



For Better Understanding on
China-Pakistan and
CPEC
Gleanings from the
National Press

November 16-30, 2020

A pilot project of PICS

Table of Contents

1: November 16, 2020.....	03
2: November 17, 2020.....	10
3: November 18, 2020.....	12
4: November 19, 2020.....	15
5: November 20, 2020.....	16
6: November 21, 2020.....	23
7: November 22, 2020.....	28
8: November 23, 2020.....	30
9: November 24, 2020.....	35
10: November 25, 2020.....	41
11: November 26, 2020.....	46
12: November 27, 2020.....	53
13: November 28, 2020.....	57
14: November 29, 2020.....	60
15: November 30, 2020.....	61

Data collected and compiled by Rabeeha Safdar, Maroosha Sarfraz and Zohaib Sultan

Disclaimer: PICS reproduce the original text, facts and figures as appear in the newspapers and is not responsible for its accuracy.

November 16, 2020

Daily Times

Pakistan, China working on several transportation projects under CPEC

Pakistan and China are discussing and working on many other transportation projects under the framework of China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) in major cities, including Karachi, capital of Sindh province, and Quetta, capital of Balochistan.

The CPEC, in its first phase, focuses on infrastructure and energy development, referencing Gwadar Port projects in Southwestern Pakistan under the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). The port will enhance connectivity between our two countries and the rest of the world, he said in an interview with Global Times.

Ambassador Haque said the metro line is an extremely important project under the CPEC that will provide a modern, efficient, and affordable transport services to the people of Lahore, a metropolis of 12 million people with serious traffic congestion.

The line will also help reduce carbon emissions and air pollution in the city as more people use it to commute, he added.

Pakistan's first metro line, built by Guangzhou Metro Company, opened on October 25 in Lahore. It will be jointly operated by Chinese and Pakistani companies.

In the second phase, he said, the CPEC will mainly concentrate on the areas of agriculture, science and technology, and vocational training, which are very important for Pakistan's poverty alleviation, and economic and social development.

By learning China's experience, we are building a number of special economic zones across the country, which will provide opportunities for investors from China and other countries, he said.

Ambassador Haque noted that Pakistan and China have a long history of interaction and people-to-people exchanges, helping foster their relationship and mutual understanding in a variety of cultural sectors.

The two neighbors are getting closer than ever, from arts and culture, infrastructure and poverty alleviation to cooperation in regional security, he added.

While commenting release of Parwaaz Hai Junoon, the first Pakistani film which hit Chinese mainland theatres in decades, he said that he expects the movie to be warmly welcomed by Chinese audiences.

It is one of the most popular and highest-grossing movies to be made in Pakistan, which had done very well in box office in Pakistan and across the world, he said. So we are very happy that it has become one of the first movies after a gap of almost 40 years to be screened in China, and would like to thank Fire International Media for its role in screening of the movie.

He mentioned the two countries are also planning joint production in the film industry. So this movie will be a trailblazer and a starting point for such a cooperation. •

Ambassador Haque said there is a long history of interactions between people living in China and Pakistan. So after our two countries became independent, this history and cultural affinity brought them closer and closer to each other, he said, mentioning the two sides signed their first cultural cooperation agreement in 1965.

Since then, we had numerous events between Pakistan and China in the fields of art, festivals, sports, literature, and music. We have also established a number of sister cities and sister provinces between the two sides, he added. We are also planning a number of cultural activities to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the establishment of our ties in 2021.

Cultural and people-to-people exchanges between the two countries help foster their relationship and mutual understanding, he said. “We have also set up Pakistan study centers in a number of Chinese universities, and similarly, there are also Confucius Institutes in Pakistan which are teaching Chinese language and history.

According to the ambassador, China is the top overseas destination for Pakistani students, 28,000 of whom are studying in China.

Ambassador Haque stressed that China and Pakistan are two important and responsible members of the international community, and adhere to the principles and purposes of the UN Charter.

We have been contributing to the international community and maintaining global peace and security. We believe in the respect for sovereignty, non-aggression, and non-interference in each other’s internal affairs. We believe in multilateralism and resolving disputes through peaceful means, he said.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/689802/pakistan-china-working-on-several-transportation-projects-under-cpec/>

Govt.’s historic initiatives, CPEC projects reflective of PTI victory in GB elections

Usually it has been witnessed that events that are going to happen can be detected by certain signs, as the past people believed in good and bad omens regarding various coming events. Similarly, in nature we can also observe that certain signs do occur in proper order before an upcoming event. As an example the sky is engulfed with black clouds, just before it rains and expert fishermen in sea can see or sense a storm ahead of its strike.

It has been a democratic tradition in the world that the opposition parties play a very constructive and positive role in the parliaments, for policy making, but the opposition here is displaying a very undemocratic response, which is quite different. After coming to power, the people of Pakistan wanted to see Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf’s strict accountability action against the elements involved in money plundering. Prime Minister Imran Khan had recently referred to the

top leadership of the opposition parties who had mercilessly looted the country's resources and money for the past three decades, but their cases were still pending and had not been decided yet.

It is worth mentioning here that minister for Information and Broadcasting Senator Shibli Faraz in his tweet on Thursday said that the meeting between Pakistan people's Party (PPP) Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari and Pakistan Muslim League Nawaz (PML-N) leader Maryam Nawaz was a clear indication of their defeat in GB elections. The both parties would now make hue and cry of rigging in the elections, the minister said, adding that for these parties, only those elections are fair, in which they secure victories.

Nazar Gondal, senior leader of PTI told APP that the so-called rallies of Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) were an open conspiracy against the state and its institutions, adding the current scenario was being launched to destabilize the country. He said that though the opposition parties had the constitutional right to protest, demonstrate positively against the initiatives of the existing regime, but the opposition parties had no viable alternatives which they could submit or suggest as comprehensive planning.

The PTI government's stimulus package of more than Rs 1,200 billion had supported and strengthened the destitute strata of the society, he said. He said that helping the people of less developed and remote areas was a priority agenda of the PTI government and GB's provincial status plan was clear evidence that Prime Minister Imran Khan's vision was for the uplift and betterment of the people of Gilgit-Baltistan (GB).

Senior leader, General Secretary of PTI Gilgit Baltistan, Fatah Ullah told APP that the announcement of two mega projects of Diamer-Bhasha Dam and Gilgit-Chitral Expressway by the prime minister Imran Khan had already won the hearts of the GB people, who would definitely go to poll in favor of PTI candidates on November 15. He said with the construction of both projects, the voters believe that the miseries of people of both Chitral and Gilgit regions would be minimized.

The opposition parties (PML-N and PPP) who had completed their five-year term each in Gilgit Baltistan (GB) did nothing for the betterment of the people, adding they were now raising questions about the performance of the PTI government, he lamented. The two leading survey bodies on Wednesday have also revealed that the upcoming elections in GB were likely to see a strong contest between the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) and Pakistan People's Party (PPP), adding the Pakistan Muslim League – Nawaz (PML-N) was seeming lagging behind the two.

This report was collected and revealed in two different surveys which were conducted by the 'Gallup Pakistan' and the 'Pulse Consultant'.

According to the survey, Gallup Pakistan asked the respondents to reply to whom they would be voting for on November 15 elections in GB. Responding to the surveyed question, 27 percent respondents replied that they would be going to vote for PTI, whereas 24 opted for PPP and 14 percent opted in favor of PML-N. Similarly, the second survey body 'Pulse Consultant's survey

revealed that 35 percent respondents would be voting for PTI, 26 percent opted for PPP while 14 percent said they would go for PML-N.

It may be mentioned here that Gallup Pakistan and Pulse Consultant surveys results show that PTI is the first choice of the respondents (voters), whereas PPP second and PML-N third choice.

The both surveys also reveal that Prime Minister Imran Khan is the most popular leader in GB, followed by Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari and then Nawaz Sharif.

The report of the Gallup survey revealed that 31 percent of the respondents, on query, replied that elections would be completely fair, 29 percent said they would be fair to some extent, however 28 percent observed that they could not say anything ahead of polling.

It is also pertinent to mention here that the Gallup survey revealed that 66 percent of GB residents are in favor of upgrading GB into a province, while 28 per cent were against it. Including the mainstream parties, PTI, PML-N and PPP, around 13 political and religious parties, are contesting the election in GB which is scheduled for Sunday, November 15, election commission sources told APP. Since 2009, the promulgation of Gilgit-Baltistan Empowerment and Self Governance Order (GBE&SO), GB had been granted the status equal to a province.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/689667/govts-historic-initiatives-cpec-projects-reflective-of-pti-victory-in-gb-elections/>

Dawn News

Indian creating unrest to damage CPEC: Qureshi

MULTAN: Foreign Minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi said on Sunday that India was conspiring to damage the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) project by creating unrest in the country.

Talking to the media here, he said Pakistan had solid proof that India was trying to create law and order situation in the country and for the purpose it had given Rs80 billion to a group.

He said India was running training camps of terrorists to disturb security situation in Gilgit-Baltistan and Azad Jammu and Kashmir.

Mr Qureshi was of the view that the security of Pakistan was above politics, adding that the people of the country would foil all such designs of the enemy with their unity.

He appreciated the role of President Arif Alvi and Prime Minister Imran Khan in highlighting India's state-sponsored terrorism and violation of international laws. PM Khan had timely issued statements about India's nefarious designs against Pakistan, he added.

Minister says Biden has complete understanding of South Asia issues

In reply to a question about any chance of atomic war between Pakistan and India, the foreign minister observed that India was well aware of Pakistan's capabilities. He, however, urged the

world to take notice of the situation in the region. Pakistan would continue to put evidence of India's state-sponsored terrorism at different international forums, he added.

Talking about Afghanistan, Mr. Qureshi said that establishment of peace in the country was necessary for economic progress in the region. Establishment of peace is among top priorities of Pakistan. "The progress of the region is linked with peace in Afghanistan. Pakistan and Afghanistan have to devise a joint comprehensive strategy for restoration of peace in Afghanistan," he added.

Answering a question, he said US president-elect Joe Biden had complete understanding of issues in South Asia, especially about affairs of Pakistan, India and Afghanistan. He said Pakistan would continue to convey its point of view effectively to new administration in the United States.

The foreign minister rejected the opposition's allegations of rigging in the Gilgit-Baltistan elections.

He criticized the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N), saying that on the one hand it targeted the country's institutions and, on the other, sought some unconstitutional steps from them. He claimed that a large number of PML-N workers and leaders did not agree with the narrative of the party's leadership.

He alleged that the leaders of opposition parties were trying to pressurize the government for seeking some relief in corruption cases against them. But, he added, the Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf (PTI) government had made it clear that there would be no compromise on its stance on corruption and the accountability process in the country.

About former premier Nawaz Sharif, Mr. Qureshi said the PML-N supreme leader's health was now stable and he should return to the country to face cases against him.

The minister expressed concern over the rising number of Covid-19 cases in the country and urged the opposition parties to take the virus seriously and avoid organizing public meetings.

The foreign minister claimed that there was no shortage of sugar and wheat in the country and said the government was working hard to bring down inflation.

He said the Covid-19 pandemic had caused an economic recession in the world and badly affected the economies of many countries.

APP ads: The foreign minister said India was violating the Line of Control (LoC.) and targeting civilians. India also damaged confidence-building measures at the LoC. Pakistan had never attacked innocent people in India-held Kashmir as it always expressed sympathies with innocent Kashmiris. He, however, said that Pakistan retaliated only against Indian military posts.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1590662/india-creating-unrest-to-damage-cpec-qureshi>

The Nation

CIIE provides business opportunities to whole world including Pakistan

BEIJING-Consul General at the Consulate General of Pakistan (CGP) in Shanghai, Hussain Haider has said China has led the efforts for the fight against COVID-19, and now China is also leading the efforts for global economic recovery.

The China International Import Expo (CIIE) has provided business opportunities shared by the whole world, he said in an interview with China Economic Net just the next day after the 3rd China International Import Expo (CIIE) successfully concluded.

“As the first and the only expo dedicated to imports, CIIE provides tremendous opportunities to businesses from all over the world which serves as a very significant engine of trade promotion and development,” Hussain Haider said while expressing appreciation for China and CIIE’s important role in re-energizing international trade during the global pandemic.

This was the first time that Hussain Haider had visited CIIE as he was appointed as Pakistani Consul General (Shanghai) just nine months ago.

“I was deeply struck by the broad range of products that were displayed from different countries. It was a very good experience of visiting CIIE,” Hussain Haider shared the fresh experience with the reporter.

Looking forward to next year’s CIIE, he expects Pakistani enterprises to attach more importance to this Expo because it provides opportunities not only to showcase products to global audience but also to learn from other countries’ expertise.

“I am living in China, and I can say that the sky is the limit as far as the quality is concerned. This mega event will definitely get even better and attract larger number of buyers and sellers.”

At this year’s CIIE, it’s learned that Pakistan’s cherry exports to China are expected to start next year. “Agriculture is a strong sector in Pakistan, accounting for nearly 19% of Pakistan’s GDP and providing jobs to more than half of the labor force. Pakistan is rich in agriculture resources, and we export a lot of fruits to the whole world. It is good to see that Pakistani fruits are also coming to China,” Hussain Haider said.

Besides fruits like mango and Kinnow, he also highlighted the great potential of exporting value added products such as juices and processed foods in large quantities to China.

The second phase of China-Pakistan Free Trade Agreement will play a key role in promoting bilateral trade. Entering into force on January 1, 2020, it has covered most of the products of two countries’ export interest.

According to Hussain Haider, the FTA will also attract more Chinese investment flowing into Pakistan. “Because of the FTA, if Chinese entrepreneurs invest in Pakistan, they can import most of the Chinese equipment and machinery free of duty to Pakistan.

After manufacturing in Pakistan they can export the products back to China at zero or very low tariffs. That's a great advantage for Chinese investors," he illustrated with examples.

Moreover, the nine Special Economic Zones (SEZs) under China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) are also providing fiscal incentives for investment from China.

"China is already the largest source of foreign direct investment (FDI) to Pakistan. Pakistan needs export-oriented FDI, and we believe no country is in a better position than China to explore export-oriented FDI into Pakistan," Hussain Haider said.

About possibilities for cooperation in e-commerce and agriculture, he said, "Last year the Pakistani government announced e-commerce policy, which makes Pakistan one of the few countries in the region which have an e-commerce policy to facilitate online business' growth."

"With collaboration with China, it will be easier for Pakistani enterprises to enter the Chinese market via e-commerce platforms", Hussain Haider talked about the immense scope for bilateral cooperation in this area. Agriculture is one of focus areas of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) Phase II.

<https://nation.com.pk/16-Nov-2020/ciie-provides-business-opportunities-to-whole-world-including-pakistan>

Nawaiwaqt News

چین میں ای ووا ایکسپو، پاکستان خوشبودار لکڑی کی دستکاری نے چینی خریداروں کی بڑی توجہ حاصل کی

اسلام آباد (نوائے وقت رپورٹ) حالیہ دنوں میں چینی صارفین نے پاکستانی خوشبودار لکڑی دستکاری کو خوب سراہا، گوادر پروکے مطابق چین کے صوبہ جیانگ میں چار روزہ ای وودرآمدی اجناس میلہ منعقد ہوا۔ پاکستان خوشبودار لکڑی کی دستکاری نے میلہ کے دوران چینی خریداروں کی بڑی توجہ حاصل کی، اس کے قیام کے بعد سے ای وودرآمدی اجناس میلہ چینی مارکیٹ میں غیر ملکی سامان کیلئے ایک بہترین تجارتی پلیٹ فارم بن گیا ہے۔ ثنا اللہ ہنڈی کرافٹ پاکستان کے سی ای او عثمان انجم نے کہا ہے کہ یہ ہے کہ میں ای وود شہر اور ایکسپو میں پہلی بار نہیں آیا لیکن رواں سال کی ایکسپو میں پہلی بار آیا ہوں۔ عثمان کے مطابق چین میں کاروبار کرنے والے بہت سے پاکستانی کروان کی وجہ سے وطن واپس چلے گئے۔ رواں سال کی ای ووا ایکسپو میں صرف 3 پاکستانی نمائش کنندگان ہیں، جو عام سالوں کے مقابلہ میں بہت کم ہیں۔ عثمان کا کہنا ہے کہ اسٹور ہے، جہاں ہر سال چائے ساو تھ ایشیا ایکسپو ہوتی ہے۔ اس سال اس ایکسپو کو بھی منسوخ کر دیا گیا۔ انہوں نے جو زیادہ تر لکڑی کا فرنیچر فروخت کیا ہے۔ چینی صارفین کو پاکستانی لکڑی کا ہاتھ سے تیار کردہ خوشبودار لکڑی کا فرنیچر پسند ہے۔ یہ چین سے کہیں زیادہ سستا ہے۔ پاکستانی چھوٹا ڈبہ 80 یو آن جبکہ چین میں اسی سائز کا چینی خوشبودار لکڑی سے بنا ہوا 800 کے قریب ہے۔ قیمت سن کر بہت سے چینی لوگوں کا پہلا خیال ہوتا ہے کہ یہ لازمی جعلی بنا ہوا ہے، اب زیادہ سے زیادہ چینی باشندے پاکستانی خوشبودار لکڑی کے بارے میں جانتے ہیں۔ انہوں نے مزید کہا کہ زیادہ سے زیادہ نمائشوں کے ذریعے ہم آہستہ آہستہ چینی صارفین کا اعتماد حاصل کرتے ہیں۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2020-11-16/page-10/detail-22>

November 17, 2020

Daily Times

China hopes CPEC initiative will prove to be a complete success

A Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson on Monday expressed the confidence that China and Pakistan could ensure success of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) project with the support of the international community.

“We are confident that with support of the international community, China and Pakistan can ensure the success of the CPEC,” he said during his regular briefing in response to a question about the threats of disruption of projects being completed under the CPEC framework from the terrorist networks trained and financed by India. He said the CPEC was not only important for current development of China and Pakistan but also beneficial for the regional connectivity and common prosperity.

“You mentioned the CPEC. It is an important flagship project of the Belt and Road Initiative. It is important for current development of China and Pakistan. It is also beneficial for regional connectivity and common prosperity,” he said.

Zhao said that China also believed that Pakistan would continue to take effective measures to ensure safety and security of the CPEC.

While opposing all forms of terrorism, he called on the international community and the regional countries to cooperate on fighting terrorism and safeguard collective security.

It may be mentioned here that Pakistan, recently, has shared a dossier with the international community which has incriminating evidence of India harboring, training and financing terrorist networks that not only seek to destabilize Pakistan but also the disruption of flagship project of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).

