



# For Better Understanding on China–Pakistan and CPEC

## Gleanings from the National & Chinese Press

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**April 01-15, 2024**

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## Table of Contents

01: April 01, 2024.....	03
02: April 02, 2024.....	10
03: April 03, 2024.....	22
04: April 04, 2024.....	28
05: April 05, 2024.....	33
06: April 06, 2024.....	36
07: April 07, 2024.....	38
08: April 08, 2024.....	41
09: April 09, 2024.....	43
10: April 10, 2024.....	45
11: April 13, 2024.....	45
12: April 14, 2024.....	47
13: April 15, 2024.....	54

## Chinese Newspapers

01: April 02, 2024.....	57
02: April 03, 2024.....	58
03: April 11, 2024.....	59
04: April 15, 2024.....	62

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**April 01, 2024**

**Business Recorder**

**3rd party participation in CPEC**

Pakistan, China set to finalize modalities

Pakistan and China are all set to finalize the modalities for third-party participation in the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), aimed at inviting other potential investors in its second phase, well-informed sources told Business Recorder. The CPEC regional scope would be expanded by improving the connectivity of neighboring countries and regions with Pakistan's seaports. Both countries support the extension of CPEC to the wider area through land route transportation. According to the draft shared by the Chinese side prepared for the CPEC Joint Working Group (JWG) on International Cooperation and Coordination Modalities for third-party participation in CPEC, there will be the following general principles and objectives; (i) CPEC is an open platform and inclusive initiative based on extensive consultation, joint contribution, and shared benefits; (ii) both Pakistan and China welcome third-party participation in the CPEC in mutually identified areas, on a project-by-project basis; (iii) third-party involvement is aimed at attracting high-quality capital, technology, and expertise to enrich CPEC's development; (iv) third-party involvement would not affect the leading role of the governments of Pakistan and China in steering CPEC; (v) third-party involvement would not lead to the tri-lateralization of CPEC mechanisms such as the JCC and JWGS; (vi) third-party participation would only be made public after it is approved by Pakistani and Chinese authorities. Unilateral release of information about third-party participation will be avoided at all levels; (vii) all potential third parties will be expected to maintain confidentiality of information until their respective projects are agreed/accepted. The Joint Working Group on International Cooperation and Coordination (JWG-ICC) will act as the lead platform for the formulation of modalities for third-party participation in CPEC projects. The JWG-ICC would hold bilateral consultations between Pakistan and China to reach a consensus on modalities for third-party participation in CPEC. The JWG-ICC would seek concurrence on the involvement modalities from the relevant authorities on both sides. After approval by relevant authorities, the JWG-ICC would forward cooperation proposals to all the concerned CPEC JWGs for technical preparation and plan on implementation in their respective areas before final approval by the JCC. To build awareness of CPEC and the modalities for third-party investment, briefings would be organized in designated Pakistani and Chinese diplomatic missions abroad. The sources said the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has convened a meeting this week to share the Chinese draft with other stakeholders and give the final touches to the draft of general principles and objectives for third-party participation in CPEC projects.

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2024/04/01/1-page/989508-news.html>

### Daily Times

#### **Pakistan-China border at Khunjerab was opened today after 4 months**

Pakistan-China border at Khunjerab was opened today after 4 month Pakistan-China border Khunjerab has been opened for trade and tourism from today after being closed for 4 months. According to immigration sources, the Pakistan-China border is closed from December 1 to March 31 every year under the Border Agreement. According to the border authorities, border traffic is closed due to cold weather and snowfall under the border agreement. During this time, trade and tourism activities between Pakistan and China are also closed from this border, but the delivery of goods for the development works of the country continues.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1182505/pakistan-china-border-at-khunjerab-was-opened-today-after-4-months/>

### Dawn News

#### **PM says govt will leave ‘no stone unturned’ in ensuring security of Chinese nationals**

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif said on Monday that the government would “leave no stone left unturned” to ensure the security of Chinese nationals and projects in Pakistan. He made the remarks while speaking in Upper Kohistan’s Dasu to engineers from a Chinese company working on the dam project, according to Radio Pakistan. The premier was also accompanied by Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan Jiang Zaidong. The visit came days after five Chinese engineers — and their Pakistani driver — were killed in the suicide bombing on March 26 while travelling between Islamabad and a hydroelectric dam construction site in Dasu, in northwestern Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The bus was attacked in the Bisham city of KP’s Shangla district. The Bisham attack was part of a series of assaults in a span of a few days specifically targeting Chinese interests, including previous incidents at the Gwadar Port Authority Complex and the Turbat naval base, both of which are integral to CPEC. These consecutive attacks underlined the escalating security challenges facing Chinese projects and personnel in Pakistan. The Bisham attack had prompted China to demand a thorough probe into the deadly blast and security for its citizens. In response, Islamabad announced a swift probe to hold the “perpetrators and accomplices” accountable. Speaking in Dasu, the prime minister said: “I want to assure you that the government of Pakistan will not leave any stone unturned, will not spare any opportunity to make sure you get the best possible security for your families and yourself and that nothing will be left to chance.” He added that he was aware his words would be put to the test but reassured that they were “our commitment to you”.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1825053>



### Dunya News

#### **Wreath laying ceremony held at Nur Khan Airbase for Chinese killed in Shangla attack**

RAWALPINDI (APP) - A flower-laying ceremony was held here at the Nur Khan Airbase for the five Chinese citizens who were targeted in the recent incident of terrorism in Shangla. According to the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), the flowers were laid on behalf of the President, Prime Minister of Pakistan, Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee, Chief of Army Staff and Chief of Air Staff at the base. Thirty seconds of silence was also observed in honor of the deceased, it said. "The Government of Pakistan strongly condemns this heinous act of terrorism and will take all necessary steps to bring the terrorists and their facilitators to justice," the ISPR added.

<https://dunyanews.tv/en/Pakistan/802338-Flower-laying-ceremony-at-Nur-Khan-Air-Base-for-five-Chinese-citizens-ki>

### Pakistan Observer

#### **Shangla suicide attack on Chinese: Ten terrorists arrested**

ISLAMABAD – In a major development, the security forces on Monday apprehended 10 terrorists including a key commander involved in the suicide attack on Chinese engineers in Bisham of KPK Shangla district. The attack, orchestrated by militants associated with the banned organization TTP, resulted in the tragic loss of lives. The investigation reports suggested that the suicide bomber was brought in from Afghanistan. The officials seeking anonymity said that among the captured individuals, four are the facilitators who aided in the heinous act. The vehicle used in the attack, they said, was laden with explosives, and was traced to its origin in Afghanistan. The sources said that the vehicle was then transported through Chaman to a town of D.I. Khan. The driver responsible for its journey to D.I. Khan was reportedly paid a substantial sum for his services. The investigation also revealed that the vehicle remained parked near a petrol pump close to Shangla for 10 days before the attack, rented out at a rate of 500 rupees per day. On the day of the attack, it said, it was moved to the targeted location, carrying out its devastating purpose. One of the facilitators, responsible for transporting the vehicle from Chaman to D.I. Khan, was apprehended from Balochistan. The investigative team identified the mastermind behind the attack as Hazrat Bilal Dasu, who remains at large. Two accomplices of the suicide attacker have also been detained, with authorities anticipating Bilal's arrest in the near future. The Chinese nationals were killed when they were going from Islamabad to Dasu dam in Shangla district of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The president, prime minister and the army chief strongly condemned the attack, and expressed deep condolences with the families over the tragic loss of precious lives.

<https://pakobserver.net/shangla-suicide-attack-on-chinese-ten-terrorists-arrested/>

## **Khunjerab Pass reopens for Pak-China trade after four months hiatus**

Pakistan-China iconic border crossing Khunjerab Pass has been reopened for bilateral trade and tourism on April 1 after four months of closure. With the end of the winter season, Pakistan and China mark resumption of the new trade season at Khunjerab Pass which lies at an elevation of 4,693 meters above sea level, and is strategic position connecting both countries. To celebrate the beginning of the new trade season, a ceremony was organized. Pakistani trade firm along with local politicians, and business community members welcomed trade convoys from Xinjiang. The event included an opening and flag hoisting ceremony, symbolizing the restoration of trade and tourism links between iron brothers. Revered personalities including Javed Hussain, a former member of the GB assembly; ex-provincial minister Muhammad Baqir and other dignitaries attended the event. Following the ceremony, 15 containers of commercial goods entered Pakistan from China on the first day. Khunjerab Pass operates for travel and trade from April through November each year. For the unversed, more than 400 containers passed through Khunjerab border into Pakistan, raking in revenue of nearly Rs5.50 billion in customs duties for the government. Khunjerab Pass is strategically important, as it serving as the only land port connecting Pakistan, and China. Besides facilitating trade, it also plays a crucial role in promoting tourism between the two countries.

<https://pakobserver.net/khunjerab-pass-reopens-for-pak-china-trade-after-four-months-hiatus/>

### **The Nation**

## **IGP orders crackdown on power thieves, strict security for Chinese nationals**

LAHORE - Inspector General Police (IGP), Punjab Dr Usman Anwar has directed to intensify crackdown on electricity thieves. He issued these instructions on Sunday while presiding over a video-link meeting at the Central Police Office here while talking to the officers. The IGP Punjab said that FIRs of electricity theft should be registered immediately in all districts of the province, arrest of the accused and timely execution of challans should be ensured. He said that Punjab Police's performance against electricity thieves is clearly better than other provinces. Punjab Police registered 83 thousand 645 cases against electricity thieves during six months. Dr. Usman Anwar said that the security of the Chinese residents has been tightened as well as the traffic routes have been secured. He directed to increase checking at inter-provincial police check posts to prevent terrorism and smuggling. In the meeting, tasks given by chief minister Punjab, such as crime control, kacha area operation, and implementation of other tasks were reviewed. IG Punjab also reviewed the ongoing measures to prevent kite flying, drug selling, motorcycle theft, crimes related to women and children. IG Punjab issued orders to speed up measures to improve traffic flow on the highways.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/01-Apr-2024/igp-orders-crackdown-on-power-thieves-strict-security-for-chinese-nationals>

## The News

### **PTI leader Shehryar visits Chinese Embassy**

ISLAMABAD: Former state minister for Interior and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader Shehryar Khan Afridi on Sunday called on Minister and Deputy Chief of Mission (DCM) of Chinese Embassy, Shi Yuanqiang and conveyed commiserations over the loss of precious lives in recent terrorist attack on Chinese engineers on his own behalf and also conveyed a message of sympathy of the party supreme Imran Khan. Yang Nuo, Minister Counsellor, Chinese Embassy, was also present on the occasion, says the PTI Central Media Department. Deputy Chief of Mission Shi Yuanqiang, expressed gratitude to the PTI chief Imran Khan and party leader for visiting the Embassy and offering condolences with the victim families and the people of China and Pakistan. He said that China highly values the efforts of Pakistani government and its people in providing support and protection to the Chinese workers and companies. He said that China and Pakistan are iron-friends and the terrorist attacks would only strengthen the resolve of China and Pakistan to fight menace of terrorism strongly. Afridi said that neither terrorism nor any conspiracy can dent the trust and brotherhood between China and Pakistan rather these acts only strengthen the resolve of the people and governments of both countries to fight the menace of terrorism. He pointed out that poverty is a major issue and especially people in Pakistan and Afghanistan's bordering areas are left behind the developed areas. "Due to the rampant poverty and lack of infrastructure and employment opportunities in bordering areas of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan provinces, the terrorists mislead public and manage to attack Pakistani security forces and Chinese installations," he claimed. Afridi regretted that the terrorists also attacked the Chinese engineers in Besham despite the fact that the Chinese engineers have sacrificed everything and came to Pakistan to help build infrastructure and dams for the uplift of Pakistani people. He urged China and Pakistan to focus development of infrastructure in Pak-Afghan bordering areas and to educate and employ youth as education and employment can help fight the menace of terrorism in far-flung and under-developed tribal areas.

<http://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1174430-pti-leader-shehryar-visits-chinese-embassy>

### **Terrorists, facilitators behind deadly Shangla attack on Chinese engineers 'arrested'**

PESHAWAR: The Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) have arrested multiple terrorists and facilitators for their involvement in the deadly suicide attack in Shangla's Bisham city that killed multiple Chinese nationals, Geo News reported citing sources. The sources within CTD said that more than 10 terrorists and accomplices have been apprehended and that the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP)-affiliated outfits are believed to be involved in the March 26 deadly attack. The attack, which saw a suicide bomber crashing his explosives-laden vehicle into the car carrying Chinese nationals, resulted in the deaths of five Chinese citizens, including a woman, and a Pakistani driver. Following the incident, the country's civil and military leadership notably Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, President Asif Ali Zardari and Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Asim Munir condemned the attack vowing that the perpetrators responsible for the heinous attack would be brought to justice. Meanwhile, a

wreath-laying ceremony was held at Rawalpindi's Nur Khan Airbase and a 30-second silence was observed as bodies of the deceased Chinese nationals were airlifted back to China. Floral wreaths were laid on behalf of the president, prime minister, army chief, Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Ahmad Babar Sidhu and Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee (CJCS) General Sahir Shamshad Mirza. In the aftermath of the attack, Chinese companies overseeing operations at the sites of the Dasu and Diamer-Bhasha Dams, temporarily suspended the civil work at both sites owing to security concerns. Around 991 Chinese engineers were working on both projects, while the local staff has been told to stay at home till further instructions, an official working on the project confirmed to the publication. Last week, a Chinese investigation team has also arrived in Pakistan to investigate the incident after China's military expressed its willingness to work with Pakistan to enhance the capability of the two countries to tackle various security risks and challenges including terrorist attacks. The CTD sources say that the terrorist commander, responsible for bringing the suicide bomber to Pakistan from Afghanistan, has also been arrested as well as four other facilitators. Furthermore, the investigation has revealed that the explosive-laden vehicle used in the deadly attack was prepared in Afghanistan and was subsequently transported to Dera Ismail Khan's Darazinda via the Pak-Afghan Chaman border crossing in Balochistan. From there, the vehicle was transported to Chakdara in Lower Dir — via a smuggler of non-custom paid vehicles — for which the driver was paid Rs250,000. However, security forces have also arrested the facilitator responsible for transporting the vehicle from Chaman to Chakdara. Investigation team sources say that the car was then brought to the incident site on the day of the attack after being parked for 10 days at the cost of Rs500 per day. The mastermind of the attack, Hazrat Bilal, is also wanted by the security forces for his involvement in the Dasu dam attack, the sources added. With two accomplices of the suicide bomber already in custody, CTD expects that it will soon arrest Bilal as well. The arrests, as per the CTD sources, have been made by utilizing the mobile and SIM data of the suicide bomber which he had procured through a third person.

<https://www.thenews.com.pk/latest/1174552-terrorists-facilitators-behind-deadly-shangla-attack-arrested>

### **Express News**

**چینیوں کی سیکورٹی مزید سخت، روئس محفوظ بنایا جائے، آئی جی**

اسلحہ نمائش، سیاہ شیشوں والی گاڑیوں کیخلاف زیرو ٹالرنس پالیسی، ڈاکٹر عثمان

لاہور (نمائندہ ایکسپریس) انسپکٹر جنرل پولیس پنجاب ڈاکٹر عثمان انور نے کہا کہ چینی باشندوں کی سیکورٹی مزید سخت کرنے کے ساتھ ساتھ آمدورفت کے روٹس کو محفوظ بنایا گیا ہے، آئی جی پنجاب ڈاکٹر عثمان انور نے دہشتگردی اور اسمگلنگ کے تدارک کیلئے بین الصوبائی پولیس چیک پوسٹوں پر چیکنگ بڑھانے کا حکم دیا۔ یہ ہدایات انھوں نے آج سینٹرل پولیس آفس میں ویڈیو لنک اجلاس کی صدارت کے دوران افسران سے گفتگو کرتے ہوئے جاری کیں۔ اجلاس میں وزیر اعلیٰ پنجاب کی طرف سے کرائم کنٹرول، کچھ امیریا آپریشن و دیگر ٹاسک پر عملدرآمد کا جائزہ لیا گیا، آئی جی پنجاب نے پتنگ بازی، منشیات فروشی، موٹر سائیکل چوری، خواتین اور بچوں سے متعلقہ جرائم کی روک تھام کیلئے جاری اقدامات کا بھی جائزہ لیا۔ آئی جی پنجاب نے شاہرات پر ٹریفک کی روانی بہتر بنانے کے لیے اقدامات تیز کرنے کے احکامات جاری کئے۔ آئی جی پنجاب





**April 02, 2024**

**Daily Times**

**Pakistan-China Khunjerab border re-opened**

The Pakistan-China Khunjarab border was opened for bilateral trade and tourism after four months of closure. Khunjerab border, the only land crossing connecting Pakistan with China is located at an altitude of about 15,000 feet above sea level. According to the protocol agreement of 1985, the border is closed for traffic from December 1 to March 31 due to snowfall. Apart from the passenger vehicles in the border area of Gilgit-Baltistan, Sust, and the Chinese city of Tashkurgan, goods transport has also resumed. Bilateral trade and tourism will begin with the opening of the border. Khujarab Pass derived its name from two words of the local Wakhi language: “Khun” means blood and “Jerab” means a creek coming from a spring or waterfall. In November last year, Khunjerab Port management of China’s Xinjiang region issued a notice that the pass would remain closed from December to March. The notice said according to “Port Entry and Exit Management Measures,” the two countries would have to amend and sign the agreement on border ports and management systems through diplomatic channels to keep Khunjerab Pass open year-round. The pass connects Gilgit-Baltistan with China’s Xinjiang region and was reopened after closing for almost three years in April 2023.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1182684/pakistan-china-khunjerab-border-re-opened/>

**Dunya News**

**NA observes one-minute silence over killing of Chinese nationals in Dasu**

ISLAMABAD (Dunya News) - The National Assembly on Monday observed a one-minute silence over the killing of five Chinese nationals in the Dasu terrorist attack to express solidarity with the people of China. Speaker of the National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, said, “We condemn the attack on Chinese nationals on behalf of the National Assembly, which is a representative of the House of the people of Pakistan.” He further said, “We reiterate that such nefarious attempts to damage Pakistan-China friendship will not succeed.”

