Henson Editorial Services & North Staffordshire Press

May 2021
Thirty-Fourth Edition

HENSON HERALD

May has been a roller coaster with regard to business and publishing. The Arts Council Grant materialized helping to keep us in the swim and LDN Trainees in publishing have added creative muscle to North Staffordshire Press. Amirah's research into Artificial Intelligence continues to blossom and plans are afoot for a Summer School at Keele Innovation Hub. A book titled The Welsh in North Staffordshire by Stuart Haywood is due for publication later in the Year and will be printed in Carmarthen by Pro Print. The full fury of Covid-19 appears to be abating in UK

Proud to be a member of
Staffordshire
Chambers of
Commerce.

but an article by our Indian correspondent features the Pandemic in the Sub-continent and hearts go out to Commonwealth friends. There is a generation of young people working with Henson Editorial Services and North Staffordshire Press and they are showing great resilience in this difficult period of history and deserve massive support. April's newsletter encouraged a flood of comments and based on the Arnold Bennett Society feedback a piece for Grammarians is included within. Special thanks to Morag Jones, Daniel Goodyear and Riannon Buckman for their creative contributions to the May edition of Henson Herald.

Stay Safe

Malcolm Henson (MD)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

North Staffordshire Press Charity Donation by Jenny Amphlett.....2

The Ballade of 2020-21.....3

Benedict Freeman by Daniel Goodyear.....4

Stephen King by Riannon Buckman 5

Literary places to visit in Devon by Emma Lockley.....6

Critical Spatial Thinking by TV Kumaran and OM Murali.....7

Its and It's from the Spectator.....14

Sponsors.....15

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE PRESS CHARITY DONATION

BY

JENNY AMPHLETT

An online show, organised by independent publishing company North Staffs Press, raised £350 towards a theatre's education projects.

The Christmas production, which was screened over the internet on Boxing Day and New Year's Day, will help to fund the creation of an outdoor teaching area at the New Vic Theatre in Basford, so that socially distanced education sessions can resume.

Malcolm Henson, the owner of North Staffs Press, said: "The show was created by publishing assistant Eleanor Broadhurst and took a lot of technical ingenuity to put together. We had a good attendance on both days and received charitable donations from attendees.

"My wife and I have been to productions at the New Vic Theatre many times and have held some very enjoyable book launches there over the years."

David Sunnuck, front of house and visitor services manager at the New Vic Theatre, was presented with a cheque at the Courtyard by Marriott Hotel on Keele University campus.

He said: "Thank you to everybody at North Staffs Press for organising the online show, raising this money and then donating it to the New Vic.

"As a registered charity we are very appreciative. We take our education and outreach work very seriously. This will help towards that and help us to support children in the local area."

The presentation was also attended by authors Dr Deep Chand, a retired consultant radiologist who is publishing his autobiography with North Staffs Press, and Roger Horwood, whose football book Just a Face in the Crowd is available across Staffordshire.

Dr Deep Chand, Malcolm Henson, David Sunnuck, Eleanor Broadhurst and Roger Horwood.

The Ballade' of 2020-21

I'm a "***WOKE***", the elitist Fool wrote,
Losers ***all*** without a Moral Compass,
It was, of course, all about the Vote.
They "*Defunded the Police*" and socially harassed,
Losers raped, pillaged and gathered "*in masse*",
Law & Order be damned, the Constitution trashed,
They killed and burned but "*took no Police sass"*,
Corrupt Politicians herded them and, *finally,* cashed.

BLM appeared, promised to undo the "*Yoke*",
Affirmative Action was ***truly***… "*Systemic Racism*"
It was, of course, all about the Vote.
They killed, burned and chanted, "*White Racism !*",
"Critical Race Theory" formed an unholy Communism,
Other races be damned. "***Black Supremacy****"* prevailed,
Corrupt Politicians sold their divisive anarchism,
"*Black Lives Matter*" enjoined, "*Let'm Go to Hell*".

"***All Lives Matter***", even the innocent remote,
Abortion should never have been… until,
It was, of course, all about the Vote.
Feminists & WOKEs then destroyed "*at will*",
Convenience, whim, whatever… they killed,
Citing privilege and right and righteousness,
They argue their case before the Courts still,
Corrupt Politicians enabled this tragic distress.

Lest we forget, COVID-19 was the "*Scapegoat*"
Dr. Fauci, *Saint of Wuhan,* was patently absurd,
It was, of course, all about the Vote.
Blanket ballots and ***no*** Identification ensured
that electoral systems were finally manured,
Schools and businesses were completely shut,
Religion, Speech and Freedom went unsecured,
All ***but*** *Corrupt Politicians* were distraught.

"*Illegal Aliens"* surged over the Southern moat,
Drugs, Thugs & "*Free loaders"* infiltrated our Land,
It was, of course, all about the Vote.
BLM, elitist WOKEs & Feminists together banned,
$10T "*GanGrene New Deal"*, was *putrid infestation*… and,
"*Social Justice"*… ***more lies…*** became the *Order of the Day*,
"Make America Great Again!" "… Insurgents be damned!
More Corrupt Politicians? Citizens said, "***No Way!"***

~G. Paul Robinson, American Citizen-at-Large

BENEDICT FREEMAN

BY

DANIEL GOODYEAR

“So Mr Harrison would you like to share anything?”

