

SUMMARY OF THE WORKING OF THE COMMONWEALTH SCHOLARSHIP
AND FELLOWSHIP PLAN IN THE COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES

ANTIGUA

(No statement has been received)

AUSTRALIA

The Department of Education has continued to administer awards made available by Australia to the developed Commonwealth countries (United Kingdom, Canada, New Zealand). The Department is also the Australian nominating authority for awards offered by all Commonwealth countries. The Australian Development Assistance Bureau (ADAB) has continued to administer awards made available by Australia to the developing Commonwealth countries.

Arrangements for awards under CSFP operated satisfactorily during the reporting period. There have been no changes in administration procedures.

The number of awards offered has remained the same. However, living allowances and other benefits were increased with effect from January 1986.

BAHAMAS

The machinery set up for the administration of the Plan in the Bahamas has remained unchanged during the period under consideration.

Response to advertisements has been generally encouraging and it would appear that interest in these awards is much greater than is indicated by the number of applications submitted.

One nominee received an award in 1985 and two received extensions.

BANGLADESH

(No statement has been received)

BARBADOS

There have been no additions or changes in the machinery set up for the administration of the Plan in Barbados, neither has there been any alteration in the scope of existing programmes.

Commonwealth Scholars are bonded to return and work in Barbados on completion of their course of study and do utilise their newly acquired skills and expertise in their relevant fields.

There continues to be some concern to officials in Barbados that nominees for undergraduate studies have not been able to obtain awards despite the fact that their selected areas of study are considered of high priority in Barbados and the study programme is not available locally.

BELIZE

The Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan is of vital importance to Belize in that it provides opportunities for Belizeans to be trained in areas of importance to the country, in particular the sciences. For the period in question however, as a nominating country, Belize was not awarded any scholarship. Of the nominees submitted, we were informed that one candidate did not meet the GMAT requirement and the other was awaiting placement at a British University (Leeds).

Belize is fortunate to have most of the CSFP scholarship holders return to take up office. In the field of agriculture in particular we have been most fortunate. All scholars as far as can be ascertained are employed in fields of relevance to their academic achievement, thereby making full use of their qualifications and enhancing Government's goals in particular areas. Three examples can be cited here: our Chief Forest Officer was a Commonwealth Scholar and was awarded an MSc in Forestry. The Chief Agricultural Officer, also a Commonwealth Scholar has an MSc in agriculture and the Director of one of Belize's most prestigious engineering corporations is a Commonwealth Scholar who holds an MSc in electrical engineering.

BERMUDA

There have been no further changes in the administration of the Plan since the last report.

The Chief Education Officer continues as the administrator of the Plan with members of the Scholarship Committee of the Board of Education functioning as a screening committee whenever necessary.

The Bermuda College, a community college with departments of academic studies, hotel technology, commerce and technology, continues to offer certificate and diploma courses of one to three years' duration, but there are no plans at present to develop the College into a degree granting institution.

Former holders of Commonwealth Scholarships continue to make significant contributions in the community.

The Ministry of Education's annual report will include a statement on Commonwealth Scholarships.

Bermuda is generally very pleased with the operation of the Plan.

BOTSWANA

(No statement has been received)

BRITAIN

During 1985-86 the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission in the United Kingdom, the agency to which the British Government entrusts its responsibilities under the Plan, entered its twenty-seventh year. The Chairman of the Commission is Sir Michael Walker GCMG. The secretariat of the Commission has continued to be provided by the Association of Commonwealth Universities whose Secretary General, Dr A Christodoulou CBE is one of the Joint Secretaries of the Commission; Mr E E Temple OBE, a notable figure in both the national and the Commonwealth-wide operation of the Plan from the outset, ceased to be Joint Secretary on 30 September 1985, on his retirement as Assistant Secretary General of the Association; he was succeeded as Joint Secretary, on 1 October 1985, by Mr P B Hetherington, the Association's Deputy Secretary General (Commonwealth Awards and Appointments).

