60	Written Answers to	[RAJYA SABHA]	Unstarred Questions
1	2	3	4
14.	Himachal Pradesh	16.09.2011	Nil
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	17.08.2011	Nil
16.	Jharkhand	18.06.2010	Nil
17.	Manipur	02.12.2010	Nil
18.	Meghalaya	30.07.2012	Nil
19.	Madhya Pradesh	18.01.2011	Nil
20.	Mizoram	19.04.2012	Nil
21.	Nagaland	08.09.2011	Nil
22.	Odisha	01.08.2012	Nil
23.	Rajasthan	23.11.2010	Nil
24.	Sikkim	20.04.2012	Nil
25.	Tripura	14.06.2012	Nil
26.	Uttar Pradesh	28.04.2011	Nil
27.	Uttarakhand	19.07.2011	Nil
28.	West Bengal	13.12.2010	Nil
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islan	nds 20.07.2012	Nil
30.	NCT of Delhi	19.04.2012	Nil
31.	Daman and Diu	20.07.2012	Nil
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	07.08.2012	Nil
33.	Lakshadweep	12.08.2011	Nil
34.	Puducherry	23.04.2012	Nil
35.	Chandigarh	25.07.2012	Nil

Sale of guar to United States

2967. SHRI AVINASH PANDE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the sale of guar to United States at rates 10 times higher than the usual price due to its use in the process of 'hydraulic fracking';

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- (b) if so, how does this affects the production, availability for indigenous use, as well as the export rate of the crop; and
 - (c) how has this impacted the lives of farmers engaged in guar cultivation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) to (c) The United States is the largest consumer of guar gum representing 25% of world trade. India exported 3,25,904 MT of Guar during the year 2010-11, out of which major export of 2,05,894 MT was to United States amounting to Rs. 1,68,594 lacs (Source: www.agriexchange.apeda.gov.in).

Production of Guar is mainly concentrated in the arid region of Rajasthan, Gujarat, Haryana and some part of Punjab. Rajasthan contributes more than 70% of Guar production. Normal production of Guar in India is 13,09,140 tonnes from normal area of 33,24,780 hectares.

The price of Guar has substantially increased during the last one year. Increase in prices of the crop has resulted in increase of area with increased production. The enhanced production has provided raw material both for the indigenous use as well as for the export. Being a leguminous crop, guar enriches the soil health and benefits the other crops in the rotation. Therefore, the farmers are cultivating this crop, which is a profitable proposition.

Price to farmers for their produce

2968. SHRI AAYANUR MANJUNATHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether farmers in the country including Karnataka are not getting adequate price for their produce;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government is contemplating to provide assistance to farmers including that of Karnataka; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) The Government ensures Minimum Support Price (MSP) through procurement operations undertaken by the Central, State and cooperative agencies in the States, including Karnataka.

State Governments have been alerted from time to time to ensure MSP to farmers.

(c) and (d) To encourage local procurement to the maximum extent thereby extending the benefits of MSP to local farmers Government is implementing Decentralised Procurement of foodgrains. Under the decentralized procurement scheme, the State Government itself undertakes direct purchase of paddy and wheat and