

City to host 3-day cross-LoC trade conference

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60 traders from PaK, JK to attend conference from July 10

Rising Kashmir News

Srinagar, July 08: The Centre for Dialogue and Reconciliation (CDR), New Delhi, is organising a three day cross-LoC trade conference 'Cross LoC Trade, Regional Development: Opportunities and Challenges' at Srinagar from July 10.

A statement of CDR issued here said that the conference starts on July 10 and concludes on July 12 at SKICC, Srinagar.

The delegation from Pakistan administered Kashmir (PaK) would arrive in Srinagar on July 9, the statement said.

The Srinagar conference was conceived given the importance of the Cross-LoC trade and its socio-economic impact.

CDR has kept a constant focus on the cross-LoC trade since its inception in 2008.

The conference would explore the future possibilities, opportunities and challenges of the trade by bringing together the stakeholders from both sides of the LoC.

Sixty participants representing various trade and business organizations of Jammu and Kashmir and PaK are participating in the conference.

These include representatives of Jammu and Kashmir Joint Chambers of Commerce (JKJCCI), Kashmir and Jammu Chambers of Commerce and Industries, Federation of Industries of Kashmir and Jammu, Cross-LoC Traders Associations from Salamabad and Poonch.

The delegation from PaK includes representatives of JKJCCI, Chambers of Commerce of Muzaffarabad, Mirpur, Bhimber, Kotli and LoC Traders Associations of Rawalakot, Hajira and Muzaffarabad.

Representatives of FICCI are also among the participants.

Since the start of LoC trade, this is the first time that the traders from both sides of LoC would meet together in Jammu-Kashmir.

The statement said the conference would assess the socio-economic impact of the cross-LoC trade over the years with a view to bring about greater synergy between the traders and the concerned government departments.

It said the conference would look at general as well as specific issues related to cross-LoC trade.

The statement said that the conference would look at the changing dynamics in Indo-Pak trade relations and the liberalization of trade that would come into effect shortly and its possible impact on LoC trade.

The conference will also come up with concrete recommendations for meaningful changes to the trade.

The statement said these outcomes would be important for realizing not only the full economic potential of cross-LoC trade but also the prospects and the possibilities they are likely to create for the ultimate resolution of the conflict in the region.

The recommendations would be compiled and submitted to the governments of J&K, PaK, India and Pakistan, the statement said.