



Indian Union Minister inaugurates Lifestyle Pakistan 2012, integrated check post at Wagha to be opened tomorrow.

New Delhi. Mr Anand Sharma union minister of Commerce, Industry & Textiles and Pakistan Commerce Secretary Mr Zafar Mahmood inaugurated the Lifestyle Pakistan 2012, here today. The first `Lifestyle Pakistan` exhibits designers in various categories like fashion textiles, jewellery, designer furniture and leather goods showcasing high-end items. The exhibition is one of the steps taken by both India and Pakistan to enhance bilateral commerce and open new channels for shipment of goods.

Mr Sharma while inaugurating the event said, "It gives me immense pleasure to be in the midst of this distinguished gathering for the inaugural of Lifestyle Exhibition of Pakistan. It is heartening to see 100 exhibitors from all parts of Pakistan participating along with a big delegation of 650 people, in this show, demonstrating the best of Pakistani products".

Emphasizing on his earlier announcement made during the visit last year to Pakistan the Indian Minister said, "I had given a commitment that India would be in a position to open the Integrated Check Post at Wagah, constructed at a cost of US\$ 30 million by April and tomorrow the Home Minister along with Makhdoom Fahim Sahib, me and Chief Minister of Punjab will be opening this Gate for trade between our countries. Imagine the potentiality of free flow of trade and how much benefit would accrue to the people of Punjab on both sides." Normalization of trade is a first step in building an enduring investment partnership. We need to change this and an opportunity lost now may well be lost forever, he emphasized.

This is the first collaborative exhibition of Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP) and India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO).

Other present include Mr Zafar Mehmood, Commerce Secretary of Pakistan, Dr. Rahul Khullar, Commerce Secretary of India, Mr Tariq Puri, CEO, Trade Development Authority of India, Mrs. Rita Menon, CMD-ITPO and Mr Shahid Mallick, High Commissioner of Pakistan.

The bilateral trade between the two countries which was barely US\$ 300 million in 2004, now

Lifestyle Pakistan opens in India

Written by Administrator

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stands at US\$ 2.7 billion, a 9-fold growth in a period of 7 years.