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30,000 children deprived of education

No govt primary school in 1353 villages of Maulvibazar

From Our Correspondent

MAULVIBAZAR, Mar. 3:—At least 30,000 students in the age group of to 10 years are deprived of primary education in 1353 villages of the district as there is government primary schools in these villages.

There are 693 government primary schools in the district but the number of villages is 2046. It is found that there is no government primary schools in 1353 villages under six thanas of Maulvibazar district.

According to an official source, there are 167 government primary schools in sadar thana against 465 villages, 163 schools in Kulaura thana against 528 villages, 108 schools in Barlekha thana against 313 villages, 102 schools in Rajnagar thana against 265 villages 87 schools in Kamalganj thana against 261 villages and 66 schools in Srimongol thana against 214 villages.

The programme "education for all by the year 2000" may not be achieved if the government fails to take necessary steps at the initial stage to make it success.

The non-government primary schools should be nationalised providing with sufficient number of furniture, adequate accommodation, arrangement of latrines and urinals, and supply of teaching materials etc.

The District Primary Education office has distributed 11,12,400 books among primary schools for distribution among 2,47,700 primary students of Class I to V during the current academic session under the Compulsory Free Primary Education Programme.

Text-book shortage

Education of students all over Maulvibazar district for the new academic year is being hampered due to shortage of text books from Class VI to Class IX since January last.

The guardians alleged that some unscrupulous book traders have created artificial scarcity to earn extra profit. The text books are, if available, sold at an exorbitant price causing inconvenience to the students.

Due to non-availability of text books, most of the students depend on note-books which are being sold at random in book shops of the

market though government has imposed ban on publishing and selling of note-books. The students are reading note-books without going through the text-books. As a result they acquire little knowledge of the subjects.

When contacted the local book-traders told me that the present system of collection of books from the text-book was mainly responsible for shortage of books in the local market.

Gazipur

UNB reports from Gazipur: The Universal Primary Education Programme in the district has been facing set-back due to multifarious problems, including shortage of teachers.

Official sources said there are 517 government and 150 non-government primary schools in six thanas of the district with 2,28,114 students.

Deplorable condition of most of

the school buildings, inadequate furniture and shortage of teachers were identified as the main problems hampering the education adversely.

Besides, high prices of paper and other educational appliances and poverty of the students were the major obstacles to the progress of the education. The number of dropouts was increasing day by day due to acute financial stringency.

Local people alleged that most of the school buildings damaged in devastating floods, storms and cyclones over the last few years have not yet been repaired.

In the absence of the water supply system the minor students are compelled to take water from ponds and canals causing spread of the water-borne diseases.

At least 120 posts of primary school teachers have been lying vacant in the district. But no arrangements have been taken to fill up the vacant post.