

Indo-Canadian Development Cooperation

TABLE I
Canadian Bilateral Assistance to India 1951-1976/77¹
(Canadian \$ Millions—Disbursements)

Fiscal Years	Grants	Food Aid (Grants)	Loans	Total
1951 to 1960	116.9	80.0		196.9
1960 to 1965	89.7	31.0		120.7
Sub-Total	206.6	111.0		317.6
1965/66	16.1	25.0		41.1
1966/67	18.3	76.6	1.6	96.5
1967/68	6.6	50.4	15.4	72.4
1968/69	6.8	41.2	26.0	74.0
1969/70	6.1	38.8	44.7	89.6
1970/71	6.0	45.9	51.3	103.2
1971/72	2.2	40.1	59.2	101.5
1972/73	3.3	13.7	61.3	78.3
1973/74	4.0	8.3	57.1	69.4
1974/75	2.6	38.9	54.9	96.4
1975/76	1.9	64.6	32.4	98.9
1976/77	1.3	62.0	18.6	81.9
Total	281.8	616.5	422.5	1320.8

¹Source: Canadian International Development Agency.

the hope that the new Commonwealth of Nations would be a positive force for international peace and draw together those countries of diverse cultures which had shared a British colonial history. It was recognized by Canadians that India, because of its size and importance to ending the colonial era, would play a key role in the new and free Commonwealth association. Such cooperation was also seen as a means of developing the economies of newly independent countries which was one of their vital new goals.

Canadians were prepared to support the Government's initiative in extending economic cooperation to other countries for humanitarian and practical reasons. It was acknowledged that the level of affluence enjoyed in North America could be sustained only if the world at large were able to prosper. At the same time, as a nation increasingly dependent on world trade for its income, Canada was anxious to expand the range of its trade partners. In the ensuing years, as Canadian development experience grew, India's economic and developmental objectives were articulated more clearly and became increasingly important in the formulation of Canadian aid policy.

OBJECTIVES AND MEANS

The stated objectives of Canadian developmental assistance to India are to assist the economic and social development of India in accordance with Indian priorities and Canadian abilities,

and to lay the basis for continuing economic and commercial relations between the two countries in a manner which will be mutually beneficial.

The means chosen to achieve these objectives changed as India's capabilities advanced. In the early years, Canadian technical assistance provided Canadian experts and advisers to India, and research facilities and training in Canada for Indian technicians and students. Canadian and Indian private voluntary agencies were financially assisted by Canada in carrying out their programmes in India. Large scale projects were undertaken involving Canadian expertise, material and equipment for construction of new facilities in India such as communications systems and electrical generating plants. Canadian experience was most useful in transport, mining, agriculture and irrigation. Industrial commodities were provided as balance of payments support including minerals, synthetic rubber, fertilizer, newsprint and asbestos. Lines of credit provided low cost financing so that India could buy Canadian equipment, materials and services including electrical generating equipment, transmission line equipment, railway locomotives and the services of technical consultants. The largest contribution was for food aid including wheat, edible oils and milk powder to help fill the gap between Indian domestic production and consumption in bad crop years.



The Dryland Agricultural Research Project with headquarters in Hyderabad uses Canadian agricultural equipment supplied by CIDA to help tackle the problems of dryland farming in India.