

Secretaries for full normalisation of trade relations. It had been agreed that Pakistan will move from a 'Positive List' to a small 'Negative List' by February, 2012. The Negative List of 1209 items has since been formally notified by the Government of Pakistan on 20th March, 2012. This implies that except for these 1209 items, all other items can be exported. Such substantial increase in tradable commodities is expected to reduce trade through third countries.

It is expected that the complete phasing out of the Negative List before the end of 2012, would complete the transition to Most Favoured Nation (MFN) status for India, by Pakistan.

(c) In addition to the above, further steps taken to improve bilateral trade relations include:

- (i) A liberalized visa regime for business persons has also been agreed between both countries and is ready to be signed.
- (ii) Separate Joint Expert Groups have been set up to examine the feasibility of trade in electricity and initiate trade in petroleum products.
- (iii) Central Banks of both countries are working out modalities for opening of bank branches in each other's countries.
- (iv) Inauguration in April, 2012 of the state of the art Integrated Check Post at Attari has helped businessmen on both sides to expand trade by the Attari-Wagah land route.

#### **Violation of multi-brand trade norms by Bharti-Walmart**

1097. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Bharti-Walmart, a joint venture of Walmart and Bharti Enterprises have violated the multi-brand trade norms;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard;
- (c) whether at present Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) is not allowed in multi-brand retail; and

(d) if so, what action Government has taken against the above entity for carrying out retail trading in multi-brand sector in violation of existing FDI policy of Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) to (d) As per extant FDI policy, FDI in multi-brand retail trade is prohibited. A writ petition has been filed in the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi [W.P(C) 4035/2012] - Ms.Vandana Shiva vs. Union of India and Others, alleging that M/s. Bharti Walmart Private Ltd. and M/s. Bharti Retail (Bharti Enterprises Ltd.) are directly and indirectly carrying out retail trading in multi-brand in violation of the FDI policy prohibiting multi-brand retail trade. The matter is sub-judice.

#### **Impact of violence in manufacturing sector on industries**

1098. SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that if violent incidents erupt in manufacturing sector of the country, it would adversely impact industry sector;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether it is also a fact that such violence would also impact foreign investors; and

(d) if so, Government's reaction thereto, and alertness and caution to be adopted by the management to tackle such type of violence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) to (d) The Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion (DIPP) does not have any specific data regarding violence in any specific unit having adverse impact on the entire industrial sector or on foreign investors.

However, Law & Order is a State subject and it is the responsibility of the State Government to ensure that violent incidents do not occur in industrial units. Also the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) Act, 1968 (modified *vide* Act No. 14 of 1983, 20 of 1989 and 40 of 1999 and 22 of 2009) has a provision for protecting and safeguarding any private industrial undertaking and its employees. The Director General