“No… I really… do I have to?” (feeling and sounding rather defeated)

“It's all up to you, these sessions are all about opening up and letting it out, but only if your comfortable”

“… alright” (in and exhales deeply)

There once lived… and still lives a man named Benedict Freeman, an explorer and the world's worst criminal.

Benedict has a brilliant yet fickle mind. Benedict is capable of pulling off the greatest and most elaborate heists but he lacks an end product. Literally, he goes in with an open mind.

Like I said he's brilliant, he can zip through a maze in seconds flat and can fit through a hole half his size.

He is like a hybrid between a cat and a mouse, he weaves through the security systems like he's George Best. Mind you I always said he would make a brilliant footballer but of course all of his talents go to waste.

The problem lies with his “I’ll know how I feel when I get there” philosophy.

However, he is incredibly thorough; he's got aliases lined up from A to Z and enough available safe houses a phone call away that welcomes him to be picky.

He just lacks conviction.

His brilliant yet fickle mind passed up on:

Action Comics #1 because “Superman is so boring though”

The original draft of Star Wars… “I prefer the prequels”

The bass guitar of Sir Paul McCartney… “Who wants to be the bass player, no one wants to be the bass player”.

The Mona Lisa… “It's not even that good”.

And I tell you it was at that point where I gave up and strolled right into the police station.

And that is why I am sitting here before you today.

Thank you.

Applause rang all round and fellow inmates gave him shoulder pats of support and respect as he made his way back to his seat.

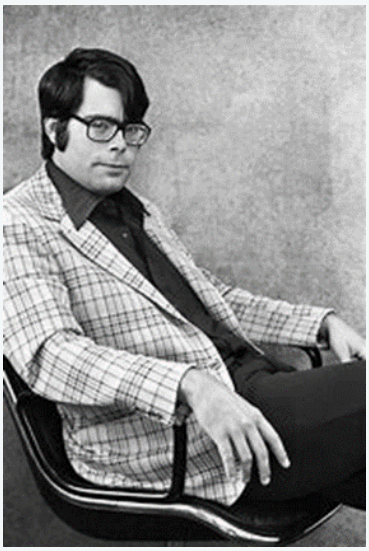
“So how did that make you feel?”

“Well I'm never robbing a bank with him again”

STEPHEN KING

BY

RIANNON BUCKMAN



Stephen King, arguably one of the most prolific writers of the late 20th and early 21st century, in my opinion, single-handedly revived and changed the way we view horror in literature today. His first work Carrie, published in 1974, is marked as a cult classic among old and young readers alike. The novel became a huge hit when it was first published which allowed King to start writing full time, it was later turned into a movie in 1976 starring Sissy Spacek as the tormented main character. Due to its popularity, Carrie was remade in 2013 with Chloe Grace Moretz playing the terrifying teen with control over highly advanced telekinetic powers. Although the 2013 version made $84.80 million dollars in gross revenue compared to the 1976's $33.80 million dollars, it did not reach the same level of pop culture success. This happens a lot when it comes to the remakes of popular films, there's a large possibility that people from younger generations have already seen and loved the older versions so there's no need for them to see the new ones. However, King's success didn't just fall into his lap as there were many obstacles in his way.

The king of horror was born just after the second World War in 1947 and everything was fine for a couple of years until his parents split up, it's reported that his father left his mother under the guise of going to buy cigarettes. From an analytical perspective, this may have altered the way he views healthy relationships which is why there are so many terrible examples of them in his books. For several years, he and his brother David divided their time between Indiana and Connecticut, King eventually moved back to Maine to live with his mother and brother. He graduated from the local high school (Lisbon Falls High School) in 1966 and decided to stay close to home for college, attending the University of Maine at Orono. At University, he spent his time writing and participating in the school's student government, there he published his first short story, which appeared in Startling Mystery Stories. After graduating with an English degree, King tried to get a position as a teacher but had no such luck; he took a job in a laundry mat and continued to write throughout the years until late 1971 when he secured a job working as an English teacher at Hampden Academy. Bringing it back to the beginning, just three years later his first book (Carrie) had been published and was a huge success and the success didn't stop there. King went on to write more famous cult classics like The Shining (1977), Cujo (1981) and IT (1986).

The Shining was made into a movie and released in 1980 with famous director, Stanley Kubrick at the helm, even today it's regarded as one of the best and most frightening movies of all time; using fabulous talents like Jack Nicholson and Shelley Duvall. The movie was submerged into pop culture fabulous talents like Jack Nicholson and Shelley Duvall. The movie was submerged into pop culture when the internet decided to take a specific scene from the film and turn it into a 'meme', using the scene to talk about the horrors of paying bills and other things that humans find terrifying. King's fourth book 'IT' is easily one of his scariest pieces of work in my opinion, I first picked it up when I was 12 and was captivated by his writing style along with his use of vivid imagery. The book features a group of pre-teens as they battle an evil clown, known as Pennywise who feeds on fear and at the end of the book the kids have an orgy to defeat him. Their logic is that they have to become adults and what do adults do? They have sex. This part of the plotline recently came under fire after a girl on the app Tiktok talked about it, which brought up a lot of memories for the people who had read the book – myself included. Obviously, this part couldn't be put into the film so the storyline was changed, in the film the kids (Bill, Stan, Richie, Eddy, Ben, Mike and Beverley) defeat Pennywise once in the sewer plant near their town then 27 years later another little girl goes missing so Mike, who never left Derry, calls all the others to come back so that they can defeat him again. The movies, like many other of King's works became

classics and so 'IT' was remade in 2017, which actually did quite well when compared to some of the other remakes.

