

## Zia opens Bashia Khal re-excavation work

SYLHET, Dec. 5: President Ziaur Rahman today inaugurated the re-excavation of Bashia Khal programme, five miles from here, as a part of the country-wide canal digging programme started from December 1, reports BSS.

The Bashia Khal re-excavation programme was participated by thousands of people from all walks of life and hundreds of school and college-going students from different parts of the district. Besides members of different social welfare organisations including women organisations and Government agencies took part in the canal digging programme.

Inaugurating the digging programme at a simple ceremony the President reiterated his call to the people from all walks of life to make the programme a success. He said, this was the only way of doubling food production in the country.

Expressing his thanks to the spontaneous crowd assembled for digging the canal, the President said that the example which was set by the people of Sylhet would be followed by the people from all over the country. He also said that the number of programme set for digging canals, would be expanded.

The President also told the

crowd that when completed the canal, would be helpful to crops of several thousands acres of additional land during the dry season in the district.

Commerce Minister Mr. Saifur Rahman also spoke on the occasion.