For a further year, Britain, as a host country, has counted with pleasure an unprecedentedly high number of scholars and fellows in Britain. In 1985-86 the Commission was supporting in the UK a total of over 900 award holders, who had come from some 45 Commonwealth countries; as 1985-86 drew to an end there were in Britain 633 Commonwealth Scholars, 180 Academic Staff Scholars, 56 Academic Staff Fellows, 53 Medical Fellows and one Senior Medical Fellow.

It is the pursuit of a higher degree or other qualification which draws most scholars to Britain and during 1985-86 the Commission learnt with pleasure of the award to scholars of 96 doctorates, 96 Master's degrees (or equivalent), 12 Bachelor's degrees, five postgraduate diplomas and five higher medical qualifications awarded by bodies other than universities. Commonwealth Scholars, it is clear, continue to show the high academic ability which has always been a mark of the scheme, and to earn the highest praise from their supervisors and their host universities both for the quality of their work and for the sense of academic purpose with which they press it forward. Academic staff awards are intended especially for the training or the further development of members of the staff of universities in the developing countries of the Commonwealth; for these candidates are nominated by the head of their university. The scholarships are governed by terms and conditions, and awarded for purposes akin to those of general scholarships; fellowships are for senior members of staff, already fully qualified, for 10 months' advanced work which bears on the needs of their universities. In 1985-86 Britain was host to Fellows from universities in 16 countries, thereby reinforcing old, and establishing new, ties between British universities and sister institutions elsewhere in the Commonwealth.

There is, too, special provision in the scheme for study in medicine and subjects related to it. Of the 633 Commonwealth Scholars to whom paragraph 2 above refers, 44 are medical scholars most of whom are at work for a higher degree or professional qualification. At a higher level, Medical Fellowships, of a year's duration, are offered to teachers of medical students to enhance their experience, and sometimes, to combine research with advanced clinical training; for these, and for the Senior Medical Fellowships (a limited and highly selective number of awards for medical deans and other similarly senior teachers of medical students, intended to enable them to take stock of medical education in the United Kingdom), the programmes are individually designed; they are the special responsibility of the Medical Awards Administrator within the secretariat.

To ensure that members of the Commission and of its administration have a good and close understanding of scholars' needs and problems, the Commission, twice or thrice a year, brings together in informal conferences at one or another university centre in Britain as many as possible of the scholars and fellows, their supervisors, and the Commission's own advisers. In 1985-86 single-university conferences were held in Cambridge and London, and a third, at the Loughborough University of Technology was arranged for scholars and fellows in universities in the Midlands. These have provided a welcome and valuable opportunity for scholars and fellows to exchange views among themselves, and to discuss their problems with members of the Commission and its staff.

The British Council has continued to play its traditionally important part in the activities of the Commission; and it has particular responsibility for payments, travel and reception, and other services in support of scholars and fellows.

Though the greater part of the Commonwealth's efforts is directed towards its work as an awarding country, it regards as no less important its role as a nominating agency. Between April and October 1985 the awards offered by nine other countries were promulgated widely and 270 applications (compared with 309 the previous year) were received. All were then submitted to independent academic assessment and 122 candidates were subsequently shortlisted for interview in London, early in December, by members of the Commission and in most instances representatives of the awarding countries.

There are some awarding countries whose scholarships, in the eyes of the Commission, carry too modest a stipend for the adequate support of scholars from overseas; the Commission has been prepared, and continues, to make a contribution from its own resource to supplement awards of British scholars in these countries, though it also makes appropriate representations, when it judges it apt, to countries where the values of awards impose hardships.

Each year the Commission submits to the British Government a full report on its activities, and details of current scholars and fellows. The twenty-sixth Annual Report, for the year ending 30 September 1985, has been published by Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS

During the period April 1985 to March 1986 the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan continued to work as before in the British Virgin Islands. Nominations were invited from six countries and these awards were given full publicity.

The Plan continues to be administered in the British Virgin Islands by the Ministry of Health, Education and Welfare.

BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

(No statement has been received)

CANADA

The official agency of the Plan in Canada is the Canadian Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Committee. The Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada provides the secretariat to the Committee through its International Relations and Scholarship Administration Division. During the year under report, the committee was chaired by Professor T H B Symons, Vanier Professor at Trent University. The Government of Canada with the policy direction of the Department of External Affairs funds the operation of the Plan in Canada through the Canadian International Development Agency and during the year under report, provided the emoluments and benefits described in detail in appendix II.

Under this Plan, Canada is both an awarding and a nominating country. As a nominating country, 880 Canadians applied for awards in 11 Commonwealth countries and from this number, 130 nominations were made. As an awarding country, Canada requested 414 nominations and received 482.

At the beginning of the 1985 academic year, 399 scholars held awards in Canada, with eight fellows making a total of 407. This number includes 194 new scholarships and eight new fellowships. In order to maintain direct and personal contact with award holders, regional meetings are organised from time to time where members of the Canadian Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Committee or personnel from the Plan's secretariat may discuss topics of mutual concern with scholars. For the year under report, Commonwealth Scholars in the Ottawa-Kingston area attending Carleton and Queen's Universities and the University of Ottawa met with the Committee at Carleton University where a reception was held. The Supervisor of University and Student Liaison of the AUCC secretariat was also able to meet Commonwealth Scholars during a trip to seven universities in Western Canada.

At the Ninth Commonwealth Education Ministers' Conference in July, 1984, in Cyprus, the Canadian delegation was pleased to announce that the Canadian Government had approved an additional 200 scholarships under its commitment to the Plan beginning in 1985-86, bringing the total number of Commonwealth Scholars to be supported in Canada at any one time to 500. The number of nominations requested for scholarships tenable from September 1985 was about double the usual number as the increase was to be accommodated immediately in the next intake of students. Since some countries were not prepared to send increased numbers of nominations and since some offers were refused without the possibility of offering to alternate candidates, the total number of scholarship places taken up was slightly over 400. It is hoped to fill the entire quota next year. It is heartening to note that, while budget restrictions have resulted in cuts in other Government of Canada supported scholarship programme, the commitment to the Plan's increase in Canada has been maintained.

At the time of the decision to offer more scholarship places, the Government of Canada also expressed its intent to favour the offer of scholarships to the developing countries of the Commonwealth, to promote the participation of women in the Plan and to reciprocate those scholarships offered to Canadians by other Commonwealth countries. Thus, at the time of requests for nominations, the Canadian agency reiterated these aims, drawing the attention of sister agencies especially to the objective of increasing the participation of women. The response has been positive and encouraging. These goals will continue to characterise Canada's offer of scholarship places.

During the preliminary meeting of officials in Cyprus, among the new initiatives discussed, was a tracer study of former Commonwealth scholarship holders. The Canadian delegation was most supportive of this proposal. Subsequently, the Government of Canada approved a contribution to the tracer study, both through a financial subvention from the Canadian agency and the assignment of senior staff. It is hoped that the results of the tracer study will lead to greater understanding of the impact of the CSFP and to better planning for future dispositions.

Letters requesting nominations sent by the secretariat to other Commonwealth agencies underline the importance for practical reasons of adhering to agreed upon deadlines and format for submission of nominations. Although some countries' nominations arrived after the deadline, they arrived nonetheless much earlier than in other years, making the secretariat's task in placing scholars in Canadian universities much easier. The problem of insufficient supporting documentation remains. Canadian universities' flexibility in admitting scholars to graduate places has become much reduced in recent years because of budgetary constraints. Thus candidates for whom full documentation is not available, even if they are under consideration for Commonwealth Scholarships, risk being refused admission. It would be much appreciated by the Canadian agency were Commonwealth agencies in other countries to be more aware of these administrative pressures.

CAYMAN ISLANDS

(No statement has been received)

CYPRUS

Cyprus has no institution of university level and therefore she is only a nominating country under the Plan. The scholarship agency continues to be the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The responsible authority for selection of candidates continues to be the Scholarship Board, Nicosia.