On the other hand, as he was writing novels about rabid dogs and sewer-dwelling monsters like Cujo and IT, he published several books under the alias Richard Bachman. He published four of these books (Rage – 1977, The Long Walk – 1979, Roadwork – 1981 and The Running Man – 1982) under this alias because he was under the impression that people wouldn't accept more than one book from an author each year. During a large portion of King's career (1980s – 1990s) he was releasing as many as several books a year, which is interesting because this was around the same time that the writer was addicted to heroin. It's a well-known fact that King has credited his addiction to the reason why he wrote and published so many books, many artists in different creative medias are known for using drugs as a catalyst for inspiration. His addiction made for some compelling and thrilling stories that have continued to be used as the basis of numerous films for big and small screens, he went to rehab and he's much better now. King continues to have unparalleled success even now, in 2013 he published a sequel to The Shining called Doctor Sleep that reached the No.1 Bestseller spot in the New York Times, this was also made into a movie and released in 2019. His work Pet Sematary (1989) was also made into a film in 2019; King is the only author I know of that has this many of his books made into successful films. He is continuing to write even now in his 70s and also enjoys putting people in their place on Twitter, he mostly goes after privileged republicans that don't understand the struggles oppressed minorities face.

LITERARY PLACES TO VISIT IN DEVON

EMMA LOCKLEY

As we are now beginning to embrace Spring (although at present the weather has a more Wintery feel to it) and look forward to Summer, more people this year will be thinking about holidaying in the UK, so here are a few literary inspired places people could perhaps think about visiting this year in Devon.

War Horse Valley Country Farm Park—Michael Morpurgo was inspired to write the classic *War Horse* after a conversation he had with several war veterans at his local pub in Iddesliegh on Dartmoor; and now visitors are able to explore the place that inspired Morpurgo's book for themselves.

https://www.odysseytraveller.com/articles/dartmoor-england/

Dartmoor—This particular area of Devon has provided much inspiration for writers over the years and is certainly a beautiful part of the South West to explore. If you are a Sherlock Holme's fan and looking to retrace the exploits that occurred in *The Hound of the Baskervilles*, then you could visit Bellever Tor, which is a granite rock formation located in the centre of Dartmoor, and is specifically mentioned in the book. Another area to visit is the village of Princetown, which also has close connections to Conan Doyle and *The Hound of the Baskervilles*.

Exmoor—Another wonderful part of Devon, and the infamous Doone Valley is a great area to explore and experience the inspiration behind R.D. Blackmore's *Lorna Doone*.

Teignmouth—This lovely seaside town in North Devon, with some great things for visitors to explore, is also where John Keats and his brothers visited, with them all staying at Northumberland Place.

So if you are thinking about taking a trip to the South West this year, why not indulge your literary passion and visit some spectacular parts of Devon that have inspired some great literary works.

CRITICAL SPATIAL THINKING IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CORONA

BY

T.V. KUMARAN AND O.M. MURALI

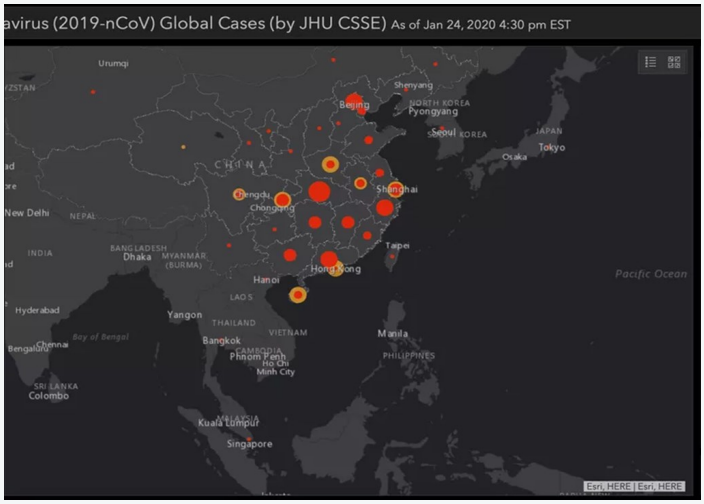
This paper is an attempt to **discuss how the COVID-19 cases started in Chennai and its subsequent geographical spread over a period of time, to some of the highest numbers at India level**.

