

Chapter - 5

District Wise Assessment of School Libraries in West Bengal: A GIS Based Mapping Approach

5.1 Introduction

An attempt has been made to evaluate the district wise status of the school libraries in West Bengal. The analysis was done on the basis of different housekeeping operations and services rendered to the students and the teachers, viz., the infrastructure of the school library, acquisition process maintained, the technical process adopted by the school libraries, shelves arrangement, and their maintenance, circulation systems, services rendered by the library. In the previous chapter (Chapter 4) an overall scenario of the status of the present school library system of West Bengal have been revealed. To satisfy the prime objective, i.e., to formulate a standard for the school library in West Bengal, it is needed for the researcher to be acquainted with the regional variation of West Bengal regarding the status of the secondary and higher secondary school library system. To fulfill the purpose, district wise distribution of above-mentioned factors have been analyzed using the Geographic Information System (GIS). GIS offers the users the most explicit way to enter georeferenced data into the system, to analyze it in various ways and to represent it in a meaningful way such as in the form of maps and charts. GIS provides a varied range of degree of freedom in the way the processed information is displayed on the map e.g. the colour scheme, symbology, and layout etc. Ability to finding out the spatial comparison as well as providing a logical interpretation are the prime reasons behind selecting GIS for preparing thematic maps to represent the district wise variations of schools libraries in West Bengal.

5.2 Analysis and Findings

The findings obtained from the analysis of collected data (Appendix 3) are as follows:

5.2.1 Availability of Librarian

In school library, librarian plays a vital role in disseminating information among the students and the teachers. The present thematic map shows that the district wise distribution of availability of librarian as an appointed librarian in the school library. First of all, the response regarding the availability of librarian in school library are classified into two classes, viz., 'yes' and 'no' and accordingly district wise frequencies of schools under each class have been computed (Table 1 in Appendix 3).

It is observed from the map that the majority of the schools around the capital Kolkata and its surrounding have appointed librarians. North 24 Parganas district have highest schools (75%) having librarians followed by South 24 Parganas (65%) and Kolkata and Purba Medinipur, both having 60% schools. On the other hand, Nadia and Puruliya districts representing the lowest percentage (35%) of appointed librarian followed by Darjiling and Jalpaiguri (both 30%) (Figure. 5.1).

5.2.2 Number of Supporting Staff

To run the library smoothly, the librarian required supporting staff(s). However, most of the schools are lacking of librarian. The thematic map as shown here representing the district wise distribution of no. of supporting staff. First of all, no. of supporting staff are classified into three class ranges and accordingly district wise frequencies of schools under each class have been computed (Table 2 in Appendix 3).

It is well envisaged from the map that in most of the districts the dominant percentage of schools are having no supporting staff in their libraries. Under the class nil, 60% schools are from Jalpaiguri district, is highest, followed by North 24 Parganas and Paschim Medinipur representing 85%. On the other hand, Bankura and Haora

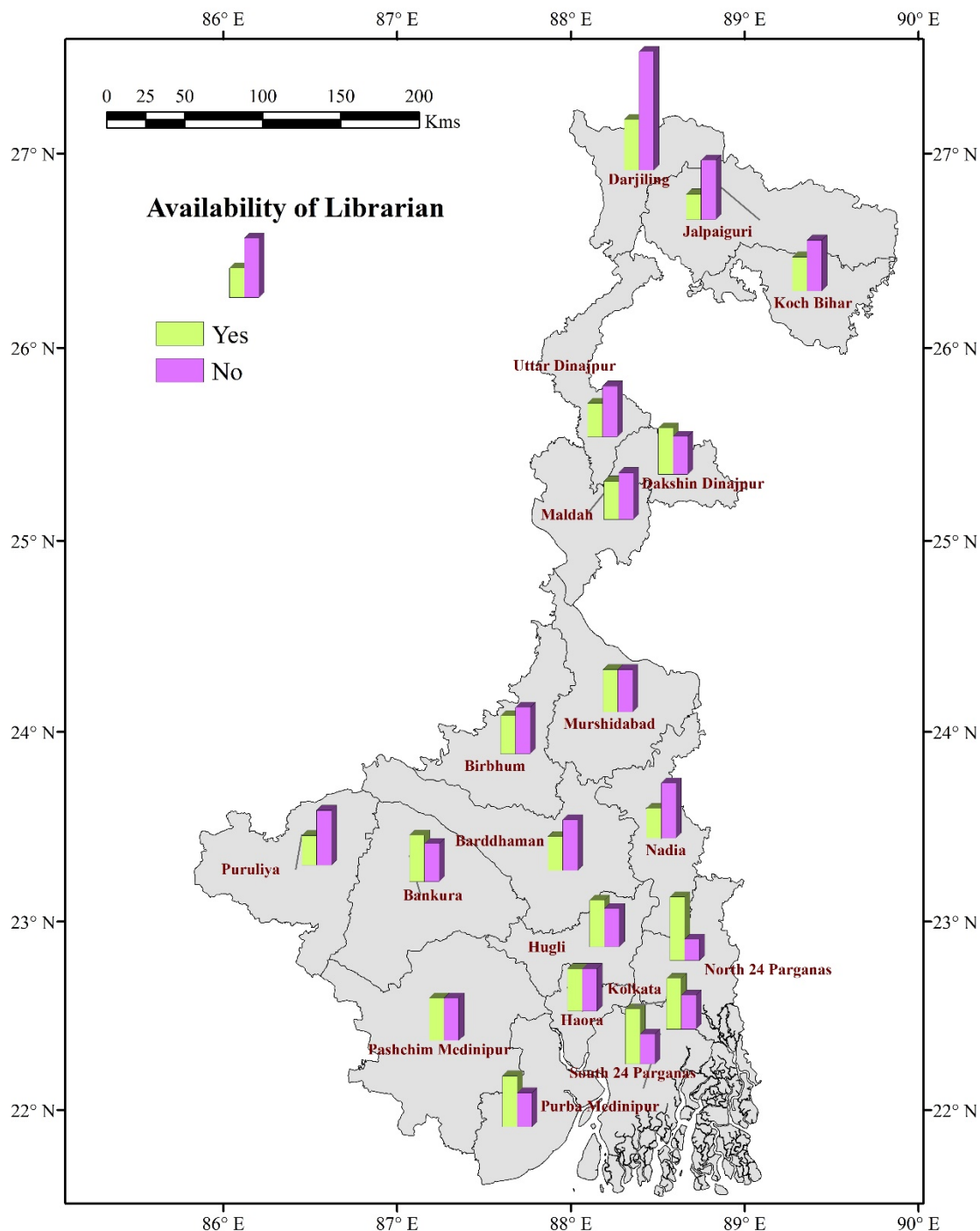


Figure 5.1 Thematic map representing the district wise distribution of availability of librarian as an appointed librarian in the school library.

representing the lowest percentage which is 55% followed by Bardhaman district (50%). Kolkata, Puruliya and Bankura districts are having the highest number of schools where at least one supporting staff is present and the percentage is 40%. The

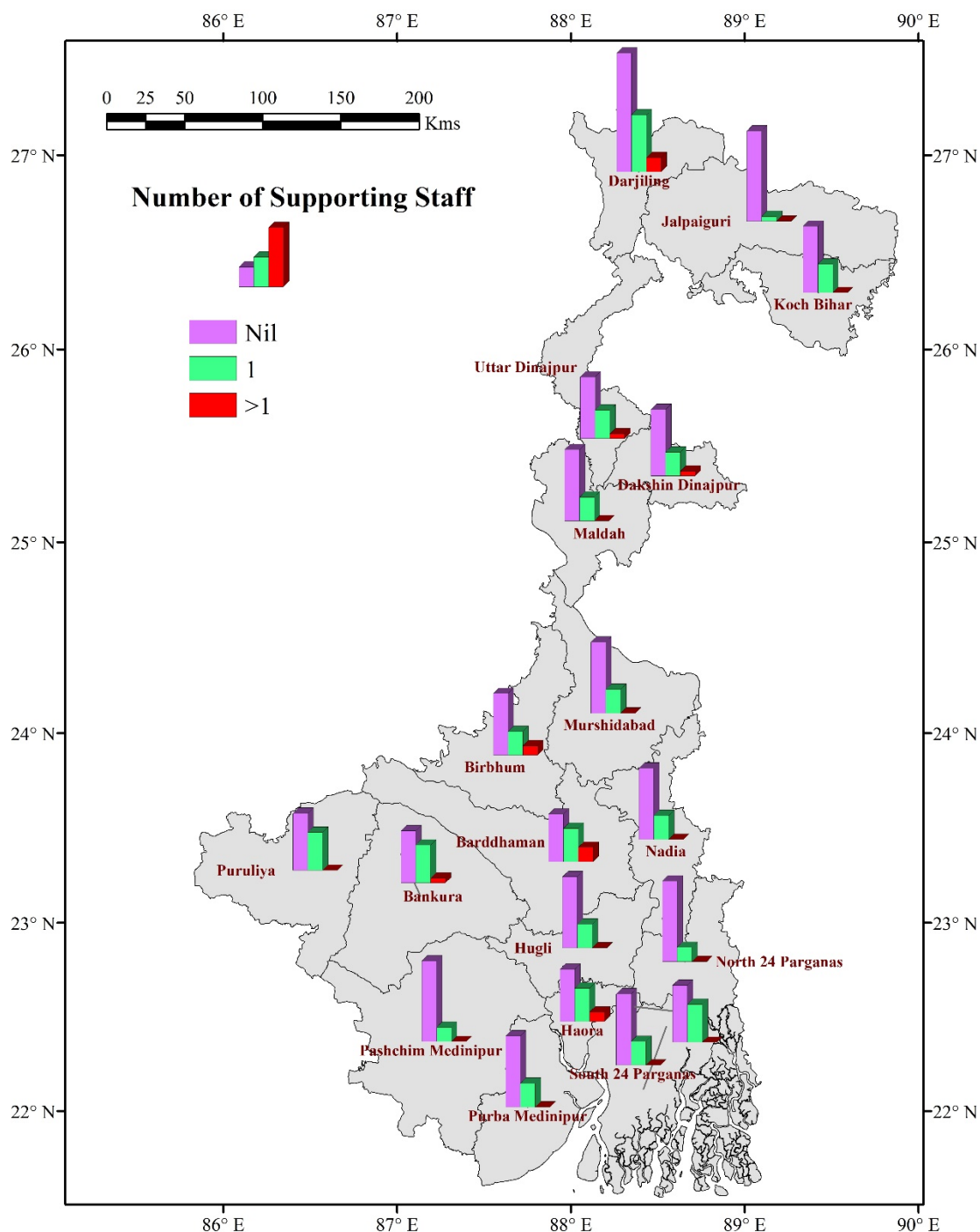


Figure 5.2 Thematic map representing the district wise distribution of numbers of supporting staff in the school libraries. In most of the cases there are no supporting staff available in the libraries.

lowest percentage of schools under this range are observed in North 24 Parganas and Paschim Medinipur (15%) followed by Jalpaiguri (5%) (Figure. 5.2). Bardhaman

(15%) has the highest number of schools where more than one supporting staff are present followed by Haora and Birbhum (10%). Contrary to this, Bankura, Uttar Dinajpur and Dakshin Dinajpur represents the lowest percentage of schools (5%).

