

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;