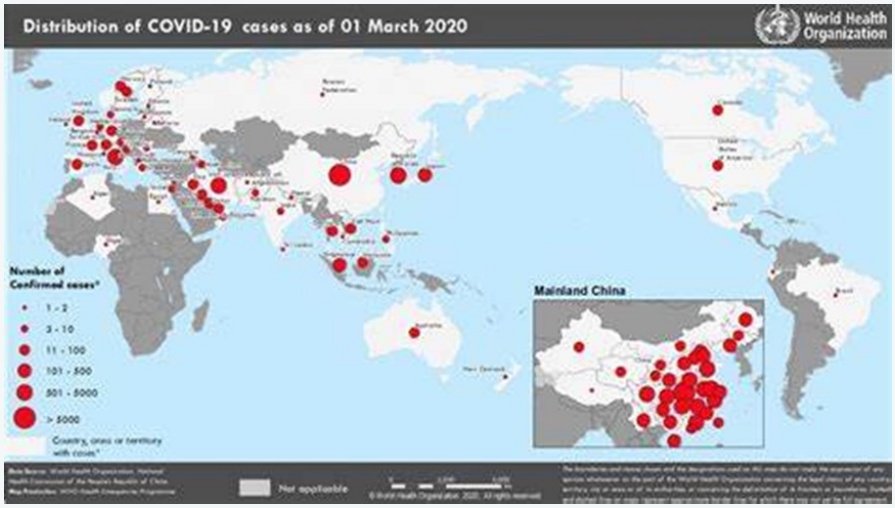
It **discusses the various aspects of the origins of cases, its gradual spread to certain parts of Chennai,** leaving other areas with relatively less or no cases.

At the next level, the study moves around **the underlying spatial concept of containment zones and its changing nature when the relaxation of lockdown was brought in a phased manner**.

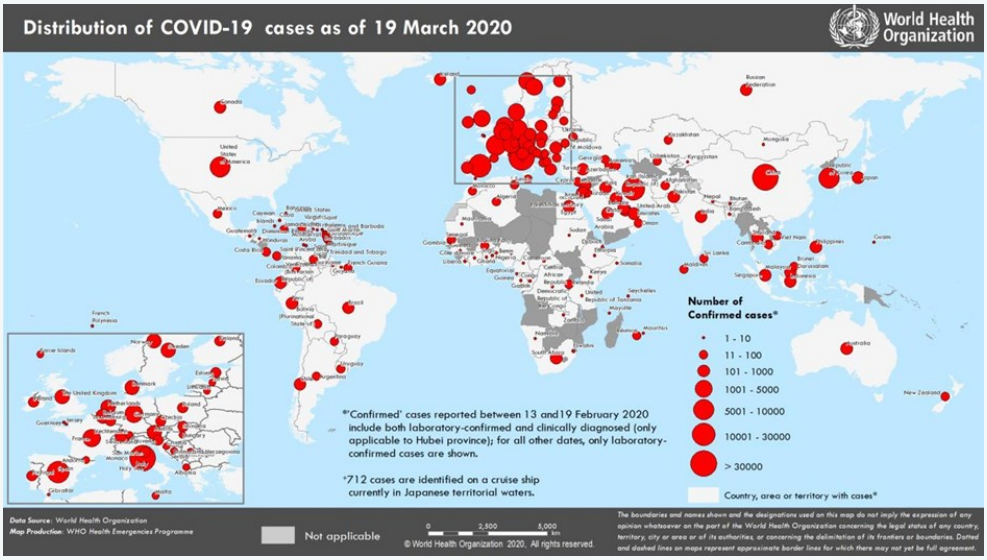
Here, **the very essence of spatial thinking, which is key to the effective knowledge gaining on origin, spread, monitoring, and containment of infection with risk mitigation measures** towards the Coronavirus highlighted.

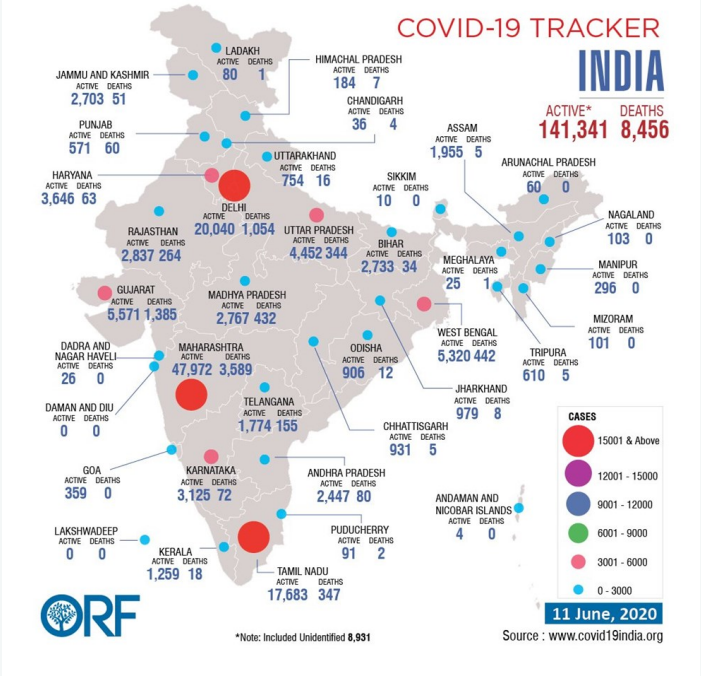
Global Distribution Corona Infections since January 24, 2020

