



President Ziaur Rahman inaugurated the re-excavation of Basia Khal at Sylhet on Wednesday.—Photo: FID.

## Thousands taking part in canal digging

Thousands of people have been participating in the re-excavation and fresh digging of old and new canals under voluntary mass participation schemes in various parts of the country, according to reports reaching Dacca on Wednesday, reports BSS.

Peoples representatives, government and semi-government Employees, women, Police, Ansars, teachers and students are participating in the canal digging schemes.

Reports said miles of canals, old and new, are being dug to provide round-the-year irrigation facilities to agricultural lands to boost food production within shortest possible time.

### RANGPUR

In Rangpur, the four-mile-long re-excavation work of Akhra river began yesterday. More than 10 thousand enthusiastic people from all walks of life took part in canal digging work. The excavation of five mile-long canal from the mouth of Dharla at Sanna Sicha to Tagrair Hat in Kurigram subdivision of Rangpur started Monday. The Deputy Commissioner Rangpur, the SDO, Kurigram and local Member of Parliament took part in the canal digging work with 10 thousand people representing various walks of life. The canal when completed will provide irrigation facilities to several thousand acres of lands which will yield an additional four lakh maunds of foodgrains. On completion of the project about 40 thousand people of the area will be benefitted.