

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4934  
ANSWERED ON:07.05.2012  
PAKISTAN EXHIBITION IN DELHI  
Dhruvanarayana Shri R. ;Siricilla Shri Rajaiah

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

- (a) whether the Government has announced its first ever premium Pakistani lifestyle exhibition at Pragati Maidan, Delhi in order to enhance the trade relations between India and Pakistan;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the response received so far;
- (c) whether India and Pakistan have held discussions towards issuing of multiple entry and reporting free-visas for businessmen as a part of reducing non-tariff barriers for greater trade and economic ties; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the response received so far?

**Answer**

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

- (a) Trade Development Authority of Pakistan(TDAP), Karachi organised 'Lifestyle Pakistan' Exhibition at Hall No. 18, Pragati Maidan from April 12-15, 2012.
- (b) As per the information furnished by India Trade Promotion Organisation(ITPO), 95 Pakistani companies participated in the above exhibition displaying products such as fashion accessories, fabrics, home textiles, leather goods, furniture, handicrafts & Jewellery. A total of 28,916 entry tickets to Pragati Maidan were sold during this period.
- (c)& (d): Visa restriction is considered a major hurdle by traders in the normalization of bilateral trade ties between India and Pakistan. In the Joint Statement issued after the bilateral discussion held on 13.4.2012 between Commerce Ministers of India and Pakistan both Ministers expressed joint wish that business visa regime needs to be liberalized at the earliest. It was also noted that a formal decision on this is expected to be taken at the forthcoming meeting of Home Secretary of India and Secretary of Ministry of Interior of Pakistan.