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## 61 pc school-age children of Mymensingh enrolled

Our Correspondent

MYMENSINGH: About 61 per cent of the school age children of Mymensingh district are attending primary schools. Some 5,33,451 children — of whom 2,91,776 are boys and 241,875 girls — were supposed to attend school. The percentage of those attending school is 62 for boys and 60 for girls.

There are 1282 government primary schools, 181 non-government registered primary schools and 87 unregistered primary schools in the district.

In the government primary schools 324,886 students have been enrolled. The number of teachers in the government schools are 4813 of whom 676 are female.

According to an official source, some 300 schools are in dilapidated conditions. There are schools without school-houses of their own, there are schools without fencing, benches, blackboards and chairs.

Almost all schools lack proper teaching materials. Purohit Para Government Primary school in Mymensingh town is housed in an old abandoned building having not a single bench for the students to sit on. The conditions of village primary schools are precarious. Of course there are some double-storied primary schools in the three municipal towns and some well-constructed schools in upazilas.

Some 170 posts of Head teachers and 147 posts of assistant teachers in the district are lying vacant for a long time. The post of District Primary Education Officer is lying vacant for over six months and assistant district primary education officer Mr Anwarul Islam is in-charge of DPEO. The post of Primary Education officer is vacant for a long time and seven posts of assistant thana education officers out of 71 posts are also vacant.

There is wide disproportion in number of teachers in different primary schools varying from ten to one.

The conditions of non-government primary schools is not a happy one. These schools should be nationalised soon.

World vision has been supplying school dress to the students of five primary schools of the town since 1988.

It may be mentioned that National Academy for Primary Education (NAPE) is situated in Mymensingh Town which is known as a town of educational institutions having Agricultural University, Medical College,

two training colleges, Polytechnic Institute, Technical Training Centre, two government colleges, five non-government colleges, commercial college, Homeopathic College, Primary Teachers' Training Institute, Jamia Islamia Madrasah and 25 high schools.