



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

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October 16-31, 2021

A pilot project of PICS

## Table of Contents

1: October 16, 2021.....	03
2: October 17, 2021.....	06
3: October 18, 2021.....	10
4: October 19, 2021.....	11
5: October 21, 2021.....	12
6: October 22, 2021.....	23
7: October 23, 2021.....	29
8: October 24, 2021.....	35
9: October 25, 2021.....	48
10: October 26, 2021.....	58
11: October 27, 2021.....	70
12: October 28, 2021.....	85
13: October 29, 2021.....	93
14: October 30, 2021.....	102
15: October 31, 2021.....	112

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**October 16, 2021**

**Business Recorder**

**‘China-Pakistan Higher Education Research Institute’ launched**

ISLAMABAD: The Higher Education Commission of Pakistan and the China Association of Higher Education jointly launched “China-Pakistan Higher Education Research Institute” during the “4th Exchange Mechanism Conference of CPEC Consortium of Universities.” The institute brand was simultaneously unveiled at impressive ceremonies held in hybrid mode at National University of Sciences & Technology, Islamabad, and Peking University, Beijing on Friday. The institute is envisioned to serve as an impetus for reinforcing the existing academic and research collaboration between HEC, Pakistan and China Association of Higher Education. Prominent amongst those present at the occasion were Minister for Federal Education & Professional Training of Pakistan, Shafqat Mahmood; Ambassador of Pakistan to China, Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan, Executive Director Dr Shaista Sohail, Rector NUST Engr Javed Mahmood Bukhari; Lt-Gen Muhammad Asghar (retd), Consultant CPEC, and President of China Association of Higher Education.

Speaking on the occasion, Shafqat Mahmood gladly expressed that the higher education institutions of China and Pakistan are building strong academic linkages under the umbrella of CPEC consortium of universities.

The consortium was established in 2017 by China Association of Higher Education and the Higher Education Commission of Pakistan.

He felicitated them for organising the 4th Mechanism Conference of the consortium that now comprises 83 leading universities of the two countries. He maintained that it is a manifestation of increasing cooperation between the two countries developed over the last 70 years. He further said, “We fully support the Belt & Road Initiative of which the China Pakistan Economic Corridor is a flagship project.”

Lt-Gen Muhammad Asghar (retd) said that we have come a long way in our cooperation and we look forward to even more meaningful cooperation between our universities. He asserted that China-Pakistan Higher Education Research Institute would play a very important in our collaborative efforts in future, and hoped that China would contribute to our research fund, which would support scholars on both sides.

In her virtual address, Dr Shaista said that a large number of Pakistani students studying in China can become agents of change by connecting with universities on both sides. She added that the establishment of China Pakistan Higher Education Research Institute would help promote high quality research between the two countries.—PR

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2021/10/16/2-page/904260-news.html>

## The Nation

### **CPEC brings \$25.4b investment, 70,000 jobs for Pakistan: Chinese envoy**

ISLAMABAD - Since establishment of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), the government of China has brought \$25.4 billion investment to Pakistan with more than 70,000 jobs, said Nong Rong, Ambassador of China to Pakistan while addressing 4th Exchange Mechanism Conference under China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) Consortium of Universities, Gwadar Pro reported on Friday.

According to Ambassador Nong Rong, for six consecutive years China has remained the top trading partner of Pakistan, adding that “seventh consecutive year China became the first investment source country of Pakistan”.

He said that moving into new era, especially after the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) by Chinese President Xi Jinping, he was glad to see the birth of CPEC. “CPEC has been promoting the comprehensive cooperation between two countries covering all areas and now we’re moving into an even broader and even deepening phase,” he added.

“CPEC projects including the Port of Gwadar, energy, transport, infrastructure, agriculture, industry and technology were much needed and respected by their Pakistani counterparts.”

He said that CPEC was moving towards a new era of high-quality development to help the “betterment of Pakistani local people”. Nong Rong said, “The CPEC projects bring the economic and social development to a higher level.” He said that they witnessed broad cooperation in higher education exchanges.

The Chinese envoy said that CPEC Consortium of Universities was a great initiative between the two countries that will bring another wave of study in China and Pakistan. “The consortium has contributed greatly to the CPEC quality development and also brings our civilization to a higher level,” he added.

<https://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2021-10-16/page-4/detail-2>

### **Pakistan, China to push ahead with cooperation on TCM: Pak envoy**

ISLAMABAD - Pakistan’s Ambassador to China Moin-ul-Haque has said that China and Pakistan will move ahead with extended cooperation on traditional medicine that will help a lot in tapping the potential of this sector.

He expressed these views during a meeting with Prof Liu Xinmin, Co-Director of SPCCTCM, at the Beijing Office of Sino-Pakistan Cooperation Centre on Traditional Chinese Medicine (SPCCTCM).

Prof Wang Qiong, Vice Director SPCCTCM, and WHO Advisor on Traditional Medicine were also present on the occasion.

Moin-ul-Haque pointed out that SPCCTCM would play an important role in boosting traditional medicine cooperation (TMC) between the two countries.

He pledged to extend full support to SPCCTCM in terms of registration and clinical trials of Chinese herbal medicines in Pakistan.

In his remarks, Prof Wang said that the two sides also discussed registration of Shugan Jieyu Capsule in Pakistan, along with joint training programme on Master and Ph.D degree in China and Pakistan.

Institutes and universities will take part in this programme include ICCBS in University of Karachi, Hamdard University from Pakistan, Hunan University of Medicine, Institute of Food Science and Technology, Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (CAAS), Southwest Medical University, Ningbo University and Shihezi University from China.

SPCCTCM is dedicated to China-Pakistan traditional medicine cooperation, which was approved by China's National Administration of Traditional Chinese Medicine in December 2020.

The centre was launched respectively in University of Karachi in Pakistan and Hunan University of Medicine in Huaihua, Hunan province, China.

<https://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2021-10-16/page-4/detail-3>

### **The News**

#### **Pak exports to China continuously surging despite pandemic**

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's exports to China have shown impressive double-digit growth in the fiscal year 2021, going above \$2 billion. Impact of the FTA phase 2 between the two iron brothers is evident from the fact that Pakistan's exports to China are continuously surging despite the pandemic and there is still huge potential to be explored.

“Pakistan largely drives its competitiveness from home grown cotton. Unfortunately local cotton production is declining and has to rely on imported cotton, says a report published by Gwadar Pro on Friday.

Hopefully, with Chinese intervention in agriculture R&D, technology and machinery, we will be competing all again,” Mr. Engr: Bilal Jamil, Senior Vice President, APBUMA said in an interview with Gwadar Pro.

Pakistan's home textile sector largely comprises of SMEs and is directly dependent on local cotton yarn supply which relies on local cotton production.

Engr: Bilal Jamil explained that Pakistan's cotton production has steeply declined over the past years. “A sustainable cotton production is imperative to the competitive advantage of textile industry.

Last year, yarn price steadily increased due to shrieked cotton production and increases yarn demand which hampered home textile sector severely.”

<https://e.thenews.com.pk/detail?id=14574>

### **Magazine on 70 years of Pak-China ties launched**

Islamabad: Ali Muhammad Khan, Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs, has said that China's emergence in the last three decades on the global stage is a fascinating story and Pakistan could also accomplish successes with the same speed by following the path of China and overcoming some of its weaknesses.

Mr Khan was speaking at the launching of the Special Edition of PIVOT Magazine on "Seventy years of Pakistan-China relations" organised here by the Institute of Strategic Studies (ISS).

Mr Khan described CPEC as a natural extension of the ancient Silk Route. He underlined China's peaceful credentials and its efforts to avoid war. He stated that it is China that stood shoulder-to-shoulder with Pakistan in times of difficulty. He opined that our support for China does not mean we are joining any anti-West club but should be seen through the prism of CPEC whose dividends will not only be limited to Pakistan and China but for the whole world.

Senior anchorperson Dr. Moeed Pirzada in his keynote address praised the farsightedness of late Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto as he established profound contacts with China and settled border disputes. He underscored that Mr. Bhutto contemplated in the 1970s that China would be a key power for regional stability. He added that China-Pakistan relations initially were only technical, military, and limited to strategic cooperation but since 2014, both the states have established extensive economic relations. He underlined that we need to convince the world that CPEC is an initiative that would improve the quality of life of native people, promote regional connectivity, and is open for the western world to invest in it.

Former ambassador to China Naghmana Hashmi observed that our leadership in the 1950s understood the strategic importance of China for the stability of the region. She added that the way Pakistan resolved the border dispute was the first step that gave China confidence to work with Pakistan on areas of common interests.

Aizaz Ahmed Chaudhry, DG, ISS, and Faraz Zaidi, DG China Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and also spoke on the occasion.

<https://e.thenews.com.pk/detail?id=14383>

**October 17, 2021**

**Business Recorder**

### **Crucial approval needed for setting up of CPEC Tower**

*Tahir Amin*

ISLAMABAD: The Board of Investment (BoI) has moved a summary to the Cabinet Committee on China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CCoCPEC), seeking approval for the establishment of the "CPEC Business and Industrial Tower in Islamabad."



The meeting of the CCoCPEC was scheduled for October 8, 2021 to be chaired by Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives; however, later it was postponed.

The summary, a copy of which is available revealed that the Capital Development Authority (CDA) has already been requested by the BOI for identification of a suitable piece of land in Islamabad on 8th May 2020; however, no suitable land for the project has been 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, Pakistani side again shared this idea with the Chinese side in the 2nd 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.

The summary noted around the world, establishment of such structures has proven to act as a catalyst to proliferate economic activities in the country.

Financial Centers, Business and Trade Centers, Corporate Towers etc have been established in many countries, e.g. Marina Bay Financial Centre (MBFC) in Singapore, to provide facilitation to the investors and businesses with state-of-the-art working facilities.

Considering its utility and symbolism, the BOI has again shared the proposal to work jointly on the CPEC Business and Industrial Cooperation Tower for inclusion in the list of projects to be made part of the MOU that is to be signed between Pakistan and China during the upcoming visit of the Chinese president.

The same proposal has also been endorsed by the CPEC Authority during a meeting held on 13th April 2020 as well as the Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives.

Modalities to acquire land at a suitable location in Islamabad need to be worked out with the CDA.

The Chinese side’s assistance in the project needs to be discussed.

Foregoing in view, it is 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.

It is further stated that in the meeting of the CCoCPEC held on 26th January 2021, it was decided that summaries related to pending issues of the CPEC projects will be submitted to the forum for approval in its forthcoming meeting.

It is proposed that the CCoCPEC may approve the proposal for establishment of the CPEC Business and Industrial Tower as per the model proposed in the concept note.

The prime minister, in his capacity as the minister in-charge of the BoI has seen and authorised submission of the summary to the CCoCPEC as required, seeking its approval of the proposal.

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2021/10/17/1-page/904329-news.html>

### **Daily Times**

#### **China to help boost Pakistan's renewable energy sector**

Chinese PV firm to participate in ongoing efforts boosting Pakistan's renewable energy, China Economic Net reported on Saturday.

Recently, Pakistan's industry and commerce rooftop market has entered into a new era of 500W+ by adopting a type of advanced photovoltaic modules made by China's JinkoSolar.

JinkoSolar, along with its local partner Hadron Solar, will provide 775 pieces of Tiger Pro modules with 500W+, which will be installed on the rooftop of a pharmaceutical factory of the Regency Group in Pakistan.

These modules will generate 633 MWh electricity annually in 25 years to meet the factory's need. What's more, it will take only three years to recover costs.

“With Jinko modules' good competitiveness in efficiency and power generation, we wish to drive the development of local PV industry,” said Gener Miao, Chief Marketing Officer of JinkoSolar.

The good competitiveness of products is attributed to JinkoSolar's input in technologies and innovation.

Jinko Solar announced that it has set a new world record for the fourth time in a year with the maximum solar conversion efficiency of 25.4% for its large-size passivating contact solar cell.

The achievement has been confirmed by the Japan Electrical Safety and Environment Technology Laboratories (JET).

Pakistan has planned to boost the share of its electric power that comes from renewables to 30% by 2030, up from about 4% currently.



The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is paving the way for Pakistan to achieve the goal, according to Muzaffar Ali, the chairman of Energy Engineering Department of University of Engineering and Technology, Taxila.

Amid this strategy, besides offering advanced technologies and modules, JinkoSolar will cooperate with Energy Training and Research Center (ETRC) of Pakistan to train talents so as to help the development of renewable energy.

JinkoSolar will provide professional technology supports for the training program, which will not only boost the shift to green energy resource, but also create job opportunities in solar sectors.

JinkoSolar is one of the largest and most innovative solar module manufacturers in the world.

JinkoSolar distributes its solar products and sells its solutions and services to a diversified international utility, commercial and residential customer base all over the world.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/830386/china-to-help-boost-pakistans-renewable-energy-sector/>

## K2 Daily



میں تعلیم حاصل کر رہے ہیں۔ چنانچہ ان کا ایک سید کے مطابق سی سی ٹی وی ہائل (ڈاؤن لیکن پاکستان اوپن ویڈیو۔ اوپن ڈگری جوائنٹ انجکشن پروگرام) کی ایک تقریب کا افتتاح کیا گیا۔ اس تقریب کا اہتمام لیکن کے نائب انچارج انجکشن گروپ نے کیا۔ تقریب کا مقصد پاکستان میں پیشہ ورانہ اور تعلیمی تعلیم کی ترقی کو فروغ دینا ہے۔ ایجنٹ کے دوران 15 اسٹریٹجک تعاون کے معاہدوں پر دستخط کیے گئے، جن میں پورے ایف۔ اور زمی فائبرس اور تاکہ، نیلی اور پورے ایف۔ اور زمی فائبرس اور تاکہ، نیلی ویسٹل کاؤچ اور مہارین آئسٹی ٹیوٹ آف انٹرنیشنل ٹیکنالوجی اور تاکہ اور نی اسے ایف آئی اسے ایف آئی اور تاکہ اور زمی فائبرس کے دستخط شامل ہیں۔ چنانچہ ان کا ایک سید کے مطابق لیکن میں پاکستانی سفیر مبین الحق نے تقریب سے خطاب کرتے ہوئے کہا کہ پاکستان کی بڑی آہنی نوجوانوں پر مشتمل ہے اور ہمیں ان کو ہتھیار بنانے کے لیے مزید کام کرنے کی ضرورت ہے، آج کا ایجنٹ دونوں حکومتوں کی کوششوں کو تقویت دے گا اور پاکستان میں تعلیمی تعلیمی ڈھانچے کو بچھرنے کا ایک بہت اہم حصہ بن جائے گا، ان رسوں کے دوران دونوں ممالک کے درمیان تعلیم کا شعبہ بہت اہم ہو گیا ہے۔ انہوں نے مزید کہا کہ لیکن اب پاکستانی طلباء کے لیے سب سے بڑی منزل ہے۔ تقریباً 28 ہزار پاکستانی طلباء مختلف چینی یونیورسٹیوں میں تعلیم حاصل کر رہے ہیں۔ مبین الحق کے مطابق یہ طلباء چینی زبان، تاریخ اور ثقافت سیکھ سکتے ہیں اور وہ افراد کو جوڑنے اور ثقافتی چاندلے اور لوگوں سے لوگوں کے رابطے کو فروغ دینے کی ایک بہت اہم قوت بن گئے ہیں۔ انہوں نے مزید کہا کہ دونوں حکومتوں کی طرف سے کی جانے والی تمام کوششیں جموں پاکستان میں خصوصی اقتصادی زونز اور صنعتی پارکوں کی اعلیٰ ہیز منڈی لیر کی ضرورت ہوگی۔

پاکستان اور چین کے درمیان تعلیم کا شعبہ بہت اہم ہے، مبین الحق  
28 ہزار پاکستانی طلباء مختلف چینی یونیورسٹیوں میں تعلیم حاصل کر رہے ہیں  
پاکستانی طلباء کو ہتھیار بنانے کیلئے مزید کام کرنے کی ضرورت ہے  
لیکن (آئی این ٹی) لیکن میں پاکستانی سفیر پاکستانی طلباء کے لیے سب سے بڑی منزل ہے،  
مبین الحق نے کہا ہے کہ پاکستان اور چین کے تقریباً 28 ہزار پاکستانی طلباء مختلف چینی  
درمیان تعلیم کا شعبہ بہت اہم ہو گیا ہے، لیکن اب یونیورسٹیوں (بائی مسٹر 6 تیرے لیر 3 1)

[https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP\\_ICT&Page=International&Date=2021-10-17](https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=International&Date=2021-10-17)

[https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP\\_ICT&Page=Classified&Date=2021-10-17](https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=Classified&Date=2021-10-17)

**October 18, 2021**

**The Nation**

### **Pakistan, China agree to cooperate for higher education**

ISLAMABAD - Pakistan and China have agreed to promote higher education and extend further cooperation in this regard to ensure better future of youth in modern times.

As part of this initiative, the China-Pakistan Higher Education Research Institute has been established at the 4th Exchange Mechanism Conference of CPEC Consortium of Universities held in Beijing, Gwadar Pro reported on Sunday.

The institute will further facilitate the high-end higher education research in both the countries focusing on mutual priority areas of scientific, economic, agricultural, educational and socio-economic development under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

The Annual Development Report of 2019-20 was also presented on the occasion by the respective Chinese and Pakistani Secretariats of the Consortium. Goals and targets for future cooperation were also outlined.

Shafqat Mahmood, Minister for Federal Education and Profession Training, Du Yubo, President, China Association of Higher Education, Prof. Qiu Shuiping, Secretary of the CPC Committee and Chair of the University Council, Peking University, Dr. Shaista Sohail, Executive Director, Higher Education Commission of Pakistan, Nong Rong, Ambassador of China Pakistan and Moin ul Haque, Ambassador of Pakistan to China, attended the conference online along with other dignitaries.

The CPEC Consortium of Universities was established in 2017 with 19 (10 Pakistani and 9 Chinese) universities. Currently, the membership of the Consortium stands at 83 (61 Pakistani and 22 Chinese) universities.

The Consortium's rapid progress marks a renewed beginning of educational cooperation leading to industrial, business, infrastructural, cultural and socio-economic cooperation between the two brotherly countries of China and Pakistan. The successful completion of the 4th Exchange Mechanism Conference is especially significant not only because it was held under the challenging times of the global COVID-19 pandemic, but also because it was held in a year when both countries are celebrating the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties.

The Conference was held simultaneously through online and on-site modes at the Peking University, Beijing and National University of Sciences and Technology, Islamabad.

<https://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2021-10-18/page-10/detail-1>

**October 19, 2021**

**Business Recorder**

### **‘More Chinese agri technologies to flow into Pakistan’**

BEIJING: Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesperson, Zhao Lijian said on Monday that as the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) entered the second phase, there will be more Chinese agricultural technologies flowing into Pakistan.

“China-Pakistan cooperation in cultivating rice, corn, soybean, sugarcane and other crops has yielded fruitful results and play the important role in promoting development of our bilateral relations and deepening friendship between our people,” he said while responding to a question asked by APP during his regular briefing.

Addressing the launching ceremony of “Kisan (farmer) Portal” for the farmers under Pakistan Citizen’s Portal in Islamabad, Prime Minister Imran Khan said that Pakistani farmers have to learn new techniques to boost productivity like China.

Prime Minister Imran Khan stated that CPEC has included the agriculture sector in its umbrella and there is also a training programme. CPEC will boost the agriculture sector. Agriculture is part of CPEC (second phase).

In response to PM Imran Khan remarks, Zhao Lijian said, “As the CPEC enters the second phase, there will be more Chinese agricultural technologies flowing into Pakistan which means huge potential in our agricultural cooperation.”

Terming China and Pakistan as all-weather strategic cooperative partners, he remarked that the agricultural cooperation is an integral part of CPEC an important pilot project of Belt and Road Initiative.

“We will continue to uphold the Silk Road spirit of peace and cooperation, openness, inclusiveness, mutual learning and the mutual benefit,” he added.—APP

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2021/10/19/2-page/904572-news.html>

**The Nation**

### **Light show, cultural festival held in Qingdao to celebrate Pak-China diplomatic ties**

BEIJING - To commemorate the 70th anniversary of the establishment of Pakistan-China diplomatic ties, the Embassy of Pakistan in coordination with the local government of Qingdao and Pakistan-China Centre of SCO Demonstration Area organized a thematic light show at Qingdao International Olympics Sailing Centre.

The light show displayed the official logo of 70th anniversary celebrations and slogans capturing the fraternal ties between the two countries. It was witnessed by Pakistan Ambassador to China, Moin ul Haque, Wang Luming, Chairman of Qingdao People's Congress, Zhu Tieyi, Director General of Qingdao Culture and Tourism Bureau and Mou Jundian, Director General of Foreign Affairs Office of Qingdao.

Members of Pakistani community and representatives of media were also present at the occasion. Pakistan Cultural Festival was also held at International Sailing Centre at Qingdao to celebrate diplomatic relations between Pakistan and China.

The event was attended by the top ranking officials of the Qingdao government including Wang Luming, the Chairman of Qingdao People's Congress, Mou Jundian, Director General of Qingdao Foreign Affairs Office, Zhu Tieyi, Director General of Qingdao Culture and Tourism Bureau and Ms. Wang Hong, the President of Qingdao Tourism Group.

Local artists, students and media representatives also attended the event. Speaking at the occasion, Chairman Wang Luming said that China attached immense importance to deepening its bilateral ties with Pakistan.

He added that as the host of SCO Demonstration Area and due to ever-deepening bilateral trade and economic ties, Qingdao and Pakistan can expand their relationship in cultural exchanges, two-way tourism and media cooperation.

Wang assured that Qingdao would keep spearheading development of ties with Pakistan in all areas of cooperation. During his remarks, Ambassador Moin ul Haque said that Pakistan and China were iron-brothers and all-weather strategic cooperative partners.

He emphasized that encouraging people-to-people and cultural ties were imperative to pass on the finest traditions of Pakistan-China friendship to younger generations of the two countries.

During the festival, Chinese children performed on traditional Pakistani and Chinese songs. The famous Pakistani movie, 'Parwaz Hay Junoon', was also played during the event and guests were entertained with traditional Pakistani food.

<https://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2021-10-19/page-15/detail-2>

**October 21, 2021**

**Business Recorder**

### **Investment cooperation in green development**

Pakistan, China may sign three-year pact

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan and China are likely to sign a three-year pact on promotion of investment cooperation in green development, well informed sources told Business Recorder. The MoU will be inked with Ministry of Commerce China which is actively implementing China's commitment to be carbon neutral by 2060. The Ministry is also carrying out China's

14th Five-year plan (2021-2025) for National Economic and Social Development and long-range objectives through the year 2035.

The MoU is based on the goodwill and needs of businesses of both countries and the practical foundation for strengthening cooperation in the field of green development.

According to the proposed draft MoU, the parties will adhere to the green consensus and promote green development. They will take the global energy transition as an opportunity to stimulate new growth drives in green development, deepen exchanges and cooperation in green economy and clean energy, and promote high quality development of bilateral investment cooperation.

The parties will enhance synergy between green development strategies and policies, encourage local governments, industrial organisations, financial institutions and businesses to enhance coordination, tap the potential of green development cooperation and jointly create the momentum of cooperation for the future.

The parties will encourage businesses to conduct investment cooperation in green development, including clean energy such as photovoltaic, wind power, nuclear, hydrogen and biomass energy, new energy vehicle industry such as power battery, smart charging pile production service and battery disposal and recycling, as well as, green finance and green infrastructure construction.

The parties will encourage businesses to, in compliance with the requirements of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Convention on Biological Diversity and the carbon-neutral commitment targets, fulfil environmental obligations, promote green design, green procurement, green construction, green production and green operation, and facilitate the coordinated development of the local economy, society and the ecological environment. The parties will encourage businesses to accelerate green transformation, increase investment in green technology, jointly promote green technology innovation and carry out high-level joint research through the establishment of scientific and technological innovation platforms such as R&D centres, innovation centres, laboratories and incubators.

The parties will agree to give full play to the leading role of the investment cooperation working group under the mechanism of China- Pakistan Joint Commission (or mixed committee) on Economic and Trade Cooperation (or the parties agree to give full play to the leading role of China- Pakistan Joint Commission (or mixed committee) on Economic and Trade Cooperation if there is no Working Group), with the Department of Outward Investment and Economic Cooperation of the Ministry of Commerce of China and Department of Executing Agencies of this Memorandum, to step up policy exchanges, implement the work set out in this Memorandum, and build a pragmatic and efficient platform for green development cooperation. This Memorandum will come into effect on the date of signature and remain in effect for three years.—MUSHTAQ GHUMMAN

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2021/10/21/1-page/904654-news.html>

## Dawn News

### **Panel urges early resolution of tax, procedural matters facing CPEC**

*Khaleeq Kiani*

ISLAMABAD: The Pak-China Relations Steering Committee (PCRSC) on Wednesday asked the federal and provincial authorities to expedite the resolution of outstanding taxation and procedural matters of Chinese investors on priority to attract further investments in special economic zones (SEZs).

Simultaneously, the National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (Nepra) also advised power sector authorities to complete legal requirements and documentation for speedy decision making instead of looking for shortcuts to address outstanding issues of Chinese power companies.

The third meeting of the PCRSC presided over by Minister for Planning and Development Asad Umar also noted that minor problems which should be settled at the provincial level, ministries, board of directors of relevant entities and cabinet committees were unnecessarily being brought up before it. It desired that only progress reports on already settled issues and pending problems be presented to it for timely interventions.

The PCRSC – constituted a few months ago – mostly comprised federal secretaries besides military and intelligence agencies.

The committee discussed various issues related to the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) projects in power, infrastructure and industrial cooperation sectors. It further directed that issues like withholding tax and investment facilitations should be taken to the relevant forums for decision making at the earliest.

Informed sources said that during the course of discussions on power projects like Matiari-Lahore Transmission Line, Zonergy's Solar project and a couple of others, a Nepra team – led by its chairman Tauseef H Farooqi – pointed out that being a quasi-judiciary forum, it required complete documentation and the government decisions to come out with judgments and the relevant agencies particularly Private Power & Infrastructure Board (PPIB) should focus on deliverables on their part to qualify early decisions.

The regulator also pointed out that in one of the projects a sizable amount had been claimed on account of a sewerage recycling plant at a distance from the project that was not part of the original project and required due diligence under the laws and rules. The hearing on the subject had taken place only last week and now documentation was awaited both from Nepra's own technical team and others.

The committee was told that different tax rates were applicable in Punjab, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Azad Jammu & Kashmir (AJK) on various hydropower projects being developed by Chinese firms. It was also highlighted that hydropower projects had lower withholding tax rates when



Chinese contracted projects but were increased later in finance bills that was causing unnecessary discomfort.

The planning minister told the participants that while federal government could not ask provincial and AJK governments to have same tax rates for various projects in their jurisdictions, the PCRSC could request them to decide such matters at the earliest to give clarity to investors. However, the committee asked the relevant agencies to move quickly on WHT issue at the level of relevant cabinet committees for an early decision instead of keeping it lingering.

The committee was informed that a number of issues discussed during the last meeting in August had been resolved while some others were under process for approval of the relevant fora. The Power Division informed the committee that proposals for extension of commercial operations dates of six power projects were under process and the matter will be discussed in the upcoming meeting of the board of the Central Power Purchasing Agency (CPPA).

The committee was informed that the Right of Way issue for the 660kV High Voltage Direct Current Matiari-Lahore Transmission Line near Karachi had been resolved and power was now being evacuated through the transmission line. The committee was also briefed on the 880MW Sukki Kinari Hydropower Project. The committee directed the KP government to resolve the operational issues faced by the project on priority.

Secretary Ministry of Communications briefed the committee on the ongoing projects in the infrastructure under CPEC and informed the committee that the re-alignment of Thakot-Raikkot is a critical component of the northern alignment. The secretary highlighted that the G2G technical committee has been formed for the project and the terms of reference of the committee had also been shared with the Chinese for views and comments. The committee directed that meeting be convened soon under Deputy Chairman Planning Commission to discuss the financing modalities of the project.

The committee also discussed the issues faced by the investors in different SEZs. The Punjab Board of Investment & Trade and KP EPZ Authority updated the committee on the individual issues of various investors. Sindh Investment Department informed that the developer for Dhabeji SEZ had been identified and final approval would be granted soon.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1653112/panel-urges-early-resolution-of-tax-procedural-matters-facing-cpec>

### Dunya News

#### **40 more buses for Karachi's Green Line BRT arrive from China**

KARACHI (Dunya News) – The second consignment of 40 Green Line Bus Rapid Transit System (BRT) buses from China reached Karachi Port on Wednesday night, Dunya News reported.

A ship carrying the second consignment of 40 Green Line Bus Rapid Transit System (BRT) buses docked at the Karachi Port. With the arrival on new buses, the number of Green Line buses has reached 80.

According to sources, the Green Line Bus Rapid Transit System (BRT) service in Karachi is likely to become operational by the end of this month.

It is pertinent to mention here that on completion, Green Line will only cover one stretch of the city between North Karachi and Merewether Tower. The Green Line is just one component of ‘Karachi Breeze’ — a project that comprises four more bus lines and promises a comprehensive transport solution in the city.

<https://dunyanews.tv/en/Pakistan/624993-40-more-buses-for-Karachi/'s-Green-Line-BRT-arrive-from-China>

### **Second consignment of Green Line buses reaches Karachi: Asad Umar**

ISLAMABAD (Dunya News) – Federal Minister for Planning and Development Asad Umar on Thursday announced that second consignment of 40 Green Line buses has reached Karachi.

Asad Umar, in a tweet, said that so far 80 buses for the Green Line have arrived and all preparation are on time regarding start of commercial operation.

According to sources, the Green Line Bus Rapid Transit System (BRT) service in Karachi is likely to become operational by the end of this month.

It is pertinent to mention here that on completion, Green Line will only cover one stretch of the city between North Karachi and Merewether Tower. The Green Line is just one component of ‘Karachi Breeze’ — a project that comprises four more bus lines and promises a comprehensive transport solution in the city.

<https://dunyanews.tv/en/Pakistan/625034-Second-consignment-of-Green-Line-buses-reaches-Karachi-Asad-Umar>

### **Pakistan Observer**

### **CPEC & Concept of Inclusive Security System**

*Dr Mehmood Ul Hassan Khan*

CHINA-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is going to enter in its much awaited, heated and debated phase-II in the country. In this connection, Prime Minister Imran Khan christened it crucial for social and agricultural development. Nevertheless, the absence of a proper inclusive security concept is still haunting the life, productivity and pace of ongoing projects of CPEC in the country. Due to certain regional geopolitical complexities and global geostrategic complicated reasons, CPEC has been in the line of fire since its inception. In this connection, the traditional dividing line between issues of Hard National Security (HNS) and promotion of international and national interests becomes blurred which has been one of the main reasons for

dissemination of propaganda against CPEC. Unfortunately, Soft National Security Narrative (SNSN) has not been properly diffusing the political differences and left the window open for foreigners to manipulate.

In this regard, main stakeholders have been battling out for ultimate domination due to which pace of development has been compromised. Puppetry media and pseudo intellectuals have been on the edge of grand sale to align with the whims & wishes of the Western masters and tarnish CPEC. Continued western propaganda crisis no longer remains in their separate and distinct boxes and created unwanted discomfort among the main stakeholders from both sides. Notwithstanding, political jugglers and media magicians should understand that failure to consolidate economic development and social peace can result in instability and chaos that serve as breeding grounds for political instability, ethnic division and other threats to national peace question mark on NSN. Thus smooth sailing of CPEC is must for the further strengthening of socio-economic prosperity and national security too because economics and politics have direct correlation.

For achieving the Integrated Inclusive Security System (IISS) in the country the government deployed 15,000 military personnel (9,000 Pakistan Army soldiers & 6,000 para-military forces personnel) as part of the Special Security Division (SSD) and Maritime Security Force (MSF), to protect projects under the flagship of the CPEC. In this context, most recently Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan Nong Rong called on Maj Gen M. Aamer Najam, GOC SSD (South) and Rear Admiral Jawad Ahmed, Commander Pakistan Navy Western Command and appreciated the efforts made by the defence forces in safeguarding the smooth progress of CPEC projects and personnel. Both forces will work under the Interior Ministry, in coordination with the provinces, to ensure the safety of locals and foreigners working on CPEC projects.

