

Thane District Profile

Introduction

Thane is one of the few industrially advanced districts in the state of Maharashtra. Thane district is on the North of Konkan division. According to census 2011, it is third in the state in terms of population. Area of the district is 4214 sq. Km. It is 1.37 percent of the state. The Sahyadri mountain ranges to the east and the Arabian Sea to the west, the dense forest section of the Gujarat state on the north, and the south of Mumbai, which are world famous and the financial capital of India, are the four pillars of this district. The industrial areas developed in Thane, Kalyan, Ulhasnagar, Ambarnath, Bhiwandi talukas of the district and are under influence of Mumbai city's modern culture. Out of 720 KM of coastal coast of Maharashtra State, Thane district has benefitted by 27 KM of coastal coast. 7642-hectare area is suitable for ground water fishing. Along with marine fishing, groundwater fishing is done as well. A big market like Mumbai is available for fishery and there is a great demand for fish production from the Gulf countries also. In terms of industrial development Thane district is third in the state. Economic and social development of more than half of the district is due to industrialization. Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation has developed 8 industrial estates. The international market and friendly ports like Mumbai, the convenience of communication and the facilities provided by the government, have made the industry prosperous in the district. Especially in the southern and western parts of the district, there is a centralization of industries. The industries registered in the district mainly produce large amounts of chemicals and medicines. Apart from this, medium and small producers of plastic goods, iron goods and power loom fabrics are being manufactured in large quantities. After the Ichalkaranji in Maharashtra, the textile industry of Bhiwandi is known for its textile industry. The Central Government sponsored ammunition and arms manufacturing factory is at Ambarnath. Due to increasing industrialization, large scale employment has been generated to skilled and unskilled workers. Although the mineral production is not very much in the district, the business of sand excavation for the construction works on a large scale in Mumra, Thane and Ghodbunder.

Administrative Profile

Thane district comprises 7 talukas (administrative divisions) Thane, Kalyan, Murbad, Bhiwandi, Shahapur, Ulhasnagar and Ambarnath, with Thane being its headquarters.

Location and Geography

Thane, the northern-most district of Konkan, lies adjoining the Arabian Sea in the north-west of Maharashtra States. It extends between 18°42' and 20°20' north latitude and 72°45' and 73°48' east longitude. Its northern limits adjoin the Union territories of Dadra, Nagar Haveli and the State of Gujarat while the district of Nasik and Ahmednagar to its east, Pune to the Southeast, Raigad to the south and Mumbai Metropolitan to the South – West. The total geographical area of the district is 9558 Sq. KMS which is 3.11% of the total Maharashtra area.

Demographic Profile

The population of Thane according to the 2011 census is 1,886,941. The average literacy rate of Thane city is 91.36 percent for where male and female literacy was 94.19 and 88.14 percent respectively. The sex ratio of Thane city is 882 females per 1000 males. Child sex ratio is 900 girls per 1000 boys. Total children (0–6) in Thane city are 186,259 as per Census India report on 2011. There were 98,017 boys while 88,242 are girls. Children form 10.24% of total population of Thane City.

Logistic Infrastructure Profile

Nearby Ports including ICDs: Nhava Sheva, Mulund ICD

The logistic infrastructure profile of the district is as mentioned below:

Road Transport

Thane district is well connected to other major cities and town of the country by roadways. MSRTC (Maharashtra State Road Transport Corporation) operates direct bus to various city like Pune, Nashik, Shirdi, Solapur, Kolhapur, Satara, Karad, Nagpur, Hyderabad etc. Private buses are operated to various cities like Mysuru, Bengaluru, Mangaluru, Hubli, Surat, Ahmedabad, Vadodara, Jaipur, Udaipur, Goa, Ratnagiri etc. Railway stations like Thane, Kalyan in the district provides connectivity to the major cities of country. The Thane Municipal Corporation started its own public transport service known as the Thane Municipal Transport (TMT) from 9 February 1989. The TMT has a fleet of 289 buses which ply on 45 routes from 2 bus-depots and 8 bus-stands ferrying approximately 2.8 lakhs commuters daily. In 2006, Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation started its own transport service Navi Mumbai Municipal Transport (NMMT) in 23 January 1996 with fleet of 25 buses now having 256 buses and first hybrid bus in India. Mira Bhayandar Municipal Corporation commenced its own public transport service, known as the Mira-Bhayandar Municipal Transport (MBMT). The Kalyan-Dombivli Municipal Corporation also runs its own Kalyan-Dombivli Municipal Transport (KDMT), Ulhasnagar Municipal Corporation also runs Ulhasnagar Municipal Transport (UMT) service. Maharashtra State Road Transport Corporation (MSRTC) buses connect Thane city to different parts of the district and to other districts. BEST provides services to Mumbai Suburban, Thane and Mira-Bhayandar.

