

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1248
ANSWERED ON:18.07.2014
INDO BANGLADESH TRADE
Pala Shri Vincent H

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

- (a) the details of infrastructure facilities in relation to road, air and water connectivity currently available for transporting goods for intra-country trade between India and Bangladesh;
- (b) whether proposals for upgradation of these infrastructural facilities have been received; and
- (c) if so, the details of proposals received in this regard during the last three years along with the action taken by the Government thereon?

Answer

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

(a) Presently, trade between India and Bangladesh is carried out through Land Custom Stations, Integrated Check Post, three railway links, inland waterways etc. Local trade is also allowed at two Border Haats.

(b) & (c) The Bilateral Trade Agreement between India and Bangladesh, renewed from time to time, provides for expansion of trade and economic cooperation, making mutually beneficial arrangement for the use of waterways, railways and roadways, passage of goods between two places in one country through the territory of the other.

With a view to provide adequate infrastructure for cross border movement of persons, vehicles and goods which will facilitate trade and commercial activities, Government has decided in- principle to set up 7 Integrated Check Posts(ICPs) at Petrapole, Agratala, Dawki, Hili, Chandrabangha, Sutrakhandi and Kawarpuchia in Phase I & II. Government has also selected 8 LCSs on India-Bangladesh border for upgradation under the Assistance to States for Developing Export Infrastructure and Allied Activities(ASIDE) Scheme of Department of Commerce.

In addition, Government has given approval for setting up of 4 more Border Haats at Kamla Sagar, Srinagar, Palbasti and Kamalpur on India –Bangladesh border.