

Report
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Note books of low quality spoiling learners

Massive irregularities alleged against printers, publishers of school books

From Our Correspondent

NETRAKONA, Feb 19:—The sale and purchase of banned note books of inferior quality for junior classes is rampant in almost all the book sale shops and book libraries. It is not only in all the upazila headquarters but also in district town.

The tenderage learners by cramming these note books have been deprived of getting good and quality education.

Though, according to Publication Act-1980 all kinds of Printing and Publication of note books for junior classes is banned and penalty worth. The publishers and library owners of Netrakona district town in defiance with governments orders and prohibition are running there illegal business of note books of inferior quality unabated.

According to sources the publishers are getting the note books written by unskilled, unemployed students or copy from another old books words for words. Published them in the name of some teachers of schools or colleges, so that they can easily get the market.

They also attach attractive new labels on the old note books by removing their previous covers. Then giving various names as Jupitar, Diganta guide, Success guide, Galaxy guide, Winner guide

etc released them in the market and by belonging to the administration they are running brisk business not only in the Netrakona district but also in the whole country for long without any care.

The publishers are offering considerable amount of money to some greedy and dishonest teachers of different schools, madrasas and especially kindergartens get the note books prescribed while the students are forced to buy those at the cost double, and triple.

It is quite deceptive and capricious that every book bears Tk 150 to Tk 250 in its inner page while as per its pages its money value may not be more than Tk 20 to Tk 50. This way the note book traders by sucking poor students have been earning crores of black money by the very nose of the local administration.

Besides, allegations were brought against the secondary school teachers in Netrakona for adopting mala fide practice in selection of text books in the exchange of monetary gratification from some publishers organization. Some of the leaders of the association already got a pleasant trip different places in the name of picnic in exchange of gratification, it is alleged.

This year, the National Curriculum Text Book Board (NCTB) supplied text books like that Bangali, English, Mathematics, Agriculture, Social Science, Religion books to the students from Class VI to class IX are directly published by the NCTB.

But the help books like that of Bengali and English Grammar, English Rapid readers and Easy books, Geometry and Arabic are also published by private public publication organisations as authorised by the NCTB.

The teacher associations play a deceptive role in selecting those help books or supplementary books whatsoever.

In the beginning of the year, the publication agents start grouping and lobbying with the leaders of local secondary school teachers association and the highest subscribers win or get their books listed for selection.

The rate of subscriptions ranges between Tk 10 Tk 15 lakh in the upazilas. The students are compelled to buy the low quality newsprint books with attractive cover page. The price of these books are very high.