

by Commonwealth governments, it is not exclusively a Commonwealth program. It is designed to assist in the economic development of all countries and territories in the general area of south and southeast Asia.

The Consultative Committee, an intergovernmental body which meets from time to time to review the progress of the Colombo Plan and to consider policy matters in connection with its implementation, now counts as members Australia, Burma, Cambodia, Canada, Ceylon, India, Indonesia, Laos, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, the United Kingdom (and its territories in the area, such as Malaya, Singapore and Sarawak) and Viet-Nam, as well as the United States which is also engaged in a substantial program of economic aid in the same region. To develop the technical assistance side of the Plan, a Council for Technical Co-operation has been set up at Colombo to which Canada has appointed a permanent representative. The Technical Co-operation Program, though an integral part of the Colombo Plan, is designed to supplement the technical assistance activities of the United Nations and the specialized agencies in the area.

Up to Mar. 31, 1954, the Canadian Parliament approved annual contributions totalling \$76,600,000 for capital and technical assistance to governments in south and southeast Asia. The Estimates submitted to Parliament for 1954-55 include provision for a further contribution of \$25,400,000.

Capital assistance has so far been provided to India, Pakistan and Ceylon. The Canadian contribution has consisted primarily of direct assistance to various development projects (e.g., power-generating plant, transportation equipment, fishing boats, and surveys of resources). It has also included goods required in these countries which the recipient governments have been able to use as a means of raising some of the money needed to meet local costs of development programs (e.g., wheat, flour, copper, aluminum, and equipment required by state governments or public corporations). Canadian aid has been helping these countries in both ways, to develop their economies and raise their standards of living.

Under the Technical Assistance Program up to Mar. 31, 1954, about 177 persons had been received for training in Canada in a great variety of technical fields and 46 Canadian experts had been retained for service in Colombo Plan countries in such fields as fisheries, refrigeration, marine biology, agriculture, soil erosion, vocational training and the maintenance of tractors and agricultural machinery.

The Consultative Committee on the Colombo Plan held its fifth meeting at New Delhi, India, in October 1953, which was attended by a Canadian delegation led by the Hon. James Sinclair, Minister of Fisheries. A published Report\* outlines the progress made so far and indicates the plans for the future. It contains separate sections describing the activities of each member of the Colombo Plan as either contributing or receiving countries.

The annual Policy Session of the Council for Technical Co-operation was also held at New Delhi during October. Its survey of developments in the technical assistance field is appended to the report of the Consultative Committee.

At the invitation of the Canadian Government, the next meetings of the Consultative Committee and of the Council for Technical Co-operation will be held at Ottawa in the autumn of 1954.

\* Obtainable from the Queen's Printer, Ottawa.