The SSD provides security to 34 CPEC-related projects, while the MSF safeguards the Gwadar Port and other coastal areas of the country. Moreover, the SSD has been deployed in six zones from Gwadar to Gilgit-Baltistan, including all four provinces and Azad Jammu & Kashmir (AJK). It is responsible for the security of the area within a 5km radius of CPEC related projects. It also patrols different areas of the corridor, especially where road building projects are underway. Both the SSD and MSF were formed in view of possible threats to the over \$60 billion CPEC and the foreign nationals presently engaged in infrastructure and power generation projects being commissioned under its umbrella. The SSD and MSF were developed and equipped with state of the art weapons, equipment and vehicles. "Most SSD personnel are the serving army men.

The security situation in Balochistan has drastically improved since the launch of the CPEC and now there is better infrastructure. Now many Chinese projects are underway and consequently, the security development and investment situation will improve significantly. The strategically located deep-sea port of Gwadar is the cornerstone of CPEC. In this connection, Pakistan Army's Strategic Division has been deployed with the responsibility of defending CPEC, the onus of keeping the Sea Lanes of Communication (SLOC) open and protecting Pakistan's coast

as well as the ports of Karachi, Bin-Qasim, Ormara and Gwadar rest with Pakistan Navy (PN). For the further safety and security of the CPEC projects a special organization Task Force-88 (TF-88) has been created and assigned the duty for the seaward security of Gwadar Port and protection of associated sea lanes against both conventional and non-traditional threats.

TF-88 comprises 400 Marines, which specialize in defending marine assets both onshore and seaward, against threats emanating from subsurface, surface and aerial. The Task Force has been equipped with suitable platforms comprising gunboats, frigates, Fast Attack Craft, aircraft and drones as well as other electronic surveillance means. If we look at the larger geopolitical picture and development of CPEC, we conclude that the success of the CPEC and the Gwadar Port project is linked to the safe and secure maritime environment in the Indian Ocean region in general and the Arabian Sea in particular. The PN has adopted a multifaceted holistic approach to deal with the prevailing state & non-state threats and challenges such as beefing up security of Gwadar Port, conducting security patrols and coastal exercises, enhancing Maritime Domain Awareness and engaging in Collaborative Maritime Security with regional and extra-regional navies.

Now Pakistan Navy is in charge of the security of Gwadar Port, its infrastructure, and Chinese personnel working within port and harbour defence responsibility. PN has also stationed a Force Protection Battalion (FPBn) of Pak Marines along with requisite assets and equipment, both afloat and ashore, to ensure security of the Port and the Chinese personnel. It has been further augmented with the proportionate increase in trade and associated activities in the Port. It hopes that economic prosperity brought about by the mega projects of CPEC will defeat the motives of terrorists as, with the success of the project, more employment and business opportunities will be unlocked, and people's livelihood will improve.

Being a prominent regional expert of China, CPEC & BRI, this scribe submits that Integrated Inclusive Security System (IISS) is the need of the hour to start CPEC phase-II. It will also cater to non-traditional threats to humanity, human progress, survival, socio-economic prosperity and massive industrialization in the country. Modern IISS deals with looming threats of climate change, massive migration of people/refugees, terrorism, human & drugs trafficking and last but not the least radicalization which should also be replicated in the security system of CPEC.

Sway of Soft National Security or soft image needs revisiting at the highest level to streamline the CPEC. Model of modern corporate management of Balancing, Development and Diversity should be need of the hour. Inclusion of new hydro-projects, initiation of green energies projects, social development, affordable housing, promising education, tourism and agriculture should be part & parcel of CPEC Phase-II because the latest concept of security also includes a social security system. To conclude, Small & Medium Enterprises (SMEs) are badly ignored in the CPEC projects. It has been one of the main tools for China to eradicate poverty (850 million people) in its country which should also be replicated in Pakistan.

<https://pakobserver.net/cpec-concept-of-inclusive-security-system-by-dr-mehmood-ul-hassan-khan/>

## Why should Bangladesh use Pakistan's Gwadar Port?

*Pathik Hasan, Dhaka*

BANGLADESH would benefit from utilizing Pakistan's Gwadar port. Pakistan's Gwadar Port is situated in a strategic location which is considered as a strategic hub amongst South Asia, Central Asia, West Asia, Eurasia and the Middle Asia even to some extent East Asia (Western and Central part of China). Bangladeshi products can be exported to Central Asian States, West Asian States, Central Asian States, Russia, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Western and Central China. Bangladesh's apparels, leather products, frozen foods, jute-made products, medicines, mangoes and potatoes are in heavy demand in the markets of the above-mentioned countries.

On the other hand, Bangladesh needs cotton as raw materials to meet the demand of the garment industry. Bangladesh is moving forward because of expanding its garment industry and labour resources. Bangladesh is one of the top apparel exporters in the world. Every year, it receives a huge number of remittances from the Bangladeshi expatriate community abroad.

Central Asian, Russian, Pakistani, Chinese wheat and cotton have huge demand in the Bangladesh market. Pakistani Sherwani and food also have huge demand in the Bangladesh market. Bangladesh can easily import the above-mentioned products from these countries.

Bangladeshi ports can be connected to Pakistani ports via Sri Lankan ports. Bangladesh, Pakistan and Sri Lanka all are active members of the Chinese great project 'Belt and Road Initiative'. The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is a 2442-km-long commercial project from Gwadar in Pakistan to Kashgar in China's Xinjiang province. The cost of the project is estimated at \$60+ billion. To deliver oil and gas through the medium in a short time, Bangladesh can easily enter into the markets of Central Asian, West Asian, Eurasian markets using Gwadar Port and China-run 'China-Pakistan Economic Corridor'. Pakistan is trying to connect the Gwadar Port with Central Asian, Iran, Russia, and Eurasian States through Afghanistan. There are some railway connectivity projects as well.

Pakistan, Afghanistan, and Uzbekistan have already signed (in February 2021) a roadmap for a multi-billion-dollar rail project that is expected to boost trade relations between Central and South Asia. There is potential regarding reconnection of Bangladesh with the Central Asian States and Russia through Pakistan's Gwadar project.

On the other hand, according to reports appearing in a section of the press, the governments of Turkey, Iran and Pakistan are trying to revive a transnational rail service linking Istanbul, Tehran and Islamabad. The ITI transnational railroad is expected to enhance connectivity with China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) by providing a rail connection between China and Turkey.

If Bangladesh connects its Chittagong, Mangala and Payra ports with Pakistan's Karachi and Gwadar ports through Sri-Lanka Hambantota and Colombo ports, Bangladesh would benefit more. Bangladesh can easily do it because it has already joined BRI in 2017. The whole of South Asia, including Bangladesh, would benefit if the projects are implemented truly. Therefore, it

creates a reconnection opportunity for Bangladesh with Pakistan, China, Central Asia and Eurasian region.

Then Bangladeshi goods can easily enter into the markets in the region using Pakistan's Gwadar ports. Bangladesh-Pakistan trade and economic ties will boost up. Bangladesh can take part in the development process in Afghanistan. A Bangladeshi NGO "BRAC" is working in Afghanistan now. Bangladesh, Pakistan, China, Iran, Central Asian states can work together in the infrastructural development process in Afghanistan.

There might be some political and bilateral problems between Bangladesh-Pakistan. But a bilateral solution, of course, can be found through diplomatic channels. The two parties have to realize the current world geo-political situation. The ties and connections are very necessary for ensuring the mutual interest of almost 395 million people. The entire South-East Asia, South Asia, Central Asia and West Asia would benefit. ASEAN and SAARC free trade zones could be created.

What will be the benefit to Bangladesh? 1. Employment opportunities will increase, 2. Infrastructure development will increase, 3. There will be less dependence on financial aid given by India. Dependence on India will be overcome hugely. During the onion crisis period, Bangladesh understood this reality. Pakistan provided onion to Bangladesh at that time. But Bangladesh faced complexity because there is no direct shipping connection (Line) with Pakistan. 4. Efforts will be made to put pressure on India due to good relations between Pakistan and China. 5. Economy will get momentum

Bangladesh should use Pakistan's Gwadar Port for the following reasons: (1) For ensuring its own business interest. (2) To strengthen the economic and trade ties with Pakistan, Afghanistan and Central Asian States, West Asian countries and even Russia and China. (3) To decrease its huge dependence on India, 4. Connectivity could unite the ASEAN and SAARC free trade zones. (5) All the states in these regions would benefit mutually in trade and counter-terrorism approach from multilateral ties. (6) Enhancing bilateral relations could contribute to the growth of trade and investment relations with ASEAN and BIMSTEC countries. This will create an opportunity to serve greater regional interest. (7) Re-establishing the Himalayan-South Asian connectivity can occur if political and diplomatic solutions of Bangladesh-Pakistan ties can be found. (8) Usage of Gwadar Port by Bangladesh would ensure the maximum benefit of the people.

Therefore, Bangladesh should use Pakistan's Gwadar Port. There is no alternative for each and every state in the world without being connected with others. There is a huge potential for Bangladesh in this regard. Now it's time for Bangladesh to utilize this opportunity. Pakistan's Gwadar Port provides enormous benefits for Bangladesh.

<https://pakobserver.net/why-should-bangladesh-use-pakistans-gwadar-port-by-pathik-hasan-dhaka/>



## The Express Tribune

### **Issues stymying CPEC projects remain unresolved**

Energy ministry failed to implement orders given by Pak-China Steering Committee

ISLAMABAD: The government has once again missed its self-imposed deadlines to resolve issues hampering the progress on first-phase projects of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), which may deepen mistrust among Chinese investors.

Third meeting of the Pak-China Relations Steering Committee reviewed the status of CPEC projects and found that a majority of its directives given in the first week of August had remained unimplemented.

Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Asad Umar chaired the meeting.

The Ministry of Energy did not implement the orders given by the steering committee, according to people who attended the meeting on Wednesday.

In its last meeting, the government had fixed the end of August as the deadline for the Power Division to devise a policy to deal with the delay in beginning commercial operations of five CPEC power projects having generation capacity of 3,600 megawatts.

The Ministry of Energy had been directed to submit the policy to the Cabinet Committee on Energy to resolve the issue.

“The Power Division informed the committee that proposals for the extension of commercial operation date (COD) of six power projects were under process and the matter will be discussed in the upcoming meeting of CPPA board,” said a statement issued by the Ministry of Planning after the meeting.

The projects are falling far behind their dates of commissioning agreed between the government of Pakistan and Chinese investors due to overall slowdown of work on CPEC projects, Covid-related delays and strikes at some projects.

In case of delay by the power producers, the project sponsors are usually under the threat of paying penalties. However, the delay is partly due to government’s policy decisions.

These power projects - 884MW Suki Kinari Hydropower Project, 720MW Karot Hydropower Project, 330MW Tel project at Thar block-II, 330MW Thal Nova Thar block-II and 1,320MW Thar block-I - have been delayed.

The Suki Kinari project is facing a delay of at least 10 months; Karot project is facing delay of four months, Tel Thar project one-year delay, Thal Nova project 15-month delay and Thar block-I project at least one-year delay.

Chinese investors have long been complaining about delay in resolving issues on the part of Pakistan. The 10th meeting of the CPEC Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) had given hope

that Pakistani authorities would soon start addressing those problems, however, the committee proceedings suggested that things were still moving at an unusually slow pace to the disappointment of Chinese investors.

A dispute between Sahiwal Power Plant and the Port Qasim Authority over the imported coal handling charges has remained unresolved.

As per the implementation agreement in September 2016, the PQA is charging on a minimum quantity of 3.5 million tons of imported coal but the National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (Nepra) is only adjusting 3.2 million tons of coal as a pass-through item. This has placed an additional burden on the Sahiwal power plant.

The issue to either amend the implementation agreement or allow other importers to use the idle berth space remains pending, the meeting was informed. The plant is also facing problems due to delay in power purchase payments by the government.

Read First CPEC project completed

The problems in securing visas by Chinese citizens also remained unresolved and the representative of the Ministry of Interior initially claimed that the ministry did not receive any letter in this regard.

But the issue of the Right of Way (RoW) near Karachi of 660 KV HVDC Matiari Lahore Transmission Line has been resolved and power is now being evacuated through the transmission line, according to the Ministry of Planning.

The committee was also briefed on the 880 MW Suki Kinari Hydropower Project. The Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa (K-P) government increased sales tax on construction services from 1% to 2%, which the Chinese investors said was not in line with the rates offered to other similar projects. This issue still remains pending, said the sources.

Asad Umar directed K-P government to resolve the operational issues faced by the project on priority.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2325683/issues-stymying-cpec-projects-remain-unresolved>

## **The News**

### **Interior ministry tasked with foolproof CPEC security**

ISLAMABAD: The federal government has directed the Ministry of Interior to ensure foolproof security for the Chinese and resolve all outstanding issues with immediate effect under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

Pak-China Relations Steering Committee held its third meeting under the chair of Federal Minister for Planning Development and Special Initiatives Asad Umar. The committee met for discussing the 660 KV HDVC Transmission Line Project from Matiari to Lahore.

The decision on Maximum Available Power (MAP) from September 2021 has been outstanding and tariff approval from NEPRA (National Electric Power Regulatory Authority) has also been pending since April 2021. The committee was told the NEPRA was finalising tariff during an upcoming meeting next week.

The committee was further informed the Right of Way Issue (RoA) near Karachi of 660 KV HVDC Matiari-Lahore Transmission Line had been resolved and power was now being evacuated through the transmission line.

The Committee discussed various issues relating to CPEC projects in Power, Infrastructure & Industrial Cooperation Sectors. The committee was informed a number of issues discussed during the last meeting, had been resolved as per the directions of the committee, while some others were under process for approval of the relevant fora.

The Power Division informed the committee that proposals for extension of CoD of six power projects were under process and the matter would be discussed in the upcoming meeting of the CPPA board. The committee was also briefed on the 880 MW Sukki Kinari Hydropower Project. The chair directed Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) government to resolve the operational issues faced by the project on priority.

Secretary Ministry of Communications informed the committee that the Re-alignment of Thakot-Raikkot is a critical component of the northern alignment. The secretary highlighted the G2G technical committee has been formed for the project and the ToRs of the committee had also been shared with the Chinese side for views and comments. The chair also directed that meeting be convened soon under Deputy Chairman Planning Commission to discuss the financing modalities of the project. The committee discussed the issues faced by the investors in different Special Economic Zones.

The Punjab Board of Investment & Trade & KP EPZ Authority updated the committee on the individual issues of various investors. Sindh Investment Department informed that the developer for Dhabeji SEZ had been identified and final approval would be granted soon. Deputy Chairman Planning Commission, SAPM on CPEC, Secretary Foreign, Secretary Interior, Secretary Railways, Secretary Power, Secretary Finance, National Security Adviser, and senior officers of the Ministries/Divisions and Provincial Departments attended the meeting.

<https://e.thenews.com.pk/detail?id=15607>

**October 22, 2021**

**Business Recorder**

**CPEC project enters into its 3rd phase: Sher Ali**

*HASSAN ABBAS*

LAHORE: Chairman National Assembly Parliamentary Committee for China Pakistan Economic Corridor Sher Ali Arbab said on Thursday that the project has entered into its 3rd

phase.

While addressing a seminar Sher Ali called for increasing the pace of work on CPEC as its completion on time is in the interest of both nations.

The seminar was organized with the collaboration of the National Assembly Secretariat, Punjab Board of Investment, Planning and Development Board and Friedrish Ebert Stiftung Pakistan and attended by Acting Council General China, provincial ministers, members of parliament and investors from both countries.

He also said that the Federal government has constituted a parliamentary committee on CPEC in order to formulate meaningful proposals to face the challenges of CPEC.

Chairman Sher Ali Arbab said that positive proposals regarding CPEC discussed in the seminar will be implemented. He called for organising such seminars and conferences in other provinces. He said a national conference on CPEC would be held in Islamabad.

Sher Ali Arbab further said Punjab is the largest province of Pakistan having great investment opportunities and cooperation between Punjab and the federal government would be enhanced for exploring more investment as CPEC is a game-changer for Pakistan.

Secretary-General Pakistan Muslim League Nawaz Ahsan Iqbal said that our currency should be strengthened if we want to make Pakistan an investment-friendly destination for the world. He said that it is very unfortunate that governor State Bank of Pakistan is saying that overseas are happy with the devaluation. He also said that devaluation brings a storm of inflation adding that devaluation increases uncertainty which is not good for the economy.

Ahsan said that infrastructure development was the priority till 2020 under China Pakistan Economic Corridor. He further said that the now government should focus on the completion of the projects by 2025.

Addressing the seminar, Finance Minister Makhdom Hashim Jawan Bakht said special economic zones in Allama Iqbal Industrial City Faisalabad are going to be established with Chinese investment under CPEC. He said that the government of Punjab will provide the best facilities to the local and foreign investors.

Chinese Ambassador in Pakistan Nong Rong while addressing the seminar through video link said Pakistan-China friendship was spreading over decades and economic cooperation was increasing with every passing movement. He further said numerous infrastructure projects had also been completed under CPEC in Punjab relating to industries, transport and energy sector. FES country head Jochen Hippler also addressed the seminar. Later on, a dialogue was also held relating to agriculture, industry and other sectors and experts gave their proposals reiterating to enhance cooperation in the technology sector and initiating joint ventures with Chinese companies.

Provincial Minister for Agriculture Syed Hussain Jahanian Gerdezi, Secretary Agriculture Punjab, agriculture experts and progressive farmers also attended the seminar. Provincial

Minister Agriculture in his address said agriculture is the backbone of Pakistan and 19.3 GDP share is obtained from the agriculture sector. Agricultural sector has made tremendous progress during the present government has introduced high-tech technology in the field of agriculture to enhance economic growth. Minister Agriculture said CPEC would help the agriculture sector to boost the national economy.

Secretary Agriculture Punjab Asad Rehman Gillani while addressing the seminar said Pakistan has 3.5 million registered farmers and the government was making all-out efforts to provide subsidies to farmers for maximum crop production and during the current year record bumper crops have been produced and new varieties of wheat and rice have been introduced which would help to increase per acre yield leading to prosperity of the farmers.

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2021/10/22/11-page/904857-news.html>

### **Pakistan Observer**

#### **Expedite CPEC projects**

DESPITE repeated assurances and claims by the Government leaders, there are credible reports that progress on projects related to China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) remains somewhat stalled due to lethargic attitude of the relevant ministries and divisions and lack of policy directions by the Government.

Latest reports suggest that the Chinese investors, who are otherwise willing and capable of expediting work on all projects, have serious reservations over lack of interest by relevant authorities.

Pakistan received significant aid and assistance for hundreds of projects from various foreign sources since its creation but most of these failed to make any worthwhile impact on the socio-economic conditions of the people or the pace of economic development of the country mainly because the projects and programmes for which the aid was given were not properly conceived and implemented.

In many cases, loans and grants were provided by some countries for programmes which sounded very high conceptually but had no relevance to the ground realities in Pakistan.

As against this, there is consensus in the country that all projects under the framework of the CPEC were highly beneficial for people of Pakistan, especially for those in far-flung and backward regions.

It was mainly because of the Chinese-funded energy projects that Pakistan is today load-shedding free and contrary to the load-management policies of the past that played havoc with industrial production and exports, the Government is offering incentives to both the industry and the general public to consume more power.

In this backdrop, it is regrettable that apart from the uncalled for delay in resumption of work on the vitally important Dasu hydropower project, work on five other power sector projects

including Karot is behind schedule as the relevant ministry has adopted a lacklustre attitude towards resolution of problems that mar the progress and beginning of their commercial operations.

Similarly, work on construction of several infrastructure projects including those for Gwadar is either suspended for the last three years or the construction activity is negligible due to lack of required commitment.

This runs contrary to the oft-repeated claims of the Government to make Gwadar a regional hub of trade and connectivity and create world-class infrastructure to attract investors for realization of the dream of bringing about an industrial revolution in the country.

We would, therefore, urge the Prime Minister to personally look into the matter as there are apprehensions that Pakistan might lose a historic opportunity for progress and development.

<https://pakobserver.net/expedite-cpec-projects/>

### **300MW Gwadar Power Plant to start functioning by 2023**

A 300 megawatts coal-fired Gwadar Power Plant would start functioning from October 2023, said official sources.

The power plant would cater the needs of some 150,000 people of Gwadar by the end of 2023 under the 2050 Master Plan of Gwadar.

The power plant of independent power producer, is one of the key energy projects on the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

The project aimed at improving reliability on local power supply would help gradually solving the problems in current economic development and urban construction in Gwadar region being restricted by the shortage of power.

“We are currently spending millions of dollars per annum to generate electricity from diesel generators. I hope the plant would be operationalise soon to solve the port’s power scarcity issues.

The power plant is of great significance to deepening the energy cooperation between China and Pakistan, boosting the development of the Belt and Road Initiative, improving the overall power structure of Balochistan.—APP

<https://pakobserver.net/300mw-gwadar-power-plant-to-start-functioning-by-2023/>

### **The Express Tribune**

#### **China 'pleased' as CPEC enters stage of high-quality development**

We are glad to see CPEC achieve new outcomes, says Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson



BEIJING: Expressing pleasure over the progress of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) projects, Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Wang Wenbin on Friday said that the flagship project has achieved new outcomes and entered a stage of high-quality development.

"We are glad to see that CPEC has achieved new outcomes and entered a stage of high-quality development," he said while responding to a question asked by APP during his regular press conference held in Beijing.

He also referred to the National Development Reforms Commission (NDRC) briefing in which a spokesperson of the commission gave an update on the new progress of the CPEC development.

"This is a demonstration of China-Pakistan friendship, and also an example of promoting the prosperity and development of countries along the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI)," Wenbin added.

He said that the Chinese will work with Pakistan to implement the vital consensus reached between the leadership of the two countries and build CPEC into a demonstration project for BRI's high-quality development and to boost the building of an even closer China-Pakistan shared community.

Earlier, Meng Wei, a spokesperson for the NDRC, during a press briefing said that the CPEC has entered a new phase of high-quality development after making significant achievements in a wide range of areas over the years.

The CPEC has made significant progress, as expressways, vocational schools and power plants funded by China have been put into operation in Pakistan, he added.

The NDRC spokesperson also said that as a major pilot project of the BRI, the CPEC will accelerate Pakistan's socioeconomic development in multiple areas, including energy and transportation.

"China and Pakistan will continue to strengthen cooperation focused on the Gwadar port, as well as energy and infrastructure projects, in order to promote the high-quality development of the CPEC," the spokesperson added.

On September 23, the Joint Council for Cooperation (JCC) of the CPEC held a meeting, where five cooperation documents and three inter-enterprise cooperation agreements were signed.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2326048/china-pleased-as-cpec-enters-stage-of-high-quality-development-1>

## The Nation

### **America against KE handover to Chinese firm, claims Khawaja Asif**

*MUHAMMAD ASAD CHAUDHRY*

ISLAMABAD - Former minister for power and senior leader of PML-N Khawaja Muhammad Asif has claimed that a deal to take over by China's Shanghai Electric Ltd is lingering due to alleged pressure from Americans.

He was expressing his views in the meeting of Public Accounts Committee, which was held under the chair of MNA Rana Tanveer Hussain here yesterday at the Parliament House.

The audit pointed out that billions of rupees are still recoverable from the consumers. During the meeting, at a point when issues related to K-Electric were being discussed, Khawaja Asif said there is only one solution that the company is given to Shanghai Electric to run its operations.

He further said but the transaction is lingering just because of American pressure. He said the 'super power' doesn't want to give control of K-Electric in the hands of a Chinese company. He said, however, if we want to resolve the problems of Karachi, the company should be given to the Chinese company immediately.

While responding to a question asked by Khawaja Asif, the Secretary Power Division informed the meeting that the Shanghai Electric's offer is still intact but it is delayed due to longstanding issues of payables and receivables of K-Electric with Sui Southern Gas Company Limited and others.

It is pertinent to mention here that Karachi Electric Supply Company was given to Saudi Arabia's Al-Jomaiah group in 2005. In March this year, Aljomaih Holdings' Managing Director Investments Abdulaziz Hamad Aljomaih visited Pakistan and met with top leadership of Pakistan including Prime Minister Imran Khan in which he requested early resolution of payables and receivables of K-Electric (KE) and urged the government and public sector entities to facilitate the power utility's takeover by China's Shanghai Electric Ltd. When this scribe questioned Khawaja after the meeting that why he is considering Shanghai Electric as the only solution of the problems of K-Electric, he said this is because of financial health and previous history of the company. He said in his view with a heavy investment and required expertise, the K-Electric can be run efficiently and Shanghai Electric has the required capacity. Chairman PAC Rana Tanveer Hussain directed the Secretary Power to resolve the longstanding issues of K-Electric for a smooth transaction.

He also directed to provide area wise brake up of the outstanding dues against domestic, commercial and public sector entities.

He also sought a briefing from Finance Ministry to find out a way forward to end the issue of circular debt once for all and called Secretary Finance along all relevant officers in next meeting.

<https://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2021-10-22/page-12/detail-6>

**October 23, 2021**

**Dawn News**

## **Chinese power firms offered part payments**

*Khalid Hasnain*

LAHORE: The government is convincing Chinese companies — engaged in various power projects — to receive capacity payments in installments instead of full amounts, as it would be convenient for it to clear pending dues.

“There are some issues prevailing in various CPEC and non-CPEC projects. One of the major issues is the capacity payments liable to be paid by the government to the Chinese companies. And the government wants companies to receive payments in installments since it is not possible to clear these payments fully,” chairman of the National Assembly’s Parliamentary Committee on China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) Sher Ali Arbab told Dawn on Friday.

Mr Arbab, who concluded his two-day visit to Lahore, blamed media for creating an impression of CPEC-related projects allowed down allegedly on the part of the government and said he was closely watching all issues in this regard.

“It is a reality that there are some issues that also include the ones related to security of Chinese. At some projects the work was carried out slowly while some were underway fast. And some, including Lahore Orange Line Metro Train and Matiari-Lahore High Voltage Direct Current Transmission Line have been completed,” he explained and clarified: “But the issues are not so much as being discussed or reported by media. I strongly dispel this impression,”

He said the government was heading in a right direction to resolve all issues, including the capacity payments, amicably as it has succeeded in developing consensus with Chinese in this regard.

Talking about the ML-1 Project of Pakistan Railways, Mr Arbab said that the issues in the wake of approval of this mega scheme were also being resolved on top priority.

“This is the project worth US \$6.8 billion already approved by the government under the CPEC. Chinese say that the cost estimation for the project is not according to its components. They say it should be nearly \$8bn or so. So we have asked them to revise, discuss with us and justify the cost estimation revision since we have to pay some interest on such huge money,” he maintained. “They (Chinese) are now working on this.”

He said as all issues related to capacity payments, revision of cost estimation, security of Chinese, etc., were moving towards resolution, the ML-1 project would soon be approved by Chinese government by issuance of funds.

Talking about the Dasu Hydropower project, where the Chinese stopped work due to killing of nine Chinese engineers in a terrorist attack a couple of months ago, Mr Arbab said the prime minister was supervising this issue very keenly.

“On the PM’s directions, extreme security related SOPs (standard operating procedures) for Chinese have been implemented. We also hope that the (Chinese) would soon resume construction activities,” he said.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1653533>

### **Pakistan Observer**

#### **Sindh approves Phase-III Coal Mine expansion project in Thar**

Sindh Chief Minister has approved Phase-III Coal Mine expansion project in Thar at an estimated cost of Rs15.8 billion to excavate 12.2 Mt coal per annum which is bound to save \$420 million forex annually against the imported coal.

“The third phase would reduce coal price to \$27 per ton, making it the cheapest base load fuel in the country and Central Power Purchasing Agency (CPPA) basket tariff would reduce by Rs0.49/kwh to Rs15.05/kwh by saving consumers Rs60 billion annual and top of it the Sindh government would earn Rs10 billion Royalty annually.”

This he said while presiding over a meeting held here at CM House on Friday. The meeting was attended by Minister Energy Imtiaz Shaikh PSCM Sajid Jamal Abro, Secretary Energy Abu Bakar, MD Thar Coal Board Tariq Shah, DG Sindh Coal Authority Mushtaq Soomro, Chief Executive Engro Ahsan Zaffar, CEO Engro Corporation Ghias Khan, Vice Chairman House of Habib Salman Burni, Vice Chairman House of Habib Tayab Tareen, CEO HUBCO Kamran Kamal, Saleemullah Memon of HUBCO, Chief Executive SECMC Amir Iqbal, GM Commercial SECMC Tallah Lodhi, CFO SECMC Muhammad Mudassir, GM Tech. Mines Expansion Faisal Iqbal Siddiqi and others.

Murad Ali Shah said that the journey of Thar Coal was started in 2009 with a joint venture partnership between the Sindh government and Sindh Engro for development of Thar Coal. “Numerous challenges were associated with the project and each challenge had the potential of shelving the project,” he said and added “however, only due to unwavering commitment and resolve of the Sindh government the project was commissioned on July 10, 2019.

Minister Energy Imtiaz Shaikh briefing the chief minister said that the successful execution of Phase-I of SECM project 3.8 MT/annum and 660 MW was in operation from the last two years. He added that 2640 MW power plants were under construction and 11.8 mt/a incremental mine construction was in progress.

At this the chief minister said that his government would utilize Thar Coal beyond the power sector.

Sharing spot prices of raw material used to produce energy in the country, the chief minister was told that the LNG was being purchased at \$35 per MMBTU, imported coal at \$9.7/MMBTU, Residual Fuel Oil (RFO) at \$12.4/MMBTU and Thar coal at 5.95 MMBTU. At this the chief minister said that the figures showed that the cheapest source of producing energy was Thar coal.

Expansion: The chief minister was told that in the first phase (July 2019) 3.8 Mtps was being excavated for generation of 660 MW. In the second phase 7.6 Mtpa is being excavated for generating 1320 MW energy and in the third phase after expansion 12.2 Mtpa to be excavated for generation of 1980 MW.

Minister Energy said that the cost of the first phase was \$627 million, the cost of second phase came down to \$216 M and the third phase would come down considerably to \$93 m. He added that phase-III expansion would make Thar Coal the cheapest base load fuel in the country.

Benefits of Third phase: with the completion of third phase savings of \$420 million Forex annually against the imported coal, the CM said and added it would bring reduction in circular debt of Rs74 billion annually- resulting in 16 percent in reduction in rate of rise in circular debt.

According to the chief minister the price of Thar coal would reduce to \$27 per ton, making it the cheapest base load fuel in the country. CPPA basket tariff would be reduced by Rs0.49/kwh to Rs15.05/kwh by saving consumers Rs60 billion annually. He added that the Sindh government would earn Rs10 billion annually through

Third Phase: the chief minister after thorough discussion and deliberations approved the third phase for Rs15.8 billion. The project would also be referred to the provincial cabinet for final approval.

The chief minister decided to talk to the federal government to develop a rail link from Thar to upcountry so that Thar coal could be transported for coal-based power plants operating all over the country.

<https://pakobserver.net/sindh-approves-phase-iii-coal-mine-expansion-project-in-thar/>

## **The Nation**

### **CPEC's OLMT on a successful streak**

*Yasir Habib Khan*

On October 25, 2021 the Orange Line Metro Train is all set to complete its one year of prolific operation with a total ridership exceeding 20 million. Chief Minister Punjab Usman Buzdar inaugurated the Orange Line Metro Train (OLMT) on October 25, 2020 thanking the Chinese government for making state-of-the-art electric rail-based transport facilities possible for Pakistani people.

The Orange Line Metro Railway Project, with 26 stations and a track spanning over 27 kilometres, is Pakistan's first urban railway system as well as the first implemented large-scale

public infrastructure project of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor under the One-Belt One-Road initiative. In one year, the performance of Orange Line has gone beyond international standards with 90,000 train trips, covering a total distance of 12 million kilometres, the trip efficiency and the punctuality rate at 99.9 percent.

