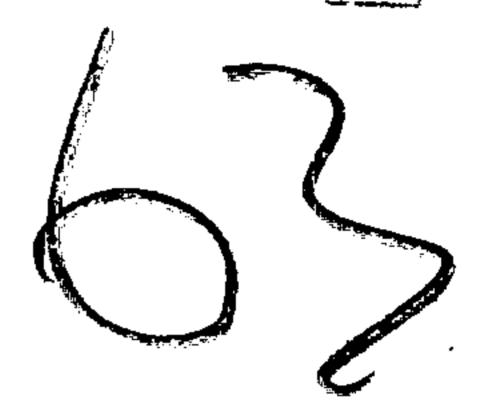
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First Santal pry school opens in Rajshahi

RAJSHAHI, Mar 20: The first Santal primary school of the country began today with a mission to save the language of the tribal community from extinction, reports UNB.

A total of 35 children, 17 of them girls, enrolled as the first students of the school at Barshapara village in Godagari thana of the district.

Jatiya Adivashi Parishad founded the school at the village, located some 20-km west of the divisional headquarters.

All the students were provided with text and exercise books, pencil and slates.

Rajshahi University formally inaugurated the school at a simple ceremony in the morning. Director of Grameen Trust Project Prof Syed M Hashemi, Prof Shahidul Islam, Prof Zulfiquar Matin, Left leader Fazle Hossain and Deputy Commissioner AKM Shamsuddin also spoke on the occasion.