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## Pry edn programme facing setback in Barguna

From Our Correspondent

BARGUNA, May 18: Compulsory Primary Education Programme is facing setback due to lack of information about available facilities and incumbent children in the district.

The District Administration disclosed that though the survey had not yet been completed, they expected to collect relevant information shortly.

Related officials and agencies are working hard to start the programme quickly, but it is not known how quickly they could do it officially the programme was to begin from January 1.

According to informed sources, about 90 per cent of children between the age group of six and ten are going to schools. But this percentage is not accepted as reliable.

Children of the underprivileged classes in slum areas are not provided with primary education, it is alleged. The number of slum area children is usually on the higher side as the parents are not practising any family planning programme. Their children are totally deprived of education since they are to work to help parents.

Primary education in the district was having manifold problems for a long time. Local officials said there are 288 government and 75 non-government primary schools in the district. They are running under severe strain.

Problem of shortage apart teachers having passed from

Madrasas are not capable of teaching English and other subjects, it is alleged.

It is further alleged that dependence on education department officials may largely hamper implementation of the programme, since they were found very irregular in discharging their duties.

When asked about the accommodation and teachers' problems, the district education officer informed that madrasas and unemployed youths of the respective areas will be used to implement the programme.