With the successful commencement of the Orange Line project, Pakistan owns the most advanced and modern urban rail transit system in South Asia. The corridor opened up the economic artery of Lahore that runs through the entire city, fully optimising the city's development structure. More than 12 million people are able to enjoy the innovative, efficient, and safe transportation services.

Since the inception of project, the China-Pakistan team of the O&M JV has made every effort to ensure the smooth operation and maintenance of Orange Line Metro Train, and it has withstood numerous challenges like the spread of a COVID epidemic, frequent power fluctuation and long-term heavy foggy weather.

The Orange Line project, taking advantage of the corridor's large-scale infrastructure, produced around 7,000 jobs for local engineers, construction workers and other labourers during the construction phase. It has created more than 1,300 brand new and permanent jobs in the local market after its operation. More than 2000 jobs were being created in various other related services, like ticketing, security, cleaning and other areas. It has assisted the population in solving employment problems by effectively expanding the employment space for local management and technical talent.

After the inauguration of Orange Line Project, the O&M JV spared no effort to combine Chinese/international standards with local practices to standardise operations and maintenance work; therefore, it prepared 60 operation manuals, 360 professional training materials, 560 operation regulations and 670 training videos, and has built a customised, standardised and comprehensive operation system of modern metro rail transit for the local industry.

Chinese experts along with 1,300 Pakistani engineers and technicians kept on performing the duties like daily inspection, periodic maintenance, fault handling, emergency rescue and other work. All local technicians were guided to learn technical knowledge and experience, follow the practice and standards originated from China. After one year's careful guidance and training, 1,300 local employees have the ability to work independently, making the localisation rate of employees of Orange Line exceeding 97 percent.

Local talent is gradually taking positions like dispatchers and engineers which initially were mainly undertaken by Chinese experts. At present, most technical work is performed by local employees, as Chinese experts are mainly focusing on supervision and double checking and handling major and emergency failures.

The operation of the OLMT will also reduce the use of old cars within the city, reduce emission of gases, improve on environmental pollution and promote green and sustainable development of the city. Orange Line Metro is driven by all electric energy to achieve zero pollution and zero



emission. It is estimated that the annual average fuel emission of gases will be reduced by 30,000 tons.

The operation and maintenance of the Orange Line adopts the principle of localisation. a large number of consumables, tools, equipment and services are procured from local market, which has promoted the development of local industry and a number of local small and medium-sized enterprises.

The Orange Line project carries the historical responsibility and solemn promise of bilateral cooperation between China and Pakistan, and has fulfilled the long-cherished aspirations of generations of Pakistan. The design, construction and operation of the Orange Line contains the sincere cooperation and joint efforts of the Chinese and Pakistani teams. In the future, it will serve as a national image and engine of urban development to help improve the level of local economic and social development and further promote the stability and long-term development of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, which has become a symbol of friendship between China and Pakistan in the new era.

<https://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2021-10-23/page-6/detail-0>

### The News

#### **660KV Matiari-Lahore transmission project: Chinese company awaits CoD certificate from NTDC for final tariff**

ISLAMABAD: A Chinese company that completed the CPEC's flagship project of Matiari-Lahore Transmission Line Project and managed to start commercial operations on September 1, 2021 is terribly upset as despite lapse of 52 days MD NTDC (National Transmission Despatch Company) has not provided the certificate to notify the CoD, mandatory for fixing the final tariff.

The NTDC held a CoD ceremony on September 30, 2021, which was graced by Prime Minister Imran Khan, but the Chinese company could not get the CoD certificate which is a mandatory requirement by NEPRA. The agitated Pak Matiari-Lahore Transmission Company (Pvt.) Ltd (PMLTC), the subsidiary of Chinese state owned company State Grid, repeated letters, including one to Chairman Board of Directors of NTDC on October 18, 2021 besides informing the additional secretary, joint secretary at Power Division and Managing Director of PPIB (Private Power and Infrastructure Board) of the problem that NTDC has not issued the CoD certificate required for one-time adjustment of tariff, but they remain unmoved.

Azaz Ahmad, MD NTDC, told the scribe that the third party contractors -- independent engineers-- have already validated the Matiari project and CoD is deemed as self-implementing. He said the PMLTC sent its first invoice to NTDC, which is undergoing process of approval. Azaz also said that NEPRA has not asked NTDC to provide the CoD certificate nor the PMLTC has annexed Nepra's demand for that, along with its letter.

The project achieved Commercial Operation Date (started commercial operations) on September 1, 2021. The letter says NEPRA has sought NTDC's confirmation of COD for processing one-time adjustment of tariff, and issuance for official gazette for the pre-COD tariff. The Chinese company (PMLTC) wants NTDC to issue a letter to all stakeholders, including PPIB, NEPRA, and CPPA-G, notifying its achieving Commercial Operation Date, so the tariff is officially notified and approved without any hindrance.

<https://e.thenews.com.pk/detail?id=16665>

### Express News

سی پیک کے نئے نتائج حاصل ہونے پر خوشی ہے، ترجمان چینی وزارت خارجہ

چین کی وزارت خارجہ کے ترجمان وانگ وین بن نے چین پاکستان اقتصادی راہداری (سی پیک) کی پیش رفت پر خوشی کا اظہار کرتے ہوئے کہا ہے کہ اس فلیگ شپ پراجیکٹ سے نئے نتائج حاصل ہوئے ہیں اور اعلیٰ معیار کی ترقی کے مرحلہ میں داخل ہو گئے ہیں۔

انٹرنیشنل پریس سینٹر (آئی پی سی) میں یومیہ بریفنگ کے دوران ترجمان وزارت خارجہ نے کہا کہ چین کو یہ دیکھ کر خوشی ہوئی ہے کہ سی پیک نے نئے نتائج حاصل کیے ہیں اور اعلیٰ معیار کی ترقی کے مرحلہ میں داخل ہوئے ہیں جو چین پاکستان دوستی کا مظہر ہے اور ہیلت اینڈ روڈ منصوبے (بی آر آئی) کے ساتھ ممالک کی ترقی اور خوشحالی کو فروغ دینے کی ایک مثال ہے۔

<https://www.express.pk/story/2238802/6/>

### K2 Daily

**پارلیمانی کمیٹی سی پیک کے درگاہ گلیت سکیورٹی ٹائیڈ کے لئے کا فیصلہ؟**

انتظامات بروقت کیے جائیں، روس کی صفائی ستھرائی، مجسٹریٹس کی تعیناتی جینی بنائی جائے، سکریننگ میسنگھیل دی جائیں  
کمیٹی کے دورے کو کامیاب بنانے کیلئے تمام وسائل بروئے کار لائیں گے ڈپٹی کمشنر اسامہ مجید چیمبرہ کا اجلاس سے خطاب

گلگت (پ ر) اسٹریٹ جرنل ڈپٹی ایڈیٹر نے اسٹریٹ جرنل میں اسٹینڈ کشر ملٹریڈ گلگت ایس او ایس ایڈیٹی بنانے کے لیے تمام تر وسائل بروئے کار لائیں  
صدارت ایک نام اجلاس پارلیمانی کمیٹی برائے سی ای ڈی اور دیگر افسران نے شرکت کی۔ ڈپٹی کمشنر چیمبرہ اور دیگر ڈپٹی ایس او ایس نے شرکت کی۔ اس  
پیک کے دورے کے سنجیدگی اور دیگر انتظامات کے گلگت نے اجلاس سے خطاب کرتے ہوئے کہا کہ حوالے سے ڈپٹی کمشنر (ڈپٹی ایس او ایس) چیمبرہ (9  
بقیہ صفحہ 9 پر)

گلگت نے اسٹینڈ کشر گلگت کو ہدایات جاری کرتے ہوئے کہا کہ تمام انتظامات کو بروقت کیے جائیں اور روس کی صفائی ستھرائی کو جینی بنائیں اور مجسٹریٹس کی تعیناتی کو جینی بنائیں۔ اس کے علاوہ 19 ایس او ایس اور دیگر افسران کو جینی بنانے کے لیے چیمبرہ نے اقدامات اٹھائے ہیں۔ ڈپٹی کمشنر گلگت نے ڈی ایچ گلگت کو ہدایات جاری کرتے ہوئے کہا کہ سکریننگ میسنگھیل دیں۔ ڈپٹی کمشنر گلگت نے ایس او ایس کی گلگت کو ہدایات جاری کرتے ہوئے کہا ہے کہ پارلیمانی کمیٹی برائے سی پیک کی سیکورٹی کو قائل ہونے سے متعلق کوئی بھی تاخیر نہ ہو اور ہر چیز جلد سے جلد اور سیکورٹی پلان تیار کر کے تصدیقی رپورٹ پیش کریں۔ ڈپٹی کمشنر گلگت نے روس کی صفائی ستھرائی کے حوالے سے چیف ایگزیکٹو آفیسر گلگت کو انتظامات جاری کیے کہ تمام روس کی صفائی ستھرائی کو جینی بنائیں۔ ڈپٹی کمشنر گلگت نے اسٹینڈ کشر ملٹریڈ گلگت کو ہدایات جاری کرتے ہوئے کہا ہے کہ پارلیمانی کمیٹی برائے سی پیک کی رہائش تمام تر انتظامات کو بروقت عمل کر کے تصدیقی رپورٹ پیش کریں۔

[https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP\\_ICT&Page=News&Date=2021-10-23](https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=News&Date=2021-10-23)

[https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP\\_ICT&Page=Classified&Date=2021-10-23](https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=Classified&Date=2021-10-23)

**October 24, 2021**

**Business Recorder**

### **Global conference on ‘China-Pakistan Cooperation’ begins**

BEIJING: The 2021 International Conference on China-Pakistan Cooperation kicked off in Chengdu, Sichuan province China on Saturday.

About 150 participants attended the conference online and offline, including Pakistani Ambassador to China Moin ul Haque, Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan Nong Rong, experts and entrepreneurs from China and Pakistan.

The participants had an in-depth exchange on the cooperation achievements and future development on “Strategic Cooperation and Cultural Exchanges” and “Economic and Trade Cooperation and Industrial Development” since China and Pakistan established diplomatic ties in 1951.

The participants also discussed the high-quality building of the second phase of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and the rosy prospect of China-Pakistan All-Weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership.

Prof Dr Tang Mengsheng, Director of Pakistan Studies Center at Peking University, presided over the sub-forum titled “Strategic Cooperation and Cultural Exchanges”.

Li Hongwu, President of Pakistan Sichuan Chamber of Commerce chaired the other sub-forum themed “Economic & Trade Cooperation and Industrial Development”.

According to Sichuan University (SU), the sponsor of this conference, it is one of the activities to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the establishment of China-Pakistan diplomatic ties.

This conference is jointly organized by SU’s China Center for South Asia Studies, Pakistan Studies Center and School of International Studies.

The co-organizers comprise Chengdu Federation of Industry and Commerce, Huaxia Industrial Economy Research Institute, Chengdu Chamber of Commerce for Commercial Service and Pakistan Sichuan Chamber of Commerce.—APP

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2021/10/24/2-page/905003-news.html>

**Daily Times**

### **Gwadar mega development projects ‘progressing steadily’**

Chairman China Overseas Port Holding Company (COPHC), Zhang Baozhong said that Gwadar multiple mega projects underway with the investments of Chinese and Pakistani investors and various social sector schemes are progressing well.

With investments made by Chinese and Pakistani investors, Gwadar has multiple mega projects underway which include the Gwadar Free Zone, New Gwadar International Airport, Gwadar Gymkhana, Gwadar Master Plan, and the six lane East Bay Expressway. “Progress is also taking place in the social sector with projects like the Vocational Training Institute, international standard hospitals, and plantations in the city,” he told China Economic Net (CEN) while talking about the ongoing developments in Gwadar and their impact on the economy of Pakistan. Zhang said that Gwadar Free Zone Phase-I is already completed and added facilities of Gwadar Free Zone Phase-I is as good as any other free zone in the world with the facilities of never interrupted power supply, water supply, telecommunication, drainage system and office etc. He informed that more than 36 investors have already been registered with Gwadar Free Zone and among these investors 60pc of from China and the 40pc are local.

“We are looking forward more Pakistani businessmen to join the development of Gwadar Free Zone,” he added. Terming the New Gwadar International Airport as one of the most important projects of China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and for all the Pakistan, he said that the new airport is in line with the vision of Prime Minister Imran Khan to promote tourism industry in Pakistan. The new international airport after the completion will play important roles in the development of Gwadar, he added. The Chairman of COPHC said that this airport has a longest runway in this region, and even the biggest aircraft like the Boeing A380 could be landed in this airport and it will bring more tourist to Gwadar.

“I believe now that the contractor together with our Pakistani brothers and sisters are working day and night, and it is expected that the operation could be started by the end of this next year under the completion date is early 2023,” he added. About Gwadar Gymkhana, he said that it will definitely play a very important role in the development of Gwadar port, adding, “I personally have experience of the hospitality provided by Gymkhana in other cities, and I believe that Gymkhana in Gwadar will not only make doing business easily for the investor, but also will promote industry, especially tourism industry in Gwadar.” He expressed the confidence that it will give a lot of chance of employment of the local people and hoped that more and more members will enjoy the nature, the hospitality under the friendship of Gymkhana as well as our local culture. The Gymkhana will make more VIP investors, doing business easily in Gwadar even in the whole Pakistan, and in this region, he said. Regarding master plan, he said that it plays very important role in any city. “It is very difficult to change once the construction is already there, and we’re very happy that the authority understands the issue.” Zhang expressed gratitude to the Chinese government that approved funds for development of Smart Gwadar City plan and termed it as one of the best smart city plan he has seen in the world.

He hoped that this master plan will be fully executed as a plan. “And I believe that if we follow this master plan, Gwadar will be developed as one of the most beautiful convenient city in the world.” About Eastbay Expressway, he said that it will bypass the Gwadar port city and minimize the traffic disturbance so, this dedicated Eastbay Expressway will make the port more efficient, and less disturbance to the local brothers and sister. Sharing progress on the social

sector development schemes, he said that construction of the Vocational Training Institute is already completed and handing over will be done by the end of this year.

“This Vocational Training Institute will not only increase employment opportunities for the locals but also it will help the operation of Gwadar port and Free Trade Zone,” he added.

He said that under this Vocational Training Institute, it definitely will help resolve shortage of engineers and technicians faced by investors.

On 300-bed hospital, he said that it is already under construction and it will help resolve medical treatment issues faced by locals for the past decade. “And I do believe this modern hospital will resolve the issues of medical treatment.”

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/832968/gwadar-mega-development-projects-progressing-steadily/>

### **Dawn News**

#### **US colluding with India to sabotage CPEC: PM’s aide Khalid Mansoor**

*Kazim Alam*

KARACHI: China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) Authority czar Khalid Mansoor came out on Saturday swinging at the United States for hatching plots against the multibillion-dollar project.

Addressing the CPEC Summit at the Institute of Business Administration (IBA), the special assistant to the prime minister (SAPM) on CPEC affairs accused the United States of conniving in cahoots with India against the economic lifeline of Pakistan.

“From the point of view of the emerging geo-strategic situation, one thing is clear: the United States supported by India is inimical to CPEC. It will not let it succeed. That’s where we have to take a position,” Mr Mansoor said.

Islamabad is the seventh largest recipient of Chinese overseas development financing with 71 projects worth \$27.3 billion currently under way as part of CPEC. Many Western think tanks and commentators have termed CPEC an economic trap that has already resulted in bloated public debt levels and disproportionately high Chinese influence in the domestic economy.

Washington now ‘taking stock of economic and political consequences’

The premier’s aide said the United States and India continue to “make attempts to manoeuvre Pakistan out of” China’s Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) — a global infrastructure development plan — under which the Chinese government has been investing heavily in about 70 countries.

“There’s no way Pakistan will forgo any of its benefits. It has more than once burnt its fingers in (the Western) alliance in the past,” he said, adding that their attempts to dilute China’s strategic influence in the region will fail.

He said the Western powers view CPEC as a symbol of China’s political ambition. “That’s the reason CPEC is seen suspiciously by both the United States and Europe... they view CEPC more

as a move by China to expand its political, strategic and business influence,” said Mr Mansoor, noting that China has been able to manage that apprehension “to a great extent”.

The United States is now “taking stock of the economic and political consequences” of withdrawing from the region, he said.

“I had a very, very detailed discussion with the American embassy people. I told them CPEC is available for them as well. They have also expressed their wish that they would like to develop some kind of involvement and see how it can be beneficial for both countries,” he noted.

The SAPM said Islamabad is seeking the expansion of CPEC to Afghanistan and has discussed the possibility of Taliban-led Afghanistan joining the multibillion-dollar economic corridor.

He said there’s been “deep interest” in developing economic connectivity between Afghanistan and Pakistan and with other neighbouring countries, including Iran. “Some European countries have started showing interest (in CPEC). Their ambassadors keep on coming,” he said.

He repeatedly referred to fake news and “negative propaganda” about the viability of CPEC and the pace of its progress. “In terms of its scope, Phase II of CPEC is going to be an order of magnitude bigger than Phase I.”

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1653740>

### **Pakistan Observer**

#### **‘FCCI to play role for CPEC second phase success’**

Faisalabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry (FCCI) President Atif Munir Sheikh has said the forum will play a proactive role in making the second phase of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) a complete success.

He was talking to the business community after attending a “Regional Dialogue on the Role of Parliament in Enhancing Investments, Trade and Industrial Development under CPEC Punjab”.

The event was organised by Sher Ali Arbab, chairman Parliamentary Committee on CPEC. During this meeting Atif Munir Sheikh also had a meeting with Punjab Finance Minister Hashim Jawan Bakht and appreciated the efforts of Chief Minister Punjab Usman Buzdar for the success of CPEC in Punjab.

President FCCI said that although the government and parliamentarians are already making best efforts for the success of CPEC.

But the involvement of the business community is prerequisite and in this connection, FCCI was making all out efforts to highlight the importance of CPEC for the overall growth of our economy. He said that the R&D department of the FCCI had published books on the “Potential and Opportunities of CPEC.

“It has also chalked out a comprehensive program to send trade delegations to different potential markets and convince the investors to participate in this mega project.—APP



<https://pakobserver.net/fcci-to-play-role-for-cpec-second-phase-success/>

## **Sindh signs MoU for 400 MW green hydrogen project**

MOU signing ceremony for 400MW green hydrogen project in Sindh was held at Energy Department, Karachi.

Ms. Naheed Memon Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Oracle Power, a UK listed company and Mr Yang Jianduo Chief representative in Pakistan of Power China International, signed the MoU for the joint development of the first green hydrogen project in Pakistan.

The MOU signing for the 400MW green hydrogen project in Sindh was witnessed by, Minister of Energy Sindh Mr. Imtiaz Ahmed Shaikh and His Excellency Consul General of China in Karachi Mr. Li Bijian the announced facility will produce approximately 150,000 kg per day of green hydrogen from a 400 MW capacity plant using energy from wind and solar farms.

This important development comes a few days before the all important COP26, the 26 th United Nations Climate Change Conference of the Parties, which will confirm a global commitment to hydrogen economies.

The initiation of this project also comes at a time when Pakistan and China have announced a plan to sign on a three year investment cooperation pact for green projects.

More than 350 hydrogen projects are currently in development around the world. These seek to decarbonise economic sectors – such as heavy transportation, industry and even aviation.

With the right policy and investment, hydrogen could satisfy as much as 24 percent of global energy demand by 2050.

Currently only 4 percent of the hydrogen produced is from green sources but it is expected to grow by many multiples as the global decarbonisation drive is accelerated.

Green hydrogen produced from this plant in Sindh will be exported initially and the sponsors aim to secure buyers in China and in the region. More than 10 large market economies already have established hydrogen policies in place.

On this occasion Minister for Energy Sindh Imtiaz Ahmed Shaikh has said that this project places the province of Sindh in the lead for the development of the global future fuel and places Pakistan amongst the ranks of forward thinking nations.

Minister for Energy Sindh Imtiaz Ahmed Shaikh has assured the sponsors of Sindh government's support.

The abundant renewable resource in Sindh, two ports, and infrastructure make it an ideal location for this set up.

GoS has led in the establishment of renewable energy and now has taken another step in moving to support frontier technology , sustainability and innovation. The sponsors hope to secure global support for this important project.

This project also enables the use of Sindh's abundant renewable resource. Given the current low or absent demand for further power generation in Pakistan, it creates a much sought after captive usage of renewable energy.

<https://pakobserver.net/sindh-signs-mou-for-400-mw-green-hydrogen-project/>

### **Gwadar mega development projects progressing steadily: Zhang**

Chairman China Overseas Port Holding Company, Zhang Baozhong said that Gwadar multiple mega projects underway with the investments of Chinese and Pakistani investors and various social sector schemes are progressing well.

With investments made by Chinese and Pakistani investors, Gwadar has multiple mega projects underway which include the Gwadar Free Zone, New Gwadar International Airport, Gwadar Gymkhana, Gwadar Master Plan, and the 6 lane East Bay Expressway.

“Progress is also taking place in the social sector with projects like the Vocational Training Institute, international standard hospitals, and plantations in the city,” he told China Economic Net (CEN) while talking about the ongoing developments in Gwadar and their impact on the economy of Pakistan.—APP

<https://pakobserver.net/gwadar-mega-development-projects-progressing-steadily-zhang/>

### **Sindh to build Pakistan's first green hydrogen plant**

In a historic move, the Sindh government on Saturday signed an MoU with a Chinese company for the construction of Pakistan's first green hydrogen project.

The MoU signing ceremony for the 400MW green hydrogen project in Sindh was held at Sindh Energy Department here in Karachi.

Sindh Energy Minister Imtiaz Ahmed Shaikh and Consul General of China in Karachi Li Bijian witnessed the signing of the MoU.

The announced facility will produce approximately 150,000 kg per day of green hydrogen from a 400 MW capacity plant using energy from wind and solar farms.

The development comes a few days before the all-important COP26, the 26th United Nations Climate Change Conference of the Parties, which will confirm a global commitment to hydrogen economies.

The initiation of this project also comes at a time when Pakistan and China have announced a plan to sign a three-year investment cooperation pact for green projects.

Currently, only 4 percent of the hydrogen produced is from green sources but it is expected to grow by many multiples as the global decarbonisation drive is accelerated.

Green hydrogen produced from this plant in Sindh will be exported initially and the sponsors aim to secure buyers in China and in the region, said the energy department in a statement.

According to a report, more than 10 large market economies already have established hydrogen policies in place.

Sindh government has led in the establishment of renewable energy and now has taken another step in moving to support frontier technology, sustainability and innovation, said Imtiaz Sheikh while addressing the ceremony.

“Sindh province offers a potential of 50,000MW of wind and 10,000MW of solar power resource at commercial costs of as low as USc 3.5/kWh. This cost can be lower when these resources are used as captive power for producing hydrogen.

It is expected that this plant will produce green hydrogen at globally competitive rates well suited for both domestic and export markets,” read the statement issued by the ministry.

<https://pakobserver.net/sindh-to-build-pakistans-first-green-hydrogen-plant/>

### **Chinese minister rejects India’s objections to CPEC at a UN event**

A Chinese minister Friday brushed aside Indian concerns over the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), saying it is an economic cooperation project, not related to any third party.

“It (CPEC) is not related to their (Indian) sovereignty and territorial integrity,” Dai Dongchang, China’s Minister of Transport, said in response to the objections voiced by an Indian delegate at the virtual briefing on Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Transport for Global Development.

The Indian delegate, Sneha Dubey, said they cannot accept the inclusion of CPEC, the Belt and Road Initiative’s flagship project, claiming that it passes through India’s territory.

The BRI, a multi-billion-dollar initiative launched by Chinese President Xi Jinping in 2013, is aimed at ushering in a new era of trade and growth for economies in Asia and beyond.

The \$60 billion CPEC, which connects Gwadar Port with China’s Xinjiang province, is the flagship project of the BRI.

In his introductory remarks China’s UN Ambassador, Zhang Jun, said President Xi, who attended the leaders’ summit of COP15 (conference of parties) and the opening ceremony of the sustainable transport conference in Kunming, China, had called for putting development on top of global agenda.

Pakistan’s Ambassador to the UN, Munir Akram, highlighted Pakistan’s collaboration with China, saying that the CPEC was one of the largest rail and road connectivity projects in the world.

“We’ll be opening the Gwadar Port, and its use for transit trade with Central Asia and China,” he said, adding CPEC would lead to the progress and prosperity of the entire region.

“We are heartened by the possibility of restoration of peace in Afghanistan, which will increase the level of connectivity of these adjacent regions of Asia,” the Pakistani envoy said.

The development of ecological civilization, proposed by the Chinese president, could guide the international community on a path to sustainable development, he said.

Ambassador Akram urged all developed countries to follow the footprints of China, to ensure predictable adequate and concessional finances for developing countries to meet climate goals and the biodiversity targets.

Enumerating Pakistan's contribution to global biodiversity, Ambassador Akram said that its 10 billion trees tsunami is the largest reforestation project in the country's history.

Pakistan has also embarked upon various infrastructure development programmes to enhance regional connectivity, improve the efficiency of transport and trade and logistics.

"Our vision is to provide safe, reliable, affordable, and modern means of communications, which effectively supports the economy, and acts as a catalyst for the socio-economic growth of the country," he said.

Pakistan, he said, is committed to the UN agenda for Road Safety, which was approved in 2018, saying it would save many lives.

Other speakers, including UN Under Secretary-General, LIU Zhenmin, CBD Executive Secretary, Elizabeth Mrema, and Chinese ministers, including Zhao Yingmin, Minister of Ecology and Environment, and Dai Dongchang, Transport Minister.

Friday's event was co-hosted by the Permanent Mission of China, UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs, and Conservation of Biological Diversity (CBD) Secretariat.

<https://pakobserver.net/chinese-minister-rejects-indias-objections-to-cpec-at-a-un-event/>

### **The Express Tribune**

#### **Pakistan accuses US of trying to derail CPEC**

In rare rant, Islamabad accuses Washington of colluding with India against multibillion-dollar project

KARACHI: Pakistan has accused the United States of colluding with its longtime rival India to sabotage the multibillion-dollar China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) project.

The rare direct charge came from Special Assistant to Prime Minister on CPEC Affairs Khalid Mansoor at a seminar organised by the prestigious Institute of Business Administration (IBA) in Karachi.

Washington has long opposed the \$64 billion project, calling it a "debt trap" for Pakistan, but this is the first time Islamabad has reacted this New Delhi, an archrival of Beijing and Islamabad, has also opposed the project, which is part of Beijing's ambitious Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), viewing it as against its strategic interests in the region.

"From the point of view of the emerging geostrategic situation, one thing is clear: the United States supported by India is inimical to CPEC. It will not let it succeed. That's where we have to take a position," Mansoor said.

"There's no way Pakistan will forgo any of its benefits. It has more than once burnt its fingers in (the Western) alliance in the past," he said, adding that attempts to dilute Beijing's strategic influence in the region will not succeed.

The West, he went on to say, views CPEC as a symbol of China's political ambition. "That's the reason CPEC is seen suspiciously by both the United States and Europe... They view CPEC more as a move by China to expand its political, strategic, and business influence," Mansoor added.

Islamabad, he said, has discussed the possibility of Afghanistan's inclusion in the CPEC with the Taliban government, but gave no further details, including Kabul's response.

Signed in 2015, the CPEC aims to connect China's strategically important northwestern Xinjiang province to the port of Gwadar in Balochistan, through a network of roads, railways, and pipelines to transport cargo, oil, and gas.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2326214/pakistan-accuses-us-of-trying-to-derail-cpec>

### **The Nation**

#### **Over 50 Chinese companies attend Pakistan Automobile Industry seminar in Beijing**

BEIJING - The representatives of over 50 renowned automobile companies from different parts of China attended Pakistan Automobile Roundtable seminar and were briefed about the conducive investment environment and attractive incentives offered by the present government for the foreign entrepreneurs especially from China.

The seminar organized by Pakistan Embassy Beijing was attended by Anhui Jianghuai Automobile Group, Beijing Henrey Auto, Hozon New Energy Automobile, BAIC Intl, Great Wall Motor Company, Beijing Sanxing Automobile, Foton Motor Group, Tianjin Tianqi Group Meiya Automobile, Zhongtong Bus Holding Co., Youtong Bus, Dongfeng Motor Company, Jiangxi Jiangling Motor, Xiamen Golden Dragon Bus Co., Liaoning Aerospace Automobile Co., Wolkswagen Group, Geely Automobile International Corporation and several others companies.

While addressing the participants, Pakistan Ambassador to China, Moin ul Haque said that the government is planning to enhance existing production of buses, trucks and cars as well as energy vehicles.

He said that a number of the Chinese companies are already in Pakistan in automobile manufacturing sector and added that up to 10 new companies have showed interest to invest in Pakistan and are in the process of having joint ventures with their local partners in the private sector.

Ambassador Haque informed that the government is formulating a new automobile sector policy which will be announced soon, adding, more incentives and concessions in taxes are likely to be offered in the new policy.

The automobile companies including manufacturers of energy vehicles from China will be invited to set up their plants both in the Greenfield and Brownfield sectors. Sharing more detail, he said that the automobile is the fastest growing sector in Pakistan because of the large demand in view of the population which is close to 220 million people.

In the past, the Japanese automobile manufacturers set up their production units but in the recent times, automobile companies from China also started looking at opportunities available in Pakistan. Appreciating China as one of the leaders in automobile manufacturing in the world with very high quality products, he expressed the pleasures that the Chinese companies have also entered to the Pakistani automobile market. While sharing other opportunities under the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), he said that the flagship project of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) has entered into the second phase which is focusing on industrialization, science and technology and agriculture sectors.

“We are setting up special economic zones where we are inviting Chinese investors to come and set up their manufacturing units,” he added. Ambassador Haque said that special incentives and policies have been announced especially for the Chinese companies and so far close to 100 Chinese companies have already established or in the process of establishing their units in the special zones. He said that the infrastructure like roads, highways and communication network are being upgraded in Pakistan and asked the Chinese companies to take advantage of all these incentives and expand their presence.

Welcoming the representatives of the automobile companies, Commercial Counselor, Badar uz Zaman said that the new automobile policy for the years 2021 to 2026 will soon be announced, and added, more incentives and benefits to local and foreign investors will be offered under the new policy. He informed that a number of new companies particularly Chinese manufacturers entered in Pakistani market under the existing automobile policy which was announced in 2016.

Badar said that a number of Chinese companies are already setting up their businesses in Pakistan while some new companies are keen to invest in Pakistan owing to investment friendly policies offered by the present government. He informed the companies that government has more attractive formulated rules and regulations which support the foreign investment in Pakistan. Badar also shared details of the incentives, concessions in the taxation and easy repatriation of profits. “Many local companies listed with the stock exchange are very keen and are looking forward to the Chinese partners for the joint ventures,” he added.

He said that there are over 600 auto parts manufacturers who are also supplying the parts to the existing players, adding, “We offer very comprehensive auto financing policies and the banks are very active. And the amount that has been financed in cars is three times more than the housing finance in Pakistan.”



The commercial counsellor also shared with companies the details of concessions on taxes, duties and particularly cheap labour. He said that in the current global scenario when there is a supply chain shock, and it is difficult to move things from one place to another place, it is right time for the Chinese investors to take advantage of Pakistan location, low wages and other benefits

Later, representatives of the companies who are already operating in Pakistan shared their experiences and put forward some useful proposals. Some new companies which plan to enter into Pakistani automobile industry also put questions and sought more details about the policies.

<https://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2021-10-24/page-8/detail-0>

### **LCCI for Pak-China trade in local currencies**

LAHORE - Trade between Pakistan and China should be done in local currencies as the country is facing massive deficit in trade with China. It will also reduce the pressure from foreign exchange reserves.

