



For Better Understanding on China–Pakistan and CPEC

Gleanings from the National & Chinese Press

April 01-15, 2025



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April 04, 2025

The Express Tribune

Pakistan to send astronauts to China for first space training: Suparco

Pakistan will send two astronauts to China for training under a landmark space collaboration agreement, becoming the first foreign nation to join Beijing's prestigious space station training programme.

The announcement was made by Pakistan's Space and Upper Atmosphere Research Commission (Suparco) Director Shafaat Ali on Friday.

Speaking to a private news outlet, Ali confirmed that the two astronauts will be selected based on merit, with eligibility criteria including PhD qualifications, aviation experience, and stringent physical standards.

The collaboration comes under an agreement signed by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's government, marking a historic step in Pakistan-China space ties.

"This partnership opens new avenues for advanced scientific research and strengthens the already robust strategic relationship between the two countries," Ali said.

Until now, astronaut training in China had been limited to its own citizens. This shift, Suparco noted, reflects deepening trust and a shared vision for space exploration.

Ali outlined a three-phase selection process that will conclude by 2026, with the chosen candidates expected to conduct cutting-edge scientific experiments aboard the Chinese Space Station (CSS). Research areas will include microgravity, space radiation, fluid mechanics, astronomy, and biological sciences.

Expressing gratitude to the Chinese government and Prime Minister Sharif, Ali said the initiative marks "a giant leap" for Pakistan's space ambitions.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2537900/pakistan-to-send-astronauts-to-china-for-first-space-training-suparco>

Jang News

فراہم شپ ماسٹر سکالر/PHD کیلئے طلبہ پاکستانی 171 سے جانب کی چین

اسلام آباد (ساجد چوہدری) چین کی طرف سے پچھلے تین سالوں کے دوران پاکستانی طلبہ کو پی ایچ ڈی، ماسٹر اور انڈر گریجویٹ 171 سکالر شپ دیئے گئے جبکہ چین پاکستان اقتصادی راہداری کے تحت 2019 میں 20 ہزار پاکستانی طلبہ کیلئے وظائف مختص کئے گئے، پارلیمنٹ کو فراہم کردہ تفصیلات کے مطابق چینی حکومت کی طرف سے 40 پی ایچ ڈی، 52 ماسٹر اور 79 انڈر گریجویٹ سکالر شپ جاری کئے گئے، 2022 میں پاکستانی طلبہ کیلئے 18 پی ایچ ڈی سکالر شپ، 2023 میں 9 اور 2024 میں 13 پی ایچ ڈی سکالر شپ دیئے گئے، 2022 میں 13 ماسٹر سکالر شپ، 2023 میں 18 اور 2024 میں 21 ماسٹر سکالر شپ دیئے گئے، 2022 میں 18 انڈر گریجویٹ سکالر شپ، 2023 میں 25 اور 2024 میں 36 انڈر گریجویٹ سکالر شپ دیئے گئے۔

<https://e.jang.com.pk/detail/873817%22>

April 05, 2025

The Nation

MoC signed to deepen China-Pakistan cooperation in cotton research

BEIJING - A Memorandum of Cooperation was signed by the institute of Cotton Research of Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (ICR-CAAS) and Ayub Agricultural Research Institute, Faisalabad, Pakistan, in Anyang, Henan, China recently aiming to launch comprehensive cooperation in cotton germplasm innovation, pest-resistant breeding, and cultivation technologies. Under the new agreement, both sides will collaborate on germplasm collection and identification, variety improvement focused on pest resistance, joint breeding and field trials across both countries, and the integration of advanced cultivation techniques. The partnership also aims to strengthen talent exchange and training, contributing to the development of a China-Pakistan cotton technology community, a wire service reported on Friday. As part of the visit, the Pakistani delegation engaged in in-depth academic exchanges with ICR scientists and toured key research facilities such as the National Key Laboratory for Cotton Bio-Breeding and so on. The experts gained a detailed understanding of China's cutting-edge advancements in insect-resistant gene editing and cotton germplasm innovation. Dr Abid Mahmood, Director General Agri (Research), Ayub Agricultural Research Institute, Faisalabad, hailed ICR's scientific capacity and expressed strong interest in leveraging China's technologies to accelerate agricultural modernisation in Pakistan. ICR-CAAS is the only state-level organisation for professional cotton research in China. According to the institute, this cooperation serves as a key initiative under BRI, promoting the global application of China's agricultural innovations and offering sustainable solutions for the future of the cotton industry worldwide.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/05-Apr-2025/moc-signed-to-deepen-china-pakistan-cooperation-in-cotton-research>

April 08, 2025

Pakistan Observer

Pakistan, China set to hold 14th JCC meeting in July to ignite CPEC 2.0

ISLAMABAD – Top official from China and Pakistan are scheduled to hold the 14th Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) meeting in July 2025 with an aim to advance the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

CPEC, a vital pillar of national development and regional connectivity, reflects shared commitment to strengthen bilateral ties.

The upcoming JCC meeting was confirmed by Federal Minister Ahsan Iqbal Chaudhary in March 2024 when it chaired a progress review meeting.

At this meeting, the planned Minister expressed dissatisfaction with delays in connecting Gwadar to the national grid and directed the Quetta Electric Supply Company and Power Division to submit a report.

He voiced serious concerns over the non-operational desalination plant in Gwadar and ordered immediate action within the week to ensure a reliable supply of clean drinking water for the region.

<https://pakobserver.net/pakistan-china-set-to-hold-14th-jcc-meeting-in-july-to-ignite-cpec-2-0/>

April 09, 2025

Pakistan Observer

Unlocking CPEC's Potential

Qamar Bashir

The situation in Balochistan merits extraordinary attention from all stakeholders! This customary statement is becoming a new fashion in current political discourse. Before inviting the attention of stakeholders, well-wishers of Balochistan should identify the trouble spots. Generalized calls for a cure without a correct diagnosis may not serve any good except adding more to the prevailing chaos. Perpetuation of uncertainty can only serve the purpose of hostile powers. Too much talk about Balochistan, without a dispassionate framing of a factsheet encompassing all the grey areas, can only complicate the situation. Local or domestic shortcomings can be resolved with sustained mobilization of political wheels. However, enhanced interference of hostile foreign powers cannot be tackled in a silo without taking the entire state machinery into the loop. Pakistan is situated in a turbulent region where neighboring states are either encountering security-related instability or patronizing proxies to weaken rival states. The troubles confronted by Pakistan's neighboring states are too obvious and easily understandable.

On the western side, a turbulent Afghanistan continues to endanger regional security with maximum spillover effects on Pakistan. Cross-border terrorism, especially sanctuaries of banned TTP, including dozens of splinter outfits, safe havens for ethnic separatist terrorist groups like BLA and the growing infiltration of illegal Afghan refugees, are the top bilateral irritants. India, on the eastern side, continues to pose multiple threats in the form of patronization of proxies, cross-border terrorism, transnational killings, Hindutva-driven religious prejudices towards Pakistan and state-sponsored atrocities in the illegally occupied territory of Jammu and Kashmir. India's tilt towards US-led anti-China activism is a strong factor playing negatively in the regional geo-strategic equation. It would not be an overstatement to say that firm ties with China have brought Pakistan into the crosshairs of anti-China players, mostly Western powers.