Meanwhile, Mahmood Akhtar, Deputy Consul General of the Consulate General of Pakistan in Chengdu, China, has said that Pakistan is situated at the confluence of many civilizations, and it's a repository of history over thousands of years and it has everything that a tourist could experience from a tourism point of view. He said the religious tourism, adventure tourism and historical tourism in Pakistan are all potential areas that travel agencies can explore. In China, Buddhism came from Pakistan, the area is known as Taxila and Pushklawati valley. Chinese monk Xuanzang traveled there for Buddhist scripture around 1500 years ago. His one dress is still in one monastery in Chengdu, according to a report published by China Economic Net (CEN) on Monday. He said, the area of Pakistan at that time was called Xitian, which means Western Paradise.

The story of Xuanzang going on a pilgrimage to Xitian for Buddhist scriptures is the origin of Journey to the West, one of China's four classic novels, which is popular among Chinese of all ages for periods, while Chinese people hardly know that Xitian is in Pakistan.

About the adventure tourism, Mahmood Akhtar said, out of 15 highest mountains around the world, seven mountains are in Pakistan, including the second-highest mountain.

There are also great rivers, deserts and more than 1000 kilometers unexplored seaside which is unpolluted, and you can find the sunshine throughout the year. •

He said that Pakistan is a country with a population of 210 million and it has also inherited great culture and architecture from the Mughal Empire, such as the Shalimar Garden and Badshahi Mosque. There is even an older civilization which is 6000 years old.

Also, we have more than 200 to 300 ancient castles and fortresses spread throughout Pakistan. •

Mahmood Akhtar also mentioned the uniqueness of Pakistan's food. In Pakistan, we have a special combination of food that came from the Middle East, South Asia and Central Asia, including Chinese influence. •

Our prime minister and our government are focusing on tourism. The facilities have already been improved and will be improved further in the northern areas and across Pakistan.

Last year, we have found that 20% to 30% of visas issued from our area alone are tourism visas. And people visiting Pakistan had great tourism experience, he added. Mahmood Akhtar said that after COVID-19, they'll engage more with the travel agencies so that more Chinese people can travel to Pakistan.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/690086/china-hopes-cpec-initiative-will-prove-to-be-a-complete-success/>

The Nation

NA committee passes CPEC Authority (Amendment) Bill 2020

The National Assembly Standing Committee on Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Tuesday passed the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) Authority (Amendment) Bill 2020 with majority votes.

The meeting chaired by Junaid Akbar, MNA discussed in details the draft of the Bill and decided to pass it with majority of votes. The Committee inquired from the Ministry of Planning that what salary package was being given to present Chairman CPEC.

The Ministry replied that salary was not being paid to Chairman, CPEC and that he had not signed any MoU after the expiry of the CPEC Ordinance.

The members who submitted their note of dissent against the Bill included Muhammad Sajjad, Ahsan Iqbal Chaudhry, Muhammad Junaid Anwar Chaudhry, Sardar Muhammad Irfan Dogar and Syed Agha Rafiullah.

The meeting was also attended by Minister for Planning Asad Umar, MNAs Sher Akbar Khan, Saleh Muhammad, Shaukat Ali, Syed Faiz-ul-Hassan, Nawab Sher, Dr. Seemi Bokhari, Imran Khattak, and Muhammad Sajjad.

Earlier the committee inquired the compliance status of its previous three meetings and the Ministry responded positively.

The Committee directed Higher Education Commission (HEC) to give detailed briefing on their financial needs so that it could be able to recommend additional funds for HEC.

The Committee further asked why the HEC had stopped scholarships to the students who were receiving higher education abroad on scholarship basis.

The commission replied that they had not stopped the scholarships but the universities all over the world were not accepting foreign students due to the pandemic of Covid-19.

<https://nation.com.pk/17-Nov-2020/na-committee-passes-cpec-authority-amendment-bill-2020>

Nawaiwaqt News

پاکستان اور چین کو ادارہ جاتی معاونت مزید مستحکم بنانے کی ضرورت، صادق سنجرانی

اسلام آباد (وفاقی نگار خصوصی) نیوز پورٹر (چیز مین سینیٹ محمد صادق سنجرانی سے پاکستان میں تعینات ہونے والے چین کے نئے سفیر نوگ روگ نے پارلیمنٹ ہاؤس میں ملاقات کی۔ ملاقات کے دوران دو طرفہ تعلقات اور باہمی دلچسپی کے امور پر تبادلہ خیال کیا گیا۔ چیز مین سینیٹ نے کہا کہ پاکستان اور چین کے مابین دیرینہ تعلقات خطے کی معاشی اور سماجی ترقی کیلئے نئے عہد میں داخل ہو گئے ہیں۔ پاکستان چین کے ساتھ اپنی فقید المثال دوستی پر فخر کرتا ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ پارلیمانی وفد کے تبادلوں سے باہمی تعلقات میں مزید اضافہ ہوا ہے اور پارلیمانی سفارتکاری اہم دو طرفہ روابط کو مضبوط بنانے میں موثر کردار ادا کرتی ہے۔ محمد صادق سنجرانی نے کہا کہ دونوں ملکوں کے مابین ادارہ جاتی معاونت کو مزید مستحکم بنانے کی ضرورت ہے اور عوامی سطح پر دو طرفہ روابط کو مزید استحکام دینے سے دیرینہ شراکت داری مزید مضبوط ہوگی۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ سی پیک دونوں ملکوں کے مابین برادرانہ تعلقات کے استحکام اور علاقائی ترقی کیلئے مشترکہ ڈٹن کا نتیجہ ہے جو نہ صرف خطے بلکہ علاقائی خوشحالی اور تعمیر و ترقی کا خواب شرمندہ تعبیر کرنے کی بھرپور استعداد رکھتا ہے۔ چیز مین سینیٹ نے پاکستان میں نئے تعینات ہونے والے چین کے سفیر کیلئے نیک خواہشات کا اظہار بھی کیا۔ چین کے سفیر نوگ روگ نے چیز مین سینیٹ کے نقطہ نظر کو سراہتے ہوئے کہا کہ پاکستان چین کیلئے انتہائی اہم ملک ہے۔ دونوں ملکوں کا ترقی و خوشحالی کا ڈٹن مشترکہ ہے اور سی پیک کے منصوبے سے یہ خطہ بین الاقوامی تجارت کا مرکز ثابت ہوگا۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2020-11-17/page-8/detail-9>

November 18, 2020

Daily Times

China's cold chain technology may help Pakistan cut loss of agricultural products

China's cold chain technology may help Pakistan reduce loss of agricultural products and increase the added value, Chen Lin, vice president of Hefei Lianhui Refrigeration Equipment Co., told China Economic Net (CEN).

There is close cooperation between Chinese and Pakistani rice seed companies. To meet the needs of seed storage in Pakistan, Chen Lin started to build an 800-square-meter seed cold storage warehouse with a rice company in Karachi, Pakistan, in 2017. Seed cold storage warehouse is widely used in Southeast Asia, because seeds need to achieve a certain germination rate, which is mainly related to temperature and humidity indicators. If humidity exceeds 65%, the germination will be affected, he told China Economic Net.

Chen Lin said that his company delivers the equipment and cold storage plates to Pakistan, and send technical personnel for equipment installation and training of Pakistani personnel. Customers may encounter problems in production and processing, we need to give an overall solution, he said.

In recent years, Pakistan has made breakthroughs in the export of mangoes and citrus fruits to China. Chen Lin gave an air conditioning fresh-keeping technology solution to resolve the preservation problems due to month-long shipping cycle. Chen Lin said that mangoes and oranges could be stored for about three months, cherries for 45 days, kiwifruits for six months, apples for 3-6 months, and bayberries for about 30 days.

The extension of storage period also brings higher added value. Fruits with higher added value, such as cherries, kiwifruits and golden pears, can be sold at higher prices when stored off-season. After picking, fruits cannot be directly put into the cold storage warehouse, they must be pre-cooled at 0-5 h°C. “When the fruits are picked, they have residual heat,” Chen said, if they are immediately taken to a cold storage warehouse, the surface temperature drops, but the central temperature does not, this may lead to spoilage in fruits because they are not pre-cooled properly. Cherries, kiwifruits and blueberries all need to be pre-cooled.

According to Chen, not only fruits, but also vegetables can benefit from quick freezing technology. Broccoli, lentils, peas, wax gourd and pumpkin can be frozen quickly. Some domestic hotels, as well as restaurants, directly purchase semi-finished dishes, and avoid all intermediate parts such as buying, washing and cutting vegetables.

Sardine were the largest among the aquatic products imported from Pakistan in the first three quarters of this year, reaching 22, 500 tons, 6.4 times as much as the import volume of the same period last year, according to the General Administration of Customs of China.

According to Chen, aquatic products storage includes raw material storage and processed product storage. In terms of raw material storage, fish and shrimp should be frozen immediately after being fished up, rather than directly stored in low-temperature storage.

Aquatic products decay quickly when exposed to normal temperature. Quick freezing can swiftly lock nutrients and avoid bacterial infections, he added. Chen said lobsters can be preserved by quick freezing in liquid nitrogen at -150°C , and crabs can also be made into quick-frozen products. In addition, the added value of crab sauce is very high. A domestic factory of 500 staff can only produce 500 kg crab sauce a day, which is mainly supplied to five-star hotels in Shanghai and other first tier cities. Many Chinese business firms engaging in aquatic products

deep processing import Basa fish and South America prawn from Pakistan and Southeast Asian countries, as their price is competitive, Chen said, adding that Basa fish and crayfish are relatively scarce in China now, and we plan to conduct business on aquatic products with Pakistani business firms.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/690601/chinas-cold-chain-technology-may-help-pakistan-cut-loss-of-agricultural-products/>

The Nation

China hails Pak Navy's efforts for Maritime security

ISLAMABAD - Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan Nong Rong on Tuesday called on Naval Chief Muhammad Amjad Khan Niazi at the Naval Headquarters here and discussed matters of mutual interest including regional security situation.

The Chinese Ambassador commended Pakistan Navy's efforts for maritime security in the region.

According to officials, both the sides reaffirmed the commitment to further improve cooperation between the naval forces of the two countries.

<https://nation.com.pk/18-Nov-2020/china-hails-pak-navy-s-efforts-for-maritime-security>

Nawaiwaqt News

حکومت تاجروں کو ہر ممکن سہولیات کی فراہمی کیلئے کوشاں ہے، گورنر پنجاب

راولپنڈی (نمائندہ خصوصی) گورنر پنجاب چوہدری محمد سرور نے کہا ہے کہ سی پیک منصوبے کی تکمیل سے بلوچستان معاشی اور تجارتی سرگرمیوں کا مرکز بنے گا۔ حکومت تاجروں کو ہر ممکن سہولیات فراہم کر رہی ہے۔ سی پیک کے فوائد صرف کسی شہر یا صوبے تک محدود نہیں بلکہ اس کا دائرہ کار پورے خطے میں پھیلا ہوا ہے۔ راولپنڈی چیئرمین آف کامرس اینڈ انڈسٹری کے زیر اہتمام سی پیک سنٹرل ایشیا کے موضوع پر گوادریں میں بزنس کانفرنس سے خطاب کرتے ہوئے انہوں نے کہا کہ موجودہ حالات میں اس اہم موضوع پر کانفرنس کے انعقاد پر میں آرسی سی آئی کی پوری ٹیم کو اس کی کوششوں اور وابستگی اور علاقائی تجارت کے فروغ کے حوالے سے پاکستان کے وزیر اعظم عمران خان کے وژن کے مطابق کام کرنے پر مبارکباد دیتا ہوں۔ دنیا بھر کے ملک کرونا سے شدید متاثر ہوئے ہیں اسی طرح پورے ممالک کو ونا وبا کے اثرات کے باعث شدید معاشی چیلنجز کا شکار ہے۔ ایس او پیز پر عمل کر کے ہی اس پر قابو پایا جاسکتا ہے۔ پاکستان میں کاروبار کے لیے حالات سازگار ہیں۔ اس موقع پر راولپنڈی چیئرمین آف کامرس اینڈ انڈسٹری کے صدر ناصر مرزا نے اپنے خطبہ استقبالیہ میں کہا کہ کانفرنس کا مقصد سی پیک پر پیش رفت، گوادریں سرمایہ کاری کے فروغ اور سی پیک کے ذریعے وسطی ایشیائی ممالک کے ساتھ تجارت کے فروغ اور کاروباری مواقع تلاش کرنا ہے اور تاجروں کو موقع پر وزٹ کرانا تاکہ وہ اپنی آنکھوں سے ترقیاتی کام پر پیش رفت دیکھ سکیں اور انہیں زیادہ سے زیادہ معلومات فراہم ہو سکیں۔ پاکستان چین کے ساتھ تجارتی تعلقات کو بہت اہمیت دیتا ہے۔ سی پیک منصوبوں کے تحت خصوصی اقتصادی زونز کی تکمیل سے یہ تعلقات مزید مستحکم ہوں گے۔ کانفرنس میں ازبکستان، تاجکستان، کرغزستان، قازخستان کے سفیروں، گوادریں ڈیولپمنٹ اتھارٹی، گوادریں پورٹ اتھارٹی، چائینہ بزنس سنٹر کے نمائندوں، ڈائریکٹر کمرشل پی آئی اے، ڈی سی گوادریں، بلوچستان چیئرمین آف کامرس کے صدر نوید بلوچ، سمیت اعلیٰ کاروباری و صنعتی شخصیات نے شرکت کی۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2020-11-18/page-8/detail-18>

چینی باشندے کے خلاف پانچ کروڑ روپے کے چیک ڈس آنر کا مقدمہ درج

اسلام آباد (اپنے سٹاف رپورٹر سے) تھانہ کوسار پولیس نے چینی باشندے کے خلاف پانچ کروڑ روپے کے چیک ڈس آنر کا مقدمہ درج کر لیا پولیس کو شہریار نے بتایا کہ بلیو ایریا میں شیانگ زانگ نے مجھے کاروباری لیمن دین پر چیک دیا جو بینک سے ڈس آنر ہو گیا پولیس نے تفتیش شروع کر دی ہے۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2020-11-18/page-2/detail-10>

November 19, 2020

Daily Times

Pakistani products have potential to find a market in China: official

“As long as the Pakistani products are practical and cost-effective, we can help them find a market in China,” said Huang Yuanli President of Yiwu Import Chamber of Commerce.

She was talking to Gwadar Pro during the just concluded four-day China Yiwu Import Commodities Fair, held at the Yiwu International Expo Center in Zhejiang Province.

Since its establishment, Yiwu Imported Commodities Fair has become one of the best trade platforms for foreign goods to enter the Chinese market. Huang whose booth has been very eye-catching in the fair said “Every time we participate in it and we try our best to be the most spectacular booth so that we can attract more high-quality buyers to come, negotiate and purchase.” Huang Yuanli said.

“There are a lot of long-settled Pakistanis and Afghans in Yiwu. They buy petty commodities suitable for exporting to their own countries. Now they also choose their characteristic local products and export to China.”

Huang Yuanli said that Yiwu Import Chamber of Commerce also welcomes all potential foreign products.” For companies who want to cooperate with us in the future, brand is a necessity. “We can provide them some professional advice about building a brand in China according to the products’ characteristics. As long as the product has high-cost performance and good quality, there is a big market for it in China,” she said.

“COVID-19 has a great impact on import and export. Under the unfavorable environment, enterprises from all countries should hold gather and use their respective advantages to help each other and develop,” Jin Bowen, president of Import Source Enterprise Alliance said in an interview. “Most of the enterprise within our alliance has their brand. Some have their factories. Others are the exclusive agent of some brands. They all have a firsthand source of goods and have control over the products.”

“In the future, we will follow the Belt and Road route to expand our alliance. Pakistan is also one of our potential partners. We hope they can recommend the best or unique local products to join

our alliance. With information sharing and exchanging, we can promote the products together and open the Chinese market,” he added.

“As the best wholesale platform in China, Yiwu can also be a platform for Pakistani products to be exposed to more international buyers. Around one or two years ago, we planned to open one Pakistan pavilion for Pakistani products,” said Mir Faisal Yaqoob, chairman of Pakistan-China Chamber of Commerce. “Yiwu government has already given us one place for Pakistan pavilion, and we are still working on it. There are so many manufacturers and exporters from Pakistan in Yiwu. With the pavilion, they can display their samples. Hope they will get the orders from China and then they export more to China,” he said.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/690805/pakistani-products-have-potential-to-find-a-market-in-china-official/>

November 20, 2020

Daily Times

Pakistani woman wins distinction at China International Literature Festival

A Pakistani woman won the prize of ‘Highest Potential Overseas Author’ at the China Online International Literature Festival in Shanghai, Gwadar Pro reported on Thursday.

The online literature is a distinguished form of literature which has prevailed in China in the past 15 years.

As online literature booming in the Chinese market, Web novel (webnovel.com), a cross-platform Internet service aiming to bring online literature to the world, was launched by Ten cent’s China Literature Group in Apr 2018. Web novel has attracted more than 100,000 overseas writers and published more than 160,000 online literature works. Most of them are original authors from BRI countries, including Pakistan, Singapore, Philippines and Bangladesh and so on. At the same time, China has exported more than 10,000 Chinese online literature works to more than 40 BRI countries.

Almas Ilyas started her writing career in Dec 2018, “In the past two years, my novels have become very popular, and one of them has been read more than ten million times on Web novel,” she said. “Web novel has changed my life completely. I not only got a platform to share my stories, but also found a way to communicate with my readers from around the world. Web novel enabled me to be financially independent and realize my dream,” she added.

She also believed that online literature is a new way for communication between Pakistan and China. “People from Pakistan can understand Chinese culture better through thousands of stories. Web novel has provided a good stage for Pakistanis to realize our dream.”

Cheng Wu, CEO of China Literature Group, Vice President of Ten cent Group and CEO of Ten cent Pictures, said that with the convenience of the Internet, online literature, due to its huge user

base, rich themes and interactive co-creation, has endowed cultural communication with a bigger stage and richer connotations.

Yan Feng, professor at Fudan University, believes that online literature is a new cultural form embryo for mankind in the future. Through online literature, people create a universe, a new world and an imaginary community, which goes beyond the limit of time and space, he added.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/691187/pakistani-woman-wins-distinction-at-china-international-literature-festival/>

Pakistan must benefit from China's achievements in agri. sector: envoy

Pakistan can make optimum use of past achievements of China in its future agriculture development schemes to address weaknesses and develop the agriculture sector, Pakistan Ambassador to China, Moin ul Haque said on Thursday.

"I believe that Pakistan can make optimum use of China's past achievements in its future agriculture development schemes to address our weakness and consolidate our strength in the agriculture sector," he said in his opening speech at a Webinar on China-Pakistan Agricultural Cooperation and Prospects organized by China Economic Net (CEN).

