



For Better Understanding on China–Pakistan and CPEC

Gleanings from the National & Chinese Press

May 01-15, 2024

Table of Contents

01: May 01, 2024.....	03
02: May 02, 2024.....	09
03: May 03, 2024.....	18
04: May 04, 2024.....	25
05: May 05, 2024.....	37
06: May 06, 2024.....	40
07: May 07, 2024.....	42
08: May 08, 2024.....	46
09: May 09, 2024.....	50
10: May 10, 2024.....	54
11: May 11, 2024.....	55
12: May 12, 2024.....	60
13: May 13, 2024.....	63
14: May 14, 2024.....	70
15: May 15, 2024.....	77

Chinese Newspapers

01: May 02, 2024.....	82
02: May 03, 2024.....	83
03: May 06, 2024.....	86
04: May 07, 2024.....	88
05: May 09, 2024.....	89
06: May 10, 2024.....	90
07: May 11, 2024.....	94
08: May 14, 2024.....	96
09: May 15, 2024.....	98

Supervised by Dr. Muhammad Irfan

Data collected and compiled by Alishba Aslam, Munaza Amber and Uzma Afzal

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

May 01, 2024

Business Recorder

Ministry directed to clear CPEC IPPs' dues

Federal Minister for Planning, Development, and Special Initiatives Ahsan Iqbal has instructed the concerned ministry to clear the dues of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) Independent Power Producers (IPPs). Iqbal presided over the first Cabinet Committee on Chinese Investment Projects (CCoCIP). The meeting deliberated on the overdue issues concerning the CPEC IPPs, which pose a significant impediment to the financial closure of key projects. Planning Minister Iqbal instructed the concerned ministry (Ministry of Power) to clear the dues to CPEC energy projects as soon as possible. Minister Iqbal emphasised the importance of providing electricity to SEZs at an incentivized cost while ensuring the government does not incur losses. He directed the involvement of the Board of Directors to expedite the resolution of SEZ-related issues. A directive was issued to conduct a comparative study on the incentives offered to SEZs in regional countries to ascertain how Pakistan's SEZs and Export Processing Groups can be made more attractive. The planning minister instructed the Board of Investment (BOI) and Ministry of Commerce to explore the creation of export processing zones to attract industries from China to Pakistan, identifying potential products for relocation. The Ministry of Industry, Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of IT, Ministry of Petroleum, and Ministry of Manpower were tasked with preparing a Request for Proposal (RFP) outlining measures to boost Pakistan's exports from \$30 billion to \$100 billion within the next seven years. The focus was on developing a strategy to achieve an export surplus to meet both local and international demands. Strategies to ensure the security of Chinese nationals in Pakistan were also discussed, emphasizing the need for community awareness regarding their contributions to Pakistan's development. The planning minister emphasised that security measures should instil confidence rather than fear. He underscored the importance of employing modern technology, akin to developed nations, to monitor the activities of non-state actors and anti-national elements. Furthermore, the minister highlighted the adverse effects of imposing undue hardships on citizens, as it creates a negative perception among foreign visitors. It was also noted that efforts are imperative to dispel the negative image of being a high-security risk nation globally. Highlighting the recent visit of China's Deputy Prime Minister at the 10th Anniversary of CPEC, the planning minister outlined five corridors for future collaboration as announced by the Deputy Prime Minister of China for CPEC Phase-2. The five corridors include the corridor of economic development, corridor of job creation, corridor of innovation, corridor of green energy, and corridor of inclusive regional development. The meeting also discussed preparatory measures, including potential discussions at the Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) to finalise outcomes prior to the Prime Minister's forthcoming visit to China. Planning Minister Iqbal directed line ministries to expedite the meetings of Joint Working Groups (JWGs) and finalise projects for presentation at the upcoming JCC meeting. Minister Iqbal concluded the meeting by emphasising the need for a national agenda to identify Pakistan's priorities in collaboration with China, ensuring fruitful discussions at the upcoming 13th JCC. <https://epaper.brecorder.com/2024/05/01/3-page/991829-news.html>

Lunar mission to be launched from China on Friday

Pakistan's lunar mission (ICUBE-Q) will be launched on the coming Friday from Hainan, China. According to Pakistan's Institute of Space Technology (IST), the satellite ICUBE-Q has been designed and developed by IST in collaboration with China's Shanghai University (SJTU) and support from Pakistan's national space agency SUPARCO. The launch activity will be telecast live on the IST website and IST social media accounts, an official statement said on Tuesday.

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2024/05/01/10-page/991882-news.html>

Daily Times

Chinese' solar lights illuminate Gwadar

Thanks to the efforts of Chinese companies, the streets and public places in Gwadar are now illuminated by solar energy. Local residents in Gwadar had been experiencing unstable power supply, particularly during the night, prior to this development. The China Communication and Constructions Company, in collaboration with the Consulate General of the People's Republic of China in Karachi, have jointly undertaken the project to illuminate the main streets and public spaces of Gwadar. A total of 73 solar-powered street lights have been installed at various locations where public activities are concentrated. Of these, 18 poles have been installed at the junction of the East Bay Expressway with the jetty, 19 poles at the fish landing area on the west bay along Marine Drive, 26 poles at the fish harbor (jetty), and 10 poles at the District Headquarters Hospital (DHQ). Ali Baloch, a local resident near Maritime Drive, told Gwadar Pro that before, such facilities were unavailable for local commuters at these points. He emphasized that there was a clear recognition of the need for improved infrastructure by both the local community and the Chinese companies involved. Additionally, he expressed optimism that with the installations of solar-powered street lights, commercial activities, especially those related to fishing, would be able to continue throughout the day due to the improved visibility and safety provided by the solar lighting.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1190732/chinese-solar-lights-illuminate-gwadar/>

China-Pakistan cooperating for sustainable development in medical sector

China and Pakistan have emerged as pivotal allies in advancing sustainable development, especially in the crucial domain of healthcare. This was stated by Dr. Muhammad Shahbaz, Chairman of the China-Pakistan Health Corridor and President of the China-Pakistan Medical Association (CPMA), according to Gwadar Pro on Tuesday. He emphasized their shared dedication to innovation and progress in tackling pressing health challenges and bolstering robust medical infrastructure. Dr. Shahbaz delivered a compelling address during the International Forum on Science and Diplomacy, held as part of the 2024 ZGC Forum round table session in Beijing. His speech echoed the event's theme of "Promoting Science for Good, Supporting Sustainable Development," highlighting the critical role of innovation in addressing global issues. Expressing his deep pleasure and honor to participate in the event organized by the Ministry of Science and Technology of the People's Republic of China (MOST), Dr. Shahbaz commended the dynamic potential of the gathering in fostering

numerous opportunities for future collaboration among nations. In today's fiercely competitive global landscape, Dr. Shahbaz stressed the necessity for sustainable solutions. Governments, corporations, and SMEs recognize the indispensable role of innovation in driving development, particularly in light of the Fourth Industrial Revolution, encapsulated in Industry 4.0, which serves as a catalyst for leveraging science and technology for sustainable growth. Dr. Shahbaz praised the CPMA's significant role in facilitating multidisciplinary cooperation in the medical field among China, Pakistan, and Belt and Road countries. He highlighted the groundbreaking China-Pakistan Health Corridor (CPHC) initiative launched in 2017, which comprises interconnected medical universities, hospitals, and research centers leveraging telemedicine and AI technologies to align with Sustainable Development Goal 3 on good health and well-being. Additionally, Dr. Shahbaz outlined the efforts of the FDS Consortium's Department of International Cooperation in advancing technological innovation in precision tumor radiotherapy and nuclear safety under the leadership of Academician Wu Yican. He emphasized the importance of sharing China's expertise in managing health crises with other Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) countries through collaborative initiatives like the CPHC.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1190753/china-pakistan-cooperating-for-sustainable-development-in-medical-sector/>

Dunya News

Police ban Chinese nationals' movement without security

LAHORE (Dunya News) - The police on Wednesday imposed a ban on the movement of Chinese citizens without private security and bulletproof conveyance. After this decision, some Chinese business individuals found themselves restricted to hotels due to security concerns. Moreover, the police issued a letter stressing the security of Chinese personnel involved in non-CPEC projects. Meanwhile, the Home Department clarified that within two days, projects not using bulletproof vehicles will be stopped unless they acquire such vehicles.

<https://dunyanews.tv/en/Pakistan/808702-Police-ban-Chinese-citizens-without-security,-bulletproof-cars>

The Express Tribune

Dues of Chinese plants soar to Rs529b

ISLAMABAD: The outstanding dues of Chinese power plants have increased to a record Rs529 billion due to Pakistan's apathy towards these investors, as Beijing seeks more fiscal incentives for investment in the Special Economic Zones of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). The government on Tuesday reviewed the status of Chinese investment and the security issues being faced by them in the first meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Chinese Investment Projects (CCoCIP). Planning Minister Ahsan Iqbal chaired the meeting. It emerged during discussions that the outstanding dues of the Chinese energy plants had surged to Rs529 billion. The power purchase payments to the Chinese suppliers are not matching with their invoices due to Pakistan's failure to stem the circular debt and implement

the Energy Framework Agreement in true letter and spirit. The meeting deliberated on the outstanding issues concerning CPEC's independent power producers (IPPs), which were a major impediment to the financial close of key projects, according to a statement issued by the Ministry of Planning. Ahsan Iqbal told the IPPs to submit details of the amount owed to them in the context of CPEC energy projects as soon as possible, according to the ministry. However, these details are already available with the government. Under the 2015 agreement, Pakistan is legally bound to set up a revolving fund to protect the Chinese investors from the circular debt. The government has opened a Rs.48 billion account, which hardly caters to the need. The Chinese government has not accepted the revolving account arrangement and is asking Pakistan to honor its agreements. Because of the delay in settlement of the Rs529 billion dues, two Chinese-sponsored power plants having combined capacity of 1,824 megawatts are facing difficulties in achieving the financial close. Sources said that the Chinese developer of the Rashakai Special Economic Zone had termed the existing fiscal incentives insufficient to attract investment into the zone. It has repeatedly requested for exemption from customs duty and sales tax on the imported raw material and semi-finished products to be used for processing and production. They have also asked for preferential electricity prices and stable power supply. Ahsan Iqbal emphasized the importance of providing electricity to the SEZs at an incentivized cost while ensuring that the government did not incur losses, according to the planning ministry. He directed the involvement of the board of directors to expedite the resolution of SEZ-related issues. A directive was issued to conduct a comparative study on the incentives offered to the SEZs in regional countries to ascertain how Pakistan's SEZs and Export Processing Zones (EPZs) could be made more attractive. The planning minister instructed the Board of Investment (BOI) and the Ministry of Commerce to explore the creation of EPZs to attract industries from China to Pakistan by identifying the potential products for relocation. The focus was on developing a strategy to achieve export surplus to meet both local and international demand. Strategies to ensure the security of Chinese nationals in Pakistan were also discussed, emphasizing the need for community awareness regarding their contributions to Pakistan's development. The planning minister emphasized that security measures should instill confidence rather than fear. He underscored the importance of employing modern technology, akin to the developed nations, to monitor the activities of non-state actors and anti-national elements. Furthermore, the minister highlighted the adverse effects of imposing undue hardships on citizens, as it created a negative perception among foreign visitors. It was also noted that efforts were imperative to dispel the negative image of being a high security risk nation globally. Highlighting the recent visit of China's deputy prime minister at the 10th anniversary of CPEC, the minister outlined five corridors for future collaboration as announced by the deputy prime minister of China for the CPEC Phase 2. The five corridors include the corridor of economic development, corridor of job creation, corridor of innovation, corridor of green energy and corridor of inclusive regional development. Pakistan has proposed the date of May 24 for the 12th Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) meeting and is now waiting for the Chinese response. The meeting also discussed preparatory measures, including potential discussions at the JCC to finalize outcomes prior to the prime minister's forthcoming visit to China, said the ministry. Ahsan Iqbal directed the line ministries to expedite the meetings of Joint Working Groups (JWGs) and finalize projects for presentation at the upcoming JCC meeting. He

concluded the meeting by emphasizing the need for a national agenda to identify Pakistan's priorities in collaboration with China, ensuring fruitful discussions at the upcoming JCC.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2464689/dues-of-chinese-plants-soar-to-rs529b>

Pakistan, Iran, China to hold talks on counter terrorism, security

Kamran Yousaf

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan, China and Iran will soon hold trilateral meeting on counter terrorism and security in another sign of growing role of Beijing, bringing together the neighbors on crucial issues. The first meeting of Pakistan-China-Iran Trilateral Consultation on counter terrorism and security was held in Beijing in June last year. The move was aimed at coordinating efforts to collectively fight terrorism and groups that are trying to undermine the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). Official sources said the trilateral meeting would review the current security situation and activities of terrorist groups threatening the regional stability. China has keen interest in Pakistan-Iran dealing this threat together as their shared border is home to some of the groups targeting the Chinese interests. Majid Brigade, a suicide wing of a Baloch terrorist outfit, is formed to target China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) projects. In recent years the group took responsibility of many deadly attacks targeting Chinese nationals and CPEC. China feels that close cooperation between Pakistan and Iran could neutralize these threats. Pakistan and Iran were on the verge of full scale conflict in January over the presence of terrorist groups in their shared border. On 16 January, Iran fired missiles into Pakistan targeting what it claimed were terrorist hideouts of Jaish-al-Adl, a group responsible for deadly attacks against the Iranian security forces. Pakistan denied the allegations and two days later retaliated with similar claims. However, following the missile exchanges, the two countries swiftly moved to sort out their issues. The two countries recently decided to implement the decision taken during the visit of Iranian foreign minister in January to deploy senior military officials in each other's countries. Official sources said a colonel ranked Pakistan Army official was deployed in Zaydan, Sistan-Baluchistan while Iranian Revolutionary Guard officer would station in Turbat, Balochistan for better coordination. The two countries have been discussing the security pact to avoid future escalations. Iran and Pakistan would also ban terrorist outfits operating in the border region. Interior Minister Mohsen Naqvi is expected to travel to Iran in coming weeks to finalize the security pact.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2464767/pakistan-iran-china-to-hold-talks-on-counter-terrorism-security>

The Nation

US, China, UK remain top destinations for Pakistani exports during July-March

ISLAMABAD - The United States (US) remained the top export destination of Pakistani products during the first nine months of the current financial year 2023-24, followed by China and the UK. Total exports to the US during July-March 2023-24 were recorded at \$4,046.415 million against the exports of \$4,530.379 million during July-March 2022-23, showing a decline of 10.68 percent, according to the SBP. This was followed by China, wherein Pakistan exported goods worth \$2,141.737 million against the exports of \$1,524.761 million last year, showing an increase of 40.46 percent. UK was the third top export destination, where Pakistan exported products worth \$1,529.0428 million during the months under review against the exports of \$1,494.643 million, SBP data revealed. Among other countries, Pakistani exports to UAE stood at \$1,486.937 million against \$1,081.886 million last year, showing an increase of 37.43 percent while the exports to Germany were recorded at \$1,120.160 million against \$1,264.178 million last year, data said. During July-March, the exports to Holland were recorded at \$1,024.731 million against \$1,103.214 million whereas the exports to Italy stood at \$825.439 million against \$852.925 million. Pakistan's exports to Spain were recorded at \$1,084.927 million against the exports of \$1,045.738 million while the exports to Afghanistan were recorded at \$375.319 million against \$401.044 million last year. The exports to Bangladesh stood at \$488.322 million against \$588.293 million. Similarly, the exports to France during the months under review were recorded at \$378.478 million against \$440.766 million while the exports to Belgium stood at \$404.650 million against \$524.192 million. Pakistan's exports to Saudi Arabia were recorded at \$516.341 million during the current year compared to \$357.172 million last year whereas the exports to Turkiye stood at \$259.599 million against \$240.413 million.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/01-May-2024/us-china-uk-remain-top-destinations-for-pakistani-exports-during-july-march>

China-Pak boosting coop for sustainable development in medical sector

ISLAMABAD - China and Pakistan have emerged as pivotal allies in advancing sustainable development, especially in the crucial domain of healthcare. This was stated by Dr Muhammad Shahbaz, Chairman of the China-Pakistan Health Corridor and President of the China-Pakistan Medical Association (CPMA), according to Gwadar Pro on Tuesday. He emphasized their shared dedication to innovation and progress in tackling pressing health challenges and bolstering robust medical infrastructure. Dr Shahbaz delivered a compelling address during the International Forum on Science and Diplomacy, held as part of the 2024 ZGC Forum round table session in Beijing. His speech echoed the event's theme of "Promoting Science for Good, Supporting Sustainable Development," highlighting the critical role of innovation in addressing global issues. Expressing his deep pleasure and honor to participate in the event organized by the Ministry of Science and Technology of the People's Republic of China (MOST), Dr Shahbaz commended the dynamic potential of the gathering in fostering numerous opportunities for future collaboration among nations. In

today's fiercely competitive global landscape, Dr Shahbaz stressed the necessity for sustainable solutions. Governments, corporations, and SMEs recognize the indispensable role of innovation in driving development, particularly in light of the Fourth Industrial Revolution, encapsulated in Industry 4.0, which serves as a catalyst for leveraging science and technology for sustainable growth. Dr Shahbaz praised the CPMA's significant role in facilitating multidisciplinary cooperation in the medical field among China, Pakistan and Belt and Road countries.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/01-May-2024/china-pak-boosting-coop-for-sustainable-development-in-medical-sector>

