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UPE plan receives setback in Netrakona

From Our Correspondent

NETRAKONA, JULY 13: The universal Primary Education Programme (UPEP) has been facing serious setback in Netrakona district.

There are 664 government and 164 non-government primary schools in ten police stations of the district. The number of primary school going children is 150316.

Dilapidated condition of most of the schools buildings, inadequate furniture and shortage of teachers are the main cause of hampering the overall Universal Primary Education Programme in the district.

Besides, abnormally high prices of paper and necessary educational appliances financial crisis and other social factors are also hindering the primary education.

Most of the primary schools damaged during devastating floods, storms and cyclones over the past few years have not yet been repaired. The education of the children are being affected seriously. The education of children is being hampered due to shortage of benches, accommodation and other appliances. A large number of school going students have left schools for ever.

Cracks have developed on roofs of many school buildings in different police stations of the district in the absence of proper maintenance.

The situation worsens during the rainy season. In many places classes are being held under the open sky. As a

result, the students as well as the teachers are the worst sufferers.

Most of the schools in the district lack water supply facilities. Students are compelled to drink impure water from nearly rivers, canals, ponds and pools finding no other alternative and develop skin and intestinal diseases.

Shortage of teachers is acute in many schools especially schools of rural areas. As many as 50 posts of primary schools' teachers have been lying vacant.

The teachers in general, except a microscopic quantity of them do not attend their classes regularly as they are found busy with their domestic affairs.