Terming the relations between Pakistan and China as very close and strong, he said that spectrum of bilateral relations between the two countries is very broad, deep and wide. Under President Xi Jinping's Belt and Road Initiative, the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) has emerged as the flagship, high quality and demonstration project, helping Pakistan in upgrading its infrastructure, energy sector transport and communication network. Now in the recent years, the agriculture has been identified as the sector to be given a special attention.

Ambassador Haque said, under the CPEC Phase-II, the agriculture cooperation is included as part of socio-economic development strategy.

He said special working group on agriculture was established in March this year and plan of action has been discussed between Pakistan's Ministry of National Food Security and Research and the Chinese Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs were implementing large number of joint projects, adding, for the government of Pakistan, modernizing our agriculture sector remains a priority.

Pakistan, he said, has a strong agriculture base which contributes more than 80 percent of our GDP and employs more than 30 percent of our labor force. Pakistan is a leading country in production of wheat, cotton, rice, sugar cane, lentils and mangoes, and milk. In fact, we are the fourth largest producer of the milk. We also have a vibrant livestock sector and we are among the leaders in meat and poultry production, he added. In the recent meeting held in Hainan in August between our foreign ministers, the agriculture cooperation was extensively discussed.

He said, cooperation was stressed in areas like production of quality seeds, enhancing productivity of various crops, strengthening the agro based industry to bring more value addition,

manufacturing pesticide and setting up cold chain networks. We also discussed capacity building, transfer of technology and establishment of research institutes, he added.

Ambassador Haque informed in September, Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi also held an exclusive meeting with the Chinese ambassador in Islamabad to discuss cooperation in the field of agriculture.

He expressed the confidence remarked that through mutual collaboration, sharing of experience and consistent efforts, our two countries can strengthen cooperation in agriculture sector and contribute toward prosperity of our two people.

He also thanked the Chinese government and its ministry of agriculture and rural affairs for its support to Pakistan to fight the locust plague which recently hit some parts of Pakistan. The Chinese government sent a delegation of experts and also provided specialized drones to fight this menace, he added.

Ambassador Haque pointed out that China is also helping Pakistan to set up a pest disease and control center in Karachi and a memorandum of understanding for which was signed during President Dr. Arif Alivi's solidarity visit to China in March this year.

Acknowledging China's unprecedented success in combating poverty, he said, bringing more than 700 million people out of poverty is a miracle in recent time. He said, helping communities to improving livelihood through developing a local agriculture produce and better planning and marketing has been an important part of China's poverty alleviation strategy. Pakistan, he said, will like to learn from Chinese experience as it is important for its own quest for poverty alleviation. Ambassador Haque expressed his sincere gratitude for CEN and its president for providing valuable support in strengthening economic and commercial relations between China and Pakistan.

He proposed to organize another forum to discuss linkage between poverty alleviation and agriculture. He also appreciated CEN for sponsoring mango festival, holding seminars and conferences and hosting of Pakistan Pavilion at China International Import Expo held in Shanghai early this month. Ambassador Haque congratulated Nong Rong for assuming charge of the Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan. The two-hour long webinar was addressed by ministers, senior government officials and experts from the two countries.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/691224/pakistan-must-benefit-from-chinas-achievements-in-agri-sector-envoy/>

Planning minister, Chinese envoy vow to implement second phase of CPEC

Minister for Planning and Development Asad Umar and Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan Nong Rong vowed on Thursday to work together to make the second phase of China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) a success. Nong Rong called on Asad Umar here and discussed matters related to bilateral relations projects under China Pakistan Economic Corridor especially those related to Industrial Cooperation. They expressed satisfaction on the JWG's meetings held

in the recent weeks, for various sectors. They agreed to work together to make the second phase of CPEC a success. Minister Asad Umar welcomed the ambassador on his new assignments and extended best wishes for his endeavors. He said that China-Pakistan relationship extended beyond the government to government cooperation as the bond between the people of the two countries was also very strong. The Chinese ambassador thanked the minister and said that the Chinese side also highly values the relationship and it would be his endeavor to build on the work done in the last many years.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/691303/planning-minister-chinese-envoy-vow-to-implement-second-phase-of-cpec/>

Dawn News

Qaiser asked to take up CPEC share issue with PM

SWABI: Awami National Party parliamentary leader in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Assembly, Sardar Hussain Babak, has said that National Assembly Speaker Asad Qaiser should talk to the prime minister about Khyber Pakhtunkhwa share in China-Pakistan Economic Corridor project because he is one of the key leaders of the ruling party.

He was addressing a workers gathering at Marghuz village which was arranged for Tahir Salim, one of the founding members of Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf, and his supporters who quit the ruling party and joined ANP.

Mr. Babak recalled that when Mr. Qaiser was speaker of the provincial assembly and PML-N was in government he had filed a writ petition in Peshawar for development of the western route at par with the eastern route of the corridor.

“We will support the speaker if he talks to the prime minister about the CPEC issue. Let’s work together for KP rights,” he said.

The ANP leader said the exemplary unity among the opposition parties was a big surprise for the government. “The ruling party and its allies don’t know how to handle the prevailing situation and increasing momentum of the opposition’s protest campaign,” he said.

Mr Babak said that leaders and workers of various parties in Swabi district had been joining ANP because of its clear and principled stand to secure rights of people.

He appealed to the party workers to wear red shirts and participate in the PDM meeting in Peshawar on Nov 22.

Speaking on the occasion, Mukhtiar Khan, former adviser to chief minister, said that those who joined ANP had made the right choice because in their party the workers were considered real decision makers. Party’s district president Amanullah Khan also spoke on the occasion.

ARRESTED: Police here on Thursday arrested managers of six hotels who failed to follow SOPs set for checking the spread of Covid-19.

Officials said assistant commissioner Islahuddin raided the hotels in Swabi and those found violating the SOPs were arrested. When contacted, an official said the crackdown against hotels would continue.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1591284/qaiser-asked-to-take-up-cpec-share-issue-with-pm>

The Express Tribune

Govt. seeks Chinese, US help on cotton seeds

LAHORE: Punjab government has decided to collaborate with agriculture researchers from China and the US to develop new seeds for cotton and other crops besides strengthening legislation to curb substandard seeds.

The decision was made in a three-hour meeting jointly chaired by Governor Chaudhry Muhammad Sarwar and Chief Minister Sardar Usman Buzdar at Governor House on Thursday. Federal Minister for Food Fakhr Imam, provincial ministers, Punjab chief secretary and representatives of the private sector also attended the meeting.

The participants discussed problems related to cotton seeds at length and proposed strict punishment to those who produced substandard seeds. It was decided that noted researchers from the US and China would be enlisted for collaboration with local experts to improve research quality.

The meeting decided to constitute a 10-member committee, headed by Punjab Minister Hussain Jahanian Gardezi, for coordination among researchers for promotion of quality research. The committee will meet every week and consult the governor and chief minister every fortnight to keep them updated about developments and take guidance on future strategy.

It was also decided that the government will take the private sector on board for promotion of research and development of quality cotton seed. A separate coordination committee of the federal government and officers concerned of Punjab will also be constituted.

Addressing the participants, Chief Minister Buzdar said the provincial government would use all available resources for development of new cotton seeds. Federal Minister Fakhr Imam said it was an important step of the provincial government to initiate joint efforts for development of new seeds.

Efforts should be made to produce more cotton in Pakistan than in India. Now that a committee of officers of the federal and Punjab governments has been formed, the matter will be expedited.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2272865/govt-seeks-chinese-us-help-on-cotton-seeds>

The Nation

Agreements worth \$14 million expected between Pak, Chinese industrialists

LAHORE - Agreements worth \$14 million are expected between Pakistani & Chinese industrialists as a result of 448 matchmaking meetings that took place during the Pakistan Industrial Expo 2020 recently held in the provincial metropolis.

This was the fourth edition of the expo arranged by the Everest International playing the role of a bridge between Pakistani and Chinese entrepreneurs and attracting certain investment and technology from foreign countries especially China. During the three-day event, more than 2000 Pakistani businessmen participated.

Multiple chambers and associations brought their delegations to participate including Constructors Association of Pakistan, Sahiwal Chamber, Sargodha Chamber, Swabi Chamber, Hardware Merchants of Pakistan, Chakwal Chamber of Commerce & Industry and Peshawar Chamber of Commerce & Industry.

The event was launched in an innovative model of “Online + Offline”. All exhibits were physically showed and all B2B meetings were held online via terminal equipment which was installed on every booth.

The organizer followed the SOP regulations all the time, set sanitization gate, sprayer, temperature testers and arranged alcohol wet tissues and sanitizer for every booth.

President Pakistan China Joint Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCJCCI) S M Naveed inaugurated the event and appreciated Chinese businessmen working in Pakistan for putting up a superb show in which companies of both countries showcased their potentials.

While Yusuf Fa, CEO Everest International, said that they had started this exhibition in Pakistan to further strengthen the bilateral trade relations and helping the indigenous industries of both sides to grow further.

<https://nation.com.pk/20-Nov-2020/agreements-worth-dollar-14-million-expected-between-pak-chinese-industrialists>

KP CM, NA speaker discuss CPEC projects

ISLAMABAD - National Assembly Speaker Asad Qaiser yesterday said early completion of different projects of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) will provide ample job opportunities to people of Pakistan.

“Completion of Rashkai Economic Zone project in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa under CPEC will prove a game changer for the whole country specially Khyber Pakhtunkhwa,” said the speaker in a meeting with Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Mahmood Khan at Parliament House on Thursday. Defense Minister Pervez Khattak and Energy Minister Omar Ayub were also present in the meeting.

Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa briefed about details of ongoing development projects in the province under the CPEC. Chief Minister appreciated Speaker Asad Qaiser for his efforts to promote trade with Afghanistan.

Praising public welfare projects in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Speaker Asad Qaiser said performance of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government was commendable. He said that Pakistan was being considered as a hub of economic activities due to its geographical importance and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa will be the hub of these economic activities. He said that access to Central Asian countries through Afghanistan under the Economic Corridor would open new avenues for development and prosperity in the entire region.

He said that the people of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa wanted the Rashkai Economic Zone project to be completed soon. He said that provision of energy and other facilities for industries should also be ensured so that industrial activities could start in full swing.

<https://nation.com.pk/20-Nov-2020/kp-cm-na-speaker-discuss-cpec-projects>

Express News

انسداد، ہشتگردی کیلئے پاکستان کی کوششوں کے معترف ہیں، چینی دفتر خارجہ

چین نے انسداد دہشت گردی کیلئے پاکستان کی کوششوں کو خراج تحسین پیش کیا ہے۔

چین کی وزارت خارجہ نے چین پاکستان اقتصادی راہداری (سی پیک) منصوبے کے خلاف سازشیں کرنے والوں کو دو ٹوک پیغام دیتے ہوئے کہا ہے کہ چین عالمی سطح پر انسداد دہشت گردی کیلئے پاکستان کے اقدامات کو سراہتا ہے۔ چینی دفتر خارجہ کے ترجمان لی جیان ژاؤ نے کہا کہ دہشت گردوں کی کمر توڑنے کے لئے چین پاکستان کے ساتھ ہے، سی پیک کو ناکام بنانے کی کوششیں کرنے والوں کو مایوسی ہوگی۔ ترجمان نے کہا کہ چین دہشت گردوں کے خلاف پاکستان کی معاونت کرتا رہے گا، سی پیک منصوبہ کو سبوتاژ کرنے کی کوششوں کو مل کر ناکام بنائیں گے۔ دوسری جانب چینی وزارت خارجہ کے بیان پر وزیر خارجہ شاہ محمود قریشی نے کہا کہ پاکستان سی پیک منصوبہ کی حفاظت کرے گا، پاکستان امن اور اس خطے کے استحکام کے لئے کوشاں ہے، بھارت پاکستان کو غیر مستحکم کرنے کی کوشش کر رہا ہے لیکن اس کو ناکامی کا سامنا کرنا پڑے گا۔ شاہ محمود قریشی نے کہا کہ ہندوستان ریاستی دہشت گردی کے ذریعے پاکستان اور سی پیک کے منصوبوں کو نشانہ بنا رہا ہے، بھارت نے 80 ارب روپے کے لگ بھگ رقم مختص کی ہے، جس کا مقصد سی پیک کو نشانہ بنانا ہے تاہم پاکستان نے ہر صورت سی پیک منصوبے کی حفاظت کا عزم کر رکھا ہے۔ ایک سوال کے جواب میں وفاقی وزیر کا کہنا تھا کہ سی پیک منصوبہ پورے خطے کے لئے فائدہ مند ہے، ان فلیگ شپ پراجیکٹس کے ساتھ ہمارا مستقبل جڑا ہوا ہے اور چین بھارتی سازش سے اچھی طرح واقف ہے، اب چین کی طرف سے بھی بیان آ گیا ہے کہ وہ اس منصوبے کی اہمیت سے پوری طرح واقف ہے لہذا، پاکستان اور چین مل کر اس منصوبے کی حفاظت کریں گے اور اس منصوبہ کو پایہ تکمیل تک پہنچائیں گے۔ شاہ محمود قریشی نے کہا کہ سی پیک منصوبہ پر چین کی بہت بڑی سرمایہ کاری ہے اور اس کے انجینئرز و عملہ یہاں کام کر رہے ہیں، اگر ان منصوبوں کو کسی طور بھی نشانہ بنایا جاتا ہے تو چین اور پاکستان کبھی خاموش نہیں بیٹھیں گے۔ واضح رہے پاکستانی ڈوڈیز میں سی پیک کے خلاف بھارتی سازشوں اور ریاستی دہشت گردی کے تمام ثبوت موجود ہیں اور پاک فوج کے ترجمان سی پیک کے خلاف بھارتی سازشوں اور مذموم عزائم کو بے نقاب کر چکے ہیں جب کہ وہ سی پیک کو ناکام کرنے کی بھارتی کوششوں کے ثبوت بھی دے چکے ہیں۔

<https://www.express.pk/story/2107444/10/>

Jang News

حکومتی مشیروں نے کرپشن کا الزام مجھ پر نہیں چین پر لگایا، احسن اقبال

اسلام آباد (نیوز انجینئرز) پاکستان مسلم لیگ (ن) کے سیکرٹری جنرل احسن اقبال نے ملتان سکھر موٹروے کے حوالے سے لگائے گئے الزامات کو مسترد کرتے ہوئے کہا ہے کہ مجھ پر لگائے گئے الزامات میری ذات پر نہیں چین پر حملہ اور سی پیک کے خلاف سازش ہے، حکومت سی پیک کو متنازع بنا رہی ہے، حکومتی مشیر الزام پر چین اور مجھ سے معافی مانگیں، حکومتی لوگ مسلسل جھوٹ بول رہے ہیں، چیف جسٹس نوٹس لیں، جھوٹے ریفرنس لانے سے جھوٹ سچ نہیں ہو جائے گا۔ جمعرات کو پاکستان مسلم لیگ (ن) کے سیکرٹری جنرل احسن اقبال نے مریم اورنگزیب کے ہمراہ میڈیا سے گفتگو کرتے ہوئے کہا کہ ارشد وحید چوہدری کی وفات پر تعزیت کرتا ہوں، ان کی جمہوری و صحافتی خدمات کو خراج تحسین پیش کرتا ہوں۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ ان سی پیک منصوبوں کا ایک بہت بڑا فلیگ شپ پراجیکٹ ملتان سکھر موٹروے تھا، یہ 392 کلو میٹر کے اس منصوبے پر ہزاروں لاکھوں پاکستانی سفر کر چکے ہیں اور ہر وہ شخص اس منصوبے پر سفر کر چکا ہے وہ اس کی تعریف کیے بغیر نہیں رہ سکا کہ چین نے کس طرح پاکستان میں عالمی معیار کا انفراسٹرکچر منصوبہ بنایا ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ آج بد قسمتی سے وزیر اعظم کے مشیر نے یہ الزام لگایا ہے کہ ملتان سکھر موٹروے منصوبہ جس کی کل لاگت 315 ارب روپے تھی، اس میں سے ایک 137 ارب روپے میں کھا گیا ہوں، اس سے پہلے وزیر مواصلات نے گورنمنٹ کی تھی کہ 70 ارب ڈالر میں کمیشن کھا چکا ہے، آج وہ 70 ارب بڑھ کر 137 ارب ہو گیا ہے، اس الزام کو نظر انداز نہیں یا جاسکتا کیونکہ سی پیک ایک کلیدی منصوبہ ہے جسے پاکستان اور چین کی حکومتوں نے نہایت جانفشانی کے ساتھ اور نہایت شفافیت کے ساتھ مکمل کیا تھا۔

<https://jang.com.pk/news/847032>

November 21, 2020

Daily Times

China provides Rs 17m to PRCS as medical and livelihood aid

China has provided an emergency grant of Rs 17 million to the Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS) for medical and livelihood assistance of the people severely hit by the Covid-19 pandemic.

A MoU in this regard was signed between PRCS and the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Islamabad here on Friday. PRCS Secretary General Khalid bin Majeed and Chinese Embassy Deputy Chief of Mission Mrs. Pang Chunxue signed the agreement on behalf of their respective organizations.

PRCS Chairman Abrar ul Haq also attended the MoU signing ceremony. Speaking on the occasion, he thanked the Chinese Embassy for the much-needed support. He said the donation will help alleviate sufferings of the people affected by Covid-19 pandemic.

Abrar ul Haq said keeping in view the challenges in the wake of Covid-19 outbreak, the PRCS not only launched special programmers to provide cash and livelihood assistance to the worst-hit segments of the society but also spared no effort to augment the government's endeavors to

contain the pandemic. He said the Red Crescent Corona Care Hospital in Rawalpindi has been in the forefront of providing much-needed free-of-cost screening and treatment facilities to the Covid-19 patients.

PRCS Secretary General Khalid bin Majeed said the Red Cross Society of China has always been at the forefront in provision of relief items to the PRCS in the time of need, especially during major disasters like floods and earthquakes. He said the RCSC has extended huge support to the PRCS in ongoing fight against corona virus through provision of funding as well as medical supplies and hygiene kits. He said the relationship between Pakistan Red Crescent Society and the Red Cross Society of China is a role model for other Movement Partners.

Chinese Embassy Deputy Chief of Mission Mrs. Pang Chunxue appreciated the services of the PRCS for humanity and pledged to continue extending all-out support to the Society for provision of humanitarian services to the downtrodden segments.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/691539/china-provides-rs-17m-to-prcs-as-medical-and-livelihood-aid/>

Pakistan, China need effective cooperation strategy in agriculture sector, says minister

Agriculture sector forms an important theme of CPEC whereby an effective cooperation strategy between Pakistan and China can prove to be greatly beneficial for both countries. This was stated by Federal Minister for National Food Security and Research Syed Fakhar Imam in his remarks at a webinar, says a report published by China Economic Net.

