

Country-wide canal digging begins

From Our Correspondent

CHUADANGA, Nov 2: Digging of a new canal namely Jehala Dalka Beel Khal under Juranpur union of Damurhuda PS in Chuadanga subdivision was ceremonially inaugurated on Saturday forenoon by Mr Yaqub Ali Additional Deputy Commissioner (Rev) Kushtia. Mr Akhtar Hossain Mian, SDO Chuadanga was also present on the occasion.

About 2,000 people from all walks of life participated in canal digging work on the first day on voluntary mass participation basis. The 1.51 mile canal starts near Gopalpur primary school to great Dalka Beel which will be 52 feet to 68 feet in breadth and of earthwork will be done. 800 ft of earthwork will be done.

When completed the project will bring 300 acres of land under cultivation through irrigation. Five power pumps will be supplied for the purpose. Additional foodgrains of 30,000 maunds worth Taka 30 lakh would be produced annually. Fish worth Taka 10,000 would also be produced per annum.

A total of 13 canals would be excavated during the year 1980-81, it is officially learnt.

BRISAL

BSS adds from Barisal: Nine canals will be excavated in Barisal district during the second phase of the countrywide canal digging programme. The State Minister for Petroleum and Mineral Resources, Mr Sunil Gupta said here on Saturday.

He told a gathering at the launching of the three-mile long Asokathi-Mahilara Canal Re-excavation Project near Gournadi that the new canals, when excavated would bring a total of 110 lakh acres of land in the district under the irrigation network.

Mr Gupta said the success of the first phase of the canal digging programme had opened the eyes of the people to the fact that food production can be doubled through building up better irrigation network and hard work.

The State Minister for Education, Mr Abdul Baten, local MPs and FNP leaders were also present at the function.

The re-excavation of the Asokathi-Mahilara Canal will help produce additional 60,000 maunds of crops.

Official sources said about 1,140 more power pumps will be required to lift water from the canals to the fields.

MYMENSINGH

According to a report from Mymensingh four canals, one each in the four subdivisions of the district measuring nine miles in length was taken up

for excavation on Saturday under the Second phase of the countrywide canal digging programme.

When completed the canals will provide irrigation facilities to over 9,000 acres of land in the district for augmenting food production under the peaceful revolution launched by President Ziaur Rahman.

In Sadar (South) Subdivision, the excavation of Andarkuri canal under Gafargaon thana was inaugurated by the Deputy Commissioner of Mymensingh, Mr G.M. Mowla, amid great enthusiasm of the local people. Approximately 4,000 acres of land will be benefited with the completion of this three miles long canal.

The two-mile long Salisa Canal in Gouripur thana under Sadar (North) was inaugurated by the District Development Coordinator, Mr Nazmul Huda. The canal will serve as a perennial source of water for 200 acres of land along its bank.

The one mile long Duddha Canal in Ostogram thana of Kishoreganj subdivision will provide irrigation facilities to 4,000 acres of land while the three-mile long Daoghar Canal under Furba Dhala thana of Netrakona subdivision will provide water for 1,000 acres of land.

FARIDPUR

Another report from Faridpur says The 2nd place of canal digging campaign was inaugurated in the district on Saturday with the re-excavation of a canal near Khankhanapur in Goalunda subdivision. The Deputy Commissioner of Faridpur inaugurated the re-excavation.

According to an official source a total of 31 canal digging projects have been taken up in the five subdivisions of the district. Of these seven are in Faridpur Sadar, five in Goalunda, six in Shariatpur, seven in Gopalganj and six in Madaripur subdivisions. The re-excavation of these canals when completed for irrigation purpose an area of 23,310 acres of land would be benefited. About 237 power pumps would be installed. These would help bring an additional yield of 2,16,300 maunds of rice, 1,09,400 maunds of wheat and 17,130 maunds of other crops every year. About 28,1809 Persons will be benefited.

Reexcavation of other canals would start soon with the recession of water. Official sources added that a large number of people participated on the inaugural day in canal digging.