

HOUSING CONDITIONS IN RURAL INDIA: A REGIONAL ANALYSIS

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Introduction

A house is one of the three basic needs of the mankind. Its importance varies in various climatic conditions yet the basic need remains more or less the same, as it provides shelter and protection from the rigours of climate. Therefore, it is essential to consider the location, architectural style, shape and size, building materials, house plan, cost, classification and occupancy rate of houses. House is a social concept; its nature and cognition are varying with caste, class, religion and region (Unni, 1965). The word has been used as a synonym for census house, which is defined as, "a building or a part of a building having a separate main entrance from the road or common courtyard or staircase, etc., used recognized as a separate unit. It may be occupied or vacant. It may be used for a residential or non residential purpose or both (Census of India, 2011). Brunches (1920) has rightly remarked that 'houses are the product of cultural tradition natural conditions'. The study of various uses of census houses and housing conditions is not a new field but scholars have a different point of view of study. Rural dwelling as abroad theme has been studied by various scholars, such as economists, demographers and geographers etc. Geographers and other scholars have carried out many studies about various uses and rural dwellings from time to time. Kiss and Singh (1997) studied the changes in rural life and living conditions in Hungary. Chamar (2002) studied the distribution of rural dwellings, their types based on size, functional characteristics, building materials and house plan in Bhiwani districts. In this study he used primary as well as secondary data. It has been observed that about half (51%) of total rural dwellings are pacca while one /fifth (20 %) are mixed and nearly 29 per cent are kaccha. Recently, Chamar and Chamar (2013) analyzed caste-wise distribution of dwellings and house types based on size and building materials used in village Sirsa Kheri of Jind district in Haryana state. The study is based on primary data In the same year, Singh, Rashmi and Bilas (2013) examined the housing conditions and quantify the extent of housing stock and housing shortage in Uttar Pradesh. They identified that there is a huge gap in the decadal growth of population (20.2 %), households (27.8 %), houses (31.7 %) and housing stocks (28.9 %) in the study area during 2001-11. Further, they found that substantial proportion of the houses in the Uttar Pradesh is not in good condition. The main objective of the present study is to analyze the uses of census houses and housing conditions in rural India.

Source of Data and Research Methodology

The census data of 2011 has been used for the present research work. The data in respect of rural houses and its uses and housing conditions have been used. The housing conditions like good, livable and dilapidated at district, state and broad regional level in proportion to total rural houses have been calculated in per cent in India. The study area has been divided into seven broad regions, viz; north western, northern, eastern, north eastern, western and southern and islands as demarcated by Ahmed. Finally, the maps have been prepared with the help of choropleth method by using the Arc GIS 10.1 (Arc MAP Version 10.1)

Study Area

India is a country of great geographical extent. It sprawls from the snowy range of the Himalayas in the north to the shores of the Indian Ocean in the south. It belongs to Asia which is the largest continent of the world. With an area of 32, 87,263 sq kms., it extends from 8° 4' north to 37° 6' north latitude and 68° 7' east to 97° 25' east longitude. India is a union comprising of 28 states and seven union territories. It has 640 districts as per 2011 census, out of which nine districts have nil rural population. The total population of India is 121.05 crore which resides in 24.94 crore households. Out of the total population in the country 68.85 % population lived in 67.57 % households in rural areas and 31.15 per cent in 32.43 % households in urban areas. The rural population of India is 833463448 persons in which males are 427632643 and females are 405830805 persons as per 2011 census. The average literacy rate is found 67.77 per cent in rural India.

Census Houses and its Uses

There are different uses of census houses in rural India. Census of India classified the total houses into two broad categories viz ; (i) vacant houses and (ii) occupied houses. In 2011, about 94 per cent houses are found occupied houses in rural India. The occupied houses are divided into ten categories. It is recorded that maximum occupied houses are used as residence (72.47 %), followed by other non- residential (12.51 %), shop/office (3.16 %), residence cum-others (2.82 %). Other categories like school/college (0.77 %), factory/workshop/work shed etc. (0.45 %) and locked houses (0.25 %) hotel/lodge/guest houses (0.16 %), hospital/dispensary (0.16 %) have recorded less than one per cent of the total rural houses (**Table-1**). While only 1.10 per cent houses are identified as place of work ship in rural India. The state wise different uses of census houses have also identified in rural India.

