

Seventeenth Loksabha

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Title: Regarding opening of 'Border Haat' at Hilli Border in South Dinajpur district, West Bengal.

DR. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR (BALURGHAT): When the bilateral relations between India and Bangladesh were improved, the 'Border Haat' as a trading marketplace for the benefit of local communities of both sides was conceived along the India-Bangladesh border. These are organised on a specific day of the week for fixed time duration and only registered buyers/sellers are allowed to trade which is to be carried out in Indian Rupees/ Bangladesh Taka. Currently, four border haats are operational along the India-Bangladesh border and proposals of six more border haats are in the pipeline. Balurghat is a backward constituency and the local public here is lacking in employment, business and trade. Locals have been demanding for the opening of one such Border Haat at Hilli Border for decades. It will benefit the local communities by providing opportunities for livelihood and social interaction.

Therefore, I raise the demand for opening of one Border Haat at Hilli Border in South Dinajpur District, West Bengal.