

## CHAPTER IV

### **DISTRIBUTIONAL PATTERN OF LITERACY:**

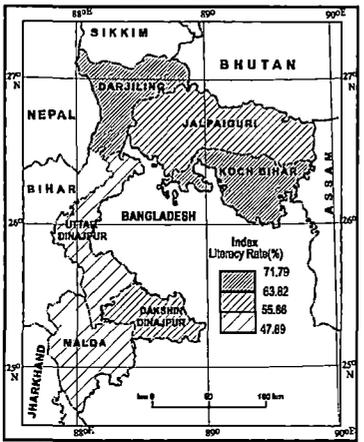
The distributional pattern of 'Literacy Rate' among the six districts, 69 C.D. Blocks of North Bengal as well as among the Wards of five selected towns and eighty three selected villages have been analysed to investigate the detailed distributional pattern of literacy in North Bengal.

#### **4.1: Distributional Pattern of Literacy Rate at District & C.D.Block Level:**

There is a large spatial and gender variation in '*Literacy*' in North Bengal. According to 2001 census the percentage of total literate population to total population ranges from the minimum of 47.89% in Uttar Dinajpur district to the maximum of 71.79% in Darjiling district, the range being approximately 24% taking into account, this range three classes have been formed for depicting the spatial pattern of '*Total Literacy Rate*' by choropleth map (*Map Number: 4.1*) at *district level*. If the classes are qualified as low, medium and high according to level of literacy, then it is observed that Darjiling & Koch Bihar districts belong to the high level, Jalpaiguri & Dakshin Dinajpur districts to the medium level and Uttar Dinajpur & Maldah districts to the low level of the 'Literacy Rate'.

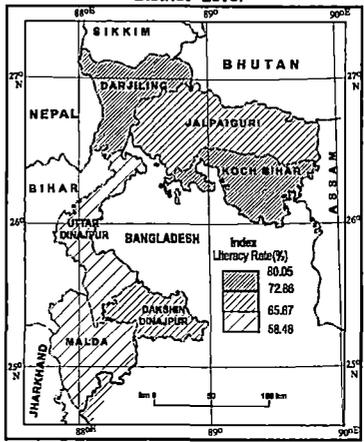
The spatial pattern of '*Male Literacy Rate*' (*Map Number: 4.2*) and '*Female Literacy Rate*' (*Map Number: 4.3*) is exactly the same as that of 'Total Literacy Rate', but the 'Male Literacy Rate' is slightly higher and that of female literates is slightly lower than that of 'Total Literacy Rate'. If the state average (total-68.64%, male-77.02% & female-59.61%) has been taken as the norm, the deviation from state average of the literates (total, male & female) (*Map Numbers: 4.1a, 4.2a, 4.3a*) again represent the same pattern in which only the district of Darjiling has the higher percentages that than the state average. The remaining five districts have 'Literacy Rate' lower than the state average indicating the overall backwardness of North Bengal in respect of 'Literacy'. The

**Distributional Pattern of Total Literacy Rate District Level**



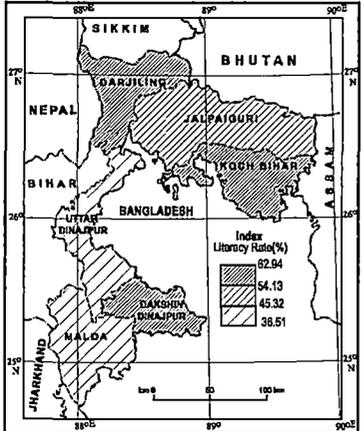
Map Number - 4.1

**Distributional Pattern of Male Literacy Rate District Level**



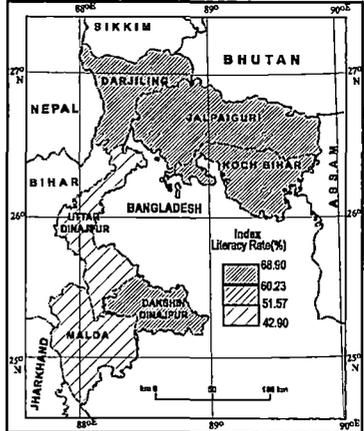
Map Number - 4.2

**Distributional Pattern of Female Literacy Rate District Level**



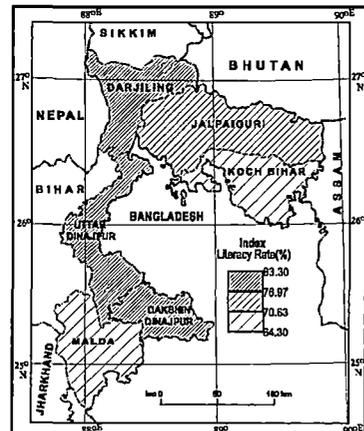
Map Number - 4.3

**Distributional Pattern of Rural Literacy Rate District Level**



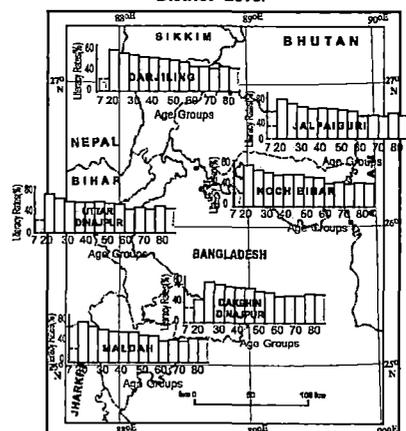
Map Number - 4.4

**Distributional Pattern of Urban Literacy Rate District Level**



Map Number - 4.5

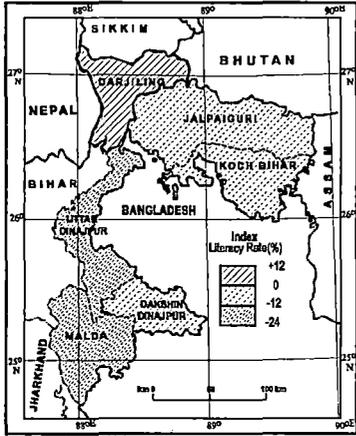
**Distributional Pattern of Age-Specific Literacy Rate District Level**



Map Number - 4.6

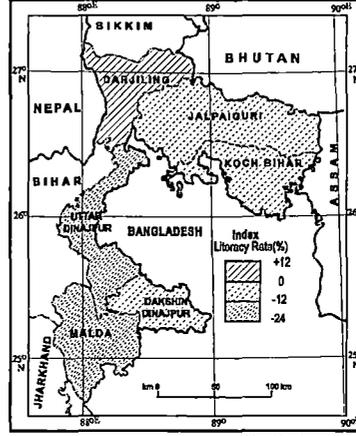
Deviation from State Average

Distributional Pattern of Total Literacy Rate  
District Level



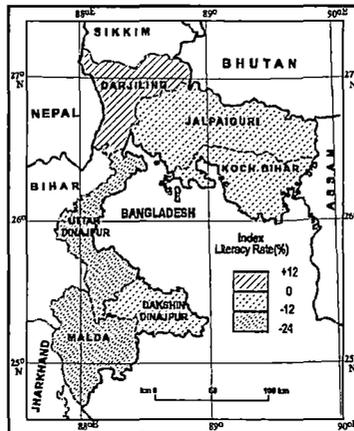
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Distributional Pattern of Male Literacy Rate  
District Level



Map Number - 4.2(a)

Distributional Pattern of Female Literacy Rate  
District Level



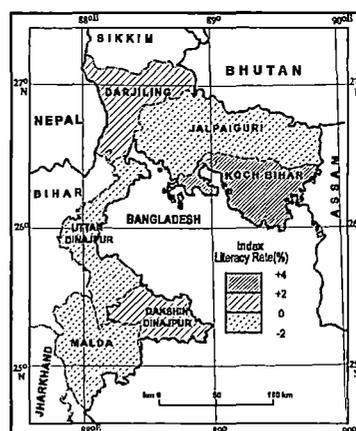
Map Number - 4.3(a)

Distributional Pattern of Rural Literacy Rate  
District Level



Map Number - 4.4(a)

Distributional Pattern of Urban Literacy Rate  
District Level



Map Number - 4.5(a)

average gender gap in 'Literacy' in North Bengal is 19.36% which is greater than the state average (17.36%) & lower than the national average (gender gap of nation ).

Even if we divide the literate population into *rural and urban* components (*Map Numbers: 4.4 & 4.5*) there is no change in their spatial pattern. That is to say Darjiling & Koch Bihar districts have high percentages, Jalpaiguri and Dakshin Dinajpur districts have medium percentages and Uttar Dinajpur and Maldah districts have low 'Literacy Rate' in both rural and urban areas. However it is worth mentioning, that percentage of urban literate is definitely higher than their rural counter parts. The average rural-urban differentiation of the region is 27.24% which is 17.8% in case of West Bengal according to 2001 Census. The deviation analysis (*Map Numbers: 4.4a & 4.5*) from the state average also brings out the same picture as in the case of total, rural and urban literates, that is to say; only the district of Darjiling is more advanced than the state as a whole whereas remaining five districts are backward in respect of both rural and urban literacy. The pattern of 'Age Specific Literacy Rate' is almost invariant in all the districts except Dakshin Dinajpur district where the 'Literacy Rate' of 20 to 24 years age-group is strikingly lower. Otherwise, it is noted that in all the districts the 'Literacy Rate' gradually decreases with increasing age starting from 20 to 24 years age group.

The data obtained from the census of 2001 for six districts of North Bengal reveals that the highest '**Literacy Rate among Scheduled Castes Population**' is observed in Koch Bihar district (54.51%), which is successively followed by Darjiling district, (52.60%) Jalpaiguri district (51.98%), Dakshin Dinajpur district (45.27%), Maldah district (42.17%) and Uttar Dinajpur district (40.41%).

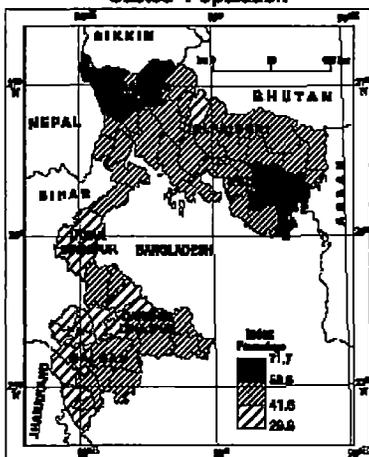
At the same time, if the literacy rate among scheduled castes population is considered at C.D.Block level, it is observed that the total literacy rate among the scheduled castes population ranges from the minimum of 26.6% in Chanchal-II C.D.Block of Maldah district to the maximum of 71.65% in Darjiling pulbazar C.D.Block of Darjiling district. Considering this range of 45.05%, three classes, namely, low (26.6% – 41.6%), medium (41.62% - 56.64%) and high (56.64% - 71.768%) have been formed and a choropleth map has been prepared accordingly to show the spatial pattern of total literacy rate among Scheduled Castes Population. The map (*Map Number:*

4.7) reveals that the high literacy rate of scheduled castes population is observed in two patches of Darjiling and Koch Bihar districts. The first one is comprise of six C.D.Blocks of Jorebunglow sukhiapokhri, Mirik, Kurseong, Kalimpong-I and Kalimpong-II in the hill section of Darjiling district, whereas, the second one is constituted by Koch Bihar-I, Koch Bihar-II, Dinhata-I and Dinhata-II blocks in the south-eastern part of the district. In contrast, low literacy rate of scheduled castes population is observed in three pockets, the largest one comprising of thirteen C.D.Blocks viz. two blocks in the southern part of Uttar Dinajpur district, two in the western part of Dakshin Dinajpur district and nine C.D.Blocks in the western part of Maldah district, creating a large continuous patch. The second pocket of low literacy rate has been formed by three central C.D.Blocks of Uttar Dinajpur district which are Goalpokhar-I, Goalpokhar-II and Karandighi. The smallest pocket of low literacy rate is represented by Nagrakata C.D.Block of Jalpaiguri district.

The district wise '*Male Literacy Rate among Scheduled Castes Population*' of North Bengal for the year of 2001 is maximum (64.27%) in Koch Bihar district, followed in descending order by Darjiling(62.30%), Jalpaiguri (61.75%), Dakshin Dinajpur (55.06%), Maldah (51.83%) and Uttar Dinajpur (51.36%) districts- exactly in the same order as that of total literacy rate among scheduled castes population.