Sr. No.	Use of Census Houses	No. of Houses	Per cent
	Total Census Houses	220746520	100
1.	Occupied Census Houses	207166861	93.85
2.	Vacant Census Houses	1357965	06.15

Occupied Census Houses		No. of Houses	Percent
1.	Residence	159975468	72.47
2.	Residence-Cum-Others	6228453	02.82
3.	Shop/Office	6976464	03.16
4.	School/College	7702227	00.77
5.	Hotel/Lodge/Guest houses	343747	00.16
6.	Hospital/Dispensary	360196	00.16
7.	Factory/Workshop/Work shed etc.	999761	00.45
8.	Place of Worship	2419875	01.10
9.	Other Non-Residential	27607755	12.51
10.	Locked Houses	552915	00.25
Total Occupied Census Houses		207166861	93.85
Source: Census of India, HH 2011.			

State Level Census Houses and Its Uses in Rural India

The state wise different uses of census houses in rural India as per census 2011. The very large proportion of occupied houses that is more than 95 per cent are recorded in the 12 states such as Manipur (99.17 %), Bihar (98.01 %), Assam (97.75 %), Tripura (97.01 %), West Bengal (96.92 %), Mizoram (96.63 %), Meghalaya (96.59 %), Uttar Pradesh (95.82 %), Madhya Pradesh (95.75 %), Jharkhand (95.45 %), Odisha (95.44 %) and Nagaland (95.40 %) and mostly confined to north eastern, central and eastern parts of India. While smallest share of houses in the same category is found in NCT of Delhi (81.87 %) followed by Goa (82.55 %). More than 80 per cent houses in the category of **residence** are found in the states of Mizoram (83.54 %), Manipur (83.52 %), Chhattisgarh (80.88 %) and Andhra Pradesh (80.37 %) while low proportion (< 50 per cent) are recorded in Himachal Pradesh (49.06 %) and Lakshadweep (47.19 %). The large share in the category of **residence cum other houses** (> 5 %) is found in Haryana (9.05 %) and Jharkhand (5.07 %) while very small proportion of houses (< 1.0 %) in this category are recorded in the states and Union Territories such as Lakshadweep (0.25 %), Kerala (0.39 %), Nagaland (0.67 %), Meghalaya (0.72 %), Daman & Diu (0.81 %), Goa (0.96 %) and Himachal Pradesh (0.99 %) in rural India. The largest proportion of houses in the category of **shop/ office** is observed in Chandigarh (8.17 %) while smallest proportion is recorded in Manipur that is 1.37 per cent. Large share that is more than 25 per cent in the category of **other non residence** are recorded in the states such as Himachal Pradesh (29.44 %), Jammu and Kashmir (29.15 %) and Uttarakhand (25.81 %), while small share of houses (< 5 %) in the same category is found in Mizoram (4.09 %), Dadra and Nagar Haveli (4.14 %) and Sikkim (4.48 %). On the other hand, **other categories** which include school/college; hotel/lodge/guest houses; hospital/dispensary; factory/workshop/work shed; place of worship and locked houses have recorded nearly three per cent of the total rural houses. It is found that the large proportion of houses (> 5 %) in this category is recorded in Lakshadweep (8.45 %), Mizoram (5.75 %) and Goa (5.08 %) while smallest proportion is observed in Bihar (1.82 %) followed by Haryana (1.87 %) and NCT of Delhi that is 1.96 per cent.

Region Wise Census Houses and Its Uses

The highest number of houses in the category of residence is mostly confined to the eastern region (76.22 %) followed by southern region (76.17 %) while lowest is found in north western (57.87 %) region. On the other hand, other non-residential houses are maximum concentrated in north western region (21.35 %) followed by north eastern region (16.61 %). The lowest proportion of other non-residential houses is observed in southern region that is 7.55 per cent in rural India. The shop/office houses are maximum concentrated in the islands region (5.93 %) followed by north western (5.33 %), north eastern (4.06 %) region, while low share in the same category is found in the regions of northern (2.62 %), southern (2.91 %) and western (3.17 %). The highest number of houses in the category of residence cum-others is mostly confined to the regions of north western (4.71 %), northern (3.56 %) and eastern (2.88 %), while lowest is found in the north eastern region (1.02 %) followed by islands (1.36 %) and southern region (1.73 %) in rural India. It is also observed that maximum concentration of the other occupied houses in the categories of shop/office (5.93 %); hotel/lodge/guest houses (0.36 %), hospital/dispensary (0.24 %), factory/workshop/work shed (1.29 %) and locked houses (0.41 %) in islands region in proportion to total rural houses of various regions in India. On the other hand, houses in the categories of school/college (1.17 %) and

Table No. 2: Regions Wise Census Houses and its Uses in Rural India, 2011.

