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Schools in a pitiable state in Comilla

Our Correspondent

COMILLA : Almost all the non-government secondary and junior high schools in 12 upazilas of Comilla district are facing serious financial problem. As a result the standard of education in these schools are getting deteriorated.

Most of the nongovernment schools in the district lack basic requirements including furniture, accommodation and supply of safe drinking water.

According to a report 50 per cent of these schools do not have proper accommodation and housing facilities. About 90 per cent of the schools have no science buildings and science equipment. About 50 per cent of the school do not have su-

table playground.

At present there are about 290 non-government secondary and junior high schools in the district. 90 per cent of the students study in these schools.

Shortage of fund is a common drawback in most of the privately managed schools resulting in irregular payment of salary of the teachers and other staff. Some of the schools have no source of income as the guardians of the students can not pay tuition fees.

Floods of the year, 1987 and 1988 also damaged a large number of private schools of the district. Most of the schools funded with community support.

The physical condition of

these schools is very poor. 50 per cent of these schools are housed in kutchha structures, 25 per cent in semi pucca and the rest are housed at buildings. A survey conducted by the facility department of comilla zone found that most of the old school buildings are now in a dilapidated condition. Some of these buildings may collapse any time.

Mr. Md. Ali Akbar, Head Master of Comilla High School said that most of the privately-managed school-teachers did not get their monthly salary from the school regularly.