Agriculture sector in Pakistan is also an untapped potential market and industry where investment and partnership potentials are existing.

For Pakistan specifically, dividends could come in the form of new export opportunities, improved technology, private investment flows and growth for local enterprises within the agri-business sector, Syed added.

Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan Nong Rong made an opening speech at the webinar and said that it is of great significance and timing as it focuses on seed industry, agricultural product processing and agricultural investment. “We will facilitate Pakistani exports of cherry, onion, potato and other agricultural products to China, actively promote the construction of foot-and-mouth disease free zones and help Pakistan bring beef and mutton products into the Chinese market,” Nong told the webinar.

Pakistani Ambassador to China Moin ul Haque also addressed the event and said that Pakistan is a leading country in the production of wheat, cotton, rice, sugarcane, mangoes and milk. We are the fourth largest producer of milk. We also have a vibrant livestock sector, leather, meat and poultry production, he added.

Fareena Mazhar, Secretary of Pakistani Board of Investment told the webinar that the natural resource endowments between Pakistan and China remain complementary, laying a solid basis

for expanding cooperation and driving Pakistan's agricultural progress through adopting advanced technologies in the future.

Touching on the cotton yield difference between China and Pakistan with the similar planting area, Zhang Rui, Director of the Center for Molecular Biology of Crops at China Academy of Agricultural Sciences, said that China has more advanced biological breeding technology for cotton, high-quality cottonseed production technology, and high-yield and efficient cultivation and management techniques for cotton.

Earlier, in her opening remarks, "Farhat Asif, the President of Institute of Peace and Diplomatic Studies (IPDS) said since agriculture is a pivotal backbone of Pakistani economy, cooperation between Pakistan and China in this sector will be a destiny changer for Pakistan and us all. "As we see that China has not only helped its own land and people, but also shared agricultural experiences with BRI countries like Pakistan. China has given us much larger contribution towards economy of Pakistan," she said.

Separately, Zhai Xueling, Director of Market and Trade Research Office, Research Center for Rural Economy under Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs of China, said Pak-China agricultural resource endowments mutually complementary. She was addressing a webinar on great potential of Sino-Pak agricultural cooperation. "The natural resource endowments between Pakistan and China are mutually complementary, which lays a solid basis for expanding cooperation," Zhai said. Pakistan's per capita arable land area and annual fresh water availability are about twice and 1.5 times separately those of China. Moreover, Pakistan's labor force is abundant at comparably low cost.

According to Zhai, compared with China, at present, the overall development of the agriculture sector in Pakistan is relatively low, particularly lacking improved varieties and advanced technologies. For instance, the yields of major agricultural products including grain, cotton, oil and sugar are less than 50% of China's. In this respect, China has advantages in agricultural science and technology, mechanization and water conservancy facility construction.

From 2010 to 2019, China's agricultural imports from Pakistan increased by 1.3 times, and China's agricultural exports to Pakistan increased by 29% during the same period. China mainly exports vegetables, nuts, grains and oilseeds to Pakistan and imports rice, aquatic products, drinks and livestock products from Pakistan. It's noted that China-Pakistan Free Trade Agreement (FTA) Phase II will give new impetus to the bilateral agricultural trade.

In the medium and long term, Pakistan's overall economic environment is improving with great development potential, and investment policies and regulations are being increasingly perfected. "The future cooperation between China and Pakistan in agricultural science and technology, agricultural products processing, agricultural products trade and agricultural infrastructure construction is promising," Zhai said.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/691709/pakistan-china-need-effective-cooperation-strategy-in-agriculture-sector-says-minister/>

Dawn News

China backs Pakistan after Modi's tirade

ISLAMABAD: China on Friday rushed to shield Pakistan from Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's fresh allegations by recalling "positive contributions" made by Islamabad against global terrorism.

"China appreciates the positive contribution by Pakistan to the international counter-terrorism cause, firmly supports Pakistan in cracking down terrorist forces. Attempts that aim to sabotage #CPEC are doomed to fail," Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Lijian Zhao said hours after Mr. Modi claimed a Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM) plot in occupied Kashmir had been thwarted.

Beijing, which calls itself Pakistan's "all-weather ally", has in the past also defended Pakistan from Indian allegations. Besides the strategic alliance between the two countries, they are together undertaking the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), the multi-billion dollar infrastructure development scheme, which is also the flagship project of Belt and Road Initiative.

Mr. Lijian's specific reference to the CPEC also underscored the importance China attaches to the project and its success and security.

"Neutralizing of 4 terrorists belonging to Pakistan-based terrorist organization Jaish-e-Mohammed and the presence of large cache of weapons and explosives with them indicates that their efforts to wreak major havoc and destruction have once again been thwarted," Mr. Modi said in a tweet.

"Our security forces have once again displayed utmost bravery and professionalism. Thanks to their alertness, they have defeated a nefarious plot to target grassroots level democratic exercises in Jammu and Kashmir," he further said.

According to the Indian media, the tweets followed a meeting chaired by PM Modi in which intelligence inputs warned of a terrorist plot on the Mumbai attacks anniversary.

The Indian allegations came days after Pakistan unveiled evidence of India's sponsorship of terrorism in Pakistan and shared specific details in this regard with the United Nations, the five permanent members of UN Security Council, and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation.

Some believe that the Indian allegations, from their highest level, were meant to neutralize the impact of the 'Pakistan dossier' launched over the last weekend.

The Foreign Office "categorically" rejected what it said were "groundless allegations".

"We view these as part of India's desperate attempts to divert international attention from its state-terrorism in IIOJK [Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir] and state-sponsorship of terrorism against Pakistan. It is evident that India has stepped up anti-Pakistan propaganda, following presentation of the Dossier by Pakistan providing irrefutable evidence of India's state-sponsorship of terrorism," the FO said.

It recalled that the dossier presented by Pakistan had “extensively” documented evidence of India’s “active planning, promoting, aiding, abetting, financing and execution of terrorist activities against Pakistan”.

The FO underscored that bland denials and regurgitation of old litany of charges by the Indian side would not change facts.

It said that India’s false narrative about cross-border terrorism could not be salvaged through such allegations.

The FO also reminded about India executing “false-flag operations” in occupied Kashmir and on Indian Territory to malign Pakistan before the world.

“We have consistently sensitized the international community about the possibility of India resorting yet again to a false flag operation, and we take this opportunity to forewarn the world again,” the statement said.

Calling on the world to hold India accountable for its support for terrorism in Pakistan, the FO said that India’s “use of terrorism as an instrument of state policy” violated international law, UN sanctions regime and international counter-terrorism conventions.

“Pakistan calls upon the UN counter-terrorism bodies to proceed on the basis of evidence provided by Pakistan and urge India to renounce use of terrorism as an instrument of state policy, dismantle the infrastructure of terrorism it has established to inflict terrorism on Pakistan, and stop the use of other countries’ soil for its terrorist activities directed against Pakistan,” the FO further said.

The dossier had also revealed India’s planning for sabotaging the CPEC. Foreign Minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi, while presenting the dossier before the press, had said that Delhi had sponsored rising of a 700-member militia for targeting the CPEC that worked under 10 RAW personnel.

Military spokesman Maj Gen Babar Iftikhar had then said that \$60 million was spent by India on raising the anti-CPEC militia.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1591554>

The Nation

Pakistan, China continue to forge deeper strategic ties

ISLAMABAD - Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan Nong Rong called on Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee General Nadeem Raza at Joint Staff Headquarters in Rawalpindi.

According to Pakistan Army’s media wing, “matters related to geostrategic environment and further strengthening of security and defense cooperation between the two countries were discussed during the meeting.” The statement issued by Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR)

Directorate further said that both sides reaffirmed the commitment that being ‘Iron Brothers’ and ‘All-Weather’ friends, Pakistan and China would continue to forge deeper strategic ties.

<https://nation.com.pk/21-Nov-2020/pakistan-china-continue-to-forge-deeper-strategic-ties>

Pakistan decorates Song Tao for outstanding services towards Pak-China ties

ISLAMABAD - Ambassador Moin ul Haque, on behalf of the President of Pakistan, conferred civil award of Pakistan “Hilal-E-Pakistan” upon Song Tao in recognition of his outstanding services towards Pakistan and strengthening of Pakistan-China relations. A special Investiture Ceremony was held at Diaoyutai State Guesthouse, said an official statement issued here. Song Tao is the Minister of International Department of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, and a member of 19th CPC Central committee. He has been a great friend of Pakistan and an ardent advocate of Pakistan-China friendship. In his capacity as Minister IDCPC, he has been instrumental in promoting the sustainable and healthy development of Pakistan-China exchanges in the spheres of people-to-people contacts and party-to-party linkages. Song Tao has played a key role in fostering greater mutual understanding between the CPC and various political parties of Pakistan, thereby, contributing to consolidating the all-around social consensus on the Pakistan-China All-Weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership and jointly building a closer Pakistan-China Community of Shared Future in the New Era.

<https://nation.com.pk/21-Nov-2020/pakistan-decorates-song-tao-for-outstanding-services-towards-pak-china-ties>

November 22, 2020

Daily Times

Short documentary of Pakistani construction worker at Dasu Dam wins award in Wuhan

A video telling story of a Pakistani construction worker at Dasu Dam has won award at the second Belt and Road (BRI) Short Video Competition held in Wuhan in Central China’s Hubei Province. Seven state-owned enterprises in Hubei received awards in the second BRI Short Video Competition.

For example, one video submitted by Gezhouba Co tells the story of Naseer from Pakistan, a construction worker from Dasu Dam, a large hydroelectric gravity dam, whose civil works were undertaken by Gezhouba. Naseer’s work at the Dasu Dam has changed the lives of his family and enables his kids to study at school.

According to statistics, the entries of this competition have received more than 300 million views, including nearly 50 million views overseas, providing colorful stories about the Belt and Road to a global audience.

The wonderful videos of this competition were not only posted and displayed on the exclusive voting platform Kwai with the hash tag of “#Footprints and Memories#”, but also published on Douyin, Bilibili, and Ten cent Video, as well as overseas social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and TikTok.

The competition, co-organized by the China Public Diplomacy Association, the News Center of the State-owned Assets Supervision and Administration Commission of the State Council (SASAC), and Global Times Online, was held in Wuhan.

Themed Act in Solidarity, the second BRI short video competition continues to focus on the BRI while carrying forward the ideas of planning that were a part of the first competition. By collecting short video stories from builders and beneficiaries, from countries all along the Belt and Road, the competition helps build a community with a shared future for mankind.

Launched in mid-July and ended at the end of September, the competition received more than 500 entries from nearly 80 countries. After the Organizing Committee’s preliminary review, public voting and expert evaluation, the 10 final award winners of this competition were announced.

The competition has drawn extensive attention since its launch in July, said Wu Hailong, president of China Public Diplomacy Association. He said it was actively joined by Chinese enterprises and their employees in Belt and Road countries, who used their cameras to unfold the touching stories of beating COVID-19 together with local people and joining hands with them to share weal and woe.

The videos demonstrated the characters of the employees of the Chinese enterprises in the Belt and Road countries, he added. Xie Rongbin, deputy editor-in-chief of Global Times said at the ceremony that Global Times and Global Times Online, as media outlets with both domestic and international influence, have always taken the BRI as a vital topic in their reports over the recent years.

He said the competition was a bold attempt of the Global Times Online to tell Chinese stories and build a bridge of international economic and cultural exchanges as a media outlet.

Huang Zhijin, deputy secretary of CPC China Railway Major Bridge Engineering Group Co. compared the BRI Short Video Competition to a bridge connecting people and enhancing their friendship, saying China is willing to join hands with and offer mutual assistance to Belt and Road countries and regions to build a bridge of common development in the year of 2020 haunted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/692103/short-documentary-of-pakistani-construction-worker-at-dasu-dam-wins-award-in-wuhan/>

The Nation

Some powers do not wish CPEC completion: FM

MULTAN - Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Hussain Qureshi on Saturday said that opposition should understand sensitivity of novel corona virus and did not put lives of people at risk for only their political purpose.

"Government is not afraid of public meetings of opposition because neither it makes nor it dislodges governments," he expressed these views during his meetings with different delegations in his constituency.

Qureshi observed that the government was very much concerned about human lives in wake of second wave of corona virus. After government and courts direction, he said that the opposition parties have no legal or ethical right to hold public meetings amid pandemic COVID 19.

Qureshi remarked that the opposition was doing politics of self-interests only. It wanted to create unrest in the country. To bent on holding public meetings amid corona virus indicates opposition's undemocratic and irresponsible attitude, said Qureshi.

He added that all political parties should follow standard operating procedures (SOPs) related to COVID 19.

Claims PM's Kabul visit very successful

Qureshi noted that the second wave of corona virus was at peak and the incumbent government was striving hard to keep public lives safe and secure. He lamented that Opposition was demonstrating irresponsible role at the crucial phase. Opposition should not play politics amid peak of corona virus, he maintained.

China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is a game changer for Pakistan, he said, adding that some powers did not wish its completion.

"Ours as well as region's future is linked to the mega project of CPEC," remarked Qureshi. He added that the government had firm resolve to protect CPEC.

Foreign Minister also maintained that China was also well aware of the importance of the mega project. Recently, he gave clear message about security of CPEC. Pakistan along with China will ensure security of the project, stated Qureshi.

<https://nation.com.pk/22-Nov-2020/some-powers-do-not-wish-cpec-completion-fm>

November 23, 2020

Business Recorder

More Pakistani movies, dramas to be screened in China: Haque

BEIJING: Pakistan Ambassador to China, Moin-ul-Haque said on Sunday that more Pakistani films and dramas would be screened in China next year during celebrations of the 70th

anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Pakistan. We are organizing and planning more than hundred events next year. Screening of films and dramas will be very important part of that celebration, he said during the special screening of Pakistani movie Parwaaz Hai Junoon at a local cinema here.

The movie received the round of applause from around 400 people including officials of the Chinese government, institutions, enterprises, think tanks and media who were invited by the Pakistan Embassy, Beijing.

Welcoming the distinguished guests, Ambassador Haque said that the movie was a tribute to Pakistan Air Force, its valiant pilots and airmen. It is also an entertainment movie with a lot of drama, romance and action.

He said that the values of friendship, love for the country and feelings of patriotism are all parts of this movie. People of Pakistan and China shared these values.

The JF-17, the fourth-generation fighter jointly developed by China and Pakistan, was shown in the film, underscored the profound friendship between the two countries.

Ambassador Haque expressed the confidence that this momentum would carry on and it would become a permanent feature in the area of cooperation between the two countries. We are also looking forward to joint ventures and joint productions of Pakistani movies between Pakistan and China, he added.

He informed that both countries would be celebrating 70 years of the establishment of diplomatic relations next year, adding, It is very important milestone in the journey of friendship between our two countries.

Ambassador Haque thanked Fire International Media, Hum Films, producer Momina Duraid for making this historic day happen as it was after 40 years that a Pakistani movie was being screened in China.

A Chinese analyst Maxiaoping, while commenting on film said that the screening of a Pakistani movie in China after a long time was a good beginning and stressed a need to carry on this momentum.

He appreciated the story of a group of patriotic cadets, who after experiencing challenges, become the best fighter pilots and said that the film also helped understand rich culture, beautiful landscape and people of Pakistan.

Shaikh Muhammad Shariq, Chief Representative of National Bank of Pakistan in Beijing appreciated the efforts of Ambassador Haque for screening of Pakistani movie in China. Terming the movie a positive step to promote people to people contact, he said that this movie would help the Chinese brethren and friends to further understand Pakistani Air Force, culture and traditions.

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2020/11/23/2-page/859130-news.html>

Daily Times

Pakistan, China boost cooperation in earth sciences

The China-Pakistan Joint Research Centre on Earth Sciences, recently launched by the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) and Higher Education Commission (HEC), has made brilliant achievements in both academic research and supporting CPEC.

According to Gwadar Pro, Su Lijun, Deputy Director General of Institute of Mountain Hazards and Environment (IMHE) of CAS, highlighted the achievements of the centre in an exclusive interview. He said, proof by facts, Pakistan and China have a solid foundation for cooperation in the field of earth sciences. Su stated that CPEC, located at the tectonic junction of the western Himalayas, is a natural museum and laboratory for earth sciences. It caused many scientific and technological problems in the fields of geology, geography, meteorology, hydrology, ecology, environment, resources and disasters. The series of problems poses a serious threat to regional security and the construction of CPEC. In order to solve them, the China-Pakistan Joint Research Centre on Earth Sciences was initiated by CAS, HEC and other institutions from Pakistan and China.

In May 2019, Zhang Yaping, Vice President of CAS, led a delegation to Islamabad, to promote Pak-China scientific and technological cooperation and boost the building of the center. Later, the center held two international training courses for Pakistani students and scholars. During the COVID-19 outbreak, the center donated 16,100 disposable medical masks and 1,500 KN95 masks to institutions in Pakistan. In the field of academic research, the China-Pakistan Joint Research Centre on Earth Sciences has also made important contributions to the progress of earth science.

After field investigation and research, they have found several new theories in the field of earth science, and assembled a database of CPEC natural disasters. The Pakistani co-construction institutions, including HEC, Pakistan Academy of Sciences (PAS), universities in Pakistan, speak highly of the centre.

They believe that the China-Pakistan Joint Research Centre on Earth Sciences will enable scientists of the two countries to jointly work on the disasters and environmental issues faced by CPEC. It also effectively enhances Pakistan's ability to cope with climate change and promotes the sustainable development of Pakistan. In addition, the center will train a large number of scientific and technological talents for Pakistan and promote its scientific development. The HEC described it as a groundbreaking step in Pak-China science and technology cooperation.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/692398/pakistan-china-boost-cooperation-in-earth-sciences/>

The Nation

Pak, China agree for early execution of Karachi-Peshawar ML-1 project

Minister for Railways, Sheikh Rashid Ahmad and Ambassador of China to Pakistan, Nong Rong in a meeting held here Monday agreed to intensify efforts for early completion of Karachi-Peshawar Main Line-1 project of Railways.

“The ML-1 project would bring revolution in the railway sector of Pakistan through creating new employment and business opportunities for the people”, Sheikh Rashid said during the meeting.

The federal minister thanked the ambassador for Chinese partnership for the ML-1 project saying, “This would further strengthen the Pak-China relations”.

He said Pakistan and China had been enjoying everlasting friendship which was based on mutual trust and confidence.

The meeting discussed matters of mutual interest, Pakistan-China relations and rail projects in detail.

Earlier, the Railway Minister welcomed the new Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan on his arrival at the Ministry of Railways and presented a bouquet of flowers to him.

Speaking on the occasion, the Chinese ambassador expressed his wish for further improvement in Pakistan-China relations.

He said the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor project was a manifestation of the long-standing relationship between the two countries.