Nawaiwaqt News

پاکستان کا پہلا سیٹلائٹ مشن چاند پر بھیجنے کی تیاریاں مکمل، 3 مئی کو روانہ ہوگا

پاکستان کا پہلا سیٹلائٹ مشن چاند پر بھیجنے کی تیاریاں مکمل کر لی گئیں۔ نجی ٹی وی سے گفتگو کرتے ہوئے انسٹی ٹیوٹ آف سپیس ٹیکنالوجی کی کور کمیٹی کے رکن ڈاکٹر خرم خورشید نے کہا 3 مئی کو 12 بج کر 50 منٹ پر پاکستان کا پہلا سیٹلائٹ مشن چاند پر بھیجا جائے گا۔ انہوں نے کہا یہ مشن چین کے مینان سپیس لانچ سائٹ سے خلا میں بھیجا جائے گا، سیٹلائٹ آئی کیوب قمر کی لانچ کو ویب سائٹ سے لائیو ٹیلی کاسٹ کیا جائے گا۔ انہوں نے کہا آئی کیوب قمر کا ڈیزائن اور ڈویلپمنٹ چائنا اور سپارکو کے اشتراک سے تیار کیا، چاند کی تصاویر بنانے کیلئے آئی کیوب قمر میں دو کیمرے نصب ہیں۔ ڈاکٹر خرم خورشید کے مطابق پاکستان کا سیٹلائٹ مشن چاند کے مدار کے چکر کاٹے گا اور یہ مشن سے لی جانے والی تصاویر تحقیقی مقاصد میں کام آئیں گی۔ انہوں نے بتایا کہ چین کا سیٹلائٹ مشن چاند پر لینڈ کرے گا اور یہ مشن چاند کی مٹی جمع کرے گا۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2024-05-01/page-1/detail-17>

May 02, 2024

Daily Times

COMSTECH partners with Chinese University for training program in China

The Committee on Science and Technology of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (COMSTECH) has partnered with Hunan University of Chinese Medicine (HUCM) to provide training programs for technicians, covering a range of disciplines in both medical and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) fields. The primary goal is to build and strengthen scientific and technological capacities within OIC member states, Gwadar Pro reported on Wednesday. In this collaborative effort, titled the "COMSTECH-Hunan University of Chinese Medicine (HUCM) Technicians Training Program," 13 individuals from seven countries will visit China from May 6 to May 17 to receive advanced training in Medical Sciences and Science and Technology. The training program will include instruction on NMR and MRI techniques, as well as sessions focusing on Ethno Medicine Innovation and Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM). Training will be conducted in two cities: Changsha and Beijing. Technical visits will also be part of the program, with trainees visiting Tianjin Tasly Holding. Among the 13 selected individuals, two are from Pakistan, two from Cameroon, two from Indonesia, and two from Bangladesh. Additionally, one participant each hails from Sudan, Kazakhstan, Egypt, and the UAE (with Pakistani origin).

The candidates represent diverse educational and professional backgrounds, ranging from Lab Supervisors and Research Assistants to Lecturers and Assistant Professors at their respective institutions. Khazima Muazim, Program Manager, emphasized the prioritization of female candidates from Least Developed Countries (LDCs) to address marginalization and ensure inclusivity within the program.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1191139/comstech-partneres-with-chinese-university-for-training-program-in-china/>

Dunya News

Mohsin Naqvi meets Chinese consul general, discusses bilateral issues

KARACHI (Dunya News) – Interior Minister Syed Mohsin Naqvi called on Chinese Consul General Yang Yundong in Karachi and discussed with him matters of mutual interest. Interior Minister Naqvi arrived at the Chinese Consulate in Karachi where he was welcomed by Chinese Consul General Yang Yundong. Federal Interior Secretary Khurram Agha and Chinese Consulate officials were also present. Minister Naqvi met the Chinese Consul General and exchanged views on bilateral issues, matters of mutual interest and security of Chinese citizens. The interior minister informed the Chinese CG about the measures taken to protect the Chinese citizens in Pakistan, especially in Karachi. He said the security of Chinese citizens was important to him. He said, “Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) are being strictly implemented for the movement of Chinese nationals. “Our enemy is trying to inflict damage on Pakistan-China friendship. We will thwart every such plot of the enemy,” said Naqvi. On this occasion, the Chinese consul general expressed satisfaction over the security plan.

<https://dunyanews.tv/en/Pakistan/808870-Mohsin-Naqvi-meets-Chinese-consul-general,-discusses-bilateral-issues>

Pakistan Observer

COMSTech partnered with Chinese varsity for training program

The Committee on Science and Technology of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (COMSTech) has partnered with Hunan University of Chinese Medicine (HUCM) to provide training programs for technicians, covering a range of disciplines in both medical and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) fields. The primary goal is to build and strengthen scientific and technological capacities within OIC member states, Gwadar Pro reported on Wednesday. In this collaborative effort, titled the “COMSTech-Hunan University of Chinese Medicine (HUCM) Technicians Training Program,” 13 individuals from seven countries will visit China from May 6 to May 17 to receive advanced training in Medical Sciences and Science and Technology. The training program will include instruction on NMR and MRI techniques, as well as sessions focusing on Ethno Medicine Innovation and Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM). <https://pakobserver.net/comstech-partnered-with-chinese-varsity-for-training-program/>

GT Voice: BRI offers bridge to prosperity in western region of China

As China shifts up a gear in the development of its vast western region, which covers more than 70 percent of the country's landmass, China will further open its economy and share its quality resources, such as the market, with the world, so as to build mutually beneficial cooperation. In this process, the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) will establish an effective platform to meet the development needs of the world. The China-Europe Railway Express, a flagship project under the BRI, has deepened connectivity and boosted common development in the Eurasian continent over the past decade. On Friday, a train carrying agricultural products reportedly left Urumqi, Northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, for Salerno, Italy. The route, combining rail and ocean services, not only reduces transportation costs and improves the efficiency of international cargo shipments, but also shortens the overall time by half compared with sea transportation. The China-Europe Railway Express has significantly improved railway connectivity between Asia and Europe, as well as the development of sea-rail, road-rail and air-rail multimodal transportation, offering strong support for the massive trade of goods between China and Europe. Enormous potential remains to be tapped in bilateral trade, as China makes tremendous efforts in boosting the high-quality development of its western region by pursuing higher-standard opening-up. With China's push for more balanced development, the economic gap between China's better-off eastern coastal region and its less-developed western inland region is narrowing. The western region is expected to catch up with the eastern region in the fields of public service, infrastructure connectivity and living standards by 2035. It means the vast western region has significant growth opportunities in the foreseeable future. Xinjiang can be viewed as the epitome of the development of China's western region. Xinjiang's GDP jumped 5.6 percent in the first quarter with its growth exceeding forecasts. The added value of its secondary industry reached 188.36 billion yuan (\$25.99 billion), up 10.1 percent year-on-year, exceeding the increases in the primary and tertiary industries. This added to evidence that Xinjiang's industrialization has accelerated and taken off, and is growing at an extraordinary pace. The first wave of China's industrialization and modernization brought development to the eastern and southern parts of the country. The second wave will soon lift up the country's vast western region. The urbanization and industrialization of the central and western parts of China will not only inject new impetus into the country's economic development, but will also advance a new round of opening-up. Further opening-up can help bolster the efficiency and competitiveness of Chinese markets, while relieving pressure on the global economy. The BRI is expected to be an important part of China's new round of opening-up, letting the world share the growth dividend of the second wave of China's industrialization in its western region. The BRI continues to develop rapidly. As the initiative has materialized over the past decade, Xinjiang has been transformed from a relatively closed inland region to a frontier of opening-up and innovation. With the rise of China's western region, BRI cooperation will become even more valuable for overseas partners. China still has golden opportunities for development. How can this potential be tapped? Europe should be more involved in the BRI. Some in the West incorrectly claim that Europe can gain little from its participation in the BRI, but the initiative connecting Europe with China's fast-growing western region counters this point. Rapid economic development has created a large demand

for imports. In 2023, Xinjiang's foreign trade totaled 357.33 billion yuan, a year-on-year increase of 45.9 percent, and ranking second among China's provincial-level regions in terms of growth. If China's western region can further accelerate its industrialization and urbanization with the help of the BRI, it will have a profound and long-term impact on the global supply chain. Foreign businesses should not miss emerging opportunities in the Chinese market.

<https://pakobserver.net/gt-voice-bri-offers-bridge-to-prosperity-in-western-region-of-china/>

Sincere contribution of China to regional and global peace & security

Gauhar Zahid Malik

In a landmark development, a group of Iranians, on April 22, left for Saudi Arabia for Umrah pilgrimage for the first time in nine years as an indication of steady improvement in bilateral relations of the two countries. This appends to be an outcome of the reconciliatory efforts made behind-the-scene by China to help sort out differences between the two Muslim states. And move towards a cooperative relationship. It was due to mediation of Beijing that the two countries concluded an epoch-making deal to restore their diplomatic ties and reopen their respective embassies. The development, seen as a sort of diplomatic coup, made policy and decision-makers in some of the Western capitals uneasy, as it highlighted China's growing leverage as peacemaker and mediator. These western diplomatic circles also cast doubts about sustainability of the reconciliatory efforts given the deep-rooted misunderstanding between Riyadh and Tehran. However, the departure of the first group of Umrah pilgrims and the plan to send 5,720 pilgrims for Umrah during the year is testament to improving relations. This gradual improvement in relations also confirms the meticulous work done by Chinese away from the media galore to help forge amity between the two rivals for the sake of regional and global peace and security. In fact, China has established its credentials as a champion of peace, progress and prosperity because of its firm and consistent adherence to the policy of mutual co-existence pursued religiously by its successive leaders and governments. The five principles of peaceful co-existence – mutual respect for territory integrity and sovereignty, mutual non-aggression, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, equity and mutual benefits and peaceful co-existence – expounded by Chairman Mao Zedong soon after the birth of New China have strictly been followed by the country since then. It would not be an exaggeration to say that as a responsible member of the international community, China is, perhaps, the only country that conducts its foreign policy rigorously in line with the UN Charter that lays emphasis on peace and security. It is a member of almost all universal inter-governmental organizations and a party to over 600 international conventions. China has concluded more than 27,000 bilateral treaties and fulfilled in good faith its international obligations. It is no secret that China made rapid progress and transformed from regional to global power within no time but despite its economic and military might and clout, the country never pressurized small countries and avoided use of force to settle territorial disputes. Despite its military prowess and resources to do so, China has not resorted to military solution of the border regions of Aksai Chin and Arunachal Pradesh, Tibet and Taiwan and always preferred the policy of restraint and dialogue & discussions. While China adopted peaceful posture throughout, its focus towards

reconciliation, mediation, conflict resolution and shared prosperity became markedly visible since assumption of power by its visionary leader President Xi Jinping in 2012 and the launch of the game changer 'Belt and Road Initiative' (BRI) that envisages linking of the five continents in a series of mutually beneficial projects. These projects are not only accelerating the pace of socio-economic progress in different parts and regions of the globe but the factor of inter-dependency is also becoming instrumental in promoting peace and security. The BRI is, therefore, serving as a strong incentive for the participating countries to seek conflict resolution through peaceful means. Diplomatic observers point out that China stepped up its public mediation efforts with a focus on South Asia, the Middle-East and East Africa. Apart from brokering a peace deal between the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Iran, which has a soothing effect on the overall regional environment, the Chinese President also made concrete moves to promote a comprehensive partnership with the Russian Federation. Bilateral trade between the two countries reached a record US\$240 billion in 2023, Russian gas is fueling Chinese homes and Chinese automobiles are running on Russian roads. The two countries are also cooperating in efforts aimed at forging durable peace and security in the troubled Afghanistan. Chinese focus on mediation and peaceful resolution of conflicts is also reflective in the decision of its Foreign Ministry to appoint several special envoys to global hotspots. These include special representatives for Horn of Africa Affairs, Eurasian Affairs, Middle East issue, Afghanistan, Korean Peninsula Affairs, and Pacific Island Countries Affairs. Their appointment and activities have enabled China on various occasions to take a lead in peace moves in different regions of the globe. The sincere efforts that China has all along made to try to achieve the goal of a peaceful and stable Afghanistan also speak volumes about the country's focus on peaceful resolution of the conflicts. Palestinian issue is at the heart of turmoil and instability in the Middle-East. China believes a two-state solution is crucial for upholding fairness and justice and therefore, supports the Palestinian people in their just cause of restoring legitimate national rights. Regarding Gaza, China has been demanding immediate ceasefire terming the regretting of Palestinians as unacceptable. It may be pointed out that in February this year, China announced a significant move of opening in Hong Kong a preparatory office for the establishment of an International Organization for Mediation, a new platform aimed at promoting peaceful resolution of disputes, for which several countries including Pakistan have signed up. China has also bolstered its image as a peace-maker by consistently championing the cause for international peace and participating in the international arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation process. It is not a coincidence that China is the largest contributor of peacekeeping personnel among the permanent members of the UN Security Council and has the distinction of the only member of the nuclear club to have committed to no-first-use of nuclear weapons whereas others have openly been hurling threats about use of weapons of mass destruction against other countries. Lastly, but very importantly, it may also be pointed out that whereas other major powers and influential countries use tactics like pre-emptive strikes, regime change and sanctions to advance their regional and global agenda, President Xi distinctively stands by launching two historic initiatives aimed at changing the destiny of those who lag behind in progress and development. While BRI is aimed at deepening regional integration, promoting trade and stimulating economic growth, the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) is funding infrastructure for tomorrow and that too without strings attached. It can safely be concluded

that under the dynamic leadership of President Xi Jinping, China has a vision for a peaceful and prosperous world and this vision is gaining greater acceptability globally with the passage of time as is evident from the fact that 154 countries have affiliated with the Belt and Road Initiative.

<https://pakobserver.net/sincere-contribution-of-china-to-regional-and-global-peace-security/>

The Express Tribune

Pak-China tie-up forges agri innovations

GUIYANG: Hafiz Muhammad Usman, currently a post-doctoral fellow at Guizhou University, expresses deep gratitude for the opportunity to introduce advanced agricultural technologies acquired in China to his native Pakistan. Since its inception in 2017, Guizhou University has spearheaded the “PhD Village Chief” programme, extending invitations to doctoral students, postgraduates, and undergraduates to partake in agricultural activities. They are encouraged to apply their scientific research achievements to foster agricultural development in rural areas, particularly in their hometowns. This year marks a significant milestone as the university welcomes foreign participants for the first time. According to Wang Yong, professor and deputy director of the department of plant protection in the College of Agriculture at Guizhou University, the programme attracted five post-doctoral fellows from Pakistan and India. Usman commenced his studies in China in 2017, earning his doctorate from Huazhong Agricultural University in Hubei Province. Opting to continue his research journey, he embarked on post-doctoral research at Guizhou University in 2023. Currently, he serves as a fungal disease expert in the plant protection department. The College of Agriculture at Guizhou University is at the forefront of key research areas, focusing on developing eco-friendly pesticides, combating crop diseases and pests, and ensuring the quality and safety of agricultural products. Pepper cultivation is a significant agricultural endeavor in Guizhou. However, recent years have seen a decline in pepper production due to the development of resistance to fungicides by plant pathogens. Usman and his research team conducted extensive province-wide sampling and experiments to identify effective chemical alternatives for controlling drug-resistant fungal populations and enhancing pepper yields. Returning to Pakistan for the winter vacation in January, Usman spent one-and-a-half months at home. During this period, he visited local agricultural departments and villages, revealing a deficit in local farmers’ proficiency in managing plant diseases and pests. In response, Usman organized three seminars, with the support of local agricultural research institutes, reaching over 500 local farmers. He shared sustainable methods for controlling plant diseases and offered practical guidance on pest recognition and pesticide preparation directly in the fields. Masood Ahmed, another postdoctoral fellow and participant in the “PhD Village Chief” programme at Guizhou University, hails from a major agricultural province in Pakistan renowned for producing cereals and fruits such as maize, wheat, mango, and banana. During the winter break, Ahmed returned to his hometown to explore the challenges hindering local agricultural development. He conducted several seminars at local universities, exchanging advanced technologies learned in China with Pakistani faculty and students. Ahmed advocated for green pest control techniques tailored to local crops. Highlighting techniques such as biological control, pheromone traps, microbial

pesticides, and natural predators, Ahmed pointed out their eco-friendly and sustainable approach, minimizing synthetic chemical usage and ecological harm. “We will continue to engage in international volunteer activities, bolster agricultural technique exchanges with foreign research teams, and contribute to the agricultural development of our Belt and Road partners,” remarked Pan Xuejun, dean of the College of Agriculture at Guizhou University. To date, over 16,000 teachers and students from Guizhou University have participated in the programme, playing a pivotal role in the province’s poverty alleviation efforts.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2464787/pak-china-tie-up-forges-agri-innovations>

The News

Pakistan launches its first lunar orbit mission tomorrow

Afshan S Khan

ISLAMABAD: The Institute of Space Technology (IST) would launch a student cube satellite ‘ICUBE-Qamar’ (ICUBE-Q) into the lunar orbit aboard China’s Chang’E-6 Mission from Wenchang space launch site, Hainan in China at 1250 PST, on Friday, May 3, 2024. The launch activity would be telecast live on IST website as well as Institute’s social media accounts. The opportunity to release Cubesat in lunar orbit from Chang-E’6 mission was offered by China National Space Agency (CNSA) through Asia Pacific Space Cooperation Organization (APSCO) to APSCO member states. After thorough evaluation, Pakistan’s proposal was accepted out of all APSCO member states. Design, development and qualification of ICUBE-Q has been led by faculty members and students of the IST, in collaboration with China’s Shanghai Jiao Tong University (SJTU), and support from the Pakistan National Space Agency SUPARCO. The ICUBE-Q has two cameras as payload for imaging lunar surface. The IST is a federally chartered university that pioneered the development of Cubesats in Pakistan by launching its first Cubesat “ICUBE-1” in low earth orbit in Nov 2013. Keeping this remarkable launch in mind, The News got an opportunity to interview Project Head ICUBE-Q Prof Dr Qamarul Islam. Excerpts from the exclusive interview in the question, answer format are as under:

Q: What specific expertise or experience do you bring to this lunar satellite project?

