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87 primary schools in Satkhira in bad shape

From Our Correspondent

SATKHIRA, Feb. 24.—The condition of 87 govt. primary schools in Satkhira is miserable. As a result about 18,000 students of these schools are suffering and their education is being hampered.

According to the district education office source classes of 4 government primary schools in Sadar Upazila are being held under the open sky. On the other hand, 12 schools in Tala Upazila 10 schools in Kalaroa Upazila, 5 schools in Kaligonj Upazila, 4 schools in Shayamnagar Upazila and 4 schools in Assasuni upazila, are also facing the same difficulties.

The teaching staff is not sufficient in these schools. About 250 posts of teachers have been

lying vacant in 87 primary schools for the last six years, it is reliably learnt.

Applications for appointment of teachers in the primary schools were received in 1980. But the department concerned did not appoint teachers in these vacant posts. There is no sufficient number of furniture. Chair, bench, blackboard, almirah, table etc. are not adequate in majority of these schools. Moreover, there is no roof of the many of the 'Kutcha' school houses.

The Local educationists have been trying to obtain funds for reconstructing these schools for over a decade.

There are 827 government primary schools and 198 private primary schools in the district. There are 21 government primary and 3 private primary schools in the Satkhira pourashava area. There are 2,900 teachers in 827 primary schools.

According to the last census, there are 16 lakh people in the district. On the other hand, there are 6,16,000 boys and girls of the age group of one and fourteen which is 4 per cent of the total population of the district. There are 4,20,000 boys and girls of age group of 5 years and 14 years which is 30 per cent of the total population. More than 1,70,000 students are studying in these 82 primary schools of the district. On the other hand 2,25,000 boys and girls between the age of 5 years and 14 years are totally out of touch with books. On the other hand 10,000 teachers and 250 primary schools are badly needed for primary education in the district.