

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1101
ANSWERED ON:13.07.2009
TRADE ON THE LINE OF CONTROL
Haque Shri Sk. Saidul

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

- (a) the details of items traded between the crossâ€"Line of Control during the last three years, year-wise and item-wise;
- (b) whether there is lack of proper checking on the trade between Line of Control (LoC);
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the corrective steps being taken in this regard;
- (d) whether trade of non-State items have been increasing between the countries; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a) to (e) LOC trade between Salamabad on the Indian side and Chakoti on the Pakistani side on Srinagar – Muzaffarabad Highway; and between Chakkanda-bagh on Indian side and Rawalkote on the Pakistan side commenced as a confidence building measure (CBM) with effect from 21.10.2008. Both sides can trade 21 items as indicated in the list annexed hereto. The objective behind allowing this trade is to facilitate movement of goods traditionally exchanged between the two sides, to maintain people to people contact and to allow access to nearby markets for local produce. It has been reported that quantities of items traded between two sides have increased in the month of March 2009 over the figures reported for October, 2008. Steps have been initiated to improve facilitation mechanism on entry/exit points so that only trade of products in the agreed lists is allowed.