Answer: I have more than 25-year international experience of space industry and satellite operators in Europe, Middle East and North America. In terms of Cubesat satellites, we initiated design and development of Cubesats and launched our first Cubesat ICUBE-1 on Nov 21, 2013 in 600-km low earth orbit (LEO)

Q: How do you envision collaboration with China, impacting the success of the mission?

Answer: In the past two decades, China is the most successful country in carrying out lunar missions. Our close collaboration with the Chinese teams have ensured that all the technical and operational aspects have been thoroughly covered in design and qualification of all subsystems for the successful mission.

Q: What unique challenges do you face in launching a satellite to the moon compared to other space missions?

Answer: Lunar mission is different in many ways. It requires many customizations of design and development to ensure compatibility with the lunar orbiter. To develop interface and separation mechanisms that meet stringent requirements to minimize any kind of risk to the main mission and ensure success of the mission. Five-day ride to the moon also posed thermal challenges. Weak or almost non-existent magnetic field of the moon prevented use of magneto torques, which we feel on earth for attitude control. In addition, radiation levels are higher at the moon orbit, which reduces the life of the electronic components and can cause problems in computer memory devices data. In addition, the moon gravity model is different, which requires to work out the orbital dynamics accordingly.

Q: How do you plan to ensure the satellite's reliability and functionality in the lunar environment?

Answer: Reliability is ensured on component level, subsystems level and overall satellite operational level. Redundancy is built to avoid single point failures and conduct failure mode effect analysis. Qualification testing is done in thermal vacuum chambers, EMI/EMC tests, vibration tests and many such tests are part of procedures to ensure the required reliability.

Q: What role do you see the international collaboration playing in the future of lunar exploration and space exploration in general?

Answer: We would like to be part of the future lunar exploration and this successful endeavor would pave the way of many future international collaboration that will be beneficial to our younger generation in their motivation to carve a place in space research in the country and humanity in the broader perspective.

Q: Would there be any language barriers in working with Chinese counterparts?

Answer: China National Space Agency (CNSA) has many international collaborations and nowadays translation tools for text and speech have made things much easier to communicate. We did not face any daunting task due to language barrier when working with Chinese counterparts.

Q: Can you outline the key milestones and timeline for the satellite project?

Answer: Our initial design and proposal submitted in early 2022, followed by detailed design discussions and reviews, which resulted in the preliminary design review (PDR) in mid-2022, followed by critical design review (CDR), engineering model development and qualification before embarking on flight model development over the total span of two years with many parallel activities for interface, compatibility and deployed tests as well as integrated tests.

Q: What safety measures are in place to prevent any mishaps during the satellite's launch and operation?

Answer: Safety is of prime importance for each step of the space system development activity. The processes are defined with minute details to prevent accidents. Proactive measures are adopted to reduce risk while conducting project activities.

Q: How will data collected from the satellite contribute to scientific knowledge and exploration efforts?

Answer: The data collected will add to the knowledge currently available. Data will be shared with researcher to conduct analysis.

Q: What are your long-term goals or aspirations for this collaboration and the broader field of lunar exploration?

Answer: This is our first step in lunar exploration with orbital operation and imaging. In future, we foresee further collaboration that would include Lunar landing and robotic missions, in addition to orbital missions

Q: Is the IST the only space institute that has collaborated internationally with any space exploration.

Answer: In the area of space science, there are other Pakistani universities conducting research. However, the IST is the only university to design, develop and launch Cubesats in low earth orbits and also forged international collaboration for a lunar mission.

Q: What significance would the IST have locally and internationally after the launch of the lunar satellite?

Answer: There are very few universities in the world which have led a lunar mission. This definitely gives the IST an advantage in doing collaborative work with local and international universities.

Q: Would it be monitored from both countries or it would be based in Pakistan only?

Answer: Pakistan stations in Islamabad and Lahore will receive telemetry data and send telecommands for the operation of the satellite through Chinese deep space network owing to large distances involved.

<https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1184559-pakistan-launches-its-first-lunar-orbit-mission-tomorrow>

Express News

اکستان کا پہلا سیٹلائٹ مشن کل چین سے خلا میں بھیجا جائے گا

اسلام آباد (مانیٹرنگ ڈیسک) پاکستان کا تاریخی اونز مشن (آئی کیوب-کیو) کل (جمعہ) چین سے خلا میں لانچ کیا جائیگا۔ انسٹیٹیوٹ آف اسپیس اینڈ ٹیکنالوجی (آئی ایس ٹی) کے مطابق سیٹلائٹ آئی کیوب-کیو کو آئی ایس ٹی نے چین کی شی نگھائی یونیورسٹی اور پاکستان کی قومی خلائی ایجنسی سپارکو کے اشتراک سے بنایا ہے۔ آئی کیوب-کیو آرب ٹر میں چاند کی سطح عکس بند کرنے کے لیے دو آپٹیکل کیمرے نصب کیے گئے ہیں۔ سیٹلائٹ کی کامیاب آزمائش کے بعد آئی کیوب-کیو کو چینگ ای 6 مشن کے ساتھ جوڑ دیا گیا ہے جس کو کل خلا میں لانچ کیا جائے گا

https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1110952172&Issue=NP_KHI&Date=20240502

innovative projects, designed to attract foreign investment and stimulate economic growth, have attracted widespread attention across the country. The implementation of these policies and measures was a direct response to the urgent need for economic rejuvenation, with a specific focus on overcoming the challenges presented by bureaucratic procedures and complex rules that serve as barriers to foreign direct investment (FDI). To enhance inter-state cooperation, these economic policies aim to create opportunities for investment across diverse sectors, such as agriculture and information technology. On the economic front, in November 2023, a current account surplus of \$9 million preceded the backdrop of low inflation in March 2024, sparking anticipation for potential policy easing. The Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS) has reported that Pakistan experienced a significant decline in inflation in March 2024, reaching a 23-month low. Notwithstanding, the adoption of stringent monetary and fiscal measures, the current optimism is fueled by the favorable advancements witnessed in the cyclical circumstances within Pakistan's export markets, which have played a role in a steady and slow economic recuperation. In a significant development during this period, it is anticipated that Pakistan would emerge as a prominent digital hub site, surpassing countries like the Philippines, China, and India in terms of financial viability according to a report by Kearney. In March 2024, the Information Technology (IT) sector in Pakistan achieved a noteworthy achievement in the shape of its greatest monthly IT exports to date. According to the statistics, the monthly IT exports in March 2024 increased by 37 percent year-over-year and 19 percent month-over-month, reaching a total of US \$306 million. This surpasses the previous high of exports, which was set in December 2023 at US \$303 million. Moreover, the government's commitment to digitalization is evident through initiatives outlined in the "Digital Pakistan" roadmap. Designed to harness the power of technology, this roadmap demonstrates the government's focus on digitization, outlining a series of policies and activities designed to support the economy in achieving a yearly value of US\$59.7 billion by 2030. In the agricultural sector, during March, Pakistan's regional exports increased by 20.6%, while rice shipments increased by 89.7 percent, reaching a record of 545,000 tons. Additionally, maize exports dramatically increased by 195%, providing coarse cereal at a lower price in Southeast Asia, Pakistan has emerged as a formidable challenger to India in the global maize industry. In terms of trade and investments, significant achievements have been made through the transportation of bananas, meat, and seafood to neighboring countries such as Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, and China. Pakistan has effectively surmounted the geographical obstacle and established a connection between Central Asia, CPEC, and Gwadar. In a significant turn of events, FDI reached its highest point in twenty-one months in March 2024. Additionally, an agreement was signed between Pakistan and an American organization, and it is anticipated that a US corporation will invest two hundred million dollars in Pakistan's pink salt sector. Pakistan's integration into the global economy has been accelerated as a result of the free trade agreements it has signed with the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). To improve the level of engagement and cooperation between the two countries, the Iranian President has pledged to increase the amount of trade with Pakistan to ten billion dollars annually and has signed eight agreements and memorandums of understanding for cooperation. Additionally, Pakistan and China have stepped up their efforts for five new economic corridors under the CPEC Phase-II, which provides a clear roadmap to advance

Pakistan's economic development. This comes at the same time as Saudi Arabia is getting closer to the \$1 billion Barrick Pakistan deal. A significant accomplishment that occurred during this period was the agreement that was made between Pakistan and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) about the second and final review of the Stand-By Arrangement that had been in place for nine months. As a result of this new development, Pakistan's commitment to fiscal discipline and economic reforms has been further strengthened, paving the way for continued stability and growth in the country's economy. With the completion of the political process in Pakistan and the smooth functioning of all provinces and the federation, alongside the successful conduct of Senate elections, the nation stands at the threshold of a promising future. These positive developments underscore Pakistan's resilience and commitment to democratic governance. As the country moves forward with confidence, guided by the collective efforts of its political leadership and institutions, the future of Pakistan appears hopeful, promising a path of stability, progress, and prosperity for all its citizens.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1191497/pakistans-economic-miracle-a-year-of-resilience-and-triumph/>

Dunya News

Navy chief visits People's Liberation Army Navy headquarters in China

RAWALPINDI (Dunya News) – Pakistan Navy Chief Admiral Naveed Ashraf visited the headquarters of China's People's Liberation Army Navy in Qingdao, China, the military's media wing stated on Friday. Admiral Naveed Ashraf met Chinese Navy Commander Admiral Hu Zhongming and discussed bilateral naval cooperation and regional maritime security issues with him, the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) said in a statement. During the meeting, Admiral Ashraf highlighted the role of Pakistan Navy for regional maritime peace and stability through Maritime Security Patrol. Admiral Zhongming appreciated the role of Pakistan Navy for joint maritime security in the region, and emphasized the importance of strong bilateral maritime cooperation. Naval Chief Admiral Naveed Ashraf's visit to the headquarters of China's People's Liberation Army Navy would further expand the defense relations between Pakistan and China in general and between their armed forces in particular, the ISPR statement concluded.

<https://dunyanews.tv/en/Pakistan/809104-Navy-chief-visits-China/'s-People/'s-Liberation-Army-Navy-headquarters-in->

The Express Tribune

To the moon: Pakistan's first orbiter lifts off

The launch of satellite ICUBE-Qamar was telecast live from the Institute of Space Technology's (IST) website. The quest to send a lunar orbiter started in 2022 when the China National Space Agency (CNSA), through the Asia Pacific Space Cooperation Organization (APSCO), offered member states an opportunity to send a student-built payload to Earth's closest celestial neighbor onboard the Chang'e 6 mission. The 'ICUBE-Qamar' (ICUBE-Q) was submitted as a proposal for a lunar CubeSat by the IST. The proposal was selected after

an evaluation process. The development of the payload is a collaborative effort between IST's students and faculty, SUPARCO and China's Shanghai Jiao Tong University (SJTU). The payload consists of three parts, the CubeSat, the separation mechanism, and the mounting bracket. The payload itself weighs around 7kgs. It carries two cameras to take images of the lunar surface and has other sensors and apparatuses for deep-space communication, altitude controls, and other functions. The primary criteria for mission success will be achieved with the successful separation of the ICUBE-Q CubeSat into lunar orbit from the Chang'e-6 Orbiter. Following ICUBE-Q's separation, the secondary criteria will involve the satellite receiving the beacon signal, which will confirm that the orbiter is working satisfactorily. Finally, the orbiter will take pictures of the Earth, and the moon and try to take pictures of at least two objects together (earth, moon, and orbiter). As part of data collection, ICUBE-Q will also collect data on the lunar magnetic field, establish a lunar magnetic field model, and hopefully, lay the groundwork for future missions and international lunar cooperation. PM Shehbaz congratulates nation. Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Friday extended heartfelt congratulations to the nation and the scientific community as the country's first-ever lunar orbiter lifted off, marking a historic milestone in the country's space programme. "I-Qube Qamar satellite marks Pakistan's first step in space. Just as in the nuclear field, our scientists, engineers, and talented individuals are diligently striving in this field," the premier said. "I extend my sincere gratitude to the core committee of the Institute of Space Technology, notably Dr Khurram Khurshid, as well as the entire team, including SUPARCO, and particularly the dedicated students who played a pivotal role in this project" Honoring the deep-rooted ties, the premier said "Pakistan-China friendship has transcended borders from the heights of Himalayas to the depths of the sea, crossing even the boundaries of space". "The exclusive acceptance of Pakistan's project among eight countries stands as a testament to the remarkable abilities of our scientists and experts. This marks a profoundly historic moment in our technological advancement, driving Pakistan into a new era of purposeful space utilization." "This achievement will bolster Pakistan's satellite communication capabilities and pave the way for new opportunities in scientific research, economic development, and national security," he added. Shehbaz emphasized the aspiration for Pakistan to achieve economic and technological milestones akin to those witnessed on May 28, 1998, and he underscored Pakistan's ambition to lead in communication infrastructure, that can potentially open doors to fresh avenues in scientific exploration, economic growth, and safeguarding national security. The premier concluded by stressing the nation's commitment to fostering the next generation in these fields to ensure Pakistan's prominence in global innovation.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2464979/to-the-moon-pakistans-first-orbiter-lifts-off-1>

The Nation

Ahsan Iqbal expresses Pakistan's eagerness to enter CPEC Phase-II

ISLAMABAD - The Federal Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Minister Prof Ahsan Iqbal on Thursday reiterated Pakistan's strong commitment and eagerness to enter the second phase of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) at the earliest. Chairing a progress-review meeting on preparations ahead of the 13th Joint Cooperation Committee (CPEC-JCC) meeting and the expected visit of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to China, Ahsan Iqbal emphasized that CPEC had proven to be a milestone in further strengthening the unbreakable bond of friendship between the two countries. The meeting discussed various sectors including infrastructure, energy, artificial intelligence, special economic zones, science and technology and security of Chinese officials. The minister highlighted that the projects included in Phase-II would have a positive impact on public and social lives, and underscored the importance of benefiting from China's experiences in modern technology and industry, which was the government's top priority.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/03-May-2024/ahsan-iqbal-expresses-pakistan-s-eagerness-to-enter-cpec-phase-ii>

Adopting Chinese tech to help cut post-harvest losses

ISLAMABAD, May 3 (INP) – China's remarkable journey of agricultural modernization has not only ensured food security for its huge population but also presents valuable lessons and opportunities for Pakistan to revitalize its agriculture, according to WealthPK. “China has been assisting Pakistan in modernizing its agriculture sector by sharing advanced farming technologies, promoting agricultural research, and facilitating knowledge exchange. The collaboration and innovation between the two countries could be crucial in achieving significant advancements in agriculture – a sector pivotal to Pakistan's economy,” said Said Adnan Khan, a representative of the CPEC Authority. “The CPEC has also played a crucial role in boosting agricultural cooperation and led to the development of backward and forward linkages, positively impacting the agriculture sector in Pakistan. Despite a decade-long decline, the agriculture sector is now benefiting both directly and indirectly from the CPEC,” he said. “Being a developing country, Pakistan faces a major issue of post-harvest losses in fruits and vegetables accounting for almost 35 to 40% of the total production. The losses are mainly caused by the poor handling practices of perishable products, inefficient transportation, and lack of proper storage facilities and market infrastructure. “Nearly 15-20% of the losses occur during the management of harvested crops, while 5-8% is lost during the harvesting process. Additionally, there is a significant loss of 10-12% of fruits and vegetables during transportation. These figures highlight the urgent need for implementing sustainable and efficient practices in agriculture to reduce food waste and improve productivity,” Adnan explained. Adnan said that one of the key lessons Pakistan can learn from China is effective management of post-harvest losses by adopting the expertise of reducing losses, and fostering value-added products and industries through research and development (R&D) collaboration. He believes embracing these innovations can lead to a revolution in Pakistan's agricultural sector, addressing key challenges such as food wastage,

enhancing productivity, and ensuring long-term sustainability. In an interview with WealthPK, M. Bilal, Scientific Officer at the National Agricultural Research Council (NARC), said biological control offered a promising solution to the problem of crop pests in Pakistan, and China's remarkable achievements in biological pest control served as an inspiration. "Crop pests pose a major challenge to farmers, as they cause substantial damage to crops resulting in lower yields and revenue. However, the implementation of biological control measures can effectively address this issue. Despite this, Pakistan still lacks a reliable and strong pest monitoring and forecasting system, which makes the country heavily dependent on pesticides for prevention and control of crop pests," he said. Statistics reveal a staggering increase in Pakistan's annual pesticide consumption, surging from 50,000 tons per year in 2001 to a staggering 200,000 tons per year in 2020 over the past two decades. "In order to substantially reduce Pakistan's dependence on chemical pesticides, China's extensive experience and knowledge in biological pest control must be leveraged," he suggested. "In order to combat pests, China has created a novel method that makes use of a remote sensing dynamic prediction model. This model integrates data from various monitoring sources of different scales, which allows for the mapping of prevalence of pests and diseases, as well as tracking their migratory patterns. By utilizing the remote sensing technology, China has been able to accurately predict and identify pest and disease outbreaks, enabling timely and targeted responses." Furthermore, he highlighted the potential for collaboration and knowledge exchange between Pakistan and China, particularly in areas such as organic farming, conservation efforts, and value chain optimization. He emphasized that by harnessing China's support and expertise, Pakistan could transform its agrarian economy into a technologically advanced and sustainable sector capable of meeting the future challenges and ensuring food security for its population.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/03-May-2024/adopting-chinese-tech-to-help-cut-post-harvest-losses>

The News

Pakistan's first moon mission 'iCube Qamar' launched

ISLAMABAD: In a historic moment for Pakistan, iCube Qamar — the country's first satellite mission to the moon — has been launched into the space today. The satellite, being carried by China's Long March-5 rocket, took off for its visit to space on board the Chang'E6 from the Wenchang Space launch site in the Hainan province in China. The launch activity was telecast live on the IST website and the Chinese state television. Following the launch, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif felicitated the nation and the scientists for launching the first lunar orbit mission. In a statement, the PM said ICUBE-Q satellite is Pakistan's first step in space. The PM said Pakistani scientists, engineers and skilled workers are proving their mettle in this field like the expertise they exhibited in nuclear technology. He expressed tribute to the core committee of the Institute of Space Technology, including Dr Khurram Khurshid, all the members of the SUPARCO team and students, who participated in this project. While congratulating students and scientists on the launch, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar said: "Today's launch from Hainan in China, is a good example of countries and organizations coming together for space cooperation and shared benefits."

