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CANADIAN PARTICIPATION AT INAUGURATION CEREMONIES INITIATING WORK ON CEYLON'S KATUNAYAKE AIRPORT

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Paul Martin, announced today that the Honourable Yvon Dupuis, Minister without Portfolio, will attend the official ceremonies to be held in Colombo on November 14 to mark the start of construction designed to enlarge and improve Ceylon's Katunayake International Airport.

Facilitated by a Canadian aid grant under the Colombo Plan, the new project includes strengthening and lengthening the present runway, and building a taxiway and aircraft apron to accommodate long-range jets, as well as access roads. It provides also for the construction of an efficient three-storey terminal building with roughly the same floor area as Ottawa's airport terminal.

On his way to Ceylon, Mr. Dupuis will visit New Delhi and Karachi at the invitation of the Governments of India and Pakistan.