

II D. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

The Department has been maintaining effective co-ordination and co-operation with various international organisations such as UNCTAD, WIPO, UNIDO, ESCAP, APCTT and UNESCO at different levels and on issues related to Technology Development and Technology Transfer in association with other concerned Ministries, wherever required.

1. APCTT and ESCAP

The matters pertaining to Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology (APCTT) under ESCAP were dealt with in cooperation with the Ministry of Commerce. The Department of Scientific & Industrial Research (DSIR) continued to play the role of focal point for the APCTT. DSIR helped in preparing a brief on technological issues for the use of Indian delegation to the 58th Annual Session of ESCAP held in May 2002 at Bangkok.

Shri K.V. Srinivasan, Adviser, DSIR participated in the Eighteenth Technical Advisory Committee meeting of APCTT held during October 28-29, 2002 and the Seventeenth Session of the Governing Board of APCTT held during October 31-November 1, 2002 at Hanoi, Vietnam. These meetings were attended by participants from China, Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand and others.

Institutional support worth US \$ 100,000 in Indian Rupees was provided to the Centre.

Senior officers of the Department also participated in various workshops/

seminars conducted by the APCTT during the year.

2. UNESCO

The *Information for All programme UNESCO* provides a platform for international policy discussions and guidelines for action on scientific & technical information such as: 1) preservation of information and universal access to it, 2) participation of all in the emerging global information society, and 3) ethical, legal and societal consequences of ICT developments. The programme, namely SASTINET provides a framework for international co-operation and international and regional partnerships. It supports the development of common strategies, methods and tools. NISSAT has been designated as the National Focal Point of the SASTINET .

Besides, NISSAT Participated in the Expert Meeting on Digital Content Development for Information Societies with special reference to the Asia/ Pacific Region, General Assembly of ICSTI and seminar on Information Access, Meeting of the UNESCO Observatory of the Information Society in Asia, the First statutory meeting of Asia Pacific Information Network (APIN) & Regional Seminar on the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS). UNESCO has also awarded a project "to prepare a study report on the Library and Information Science (LIS) Schools in the Asia region.