These views were expressed by LCCI President Mian Nauman Kabir while talking to the delegations of Anjuman-e-Tajran Lahore, Pakistan Steel Melters Association and Ferozepur Road Industrial Association. LCCI Senior Vice President Mian Rehman Aziz Chan, Vice President Haris Ateeq also spoke on the occasion while Executive Committee Members were also present.

The LCCI president said that he requested to the Prime Minister to withdraw the FBR's discretionary powers of bank attachment. He said that the land in industrial estates is very costly which should be brought down. He said that if the land cost is not reduced, Lahore Chamber will establish its own industrial estate. "The Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry has taken up the issue of property tax with the Chief Minister Punjab Sardar Usman Buzdar in a recent meeting and he assured that it will come down to its previous rate", the LCCI President said.

The LCCI office-bearers said that a conducive business environment will be resulted in good economic results for both the government and the business community. Genuine reservations of the business community should be addressed immediately with the consultation of stakeholders.

They said that the business community needs special care of the government as the COVID-19 have affected the businesses very badly in recent past and they are still struggling to get back on their feet. They said that their tax, infrastructure, traffic, parking plaza, LESCO and high cost of doing business related issues should be resolved immediately.

Chairman Pakistan Steel Melters Association Mian Ahmad Hassan highlighted the issues of high freight rates of shipping companies, their bad attitude towards the business community and demurrage charges.

The LCCI office-bearers said that early resolution of the issues of business community will promote the idea of public-private partnership that is the only way to surmount economic

challenges being faced by the country. The Lahore Chamber will continue its untiring efforts in this regard. They said that Lahore Chamber aims to promote trade and investment by securing a business friendly environment in the country.

They said that government should allocate a sufficient part of development funds for the markets of Lahore where lack of infrastructure, damaged road network, bad sewerage system and traffic problems are hitting the business activities. The LCCI office-bearers informed the visiting delegations that the Lahore Chamber also making all out efforts to secure a business-friendly environment through sharing views with the government high ups.

They said that the primary objective of LCCI is to protect the interests of the business community while remaining committed to the cause of development of the country. There are a number of issues that must be tackled on priority and the biggest one is how to keep the momentum of growth.

They said that the government should help business community to cope with the challenges. It is not only vital to accelerate the trade and economic activities but is also a must for trust building between the government and the private sector. The delegation members threw light the issues being faced by their respective sectors and sought the LCCI help for early resolution.

Office-bearers of the Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry urged the concerned departments to take notice of the situation and immediately resolve the issue being faced by the city markets. During the meetings, Chairman Pakistan Steel Melters Association Mian Ahmad Hassan, Chairman Pakistan Steel-Re-Rolling Mills Association Mian Manzoor Hayat, Mian Iqbal Tariq, Mehar Kashif, Mujahid Maqsood Butt, Abdul Razzaq Bubber, Tanveer Ahmad, Adnan Khalid Butt, Nadeem Qureshi, Usman Malik, Shafiq Butt and others also spoke.

<https://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2021-10-24/page-9/detail-2>

## **The News**

### **Asad praises US intellectuals for investment opportunities in CPEC**

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Planning, Development, Reform and Special Initiatives Asad Umar praised American intellectuals for future investment opportunities in the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

Asad Umar gave a talk at Wilson Center, Washington DC Saturday on the topic “What next for the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor”? The talk was moderated by former US ambassador to Pakistan David Hale, and distinguished diplomat fellow at Atlantic Council.

A large number of participants representing the think-tank and academic community joined the talk virtually, said a press release issued here.

Asad Umar gave a detailed presentation on CPEC focusing on its current status, future plans and CPEC’s importance in the larger dynamics shaping the regional economic activity by promoting regional connectivity.

The minister highlighted that the four Special Economic Zones and the Gwadar Free Zone being established under CPEC were open for investment from any country.

The minister also mentioned that the US was still the top export destination for Pakistan and the Pakistani diaspora living in the US was making a very important contribution to Pakistan's socio-economic progress through their remittances.

The minister also noted that contrary to the general perception China was not Pakistan's largest creditor and that Pakistan's majority debt was owed to traditional lenders.

He hoped that with the vastly improved security situation in Pakistan, FDI from the US will also increase correspondingly.

Asad Umar stressed that peace and stability in Afghanistan were vital for realisation of Pakistan's geo-economic vision.

He urged the international community to work together in ensuring that Afghanistan does not slide back into internal conflict that will lead to instability, humanitarian catastrophe and economic collapse.

The minister's remarks were followed by a Q&A session, in which the minister gave detailed replies to participants' questions related to diverse areas.

<https://e.thenews.com.pk/detail?id=16992>

### **Int'l Conference on China-Pakistan cooperation kicks off in Chengdu**

ISLAMABAD: The 2021 International Conference on China-Pakistan Cooperation kicked off in Chengdu, Sichuan province China on Saturday.

According to China Economic Net, about 150 participants attended the conference online and offline, including Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan Nong Rong, Pakistani Ambassador to China, Moin ul Haque, experts and entrepreneurs from China and Pakistan.

They had an in-depth exchange on the cooperation achievements and future development on "Strategic cooperation and Cultural exchanges" and "Economic & trade cooperation and Industrial development" since China and Pakistan established diplomatic ties in 1951.

Participants also discussed the high-quality building of the second phase of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and the rosy prospect of China-Pakistan All-Weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership.

Pro. Tang Mengsheng, director of Pakistan Studies Center at Peking University, presided over the sub-forum titled "Strategic cooperation and Cultural exchanges".

Li Hongwu, president of Pakistan Sichuan Chamber of Commerce chaired the other sub- forum themed "Economic & trade cooperation and Industrial development".

According to Sichuan University (SU), the sponsor of this conference, it is one of activities to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the establishment of China-Pakistan diplomatic ties.

This conference is jointly organized by SU's China Center for South Asia Studies, Pakistan Studies Center and School of International Studies.

The co-organizers comprise Chengdu Federation of Industry and Commerce, Huaxia Industrial Economy Research Institute, Chengdu Chamber of Commerce for Commercial Service and Pakistan Sichuan Chamber of Commerce.

<https://e.thenews.com.pk/detail?id=16994>

### **Jang News**

#### **چینی کمپنی کا داسو ڈیم پر پھر کام شروع کرنے کا فیصلہ**

چینی کمپنی کی جانب سے داسو ڈیم پر دوبارہ کام شروع کرنے کا فیصلہ کیا گیا ہے، چینی کمپنی گیزو باگروپ نے خود کش حملے کے بعد کام بند کر دیا تھا۔ چینی کمپنی کا اس حوالے سے کہنا ہے کہ واپڈا نے داسو ڈیم پر وجیکٹ پر سیکورٹی کو کافی حد تک بہتر بنایا ہے، 25 اکتوبر سے مرحلہ وار دوبارہ کام شروع ہو گا۔ چینی کمپنی کے مطابق تمام چینی انجینئر اور غیر ملکی داسو ڈیم کی سائٹ پر پہنچ گئے ہیں۔ کمپنی کی جانب سے داسو ڈیم پر کام کرنے والے تمام پاکستانی ورکرز کو تیار رہنے کی ہدایت کی گئی ہے۔ چینی کمپنی کا کہنا ہے کہ تمام اسٹاف کو ٹیلی فون کے ذریعے مطلع کیا جائے گا۔ چینی کمپنی کی جانب سے ملازمین کو کووڈ ٹیسٹ اور ویکسینیشن کا ریکارڈ ساتھ لانے کی ہدایت بھی کی گئی ہے۔

<https://jang.com.pk/news/1002264>

**October 25, 2021**

**Business Recorder**

### **Chinese SMEs creating employment opportunities in Pakistan: Cheng**

BEIJING: In recent years, more and more Chinese small and medium-sized enterprises have invested in Pakistan and cooperated with Pakistani small and medium-sized enterprises, creating a large number of employment opportunities for Pakistan and making more and more contributions to Pakistan's tax revenue.

This was stated by Cheng Xizhong, Visiting Professor at Southwest University of Political Science and Law, Senior Fellow of the Charhar Institute in an article published by China Economic Net (CEN) on Sunday. He said that the Pakistani government attaches great importance to the development of small and medium-sized enterprise, adding, "I believe it is a correct decision."

Cheng said that he still remembered that in 2019, Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan met with an investment delegation composed of more than 100 Chinese enterprises in Lahore. Prime Minister Imran Khan warmly welcomed Chinese small and medium-sized enterprises to invest in Pakistan, and said that the Pakistani government was committed to simplifying the registration

process of foreign investment and improving the investment environment. PM Khan hoped that Chinese small and medium-sized enterprises would contribute to increasing employment and poverty reduction in Pakistan, he added.

Sharing his views, he said that first the prosperity of market economy comes from fair competition. With the development of modern economy, on the one hand, there is a trend of centralization, and on the other hand, a large number of small and medium-sized enterprises are emerging. These two forces, two trends and the dual structure in the market economy constitute the basic forces to promote the prosperity and growth of the national economy. Second, due to the large number of small and medium-sized enterprises, which are distributed in various fields of the national economy, they are increasingly becoming an important factor of economic growth.

Third, small and medium-sized enterprises mainly exist and develop in labor-intensive industries, with less investment, flexible operation mode and low technical requirements for labor force. They are the main channel for the reemployment of the unemployed and the employment of new labor force, and play a stabilizing role in social development. Fourth, small and medium-sized enterprises are not only an important source of technological innovation, but also have a higher efficiency of innovation because of their flexible operating mechanism, keen response to emerging markets and convenient technology renewal and product adjustment.

The time for transforming science and technology into real productivity is also greatly shortened. Therefore, they play an important role in creating new technologies and developing new products.

Fifth, people who run small and medium-sized enterprises often play multiple roles. They are not only the decision-makers and managers, but also the participants in product research, development and production. Therefore, small and medium-sized enterprises are the cradle of cultivating entrepreneurs. —APP

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2021/10/25/3-page/905111-news.html>

### **Daily Times**

#### **Pakistani products to be promoted at CIIE in Nov**

Pakistani products will be promoted at 4th China International Import Expo (CIIE), scheduled to take place in Shanghai from Nov. 5 to 10, China Economic Net (CEN) reported on Sunday.

“I am so excited to attend the upcoming expo and showcase stunning Pakistani products to the Chinese,” said Habib ur Rehman, a young Pakistani. Promoting Pakistani products to China is my dream, he remarked.

“Particularly a kind of hand-made carpet combined both Chinese and Pakistani elements will be put on display at CIIE,” said Habib. “We know clearly what Pakistani cultural products and

handcrafts will be popular with Chinese consumers, as my family has been engaged in the carpet businesses for nearly 20 years in China,” Habib said confidently. “Our hand-made carpets, natural color, features unique patterns. Some patterns contain Pakistani historical and cultural elements. Some patterns have been updated to harmonize with young decoration style,” he added.

“In addition to the design and color, the quality of our carpet is also very good. One of our old customers said that our carpet is still in a good state in his/her family,” said Habib proudly.

Besides carpets, Habib also brings the Himalayan salt lamps to CIIE, which he thinks “the best platform” for Pakistani goods to enter Chinese market. “Himalayan salt lamps are carved out of Pakistan’s Khewra salt mine. The crystalloid salt of the lamps, containing nearly one 100 minerals, could release positive anion by being heated by bulb,” Habib told CEN. He added that “We can sell about 50 lamps on average every month at the Pakistan’s national pavilion at the Greenland Global Commodity Trading Hub in Shanghai.” “Our salt lamps are very stunning in shape, which always draw people’s attention, according to our customers. Some customers said after using the lamps, they had better sleep quality or soothe allergies. Some customers said our lamps have high performance cost ratio,” said Habib.

Good sales and positive feedback from customers encourage Habib to make additional orders. He told CEN, “These lamps we have sold are in common shapes. I will purchase lamps in special shapes soon and introduce Pakistan’s wonderful natural minerals to more people.” Now, Habib is busy preparing for his 18-square meter- exhibition stand at the expo. He told CEN he is confident to enlarge his businesses and make more business partners at CIIE.

After the 4th CIIE, Habib also plans to bring in more Pakistani goods to show at Pakistan’s national pavilion at the Greenland Trading Hub. “I want more people to know our Pakistani culture and life,” said Habib.

Habib told CEN his father began carpet business in China in 2001. Since then, Habib and his elder brother, and younger brother have come to study in China. Habib came to Shanghai in 2009.

Habib said, “As a Pakistani, I always feel kindness and warmth whenever on a taxi or at a restaurant. We often feel “familiar” with each other as China and Pakistan are iron brothers. So I have never felt lonely in a country far from Pakistan.”

In addition to receiving the kindness, Habib has also returned that by his action. Habib joined a volunteer team made of foreigners in August 2016. These volunteers often go on patrol regularly and assist maintaining traffic order at Chengjiaqiao community, Changning district, Shanghai.

Habib made his own contributions to the city’s safety and traffic management. In recognition of his outstanding contribution, Habib was given the 2019 Shanghai Magnolia Silver Award.

As for the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), Habib thinks that besides strengthening economic linkages, it also increases people to people exchanges between the two nations.



For strengthening Pakistan-China traditional friendship, Habib advises young Pakistanis studying in China to integrate into his/her school, community or city by voluntary work or other ways. Habib hopes that these students would become bridges of Pakistan-China communication and cooperation so as to enhance ironclad friendship.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/833155/pakistani-products-to-be-promoted-at-ciie-in-nov/>

### Dawn News

#### **Chinese firm resumes work on Dasu power project today**

MANSEHRA: The Chinese company, which had suspended work on 4320 megawatts Dasu hydropower project following the death of 13 people including nine Chinese workers in a bus blast on July 13 this year, is going to resume the work on Monday (today).

“The security of Dasu project area has been substantially improved by Wapda and the site work will be resumed gradually from October 25, 2021,” said a mobilisation notice issued by China’s Gezhouba Group of Companies to its Pakistani engineers, workers and other staffers on Sunday.

The Pakistani staffers said that according to requirements of the site work all those, who worked with the CGGC before, were informed through the notice to get ready to return to work.

“The specific return time of every staffer will be determined by telephone call from Chinese leaders of the departments,” said the notice. The staffers were also asked to bring with them the coronavirus vaccination and non-criminal record certificates while workers belonging to Dasu area should get medical certificates from the local clinic.

The resumption of work on the World Bank-funded project could only be possible following continued talks between the Pakistani team led by Wapda Chairman Lt Gen Muzammil Hussain and CGGC.

“There have been 18 rounds of talks between Wapda’s negotiation team and CGGC and Chinese Ambassador Nong Rong also participated in some of them to ensure an early resumption of work on this multibillion dollar power project,” said sources.

The government had deployed army’s bridges in Kohistan following the Dasu bus explosion that would escort Chinese engineers and workers to work sites and respective camps via Karakoram Highway.

The World Bank’s two separate teams, which visited Upper Kohistan and inspected the explosion site and met with the Chinese engineers and workers last month, had also sought appropriate security measures for the peaceful execution of the project.

ROAD: Torghar district development advisory committee chairman Laiq Mohammad Khan inaugurated Soray Ashary Shingle road.

“This road would link dozens of villages with the district headquarters,” Mr Khan told the gathering after inaugurating the artery.

He said that Torghar, which was given the status of a settled district in 2011, was deprived of basic health, education, road and other infrastructure but he got approved mega development schemes for it.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1653833>

### **Pakistan Observer**

#### **1124 mw Kohala hydropower project likely to complete by 2025**

The 1124 MW Kohala Hydropower Project is likely to be completed by December 2025 with the cost of \$2.4 billion.

The annual generation capacity of run-of-the-river project is 4800 GWh, said an official source.

The diversion dam site is on Jhelum River near Sarran Village 40 km upstream from Muzaffarabad and a 20 km long tunnel connects to the powerhouse which is located at Barsala 7 km upstream from Kohala Bridge.

The Kohala hydroelectric scheme will have a gravity, roller-concrete compacted dam on the upper branch of the Jhelum, 40 km from Muzaffarabad.

The powerhouse, on the lower branch of the Jhelum near Barasala, will house four 281-MW Pelton turbines.

The Kohala Hydropower Project is Chinese state owned hydropower developer, namely China Three Gorges Corporation's (CTGC), largest investment in Pakistan.

It won the right to develop a hydroelectric dam in Pakistan on January 7, 2015. The high head project of 316 meters that is located near Kohala, in Azad Kashmir.

In 2020, the project's agreement was signed. The signing ceremony was witnessed by the Pakistani Prime Minister, and Chinese ambassador.

The dam's feasibility study and detailed engineering designs were performed by SMEC.—APP

<https://pakobserver.net/1124-mw-kohala-hydropower-project-likely-to-complete-by-2025/>

#### **300 mw Gwadar power plant to start functioning by Oct next**

A 300 megawatts coal-fired Gwadar Power Plant would start functioning from October 2023, said official sources.

The power plant would cater the needs of some 150,000 people of Gwadar by the end of 2023 under the 2050 Master Plan of Gwadar.

The power plant of independent power producer, is one of the key energy projects on the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

The project aimed at improving reliability on local power supply would help gradually solving the problems in current economic development and urban construction in Gwadar region being restricted by the shortage of power.—APP

<https://pakobserver.net/300-mw-gwadar-power-plant-to-start-functioning-by-oct-next/>

### **Foil enemies' plots against CPEC**

OVER the last few years, the multi billion dollars China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) has proved to be an economic lifeline for us.

It addressed our road and power infrastructure bottlenecks and now cooperation between the two countries is expanding in areas of industries, agriculture and many others.

The success of cooperation in these productive sectors will definitely put Pakistan on strong economic footing.

This is something that is not digestible to some forces. Addressing the CPEC Summit at the Institute of Business Administration (IBA), Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on CPEC Affairs Khalid Mansoor said the United States is in cahoots with India in hatching conspiracies against the corridor project.

He said the US supported by India is inimical to the CPEC and it will not let the project succeed. Indeed we cannot afford to forgo any of its benefits. The very enmity of the US and India to the project is apparent from day one.

On several occasions the US officials have severely criticised the project while India has been involved in terrorist attacks inside Pakistan especially in Balochistan and the most recent one at the site of Dasu Dam, to sabotage the project.

We have no doubt in saying that enemies of this game changer project will fail in their sordid designs as long as both Pakistan and China are committed and firm in taking it forward and make it a successful model.

Unlike the US, China is a reliable partner and friend of Pakistan that has always stood by us in difficult times.

The best way forward is that both Pakistan and China accelerate the pace of work on all ongoing projects as well as the ones that are in the pipeline removing all hurdles in their way.

For this, we need to enhance engagement level at different levels. It is also for our authorities to ensure foolproof security for Chinese workers engaged in different projects in Pakistan.

<https://pakobserver.net/foil-enemies-plots-against-cpec/>

### **The Express Tribune**

#### **Renewable energy potential and constraints**

Local investors should invest in solar, wind projects to prevent forex outflow

ISLAMABAD: Many people ask if renewable energy is so cheap – 1-2 US cents or at most 4 US cents as opposed to 8-10 US cents for fossil energy along with pollution, why the world does not shift to renewables faster and sooner.

The global share of renewable electricity (RE) is 27% and in Pakistan it is less than 5%.

Firstly, RE has become cheaper only recently. Secondly, there is huge investment that has already been made in fossil-based power plants, which cannot possibly be written off and replaced with RE instantly.

And finally, the main issue is intermittency – solar is in the day and varies during the day, fast enough wind is not found everywhere, it blows in summer in our area and in winter in the northern sphere.

Consumers, whether residential or industrial, want electricity instantly and of quality and quantity as required. Fossil fuel does it very well as the technology has been developed over the last 100 years and more. At present, the renewables ride on the piggyback of fossil.

There are technologies which help to manage the intermittency issue to some extent.

One, hybridisation wherein mixing solar, wind and hydro provides a smoother mix; two, storage, until recently, electricity storage was not available except in mountainous hydro areas. Now battery technology is evolving fast and becoming economic; three, availability of grid of ample capacity at a suitable distance; four, certain technologies like hydrogen are under development, which will fill the technology gap that exists towards fuller utilisation of RE; five, there is a question of stranded costs – what to do with the existing facilities and how to bring about new ones; six, demand management can also influence the induction of RE.

Thus, RE penetration is going to be gradual, both here in Pakistan and elsewhere. The question is at what rate the shift is possible and economic.

Power Division and Nepra have commissioned and even approved the Indicative Generation Capacity Expansion Plan (IGCEP) and simultaneously commissioned another study called VRELS (Variable Renewable Energy Location Study), which suggests as to how much RE, where and at what cost could be inducted up to 2030.

VRELS has found that 20% of target share of VRE by 2025 and 30% of target share by 2030 would be feasible. Key questions are what are the possible regional locations, how much can be installed without grid improvement and how much capital expenditure (capex) will be required for grid improvement.

As it is, there are issues in transmission and installed capacity cannot be fully transmitted, causing load-shedding and anomalies in merit order dispatch.

Solar-wind hybrid in Balochistan

In Balochistan, there is issue of grid unavailability. Otherwise, if one examines the PV and wind resource map, there is more wind resource in Balochistan than it is in Sindh.

Chagai has the best and largest wind power potential with capacity factor of 60%, which is slightly less than twice that of Sindh. In Sindh, however, there is a grid market and relative peace.

Between Gwadar and Chagai, it is almost all windy area along with rich solar potential as well. A high-voltage, direct-current (HVDC) grid connecting Gwadar and Chagai is called for.

There was a proposal for laying a copper pipeline in Reko Diq for transporting unprocessed copper from Chagai to Gwadar for onward sea transportation. A China oil pipeline has also been proposed along the same corridor.

Thus, there is a great potential for this corridor. For practical reasons, areas near and north of Gwadar should receive priority and a suitable location should be identified that may energise desalination plants as well.

In Gwadar, an expensive coal power plant is being built for the lack of an alternative. Had this VRELS been available earlier, a solar project could have been an ideal choice, providing cheaper, cleaner and constant power.

#### Special tariff

It should be noted that wind is only in Sindh or Balochistan. In Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa, some wind resources are in Chitral only.

Balochistan has law and order and payment problems. People do not pay or pay low agricultural tariff under which air conditioners are also operated.

There is a case for special innovative tariff for Balochistan, if and where solar-wind hybrid is utilised. These days, solar-wind tariff is under 4 US cents.

While considering the concession for Balochistan, one should keep in view the small population and the consumption thereof, which have a very small impact on the total.

#### Solar-hydro/pumped storage hybrid in K-P

It appears that the potential for VRE in K-P has been under-estimated. One of the reasons probably is that hydro has been ignored. Under new Council of Common Interests (CCI) rulings, hydro is to be part of VRE.

Also, hydro generation cost (8-10 US cents) is rather high as compared to other VRE like solar and wind. However, hydro offers the cheapest possible storage technology option.

Many advances have been made in pumped hydro storage. There are floating solar power plants in dams. One such project is already being developed at Tarbela.

There are open and closed cycle storages. Two storages are built – one higher and the other lower at a height difference of 300-1,000 metres.

At the lower level, a pump and turbine house is built. In low demand periods, water is pumped from the lower reservoir to the higher reservoir through solar or other electricity.

In high demand period, electricity is generated by water flow from the higher to the lower reservoir passing through turbine.

Solar-hydro hybrid/pumped storage can be an ideal solution for K-P and even beyond. Had this option been included, K-P's share in VRE could have been higher.

With the emergence of a new scenario wherein limitations are being put on coal, the importance of VRE will increase even further, which may force planners to increase scope of the study and the IGCEP.

Many people are sceptical of all such projections. There is surplus capacity and circular debt issue and non-payment to independent power producers (IPPs).

Smaller 50-100MW power plants appear to be more feasible. Solar and wind projects should be invested in by local investors to prevent foreign exchange outflow.

Also, indigenisation and local participation should be promoted to ensure a multiplier effect and generate employment. Some incentives for local manufacture can be introduced. There is a State Bank scheme, which may be improved upon.

It is, however, a model study showing the way to plan a sector and the constituting projects. A similar study or a combined one may also be done to include fossil plants.

The writer is former member energy of the Planning Commission and author of several books on the energy sector

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2326234/renewable-energy-potential-and-constraints>

### **The Nation**

#### **Gwadar mega development projects progressing steadily: COPHC chairman**

BEIJING - Chairman China Overseas Port Holding Company (COPHC), Zhang Baozhong has said that Gwadar multiple mega projects underway with the investments of Chinese and Pakistani investors and various social sector schemes are progressing well.

With investments made by Chinese and Pakistani investors, Gwadar has multiple mega projects underway which include the Gwadar Free Zone, New Gwadar International Airport, Gwadar Gymkhana, Gwadar Master Plan, and the 6 lane East Bay Expressway.

“Progress is also taking place in the social sector with projects like the Vocational Training Institute, international standard hospitals, and plantations in the city,” he told China Economic Net (CEN) while talking about the ongoing developments in Gwadar and their impact on the economy of Pakistan.

Zhang said that Gwadar Free Zone Phase-I is already completed and added facilities of Gwadar Free Zone Phase-I is as good as any other free zone in the world with the facilities of never interrupted power supply, water supply, telecommunication, drainage system and office etc.



He informed that more than 36 investors have already been registered with Gwadar Free Zone and among these investors 60% are from China and the 40% are local. “We are looking forward more Pakistani businessmen to join the development of Gwadar Free Zone,” he added.

Terming the New Gwadar International Airport as one of the most important projects of China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and for all the Pakistan, he said that the new airport is in line with the vision of Prime Minister Imran Khan to promote tourism industry in Pakistan.

The new international airport after the completion will play important roles in the development of Gwadar, he added. The Chairman of COPHC said that this airport has a longest runway in this region, and even the biggest aircraft like the Boeing A380 could be landed in this airport and it will bring more tourist to Gwadar. “I believe now that the contractor together with our Pakistani brothers and sisters are working day and night, and it is expected that the operation could be started by the end of this next year under the completion date is early 2023,” he added.

About Gwadar Gymkhana, he said that it will definitely play a very important role in the development of Gwadar port, adding, “I personally have experience of the hospitality provided by Gymkhana in other cities, and I believe that Gymkhana in Gwadar will not only make doing business easily for the investor, but also will promote industry, especially tourism industry in Gwadar.”

He expressed the confidence that it will give a lot of chance of employment of the local people and hoped that more and more members will enjoy the nature, the hospitality under the friendship of Gymkhana as well as our local culture. The Gymkhana will make more VIP investors, doing business easily in Gwadar even in the whole Pakistan, and in this region, he said.

Regarding Master Plan, he said that it plays very important role in any city. “It is very difficult to change once the construction is already there, and we’re very happy that the authority understands the issue.” Zhang expressed gratitude to the Chinese government that approved funds for development of Smart Gwadar City plan and termed it as one of the best smart city plan he has seen in the world.

He hoped that this master plan will be fully executed as a plan. “And I believe that if we follow this master plan, Gwadar will be developed as one of the most beautiful convenient city in the world.” About Eastbay Expressway, he said that it will bypass the Gwadar port city and minimize the traffic disturbance so, this dedicated Eastbay Expressway will make the port more efficient, and less disturbance to the local brothers and sister.

Sharing progress on the social sector development schemes, he said that construction of the Vocational Training Institute is already completed and handing over will be done by the end of this year. “This Vocational Training Institute will not only increase employment opportunities for the locals but also it will help the operation of Gwadar port and Free Trade Zone,” he added.

He said that under this Vocational Training Institute, it definitely will help resolve shortage of engineers and technicians faced by investors. On 300-bed hospital, he said that it is already under construction and it will help resolve medical treatment issues faced by locals for the past decade. “And I do believe this modern hospital will resolve the issues of medical treatment.”

He said that tissue plant laboratory in the cultivation greenhouse, adding, “From the tissue laboratory, we use the most advanced technology to clone different varieties of plants, and our target is to make our local brothers benefit from such kind of research.” “We will help locals so that they can plant it in their own home and plant more trees and the flowers,” he added.

Zhang said, “This will not only help to improve the environment issue, but also our local brothers will get some immediate economic returns.”

<https://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2021-10-25/page-8/detail-0>

### **CPEC to bring economic revolution in Pakistan: Nadeem Khalid**

LAHORE - Chief Executive Khalid and Khalid Holdings Nadeem Khalid has said that China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is beginning of a new era, which has started resulting in terms of economic development in the country.

While talking to a delegation of Chinese engineers on the visit of Sunlong Bus and Shacman Truck Assembly Plant in Dawood Khel, Nadeem Khalid was of the view that Pak-China friendship has entered in another step with the beginning of work at Dawood Khel Assembly Plant of Sunlong Bus and Shacman Truck.

He said that Khalid and Khalid Holdings is assembling China’s top Truck, Bus and Construction Machinery in Pakistan and soon it will start assembly of engines and excels, which will bring revolution in country’s auto sector.

On the occasion, transporters admired the quality of buses and assure their support. Country Head Sales Sunlong Bus Nadeem Mirza said that Sunlong Bus will maintain its quality and introduce the best technology. COO Farrukh Kamal Shah and Director Plant Muhammad Ali also thanked Chinese engineers.

<https://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2021-10-25/page-9/detail-6>

**October 26, 2021**

**Business Recorder**

### **Dasu Dam: Chinese co resumes work**

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Water Resources, Moonis Elahi has claimed that the Chinese company has resumed work on 4,300MW Dasu hydropower project.

“Good news for the nation. Construction on the project has started from Monday. The project of 4,300MW capacity is a foundation stone of Pak- China friendship. Alhamdollah, the conspiracy of Pakistan’s enemies to sabotage Dasu project has been foiled,” he said in a tweet.

Business Recorder ran a story on Monday that Chinese company M/s China Gezhouba Group Company (CGGC) agreed to resume work on Dasu Hydropower Project from Monday (yesterday).

According to sources, Pakistan and China have not yet finalized compensation package for Chinese engineers/ workers killed and injured.

China has sought compensation of \$38 million from Pakistan but the latter maintains that the compensation amount is exorbitant.

“Most of the concerns of Chinese company including security have been addressed. However, negotiations on compensation package are under discussion,” said an official on condition of anonymity.

Pakistan has assured China that the workers would be given extraordinary security as per the recommendations of the Chinese security agency, whose officials visited the venue of the unfortunate incident along with Pakistani security personnel.

On July 14, 2021, thirteen people, including nine Chinese engineers, two locals and two personnel of the Frontier Constabulary (FC) were killed and over two dozen sustained injuries when a bus carrying the team working on the project fell into a ravine after it was hit by a car laden with explosives.—MUSHTAQ GHUMMAN

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2021/10/26/12-page/905298-news.html>

### **Daily Times**

#### **Pakistan attractive investment destination for Chinese entrepreneurs**

Pakistan Ambassador to China, Moin ul Haque on Monday said that Pakistan offers attractive policies and investment friendly environment for the foreign investors.

Persuading Chinese entrepreneurs to look at Pakistan as their future investment destination, he said that Pakistan is the sixth largest country in the world in terms of population and located in an ideal geo strategic position.

“It has a very strong upcoming middle class making it one of the most attractive investment destinations for foreign entrepreneurs,” he said while addressing the participants of Pakistan Investment Forum and the Cross-border E-commerce Business Negotiation Conference.

The event was co-organised by Pakistan embassy in Beijing and Juejin Group at Pakistan Embassy Beijing.

Ambassador Haque said that Pakistan has also a large and competitive skilled labour force as well as improved and upgraded infrastructure including roads, highways, airports and communications network.

“Pakistan is one of the few countries in the region which have very strong penetration of mobile internet. There are numerous investment opportunities in a large number of sectors including energy, infrastructure, pharmaceuticals, automobile, information technology and agriculture,” he added.

He said that the government offers promotional and concessional tax incentives for different investors to not only help them establish their businesses and factories in Pakistan, but also to support them export their products to China or other countries in the world.

Terming Pakistan as a very friendly country to China and its people, he said that they will find the warmth of the people of Pakistan.

“Our people will welcome you and embrace you not only for your personal visit, but for your business visits also,” he added.

Acknowledging the role of the business institutions like chambers of commerce, trade bodies, financial institutions and banks, he said that they all play a very important role in bringing the businessmen of the two countries together.