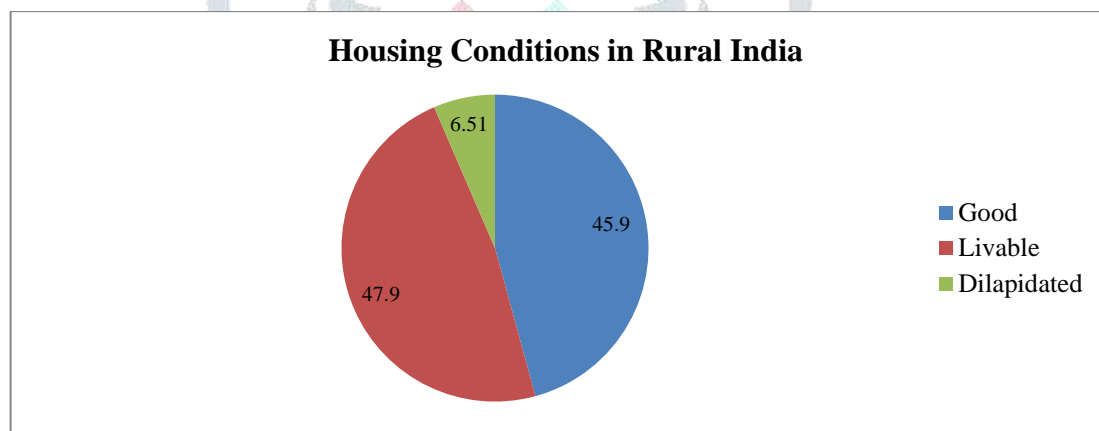
Sr. No	Uses of Census Houses	In Per cent	REGIONS						
			North Western	Northern	Eastern	North Eastern	Western	Southern	Islands
1.	Occupied	93.85	92.17	94.57	96.88	97.47	89.38	91.57	85.06
2.	Vacant	06.15	07.83	05.43	03.12	02.53	10.62	08.43	14.94
USES OF OCCUPIED CENSUS HOUSES									
1.	Residence	72.47	57.87	70.85	76.22	71.81	70.97	76.17	63.07
2.	Residence-Cum-Others	02.82	04.71	03.56	02.88	01.02	02.34	01.73	01.36
3.	Shop/Office	03.16	05.33	02.62	03.30	04.06	03.17	02.91	05.93
4.	School/	00.77	00.64	00.87	00.61	01.17	00.89	00.69	00.92

	College								
5.	Hotel/Lodge/Guesthouses	00.16	00.14	00.12	00.11	00.17	00.20	00.24	00.36
6.	Hospital/Dispensary	00.16	00.19	00.16	00.15	00.19	00.19	00.16	00.24
7.	Factory/Workshop/Work shed	00.45	00.54	00.31	00.41	00.51	00.56	00.60	01.29
8.	Place of Worship	01.10	01.05	01.01	00.96	01.67	01.28	01.16	01.36
9.	Other Non-Residential	12.51	21.35	14.86	12.08	16.61	09.49	07.55	10.12
10	Locked Houses	00.25	00.35	00.21	00.16	00.26	00.29	00.36	00.41
Rural India		93.85	92.17	94.57	96.88	97.47	89.38	91.57	85.06
Source: Compiled By Authors.									

place of work ship (1.67 %) are largely concentrated in north eastern region in rural India as expressed in Table-2.

Housing Conditions in Rural India

Housing condition is one of the important indicators of the socio-economic development of the country. Statistical information relating to housing conditions in quantitative terms is essential for an assessment of the overall housing needs of the people and also for the formulation of housing policies and programmers. Thus, a regular flow of reliable data on housing conditions has assumed great importance for the Government and planning bodies to enable them to give proper attention to various housing problems of the day. As per 2011 census, the total rural houses are 167874291 (68.03 %) of the total houses in India. Census of India has classified the houses in to three broad categories that is **good, livable and dilapidated**.



As per 2011 census, it is observed that 77058813 (45.90 %) houses are in good condition, 79885147 houses (47.59 %) in livable condition and only 10930331 houses (6.51 %) are found in dilapidated conditions out of total houses in rural India.