Speaking with Geo News, Dr Khurshid — a member of the Core Committee at the Institute of Space Technology (IST) — said that Pakistan's satellite mission will reach the lunar orbit in five days and will circle around the moon for three to six months. He added that different pictures of the surface of the moon will be taken with the help of satellite after which Pakistan will have its own satellite images of the moon for research. The satellite has been designed and developed by the IST in collaboration with China's Shanghai University and Pakistan's national space agency SUPARCO. ICUBE-Q orbiter carries two optical cameras to image the lunar surface. Following successful qualification and testing, ICUBE-Q has now been integrated with the Chang'e6 mission. Chang'e6 is the sixth in a series of China's lunar exploration missions. Chang'e6, China's Lunar Mission will touch down on the moon's far side to collect samples from the surface and return to earth for research. The mission holds significance for Pakistan as it will also take a Pakistan CubeSat Satellite iCube-Q, developed by IST. CubeSats are miniature satellites typically characterized by their small size and standardized design. They are constructed in a cubic shape, consisting of modular components that adhere to specific size constraints. These satellites often weigh no more than a few kilograms and are deployed in space for various purposes. The primary purpose of CubeSats is to facilitate scientific research, technology development, and educational initiatives in space exploration.

<https://www.thenews.com.pk/latest/1184911-pakistans-first-moon-mission-icube-qamar-to-be-launched-today>

Express News

پاکستان کا پہلا قمری خلائی مشن آج چین سے لانچ ہو گا

اسلام آباد (مانیٹرنگ ڈیسک، آن لائن) پاکستان کا پہلا سیٹلائٹ مشن چاند پر بھیجنے کی تیاریاں مکمل کر لی گئی ہیں، انسٹی ٹیوٹ آف اسپیس ٹیکنالوجی کی کور کمیٹی کے رکن ڈاکٹر خرم خورشید نے بتایا سیٹلائٹ مشن چین کے پیمان اسپیس لانچ سائٹ سے آج (3) مئی 12 بج کر 50 منٹ پر بھیجا جائے گا، سیٹلائٹ ائی کیوب قمر کی لانچنگ ویب سائٹ سے لائیو ٹیلی کاسٹ کی جائے گی۔ اس سیٹلائٹ کو آئی ایس ٹی نے چین کی شنگھائی یونیورسٹی اور پاکستان کی قومی خلائی ایجنسی سپارکو کے تعاون سے ڈیزائن اور تیار کیا ہے۔ چاند کی سطح کی تصویر بنانے کے لیے اس میں دو آپٹیکل کیمرے ہیں۔ پاکستان میں خلا بازوں کو تربیت دینے اور خلا میں مشن شروع کرنے کیلئے 2019 میں چین کے ساتھ خلائی تحقیق کے معاہدے کیے تھے۔

https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1110955102&Issue=NP_LHE&Date=20240503

K2 Daily

بقیہ 60

نے انکا خیر مقدم کیا۔ حسن نتوی نے چینی تو فصل جنرل سے ملاقات کی جس میں ہامی دلچسپی کے امور اور چینی شہریوں کی سکیورٹی سے متعلق تبادلہ خیال کیا گیا، وزیر داخلہ نے پاکستان خصوصاً کراچی میں چینی شہریوں کی حفاظت کیلئے کئے گئے اقدامات سے آگاہ کیا۔ وزیر داخلہ کا کہنا تھا کہ چینی شہریوں کی سکیورٹی بہت عزیز ہے، چینی شہریوں کی آمدورفت کیلئے ایس او بیز پر سختی سے عملدرآمد کرایا جا رہا ہے، دشمن پاک چین دوستی کو نقصان پہنچانے کی کوشش کر رہا ہے، دشمن کی ایسی ہر سازش ناکام بنائیں گے۔ اس موقع پر چینی تو فصل جنرل یانگ یونگ نے سکیورٹی پلان برائے میان کا اظہار کیا۔

دشمن پاک چین دوستی کو نقصان پہنچانے کے لیے درپے داخلہ وزیر

دوستی کے خلاف ہر سازش ناکام بنائیں گے، پاکستان میں مقیم چینی شہریوں کی سکیورٹی بہت عزیز ہے چینی شہریوں کی آمدورفت کے لئے ایس او بیز پر سختی سے عملدرآمد کرایا جا رہا ہے، تو فصل جنرل سے گفتگو کراچی (آئی این پی) وفاقی وزیر داخلہ حسن ناکام بنائیں گے، تھیلیات کے مطابق ہمراہ کو تبادلہ خیال کیا گیا۔ وفاقی وزیر داخلہ حسن نتوی کراچی نتوی نے کہا ہے کہ دشمن پاک چین دوستی کو نقصان وفاقی وزیر داخلہ حسن نتوی نے چینی تو فصل جنرل میں چینی تو فصل پانچ جہاں چین کے تو فصل پہنچانے کی کوشش کر رہا ہے، دشمن کی ایسی ہر سازش سے ملاقات کی جس میں ہامی دلچسپی کے امور پر جنرل یانگ یونگ (باقی صفحہ 60 پیج نمبر 60)

https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=Back_Page&Date=2024-05-03

https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=Classified&Date=2024-05-03

May 04, 2024

Daily Times

Launching Chang'e mission, testimony of Sino-Pak profound bond of friendship: Report

Launch of Chang'e 6 2024 mission, a joint endeavor not only marks a monumental leap forward in Pakistan's space exploration journey but also prop up the profound bond between the two nations, Gwadar Pro reported on Friday. It symbolizes Pakistan's ascent into the realm of cosmic exploration and underscores the unwavering camaraderie shared between Pakistan and China. With the successful launch, anticipation mounts that groundbreaking mission will unravel the mysteries of the moon's dark side. The probe is set to collect samples from the far side of the moon, making this mission the first of its kind in human history. As Pak-China cosmic collaborations go full steam ahead, China's Chang'e 6 2024 lunar mission partnered by Pakistan's science payload has been launched with high-octane enthusiasm on May 3 (Friday), offering tenacious glimpse of a brand-new pivot in Pak-China

space and lunar explorations. With the launch of Pakistan's lunar satellite, "ICUBE-Q", scheduled for liftoff with China's Chang'e 6 spacecraft from Hainan, hopes are blossoming for mission's wide-ranging breakthroughs. The inception of the ICUBE-Qamar project stemmed from China's invitation to member states of the Asia Pacific Space Cooperation Organization (APSCO) to participate in its lunar exploration mission. Pakistan, through its Institute of Space Technology (IST) and the Pakistan Space and Upper Atmosphere Research Commission (SUPARCO), seized this opportunity to collaborate with China's Shanghai Jiao Tong University (SJTU) in designing and developing the CubeSat. ICUBE-Qamar, weighing approximately seven kilograms, is equipped with two one-megapixel optical cameras to capture images of the lunar surface. Its primary objectives include recording the release process from the Chang'e 6 orbiter, transmitting beacon signals to confirm successful operation, and capturing images of the Earth, Moon, and orbiter. Additionally, the CubeSat aims to gather data on the lunar magnetic field, laying the groundwork for future international cooperation in lunar exploration. CubeSats, characterized by their compact size and modular design, offer cost-effective opportunities for scientific research and technology development in space exploration. It's a great feat for Pakistan, as this mission will put Pakistan with the league of developed nations of Europe including France, Italy, Sweden, Switzerland and obviously Asian economic and tech giant China. Looking ahead, Pakistan's participation in the Chang'e 6 mission paves the way for future collaboration with China in space exploration. The two countries are set to embark on ambitious plans, including the construction of a research station on the lunar South Pole as part of the International Lunar Research Station (ILRS) project. This collaboration underscores Pakistan's strategic alignment with China in advancing space exploration initiatives and fostering scientific cooperation. In the shadow of India's recent success in lunar exploration, Pakistan finds itself in a position to assert its scientific prowess and stand tall amidst comparisons with its arch-rival. While India's achievements in space have garnered international acclaim, Pakistan's participation in China's Chang'e 6 mission represents a significant stride in its own space exploration endeavors. This satellite will also support future missions, including Chang'e-7 and 8, aimed at exploring the lunar south-pole and constructing a base in collaboration with Russia. Despite concerns from NASA about Beijing's polar ambitions, China emphasizes its commitment to cooperative endeavors. Even though various European countries are collaborating with China on this mission but United States has taken measures to restrict China's space missions due to geopolitical tensions. This includes a ban on direct or indirect collaboration between NASA and China, imposed by US law. The rationale behind these restrictions stems from perceived risks associated with sharing sensitive technology and information with China, as well as concerns about China's growing influence in space exploration. Moreover, the US has expressed apprehensions about China's intentions in claiming lunar resources, particularly water, which could potentially lead to disputes over space resources. These restrictions reflect broader efforts by the US to assert dominance in space and maintain its position as a leader in space exploration. Despite these challenges, China remains undeterred in its pursuit of scientific advancement and international cooperation, demonstrating resilience and innovation in its space missions. As Pakistan navigates financial instability, the ICUBE-Q mission has the potential to elevate the country's international standing and cultivate a positive image on the global stage. By demonstrating

Pakistan's capabilities in space exploration and fostering collaboration with international partners, the mission can attract attention and admiration from the global community. This enhanced reputation can lay the groundwork for future foreign investments, partnerships, and economic opportunities, ultimately contributing to Pakistan's long-term financial resilience and prosperity. Pakistan's involvement in China's lunar mission signifies a pivotal moment in the country's scientific journey and reinforces the enduring friendship between Pakistan and China. As China embarks on its ambitious plan to land astronauts on the moon before 2030, Pakistan's collaboration in the Chang'e missions underscores its growing role in the global space community. Information in this article comes from third party providers. This website does not provide explicit or implied warranty for such information and is not liable for any losses directly or indirectly caused by using such information.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1191734/launching-change-mission-testimony-of-sino-pak-profound-bond-of-friendship-report/>

Dawn News

Pakistan's lunar payload lifts off aboard Chinese mission

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's maiden lunar mission — iCube Qamar — embarked on its journey on Friday as part of a Chinese probe, which aims to collect samples from the far side of the moon, a world first as Beijing pushes ahead with an ambitious programme that aims to send a crewed lunar mission by 2030. The iCube-Q orbiter, which carries two optical cameras to image the lunar surface, is a 7kg cube satellite or cubesat. Cubesats are miniature satellites typically characterized by their small size and standardized cubic design. These satellites are used by academic institutes for experimental and research purposes in Low Earth Orbits, generally with an altitude of less than 1,000km. However, they are now finding many applications in higher orbits and deep space missions. China launched the unscrewed spacecraft on a nearly two-month mission. The Long March-5, China's largest rocket, blasted off at 5:27pm Beijing time (0927 GMT) from Wenchang Space Launch Centre on the southern island of Hainan with the more than 8 tonnes Chang'e-6 probe. Chang'e-6 is tasked with landing in the South Pole-Aitken Basin — one of the largest known impact craters in the solar system — on the far side of the moon, which perpetually faces away from the earth, after which it will retrieve and return samples. The launch marks another milestone in China's lunar and space exploration programme. The Chinese mission will employ lunar research payloads from multiple countries, including Pakistan's iCube Qamar, which was designed by the Islamabad-based Institute of Space Technology (IST) in collaboration with China's Shanghai University (SJTU) and Pakistan's national space agency Suparco. The launch was attended by scientists, diplomats and space agency officials from France, Italy, Pakistan, and the European Space Agency, all of which have moon-studying payloads aboard Chang'e-6. Pakistan's ambassador to China, Khalil Hashmi, IST's Prof Qamarul Islam and other senior officials witnessed the launch. Congratulating the nation on this historic achievement, Ambassador Hashmi said the launch signifies yet another milestone and a good example of Pakistan-China cooperation in space exploration and research.

iCube Qamar

The IST said the opportunity to release the cubesat in lunar orbit from Chang'e-6 mission was offered by the China National Space Agency (CNSA) through the Asia Pacific Space Cooperation Organisation (APSCO). After a thorough evaluation, Pakistan's proposal was accepted out of all APSCO member states. ICube-Q carries two cameras as payload for imaging lunar surface and earth/moon images from lunar orbit besides having three-axis altitude control for desired orientation, onboard computer, thermal control, telemetry and tele-command and payload data communication modules for connecting through deep space network. The Chang'e-6 rocket will take five days to reach the moon's orbit. ICube-Q will be deployed on May 8 in a carefully selected 12-hour elliptical orbit that will allow imaging of the desired lunar surfaces. The IST is a federally chartered university that pioneered the development of cubesats in Pakistan by launching its first cubesat iCube-1 in Low Earth Orbit in November 2013. According to Khurram Khurshid, the head of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science Department at IST and co-lead on the satellite project, this is Pakistan's first deep space mission which is a historic moment that would pave the way for launching other deep space missions in the future. Operating in extreme temperatures as low as minus 100 degrees Celsius, the satellite features a one-megapixel camera tailored for missions with power constraints. "Its surface-level analysis capabilities, transmitting images at a modest 1 kbps, will provide crucial data on crater locations, water, and traces of ice on the moon's surface. These findings, obtained through various techniques, hold promise for global utilisation," said Dr Khurshid, who is second to project director Dr Qamarul Islam.

Reactions

President Asif Ali Zardari and Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif congratulated the nation on the successful launch of Pakistan's maiden lunar mission. According to the state-run broadcaster Radio Pakistan, President Zardari said the successful launch would be a "milestone" for Pakistan's space programme. He also commended the cooperation between Pakistan and China in aerospace. PM Shehbaz hailed the iCube-Q satellite as "Pakistan's first step in space" and said that Pakistani scientists and engineers were "proving their mettle ... like the expertise they exhibited in the nuclear technology [programme]". The acceptance of Pakistan's mission among eight countries was the recognition of the capabilities of the country's scientists and experts, he added. "This is a historic milestone in the technological development. By this achievement, Pakistan has entered a new era of exploring space for productive purposes," the prime minister remarked. PM Shehbaz said the achievement would help build Pakistan's capacity in satellite communications besides opening up new avenues for scientific research, economic development and national security. Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar took to X (formerly Twitter) to "congratulate the young Pakistani students and scientists on the launch" of the lunar mission. "Today's launch from Hainan ... is a good example of countries and organizations coming together for space cooperation and shared benefits," he added.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1831337>

Dunya News

China launches historic mission to retrieve samples from far side of the moon

WENCHANG (Reuters) – China on Friday launched an uncrewed spacecraft on a nearly two-month mission to retrieve rocks and soil from the far side of the moon, the first country to make such an ambitious attempt. The Long March-5, China's largest rocket, blasted off at 5:27 pm Beijing time (0927 GMT) from Wenchang Space Launch Center on the southern island of Hainan with the more than 8 metric ton Chang'e-6 probe. Chang'e-6 is tasked with landing in the South Pole-Aitken Basin on the far side of the moon, which perpetually faces away from the Earth, after which it will retrieve and return samples. The launch marks another milestone in China's lunar and space exploration programme. "It is a bit of a mystery to us how China has been able to develop such an ambitious and successful programme in such a short time," said Pierre-Yves Meslin, a French researcher working on one of the scientific objectives of the Chang'e-6 mission. In 2018, Chang'e-4 gave China its first unmanned moon landing, also on the far side. In 2020, Chang'e-5 marked the first time humans retrieved lunar samples in 44 years, and Chang'e-6 could make China the first country to retrieve samples from the moon's "hidden" side.

FOREIGN PAYLOADS

The launch was attended by scientists, diplomats and space agency officials from France, Italy, Pakistan, and the European Space Agency, all of which have moon-studying payloads aboard Chang'e-6. But no US organizations applied to get a payload spot, according to Ge Ping, deputy director of the China National Space Administration's (CNSA) Lunar Exploration and Space Programme. China is banned by US law from any collaboration with the US space agency, NASA. "The far side of the moon has a mystique perhaps because we literally can't see it, we have never seen it apart from with robotic probes or the very few number of humans that have been around the other side," said Neil Melville-Kenney, a technical officer at ESA working with Chinese researchers on one of the Chang'e-6 payloads. After the probe separates from the rocket, it will take four to five days to reach the moon's orbit. In early June a few weeks later, it will land. Once on the moon, the probe will spend two days digging up 2 kilograms (4.4 lb.) of samples before returning to Earth, where it is expected to land in Inner Mongolia. The window for the probe to collect samples on the far side is 14 hours, compared to 21 hours for the near side's. The samples brought back by Chang'e-5 allowed Chinese scientists to uncover new details about the moon, including more accurately dating the timespan of volcanic activity on the moon, as well as a new mineral. Ge said the scientific value of Chang'e-6 lay in the geological age of the South Pole-Aitken Basin, which his team estimated was about 4 billion years, much older than the samples previously brought back by the Soviet Union and the United States, which were about 3 billion years old, as well as the 2-billion-year-old samples from Chang'e-5.