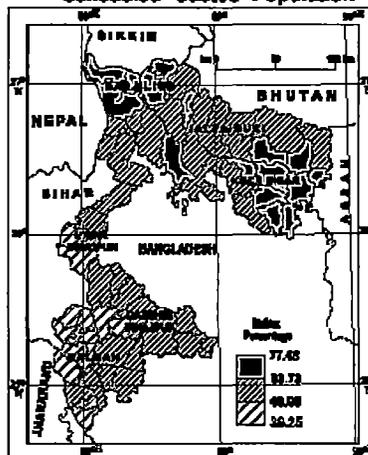
The C.D.Block level male literacy rate is maximum in Darjiling pulbazar C.D.Block (77.48%) and minimum in Chanchal-II (36.25%) of Maldah district. It is interesting to note that these two C.D. Blocks also recorded maximum and minimum literacy rate respectively in case of total scheduled castes population. The range (41.23%) has been divided into low (36.25% - 49.99%), medium (49.99% - 63.73%) and high (63.73%- 77.48%) categories and a choropleth map (*Map Number: 4.8*) has been prepared accordingly to show the distributional pattern of the scheduled castes male literacy rate. The distributional pattern of male literacy rate in scheduled castes is similar to that of total literacy rate to a large extent. There is the supremacy of medium male literacy rate of scheduled castes population as 39 C.D.Blocks belong to this class. The high male literacy rate is exclusively concentrated in the northern three districts. The C.D.Blocks belonging to these classes are, namely, Darjiling pulbazar, Jorebunglow

**Literacy Rate in Scheduled Caste Population**



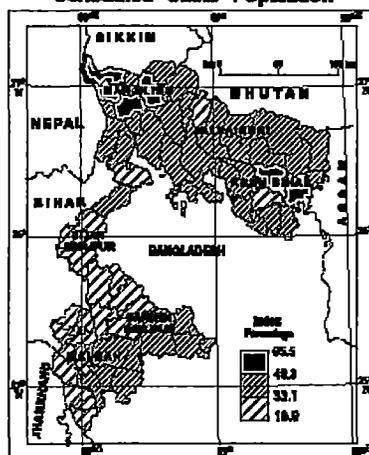
Map Number - 4.7

**Male Literacy Rate in Scheduled Caste Population**



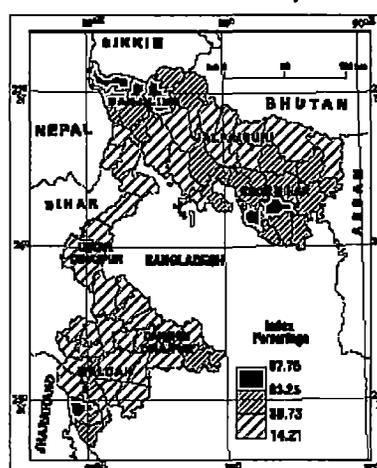
Map Number - 4.8

**Female Literacy Rate in Scheduled Caste Population**



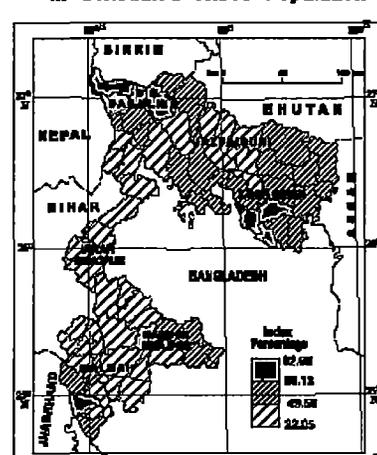
Map Number - 4.9

**Literacy Rate in Scheduled Tribes Population**



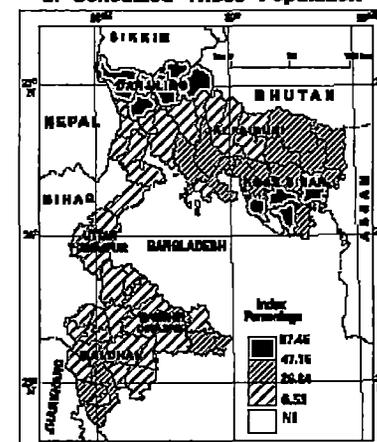
Map Number - 4.10

**Male Literacy Rate in Scheduled Tribes Population**



Map Number - 4.11

**Female Literacy Rate in Scheduled Tribes Population**



Map Number - 4.12

sukiapokhri, Rangli rangliot, Mirik, Kurseong, Kalimpong-I & Kalimpong-II, of Darjiling district, Meteli, Jalpaiguri, Alipurduar-I & Alipurduar -II of Jalpaiguri district, Mathabhanga-II, Koch Bihar-I, Koch Bihar-II, Dinhata-I, Dinhata-II, Tufanganj-I & Tufanganj-II of Koch Bihar district. The low male literacy rate is concentrated in 12 C.D.Blocks of three southern districts. The C.D.Blocks belonging to this class are – Goal Pokhar-II, Karandighi & Itahar of Uttar Dinajpur district, Harirampur of Dakshin Dinajpur district and Harischandrapur-I, Harishchandrapur-II, Chanchal-I, Chanchal-II, Ratua-I, Ratua-II of Maldah district.

The districtwise '*Female Literacy Rate among Scheduled Castes Population*' follows the same pattern of total and male literacy rates. The maximum female literacy rate is observed in Koch Bihar district (42.60%) which is successively followed by Darjiling (42.35%), Jalpaiguri (41.60%), Dakshin Dinajpur (34.92%), Maldah (31.96%) and Uttar Dinajpur (28.77%) districts.

The C. D. Blockwise literacy rate of scheduled castes female population reveals that it ranges from the minimum of 16.95% in Chanchal-II C. D. Block of Maldah district to the maximum of 65.43% in Darjiling pulbazar of Darjiling district. Taking the range of 48.48%, three classes, namely, low (16.9% - 33.1%), medium (33.1% - 49.3%) and high (49.3% - 65.5%) have been formed to prepare a corresponding choropleth map. From the map (*Map Number: 4.9*) it appears that six C. D. Blocks belong to the high class. Out of them, four, i.e. Darjiling pulbazar, Jorebunglow sukhiapokhri, Kalimpong-I and Kurseong belong to Darjiling district, while two, namely, Koch Bihar-II, & Tufanganj-I hail from Koch Bihar district. The medium female literacy rate of scheduled caste population displays its supremacy in the region as 41 C.D. Blocks belong to this class. There are 22 C.D. Blocks in the low class of female scheduled caste literacy rate. Darjiling district has no C.D Blocks having low female literacy rate among scheduled castes population. One C. D. Block from each of Jalpaiguri and Koch Bihar districts, namely, Nagrakata and Koch Bihar-I, whole Uttar Dinajpur district excluding Islampur , 3 C. D. Blocks, namely, Kushmundi, Harirampur & Bansihari of Dakshin Dinajpur district and nine C. D. Blocks of western half of Maldah district represent low female literacy rate among scheduled castes population.

The districtwise '*Total Literacy Rate among Scheduled Tribes Population*' of North Bengal for 2001 is maximum in Darjiling district (47.32%) successively followed by Koch Bihar (46.23%), Dakshin Dinajpur (34.91%), Jalpaiguri (33.45%), Maldah (26.08%) and Uttar Dinajpur (22.55%) districts.

Similarly, at C.D.Block level analysis, (*Map Number: 4.10*) it is observed that the Sitalkuchi C.D.Block of Koch Bihar district and Goalpokhar-II C.D.Block of Uttar Dinajpur district represent maximum (87.76%) and minimum (14.21%) total literacy rates respectively. The range 73.55% has been divided into three quantitative classes, namely, low (14.21% - 38.73%), medium (38.73% - 63.25%) and high (63.25% - 87.76%) to prepare a choropleth map of distributional pattern. It is observed from the map that the distributional pattern of literacy rate among scheduled tribe population is quite uneven and represents a backward picture as the range is quite wider, although the maximum value is more than that of scheduled castes population. There is the dominance of low literacy rate over the region as forty two C. D. Blocks belong to it. Only seven C. D. Blocks out of sixty nine display high literacy rate, creating three small pockets - the larger one has been formed with four hilly C. D. Blocks, namely, Darjiling, Pulbazar, Jorebunglow Sukhiapokhri, Rangli Rangliot of & Kalimpong-I, the second one comprises of Sitalkuchi and Koch Bihar-I of Koch Bihar district and the last one is observed in the south of Maldah district comprising of only Kaliachak-II C. D. Block. The medium literacy rate among scheduled tribes population is observed in twenty C. D. Blocks, namely, Kalimpong-II, Gorubathan, Mirik, Kurseong and Matigara of Darjeeling district; Maynaguri, Alipurduar -I, & Alipurduar -II of Jalpaiguri district, all the C. D. Blocks of Koch Bihar district excluding Haldibari and Matha Bhaga-II, Hilli and Balurghat of Dakshin Dinajpur district and Ratua-II & Kaliachak-III of Maldah district. It should be mentioned here that Uttar Dinajpur district exclusively display low literacy rate among scheduled tribe population.

The districtwise '*Male Literacy Rate among Scheduled Tribes Population*' of North Bengal for the year of 2001 ranges from the minimum of 31.05% in Uttar Dinajpur district which is successively followed by Maldah (36.21%), Dakshin Dinajpur (44.96%), Jalpaiguri (45.23%), Koch Bihar (55.42%) and Darjiling (55.52%) districts.

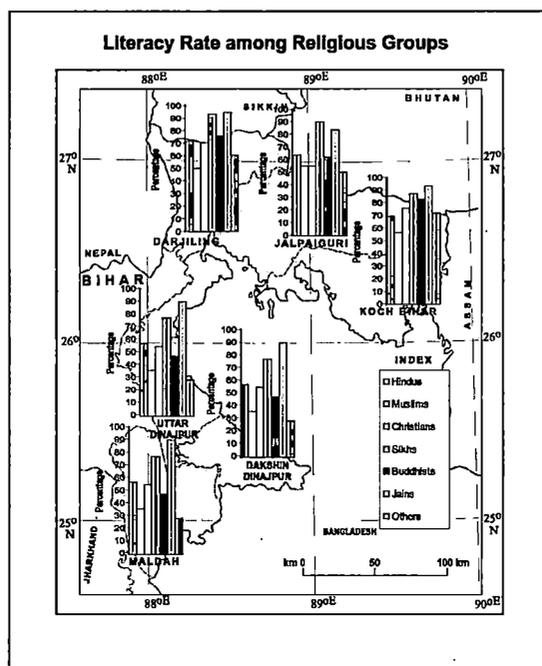
The male literacy rate among scheduled tribes population ranges from the minimum of 22.05% in Goalpokhar-II of Uttar Dinajpur district to the maximum of 92.68% in Sitalkuchi C.D.Block of Koch Bihar district. The range 70.53% has been divided into low (22.05% - 45.59%), medium (45.59% - 69.13%), high (69.13% - 92.68%) categories to prepare a choropleth map accordingly. From the map (*Map Number: 4.11*) it appears that the distributional pattern of scheduled tribe male literacy rate is slightly differ from that of total literacy rate. Eight C.D.Blocks display high male literacy rate. Sitai C.D.Block is the one which has been adjoin to the C.D.Blocks of high total literacy rates too, incase of male literacy rates. Whereas, seven C.D.Blocks, namely, Meteli, Jalpaiguri, Kalchini, Kumargram of Jalpaiguri district; Gangarampur and Kumarganj of Dakshin Dinajpur district and lastly Manikkak of Maldah district also represent medium literacy rates adjoining the C.D.Blocks of medium level of total literacy rates.

The districtwise '*Female Literacy Rate among Scheduled Tribes Population*' in North Bengal for the year of 2001 follows the same order as that of male literacy rate, the districts arranged in ascending order of literacy rate being Uttar Dinajpur district (13.87%), Maldah district (15.95%), Dakshin Dinajpur District (24.63%) Jalpaiguri district (25.51%), Koch Bihar district (36.31%) and Darjiling district (39.30%). However, the values are quite lower than that of male one.

The female literacy rate of scheduled tribes population at C.D.Block level ranges from the minimum of 6.53% in Goalpokhar-I of Uttar Dinajpur district to the maximum of 67.45% of Darjiling pulbazar of Darjiling district. It should be mentioned here that the female literacy rate is zero in Sitai C.D.Block of Koch Bihar district. However, taking the range of 60.82% three classes, namely, low (6.53% - 26.84%), medium (26.84% - 47.15%) and high (47.15% - 67.45%) have been formed to show the distributional pattern of scheduled tribes female literacy rate. From the map (*Map Number: 4.12*) it appears that there are eleven C.D.Blocks in the high female literacy class, though the rate is quite lower than that of male and even than total literacy rate. Three C.D.Blocks i.e. Kalipong-II, Gorubathan & Kurseong of Darjiling district and two C.D.Blocks of Koch Bihar district - Tufanganj-I & Dinhata -I also adjoining the C.D.Blocks of high literacy rate of

total literacy rates of these two districts represent high female literacy rate. Moreover, there are 21 C.D.Blocks in the medium female literacy class. Two C.D.Blocks, namely, Mirik and Matigara of Darjiling district, six C.D.Blocks i.e. Jalpaiguri, Maynaguri, Kalchini, Kumargram, Alipurduar-I & Alipurduar-II of Jalpaiguri district, all the C.D.Blocks of Koch Bihar district excluding Haldibari and Sitai; Ganrganpur, Balurghat & Hilli C.D.Blocks of South Dinajpur district and lastly four C.D.Blocks i.e. Ratua-II, English Bazar, Kaliachak-II & Kaliachak-III of Maldah district belong to the medium class of female literacy rate in scheduled tribes population.

*'Literacy Rate according to Religious Groups'* in different districts of North Bengal presents a picture (Map Number: 4.13) in which the dominance of the Sikh and the Jain communities is undoubtedly established. Although the Jains are an insignificant minority community in North Bengal, in respect of literacy rate they rank first in five out of six districts of North



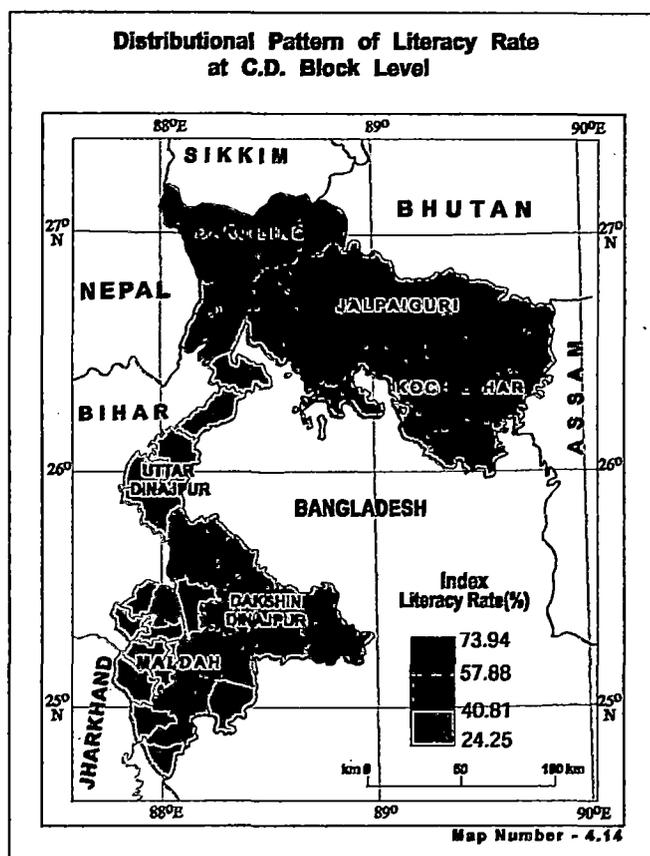
Map Number - 4.13

Bengal. These districts are Darjiling, Koch Bihar, Uttar Dinajpur, Dakshin Dinajpur and Maldah. The Jains rank second in Jalpaiguri district. The Sikhs, on the other hand rank

first in terms of literacy rate in Jalpaiguri district only, being second to the Jains in the remaining five districts. Although the Hindus and the Muslims are the dominant religious groups in different districts of North Bengal, they do not come nowhere in the picture of literacy rate as regards the dominance with respect to that of the Jains and the Sikhs. However, the Hindus rank third in respect of literacy rate in only two districts of North Bengal, namely, Jalpaiguri and Uttar Dinajpur, whereas the Muslims rank fourth in Dakshin Dinajpur district. The Buddhists, also a minority group like the Jains and the Sikhs, however, rank third in respect of literacy rate in four districts of North Bengal, namely, Darjiling, Koch Bihar, Dakshin Dinajpur and Maldah. So in respect of literacy rate, therefore the performance of the Buddhists is even better than that of the Hindus.