<https://dunyanews.tv/en/Pakistan/802410-NA-observes-one-minute-silence-over-killing-of-Chinese-nationals-in-Dasu>

**Pakistan Observer**

**Sino-Pak leadership firm to foil designs of enemy**

*Faisal Zahid Malik*

Consistent efforts have been made over the past many years to create a wedge between the two iron friends but as before Pakistan-China unique relationship has emerged unscathed in the backdrop of the latest terrorist attack in Bisham targeting Chinese engineers working on the vital Dasso hydro-electric project. The feelings and sentiments of people of Pakistan over the dastardly attack were represented by the local people who flocked to the scene of the tragedy instantly to lend a helping hand to the law-enforcing agencies busy in rescue

activities, saving potential harm to other precious lives. And Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, who is one of the architects of blossoming Sino-Pak friendship, rushed to the Chinese Embassy in Islamabad along with a team of his senior cabinet colleagues not just to express solidarity with the Government and people of China over the tragedy but also convey firm resolve of the Government and people of Pakistan to identify and punish the perpetrators of the heinous crime and their backers. There can be no two opinions that the Chinese nationals and interests in Pakistan are being targeted with a clear objective of undermining bilateral ties, which are scaling new heights with the passage of time, and create hurdles in the way of progress, development and prosperity of people of Pakistan. As China is a reliable source of economic, political, diplomatic and defense strength of Pakistan, conspiracies have always been hatched to weaken their bonds but such efforts for malized and intensified when the two neighbors reached an understanding to launch the epoch-making project of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), which is rightly seen in Pakistan as once in a century opportunity to break shackles of poverty and backwardness, especially in hitherto neglected areas and regions. It is purely an economic initiative aimed at improving Pakistan's infrastructure to international standard and resolving some of the chronic problems of the country like crippling energy shortages as well as harnessing its agriculture potential to put Pakistan on an accelerated path of progress and development. However, the enemy made no secret of its designs to go to any extent either to scuttle the historic initiative or slow down implementation of the multi-dimensional project. Thanks to the firm determination of the leadership of the two countries that the initiative is proceeding ahead successfully and new areas of cooperation are being added to its framework. It is not a coincidence that the Bisham attack was planned and carried out ahead of the proposed visit of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to China, where he intends to discuss proposals with the Chinese leadership for accelerating the momentum of progress on different projects and include several others that matter much for socio-economic progress of Pakistan. Understandably, the enemy wanted to shift focus of the visit from development to security concerns for Chinese nationals working on various projects in Pakistan. It is, however, a source of satisfaction that the leadership of the two countries is fully alive to the conspiracies and motives of the enemies of Sino-Pak friendship. Concerns about security and safety of the manpower working on development projects are legitimate and in the wake of a similar terrorist attack targeting Chinese engineers working on the same project in 2021 the two sides worked out a comprehensive plan to beef up security arrangements. The convoy of the Chinese engineers included three vehicles of dedicated security staff but, of course, not much can be done in the face of suicidal attacks. There is definitely a need to review and revise the security protocol to minimize the risks and intensify intelligence gathering to forestall such conspiracies and that is what the Government of Pakistan has vowed to do. Chairing a high-level meeting, which was also attended by Army Chief General Syed Asim Munir, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif instructed for a thorough joint investigation to be conducted, utilizing all resources of the state. The participants of the meeting expressed their resolute commitment to completely rooting out terrorism from the country and reiterated to comprehensively combat terrorism, employing all resources available to the state. Noting the recent surge in terrorist incidents, the COAS remarked that the enemies of Pakistan had once again underestimated the resilience and grit of the state and the people of Pakistan. He conveyed a strong message to

terrorists of all sorts that “We shall fight terrorism till every terrorist casting an evil eye on Pakistan, its people and their guests is eliminated; we shall not leave any stone unturned to ensure that every foreign citizen, especially the Chinese nationals contributing to the prosperity of Pakistan, is safe and secure in Pakistan. We shall fight terrorism with all our might, to the very end. “The Chinese nationals and interests are repeatedly being targeted but these have failed to create a dent in the unrelenting resolve of the Chinese leadership and people to continue fostering ties with Pakistan. This resolve was reiterated by Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Lin Jianwho said that Pakistan and China have the determination and ability to make terrorists pay the price for their actions and any attempt to undermine China-Pakistan cooperation will not succeed. This is a clear message that the two countries would not allow such conspiracies to create misunderstanding between the two trusted friends. Instead, the statement hints at the possibility of the two countries joining hands to root out the menace of terrorism. The spokesman also expressed satisfaction over the response of Pakistan to the tragedy adding that the Pakistani side pledged that it would investigate the attack thoroughly, provide the Chinese side with timely updates on the progress of the investigation and take further, comprehensive measures to improve the security of Chinese personnel, projects and institutions in Pakistan. The mature and calculated statement of the Chinese Foreign Ministry augurs well for bolstering bilateral ties in different spheres of life in the times to come. Its spokesperson firmly assured that China will continue to support Pakistan’s economic development, social development and improvement of its people’s livelihoods. China will undertake firm cooperation with Pakistan in various fields to bring benefits to the two peoples. This is, in fact, in line with the repeated assurances of the Chinese leadership including President Xi Jinping to continue to extend support to Pakistan in different spheres of life. As Pakistan is facing an economic crisis, Xi, during his meeting with Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif in November 2022 pledged to help Pakistan ‘stabilize economy’. It was not a mere slogan as China extended valuable material assistance to the country to avoid an imminent sovereign default. Similarly, back in November 2019, the Chinese President described his relations with Pakistan as a ‘priority of diplomacy’. He has also been advocating that the two countries should keep advancing bilateral ties through high-quality cooperation under the framework of the Belt and Road Initiative. In this backdrop, I firmly hope that the two countries would arrive at a comprehensive understanding to forge their ties in various sectors to the mutual advantage during the proposed visit of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif. I also earnestly hope that the leadership of the two countries would see to it that the conspiracies of the enemy do not lead to suspension of work on development projects. Instead, security arrangements must be upgraded to the satisfaction of the Chinese side so that the work continues unhindered. In fact, fast-paced implementation of ongoing projects and initiation n of new ones would be the befitting response to the designs of the enemy.

<https://pakobserver.net/sino-pak-leadership-firm-to-foil-designs-of-enemy/>

### **Terrorists attack on Chinese aimed at harming Pak-China friendship: PM**

Pledging that no stone would be left unturned to punish the terrorists behind the attack on Chinese nationals in Bisham, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Monday observed that the cowardly attack was aimed at creating a wedge between Pakistan and the time tested friend China. In an extremely gory incident a suicide explosion targeting foreigners' vehicle on Karakoram Highway in Bisham district Khyber Pakhtunkhwa on March 26, it may be recalled, had left at least six people including five engineers of the brotherly country China dead. Those killed also included a Chinese lady. The Chinese were on their way from Islamabad to Dasu Dam, upper Kohistan, where they were working at the gigantic Dasu Hydropower Project being carried out with the help of China and is close to completion. "The incident was aimed to damage an extraordinary friendship between Pakistan and China". Prime Minister Sharif said while addressing a condolence reference for the deceased Chinese nationals in Dasu upper Kohistan division of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa on Monday. On this occasion Shehbaz Sharif vowed to provide maximum security to the Chinese engineers and their families who were working on different development projects in Pakistan. He said that the sole purpose of his visit was to offer deep condolences to the Chinese nationals in Dasu who lost their beloved colleagues following the terrorist attack and promised that the government would leave no stone unturned to punish the terrorists behind the coward attack in Bisham. 30-seconds silence was also observed for those who lost lives in the tragic incident. The prime minister said that he had also ordered a high-level probe through a joint investigation team to ascertain facts and responsible persons which would be brought to justice. He hoped Pak-China friendship would move forward and the enemies of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor would be defeated. Terming it a job of the enemies of Pakistan, he said that it was a dastardly act on the part of the perpetrators who found every opportunity to harm this friendship, which was strengthening with each passing day and expanding and moving forward with speed.

<https://pakobserver.net/terrorists-attack-on-chinese-aimed-at-harming-pak-china-friendship-pm/>

### **The Nation**

#### **UDA, CBD kick starts Sino-Pak Collaboration for Sustainable Development**

In a landmark display of bilateral cooperation, pivotal meetings were held today between Pakistani authorities and Chinese corporations, marking a significant stride towards sustainable development and economic prosperity. Hosted at the headquarters of China Machinery Engineering Corporation (CMEC), high-level discussions unfolded between key stakeholders, including representatives from the Ravi Urban Development Authority (RUDA) and the Punjab Central Business District Authority (PCBDA). Deliberations encompassed a wide array of topics, spanning past ventures, project updates, financial considerations, and collaborative agreements. A mutual commitment was made to enhance collaboration through the exchange of detailed project information, paving the way for long-term partnerships and sustainable development initiatives. Anticipation soared as plans for a delegation visit to

Pakistan gets materialized, contingent upon the finalization of collaborative agreements. Simultaneously, at the Oriental Youhong headquarters, a parallel dialogue unfolded, signaling enthusiasm for collaborative endeavors. Representatives from RUDA and PCBDA engaged with Oriental Youhong, a leading Chinese corporation renowned for its expertise in solar panel manufacturing and construction solutions.

Discussions centered on project synergy and collaboration prospects, aiming to leverage Oriental Youhong's capabilities to bolster infrastructure projects in Pakistan. Further strengthening the collaboration, a productive meeting took place where a delegation comprising ADM CEO Yasir Malik, Pakistan China Commerce Alliance President Guo XiaoQi, Director BD IR Fatima Ali Khan, and Assistant Director PR Sana Iqbal explored avenues for setting up an Electric Vehicle (EV) charging factory and upscale hotels within RUDA's jurisdiction.

Key highlights from the discussions included plans for establishing an EV assembly and manufacturing plant in RUDA's Industrial State, with a planned land requirement of 40 acres. Additionally, proposals for prestigious 5-star hotels, with a proposed land requirement ranging from 5 to 7 acres were discussed. Keen interest has been shown, indicating tangible progress towards materializing these ambitious endeavors, with further exploration and detailed discussions on technology transfer agreements and land acquisition slated for the next meetings.

Furthermore, a team of technical experts also visited the Zoom lines heavy industry complex where different types of earth-moving machinery, cranes, smog busters, sprinkler vehicles and municipal sweepers were shown to Pakistani delegates.

These collaborative efforts exemplify the unwavering commitment of both Chinese corporations and Pakistani delegates towards forging synergistic partnerships, driving sustainable development, and fostering economic prosperity in the region. It is pertinent to note that as Punjab government has shown keen interest in supporting and boosting IT sector within the province.

In this regard, the government has launched various initiatives aimed at fostering a thriving IT ecosystem. Punjab aims to position itself as a hub for IT excellence through strategic investments, infrastructure development, and policy framework. The government is paving the way for sustainable economic development and global competitiveness in the digital age by nurturing local talent, attracting foreign investment, and encouraging collaboration between various sectors. RUDA and CBD are following the vision of Chief Minister Punjab, Maryam Nawaz in transforming the atmospherics of information technology to have Pakistan's own Silicon Valley with the twin initiative of an IT knowledge park in the CBD area and IT city in RUDA.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/02-Apr-2024/ruda-cbd-kickstarts-sino-pak-collaboration-for-sustainable-development>



## PM meets Chinese workers in Dasu days after terror attack

Shehbaz Sharif says govt will ensure best security arrangements for Chinese workers in Pakistan n Vows exemplary punishment for perpetrators, culprits behind March 26 suicide attack. DASU/ISLAMABAD/ PESHAWAR - Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Monday assured foolproof security measures for the Chinese nationals working on Dasu Hydropower Project as well as across the country and resolved to ensure exemplary punishment for the perpetrators of March 26 incident. Addressing a gathering of the Chinese engineers and workers, he said the government would ensure that the perpetrators and culprits of March 26, incident should get the exemplary punishment so that it would be a lesson and that no one could commit such dastardly act in future. The prime minister said that the sole purpose of his visit was to offer deep and sincere condolences and express feelings to the Chinese brothers and sisters in Dasu over a sad incident that took place on March 26 in which five Chinese and one local lost their lives He said it was a cowardly act on part of the terrorists to kill innocent Chinese and a Pakistani for no other reason except to disturb and damage the exceptional friendship between Pakistan and China. Federal Ministers Amir Muqam, Attaullah Tarar, Chairman WAPDA Lt Gen. (retd) Sajjad Ghani, Chinese Ambassador in Pakistan Jiang Zaidong, members of the Chinese company and senior officials were also present on the occasion. Terming it a job of the enemies of Pakistan, the prime minister said that it was a dastardly act on part of the perpetrators who found every opportunity to harm this friendship which was strengthening by each passing day and expanding and moving forward with speed. "That is the reason enemies do not spare any opportunity to damage and create a wedge between the two Iron Brothers," he added. Prime Minister Sharif said that they shared the moment of sadness and sorrow and assured that the government would not leave any stone unturned and would not spare any opportunity to ensure the best possible security measures for the Chinese families and nationals. He also assured the Chinese leadership, the people and the Chinese ambassador that all foolproof security arrangements would be made for the Chinese people working and supporting a prosperous and developing Pakistan. The prime minister said that after the incident, he had visited embassy immediately to offer condolences on behalf of his government and the people of Pakistan to the Chinese leadership and the Chinese people. He informed that a joint investigation team was also constituted on the same day and its report was due any time. He further assured that they would not waste time to act upon the recommendations of the inquiry committee in letter and spirit. Besides, a high level security meeting held on March 27 in which they discussed better coordination with the provincial governments over the additional security measures, he added. The prime minister said that Pak-China friendship would march forward in unison and the enemies of CPEC and this exceptional relationship would be defeated completely. Speaking on the occasion, Ambassador Jiang Zaidong said that the prime minister visited the embassy and reassured security for the Chinese nationals. He also expressed gratitude to the government and people of Pakistan for expressing solidarity, adding that they were ready to work together to further build their strategic partnership with Pakistan. The gathering also observed 30-second silence for those who lost lives in the tragic incident. Meanwhile, Different security agencies have made separate arrests in the recent suicide bombing case that killed five Chinese citizens along with a Pakistani driver in Shangla district last week.

Official sources say that at least 12 suspects were arrested during nationwide raids. Also, the vehicle used in the bombing was sent to Forensic Science Laboratory on Monday, officials said. A senior official told this correspondent that different security agencies have made separate arrests, which may be in dozens, but added that there is no cogent information available to confirm who is behind the attack. Earlier, some media reports suggested that the vehicle used in the bombing had been identified to be unregistered. However, a security official said: “Today, the vehicle used in the bombing was shifted to FSL [Forensic Science Laboratory], and once it is investigated, only then we will be able to confirm whether the vehicle is unregistered or it can be traced further during investigations,” he added. Meanwhile, KP’s Additional IG CTD Shaukat Abbas said he is not in a position to say something regarding the incident and that he would share information with media once there is a significant breakthrough in the probe. On March 26, a suicide bomber had driven an explosives-laden vehicle into the engineers’ vehicle at a dam site, resulting in the death of six individuals. In July 2021, a bomb attack on a coach in Dasu Kohistan claimed the lives of 13 people, including nine Chinese nationals, two Frontier Constabulary personnel, and two locals. A team from China has also arrived in Pakistan recently to join the investigations into the bombing on their workers in Bisham area of Shangla district.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/02-Apr-2024/pm-meets-chinese-workers-in-dasu-days-after-terror-attack>

### The News

#### **Pakistan-China cooperation strengthens despite tragedy**

Islamabad: Chairman of Tehreek Jawanaan Pakistan, Mohammad Abdullah Gul, unequivocally denounced the propaganda of anti-national elements in the wake of the recent Basham attack. Addressing journalists, Gul emphasized that the nefarious agenda of these elements stands exposed in the face of unwavering Pakistan-China cooperation.

The cowardly terrorist attack in Basham claimed the lives of five Chinese engineers, sparking a wave of misinformation and frustration propagated by anti-national forces. However, despite attempts to sow discord, China has reaffirmed its commitment to Pakistan’s development by announcing the resumption of work on the Tarbela Dam expansion project.

Contrary to malicious rumors, Chinese officials have clarified that no Pakistani workers were fired from dam projects.

The Chinese Embassy and Consulate General in Pakistan, along with the Foreign Ministry, have strongly condemned the attack, vowing to hold terrorists accountable. Abdullah Gul stressed the significance of China’s decision to continue infrastructure projects, highlighting it as a resounding defeat for anti-national elements.

He emphasized that such collaboration not only strengthens bilateral ties but also underscores the collective resolve to combat terrorism. In a joint statement, Pakistani and Chinese authorities reaffirmed their commitment to thwarting any attempts to undermine their partnership. The resumption of work on crucial projects signifies a shared vision for regional prosperity and stability. The statements issued by Chinese authorities, coupled with the swift

action to resume work on dam projects, serve as a testament to the resilience of Pakistan-China relations in the face of adversity. As both nations stand united against terrorism, their cooperation sets a precedent for global efforts to combat this common enemy. In conclusion, the renewed commitment to cooperation and development represents a decisive blow to those who seek to disrupt Pakistan's progress. The alliance between Pakistan and China remains steadfast, sending a clear message to anti-national elements that their divisive tactics will not prevail.

<https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1174761-pakistan-china-cooperation-strengthens-despite-tragedy>

### **Security beefed up: Chinese company resumes work on T5 Hydropower Project**

HARIPUR: The work on the Tarbela 5th Extension Hydropower Project resumed here on Monday after five days of suspension, official sources and police said. The sources at Tarbela Dam said that the Chinese construction company PCCCL which had been engaged to do the civil work of the powerhouse of the Tarbela 5th Extension Hydropower Project called back its workers to duties from Monday. When contacted, Awami Labor Union General Secretary, Aslam Adil confirmed that the Chinese company had called back all the workers who were informed of work suspension vide office order No PCCCL/T5-Admin/2024-019, March 26, 2024. Both Chinese and Pakistani workers were now busy in work amid a beefed-up security, said Aslam Adil. When approached for comments, Sub-Divisional Police Officer Ghazi Raja Bashir Khan confirmed that the PCCCL had called back its workers and Monday was the first day when the work on the T5 project restarted. He said the security was beefed up inside the project and residential areas of the Chinese and their travel routes as per revised security protocols in line with the directives of higher authorities. The PCCCL, also known as Power China, was tasked to complete the civil work of the 1530 MW hydropower project being built on the 5th tunnel of the Tarbela Dam. The project is scheduled to be completed by May 2026.

<https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1174822-security-beefed-up-chinese-company-resumes-work-on-t5-hydropower-project>

### **30 students awarded scholarships**

LAHORE: Punjab University's Confucius Institute Monday gave MINISO scholarship awards to 30 students for passing HSK Chinese language levels. Confucius Institute Punjab University, Lahore, organized MINISO scholarship award certificates distribution ceremony for the students who successfully passed HSK Chinese language levels and orientation of new students. PU Vice Chancellor Prof Dr Khalid Mahmood, host Director of PU Confucius Institute Prof Dr Shafique-Ur-Rehman, Vice President of MINISO Company in Pakistan Mr. Li Dong, Vice President of Lahore Overseas Chinese Association Miss He-yubing and students also attended the event. On the occasion, The PU VC expressed his pleasure at the strong friendship between Pakistan and China and emphasized that language promotion was crucial to strengthening bilateral relations. He said we should make equal efforts to promote Urdu and Chinese languages. <https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1174749-30-students-awarded-scholarships>

## Express News

### پاک چین سرحد خنجراب 4 ماہ بعد کھول دی گئی

اسلام آباد (این این آئی) پاک چین سرحد خنجراب 4 ماہ بند رہنے کے بعد تجارت اور سیاحت کے لیے کھول دی گئی۔ ایگریکیشن ذرائع کے مطابق سرحدی معاہدے کے تحت ہر سال پاک چین سرحد کو یکم دسمبر سے 31 مارچ تک بند کیا جاتا ہے۔ بارڈر حکام کے مطابق سرحدی معاہدے کے تحت سرد موسم اور برف باری کے باعث سرحدی آمد و رفت بند کی جاتی ہے اس دوران اس سرحد سے پاک چین تجارتی اور سیاحتی سرگرمیاں بھی بند رہتی ہیں تاہم ملکی سطح کے ترقیاتی کاموں کے سامان کی ترسیل جاری رہتی ہے۔

[https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1110897493&Issue=NP\\_KHI&Date=20240402](https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1110897493&Issue=NP_KHI&Date=20240402)

### دشمن کو سی پیک متاثر کرنے کی اجازت نہیں دینگے ، احسن اقبال

سی پیک کے تحت 5 کوریڈورز دیگر منصوبوں سے روزگار کے مواقع پیدا ہونگے

گزشتہ دور میں کام نہ ہونے سے سرمایہ کار دل برداشتہ ہو کر چلے گئے، انٹرویو

اسلام آباد (اے پی پی) وفاقی وزیر منصوبہ بندی، ترقی، اصلاحات و خصوصی اقدامات احسن اقبال نے کہا ہے کہ کسی دشمن کو سی پیک کو متاثر کرنے کی ہر گز اجازت نہیں دیں گے۔ سی پیک کے حوالے سے اپنے انٹرویو کے دوران وفاقی وزیر نے کہا کہ جو چینی بہن بھائی پاکستان میں ترقیاتی منصوبوں پر کام کر رہے ہیں وہ ہمارے مہمان ہیں۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ حکومت اپنے شہریوں کو جو تحفظ دیتی ہے اس سے کئی گنا زیادہ وسائل اور تحفظ اپنے چینی بہن بھائیوں کو فراہم کرتی ہے۔ پروفیسر احسن اقبال نے کہا کہ سی پیک کے دشمن سی پیک پر حملہ کرنے کی کوشش کرتے رہیں گے لیکن پاکستان اور چین کے عزم میں کوئی کمی نہیں آئیگی۔ سی پیک کے تحت پانچ نئے کوریڈور بنائے جائیں گے جن میں پاکستان کی معیشت میں نمونیکل ایسے منصوبے شروع کیے جائیں گے جن سے روزگار کے مواقع پیدا ہوں گے، ٹیکنالوجی اور جدت کو بنیاد بناتے ہوئے ڈیجیٹل دور کے تقاضوں سے ملک کو ہم آہنگ کیا جائے گا۔

[https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1110897566&Issue=NP\\_KHI&Date=20240402#google\\_vignette](https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1110897566&Issue=NP_KHI&Date=20240402#google_vignette)

### چینی باشندے اسلامی عالمی امتی نون کی سیکیوٹی دینگے

تفکیلی دی، شریک عناصر کو کٹھڑے میں لائیں گے، ایسی عبرتناک سزا دیں گے کہ مستقبل میں ایسی حرکت کی جرات کوئی نہ کر سکے IT

داسو کا دورہ، چینی انجینئروں کی یاد میں 30 سیکنڈ کی خاموشی، امید ہے دہشت گردی کی روک تھام کیلئے مزید اقدامات ہونگے، چینی سفیر

