

Text book for baby class students

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The education authorities have decided to introduce a text book for baby class students in primary schools from 1986. The Dhaka office of United Nations Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) has agreed to supply the entire quantum of offset paper for the purpose.

A reliable source told this correspondent that introduction

of the baby class book was intended to cater the needs of babies for whom the existing Bengali book for Class I was difficult to digest.

The main purpose is to remove the hindrances faced by children of illiterate parents who fail to acquaint their wards with the alphabets before sending them to schools. The baby class book would be easier than the Bengali book for Class I, and would have a maximum number of colourful illustrations.

The source said, literate parents would also benefit because the book would help them to make their children learn the alphabets with much more ease and comfort. It would also help reduce dependence on kindergartens, the source said.

During the first year (1986) 10 lakh copies of the baby class book (more appropriately preparatory book) will be distributed throughout the country at a cost of around Taka 60 lakh. The name of the book is likely to be 'Amar Bai.'

The source said, distribution of the baby class book would reduce the demand for Class-I books which at present meet (though inadequately) the needs of baby class students.

Only one book will be served for each baby class student free of cost. Lessons on the alphabets, simple words and sentences, the numbers and simple arithmetic will be inserted in the book, the source added.