Rail Transport

Thane District railway stations:

- ▶ The total railway track length in the district is 345.73 km. spread in western and central part of the district. The Western Railway network passes through Vasai, Palghar and Dahanu talukas of the district and Central railway network passes through Thane, Kalyan, Ulhasnagar and Shahapur talukas of the district.
- ▶ Western Railway local trains leaving from Churchgate railway station go up to Dahanu Road railway station in the district. Central Railway local trains leaving from Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus go up to Kalyan, Ulhasnagar, Ambarnath, Badlapur, Karjat and Kasara. In 1994, a new connection made from Diva Junction to Vasai. This connection joined Central Railway and Western Railway networks and its length is 41.96 km. Konkan Railway network also passes through a part of the district.
- ▶ Local trains have now started plying from Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus, Mumbai to Panvel on this network. Dahanu, Satpati, Mahim, Kalyan, Vasai, and Uttan are the ports on the Arabian Sea coast. Ferry services are available between these ports. Metered Auto Rickshaws ply in Thane, Mira-Bhayander and several other towns. Metered Taxi services are also available in Thane, Mira-Bhayandar and some other towns.

Air Transport

At present, this district has no airport. But plans are underway, and proposals have been received to revive a disused airstrip for commercial operations near Kalyan.

Agricultural Profile

The important kharif crops of the district are rice, vari and nachani (finger millet). The pulses like Urad, moong and kulith are also grown in the season. Rice is the main crop of the district.

Rice is grown in all the talukas of the district but mainly in Bhiwandi, Murbad, Shahapur, Vada, Vikramgad and Dahanu. Other fruits grown in the district are guavas, mangoes, papayas, grapefruits, and coconuts. Vegetables are also grown in the district. Among the vegetables, eggplants are grown on a large scale.

Industrial Profile

Industrial Areas in Thane District are as mentioned below,

- ▶ Thane is the third most industrialized district in the State. The main products of these industries are Drugs, Textiles, Adhesives, Plastics, Rubber, Steel, Pharmaceuticals, Engineering, Fertilizers, Electronics, Chemicals, and Iron & Steel.
- ▶ Bhiwandi has been designated as Town of Export Excellence by Department of Commerce for its Textiles Industry.
- ▶ There is also Paint, Enamel & Varnish Cluster in T.T.C. Industrial. Area, Navi Mumbai which is being supported by various agencies.
- ▶ The Thane-Belapur-Kalyan industrial belt is the centre of highly sophisticated modern industries. Manufacture of machinery, machine tools and parts except electrical machinery together with the iron and steel industry and metal products are the most important and the biggest group of industries in the district.
- ▶ Thane District has 11 Industrial areas for development and expansion of industries

Name of the industrial area	Allocated industrial area (in Hectares)
Wagle Industrial Estate	258.23
Dombivali Industrial Area	347.88
Mira Industrial Area	7.82
Ambernath	228.49
Addl Ambernath	465.5
Addl. Ambernath (Palekhurd)	78.04
Badlapur Industrial Area	104.62
Murbad Industrial Area	126.15
Addl. Murbad Indl. Area	138.81
Kalyan-Bhiwandi Indl.Area	48.16
Addl. Kalyan Bhiwandi Ind.Area	38.4
TTC Industrial Area	2333.27

Specialized industrial parks in Thane District

- ▶ In Thane district there is Paint, Enamel & Varnish Cluster in T.T.C. Industrial. Area, Navi Mumbai which is being supported by various agencies. Also, there is Textile cluster in Bhiwandi
- ▶ Thane district also has two major warehousing clusters have developed namely Bhiwandi and Panvel. Bhiwandi has long been a prominent textile hub on account of the largest number of power looms in the country. Being strategically located within the Mumbai Metropolitan Region (MMR), Bhiwandi is near the large consumption markets of Mumbai, Thane city and Navi Mumbai. This geographic advantage of proximity to the densely populated consumption markets of Mumbai, Thane and Navi Mumbai makes the Bhiwandi warehousing hub a preferred choice of occupiers intending to serve the large consumption market of the MMR territory.
- ▶ In terms of the geographical footprint, Bhiwandi belt has emerged as the top warehousing cluster for the retail facing companies like Aditya Birla Nuvo, Madura

- ▶ Garments, Decathlon, Raymond and Max. Even the e-commerce firms like Amazon, Flipkart, Myntra and ABOF have taken up warehouses in this cluster.
- ▶ There are lots of BPOs, software companies in Thane district which has become too congested and hence the Govt must focus on development of Industrial clusters to de-congest the cities.

