

(b) if so, the target set therein for the export of seafood;

(c) the amount proposed to be spent on the development of infrastructure to facilitate the expansion of seafood trade; and

(d) the details of the programmes drawn up in that direction?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE
(SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) Government's

longterm strategy for the expansion of sea-food trade inter alia include promotion of deep sea fishing, brackish water shrimp farming and production and export of value added items.

(b) The target set for export of seafood for 1988-89 is Rs. 580 crores and that for the terminal year of Seventh Plan is Rs. 700 crores.

(c) and (d). A Statement is given below.

STATEMENT

Details of the assistance proposed to be given by the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) for infrastructure development

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Scheme</i>	<i>Proposed for 1989-90 (Rs. lakhs)</i>
1	Subsidy for out-board motors	5.00
2.	Subsidy assistance to Seafood processors for upgrading the efficiency of plate freezers	5.00
3.	Subsidy for installation of generator sets	3.00
4.	Subsidy assistance for upgrading the efficiency of cold storages	3.00
5.	Subsidy for machinery and equipment for production of I.Q.F. Shrimp	25.00
6.	Subsidy for automatic flake/chip ice making machines	3.00
7.	Subsidy for refrigerated trucks	1.00

Minimum age for Marriage

scribed under various laws in the country;

2157. SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(b) whether the age limit so prescribed is in practice adhered to;

(a) the minimum age of marriage pre-

(c) if not, the percentage of marriages not conforming to the prescribed age; and

(d) the steps taken or contemplated to ensure compliance of laws in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (c). The minimum age of marriage prescribed under the Indian Christian Marriage Act, 1872, the Parsi Marriage and Divorce Act, 1936, the special Marriage act, 1954 and the Hindu Marriage Act 1955, in case of a male, is 21 years and, in case of a female, is 18 years. Muslim Law provides that any Muslim who has attained puberty can enter into a contract of marriage and any Muslim who has not attained puberty can be validly contracted into marriage by his or her respective guardian. The Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929, which is applicable to all persons irrespective of their religion, prescribes the marriageable age in case of males as 21 years and in case of females as 18 years. There have, however, been cases of child marriages in violation of these Acts in some parts of the country on account of social traditions prevalent amongst certain section of the society. It would not be possible to give percentage of marriages not conforming to the prescribed age.

(d) A number of steps including stress on education have been taken for educating people about the consequences of the evil practice of child marriage through mass media, by involving voluntary organisations in the task and by other measures. This includes putting posters, radio programmes, exhibiting cinema slides, short documentary films on T.V., press posters, group discussions with rural women. etc.

Items Identified for Export

2158. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK:

SHRI JAGANNATH
PATTNAIK:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have identified the items in Orissa and other States having export potential;

(b) if so, the details of items identified in different States;

(c) the various channelising agencies for the export of those items; and

(d) the action plan drawn up to give a boost to the export of those items?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH) (a) to (d). A Statement is given below.

In its effort to involve State Government in the export promotion activities, Ministry of Commerce had organised a Seminar to finalise the Action Plans, prepared by Trade Development Authority, for promotion of exports from Orissa, Bihar and Sikkim on February 1st and 2nd, 1989 at Bhubaneswar and to evolve a long-term export strategy. The action plans had sought to identify specific products having potential for exports, export worthy units in the concerned product groups and infrastructural facilities needed for back up support and had also suggested specific export developmental activities to be undertaken in the over-seas markets.

2. Some of the thrust products, identified for the State of Orissa are Handlooms, Ready-made garments, Leather products, Handicrafts, Soft-ware, cashew, Tea, Polished granite, Charge Chrome, Cotton yarn and products of tribal areas like Sal seeds, niger seeds, kendu leaves, tamarind, agarbattis, Sobai rope and marine products. The products identified for export promotion from Bihar are: Handlooms-cotton, Silk, woollen carpets and druggets; Leather manufactures; Mineral products; Electronics including computer software, Fruits, both fresh and processed; Ready-made garments; and