5.2.3 Existence of Separate Reading Room

A library is incomplete without a reading room. A reading room is a place where students can read the text books as well as reference books. Besides reading, students can browse Internet for their academic purpose. Many schools have a library period in their class routine. So, reading room is an integral part a library.

The thematic map shows that the district wise distribution of availability of reading room in the school library. First of all, the response regarding the availability of reading room are classified into two classes, viz., ‘yes’ and ‘no’ and accordingly district wise frequencies of schools under each class have been computed (Table 3 in Appendix 3). It is observed from the map that the majority of the schools do not have any reading room. Kolkata, Purba Medinipur and Koch Bihar district have highest percentage of schools having reading room and the percentage are 50%, 45% and 40% respectively. On the other hand, Paschim Medinipur district has lowest percentage (15%) of schools having reading room followed by Jaipalguri and Nadia districts (both 5%) (Figure. 5.3).

5.2.4 Seating Capacity in Reading Room

Library reading room facility is an important service in an academic library. School libraries should have the reading room service as the school library has an objective to grow the reading habit and interest among the students. The thematic map has shown the representation of district wise distribution of seating capacity in reading room. The number of seating capacity was divided into seven class ranges and district wise frequencies of schools under each class have been computed (Table 4 in Appendix 3).

It is well evident from the map that in most of the districts, the dominant percentage of schools are having no reading facility in their libraries. Under this class ‘Nil’; (i.e., libraries having zero seating capacity), 95% schools are from Jalpaiguri and Nadia district, is highest, followed by Darjiling and Paschim Medinipur representing 85%

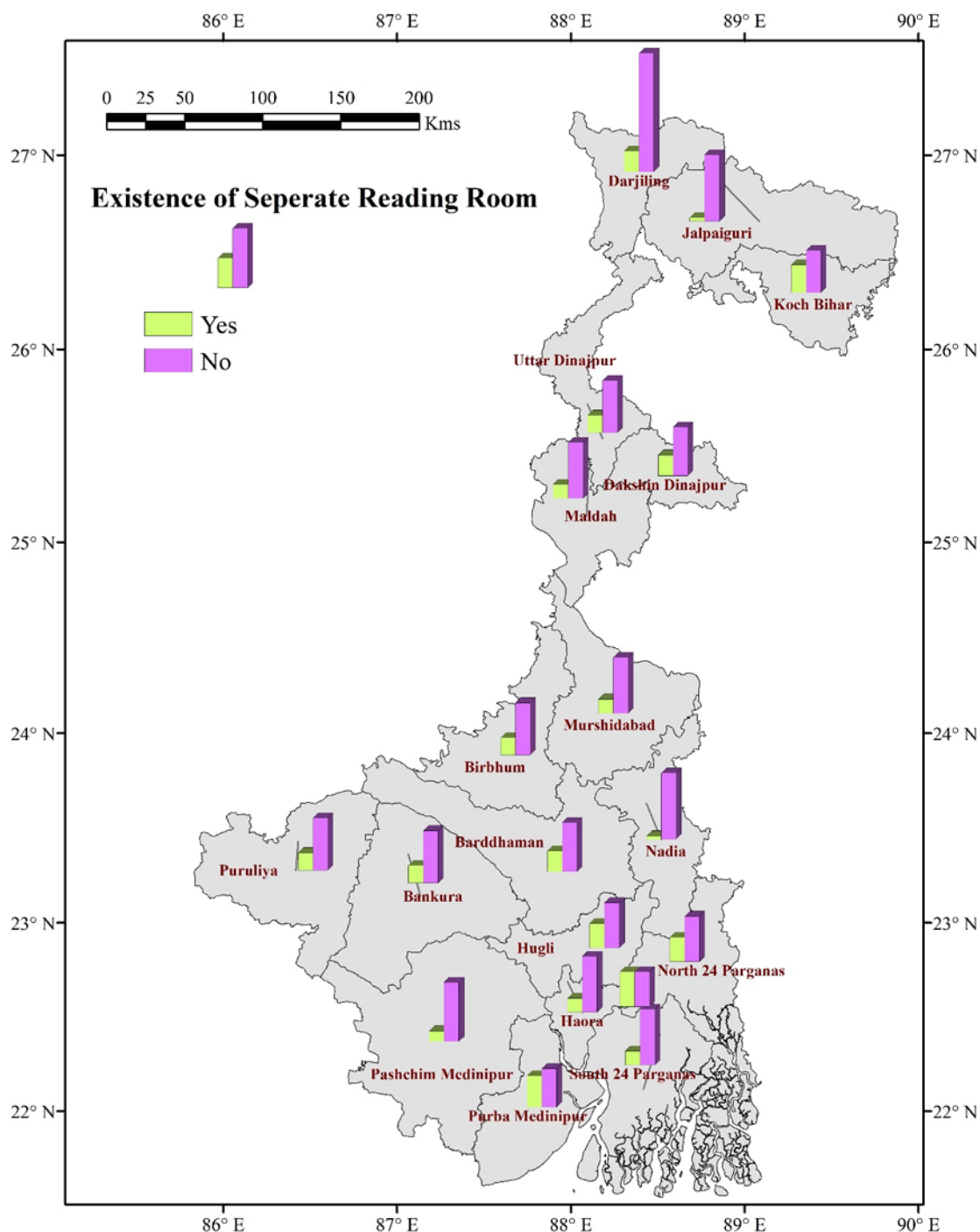


Figure 5.3 Thematic map presenting the district wise distribution of availability of reading room in the school library.

respectively. On the other hand, Purba Medinipur and Kolkata district representing the lowest percentage in this class, which is 50% and 45% respectively (Figure. 5.4). Puruliya and Barddhaman both districts are having the highest number of schools

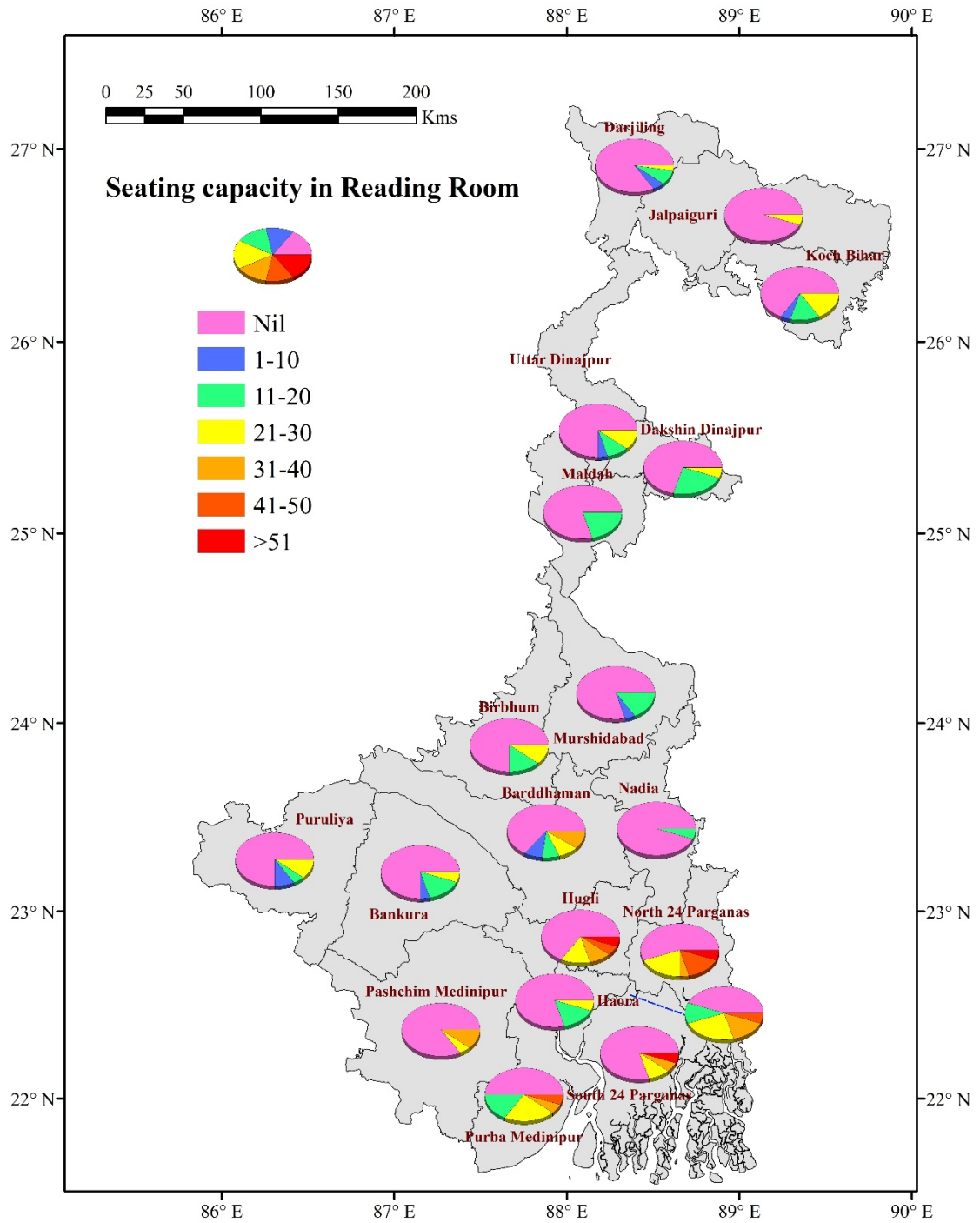


Figure 5.4 Thematic map showing the district wise distribution of seating capacity in reading room in the school library.

(10%) where the total seat capacity varies from 1 to 10. The lowest percentage (5%) of schools under this range are observed in five districts, viz., Darjiling, Murshidabad, Bankura, Uttar Dinajpur and Koch Bihar district (Figure. 5.4).

The highest number of schools where the total seat capacity ranges between 11 to 20 is Dakshin Dinajpur (25%). Whereas, Malda district is the second highest (20%) in terms of seat capacity under this class range. Contrary to this, Puruliya and Nadia district represent the lowest percentage of schools (5%).

Further, Purba Medinipore and Kolkata (25%) has the highest share followed by North 24 Parganas (20%) where the total number of seat capacity in reading room varies from 21 to 30. On the contrary, Dakshin Dinajpur, Bankura, Haora, Jalpaiguri and Paschim Medinipur are having only 5% followed by Darjiling district 2.5% schools under this range. Kolkata district is holding the highest number of schools (15%) followed by Hugli, Barddhaman and Paschim Medinipur (10%) where the total number of seat capacity in reading room varies from 31 to 40. Whereas districts like Purba Medinipur, North 24 Parganas and South 24 Parganas are sharing the lowest percentage of schools e.g. only 5% of the total.

North 24 Parganas district is holding the highest number of schools (15%) where the total number of seat capacity in reading room varies from 41 to 50. Whereas districts like Kolkata, Hugli and Purba Medinipur are sharing the lowest percentage of schools e.g. only 5% of the total. Furthermore, out of all the districts, North 24 Parganass, Hugli and South 24 Parganas are the only three districts where 5% schools are having more than 51 seat capacity in reading room (Figure. 5.4).

