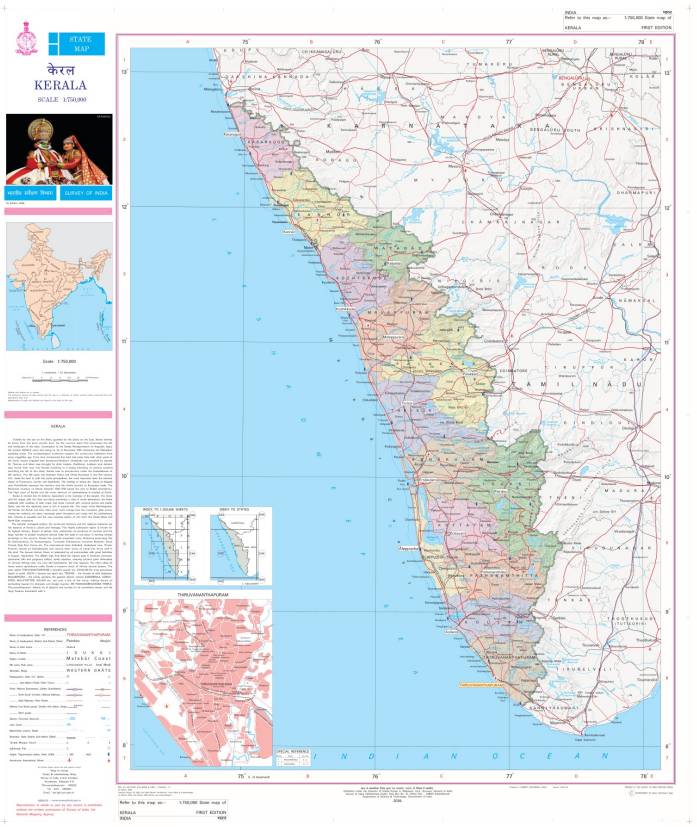
GEOGRAPHY & INVESTMENT PROFILE

Invest in Kerala

Location, supply chains and policy - an independent industrial investment lens.

ADMINISTRATIVE CENTRE
Thiruvananthapuram

AREA
38, 863 km² (Mo FPI profile)



Official geographic context · full supplied sheet(s), resized · KL04

Geography and neighbours. Narrow Arabian Sea coastal plain and Western Ghats; Karnataka and Tamil Nadu neighbours; Mahe is a Puducherry enclave. KL04

Investment discipline. Compare a customer-led project at the actual parcel. A map establishes context; it does not establish land availability, permits, utility allocation or cargo service.

OPPORTUNITIES & LOCATION

Propositions worth testing

Sector and location logic, commercial exposure, and a clear investment gate.

01 Kochi: marine engineering and ship-support services

Evidence. Port and marine-industrial ecosystem creates a specific service market. KL01 · KL02 · KL06

Commercial case. Repair components, electrical systems and technical services fit a compact high-value footprint.

Exposure. Vendor qualification and cyclical vessel demand.

Before investment. Approved vendor status and service access.

02 Kochi-Alappuzha: seafood value addition

Evidence. Mo FPI profile documents marine and food-processing inputs. KL01 · KL02 · KL06

Commercial case. Traceable cold-chain and ready-to-cook processing can improve value per tonne.

Exposure. Resource variability and export quality rejection.

Before investment. Certified sourcing and wastewater/cold-chain controls.

03 Central Kerala: spice and coconut ingredients

Evidence. Documented agricultural inputs support value-added food processing. KL01 · KL02 · KL06

Commercial case. Extraction, packaging and ingredient consistency can serve institutional buyers.

Exposure. Feedstock price and residues.

Before investment. Supply contracts, laboratory testing and food approvals.

Project decision sequence

Customer. Qualified demand and customer acceptance.

Site and utilities. Documented title or allotment, permitted use, power quality, water allocation and effluent capacity.

Logistics. Cargo acceptance, priced inbound/outbound routes, handling and contingencies.

Policy. Operative notification, eligible expenditure, filing dates, stacking limits and sanction.

CONNECTIVITY & DELIVERED COST

Build the transport chain

Inbound inputs and outbound finished goods require separate cost and service tests.

01 Road

Route / assessment. Narrow coastal settlement pattern makes parcel access and truck operating time important.

KL06

02 Rail

Route / assessment. Mainline connectivity does not establish a factory siding or temperature-controlled rail service.

KL06

03 Air

Route / assessment. Four international airports offer access; verify actual export-cargo acceptance and handling independently.