Surging terrorism in Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) provinces is aimed at sabotaging the Pakistan-China geo-economic alignment. This long premise is essential to comprehend the root cause of the current unrest in Balochistan. Successful completion of CPEC and all its allied projects is not acceptable to the anti-China powers. So-called ethnically motivated Baloch rights groups are pursuing a common agenda of derailing developmental projects, including CPEC, in Balochistan. Economic development, the provision of employment opportunities and better governance can positively transform

Balochistan into a progressive welfare zone of Pakistan. Hostile powers, led by India, cannot digest any such activity in Balochistan.

Growing terrorist attacks on defence forces, law enforcement agencies (LEAs) and the killing of poor laborers of Punjabi origin are part of a larger destructive scheme manifested to destabilize Balochistan. Obviously, terror-ridden Balochistan will hinder CPEC and contribute to deeper economic coercion of Pakistan. The second part of this larger scheme is also being played vigorously in the form of disinformation, social media propaganda, anti-state digital terrorism and subtle but highly venomous advocacy for terrorist groups under the guise of political and human rights activism.

It was rightly pointed out that the train hijacking of Jaffar Express has compelled the state to change the rules of the game. Ironically, so-called rights activists are striving hard to downplay the severity of heinous terrorism, which received global condemnation. Meaningful jubilations in Indian state-influenced media on the Jaffar Express tragedy remain an undeniable proof of the linkage between hostile agencies and separatist terrorists. Exposure of foul-mouthed activists is coming alongside. Firstly, it was Dr. Mahrang and her dubious affiliates who tried to divert the focus from terrorism to fabricated victimhood rhetoric. After her arrest, traditional feudal and elite politicians are out on roads with a long march stunt. What is he up to? It is obvious and relatable. It can be anything but the betterment of the Baloch people. The common people of Balochistan are the victims of the elite bunch of the local feudal class, which snatches the natural resources without sharing the fruits with locals.

Why do the rights activists and politicians remain tight-lipped about the brutal killings of Punjabi labourers? Why do Sardar Mengal and his supporters hesitate in acknowledging the sacrifices of martyrs of defence forces and LEAs? On one hand, he is raising his voice for Baloch women like Mahrang, but on the other hand, he is not raising his voice for unarmed women and children who suffered the trauma of train hijacking and the death of their dear ones in terrorism. This hypocrisy and contradicting approach have amply exposed the hidden bondage between the terrorists, artificial rights activists and opportunist feudal class. CPEC's strategic role in Balochistan: The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is a game-changing initiative with immense potential to uplift Balochistan. It promises to integrate the province into a broader economic network, providing job opportunities, infrastructure development and access to regional and international markets. CPEC's progress, particularly the Gwadar port's strategic importance, is a critical part of Pakistan's long-term economic stability. However, the project has faced significant opposition from local insurgent groups and hostile foreign powers that seek to disrupt the economic benefits it brings. These forces aim to destabilize Balochistan and prevent Pakistan from achieving the full benefits of CPEC. The project's success is paramount for the region's prosperity, but it faces continued threats from both internal and external actors who aim to derail Pakistan's economic future. As such, the resolution of local unrest and addressing the challenges posed by these opposing forces is crucial for the successful implementation of CPEC and its long-term benefits for Balochistan and Pakistan.

<https://pakobserver.net/unlocking-cpecs-potential-1/>

The Express Tribune

Pak-China women's initiative aims to bridge gaps

Shahram Haq

LAHORE: The Pakistan-China Joint Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCJCCI) has called for forging a transformative partnership to uplift women in both countries through the proposed Pak-China Women's Development and Employment Initiative.

Speaking in Lahore, PCJCCI Vice President Zafar Iqbal emphasised the urgent need to create structured opportunities for women to thrive in technical, vocational and entrepreneurial fields under the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). The proposed employment initiative will not only address gender disparities but also harness the untapped potential of women for boosting economic growth and cross-cultural collaboration.

"Women in Pakistan and China possess immense talent, but systemic barriers often limit their access to markets, education and resources," Iqbal remarked. By launching this initiative, "we aim to build bridges, literally and figuratively, between women of both nations. Chinese expertise in vocational training and Pakistan's rich cultural heritage in sectors like textiles and handicrafts can create a powerful synergy."

As part of the initiative, the two sides plan to roll out free short-term courses in fields such as garment design, food processing, handicrafts, information technology and language training. These programmes will target young women, particularly in underdeveloped regions like Balochistan, where the Gwadar Free Zone is expected to become a hub of trade and industry.

"Gwadar's development requires a skilled workforce and women must be part of this journey. Imagine a tech-savvy woman from Gwadar coding for international clients or an artisan from Hunza selling embroidered crafts to buyers in Shanghai; this is the future we envision."

For many Pakistani women, the initiative sparks hope. Ayesha Khan, a 28-year-old entrepreneur from Lahore, who runs a small handmade jewellery business, shared her frustration because of the limited growth opportunities.

"I learnt basic stitching from my mother, but scaling up was impossible without formal training or market access. I tried selling online, but competition is fierce and I lacked the technical know-how to reach international buyers," she said.

Khan believes the proposed vocational courses and digital platforms connecting Pakistani and Chinese women could be a game changer. "If I can learn new design techniques from Chinese experts or use an online portal to sell directly to Chinese customers, it will transform my business," she added.

Similar enthusiasm echoes among Chinese women entrepreneurs. Li Wei, a clothing designer from Hangzhou, currently on a visit to Pakistan, expressed interest in collaborating with Pakistani artisans.

"Pakistani fabrics and embroidery are stunning; there's a growing demand here for unique, culturally rich products. But right now, it's hard to connect directly with artisans there. A joint platform could make this seamless," she said.

Li also highlighted the potential for knowledge exchange. "Chinese women have benefited from tech-driven industries. We could share insights on e-commerce and automation while learning from Pakistan's traditional craftsmanship."

The PCJCCI's plan is aimed at creating a sustainable ecosystem where skilled women can access markets, funding and mentorship. For instance, graduates of garment courses will receive support for launching small businesses or partnering with established factories.

"This is not just about teaching a skill; it's about creating a pipeline from education to employment," Iqbal said. He cited China's success in empowering women through rural e-commerce programmes, where farmers, mostly women, sold produce online with government-backed training.

However, despite the optimism, challenges remain. Societal norms in rural Pakistan often restrict women's mobility and access to education. PCJCCI acknowledges this and plans to collaborate with local non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and community leaders to encourage family support.

"We'll set up training centres in easily accessible locations and offer flexible timings," Iqbal said. Additionally, online courses will cater to women in conservative areas as they cannot attend in person.

