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## Primary schools lack educational facilities

# 50 per cent students sit on mats, bricks

From Our Correspondent

CHUADANGA, May 21:—Both the govt and non-govt primary schools in the district have been facing manifold problems.

The existence of many of the non-government primary schools has been threatened for want of economic support. These institutions are mainly run by public donations and financial help of philanthropists.

There are 257 govt and 75 non-govt primary schools in the district. The govt primary schools have a total roll strength of 80,719 students while 22,211 pupils read in non-govt primary schools.

Many of the primary schools have been badly damaged during floods and nor'westers in the past. The

damaged private schools have not yet been repaired or constructed.

The pupils of govt primary schools sit in the floor for want of benches.

The teachers also take a trouble of tedious job in imparting lessons to the tiny-tots for want of electric fans in this sultry summer days.

Many of the school buildings have not been renovated since the establishment. The teachers and students hold classes in these dilapidated buildings braving rains and storms at the risk of their lives. The govt primary schools lack adequate teachers.

### Barisal

A report from Barisal adds: More than 80 per cent government primary schools in 10 upazilas of the district are facing accommodation problem.

Most of the schools are in dilapidated condition. The shortage of teachers and furniture has made the situation worse.

Besides, schools, which have been damaged during floods, storms, cyclones and natural calamities in the last few years have not yet been repaired.

Many schools are holding classes

in dilapidated building which may collapse at any moment.

About 2.5 lakhs students are studying in the government primary schools of the district.

Some schools have no building at all. There are 12 schools in sadar upazila, 21 in Wazirpur upazila, 10 in Banaripara upazila, 13 in Gournadi upazila, 15 in Agailzara upazila, 16 in Babuganj upazila, 12 in Mehendiganj upazila, 18 in Mulaadi upazila and 16 in Bakerganj upazila are either kutcha or dilapidated.

About 5 schools in sadar upazila, 10 schools in Wazirpur upazila, 4 schools in Banaripara upazila, 7 schools in Gournadi upazila, 6 in Bakerganj upzila have no roofs at all.

Fifty per cent students sit either on mats or on bricks due to lack of benches. In some schools there is not a single chair and table for the teachers to sit.

Moreover, supply of necessary appliances including black boards, chalk, dusters is inadequate. Sixty per cent of the schools have no playgrounds.

Some of the teachers are not discharging duty regularly, it is informed by the guardians.