

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:845
ANSWERED ON:25.07.2003
BORDER TRADE BETWEEN INDIA AND CHINA
SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV (PATIL);V. VETRISELVAN

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

- (a) whether the Government have signed a memorandum with China on opening border trade through Sikkim;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any blue print has been prepared for the items to be exported or imported between two countries;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the expected time by which border trade between the two countries likely to be started?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI S.B. MOOKHERJEE)

- (a) & (b) Yes, Sir. During the visit of Prime Minister to China from June 22-27, 2003, India and China signed, inter alia, a Memorandum on Expanding Border Trade. It adds another Pass on the India-China border and sets up an additional point on each side for border trade. The two sides agreed to use Nathula as the Pass for entry and exit of persons, means of transport and commodities engaged in border trade.
- (c) & (d) Details about items for export to and import from China through Nathula pass are not included in this Memorandum.
- (e) No time-frame has been set in the Memorandum for starting the border trade.