



# For Better Understanding on China-Pakistan and CPEC

## Gleanings from the National Press

An Online Publication of PICS

<https://su.edu.pk/gleanings-from-national-press>

January 16-31, 2022

A pilot project of PICS

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**January 16, 2022**

**Daily Times**

**China-Pakistan partnership has ensured development: president**

President Dr Arif Alvi Saturday said that all weather strategic cooperative partnership between China and Pakistan envisioned a prosperous region with the establishment of economic and trade linkages through the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), a flagship of Chinese One Belt, One Road initiative.

During an interaction with the Chinese media, the president said Pakistan and China enjoyed excellent relations which were based upon all-weather strategic cooperative partnership. Dilating upon the long history of ties between the Iron Brothers, the president said both the countries had been cooperating in diverse fields through China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). The leadership of the both countries had been consistently improving upon the historic relationship, he said, adding the ties were based upon people-to-people linkages. President Alvi said both countries had faced testing times. The world is in the flux, facing different challenges and issues like illegal occupation of Kashmir (IIOJK) by India.

He said Pakistan and China have been continuously talking about peace in the world and pushing for a durable peace across the world. The president cited both countries' efforts for peace and stability in Afghanistan. China and Pakistan had a long history of friendship and they were continuously improving upon these ties which had started during 50s and tremendously grew up during 60s, he added. China's link with the world was established through Pakistan, he said. To a question, the president said that the new global order was emerging. On different issues, Pakistan and China think alike. In the face of these changes, the president stressed that any global changes should be based upon principles rather than hegemony.

The president further stressed that these changes should not be of any kind of interference in each other's affairs. The last seventy years ties between Pakistan and China had been a good example for the world to show how countries could be friendly and forged relations based upon principles and mutual understanding, he added. About the CPEC, the president said it is unique form of cooperation. CPEC completed projects stood around worth \$28 billion whereas another \$24 billion projects were under the completion. The president said the entire portfolio of CPEC projects was over \$62 in the short term.

"I think the CPEC has a tremendous impact upon the economy of Pakistan," he opined. Rejecting certain propaganda launched against CEPC, he said huge cooperation was going on between China and Pakistan. He said the very low mark-up over this investment reflected the mutual cooperation rather than exploitation as projected by those opposing the project. The president further said that under CPEC, the initial projects were energy-based as Pakistan had been facing serious shortage of energy, subsequently, in the second phase, there were huge areas of cooperation in food, health agriculture and poverty alleviation.

The president reiterated that through these multi-dimensional projects, people in Pakistan would find more job opportunities and would come out of poverty. He observed that poverty could be alleviated through the strengthening of health and education infrastructure over which Pakistan was fully focusing with different initiatives like Ehsaas programme.

To another query, he replied that China had adopted a zero Covid policy but Pakistan handled it in a very different manner. The government in Pakistan opted for partial lockdown as its economy could not sustain complete lockdown. There were maximum 6,800 covid cases in Pakistan during the months of June and July, he added. Highlighting the importance of Gwadar port, the president said fast progress was being achieved. It was one of the largest ports in the region close to the Gulf and would serve as a major deep sea port. The president shared that it would link western areas of China proving as a big advantage for it.

He said Gwadar port was also strategically very important from other aspects as well including fishery. The president urged the governments of the both countries to make further efforts for ensuring movement of goods from China to Gwadar and from Gwadar to China.

Gwadar would be the shortest trade route for Afghanistan and to the Central Asian Republics (CARs), he said, adding the more linkages were established, the more progress and development would take place in the region and beyond. Gwadar port would ensure peace and development for the whole region, he expressed the confidence.

About the cooperation in IT sector, the president underlined that cyber security and the human resources were needed to be developed. He maintained that tomorrow's world would not be based upon brick and mortar. China and Pakistan required to be firewalled against hacking, the ability of the non-state actors to launch cyber-attacks; for example, to affect their banking and financial institutions and utilities as everything was available on internet, the president added.

The president said that they would be looking forward for the Chinese cooperation in developing the chips and cited development of JF-17 Thunder, a good example of cooperation between the two countries.

The president said the IT sector across the globe was witnessing an exponential growth for which the world needs trained manpower and stressed that both countries could bring their people into this sector for the economic prosperity. The president also elaborated that both countries could cooperate further in agriculture and Pakistan could learn to increase its yields with the help of Chinese expertise and technology.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/869501/china-pakistan-partnership-has-ensured-development-president/>

### **Pak-China friendship is deep-rooted**

Bond of friendship between Chinese and Pakistani students is deeply rooted, based on mutual trust and respect. This was stated by Faisal Hayat, the representative of Pakistani students at

Kunming University of Science and Technology, Yunnan, a famous educational institution based in Southwest China.

Hailing from Chakdara town in Lower Dir, he had recently graduated from the University.” In China, I never felt like I was living abroad, but it was as if I had moved from one city to another in Pakistan to study; while travelling, whenever I introduced myself as a Pakistani, the reaction of the Chinese people would be wonderful,” said Faisal Hayat.” China’s education system is much advanced than our system; the teaching method, I found excellent; there is a good relationship between teachers and students,” Faisal Hayat told Gwadar Pro.

Besides his studies, he participated in various extracurricular activities. “It was an honour for me to represent Pakistani students while holding my country’s flag at the opening ceremony of the Sports Gala in Kunming,” he said adding, “My Chinese friends really like the traditional Pakistani outfit I wore.”

Faisal Hayat also travelled around southwest China to taste the food and learn about local customs and traditions. Along with his Chinese friends, Faisal Hayat went to the countryside to participate in the three day Torch Festival.” With the fall of night, as horns were sounded, people of all ages came forward and ignited faggot piles; it was really fascinating,” Faisal recalls. He also acted in a local film and played the role of a Russian. According to him, the producer of the film praised his performance.

According to Faisal Hayat, Muslims, whether they are local or non-local, enjoy religious freedom in Kunming. “I used to go to a local mosque to offer prayers; everyone is free to enjoy his/her religion,” he told Gwadar Pro, adding “We would come together to celebrate the Eid festival with our Chinese Muslim”. Faisal Hayat went to China in 2018 and returned in mid-2020. “When the Covid-19 broke out, the Chinese Government take good care of us and we were provided with best possible assistance; Pak-China Dosti Zindabad,” he concluded.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/869417/pak-china-friendship-is-deep-rooted/>

### The Nation

#### **Pak, Chinese medical varsities join hands for coop**

ISLAMABAD - Pakistani and Chinese medical universities have signed a memorandum of understanding further enhance cooperation between the two iron brothers.

A signing ceremony between Anhui Medical University (AHMU) and Islamabad Medical and Dental College (IMDC), along with the Unveiling Ceremony of “AHMU-IMDC China-Pakistan Cross-cultural Educational Exchange Center” was held in Anhui, Gwadar Pro reported yesterday.

It’s the first official cooperation between Chinese and Pakistani medical universities.

Pakistan and China have a long history of cooperation in the medical field, especially medical education. Many Pakistani students have been coming to China for studies in medical related majors.

China has become the most popular selection for foreign students because of its rapid development in the medical sector and cutting edge technology equipped hospitals.

Ahmed Waqas, Dean of the International Department of IMDC, as a senior Pakistani doctor in China, said building such cooperation has been his dream. "I always felt that there is still a lack of people to people contact between the two countries, especially in the field of medicine."

This cooperation agreement between IMDC and AHMU includes academic, cultural and research cooperation, students exchange program at all levels, short and diploma degree course in specialized medical fields, collaboration of affiliated hospitals in clinical and basic medical sciences, off shore campus establishment and joint training programs, joint establishment of an education exchange center.

According to Cao YunXia, principal of AHMU, the university, with a history of 95 years, is one of the top medical universities in China. It has 15,000 teaching and medical staff and more than 20,000 students, including more than 5,000 master and doctoral students.

<https://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2022-01-16/page-10/detail-2>

**January 17, 2022**

**Pakistan Observer**

### **China Window' launches six-month Chinese language diploma**

China Window, a Chinese cultural center in Peshawar, has announced admission to the six-month diploma in Chinese language. Gwadar Pro reported on Sunday, quoting an official statement, classes will take place five days a week for a duration of six months. There is no fee for the course and admissions will be offered on a first come first served basis.

China Window is offering the course in collaboration with National Vocational and Technical Training Commission (NAVTTTC). Upon completion of the course, NAVTTTC will provide students with diplomas.

Journalist Amjad Aziz Malik established the Chinese Cultural Center in 2018, which displays books, pictures of 40 years of reforms of China, Chinese food items, tourist destinations, maps of China and its popular cities.

The books are written about Pak-China Relations, Chinese history, culture, music, foods, folklores, acrobatics, calligraphy etc.

According to Mr. Malik, the people of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) love China and the center provides complete knowledge about China to the people of this region under one roof.

Prior to the six-month diplomas, China Window has been running short courses in Chinese language. Earlier this month, KP Minister for Health and Finance Taimur Jhagra distributed Chinese language course completion certificates amongst the students of 4th batch in China Window.

China Window has played a crucial role in portraying a positive image of CPEC by removing negative perceptions of many visitors about different CPEC projects

<https://pakobserver.net/china-window-launches-six-month-chinese-language-diploma/>

### **BRI stands for prosperity**

DURING an interaction with Chinese media, President Arif Alvi dilated upon in detail about the history and longstanding relations between Pakistan and China saying the all-weather strategic partnership between the two countries envisions a prosperous region with establishment of economic and trade linkages through multi billion dollars CPEC, a flagship project of Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).

With the assistance of Chinese friends, Pakistan has developed state of the art road infrastructure under the CPEC.

This connectivity will indeed accrue great benefits in the form of enhanced trade and investments.

It is a matter of satisfaction that both the Chinese and Pakistani leadership are now focusing on second phase of CPEC that envisages industrialisation and cooperation in other productive sectors such as agriculture. The success here will indeed change entire economic landscape of Pakistan as well as the region.

The other day, China and Iran also formally began implementation of \$400b strategic agreement, which envisages cooperation in diverse fields and paves way for Tehran to participate in the BRI.

The visionary initiative of Chinese President Xi Jinping is getting greater recognition and acceptance at the world level with more countries and organizations joining it. Iran's joining the BRI will open new areas of cooperation in the region.

While Iran has shown interest in building gas pipeline to China along the CPEC route, this has also increased the probability of linking both Gwadar and Chabahar ports via road and rail links.

Through this connectivity, both the strategic ports will greatly complement each other and help promote trade in the region and beyond.

Under the BRI, cooperation amongst China, Pakistan and Iran can surely reap immense economic, commercial and strategic benefits.

Enemies of development and regional connectivity will try to throw a spanner and act as spoiler, hence staying alert of their conspiracies, the three nations must continue to move forward to change the fortune of their peoples and this region.

<https://pakobserver.net/bri-stands-for-prosperity/>

## **Western funded anti-China Winter Olympics propaganda need to be stopped**

BEIJING Winter Olympics 2022 are going to be held in 3 weeks and the Chinese government is making preparations for the historical event as Beijing is going to become the only first venue in the history of Olympics which will be honored to host the summer and winter Olympics.

Pakistan as iron brother of China is also enthusiastic to participate in the historic event. Pakistan athletes will be participating in the alpine skiing and cross-country skiing. Pakistan's Prime Minister has been invited to participate in the Opening & closing ceremony of winter Olympics. In historical visit PM Imran Khan is scheduled to arrive Beijing for 3 days visit on 3rd February.

Apart of the positive aspects the anti-China propaganda has also picked up in the recent months as USA, UK, Canada & Australia has staged a diplomatic boycott of the event on basis of false propaganda of human rights & Uighur Muslims.

In recent months the western funded lobbies and media in Pakistan has been active to put a bad impact on China Pakistan friendship and trying to brain wash the public based on false propaganda. Pakistan the iron brother of China has always stood with China in all-weather friendship. Pakistani institutes and government officials including PEMRA (Pakistan Electronic Media Regulatory Authority) need to take notice of this propaganda and stop the publications of false news and articles in media which can impact the China Pakistan friendship.

A few examples of the false propaganda have been initiated and supported by western powers in Pakistan.

There have been articles published in an English & an Urdu News Daily which are famous for negative propaganda against the institutions of Pakistan and defame Pakistan in the world.

Some examples are the publication of articles against the Chinese government and propagating false propaganda about the human rights of Uighur Muslims in China. One Urdu has published several articles against China with anonymous writer. The News daily Urdu version funded by foreign funding is trying to sabotage the relationship of China & Pakistan which will never be successful.

USA, UK, Canada & Australia already have diplomatically boycotted the winter Olympics and now trying to influence the allies via social media & propaganda to boycott Winter Olympic hosted by Chinese government. In order to condemn the propaganda against the Beijing Winter Olympics 2022 and demands the international community not to drag games into politics, The Council of Islamic Ideology organized the conference at its office where Dr. Ikram-ul-Haq (Secretary, Council of Islamic Ideology), Bishop Nazir Alam (Bishop of Pakistan), Mufti Imran (Representative Jamiat Ulema Islam-F), Ms. Reema Shaukat (director Pak- Afghan Youth Forum), Abrar Hussian (Former Ambassador and Vice Chairman Institute of Policy Studies), Allama Tehmeed Jan Al- Azhari, Ghulam Murtaza (Director Peace and Education Foundation),



and Dr. Qari Abdul Rasheed (Member Ruet-e-Hilal Committee, Balochistan Chapter) spoke to the event.

Speakers said that being a leading country of the region and global community, Pakistan supports the legitimate right of China to host the Beijing Olympics 2022. The event also denounced the propaganda against the Beijing Olympics 2022 and we believe that religious, cultural ceremonies and games not be dragged into political games.

Moot's participants also strongly condemned the deadly attacks on Chinese engineers and workers in Pakistan and appreciated China's efforts for making sure the availability of vaccines across the world and we support this humane act.

Former ambassador Abrar Hussian said that after hosting Winter 2022 Olympics Beijing will become the first city in the world to have hosted the Olympics two times. Dr. Ikram-ul- Haq said that Islam encourages sports and sports is an important tool for Diplomacy.

Bishop Nazir Alam said that sports can help in creating harmony among different faiths and we Christian community of Pakistan will support the Beijing Winter Olympics 2022. Mufti Imran said that the religious community will work side by side with the government and we wish good prayers for the Beijing Winter Olympics 2022.

Reema Shaukat stressed that sports are the cornerstone of Pak-China friendship. Allama Tehmeed Jan Al- Azhari said that we appreciate the humane behavior of China towards the world in making sure the availability of vaccines. Ghulam Murtaza said that Beijing Winter Olympics 2022 will strengthen Pak-China relations and will end racial and ethnic discrimination.

Dr. Qari Abdul Rasheed (Member Ruet-e-Hilal Committee, Balochistan Chapter) was of the view that the prosperity of China is as important as Pakistan for us.

The moot also jointly passed the declaration that religious leaders from Pakistan, China, and South Asia will work for the progress and development of the region. They also agreed that religious leaders from diverse faith groups from Pakistan, China, and South Asia will also promote religious ties among the people across regions.

<https://pakobserver.net/western-funded-anti-china-winter-olympics-propaganda-need-to-be-stopped/>

**January 18, 2022**

**Business Recorder**

### **Trial of Chinese traditional medicine for Covid-19 successful**

KARACHI: Health authorities on Monday announced the completion of a successful clinical trial of Chinese traditional herbal medicine for treating Covid-19, as the South Asian nation enters a fifth wave of the pandemic driven by the Omicron variant. The Chinese medicine,

Jinhua Qinggan Granules (JHQG) manufactured by Juxiechang (Beijing) pharmaceutical Co Ltd, is already being used in treatment of Covid-19 patients in China.

“Since it was tried on patients with different variants of COVID-19, we expect it to be effective on Omicron as on other variants,” Professor Iqbal Chaudhry, director of the International Centre for Chemical and Biological Science (ICCBS) where trials were conducted, told reporters. The trials were conducted on 300 patients who were treated at home, and would work on mild to moderate Covid-19 cases, Dr Raza Shah, principal investigator in the trials, told reporters, adding that the efficacy rate was around 82.67%.

The trials were approved by the Drug Regulatory Authority Pakistan.

Pakistan reported 4,340 COVID-19 cases on Monday, the highest recorded in a 24-hour period in three months. Karachi recorded a positivity rate - the percentage of tests coming back positive - of 39.39% at the weekend, the highest so far.

“In the last seven days, COVID cases in Pakistan have increased by 170% while deaths have also increased by 62%,” the National Command Operation Centre (NCOC), which is overseeing the pandemic response, said in a tweet on Monday.—Reuters

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2022/01/18/11-page/915585-news.html>

### **The Express Tribune**

#### **CPEC phase-II much broader**

Envoy says despite Covid, all projects continued without hindrance

BEIJING: The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) phase-II is much broader in scope and focuses on relocation of industries, agriculture sector modernisation, cooperation in science and technology, job creation and socio-economic wellbeing of people, said Pakistan’s Ambassador to China Moinul Haque.

In an interview with the Global Times on Monday, the ambassador said that the two sides were making rapid progress on the development of Gwadar Port and Gwadar Free Trade Zone, which would promote regional connectivity and economic integration.

He termed it a matter of great satisfaction that despite the challenges posed by the Covid-19 pandemic over the past two years, cooperation under CPEC and work on all projects continued without any hindrance.

“The recently held 10th meeting of the Joint Cooperation Committee reviewed wide ranging cooperation under the CPEC framework and identified more areas of cooperation,” he said.

“These include establishment of a joint working group on information technology and industry, which is expected to support high-quality development of CPEC as envisioned by the leadership of the two countries.”

Talking about the current status of CPEC, its construction work and energy shortage, the ambassador said that the megaproject marked a new phase in Pakistan-China relations by placing economic cooperation and connectivity at the centre of bilateral agenda.

As a flagship project of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), CPEC is aimed at enhancing connectivity and trade linkages between Pakistan, China and the rest of the region through a network of roads, rail, fibre optic cables, energy pipelines, industrial clusters and Special Economic Zones.

Ambassador Haque said that in its first phase, CPEC helped Pakistan develop major infrastructure projects and address essential energy needs.

Energy projects that have achieved completion include 1,320-megawatt coal-fired power plants in Sahiwal, Port Qasim, Karachi and Hub (Balochistan), 660MW Engro Thar coal power project and 1,000MW Quaid-e-Azam Solar Park in Bahawalpur (400MW project has been completed while 600MW project is under implementation).

Moreover, some smaller wind and solar energy projects have begun operations as well.

“The 878km-long Matiari-Lahore 660kV HVDC transmission line has also been completed, which has the capacity to transmit 4,000MW of electricity,” he added.

“CPEC has also upgraded Pakistan’s national and international highway network to provide more reliable connectivity between Pakistan and China across the Karakoram Range and has strengthened inland communication.”

Investment under CPEC has generated thousands of jobs, the envoy said.

Regarding the current level of third-party participation in the construction of CPEC, he said that since the megaproject was aimed at promoting regional integration and win-win cooperation, the two countries had agreed to welcome and encourage high-quality investments.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2339196/cpec-phase-ii-much-broader>

### **The Nation**

#### **PM to discuss Afghanistan, CPEC with Chinese leadership during upcoming visit**

*SHAFQAT ALI*

ISLAMABAD - Prime Minister Imran Khan will discuss the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor and the regional situation, especially Afghanistan, with the Chinese leadership during his upcoming visit to China, officials said.

Pakistan has already taken a big decision of PM’s visit to China to attend the opening ceremony of the Winter Olympics amid western countries’ boycott. China has been complaining that work on the CPEC projects is not being carried out according to the desired speed.

The United States, the United Kingdom, Australia, and Canada have announced a diplomatic boycott of the event, with North Korea being the most recent to withdraw, citing the pandemic.

Despite the fact that athletes from all over the world will travel to compete in the four-yearly tournament, no dignitaries from these western countries are planned to attend. Diplomatic sources told The Nation that PM Khan will apprise the Chinese leadership about the expedited speed of work on the CPEC projects in the recent months.

The PM has, in the recent months, ordered to remove hurdles in the way of quick implementation of the CPEC projects. The sources said PM Khan was optimistic about fruitful meetings with the Chinese leadership during his stay. Foreign Minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi said Pakistan has a history of friendly ties with China and the upcoming visit was also part of the close ties.

“We also value ties with other countries. With China we have a longstanding friendship which has grown into an unbreakable partnership,” he said. FM Qureshi said Pakistan was focused to pursue its economic priorities under the leadership of Prime Minister Imran Khan.

He stressed for evolving dynamic strategy to deal with changing regional situation.

The Foreign Minister said Pakistan was committed to equip research institutions in line with the needs of prevailing circumstances. The foreign minister said on deteriorating economic situation of Afghanistan, “we called OIC (Organisation of Islamic Cooperation’s) Foreign Ministers’ meeting in Pakistan.”

Ministry of Foreign Affairs spokesperson Asim Iftikhar Ahmed said that during the PM’s visit from February 3-5, officials from Islamabad and Beijing would discuss the CPEC, among other things. He said the two countries of unanimity of views on all important international and regional issues.

<https://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2022-01-18/page-8/detail-3>

**January 19, 2022**

**Business Recorder**

### **CPEC to attract more third-country investors**

BEIJING: As the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), a flagship project under the China’s proposed Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), has created new opportunities for economic growth and stability via a number of projects that are in full swing across the South Asian country, many third-country investors are also showing interest in the project.

Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Germany are among those that have taken moves on the cooperation with Pakistan via the flagship project. As China extends a welcoming attitude toward the investment, it is believed that the CPEC would continue to attract more third-country investors, industry observers told the Global Times. Brothers Gas, a UAE-based leading liquid gas service provider, will make investment worth \$15 million in the CPEC Faisalabad

Special Economic Zone (SEZ). “The first of the three-phase investment will include the installation of an Aerosol Propellant Gas (APG) plant. The local manufacturing capacity will help reduce Pakistan’s reliance on imported APG,” Abul Razaq Dawood said in a tweet. For Saudi Arabia, its intention to invest in CPEC projects started as early as 2019 when the Middle Eastern country announced plans to set up a \$10 billion oil refinery in Pakistan’s deep-water port of Gwadar.

In a recent response sent to the Global Times, Aramco said it “continues to evaluate attractive investment opportunities in the downstream energy sector of Pakistan, including those associated with the CPEC. Updates on any business milestones will be made as and when appropriate.” “Currently, progress of the petrochemical complex under CPEC is slow due to pandemic and a dip in oil prices that took a heavy toll on Saudi economy,” Yasir Habib Khan, founder and president of the Institute of International Relations and Media Research in Pakistan, told the Global Times in a recent interview.

Saudi Arabia and UAE investments are driven by two major motives, according to Khan. “First it aims at helping Pakistan to stabilise its economy. Second purpose is to have upper hand in geopolitical chessboard particularly against Iran by investing and giving bailout packages to Pakistan.”

In addition to the two Middle Eastern nations, Pakistan is also becoming increasingly attractive to other foreign investors. Indonesian Ambassador to Pakistan Adam Tugio said in December that a number of Indonesian companies were keen to invest in SEZs being established under the umbrella of the CPEC. He said that CPEC projects would emerge as a game changer for the entire region facilitating connectivity across Central Asia and western China. In September, a gloves joint venture between Germany and Pakistan was inaugurated in Allama Iqbal SEZ near Sahianwala. “Since the CPEC welcomes foreign investment and Pakistan’s ranking in World Bank indicator 2021 has improved from 130 to 72, placing Pakistan at second position in South Asian countries in terms of ease of starting a business, many foreign countries are showing interest to invest in the CPEC,” Khan said.—APP

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2022/01/19/7-page/915690-news.html>

### **Pakistan Observer**

#### **Indonesian coal exports can support CPEC energy projects in Pakistan: Envoy**

Ambassador of Indonesia Adam M. Tugio has said that Indonesia is refined in coal industry and can provide coal for the power projects under the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and to Large Scale Manufacturing Industries (LSMI) in Pakistan.

The Indonesian ambassador expressed these views during a meeting with businessmen in Lahore.

The purpose of the meeting was to promote bilateral cooperation especially the Indonesian coals in Pakistan. The meeting was attended by prominent businessmen from different sectors, such as textile industry, steel, ceramic and cement, all of which have the potential to import coal for their energy generators.

The government of Pakistan has been paying special attention to the development of infrastructure and energy supply as it is one of the Belt and Road Initiative countries, where coal is a major part of energy projects, the ambassador said adding,

“By knowing exactly the nominal demand for coal along with the specifications, the demand for coal products will easily be consolidated through a consortium of Indonesian exporters to meet specific demands here.”

The figures show that Pakistan’s demand for coal is continuously increasing every year. In 2020, the total import value of coal (coal, briquettes) was US\$ 1.233 billion (17,146 million tons), while Indonesia’s exports to Pakistan are merely US\$ 224 million (3,520 million tons). Still Indonesia has the potential to increase export to meet Pakistan’s coal market requirement around US\$ 1.008 billion. “Through modern approaches, it is hoped that the combination of large-scale Pakistani companies can maintain supply chain continuity and control the quality of the imported coal, and the consortium of Indonesian suppliers will obtain certainty and continuity of orders from the group of Pakistani companies,” Ambassador Tugio added.

BP’s Statistical Review of World Energy 2021 noted the volume of Indonesia’s coal exports to the world in 2020 reached 8.51 million tons. This figure is equivalent to 26.8% of the total volume of coal exports in the world. Apart from Indonesia, Pakistan’s coal imports came from South Africa amounting to US\$ 829 million, Russia USD\$85 million, Australia US\$ 45 million, Afghanistan US\$ 43 million, China US\$ 1.194 million and others.

The meeting was held at the residence of a renowned businessman of Lahore.

The gathering was initiated by the Indonesian Embassy in Islamabad to promote diversified Indonesian products in Pakistan other than palm oil. It was also explored to convene business matching focusing on areas where Indonesia and Pakistan industries have complementarity such as in textiles and garments industry where cotton, yarn, polyester can be imported from Indonesia.

<https://pakobserver.net/indonesian-coal-exports-can-support-cpec-energy-projects-in-pakistan-envoy/>

### **Chines envoy looks forward for success of Imran Khan’s visit to China**

Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan Nong Rong said on Tuesday that he was looking forward for success of forthcoming visit of Prime Minister Imran Khan to China.

Early next month, Prime Minister Imran Khan will go to China to attend the opening ceremony of the 2022 Beijing Olympics and hold discussions on bilateral ties.

The leaders of both countries will meet face to face to set the course of future development of China Pakistan relations for the new year and beyond.

Let's work hand in hand to this aim, and enrich the connotation of our all-weather strategic cooperative partnership for the new era.

China supports Pakistan in exploring a development path that suits its own national conditions, and is willing to share with Pakistan the experience of the CPC in governance.”

The Chinese ambassador further said in his article, “Communist Party of China has become the world's largest ruling party with global influence. Imagine how it develops from a party of 50 members to more than 95 million today.

For anyone who wants to know the secrets, one should study carefully on the Sixth Plenary Session of the 19th CPC Central Committee, at which the “Resolution of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China on Major Achievements and Historical Experience of the Party's Centenary Struggle” was passed. Some of the keys to the success of the CPC are here-under:

The first is to uphold the party's leadership and ensure the party's unity and centralization. The CPC is the core force of the cause of socialism with Chinese characteristics. China has 56 ethnic groups and a population of 1.4 billion.

The second is to stick to a correct development path that suits the national conditions of the country. The direction determines the future, and the road determines the destiny.

The third is to adhere to people-centered path and let the people be the masters of the country. In last December, China released the “Democracy in China” white paper, introducing the concept of people's democracy throughout the process.

The fourth is to maintain a global vision and strive to build a community of shared future for mankind. A party should always motivate itself with high targets that provide constant driving force.

The CPC not only seeks happiness for the Chinese people and rejuvenation for the Chinese nation, but also seeks progress for mankind and great unity for the world.

<https://pakobserver.net/chines-envoy-looks-forward-for-success-of-imran-khans-visit-to-china/>

## **BRI & changing geopolitics**

*Dr Mehmood Ul Hassan Khan*

GEO-economy has become the “mantra” of every government in the world. Now Chinese “shared prosperity” and the US & West “hegemonic concepts” are competing to sway the hearts and souls of the people.

China's posture is open, transparent, unconditional, interactive, productive and participatory. Whereas, the US and the West are giving mixed signals pertaining to their obsession of military

might, economic superiority, global outreach and so-called democratic philosophies and human rights prophecies but have not yet been borrowed these means of survival to other developing countries.

However, One Belt One Road Initiative (BRI) stands for pooling of resources to rescue countries and communities alike from clutches of poverty and ignorance around the world.

BRI vividly reflects superiority of “geo-economy” over “geopolitics”, “productivity” over “propaganda”, “participation” over sponsored “processions”, “positivity” over military “predominance”, velocity of “prosperity” over lack of “prudence” and last but not the least, “green” over “grey” in the world.

Thus BRI upholds the true spirit of “humanity” and “sharing is caring” to the world and especially to all its members. Most recently, inclusion of “Syria” into BRI is a moral victory of China over military oriented plots and conspiratorial schemes of many regional countries and global movers and shakers.

It seems that geo-economy is the new “Bible” of the corporate world in which greater socio-economic integration, regional connectivity and foreign direct investment have become new “apostles” of strength, stability and sustainability.

But unfortunately, “genie” of geopolitics has again come out of the bottle and tried to create chaos, uncertainty, political instability and economic distortion in one of the biggest countries – Kazakhstan. It was totally unexpected in a peace loving country like Kazakhstan.

Violence was rampant and replicated in vicious circles in which the game of ladder and snake played a very important role. But “administrative wisdom” of Kassym-Jomart Tokayev swiftly prevailed and disorder and disobedience was controlled and ultimately crushed.

Economic activities and infrastructural development progress was hostage to external aggression, criminals and rogue elements but visionary leadership of Tokayev succeeded to eradicate this mushroom growth of destruction. BRI was also derailed and delayed.

Now Kazak President Tokayev announced a new prime minister, new cabinet, new sets of socio-economic reforms, security protocols, re-organization and last but not the least, national priorities to move forward.

Thus conspiratorial plots of the West and its sleeping cells have been thrown in the Caspian Sea. Central Asia has been one the key pillars of Chinese foreign policy and, of course, economic cooperation in which BRI is the most important factor for greater socio-economic cooperation, investment, trading partnership, joint ventures, energy cooperation, food security and infrastructural development.

In this connection, the Republic of Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan and Turkmenistan have very close relations with China which has now been further strengthened and consolidated with the eve of BRI in these countries.



Thus true silk spirit is transforming the cities of Tashkent, Samarkand, Bukhara, Almaty, Nur Sultan, Dushanbe, Khujand, Bishkek, Burana and Ashgabat and Türkmenabat through the ongoing mega projects of BRI.

Moreover, TAPI has again gained another new life-line because of the Chinese version of the gas pipeline.

Sudden exit of the US from Afghanistan also opened a new gate of overlapping and complicated power politics in which every country is in search of a lion's share.

Taliban as usual are still in their past unfilled fantasies of glorification and gratification and seemingly still not ready to show any kind of flexibility on the issues of gender discrimination, minority rights, inclusive government and some kind of democratic orientations to the regional as well as international players.

Even China is still reluctant to recognize interim set-up of Taliban because of having sever reservations on TTP, The Eastern Turkistan Islamic Movement (ETIM) and other globalized terrorist franchises in Afghanistan.

In this connection, the government of Pakistan has been trying its best to convince the Taliban but somehow could not achieve.

Afghanistan is another country on the BRI list. But due to formal recognition and lack of political stability and economic sustainability the real potential of BRI is still docile. The African continent has been one of the important parts in the foreign policy of China. It has special policy priority inclination towards Africa.

Now Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi is visiting Africa to accelerate BRI development in these countries. He visited Eritrea, Kenya and the Comoros from January 4 to 7, 2022 and afterwards he will be visiting the Maldives and Sri Lanka.

During his visit, Morocco agreed to join BRI which is another diplomatic victory of China and greater recognition of its ancient philosophy and XI Jipnng doctrine of shared prosperity.

Almost 600 million people in sub-Saharan Africa lack access to grid electricity. About a third of people in rural areas have no sealed roads serving their communities.

The continent's infrastructure needs \$130-\$170 billion a year, with a financing gap in the range of \$68-\$108 billion. On its part, China is providing technical skills and funding through the BRI and the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation, a bilateral platform that has helped bring China and Africa closer together.

Now China is contributing to the development of Africa's highway infrastructure and opening up of road-based corridors and helping Africa to win the war on poverty eradication through trade promotion and overall economic growth.

According to latest reports, 52 of the 55 members of the African Union are participating in the BRI, which was proposed by China in 2013 as a means of improving connectivity among countries through increased trade, economic integration and cultural exchanges.

The BRI projects have shown resilience in the face of the pandemic and secretive geopolitics.

According to China's Ministry of Commerce (December 2021) China's direct investment in Africa reached \$2.07 billion from January to July, outperforming the pre-pandemic level in the same period of 2019.

To conclude, BRI projects have bright prospects in Central Asian countries and African continent allowing regional countries to increase connectivity, expand regional trade and modernize their insufficient transport infrastructure. Same is the case of the South East Asia region in which BRI is spreading hope of qualitative life, social harmony and healthy economic prospects and greater regional connectivity.

BRI acts like a "ray of hope" and "rainbow" of cooperation, coordination and consensus starting from mountains of Laos to the Seas of Maladies and sunny beaches of Sri Lanka. That is why Western propaganda could not derail BRI's "perception" and "projects" in the countries.

BRI is an ambitious global strategy; however unfortunately, it receives much criticism, especially in so-called liberal countries.

Not "geography" but "geopolitics" is one of the main hurdles of BRI success in the world. It does not have any policy in-coordination, investment uncertainty and low transparency and social resistance. It is a "consensual" mega project which always "snubs" conspiratorial schemes of the West.

I suggest that military parades will achieve nothing substantial in the world and Central Asia but real "social transformation" and "economic transmission" would be catalysts for BRI. Thus recipient countries must pursue befitting policies to accelerate socio-economic prosperity.

<https://pakobserver.net/bri-changing-geopolitics-by-dr-mehmood-ul-hassan-khan/>

## **Significance and challenges for second stage of CPEC**

*Iram Zahid*

The second stage of CPEC emphasizes industrialization, agriculture, modernization, information technology, employment opportunities and socio-economic growth.

There are eleven Special Economic Zones under the CPEC project being established which will promote industrialization in Pakistan.

The first phase of Allama Iqbal Industrial City in Faisalabad, the first Special Economic Zone (SEZ) of Punjab under the CPEC project has been completed. Pakistan's economy has been adversely affected by the pandemic, but it didn't impact the CPEC projects which are moving ahead in a full swing.

The agriculture sector of the CPEC project has gained in importance since the second phase of the Free Trade Agreement in 2020, more Pakistani agricultural products have reached the Chinese market. From September 2021, Pakistani agricultural products have reached \$630 million which is a twofold increase over the previous time.

According to the Chinese embassy, CPEC has created 75,000 jobs in Pakistan since its start in 2013. The second phase of the CPEC project holds a promising panorama for a flourishing future.

CPEC is a game-changer in the region which will assist the state in dealing with unemployment, poverty, energy crisis, infrastructure, economic development and inequalities of undeveloped provinces.

The 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.

CPEC is estimated to generate six to eight billion rupees per annum just in taxes and bridges toll as well as 2.3 million jobs are expected to be created between the years of 2015-2030, leading to more than 2.5 percent annual rise in GDP.

Currently, CPEC is almost completing its first phase and 32 Early Harvest Projects have been already completed.

A lot of substantial work has been done with a total investment of \$25 billion in the transportation and energy sectors as well as optical fiber projects. Ten projects related to the socio-development and infrastructure of Gwadar have been done which will make the Gwadar port operational for international transit trade.

The coastal city is being built under the Gwadar Master Plan to come up with the growing trade actions. Some wise strategies are also being articulated to assist maximum resources to local and foreign investors to generate a supporting atmosphere of business and trade.

On the other hand, there are some challenges while implementing the CPEC because it strengthens the economy and infrastructure of Pakistan.

The Balouch Sub-National perspective in which many political parties and Baloch separatist groups have some reservations regarding CPEC like authoritative behavior of the central government, the demographic instability of the Gwadar seaport, political imbalance, lack of education, removal of Baloch culture and identity in Pakistan and disempowerment of local inhabitants.

There are some political parties of the less developed province (KP) that have uncertainties regarding the CPEC project and claim that the federal government has shifted the original route of the corridor and will shift the economic development to Punjab only.

The western think tanks have labeled CPEC a “debt trap” for Pakistan that has embellished the public debt of the state. The growth of CPEC projects reveals that it is an advantageous project for Pakistan and regional states rather than a debt trap.

As quoted by Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan, Yao Jing, “Beijing would only proceed with projects that Pakistan wanted, this is Pakistan’s economy, this is their society”. By 2037-38, Pakistan must refund Chinese loans, which is enough time and Pakistan could easily generate a bulk of money from the CPEC projects.

The first phase of CPEC faced a lot of serious challenges but the second phase has less turbulence as compared to the first.

To conclude, CPEC is the most significant project for China and Pakistan for progressive growth and secure supply for their products, goods, and services. The corridor would support Pakistan to counter Indian domination in the region.

Gwadar seaport would become the key transportation point connecting Eurasia with Southeast and Central Asia. Completion of CPEC would enhance the economic, trade, employment and business opportunities for the region.

The political parties should perform a positive role in the implementation of CPEC and they must play their essential role for joint benefits as well as to solve the problems concerning route controversy. Federal and provincial governments must provide a protective environment to all the workforce of China and other states.

Both governments should create a cooperative environment for better implementation of CPEC. All the facilities gained by CPEC must be given to all the provinces and the share of revenues should be divided into under-developed provinces. Better living standards must be ensured to the local employees at Gwadar seaport.

The establishment of maritime educational institutions must be built for locals to have a better understanding of maritime issues in the region. The government should be dedicated to the timely accomplishment of the CPEC project to strengthen the national economy and to reduce poverty issues.