The '**Total Literacy Rate**' at **C.D.Block level** in North Bengal ranges from the minimum of 24.25 % in Goalpokhar-I C.D.Block of Uttar Dinajpur district to the maximum of 74.94% in Darjiling pulbazar C.D.Block of Darjiling district. Taking into account this range of 49.69%, three classes, namely, low (24.25 % - 40.81 %), medium (40.81 % -57.38 %) and high (57.38 % - 73.94 %) have been formed and a choropleth map has been prepared to show the spatial variation of 'Total Literacy Rate' at C.D.Block level in North Bengal.

From the map (*Map Number – 4.14*) it appears that the high 'Total Literacy Rate' is observed in eight C.D. Blocks of Darjiling district; mainly in Kalimpong, Darjiling and Kurseong subdivision, in just two C.D. Blocks of Jalpaiguri district, one each of two subdivisions, in two C.D. Blocks of Koch Bihar subdivision in Koch Bihar district and only in one C.D. Block of Dakshin Dinajpur district also in Sadar subdivision. Just it appears that the high 'Total Literacy Rate' is totally absent in the remaining two districts, namely, Uttar Dinajpur and Maldah. As a matter of fact the high percentage of 'Total Literacy Rate' has formed four pockets in four districts - the largest being in Darjiling and smaller one in South Dinajpur district. The medium level of 'Total Literacy Rate' is more conspicuous by its presence than the low and high level of literacy. The low level of literacy is actually absent in Darjiling, Jalpaiguri, Koch Bihar and Dakshin Dinajpur districts, but it is conspicuous in Uttar Dinajpur and Maldah district. In fact, the Islampur



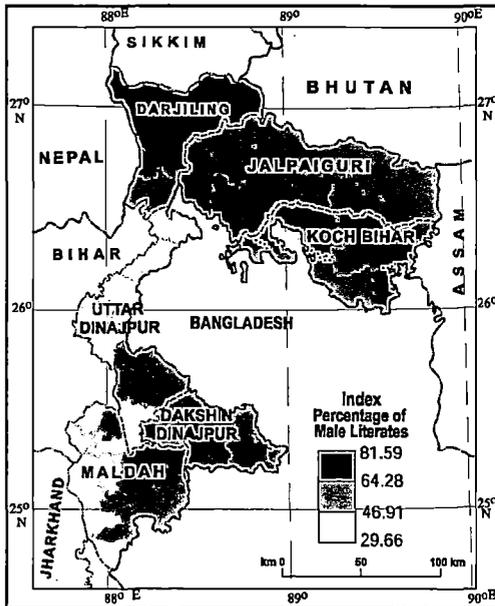
subdivision of Uttar Dinajpur district has the low level of 'Total Literacy Rate' and the same is true of the C.D. Blocks of Maldah district, which lie along the western boundary of the district.

*The 'Male Literacy Rate' at C.D. Block level* in North Bengal region ranges from the minimum of 29.66 % in Harishchandrapur -I of Maldah district to the maximum of 81.59 % in Rangli rangliot of Darjiling district. Taking in to account this range of 51.93% three classes have been formed for depicting the spatial pattern of 'Male Literacy Rate' by choropleth map. The classes are qualified as low (29.66 % - 46.97 %), medium (46.97 % - 64.28 %) and high (64.28 % - 81.59 %).

From the map (*Map Number - 4.15*) it appears that the pattern of distribution of 'Male Literacy Rate' is almost similar to that of total literate persons, except some selected C.D. Blocks of Darjiling district was added to the high level though it was in

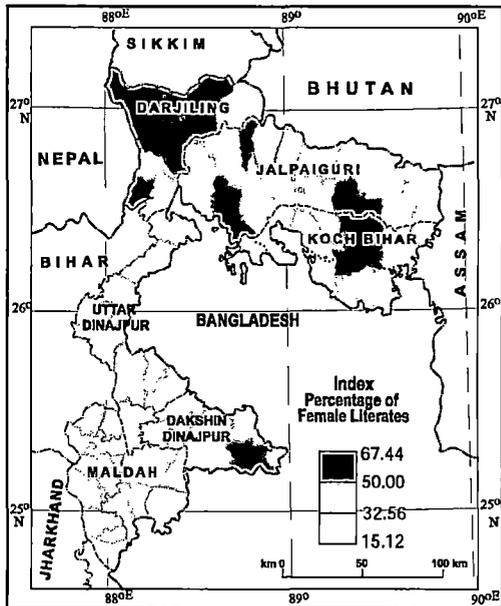
## Distributional Pattern of Literacy Rate at C.D. Block Level

**Male Literacy Rate**



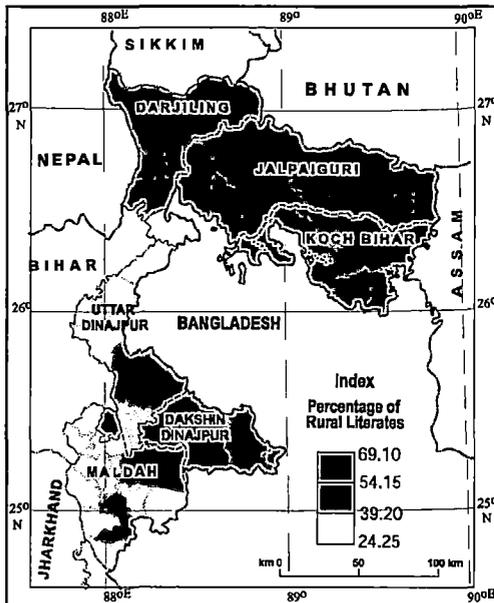
Map Number - 4.15

**Female Literacy Rate**



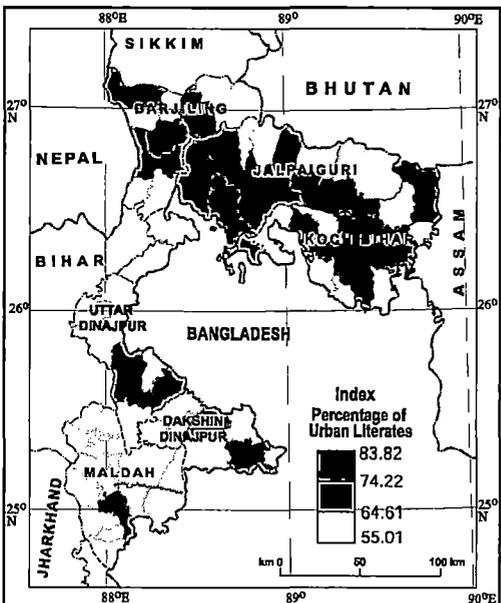
Map Number - 4.16

**Rural Literacy Rate**



Map Number - 4.17

**Urban Literacy Rate**



Map Number - 4.18

medium class in case of 'Total Literacy Rate'. Again, in Jalpaiguri district one C.D.Block, namely, Maynaguri was included in high level. Three C.D.Blocks, namely, Mathabhanga-II, Tufanganj-I and Dinhata-I of Koch Bihar district belong to the high class of 'Male Literacy Rate', though they were in medium class in 'Total Literacy Rate'. For the rest of North Bengal region the picture is almost similar to that of 'Male Literacy Rate'. The sole Habibpur C.D.Block of Maldah district represents medium level of 'Male Literacy Rate' though it lies in low level in case of 'Total Literacy Rate'.

The '**Female Literacy Rate**' at **C.D. Block level** in North Bengal ranges from the minimum of 15.12% in Goalpokhar- I C.D.Block of Uttar Dinajpur district to the maximum of 67.44% in Darjiling pulbazar C.D.Block of Darjiling district. Taking into account this range of 52.32%, three classes have been prepared; qualitatively they are - low (15.12% - 32.56%), medium (32.56% - 50.00%) and high (50.00% - 67.44%).

The choropleth map (*Map Number – 4.16*) of distributional pattern of 'Female Literacy Rate' gives almost the same picture as that of 'Total Literacy Rate'. There are however, three exceptions – two in Darjiling district and one in Jalpaiguri district. Kharibari C.D. Block of Darjiling district has the high level of 'Female Literacy Rate' though it has the medium level in respect of 'Total Literacy Rate'. The same is true of Meteli C.D. Block of Jalpaiguri district and Gourbathan C.D. Block of Darjiling district on other hand, has the medium level of 'Female Literacy Rate', though it has the high level of 'Total Literacy Rate'. The distributional pattern of 'Female Literacy Rate' in all other C.D. Blocks is similar to that of 'Total Literacy Rate' except that the 'Total Literacy Rate' is some what higher than that of 'Female Literacy Rate'.

The **percentage rural literate** persons to total rural population at **C.D. Block level** in North Bengal ranges from the minimum of 24.25% in Goalpokhar-I in Uttar Dinajpur to the maximum of 69.10% in Jorebunglow sukiapokhri C.D.Block of Darjiling district. The range 44.85% has been divided into three qualitative classes – low (24.25% - 39.20%), medium (39.20% - 54.15%) and high (54.15% - 69.10%). The distributional pattern has been depicted in a choropleth map.

From the map (*Map Number – 4.17*) it appears that the pattern of distribution of 'Rural Literacy Rate' in North Bengal is almost similar to that of total literate persons except some C.D. Blocks. For example, the percentage of 'Rural Literacy Rate' is high in Naxalbari C.D. Block and medium in Matigara C.D. Block although the opposite is true in respect of 'Total Literacy Rate'. In Jalpaiguri district the 'Rural Literacy Rate' is high in Alipurduar-II C.D. Block although 'Total Literacy Rate' is high in Alipurduar-I C.D. Block. The maximum difference between the two patterns is observed in Koch Bihar district where four additional C.D. Blocks, namely, Mathabhanga- II, Dinhat- II, Tufanganj- I & Tufanganj-II have high 'Rural Literacy Rate', although these have medium level of 'Total Literacy Rate' only. In case of South Dinajpur district, also one more C.D. Block, namely, Kumaganj, enjoys the high Rural Literacy Rate', although it has a medium level of 'Total Literacy Rate' only.

The '*Urban Literacy Rate*' at *C.D. Block level* in North Bengal ranges from the minimum of 55.01% at Kalchini C.D. Blocks of Jalpaiguri district to the maximum of 83.82% in Darjiling pulbazar of Darjiling district. Low (55.01% - 64.61%), medium (64.61% - 74.22%) and high (74.22% - 83.82%) classes are formed dividing the range 28.81% into three equal divisions.

Urban population in North Bengal is concentrated in just thirty two C.D. Blocks out of sixty-nine that is therefore expected that there will be least similarity between the spatial pattern of percentage of 'Urban Literacy Rate' and that of 'Total Literacy Rate'.