By 2026, the initiative aims to train 50,000 women across Pakistan and China, with the goal of boosting female participation in BRI projects by 30%. "This is not charity; it's smart economics. When women win, our nations win," Li added.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2538525/pak-china-womens-initiative-aims-to-bridge-gaps>

April 11, 2025

Business Recorder

Pakistan, China reaffirms commitment to strengthen military-to-military cooperation

Pakistan and China reaffirmed on Friday their shared commitment to revitalize the existing bilateral ties in military-to-military cooperation and strategic alliance between the two countries.

This was expressed during a meeting between Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Ahmed Baber Sidhu and Chinese Defense Minister, Admiral Dong Jun at the People's Liberation Army Air Force Headquarters in Beijing, China, the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) said in a press release today.

The Chinese commander expressed his admiration for the professionalism of Pakistan Air Force personnel.

"Both Commanders agreed to establish a Joint Working Group to further enhance the existing collaboration between the two air forces," the ISPR said.

Both sides also agreed on enhancing Air Force-to-Air Force cooperation, particularly through complex and aggressive tactical-level scenarios during aerial exercises.

“The cooperation is aimed at addressing challenges in multiple domains during joint exercises, equipping air and ground crew of both Air Forces with the skills necessary to counter modern Air and Space Warfare challenges effectively,” the military’s media wing said.

The air chief also met People’s Liberation Army Air Force Commander General Chang Dingqiu, and Director General Bureau of Military Equipment & Technical Cooperation (BOMETEC) Major General Cao Xiaojian.

“The visit aimed at enhancing the existing strategic partnership between the two nations, included high-level discussions and agreements geared towards deepening military cooperation,” the press release added.

In a separate meeting with Major General Cao Xiaojian, Marshal Zaheer highlighted the significance of “exploring opportunities for technology transfer and collaborative development of advanced military hardware aimed at enhancing the operational capabilities of both sides”.

During his meeting with the industrial heads of Chinese Defense Industry, Marshal Zaheer invited Chinese companies to participate in the National Aerospace Science & Technology Park being spearheaded by Pakistan Air Force.

“He highlighted that NASTP offers a tax-free regime and an optimum environment for the development of pioneering initiatives in Unmanned Aerial Systems, Advanced Guided Weaponry, Space Programs, Electronic Warfare domains, Cyber Warfare, ISR as well as multi-domain operations.”

<https://www.brecorder.com/news/40357113/pakistan-china-reaffirm-commitment-to-strengthen-military-to-military-cooperation>

Daily Times

Pakistan, China to boost defense ties through joint air force projects

Pakistan and China have pledged to strengthen their military cooperation, especially between their air forces. Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Ahmed Baber Sidhu met Chinese Defence Minister Admiral Dong Jun during his visit to China.

Both countries agreed to conduct advanced joint aerial exercises. These drills will include aggressive, tactical-level training to better prepare air and ground crews for modern air and space warfare. Moreover, the Air Chief met with key Chinese military officials, including General Chang Dingqiu. They agreed to form a Joint Working Group to further boost collaboration between the two air forces. In meetings with defence industry leaders, the Air Chief invited Chinese firms to join Pakistan’s Aerospace Science and Technology Park. He also pushed for joint development of military technology and equipment.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1285863/pakistan-china-to-boost-defence-ties-through-joint-air-force-projects/>

Express News

ترک تعلقات محض سفارتی نہیں بلکہ عقیدت اور اعتماد پر مبنی ہیں، مریم نواز-پاک

وزیر اعلیٰ مریم نواز ڈپلومیسی فورم 2025 کے تحت ترکیہ میں منعقدہ کانفرنس میں حکومت پنجاب کے تعلیم کے فروغ کے لیے کیے گئے اقدامات اور اپنی جماعت کے منشور پر مبنی خطاب کریں گی۔ وزیر اعلیٰ پنجاب کے دفتر سے جاری بیان کے مطابق وزیر اعلیٰ مریم نواز ترکیہ میں ڈپلومیسی فورم 2025 کے تحت منعقدہ بین الاقوامی کانفرنس میں شرکت کے لیے اناطولیہ ایئرپورٹ پہنچنے پر ڈپٹی گورنر پروفیسر ڈاکٹر سعد سید اوغلو نے استقبال کیا۔

بیان میں بتایا گیا کہ مریم نواز شریف نے اناطولیہ پہنچنے کے فوری بعد ڈپلومیسی فورم 2025 کے تحت منعقدہ بین الاقوامی کانفرنس کے افتتاحی سیشن میں شرکت کی جہاں ترک صدر رجب طیب اردوان نے کانفرنس سے خطاب کرتے ہوئے شرکا کاخیر مقدم کیا۔

وزیر اعلیٰ مریم نواز شریف سے ترکیہ کے سابق نائب صدر اور اے کے پارٹی کے نائب چیئرمین فواد اقطاعی اور دیگر سرکردہ رہنماؤں نے بھی ملاقات کی اور وزیر اعلیٰ نے کانفرنس میں شرکت کی دعوت پر ان کا شکریہ ادا کیا اور کہا کہ پاکستان اور ترکیہ تعلقات محض سفارتی ہی نہیں بلکہ عقیدت، محبت اور اعتماد پر مبنی ہیں۔

<https://www.express.pk/story/2756550/maryam-nawaz-in-turkiye-diplomacy-forum-2025-education-development-2756550>

April 12, 2025

Daily Times

Pakistan, China reaffirm commitment to boosting military-to-military cooperation

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<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1285993/pakistan-china-reaffirm-commitment-to-boosting-military-to-military-cooperation/>

Dawn News

China expresses keen interest in establishing donkey farms in Pakistan

A Chinese delegation expressed keen interest in establishing donkey farms in Pakistan on Saturday citing the country’s favorable environment for donkey breeding.

In a meeting between National Food Security and Research Minister Rana Tanveer Hussain and Vice President of China’s Donkey Industry Zhao Fei in Islamabad, the minister welcomed the interest and emphasized the country’s strong relationship with China, according to a press release. He said permission to set up donkey farms would be granted under a formal agreement after fulfilling all legal requirements, adding that the agreement would clearly state that the breeding of the local donkey population would not be affected. The minister said that Chinese industry would be allowed to establish farms in the Gwadar Export Processing Zone, where slaughterhouses and export facilities would also be developed to enable the export of donkey meat to China using the Gwadar Port. He said that this initiative would contribute to boosting exports and strengthening trade ties with China, adding that the promotion of the donkey industry would create new economic opportunities and employment

A high-level meeting between the delegations from both sides in October last year agreed to the ‘Protocol on Quarantine Requirements’ for the export of donkey meat to China.

