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## Teacher-shortage hampers primary education in Jessore

From Our Correspondent

JESSORE: Primary Education in Keshabpur upazila of Jessore hit hard for shortage of teachers, absence of furniture including chair, benches and other accessories and above all, lack of accommodation.

It was gathered that atleast 23 primary schools in the upazila were running shortage of teaching staff. There is a vacancy of atleast 40 teachers in these schools including the post of 13 Head-Masters. These vacancies were in the primary schools at Satharia, Begumpur, Chingra, Jhikra, Mazidpur, Kabilpur, Madhyakul, Gobindapur, Shujapur, Kamalapur, Ghourighora, Valukghar, Komorpole, Barandali, Marzanagar, Chadra, Bashbaria, Meherpur Barurkati, Shikarpur, Bidyanandakati, Doremutia and Mulgram. A number of these schools are running without 2/3 teachers for the last 6 yrs.

It was gathered that the respective upazila Teacher's Appointment Committees appointed 11 such primary teachers in these schools and after 11 months service, the appointments of those teachers were declared illegal. The retrenched teachers sought legal action against the decision and pending courts final verdict, all sorts of appointments were suspended causing untold sufferings to thousands of primary

school-going children.

Besides, a good number of primary schools in the district are running short of requisite number of benches and other equipments. As a result, over crowded class rooms hardly yielded positive results in academic atmosphere. Shortage of accommodation is also acute in these schools. The Facilities Department recently constructed few school buildings under Rural and Urban Primary Education Programme but the numbers are so small that hardly 20 per cent of primary school going-children have been covered by the programme. Condition of remaining school building were not only dilapidated, but unhygienic and smarting under various problems.