

27 SEP 1992

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Ward, district level committees formed 84.18 pc children brought under CPE plan in 68 thanas

The Compulsory Primary Education (CPE) programme of the government is showing success with 84.18 per cent children covered so far under the programme in 68 thanas where it has been launched in January this year. Some 881,344 children of the age group six plus out of a total of 1034,721 have been admitted to 7,392 government and 2,148 non-government primary schools under the programme, official sources told BSS on Saturday.

The CPE programme began in January this year in 68 thanas covering all the districts with an objective of achieving "education for all by the year 2000". The remaining thanas will be brought under TB programme within two to

three years, the sources said. For successful implementation of the CPE programme ward, thana and district level compulsory primary education committees have been formed in the respective areas.

The ward level committee are monitoring the admission and presence of the students in the class rooms. The committee can fine a guardian upto taka 200, if he or she fails to respond to warning for the third time.

The thana level committee are coordinating the CPE programme in the concerned thanas and extending necessary cooperation to the ward committees. Local Member of the Jatiya Sangsad is the advisor of the thana CPE committee.

The District committees are providing assistance and counsel to the thana and ward committees. The ministers, state ministers, deputy ministers and public representatives of the areas are the advisors of the district CPE committee.

In Dhaka division, 296,448 children out of 360,343 of the age group six plus have been admitted to 1,785 government and 475 non-government primary schools of 18 thanas under the CPE programme. The enrolment rate is 82.27 per cent in the division. The covered thanas are Savar and Dohar under Dhaka district and sadars of the rest of the districts.

A total of 190,250 children

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Under CPE plan

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out of 219,529 have been admitted to 1,965 government and 394 non-government primary schools of 16 thanas under Chittagong division with the enrolment rate being 86.67 per cent. The thanas are Patia under Chittagong district, Chhaganlaiya under Feni district and sadars of the remaining districts.

In Rajshahi division, 200,830 children out of 219,529 have been admitted to 1,881 government and 566 non-government primary schools of 17 thanas. The enrolment rate is 83.34 per cent. The thanas where the CPE programme is being launched are Godagari and Putia under Rajshahi district and sadars of the rest of the districts.

Out of 213,877 children of 17 thanas of Khulna division, 193,786 have been admitted to 1,761 government and 713 non-government primary schools with the enrolment rate being 90.20 per cent. The covered thanas of the division are Phultala and Paikgachha under Khulna district and sadars of the remaining districts.

The highest 99.2 per cent enrolments was made in Phultala thana of Khulna district while the lowest admission was in Jhenidah sadar thana with 66 per cent.

Director General of the CPE cell told BSS that the cell was supervising and monitoring the programme country-wide. He expressed satisfaction at the present enrolment rate, saying the rate of drop-outs must be checked for proper implementation of the CPE.

The CPE Director General suggested that for optimum success of the programme, social mobilisation and mass awareness drive should be further strengthened.

If enthusiasm was generated among the mass people about the literacy drive, the target of eradicating illiteracy by the turn of the century would be fulfilled within the existing educational set up, he pointed out.

The primary education has been made compulsory in the 68 thanas from January 1 this year under the Primary Education (Compulsory) Act-1990.

Under the Act, the guardians of the children of the age six plus are bound to enrol their wards in any primary level educational institutions unless there were reasonable grounds. Regular presence of the students in the schools must be ensured till completion of the five-year long primary education. No student can be engaged in any activity that will hamper his or her normal schooling, the law says.