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CANADIAN FOOD AID TO INDIA

Excerpts from a Statement by the Hon. Paul Martin,  
Secretary of State for External Affairs of Canada  
to the Canadian House of Commons on March 23, 1966

The Government intends to seek Parliamentary approval for a supplementary estimate of forty-five million dollars, largely to meet the emergency needs of India. Added to the thirty million dollars set aside for food in the 1966-67 main estimates, this supplementary amount will raise Canada's food aid to the unprecedented annual level of seventy-five million dollars.

This will enable Canada to supply India with one million tons of wheat and flour during 1966. The overall programme will include contributions in kind to the World Food Programme, to the United Nations Programme for Palestine Refugees and to **traditional** recipient countries such as Pakistan and Ceylon. It is also the Government's intention to supply food aid to Ghana in answer to the recent appeal for economic assistance from the new Government of that country.

Canada has been providing food as part of its international assistance programme for many years, but food aid was not separated from normal economic and technical assistance until 1964-65, when a new and expanded programme was introduced. At the time, it was announced that the provision of foodstuffs would increase progressively in appropriate relationship to the expansion of other forms of aid. Initially, fifteen million dollars was provided; in 1965 the main estimates called for twenty million dollars and this year they were increased to thirty million dollars.