

36

Teacher shortage, ill management in schools, poverty hit CPEP

From Our Correspondent

BARISAL, May 30:—Primary education is being hampered in Barisal Division due to shortage of teachers and other appliances. There are 4 lakh of school going children in the division.

It is learnt that 443 posts of primary teachers have been lying vacant for a long time in six districts of Barisal Division. According to an official source out of the vacant posts, 209 posts are of head masters and 234 posts of assistant teachers.

The district-wise break-up of vacant posts of teachers is as follows: 51 posts of head masters and 130 posts of assistant teachers are vacant in Barisal, 31 posts of head masters and 27 posts of assistant teachers in Jhalakati, 36 posts of head masters and 15 posts of assistant teachers in Pirojpur, in Barguna 24 posts of head masters and 13 posts of assistant teachers, in Patuakhali 36 posts of head masters and 30 posts of assistant teachers and in Bhola, 31 posts of head master and 19 posts of assistant teachers.

Our Tangail Correspondent reports: The Kakua Primary School

under Tangail sadar thana is beset with problems due to lack of requisite number of teachers and accommodation.

Situation on the bank of River Jamuna, the 65-feet long govt primary school has a total roll strength of 600 students having four teachers. The number of students had doubled during the last two years after the introduction of Govt Programme of Food for Education. But due to acute shortage of teachers, education is being hampered and a large number of children is not getting accommodation.

As per govt. rule, the teacher-student ratio for primary education is 1:50. on the basis of this principle, Kakua Govt Primary School requires 12 teachers, whereas it is running only with four teachers which is only one-third of the requirement.

Narsingdi

Our Narsingdi Correspondent adds: The Secondary Education is being hampered due to inadequate educational equipment, shortage of teachers and lack of proper maintain-

nance in six thanas of the district.

There are 250 educational institutions including 169 non. govt Secondary Schools and 81 Madrasahs in the district. The thana-wise institutions are as follow Narsingdi sadar 36, Raipura 38, Shibpur 46, Monohordi 67, Belaboo 26, and Palash 37.

There are two govt high schools out of 250 non-govt. schools and Madrasahs. The maximum number of schools is in critical condition due to shortage of teachers, lack of repair and manifold problems. The maximum number of schools and madrasahs of the district is made of that shed houses and tin-sheds and during the heavy rainfall or storm cause sufferings to the learners and teachers. The condition of some old science laboratories is miserable and some schools have no benches, tables, chairs, and almirahs.

There are about 62,500 students in all schools and Madrasa. The number of teachers is 2750 and the number of teachers is inadequate to teach the students properly.

Due to insufficient govt yearly financial grant the problems of the school could not be solved. Most of the schools have no gymnastics playgrounds, and sport materials.

Due to financial crisis in the rural areas, the number of students is decreasing day by day. The authorities urged to take necessary steps to solve the problem and mitigate the suffering of the students.

Our Dinajpur Correspondent states: The Secondary and Madrasah education in Dinajpur district has been facing a set-back. The thana wise break-up of the boys high schools is as follows sadar thana 42, Birganj thana 18, Kaharol thana, 21 Khansama thana 31, Birol 19, Satabganj 47, Chirerbandar thana 27, Parbatipur thana 12, Phulbari thana 29, Birumpur 24, Hakimpur 11, Nawbganj 7 and Gharaghat thana 9. These schools are beset with manifold problems hampering the education of about three lakh students.

The salary of teachers is poor. Besides many schools of the district are unable to pay 30 per cent salary of the teachers due to fund constraints.

There is a government ban on enhancement of fee of the students but the institutions have no other source of income.

Teachers without proper qualifications have been engaged in non-government high schools while there are no English language teachers in non-government high schools and madrasahs.

Natore

UNB reports from Natore: Due to lack of consciousness of the guardians and their poverty and lack of proper management, indifference and negligence of primary school teachers, about 8 lakh children of the 16 northern districts are being deprived of education.

According to a survey report of the concerned department in 1994, the number of school going children in age group of 6 to 10 years was 56,11,200, but the number of students who were admitted to the schools was 48,64,400. The rest 7,46,800 have been deprived of education.

In Natore the number of students school-age children was 2,76,900 whereas the number of admitted was only 2,36,100 and the rest 40,800 could not be brought under the network during the same year.

In Rajshahi 3,72,800 out of total 4,43,400 children have been admitted and rest 98,000 children could not be admitted. In Sirajganj, only 4,82,600 children out of 5,46,900 were admitted and rest 64,600 could not be enrolled. In Bogra 4,35,000 out of 5,22,000 have been admitted and the rest 87,000 could not be brought under education network.

In Naogaon, only 3,67,300 children out of 4,13,000 were admitted and the rest 45,000 could not be admitted. In Joypurhat, only 1,24,400 out of 1,31,000 children were admitted but rest 6,600 remained out of schools.

In Rangpur 71,555 got admitted and 57,200 children could not be admitted. In Nilphamari, 2,54,200 children out of 2,89,900 suitable for admission were admitted.

In Gaibandha, 3,67,500 out of a total of 4,37,500 children were sent for schooling and the rest 67,900 were deprived of education.

In Lalmonirhat only 1,78,500 out of a total 2,54,000 children have been sent to schools depriving the rest 25,500. In Dinajpur 4,15,200 children out of 4,62,800 were sent to schools leaving behind 47,600.

In Thakurgaon, out of a total of 2,24,700 children only 1,97,700 were sent to schools. In Panchagarh, out of 1,59,700 children only 1,43,700 were admitted. In Kurigram, out of 3,72,000 children 2,78,000 were enrolled.

Primary education is the very basis of the total education system. Primary and Mass Education Department was established in 1992 under the auspices of the Prime Minister.

The government initiatives to promote compulsory education as well as the bid to raise the rate of literacy by implementing the CPEP may remain a far cry in the backdrop of such a situation where a great number of children remain out of the education network, apprehended the local elite.

It is alleged that most of the primary schools in the remote areas of the region are in precarious condition. These schools are ill-managed and the teachers do not get the salary regularly. For lack of incentives, they are not attentive in teaching the kids. All these contributed to the lower rate of literacy in the country and the standard of education.