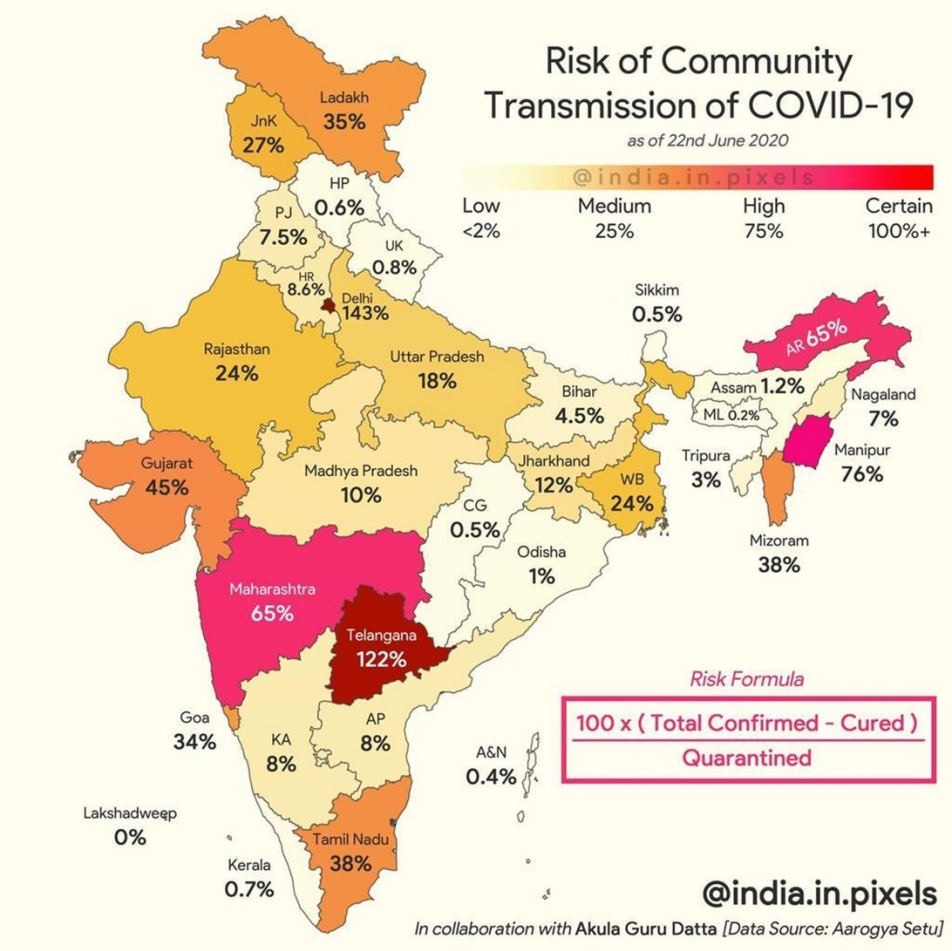




Global Distribution of Corona Infections since March 19, 2020







India Situation

In the beginning, the COVID-19 cases in India were **purely imported from people who had recently travelled**. This was at a time when people landing from other countries were checked for initial symptoms, if any.

People with different periods of international travel history, their acquaintances started showing symptoms which seriously required attention.

This was at a time when contact tracing started assuming significance in Chennai and elsewhere in India to track the geographical spread of contacts wherein the infected people had either personally visited or had contact with them by some means.

Coronavirus in Tamil Nadu

The **first case** of the COVID-19 pandemic in Tamil Nadu was reported on **March 7, 2020**.

As of **May 26, 2020**, the Department of Health and Family Welfare confirmed **a total of 17,728 cases**, including **127 deaths** and **9,342 recoveries**.

Till now, Tamil Nadu has the **second highest number of confirmed cases in India** after Maharashtra.

Now, **all 37 districts in the state are affected by the pandemic**, with **Chennai being impacted the most**.
More than half of the confirmed cases are from Chennai, which is also the most populous district of the state.
The case **fatality rate in the state is among the lowest in the country**.
As of May 26, 2020, the state has **conducted 431,739 tests**.

COVID-19 Statistics of Tamil Nadu June 06, 2020

S.NO.	COVID-19 STATISTICS	DETAILS
1	Number of active cases on date (including isolation)	12,132*
2	Number of people tested positive today in Tamil Nadu	1,373
	Passengers returned from other countries by international airport tested positive today	Kuwait - 1
	Passengers returned from other states by Road and Train tested positive today	Maharashtra – 5 Kerala – 1 Telangana - 4
	Total	1,384
3	Total Number of people tested positive till date	27,256
4	Total Number of samples tested today/till date	16,447/544,981
5	Total Number of people tested today/till date	15,991/5,20,286
6	No. of Male/Female/Transgender tested positive today	783/601/0
7	No. of Male/Female/Transgender tested positive till date	16,964/10,278/14
8	Number of functioning COVID-19 testing facilities in Tamil Nadu	74 (44 Govt. + 30 Private)
9	Number of COVID-19 positive patients discharged following treatment today/ till date	585/14,901
10	Total number of deaths today/till date	12/220

*Note: 2 deaths cross notified to other states, 1 patient died after being negative for infection. Covid-19 statistics – Health and Family Welfare Department, Tamil Nadu 04/06/2020

Tamil Nadu situation since March 2020

As per the Health Department, **88 per cent of the patients are asymptomatic** while **84 per cent of deaths were among those with co-morbidities like diabetes, hypertension and cardio-vascular complications**.
The **initial surge** in cases in Tamil Nadu was due to **a cluster linked to a Tablighi Jamaat religious congregation event** that took place in Delhi. **This has resulted in a spike in cases in the beginning of April**.
By then, **the second major local cluster was silently forming at Koyambedu vegetable market in Chennai**. This has accounted for **more than 35 per cent of all cases in the state** as of May 14, 2020.