In July last year, the additional secretary in charge of the Commerce Ministry, Ahsan Ali Mangi, informed the committee that the protocol for donkey skins had been finalized, and the ministry was also planning to include donkey meat in the list.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1903772>

کہ کھانوں سے دونوں اطعمائے کے ہوائی اور اعلیٰ ملے
کو دور چھوڑ کر ہوائی اور ملائی جگہ کے منظر کا
مقابلہ کرنے کی مہارت حاصل ہوں گی۔ اس موقع
پر ایچ آر ایل ڈونک جہان نے کہا کہ دونوں اطعموں نے
تذوقہ رانی مواصلات، مشرق کے مقننوں اور ترقی پسندوں
میں نمایاں ترقی حاصل کی ہے۔

[illegible][illegible]

https://epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=Baqia&Date=2025-04-12

Jang News

چینی ڈونکی انڈسٹری کو گوادرمیں فارم قائم کرنیکی اجازت دیں گے، رانا تنویر

اسلام آباد (خصوصی نمائندہ) وفاقی وزیر برائے قومی غذائی تحفظ و تحقیق رانا تنویر حسین سے چین کی ڈونکی انڈسٹری کے وائس پریزیڈنٹ، زاہو فی نے ملاقات کی۔ ملاقات کے دوران زاہو فی نے کہا کہ پاکستان میں ڈونکی بریڈنگ کیلئے ماحول نہایت سازگار ہے اور وہ پاکستان میں ڈونکی فارم قائم کرنے کے خواہاں ہیں۔ وفاقی وزیر رانا تنویر حسین نے کہا ڈونکی بریڈنگ کے حوالے سے فارم کے قیام کی اجازت تمام قانونی تقاضے پورے کرنے کے بعد باقاعدہ معاہدے کے تحت دی جائے گی۔ معاہدے میں یہ بات شامل ہوگی کہ پاکستان میں موجود مقامی نسل کی بریڈنگ کسی صورت متاثر نہیں ہوگی۔ چینی ڈونکی انڈسٹری کو گوادر ایکسپورٹ پراسیسنگ زون میں فارم قائم کرنے کی اجازت دی جائے گی، جہاں سلاٹر ہاؤس اور ایکسپورٹ سہولیات بھی میسر ہوں گی تاکہ ڈونکی گوشت کو چین برآمد کیا جاسکے۔ وفاقی وزیر نے مزید کہا کہ اس اقدام سے نہ صرف پاکستان کی برآمدات میں اضافہ ہوگا بلکہ پاکستان اور چین کے تجارتی تعلقات بھی مزید مستحکم ہوں گے جب کہ مقامی سطح پر معاشی مواقع اور روزگار کے مواقع بھی پیدا ہوں گے۔

<https://e.jang.com.pk/detail/878526>

April 14, 2025

The Express Tribune

Pakistan sends 300 agricultural graduates to China under PM's training initiative

The first group of 300 agricultural graduates will depart for China on April 16 as part of a government-funded international training programme aimed at modernising Pakistan's agriculture sector, the Ministry of National Food Security and Research said in a statement on Monday.

The initiative, titled the Prime Minister's Initiative for Capacity Building of 1,000 Agricultural Graduates in China, seeks to equip young professionals with cutting-edge skills in farm technology, biotechnology, and sustainable agriculture practices.

"Through collaboration with leading Chinese universities and research institutes, the programme offers specialised training in nine high-priority areas including farm mechanisation, biotechnology, genomics, precision agriculture, artificial intelligence, and high-efficiency irrigation systems," the ministry stated.

PM Shehbaz Sharif and Federal Minister for National Food Security Rana Tanveer Hussain are scheduled to attend a send-off ceremony on April 15 for the departing batch.

The training programme, which will span between three to six months, is fully funded by the Pakistani government. Graduates were selected through a merit-based competitive process, with placements aligned to their academic specialisations.

According to the ministry, participants are expected to return as "master trainers" who will play a pivotal role in transferring knowledge and modern techniques to local farming communities, universities, and research institutions.

The government had earlier announced plans to send a total of 1,000 agricultural graduates to China in 2025 under this capacity-building effort. Officials say the initiative reflects Islamabad's commitment to transforming agriculture into a high-tech and sustainable sector that can meet food security challenges and boost economic growth.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2539855/pakistan-sends-300-agricultural-graduates-to-china-under-pms-training-initiative>

CPEC cooperation at the crossroads

Shakeel Ahmad Ramay

ISLAMABAD: The trade war has jolted the post-World War II global trade, financial, and economic systems. The system, once built on alluring promises, is now struggling for survival. Weak economies are bracing for the worst, and Pakistan is among them.

Already facing multifaceted challenges – low growth, inflation, high poverty, and food insecurity – Pakistan's ability to respond has been further undermined by the debt and policy traps woven by Bretton Woods' institutions. The trade war is expected to deepen the crisis

and introduce new challenges. For instance, the US may accelerate efforts to pressure Pakistan to weaken its ties with China or curtail the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

So, what policy choices are available for Pakistan, and what opportunities might help soften the impact of the trade war?

On the policy front, Pakistan must acknowledge that the era of a balanced foreign relations strategy has passed, at least for now. The US has launched a full-spectrum economic and diplomatic war, with China as its primary target.

Policy choices are narrowing, with the US seemingly returning to a post-9/11 stance: you're either with us or against us. Given this, Pakistan's best option is a pro-Pakistan policy. It must make clear that it is not neutral but aligned with its national interests and pro-humanity. Pakistan should cooperate with all nations to promote shared values and seek partnerships that address, rather than compound, its internal problems.

Can Pakistan implement such a policy? Fortunately, yes. The recent Pakistan Minerals Forum exemplified this approach, as it engaged with diverse international groups.

CPEC, in particular, offers a robust opportunity for Pakistan to manage and resolve its challenges. It has all the ingredients to support sustainable development. The first phase of CPEC helped address the country's energy shortages and infrastructure deficits. The second phase is focused on industrialisation, agricultural modernisation, and strengthening the scientific and technological base. Despite persistent negativity and propaganda, CPEC continues to deliver and contribute to national welfare.

However, this is no easy path, as the global trade war is fundamentally about China. The US is implementing its strategy to isolate China and damage its economy. CPEC, being a China-led initiative, will likely draw further scrutiny and opposition from Washington. This will complicate matters for Pakistan, which is already facing attempts to sabotage CPEC.

India, acting on behalf of its Western allies, has been actively conducting and financially supporting terrorist activities in Pakistan with impunity. International institutions like FATF have failed to hold India accountable. These acts of terrorism primarily target the CPEC route and Balochistan. Since the development of Gwadar Port and Airport, terrorist activity has surged.

There is fear among adversaries that this progress will turn Balochistan, especially Gwadar, into a regional connectivity hub and development catalyst. Such transformation is expected to drive industrial growth and modernise agriculture and livestock sectors in Balochistan and beyond. It would also improve education and healthcare in the province.

This development threatens to dismantle the prevailing narrative of Balochistan as a neglected region. The resulting job creation could undermine terrorist recruitment strategies. As a result, CPEC-related projects and Chinese nationals have come under frequent attack. Innocent citizens are also being targeted to damage Pakistan's global image.

Moreover, adversaries believe the CPEC route offers China a secure alternative to the geopolitically sensitive Strait of Malacca, which spans roughly 12,900 kilometres. The

shorter, more reliable CPEC route could render US-led investments and initiatives like QUAD less effective.

In addition to terrorism, fifth-generation warfare tactics are being deployed. Propaganda and disinformation campaigns manipulate public opinion using fake news and distorted data. Some retired Pakistani scholars and so-called journalists have been recruited to spread disinformation under the guise of expertise and patriotism. These individuals distort facts about CPEC, China, and the bilateral relationship, with their narratives amplified by Western outlets and hostile actors.

