

MAP 57

DISTRIBUTION OF LAKHER, LALUNG, LEPCHA AND LIANGMEI LANGUAGES 2011

The geographical distribution of four Non-Scheduled languages namely, Lakher, Lalung, Lepcha and Liangmei are shown in four separate maps at the district level according to Census 2011. The speakers of these four languages are categorized as per their total number and grouped into four ranges viz. 10 and below, 11 to 100, 101 to 1,000 and 1,001 and above. Districts falling in each range are shaded by colours of different intensities and their number is written within brackets against each range. Remaining districts with 'nil' speaker of particular language are left blank on the map.

Lakher is one of the Non-Scheduled languages belonging to Tibeto-Burman language family. Lakher is a Kuki tribe located in the Lushai Hills of Mizoram (north of the Arakan Hills) in India. Lakher is the name given to this tribe by the Mizos. Cultural affinities have been noted between the Lakher and the Mizos, Chin and Naga. They are also called Shendu by the Arakanese. The Lakher people refer to themselves as Mara and are composed of six groups; the Tlongsai, Hawthai, Zeuhngang, Sabeu, Liakai and Heima. In Census 2011, Mara mother tongue which has more than 10,000 speakers in India is grouped under Lakher as variant. Rest of the mother tongues returned as variants of Lakher with less than 10,000 speakers are grouped under 'Others'. No regular script is used in writing this language.

As per Census 2011, there are 42,429 Lakher speakers which account for 0.004 per cent of the country's total population. Out of 42,429 Lakher speakers, 41,876 speakers are concentrated in Mizoram and account for 98.70 per cent of the total Lakher speakers in the country. However, they form only 3.82 per cent of the state's total population. Lakher speakers are mainly concentrated in Mizoram (41,876), followed by few speakers in Rajasthan (92), Meghalaya (91), Karnataka (66), Maharashtra (61) and Assam (41). Twenty-one other States/UTs have registered less than 40 Lakher speakers. No Lakher speaker is reported from 8 States/Union Territories in 2011.

The district-wise distribution reveals that out of 640 districts, 120 districts have Lakher speakers in India. The overall picture of 120 districts towards the speakers' strength of Lakher shows that their number is 10 and below in 102 districts, 11 to 100 in 14 districts, 101 to 1,000 in 3 districts and 1,001 and above in 1 district.

In Mizoram, the highest number of Lakher speakers are registered in Saiha (40,814) district followed by Lawngtlai (534), Aizawl (370), Lunglei (129), Champhai (17), Kolasib (8), Serchhip (3) and Mamit (1) districts. Apart from Mizoram, a few Lakher speakers are also registered in East Khasi Hills (89) district of Meghalaya; Jaisalmer (49) and Sirohi (18) districts of Rajasthan; Bangalore (25), Udipi (12) and Belgaum (11) districts of Karnataka; Sivasagar (18) district of Assam; Pune (18), Gondiya (16) and Hingoli and Mumbai Suburban (11 each) districts of Maharashtra; South West (15) district of NCT of Delhi and Jalpaiguri (13) district of West Bengal. In the remaining districts Lakher speakers are below 10 in number.

Lalung is a Tibeto-Burman language. The Lalung is indigenous Assamese community inhabiting the states of Assam and Meghalaya and also found in some parts of Arunachal Pradesh and Manipur in north-east India. They are recognized as a Scheduled Tribe within the state of Assam. A striking peculiarity of the Lalungs is their division into two sub-groups, Hill Lalungs and Plain Lalungs, displaying contrasting cultural features. In Census 2011, one mother tongue namely, Lalung which returned with 10,000 plus speakers' strength at all India level and linguistically identified, is grouped under Lalung as variant. No regular script is used in writing this language.

As per Census 2011, there are 33,921 Lalung speakers which account for 0.003 per cent of the country's total population. Out of 33,921 Lalung speakers, 31,821 speakers are concentrated in Assam and account for 93.81 per cent of the total Lalung speakers of the country and only 0.10 per cent of the state's total population. Lalung speakers are mainly concentrated in Assam (31,821), followed by Meghalaya (2,057), and a few speakers in Nagaland (24), Arunachal Pradesh (10), Sikkim (5) and Tripura (4) states.

The district-wise distribution reveals that out of 640 districts in India, only 34 districts have reported the presence of Lalung speakers. The overall picture of 34 districts towards the speakers' strength of Lalung speaking populace shows that their number is 10 and below in 22 districts, 11 to 100 in 6 districts, 101 to 1,000 in 1 district and 1,001 and above in 5 districts.

