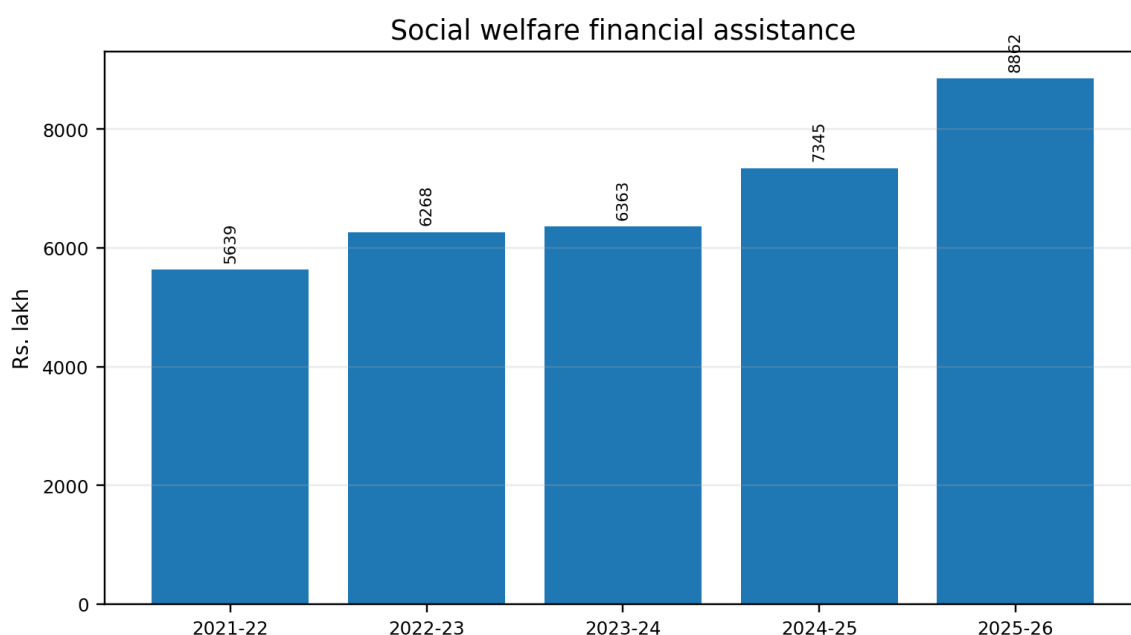
Social protection data reflect the welfare architecture for persons with disabilities, vulnerable groups and beneficiaries requiring financial assistance or institutional support. The Social Welfare Department data show steady beneficiary coverage for differently abled persons and a marked increase in total financial assistance. In public finance terms, this indicates that the welfare system is not only maintaining coverage but also increasing the fiscal value of support.

Table 15. Social welfare indicators

Year	Differently abled (No.)	Financial assistance (Rs. lakh)	Grants to NGOs (Rs. lakh)	Old age home inmates (No.)	Disability homes - inmates (No.)
2021-22	20,011	5,638.76	8.1	22	6
2022-23	20,400	6,268.23	10.37	25	6
2023-24	20,569	6,363.13	10.96	26	6
2024-25	20,778	7,345.33	10.91	23	5
2025-26	20,767	8,862	--	28	5

Source: Social Welfare Department, Puducherry.

Figure 11. Social welfare financial assistance



Source: Social Welfare Department, Puducherry.

Differently abled beneficiaries increased from 20,011 in 2021-22 to 20,767 in 2025-26 (Provisional). Total financial assistance increased from Rs. 5,638.76 lakh to Rs. 8,862 lakh, registering an increase of 57.16 per cent. This increase indicates stronger income-support intensity. The next frontier is to integrate financial assistance with rehabilitation, skilling, accessibility support, assistive devices and care infrastructure.

6. Backward Classes and Minority Welfare

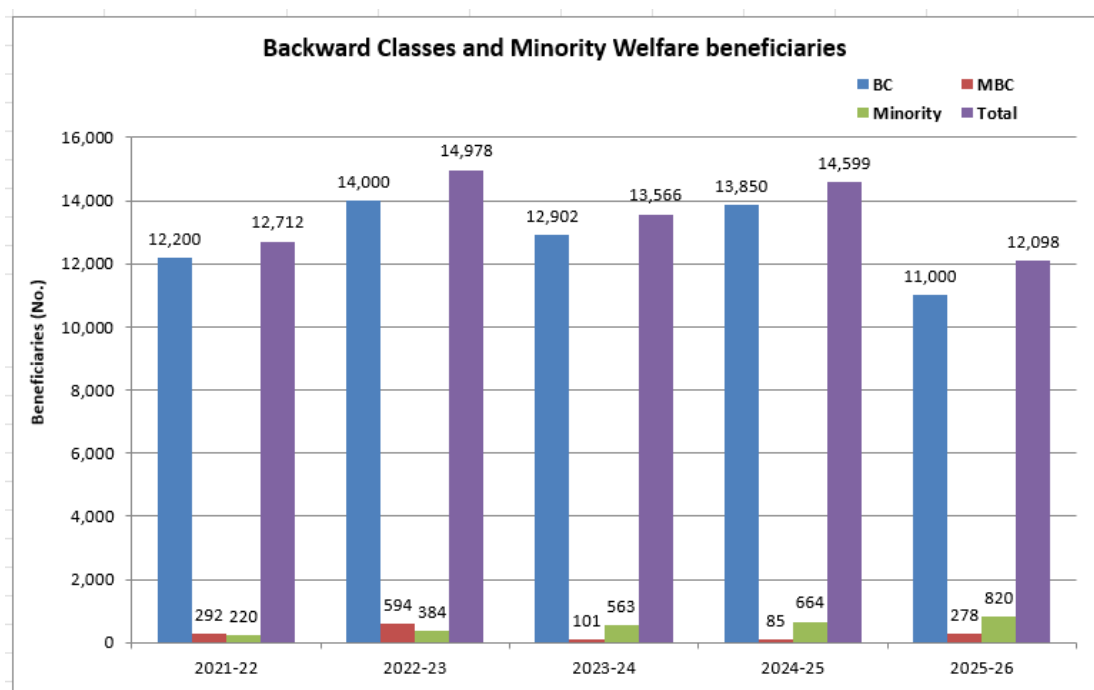
The welfare of Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and minorities is reflected through beneficiary coverage, hostels, scholarship-related expenditure and administrative utilisation. The source data show fluctuating beneficiary counts, with total beneficiaries declining in 2025-26 (Provisional) after a peak in 2022-23. Such movement may reflect scheme-specific eligibility, application cycles, sanction timing and the composition of assistance, rather than a simple change in underlying need.

Table 16. Backward Classes and Minority Welfare beneficiaries

Year	BC Beneficiaries (No.)	MBC Beneficiaries (No.)	Minority Beneficiaries (No.)	Total Beneficiaries (No.)
2021-22	12,200	292	220	12,712
2022-23	14,000	594	384	14,978
2023-24	12,902	101	563	13,566
2024-25	13,850	85	664	14,599
2025-26	11,000	278	820	12,098

Source: Department of Welfare of Backward Classes and Minorities, Puducherry.

Figure 12. Backward Classes and Minority Welfare beneficiaries



Source: Department of Welfare of Backward Classes and Minorities, Puducherry.

Table 17. Hostels for Backward Classes: infrastructure and occupancy

Year	No. of Hostels (No.)	Sanctioned Capacity (No.)	Actual Occupancy (No.)	Occupancy (%)	Wardens (No.)	Supporting Staff (No.)
2021-22	1	40	38	95	1	5
2022-23	1	40	27	67.5	1	7
2023-24	1	40	33	82.5	1	6
2024-25	1	40	40	100	1	6
2025-26	1	40	40	100	1	7

Source: Department of Welfare of Backward Classes and Minorities, Puducherry.

