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Electorate urged not to step in trap of lies

Canal-digging, literacy plans to be launched

RANGPUR, Aug 30 : Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia today called for electing the dedicated and nationalist persons in the September 11 by-elections to ensure improvement of their lot, reports BSS.

Addressing huge public meetings at Pagla Pir, Taraganj and Pirganj, Begum Zia said, "Vote for BNP candidates to elect right representatives in parliament who can effectively highlight problems of their respective areas".

Communications Minister, Col

(Retd) Oli Ahmed, former Minister Dr AR Ghani, Mrs Farida Hasan, MP, Mr Azizul Huq, MP and Kazi Mohammad Yahya Kahn, also addressed the public meetings.

The BNP nominees for the by-elections in the district, Mr Rahimuddin Bharasa, Advocate Mohammad Elias and Shah Mohammad Salek also addressed the meeting in their respective constituencies.

Begum Khaleda Zia said that BNP had indicated before the

February parliamentary polls that if elections were held free and fair it would become the majority party and form the government.

"We have proved that", she said adding "we will also bag seats in the by-elections with people's support."

The Prime Minister said the autocratic government of Ershad had talked about rural development but during his tenure a large number of certificate cases were instituted against the farmers. Besides Ershad did not fulfil the

demands of the poor people including the farmers and labourers. Although he (Ershad) procured huge amounts of money from abroad in their name, she said.

She said the overall development of the rural areas also remained a far cry during Ershad's tenure as he patronised corruption in every level of administration to cling to power illegally.

Begum Khaleda Zia announced that jute purchasing centres would be opened soon to en-

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Canal digging

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sure fair price to the poor growers. She said the BNP government believed in the people's welfare and it would do everything possible to ameliorate their sufferings.

She said agricultural loans would be given to the farmers to ensure increased production in the fields. She urged the people to utilise the facilities provided by the present government and increase agricultural production to attain self-sufficiency in food.

The Prime Minister said her

government would re-start the Canal Digging and Mass Literacy Programmes which were initiated by Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman.

She said the government would also revamp the Jatiyatabadi Mahila Sangsada and the Shishu Academy to bring them in the manifold of the development activities of the country.

Begum Zia said that extraction of coal and cotton cultivation would be taken up soon.

Referring to the passage of the 12th Amendment Bill by the Jatiya Sangsad, she said the people would now give their verdict in favour of the parliamentary system of government in the coming Referendum.

Begum Zia told the audience to remain vigilant against any conspiracy to foil peaceful atmosphere in the country. "Do not step into the trap of lies of the associates of the autocratic regime of Ershad" she added.

The Prime Minister also addressed two street meetings at Boiragiganj and Mithapukur.

CALL TO PARTYMEN

Earlier Begum Khaleda Zia today urged the partymen to strengthen party activities and mobilise public opinion in favour of the nationalist forces of BNP.

She was talking to the leaders and workers of different front organisations of BNP at Rangpur Circuit House here this evening.

Begum Zia said you should project the aims and ideals of the party to the people so that they could rally round it and strengthen the party for overall development of the nation.

She said the uncompromising attitude of the nationalist forces had forced the autocratic regime to resign.