

Countrywide canal & Canal diggings diggings continue

The countryside is now pulsating with canal digging and reexcavating activities, aimed at building an irrigation network throughout the country, reports ESS.

The canals, when completed, will serve as outlets for unhindered drainage of flood waters during the rainy season and reservoirs to feed their command areas with irrigation waters during the dry season. The work-sites give varied pictures — at places people

rejoicing over the completion of their digging projects and at others projects five years.

The countrywide canal digging and reexcavating programme, staged in December last, was inaugurated by President Ziaur Rahman as the first phase of his revolution to ensure two crops a year with an aim to double the country's food production in the next five years.

Meanwhile the Postal Department has issued envelopes and aerogrammes inscribed with slogan, "khal kata hola shara, dur hobe banya khara" (floods and drought would go off with the completion of canal digging) to popularise the programme.

MYMENSINGH

Recently the Divisional Commissioner, Dacca, Mr. Khan Alam Khan declared the Dharar khal open by switching on a power pump at Trishal under Sadar South subdivision of the Mymensingh district amid thousands of enthusiastic people. The Dharar khal project, being the second scheme of the district, involved digging of about 22 lakh cft of earth. Earlier Balua khal scheme in the Sadar North Subdivision of the district was completed. Work on two other canal digging projects is fast progressing.

BARISAL

A two-and-a-half-mile canal running between Shaheberhat and Jalla hat under Wazirpur thana in the Sadar South subdivision of Barisal has been taken up for reexcavation. The Deputy Commissioner, Barisal, inaugurated the project recently. Thousands of people are volunteering their labour in the reexcavation work when completed, it will bring about 1,600 acres of land under its irrigation facilities.

PATUAKHALI

Earth work of about three lakh cft has been completed at the Lauketi-Mokran Tarani khal reexcavation project under Patuakhali thana in the Patuakhali district. About four hundred acres of land will be benefitted from this project.

About two and a half lakh cft of earth work at Chota Ballatali khal reexcavation scheme under Khepupura thana in this district has so far been completed. When this five-mile canal is fully reexcavated about 500 acres of land will come under its irrigation extension facilities.

Work on the five-mile long Sonakhali-Charak Gachia khal reexcavation project in this district is going on in full swing to extend irrigation facilities.

Contd. on page 8 Col. 2

Contd. from page 13

ties to over two thousand acres of land.

The digging of a one-mile Pratappur khal under Kachua thana in Khulna has been completed recently. About 500 acres of land would be brought under winter cultivation to produce the second crop of the year.

Work on the digging of Burakha khal under Bagerhat subdivision is going to be completed in day or two. Nine canal reexcavation schemes have been taken up for execution in the Khulna district.

DINAJPUR

In Dintapur reexcavation work on Shapla Dola khal under Thakurgaon Police Station is in progress. The six mile canal, when reexcavated, will feed about three thousand acres of land with irrigation waters during the dry season.

JESSORE

About 31 lakh 55 thousand cft of earth work on the reexcavation of the Bara khal under Kamarpara thana in the Jessore district has so far been completed. When reexcavated, the canal will help irrigate about eight thousand acres of land to produce an additional crop of about 90 thousand maunds.

COMILLA

In Comilla reexcavation work on Chaltatali and Ruhita under the Sadar South Subdivision, Maricha Kandi under Sadar North Subdivision and Boalia Najur and Boalturi khals under Brahmanbaria subdivision is nearing completion.

About three lakh 90 thousand cft of work at Chaltatali and 65 thousand cft at Ruhita have been completed. About 1,725 and 2,600 volunteers are working in the two projects.