

29/6/80

## Canal digging to yield food worth Tk 550 cr a year

By A Staff Reporter

Deputy Premier Mr. Jamil Uddin Ahmed told the Jatiya Sangsad on Friday that the canals excavated or re-excavated on the basis of voluntary labour during 1979-80 and 1980-81 would help production of additional foodgrains worth about Taka 550 crore a year.

Replying to a question by Mr. Mahmudul Islam Chowdhury, he said that a total of 193 canals were excavated during 1979-80 and 773 canals were excavated during 1980-81 under the special canal digging programme.

He said that the digging of new canals had extended irrigation facilities to 5.52 lakh acres of land in 1979-80 and about 14 lakh acres in 1980-81. The expanded irrigation facilities would help to produce 15 lakh tons of additional foodgrains every year, he said.