

The 127 miles of canal digging in Rajshahi Div planned

191

From Our Correspondent

DINAJPUR, Dec. 17: About 127 miles of canal will be re-excavated under 22 projects in five districts in the Rajshahi Division under the Voluntary Mass Participation Programme during the current season. The total earthwork will be 6 crore 80 lakh cubic feet.

[With the implementation of these projects, 83,800 acres of land will come under irrigation yielding additional crops of 60 lakh 20 thousand maunds and production of one lakh maunds of fish per year.

Work on the projects have already begun in full swing. So far 20 lakh cubic feet of earth have been dug. The districtwise projects are as follows:

Dinajpur: About 40 miles long canal will be re-excavated under five projects. Out of the five projects, three are in Sadar Sub-division and two in Thakurgaon subdivision. With the implementation of these projects, 27,600 acres of land will come under irrigation yielding 18 lakh 40 thousand maunds of crops per year.

Rajshahi: About 39-mile long canals will be dug under 8 projects. Fifteen-mile long Dudhai Canal in Godagari police station under Sadar subdivision, 4-mile long canal at Moktarpur Haldighat under Chaughat police station, 5-mile long Singrahat Canal in Natore subdivision, 2-mile long canal at Chartabari, 5-mile long canal in Ihabaniganj, 5-mile long canal Shih Nadi in Manda under Naogaon subdivision and 2-mile long Behula, Bilgan, Mahipur Canal in Chapainawabganj will be re-excavated.

Rangpur: About 15-mile long canals under 4 projects will be dug. Besides, about 4-mile long canal of Akia river in Mithapukur police station under Sadar subdivision, one mile long canal of Singmari Beel under Nilphamari subdivision, 5-mile long canal from Dharla river at Sanyasirchar under Kurigram subdivision and 5-mile long canal of Maya Ghaghat in Gaibandha subdivision will be re-excavated.

Bogra: About 6-mile long canals under 3 projects will be re-excavated. Besides, about three and a half miles long canal in Sarikandi and Gabtoli police stations, one mile long canal from Manasa river to Dhana-pama Khoyaghat, 2-mile long canal of Sukdaha in Gabtoli and 2-mile canal in Rangta-Murari-pur police stations under Jolpurhat subdivision will be dug.

Pabna: About 27-mile long canals under 2 projects will be re-excavated. Besides, about 20-mile canal of Hurasagar in Belkuchi, Kumerkhanda and Shahjadpur police stations under Sirajganj subdivision and 7-mile long canal at Dogachhi in Chittulia will be dug.

People from all walks of life are taking part in the self-help projects with great enthusiasm. They include local people, elected representatives, Government and semi-Government employees, freedom fighters, police, Ansar, Youth Co-operative Societies, women organisations, teachers and students of schools

colleges and university and BNP workers.

COMILLA

Our Correspondent from Comilla adds: Comilla district administration has taken up a comprehensive plan to dig 6 canals under the Voluntary Mass Participation Programme. Under the programme two canal will be re-excavated in each of the 3 subdivisions.

The total length of the canal will be about 20 miles, it is learnt.

With the implementation of this plan about 13,000 additional acres of land will be brought under irrigation facilities. And as a result additional crop valued at about Taka 3 crore will be produced annually.

Digging of one canal under Laksham police station in Comilla Sadar (South) subdivision has already been started and the work is in now progressing well.

Local political and social workers, students, members of Jubo Complex, freedom fighters, Youth Co-operative Societies, women organisations, teachers, of schools and colleges, Ansars, police, village defence members and Government and semi-Government employees are participating in the canal digging programme.

On completion of the work, the canals will not only be us-

ed as water reservoir for irrigation purposes but also for pisciculture.

NETRAKONA

Our Correspondent from Netrakona writes: Re-excavation work of the Telekhali Khal in Medni UP under Netrakona police station began here on December 2 as a part of the national programme for canal digging launched by President Ziaur Rahman.

The Subdivisional Officer, Netrakona, inaugurated the re-excavation work on December 2 which was participated in by hundreds of students, social workers, members of different children organisations, political parties, peasantry, Government and non-Government official, local journalists and BNP, Jubo Dal and Mukti Joddha workers of the locality.

NAOGAON

Our Correspondent from Naogaon adds: The re-excavation work of the Shibu Nadi Canal started on December 2 on voluntarily basis in response to the call of President Ziaur Rahman. The Deputy Commissioner of Rajshahi, Mr Md Aminul Huq, inaugurated the re-excavation.

Thousands of people from all walks of life, including local SDO, SDPO, Government officials, chairmen and members of Union Parishads and President of the Naogaon Zilla BNP, Prof Md Abdul Umyum, participated on the opening day in the canal digging work.

The re-excavation of this five and a half miles Shibu Nadi Canal in Badayapur village of Manca police station is expected to be completed within 3 months. When completed, the canal will irrigate about 5,000 acres of land which will yield about three lakh maunds of additional wheat and Aus paddy. The re-excavation work is now going on in full swing.

SATKHIRA

BSS from Satkhira adds: Mr. Mansur Ali Minister for Textiles, on Thursday inaugurated the re-excavation work of Bamonali Canal under Kelaroa Police Station in Satkhira Sub-division, reports BSS.

Hundreds of people of all walks of life are participating in this work. This is the first canal out of four in the Sub-division, the work on which has been started of the two-mile long canal, when re-excavated will provide irrigation facilities to one thousand acres of land to bring the winter and yield an additional six thousand maunds of paddy, 3 hundred maunds of wheat and 2 hundred maunds of rabi crops.

Mr. Mansur Ali in his inaugural speech called upon the people of all shades of opinion to come forward and work together to make the canal digging scheme a success and help increase Agricultural Production.

In the afternoon Mr. Mansur Ali addressed a public meeting at Parulia and urged the people to cooperate with the Government in its development activities and not to be misguided by false propaganda of the opposition parties.