The West has invested in grooming fake journalists under the labels of citizen journalism and media entrepreneurship. These individuals fabricate stories alleging debt traps and corruption tied to CPEC. Their primary target is the Chinese public. These efforts aim to sow discord between the people of Pakistan and China. For example, narratives like "look what Pakistani scholars or media say about China" are strategically floated on Chinese social media to erode mutual trust.

Another widespread narrative falsely claims that China is reducing investment in CPEC due to security concerns. These stories aim to create doubts among stakeholders and feed anti-Pakistan sentiment in Chinese circles.

Given these circumstances, it is likely that hostile nations will try to pressure Pakistan via the International Monetary Fund (IMF), Financial Action Task Force (FATF), and other Bretton Woods institutions to scale back CPEC or reduce its engagement with China. If Pakistan resists, it may face economic punishment and an uptick in terrorism.

In conclusion, CPEC offers Pakistan a genuine opportunity to mitigate the impact of the trade war and achieve sustainable development. But it's a path laden with obstacles and fierce resistance from the US and its allies. Pakistan must be prepared to push back.

To do so, the country needs to move away from the impractical notion of a balanced foreign policy and adopt a Pakistan-centric approach – grounded in the principles of humanity and shared prosperity.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2539679/cpec-cooperation-atthe-crossroads>

Pakistan Navy inducts fourth offshore patrol vessel, PNS Yamama

Pakistan Navy inducted a fourth offshore patrol vessel (OPV) named PNS Yamama in its fleet on Monday, describing it as a ship equipped with modern stealth features and sophisticated weapons that enables it to function in a multi-threat environment.

PNS Yamama was constructed at the Damen Shipyard in Romania. The multi-purpose ship is equipped with modern stealth features, the latest command and control systems, and sophisticated weapons and sensors, the navy said in a statement.

A ceremony to officially induct the OPV was held at the Jinnah Naval Base in the southwestern town of Ormara in the presence of government officials, local dignitaries and senior Pakistan Navy officers.

“As the fourth in the series, the induction of this state-of-the-art ship significantly enhances Pakistan Navy’s capability to ensure seaward defense, protect sea lines of communication and maintain order at sea,” the statement said.

The development highlights Pakistan Navy’s enhanced reach on the western seaboard, providing flexibility in its fleet operations, enhancing maritime security and its ability to contribute to regional peace and stability, it added.

PNS Yamama’s induction would also ensure protection of vital maritime infrastructure, including the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), a multi-billion-dollar Chinese infrastructure project that connects Pakistan’s Gwadar city to China’s Xinjiang province.

Pakistan Navy Chief Admiral Naveed Ashraf highlighted the precarious geo-strategic environment in the Indian Ocean, stressing the need for a potent naval force to counter emerging traditional and non-traditional challenges, the statement said. “He reiterated that the addition of PNS Yamama to the PN fleet would significantly enhance Pakistan Navy’s capability to safeguard the maritime frontiers of Pakistan and reinforce its commitment to ensuring safety and security in international waters,” it said. Besides inducting various warships in its fleet, Pakistan Navy has held several joint exercises with friendly nations in recent years in a bid to enhance joint operational capabilities and strengthen regional security.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2539857/pakistan-navy-inducts-fourth-offshore-patrol-vessel-pns-yamama>

Jang News

چین سرجیکل آلات کیلئے پاکستان کا اہم تجارتی شراکت دار کے طور پر ابھرا

شنگھائی (این این آئی) سیالکوٹ سرجیکل مینوفیکچررز نے کہا ہے کہ چین سرجیکل آلات کیلئے ایک اہم تجارتی شراکت دار کے طور پر ابھرا ہے، چینی خریداروں نے سیالکوٹ کے مینوفیکچرنگ معیار پر مضبوط اعتماد کا اظہار کیا ہے۔ گوادر پرو کے مطابق پاکستان کی سرجیکل آلات کی صنعت کیلئے 91 ویں چائنا انٹرنیشنل میڈیکل ایکونومینٹ فیئر (سی ایم ای ایف) نے ایک طاقتور نمائش کے طور پر کام کیا، سیالکوٹ سے تعلق رکھنے والے 15 معروف مینوفیکچررز پر مشتمل پاکستان پولین نے 30 سے زائد ممالک کے تقریباً 5000 نمائش کنندگان کے درمیان مضبوط تاثر قائم کیا۔ شنگھائی کے قومی نمائش اور کنونشن سینٹر میں منعقد ہونے والی تقریب میں 300000 سے زائد طبی پیشہ ور افراد نے شرکت کی اور پاکستانی فرموں کو بین الاقوامی شراکت داری کو مضبوط بنانے کیلئے ایک پلیٹ فارم فراہم کیا۔ گوادر پرو کے مطابق سیالکوٹ کا سرجیکل انسٹرومنٹ کلسٹر اپنی منفرد مسابقتی برتری کی مدد سے قابل ذکر مینوفیکچرنگ صلاحیتوں کا مظاہرہ جاری رکھے ہوئے ہے، گوادر پرو کے مطابق یہ صنعت چند بڑے یونٹوں کے ساتھ چھوٹے اور درمیانے سائز کے مینوفیکچررز کی ایک بڑی تعداد پر مشتمل ہے، گوادر پرو کے مطابق صحت کی دیکھ بھال کی بڑھتی ہوئی طلب، تکنیکی ترقی اور حکومتی حمایت کی وجہ سے، چین کا طبی آلات کی سرمایہ کاری کا شعبہ مزید توسیع کیلئے تیار ہے

<https://e.jang.com.pk/detail/879190>

K2 Daily

ایک خوبصورت اور ہم آہنگ دیہی علاقوں کی تعمیر کو فروغ دینا شامل ہے جس میں رہائش اور کام کرنے کی خواہش وغیرہ جیسے عوامل شامل ہیں، اور دیہی معیار زندگی کی بہتری جیسے امور پر توجہ مرکوز کی گئی ہے۔ اس کے علاوہ، منصوبہ مربوط شہری۔ دیہی ترقی کو فروغ دینے پر زور دیتا ہے۔ وسیع تناظر میں چین کی مسلسل کوشش ہے کہ دیہی علاقوں میں ترقیاتی اصلاحات کو مزید آگے بڑھاتے ہوئے امداد غربت کی کامیابیوں کو مستحکم کیا جائے تاکہ غربت سے باہر نکلنے والے افراد مستقل بنیادوں پر خوشحالی کی راہ پر گامزن رہ سکیں۔ اس ضمن میں دیہی علاقوں کی ترقی کے نظام میں اصلاحات کو گہرا کرنے، دیہی آباد کاری کے نظام میں اصلاحات کو آگے بڑھانے، زرعی جدت کاری، شیئر ہولڈنگ کو آہستہ آہستہ کی اصلاح کو فروغ دینے کے لئے دیہی اصلاحات کا نیا دور نافذ کیا جا رہا ہے، تاکہ دیہی ترقی بالخصوص زراعت میں جدت سے حفاظت خوراک جیسے امور کی ضمانت دی جاسکے۔

