

CHAPTER-IV

HOUSING

HIGHLIGHTS

- The number of urban agglomerations and towns grew more than 2½ times between 1901 and 2001 – i.e., from 1917 in 1901 to 5161 in 2001. The population in cities/towns increased from 25.8 million to 286.1 million during the corresponding years. The population growth in class I cities/towns (with population 1 lakh and above) was about 30 times whereas in class II (50000-99999 population) and class III (20000-49999 population) the growth was around 10 times.
- The number of metropolitan cities increased from just 1 in 1901 to 35 in 2001 and the population increased from 1.51 million to 108.34 million respectively. The share of population of metropolitan cities in total urban population increased from 5.84% in 1901 to 37.87% in 2001.
- The number of houseless households declined from 5.65 lakh in 1971 to 4.48 lakh in 2001. While there was decline in the houseless households in rural India (from 3.88 lakh to 2.60 lakh), there was marginal increase in the houseless households in urban India (from 1.77 lakh to 1.88 lakh). The overall houseless population increased from 12.65 lakh in 1961 to 19.44 lakh in 2001.
- Between 1961 and 2001, the number of households per dwelling unit remained around 1 and the number of persons per dwelling unit remained around 5.
- The total housing stock in rural India almost doubled from 65.2 million in 1961 to 135.1 million in 2001. While there was significant increase in pucca houses, there was marginal decline in semi-pucca houses and significant decline from 50% to 15% in Kutcha serviceable houses.
- In urban India, the total housing stock increased from 14 million in 1961 to 52 million in 2001. While there was significant increase in Pucca houses, the percentage declined by ½ to 1/6 in case of semi-pucca and kutcha serviceable houses.
- The households living in pucca houses marginally increased from 73% in 1991 to 79% in 2001. The households living in semi-pucca houses declined marginally from 18% in 1991 to 15% in 2001 and in case of kutcha houses, the percentages in the respective years were 9.6% and 5.3%.
- The number of households having one room declined significantly during 1961-2001, while the number of households having two rooms, three rooms and four or more rooms increased marginally.
- The number of households with well as source of drinking water declined sharply from 32.23% in 1991 to 18.67% in 2001. The number of households with tap as source of drinking water increased from 32.26% in 1991 to 36.70% in 2001 and the number of households with handpump/tubewell as source of drinking water increased from 30.04% in 1991 to 40.72% in 2001.
- From 1991 to 2001, in urban areas, the number of households having access to safe drinking water increased from 81.38% to 90.01%, the number of households having access to electricity increased from 75.78% to 87.59% and the number of households having access to toilets increased from 63.90% to 73.72%.

HOUSING

- According to the estimates given by NBO, the housing shortage increased significantly from 15.2 million in 1961 to 24.7 million in 2001. The housing shortage was highest in Bihar to the extent of more than 4 million in 2001. In the states of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Gujarat, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal, the shortage was approximately between 1 and 2.5 million. The shortage was between 0.30 million and 1 million in the States of Haryana, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan and Delhi. The shortage was less than 0.30 million in other States/UTs except Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Daman * & Diu and Lakshadweep where the shortage was nil.