اسلام آباد (نمائندہ ایکسپریس، خبر ایجنسیاں) وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف نے کہا ہے چینی دوست پاکستان کی ترقی اور خوشحال کیلئے اہم کردار ادا کر رہے ہیں، ان کی سلامتی ہماری سلامتی ہے، انہیں فول پروف سیکیورٹی دیں گے۔ وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف نے داسو کا دورہ کے دوران چینی داسو ہائیڈرو پاور پراجیکٹ پر کام کرنے والے چینی انجینئروں سے ملاقات کی۔ اس موقع پر دہشت گردی کا نشانہ بننے والے چینی انجینئروں کی یاد میں 30 سیکنڈ کی خاموشی اختیار کی گئی۔ وزیر اعظم شریف نے خطاب میں کہا چینی بہن اور بھائیوں کے ساتھ اظہارِ محبت کیلئے داسو کا دورہ کیا۔ 26 مارچ کو بشام کے افسوسناک واقعہ پر اظہارِ محبت کرتے ہیں۔ یہ دہشت گردوں کا بزدلانہ فعل تھا، جس کا مقصد پاکستان اور چین کی غیر "کو متاثر کرنا تھا۔ ہمارے دشمن دونوں ملکوں کے درمیان روز بروز مستحکم اور وسیع ہوتی دوستی کو متاثر کرنے کیلئے کوئی بھی موقع ہاتھ سے جانے نہیں دیتے تاکہ آئرن برادرز کی دوستی میں رخنہ ڈالا جاسکے۔ یقین دہانی کرتا ہوں حکومت پاکستان یہاں کام کرنے والے چینیوں اور ان کے خاندانوں کی سیکیورٹی کیلئے کوئی کسر باقی نہیں چھوڑے گی اور ہر ممکنہ اقدامات کئے جائیں گے تاکہ آئندہ ایسے واقعات نہ ہوں۔ واقعہ میں ملوث شریک عناصر کو انصاف کے کٹھڑے میں لائیں







## Nawaiwaqt News

### بشام واقعہ کے پیچھے پاکستان کے دشمن، چینی باشندوں کو فول پروف سکیورٹی دیں گے: شہباز شریف

بشام حملے میں ہلاک ہونے والے 5 چینی باشندوں کو خراج عقیدت پیش کرنے کیلئے نورخان ایئر بیس پر پھول رکھنے کی تقریب کا انعقاد کیا گیا۔ صدر پاکستان آصف علی زرداری، وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف، چیئر مین جو اینٹ چیفس آف سٹاف کمیٹی جنرل ساحر شمشاد، چیف آف آرمی سٹاف جنرل عاصم منیر اور چیف آف ایئر سٹاف ظہیر احمد بابر سدھو کی جانب سے نورخان ایئر بیس پر پھول رکھے گئے۔ اس موقع پر دہشت گردی واقعے میں مارے گئے چینی شہریوں کے اعزاز میں 30 سیکنڈ کی خاموشی بھی اختیار کی گئی۔ تقریب میں اس عزم کا بھی اعادہ کیا گیا کہ حکومت پاکستان دہشت گردی کے اس گھٹانے فعل کی شدید مذمت کرتی ہے اور دہشت گردوں اور ان کے سہولت کاروں کو انصاف کے کٹہرے میں لانے کیلئے تمام ضروری اقدامات کرے گی۔ وفاقی وزیر اور سیز پاکستانیز چوہدری سالک چینی انجینئرز کی میتیں لے کر چین پہنچ گئے، چوہدری سالک نے انجینئرز کی میتیں چینی حکام کے حوالے کیں

وزیر اعظم محمد شہباز شریف نے ملک میں کام کرنے والے چینی باشندوں کے ہر ممکن تحفظ کو یقینی بنانے کے عزم کا اعادہ کرتے ہوئے کہا ہے کہ چینی دوست پاکستان کی ترقی اور خوشحال کیلئے ہم کردار ادا کر رہے ہیں، ان کی سلامتی ہماری سلامتی ہے، ہم ان کی فول پروف سکیورٹی یقینی بنائیں گے، بشام واقعہ کے پس پردہ پاکستان کے دشمن کار فرما ہیں، واقعہ میں ملوث عناصر کو قراوقتی سزا دی جائے گی۔ ان خیالات کا اظہار انہوں نے پیر کو بشام واقعہ کے تناظر میں داسو ہائیڈرو پاور پراجیکٹ پر کام کرنے والے چینی انجینئرز اور ماہرین سے تعزیت اور اظہار یکجہتی کیلئے دورہ داسو کے موقع پر تقریب سے خطاب کرتے ہوئے کیا۔ چینی سفیر جیانگ ژائی ڈونگ، چینی کمپنی کے اراکین اور سینئر حکام موجود تھے۔ اس موقع پر بشام واقعہ میں دہشت گردی کا نشانہ بننے والے چینی انجینئرز کی یاد میں 30 سیکنڈ کی خاموشی اختیار کی گئی۔ وزیر اعظم نے اس موقع پر چینی انجینئروں سے ملاقات بھی کی۔ تقریب سے خطاب کرتے ہوئے وزیر اعظم محمد شہباز شریف نے کہا کہ چینی بہن اور بھائیوں کے ساتھ اظہار یکجہتی کیلئے داسو کا دورہ کیا ہے۔ وزیر اعظم نے کہا کہ بشام واقعہ دہشت گردوں کا ہزدلانہ فعل تھا جس کا مقصد پاکستان اور چین کی غیر معمولی دوستی کو متاثر کرنا تھا، یہ فعل پاکستان کے دشمنوں کا ہے۔ ہمارے دشمن دونوں ملکوں کے درمیان روز بروز مستحکم اور وسیع ہوتی دوستی کو متاثر کرنے کیلئے کوئی بھی موقع ہاتھ سے جانے نہیں دیتے تاکہ چین اور پاکستان جیسے آئرن برادرز کی دوستی میں رخنہ ڈالا جاسکے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ وہ یہاں موجود چینوں کے چہروں پر اپنے ساتھیوں کی جدائی کا سوگ دکھ سکتے ہیں۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ وہ یقین دہانی کراتے ہیں کہ حکومت پاکستان یہاں کام کرنے والے چینوں اور ان کے خاندانوں کی سکیورٹی کیلئے کوئی کسر باقی نہیں چھوڑے گی اور ہر ممکنہ اقدامات اٹھائے جائیں گے تاکہ آئندہ اس قسم کے واقعات نہ ہوں۔ وزیر اعظم نے کہا کہ ان کی سلامتی ہماری سلامتی ہے، ہم ان کی فول پروف سکیورٹی بنائیں گے۔

انہوں نے کہا کہ ہم نے اپنے چینی بھائیوں کو یقین دہانی کرائی کہ اس واقعہ میں ملوث شریکین عناصر کو انصاف کے کٹہرے میں لائیں گے اور انہیں ایسی سزا دی جائے گی کہ جو ایک مثال ہوگی اور کوئی مستقبل میں ایسی حرکت کی جرات نہیں کر سکے گا۔ واقعہ کی تحقیقات کیلئے بے آئی ٹی تشکیل دی گئی ہے جس کی سفارشات پر کارروائی کریں گے۔ داسو سمیت ملک بھر میں کام کرنے والے چینی شہریوں کو بہتر سکیورٹی فراہم کریں گے۔ دوستی، سی بیک اور چین پاکستان تعلقات کے دشمنوں کو شکست فاش ہوگی۔

پاکستان میں چین کے سفیر جیانگ ژائی ڈونگ نے گفتگو کرتے ہوئے کہا کہ حملے کے فوری بعد وزیر اعظم نے اظہار یکجہتی کیلئے چینی سفارتخانے کا دورہ کیا۔ وزیر اعظم نے چینی باشندوں کی سکیورٹی کو یقینی بنانے کیلئے اعلیٰ سطح کا اجلاس منعقد کیا۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ وزیر اعظم نے اپنی مصروفیت کے باوجود چینی انجینئرز سے اظہار یکجہتی کیلئے داسو کا دورہ کیا ہے جس پر وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف کا شکریہ ادا کرتے ہیں۔ چینی سفیر نے کہا کہ وزیر اعظم پاکستان نے چینی باشندوں کی فول پروف سکیورٹی کی یقین دہانی کرائی۔ امید ہے کہ پاکستانی حکومت دہشت گردی کے واقعات کی روک تھام کیلئے مزید اقدامات اٹھائے گی۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2024-04-02/page-1/detail-10>

**April 03, 2024**

**Daily Times**

### **Pakistan invites International Consultants for Islamabad's Model SEZ development**

The Board of Investment (BOI) in Pakistan has issued a request for proposals (RFP) from international consulting firms to develop the Islamabad Model Special Economic Zone (IMSEZ), a key project under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). The deadline for the submission of applications is May 20. A pre-bid meeting has been scheduled for May 6 at 11 am in Islamabad. Interested companies are required to submit a non-refundable draft of two thousand rupees to the Board of Investment. The selected firm will be tasked with preparing a feasibility report, master plan, and land acquisition management plan for the Model Special Economic Zone in Islamabad. The zone has been named IMSEZ, and joint ventures, including consortiums, are eligible to participate in the bidding process. The successful bidder will conduct a land survey and submit a feasibility report. They will also prepare a PC-1 for the zone according to the rules of the Planning Commission. The firm will draft the preliminary engineering design and estimate infrastructure development.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1183001/pakistan-invites-international-consultants-for-islamabads-model-sez-development/>

**Pakistan Observer**

### **CPEC Phase-II and Government's New Roadmap**

*Dr Mehmood Ul Hassan Khan*

Indications suggest that regional geopolitics and the global geostrategic chessboard are specifically targeting Pak-China bilateral relations and the CPEC project, leading to the proliferation of speculations and rumors within the country, akin to a spreading fire in the jungle. A systematic propaganda campaign has been initiated against CPEC, labeling it as a debt trap and a supposed security risk for Pakistan's foreign relations with Western powers and financial institutions alike. Rumors are high that after the Dasu Hydropower dam suicidal attack Chinese policymakers have decided to wind up the CPEC energy projects and shifted its priorities to Wakhan Corridor to get connected with Afghanistan and ultimately with Central Asian Countries. Conversely, the Chinese leadership, policymakers and its Foreign Ministry all reiterated their unconditional support to government of Pakistan against its fight against terrorism and continuation of the CPEC Phase-II in the country thus negating the Western-sponsored propaganda against any paradigm shift in the Chinese policy and showing the real colors of Pak-China strategic friendship based on mutual respect, sacrifice, trust, accommodation and, above all, joint persuasions to achieve the desired goals of immense socio-economic integration, connectivity, prosperity and economic sustainability. However, hot issues of safety, security of the Chinese nationals working in the country along with the CPEC projects must be protected through mutually agreed security arrangements. Chinese investigators arrived in Pakistan to join a probe into a recently held suicide attack in Bisham

which claimed the lives of six people, including five Chinese nationals. It is high time to fix the faults and faulty lines to provide a risk-free environment for the Chinese workers, investment and joint ventures in the country. Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif urged his cabinet members to immediately commence work towards achieving the targets set in a five-year roadmap he shared with all the relevant ministries. It consists of core responsibilities, accountabilities and wide implementation of meaningful structural reforms in the diverse sectors of economy, production, energy, manufacturing, collection of taxes, digitalization, modernization/innovation, qualitative development, human development and last but not the least, immense overhauling in agriculture, green transformation and above all export-oriented growth in which the CPEC Phase-II may play a vital role to achieve all these goals. It seems that one of the main focuses of Prime Minister Shehbaz is to provide all possible facilities to create a business and investment friendly environment to foreign investors in the country. Moreover, provision of easy “Doing Business” will also be reformed and re-implemented. Another strategic priority is to overcome delays and red tape through the Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC). The hiring of global consultants, the relevant rules should also be followed. The prime minister stressed the utilization of the country’s talented human resources for achieving the targets. Additionally, to reduce the burden of foreign debts, increase GDP, create jobs, develop agriculture and IT sectors, bring reforms in the energy sector and end smuggling should also be strategic goals to be achieved within the next five years, transforming the country and its economy towards self-reliance and self-sufficiency. It is suggested that quick overhauling in our judicial system, implementation of complete accountability, zero tolerance to corruption and any bureaucratic hurdle and no compromise on safety and security of the Chinese nationals and CPEC projects should be the way forward. Unfortunately, due to structural impediments, lack of infrastructure and easy availability of trained human resource, incompetence, inefficiencies and the economy is mired with numerous ills which need to be fixed for achieving the goals of economic stability, social development and qualitative growth in the days to come. It is ironic that provinces have also miserably failed to develop their own independent systems and mobilize their own resources by not collecting due agricultural income tax from the rich landlords and failure in imposing progressive taxes assigned and devolved to them in the wake of Constitution 18th Amendment Act 2010. The burgeoning fiscal deficit, historic high inflation, discount rate of 22 percent, stagflation, rising unemployment, huge circular debt in electricity and gas sectors, continuous funding from taxpayers’ money of inefficient and loss-bearing state-owned enterprises (SOEs) have become main issues for the economic stability and sustainability in the country. Mounting debt burden and meeting revenue (tax and non-tax) targets would not be easily achieved. It is suggested that the corporate tax rate should not be more than 20 percent including super tax etc. The income tax rate should be lowered to maximum 10 percent with an alternate tax of 2 percent on net wealth exceeding Rs.100 million, whichever is higher. Moreover, reducing fiscal deficit to the level of 4 percent of GDP, it is important to curtail unproductive and wasteful expenses by 30 percent, increase non-tax revenues by leasing out valuable state lands and assets e.g. palatial government houses etc., through public auction and for specific activities to generate employment and boost economic activity and taxes at all levels, federal, provincial and local should be made simple, low rate, broad-based and payable with ease. It is suggested that all possible facilities

and incentives need to be extended to all kinds of entrepreneurs and innovators, especially Small & Medium Enterprises (SMEs) to concentrate on innovations, growth and productivity. Banking sector must be proactive in lending to SMEs and big businesses. Collection of local/provincial taxes e.g. property, vehicle, retail and service taxes etc., should be rigorously implemented by allocating funds to local governments to provide services of health, education, civic amenities of all kinds and recreation etc. In summary, there should be zero tolerance on terrorism, radicalization and unlawfulness in the country. It is high time to implement the National Action Plan to eradicate terrorism from our country, society and ranks. Our national narrative against a Perception War has miserably failed. It is time to act and act immediately because it is a full-fledged war hurting our country, society, economy and bilateral relations with our strategic partner China. It is suggested that policy makers of both countries should sit together to resolve the hot issue of safety and security of the Chinese nationals and CPEC projects in the country. It has certain national, regional and global connections which need to be resolved through pragmatic foreign policy and economic diplomacy. There is an urgent need to replace the existing security model of the Chinese nationals and the CPEC projects. New integrated, information based, modern and mutually monitored system is the need of the hour. Building of special security zones, special combined forces, special information system and special supervisory wings must be pursued and implemented. Constant drone surveillance and overhauled travel plans should also be implemented. On the strategic levels, policy makers should seek the Chinese assistance to convince Taliban to curb increasing terrorism activities and infiltration to Pakistan soil enabling us to provide foolproof security to Chinese and CPEC projects. Regional sponsorship of socio-economic terrorism must be handled with iron hands.

<https://pakobserver.net/cpec-phase-ii-and-governments-new-roadmap/>

## **Terrorizing the CPEC: Analyzing a Comprehensive Security Framework for CPEC**

*Asif Khurshid*

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's upcoming official visit to China, intended to strengthen the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) under the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), is clouded by concerns following two recent terrorist attacks targeting Chinese nationals. One attack near Bisham city in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province resulted in the death of five Chinese nationals and a Pakistani driver en route to the Dasu hydroelectric dam project site. Another attack was thwarted in Gwadar, Balochistan, where armed assailants affiliated with the Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA) targeted the Gwadar Port Authority Complex, vital for CPEC. These incidents raise security apprehensions ahead of Sharif's visit. Recent attacks targeting Chinese interests have underscored escalating security concerns surrounding the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). Pakistan swiftly condemned the attacks, emphasizing the safety of Chinese nationals and projects. High-ranking Pakistani officials, including the Prime Minister and Federal Ministers, along with religious figures like Maulana Fazl-ur-Rehman, visited the Chinese Embassy to express condolences and pledge to bring the perpetrators to justice. The Pakistani Foreign Office reiterated its commitment to combating terrorism, attributing the attack to enemies of Pakistan-China friendship and pledging support



for China. Conversely, China strongly condemned the attack, urging Pakistan to swiftly investigate and ensure the safety of Chinese nationals and CPEC projects. China reaffirmed its commitment to supporting Pakistan in fighting terrorism and safeguarding their partnership and shared projects like CPEC. During Premier Shehbaz's visit, security threats are likely to be a key focus, underscoring the delicate balance between economic cooperation and security in the Pakistan-China relationship. Despite recent incidents, Pakistan reaffirmed its commitment to providing high-level security for Chinese workers involved in the second phase of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). Minister Ahsan Iqbal assured the Chinese Ambassador of extensive efforts to safeguard Chinese personnel. Both sides committed to accelerating CPEC's second phase and forming a working group for various corridors, including job creation, innovation, green energy and regional development. Discussions emphasized a strategic approach to maximize the success of Special Economic Zones (SEZs), with proposals for knowledge exchange visits and collaboration with Chinese provinces and industry groups. The importance of enhancing regional connectivity through projects like Gwadar Port and the M-8 motorway was highlighted to strengthen trade links and regional integration. Despite security risks, Pakistan affirmed its determination to maintain uninterrupted progress on CPEC projects, recognizing security as vital for development. The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) faces a multitude of internal and external security threats, posing challenges to its successful implementation. Internally, insurgent groups and ethnic-based separatist movements in the Balochistan province have targeted CPEC infrastructure projects, aiming to disrupt operations and undermine the stability of the region. Externally, the geopolitical rivalry between India and Pakistan poses a significant threat, with India viewing CPEC as a strategic encroachment by China into South Asia. This rivalry could manifest in covert operations or proxy conflicts aimed at destabilizing CPEC projects. Moreover, the volatile security situation in Afghanistan poses risks of spillover effects, as terrorist organizations like TTP, IS-K and other different extremist groups are exploiting the porous borders to launch attacks on CPEC installations or personnel. Addressing these multifaceted security challenges requires robust cooperation between China, Pakistan and regional stakeholders, along with comprehensive security measures and diplomatic efforts to mitigate risks and safeguard the viability of CPEC. The strategic importance of CPEC, as a flagship initiative of China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), makes it a prime target for such extremist factions seeking to disrupt regional stability and undermine bilateral relations between China and Pakistan. As the corridor traverses diverse terrains and regions, it becomes imperative for both countries to enhance security measures and collaboration to mitigate these threats and ensure the smooth progression of CPEC projects. To effectively address security challenges within the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), a multifaceted strategy is imperative. Establishing a dedicated CPEC Security Force, comprising army, police, paramilitary forces and private security, is crucial for safeguarding Chinese personnel and assets from terrorist threats and kidnappings. Additionally, legislative measures should empower PEMRA to regulate negative reporting on CPEC in electronic media, while airing programs to counter misinformation and propaganda. The print media can contribute by establishing development cells to regularly report on CPEC projects. Strengthening people-to-people interactions is vital; encouraging Chinese language learning among students and facilitating university partnerships for exchanges and

scholarships can foster closer ties. Cultural exchanges through various mediums like TV, movies, literature and cultural troupes can bridge cultural gaps and enhance mutual understanding. By implementing these measures, Pakistan can bolster security and ensure the success and sustainability of the CPEC initiative.

<https://pakobserver.net/terrorizing-the-cpec-analyzing-a-comprehensive-security-framework-for-cpec/>

### **The Express Tribune**

#### **Cotton yarn exports to China cross \$100m**

BEIJING: Pakistan's cotton yarn exports to China have surpassed the \$100 million mark in the first two months of 2024. Experts believe Pakistan's cotton yarn exports to the world will further enhance this year due to a good yield. According to the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China, China imported more than \$100.98 million worth of cotton yarn from Pakistan in the first two months of 2024, which rose around 98% as compared to the same period last year. Exports of uncombed single cotton yarn crossed \$57.77 million in January and February of 2024. Pakistan is the second largest exporter after Vietnam in this category of cotton yarn this year. Data showed that exports of uncombed single cotton yarn crossed \$41.95 million in the first two months of 2024, while in the same period last year it was \$14.54 million. Central Cotton Research Institute Multan's Transfer of Technology Department Head Sajid Mahmood said that Pakistan-China yarn business underscores a pivotal opportunity for the former to diversify exports beyond predominantly Siro Yarns into other high-quality variants like cotton, carded, and combed yarns, with enhanced competitiveness in the Chinese market. "Despite benefiting from a free trade agreement with China, Pakistan faces stiff competition from India, especially in non-Siro yarns, though India pays a 3.5% higher duty. Additionally, Vietnam poses a challenge with similar duty-free privileges," he said.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2461447/cotton-yarn-exports-to-china-cross-100m>

### **The News**

#### **Chinese firm resumes work on Diamer Bhasha dam**

PESHAWAR: After Tarbela, a Chinese company has resumed work on the Diamer Bhasha Dam, but work on the Dasu Dam is still suspended. Sources confirmed that work on the Dasu Dam will resume in a couple of days. Nazakat Hussain, General Manager, Diamer-Bhasha Dam (DBD), confirmed that the Chinese company had resumed work on the dam. He said around 350 Chinese nationals have resumed work on DBD. Over 6,000 local staff is already working on it. The Chinese company had halted work after five Chinese nationals were killed in a suicide attack on a bus of Dasu Dam engineers. Diamer-Bhasha Dam is a concrete-filled gravity dam on the River Indus between Kohistan district in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Diamer district in Gilgit Baltistan. On May 13, 2020, the Pakistani government signed an Rs442 billion contract with a joint venture of China Power and Frontier Works Organization to construct the dam. The dam would produce 4,800 MW of cheap electricity through hydro-power generation. An official of Dasu Dam told this correspondent that security has been

beefed up on the site and hopefully, the Chinese will resume work in a few days. The prime minister's visit and meeting with the Chinese have also boosted the morale of Chinese engineers and staff.

