

## CHAPTER 4

### POPULATION FORECAST

**3.4.1.** Forecast of population is essential to assess the levels of services and the requirement of funds. Here it is limited to the period of implementation of the State Finance Commission's Report i.e. Five years commencing from April 1997 (1997-98 to 2001-2002). While analyzing the population, it may be noted that Urban and Rural population have been worked out on the basis of census definition. The same is reflected in table 3.23. However, from the points of local bodies, Town Panchayats are now (after bringing them under District Municipalities Act, Amendment 1994) deemed as urban despite the fact that about 421 Town Panchayats representing a population of nearly 59.36 lakhs are still rural in character.

**Table 3.23 Population Trends in Tamilnadu and India**

	Population in lakhs			Decadal Growth Rate %		
	1971	1981	1991	1961-71	1971-81	1981-91
<b>TAMILNADU</b>						
Urban	125	160	192	38.63	27.94	19.38
Rural	287	324	367	16.20	13.24	12.92
Total Tamilnadu	412	484	559	28.75	17.50	15.39
Household size Urban	5.10	4.93	4.65			
Household size Rural	4.70	4.64	4.38			
<b>Total Tamilnadu</b>	<b>4.79</b>	<b>4.74</b>	<b>4.46</b>			
<b>INDIA</b>						
Urban	1091	1595	2176	37.90	46.50	36.45
Rural	4390	5257	6287	21.67	19.91	19.60
Total India	5481	6852	8463	24.58	25.10	23.51
Household size Urban	5.23	5.52	5.51			
Household size Rural	5.53	5.44	5.63			
<b>Total India</b>	<b>5.46</b>	<b>5.46</b>	<b>5.60</b>			

**3.4.2.** As per census figure in comparison to total population of the country, Tamilnadu population has grown at a lower rate in the last two decades. Growth trends for both urban and rural areas indicate decline from 28.75% in 1961-71 to 15.39% in 1981-91. The average household size has reduced too. In forecasting for 2002, the decreasing rate of growth has been used. The annual compounding growth during the same period declined from 2.56% (1961-71) to 1.63% (1971-81) and then to 1.44% (1981-91). It is estimated to go down further to 1.28% by 2001-2002. While computing the population in various categories of local bodies, the change in its proportion to the total population of the State over the last two decades has been used as a yardstick. The forecast is given in Table 3.24.

**Table 3.24 Summary of Population Forecast: \*\***

(in Lakhs)

<b>Local Body</b>	<b>1991</b>	<b>1996</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>
Chennai Corporation	38.41	41.58	42.11	42.65	43.19	43.75	44.31	44.87
All Corporations	70.30	75.34	76.30	77.28	78.27	79.27	80.28	81.31
Municipalities	71.86	76.89	77.88	78.87	79.88	80.90	81.94	82.99
Town Panchayats	87.29	92.51	93.69	94.89	96.10	97.33	98.58	99.84
<b>Total Urban</b>	<b>229.45</b>	<b>244.74</b>	<b>247.87</b>	<b>251.04</b>	<b>254.25</b>	<b>257.5</b>	<b>260.8</b>	<b>264.14</b>
Panchayat Unions & Village Panchayats								
(Rural)	329.14	350.51	354.99	359.53	364.13	368.79	373.51	378.28
<b>Total</b>	<b>558.59</b>	<b>595.24</b>	<b>602.86</b>	<b>610.57</b>	<b>618.38</b>	<b>626.29</b>	<b>634.30</b>	<b>642.42</b>

**\*\*Note:** The Rural and Urban Break-up in this table do not tally with previous table i.e. Table No.3.23. This is because it defers from census definition of Urban and includes all urban local bodies like Corporations/ Municipalities and Town panchayats.