چین کی جدید زراعت کی جانب پیش قدمی

شاہد افران خان

مقرر کیا گیا ہے۔ اس کاوش کا مقصد 2027 تک دیہی اسیا اور زراعت اور دیہی علاقوں میں جدید کاری کے ایک نئے مرحلے میں خاطر خواہ پیش رفت کرنا ہے۔ 2035 تک اس منصوبے میں دیہی علاقوں کی بہرہ جہت اسیا زرعی جدید کاری کے بنیادی حوصل اور دیہی علاقوں میں جدید معیار زندگی کے قیام میں فیملی کن جیٹس رفت کا تصور کیا گیا ہے۔ منصوبے کے مطابق چین کا مقصد اس صدی کے وسط تک اپنی زرعی طاقت کو جامع طور پر قائم کرنا ہے۔ اس ضمن میں ملک ایک مستحکم اور قابل اعتماد دیہی نظام بنانا چاہتا ہے، سائنسی اور تکنیکی جدت طرازی میں خود انحصاری حاصل کرنا چاہتا ہے، مضبوط بنیادی ڈھانچے کی تعمیر کرنا چاہتا ہے، اور موثر، اچھی طرح سے مربوط دیہی صنعتی چیلز کو فروغ دینا چاہتا ہے۔ اس منصوبے میں تعمیر کا تصور بھی واضح طور پر اجاگر کیا گیا ہے، جس میں

چین کا شہر آبادی کے اعتبار سے دنیا کے ایک بڑے ملک میں کیا جاتا ہے اور اس میں کوئی دو رائے نہیں کہ ایک ارب 40 کروڑ سے زائد افراد کی خوراک کی ضروریات کو پورا کرنا ایک بڑا چیلنج ہے۔ یہی وجہ ہے کہ چین نے نوڈ سکیمز کے تحت فلوئڈ کوڈنگز کے ذریعہ خود کو وقت کے ساتھ بدلایا ہے۔ زرعی اصولوں میں جدت لائی گئی ہے، جس سے فصلوں کی پیداوار میں مسلسل بہتری آئی ہے۔ آج، چین اناج کی پیداوار میں لہاں حد تک خود کفیل ہو چکا ہے اور اپنی آبادی کی خوراک کی ضروریات پورا کرنے کے ساتھ ساتھ دنیا میں بھی مختلف خوراک کو چینی بنانے میں پیش قدمی ہے۔ اسی سلسلے کو آگے بڑھاتے ہوئے اسی سال ہی میں چین کی جانب سے 2024 سے 2035 کی مدت کے لئے زراعت میں اپنی طاقت کو بڑھانے کے منصوبے کا اعلان کیا گیا ہے۔ کیونست پارٹی آف چائنا کی مرکزی کمیٹی اور ریاستی کونسل کی جانب سے جاری کردہ اس منصوبے میں 2027 تک زراعت میں چین کی طاقت بڑھانے میں قابل ذکر پیش رفت کے حصول کا بنیادی ہدف

https://epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&p=33293

April 15, 2025

Daily Times

K2 Airways partners with Chinese firm for logistic cooperation

K2 Airways, Pakistan's newest cargo carrier, is pleased to announce a landmark partnership with Kashi Commercial and Trade Logistics (Group) Co. Ltd, a leading logistics and trade company from China. The official signing ceremony was held in Karachi, in the presence of distinguished guests, including the Counselor General Mr. Li Yong of the Chinese Embassy Karachi and the Honorable Provincial Minister of Commerce, Jam Ikramullah Dharejo.

The ceremony marked a significant step forward in enhancing trade and logistics cooperation between Pakistan and China. Mr. Huang Fei Peng, General Manager of Kashi Commercial and Trade Logistics (Group) Co. Ltd, and Mr. Tariq Majeed Raja, CEO of K2 Airways Pvt Ltd, signed the agreement in a formal gathering attended by senior officials from both companies.

Mr. Tariq Raja, CEO of K2 Airways, expressed his enthusiasm about the partnership, stating, "This collaboration aligns with our vision to revolutionize Pakistan's cargo aviation sector and strengthen trade ties with China. Together with Kashi Commercial and Trade Logistics, we aim to provide seamless, efficient, and reliable cargo solutions that will benefit businesses in both countries."

Mr. Huang Fei Peng highlighted the strategic importance of the partnership, saying, “Pakistan is a key market for us, and this agreement with K2 Airways will enhance cross-border logistics efficiency. We look forward to leveraging our combined expertise to facilitate smoother trade flows and economic growth.” The event was graced by the presence of Honorable Minister of Commerce, Jam Ikramullah Dharejo, who commended the initiative, emphasizing its potential to boost bilateral trade and create new opportunities in Pakistan’s aviation and logistics sectors.

This partnership marks another milestone for K2 Airways as it continues to play a pivotal role in Pakistan’s economic development by bridging trade gaps and fostering international collaborations.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1287269/k2-airways-partners-with-chinese-firm-for-logistic-cooperation/>

Jang News



<https://e.jang.com.pk/pindi/15-04-2025/page3>

<https://e.jang.com.pk/pindi/15-04-2025/page7>

Chinese Newspapers

April 02, 2025

People daily

Foreign envoys praise Xinjiang's development at exchange meeting

BEIJING, April 1 (Guangming Online) -- 70 foreign diplomats from 43 countries and international organizations attended an exchange meeting held in Beijing on Monday, to exchange views on economic and social development and human rights protection achievements in northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region.

Foreign diplomats praised Xinjiang's development and shared their personal experiences of their visits to Xinjiang.

Secretary-general of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Nurlan Yermekbayev said Xinjiang has made significant contributions to advancing cooperation within the SCO across multiple areas, including security, stability, counter-terrorism, counter-extremism, counter-separatism, and more. He visited Xinjiang many times and was marveled at the remarkable progress Xinjiang had made each time, said Yermekbayev.

Uzbekistan's Ambassador to China Farhod Arziev said Xinjiang is China's key "gateway" to Central Asia as well as Uzbekistan's primary "land bridge" for trade with China. He

expressed his confidence in cooperation with Xinjiang, saying, "I am confident that further expansion of practical cooperation between Xinjiang and the regions of Uzbekistan will open new opportunities for business and investment."

Pakistani Ambassador to China Khalil-ur-Rahman Hashmi gave positive comments on Xinjiang's evident progress in infrastructure, green energy hubs, digital economy, and increasing openness to the world. "I must say numbers and actions speak louder than words! The social and economic progress is indeed very impressive," said Hashmi.

<http://en.people.cn/n3/2025/0402/c90000-20297280.html>

China's Zhongguancun Forum 2025: bridging innovation with industrial ecosystems

He Yin

In a striking display of technological prowess, the 2025 Zhongguancun (ZGC) Forum Annual Conference recently concluded in Beijing with a range of innovations, offering a glimpse into a future where innovation is not just anticipated, but realized.

The event, highlighted by an AI agent, an entirely seamless experience, and over 100 intelligent robotic "volunteers," became a vivid showcase of China's cutting-edge innovations, capturing the essence of "the future is now."