<https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1175168-chinese-firm-resumes-work-on-diamer-bhasha-dam>

### Security of foreigners, CPEC projects increased

PESHAWAR: The security of foreigners and different CPEC projects has been further strengthened after the suicide attack on Chinese nationals in Bisham last week. Police in different districts have been tasked with collecting the fresh data of foreigners, including Chinese nationals, for taking measures for their adequate security. All the senior police officers have been directed to ensure security of Chinese nationals and CPEC projects in their respective areas by installing more CCTV cameras and conducting search operations in the vicinity. As many as 20 police officers of the rank of superintendent of police and deputy superintendent of police were posted on Tuesday for supervision of security of different CPEC projects in Kohistan, Chitral, Peshawar, Dir, Nowshera, Haripur and other districts. Also, security measures for the Chinese nationals working on different projects were reviewed during a meeting chaired by the inspector general of police Akhtar Hayat. The deputy inspector general of the Special Security Unit was appointed focal person to review the security arrangements for the Chinese nationals and other foreigners and ensure implementation of SOPs by the federal government in letter and spirit. Five Chinese citizens and a Pakistani driver were killed when a suicide bomber rammed his explosive laden car with the vehicle of the engineers working on a dam site on March 26 in Bisham, Shangla. The Counter Terrorism Department has arrested a few suspected facilitators involved in an attack on the vehicle of Chinese engineers. This was the second attack in the last three years on Chinese engineers working in the area. In July 2021, 13 people, including nine Chinese nationals, two Frontier Constabulary personnel and two locals were killed when their bus came under a bomb attack in Dasu Kohistan.

<https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1175069-security-of-foreigners-cpec-projects-increased>

### Express News

چینی باشندوں کو دہشتگردی کا نشانہ بنانا گھناؤنی سازش : ایاز صادق

پارلیمنٹ میں موجود تمام سیاسی جماعتیں چینی انجینئرز کی ہلاکت پر انتہائی افسردہ ہیں

جاں بحق افراد کے اہلخانہ کے غم میں برابر کے شریک : چینی سفارتخانے کا دورہ

ملاقات کی۔ سپیکر سردار ایاز صادق اسلام آباد (وفاقی احمد) سپیکر قومی اسمبلی سردار ایاز صادق نے چینی سفارتخانے کا دورہ کیا، سپیکر نے چینی سفیر سے ملاقات کی۔ شائنگہ بشام کے مقام پر دہشتگردانہ حملے میں چینی انجینئرز کی ہلاکتوں پر گہرے دکھ اور افسوس کا اظہار کیا، انہوں نے کہا کہ جاں بحق چینی انجینئرز کے اہلخانہ کے غم اور دکھ میں برابر کے شریک ہیں، چین پاکستان کا بااعتماد دوست ہے اور ہر مشکل وقت کا ساتھی ہے سردار ایاز صادق نے کہا کہ پاکستان کی پارلیمان اور عوام دہشتگردی کے اس واقعہ میں جاں بحق چینی انجینئرز کے اہلخانہ سے مکمل یکجہتی کا اظہار کرتے ہیں، پاکستان کو چین کی سدا بہار دوستی پر فخر ہے، چینی باشندوں کو دہشتگردی کا نشانہ بنانا گھناؤنی سازش ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ پاکستان کی پارلیمان، عوام اور سیورٹی فورسز پاک چین

دوستی کو سبوتاژ کرنے کی ہر سازش کو ناکام جانے کے لئے پر عزم ہیں، پاکستان کی پارلیمنٹ میں موجود تمام سیاسی جماعتیں چینی انجینئرز کی ہلاکتوں پر ہیں۔ پیپلز قومی اسمبلی نے کہا کہ پاکستان کی تمام سیاسی جماعتیں مشکل وقت میں چین کی پارلیمنٹ، حکومت اور عوام کے ساتھ مکمل یکجہتی کا اظہار افسردہ کرتے ہیں چین پاکستان کا مخلص اور با اعتماد دوست ہے چینی انجینئرز پر حملہ

نا قابل برداشت ہے

[https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1110900431&Issue=NP\\_LHE&Date=20240403#google\\_vignette](https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1110900431&Issue=NP_LHE&Date=20240403#google_vignette)

## Jang News

### چینی کمپنی نے 4800 میگاواٹ دیامر بھاشا ڈیم پر دوبارہ کام شروع کر دیا

تربیلے کے بعد چینی کمپنی نے دیامر بھاشا ڈیم پر دوبارہ کام شروع کر دیا تاہم داسو ڈیم پر کام تاحال معطل ہے۔ معتبر ذرائع نے تصدیق کی ہے کہ داسو ڈیم پر کام چند روز میں دوبارہ شروع کر دیا جائے گا۔ دیامر بھاشا ڈیم کے جنرل مینجمنٹ حکمت حسین نے تصدیق کی کہ چینی کمپنی نے ڈیم پر دوبارہ کام شروع کر دیا ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ تقریباً 350 چینی شہریوں کا کام شروع کر دیا ہے جبکہ چھ ہزار مقامی عملہ پہلے ہی ڈیم پر کام کر رہا ہے۔ داسو ڈیم انجینئرز کی بس پر خود کش حملے میں 5 چینی شہریوں کی ہلاکت کے بعد چینی کمپنی نے کام روک دیا۔ دیامر بھاشا ڈیم خیر پختونخوا کے ضلع کوہستان اور گلگت بلتستان کے ضلع دیامر کے درمیان دریائے سندھ پر تعمیر کیا جا رہا ہے۔ 13 مئی 2020 کو، پاکستانی حکومت نے ڈیم کی تعمیر کے لیے چائنا پاور اور فرنٹیرور کس آرگنائزیشن کے جوائنٹ وینچر کے ساتھ 442 ارب روپے کے معاہدے پر دستخط کیے تھے۔

<https://e.jang.com.pk/detail/660301>

**April 04, 2024**

## Daily Times

### **RUDA, Scoda establish twin cities pact**

Ravi Urban Development Authority (RUDA) and Punjab Central Business District Authority (PCBDA) have cemented pivotal collaborations with eight esteemed Chinese hi-tech and education sector-leading companies, marking a significant milestone in urban development and investment initiatives. The Chief Operating Officer of both the authorities Mansoor Ahmad Janjua, emphasized the transformative potential of the partnerships, stating, "Together, RUDA and PCBDA will not only shape the landscape of tomorrow but also redefine the way we perceive and interact with urban spaces." He further added, "These MoUs signify more than just a legal agreement; it symbolizes a shared commitment to excellence, sustainability, and inclusive growth." Of particular significance, the partnership between RUDA and Scoda stands out as a beacon of collaborative urban development. Representing a twin cities pact, this alliance seeks to leverage the expertise and resources of both entities to drive sustainable development and innovation in urban infrastructure. The visionary approach of the Punjab government, led by Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz, aims to position Punjab as an economic hub through strategic policies and public-private partnerships. Emphasizing the digital transformation of Punjab, the government aims to attract global tech giants and foster innovation. Notable projects like the NSIT project of

PCBDA, integrating IT, education, and film city components, exemplify this vision. In his address, Mr Janjua highlighted the collaborative spirit between Pakistan and China, stating, “It is a testament to the power of collaboration and the belief that by working together, we can achieve remarkable feats.” “As we witness the signing of this historic document, let us not only celebrate the partnership between Ravi Urban Development Authority and Scoda but also reaffirm our collective resolve to build a future that is not only prosperous but also sustainable and inclusive,” he added. The partnerships between RUDA, PCBDA, and Chinese companies underscore the deep-rooted brotherly ties between Pakistan and China, strengthening the foundation of the Pak-China friendship. This collaboration promises to usher in a new era of innovation, progress, and prosperity, shaping vibrant and sustainable urban environments for generations to come.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1183182/ruda-scoda-establish-twin-cities-pact/>

### **Pakistan Observer**

#### **Maryam condoles demise of Chinese nationals’ with Shiren**

The Chief Minister of Punjab, Maryam Nawaz, on Wednesday visited the Chinese Consulate and met with the Chinese Consul General Zhao Shiren. Other Chinese officials were also present on the occasion. She expressed her deep sense of sorrow over the death of Chinese nationals in the Shangla attack. Maryam Nawaz expressed her heartfelt sympathy and grief with the family members of the deceased Chinese citizens in the attack. While expressing her resolve to continue mutual cooperation and collaboration with China in various sectors, she said that Pakistan and China are exemplary friends and their everlasting friendship cannot be undermined through cowardly acts. She maintained, “The cowardly attack committed on the Chinese citizens is a nefarious conspiracy to sabotage progress and prosperity of Pakistan. The Pakistani nation is grieved over the onslaught incident on their Chinese brothers.

<https://pakobserver.net/maryam-condoles-demise-of-chinese-nationals-with-shiren/>

### **The Express Tribune**

#### **PM to personally oversee Chinese security**

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Friday decided that he will review himself the meetings conducted regarding the security situation in the country in general and the security of the Chinese nationals working on different projects across the country in particular every month. Just days after an attack on Chinese engineers in Besham area of Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa, the prime minister has directed all the security agencies to take all the measures to ensure fool-proof security of the Chinese citizens present in Pakistan. The premier’s direction came during a high-level meeting regarding the law and order situation in the country. The meeting has taken place after six people, including five Chinese engineers, were killed in a suicide attack in Besham, a remote area of K-P province, on March 26. Meanwhile, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has said the government will establish new Danish schools in remote areas of Balochistan, Azad Jammu and Kashmir, Gilgit Baltistan and other areas of the country including Islamabad where the children will get state of the art free education, boarding, and food facilities. He was talking to the participants of the iftar-



dinner hosted by him in honor of orphaned children and children with special abilities at the Prime Minister House on Thursday. He also announced establishing state-of-the-art hospitals in Islamabad, AJK, G-B. The prime minister on the occasion taking keen interest in the children, interacted with them and inquired about their well-being. “I am happy to meet the cute children came from various institutions including SOS and Hassan Academy,” he said adding today the children were the chief guests while he was their host. During his interaction with the children, the prime minister said he found them very intelligent who will join different professions in future and will play key role in the country’s development and prosperity. He said no doubt, the parents were the biggest blessings, but the Holy Prophet Muhammad PBUH was also born with no father and his mother passed away when he was only six years old.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2461772/pm-to-personally-oversee-chinese-security>

### The Nation

#### **Need to make incentives even more generous to attract Chinese firms**

Foreign direct investment (FDI) is crucial for a robust economy and an essential driver for development. By bringing their capital into a country, the foreign investors benefit the host nation by fostering economic expansion, creating new jobs, constructing infrastructure, and transferring modern technologies, knowledge and management techniques. There are numerous countries from around the globe, especially from the South East Asian region, that have harnessed the power of FDI to pull back from the brink, develop their economies, industrialize, cut poverty as well as construct infrastructure in recent decades. Vietnam is one such example where FDI has driven rapid economic growth, transforming it from one of the poorest nations on earth to a lower-middle-income country, with a burgeoning and globally integrated economy. Forecasts project the economy to grow from \$327b in 2022 to \$760b by 2030. FDI, a key pillar of Vietnam’s economic growth, accounts for 4-6pc of its GDP annually and having accrued \$438b as of December 2022. Foreign investment in Vietnam continued to grow even during the pandemic. Back in 2020 it was amongst the world’s 20 top countries in terms of FDI attraction, ranking fourth in Asia-Pacific after China, India and Indonesia with \$28.53bn in FDI. The figure rose to \$31.15bn in 2021 and \$27.72b in 2022. Likewise, Cambodia has performed impressively on Investment Monitor’s 2022 Inward FDI Performance Index, with FDI surging from just \$130m in 2004 to \$3.58b in 2022. The FDI stock increased from \$2.1b to \$44.54b in the same period. Cambodia places third for FDI into Asia-Pacific and it receives more than three times its fair share of Greenfield FDI compared to what could be expected given the size of GDP. The country seems to be following the right trajectory, having achieved an average GDP growth of 7.7pc annually for the past two decades. While its GDP shrank during the pandemic due to national and global contraction, Cambodia has bounced back sharply, with the IMF projecting a growth of 6.1pc in 2024, making it the 14th fastest-growing economy this year. Compared with these countries, FDI inflows into Pakistan have historically been meager. In 2022 and 2023 instead of attracting more investors we saw a number of multinational companies exit Pakistan; many others are preparing to leave. Generally, a country must attract FDI flows equal to at least 3pc of their GDP yearly to industrialize, create jobs, and develop its economy. The only time the country

had received its fair share of FDI inflows slightly over 3pc was during 2006-08. Ever since 2011, the incoming investment flows have remained below 1pc of GDP. Another major problem is the concentration of FDI in domestic-oriented sectors like telecom and power generation rather than in the export-oriented industry, which results in large foreign exchange costs and repatriation. This has a serious balance of payments implications. Given Pakistan's fragile balance of payment position, and its urgent need to boost industrial production and exports Pakistan requires to significantly raise foreign inflows. With long-term official assistance – both multilateral and bilateral – becoming increasingly scarce in recent years, it is crucial to put in place policies to boost FDI. Among major impediments to FDI inflows are security conditions, inconsistent economic policies, bureaucratic red tape, political instability, ad-hoc planning and incompetence. There are signs that the authorities intend to pursue FDI flows. Pakistan has made ambitious plans to attract over \$50b in foreign direct investment to deal with the ongoing economic turmoil featuring a frail balance of payments position and a widening fiscal deficit. In June, the government formed the Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC), a civil-military body, to attract and facilitate foreign investment in Pakistan. The SIFC aims to bring in foreign investments in the energy, information technology, minerals, and agriculture sectors. However, it seems that the army-backed SIFC has pinned all hopes for economic survival on investments from Saudi Arabia, the UAE and other Gulf nations, and potential investments from China are completely missing from any plan. That is strange given the fact that China has been the largest source of foreign investment during the last 10 years. The fact of the matter is that no other country but China could or would help Pakistan industrialize and transfer new technology to boost its exports through investment. Focus should, therefore, be on attracting industrial investment from China to increase our industrial output and merchandise exports. This will not only create jobs, accelerate overall economic activity and earn foreign exchange. This is the only way forward. Unfortunately, Pakistan lost the opportunity afforded by the CPEC initiative to diversify its industrial landscape by attracting private Chinese investments and technologies transfer through relocation of its industry – the linchpin of the second phase of the corridor project. For now the Chinese focus seems to be venturing into Vietnam, Myanmar, Cambodia, Indonesia, and Bangladesh rather than Pakistan. We could get China's firms to 'relocate their manufacturing here if we tackle the policy issues impeding Chinese investors, build SEZs and offer them incentives' like the other countries. But there still is room for Pakistan to join the race for Chinese industrial investment if they can find reliable local partners for joint ventures in export-oriented industrial sectors. The JV between Servis Industry with China's Long March, a leading global manufacturer of truck and bus tyres, nearly four years ago to produce truck and bus tyres for local consumption as well as exports is a good example. There are other examples in different sectors where Chinese companies have invested in other businesses such as sports textiles, crockery, etc. to take advantage of Pakistan to export their products to Europe and the US. The trend of relocating offshore among Chinese manufacturers presents a significant opportunity to Pakistan. Now it is for Islamabad to address the Chinese concerns on policy issues, provide developed infrastructure, ensure security of Chinese personnel and announce liberal tax and other incentives for joint ventures between Chinese and Pakistani investors to attract FDI flows from Beijing in the industrial sector to boost exports and substitute imports for longer term economic stability, job creation and poverty reduction. Other

countries have increased their exports by attracting FDI from China by tailoring policies to meet the expectations of the Chinese investors. We have many disadvantages as compared to these countries, which have no security issues, have consistency of policies, share similar culture, geographical proximity, etc. We will therefore have to make our incentives even more generous to attract the Chinese firms. For example, by creating a special zone for Chinese investors at the vast land of the steel mills in Karachi and handing over its management to the Chinese could attract massive FDI inflows and easily boost our exports \$8-10bn within 3 to 5 years. With Shehbaz Sharif back in the saddle we hope to see the authorities address the Chinese concerns so they could relocate their factories here.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/04-Apr-2024/need-to-make-incentives-even-more-generous-to-attract-chinese-firms>

### **RUDA, PCBDA start Sino-Pak collaboration for sustained uplift**

ISLAMABAD - The Ravi Urban Development Authority (RUDA) and the Punjab Central Business District Authority (PCBDA) have started Sino-Pak collaboration for sustainable development. The high-level discussion between key stakeholders, including representatives from the RUDA and PCBDA held at the headquarters of China Machinery Engineering Corporation (CMEC) in Beijing on Wednesday. According to Gwadar Pro, the meetings covered a wide range of topics including past ventures, project updates, financial concerns, and collaborative agreements. A mutual commitment was made to enhance collaboration through the exchange of detailed project information, paving the way for long-term partnerships and sustainable development initiatives. The representatives from RUDA and PCBDA engaged with Oriental Youhong, a leading Chinese corporation renowned for its expertise in solar panel manufacturing and construction solutions. On the occasion, the discussions centered on project synergy and collaboration prospects, aiming to utilize Oriental Youhong's capabilities to bolster infrastructure projects in Pakistan. Further strengthening the collaboration, a productive meeting took place where a delegation comprising ADM CEO Yasir Malik, Pakistan China Commerce Alliance President Guo XiaoQi, Director BD IR Fatima Ali Khan, and Assistant Director PR Sana Iqbal explored avenues for setting up an Electric Vehicle (EV) charging factory and upscale hotels within RUDA's jurisdiction. Key highlights from the discussions included plans for establishing an EV assembly and manufacturing plant in RUDA's Industrial State, with a planned land requirement of 40 acres. Additionally, proposals for 5-star hotels, with a proposed land requirement ranging from 5 to 7 acres were discussed. Keen interest has been shown, indicating tangible progress towards materializing these endeavors, with further exploration and detailed discussions on technology transfer agreements and land acquisition slated for the next meetings. Furthermore, a team of technical experts also visited the Zoom lines heavy industry complex where different types of machinery including cranes, smog busters, sprinkler vehicles, and municipal sweepers were shown to Pakistani delegates.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/04-Apr-2024/ruda-pcbda-start-sino-pak-collaboration-for-sustained-uplift>

**April 05, 2024**

**The Nation**

### **Pakistan joins Chinese to modernize waste management**

ISLAMABAD - Pakistan has moved forward to work with Chinese company to modernize waste management in Karachi. Karachi is set to witness a transformative development in its waste management efforts, Gwadar Pro reported on Thursday. China State Construction, the world's largest investment construction group, has recently won the bid to undertake Karachi's inaugural solid waste treatment project, modern garbage transfer stations, and a move that marks a milestone in the city's waste management efforts and represents a strong step forward in environmental protection. Spread across an area of 150,000 square meters, the project comprises two sections, Section 1 and Section 2, and includes the construction of solid waste transfer stations, office buildings, dormitories, roads, steel structures and ancillary facilities. This comprehensive scope ensures a wide approach to waste management, encompassing not just the transfer stations but also the necessary infrastructure to support their efficient operation. It not only highlights the technical expertise and construction capabilities of China State Construction, but also strengthens the bond between China and Pakistan in the field of infrastructure development. China State Construction's involvement in this project demonstrates its dedication to contributing to the well-being of communities and the environment at large. Currently, the city faces numerous challenges in effectively managing its solid waste, including limited resources and outdated infrastructure. The construction of modern garbage transfer stations is a crucial component of the overall plan to address these issues. The successful completion of this project is expected to significantly enhance Karachi's urban hygiene index and contribute to the overall improvement of the city's environmental health. With the construction of these modern garbage transfer stations, Karachi is poised to take a significant step towards a cleaner, healthier and more sustainable future.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2024-04-05/page-10/detail-4>