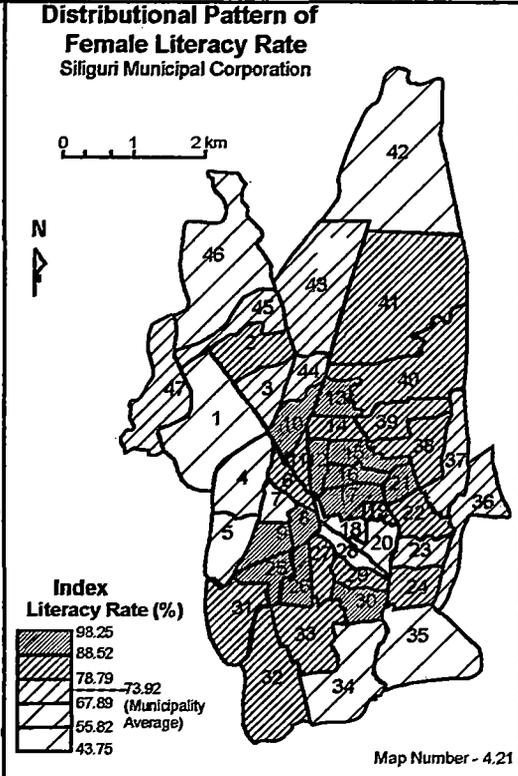
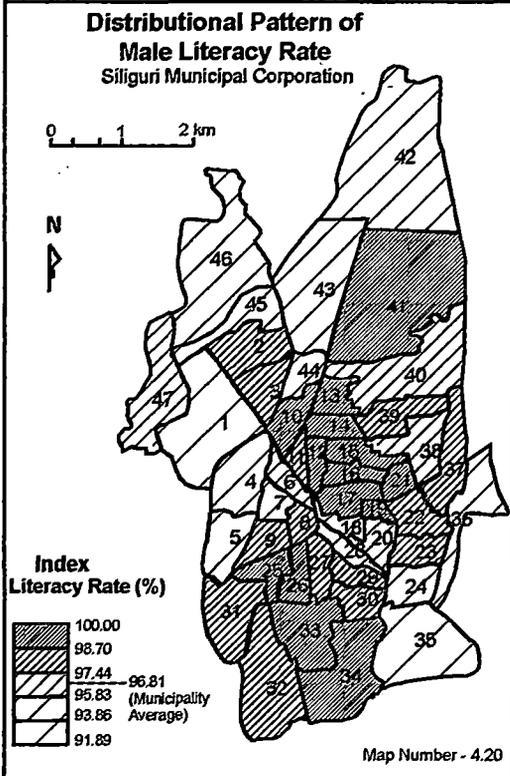
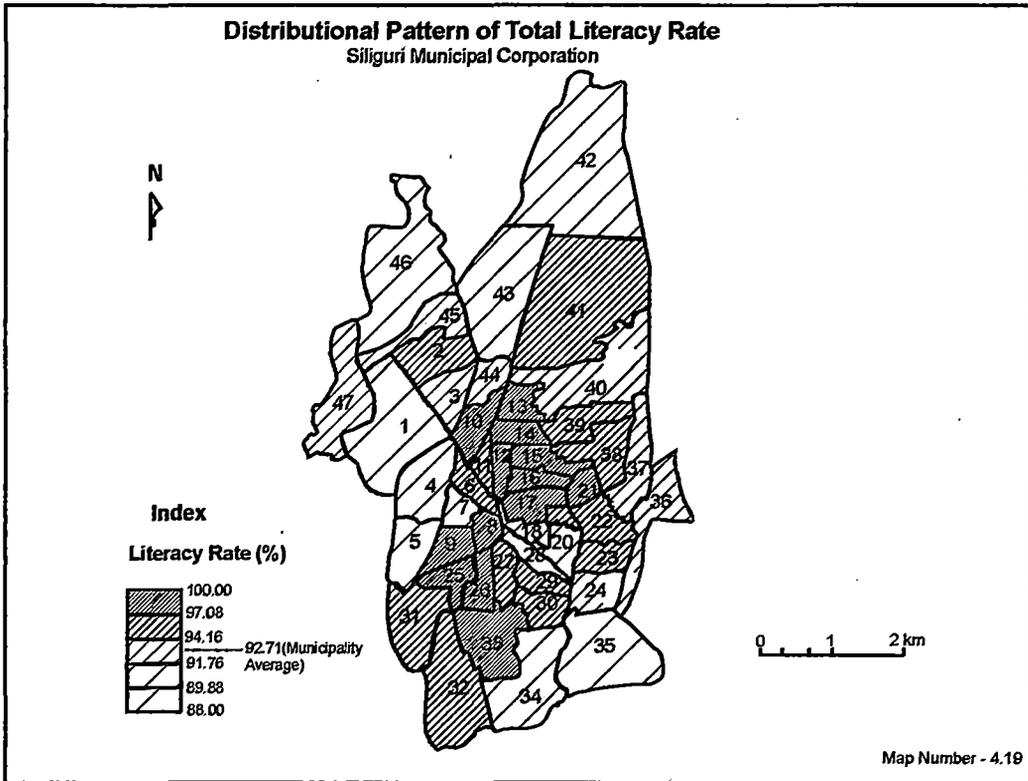
From the map (*Map Number – 4.18*) it is clear that the 'Urban Literacy Rate' is high in five C.D. Blocks of Koch Bihar district, three each in Darjiling and Jalpaiguri districts and two in Dakshin Dinajpur district. It suggests that in respect of 'Urban Literacy Rate' in Koch Bihar district stands supreme over the remaining five districts. The medium level of 'Urban Literacy Rate' is present only in five districts, e.g. Jalpaiguri, Darjiling, Uttar Dinajpur, Dakshin Dinajpur and Maldah. It is present in one C.D. Block each of Uttar Dinajpur and Maldah district and two C.D. Blocks of Uttar Dinajpur district. Low level of 'Urban Literacy Rate' is practically absent in Darjiling and Dakshin Dinajpur district.

## **4.2: Distributional Pattern of Literacy Rate in Selected Towns:**

The analysis has been done on the basis of a sample survey, sample size being 2% of the total number of households in each ward of Siliguri Municipal Corporation, Jalpaiguri municipality, Koch Bihar municipality, Raiganj municipality and English Bazar municipality during 2006 to 2009.

The '*Total Literacy Rate*' in different wards of *Siliguri Municipal Corporation* ranges from the minimum of 52.12% in Ward Number 28 to the maximum of 98.86% in Ward Number 17. Taking into view this range of 46.74%, as well as the municipality average 78.37% five lopsided classes, that is to say, very high (90.66% - 98.86%), high (82.46% - 90.66%), medium (73.12% - 82.46%), low (62.62% - 73.12%) and very low (52.12% - 62.62%) have been produced in order that the municipality average belongs to the intermediate class. For this rationale, the class interval above the medium class ( $i_u$ ) has been computed as 8.20% and the class interval ( $i_l$ ) underneath the medium class has been considered as 10.50%.

A resultant choropleth map (*Map Number: 4.19*) has been prepared to demonstrate the distributional pattern of 'Total Literacy Rate'. It is attention-grabbing to mention here that more than fifty percent of the wards are amassed above the medium class i.e. the class enclosing the municipality average whereas, barely one-fourth number of total wards belong to the below the medium class in Siliguri municipal corporation. The very high 'Total Literacy Rate' is observed in two patches comprising with thirteen wards. The larger one is concentrated at the centre of the municipal corporation counting eight wards, specifically, Ward Numbers- 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 & 21; whilst the remaining one is located at the south-west corner of the former one including five wards, namely, Ward Numbers- 8, 9, 25, 26 & 33. Beside this, the wards having high 'Total Literacy Rate' are distributed rather scattered over the municipal corporation. Out of which Ward Numbers 41 & 2 are positioned at north-central and Ward Numbers- 39, 38, 19, 22 & 23 at east-central part, Ward Numbers- 27, 29 & 30 at south-centre part, Ward Numbers 11 & 6 at west-central part and, Ward Numbers 31 & 32 at south-west part of the region respectively. Medium 'Total Literacy Rate' is noticed in eight wards, namely,



Ward Numbers 3, 44, 45 & 47 are as of north-western scrap and Ward Numbers 40, 37, 36 & 23 are form eastern part of the Siliguri municipal corporation. Once more, eight wards of the municipal corporation display low 'Total Literacy Rate', to be exact, three are from northern most wards, namely, Ward Numbers- 42, 43 & 46; two western wards, namely, Ward Numbers 4 & 7, two south-central wards, specifically, Ward Numbers 18 & 20 and finally, the most southern ward i.e. Ward Number 34. Last of all, four wards, namely, Ward Number 1 & 5 from west, Ward Number 28 from south-center and Ward Number 35 of south-east corner exhibit very low 'Total Literacy Rate'.

The wardwise '*Male Literacy Rate*' in *Siliguri Municipal Corporation* ranges from the minimum of 59.68% in Ward Number 28 to the maximum of 100% in Ward Numbers- 13, 16 & 17. Taking into contemplation the range of 40.32%, as well as, the municipality average of 82.92% five classes, namely, very low (59.68% - 68.98%), low (68.98% - 78.28%), medium (78.28% - 86.34%), high (86.34% - 93.17%) and very high (93.17% - 100%) have been formed to illustrate a choropleth map (*Map Number: 4.20*) unfolding the distributional pattern of 'Male Literacy Rate' in Siliguri Municipal Corporation. For this rationale, the class interval above the medium class ( $i_u$ ) and the class interval ( $i_l$ ) underneath the medium class have been computed as 6.83 % and 9.3 0% respectively.

Alike 'Total Literacy Rate', more than fifty percent wards of the municipal corporation lie above the municipality average class. Precisely, fourteen wards creating three pockets represent very high 'Male Literacy Rate'. Out of which the larger one is situated at the most centre segment of the municipal corporation, including Ward Numbers- 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 19 & 21; whereas the second one is positioned at the south-west-centre to south part of the municipal corporation comprising Ward Numbers 25, 26, 33 & 34. Another one is noticed at north-east part of the locale including Ward Number 41. Maximum numbers of wards, i.e. fifteen wards of the Municipal Corporation encompass high 'Male Literacy Rate' mainly accumulated in the eastern, north-west-central, south-central and south- western part of the vicinity. Comprising Ward Numbers- 39, 38, 37, 22, 23, 11, 3, 2, 8, 9, 27, 29, 30, 31 & 32 five wards, that is to say, Ward Number 47 of the west, 40 of the north-east, 36 of the east, 20 of the south-centre and 6

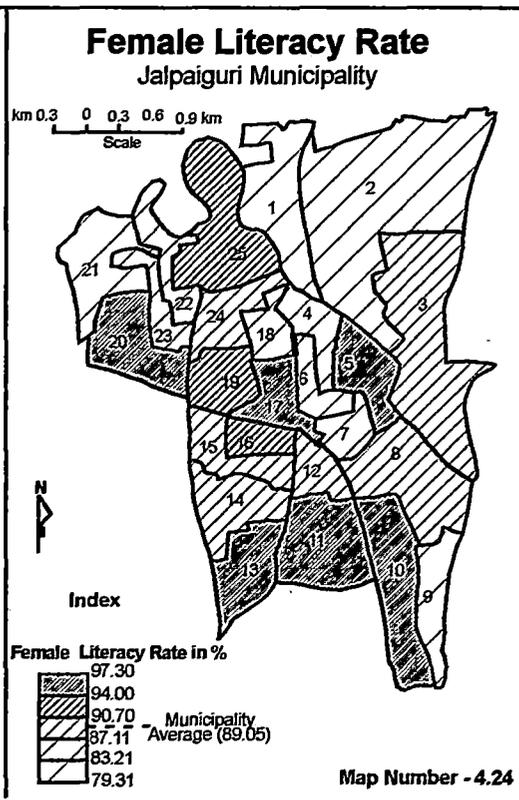
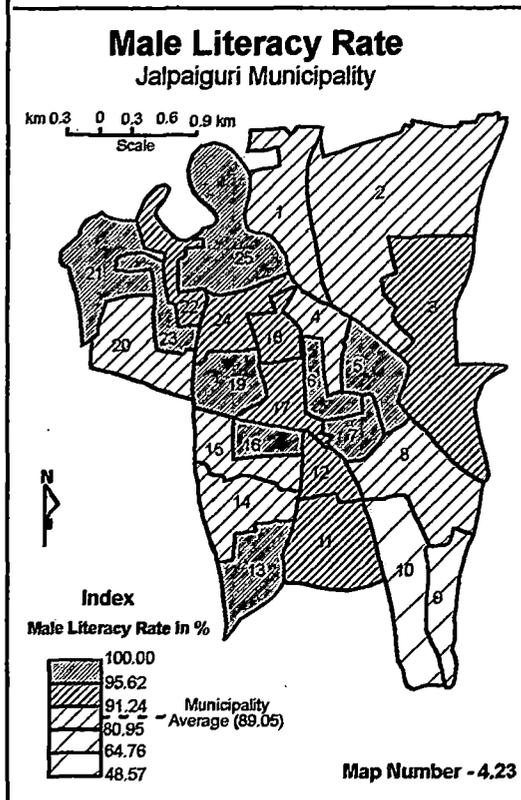
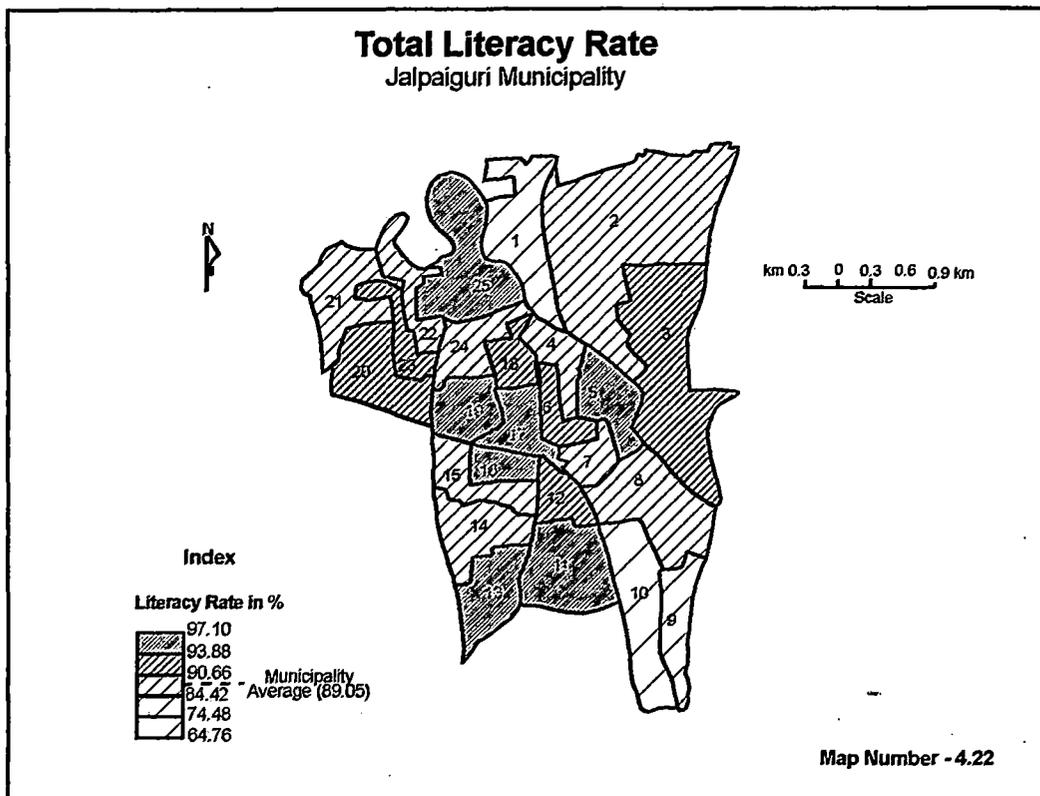
of the west-centre allotted absolutely scattered form belong to the medium 'Male Literacy Rate' class. Four patches of low 'Male Literacy Rate' are noticed in Siliguri Municipal Corporation. The larger one comprising with five wards, namely, Ward Numbers- 42, 43, 44, 45 & 46 covers the north and north- western part of the region. Finally, the remaining four wards, precisely, Ward Numbers 1 & 5 of west, Ward Number 28 of south-center and Ward Number 35 of the south-east of the Siliguri Municipal Corporation depict very low 'Male Literacy Rate' distributed in scattered layout.