<https://pakobserver.net/significance-and-challenges-for-second-stage-of-cpec-by-iram-zahid/>

### **The Express Tribune**

#### **Pakistan to pay Dasu attack Chinese victims**

Move aimed at removing major irritant in bilateral relations

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan has decided to compensate the 36 Chinese nationals, who died and were injured in a terrorist attack last year -- aimed at removing a major irritant in bilateral relations.

A total of 10 Chinese national lost their lives and another 26 were hurt in a suicide attack on a bus that was carrying them to the work site of the Dasu Hydropower Project in July last year.

The government has worked out four different compensation amounts ranging from \$4.6 million (Rs810 million) to \$20.3 million (Rs3.6 billion), sources told The Express Tribune on Tuesday.

Pakistan has decided to make the payment despite there was no legal or contractual obligation on the government.

The Dasu Hydropower Project is funded by the World Bank and does not fall in the scope of the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

Four Pakistani nationals had also died in the attack.

After the government tried to downplay the terrorist attack as an accident caused by gas leakage, China immediately retaliated and cancelled a scheduled meeting of the Joint Cooperation Committee of the CPEC.

The Chinese contractor had also stopped the work on the project and demanded a compensation of \$37 million.

The compensation that the contractor had claimed was over 500% more than what a Chinese national's heirs would have received if killed in a similar attack in their own country, according to government sources.

The 4,320MW Dasu Hydropower Project is being constructed by China Gezhouba with funding from the World Bank.

The Economic Coordination Committee (ECC) of the cabinet would take up the proposal on Wednesday (today) to formally select one of these four options aimed at removing the bottleneck in bilateral relations.

Prime Minister Imran Khan has directed to present the options before the ECC for making a decision.

Work on CPEC has slowed down considerably over the past three and half years and there is no new project approved by both the sides under the project's framework.

The \$6.8 billion mainline-I project of Pakistan Railways also remains buried in the files.

It is the second time that Pakistan has decided to compensate Chinese nationals, who had died in a terrorist attack.

In 2004, one Chinese national lost his life and another was injured in a terrorist attack while working on the Gomal Zam Dam Project. Pakistan had then paid \$100,000 to the family of the deceased and \$50,000 to the injured worker.

The first option that the government has used as the baseline is the Gomal Zam Dam amount to work out the current compensation, which comes to \$4.6 million (Rs810 million) in today's exchange rate, said the sources.

On the basis of China's compensation package for own nationals working in China, the compensation amount would be \$6.1 million, the sources added.

However, the Chinese contractor has demanded \$37 million compensation.

On the basis of the purchasing power parity based GDP per capita, the compensation amount comes to \$11.6 million.

While keeping in mind the factors of Gomal Zam Dam amount of 2004 that is indexed upwards using nominal GDP increase, the compensation will be \$20.3 million.

To be headed by Finance Minister Shaukat Tarin, the ECC would pick one of these four options.

After the attack, the Chinese contractor demobilised from the site and had raised several demands as preconditions to resume work.

Then in September last year, an inter-ministerial committee, headed by water resources secretary and comprising the secretaries of finance, law and justice, foreign affairs and interior was formed to work out the compensation amount.

The committee had been tasked to work out the compensation package for the affected Chinese nationals keeping in view the past precedents, the current demand of the Chinese company, the prevalent insurance rates and the package offered by the Chinese government for their nationals in similar cases.

The body had set up a sub-committee, comprising officers of the ministries concerned to work out the necessary details.

The sub-committee had determined that there was no contractual remedy to make financial compensation related to casualties of the contractor's staff, owing to any terrorist activity.

However, because of China's sensitivity, Pakistan has decided to make the payment, the sources said.

After the ECC's approval, the government would take up the matter with China and the money would be handed over to Pakistan's embassy in China to directly make the payments to the Chinese nationals.

The water resources ministry has sought a supplementary budget to make the payments. There is no provision in the present budget to make them.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2339423/pakistan-to-pay-dasu-attack-chinese-victims>

### **China eyes cooperation with Pakistan's furniture industry**

Sector has great potential for development, can make contribution to exports

ISLAMABAD: "The furniture industry is one of the pillar industries in Dezhou, Shandong province, China. Pakistan is China's all-weather strategic partner with a population of more than 200 million. It is highly complementary to China in the furniture industry," Pakistan's Embassy in China Commercial Counsellor Badaruz Zaman said on Tuesday.

Speaking at the online Dezhou Furniture Industry Chain Pakistan Market Development Promotion Conference, the commercial counsellor said that the second phase of China-Pakistan Free Trade Agreement (CPFTA) has achieved remarkable results.

“Around 6,000 items will ultimately be zero duty in the coming 10 years, so access to markets for each other is increasing and trade is also having a great run in these last two to three years. In the last quarter, there was an increase of around 70% in exports from Pakistan to China.”

Zaman encouraged all participants to take part and contribute to the increase in bilateral trade and investment in Pakistan. On the occasion, Zhong Ling, Deputy Director of Standing Committee of Dezhou Municipal People’s Congress and Director of Dezhou Furniture Industry Chain, highlighted that Dezhou’s furniture industry was included in 30 provincial-level industrial clusters of over 10 billion yuan in Shandong province.

With a comprehensive range of furniture products, wide market coverage and complete industrial chain, the products are exported to more than 30 countries.

She looks forward to future cooperation between the two sides not only in the furniture industry, but also in chambers of commerce, entities and other aspects, with the support of industrial internet platform, and using the strength of finance and capital, to seek common development and create resplendence.

Chairing the session, Pakistan China Centre Executive Director Wang Zihai shared that after years of development, the Dezhou furniture industry chain has formed an organic industry chain with the integration of production, supply and marketing.

As Pakistan’s investment counsellor, he added, “it is hoped that we can take advantage of the interaction of the furniture industry to further strengthen cooperation in industry exchanges, project investment and people-to-people exchanges, so as to promote the development of two-way economic and trade cooperation.”

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2339402/china-eyes-cooperation-with-pakistans-furniture-industry>

## The Nation

### **Third-country investors eyeing opportunities, joining CPEC**

BEIJING - As the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), a flagship project under the China’s proposed Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), has created new opportunities for economic growth and stability via a number of projects that are in full swing across the South Asian country, many third-country investors are also showing interest in the project.

Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Germany are among those that have taken moves on the cooperation with Pakistan via the flagship project. As China extends a welcoming attitude toward the investment, it is believed that the CPEC would continue to attract more third-country investors, industry observers told the Global Times. Brothers Gas, a UAE-based leading

liquid gas service provider, will make investment worth \$15 million in the CPEC Faisalabad Special Economic Zone.

“The first of the three-phase investment will include the installation of an Aerosol Propellant Gas (APG) plant. The local manufacturing capacity will help reduce Pakistan’s reliance on imported APG,” Abul Razaq Dawood said in a tweet.

For Saudi Arabia, its intention to invest in CPEC projects started as early as 2019 when the Middle Eastern country announced plans to set up a \$10 billion oil refinery in Pakistan’s deep-water port of Gwadar.

In a recent response sent to the Global Times, Aramco said that it “continues to evaluate attractive investment opportunities in the downstream energy sector of Pakistan, including those associated with the CPEC. Updates on any business milestones will be made as and when appropriate.”

“Currently, progress of the petrochemical complex under CPEC is slow due to pandemic and a dip in oil prices that took a heavy toll on Saudi economy,” Yasir Habib Khan, founder and president of the Institute of International Relations and Media Research in Pakistan, told the Global Times in a recent interview. Saudi Arabia and UAE investments are driven by two major motives, according to Khan. “First it aims to help Pakistan to stabilize its economy. Second purpose is to have upper hand in geo-political chessboard particularly against Iran by investing and giving bailout packages to Pakistan.”

In addition to the two Middle Eastern nations, Pakistan is also becoming increasingly attractive to other foreign investors.

Indonesian Ambassador to Pakistan Adam Tugio said in December that a number of Indonesian companies were keen to invest in Special Economic Zones being established under the umbrella of the CPEC.

He said that CPEC projects will emerge as a game changer for the entire region facilitating connectivity across Central Asia and western China. In September, a gloves joint venture between Germany and Pakistan was inaugurated in Allama Iqbal Special Economic Zone near Sahianwala.

“Since the CPEC welcomes foreign investment and Pakistan’s ranking in World Bank indicator 2021 has improved from 130 to 72, placing Pakistan at second position in South Asian countries in terms of ease of starting a business, many foreign countries are showing interest to invest in the CPEC,” Khan said.

The CPEC has brought Pakistan direct investment totaling \$25.4 billion over the past eight years, Ning Jizhe, deputy head of the National Development and Reform Commission, China’s top economic planner, said during remarks at the 10th Joint Cooperation Committee meeting of the CPEC in September 2021.



Ning said that the ministry would focus on the corridor's construction, with measures to improve the utilization rate of existing infrastructure and enhance bilateral cooperation in technology, agriculture, among other sectors.

<https://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2022-01-19/page-8/detail-7>

## **The News**

### **Centennial journey of the Communist Party of China**

*Nong Rong*

The Communist Party of China (CPC) has become the world's largest ruling party with global influence. Imagine how it develops from a party of 50 members to more than 95 million today. For anyone who wants to know the secrets, one should study carefully on the Sixth Plenary Session of the 19th CPC Central Committee, at which the "Resolution of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China on Major Achievements and Historical Experience of the Party's Centenary Struggle" was passed. Some of the keys to the success of the CPC are here-under:

The first is to uphold the party's leadership and ensure the party's unity and centralisation. The CPC is the core force of the cause of socialism with Chinese characteristics. China has 56 ethnic groups and a population of 1.4 billion. If the Central Committee of the CPC does not have a core and the whole party does not have a core, it will be easy to break up and nothing can be done. At this plenary session, the CPC established Comrade Xi Jinping as the core of the Party Central Committee and the core position of the whole Party, and established guiding position of Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era. The CPC as well as the Chinese people will be more united towards the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation.

The second is to stick to a correct development path that suits the national conditions of the country. The direction determines the future, and the road determines the destiny. Through a century of struggle, the CPC has united and led the people of the whole country based on China's national conditions and embarked on a path of socialism with Chinese characteristics that is in line with China's economic and social development. Although there are challenges and ups and downs in the process, it has always been firm for us to move forward in the right direction on the whole.

The third is to adhere to people-centered path and let the people be the masters of the country. In last December, China released the "Democracy in China" white paper, introducing the concept of people's democracy throughout the process. In all areas of the democratic process, such as consultation, decision-making, management, and supervision, there is a set of systems and procedures to ensure that the final decision is of people's will and to people's benefits. "If the shoes fit or not, only you know." Whether a country is democratic or not, it has to be judged by the people. And I am proud to say that ours suits China's condition and really works.

The fourth is to maintain a global vision and strive to build a community of shared future for mankind. A party should always motivate itself with high targets that provide constant driving force. The CPC not only seeks happiness for the Chinese people and rejuvenation for the Chinese nation, but also seeks progress for mankind and great unity for the world. To this end, President Xi Jinping put forward the concept of building a community with a shared future for mankind. As shown in addressing the Covid-19 pandemic, China initiated the largest global emergency humanitarian operation, and provided material aid, medical support, vaccine aid and cooperation to many countries, developing countries in particular, including Pakistan.

As President Xi Jinping said during the telephone call with Prime Minister Imran Khan last October, facing the fundamental changes unseen in a century in the world, China and Pakistan should stand more firmly together and incessantly strengthen strategic mutual trust. China supports Pakistan in exploring a development path that suits its own national conditions, and is willing to share with Pakistan the experience of the CPC in governance.

Early next month, Prime Minister Imran Khan will go to China to attend the opening ceremony of the 2022 Beijing Olympics and hold discussions on bilateral ties. The leaders of both countries will meet face to face to set the course of future development of China Pakistan relations for the new year and beyond. I have full confidence on the success of this visit, and firmly believe that China's development, as well as the CPC's experience, will bring new opportunities for high-quality development of our iron friend. Let's work hand in hand to this aim, and enrich the connotation of our all-weather strategic cooperative partnership for the new era.

The writer is Ambassador of China to Pakistan.

<https://e.thenews.com.pk/detail?id=47451>

### **Govt's assurance in Senate: National Security Policy will be tabled in Parliament**

ISLAMABAD: The government held out an assurance in the Senate on Tuesday that its first-ever National Security Policy (NSP) will be tabled in Parliament.

The assurance came from Leader of the House Dr Shahzad Waseem soon after the opposition protested that the legislature has not been taken into confidence over this policy that places economic security at its core.

Ex-chairman Senate Mian Raza Rabbani raised the issue in the House on a point of public importance. Senator Rabbani pointed out that neither Parliament nor the provinces had been taken into confidence over the recently-launched NSP by the government and emphasised that Prime Minister Imran Khan should have made public important points of the policy either in the National Assembly or in the Senate.

He contended that this policy would not be effective until Parliament would examine it and said it would remain ineffective as long as there would be no input of Parliament, provinces and civil society on it.

He emphasised that “we would not give this right to the State that non-elected people while sitting with the executive making future policies or future action plans and Parliament is not taken into confidence thereon.”

Leader of the House Senator Waseem said PM Imran Khan’s government is the first one that has given a policy on national security and explained that all the stakeholders had been invited when the policy was being drafted.

At the draft stage, he said the policy was presented before the Parliamentary Committee on National Security for deliberations but the opposition boycotted that meeting and criticized the government. He noted that a specific portion of the policy was classified while another has been made public. “We are going to present the policy before the Standing Committee on Defence while the government is ready to present it at any parliamentary forum,” he said.

Earlier, during the Question-Hour session, the House once again witnessed a heated debate over the rehiring of retired personnel of Pakistan armed forces in the National Database and Registration Authority (Nadra) on key positions there.

The Senate had deliberations over this matter earlier in the previous session as well. Jamaat-e-Islami Senator Mushtaq Ahmad was asked to put a fresh question for the related details. Reading out his question No 54, Senator Mushtaq again protested that the Ministry of Interior once again had not given complete answer to his question that how many retired officials from the armed forces had been rehired by Nadra. He said instead a general answer has been given, saying that the authority has 13,997 employees in total. He explained: “I have asked this because unemployment has increased (in Pakistan) according to The Pakistan Bureau of Statistics. On the one hand, youth are not getting jobs and on the other hand, we are specifically hiring retired personnel of armed forces on lucrative positions.”

Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs Ali Muhammad Khan said the basic question is about officials working on deputation in Nadra and added no official of armed forces, including Army, Navy and Air Force, was working in the authority on deputation. He again suggested that a fresh question should be submitted over the specific issue of rehiring retired armed forces personnel.

At this, the JI senator stressed that he had sought details about positions and perks of serving and retired officials of armed forces working in Nadra. “Why don’t you admit that you have hired dozens of retired armed forces personnel and you don’t want to take their names in the House,” he asked

The minister said the armed forces defend this country and were responsible for the country’s security and he was surprised what can be the reason for such hate. “We are ready to give you the data... We will give you the answer.”

At this, Rabbani rose to ask State Minister for Parliamentary Affairs Ali Muhammad Khan, who was to reply to the questions, to deny or confirm that these 15 people in civilian institutions — the DG ANF, ERRRA chairman, Naya Pakistan Housing Authority head, PIA chairman, NDC



[https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP\\_ICT&Page=Editorial](https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=Editorial)

### **Nawaiwaqt News**

پاکستان سی پیک منصوبہ سے بین الاقوامی مینوفیکچرنگ کامرگز بن جائے گا، خالد منصور

اسلام آباد (کامرس رپورٹر): وزیراعظم کے معاون خصوصی برائے سی پیک امور خالد منصور نے کہا ہے کہ سی پیک پاکستان کو بین الاقوامی مینوفیکچرنگ کامرگز بنادے گا۔ پاکستان سٹاک ایکسچینج میں ایک انٹرایکٹو سیشن سے خطاب کرتے ہوئے انہوں نے کہا کہ سی پیک کے تحت ملک میں 9 خصوصی اقتصادی زونز تیزی سے ترقی کی راہ پر گامزن ہیں۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/lahore/2022-01-19/page-12/detail-9>

**January 20, 2022**

### **Business Recorder**

#### **Chinese envoy, COAS discuss CPEC**

RAWALPINDI: Chinese envoy to Pakistan, Nong Rong called on Chief of the Army Staff General Qamar Javed Bajwa at GHQ on Wednesday, said Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) in a statement.

According to ISPR, matters pertaining to regional security situation and measures to further enhance bilateral cooperation came under discussion during the meeting. On the occasion, COAS said Pakistan remains committed to cooperating with its international partners for peace in the region.

The visiting dignitary thanked COAS for special measures taken for the provision of a safe and secure environment to CPEC projects in Pakistan and efforts towards regional stability, the ISPR added.

The Chinese envoy also expressed satisfaction over progress on CPEC and reaffirmed the need for timely completion of remaining projects. Nong Rong said that Pakistan's efforts for regional stability were commendable.—NNI

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2022/01/20/12-page/915852-news.html>

### **Pakistan Observer**

#### **Gwadar old city master plan in making**

Gwadar Old City Master Plan is in making on fast-track promising new avenues of progress and prosperity for local community.

This has been stated by Director General of Gwadar Development Authority (GDA) Mujeeb ur Rehman Qambrani during a public hearing at GDA auditorium organized by Gwadar Development Organization.

According to Gwadar Pro, Gwadar, old City Master plan features conservation of historical places, old markets including Shahi Bazaar, Janaat Bazaar, rehabilitation of city arteries,

revamping of drainage and sewerage system, skill education for Gwadar's boat-makers. GDA DG Mujeeb Ur Rehman said that GDA has a pivotal role in Gwadar Old City Master Plan on modern lines.

In order to take local people on board seeking their insights in the formation of Gwadar Old City Master Plan, open court has been held, he added.—INP

<https://pakobserver.net/gwadar-old-city-master-plan-in-making>

### **The Express Tribune**

#### **Pakistan's strategic construct — some thoughts**

Without building regional stakes in our security/stability, Pakistan would continue to remain a security state

Powerful countries like the US, China and Russia have what military theorists call a 'Grand Strategy' and 'other' strategies including a Military Strategy. Strategies fall below policies in the modern state hierarchy. The strategic concept is amorphous and highly changeable from discipline to discipline. In purely military parlance, devising, implementing and sustaining strategies and grand strategies are highly complex phenomenon. Grand strategy (GS) and strategy are in essence, interrelationship and interface between means, ways and ends. Simply put, strategy is the employment of 'means' in optimum 'ways' to achieve the desired 'ends'/objectives. Juggling with always limited means (essentially all elements of a nation's power potential), to achieve desired end-state(s) is essentially an art as well as a science.

Strategy requires logic, and logic generally rests upon assumptions; so, if assumptions are not sufficiently examined, the consequent strategy stands on weaker footings. An experienced strategist would always do due diligence to ensure that resources at hand are sufficient for the desired goals, once employed in optimal ways. 'Tactics and operations', going from lower to higher levels, deal with the employment of these resources (ways). In military phraseology, 'tactics' and 'operations' are subservient to strategy, hence the notion that strategic blunder cannot be corrected by tactical brilliance...an erstwhile divergence between the US and UK's military thought process.

A Grand Strategy not only entails the employment of a nation's own power potential (like military, economic, industrial, political, geographic, IT/media power, etc), it also brings in the commensurate powers of its allies and alliances (diplomacy in particular). Strategy, on the other hand, is more national in outlook and character. US/NATO strategies in the recent conflicts (Iraq, Afghanistan, Syria) were hence, grand strategies just like their erstwhile strategies in the World Wars. A GS influences and shapes regional and/or global landscape.

As per Clausewitz's (1780-1831) theorem, 'war is the continuation of policy by other means', therefore, its practitioners — civil and military alike — should be schooled properly in its complexities. Politicians should have a working knowledge of the military, especially the shortfalls of its employment in complex political environment and its 'bluntness', and they

should avoid the temptation of over-using the military; and the military hierarchy should be sensitive to political considerations and limitations of the politicians, democracy and political process. Any disconnect leads to fiascoes like the Afghan war (2001-2021). It is said that war is too serious a business to be left to the generals alone.

In theory, and as espoused by the NDU Islamabad, Pakistan's overarching construct begins with a 'National Purpose'... the *raison d'être*, or the very reason for which Pakistan exists. I will define it, "A separate homeland for Muslims fearing persecution in a Hindu India." That purpose today stands validated, given the situation of Indian Muslims and Kashmiris in the Indian Union, under Modi's RSS/Hindutva-laced rule.

The government translates the national purpose into concrete 'National Interests' (vital to peripheral, permanent to changing, primary to secondary, etc). Functions of 'National Interest' are translated into 'National Aims and Objectives'. The ensuing 'National Policy', thereafter, blends national purpose and interests into actionable national objectives and guidance.

National Security Policy (NSP) generally enjoys primacy. It is heartening to see the recently released NSP-1/2022-2026 identifying just and peaceful resolution of Kashmir dispute as 'a vital national security interest'.

Policy dominates strategy and each policy has to have a corresponding strategy. Whereas, policy 'is a deliberate statement of objectives and guidance', a strategy involves working plans across the envisioned spectrum of policy. Hence, the NSP would lead to other policies and strategies like economic, foreign affairs, trade and commerce, IT/media and internal policies and strategies, etc. The NSP would transcend into 'Defence Policy' (DP) and DP would end up into a 'Military Strategy', from where the respective Service Strategies would emanate.

Good to see that the process that started essentially by Dr Moeed Yusuf, the NSA, with Islamabad Security Dialogue (ISD) in March 2021 did not fizzle out. I had then alluded to Pakistan departing from the traditional notions of 'national security' towards 'a more inclusive security construct' comprising "economic progress, technological advancement, regional connectivity, knowledge entrenchment, and political stability." Gen Bajwa had summed up the ISD highlighting the need for contemporary national security construct as citizen-centric "providing a conducive environment in which aspirations of human security, national progress and development could be realized." One hopes that the official document of the NSP-1 contains the national strategic construct, as outlined above in entirety, having deliberated particularly upon our national interests, other than Kashmir.

To sum up the above debate; importantly, after identifying the NP (separate homeland due to existential fears), Kashmir resolution, peaceful neighborhood, human resource development, economic, organisational and infrastructural development, full-spectrum deterrence, debt retirement, domestic peace and stability, regional commerce/connectivity, freedom from terrorism plugging the many fault lines, could be 'some' of our national interests. Rule of law, strong defence, social and religious harmony, effective governance and regional trade could be

‘some’ of national objectives. And with the NSP out, the national security strategy could be debated.

Although smaller than most traditional powers, Pakistan can have a Grand Strategy, given its crucial location (at the seam of Central, South and West Asia), younger demographics, nuclear deterrence and alliance-power... being a bridge between Islamic and non-Islamic Worlds... a status it would ultimately acquire, negativity by the arm-chair intellectuals notwithstanding. Our ‘suggested’ GS could, therefore, be “while protecting ideological and territorial integrity, remain ‘positively relevant’ in the international system working diplomatically around problems, where Pakistan and the regional/global interests do not converge, owing to dictates of a changeable given environment.”

Pakistan was carved out of the erstwhile and competing Afghan, Indian and Iranian Empires alongside strong Central Asian influences. So, a strong Centre with credible defence capability remains our ‘centre of gravity (COG)’. However, economic prosperity, following a regional approach (through extended CPEC, SAARC, etc) ‘as an outer layer of our security’ is the ‘only’ panacea to dissolve our multifarious national fault lines, ensure peace and prosperity, and guarantee defence. Without building regional stakes in our security/stability, Pakistan would continue to remain a security state with lopsided economic expense and a military-dominant decision-making process. NSP-1 seems cognizant.

One hopes, the process of formulating national strategic construct, ushered in by the publication of NSP, is followed through, despite its many imperfections.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2339497/pakistans-strategic-construct-some-thoughts>

### **Express News**

#### **2021، پاکستان کی چین کو برآمدات ریکارڈ سطح پر پہنچ گئیں**

چین اور پاکستان کے درمیان دو طرفہ تجارت کے ساتھ ساتھ پاکستان کی چین کو برآمدات 2021 میں ریکارڈ سطح پر پہنچ گئیں۔

چینی وزارت خارجہ کے ترجمان وانگ وین بن کا کہنا ہے کہ چین پاکستان اقتصادی اور تجارتی تعاون باہمی طور پر فائدہ مند ہے اور اس نے دونوں ممالک کے عوام کو ٹھوس فوائد پہنچائے ہیں۔

چائنا کنٹرانک نیٹ کے مطابق چین کی جنرل ایڈمنسٹریشن آف کسٹمز کے تازہ ترین اعداد و شمار سے پتہ چلتا ہے کہ 2021 میں چین کی پاکستان کو درآمدات اور برآمدات کی کل مالیت میں سالانہ 59.1 فیصد اضافہ ہوا جس میں برآمدات میں 57.8 فیصد اور درآمدات میں 68.9 فیصد اضافہ شامل ہے۔

چائنا کنٹرانک نیٹ کے مطابق اس وقت چین پاکستان کے لیے برآمدات کا دوسرا بڑا اور درآمدات کا سب سے بڑا ذریعہ ہے۔

[https://www.express.pk/story/2273462/6/?\\_cf\\_chl\\_managed\\_tk\\_=PO\\_J0u1R6K.Q6GyQNRQBPWL\\_B4Qe9pEQeKpw03I0Fy4-1642659716-0-gaNycGzNCiU](https://www.express.pk/story/2273462/6/?_cf_chl_managed_tk_=PO_J0u1R6K.Q6GyQNRQBPWL_B4Qe9pEQeKpw03I0Fy4-1642659716-0-gaNycGzNCiU)



## Nawaiwaqt News

چین سے تجارت: آئندہ دس سالوں میں 6000 اشیاء پر ڈیوٹی صفر ہوگی: بدر الزمان

لاہور (کامرس رپورٹر) چین میں پاکستانی سفارتخانے کے کمرشل قونصلر بدر الزمان نے کہا ہے کہ سی پی ایف ٹی اے (چین پاکستان آزاد تجارتی معاہدہ) کے دوسرے مرحلے نے شاندار نتائج حاصل کیے جبکہ آنے والے دس سالوں میں تقریباً 6000 اشیاء صفر ڈیوٹی کی حامل ہوں گی۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ فرنیچر کی صنعت چین کے صوبہ شان ڈونگ کے شہر ڈیزو میں ایک ستون کی حیثیت رکھتی ہے جبکہ پاکستان 20 کروڑ سے زیادہ آبادی کے ساتھ چین کا ہمہ موسمی اسٹریٹجک پارٹنر ہے۔ وہ پاک چین جیمبر میں گزشتہ روز "فرنیچر انڈسٹری آن لائن / آف لائن پروموشن کانفرنس" سے خطاب کر رہے تھے۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/lahore/2022-01-20/page-12/detail-16>

**January 21, 2022**

**Daily Times**

### **China resumes work on Dasu dam**

China on Thursday said the work on Dasu Hydropower Project in Pakistan has resumed. The confirmation comes days after Islamabad decided to compensate the victims of a terror attack on the dam last July in which 10 Chinese nationals died while 28 others were injured.

“The Dasu Hydropower Project in Pakistan has resumed work,” said Zhao Lijian, spokesperson for China’s Foreign Ministry, according to Chinese daily Global Times.

A bus carrying Chinese workers in Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa had come under attack on July 14, 2021. The Chinese workers and accompanying Pakistani staff were proceeding to their workplace for an ongoing project when the incident took place. Four Pakistani nationals had also lost their lives in the attack. Pakistan earlier this week decided to compensate the 36 Chinese nationals, who died and were injured in a terrorist attack last year – aimed at removing a major irritant in bilateral relations.

The 4,320MW Dasu Hydropower Project is being constructed by China Gezhouba with funding from the World Bank. The Dasu Hydropower Project is funded by the World Bank and does not fall in the scope of the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). Beijing had asked Pakistan to thoroughly investigate the incident, and arrest the perpetrators to protect the Chinese personnel and projects, according to the state run Global Times newspaper. Pakistan is a close ally of China, and a large number of Chinese nationals are based in the country to supervise the infrastructure projects. Pakistan’s Army has also created a special security division for the security of CPEC and its workforce.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/872088/china-resumes-work-on-dasu-dam/>

### **IPDS and Viivbook open Chinese language centers**

As a pilot project and in continuation to the joint memorandum of understanding between Institute of Peace and Diplomatic Studies (IPDS) and Viivbook, Tianjin Hantong Educational Technology Co. International Chinese Language Centers have been established in Pakistan.

According to Gwadar Pro, these Centers are in Bahauddin Zakariya University, Multan and Shaheed Benazir Bhutto Women University, Peshawar in partnership with Beijing Normal University.

This language initiative is offering free Chinese language training courses, research and development along with promoting cultural cooperation between Pakistan and China. Scholarships will be offered to selected students. More Universities will be included in this initiative across Pakistan.

This initiative will serve and support stronger Pakistan-China ties especially when both countries are celebrating their 70 years of strong togetherness. As more Universities join the program, there will be opportunities for the Pakistani students to conveniently learn Chinese. This initiative will also strengthen the institutional linkages between China and Pakistan. Such language programs help promote students exchange, scholarships, and various other options and opportunities for learning and building strong ties.

Institute of Peace and Diplomatic Studies (IPDS) is a Pakistani institute based in Islamabad. It was established in June 2014 and is an independent, non-governmental, not for profit Research, Advocacy, and Public Diplomacy Think and Do Tank. This was aimed strengthening Pakistan's role in global diplomacy through creative and visionary research, dialogues, education modules, effectual advocacy, consultancy services, well-built & knitted public diplomacy initiatives, and engagements in the thematic dimensions of Peace and Diplomatic Studies.

Bahauddin Zakariya University is located in Multan, Punjab, Pakistan. It is the largest university in South Punjab. Bahauddin Zakariya University was formerly known as Multan University. The University is a degree-awarding institute in more than 60 subjects, including Pharmacy, Medical, Engineering, Humanities, Business Administration, Law, Art, Music, Computer/IT/Telecom, Agriculture, and Languages.

Shaheed Benazir Bhutto Women University, previously known as the Frontier Women University, is in Peshawar, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan. It was established in 2004.

Viivbook is a leading Software as a Service (SAAS) platform offered by Tianjin Hantong Educational Technology Co. to help learn Chinese with 13 years of experience in providing quality Chinese learning services at all levels. One of the significant benefits of learning through Viivbook is that with self-paced learning, the services are available on both PC and mobile devices, which makes it much more convenient for users to take their classes anywhere.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/872021/ipds-and-viivbook-open-chinese-language-centers/>

### **Pakistan Observer**

#### **Chinese multipurpose EVs arrive in Pakistan**

Tesla Industries Islamabad has introduced commercial multipurpose electric vehicles (EVs) in Pakistan, Gwadar Pro reported on Thursday. The company has imported the EVs from China and has plan to start their assembling in Pakistan from the next year.

The inauguration ceremony of EVX Tourer 250, an 11-Seater Mini Bus, was held in Faisalabad on Tuesday. In Faisalabad city, in a joint venture, Sitara Engineers Faisalabad will provide after sale services.

The vehicle can be converted into semi-cargo seven-seater or to full one-ton cargo with two seats. Tourer 250, with full load and air conditioner, can cover a distance of 250 km with one charge. The maximum range is about 300 km. Battery life of Tourer 250 is at least one million kilometers, according to the company.

According to him, in the next step, Tesla has the program of introducing SUVs in three different ranges including city range of 400km, 500km and extended 600km range. “The EVs are not only economical but they also avoid environmental pollution,” according to Mr. Hussain. Tesla has the largest battery charging network in Pakistan; there are 13 charging stations and the company is expanding the network. Currently, EV users can travel between Peshawar and Rahim Yar Khan on motorway.

<https://pakobserver.net/chinese-multipurpose-evs-arrive-in-pakistan/>

#### **Nong Rong’s proactive role**

THE very fact that Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan Nong Rong met Army Chief General Qamar Javed Bajwa for umpteen times to discuss issues relating to the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is reflective of his deep commitment to take the historic initiative to its full fruition despite various odds and challenges.

He interacted with the COAS once again on Wednesday to take stock of the progress of CPEC, regional security and measures to enhance bilateral cooperation in different fields.

We have been emphasizing in these columns that despite repeated claims and assurances by Pakistani leaders the pace of implementation of the CPEC projects has not been satisfactory mainly because of our inability to remove various bottlenecks.

Developmental projects lose their importance and tend to become a burden on national exchequer because of cost escalation in case of undue delays.

Unlike scores of other projects that met this fate, the CPEC projects were implemented within the given timeframe and many of them are now contributing their share to the national economy.

However, the progress of the work on different projects and programmes was badly affected during the last three years due to lack of required interest on our part and also security lapses that gave rise to concerns by the Chinese government and the workforce working on various projects.

These concerns were compounded by terrorist attack on a bus carrying Chinese engineers working on Dasu dam, the work on which stands suspended despite its huge significance for our economy.

In this backdrop, the Army Chief did well by reaffirming Pakistan's commitment to providing full security to Chinese projects and citizens working in the country.

It is always better to beef up security than to make heavy compensations after loss of precious lives and we hope the armed forces would ensure comprehensive and foolproof security especially when some local and foreign forces were active to harm the CPEC.

The Chinese Ambassador is proactively working to sort out all issues to the satisfaction of the two countries.

His meetings with General Bajwa and other senior officials ahead of the scheduled visit of the Prime Minister to China are timely and relevant as these would help pave the way to make the visit result-oriented.

<https://pakobserver.net/nong-rongs-proactive-role/>

### **Webinar expresses solidarity with China on Xinjiang, Mazari says US playing 'Xinjiang Card' while silent on Kashmir & Palestine**

Pakistan-China Institute organized a first of its kind webinar on the "New Cold War? Playing the Xinjiang card against China" under its flagship event series, "Friends of Silk Road (FOSR)".

The Webinar was attended by over 35 participants online, and featured six speeches, including Dr. Ejaz Akram, Chairman of the Rehmatul Lil Alameen Authority, Dr. Shireen Mazari, Federal Minister for Human Rights, Professor Li Xiguang, Director of the Center for Pakistan Cultural and Communication at Tsinghua University, Allama Tahir Ashrafi, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Religious Affairs, Sabah Aslam, Founder and Executive Director of the Islamabad Institute of Conflict Resolution, and Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed, Chairman of the Senate Defence Committee and the Pakistan-China Institute.

The dialogue was moderated by Mustafa Hyder Sayed, Executive Director of the Pakistan-China Institute. Mr. Mustafa Hyder Sayed highlighted that the US has weaponized human rights and is engaged in the selective application of human rights principles. He emphasized that Pakistan should continue to support China on Xinjiang since China has always supported Pakistan on its core interests.

The panelists discussed how the 'Xinjiang card' is used by the Western world, particularly the United States, to achieve their foreign policy objectives of pressuring China. The speakers

stressed that laws such as the ‘Uyghur forced labor bill’, and other legislation and policies concerning Hong Kong, Taiwan, and Tibet, are part of a larger ‘China containment’ policy.

Dr. Ejaz Akram stated that issue of Xinjiang is a flashpoint, which is used by Western groups to rally certain parts of the Muslim world against China. He mentioned that the CIA has a history of blackmailing countries into submission via color revolutions, similar to what they did in countries like Syria, Libya. He emphasized that Pakistan is in a twilight zone between US and China. He advised the Government to support China in its quest for truth, in its quest of protecting its interests and in protecting the region.

A brief video was played which discussed how the US took a politically motivated decision to remove the East Turkestan Islamic Movement (ETIM), which is recognized as a terror outfit by the United Nations, from its’ list of terror groups. It discussed the double-standards on the part of the US to demonize China, despite being at war in the Muslim world for a couple of decades.

Dr. Shireen Mazari, the Federal Minister for Human Rights, stated that the United States is involved in starting a New Cold War with China, in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, which requires greater international cooperation. She asserted that the United States has created laws, such as the Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act, to sanction China using the ‘Xinjiang card’. She questioned why the United States failed to take action against the genocide of innocent Kashmiris by the Indian occupation forces. She asked why the US failed to speak out against the elimination of Palestinians from their homeland by the Israeli regime. She emphasized that the US is losing power internationally due to its imperialist approach. It also created the military alliance, AUKUS, centered on countering China in the Asia-Pacific region. Efforts to combat China in South Asia include massive military hardware influx and military cooperation.

Professor Li Xinguang discussed that the West fears the unity between the Confucian and Islamic Civilisations. He highlighted that the West’s purpose to play the ‘Xinjiang card’ is to divide and undermine China and create misunderstandings between China and neighboring Muslim countries, as well as those along the Belt and Road. The West wants to turn Xinjiang into another Afghanistan. He stressed that, unlike the United States, who despite failing in the battlefield does not want to see unity among Afghans, China respects the culture and religion of the Afghan people.

Allama Tahir Ashrafi, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Religious Affairs stated that bills or statements made by the United States regarding lack of religious freedom in Pakistan, China, and Saudi Arabia are baseless. He suggested that these statements are politically motivated, rather than fact based. He stressed that the United States should avoid interfering in the internal affairs of other countries and avoid needlessly criticising China on Xinjiang.

Ms. Saba Aslam discussed that in international politics, the Western world, which has a colonial mindset, uses narratives and sanctions to demonize others. She stressed that the US always

imposes unilateral sanctions, which is seen as more effective tool. She predicted that the China and US won't engage in military conflict since they will fight on an economic level.

Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed stated that political and economic power in the world is shifting from the West to the East. He agreed with Professor Jeffery Sachs who believes that the US has not been able to compete with China economically. He cited a study by Professor Graham Allison of Harvard University that China has displaced the US as the world's biggest hitech manufacturer. He linked this with a recent report that China registered a growth of 8 percent in 2021, despite the COVID-19 pandemic.

The speeches were followed by comments from two participants. Ambassador Masood Khalid commented that the West aims to release domino effect in those regions of China, such as Xinjiang, which it perceives as vulnerable. He noted that if Xinjiang is destabilized it will threaten CPEC and the BRI.

