

Gal Amuna Irrigation Project to be opened next month

by Ananda Kannangara

The Gal Amuna Irrigation project, constructed with a Japanese grant of Rs. 77 million will be ceremonially opened at Kataragama by Irrigation and Water Management Minister Gamini Jayawickrema Perera next month.

Speaking to the *Daily News* Minister Jayawickrema Perera said that this irrigation project will help at least 600 farmer families in the District to develop nearly 500 acres of their cultivable lands.

It is said that this irrigation project will provide water to several leading tanks in the Kataragama Divisional Secretariat including the Kohombagasdigana,

Gerikatuwa, Akkara Wissa, Goyagala and Kukulkatuwa tanks.

Minister Jayawickrema Perera also mentioned that constructing this irrigation project has been a long felt need due to the pathetic situation of farmers engaging in day to day agricultural activities in the area.

"I have instructed the farmer community to grow traditional agricultural crops in their respective areas and pledged that steps will be taken to find markets in distant areas for their products.

Under this programme, the Ministry has also decided to distribute traditional fruit plants to selected farmer families," he said.



The construction work of the Gal Amuna irrigation project at Kataragama commenced recently. Irrigation and Water Management Minister Gamini Jayawickrema Perera inspected the construction work.