The wardwise distribution of '*Female Literacy Rate*' portrays a wider range than that of 'Total Literacy Rate' and 'Male Literacy Rate' in *Siliguri Municipal Corporation* as it ranges from the minimum of 43.75% in Ward Number 28 to the maximum of 98.25% in Ward Number 21. Taking into account, this range of 54.50%, as well as the municipality average (73.92%), five quantitative classes, namely, very low (43.75% - 55.82%), low (55.82% - 67.89%), medium (67.89% - 78.79%), high (78.79% - 88.50%) and very high (88.50% - 98.25%) have been cataloged and a relevant choropleth map has been illustrated to show the spatial distribution of 'Female Literacy Rate' in Siliguri Municipal Corporation. . For this rationale, the class interval above the medium class ( $i_u$ ) and the class interval ( $i_l$ ) underneath the medium class have been chosen as 9.73 % and 12.07% respectively. From the map (*Map Number: 4.21*), it comes into sight that about sixty percent of the wards lay above the medium class. To be precise, twelve wards covering some central, west-central and south-central part of the municipal corporation depict very high 'Female Literacy Rate', namely, the wards are Ward Numbers- 10, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 21, 8, 9, 25, 26 and 30. Maximum number of wards i.e. sixteen wards of the vicinity contain, high 'Female Literacy Rate' covering a large area of the municipal corporation. Namely, the wards are Ward Numbers - 41, 40, 39, 2, 14, 11, 6, 38, 19, 22, 27, 29, 24, 31, 33, & 32 whereas eight wards creating two separate patches at north-west and east part of the municipal corporation belong to the medium class, specifically, the wards are Ward Numbers- 43, 44, 45, 47, 37, 36 & 23. Other five wards, namely, Ward Numbers 46, 4, 7, 20 & 34 from south to north direction display low 'Female Literacy Rate'. The enduring six wards, that is to say, Ward Number 42 of north, Ward Numbers 1

& 5 of West, Ward Numbers 18 & 28 of the south-centre and Ward Number 35 of the south-east segment of the area belong to the very low 'Female Literacy Rate' class.

'*Total Literacy Rate*' among the wards of *Jalpaiguri municipality* ranges from the minimum of 64.76% at Ward Number 10 to the maximum of 97.10% at Ward Number 13. Taking into account this range of 32.34%, as well as the municipality average of 89.05%, five classes, namely, very low (64.76% - 74.48%), low (74.48% - 84.42%), medium (84.42% - 90.66%), high (90.66% - 93.88%) and very high (93.88% - 97.10%) have been formed in order that the municipality average belongs to the medium class. For this, the class interval ( $i_u$ ) above the municipality average has been determined as 3.22 % whereas the class interval ( $i_l$ ) below the medium class has been determined as 9.72 % respectively.

From the choropleth map (*Map Number - 4.22*) prepared on the basis of above classes it appears that very high 'Total Literacy Rate' has been observed in seven wards of the municipality one of those i.e. Ward Number 25 is located at the north-central part of the municipality, whereas four wards, namely, Ward Numbers 5, 19, 17 & 16 are located in the central part of the municipality. The remaining two, i.e. Ward Numbers 13 & 11 are located along the western part of the southern boundary of the municipality. The high 'Total Literacy Rate' is observed in six wards, which are widely distributed from west to east, in the middle part of the municipality. From west to east these wards are - Ward Numbers 20, 23, 18, 2, 6 and 3. Maximum numbers of wards i.e. nine, show medium 'Total Literacy Rate'. The wards are mainly located in the north-west, north-east and southern middle part of the municipality, namely, the wards are Ward Numbers 2, 21, 22, 24, 4, 15, 14, 7 & 8. There are only two wards having low 'Total Literacy Rate'. One of them is located northern-central part and the other at the extreme south-eastern part of the municipality. Ward Number 10 is the sole representative of very low 'Total Literacy Rate' and it is also located at the south-eastern part of the municipality. Lastly, it may be mentioned here that there are sixteen wards 'Total Literacy Rate' above the municipality average whereas, only three wards are there below the municipal average, suggesting a healthy picture as regards the distribution of 'Total Literacy Rate'.



The '**Male Literacy Rate**' in **Jalpaiguri municipality** ranges from the minimum of 48.57% in Ward number 10 to the maximum of 100% at Ward Number 23. Taking into account this range of 51.43%, as well as the municipality average of 89.05%, five classes, namely, very low (48.57% - 64.76%), low (64.76% - 80.95%), medium (80.95% - 91.24%), high (91.24% - 95.62%) and very high (95.62% - 100.00%) in order to that the municipality average belongs to the medium class. For this, the class interval above the municipality average ( $i_u$ ) has been calculated as 4.38 % on the other hand, the class interval below the municipality average ( $i_l$ ) class has been computed as 16.19%

From the map (*Map Number: 4.24*) it appears that the distributional pattern of 'Male Literacy Rate' is almost similar to that of 'Total Literacy Rate' although the range in case of the former is somewhat greater than that of the latter. There is the supremacy of high and very high 'Male Literacy Rate' over the municipality as nine and seven wards belong to these groups respectively. The wards having high 'Male Literacy Rate' are Ward Numbers 22, 24, 18, 17, 12 and 11 have created a linear pattern from a north to south direction, another ward of this group i.e. Ward Number 3 is located at the western boundary of the municipality. Another seven wards, namely, Ward Numbers 1, 2 & 3 of the north and north-east, Ward Numbers 20, 15 & 14 of the west and Ward Number 8 of the east represent medium 'Male Literacy Rate'. The interesting feature to be noted here that one ward each of low and very low 'Male Literacy Rate' are observed at the southern extremity of the municipality and the wards are Ward Numbers 9 and 10 respectively.

The '**Female Literacy Rate**' in **Jalpaiguri municipality** ranges from the minimum of 79.31% in Ward Number 21 to the maximum of 97.30% in Ward Number 17. Taking into consideration this range of 17.99%, as well as the municipality average of 89.05%, five classes, namely, very low (79.31% - 83.21%), low (83.21% - 87.11%), medium (87.11%-90.70%), high (90.70%-94.00%) and very high (94.00%-97.30%) have been formed in order that the municipality average belongs to the medium class. For this, the class interval above the municipality average ( $i_u$ ) and below the municipality average has been calculated as 3.30 % and 3.90 % respectively.

To show the distributional pattern of 'Female Literacy Rate' among the wards of Jalpaiguri municipality, a choropleth map (*Map Number: 4.24*) has been prepared

accordingly. From the map it appears that there is a marked dissimilarity in the distributional pattern of 'Female Literacy Rate' and total literacy rate. Four wards, namely, Ward Numbers 5, 11, 13 & 17 show the same level of literacy i.e., very high in both 'Female Literacy Rate' and 'Total Literacy Rate'. Ward Numbers 20 and 10 also belong to the very high class although they had medium and very low levels respectively in respect of 'Total Literacy Rate'. The high 'Female Literacy Rate' is observed in three wards, namely, Ward Numbers 25, 19 and 16 which have very high literacy, however, in respect of both 'Total' and 'Male Literacy Rate', six wards, namely, Ward Numbers 3, 8, 12, 14, 15 & 24 belong to the class of medium 'Female Literacy Rate' among which Ward Numbers 3 and 12 have high 'Total Literacy Rate'. However, the most striking feature about 'Female Literacy Rate' is that although there are just three wards belonging to low and very low classes in respect of 'Total Literacy Rate' and just two wards belonging to low and very low classes in respect of 'Male Literacy Rate', there are ten wards belonging to the low and very low classes in respect of 'Total Literacy Rate' and just two wards belonging to low and very low classes in respect of 'Male Literacy Rate', there are ten wards belonging to the low classes are Ward Numbers 2, 4, 6, 7, 18, 22 & 23 and those belonging to the very low classes are 1, 9 and 21.

The '*Total Literacy Rate*' in *Koch Bihar municipality* ranges from the smallest value of 88.00% in Ward Number 19 to the highest value of 100% in Ward Number 14. Taking to account the range of 12% as well as the municipality average of 92.71%, five uneven classes, specifically, very low (88.00% - 89.88%), low (89.88% - 91.76%), medium (91.76% - 94.16%), high (94.16% - 97.08%) and very high (97.08% - 100.00%) have been produced on the basis of which a choropleth map has been illustrated appropriately to depict the spatial pattern of 'Total Literacy Rate' in Koch Bihar Municipality. The class interval ( $i_u$ ) above and below ( $i_l$ ) the medium has been selected as 2.92 % and 1.88% respectively.

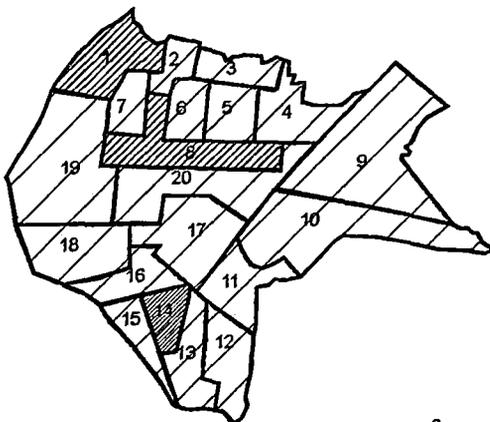
However, from the map (*Map Number: 4.25*), it comes into sight that the maximum number i.e. eleven wards belong to the class having municipality average. There are four and five wards above and below the municipality average class respectively. Only the Ward Number 14 belongs to very high class of 'Total Literacy

Rate'. Beside this, three wards, that is to say, Ward Numbers 1, 8 & 17 display high 'Total Literacy Rate'. It may be mentioned here that the maximum number of wards i.e. eleven wards fall in medium class. Moreover, two wards, specifically Ward Numbers 6 & 13 have low 'Total Literacy Rate'. In addition three wards, to be exact, Ward Numbers 2, 19 and 12 in the north, west and south parts of the municipality in scattered pattern represent very low 'Total Literacy Rate' in Koch Bihar municipality

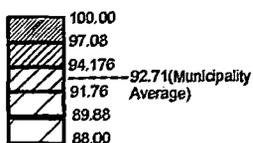
The wardwise '*Male Literacy Rate*' in *Koch Bihar municipality* ranges from the minimum of 91.89% in Ward Number 13 to the maximum of 100% in Ward Numbers 1, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 14, 15 & 20. Taking into account the range of 8.11% as well as the municipality average of 96.81% five irregular classes, specifically, very high (98.70% - 100.00%), high (97.44% - 98.72%), moderate (97.44% - 95.83%), low (95.83% - 93.86%) and very low (98.89% - 93.86%) have been identified for this purpose. The class interval ( $i_u$ ) above the medium class has been computed as 1.28 % and the class interval ( $i_l$ ) below the municipality average class has been determined as 1.97.

A relevant choropleth map (*Map Number: 4.26*) has also been produced to show the distributional pattern of 'Male Literacy Rate' in Koch Bihar municipality. From the map it comes into view that maximum number of wards i.e. nine wards encompass very high 'Male Literacy Rate' which are mainly concentrated in the northern half of the municipality, though a small patch constituting with Ward Numbers 15 & 14 at the south-west corner of the area show very high 'Male Literacy Rate'. Another salient feature to be noticed here is that out of these nine wards, all the wards have even 100% 'Male Literacy Rate'. Moreover, there are no wards in high 'Male Literacy Rate' class in Koch Bihar Municipality. Further nine wards are included in the classes below the moderate class. To state in detail, five wards, i.e. Ward Number 6 in north-center, Ward Number 19 in the west and Ward Numbers 16, 17 & 10 in an elongated patch from west to east belong to low class. Last of all, four wards, to be exact, Ward Number 2 from north, Ward Number 18 from west and Ward Numbers 12 & 13 from south demonstrate very low 'Male Literacy Rate' in scattered pattern forming three small pockets.