Commonwealth Scholarships are given wide publicity in Cyprus and especially the undergraduate studies attract a big number of applications.

During the year under review U.K. has made four awards for undergraduate studies, in engineering two and in economics two. Canada has also made four awards for undergraduate studies, two in civil engineering, one in business administration and one in English literature. New Zealand made one award for postgraduate studies in civil engineering, Australia made one award for postgraduate studies in public administration.

Britain has renewed the awards of six scholarships, namely Pavlides, Miranthis, Rialas, Antoniadou, Constantinidou and Constantinou; two scholars completed their studies in U.K. and gained their degrees in economics and electronics; Canada has renewed the awards of one scholar namely Sofocleous to complete his studies; Australia has renewed the award of one scholar namely Papachristoforou to complete his studies in reproductive physiology. Two scholars completed their studies in New Zealand and gained their postgraduate degrees in civil engineering and chemical engineering.

DOMINICA

(No statement has been received but see Appendix V for statistics)

FALKLAND ISLANDS

(The agency has written, "We have not used the Plan in 1985-86 so can only put in a NIL return for your Annual Report")

FIJI

Fiji in its role as a nominating country has had no changes to the administration of the Plan since the last reporting period. All offers received were given ample media publicity and among other courses advertised, special emphasis was stressed on the country's priority areas of study as far as manpower needs were concerned, for potential candidates.

Scholars were bonded before departure to ensure their services to the Fiji Government or private sector for the duration of the courses. Three students returned after successfully completing their courses and are usefully employed as follows: I. Toganivalu (B. Physical Education in India) now employed as a specialist teacher in physical education in our Ministry of Education; R. Chand (PhD Economic Geography in Canada) now employed as Lecturer I at the University of the South Pacific; S Reddy (MA Economics (Major) in New Zealand) now employed as the Acting Principal Research Officer at the Reserve Bank of Fiji.

GAMBIA

(No statement has been received)

GHANA

(No statement has been received)

GIBRALTAR

In September 1985 applications were invited via the local press, radio and television. The closing date was 21 October 1985.

Nine applications were received, all for the U.K. 1986 awards. Three nominations were made; two in the ordinary way and a third specially recommended.

GRENADA

(No statement has been received)

GUYANA

The Training Division which functioned under the Ministry of Education during the period under review, has now been placed under the Public Service Ministry. This agency continued to be responsible for the administration of the Commonwealth and Fellowship Plan here in Guyana.

The response continued to be encouraging as in previous years. The Plan is available for both undergraduate and postgraduate scholarships with emphasis still being placed on postgraduate awards in fields relevant to our country's developmental needs.

Guyana expresses its appreciation to those Commonwealth nations which continue to consolidate the bonds of friendship by the maintenance of facilities for the exchange of knowledge through the Plan.

HONG KONG

As a nominating agency, the Education Department of the Hong Kong Government is responsible for the function of the Selection Committee, the membership of which, as in previous years, represents a cross section of higher and secondary education in Hong Kong together with the local representatives of the various Commonwealth Scholarship awarding countries. The Chairman of the Selection Committee is the Professor of Surgery, Faculty of Medicine, The Chinese University of Hong Kong. The Secretary is an Education Officer of the Education Department. Hong Kong continues to derive very great benefits from the Plan and one of the criteria used in selecting nominees for awards is the usefulness and relevance of the proposed research programme to the needs of the Hong Kong community. Competition for the awards is very keen and the quality of applicants continues to be high.

As an awarding country, Hong Kong offers four postgraduate scholarships tenable at the two local universities (The University of Hong Kong and The Chinese University of Hong Kong). The Education Department of the Hong Kong Government acts as the administrative agency, which appoints the Selection Committee, comprising two representatives from each of the two universities with the Senior Assistant Director of Education as Chairman, and a Senior Education Officer as Secretary. During the first term of the academic year, there were scholarship holders studying for higher degrees in Chinese art, modern Chinese literature, mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, marine biology and Chinese language education. Four awards were made in the period under review.