Hostel occupancy was 40 students against a sanctioned capacity of 40 in 2025-26 (Provisional), implying 100.00 per cent occupancy. Hostel support is a high-impact social sector instrument where distance, income and social constraints affect educational continuity. Occupancy should therefore be reviewed together with demand, district-wise access, student retention and scholarship coverage.

Table 18. Administrative and financial overview of Backward Classes and Minority Welfare

Year	Sanctioned Posts (No.)	Posts in Position (No.)	Vacancies (No.)	Budget Allocation (Rs. lakh)	Expenditure (Rs. lakh)	Utilisation (%)
2021-22	40	25	15	213	198	92.96
2022-23	40	25	15	268	225	83.96
2023-24	40	25	15	255	211	82.75
2024-25	40	25	15	211	184	87.2
2025-26	40	24	16	196	169	86.22

Source: Department of Welfare of Backward Classes and Minorities, Puducherry.

Administrative utilisation was 86.22 per cent in 2025-26 (Provisional), compared with 82.75 per cent in 2023-24. The vacancy position was 16 posts against a sanctioned strength of 40. The data suggest that welfare delivery depends not only on budget provision but also on administrative capacity to process applications, monitor schemes and ensure timely disbursement.

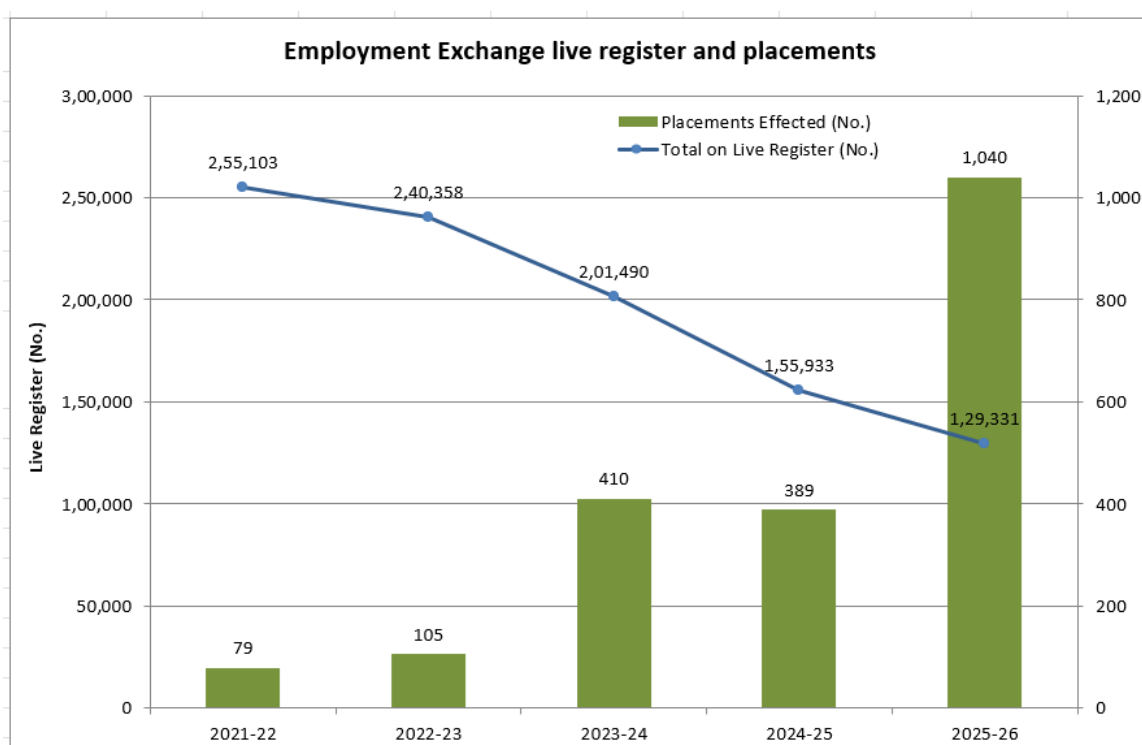
7. Employment facilitation and labour-market interface

Employment Exchange data provide an administrative view of the interface between job seekers, vacancies and placements. The live register is not a measure of unemployment, because it reflects registration behaviour and administrative updating. Nevertheless, the trend is useful for assessing the demand for employment facilitation services, the flow of fresh registrations and the effectiveness of placements through notified vacancies and job fairs.

Table 19. Registration and placement effected by Employment Exchange

Year	Total on Live Register (No.)	Fresh Registrations (No.)	Vacancies Notified (No.)	Placements Effected (No.)	Placement to Fresh Registration (%)
2021-22	255,103	19,005	738	79	0.42
2022-23	240,358	12,726	251	105	0.83
2023-24	201,490	10,940	1,399	410	3.75
2024-25	155,933	10,561	580	389	3.68
2025-26	129,331	14,628	873	1,040	7.11

Source: Department of Labour and Employment / Employment Exchange, Puducherry.

Figure 13. Employment Exchange live register and placements

Source: Department of Labour and Employment / Employment Exchange, Puducherry.

The number on the live register declined from 255,103 in 2021-22 to 129,331 in 2025-26 (Provisional). Placements effected increased sharply from 79 to 1,040, and the placement-to-fresh-registration ratio improved from 0.42 per cent to 7.11 per cent. This indicates an improvement in employment facilitation outcomes. The scale of fresh registrations, however, continues to be much larger than placements, suggesting the need for stronger linkage between skill development, industry demand mapping, apprenticeship channels and employer outreach.

Table 20. Job fair participation and selection

Calendar Year	Companies Participated (No.)	Vacancies (No.)	Candidates Participated (No.)	Selected (No.)
2017	33	1,920	3,600	278
2018	18	974	796	281
2019	38	2,097	3,798	289
2020	10	475	720	25
2022	205	13,404	11,385	1,889
2023	68	5,442	3,408	1,359
2024	99	14,003	4,908	1,719
2025	80	7,013	5,246	2,904

Source: Department of Labour and Employment / Employment Exchange, Puducherry.

The job fair data show that employer mobilisation and selection outcomes can vary substantially by year. During 2025, job fairs recorded 80 companies, 7,013 vacancies, 5,246 participating candidates and 2,904 selections. Job fairs are therefore useful as active labour-market instruments, but their effectiveness depends on sectoral targeting, pre-screening, skill matching and post-placement tracking.

8. Conclusion

The social sector profile of Puducherry reveals four broad policy messages. First, service planning should increasingly use projected population rather than relying only on the 2011 Census total population wherever authorised projections are available. The projected 2026 population raises the service-load denominator and should inform facility planning, beneficiary estimation and per-capita interpretation. At the same time, Census 2011 remains necessary for disaggregated indicators where projected figures are not available.

Second, education data show both strength and transition. School education has a wide institutional network and an improving student-teacher ratio, but total enrolment has declined. Higher education has expanded and shows favourable female participation. The task ahead is to strengthen learning outcomes, retention, transition to higher education, vocational pathways and employability, so that Puducherry's high literacy translates into a high-skill, high-productivity labour force.

Third, public health and women-child services demonstrate the importance of administrative capacity. The health network is broadly stable, but specialist availability needs attention. Birth and death registration systems are functioning with full digitisation efforts. The POSHAN Tracker indicators show a major shift toward digital monitoring, which can improve nutrition surveillance and beneficiary follow-up if used for field-level decision making rather than reporting alone.

