

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2694  
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2003  
TEA ACCORD WITH PAKISTAN  
BRAHMANAND MANDAL

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

- (a) whether the Indian Tea Association representing the Indian tea industry has entered into an agreement with the Pakistan Tea Association for facilitating tea trade between the two countries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the extent to which the opening of trade channels with Pakistan would give a boost to the Indian tea industry;
- (d) whether any order for Indian tea has been received;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the steps being taken by the Government to fulfil the said order?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO)

(a) to (c): Yes, Sir. An Indian tea trade and industry delegation under the auspices of Indian Tea Association visited Pakistan in June-July, 2003 and signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Pakistan Tea Association (PTA) providing for import of 10 million kgs of tea from India by PTA, if quality and prices are competitive. This will help in promoting trade and economic cooperation between India and Pakistan, which cannot be quantified further at this stage.

(d) to (f): According to the tea industry sources, some orders have been received from Pakistan. Exporters of tea from India to Pakistan would be eligible for all benefits and financial assistance under the various schemes of the Tea Board to promote exports of Indian tea.