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## Accommodation shortage hampering primary education

From Our Correspondent

BARCUNA, Dec 2: Primary education in five thanas of Barguna district have been facing manifold problems for a long time.

According to Barguna district Primary Education office there are at present 388 government primary schools in the district.

Most of the students of government primary schools in rural areas have to attend their classes amid great difficulties due to shortage of accommodation, inadequate water supply, absence of proper toilet system and lack of furniture. Students of a good number of schools sit on mats due to non-availability of benches. Besides with the increase of enrollment of the students in some schools accommodation problem is multiplying.

Shortage of teachers is another problem which hampered the normal education of the students. As many as 75 posts of primary school teachers have been lying vacant in five thanas of the district.

Moreover, guardians complained that a good number of teachers, specially in rural areas, always remain absent and some attend the schools in late hours though their attendance in the register is being showed normal.

The quota of teachers in the government primary schools in the district is not maintained properly. Some school with a large number of students have

been facing shortage of teachers while many schools having a requisite number of students have excess teachers informal sources said.

Education of students on religious subject is greatly hampered due to absence of religious teachers in different government primary schools of the district.

According to sources there are only Hindu teachers in some schools, Muslim students of those schools are being deprived of religious education. On the other hand, many schools have only Muslim teachers and consequently the Hindu students of these schools are deprived of religious education. This anomaly was created due to non-compliance of transfer orders to teachers to different primary schools.

According to a report 75 per cent of government primary schools do not have any play ground. So, the students of those schools have been deprived of sports facilities.

A total of about 50 primary schools in the district were damaged during floods during the last few years, but these are not yet repaired. As a result students of many of these institutions attend their classes under the open sky.

There is a total of 150 registered and un-registered non-government primary schools in five thanas of the district. Of the total 50 per cent is registered non-government primary schools. Students in these institutions have been suffering

greatly due to absence of requisite number of benches, chairs, blackboards and other necessary educational appliances.

Guardian complained that these schools have not yet been nationalised though they are functioning for long 10 years.

A large number of students have been studying in these schools. The teachers of these schools are not getting their salaries regularly due to which many of them are thinking to quit the job, it is learnt. Remaining 50 per cent unregistered non-government primary schools of the district have been facing acute financial crisis. These schools are running for a long time without any government assistance. The schools have now plunged into uncertainty due to absence of government affiliation.

These schools were founded by the local interested person and social reformers and are completely running on public donation and tuition fees. These unregistered schools situated in remote areas of different thanas have adequate number of students on the roll.

It is feared that if government fails to give recognition to these schools immediately, most of those will face a natural death. On the otherhand being disappointed the teachers of these schools are on the way of leaving the schools for better prospect. As a result, it is expected, hundred of children of remotest areas will be deprived from primary education in the near future.