

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:186

ANSWERED ON:25.07.2006

INDO PAK TRADE .

Nayak Shri Ananta;Singh Shri Dushyant

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) The items at present being exported to and imported from Pakistan;
- (b) The border areas, through which export and import is going on; and
- (c) The details of prospect of each item being exported to and imported from Pakistan?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) India and Pakistan have no formal trade agreement. India has granted Most Favoured Nation status to Pakistan whereas Pakistan maintains a Positive List of importable items from India which presently consists of 773 items. The major items of export from India to Pakistan are Dyes/intermediates and coal tar chemicals, Oil Meals, Drugs, Pharmaceuticals and fine chemicals, Plastic and Linoleum products, Petroleum (crude and products), Iron Ore and Inorganic/organic/agro chemicals. The major items of import from Pakistan are Pulses, Cotton yarn and fabrics, Fruits and nuts excluding cashew nuts, Organic chemicals, Metalifers Ores and metal scrap and Man-made filament /spun yarn.

(b) Till May 2005, trade with Pakistan on surface route had been restricted by rail rail through the Attari/Wagah border. In May 2005 Pakistan announced its decision to import live animals, halal meats and agricultural items such as onion, potato, tomato and garlic from India by land (road) route (Attari-Wagah) as a temporary measure. As far as India is concerned, Attari Land Custom Station is already a notified route for import and export of goods from Pakistan since November 1994. Pakistan is yet to open Wagah border for bilateral trade on permanent basis.

(c) Both India and Pakistan are taking measures to enhance bilateral trade through various consultations under Joint Study Group and talks on economic and commercial cooperation within the framework of the Composite Dialogue. The details of prospect of each item being exported to and imported from Pakistan cannot be quantified at this stage.