District Level Pattern of Good Condition Houses in Rural India

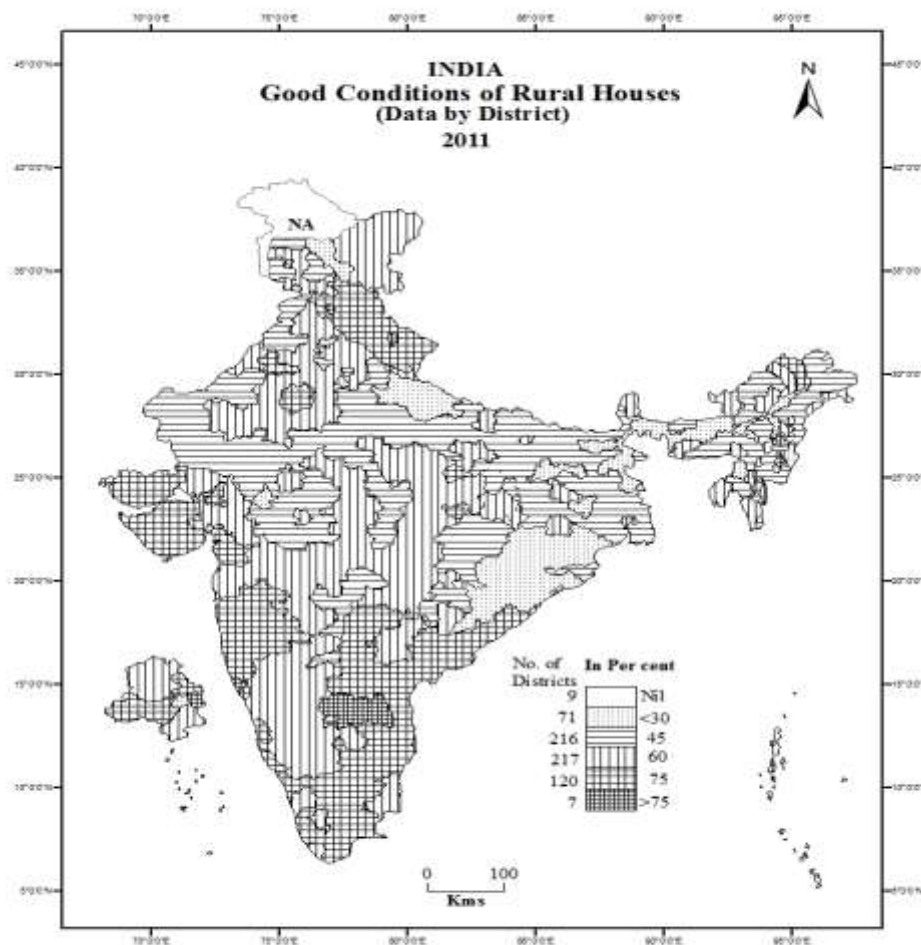
It is recorded that about 46 per cent houses are in good condition as per census 2011. The very large and large share of good condition houses (> 60 per cent) are found in 127 (20.13 %) districts of rural India [Table-3] and mostly confined to the states of Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu in the form of large patches. The largest share of good condition houses (> 75 per cent) is observed in the district of East Delhi (92.14 %) followed by Diu (86.99 %), Rudraprayag (78.27 %), Hamirpur (77.46 %), Y.S.R (75.57 %), Anantapur (75.32 %) and North Goa (75.20 %) districts. The moderately good condition houses (45-60 per cent) are recorded in 217 (34.39 %) districts. Most of the districts of this category are situated in the states

Table No.3: Good Condition Houses in Rural India, 2011.

Category (In Per cent)	No. of Districts	In Per cent	Total Houses	Good Condition Houses	Remarks
> 75	07	01.11	1400964	1060657	Very Large
60-75	120	19.02	33678557	22355252	Large
45-60	217	34.39	47439263	24364876	Moderate
30-45	216	34.23	62342017	23218083	Small
< 30	71	11.25	23013490	6059945	Very Small
Total	631	100.0	167874291	77058813	45.90

Source: Compiled by Authors.

of Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Karnataka of the study area. On the other hand, the very small and small proportion of good condition houses (< 45 per cent) are found in 287 districts (45.48 %) of total districts in rural India.



The very small proportion of good condition houses are found in 71 districts (11.25 %) of the study area. The smallest share of good condition houses is recorded in the district Debagarh (11.54 %) followed by Barpeta (17.97 %), Dhubri (18.23 %), Sundergarh (18.27 %), Subarnapur (18.82 %) and Mayurbhanj (18.89 %) districts. Most of the districts in the category of less than 45 per cent are situated in Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal, Jharkhand, Odisha, and north eastern states of India in the form of large patches. The district level pattern of good condition houses in rural India is shown in the map [Fig.1].