Chennai situation

When vendors tested **positive** in Chennai, **market labourers including loadmen were infected in many districts of the State such as Ariyalur, Perambalur, Cuddalore, Villupuram, Chengalpet and Tiruvallur**.

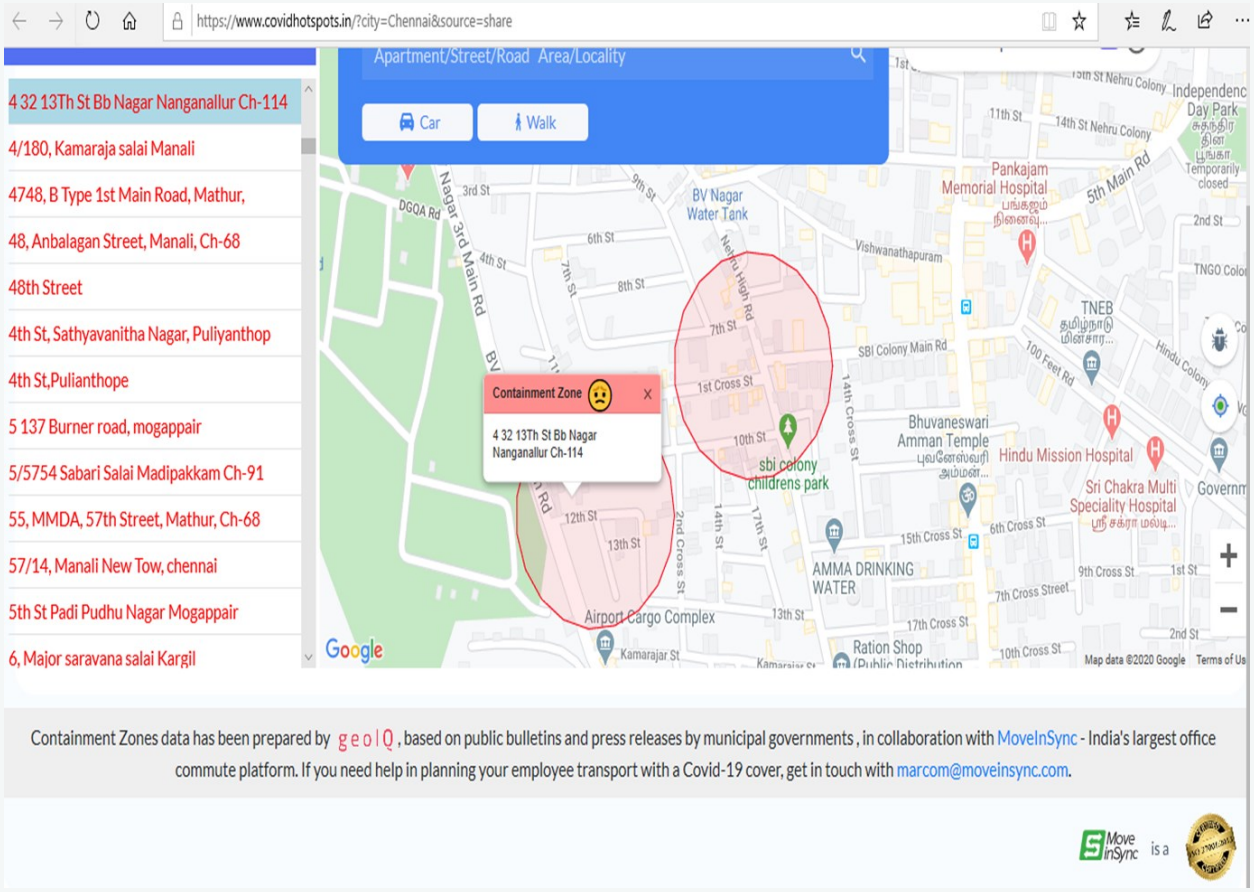
The Government managed to trace and test all index cases, but the **challenging process was contact tracing**.

The cluster was different owing to the massive crowds involved. **Under normal circumstances, a person who tests positive for COVID-19 will have 20 to 30 contacts**. But, public health officials pointed out that **Koyambedu cluster had roughly 200 to 250 contacts for those who tested positive**.

