



Residents of Sligoville, in St. Catherine, will soon benefit from improved water supply and road conditions, as a [\\$45 million contract has been signed](#) to effect the improvements.

The project, which is expected to commence in October, is slated to end in April 2013 and is being financed by the Government of the People's Republic of China.

The contract was signed yesterday at the Office of the Prime Minister in Kingston.

Speaking at the signing ceremony, Minister with responsibility for Sports, Hon. Natalie Neita-Headley, informed that some eight new pumps are expected to be provided to boost the water supply to Sligoville, and a new control box.

"One of the difficulties we have had regarding water to Sligoville has been the fact that it is uphill and the water comes from Bog Walk, and we have been working over a number of years with pumps that have been rendered inefficient. We have sought to effect repairs and when they are repaired, they break down the following week," she pointed out.



Mrs. Neita-Headley, who is also Member of Parliament for the area (St. Catherine, East Central), said the works to be undertaken will be a significant milestone in the lives of the residents and the environs.

For her part, Commercial Counsellor, Embassy of the People's Republic of China, Liu Lei, said implementation of projects, such as this, will further strengthen and enrich the bilateral economic co-operation between China and Jamaica.

"China's international aid always focus on livelihood projects that are urgently needed and welcomed by local people, such as hospitals, schools, water supplies and clean energy," she said.

Regarding possible disruptions that may be caused during the period, Senior Director, Project Implementation, National Works Agency, Earl Patterson, noted that meetings and discussions will be held to "iron out" all the details, prior to the commencement of the project.

"I think very shortly we will meet with the contractors and all of the matters, including traffic management and other such issues will be sorted out. They will have a proper traffic management plan to minimise whatever impact there may be on the travelling public," he said.