Fourth, welfare schemes for women, differently abled persons, backward classes, minorities and job seekers show the breadth of the social protection system. The increase in women beneficiaries and social welfare financial assistance reflects a strong protective role of government. The next generation of welfare delivery should link financial assistance

with capability-building measures such as skilling, counselling, assistive support, hostels, placement services and outcome monitoring.

The chapter therefore establishes that the social sector in Puducherry is not merely an expenditure head, but an economic growth enabler. As the economy moves along a higher growth path, the quality of education, health, nutrition, social protection and employment facilitation will determine how broadly the gains of growth are distributed across households, regions and social groups.

ANNEXURE TABLES

The annexure tables present the detailed source series used for the analysis. Figures for 2025-26 are Provisional wherever the year appears. Blank, NIL, NA and not-available entries are not used for derived ratios. National Accounts references, wherever used elsewhere in the Economic Survey, are on the base year 2011-12; after revision of the base year to 2022-23, values and indicators linked to economic aggregates may vary.

Annexure Table 1. Projected population of U.T. of Puducherry

Year	Persons (thousand)	Male (thousand)	Female (thousand)
2021	1,571	753	819
2022	1,608	768	840
2023	1,646	783	862
2024	1,683	799	884
2025	1,720	814	906
2026	1,757	829	928

Source: Report of the Technical Group on Population Projections, National Commission on Population, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Population Projections for India and States 2011-2036.

Annexure Table 2. School education totals

Year	Institutions (No.)	Students (No.)	Teachers (No.)	Students per Teacher (Ratio)
2021-22	736	255,546	12,355	20.68
2022-23	729	251,479	12,768	19.7
2023-24	727	238,483	12,956	18.41
2024-25	755	234,550	12,993	18.05
2025-26	762	232,266	13,852	16.77

Source: Department of School Education, Puducherry.

Annexure Table 3. School enrolment by category

Year	All Categories (No.)	Scheduled Caste (No.)	Scheduled Tribe (No.)	Other Backward Classes (No.)
2021-22	255,546	46,210	917	180,078
2022-23	251,479	44,837	1,170	185,090
2023-24	238,483	42,575	868	176,436
2024-25	234,550	42,144	837	172,032
2025-26	232,266	42,265	879	168,616

Source: Department of School Education, Puducherry.

Annexure Table 4. School enrolment in minority community and PwD

Year	Muslim (No.)	Other Minority Communities (No.)	Persons with Disability (No.)	EWS / BPL (No.)
2021-22	20,277	11,929	2,288	83,693
2022-23	21,533	13,806	1,543	99,062
2023-24	20,860	12,871	1,207	--
2024-25	19,928	12,417	1,235	--
2025-26	19,509	11,951	1,128	79,942

Source: Department of School Education, Puducherry.

Annexure Table 5. Higher education enrolment

Year	Male Enrolment (No.)	Female Enrolment (No.)	Total Enrolment (No.)	Female Share (%)
2017-18	36,094	36,967	73,061	50.6
2018-19	36,894	40,448	77,342	52.3
2019-20	38,156	41,968	80,124	52.38
2020-21	43,187	48,066	91,253	52.67
2021-22	44,821	49,822	94,643	52.64

Source: Report on All India Survey on Higher Education, Ministry of Education, Government of India.

Annexure Table 6. Public health institutions and resources

Indicator	Unit	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Hospitals	Nos.	5	5	5	5	5
Medical College & Hospital	Nos.	1	1	2	2	2
Community Health Centre	Nos.	4	4	4	4	4
Primary Health Centre	Nos.	46	46	46	47	47
Sub Centres	Nos.	83	83	83	83	84
Hospital Beds (U.T. Govt) (including PMRC Beds)	Nos.	700	700	700	700	700
JIPMER Beds	Nos.	2,210	2,210	2,210	2,210	2,210
Specialists	Nos.	79	95	67	59	50
GDMOs	Nos.	375	360	373	375	375
Dentists	Nos.	9	9	9	8	8
Nurses (U.T. Govt)	Nos.	1,012	949	1,094	1,062	992
Eligible Couples protected by Family Welfare Methods	Nos.	139,737	145,360	149,121	149,366	147,338
Per- Capita Expenditure on Medical and Health Services (including JIPMER and NRHM, PSHM funds)	Rs.	5,235	4,697	4,538	5,358	5,478

Source: Health and Family Welfare Department, Puducherry.

Annexure Table 7. Selected immunisation service volumes

Vaccine / Dose	2021-22 (No.)	2022-23 (No.)	2023-24 (No.)	2024-25 (No.)	2025-26 (No.)
BCG	31,645	31,466	30,392	30,870	28,469
Pentavalent-1	15,894	15,326	15,988	14,834	13,415
Pentavalent-3	14,854	13,661	15,267	13,982	12,116
MCV-1	14,678	13,661	15,265	13,983	12,114
OPV Booster	13,777	14,854	14,727	13,534	11,912
DPT 5 Years	13,632	12,033	14,609	14,205	11,763
TT 10 Years	12,801	14,960	15,852	15,635	14,111

Source: Health and Family Welfare Department, Puducherry.

Annexure Table 8. Birth and death registration

Year	Registered Births (No.)	Registered Deaths (No.)	Delayed Registrations >30 days (No.)	Registration Centres (No.)
2021	30,166	16,979	1,372	15
2022	34,602	13,374	655	15
2023	33,021	13,382	1,112	15
2024	31,260	13,837	1,177	15

Source: Local Administration Department, Birth and Death Registration data, Puducherry.

Annexure Table 9. ICDS and Anganwadi coverage

Year	Total AWCs (No.)	Operational AWCs (No.)	Beneficiaries 0-6 yrs (No.)	Pregnant Women (No.)	Lactating Mothers (No.)	AWC Workers (No.)	AWC Helpers (No.)
2021-22	855	855	28,457	4,187	5,251	855	855
2022-23	855	855	28,910	4,354	5,213	855	855
2023-24	855	855	27,970	3,759	4,540	685	751
2024-25	855	855	28,732	3,897	4,362	548	621
2025-26	855	855	26,932	3,973	4,238	568	701

Source: Department of Women and Child Development, Puducherry.

Annexure Table 10. Supplementary nutrition programme

Year	Children 0-6 yrs (No.)	Severely malnourished (No.)	Pregnant women (No.)	Lactating mothers (No.)	Total beneficiaries (No.)	Expenditure (Rs. lakh)
2021-22	28,457	53	4,187	5,251	37,895	116.71
2022-23	28,910	197	4,354	5,213	38,477	939.13
2023-24	27,970	844	3,759	4,540	36,269	1,883.73
2024-25	28,732	717	3,897	4,362	36,991	1,735.61
2025-26	26,932	550	3,973	4,238	35,143	1,249.78

Source: Department of Women and Child Development, Puducherry.

Annexure Table 11. POSHAN Tracker / digital monitoring indicators

Year	AWCs Digitally Tracking (No.)	Beneficiaries on Tracker App (No.)	Aadhaar-linked Beneficiaries (%)	Growth Monitoring Done (%)	Home Visits Conducted (%)
2021-22	60,045	60,045	0.06	6.52	25.66
2022-23	40,708	40,708	41.5	16.44	71.33
2023-24	37,728	37,728	96.3	95.49	96.51
2024-25	37,200	37,200	98.4	97.67	89.04
2025-26	37,727	37,727	99.9	98.8	98.69

Source: Department of Women and Child Development, Puducherry.