5.2.5 Total Collection of Books

Total collection of books in a school library is an important indicator as per as the infrastructure of the school is concerned. The thematic map as shown here representing the district wise distribution of total book collections. First of all, total collections are classified into five class ranges and accordingly district wise frequencies of schools under each class have been computed (Table 5 in Appendix 3).

It is well envisaged from the map that in most of the districts the dominant percentage of schools are having less than 1000 books in their libraries. Under this class range

(<1000), 60% schools are from Darjiling district, is highest, followed by Jalpaiguri, Malda, and Uttar Dinajpur representing 50%, 45%, and 45% respectively. On the other hand, Purba Medinipur and Bankura representing the lowest percentage which is 10% and 5% respectively. Bankura (35%) and Bardhaman (35%) districts are having the highest number of schools followed by Paschim Medinipur (30%), where the total book collection varies from 1000-1999. The lowest percentage of schools under this range are observed in South 24 Parganas district (5%) (Figure. 5.5).

Dakshin Dinajpur (50%) has the highest number of schools where the total books collection ranges between 2000-2999. Whereas, Birbhum, Malda, Nadia, and South 24 Parganas are holding the second highest (40%) position in terms of total book collection under this class range. Contrary to this Darjiling and Paschim Medinipur hold the lowest percentage of schools (10%).

Purba Medinipore (30%) has the highest share followed by North 24 Parganas (25%) and Bankura (20%) where the total number of the book varies from 3000-3999. On the contrary Bardhaman, Birbhum, Dakshin Dinajpur, Nadia and South 24 Parganas are having only 5% schools under this range.

Hoogly, Kolkata, Paschim Medinipur are holding the highest number of schools (15%) where the total collection varies in between 4000-4900. Whereas districts like Bankura, Koch Bihar, Jalpaiguri, Nadia, Purba Medinipur are sharing the lowest percentage of schools e.g. only 5% the total (Figure. 5.5).

Out of all the districts, Kolkata is the only one where 30% schools are having more than 5000 books in their school libraries. Whereas North 24 Parganas, Paschim Medinipur and Puruliya are coming as the second highest containing 10% schools under this range. Again Bankura, Birbhum, Koch Bihar, Dakshin Dinajpur, Malda, Darjiling, Purba Medinipur, South 24 Parganas and Uttar Dinajpur are sharing the lowest percentage of schools (5%) where the total book collection is above 5000.

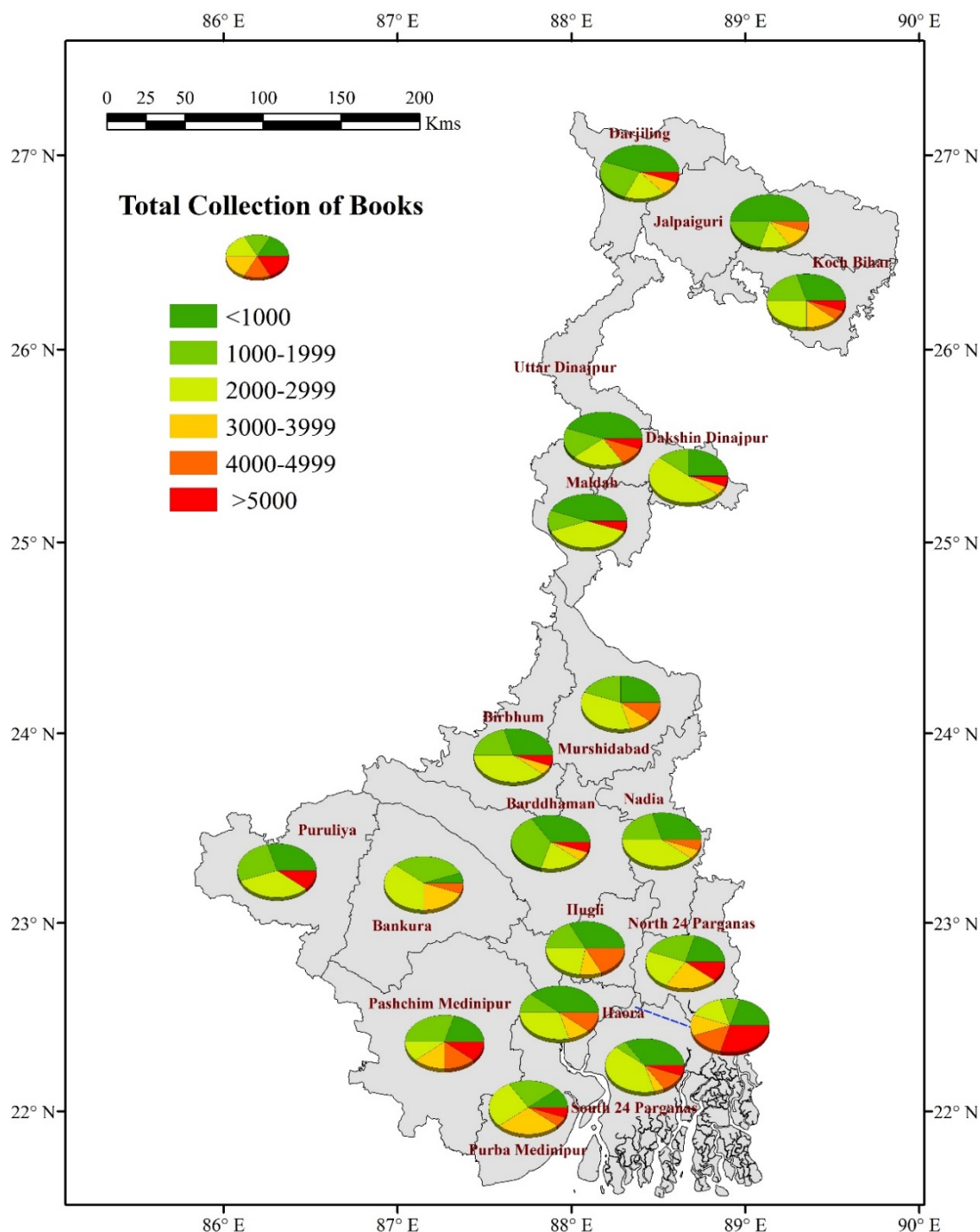


Figure 5.5 Thematic map representing the district wise distribution of total book collections in the school library.

5.2.6 Library Collection Sufficient or not

Library Collection is one of the most important parameters to judge the effectiveness of a library. The thematic map is showing the district wise distribution of the opinion of the librarians regarding the sufficiency and insufficiency of their library collection.

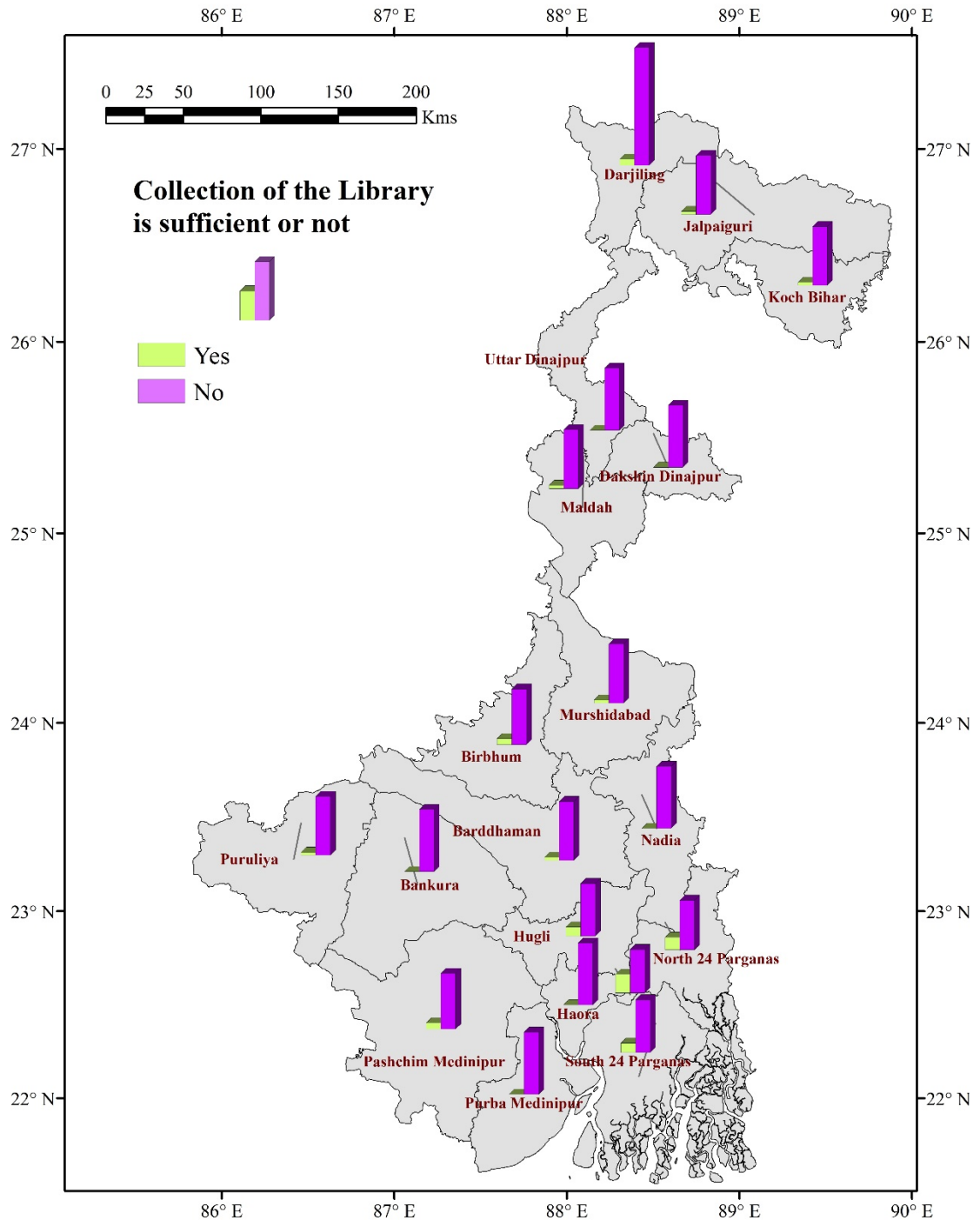


Figure 5.6 Thematic map showing the district wise distribution of the opinion of the librarians regarding the sufficiency and insufficiency of their library collection.

At first the responses of the respondents are classified into two classes viz “yes” or “no” and accordingly the district wise frequencies of the school libraries under each class have been computed (Table 6 in Appendix 3).

It is observed from the map that majority of the schools in different districts do not have sufficient collection in their libraries. In Bankura, Dakshin Dinajpur, Haora, Nadia, Purba Medinipur, Uttar Dinajpur almost cent percent school librarians opined that they are not at all satisfied with their collections, in Bardhaman, Koch Bihar, Darjiling, Malda, Murshidabad, Puruliya almost 95% schools do not have sufficient collection. In the Kolkata districts also 70% schools do not have sufficient collection (Figure. 5.6).

