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Title: Need to connect the upcoming Integrated Check Post at Wagah with the Dedicated Freight Corridor.

SHRI PRATAP SINGH BAJWA (GURDASPUR): Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Sir. At the outset, let me thank you for giving me this opportunity to raise this very important matter concerning my State of Punjab.

When regulatory and support functions in an integrated manner were not available in one Complex on the international borders of our country, and realizing that there is no single agency responsible for coordinating the functioning of various Government authorities, the Government tried to redress this situation by deciding to set up 13 Integrated Check-Posts throughout the country.

With the coming up of one such Integrated Check-Post at Wagah, there is a need to connect it with the Dedicated Freight Corridor after extending it to Amritsar. That is what I want in Punjab.

Further, it requires the establishment of the following facilities: (1) A fully developed railway siding should be set up at the Attari Railway Station with storage go-downs and other facilities; and (2) There is also a need for opening the railway route for the containerized movement as is being done in all other international land ports.

The Government can also look for private partners in the region to establish some of these facilities through a PPP mode since a lot of companies are interested in sending their products to Pakistan. However, the absence of containerized movement is creating hindrances.

**सभापति महोदय :** अपनी डिमाण्ड रखिए।

SHRI PRATAP SINGH BAJWA Therefore, my request to the hon. Railway Minister is to look into this matter and consider this proposal of linking the Integrated Check Post with the Dedicated Freight Corridor after extending it up to Amritsar as this would not only make it a successful gateway to Pakistan, but also would boost the trade prospects with Afghanistan, Bandar Abbas in Iran and St. Petersburg in Russia to a very great extent. Thank you.