Annexure Table 12. Women welfare scheme beneficiaries

Year	Widow Pension (No.)	Destitute Women Support (No.)	Marriage Assistance (No.)	PMMVY (No.)	Skill Training (No.)	Total Women Beneficiaries (No.)
2021-22	45,008	7,121	500	0	0	52,629
2022-23	45,008	7,368	2,216	0	78	54,670
2023-24	45,812	7,293	1,616	3,143	35	57,899
2024-25	47,044	7,419	1,217	8,236	31	63,947
2025-26	48,509	7,555	617	7,289	26	63,996

Source: Department of Women and Child Development, Puducherry.

Annexure Table 13. Women protection services

Year	Complaints (No.)	Counselling (No.)	FIRs (No.)	Cases closed (No.)	Protection orders (No.)	181 calls (No.)	Shelter admissions (No.)
2021-22	26	23	0	0	0	26	104
2022-23	59	48	4	0	0	59	109
2023-24	31	19	6	1	5	66	48
2024-25	59	49	5	32	3	852	50
2025-26	387	163	10	0	5	2,237	59

Source: Department of Women and Child Development, Puducherry.

Annexure Table 14. Social welfare indicators

Year	Differently abled (No.)	Financial assistance (Rs. lakh)	Grants to NGOs (Rs. lakh)	Old age home inmates (No.)	Disability homes - inmates (No.)
2021-22	20,011	5,638.76	8.1	22	6
2022-23	20,400	6,268.23	10.37	25	6
2023-24	20,569	6,363.13	10.96	26	6
2024-25	20,778	7,345.33	10.91	23	5
2025-26	20,767	8,862	--	28	5

Source: Social Welfare Department, Puducherry.

Annexure Table 15. Backward Classes and Minority Welfare beneficiaries

Year	BC Beneficiaries (No.)	MBC Beneficiaries (No.)	Minority Beneficiaries (No.)	Total Beneficiaries (No.)
2021-22	12,200	292	220	12,712
2022-23	14,000	594	384	14,978
2023-24	12,902	101	563	13,566
2024-25	13,850	85	664	14,599
2025-26	11,000	278	820	12,098

Source: Department of Welfare of Backward Classes and Minorities, Puducherry.

Annexure Table 16. Backward Classes hostels and occupancy

Year	No. of Hostels (No.)	Sanctioned Capacity (No.)	Actual Occupancy (No.)	Occupancy (%)	Wardens (No.)	Supporting Staff (No.)
2021-22	1	40	38	95	1	5
2022-23	1	40	27	67.5	1	7
2023-24	1	40	33	82.5	1	6
2024-25	1	40	40	100	1	6
2025-26	1	40	40	100	1	7

Source: Department of Welfare of Backward Classes and Minorities, Puducherry.

Annexure Table 17. Employment Exchange registration and placement

Year	Total on Live Register (No.)	Fresh Registrations (No.)	Vacancies Notified (No.)	Placements Effected (No.)	Placement to Fresh Registration (%)
2021-22	255,103	19,005	738	79	0.42
2022-23	240,358	12,726	251	105	0.83
2023-24	201,490	10,940	1,399	410	3.75
2024-25	155,933	10,561	580	389	3.68
2025-26	129,331	14,628	873	1,040	7.11

Source: Department of Labour and Employment / Employment Exchange, Puducherry.

Annexure Table 18. Job fair participation and selection

Calendar Year	Companies Participated (No.)	Vacancies (No.)	Candidates Participated (No.)	Selected (No.)
2017	33	1,920	3,600	278
2018	18	974	796	281
2019	38	2,097	3,798	289
2020	10	475	720	25
2022	205	13,404	11,385	1,889
2023	68	5,442	3,408	1,359
2024	99	14,003	4,908	1,719
2025	80	7,013	5,246	2,904

Source: Department of Labour and Employment / Employment Exchange, Puducherry.

GLOSSARY

This Glossary sets out the principal definitions, formulae and measurement conventions used in the Economic Survey of U.T. of Puducherry 2025-26.

1. Demographic and Health Indicators

The following indicators are used for interpreting the demographic base, public health position and human development profile of Puducherry. Since the Union Territory has a compact area, high population density and four geographically separated regions, every ratio must be read with reference to the exact geography and reference year stated in the source table.

Term / Indicator	Definition, Formula, Unit and Use in this Survey
Population	Definition: Total number of persons usually residing in a specified geographical area at a specified point of time. Unit: Number of persons. Use in Puducherry ES: Used for regional shares, density, per capita indicators and service coverage calculations.
Projected Population	Definition: Population estimated for a future or current year on the basis of an accepted projection methodology. Unit: Number of persons. Use in Puducherry ES: Used only where the source specifically provides projections;
Population Density	Definition: Number of persons per unit of geographical area. Formula: $\text{Population Density} = \frac{\text{Population}}{\text{Area in sq. km.}}$ Unit: Persons per sq. km.
Population Growth Rate	Definition: Percentage change in population between two reference points. Formula: $\text{Population Growth Rate} = \frac{P_t - P_0}{P_0} \times 100$ Unit: Per cent.
Urbanisation Rate	Definition: Share of urban population in total population. Formula: $\text{Urbanisation Rate} = \frac{\text{Urban Population}}{\text{Total Population}} \times 100$ Unit: Per cent. Use in Puducherry ES: Important for assessing service delivery pressure in a highly urbanised Union Territory.
Regional Share of Population	Definition: Percentage share of a region in the total population of the Union Territory. Formula: $\text{Regional Share} = \frac{\text{Regional Pop.}}{\text{Total UT Pop.}} \times 100$ Unit: Per cent.

Term / Indicator	Definition, Formula, Unit and Use in this Survey
Sex Ratio	Definition: Number of females per 1,000 males in the population. Formula: $\text{Sex Ratio} = \frac{\text{Number of Females}}{\text{Number of Males}} \times 1,000$ Unit: Females per 1,000 males.
Child Sex Ratio (0-6 years)	Definition: Number of female children in the age group 0-6 years per 1,000 male children in the same age group. Formula: $\text{CSR} = \frac{\text{Female Children 0-6}}{\text{Male Children 0-6}} \times 1,000$ Unit: Female children per 1,000 male children.
Literacy Rate	Definition: Percentage of persons aged seven years and above who can read and write with understanding. Formula: $\text{Literacy Rate} = \frac{\text{Literate Pop. 7+}}{\text{Total Pop. 7+}} \times 100$ Unit: Per cent.
Dependency Ratio	Definition: Ratio of dependent-age population to working-age population. Formula: $\text{DR} = \frac{\text{Pop. 0-14} + \text{Pop. 60+}}{\text{Pop. 15-59}} \times 100$ Unit: Dependents per 100 working-age persons. Use in Puducherry ES: Useful for assessing future education, health and old-age support requirements.
Crude Birth Rate (CBR)	Definition: Number of live births during a year per 1,000 mid-year population. Formula: $\text{CBR} = \frac{\text{Live births during the year}}{\text{Mid-year population}} \times 1,000$ Unit: Live births per 1,000 population.
Crude Death Rate (CDR)	Definition: Number of deaths during a year per 1,000 mid-year population. Formula: $\text{CDR} = \frac{\text{Deaths during the year}}{\text{Mid-year population}} \times 1,000$ Unit: Deaths per 1,000 population.
Infant Mortality Rate (IMR)	Definition: Number of deaths of infants below one year of age per 1,000 live births in the same year. Formula: $\text{IMR} = \frac{\text{Infant deaths below one year}}{\text{Live births during same year}} \times 1,000$ Unit: Infant deaths per 1,000 live births.
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (NMR)	Definition: Number of deaths of children within the first 28 completed days of life per 1,000 live births in the same year. Formula: $\text{NMR} = \frac{\text{Deaths within first 28 days}}{\text{Live births during same year}} \times 1,000$ Unit: Neo-natal deaths per 1,000 live births.