INDIA

The Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan continued to be administered by the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education) of the Government of India during the period April 1985 to March 1986. There has been no change in the scope and content of the programme except that the number of awards offered by the Government of India has been increased from 50 to 75 from this year.

As in the past, it has been observed that some countries do not fully utilise the scholarships offered by the Government of India. It is reiterated

that each nominating country should ensure at the beginning that only those candidates are nominated who are fully eligible in terms of qualifications, age, experience, etc., as indicated in the letter of offer for the awards. This will minimise the chances of rejection of a candidate. The deadline for nomination should be strictly adhered to.

As regards out-going scholars, our experience is that only a few Commonwealth countries offer scholarships to Indian nationals. While most of the offers come from Britain and Canada, offers are also received from Australia, New Zealand, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago. However, even in these countries, the number of Indians finally accepted is only 50 to 60 per cent of the nominations invited. We would like this percentage to go up substantially, particularly in countries like Britain, Canada, Australia and New Zealand.

JAMAICA

(No statement has been received)

KENYA

Kenya continues to be a nominating country for the Commonwealth Scholarships and Fellowships scheme. The machinery set up for the administration of this scheme remains the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology through the agency of the Central Selection Board.

For the year 1986 sets of awards, offers were received from Britain, Canada, Trinidad and Tobago, India, Hong Kong and New Zealand. All the offers were processed with the exception of Hong Kong's which were ignored because of failure to process our nominations for the previous years. This is only fair in order to spare prospective candidates disappointment.

Commonwealth Scholars who return home on completion of their studies made a contribution to the development effort of the nation especially at institutions of higher learning and other manpower positions which demand high qualifications.

Since the Commonwealth Scholarships are widely popular and in high demand every effort is made to advertise them so that as many Kenyans as are interested get opportunity to apply.

KIRIBATI

Kiribati does not institute awards as we have no university except for the University of the South Pacific (Fiji), of which Kiribati is a supporting member.

As yet we cannot assess the benefits as the only successful candidate has not returned from studying.

As a recipient of the awards we still maintain the view that the awards are highly competitive, restricting the chance of our graduates; very few possessed the required class or grades in their first degree.

LESOTHO

(No statement has been received)

MALAWI

As in the past a few countries like the United Kingdom, Canada, New Zealand, Australia and India made some offers. There was no significant change in the operation of the Plan worth pointing out.

MALAYSIA

We are a nominating country and for the period as indicated we have so far received invitations for nomination from eight countries of the Commonwealth namely U.K., Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Hong Kong, Trinidad and Tobago, India and Malta.

The Public Services Department is the agency responsible for administering the scholarships under this programme for the last two years. All offers received were circulated to the various Government departments and agencies. Prospective scholars were chosen by means of shortlisting and finally an interview.

Altogether 26 had been selected and their names submitted to the Secretariats of the various countries i.e. U.K. 9, Canada 13 and Australia 4. There were no applications for scholarships to study in Hong Kong, New Zealand, Trinidad and Tobago, India and Malta. Up to the time of writing we have not got any news on the outcome of our nominations.

MALDIVES

(No statement has been received)

MALTA

The administrators for the award of scholarships under the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan is entrusted to the Department of Education. A local Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Committee is appointed every year to make recommendations for the submission of nominations for these awards.

During the period 1 April 1985 to 31 March 1986 five new scholarships were awarded under this Plan as follows: Mr Paul Azzopardi to read for an M.B.A. in commerce in Canada, Mr Alexandra Bezzina to read for an M.Sc in civil engineering in Canada, Mr Benny Borg Bonello to read for an M.A. in industrial relations in the United Kingdom; Mr Charles Brincat to read for an M.Sc in flexible manufacturing systems in the United Kingdom; Mr Spiridion Buhagiar to read for the degree of Master of Music in Canada.

