

million dollars each year, plus four hundred thousand dollars for technical assistance. This has since been increased: first to \$26,400,000, and last year and this to \$34,400,000. The operation of the Plan has now been extended to June 1961.

Now, let us see what the Colombo Plan has actually done so far. I would like to be able to go into detail today on what our Commonwealth partners - Great Britain, Australia and New Zealand - have done and also to touch on the interchange of technical assistance between the Asian countries themselves, but time does not allow me to do this and therefore I will confine myself to what Canada has done, or, in other words, what we have done with roughly \$165 million of the taxpayers' money which the Government has granted us.

The Canadian contribution to the Colombo Plan has been divided into Capital Projects and Technical Assistance. To deal with the latter first - Technical Assistance is perhaps the most vital need of the underdeveloped areas. Probably the first thing a Canadian child falls over when learning to walk is its mother's vacuum sweeper and then, throughout its childhood and its education, it becomes acquainted with automobiles, electrical appliances of all kinds, and through these contacts, our children acquire a surprising amount of technical knowledge and efficiency. They become part of the new mechanical age. By contrast, all the Asian child learns is how to twist a bullock's tail to obtain more speed out of him. The result is that technical development is seriously held up in these areas for the want of technical people of all kinds and before much can be done, this deficiency must be dealt with. Also, the Asian countries are very short of administrative staff, both in the field of business and government. It is for this reason that we have so far brought about 1,070 trainees to Canada for various courses. We try to get key people who can return to their various countries and teach others what they have learned. In addition, we send out Canadian experts in various fields of endeavour to set up training centres and to try to solve problems in the area itself, and some 130 of these experts have gone from Canada to work in many countries.

Now, let us consider the Capital Projects side of our work. On this side, we have tried to enter into projects which are of a fundamental nature. We must remember that we are dealing with very poor agricultural countries, with vast numbers of unemployed and under-employed people. The need is to diversify their economies, to provide employment and to process their agricultural output and to enable them to exploit their natural wealth. At the same time, we have tried to keep our contributions Canadian in character. There have been 69 such projects so far and others are in prospect. Needless to say, I can only describe very few of them today.