In Assam, the highest number of Lalung speakers are registered in Karbi Anglong (17,227) district, followed by Morigaon (7,941), Nagaon (4,580), Kamrup Metropolitan (1,706), Karimganj (209), Dhemaji (73), Dima Hasao (27) and Sonitpur and Golaghat (16 each) districts. Rest 9 districts of Assam have registered Lalung speakers less than 10 in number. Apart from Assam, Lalung speakers are also registered in Ribhoi (2,039) and East Khasi Hills (11) districts of Meghalaya and Dimapur (14) district of Nagaland.

Lepcha is one of the Non-Scheduled languages and it is classified under the Tibeto-Burman family of languages. It is mainly spoken in the state of Sikkim. In Census 2011, Lepcha mother tongue which has more than 10,000 speakers in India is grouped under Lepcha as variant. Lepcha (Rong) script is used for writing this language.

As per Census 2011, 47,331 Lepcha speakers are recorded which cover 0.004 per cent of the country's total population. However, Lepcha speakers in the state of Sikkim constitute 6.27 per cent of the state's total population and 80.95 per cent to the total Lepcha speaking population in the country. In India, Lepcha speakers are mainly concentrated in the States/UTs of Sikkim (38,313), West Bengal (8,637), Uttarakhand (147), Nagaland (45), NCT of Delhi (33), Karnataka (21), Madhya Pradesh (19), Meghalaya (17), Manipur and Tamil Nadu (16 each), Arunachal Pradesh and Assam (10 each), Maharashtra (9), Chandigarh (8) and Uttar Pradesh (7). In Haryana, Mizoram, Andhra Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Rajasthan, Bihar, Tripura, Jharkhand, Gujarat, Goa and Andaman & Nicobar Islands population of Lepcha speakers is 5 and below. Remaining 7 States/Union Territories have not returned any Lepcha speaker during Census 2011.

The district-wise distribution reveals that out of 640 districts, 76 districts have Lepcha speakers in India. The overall picture of 76 districts towards the speakers' strength of Lepcha speaking populace shows that their number is 10 and below in 60 districts, 11 to 100 in 10 districts, 101 to 1,000 in 1 district and 1,001 and above in 5 districts.

Among the districts in Sikkim, the highest number of Lepcha speakers is noticed in North District (13,860) followed by East District (9,666), West District (9,490) and South District (5,297) districts. Outside Sikkim, Lepcha is spoken significantly in Darjiling (8,414) district, followed by Jalpaiguri (153), Kolkata (41) and Purba Medinipur (16) districts of West Bengal; Chamoli (94) and Dehradun (44) districts of Uttarakhand; Dimapur (23) and Kohima (21) districts of Nagaland; East Khasi Hills (17) district of Meghalaya; Jabalpur (15) district of Madhya Pradesh and South West (11) and South (10) districts of NCT of Delhi. In remaining districts Lepcha speakers are below 10 in number.

Liangmei is one of the Non-Scheduled languages and it is classified under the Tibeto-Burman family of languages. It is mainly spoken in two states namely, Manipur and Nagaland. In Census 2011, one mother tongue namely, Liangmei which has more than 10,000 speakers in India is grouped under Liangmei as variant. Rest of the mother tongues returned as variants of Liangmei with less than 10,000 speakers are grouped under 'Others'. Roman script is used for writing this language.

As per Census 2011, 49,811 Liangmei speakers are recorded which is 0.004 per cent of the country's total population. However, Liangmei speakers in the state of Manipur and Nagaland constitute 1.77 and 0.20 per cent of the state's total population respectively. In India, Liangmei speakers are mainly concentrated in the state of Manipur (45,546) with 91.44 per cent of the total Liangmei population in India. These speakers are also available in Nagaland (3,923), Assam (95), Maharashtra (74), NCT of Delhi (46), West Bengal (41), Meghalaya (39), Gujarat (16), Tripura (11) and Andhra Pradesh (8). In Sikkim, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram and Goa, number of Liangmei speakers are 5 and below. No Liangmei speaker is reported from 18 States/Union Territories.