Chennai situation: Containment Zones

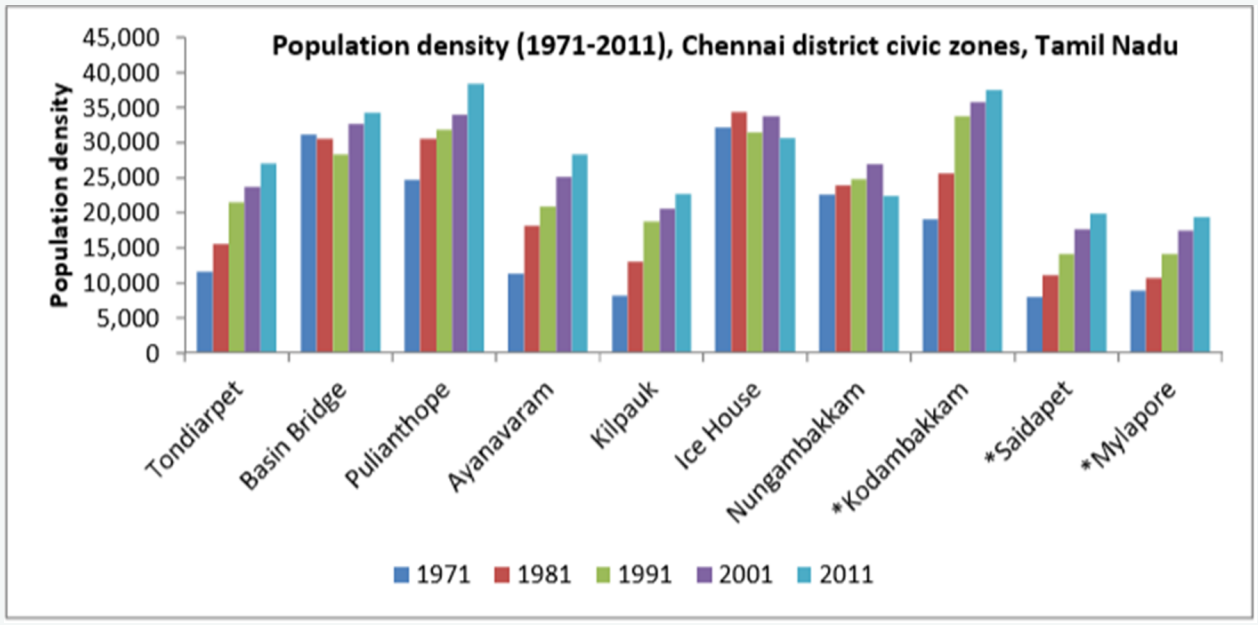
ZONE	ZONE NAME	CONFIRMED CASES
ZONE 01	Thiruvottiyur	731
ZONE 02	Manali	274
ZONE 03	Madhavaram	536
ZONE 04	Tondiarpet	2470
ZONE 05	Royapuram	3552
ZONE 06	Thiru-Vi-Ka Nagar	1958
ZONE 07	Ambattur	733
ZONE 08	Anna Nagar	1784
ZONE 09	Teynampet	2245
ZONE 10	Kodambakkam	2202
ZONE 11	Valasaravakkam	996
ZONE 12	Alandur	314
ZONE 13	Adyar	1094
ZONE 14	Perungudi	365
ZONE 15	Sholinganallur	362
CASES CROSS NOTIFIED TO OTHER DISTRICT		210

Chennai: Buffer Zones, high resolution built-up area plus



Containment Zones data has been prepared by geoIQ, based on public bulletins and press releases by municipal governments, in collaboration with MoveInSync - India's largest office commute platform. If you need help in planning your employee transport with a Covid-19 cover, get in touch with marcom@moveinsync.com.

MoveInSync is a



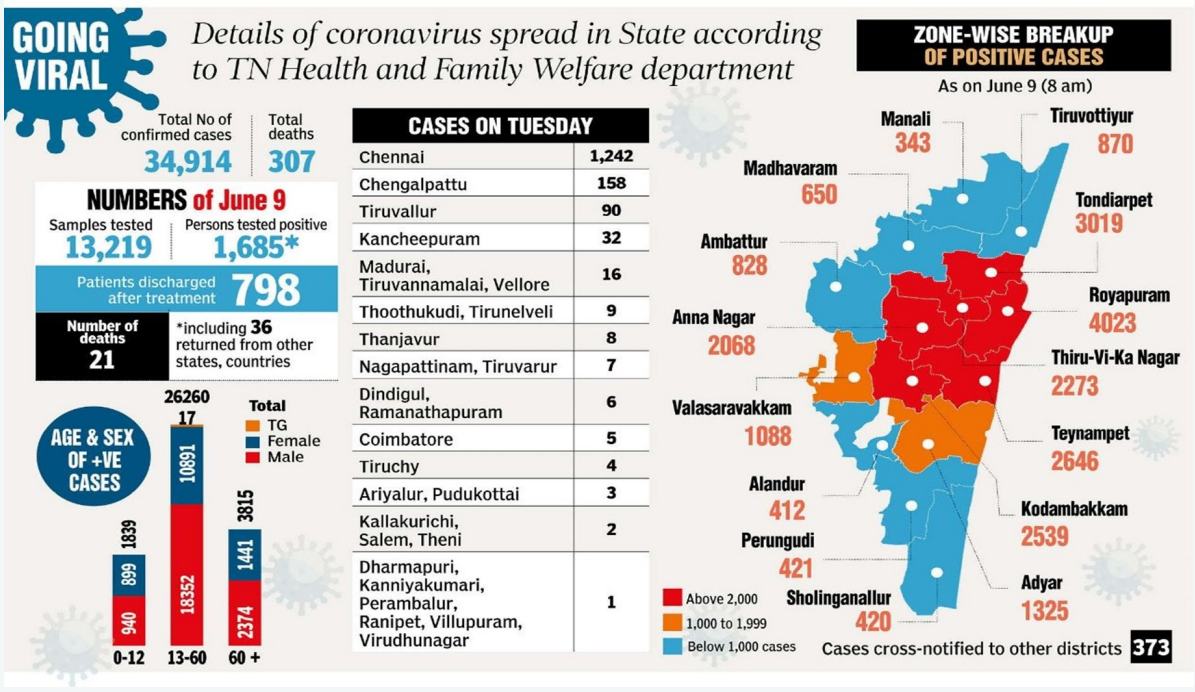
Monitoring Process

The monitoring process is called **contact tracing**, which can be discussed further in three steps:

Contact identification: When someone is **confirmed as infected** with a virus, contacts are identified by asking about the person's activities and the activities and roles of the people around her/him since the onset of illness. Contacts can be anyone who has been in contact with an infected person: family members, work colleagues, friends, or health care providers.