He said that China has become Pakistan’s largest trading partner and after signing of Free Trade Agreement Phase-II, the two countries have seen a new momentum in bilateral trade.

He hoped this year Pakistan’s exports to China will cross the historic mark of \$3 billion.

Ambassador Haque said that efforts are being made to connect the businessmen of the two countries and the traders are establishing online linkages despite COVID-19.

“We have also established a number of Pakistani pavilions in different cities of China, which have become a very important source of interaction between businessmen of two countries,” he added.

He also thanked all the participants, senior officials from various companies who have come from Beijing and other cities of China to come and attend this event.

Welcoming the traders and businessmen, Commercial Counselor of Pakistan Embassy in Beijing, Badar-uz-Zaman explained the investment friendly policies of the Pakistan government and strong consumer demand in the Pakistani market.

He said that they could start business very quickly in the special economic zones and industrial zones in Pakistan.

“The good human resources are available to set up new ventures in different sectors including Information Technology, automobile manufacturing, refineries, transportation and energy storage, etc.,” he added.

Chairman of Pak-China Business Council of FPCCI, Javed Ilyas introduced potential opportunities and demand for import and export products of Pakistan’s industry and commerce.

Chief Representative of National Bank of Pakistan, Shaikh Muhammad Shariq introduced some policies on Pakistan China trade and investment fund solution.

He said that NBP was established in China in 1949 and since then is playing a role of bridge between the entrepreneurs of Pakistan and China.

Chairman of Midtrans Commodities International Company, Muhammad Yashin introduced the business cooperating opportunities on food and agricultural food between China and Pakistan.

President of Juejin Group, Laing Hui and President of Lianghao Group, Li Hui briefly introduced their companies and shared some points on the intention of investing and cooperating in Pakistan.

Juejin Group signed a letter of intent with Midtrans Commodities International Company, and ambassador and commercial counselor witnessed the signing ceremony.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/833577/pakistan-attractive-investment-destination-for-chinese-entrepreneurs/>

### **Dawn News**

#### **Over 100 Chinese firms to attend expo**

LAHORE: Over 104 Chinese companies will take part in the three-day Pakistan Industrial Expo 2021 to be held at the Royal Palm Golf & Country Club from October 29, said Chris Zhu, the head of the firm organising the expo, at a press conference on Monday.

He said that around 400 Chinese companies were to attend the fifth edition of the Pakistan Industrial Expo but the number was reduced because of Covid-19 restrictions and unavailability of space for such a large number of companies.

He said the Johar Town Expo Centre was not available as it has been converted into a temporary health facility to handle coronavirus and dengue cases, while the Royal Palm Club could accommodate booths of only 104 companies manufacturing agriculture, hardware, plastic, chemical, auto-parts and energy sector machinery.

Responding to a question, he said some Chinese companies have started local assembly of their products in Pakistan which are also being exported to some African countries. The manufacturing phase will follow after the success of the assembling stage and opening of the international markets post-Covid-19, he added.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1654030>

#### **‘GB to produce skilled workers for CPEC projects’**

*Jamil Nagri*

GILGIT: Gilgit-Baltistan Assembly Speaker Syed Amjad Zaidi has said the region can grab substantial benefits from the projects launched under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor by providing skilled workforce.

He expressed these remarks while addressing a donor conference organised in Skardu on Monday by the Directorate of Technical Education and Skills Development (DTESD) in collaboration with TVET Sector Support Programme (TVET SSP).

Purpose of the event was to ensure sustainability as well as promotion of TVET programmes in the region through enhanced collaboration of donors.

Education minister Raja Azam Khan, secretary education Iqbal Hussain Khan, head of Cooperation of EU Delegation in Pakistan Mr Ovidiu Mic, Head of TVET SSP Ms Iris Cordelia Rotzoll, Director DTESD Faizullah Lone and representatives from donor organisations attended the event.

Mr Zaidi said a number of mega development projects had been launched under the CPEC, especially in water and communication, tourism, trade, renewable energy and information technology sectors, which was a huge job market. “We can get major benefits of this market by producing a skilled force.”

He said partnership between DTESD, TVET SSP and other development partners would help train the required workforce to meet the challenges for prosperity and economic growth in GB.

On the occasion, Mr Ovidiu Mic said the collaborative efforts of various development partners in the region could further build on what EU and its development partners had initiated. “This region has a lot of scope for a variety of skills in sectors such as construction, engineering, hospitality, information technology and renewable energy, and “We look forward to continuing our engagement in the TVET sector here.”

**ELECTION SCHEDULE:** Gilgit-Baltistan Chief Election Commissioner Raja Shahbaz Khan on Monday issued schedule of the GB Council elections to be held on Nov 12.

Voting to elect the six members of the council will be held in the GB Assembly as the five-year tenure of the current members ended in May.

A total of 33 members of the GB Assembly will vote to elect the new council members.

According to a notification issued by the region’s election commission on Monday, candidates will submit their nomination papers to the returning officer by Oct 29, and the RO will scrutinise the papers on Oct 30 and 31.

Candidates can submit their appeals to the chief election commissioner against the decision of RO on Nov 2 and 3.

The election commissioner will decide the objections/complaints from Nov 4 to 6. The final list of candidates will be displayed on Nov 9.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1654039/gb-to-produce-skilled-workers-for-cpec-projects>



## Dunya News

### **Pakistan, China agree to further cement bilateral ties**

ISLAMABAD (Dunya News) - Pakistan and China have agreed to further strengthen bilateral economic and commercial ties, including full realization of the potential offered by the Phase-II of the China-Pakistan Free Trade Agreement.

This came during a telephonic conversation between Prime Minister Imran Khan and Chinese President Xi Jinping on Tuesday.

The two leaders agreed to strengthen Pakistan-China cooperation in the relevant areas and to promote China Pakistan Economic Corridor's (CPEC) green development as a high quality demonstration of the Belt and Road Initiative.

<https://dunyanews.tv/en/Pakistan/625724-Pakistan-China-agree-cement-bilateral-ties>

## Pakistan Observer

### **GB can grab huge benefits of CPEC projects by offering skilled force: Speaker**

Welcoming multiple initiatives of TVET SSP and international donors for producing skilled manpower in the region, Gilgit-Baltistan (GB) Assembly Speaker Syed Amjad Zaidi has said that the region can grab substantial benefits of CPEC projects by providing a skilled workforce that can bring economic and social development of the local people.

He expressed these views while addressing a donors conference organized by Directorate of Technical Education and Skills Development (DTESD), GB, in collaboration with TVET Sector Support Programme (TVET SSP) here on Monday.

The purpose of the event was to ensure sustainability as well as promotion of TVET programmes in the region through enhanced collaboration of donors.

Education Minister GB Raja Azam Khan, Secretary Education Iqbal Hussain Khan, Head of Cooperation of EU Delegation in Pakistan Mr. Ovidiu Mic, Head of TVET SSP Ms. Iris Cordelia Rotzoll, Director TESD Faizullah Lone along with representatives from donors' organizations attended the conference. The GB assembly speaker said that in the CPEC scenario, the region was witnessing a number of mega economic interventions especially construction of dams and roads network, unexplored mineral resources, tourism, trade, renewable energy and emerging IT sector which is a huge job market and "We can get major benefits of this market by producing a skilled force."

"To cater to this situation, it requires complementarities such as an effective TVET system that can adapt and produce the required trained workforce in GB, so that upcoming positions can be filled by a Pakistani work force," he maintained.

Syed Amjad Zaidi also said that the partnership between Dtesd, TVET SSP and other development partners will help train the required workforce to meet the challenges for prosperity and economic growth in GB.

Addressing the audience, Mr. Ovidiu Mic said that the collaborative efforts of various development partners in this region can further build on what EU and its development partners have initiated with our engagement over the past decade.

This region has a lot of scope for a variety of skills in sectors such as construction, engineering, hospitality, information technology, and renewable energy, and “We look forward to continuing our engagement in the TVET sector here.”

The TVET SSP, which is funded by European Union, Germany and the Royal Norwegian Embassy, is implemented by the National Vocational and Technical Training Commission (NVTTC) and the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), in collaboration with regional TEVTAs, PVTC and regional TVET bodies like GB DTESD.

The GB government is taking concrete steps for the promotion of TVET sector through the approval of the TVET Act 2018 of Gilgit Baltistan.

The legislative process has opened doors for real-time reforms in the TVET Sector of this remote region. Some key initiatives of TVET SSP in Gilgit-Baltistan.

<https://pakobserver.net/gb-can-grab-huge-benefits-of-cpec-projects-by-offering-skilled-force-speaker/>

### **CPEC, a victim of conspiracies**

THE categorical and bold statement of Khalid Mansoor, Special Assistant to Prime Minister on China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) Authority is yet another indication that like the nuclear programme, CPEC too has become a target of conspiracies by some foreign powers.

Addressing the CPEC Summit at the Institute of Business Administration (IBA) on Saturday, he accused the United States of conniving in cahoots with India against the economic lifeline of Pakistan.

It is known to each and every Pakistani that conspiracies are being hatched against the historic initiative from day one but, perhaps, for the first time these have publicly been acknowledged by the most relevant official.

Initially, attempts were made to create internal differences on the project but the spoilers soon realized that there was national consensus, and rightly so, on the initiative and now, apart from covert and overt pressures, disruptive tactics are also being employed to scuttle progress on CPEC projects as we recently witnessed in the case of attacks on Chinese engineers, which led to suspension of work on a vitally important hydro-power project.

The United States and some other countries not only launched venomous propaganda against the nuclear programme of Pakistan but resorted to all kinds of arms-twisting to pressurize the country to roll-back the programme.

And now, the SAPM openly stated that the United States and India continue to “make attempts to manoeuvre Pakistan out of” China’s Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) — a global infrastructure development plan — under which the Chinese government has been investing heavily in about 70 countries.

He rightly pointed out that some Western countries view CPEC as a symbol of growing political influence of China and, therefore, wanted to undermine it.

However, China has made it clear that it has no political ambitions and the Corridor is part of the greater Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) that is based on shared progress and prosperity.

The sincerity of Pakistan and China is also evident from their repeated offers to other countries to join the process.

We welcome assurance of Khalid Mansoor that “there’s no way Pakistan will forgo any of its benefits” and hope practical measures would be taken to expedite work on all on-going projects and kick-start work on all other agreed projects and programmes under CPEC phase two.

<https://pakobserver.net/cpec-a-victim-of-conspiracies/>

### **Orange Line Train marks anniversary Lahore Metro Bus service resumes**

The Metro Bus service and Orange Line Train service in Lahore have fully resumed after remaining suspended for five days amid protest by a banned outfit in the metropolis.

Earlier in the day, the bus service was partially resumed. Metro Bus Service after repairing the Ravi Toll Plaza metro station resumed the service for passengers.

The metro station was vandalized and police had placed several containers on the metro track.

The containers have now been removed from the track and the bus service is fully restored now.

Meanwhile, a special ceremony was held at Dera Gujjaran Depot on one-year completion of Orange Line Metro Train.

Chinese Acting Consul General in Lahore Peng Zhengwu was the chief guest while Managing Director Punjab Mass Transit Authority Mirza Naseer Inayat, General Manager (Operations) Syed Uzair Shah, representatives of Chinese contractors and other relevant officers also attended the ceremony.

A spokesperson for the Provincial Transport Department informed that so far 20 million passengers have travelled through the Orange Line Metro Train and its efficiency has been estimated about 99.9 percent while orange train completed 84993 trips and covered 11.23 million KM distance in a year.

<https://pakobserver.net/orange-line-train-marks-anniversary-lahore-metro-bus-service-resumes/>

## The News

### **China will uphold world peace despite others' concerns: Xi**

BEIJING: President Xi Jinping vowed on Monday that China would always uphold world peace and international rules, amid concerns expressed by the United States and other countries over its increasing assertiveness globally.

The comments come after Taiwan said this month that military tension with China was at its worst in more than 40 years, amid mounting worries that the giant neighbour might try to take back by military force the self-ruled island it claims as its own.

In a speech marking the 50th anniversary of China's return to the United Nations, Xi said it would always be the "builder of world peace" and a "protector of international order", state news agency Xinhua reported.

"China resolutely opposes all forms of hegemony and power politics, unilateralism and protectionism," Xi said, calling for greater global cooperation on issues such as regional conflicts, terrorism, climate change, cyber security and biosecurity.

Xi urged all countries to promote the values of peace, development, justice, democracy, freedom, making use of a phrase the "common values of all mankind" that he coined and first mentioned in a July speech for the 100th anniversary of the ruling Chinese Communist Party.

In 1971, the United Nations voted to recognise the People's Republic of China as the sole representative of China, expelling Taiwan, which had held the UN seat in the name of the Republic of China, its official title.

Xi said reforms on global governance are needed, and that international rules should be decided by all 193 members of the United Nations, instead of by "certain countries or country groupings", making a veiled criticism of the United States for exerting a dominant influence over international institutions.

He also said all countries should always abide by international rules, and not only when the rules suit them.

He said the restoration of all the rights of PRC in the UN 50 years ago is a victory of the Chinese people, and the people from around the world. The past five decades have witnessed China's peaceful development and its commitment and dedication to the welfare of all humanity. Chinese people have always safeguarded international fairness and justice, and made major contributions to world peace and development.

He said we shall be firm in opposing all forms of hegemony and power politics, as well as all forms of unilateralism and protectionism. We should resolutely uphold the authority and standing of the UN, and work together to practice true multilateralism, he added.

<https://e.thenews.com.pk/detail?id=17828>

## **Pakistan-China cooperation**

Pakistan is the world's fifth largest country which provides opportunities to investors to invest in various sectors of the economy, especially in the automobile industry. China is a rising world power, historically maintaining strong relations with Pakistan. The region has already witnessed close economic cooperation between the two countries in the form of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

We have signed a free trade agreement (FTA) with China, which is extremely beneficial for both countries in promoting free trade and investment. The two countries have now started new cooperation in the field of automobile manufacturing, which is indeed a win-win situation. China, which has the largest automobile market in the world, has gained huge importance in automobile manufacturing over the years.

The automobile sector has a close relationship with a country's road networks including highways and motorways. The CPEC plan has provided a great opportunity of importing automobile parts and completely knocked down (CKD) kits from China at affordable prices. Pakistan has an abundant supply of cheap labour and Chinese original equipment manufacturers (OEM) in this sector can establish its own plants in Pakistan. The country has already given tax concessions to Chinese investors on a long-term basis.

Chinese automotive manufacturers can avail tax concessions in this field, which is again a great incentive for establishing the auto industry in Pakistan. The flourishing free zone in Gwadar is the main attraction for such investors from China. Some auto manufacturers such as JAC Motors, Zotye, FAW, Dongfeng and Foton are already showing interest in investing here.

The Chinese automobile market is so big that it consists of more than 30 percent of worldwide vehicle production exceeding that of European Union or the combined production of the US and Japan. China's automobile sale volume is now around 30 million units including, but not limited to, multi-purpose and sport-utility vehicles. Other than the traditional four brands of car manufacturers -- FAW Group, Dongfeng, SAIC Motors and Chang'an -- auto manufacturers like Beijing Automotive Group, Guangzhou Automobile Group, Geely Global, Brilliance Auto Group, Great Wall Motors and Jianghuai (JAC Motors) are performing quite well.

It is encouraging to see that a Chinese company, Brilliance Auto Group, is showing interest to set up its assembly plant in Pakistan. The company is the joint venture partner of the famous German carmaker, BMW. It is being said that the German luxury brand is interested in entering Pakistani market. China's state-owned First Automobile Works (FAW) and Foton Motor Group have their assembly plants in Karachi, and they are interested in expanding their investment as their heavy automobile trucks and buses are already plying regularly on our roads. Their commercial trucks and pickup vans are quite popular in Pakistan's market. It is a great success story for Chinese companies that are investing in the automobile sector of Pakistan.

Our country has always been interested in attracting foreign direct investments (FDIs) in various sectors of the economy. And the automobile industry is first among equals. Pakistan's Master

Group set up a joint venture with China's Changan carmaker, in 2017. The two countries entered into partnership as a 70:30-equity joint venture that aimed at production of cars and pickup vans. The two companies have gained a foothold in Pakistan. Under the name and brand of Master Changan Motors (MCM), these companies have started assembling right-hand-drive vehicles with a big leap forward in the market.

The company's sale volume has been high even during the Covid-19 pandemic, which is a great sign of a flourishing market. The people of Pakistan are relying more on Chinese cars and vehicles as they are more affordable. So, it can be said that the future of the MCM in Pakistan is quite bright. The company is planning to provide and export CKD kits to regional countries, as the Group has invested to establish a \$136 million-worth CKD plant for this purpose. With the MCM, we see a great future of the Pakistan-China joint venture in the automobile industry, hopefully growing even stronger with time.

The most prominent and popular features of MCM vehicles are their eye-catching designs and premium facilities. These vehicles provide such facilities at prices that are comparatively less than that of many luxury cars, making it attractive to the majority. The annual production capacity of the plant is 30,000 units. The company has around 32 dealerships all over Pakistan. The Group had an impressive sale of around 3,000 units last year, which is going to gain strength with time. It is expected that it is going to capture a large portion of the market in the country soon. Its pickup vans, which are both cheap and efficient, are quite popular in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP). Car and pickup vans bookings have picked up speed, and demand for dealership is also on the rise. The future seems to be promising for more joint ventures in this sector.

Pakistan is a choice country for Chinese investors, especially after CPEC investment by China, as the almost \$75 billion project can yield wonderful results. The ever-rising demand of automobiles in Pakistan encourages investors from China to invest more in this industry to get maximum benefits of the existing potential. Pakistan can become a window for Chinese auto investors to promote and export products from Pakistan to the rest of the world.

Auto industrial clusters are a significant indicator of a country's economic growth. The industrial chain involves a lot of other industrial outputs starting from raw materials of steel, rubber, oil, etc to full-fledged processing and manufacturing machinery for the final output. While the upstream of this industrial chain involves the ante stated mechanics, the downstream revolves around market, retail and consumer finance.

Chinese automobile cooperation with Pakistan will go a long way in the creation of auto industrial clusters that will ultimately support the economy. Chinese investment in this regard will help establish a matching industry of spare parts with transfer of technology. Once the industry is grown up, logistic costs could be reduced step by step. Greater cooperation with big investment in auto manufacturing is expected from China on the style and pattern of the MCM joint venture, which would definitely provide a big boost to our economic growth and industrial development.





**October 27, 2021**

**Daily Times**

### **China stresses need to strengthen security, counter-terror cooperation with Pakistan**

Chinese President Xi Jinping on Tuesday urged China and Pakistan to build a closer China-Pakistan community with a shared future in the new era.

“During the past 70 years 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,” Xi noted in a phone conversation with Prime Minister Imran Khan. “China and Pakistan have worked together to tackle risks and challenges such as the Covid-19 pandemic, through which strategic mutual trust has been consolidated and strategic cooperation deepened,” he said, adding that history has fully proved that the two countries are each other’s most reliable iron-clad brother.

The Chinese president said the world is undergoing profound changes unseen in a century, with more sources of turbulence and risks around. “Under the new circumstances, the two countries should stand together even more firmly and push forward the all-weather strategic cooperative partnership, and build a closer China-Pakistan community with a shared future in the new era,” he added.

Xi Jinping stressed that 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 the country. “The two sides should maintain close strategic communication, further synergize development strategies and enhance the exchange of governance experience,” he further said. “China will continue to support Pakistan in its fight against Covid-19, jointly build the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor with high quality and strengthen cooperation in such fields as agriculture, digital economy and people’s livelihood,” he went on to say. “We will continue to unleash the positive effects of the corridor in promoting growth and improving people’s wellbeing,” he added.

Xi said the two sides should strengthen counter-terrorism and security cooperation. “China is ready to work with Pakistan to enhance multilateral coordination, practice true multilateralism and promote international fairness and justice, so as to safeguard the common interests of the two countries and maintain world peace and stability,” he added.

Prime Minister Imran Khan congratulated Xi Jinping and congratulated him on the centenary of the Communist Party of China, besides its unprecedented victory in eradicating absolute poverty. He appreciated China’s stellar development in four decades of reforms. The two leaders also felicitated each other on the important milestone of the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Pakistan and China, reviewed the entire gamut of the bilateral strategic cooperative partnership, and discussed regional and international situation. The prime

minister appreciated China's successful containment of the Covid-19 pandemic as well as relief and assistance measures for the developing countries, including the vaccine cooperation with Pakistan.

Taking stock of the negative impact of Covid-19 on the global economy, the two leaders agreed on further strengthening bilateral economic and commercial ties, including full realization of the potential offered by the Phase-II of the China-Pakistan Free Trade Agreement, to overcome the economic headwinds. The prime minister lauded the successful, timely and high-quality implementation of the CPEC projects, and welcomed Chinese investments in the CPEC Special Economic Zones. He underscored that early start of the work on the ML-1 railway project would complement Pakistan's geo-economics vision for national and regional development.

The prime minister also appreciated China's leading role in combating climate change. He briefed President Xi on Pakistan's wide ranging measures for climate change mitigation and adaptation, including the Ten Billion Tree Tsunami initiative.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/834003/china-stresses-need-to-strengthen-security-counter-terror-cooperation-with-pakistan/>

### **Pakistan needs to find ways to expand exports to China: CEN**

China is a huge potential market for Pakistani goods and the country should find ways to continuously expand exports to China to reduce bilateral trade imbalance. Cheng Xizhong, visiting professor at Southwest University of Political Science and Law, stated this in his article published by China Economic Net.

“To reduce the trade imbalance between the two countries, both sides should make efforts and Pakistan needs to find ways to continuously expand exports to China, so as to raise the bilateral trade and economic cooperation to a new level consistent with the strategic relationship between the two countries,” Cheng stated. He said that Pakistan has many favourable conditions for expanding exports to China. First, China and Pakistan enjoy good political and diplomatic relations.

Second, the Protocol of the Second Phase of China Pakistan Free Trade Agreement and its special preferential terms have created very favourable conditions for Pakistani goods to enter China on a large scale. Third, China is a large country with a population of 1.4 billion and a neighbour bordering Pakistan. As long as both sides try all their efforts, China can become a huge market for Pakistani goods. With the all-weather strategic partnership between the countries and the continuous development of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), Sino-Pakistan bilateral trade and economic cooperation has entered a new era.

“If both countries make sustained efforts, I firmly believe that it is entirely possible for the bilateral trade between the two countries to continuously create new highs on the current basis, so that Pakistan can become China's main trading partner in the South Asian subcontinent. I always hope that if Pakistan's exports to China reach the level of China's exports to Pakistan, so

as to achieve a trade balance, the bilateral trade could soon reach more than \$30 billion. If it reaches \$100 billion with several years of efforts, Pakistan will become China's largest trading partner in the South Asian subcontinent". The Chinese scholar suggested that first, Pakistan has many high-quality commodities, such as cotton yarn, textiles, agricultural products, aquatic products, minerals, medical equipment, handicrafts and sports products, etc. The Pakistani government and enterprises should strengthen promotion in the Chinese market by participating in exhibitions and holding exhibitions so that Chinese importers and consumers can better understand the superior Pakistani products. Second, while actively exploring the Chinese market, Pakistan needs to take further measures to improve transportation, product packaging, inspection and quarantine, etc. Third, China and Pakistan need further close cooperation in product design, product R&D, brand, marketing, consulting and other fields.

Fourth, the customs and inspection and quarantine departments of China and Pakistan should strengthen docking to further increase the export of Pakistani agricultural products such as potato, onion, cherry and rice to China.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/834150/pakistan-needs-to-find-ways-to-expand-exports-to-china-cen/>

### **Dawn News**

#### **Dhabeji SEZ expected to generate \$1bn investment: CM's aide**

*Tahir Siddiqui*

KARACHI: Special Assis-tant to the Chief Minister for Investment Department and Public Private Partnership Syed Qasim Naveed Qamar said on Tuesday the Dhabeji Special Economic Zone (SEZ) project was a top priority project under the industrial cooperation phase of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

At a press conference held at the office of Sindh Economic Zones Management Company (SEZMC), he said the provincial government had decided to execute the project through international competitive bidding process under the public-private partnership (PPP) mode.

He said the Dhabeji project was expected to generate \$1 billion in investment and 100,000 direct and indirect jobs. "Now, with the developer being finalised by the PPP Policy Board in its 34th meeting, the construction is expected to start early next year," he said.

The special assistant said the bidding process of this vital project of national interest had been successfully completed strictly in accordance with RFP/SPPRA Rules in a fair and transparent manner.

"The developer will be responsible to provide all the utilities, infrastructure and carry out operations and maintenance in this SEZ to all enterprises at their doorstep," he added.

Mr Qamar said the provincial government had ensured the provision of utilities and direct access connecting both Port Qasim and the National Highway through a dedicated highway which would turn Dhabeji into an economic and commercial hub of industrialisation near Karachi.

He said that provincial and federal governments were committed to spending over Rs12bn on creating an enabling environment with regard to external infrastructure and facilities.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1654292/dhabeji-sez-expected-to-generate-1bn-investment-cms-aide>

### **Pakistan Observer**

#### **Imtiaz Shaikh appreciates work of SECMC at Thar Coal Block-2**

Provincial Energy Minister Imtiaz Shaikh along with a delegation recently visited the Thar Coal Block-2 project.

Talking to the local media representatives, the minister appreciated the work being done at Block-2, while the other members of the delegation also appreciated the Diversity and Inclusion approach of SECMC and pledged support to the company's safety-standards and the employment opportunities it is generating for the local populace.

The minister, also the Chairman of the Sindh Engro Coal Mining Company (SECMC) and the Thar Foundation, was accompanied by Members of Provincial Assembly (MPA) – Qasim Siraj Soomro and Zia Lanjar, while Senator – Gayanchand, Special Assistant to Chief Minister – Veerji Kolhi, and the Deputy Commissioner of Tharparkar – Muhammad Nawaz Soho also graced the occasion.

The Chief Executive Officer of SECMC, Amir Iqbal welcomed the high-level delegation, along with the Vice-President Human-Resources and Administration, Zeshan Khan, Director Site, Zia Haider and the General Manager CSR, Public Affairs & Communications at SECMC, Naseer Memon.

The delegation appreciated the progress on the SECMC Mining Project at Thar Coal Block-2, where they met the diligent Women Dump-Truck Drivers, the Women R.O. Plant Operators and the local Thari engineers and other employees, being professionally trained by SECMC.

They also visited the Thar Foundation Hospital and the Thar Foundation Primary School, established at village Maan Singh Bheel, where the delegation distributed certificates among the best students.

The extensive Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) work by SECMC was also appreciated, along with the efforts for resettlement of displaced people.

<https://pakobserver.net/imtiaz-shaikh-appreciates-work-of-secmc-at-thar-coal-block-2/>

#### **Imran, Xi agree to further strengthen bilateral ties Call on world to provide immediate aid to Afghanistan**

Prime Minister Imran Khan and Chinese President Xi Jinping on Tuesday agreed to further strengthen bilateral economic and commercial ties, including the full realisation of the potential offered by the Phase-II of the China-Pakistan Free Trade Agreement

During the telephonic conversation, the two leaders also agreed to increase Pakistan-China cooperation in the relevant areas and to promote CPEC's green development as a high-quality demonstration of the Belt and Road Initiative.

PM Imran Khan congratulated President Xi on the centenary of the Communist Party of China, the unprecedented victory in the Chinese people's battle to eradicate absolute poverty, and appreciated China's stellar development in four decades of reform and opening up.

The two leaders also felicitated each other on the important milestone of the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Pakistan and China, reviewed the entire gamut of the bilateral strategic cooperative partnership, and discussed the regional and international situation.

The prime minister appreciated China's successful containment of the Covid-19 pandemic as well as relief and assistance measures for the developing countries, including the vaccine cooperation with Pakistan, a statement from the PM Office read.

Taking stock of the negative impact of Covid-19 on the global economy, the two leaders agreed on further strengthening bilateral economic and commercial ties, including the full realisation of the potential offered by the Phase-II of the China-Pakistan Free Trade Agreement, to overcome the economic headwinds.

PM Imran Khan welcomed Chinese investments in the CPEC Special Economic Zones, underscoring that an early start of work on the ML-1 railway project will complement Pakistan's geo-economics vision for national and regional development.

According to the statement, he appreciated China's "leading role in combating climate change" and briefed President Xi on Pakistan's wide-ranging measures for climate change mitigation and adaptation, including the Ten Billion Tree Tsunami initiative.

PM Khan stressed the need to continue with the momentum of high-level exchanges to further diversify "All-Weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership" between the two countries, the statement read, adding that the premier renewed his invitation to President Xi to visit Pakistan at his early convenience.

On the occasion, both the leaders have called on the international community to provide immediate humanitarian and economic assistance to the people of Afghanistan to alleviate their suffering, prevent instability and flight of people, as well as continued engagement for the rebuilding of the country.

<https://pakobserver.net/imran-xi-agree-to-further-strengthen-bilateral-ties-call-on-world-to-provide-immediate-aid-to-afghanistan/>



## **CPEC project transparent, carries no hidden debt: Asad**

Federal Planning and Development Minister Asad Umar said that misinformation was spread about the CPEC loan and clarified that the Chinese debt is only 26 percent of the total external liabilities of Pakistan.

Asad Umar was talking to media persons in Islamabad on Tuesday. He said that CPEC-related projects are transparent and carry no hidden debt.

Reacting to a recent report of an American think tank on CPEC, he said details about the corridor project have been shared on multiple occasions including at the level of parliament. There is also a parliamentary oversight on this mega project, he added.

Asad Umar said the terms of debt financing for power projects executed under the CPEC is actually more favorable than the non-CPEC financing which had come in from other multilateral agencies.

He said the loans which were taken by the government were also at the concessional rate of two percent.

He said China has also provided grants to execute different CPEC related projects. Asad Umar said that a vocational training institute has been established in Gwadar with the Chinese grant.

Asad Umar said fake news is spread against the corridor project in order to spread despondency amongst the people and give a wrong impression to the world about Pakistan.

<https://pakobserver.net/cpec-project-transparent-carries-no-hidden-debt-asad/>

## **CPEC & Pakistan Agriculture Productivity**

*Dr Mehmood Ul Hassan Khan*

CHINA-Pakistan partnership can be a role model of successful agricultural cooperation for the cooperation with other countries in South Asia and Central Asia in the future in which CPEC can play an important role.

In this connection, China has opened up its own market for Pakistani agricultural products like rice and fish and also promised to assist Pakistan in the acquisition of modern agricultural technologies and in marketing of its Halal food products across the region.

According to official statistics (December 2020) China agreed to provide technical assistance for 13 mega projects of Pakistan's agriculture sector.

These include setting up mega storage facilities and designated processing zones for different crops across Pakistan and setting up a large-scale dairy farming and processing unit in Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa as a Pakistan-China joint venture.

Most recently Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Zhao Lijian assured that with the start of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) phase-II more Chinese agricultural technologies would be attractive in the Pakistan local market.

During his regular briefing he highlighted that China-Pakistan cooperation has revolutionized cultivation of rice, corn, soybean, sugarcane and other crops and play an important role in further strengthening and deepening of bilateral relations.

According to a recently published research study, there exists immense potential for bilateral cooperation between Pakistan and China in production, processing and value addition of tropical fruits like banana, coconut, papaya and pineapple besides tropical oil crops like palm oil and tropical bio-fuel crops like king grass which should be further systematically streamlined and strengthened under the flagship project of CPEC.

In this connection, while launching Kisan Portal the Prime Minister Imran Khan urged that farmers in Pakistan must replicate Chinese techniques to boost productivity.

He also upheld that the agricultural sector had been made an integral part of the second phase of CPEC.

Responding to PM Khan's remarks, Zhao Lijian said: "As the CPEC enters the second phase, there will be more Chinese agricultural technologies flowing into Pakistan which means huge potential in our agricultural cooperation.

He further pledged that agricultural cooperation was an integral part of CPEC which is an important pilot project of the Belt & Road Initiative.

He assured that China will continue to uphold the Silk Road spirit of peace and cooperation, openness, inclusiveness, mutual learning and mutual benefit.

