

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
(DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE)

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1790 (H)
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08th DECEMBER, 2021

TRADE WITH BHUTAN

1790(H). SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV:

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE & INDUSTRY** (वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री) be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government and the Government of Bhutan are contemplating to open seven more trade entry and exit gates under an agreement;
- (b) if so, the details of locations where all these gates are to be opened along with its benefits to the traders and industrialists of our country;
- (c) whether there is any possible impact on India's trade with Bhutan due to the increasing influence of China; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती अनुप्रिया पटेल)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

- (a) & (b): The opening of entry and exit points at India-Bhutan border is bilaterally agreed under the Agreement on Trade, Commerce and Transit between India and Bhutan. Recently, during a bilateral meeting, a Letter of Exchange to include the following seven additional entry/exit points to the Protocol of the India-Bhutan Agreement on Trade, Commerce and Transit was signed for formalising trade between the two countries through these entry/exit points:
- i. Nagarkata (West Bengal) Land Customs Station without commodity restrictions.
 - ii. Agartala (Tripura) Land Customs Station as an entry /exit point.
 - iii. Pandu port (Guwahati Steamerghat, Assam) as an entry /exit point, subject to cross border control at Dhubri.
 - iv. Jogighopa port (Assam) as an entry/exit point, subject to cross border control at Dhubri.
 - v. Asian Highway 48 connecting Torsha Tea Garden (West Bengal) in India and Ahllay in Bhutan as an additional route corresponding to the Land Custom Station at Jaigaon.
 - vi. Kamardwisa (Assam) as an entry/exit point.
 - vii. Birpara (West Bengal) as an entry/exit point.

This forms an addendum to the Protocol of 2016 India-Bhutan Agreement on Trade, Commerce and Transit and facilitate India-Bhutan bilateral trade to our mutual advantage.

(c) & (d): India and Bhutan share unique and exemplary ties of friendship and cooperation, built on shared values and interests, trust, mutual respect and close understanding. The bilateral trade between India and Bhutan has more than doubled in last seven years.