Contact listing: People who have had contacts with the infected person should be listed as **contacts**. Here, the **authority should identify every listed contact and to inform them of their contact status, the actions that would follow, and the importance of receiving early care if they develop any symptoms**. Contacts should also be provided with information about prevention of the disease. In some cases, quarantine or isolation is required for high risk contacts, either at home, or in a hospital.

Contact follow-up: **Regular follow-up should be conducted with all contacts to monitor for symptoms and test for signs of infection**.



Chennai situation: Recommendations

The state Government has **responded to the outbreak by meticulously following a contact-tracing of infected people, setting up of containment zones, quarantine, testing and surveillance to control the spread of virus**.

Vulnerable population mapping is a much needed exercise. This exercise will include **a comprehensive land use/land cover mapping of each built-up are covering Chennai zones**, apart from **integration of health related secondary data to make the system intelligent to answer our complex queries** with decision making made easy through such an approach.

Population de-congestion is required in those areas where density is high.

Koyambedu supermarket and similar other vegetable, fruit markets needed to be redesigned in the arrangement of shops and entry-exit. One step ahead is that similar markets catering to local population across the city ward/zone should be established. This can de-congest the Koyambedu market and reduce the population cluster.

Social responsibility is an important point, which when practiced strictly in the absence of a vaccine, can really help the vulnerable population to contain the spread of the virus. This includes compulsory three-layer mask, social distancing and personal hygiene being key to protecting individuals against the virus.

Protecting the natural environment alone can save humanity from future pandemics. Earlier, wild animals and species lived in their natural environment in a state of natural quarantine. This has diluted the viruses and could not be communicated.

An item on the BBC news site didn't mean what it said: 'The latest move is part of a wider crackdown by China to reign in the country's fast-growing tech platforms.' China may wish long to reign over us, but in this case it wanted to *rein in*activity.

It wasn't that the author didn't know the difference between a horse's *rein* and a monarch's *reign*. But the moribund metaphor of *reining in* allowed a homophone to sneak in. If there was a spell-checker on the author's computer, it would have let it through.

I find that a very common spelling mistake is *lead* in place of *led*, as in 'Boris led the party from victory to victory'. Since the past tense of *lead* is automatically pronounced *led* by native English speakers, the spelling *lead* would not occur to a writer were it not for the existence of the homophone *lead*, as in *lead piping*.

More mysterious to me is the common spelling of *chose* for the present tense of *choose*. I suppose it is a mix-up with *lose*, which itself becomes jumbled with *loose*.

These common words are more of a problem than longer, rarer words such as *accommodate*, *cemetery* and *separate*. To make matters worse, online spell-checkers often turn *its* into *it's*. This is a pity, as the distinction between *its* and *it's* is a shibboleth: a criterion for judging whether a writer is halfway literate. In English, spelling is still taken as an indicator of education and intelligence, like imperial examinations in the Ming dynasty.

Its has a fairly recent history. The third-person neuter possessive was *his* until the 16th century. For 100 years or so, the spellings *its* or *it's* were equally tolerated. Shakespeare's printer for the First Folio (1623) used an apostrophe in *Henry VI (Part 2)*: 'The Cradle-babe, / Dying with mothers dugge betweene it's lips.' He was just as ready not to use an apostrophe for *mother's*. The apostrophe originally indicated a missing letter. Unlike *it's* for *it is*, *its* never had a lost vowel to indicate.

Since predictive text programs so often guess what we are about to type, it is annoying when they try to insert errors into what we have got right on our own.

Dot Wordsworth (Its and It's (The Spectator))

deans
your partner in business

Chartered Accountants and
Business Advisors

Gibson House
Hurricane Court
Hurricane Close
Stafford
ST16 1GZ

Telephone
(01785) 258 311
Fax
(01785) 252 614
Email
info@deansaccountants.com

Henson Editorial Services & North Staffordshire Press
Smart Innovation Hub
Denise Coates Foundation Building
Keele University
Staffordshire
ST5 5NS

Also at:
Henson Editorial Services
Unit 12 Dark Gate
Carmarthen
Carmarthenshire
SA31 1PS

Email: enquiries@hensoneditorial.com
Ellie@hensoneditorialservices.co.uk
http://www.northstaffordshirepress.com
https://hensoneditorialservices.co.uk/
@EditorialHenson

North Staffordshire Press
SMALL PRESS OF THE YEAR
The British Book Awards 2019
Regional Finalist
Staffordshire Chambers BUSINESS AWARDS COMMENDED 19
Staffordshire Chambers of Commerce