<https://nation.com.pk/23-Nov-2020/pakistan-china-agree-for-early-execution-of-ml-1>

The News

Beware CPEC

As preparations for 10th Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) meeting of the CPEC get into full swing, this year the meeting will be held in an environment where production and distribution systems across the globe have been impacted by the COVID -19 virus and therefore, cooperation within regional partners and global markets is imperative. In this changing scenario, the meeting will be held in an increased atmosphere of cordiality, friendship, mutual trust and desire to explore new avenues for cooperation. But as we approach the meeting dates the negative campaign by naysayers will commence maintaining proclivity as has been the pattern in last seven years since China announced its Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and Pakistan commenced CPEC. The most popular and frequently repeated false narrative is around the ‘Debt trap’ which I believe has outlived its life.

Under the 9 completed projects and 13 on-going projects, over 70,000 direct jobs have already been created under CPEC and another 450,000 direct jobs could be generated in next 4 to 5 years which mainly depends on commencement of the SEZ’s and Gwadar Free Trade Zone. Despite

COVID -19, since last JCC significant progress has been made on projects under Gwadar with the port becoming operational for Afghan transit trade, first fishing vessel with 200 tones cargo arriving on 20th November, IA/PPA for 300 MW power plant in final stage of process, work on Gwadar airport and vocational centre starting and that of connecting the port to the Coastal highway through the East Bay expressway nearing its completion and more importantly, new investors registering in the free zone creating new opportunities for local employment. Since start of development work in Gwadar, its opponents have been critical on the progress as is now the case for ML-1 project where the foes know that it is another game changing project which will transform the way we do travel and trade.

During past two years, teams led by experts from both sides have worked meticulously on the technical details of the project bringing results through out of box solutions including for financing, incorporating new technology and discussion of extension beyond Peshawar. The most interesting benefit will be for the engineering universities providing necessary HR for the project. This is bound to bring about a major change on plans for regional connectivity linkages, improving tourism, transfer of knowledge and technology besides developing rural urban synergy in the country which is leading towards a true inclusive growth. The impact of such development initiatives will transform Pakistan into a better place for foreign investors. ML-1 project will be another manifestation of the time tested friendship between the two iron brothers like the one demonstrated during construction of KKH.

On the Industrial cooperation front the challenge will be to attract investment that brings export led industry with new technology and support import substitution at a time when economies are getting insulated as an immediate response to the pandemic and investors are becoming risk averse. Pakistan on its part is working on policies favorable to market transactions, such as being open to foreign direct investment, protecting property rights to encouraged entrepreneurship and promoting sustainable knowledge investment. With Rashakai, Dhabheji and Faisalabad SEZs all set for starting development work, efforts need to be to remove bottlenecks in the banking processes, provision of utilities and crafting regionally competitive incentive packages spurring growth and employment under the vision of the PM Imran Khan who strongly believes that “CPEC is great opportunity for Pakistan. CPEC connect Pakistan to China which is one of the biggest markets.” The industrial development is likely to take place in two stages as in the initial stage it is expected that the SEZs will be occupied by labour intensive industries followed by modern hi-tech industries that will demand workers possess a combination of high tech skills.

In the socio economic development front both sides are keen to accelerate the progress as the recent natural calamities including pandemic Covid-19 have made us to realize that in order to combat the challenges, partnerships needs to be strengthened to draw a new normal where harmony can be achieved through economic integration. In coming years there will be burn centres across major cities of Pakistan. Health care equipment including ambulances are also being provided through Chinese grant and some of the latest technology is coming in vocational training and HEC projects are also going in the same direction by providing virtual training to

students. Under Agriculture JWG, establishment of Centre of Excellence in the fields of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Cotton Research and Establishment of FMD Free Zones are being contemplated. Action plans in agriculture and oil and gas are also being prepared. Similarly, under the newly established JWG for science and technology host of new initiatives are being discussed for embracing the 4th Industrial revolution (4IR).

As a developing country in transition, Pakistan faces numerous challenges and opportunities in the process of industrialization. In this process to becoming “Gateway of Prosperity”, CPEC will be confronted by number of opponents who are aware that the initiative is not only linking Pakistan and China but is also creating new job opportunities, poverty reduction, and development and boost sustainable industrial growth. In response to this negative narrative all we have to do is to echo Mr Zhao li Jian Spokesman & DDG, Information Department, Foreign Ministry, China who recently stated that “any attempt to sabotage the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) project would not succeed”.

The author is a Projects’ Management specialist and is a faculty member of Projects Management Dept. at various institutes/universities. He has also served as diplomat in China and Vietnam and is a recipient of Commemorative medal from Chinese Ministry of Defence.

<https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/747764-beware-cpec>

November 24, 2020

Daily Times

China to bring golden development opportunities for Pakistan

At the recent China International Import Expo (CIIE), a Chinese speaking Pakistani jeweler Aqeel Ahmed Chaudhry was very happy because the sapphires and other jewels he exhibited attracted many Chinese businessmen. He was among many Pakistani businessmen who actively participated in this major global trade gala to explore market opportunities in China. The CIIE has successfully concluded with a cumulative intention of trade of US\$72.62 billion, an increase of 2.1% over the previous year.

In his keynote speech at the opening ceremony of the third CIIE, President Xi Jinping pledged to turn the China market into a market for the world, a market shared by all, and a market accessible to all, so as to bring more positive energy to the global community.

President Xi’s speech fully demonstrated China’s confidence of cooperation with the international community which arises from three aspects. First, it comes from China’s major strategic victory in fighting the Covid-19 pandemic. The Communist Party of China adheres to the people-centered policy and the life-first principle. From babies born in 30 hours to the elderly in 100’s, every life is fully protected. At present, China’s daily new cases are dramatically dropped to single digits. Meanwhile, China’s economy has shown a stable improving trend. Positive economic growth has been achieved in the first three quarters. Foreign trade increased

by 0.7% and the actual use of foreign capital increased by 5.2%, providing a big boost for the recovery of the global economy.

Secondly, China's confidence comes from the great achievements made during the 13th Five-Year Plan period (2016-2020). It is estimated that in 2020, China's GDP will exceed RMB 100 trillion. 55.75 million rural people have been lifted out of poverty, more than 60 million new jobs have been created in urban areas, and the world's largest social security system has been established in China? With the basic medical insurance covering more than 1.3 billion people and basic endowment insurance covering nearly 1 billion people.

Thirdly, China's confidence comes from the development targets for the 14th Five-Year Plan period (2021-2025) proposed by the Fifth Plenary Session of the 19th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China. This year, China will achieve the goal of finishing building a moderately prosperous society in all respects and eradicating poverty. From next year on, China will begin a new journey toward fully building a modern socialist country. Answering to the changing circumstances and new requirements, we have set out to foster a new development paradigm with domestic circulation as the mainstay and domestic and international circulations reinforcing each other. What we envision is not a development loop behind closed doors, but more open domestic and international circulations. We will do so not only to meet China's own development needs but also for the greater benefit of people in all countries.

Facing the impact of the Covid-19 to the global economy, some countries have chosen to pursue protectionism and set up trade barriers, while China has chosen to strengthen cooperation and communication and expand opening up. As President Xi Jinping pointed out, we must uphold the principle of mutually beneficial cooperation; we need to build trust rather than second-guess each other; we need to join hands rather than throw punches at each other; and we need to consult rather than slander each other. Bearing in mind the common interests that bind us all, countries need to work together to make economic globalization more open, inclusive and balanced for the benefits of all. Going forward, China will steadfastly expand all-round opening up and explore more efficient ways to connect domestic and foreign markets and share factors of production and resources. It will bring more opportunities for China-Pakistan cooperation.

The first opportunity arises in synergizing the development strategies of the two countries. China and Pakistan are all-weather strategic partners, offering each other development opportunities. From now to 2035, China will work towards basically realizing the long-term goal of socialist modernization. China's overall national strength will continue to rise, enhancing its capacity of participating in international economic cooperation and competition. We appreciate the efforts of the Pakistani government to build a "Naya Pakistan" and are ready to work with Pakistan in exchanges of experience of governance, and join hands for common development.

The second opportunity is the BRI cooperation. As an important pioneering project of the BRI, the CPEC has progressed rapidly in recent years, bringing transformation to Pakistani economy and society. According to the latest statistics, against the adverse impact of Covid-19 pandemic, the Chinese investment in Pakistan rose to \$332.1 billion in the first four months of this fiscal

year (July-October), accounting for 45% of the total FDI. During the 14th Five-Year Plan period, China will promote the high-quality development of BRI, advance the CPEC projects with high standards, ensure a smooth implementation and operation of on-going projects, and divert more resources to industry, agriculture, science and technology and social welfare, so that more common people can enjoy the benefit of our bilateral cooperation.

The third opportunity is exports to China. With a population of 1.4 billion and middle income people of over 400 million, China is the largest market in the world. China is also the biggest trade partner and second largest export destination for Pakistan. As the CPFTA Phase II came into effect this year, the zero-tariff items between the two countries have been widened to 75%. China not only applies zero-tariff to products such as yarn, leather and nuts from Pakistan, but also actively promotes the export of Pakistani agriculture products of cherry, potato and onion. In the next five years, China will expand its domestic mega market with robust consumption; promote the dual circulations at home and abroad. This will help Pakistan expand its exports to China, promote its economic recovery, and help to solve the problem of trade imbalance.

The fourth opportunity is for collaboration in poverty reduction. Under the leadership of President Xi Jinping, China has astonished the world with the miracle of poverty reduction by enabling over 10 million people annually to rise out of poverty over the past seven years. This year, China will achieve its target as scheduled to enable all of its rural poor below current standard to rise out of poverty. Prime Minister Imran Khan also attaches great importance to poverty reduction and has on several occasions spoken highly of China's achievements in this aspect. At the recent SCO summit, President Xi Jinping declared that China supported setting up an SCO joint working group on poverty reduction. Bilaterally and multilaterally, we will share our experiences in poverty reduction with Pakistan, and contribute to its poverty reduction drive through cooperation.

Peace, development and win-win cooperation are beliefs both China and Pakistan uphold. Let's follow the trend of the times to make full use of the golden opportunities of China's development, and jointly work for a closer China-Pakistan Community of Shared Future in the New Era.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/692782/china-to-bring-golden-development-opportunities-for-pakistan/>

‘Parwaaz Hai Junoon’ a symbol of Sino-Pak friendship: envoy

Pakistani film ‘Parwaaz Hai Junoon’ is a symbol of friendship between China and Pakistan, said the Pakistani ambassador to China and spectators after watching the movie, Gwadar Pro reported on Monday.

The embassy of Pakistan organized a special screening of the film where the ambassador Moin ul Haque addressed the audience and said the Pakistani movie has been in China for almost 45 years. The film was released across the Chinese cinemas on 13 November 2020. “This film has everything, action, drama, romance, emotions, values of friendship and, of course, feeling of

patriotism which is very important, and these are values that the people of Pakistan and China share”, he stated.

He further said that this film is a tribute to Pakistan Air Force and its really brilliant pilots, while these cultural exchanges will help in fostering a better understanding of each other. “I do hope that this auspicious start that we have made this week, this momentum we carry on becomes something very lasting, very permanent, an area of cooperation between the two countries. We hope to have more movies, screenings in China and additional Pakistani movies and dramas as well. We are also going to look at joint ventures and joint production of movies between Pakistan and China,” Haque mentioned.

The ambassador further said that next year, Pakistan and China are celebrating 70 years of diplomatic relations, a very important milestone in this journey of friendship between our two countries. So next year we are also organizing and planning more than 100 events. The cooperation and the screening of films and dramas next year will be performed as a very important part of these activities. He further said that in the future he would try to bring more Pakistani films and dramas for the Chinese audience.

After watching the movie, Hina Shiekh said that a strong friendship can give us support for good and hard times and JF-17 is the best example of the friendship between Pakistan and China. She really likes the scene in the film when an instructor at the air force training academy asked newly joined cadets to compare JF-17 with Mirage 2000 in class. A female cadet proudly answered that JF-17 has many advantages, including flexibility and safety, and is praised by the instructor.

It may be mentioned here that Pakistan and China would celebrate the 70th anniversary of diplomatic relations next year and such kinds of events would help build relationship in the entertainment sector as well.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/692780/parwaaz-hai-junoon-a-symbol-of-sino-pak-friendship-envoy/>

The News

Mounting Indian threats to CPEC

The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor is part of a broader Chinese project, the One Belt One Road (OBOR) program, which aims to reconstitute and expand the ancient Silk Road. The Chinese investment in the project is about USD50 billion and will produce a 2.5 percent increase in the Gross Domestic Product of Pakistan as well as creating thousands of jobs. For the antagonists and those ideologically opposed to CPEC, the situation is downright depressing and is causing great distress. The Indian war against CPEC goes on.

DG ISPR Maj Gen Babar Iftikhar recently revealed that for sabotaging CPEC, India had raised a militia of 700 militants to conduct terror activities in Balochistan. "A commission comprising 24 members was created which included 10 RAW operatives. \$60 million dollars were dedicated for this force." He added that the Indian mission in Afghanistan has paid handsome amounts to sub-nationalists under the garb of humanitarian assistance and projects.

Foreign Minister Qureshi elaborated that New Delhi had distributed Rs22 billion for promoting and carrying out terror activities in Pakistan. "India is sabotaging CPEC as they know the project's success can be an economic game changer for Pakistan." He further said New Delhi has established a cell in their intelligence agency with the sole objective of disrupting CPEC projects. "The cell works under the supervision of the Indian prime minister and its mandate is to disrupt CPEC projects. A sum of Rs80 billion has been allocated for this purpose." He said that Pakistan was prepared and had established and deployed two security divisions to safeguard the projects and the personnel working on them.

According to Raffaello Pantucci, a senior associate fellow at London's Royal United Services Institute: "There is an elevated sense of concern at the moment around the fact that China-India tensions have become so bad, and this might lead to the Indians providing more discreet support for Baluchi groups, which is something that they have done in the past." This is an admission of Indian terrorist activities in Pakistan at the international level.

The Indian propaganda claims that locals are not only hired just for low-level jobs but paid much less than their Chinese counterparts. And the roads built within CPEC or OBOR projects would be closely followed by Chinese military bases. Indian objections to Gilgit-Baltistan being part of CPEC are not substantive as the region has been firmly under the control of Pakistan for the last 72 years and also the Karakoram Highway, which connects Pakistan with China, passes through the same region. New Delhi also claims China's maritime presence in Gwadar can hurt India's energy and economic security.

Nevertheless, PM Imran Khan has declared his government would complete the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) at any cost, as the project is a manifestation of the all-weather friendship between China and Pakistan. He was speaking at the launching of the construction of a mega-city in Rashakai, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP). The city, built under the CPEC, will have apartments, theme parks, a golf course, commercial zones and public buildings.

Meanwhile, the Chinese Foreign Ministry's spokesman recently said any attempt to sabotage the CPEC flagship project would not succeed and both China and Pakistan, with the support of international community, could work together to ensure its success.

"I have already made my response to this issue. No attempt to sabotage the CPEC will succeed," Zhao Lijian made these remarks during a briefing while answering a question about Foreign Minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi and DG ISPR Maj Gen Babar Iftikhar's joint briefing during which they held India responsible for supporting terrorist forces and sabotaging CPEC.

He reiterated that CPEC was an important and pioneering project of the Belt and Road Initiative and it was not only important for common development of the two countries, but also for regional connectivity and prosperity. "We are confident that with the support of the international community, China and Pakistan can work together to ensure the success of the CPEC," he said.

Commending Pakistan for its positive contribution to global counterterrorism cause, he said China firmly supported Pakistan's efforts towards counterterrorism, safeguarding its territory and regional peace and security.

Overall, the CPEC project will bring prosperity and connectivity, thus reducing space for terrorists for operating in the region. As a socio-economic project, it will provide for the uplift of people in the least developed areas of Balochistan, Sindh, GB and KP. The project will engage youth in jobs and will reduce their vulnerability and exposure to extremist teaching and elements. Also, through connectivity, there would be better prospects for exploration of natural resources as well as their use for economic uplift of the concerned area. CPEC, also a windfall opportunity for Pakistan's largely ignored maritime sector, is a cohesive project, a game changer for the region. It is more or less on the ground and will only accelerate in the times to come.

