

## *INDUSTRY OVERVIEW ...*

### *CURRENT SITUATION ...*

#### *Research and Development...*

Although much of the R&D activity is still concentrated amongst several of the largest companies, it is now spreading across a wider spectrum as evidenced by the rapid growth of the venture capital industry. The first venture capital fund in Singapore was established in 1983 and today the level of investment is approximately S\$1050 million. The venture capital industry invests in many start-up and small and medium sized enterprises developing high technologies, especially electronics.

### *FUTURE THRUST*

In line with Singapore's strategic thrust to upgrade its R&D and technical capabilities, the government has targeted six key areas for growth for the 1990s:

- Biotechnology and biomedical science,
- Automation, robotics and artificial intelligence,
- Information technology,
- Microelectronics,
- Communications technology,
- Laser and optics technology.