



Press Release

16th May, 2025

Indian trade leaders resolve to boycott trade with Turkey and Azerbaijan Decision taken at National Conference convened by CAIT in Delhi today

In a significant and unanimous move, more than 125 top leading trade leaders from across the country today resolved to boycott all forms of trade and commercial engagement with Turkey and Azerbaijan including travel & tourism. The trade also appealed Indian Film Industry not to undertake shooting of any film in Turkey & Azerbaijan and if any shooting is done, the business community and the people will boycott such film. The resolution also warns corporate houses not to shoot any product promotion film in Turkey & Azerbaijan. The decision was taken at a National Conference of Trade Leaders convened by the *Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT) in New Delhi, where representatives from 24 states participated. It was strongly affirmed in the conference to stand in solidarity with Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and to oppose stoutly who is against India at this crucial juncture.

The resolution comes in response to the recent stand taken by Turkey and Azerbaijan in open support of Pakistan, at a time when India is facing a sensitive and critical national security situation. The collective Indian trading community views this as a betrayal, particularly considering the humanitarian and diplomatic support extended to both these countries in the past by India and especially by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, during their respective crises.

Addressing the gathering, CAIT Secretary General and Member of Parliament Shri Praveen Khandelwal said:

“It is deeply unfortunate that Turkey and Azerbaijan, who have benefited from India’s goodwill, aid, and strategic support in times of distress, have now chosen to side with Pakistan – a country known globally for its support to terrorism. Their position not only hurts India’s sovereignty and national interest but also directly insults the sentiments of 140 crore Indians.”

The conference noted that Turkey’s repeated anti-India rhetoric at international platforms and its continued support for Pakistan’s narrative is unacceptable whereas Azerbaijan’s alignment with Turkey and public endorsements of Pakistan’s stand reflect a disturbing disregard for India’s long-standing friendship and assistance.

CAIT National President Shri B C Bhartia said the traders’ community expressed strong resentment and disappointment against both countries, calling their actions “ungrateful and hostile.” *It was unanimously agreed that such nations do not deserve any economic cooperation or trade advantage from India.

The trade leaders acclaimed the decision of the Government for revoking security clearance for Celebi Ground Handling India Private Limited ", Turkish company, in the interest of national security" which is handling services at nine major airports of India.



Key Decisions Taken:

1. Nationwide Boycott of Turkish and Azerbaijani Goods:

Traders across India will stop importing goods originating from Turkey and Azerbaijan or exports of Indian goods to these two countries.

2. No New Trade Deals or Business Ties:

Indian exporters, importers, and business delegations will be discouraged from any engagement with companies or institutions from these nations.

3. Cancellation of Travel and Tourism Plans:

Travel agencies and event planners will be urged not to promote Turkey and Azerbaijan as tourist or business destinations.

4. Appeal to the Government of India:

A memorandum will be submitted to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and Ministry of External Affairs urging policy-level review of all commercial ties with these nations.

Shri Khandelwal further added:

“The Indian trading community has always stood shoulder-to-shoulder with the nation. When any country dares to challenge India’s integrity by standing with enemies of peace, we will respond with the strongest peaceful weapon at our disposal – economic disengagement.”

The CAIT will also launch a nationwide awareness campaign to educate and mobilize traders, consumers, and travel professionals to join this boycott in the interest of national sovereignty, security, and pride.

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