

Participate in mass scale for digging canals : Zia

Irrigation system must for round-the-year cultivation

FARIDPUR, Nov 17: President Ziaur Rahman today called upon the people to participate voluntarily in a mass scale for digging canals throughout the country to build up an irrigation system for increasing food production by undertaking round-the-year cultivation, reports BSS.

Addressing public meetings at Char Barat, Belgachi, Kalukhali and Satair in Faridpur district the President said that if the nation could build up an irrigation system by digging canals in a planned manner, drought and other natural calamities would not hamper our agricultural production in future.

FOOD PRODUCTION

President Zia pointed out that if we can double our food production our national as well as individual income would be

UP chairmen

vow to dig

canals

FARIDPUR, Nov. 17: Union parishad chairmen of Faridpur district today vowed to mobilise and inspire the people to dig canals on voluntary basis to double food production, reports BSS.

The chairmen made the pledge in response to a call of President Ziaur Rahman at a meeting of UP chairmen of the district this evening here at Kavi Jasimuddin Hall.

President Zia said that the scheme of digging atleast one canal in each of the subdivision had already been taken and work on the project would start from the first week of the next month throughout the country.

He pointed out that the main objectives of digging such canals was to ensure water supply from perennial sources to the land during the dry season. This he added would enable the peasants to cultivate three crops annually and would help increase food production.

"If we can achieve this objective we shall be able to meet our food requirement and export a considerable quantity," he observed.

Describing the digging of canals as the first step towards "revolutionising" the "revolution" the President urged the UP chairmen to give leadership to the task by directly participating in the work. "All our efforts would go in vain if we fail to achieve this objective and we have no other alternative but to dig canals for irrigation round the year," he added.

The President said the "re-

increased considerably, which would enable the government and the people to undertake more development work".

He said that time had come when people should unite themselves politically and organisationally to utilise their total strength for overall progress.

The President maintained that the union parishad chairmen and members should play their due role in mobilising and inspiring the people for digging canals and said that they themselves should also participate in the canal digging projects which would begin by the first week of next month.

MASSIVE VERDICT

President Zia said that the present revolution was the promised one for which the people gave their massive verdict in the last two elections.

Revolution, he added, would safeguard and promote the interest of the people.

The President said the Revolution would pave the way for bringing radical reform in various sectors like education, communications, power, law, administration, culture and industry.

Referring to the revolution, President Zia said that people were ready to carry it forward through peaceful and democratic means. He recalled the election pledges and said his party had categorically declared during the last election that if elected to power it would launch a peaceful revolution for changing the economic lot of the masses who were neglected and had suffered for centuries.

He emphatically said that the objective of the revolution was to build up the society based on justice and fairplay.

He reiterated that Bangladeshi nationalism should be the basis of any politics in the country and no one would be allowed to interfere in the po-

litics of weapons.

"Anyone or any group which wants to indulge in politics of weapon shall be eliminated politically," he added.

Minister for Forest and Fisheries Mr. Obaidur Rahman who accompanied the President also addressed the public meeting at Satair.

During his journey from Char Barat to Satair the President also addressed several wayside meetings.