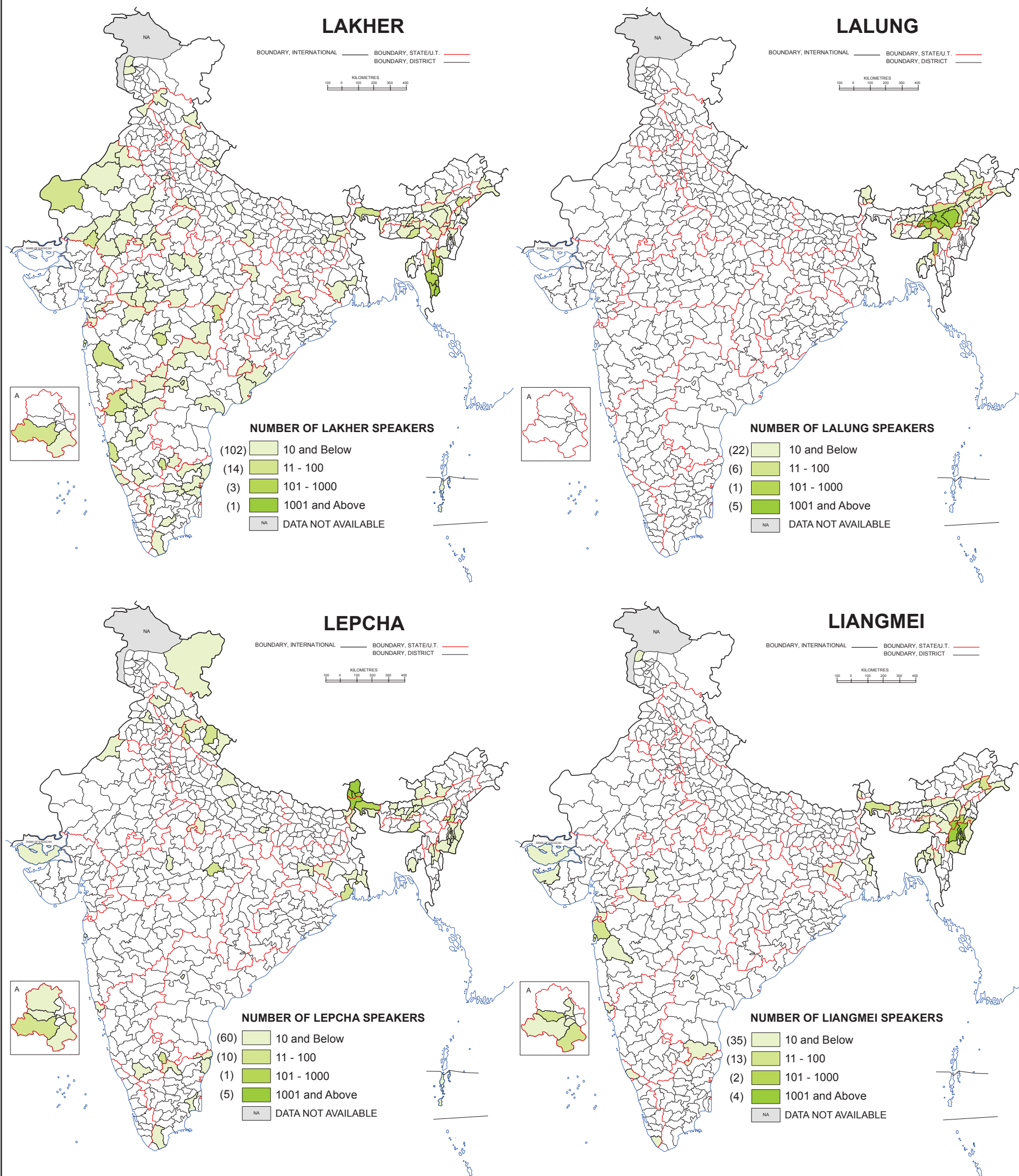
The district-wise distribution reveals that out of 640 districts, 54 districts have Liangmei speakers in India. The overall picture of 54 districts towards the speakers' strength of Liangmei speaking populace shows that their number is 10 and below in 35 districts, 11 to 100 in 13 districts, 101 to 1,000 in 2 districts and 1,001 and above in 4 districts.

Among the districts in Manipur, the highest proportion of Liangmei speakers is noticed in Tamenglong (32,852) district followed by Senapati (11,323), Imphal West (1,095) and Imphal East (240) districts. In Churachandpur, Thoubal, Chandel and Ukhrul districts Liangmei speakers are below 20. In Nagaland, the highest number of Liangmei speakers are available in Peren (3,658) district followed by Kohima (138), Dimapur (95) and Phek (23) districts. Outside Manipur and Nagaland, Liangmei is not spoken significantly in any State/UT. However, in districts, the Liangmei speakers are recorded in Dhemaji (54) and Tinsukia (17) districts of Assam; Jalpaiguri (39) district of West Bengal, East Khasi Hills (33) district of Meghalaya; Mumbai Suburban (30), Thane (25) and Mumbai (14) districts of Maharashtra and West and South (20 each) districts of NCT of Delhi. The Liangmei speakers are below 10 in 31 other districts.

The distribution of Lakher, Lalung, Lepcha and Liangmei speakers along with the cumulative percentage in the States/Union Territories is given in Table 57 in Annexure-I.

INDIA

DISTRIBUTION OF LAKHER, LALUNG, LEPCHA AND LIANGMEI LANGUAGES 2011



Figures within brackets indicate number of districts in the respective ranges. The districts having no speaker of the respective languages are left blank.