<https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/748453-mounting-indian-threats-to-cpec>

Express News

گوا در بندر گاہ کے سی پیک میں اہم کردار کے حامی ہیں، چین

چینی وزارت خارجہ کے ترجمان ژاؤ لیبجیان نے کہا ہے کہ چین علاقائی تجارت میں گوا در بندر گاہ کی پاک چین اقتصادی راہداری کے اہم جز کی حیثیت سے زیادہ سے زیادہ کردار کی حمایت کرتا ہے۔

عالمی خبر رساں ادارے کے مطابق چین کی وزارت خارجہ کے ترجمان ژاؤ لیبجیان نے میڈیا بریفنگ میں بتایا کہ اسلام آباد میں چینی سفارتخانے میں ڈپٹی ہیڈ آف مشن کے عہدے کے دوران میں نے گوا در پورٹ کا 6 بار دورہ کیا اور گوا در بندر گاہ کے تعمیراتی کاموں کو متاثر کن پایا تھا۔

ترجمان ژاؤ لیبجیان نے پاکستان کے کردار کی تعریف کرتے ہوئے مزید کہا کہ 200 ٹن مچھلیوں کے ریفریجریٹر کنٹینروں سے لدے جہاز کی گوا در پورٹ پر پہنچنے اور پھر چین روانگی وزیر اعظم پاکستان کے خصوصی اقدامات کا نتیجہ ہے۔

پیشرفت پر خوشی ترجمان وزارت خارجہ نے گوا در بندر گاہ پر مچھلی کے پہلے کنٹینر کی آمد اور عالمی راہداری کی سرگرمیوں کے آغاز پر مسرت کا اظہار کرتے ہوئے مزید کہا کہ نئی ہے اور چین تجارت اور سامان سے متعلق علاقائی تعاون میں گوا در بندر گاہ کے زیادہ سے زیادہ کردار کی حمایت کرتا ہے۔

چینی ترجمان نے یہ بھی بتایا کہ گوا در میں ٹرانزٹ ٹریڈ کے لیے مقامی سطح پر ایک ڈائریکٹوریٹ بھی تشکیل دیدیا گیا ہے تاکہ گوا در بندر گاہ کو بڑے ٹرانزٹ ٹریڈ مرکز میں تبدیل کرنے کے لیے اسٹیک ہولڈرز کے ساتھ مل کر کام کیا جاسکے۔

ژاؤ لیبجیان نے اکتشاف کیا کہ مستقبل قریب میں ایل بی جی، اسٹیل پائپس اور افغانستان کے لیے ڈی اے پی کھاد سمیت عالمی کارگو پر مشتمل مزید جہازوں کو بھی گوا در بندر گاہ پہنچتا ہے۔

چین کے وزارت خارجہ کے ترجمان نے کہا کہ پاک چین اقتصادی راہداری سے صرف چین اور پاکستانی عوام کو معاشی فوائد حاصل نہیں ہو رہے ہیں بلکہ دونوں ممالک کو علاقائی رابطے اور معاشی تعاون کی بھی سہولت میسر آگئی ہے۔

<https://www.express.pk/story/2108940/10/>

Nawaiwaqt News

سی پیک منصوبے کے مخالف تہارہ جائیں گے، قیصر خان داودزئی

اسلام آباد (نمائندہ خصوصی) نائب صدر فیڈریشن آف پاکستان چیئرمین آف کامرس اینڈ انڈسٹری قیصر خان داودزئی نے لورڈیر کے ممتاز صنعت کار حاجی عابد الرحمان، حاجی نعیم الرحمان اور مشتاق الرحمان، ریاض خٹک، سابق نائب صدر ایف پی سی سی آئی اور دیگر سے ملاقات کے موقع پر کہا کہ سی پیک منصوبے سے جنوبی ایشیائی ممالک باہم مربوط ہو جائیں گے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ اس منصوبے میں شامل تمام ممالک مل کر ترقی کریں گے اور اس منصوبے کے مخالف تہارہ جائیں گے۔ قیصر خان داودزئی نے کہا کہ چین نے ایران سے معاہدہ کر کے بھارت کی اربوں ڈالر کی سرمایہ کاری اور پاکستان کو نقصان پہنچانے کا خواب خاک میں مل دیا ہے جبکہ لدانخ میں اسے ذلت آمیز شکست بھی دی ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ سی پیک کا منصوبہ پاکستان کی معیشت کا گراف انتہائی تیز رفتاری سے اوپر لے جائے گا۔ قیصر خان داودزئی نے لورڈیر اقتصادی زون کے حوالے سے کہا کہ حکومت کو چاہئے کہ جلد از جلد لورڈیر اقتصادی زون منصوبے پر بھی کام شروع کرے۔ اس منصوبہ سے لورڈیر کے صنعت کاروں کیلئے فائدہ مند ہونے کے ساتھ ساتھ دیر اور دیگر علاقوں میں بے روزگاری میں کمی آئے گی۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2020-11-24/page-3/detail-18>

November 25, 2020

Business Recorder

China Centre/CPEC Tower to be established in Lahore

LAHORE: China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) Authority Chairman Lt Gen Asim Saleem Bajwa (retd) in a meeting with Chief Minister Sardar Usman Buzdar agreed with the proposal of constructing China Centre/CPEC Tower in Lahore apart from taking coordinated steps for the promotion of agricultural research especially the seed development. Both discussed the progress made on CPEC-related projects in Punjab. The CM disclosed that around 13000 acres of land will be utilized for seed development and other agricultural research purposes. The information desks will be set up in China Centre/CPEC Tower to provide necessary information to local investors about huge Chinese industrial sector under one roof, he said. The CM emphasised that transparency and observance of rules should be ensured for the allotment of industrial plots. Similarly, full implementation on guiding principles be ensured for industrial development, he maintained.

The CM said feasible recommendations should be presented for the solution of problems of the industrialists. Regulations should be given final shape at the earliest for industrial development as the CPEC has given a new dimension to Pakistan-China relations, he added.

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2020/11/25/12-page/859432-news.html>

Dunya News

Pakistan becomes attractive market for Chinese investors: Ch Fawad

ISLAMABAD (Dunya News) - Federal Minister for Science and Technology, Chaudhry Fawad Hussain said that Pakistan has become an attractive market for the Chinese investors through China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) project.

Addressing a national seminar on “CPEC: Challenges and Opportunities” held at a local hotel, the minister said that the CPEC project has a great future and it would change the fate of the region along bringing economic prosperity.

The minister said eleven special economic zones were being established under the CPEC which will promote industrialization in the country.

These special economic zones would provide vast opportunities for investors from China as well as other countries.

He said “We welcome Chinese investors in Pakistan”.

The minister disclosed that his ministry has planned to uplift semi-conductor industry and bring value addition to our own products with the cooperation of Chinese friends.

The Minister said Pakistan was also paying focus on renewable energy which is the future for Pakistan’s power system.

He said in this regard, his ministry has approached the Chinese companies to shift their solar panel manufacturing units to Pakistan.

The federal minister was of the view that CPEC would also help bring improvement in the agriculture sector of Pakistan.

He said that the agriculture sector in Pakistan is also an untapped potential market and industry where investment and partnership potentials are existing.

<https://dunyanews.tv/en/Pakistan/575031-Pakistan-becomes-attractive-market-for-Chinese-investors-Ch-Fawad>

The Nation

Indian efforts to sabotage CPEC are an affront to regional peace

ISLAMABAD - Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Qamar Javed Bajwa on Tuesday said it was the Armed Forces’ duty to transform challenges, faced by the country, into opportunities for stability and prosperity of the nation.

The army chief expressed these views while presiding the 237th Corps Commanders’ Conference held at General Headquarters, says a press release issued by Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) Directorate on Tuesday.

The COAS said, “Pakistan Army, with support of state institutions and the nation, is fully prepared to thwart all internal and external challenges.” The army chief specifically directed all commanders to ensure measures to support the national effort.

The forum reviewed geo-strategic, regional and national security environment and discussed internal security, situation along borders, Line of Control (LoC.) and atrocities in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJ&K).

It also took a comprehensive overview of the positive progress in Afghan Peace Process.

The forum showed serious concern in the wake of irrefutable evidence of Indian state sponsored terrorism and efforts to destabilize Pakistan. It emphasized that Indian efforts to sabotage CPEC, involvement in financing and training of terrorist organizations for fomenting unrest in Pakistan, especially in AJK, GB and Balochistan, were an affront to peace and security in the region.

Deliberating upon recent surge in Cease-Fire Violations (CFVs) by the Indian Army, the forum resolved to take all measures, necessary to protect innocent population living along LoC from Indian firing deliberately targeting civil population.

It expressed strong will, resolve and determination to defend the motherland against any misadventure.

The forum also deliberated upon the COVID-19 situation and measures required to confront the pandemic in the wake of second wave.

<https://nation.com.pk/25-Nov-2020/indian-efforts-to-sabotage-cpec-are-an-affront-to-regional-peace>

Shibli says CPEC is win-win project of China-Pakistan economic cooperation

Minister for Information and Broadcasting Shibli Faraz says China-Pakistan Economic Corridor project is a win-win project of China-Pakistan economic cooperation.

Addressing a seminar on CPEC in Islamabad on Wednesday, he said besides diversifying Chinese supply lines CPEC will prove to be catalyst for socio-economic development of Pakistan.

The Minister said CPEC is a game changer project not only for Pakistan, but also for the entire region, based on the idea of shared development. He said CPEC is a manifestation of China's special relationship with Pakistan.

He said under this project, Gwadar is going to become a hub of economic activities with Middle East and North Africa.

He said major initiatives of CPEC include construction of road networks, extending from Gwadar Port to Khunjerab Pass, up-gradation of ML-1, power projects of 10,000 megawatts and Gwadar-Nawabshah pipeline to transport gas from Iran.

Shibli Faraz said CPEC is estimated to generate six to eight billion rupees per annum just in taxes as roads and bridges toll.

He said overall, 2.3 million jobs are expected to be created between 2015-2030, resulting in more than 2.5 percent annual rise in GDP.

The Minister said CPEC has made a remarkable progress in the first phase. He said majority of the projects planned in the construction, infrastructure and energy sectors have been carried out successfully and many are in the execution stage.

He said the second stage will further focus on industrialization, agriculture, modernization and socio-economic development.

Shibli Faraz said the projects in the existing and newly established areas will enhance the capacity of Pakistan ultimately improving the economic competitiveness of Pakistan.

He said it is dispensable to counter the negative propaganda aimed at the success of the projects and bilateral ties. He said the benefits of CPEC will reach the grass roots level and benefit Pakistan's population.

Addressing the seminar, Minister for Science and Technology Fawad Chaudhry said the CPEC has a huge future.

He said Pakistan has become an attractive market for the Chinese investors.

The Minister said that under the CPEC, eleven special economic zones are being established which will promote industrialization in the country.

He said we plan to uplift our semi-conductor industry and bring value addition to our products with the cooperation of Chinese friends.

The Minister said we have approached the Chinese companies to shift their solar panel manufacturing units to Pakistan.

<https://nation.com.pk/25-Nov-2020/shibli-says-cpec-is-win-win-project-of-china-pakistan-economic-cooperation>

The News

Punjab assures Chinese projects of investment protection

LAHORE: The provincial Punjab government has assured Chinese investors that it would remove all obstacles in execution of their projects after they deplored undue delays in approving electricity and gas connections during a meeting.

Punjab Minister for Industries, Commerce and Investment Aslam Iqbal directed the authorities to immediately resolve all the issues in the meeting with representatives of Chinese companies. "No obstacle will be tolerated in the investment process," Iqbal said in a statement and particularly asked officials to address concerns of a Chinese ceramic firm.

The Chinese investor is investing \$70 million in the ceramic industry of the province. Oriel Ceramics wants to set up a manufacturing factory in Bhalwal. The company is not getting electricity and gas connections.

The minister said the institutions should provide all possible facilities to domestic and foreign investors. He assured the Chinese investors that their investments are protected in the Punjab. The industries minister said he would take up the issue with the federal government to solve the issues of power and gas problems of industries in the province.

The Chinese investors discussed investment opportunities in the province, but deplored that such an attitude of government authorities would discourage foreign investment, especially from Chinese.

China is leading an unprecedented \$60 billion worth of projects under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) framework under which a network of roads and flyovers and series of power plants have been set up in neighbouring Pakistan.

Over the last seven years, an influx of electricity has been injected into the grid and so much so that the energy-deficit country has surplus power. The no corresponding transmission system and revenue leakages have, however, distanced the possibility of energy security in the country.

Under the CPEC, the second phase is industrial development and agriculture cooperation. Pakistani government supports development considering that Pakistan has one of the region's highest infrastructure deficits.

Prime Minister Imran Khan emphasised the mutual benefits of CPEC. Chinese government wants to develop their underdeveloped western provinces under its Belt and Road initiative of which CPEC is an integral part, Khan said in a press briefing last week.

Increasing employment opportunities by accelerating the process of industrialisation is boasted as the first priority of the present government. It is the responsibility of the government to provide facilities to investors.

Domestic cement industry has also faced the same issues and over \$7 billion new investment is stuck due to this, according to the industry officials.

Industries minister had a round of meetings with the cement industry officials recently and assured them early redressing of their issues, including issuance of no-objection certificates for setting up of new plants and expansion of existing plants. However, all of these meetings are so far futile for the businessmen, said an official.

<https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/748761-punjab-assures-chinese-projects-of-investment-protection>

Nawaiwaqt News

بیجنگ میں چین کے سٹریٹجک منصوبے ہیلٹ اینڈ روڈ بارے ویڈیو مقابلہ

اسلام آباد (سپیشل رپورٹ) بیجنگ میں چین کے سٹریٹجک منصوبے ہیلٹ اینڈ روڈ کے بارے میں مختصر ویڈیو مقابلہ منعقد ہوا جس میں لاہور کی اورنج ٹرین کی ویڈیو بھی شامل تھی۔ گذشتہ روز بیجنگ میں وزارت خارجہ کے ترجمان نے ہفتہ وار بریفنگ میں بتایا کہ ہیلٹ اینڈ روڈ شارٹ ویڈیو مقابلہ ہوا جس میں پاکستان میں لاہور میں بنائی جانے والی اورنج ٹرین کی ویڈیو بھی شامل کی گئی۔ یہ پاکستان کا پہلا سب سے پراجیکٹ ہے۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2020-11-25/page-10/detail-38>

November 26, 2020

Business Recoder

Socio-economic development projects

ISLAMABAD: Parliamentary Committee on China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) expressed serious concerns and resentment over lack of clarity and slow progress on various socio-economic development projects of \$1 billion granted by China.

Two years ago, under the Socio-Economic Development Framework, China had provided a grant of \$1 billion to Pakistan for initiating various projects across the country especially in under-developed areas.

The Parliamentary Committee on China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) met (in-camera) with Sher Ali Arbab in the chair at the Parliament House on Wednesday.

According to the sources, the committee asked the Ministry of Development and Reform to give concrete information on the CPEC projects with groundwork, progress and timelines in the next meetings, instead of providing open source information.

The Committee also asked the minister to set priority of the projects for benefit of common people of less-developed areas.

The Committee was briefed by secretary, Ministry of Industries and Production, secretary, Ministry of National Food Security and Research, chairman, Pakistan Agricultural Research Council, additional secretary, Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives regarding issues, challenges and way forward on industrialisation in Pakistan, and on all initiatives pertaining to socio-economic development.

Moreover, in order to seek compliance over previous recommendations of the Committee, the meeting was also attended by secretary, Ministry of Maritime Affairs, secretary, Board of Investment, special secretary, Ministry of Commerce, additional secretary, Ministry of Railways, additional secretary, Economic Affairs Division, managing director, NTDC, project director, New Gwadar International Airport, additional secretary (E&P) KP, CEO, KP (BOIT) chief economist P&DD (Sindh), and chief economist, Punjab.

The Committee chairman said, “We will have to pursue futuristic approach while proposing future projects and implementing existing projects under CPEC framework. For this purpose, electric traction (ET) component should be added in ML-1 project as this option would not only be environmental friendly but also ensure cost reduction in future.”

The secretary, Ministry of Industries and Production, gave detailed presentation over the issues faced by industrial sector and the steps taken to improve the industrialisation in Pakistan.

The secretary briefed that the industries having competitive advantage are being provided special incentives by reducing tariffs on electricity.

Resultantly, the textile and leather industries are currently running at their full potential. These industries have generated greater employment opportunities during precarious environment created by the coronavirus pandemic.

The chairman remarked that the CPEC was a gateway to economic progress and prosperity, and the industrial sector was a lynchpin of the CPEC.

Dwindling economy of Pakistan will not thrive unless the bottlenecks of industrial sector are removed.

He said that there is an exigency of establishing the strongest coordination among all the concerned dealing with industrial sector, so that value addition in our local products could be ensured, the small and medium enterprises could be strengthened in Pakistan, and exports could be maximised.

Sher Ali Arbab also remarked that agriculture had been the backbone of Pakistan’s economy. “Currently, Pakistan has a massive potential in the agriculture sector. We have to enhance research and expertise capacity pertaining to agriculture so that agriculture sector could be modernised and agriculture-led exports could be increased,” he said.

The meeting was attended by MNAs Noor Alam Khan, Sadaqat Ali Khan Abbasi, Umer Aslam Khan, Mir Khan Muhammad Jamali, Nafeesa Inayatullah Khan Khattak, Ghous Bux Khan Mahar, Zahid Akram Durrani, and Senator Mir Kabir Ahmed Muhammad Shahi.

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2020/11/26/12-page/859558-news.html>

‘CPEC turns Pak-China strategic ties into economic relations’

ISLAMABAD: The government has stated that the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) has transformed decades’ old Pak-China strategic relations into economic relations that would also be beneficial for the entire region.

This was stated by Minister for Information and Broadcasting Shibli Faraz and Minister for Science and Technology Fawad Chaudhry, while speaking at a seminar, “CPEC Challenges and Opportunities” on Wednesday.

The Minister for Science and Technology, Fawad Chaudhry, said that the CPEC had been in Pakistan discourse in some way since 2004-2005, and the project had transformed strategic relations of decades' old – 1962 – with China into economic relations.

The minister said that after the completion of the first phase successfully, the real second phase had started now, and the present government had added two new pillars namely agriculture and science and technology in the second phase of the CPEC.

We are also in talks with the Chinese authorities trying to persuade them to shift their solar manufacturing panel in Pakistan, and this is the kind of shift Pakistan is looking for in science and technology.

Minister for Information Shibli Faraz, while speaking as the chief guest at the seminar, stated that the CPEC was a win-win project of both China and Pakistan's, and important for development of the entire region.

The CPEC, the minister added was a flagship project of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), and would go a long way to further strengthen Pak-China economic relations.

The project is a game changer not only for Pakistan but also for the entire region, the minister added.

He added that Gwadar was going to become a hub of economic activities with Middle East and North Africa, and mentioned construction of road network of 2,700 kilometers, up-gradation of ML-1, power projects of 10,000 megawatts as well as \$2.5 billion Gwadar-Nawabshah pipeline to transport gas from Iran as major initiatives of the CPEC.

The project is estimated to generate Rs6-8 billion in taxes, and create round 2.3 million jobs between 2015-30, the minister added.

The minister further stated that majority of the projects planned in the construction, infrastructure and energy sectors had been carried out successfully, and many were in the execution stage.

He said the second stage from 2021-25 would focus on industrialisation, agriculture, modernization, and socio-economic development.

The minister further stated that the projects in the existing and newly-established areas would enhance the capacity of Pakistan, would eventually improve the economic competitiveness of Pakistan, and emphasised the need to counter misleading and negative propaganda against the project.

The benefits of the CPEC will reach the grassroots level and benefit Pakistan's population, added the minister.

Deputy Speaker National Assembly Qasim Suri and others also spoke at the seminar.

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2020/11/26/15-page/859584-news.html>

Daily Times

Nestle sells China Yinlu business amid portfolio cleanup

Nestle has agreed to sell its Yinlu peanut milk and canned rice porridge businesses in China to Food Wise Co Ltd, a company controlled by the family of Yinlu founder Chen Qingshui, the world's largest packaged food group said on Wednesday.

It gave no financial terms for the deal, which it expected to close by the end of this year.

Nestle has been ditching underperformers and put North American waters and Yinlu under strategic review.

The deal covers all of Yinlu operations, including its five factories in Fujian, Anhui, Hubei, Shandong and Sichuan. Yinlu brands had sales of 700 million Swiss francs (\$768 million) in 2019.

The transaction lets Nestle focus on key categories in China: infant nutrition, confectionery, coffee, culinary, dairy and pet care, it said, adding it remained fully committed to the greater China region, its second-largest market with sales of nearly 7 billion Swiss francs in 2019.

As part of the transaction, Nestle will retain its ready-to-drink (RTD) Nescafe coffee business and distribute the products across most of the greater China region.