<https://pakobserver.net/webinar-expresses-solidarity-with-china-on-xinjiang-mazari-says-us-playing-xinjiang-card-while-silent-on-kashmir-palestine/>

### **The Express Tribune**

#### **China quashes disinformation about CPEC slowdown**

Spokesperson Zhao says many livelihood projects implemented in last three and a half years

BEIJING: Beijing said on Thursday the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) framework was moving forward against a headwind posed by Covid-19 pandemic and promoting economic development and people's livelihood in Pakistan.

Speaking at a regular briefing, Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Zhao Lijian rejected reports that the work on the CPEC, a flagship project of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), had slowed down over the past three and half a year.

"The CPEC has been moving forward against a headwind posed by Covid-19 pandemic. In fact, it is promoting economic development and people's livelihood in Pakistan, and has been recognised by all spectrum of Pakistan," Zhao said.

"So-called claim that little has been achieved and no programme was approved over the past three and half years... [is] pure disinformation," he said. "Over the three and a half years under the framework, many livelihood projects have been approved and implemented, delivering tangible benefits."

Zhao emphasised that he and his colleagues had shared the positive progress achieved in the CPEC framework with the media on many occasions. "CPEC as an important pilot project under the BRI framework follows the principles of joint consultation and contribution for shared benefits," he added.

“Recently, we have seen President of Pakistan Dr Arif Alvi, Prime Minister Imran Khan and some media’s positive comments on the progress made in the CPEC flagship project, the foreign ministry spokesperson told reporters.

Zhao said that under the CPEC, agriculture working group, technical working group and technological and scientific working groups had been established. About the railway projects, he pointed out that it was a project with huge investment, and that the two sides were having consultation on it.

Responding to a question about the Dasu dam project, he set aside the reports that the Chinese contractor had demobilised from the site and raised several demands as preconditions to resume the work. “I’m not aware of the situation ... As far as I know the Dasu hydropower project has resumed.”

Recently, the spokesperson had said in a statement that the CPEC framework was an important platform and project under the BRI. He added that the flagship project had entered an important stage. “Going forward, the two countries will focus on industries, science and people’s welfare,” he said.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2339690/china-quashes-disinformation-about-cpec-slowdown>

### K2 Daily News

عربی میں ملک میں کاربن ٹریڈنگ مارکیٹ بھی لاچنگ کی ہے۔ لیکن بڑے پیمانے پر اس ماحول دوست ٹریڈنگ کو اہم اہمیت نہیں دیا جا رہا ہے جس کے تحت کاربن ٹریڈنگ مارکیٹ سے استفادہ کرتے ہوئے کرپشن اور دیگر غیر اخلاقی کاموں کی مدد سے ملوث ہو کر اس کے فروغ میں کمی کی جا رہی ہے۔

کاربن ٹریڈنگ مارکیٹ سے استفادہ کرنے والے ممالک کو اس کے فروغ میں مدد دینی چاہیے۔ اس کے علاوہ کاربن ٹریڈنگ مارکیٹ سے استفادہ کرنے والے ممالک کو اس کے فروغ میں مدد دینی چاہیے۔ اس کے علاوہ کاربن ٹریڈنگ مارکیٹ سے استفادہ کرنے والے ممالک کو اس کے فروغ میں مدد دینی چاہیے۔

#### بینک سرکاری اوبیکس کی حمایت



شاہد افریقان خان

ایسی حال ہی میں پاکستانی دفتر خارجہ نے تصدیق کی کہ وزیر اعظم پاکستان عمران خان بینک سرکاری اوبیکس 2022 کی افتتاحی تقریب میں شرکت کے لیے چین تشریف لائیں گے۔ وزیر اعظم عمران خان کی حکومت پر 3 فروری سے چین کے لیکن چن روڈ پر دورہ کر رہے ہیں۔

بینک سرکاری اوبیکس 2022 کی افتتاحی تقریب میں شرکت کے لیے چین تشریف لائیں گے۔ وزیر اعظم عمران خان کی حکومت پر 3 فروری سے چین کے لیکن چن روڈ پر دورہ کر رہے ہیں۔

عرب میں ملک میں کاربن ٹریڈنگ مارکیٹ بھی لاچنگ کی ہے۔ لیکن بڑے پیمانے پر اس ماحول دوست ٹریڈنگ کو اہم اہمیت نہیں دیا جا رہا ہے جس کے تحت کاربن ٹریڈنگ مارکیٹ سے استفادہ کرتے ہوئے کرپشن اور دیگر غیر اخلاقی کاموں کی مدد سے ملوث ہو کر اس کے فروغ میں کمی کی جا رہی ہے۔

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[https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP\\_ICT&Page=Editorial](https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=Editorial)

**January 22, 2022**

**Daily Times**

### **Pakistani volunteers fighting Covid-19 in China's Tianjin**

Pakistani volunteers fighting COVID-19 in the Chinese city of Tianjin, China Economic Net reported on Friday.

“I hope to do something (in fight against COVID-19) when China needs as Chinese government and people give me the opportunity to study here,” said Akhtar Islam, a Pakistani student from Nankai University, China.

Akhtar, Yasra Sayyed, a Pakistani, and an Egyptian student made a volunteer team under the guidance of Mr Sun Wei a teacher of Nankai University, to help finish the nucleic acid test at the Jinnan campus.

They work outdoors from 12 am to 10.30 pm every day, including keeping people in line for the nucleic acid test, giving instructions for them to keep distance, and cooperating with the volunteers and health workers. Volunteers have to brave the cold weather as it is the coldest period in northern China.

When given a bottle with hot water to keep warm, Yasra always hesitates to receive. “I dare not to receive that bottle and I am afraid that there are not enough bottles for all volunteers,” she said.

“I didn't feel tired or cold. I felt amazing and I enjoy my volunteer work,” said Yasra.

She told China Economic Net (CEN) that “I went for nucleic acid test at night and saw different people volunteering and serving people even in freezing cold weather. This greatly motivated me to become a volunteer too. And most importantly, I have always been interested and involved in volunteer work in Pakistan too.”

Akhtar said, “Working as a volunteer provides an opportunity to develop new skills and build on existing experience and knowledge. And the main reason is that it is a chance to give something back to the community.

I have been studying in China since 2019 and I saw that how much Chinese government has done to curb the pandemic.”

Yasra said, “Since I came to China, I have only seen the great hospitality of Chinese people. When I came to China, I didn't feel that I am alone, because the people here were very supportive.”

She added that “I grew up in Pakistan. I have heard of the friendship between Pakistan and China since childhood. So, I always have a good image of China in my mind, and then the rapid development of China in every field plays a pivotal role in influencing me to pursue my higher studies in China.”



Yasra thought the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) has a great impact on the lives of individuals because of its potential benefits in the economic prosperity and sustainable development.

CPEC will overcome the challenges faced in economic development, energy and social welfare, ultimately improving the quality of life. Most importantly CPEC will strengthen the friendship between Pakistan and China. Yasra, as a student majoring in microbial and biochemical pharmacy, thought that CPEC can play a key role in mutual cooperation between Chinese and Pakistani pharmaceutical industries and research work.

Akhtar said China and Pakistan need to enhance cooperation on earth sciences as today's world is facing and coping with environmental challenges. Emphasis on research on earth sciences can also support CPEC projects and local people's wellbeing.

It can help both countries by providing solutions for adverse environmental issues, early warning of natural hazards, efficient utilization of natural resources, sustainable development, and tackling climate change.

For the upcoming 2022 Beijing Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games, Akhtar said, "I believe it will have positive effects for the long term. It will spread more love and bring joy among people. I think it is an opportunity to build a better world through sports."

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/872564/pakistani-volunteers-fighting-covid-19-in-chinas-tianjin/>

### **Dawn News**

## **CPEC progressing well despite all odds, says FO**

*Baqir Sajjad Syed*

ISLAMABAD: Dispelling the impression of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) getting bogged down, the Foreign Office said on Friday the economic venture was progressing well despite all odds.

"I would like to share a roundup of major achievements in CPEC, which has continued to move forward as a flagship of the Belt and Road [Initiative] despite the Covid-19 pandemic," said FO spokesman Asim Iftikhar at the weekly media briefing.

His remarks came in the backdrop of reports in the media that CPEC had slowed down reportedly because of Covid-19 pandemic, China's concerns about its workers security in Pakistan, no major new Chinese commitment, pending payments of Chinese power plants to the tune of Rs230 billion, and delays in the financial close of railways ML-1 upgrade project.

Spokesman details ongoing, new mega projects a day after Chinese spokesman dispelled impression of any slowdown

The reports gained spotlight ahead of Prime Minister Imran Khan's visit to Beijing from Feb 3 to 5, where besides attending the inaugural event of the Winter Olympics, he would also meet

Chinese leaders. CPEC is expected to top the agenda of the meetings in Beijing during the premier's visit.

Mr Iftikhar said 27 projects conceived under CPEC were at various stages of implementation and preparation. CPEC's ambit, he said, had been expanded to include agriculture, science and technology and IT cooperation.

"Meanwhile, work on major infrastructure projects has continued apace and a number of new mega projects have been end-orsed by the JCC of CPEC. These include the Azad Pattan and Kohala hydropower projects, which will help address Pak-is-tan's food security while also ensuring access to green and cost-competitive energy for our industrial growth," he added.

Just a day ago, the Chinese foreign ministry dismissed reports of slowdown as disinformation.

At a media briefing in Beijing on Thursday, Chinese foreign ministry spokesman Zhao Lijian said: "It (CPEC) has seen new progress against all odds since Covid-19 broke out, giving a strong boost to economic development and livelihood improvement and winning high praise from all sectors in Pakistan."

He conceded that China was yet to commit a loan for the ML-1 railway line upgrade project, saying it "involves a large amount of investment and relevant departments of the two sides are still in consultation". Mr Lijian, however, rejected the impression that no new project had been approved in the past three and a half years as "pure disinformation".

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1670807>

### **Pakistan Observer**

#### **Karot Power Project declared among top performers by NEPRA**

The National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (NEPRA) has declared 720 MW Karot Power Project among the top performers.

This was announced at the NEPRA CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) Awards Ceremony held in Islamabad.

The ceremony held under NEPRA's 'Power with Prosperity' initiative to highlight and appreciate the achievements of Pakistan's major power producers and their community development initiatives.

The Karot Power Company Limited, a subsidiary of China Three Gorges South Asian Investment Limited, was awarded the NEPRA CSR STALWART Award due to its unwavering commitment to community development.

The award was received by Deputy CEO Mr. Lu Dongsheng of the Karot Power Company (Pvt) Limited. The NEPRA CSR team appreciated the KPCL's contribution and welcomed its participation in the CSR Awards ceremony.

Chairman NEPRA Mr. Farooqi in his opening remarks presented his vision about NEPRA's drive of "Power with Prosperity (PwP)" in addition to its two other drives "Power with Safety" and "Power with Security." He elaborated that NEPRA through its PwP drive is making tremendous headways by encouraging its licensees to help and contribute to the development of the marginalized sections of the society.

<https://pakobserver.net/karot-power-project-declared-among-top-performers-by-nepra/>

### **China remained Pakistan's largest trade partner during July-December**

China remains Pakistan's largest trade partner during July-December, 2021, WealthPK reported on Friday.

China was also the largest source of imports for Pakistan during the same period of the current fiscal year with the import volume of \$11.079 billion.

China was listed as the second-largest export destination for Pakistan during the first six months of the current fiscal with export volume of \$1.637 billion,

The United States remained the top export destination during the first six months of the current fiscal year with a \$3.257 billion volume. The US also remained Pakistan's top export destination during both quarters of the first six months during the current fiscal. Exports' volume to the US recorded \$1.413 billion during the first quarter (July-September) and \$1.844 billion during the second quarter (October-December) of 2021-22.

<https://pakobserver.net/china-remained-pakistans-largest-trade-partner-during-july-december/>

### **China's macro-economy review 2021: A expert opinion**

*Dr Mehmood-ul-Hassan Khan*

MOST recently, while addressing the keynote speech in the Davos World Economic Forum, Chinese President Xi Jinping "reiterated" the importance of "multilateralism" and "globalization" for the world economy.

Chinese President Xi stressed the need to have macro-"policy coordination" in the post-pandemic world for "mitigating" the spillover economic repercussions and achieving the desired goals of economic recovery.

Despite constant Western propaganda about Chinese economic so-called unsatisfactory performance during 2021 the most recently published data of the National Bureau of Statistics of China (NBS) its national economy expanded 8.1% during 2021 which was well above the government target of above 6% set at the start of 2021.

Moreover, China's economy has reached \$17.7 trillion which ranks second in the world, with the per capita GDP exceeding \$12,000, which surpasses the world's average.

It is a great achievement because of the "uneven" and "unequal" playing field for China because of constant US trade & economic sanctions, protective nationalism, weak regional as well as

global economic conditions and last but not the least compounding impact of COVID-19 pandemic during 2020-2021. In addition to this, the US continued an unreasonable policy of suppression and decoupling from China in economy and trade and also somehow exerted pressure on the pace and productivity of the Chinese national economy. Moreover, China had to encounter many unexpected challenges in terms of severe flooding, commodity price hikes and thermal coal crunch. In this regard, keeping in view numerous socio-economic, geopolitical and geostrategic hardships President Xi succeeded to sail the economy from hot waters to banks of greater stability and sustainability and ultimately achieved 8.1% GDP during 2021 which is remarkable because China's national economy has bucked the trend and achieved the twin goals of higher growth and lower inflation.

In this connection, if we analyze the national economy of China we conclude that over the past year, China's nominal GDP has increased from 101 trillion Yuan (\$15.9 trillion) to 114 trillion Yuan. The increase is equivalent to \$2 trillion at the average annual exchange rate, which is equivalent to the annual economic aggregate of a relatively large major economy in the world.

If we comparatively evaluate achievements of the Chinese economy with other global economies during 2021, we can see that Germany's economy increased by 2.7%, the US economy achieved 5.6%, the UK and Japan were lowered to 6.9% and 2.4%, respectively.

Thus China's economic growth ranks among the top among the world's major economies which vividly reflects strength, stability and sustainability of Chinese macro-economy. Furthermore, in the fourth quarter, the epidemic emerged in many regions, resulting in sluggish consumption and impact on the service industry, but the manufacturing industry performed well. The value-added of high-tech manufacturing and equipment manufacturing went up by 18.2% and 12.9%, respectively.

The report says that China's total foreign trade in goods surpassed \$6 trillion in 2021, with its scale reaching a new high and the quality steadily improving. In 2021, China's actual use of foreign capital was 1.15 trillion Yuan, a year-on-year increase of 14.9%, and the scale of attracting foreign capital hit a record high. It reflected China's pursuit of progress while maintaining stability to promote high-quality development, and also a powerful manifestation of China's unswerving efforts to advance reform and opening-up.

According to another published report (January 2022) in 2021, China had 24 cities with GDP exceeding 1 trillion Yuan (\$157.12 billion), with Dongguan in South China's Guangdong Province joining the list, and Beijing becoming the first city whose GDP exceeded 4 trillion Yuan.

Dongguan has announced that the city's GDP exceeded 1 trillion Yuan in 2021, making the city the 24th in China to reach that level. The city has a population of over ten million.

According to the said report, the total volume of the city's imports and exports last year increased year-on-year by 15% to 1.5 trillion Yuan, despite China-US trade friction and the sporadic flare-ups of COVID-19.

Interestingly, some fifty years ago, Dongguan was still an agricultural county with few inhabitants. Since the implementation of constant economic reforms and liberalization, the city's economy has now grown rapidly as it gradually became a global manufacturing base.

In 1978, Dongguan's GDP reached 611.22 million Yuan. The city's GDP totaled 7.377 billion Yuan in 1991, 12 times higher compared with the 1978 level. It is a microcosm of China's rapid economic development since the reform and opening-up.

More cities in China have experienced rapid development in industrial output in recent decades, as China has changed from an agricultural country to a manufacturing power. In 2006, Shanghai was the first city whose GDP exceeded 1 trillion Yuan, and two years later Beijing reached the same level. The fact that 24 cities have now reached the 1 trillion mark shows the sustained momentum of the country's economic development.

In 2021, Beijing became the first city in China with GDP totalling 4 trillion Yuan, a year-on-year increase of 8.5%. The new generation of information technology and the explosive development of the pharmaceutical manufacturing industry remained instrumental in Beijing's economy.

Shanghai is also expected to join Beijing at the level of 4 trillion Yuan soon. It is the GDP level of more than 20 countries and regions in the world, such as Thailand, Belgium and Austria. China's economy continued its gradual recovery after the epidemic, maintaining stable economic operations despite sporadic further outbreaks.

To conclude, the policy makers of China should immediately chalk out a holistic policy to streamline three aspects of demand contraction, supply shocks and weakening expectations to further strengthen present economic targets and consolidate future goals.

Moreover, policy makers should also give more incentives to medium-sized enterprises which are currently facing difficulties in production and operation, and market expectations and enterprises' confidence fluctuate to some extent. In addition to this, the dawn of the RCEP and successful execution of BRI and CPEC have already accelerated the pace of Chinese macro-economy.

The need of the hour is that more concentrated efforts should be initiated for achieving goals of green, smart and inclusive economic development. There is an urgent need to further strengthen capacity building apparatus in health, service, and artificial intelligence technologies in the days to come.

Seemingly, two different forces are now colliding and competing in the spheres of conspiracies, contradictions and conflicts in which western propagated theory of China collapse theory has been constantly on the decline.

The core strength of the Chinese economy is self-reliance, innovation, resolution, indigenoussness, national resilience, enormous potential and long-term sustainability which should be more confidently utilized in the future of China's economic development.

— The writer is Director, geopolitics & economics and regional expert of Indonesia & ASEAN.

<https://pakobserver.net/chinas-macro-economy-review-2021-a-expert-opinion-by-dr-mehmood-ul-hassan-khan/>

## The Nation

### **PRCS to distribute 27,000 China packs among schoolchildren**

ISLAMABAD - Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS) in collaboration with China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation (CFPA) has initiated the 'Panda Pack' distribution project, and under this initiative 27,000 school bags will be distributed among students of government-run schools in the different districts across Pakistan.

A ceremony will be held in Islamabad in coming days to start distribution of 27,000 Panda Packs in government-run schools of federal capital Islamabad, Tharparker, Charsada, Dir, Narowal, Bahawalpur, Zhob, Gwadar and Gilgit Baltistan.

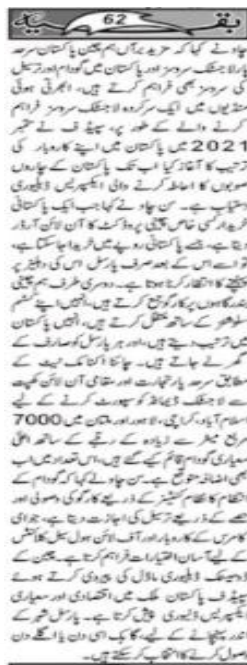
In his statement, PRCS Chairman Abrar ul Haq said the economic cooperation between Pakistan and China is fast turning into people-to-people collaboration, adding that the distribution of thousands of Panda Packs by PRCS in collaboration with CFPA is a proof of the growing multi-faceted relations between the two countries.

Abrar ul Haq said around 62 per cent population of Pakistan lives in rural areas, where educational facilities are not up to the mark. He said distribution of school bags among rural students in different districts, is a highly welcomed initiative. Apart from stationary, lunch box, geometry box, practical books for exercises are being provided in Panda Pack for the benefit of children in rural areas and full implementation of Covid19 SoPs will be ensured during the distribution process.

"Panda Packs are not just school bags but a 'package of love' by China for the people of Pakistan," he added.

<https://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2022-01-22/page-4/detail-0>

## K2 Daily News



[https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP\\_ICT&Page=Back\\_Page&Date=2022-01-22](https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=Back_Page&Date=2022-01-22)

[https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP\\_ICT&Page=Classified&Date=2022-01-22](https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=Classified&Date=2022-01-22)

## **January 23, 2022**

### **Daily Times**

#### **Pakistan's exports to China up 69pc in 2021**

Pakistan's export to China was increased by 68.9pc in 2021 and crossed the historical figure of \$3.58 billion while the total import and export between the two countries stood at \$27.82 billion, according to the official data from the General Administration of Customs (GACC) of China.

Pakistan's export to China crossed \$365.35 million in December 2021, up 17 percent, while in the same period of the previous year, it was \$312.33 million, which is the second-highest figure of the year, China Economic Net (CEN) reported.

Pakistan's exports made the highest gain in November 2021 when its export volume to China was \$379.17 million. Last year, the highest value was in December 2020 when its export volume was \$312.33 million.

Overall, from January to December 2021, China's imports from Pakistan totaled \$3.58 billion irrespective of Covid-19, while in the same period of last year it was \$2.12 billion. This year China's export to Pakistan was increased by 57.8pcto \$24.23 billion, while last year it was \$15.36 billion and in 2019 it was \$16.17 billion.

Shan Saeed, Chief Economist at Juwai IQI, said that trade between the two countries had made significant progress as both export and import volumes were on the rise. This is a testament to China's commitment to BRI projects with CPEC under the limelight.

The trade and commerce volumes signify that China wants to provide unconditional support and import more from Pakistan in order to uplift the economy of Pakistan. Shan described that China would continue to support Pakistan for a very long time to come and Pakistan valued Chinese unconditional support.

It is worth mentioning that among the major products traded between the two countries, electronics, textiles, seafood, and agricultural products have been increased year on year, which has promoted Pakistan's economic recovery.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/873276/pakistans-exports-to-china-up-69pc-in-2021/>

### **Pakistan Observer**

#### **PM Khan led Pakistan to expand GDP, increase growth rate: Chinese scholar**

Pakistan, under the leadership of Prime Minister Imran Khan has expanded the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) to US\$346 billion and achieved the growth rate of 5.37% in the fiscal year 2020-2021.

Pakistan's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) size expanded to \$346.76 billion and the growth rate reached 5.37% in the fiscal year 2020-2021. This is a great achievement made by all the Pakistani people under the leadership of the Imran Khan government, Cheng Xizhong, visiting prof at Southwest University of Political Science and Law said on Saturday.

He remarked that under the extremely serious pandemic and natural disasters, Pakistan has made such great achievements mainly because the Prime Minister Imran Khan government has implemented a series of wise policies, such as effective micro-lockdowns for pandemic prevention, economic reform and opening-up, substantial increase in commodity exports, continuous improvement of the business environment, encouragement of domestic and foreign investment, improving business activities, and other stimulus measures.

He said that China's GDP in 2021 was increased by 8.1% over the previous year. The rapid recovery and development of Pakistan's economy is also closely related to the country's reference to China's development experience, the spillover effect of China's rapid development on Pakistan, and particularly, the smooth progress of the construction of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

Prof Cheng believed that from the current situation, Pakistan's economy is on the track of rapid recovery and development, which is conducive to substantial jobs creation, raising per capita income and improving people's living standards.

Strategically, Pakistan is transforming itself from geo-politics to geo-economics and increasing integration with the United States, China, the European Union and other economies is making Pakistan an emerging economy, which is more and more recognized globally.

China sincerely wishes that Pakistan would make greater achievements in social and economic development in the New Year, he added.—APP

<https://pakobserver.net/pm-khan-led-pakistan-to-expand-gdp-increase-growth-rate-chinese-scholar/>

### **50MW Wind Power Plant connected to National Grid**

As a critical step towards clean and green Pakistan, the Artistic Wind Power Plant has achieved a milestone by connecting 50MW electricity to the National Grid, reports Gwadar Pro.

GE Renewable Energy and Artistic Energy Pvt. Ltd (owned by Artistic Milliners) commissioned the 50 MW Wind Farm at Jhimpir in Thatta district of Sindh in May 2018. The Jhimpir wind farm aims to help Pakistan expand its renewable energy production in line with its Vision 2025 goals.

“Our 50 MW Artistic Wind Power Plant is now connected to National Grid successfully and will soon be fully operational,” Artistic Energy said in a statement, adding, “it will bring the renewable energy that we provide to the national grid to 100 MW”. The successful project has stopped the 19,650 kg of carbon dioxide equivalent of GHGs from being released into the



environment. “It is a critical step forward, providing clean energy and stable returns to the economy for decades to come,” according to the statement.

<https://pakobserver.net/50mw-wind-power-plant-connected-to-national-grid/>

**January 24, 2022**

**Business Recorder**

### **CCoCPEC to fine-tune PM’s China agenda**

*TAHIR AMIN*

ISLAMABAD: The Cabinet Committee on China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CCoCPEC) scheduled for Monday will fine-tune the CPEC-centric agenda before the Prime Minister Imran Khan’s expected visit to China, it is learnt.

Official sources revealed to Business Recorder that Minister for Planning, Development and Special initiatives Asad Umar will chair the meeting, which would discuss five item agenda.

The meeting is being considered important before the Prime Minister’s visit, who is expected to visit China from 3-5 February 2022, where meetings with the Chinese leadership are envisaged. The Board of Investment (BOI) would brief the CCoCPEC on the assessment of investment potential of Gwadar Free Zone. The BOI would also inform the committee about the CPEC Business and Industrial Cooperation Tower.

The BoI had moved a summary to the CCoCPEC, seeking approval for the establishment of the CPEC Business and Industrial Tower in Islamabad.

The Capital Development Authority (CDA) had already been requested by the BOI for identification of a suitable piece of land in Islamabad on 8th May 2020; however, no suitable land could be identified for the project so far. Whereas, a few of the state-owned Chinese companies have already approached the BOI to explore this project and have expressed their interest to execute it with the BOI in public-private partnership mode.

In the 1st Joint Working Group (JWG) meeting on Industrial Cooperation (IC) under China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, held in November 2016, the Pakistani side proposed the construction of eight multi-storied CPEC towers in the ICT, all provincial/ regional capitals, as well as, in Gwadar to provide potential Chinese investors and their Pakistani counterparts with adequate services and space, with a special focus on services sector.

Later, the Pakistani side again shared this idea with the Chinese side in the second meeting of the JWG on Industrial Cooperation held in November 2017, that both sides may work on iconic projects under the Industrial Cooperation; however, no further development could take place in this regard.

It was proposed that the cost of land, to the tune of Rs500 million for this project, may be borne by the BOI from its own resources without seeking any additional budget grant; whereas, the cost of construction of the CPEC Business and Industrial Cooperation Tower may be borne by the Chinese counterpart or by a partner selected after international competitive bidding; and the project to be executed in public private partnership mode.

Proportionate equity against the land may be taken by the BOI in the project, after valuation of the land on market principles, the summary noted.

The Defence Ministry would brief the CCoCPEC on the implementation plan for vacation of PCG and PN land at Shaba Ismail Gwadar.

The Ministry of Maritime Affairs would apprise the meeting about the recommendations of the committee on development of Gwadar under various modalities.

The Petroleum Division would brief the committee on the progress updates provision of utilities for the CPEC Special Economic Zones (SEZs).

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2022/01/24/1-page/916208-news.html>

### **Pakistan Observer**

#### **Pakistan to attract \$2.5b foreign investment in FY22: Anjum Nisar**

Chairman Businessmen Panel (BMP) of the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI) Mian Anjum Nisar on Sunday said that increase in Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in the first half the current fiscal year reflects the improvement in security situation, implying that investors had started coming back to Pakistan as the country has attracted FDI of over \$1 billion, up by 20 percent owing to government's efforts to create a conducive environment for investors.

In a statement issued here, he said that the country's liberal policies offered one of the most attractive investment regimes in the region, anticipating that Pakistan might attract \$2.5 billion in foreign inflows in fiscal year 2021-22. Although the FDI data was encouraging, it might be difficult to keep the pace of FDI inflows at present levels for the next half year if Covid-19 challenges continued to mount, he said. FPCCI former president appreciated the government's resolve to meet the challenges faced by Pakistan in European markets vigorously, suggesting that it should devise strategies to promote Pakistani products and called upon the trade officers to take advantage of opportunities offered by the China Pakistan Economic Corridor.

Mian Anjum Nisar said that lifting of Covid-19 restrictions across the world during the first half of the current fiscal year.

<https://pakobserver.net/pakistan-to-attract-2-5b-foreign-investment-in-fy22-anjum-nisar/>

### **KP-EZDMC signs 11 MoUs with Dubai based investors: Khattak**

The Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa has returned from Dubai Expo 2020 with remarkable achievement of signing 44 memorandums of understandings (MoU) with international investors in different sectors.

Out of the total 44 MoUs, 11 have been signed by only Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Economic Zones Development and Management Company (KP-EZDMC).

The international investment conference was held at Dusit Thani, Dubai, United Arab Emirates (UAE).

According to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) KP-EZDMC, Javed Iqbal Khattak, the MoUs were signed with international investors for investment in economic zones and special economic zones of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, especially in Rashakai Special Economic Zone, Daraban Special Economic Zone and Mansehra Economic Zone for livestock feed, marble & granite, surgical equipment, foam manufacturing, PVC unit and bottling plant.

Under these MoUs, foreign investors have pledged investment to the tune of US\$ 8 billion.

Moreover a tripartite MoU has also been signed among PEDO, Infra Co Asia and KPEZDMC for solarization of all Economic Zones.

The CEO KP-EZDMC while elaborating the details of companies and statistics of investment, said that Berkley Group of Companies, a real estate development company is willing to extend operations in Pakistan, interested in acquiring 10 acre land in Rashakai Special Economic Zone with an investment of 1.7 million USD while Habib Hisam Pvt Limited, a company doing business in livestock sector is keen to acquire land in Mansehra to establish large scale poultry business in Pakistan with an investment of 16 million USD.

Similarly, Al Ibrahimi Group, Dealing in 7 sectors, i.e. hotels, restaurant, trading, general supplies, willing to establish industry in Pakistan by acquiring land in Rashakai Special Economic Zone with an investment of 1.7 million USD while Mai Al Dhafra wants to set up a bottle manufacturing plant at suitable place in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa with an investment of 10 million USD.

<https://pakobserver.net/kp-ezdmc-signs-11-mous-with-dubai-based-investors-khattak/>

### **Hakla-DI Khan Motorway a milestone achievement on Western route of CPEC**

The completion of Hakla-DI Khan Motorway has proved a milestone achievement on the Western Route of the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) for providing fast connectivity to the locals as well as paving the way for preparing the shortest route for logistics moving to and from the Chinese province of Xinjiang to Gwadar Port.

Soon after taking the charge, the incumbent government had pledged to complete the Western Route on priority besides taking the CPEC projects forward by speeding up the pace of work in other areas including industries, clean energy, and agriculture.

The government is also keen to complete other road projects on the western alignment, especially D I Khan-Zhob and Zhob-Quetta roads to minimize the travel time from the federal capital to Quetta.

The National High Authority has recently opened the Western Corridor portion of Hakla-D I Khan Motorway. The 292.5 km long four lane motorway comprises of 11 interchanges, 36 bridges, 119 underpasses, 33 flyovers and 398 culverts.

Muhammad Saleem, a D I Khan resident, currently living in Islamabad said, “The motorway had proved to be a source of big relief for me as I had to spent long and hard time of eight hours to reach my home on the old road that was in dilapidated condition.” However, he said now after the inauguration of Hakla-D I Khan Motorway, the travel time has been reduced to less than four hours.

According to sources in CPEC Authority, the initial cost estimation of the project that was commenced in 2016 by the PML-N government was around Rs110 billion but later on the project (a major portion was completed during current government) was completed at a cost of Rs81 billion. The Hakla-D I Khan Motorway was constructed in five packages. The first package is from Yarak (D I Khan) to Rehmani Khel comprising 54.6 km. The 71.2 km second package starts from Rehmani Khel to Kot Belian while the third starts from Kot Belian to Tarap and its length is 52.5 km.

The fourth package is of 51.2 km from Tarap to Pindi Gheb while the 63 km last package is from Pindi Gheb to Hakla. The project starts from Hakla on M-1 and passes through Qutbal, Fatehjang, Pindigheb, Tarap, Sikandarabad, Daud Khel, Mianwali, crossing River Indus, Isa Kheil, Kundal, Abdulkhel, Paniyala and ends at N-55 (Indus Highway) near Yarak.

<https://pakobserver.net/hakla-di-khan-motorway-a-milestone-achievement-on-western-route-of-cpec/>

### **The Express Tribune**

#### **China’s problems provide opportunities for Pakistan**

The return of Covid-19 pandemic can also be attributed to nature over which the country has little control

Pakistan is now placed firmly in China’s orbit. This has happened after Washington very deliberately turned its back towards Islamabad. After the inexplicable decision taken by the Biden administration in Washington to isolate Pakistan, it was inevitable that Islamabad would draw closer to Beijing. As discussed in an earlier article in this space, the sudden American pullout from Afghanistan in late August 2021 resulted in geopolitical developments that brought

China — and to some extent also Russia — closer to Afghanistan and Central Asia. As some observers noted in the commentary that followed the American withdrawal, three countries — Russia, China and Pakistan — landed on the positive side of the changed Afghanistan situation while India, the United States and most of the countries in NATO found themselves on the negative side. Given these changes, it is important for Pakistan's policymakers to carefully watch some of the domestic developments in China.

China has entered the year 2022 faced with a number of problems. As I will discuss in some detail later in this article, some have been caused by nature such as the extreme weather that caused floods in several cities. The return of Covid-19 pandemic can also be attributed to nature over which the country has little control. The significant demographic change the country now confronts is the result of both public policy as well as changes in human behaviour caused by economic growth and social development. In the Covid-19 pandemic environment it will pose a challenge to hold the Winter Olympics that will begin on February 4, 2022.

But as President Xi Jinping emphasised in his statement to the Davos virtual meeting, Beijing had demonstrated the ability to handle difficulties public policymakers face as they move through complex times. He was clearly drawing a distinction between the Chinese and American policymaking experience of handling state affairs. As Xi addressed the international audience, the United States was finding it difficult to implement President Biden's ambitious economic and social agenda, unable to move on a number of fronts. The Chinese leader made the claim that his country's political system was much better delivering for its citizens than the United States and Western systems. The difficulties Beijing now faces will prove to be a good test for this claim. In the article today, I will discuss the problem created by a sharp slowdown in economic growth in the country; the sharp decline in the rate of population growth; the way the United States is handling its relations with China; and, finally, the problem posed by the need to properly manage the large number of people who plan to attend the Winter Olympics.

China's economy slowed significantly in the final months of 2021. Public policy choices were the main reason for the slowdown. Beijing moved in to limit speculation in real-estate, a sector in which one large company the Evergrande Group had become overleveraged. Other large real estate developers such as Kaisa Group and China Aoyuan Property Group also suffered the consequences of lockdowns and travel restrictions imposed to control the spread of coronavirus pandemic. These affected consumer demand. China's National Bureau of Statistics (CNB) published data on January 17 according to which output in the final quarter of calendar 2021 was only 4 per cent higher than during the same period of 2020. That was a deceleration from the 4.9 per cent growth in the third quarter, July to September. The situation could have been worse but for the record setting exports of items such as a variety of consumer durables. Consumers unable to spend on restaurant meals or attend sports events and concerts spent money on consumable durables. All this added to historically low rates of economic growth. "I'm afraid that the operation and development of China's economy in the next several years may be relatively difficult," said Li Daokui, a prominent economist and Chinese government adviser in a speech

given in late December 2021. “Looking at the five years as whole, it may be the most difficult period since our reform and opening up 40 years ago. Millions of small businesses saw a loss in demand and crumbled. This is big policy concern since private companies are the backbone of the Chinese economy, accounting for 60 per cent of the country’s total output and 80 per cent of urban employment. A major problem for small businesses is the high cost of borrowing often at double-digit interest rates.

Unanticipated demographic change is adding to the country’s economic difficulties, adding a social dimension. According to the CNB, China’s birth rate fell sharply in 2021 and was now barely higher than the death rate. China’s one-child birth policy has caught up with the demographic situation and hastened the arrival of the date when the size of the population would begin to decline. Soon, very soon, the number of births will be more than the number of deaths.

Beijing barred foreign spectators from watching the Winter Olympics by going to three sites — or domes — where the competition would be held. The decision came two days after the Chinese health authorities announced Beijing’s first case of the Omicron variant and ordered an immediate lockdown and mass testing in one part of the large city close to the Olympics site. The outbreak affected the extraordinary efforts that were made to isolate Beijing, including a ban on people entering the city.

These economic and social disruptions are coming as the country prepares itself for making a major political transformation. The twentieth Communist Party Conference in the fall of this year when a new generation of leaders will take over from those who were elected five years ago and have passed the age of 68, generally regarded as the age of retirement in the public as well as the private sector. The only change that will not be made is at the very top when President Xi Jinping would be given another term for five years in office. However, new members will be inducted into the State Council and the Politburo. As has become the tradition President Xi will combine the offices of the General Secretary of the Party, the head of the government and the head of the Military Commission.

As was done in mid-January 2022 in the case of developing a ‘National Strategy’, Pakistan should write a strategy paper spelling out how it will develop its relationship with China. CPEC is an infrastructure development programme of investment which is proceeding well. In addition, two other areas need to be looked at: developing Pakistan’s human resource so that it could help Beijing overcome China’s deteriorating demographic situation. China would need young people to compensate for the aging of its population. Pakistan has one of the world’s youngest populations. What China lacks, Pakistan can provide. Second, Pakistan should develop its small and medium enterprises so that they could become components of supply chains that support the vast Chinese industrial sector. The global industrial system of production has been transformed but Pakistan has not taken advantage of this development.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2340085/chinas-problems-provide-opportunities-for-pakistan>

## The Nation

### **Gwadar's multiple mega projects under CPEC to be completed in 2022**

ISLAMABAD - The multiple mega projects of Gwadar under the game changer China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) are expected to be completed during the current year that would benefit the local masses of the port city.

The mega projects to be completed in 2022 included Pakistan-China friendship hospital, Gwadar Eastbay Expressway, provision of water to Gwadar city, linking Gwadar to the national electricity grid, establishment of University of Gwadar, Gwadar Safe City project and certain other projects in the socio-economic domain. The construction work on 300 beds modern hospital in Gwadar was expected to be accomplished by December this year that would ensure best healthcare facilities for the local people, said an official.

