

**Pondicherry:**

A voluntary agency, named—'PUDUVAL ARIVOLI IYAKKAM SOCIETY' has undertaken a project to cover a total of 1.50 lakh illiterate in the Union Territory by 1990-91.

**Uttar Pradesh:**

The State Government has undertaken an experimental project to achieve 100% literacy in 6 blocks of Mirzapur District in 3 phases (1990-91) with a coverage of 6.00 lakh illiterate adults. A separate project for covering 1.50 lakh illiterates in the age-group 6-35 in 400 villages of 4 blocks in the newly created district of Sonbhadra is proposed to be undertaken by a voluntary agency named—Banavasi Seva Ashram, Govindpur

**West Bengal:**

The State Government has taken up a project for imparting functional literacy to about 47.36 lakh illiterate adults in 114 development blocks i.e. 1/3rd of the total number of blocks in the State.

In addition several State Governments are taking up complete eradication of illiteracy in selected districts towns, blocks of villages.

**Hyperplane Project**

1092. DR. A.K.PATEL:  
SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the present stage of the hyperplane project which is proposed to revolutionise the launch vehicle technology;

(b) the cost of the project and the resultant benefits expected of it;

(c) how it would compare with the launch vehicle technology of other advanced countries; and

(d) the priority assigned to this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. RAJA RAMANNA): (a) to (d). A team of scientists has carried out a conceptual study regarding options for futuristic launch vehicles. There is no project proposal regarding development of Hyperplane at present.

**UGC Pay Scales to Medical College Teachers**

1093. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is disparity between the pay scales of Medical College teachers and teachers in Art and Science College, Engineering College, Veterinary Colleges, Agricultural Colleges and Law Colleges etc.;

(b) if so, whether Government are considering to include Medical College teachers also under the UGC Scheme; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M.G.K. MENON) (a) and (b). According to the information furnished by them, the Government of Kerala have decided to extend the UGC Scheme of Revision of Pay Scales in the universities and colleges of Kerala Vide their order dated 13th March, 1990. The State Government have however indicated that the detailed orders indicating the implementation of the specific provisions of the scheme relating to

recruitment, qualifications, career advancement, continuing education, performance appraisal etc., would be issued separately.

(c) Since medical education is not within the purview of UGC, it is not proposed to include medical colleges under the UGC Scheme of revision of pay scales.

#### **Assignment of Land to Settlers in Kerala**

1094. SHRI P.C.THOMAS: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kerala Government has made any request to make amendment to Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 to facilitate the cultivating agriculturists in forests areas in Kerala to retain the land for cultivation who are in possession thereof prior to 1 January, 1977; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a). No. Sir,

(b) The matter is subjudice.

#### **Financial Assistance for Technological Upgradation**

1095. SHRI DHARMESH PRASAD VARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have asked the industrialists to update the technology in the industry;

(b) if so, whether Government are con-

sidering to give financial assistance for this purpose; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M.G.K. MENON): (a) to (c). In the scene of industrial technology, the imported component contributes to a substantial part of industrial production in the country. R&D efforts to absorb imported technology are inadequate R & D in industry by industry is of recent origin in India and has been increasing of late. Government in recognition of the need for technology upgradation has evolved measures such as: encouraging and recognising establishment of in-house R&D units in industries; encouraging establishment of new enterprises using indigenous technology developed; providing support to consultancy organisations with a view to assisting enterprises; and providing support to programmes undertaken in the industries for absorption of imported technology. To absorb imported technology, partial financial assistance is being provided to specific approved programmes of over 20 companies, supported by Department of Scientific & Industrial Research (DSIR). Some examples are: Instrumentation Limited, Bharat Earth Movers Limited, Hindustan Antibiotics, Kerala Minerals and Metals. Tamil Nadu Industrial Explosives, Punjab Tractors etc.

#### **Assistance to Orissa for Remote Sensing Application Centre**

1096. SHRI BHAJAMAN BEHERA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the extent to which the States are being assisted in the matter of rapid image processing/remote sensing applications;