

Cooperate in making Revolution a success : Zia

Full exploitation, proper utilisation of gas stressed

BRAHMANBARIA, Jan 27: President Ziaur Rahman today asked the scientists and the technicians for full exploitation and proper utilisation of the country's gas deposit for the benefit of the people, reports BSS.

The President who flew here from Manikganj this morning visited the Titas gas field and later addressed the scientists and technicians.

He called upon the scientists and technicians working in connection with the gas exploration to work with zeal and dedication for the discovery of more gas production wells to fulfil the country's needs.

Expressing his satisfaction at the gas reserve of the country, President Zia said that our "own scientists and technicians" should come forward with their bold and feasible suggestions for its proper exploration. He reminded them that they must discharge their national responsibilities properly.

The President also went round different sections of the gas field. The officials explained to him its working.

Titas gas field, which was discovered

in 1962, went into production in 1968. At present there are four production wells. The estimated gas deposit of the country is now 2.25 trillion cubic feet.

The Minister for Petroleum and Natural Resources, Lt Col (Retd) Akbar Hossain and the Minister for Information and Broadcasting, Mr Habibullah Khan accompanied the President during his visit to the Titas gas field.

Earlier, on his arrival here from Manikganj, President Ziaur Rahman was given a rousing reception by the people of the area.

PEOPLE'S PROGRAMME

Another report from Sarail says: President Ziaur Rahman today reiterated his call to the political parties of the country to extend their full cooperation in making the Revolution launched by the Government a success.

He said that the first phase of revolution — the canal digging programme — and the second phase — the mass literacy programme being launched from

next month — were the programme of the people. The revolution, he said, was aimed at doubling food production and removing illiteracy from the country.

The President was addressing a largely attended gathering on the bank of just completed Boalja-Najjurkhal canal project this noon. He told the audience that the present Revolution was nothing but the implementation of the revolutionary programme of Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) which was duly endorsed by the people in the last elections.

Explaining the importance of canal digging programme, the President said that without making the Revolution a success food production of the country would not be doubled and the country would remain dependent on foreign aid and assistance which was not desirable. He expressed his thanks to the people of the area for undertaking hard work in re-excavating the five-and-a-half mile-long Boalja-Najjurkhal canal through voluntary labour.

The five-and-a-half-mile-long Boalja-Najjur canal with an average 31 feet wide and 11 feet and six inches deep would need a total earthwork of 69 lakh and 29 thousand cft. When completed, over 23 thousand people would be directly benefitted from the canal. It would provide round-the-year irrigation facilities.

Earlier the President inaugurated the canal and walked over two miles to reach its Boalja portion.

Zia

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He inaugurated the Najjur portion of the canal and walked over two miles to reach its Boalja portion.

Information and Broadcasting Minister, Mr Habibullah Khan and Whip of the BNP Parliamentary Party, Mr Harunur Rashid also accompanied the President.

Later the President, on his way to Comilla, inspected a number of re-excavating projects and addressed several wayside meetings. He exchanged greetings with the people who came to receive him.