30% schools in Kolkata districts have sufficient collection in their library followed by 20% in North 24 Parganas and 15 % in South 24 Parganas and Hoogly. But the scenario is very poor in Bardhaman, Koch Bihar, Darjiling, Jalpaiguri, Malda, Purulia where only 5% schools have sufficient collection in their libraries.

5.2.7 Amount Required to Increase the Collection

Budget is a financial estimation of revenue and expenses of an organization for a specific period of time (“Budget Definition”). Library budget is a tool for executing the defined objectives of the library. The library budget determines the services that are supposed to render by the library. Generally, in school library, budget has been made for every year (*Developing the Library Budget The Budget Development Process*).

The thematic map as shown here representing the district wise distribution of anticipated amount needed for a year. First of all, amount needed are classified into five class ranges and accordingly district wise frequencies of schools under each class have been computed (Table 7 in Appendix 3).

It is well observed from the map that 20% schools North 24 Parganas think that amount below Rs.20000.00 are sufficient to run the library, which is highest under the class (<20000.00) followed by Koch Bihar and Dakshin Dinajpur having 10% school under this class. On the other hand, Birbhum, Kolkata, Paschim Medinipur, Purba Medinipur and Uttar Dinajpur representing the lowest percentage which is 5% (Figure. 5.7).

North 24 Parganas and Purba Medinipur districts are having the highest number of schools (20%), where the amount required for the library is Rs.20000.00 –

Rs.30000.00. The lowest percentage of schools under this range are observed in Dakshin Dinajpur, Birbhum, Kolkata, Paschim Medinipur, Uttar Dinajpur, Malda, Murshidabad, Nadia and Puruliya and the percentage is 5% (Figure. 5.7).

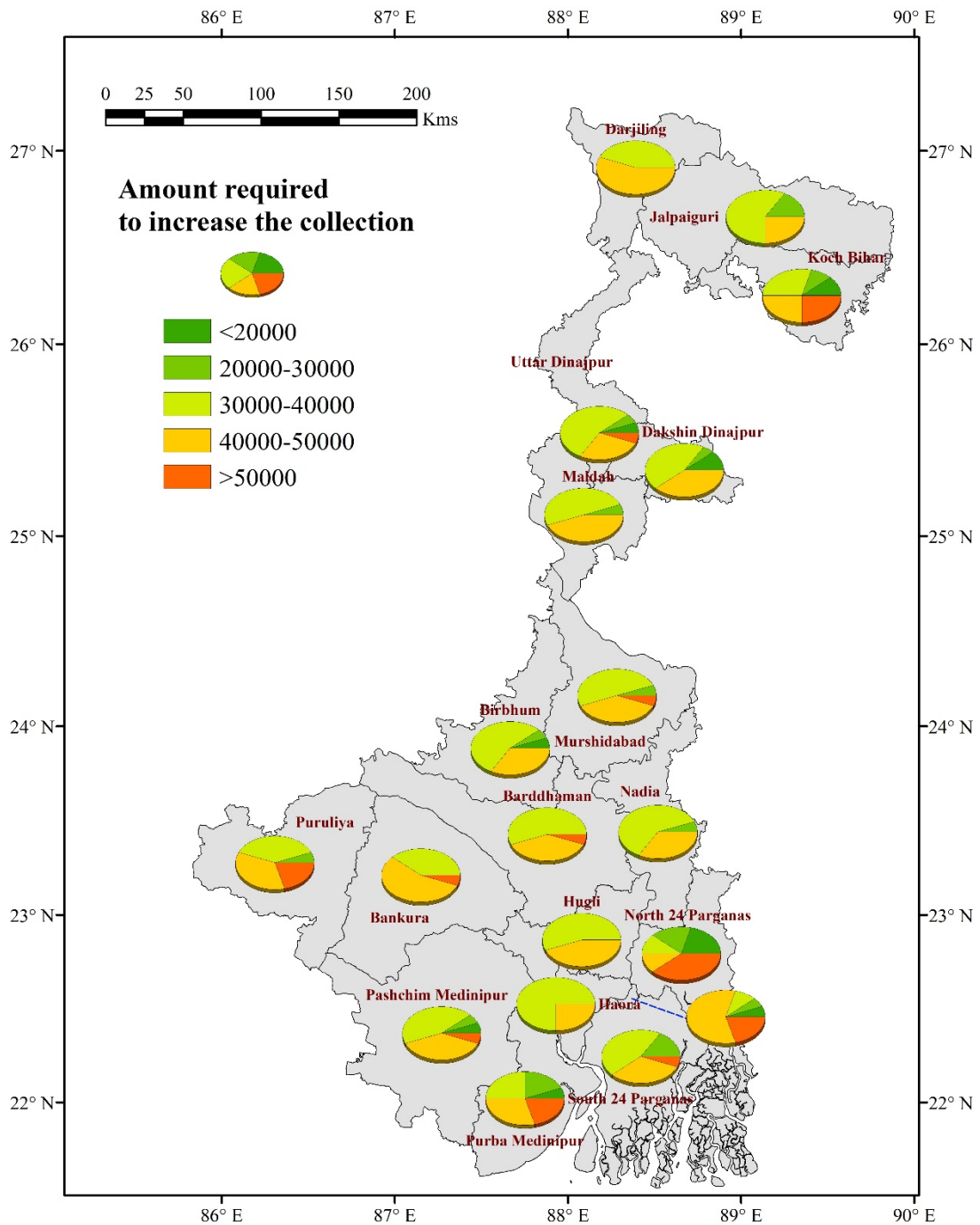


Figure 5.7 Thematic map representing the district wise distribution of anticipated amount needed for a year to increase the library collection.

It is well envisaged from the map that in most of the districts the dominant percentage of schools where the amount required for the library is Rs.30000.00 – Rs.40000.00. Haora (75%) has the highest number of schools under this class range. Whereas, Jalpaiguri and Nadia are the second highest (60%) in terms of total amount required under this class range. Contrary to this North 24 Parganas and Kolkata represents the lowest percentage of schools (10%).

Kolkata (60%) has the highest number of schools followed by Darjiling and Bankura where the amount required for the library is Rs.40000.00 – Rs.50000.00 and the percentage is 55%. On the contrary, North 24 Parganas has the lowest percentage (10%) of schools under this range.

North 24 Parganas is holding the highest number of schools (40%) followed by Koch Bihar (25%) where the amount required for the library is above Rs.50000.00. Whereas districts like Bankura, Bardhaman, Murshidabad, Paschim Medinipur, South 24 Parganas and Uttar Dinajpur are sharing the lowest percentage of schools e.g. only 5% of the total.

5.2.8 Types of Shelves

Organization of stacks is an important aspect in school library system. Two types of shelving have been observed in the library, viz open access and closed close access. Ranganathan in his book 'Five Laws of Library Science' described that in maximum cases the readers do not have a definite idea of their requirements and it gets a perfect shape when they can see and handle an organized collection of books (Ranganathan). This principle actually identifies the fundamental issue of open access. In open access user have the flexibility to search the book by themselves by browsing the stacks. The user has also got the opportunity to brows the stack on a given subject. On the other hand, in close access system, users are not allowed to brows the stack. Rather they are asked to search the book through the library staff. In many libraries both open access and close access are simultaneously adopted.

The thematic map as shown here representing the district wise distribution of types of shelving. First of all, types of shelving are classified into three types, viz., open access,

close access and both and accordingly district wise frequencies of schools under each type have been computed (Table 8 in Appendix 3).

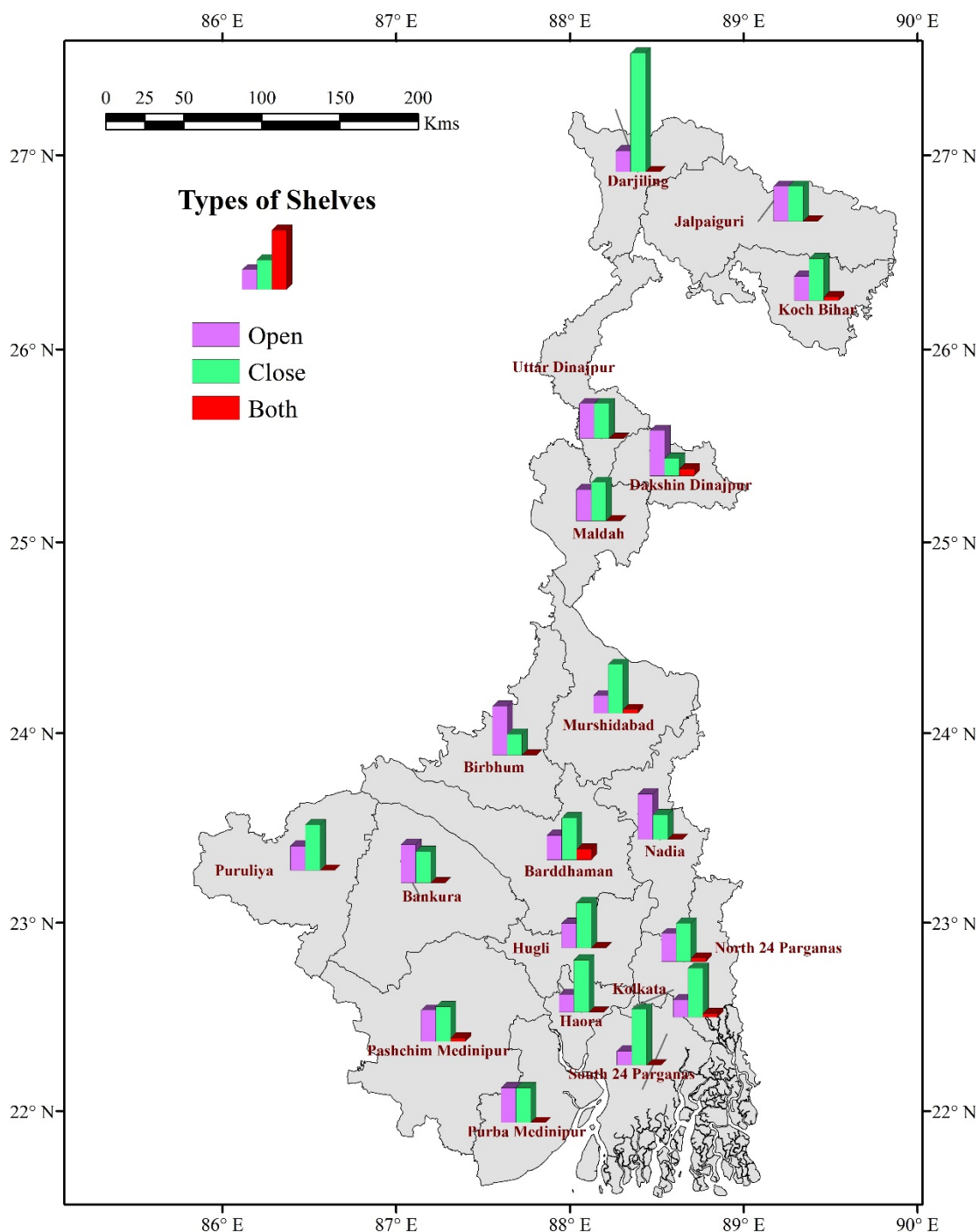


Figure 5.8 Thematic map showing the district wise distribution of types of shelves in the library.

