

Muminunnessa college in grip of problems

Teacher shortage hampers education of students

From Our Correspondent

MYMENSINGH, Apr 4:—Muminunnessa Government Women's College is beset with manifold problems including shortage of teachers and other staff, inadequate accommodation and absence of class rooms hampering the education of the students.

One MR Khan, an eminent educationist and philanthropist of Netrakona founded Muminunnessa Women's College in the district town after his mother's name on July 1, 1959.

The college was nationalised on March 1, 1980 but the educational facilities and requisite number of teachers and other staff have not been provided to run the college smoothly even after 21 years of takeover by the government.

The college having humanities and science groups at Intermediate level; arts, social studies and Bachelor (pass) level and honours course in Mathematics, Political Science, Bengali, Economics, Social Welfare and English, lacks educational facilities.

There are 3000 students including 1200 in Intermediate classes, 400 in Bachelor (pass) classes and 1200 in honours class of the college.

For want of requisite number of teachers the standard of education has fallen in the college. Although the college authority before introduction of honours courses informed the Ministry of Education about the absence of requisite number of teachers and other staff no new posts have been created for the honours courses.

Out of the existing 51 posts of teachers, 10 are lying vacant for a long time. Of the vacant posts— one post of Associate Professor and one post of Lecturer in Bengali Department, one post of Associate Professor and one post of Assistant Professor in Economics Department, one post of Assistant Professor in Islamic Studies Department, one post of Demonstrator in Chemistry Department, one post of Demonstrator in Botany Department, one post of Assistant Professor in Geography Department and the only post of Physical Teacher in Physical Department are lying vacant.

According to the recommendation of Inam Commission the colleges, which conduct only Intermediate class need at least two teachers including an Assistant Professor and a Lecturer for each subject, the colleges which conduct bachelor (pass) course, need at least four teachers including an Associate Professor, an Assistant Professor and two Lecturers for

each subject, the colleges, which conduct honours courses, need at least seven teachers including a Professor, an Assistant Professor, two Assistant Professors and three Lecturers and the college, which conduct Master courses, need at least 12 teachers including a Professor, three Associate Professors, four Assistant Professors and four Lecturers.

Besides, a Demonstrator is necessary for each of the subjects which include laboratory or practical classes.

At present Bangla Department is being run with two teachers, English with four teachers, Political Science with four teachers, Economics with three teachers, Mathematics with three teachers and Social Welfare with four teachers as against seven teachers for each of the Department.

The Department of Islamic Studies is being run with only one teacher, Physics with two teachers, Chemistry with two teachers, Botany with two teachers, Zoology with two teachers, Mathematics with three teachers and Geography with three teachers as against four teachers for each of the Department. Although, the college has Computer Science no teacher is provided for the Department.

Irregular attendance

The irregular attendance or late attendance or negligence of duties by most of the teachers in the Departments of Political Science, Islamic History and Culture and Philosophy are depriving the students education.

Some of the teachers of the Departments attend the college coming from the capital city which is more than 125 kilometers off the place of posting.

The post of Physical Teacher has been lying vacant in the college for more than 10 years depriving the students physical education in athletics and sports activities which are necessary to build up the body and for recreation. For want of sports materials, the students are deprived of out-door and in-door sports facilities.

The hostel of the college can accommodate only 120 students. The majority of the students, who come from far flung areas suffer much.

The hostel is run under a private management. Most of the furniture of the hostel are supplied by the guardians. Mrs Nadira Sultana, the only foreign trained teacher of the college is the Superintendent of the hostel and she is also a Lecturer of Mathematics since 1989.

There are no medical or first aid facilities for the students of the hostel.

The posts of Head Assistant and Accountant have been lying vacant for more than 15 years hampering the official work of the college.

There are no night guards in the college. Dacoity was committed in the college for two times.

The college has a residential quarter for the principal but the Vice-Principal, other teaching and administrative staff are facing acute accommodation problem in the absence of residential quarter.

The common room is small and

many students are to wait outside the common room.

Science laboratory of the college lacks requisite apartments and chemical reagents.

The library has a good collection of books but the students can not avail the opportunity of reading the books for want of sitting arrangements.

Inadequate water supply and absence of proper sweeping of toilets created difficulties to the inmates. The construction work of water supply plant remains incomplete for about six months.

The canteen housed in a small room causing difficulties to the students. They take tiffin standing outside the canteen.

For want of an auditorium different functions of the college can not be held.

The college authority sold many old and valuable trees at a nominal price without inviting tenders. For want of transport facilities the students who come from far flung areas can not attend the class in time.

An unauthorised tempo stand in front of the college creates obstacle hampering the movement of the students.

There is no Commerce Department in the college, depriving the students of commerce education. The college authority having no required number of teachers is going to introduce Master course in Bangla, Economics and Mathematics.

The people urged the authorities concerned to take necessary steps for development of the college.