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Chennai—The City of Temples

Lesson Plan

Contents

- ▶ Location and extent of Chennai
- ▶ Climatic conditions
- ▶ Government Offices
- ▶ The People – Their dress, languages, culture and Traditions
- ▶ Industries and factories
- ▶ Tourist attractions

Objectives

- ▶ Learning about the location, extent, background and importance of Chennai.
- ▶ Important government offices in Chennai
- ▶ The life of the people – their dress, languages, food, culture, etc.
- ▶ Industries – in and around the city
- ▶ Tourist attractions in Chennai – beaches, temples, museums, etc.

Teacher's Aids

- ▶ Map and atlases
- ▶ Pictures, internet

Tips for Teacher

- ▶ Share pictures and stories about the various places and people and institutions of Chennai

Gear Up, Background and Reading

- ▶ Gear Up shows the picture of C Rajagopalachari, who became the first Indian Governor-General of independent India. He was a writer and thinker.
- ▶ Read the lesson and points to remember aloud and explain.

Chennai

- ▶ Earlier known as Madras—capital of Tamil Nadu

/// Location

- ▶ Southeast coast of India – facing Bay of Bengal – main seaport of South India
- ▶ Divided into two parts – George Town : old city and new city south of George Town
- ▶ Along coast 15 km long – Adyar and Cooum rivers flow through it.

/// Climatic conditions

- ▶ Warm throughout the year – hot, humid – some relief from sea breezes – no winter season – Rainfall from December to February.

/// Government Offices

- ▶ State Government offices – Governor, Chief Minister, other ministers, senior officers
- ▶ Public services : Chennai Municipal Corporation : the oldest in India.

/// People and their Life

- ▶ *Dress* : cotton clothes – men: veshti/lungi and shirt – women : saree and blouse; young girls : pavadai and blouse
- ▶ Mostly from Tamil Nadu – some from Kerala, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka *Languages* : Tamil and English
- ▶ *Festivals* : mainly Pongal and Christmas – Pongal : harvest festival for three days – Carnatic music & Bharatanatyam - folk music popular.

/// Industries

- ▶ Factories producing cotton and silk textiles; leather goods; railway coaches; military tanks; bicycles; tractors; automobiles; chemicals; medicines; etc. Perambur :railway coaches; Chennai : centre for Tamil films and TV serials.

/// Tourist Attractions

- ▶ Tourists from India and the world visit Chennai
- ▶ Marina Beach: longest in India ; VGP Golden Beach : popular for rides and toy train
- ▶ Fort St George; Guindy National Park; Snake Park; Gandhi Mandapam; St Thomas Church; Parthasarathi Temple; Kapaleeswarar Temple; Vivekananda Museum; etc.

/// Transport

- ▶ Road, rail, air and waterways – well connected locally and other cities
- ▶ Anna International Airport
- ▶ Chennai seaport with artificial harbour.