It is well envisaged from the map that school libraries having open access, 70% schools are from Birbhum district, is highest, followed by Dakshin Dinajpur and Nadia district representing 65%. On the other hand, South 24 Parganas and Darjiling representing the lowest percentage which is 20% and 15% respectively.

Darjiling (85%), South 24 Parganas (80%) and Haora (75%) districts are having the highest number of schools, where the close access shelving method is maintained. The lowest percentage of schools under this type are observed in Nadia (35%), Birbhum (30%) and Dakshin Dinajpur (25%) (Figure. 5.8).

Out of all the districts, Bardhaman is the only one where 15% schools are having both open access and close access in their school libraries followed by Dakshin Dinajpur (10%). Whereas North 24 Parganas, Paschim Medinipur and Puruliya are coming as the second highest containing 10% schools under this range. Again Kolkata, Murshidabad, Koch Bihar, North 24 Parganas and Paschim Medinipur districts are sharing the lowest percentage of schools (5%) where both open access and close access are simultaneously adopted (Figure. 5.8).

5.2.9 Arrangement of Books on the Stack

Arrangement of document in the shelves is an important aspect for smooth running of library and proper utilization of library resources. Library resources must be shelved in a proper manner, so that the library staff and the users can find their books at ease. Lack of following any classification scheme compels the library professionals to arrange the books according to the subject. The thematic map has shown the representation of district wise distribution of arrangement of books on shelves. The number of arrangement method is divided into three class ranges and district wise frequencies of schools under each class have been computed (Table 9 in Appendix 3).

It is observed from the map that in most of the districts, the dominant percentage of schools have arranged documents in subject wise in their libraries. Under the subject wise arrangement of documents, cent percentage of schools from Birbhum district, is highest, followed by Haora and Uttar Dinajpur representing 95% respectively. On the

other hand, Kolkata and North 24 Parganas districts representing the lowest percentage in this class, which is 80% and 65% respectively (Figure. 5.9).

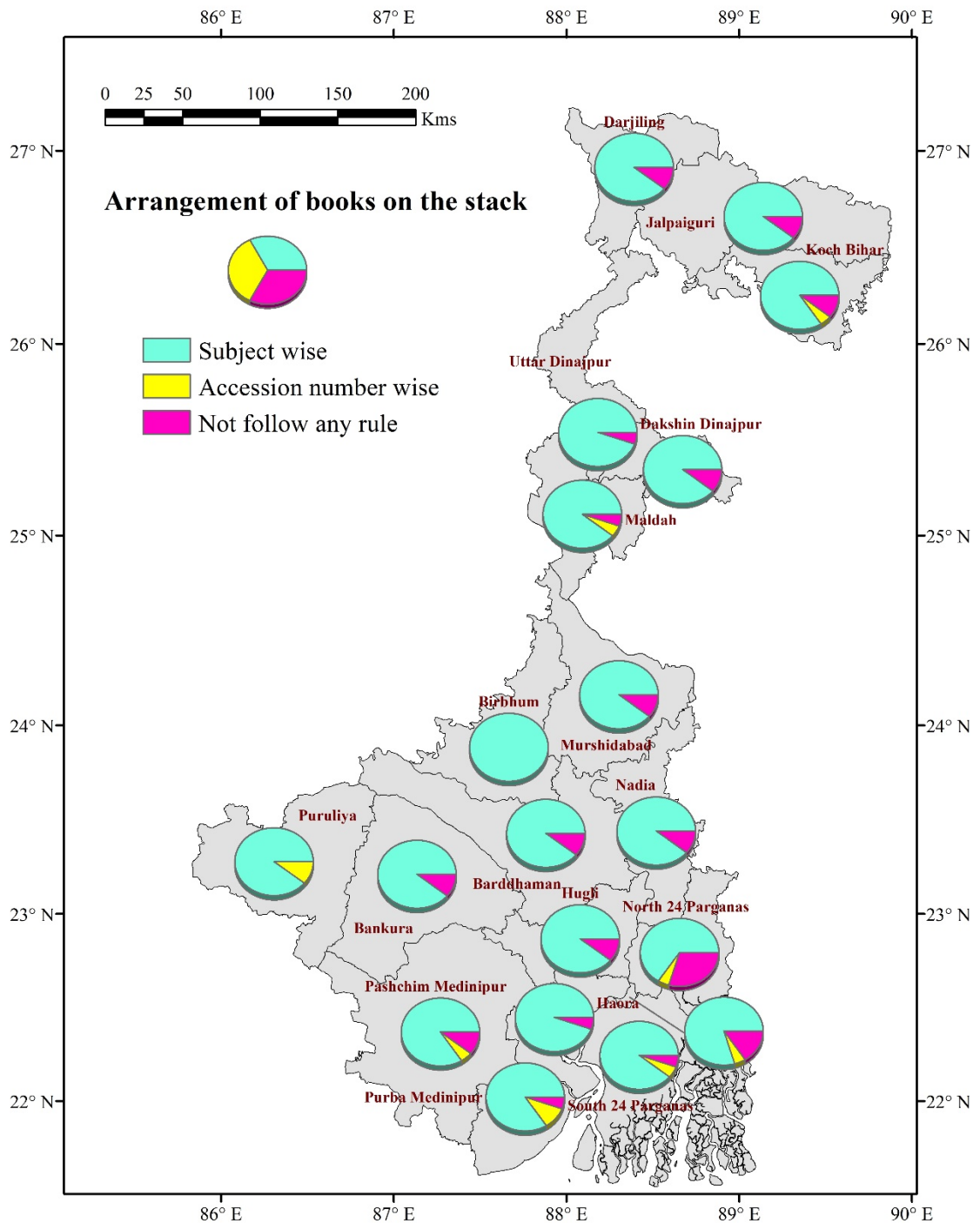


Figure 5.9 Thematic map representing district wise distribution of arrangement of books on the stack.

Puruliya and Purba Medinipur, both districts are having the highest number of schools (10%) where the arrangement of documents are made according to the class number. The lowest percentage (5%) of schools under this range are observed in six districts,

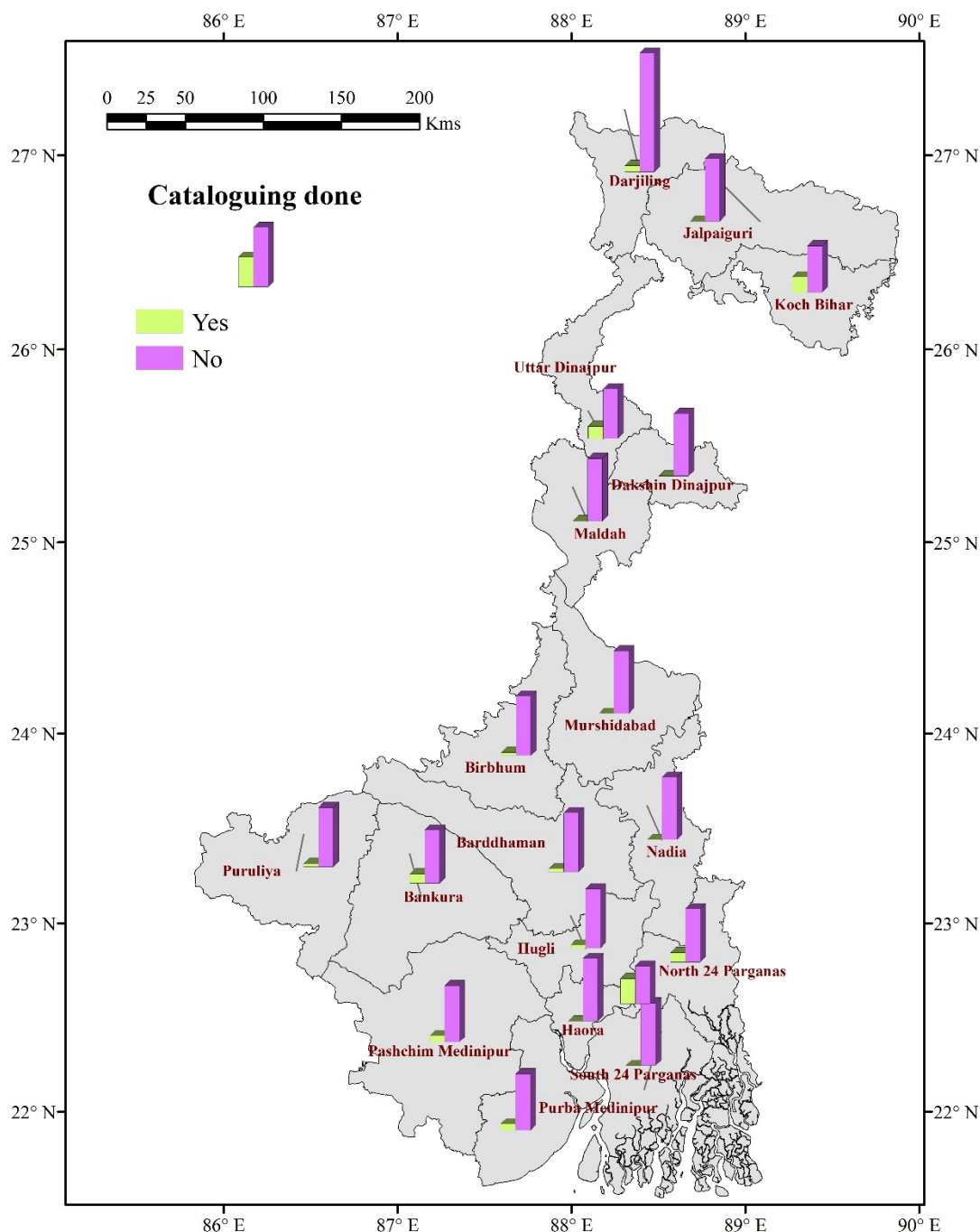


Figure 5.10 Thematic map representing the district wise distribution of availability of full catalogue of the documents in the school library.

viz., Malda, South 24 Parganas, Koch Bihar, Paschim Medinipur, Kolkata and North 24 Parganass (Figure. 5.9).

The highest number of schools where no proper arrangement method is maintained is North 24 Parganas (30%) followed by Kolkata district (15%). Whereas, the lowest percentage (5%) of schools under this range are observed in five districts, viz., Purba Medinipur, Malda, South 24 Parganas, Haora and Uttar Dinajpur.

5.2.10 Cataloguing Done

Catalogue is a list of documents of a library. According to Charles Ammi Cutter the objectives of library catalogue are: (i) to help a library user to find a document which author, title, subject are known, (ii) to show the number of documents available in a given author or a given subjects and (iii) assisting to find the desired document of an user (Cutter).

The thematic map as shown here representing the district wise distribution of availability of full catalogue of the documents in the school library. Libraries having partially catalogue of the documents are considered as not catalogued. First of all, libraries that catalogue documents are classified into two classes, viz., ‘yes’ and ‘no’ and accordingly district wise frequencies of schools under each class have been computed (Table 10 in Appendix 3).