LUNAR BASE

Besides uncovering new information about the celestial body closest to Earth, Chang'e-6 is part of a long-term project to build a permanent research station on the moon: the China and

Russia-led International Lunar Research Station (ILRS). The construction of such a station would provide an outpost for China and its partners to pursue deep space exploration. "We know that the moon may have resources that could become useful in the future, so the European Space Agency, NASA, the Chinese agency and others around the world are going to the moon," said James Carpenter, head of the ESA's lunar science office. "Part of the rationale is to understand those resources," Carpenter said. Wu Weiren, chief designer of the Chinese Lunar Exploration Project, speaking at the 2024 China Space Conference last month, said a "basic model" of the ILRS would be built by 2035.

<https://dunyanews.tv/en/World/809320-China-launches-historic-mission-to-retrieve-samples-from-far-side-of-the>

The Express Tribune

Pakistan, China to hold strategic dialogue

Kamran Yousaf

Pakistan and China will have a series of high-level engagements in the next three weeks as part of efforts to deepen their economic, political and strategic relationship, said people familiar with the development. The first leg of the series of engagements includes the Pakistan-China strategic dialogue to be co-chaired by the foreign ministers of the two countries. Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar is expected to travel to Beijing in the middle of this month. He will lead a Pakistani delegation at strategic dialogue, an annual feature where both countries review their bilateral cooperation and discuss regional and international issues. This would be the first visit by Foreign Minister Dar to Beijing since he took charge of his new responsibility. The visit is crucial as it not only discusses the key issues but also lays the ground for the visit of the prime minister. Following Dar's visit, another Pakistani delegation headed by Planning Minister Ahsan Iqbal would travel to the Chinese capital for the crucial meeting of the Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC), an apex body of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). JCC is the primary forum where both sides not only review CPEC projects but also discuss new ventures.

The back-to-back meetings will pave the way for Shehbaz Sharif's maiden visit to China since he returned to the Prime Minister's Office after the February 8 elections. Sources said that the tentative dates for the prime minister's visit to Beijing are the first week of June. Pakistan has witnessed hectic diplomatic engagements since the new government took charge. The prime minister visited Saudi Arabia twice in the space of a few weeks. In between his trip to Riyadh, the Saudi foreign minister led a high-powered delegation to Islamabad to explore opportunities for investment under the banner of the Special Investment Facilitation Council. Amid all this, Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi also undertook a visit to Pakistan, becoming the first head of state to travel to Islamabad after the February 8 elections. Diplomatic sources said that two key visits including the visit of the Turkish president and Saudi crown prince are also on the cards. The government of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif is hoping the flurry of these visits would give impetus to efforts seeking economic revival. Meanwhile, Deputy Prime Minister Dar on Saturday held a bilateral meeting with Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Faisal bin Farhan on the sidelines of the

15th OIC Islamic Summit Conference, in Banjul, The Gambia. Noting the importance of the long-standing strategic and economic relations between Pakistan and Saudi Arabia, the deputy prime minister and foreign minister and the Saudi foreign minister reaffirmed the resolve to further enhance economic cooperation and Saudi investments in Pakistan, read a statement issued by the foreign office. The foreign minister lauded the “Vision 2030”, which aimed at the socio-economic transformation of the kingdom in the 21st century. He stated that the recently held visit of the Saudi foreign minister to Pakistan, who was leading a high-powered delegation, represented a new momentum in economic collaboration between Pakistan and the kingdom. Dar and the Saudi foreign minister expressed deep concern over the recent developments in the Middle East and called for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza. They also noted the important role of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) on issues concerning the Muslim Ummah including the situations in Palestine and Kashmir.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2465175/pakistan-china-set-for-high-level-engagements>

The Nation

Minister for Maritime Affairs visits Gwadar

QUETTA - Federal Minister for Maritime Affairs, Qaiser Ahmed Sheikh along with Additional Secretary Maritime Affairs, embarked on a significant three-day visit to Gwadar. Upon arrival, they were warmly received by Chairman Gwadar Port Pasand Khan Baldi, CEO of China Overseas Port Holding Company Limited, Yu Bu and other distinguished officials from GPA and China. The minister’s first day in Gwadar was filled with engagements, starting with chairing a meeting at GPA head office, where senior officials from Chinese and Gwadar Port Authority discussed various matters. Chairman Gwadar Port Passand Khan Buledi gave insights into the ongoing development projects at Gwadar Port, followed by a detailed briefing from Chairman COPHC about the Port’s operations and recent developments. The minister also visited the Free Zone, including a visit to the newly constructed 1.2 MGD Desalination Plant, showing keen interest in the infrastructure developments. Expressing satisfaction, the Minister commended the progress of ongoing works in Gwadar.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/04-May-2024/minister-for-maritime-affairs-visits-gwadar>

The News

PU holds Chinese bridge contest

LAHORE: Punjab University’s Confucius Institute organized the 23rd ‘Chinese Bridge Competition’ here on Friday. On this occasion, host director of PU Confucius Institute Prof Dr Shafiq ur Rehman said that the Chinese Bridge Competition was an important platform for international college students to learn the Chinese language and understand more about China. He said that the competition included language competency, knowledge of China, Chinese cultural skills and comprehensive aptitude. He said that the participants first compete in a local preliminary competition and that winners are invited to semi-final and final contests in China. Pakistan Study Centre (PSC) of the Punjab University organized a webinar on “Understanding & Countering Religious Extremism: Strategies for a Safer Pakistan”.

Director PSC Prof Dr Naumana Kiran, Former Head of the Department of Peace and Conflict Studies, National Defense University, Islamabad Prof Dr Husnul Amin, faculty members and students took part in the webinar. In his keynote speech, Dr Amin shed light on political history, incorporating the sociological context. He presented a vision for a safer Pakistan. He suggested various radical strategies to counter religious extremism. Dr Naumana Kiran emphasized that women should be part and parcel of the counter extremism drive.

<https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1185118-pu-holds-chinese-bridge-contest>

Over the moon

Some things are just written in the stars. Less than a year after India's Chandrayaan-3 touched down on the Moon's South Pole region, Pakistan launched its first shot at the same destination. The country's first satellite mission to the moon, iCube Qamar (ICUBE-Q), has been launched on board China's Chang'E6 from Hainan, China on Friday (May 3) and is expected to reach lunar orbit in around five days. From there the satellite will circle around or orbit the moon for about three to six months. While this is nowhere near a moon landing, it is a significant step forward for Pakistan's space programme and its technological ambitions in general. The satellite was designed by the Institute of Space Technology, Islamabad in collaboration with the national space agency Suparco and Shanghai University. That a country whose engineers are tripping over each other to get abroad can still pull out a lunar satellite is a testament to the depth of Pakistan's STEM talent. ICUBE-Q will carry two optical cameras that will image the Moon's surface. How does a country struggling to keep the lights on and pay its debts afford this? Well it turns out that ICUBE-Q is a miniature CubeSat satellite, characterized by a standardized design and a compact size. This makes it much cheaper than larger, traditional satellites, opening up opportunities for those seeking to expand their science and technology profiles without the luxury of a massive budget. It is encouraging to see technological equipment and capabilities becoming more cost-effective over time and capitalizing on this trend will be crucial for the country going forward. Those trying to minimize this achievement, principally consisting of folks across the eastern border ever eager to put their smaller neighbor down, will point to the Chinese help the mission has received. Pakistan should not let them spoil this moment. Who got there first, which is indeed preferable, is ultimately not as important as getting there eventually. Launching Pakistani satellites on Chinese rockets arguably means that the country is just one step closer to doing it all on its own. It can also be said that collaboration on such missions is not exactly a bad thing. No space programme, or any scientific endeavor for that matter, operates in total isolation. Research, material, equipment and talent are frequently exchanged and transferred across borders. And this is how it should be. When we allow nationalist chest-beating to intrude on the scientific realm it is humanity that suffers.

<https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1185041-over-the-moon>

Dar to lead Pak delegation to China next month

ISLAMABAD: Important strategic talks between Pakistan and China will be held in the middle of this month, it is learnt. Sources said that Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar will head a high-level delegation to Beijing, while Chinese Foreign

Minister Wang Zhi will lead his side. It is worth mentioning here that this is the first high-level visit for bilateral talks after the formation of the new government in Pakistan. The proposed visit of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to China will be discussed. The formal talks between the two countries are likely to take place on May 15. The talks will focus on further development of bilateral relations, security cooperation and economic partnership. Security issues in the region will be discussed.

<https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1185227-dar-to-lead-pak-delegation-to-china-next-month>

Express News

انسٹیٹیوٹ آف سپیس ٹیکنالوجی میں تقریب، سیٹلائٹ بنانے والی ٹیم کے ارکان اور سینکڑوں طلبہ کی شرکت، سائنسدانوں میں خوشی کی لہر ، پاکستان زندہ باد کے نعرے

چاناسلام آباد ، کراچی (نعیم اصغر ، آفتاب خان ، اے پی پی) چین کے تعاون سے پاکستان کا پہلا سیٹلائٹ آئی کیوب

قمر، چاند کے گرد چکر لگانے کیلئے روانہ ہو گیا، سبز ہلالی پرچم کے حامل آئی کیوب قمر کو چین کے اسپیس کرافٹ کے ذریعے خلا کی بلندیوں میں روانہ کیا گیا، صدر مملکت آصف علی زرداری اور وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف نے قوم اور سائنسدانوں کو مبارکباد دی ہے ، اس پیش رفت سے پاکستان چاند کے مدار میں سیٹلائٹ بھیجنے والا چھٹا ملک بن گیا، یہ سیٹلائٹ چین کے شہر بینان کے وی چنگ خلائی سینٹر سے چین کے خلائی مشن چیونگ ای 6 کیساتھ جمعہ کو دن 2 بجکر 27 منٹ پر روانہ ہوا، 7 کلووزنی آئی کیوب قمر 5 روز کے دوران 3 لاکھ 84 ہزار کا سفر طے کر کے 8 مئی کو چاند کے مدار میں پہنچے گا، سیٹلائٹ لائیو کے موقع پر انسٹیٹیوٹ آف سپیس ٹیکنالوجی اسلام آباد کے آڈیٹوریم میں ایک تقریب منعقد ہوئی جس میں سیٹلائٹ بنانے والی ٹیم کے ارکان اور سینکڑوں طلبہ نے شرکت کی لائیو ڈیکوریشن میں لائیو دکھائی گئی، سیٹلائٹ روانہ ہوتے ہی آڈیٹوریم میں موجود سائنسدانوں اور طلبہ میں خوشی کی لہر دوڑ گئی ، طلبہ نے نعرہ تکبیر ، پاکستان زندہ باد اور پاک فوج زندہ باد کے نعرے لگائے، سپارکمانڈ اینڈ کنٹرول سنٹر تالیوں سے گونج اٹھا ، آئی کیوب قمر کو انسٹیٹیوٹ آف سپیس ٹیکنالوجی نے شنگھائی یونیورسٹی اور نیشنل سپیس ایجنسی سپارکمانڈ کے تعاون سے ڈیزائن اور 2 سال کی قلیل مدت میں تیار کیا، رکن کور کمیٹی انسٹیٹیوٹ آف سپیس ٹیکنالوجی ڈاکٹر خرم خورشید نے کہا کہ یہ دنیا کا پہلا مشن ہے جو کہ چاند کی دوسری طرف سے نمونے حاصل کرے گا، چاند کی سطح کی تصاویر لینے کیلئے دو آپٹیکل کیمرے لیس ہے، ٹیسٹنگ اور قابلیت کے مراحل سے کامیابی سے گزرنے کے بعد آئی کیوب کیوب کیوب کو چین کے چیونگ 6 مشن کیساتھ منسلک کیا گیا، انہوں نے کہا کہ مشن 3 سے 6 ماہ تک چاند کے گرد چکر لگائے گا، اس سے چاند کی سطح کی تصاویر لی جائیں گی جس سے تحقیق کیلئے ہمارے پاس چاند کی اپنی سیٹلائٹ تصاویر ہوں گی ، انہوں نے کہا کہ پاکستان کا سیٹلائٹ ہونے کی وجہ سے اس کا ڈیٹا ہم ہی استعمال کریں گے ، چینی نیٹ ورک کے استعمال کی وجہ سے چین کے سائنس دان بھی ڈیٹا استعمال کر سکتے ہیں ، انہوں نے کہا کہ بھارت کے چند ریان سے پاکستان کے مشن کا موازنہ کرنا مناسب نہیں، چند ریاں بڑا مشن تھا جس نے چاند پر لینڈنگ کی ، آئی کیوب قمر مستقبل میں بڑے مشن کی راہ ہموار کرنے کیلئے ایک چھوٹا پر ویکٹ ہے ، یہ چاند کے مدار میں چکر لگائے گا ، رکن سپیس ٹیکنالوجی انسٹیٹیوٹ ڈاکٹر رحمان نے کہا کہ یہ چاند کی دوسری طرف سے نمونے حاصل کر نیوالا دنیا کا پہلا مشن 53 روز پر مشتمل ہوگا ، مشن میں چاند کے چکر لگانا، ٹیک آف کرنا اور واپس پہنچنا شامل ہے ، یہ 2 کلوگرام تک کا مادہ اٹھانے کی کوشش کریگا، آئی ایس ٹی حکام نے بتایا کہ 2022ء میں چین کی نیشنل سپیس ایجنسی نے ایشیا پیسیفک سپیس کارپوریشن آرگنائزیشن کے ذریعے رکن ممالک کو چاند کے مدار تک مفت پہنچنے کا مفرد موقع فراہم کیا، اس پر رکن ممالک جن میں پاکستان، بنگلادیش، چین، ایران، پیرو، جنوبی کوریا، تھائی لینڈ اور ترکی شامل ہیں ، سب نے اپنے منصوبے بھیجے ، انسٹی ٹیوٹ آف سپیس

یکنالوجی نے پاکستان کی جانب سے منصوبہ جمع کرایا، 8 ممالک میں سے صرف پاکستان کا منصوبہ قبول کیا گیا، دو سال کی محنت سے سیٹلائٹ آئی کیوب قمر مکمل کیا جا سکا، پاک، چین دیر بینہ تعلقات کے دوران ایک اور اہم سنگ میل عبور کر لیا گیا، صدر مملکت آصف علی زرداری نے چاند پر پاکستان کے پہلے خلائی مشن کی کامیاب لانچنگ پر سائنسدانوں اور قوم کو مبارکباد پیش کرتے ہوئے کہا ہے کہ آئی کیوب قمر کی کامیاب لانچنگ پاکستان کے خلائی پروگرام کیلئے سنگ میل ثابت ہو گی، پوری پاکستانی قوم کو اس اہم کامیابی پر فخر ہے، صدر مملکت نے انسٹیٹیوٹ آف سپیس ٹیکنالوجی، سپارکو اور چین کی قومی سپیس انتظامیہ کو اس کامیابی پر مبارکباد دی اور خلا بازی کے شعبے میں پاکستان اور چین کے مابین تعاون کو سراہا، اسے پی پی کے مطابق وزیر اعظم محمد شہباز شریف نے چاند پر پاکستان کا پہلا سیٹلائٹ بھیجوانے پر قوم اور سائنسدانوں کو مبارکباد دیتے ہوئے کہا ہے کہ جوہری میدان کی طرح اس میدان میں بھی ہمارے سائنسدان، انجینئرز اور ہنرمند اپنی صلاحیتوں کا لوہا منور ہے ہیں، اس اہم کامیابی سے پاکستان خلا کے با مقصد استعمال کے نئے دور میں داخل ہو گیا ہے اور سیٹلائٹ کیونیکیشن کے شعبے میں پاکستان کی صلاحیت میں اضافہ ہو گا، وزیر اعظم نے کہا کہ انسٹیٹیوٹ آف سپیس ٹیکنالوجی کی کور کمیٹی، سپارکو سمیت تمام ٹیم خاص طور پر پراجیکٹ میں حصہ لینے والے طالب علموں کو دل کی گہرائیوں سے خراج تحسین پیش کرتا ہوں، انہوں نے کہا کہ ہماری ہمالیہ سے بلند، سمندر سے گہری اور شہد سے میٹھی پاک چین دوستی خوشبوؤں کی سرحد سے کے نکل کر آج خلاؤں کی سرحد بھی پار کر چکی ہے، وزیر اعظم نے کہا کہ پاکستان کے بیٹوں نے ثابت کیا کہ وہ خلاؤں کو بھی تسخیر کرنے کی صلاحیت، جذبہ اور مہارت رکھتے ہیں۔ چیئر مین سینیٹ سید یوسف رضا گیلانی اور ڈپٹی چیئر مین سیدال خان نے پاکستان کے پہلے سیٹلائٹ مشن آئی کیوب قمر کی کامیاب لانچنگ پر قوم اور سائنسدانوں کو مبارکباد دی ہے، یوسف رضا گیلانی نے کہا کہ پاکستان کی خلائی تحقیق نے اہم سنگ میل عبور کر لیا ہے یہ آگے پاکستانی سائنسدانوں کی محنت کا عملی ثبوت ہے۔

https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1110957105&Issue=NP_LHE&Date=20240504

