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# Re-excavation of rivers, canals in progress

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From Our Correspondent

MAGURA, Feb 8: The re-excavation work of Hanu river under Sreepur police station of Magura sub-division is progressing satisfactorily. In this project on average 1,200 people from all walks of life are working daily on self-help basis. Since January 16 13,650 cft of earthwork has been done where the total earth-work involved is 93,30,000 cft.

After visiting the re-excavation site the SDPRD Magura told Times that when completed 1,300 acres of land will come directly under irrigation net-

work and 5,000 acres of land would be saved from water-lodging of 12 beels namely Barrampur Simla Kodla Nadia para Ichhapur Bankahatdi Jealgari Chakda Kalimagar Aruadanger and Amalsar beels. Gen (Retd) M Majelul Haque Establishment Minister Maj-Gen (Retd) M. Majedul Haque formally inaugurated this project on January 4 last.

The source further said that another project namely Haor-khali Canal under Magura police station is progressing well. One Kamabeel Canal of Mohammadpur PS is nearing completion. Two more canals of Shalikha police station were inaugurated on January 20 last.

The total number of canal digging schemes under special programme in this subdivision are 11 and two more have been submitted for approval.

## CHUADANGA

Our Chuadanga Correspondent adds: Mr. Abdul Mannan Bhuya Deputy Commissioner Kushtha inaugurated here the re-excavation works of incomplete portion of Bhairab river under Jibannagar police station starting from Dhopakhali to Bakonda village up to last border of the Jibannagar PS of Kushtia district. The canal digging work was started on voluntary basis on January 15 last which is likely to be completed by June 2 next.

River Bhairab is a silted one and as such it required re-excavation. The total length of the river under Jibannagar PS is about 22.68 miles, of which 5.68 miles portion was re-excavated last year. This year the rest 17 miles portion of the river has been taken up for re-excavation.

The main object of the project is to reserve water for

irrigation purposes for cultivations of about 17,500 acres of land during the winter season. The canal would be 70 feet broad and 8 feet deep.

The 17-mile long project when completed will provide irrigation facilities to 17,500 acres of land under Jibannagar Uthali and Begumpur unions and an additional yield of 44,000 maunds of IRR and wheat worth about Tk 3.85 crore would be produced annually with the installation of 50 power pumps.

Speaking on the occasion the Deputy Commissioner said that the Government had launched the programme for doubling the food production.

## CHANDPUR

BSS from Chandpur reports: The re-excavation work on voluntary basis of seven canals under Chandpur subdivision going on amidst enthusiasm.

A large number of people belonging to all walks of life including members of Parliament Government officials Union Parishad members students teachers workers boy Scouts Ansars are participating in the massive re-excavation programme.

At least 2,500 volunteers are participating in the canal digging programme. These seven going on amidst enthusiasm canals cover about 30 miles area within the seven police stations of the subdivision. About two lakh people of the area will directly be benefited by these canal digging.

The re-excavation of these canals would facilitate all time irrigation in an area of about 20,000 acres of land and an additional yield of 14 lakh maunds of paddy are expected. The re-excavation work is expected to be completed by June next.

## DEAD RIVER

According to an earlier report from Narsingdi Re-excavation work of the 50,300 feet long Maranadi (dead river) in the char area of Raipura thana was formally inaugurated on Saturday.

About 52,31,200 cubic feet of earthwork will be done in the project which is being implemented under the special canal digging programme of President Ziaur Rahman.

When completed the project will help produce 2,50,000 maunds of additional foodgrains on 5,000 acres of land providing irrigation facilities during the winter season. It will also improve the navigation system in the area.

The river which runs across Shrinagar Paratoly and Bashgari unions of Raipura thana is being re-excavated on self-help basis.