

European Community

News Release

EC TO FINANCE SRI LANKA IRRIGATION PROJECT

The European Community will undertake to provide over \$237 million towards the financing of a major irrigation project in Sri Lanka.

EC development commissioner Claude Cheysson and Sri Lanka's Ambassador to the EC signed the aid agreement in late January.

Financing the Mahaweli Ganga Irrigation Scheme is the most important individual project to which the EC has committed itself through its aid programme to non-associated developing countries since 1976.

The EC allocated \$213 million to development projects in these countries in 1980. The following list is an indication of the breadth of European Community Development Cooperation:

<u>INDIA</u>	<u>\$43 MILLION</u> Fertilizer supply programme also part-financing with counterpart funds two projects for developing soya-bean growing in the state of Madhya Pradesh and one agricultural marketing project (establishment of rural markets) in the state of Uttar Pradesh.
<u>SRI LANKA</u>	<u>\$23.7 MILLION</u> Irrigation project (Mahaweli Ganga Scheme).
<u>THAILAND</u>	<u>\$20.8 MILLION</u> (i) \$ 3.9 million, development of agricultural cooperatives; (ii) \$16.9 million, irrigation and drainage project in the lower Huai Mong river basin.
<u>BANGLADESH</u>	<u>\$16.3 MILLION</u> (i) \$ 6.3 million, development of stockbreeding services; (ii) \$10.0 million, schemes for developing cotton growing.

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