پاک چین سٹریٹجک مذاکرات رواں ماہ کے وسط میں ہونگے

اسلام آباد (این این آئی) پاکستان اور چین کے مابین اہم سٹریٹجک مذاکرات رواں ماہ کے وسط میں ہوں گے۔ ذرائع کے مطابق نائب وزیر اعظم و وزیر خارجہ اسحاق ڈار 15 مئی کو چینی حکام کیساتھ باضابطہ مذاکرات کیلئے اعلیٰ سطحی وفد کے ہمراہ بیجنگ پہنچیں گے، مذاکرات میں اسحاق ڈار اور چینی وزیر خارجہ وانگ یی اپنے اپنے وفد کی قیادت کریں گے، اس موقع پر دو طرفہ روابط، سکیورٹی تعاون اور معاشی شراکت کے مزید فروغ پر بات چیت ہو گی، خطے میں سلامتی کے امور اور وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف کے مجوزہ دورہ چین پر تبادلہ خیال بھی ہو گا

https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1110957104&Issue=NP_LHE&Date=20240504

Jang News

پاکستان کا اعلیٰ سطحی وفد رواں ماہ کے وسط میں چین جائے گا

مصدقہ ذرائع سے معلوم ہوا ہے کہ پاکستان اور چین کے درمیان اہم سٹریٹجک مذاکرات رواں ماہ کے وسط میں ہوں گے۔ ذرائع کا کہنا ہے ڈپٹی وزیر اعظم اور وزیر خارجہ اسحاق ڈار اعلیٰ سطحی وفد کے سربراہ کی حیثیت سے بیجنگ جائیں گے جبکہ چینی وزیر خارجہ وانگ یی اپنے اپنے وفد کی قیادت کریں گے۔ یہاں یہ بات قابل ذکر ہے کہ پاکستان میں نئی حکومت کے قیام کے بعد دو طرفہ مذاکرات کیلئے یہ پہلا اعلیٰ سطحی دورہ ہے۔ وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف کے مجوزہ دورہ چین پر تبادلہ خیال ہو گا۔

<https://e.jang.com.pk/detail/678585>

تاریخ رقم، چین کے تعاون سے پاکستان کا پہلا سیٹلائٹ چاند کیلئے روانہ

پاکستان نے تاریخ رقم کردی، خلائی تحقیق کے میدان میں اہم سنگ میل عبور کر لیا، چین کے تعاون سے پاکستان کا پہلا سیٹلائٹ ”آئی کیوب قمر“ جمعہ کو 2 بجکر 27 منٹ پر چاند کیلئے روانہ ہو گیا جس کے بعد پاکستان چاند کے مدار میں سیٹلائٹ بھیجنے والا چھٹا ملک بن گیا ہے۔ مشن کی روانگی پر سپارکو میں جذباتی مناظر، کمانڈ اینڈ کنٹرول سینٹر تالیوں سے گونج اٹھا، لوگوں نے نعرہ بکبیر اور پاکستان زندہ باد کے نعرے لگائے۔ انسٹی ٹیوٹ آف اسپیس ٹیکنالوجی کے رکن کور کمیٹی ڈاکٹر خرم خورشید نے بتایا کہ سیٹلائٹ چاند کے مدار پر 5 دن میں پہنچے گا، سیٹلائٹ مشن 3 سے 6 ماہ تک چاند کے اطراف چکر لگائے گا، سیٹلائٹ کی مدد سے چاند کی سطح کی مختلف تصاویر لی جائیں گی۔ صدر اور وزیراعظم نے چاند پر پہلا سیٹلائٹ بھجوانے پر قوم اور سائنسدانوں کو مبارکباد دیتے ہوئے کہا ہے کہ ”آئی کیوب قمر“ خلا میں پاکستان کا پہلا قدم ہے کامیاب لائیو پاکستان کے خلائی پروگرام کیلئے سنگ میل ثابت ہوگی۔

<https://e.jang.com.pk/detail/678565>

K2 Daily

بقیہ 9

پارٹی آف چائیکو کی مرکزی کمیٹی کے جنرل سیکرٹری شی جن ہنگ کی ہدایات اور وزیراعظم لی چیانگ کے کہنے پر ڈاگ نے متعلقہ حکموں کے انچارج عہدیداروں کو جائے حادثہ پر بھیجنے کے کام کی نگرانی کی تاکہ امدادی اور آفات سے بچا کے کاموں میں رہنمائی کی جاسکے۔ ڈاگ کو جائے حادثہ پر امدادی کارروائیوں سے متعلق آگاہ کیا گیا جس کے بعد وہ زخمیوں کی عیادت کے لئے میڈیکل اسپتال گئے جہاں ہر طرح کی طبی خدمات فراہم کی جارہی ہیں۔

چینی نائب وزیراعظم کا ایکسپریس وے حادثے کے بعد ہر ممکن امدادی سرگرمیوں پر زور

گوانگ ڈو (شہو) چین کے نائب وزیراعظم ڈاگ کو بھنگ نے اس بات پر زور دیا ہے کہ جنوبی صوبے گوانگ ڈوگ میں بدھ کو ایکسپریس وے پر پیش آئے حادثے کے بعد امدادی کاموں میں کوئی کسر نہ چھوڑی جائے۔ کمیونسٹ پارٹی آف چائیکو کی مرکزی کمیٹی کے سیاسی بیورو کے رکن ڈاگ نے یہ بات صوبے گوانگ ڈوگ کے شہری ڈو میں جائے حادثہ پر ہنگامی ردعمل کے کام کی نگرانی کرتے ہوئے کہی۔ کمیونسٹ (باقی صفحہ 6 بقیہ نمبر 9)

https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=International%20/%20Local%20News&Date=2024-05-04

https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=Classified&Date=2024-05-04

Nawaiwaqt News

پاکستانی سیٹلائٹ کامیابی سے چاند کی طرف روانہ

پاکستان نے خلائی تحقیق کے میدان میں اہم سنگ میل عبور کر لیا۔ تاریخی خلائی مشن ”آئی کیوب قمر“ چین کے ویبنینگ خلائی سینٹر سے روانہ ہو گیا جس کے بعد پاکستان چاند کے مدار میں سیٹلائٹ بھیجنے والا چھٹا ملک بن گیا ہے۔ سیٹلائٹ آئی کیوب قمر جمعہ کو 2 بجکر 27 منٹ پر روانہ ہوا، جسے چینی میڈیا اور انسٹی ٹیوٹ آف سپیس ٹیکنالوجی کی ویب سائٹ پر براہ راست نشر کیا گیا۔ مشن کی روانگی پر سپارکو میں جذباتی مناظر دیکھنے میں آئے، سپارکو کمانڈ اینڈ کنٹرول سینٹر تالیوں سے گونج اٹھا، لوگوں نے نعرہ تکبیر اور پاکستان زندہ باد کے نعرے لگائے۔ آئی کیوب قمر کو انسٹی ٹیوٹ آف سپیس ٹیکنالوجی نے چین کی شنگھائی یونیورسٹی اور پاکستان نیشنل سپیس ایجنسی ’سپارکو‘ کے تعاون سے ڈیزائن اور تیار کیا ہے۔ آئی کیوب کیو آر بیٹروڈ آپٹیکل کیمروں سے لیس ہے جو چاند کی سطح کی تصاویر لینے کے لیے استعمال ہوتے ہیں۔ ٹیسٹنگ اور قابلیت کے مرحلے سے کامیابی سے گزرنے کے بعد ’آئی کیوب کیو‘ کو ’چینگ 6‘ مشن کے ساتھ منسلک کیا گیا ہے۔ انسٹی ٹیوٹ آف سپیس ٹیکنالوجی کے رکن کور کمیٹی ڈاکٹر خرم خورشید نے بتایا کہ سیٹلائٹ چاند کے مدار پر 5 دن میں پہنچے گا۔ انہوں نے بتایا کہ پاکستان کا سیٹلائٹ مشن 3 سے 6 ماہ تک چاند کے اطراف چکر لگائے گا، سیٹلائٹ کی مدد سے چاند کی سطح کی مختلف تصاویر لی جائیں گی جس کے بعد پاکستان کے پاس تحقیق کے لیے چاند کی اپنی سیٹلائٹ تصاویر ہوں گی۔ ڈاکٹر خرم خورشید نے کہا کہ سیٹلائٹ پاکستان کا ہے، ہم ہی اس کا ڈیٹا استعمال کریں گے لیکن چونکہ اسے چین کے نیٹ ورک کو استعمال کر کے چاند پر پہنچایا جا رہا ہے اس لیے چینی سائنسدان بھی اس ڈیٹا کو استعمال کر سکتے ہیں۔ انہوں نے بتایا کہ سیٹلائٹ 2 سال کے مختصر مدت کے اندر تیار کی گئی ہے۔ ڈاکٹر خرم خورشید نے بتایا کہ بھارت کے چندریان سے پاکستان کے مشن کا موازنہ کرنا مناسب نہیں ہو گا کیونکہ چندریان بڑا مشن تھا جس نے چاند پر لینڈنگ کی تھی لیکن آئی کیوب قمر چاند کے مدار پر چکر لگائے گا، یہ ایک چھوٹی سیٹلائٹ ہے لیکن مستقبل میں بڑے مشن کے لیے راہ ہموار کرنے کے لیے یہ ابتدائی طور پر ایک چھوٹا پروجیکٹ ہے۔ ڈاکٹر خرم خورشید نے بتایا کہ یہ دنیا کا پہلا مشن ہے جو چاند کی دوسری طرف سے نمونے حاصل کرے گا، یہ مشن 53 دن پر مشتمل ہو گا۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ اس مشن میں چاند پر چکر لگانا، ٹیک آف کرنا اور واپس پہنچنا شامل ہے، یہ 2 کلوگرام تک کا مادہ اٹھانے کی کوشش کرے گا۔ دوسری جانب جزل نیجر آئی ایس ٹی سید ثمر عباس نے بتایا کہ چاند کا موسم، زمین اور مقناطیسی میدان سے متعلق اس مشن سے اہم معلومات ملیں گی۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ 2022 میں چینی نیشنل سپیس ایجنسی نے ایٹمیٹیک سپیس کارپوریشن آرگنائزیشن (ایپسکو) کے ذریعے رکن ممالک کو چاند کے مدار تک مفت پہنچنے کا منفرد موقع فراہم کیا تھا۔ ثمر عباس نے بتایا کہ ایپسکو کی پیشکش پر رکن ممالک نے اپنے منصوبے بھیجے تھے، ایپسکو کے رکن ممالک میں پاکستان، بنگلادیش، چین، ایران، بیرو، جنوبی کوریا، تھائی لینڈ اور ترکیہ شامل ہیں۔ پاکستان کی جانب سے انسٹی ٹیوٹ آف سپیس ٹیکنالوجی نے بھی مجوزہ منصوبہ جمع کر لیا تھا، 8 ممالک میں سے صرف پاکستان کے منصوبے کو قبول کیا گیا، دو سال کی محنت کے بعد سیٹلائٹ ’آئی کیوب قمر‘ کو مکمل کیا جا سکا۔ چین کے چینگ 6 کے مشن کا مقصد چاند کی سطح سے نمونے اکٹھا کرنا ہے اور ان نمونوں کو پھر زمین پر واپس لایا جائے گا جہاں سائنسدان چاند کی ساخت، تاریخ اور تشکیل کے بارے میں مزید جاننے کے لیے تحقیق کریں گے۔ یہ مشن پاکستان کے لیے بھی انتہائی اہمیت کا حامل ہے کیونکہ اس میں انسٹی ٹیوٹ آف سپیس ٹیکنالوجی کی طرف سے تیار کردہ کیوب سیٹ سیٹلائٹ ’آئی کیوب کیو‘ بھی موجود ہے۔ سیٹلائٹ آئی کیوب کیو سیٹلائٹ چھوٹے سائز اور معیاری ڈیزائن کی وجہ سے جانے جاتے ہیں، کیوب سیٹس کیوب کیوب کی شکل میں بنائے گئے ہیں اور ماڈیولر اجزاء سے بنے ہیں جو مخصوص سائز کے معیار پر عمل کرتے ہیں، ان سیٹلائٹس کا وزن اکثر چند کلوگرام سے زیادہ نہیں ہوتا اور انہیں مختلف مقاصد کے لیے خلا میں بھیجا جاتا تھا۔ کیوب سیٹس کا بنیادی مقصد سائنسی تحقیق، تکنیکی ترقی اور خلائی تحقیق سے متعلق تعلیمی منصوبوں میں سہولت فراہم کرنا ہے، کیوب سیٹس کو مختلف مشنوں کے لیے استعمال کیا گیا ہے، جیسے کہ زمین کا مشاہدہ کرنا، ماحول کا مطالعہ کرنا، ریوٹ سینسنگ کرنا، مواصلات کی سہولت فراہم کرنا، اسے فلکیات اور نئی ٹیکنالوجی کے مظاہرے کے لیے بھی استعمال کیا گیا۔ صدر مملکت آصف علی زرداری نے چاند پر پاکستان کا پہلا سیٹلائٹ مشن بھیجنے پر قوم کو مبارکباد دی ہے۔ صدر نے انسٹی ٹیوٹ آف سپیس ٹیکنالوجی کو مبارکباد دی ہے۔ صدر نے سپارکو اور چین کی قومی سپیس انتظامیہ کو بھی مبارکباد دی۔ صدر مملکت نے کہا کہ سیٹلائٹ مشن بھیجنا پاکستان کے خلائی پروگرام کے لئے سنگ میل ثابت ہو گا۔ پوری پاکستانی قوم کو اس اہم خلائی کامیابی پر فخر ہے۔ صدر مملکت نے خلا بازی کے شعبے میں پاکستان اور چین کے مابین تعاون کو سراہا ہے۔ صدر مملکت نے کہا

کہ پاکستان خلا بازی کے شعبے میں ترقی کی مزید منازل طے کرنا ہیں۔ امید ہے پاکستان کے ادارے اور سائنسدان مزید لگن کے ساتھ ملک کا نام روشن کریں گے۔ وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف نے چاند پر پہلا سیٹلائٹ بھیجنے پر سائنسدانوں اور قوم کو مبارکباد دی ہے۔ وزیر اعظم نے کہا کہ آئی کیوب کیو سیٹلائٹ خلا میں پاکستان کا پہلا قدم ہے۔ جوہری میدان کی طرح یہاں بھی ہمارے سائنسدان، انجینئرز اپنی صلاحیتوں کا لوہا منورہے ہیں۔ انسٹی ٹیوٹ آف سپیس ٹیکنالوجی سپارکوسمیت ٹیم کو خراج تحسین پیش کرتے ہیں۔ پراجیکٹ میں شریک طلباء کو دل کی گہرائیوں سے خراج تحسین پیش کرتا ہوں۔ ہمالیہ سے بلند پاک چین دوستی خلائی سرحد بھی پار کر چکی۔ آٹھ ممالک میں سے پاکستان کے منصوبے کو قبول کیا جانا ہمارے ماہرین کی قابلیت کا اعتراف ہے۔ یہ تکنیکی سفر کا بہت ہی تاریخی لمحہ ہے۔ اس اہم کامیابی سے پاکستان خلا کے بامقصد استعمال کے نئے دور میں داخل ہو گیا۔ یہ کامیابی سیٹلائٹ کمیونیکیشن کے شعبے میں پاکستان کی صلاحیتوں کو بڑھائے گی۔ سائنسی تحقیق، اقتصادی ترقی اور قومی سلامتی کے لئے نئے مواقع پیدا ہونگے۔ پاکستان نے ثابت کیا کہ وہ خلا کو بھی تسخیر کرنے کی صلاحیت اور مہارت رکھتا ہے۔ اللہ تعالیٰ نے چاہا تو 28 مئی کی طرح خلا اور معاشی اوج کمال کو بھی پہنچیں گے۔ پاکستان کی سائنس و ٹیکنالوجی جدید علوم میں ترقی کی ضرورت ہے۔ پوری کوشش ہے نوجوان نسل کو جدید علوم، سائنس اور ٹیکنالوجی میں آگے لے جائیں۔ دریں اثناء چینی میڈیا کے مطابق راکٹ بھیجنے والے چینی سائنسدانوں نے لانچنگ کامیاب قرار دیدی۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2024-05-04/page-1/detail-6>

May 05, 2024

Business Recorder

Free Zone Agri Industrial Park inaugurated in Gwadar

Federal Minister for Marine Affairs Qaiser Ahmad Sheikh on Saturday inaugurated Free Zone Agriculture Industrial Park in Gwadar. The opening ceremony was held at the China Business Center. Chairman Gwadar Port Authority Pansad Khan Bilidi and Chairman China Overseas Port Holding Company (COPAC) also participated in the opening ceremony, said a press release issued here. Addressing the ceremony, the minister said that he has come to Gwadar on the special instructions of Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif. The purpose of this visit is to inspect the mega projects of Gwadar and speed up the work of the projects under completion, he added. He said that many important projects for the people of Gwadar have been completed, adding that these projects include 100 MW of electricity from Iran, dams, desalination plants, roads and hospitals. Qaiser Sheikh said that the federal and provincial governments are keen to complete the ongoing projects of Gwadar soon and with the support of our friendly country China, a desalination plant has been installed in the free zone which will provide 1.2 million gallons of water to the citizens per day. All that remains is to connect the desalination plant water to the city, which will be done soon, he maintained. Speaking at the event, Chairman China Overseas Port Holding Company (COPHC) said that Pakistan and China are doing exemplary work on economic corridor projects. Seeing the completion of these projects makes one feel proud of Pakistan-China friendship.