**Distributional Pattern of Total Literacy Rate  
Koch Bihar Municipality**

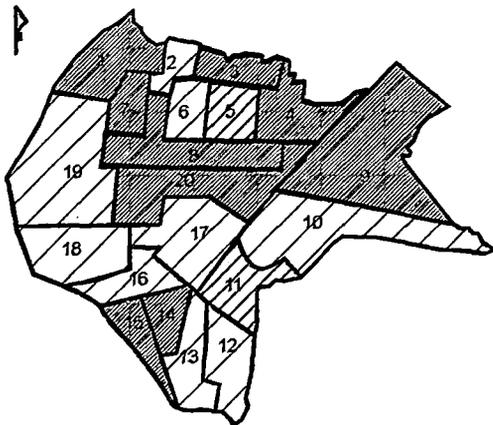


**Index  
Percentage**

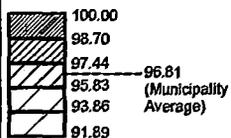


Map Number - 4.25

**Distributional Pattern of  
Male Literacy Rate  
Koch Bihar Municipality**

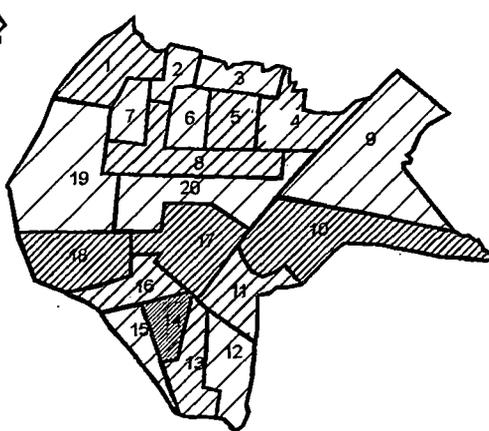


**Index  
Percentage**

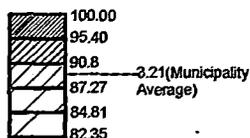


Map Number - 4.26

**Distributional Pattern of  
Female Literacy Rate  
Koch Bihar Municipality**



**Index  
Percentage**



Map Number - 4.27

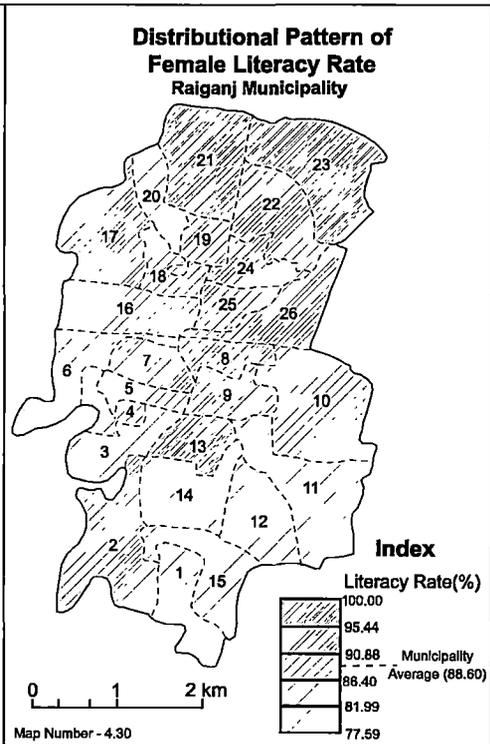
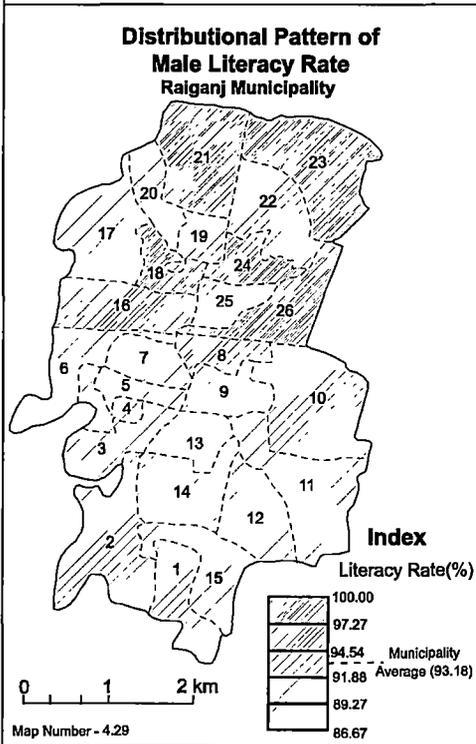
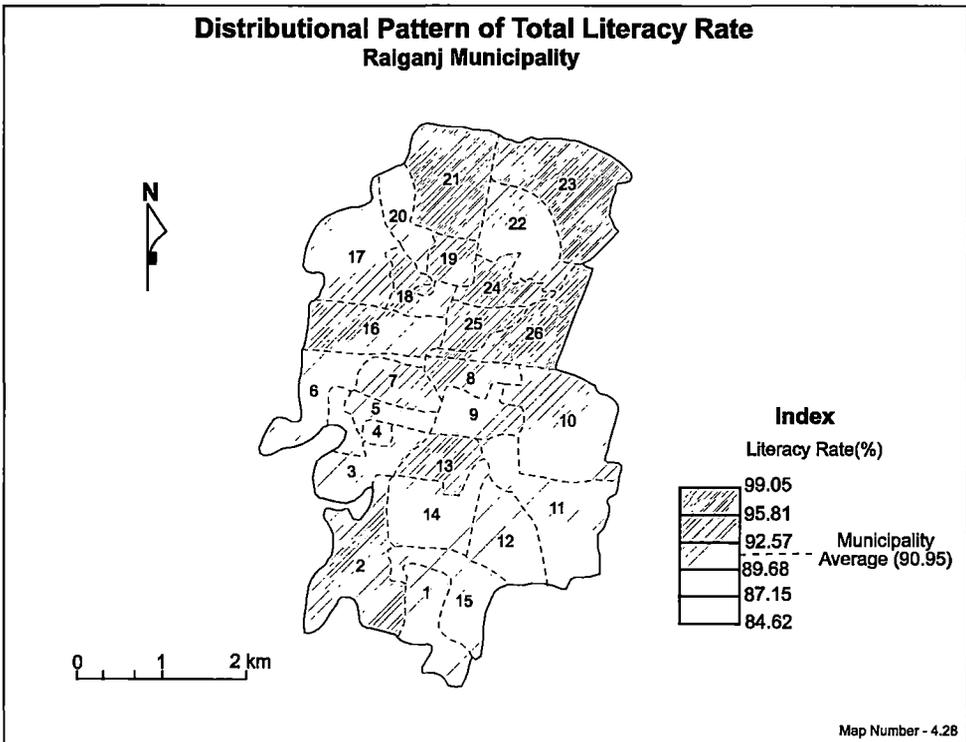
The wardwise '*Female Literacy Rate*' of *Koch Bihar municipality* varies from the minimum of 82.35% in Ward Number 19 to the maximum of 100.00% in Ward Number 14. Taking the range, slightly wider than that of 'Total Literacy Rate' and 'Male Literacy Rate', as well as the municipality average of 88.49%, five classes, namely, very high (100.00% - 95.40%), high (95.40% - 90.80%), moderate (87.27% - 90.80%), low (84.91% - 87.27%), and very low (82.35% - 84.81%) have been formed to demonstrate the spatial pattern of 'Female Literacy Rate' in Koch Bihar Municipality. The class interval above ( $i_u$ ) and below ( $i_l$ ) the moderate class has been determined as 4.60% and 2.46 % respectively.

On the basis of those classes a corresponding choropleth map has been portrayed. From the map (*Map Number: 4.27*) it appears that very high and very low 'Female Literacy Rate' occurred in Ward Number 14 in the south-west and Ward Number 19 in the west respectively. The high 'Female Literacy Rate' has been occurred in three wards arranged in a linear pattern from west to east almost through the centre of the municipality. And the wards belonging to this group are Ward Number 18, 17 & 10. Eight wards - Ward Numbers 2, 3, 6, 7, 9, 12, 15 & 20 depict low 'Female Literacy Rate'. The wards are widely scattered throughout the municipality. Out of the remaining wards, four wards, that is to say, Ward Numbers - 1, 5, 4 & 8 in the northern half of the municipality and Ward Numbers 11, 13 and 17 in the southern half of the municipality reveal moderate 'Female Literacy Rate' in Koch Bihar municipality.

The analysis has been done on the basis of a sample survey, sample size being 2% of the total number of households in each ward of *Raiganj municipality* during 2007. The '*Total Literacy Rate*' ranges from the minimum of 84.62% in Ward Number 14 to the maximum of 99.05% in Ward Number 21. Taking into account this range of 14.43% as well as the municipality average of 90.95%, five classes namely, very low (84.62% - 87.15%), low (87.15% - 89.68%), medium (86.68% - 92.57%), high (92.57% - 95.81%) and very high (95.81% - 99.05%) have been formed in order that the municipal average belong to the medium class. For this, class interval ( $i_u$ ) above the medium class has been determined as 3.24 % and the class interval below the medium class ( $i_l$ ) has been calculated as 2.532% respectively.

A corresponding choropleth map (*Map Number: 4.28*) has then been prepared to show the ward wise spatial variation of percentage of total literates to total population in Raiganj municipality. From the map it appears that there are eleven and ten wards respectively above and below the medium class. Out of eleven wards above medium class, four wards having very high percentage, namely, Ward Numbers 21, 23, 24 & 26 are concentrated in the north and north-eastern parts of the municipality. The high 'Total Literacy Rate' is found in seven wards, namely, Ward Numbers- 19, 18, 16, 15, 8, 13 and 2 creating two pockets. The larger one is located at north-central part of the municipality whereas the smaller pocket is located at the south western corner of the municipality. Five wards having medium percentages of 'Total Literacy Rate' are distributed in a discontinuous pattern predominantly in the central and the northern parts of the municipality. One ward, namely, Ward Number 22 in the north and another, namely ward no.17 in the west show moderate 'Total Literacy Rate' whereas three others, namely, Ward Numbers - 7, 9 and 10 are arranged in a linear fashion in east to west direction across the central part of Raiganj municipality. Only Ward Number 5 in west-central part of the municipality show low level of 'Total Literacy Rate'. The very low 'Total Literacy Rate' is observed in the maximum number of wards, that is, Ward Number 9 of the municipality. A continuous large pocket of eight wards covers the west-central and south-eastern parts of the municipality. On the other hand, only one ward, namely, Ward Number 20 is located far away from this pocket in the north-western corner of the municipality.

The '*Male Literacy Rate*' in *Raiganj municipality* ranges from the minimum of 86.67% in Ward Number 4 to the maximum of 100% in Ward Number 24. Taking into account this range of 13.33 as well as the municipal average of five classes, namely, very low (86.67% - 89.27%), low (89.27% - 91.88%), medium (91.88% - 94.54%) and very high (97.27% - 100%) have been formed in order that the municipal average belongs to the medium class. For this, class interval ( $i_u$ ) above the medium class has been determined as 2.73% and the class interval ( $i_l$ ) below the medium class has been calculated as 2.60% respectively.



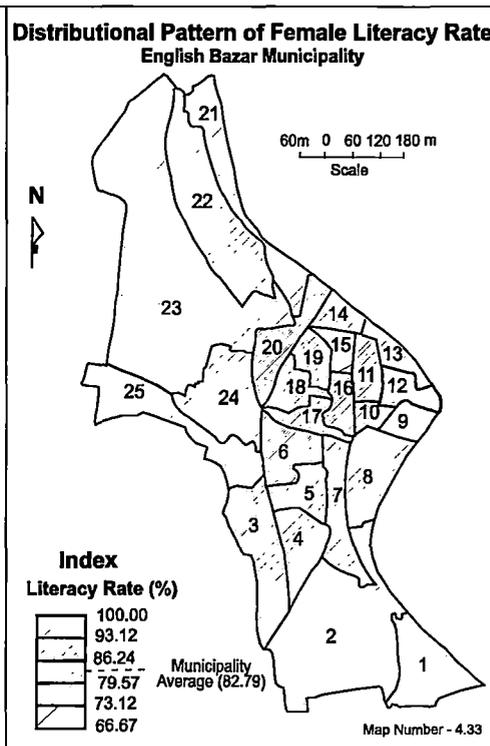
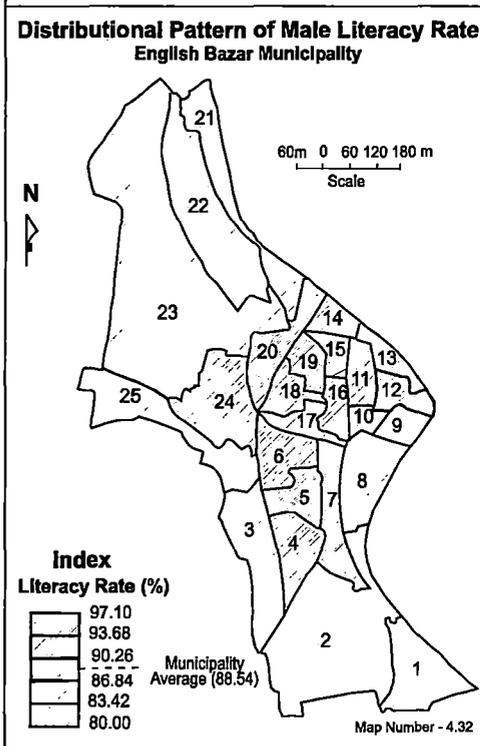
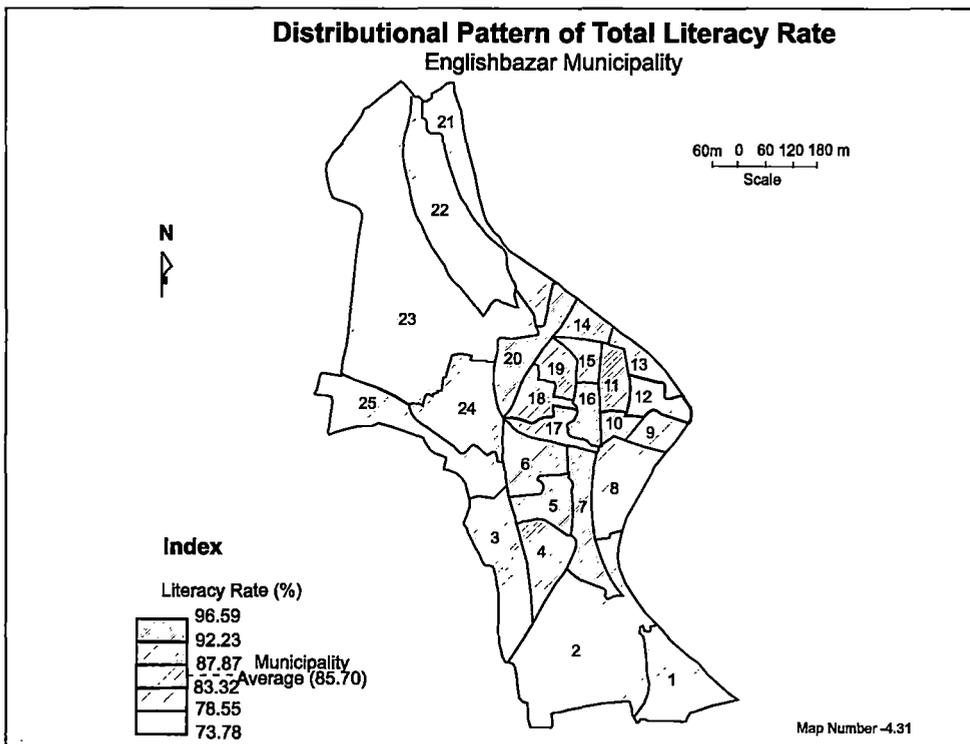
A corresponding choropleth map (*Map Number: 4.29*) has been prepared to show the spatial variation in 'Male Literacy Rate' at ward level in Raiganj municipality. The distribution of very high 'Male Literacy Rate' almost identical to that of the percentage of 'Total literacy except two additional wards, namely, Ward Numbers 18 & 8 which were included in the category of high class in case of 'Total Literacy Rate'. There is striking difference between the distributions of the high percentage of the 'Male Literacy Rate' and that of the 'Total Literacy Rate' as only Ward Number 16 is common in both cases. Among the remaining four wards, namely, Ward Numbers 19, 25, 13 and 2 show medium percentage in case of 'Male Literacy Rate'. Other four wards, namely, Ward Numbers 22, 10, 3 and 1 also show moderate 'Male Literacy Rate' among which 'Ward Numbers 22 and 10 are identical as in the case of 'Total Literacy Rate', but Ward Number 3 and 1 were in very low category in case of 'Total Literacy Rate'. There is totally different picture in case of low category of 'Male Literacy Rate' from that of the 'Total' as the only Ward Number 5 of the 'Total Literacy Rate' shows very low level in case of the 'Male Literacy Rate' and other seven wards, namely, Ward Numbers 20, 17, 7, 9, 11, 12 and 15 represent low level of 'Male Literacy Rate'. Among those seven, Ward Numbers 11, 12, 15 and 20 were in very low category, whereas Ward Numbers 7, 9 and 17 were in medium category in case of 'Total Literacy Rate'. Only four wards, namely, Ward Numbers 6, 4, 14 and 5 show very low 'Male Literacy Rate' and the first three wards were also in the same category in case of 'Total Literacy Rate'.