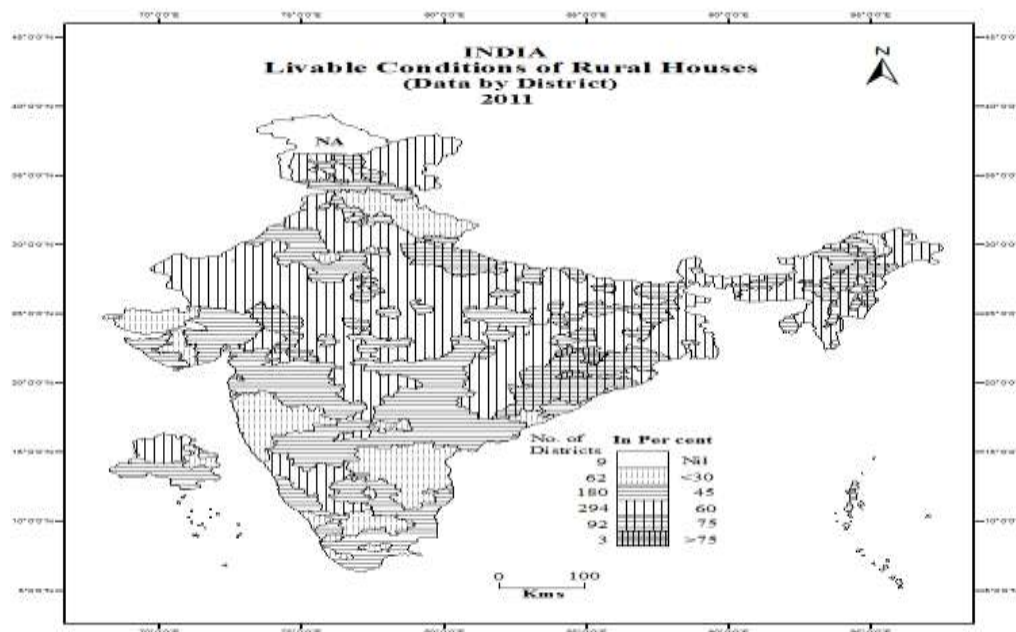
District Level Pattern of Livable Condition Houses in Rural India

The very large proportion of livable condition houses (> 75 per cent) are found in only 3 districts namely Sundargarh (75.95 %), Baudh (75.06 %), and Dehagarh (75.04%) and all the three districts are situated in Odisha state. While large share of livable condition houses (60-75 per cent) are observed in 92 districts (14.58 %). The important districts of this category are Subarnapur (73.95 %), Kargil (73.26 %), Nuapada (72.89 %), Mayurbhanj (72.51 %), Jharsuguda (71.49 %), Ukhru (70.75 %), Kalahandi (70.34 %), and Kendujhar (70 %) etc. Most of the districts in this category are situated in the states of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Assam and Odisha in the form of small patches. The moderate share of livable condition houses (45-60 per cent) are recorded in 294 (46.59 %) districts [Table-4] and mostly situated in the states of Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and north eastern states of India. Some of the important districts in this category are Sheikhpura (60.00 %), Mahasamund (60.00 %), Pakur (59.94 %), Udalguri (59.87 %), Jhalawar (59.69 %), Senapati (59.68 %), Farrukhabad (59.65 %), Sheohar (59.57 %), Simdega (59.56 %) and Nalanda (59.55 %) districts etc. The district level pattern of livable condition houses in rural India is represented in the map [Fig.2].

Category (In Per cent)	No. of Districts	In Percent	Total Houses	Livable Houses	Remarks
> 75	03	00.47	484512	366416	Very Large
60-75	92	14.58	26094993	16637792	Large
45-60	294	46.59	78716931	41344473	Moderate
30-45	180	28.53	46164028	17146010	Small
< 30	62	09.83	16413827	4390456	Very Small

Total	631	100.0	167874291	79885147	47.59
Source: Compiled by Authors.					