Yinlu will continue to manufacture the Nescafe RTD products for Nestle and distribute the products in several provinces. Yinlu will continue to manufacture and sell Nestea products under license from Nestle.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/693800/nestle-sells-china-yinlu-business-amid-portfolio-cleanup/>

Pakistan Observer

Pakistan supports China's claim over Hong Kong

Syed Qamar Afzal Rizvi

THE Hong Kong region is a special administrative inalienable part of China, and Hong Kong affairs are China's internal affairs that brook no interference by foreign forces," Pakistan's Permanent Representative to the UN, Ambassador Munir Akram, recently told the General Assembly's Third Committee, representing the group of 55 states in the United Nations. Pakistan has reiterated the principle of non-interference in the internal matters of sovereign states at the United Nations and termed this principle a basic international norm that every country needs to respect. Ambassador Akram also listed the 55 countries which supported China's "one country two systems," policy. Nearly 70 countries voiced their support of China's stance. Pakistan made a joint statement on behalf of 55 countries, opposing interference in China's internal affairs under the pretext of Hong Kong. Cuba made a joint statement on behalf of 45 countries in support of China's counter-terrorism and deradicalisation measures in Xinjiang. Kuwait also made a joint statement supporting China on behalf of three Arab nations.

China has been working for many years to cultivate a sympathetic voting bloc in the United Nations, particularly in regards to the sensitive issue of human rights. Beginning in the early 2010s, China began voting on UNHCR resolutions alongside a loose coalition of developing states usually referred to as the “Like-Minded Group of Developing Countries,” or simply the “Like-Minded Group” (LMG). The Like Minded Group (LMG) in the UN-led at various points by Russia, China and Egypt; but Beijing, in particular, has sought to align developing states with the PRC’s own diplomatic interests in the United Nations and other fore. Ahead of a March 13 U.N. panel discussion event on human rights violations in Xinjiang (hosted by the United States, Canada, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom), PRC diplomats directly approached delegates from developing states, and sent letters to other ambassadors. The letter decried the event as “based on groundless accusations,” which “aimed at interfering in China’s domestic affairs and provoking confrontations.”

Making a veiled threat, the letter advised recipients “in the interest of our bilateral relations and continued multilateral cooperation... not to co-sponsor, participate in, or be present at this side event.” Several statements urging respect for the one country, two systems principle, adherence to human rights norms and local consultation were issued by the European Union, Japan, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, Canada and Australia as a group, especially concerned with Sino-British Joint Declaration, both the governing Democratic Progressive Party and opposition Kuomintang in Taiwan, the United States and a group of over 356 parliamentarians from 32 countries led by Chris Patten.

The European Union (EU)’s sanctions on China over the Hong Kong affairs are a “symbolic gesture” to strike a balance between Washington and Beijing, as the measures will only have a limited impact on Hong Kong, observers noted. However, they warned that the EU should carefully watch its further steps, and avoid tilting to the US; especially as US elections are approaching, because any further provocation against China will only undermine the basis of China-EU relations, which are hailed as a model of pragmatic international relations and sabotage the bloc’s time-honored diplomatic independence. The situation in Hong Kong has been a significant annoyance to the Communist Party for years. The persistent protests by millions of residents of the Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) against infringements on guaranteed freedoms represent a challenge to the central authorities and have been drawing unwelcome international attention on and off for years. The Chinese Communist leadership cannot allow itself to appear weak in the face of popular pressure. So it decided to act. The attempt to turn Hong Kong into just another Chinese city will cast some profound influence over Hong Kong’s business activities with the EU.

Only an entity with sovereign power can decide what constitutes a country. In other words, the fundamental characteristics of sovereignty lie in the tautology of sovereign states claiming to be sovereign states, although this assertion of sovereignty can only be sustained in reality when there is real ability to control territory and recognition from other countries. Based on these conditions, the EU does not qualify as a country. The regional organization never declared itself

as a sovereign state, and other countries never recognized the body as a sovereign state. In contrast, the People's Republic of China (PRC), which includes Hong Kong, is a state. Even under two different systems, the PRC asserts itself as a single sovereign state and many countries recognize this proposition. But just because the EU is not a country and Hong Kong is part of the PRC, can we say that Brexit is a simple issue for people in the UK or other parts of Europe, or that it is wrong for the people of Hong Kong to struggle with their sense of belonging? The western unwarranted apprehension/criticism that comes for Hong Kong after Beijing announced a bill on May 21 to "safeguard national security" in the city-state., as this law comes into effect, it will effectively end Hong Kong's autonomy under the "one country, two systems" arrangement that has been in place since 1997- is not based on objective truth and reality. According to the provisions of the distribution of powers between mainland China and Hong Kong, China reserves the right to send in units of the People's Liberation Army into Hong Kong. And yet, they haven't done so, contrasting to what 'Democratic and Secular' India has done so far in Kashmir. Indian policymakers exploit the Hong Kong issue with Kashmir. The fact remains that there is no match between the two cases—China's Hong Kong and that of India-occupied Kashmir. In reality, there is no match between the two since Kashmir is an internationally and the UN- recognized disputed territory between India and Pakistan since 1947, Kashmir has rightly been ranked as one of the world's hotspots which could spark off a nuclear conflict between the two nuclear-armed states, India and Pakistan, if the resolution of this conflict is not sought in accordance with the UNSC resolutions.

—The writer, an independent 'IR' researcher-cum-international law analyst based in Pakistan, is member of European Consortium for Political Research Standing Group on IR, Critical Peace & Conflict Studies, also a member of Washington Foreign Law Society and European Society of International Law.

<https://pakobserver.net/pakistan-supports-chinas-claim-over-hong-kong/>

The Express Tribune

Pakistanis join final trials for China-made vaccine

ISLAMABAD: Thousands of volunteers are flocking to research hospitals across the country to join final-stage clinical trials of a Chinese-made vaccine for the corona virus.

It is the first time Pakistan has participated in such a trial, which comes amid a string of positive vaccine announcements by Western pharmaceutical companies this month.

The vaccine is being developed by Can Sino Bio and the Beijing Institute of Biotechnology China.

"I have volunteered myself for a noble cause that will help humanity," said a volunteer at Islamabad's Shifa hospital, where hundreds of participants are being paid about \$50 for their trouble.

Others should "step forward and take part in this noble cause which will save lives," he added.

For years, China has focused much of its attention in Pakistan on mammoth development projects, bankrolling the construction of roads, power plants and a strategic port.

Beijing has now tapped one of its closest allies to participate in the vaccine trials, despite Pakistan's chequered history with inoculation campaigns.

"We hope to have some findings ready about the accuracy and efficacy of the vaccine in two to three months," Ejaz Ahmad Khan, the principal researcher overseeing the trial in Pakistan, told *AFP*.

Officials said Pakistan has already inoculated about 7,000 of the 10,000 participants expected to receive a jab.

The trials come with intensive care wards across the country nearing capacity as a second, deadlier wave of the corona virus spreads and officials struggle to counter public indifference to the pandemic.

The country has confirmed more than 382,000 cases including over 7,800 deaths since the virus arrived in late February.

Less than a year after the corona virus that has claimed 1.4 million lives began spreading across the globe, a number of highly promising Covid-19 vaccines are on the cusp of release.

Four separate drug makers have recently announced that their vaccines are effective for most people.

Due to lingering suspicions over vaccines, Pakistan is one of just two countries where polio continues to spread.

The Chinese vaccine is also undergoing phase 3 trials — or large-scale testing on humans — in several other nations including China, Russia, Chile, Argentina and Saudi Arabia.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2273670/pakistanis-join-final-trials-for-china-made-vaccine>

Jang News

ڈیجیٹل پاکستان وژن کیلئے آئی سی ٹی انفراسٹرکچر تیار کر رہے ہیں، مارک یینگ

اسلام آباد (نمائندہ جنگ) ڈیجیٹل انفراسٹرکچر بہترین معاشرے کی تخلیق میں کلیدی کردار ادا کرتا ہے اس سے وابستہ لوگ ڈیجیٹل پاکستان وژن میں حصہ ڈالتے ہوئے تمام مقامی صنعتوں کو آگے بڑھانے میں مدد فراہم کر رہے ہیں، اس حوالے سے ہواوے پاکستان کے سی ای او مارک یینگ نے کہا ہے کہ ہواوے ڈیجیٹل پاکستان وژن کیلئے آئی سی ٹی انفراسٹرکچر تیار کر رہا ہے، مقامی صلاحیتوں کی پروان چڑھانے، پاکستان کیلئے ڈیجیٹلائزیشن کے مکمل فوائد سے فائدہ اٹھانا، لوگوں اور کاروبار کیلئے زیادہ سے زیادہ مواقع پیدا کرنا کو وڈ 19 جینی و بانی امراض کے بعد قومی بحالی میں تیزی لانا ضروری ہے۔

<https://jang.com.pk/news/849591>

November 27, 2020

Pak-China ties to be more diversified in days to come

Pak-China cooperation will be more diversified in days to come, said Pakistan's Ambassador to China Moin ul Haque while attending the 12th China Overseas Investment Fair, China Economic Net (CEN) reported.

“Taking place in this Covid-19 pandemic year, it [China Overseas Investment Fair] is a very important event,” the ambassador said, adding, “This is my first time to join COIFAIR and he was really delighted to be here. The China Overseas Investment Fair has developed into a very international and important event over the years,” he said. “Since next year marks the 70th anniversary of Pakistan-China diplomatic ties, Mr. He Zhenwei, Secretary General of China Overseas Development Association (CODA), invited Pakistan to be a special guest for the 13th China Overseas Investment Fair,” he added.

Moin ul Haque also floated idea of diversified cooperation between both countries, especially the cultural one. Cultural exchanges are of great pith and moment to countries besides political and economic cooperation and exchanges, he noted, and hoped that the introduction of Pakistani film Parwaaz Hai Junoon to China is just a beginning and that more cultural products from Pakistan will come to China in days to come and vice versa. “Not only screenings, but also producing movies are in need to be taken into account. Animation movie is a new trend in Pakistan. We would like to promote cooperation in joint ventures of animated movies between Pakistan and China,” he further mentioned.

COIFAIR is an annual international conference jointly launched by China Overseas Development Association and China Development Bank in 2009. It is held in Beijing every year, and has been successfully held for 12 consecutive sessions. Its main purpose is to build an international platform for Chinese enterprises to exchange information, interact and carry out investment cooperation with other countries around the world.

<https://dailymtimes.com.pk/694146/pak-china-ties-to-be-more-diversified-in-days-to-come/>

Pakistan Observer

Pakistan, China, Iran geostrategic cooperation

THE three regional giants, Pakistan, China and Iran with the three regional zones, South Asia, East Asia and the Middle East, have a pivotal role to play for trilateral cooperation. Iran, with its strategic and security sway in the Middle East duo with copious natural resources and ancient historic and cultural ties with Central Asian States makes it a superb regional power. China's economic boost, its veto power, global influence and connectivity inventiveness makes it the next world power. Pakistan the first Islamic nuclear power with its extensive experience of tackling uneven situations, emerging regional hub both in terms of economics and defense, its intimate history of relations and its geopolitical regional vitality makes it centre for trio

cooperation. The trio is geographically, geopolitically and eco-strategically located in three extremely paramount global regions. Their cultural assortment, natural reserves, aqua routes, geography and conflicts affect global affairs worldwide. The overlapping strategic and security issues of Pak-China-Iran can easily be settled down through their trilateral cooperation. Afghan issue is the utmost one for all regional and international stakeholders.

A peaceful and stable Afghanistan is in the best interest of both regional states and intruders. Pakistan has suffered a lot due to the turbulent Afghan affair. Chinese and Iranian security and economic concerns are also tied to Afghanistan. Pakistan and Iran had earlier not been on the same page for Afghan solution as Pakistan was pro-Taliban and Iran was pro-Northern Alliance. China has high stakes in Afghanistan as it aspires to connect it to its grand initiative of Belt and Road (BRI). China is desirous of peace and stability in Afghanistan as it is looking for its smooth access to Central Asian States. For China, Afghanistan's instability and turmoil may spill over Xinjiang from South to Central Asia. Hence the trio has to play their significant role for stable and peaceful Afghanistan oblivious of the past strategies. The US presence in Afghanistan is not in the interest of three of them and China and Iran have always been opposing external intruders in Afghanistan.

The US stay in Afghanistan and ties with India have disturbed peace and balance of power in Asia. So, Pakistan, China and Iran are bound to get ahead on trilateral cooperation for their mutual interests. Pakistan has played its pivotal role for the US-Taliban peace agreement. Pak-Russian military exercises have paved the way for Russian involvement in regional cooperation as Trump's South Asian policy has flocked the regional countries together. India is trying its utmost to instigate terrorist activities in Afghanistan for the US prolonged stay in the region for her own vested defensive interests. Trump's Indian inclination and announcement of Indian enhanced role in Afghanistan has cautioned Pakistan, China and Iran about future regional strategy. The second problem is Indian factor which always has hegemonic designs. The Indian imperialistic dreams have pushed it in several regional disputes and intense relations with its neighboring States. The historic and long Indian rivalry with Pak-China is actually the tussle for regional supremacy. India-China disputes are being poked by external factors and same is the case with Pak-India Kashmir issue. The US wants to get more than expected advantage out of the possible war between the two rivals Pak-India or China-India. In both cases the US will be able to weaken China. The US-India Civil Nuclear Agreement in 2005 and some latest advancement are the clear indications for China-Iran-Pakistan to move forward collectively to avert the scenario. The US is tapping India against Pakistan and China by equipping it with the latest defense technology.

The US-India ties are threatening CPEC; therefore the trio-cooperation has become a need of the hour. Although India-Iran ties are not as much tense compared to Pakistan and China, yet the US might use India and Israel against Iran for her interests. Many of Iran-Indian agreements are still nothing more than paperwork; however, the US compelled India to drop out of the Iran-Pakistan-India (IPI) gas pipeline project. Pakistan, China-Iran easily comprehends that the US South Asia

policy has always been favoring India which is threatening their interests and regional balance of power as well as regional peace and security. It is essential for Pak-China-Iran to align themselves with one another to stop the US yolk of influence favoring India and the Indian dreams of sole regional supremacy. The rest of the Asian states are neither economically stalwart nor from a defense point of view. They can easily be munched by the US-Indian pressure of supporting them. Pakistan-China-Iran trio is the sole resistance to the US involvement in South Asia for energizing Indian as one state show. India has always been bullying the smaller South Asia States which are now aligning with China on Indian expense. In view of the US-Iran tense relations, India will prefer the US instead of Iran, so it is time for Iran to realign itself with Pakistan and China.

<https://pakobserver.net/pakistan-china-iran-geostrategic-cooperation/>

Pak to participate in China-ASEAN Expo

Beijing: Pakistan will participate in the upcoming China-ASEAN Expo (CAEXPO) as a special partner.

The expo is scheduled to take place on Nov 27-30. The preparations for the Pakistan's exhibition area have been completed, Gwadar Pro reported on Thursday.

According to the Expo's Secretariat, the representative of the Pakistani delegation and Pakistani officials will deliver speeches at the opening ceremony of the 17th CAEXPO. During the exhibition, Pakistan's national image, competitive commodities, key industries and cooperation opportunities will be displayed in an all-round way.

The Pakistan exhibition area has been decorated with its traditional ornaments and style. This area will display the featured products in Pakistan, including natural gemstones, jewelry, agate, handicrafts and so on.

The exhibitors include The Ministry of Commerce of Pakistan, the Consulate General of Pakistan in Guangzhou and Pakistani enterprises.

<https://pakobserver.net/pak-to-participate-in-china-asean-expo/>

The News

Chinese envoy meets interior minister, mutual ties discussed

ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of China to Pakistan Nong Rong met Federal Minister for Interior Brig (R) Ijaz Ahmad Shah at the Ministry of Interior on Thursday.

While welcoming the ambassador and acknowledging the time tested friendship of Pakistan and China, the minister said that the two countries are like two bodies one soul and that the cooperation between the two has only strengthened over the years.

The ambassador agreed with the minister and said that the cooperation between Pakistan and China had always proven to be fruitful and very productive. Nong Rong appreciated the security arrangements done for the Chinese people and CPEC projects in Pakistan.

"Ensuring foolproof security for CPEC projects and overall environment is our utmost priority" the minister said. "We have increased the manpower and overall strength of FC and Frontier Corps to make sure that there is no problem faced in the smooth functioning of CPEC projects" he added.

The ambassador thanked the minister for cooperation in visa related affairs to which the minister replied that overall process of visa issuance had been streamlined and they tried that there should be no hurdles in this regard. However, if there's any problem faced, they will ensure full assistance, he added.

While addressing the COVID-19 situation, the Ijaz Ahmad Shah said, "Not only the government, the people of Pakistan are very thankful to the Chinese government for providing assistance during pandemic crisis. China came to our help at very early stage, people of our country really appreciate it."

On discussing the vaccine matter, the ambassador said that the human trials were underway and they were hoping that by the start of next year, good things could be expected.

CPEC has become the game changer for the entire region, the minister said while appreciating China's role in developmental projects in Pakistan. The infrastructure and development has played a pivotal role in economic progress, he added. To which the ambassador replied that the two countries had always been successfully working in mutual projects.

The meeting concluded with the hope that the two countries would continue to work together and further strengthen the bilateral ties in days to come.

<https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/749963-chinese-envoy-meets-interior-minister-mutual-ties-discussed>

Nawaiwaqt News

چینی بیلٹ اینڈروڈ کے کاروباری اداروں کو کاروباری سالمیت، تعمیل کی تربیت

بیجنگ (شہنہوا) بیلٹ اینڈروڈ میں شرکت کرنے والے چین کے کاروباری اداروں کو کاروباری سالمیت اور تعمیل کی تربیت دینے کیلئے بیجنگ میں سمپوزیم منعقد کیا گیا۔ شرکانے دیگر عنوانات کے ساتھ ساتھ کاروباری سالمیت و تعمیل، خطرے سے نمٹنے اور مقامی و بیرون ملک تجربات کیلئے تازہ ترین طریقوں اور ضروریات کا مطالعہ اور مباحثہ کیا۔ اپنی طرز کی تیسری تقریب چنگ ہوا یونیورسٹی میں منعقد ہوئی جس کے منتظمین چین کا قومی کمیشن برائے نگرانی، منشیات اور جرائم پر اقوام متحدہ کے دفتر، بین الاقوامی انسداد بد عنوانی اکیڈمی اور ایشین انفراسٹرکچر انویسٹمنٹ بینک تھے۔ بیلٹ اینڈروڈ کیلئے کاروباری سالمیت اور تعمیل کا اقدام مرکزی حکومت زیر انتظام 60 سے زائد سرکاری کاروباری اداروں کی ایک تقریب کے دوران شروع کیا گیا تھا، یہ سب مقامی سرکاری کاروباری اداروں اور نجی کاروباری اداروں نے بیلٹ اینڈروڈ میں اپنے حصہ لیا ہے۔ تقریب میں شرکت کرنے والے کاروباری اداروں نے سالمیت، ضروریات اور تعمیل کے حوالے سے مثالی کردار ادا کرنے کے عدم کا اظہار کیا۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2020-11-27/page-10/detail-53>

November 28, 2020

Business Recoder

President proposes ‘trade triangle’ of Pakistan, China and ASEAN

ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi encouraged the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) countries and the Chinese businessmen to invest in Special Economic Zones (SEZs) as Pakistan’s macro-economic policies have changed tremendously with an improved state of ease of doing business. The president also proposed establishing a “trade triangle” among Pakistan, China, and the ASEAN to maximise the quantum of intra-regional business opportunities. In his virtual address to the 17th China-ASEAN Expo held in China’s Nanning city on Friday, the president said Pakistan’s stable macro-economic policies and ease of doing business offered an attractive market to both China and the ASEAN countries for trade cooperation in diverse areas.

