

countries and territories in the general area of South and Southeast Asia. Its membership now includes Australia, Bhutan, Burma, Cambodia, Canada, Ceylon, India, Indonesia, Japan, Laos, Malaysia, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, the Philippines, Afghanistan, Maldivé Islands, South Korea, Thailand, Britain and Viet Nam, as well as the United States, which is also engaged in a substantial program of economic aid in the same region. Afghanistan and the Maldivé Islands were admitted to membership in 1963.

The Colombo Plan is supervised by a Consultative Committee composed of Ministers of the member countries, who meet once a year to review projects and exchange views on policy matters. As a consultative body, it makes no collective policy decisions binding member countries; a Council for Technical Co-operation, on which Canada is represented, meets regularly in Ceylon to develop the technical co-operation program of the Plan. Consultative Committee meetings were held at Singapore in 1955, at Wellington in 1956, at Saigon in 1957, at Seattle in 1958, at Jogjakarta in 1959, at Tokyo in 1960, at Kuala Lumpur in 1961, at Melbourne in 1962 and at Bangkok in 1963. At the Jogjakarta meeting it was agreed to extend the Colombo Plan for another five years from June 1961. Reports of the Committee on progress and future plans are published after each annual meeting; each report also contains sections describing the activities of member countries.

From the inception of the Plan in 1950 through April 1964, Canada made available a total of \$464,670,000 for capital and technical assistance projects in South and Southeast Asia; Parliament appropriated \$41,500,000 for Canadian participation in 1963-64. While ten countries are now receiving capital assistance from Canada, the largest contributions have so far been made to India, Pakistan and Ceylon. The Canadian contribution has consisted primarily of direct assistance to various development projects, including equipment for multi-purpose irrigation and hydro-electric projects, power-generating plants, construction and fisheries projects and resources surveys, as well as educational and laboratory equipment and books. It has also included gifts of raw materials, commodities and foodstuffs such as industrial metals, asbestos, fertilizer, wheat, flour and butter, from the sale of which recipient governments have been able to raise funds to meet local costs of economic development projects.

Under the Technical Assistance Program, up to March 1964 more than 2,500 persons from all countries in the area had come to Canada for training in a variety of fields, the major ones being public administration and finance, agriculture, co-operatives, engineering, mining and geology, statistics, health education and social welfare. More than 300 Canadian experts had been sent abroad for service in Colombo Plan countries in such fields as fisheries, agriculture, engineering, mining and prospecting, co-operatives, public administration, education and vocational training, and public health. Other Canadians were employed on aerial resources survey teams and on the installation and operation of capital equipment.

Commonwealth Caribbean Program.—In 1958, when the Federation of the West Indies was being formed, Canada undertook a five-year, \$10,000,000 program of economic and technical assistance and continued aid to the area after the dissolution of the Federation; in 1963-64 an amount of \$2,100,000 was made available for Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, Barbados, the Leeward and Windward Islands, British Guiana and British Honduras. The Canadian Government announced in November 1963 that a more sizable program for the Commonwealth Caribbean would be introduced in 1964-65.

The major project undertaken by Canada at the request of the federal authorities was the provision of two passenger-cargo ships for inter-island transportation at a cost of nearly \$6,000,000. The vessels were commissioned in the summer of 1961 and handed over to the West Indies Government. Other projects included a deep-water wharf in St. Vincent, a residence hall for the University of the West Indies in Trinidad, port handling equipment for five harbours, schools in three islands, warehouses at two sites and freshwater systems in four islands.