

Canadian Assistance to India

Bilateral Cooperation with CANADA

Canadian Economic Assistance to India started in 1951. Till March 2008, the total aid to India had been around C\$ 2.743 billion. The assistance mainly comprised development assistance, food and technical assistance. Canadian assistance is channelized through the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). The assistance extended by CIDA since 1st April 1986 has been in the form of grant.

In October 2003, the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) notified to phase out their current bilateral aid program by 2006-07. The GOI had, in October 2003, prepaid the entire Canadian Loan of CAD 419.941 million, against the loans taken by GOI during 1966-1984.

In the year 2006-07, Canada has started extending grant assistance for local initiatives (CFLI) to India. During 2008-09, 12 proposals involving grant assistance of CAD 0.47 million have been cleared. In 2009-10, 9 proposals involving grant assistance of CAD 0.30 million have been cleared.

Assistance from International Development Research Centre (IDRC) of Canada

In India, the Centre has been supporting the research-oriented projects of Government as well as NGOs in the field of agriculture, food, health, family welfare and environmental research since 1972. The centre upgraded its operations after establishing its regional office in New Delhi in 1983, through a Letter of Exchange dated 2nd June 1983. The Letter of Exchange provided certain privileges to IDRC regarding taxes and customs exemption but no sovereign status.

During 2008-09 IDRC extended grant assistance of CAD 6.25 million for 36 proposals. In 2009-10 between April to September, IDRC extended grant assistance of CAD .63 million for 6 proposals.