It is observed from the map that the majority of the schools have not done cataloguing of the documents. Kolkata district (40%) has highest percentage of schools which have libraries where all documents are fully catalogued, followed by Koch Bihar (25%) and Uttar Dinajpur (20%). On the other hand, Bardhaman, Birbhum, Darjiling, Hugli and Puruliya districts have lowest percentage (5%) of schools where in libraries all the documents are catalogued (Figure. 5.10).

5.2.11 Cataloguing System

Physical form of cataloguing relates with the external shape, size, and appearance of the cataloguing entries, the librarian have made. The preparation of different types of

entries, provision of cross-references and other requirements of a library catalogue, have also influenced the choice of a particular physical form of a catalogue in libraries.

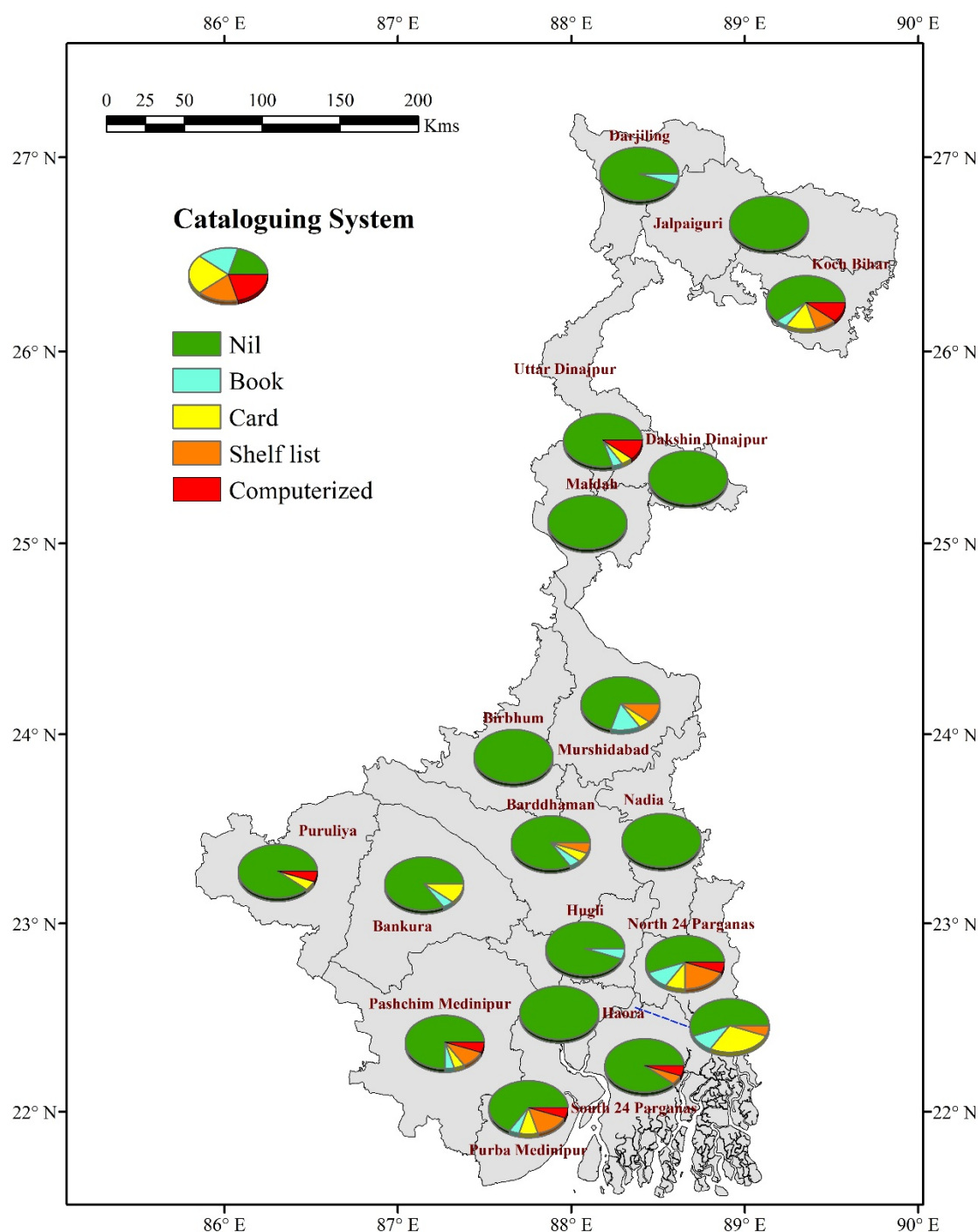


Figure 5.11 Thematic map representing the district wise distribution of types of physical entry of cataloguing.

The thematic map as shown here representing the district wise distribution of types of physical entry of cataloguing. First of all, types of physical entry are classified into five class ranges and accordingly district wise frequencies of schools under each class have been computed (Table 11 in Appendix 3).

It is well envisaged from the map that in most of the districts the dominant percentage of schools are not maintaining any cataloguing in their libraries. Under this type, Dakshin Dinajpur, Haora, Jalpaiguri, Malda and Nadia district cent percentage schools have not any catalogue. On the other hand Kolkata and North 24 Parganas representing the lowest percentage which is 55% (Figure. 5.11).

Murshidabad (15%), Kolkata and North 24 Parganas districts (10%) are having the highest number of schools where book catalogue are maintained. The lowest percentage of schools under this range are observed in Bankura, Barddhaman, Birbhum, Koch Bihar, Darjiling, Hugli, Paschim Medinipur, Purba Medinipur and Uttar Dinajpur (5%).

Kolkata (30%) has the highest number of schools where card catalogue is maintained. Whereas, Koch Bihar is the second highest (15%) in terms of using the card catalogue. Contrary to this, Murshidabad, Barddhaman, Paschim Medinipur, Uttar Dinajpur and Puruliya represents the lowest percentage of schools (5%).

North 24 Parganas (20%) has the highest share followed by Purba Medinipur (15%) where the shelf list form is maintained in terms of physical form of cataloguing. On the contrary Kolkata, Barddhaman and South 24 Parganas are having only 5% schools under this class. Koch Bihar and Uttar Dinajpur are holding the highest number of schools (10%) where the computerized catalogue is maintained. Whereas districts like North 24 Parganass, Purba Medinipur, Paschim Medinipur, South 24 Parganas, Puruliya and Birbhum are sharing the lowest percentage of schools e.g. only 5% the total (Figure. 5.11).

5.2.12 Availability of Catalogue Cabinet

Card cabinet is a place where the catalogued cards are placed in a proper arrangement. The arrangement of the cards may be in alphabetic or classified manner. The thematic

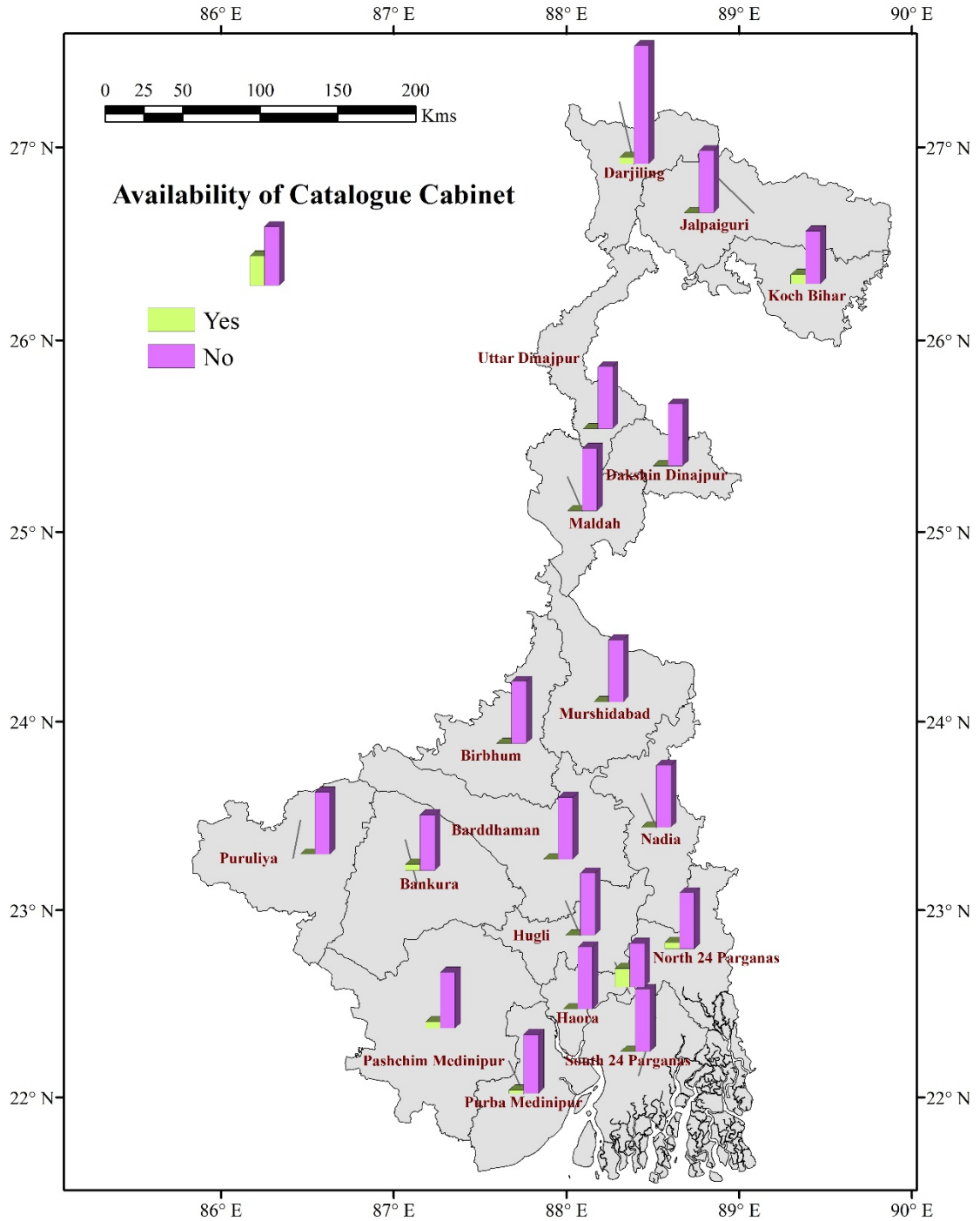


Figure 5.12 Thematic map showing the district wise distribution of availability of catalogue card cabinet.

map as shown here representing the district wise distribution of availability of card cabinet. First of all, total availability of card cabinet is classified into two classes, viz., ‘yes’ and ‘no’ and accordingly district wise frequencies of schools under each class have been computed (Figure. 5.12) (Table 12 in Appendix 3).

It is observed from the map that the majority of the schools do not have any card cabinet. The reason behind it may be that the most of the school libraries do not catalogue the library documents. Kolkata district (30%) has highest percentage of schools which have card cabinet followed by Koch Bihar (15%), Bankura, North 24 Parganas and Paschim Medinipur, having 10% school libraries that have card cabinet. On the other hand, Darjiling and Purba Medinipur districts have lowest percentage (5%) of schools that have card cabinet in their libraries. None of the other district schools that have any card cabinet in their libraries.