During the same period, 13 persons were also on scholarship. These were: Mr Anthony Bailey to read for the M.Eng. in engineering science (civil engineering) in Canada; Mr Christopher Bezzina to read for a Master's degree

in education in New Zealand; Mr George Camenzuli to read for an M.B.A in management studies in Canada; Mr Albert J Camilleri to do research in computer science in the United Kingdom; Dr Aldo Chircop to read for the LL.M in maritime law in Canada; Dr Noel Fabri to read for an LL.M in mineral and petroleum law in Australia; Mr Michael Fenech to read for a Ph.D in genetics in Australia; Mr Victor Martinelli to read for an M.Ed in educational psychology in Australia; Mr Edwin Mintoff to read for the M.Phil. in architecture in the United Kingdom; Mr Lawrence Mintoff to read for a Diploma and M.Sc. in concrete structures in the United Kingdom; Mr Ronald Sultana to read for an M.Ed in counselling and guidance in New Zealand; Mr Edward Warrington to read for an M.A. in public administration in Canada; Mr Raymond Zammit to read for a diploma in educational studies (guidance and counselling) in Australia.

Under this Plan, Malta offers one scholarship to enable a scholar from a country in the Commonwealth to undergo studies at the University of Malta. During the period 1 April 1985 - 31 March 1986 a student from Mauritius was following a course leading to the degree of Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering.

Maltese nationals who are awarded Commonwealth Scholarships are required to return to Malta on completion of their studies abroad. As a general rule, they are subsequently engaged in work related to their specialisation in both the public and private sectors.

Publicity for these awards is given through press releases and other means of communication, i.e. radio, television and the local relay systems.

MAURITIUS

Offers received under the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan are processed by the Scholarship Selection Committee of the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture with the participating of the embassies of donor countries.

There has been no change in the procedure of selection and nomination of candidates.

Mauritius has considered instituting an award but financial constraints have not permitted that.

More and more of the scholarship holders return home at the end of their course; the country thus benefits from their skills, particularly as the courses meet our manpower shortages.

As the University of Mauritius offers a limited range of courses, the tendency has been to make nominations mostly for undergraduate studies to meet the ever increasing demand for first degrees.

MONTSERRAT

The machinery set up to administer the Plan has remained the same for the period under review.

The Plan at times could be somewhat more flexible. For example in 1985

three requests were made for training in Canada, two for the postgraduate, and one for the undergraduate programme. The candidate for undergraduate studies was provisionally selected subject to university admission. The postgraduate candidates were "not successful in the competition".

Since it turned out that the undergraduate candidate did not gain admission, one would have thought that Montserrat could have been reconsidered, and given at least one place for the postgraduate studies. The announcement did say that 500 awards were available for that academic year!

No official report has been prepared on the operation of the Plan as such, but awards obtained are included in the Montserrat Public Service Training Report.

The Government of Montserrat looks forward to continued association with the Plan, which has been a longstanding contributor to the development of its manpower resources.

NAURU

(No statement has been received)

NEW ZEALAND

1985 was another successful year. Our new brochure is still having its effect attracting applicants from more countries than usual.

We were fortunate to be able to invite a second Administrative Fellow, Mr Angus Mackintosh.

NIGERIA

The administrative machinery for the C.S.F.P. remains the same and the agency address is as follows: The Federal Ministry of Education, Scholarships Section, P.M.B. 12573, Lagos.

Out of the five awards made available for the 1985-86 session only one award was finally taken up. As an awarding country, nominations submitted by other Commonwealth countries are given to the Committee of Vice Chancellors for placement. Complete dossiers are essential, and candidates must not be over 30 years old. They must fulfil the conditions of admission to relevant universities i.e. possession of a good university degree for postgraduate students.

Our scholars return home after the successful completion of their courses as employees in institutions of higher learning like the polytechnics, universities, research institutes and teaching hospitals where they demonstrate the academic and professional expertise acquired from their studies abroad. They also help to train some other experts.