Term / Indicator	Definition, Formula, Unit and Use in this Survey
Under-Five Mortality Rate (U5MR)	Definition: Number of deaths of children below five years of age per 1,000 live births. Formula: $U5MR = \frac{\text{Deaths below five years}}{\text{Live births during same year}} \times 1,000$ Unit: Deaths of children below five years per 1,000 live births.
Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR)	Definition: Number of maternal deaths due to pregnancy, childbirth or related causes per 1,00,000 live births in the same period. Formula: $MMR = \frac{\text{Maternal deaths}}{\text{Live births}} \times 1,00,000$ Unit: Maternal deaths per 1,00,000 live births.
Total Fertility Rate (TFR)	Definition: Average number of children that would be born to a woman during her reproductive period if she experienced the prevailing age-specific fertility rates. Unit: Children per woman.
Life Expectancy at Birth	Definition: Average number of years a newborn is expected to live if prevailing age-specific mortality rates continue to apply. Unit: Years.
Institutional Delivery Rate	Definition: Percentage of deliveries taking place in recognised health institutions. Formula: $IDR = \frac{\text{Institutional Deliveries}}{\text{Total Reported Deliveries}} \times 100$ Unit: Per cent.
Birth and Death Registration	Definition: Civil registration of births and deaths under the statutory registration system. Unit: Number of registered events; registration completeness may be expressed as per cent where the denominator is available. Use in Puducherry ES: Supports health, population and administrative planning indicators.

2. State Income and Macroeconomic Aggregates

These terms are used in the State Income and State Economy chapters to distinguish nominal expansion from real output growth and to explain the structure of Puducherry's economy. All price-based comparisons should specify whether the series is at current prices or constant prices.

Term / Indicator	Definition, Formula, Unit and Use in this Survey
Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP)	Definition: Monetary value of all final goods and services produced within the geographical boundary of a State or Union Territory during an accounting year, without duplication. Formula: $GSDP_{mp} = \sum GSV_{Abp} + T_p - S_p$ Unit: Rupees; generally presented in crore.

Term / Indicator	Definition, Formula, Unit and Use in this Survey
Gross State Value Added (GSVA)	Definition: Gross value added by all producing sectors of the State or Union Territory at basic prices. Formula: $\text{GSVA} = \text{GVO} - \text{Intermediate Consumption}$ Unit: Rupees; generally presented in crore.
Net State Domestic Product (NSDP)	Definition: Net measure of State income obtained after deducting consumption of fixed capital from GSDP. Formula: $\text{NSDP} = \text{GSDP} - \text{CFC}$ Unit: Rupees; generally presented in crore.
Net State Value Added (NSVA)	Definition: Net value added by sectors after deducting consumption of fixed capital from GSVA. Formula: $\text{NSVA} = \text{GSVA} - \text{CFC}$ Unit: Rupees; generally presented in crore.
Consumption of Fixed Capital (CFC)	Definition: Decline in the value of fixed assets due to normal wear and tear, obsolescence and accidental damage during the accounting period. Unit: Rupees; generally presented in crore. Use in Puducherry ES: Used for deriving net domestic and sectoral income aggregates.
Current Prices	Definition: Valuation of output or income using the prices prevailing in the year to which the estimate relates. Unit: Rupees at current prices. Use in Puducherry ES: Reflects both change in output and change in prices.
Constant Prices	Definition: Valuation of output or income using the prices of a fixed base year. Unit: Rupees at base-year prices. Use in Puducherry ES: Used for measuring real growth by removing the direct effect of price changes.
Base Year	Definition: Reference year whose prices or weights are used for constructing constant price estimates or index numbers. Unit: Year; for example, 2011-12 or 2016=100 depending on the statistical series.
Nominal Growth	Definition: Growth measured at current prices. Formula: $\text{NGR} = \frac{V_1 - V_0}{V_0} \times 100$ Unit: Per cent.
Real Growth	Definition: Growth measured at constant prices. Formula: $\text{RGR} = \frac{V_1 - V_0}{V_0} \times 100$ Unit: Per cent.

Term / Indicator	Definition, Formula, Unit and Use in this Survey
Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR)	Definition: Annualised rate at which an indicator grows over a period of more than one year. Formula: $\text{CAGR} = \left[\frac{\text{Ending Value}}{\text{Beginning Value}}^{\frac{1}{n}} - 1 \right] \times 100$ Unit: Per cent per annum.
Per Capita Income	Definition: Average income per person derived from net domestic product. Formula: $\text{Per Capita Income} = \frac{\text{NSDP}}{\text{Mid-year Population}}$ Unit: Rupees per person per year. Use in Puducherry ES: Should be interpreted as an average indicator and not as a measure of household-level income distribution.
Sectoral Share	Definition: Contribution of a sector to total value added. Formula: $\text{Sectoral Share} = \frac{\text{GSVA of the sector}}{\text{Total GSVA}} \times 100$ Unit: Per cent.
Primary Sector	Definition: Economic activities based mainly on natural resources. Coverage: Agriculture, livestock, forestry, fishing and mining or quarrying, as applicable in the State income classification. Use in Puducherry ES: Though small in aggregate share, it remains important for livelihoods, food supply and fisheries.
Secondary Sector	Definition: Economic activities that transform raw materials or inputs into goods and built assets. Coverage: Manufacturing, electricity, gas, water supply, other utility services and construction. Use in Puducherry ES: Reflects the Territory's industrial and construction base.
Tertiary Sector	Definition: Service-producing economic activities. Coverage: Trade, hotels, restaurants, transport, communication, financial services, real estate, public administration and other services. Use in Puducherry ES: Represents the principal service-led component of the economy.
Percentage Point	Definition: Arithmetic difference between two percentages. Formula: $\text{PP Difference} = \text{Later \%} - \text{Earlier \%}$ Unit: Percentage point, abbreviated as pp. Use in Puducherry ES: Used for change in sectoral shares, literacy rates, urban shares and similar ratios.
Index Number	Definition: Statistical measure showing relative change in a variable or group of variables compared with a base period. Formula: $\text{Base-year Index} = 100$ Unit: Index points.
Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers (CPI-IW)	Definition: Index measuring changes in retail prices of a fixed basket of goods and services consumed by industrial workers. Unit: Index number; Puducherry Centre figures are read with the relevant base year of the series.

Term / Indicator	Definition, Formula, Unit and Use in this Survey
Inflation Rate	Definition: Percentage change in a price index over a specified period. Formula: $\text{Inflation Rate} = \frac{\text{PI1} - \text{PI0}}{\text{PI0}} \times 100$ Unit: Per cent.
Annual Average Index	Definition: Average of monthly index values during a calendar or financial year, as applicable. Formula: $\text{Avg. Index} = \frac{\text{Sum of monthly indices}}{\text{No. of months}}$ Unit: Index points.

3. Public Finance Indicators

Public finance indicators in this Survey are to be read strictly with reference to the Budget, Accounts and departmental source tables. For ratio indicators, both the numerator and denominator must pertain to the same year and the same reporting framework.

