

## Project No. 31

### MIRPUR AGRICULTURAL WORKSHOP AND TRAINING SCHOOL (MAWTS)

#### **Principle:**

Having technical education and hands on training youths can ensure a decent livelihood and help develop skilled man power for nation building.

#### **Objective:**

Main objectives of the activities of MAWTS are:

- To produce skilled workforce by providing technical education and training; this includes:
  - ❑ Four-year Diploma-in-Engineering Course under Bangladesh Technical Education Board (BTEB).
  - ❑ Three-year Long Term Mechanic Course (LTMC).
  - ❑ One-year Instructor Training Course (ITC).
  - ❑ Job market oriented skill development training through 66 Modular courses.
  - ❑ Tailor made courses for other organization on demand.
- To produce innovative quality products and provide services for the national and international market.
- To promote research work for the development of current products as well as new products in collaboration with other organizations.

#### **Background:**

The MAWTS started its journey in 1973 with the technical and financial assistance of Caritas Switzerland. It passed through many phases of development activities. It is a unique combination of Production and Training to provide on-the-job training to the students. MAWTS has a strong social mission of offering sponsorships to poor rural youths for translating their dreams to become a technically qualified person and ensure a firm footing in the domestic and/or international job market.

#### **Staff Strength:**

Total-147 (Male-136,Female-11)

#### **Donor:**

Self Supporting.

**Expenditure:** Tk. 90,504,358

#### **Target and Achievements:**

Target and achievements of different sections of MAWTS are given below:

**Training and Education:**

Sl	Items/ Activities as on June'2008	Achievement	Performance in FY –2008-2009			Cumulative as on June 2009
			Target	Achievement	% of achievement	
1	LTMC (3 years)	1104	37	35	94.6	1139
2	ITC- ( one year instructor training course)	179	-	-	-	179
3	Diploma-in-Engineering (4 year)	-	109	97	89	97
4	Modular Training (4-14 weeks)	24056	3500	2737	78	26793
5	1-year Evening Course up to 1997	740	0	0	0	740
6	Tailor Made Course	1478	346	344	99	1822
	Total:	27557	3992	3213	80.48	30770

N.B: Rate of employment-100%

It is said that the best sold product of MAWTS is its training. Thanks to the efforts of all concerned, the reputation of MAWTS training has been applauded by both the direct and indirect beneficiaries. If there is a single factor attributed for the high standard, it is the academic discipline that has been maintained by MAWTS. It may be noted that majority of MAWTS students come from rural background and not necessarily they enroll in MAWTS with high enviable academic merits, but they turn out to be great achievers as can be substantiated from the above table of statistics.

**PRODUCTION: 2008-2009**

It performed relatively well in 2008-09. MAWTS Production Department was able to exceed its production target of Tk. 52,968,000. This was in spite of the fact that the entire country fell into the trap of Global Financial Crisis (GFC). Thanks to the thrust of securing a Tk. 22 million order of Taradev Pumps from UNICEF. MAWTS needs to survive the competitive market and remain steady in its production works. In the light of Participatory Strategic Plan (PSP), MAWTS finalized the procurement of eight second-hand machines from Germany. An investment of Tk. 10.2 million was made for Production Section alone. Through this order, MAWTS Production Work entered into the new generation through usage of CNC technology. Within the reporting period Production Section of MAWTS completed over 200 job orders for as many as 69 customers.

We hope that with the introduction of the machines, MAWTS will be able to expand its market by producing precision parts and articles. This was a huge impetus to the students, who would work with such machines, making them competitive to find suitable employment when they pass out.

**Ancillary Shop:**

Ancillary shop produced around 2000 pieces of products. Customers were from various Private, Government and NGOs. The most prominent jobs and customers (a) UNICEF for Taradev Pump. (b) Nestle Bangladesh for hygiene food machines/ components. (c) Wheat Threshers for Dealers (d) various schools and organizations for doors, windows, louvers and frames.

**FRP (Fiber Reinforced Plastic) Section:**

About 1200 units of furniture were produced. Prominent Jobs and Customers were (a) World Vision & YWCA for School furniture (b) Asia Pacific University/Australian Int. School/ Sylhet University etc for Tabloid Chair, (c) Glaxo Smith/ Popular Pharmaceutical for Chairs and Tables (d) FRP Sheet (e) FRP Pre cast mould etc.

**Machine Shop:**

Machine shop made around 17000 pieces of parts and components for various customers. The prominent items were (a) Taradev and No-6 deep-set pumps components, (b) Seed Grader (c) Vacutug (d) Rice Thresher parts (e) Spares and components for various industries.

**Research & Development:**

MAWTS R&D section has been relocated in a quiet and separate place. One MAWTS mechanical diploma engineer has been appointed as a CAD (Computer Aided Design) operator in the design section. The R&D section was busy developing and testing the new model Hand pump for DPHE/UNICEF. They have also developed a new model Rice Thresher for small scale rice producer.

**Conclusion:**

MAWTS has taken all possible measures to develop its infrastructure, especially the Hostel Building for the students, re-organize its scattered set ups of Training and Production, update its machineries, tools and equipment to cope with emerging new technologies and train human resources accordingly. A long-term attainable strategic plan and appropriate legal set up is essential for future sustainability of MAWTS. Recently MAWTS has been brought under the Board of Trustees. From now on it would be able to work with new inspiration to reach its goal.