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PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS OTTAWA - CANADA

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The Prime Minister today met the group of junior officers of the Pakistan Civil Service who are studying public administration in Canada.

The Federal Government and the Provinces of Ontario, Alberta and Saskatchewan are co-operating in provision of courses of instruction to these Pakistani officers, who will be in Canada for five months under the auspices of the Colombo Plan for the Co-operative Economic Development of South and Southeast Asia. It is the hope of the Government of Pakistan that, while here, this group will have the opportunity to study not only public administration at federal, provincial and local levels but to learn something of the way Canadians live and to live as Canadians.

Following five weeks of study in Ottawa, where the group is being given general lectures on the people, resources and governmental organization of Canada, the group will proceed in three parties of four each to Kingston, Belleville and Peterborough where they will study municipal and county organization, the work of magistrates' courts and of provincial agricultural representatives. The Department of Eunicipal Affairs of the Province of Ontario has undertaken the organization of this part of the programme.

The remaining period of training will be spent mostly in Alberta and Saskatchewan, with each province being responsible for the training of six of the group. In the Frair'e Provinces they will study provincial-municipal relations, agricultural and irrigation developments and the work of the R.C.M.P.

An interesting aspect of the course has been the great success of the blan under which each member of the group is living with a Canadian family. Hosts and guests have found this to be an interesting and rewarding experience.