Term / Indicator	Definition, Formula, Unit and Use in this Survey
Revenue Receipts	Definition: Receipts of Government that do not create liabilities and do not reduce assets. Coverage: Own tax revenue, own non-tax revenue, share of central taxes where applicable, grants-in-aid and other revenue receipts. Unit: Rupees; generally presented in crore.
Own Tax Revenue	Definition: Tax revenue raised by the Government from taxes assigned to or collected by it. Coverage: Includes relevant components such as State GST, VAT, excise, stamps and registration and motor vehicle taxes, depending on the budget classification. Unit: Rupees; generally presented in crore.
Own Non-Tax Revenue	Definition: Revenue receipts other than taxes raised by Government from fees, user charges, interest receipts, dividends, royalties and similar sources. Unit: Rupees; generally presented in crore.
Grants-in-Aid	Definition: Transfers received from the Union Government or other authorities for general, sectoral or scheme-specific purposes. Unit: Rupees; generally presented in crore.
Revenue Expenditure	Definition: Expenditure incurred for the normal running of Government departments, interest payments, subsidies, grants, pensions and services, which generally does not create durable capital assets. Unit: Rupees; generally presented in crore.
Capital Expenditure	Definition: Expenditure that results in creation of assets, reduction of liabilities, loans and advances or capital formation. Unit: Rupees; generally presented in crore.
Capital Outlay	Definition: Component of capital expenditure that directly results in creation or acquisition of capital assets. Unit: Rupees; generally presented in crore.

Term / Indicator	Definition, Formula, Unit and Use in this Survey
Revenue Deficit	Definition: Excess of revenue expenditure over revenue receipts. Formula: $RD = \text{Revenue Expenditure} - \text{Revenue Receipts}$ Unit: Rupees; generally presented in crore. A negative value indicates revenue surplus.
Fiscal Deficit	Definition: Excess of total expenditure over the sum of revenue receipts and non-debt capital receipts. It represents the borrowing requirement of Government for the year. Formula: $FD = TE - RR - NDCR$ Unit: Rupees; generally presented in crore.
Primary Deficit	Definition: Fiscal deficit net of interest payments. Formula: $PD = FD - \text{Interest Payments}$ Unit: Rupees; generally presented in crore.
Budgetary Deficit	Definition: Excess of total budgetary expenditure over total budgetary receipts in the relevant budget presentation. Formula: $BD = TE - TR$ Unit: Rupees; generally presented in crore.
Interest Payments	Definition: Expenditure incurred on servicing Government debt and other interest-bearing liabilities. Unit: Rupees; generally presented in crore.
Cost of Borrowing	Definition: Average interest cost of outstanding debt or liabilities. Formula: $CoB = \frac{\text{Interest Payments}}{\text{Previous-year debt stock}} \times 100$ Unit: Per cent.
Public Debt / Outstanding Liabilities	Definition: Stock of borrowings and other liabilities outstanding at the end of a reference period. Unit: Rupees; generally presented in crore. Use in Puducherry ES: Used for assessing debt burden and debt sustainability.
Revenue Expenditure to Capital Outlay (RECO)	Definition: Ratio indicating the relative size of revenue expenditure compared with capital outlay. Formula: $RECO = \frac{\text{Revenue Expenditure}}{\text{Capital Outlay}}$ Unit: Ratio. Use in Puducherry ES: A higher value indicates a larger recurrent expenditure load relative to asset-creating expenditure.
Deficit as Percentage of GSDP	Definition: Deficit expressed relative to the size of the economy. Formula: $\text{Deficit-GSDP Ratio} = \frac{\text{Deficit}}{\text{GSDP}} \times 100$ Unit: Per cent of GSDP.

Term / Indicator	Definition, Formula, Unit and Use in this Survey
Capital Outlay as Percentage of Total Expenditure	Definition: Share of asset-creating capital outlay in total Government expenditure. Formula: $\text{COS} = \frac{\text{Capital Outlay}}{\text{Total Expenditure}} \times 100$ Unit: Per cent.
Commercial Tax Revenue	Definition: Revenue collected through commercial tax instruments administered by the competent tax authority. Coverage: The exact components must follow the departmental classification used in the source table. Unit: Rupees; generally presented in crore.
Tax Buoyancy	Definition: Responsiveness of tax revenue to growth in the economy. Formula: $\text{Tax Buoyancy} = \frac{\text{Tax revenue growth}}{\text{GSDP growth}}$ Unit: Ratio. Use in Puducherry ES: Should be computed only when comparable tax and GSDP series are available for the same period.

4. Agriculture, Industry and Infrastructure Terms

The terms in this group cover land use, production, industrial performance, banking outreach and infrastructure services. In Puducherry, where land is limited and the regions are geographically separated, productivity, intensity, connectivity and service reach are often more meaningful than absolute size alone.

Term / Indicator	Definition, Formula, Unit and Use in this Survey
Net Area Sown	Definition: Area sown with crops at least once during an agricultural year. Unit: Hectare.
Gross Cropped Area	Definition: Total area sown under all crops during an agricultural year, counting the same land more than once if it is cropped more than once. Unit: Hectare.
Area Sown More Than Once	Definition: Difference between gross cropped area and net area sown. Formula: $\text{Area Sown More Than Once} = \text{GCA} - \text{NSA}$ Unit: Hectare.
Cropping Intensity	Definition: Extent of multiple cropping on cultivated land. Formula: $\text{CI} = \frac{\text{Gross Cropped Area}}{\text{Net Area Sown}} \times 100$ Unit: Per cent. Use in Puducherry ES: Important because agricultural expansion is constrained more by land availability than by demand.
Net Irrigated Area	Definition: Area irrigated at least once during the agricultural year. Unit: Hectare.

Term / Indicator	Definition, Formula, Unit and Use in this Survey
Gross Irrigated Area	Definition: Total irrigated area under all crops, counting the same area more than once if it is irrigated for more than one crop. Unit: Hectare.
Irrigation Intensity	Definition: Extent to which irrigated land is used more than once. Formula: $II = \frac{\text{Gross Irrigated Area}}{\text{Net Irrigated Area}} \times 100$ Unit: Per cent.
Crop Yield / Productivity	Definition: Output obtained per unit of cultivated area. Formula: $\text{Yield} = \frac{\text{Production}}{\text{Area}}$ Unit: Kg per hectare, tonnes per hectare or other crop-specific unit stated in the source table.
Fertiliser Consumption per Hectare	Definition: Quantity of fertiliser nutrients used per unit of cropped area. Formula: $\text{Fertiliser Cons./ha} = \frac{\text{Total Fertiliser Cons.}}{\text{Gross Cropped Area}}$ Unit: Kg per hectare, where the source provides nutrient-wise quantity and comparable area.
Livestock Population	Definition: Number of animals recorded in the livestock census or departmental enumeration. Unit: Number of animals.
Fish Production	Definition: Quantity of fish produced or landed from marine, inland or aquaculture sources during the reference year. Unit: Tonnes or metric tonnes, as stated in the source table.
Forest Area / Recorded Forest Area	Definition: Area recorded as forest under the administrative records of the Forest Department. Unit: Hectare or sq. km., as stated in the source table.
Index of Industrial Production (IIP)	Definition: Index measuring short-term changes in the volume of industrial production relative to a base year. Unit: Index number with base year equal to 100. Use in Puducherry ES: Used for examining the direction and intensity of industrial movement.
Annual Survey of Industries (ASI)	Definition: Principal source of industrial statistics relating to the registered factory sector. Coverage: Factories covered under the applicable ASI frame and reference year. Use in Puducherry ES: ASI indicators should not be directly compared with administrative counts unless the scope is clearly stated.
Gross Output	Definition: Total value of products and by-products manufactured, net change in semi-finished goods and receipts from services and related industrial activities during the accounting year. Unit: Rupees; generally presented in lakh or crore as per source.
Intermediate Consumption / Inputs	Definition: Value of goods and services consumed as inputs in the production process, excluding fixed assets. Unit: Rupees.

