

1	2	3
	ii.	JV of NERA AS, Norway & Ericsson Business Network AB, Sweden.
	iii.	JV of Northern Telecom. UK & BICC Cables, UK.

Southern Region

1. <i>EMS/SCADA</i>	i.	ABB Network Control, Sweden
	ii	CEGELEC, France.
	iii.	Harris Controls, USA.
	iv.	Siemens Energy & Automation, USA.

2. TELECOMMUNICATION

a. <i>Fibre Optic</i>	i.	Pirelli Cavi, S.p.a., Italy.
	ii.	Siemens AG, Germany.
	iii.	Joint Venture of Purukawa Electric Co. Ltd., Japan; Fujitsu Ltd., Japan & NTT International Corporation, Japan.
	iv.	ABB Network Partner, Switzerland.
	v.	JV of Fujikura Ltd. Japan & NEC, Japan.
	vi.	JV of CEGELEC Sa, France & Focas Ltd., UK.
	vii.	JV of Ericsson Business Network AB, Sweden & NERA AS, Norway.
	viii.	JV of Northern Telecom, UK & BICC Cables, UK.

1	2	3
b. <i>Microwave</i>	i.	ABB Network Partner, Switzerland.
	ii.	Harris Farinon, Canada.
	iii.	Siemens, Italy.
	iv.	NERA AS, Norway.
	v.	CEGELEC SA, France.
	vi.	Northern Telecom, UK.
c. <i>Combined for Fibre Optic and Microwave.</i>	i.	JV of CEGELEC SA, France & Focas Ltd., UK.
	ii.	JV of NERA AS, Norway & Ericsson Business Network AB, Sweden.
	iii.	JV of Northern Telecom, UK & BICC Cables, UK.

Heritage of Indian Culture

4812. SHRI AJAY KUMAR S. SARNAIK : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government to inculcate in the youth an appreciation for the heritage of Indian culture; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b): while there is no such specific proposal at present, the Department of Youth Affairs and Sports does implement Schemes to encourage youth to understand, appreciate, preserve and develop the rich cultural heritage of the country. A National Youth Festival is organised every year during the National Youth Week involving Youth from all States and Union Territories in which they participate in various competitive and non-competitive programmes of folk and classical music, dance and drama, etc., depicting the richness and diversity of Indian culture. An art and craft exhibition from different parts of the country is also organised during the festival. Besides,

financial assistance is given to States/NGOs, etc., for organising National Integration Camps for youth in which youth from different parts of the country share and appreciate each other's culture and tradition. Financial assistance is also given for undertaking Youth Exchange Programmes to afford an opportunity to travel to other parts of the country to understand and appreciate their cultural and historical heritage.

Environment Management in South Asia

4813. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any seminar by the United State Information Service on regional cooperation to tackle the environment problems in South Asia was held in May 1998;

(b) whether there was a call in the seminar that India, Pakistan and Nepal should cooperate in the environmental management in the region;

(c) if so, the details of environmental management proposal in the seminar for cooperation among these countries; and

(d) the efforts the Government propose for meeting the cooperation of other countries in this region alongwith the area of their cooperation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) and (b): Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d): The seminar made some broad recommendations which are given in statement enclosed. Most of the recommendations are part of ongoing regional cooperation.

Statement

Recommendations made at the end of the Regional Environment Programme organised by USIS in May, 1998

- Need to strengthen the mechanism for sustained interaction and sharing of expertise and experiences between NGO's within India as well as at regional level to promote sustainable development;
- Need for greater information sharing on the latest and most effective techniques for air pollution monitoring testing and control;

- Need for regular monitoring and control of river water pollution, especially of major rivers such as the Ganga, which is an important source of drinking water;
- Focus and share information on proper sewage interception and treatment system to treat city effluents. Need to ensure use of appropriate technologies for sewage treatment;
- Share information on Environmental Impact Assessment and Management;
- Initiate collaborative community level projects, especially in the area of water quantity monitoring, testing and removal of fluorides;
- Greater information sharing on environmental contacts and resource persons;
- Need to study and take effective steps to reduce pollution of the Hadiyara Drain by India before it reaches Pakistan;
- Need for accurate reporting, increased coverage and closer cooperation amongst environmental journalists.

External Commercial Loan to PFC despite Sanctions

4814. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

Will the Minister of POWER be please to state:

(a) whether the Power Finance Corporation has successfully raised \$ 100 million loan, the first major external commercial loan following N-Tests despite the sanctions imposed by G-8 countries;

(b) if so, the sources from which the said loan has been procured; and

(c) the impact of the sanctions experienced in raising the said loan?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir. The loan agreement for US\$ 100 million syndicated loan facility has been signed on 7th July, 1998.

(b) The above loan will be drawn from a group of 14 banks from different countries i.e. ANZ Grindlays Export Finance Limited, Arab Banking Corporation (BSC),