The '**Female Literacy Rate**' in *Raiganj municipality* ranges from the minimum of 77.59% in Ward Number 1 to the maximum of 100.00% in the Ward Number 21. Taking into account this range of 22.41% as well as the municipal average of 88.60% five classes, namely, very low (77.59% - 81.99%), low (81.99% - 86.40%), medium (86.40% - 90.88%), high (90.88% - 95.44%) and very high (95.44% - 100.00%) have been formed in order that the municipal average belongs to the medium class. For this, class interval ( $i_u$ ) above and below ( $i_l$ ) the medium class has been determined as 8.96% and 4.40% respectively.

To show the distributional pattern of the above, a choropleth map (*Map Number:- 4.30*) has been prepared. From the map it is observed that the dissimilarities are more

pronounced in case of 'Female Literacy Rate' than the 'Male Literacy Rate' taking the 'Total Literacy Rate' as the base. There are only three wards, which are approximately 12% of the total number of the wards of Raiganj Municipalities which show very high percentage of 'Female Literacy Rate'. Two northern most wards, Wards Numbers 21 and 23, have however, the same status as in the case of the 'Total' and 'Male Literacy Rate'. But the remaining ward, Ward Number 13 shows very high 'Female Literacy Rate', though was not in this category in respect of 'Total' as well as 'Male Literacy Rate'. Ten wards of Raiganj municipality belong to the category of high percentage of 'Female Literacy Rate', among which four wards, namely, Wards Numbers 19, 25, 8 and 2 enjoy the same status as that of the 'Total Literacy Rate'. Other four wards, namely, Ward Numbers 22, 17, 7 and 9 suggest an up gradation in their status as they were in medium category in case of 'Total Literacy Rate'. The remaining two wards, namely, Ward Numbers 24 and 26 represent high 'Female Literacy Class' although both of them show very high 'Total Literacy Rate' as well as 'Male Literacy Rate'. Among the remainders, ward nos. 16 and 18 were in high category, ward no. 5 was in low category and ward no. 4 was in very low category in case of percentage of total literacy. There are four wards namely, ward nos. 20, 6, 12, 15 in the category of low 'Female Literacy Rate'. It is almost similar to the corresponding class of 'Male Literacy Rate' as Ward Numbers 20, 12 and 5 were also in this category in case of 'Male Literacy Rate', but it is totally different from that of 'Total Literacy Rate'. Four wards, namely, Ward Numbers 11, 14, 3 and 1 belong to the category of very low 'Female Literacy Rate' just they were in the case of 'Total Literacy Rate' and therefore, they are similar but some dissimilarities if it is compared to the 'Male Literacy Rate', because only Ward Number 14 shares the same status in respect of both 'Female' and 'Male Literacy Rate'.

*'Total Literacy Rate'* in different wards of *English Bazar municipality* ranges from the minimum of 73.78% in Ward Number 25 to the maximum of 96.59% in Ward Number 6. Taking the range of 22.81% as well as the municipality average of 85.70%, five classes, namely, very low (73.78%-78.55%), low (78.55%-83.32%), medium (83.32%-87.87%), high (87.87% - 92.23%) and very high (92.23%-96.59%) have been formed in order that the municipality average belongs to the medium class. For this



purpose, the class interval above the municipality average ( $i_u$ ) has been determined as 4.36% and the class interval below the municipality average ( $i_l$ ) class has been determined as 4.77%

From the corresponding choropleth map (*Map Number: 4.31* prepared on the basis of above classes it appears that there are twelve and eight wards belonging to the classes above and below the medium class respectively. It reveals the supremacy of 'Total Literacy Rate' above the medium class. It is interesting to note that, five wards each belong to very high, medium, and very low class of 'Total Literacy Rate'. Very high 'Total Literacy Rate' is observed in the wards surrounding the central part of the area. These wards are Ward Number 20 of the north-central, Ward Number 16 of the east-central and Ward Numbers 6, 7 and 5 of the south-central parts of the municipality. The high 'Total Literacy Rate' is occurred in two patches. The larger one is comprised of five wards of central and east-central parts of the municipality. These are Ward Numbers 18, 19, 14, 11 and 10. The smaller patch is located at the south-western part of the municipality comprising of Ward Numbers 3 and 4. The medium 'Total Literacy Rate' is mainly distributed in the northern half of the municipality. The wards belonging to this class are Ward Numbers 22 and 21 in the north, Ward Number 24 in the west, Ward Number 12 in the east and Ward Number 17 in the centre of the municipality. On the other hand, only three wards, namely, Ward Numbers 15, 9 and 2 show low 'Total Literacy Rate'. Very low 'Total Literacy Rate' is observed along the marginal wards only. The wards are Ward Number 23 in the north-west, Ward Number 25 in the west, Ward Number 1 in the south-east corner, Ward Number 8 and Ward Number 13 in the east-central part of the municipality.

The '*Male Literacy Rate*' of *English Bazar municipality* ranges from the minimum of 80.00% in Ward Number 13 to the maximum of 97.10% in Ward Number 20. Taking into account this range of 17.10%, as well as the municipality average of 88.54% five classes, namely, very low (80.00% - 83.42%), low (83.42% - 86.84%), medium (86.84% - 90.26%), high (90.26% - 93.84%) and very high (93.68% - 97.10%) have been formed in order that the municipality average belong to the medium class. For this purpose, the formula used to determine the class interval above the medium class ( $i_u$ )

Has been chosen as 3.42% and the class interval below the medium class ( $i_1$ ) has been considered as 3.42 %

A corresponding choropleth map (*Map Number: 4.32*) has been prepared to show the distributional pattern of male literacy rate in English Bazar municipality accordingly. From the map it appears that there are twelve and nine wards above and below the municipality average class respectively. Two wards each from north-centre and south-centre, namely, Ward Numbers 20 & 19 and Ward Numbers 5 & 7 belong to the very high class of 'Male Literacy Rate' whereas eight wards concentrating the central part of the municipality display high 'Male Literacy Rate'. It is noted here that two wards i.e. Ward Numbers 22 & 21 and Ward Numbers 2 & 3 from each of north & north-east and south & south-west show the medium 'Male Literacy Rate'. It should be referred here that minimum number of wards having low 'Male Literacy Rate' whereas the rest six peripheral wards, namely, Ward Numbers 23 & 25 of the north and north-west Ward Numbers 13, 9 and 8 of east and Ward Number 1 of south-east display very low 'Male Literacy Rate'.

The '*Female Literacy Rate*' is *English Bazar municipality* ranges from the minimum of 66.67% in Ward Number 25 to the maximum of Ward Number 100% in Ward Number 6. Taking into account this range of 33.33%, as well as the municipality average of 82.79 %, five classes, namely, very low (66.67% - 73.12%), low (73.12% - 79.57%), medium (79.57% - 86.24%), high (86.24% - 93.12%) and very high (93.12% - 100.00%) have been formed in order that the municipality average belongs to the medium class. For this purpose, the class interval ( $i_u$ ) above the medium class has been determined as 6.88 % and the class interval ( $i_l$ ) below the medium class has been determined as 6.45 % respectively.

A corresponding choropleth map (*Map Number: 4.33*) has been prepared on the basis of above classes accordingly to show the distributional pattern of 'Female Literacy Rate' of English Bazar municipality. From the map, it appears that the range of 'Female Literacy Rate' is greater than that of 'Total' and 'Male Literacy Rate'. It is strikingly noted here that the member of wards above the municipality average class is just double of that of below the municipality average as there are twelve and six wards

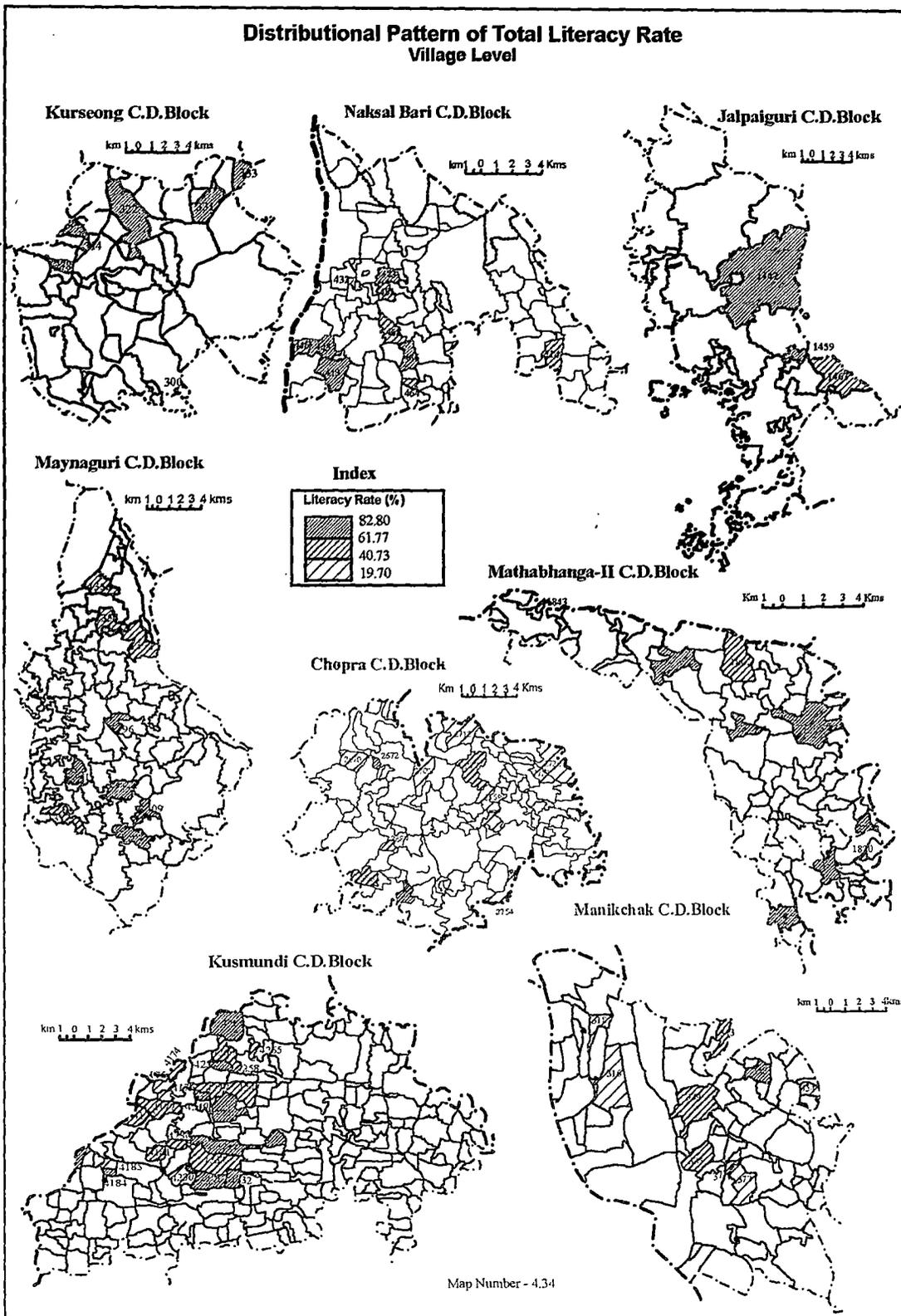
respectively, namely, the Wards are 20, 10 & 6. Three wards, namely, Ward Numbers 20, 10 & 6 surrounding the core of the municipality represent very high 'Female Literacy Rate'. Whereas, a large continuous patch of high 'Female Literacy Rate' is observed comprising with nine wards-Ward Numbers-14, 19, 18, 17, 16, 11, 7, 5 & 3. The medium 'Female Literacy Rate' is observed among seven wards and the wards are Ward Numbers 22 & 21 of the north & north-east, Ward Numbers 12, 9 & 8 of east, Ward Number 4 of south-centre. Same number of wards i.e. three wards belong to the low and very low 'Female Literacy Rate' class. Ward Number 23 of the north-west, Ward Number 15 of the east-centre Ward Number 2 of the extreme south display low 'Female Literacy Rate'. On the other hand, three peripheral wards- Ward Number 13 of east, Ward Number 25 of west, Ward Number 1 of south east represents very low 'Female Literacy Rate'.