Term / Indicator	Definition, Formula, Unit and Use in this Survey
Gross Value Added in Industry	Definition: Value added by industrial activity before deducting consumption of fixed capital. Formula: Industrial GVA = GO - TI Unit: Rupees.
Net Value Added in Industry	Definition: Industrial value added after deducting depreciation or consumption of fixed capital. Formula: Industrial NVA = GO - TI - Depreciation Unit: Rupees.
Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME)	Definition: Enterprises classified according to investment in plant and machinery or equipment and annual turnover. Classification: Micro: investment not exceeding Rs. 2.5 crore and turnover not exceeding Rs. 10 crore; Small: investment not exceeding Rs. 25 crore and turnover not exceeding Rs. 100 crore; Medium: investment not exceeding Rs. 125 crore and turnover not exceeding Rs. 500 crore. Use in Puducherry ES: Used for interpreting enterprise scale in the industrial sector.
Co-operative Society	Definition: Member-based institution formed for mutual assistance in areas such as credit, marketing, consumer services, housing, labour, dairy or other economic and social purposes. Unit: Number of societies, members, share capital, working capital or business turnover as stated in source tables.
Bank Deposits	Definition: Amounts placed by customers with banks in savings, current, term and other deposit accounts. Unit: Rupees; generally presented in crore.
Bank Advances / Credit	Definition: Loans and advances extended by banks to households, enterprises, agriculture, industry, services and other borrowers. Unit: Rupees; generally presented in crore.
Credit-Deposit Ratio	Definition: Ratio of bank advances to bank deposits. Formula: $\text{Credit-Deposit Ratio} = \frac{\text{Total Advances}}{\text{Total Deposits}} \times 100$ Unit: Per cent. Use in Puducherry ES: Indicates the extent to which locally mobilised deposits are deployed as credit.
Priority Sector Lending	Definition: Bank lending to sectors identified by the Reserve Bank of India as priority sectors, including agriculture, MSME, education, housing, weaker sections and other eligible categories. Unit: Rupees; generally presented in crore and as percentage of total advances where applicable.
Public Distribution System (PDS)	Definition: System for distributing essential commodities or providing food-security support to eligible households through notified channels. Unit: Number of ration cards, beneficiaries, fair price shops, quantity distributed or amount transferred, as applicable.
Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT)	Definition: Transfer of cash benefit directly into the bank account of eligible beneficiaries. Unit: Rupees and number of beneficiaries. Use in Puducherry ES: Relevant where food-security or welfare support is provided through direct transfer instead of physical distribution.

Term / Indicator	Definition, Formula, Unit and Use in this Survey
High Tension (HT) Line	Definition: Electricity distribution line carrying power at high voltage for bulk supply and distribution. Unit: Kilometre.
Low Tension (LT) Line	Definition: Electricity distribution line supplying power at lower voltage to end users. Unit: Kilometre.
Transformer	Definition: Electrical equipment used to change voltage level in the power distribution system. Unit: Number and capacity, as stated in source tables.
Electricity Purchased	Definition: Total electricity procured by the utility from generating stations or suppliers. Unit: Million Units (MU) or kWh.
Electricity Sold / Ultimate Consumption	Definition: Electricity actually sold to or consumed by final consumers. Unit: Million Units (MU) or kWh.
Transmission and Distribution Loss	Definition: Difference between electricity input into the system and electricity sold to consumers, including technical and commercial losses and accounting differences. Formula: $\text{T\&D Loss} = \frac{\text{Purchased} - \text{Sold}}{\text{Purchased}} \times 100$ Unit: Per cent.
Per Capita Electricity Consumption	Definition: Electricity consumed per person during a year. Formula: $\text{PCEC} = \frac{\text{Ultimate Electricity Consumption}}{\text{Mid-year Population}}$ Unit: kWh per person per year.
Energy Units	Definition: Standard units used in electricity statistics. Formula: 1 MW = 1,000 kW 1 unit = 1 kWh 1 MU = 10,00,000 kWh 1 MVA = 1 million volt ampere Unit: MW, kW, kWh, MU and MVA.
Road Density	Definition: Length of road network relative to geographical area. Formula: $\text{Road Density} = \frac{\text{Road Length}}{\text{Geographical Area}}$ Unit: Km per sq. km. or km per 100 sq. km., as stated in source table.
Railway Route Length	Definition: Length of railway route available within a geographical area. Unit: Kilometre. Use in Puducherry ES: For Puducherry, rail data should be stated only from official railway sources and should not be interpolated.
Airport Passenger Movement	Definition: Total number of passengers handled by an airport during the reference period. Formula: Passenger Movement = Arrivals + Departures Unit: Number of passengers.

Term / Indicator	Definition, Formula, Unit and Use in this Survey
Port Cargo Handled	Definition: Quantity of cargo loaded, unloaded or otherwise handled at a port during the reference period. Unit: Tonnes or metric tonnes, as stated by the port authority.

5. Education, Labour and Social Sector Indicators

These indicators are used to interpret the reach of public services, employment conditions and welfare delivery. For a compact Union Territory such as Puducherry, coverage ratios and institutional access indicators are particularly useful because small absolute changes may produce visible changes in service delivery outcomes.

Term / Indicator	Definition, Formula, Unit and Use in this Survey
Enrolment	Definition: Number of students registered in an educational institution or level of education during the reference year. Unit: Number of students.
Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER)	Definition: Total enrolment in a particular level of education, irrespective of age, expressed as a percentage of the population in the official age group for that level. Formula: $\text{GER} = \frac{\text{Enrolment at the level}}{\text{Population of official age group}} \times 100$ Unit: Per cent.
Gender Parity Index (GPI)	Definition: Ratio of female GER to male GER at a given level of education. Formula: $\text{GPI} = \frac{\text{GER of Girls}}{\text{GER of Boys}}$ Unit: Ratio. A value of 1 indicates parity.
Drop-out Rate	Definition: Proportion of pupils from a cohort enrolled in a given stage in a school year who are no longer enrolled in the following school year. Formula: $\text{Drop-out Rate} = \frac{\text{Drop-outs}}{\text{Enrolment}} \times 100$ Unit: Per cent.
Pupil-Teacher Ratio (PTR)	Definition: Average number of pupils per teacher. Formula: $\text{PTR} = \frac{\text{Total Enrolment}}{\text{Total Number of Teachers}}$ Unit: Pupils per teacher.
Children with Special Needs (CWSN)	Definition: Children requiring special educational or support services because of disabilities or developmental, physical, sensory, learning or related needs. Unit: Number of children or beneficiaries.
Anganwadi Centre	Definition: Frontline service delivery centre under the Integrated Child Development Services framework for nutrition, pre-school education and related services. Unit: Number of centres, workers, helpers or beneficiaries as stated in the source table.

