

(c) if so, what steps Government is taking to allow maximum number of products for export to each other's country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) In the Joint Statement issued after bilateral meeting between Commerce Ministers of India and Pakistan (April 2012), both sides agreed to take all further action to encourage greater trade through the new Integrated Check Post at Attari. It was also agreed that Pakistan will take necessary steps to remove extant restrictions on items permitted to be imported through the land route.

Removal of protectionist trade barriers by SAFTA nations

3584. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has asked South Asian Free Trade Agreement (SAFTA) member countries to remove all protectionist trade barriers to achieve regional economies of scale at a faster pace; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and response received so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) This issue is being discussed in the trade related meetings of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) countries. There is a general consensus amongst the SAFTA member countries to liberalize the SAFTA trading arrangements and to remove the trade barriers. This progress is ongoing in consultation with the stakeholders.

Missing files on post 1914 era of Sino-Indian relations from National Archives

3585. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI : Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that crucial files on the post 1914 era of Sino-Indian relations are missing from the National Archives in New Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that documents of similar importance have been lost; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to trace out these lost files?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) No, Sir

(b) Does not arise

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

National Cultural Fund for conservation of monuments

3586. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI : Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has set up National Cultural Fund for conservation, renovation of various monuments in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether PSUs and corporates have also contributed for conservation, renovation of various monuments in the country during the last three years;

(d) if so, the details of the contribution committed and actually released by various PSUs and corporates during the said period; and

(e) if so, the details of the status of various such monuments?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) and (b) The National Culture Fund (NCF) was set up as a trust under the Ministry of Culture in 1996 with a purpose to augment Government effort and to facilitate Public-Private partnership in the field of heritage conservation and promotion besides enabling institutions and individuals to perform their rightful role in promoting and preserving India's rich cultural heritage.

(c) to (e) The NCF in collaboration with Public Sector Undertakings and Private Sector Corporate entities who have come forward to contribute to the Fund, has extended financial assistance for taking up conservation, restoration and development of protected monuments so identified by the donor entities in the country. The details of such contributions, committed and released, monuments taken up for conservation/renovation/ development and their respective current status in each case are at Statement.