### **Kazakhstan Key to CPEC**

*Zaman Bajwa*

The Republic of Kazakhstan has opened doors for the expansion of trade with Pakistan that will further connect them to the global market and unlock opportunities for both. Kazakhstan, a significant linchpin of China's BRI borders Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, and Kyrgyzstan to the South, China to the East, and Russia to the North. This Central Asian Republican state is also bounded by the Caspian Sea on its one side. From a geopolitical lens, the strategic position of Kazakhstan is pertinent as it offers key opportunities in the Trans-Caspian International Transport Route, strengthening its regional trade and energy transportation. This transport route has modeled and positioned Kazakhstan as a critical hub in the international logistics network by connecting Asia and Europe. In the same vein, Pakistan highly benefits

from its strategic location on a world map. At the crossroads of South Asia, Central Asia, and the Middle East, it significantly upheaves its trade, connectivity, and geopolitical standing. This South-Asian country is bordered by China, India, Afghanistan, and Iran and to the south by the Arabian Sea. Recognizing this strategic advantage, the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor provides Pakistan with a platform to build on its national economy and regional connections. Pakistan and Kazakhstan have revived the legacy of the ancient Silk Route. By re-establishing trade through this route, Pakistan transported its first cargo across the Silk Route to Kazakhstan. This was made feasible by operationalizing the Quadrilateral Traffic in Transit Agreement between Pakistan, China, Kyrgyzstan, and Kazakhstan. It is anticipated that this new route would greatly cut trade expenses and times, enhancing trade relations between the two countries. In addition, in order to promote easier economic exchanges between the two countries, Kazakhstan has declared the commencement of direct flights to Pakistan which will be resuming after Ramadan. Exploring new corridors between these countries, it is beyond belief that there is no direct train service between Pakistan and Kazakhstan in the 21st century. However, Kazakhstan is actively exploring the potential of transit corridors through Pakistan. It is now being considered if multimodal transit might be provided along the Kazakhstan - Turkmenistan - Afghanistan - Pakistan route to facilitate the efficient flow of products and services, this suggested route aims to maximize the utilization of currently available corridors. Indeed, both Pakistan and Kazakhstan are keen on expanding their trade relations. Building routes through venturing into Afghanistan, offering the shortest route to the ports of Gwadar and Karachi in Pakistan, and enhancing connection to India, the Middle East, and Africa are all part of Kazakhstan's strategic goal. This knight's move across the Asian chessboard will not only benefit Kazakhstan but also it will open doors for regional connectivity and economic cooperation. Additionally, Kazakhstan's aim to construct the Mazar-e-Sharif-Kabul-Peshawar railway transport corridor, an idea proposed in 2018 in Tashkent is now back on track. The goal of this corridor is to make it easier for Central Asia, South Asia, and the Middle East to establish trade with one another. The idea of establishing safe and secure transit between both countries is now achievable as Kazakhstan has started to work with the National Logistics Corporation and Tranzum Courier Services a major government and private logistic companies in Pakistan's transportation industry, which is an important milestone. This cooperation guarantees the swift and safe passage of products via Afghanistan from Pakistan to Kazakhstan and vice versa. Kazakhstan's dedication to facilitating safe and effective cargo movement throughout the region is demonstrated by this arrangement. Although there are several initiatives and a shared desire to improve regional connectivity between Pakistan and Kazakhstan, a number of obstacles have impeded development. There have been several challenges, including regional rivalry and Afghanistan's unstable security environment. The dream to lay the foundations of regional connectivity is not possible without Afghanistan's inclusion. The instability in Afghanistan can trigger instability not only within Pakistan but also throughout the region. Another point to ponder is that the domino effect results in the rise of extremist activities of Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan along the Pakistan border in Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa provinces, this security environment is also holding back partner states from establishing trade and projects with Pakistan. Therefore, it is essential to bring peace in Afghanistan so that joint ventures between Pakistan- Afghanistan and Kazakhstan can contribute to



flourishing trade and promote cooperation. Not to miss, financial limitations have also contributed significantly to slowing down the future projects. The lack of resources required for these projects becomes another challenge for both countries. To break this vicious cycle of challenges in the face of regional connectivity, Pakistan and Kazakhstan should prioritize enhancing infrastructure, streamlining trade laws, and encouraging cross-cultural and cross-economic interactions. Encouraging cultural and economic interactions can improve bilateral ties and create opportunities for greater regional connectedness.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2024-04-05/page-12/detail-3>

### Express News

#### چینی رضا کاروں کی غریب پاکستانیوں کو افطار کی فراہمی

اسلام آباد کے مضافات میں یومیہ 200 افراد کیلئے اہتمام 9 ہزار افراد کو فوڈ بیکیج بھی تقسیم کیے افطار کیلئے عطیات چینی عوام اور پاکستان میں مقیم چینی برادری دیتی، چینی رضا کار وانگ جنگ اسلام آباد (ش نہوا) چائنہ پاکستان یوتھ ایکسچینج کمیونٹی (سی پی وائی ای سی) اور دیگر چینی خیراتی تنظیموں سے منسلک تقریباً ایک درجن رضا کار اس رمضان میں کھانے پینے کی اشیاء تقسیم کر کے اور مقامی افراد کے لیے افطار کا اہتمام کر کے پاکستان میں محبت، امید اور بھلائی کا پرچار کر رہے ہیں۔ چینیوں کے فراہم کردہ افطار کے سبب ایسے افراد اب رمضان میں افطار پر بچ جانے والے رقم کو اپنے اہلخانہ کی کفالت پر خرچ کر سکتے ہیں۔ ایک پاکستانی رضا کار محمد سلمان نے کہا کہ ورواں سال اسلام آباد کے مضافات میں یومیہ تقریباً 200 افراد کے لئے افطار کا انتظام کر رہے ہیں۔ یہ علاقہ مزدوروں اور پسماندہ افراد پر مشتمل ہے۔ چینی رضا کاروں کے فراہم کردہ افطار میں پھل، سبزیاں، جوس، کھجوریں اور روایتی پاکستانی پکوان شامل ہوتے ہیں۔ چینی رضا کار 24 سالہ وانگ جنگ نے بتایا کہ افطار کے لئے عطیات چینی عوام اور پاکستان میں مقیم چینی برادری دیتی ہے۔ پاکستانی عوام کے لیے ہمارا تعاون انہیں اس بات کا احساس دلاتا ہے کہ ہم ان کی کتنی فکر اور محبت کرتے ہیں۔ ایک محنت کش محمد راشد نے کھانا پیش کرنے والے چینی رضا کاروں کی صحت اور خوشیوں کے لیے نیک خواہشات کا اظہار کیا۔ راشد آئس کریم فروخت کر کے اپنے کنبے کی کفالت کرتے ہیں جو ملتان میں رہائش پذیر ہیں۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ چینی رضا کاروں کے پیش کردہ افطار سے انہیں بڑی مدد ملی ہے کیونکہ اب ان کے کھانے کے اخراجات آدھے رہ گئے ہیں اور اب انہیں صرف سحری کا انتظام کرنا پڑتا ہے۔ چائنہ پاکستان یوتھ ایکسچینج کمیونٹی کے مطابق رضا کاروں نے 2017 میں پاکستان افطار کا اہتمام کرنا شروع کیا تھا اور وہ اب تک 60 ہزار سے زائد پاکستانیوں کو افطاری فراہم کر چکے ہیں۔ چینی رضا کار نے بتایا کہ رواں سال مقامی غریب افراد میں چاول، آٹا، تیل اور دیگر روزمرہ ضروریات پر مشتمل فوڈ بیکیج بھی تقسیم کئے گئے ہیں جس سے 9 ہزار سے زائد افراد مستفید ہوئے۔

[https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1110904353&Issue=NP\\_LHE&Date=20240405](https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1110904353&Issue=NP_LHE&Date=20240405)

## K2 Daily News



[https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP\\_ICT&Page=Back\\_Page&Date=2024-04-05](https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=Back_Page&Date=2024-04-05)

[https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP\\_ICT&Page=Baqia&Date=2024-04-05](https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=Baqia&Date=2024-04-05)

**April 06, 2024**

### Business Recorder

#### **UBG for initiating CPEC's second phase through the launch of five SEZs**

Leaders of United Business Group (UBG) S M Tanveer, Chief Patron, Zubair Tufail, President, Khalid Tawab, Regional Chairman, Hanif Gohar, Secretary General, Syed Mazher, Member Core Committee emphasized the imperative need to initiate the second phase of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) through the launch of five special economic zones (SEZs). Recognizing this as a pivotal step for Pakistan's economic development, the UBG underscored the urgency of this endeavor. Acknowledging the crucial role played by the CPEC in Pakistan's economic landscape, the UBG reiterated its unwavering support for its seamless continuation, emphasizing the importance of unhindered progress without delays or disruptions. The UBG emphasized the necessity of redoubling efforts to establish a new working group dedicated to the creation of five new economic corridors under the second phase, in alignment with the Five Es framework: export, energy, equity, environment, and e-Pakistan. Highlighting the significance of expediting Phase 2 of CPEC, the UBG advocated for the establishment of five new economic corridors, including the Corridor of Job Creation, Corridor of Innovation, Corridor of Green Energy, and Inclusive Regional Development. They called upon the planning ministry of Pakistan and the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) of China to prepare comprehensive concept papers outlining clear roadmaps for each sector's future development. Moreover, the UBG proposed a collaborative approach to maximize the success of special economic zones (SEZs) within Pakistan. They commended Pakistan's "One plus Four" model, which envisions partnering each SEZ in Pakistan with one province from China, one industry group to develop specialized clusters within these zones, one zone from China to provide technical expertise, and a state-owned enterprise to spearhead SEZ development. This framework, they emphasized, would expedite the establishment and growth of SEZs in Pakistan, enhancing

their competitiveness and attractiveness. Furthermore, the UBG stressed the importance of regional connectivity enhancement, particularly through critical infrastructure projects like the Gwadar Port and the M-8 motorway. These projects, they noted, would bolster trade links and facilitate regional integration, thereby fostering economic growth and development. The UBG reiterated its commitment to driving forward the second phase of CPEC and advancing Pakistan's economic prosperity through strategic collaborations, innovative initiatives, and robust regional connectivity.

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2024/04/06/3-page/989936-news.html>

### **Daily Times**

## **China's Grand Canal Tourism overseas promotion season 2024 has been officially launched in Pakistan**

China Cultural Center in Pakistan and Cultural Office of the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Pakistan have rolled out series of online activities to promote tourism image of Grand Canal to Pakistani as well as world audiences. The season will feature nearly 100 activities across the world, focusing on the natural scenery, cultural heritage and societal progress of the ancient waterway system which has been listed as world heritage. These activities include series of photography exhibitions, video broadcasts, online interactive exhibition, and tourism routes video series. These promotional activities also comprise of promotional videos and photography exhibitions of different municipalities and provinces of China. The Grand Canal is a vast waterway system in the eastern plains of China, running from Beijing in the north to Zhejiang province in the south. As a world cultural heritage, the Grand Canal of China is the earliest, largest and longest man-made canal in the world. On June 22th, 2014, the 38th session of UNESCO World Heritage's committee announced the Grand Canal as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, becoming the 46th World Heritage Site in China. The official launch ceremony of the China's Grand Canal Tourism Overseas Promotion Season 2024 was held in Wuxi, China on 2nd April 2024. During the launch ceremony, Network of International Culturalink Entities (NICE) and BMW China unveiled the Grand Canal Culture Protection and Education Project. Moreover, the Department of Culture and Tourism, the Foreign Affairs Office of Jiangsu Provincial People's Government, and the People's Bank of China Jiangsu Branch released eight new measures aimed at revitalizing inbound tourism. These measures address concerns of international tourists, such as limited access to information on Jiangsu's tourism, challenges with payment, bookings at popular sites and language barriers, and the need for travel routes that cater to emerging demands. The event, marking its second edition since 2022, is a collaborative effort by the Network of International Culturalink Entities (NICE), the Department of Culture and Tourism of Jiangsu Province, and the Wuxi Municipal People's Government. The "China's Grand Canal Tourism Overseas Promotion Season 2024" will take place online, and each day we will present you with an engaging program regarding China's Grand Canal, such as the promotion of local culture and tourism projects, the showing of documentaries about intangible cultural assets, photo exhibitions, and more.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1183894/chinas-grand-canal-tourism-overseas-promotion-season-2024-has-been-officially-launched-in-pakistan/>

## The Express Tribune

### **Gwadar port to get Chinese early warning system**

BEIJING: China has provided equipment for early warning system to Gwadar port to help mitigate detrimental impacts of natural disasters like catastrophic flood, torrential rain as well as metrological hazards. The equipment doled out by China Meteorological Administration (CMA) to the Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD), includes the establishment of one mobile vertical observation system, one Beidou Navigation sounding station and three automatic weather stations (AWS) including two backup Aws and large screen. After equipment's installation and functioning at Gwadar Port, next beneficiary areas are Jiwani and Turbat in Balochistan, as per Chinese media. The collaboration between CMA and PMD is a part of boosting CPEC capacity for emergency management of major metrological disasters under the Belt and Road Initiative.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2461891/gwadar-port-to-get-chinese-early-warning-system>

**April 07, 2024**

**Daily Times**

### **Pakistan, China to promote bilateral cooperation on legal affairs: Cheng Deyong**

A key figure in bridging legal and academic ties between China and Pakistan, Cheng Deyong, Managing Director of Pakistan ZOAO Law LLP and legal advisor to the Consulate General of China in Lahore, has been appointed as the legal advisor to the Consulate General of China in Karachi with a 2-year term. “As strategic hubs for diplomatic activities between China and Pakistan, Chinese Consulates play a crucial role in facilitating communication, promoting cultural exchanges, and strengthening economic ties. I am honored to take on this role and look forward to making due contribution to the strengthening of legal ties between the two countries,” said Cheng. According to Gwadar Pro, Cheng actively assisted in promoting the cooperation between the Law School of Southwest Petroleum University, Chengdu, Sichuan, China and the School of Social Sciences and Humanities at National University of Sciences and Technology (NUST), Islamabad, Pakistan, and between Sichuan Lawyers Association and Islamabad Lawyers Association, etc. These collaborations have played a positive role in promoting the training of legal talents, legal exchanges and continuous improvement of foreign-related legal services. However, current legal cooperation between China and Pakistan is mainly based on specific business cooperation between law firms and lawyers, mainly in handling cases and specific non-litigation business. The scope of legal cooperation between China and Pakistan is insufficient to meet the economic and personnel needs of the two countries. Another most prominent challenge is the communication and understanding difficulties caused by cultural differences and differences in legal systems. To address the issue, he suggested that the two sides further strengthen cooperation in personnel training and technical support, and promote the sharing and exchange of judicial resources. Working with lawyers and experts from Supreme Court Bar and High Court Bar in Pakistan, ZOAO is building a local team of professional lawyers in Pakistan covering the practices in the

country's major cities. Cheng also called on more lawyers, law schools, bar associations, arbitration bodies and other relevant departments to jointly promote Sino-Pakistani legal cooperation. "Improving the legal awareness and literacy of citizens of the two countries through organizing various publicity and education activities will inject new impetus into the development of bilateral relations. Meanwhile, the two sides can actively participate in international events such as the International Forum on the rule of law and contribute wisdom and strength to promoting the development of global rule of law," he added.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1184094/pakistan-china-to-promote-bilateral-cooperation-on-legal-affairs-cheng-deyong/>

### **Pakistan Observer**

#### **PM orders 5 police officers punished after attack on Chinese**

Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Attaullah Tarar announced on Saturday the government has decided to take disciplinary action against senior officials responsible to provide security to Chinese workers after five of them were killed in a deadly militant attack last month in the northwest of the country. "We will not let anyone disrupt the peace [in the country]," Tarar said while addressing a news conference at the PML-N's Secretariat here. "Our armed forces and law enforcement agencies are committed to eradicating terrorism and are playing their role with full intent and dedication to uproot this scourge from its roots." The inquiry committee sent its report in which the prime minister ordered disciplinary action against some officers, saying they had been negligent in their duties and should have been more vigilant, he continued. The information minister said these officials included the regional police officer Hazara division, district police officers in upper and lower Kohistan district, director security at Dasu hydropower project and commandant special security unit in KP. Tarar informed that disciplinary action would be taken against them within the next 15 days. "This is an example that future matters related to Chinese security will be taken more seriously, and no shortcomings will be tolerated," he said. He also pointed out the prime minister was taking personal interest in the security of Chinese workers in Pakistan, and the government was trying to devise a comprehensive and effective mechanism to protect them against such attacks. He said it was very unfortunate that anti-state elements which could not digest the country's progress were stuck to their negative agenda. Attaullah Tarar said that the Prime Minister had presided over many meetings on Chinese security and a committee was formed for an inquiry into the Dasu incident as Chinese. The information minister said that the quick action was a proof that no compromise would be tolerated on the security of the Chinese in future. He said, "We pay homage to all those who sacrificed their lives in war against terrorism." The Information Minister said that the incumbent government was taking all possible measures to strengthen the national economy and the economy and the industry both were showing positive signs. The stability of the rupee helped stabilize the country's economy and positive news were coming with regard to the stock exchange as well," he maintained. He said all these positive indicators were showing that business confidence had increased in the country. Attaullah Tarar said that today the Foreign Office had also issued a statement in which not only rejected the statement of the Indian defense minister but condemned it. He said that the international community should also take notice of the



extrajudicial killings. He said, "Pakistan is fully alert and capable of defending itself but we want peace in the region." He said yesterday he had visited Karachi and met journalist organizations including PBA, APNS, CPNE and problems facing the media industry were also discussed. Problems of journalists and media workers had been highlighted and pending dues of media workers and reporters would be paid prior to Eid-ul-Fitr, he added. He said an all-out effort would be made to ensure payment of pending dues in the next two days as per the direction of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, adding that all approvals in this regard had been completed.