The second project of Gwadar Eastbay Expressway would connect Gwadar Port to Makran coastal highway which was a six-lane expressway and would also be completed in the current year. Under the CPEC, Balochistan government has also initiated multiple projects for provision of clean water and its fair distribution in the coastal town of Gwadar. Moreover, multiple projects including, implementing water supply, distribution system, desalination plant, sewerage collection system and treatment plant were also underway at full pace as planned in the Master Plan of Gwadar. The other important project was provision of water to Gwadar city from nearby dams to meet the water needs of the area.

The laying of pipelines from Swad Dam to Gwadar were also near completion. The Gwadar, Pasni and surrounding areas would be provided clean drinking water through Shadi Kaur, Akra Kaur dams. The installation of water pipeline from Ankara Dam to Jiwani would ensure uninterrupted supply of water to the residents of the area under the mega schemes of CPEC. The development work on the Ankara Kaur Dam was also near completion which would provide 2.7m gallons of water per day. Moreover, the desalination plants under CPEC were also near completion in Gwadar that would fulfill the remaining water needs of the port city.

<https://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2022-01-24/page-9/detail-6>

### **CPEC's Karot HPP enters commissioning phase; connected to national grid**

ISLAMABAD - Over 95 percent civil and electromechanical works of 720 megawatts Karot hydropower plant have been done and the project has entered into commissioning phase, two senior officials of Private Power and Infrastructure Board (PPIB) told Gwadar Pro.

Karot HPP is among the early harvest high priority projects under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) initiative.

The run of river project has iconic importance being a source of sustainable, low cost, clean and green energy. China Three Gorges Corp. (CTG) is developing the \$2 billion project as an independent power producer (IPP).

In the coming months, each of the four 180MWs units of the power plant will undergo 25-30 different reliability run tests under supervision of independent engineers and the Central Power Purchasing Agency Guarantee (CPPA-G), the sole public sector purchaser of the electricity produced by the project.

Presently, the reservoir impounding is in final stages, and each unit is being tested separately due to low water flow. In the months of June and July, when there will be full flow of water, all units of the plant will be put to test simultaneously, the officials said.

The project will commence commercial operations in August, and CPPA-G has extended the commercial operation date (COD) of the project accordingly, they added.

In a related development, the National Transmission and Despatch Co (NTDC) said last Friday that it has successfully connected the power plant with the national grid.

The project will play key role in overcoming load management issues in Gujranwala, Sialkot and surrounding districts, NTDC said.

Upon completion, the project will contribute around 3.2 billion units of cheaper electricity to the national grid, the PPIB officials said. Also, the costly asset will be transferred to the Punjab government after 30 years of commercial operations, they said.

The officials said that hydropower projects under CPEC are vital for improving the economic and financial position of the country. We have spent nothing on these projects, but will get billions of dollars in return over decades, they elaborated.

<https://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2022-01-24/page-10/detail-1>

## **The News**

### **China new manufacturing superpower**

*Shakeel Ahmad Ramay*

China concluded the year 2021 with strong economic growth and good future forecast. Gross Domestic Product (GDP) exhibited strong growth and economy grew by 8.1 percent.

It is remarkable on different accounts and in the context of challenges China was/is facing are: First of all, China had to fight the impacts of COVID-19, which sharply brought down GDP growth to 2.2 percent in 2020. Second, China had to face off and on spells of COVID-19 variants. China had to put restrictions on mobility and closed down cities to ensure COVID-19 free environment. China was extra conscious to control COVID-19 due to upcoming Winter Olympics in Beijing. China did not want to take any chance or risk at any cost. Third, China is fighting intense trade war with US, which is also supported by some allies of US. Trade war has stressed the relations and industrial sectors of both countries. US is also running a smear campaign against Chinese companies to undermine Chinese efforts to invest at global level. Fourth, China was facing triple pressure including shrinking demand, supply shock and weak expectations.



Despite all these bottlenecks and stumbling blocks, China refused to bow down. China scored unprecedented success of its economic history. First, it registered extraordinary growth in export and trade surplus. The export registered an overall growth rate of 29.9 percent, which is incredible in the present context. Exceptional performance of export led to highest ever trade surplus since 1950. China secured \$ 676.4 billion as trade surplus in 2021. Surplus highlights that China's manufacturing and industrial base is strong enough and has the ability to absorb the sudden shocks like COVID-19.

Further, manufacturing and industrial base has sound fundamentals, which can help China offset the negative impacts of trade wars or uncalled restrictions on the country.

The performance of manufacturing and industrial sectors helped offset the negative impacts of slump in the domestic demand and poor performance of real estate sector. Domestic demand could not perform according to perceived objectives or goals due to different reasons.

First, COVID-19 variants kept on coming back. China had to impose off and on restrictions on mobility, services sector etc. The restrictions immensely contributed in lowering the demand. The situation further complicated due to negative impact of COVID-19 on the income of people. Owing to lower income and pandemic people compromised on certain services like entertainment, hoteling etc, which negatively impacted income of people attached to these sectors. It further lowered the demand.

The situation started to improve in 2021. A decent upward movement was observed in the income of some sectors like catering, manufacturing along others. However, uncertainty due to COVID-19 and its variants has restricted the people to spend more. Better performance of business sector is a good omen for the consumption, as it will strengthen the expectations and lower the uncertainty. Although, there are signs of improvement in the form of improved income, but it will take some time to recover fully to pre-pandemic levels. It is expected that after the Winter Olympics the situation will start to recover with full swing. As anticipated that after the Olympics China may adopt less stringent measures. People are also trying to adjust to the new normal and revive their income sources.

The second biggest achievement of China in 2021 was in the form of tremendous performance of shipping industry. The data shows that shipping companies of China transported goods worth \$3.36 trillion. It is a record for China. It turned the China number one in the world in the shipping business. It is expected that this trend will continue and get further improved in coming years. The reason of assumption is that China is investing heavily on its transportation network under the plan of Three-Dimensional Transport Network. The implementation of plan will revolutionise the supply chain and related business. Under the plan, China is aiming to achieve goal of 123 circle. It means China will make sure that goods are being transported within one day in the domestic market. The targeted time to deliver goods in neighbouring countries has been fixed at two days. China will also strive to deliver goods at the selected destinations in the world within three days. With the completion of this plan, China will further consolidate its position in global supply chain and no doubt shipping companies will also be one of the beneficiaries. The

performance of China in these areas indicates new dynamics and realities in global economic, supply chain and manufacturing sector.

First, China is fast moving towards achieving the status of manufacturing superpower. Some experts believe China has already achieved the status of superpower, but China denies it. China is considering that still it has to cover some distance to achieve the status. But it is good sign that manufacturing sector is exhibiting tremendous progress. It is an encouraging sign for the top leadership as; they have already made it one of the goals under the medium-term Vision of 2035.

Second, performance of shipping companies has strengthened the belief among the Chinese leadership and the people. It has been taken as a sign of trust on Chinese companies, especially in the context of COVID-19. It shows that world business community believes Chinese companies are safe and trustworthy. They can deliver efficient and reliable services even in the most difficult times.

Third, the world cannot decouple from China. Irrespective of trade war with US, China's export continued to grow (\$755.6 billion) and recorded a growth rate of 28.7 percent. Indian case is even more interesting. We know China and India are engaged at the border. India is also one of the leaders running smear campaigns against China and dreaming to be powerhouse of Asia. Despite these facts, India could not afford to decouple from China. Trade with China reached at highest level of Indian history with the figure of \$125.6 billion (Indian import is \$97.5 billion and export \$28.1 billion). Owing to these factors, China believes that it can face any type of challenges in economic field with confidence and from the point of strength.

Fourth, Chinese companies have become strong enough to absorb sudden shock and uncalled trade wars or smear campaigns. It is hoped that it will contribute in enhancing trust of world business community on China. Moreover, countries will start to look at China as a trustworthy and capable partner for economic growth and development. Thus, China will be able to foster its cooperation under the initiatives like Belt and Road Initiative, Shanghai Import Expo etc.

In conclusion, it can be inferred that the success in economic fields will give confidence to China that it is moving on the right path to achieve the goals of China Dream, National Rejuvenation and fully developed country in all aspects. This confidence will push China to work harder to move on the ladder of growth and development to achieve the perceived goals. However, China will have to be mindful and aware of challenges and its weaknesses to achieve the goals. Awareness will help correct course of actions without compromising on the goals.

<https://e.thenews.com.pk/detail?id=49315>

**January 25, 2022**

**Daily Times**

### **China provides opportunities for women's economic participation**

China is providing numerous opportunities and opening new venues for women's economic participation within Pakistan, says a report published by Gwadar Pro on Monday.

The report says, "We must take the necessary steps to tap this potential for our women. We should learn from China where almost 70% of women are participating in the Chinese economy.

China drafted and implemented egalitarian policies for men and women. Chinese women are given rights to equal pay and equal work. China has successfully liberated their women from conservative and patriarchal values.

The service and care-taking industries have played a major role in women's increased participation in the labour force. The values and roles of the "social person" were redefined and reconfigured and women rapidly ascended in the various economic fields.

Our governments must show commitment to liberating women from tribal and feudal oppressive shackles. Political decisions like that of the Chinese Communist Party must be taken and gender revaluations must be advocated at the national level so that women make up their minds and start their journey to the market.

Political decisions and policies provide guidelines but there remains the problem of opportunities to actualize these political decisions. At this point, again, China's Belt and Road Initiative particularly the projects under the umbrella of CPEC help us. CPEC is providing employment and livelihood opportunities in the underdeveloped and backward areas of Pakistan.

Sindhi and Balochi women and girls have now the opportunity of schooling and working in various enterprises. When the women from poor families work in a safe environment and contribute to the family income, the males of the family are liberalized and began to tolerate that their women are going outside homes and working with other males.

There is a fact that economic development leads to social transformation and people become broad-minded.

As the world economic trends are changing and the economy has become technology-intensive, the role of female education becomes critical in women's economic development. The major obstacle in women's economic development is the cultural norms and so-called honour claims, the report added.

It was further stated that this situation must be changed if we want to develop our economy on the modern lines. Our policymakers and reformers are in confusion in finding the starting point. China is much appreciated by our public and people want to imitate Chinese examples and models of economic development.

The anti-China sentiments and perceptions are non-existent in Pakistan. This is a great opportunity both for China and Pakistan. We can capitalize this favourable pro-China thinking and put our valuable women on the right track of economic development. Chinese example shows that China strictly implemented the laws about compulsory education that benefited girls and women.

Female education in China has changed the preferences and priorities of women. Education has made them able to decide their fates in work and family. By participating in the job market they have become independent and self-reliant.

These autonomous educated women are now able to promote and empower their next generation. Just like China, we should restructure our economy. The most favourable economic fields for women in Pakistan are agriculture, service industry and crafts.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/874251/china-provides-opportunities-for-womens-economic-participation/>

### **PM directs for resolution of issues of SEZs on priority**

Prime Minister Imran Khan Monday instructed that issues of special economic zones should be resolved on priority basis and measures for facilitating the investors should be implemented in the given timeframe.

He was chairing a high level meeting here on Special Economic Zones.

The Prime Minister was informed in detail about the steps taken by the government for facilitating the investors in the Special Economic Zones.

The meeting was told that Rashkai, Bolan and Allama Iqbal Industrial zones were fully functional and industries were being built there. Work was also continuing on Dhabeji Special Economic Zone and it would also be made functional.

The participants were told about the land available for industries in special economic zones and approval and allotment of 1500 acres of land in 2021 to 130 companies for construction of industries.

It was told that supply of electricity and gas was ensured in the functional special economic zones.

Federal ministers Asad Umar, Hammad Azhar, Fawad Chaudhry, Advisor for National Security Moeed Yusuf, Chairman China Pakistan Economic Corridor Khalid Mansoor, Chairman Board of Investment Azfar Ahsan and high level officials attended the meeting.

Meanwhile, Defence Minister Pervez Khattak and Chairman Kashmir Committee Shehryar Afridi Monday called on Prime Minister Imran Khan.

During the meeting, PTI Tehsil Gumbat, Kohat Sajid Iqbal was also present, PM office media wing said in a press release.

Organization of PTI in district Kohat and issues pertaining to development projects were discussed during the meeting.

The prime minister stressed upon the public representatives to accelerate their public interaction campaign, besides improving coordination with the district administration for the immediate resolution of the public issues.

On the occasion, independent successful candidates of local government elections, Tehsil Lachi chairman Muhammad Ahsan and Kohat city mayor Shafiullah joined the PTI.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/874261/pm-directs-for-resolution-of-issues-of-sezs-on-priority/>

### **The Nation**

#### **Livestream selling empowers Pak goods at China festival**

ISLAMABAD - Livestream selling empowers Pakistani goods at China's Shopping Festival which would help improve exports volume in future, China Economic Net (CEN) reported on Monday.

The shopping festival is jointly organized by Chinese departments including the Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM), the Cyberspace Administration of China (CAC), the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT), the State Administration for Market Regulation (SAMR), and it will continue February 7.

According to Badar uz Zaman, Commercial Counsellor of Pakistani Embassy in China, it was an encouraging development that livestream selling boosted the selling of Pakistani goods in the Chinese market.

He asserted that Pakistan could learn from the successful model of e-commerce in China to achieve its future targets in the field.

According to China's leading short form video platform Kuaishou, a livestream selling of Pakistani products featured by Badar uz Zaman during the 2022 Online Lunar Year's Shopping Festival received more than 53 million exposure, more than 2.33 million views and more than 12,000 orders.

In the livestream selling studio, Badar introduced Pakistani culture and food to the audience online. He also spoke highly of the important role of livestreaming e-commerce in boosting consumption and promoting consumption upgrading in China.

"The smartphone penetration is increasing in Pakistan; there are many users that are getting the 4g connections," he said.

However, he added, there are a few e-commerce applications and websites working in Pakistan, so "at least 10 to 15 e-commerce players from China could enter the Pakistani market."

<https://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2022-01-25/page-3/detail-4>

## K2 Daily News

**گلگت روهڑی کی تعمیر کے لیے چینی کمپنی نے بولی جیت لی**

بولی میں 5 کمپنیوں نے حصہ لیا تھا، چین کی تک شیا کیونگ کیونگ کمپنی نے سب سے کم بولی دی

**گلگت شہر روهڑی پیک کا تبادلہ روٹ ثابت ہو گا، انجنگ نے جون 2021 میں منظوری دی تھی**

اسلام آباد (آئی این پی) گلگت میں نے ڈال قرار دیا گیا کہ اور ہا کے مطابق چین کی تک گلگت شہر، جہاں روهڑی کا ایک حصہ ہے جو چین گلگت شہر روهڑی کی تعمیر کا کنٹریکٹ جیت لیا، چینی کیونگ کمپنی نے گلگت شہر پاکستان اقتصادی زون (سی پیک) کا تبادلہ کمپنیاں بولی کے لیے کیا تھا، جس میں چین کیونگ کمپنی کو روهڑی کے 2-2 کنٹریکٹ جیت لیا ہے۔ روهڑی جہاں ہو گا۔ گلگت (آئی این پی 7 جولائی 2021)

سی ای آر ایس ڈی سی ایم ایس، رحمہ اللہ، ایٹ اور ایم ایس اینک کمپنیوں نے مشورہ طور پر سب سے کم بولی دی۔ گلگت شہر روهڑی منصوبہ پاکستان کے شمال میں واقع ہے اور شاہراہ قراقرم کو جوڑنے والی اہم شاہراہوں میں سے ایک شاہراہ ہے۔ جو شیلے میں موجود لرننگ کی صلاحیت کو بہتر بنانے کے لیے کام کر رہی ہے۔

**بقیہ**

کے انجمن بیان کے مطابق تک شیا کیونگ کمپنی نے گلگت شہر (216 کلومیٹر) کے کلچ -02 کی (61 کلومیٹر) پیک کے لیے منظوری کا معاہدہ ہوا ہے۔ تک شیا کیونگ کمپنی کے اور سیز برنس ڈویژن کے مطابق بولی جیتنے کے لیے بہت اہمیت کا حامل ہے اس سے پاکستانی مارکیٹ کو مستحکم ہوگی اور اس نے صحت مند اور منظم زرعی کی تیار رہی ہے۔ قومی اقتصادی کونسل کی ایگزیکٹو کمیٹی (انجنگ) نے جون 2021 میں 216 کلومیٹر کے گلگت شہر روهڑی منصوبہ کی منظوری دی۔ جس میں پالی وے اتھارٹی (این ایچ اے) جو کہ وزارت مواصلات کے تحت ایک قانونی ادارہ ہے، اس منصوبہ کی پروگرامنگ کی ہے۔ این ایچ اے نے 216 کلومیٹر کے گلگت شہر روهڑی (کلچ 01) کے لیے زمینیں، پورٹ ٹرائی کی۔ این ایچ اے رپورٹ کے مطابق پانچ کمپنیاں بولی کے لیے کوالیفائی ہوئیں، جبکہ چین کیونگ کمپنی کو جیتنے کا فیصلہ دیا گیا۔ تاہم پورٹ کے مطابق ایم ایس این ایٹس

[https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP\\_ICT&Page=Front\\_Page](https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=Front_Page)

[https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP\\_ICT&Page=Baqia](https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=Baqia)

**January 26, 2022**

**Business Recorder**

**Resolution of Gwadar land dispute in sight**

*MUSHTAQ GHUMMAN*

ISLAMABAD: The Cabinet Committee on CPEC (CCoCPEC) is to resolve dispute over 72 acres of land of Gwadar between Ministry of Maritime Affairs (MoMA) and Pak Navy, well informed sources told Business Recorder.

MoMA urges that the directives of the President, the Prime Minister, Cabinet and CCoCPEC be implemented in letter and spirit.

As per the background of dispute, Ministry of Defence (MoD) in compliance with the CCoCPEC decision of March 9, 2021, sent a note for Chairman CCoCPEC stating the ground position and

implementation plan was submitted by MoD on June 10, 2021 through Ministry of Maritime Affairs that endorsed its comments on Aug 26, 2021.

Chairman CCoCPEC, in his note approved the following: “MoD may be directed to implement the decisions of the President, Prime Minister, Cabinet and CCoCPEC and to come up with clear vacation plan with reasonable timeline for the vacation of 72 acres of land at Mouza Shamba Ismail at Gwadar, presently under possession of Pak Navy.”

However, MoD has expressed serious reservations on the comments of MoMA on the land which is in occupation of Pakistan Navy (PN). MoD and Pak Navy (PN) have always complied with Government directives without fail. As regards handover of PN land at Shamba Ismail to GPA, PN has been forthcoming and has voluntarily given up land for the sake of national interests. PN vacated 500 acres (out of 584 acres) in 2014 and transferred the land to GPA as directed by Prime Minister’s Office on May 28, 2014.

In 2019, PN voluntarily vacated another 12 acres of land for passage of Gwadar East Bay Expressway, purely in the national interest. As regards the remaining 72 acres, MoD had submitted a workable implementation plan to Chairman CCoCPEC in Jun 2021 through MoMA. After lapse of more than two months, MoMA endorsed its comments and forwarded it to Chairman CCoCPEC. The Chairman again directed for submission of a clear vacation plan with timelines.

In order to evolve consensus among stakeholders, MoD requested Special Advisor to Prime Minister on CPEC to chair a meeting to discuss the way forward. Accordingly, a meeting under the chairmanship of SAPM on CPEC, Khalid Mansoor was held on Oct 12, 2021. The SAPM, acknowledging the security imperatives of Gwadar Port and related seaborne activity, directed MoD to submit the summary to CCoCPEC highlighting the critical requirement of land for PN to ensure security of the Gwadar Port and requested fresh comments of MoMA and those of GDA. MoMA, in its O.M. of November 4, 2021 reiterated their stance of 26 Aug 2021 which has been adequately countered. However, with respect to allotment of 12000 acres of land to Pakistan Maritime Security Agency (PMSA) in the Joint Cantonment Gwadar as highlighted by MoMA, there does not exist any Joint Cantonment in Gwadar notified by Military Lands and Cantonments Department of MoD. However, zoning/master plan for cantonment at Gwadar, at a total land of 9227 acres is yet to be prepared by GHQ.

GDA has proposed a joint survey by all stakeholders for allotment of land to PN by Revenue Department, Government of Balochistan, if any, according to the land zoning of the master plan. PN is responsible for Maritime Defence and ensuring security of Maritime Zones, ports and harbours in accordance with Article 245 of Constitution of Pakistan and is clearly assigned responsibility to “defend creek areas, ports and harbours and offshore infrastructure” under Joint Military Directive-2018 Article 61b(3).

MoD/ PN upon detailed study/ analysis have the considered view that the geographical dictates make Shamba Ismail the only central advantageous location for seaward security/ response

generation. PN's sole purpose for retention of said land with seafront is to ensure PN's timely response for defence/ security of Gwadar Port against ubiquitous asymmetric threat. PN due to this very rationale acquired the land in 1980, well before inception of Gwadar Master Plan. Keeping in view the ground realities, PN's mandate for defence/ security of Gwadar Port, following implementation/ vacation plan is submitted for consideration of CCoCPEC: (i) PN is to coordinate with GPA and identify the location/ coordinates of 20 acres of land at Shamba Ismail, Gwadar essential for seaward security; (ii) GPA is to transfer identified 20 acres of land at Shamba Ismail, Gwadar to PN;(iii) PN while retaining possession of 20 acres of land, is to vacate remaining land at Shamba Ismail within 3 months of transfer of 20 acres of land by GPA. Subsequently, GPA is to handover the land vacated by PN to concession holder; and (iv) in lieu of 20 acres' land awarded to PN, GDA is to provide GPA 20 acres of land at alternate location. GPA is to coordinate handing over of the said land to concession holder.

In the instant case, the Prime Minister, who is the Chief Executive and head of the Federal Government, has issued directions twice for vacating the land. Moreover, Ministry of Interior, mandated with internal security of the state, in a notification of October 26, 2016 has assigned the security of Gwadar/ CPEC to Special Security Division comprising troops from the Pak Army and Civil Armed Forces. Moreover, for seaward security, PN Akram is already stationed at the hammerhead of Gwadar, which is in addition to 1000 acres of land at Mouza Shamba Ismail. Navy's position for retention of 20 acres of land for the security of Gwadar is in addition to 1269 acres of land at PN Akram and an additional 1000 acres of land at Pishukan allotted to Pak Navy in lieu of the present piece of land at Mouza Shamba Ismail. Pak Navy also has 12,000 acres of land in the Joint Cantonment.

According to MoMA, no significant structures of security set up were established by Navy on the land in their possession; however, some have been erected recently, in violation of clear directions of the CCoCPEC.

MoMA has reiterated that the land under possession of Pak Navy is part of Gwadar Free Zone, which is going to be a Custom-Bonded Area, manned and controlled by Pakistan Customs, adding that presence of PN establishment in the middle of Custom-Bonded area does not fit. MoMA further contends that the directives of the President, the Prime Minister, Cabinet and CCoCPEC may be implemented in letter and spirit and the land in question be vacated and handed over to the Concession Holder.

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2022/01/26/1-page/916487-news.html>

### **Daily Times**

#### **Pak export of aquatic products to China exceeds \$150 million**

Pakistan's export of aquatic products to China exceeds \$150 million, China Economic Net (CEN) reported on Tuesday.



According to Chinese customs, China's import of major aquatic products from Pakistan (HS Code 03) reached 153 million US dollars in 2021, up 9.8 percent year on year, from ribbon fish, croakers, cuttle fish, to shrimp, crabs, and lobsters, China is the largest destination of Pakistan's aquatic export.

"Fisheries is a big and emerging industry in Pakistan", said Dr. Saeed Murtaza Hasan Andravi, Director Animal Sciences Institute NARC, Islamabad. It accounts for less than one percent of GDP, but provides vast employment opportunities for under-developed in Pakistan.

Moreover, it can be a profitable profession and a promising means to earn foreign exchange.

Pakistani people are expecting more from the abundant aquatic resources, especially amid the pandemic. Data from Pakistan Bureau of Statistics show that Pakistan exported \$200 million of fish products in the first half of FY2021-22, up 3.18% year on year. "We can increase it to 1 billion dollar", said Muhammad Zafar Kundi, Chairman of Pakistan Fisheries Export Association.

Suhail Firdous is the owner of Super Star Enterprise, a seafood processing plant with its main customers in the Middle East and Far East. "China mainly consumes 7-8 kinds of fish like abalone, squid, octopus, etc. 70% of our fish are sold to Tianjin, China". Suhail Firdous observed that Chinese market is more friendly because the customers focus on the quality instead of the package. In contrast, access to European and American markets require troublesome certification. "China is the pillar of our export. It is an easily accessible market", he explained. Since hitting a ten-year peak in 2019, Pakistan's exports of aquatic products have been on the decline, but its exports to China have been rising steadily. Chinese customs data show that Pakistan's exports of major aquatic products (HS Code 03) to China grew 9.3 percent year-on-year in 2021, and 7.4 percent year on year even in 2020, when the epidemic broke out.

Amid the epidemic, China has become Pakistan's largest export destination for aquatic products, accounting for more than 30 percent of its total exports.

Total exports of main aquatic products of Pakistan in recent 10 years (2010-2020) including fish, crustaceans, mollusks and other aquatic invertebrates (HS Code 03) and exports to China, Thailand and UAE. In 2020, China, Thailand and Afghanistan and Pakistan were the top three aquatic products export destinations, accounting for 68%. The report added, on the whole, the export of Pakistan's aquatic products to China still has enormous potential to grow. As the world's largest importer of aquatic products, China imported \$13.8 billion in aquatic products in 2021, up about 11% year on year, according to Chinese customs data. Of this colossal figure, Pakistan only accounted for about 1%. In addition, the demand for aquatic products in China is still increasing rapidly.

China Agricultural Outlook report predicts that per capita consumption of aquatic products in China will reach 23 kg by 2026. Whether Pakistan can further export its aquatic products to China depends on two aspects: production and price.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/874845/pak-export-of-aquatic-products-to-china-exceeds-150-million/>

### **CPEC western alignment to be completed in 3 years**

Work on various road projects of the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) western route is in full swing and the projects are expected to be completed within three years, according to official sources.

As per details, on the CPEC Western Route, the completed projects on the western alignment of CPEC include the 297km Hakla-D I Khan Motorway, the 235km Quetta-Sohrab road, the 449km Surab-Hoshab road, and the 193km Hoshab-Gwadar road. Whereas, the under-construction projects on the CPEC western route include the 300km Zhob-Quetta road, the 110km Basima-Khuzdar road, the Nokundi-Mashkel road and the 146km Hoshab-Awaran road.

The projects on the western route that are in the pipeline include the 360km Peshawar-D I Khan motorway, the 460km Karachi-Quetta-Chaman road, the 200km Mashkhel-Panjgur road, the 163km Awaran-Khuzdar road, the 228km Panjgur-Awaran road, and the 136km Awaran-Jhal Jao-Bela road.

Work on the 210km DI Khan (Yarik)-Zhob Road (N-50) and Zhob-Quetta (N-50) roads have already been completed while work on the 431km Khuzdar-Quetta-Chaman Section of N-25 is also in progress. The Surab-Hoshab at N-85 and Gwadar-Turbat-Hoshab (M-8) are already operational.

Similarly, the sources said that work on the 106km Basima-Khuzdar road, Quetta to Khuzdar road and Khuzdar to Awaran and Hoshab road had also been started and would complete soon. The sources added that the work on the western alignment routes of CPEC would be completed within three years.

All routes of the western alignment go through remote areas where the poverty rate is higher, jobs are less and industrial development and infrastructure are very low, thus completion of these projects will usher in the prosperity of the areas.

The Authority sources said the country was entering into the second phase of CPEC as it was moving beyond infrastructure to focus on agriculture, particularly economic zones to boost industrialization. More sectors such as science, technology, information technology and agriculture sectors had also been included in the mega project of CPEC.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/874784/cpec-western-alignment-to-be-completed-in-3-years/>

### **Pakistan Observer**

### **BRI & Transition from Geopolitics to Geo-economy**

*Dr Mehmood Ul Hassan Khan*

Despite weak prospects of global economic recovery in 2022, vaccine widening gap, imposition of series of trade & economic sanctions mainly against China, eve of new variants of COVID-19,

composition of new military security alliances, operationalization of new economic pacts/partnerships and last but not the least, national protectionism, China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) stands for hope for economic recovery, stabilization and stimulation around the globe.

In this connection, it seems that many regions mainly Asia-Pacific, Central Asia, South East Asia, Middle East and even African region and the world is slowly but surely moving from geopolitics to geo-economy in which mega projects like BRI, CPEC and RCEP is playing a contributing role in this crucial transition.

In addition to this, America's confrontation with China is constantly escalating dangerously. The US Establishment, especially Pentagon and CIA, considers the emerging China-Russia alliance a potential threat to its hegemonic designs in the Caspian Sea and beyond. The escalating situation of Ukraine and NATO forces' activation in Europe near the point of conflict has further deteriorated economic prospects in the region.

Having all said, China's BRI still acts like a balancing act in the region and beyond. According to the Chinese Foreign Ministry (December 2021) Ukraine-China trade increased by 47.5 percent year-on-year to 9.37 billion U.S. dollars in the first half of 2021. Under the BRI, a direct freight train linking Ukraine with China was launched which has "a positive impact on the development of trade relations. Thus it seems that BRI has a large-scale, global nature, in terms of the coverage of countries, the volume of trade, investment and resources.

Moreover, Chinese President Xi Jinping's concept of shared prosperity and community development are setting new rules of commercial diplomacy, political understanding and socio-economic integration in the region and around the world. Chinese President Xi has been pursuing philosophies of a new formula of banking & financial cooperation, corporate governance, good governance, development loans and last but not the least, joint ventures with the regional countries and beyond. It definitely upholds spirits of new dimensions of equity management, equality proposition, transparency mechanism, inclusiveness orientation and collaborative teamwork in initiating a new chapter of regional as well as global mega projects like BRI and CPEC.

Contrary to Western constant propaganda against China, BRI has been functional and labelled as the world's largest infrastructure project/program which has so far directed investment mainly to energy and transportation networks in Asia, the Middle East and Africa. Since its launch, the BRI has changed significantly in terms of scale, stakeholders and investment sectors and continues to evolve, also in the light of the COVID-19 crisis. Moreover, inclusion of "Green" policies and programs has now further consolidated its role, utility, scope and strategic position in the world, especially among its member countries.

BRI investment in transport could boost the real economies of participating countries and the global economy overall. The decline in trade times will also increase foreign direct investment,

especially for lower-income countries. It has already improved connectivity and cooperation on a transcontinental scale.

Somehow, critics of the BRI accuse China of pursuing a policy of ‘debt-trap diplomacy’: luring poor, developing countries into agreeing unsustainable loans to pursue infrastructure projects so that, when they experience financial difficulty, Beijing can seize the asset, thereby extending its strategic or military reach. It is absolutely untrue, fake, false and fictional and western propaganda does not have any substance in this regard. The most recent prime example of Chinese shared prosperity is Sri Lanka which does not seek loans from IMF or World Bank but directly Chinese government on concessional rates with no hidden charges, conditions, concessions and thus has diminishing demo effects on the Western propaganda of debt trap diplomacy.

It seems that successful execution and implementation of BRI & CPEC, two mega projects, has cracked the western wider narrative about the decline of China. The Chinese government launched the BRI primarily in order to help address these systemic problems and streamlining the chain supplies system for regional industry, construction projects and loans.

On the other hand, according to the Asian Development Bank (ADB), Asia faces an infrastructure funding gap of estimated USD 26 trillion through 2030. To address this gap, various regional and sub-regional initiatives aim to develop better transport connectivity within Asia have been launched. These include, among others, the Association of South East Asian Nation (ASEAN) Connectivity Initiative, the Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) Program, the Greater Mekong Sub-Region (GMS) Cooperation Program, the South Asia Sub-regional Economic Cooperation (SASEC) Program, and the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). In this connection, Chinese BRI has numerous economic comparative advantages over these regional alliances.

It has multidimensional socio-economic effects. BRI investments have proved positive to the member countries. The improved transport network has reduced trade times and costs and increase overall trade as Belt and Road corridor economies increase exports and diversify their production. Hopefully, this expansion will increase trade both between corridor economies and to non-Belt and Road countries as market access opens.

Furthermore, the decline in trade times will also increase foreign direct investment (FDIs) especially for lower-income countries. The increased trade and investment will boost GDPs and welfare, thus reducing poverty in the region, but still needs some unavoidable streamlining of policy coordination, financial overhauling and scheme of arrangement in all the member countries so that caravans of socio-economic prosperity would not be slowdown because of dichotomy between economic policies of the member countries and overall economic spirits of the BRI.

BRI is a transcontinental long-term policy and investment program which aims at infrastructure development and acceleration of the economic integration of countries along the route of the

historic Silk Road. The Initiative was unveiled in 2013 by China's President Xi Jinping and until 2016, was known as OBOR – One Belt One Road. On March 28, 2015, the official outline for the Belt and Road Initiative was issued by the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) and the Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM) of the People's Republic of China (PRC), with authorization of the State Council.

Despite the US and Western propaganda, BRI aims to promote the connectivity of Asian, European and African continents and their adjacent seas, establish and strengthen partnerships among the countries along the Belt and Road, set up all-dimensional, multi-tiered and composite connectivity networks and realize diversified, independent, balanced and sustainable development in these countries. Thus it promotes economic multiculturalism in the region as well as in the world too.

To conclude BRI stands for economic essential driver, engine of growth and stimulating machine/mechanism spreading spirits of new economic world order free from geopolitical conditions, secretive schemes and tools of economic exploitation through military means. The Middle Eastern Region is also heating up because of ongoing geopolitical proxies thus further weakening regional economic prospects. Thus China's BRI is the hope of last resort which may easily stimulate regional as well as global economy in the days to come.

<https://pakobserver.net/bri-transition-from-geopolitics-to-geo-economy-by-dr-mehmood-ul-hassan-khan/>

## **CPEC transforming development patterns of Pakistan**

*Muhammad Zamir Assadi*

China and Pakistan – two very immediate and close neighbors having the brotherly relationship of seven decades – have transformed the potential of unique partnership under the umbrella of splendid diplomacy.

In the journey of bilateral relationship spanning around the meaningful and productive benefits, both nations are marching ahead towards achieving the common agenda of peace, stability, development and prosperity.

The development of bilateral relationship between two nations always proved that Pakistan is China's cooperative and strategic partner and both sides have nurtured the relationship as exemplary in the world of diplomacy.

The leadership of both sides from day one of establishing relationships has stressed on the bright prospects of the bilateral cooperation and has gained for the public on both sides with mutual understanding and consultations.

With the passage of time, the relationship bound and coated with trust between two sides have put a positive impact on various sectors for the development while Pakistan always stood at front for cultivating benefits for its people.

China, with its magnificent development in every sector always extended its experience towards Pakistan to provide investment for infrastructural upgradation including energy projects, vocational and agricultural development, building of Gwadar port, modern transportation projects including Orange Line Metro, educational, medical and cultural exchanges and other sectors.

As a flagship project of the China proposed Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) has helped Pakistan break the energy and transport infrastructure bottlenecks, and injected strong impetus into its economic development.

Pakistan always ranked among the top countries that benefited from China's investment and rich experience of development that made Islamabad able to upgrade its various sectors.

CPEC by integrating the economies and connecting the technology of both sides has been strengthening the people to people contact at a rapid level that has emerged as the epitome of friendship.

China by generously sharing its resources with Pakistan under a bilateral cooperative working platform has been cultivating enormous benefits for the country by exploring the real potential in the pursuit of prosperity.

The magnanimous development under the 1st and 2nd phase of CPEC has been pushing forward the realization of national transformation that is also spreading the enthusiasm among people for the sustainable development.

The ongoing process of CPEC development at rapid scale is also facilitating the technological and industrial progress in the country that is also accelerating the national rejuvenation.

BRI, with its vast scope of cooperation introduced the new era of development under CPEC has also generated more 80 thousand job opportunities for the locals that have energized the labor market as well.

The CPEC by leading the development strategy has put the country into the new development era that strengthened the iron-clad friendship between the two countries with its recognition as a cornerstone of prosperity.

China's developmental plans led by Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) have helped many countries including Pakistan to push forward the agenda of development respectively.

As per one of the reports, it is reported that 141 countries and 32 international organizations, including 19 UN agencies, have participated in the BRI. The worldwide recognition of BRI has also generated the message that the international community wishes to support the development agenda led by China being implemented with mutual consultation based on a win-win situation.

Amid the wave of unilateralism and protectionism by the US and western countries, China introduced the new development plan of BRI which attracted the countries in need of financial and technological assistance at large. The success of BRI and its international acceptance at a

large scale is directly connected with its nature of elements including cooperation and meaningful consultation with its volume of trade, investment with member countries.

The global nature of BRI broadened the scope of bilateral cooperation under its umbrella that goes beyond infrastructure and trade as it has been strengthening cultural, educational and scientific exchanges as well very significantly. Since the start of BRI, this development plan has successfully become a central topic by generating the productive results for the member countries across the globe as it has introduced the new models of cooperation that does not attach any kind of strings to it. The acceptance of the international community for BRI belongs to its tremendous green development that has been meeting the criteria of United Nations green development strategy.

The commitment of China towards equality, peace and mutual benefits has been fostering the economic and cultural ties which is shaping the new patterns of development.

The smooth development of BRI in more than 141 countries has also rejected the so-called debt trap claims of western countries and attracted more countries to be a part of this development plan. The member countries of BRI also remained on top in receiving China's outbound direct investment expanded from 13.8 percent year on year to 7.43 billion U.S. dollars.

China's investment in BRI member countries into manufacturing and information transmission sectors has helped various nations to upgrade their technologies and cultivate maximum benefits. International community is expecting more and more financial and technological assistance from China as the development patterns of the 2nd largest economy of the world has become the buzzword.

<https://pakobserver.net/cpec-transforming-development-patterns-of-pakistan-by-muhammad-zamir-assadi/>

### **The Express Tribune**

#### **Aquatic exports to China hit \$153 million**

China becomes Pakistan's largest export destination for aquatic products

BEIJING: According to Chinese customs, China's import of major aquatic products from Pakistan (HS Code 03) reached \$153 million in 2021, up 9.8% year-on-year.

