

OPPORTUNITIES IN CANADA FOR STUDENTS FROM THE COLOMBO PLAN REGION, THE PROVISION OF TECHNICAL EXPERTS FROM CANADA ON LOAN TO THE VARIOUS REGIONAL GOVERNMENTS AND OTHER ASSISTANCE FOR TECHNICAL TRAINING FACILITIES IN THE AREA.

SINCE 1950 CANADA HAS CONTRIBUTED \$281.7 MILLION IN COLOMBO PLAN AID. THE ANNUAL CANADIAN CONTRIBUTION WAS INCREASED THIS YEAR TO \$50 MILLION AND THE GOVERNMENT HAS EXPRESSED ITS INTENTION TO ASK PARLIAMENT FOR \$50 MILLION IN EACH OF THE FORTHCOMING TWO YEARS.

THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE COLOMBO PLAN CONCEPT IS BEING MARKED BY MESSAGES FROM HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OR FOREIGN MINISTERS OF COLOMBO PLAN COUNTRIES, WHICH ARE BEING PUBLISHED TODAY IN COLOMBO AND THE CAPITALS OF THE MEMBER NATIONS. IN HIS MESSAGE THE PRIME MINISTER OF CANADA, THE RT. HON. JOHN G. DIEFENBAKER, HAS STATED: "THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COLOMBO PLAN IS AN OUTSTANDING EXAMPLE OF WHAT INDIVIDUAL NATIONS CAN ACHIEVE WHEN THEY UNITE IN THEIR OBLIGATIONS TO ONE ANOTHER." THE COLOMBO PLAN BUREAU IS PUBLISHING ON THIS OCCASION A NUMBER OF ARTICLES RECALLING THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE HISTORIC MEETING IN COLOMBO, THE FORMATIVE YEARS OF THE PLAN, AND DESCRIBING THE FORMS AND AMOUNTS OF AID ADMINISTERED UNDER THE PLAN SINCE 1950.

NOTE

THESE MESSAGES AND ARTICLES ARE BEING RELEASED THROUGH THE PRESS OFFICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS IN CONJUNCTION WITH THIS RELEASE. A NUMBER OF PHOTOGRAPHS DEALING WITH THE COLOMBO PLAN REGION, AND CANADIAN ASSISTANCE THERE, ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE INFORMATION DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, ROOM 406, BANKAL BUILDING, 102 BANK ST.