The small proportion of livable condition houses (30-45 per cent) are found in 180 districts (28.53 %) of the study area and Haveri (44.86%), Thiruvarur (44.81 %), Siddharthnagar (44.79 %), Udhampur (44.74%), Dimapur (44.73 %), Tikamgarh (44.71 %), Kurung Kumey (44.66 %), and Nagapattinam (44.65 %) are some important districts. On the other hand, the very small share of livable condition houses (< 30 per cent) are recorded in 62 districts (9.82 %). The smallest proportion of livable houses condition is observed in East Delhi (6.65 %) followed by Diu (12.74 %), Rudraprayag (19.85 %), Hamirpur (21.85 %), Anantapur (21.74 %) Y.S.R (21.88 %), Chittoor (22.37 %), North Goa (23.02 %), South Goa (23.44 %), Nicobars (23.85 %) and Pune (23.94 %) districts etc. Most of the districts in the categories of very small and small proportion of houses are mainly confined to the states of Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu.



District Level Pattern of Dilapidated Condition Houses in Rural India

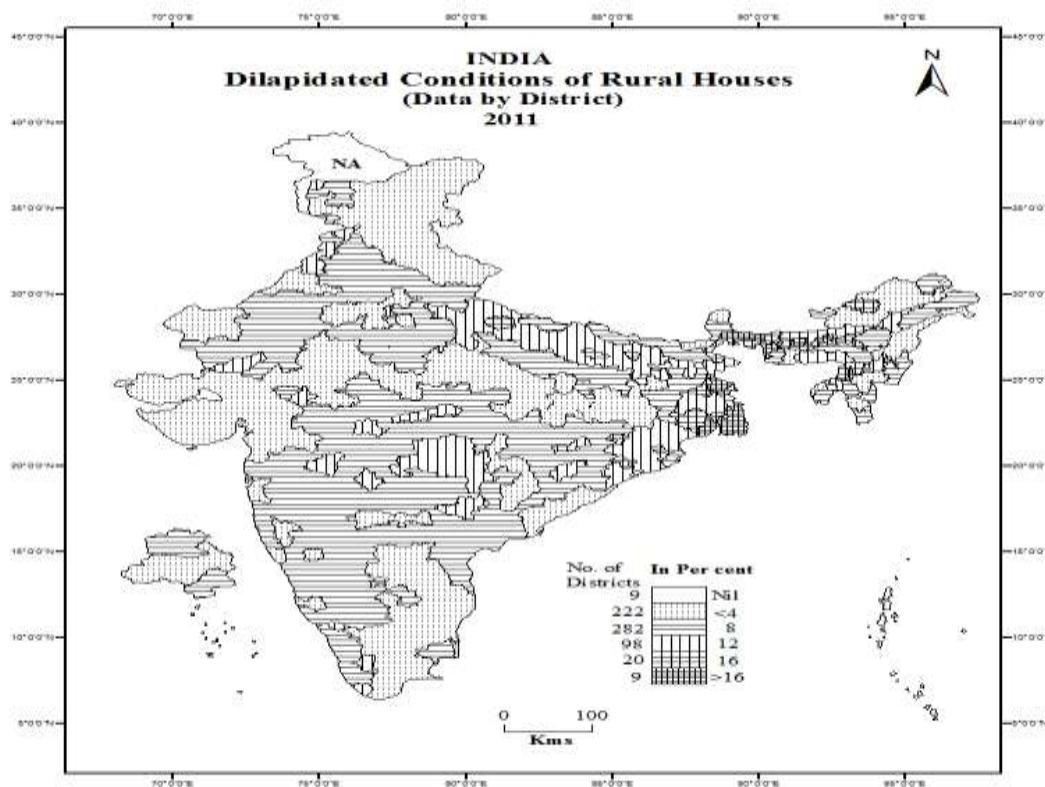
As per census 2011 only 5.61 per cent houses are recorded in dilapidated conditions in rural India. The very large and large share of dilapidated condition houses (> 12 per cent) are found in 30 districts that is 4.76 per cent of the total districts of rural India [Table-5]. The largest dilapidated condition houses is observed in North Twenty Four Parganas district (19.66 %), followed by Barpeta (18.78 %), Purba Medinipur (18.09 %), Darrang (17.78 %), Dhubri (17.56 %), Murshidabad (17.02 %), Hailakandi (16.78 %), South Twenty Four Parganas (16.19 %) and Jalpaiguri (16.01 %) districts etc. Majority of the districts are situated in the states of West Bengal and Assam. The moderate dilapidated condition houses (8-12 per cent) are found in 99 districts

Table No. 5: Dilapidated Condition Houses in Rural India, 2011.

