The Census in Maharashtra was taken in two phases; first phase consisting of houselisting and housing census and the second phase i.e., actual enumeration of population during 9th to 28th February, 2011. Till date the provisional population figures of population enumeration are released for rural and urban areas at district level and for towns with population one lakh and above. Now the housing data for National and at Sate level are released by the Registrar General, and Census Commissioner, India on 12th, March, 2012. Like so, the Census Directorate of Maharashtra, released same data for Maharashtra on 14th of March, 2012 up to Tahsil and Town level.

**Housing data form Census 2011**

Next to food and clothing, housing is one of the basic need of human being both from social as well as economic point of view. Hence, the data on housing is considered as one of the key indicators of the socio-economic of development. The data on housing is essential for formulation of effective policy and planning of balanced and equitable development in the country. Hence time series data on housing and housing conditions are of great importance for the government and other agencies involved in such activities.

The Census of India conducts housing census every ten years just some months prior to the population enumeration and this activity is considered as the first phase of Census Operation which is one of the important part of census exercise. Though the basic purpose of this phase of census is to prepare a frame for the second phase, but the data collected on housing during this phase are used to present data on housing conditions and amenities available to the households.

The housing tables aim at providing information on the following basic amenities and assets available to the household.

- Number of census houses and household living there;
- Condition of houses and tenure status;
- Water supply;
- Sanitation;
- Amenities;
- Assets
Number of Census houses and households

There are 3,35,69,762 census houses in Maharashtra, of which 2,98,01,063 are occupied and 37,68,699 (11.23 percent) are vacant. Area wise, of the total number of census houses, 52.2 percent are in rural and 47.8 percent are in urban. Out of all occupied census houses, 2,31,77,085 houses (77.8 percent) are used exclusively for residential and 5,42,163 (1.8 percent) census houses are used for both residential as well as for nonresidential purpose and the rest 60,81,815 (20.4 percent) census houses are used only for non-residential purposes like shops/offices, schools, hospitals, factory/workshops etc.

There are total 2,38,30,580 households in Maharashtra living in 2,37,19,248 occupied census houses indicating the fact that about 1,11,332 (0.47 percent) households share common census houses for their residence. This percentage of households sharing common census house for residence in rural is more (0.56 percent) as compared to urban (0.35 percent).

Condition of houses

Of the total households, 92.6 households are living in a house having roof like concrete, GI sheets, tiles or burnt bricks etc., where as 6.7 percent household live in houses having roof like grass, thatch, bamboo or plastic etc. The respective figures for the country as whole are 84.0 and 15.7 percent.

In case of wall of the house occupied by the households, the wall of 71.4 percent of households in Maharashtra is either concrete, bricks, stone or GI sheets as against 65.8 percent at national level. Similarly 22.6 percent of households live in houses having wall made of mud, unburnt brick or wood and this figure at national level is 24.4 percent. About 5.7 percent of households live in houses having wall made of grass, thatch, bamboo or plastic as compared to 9.3 percent at national level.

Similarly, there are 36.1 percent of households in Maharashtra are living in houses having mud as the floor of the house as against 46.5 percent at national level and rest have other kinds of floors. As far as use of mosaic floor tiles are concerned, it is 36.8 percent in Maharashtra as against only 10.8 percent at national level.

Availability of Drinking Water Facility

Tap water is the major source of drinking water (67.9 percent) in Maharashtra whereas well (14.4 percent), hand pump (9.9 percent) and tube well (5.7 percent) are the other sources of drinking water. The proportion of households using tap water as main source of drinking water in urban is 89.1 percent and in rural it is 50.2 percent. Well water which constitutes about 24.3 percent is the next main source of drinking water in rural areas whereas hand pump and tube well (6.6 percent) are the next source of drinking water in urban area.
The number of households having access to tap water at district level reveals that Mumbai district ranks first having highest percentage of 97.8% of households using tap water as main source of drinking water followed by Mumbai Sub-urban where it is 96.5 percent. This figure is between 90 to 80 percent in districts like Jalgaon (88.7), Kolhapur (85.4), Dhule (83.9), Thane (80.8) and Pune (80.6). Lowest proportion of households having tap water as main source is reported in Gondiya district (17.5) followed by Gadchiroli (19.5), Sindhudurg (30.7), Hingoli (35.9) and Bhandara (38.0). In all other districts it is between 40 to 80 percent. Highest percentage of households using well water as source of drinking water is found in Sindhudurg district (62.1 percent) followed by Washim (37.5 percent), Gondiya (37.4 percent), Gadchiroli (36.3 percent) and Ahmadnagar (30.2 percent). Hand pump and tube well constitutes about 44.8 percent in Gondiya followed by Gadchiroli (43.2 percent), Parbhani (42.2 percent) and Hingoli (41.1 percent).

Source of lighting

In Maharashtra, electricity is the main source of lighting in 83.9 percent of households which is considerably high as compared to 67.3 percent at national level. The kerosene is the next main source of lighting, but its proportion of households is only 14.5 percent in Maharashtra whereas it is 31.4 percent at national level. Though other sources like solar, other oils are also reported their share in the total number of households is negligible as 0.2 percent. In urban 96.2 percent of households reported electricity as source of lighting and this figure in rural is 73.8 percent, whereas kerosene is reported in only 3.1 percent of households in urban and 23.9 percent of households in rural area.

