

services and Canadian medical facilities in general. While in Canada they participated in the annual meetings of the Canadian Public Health Association and the Canadian Tuberculosis Association in addition to the particular study they made of the organization of health services in certain Canadian provinces. The mission was particularly interested in the progress made in lowering tuberculosis death rates and in the development of health services for Canadians living in rural communities.

For the most part, technical assistance is requested on an individual basis and courses are arranged for individual trainees in their own particular fields. Since the inception of the Colombo programme, approximately 100 Asians have received or are receiving training in Canada. They have come from India, Pakistan and Ceylon and courses of training have been offered them in such fields as agriculture, engineering, medicine, public administration, fisheries, forestry, railways, education, co-operatives and industrial management and development.

The technical assistance given by Canada under the Colombo programme as outlined above is, of course, additional to the similar contribution which Canada has given in providing experts and offering training facilities in Canada in connection with the programmes of technical assistance carried on by the United Nations and its Specialized Agencies. Many of the services furnished by Canada in co-operation with the U.N. programmes have been directed towards the countries of South and Southeast Asia. Thus Canadian technical assistance to the countries in the Colombo Plan area is provided through the United Nations and its Specialized Agencies as well as through the Colombo programme itself.

Administration

The execution of Canada's Colombo Plan programme, both capital and technical, entails a considerable volume of administrative work which is handled by a special unit established for the purpose in the Government service, the International Economic and Technical Co-operation Division of the Department of Trade and Commerce, under the direction of Mr. R. G. Nik Cavell. This Division is responsible for locating experts

to serve abroad, arranging training programmes in Canada for fellows and scholars from under-developed countries and for all other administrative duties in connection with both the Colombo and U.N. programmes of technical assistance, and for investigating the supply situation in Canada in regard to capital equipment requirements. Moreover, Mr. Cavell, in his capacity as Administrator, visits the Colombo Plan area annually to discuss with Government officials and Canadian diplomatic representatives in the region particular projects which Canada might assist and to examine at first hand those projects which seem most suitable for inclusion in the Canadian programme of Colombo Plan aid. As a result of these discussions with officials directly responsible for economic development in the receiving countries and of the on-the-spot survey of likely projects, the Canadian authorities are provided with useful advice to assist in the selection of sound and worthwhile projects suitable for Canadian assistance.

Experience has shown that in most cases it is extremely difficult, if not impossible, to form a sound judgment on the practicability, from the point of view of Canadian assistance, of an economic development project in Asia on the basis of correspondence alone. Even when a particular project appears to be most desirable in principle, it may be that engineering risks or lack of preliminary engineering tests, or the possibility of a long time-lag before capital equipment can be used, or some other circumstance or combination of circumstances, will make it inadvisable to commit Canadian Colombo Plan funds until all such doubts are cleared up. It is, therefore, becoming normal practice for Canada to send Canadian consulting engineers to the site of an economic development project in which Canada is interested in order to make a professional examination and to report on the technical feasibility and soundness of the project and to advise in respect of the capital equipment requirements, before a final decision is taken to allocate Colombo Plan funds to the project.

Thus in working out its Colombo Plan programmes, Canada is guided by the