

## **Kashmir Reader**

### **Cross Loc Trade**

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The first intra Kashmir conference on LoC held at SKICC organised by Centre of Dialogue and Reconciliation (CDR) is a significant step taken by centre which will help the traders from both the side of LOC to identify the problems they face in this trade and will help them to explore the future possibilities, opportunities and challenges of the trade. Cross LoC trade has been facing several problems since it was started by government of India and Pakistan as important Confidence Building Measure (CBM) in 2008. These problems need to be highlighted and bring to the notice of both the governments so that the trade will flourish and turn Kashmir into the major business hub. We must be very thankful to CDR for conducting this conference which brings together the stakeholders from both sides of LoC to discuss the problems jointly. Such conferences are need of the hour and should be conducted regularly and government should allow such conferences in future also. Besides that governments of India and Pakistan should take positive strides to take this trade to newer heights which have already proven to be of great significance to both the countries by bringing them close to one another. Both the countries have realised that it is through trade only that animosity can be changed into long lasting friendship which can pave way for resolution of other issues. This is high time for both the countries to change the trade from positive list to negative list and from barter system to transit trade.

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