<https://pakobserver.net/pm-orders-5-police-officers-punished-after-attack-on-chinese/>

## K2 Daily News

بقیہ 5

کو چاہیے اس کا نوٹس لے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ بٹام واقعے پر چین کی حکومت سے اظہارِ تعزیت کرتے ہیں، چین کے شہریوں کی سیکورٹی کو مزید متاثر نہ کیا جائے گا، سیکورٹی کے حوالے سے متاثر نظام بنایا جا رہا ہے، حکومت نے بٹام سٹلے کی تحقیقات کیلئے تفتیشی تشکیل دی، انکوائری کمیٹی کی رپورٹ کی روشنی میں وزیر اعظم نے چند افسران کے خلاف کارروائی کرنے کا حکم دیا ہے۔ وفاقی وزیر نے مزید بتایا کہ آر بی او ہزارہ ڈویژن، ڈی بی او اوہر کوہستان ڈسٹرکٹ، ڈی بی او اولوگر کوہستان ڈسٹرکٹ، ڈائریکٹر سیکورٹی داسو پائیزرو پاور پراجیکٹ اور کمانڈر آفیس سیکورٹی ہیڈ کوارٹرز کوہستان کے خلاف 15 دن کے اندر انضامی کارروائی ہوگی، وفاقی وزیر کا کہنا تھا کہ آئندہ چینی باشندوں کی سیکورٹی کے حوالے سے معاملات کو مزید پیچیدگی سے لیا جائے گا، کسی قسم کی کوتاہی برداشت نہیں کی جائے گی، وزیر اعظم چائیز پراجیکٹ کی سیکورٹی کے حوالے سے خود گہرائی کر رہے ہیں، امن ٹراپ کرنے کی کوشش پر حکومت کی پوری نظر ہے۔ عطا تارڑ نے کہا کہ دہشتگردی کی اس جنگ میں جام شہادت نوش کرنے والوں کو خراجِ تحسین پیش کرتے ہیں، میڈیا ورکرز اور صحافیوں کے حقوق کا تحفظ کریں گے۔ رہنما مسلم لیگ ان کا مزید کہنا تھا کہ عالمی میڈیا پر پاکستانی معیشت پر مثبت خبریں آ رہی ہیں، شک آچکے ہیں روز نیا نکار رہا ہے، چین کو ملک کی ترقی ہضم

چین کی سیکورٹی کو مزید متاثر نہ کیا جائے گا، سیکورٹی کے حوالے سے متاثر نظام بنایا جا رہا ہے، حکومت نے بٹام سٹلے کی تحقیقات کیلئے تفتیشی تشکیل دی، انکوائری کمیٹی کی رپورٹ کی روشنی میں وزیر اعظم نے چند افسران کے خلاف کارروائی کرنے کا حکم دیا ہے۔ وفاقی وزیر نے مزید بتایا کہ آر بی او ہزارہ ڈویژن، ڈی بی او اوہر کوہستان ڈسٹرکٹ، ڈی بی او اولوگر کوہستان ڈسٹرکٹ، ڈائریکٹر سیکورٹی داسو پائیزرو پاور پراجیکٹ اور کمانڈر آفیس سیکورٹی ہیڈ کوارٹرز کوہستان کے خلاف 15 دن کے اندر انضامی کارروائی ہوگی، وفاقی وزیر کا کہنا تھا کہ آئندہ چینی باشندوں کی سیکورٹی کے حوالے سے معاملات کو مزید پیچیدگی سے لیا جائے گا، کسی قسم کی کوتاہی برداشت نہیں کی جائے گی، وزیر اعظم چائیز پراجیکٹ کی سیکورٹی کے حوالے سے خود گہرائی کر رہے ہیں، امن ٹراپ کرنے کی کوشش پر حکومت کی پوری نظر ہے۔ عطا تارڑ نے کہا کہ دہشتگردی کی اس جنگ میں جام شہادت نوش کرنے والوں کو خراجِ تحسین پیش کرتے ہیں، میڈیا ورکرز اور صحافیوں کے حقوق کا تحفظ کریں گے۔ رہنما مسلم لیگ ان کا مزید کہنا تھا کہ عالمی میڈیا پر پاکستانی معیشت پر مثبت خبریں آ رہی ہیں، شک آچکے ہیں روز نیا نکار رہا ہے، چین کو ملک کی ترقی ہضم

[https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP\\_ICT&Page=Baqia&Date=2024-04-07](https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=Baqia&Date=2024-04-07)

[https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP\\_ICT&Page=Front\\_Page&Date=2024-04-07](https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=Front_Page&Date=2024-04-07)

**April 08, 2024**

**Daily Times**

### **Chinese Embassy hosts iftar for the needy in Gwadar**

The Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Pakistan in collaboration with China Overseas Ports Holding Company (COPHC), the operator of Gwadar Port and Free Zone organized an iftar dinner for the needy families in Gwadar. The program was organized with the collaboration of local volunteers under the platform of Helping Hand Foundation Gwadar. More than 300 needy people participated in the program which will continue till the closing of Ramadan. They were served date, milk, fruits and boxes of rice. This is the third consecutive year that the Embassy and COPHC sponsor this program in collaboration with Helping Hand Foundation, Gwadar Pro reported on Sunday. Earlier this week, Karachi Consulate and Linyi Trade city distributed 4000 packages of rice and cooking oil to the local people affected by rain. Moreover, following the heavy shower, COPHC donated canned food items to 1000 families.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1184367/chinese-embassy-hosts-iftar-for-the-needy-in-gwadar/>

**Pakistan Observer**

### **Vehicle carrying Chinese nationals wasn't bulletproof**

A police report over the deadly suicide attack in Shangla's Bisham city has revealed that the vehicle carrying Chinese nationals was neither bullet nor bomb-proof. The report, which has been sent to the federal government, reveals that the bus targeted in the attack was travelling at a distance of 15 feet from the other bus and fell into a 300-feet-deep ditch after a suicide bomber crashed his explosives-laden vehicle into the vehicle carrying the victims on the Karakoram Highway. The report, second of its nature, further mentions that the buses part of the convoy carrying Chinese nationals was equipped with close circuit television cameras (CCTV). The development comes a day after Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, as per Information Minister Attaullah Tarar, ordered disciplinary action against senior police officers for "negligence" in light of an inquiry report over the March 26 incident which killed five Chinese citizens, including a woman, and a Pakistani driver. "The PM has directed to take action against four other facilitators. The arrests came as the country's civil and military leadership reacted strongly to the attack vowing that the perpetrators responsible for the heinous attack would be brought to justice. the regional police officer (RPO) Hazara Division; district police officer of Upper Kohistan and Lower Kohistan; director security, Dasu Hydropower Project and commandant special security unit Khyber Pakhtunkhwa within 15 days," the minister said while speaking to the media in Lahore. Also, the report says that the authorities have gathered the parts of the vehicle used by the attacker to target the Chinese convoy at the incident site which is located at a distance of around six and 77 kilometers from Bisham police station, and Dassu dam, respectively. Earlier this week, sources had reported the "arrest" of more than 10 terrorists, facilitators involved in the deadly attack by the Counter Terrorism Department (CTD). The CTD sources had added that the terrorist commander, responsible for bringing the suicide bomber to Pakistan from Afghanistan, has

also been arrested as well as PM Shehbaz has directed authorities concerned to provide Chinese nationals with foolproof security in Pakistan via a comprehensive action plan for regular audit of security standard operating procedures.

<https://pakobserver.net/vehicle-carrying-chinese-nationals-wasnt-bulletproof/>

## The Nation

### **TJP chief calls on Chinese envoy**

RAWALPINDI - Chairman Tehreek Jawanaan Pakistan (TJP) Mohammad Abdullah Hamid Gul held a detailed meeting with Ambassador of China Jiang Zedong and Counsellor of the Ambassador of China. During the meeting, discussion was made on important topics including the growing terrorism of India in Pakistan as well as in the world. Abdullah Gul said on this occasion that how the defense minister of India is admitting the massacre in Pakistan. Despite this, no international peace organization has spoken on it. He said that India may have attacked Chinese engineers in Bisham to split the relationship between China and Pakistan and to affect the great project like CPEC. In his remarks, the Chinese ambassador appreciated the role of late Gen Hamid Gul in strengthening the relationship between Pakistan and China.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2024-04-08/page-10/detail-10>

## Express News

### **ی بشارم چینی انجینروں کی بس تباہ**

بلاک ہو نیوالوں میں خاتون انجینئر بھی شامل، تباہ ہو نیوالی بس دوسری سے 15 فٹ دور تھی، 300 فٹ گہری کھائی میں جاگری

ی بشارم، پشاور (خبر ایجنسیاں، کرائم قافلے میں شریک تمام بسوں میں سی سی ٹی وی کیمرے نصب تھے، بمبار کے زیر استعمال گاڑی کے ٹکڑے بھی رپورٹ) خیبر پختونخوا پولیس نے چینی انجینروں پر خودکش حملے سے متعلق دوسری رپورٹ وفاق کو ارسال کر دیا بتدائی جانچ کی بنیاد پر لگتا ہے انہیں کلو میٹر اور G لے جانے والی بس بٹ اور بم پروف نہیں تھی جبکہ بلاک ہونے والوں میں خاتون انجینئر بھی شامل ہے۔ جائے وقوعہ سے تھانہ بشارم واسوڈیم

حاصل، رپورٹ وفاق کو ارسال

کلو میٹر دور ہے، جس کی فضائی تصویر بھی حاصل کر لی گئی۔ تباہ ہونے والی بس دوسری سے 15 فٹ دور تھی اور دھماکے سے 300 فٹ گہری کھائی 77 تھے۔ تحقیقات کرنے والے اداروں نے خودکش بمبار کے زیر استعمال گاڑی میں جاگری۔ قافلے میں شریک تمام بسوں میں سی سی ٹی وی کیمرے نصب کے ٹکڑے بھی حاصل کر لئے یاد

رہے چند روز قبل ہونے والے خودکش حملے میں 6 چینی انجینئر جاں بحق ہوئے تھے

[https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1110910473&Issue=NP\\_LHE&Date=20240408](https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1110910473&Issue=NP_LHE&Date=20240408)

**Jang News****چینی کمپنی پاکستان میں مقامی طور پر الیکٹریک گاڑیاں تیار کریگی**

چین کی دنیا کی سب سے بڑی الیکٹریک گاڑیاں (ای وی) بنانے والی کمپنی بی وائی ڈی نے ابتدائی مرحلے میں شورومز قائم کرنے کیلئے اپنے لوکل پارٹنر میگا گروپ پرائیویٹ لمیٹڈ (ایم سی پی ایل) کے ساتھ جو انٹو وینچر (جے وی) تشکیل دیا ہے جس کے بعد پاکستان میں الیکٹریک و ہیلڈ (ای وی) مینوفیکچرنگ آپریشنز کا آغاز ہو گا۔

<https://e.jang.com.pk/detail/663366%22>

**April 09, 2024**

**Daily Times****Punjab govt denounces fake news alleging Chief Minister's statement on Chinese Nationals' Security**

The statement attributed to Chief Minister Punjab, Ms. Maryam Nawaz regarding the security of Chinese nationals by an Indian online media outlet is baseless and contrary to facts. According to Spokesperson of the Punjab Government, the Chief Minister did not make any such statement. The Spokesperson further stated that WION, an Indian web channel, is propagating fake and fabricated news. Under the directives of Chief Minister Punjab, foolproof security measures are being taken for Chinese working in Punjab, she added.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1184716/punjab-govt-denounces-fake-news-alleging-chief-ministers-statement-on-chinese-nationals-security/>

**Pakistan Observer****Pak seeds export to China up by 68pc**

Pakistan's sesame seeds export to China crossed \$10.10 million in the first two months of 2024, showing a growth of 68.11 percent year-on-year. Ghulam Qadir, Investment and Trade Counsellor at the Pakistani Embassy in Beijing said that according to the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China (GACC), Pakistan exported 5997.744 tons of sesame seeds to China in January-February 2024. This was worth \$10.10 million, an increase of 68.11% while last year in the same period it was \$6 million, CEN reported on Monday. Ghulam Qadir added, China bought 166682.987 tons of sesame seeds from Pakistan in 2023, up 96.13% in volume and valued at \$290.66 million, compared to 84985.321 tons in 2022, valued \$128.44 million. Muhammad Amir, a sesame seeds exporter told CEN that this uptick in agricultural exports underscores Pakistan's commitment to diversifying its trade portfolio and tapping into new markets. The burgeoning demand for sesame seeds from China bolsters Pakistan's agricultural sector and fosters greater economic cooperation between the two countries.

<https://pakobserver.net/pak-seeds-export-to-china-up-by-68pc/>





**April 10, 2024**

**Daily Times**

**Twelve Pakistani technicians receive geodetic datum training in China**

The second technical training for establishing new generation national geodetic datum of Pakistan was recently completed, Gwadar Pro reported on Tuesday. Some 12 Pakistani technicians participated in the course to improve and update their knowledge and technology of surveying and mapping. In 2011, the Pakistani government requested assistance from the Chinese government to establish a Next-Generation Geodetic Datum of Pakistan. This Geographic Information System mapping and surveying project is expected to encourage research and innovation in the fields of economy and society. Its linkages would promote cooperation between science and technology, public institutions and government agencies. In May 2017, the Chinese and Pakistani governments signed letters of exchange and the Chinese government pledged financial support for the project. According to the organizer, geodetic datum provides an essential spatial reference framework for mapping and construction activities along China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, ensuring accuracy and alignment with project objectives. This training course has equipped a team of professionals with expertise in mapping technology, leading to the strengthening of bilateral relations and propelling both countries to a more advanced stage of innovative development. The organizer invited experts and technicians from the First Institute of Oceanography of the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR), National Geomatics Center of China, and the third geodetic survey team of MNR to teach Pakistani students. Sichuan Bureau of Surveying, Mapping and Geofomation provided support services for the trainees throughout the course. This course will establish a solid foundation for Pakistan to implement real-time navigation and positioning services, 3D construction of real scenes, development of a national basic geographic information system, and establishment of a national geographic information public service platform in the future, as stated by the organizer.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1184984/twelve-pakistani-technicians-receive-geodetic-datum-training-in-china/>

**April 13, 2024**

**The Nation**

**CPEC – A business-friendly regime for sustainable growth**

QUETTA - With Pak-China Economic Corridor (CPEC) entering second phase, the local people expect rise of pro-business regime with hopes of making the multi-billion CPEC, a vehicle for sustainable development. Now even the local people and among those who once used to resist this project, start thinking it as a game changing project that once completed would definitely have dividends for the local people. Even the past critic and now an MPA from the port city of Gawadar, Hidayat-ur-Rehman also hope for making CPEC project, a vehicle for reinvigorating province's economy. Overall economic recession coupled with other issues affected the pace of the project that caused rise of Rights movement led by an

ordinary fisherman Hidayat-ur-Rehman who rose to fame and finally got elected MPA from Gwadar. “The local people, fearing to becoming minority resisted the project while those at the helm of affairs believed once completed, the local population will be main beneficiary of the project,” Hidayat-ur-Rehman remarked. “The present government has given us a promising hope that CPEC will improve life of common Balochistan inhabitants.” Getting fame from rigid stance on CPEC and elected MPA from Gwadar, Hidayat-ur-Rehman when questioned on his approach, replied, “I am not against CPEC but the discrimination. When a project worth billions is launched in Gwadar, it should also benefit local people.” “I have no objection, if Chinese government, its companies and our government continues with CPEC. The only demand I present is to ensure that rights of local people are not compromised,” he argued. “If local population is deprived of basic civic amenities like education, health, drinking water, uninterrupted power, vocational training and jobs, then why people of Gwadar will not raise voice for their rights.” Launched back in 2006, China-Pakistan Economic Corridor is a flagship project of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) that has significantly impacted Pakistan over past one and half decade. It is a framework of regional connectivity which will not only benefit China and Pakistan but Iran, Afghanistan, Central Asian Republic and the region Since onset, the multi-billion dollar CPEC project witnessed ups and down due to internally changing political scenario as well as external interference and hatching of conspiracies by hostile forces to derail the project and make it controversial. “The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) represents a watershed moment for Balochistan, offering unprecedented opportunities for development and integration into global economy,” Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfaraz Bugti informed APP. “Balochistan’s role in CPEC, particularly through the development of Gwadar Port, is central to our vision for province’s future,” the Chief Minister said. “This project is not just about infrastructure; it’s about opening doors to international trade, creating jobs and fostering economic activities to transform socio-economic landscape of Balochistan.” Terming uplift of Gwadar as top priority of his government, Chief Minister Bugti said, “We are committed to ensuring that CPEC becomes a vehicle for sustainable development, ameliorate lot of our people and respect for our natural and cultural heritage.” “The challenges we face are significant, but opportunities presented by CPEC give us reasons for optimism,” CM Balochistan Bugti remarked. “Our administration is dedicated to making Balochistan a model of inclusive development, where every citizen can benefit from the province’s natural wealth and strategic position,” the Chief Minister said. “We are engaging with local community, civil society and our partners in China to ensure that development under CPEC is equitable and sustainable.” Meanwhile, officials of Ministry of Planning Development and Special Initiatives also expressed belief that CPEC would prove to be a journey towards economic regionalization in this globalized world. It is also a hope of better future of our people and those in this region. Chairman Standing Committee on Petroleum Senator Mohammad Abdul Qadir was also optimistic about the success of CPEC projects and will of the government for its early completion. “PML-N is known for pro-development and business friendly initiatives and hence they own CPEC. I foresee CPEC flourishing and becoming center of attention in coming days,” the Senator said and stressed setting up industrial zones. “Establishing industrial zones is important and the government is keenly working on their development,” Abdul Qadir said. “With functioning of foreign industries, the local industry will also flourish

making the government save billions of rupees in terms of transportation.” He also underlined the need for provision of power, water and security to make the CPEC a success. The escalation of pace on CPEC projects, making locals beneficiary of project’s outcome and enhancement of co-operation by win-win model will definitely result in well-connected, integrated region of shared destiny, harmony and development. The journey is complex, but our resolve is unwavering. Together, we, with the support of our Chinese friends and hard work of our people, can lay a foundation for a vibrant and economically strong Balochistan. If the new set up diligently pursue commitments of the government made to its international partners and forge ahead on a journey to progress, then the days will not be far off that Balochistan stands tall and proud on the world stage.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/13-Apr-2024/cpec-a-business-friendly-regime-for-sustainable-growth>

### Jang News

#### سکیورٹی اقدامات، گوادریں نئی چیک پوسٹیں بنانے کا فیصلہ

بلوچستان کے ساحلی ضلع گوادریں میں مسلح حملوں میں اضافے کے بعد حکومت نے فیصلہ کیا ہے کہ شہر کے باہر اور اندر نئی چیک پوسٹیں قائم کی جائیں جبکہ نگرانی کے عمل کو بہتر بنانے کے لیے سیف سٹی پراجیکٹ پر تیزی سے کام شروع کرنے کا فیصلہ کیا گیا ہے۔ گوادریں ڈوہڑے حملوں اور خیر پختو نوا میں چینی باشندوں پر خود کش حملے کے بعد ملک میں غیر ملکیوں بالخصوص چینی باشندوں، گوادریں سی پیک کے منصوبوں، اہم سرکاری و سکیورٹی تنصیبات اور سرمایہ کاروں کے تحفظ سے متعلق اقدامات زیر غور ہیں۔

<https://e.jang.com.pk/detail/665259%22>

**April 14, 2024**

### Daily Times

#### China to solarize Pakistan Railways

In collaboration with China, a plan is afoot to shift Pakistan Railways to solar energy in a bid to ward off colossal financial damages and lay the foundation of green energy in railway infrastructure. Initially, 100 sites with heavy electricity consumption have been identified and once shifted to solar energy, it would save at least Rs1 billion a year for the entity. According to senior PR officials, the government of Pakistan and Chinese firms have been negotiating to hammer out an actional deal, Gwadar Pro reported on Saturday. “Pakistan has started attuning its transport infrastructure to realize its vision of high-quality green and sustainable development,” he added. Another PR official said “CPEC has changed the landscape of Pakistan and accelerated growth while bringing about socio-economic benefits for the people of Pakistan. China’s commitment to promoting carbon-free global economy is commendable.” The officials said that the railway management has assigned NESPAK to complete the feasibility study of installing solar panels on selected sites, adding that 16,535 out of 26,660 electric meters so far of the railway’s residential complexes are shifted to Distribution Companies (Discos) and Karachi-Electric (KE) to minimize the financial losses.

“The electric meters of residential complexes are being shifted to Discos by the department and the step has resulted in savings of Rs1.3 billion so far,” they added.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1185571/china-to-solarize-pakistan-railways/>

### Dawn News

## **NON-FICTION: UNDERSTANDING THE PAK-CHINA RELATIONSHIP**

*Dr Rashid Jamal*

The flyleaf of Dr Rashid Jamal’s book, *Pakistan-China: All-Weather Strategic Partner*, has an inscription few Pakistanis can read. It is in Chinese — an intelligent start intended to set the tone for what the book is about: the all-weather relationship between the two neighbors. However, on the dust cover and on the inside pages a hyphen between ‘Pakistan’ and ‘China’ treats the two as a single noun. So it is “all-weather partner and not partners that one would expect. Despite changes in the “international and domestic domains,” the author says, Pakistan and China have remained “steadfast allies, overcoming numerous difficulties and achieving significant results in bilateral cooperation.”

Some great men were instrumental in fostering the Pakistan-China relationship and bringing it to the level that exists today. They included Mao Zedong and Zhou Enlai on the Chinese side and, on our side, leaders such as H.S. Suhrawardy (the first Pakistan prime minister to visit the northern neighbor) besides Ayub Khan, Z.A. Bhutto and Ziaul Haq.

