

Intellectuals urged to make Revolution a success

Canal digging goes on in full swing

MYMENSINGH Dec. 18: President Ziaur Rahman said on Tuesday the present Revolution was inevitable and the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) was designed to provide leadership to it reports BSS.

He urged the honest and capable persons and intellectuals to join the party to make the Revolution successful.

The President added that the second phase of our Revolution would start soon to remove illiteracy from the country. "This cannot be done easily. So a change in revolutionary manner was necessary" he said.

Addressing the participants in canal digging in Mymensingh district including thousands of peasants teachers students poli-

tical workers members of Village Defence Party, ansars police youths and women, President Zia said the current programme of canal digging and excavation was undertaken to build up a country-wide irrigation system to double the country's food production.

Referring to the Revolution President Zia said that under the first phase of Revolution, we have taken up the programme of canal digging to produce not merely to be self-reliant but to export foodgrains abroad to earn foreign currencies. The additional earnings from food grains he said would be utilised for the development of the country.

He also called for participation by each and every people of the country in the second phase of Revolution.

He urged all to cultivate fish in the canals and to plant fruit trees on both side of the canals.

President Zia on his way from Kishoreganj to Mymensingh also addressed gatherings at Nandail and Iswarganj.

The President returned to Dacca tonight after a two-day visit to Mymensingh district.

Meanwhile work on all the four canal re-excitation projects in the four subdivisions of Mymensingh district under the country-wide voluntary programme is going on in full swing.

President Ziaur Rahman who visited all the projects today also joined the participants in

the re-excitation of canals. The projects are six mile long Uthalia canal digging projects in Kishoreganj, five-mile Bhalua Khal project in Sadar North, four-mile Kathal-Boilor Khal in Sadar South and four-mile long Tikalkhali Khal in Netrokona.

In total 89 miles of canals would be re-excavated under the four projects. When completed, seven thousand seven hundred and fifty acres of land around the canals would get round-five year irrigation facilities and produce additional food grains worth Taka one and half crore.

Feni

A Feni report adds: Re-excitation work of the Selonia canal connecting Muhuri in the east and Kalidas Pahalia rivers on the west began this morning under the voluntary mass participation scheme.

Mr. Rafiquzzaman Bhuiyan and Lt Col (Rtd) Zafar Imam Members of the Parliament Mr Salfuddin Ahmed Divisioner of Noakhali and Mr M.A. Ghani Subdivisional Officer of Feni were among five thousand people who have been participating in the earth work of the canal.

The earth cutting involves 86 lakh and 75 thousand cft. of work requiring one lakh 63 thousand and 320 man days of labour.

When completed the canal will benefit 1400 acres of land for producing IRRI and boro (Continued on page 12 col. 4)

Canal digging

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the additional production is estimated to be 42 thousand maunds of paddy annually. Water logging against aman production would also be eased.

Boalkhall

A report says from Boalkhall (Chittagong) The Deputy Prime Minister Mr. Jamaluddin Ah. med today called upon the people irrespective of party affiliation to participate in canal digging programme launched throughout the country to double food production. Inaugurating a two mile-long canal re-excitation scheme at West Gomdandai here this morning the Deputy Premier pointed out that the programme did not belong to any particular party but it is intended to benefit the eight crore people of Bangladesh.

The canal digging re-excitation scheme when completed would facilitate the irrigation of about two thousand acres of land yielding an additional 54 thousand maunds of paddy. The power pumps will be fielded here which will be supplied by the Government free of charge.

Hundreds of enthusiastic men and women from several villages spontaneously participated in the re-excitation work as soon as the Deputy Prime Minister inaugurated the scheme by cutting earth with a spade. Some women organisations came in group with large banners to participate in the pro-