From fish to shrimp and lobsters, China is the largest destination for Pakistan's aquatic exports.

"Fishery is a big and emerging industry of Pakistan," said NARC Islamabad Director of Animal Sciences Institute Dr Saeed Murtaza Hasan Andravi.

It accounts for less than 1% of GDP, but provides vast employment opportunities for the underdeveloped in Pakistan. Moreover, it can be a profitable profession and a promising means to earn foreign exchange.

Pakistani people are expecting more from the abundant aquatic resources, especially amid the pandemic.

Data of the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics shows that Pakistan exported \$200 million worth of fish products in the first half of fiscal year 2021-22, up 3.18% year-on-year.

“We can increase it to \$1 billion,” said Pakistan Fisheries Export Association Chairman Muhammad Zafar Kundi.

#### Eyeing Chinese market

Suhail Firdous is the owner of Super Star Enterprise, a seafood processing plant with its main customers in the Middle East and Far East.

“China mainly consumes seven to eight kinds of fish like abalone, squid, octopus and others and 70% of our fish is sold to Tianjin, China.”

Firdous observed that Chinese market was highly friendly because customers focused on quality instead of the package. In contrast, access to European and American markets requires troublesome certifications.

“China is the pillar of our exports. It is an easily accessible market,” he explained.

Since hitting a 10-year peak in 2019, Pakistan’s exports of aquatic products have been on the decline, but its exports to China have been rising steadily.

Chinese customs data shows that Pakistan’s exports of major aquatic products (HS Code 03) to China grew 9.3% year-on-year in 2021, and 7.4% year-on-year in 2020, when the pandemic broke out.

Amid the pandemic, China has become Pakistan’s largest export destination for aquatic products, accounting for more than 30% of its total exports.

On the whole, the export of Pakistan’s aquatic products to China still has enormous potential to grow.

As the world’s largest importer of aquatic products, China imported \$13.8 billion worth of aquatic products in 2021, up about 11% year-on-year, according to the Chinese customs data.

Out of this colossal figure, Pakistan only accounted for about 1%. In addition, the demand for aquatic products in China is still increasing rapidly.

China Agricultural Outlook report predicts that per capita consumption of aquatic products in China will reach 23 kg by 2026.

Whether Pakistan can further enhance export of its aquatic products to China depends on two aspects, ie production and price.

Pakistan is rich in aquatic products, of which marine fishery accounts for more than 70%, indicating that exports of aquatic products largely depend on catches.



<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2340471/aquatic-exports-to-china-hit-153-million>

## The Nation

### **Work on various road projects of CPEC Western route in full swing**

ISLAMABAD - Work on various road projects of the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) western route is in full swing and the projects are expected to be completed within three years, according to official sources.

As per details, on the CPEC western route, the completed projects on the western alignment of CPEC include the 297km Hakla-D I Khan Motorway, the 235km Qutta-Sohrab road, the 449km Surab-Hoshab road, and the 193km Hoshab-Gwadar road. Whereas, the under construction projects on the CPEC Western Route include the 305km Zhob-Quetta road, the 110km Basima-Khuzdar road, the Nokundi-Mashkel road and the 146km Hoshab-Awaran road.

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Similarly, the sources said that work on the 106km Basima-Khuzdar road, Quetta to Khuzdar road and Khuzdar to Awaran and Hoshab road has also been started and would complete soon. The sources added that the work on the western alignment routes of CPEC would be completed within three years.

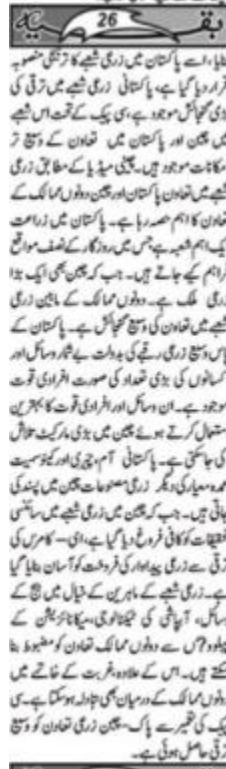
All routes of the western alignment go through remote areas where poverty rate is higher, jobs are less and industrial development and infrastructure is very low, thus completion of these projects will usher in prosperity of the areas.

The Authority sources said the country was entering into second phase of CPEC as it was moving beyond infrastructure to focus on agriculture, particularly economic zones to boost industrialization. More sectors such as science, technology, information technology and agriculture sectors have also been included in the mega project of CPEC.

<https://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2022-01-26/page-9/detail-2>

## K2 Daily News





[https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP\\_GB&Page=Back\\_Page](https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_GB&Page=Back_Page)

[https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP\\_GB&Page=Baqia](https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_GB&Page=Baqia)

**January 27, 2022**

**Business Recorder**

### **PM's upcoming China visit comes under intense focus**

ISLAMABAD: Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Qamar Javed Bajwa and Director General (DG) ISI Lieutenant General Nadeem Anjum Wednesday called on Prime Minister Imran Khan.

The COAS, DG ISI gave a briefing to PM Imran on the professional capabilities of the Pak Army. They also briefed the Prime Minister on the prevailing security situation in the country.

PM Khan also held consultations with the army chief and DG ISI over the upcoming visit to China. The meeting also discussed security and regional situation.

Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi and Information Minister Fawad Chaudhry also attended the meeting.

Prime Minister Khan is set to visit China in the first week of February 2022 to further cement the bilateral ties.

The prime minister will embark on a three-day visit to China next month where he will attend the opening ceremony of the 2022 Winter Olympic Games to be held in Beijing. The premier will attend the ceremony at the invitation of Chinese leadership.

The prime minister will be accompanied by a five member delegation, including the foreign minister.

During the visit, PM Khan will have a bilateral interaction with the Chinese leadership, with a particular focus on advancing economic and trade relations. The two sides will also exchange views on regional and international issues of mutual interest, said sources.

According to sources, the prime minister has also directed five federal ministers visiting China to finalize homework for the all-important China tour. He has also advised federal ministers to observe Covid-19 precautions ahead of the China visit.—NNI

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2022/01/27/1-page/916715-news.html>

### **Daily Times**

#### **Pakistan, China highlight policy initiatives for green transformation**

Online International Conference on “China’s Green Transformation: Efforts to Mitigate Common Challenges with a Shared Approach” was held this week, Gwadar Pro reported on Wednesday.

The conference was organised by the Pakistan Research Center for a Community with Shared Future and Communication University of China (CUC), Beijing, China.

It discussed China’s advanced policy initiatives for green transformation. The conference also integrated national and international experts to provide suggestions to counter common threats with a shared approach vis-à-vis learning from the successful Chinese model. Dr Fazal ur Rahman, Director, Pakistan Institute of China Studies, University of Sargodha enlightened the audience on “Community with a shared future: A grand narrative to enhance cooperation in evolving world”.

He stated that the international community needs to adopt a collective systematic approach to deal with emerging problems such as climate change. The grand narrative of the community of shared future is to enhance international cooperation. He appreciated China’s initiative of BRI, as it is not just beneficial for China but for all the member states especially developing countries.

Dr Fazal further stated that the international community needs to understand the initiative of China that aims for greater connectivity and international cooperation to mitigate the emerging issues.

Dr Kanwar Javed, Senior Policy Researcher, National Institute of Maritime Affairs (NIMA) gave a detailed presentation on “Strategic Path for the Goal of Clean-Green World and Low-Carbon Energy: Tackling environmental challenges”.

Mr Zhang Suqiu, Deputy Professor, Institute for a Community with Shared Future (ICSF), Beijing, China shared his expert opinion on the topic green growth in China: Advance policies and plans for mitigating Climate change. He commenced his presentation by explaining how environmental change poses a significant threat to the international community today. Prof.

Zhang further explained that the international community is trying to cope with the emerging environmental changes and making a huge transformation in energy transformation and low carbon industrialisation. He pointed out that China has adopted policies/plans to deal with climate change. The country is promoting green designs, strengthening industrial clean production, enhancing clean energy development etc.

Dr Faheem Akhter, Assistant Professor, NED University of Engineering and Technology, Karachi explained Prospects for global cooperation under a shared approach: Way forward to resolve emerging Non-traditional security threats. He stated that being the immediate neighbours, Pakistan and China face similar traditional and non-traditional security threats. Thus, non-traditional security challenges must be countered with a shared approach like “community with shared future”.

In this aspect, all regional countries must play an active role and join hands for shared prosperity. Dr Faheem suggested that for clean and green transformation in Pakistan, recycling waste materials and water preservation strategies are the important steps to be taken.

Ms Li Zhe, Institute for a Community with Shared Future (ICSF), China, analysed China’s Renewable Energy Matrix: A Great Option for Clean and Green Environment.

While giving her speech, Ms Li stated that China has been doing extraordinary work in transforming towards renewable energy to tackle CO2 emissions and climate change. She suggested that the world must move to renewable energy to protect the environment with a shared approach.

The online international event was moderated by Ms Maryam Raza, Deputy Director, Pakistan Research Center for a Community with Shared Future, CUC, Beijing, China. The conference was attended by 65 participants and was viewed live on various social media platforms.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/875279/pakistan-china-highlight-policy-initiatives-for-green-transformation/>

### **Pakistan Observer**

#### **China & Ladakh: Modi’s Kashmir policy backfires**

*Syed Qamar Afzal Rizvi*

AFTER all, Modi’s unilateralist Kashmir policy is boomeranging back. While manifold rounds of negotiations between Indian and Chinese military commanders since a deadly clash in June last year in Ladakh had helped contain tensions and led to troops pulling back from some disputed areas, efforts to disengage from other hotspots stalled yet, thereby paving the way for any consequential dagger drawn between the two nuclear — armed states — China and India.

The still-unresolved Ladakh crisis has created a new geopolitical conflict—marked by China’s strategic actions in Ladakh— accompanied by an increased militarisation of the Line of Actual

Control (LAC). This new geopolitical and strategic reality imposes a far-reaching impact in the region.

‘‘Won’t let any attempt to change the status quo along India’s border’’, said Indian Army Chief Gen MM Naravane (Jan 15).

Though officially, since May 2020, India and China remain intermittently engaged in a tense military stand-off at multiple points in eastern Ladakh along the LAC, New Delhi has claimed that Beijing amassed military manpower and equipment near the border in violation of border agreements, accusing that the Indian military was not allowed on its regular patrols by Chinese soldiers, thereby also pointing the most serious clash took place in June 2020 at the Galwan Valley which left 20 Indian soldiers dead. At least four Chinese soldiers were killed, according to official Chinese statements.

In contrast to India, China incurred only marginal material costs; it was probably more concerned with the prospect of continued deterioration in its relationship with India. Given the cost/benefit analysis of the current crisis situation, Beijing holds a very dominating position over New Delhi.

‘‘The indications are very clear, that the Chinese are not going to move back from their position of April 2020 which is what India has been insisting upon.

They have put the onus on India by saying it is up to us to adopt a responsible position,’’ said Jayadeva Ranade, who heads the Centre of China’s Analysis and Strategy.

‘‘It basically means that India now has no option to manning two hostile borders because this situation is here to stay.’’ Despite the apparent beginnings of disengagement, Chinese forces remain posted in some areas previously controlled by India.

The most operationally valuable of these is the Depsang Plain in north-eastern Ladakh. Privately, Indian officials have been sharing the view that given the complexities of diplomatically or militarily returning to the status quo ante, the permanent deployments may possibly be their best option to manage the crisis.

Notably, the long-standing Indo-China border skirmish over the demarcation of the Himalayan frontier between the two countries came to a head- on Oct. 20, 1962, with a massive Chinese offensive both in the Ladakh area of north-east Kashmir ardently claimed by China as part of Sinkiang province and across the McMahon Line in the North-East Frontier Agency (N.E.F.A.).

Whereas in Ladakh the Chinese did not advance beyond the areas claimed by them as part of Chinese territory, at the eastern end of the Himalayan border powerful Chinese forces made a 100-mile advance into the NEFA which brought them almost to the plains of Assam before hostilities ceased on 21 November , when the Chinese announced a unilateral cease-fire and the withdrawal of their troops to positions ‘‘12 miles beyond the line of actual control which existed between India and China on 07 November 1959’’.

The Chinese statement, by implication, appeared to suggest that the Chinese were prepared to withdraw to the McMahon Line at the eastern end of the Himalayan frontier while continuing to hold their gains in Ladakh at the western end.

Heavy casualties were suffered by both sides during the month's fighting (20 Oct to 21 Nov).

And yet subsequently, India's actions, after the revocation of article 370 in blatant denial of the UNSC resolutions have offered ample impetus for the Chinese deployments in the Galwan valley-affiliated Ladakh territory. China has reinforced its troops and developed supporting infrastructure on its side of the LAC.

Chris Biggers, the director of mission applications at the radio frequency (RF) geospatial intelligence firm Hawk Eye 360, also noted that despite official disengagement at the friction points of Galwan, Gogra and Pangong Tso, Chinese forces continued to remain "near the border at their previous turnaround and throughout the Galwan valley and east of Kongka La".

In view of Biggers, it helps China to geostrategic ally operationalise its new Theatre Commands and Joint Logistics Support Force (JLSF), providing a real-world scenario in an expeditionary setting.

The People's Liberation Army( PLA) — mirroring the Indian Army — has constructed winterised housing and logistics to sustain its recently deployed forces for the long term, along with fixed weapons positions such as airfields and surface to air missile systems.

The fact on the record is obvious enough that despite the Indo-China war ceasefire along with the LAC in 1962, there remained high potentials as far as the Chinese stand on the border along the Ladakh in Kashmir. Veritably, because of the pacifist Chinese Prime Minister Zhou Enlai's policy of peaceful co-existence with neighbours, the issue was hibernated.

And yet subsequently, India's actions, after the revocation of Article 370, have offered ample impetus for the Chinese deployments in the Galwan valley affiliated Ladakh territory. China has reinforced its troops and developed supporting infrastructure on its side of the LAC.

Both China and Pakistan rejected to accept Kashmir's status quo ante. China has taken a tactical decision to deploy a regiment of robot army in the coldest eastern Ladakh region.

According to the Foreign Policy Magazine, "While pundits agree that Asia is the site of an ongoing shift in the global power balance, what gets little attention is how New Delhi's reworking of military priorities—forced by events on the disputed Sino-Indian border—will have far reaching geopolitical consequences for the world."

To prevent the impending nuclear escalation along with LAC and the LoC, New Delhi must offer a comprehensive peace dialogue with both China and Pakistan on the disputed status of Kashmir.

—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/china-ladakh-modis-kashmir-policy-backfires-by-syed-qamar-afzal-rizvi/>

### **Pakistan Navy inducts 1st Type 054A/P frigate developed by China**

The Pakistan Navy on Monday inducted the PNS Tughril, the first of four Type 054A/P frigates developed by China, in the Pakistan Navy Fleet, with the president of Pakistan hailing the friendship between the two countries and announcing that the Type 054A/Ps will serve to safeguard the sea routes of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

The induction ceremony of the PNS Tughril multi-role frigate was held at the Pakistan Navy Dockyard in Karachi on Monday, according to a press release the Pakistan Navy sent to the Global Times on the day.

President of Pakistan Dr Arif Alvi said at the ceremony that the Type 054A/P project is yet another manifestation of the deep friendship with China, and the collaboration shows a time-tested brotherly fraternity that is emerging between the two countries and continues to get stronger and stronger every day, which is focused on promoting security, stability and peace.

Alvi said that he is confident that defense cooperation between China and Pakistan will continue to grow ever stronger.

Admiral Muhammad Amjad Khan Niazi, the Pakistani Chief of the Naval Staff, said at the ceremony that the Type 054A/P is a potent platform, fitted with state of the art weapons and sensors.

The ship is designed for combat in a multi-threat environment, and it can generate the requisite firepower in multiple domains with supersonic surface to surface cruise missiles, air defense missiles, anti-submarine warfare torpedoes and the latest combat management and electronic warfare systems, which will enable the Pakistan Navy to remain on par with contemporary trends in naval warfare, Niazi said.

Niazi extended his gratitude to Admiral Dong Jun, commander of the Chinese People's Liberation Army Navy, for his support during trials and commissioning of the PNS Tughril.

China and Pakistan signed the contract for four Type 054A/Ps for the Pakistan Navy in June 2018. The first hull of this class was launched in Shanghai in August 2020, and it was delivered to the Pakistan Navy in November 2021. The frigate is the largest and most advanced surface combat vessel China has ever exported, China State Shipbuilding Corp, the maker of the ship, said in a statement published when the ship was delivered.

Other major naval projects undertaken and ongoing collaborations between the two countries include the F-22P frigates with organic Z-9 helicopters, survey vessel PNS Behr Masah, Azmat-class fast attack craft (missile) and Hangor-class submarines, Niazi said.

Niazi told the Global Times in an exclusive interview in 2021 that the Pakistan Navy has contracted construction of eight Hangor-class submarines, four Type 054A/P ships and medium-altitude long-endurance unmanned combat aerial vehicles from China. Talking about the application of the Type 054A/P frigate, President Alvi said at the induction ceremony that Pakistan's maritime sector has gained exceptional importance in the context of the CPEC, so the induction of the Type 054A/P frigates in the Pakistan Navy will not only serve to reinforce the security architecture of Pakistan's maritime zones across the country's maritime border, but also help safeguard the sea routes of the CPEC.

This will open the CPEC to common vistas of prosperity, development and regional integration, Alvi said, noting that he is confident that the Pakistan Navy has the requisite operational capability and wherewithal to deal with the entire range of maritime security challenges. Niazi said at the event that Pakistan is located in an area of immense geo-economic and geostrategic significance, and the country's maritime security is embedded with the maritime environment of Indian Ocean, which has witnessed surges in the recent past in both traditional and non-traditional maritime threats. The Pakistan Navy's role of maintaining order at sea for sustenance and the protection of global maritime trade has been enhanced significantly, Niazi said.

The Pakistan Navy's responsibilities have also grown manifold since the inception of the CPEC and the development of its associated maritime infrastructure and Gwadar Port, Niazi said.

In fulfillment of these obligations, the Pakistan Navy has continuously undertaken Maritime Security and Counter Piracy Operations since 2004 and 2009, respectively, besides the Navy's initiative of Regional Maritime Security Patrols, the naval chief said, noting that the Pakistan Navy Fleet and Coastal Command units maintain round-the-clock readiness to foil any nefarious designs of sinister elements and give a befitting response in case of any misadventure by an adversary.

<https://pakobserver.net/pakistan-navy-inducts-1st-type-054a-p-frigate-developed-by-china/>

### **Nawaiwaqt News**

#### **سی پیک کے تحت خصوصی اقتصادی زونز: صنعت کاری کو فروغ حاصل ہوگا**

اسلام آباد (اے پی پی): سی پیک کے تحت خصوصی اقتصادی زونز پاکستان میں تیزی سے صنعت کاری کو فروغ دینے کے علاوہ روزگار کے مواقع پیدا کریں گے۔ سرمایہ کاری بورڈ حکام کے مطابق پہلے مرحلے میں سی پیک کے منصوبے بنیادی ڈھانچے کی ترقی اور توانائی کے منصوبوں پر مشتمل تھے جبکہ جوں جوں سی پیک دوسرے مرحلے میں داخل ہوا ہے اس میں تیزی سے خصوصی اقتصادی زونز قائم کیے جا رہے ہیں۔ جن سے صنعتی یونٹس قائم ہونے کیساتھ ساتھ روزگار کے مواقع پیدا ہوں گے اور ملک میں معاشی سرگرمیوں کو فروغ ملے گا۔ سرمایہ خصوصی اقتصادی زونز میں مراعات کی فراہمی صنعتی ترقی کو فروغ دے گا اور روزگار کے مواقع پیدا کرے گا جو مقامی صنعتوں کی بحالی کی نشاندہی کرتا ہے۔ مقامی صنعت کو خصوصی اقتصادی زونز میں بین الاقوامی سرمایہ کاروں کے برابر مراعات اور چھوٹ پر بھی بات چیت ہو رہی ہے۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/lahore/2022-01-27/page-7/detail-3>



**January 28, 2022**

**Business Recorder**

**PM's upcoming China visit**

Chinese investors want high-level parleys

ISLAMABAD: Chinese investors in Pakistan's energy sector, who are facing bottlenecks, have urged Islamabad to resolve issues of existing project sponsors to attract more investment in the country, well informed sources in Board of Investment (BoI) told Business Recorder.

Chinese investors, who are visiting different ministries/ organisation for years for resolution of their procedural issues, have conveyed this message to the Government of Pakistan, through Minister for Energy Hammad Azhar, Secretary Power Division and Chairman Board of Investment (BoI) days before the official visit of Prime Minister Imran Khan to China, scheduled for 3-5 February 2022 for top level engagement with the Chinese leadership.

“To give positive signal for attracting future private sector investments in Pakistan, nothing will convey Pakistan's desire more strongly than to support project sponsors who are on ground and have already invested substantial funds,” said Wu Zefeng, the Project Director of Ashkot HPP, in his letter.

According to the Power Company, 300MW Ashkot Hydropower project Ashkot HPP, was issued letter of Interest (LoI) on June 6, 2012 by the Government of Azad Jammu & Kashmir (GoAJ&K), Private Power Cell. However, due to layout optimization during feasibility study, and consequent increase in the generating capacity of the project from 40MW to 300MW, the project was transferred from GoAJ&K to PPIB for further processing and development. PPIB Board duly acknowledged and accepted the development of the project in a meeting held on November 14, 2018. The sponsors of project are willing to finance and invest US\$ 600 million for development of this hydro plant. The project will not only provide cheap and renewable energy but secure Pakistan's water rights to the Neelum River to the extent of water usage in power generation of this project.

In this respect the Company has requested that the matter of development of 300MW Ashkot Hydropower Project, through investment by the Chinese sponsors on fast-track basis, be included as an agenda item for high level interaction and discussion with the Chinese authorities to affirm foreign investment in the crucial area of AJ&K where other investor/ lenders and multilaterals including IFC, ADB, etc., have declined to fund due to being disputed territory. Earlier, in a letter to Managing Director, Private Power & Infrastructure Board (PPIB), Zefeng had expressed his concern on slackness of Government of Pakistan in facilitating hydropower projects, which are in “circular trap” due to non-finalization of Indicative Generation Capacity Expansion Plan (IGCEP).

The selection criteria for IGCEP 2030, as given in Section 5-2(8), is that the project will be considered as “committed” if it has obtained Letter of Support (LoS) as on December 2020 for private sector projects. There is no bar on issuance of LoI, an inherent implication in IGCEP is that all processes, prior to issuance of LoS, should be allowed to be completed. Thus all projects should be issued LoI, and get their feasibility studies approved and get tariff determination from NEPRA.

“At present projects are in a circular trap because development is stopped at PPIB and all other government levels as IGCEP has not been approved by them, whilst IGCEP will not consider them until they reach the requisite development milestones. Such projects, especially hydropower with a long gestation period of 15-20 years, will always be stuck in doldrums and never see the light of day which is illogical and counterproductive,” Zefeng maintained. Chinese projects which are already on ground are facing problems in insurance of their loans from Chinese insurance company M/s Sinosure, due to huge energy sector circular debt of about Rs 2.5 trillion.—MUSHTAQ GHUMMAN

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2022/01/28/1-page/916728-news.html>

### **Strategy for talks with Chinese leadership firmed up: Qureshi**

ISLAMABAD: Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi has said that a special taskforce has been constituted to further advance the joint ventures with China, including the projects under China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) to increase the volume of investment and economic stability in the country.

In a statement with regard to Prime Minister Imran Khan’s forthcoming visit to China from February 3 to 5, 2022, the foreign minister said that based on the detailed consultations and input from all the stakeholders by the taskforce headed by the prime minister, himself, a strategy has been formulated on the basis of which talks will be held with the Chinese leadership. He said that Pakistan and China have always stood by each other in difficult times, adding that the two countries exemplary relations and “nobody can deny the significance of this relationship.” Qureshi said that the main objective of the prime minister’s visit to China is to attend Beijing’s Winter Olympics and expressed solidarity with China as some countries have boycotted the event.

However, he added that Prime Minister Imran Khan will meet the Chinese president and the premier on the sidelines of the Winter Olympics.

“Our foreign policy is focused on economic diplomacy to achieve economic stability and bring prosperity in the lives of the people,” he added.

The foreign minister said Pakistan will host the 48th session of the OIC Council of Foreign Ministers on 22nd and 23rd March.

He said that meeting of the OIC Contact Group on Jammu and Kashmir will also be held in which the situation in the Indian occupied Jammu and Kashmir will be discussed.

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2022/01/28/1-page/916729-news.html>

## **Mazari accuses US of playing ‘Xinjiang card’ against China**

*ZULFIQAR AHMAD*

ISLAMABAD: While emphasizing that the US is losing power internationally due to its imperialist approach, Federal Minister for Human Rights Dr Shireen Mazari said on Thursday that Muslims suffered the consequences of the US war on terror and of militarization.

Speaking at a webinar organised by a local think tank on the New Cold War and playing of Xinjiang card against China under its flagship event series: “Friends of Silk Road (FOSR)”, she accused the US of following double standards.

“The US was involved in starting a New Cold War with China by playing the Xinjiang Card in the midst of Covid-19 pandemic but its mysterious silence on Kashmir and Palestine issues shows its double standards,” she declared.

She continued that the US was trying to militarize global politics as well as economics, whereas, China strives to share economic prosperity and open up the world through trade routes and infrastructure in Pakistan and African countries, so that all countries can prosper via international trade.

“The rational route is to support the opening up of the world through international trade via the Silk Route, BRI and CPEC project,” she added.

She said that Pakistan faces a challenge of whether it will move towards economic prosperity, which is now a central norm of Pakistan’s National Security policy, or it will be sucked into the militarization being pushed by US.

Mazari asserted that US has created laws, such as the Uyghur Forced Labour Prevention Act, to sanction China using the Xinjiang card.

Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed said that Pakistan will continue to support China on its core national interests such as Xinjiang, Taiwan, Tibet, Hong Kong, South China Sea, and BRI as the US is engaged in creating cleavages, conflict and encouraging confrontation.

He said that political and economic power in the world was shifting from the West to the East and the US has not been able to compete with China economically.

Despite their opposition to the Belt and Road Initiative, he added, the US launched its own copycat project, Built Back Better World.

He cited an article by Leslie H Gelb in The New York Times titled “Breaking China Apart”, which stated that the US will “kindle separatism in China” if it does not fall in line and discussed the approach of demonising, damaging and destabilising countries.

The special assistant to the prime minister on religious affairs, Dr Tahir Ashrafi, said that bills or statements made by the US regarding lack of religious freedom in Pakistan, China, and Saudi Arabia were baseless, saying the statements were politically motivated.

He stressed that the US should avoid interfering in the internal affairs of other countries and avoid needlessly criticising China on Xinjiang.

Emphasising that the US should focus on human rights violations in its own country, he said that the US should rely on facts and engage in dialogue instead of using a narrative of a lack of religious freedom as a political weapon.

“The stance of the Pakistani people, government, and religious parties regarding China is that it is Pakistan’s best friend and neighbour, irrespective of American propaganda,” he maintained. Dr Akram stated that issue of Xinjiang is a flashpoint, which is used by Western groups to rally certain parts of the Muslim world against China. Emphasising that Pakistan was in a twilight zone between US and China, Akram advised the government to support China in its quest for truth, of protecting its interests and in protecting the region.

Prof Li Xiguang, director of the Centre for Pakistan Cultural and Communication at Tsinghua University said that the West fears the unity between the Confucian and Islamic Civilisations. He said that the West’s purpose to play the ‘Xinjiang card’ was to divide and undermine China and create misunderstandings between China and neighbouring Muslim countries, as well as those along the Belt and Road.

While stressing that China respects the culture and religion of the Afghan people, unlike the US, which despite failing in the battlefield does not want to see unity among Afghans, he said that the West wants to turn Xinjiang into another Afghanistan.

Dr Ejaz Akram, chairman Rehmatu Lil Alameen Authority, and others also spoke on the occasion.

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2022/01/28/3-page/916746-news.html>

### **Daily Times**

#### **PM’s China visit to boost CPEC pace: FM**

Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi on Thursday said besides attending the Beijing Olympic ceremony as a solidarity gesture, the visit of Prime Minister Imran Khan to China would encompass discussions on advancing joint ventures and pacing up progress on China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

In a statement ahead of PM Imran Khan’s visit from February 3 to 5, the foreign minister said Pakistan and China stood with each other in difficult times and the main purpose of the visit was to express solidarity with China as several countries boycotted the Beijing Olympics. Besides Olympics, he said, discussions would take place in line with the consultations of the special task force on boosting Pak-China trade volume and economic stability.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/875891/pms-china-visit-to-boost-cpec-pace-fm/>

### **Pakistani volunteer plays role in fighting COVID-19 in China**

A Pakistani volunteer Muzammil Hussain plays a role in fighting COVID-19 in Chinese city of Xi'an, China Economic Net (CEN) reported on Thursday.

Hussain, a Pakistani student from Punjab now pursuing his PhD degree at Northwestern Polytechnical University (NPU), Xi'an city, China.

"I came to China in 28th of September 2017. China is our best friend and Chinese government awarded me a scholarship so that I could complete my higher education. I am thankful for that," said Hussain.

"I have learned Chinese language, which makes me a new Chinese version of myself. It really helped me develop my communication skills. Chinese people are very friendly and cooperative," Hussain told CEN.

Hussain recalled that he had a surgery in September 2021. The Chinese surgeon, his teachers and classmates all took good care of him. "My teacher kept in touch with the doctor and my friends have been visiting me. I really appreciated for that," said Hussain.

When the pandemic suddenly outbroke in Xi'an at the end of 2021, Hussain came forward and joined in the volunteer team of NPU.

"In my hard time, my teachers and friends have helped me. I have learned from them how to do volunteer work. I am a member of NPU. I felt duty bound to help my school to fight against pandemic," said Hussain.

"Well, it's been a month for me to work as a volunteer at NPU. At the early days of pandemic, I was responsible for taking students to do COVID-19 nucleic acid test," said Hussain.

"Though just a few words 'taking students to do tests', it is not an easy work. Actually, Hussain and other volunteers have to explain to each student how serious the pandemic is and why everyone has to do tests more than once. Hussain proved to be quite a treasure of a volunteer," said Mr Zhang Xi, a teacher of NPU, who stayed with Hussain and other volunteers during the lockdown.

Hussain said, "I am in charge of distributing daily necessities such as masks, sanitizers and gloves. Sometimes, I work as a food distributor in the dormitory as we get food and fruits from different cities like Beijing and Liuzhou etc." "Helping my school fight against pandemic as a volunteer makes me feel good," he added.

Zhang spoke highly of Hussain and other volunteers. He told CEN that volunteers played a crucial role in the fight against COVID-19 at NPU. With the lift of lockdown, Xi'an has resumed work and production after being designated low-risk for COVID-19 in all areas on Monday.

Hussain told CEN that, "I am very excited to watch the upcoming Beijing Winter Olympics. It will be a great event in the history of China. I wish to watch this great event with friends."

When talking about future plan, Hussain said, “I will be ready to participate in China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) if they need people from IT related major.”

Hussain said “CPEC helps Pakistan’s infrastructure development, but also creates jobs opportunities for Pakistanis. It will enhance our friendship and give us an opportunity to work together. Both countries can be stronger. Live long China-Pakistan friendship!”

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/875831/pakistani-volunteer-plays-role-in-fighting-covid-19-in-china/>

### **China welcomes record exports from Pakistan: Zhao Lijian**

Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesperson, Zhao Lijian on Thursday welcomed Pakistan record exports to China and said that Beijing was ready to enhance trade and economic cooperation with Islamabad and support more exports of Pakistani special goods.

We welcomed the news of record exports from Pakistan to China, he said this during his regular briefing in response to a question regarding \$3.59 billion export from Pakistan to China during the year 2021.

The spokesperson said, “China has been Pakistan’s largest trading partner for many years in a row and Pakistan’s exports to China are also on a rapid rise.”

The two sides signed a protocol on the Phase-II of the Free Trade Agreement in 2019. Since the protocol came into effect, it has been effectively implemented and promoted the export of Pakistani goods to China, he added.

Zhao Lijian said, “China and Pakistan are all-weather strategic cooperative partners and ironclad brothers.”

“We stand ready to enhance trade and economic cooperation with Pakistan and support more exports of Pakistani special goods so as to promote the high-quality development of our trade cooperation and bring more benefits to both people,” he added.

According to official data from the General Administration of Customs of China, Pakistan’s export to China was increased by 68.9pc in 2021 and crossed the historical figure of \$3.58 billion while the total import and export between the two countries stood at \$27.82 billion. Pakistan’s export to China crossed \$365.35 million in December 2021, up to 17 percent, while in the same period of the previous year, it was \$312.33 million, which is the second-highest figure of the year.

Pakistan’s exports made the highest gain in November 2021 when its export volume to China was \$379.17 million. Last year, the highest value was in December 2020 when its export volume was \$312.33 million. Overall, from January to December 2021, China’s imports from Pakistan totaled \$3.58 billion irrespective of COVID-19, while in the same period of last year it was \$2.12 billion. This year China’s export to Pakistan was increased by 57.8pc to \$24.23 billion, while last year it was \$15.36 billion and in 2019 it was \$16.17 billion.

In his tweet, Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan, Nong Rong said, during the last year, the bilateral trade between China and Pakistan bucked the trend of decline in the global trade in spite of the Covid-19 pandemic, and the export from Pakistan to China soared to \$3.59, registered a year-on-year increase of 68.9pc.

As per economic experts, the recent upward trend in exports to China is encouraging for both the countries' governments and enterprises. Multiple factors have contributed to this remarkable rise. Under the first phase of the FTA, Pakistan had been already enjoying zero duties on exports of over 700 products to China. While the second phase of the pact allowed Pakistan to export 313 new items to the Chinese market on zero duty. In addition, the construction of special economic zones has also helped Pakistan export goods to other countries including China.

Shan Saeed, Chief Economist at Juwai IQI told the media that trade between the two countries has made significant progress as both export and import volumes are on the rise. This is a testament to China's commitment to BRI projects with CPEC under the limelight.

The trade and commerce volumes signify that China wants to provide unconditional support and import more from Pakistan in order to uplift the economy of Pakistan. Shan described that China will continue to support Pakistan for a very long time to come and Pakistan values Chinese unconditional support.

It is worth mentioning that among the major products traded between the two countries, electronics, textiles, seafood, and agricultural products have been increased year on year, which has promoted Pakistan's economic recovery.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/876109/china-welcomes-record-exports-from-pakistan-zhao-lijian/>

### **Pakistan Observer**

#### **Preparing for China visit**

PRIME Minister Imran Khan is slated to visit China in the first week of February 2022 basically to attend the opening ceremony of the Winter Olympics but serious efforts seem to be underway to make it a result-oriented visit as preparatory meetings are being held to prepare its agenda carefully.

On Wednesday, the Prime Minister chaired a high-level meeting attended by key federal ministers as well as the army and intelligence chiefs to get input for the important visit.

According to the official handout, the participants were briefed about the agenda of the upcoming visit that covers further collaboration with China in fields of investment, trade, exports and information technology.

The visit takes place in the backdrop of important developments in the region and consistent reports that progress of work on many projects under the framework of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) has slowed down mainly because of our inability to remove unnecessary hurdles in the way of their implementation.

According to some circles, the lack of required progress has sent an unfortunate message to Beijing about our commitment to the cause of the CPEC, which is rightly seen by a majority of people of Pakistan as historic opportunity to accelerate the pace of socio-economic development of the country, address sense of deprivation among hitherto neglected regions and create a world class infrastructure to help attract foreign investment.

One hopes the meeting would have discussed ways and means to regain the lost momentum on the CPEC initiative and some concrete understanding would be reached with the Chinese leadership on the issue.

There is no doubt that the top leadership of the country including Prime Minister Imran Khan has been making repeated commitments to strengthen cooperation with China under CPEC and he might once again express this resolve before the Chinese leadership but we believe mere verbose would not improve the overall situation if practical measures were not taken to address the irritants and remove the roadblocks.

Isn't it the height of duplicity that on the one hand we are making frantic efforts to lure foreign investors but on the other hand we are unable to benefit appropriately from the willingness of China to invest in Pakistan's various sectors of economy?

As compared to early harvest projects, which moved swiftly, other important projects are facing questionable delay despite their economic significance and there is no progress of work on the second phase of the CPEC except in papers.

As Russian President Vladimir Putin is also expected to be there in Beijing, the Prime Minister may have a substantial brief for a possible meeting that should pave the way for the long awaited visit of Mr Putin to Pakistan.

<https://pakobserver.net/preparing-for-china-visit/>

### **The Express Tribune**

#### **Sino-Pak cooperation to boost wheat output**

Similarities between Yunnan and Pakistan pave way for enhanced collaboration

The production of wheat, Pakistan's most important crop, is expected to rise with Sino-Pak cooperation, according to China's Yunnan Academy of Agricultural Sciences (YAAS).

"Yunnan and Pakistan have similarities in climate, wheat variety characteristics, cultivation conditions, confronted with shared challenges including stripe rust, drought, high temperature, etc," Luo Yanjie, Head of YAAS International Cooperation Division, told China Economic Net.

"Therefore, both wheat varieties and technologies can be directly applied to each other," he added.



YAAS and Pakistan Agricultural Research Council (PARC) started cooperation in 2014. They have been closely cooperating in food crop, cash crop, plant protection, bio-technology and socio-economic development for more than seven years.

In 2016, two among 14 Chinese wheat DH varieties introduced to Pakistan entered the country's regional test.

Simultaneously, 10 Pakistani wheat varieties were brought to China, among which three anti-stripe rust varieties were selected.

Especially in 2017, via China National Seed Group Co Ltd, "Yunnan hybrid Wheat No 12" variety was grown in Pakistan on a trial basis. Results showed a 32% increase in production compared with local varieties.