Term / Indicator	Definition, Formula, Unit and Use in this Survey
Beneficiary Coverage	Definition: Extent to which an eligible or target population is covered by a scheme or service. Formula: $BC = \frac{\text{Beneficiaries}}{\text{Eligible Population}} \times 100$ Unit: Per cent. Use in Puducherry ES: To be used only where both numerator and denominator are defined in the source data.
Work Participation Rate	Definition: Percentage of total workers to total population, as used in Census-based analysis. Formula: $WPR = \frac{\text{Total Workers}}{\text{Total Population}} \times 100$ Unit: Per cent.
Main Worker	Definition: Person who worked for six months or more during the reference period used in the Census. Unit: Number of persons.
Marginal Worker	Definition: Person who worked for less than six months during the reference period used in the Census. Unit: Number of persons.
Labour Force	Definition: Persons who are either employed or seeking or available for work. Formula: Labour Force = Employed + Unemployed Unit: Number of persons.
Workforce / Employed Persons	Definition: Persons engaged in economic activity during the reference period. Unit: Number of persons.
Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR)	Definition: Percentage of persons in the labour force in the population. Formula: $LFPR = \frac{\text{Labour Force}}{\text{Total Population}} \times 100$ Unit: Per cent.
Worker Population Ratio (WPR)	Definition: Percentage of employed persons in the population. Formula: $WPR = \frac{\text{Employed Persons}}{\text{Total Population}} \times 100$ Unit: Per cent.
Unemployment Rate (UR)	Definition: Percentage of unemployed persons among persons in the labour force. Formula: $UR = \frac{\text{Unemployed}}{\text{Labour Force}} \times 100$ Unit: Per cent.
Usual Activity Status	Definition: Activity status determined on the basis of activities pursued during the reference period of 365 days preceding the survey. Use in Puducherry ES: Relevant when labour indicators are drawn from PLFS or similar survey sources.

Term / Indicator	Definition, Formula, Unit and Use in this Survey
Current Weekly Status (CWS)	Definition: Activity status determined on the basis of activities pursued during the seven days preceding the survey. Use in Puducherry ES: Labour indicators under CWS should not be compared with usual status estimates without stating the difference in reference period.
AAY Household	Definition: Antyodaya Anna Yojana household, representing the poorest category of eligible households under food-security classification. Unit: Number of cards, households or beneficiaries.
PHH Household	Definition: Priority Household eligible for food-security benefits under the applicable classification. Unit: Number of cards, households or beneficiaries.
Social Security Pension	Definition: Periodic financial assistance provided to eligible persons such as old-age persons, widows, differently abled persons or other notified beneficiary groups. Unit: Number of beneficiaries and amount disbursed.
Scheme Expenditure per Beneficiary	Definition: Average expenditure incurred per beneficiary under a scheme. Formula: $\text{Exp. per Beneficiary} = \frac{\text{Scheme Expenditure}}{\text{Beneficiaries}}$ Unit: Rupees per beneficiary. Use in Puducherry ES: Should be used only when expenditure and beneficiary figures relate to the same scheme and period.
Underweight	Definition: Nutritional condition where weight-for-age is below the accepted reference standard. Unit: Number or per cent of children, depending on source.
Stunting	Definition: Impaired linear growth reflected by low height-for-age according to the accepted child growth standard. Unit: Number or per cent of children.
Wasting	Definition: Low weight-for-height, generally indicating acute undernutrition according to the accepted child growth standard. Unit: Number or per cent of children.
Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM)	Definition: Condition in which a child's weight-for-height lies between -2 SD and -3 SD of the accepted child growth standard. Unit: Number or per cent of children.
Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM)	Definition: Condition in which a child's weight-for-height is below -3 SD of the accepted child growth standard. Unit: Number or per cent of children.
Z-Score	Definition: Number of standard deviations by which an observed value lies above or below the reference median or mean. Unit: Standard deviation units. Use in Puducherry ES: Used in nutrition indicators such as underweight, stunting and wasting.

Selected Socio-Economic Indicators of Union Territories in India



Selected Socio-Economic Indicators of Union Territories in India - Demographic and Social Indicators

Sl. No.	Union Territory / Benchmark	Geographical area (sq. km)	Projected population, 2026 (No.)	Density of population, 2026 (per sq. km)	Urban population to total population, 2026 (%)	Sex ratio, 2026 (females per 1,000 males)	Child sex ratio, 0-6 years (females per 1,000 males)	Literacy rate, PLFS 2025 (persons aged 7 years & above, %)
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	8,249	406,000	49	45.80	897	968	87.6
2	Chandigarh	114	1,267,000	11,114	100.00	860	880	91.1
3	Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	603	1,541,000	2,556	84.30	475	918	86.8
4	Delhi (NCT)	1,483	22,540,000	15,199	99.80	883	871	89.0
5	Jammu & Kashmir	42,241	13,896,000	329	31.31	915	NA	79.4
6	Ladakh	59,146	305,000	5	33.09	794	NA	80.6
7	Lakshadweep	32	70,000	2,188	100.00	944	911	93.8
8	Puducherry	479	1,757,000	3,668	70.63	1,119	967	94.7
9	India	3,287,263	1,423,435,000	433	36.19	951	918	81.1

Source: Census of India 2011; Population Projections for India and States 2011-2036, National Commission on Population, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare; Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) 2025, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.

Note: Population, density, urban share and sex ratio relate to projected population as on 1st March 2026. For Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu, values are aggregated from the separate projections for Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu. Child sex ratio is retained from Census 2011 where latest projected age-group values are not available. NA denotes not available.

Selected Socio-Economic Indicators of Union Territories in India - Income Indicators

Sl. No.	Union Territory / Benchmark	Per capita income at current prices, 2023-24 (₹)	Per capita income at current prices, 2024-25 (₹)	Per capita income at constant prices, 2023-24 (₹)	Per capita income at constant prices, 2024-25 (₹)
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	275,648	288,584	184,462	192,936
2	Chandigarh	452,994	489,173	274,647	288,392
3	Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	NA	NA	NA	NA
4	Delhi (NCT)	457,708	492,592	272,950	285,207
5	Jammu & Kashmir	139,468	155,398	75,493	80,262
6	Ladakh	NA	NA	NA	NA
7	Lakshadweep	NA	NA	NA	NA
8	Puducherry	252,164	281,478	143,470	154,213
9	India	188,892	205,324	108,786	114,710

Source: Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, Government of India, State-wise SDP data as on 15.04.2026 for Union Territories; National Accounts Statistics / Press Note on Provisional Estimates of Annual GDP for FY 2024-25, released on 30.05.2025, for India.

Note: Per capita income refers to per capita NSDP in respect of Union Territories and per capita NNI in respect of India. Values are at base year 2011-12 and rounded to the nearest rupee. NA denotes that the data are not available in the concerned official source. Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu, Ladakh and Lakshadweep are shown as NA, as the corresponding per capita NSDP values are not available in the official State-wise SDP data source.

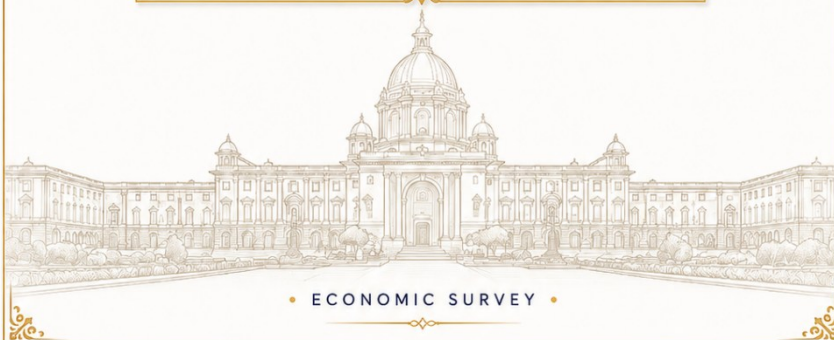
Staff Associated

L. KANGEYAN

Deputy Director

V. MOHANKUMAR

Statistical Officer



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Government of Puducherry
Directorate of Economics and Statistics

-  Kamarajar Salai, Saram, Puducherry
605 013, India
-  <https://statistics.py.gov.in>
-  eands@py.gov.in
-  0413-2248685, 0413-2248816



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