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Shri Narendra Modi
Hon'ble Prime Minister of India
152, South Block,
Raisina Hill,
New Delhi 110011

आदरणीय नरेन्द्रजी,

Trade potential between India and Pakistan

Greetings!

CUTS International has calculated that potential trade between India and Pakistan is US\$ 507 billion as per 2013 trade data. As per our calculations there will be huge gains to Indian consumers without any loss to our producers. Also, there will be new revenue generation for our governments as much of the trade is happening informally.

We have identified specific products many of which are currently traded between the two countries but far less in volume. Such new trade will give further boost to the production of those commodities.

Furthermore and by consulting Indian and Pakistani business persons and chambers, we have identified products which are currently not traded between India and Pakistan where a potential exists as there is a demand. Many of those primary products will be useful for us to take forward the Make in India initiative.

Therefore, we urge you to take a special initiative to enhance bilateral trade between India and Pakistan. This can happen in a better way if more land routes in Gujarat, Rajasthan and Punjab are opened for bilateral trade. Furthermore, there will be further economic development in these border areas. The only land route for cross-border trade between India and Pakistan, through the Attari-Wagah border, is a success story.

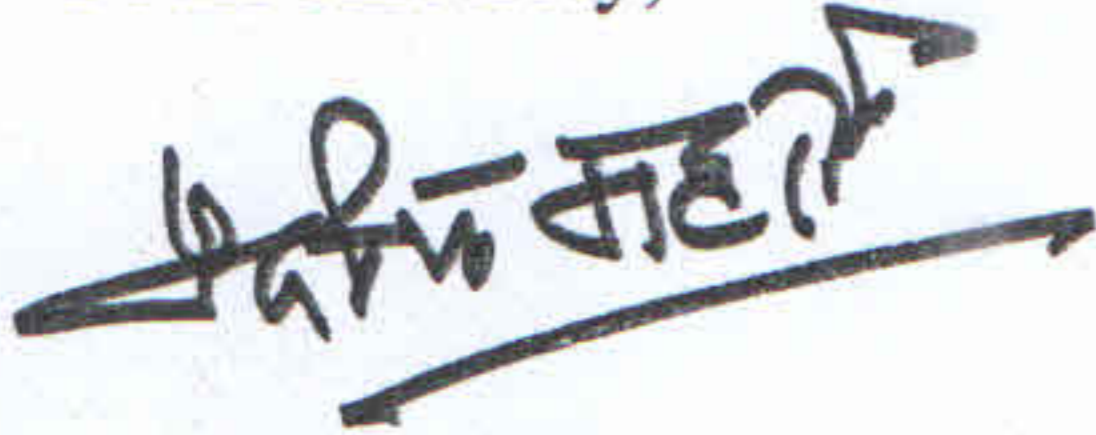
Recently, we have done a case story on the success of establishing an Integrated Check Post at the Attari-Wagah border and found that not only the trade volume is increasing but also local stakeholders are happy because of new economic opportunities. This case story is enclosed for your kind perusal. It has been accepted by the WTO Secretariat for its Global Aid for Trade Review to be held in July this year.

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Other than the Hon'ble Ministers for Finance, Home Affairs, External Affairs, Commerce and Industry, Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog, and the Hon'b'le Chief Ministers of Gujarat, Rajasthan and Punjab, I am copying this letter to your Principal Secretary and other relevant senior officials of the Government of India and the Governments of Gujarat, Rajasthan and Punjab. The proposed initiative will be a success story of the whole-of-government approach as well as cooperative federalism in our country.

HTZ,

Yours sincerely,



Pradeep S Mehta