

Classes hampered for lack of permanent schoolhouse

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gaibandha

Classes at Bridge Road Government Primary School in Gaibandha municipality are badly disturbed as children of five classes have to take lessons in a single tin-shed house.

The school established by locals in 1962 on 62 decimals of land was nationalised just after the independence.

"The old schoolhouse was declared abandoned several years ago but the authorities concerned are yet to construct a permanent building. Now we cannot arrange accommodation for all the students," said Salma Khatun, headmaster of school.

NGO SKS Foundation in 2003 constructed a tin-shed house for the school but it is too inadequate for about 350 students of five classes.

"On several occasions, the school authority appealed to different departments for con-

struction of a new building, but to no effect. The government's primary education department officials said they forwarded a project proposal for construction of a new building to the higher authority, but no fund has been allocated yet," said Subodh Chandra Saha, president of school managing committee.

Every year engineering department of the upazila parishad included in its priority list the construction of the said school building and sent to higher authorities for approval, but the latter is yet to allocate fund for the purpose, said Mamunur Rashid, Gaibandha Sadar upazila nirbahi officer.

It seems mysterious why the project proposal is not approved yet, said AKM Amirul Islam, district primary education officer, Gaibandha.

Locals have urged the authorities concerned to take immediate step for the construction of a building for the school.