With the keen interest to get to the academic peak, many Nigerians do qualify but enough opportunity is not given because of the meagre number who finally secure the awards.

As an awarding country, we appeal that other Commonwealth countries should please give publicity to our awards. Many countries do not react positively to our request for nominations.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

(No statement has been received)

ST. CHRISTOPHER NEVIS

(No statement has been received)

ST. HELENA

St. Helena is a grant-aided territory. There is no education at tertiary level and no Commonwealth Scholarships are awarded for study on the island.

Awards for scholarships were offered through the British Overseas Development Administration for approximately 25 places last year. This is to help upgrade education on the island and in preparation for the three tier system.

ST. LUCIA

The Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan has continued to be the main avenue for postgraduate training for St. Lucians during the period, 1 April 1985 to 31 March 1986.

The Plan is administered by the Training Division of the Government, and during the period efforts at adequate organisation of the work of staff there have been carried on especially to encourage the efficiency required in processing offers.

This year there was an increase in the set of awards as compared with previous years, and this in turn led to an increase in nominations submitted. Five awarding countries i.e., Canada, the United Kingdom, Trinidad, New Zealand and Australia, offered awards to a total of eight candidates, who accepted and who are presently on training.

During the year one scholar returned after his studies in crop protection in the United Kingdom and has returned to his post in the Ministry of Agriculture, where he is making a marked contribution to pest control in crops. Satisfactory reports were also received on students who took up awards in Australia, Canada and New Zealand the previous year.

St. Lucia functions as a nominating country and so far the Plan has operated successfully, though improvements could be made on meeting deadlines. During the year however the Government has to supplement funds received by a scholar who was awarded the Trinidad scholarship, as it was inadequate in view of the cost of living there. However, allowances paid by other awarding countries are satisfactory.

ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

The Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan (CSFP) continues to provide needed opportunities to prospective postgraduate students in St. Vincent and the Grenadines (S.V.G.).

In the last report period we did not receive as many applications as we would like but those which we did receive reflected the Government's emphasis on the nation's development. We received and accepted these awards from our five nominations: technology of crop protection in the United Kingdom; computer science in New Zealand, and M.B.A. in Canada. Students are presently pursuing courses and we are sure that on their return they will make significant contributions to St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

During the year we have increased our total nominations to eight, 50 per cent of which are women. Additionally, we were also able to send in nominations to Trinidad and Tobago and Hong Kong. We look forward to these nominations being successful.

SEYCHELLES

(No statement has been received)

SIERRA LEONE

Under the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan Sierra Leone instituted her first awards in the 1982-83 academic year. In this respect two awards were offered to some other Commonwealth countries. Two candidates from the U.K. were awarded scholarships and only one took up the award. The other candidate deferred his award to 1984-85 but never took it. In the 1984-85 academic year Sierra Leone instituted three awards (Sierra Leone 1985) an increase of one on the awards for the 1982-83 academic year. The emoluments and conditions of award were revised recently. Apart from this there has been no change in the machinery set up for the administration of the Plan.

The Ministry of Education operates the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan on behalf on the Government of the Republic of Sierra Leone. All correspondence with respect to the Plan should be addressed to the Senior Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Education, New England, Freetown, Sierra Leone.

As a nominating country, Sierra Leone continues to benefit from other Commonwealth countries like the U.K., Canada, Nigeria, Australia, New Zealand, Trinidad and Tobago. Sierra Leoneans who have participated in this Plan continue to play a significant role in the development of Sierra Leone. A good percentage of the participants are university lecturers and top senior civil servants whereas a few are in the medical and legal professions.

SINGAPORE

The Public Service Division is still the agency handling the CSFP awards in Singapore.

For the year 1985, four candidates were successful in securing awards in the following areas of study: Masters in meteorology in Australia; Masters in environmental forestry in UK; Masters in transportation engineering in UK; Masters in Chinese language testing in Hong Kong.

Our returned scholars have no doubt benefited from the training and are making valuable contributions to their respective organisations.

