

increase its aid allocation to French-speaking Africa during the current fiscal year to a total amount of \$7.5 million. I am glad that this particular part of our aid programme is expanding at a higher rate than any other part.

There are fears expressed occasionally that the amount of aid is too small or that funds committed are not spent quickly enough. The Government has been very much aware, as is clear from its declaration of November 1963, of the necessity of expanding its aid programmes rapidly while maintaining the control and efficiency in actual operations which is essential. There has been marked expansion since that time, and it will continue. As I have mentioned on other occasions, the fact that the current allocation for French-speaking Africa is non-lapsing ensures that all funds committed to projects will be used.

I should add, since I have been speaking primarily about Canadian teachers going to Africa, that there are other points of particular interest to French-language teachers and to others here. Some of you are going to Southeast Asia, and it should be noted that the Colombo Plan covers assistance to French-language nations in that area too. We have tried within the framework of the Commonwealth scholarship scheme to interest as many overseas students as possible in the facilities for study in French available in Canada.

I am glad to note that, of the 1,800 students and trainees who came to Canada in 1964 under various parts of our aid programme, 500 were located in the Province of Quebec, the great majority of whom were studying in French. It is the policy of the Government to ensure that the bicultural nature of our country is reflected in all parts of our external policy and that the educational and cultural resources of our country are all used in the development of the most effective aid programme possible.

Now I should like for a moment to direct your attention to some closely related subjects. I have stressed the importance of perspective. I have started by referring to our activities in French-speaking Africa and in other areas involving the use of French in development aid because you will naturally have a particular interest in these points at the present moment. I must, however, refer briefly to other projects for co-operating with the developing countries, to the expansion of our activities generally in Africa and to our relations with the French-speaking world, whether in Europe, Africa or elsewhere.

There have been great changes taking place generally in aid programmes in recent years. These changes have been apparent in terms of financial allocations, geographical scope, the nature of the assistance and the involvement of individuals and agencies. In the past two years, funds voted for assistance generally have doubled in volume. In 1960, 83 Canadian teachers and advisers went abroad; in 1964 the figure was 545, and this year the figure will probably reach 650.

An increased emphasis on technical and educational assistance, the implementation of new loan and food-aid programmes, the extension of aid to African states a few years ago and the introduction in the past year of loans for Latin American countries have all added new dimensions to the earlier programme. The scope of current Canadian programmes and the efficiency of their execution have been commented on favourably by international agencies particularly concerned.