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Teacher shortage, accommodation problem hamper CPEP

From Our Correspondent

MAJDEE Court (Noakhali), July 20:—Due to lack of furniture, shortage of teachers, other necessary inputs and deplorable condition of the schools, the Compulsory Primary Education Programme in Dhaganbhuya thana of Feni district is being hampered.

There are 81 government primary schools in 8 unions of the thana, with 331 teachers and 30,816 students. There is a shortage of teachers in many schools and excess number of teachers in a few schools.

According to the source there are 38 teachers for 3027 students in union no. 1, 37 teachers for 11 schools UP-II, 39 teacher for 3759 students of 11 schools in UP No.3, 38 teachers for 2921 students for 8 schools in UP No. 4, 38 teachers for 3758 students in 8 schools in UP No.5, 30 teachers for 4224 students 11 schools in UP No.6, 30 teachers for 3,500 students in UP No.7 and 60 teachers for 5461 students in 13 schools in UP No.8.

There are maximum number of teachers in the areas where there is better communication.

Five teachers are posted for 219 students in Slampur, 5 teachers for 243 students in Chandrip and 6 teachers for 378 in Ramnagar.

It is alleged that most of the teachers are not interested to go to the rural areas.

The students are also facing accommodation problem. The condition of the schools is deplorable.

Chuadanga

Our Chuadanga Correspondent writes:—Both the Govt. and non-Govt primary schools in Chuadanga district have been facing manifold problems.

The existence of many of the non-Govt. primary schools has been threatened for want of economic support. These institutions are mainly run with public donations and

financial help of the philanthropists. There are 257 Govt. and 75 non-Govt. primary schools in the district. The Govt. primary schools have a total roll strength of 80,719 students, while 22,221 pupils read in non-govt. primary schools.

The damaged schools have not been repaired, renovated or constructed.

The pupils of non-Govt. primary schools sit in the floor for want of benches. Many of the schools lack tube-wells for drinking water.

The teachers of both rural and urban areas of the district have been performing their tedious job of imparting lessons to tiny-tots in the sultry summer weather. The students and teachers become restless and found sweating due to excessive heat. There is no arrangement by electricity in the schools.

Many of the school building have not been renovated since establishment. The classes are held in these dilapidated buildings braving rains and storms at the risk of life. The Govt. primary schools lack adequate teachers.

Recently a cyclonic storm accompanied with heavy downpour lashed some parts of Alukdia village, 4 kilometer off town.

The tin-shed of the Govt. Primary School was blown away. The storm also damaged kutchha houses, betel leaf yards and banana gardens and trees were uprooted in the area.

Kurigram

Our Kurigram Correspondent adds: The number of drop-out from the primary schools in remote areas of Kurigram district is increasing day by day.

Sources said that large number of children aged between eight and 12 years, in remote villages in nine thanas of the district was engaged in petty jobs instead of going to school.

The poverty stricken peasants, en-

gaged their children in some income generating jobs like day labourers cattle-grazing and rickshawpulling. As a result, the tender-aged children are engaged themselves in different work rendering physical labour for poor remuneration.

The majority of farmers, overburdened with a large family consisting of six to ten children have to engage their children in some kind of work from childhood.