

৩০৬

০৩২

## Number of pry students drops by one pc

By A Staff Reporter

The number of primary school students in the country has dropped by one per cent this year (1981) compared to that of 1974, according to Mr. Abdul Baten, Minister of State for Education.

Replying to a question by Mr. Abdul Jabbar of Awami League (Hasina) at the Jatiya Sangsad on Saturday Mr. Baten said that drop in the number of students was mainly due to the absence of job-oriented education, family problems and drop-outs.

According to the estimate given by the Minister, the number of primary students was the highest in 1975 (94,83,090) while the number this year is (82,36,526).

The total Government expenditure in the primary education sector which was Taka 39.07 crore stood at Taka 93 crore

Contd. on page 12 col. 7

## Pry students

Contd. From Page 1

36 lakh and 93 thousand in 1980-81.

Replying to another question by Mr. Almas Hossain of Muslim League Mr. Abdul Baten said that two crore 57 lakh and 25 thousand books were supplied to the students against their demand of three crore and 25 lakh books. He said that another 25 lakh books were supplied to the students through Postal Department.

For universal primary education programme 3.25 crore lakh books were distributed free of cost he said.

Replying to another question by Mr. Md. Abdul Bari Sardar of BNP the Minister said that a total of 500 primary schools had been nationalised during last six years beginning from 1975.