A book provides valuable historic background to the development of Beijing-Islamabad ties but its amassing of ‘facts’ about the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor is often uncritical. Let us recall here one major diplomatic triumph for Pakistan. This was Henry Kissinger’s secret dash to China in July 1971, when Yahya Khan was in power, paving the way for Richard Nixon’s path-breaking visit in 1972 to the People’s Republic of China (PRC). The book takes the reader along the familiar journey that led to the special relationship the two countries today have — the establishment of diplomatic relations, Pakistan being among the first three countries to recognize communist China after the 1949 revolution, the first seminal meeting between Prime Minister Mohammad Ali Bogra and China’s Prime Minister Zhou En-lai at the 1955 Bandung conference in Indonesia, the 1963 border agreement, PIA’s feat in becoming the first ‘free world’ airline to fly to the PRC, Beijing’s acceptance of Islamabad’s reasons for joining the US-led military pacts, the Chinese leadership’s criticism of Seato without targeting Pakistan, the China-India war, the building of the Karakoram Highway through the tough mountainous terrain that made tourist traffic and trade easy, and the gradual movement toward a strategic relationship with closer cooperation in defense. The book spells out in detail the fantastic number of projects launched through the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), which is part of China’s Road and Belt Initiative, launched in September 2013 by President Xi Jinping. The projects cover virtually all of Pakistan geographically and are designed to help Pakistan remove weaknesses in some key sectors in the economy as in energy-, wind-, solar-, hydro- and coal-power, besides the modernization of the road and rail network, airports and harbors, with an emphasis on Balochistan,

especially Gwadar. The author gives us details of cooperation between the two countries in a variety of sectors, ranging from peaceful uses of nuclear technology to joint ventures in the production of tanks, jets and missiles. The PRC also helped in the building of the Karachi Nuclear Complex, while the Chashma nuclear power complex was begun with French help but was completed by China. The cooperation in nuclear energy testifies to the understanding the two countries have to stick together despite overt and covert hostility from countries in the region and elsewhere. Much to Beijing's disappointment, the special economic zones (SEZs) haven't been a great success in Pakistan, unlike in the PRC, where SEZs — established mostly close to the eastern coast — were a major factor in the success of what is called China's 'second revolution', an apt description of Deng Xiaoping's ideologically radical reforms. Initially criticized for being confined to the eastern coast, the Chinese SEZs proved astonishingly successful, because foreign investors — Japanese and Western multinationals — found it convenient to operate close to ports. Thus, in a surprisingly short time, the SEZs began producing a wide variety of industrial products, ranging from household gadgets to cars and aeroplanes, which had the latest technology because of the massive Western investments in the SEZs. Gradually, the SEZs were established across the country and as far west as Sinkiang in Pakistan's north. If Pakistan failed to make a success of its SEZs, then that was no fault of China's. The reason was the challenges Pakistan had to face for its very survival — the aftermath of 9/11, the Afghan civil war, terrorism and hostile neighbors. Nevertheless, in spite of these disadvantages, Pakistan did benefit from the SEZs, with exports to various countries, including the PRC, going up. The decision to use Chinese currency in bilateral trade aimed at reducing dependence on US dollars by \$15b, with two-way trade surging to approximately \$15.6b in the 2019 fiscal, a significant increase from \$2.2b in 2005. Under the free trade regime, Pakistan enjoyed virtually duty-free exports on over 700 items, the second phase adding 313 new items to the list. One of China's major contributions to Balochistan's and, consequently, to Pakistan's economy has been its focus on Gwadar, with the two countries agreeing to so develop it that Gwadar will be able to handle trade and strategic materiel from three regions — South Asia, Central Asia and the Middle East. The Gwadar East Bay Expressway connects the port with Karachi, the country's industrial hub, passing through the Makran region. Because of the development of the deep sea port, Gwadar, according to the author, has "helped Pakistan and China realize the goal of a 21st century Silk Road." Moreover, besides the development of the port and the free zone, the projects include a 300MW coal-fired plant, a modern international airport, a 1.2mgd desalination plant and a "smart environment sanitation system." The author has worked hard to amass facts about the PRC-Pakistan relationship, especially with regard to CPEC, and has given the historic background to the development of Beijing-Islamabad ties. However, the book is repetitive and many statements and declarations which have no substance and were made by statesmen at diplomatic functions and ceremonies are part of the text. The book also doesn't have an index, and this makes a quick reference to a given topic difficult. One hopes a second edition will remove these anomalies.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1827355/non-fiction-understanding-the-pak-china-relationship>



## The Express Tribune

### **China ready to further strengthen security cooperation with Pakistan, says envoy**

ISLAMABAD: Ambassador to Pakistan Jiang Zaidong has said that his country stands ready to further strengthen counterterrorism and security cooperation with Pakistan. The statement comes after the tragic incident of March 26, wherein six individuals, including five Chinese engineers, lost their lives in a suicide attack in Bisham, a remote area of Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa province. During the attack, an explosive-laden vehicle detonated as a convoy, transporting Chinese engineers to the Dasu hydroelectric project site from Islamabad, passed by. This marked the second assault on Chinese workers at the Dasu project, following a similar terrorist attack in July 2021 that claimed the lives of 13 individuals, including nine engineers. “We should take the people’s security as the ultimate goal, and effectively protect Chinese citizens in Pakistan. The people are the foundation of a country, and are also what the rule of a country is for,” the Chinese ambassador said. He said that the national security work is ultimately to protect the interests of the people and enable them to live and work in peace and happiness. “President Xi Jinping emphasized that we must always put the people first, put the life first, and ensure the life and security of the people. A holistic approach to national security takes the people’s position as the fundamental position, and emphasizes that national security is for the people and relies on the people, which clearly reflects President Xi Jinping’s deep feelings for the people,” he added. Ambassador Zaidong said that Chinese citizens in Pakistan actively participate in Pakistan’s national construction and promote China-Pakistan friendly cooperation. “We should do everything possible to protect their safety and value their contributions.” He said that it was heart-wrenching that in the recent terrorist attack on 26th March, five Chinese citizens were deprived of their young lives. “We hope and believe that the Pakistani side will speed up the investigation of the incident, find out the truth, severely punish the perpetrators, raise counterterrorism efforts, resolutely crack down on and root out the evil, and take all measures to protect the safety and security of Chinese personnel, institutions and projects in Pakistan, and create favorable conditions for advancing China-Pakistan all-weather strategic cooperation and building a China-Pakistan community with a shared future,” he added. The Chinese ambassador said that China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), as an important signature project under the framework of the Belt and Road Initiative, has effectively promoted Pakistan’s economic and social development since its launching 10 years ago, by bringing in 25.4 billion dollars of direct investment, 236 thousand jobs, 510 KM expressway, more than 8,000 megawatt of power and 886 KM core power transmission grid. “It is now entering the new phase of building a corridor of growth, livelihood, innovation, greenness and openness. The 26th March terrorist attack showed once again that a secure and stable environment is critical to the practical cooperation between China and Pakistan and the building of CPEC,” he added. He said that China stands ready to work hand-in-hand with Pakistan to defeat the evil attempt at disrupting the cooperation between the two countries, to safeguard development with security to promote security with development, and to advance high-quality CPEC cooperation. “We should take the promotion of international security as a support, and further enhance China-

Pakistan counterterrorism and security cooperation. While one chopstick is easy to break, a bunch of chopsticks are much more resilient. Faced with the chaotic international security situation, interwoven traditional and non-traditional security threats, and an ever-increasing number of terrorist attacks, all countries need to work together in addressing various security challenges for win-win results.” Bonded by mountains and rivers, the Chinese ambassador said that China and Pakistan are closely linked in security interests. “We stand ready to work with Pakistan in jointly implementing the Global Security Initiative and building a peaceful and secure homeland. Moreover, the 26th March terrorist attack also showed how violence and terrorism are challenging the bottom line of human civilization. We must take resolute actions to crackdown on them. China stands ready to further strengthen counter-terrorism and security cooperation with Pakistan, to maintain high pressure and rigorous operation, so as to decisively strike the rampant terrorism, effectively safeguard the lives and interests of our two peoples and jointly maintain regional peace and security as well as international fairness and justice,” he added. He said that the strategic significance of China-Pakistan relations has become even more prominent. “Focusing on the new phase of our bilateral ties, we will stick to the guidance of the important consensus between President Xi Jinping and Pakistan’s national leaders, carry forward our traditional friendship, strengthen exchanges and cooperation in various fields, jointly build an upgraded version of CPEC, continuously deepen the China-Pakistan all-weather strategic cooperative partnership, stand shoulder-to-shoulder in facing global changes, and build an even closer China-Pakistan community with a shared future in the new era,” he added. In this significant process, he said that China stands ready to implement a holistic approach to national security together with Pakistan, to promote the Global Security Initiative for tangible results, and to write a chapter on security in building the China-Pakistan community with a shared future, so as to safeguard the common interests and benefit the two peoples during the centennial changes.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2462566/china-ready-to-further-strengthen-security-cooperation-with-pakistan-says-envoy>

### **The News**

#### **Bisham inquiry report shines light on security protocol lapses**

*Arshad Aziz Malik*

PESHAWAR: Contrary to the inquiry report on the Bisham incident, the federal government has suspended Regional Police Officer (RPO) Hazara, whose name was not included in the inquiry report. Sources confirmed that DPO Lower Kohistan was also not held responsible in the report sent to the prime minister. Five Chinese engineers working on Dasu Dam were killed when an explosive-laden vehicle hit the bus they were traveling in on the Karakoram Highway in the Bisham area of Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa on March 27, 2024. The report of the three-member inquiry committee, led by Federal Secretary Rashid Mahmood Langrial, revealed that Director Security Dasu hydro-power project was mainly responsible for various lapses in ensuring security for the convoy. The federal government issued orders to suspend Regional Police Officer DIG Hazara Ejaz Khan, DPOs of Upper Kohistan and Lower Kohistan, Jameel Akhtar and Sulaiman Ahmed. Apart from this, Commandant CPEC

Security Unit Zafar Ali was also suspended for not making better security arrangements. The punitive action came as a surprise to the extent of RPO Hazara, as his name was not included in the inquiry report. The data revealed that local police provided security to 277 foreign convoys during the last two years. Sixty-one convoys peacefully passed in 2022, while 175 foreign convoys were given fool-proof security during 2023. Some 44 convoys were given security during the last 90 days in the current year. The report said certain provisions of standard operating procedures (SOPs) for security of foreign nationals, engaged in non-CPEC projects, are perfunctory and often repetitive. For instance, the task of periodic security audit of non-CPEC projects is separately assigned to IB, DPO, and FNSC, thus duplicating the same functions and unnecessary risk of non-compliance. The report reveals that there is no provision for unity of command in the notified task force for security of the Dasu hydro power project, crucial for dealing with emergent situations with multi-stakeholders. The notification number F. No. 5/1/2023-KP August 5, 2023 of the task force needs revision to designate a lead. Clauses 11.4.2 and 11.4.3 of the SOPs require that the vehicle needs to be “bulletproof/ bomb proof”. The forensic report of the Punjab Forensic Science Agency indicated that the vehicle was bulletproof but not explosion-proof. However, the initial report of the Counter-Terrorism Department, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Police, indicated that the vehicle was not bulletproof. The factual controversy would be clarified upon receiving the report of JIT. The report said Director Security Dasu hydro power project notified the movement of the convoy to only DPO Upper Kohistan, which reached the latter through conventional mail on March 25, 2024 i.e. the day of its departure from Dasu to Islamabad, instead of seven days before the movement. No information was provided to the DPOs of concerned districts and the sections of National Highways and Motorways Police. Moreover, neither prior approval for inter-city movement was sought by WAPDA authorities as required under Clause 11.4.2 of the SOPs nor was the movement plan shared with the FNSC at the federal and provincial levels, as required. According to the findings, Director Security Dasu hydro-power project was responsible for the lapses. The report said the DPO Upper Kohistan received the information through his local WhatsApp group on March 24, 2024, who neither communicated it to Commandant SSU nor any other DPO, except DPO Lower Kohistan. The DPO Upper Kohistan was responsible for that lapse. DPO Upper Kohistan was not familiar with the use of Foreign Nationals Security Dashboard and consequently did not update the movement plan in it. DPO Upper Kohistan is responsible for not updating the FNSD. The report further said that WAPDA has been providing security paraphernalia for the movement of Chinese nationals through its own security guards and active units of Frontier Corps and Gilgit Scouts acquired through secondment by not following SOP clause 2 whereby SSU is the lead agency. Director Security Dasu hydro-power project is responsible for the aforementioned lapse. Allocation of 1 per cent of project cost for security purposes of the project created an environment of non-cooperation and discord between WAPDA and SSU, which was evident from the fact that WAPDA did not sign the contract for provision of security with the SSU. On the other hand, SSU also did not take responsibility on the same pretext as admitted by the commandant SSU before the inquiry committee. The Director Security Dasu hydro-power project as well as commandant SSU were both responsible for this lapse. Provision of security was the responsibility of the state without any preconditions; therefore, linking security to any contractual commitment to pay for it is fundamentally

flawed. The SOP states that on the receipt of a request from foreigners, DD Security of the project will inform the local police and all the district police en route in writing followed by a telephone call regarding the subject movement so that all security measures are taken by all the district police. However, the inquiry report revealed that DD Security had informed only DPO Upper Kohistan through WhatsApp, which was a clear violation of the SOP. Furthermore, the Regional Police chief has no role in this movement. Former Inspector General of Police Syed Akhtar Ali Shah told this correspondent that the DIG Hazara had been made a scapegoat to avoid their follies. The security of the Chinese is a direct responsibility of the Ministry of Interior. “This is intelligence failure rather than the negligence of police. RPO has no role in the security of foreign conveys,” he said. Akhtar Ali said the inquiry committee has overlooked many important aspects. Most importantly, how come an explosive-laden truck got ingress through the Chaman check-post? Who had cleared the truck at that point and subsequently at other cross-prohibit points? Why scanning machines were not used, he asked.

<https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1178200-bisham-inquiry-report-shines-light-on-security-protocol-lapses>

### **The Nation**

#### **Pakistan signs \$200 million MoU with Chinese firm**

Accord to save millions of dollars being spent on import of furnace oil for thermal plant. ISLAMABAD - Pakistan has signed a \$200 million Memorandum of understanding (MoU) with a Chinese firm to convert a thermal plant to solar power in Pakistan which would be cost effective and would save millions of dollars being spent on import of furnace oil for the plant. The MoU was signed between Pakistan’s Northern Power Generation Company Limited (NPGCL) and Chinese company Ningbo Green Light Energy Pvt Ltd. The agreement aims to transform an existing thermal power plant located in Muzaffargarh into a state-of-the-art 300 MW solar power facility. The project will upgrade an existing thermal power plant to a 300 MW solar power plant through the Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC). This initiative, facilitated by the Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC), marks a significant stride towards embracing renewable energy solutions while reaping economic benefits. The project will generate 400 million units of electricity per year at a significantly lower cost, reducing the cost from forty five rupees to fourteen rupees per unit. The project will eliminate the need for Heavy Fuel Oil (HFO). It is estimated to save forty four million dollars annually due to reduction in import bills, offering attractive returns to stakeholders. Harnessing the land, assets, and infrastructure of generation company GENCO-III, this project underscores SIFC’s commitment to driving the transition towards renewable energy sources.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/14-Apr-2024/pakistan-signs-dollar-200-million-mou-with-chinese-firm>

## Jang News

### تھرمل پلانٹ کی شمسی توانائی میں تبدیلی چینی فرم کیساتھ معاہدے پر دستخط

پاکستان نے تھرمل پلانٹ کو شمسی توانائی میں تبدیل کرنے کے لیے چینی فرم کے ساتھ 200 ملین ڈالر کے معاہدے کی یادداشت پر دستخط کیے گئے۔ مظفر گڑھ میں ناردرن پاور جزیشن کمپنی لمیٹڈ نے چینی فرم ننگبو گرین لائٹ انرجی پرائیویٹ لمیٹڈ کے ساتھ 200 ملین ڈالر کی معاہدتی یادداشت پر دستخط کر دیں۔ یہ منصوبہ خصوصی سرمایہ کاری سہولت کونسل کے ذریعے ایک موجودہ تھرمل پاور پلانٹ کو اپ گریڈ کر کے 300 میگاواٹ کے سولر پاور پلانٹ پر منتقل کرے گا۔ اس منصوبے سے نمایاں طور پر کم کی زمین زمین، اثاثہ جات III لاگت پر سالانہ 400 ملین یونٹ بجلی پیدا ہوگی جس کی قیمت 45 روپے سے کم ہو کر 14 روپے فی یونٹ تک آجائے گی۔ جزیشن کمپنی جنکو اور بنیادی ڈھانچے کا استعمال کرتے ہوئے یہ اقدام اقتصادی فائدہ کے ساتھ ساتھ قابل تجدید توانائی کی منتقلی کی طرف خصوصی سرمایہ کاری سہولت کونسل کی مہم کو تقویت دیتا ہے، اس منصوبے سے بھاری ایندھن کے تیل کی ضرورت ختم ہو جائے گی۔ اسٹیک ہولڈرز کے لیے پرکشش منافع پیش کرتے ہوئے اس منصوبے کے تحت درآمدی بلوں میں کمی کی وجہ سے سالانہ 44 ملین ڈالر کی بچت کا تخمینہ لگایا گیا ہے۔

<https://e.jang.com.pk/detail/666154>

**April 15, 2024**

**Pakistan Observer**

## **Implement a Holistic Approach to National Security**

*H.E. Jiang Zaidong Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Pakistan*

As the transformations unseen in a century are unfolding at an accelerating pace, international relations are undergoing profound adjustments, and the world has entered a period of turbulence and transformation, people of all countries have greater expectations for peace and security. Meanwhile, the cause of socialism with Chinese characteristics has entered a new era, the rejuvenation of the Chinese nation has entered a critical stage, and China's development has placed higher demands on national security. President Xi Jinping thought deeply about the development trend of the times, relentlessly explored the path of national security with Chinese characteristics, and creatively put forward a holistic approach to national security, which takes the people's security as ultimate goal, political security as fundamental task, economic security as foundation, military, cultural and societal security as means of guarantee, and promotion of international security as support, and ensure both internal and external security, homeland and public security, traditional and non-traditional security, and China's own and standard security. It has pointed out the way forward for maintaining and shaping national security with Chinese characteristics and offered China's solution to building a world with lasting peace and universal security. As Pakistan's all-weather strategic cooperative partner, we stand ready to strengthen exchanges and mutual learning with Pakistan and continuously enrich the connotation of a China-Pakistan community with a shared future. We should take the people's security as the ultimate goal and effectively protect Chinese citizens in Pakistan. The people are the foundation of a country and are also what the rule of a country is for. The national security work ultimately



protects the people's interests and enables them to live and work in peace and happiness. President Xi Jinping emphasized that we must always put the people first in life and ensure their safety. A holistic approach to national security takes the people's position as the fundamental position and emphasizes that national security is for the people and relies on the people, which reflects President Xi Jinping's deep feelings for the people. Chinese citizens in Pakistan actively participate in Pakistan's national construction and promote China-Pakistan-friendly cooperation. We should do everything possible to protect their safety and value their contributions. It's heart-wrenching that in the recent terrorist attack on 26th March, five Chinese citizens were deprived of their young lives. We hope and believe that the Pakistani side will speed up the investigation of the incident, find out the truth, severely punish the perpetrators, raise counter-terrorism efforts, resolutely crack down on and root out the evil, and take all measures to protect the safety and security of Chinese personnel, institutions and projects in Pakistan, and create favorable conditions for advancing China-Pakistan all-weather strategic cooperation and building a China-Pakistan community with a shared future. We should take economic security as a foundation and continue to promote building an upgraded version of CPEC. Development and security are like a bird's two wings or a cart's wheels. Security is the prerequisite for development, and development guarantees security. As President Xi Jinping pointed out, a tree of peace cannot grow on barren land nor bear the fruits of development amidst the flames of war. For most Asian countries, development means the most excellent security and the key to regional security issues. CPEC, as an essential signature project under the framework of the Belt and Road Initiative, has effectively promoted Pakistan's economic and social development since its launching ten years ago by bringing in 25.4 billion dollars of direct investment, 236 thousand jobs, 510 KM expressway, more than 8,000 megawatts of power and 886 KM core power transmission grid. It is now entering the new phase of building a corridor of growth, livelihood, innovation, greenness and openness. The 26th March terrorist attack showed once again that a secure and stable environment is critical to the practical cooperation between China and Pakistan and the building of CPEC. China stands ready to work hand-in-hand with Pakistan to defeat the evil attempt at disrupting our collaboration, safeguard development with security, promote security with development, and advance high-quality CPEC cooperation. We should promote international security to support and further enhance China-Pakistan counter-terrorism and security cooperation. While one chopstick is easy to break, many chopsticks are much more resilient. Faced with the chaotic international security situation, interwoven traditional and non-traditional security threats, and an ever-increasing number of terrorist attacks, all countries need to work together in addressing various security challenges for win-win results. President Xi Jinping, with his profound perception of the historical trend of humanity's future and the world's development, proposed the Global Security Initiative at the right time. It explicitly answers questions of our times, such as what security concept the world needs and how countries can achieve common security. It also provides a guiding principle to promote global security governance. It becomes a vivid example of a community with a shared future for mankind in the security field. It manifests President Xi Jinping's breadth of vision and caring for the whole world. Bonded by mountains and rivers, China and Pakistan are closely linked in security interests. We stand ready to work with Pakistan to jointly implement the Global Security Initiative and build a peaceful and secure homeland. Moreover, the 26th

March terrorist attack also showed how violence and terrorism are challenging the bottom line of human civilization. We must take resolute actions to crack down on them. China stands ready to strengthen counter-terrorism and security cooperation with Pakistan further, to maintain high pressure and rigorous operation, to strike the rampant terrorism decisively, effectively safeguard the lives and interests of our two peoples and jointly maintain regional peace and security as well as international fairness and justice. Unity is strength, and solidarity is indispensable for victory. In today's world, where changes unseen in a century are accelerating, the strategic significance of China-Pakistan relations is becoming even more prominent. Focusing on the new phase of our bilateral ties, we will stick to the guidance of the critical consensus between President Xi Jinping and Pakistan's national leaders, carry forward our traditional friendship, strengthen exchanges and cooperation in various fields, jointly build an upgraded version of CPEC, continuously deepen the China-Pakistan all-weather strategic cooperative partnership, stand shoulder-to-shoulder in facing global changes, and build an even closer China-Pakistan community with a shared future in the new era. In this significant process, China stands ready to implement a holistic approach to national security together with Pakistan, to promote the Global Security Initiative for tangible results, and to write a chapter on security in building the China-Pakistan community with a shared future, to safeguard our common interests and benefit the two peoples during the centennial changes.