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2024/05/05/1-page/992143-news.html>

Dawn News

Pakistan, China vow to upgrade cooperation on CPEC projects

Pakistan and China on Sunday expressed the determination to further enhance and upgrade cooperation on China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) projects. This was expressed by Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar and Zheng Jianbang, the vice chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress of China. According to the Foreign Office (FO), the two met on the sidelines of the 15th Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) Islamic Summit Conference in The Gambia. The FO said both sides underscored the importance of "enhanced mutually productive ties through close economic cooperation". The two also "reaffirmed the all-weather strategic cooperative partnership between Pakistan and China" and discussed the deepening exchanges between the Parliament of Pakistan and the National People's Congress of China. The statement also mentioned that both nations "expressed their determination to further enhance and upgrade cooperation on CPEC projects" during the meeting. They also discussed China's growing relationship with the OIC and underlined the importance of dialogue and understanding for mutual peace and prosperity. Radio Pakistan also reported that Dar reiterated Pakistan's firm support to China's core issues and underscored the importance of enhanced mutually productive ties through close economic collaboration and cooperation. Meanwhile, Jianbang reaffirmed China's support for Pakistan's sovereignty, territorial integrity and development. Separately, Dar also met Turkiye Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan on the sidelines of the summit, where the two "discussed the strong bonds of friendship and commitment to strengthening bilateral ties, particularly in economic, trade and defense sectors". Dar also met Azerbaijan Foreign Minister Jeyhun Bayramov. According to the FO, the two discussed deepening bilateral cooperation in trade, connectivity, energy, and people-to-people contacts while also emphasizing the importance of dialogue at political level. Dar congratulated Azerbaijan on winning the bid to host COP29 and expressed Pakistan's interest in cooperation on climate change. "He also appreciated Azerbaijan's principled stance on the Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK)," the FO said.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1831639>

Daily Times

Ambassador Hashmi speaks highly of Chang'e 6 project

Pakistan Ambassador to China Khalil Hashmi spoke highly of the extensive global cooperation on China's Chang'e-6 mission, saying that this is a demonstration of international cooperation in action. "Another milestone and good auspicious day for China, and for Pakistan-China friendship, but also for international cooperation. So, we see today China providing concrete example of a platform where European Space Agency, French and Italian Space Agencies and Pakistan space agencies are coming together and making their contributions. This is a demonstration of international cooperation in action," the ambassador said in media talk with CGTN on the launch of Pakistan's first lunar satellite, in collaboration with China's Chang'e 6 mission. "All of us have a shared future," he said adding that space cooperation on Friday's launch is a practical manifestation of sharing the benefits of

technology with other countries and organizations. Qamarul Islam, a professor at the Institute of Space Technology of Pakistan, expressed great appreciation for collaboration with China. He said the relatively small countries who are not able to go into space on their own should be given the opportunity to do some space research. About 50 guests from 12 countries and international organizations were invited by the China National Space Administration (CNSA) to attend a workshop focusing on the international payloads carried by Chang'e 6 and witness its launch at the Wenchang Space Launch Site in south China's Hainan Province. The Chang'e 6 mission is expected to collect samples from the far side of the moon, making this mission unprecedented in human history. The mission is carrying four payloads developed through international cooperation, providing more opportunities for the world's scientists and merging human expertise in space exploration. Scientific instruments from France, Italy and the European Space Agency (ESA) are aboard the Chang'e 6 lander, and a small satellite from Pakistan is aboard the orbiter. On this year's China Space Day, which fell on April 24, the CNSA declared that more partners, including one country and two international organizations, will participate in the construction and operation of the International Lunar Research Station (ILRS). The new partners of the ILRS include Nicaragua, the Asia-Pacific Space Cooperation Organization, and the Arab Union for Astronomy and Space Sciences. China will collaborate with these three parties on various issues concerning the ILRS, including its demonstration, engineering implementation, operation and application, according to the CNSA. Officials at the CNSA have signed agreements and memorandums of understanding on cooperation on the ILRS with relevant officials from the three sides. The construction of the ILRS will be carried out in three phases, with a basic model of the station expected to be completed by around 2030. The research station is designed to operate autonomously for extended periods, with periodic human involvement, said the CNSA.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1192030/ambassador-hashmi-speaks-highly-of-change-6-project/>

The Nation

CACC constructs modern residential complex at Gwadar

ISLAMABAD - Since the finishing work of New Gwadar International Airport is in high gear, China Airport Construction Company (CACC) has successfully constructed "Modern Residential Complex" in Gwadar. This is the last and final development that marks the completion of mega civil work of New Gwadar International Airport (NGIA). The "Modern Residential Complex" comprising four residential buildings, a school and hospital will be used by designated officials of Civil Aviation Authority (CAA), Pakistan.

With a centrally air-conditioning system, NGIA's Modern Residential Complex has been facilitated by uninterrupted power dispensation, sewerage network and potable water pipelines. And Wi-Fi system is also in offing. Besides, green area is also being developed around the residential complex to ensure healthier and liveable infrastructure and to make the outlook environment-friendly for the dwellers. In the first phase, trees will be planted inside and outside the complex. Tree plants on designated patches will be grown to bolster the green ecosystem. The government has also planned to get NGIA inspected by International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and other security agencies like European Citizen Action

Service (ECAS), and Transportation Security Administration (TSA). It aimed at ensuring the implementation of security standards, Gwadar Pro reported on Saturday.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/05-May-2024/cacc-constructs-modern-residential-complex-at-gwadar>

Express News

چند دنوں میں پاک چین اعلیٰ سطح کے رابطے متوقع

معاشی، سیاسی تعلقات بڑھانے کیلئے پہلے وزیر خارجہ، پھر وزیر منصوبہ بندی چین جانیگے وزیر اعظم جون میں چین جاسکتے، سعودی ولی عہد اور اردوان کی پاکستان آمد کا امکان

اسلام آباد (کامران یوسف) پاکستان اور چین اگلے تین ہفتوں کے دوران معاشی، سیاسی اور تزویراتی تعلقات کو مزید گہرا بنانے کے لیے اعلیٰ سطح کے روابط اور ملاقاتوں کا سلسلہ شروع کریں گے۔ ملاقاتوں کے پہلے مرحلے میں پاک چین سٹریٹنگ ڈائلاگ میں دونوں ملکوں کے وزرا خارجہ کی بات چیت کا اہتمام کیا جائے گا۔ نائب وزیر اعظم اور وزیر خارجہ اسحاق ڈار کے اس ماہ کے وسط میں سٹریٹنگ ڈائلاگ کے لیے وفد کے ساتھ بیجنگ جائیں گے۔ یہ سالانہ ڈائلاگ ہیں جن میں دونوں ملک علاقائی اور عالمی مسائل پر باہمی تعاون پر تبادلہ خیال کرتے ہیں۔ اسحاق ڈار کے دورہ کے بعد وزیر منصوبہ بندی احسن اقبال کی سربراہی میں ایک وفد چینی دارالحکومت جائیں گے جہاں سی بی کے متعلق جو انٹ کو آپریشن کمیٹی کا اہم اجلاس ہو گا۔ وزیر خارجہ اور وزیر منصوبہ بندی کے ان دوروں سے 8 فروری کے الیکشن کے بعد وزیر اعظم بننے والے شہباز شریف کے دورہ چین کی راہ ہموار ہو گی۔ ذرائع کا کہنا ہے وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف کا دورہ چین جون کے پہلے ہفتے میں ہو سکتا ہے۔ نئی حکومت آنے کے بعد سے پاکستان کی جانب سے سفارتی روابط کو تیز کر دیا گیا۔ سیشنل انویسٹمنٹ فیسی لیٹیشن کونسل (ایس آئی ایف سی) کے تحت سرمایہ کاری لانے کے لیے وزیر اعظم نے چند ہفتوں کے دوران ہی سعودی عرب کے دو دورے کئے ہیں۔ اس دوران سعودی وزیر خارجہ نے بھی پاکستان کا دورہ کیا۔ اسی دوران ایرانی صدر ابراہیم رئیسی نے بھی پاکستان کا دورہ کیا جو 8 فروری کے بعد کسی پہلے غیر ملکی سربراہ کی پاکستان آمد تھی۔ سفارتی ذرائع نے بتایا اسی تناظر میں دو اہم شخصیات کی پاکستان آمد متوقع ہے۔ ترکیہ کے صدر اردوان اور سعودی عرب کے ولی عہد شہزادہ محمد بن سلمان کے دورہ پاکستان کی توقع کی جارہی ہے۔ شہباز شریف کی حکومت امید کر رہی ہے کہ ان دو شخصیات کے دورے پاکستان میں معاشی بحالی کی جدوجہد کو بڑا فائدہ دیں گے۔ ہفتہ کے روز وزیر خارجہ اسحاق ڈار نے گیمبیا کے شہر بانجول او آئی سی کی پندرہویں اسلامی سربراہی کانفرنس کی سائیڈ لائن پر سعودی وزیر خارجہ شہزادہ فیصل سے ملاقات کی ہے۔

https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1110957989&Issue=NP_L HE&Date=20240505

May 06, 2024

Business Recorder

Pakistan, China vow to complete CPEC projects

Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Mohammad Ishaq Dar and Vice Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress of China Zheng Jianbang on Sunday expressed their determination to complete all China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) projects and further upgrade this cooperation to achieve shared objectives. During a meeting on the sidelines of the 15th OIC Islamic Summit Conference in Banjul, The Gambia,

the deputy prime minister and foreign minister reiterated Pakistan's firm support to China's core issues and underscored the importance of enhanced mutually productive ties through close economic collaboration and cooperation. Vice Chairman Zheng Jianbang reaffirmed China's support Pakistan's sovereignty, territorial integrity and development, Foreign Office Spokesperson said in a press release. "The two sides reaffirmed the All-Weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership between Pakistan and China and exchanged views on deepening exchanges between the Parliament of Pakistan and the National People's Congress of China," it was added. Dar and Zheng also discussed China's growing relationship with the OIC and underlined the importance of dialogue and understanding for mutual peace and prosperity.

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2024/05/06/1-page/992212-news.html>

SAU, consortium of Chinese universities to establish int'l joint lab

In a groundbreaking collaboration with a consortium of Chinese universities, Sindh Agriculture University (SAU) Tandojam is poised to establish an international joint lab dedicated to stem cell research in animals and plants. Both institutions have reached an agreement to exchange expertise in research and teaching, as well as standardized seeds of crops, vegetables, and fruits. Notably, Sindh Agriculture University has forged high-level agreements with esteemed Chinese teaching and research institutions, including a pivotal memorandum with Northwestern A&F University, Yangling, China. The auspicious occasion unfolded during a significant ceremony held in the university's senate hall. Vice Chancellor Dr. Fateh Marri of Sindh Agriculture University, alongside the Chairman of Organic Biohealth Agricultural Sciences Silk Road Biotech Industry Association, and representatives from Northwestern A&F University, engaged in the exchange of crucial documents with the Chief Scientist of Sino-Pak Biohealth Agriculture Extra-Mural Sciences and Technology Demonstration Park, and the Director of Sino-Pak Research Center, Zhang Ixin. This agreement bears immense importance for Pakistan, particularly for the province of Sindh. The collaboration aims to facilitate the exchange of graduate and postgraduate students, foster faculty development initiatives, facilitate the exchange of various crop seeds, animal breeds, and their germplasm, establish a Sino Park Research Center at Sindh Agriculture University, and enhance agricultural biotechnological resources. The establishment of an International Joint Lab for Biohealth Agriculture and Stem Cell Research in animals and plants is also on the agenda. Speaking at the ceremony, Vice Chancellor Dr. Fateh Marri expressed optimism that this agreement would catalyze the transfer of modern agricultural technology, particularly in agriculture and veterinary sciences. He stressed the importance of maintaining plants free from unnecessary medications and averting their chemical dependency. The event witnessed the presence of a prominent Chinese delegation led by Zhang Yuzhou, Hua Jinuan and Zhao Limin, alongside deans, professors, and heads of various faculties of Sindh Agriculture University. Dr. Shah Nawaz Marri adeptly fulfilled the hosting and briefing duties throughout the program.

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2024/05/06/10-page/992272-news.html>

May 07, 2024

Daily Times

Sino-Pak charity group gifts love shoes to 700 children in need

In a heartwarming display of solidarity and compassion, a Chinese-Pakistani charity group has teamed up with other charitable organizations and love businesses to deliver 700 pairs of shoes to children in 2 Afghan refugee schools in Islamabad and tent camps in the flood-hit Dadu district of Sindh province, in early May.

The initiative, led by the China-Pakistan Youth Exchange Community, aims to provide comfort and warmth to the children, Gwadar Pro reported on Monday. The shoes, carefully selected to ensure they are comfortable and suitable for children's growing feet, were carefully packed and transported to the affected areas. At the schools, the children were overjoyed to receive their new shoes. Many of them had never owned a pair of brand-new shoes before and were eager to try them on.

Principals expressed their deep appreciation for the kindness and support shown by the charity group. In Dadu district, the shoes were distributed to children living in temporary tent camps set up after the floods. Children who have been displaced from their homes and schools wear worn-out or inadequate footwear.

The new shoes have brought a sense of relief and happiness to their daily lives and will help them navigate the challenging conditions in the camps. "These shoes are not just a pair of footwear, but a symbol of love and care from the Chinese-Pakistani community," said Ma Bin, the team's responsible person.

"We hope that these small gifts will bring joy to the children and help them feel more confident and motivated to pursue their education." The charity team has been actively involved in various community development projects in Pakistan, focusing on areas such as education, healthcare and poverty alleviation.

The group is encouraging individuals and businesses to donate items like clothing, food and educational materials to help those in need. The charity team believes that through small but meaningful initiatives, they can make a difference in the lives of vulnerable children and their families. They plan to continue their efforts and work towards a brighter future for the children of the country.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1192568/sino-pak-charity-group-gifts-love-shoes-to-700-children-in-need/>

The Express Tribune

Chinese investors seek offshore funds

Shahbaz Rana

ISLAMABAD: In order to avoid any possibility of default, Chinese investors have demanded that Pakistan place funds in offshore bank accounts to service debts incurred for setting up energy plants under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). The Pakistani authorities have not yet accepted the investors' demand, citing the country's history of never defaulting on Chinese energy debt repayments, even during periods of critically low reserves. Islamabad is also cautious about potential reactions from the International Monetary Fund to any new concessions to Beijing. Highly placed sources informed The Express Tribune that Chinese authorities were also pressing Pakistan to clear \$125 million in dividends owed to Chinese firms operating in Pakistan. Cabinet ministers and high-ranking government officials convened on Monday to finalize Pakistan's stance on these contentious energy-related issues. Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb urged caution in accepting any Chinese demands due to sensitivities surrounding upcoming bailout programme talks with the IMF, according to the sources. During a preparatory meeting ahead of the Joint Working Group (JWG) on Energy gathering in Beijing next week, sources said Governor of the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) Jameel Ahmad raised these concerns. A Pakistani delegation is expected to depart for Beijing to participate in the JWG on Energy meeting by the middle of this month. China has established energy projects in Pakistan with a 75% debt and 25% equity investment. The estimated value of these Chinese energy projects is nearly \$21 billion, with Chinese debt for energy projects totaling around \$16 billion. The country needs to make annual payments of about \$2.4 billion toward debt and dividends. Sources revealed that the central bank governor informed the meeting that Chinese investors were seeking placement of funds in offshore bank accounts equivalent to the amount Pakistan would require for energy-related debt repayments. A federal government official stated that a Chinese investor was experiencing difficulty obtaining new loans due to financial troubles in Pakistan. To address banks' concerns, investors were now seeking to place funds in offshore accounts to demonstrate their revenue streams, he added. The central bank's response was awaited until the filing of the story. Sources indicated that the SBP believed Pakistan should not concede to the Chinese demand, as it cannot afford to keep current reserves idle for future debt repayments. Accepting such a demand could also open the door for other foreign investors. Commercial loans for establishing power plants had been secured at an interest rate of the London Interbank Offered Rate (Libor) plus 4.5%. Despite the IMF programme, Pakistan's reserves remained at \$9 billion, largely accrued through foreign loans and purchasing \$5 billion to \$5.5 billion from the open market. Due to thin foreign exchange reserves, the central bank was not freely allowing outward flow of funding and had also tightened checks on dividend repayments. Sources revealed that the Chinese also demanded immediate clearance of at least \$125 million in dividends. The federal government urged the SBP to clear funds before May 15 to send a positive signal to Beijing ahead of the JWG meeting. The meeting also addressed the issue of pending dues totaling Rs517 billion to Rs529 billion for Chinese energy projects that Pakistan is unable to clear due to fiscal constraints and lack of foreign currency reserves.

However, no decision was reached on this matter, as both the Ministry of Finance and the energy ministry expressed inability to allocate additional funds. Power purchase payments to Chinese suppliers were not matching their invoices due to Pakistan's failure to address circular debt and implement the Energy Framework Agreement as stipulated. For the fiscal year 2024-25, the government plans to allocate Rs48 billion to clear Chinese dues, but this amount is insufficient and will not address the financial concerns of Chinese power plants. The outstanding dues of Rs529 billion from the CPEC's independent power producers (IPPs) were a major obstacle to the financial closure of key projects. Under a 2015 agreement, Pakistan is legally obligated to establish a revolving fund to protect Chinese investors from circular debt. The government has opened an Rs48 billion account, which is inadequate for the purpose. The Chinese government has not accepted this arrangement and is urging Pakistan to honor its agreements. Due to the delay in settling the Rs529 billion dues, two Chinese-sponsored power plants with a combined capacity of 1,824 megawatts are facing difficulties in achieving financial closure. Pakistan proposed May 24 as the date for the 12th Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) meeting and is awaiting a response from China. The government also discussed the possibility of converting imported coal from Chinese power plants to local coal. It emerged from the meeting that Chinese investors would provide approximately \$500 million for the investment required to convert their projects to coal. However, the likelihood of such new Chinese investment was deemed very low due to the financial challenges facing investors.

