



# PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
OTTAWA - CANADA

NO 43

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
WEDNESDAY, JUL 29 1959

## COMMONWEALTH EDUCATION CONFERENCE

IN A JOINT ANNOUNCEMENT AT THE COMMONWEALTH EDUCATION CONFERENCE BEING HELD AT OXFORD, ENGLAND, THE HONOURABLE GEORGE DREW, CANADIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER TO THE UNITED KINGDOM AND LEADER OF THE CANADIAN DELEGATION TO THE CONFERENCE, AND DR A.L. MUDALIAR, LEADER OF THE INDIAN DELEGATION, ANNOUNCED THAT CANADA AND INDIA HAD AGREED TO APPROVE THE USE, FOR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES OF COUNTERPART FUNDS GENERATED UNDER THE COLOMBO PLAN.

THESE FUNDS UP TO THE VALUE OF 10 MILLION DOLLARS OR APPROXIMATELY 5 CRORES OF RUPEES, WILL BE USED FOR THE DEVELOPMENT IN INDIA OF HIGHER TECHNOLOGICAL INSTITUTES AND POLYTECHNIC SCHOOLS. WHILE FINAL APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSAL WILL BE SUBJECT TO DETAILED AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES ON THE INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS IN THIS FIELD THAT ARE BEING PUT FORWARD BY THE INDIAN AUTHORITIES, THE AGREEMENT NEVERTHELESS REPRESENTS AN EXAMPLE OF THE WAY IN WHICH COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES CAN CO-OPERATE FOR THE ACHIEVEMENT OF PRACTICAL RESULTS IN THE FIELD OF EDUCATION. IT SUGGESTS ALSO THE EFFECTIVENESS OF DIRECT BILATERAL AGREEMENTS BETWEEN COMMONWEALTH MEMBERS.

THE COUNTERPART FUNDS WERE GENERATED THROUGH THE DISPOSAL BY THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, OF CANADIAN WHEAT AND OTHER COMMODITIES, INCLUDING NON-FERROUS METALS, PROVIDED BY CANADA TO INDIA UNDER THE COLOMBO PLAN.