The four-day CAEXPO themed “Building the Belt and Road, Strengthening Digital Economy Cooperation” kicked off in the capital of South China’s Guangxi Zhuang autonomous region on Friday.

The expo hosted 11 high-level forums, over 160 trade promotion activities, and 229 booths for participants from 22 countries including Pakistan.

Themed “Building the Belt and Road, Strengthening digital economy cooperation,” this year’s expo aims to deepen cooperation in trade, digital economy, science and technology, health and other fields to foster a closer China-ASEAN community with a shared future.

On exports to ASEAN and China, President Arif Alvi said, textiles, food produce including meat and vegetables, surgical goods, minerals and information technology could be the prospective areas.

The president also mentioned that Pakistan greatly learned from the experiences of China in establishing the SEZs, and invited the investors from ASEAN and China to explore Pakistan’s business potential.

He mentioned that the second phase of Free Trade Agreement between Pakistan and China was in place since January this year, while Pakistan had a sectoral dialogue partnership with ASEAN with increased mutual cooperation.

“We want to do a feasibility where Pakistan, China and ASEAN trade triangle can come up as well as feasibility into a Free Trade Agreement between Pakistan and ASEAN,” he said. He said that Pakistan was making great progress after moving on from the original course of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, i.e. energy and infrastructure, to other areas of cooperation including agriculture, industries, and socio-economic reforms.

He said that despite the challenge of the coronavirus pandemic, Pakistan’s economy strengthened, and its online businesses grew due to implementation of far-reaching economic

reforms.

President Alvi recalled that China recently signed the world's largest trade agreement - Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership - with a number of countries and emerged as a reliable trading partner and economic hub.

He said that the CPEC had done wonders by turning Pakistan into an economic and strategic hub that provided an easy and fast route for transportation of goods from China and Central Asia to the sea.

Chinese President Xi Jinping also addressed the opening ceremony of the 17th China-ASEAN Expo and China-ASEAN Business and Investment Summit via video.

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2020/11/28/14-page/859841-news.html>

Daily Times

China impressed by CPEC Authority work under Asim Saleem Bajwa

CPEC Authority Chairman Lt Gen (r) Asim Saleem Bajwa and Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan Nong Rong reviewed bilateral cooperation under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor project, at a meeting here on Friday.

Future cooperation and collaboration vis-à-vis execution of CPEC projects was also discussed during the meeting. On the occasion, Ambassador Nong Rong said that he is very much impressed by work of the CPEC Authority under the leadership of Lt Gen (r) Asim Saleem Bajwa.

At a meeting with Lt Gen (r) Bajwa earlier this month, Ambassador Nong Rong had said that Beijing wanted to build CPEC as a high-quality model project of the Chinese Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). "With the care and support of the top leaders of the two countries, the construction of the CPEC has continuously achieved positive results," he had maintained.

Lt Gen (r) Bajwa had expressed CPEC Authority's commitment to providing a one-stop service for the corridor project in order to further strengthen cooperation in important areas, such as Gwadar Port, infrastructure, industry and agriculture, etc.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/694625/china-impressed-by-cpec-authority-work-under-asim-saleem-bajwa/>

Gwadar's first golf course opens at China Pak Golf Estates

The first-ever nine-hole golf course was inaugurated on the N10 Coastal Highway at a ceremony in Gwadar on Friday.

The golf course which was previously planned to be of 6 holes has been upgraded to a feature 9-hole golf course and is expected to be completed on a fast track basis within 18 months. The feature golf course which will be Gwadar's first is located within a luxury residential community by the name of China Pak Golf Estates by CPIC Global.

The inauguration ceremony was carried out on site by Shahid Ali Director, Gwadar Development Authority. Speaking on the occasion, he said, “This is a very exciting time in the development of Gwadar. Golf courses are an integral feature of international cities and the inauguration of this golf course at China Pak Golf Estates is a testament to Gwadar’s rapidly development under the patronage of Chief Minister Jam Kamal Khan and Director General GDA Shahzeb Kakar who have prioritized the cities development. As the governing authority in Gwadar we recognize the private sectors potential and will support credible investors coming into Gwadar to be part of the cities rapid development”.

Waqas Moazzam, Chief Engineer at China Pak Golf Estates, said, “We are leading the way in developing Gwadar. After finishing development and infrastructure works at our first project International Port City, development works are now underway at full speed at the mega China Pak Golf Estates project which is spread over 6.7 Million square feet. As the city develops China Pak Golf Estates will be the premier residential community in Gwadar and upgrading the golf course from a 6-hole course to a feature 9-hole golf course is a testament of our commitment to excellence in Gwadar”.

The ground breaking ceremony was attended by officials from the Gwadar Development Authority, including Nadir Baloch, Assistant Director GDA, local businessmen and officials of CPIC China Pak Golf Estates.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/694512/gwadars-first-golf-course-opens-at-china-pak-golf-estates/>

China’s goodbye to poverty an inspiration for Pakistan: report

China’s goodbye to poverty brings new inspiration to Pakistan moving ahead more steadily ensuring well-being of its people, says a report issued by Gwadar Pro on Friday.

According to the report, China is coming out with inclusive victory over poverty as its last nine poverty-stricken counties in southwest China’s Guizhou Province are officially removed from the poverty list in line with the fulfillment of promise of shaking off poverty by the end of 2020. Home to around 53 million poor people (a quarter of Pakistan’s population) who live below the national poverty line, Pakistan has the best model in place in shape of China to get rid of all faces of poverty in phases. If it followed in true letter and spirit, Pakistan boasts a conspicuous chance to lift up big chunk of its society from sever poverty.

Since CPEC came to existence, Pakistan is the recipient of China’s friendliness ranging from G2G, B2B and people to people connectivity that have helped Pakistan to tune in its priorities as public-centric improving living standard of poor strata of society. China’s feat (to delist all 832 countries including last nine impoverished counties identified as poverty-stricken) has made its immaculate mark at a time when Covid-19 stirred up unprecedented human crisis and jeopardized global economies leaving no option but to miss off their national and international targets.

Policies had to be revisited. Balance of payments were rescheduled. Sustainable Development Goals went in a whirlpool of uncertainty. China could have revised its poverty alleviation campaign 2020. But it did not surrender and preferred to stand by its resolve. Eventually it achieved zero poverty in all nine counties.

Recently, Prime Minister Imran Khan in a media interview said “he wants to replicate the Chinese model in Pakistan that lifted 700 million people out of poverty within a short period of 40 years. “Despite not having electoral politics, the Chinese were good at bringing the best people to the top. It’s a system based on meritocracy,” Imran admired the Chinese model saying, “How the Communist Party sort of sifts through all the talent and brings it to the top.”

Faraz Denial, an economist said that Chinese influential vibes had already put positive impacts in Pakistan helping Pakistan to realign itself with sustainable prosperity. “Fresh inspiration from China is a bonanza that should never be slipped from our hands,” he added. “Pakistan is committed to poverty alleviation in line with the SDGs target Goal-1 “No Poverty” in all its manifestations everywhere by 2030.

According to the Planning Commission, the poverty headcount ratio was 24.3 percent by estimating the poverty line for this period as Rs 3,250.28 per adult equivalent per month, which represented around 50 million people living below the national poverty line in 2015-16, the report added.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/694669/chinas-goodbye-to-poverty-an-inspiration-for-pakistan-report/>

November 29, 2020

Daily Times

Pakistan a special partner at CAEXPO in China for the first time: report

Pakistan acts as a special partner country with many Pakistani products and enterprises showcased for the first time at the 17th China-ASEAN Expo (CAEXPO) held in Nanning, Guangxi province of China.

According to a report carried by Gwadar Pro on Saturday, Pakistan’s full-spectrum participation includes a dedicated country pavilion, extra booths for enterprises and special trade and investment events to highlight opportunities for China and ASEAN countries in Pakistan.

The Pakistan Pavilion displays major export and cultural items as well as print and audio-visual material on tourist attractions of Pakistan. In addition to the Pavilion, Pakistani enterprises in China have set up a large number of stalls to promote their brands and products. They would take orders on the spot for products such as wooden, brass and stone handicrafts, onyx, gem-stones, leather items and jewelry.

Besides, a special Trade and Investment Promotion Conference will be held by Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP) and it would highlight the potential of diversified

trade with China and ASEAN and the opportunities of mutually beneficial investments, particularly in Special Economic Zones under CPEC. As a longstanding friend of China with close ties to ASEAN countries, Pakistan's first-time participation in the three-day 2020 CAEXPO would underscore the country's sustained efforts at regional economic integration and results-oriented cooperation.

The CAEXPO is co-sponsored by the Ministry of Commerce of China and its counterparts in the ten ASEAN member states as well as the ASEAN Secretariat, and is organized by the government of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region.

Eight high-level forums will be held during the event covering the fields including healthcare, medical cooperation, information, artificial intelligence, China-ASEAN FTA, international industrial cooperation, technology transfer, digitalization and power.

Meanwhile, Moin ul Haque, Pakistani ambassador visited CAEXPO and met the Pakistani exhibitors. Later, in an interview to Gwadar Pro, Haque said that "Pakistan is very delighted and honored to be invited as a special partner of CAEXPO. "We're given this very unique opportunity to participate in this event," he said.

Haque believed that CAEXPO has contributed to expanding trade relationships between China and ASEAN countries. He said, "ASEAN is China's largest trading partner. The Chin-ASEAN block represents about 2 billion markets and more than \$70 trillion GDP." He also pointed out that "China Pakistan economic corridor (CPEC) is a pioneering project and the most successful project of BRI. And most of the ASEAN countries are also part of it. Haque said he's glad to see that there are so many enterprises present despite COVID-19. "We hope that we will participate again, and as a special country next year. Additionally, also, we hope to have more Pakistani companies and enterprises participating in this event," he added.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/695174/pakistan-a-special-partner-at-caexpo-in-china-for-the-first-time-report/>

November 30, 2020

Daily Times

Chinese university holds symposium on Pakistani film 'Parwaaz Hai Junoon'

To enhance and develop China-Pakistan friendship between people of the two countries and enrich their amateur cultural life, Sichuan Normal University held a symposium on Pakistani film 'Parwaaz Hai Junoon.

It facilitated Pakistan students to watch the movie. The tutor of Pakistani students and some researchers of Pakistan Study Center of the University participated in the activity. In addition, a Faculty member from Pakistan Study Center of Sichuan University was also invited to take part in the activity.

During watching the film in the cinema, all the Pakistani students were proud of the beauty of Pakistan presented in the film, and they were also delighted to share the beautiful connotation of Pakistani culture with the Chinese audience.

In the symposium on reflections on watching the film, combined with the content of the film, the students exchanged their sincere feelings for their motherland Pakistan and their nostalgia for their own nation and family parents.

The students also discussed the connotation and significance of people-to-people exchanges between China and Pakistan based on the plot of the film.

In combination with the scenes of the film, the students also talked about their understanding and feelings of the Chengdu culture and their special and friendly feelings towards the Chinese people from a cross-cultural perspective.

The students agreed that they will enhance mutual understanding between the people of the two countries with their practical actions in the future study and life, so as to make people-to-people friendship between China and Pakistan even closer.

The movie tells the story of the Pakistani youth pilot passed through the difficult military quality and flying skills training, thus transformed into excellent, patriotic and dedicated air force pilots growth experience and psychological process.

It motivates youth having persistent desire to focus on the dedication to work, the patriotic enthusiasm of national emotion and pride. It also shows the Pakistani young people straight up the spirit of good quality, the pursuit of a better life.

The movie also provides an opportunity to the Chinese viewers to witness the Pakistani beautiful earth mountains and rivers, and rich cultural connotation, said the University's sources.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/695423/chinese-university-holds-symposium-on-pakistani-film-parwaaz-hai-junoon/>

Dunya News

Pak, China standing together in wake of future challenges: COAS

RAWALPINDI (Dunya News) - Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Qamar Javed Bajwa has said that Pakistan Army greatly values our time-tested and brotherly relations with China. We have been standing together all along, and our relations will be no different in wake of future challenges.

According to the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), China's Minister of National Defense General Wei Fenghe has met Chief of army staff (COAS) general Qamar Javed Bajwa. During the meeting, matters of mutual interest, regional security and enhanced bilateral defense collaboration were discussed.

Visiting dignitary acknowledged and appreciated Pak Army's sincere efforts for the regional peace.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was also signed for enhancement of defense cooperation between both the Armies.

Minister of National Defense, laid a floral wreath at Yadgar-e-Shuhada. A smartly turned out contingent of Pakistan Army presented the Guard of Honor to visiting dignitary.

<https://dunyanews.tv/en/Pakistan/575758-Pak-China-standing-together-in-wake-of-future-challenges-COAS>

Pakistan Observer

China supports Pakistan enhancing trade with ASEAN countries

Beijing: China supports Pakistan enhancing its trade with other ASEAN member countries, Gwadar Pro reported on Sunday quoting Pakistan's ambassador Moin Ul Haq.

The ambassador stated this during his meeting with Pakistani entrepreneurs and traders based in Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region and Guangdong Province of China on the sideline of the ongoing 17th China ASEAN Expo.

According to the report, he informed that President of Pakistan Dr. Arif Alvi addressed the opening session of the 17th CAEXPO along with leaders of ASEAN member countries. He said that the participation of Pakistan in the CAEXPO as a special cooperation partner is an extremely important opportunity.

“We have also a historical tie with ASEAN countries. So, having cooperation with China and ASEAN countries is very beneficial for Pakistan economic development,” he added. Pakistan has set up its pavilion at CAEXPO, which will enable Pakistan to enhance trade not only with China but also with ASEAN countries.

Due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, entrepreneurs from Pakistan were not able to participate in this year's CAEXPO. However, the Ambassador expressed the hope that next year Pakistan will be invited again as a special partner country in the 18th CAEXPO. The business community thanked the ambassador for supports to set up booths at the Expo. They also shared their problems and gave useful suggestions to further improve trade and people to people relation between China and Pakistan.

The Consul General of Pakistan to Guangzhou Dr. Diyar Khan and Commercial Counselor Muhammad Irfan were also present.

<https://pakobserver.net/china-supports-pakistan-enhancing-trade-with-asean-countries/>

The Nation

Pakistan offers attractive business, investment opportunities for Chinese, ASEAN investors

BEIJING-Pakistan Ambassador to China Moin-ul-Haque has urged the business and investment community of China and ASEAN countries to tap into the vast and virgin market of Pakistan, particularly with regard to the several Special Economic Zones (SEZs) being set up under the transformative China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

In this regard, he highlighted Pakistan's special relations and comprehensive strategic partnership with China and the deep-rooted and wide-ranging links with ASEAN countries. He made these remarks in his welcoming address during the Trade and Investment Promotion Conference, organized by Pakistan Mission in Nanning, the capital city of Guangxi-Zhuang Autonomous Region of China on the sidelines of the ongoing 17th China-ASEAN Expo (CAEXPO).

He said Pakistan has strategically located sharing borders with China, India, Iran, and Afghanistan. It rests at the crossroads of South and Central Asia, West Asia, and connects China with the Arabian Sea. "So, it is becoming a very important regional connectivity hub, as well as a central place of trade and commercial activities," he added. Ambassador Haque said that Pakistan is the sixth-largest country in the world in terms of population, offering a market of 210 million people and has a very strong and flourishing agriculture and livestock sector.

He said Pakistan is rich in natural resources, mineral resources, adding, it has abundant resources of gold, marble, gemstones, copper, chromate, gold, and also vast reservoirs of oil and gas which are still untapped. He said the incumbent government was establishing special economic zones for investments and special economic zones were being facilitated through one window operation and all the facilities including gas water electricity, fiber-optic network, and roads were being built to provide connectivity. As with many countries, Pakistan is the scene of the fastest growing service sector, which now contributes more than 50 percent to our Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and a very attractive investment regime. He informed the investors that the government has recently undertaken many reforms and to liberalize its economic and financial sectors, both for domestic and international investors. Ambassador Haque expressed the confidence that Chinese investors would take advantage of this golden opportunity to increase trade linkages with Pakistan and also to make profitable investments in Pakistan as well as the special economic zones which were being established across the country.

He also expressed gratitude to the Ministry of Commerce of China and the CAEXPO Secretariat for giving full representation to Pakistan in this year's Session. Earlier, Adviser to the Prime Minister on Trade and Investment Abdul Razak Dawood opened the conference with a recorded video speech. Expressing satisfaction over Pakistan's participation as a special partner country, Abdul Razak Dawood highlighted the economic reforms and business-friendly policies of the

Government that have led to macroeconomic stability and a conducive environment for business and investment. Stressing upon the great significance of the China-ASEAN region to the economy of Pakistan, the Adviser welcomed investors from the two regions to avail the golden investment opportunities in the Special Economic Zones that were facilitated by supportive policies and attractive tariff and tax concessions. He assured full support and protection for Chinese and ASEAN investments in Pakistan.

The conference was also addressed by prominent Chinese government officials and business leaders, including Huang Shiyong, Member Standing Committee of Guangxi CPC; Han Songling, Marketing Director of Guangzhou Metro Group; Li Yanfeng, General manager of CIHC Pak Power Company; and Ou Xinglin, General Manager Tian He Tobacco International Company Limited. They highly evaluated the investment landscape of Pakistan and the supportive policies for Chinese investors. Commercial Counselor at Consulate General in Guangzhou, Muhammad Irfan gave detailed briefings on the trade and investment potential of Pakistan, along with videos on tourist attractions and Emerging Pakistan.

Bilingual brochures on the investment landscape and CPEC special economic zones were distributed among the participants that included a large number of entrepreneurs from China and ASEAN countries. It may be mentioned that CAEXPO is the largest government-sponsored, trade, and investment-oriented expo in the China-ASEAN region representing 11 regional countries with combined GDP of nearly 17.5 trillion US Dollars and a consumer market of two billion people. Pakistan is attending this year's session as a special partner country for the first time since its inception in 2004.

<https://nation.com.pk/30-Nov-2020/pakistan-offers-attractive-business-investment-opportunities-for-chinese-asean-investors>