5.2.13 Classification Scheme

Library classification enables users to find the documents quickly and easily. Without classification it is impossible to find out the desired document in a given subject or a topic. Classification helps to assign class number of a book. A subject is converted into a class number through a classification scheme. The classification scheme is a controlled vocabulary, which can assign a subject into a notation, may be a mixed notation or a pure notation. On the other hand, a catalogue entry consists of (i) identification of document, i.e., title, author, edition, publisher, year of publication, etc and (ii) location of document, i.e., call number, which further consists of class number and book number. The books are arranged on the stack according to the class number. So, the user can easily find their desired book by searching catalogue. Classification number also helps to accommodate similar subject documents in a same place. That gives a user a flexibility to browse books on a subject or topic.

The thematic map shows the district wise distribution of the use of classification scheme in the school library. First of all, the response regarding the use of classification

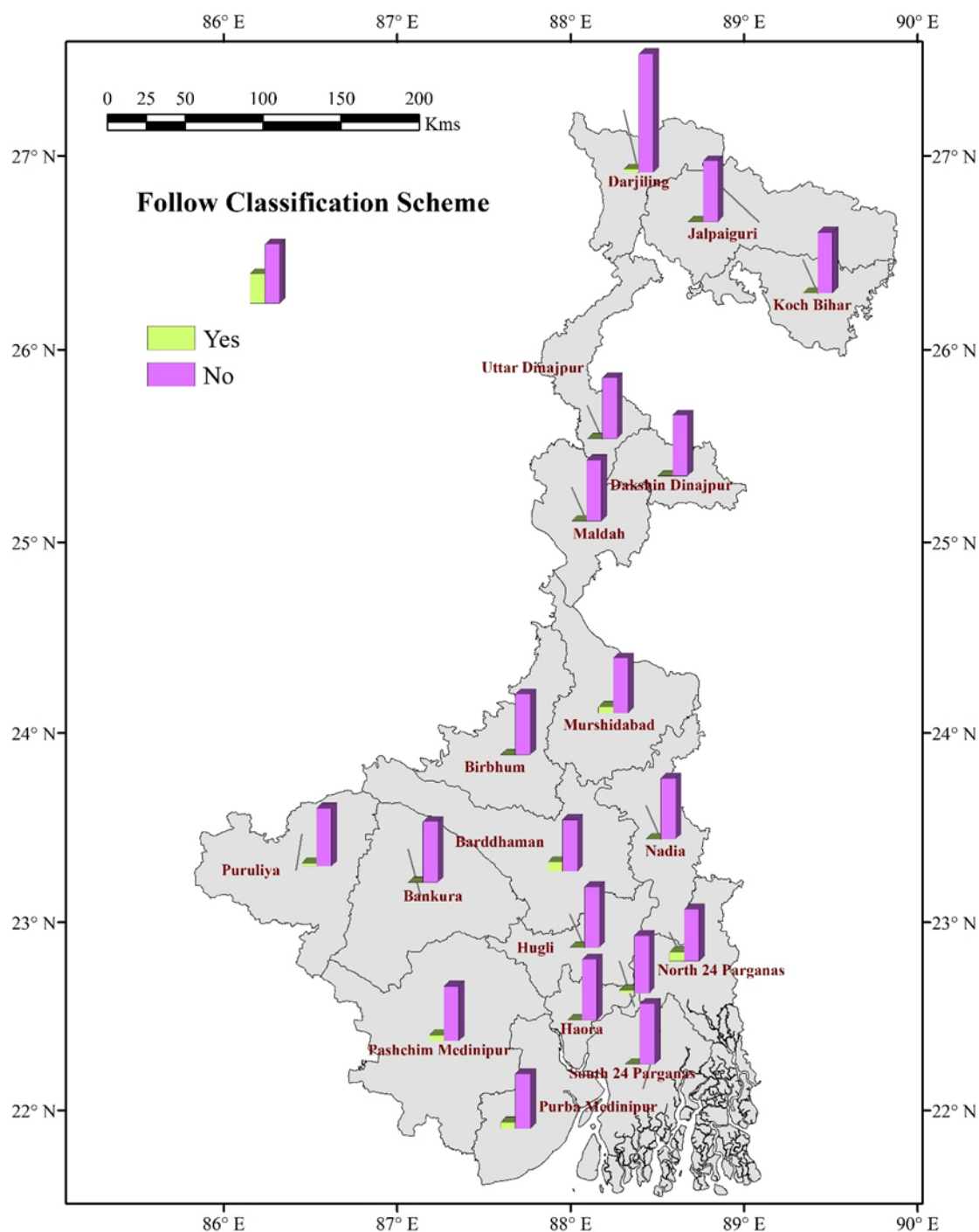


Figure 5.13 Thematic map showing the district wise distribution of the schools regarding the use of classification scheme.

scheme are classified into two classes, viz., ‘yes’ and ‘no’ and accordingly district wise frequencies of schools under each class have been computed (Table 13 in Appendix 3).

It is observed from the map that the majority of the schools do not follow any classification scheme. Bardhaman, North 24 Parganas district (15%) have highest percentage of schools which follow classification scheme followed by Murshidabad, Paschim Medinipur and Purba Medinipur and the percentage are 10%. On the other

hand, Kolkata, Puruliya districts have lowest percentage (5%) of schools which follow classification scheme followed by Darjiling district (2.5%). None of the other district school follow any classification scheme to classify documents (Figure. 5.13).

5.2.14 Circulation System

This thematic map is showing the district wise distribution of circulation systems that are prevailing over the whole state and to do this at first the whole system is classified in four classes and accordingly district wise distribution of each class has been computed (Table 14 in Appendix 3).

As the first class is showing, it is alarming to School Library System of our state that there are so many schools where books are not circulated in regular basis and under this class, Malda District has the highest number of schools(50%) followed by Dakshin Dinajpur (45%),Uttar Dinajpur(40%)and Puruliya (30%) where books are not being circulated in the school libraries.Where as Purba Medinipur, Murshidabad, Haora, Birbhum, Bardhaman and Bankura have lowest number of schools (5%) and (10%) respectively where circulation is not done in schools (Figure. 5.14).

Under the second class i.e books issued through register, Murshidabad District scored highest that is (70%), that means in this district highest number of schools are present where books are issued through register, followed by Purba Medinipur, Paschim medinipur, Jaipauri, Bardhaman, Birbhum, Koch Bihar (65%) scored each of them. South24 pargana, Nadia, Darjiling and Bankura (60%) whereas North 24 Parganas scored (25%) and Dakshin Dinajpur (30%) respectively (Figure. 5.14).

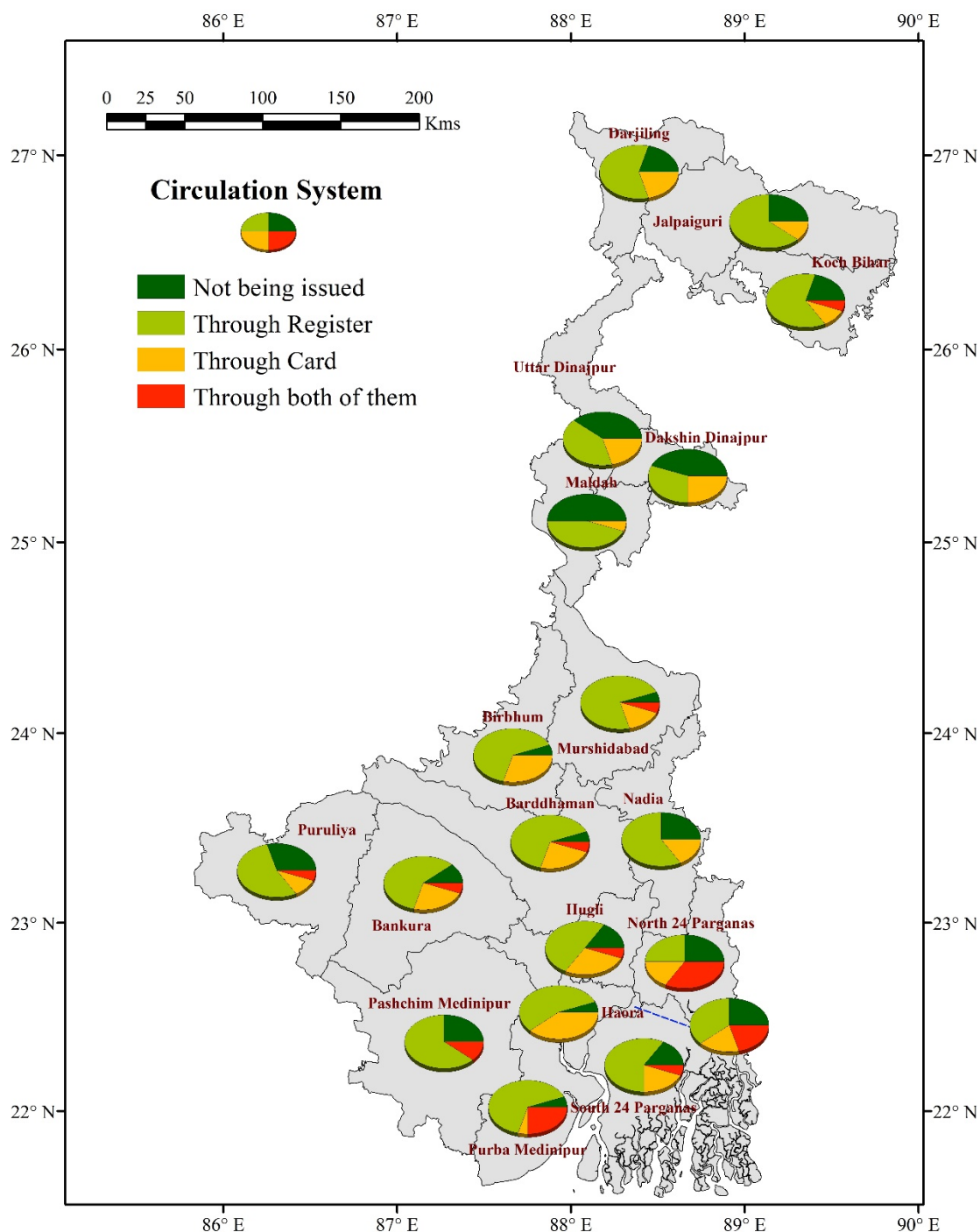


Figure 5.14 Thematic map showing the district wise distribution of circulation systems in the school library.

The third class is books issued through card. here, Haora districts have highest number of schools where books are circulated through card (40%), Birbhum (30%), Hugli (30%), followed by Bankura, Bardhaman, Dakshin Dinajpur (25%).

In the last class where both of the methods are used, North 24 Parganas scored highest (35%), i.e. there presents highest number of schools where both of the techniques (register and card) are used, followed by Purba Medinipur and Kolkata.

5.2.15 Books Issued Daily

Effectiveness of a library depends upon the number of issuing books. In many school libraries circulation facilities are not available. The reason behind it may be the lack of librarian or lack of sufficient infrastructure. The thematic map as shown here representing the district wise distribution of total book issued daily. First of all, total number of books issued are classified into seven class ranges and accordingly district wise frequencies of schools under each class have been computed.

