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For an agri college

Agriculture as an applied science has been accepted widely throughout the modern world. Bangladesh being an agro-based country agriculture can play a vital role in shaping her economy in a desired manner. Needless to say that efficient application of modern scientific knowledge through agricultural graduates is of prime importance for increasing the output of country's agriculture.

In 1969 the late leader Moulana Abdul Hamid Khan Bhashani established the Allama Iqbal College at Mohipur situated a few furlongs to the east of Panchbibi railway station. Afterwards, in 1977, it was renamed Hazi Mohipur Mehsin College as desired by the late Moulana. In the honour of

Moulana Bhashani it was declared as government college by the then President of the Republic in April 1981. This came into being in April 1982. There are at present 26 teachers in 13 different departments including an agriculture department comprising 106 students at HSC level as supported by office record. It may be mentioned that this is not a common thing in any other rationalised colleges of the country. Crop cultivation is compulsory for the students of the department of agriculture here. So, each student has to work on an individual plot for practical purposes and the examination marks are awarded in accordance with cultural practices by the students.

Mr. Abdul Hamid (Principal), Government Azizul Haq College, Begra and Dr. Sadrul Amin (Vice-Principal), Patuakhali Agriculture College, the Principal (1972-75), and the

agriculture teachers (1973-76) respectively had tried heart and soul to realise the ideals of Bhashani. Their united efforts would reach up to the Ministry of Agriculture but no effective steps could be taken due to the transfer of Principal Mr. Abdul Hamid. The total college is spread over 60 acres of land of which some acres are used for cultivation purposes, 6 acres for infrastructural facilities including college campus and playground and the rest as horticulture farm and irrigation reservoirs. Besides the college has 7 ponds covering a total area of 41 acres. From agricultural point of view it is

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most appropriate for crop cultivation and other agricultural purposes such as research and experiment because of higher fertility status of soil (soil pH ranges from 5.2 to 6.6) and the presence of proper irrigational facilities. Since agricultural production largely depends on its prevailing climates soil and soil fertility, it is the demand of the hour to establish a fledged agriculture college here.

A delegation comprising students of Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU), Agriculture College, Dhaka and local students met Brig. Mahmudul Hassan, Martial Law Administrator Zone-B and

Abu Naser Khan Bhashani State Minister for Food on 26.6.84 last at Mohipur with a view to realise their demands in establishing the agriculture college there. Since there is no agriculture college in North Bengal they expressed unified thinking with Late Moulana Bhashani and took responsibility to inform it to the concerned authority. Meanwhile, 55 member convening committee has been formed on 4.7.84 in order to implement the noble thought proposed by Late Moulana Bhashani. DCMLA Air Vice-Marshal Sultan Mahmud and State Minister for Food Mr. Abu Naser Khan Bhashani visited the place at the end of 1984 and extended full support to establish agriculture college there due to environmental and situational reason. In favour of convening committee, a delegation including the present Upazila Chairman, Panchbibi

It is interesting to note that 23,000 applicants competed for 485 seats in different faculties of Bangladesh Agricultural University, Mymensingh (session 1983-84).

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met the then Agriculture Minister Capt. (Retd) Abdul Halim, Education Minister Prof. Shamsul Haq and State Minister for Food Mr. Abu Naser Khan Bhashani separately on 2.1.85 at Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka.

The horticulture farm and ornamental trees within the compound have added to the scenic beauty of the college campus. Overall communication system with other districts and the capital city from Panchbibi has substantially been developed due to the upgradation of thana into upazila.