### **4.3: Distributional Pattern of Literacy Rate at Village Level :**

The '*Total Literacy Rate*' of eighty three selected *villages* of eight selected C.D.Blocks of North Bengal region is ranges from the maximum of 82.8% in Mahaldiram Forest village of Kurseong C.D.Block of Darjiling district to the minimum of 19.70% in Rajapur village of Kushmundi C.D.Block of Dakshin Dinajpur district. The range 63.1% have been divided into three classes, namely, high (61.77% - 82.80%), medium (40.73% - 61.77%) and low (19.70% - 40.73%) have been formed for depicting the spatial pattern of 'Total Literacy Rate' among the selected of North Bengal by Choropleth Map.

The adjoining map (*Map Number: 4.34*) reveals that about forty percent of the total villages i.e. thirty three out of eighty three villages belong to the high class of Total Literacy Rate. More over, other forty percent that is to say thirty four villages display low 'Total Literacy Rate' whereas the remaining sixteen villages have low 'Total Literacy Rate'. To state specifically, all the seven villages of Kurseong C.D.Block display high 'Total Literacy Rate'. In case of Naxal Bari C.D.Block four villages belong to each of high and medium class whereas the remaining one village displays low 'Total Literacy Rate'. Beside these, two and one villages of Jalpaiguri C.D.Block represent high and medium 'Total Literacy Rate' respectively. Coincidentally the villages of Maynaguri C.D.Block of Jalpaiguri district and Matha Bhanga-II C.D.Block of Koch Bihar district

### Distributional Pattern of Total Literacy Rate Village Level



Map Number - 4.34

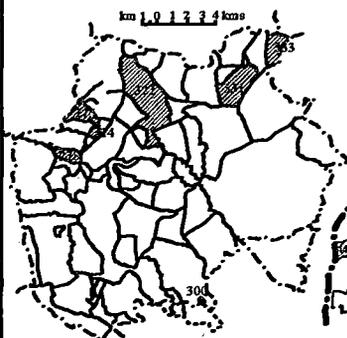
display similar pattern as out of nine villages, five and four villages of each C.D.Block lies in high and medium class of 'Total Literacy Rate' respectively. On the contrast, there is a clear supremacy of low 'Total Literacy Rate' over the selected villages of Chopra C.D. Block of Uttar Dinajpur district as six, four and two villages of this C.D.Block belong to the low , medium and high 'Total Literacy Rate' classes respectively. On the other hand, maximum number of villages of Kushmundi C.D.Block of Dakshin Dinajpur district and Manikchak C.D.Block of Maldah district are concentrated in medium class of 'Total Literacy Rate'. Eight, twelve and four villages of the first one belong to the high, medium and low class whereas six and three villages have medium and low 'Total Literacy Rate' respectively.

The '*Male Literacy Rate*' of eighty three selected *villages* of North Bengal region ranges from the maximum of 97.19% in Mahaldiram Forest of Kurseong C.D.Block of Darjiling district to the minimum of 28.40% in Rajapur village of Kushmundi C.D.Blocks of Dakshin Dinajpur district. Taking into account this range of 68.70%, three quantitative classes, specifically, high (51.67% - 71.60%), medium (51.67% - 31.73%) and (31.73% - 11.80%). A choropleth map has been prepared to show the distributional pattern of 'Male Literacy Rate' over the region.

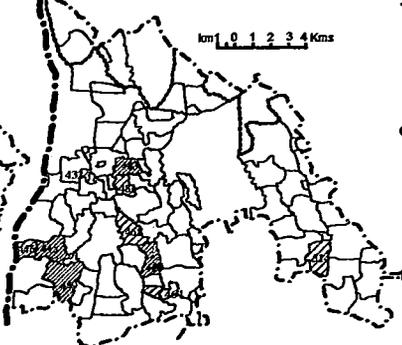
From the map (*Map Number: 4.35*) it comes into view that there is supremacy of high 'Male Literacy Rate' over the region as maximum number of villages i.e. thirty three villages belong to this class. Other twenty seven and twenty three villages display medium and low 'Male Literacy Rate'. To state in detail, there is entire supremacy high 'Male Literacy Rate' in Kurseong C.D.Block of Darjiling district and Jalpaiguri C.D.Block of Jalpaiguri district as all the seven villages of the former and three of the latter display high 'Total Literacy Rate'. Beside these, other two C.D.Blocks, namely, Mainaguri C.D.Block of Jalpaiguri district and Matha Bhanga-II C.D.Block of Koch Bihar district display similar pattern of 'Male Literacy Rate' as out of nine villages of each two C.D.Block six and three villages represent medium 'Male Literacy Rate'. On the other hand, three, four and five villages of Chopra C.D.Block have high, medium and low 'Male Literacy Rate' whereas six, fourteen and four villages of Kushmundi

### Distributional Pattern of Male Literacy Rate Village Level

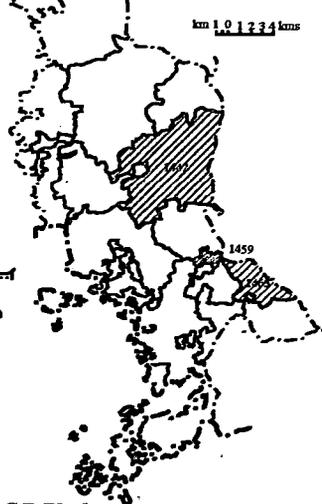
**Kurseong C.D.Block**



**Naksal Bari C.D.Block**



**Jalpaiguri C.D.Block**



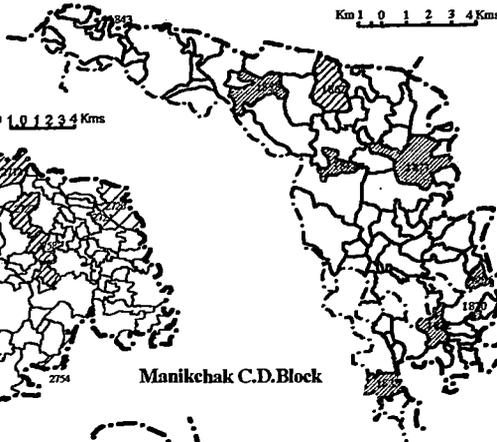
**Maynaguri C.D.Block**



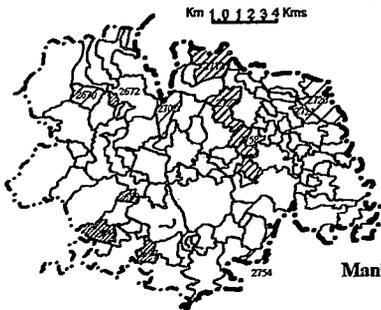
**Index**

Literacy Rate (%)	
	97.10
	74.20
	51.30
	28.40

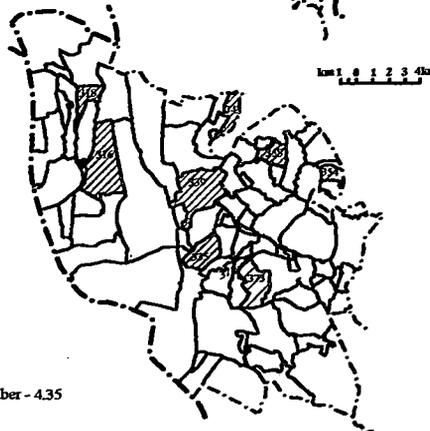
**Mathabhanga-II C.D.Block**



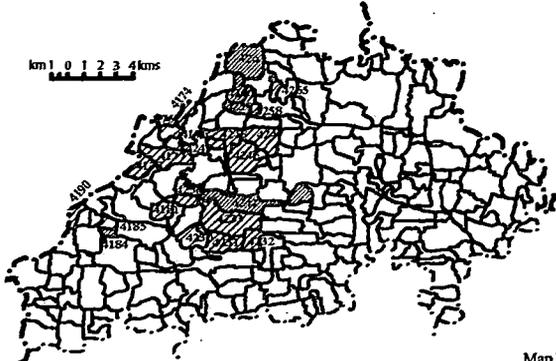
**Chopra C.D.Block**



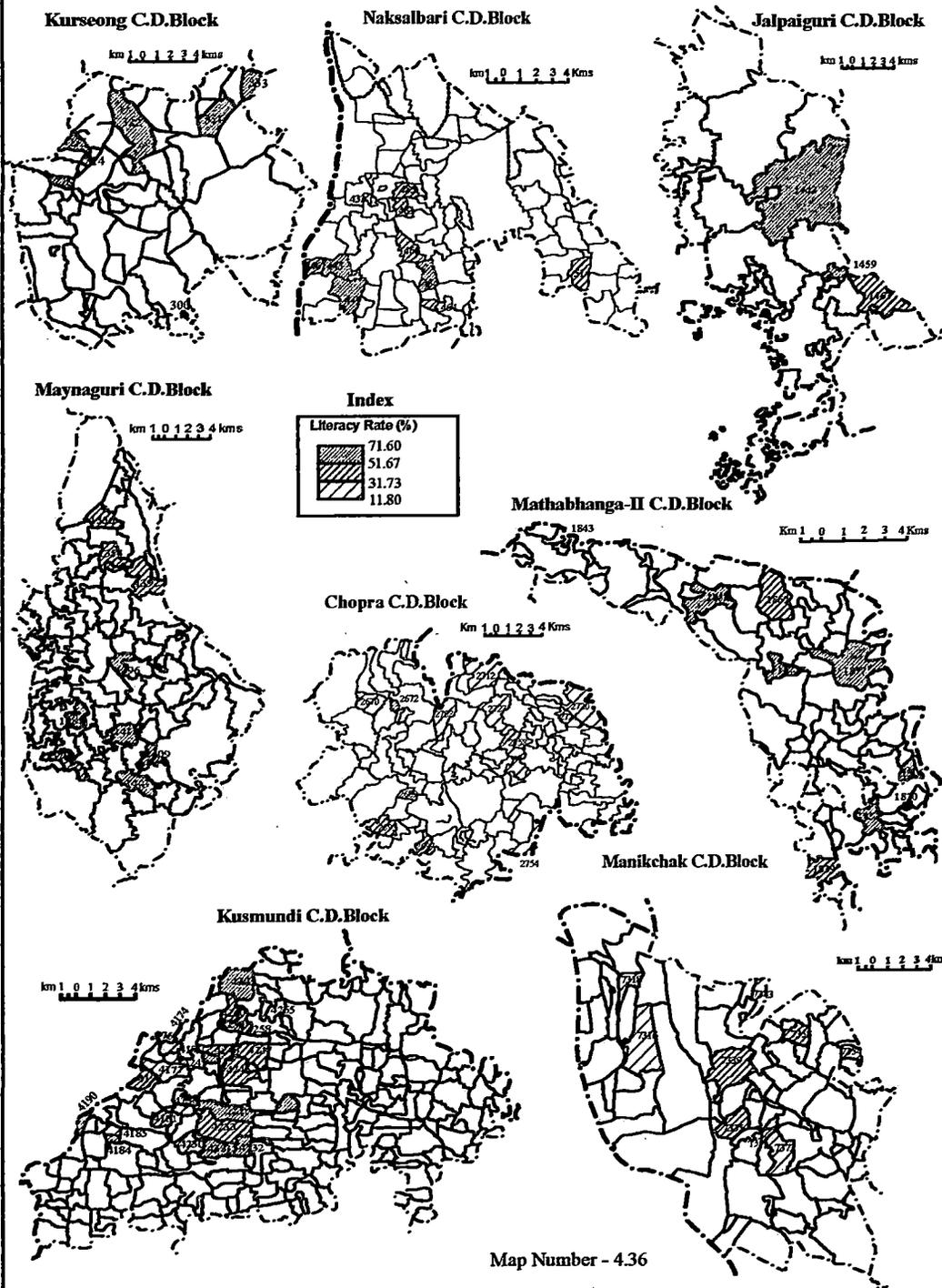
**Manikchak C.D.Block**



**Kusmundi C.D.Block**



**Distributional Pattern of Female Literacy Rate  
Village Level**



Map Number - 4.36

Block of Dakshin Dinajpur district display high, medium and low 'Male Literacy Rate' respectively. There is no participation of villages of 'Manikchak' C.D. Block of Maldah district of in high 'Male Literacy Rate' class. Out of nine villages of this C.D. Block seven and two villages show medium and low 'Male Literacy Rate' respectively.

The '*Female Literacy Rate*' of eighty three *villages* of North Bengal ranges from the maximum of 71.6% in Goethal village of Kurseong C.D. Block of Darjiling district to the minimum of 11.8% in Rajapur village of Kushmundi village of Dakshin Dinajpur district. Taking into account this range of 59.8%, three qualitative classes, namely, high (51.67% - 31.73%), medium (31.73%-51.67%) and low (31.73%- 51.67%) have been formed. A corresponding choropleth map has been prepared to display the spatial pattern of 'Female Literacy Rate' among the villages.

From the adjoining choropleth map (*Map Number: 4.36*) it comes into view that the sole C.D. Block i.e. Kurseong shows the entire supremacy of high 'Female Literacy Rate' as all the seven selected villages of this C.D. Block have high 'Female Literacy Rate'. Beside this, there is supremacy of medium 'Female Literacy Rate' over Naxal Bari C.D. Block as out of ten villages of this C.D. Block three, six and one villages belong to the high, medium and low classes respectively. There is a similarity between Jalpaiguri and Maynaguri C.D. Block in case of 'Female Literacy Rate' as out of three villages of Jalpaiguri C.D. Block two & one villages and out of nine villages of Maynaguri C.D. Block five & four villages display high and medium 'Female Literacy Rate' respectively. There is a little dominance of high 'Female Literacy Rate' over Mathabhanga-II C.D. Block as out of nine villages six and three records high and medium 'Female Literacy Rate'. The sole Chopra C.D. Block represents the primacy of low 'Female Literacy Rate' as one, two and nine villages of this C.D. Block belong to the high, medium and low class of it respectively. No significant distributional pattern is observed in case of Kushmundi C.D. Block as eight villages belong to each of high, medium and low classes of 'Female Literacy Rate'. A tendency of low 'Female Literacy Rate' is identified in Manikchak C.D. Block as out of nine villages of this C.D. Block four and five recorded medium and low 'Female Literacy Rate' respectively.

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