It is well envisaged from the map that in most of the districts the dominant percentage of schools are having zero issued books as there is no circulation facility in their libraries. Under this class range (Nil), 75% schools are from Darjiling district, is highest, followed by Malda and Nadia, both having 60% schools. On the other hand, Murshidabad, Hugli and Purba Medinipur districts representing the lowest percentage which is 20%, 15% and 10% respectively.

Murshidabad (70%) and Dakshin Dinajpur (65%) districts are having the highest number of schools followed by Haora and Birbhum district (both having 55%), where the total book issued varies from 1-10. The lowest percentage of schools under this range are observed in Puruliya and Kolkata district (both having 10%) (Figure. 5.15).

Purba Medinipur (40%) has the highest number of schools where the total books issued ranges between 11-20 followed by Koch Bihar (30%). Contrary to this Bardhaman, Dakshin Dinajpur, Darjiling, Malda and Murshidabad represents the lowest percentage of schools (5%) in terms of total book issued daily under this class range.

Kolkata (30%) has the highest share followed by South 24 Parganas and Hugli (20% each) the total number of the book issued daily varies from 21-30. On the contrary Koch Bihar and Puruliya are having only 5% schools under this range.

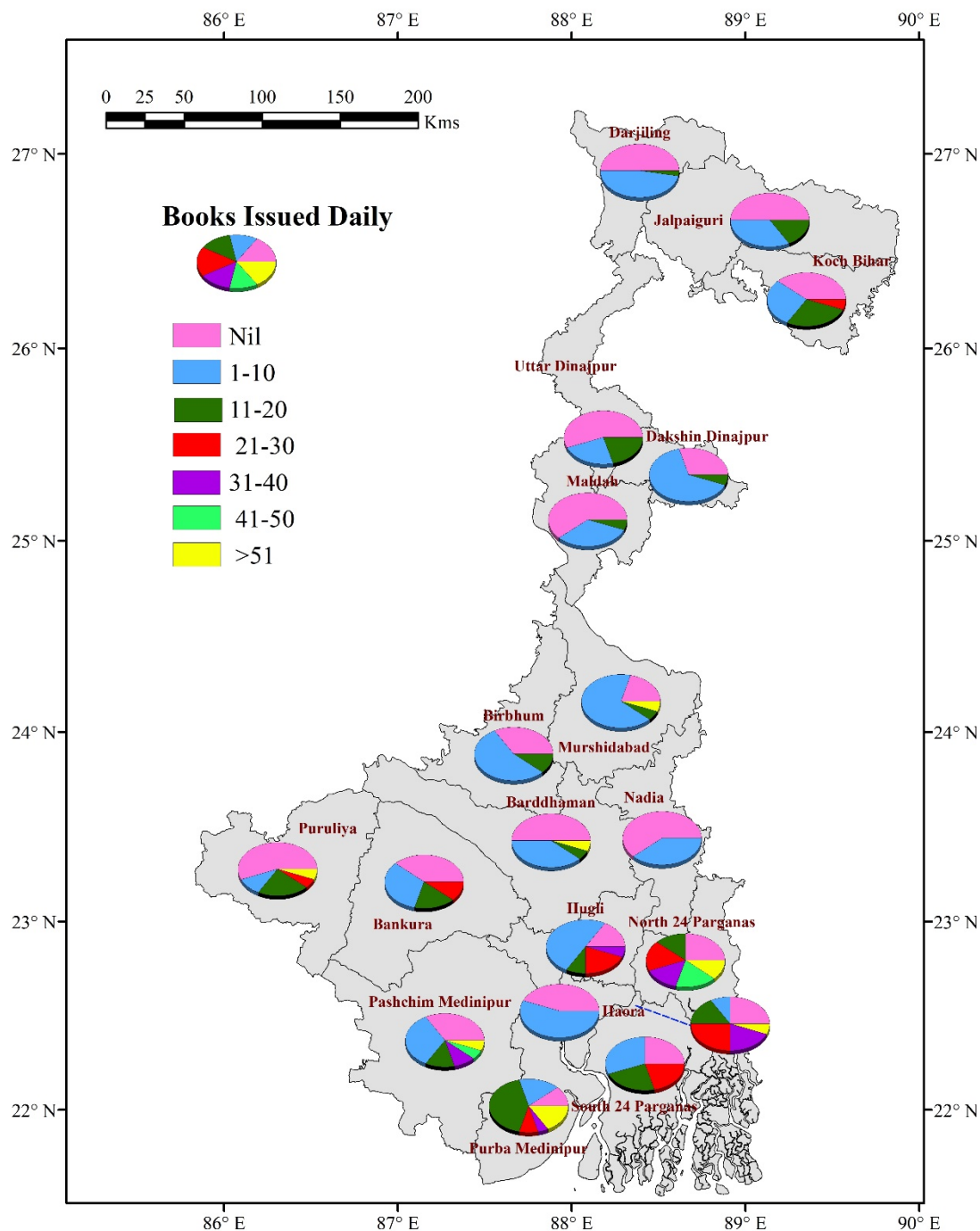


Figure 5.15 Thematic map representing the district wise distribution of total book issued daily in the library.

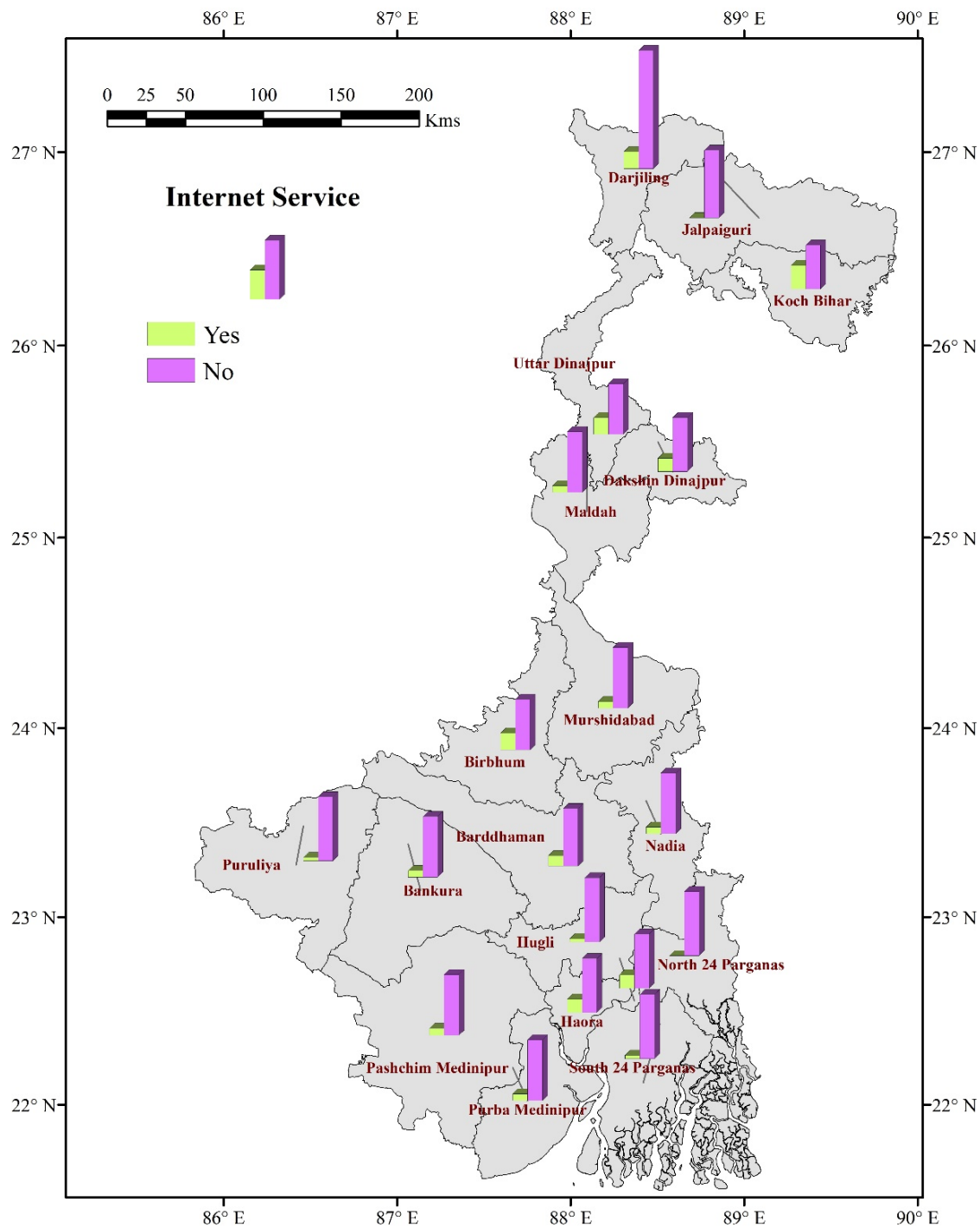


Figure 5.16 Thematic map showing the district wise distribution of the school libraries having internet facility.

Kolkata (40%) has the highest number of schools where the total books issued ranges between 31-40 followed by North 24 Parganas (15%) and Paschim Medinipur (10%).

Contrary to this Hugli and Purba Medinipur represents the lowest percentage of schools (5%) in terms of total book issued daily under this class range (Figure. 5.15).

North 24 Parganas (20%) district is having the highest number of schools where the total book issued varies from 41-50. The lowest percentage of schools under this range is observed in Paschim Medinipur district (5%). No other districts are coming under this class range. Out of all the districts, Purba Medinipur is the only one where 10% schools are having more than 50 books issued daily in their school libraries. Whereas North 24Parganas (10%) followed by Paschim Medinipur, Kolkata, Puruliya, Barddhaman and Murshidabad are sharing the lowest percentage of schools (5%) where the total book issued daily is above 50 (Table 15 in Appendix 3).

5.2.16 Internet Service

Now a days, internet becomes a mandatory thing in the libraries. librarians having internet facility in their libraries can get the opportunity to offer their users access the current, updated information in every subject.

The present thematic map is showing the district wise distribution the school libraries having internet facility or not having internet facility. First of all, the responses regarding internet facility is classified under two classes,viz.”yes” and “no” and accordingly the district wise frequencies of schools under each class has been computed. From this thematic map it is being observed that there are a very few districts where internet facility is being provided in the school libraries. Koch Bihar has the highest number of schools (35%) where internet facility is available, followed by Birbhum, Uttar Dinajpur (25%) each. In Darjiling District (12.5%) schools have internet facility (Figure. 5.16) (Table 16 in Appendix 3).

In Jalpiguri, no internet facility is available in the school libraries. In North 24, Pargana, South 24 Pargana, Puruliya, Hoogly (95%) schools do not have internet connection. The picture is almost same in Malda, Murshidabad, Purba Madinipur, Paschim

Medinipur and Nadia where almost in 90% schools, internet connection is not available.

5.3 Inferences

The district wise status of the school libraries was being discussed here. It is observed that the school libraries in Kolkata and its surrounding districts are enjoying maximum facilities, as they are getting support from their authority. Districts like Purulia, Bankura, Darjeeling, Uttar Dinajpur and Dakshin Dinajpur are getting deprived from availing a good infrastructure and good service.