SOLOMON ISLANDS

(No statement has been received)

SRI LANKA

(The agency reported that there had been no changes in the period concerned)

SWAZILAND

The Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan receives wide publicity but because few of the candidates who apply are accepted less people tend to take interest in the Plan. Overall the numbers of people accepted under the Plan have increased from last year.

The machinery set up for the Administration of the Plan has not changed.

We have just noted that a new awarding country has been added and that is Malta. We have noted that for the Malta awards admission can be sought at the University of Malta or one of the technical institutes in Malta which we hope will make more of our candidates eligible for an award.

I found the law programme at Adelaide University very useful. The sophisticated setting was a great advantage in that it prepared me to meet the challenge of the role of law in a developing country. The training in research was particularly useful for a person of my job, which involves teaching and research.

The operation of the Plan is narrow in that most awarding countries want candidates for MSc and PhD's whereas as a developing country we cannot offer all the first degree courses and most are not available here. The awarding countries must accept more candidates so that we could meet our training needs.

TANZANIA

Administration of the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan in Tanzania is by the Higher Education Department of the Ministry of Education. Scholarships and Fellowships are advertised in the local newspapers to invite applications. Selection is then done by a special committee, the sub-committee of the Advisory Committee on Higher Education and Training (SACHET), after which successful candidates are formally nominated. No additions or changes have taken place in this machinery or in the general working of the Plan during this report period.

Tanzania 's Commonwealth Scholars are doing commendable work in their places of work. The studies they undertook through the Plan have proved to be relevant to their work and of significant benefit to the nation.

Official reports on the operation of the Plan in Tanzania are prepared as part of the reports on the administration of scholarships and fellowships from various countries by the Ministry of Education.

TONGA

The machinery set up for administration of the CSFP in Tonga remains unchanged as from 1 April 1985 to 1 April 1986.

The Kingdom of Tonga appreciates the continuing offer of awards from the awarding countries. The Kingdom of Tonga has benefited well from the awards that are offered annually from U.K., Canada, India, Australia, New Zealand and Cyprus. The Kingdom of Tonga would therefore like to extend their thanks towards the countries.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

The Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan continued to work smoothly.

No changes have taken place in the machinery set up for the administration of the Plan in Trinidad and Tobago either from a standpoint of a nominating or an awarding country.

Three additional awards have been instituted, one for agriculture at the postgraduate level and one each in the fields of economics and engineering, also at the postgraduate level. The emoluments, conditions of award, place and length of tenure, general criteria for selection, methods of application and selection, are the same as those associated with the original one award which was previously offered.

The Commonwealth Scholars who have returned to Trinidad and Tobago have continued to make a meaningful contribution to the country. As one of the main factors taken into consideration when candidates are selected for nomination for awards under the Plan is the priority needs of the country, the studies of such Commonwealth Scholars have been of relevance to the institutions in which they are employed.

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS

TUVALU

UGANDA

VANUATU

WESTERN SAMOA

(No statements have been received from the countries above)

ZAMBIA

No notable new development has taken place.

It is noticed that India which started offering scholarships under the Commonwealth Plan in 1984, offers these awards around the month of January for the same year whereas most if not all other Commonwealth countries offer the awards around the months of June to August for the following academic year in this case; although the scholarship and fellowship applications are processed collectively during the months of August and September, awards for India are processed later separately. For economic reasons it is necessary to publicise as well as process all the offers together at the same time to save costs and time arising from advertisements and meetings respectively. All offers should therefore be made to Zambia between the months of July and August for the following academic year.

Currently, some of the other countries which offer scholarships and fellowships to Zambia do not subsequently accept even a single nominee despite the adequacy of the nominees' qualification. It is important that serious considerations are given to the nominations for positive results. Where a nominee is turned down, reasons should be given to in order to enable the Committee to explain to the candidate and take necessary measures to avoid making similar nominations.

The utilisation of Commonwealth Scholarships and Fellowships is annually integrated into the overall Annual Report of the Ministry of Higher Education.

ZIMBABWE

(No statement has been received)