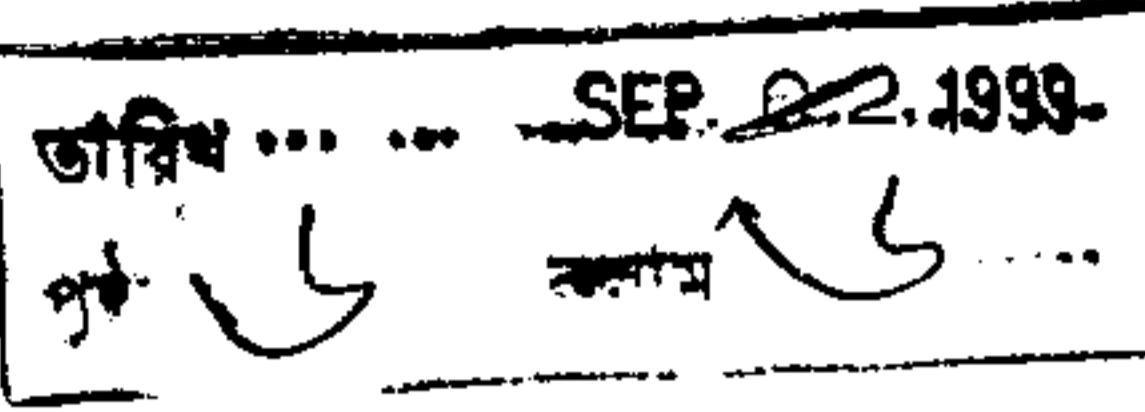


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191 non-govt. schools lack facilities in Panchagarh

## Shortage of qualified teachers hits standard of education

From Our Correspondent

PANCHAGARH, Sept 1:-The secondary education is being hampered in the district due to inadequate facilities including equipment's, shortage of teachers and lack of proper maintenance of schools.

There are 191 non-government Secondary Schools in Panchagarh including Sadar 51, Boda 49, Debiganj 33, Tetulia 22 and Atowari 36. Many schools are facing shortage of teachers.

Most of the schools were housed in tin-sheds. During the heavy rainfall water enters the school houses hampering education of students. Some old science laboratories have no benches, tables, chairs and almiras.

The qualified persons do not take up teaching in the non-government secondary schools for want of facilities like gratuity, house rent, and bonus like government schools.

The school authorities cannot pay 20 per cent salary to teachers for want of funds. The government ban to increase tuition fees of the students affects the sources of incomes. The less qualified teachers are appointed in the non-government schools at poor salary.

English language teachers and

good arithmetic teachers are not available in the non-government high schools. The SSC examinees adopt unfairmeans in the examination halls due to the deterioration of teaching.

The private coaching has been commercialised in the district. The teachers who are engaged in private coaching can not give proper attention to their students in the classes.

The school authorities do not prepare question papers of their respective, institutions. Erroneous question papers are bought from various commercial question sellers at cheap rate, though the examination fees are collected from the students at high rate, the guardian alleged.

Classes are not held during the 4 to 5 months of the academic year on the pretext of non-availability of the government approved books hampering the education of students and schools remained closed for about 20 days in almost all the schools of the district where the SSC Examinations, are held.

In addition to these, schools also remained closed as Ramadan vacation. For this first terminal examination is held without completing the syllabus.

The Headmasters do not visit classes regularly and the teachers do not perform their duties in the classes properly.

The teachers do not follow modern methods of teaching and they impart lessons in the classes without any plan. Home task is not given to the students.

A few schools have libraries but these are not functioning well. Library fees are collected as usual from students but books are not distributed among the students.

The faulty policy for recruiting teachers and taking admission tests for the students in non-government schools and colleges hampers the standard of education.

The governing committees of these institutions exercise the supreme power in selecting the candidates. It is alleged that the selection board is often put under pressure by the different corners, particularly the political leaders and untrained and non-qualified candidates are appointed who cannot impart proper education to the students.

Most of the private institutions of the district have been set up by some well-to-do people to achieve personal gain and commercial purposes.

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