

Canals For Irrigation

Serious attention is being paid to the developments in the agricultural sector with a view to doubling food production as well as to bringing a radical change in the socio-economic conditions of the rural people. And measures being taken in this respect include application of appropriate technology, use of improved varieties of seeds, fertilizer and other inputs and provision of credit facilities for the small and landless farmers. Crop insurance facilities, hitherto restricted only to the group farmers of cooperative societies, will reportedly be extended to individual farmers from the current IRRI-boro season. In order to get better yield from the land adequate supply of water has also to be ensured. With that end in view the programme for canal digging has been initiated.

Canals are expected to improve local irrigation facilities. They will facilitate cultivation during

the off-seasons of the year. In addition to feeding the arable land even in the dry season, these will also serve as outlets for flood water during the rainy season. These will thus have a beneficial impact on the growth and development of rural sector in particular and the economy in general.

It is heartening that the people have fully understood the importance of canals in the context of our national economy and the countryside is pulsating with canal digging and re-excavation activities. If all these programmes are implemented, a bright future for our agriculture, which is the country's biggest industry, can be ensured. In order to translate this vision into reality agricultural experts and engineers have to evolve appropriate devices for optimum use of available water resources.