

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1227  
ANSWERED ON:18.07.2014  
TRADE BETWEEN INDIA AND PAKISTAN  
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

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

- (a) whether as per the study conducted by Indian Council for Research on Economic Relations (ICRIER), trade potential between India and Pakistan has increased manifold;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with other details pointed out in the study on trade potential between India and Pakistan;
- (c) whether both the countries have identified the areas and commodities for increasing bilateral trade; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and steps taken or being taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

- (a) As per the Working Paper No. 267 titled 'Normalizing India-Pakistan Trade' published by ICRIER, the trade potential between India and Pakistan was estimated to lie between US\$ 10.9 Billion and US\$ 19.8 Billion.
- (b) The Study brought out that huge trade potential exists in textile sector, automobile sector and in Service Sectors of Information Technology, Business Process Outsourcing (BPO), health and entertainment services.
- (c) & (d) Both countries have identified trade opportunities in diverse sectors including textiles, agricultural products, animal feed, gypsum, chemicals, petroleum products etc. Preferential Trading Arrangements have also been worked out under the SAFTA (South Asia Free Trade Area) process.