

the large and small scale sectors.

- (v) Government of India introduced a Margin Money Scheme with a view to supplementing the efforts of the State Governments in reducing the incidence of sickness in the small scale sector. Under the liberalised scheme the maximum amount of assistance per unit available to sick small scale units for rehabilitation has been increased from Rs. 20,000/- to Rs. 50,000/-.
- (vi) An excise Relief Scheme for weak units has also been announced. The scheme would apply to any unit in which 50% or more of the maximum net worth in any of the previous five accounting years has been eroded by accumulated losses. The unit should have a rehabilitation, modernisation or diversification package approved by a designated financial institution. The eligible unit would be entitled to an interest free loan, with a grace period of 3 years and repayable over seven years, amounting to 50% of its actual excise payments for three years subsequent to the approval of the scheme. The total amount given by way of such 'excise loans' will not exceed 25% of the overall cost of rehabilitation/ modernisation/ diversification.
- (vii) A small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has been established in April last year to function as an Apex Bank for tiny and small scale industries. The authorised

capital of this bank will be Rs. 250 crores and will be subscribed to by IDBI.

Non-SSI sick units include Medium scale sick industries also as per the definition of sickness adopted by Reserve Bank of India since 1987 onwards.

[*Translation*]

Sector-wise Allocations in Eighth Five Year Plan

*157. SHRI HARI BHAI SHANKAR MAHALE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the Sectors for which maximum amount is likely to be allocated during the Eighth Five Year Plan period; and

(b) the details of the proposed expenditure in the Eighth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI KAMAL MORARKA): (a) and (b). The exercises relating to the allocation of funds, sector-wise, for the Eighth Five Year Plan period are underway. On completion of the exercises, the details of the allocations will be incorporated in the Eighth Plan document.

Formulation of Eighth Five Year Plan

*158. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the basic priorities and aims kept in view while formulating the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) the norms fixed for allocation of