

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4222  
ANSWERED ON:03.08.2009  
TRADE ON BORDER  
Kalmadi Shri Suresh

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

- (a) whether the opening up of the Line of Control (LoC) for trade between India and Pakistan has affected export trade in Punjab through Wagah Border;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether importers in Pakistan are preferring to import goods through LoC causing a set back to the exporters in Punjab; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and corrective steps being taken in this regard?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA)

(a) to (d) We are in receipt of certain requests from traders organisations wherein it has been stated that the opening of duty free trade on the LOC between India and Pakistan has resulted in diversion of trade from the Wagah border to the LOC causing a setback to the exporters. The traders associations have indicated that trade across the LOC is not restricted to the locally produced 21 items as was originally intended but includes goods being produced in other regions. Steps have been initiated to make the items listed for trade more specific and to improve the facilitation mechanism on entry/exit points so that only trade products in the agreed list is allowed.