

Students accommodation scanty

Poverty, shortage of teachers hit CPEP

From Our Correspondent

Cyclone-damaged schools not yet repaired

MANIKGONJ, Aug. 23:—About 3.50 lakh children are deprived of primary education in seven thanas of the district.

According to the source of Education Department, the number of school going children was 8,50,551 in the age group of five to 12 in seven thanas of the district of whom 6,45,501 boys and 2,05,050 are girls. The source said that 5 lakh children had been admitted to schools so far while three lakh are deprived of education. About 35 per cent of enlisted children do not go to schools, the source further said.

It is revealed that most of the guardians in the rural areas show little interest to send their children to schools due to poverty and unemployment. The guardians are rather forced to send their children to work in hotels, restaurants and motor garages for their survival.

The guardians opined that though the primary education is free but most of the guardians cannot bear the expense of dresses and other expenses.

It may be noted here that 105 posts of teachers including the posts of 27 head teachers have been lying vacant in the schools of the district.

Brahmanbaria

Our Brahmanbaria Correspondent states: The Compulsory Primary Education Programme has been facing various problems in the district.

The deplorable condition of school buildings, shortage of teachers, inadequate furniture, scarcity of drinking water and absence of proper sanitation and play grounds and library facilities are the main causes for hampering the education of children.

According to an official source, there are 930 primary schools in the district of which 689 are government and the rest 241 are non-government enrolling 3,06,793 pupils.

About 66 posts of teachers have been lying vacant in the district for a long time.

The number of school going children in the district is 3,73,604 of whom 3,06,793 study in 689 government and 240 non-government primary schools. About 66,881 children are not going to schools due to the economic hardship of their guardians and other reasons.

The number of dropout is very common in primary schools due to economic crisis.

The primary schools damaged during cyclones, flood and other natural calamities during the last few years have not yet been repaired. In some schools students attend their classes standing due to shortage of accommodation and furniture.

The government introduced Food for Education Programme to encourage the poor people to send their children to schools. But due to shortage of teachers, furniture and necessary appliances of many schools cannot accommodate additional students.

Nilphamari

Our Nilphamari Correspondent reports: The Dimla Ramdanga Government Primary School has been facing manifold problems hampering the education of the students. There were six teachers in the school for about 500 students.

The tin shed of the school building has become unfit and it has developed cracks in the walls of the building and doors and windows are

in a pitiable condition. Rain water enters the rooms of the school even after a slight rainfall.

The school is facing shortage of furniture and accommodation. The classes are held under a tree because school building may collapse at any time.

There are no tubewells for drinking pure water and latrine and playground in the school.

The guardians alleged that teachers negotiating with one another remain absent though their attendance is shown regularly in the register. Late arrival of teachers is another problem and routine is not maintained properly.

Teachers on strike

The teachers of Nilphamari Rabiya Balika Biddaniketan have gone on strike 15 days ago hampering education of 700 students.

The head teacher Mr. Jahiruddin Ahmed reached the age of 60 years on July 31 last and the authority retired him from the service.

Eleven teachers of the school proposed the name of senior teacher Sayeda Begum to the Deputy Commissioner who in the mean time handed over the charge to another senior teacher Shamsun Nahar. As a result, all teachers have gone on strike 15 days ago.