Table 1-1 Major Horticulture and Agriculture production data

Sr No	Name of Product	Production in MT (2021-22)	Area under Production Hectare (2021-22)
1	Mango	2,479	2,425
2	Sapota (Chikoo)	201	1,726
3	Rice	1,05,800	55,912
4	Toor	2,200	4,037
5	Gram	2,526	3,604
6	Ragi	1,522	2,118

(Source: Third Estimate by Agriculture Department, Pune)

Industries and Employment Generation in Thane District

The below mentioned illustrates industries and employment generation of the district,

Table 1-2 Industries & Employment Generation Data

Sr No	Category	No. of Enterprises			Employment Generation		
		Mfg.	Service	Total	Mfg.	Service	Total
	Udyog Aadhar						
1	Micro	47,907	1,34,355	1,82,262	2,30,493	4,50,576	6,81,069
2	Small	8,504	12,194	20,698	1,81,380	1,90,098	3,71,478
3	Medium	461	574	1,035	29,877	59,826	89,703
	Total	56,872	1,47,123	2,03,995	4,41,750	7,00,500	11,42,250

Source: DIC Thane Udyog Aadhar Data (upto 31.03.2021)

Service Sector Profile

Being closer to Mumbai, which is Financial Capital of the country, Thane has emerged as KPO & BPO Hub, R&D, IT, Logistics, Maritime and Ancillary services hub. These Services are majorly located in Thane-Belapur Industrial belt. Thane has also emerged as Warehousing and Transportation hub for Mumbai Metropolitan Region. Other service industries which are popular in district are as follows:

- ▶ Hotel and Tourism related services
- ▶ Healthcare services including services by nurses, physiotherapist and paramedical personals
- ▶ Accounting / Auditing and bookkeeping services
- ▶ Entertainment services including audio visual services
- ▶ Environment services
- ▶ Educational services
- ▶ Consultancy services
- ▶ Distribution services
- ▶ Advertisement services
- ▶ Marketing research and Public opinion services
- ▶ Printing and Publication services
- ▶ Lab Testing facility

- ▶ Transport and Logistics services
- ▶ Legal services etc.

Industrial Infrastructure Profile

Below mentioned infrastructure facilities provided by MIDC in Thane industrial areas

▶ Roads

Roads are the main transport medium for the district also rail connectivity is good.

▶ Electricity

Electricity is available 24*7 in all MIDC's.

▶ Water

Water transport facility is available to the district through navigable creeks such as Bhayander – Vasai Creek, Dativare Creek etc. Through navigable rivers such as Vaiterna and Ulhas, passengers, and marine products such as salt, fish and sand etc. are transported in mechanised and non-mechanised boats.

Industrial Association of the District

- ▶ Thane Small Scale Industries Association (TSSIA)
- ▶ Thane Manufacturers Association (TMA)
- ▶ Thane Belapur Industries Association
- ▶ Kalyan Ambernath Manufacturers Association
- ▶ Additional Ambernath Manufacturers Association
- ▶ Murbad Manufacturers Association
- ▶ Badlapur Industries Welfare Association
- ▶ Mira-Bhayander Small Scale Industries Association
- ▶ Chamber of Small Industry Association (COSIA)
- ▶ TTC-MIDC Industries Association (Formerly Small-Scale Entrepreneurs Association)
- ▶ Pokhran Lake Small Scale Industries Association (PLSSIA)
- ▶ Shahapur Manufacturers Association

Banking Facilities

All leading Private and Public sector banks have their branches in Thane District; SBI, HDFC, ICICI etc. Also, Thane district have branches of NBFC namely Bajaj Finance, Shriram Transport Finance, India Bulls Housing Finance etc. Proper network of Banking facilities in Thane District is available.

Investment opportunities and Strength for Thane district

- ▶ The district has emerged as major **Textile and Garment, Pharmaceutical, Iron and Steel, Engineering and Imitation Jewellery** production hub of Maharashtra.
- ▶ The district has emerged as commercial hub for **Textile** due to high availability of sector specific infrastructure and manpower resources.
- ▶ Investment opportunities in Thane district are in below sectors:
- ▶ **Engineering, Chemical, IT & ITES, Pharmaceutical, Textile & Garment, Iron & Steel etc**
- ▶ **Textile and Garment** – Midas creation, Renuja Fabrics, Dhupeshwar Silk Mills Pvt Ltd, AL Mahir Garments, Fabrikaa
- ▶ **Pharmaceutical** – GETZ Pharma Pvt. Ltd., BEW Engineering Pvt. Ltd
- ▶ **Iron and Steel** – Sachins Impex, Steel Wire India, Trident Electricals, Broad Steel Industries Lp, Zarafa Corporation, Emlon International, Atul Engineering Solutions

- ▶ **Engineering** – ESP(Asia) Pvt.Ltd, Emco Limited, Rishikesh Exports, Dembla Valves Ltd, Batliboi Environmental Engineering Ltd., Mahendra Dished-Ends Pvt. Ltd, Parle Kovai Machinery Pvt.Ltd, Industrial Steel Rolling Mill & Co