

Students sit for exams on veranda

A Gaibandha school locked for a week over land dispute

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Gaibandha

Students of a primary school in Gaibandha took their first terminal examination on the veranda of the educational institution yesterday on being locked out by the alleged land-owner.

Talking to The Daily Star, Enamul Huq admitted to have kept Palanpara Government Primary School in Sadullapur upazila locked since May 2.

He claimed that he had verbally asked the school authorities to move based on a recent Supreme Court verdict affirming his ownership of the land.

Local sources say one Profulla Chandra Shill allegedly donated the land in 1990 for the school to be established but the verdict stated that nine bighas of land, including the school premises,

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Children sit for an exam on the veranda of Palanpara Government Primary School in Gaibandha's Sadullapur yesterday. A local, who claimed that the school was built on his land, had padlocked the school on May 2.

Students

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belonged to Enamul and some others.

Headmaster Majeda Begum accused Enamul and his men of chopping down some trees on the school premises and issuing threats so that teachers and students refrained from coming to the school.

Over 50 of the school's 182 students did not appear yesterday, she said, adding that she had informed authorities concerned right after being locked out.

Sadullapur Upazila Education Officer Abul Hossain said they were taking steps so that the school could be opened soon.