Category (In Per cent)	No. of Districts	In Per cent	Total Houses	Dilapidated Houses	Remarks
> 16	09	01.43	6147547	1074198	Very Large
12-16	21	03.33	8552042	1150975	Large
08-12	99	15.69	34659958	3289683	Moderate
04-08	279	44.21	75154557	4267072	Small
< 04	223	35.34	43360187	1148403	Very Small
Total	631	100.0	167874291	10930331	06.51

Source: Compiled by Authors.

(15.69%). The prominent districts are Anugul (11.98 %) Shahjahanpur (11.97 %), Dakshin Dinajpur (11.92 %) Barabanki (11.91 %), Hugly (11.73 %), Bankura (11.71 %), Begusarai (11.64



%), Baleswar (11.55 %), Dhenkanal (11.54 %), Gonda (11.33 %), Maldah (11.32 %) and Baksa (11.24 %), Chandrapur (11.24 %), Puri (11.18 %) and Kheri (11.11 %) and most of the districts in this category are situated in the states of West Bengal and Assam in the form of small patches. The very small and small share of dilapidated condition houses (< 8 per cent) covers 502 districts (79.55 %) and confined to whole of the study area [Fig.3]. The smallest share of dilapidated condition houses is recorded in Diu (0.28 %) followed by Upper Siang (0.41 %), Mokokchung (0.52 %), Kohima (0.61 %), Dadra & Nagar Haveli (0.79 %), West Siang (0.79 %) and Lahul & Spiti (0.79 %) districts etc.

State Wise Housing Condition in Rural India

Table-6 indicates the state wise good, livable and dilapidated condition of houses in rural India as per census 2011. The very large and large proportion of good conditions houses that is more than 60 per cent are recorded in the states and union territory of Daman & Diu (78.75 %), Goa (74.95 %) Himachal Pradesh (71.41 %), Andhra Pradesh (65.35 %), Tamil Nadu (64.41 %), Pondichery (64.31 %), Uttarakhand (63.63 %), Kerela (60.98 %) and Andeman and Nicobar Islands (60.68 %)

Table No. 6: State Wise Housing Conditions in Rural India, 2011.

State Code	Name of the State/ Union Territory	Good Condition Houses	Livable Condition Houses	Dilapidated Condition Houses
01	Jammu & Kashmir	48.33	47.43	04.24
02	Himachal Pradesh	71.41	26.92	01.67
03	Punjab	45.17	47.29	07.53
04	Chandigarh	50.36	46.87	02.77
05	Uttarakhand	63.63	32.54	03.83
06	Haryana	48.20	56.72	05.08
07	Delhi	55.24	40.99	03.77
08	Rajasthan	45.12	50.31	04.57
09	Uttar Pradesh	38.71	53.90	07.39
10	Bihar	34.04	58.55	07.41
11	Sikkim	47.34	45.81	06.84
12	Arunachal Pradesh	49.51	47.03	03.46
13	Nagaland	48.54	49.68	01.77
14	Manipur	47.84	47.83	04.33
15	Mizoram	49.78	45.94	04.28
16	Tripura	50.61	44.00	05.39
17	Meghalaya	42.16	50.94	06.89
18	Assam	27.93	60.25	11.81

19	West Bengal	33.19	52.68	14.13
20	Jharkhand	38.08	57.23	04.69
21	Odisha	25.44	65.76	08.80
22	Chhattisgarh	41.56	54.14	04.29
23	Madhya Pradesh	47.01	48.51	04.48
24	Gujarat	59.84	38.08	02.08
25	Daman & Diu	78.75	20.60	00.64
26	Dadra & Nagar	53.76	45.45	00.79
27	Maharashtra	56.54	37.15	06.32
28	Andhra Pradesh	65.35	30.19	04.46
29	Karnataka	51.74	42.97	05.30
30	Goa	74.95	23.20	01.86
31	Lakshadweep	57.39	40.86	01.74
32	Kerala	60.98	32.58	06.44
33	Tamil Nadu	64.41	33.13	02.47
34	Pondicherry	64.31	33.23	02.45
35	Andaman & N. Islands	60.68	36.53	02.79
Rural India		45.90	47.59	06.51
Source: Compiled by Authors.				

while very small share of houses in the same category are found in the states of Odisha (25.44 %) and Assam (27.93 %) in rural India. On the other hand, both the states have more than 60 per cent houses in the category of livable condition houses while very small proportion of livable condition

Houses (< 30 per cent) are recorded in Daman & Diu (20.60 %), Goa (23.20 %) and Himachal Pradesh (26.92 %). The largest share of dilapidated condition houses is found in West Bengal (14.13 %), followed by Assam (11.81 %), Odisha (8.80 %), Bihar (7.41 %) and Uttar Pradesh (7.39 %) while very small proportion of dilapidated condition houses are recorded in the states of Daman & Diu (0.64 %), Dadra & Nagar Haweli (0.79 %), Himachal Pradesh (1.67 %), Lakshadweep (1.74 %) and Nagaland (1.77 %) in rural India.

