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Non-govt Pry school teachers not getting benefits

From Our Correspondent

SATKHIRA, Feb. 10:—Teachers of 31 non-government primary schools under Kaliganj thana in the district have been leading a sub-human life in absence of Government benefits for a long time. These 31 non-government primary schools were established by the teachers spending their personal cash in collaboration with some educationists with the hope that those schools and their services would be nationalised by the Government. Those ill-fated teachers got their primary schools registered through the local Thana Education Officers.

It is learnt that many teachers of the schools disposed their landed property to meet the educational expenses of the students in these schools. The teachers of 31 non-government primary schools appeared for several aptitude test according to the directives of the Government through thana and district education officer for having their jobs as well as the institutions nationalised, teachers sources said. They even open the bank accounts for having the Government benefits. Elite and distinguished personalities of the area urged the authorities concerned to look into the matter to pave the way of education of the children of remote areas of the thana.

Procurement drive may fall

The Government's countrywide Aman procurement drive is likely to fall due to low price of Aman paddy fixed by the Government.

Sources said, the Government have fixed a target to procure 10,000 quintal of Aman paddy and 12,000 quintal of Aman rice from the 10 districts of Khulna Division. Of them, 500 quintal of paddy and 600 quintal of rice will be procured from Khulna, 1000 quintal paddy and 1000 quintal rice from Satkhira, 100 quin-

tal paddy and 100 quintal rice from Bagerhat, 2500 quintal paddy and 3000 quintal rice from Jessore 300 quintal paddy and 400 quintal rice from Narail, 1000 quintal paddy and 12,000 quintal rice from Jhenidah, 3000 quintal paddy and 4000 quintal rice from Magura, 3000 quintal paddy and 3500 quintal rice from Kushtia, 800 quintal paddy and 1000 quintal rice from Chuadanga, 500 quintal paddy and 600 quintal rice from Meherpur districts.

As the price of rice in open market is higher than the procurement rate, the Government has decided to stop the procurement drive in seven districts of Khulna Division and purchase only rice in three districts of the division instead of paddy.

Food Department sources said they fixed a target to buy 6000 quintal of rice from Kushtia district, 1000 quintal of rice from Jessore district and 5000 quintal of rice from Chuadanga district. At the very beginning of the season, the market price of Aman paddy was Taka 800 per quintal. As a result, the Government has failed to procure the paddy from the market.

Agricultural Extension Department said a total of 9,79,788 hectares of land of the division were fixed as target for Aman cultivation. But the Aman cultivation in this division has been hampered seriously and the production could not be achieved due to shortage of seeds and fertilizers. The Agriculture Extension Department said majority districts of Khulna Division may be termed as a food deficit zone.