Academically, through cooperative research, the two sides have jointly published four papers and publications on drought relief, rust disease, hybrid wheat, etc.

The exchanges of agricultural experts between Yunnan and Pakistan also have been playing an important role in enhancing agricultural cooperation.

So far, 10 Pakistani scientists from PARC, University of Agriculture, Faisalabad, etc came to Yunnan for joint agricultural research.

After they returned to Pakistan, they have been continuously contributing to the country's agricultural development and Sino-Pak agricultural cooperation.

This year, three Pakistani young scientists will arrive in Yunnan for further research, which comprises nearly one-third of the total overseas scientists who have been approved to come to YAAS.

THE ARTICLE ORIGINALLY APPEARED ON THE CHINA ECONOMIC NET

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2340788/sino-pak-cooperation-to-boost-wheat-output>

### **The Nation**

#### **Pakistan prepared for fruitful talks with China: FM**

*SHAFQAT ALI*

ISLAMABAD - Foreign Minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi has said that Pakistan is prepared for fruitful talks with China during Prime Minister Imran Khan's upcoming visit to Beijing. He said that besides attending the Beijing Olympic ceremony as a solidarity gesture, the visit of Prime Minister Imran to China would encompass discussions on advancing joint ventures and pacing up progress on the China Pakistan Economic Corridor. In a statement ahead of PM Khan's visit from February 3 to 5 on Thursday, the FM maintained that Pakistan and China stood with each other in difficult times and the main purpose of the visit was to express solidarity and demonstrate the unbreakable friendship with China as several countries boycotted the Beijing Olympics.

<https://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2022-01-28/page-12/detail-9>

## Jang News

### چین میں پاکستان سمیت 6 ایشیائی ممالک کے نوادرات کی نمائش

پاکستان سمیت 6 ایشیائی ممالک کے نوادرات کی نمائش جمعہ کو چین کے جنوب مغربی صوبے سیچھوان کے دارالحکومت چھینگنگڈو کے میوزیم میں شروع ہو گئی۔ نمائش کے دوران چین، پاکستان، شام، لبنان، جاپان اور کمبوڈیا سے لائے گئے مجموعی طور پر 270 ثقافتی آثار اور نوادرات رکھے گئے ہیں۔

پاکستان کے محکمہ آثار قدیمہ و میوزیمز نے نمائش کے لیے متعدد قیمتی ثقافتی آثار، جن میں پینٹ شدہ مٹی کے برتن، کانسی سے بنے تیل کے لیپ اور گندھار تہذیب کے دریافت شدہ بدھا کے مجسمے فراہم کیے، جس سے چینی سامعین پاکستان کی قدیم ترین اور شاندار تہذیب کو سمجھ سکیں گے۔

سیچھوان میوزیم کی ڈیپٹی ڈائریکٹرز نے ان کے مطابق پاکستان میں تخلیق ہونے والے گندھار بدھسٹ آرٹ مغربی اور مشرقی ثقافتوں کے امتزاج کا نمونہ ہے۔ گندھار بدھسٹ آرٹ شاہراہ ریشم کے ساتھ مشرق تک پھیلا اور اس کا اثر چین کے بدھ آرٹ پر بھی پڑا۔

ش نے نے مزید کہا کہ سیچھوان میوزیم میں چھینگنگڈو میں دریافت ہونے والے جنوبی عہد کے وانفو مندر سے ملنے والے مجسموں کی ایک بڑی تعداد موجود ہے، جو گندھار کے فنی انداز سے انتہائی متاثر ہیں۔

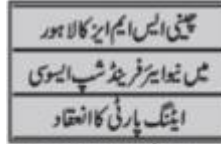
اس نمائش کو 3 حصوں میں سو پونیمیا، سندھ اور گنگا کی تہذیبوں اور سیلو اور یاگتسی دریاؤں کی تہذیب میں تقسیم کیا گیا ہے۔ یہ نمائش 31 مارچ تک جاری رہے گی، جس میں عوام کا داخلہ مفت ہے۔

<https://jang.com.pk/news/1043139>

## K2 Daily News



دلت کے لیے کوششیں جاری رہیں گے۔ جاکا  
ان کا کہنا ہے کہ مطابق کوششیں دو سالوں میں کوڑ  
19 ویں دور سے پاکستان میں زیادہ تر کھیتی  
کارو پارٹی اداروں نے یہاں سے اپنے کام کو ختم  
کیا ہے۔ پاکستان میں کھیتی کارو پارٹی اداروں کو ختم  
ہمارا کاروبار کو ختم کر دیا اور ہمیں گھرانے کے قابل  
بنا دیا۔ چین پاکستان اقتصادی راہداری (سی  
پیک اور پاک چین دوستی کی تعمیر میں اپنا حصہ  
ڈالنے، پاکستان میں مزید کھیتی کارو پارٹی اداروں  
کے لیے مواصلاتی جالوں، مصلحت کے چارے،  
پاسی قائم ہے اور پاسی تعاون کے قیام کے لیے  
لاہور میں کھیتی کارو پارٹی اداروں کے لیے  
کاروباری اداروں (انس ایکم این) نے اگوار کو  
2022 پکیز کو ایگزیکٹو ایگزیکٹو ایگزیکٹو  
پارٹی کا انعقاد کیا۔ لاہور میں چین کے قائم مقام  
قونصل جنرل جیک چنگ او نے اپنے دلچسپ خطاب  
میں پاکستان میں کھیتی کارو پارٹی اداروں کی کوششوں اور  
گھن کو سراہے ہوئے امید ظاہر کی کہ وہ سے سال  
میں پاک چین ثقافتی تعاون میں نئی دہائی دلت کے لیے  
کوششیں جاری رہیں گے۔ انہوں نے کھیتی کارو  
ہمارے کاروبار کی ترقی کو مدد کی۔ ملک کی ترقی کی پٹی  
کے طور پر انس ایکم این پاکستان کی مصیبت کے سب  
سے بڑے اور اہم شعبوں میں سے ایک ہیں۔ حالیہ  
برسوں میں سی پیک کی تعمیر کے گہرے اہلے کے  
ساتھ، نئی اداروں کے درمیان 100 اہلے چوری سے  
قرب تر ہونے ہیں، جس میں انس ایکم این نے بھی  
بہت زیادہ تعاون کیا ہے۔ بہت سے پاکستانی  
خارجین نے کھیتی کارو پارٹی اداروں میں مصروفیت اور  
محکمہ مہارتیں حاصل کی ہیں۔ اگرچہ پاکستان میں  
حالیہ دو سالوں میں شروع ہے، لیکن 100 فی صد کھیتی  
کارو پارٹی اداروں کی گئی ہے اور وہ اپنے پاکستانی  
ساتھوں کے ساتھ مل کر رہا ہے اور اپنے اپنے لیے  
مؤثر طریقے سے کام کر رہے ہیں۔



چینی انس ایکم این کا لاہور  
میں ایگزیکٹو ایگزیکٹو ایگزیکٹو  
ایگزیکٹو پارٹی کا انعقاد  
لاہور (آئی این پی) 10 مارچ میں چین کے قائم  
مقام قونصل جنرل جیک چنگ او نے پاکستان میں  
کھیتی کارو پارٹی اداروں کی کوششوں اور گھن کو سراہے  
ہوئے امید ظاہر کی کہ وہ سے سال میں پاک چین  
ثقافتی تعاون میں نئی دہائی دلت کے لیے  
کوششیں جاری رہیں گے۔ انہوں نے کھیتی کارو  
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[https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP\\_ICT&Page=International](https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=International)

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**January 29, 2022**

**Daily Times**

### **Yunnan province cooperates with Pakistan to boost wheat production**

The production of wheat, Pakistan's most important crop, is expected to rise with Sino-Pak cooperation, according to China's Yunnan Academy of Agricultural Sciences (YAAS).

“Yunnan and Pakistan have similarities in climate, wheat variety characteristics, cultivation conditions, meanwhile confronted with shared challenges including stripe rust, drought, high temperature, etc.

Therefore, both wheat varieties and technologies can be directly applied to each other,” LuoYanjie, Head of YAAS International Cooperation Division, told China Economic Net (CEN).

Yunnan Academy of Agricultural Sciences (YAAS) and Pakistan Agricultural Research Council (PARC) started cooperation in 2014. They have been closely cooperating in food crop, cash

crop, plant protection, biotechnology and socio-economic development for more than seven years.

In 2016, two among fourteen Chinese wheat DH varieties introduced to Pakistan entered the country's regional test.

Simultaneously, ten Pakistani wheat varieties were brought to China, among which three anti-stripe rust varieties were selected. Especially, in 2017, via China National Seed Group Co., Ltd., "Yunnan Hybrid Wheat No. 12" variety was grown in Pakistan on a trial basis. Results showed a 32% increase in production compared with local varieties.

Academically, through cooperative research, the two sides have jointly published four SCI papers and publications on drought relief, rust disease, and hybrid wheat, etc.

The exchanges of agricultural experts between Yunnan and Pakistan also have been playing an important role in enhancing agricultural cooperation. So far, 10 Pakistani scientists from PARC and University of Agriculture, Faisalabad, etc. came to Yunnan for joint agricultural research.

After they returned to Pakistan, they have been continuously contributing to Pakistan's agricultural development and Sino-Pak agricultural cooperation.

This year, three Pakistani young scientists will arrive in Yunnan later for further research, which comprises nearly one third of the total overseas scientists who have been approved to come to YAAS.

Next, by establishing joint laboratory and joint research center, the two sides will further strengthen advanced Chinese wheat breeding technology, wheat disease prevention and control technology's application in Pakistan to help improve mutual food security.

"Through fully tap and utilize both China and Pakistan's wheat gene characteristics, we will further consolidate the joint research of wheat breeding especially resistance breeding such as disease resistance, insect resistance, drought resistance and lodging resistance, high-yield breeding, and multi-functional breeding, etc.," Luo said.

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<https://dailymtimes.com.pk/876449/yunnan-province-cooperates-with-pakistan-to-boost-wheat-production/>

### **Pak-China ties an unparalleled journey of friendship: Imran**

Prime Minister Imran Khan Friday said the Pakistan-China partnership was unparalleled among inter-state relations. "The history of our friendship is a unique account of unwavering mutual support, mutual trust and mutual respect. Nurtured by successive generations of our leadership and peoples across seven decades, this iron-brotherhood has blossomed into a strong and vibrant All-Weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership," he said in an article published by Global Times.

He said their relationship was time-tested and timeless, which transcended the normal precepts of inter-state relations and had withstood the vicissitudes of regional and global developments.

"The grand celebrations to mark the 70th anniversary of our diplomatic ties last year helped in injecting a new vigour and vitality to our friendship," he added. Imran Khan said, "For us in Pakistan, relations with China are the cornerstone of our foreign policy enjoying support across the political spectrum. I can say with great confidence that our people fully understand the real value of this friendship and enthusiastically contribute to its splendor and glory. No wonder

special metaphors have been coined to illustrate its depth and intensity; the expression Ba Tie only reserved for Pakistanis in China is one such example.

“In the next few days, I will be arriving in Beijing to attend the opening ceremony of the Winter Olympic Games. Being a sportsman myself, I can very well relate to the spirit that sporting events like Olympics instill in a nation. I strongly feel that sports should be a unifying factor and should transcend politics. I congratulate the leadership and people of China for hosting this mega event and wish all participants safe, healthy and successful games.” The prime minister said since his last visit to China in October 2019, the world had undergone a profound transformation. COVID-19, the biggest contemporary challenge, continued to negatively impact lives and livelihoods across the globe. Climate change, he added, was yet another monster staring down “our eyes with the potential to disrupt all that humankind has achieved to date”.

Imran Khan said, “The imperatives of geopolitics have engendered new alignments in our region, which to many, are reminiscent of ideological confrontation of the last century. Instability and turmoil that plagued Afghanistan for the past 20 years have come close with a hope of peace finally returning to the region. The international community’s engagement is essential to avoid economic meltdown and avert humanitarian crisis in that country.”

“The present challenges, colossal as they be, nevertheless stress the need for international cooperation and call for rekindling the spark of multilateralism for peace and prosperity in our region and beyond. As President Xi Jinping pertinently mentioned in his recent address to World Economic Forum. “Amidst the raging torrents of global crisis, countries are not riding separately in some 190 small boats, but are rather all in a giant ship on which our shared destiny hinges.”

The prime minister said history bore witness to the fact that Pakistan and China had jointly traversed such epochal changes in the past and emerged successful. “Our two countries have always supported each other on matters of core national interests.

It is our common vision that enduring peace in South Asia is contingent on maintaining a strategic balance in the region and all outstanding issues like border questions and the Kashmir dispute should be resolved through dialogue and diplomacy and as per norms of international law.”

“Our bilateral cooperation against COVID-19 further validates the strength of our friendship. As iron brothers, Pakistan solidly stood by China after the outbreak of the pandemic. From President Arif Alvi’s solidarity visit to Beijing to the dispatch of over 60 planeloads of Chinese anti-epidemic goods to Pakistan, emerged a shining example of mutual support and goodwill. Chinese vaccines have now become the mainstay of Pakistan’s ongoing mass vaccination drive.”

He said Pakistan was charting a new path for robust and sustainable development and making efforts to harness its potential as a geo-economics hub. “The new National Security Policy of Pakistan centers on my government’s vision of people-centric approach for ensuring their prosperity, fundamental rights and social justice.” “In pursuance of these objectives”, he added,

“we draw inspiration from China’s achievements; be it the miraculous lifting of 800 million people out of absolute poverty or victory in people’s war against the pandemic.

“As a friend, neighbour and partner, Pakistan has much to offer to the people, enterprises and business persons of China. Pakistan has a rich history, cultural diversity and majestic landscapes. With a population of 220 million people, young and skilled labour force, strategic location, friendly investment regime and warm sentiments for the Chinese people, Pakistan welcomes you for your next investment and next leisure trip.”

Imran Khan said China had lately become Pakistan’s largest trade and investment partner. Bilateral trade reached historic levels in 2021. Many Chinese enterprises had established strong presence in Pakistan and were contributing to its socio-economic growth.

“China can become a huge market for Pakistan’s livestock and agricultural products. Similarly, Pakistan can benefit from Chinese expertise in industrialization, agricultural modernization, e-commerce and digital finance.”

He said Pakistan was one of the earliest participants of President Xi’s Belt and Road Initiative. As the flagship project of the BRI, CPEC (China Pakistan Economic Corridor) had immense economic and strategic significance for the two countries. “There is complete consensus in Pakistan on CPEC’s indispensability for Pakistan’s national development. My government is fully committed to making CPEC a High Quality Demonstration Project of BRI.”

CPEC, the prime minister said, had been instrumental in addressing Pakistan’s chronic energy crisis and improving connectivity through infrastructure development. “We are also making rapid progress on the development of Gwadar Port and Special Economic Zones which would benefit the entire region.”

He said no quantum of development was meaningful unless its fruits trickled down to the underprivileged section of society. “My vision, therefore, is aimed at rooting out poverty and empowering the people of Pakistan to become masters of their own destiny.”

Phase-II of CPEC, he added, had, therefore, accordingly been designed for job creation, industrial modernization, livelihood improvement, rural revitalization, socio-economic development and poverty alleviation. “Complementing these projects is my government’s flagship initiative called “Ehsaas,” a large social security network for poverty alleviation and upward social mobility.”

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/876523/pak-china-ties-an-unparalleled-journey-of-friendship-imran/>

### **Pakistan Observer**

## **Pak-China ties & emerging geopolitical & security scenarios**

*Dr Mehmood-ul-Hassan Khan*

IRON brothers, Pakistan and China are closely observing the deployment of SU-400 by India along the Punjab sector of Pakistan.

According to latest information of Indian Defence Ministry (December 2021), the Indian Air Force (IAF) has deployed the first squadron of the S-400 air defence missile system in the Punjab sector. It would also be deployed in depth areas to tackle the threat from China.

It shows its madness of arms race adhering to the principles of offensive realism, aspiring to accumulate maximum power and establish its hegemony in the region.

Policymakers, strategists and military brasses of Islamabad and Beijing are coordinating to chalk out comprehensive response and prepare a Counter Offensive Strategy (COS) against this deployment of SU-400.

Because of its effectiveness and modern technologies, the S-400 air defense system has now emerged as an eye-grabbing technology, compelling several states to acquire it.

Developed by the Almaz Central Design Bureau of Russia, the S-400 is a mobile air defense system that serves to engage intruding aircraft, unmanned aerial vehicles, cruise missiles, and ballistic missiles.

It has surfaced as an anti-access/area denial (A2/AD) asset designed to protect military, political, and economic assets from aerial attacks. Moreover, the S-400 supports an upgraded radar system and a software update that enables it to fire new types of missiles.

The S-400 is equipped with four different types of missiles: short-range 9M96E (40km), medium-range 9M96E2 (120km), long-range 48N6 (250km), and the very long-range 40N6E (400km).

In this connection, India already has its own indigenous two-tiered ballistic missile defense (BMD) system, which is already operational.

The BMD system encompasses the Prithvi Air Defense (PAD) and Advanced Air Defense (AAD) systems for high-altitude interception and low-altitude interception, respectively.

The outermost layer of the Indian multilayered shield will constitute India's indigenous AAD and PAD, with the new S-400 air defense systems comprising the second layer.

However, Pakistan missile technologies and resultant various advanced nuclear arsenals can easily match Indian missile and anti-missile capabilities but deployment of SU-400 has become punching box.

In the near past, Pakistan Interior Minister Sheikh Rasheed Ahmed announced at a public event in Rawalpindi that the Pakistan Air Force (PAF) would perform a fly-over using 25 "JS-10" jet fighters newly purchased from China for the Republic Day parade on March 23.

These jets, he added, would counter the 36 Dassault Rafale jet fighters India was receiving from France.

It has now reconfirmed even by Turkish TV channel TRT. The J-10 known as "Firebird" and "Vigorous Dragon" by the West is a single-engine tactical fighter built by the Chengdu Aircraft Corporation in Sichuan province.



Developed in the 1980s and 90s. There has not been official confirmation (nor denial) from China or Pakistan of the buy since Ahmed's statement, which has been primarily reported in regional press but it seems that expected visit of Imran Khan to Beijing in the month of February will be very important in this regard.

In this context, Pakistan, a longtime ally of China's, first expressed interest in the J-10 back in 2006, but chose instead to co-manufacture with China a light fighter called the JF-17 Thunder, the latest Block III model of which introduces significant beyond-visual-range (BVR) warfare capability.

However, Islamabad repeatedly explored buying the higher-performing J-10s as well, and has gained familiarity with the type in visits and joint exercises involving People's Liberation Army Air Force J-10s.

It has an extensive number of variants, including the basic J-10A and a twin-seater training version J-10S. In the early 2010s, an upgraded J-10B was introduced, and in 2018 all the previous versions were discontinued in favor of the J-10C.

The jet features a diverter-less supersonic inlet (DSI) and Active Electronically Scanned Array (AESA) radar.

According to reliable diplomatic and military sources Beijing would allow Pakistan access to hypersonic weapons to counter the S-400.

Hypersonic weapons, which fly at over five times the speed of sound, are difficult for most radars to track and existing surface-to-air missiles to engage. A hypersonic glide vehicle is a type of hypersonic weapon that is mounted on a ballistic missile and released in the upper atmosphere, after which it glides to its target.

According to US intelligence estimates, the Chinese DF-17 has a range of around 2,500km and moves at between five and 10 times the speed of sound. The Chinese military is believed to have inducted the DF-17 into service.

In addition to this many local military experts have previously argued in favour of developing hypersonic weapons to counter the deployment of the S-400.

China may also assist Pakistan by providing its upgraded surface-to-air missiles, which could deter the Indian Air Force from carrying out offensive operations.

China has developed indigenous versions of the S-300 called the HQ-9 family of surface-to-air missiles, which have already been sold to Pakistan. The induction of the HQ-9 in Pakistan defence system has further strengthened its capabilities.

It is featured a hard-to-jam phased array guidance and tracking radar, and its missile uses an active radar for terminal guidance. Even help from Turkey having S-400 may also be sought but it has remote chances.

China allowing Pakistan access to its S-400 systems would allow Islamabad to develop electronic countermeasures to jam radars or craft specific flight plans for its fighter jets that reduce possibility of detection.

On the other hand, most recently, Pakistan navy has inducted Tughril into the PN fleet along with Sea-King helicopters gifted by the state of Qatar.

It has further enhanced PN combat capabilities in safeguarding the territorial integrity and maritime interests of Pakistan.

The naval chief expressed confidence that the highly capable Pakistan Navy Fleet and its air arm will continue promoting peace and stability in line with Government's policy while devotedly guarding our maritime frontiers.

In the near past, Pakistan's Navy has also successfully carried out test firing of surface-to-air missiles (SAMs) at Karachi, demonstrating the country's naval combat readiness.

It showcased its war preparedness through Ground-Based Air Defence (GBAD) live firing of these missiles.

Moreover, construction of the eight submarines has been divided between Karachi Shipyard & Engineering Works and China Shipbuilding Industry Corporation. Out of the eight submarines, four will be built at Karachi shipyard.

To conclude, Pakistan has now successfully test fired various versions of its indigenously developed anti-ballistic missile (ABM) with enhanced range.

It seems that region is inching towards escalations because of Indian constant war threats and posturing.

However, the versatility of the S-400 has meant that Pakistan has considered its acquisition by India as a threat, as the system can shoot down aircraft even in Pakistani airspace which needs closed military cooperation with China.

—The writer is Director: Geopolitics/Economics, Regional Expert: China, CPEC & BRI, Member Board of Expert: Center for South Asia & International Studies (CSAIS), Islamabad

<https://pakobserver.net/pak-china-ties-emerging-geopolitical-security-scenarios-by-dr-mehmood-ul-hassan-khan/>

### **The Express Tribune**

#### **Pakistani handicraft pavilion opened in Shanghai**

Many crafts put on display with brass-made flower vases being cornerstone

SHANGHAI: A Pakistani handicraft pavilion was launched on Nanjing Road, one of Shanghai's famous shopping streets, ahead of the Chinese New Year.

Many Pakistani crafts have been put on display for visitors with brass-made flower vases as the cornerstone.

“It is amazing to promote these tremendous and beautiful Pakistani products to a foreign country like China,” said Aqeel Ahmed Chaudhry, founder of Winza Jewellery and CEO of Atlantis Co, in an interview with China Economic Net.

“Our purpose is to promote Pakistan and Pakistani art in China. We welcome all our Pakistani brothers and sisters to visit with Chinese friends and share your ideas and give us your precious feedback,” noted Muhammad Javed, Personal Assistant of project CEO Aqeel Ahmed Chaudhry.

As per Javed, Pakistan has a long history and a wide range of specialties in making handicrafts.

“Producing unique handicrafts has always been a Pakistani tradition; indeed the art has been practiced for thousands of years,” he told the CEN reporter, adding that the various textures, beautiful embroidery and lovely shaded crafts distinguish Pakistani handicrafts from others.

These crafts are usually made of brass in a very mechanical way. There is ample variety and the crafts are normally made in different shapes and designs.

“There are many types of cultures within the geographical boundaries of Pakistan as various civilisations impacted it in different periods in history. The brass-made handicrafts are mostly from Multan, Punjab,” Javed said, adding that they would like to spread the Pakistani culture of art, handmade crafts and share its essence and elegance with the world.

THE ARTICLE ORIGINALLY APPEARED ON THE CHINA ECONOMIC NET

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2340928/pakistani-handicraft-pavilion-opened-in-shanghai>

## The Nation

### **Regional connectivity challenges**

*Saleem Qamar Butt*

In pursuit of their geo-economic and geo-strategic security interests, the two global superpowers, namely the US and China, seem to have locked horns on the domination of the global commons i.e. land, sea and air lines of communications, outer space and cyberspaces. The phenomenon of guarding respective spheres of influence by the big three, including Russia, involves most of the other countries wittingly or unwittingly on the global chessboard. China’s Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), labelled as the world’s largest infrastructure programme, has so far directed investments mainly to energy and transportation networks in Asia, the Middle East, and Africa. BRI investment projects are estimated to add over USD 1 trillion of outward funding for foreign infrastructure over the 10-year period from 2017. According to official data, China invested USD 139.8 billion by 2020 in BRI projects, including USD 22.5 billion last year alone. This includes the BRI’s flagship project, the USD 60 billion China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), in which Beijing has so far invested over USD 25 billion. Since its launch in 2013, the BRI has

been well received across the globe due to its easy loan parameters. However, unsustainable loans and cases of debt traps in countries like Sri Lanka and Malaysia as well as the use of sovereign land for building China's military installations have made the BRI a cause for concern.

In response to the Chinese BRI and the String of Pearls, the US strategic response came with the Asia-Pacific Rebalancing Policy, giving birth to The Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (QSD, also known as the QUAD), which is a strategic security dialogue between the United States, India, Japan and Australia. Quad is to checkmate China's growing profile as a nation, giving humanitarian aid to nations across Asia and the Pacific, and it wants to challenge China's soft power bid in the region. Moreover, little is known about the new quadrilateral framework announced in July 2021 between the United States, Pakistan, Uzbekistan and Afghanistan, except that it is aimed at enhancing regional connectivity. A July 16 statement from the US State Department said the four countries aimed to "expand trade, build transit links, and strengthen business-to-business ties" with an eye on "the historic opportunity to open flourishing interregional trade routes". But analysts remain divided over whether the new grouping is aimed at countering China's growing influence in the region, especially its Belt and Road Initiative as some saw it as a US attempt to keep military supply lines into Afghanistan open then and after exit, remain relevant in Afghanistan and the region by ultimately seeking basing facilities for its military drones and intelligence operators.

In addition to the bad impact of super powers' rivalries, almost all South Asian countries have their regional borders and other political disputes, which prohibit fully capitalising on the regional connectivity as a part of above-mentioned mega initiatives by China as well as the US. Indian-Occupied Kashmir remains the number one nuclear flashpoint between Pakistan and India despite fighting four wars in addition to misuse of Indus Water Treaty by India, Sir Creek and Siachen issues. Consequently, the Indian quest to reach out to the big Pakistani market, Central Asia and beyond by land routes remains an unrealised dream. Pakistan also fails to benefit from close export to India's big market; people to people contact and bilateral tourism potential remains a hostage to the above stated unresolved issues due the want of visionary political leadership and a far right extremist state of mind reflected in the Indian state's policies.

The World Bank has characterised South Asia as one of the least integrated regions in the world because of the low level of trade. It is painful to see that instead of taking advantage of the ongoing mega connectivity projects, the South Asian countries continue to drift apart due foreign influence, camp politics and narrow-minded self-interests.

Pakistan is also a part of two older projects hindered by funding difficulties: the Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India (TAPI) gas pipeline and the Central Asia-South Asia-1000 project, which intends to bring hydropower from Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan to Afghanistan and Pakistan. On January 15, Pakistan's energy minister announced that negotiations are underway with Russia to build a gas pipeline from Kazakhstan to Pakistan. The envisioned new pipeline marks Islamabad's latest effort to strengthen connectivity with Kabul and Central Asia—but not the rest of South Asia.

If South Asia is to meaningfully benefit from the regional connectivity, the biggest challenges of staying away from becoming a pawn in the Great Powers' Politics and overcoming bilateral or multilateral disputes through peaceful resolution by exploring the middle grounds is the only way forward: A utopian dream, the realisation of which is prone to remain elusive without great leadership and providence.

<https://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2022-01-29/page-6/detail-0>

## **Pakistan wants peace with India, end to Kashmir bloodshed: FO**

*SHAFQAT ALI*

Pakistan supports peace in Afghanistan, welcomes UNSC resolution

ISLAMABAD - Pakistan said yesterday that Islamabad desired peace with India and stability in the region.

Speaking at a weekly news briefing here, Foreign Office spokesperson Asim Iftikhar Ahmed said Pakistan also continues to draw attention to India's irresponsible state behaviour and track record of willful non-compliance with international rule of law.

He, however, said peace and development in South Asia must no longer be held hostage to India's irresponsible and reckless approach.

He said Kashmiris in the Indian Illegally Occupied Kashmir and around the world marked January 26 as a Black Day deploring the 7 decades of Indian illegal occupation and state-sponsored terrorism unleashing a reign of unprecedented violence and oppression against the Kashmiris while denying them their right to self-determination.

"It is a matter of grave concern that India continues to commit widespread and gross human rights violations in IIOJK with impunity. These gruesome acts are well-documented by the UN and international human rights organizations. On various occasions, Pakistan has also presented to the UN and the international community evidence of war crimes and crimes against humanity being perpetrated by the Indian occupation forces in IIOJK," he said.

Ahmed said that for more than 70 years, India had violated the UN Charter and fundamental principles, norms and rules of international law.

"On Jammu and Kashmir for example, by refusing to implement the UNSC resolutions, India remains in consistent breach of its obligations under Article 25 of the UN Charter that stipulates that "The Members of the United Nations agree to accept and carry out the decisions of the Security Council," he said.

The spokesperson said the world was increasingly aware of the grave situation in IIOJK. "Let India be warned that its reign of terror and illegal actions cannot continue unchecked. The government and people of Pakistan reaffirm our strong resolve to continue to raise our voice and extend all possible support for our Kashmiri brothers and sisters in their just struggle," he added.

Ahmed said Pakistan strongly urged the members of the international community to hold India to account for its atrocities in IIOJK, and to play their due role in enabling the Kashmiris to exercise their inalienable right to self-determination as pledged to them under the relevant UN Security Council resolutions.

He said Prime Minister Imran Khan will be undertaking a visit to China to attend the opening ceremony of the Beijing Winter Olympics next week.

“During the visit, the Prime Minister will have meetings with the Chinese leadership. The visit will reinforce the All-Weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership between our two countries, and further advance the objective of building a closer China-Pakistan community with a shared future in the new era,” he maintained.

He welcomed the adoption of UN Security Council Resolution regarding humanitarian assistance to Afghanistan as “a step in the right direction towards helping the Afghan people in dire need.

“As urged by the OIC, pathways should now be found towards revitalizing of the Afghan economy and unfreezing of the assets that rightfully belong to the Afghan people,” the spokesperson said.

Pakistan, he said, welcomed the adoption, by consensus, of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2615, that has re-affirmed that provision of humanitarian and other assistance to people of Afghanistan is not a violation of the Security Council Sanctions regime.

<https://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2022-01-29/page-12/detail-6>

**January 30, 2022**

**Business Recorder**

**Poverty alleviation**

PM reiterates his fondness for ‘Chinese model’

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Imran Khan Saturday, while expressing his eagerness to attend the Beijing Winter Olympics 2022 during his upcoming visit to China, said that the time-tested ties between the two countries had grown strongly over a period of time.

During an interaction with the Chinese media, the prime minister said both countries had bonds of friendship spanning over a period of 70 years, further cemented with the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

He said “There is a feeling in Pakistan that China always stood with us in times of need and supported us during difficult times. Similarly, Pakistan also always stood with China.”

The prime minister also referred to the construction of the Karakorum Highway as a vital milestone in the chapter of Pakistan-China friendship. A number of Chinese died during its construction, he added.

To a query, he said that the most impressive thing about China as acknowledged by the entire world was its success in taking 700 million people out of poverty during the last thirty or forty years, adding such huge achievement had never happened before in the human history. He said it was such a feat that had impressed the world. “It is this fact which also impressed me as it coincides with my objective of steering my people out of poverty,’ he added.

The prime minister responding to another question maintained that they would like to emulate the steps taken by China to alleviate poverty. “We want to emulate the Chinese model of inclusive growth. The Chinese economy growth witnessed the prosperity of all Chinese people,” he maintained.

The prime minister said such inclusive growth excluded the bridge between the rich and the poor. China had been a model for all those countries that wanted an inclusive growth, he added.

Such a growth, he said, also contributed to wealth creation. China remained focused on the economy and when it attained growth, its fruits trickled down to all strata of society.

About West’s so-called criticism of China over the Uyghurs in Xinjiang, the prime minister said that Pakistan ambassador to China had visited the area and informed that such allegations were not true.

The prime minister said on the other hand, the West did not talk about the Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) where the worst human rights violations had been committed by the Indian forces.

“There is selective silence over Kashmir,” he said, adding the IIOJK had been turned into an open prison by 800,000 Indian troops, and such a silence on Kashmir was deafening which was based upon double standards.

To a query regarding Afghanistan, the prime minister said the country had suffered for the last forty years as the outer countries had turned its soil into a battleground.

After forty years, the war-weary country got a chance for peace, he said, adding, the international community did not think of the Afghans after the foreign troops’ withdrawal. They did not think how these impoverished people would survive.

The prime minister said when the Soviets left Afghanistan there was utter chaos and casualties. “Now everyone abandoned Afghanistan. I am talking about 40 million Afghan people currently facing worst humanitarian crises,” he said, warning that the same chaos and destruction could return to Afghan soil which occurred after Soviets’ pullout.

The prime minister called upon the international community to focus on the welfare of Afghan people immediately who needed help as soon as possible without its likes or dislikes for the Taliban.

About Pakistan’s focus on geo-economics strategy, the prime minister stressed upon strengthening of its economy which according to him had, unfortunately, never been paid attention in the past.

About the CPEC, the prime minister said its first phase was focused on connectivity and energy sector, but now they were developing special economic zones and agriculture, seeking Chinese cooperation to help improve their productivity, crops yield and livestock, citing the latest varieties of cotton crop as developed by China.

He also referred to the information and technology as another realm of cooperation as the future of the world hinged over the growth of IT sector. He opined that China had made strides in IT field.

Talking about another field of cooperation between the two countries, he said that they would be learning from the Chinese experience over building the mega cities and coping with the problems of air pollution and waste disposal, etc.

He said Pakistan had been witnessing urbanization at the fastest pace and the Chinese model of urban development would be of great help.

Replying to a question, he said his upcoming visit to China in the next week would provide him an opportunity to witness the winter Olympics. Despite a sportsman for about 20 years, he had not witnessed such an event in the past. Being in politics, he did not get time for sports, he added.

The prime minister said that they would also teach the Chinese nation to play cricket, expressing hope that the Chinese would excel in this game as they had shown excellent performance in the Olympics games during the last few years. He observed that Covid pandemic had devastated the world and badly affected the sporting events.

The prime minister said they would also promote skiing in Gilgit Baltistan and some other parts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province which had ideal skiing locations, adding in this regard they would be looking towards Chinese cooperation and coordination as the country had performed well in the winter sports.

The prime minister also expressed best wishes on his behalf and on behalf of the people of Pakistan to the Chinese government and the people on the advent of new lunar year. —APP

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2022/01/30/1-page/916967-news.html>

### **Daily Times**

#### **Chinese firms to establish hydropower projects in Pakistan**

Chinese companies involved in hydropower projects (HPPs) in Pakistan have received several appreciation letters and awards from their employers and local government authorities in 2021, Gwadar Pro reported on Saturday. The report says, the Chinese companies have bright prospects for securing the contract of more HPPs in the country.

Chinese companies have been hailed for their “tremendous project management skills”, “commitment and uninterrupted work during the pandemic” and their work for the social uplift of local communities in Pakistan.



In the latest development, Karot Power Company Limited (KPCL), a subsidiary of China Three Gorge South Asian Investment Limited, received National Power Regulatory Authority (NEPRA)'s award in the area of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). Deputy CEO KPCL Lu Dongsheng received the award on February 19, 2022. Before the CSR award, KPCL has received four letters of appreciation from the administrative departments of the Government of Punjab and the Government of Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) for its "best quality of work, accommodating locals to work and the promotion of Pak-China Friendship". In December 2021, WAPDA awarded China Gezhouba Group of Companies (CGGC) at Mohmand Dam Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) with a letter of appreciation for its "hard work during the pandemic".

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/877127/chinese-firms-to-establish-hydropower-projects-in-pakistan/>

### **The China visit**

Prime Minister Imran Khan's visit to China is coming at a crucial time for both countries. Islamabad has been delaying much needed diplomatic repair work, which has now started slowing CPEC down. And China has taken a huge step, along with Russia, and raised the stakes in its standoff with the US. Now the more countries defy the America-led boycott of China's winter games, like Pakistan, the happier Beijing will become. The PM is also expected to hold a meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin, which has triggered rumours about whether Islamabad, with its own grievances with Washington, might be inclined to lean towards this blossoming alliance as well.

The PM's definitely been saying things to encourage such suggestions, like lashing out at the Americans for their "double standards" in highlighting China's alleged human rights violations in Xinjiang while ignoring India's clear crimes against humanity in Kashmir. He's also due to meet a number of senior Chinese leaders so the next few days will make things much clearer. It's very important to sort out all issues with Beijing because if CPEC is compromised in any way then both countries will suffer. It is, after all, just one part of the bigger Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), but a very essential one.

One of the biggest hurdles in the way comes from the security situation. That explains why the PM was given an extensive briefing by the military high command. Clearly it is going to have to do something very quickly about the rising number of terrorist attacks once again. And this is something that will shake things all the way to the Afghan policy because the Taliban are neither cracking down on TTP nor fulfilling their promise of keeping them in check. How the government has planned to deal with this issue must not only crush the enemy and make Pakistan safe again, it must also impress the Chinese enough to feel safe about their people working on our dams.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/876980/the-china-visit/>

### **Imran slams West for ‘double standards’ on Xinjiang, IIOJK**

Prime Minister Imran Khan Saturday while expressing his eagerness to attend the Beijing Winter Olympics 2022 during his upcoming visit to China, said that the time-tested ties between the two countries have grown strongly over a period of time. During an interaction with the Chinese media, the prime minister said both countries had bonds of friendship spanning over a period of 70 years, further cemented with the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

He said there is a feeling in Pakistan that China always stood with us in times of need and supported us during difficult times. Similarly, Pakistan also always stood with China.” About West’s so-called criticism of China over the Uyghurs in Xinjiang, the prime minister said that Pakistan ambassador to China had visited the area and informed that such allegations were not true. The prime minister said on the other hand, the West did not talk about the Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) where the worst human rights violations had been committed by the Indian forces. “There is selective silence over Kashmir,” he said, adding the IIOJK had been turned into an open prison by 800,000 Indian troops, and such a silence on Kashmir was deafening which was based upon double standards.