District wise observation of these figures reveal that electricity as source of lighting is reported by 98.1 percent of households in Mumbai and 96.9 percent in Mumbai suburban districts. The districts where it is above 90 percent are Sindhudurg (94.7), Kolhapur (93.7), Ratnagiri (93.4), Pune (92.7), Nagpur (92.1), Thane (91.8) and Raigarh (91.7).

The lowest proportion of households using electricity as source of lighting is found in Nandurbar (58.3) followed by Gadchiroli (59.2), Osmanabad (68.8), Solapur (69.3) and Yavatmal (69.7).

Latrine facility

In Maharashtra, about 46.9 percent of households do not have latrine facility within their premises whereas this figure is 53.1 percent at national level. Among the 46.9 percent of households not having latrine, 34.0 percent are using open space and 12.9 percent are using public latrine. The use of public latrine appears more in Maharashtra as compared to just 3.2 percent at national level. Among the 53.1 percent of households having latrine facility within the premises, 43.5 households have a flush type latrine and 8.8 percent have a pit latrine. The
proportion of households having latrine facility within premises it is 38.0 in rural and 71.3 in urban.

Sindhudurg (75.9) district has reported highest proportion of households having latrine facility within the premises followed by Nagpur (75.7), Kolhapur (74.5), Pune (73.8) and Satara (71.1). On the other hand this is lowest in Bid (25.1), Gadchiroli (27.0), Osmanabad (27.7), Nandurbar (28.7) and Parbhani (28.8).

It seems the use of public latrine is more common in both the districts of Mumbai where it is 42.9 percent in Mumbai Suburban and 31.5 percent in Mumbai. Dhule (21.6), Raigarh (19.8) and Thane (18.8) also have reported higher proportion of households using public latrine.

Going latrine in open space seems to be common in rural parts of India. In Maharashtra, the percentage of households using open space for latrine is highest in Bid (73.2) followed by Gadchiroli (71.9), Parbhani (70.1) and Osmanabad (68.9).

**Availability of Bath room**

As compared to national level, the State has better picture in respect of data on availability of bathroom and kitchen to the household and drainage system. There are 64.3 percent of households having bathroom (covered roof) and only 14.6 percent of households use open space (without any enclosure) whereas these figures at national level are 42.0 percent and 41.6 percent. The rest of the households have bathing facility of enclosure without any roof.

In urban area 86.0 percent of households have bathroom in their premises but in rural this figure is only 46.2 percent. Only 4.6 percent of households in urban and 22.9 percent in rural do not have any type of bathroom.

**Drianage**

Against 48.9 percent at national level, about 32.5 percent of households do not have any drainage system to their households in Maharashtra and major part of this (52.2 percent) is found in rural area only. In urban, only 8.8 percent of households do not have drainage system. Even out of 47.8 percent of households reported drainage system in rural, in that 39.1 percent are having open drainage and only 8.8 percent have closed drainage. But in urban, out of 91.2 percent of households reported drainage system, 62.7 percent have closed and only 28.4 percent have open drainage.

**Kitchen and fuel used for cooking**

About 72.7 percent of households in the State have kitchen in their premises against the same 61.3 percent at national level. Both firewood and LPG are the main source of fuel for cooking (42.6 percent and 43.4 percent respectively), but in urban LPG is used in 74.1 percent of households and firewood in 10.8 percent of households. On the other hand in rural area 68.9
percent of households use firewood whereas only 17.9 percent of households use LPG. Next to these two sources, kerosene is the other source of fuel reported by 6.5 percent of households. In urban area, where 12.3 percent of households reported kerosene as main source of fuel for cooking, in rural its share is only 1.7 percent.

At district level use of firewood as main source of fuel for cooking is found highest in Gadchiroli (83.9 percent) followed by Gondiya (82.8 percent). It is between 80 to 70 percent in districts like Washim, Bhandara, Hingoli, Sindhudurg, Yavatmal and Ratnagiri. The districts where the use of LPG is reported relatively higher are Mumbai Suburban (78.3) and Mumbai (77.6) followed by Pune (67.9), Thane (66.3), Nagpur (60.2). On the other hand the smaller percentage of households using LPG is found in districts like Hingoli, Gadchiroli, Gondiya, Osmanabad and Washim where it is less than 15 percent.

Crop residue is also used as source of fuel in districts viz., Parbhani, Jalna, Bid and Latur where its percentage share is between 20 to 15 percent. Kolhapur district has a distinction of reporting highest proportion of households as 12.4 percent using cow dung cake and 9.0 percent of households using bio-gas as fuel for cooking followed by Sangli where these figures are 4.8 and 2.3 percent respectively.

**Assets available to the households**

About 58.8 percent of households have TV, 13.3 percent have computer/laptop and 69.1 percent have telephone/mobile in their households. The respective figures at national level are 47.2, 9.5 and 63.2 percent.

The share of households having two wheelers is 24.9 percent and four wheelers is 5.9 percent and these figures at national level are 21.0 and 4.7 percent respectively.

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