Region Wise Housing Conditions in Rural India

The housing conditions across the broad regions differ significantly in rural India. Among the regions, the largest proportion of good condition houses is found in southern region (61.61 %),

Sr. No.	Selected Regions	Code No. of State/UT	Total Houses	Housing Condition		
				Good	Livable	Dilapidated
1.	North Western	1,2,3,4,6.	9096928	4590678	4020255	485995
	(In Per cent)		100.0	50.46	44.19	05.34
2.	Northern	5,7,8,9,	51955871	22132029	26765355	3058487
	(In Per cent)	22,23.	100.0	42.60	51.52	5.89
3.	Eastern	10,11,19,	43566491	14213741	25217616	4135134
	(In Per cent)	20,21.	100.0	32.63	57.88	9.49
4.	North Eastern	12,13,14,15,	7373350	2457813	4185864	729673
	(In Per cent)	16,17,18.	100.0	33.33	56.77	9.90
5.	Western	24,25,26,	19954887	11530269	7459403	965215
	(In Per cent)	27,30.	100.0	57.78	37.38	4.84
6.	Southern	28,29,32,	35865211	22097016	12214060	1554135
	(In Per cent)	33,34.	100.0	61.61	34.06	4.33
7.	Islands	31,35.	615523	37267	22594	1692
	(In Per cent)		100.0	60.54	36.71	2.75
Rural India			167874291	77058813	79885147	10930331
(In Per cent)			100.0	45.90	47.59	6.51
Source: Compiled by Authors.						

Followed by islands region (60.54 %), western region (57.78 %) and north western region (50.46 %) while smallest proportion of houses in this category is observed in eastern region (32.63 %), followed by north eastern (33.33 %) and northern region (42.60 %) in rural India. On the other hand, the highest percentage of houses in livable condition is recorded in eastern region (57.88 %), followed by north eastern (56.77 %) and northern region (51.52 %) and small proportion are recorded in southern region (34.06 %), islands (36.71 %), western region (37.38 %) and north western region (44.19 %) respectively. The magnitude in proportion of house in dilapidated condition also varies significantly from region to region. The highest proportion of houses in dilapidated condition is found in north eastern region (9.90 %), followed by eastern (9.49 %), northern (5.89 %) and north western region (5.34 %) while lowest is observed in islands (2.75 %), followed by southern (4.34%) and western region (4.84 %) in rural India as given in Table-8.

Conclusion

It is concluded nearly 94 per cent houses are found occupied houses in rural India in 2011. More than 72 per cent occupied houses are used as residence followed by other non-residential (12.51 %), shop/office (03.16 %), residence cum-others (02.82%). It is also observed that nearly one per cent houses are identified as place of work ship. About 3 per cent houses are recorded residence cum-others in rural India. Other categories like school/college, factory/workshop/work shed, locked houses, hotel/lodge/guest houses, hospital/dispensary have recorded less than one per cent of the total rural houses. Further, more than 75 per cent houses in the category of residence are recorded in eastern and southern regions while lowest is found (58 %) in north western region. On the other hand, other non-residential houses are maximum concentrated in the north western region (21.35 %) and lowest is observed in southern region (7.55 %) in the same category in rural India. Shop/office houses are largely available in the islands region (5.93 %) while lowest (2.62 %) is observed in northern region. The highest number of houses in the category of residence cum others is found in north western region (4.71 %) while lowest (1.02 %) is observed in the north eastern region in rural India. Further, it is observed that about 46 per cent houses are in good condition, 48 per cent in livable condition; and only 6 per cent are found in dilapidated conditions out of total rural houses in India in 2011. The condition of houses across the broad regions differs significantly in rural India. Among the regions, the maximum houses in good condition is found in southern region (61.61 %) while lowest is recorded in eastern region (32.63 %) in rural India. On the other hand, the highest share of houses in livable condition is found in eastern region (57.88 %) and lowest is observed in southern region (34.06 %). The magnitude in proportion of house in dilapidated condition also varies significantly. The highest proportion of houses in dilapidated condition is found in north eastern region (9.90 %) and lowest in islands (2.75 %) in rural India.

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