The prime minister responding to another question maintained that they would like to emulate the steps taken by China to alleviate poverty. “We want to emulate the Chinese model of inclusive growth. The Chinese economy growth witnessed the prosperity of all Chinese people,” he maintained. The prime minister said such inclusive growth excluded the bridge between the rich and the poor. China had been a model for all those countries that wanted an inclusive growth, he added. Such a growth, he said, also contributed to wealth creation. China remained focused on the economy and when it attained growth, its fruits trickled down to all strata of society. To a query regarding Afghanistan, the prime minister said the country had suffered for the last forty years as the outer countries had turned its soil into a battleground.

After forty years, the war-weary country got a chance for peace, he said, adding, the international community did not think of the Afghans after the foreign troops’ withdrawal. They did not think how these impoverished people would survive. The prime minister said when the Soviets left Afghanistan, there was utter chaos and casualties.

“Now everyone abandoned Afghanistan. I am talking about 40 million Afghan people currently facing worst humanitarian crises,” he said, warning that the same chaos and destruction could return to Afghan soil which occurred after Soviets’ pullout. The prime minister called upon the international community to focus on the welfare of Afghan people immediately who needed help as soon as possible without its likes or dislikes for the Taliban.

About Pakistan’s focus on geo-economics strategy, the prime minister stressed upon strengthening of its economy which according to him had, unfortunately, never been paid attention in the past. About the CPEC, the prime minister said its first phase was focused on connectivity and energy sector, but now they were developing special economic zones and

agriculture, seeking Chinese cooperation to help improve their productivity, crops yield and livestock, citing the latest varieties of cotton crop as developed by China.

He also referred to the information and technology as another realm of cooperation as the future of the world hinged over the growth of IT sector. He opined that China had made strides in IT field. Talking about another field of cooperation between the two countries, he said that they would be learning from the Chinese experience over building the megacities and coping the problems of air pollution and waste disposal etc.

He said Pakistan had been witnessing urbanization at the fastest pace and the Chinese model of urban development would be of great help. Replying to a question, he said his upcoming visit to China in the next week would provide him an opportunity to witness the winter Olympics. Despite a sportsman for about 20 years, he had not witnessed such an event in the past. Being in politics, he did not get time for sports, he added.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/877193/imran-slams-west-for-double-standards-on-xinjiang-ijojk/>

### Dunya News

#### **PM directs Punjab govt to provide preferential facilities to Chinese in PSEZ**

ISLAMABAD (Dunya News) – Prime Minister (PM) of Pakistan Imran Khan on Sunday directed the Punjab government to provide preferential facilities to Chinese investors for investment in the Punjab Special Economic Zones (PSEZ).

According to sources, more than 20 Chinese companies are ready to invest in Pakistan while the necessary facilities are required in the special economic zones for which the Punjab government has been directed to complete the necessary steps for investment in the special economic zones. Sources said that during his visit to Lahore, the Prime Minister directed in a high level meeting to expedite the Special Economic Zones and said that in order to accelerate economic activities, the facilities of government institutions in the Special Economic Zones should be ensured.

The proposal to equip at least one thousand acres of land in Special Economic Zones with necessary facilities for investment is under consideration. A meeting will be held on Monday to finalize several government initiatives and submit a report to the Prime Minister before his visit to China.

<https://dunyanews.tv/en/Business/639056-PM-directs-Punjab-govt-to-provide-preferential-facilities-to-Chinese-in>

### Pakistan Observer

#### **India funded, supported attacks on CPEC: NSA Moeed**

National Security Adviser (NSA) Moeed Yusuf on Thursday said the safety of foreigners in the country is Pakistan's responsibility, and concerns of Chinese workers and engineers working on the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) are taken seriously.

The NSA's remarks came in an interview with the Beijing Review where he mentioned that some countries and their proxy actors do not want the CPEC to succeed as they see the Pakistan-China partnership as a "threat".

Moeed acknowledged that there have been a number of attacks on the CPEC projects, highlighting that India supported and funded them through anti-Pakistan militant organisations operating from third countries.

"Unfortunately, our enemies will continue to seek ways to target us," he added. However, the NSA stated that regardless of these attacks, there is clear evidence that the Pakistan-China relationship is still going strong as the two countries came out "stronger and further strengthened security protocols".

"All inimical forces working at the behest of external powers to undermine the CPEC will be defeated," said Moeed, adding that Pakistan now has a mechanism to ensure the security of every Chinese citizen in the country.

He emphasised that the full potential of the CPEC will only be realised when there is peace in the region.

Moeed said that the CPEC is beneficial for both China and Pakistan as well as everyone who participates in it.

"Since the start of the project in 2014, significant progress has been made on the ground. APP

<https://pakobserver.net/india-funded-supported-attacks-on-cpec-nsa-moeed/>

### **Centre for BRI and China Studies to promote Pak-China ties**

IPDS and RIPP will explore digital ways of promoting BRI and bilateral ties between China and Pakistan.

IPDS has established the Centre for BRI and China Studies in collaboration with the Riphah Institute of Public Policy, Riphah International University.

This Centre has already been established by IPDS in 2018 and now this has been transferred to RIPP, RIU for building scholarship and academic excellence.

This Center was established after IPDS signed MoU with RIPP, RIU to jointly initiate such steps. Earlier, IPDS and RIPP, RIU have also jointly launched Course on Contemporary Diplomacy and International Relations for foreign diplomats.

Keeping in view the significance of the Pakistan-China relations, China's foreign policy and global economic and strategic presence, CPEC and the importance of academic and scholarship, IPDS and RIPP, RIU establish this Centre to provide groundbreaking research, advocacy, training, dialogue, and consultancy services in order to ensure Pakistan's effective, constructive, efficient, and valuable participation in China Studies and BRI Project for the benefit of the communities in the country and the region.

The primary function of the Centre is to undertake research on issues relating to regional economic cooperation to enhance collaboration between think tanks, universities, media organizations, and the business community.

The Centre will initiate courses on Contemporary China, BRI and China Newsletter, Research Papers, Books, Journals, Analysis, Evaluation on China, BRI and CPEC, Media Workshop for journalists to exchange ideas and to develop a mechanism for sharing news reports relating to Pakistan's relations with China and other countries.

<https://pakobserver.net/centre-for-bri-and-china-studies-to-promote-pak-china-ties/>

### **Fostering B2B investments main thrust of CPEC's 2nd phase**

Fostering Business to business (B2B) investments main thrust of second phase of CPEC, WealthPK reported on Saturday. The second phase of CPEC especially focuses on industrial organisation through B2B investments. In this regard, the Board of Investment (BoI) is also encouraging fostering the B2B enterprises in Pakistan.

The BoI is a member of the CPEC's Working Group on Industrial Parks in Special Economic Zones (SEZs). It is in the process of identifying suitable and viable locations for consideration by the Joint Working Group (JWG) for setting up SEZs, WealthPK reported.

The BoI has already identified possible sites for setting up the SEZs along the corridor in all the four provinces of Pakistan, and the Gilgit-Baltistan in consultation with stakeholders. Each economic zone will focus on unique goods and services based on the availability of local raw materials, manpower, and other considerations.

The creation of these zones will attract domestic and foreign investment, as well as create job opportunities.

A CPEC industrial cooperation and B2B investment conference organised by the BoI in Lahore recently was also part of the efforts to promote B2B ventures.

The goals were to promote CPEC-related SEZs, facilitate public-private partnership (PPP), initiate successful B2B ventures, and showcase the Punjab province's public-sector achievements.

It is pertinent to mention here that a total of nine SEZs are to be built under the CPEC. Work on three of them, including Allama Iqbal Industrial City in Punjab, Rashakai SEZ in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, and Dhabeji SEZ in Sindh, is nearing completion.

These SEZs have been offered enticing fiscal advantages, including a 10-year tax holiday and customs duty exemption on capital goods imports for both the developer and the SEZs' tenants.

These special economic zones are being established under a special law to tackle the global competitiveness issues and with a view to attracting foreign direct investment (FDI).

The legislation provides for creation of an industrial cluster with liberal incentives, infrastructure, and investor facilitation services in order to increase productivity and lower the cost of doing business in order to promote economic growth and reduce poverty.

The legislation also provides for doing away with the procedural complexities which usually mar speedy and smooth establishment of enterprises.

The SEZ policy offers a comprehensive framework for fostering a favourable business climate conducive to FDI. It focuses on liberalisation, deregulation, privatisation and facilitation.

<https://pakobserver.net/fostering-b2b-investments-main-thrust-of-cpecs-2nd-phase/>

### **Chinese Cos may secure HPPs contracts**

Chinese companies involved in hydropower projects (HPPs) in Pakistan have received several appreciation letters and awards from their employers and local government authorities in 2021, Gwadar Pro reported on Saturday.

The report says, the Chinese companies have bright prospects for securing the contract of more HPPs in the country. Chinese companies have been hailed for their “tremendous project management skills”, “commitment and uninterrupted work during the pandemic.

<https://pakobserver.net/chinese-cos-may-secure-hpps-contracts/>

### **Unparalleled friendship**

PRIME Minister Imran Khan said on Friday that Pakistan-China friendship is unparalleled when it comes to inter-state relations, adding that it is a unique account of unwavering mutual support, mutual trust and mutual respect.

In an article published in Global Times, he said nurtured by successive generations of our leadership and peoples across seven decades, this iron-brotherhood has blossomed into a strong and vibrant all-weather strategic cooperative partnership.

This vivid description of the relationship between the two friendly countries is reflective of the aspirations of the people of Pakistan as well as personal commitment of Prime Minister Imran Khan, who is scheduled to visit Beijing and have interaction with senior Chinese leadership on the occasion of launching of the Winter Olympics.

It is because of the principled-based relations and sincerity of the Chinese leaders towards Pakistan that the issue of friendship with China enjoys universal consensus in Pakistan.

In fact, friendship between the two countries is a factor of stability in South Asia where some local and foreign powers have joined hands to advance their unholy designs of containing China and increasing pressure on Pakistan.

Attempts are being made to create a wedge between Pakistan and China but credit goes to the leadership of the two countries as well as their peoples for their firm resolve to foil such designs.

In fact, the golden principles of sovereign equality and shared prosperity form the basis of cooperation between Pakistan and China and the expanding dimensions of this cooperative relationship is a firm guarantee for its sustainability.

In this backdrop, one hopes that the two countries would hopefully explore new avenues for cooperation besides removing irritants in the way of speedy implementation of CPEC projects during the impending visit of the Prime Minister.

<https://pakobserver.net/unparalleled-friendship/>

### **Pakistan-China relationship has grown stronger with time: Imran**

Prime Minister Imran Khan on Saturday said the “selective silence” of the West on human rights violations in Indian-occupied Kashmir was “deafening” as he called out their “double standards” in highlighting China’s alleged mistreatment of Uighur Muslims in Xinjiang.

During a conversation with Chinese media, Imran Khan, expressing his eagerness to attend Beijing Winter Olympics 2022 during his upcoming visit to China on Saturday, said that the time-tested ties between the two countries had grown strongly over time.

The premier said that both the countries had a bond of friendship spanning over 70 years, which was further cemented by the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor. Imran Khan highlighted that China had successfully taken 700 million people out of poverty during the last 30 to 40 years and that it “coincided” with his objective of steering Pakistanis out of poverty.

“We want to emulate the Chinese model of inclusive growth. The growth of China’s economy witnessed the prosperity of all Chinese people,” he maintained, adding that such growth excluded the bridge between the rich and poor. He stated that China’s growth contributed to wealth creation that trickled down to all strata of society. Regarding the West’s criticisms and allegations against China’s ‘humanitarian crimes’, the premier said that Pakistan’s ambassador to China had visited the region and informed him that the allegations were not true. He maintained that conversely the West ignored India’s human rights violations against Kashmiris in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir. “There is selective silence over Kashmir,” he said, adding that IIOJK had turned into an open prison with 800,000 Indian troops.

“Such a silence on Kashmir was deafening and was based on double standards,” Imran added. To a question about Afghanistan, Imran Khan said that the country had been suffering for the past 40 years after being turned into a battle ground for foreign powers.

“After 40 years, the war-weary country got a chance to peace,” he said, adding that the international community did not think of the Afghans after the foreign troops’ withdrawal nor how improvised the Afghans would be. “Everyone abandoned Afghanistan. 40 million Afghan people are currently facing the worst humanitarian crisis,” he said.

The premier called upon the international community to focus on the welfare of Afghan people despite their political preferences towards the Taliban.

Regarding the CPEC, he stated that its first phase was focused on connectivity and the energy sector. However, special economic zones and agriculture were developing, with Chinese cooperation to help improve their productivity.

He further said that Information and Technology was another realm of cooperation as the future of the world hinged over IT growth and that China had “made strides” in the field of IT.

According to the premier, Pakistan would also learn from the Chinese experience of building megacities and coping with problems of air pollution and waste disposal.

“Pakistan has been witnessing urbanization at the fastest pace and the Chinese model of urban development would be of great help”.

PM Imran said that his upcoming visit to China would provide him an opportunity to witness the winter Olympics. He lamented that despite being a sportsman for two decades, he had not witnessed such an event in the past and that he did not get time for sports due to his political career.

He further said that Pakistan would teach the Chinese nation to play cricket and hoped that the Chinese would excel in the game. Imran Khan emphasised that the Covid-19 pandemic had negatively affected sporting events.

<https://pakobserver.net/pakistan-china-relationship-has-grown-stronger-with-time-imran/>

### **The Express Tribune**

#### **Govt to import 100,000 tons fertilisers from China**

Provision of flour at lower price one of top priorities of government, says SAPM Cheema

ISLAMABAD: In a bid to mitigate the ongoing fertiliser crunch, the government will import over one hundred thousand tons of fertilisers from China, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Food Security Jamshed Iqbal Cheema on Saturday.

Addressing a press conference, he said that the government has provided a subsidy worth 132 billion rupees on fertilisers, adding the government was providing a significant subsidy on gas to fertilizers’ manufacturing factories.

Cheema said the provision of flour at a lower price to people is one of the top priorities of the government. He urged people to lodge complaints against those who are selling the flour at higher than fixed rates.

The SAPM said sugar production will witness a remarkable increase in comparison with the past. He said at present, the country has a stock of 4.6 million tons of wheat.

Earlier this month, the federal government had said that a robust system to monitor fertilizer supply and demand with constant monitoring has been put in place that has led to the resolution of issues on a daily basis.



The prime minister, during a meeting, had said that the government was taking strict anti-smuggling and anti-hoarding measures to curb illicit profiteering from urea distribution across the country.

Opp calls for emergency assistance

However, the opposition saw the urea crisis as a new weapon to bludgeon the government, doubling down on its longstanding line of attack on the ruling party.

In a statement, PML-N president Shehbaz Sharif decried the urea shortage and demanded that the government check smuggling of the compost and put an end to the exploitation of the farming community.

He likened the suffering of farmers in the country to the victims of the Muree tragedy “who had been abandoned by the government”.

“The people who provide food to the people are crying out for help just like the victims of Murree and the government is missing from the scene as usual,” Sharif said.

If farmers are not helped today, he cautioned, the whole country will suffer tomorrow in case of a shortage of agricultural commodities.

Sharif, who is also the opposition leader in the National Assembly, alleged that growers were not able to get hold of the much-needed fertiliser bag even at the price of gold, saying the commodity had evaporated like other essentials such as flour, sugar and gas.

“It would be better to provide emergency assistance to the farmers and ensure supply of urea than to form a commission and make excuses later.”

Meanwhile, PML-N spokeswoman Marriyum Aurangzeb attributed the shortage of urea in Punjab to Prime Minister (PM) Imran Khan’s alleged corruption.

In a statement, the PML-N leader said that the farmers were facing problems despite spending a hefty amount. Delay in the provision of fertiliser can lead to a severe wheat crisis in the country, she added.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2341115/govt-to-import-100000-tons-fertilisers-from-china>

### **Islamabad eyes \$3b loan from Beijing**

Pakistan also seeks investment in six sectors during PM’s China visit

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan has set its sight on a loan to the tune of \$3 billion from China to stabilise its dwindling foreign exchange reserves and also seeks an investment bonanza in half a dozen sectors during the visit of Prime Minister Imran Khan to Beijing next week.

Government sources said that in addition to political engagement, the premier would also seek Chinese support in areas of finance, trade and investment.

A final meeting to shape the agenda of the visit would take place on Tuesday -- two days before the scheduled visit, the sources added.

The prime minister will depart for Beijing on February 3 and attend the inaugural session of the Winter Olympics there.

A senior finance ministry official said the government was considering requesting China to approve another loan to the tune of \$3 billion in China's State Administration of Foreign Exchange, known as SAFE deposits.

China has already placed around \$11 billion with Pakistan in the shape of commercial loans and foreign exchange reserves support initiatives, including \$4 billion in SAFE deposits.

The Chinese money is part of the country's current official foreign exchange reserves recorded at \$16.1 billion.

In the last fiscal year, the country had paid over Rs26 billion in interest cost to China only for using a \$4.5 billion Chinese trade finance facility to repay the maturing debt.

Last month, Pakistan also received a Saudi loan of \$3 billion, which the country has consumed. The foreign exchange reserves that before the Saudi injection stood at \$15.9 billion have already fallen to \$16 billion by January 21.

The government would also seek Chinese investment in six priority sectors by highlighting the competitive advantages that the country has in areas of cheap but skilled labour, access to the two richest continents of the world and tax exemptions.

"We will market textile, footwear, pharmaceutical, furniture, agriculture, automobile and information technology sectors for Chinese investment," said Azfar Ahsan, the chairman of the Board of Investment.

The government is expected to tell the 75 Chinese companies that it provided access to trade routes to the Middle East, Africa and the rest of the world – offering greater incentive in shape of reduction in freight cost.

"Unlike in the past when we would only talk about Pak-Sino friendship being higher than the Himalayas and sweeter than honey, this time we are going prepared to China with a structured approach," Federal Planning and Development Minister Asad Umar told The Express Tribune.

He added that with the involvement of the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) Authority, the government had selected those sectors for foreign investment where there was evidence of huge benefits for Chinese investors.

"The study of selected locations shows substantial benefits in transportation times via CPEC."

Sea freight charges often contribute 2% to 10% of unit cost depending on the product. Pakistan offers substantially better and lower sea freight rates to two of the largest import destinations, according to the CPEC Authority officials.

If imported from Pakistan, the freight costs 4,000 Euros per large container to EU destinations compared with 15,000 Euros from China. Similarly, these rates are 6,700 Euros in case of the US East coast against 12,500 Euros from Chinese port to the US.

These rates were also less when compared with India, Bangladesh and Cambodia.

Cost savings on sea freight can materially reduce costs for transacting parties, make product pricing competitive.

Similarly, Pakistani authorities believe that its labour is two times cheaper than that of China. This offers a greater opportunity for relocation of the dying Chinese industries.

However, all these areas and the competitive advantages are already known to the investors but they remain reluctant to bring in “big money” to Pakistan because of its inconsistent fiscal and energy policies.

China has decided to move into more sophisticated and high tech driven textile and apparel industry and engage in more value-added functions under its 2021-25 plan.

The government officials claimed that the electricity tariffs were competitive to the regional peers, 9 cents per unit electricity cost compared with 7.1 cents in Indian Punjab and 7.3 cents per unit in Vietnam.

They added that there was 100% exemption on income tax for 10 years, duty-free import of all plant, machinery and equipment and customs and other duty exemptions available for export-oriented raw material.

However, this month the government has withdrawn tax exemptions on the import of machinery and plants, including for Export Promotion Zones.

However, the Pakistani authorities believe that the country’s textile sector presents the most attractive opportunities for Chinese investors in the value added segment particularly apparel and made-ups, where there is considerable growth potential.

The investors will be able to take advantage of the “best possible” fiscal incentives in its special economic zones, skilled and inexpensive labour, easy availability of raw material, competitive energy tariffs, low freight costs and preferential access to European markets.

The Pakistan Railways has also informed the prime minister about the hiccups in the execution of the \$6.8 billion Mainline-I project -- the largest project of the CPEC that has already faced a delay of more than four years.

The sources said the financing modalities of the project had not yet been finalised. Therefore, no major breakthrough was expected on this front.

The government has shown some progress on the lingering issue of about Rs230 billion withheld payments to Chinese power producers and has so far paid Rs50 billion. Another Rs50 billion are also expected to be paid next month.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2341112/islamabad-eyes-3b-loan-from-beijing>

### **CPEC opens doors to Pak-Kyrgyz trade expansion**

Islamabad, Bishkek cooperating to develop commercial, trade links

The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) has opened doors for expansion of trade between Pakistan and Kyrgyzstan, WealthPK reported.

The two countries have had long-standing cultural, religious and economic ties. Kyrgyzstan won independence in 1991, unlocking a new era for Pakistan-Kyrgyzstan relations.

Pakistan recognised Kyrgyzstan almost immediately, and official diplomatic ties were established in 1992.

In order to develop commercial and trade links, Pakistan and Kyrgyzstan work and cooperate in a variety of ways. Twenty two Pakistani banks are already operating there.

Furthermore, bilateral ties have strengthened greatly as both countries support and interact with each other at many international forums such as the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), United Nations (UN), Economic Cooperation Organisation (ECO), Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) and others. Kyrgyzstan is a major provider of hydroelectric power in Central Asia because of its abundant water resources.

Pakistan is expected to acquire 1,300 megawatts of hydel electricity from Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan under the Central Asia-South Asia Electricity Transmission and Trade Programme (CASA-1000). By 2023, the project should be completed.

The Quadrilateral Traffic and Transit Agreement (QTTA) between Pakistan, China, Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan, which is part of CPEC, offers an excellent communication network between Central Asia and Pakistan's Gwadar Port in the Arabian Sea.

Pakistan and Kyrgyzstan, two CAREC (Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation) nations that are close neighbours, may considerably benefit from enhanced regional connectivity and trade. Both nations are growing economies with substantial agricultural bases and significant strategic benefits to offer the alliance.

Despite regular high-level active engagements with each other, trading volume is quite modest. The current trade volume does not match the actual potential that exists between the two nations.

THE ARTICLE ORIGINALLY APPEARED ON THE CHINA ECONOMIC NET

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2341098/cpec-opens-doors-to-pak-kyrgyz-trade-expansion>

### **The Nation**

#### **Pakistan wants more investment from China: Farrukh**

ISLAMABAD - Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting Farrukh Habib on Saturday said the upcoming visit of Prime Minister Imran Khan to China has great importance as Pakistan

wanted more investment from there. He said there were a lot of opportunities to increase economic volume between both the countries, while talking to Pakistan Television. Farrukh Habib said China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) project having great importance not only for Pakistan but also for the entire region. The minister said those elements who were doing propaganda against the CPEC project would not succeed in their nefarious design. Farrukh Habib said Pakistan wanted good relations with all neighboring countries, adding India was promoting its Hindutva policy and the whole world was seeing Indian brutal policies.

Replying to a question, he said the opposition should avoid to hold long march on March 23 (Pakistan Day) and give priority to the national interests rather than personal.

<https://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2022-01-30/page-5/detail-5>

### **Visit To China**

Prime Minister Imran Khan's coming trip to China, scheduled for February 3 will reportedly involve meeting Chinese leaders for an overall review of the entire gamut of bilateral ties, besides attending the inaugural session of the Winter Olympics in Beijing.

This visit, just by its essence and timing, is an important political statement. The visit comes at a time when many Western countries have decided to boycott the Winter Olympics being hosted by Beijing. This boycott is clearly political and does not entirely, out of good faith, stem from US concerns about China's human rights record.

It is no coincidence that this boycott effort comes at a time when US tensions with China over several political, economic and geographical reasons are at their peak. It is unfortunate that US foreign interests have pervaded into a joint Western effort, that will not contribute to the propagation of human rights, but will only lead to more hostility, and play into the political games of superpowers.

Pakistan, through this visit and by pointedly attending the Winter Olympics, achieves two things.

Pakistan lends support to China, its longstanding ally. Pakistan and China are partners in several bilateral cooperative efforts, including the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). China, through its border, also shares a lot of strategic regional interests with Pakistan, especially with regards to India, and new international cooperative efforts planned between Pakistan, China and Central Asian countries. The Prime Minister's visit, which will be taking place after two years, is a way to recommit to these shared interests and cooperative efforts.

Secondly, this visit is also a statement that Pakistan will not play into international political controversies played in the name of human rights, especially when horrific human rights violations in IIOK have been ongoing with no international attention. An event like the Olympics, which symbolises globalism, peace and dialogue, should not be tarnished by politics.

<https://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2022-01-30/page-6/detail-3>

## Express News

### چینی سرمایہ کاروں کو پنجاب کے اسپیشل اکنامک زونز میں سہولتیں دینے کا فیصلہ

صوبہ پنجاب کے اسپیشل اکنامک زونز (فیڈرل اور پیڈلڈ) میں چینی سرمایہ کاروں کو سہولتیں فراہم کرنے کا فیصلہ کیا گیا ہے۔

ایکسپریس نیوز کے مطابق وزیر اعظم عمران خان نے فیڈرل اور پیڈلڈ میں چینی سرمایہ کاروں کو سہولتوں کی فراہمی کے لیے پنجاب حکومت کو خصوصی ٹاسک دے دیا۔

عمران خان نے صوبائی حکومت کو اسپیشل اکنامک زونز میں چینی سرمایہ کاری کے لیے ضروری اقدامات کی ہدایت کر دی اور کہا جلد سہولتوں کی فراہمی یقینی بنائیں۔

وزیر اعظم کی ہدایت کے بعد 48 گھنٹے میں حکومت پنجاب کا اہم اجلاس طلب کر لیا گیا۔ کل حکومتی اقدامات کو حتمی شکل دی جائے گی۔

وزیر اعظم کو دورہ چین سے قبل اس ضمن میں رپورٹ پیش کی جائے گی۔ خیال رہے کہ چین کی 20 سے زائد کمپنیاں پنجاب کے اسپیشل زونز میں سرمایہ کاری کے لیے تیار ہیں۔

<https://www.express.pk/story/2278373/6/>

## K2 Daily News

چین کے شہر شنگھائی میں پاکستانی  
دستکاری پولیٹیکن کا آغاز ہو گیا

شنگھائی (آئی این پی) چینی سے سال سے  
گزر چکی ہے شہر شنگھائی کی صنعتی سرگرمیوں کا ایک نیا دور  
پاکستانی دستکاری پولیٹیکن کا آغاز ہو گیا ہے، یہ ہے  
پاکستانی دستکاری پولیٹیکن سے چھ ماہوں کے  
گھنٹوں کے ساتھ (ہائی سٹیو 8 جی 42)

بقیہ 42

وزیرین کے لئے ڈیپٹے کی گئی ہے۔ چنانچہ اکنامک  
نیٹ کے مطابق ہذا چینی کے ہائی اور اعلیٰ  
کئی لاکھوں کے ای ای ایم اے کے چھ ماہوں کے  
اکنومک نیٹ کو فروغ دینے ہوئے کہا کہ ان  
زیورٹ اور فرسورٹ پاکستانی معیاریت کو  
چینی ملک میں فروغ دینے ہوئے آگے ہے۔ ہذا  
مقصد ملک میں پاکستان اور پاکستانی آرٹ کو فروغ  
دینا ہے۔ ہم اپنے تمام پاکستانی برادریوں اور  
مجموعہ کرنے ہیں کہ وہ کئی دہائیوں کے ساتھ  
تحریر لائیں اور اپنے خیالات کا اظہار کریں  
اور ہمیں اپنی قیمتی آراء دیں۔ ہم چاہتے ہیں کہ  
پاکستان کی ایک نئی نئی نئی ہے اور دستکاری  
کی وسیع خصوصیات ہیں۔ مندرجہ دستکاری  
ہم سے پاکستانی دہائی ہے۔ درحقیقت یہ  
ہمیں ہزاروں سالوں سے رہا ہے، چنانچہ اکنامک  
نیٹ کے مطابق انہوں نے مزید کہا کہ مختلف  
سائنس اور فرسورٹ کو چینی اور فرسورٹ  
دستکاری پاکستانی دستکاری کو فروغ  
ہے۔ ہم چاہتے ہیں کہ پاکستانی دستکاری  
ہمیں اپنی قیمتی آراء دیں۔ ہم چاہتے ہیں کہ  
اور دستکاری ہمیں اپنی قیمتی آراء دیں۔ ہم  
ہمیں اپنی قیمتی آراء دیں۔ ہم چاہتے ہیں کہ  
پاکستان کی ایک نئی نئی نئی ہے اور دستکاری  
کی وسیع خصوصیات ہیں۔ مندرجہ دستکاری  
ہم سے پاکستانی دہائی ہے۔ درحقیقت یہ  
ہمیں ہزاروں سالوں سے رہا ہے، چنانچہ اکنامک  
نیٹ کے مطابق انہوں نے مزید کہا کہ مختلف  
سائنس اور فرسورٹ کو چینی اور فرسورٹ

[https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP\\_ICT&Page=International&Date=2022-01-30](https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=International&Date=2022-01-30)

[https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP\\_ICT&Page=Classified&Date=2022-01-30](https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=Classified&Date=2022-01-30)

**January 31, 2022**

**Daily Times**

## **China and Pakistan: Together for a Shared Future!**

*Nong Rong*

On February 4, when 1.4 billion Chinese people celebrate the Chinese Spring Festival, the main torch of Beijing 2022 Winter Olympic Games will be lit in the “Bird’s Nest”, and Beijing will be the first city ever to host both summer and winter Olympic Games.

President Xi Jinping said in his New Year address that “We will spare no effort to present a great Games to the world.” China is ready to deliver a streamlined, safe and splendid Winter Olympic Games to the world, ensure all participants feel spring-like warmth and providing more solidarity, confidence and strength to the world.

The Beijing Winter Olympic Games will also be distinguished for its Green features. For the first time in Olympic history, all venues in the competition zones are powered 100% by green energy. And as first ever in Winter Olympic history, ice-making will use carbon dioxide as a refrigerant, cutting carbon emissions to nearly zero. Most of the Winter Olympic Games venues are renovated from the existing venues and facilities of the 2008 Summer Olympics Games, coordinating the needs of the games and post-games use. We are confident that the Beijing Winter Olympic Games will be a carbon-neutral event.

China highly appreciates Pakistan’s strong support and sincere wishes to China in hosting the Beijing Winter Olympics. We warmly welcome Prime Minister Imran Khan to come to China to attend the opening ceremony. Prime Minister Imran Khan recently told Chinese media that this will be the first Olympics he will witness, and that he is looking forward to experiencing an exciting global event in Beijing. President Dr. Arif Alvi laughed happily when he received the mascot, and said that the Beijing Winter Olympic Games will be “very successful” and Pakistan will participate in the splendid sports event with passion and joy. We wish the Pakistani sports delegation good luck, to excel himself in the Games, and look forward to seeing the Pakistani flag fly high again in the “Bird’s Nest”!

China highly appreciates Pakistan’s strong support and sincere wishes to China in hosting the Beijing Winter Olympics. We warmly welcome Prime Minister Imran Khan to come to China to attend the opening ceremony.

Last year marks the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties between China and Pakistan. The two sides held more than 140 activities in celebration and commemoration of this important occasion, which all attached high popularity. Be it the exchange of congratulatory messages between the two countries’ leaders, high-profile receptions or activities such as the

signing of friendship deals between provinces and cities, a youth video contest and exchanges covering a wide range of areas including the political, diplomatic, economic, sub-national, education, scientific, cultural and health sectors. The celebrations held virtually or in-person, deepened political mutual trust, strengthened the two peoples' friendship and promoted practical cooperation in various sectors despite COVID-19 restrictions. During the past 7 decades since the establishment of China-Pakistan diplomatic ties, no matter how the international situation may change, the two sides have always stood side by side in weal and woe. China and Pakistan have worked together to tackle risks and challenges such as COVID-19, consolidating strategic mutual trust and deepening strategic cooperation. History has fully proved that the two countries are the most reliable iron-clad brothers for each other.

Just as President Xi Jinping said on the phone conversation with Prime Minister Imran Khan, the world is undergoing profound changes unseen in a century, with more sources of turbulence and risks around the world. Under the new circumstances, the two countries should stand together even more firmly and push forward the all-weather strategic cooperative partnership, build a closer China-Pakistan community with a shared future in the new era. Nowadays, the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) has entered a new stage of high-quality development, and the cooperation between our two sides will have even greater potential.

China supports Pakistan in exploring a development path suited to its own national conditions and is willing to share China's high-quality development opportunities with Pakistan, and contribute to Pakistan's industrialization, urbanization and digitization. China will continue to support Pakistan in its fight against COVID-19, jointly build the CPEC with high quality and strengthen cooperation in such fields as agriculture, digital economy and people's livelihood. We will continue to unleash the positive effects of the CPEC in promoting growth and improving people's well-being. China is ready to work with Pakistan to enhance multilateral coordination, practice true multilateralism and promote international fairness and justice, to safeguard the common interests of the two countries and maintain world peace and stability. We look forward to the meetings between the leaders of the two countries during Beijing Winter Olympics, which will surely further draw a brighter future for China-Pakistan relations.

Let us join hands to welcome the Beijing Winter Olympics under the guidance of the Olympic Motto of "Faster, Higher, Stronger-Together", and strive for greater progress in our all-weather strategic cooperative partnership. China and Pakistan, together for a shared future!

The writer is ambassador of People's Republic of China in Pakistan.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/877442/china-and-pakistan-together-for-a-shared-future/>

### **Pakistan Observer**

### **Strength of Pak-China relations**

THE relationship between Pakistan and China over the years has turned matured and robust and one saw many manifestations of it in recent past.



In fact both the countries have stood by each other in difficult times. Prime Minister Imran Khan, in an exclusive interview with Chinese media as well as his article published in Global Times, the Chinese daily tabloid newspaper, also touched upon depth of this relationship as well as areas of further cooperation under multi billion dollars China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) project

Being appreciative of how visionary approach of Chinese leadership steered their people out of poverty, the PM also vowed to emulate Chinese development model to achieve inclusive growth.

Undoubtedly, over last four decades, China's economy has achieved an unparalleled level of wealth and development.

Development of China is now being described as an economic miracle but it was not possible without honest and successive visionary leadership, especially incumbent President Xi Jinping.

Being a friend and neighbour, Pakistan also needs to learn a lot from their progress.

In next few days, Prime Minister Imran Khan will be embarking upon a visit to Beijing where he will attend the opening ceremony of Winter Olympics as well as hold meetings with Chinese President and the Premier.

In our view, this visit will prove significant as Pakistan is now focusing on relocation of Chinese industries to Special Economic Zones (SEZs) being set up under the CPEC.

The Chinese investment in these SEZs is of immense importance for Pakistan to take the country towards rapid industrialisation and address its chronic economic issues.

Hence, we believe threadbare discussions will be held on it during bilateral meetings in Beijing.

There are certain projects that are facing prolonged delays and prominent amongst them is upgradation of railways infrastructure from Karachi to Peshawar.

Prime Minister Khan should clearly focus on this project on priority basis with the Chinese leadership that has always been forthcoming in assisting and supporting Pakistan.

Apart from improving Pakistan Railways benchmark, this project has strategic importance to improve connectivity in the region.

As Covid-19 situation improves, both countries must again focus on more people to people contacts including at levels of students and media in order to further improve and flourish this old relationship.

<https://pakobserver.net/strength-of-pak-china-relations/>

### **The Express Tribune**

#### **Pakistan's tilt towards China**

Pakistan's decision to attend the Winter Olympics ceremony is a signal to the West that Pakistan stands with China

Prime Minister Imran Khan is set to undertake a visit to China this week. This will be his fourth visit to the country. He will primarily attend the opening ceremony of Winter Olympics in Beijing. The ceremony has foreign policy significance since the US and other western countries have boycotted it accusing China of human rights violations. But Pakistan's decision to attend the ceremony is a clear signal to the West that Pakistan stands with China.

Ahead of the visit, the Prime Minister told Chinese journalists that he was amazed at the double standards of the West which talked about the alleged human rights violations by China against Muslims but turned a blind eye towards the grave human rights abuses being committed by India in the Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir. The PM said Pakistan's ambassador to China visited the troubled region and found no evidence suggesting China was involved in human rights abuses. So, the purpose of PM Imran's visit is twofold: one, to show solidarity with China at a time when its relationship with the US and other Western countries are at the lowest ebb; and two, to expedite work on the second phase of CPEC. While the first phase of the economic corridor project focused on roads and connectivity and power projects, the second one is concerned with operationalising special economic zones and transferring technology and industry to Pakistan. The PM will be accompanied by a high-powered delegation that will discuss all these issues in depth.

The PTI government's renewed focus on CPEC stems from the fact that there is currently a dip in Pakistan's relationship with the US, particularly after the exit of the US-led foreign forces from Afghanistan. Pakistan sought to improve relations with the US and broaden the spectrum of bilateral ties, but the Biden administration is not keen to look at Pakistan beyond the prism of Afghanistan and counterterrorism cooperation. On top of that President Biden has yet to speak to Prime Minister Imran despite being in the office for a year now. This illustrates where things are heading. Pakistan does insist that it is not into "block politics", meaning it wants good relationship with all the countries particularly with the US and China. But the reality is that Pakistan has already picked China as its long-term and trusted partner.

On the eve of his visit to Beijing, Prime Minister Imran said there is a feeling in Pakistan that China always stood by Pakistan in difficult times; while the role of the US is always seen with suspicion — not only among the public but also among the policymakers who are strongly of the view that the US has used Pakistan for its own interests and dumped it once it found no utility of the country.

The trouble, however, is that while China is emerging as a global economic power, the US still controls the global financial system. One example is Afghanistan. After the US exit from the war-torn country, the banking channels in Afghanistan are non-existent. The reason is that banks in Afghanistan are not accepting any international transactions because of fear of the US sanctions. That is just one aspect. The US clout over IMF and FATF is also quite significant. But despite these complexities it is evident that Pakistan is not going to abandon China. The US and other Western countries are also aware of the fact that they are not in a position to substitute China in Pakistan.

