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Shortage of teachers, text-books

## Pry education facing setback at Shariatpur

From Our Correspondent

SHARIATPUR, June 3:—The Education of students in primary schools is being hampered in Shariatpur due to inadequate supply of text-books and shortage of teachers.

According to official sources, there are 1,643 posts of teachers in 396 primary schools in 6 thanas of the district. Some 193 posts of teachers have lying vacant for a long time. Besides, many non-government primary schools in 6 thanas are facing various problems.

According to a source most of the registered non-government schools in the district are tin-shed houses and were built during the time of the BNP government with financial assistance of the teachers and members of the managing committees of the schools. Most of the schools were partially damaged and some were totally damaged in last year's

flood. But repair work of these schools have not been yet completed.

One the other hand, there are no sufficient schools in char areas of the district. The areas are Tarabania, Charvoira, Charkumaria, Diamkhali in Bhedargonj thana. Kunderchar Barokandi in Jajira thana, Kudalpur in Gosairhat thana and Charatra, Noapara, Charmoihon in Sadar thana. Thousands of students of these areas are deprived of primary education. The students of many primary schools could not be provided with a set of new books. Many students are attending their classes without text-book. Besides, the order to distribute some old books created dissatisfaction among the school children. The school authorities collected old text-books from the students during the final examination last year. But condition of those books was not suitable for use for another year.

Some guardians said, many books are useless and torn-tout. These books were printed on lower quality papers. In some cases, the print was blurred and incomprehensible to the students.

Most of the schools have no suitable latrines and toilets. This causes hardship to the teachers and girls students. In the absence of tubewells the teachers and students have to fetch drinking water from nearby houses or ponds as most of the tubewells are attacked with arsenic. Inadequate number of chairs, tables, and benches in the classrooms and playgrounds are the other problems. They are facing.

The inhabitants of Shariatpur have urged the concerned authority to take necessary steps to fill up vacant posts, set up new schools at remote areas and repair the damages schools to make the primary education programme a success.