

(c) Lower Division Clerks with eight years' regular service in the grade are eligible for promotion by seniority to the Upper Division Grade. LDCs with five years service are eligible to appear in Limited Departmental Competitive Examination conducted by the Staff Selection Commission every year for filling a portion of vacancies in the UD grade.

News Units of All India Radio in Orissa

1473. SHRI GANESHWAR KUSUM : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to set up a separate News Unit for All India Radio, Sambalpur in Orissa ; and

(b) if so, the details of steps taken to implement the above proposal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Coconut cultivation in Orissa

1474. SHRI GANESHWAR KUSUM : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to extend coconut cultivation in the coastal areas of Orissa ;

(b) if so, the schemes under which coconut cultivation has been extended in Orissa so far ;

(c) the target set for the extension of coconut cultivation in the Seventh Five Year plan; and

(d) the steps being taken to achieve the target ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) It is proposed to cover 17 thousand hectares under coconut during the Seventh Five Year Plan . The following Projects/ Schemes are being implemented for achieving this target :—

(1) Project for coconut Plantation on canal embankments.

(2) Project for expansion of area under coconut.

(3) Scheme for distribution of coconut seedlings under 20-Point and Homestead Plantation Programme.

(4) Scheme for setting up of coconut plantation providing institutional finance.

(5) Scheme for production of T & D coconut seedlings for distribution to farmers. .

Cultivation of banana, pineapple, etc.

1475. SHRI GANESHWAR KUSUM : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to State :

(a) what efforts are being made by Government to bring more areas in the country under pineapple, banana and papaya cultivation ;

(b) the steps taken in this regard during the last three years in Orissa ; and

(c) what are the details of the areas which have been brought under the cultivation of these fruits in Orissa ?