On its part, Minister for National Food Security and Research Syed Fakhar Imam has also underscored the importance of adopting Chinese technology for abundant agricultural outcomes.

During a World Food Day (WFD) the Agricultural Minister upheld that Pakistan can be successful like China by adopting their technology and discipline.

He shared that the standard of research will improve through the CPEC leading to an increase in cotton production.

He said that the recent steps taken by the government would help achieve the target of 8.46 million cotton bales citing that production of 3.8 million bales was recorded last month.

During another online workshop, organised by the Chinese Academy of Tropical Agricultural Sciences (CATAS) and the University of Agriculture Faisalabad the Minister highlighted achievements of Chinese tropical farming and termed it important for Pakistan to excel in this field.

He was optimistic about enhancing government-to-government cooperation as well as joint ventures between private companies to boost agricultural output and value addition of products under the flagship CPEC project.

The Chinese Academy and Chinese government have already shared king grass germ-palms, which would help produce biomass fuel and execute the “Tropical Economic Palm Production Technology in Pakistan” project.

In this connection, according to the CPEC long-term plan (2017-30) China will upgrade practical rural infrastructure construction in some regions involved.

It will encourage the development and remediation of medium and low-yielding land, as well as the construction of water-saving modern agricultural zones, to maximize resource efficiency.

Moreover, it will improve the efficiency of drip irrigation technology. In the regions along the CPEC, strengthen cooperation in fields such as crop farming, livestock breeding, forestry and food production, and aquatic and fisheries.

Last but not the least, China will improve agricultural post-harvest handling, storage, and transportation, as well as marketing and sales models.

Thus a policy framework already exists between China and Pakistan which should be included and implemented in CPEC Phase-II in the country.

Time and again China has shown interest in Pakistani agriculture through CPEC because it has to spend billions of dollars every year on importing agricultural commodities from other far-reaching countries to meet the food needs of 1.3 billion people.

Under the CPEC, China will have access to Pakistani agriculture, allowing it to benefit from Pakistan’s best agricultural products at a lower cost. Moreover, there is enormous potential for China and Pakistan to cooperate in energy, animal husbandry, cold water fish, agricultural machinery, etc.

Comprehensive agricultural projects on a village or regional scale will prolong the industry chain and bring more benefits to Pakistani people,” Most recently the Chinese government unveiled a plan for the green development of the country’s agricultural sector over the next five years.

The plan, jointly issued by six departments including the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, identified resource protection, pollution control, restoration of agricultural ecology and the development of a low-carbon agricultural industrial chain as the key tasks for the 14th Five-Year Plan period (2021-2025) which would be replicated in CPEC agricultural & food security projects especially in its phase-II in the country.

Agriculture has been a significant driver of China’s economic growth and poverty reduction over the past four decades.

China has comprehensive plans to initiate concepts of “green” in the agriculture sector and promote sustainable agriculture more widely which should also be simulated in the Pakistan agriculture sector under CPEC project.

Sustainable agricultural practice such as the adoption of technologies that generate less pollution and utilize land and water resources more sustainably, the use of crop varieties that are more resilient to effects of climate change, or the use of more efficient infrastructure must be integrated and institutionalized in Pakistan’s agricultural sector under CPEC Phase-II projects.

Being a prominent regional expert of China, CPEC & BRI, I would suggest that the public-private sector of both sides should be included in the further strengthening of China-Pakistan agriculture cooperation under the flagship projects of CPEC.

Banking industries of both sides should extend cooperation to provide essential financial funds to make investments in modern farming technologies on easy loans.

There is an urgent need to form Corridor of Knowledge among all the agricultural universities and research centres of both sides to introduce concepts of green in the agricultural sector in the days to come.

In this regard, the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (CAAS) has released a plan for promoting key subjects during the 14th Five-Year Plan period (2021-2025) to enhance the country’s agricultural sci-tech innovation.

It includes food security, nutrition and health, cultivated-land conservation, disease prevention and control, green development, intelligent agricultural machinery, basic research, frontier and interdisciplinary research, data resources and regional development which should be applied on ongoing and future projects of CPEC in Pakistan.

<https://pakobserver.net/cpec-pakistan-agriculture-productivity-by-dr-mehmood-ul-hassan-khan/>

## **CPEC – Conspiracies and Dangers**

*Tariq Khalil*

THERE have been a lot of high level meetings with regard to CEPC threats. Let’s examine reality. About seven years ago when the CEPC agreement was inked formally, I had written, based on my experience, warning that although the agreement is signed, there will be multiple threats ahead. It will not be well received, that there will be political, strategic and economic factors driving the opponents of this project. With the passage of time these threats did materialize.

I postulated that CEPC is not going to be an easy going project. Gwadar highway and port are going to be a sore point in the eyes of those who will not like Pakistan to develop.

For the simple reason it hits the strategic interests of Americans, Europeans, including India and for that matter economically, the Gulf States.

Gulf States from the last 50 years have been enjoying monopolistic sway in the region.

Though the states call themselves Muslims states but their interests are multidimensional and they only care for business and interests.

With their permissiveness in society they have permitted the freedom to Westerners to do whatever they like. Dubai, Abu Dhabi and other cities have been developed on the same pattern.

The cities offer free movement of foreign currencies and workers are the hub of transit trade. This suited Americans and Europeans who were in need of midway stations available for international trade between the West and Far East.

It also attracted many Indians, Iranians and Pakistanis to invest in the cities being the safe heavens to dump money and ill gotten wealth.

The result, these countries including Pakistan saw the drainage of the resources to these cities.

These became hubs of transfer of funds, to safe havens in the West; the invested funds are then converted into real estate. They offered jobs, mostly lower level and middle level, to Pakistanis and others in return.

There is no doubt the prosperity of these states is a direct result of the money drained from regional countries mostly, Iran, India and Pakistan.

In the fifties/ sixties Karachi used to be a transit hub but all vanished due to flow of this money and in seventies onward ethnic policies of then government human migration and out flow of funds increased.

There is no doubt the CPEC route offers China a saving of thousands of kilometres of sea route through the Indian oceans and South China Sea.

The sea route remains seriously threatened by the USA and its allies. They are in a position to threaten the Chinese trade in case of conflict. They are interfering in the international waters.

The formation of QUAD AND NOW AUKUS is a direct effort to contain China. The case of nuclear submarine, space violations by US fighter aircraft is the case in hand. How situation can develop and conflict initiated.

CPEC offers tremendous economic benefits to China, Pakistan and Central Asia including Russia.

CPEC is part of the greater plan of BRI. Therefore there should be no doubt that every effort will be made by these powers to disrupt and sabotage CPEC.

To achieve these objectives these powers have been using multiple methods and strategies, i.e. from military force options, shadowy actions supported by hybrid Warfare and even under cover actions. Fake propaganda is presently at peak.

CPEC success is the key for the prosperity of Pakistan, BRI and the region in general.

Security is a multi-dimensional issue. There are elements within Pakistan who are always ready to play cards of these powers for their narrow political interests.

Then, the funding and active support to nationalist forces is not hidden by anti CPEC. Growing above and subversive activities are indicative of their activities.

In Balochistan, we face not only BLA but splinter groups. Lately rural Sindh is rife with subversive activity which is directly supported by India.

There is renewed tension on the India-China border where the PLA is establishing forward positions. China claims Ladakh is now a sovereignty issue and so is the area of Arunachal Pradesh.

China is well prepared to change the character of war from conventional to IT based and use celestial communications, whereas General Naravane is sticking to conventional boots on ground. India considers Gilgit-Baltistan of Pakistan and Ladakh are in conflict one war sector.

Thus in case of conflict moving from grey to red, CPEC will be under threat of attack. Similarly, financial pressure is increasing, and the IMF's 'do more mantra' is a clear signal. Dollar vs. Pak Rupee parity going down is another signal.

Incognito elements that are not even in Parliament and all under investigation are being encouraged by way of giving them time. Normally it is against diplomatic norms.

Fake news stories are being spread as inflation is only Pakistan-specific problem and CPEC being made a target.

It is, therefore, important to tighten the lower and upper bureaucracy to improve governance.

English newspapers do give coverage to CPEC but mainstream Urdu and regional media lack the drive to inform masses of the progress being made.

Similarly, social media is an important vehicle to keep masses informed. Progress on different segments be regularly informed through this media, working under CPEC Authority.

Similarly people be informed why there is delay in the Karachi-Lahore CPEC railway project.

It must be given the highest importance. It is not only a relief to the masses but has strategic and economic benefits. It must be initiated immediately. CPEC physical security requirements vary region wise from Gwadar, Punjab and KPK.

May be integrated (Ground, Air and Sea), CPEC Command created if not already there.

<https://pakobserver.net/cpec-conspiracies-and-dangers-by-tariq-khalil/>

### **The Express Tribune**

#### **Imran stresses early start of work on ML-1**

PM speaks with Chinese President Xi, welcomes Chinese investment in SEZs



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Imran Khan stressed on Tuesday that the early start of work on the Main Line (ML)-1 railway project would complement Pakistan's geo-economics vision for national and regional development.

Prime Minister Imran spoke with Chinese President Xi Jinping by telephone and welcomed Chinese investments in the special economic zones established under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), the Prime Minister's Office said in a statement.

During the conversation, the prime minister "underscored that early start of work on the ML-1 railway project would complement Pakistan's geo-economics vision for national and regional development", the statement said.

Both sides agreed to further strengthen bilateral economic and commercial ties, including fully realising the potential offered by the Phase-II of the China-Pakistan Free Trade Agreement to overcome economic headwinds, it added.

Imran congratulated President Xi on the centenary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) and the unprecedented victory of the Chinese people in the battle to eradicate poverty, and appreciated China's stellar development in four decades of reform and opening up.

"The Prime Minister lauded the successful, timely and high-quality implementation of the CPEC projects, and welcomed Chinese investments in the CPEC Special Economic Zones," Prime Minister Imran also appreciated China's leading role in combating climate change," the statement said.

Imran briefed Xi on Pakistan's wide-ranging measures for climate change mitigation and adaptation, including the Ten Billion Tree Tsunami Initiative. The two leaders agreed to strengthen bilateral cooperation in the relevant areas and to promote CPEC's green development.

The press release further stated that the prime minister appreciated China's successful containment of the Covid-19 pandemic as well as relief and assistance measures for the developing countries, including the vaccine cooperation with Pakistan.

"The two leaders also felicitated each other on the important milestone of the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Pakistan and China, reviewed the entire gamut of the bilateral strategic cooperative partnership, and discussed the regional and international situation."

Regarding Afghanistan, both leaders called on the international community to provide immediate humanitarian and economic assistance to the Afghan people to alleviate their suffering, prevent instability and flight of people, as well as continued engagement for the rebuilding of the country.

Imran stressed the need for continuing with the momentum of high-level exchanges to further diversify "all-weather strategic cooperative partnership" between the two countries. Imran renewed his invitation to President Xi to visit Pakistan at his earliest convenience.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2326461/imran-stresses-early-start-of-work-on-ml-1>

## **China a huge potential market for Pakistan**

### **Expert calls for reducing trade imbalance by making joint efforts**

BEIJING: Pakistan's exports to China posted a growth of 69.73% to \$559.15 million in July-September this year, according to the latest report of the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP).

Under the pandemic situation, this is really a remarkable achievement, said Cheng Xizhong, Visiting Professor at Southwest University of Political Science and Law.

For many years, there has been a huge imbalance in bilateral trade between China and Pakistan.

In 2020, the trade volume between the two countries was \$17.49 billion, of which China exported goods valuing at \$15.37 billion to Pakistan and Pakistan only exported goods worth \$2.12 billion to China. During the period from July to September 2021, China exported \$4.01 billion worth of goods to Pakistan.

To reduce the trade imbalance between the two countries, he said, both sides should make efforts and Pakistan needs to find ways to continuously expand exports to China, so as to raise the bilateral trade and economic cooperation to a new level consistent with the strategic relationship between the two countries.

“Pakistan has many favourable conditions for expanding exports to China,” he said.

First, China and Pakistan enjoy good political and diplomatic relations.

Second, the protocol of the second phase of China-Pakistan Free Trade Agreement and its special preferential terms have created very favourable conditions for Pakistani goods to enter China on a large scale.

Third, China is a large country with a population of 1.4 billion and a neighbour bordering Pakistan. As long as both sides try all their efforts, China can become a huge market for Pakistani goods.

With the all-weather strategic partnership between the countries and the continuous development of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), Sino-Pakistan bilateral trade and economic cooperation has entered a new era, he said.

“If both countries make sustained efforts, I firmly believe that it is entirely possible for bilateral trade between the two countries to continuously create new highs, so that Pakistan can become China's main trading partner in the South Asian subcontinent,” said Cheng.

“I always hope that if Pakistan's exports to China reach the level of China's exports to Pakistan, so as to achieve a trade balance, the bilateral trade could soon reach more than \$30 billion. If it reaches \$100 billion with several years of efforts, Pakistan will become China's largest trading partner in the South Asian subcontinent,” he added.

To this end, Cheng suggested that first, Pakistan has many high-quality commodities, such as cotton yarn, textiles, agricultural products, aquatic products, minerals, medical equipment, handicrafts and sports products.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2326541/china-a-huge-potential-market-for-pakistan>

## **Work on Dhabeji SEZ to begin in 2022**

### **Project to generate \$1b in investment, 100,000 jobs**

KARACHI: The development of Dhabeji Special Economic Zone (SEZ) will kick start earlier next year and the scheme is likely to generate \$1 billion in investment, said Special Assistant to Chief Minister Sindh on Investment and Public-Private Partnership Syed Qasim Naveed Qamar.

In a press conference on Tuesday, Qamar said that the project will create 100,000 direct and indirect employment opportunities as well. He announced that the government of Sindh had issued a letter of award (LOA) to a private contractor for Dhabeji SEZ project.

“Russian and Chinese investors showed far higher interest in the SEZ than the expectations of the government,” he said.

Qamar emphasised on creating job opportunities in the country to improve economic conditions which had deteriorated on the back of persistent uptick in inflation.

“Mega projects such as Dhabeji SEZ will definitely create higher amount of jobs,” he cherished.

He highlighted that the SEZ was a priority project under the industrial cooperation phase of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

The government of Sindh decided to execute the scheme through international competitive bidding process under public-private partnership (PPP) mode.

The PPP board, in its 34th meeting, finalised the developer for Dhabeji SEZ, he said, adding that the bidding process was completed in a fair and transparent manner in accordance with the rules of Sindh Public Procurement Regulatory Authority.

The developer, which was finalised based on higher value for money, would be responsible to provide all utilities, build infrastructure and carry out operations and maintenance in the SEZ.

Qamar mentioned that the government of Sindh had ensured provision of utilities and direct access by connecting Port Qasim and National Highway through a dedicated route, which would make Dhabeji an economic and commercial hub of industrialisation near Karachi.

Provincial and federal governments are committed to spend over Rs12 billion to create an enabling environment with regard to external infrastructure and facilities.

He further added that a consortium of consultants – EY Ford Rhodes, EA Consulting and RIAA Law – was engaged through a competitive process for developer’s solicitation of the SEZ.

He said that Sindh Economic Zones Management Company (SEZMC), under Section 42 of the Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan, was authorised by the provincial government to develop and manage Dhabeji SEZ to strengthen the industrial base of Sindh.

Sindh Investment Department Secretary Bilal Ahmed said that the special economic zone was of immense importance for Pakistan, especially Sindh.

He was of the view that all the other industrial areas in Karachi such as Korangi Industrial Area, SITE industrial Area were oversaturated.

SEZMC Chief Executive Officer Abdul Azeem Uqaili highlighted that the second-phase of CPEC was about industrial cooperation and Dhabeji SEZ was built under this phase. The project would restore industrialisation in the surrounding area of Karachi, he said, adding that the zone would create around 200,000 jobs either directly or indirectly.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2326551/work-on-dhabeji-sez-to-begin-in-2022>

### **Nawaiwaqt News**

#### **پاکستان، چین اقتصادی تعلقات مزید منصوبے بنانے پر اتفاق**

اسلام آباد (نوائے وقت رپورٹ + آئی این پی) وزیر اعظم عمران خان نے چین کے صدر شی جن پنگ سے ٹیلی فونک رابطہ کر کے انہیں چینی کمیونسٹ پارٹی کی صد سالہ تقریب پر مبارکباد دی۔ وزیر اعظم آفس کے مطابق عمران خان اور شی جن پنگ میں علاقائی اور بین الاقوامی صورتحال پر تبادلہ خیال کیا گیا اور پاک چین سٹریٹجک تعاون پر مبنی شراکت داری کے تمام پہلوؤں کا جائزہ لیا گیا۔ جبکہ وزیر اعظم نے غربت کے خاتمے کی جنگ میں بے مثال نفع، اصلاحات اور چین کی شاندار ترقی کو سراہا۔ وزیر اعظم عمران خان نے کرونا کے خلاف چین کے اقدامات کی تعریف کی۔ وزیر اعظم آفس کے مطابق دونوں رہنماؤں نے افغانستان کی تازہ صورتحال اور بین الاقوامی صورتحال پر بھی بات چیت کی۔ وزیر اعظم اور چینی صدر نے مختلف شعبوں میں تعاون سمیت پاک چین اقتصادی اور تجارتی تعلقات کو مزید مضبوط بنانے پر اتفاق کیا۔ وزیر اعظم نے سی پیک میں چینی سرمایہ کاروں کی دلچسپی کا خیر مقدم کیا۔ وزیر اعظم آفس کے مطابق وزیر اعظم عمران خان نے چینی صدر کو جلد دورہ پاکستان کی بھی دعوت دی ہے۔ دونوں رہنماؤں نے پاکستان چین دوستی کے 70 سال مکمل ہونے پر ایک دوسرے کو مبارکباد بھی دی۔ وزیر اعظم عمران خان اور برطانوی شہزادہ چارلس میں ٹیلی فونک رابطہ ہوا۔ برطانوی سفارتخانے کے مطابق دونوں رہنماؤں نے موسمیاتی تبدیلی سے متعلق عالمی تعاون بڑھانے پر اتفاق کیا۔ پرنس آف ویلز نے 10 بلین ٹری منصوبے پر وزیر اعظم کو مبارکباد دی۔ شہزادہ چارلس نے افغانستان کی موجودہ صورتحال پر بھی تبادلہ خیال کیا۔ عمران خان نے ازبکستان کے صدر کو ٹیلی فون کیا ہے۔ اعلامیہ کے مطابق وزیر اعظم نے ازبک صدر کو دوسری بار منتخب ہونے پر مبارکباد دی۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/lahore/2021-10-27/page-1/detail-23>

**October 28, 2021**

**Daily Times**

**Pakistan attends mooton 50th anniversary of restoration of PRC seat in UN**

Center for Global and Strategic Studies (CGSS) organized an Online International Conference on 26th Oct 2021 to celebrate the “50th Anniversary of Restoration of Lawful Seat of the Peoples’ Republic of China in the United Nations”.

Renowned Analysts and Experts from Pakistan and China addressed the conference, Gwadar Pro reported on Wednesday. In his welcoming address, Ambassador of People’s Republic of China to Pakistan Nong Rong said that through joint efforts of Pakistan and China, we will witness more progress in our bilateral ties and a stronger partnership in the international arena.

Nong Rong also mentioned that China and Pakistan have stayed together to overcome many obstacles. “Together we have prospered and achieved many milestones”, he added. Riaz Khokhar, Former Foreign Secretary of Pakistan, discussed President stated that China has greatly contributed to solving the key issues being faced by global community including climate change, the pandemic, etc.

Senator Mushahid Hussain, Chairman, Senate Defense Committee and Former Minister of Information and Broadcasting, said China was an engine of world’s economic growth. He stated that China is at a peaceful rise and it is rising in fields of technology, artificial intelligence and many more.

Hassan Daud Butt, Chief Executive Officer, KP-Board of Investment and Trade, discussed China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), a Corridor with bright prospects and multiple opportunities. He stated that China provides an open pathway for global economic development through projects like the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).

Dr. Iram Khalid, Chairperson, Department of Political Science and International Relations, University of the Punjab, Lahore, praised China’s efforts in strengthening vaccine cooperation against COVID-19. She suggested to establish a shared health policy for the global community. Dr. Zahid Anwar, Dean of the School of Social Sciences and Director of the China Study Centre, University of Peshawar, said BRI could bring win-win cooperation for China and other countries.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/834304/pakistan-attends-mooton-50th-anniversary-of-restoration-of-prc-seat-in-un/>

**Pakistan eyes Chinese cooperation to enhance e-commerce market**

The Commercial Counselor of Pakistan Embassy in Beijing, Badaruz Zaman said that with the growing 4G and 5G internet accessibility, the Pakistani e-commerce market is going upward very fast, while Pakistan is looking for Chinese enterprises to explore the opportunities in the e-commerce industry in Pakistan, reports China Economic Net.

Addressing the participants of the Pakistan Investment Forum and the Cross-border E-commerce Business Negotiation Conference here, he said, “We need to attract the Chinese e-commerce application, developers, e-commerce payment solutions providers, and insurance companies so that we can develop a complete environment where e-commerce transactions can increase”, he mentioned.

While talking to China Economic Net, he said that the delivery services area was also discussed in detail with the Chinese enterprises, of which many showed interest.” We are facing a shortage of goods delivery services. If these services are introduced by China, like SF Express, ZTO, and other companies that are very efficient here so we good enhance our e-commerce and supplies chain industry.

Badaruz Zaman explained the investment-friendly policies of the Pakistan government and strong consumer demand in the Pakistan market. He said that they could start a business very quickly in the special economic zones and industrial zones in Pakistan.

He further said that in Pakistan, around 186 million cellular subscribers, and now people are switching towards smartphones. Many applications are coming up, but still, Pakistan needs Chinese support to improve this sector.” Eleven-eleven (Nov. 11th) is a big day for the e-commerce industry in China. I was also going through the internet and I saw that even the Daraz.com and other Pakistani e-commerce companies are also offering a lot of discounts on 11-11. I hope one day Pakistan have such kind of supply chain in the e-commerce sector”, he stated.

On the conference, the investors also signed agreements with Pakistani commodities exporters.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/834301/pakistan-eyes-chinese-cooperation-to-enhance-e-commerce-market/>

## **Pakistan Observer**

### **Strategies needed to counter CPEC disinformation**

Pakistan-China Institute organized a first-of-its-kind Webinar on “CPEC: Fact vs. Fiction” under its flagship event series, “Friends of Silk Road (FOSR)”. The Webinar was attended by over 60 participants online.

The conference chalked out a comprehensive strategy to debunk the myths being created through disinformation campaigns against CPEC.

Moreover, it initiated discourse on the opportunities and challenges that CPEC is facing currently and provided recommendations on dealing with those challenges and utilising the opportunities.

In his keynote speech, Sher Ali Arbab, Chairman Parliamentary Committee on CPEC highlighted the role of parliament in shaping positive public opinion on CPEC through public interaction.

While commenting on the pace of CPEC projects, he lauded the work on CPEC Phase One which bridged the infrastructure gap and made energy shortage a relic of the past.



He termed CPEC Phase-II a catalyst for industrial overhaul and called for the inclusion of Afghanistan, Iran, and Turkey into CPEC.

Tehmina Janjua, Former Foreign Secretary of Pakistan, recalled the quote of President Xi Jinping during Prime Minister Imran Khan's visit to China in 2019 i.e "No matter how the international and regional situation changes, the friendship between China and Pakistan will always be unbreakable and rock-solid."

This webinar lasted for 2 hours, with a 45 minute Q & A session. A diverse audience of students, scholars, media and the corporate sector including Chinese companies took an active part in the webinar.

<https://pakobserver.net/strategies-needed-to-counter-cpec-disinformation/>

### **Sindh signs agreement with Turkey, Chinese firms for bus project**

The Sindh government has signed an agreement with Turkey and Chinese companies to run 250 buses on roads.

The ambassadors of Turkey, China and Sindh's Transport Minister Awais Shah attended a ceremony of signing the agreement.

The government has given eight billion rupees to the transport department for the project in a very difficult time, Awais Shah speaking on the occasion said.

"It is the first project of 250 intercity buses, while another agreement for 150 will also be finalized soon," the provincial minister added.

"It is a maiden positive step in the public transport sector in Karachi," he further said. He vowed to provide better travel facilities to Karachi and other cities of Sindh.

Awais Qadir Shah in a Sindh cabinet meeting in April this year briefed that his department would procure 250 Diesel Hybrid Electric Buses under the Sindh Intra-District People Bus Service project.

He told the cabinet that these buses would operate in Karachi, Hyderabad, Sukkur, Larkana, Mirpurkhas and Shaheed Benazirabad.

The Mass Transit department has hired a professional consultant and the project would cost Rs 8 billion, the minister told the meeting. The cabinet approved the proposal and gave go-ahead to the Transport department to procure the buses.

<https://pakobserver.net/sindh-signs-agreement-with-turkey-chinese-firms-for-bus-project/>

## **The Nation**

### **50 years in the UN: China true to its aspirations**

Nong Rong

On October 25, Chinese President Xi Jinping addressed the Conference marking the 50th Anniversary of the Restoration of the Lawful Seat of the People's Republic of China in the United Nations, saying that "The restoration of New China's lawful seat in the United Nations was a momentous event for the world and the United Nations. It came as the result of joint efforts of all peace-loving countries that stood up for justice in the world."

Five decades ago, the 26th session of the UN General Assembly adopted Resolution 2758, deciding to restore all the rights to the People's Republic of China and to recognise the representatives of its government as the only legitimate representatives of China to the UN. It was a victory for justice and fairness in the world. Over the past 50 years, China has firmly adhered to the purposes and principles of the UN Charter, and gradually participated in a wide range of issues in UN affairs. Now China has become the largest contributor of peacekeepers among the permanent members of the UN Security Council. China has actively engaged in South-South cooperation and North-South dialogue, making efforts for world sustainable development. China has joined almost all universal inter-governmental organisations and many international treaties.

Chairman Mao Zedong once said, it was our fellow developing countries that "carried" the People's Republic of China into the United Nations. Ever since, China has acted in the same spirit by firmly upholding the legitimate rights and interests of developing countries, and speaking up for the developing world. Whether in the past, at present, or in the future, China is committed to standing together with the developing countries. China's vote in the United Nations is always for the well-being of developing countries, and for the justice of the entire world.

In particular, China will not forget that Pakistan made significant contributions to restoring China's legitimate seat in the United Nations, and helped China to break through the diplomatic blockade of the Western countries. The coverage of that historical moment appeared on the front pages of many Pakistan's newspapers, in which the joy that Pakistan has shared equally with China so spontaneously on bearing of the massive favourable voting is still fresh. And there is a Pakistani veteran journalist named Ali, who has witnessed and covered the story half a century ago. When recalling the memory, he said, "I have never seen such resounding applause in my life".

Over the past 70 years, despite the changing international and domestic landscapes, China and Pakistan have firmly stood together, overcome numerous difficulties and obstacles, and delivered remarkable outcomes in bilateral cooperation. History has proven time and again, that China and Pakistan are ironclad friends sharing weal and woe. A high degree of mutual trust, mutual

assistance, seeking peace and promoting development together are the most distinctive features of China-Pakistan relations, and the underlying rationale of our ironclad friendship.

Looking forward to the future, as President Xi said in his recent call with Prime Minister Imran Khan, China and Pakistan should stand together more firmly, advance our all-weather strategic cooperative partnership and build an even closer China-Pakistan community with a shared future in the new era. On the world stage, our two countries should enhance coordination, practice true multilateralism, promote international equity and justice, safeguard common interests and world peace and stability.

To this aim, President Xi Jinping solemnly proposed the Global Development Initiative. This major initiative has set out a blueprint for the development of countries and international development cooperation, and pointed the way forward for global development and international development cooperation. We are ready to work with Pakistan to set an example for implementing the Global Development Initiative, to improve global governance, and to jointly promote the building of a community with a shared future for mankind.

<https://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2021-10-28/page-6/detail-0>

### **BOI to facilitate Chinese firms for participation in Industrial Expo**

ISLAMABAD - The Board of Investment, Islamabad, will join hands with Pakistan China Center, China-SCO Local Economic and Trade Cooperation Demonstration Area (SCODA), and Everest International Expo Pvt. Ltd, to facilitate over one hundred top industrial Chinese companies which will be participating in the Pakistan Industrial Expo 2021 being organised both online and offline in Lahore on 29th October 2021.

Chinese and Pakistan companies participating in the Expo will showcase their products during the Expo i.e., mainly CNC (Computer Numerical Control) machinery, construction machinery, new energy, building material, agricultural machinery, plastic machinery, hardware, chemical, auto-parts, etc.

The newly appointed Honorary Investment Counsellor (HIC) of Pakistan, who is also the Deputy Head of Pakistan Centre in SCODA, stated that he is glad to join hands with BOI in this meaningful event, and is looking forward to promoting B2B collaboration. He informed that organizers are looking forward to get some impactful MoUs signed in the manufacturing sector with the provinces of Shandong, Henan, and Punjab.

Asim Ayub, Project Director, CPEC Industrial Cooperation of BOI, while expressing his views during a preparatory video conference with Wang Zihai, the Executive Director of Pakistan China Center, state that this format for organizing the Expo is the optimal possible solution to ameliorate the impact of COVID-19.

During the online conference, he stated Pakistan has immense investment potential in the manufacturing sector of Pakistan and BOI is undertaking rigorous efforts to facilitate bilateral

investment cooperation between Pakistan and China and BOI is always one step ahead to facilitate and promote any given activity related business and investment.