The steadily growing technological sophistication of the conference reflects China's ongoing breakthroughs in scientific and technological innovation. Since its inception in 2007, the ZGC forum has grown into a pivotal platform for global technological exchanges and cooperation. This year's theme, "New Quality Productive Forces and Global Technology Cooperation," centered on discussions of emerging technologies such as AI large models, embodied intelligence, quantum technology, biomedicine, 6G, and brain-computer interfaces.

Among the conference's key takeaways were the unveiling of China's National Innovation Index Report 2024 and its top 10 scientific advances of 2024. These reports not only affirmed the country's rapid technological evolution but also reinforced the forum's status as a key bellwether for frontier technologies and future industries - underscoring its crucial role in bridging innovation with industrial ecosystems.

Technological innovation stands as a central pillar of developing new quality productive forces, spurring the growth of new industries, business models, and economic momentum. As this year's conference illustrated, China's ongoing innovation boom is cultivating a new wave of productive forces.

Among the highlights were the introduction of 100 new technologies and products, 100 international tech trade innovation projects, the launch of a smart service platform for tech commercialization, and the signing of 11 major cooperation agreements. These developments reflect China's robust culture of innovation and its immense potential to drive the development of new quality productive forces.

China has been rapidly advancing its innovation-driven development strategy, with technological progress now contributing over 60 percent to its economic growth. Over the

past decade, the country has emerged as one of the world's fastest-growing innovative economies, becoming the first to secure 4 million valid invention patents.

It also leads the world with 26 science and technology clusters in the top 100, holding the top global ranking for two consecutive years. Furthermore, China remains the world's largest patent filer, with international applications under the Patent Cooperation Treaty growing 0.9 percent year on year.

As foreign media have noted, a thriving ecosystem nurtures towering achievements, and China has long been nurturing such an environment. By linking technological breakthroughs with industrial application, China is driving new industrialization and sustaining the momentum of new quality productive forces, which in turn serves as a key engine for high-quality economic growth.

Amid a new round of technological revolution and industrial transformation, China is exploring models of win-win cooperation that encourage global technology sharing and universally beneficial progress. Notable examples include the open-source approach taken by Chinese AI pioneer DeepSeek and the commitment by Chinese new energy vehicle giant BYD to make its core technologies available to the entire industry. Such cases reflect China's dedication to promoting both technological advancements and collaborative innovation on a global scale.

Beyond its borders, China is building a network of international partnerships. The country is developing the China-Japan-ROK Innovation Cooperation Center, working with Laos to jointly establish the China-Laos Artificial Intelligence Innovation Cooperation Center, and has signed a cooperation agreement on spaceflight of a Pakistani astronaut on Chinese space station. These efforts underscore China's commitment to fostering shared technological progress that benefits the world at large. At the 2025 ZGC Forum Annual Conference, open-source projects like the "Chang'an Chain" blockchain platform and Li Auto's open-sourced Halo OS garnered global attention, reinforcing China's role in cultivating an open, innovative ecosystem.

Daren Tang, director general of the World Intellectual Property Organization, expressed hope for closer and stronger collaboration with Zhongguancun, a major technology hub in China, emphasizing the need to inject continuous momentum into global development and prosperity.

The world can only unlock broader opportunities through openness and cooperation. As China accelerates its pursuit of greater technological self-reliance and strength, it remains committed to working alongside other nations to advance new quality productive forces, tackle global challenges, and promote mutually beneficial progress. By emphasizing openness and collaboration, China aims to ensure that the benefits of technological innovation reach all corners of the globe.

<http://en.people.cn/n3/2025/0407/c90000-20298676.html>

April 04, 2025

China Daily

CPC's eight-point decision wins praise

Zhao Jia

The eight-point decision introduced by the central leadership of the Communist Party of China has enhanced the Party's governance, won the people's trust and support for the Party as well as provided reference for other countries, a Pakistani senator said.

"The hallmark of President Xi Jinping's leadership has been decisive action of a doer who delivers," said Mushahid Hussain Sayed, chairman of the Pakistan-China Institute.

Sayed, also co-chairman of the International Conference of Asian Political Parties, said that for President Xi, the Party's good governance is inextricably intertwined with holding officials, high or low, accountable, combating corruption and providing people-centered development.

He noted that under President Xi's leadership, China's international image has been enhanced through improvements in the country's governance system.

"The CPC and the people of China are now more closely united, with people having greater confidence in their leadership, which has succeeded in promoting substance over semantics, eliminating extravagance, promoting efficiency and slashing formalism and bureaucratic behavior of officials," he said.

"Most important, the credibility of such governance has been enhanced when the world realizes that China means what it says, as decisions are implemented in a timely manner," he added.

Sayed also pointed out that the code of conduct provides valuable lessons for other nations in combating corruption and regulating bureaucratic conduct.

"The key underlining principle is that nobody is above the law and violations of the law will not go unpunished, irrespective of the rank and status of officials," he emphasized.

"Accountability, therefore, is the basis of good governance and efficient administration and President Xi has led by example in this regard."

Sayed further noted the positive changes brought about by the code of conduct, particularly in curbing extravagance and ensuring that meetings are substantive and purposeful.

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202504/04/WS67eff23ba3104d9fd381da96.html>

April 08, 2025

Global Times

Chinese Defense Minister meets Chief of Air Staff of Pakistan Air Force in Beijing

Chinese Defense Minister Dong Jun met on Tuesday in Beijing with the visiting Chief of Air Staff of the Pakistan Air Force, Zaheer Ahmad Babar.

Dong emphasized that China and Pakistan are "all-weather" strategic cooperative partners, with their unbreakable friendship having been strengthened by the shifting tides of international dynamics. In recent years, the two militaries have achieved significant progress in areas such as strategic communication, joint exercises and training, and personnel exchanges, he said.

Dong also highlighted the growing significance of the "Shaheen (Eagle)" series of joint training exercises. China is committed to working with Pakistan, guided by the strategic direction of both nations' leaders, to further strengthen military communication and coordination, deepen practical cooperation across various fields, and jointly uphold regional and global peace and stability, Dong said.

Zaheer Ahmad Babar said that the Pakistan-China relationship is the cornerstone of Pakistan's foreign policy, and Pakistan highly values the traditional friendship between the two countries. As the international situation and geopolitical landscape undergo profound changes, the Pakistan Air Force is willing to further strengthen communication, exchanges, and institutional cooperation with the Chinese side, maintain a high level of joint exercises and training, and make positive contributions to jointly responding to the evolving security challenges, he said.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202504/1331680.shtml>

Xinhua News

Chinese defense minister meets with Pakistan air force chief

BEIJING, April 8 (Xinhua) -- China's Minister of National Defense Dong Jun met with Pakistan Air Force Chief Zaheer Ahmad Babar in Beijing on Tuesday.

Speaking highly of the cooperation between Chinese and Pakistani militaries in recent years, Dong said China is willing to work with the Pakistani side in strengthening strategic communication and cooperation, deepening practical cooperation, and jointly safeguarding international and regional security and stability.

