

Old books damaged, unfit for reading 50,000 primary students yet to get books in Panchagarh

PANCHAGARH, Jan. 18.—More than 50,000 students of the primary schools of the district are yet to get text-books.

There are 310 government and about 400 registered and unregistered non-government primary schools in the district. About one lakh sets of book were allocated for free distribution among 1,50,188 students of these schools. But 70 per cent books have been distributed among the students so far while the rest did not get books. Over 50,000 students of these primary schools were deprived of getting text-books.

Besides these, a large number of students of Class one to Class five received only 50 per cent new books and 50 per cent old books from school authorities following short supply of new books. Due to the scarcity of text-books, the teachers are procuring old books and distributing them among the students. But some students did not receive old books.

The condition of the old books is bad. Some books have lost pages. Some are worn out and some become unfit for reading.

Teachers are facing problems in distributing 50 per cent new and 50 per cent old books among the students.

There are allegations that most of these old books distributed among

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the students are partly damaged. The students with these damaged books have been facing inconveniences to prosecute their study. Due to short supply of books, the Compulsory Primary Education Programme will be hampered.

The guardians of the students expressed deep concern over the critical situation in primary education of the district. They demanded immediate supply of requisite quality of books to promote primary education in the district.

The students of Class VI to Class IX have been facing acute problems with the start of new academic year due to non-availability of text-books in the local markets.

The guardians said that the students are gradually losing their interest as the new academic session began without the text-books, the board announced text-books will supply to the book shops of the markets within January.

The traders informed this correspondent that the text-books are yet to be published. They demanded proper distribution system of text-books so that the students can get books at fixed price.

Madaripur

Our Madaripur correspondent reports: The Universal Primar

Education Programme has been facing serious set-back in Madaripur and Shariatpur districts.

Most of the primary schools are plagued with various problems including shortage of teachers, materials and furniture while a number of schools buildings are in dilapidated condition.

The schools have one or two teachers to teach upto Class three while there is no primary school in the remote areas of Shariatpur district.

According to statistics, about four lakh people are unable to read and write.

Many schools damaged by flood, cyclone and other natural calamities remained unrepaired for years together hampering education.