<https://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2021-10-28/page-8/detail-3>

## K2 Daily

بقیہ 30

نگھو کرتے ہوئے انہوں نے کہا کہ ڈیجیٹل سروسز کے شعبے پر بھی چینی کاروباری اداروں کے ساتھ تکنیکی بات چیت ہوئی جس میں بہت سے لوگوں نے دلچسپی ظاہر کی۔ ہمیں سامان کیلئے ڈیجیٹل سروسز کی کامیابی کا سامنا ہے۔ اگر یہ سروسز چین کی طرف سے حصارف کردہائی جاتی ہیں، جیسے SF ایکسپریس، ZTO، اور دیگر کمپنیاں جو یہاں بہت موثر ہیں، تو ہم اپنی ای کامرس اور سپلائی چین کی صنعت کو بہتر بنا سکتے ہیں۔ ہر اڑان نے حکومت پاکستان کی سرمایہ کار دوست پالیسیوں اور پاکستانی مارکیٹ میں صارفین کی مشہور ماگک کی وضاحت کی۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ وہ پاکستان میں خصوصی اقتصادی زونز اور صنعتی زونز میں بہت تیزی سے کاروبار شروع کر سکتے ہیں۔ ان کا مزید کہنا تھا کہ پاکستان میں تقریباً 186 ملین بیلار صارفین ہیں اور اب لوگ اسمارٹ فونز کی طرف بڑھ رہے ہیں۔ بہت سی ایپلی کیشنز آ رہی ہیں لیکن پھر بھی پاکستان کو اس شعبے میں بہتری کے لیے چینی تعاون کی ضرورت ہے۔ گیارہ گیارہ (11) نومبر (مکن میں ای کامرس انٹرنیٹ کے لیے ایک بڑا دن ہوتا ہے۔ میں بھی انٹرنیٹ کے ذریعے جا رہا تھا اور میں نے دیکھا کہ Daraz.com اور دیگر پاکستانی ای کامرس کمپنیاں بھی 11 نومبر پر بہت چھوٹ چڑھ کر رہی ہیں مجھے امید ہے کہ ایک دن پاکستان میں ای کامرس کے شعبے میں اس قسم کی سپلائی چین ہوگی۔ کانفرنس کے موقع پر سرمایہ کاروں نے پاکستانی ایشیا کے برآمد کنندگان کے ساتھ معاہدوں پر دستخط کیے۔

پاکستان ای کامرس مارکیٹ میں تیزی سے ترقی کر رہی ہے، بدالزمان

چینی سرمایہ کار پاکستان میں صنعتی زونز میں کاروبار شروع کر سکتے ہیں

ای کامرس مارکیٹ کے فروغ کیلئے پاکستان کی توجہ چینی تعاون پر مرکوز ہے

بیجنگ (آئی این ٹی) بیجنگ میں پاکستانی سٹارٹ اپس کے کوششوں کو فروغ دینے کے لیے کہا کہ 4G اور 5G انٹرنیٹ کی ترقی ہوئی سہولت کے ساتھ پاکستانی ای کامرس مارکیٹ بہت تیزی سے اوپر کی طرف جا رہی ہے، جبکہ پاکستان چینی کاروباری اداروں کو دلچسپ ہے کہ وہ پاکستان میں ای کامرس انٹرنیٹ میں معاون تلاش کریں۔ چائنا ایکٹ میٹ کے مطابق پاکستان انٹرنیشنل فورم اور ایکٹ میٹ سے (باقی صفحہ 6 بجیہ نمبر 30)

[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=Classified](https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=Classified)

چین، پاکستان مشکل وقتوں کے مخلص دوست، فرخ حبیب

ہماری دوستی نے بین الاقوامی تعلقات کیلئے باہمی احترام، اعتماد کی اعلیٰ مثال قائم کی

اسلام آباد (آن لائن) کوئٹہ حکومت مخلص دوست ہیں، ہماری دوستی نے بین الاقوامی تعلقات و شریعت فرخ حبیب نے کہا ہے کہ چین تعلقات کے لئے باہمی احترام اور اعتماد کی اعلیٰ مثال اور پاکستان آل ویڈیو سٹریٹجک کوآپریشن پر مبنی شریعت قائم کی، رواں سال پاک چین تعلقات کی 70 وار ہیں، چین اور پاکستان اچھے اور مخلص دوستوں کے ہیں ساگر ہے، یہ (باقی صفحہ 7 بجیہ نمبر 38)

### بقیہ 38

جان کرٹھی ہوئی کہ کمیونٹ پارٹی آف پاکستان میں 22 مئی سے زیادہ نوجوان پارٹی ممبران ہیں جن کی عمریں 35 سال سے کم ہیں، سی پی سی نے میرٹ پمپنی نکال دیا، یو جوائنوں کو سیاسی نکال دیا، تعلیم حاصل کرنے اور فروغ دینے کے بہت زیادہ مواقع فراہم کرتا ہے، نوجوانوں کے فوڈ کا چارٹر وڈ پروگراموں کا اہم حصہ ہے، وڈوں ممالک کے تعلقات کو نوجوانوں تک منقطع کر رہے ہیں۔ وہ گذشتہ روز کمیونٹ پارٹی چائینہ کے شعبہ بین الاقوامی امور کے زیر اہتمام ویٹار سے خطاب کر رہے تھے۔ آئی ڈی سی پی کی نائب وزیر ممبران، ڈی پی ڈی پی ممبران مختلف ممالک کی سیاسی ممبرانوں کے ممبران اور نوجوانوں کی کثیر تعداد کی ویٹار میں شرکت کی۔ وزیر مملکت اطلاعات و نشریات فرخ حبیب نے کہا کہ آئی ڈی سی پی کی دعوت پر اس ویٹار میں ڈی پی ڈی آئی اور سکوسٹ پاکستان کی نمائندگی میرے لئے اعزاز کی بات ہے، 2019 میں، مجھے آئی ڈی سی پی کی جانب سے ڈی پی ڈی آئی کے رکن کے طور پر ممبران کا دورہ کرنے، ممبران کی ترقی اور خوشحالی کو ترقی سے دیکھنے کا موقع ملا۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ نوجوانوں کی ترقی کے لیے قوت ہوتے ہیں۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ میرٹ پمپنی اس نکال دیا، کو وزیر اعظم عمران خان نے کئی مواقعوں پر بہت سراہا ہے، وزیر اعظم عمران خان کا بھی یہی وزن ہے کہ میرٹ کی بنیاد پر سیاسی نکال دیا جائے، پاکستان کا نعرہ ملک کے متوسط طبقے سے جد علی کے لیے ووٹ دینے کی سیاسی اپیل کرتا ہے، ڈی پی آئی کو ووٹ دینے والے پڑھے لکھے نوجوانوں کا خیال تھا کہ انہوں نے ملک کا مستقبل سنوار لیا ہے۔

نوجوانوں کی امیدوں کو پورا کرنے وزیر اعظم عمران خان دن رات کام کر رہے ہیں۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ نوجوانوں کو روزگار کی فراہمی کے لئے پمپنی چاب پورنگ بنایا گیا ہے جو کہ 100 سے زیادہ کیریئر کونسلنگ اور چاب پلیسٹ سینیٹرز (CC&JPCs) سے بھی منسلک ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ کامیاب جوان پروگرام (کے جے پی) کے تحت ملک میں نوجوانوں کی معاشی سرگرمیوں میں زبردست اضافہ ہوا ہے، نوجوانوں کے لیے مختلف شعبوں میں 50,000 سے زائد روزگار کے مواقع پیدا کیے ہیں، ملک میں نوجوانوں کی مجموعی آبادی میں 63 فیصد 25 سال سے کم ہیں، 43 ملین نوجوان 15 تا 24 عمر کے درمیان ہیں، ماضی میں نوجوانوں کی ترقی میں خاص تعلیم اور تربیت رکاوٹ تھی۔ وزیر مملکت فرخ حبیب نے کہا کہ کامیاب جوان پروگرام کے لئے مختص 100 ارب میں سے 28 ارب جاری کیے جائیں گے، کامیاب جوان پروگرام (کے جے پی) کے تحت 155 اضلاع کا بزنس انٹریس تیار کیا گیا جس کا مقصد اضلاع کے کاروبار کے انتخاب کے رجحان کو جاننا تھا۔

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**چین کی پرامن ترقی دنیا کیلئے مثال ہے، پاکستانی مندوب**  
**سلاطی کونسل کے ذمہ دار رکن کے طور پر چین نے تمام شعبہ جات میں کردار ادا کیا**  
**چین نے اقتصادی میدان میں انسانی تاریخ کی بے مثال ترقی کی ہے**

نیویارک (آئی این بی) اقوام متحدہ میں مستقل نمائندے سفیر ہائی نے میڈیا بات چیت پاکستانی مندوب سفیر ہائی نے کہا ہے کہ چین کی پرامن ترقی اور معیاری بنیاد پر امن ترقی دیکھ کر دنیا کے لیے ایک مثال ہے، سلاطی کونسل کے مستقل اور ایک ذمہ دار رکن کے طور پر چین نے تمام شعبہ جات میں اہم کردار ادا کیا۔ چین کی اقوام متحدہ میں قانونی نشست کی بحالی کی ہے۔ ہائی نے کہا کہ 50 سال قبل اقوام متحدہ کی 50 ویں سالگرہ کی تقریب سے صدر شی جن پنگ نے اہم خطاب کیا جسے عالمی طاقتوں میں نمایاں سربراہ کی قانونی نشست کی بحالی کے لیے قرارداد کیا ہے۔ اقوام متحدہ کے جنرل اسمبلی نے اقوام متحدہ میں عوامی جمہوریہ چین کی قانونی نشست کی بحالی کے لیے قرارداد منظور کی تھی۔ 2758

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## Nawaiwaqt News

### جام کمال سی پیک پر اجیکٹ میں تاخیر کا باعث بنے

ندیم بسرا

قدرت کے کھیل بڑے نرالے ہیں، انسان جس کے لئے گڑھا کھودتا ہے وہ اس میں گر تضرور ہے۔ اشفاق احمد کہتے تھے ”ایک بات ہمیشہ زندگی بھر یاد رکھنا کسی کو دھوکہ نہ دینا، دھوکے میں بڑی جان ہوتی ہے یہ کبھی نہیں مرنے، گھوم کر ایک دن واپس آچکے پاس پہنچ جاتا ہے کیونکہ اس کو اپنے ٹھکانے سے بڑی محبت ہوتی ہے“ یہ بات لکھنے کی ضرورت اس لئے پڑی کہ حال ہی میں عالمی کرکٹ کے میلے میں بھارت کو پاکستان کے ہاتھوں عبرتناک شکست ہوئی۔ بھارت نے پاکستان کو ہر شعبہ زندگی میں نقصان پہنچانے کی کوششیں کبھی ترک نہیں کی، عالمی سطح پر پاکستان کو تنہا کرنے کی بھارت کی بھونڈی سازشیں کبھی کامیاب نہیں ہوئی، عالمی دنیا اس تماشے پر ہمیشہ خاموش رہتی ہیں کیونکہ درپردہ وہ بھارت کے پاکستان مخالف بیانیے پر پہرہ دیتی نظر آتی ہیں، مگر دیکھئے پاکستان کو عالمی سطح پر جہاں جہاں بھارت نے اکیلے کرنے کی کوشش کی وہیں قدرت نے پاکستان کا ہاتھ پکڑا اور اللہ نے پاکستان کو سرخرو کیا۔ چاہے افغانستان میں طالبان کا قبضہ ہو یا فیئف میں پاکستان کے خلاف پابندیوں کی بات ہو یا پاکستان سے نیوزی لینڈ کرکٹ ٹیم کو عین موقع پر واپس بلوانے کی بات ہو بھارت ہر جگہ پر ناکام نظر آیا، حال میں کرکٹ ورلڈ کپ میں بھارت کی پسپائی اس کی بڑی مثال ہے اس سے بھارت کو سبق سیکھنا چاہئے کہ وہ پاکستان کے خلاف سازشیں اور دھوکے وہی سے باز رہے۔ دوسری طرف ملک میں سیاسی صورت حال نے انگڑائیاں لینا شروع کر دی ہیں۔ بلوچستان میں جام کمال کی حکومت بھی آخر کار ختم ہو گئی، تین سال دو ماہ چار دن رہنے والے وزیر اعلیٰ بلوچستان جام کمال جن کے خاندان نے سیاسی میدان کبھی خالی نہیں کیا، ان کے دادا اجام قادر آف سبیلہ پیپلز پارٹی کے دور اور 1985 کے انتخابات میں غیر جماعتی بنیاد پر بھی وزیر اعلیٰ رہے۔ ان کے والد جام یوسف بھی مسلم لیگ ق کی ٹکٹ پر الیکشن جیتے اور وزیر اعلیٰ بنے۔ جام کمال 2018 میں بلوچستان عوامی پارٹی کی ٹکٹ پر الیکشن جیتے اور وزیر اعلیٰ منتخب ہو گئے ان کے خلاف تحریک عدم اعتماد کی تحریک پیش ہوئی تو انہوں نے حالات کی نزاکت کے مطابق فیصلہ کیا اور مستعفی ہو گئے اب سابقہ سپیکر میر عبدالقدوس بزنجو ایک طاقتور سی ایم کے امیدوار کے طور پر سامنے آ رہے ہیں۔ یہ بات بہت سے حلقوں میں گردش کر رہی ہے کہ جام کمال نے گوادر سمیت بلوچستان میں سی پیک پر اجیکٹ میں عدم دلچسپی کا اظہار کیا، بلکہ بعض پر اجیکٹ میں تاخیر بھی کی۔ جس سے بلوچستان کی تعمیر و ترقی کے پر اجیکٹ متاثر ہو رہے تھے۔ ان اقدامات پر ان کی جماعت کی جانب سے مسلسل ان کو تنقید کا نشانہ بنایا جا رہا تھا۔ اب دلچسپ بات یہ ہے پی ڈی ایم کی تحریک جن مقاصد کے لئے ملک میں اٹھی اس میں دور



دور تک بلوچستان کی حکومت کی تبدیلی اور حالات کا ذکر نہیں تھا۔ جبکہ کچھ پی ڈی ایم قائدین بعض حلقوں میں اب چہ میگوئیاں کر رہے ہیں کہ یہ تحریک بلوچستان میں تبدیلی لا چکی ہے اب پنجاب کی باری ہے، پھر خیبر پختونخواہ اور پھر سیدھا وفاقی حکومت کو گھر بھیجا جائے گا۔ پی ڈی ایم کی اس منطق کو سمجھنے کے لئے خاص عقل و دانش کی ضرورت ہے۔ دوسری جانب سپریم کورٹ کی جانب سے لوکل گورنمنٹس کو بحال کئے جانے کے بعد لوکل گورنمنٹ آرڈیننس 2013 کے تحت اختیارات مل چکے ہیں۔ رواں مالی سال کے پنجاب کے بجٹ میں لوکل گورنمنٹس کے لئے 4 کھرب، 83 ارب روپے مختص ہوئے ہیں۔ اس بجٹ میں پنجاب کی میونسپل کارپوریشن کے لئے 54 ارب 50 کروڑ 28 لاکھ روپے، یونین کونسلز کے لئے 1 ہزار روپے، ڈسٹرکٹ ہیلتھ اتھارٹیز کے لئے 1 کھرب، 1 ارب 24 کروڑ 60 لاکھ روپے، ڈسٹرکٹ ایجوکیشن اتھارٹیز کیلئے 3 کھرب 15 ارب 75 کروڑ 11 لاکھ روپے، کنٹونمنٹ بورڈز کے لئے 1.5 ارب روپے مختص کئے گئے ہیں۔

بلدیاتی اداروں کے سربراہان اس بات کا پختہ عزم رکھتے ہیں کہ دو ماہ میں وہ پنجاب کی عوام کو درپیش مسائل کو حل کرنے کی بھرپور کوشش کریں گے۔ ایک طرف تو بلدیاتی اداروں کے سیاسی سربراہ کہہ رہے ہیں کہ دو ماہ میں حالات ٹھیک کرنے کی کوشش کریں گے اور دوسری جانب پاکستان کی سیاسی جماعتیں ہیں جو چوتہ برسوں سے کہہ رہے ہیں کہ ملک کے حالات ٹھیک کر رہے ہیں مگر حالات بد سے بدتر ہی ہوئے ہیں آج مہنگائی کے ستارے عوام کا تمام ایسے سیاست دانوں سے اعتماد اٹھ گیا ہے چاہے وہ بلدیاتی ہو یا قومی سطح کی سیاست کرنے والی جماعتیں ہوں۔ جبکہ میڈیا کو اس سلسلے میں اہم ذمہ داری ادا کرنا ہوگی۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/lahore/2021-10-28/page-12>

**October 29, 2021**

**Business Recorder**

### **PD reluctant to make talks with Chinese firms public**

ISLAMABAD: Power Division has refused to share details of negotiations with Chinese power sector companies publicly to review their contracts on the analogy of other independent power producers (IPPs) due to sensitivity of the issue.

This stance was conveyed by Additional Secretary, Power Division, Waseem Mukhtar at a meeting of Senate Standing Committee on Power, which met under the chairmanship of Senator Saif Ullah Abro.

“Separate negotiations with Chinese companies are ongoing off and on, but any change of law or policy cannot apply to them. If it is done, Chinese companies which were given sovereign guarantees have the option of international arbitration and the consequence of international arbitration have never been good for Pakistan,” he added.

Waseem Mukhtar requested the Committee to discuss CPEC projects in-camera as Chinese were already showing serious concern due to public comments on CEPC projects, adding that Chinese companies have always stated that they established all projects under the law and available policies of the government.

The Committee decided to convene an in-camera meeting on CPEC projects to discuss in detail. In addition, the Committee also sought details of shareholders of IPPs aimed at knowing the actual investors behind these projects.

Taking part in discussion on the power projects, Senator Saifulah Sarwar Khan Nyazee, said that since nuclear projects are a health hazard, the affected areas be given special compensation as was done in hydropower projects. He also cited the example of Sahiwal coal power project, which according to him has increased pollution in the area.

The Committee directed Chairman NEPRA, Tauseef H. Farooqi, to prepare a policy paper within a month on nuclear power plants.

He was criticised for not taking his Authority members on board due to which his wings have been clipped.

Sensing that discussion in the Committee can take another turn, he exhibited a reluctance to comment on the issue publicly and promised Senator Talha Mahmood that he would share the report with him.

Chairmen NEPRA also briefed the Committee that the country has saved \$3.780 billion during the last four years due to fuel cost of coal power plants established under CPEC but at the same time the management of Genco Holding Company Limited (GHCL) has not set up its second unit of 747 MW Guddu power plant.

The committee held details discussions on rehabilitation of government sector power plants with RLNG after which their tariff will come down from Rs 29 per unit to Rs 18 or Rs 19 per unit.—  
MUSHTAQ GHUMMAN

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2021/10/29/12-page/905689-news.html>

### **Daily Times**

#### **E-certificate of origin to facilitate Pak-China trade**

The Certificate of Origin of China-Pakistan Free Trade Agreement (FTA) will be applied for online via branches of China Council for Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT) from 10 November, 2021, according to China Economic Net (CEN).

“The EDI on-line application system of CCPIT is open to enterprises for free. Applicants can register their exports and apply for the issuance of CO within just one working day, the same of which took them at least three days before,” said Zou Ruirui, director of the legal department of CCPIT Nanjing.

The CO of FTA, known as the “economic passport”, is also an important document for a Pakistani importer to be granted zero-tariff treatment or tariff concession when importing goods from China.

Zou said, “The information exchange mechanism designed in China-Pakistan FTA will also facilitate the customs clearance and reduce any possible fraud which may otherwise occur due to the inefficiency of information sharing between two parties.”

According to Zou, enterprises based in Nanjing, Jiangsu province have exported pesticides to Pakistan and imported a range of textiles from Pakistan.

Statistics from China's Ministry of Commerce indicated that during the first half of 2021, Pakistan's exports to China hit \$1.73 billion, up 83 percent year-on-year. During the same period, bilateral trade increased to \$12.6 billion, up 63 percent year-on-year.

China-Pakistan Free Trade Agreement was reached in November 2006, and the nations signed the Agreement on Trade in Service of the China-Pakistan FTA in 2009. The second phase of the China-Pakistan Free Trade Agreement came into effect in 2019, which greatly improved the trade liberalization between the two countries.

China is currently Pakistan's largest single trading partner; while Pakistan is China's second largest trading partner in South Asia.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/834790/e-certificate-of-origin-to-facilitate-pak-china-trade/>

### **Urdu is the language of poetry: Chinese students**

Urdu is the language of poetry, say Chinese students, according to Gwadar Pro. "The artistic talent of the Pakistani people goes hand in hand with the wonderful Urdu language. Many excellent Pakistani films and music have brought Urdu to the world cultural stage. Since learning Urdu, we all recognize it as a language of poetry," said Yang Yue (Musarrat), a Urdu major student of Beijing Foreign Studies University (BFSU), who won the prize of Chinese & Urdu Essay Writing Competitions.

Introduced by Suleman Mahsud, Education Attache of the Pakistani embassy in China, the competitions were organized by the Embassy of Pakistan and sponsored by Silk Road Cities Alliance to mark the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties between China and Pakistan. The award ceremony to honour the winners was held this Monday (Oct 25th).

The Urdu essay competition was among Chinese students majoring in Urdu in various universities of China while the Chinese essay competition was among Pakistani students studying in Chinese universities.

Ahmed Farooq, Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of Pakistan, presented the certificates and monetary awards to the winners and certificates to all participants.

The students expressed their happiness and appreciation on the competition and stated that the activity helped enhance their understanding of each other's languages, cultures and history which will be beneficial in fostering the long term friendship between the youth of the two countries.

"In recent years, more Pakistani youth are learning Chinese, but few Chinese students have access to Urdu. Therefore, I think it is very meaningful for BFSU to set up this language major. Our first sentence at the beginning of school were 'long live China-Pakistan friendship'. We also often perform and recite Urdu poetry, which Pakistanis actually love. Now, more and more

Chinese are willing to learn Urdu because of the growing cultural influence of Pakistan and the growing friendship between China and Pakistan.” Yang said.

Farooq said in the exclusive interview that the event is about new generation, finding the spark in them and encouraging them to develop it. So apart from establishing the people-to-people contacts, the event is also creating a bond of friendship in the younger generation and eagerness and inspiration among Pakistanis to learn Chinese and among Chinese to learn Urdu.

Similarly, Pakistani students also expressed great interest in the Chinese language, which is an important channel to learn about Chinese culture.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/834791/urdu-is-the-language-of-poetry-chinese-students/>

### **Chinese expert calls for strengthening Sino-Pak IT cooperation**

China and Pakistan should join hands, learn from each other’s experience in the field of information technology, strengthen cooperation, jointly drive the development and export of information technology and create a large number of employment opportunities. This was stated by a Chinese expert, Cheng Xizhong, in his article published in China Economic Net (CEN) on Thursday. He said that in today’s world, information technology has become a powerful driving force for the economic and social development of a country.

The Pakistani government attaches great importance to the development of information technology, which is the right choice. The development and export of information technology can drive the development of the whole national economy and significantly increase exports. Cheng said that from 2005 to 2019, the average annual growth rate of China’s IT service trade reached 22.81pc. China has now become the largest exporter of information technology. He said that the ecological environment of information technology in Pakistan has developed rapidly in recent years. Pakistan has more than 2,000 software R&D centres. At present, Pakistan is the fourth largest base for free IT practitioners in the world.

The successful development of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) has paved the way for the further development of Pakistan’s IT industry. It is predicted that the total value of Pakistan’s IT industry will reach \$10 billion by 2025. With regard to the healthy and stable development and exports of information technology, he put forward the following views for the reference: First, the government should create a more favourable tax environment for the IT industry and fully stimulate the potential and vitality of Pakistan’s IT industry. Second, the government should firmly implement stable and inclusive regulatory policies, further improve the investment environment and attract more foreign direct investment, so as to promote the development and export of information technology.

Third, the government should work with the private sector to establish a long-term, healthy and balanced development of the information technology industry. Fourth, it is predicted that by 2023, the market scale of global Internet of things related products will reach trillion US dollars, and this industry has just started in Pakistan. Therefore, the development of information

technology in Pakistan should be combined with the internet of things, smart city, “Digital Pakistan Programme”, etc., so as to drive the development and export of information technology. And fifth, the two nations should join hands, learn from each other’s experience in the field of information technology, strengthen cooperation, jointly drive the development and export of information technology and create a large number of employment opportunities.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/834973/chinese-expert-calls-for-strengthening-sino-pak-it-cooperation/>

### **Dawn News**

#### **Govt awaits green signal from China to launch ML-I bidding**

*Khalid Hasnain*

LAHORE: The government has asked the Chinese authorities to allow it to initiate the tendering / bidding process for the Main Line-I (ML-I) project of the CPEC.

Any issue related to its cost revision will be solved at a later stage, the government says. It expects final approval of the project soon as the process on the part of the Chinese authorities is under way, Dawn has learnt.

“Since the \$6.8 billion project has already been approved by the government, the ball is now in the court of the Chinese authorities concerned. There is nothing pending on our part,” Pakistan Railways Chairman Dr Habibur Rehman Gilani told Dawn on Thursday.

“They (Chinese) are keenly working these days for the approval of the project,” he added.

Asked about increase in the total cost of the project, Mr Gilani said the Chinese had been asked to do so if they think there is a need to increase the cost of the project (keeping in view its scope).

“But side by side, we have also requested them to at least allow us to initiate the tendering process. And if the cost of the project increases beyond 15pc in future, we may get the PC-I of the project revised at a later stage. Hope they will consider our request,” he said.

The chairman said the Rs30bn project for the rehabilitation of the 460km long decaying rail track from Khanpur to Sukkur would soon be approved by the government as the PR has already sent a PC-I to the quarters concerned.

National Assembly’s Parliamentary Committee on China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) Chairman Sher Ali Arbab in a recent talk with Dawn had said the issues related to approval of the ML-1 were being solved on a priority.

“This is the project worth \$6.8 billion already approved by the government under the CPEC. The Chinese say the cost estimation for the project is not according to its components. They say it should be nearly \$8bn or so. So we have asked them to revise, discuss with us and justify the cost estimation revision since we have to pay interest on such huge money,” Mr Arbab said.

“They (Chinese) are now working on this.”

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1654640>

### **Pakistan Observer**

#### **China-Pak to make Gwadar better port for business, living**

The unveiling ceremony of Belt and Road Engineering Research Center for Tropical Arid Non-wood Forest and The First science and technology exchange event of China-Pakistan Tropical Arid Non-wood Forest were held online and offline in Gwadar and Changsha China, simultaneously.

According to Gwadar Pro, this exchange event aims to cultivate economic plants, which combine ecological, economic and social benefits, so as to improve the business environment and people's wellbeing.

This meeting is sponsored by the Chinese Society of Forestry (CSF), and co-organized by Central South University of Forestry and Technology (CSUFT), China, China Overseas Ports Holding Company (COPHC) and Yulin Holding, China.

This meeting attracted participants from the two nations' government departments, industrial societies, universities and research institutes and enterprises, including the Consulate General of the People's Republic of China in Karachi, University of Karachi, Indus University and Northwest Agriculture and Forestry University, China.

Chen Xingliang, vice chairman of CSF, Yan Wende, vice-chancellor of CSUFT, Guo Chunshui, Economic and Commercial Counsellor, Chinese Consulate in Karachi, Dostain Jamali, the Secretary of Ministry of Forest and Wildlife of Baluchistan Government, and Hu Huamin, chairman of Yulin agreed on enhancing agriculture and forestry building is an important part of the high-quality development of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

It is of great significance for the sustainable development of regional economy to carry out the research and promotion of Tropical Arid Non-wood Forest.

<https://pakobserver.net/china-pak-to-make-gwadar-better-port-for-business-living/>

#### **50 Years Back in the UN, China always stays true to its original aspiration – Nong Rong**

On October 25, Chinese President Xi Jinping addressed the Conference Marking the 50th Anniversary of the Restoration of the Lawful Seat of the People's Republic of China in the United Nations, saying that "The restoration of New China's lawful seat in the United Nations was a momentous event for the world and the United Nations. It came as the result of joint efforts of all peace-loving countries that stood up for justice in the world.

"Five decades ago, the 26th session of UN General Assembly adopted Resolution 2758, deciding to restore all the rights to the People's Republic of China and to recognize the representatives of its government as the only legitimate representatives of China to the UN. It was a victory for justice and fairness in the world. Over the past 50 years, China has firmly adhered to the



purposes and principles of the UN Charter, and gradually participated in a wide range of issues of UN affairs.

Now China has become the largest contributor of peacekeepers among the permanent members of the UN Security Council. China has actively engaged in South-South cooperation and North-South dialogue, making efforts for the world's sustainable development. China has joined almost all universal inter-governmental organizations and many international treaties.

Chairman Mao Zedong once said it was our fellow developing countries that “carried” the People's Republic of China into the United Nations. Ever since, China has acted in the same spirit by firmly upholding the legitimate rights and interests of developing countries, and speaking up for the developing world. Whether in the past, at present, or in the future, China is committed to standing together with the developing countries. China's vote in the United Nations is always for the well-being of developing countries, and for the justice of the entire world.

In particular, China will not forget that Pakistan made significant contributions to restoring China's legitimate seat in the United Nations, and helped China to break through the diplomatic blockade of the Western countries. The coverage of that historical moment appeared on the front pages of many of Pakistan's newspapers, in which the joy that Pakistan has shared equally with China so spontaneously on the bearing of the massive favorable voting is still fresh. And there is a Pakistani veteran journalist named Ali, who has witnessed and covered the story half a century ago. When recalling the memory, he said “I have never seen such a resounding applause in my life”.

Over the past 70 years, despite the changing international and domestic landscapes, China and Pakistan have firmly stood together, overcome numerous difficulties and obstacles, and delivered remarkable outcomes in bilateral cooperation. History has proven time and again, that China and Pakistan are ironclad friends sharing weal and woe. A high degree of mutual trust, mutual assistance, seeking peace, and promoting development together are the most distinctive features of China-Pakistan relations and the underlying rationale of our ironclad friendship.

Looking forward to the future, as President Xi said in his recent call with Prime Minister Imran Khan, China and Pakistan should stand together more firmly, advance our all-weather strategic cooperative partnership and build an even closer China-Pakistan community with a shared future in the new era. On the world stage, our two countries should enhance coordination, practice true multilateralism, promote international equity and justice, safeguard common interests, and world peace and stability.

To this aim, President Xi Jinping solemnly proposed the Global Development Initiative. This major Initiative has set out a blueprint for the development of countries and international development cooperation and pointed the way forward for global development and international development cooperation. We are ready to work with Pakistan to set an example for implementing the Global Development Initiative, improve global governance, and jointly promote the building of a community with a shared future for mankind.

– Nong Rong is a Chinese politician and diplomat currently serving as Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan.

<https://pakobserver.net/50-years-back-in-the-un-china-always-stays-true-to-its-original-aspiration-nong-rong/>

### **The Nation**

## **Agreements of IPPs under CPEC cannot be renegotiated, govt tells Senate Committee**

*Fawad Yousafzai*

Islamabad - The government has categorically told the Senate Standing Committee on Power that the agreements of the IPPs under China Pakistan Economic Corridor cannot be renegotiated, just like other IPPs, as the Chinese companies could take the matter for international arbitration.

The Senate Standing Committee on Power that met under Senator Saifullah Abro, was told by the official of the Power division that they cannot brief the committee openly regarding the tariff matters of the power plants installed by Chinese IPPs under CPEC. However it was told that the power division is ready to brief the in camera meeting of the committee on the issue.

Some Chinese Companies don't support the idea of making the details of agreements on CPEC IPPs public, Additional Secretary Power Division Waseem Mukhtar told the committee. He said that the CPEC IPPs were installed under the 2013-14 Power Policy and government of Pakistan is guarantor to the agreements. The additional secretary further said that they cannot open the tariff matters of the CPEC IPPs, just like other IPPs, as it could land the country in international arbitration.

Senator Saifullah Abro said that the people of the areas around the Nuclear power plants should be provided the royalty on the pattern of Oil & Gas producing areas. He said that NEPRA protects the consumers and there should be protection of the people living the nuclear power plants areas. However, Chairman NEPRA said that he is not an expert of the nuclear technology and can update the committee after discussing it with the Atomic Energy Commission. Saifullah Niaz asked Chairman NEPRA to provide the authority recommendation on the issue of royalty to the committee. Chairman Committee also showed his discontent over the report on the fault in Genco-II and said that incorrect information was provided to the committee. Chief Executive Genco told the forum that the enquiry report of the independent panel has been provided to the committee, while the report of the internal inquiry will also be furnished soon.

Chairman of the committee said that it is strange that the private power plants are working for 30 years without any fault but the government owned plant develop enormous fault within 7 years. The CEO said that Genco-II will pay for the expenses incurred by the repair of Guddu Power plant and matter is tabled before the BoD for approval. Senator Saifullah Abro said that when the American Company GE was directly checking the machine, then why Genco-II will be paying

for the repair? From the beginning the maintenance contract of the Guddu is with GE. The acting CEO of Guddu is of the opinion from day one that the expenses of the repair will be paid by Genco-II, which is wrong, he added. Chairman of the committee said that there is no technical expert on the boards of the state owned Generation companies (Gencos). How is it possible that Gencos boards can make correct decision in the absence of technical experts, he added. Saifullah Abro further said that eight former CEOs of KE are the board chairmans of the Discos. He alleged that KE is controlling all the Discos.

<https://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2021-10-29/page-5/detail-2>

### **Chinese companies offered to explore opportunities in e-commerce sector**

BEIJING - Pakistan is making all-out efforts to improve its e-commerce sector and offers the Chinese enterprises to benefit from attractive incentives and policies to explore opportunities in this sector, said Commercial Counselor, Pakistan Embassy, Beijing, Badar Uz Zaman.

“We need to attract the Chinese e-commerce application, developers, e-commerce payment solutions providers, and insurance companies so that we can develop a complete environment where e-commerce transactions can increase,” he told APP on the sidelines of Pakistan Investment Forum and the Cross-border E-commerce Business Negotiation Conference co-organized by Pakistan Embassy in Beijing.

He informed that Pakistan has a large population and around 150 million mobile phones are active while now people are switching towards the smart phones. A number of applications are coming up but still there are vast opportunities for other companies.

