

Mumbai is the capital of the Indian state of Maharashtra. Mumbai lies at the mouth of the Ulhas River in the coastal region known as the Konkan, bounded by the Arabian Sea in the west. It is the most populous city in India with a total metropolitan population of approximately 20.5 million. Mumbai is the commercial and entertainment capital of India. It is also one of the world's top 10 centres of commerce, generating 70% of India's maritime trade and 70% of capital transactions to India's economy.



Figure 1: India map and location of Mumbai

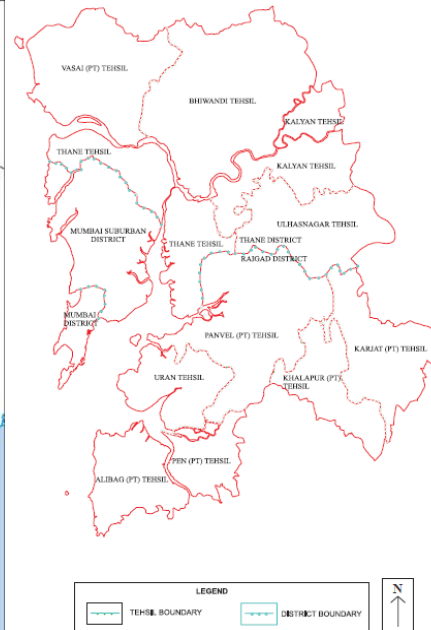


Figure 2: Regional setting of Mumbai

► **Administrative arrangement and planning fabric**

Mumbai, a part of Mumbai metropolitan region, which extends over 4329 sq.km and comprise of 8 municipal corporations, 9 municipal councils; 7 non-municipal urban centres and 995 villages. There are about 40 planning authorities in the region that are responsible for micro level planning. Mumbai metropolitan regional development authority (MMRDA) is responsible to formulate a comprehensive growth management strategy including a broad regional landuse plan, policy, resource mobilisation strategies, fiscal and institutional mechanism as a part of a regional plan. Additionally MMRDA coordinate development among different administrative body and execute detailed plan in micro level in special planning areas (SPAs). Brihanmumbai municipal corporation (BMC) is responsible for the civic and municipal services of Mumbai. The total area of Mumbai is 603.4 sq. km. BMC is in charge of laying out policy, formulate & execute the detailed development plan and maintaining the civic & infrastructure needs of the city. The Mayor, head of the corporation is chosen through democratic election process represent the third tier of governance system.

► **Urban identity and some critical issues**

The city experienced a substantial growth during 1950 to 1981 due to high levels of industrial development and growth in the suburban areas of Greater Mumbai. The population of Greater Mumbai is projected to grow about 14.69 million (low estimate) and 16.31 million (high estimate) by the year 2031. Housing, particularly housing for slum and urban poor is the most challenging issue in Mumbai. Housing in Mumbai is mostly private sector dominated except

slum housing and housing for urban poor. The land scarce city has very little scope for new development except renewal of old housing and redevelopment of defunct mills' areas.

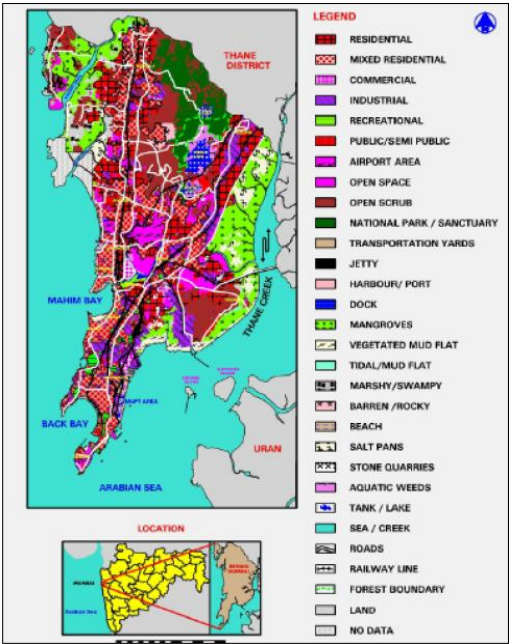


Figure 4: Existing landuse map of Greater Mumbai

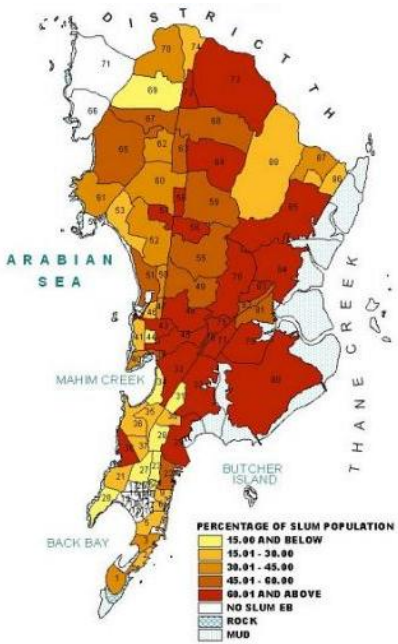


Figure 5: Slum population in Greater Mumbai

Mumbai has a diversified local economy including finance, engineering, diamond-polishing, healthcare and information technology. Mumbai has witnessed an economic boom since the liberalisation of 1991. In Dharavi, the recycling industry has an estimated 15,000 single-room factories. Slums have constituted an integral part of Mumbai's cityscape for several decades. 55% of the population lives in slums which cover 6-8% of city land. Dharavi, Asia's second biggest slum is located in central Mumbai and houses over 1 million people. The policies towards slum evolved from demolition in the 70s to slum improvement works in the 80s to leased land in the 90s to the present policy of treating slum as a resource by extending soft loan and redevelopment through TDR. Public transport systems in Mumbai include the Mumbai suburban railway, private buses, metre taxis, auto rickshaws and ferries. Although 88% of the city's commuters travel by public transport, Mumbai still struggles with traffic congestion mainly due to the capacity constraints of roads. Buses are generally favoured for commuting short to medium distances, while train are more economical and used as longer distance commutes. Construction of Mumbai metro rail and monorail is presently underway.

► **Urban evolution and growth story**

The aims for Mumbai are to achieve poverty alleviation, urban renewal, improvement of physical & social infrastructure, efficient transportation and 'shelter for all'. The focuses of development plan are economic growth, transportation, housing, infrastructure, finance and governance. The strategy for Mumbai's growth is based on 'poly nucleated development strategy' fostering decongestion and distribution of economic activities. The mechanisms to address the issues include various innovative mechanisms like transfer of development rights, accommodation reservation, rights for land under reservation, development control regulation (DCR) including higher FSI for urban renewal schemes, redevelopment of dilapidated cessed buildings & mills and redevelopment of slums. Preservation of buildings and precincts of historical, aesthetical, cultural and architectural value is protected in the development plan through heritage conservation committee.