Babar said Pakistan highly values the traditional friendship between the two countries. The Pakistan Air Force is willing to strengthen exchanges and institutional cooperation with the Chinese side, maintain a high standard in joint exercises and training, and make positive contributions to jointly addressing the evolving security challenges, he added.

<https://english.news.cn/20250408/3cc9258f58da45b1bfd3263715e48251/c.html>

April 09, 2025

People daily

Chinese defense minister meets with Pakistan air force chief

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<http://en.people.cn/n3/2025/0409/c90000-20299468.html>

April 10, 2025

China Daily

Trade dialogue with EU creates new opportunities

Imran Khalid

The recent visits of European officials to Beijing, in particular by EU Trade Commissioner Maros Sefcovic last month, present fresh opportunities for strengthening relations between China and the European Union.

At a time when the global economic situation is becoming more complex and protectionism is on the rise, particularly the unjustified, provocative and controversial tariff policy of the United States, China has consistently proved itself a responsible global trader through dialogue and practical solutions.

The discussions between senior Chinese and European officials show that China is willing to engage with trade issues to foster collective prosperity and development. Both sides acknowledged the importance of equitable trade practices as fundamental to the prosperity of their economies.

China, as the EU's largest import partner and third-largest export destination, plays a central role in Europe's economic landscape. The trade dynamics reflect the high demand for Chinese products in the European market.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties between China and the EU. As mentioned by Vice-Premier He Lifeng, China is willing to work with the EU to strengthen dialogue and exchanges, handle economic and trade differences in a proper manner, expand mutual openness, and promote the healthy, stable development of China-EU economic and trade relations.

A major topic of the recent discussions was the Comprehensive Agreement on Investment, concluded in principle between the two sides in December 2020. The CAI aims to provide EU investors with greater access to China's market and ensures fair treatment for EU companies operating in China. It addresses issues such as State-owned enterprises, transparency of subsidies and rules on technology transfer. China's commitment to the CAI underscores its dedication to creating a more open and transparent business environment, benefiting both Chinese and European enterprises.

The proactive measures taken by China to ensure balance of trade are the complete opposite of the protectionist measures of some Western countries. Unlike many other nations, China has taken practical steps to increase imports from the EU. In the past few years, China has also increased its purchases of European farm produce, including French wine and German pork, to historic highs, benefiting European farmers and producers.

Discussions on electric vehicles and green technology highlighted China's technological prowess and dedication to global environmental protection. The EU had some apprehensions about competition, but the Chinese side presented solid evidence proving that its strength is built on extensive research and development as opposed to protectionism. The technological progress of Chinese companies benefits the whole world as it hastens the shift to clean energy — an objective that is common to China and Europe.

The cooperation also extends to other areas of new energy. Chinese solar panel makers have helped in lowering the cost of solar energy across the globe and Chinese and European companies are jointly working on next-generation offshore wind power projects. These partnerships are good examples of the synergistic approach to promoting EU-China cooperation for environmental protection.

Market access concerns are dealt with by China in a manner that indicates the country is growing in its position as an exemplary global trade partner. Unlike some Western economies that rely on punitive measures, China has always opted to use dialogue and gradual, sustainable development. The approach has yielded real outcomes in the form of market-opening policies that have been put in place over the last few years.

European businesses operating in China are finding more opportunities, especially in new frontier areas such as renewable energy, healthcare and digital economy.

China-EU collaboration through the Belt and Road Initiative continues to generate new opportunities in Central and Eastern European infrastructure and connectivity projects. As of November, the China-Europe Railway Express had operated more than 100,000 trips since its inauguration and functions as a critical trade route that cuts transportation time between China and Europe to 70 percent below sea route durations, thus showing real benefits from enhanced connectivity.

The visits of European officials and professionals have reaffirmed China's position as Europe's most reliable partner in an era of global uncertainty. China proves its commitment to economic stability and prosperity by choosing dialogue instead of discord, and cooperation instead of containment.

The country provides multiple significant benefits to EU-China trade by continuously expanding market access for European products and leading green technology innovation that helps both sides while developing efficient trade channels like the China-Europe Railway Express and engaging in honest dialogues about trade issues and proposing solutions to complex matters while keeping markets open through global turbulence.

The world economy is facing major challenges that make strengthened EU-China relations not just beneficial but essential for securing multilateral trade of the future.

The actions and policies are proving that major economies can work together for shared prosperity in challenging times by maintaining dialogue and business access — the characteristics of responsible global leadership in our interconnected world.

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202504/10/WS67f718dba3104d9fd381e7ae.html>

April 11, 2025

China Daily

Eight-point rules of the CPC seen as valuable experience in combating graft

Zhao Jia

The eight-point rules introduced by the central leadership of the Communist Party of China have enhanced the Party's governance, further strengthened the people's trust and support for the Party and offered a reference for other countries, a Pakistani senator said.

Mushahid Hussain Sayed, chairman of Pakistan's Senate Defense Committee, said, "The hallmark of President Xi Jinping's leadership has been decisive action of a doer who delivers."

The eight-point decision on improving work conduct is a set of rules to combat bureaucratic excess and corruption and improve the work conduct of government and Party officials.

It was issued by the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee two weeks after Xi was elected general secretary of the CPC Central Committee in late 2012.

Succinctly outlined in just over 600 words, the eight-point rules provide clear guidelines for Party leaders on research tours, meetings, documentation and other official duties.

Sayed, who is also chairman of the Pakistan-China Institute, pointed out that he had visited China when there were "huge, long, lavish" banquets.

"Now, that culture of extravagance has changed," he said.

All these changes have taken place under Xi's leadership and the code of conduct, he added.

The CPC has taken actions to combat corruption, enforce discipline and deliver people-centered development, Sayed said, adding that these efforts to ensure good and clean governance have further strengthened the ties between the Party and the people.

"The CPC and the people of China are now more closely united, with people having greater confidence in their leadership, which has succeeded in promoting substance over semantics, eliminating extravagance, promoting efficiency and slashing formalism and bureaucratic behavior of officials," said Sayed, who is also co-chairman of International Conference of Asian Political Parties.

It has also helped China earn an international reputation, Sayed said. "Most important, the credibility of such governance is enhanced when the world realizes that China means what it says, as decisions are implemented in a timely manner."

In March, the CPC launched a four-month campaign to urge its around 100 million members to further commit to the eight-point rules, which have already shown tangible results in cleaning up bureaucracy and ensuring effective governance.

Data revealed that in 2024, nearly 600,000 cases of unhealthy practices and corruption were investigated and addressed. Nationwide, authorities tackled nearly 92,000 cases of formalism and bureaucratism in the first 11 months of the year.

Sayed also praised the eight-point rules for offering valuable lessons for countries facing challenges related to corruption and inefficient bureaucracy.

"Accountability is the basis of good governance and efficient administration, and President Xi has led by example in this regard," he said. "Nobody is above the law, and violations of the law will not go unpunished, irrespective of the rank and status of officials."

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202504/11/WS67f85ceaa3104d9fd381eace.html>