<https://pakobserver.net/implement-a-holistic-approach-to-national-security/>

## **Jang News**

### **قومی سلامتی کے جامع نقطہ نظر کا نفاذ**

#### **تحریر: پاکستان میں چین کے سفیر... جیانگ زائی ڈونگ**

جیسا کہ ایک صدی میں ان دیکھی تبدیلیاں اب تیز رفتاری سے نمایاں ہوتی جا رہی ہیں بین الاقوامی تعلقات بھی گہرے ایڈجسٹمنٹ سے گزر رہے ہیں۔ اس بحرانی اور تبدیلیوں کے دور میں تمام ممالک کے عوام کو امن و سلامتی کے حوالے سے بڑی توقعات وابستہ ہیں۔ دریں اثناء چینی خصوصیات کا حامل سوشلزم بھی ایک نئے دور میں داخل ہو چکا ہے۔ چینوں کا بحیثیت قوم احیاء ایک نازک مرحلے میں داخل ہو چکا ہے اور چین کی ترقی قومی سلامتی کے حوالے سے اونچی طلب کی متقاضی ہے۔ صدر ژئی جنگ اپنے وقت کی ترقی سے متعلق رجحانات کے بارے میں بڑی گہری سوچ رکھتے ہیں وہ چینی خصوصیات کا حامل قومی سلامتی کا راستہ تلاش کرنے کی سعی میں ہیں اور تخلیقی عمل کے ساتھ قومی سلامتی کی مجموعی پہنچ کے خواہاں ہیں۔ جس نے عوام کی سلامتی کو اپنا قطعی مقصد بنا رکھا ہے جس میں سیاسی سلامتی بنیادی کام ہے۔ اقتصادی سلامتی بنیاد ہو، فوجی، ثقافتی اور معاشرتی سلامتی ضمانت کا ذریعہ ہوں۔ مدد کے طور پر بین الاقوامی سلامتی کو فروغ دیا جائے اندرونی اور بیرونی سلامتی کو یقینی بنایا۔ جس میں عوامی، روایتی و غیر روایتی اور چین کی اپنی سلامتی شامل ہے جس کے لیے راہ کی نشاندہی کی گئی۔ دنیا میں دیرپا امن کے لیے چینی حل پیش کیا گیا ہے۔ جیسا کہ پاکستان ہر سر دوگر میں اسٹریٹجک کو آپریٹو پارٹنر ہے اس کے چین باہمی تبادلوں کو مضبوط کرنے، باہمی طور پر سیکھنے سمجھنے اور کمیونٹی کی بنیاد پر پاک چین تعاون اور مستقبل میں شراکت داری کا خواہش مند ہے۔ ہمیں عوامی سلامتی کو ترجیح دینا چاہئے۔ پاکستان میں چینی باشندوں کو موثر تحفظ ملے عوام ہی کسی ملک کی بنیاد ہوتے ہیں۔ عوامی سلامتی کا کام بنیادی طور پر ان کے مفادات کا تحفظ ہے اور انہیں کام کرنے کے لیے پر امن ماحول فراہم کیا جائے۔ صدر ژئی جنگ نے ہمیشہ عوام کو اولین ترجیح دینے پر زور دیا ہے۔ مجموعی طور پر ان کی زندگیوں اور سلامتی کو مقدم رکھا جائے۔ عوام کی سلامتی ہی قومی سلامتی ہے۔ یہ بات صدر ژئی جنگ کے گہرے احساسات کی ترجمان ہے۔

پاکستان میں چینی باشندے یہاں قومی تعمیر میں متحرک اور سرگرم ہیں۔ وہ پاک چین دوستانہ تعاون کو فروغ دے رہے ہیں۔ گزشتہ 26 مارچ کو دہشت گرد حملے میں 5/ چینی باشندوں کا دردناک قتل نہایت دل شکن واقعہ تھا۔ ہم توقع کرتے ہیں کہ پاکستان اس سانحہ کی تحقیقات کو تیزی سے آگے بڑھائے گا، سچ تلاش کیا جائے اور ذمہ داران کو قراوقتی سزا دی جائے۔ انسداد دہشت گردی کے لیے کوششوں کو آگے بڑھایا اور دہشت گردوں کو جڑ سے اکھاڑا جائے۔ چینی باشندوں کے تحفظ اور سلامتی کے لیے ہر ممکنہ اقدامات بروئے کار لائے جائیں۔ چین، پاکستان تعلقات اور تعاون کے لیے سازگار ماحول بنایا جائے۔ صدر ٹی جنگ پنگ کا کہنا ہے کہ بنجر زمین پر امن کا پودا پروان نہیں چڑھ سکتا۔ اور نہ ہی پھل دار ہو سکتا ہے۔ جنگ کے شعلے انہیں راکھ کر دیتے ہیں۔ زیادہ تر ایشیائی ممالک میں ترقی کا مطلب سلامتی ہے جو علاقائی سلامتی سے متعلق ایشوز کی کلید ہے۔ سی بیگ بیلٹ اینڈ روڈانی ٹیمپو کے تحت نہایت اہم پروجیکٹ ہے جس نے موثر طور پر پاکستان کی اقتصادی اور سماجی ترقی کو سہارا دیا ہے جس کا آغاز 10 سال قبل ہوا جس میں 25 ارب / 40 کروڑ ڈالر کی براہ راست سرمایہ کاری ہو چکی ہے جس کے ذریعہ 236 ہزار ملازمتوں کا اجراء 510 کلو میٹر طویل ہائی ویز، 8 ہزار میگا واٹ بجلی کی پیداوار 886 کے ایم کو رپاور ٹرانسمیشن گرڈ کی تعمیر ممکن ہوئی۔ اب یہ ایک نئے مرحلے میں داخل ہو رہی ہے۔ 26 مارچ کا دہشت گرد حملہ ایک بار پھر سے پرامن اور سازگار ماحول کی ضرورت کا احساس دلاتا ہے۔ جو سی بیگ کی تعمیر اور تکمیل کے لیے ضروری ہے۔ چین پاکستان کے ساتھ مل کر کام کرنے کے لیے تیار ہے۔

<https://e.jang.com.pk/detail/666709>

## *Chinese Newspapers*

**April 02, 2024**

**Xinhuanet News**

### **Farewell ceremony for deceased Chinese nationals held in Pakistan**

Pakistan, April 2 (Xinhua) -- A farewell ceremony for the Chinese nationals killed in a terrorist attack was held on March 31 at Nur Khan airbase here in Pakistan. Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan Jiang Zaidong, Pakistani officials, diplomats from the Chinese Embassy, and representatives of Chinese enterprises in Pakistan attended the ceremony. Jiang said in a speech at the ceremony that the Chinese compatriots who were in the flower of their youth came to Pakistan from afar and have made important contributions to promoting Pakistan's development and advancing China-Pakistan friendship and cooperation. He added that the best consolation for the deceased is to find out the truth of the incident and severely punish the perpetrators. The most powerful response to the terrorists is to resolutely fight against terrorism and eradicate all the evil forces. He also said that the Chinese side hopes and believes the Pakistani side will speed up the investigation, strengthen its counterterrorism efforts, and take all measures to ensure the security of Chinese personnel, institutions, and projects in Pakistan. "We stand ready to work with the Pakistani side to unwaveringly promote our all-weather strategic cooperation to accelerate the building of an even closer China-Pakistan community with a shared future," said the Chinese ambassador. Chaudhry Salik Hussain, federal minister for overseas Pakistanis and human resource development, expressed deep condolences to the victims at the ceremony. He strongly condemned the terrorist attack and said that Pakistan has always stood with the Chinese government and people. Pakistan will thoroughly investigate the incident and find out the truth as soon as possible and bring the perpetrators to justice, he said, adding that any attempt to undermine

the friendship between Pakistan and China will be doomed to failure. Five Chinese and one Pakistani national were killed on March 26 in a terrorist attack on the way to the Dasu Hydropower Project in northwestern Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province from Islamabad.

<https://english.news.cn/20240402/f1fbd30a0b0b4c0a9b7aa71fece7097e/c.html>

**April 03, 2024**

**China Daily**

**China's economic assistance applauded**

**The focus will be on high-quality BRI with better returns, former Pakistan PM says**

*By Xu Weiwei in Boao, Hainan*

Former Pakistani prime minister Shahid Khaqan Abbasi stressed the importance of building a closer China-Pakistan community with a shared future, as he condemned a terror attack that killed some Chinese workers in his country last week. Describing the March 26 attack that claimed the lives of five Chinese workers in Pakistan's Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province as an unfortunate incident, Abbasi denounced the attack and said his country is committed to protecting Chinese nationals working in the country. Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Monday visited the Dasu Hydropower Project's camp to console the Chinese personnel at the project. Sharif expressed his grief over the deaths and sent his condolences to the relatives of the victims and the Chinese personnel. It is the responsibility of the Pakistani government to protect the safety of the Chinese brothers and sisters who have come to Pakistan to help its development and progress, he said. Chinese companies and workers have resumed work at different sites in Pakistan a few days after the attack on Chinese engineers. Contrary to propaganda peddled by vested interests, work on the Tarbela Dam extension project has resumed, a testament to the resolve of both nations in the face of adversity, and a classic example of Pakistan-China friendship, Sharif said. "China firmly supports Pakistan in looking into what happened with utmost resolve and effort, bringing the perpetrators and whoever's behind the attack to justice and doing everything possible to protect the safety and security of Chinese personnel, projects, and institutions in Pakistan," said Wang Wenbin, Chinese Foreign Ministry's spokesperson, on Monday. In an interview with China Daily in Boao, Hainan province, Abbasi lauded China's help to Pakistan through the Belt and Road Initiative and the flagship China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, or CPEC, project, saying he finds China's engagement and the way the Chinese system works fascinating. BRI projects are "basically left to the host country to decide what to do", said Abbasi, who recently took on a new role as a member of the board of directors of the Boao Forum for Asia. He said the Chinese side's framework for the CPEC had only two requirements: projects should be economically viable, and they should be environmentally sustainable. According to him, CPEC projects have been developed at an amazing speed in the past decade. Now, the focus is shifting to high-quality BRI, which is moving away from signature projects to those that yield better returns and are more technology-focused.

## Beneficial relationship

"As part of the community of shared future, I think it is a very, very beneficial relationship in that sense because if you look back at the Silk Road, it was a trading route and it was about inclusion and integration. The same thing is happening now with the BRI," Abbasi said, referring to the Digital Silk Road project. "I think the focus now shifts to technology and also things like artificial intelligence." The CPEC has been a real success story, according to the Pakistani politician. He refuted the accusations of a "debt trap" by some Western nations, saying the claims have been intentionally made up to harm China's reputation. Talking about the terrorist attack against Chinese workers in Pakistan, Abbasi said protecting the lives of Chinese nationals involved in various projects in Pakistan is very important. However, he noted that Pakistan's landmass spans long distances from north to south, with a difficult terrain. "Pakistan has to deal with the threat from suicide bombers, something which is very difficult to guard against. I think we need to develop new methods for providing security in light of the recent incident," Abbasi said. But he said the terror attack will not hinder the progress and success of the second phase of the CPEC. "We are hopeful of moving forward with the CPEC and I am especially looking forward to the potential growth of exports, and the CPEC can be of great help," Abbasi said.

[https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202404/03/WS660c8d2fa31082fc043c017b\\_2.html](https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202404/03/WS660c8d2fa31082fc043c017b_2.html)

**April 11, 2024**

**Global Times**

### **Xinjiang holds exchange event with foreign diplomats**

*Liu Xin and Xing Xiaojing*

Authorities from Northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region held an event in Beijing on Wednesday to introduce the economic and social development and human rights protection in the region, with more than 70 foreign diplomats exchanging views with senior regional officials and also sharing their experience of visiting the region. Wednesday also marked the end of the Islamic holy month of Ramadan with attendees exchanging greetings for the Eid al-Fitr festival. Senior officials from Xinjiang, including Ma Xingrui, secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Regional Committee, and Erkin Tuniyaz, deputy secretary of the CPC Xinjiang Regional Committee and also chairman of the regional government, delivered speeches at the event. While discussing economic and social development as well as human rights protection, Erkin said the region's GDP in 2023 reached 1.9125 trillion yuan, an increase of 6.8 percent over the previous year. Currently, the overall situation in Xinjiang is harmonious and stable, with a strong momentum of high-quality economic development. The unity among different ethnic groups continues to be consolidated and different religions co-exist and develop harmoniously. The human rights of people of all ethnic groups are fully guaranteed. "We are united and determined to build a beautiful Xinjiang in the new journey ahead," said Erkin. The doors of Xinjiang have always been open. Also, the remarkable achievements in Xinjiang are widely recognized by the international community, said Erkin, who welcomed people to visit Xinjiang and experience



the hospitality of the local people. Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Chen Xiaodong emphasized that the achievements in economic and social development, as well as human rights protection in Xinjiang, have garnered widespread recognition. However, a small group of individuals, viewing the region from a biased perspective, are disseminating falsehoods to undermine the region's development and violate the regional residents' basic human rights. Lies are ultimately exposed in the face of facts and truth, Chen said, while also expressing gratitude to all diplomats and friends for their long-term care and support for the Xinjiang region. "We hope that everyone will continue to be promoters of Xinjiang's opening up, allowing the benefits of an open Xinjiang to reach more people from all countries," said Chen, calling on people to continue to uphold fairness and justice, to be objective and impartial, and to reject falsehoods. Ambassadors from South Africa, Kazakhstan, Syria, Turkey, Iran, and Pakistan also delivered speeches at the event. While reviewing his visit to the Xinjiang region in 2023, Siyabonga Cyprian Cwele, Ambassador of South Africa to China, said at the event that he was impressed by the hospitality of the residents in Xinjiang. The ambassador noted that Xinjiang has eradicated absolute poverty, allowing its people to fully enjoy religious freedom and coexist harmoniously amid diversity. Great efforts have also been made to promote rural revitalization, prevent those lifted out of poverty from falling back into it, and actively engage in infrastructure construction, promoting regional prosperity and development. Shakhrat Nuryshev, Ambassador of Kazakhstan to China, noted that the Xinjiang region has a special position in the China-Kazakhstan permanent comprehensive strategic partnership. "I believe Xinjiang will play a bigger role and contribute more to developing Kazakhstan-China relations in the next 30 golden years," said the ambassador. Dr. Ismail Hakki Musa, Ambassador of the Republic of Turkey to China, said he had visited Xinjiang twice since taking office in Beijing a year ago, during which he went to Kashi and Urumqi as well as ancient sites and modern marketplaces. "I observed the rapid economic development throughout the region. This allows the people to enjoy economic and social rights, as stipulated by the right to development," said the ambassador. The ambassador also told the *Global Times* that he has full confidence in the future development of the Xinjiang region as well as China. "I look forward to continuing our constructive and fruitful cooperation with Xinjiang," he said, noting that collaborative efforts will bring about significant outcomes at political, economic, cultural, and social levels. Xinjiang is a manifestation of the Chinese success story in modernization, governance, and eradicating poverty, having enabled its people to make a huge leap into prosperity. It also shows the unity of the people, said Muhammad Hasanein Khaddam, Ambassador of Syria to China. The ambassador noted that he is confident that the lies talked about China, and the Xinjiang region, in particular, by some Western powers cannot hinder its path to prosperity and success. Some ambassadors also talked about the significance of Xinjiang in the Belt and Road Initiative. Mohsen Bakhtiar, Ambassador of Iran to China, noted that the historical significance of Xinjiang as a vital hub along the ancient Silk Road continues to exist in the modern era. The prominent role of Xinjiang in the Belt and Road Initiative provides all countries in the region with a good opportunity for economic cooperation and cultural exchanges. The Belt and Road Initiative outlines the framework of cooperation, and we must work hard to activate its potential accordingly, said Ambassador Bakhtiar. In his speech, Khalil-ur-Rahman Hashmi, Ambassador of Pakistan to China, said that he was proud of the

longstanding friendship and cooperation between Pakistan and China and between Pakistan and China's Xinjiang region. Pakistan and the Xinjiang region are bound by the iconic Khunjerab Pass and linked through the Karakoram Highway, which is a living reminder of the ancient Silk Road. Over the years, this relationship has further flourished, and the conception and implementation of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor has placed the Xinjiang region at the forefront of the connectivity agenda, said Ambassador Hashmi. Pakistan highly values its relationship with China's Xinjiang region and looks forward to further promoting trade, investment, cultural exchanges, and people-to-people interactions, said the ambassador.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202404/1310384.shtml>

### **Shanghai Daily**

#### **Foreign envoys praise prosperous Xinjiang at conference**

Over 70 foreign diplomats from 49 countries attended a conference held in Beijing on Wednesday, to learn about economic and social development and human rights protection achievements in northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region. Ambassadors delivering speeches gave positive comments on Xinjiang and some shared their personal experiences of their visits to Xinjiang. They are looking forward to more cooperation between their home countries and China's Xinjiang. Siyabonga Cyprian Cwele, ambassador of South Africa to China, said that during his visit to Xinjiang in 2023, he had experienced the hospitality of the local people, praising their harmonious life and freedom of religious belief. Ambassador of Türkiye to China, Ismail Hakki Musa, said China's Xinjiang has developed rapidly, and people of all ethnic groups have enjoyed good development rights. Syrian ambassador to China, Mhd Hasanein Khaddam, said Xinjiang's development achievement is admirable, and lies fabricated by some Western countries cannot hinder the prosperity and success of China's Xinjiang. Ambassador of Iran to China, Mohsen Bakhtiar, said China has made a strong commitment to Xinjiang's high-quality development. He said Xinjiang plays an important role in the Belt and Road Initiative, and its achievements in economic development, infrastructure, environmental protection, humanities, science, and technology are impressive. Shakhrat Nuryshev, ambassador of Kazakhstan to China, said the China (Xinjiang) Pilot Free Trade Zone established last year contributes to the development of Xinjiang and neighboring countries. Pakistani ambassador Khalil-ur-Rahman Hashmi said he appreciates the long-term friendly cooperation between Pakistan and China and is looking forward to further strengthening cooperation with Xinjiang on trade, investment, and people-to-people and cultural exchanges, among others.

<https://www.shine.cn/news/nation/2404117018/>

**April 15, 2024**

**Global Times**

### **Submissions open for the 2nd Silk Road Global News Awards**

The Belt and Road News Network (BRNN), chaired by China's People's Daily, launched a global call for submissions for the second Silk Road Global News Awards (SRGNA) on April 12. The SRGNA, a major signature event of BRNN, aims to recognize outstanding journalism that promotes the Silk Road spirit of peace, cooperation, openness, inclusiveness, mutual learning, and mutual benefit. It encourages media outlets from countries and regions participating in the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) to learn from each other and work together to share stories of the BRI. The second SRGNA features four award categories: Best Reporting, Best Photography, Best Video, and Best Innovation. Each category will have one grand prize winner, four nominees, and 10 finalists. Works that support the BRI, convey the Silk Road spirit, reflect exchanges and mutual learning among civilizations, align with the vision of building a global community with a shared future, and make a substantial international impact are eligible for the awards. Submissions should be produced by foreign entities. Works co-produced by Chinese and foreign entities, or Chinese productions released on foreign platforms, are also eligible for consideration. Applicants should register on the BRNN official website ([www.brnn.com](http://www.brnn.com)) and submit information about their work. The evaluation process involves a preliminary review by an academic committee and a final review by the SRGNA judging committee. Updates will be posted on the BRNN website. The inaugural edition of the SRGNA collected submissions between January 2020 and September 2021. The selection process concluded in December 2022, and the awards ceremony was held in 2023.

A total of 19 works were granted awards in five categories. The "Kazakhstan Belt and Road Initiative: The Road to Somewhere," a news report written by Chris Wright from the U.K., won the In-depth Reporting Award. Mushahid Hussain Syed, head of Pakistan's Friends of Silk Road club and chairman of the Pakistan-China Institute, received a Special Contribution Award. The BRNN is a cooperative platform jointly established by media outlets from BRI countries and regions. Its mission is to boost understanding, friendship, and cooperation, and form a mechanism for regular collaboration among media outlets. To date, 261 media organizations from 109 countries have joined this key media cooperation platform under the framework of the BRI.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202404/1310607.shtml>