The Foreign Office spokesperson summed up Pakistan's ties with China by saying that both countries have a "shared future in the new era".

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2341173/pakistans-tilt-towards-china>

## **The Nation**

### **China and Pakistan: A shared future**

On February 4, when 1.4 billion Chinese people celebrate the Chinese Spring Festival, the main torch of Beijing's Winter Olympic Games will be lit in the 'Bird's Nest', and it will be the first city ever to host both summer and winter Olympic Games.

In his New Year address, President Xi Jinping said, "We will spare no effort to present a great Games to the world." China is ready to deliver a streamlined, safe and splendid Winter Olympic Games to the world, ensure all participants feel spring-like warmth and providing more solidarity, confidence and strength to the world.

The Beijing Winter Olympic Games will also be distinguished for its Green features. For the first time in history, all venues in the competition zones are powered by green energy. Ice-making will use carbon dioxide as a refrigerant, cutting carbon emissions to nearly zero. Most of the venues have been renovated from their existing venues during the 2008 Summer Olympics Games, coordinating the needs of the games and post-games use. We are confident that the Beijing Winter Olympic Games will be a carbon-neutral event.

China highly appreciates Pakistan's strong support and sincere wishes in hosting the Beijing Winter Olympics. We warmly welcome Prime Minister Imran Khan to come to China to attend the opening ceremony. He recently told the Chinese media that this will be the first Olympics he will witness, and that he is looking forward to experiencing an exciting global event in Beijing. President Dr. Arif Alvi laughed happily when he received the mascot, and said that the Beijing Winter Olympic Games will be "very successful" and Pakistan will participate in the splendid sports event with passion and joy. We wish the Pakistani sports delegation good luck, excellence in the Games, and look forward to seeing the Pakistani flag fly high again in the "Bird's Nest".

Last year marks the 70 anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties between China and Pakistan. The two sides held more than 140 activities in celebration and commemoration of this important occasion. Be it the exchange of congratulatory messages between the two countries' leaders, high-profile receptions or activities such as the signing of friendship deals between provinces and cities, a youth video contest and exchanges covering a wide range of areas including the political, diplomatic, economic, sub-national, education, scientific, cultural and health sectors. The celebrations held virtually or in-person, deepened political mutual trust, strengthened the two peoples' friendship and promoted practical cooperation in various sectors, despite Covid-19 restrictions. During the past 7 decades, no matter how the international situation may change, the two sides have always stood side by side in weal and woe. China and Pakistan have worked together to tackle risks and challenges like Covid-19, consolidating

strategic mutual trust and deepening strategic cooperation. History has fully proved that the two countries are the most reliable iron-clad brothers for each other.

Just as President Xi Jinping said on the phone conversation with Prime Minister Imran Khan, the world is undergoing profound changes unseen in a century, with more sources of turbulence and risks around the world. Under the new circumstances, the two countries should stand together even more firmly and push forward the all-weather strategic cooperative partnership, build a closer China-Pakistan community with a shared future in the new era. Nowadays, the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) has entered a new stage of high-quality development, and the cooperation between our two sides will have even greater potential.

China supports Pakistan in exploring a development path suited to its own national conditions and is willing to share its high-quality development opportunities with Pakistan, and contribute to Pakistan's industrialisation, urbanisation and digitisation. China will continue to support Pakistan in its fight against Covid-19, jointly build CPEC and strengthen cooperation in such fields such as agriculture, the digital economy and people's livelihood. We will continue to unleash the positive effects of CPEC in promoting growth and improving people's well-being. China is ready to work with Pakistan to enhance multilateral coordination, practice true multilateralism and promote international fairness and justice, to safeguard the common interests of the two countries and maintain world peace and stability. We look forward to the meetings between the leaders of the two countries during the Beijing Winter Olympics, which will surely further draw a brighter future for China-Pakistan relations.

Let us join hands to welcome the Beijing Winter Olympics under the guidance of the Olympic Motto of 'Faster, Higher, Stronger—Together', and strive for greater progress in our all-weather strategic cooperative partnership.

<https://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2022-01-31/page-6/detail-2>

## **Pakistan-China Relations: The Journey of Friendship**

*Imran Khan*

The Pakistan-China partnership is unparalleled among inter-state relations. The history of our friendship is a unique account of unwavering mutual support, mutual trust and mutual respect. Nurtured by successive generations of our leadership and peoples across seven decades, this iron-brotherhood has blossomed into a strong and vibrant All-Weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership.

Our relationship is time-tested and timeless; it transcends the normal precepts of inter-state relations and has withstood the vicissitudes of regional and global developments. The grand celebrations to mark the 70th anniversary of our diplomatic ties last year helped in injecting a new vigor and vitality to our friendship.

For us in Pakistan, relations with China are the cornerstone of our foreign policy enjoying support across the political spectrum. I can say with great confidence that our people fully

understand the real value of this friendship and enthusiastically contribute to its splendor and glory. No wonder special metaphors have been coined to illustrate its depth and intensity; the expression Ba Tie only reserved for Pakistanis in China is one such example.

In the next few days, I will be arriving in Beijing to attend the opening ceremony of the Winter Olympic Games. Being a sports person myself, I can very well relate to the spirit that sporting events like Olympics instill in a nation. I strongly feel that sports should be a unifying factor and should transcend politics. I congratulate the leadership and people of China for hosting this mega event and wish all participants safe, healthy and successful games.

Since my last visit to China in October 2019, the world has undergone a profound transformation. COVID-19, the biggest contemporary challenge, continues to negatively impact lives and livelihoods across the globe. Climate change is yet another monster staring down our eyes with the potential to disrupt all that humankind has achieved to date.

The imperatives of geopolitics have engendered new alignments in our region, which to many, are reminiscent of ideological confrontation of the last century. Instability and turmoil that plagued Afghanistan for the past 20 years have come close with a hope of peace finally returning to the region. The international community's engagement is essential to avoid an economic meltdown and avert a humanitarian crisis in that country.

The present challenges, colossal as they be, nevertheless stress the need for international cooperation and call for rekindling the spark of multilateralism for peace and prosperity in our region and beyond. As President Xi Jinping pertinently mentioned in his recent address to World Economic Forum,

“Amidst the raging torrents of global crisis, countries are not riding separately in some 190 small boats, but are rather all in a giant ship on which our shared destiny hinges”.

History bears witness to the fact that Pakistan and China have jointly traversed such epochal changes in the past and emerged successful. Our two countries have always supported each other on matters of core national interests.

It is our common vision that enduring peace in South Asia is contingent on maintaining a strategic balance in the region and all outstanding issues like border questions and the Kashmir dispute should be resolved through dialogue and diplomacy and as per norms of international law.

Our bilateral cooperation against COVID-19 further validates the strength of our friendship. As iron brothers, Pakistan solidly stood by China after the outbreak of the pandemic. From President Arif Alvi's solidarity visit to Beijing to the dispatch of over 60 plane loads of Chinese anti-epidemic goods to Pakistan, emerged a shining example of mutual support and goodwill. Chinese vaccines have now become the mainstay of Pakistan's ongoing mass vaccination drive.

Pakistan is charting a new path for robust and sustainable development and making efforts to harness its potential as a geo-economics hub. The new National Security Policy of Pakistan

centers on my government's vision of a people-centric approach for ensuring their prosperity, fundamental rights and social justice.

In pursuance of these objectives, we draw inspiration from China's achievements; be it the miraculous lifting of 800 million people out of absolute poverty or victory in people's war against the pandemic.

As a friend, neighbor and partner, Pakistan has much to offer to the people, enterprises and business persons of China. Pakistan has a rich history, cultural diversity and majestic landscapes. With a population of 220 million people, young and skilled labor force, strategic location, friendly investment regime and warm sentiments for the Chinese people, Pakistan welcomes you for your next investment and next leisure trip.

China has lately become Pakistan's largest trade and investment partner. Bilateral trade reached historic levels in 2021. Many Chinese enterprises have established a strong presence in Pakistan and are contributing to our socio-economic growth. China can become a huge market for Pakistan's livestock and agricultural products. Similarly, Pakistan can benefit from Chinese expertise in industrialization, agricultural modernization, e-commerce and digital finance.

Pakistan is one of the earliest participants of President Xi's Belt and Road Initiative. As the flagship project of the BRI, CPEC has immense economic and strategic significance for our two countries. There is complete consensus in Pakistan on CPEC's indispensability for Pakistan's national development. My government is fully committed to making CPEC a High Quality Demonstration Project of BRI.

CPEC has been instrumental in addressing Pakistan's chronic energy crisis and improving connectivity through infrastructure development. We are also making rapid progress on the development of Gwadar Port and Special Economic Zones which would benefit the entire region.

No quantum of development is meaningful unless its fruits trickle down to the underprivileged section of society. My vision therefore is aimed at rooting out poverty and empowering the people of Pakistan to become masters of their own destiny.

Phase-II of CPEC has therefore accordingly been designed for job creation, industrial modernization, livelihood improvement, rural revitalization, socio-economic development and poverty alleviation. Complementing these projects is my government's flagship initiative called "Ehsaas," a large social security network for poverty alleviation and upward social mobility.

Safety and security of Chinese personnel and projects in Pakistan remains our top priority. Our people and state institutions are determined to safeguard CPEC from the detractors of Pakistan-China friendship and bring to justice those responsible for harming our interests.

It is heartening to note that China is leading the cause of mitigating climate change and restoring Mother Nature to its pristine beauty. We look forward to working with China to address climate change and undertake futuristic developments based on the principle of common but differentiated responsibility.

My Clean and Green Initiative resonates with President Xi's vision of a "prosperous, clean and beautiful world." Pakistan is already in the midst of one of the world's most ambitious efforts to expand and restore its forests, having already planted a billion trees as part of the 10 Billion Tree Tsunami Project.

In the digital era where innovation and technology serve as the primary vehicle of sustainable and robust development, Pakistan is eager to enhance mutually beneficial cooperation with China in quantum computing, robotics, AI, Cloud, and Big Data.

Pakistan will also be working closely with China to advance the objectives of the Global Development Initiative put forward by President Xi Jinping.

Over the last few years, one of the most promising and reassuring aspects of our bilateral relations is increasing contacts between the peoples of our two countries. The warmth at the top echelons of leadership is mirrored by sentiments of love and fraternity between our masses. With over 40 provinces and cities sister relationships, I am confident that linkages between our peoples would deepen, and finest traditions of our friendship would be passed on to our future generations.

We are happy to see the Chinese people guided by the capable leadership of President Xi Jinping and the Communist Party of China for achieving the Great Rejuvenation of the Chinese Nation.

On behalf of the government and people of Pakistan, I would like to reaffirm that in Pakistan, China would always find a trusted friend which would stand by it, not only amidst the gentle tides of peace and prosperity but also in the rising storms of challenges.

In conveying to the Chinese leadership and the people, my best wishes for the Year of the Tiger and the Spring Festival. I hope that the sacred flame of Pakistan-China friendship will keep glowing with ever-increasing brightness and warmth!

Long Live Pakistan-China Friendship!

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<https://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2022-01-31/page-7/detail-0>

### **Chinese machinery giant contributes to wind power construction in Pakistan**

BEIJING - China's machinery giant, Zoomlion Heavy Industry Science and Technology has made another contribution to Pakistan's wind power construction as its crane completed lifting of the largest wind turbine in Pakistan. Zoomlion's ZCC5800 crane lifted largest wind turbine (2.5 megawatts) having weight of nearly 90 tons at a central height of 90 meters. The mobile crane has carried out numerous wind construction projects in Pakistan so far including Indus Wind, ACT 2 Wind, Lakeside Energy, Din Energy, Tricom Wind and Liberty Wind. Up to now, as the largest crane manufacturer in wind power construction in Pakistan, Zoomlion has built more than 500 megawatts of renewable capacity for Pakistan, said Simon, Country Manager of

Zoomlion Concrete Machinery Overseas Marketing Company, in an interview. Driven by the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), Pakistan has started to develop wind power projects to promote the concept of green economy. Wind power makes up more than 6 percent of the total electricity production in the country. At present, there are nearly ten ZCC5800W active in Pakistan helping the development Pakistani green energy, CEN reported. Zoomlion entered the Pakistani market for the first time in 2004. For more than ten years, it has been helping Pakistan's economic and social development by registering local subsidiaries for in-depth localisation development, exporting high-quality products to participate in local construction. So far, the number of products and equipment of the company in the Pakistan market has reached nearly 2,000. Besides, its Pakistani subsidiary has also developed into a fully localised platform with multiple functions such as product and technical training for local employees and clients and developed local partners. "With the development of the Belt and Road Initiative and China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), we will continue to promote the localisation strategy by further enhancing the localisation construction and the function construction of subsidiaries, making greater contributions to the friendship and economic development of the two countries," Simon concluded assuredly.

China's service trade up 16.1pc in 2021

In 2021, China's service trade went up 16.1 percent year on year to nearly 5.3 trillion yuan (about 831.42 billion US dollars), the Ministry of Commerce said on Sunday. Of the total, service exports reached more than 2.54tr yuan, up 31.4pc year on year, and service imports stood at 2.75 trillion yuan, gaining 4.8 percent year on year.

<https://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2022-01-31/page-9/detail-1>

### **Six Gwadar development projects in offing**

ISLAMABAD - Six Gwadar development projects are in offing, Gwadar Pro reported on Sunday.

With the onset of 2022, China Overseas Port Holding Company (COPHC) has shifted Gwadar development into high gear. In this regard, COPHC officials held a concrete meeting with Secretary Planning and Development Abdul Aziz Uqaili at CBC Gwadar. Gwadar Free Zone Company DGM Jia Yong Hui presented a comprehensive briefing on the potential of Gwadar port and Free Zone and the planned projects to be undertaken by COPHC in the pursuit of development of Gwadar. Six proposed projects include establishment of 1.2 MGD desalination plant for Gwadar City, enhancing agricultural research in collaboration with tissue culture lab to augment Gwadar's agricultural potential.

Other projects are proposed including allocation of 10 acres of land in North Free Zone for cultivation of specific vegetation for commercial purpose, organisation of Expo-2022, establishment of fish processing plants in South Free Zone to boost local production capacity.



It will help raise their living standards, and development and industrialization of North Free Zone, stimulating job creation for the locals, the report added.

<https://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2022-01-31/page-10/detail-12>

### **Express News**

#### **حکومت کا چین، روس اور قازقستان سے 5 ارب ڈالر قرض لینے کا فیصلہ**

وفاقی حکومت نے چین، روس اور قازقستان سے 5 ارب ڈالر قرض لینے کا فیصلہ کیا ہے۔

ایکسپریس نیوز کے مطابق وفاقی حکومت نے چین، روس اور قازقستان سے 5 ارب ڈالر قرض لینے کا فیصلہ کیا ہے۔ ذرائع کے مطابق چین سے 3 ارب ڈالر، روس اور قازقستان سے 2 ارب ڈالر قرض ملنے کا امکان ہے۔

چین سے 3 ارب ڈالر کا قرض زر مبادلہ کے ذخائر مستحکم کرنے کیلئے لیا جائے گا اور قازقستان اور روس سے ملنے والے 2 ارب ڈالر ایم ایل ون پر خرچ ہوں گے۔ ذرائع وزارت خزانہ کے مطابق وزارت اقتصادی امور نے قرض لینے کیلئے پلان تیار کر لیا ہے، وزیر اعظم کے دورہ چین کے موقع پر 3 ارب ڈالر قرض کا معاہدہ طے پائے گا۔ چین سے ملنے والے 3 ارب ڈالر کا ابتدائی معاہدہ ایک سال کیلئے کیا جائے گا، قازقستان اور روس سے 2 ارب ڈالر کا معاہدہ بھی جلد کیے جانے کا امکان ہے۔

<https://www.express.pk/story/2278613/1/>

### **Nawaiwaqt News**

#### **وزیر اعظم کے دورہ سے پاک چین تعلقات مزید مضبوط ہوں گے: ہمایوں اختر**

لاہور (نیوز رپورٹر) تحریک انصاف کے سینئر مرکزی رہنما ہمایوں اختر خان نے کہا کہ وزیر اعظم عمران خان کا چین کا دورہ تعلقات میں مزید مضبوطی کا باعث بنے گا۔ دونوں ممالک نے بنیادی قومی مفادات کے امور پر ہمیشہ ایک دوسرے کا بھرپور ساتھ دیا ہے، پاکستان اور چین کا مشترکہ وژن ہے کہ جنوبی ایشیا میں پائیدار امن خطے میں تزویراتی توازن کو برقرار رکھنے پر منحصر ہے، چین پاکستان اقتصادی راہداری کے منصوبے تیزی سے اپنی تکمیل کی جانب بڑھ رہے ہیں جس سے ترقی کی نئی منازل طے ہوں گی۔ اپنے بیان میں انہوں نے کہا کہ چین پاکستان اقتصادی راہداری گیم چینجر منصوبہ ہے اور یہی وجہ ہے کہ پاکستان کی ترقی کی مخالف قوتوں کو یہ منصوبہ ایک آنکھ نہیں بھاتا۔ پاکستانی قوم پر عزم ہے کہ ہم نے چین پاکستان اقتصادی راہداری منصوبے کو اپنے حصار میں لے کر مکمل کریں گے۔ انہوں نے مزید کہا کہ وزیر اعظم عمران خان کا آنے والے دنوں میں چین کا دورہ دونوں ممالک کے تعلقات کو مزید پائیدار اور مضبوط بنانے کا سبب بنے گا۔ چین اور اس کی قیادت کے وژن کے قائل ہیں، چین کا کروڑوں کی تعداد میں عوام کو غربت کی کبیر سے اوپر لانے اور ملک کو ترقی کی راہ پر گامزن کرنے کیلئے اصلاحات کا وژن قابل تقلید ہے۔ انہوں نے مزید کہا کہ پاکستان اور چین کے روابط عالمی و علاقائی پیش ہائے رفت کے اتار چڑھا سے قطع نظر آزمودہ اور ہمہ وقت ہیں، چین کے ساتھ تعلقات ہماری خارجہ پالیسی کا بنیادی ستون ہیں جسے ہمہ جہت سیاسی حمایت حاصل ہے۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/lahore/2022-01-31/page-2/detail-26>

#### **شعبہ توانائی کے چینی منصوبے وزیر اعظم کے ایجنڈا کا حصہ ہوں گے**

لاہور (خصوصی رپورٹر) وزیر اعظم عمران خان کے دورہ چین کے ایجنڈے کو آج حتیٰ شکل دی جائے گی۔ واضح رہے کہ وزیر اعظم عمران خان 3 فروری سے چین کا دورہ شروع کر رہے ہیں۔ ذمہ دار ذرائع کے مطابق چین سے 3 ارب ڈالر کے قرضے اور چھ شعبوں میں سرمایہ کاری کا ایجنڈا زیر غور آئے گا۔ وزارت خزانہ کے ذرائع کا کہنا ہے کہ حکومت

چین کو 3 ارب ڈالر قرضے کی درخواست دینے پر غور کر رہی ہے تاکہ زر مبادلہ کے ذخائر کو مستحکم کیا جاسکے۔ چین پہلے ہی کمرشل قرضوں اور فارن ایکسچین ریزرو سپورٹ اقدامات کی شکل میں پاکستان کو 11 ارب ڈالر دے چکا ہے۔ ذرائع کا کہنا ہے کہ منی بجٹ کے ایسے اقدامات جن سے چینی کمپنیوں اور منصوبوں کی پیداواری لاگت بڑھی ہے وہ بھی زیر بحث آئیں گے۔ اس کے علاوہ توانائی کے شعبہ کے چینی منصوبے جنہیں دس سال تک انکم ٹیکس میں مکمل چھوٹ اور پلانٹ، مشینری، خام مال کی ڈیوٹی فری درآمد کی سہولت حاصل ہے، وہ بھی ایجنڈا کا حصہ ہوں گے۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/Lahore/2022-01-31/page-6/detail-58>

## چینی سال نو کا روایتی اور پر جوش آغاز

لیفٹیننٹ کرنل (ریٹائرڈ) سید احمد ندیم قادری، تمنغہ امتیاز

طلوع و غروب آفتاب و مہتاب ابتدائے آفرینش سے انسانی دلچسپی اور حیرت و استعجاب کا مرکز رہا ہے۔ رفتہ رفتہ قدیم انسان نے اس طلوع و غروب کا حساب رکھنا شروع کیا جسے کیلنڈر کا نام دیا گیا۔ تاریخ انسانی کے محققین کا خیال ہے کہ سکاٹ لینڈ میں ملے شواہد کے مطابق دنیا کے قدیم ترین کیلنڈر کا آغاز دس ہزار سال پہلے ہوا تھا۔ ایک اور تحقیق کے مطابق انسانی تاریخ کے پہلے کیلنڈر کا آغاز مصر میں 6261 سال پہلے ہوا۔ یہ کیلنڈر مسیحی دور کے ابتدائی زمانے تک استعمال ہوتا رہا۔ مصری کیلنڈر ہر ماہ کے 30 دنوں پر مشتمل 12 ماہ کے عرصے پر محیط تھا جو یا سال میں 360 دن ہوتے تھے۔ تقریباً 4 ہزار قبل مسیح میں اس میں پانچ دن اور شامل کے گئے اور ایک سال 365 دنوں پر مشتمل ہوا۔ قدیم ترین زیر استعمال کیلنڈر یہودی کیلنڈر ہے جو 3761 قبل مسیح سے اب تک مستعمل ہے۔ زمانہ حال میں دنیا کے بیشتر حصوں میں استعمال ہونے والا کیلنڈر گریگورین کیلنڈر (Gregorian Calendar) میں ترمیم (Julian Calendar) نے جولین کیلنڈر (Pope Gregory XIII) کہا جاتا ہے۔ یہ کیلنڈر اکتوبر 1582 میں پوپ گریگوری (Gregorian Calendar) کر کے بنایا تھا۔

(Shang) چینی کیلنڈر کی تاریخ ساڑھے تین ہزار سال پرانی ہے تاہم اس کے درست آغاز کا وقت معلوم نہیں۔ کچھ لوگ یہ یقین رکھتے ہیں کہ چینی سال نو کی ابتدا شانگ دور سے ہوئی جب لوگ اپنے خداؤں اور بزرگوں کی یاد میں سال کے اختتام یا آغاز پر قربانیوں کی تقریبات منعقد کرتے تھے۔ (1600-1046 BC) (Dynasty) جس طرح ماہ جنوری کی یکم تاریخ کو دنیا بھر میں گریگورین سال کے آغاز پر شاندار تقریبات کا آغاز ہوتا ہے اور دنیا بھر کے لوگ اپنے اپنے انداز میں بے پناہ جوش و خروش سے نئے سال کو خوش آمدید کہتے ہیں۔ اسی طرح دنیا بھر میں پھیلے چینی عوام اور چینی نسل لوگ اپنے سال کا آغاز بھرپور جوش و خروش سے کرتے ہیں۔ اس سال، سال نو کا آغاز یکم فروری 2022ء کو ہو گا۔ ہر سال کی طرح اس سال بھی چینی اس دن کو اپنے روایتی انداز میں بھرپور ولولے اور خوشیوں سے منائیں گے۔

بھی کہا جاتا ہے جس کا آغاز 21 جنوری سے 20 فروری کے درمیان نئے چاند کے طلوع ہونے پر کیا جاتا ہے۔ نئے سال کی تقریبات پندرہ دن Lunar New Year اس دن کو بھی کہا جاتا ہے جس کے ساتھ ہی بہار کا آغاز ہو جاتا ہے۔ چینی ہر سال کو 12 جانوروں میں سے ایک جانور کے نام سے Spring Festival تک جاری رہتی ہیں۔ نئے سال کو کتا اور (12) (11) (Rooster) منسوب کرتے ہیں۔ یہ جانور (1) چوہا (2) بیل (3) مانگیا (4) خرگوش (5) ڈریگن (6) سانپ (7) گھوڑا (8) بھیڑ (9) بندر (10) روسٹر سے منسوب کیا جا رہا ہے۔ چین کے نئے سال کا آغاز بے شمار روایات پر مبنی ہے جن میں سجاوٹ، مرنے والوں کی یاد میں قربانیاں، (Tiger) سور ہیں۔ رواں سال کو ٹائیگر میں شرکت، سرخ لفافوں اور تھائف کا دیا جانا، فائر کرکیز، رفاؤر کس اور شیر اور ڈریگن کے رقص کو دیکھنا شامل ہے۔ چینی سال Reunion Dinner خاندان کے ساتھ نو کو دنیا کی ایک چوتھائی آبادی مناتی ہے۔ چینی سال نو کی تاریخ ہر سال تبدیل ہوتی ہے۔ نئے سال کے آغاز پر عمدہ اور لذیذ کھانے کھائے جاتے ہیں۔ مچھلی کھانا ایک اچھا ٹھکانہ پر ہوتا ہے۔ Lantern Festival سمجھا جاتا ہے اور اسے خوش بختی کی علامت تصور کیا جاتا ہے۔ نئے سال کی تقریبات دو ہفتے سے زائد جاری رہتی ہیں جن کا اختتام

منگل، یکم فروری 2022ء کو شروع ہونے والے نئے چینی سال پر 31 جنوری 2022ء سے 6 فروری 2022ء تک چین میں قومی تعطیلات ہونگی۔ ان تعطیلات میں نئے سال کی سجاوٹ، نئے سال کا ڈنر، فائر کریکرز، فائر ورکس، سرخ لفافوں کا تبادلہ اور ڈریگن کا ڈانس شامل ہو گا۔ نئے سال کا پندرہواں دن سپرنگ فیسٹول کے بعد پہلا پورے چاند کا دن بھی کہا جاتا ہے۔ اس موقع پر خاندان کا ایک اور ری یونین (Lantern Festival Day) ہوتا ہے جسے پورے چاند کی پہلی رات کہا جاتا ہے۔ اس دن کو لیٹرن فیسٹول ڈے ڈنر بھی کیا جاتا ہے جس میں لیٹرن اور اورنج تقریبات کا نمایاں حصہ ہوتے ہیں۔ چینی سال نو کے مندرجہ ذیل روایتی کھانے اہم ہیں۔

- 1- Dumplings
- 2- Spring Rolls
- 3- Niango
- 4- Sweet Rice Balls
- 5- Noodles
- 6- Fish
- 7- Steamed Chicken
- 8- Fruit and Vegetables

چینی روایات میں سفید رنگ سوگ سے منسوب کیا جاتا ہے کیونکہ یہ موت کی علامت ہے چنانچہ تمام سفید خوراکیں مثلاً انڈے، سفید چیز وغیرہ ان کھانوں میں شامل نہیں کئے جاتے۔ ڈریگن چین کی ثقافت کا ایک اہم حصہ ہیں اور اسے خوش بختی کی علامت سمجھا جاتا ہے چنانچہ ڈانس میں ڈریگن جتنا لمبا ہو گا تو یہ اس علاقے کے لوگوں کے لئے اتنی ہی زیادہ خوش بختی کا مظہر سمجھا جاتا ہے۔ ڈریگن بہت سی خصوصیات کے حامل سمجھے جاتے ہیں جن میں قوت، اعلیٰ وقار، زرخیزی، دانش اور برکت و سعادت کی خصوصیات شامل بھی کہا جاتا ہے، خوش بختی کی علامت "Renri" ہیں۔ زمانہ قدیم سے یہ روایت ہے کہ چینی سال نو چینی خاندان کی ری یونین کا دن ہے۔ چینی سال نو کے ساتویں دن جسے (Orange) (نارنگی کی ایک قسم) اور اورنج Tangerine کہا جاتا ہے۔ "Seven Vegetable Congee" خوراک تیار کرتے ہیں جسے "سات سبزیوں کا سوپ" یا چینی روایات میں خوش بختی اور کامیابی کی علامت سمجھے جاتے ہیں۔ ان کے شوخ رنگ کو سونے سے مشابہت کی بناء پر خوش بختی اور دولت کی علامت سمجھا جاتا ہے۔ چینیوں کا ایک اور عقیدہ یہ بھی ہے کہ سال نو کے پہلے دن وہ جو کچھ بھی کریں گے وہ ان کے سال بھر کی خوش بختی کا شکون ہو گا لہذا فائر کریکر اور آتشبازی کا اہتمام کیا جاتا ہے۔ نئے کپڑے پہنے جاتے ہیں اور نئے سال کے تہنیتی پیغامات کا تبادلہ کیا جاتا ہے۔ شیر اور ڈریگن کے ڈانس دیکھے جاتے ہیں اور پارکوں اور درگاہوں پر جایا جاتا ہے۔ چینی سال نو پر چینی ثقافت کا ایک انمول مشروب ہے جسے خلوص، وفاداری، عدل، دانش اور خالصیت کا مظہر سمجھا جاتا ہے۔ Jade Cocktail

چینی دیومالا اور روایات میں سرخ رنگ خوش بختی کی علامت سمجھا جاتا ہے۔ سال نو پر سفید اور سیاہ رنگ کا لباس بالکل نہیں پہنا جاتا کیونکہ یہ رنگ روایتی طور پر سوگ کی علامت سمجھے جاتے ہیں۔ اس کے علاوہ سبز، پیلا، نیلا رنگ پہنا جاسکتا ہے۔ سبز رنگ زرخیزی، توازن، آلودگی سے پاک، افزائش اور مطابقت کی علامت سمجھا جاتا ہے۔ سبز رنگ بے چینی اور اضمحلال کو کم کرتا ہے۔ روایتی طور پر سال نو کے موقع پر سات دن کی سرکاری چھٹیاں ہوتی ہیں جبکہ تقریبات دو ہفتوں تک جاری رہتی ہیں اور فیکٹریوں میں بھی دو ہفتے کام نہیں ہوتا۔

نئے سال کے آغاز پر غسل نہیں کیا جاتا ہے۔ یہ سمجھا جاتا ہے کہ ایسا کرنے سے خوش بختی بھی پانی کے ساتھ بہہ کر چلی جاتی ہے۔ اس موقع پر اگر کسی کو کوئی تحفہ دینا ہو تو وہ ان کی گاڑی یا گھر کے باہر رکھ دیا جاتا ہے۔

نئے سال کے پہلے دن اور پندرہویں دن گوشت نہیں کھایا جاتا تاکہ طویل عمر اور خوشیاں حاصل ہو سکیں۔

ڈریگن کے لباس کے لئے مخصوص رنگ استعمال کئے جاتے ہیں۔ سبز رنگ عظیم صلہ پانے، سنہرا اور چاندی کا رنگ دولت اور سرخ رنگ شدت جذبات اور خوش بختی کی علامت سمجھا جاتا ہے۔ سرخ رنگ روایتی طور پر دلہنوں کے لباس کا رنگ ہے جس سے یہ سمجھا جاتا ہے کہ یہ بدی کو دور کرنے والا رنگ ہے۔

سال نو کے پندرہ دنوں کے دوران جو تے نہیں خریدے جاتے کیونکہ یہ سمجھا جاتا ہے کہ جو توں کے ساتھ بد بختی بھی آئے گی۔

چینی دیوالا میں شیر کا رقص ایک اہم علامت سمجھی جاتی ہے۔ اسے خوشی اور لطف کا مظہر سمجھا جاتا ہے اور خوش نصیبی لانے اور بدروحوں سے نجات کا سبب سمجھا جاتا ہے۔ شیر کا رقص میوزک، ڈرم، جھانجھ اور دھات کے چھپے اوزار، بجا کر کیا جاتا ہے۔

کے الفاظ کے ساتھ نئے سال کی مبارکباد "gong XI ....(she)....fa cai...(tsai)" "کوری میں بھی نیا سال چینی سال نو کے ساتھ منایا جاتا ہے۔ چینی سال نو کے موقع پر ہے۔ "Wishing you great happiness and prosperity" دیتے ہیں جس کا مطلب

چینی سال نو پر دارالسلام بروائی، انڈونیشیا، ملائیشیا، شمالی کوریا، سنگاپور، جنوبی کوریا اور ویت نام میں سرکاری تعطیل ہوتی ہے۔

ایک سالانہ ضیافت ہے جہاں خاندان کے افراد پیار، محبت اور بیکجہتی کے بندھن کو مزید مضبوط کرتے ہیں۔ چینی سال نو کے Reunion Dinner چینی سال نو کے موقع پر "First Night" کہا جاتا ہے۔ چودھویں دن پر پندرہویں دن کی تقریبات منانے کی تیاریاں کی جاتی ہیں جسے "The Birthday of The God of Stone" دسویں دن کو کہا جاتا ہے جو پورے چاند کا پہلا دن ہوتا ہے۔ نئے سال کے موقع پر کچھ چیزوں سے احتراز کیا جاتا ہے یعنی نئے سال کے موقع پر کپڑے اور ڈشز کو نہیں دھویا جاتا "Festival" ورنہ نئے سال میں وہ لوگ مردوں کو نہلاتے رہیں گے۔ نئے سال کی تقریبات کے دوران کپڑوں کو نہیں دھویا جاتا بلکہ سال نو کے آغاز سے پہلے ہی کپڑوں کو دھو کر استری وغیرہ کر کے وارڈروپ میں رکھ دیا جاتا ہے۔ اس دن گھروں سے کوئی چیز باہر نہیں لے جانی جاتی۔ اس دن آنے والا پہلا شخص سارا سال آپ کی خوش بختی پر اثر انداز ہو گا۔ اس دن اپنی ادائیگیاں نہ کی جائیں اور بہت تھوڑا کام کیا جائے۔ سال نو کے موقع پر 15 دن تک بال اور ناخن نہیں کاٹے جاتے ہیں۔ اسی طرح گھروں میں فرشوں کی اور عمومی صفائی نہیں کی جاتی کہ یہ صفائی خوش بختی کو بہالے جائے گی تاہم اب یہ رسم ابتدائی چند دنوں تک محدود ہو گئی ہے۔

چینی سال نو کنفیوشزم، بدھ مت، تاؤ ازم اور بہت سے قدیم مذہبی روایات کے بندھن میں بندھا ہوا ہے تاہم چین میں اب یہ سیکولر رسم کے طور پر منایا جاتا ہے۔

نئے سال کی تقریبات کے دوران تیز دھار چیزیں مثلاً قہنی، چاقو اور سونیاں وغیرہ استعمال نہیں کی جاتیں۔ بیویاں اپنے شوہروں کو بستر سے جلد اٹھنے کے لئے نہیں کہتیں۔ سال نو کے پہلے دن کسی سے بھی جھگڑا یا سخت سست الفاظ نہیں کہے جاتے کیونکہ یہ دن خوشیوں کا دن کہلاتا ہے۔

چینی سال نو کے موقع پر پاکستان کے عوام اپنے آرن برادرز کو دل کی گہرائیوں سے مبارکباد پیش کرتے ہیں اور سارا سال ان کے لئے خوش بختی اور نیک تمنائوں کا اظہار کرتے ہیں۔

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### حکومت چین سے 6 تریجی شعبوں میں سرمایہ کاری چاہتی ہے: انظر احسن

اسلام آباد (بیورو رپورٹ) حکومت چین سے چھ تریجی شعبوں میں سرمایہ کاری چاہتی ہے۔ یہ بات چیئر مین سرمایہ کاری بورڈ انظر احسن نے بتائی انہوں نے کہا کہ وزیر اعظم کے چین کے دورہ کے دوران چینی سرمایہ کاروں کو ٹیکسٹائل، فٹ ویئر، فارماسیوٹیکل، فرنیچر، زراعت، آٹوموبائل، اور آئی سیکٹر میں سرمایہ کاری کی دعوت دیں گے۔ جبکہ 75 چینی کمپنیوں کو مشرق وسطیٰ، افریقہ اور باقی دنیا کیلئے سٹے ٹریڈروٹس کے بارے میں آگاہ کیا جائیگا۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ پاکستانی سمندر کے ذریعے چین کی یورپ کو برآمدات پر لاگت 4 ہزار یورپی کنٹینر ہے جبکہ چین سے یہ لاگت 15 ہزار یورپی کنٹینر سے چینی برآمد کنندگان کو اپنی لاگت کم کرنے کا موقع مل رہا ہے یہ اہم موقع ہے کہ پاکستانی ٹھوس تجاویز کے ساتھ وزیر اعظم کی سربراہی میں چین کا دورہ کر رہا ہے۔ جس کے ملکی ترقی اور برآمدات پر نہایت دورس اثرات مرتب ہوں گے۔

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### عمران خان کے دورہ چین کے دور رس نتائج ملیں گے: خالد سلیمان

گلگھڑ منڈی (نامہ نگار) پاکستان انصاف کے راہنماؤں سابق وائس چیئر مین بلدیہ گلگھڑ چوہدری خالد سلیمان اور سابق تحصیل صدر چوہدری اصغر وڈانچ نے اپنے ایک مشترکہ بیان میں کہا ہے کہ وزیر اعظم عمران خان کے ہمسائیہ دوست ملک چین کے دورہ سے ملکی معیشت اور ترقی کے لیے دور رس نتائج ملیں گے کیوں کہ چین اس وقت پوری دنیا میں ترقی یافتہ واحد ملک ہے جس سے پاکستان اور اسکے عوام کے دوستانہ تعلقات مثالی ہیں اور چین کی قیادت بھی پاکستان کو ایک ترقی یافتہ ملک دیکھنا چاہتی ہے، وزیر اعظم عمران خان ہمسائیہ دوست ملک چین کے دورہ پر ملک میں نئی انویسٹمنٹ اور پہلے سے جاری ترقیاتی منصوبوں کو تیز کرنے جس میں سی بی سی جیسا میگا پراجیکٹ شامل ہے کی تعمیر کی رفتار کو تیز کر کے اس سے ملنے والے ثمرات سے قوم و ملک کی ترقی و خوشحالی کے لیے نئی راہیں کھولنا چاہتے ہیں یہی وجہ ہے کہ وزیر اعظم نے چین کے دورہ کو اولیت دی ہے جس سے دونوں ہمسائیہ ممالک کے تعلقات مزید مضبوط ہوں گے۔

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