KL06

04 Sea and inland water

Route / assessment. Cochin and cargo-appropriate non-major ports require separate assessment. NW 3 is relevant geography; do not repeat promotional claims placing NW 1/NW 2 in Kerala.

KL06

05 Inbound / outbound

Route / assessment. Marine/food exporters need validated reefer, documentation and sailing plans; Vizhinjam is not interchangeable with every bulk port.

KL06

06 Utilities

Route / assessment. Land-efficient plants, water recycling and compliant effluent handling are material design considerations; no utility allocation is guaranteed.

KL06

POLICY ROUTES & ELIGIBILITY

Model conditions, not headlines

Project category, eligible cost, deadlines and sanction control the usable benefit.

01 Priority-sector large/mega investment subsidy

Terms. 10% of fixed capital investment, capped at ₹ 10 crore, paid in phases.

Conditions. Policy incentive structure applies to the 22 priority sectors; current KRIIS scheme conditions and project category govern application. It is not a universal 10% upfront grant.

Window / version. 2023 industrial policy; official implementation portal states investments on/after 1 April 2023.

Evidence status. Original policy term verified; application/sanction remains project-specific

KLV01

02 Sustainability support

Terms. 25% of eligible expenditure, capped at ₹ 25 lakh during policy period.

Conditions. Covers specified plant/equipment for effluent treatment, grid-power substitution, rainwater harvesting, zero discharge, e-waste/wastewater recycling and energy/water conservation; civil works excluded. Scheme approval still required.

Window / version. Policy-period cumulative cap, not an annual entitlement.

Evidence status. Original policy term verified; application/sanction remains project-specific

KLV01

03 Kerala Export Promotion Policy 2025

Terms. Export facilitation and capability-building framework.

Conditions. Trade infrastructure proposals are not evidence that facilities or a grant window are operating.

Evidence status. Original preserved; component-level implementing orders need verification.

KL03

SWOT & EXECUTION

Turn constraints into action

AKHB analysis: each opportunity depends on deliverable prerequisites.

Strengths

Port and marine-industrial ecosystem creates a specific service market. KL01 · KL02

Narrow coastal settlement pattern makes parcel access and truck operating time important. KL06

Weaknesses

Limited contiguous industrial land KL01 · KL06

Perishable supply variability KL01 · KL06

Opportunities

Specialized ingredients and technical services KL01 · KL06

Quality-assured marine ingredients KL01 · KL06

Threats

Expansion options may remain constrained. KL01 · KL06

Seasonality remains. KL01 · KL06

Specific evidence still required

Do not quote the ambiguous p.59 SGST phrase as 100% reimbursement of all capex; implementing SGST rules needed.

MSME capital headline up to 45% is a maximum requiring scheme/category reconciliation, not a flat rate.

Logistics Parks Policy 2024 and Green Hydrogen policy were labelled drafts on the official dashboard; no benefits promoted.

Some portal MSME thresholds are old; apply current legally operative classification rather than copying them.

DELIVERY PLAN & RISK

Who acts, and what must change

Treat execution responsibility and residual risk as part of the investment case.

01 Constraint-to-opportunity case

Constraint. Limited contiguous industrial land
Action. Select compact, high-value processes and shared facilities
Owner. Investor and park operator
Opportunity. Specialized ingredients and technical services
Prerequisites. Title, zoning and plant-layout feasibility
Residual risk. Expansion options may remain constrained.
KL01 · KL06

02 Constraint-to-opportunity case

Constraint. Perishable supply variability
Action. Diversify procurement and use monitored cold chains
Owner. Processor and producer groups
Opportunity. Quality-assured marine ingredients
Prerequisites. Resource sustainability and buyer specifications
Residual risk. Seasonality remains.
KL01 · KL06

DELIVERY PLAN & RISK

Kerala | continued

Evidence, conditions and investment tests continued from the preceding page.

03 Constraint-to-opportunity case

Constraint. Wastewater burden

Action. Recover useful materials and treat segregated streams

Owner. Investor and licensed operator

Opportunity. Circular processing services

Prerequisites. Consent and proven treatment performance

Residual risk. Compliance and disposal liabilities remain.

KL01 · KL06

Before capital commitment

Close the evidence gaps, then approve the site and financing assumptions.

Central framework and original documents

India entry guide: nationality and beneficial ownership; sectoral FDI route; entity and tax structure; customs and import rules; land and environment; labour and social security; remittance and treaty conditions. Central schemes are project-specific and cannot be assumed to stack with state support.

Full state profile and detailed policy conditions · Canonical evidence repository