Badar said that there is a shortage of good parcel delivery services and the companies, adding, “If these services are introduced by China, like SF Express, ZTO, and other companies that are very efficient here so we good enhance our e-commerce and supplies chain industry.”

He said that during the conference, several Chinese presented their own applications for comprehensive solutions covering banking, insurance, delivery and all other aspects of the e-commerce.

“These investors are also very keen to enter into Pakistani market and they also signed agreements with Pakistani commodities exporters,” he added.

About the eleven-eleven big sale day for the e-commerce industry in China and around the globe, he said that some Pakistani e-commerce companies are also offering a lot of discounts. He hoped that one day Pakistan will also have this kind of supply chain in the e-commerce sector.

Badar pointed out that some companies who participated in today’s event will also be launching some applications and contribute towards this event.

Regarding participation of enterprises in the conference, he said that over 50 companies from various sectors attended today’s event and discussed about the investment opportunities in Pakistan.

Pakistan Ambassador to China, Moin ul Haque gave the detail insight of opportunities and even businesses available in Pakistan.

“The representatives of the companies raised so many questions and they were also provided a chance for business to business matchmaking. So, they met with the Pakistani entrepreneurs also. Ultimately, the companies that met each of them in this event, it will go on into a real business.”

He opined that owing strong consumer demand in the Pakistan market, the Chinese companies could start a business very quickly in the special economic zones and industrial zones in Pakistan.

<https://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2021-10-29/page-9/detail-7>

**October 30, 2021**

**Daily Times**

### **Banana, moringa, sesbania, aloe vera to be planted in Gwadar**

In a quest to promote “Green Gwadar” and local agriculture, Pakistan is planning to cultivate suitable fruits and plants in large areas of Gwadar with the help of China.

According to Gwadar Pro, this was disclosed in the First “China Pakistan Tropical Arid Non-Wood Forest Science and Technology” Conference held simultaneously in Gwadar and two Chinese cities.

The participants were told that banana, moringa, sesbania, and aloe vera will be planted on several acres of Gwadar not only to support the local economy but also to promote Green Gwadar.

The conference aims to showcase the achievements and research progress in the non-wood forest/economic forest field of China and Pakistan, also to promote the exchange and cooperation of experts between the two countries.

Speaking on the occasion, Secretary Government of Balochistan Forestry and Wildlife Department Dostain Jamaldini said that the seeds of only those plants will be sown which are suitable for cultivation in Gwadar as many seeds have failed in the tropical area. The focus is on plants that are economically good for locals or commercially beneficial for China.

The audiences were told that these seeds will be planted on about 1000 acres in the coming year, but initially, Sesbania plants will be cultivated on about 5 acres. Similarly, on trial bases, 300 banana trees, 1000 Moringa trees, and 500 Aloe Vera plants will be planted.

Dostain Jamaldini thanked the China Society of Forestry for organizing the event as it will be beneficial for Belt and Road Initiative(BRI).

He added that owing to climate change, temperature is increasing in Pakistan and groundwater is quickly drying. “This is alarming and we need to work on ecology,” he said.

“Environmental protection is our priority and we believe this event will bring better ideas and productivity on the green belt. We have already invested a lot around the port and free-zone areas to protect the environment,” he said.

He said CPEC is the flagship project of BRI. Once abandoned Gwadar port is reviving and it’s already a dreamland for investors. About 46 investors have already registered to work in the Gwadar port area.

The official said tissue culture lab and plant cultivation are already in operation. Central South University of Forestry and Technology, COPHC, and Yulin Holding have jointly established a plant tissue culture laboratory and a greenhouse to conduct the research, breed, and planting of non-wood forest plants in this port.

He said Moringa tree and Banana trees are working well in this environment and they give fruits to locals as well. He said this initiative is supporting those locals who have no access to education.

This conference is jointly hosted by the Chinese Society of Forestry, Central South University of Forestry & Technology, China Overseas Ports Holding Company and Technomen Kinetics (PVT) LTD.

The conference venue in China is the Changsha Branch of the Central South University of Forestry Technology while in Gwadar it is Pakistan Gwadar Free Zone Business Center.

The theme of the first exchange was the current status and future development direction of the research, utilization of the germplasm resources of plants belonging to the Ziziphus and the Phoenix. This conference will play a key role in the strengthening of science, technology, ecology, and economy for both countries.

Speaking on the occasion, the chairman of COPHC Zhang Baozhong said only a “Green Gwadar” would enable the port to be operated well and bring benefits to future generations of local people.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/835198/banana-moringa-sesbania-aloe-vera-to-be-planted-in-gwadar/>

### **Pakistan Observer**

#### **BOI inaugurates Pakistan Industrial Expo 2021 in Lahore**

Despite the Covid-19 situation, Pakistan and China have been able to sustain a healthy economic and investment partnership and it is now high time to join hands for a much-needed economic and investment rebound.

More than 100 Chinese companies are participants of the Expo through both physical and online mode of participation.

This is the best possible solution to bring businesses from both countries together for rejuvenation of bilateral investment cooperation.

These views were expressed the Additional Secretary/Executive Director General, Board of Investment, Mr. Khashih ur Rehman while inaugurating the Pakistan Industrial Expo 2021 which was arranged by the Everest International Expo.

This is the 5th edition of this expo being arranged by the Chinese company in Lahore since last many years to promote business relations between Chinese and Pakistani investors. The expo will continue till October 31, 2020 and being held in offline-online mode.

The Expo was attended by Mr. Asim Ayub, Project Director, CPEC-Industrial Cooperation, Mr. Xiang Zhiqiang, Deputy Director of China-Shanghai Cooperation Organization Local Economic and Trade Cooperation Demonstration Area Management Committee, Mr. Wang Zihai, Executive Director of Pakistan China Center, Mr. Badar uz Zaman, Commercial Counsellor, Embassy of Pakistan in China, Mr. Peng Zhengwu, Acting Consul General of Consulate General of the People's Republic of China in Lahore.

<https://pakobserver.net/boi-inaugurates-pakistan-industrial-expo-2021-in-lahore/>

### **Chinese scholar gives plan to promote China-Pak agri coop**

Chinese scholar Cheng Xizhong put forth four proposals to promote Sino-Pak cooperation in agriculture sector, says a report published by Gwadar Pro. Cheng Xizhong who is visiting Professor at Southwest University of Political Science and Law noted that at present, China-Pakistan cooperation in various fields continues to deepen, but agricultural cooperation is still at its initial stage.

Therefore, there is a great space and potential for cooperation between China and Pakistan in agricultural science and technology, agricultural product processing, agricultural product trading and agricultural infrastructure construction in the future.

Agriculture is the lifeline of Pakistan's economy. Pakistan is rich in land resources. The cultivated land accounts for about 40% of the total land area. The per capita cultivated land area is twice as much as China.

The proportion of young and middle-aged people is large, and the demographic dividend is very prominent. Therefore, Pakistan has many favorable conditions for developing modern agriculture.

However, the yield per unit area of wheat, rice, soybeans and other crops in Pakistan is only about 50% of that in China.

The application of improved varieties and the popularization of advanced agricultural technology need to be improved, and agricultural irrigation facilities need to be further developed.

The production of major crops needs to develop in the direction of scale, intensification, modernization and information technology.



Addressing the launching ceremony of “Kisan Portal” for the farmers under Pakistan Citizen’s Portal in Islamabad, Prime Minister Imran Khan said that Pakistani farmers have to learn new techniques to boost productivity like China.

In recent years, China-Pakistan cooperation in cultivating rice, corn, soybean, sugarcane and other crops has yielded fruitful results.

The demonstration of Chinese modern agricultural technology in Pakistan has enabled the Pakistani people to see the great power of technology to promote agricultural development.

With regard to China-Pakistan agricultural cooperation, I think we can make further efforts from the following aspects:

First, the two sides should fully realize that agricultural cooperation is now the top priority of the second phase of CPEC, which is the largest livelihood project.

Second, both sides should make full use of their excellent germplasm resources to strengthen cooperative research on the cultivation of new varieties such as wheat, rice, oilseeds and sugarcane.

The Chinese side can export to the Pakistani side some high-yield varieties such as food crops, cotton, oil-bearing crops and sugarcane suitable for Pakistan.

Third, China and Pakistan may carry out technical exchanges in cultivation technology, pest control, livestock breeding management technology and drought and flood disaster response.

At the same time, China should provide assistance to Pakistan in the transformation and construction of agricultural water conservancy facilities, drip irrigation technology and equipment.

Fourth, the two countries should cooperate in the deep processing of agricultural products such as grains, livestock products and vegetables, so as to help Pakistan expand exports of agricultural products.

China needs to further increase the scale of grain imports from Pakistan, especially aquatic products, nuts and fruits.

He pointed out that Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson, Zhao Lijian, had recently said that as China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) entered the second phase, there would be more and more Chinese agricultural technologies flowing into Pakistan.

<https://pakobserver.net/chinese-scholar-gives-plan-to-promote-china-pak-agri-coop/>

### **The Express Tribune**

#### **Over 100 Chinese firms participate in expo**

BOI says two sides manage to sustain economic partnership despite pandemic

LAHORE: Pakistan and China have sustained a healthy economic and investment partnership despite the Covid-19 pandemic as more than 100 Chinese companies are participating in the industrial expo through physical and online channels, revealed Board of Investment (BOI) Additional Secretary and Executive Director General Khashiur Rehman.

Inaugurating the Pakistan Industrial Expo 2021 on Friday, Rehman termed the event an opportunity to bring businesses of the two sides together for rejuvenating investment cooperation.

“It is high time to join hands for the much-needed economic and investment rebound,” he remarked.

It was the fifth expo being arranged in Lahore to promote bilateral business relations, he said, adding that the expo would continue till October 31.

He emphasised that BOI was taking lead in investment promotion, facilitation and industrial cooperation as the second phase of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) had commenced.

The second phase of CPEC involved people-to-people and business-to-business (B2B) cooperation, he added.

He voiced hope that the expo would play a pivotal role in achieving the goals of the second phase of CPEC.

In terms of facilitation of innovation and B2B ties between the two sides, Rehman highlighted that the establishment of a Pakistan-China B2B investment portal would enable the matchmaking prospects of Chinese, local and third-party investors.

Read Rs26b interest paid on Chinese loan

On the occasion, the suggestions received from the investor community and stakeholders were noted by the BOI officials with the commitment to take them up at the appropriate level.

Henan province, being the largest province of China, has immense potential for investment projects and activities between businesses of the two sides, according to a BOI press release.

Pakistan’s Embassy in Beijing Commercial Counsellor Badaruz Zaman said that Pakistan’s economy stood at a crucial vantage point with the potential to steer towards an industrialised future.

“Pakistan must attract new investments, which will help the country to create jobs and foster economic growth,” he said.

Pakistan-China Joint Chamber of Commerce and Industry President Wang Zihai highlighted that the expo would digitally link member companies with Chinese enterprises.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2326995/over-100-chinese-firms-participate-in-expo>

## **Rs26b interest paid on Chinese loan**

Payment given for using \$4.5 billion Chinese trade finance facility

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan has paid over Rs26 billion in interest cost to China for using a \$4.5 billion Chinese trade finance facility to repay maturing debt in the last fiscal year - a cost that the country is bearing due to the failure of successive governments to place the economy on a solid footing.

The State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) on Friday released its annual financial statement for fiscal year 2020-21 that ended on June 30.

The report revealed that the central bank fully tapped the \$4.5 billion, or 30 billion yuan, trade finance facility available under the China-Pakistan currency swap arrangement.

“During the year, the overall limit of 20 billion yuan has been further extended to 30 billion yuan for a period of three years against the rupee with the maturity buckets of three months to one year,” said the financial statement. “These purchases have been fully utilised as at June 30, 2021.”

It added that Rs26.1 billion interest was charged on the outstanding balance at agreed rates.

In rupee terms, the bilateral currency swap value increased from Rs476.6 billion in the preceding year to Rs748.5 billion by June this year - an increase of Rs272 billion in a single year, according to the central bank.

Out of the Rs748.5 billion, the interest-bearing component was Rs731 billion, said the SBP.

Pakistan largely utilised the Chinese trade finance facility to repay foreign debt and keep its gross foreign currency reserves at comfortable levels.

The \$4.5 billion facility is part of the SBP’s \$17.1 billion in gross official foreign exchange reserves. China has also extended \$4 billion worth of SAFE deposits, which are also part of the \$17.1 billion reserves.

By excluding these loans, the central bank’s foreign exchange reserves remain thin.

The trade facility, originally meant to promote bilateral trade in respective local currencies, has been used for paying foreign debt. In fiscal year 2019-20, Pakistan paid Rs20.6 billion in interest on using the \$3 billion facility.

Read China to build base for Tajikistan near Afghan border

However, during the last fiscal year, the Chinese currency swap limit was extended to \$4.5 billion after Pakistan approached China to help it repay the maturing Saudi Arabian debt.

In December last year, The Express Tribune reported that Pakistan and China had agreed to augment the size of a 2011 bilateral currency swap agreement (CSA) by an additional 10 billion Chinese yuan or around \$1.5 billion

The benefit of this arrangement was that the additional \$1.5 billion Chinese loan would not reflect on the books of the federal government and it would not be treated as part of Pakistan's external public debt.

Saudi Arabia had provided \$6.2 billion worth of financial packages to Pakistan for three years in 2018. This included \$3 billion in cash assistance and \$3.2 billion worth of annual oil and gas supply on deferred payments.

But the Kingdom had claimed back its money ahead of schedule. Pakistan was paying 3.2% interest on the \$3 billion facility, according to the information that the Ministry of Finance shared with the National Assembly.

Pakistan had returned the Saudi Arabian loan after taking an equal amount of loan from China.

Saudi Arabia has now again extended a \$4.2 billion financial package for one year on the same terms, Finance Adviser Shaukat Tarin said on Wednesday.

The Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) government, like its predecessors, has failed to tap non-debt creating inflows, which has exposed the country to various risks. The exports are growing at a pace that is far lower than the imports while the foreign direct investment too remains stagnant for the past three years. The foreign remittances were the only non-debt creating source that was exceptionally growing well.

The existing \$17 billion worth of official foreign currency reserves have largely been built through borrowing, including from private commercial banks.

The government has not been able to get the suspended \$6 billion IMF programme restored. The IMF and Pakistan were sticking to their positions however the fresh Saudi Arabian package of \$4.2 billion has provided relief, reversing rupee depreciation by Rs3.7 to a dollar in just three days.

However, the sustainability of the rupee against the US dollar would depend upon whether the government finds some durable solution to its external sector problems or not.

The delay in restoring the IMF programme could undermine programme loans from the other two multilateral creditors, which were critical for maintaining the borrowed foreign exchange reserves at their current levels.

The SBP's report stated that a bilateral currency swap agreement (CSA) was entered between the Bank and the Peoples Bank of China in December 2011 in order to promote bilateral trade, finance direct investment, provide short term liquidity support and for any other purpose mutually agreed between the two central banks.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2326978/rs26b-interest-paid-on-chinese-loan>

## The Nation

### **Board of Investment inaugurates Pakistan Industrial Expo 2021**

ISLAMABAD -Despite the Covid-19 situation, Pakistan and China have been able to sustain a healthy economic and investment partnership and it is now high time to join hands for a much-needed economic and investment rebound.

More than 100 Chinese companies are participants of the Expo through both physical and online mode of participation. This is the best possible solution to bring businesses from both countries together for rejuvenation of bilateral investment cooperation. These views were expressed by the Additional Secretary/Executive Director General, Board of Investment, Khashih ur Rehman, at the Pakistan Industrial Expo 2021 which was inaugurated by the Board of Investment, Islamabad. The Expo was attended by Asim Ayub, Project Director, CPEC-Industrial Cooperation, Xiang Zhiqiang, Deputy Director of China-Shanghai Cooperation Organization Local Economic and Trade Cooperation Demonstration Area Management Committee, Wang Zihai, Executive Director of Pakistan China Center, Badar uz Zaman, Commercial Counsellor, Embassy of Pakistan in China, Peng Zhengwu, acting Consul General of Consulate General of the People's Republic of China in Lahore, Xu Daqun, Director of Foreign Trade of Department of Commerce of Henan Province, Ren Weijun, Director of Foreign Exchange and Cooperation Department, representatives of local Chambers of Commerce, and Everest International Expo. Pvt. Ltd.

Separate breakout rooms were set up for effective interaction and meaningful participation of investors from Shandong and Henan provinces of China. The suggestions received from the investors' community and stakeholders were highly appreciated and noted by the BOI officials with the commitment to take them up at appropriate level. The Henan province, being the largest province of China has immense potential for future investment projects with Pakistan, and scope for high-quality investment activities between the businesses of the two countries. Wang Zihai, Honorary Investment Counsellor (HIC) of Pakistan from China appreciated the role of Board of Investment (BOI), Islamabad, and stated that the Pakistan Industrial Expo 2021 is a unique opportunity to showcase the Chinese projects to Pakistani businesses for joint collaboration.

Badar uz Zaman, Commercial Counsellor in Pakistan's Embassy in Beijing, addressed the participants while stating that Pakistan's economy stands at a crucial vantage point with the potential to steer the nation towards an industrialized future underscored by economic prosperity. For this, Pakistan must attract new investments which will help the country to create jobs and foster economic growth. In this regard, China is the biggest FDI contributor and there is immense capacity for further bilateral investment endeavors. Additional Secretary BOI stated that with the commencement of the second phase of CPEC, which mainly focuses on people to people and business to business (B2B) cooperation, BOI is continuing to take lead on investment promotion, facilitation, and industrial cooperation. He expressed that the Pakistan industrial Expo 2021 will play a pivotal role in achieving the goals of the second phase of CPEC.

He informed the audience that in terms of facilitation of innovation and business to business (B2B) ties between the two countries, the establishment of a Pakistan China Business to Business (B2B) Investment Portal by BOI in collaboration with its Chinese counterpart, the China Council for International Investment Promotion (CCIIP), will enable the matchmaking prospects of Chinese, local and third-party investors.

<https://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2021-10-30/page-9/detail-7>

### **Moot marks 70th anniversary of Pak-China diplomatic relations**

Lahore - Punjab Culture Minister Khayal Ahmed Kastro chaired the fourth meeting to mark the 70th anniversary of Pakistan-China diplomatic relations at Al-Hamra here on Friday.

Information secretary, Al-Hamra executive director and representatives of different departments attended the meeting. Culture Minister Khayal Ahmed Kastro said that the 70th anniversary of the Pakistan-China friendship would be celebrated in a unique way throughout the year.

“Pakistan and China have deep-rooted cultural and diplomatic ties spanning over several decades,” said the minister and added that the provincial departments would organise special programmes, keeping in view the Pakistan-China friendship. “Special digital stalls and folk programmes will also be arranged,” he said. “A song based on the Pakistan-China friendship will also be released on the occasion. Sequential programmes will be conducted in all Arts Councils,” he added.

The minister said that Pakistan-China Friendship Walls would be set up in different cities along with the release of a documentary to highlight the history and cultural ties of both countries. “Pakistan-China Friendship Parks will also be developed in major cities,” he added. “On the occasion of the 70th anniversary of diplomatic relations, the colourful Chinese culture will be fully highlighted through different programmes. The series of programmes will begin with a major programme by the information and culture department,” he concluded.

Information and Culture Secretary Raja Jahangir Anwar said that the Chinese consulates in Pakistan would also be included in the celebrations. He said that the Pakistan-China friendship would be enthusiastically celebrated by the civil society.

<https://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2021-10-30/page-10/detail-5>

## **The News**

### **Pakistan eyes Chinese investment rebound**

ISLAMABAD: Despite the Covid-19 situation, Pakistan and China have been able to sustain a healthy economic and investment partnership and it is high time to join hands for a much-needed economic cooperation and investment rebound.



It was stated by Khashih ur Rehman, Additional Secretary/Executive Director General, Board of Investment, at the Pakistan Industrial Expo 2021 that was inaugurated by the Board of Investment (BOI), Islamabad

“Events like this are the best possible solution to bring businesses from both countries together for rejuvenation of bilateral investment cooperation,” Rehman said.

The Expo was attended by Asim Ayub, Project Director, CPEC-Industrial Cooperation, Xiang Zhiqiang, Deputy Director of China-Shanghai Cooperation Organization Local Economic and Trade Cooperation Demonstration Area Management Committee, Wang Zihai, Executive Director of Pakistan China Center, Badar uz Zaman, Commercial Counsellor, Embassy of Pakistan in China, Peng Zhengwu, Acting Consul General of Consulate General of the People’s Republic of China in Lahore, Xu Daqun, Director of Foreign Trade of Department of Commerce of Henan Province, Ren Weijun, Director of Foreign Exchange and Cooperation Department, representatives of local Chambers of Commerce, and Everest International Expo Pvt Ltd.

Separate breakout rooms were set up for effective interaction and meaningful participation of investors from Shandong and Henan provinces of China.

The suggestions received from the investors’ community and stakeholders were highly appreciated and noted by the BOI officials with the commitment to take them up at appropriate level.

The Henan province, being the largest province of China has immense potential for future investment projects with Pakistan, and scope for high-quality investment activities between the businesses of the two countries. Wang Zihai, Honorary Investment Counsellor (HIC) of Pakistan from China appreciated the role of Board of Investment (BOI), Islamabad, and stated that the Pakistan Industrial Expo 2021 a unique opportunity to showcase the Chinese projects to Pakistani businesses for joint collaboration.

Badar uz Zaman, Commercial Counselor in Pakistan’s Embassy in Beijing, said, “Pakistan’s economy currently stands at a crucial vantage point with the potential to steer the nation towards an industrialised future underscored by economic prosperity”.

“For this, Pakistan must attract new investments which will help the country to create jobs and foster economic growth.”

In this regard, Zaman said China was the biggest FDI (foreign direct investment) contributor and there is immense capacity for further bilateral investment endeavors. Additional Secretary BOI said with the commencement of the second phase of CPEC, which mainly focused on people to people and business to business (B2B) cooperation, BOI was continuing to take lead on investment promotion, facilitation, and industrial cooperation.

He said the Pakistan industrial Expo 2021 would play a pivotal role in achieving the goals of the second phase of CPEC.

He informed the audience that in terms of facilitation of innovation and business to business (B2B) ties between the two countries, the establishment of a Pakistan China Business to Business (B2B) Investment Portal by BOI in collaboration with its Chinese counterpart, the China Council for International Investment Promotion (CCIIP), would enable the matchmaking prospects of Chinese, local and third-party investors.

<https://e.thenews.com.pk/detail?id=19007>

**October 31, 2021**

**Daily Times**

### **Pak-China partnership to get stronger in new era: Nong**

Nong Rong, Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan highlighted that over the past 70 years, China-Pakistan relations have developed into an outstanding model of relations between countries with different social systems, histories and cultures.

China is willing to work with Pakistan to implement the consensus of the leaders of both countries, carry forward the traditions of China-Pakistan relations, deepen strategic mutual trust, enhance pragmatic cooperation and continue to inject new impetus into China-Pakistan friendship for another seven decades.

According to Gwadar Pro, the Ambassador gave the above remarks at a conference with the theme of 70 Years China-Pakistan Friendship “All-Weather Strategic Partnership in the New Era” held by the National Institute of International Strategy (NIIS), CASS and Understanding China Forum, Pakistan (UCF).

The conference includes two sessions: 70 years of Pakistan-China diplomatic relations and the current situation in Afghanistan and its impact on Pakistan and China.

The ambassador pointed out that “As President Xi Jinping told Prime Minister Imran Khan during the recent phone call, the world is undergoing profound changes and 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 between both sides. China and Pakistan should maintain close strategic communication, enhance the sharing of governance experience.” Ambassador Nong further noted.

Up to now, China has gifted 8.25 million doses of vaccine to Pakistan and provided 113 million doses for commercial purchases, with a total of 121 million doses. Ambassador Nong stressed that, “China will continue to support Pakistan in its fight against COVID-19 till success, jointly build the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), advance cooperation in agriculture, digital economy and social and livelihood areas and build an even closer China-Pakistan community with a shared future in the new era.”

At the general debate of the UN General Assembly in September this year, President Xi Jinping proposed the Global Development Initiative (GDI), which calls on the international community to accelerate the implementation of the sustainable development agenda in 2030. Amb Nong also called on China and Pakistan to work together to set an example for implementing the GDI, to safeguard international fairness and justice to improve global governance and to jointly promote the building of a community with a shared future.

Chairing the session, Prof. Ye Hailin, DDG of Bureau of International Cooperation, CASS and Dr. Fazal ur Rehman, Executive Director, UCF, pointed out that against the backdrop of unprecedented changes in a century, the Asia-Pacific region where China and Pakistan are located is undergoing earth-shaking changes. From the international order to the rules, even to all aspects of this era, Pakistan and China are facing sharp challenges. So it is critical for China and Pakistan to further strengthen cooperation.

Ambassador (R) Inamul Haque, Former Foreign Minister of Pakistan, underlined that with the passage of time, Pak-China relations have continued to grow stronger in the political, diplomatic, military, economic, commercial, cultural and all other fields and the relationship has now developed to the level of a comprehensive strategic partnership.

Pak-China relations today stand as a shining example of stability, solidarity and mutual respect in an uncertain and turbulent regional and international situation.

“The two countries have consistently worked to promote regional and international peace, progress and prosperity. And the strategic relationship designed to promote cooperation in the neighborhood as well as with global partners.”

Ambassador (R) Inamul Haque further maintained that Pakistan hopes to form an even more solid relationship with China, strengthen mutual complementarity, and enable CPEC to exert greater influence.

Professor Rong Ying, Vice President, China Institute of International Studies ( CIIS) mentioned that, “to further strengthen the Pak-China all-weather partnership and build a closer community with a shared future, both sides should continue consultations and conversations on CPEC, security issues, media, think tanks exchanges, and programs for youth.”

The online conference was also attended and featured with speeches by Mr. Imtiaz Gul, Head, Center for Research and Security Studies in Islamabad, Prof. Li Li, Director, Institute of South Asia Studies, Tsinghua University, Salim Saafi, Senior Journalist/Columnist, Dr. Wang Shida, Director, Institute of South Asia Studies, Institute of Contemporary International Relations (CICIR), Professor Wang Xu, Executive Director, Centre for South Asian Studies in Peking University.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/835570/pak-china-partnership-to-get-stronger-in-new-era-nong/>

## Pakistan Observer

### **CanSino Bio shows interest to deepen vaccine cooperation with Pakistan**

A delegation from the Chinese vaccine manufacturer CanSino Bio, led by vice president Mr Jack Wang, called on Ambassador Moin ul Haque at the Embassy of Pakistan Beijing, Gwadar Pro reported on Saturday. Mr Wang briefed the Ambassador on CanSino's vaccine supply to Pakistan.

He expressed a strong desire for his company to continue to meet the vaccine demand of Pakistan in the future given its increased capacity in China, says a report from Beijing.

He also offered support in enhancing the existing local filling and production capacity of NIH Pakistan not only for the Covid-19 vaccine but also for some other vaccines.

Ambassador Moin ul Haque thanked Mr Wang for CanSino's support during the difficult period of the Covid-19 pandemic.

He remarked that vaccines supplied by Chinese companies have been the backbone of Pakistan's inoculation drive.—INP

<https://pakobserver.net/cansino-bio-shows-interest-to-deepen-vaccine-cooperation-with-pakistan/>

### **Pakistani rice export to China breaks previous records: Hussain**

Pakistani exports to China are registering a significant increase and export of Pakistan rice to China during the first nine month of current financial year has broken previous records, said Pakistan Consul General, Shanghai Hussain Haider.

He said in his speech while representing Pakistan at the China Pakistan Economic Corridor & Belt and Road Initiative Agriculture Cooperation and Exchange Conference in Shanghai while Secretary and members of Ministry of National Food Security and Research for Agricultural Cooperation and Exchange participated online from Pakistan and showed a willingness to enhance further cooperation in this sector, China Economic Net (CEN) reported.

Hussain Haider believed that this platform will serve to further deepen their partnership in the crucial areas of agriculture, and will help modernize Pakistan's agriculture sector, alleviate poverty, and improve the livelihood of the masses.

Ye Junping, Deputy Director of Shanghai Municipal Agriculture and Rural Affairs, remarked that Pakistan and China are all-weather friends and China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) enhanced people-to-people relationship.

Liu Xiangdong, Deputy Director of Agriculture Trade Promotion Center of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, China said that a large population in Pakistan affiliated with the agriculture sector.—APP

<https://pakobserver.net/pakistani-rice-export-to-china-breaks-previous-records-hussain/>

## **China willing to inject new impetus into relations with Pakistan for another seven decades: Nong Rong**

The Ambassador of China Nong Rong has stated that over the past 70 years, China-Pakistan relations have developed into an outstanding model of relations between countries with different social systems, histories and cultures.

China is willing to work with Pakistan to implement the consensus of the leaders of both countries, carry forward the traditions of China-Pakistan relations, deepen strategic mutual trust, enhance pragmatic cooperation and continue to inject new impetus into China-Pakistan friendship for another seven decades.

The Ambassador gave the above remarks at a conference with the theme of 70 Years China-Pakistan Friendship “All-Weather Strategic Partnership in the New Era” held by the National Institute of International Strategy (NIIS), CASS and Understanding China Forum, Pakistan (UCF).

The online conference was attended and featured with speeches by Mr. Imtiaz Gul, Head, Center for Research and Security Studies Islamabad, Prof. Li Li, Director, Institute of South Asia Studies, Tsinghua University, Mr. Salim Saafi, Senior Journalist/Columnist, Dr. Wang Shida, Director, Institute of South Asia Studies, Institute of Contemporary International Relations (CICIR), Professor Wang Xu, Executive Director, Centre for South Asian Studies in Peking University.

The conference includes two sessions: 70 years of Pakistan-China diplomatic relations and the current situation in Afghanistan and its impact on Pakistan and China.

The ambassador pointed out that “As President Xi Jinping told Prime Minister Imran Khan during the recent phone call, the world is undergoing profound changes and 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 between both sides.

China and Pakistan should maintain close strategic communication, enhance the sharing of governance experience.” Ambassador Nong further noted.

Nong also called on China and Pakistan to work together to set an example for implementing the GDI, to safeguard international fairness and justice to improve global governance and to jointly promote the building of a community with a shared future.

Chairing the session, Prof. Ye Hailin, DDG of Bureau of International Cooperation, CASS and Dr. Fazal ur Rehman, Executive Director, UCF, pointed out that against the backdrop of unprecedented changes in a century, the Asia-Pacific region where China and Pakistan are located is undergoing earth-shaking changes.

Ambassador (R) Inamul Haque, Former Foreign Minister of Pakistan, underlined that with the passage of time, Pak-China relations have continued to grow stronger.

Pak-China relations today stand as a shining example of stability, solidarity and mutual respect in an uncertain and turbulent regional and international situation.

Professor Rong Ying, Vice President, China Institute of International Studies mentioned that, “to further strengthen the Pak-China all-weather partnership and build a closer community with a shared future.

<https://pakobserver.net/china-willing-to-inject-new-impetus-into-relations-with-pakistan-for-another-seven-decades-nong-rong/>

## **The News**

### **Pak-China strategic partnership to get stronger in new era**

ISLAMABAD: Nong Rong, Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan highlighted that over the past 70 years, China-Pakistan relations have developed into an outstanding model of relations between countries with different social systems, histories and cultures. China is willing to work with Pakistan to implement the consensus of the leaders of both countries, carry forward the traditions of China-Pakistan relations, deepen strategic mutual trust, enhance pragmatic cooperation and continue to inject new impetus into China-Pakistan friendship for another seven decades. According to Gwadar Pro, the Ambassador gave the above remarks at a conference with the theme of 70 Years China-Pakistan Friendship “All-Weather Strategic Partnership in the New Era” held by the National Institute of International Strategy (NIIS), CASS and Understanding China Forum, Pakistan (UCF). The ambassador pointed out that “As President Xi Jinping told Prime Minister Imran Khan during the recent phone call, the world is undergoing profound changes and unseen in a century with more sources of turbulence and risks around the world. — INP

<https://e.thenews.com.pk/detail?id=19592>