



JHENIDAH: The Deputy Commissioner, Jessore, inaugurating the re-excavation of six-mile long Shirikhali Canal at Jhenidah. — Photo-Times

Canal digging at Jhenidah going on in full swing

From Our Correspondent.

JHENIDAH, Jan. 5. The re-excavation of six miles long Shirikhali Canal Kumarbaria UP under Jhenidah thana has been going on in full swing. Thousands of enthusiastic men and women from all walks of life have spontaneously been participating in the re-excavation work everyday for doubling the food production it is reported. When completed, the canal will provide irrigation facilities to about 1,200 acres of land yielding additional 45 thousand maunds of crops.

Mr Fezur Rahman, Deputy Commissioner, Jessore, formally inaugurated the re-excavation of the canal recently. On the inaugural day local MPs, local SDO, lawyers, journalists, Government officials and others took part in the re-excavation work side by side with other volunteers. It deserves mention here that a plan for re-excavation of two canals in the subdivision was taken by the local administration in response to President Ziaur Rahman's call for re-excavation of canals throughout the country. Re-excavation of the other canal will begin soon, according to local administration sources.

SHERPUR

A Times correspondent from Sherpur adds. The two and a quarter miles long canal "Deshani Khal" connecting the Satpathia Beel with River Brahmaputra is going to be commissioned as per schedule. Total earthwork was 23,28,280 cft and the manpower deployed was 33,216 including a fairly large number of college and school girls and ladies.

About 2,000 acres of land will be benefited by this project which is likely to yield 20,000 maunds of paddy yearly.

Forty-seven power pumps will be set up around the beel which will be constantly fed by the water from the canal, being lifted from the river by a main pump at the

rate of 60 cft per second. The canal, when commissioned, will bring fortune to many but there is a great risk of its bed being refilled by sand and silt during the monsoon. In order to save the situation the proposed dam up to Ghugurakandi needs immediate embankment. Otherwise the canal may require re-excavation next year.

CHUADANGA

Our Correspondent from Chuadanga writes. The re-excavation work of the 12 miles "Bhaimara-Gokulkhali-Mathabhanga River" canal in Damurhada PS, under Chuadanga subdivision is going on in full swing. Everyday hundreds of people from all walks of life, including political workers, freedom fighters, social workers, members of the Youth Complex, students, teachers, Ansars and members of VDP are taking part in the work.

It is learnt that this year only the five and a half miles canal of the said Bhaimara Canal will be re-excavation up to Gokulkhali and the rest six and a half miles up to River Mathabhanga via Gokulkhali and Kulbesha, will be re-excavation next year.

The entire 12 miles long canal, when completed, would benefit the people of four UPs, namely, Hatipota, Jurapur, Alukdia, Khadimpur and Damurhada unions and in that case, the cultivation of three crops in the command area, comprising about 2,000 acres of land will be possible, bringing in an additional yield of about one lakh maunds a year.

Besides, the canal will provide facilities for fish cultivation, which in its turn will produce fish worth Taka 5 lakh, it is learnt officially.

Twenty-four power pumps would be supplied free of cost for the command area of Bhaimara canal for irrigation purposes.