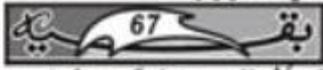
<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2465456/chinese-investors-seek-offshore-funds>

Express News

وزیر اعظم کا آئندہ ماہ دورہ چین کا امکان

اسلام آباد (این این آئی) وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف کا دورہ چین اگلے ماہ متوقع ہے۔ ذرائع کے مطابق وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف جون کے پہلے ہفتے میں چین کا دورہ کریں گے۔ اس دورے کے دوران سرمایہ کاری اور مختلف مفاہمتی یادداشتوں پر دستخط ہوں گے۔ دفتر خارجہ حکام چینی حکومت کے ساتھ رابطے میں ہیں، وزیر اعظم کے دورہ چین کو حتمی شکل دی جا رہی ہے۔

https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1110961743&Issue=NP_KHI&Date=20240507

K2 Daily

آف سٹور (سی ای سی ای) کے اعداد و شمار میں بتایا گیا ہے کہ پاکستان نے جنوری تا مارچ 2024 کے دوران 6137.044 ٹن عمل برآمد کیے جن کی قیمت 28.81 فیصد اضافے کے ساتھ 10.37 بلین ڈالر رہی جبکہ گزشتہ سال اسی عرصے میں یہ 8.16 بلین ڈالر تھی۔ ایکسپورٹ اینڈ ٹریڈ ڈیپارٹمنٹ کی رپورٹ (پرائیمری) لیڈنگ پاکستان کے ڈائریکٹوریٹس پائل گھومانی نے چائنا ایکٹاک میٹ کو بتایا کہ مئی سال کے آخری 8 ماہ میں پاکستان نے عمل کی برآمدات میں 375 بلین ڈالر کا اضافہ کیا ہے اور اس میں مزید اضافے کی صلاحیت موجود ہے، انہوں نے مزید کہا کہ چین کے ساتھ آزاد تجارتی معاہدے (ایف ٹی اے) نے عمل کے شعبوں کی برآمدات میں اضافے میں مدد کی ہے جو دونوں ممالک کے لئے فائدہ مند ہے۔ چائنا ایکٹاک میٹ کے مطابق چین کو ہمیشہ پاکستان سے فوری ٹرانزٹ کا فائدہ حاصل رہے گا۔ اس سال کا تخمینہ اوسط قیمت \$ 1750 ہے۔ صوبہ پنجاب کی تخمینہ فصل عمل کے شعبوں کی کل فصل کا 75 فیصد مٹی جو تقریباً 170000 میٹرک ٹن ہے۔ صوبہ سندھ کا تخمینہ عمل کے شعبوں کی کل فصل کا 25 فیصد تھا جو تقریباً 55000 میٹرک ٹن کا حصہ ڈال ہے۔ پنجاب قاری، باہر ڈ اور بلیک بران اقسام پیدا کرتا ہے۔ انہوں نے مزید کہا کہ سندھ کس اور دیسی اقسام پیدا کرتا ہے۔ چائنا ایکٹاک میٹ کے مطابق ان کے خیال میں اس سال پاکستان کی فصل بہترین ہے اور عمل کی مجموعی پیداوار 25 لاکھ ہزار میٹرک ٹن سے تجاوز کر چکی ہے، پاکستان میں عمل کے بیج کی پیداوار اس سے زیادہ مجموعی نہیں رہی، جس کی اوسط پیداوار 400 کلوگرام فی ایکڑ متوقع ہے۔

پاکستان کی چین کو عمل کی برآمدات میں 29 فیصد اضافہ

8 ماہ میں پاکستانیوں نے عمل کی برآمدات میں 375 بلین ڈالر کا اضافہ کیا ہے

چین کے ساتھ آزاد تجارتی معاہدہ دونوں ممالک کیلئے فائدہ مند ہے، راکیش پال

بیجنگ (آئی این پی) رواں سال کی پہلی سہ ماہی کے ساتھ 10.37 بلین ڈالر سے تجاوز مئی جنوری سے مارچ 2024 کے دوران کر گئیں۔ چائنا ایکٹاک میٹ کے مطابق چین کی پاکستان کی عمل کی برآمدات 29 فیصد جزیل اینڈ سٹریٹین (باقی صفحہ 6 بجیہ نمبر 67)

https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=Classified

https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=Back_Page

May 08, 2024

Daily Times

Pakistani beef promoted to tap China's market

In an effort to promote Pakistani beef in Southwest China, the Pakistan National Pavilion in Chengdu, capital city Sichuan province southwest China has recently showcased a batch of heat-treated Pakistani beef. The batch of Pakistani beef weighed 500 kilograms and served as samples for wholesalers and distributors in China's southwest provinces of Yunnan, Guizhou and Sichuan, Liu Jun, CEO of Chengdu Xiyixi Trade Company, the operator of the Pakistani national pavilion, told China Economic Net (CEN) in an interview. According to data from the General Administration of Customs of China (GACC), a total of \$514,252 worth of Pakistani beef was imported to China in the first quarter of 2024, only a tiny portion of the multi-billion-dollar total value of all beef imports. Despite the relatively modest volume, the pavilion operator expresses confidence as the Pakistani beef has sparked interest among distributors. "A lot of wholesalers have come here for the Pakistani beef. The other day, a distributor pre-ordered two tons of Pakistani beef with me after trying a box of sample," Liu told CEN reporter. The current phase is designed to test market response to the quality and taste of Pakistani beef and imports could be scaled up significantly depending on the market's response, said Liu. For the next step, Liu plans to forge collaboration with Pakistani suppliers. "We will work to invite Pakistani beef suppliers to set up offices at the pavilion for direct interactions and streamlined trade process," noted Liu. Pakistani heat-treated beef was granted access to the Chinese market in June 2023, and the first batch of Pakistani beef was imported to China in January 2024. Inaugurated in 2023, The Pakistani National Pavilion in Chengdu is designed to showcase agricultural and cultural products from Pakistan and it serves as a platform for Pakistani businesses aiming to penetrate the Chinese market.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1192841/pakistani-beef-promoted-to-tap-chinas-market/>

Dunya News

Pakistan's lunar mission 'ICUBE-Q' enters moon orbit

ISLAMABAD (Dunya News) - Pakistan's lunar mission (ICUBE-Q) entered the moon orbit on Wednesday. Pakistan's historic lunar mission (ICUBE-Q) had been launched on Friday on board China's Chang'e6 from Hainan, China. According to the IST, the satellite ICUBE-Q has been designed and developed by IST in collaboration with China's Shanghai University SJTU and Pakistan's national space agency SUPARCO. ICUBE-Q orbiter carries two optical cameras to image the lunar surface. Following successful qualification and testing, ICUBE-Q has now been integrated with the Chang'e6 mission. Chang'e6 is the sixth in a series of China's lunar exploration missions. Chang'e6, China's Lunar Mission will touch down on the Moon's far side to collect samples from the surface, return to Earth for research.

<https://dunyanews.tv/en/Pakistan/810234-Pakistan/'s-lunar-mission-'ICUBE-Q'-enters-moon-orbit->

The Express Tribune

Pakistan-China smart agriculture lab launched

JARANWALA: The University of Agriculture, Faisalabad (UAF) inaugurated the Pakistan-China Joint Lab for Artificial Intelligence and Smart Agriculture to boost farming in the province. The lab aims to promote cutting-edge agricultural practices to enhance productivity in the field. The inauguration ceremony was graced by UAF Vice Chancellor Dr Iqrar Ahmad Khan and Dr Wu Jun, CEO of CAS Cogniser, who jointly inaugurated the lab. The event was attended by esteemed guests including Tauseefur Rahman, Project Director of the National Aerospace Science and Technology Park, Sahibzada Khan, Director-General of the Pakistan Meteorological Department, and other dignitaries. As part of the initiative, an International Seminar on Artificial Intelligence and Smart Agriculture was also organized by the Precision Agriculture Lab. During his address, Vice Chancellor Dr. Iqrar Ahmad Khan emphasized the potential of data science, drone technology, and other smart agriculture innovations to boost production while minimizing costs. He highlighted the importance of introducing drone technology for spraying in Punjab's villages, envisioning increased productivity, reduced production costs, and improved health outcomes for farmers. Dr. Wu Jun reiterated the commitment to advancing agricultural research in the lab and implementing technologies that benefit farmers. Tauseefur Rahman stressed the need for stronger industry-academia linkages to modernize agriculture and achieve food self-sufficiency. He affirmed his organization's dedication to fostering innovation in the agricultural sector. Sahibzada Khan announced the launch of the Kissan Weather mobile application, underscoring efforts to provide farmers with essential weather information. Mushtaq Gill highlighted the importance of establishing an efficient agricultural market system to protect farmers from exploitation by middlemen. Dr Saqib Ali expressed confidence in the Precision Agriculture Lab's efforts to drive economic prosperity through smart agricultural practices. According to experts, satellite imagery, weather sensors and data-based algorithms can help farmers track progress over the entire crop cycle and can address growth and other issues by optimizing the inputs use, balanced use of fertilizer and water efficiency.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2465602/pakistan-china-smart-agriculture-lab-launched>

Pakistan, China deepen cooperation on CPEC Phase-2

Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives, Ahsan Iqbal on Tuesday expressed the firm commitment of the government to expedite the implementation of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor Project (CPEC) for further strengthening the bilateral relations between both the countries. The minister co-chaired a meeting with the Ambassador of China to Pakistan Jiang Zaidong. Secretary Planning, Awais Manzoor Sumra and other senior officials from the ministry also attended the meeting, a statement issued by the Ministry of Planning said. The discussions focused on further strengthening collaboration on projects related to energy, infrastructure, industry, food security, agriculture, and transportation within the framework of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). Ahsan Iqbal emphasized the importance of deepening the longstanding friendship between the leadership of China and Pakistan and expressed the government's firm commitment to expediting the implementation

of CPEC and stated that the upcoming visit of the prime minister to CPEC projects would usher in a new era of cooperation in all sectors. The minister elaborated on the core objective of CPEC: promoting cooperation in all sectors, including industry, energy, infrastructure, social development, agriculture and regional connectivity within Pakistan. He expressed a desire to enhance cooperation with China through the transfer of modern technology in various sectors, including transportation and agriculture. He emphasized Pakistan's aim to establish industrial zones for the manufacturing of electric cars in collaboration with China, leveraging Pakistan's competitive advantage to reduce overall production costs and create employment opportunities for Pakistani workers. He also discussed the upcoming South Asian Games 2025, underlining the importance of comprehensive training programs for Pakistani athletes. He expressed a desire to collaborate with China by inviting Chinese coaches and trainers to support Pakistani athletes in their preparations. Both sides reaffirmed their commitment to the swift and successful implementation of CPEC Phase 2.

The ambassador of China also commended the Government's efforts, especially those of the Federal Minister for Planning and Development, in continuing cooperation across all sectors. He also extended congratulations to Pakistan on hosting the South Asian Games 2025.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2465630/pakistan-china-deepen-cooperation-on-cpec-phase-2>

The Nation

Pakistan to propose setting up of JWG on security of CPEC

ISLAMABAD - Pakistan will propose establishment of the Joint Working Group (JWG) on security of the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), while Main Line-1 (ML-1) will be on the top agenda items in the next Joint Coordination Committee meeting. Pakistan has proposed the increase of joint working groups on CPEC from the existing 5 to 11, as Federal Minister for Planning, Ahsan Iqbal has flown on three days preparatory visit, on upcoming trip of the Prime Minister Shahbaz and 13th JCC, to China on Tuesday. Pakistan and China are both serious regarding the second phase of CPEC, which they are likely to kick-off during the next JCC, official source told The Nation. Security of the Chinese working in Pakistan, and ML-I are top of the agenda items, the source said. Regarding security a new joint working group has been proposed which will enable the transfer of surveillance and technical support from China, it said. Similarly, ML-I is also on the top of the agenda items and positive response from China will be consider a positive gesture for the Chinese interest in phase-II of the CPEC. China was insisting the approval of re-modified PC-I of the ML-I, and the government of Pakistan has decided to approve it from the relevant forums. A meeting of the Central Development Working Party has been convened today (Wednesday) to consider remodified PC-1 worth Rs1,923,264.864 million for upgradation of Pakistan Railway's existing Main Line-1 (ML-1) and establishment of Dry Port near Havelian. Pakistan has proposed May 23 for holding CPEC JCC meeting, however, Chinese response on the date is being awaited, the source informed a long term phase of CPEC 2025-2030 will be discussed during the next JCC. The source said that Kohala Power Project, Azad Pattan, Gwadar Power Plant, Karachi Circular Railway (KCR), and re-alignment of Thakot-Raikot Section of KKH (241KM) will also be on the agenda of the meeting. Meanwhile, Federal Minister for

Planning, Development, and Special Initiatives, Ahsan Iqbal, co-chaired a meeting with the Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Pakistan.

The discussions focused on further strengthening collaboration on projects related to energy, infrastructure, industry, food security, agriculture, and transportation within the framework of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). Ahsan Iqbal emphasized the importance of deepening the longstanding friendship between the leadership of China and Pakistan. He expressed the government's firm commitment to expediting the implementation of CPEC and stated that the upcoming visit of the Prime Minister to CPEC projects would usher in a new era of cooperation in all sectors.

He highlighted the significant international interest generated by the Prime Minister's visit.

The minister also discussed the upcoming South Asian Games 2025, underlining the importance of comprehensive training programmes for Pakistani athletes. He expressed a desire to collaborate with China by inviting Chinese coaches and trainers to support Pakistani athletes in their preparations. Both sides, Federal Minister Ahsan Iqbal and Ambassador Jiang Zaidong, reaffirmed their commitment to the swift and successful implementation of CPEC Phase-II.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/08-May-2024/pakistan-to-propose-setting-up-of-jwg-on-security-of-cpec>

Express News

احسن اقبال سی پیک فیئر 2 کیلئے چین چلے گئے

وفاقی وزیر سے چینی سفیر کی ملاقات، سی پیک فیئر 2 کو تیز کرنے پر اتفاق

سی پیک منصوبوں کیلئے اب ہمیں چین سے دو قدم آگے چلنا ہو گا: احسن اقبال

اسلام آباد (اے پی پی) وفاقی وزیر منصوبہ بندی و ترقی احسن اقبال 3 روزہ دورہ پر چین چلے گئے۔ پلاننگ کمیشن کے مطابق نئی منتخب حکومت کا پہلا چین کا اعلیٰ سطح دورہ ہے۔ وہ چین کی اعلیٰ قیادت سے سی پیک فیئر ٹو پر بات چیت کریں گے۔ سی پیک کی تیز ہوئیں جے سی سی میٹنگ کے ایجنڈے اور وزیر اعظم پاکستان کے متوقع دورہ چین پر بھی بات ہو گی۔ وفاقی وزیر احسن اقبال سے پاکستان میں تعینات چین کے سفیر جیانگ زئی ڈونگ نے ملاقات کی جس میں سی پیک فیئر 2 کو تیز کرنے پر اتفاق کیا گیا۔ ملاقات میں توانائی و بجلی، انفراسٹرکچر، زراعت اور مواصلات کے منصوبوں پر باہمی تعاون سے متعلق امور پر تبادلہ خیال کیا گیا۔ قبل ازیں وفاقی وزیر احسن اقبال نے منگل کو دورہ چین کے حوالے سے جائزہ اجلاس کی صدارت کرتے ہوئے کہا کہ سی پیک فیئر 2 منصوبوں کی تکمیل کے لیے اب ہمیں چین سے دو قدم آگے چلنا ہو گا۔ ہمیں خطے میں اپنی جغرافیائی مرکزیت کو مواقع میں بدلنے کے لئے ٹھوس منصوبہ بندی کرنا ہو گی۔ دورہ چین میں ایم ایل ون ایک اہم ایجنڈا ہو گا۔

https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1110964892&Issue=NP_LHE&Date=20240508

May 09, 2024

Dunya News

Minister Tarar, Chinese ambassador discuss CPEC, PM's upcoming China visit

ISLAMABAD (Dunya News) – Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan Jiang Zaidong called on Information Minister Attaullah Tarar on Thursday. During the meeting, the two leaders discussed Pakistan-China relations, the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's upcoming China visit, government initiatives to revive Pakistan's economy and other important matters. They also agreed to promote cooperation between the two countries in the fields of information, culture and education. Tarar said that besides the ongoing projects under CPEC, new projects and investment would also be discussed during the premier's upcoming visit to China. He stated that all eyes were set on the upcoming visit of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif. "The relations between Pakistan and China are based on friendship, trust and mutual respect," the minister said, adding that the ties between the two countries had taken the form of a comprehensive strategic partnership. "Thanks to CPEC, the access of Chinese products to the markets of Pakistan and Pakistani products to China has increased," he remarked, noting that China stood as Pakistan's largest trading partner. Tarar said China's cooperation in the completion of several major projects in Pakistan under the CPEC was enviable. The minister also informed the Chinese ambassador about the government's economic initiatives and the visits of high-level delegations from Saudi Arabia and Iran. "Economic indicators are becoming positive after the government came to power," Tarar told the foreign dignitary, adding that international journals were also predicting improvement in Pakistani economy. The Chinese ambassador appreciated the government's economic initiatives, and expressed hope that the country under the leadership of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif would continue on the road to progress and prosperity. The minister also informed the Chinese ambassador about the government's measures to protect Chinese citizens in Pakistan.

<https://dunyaNews.tv/en/Pakistan/810462-Info-minister,-Chinese-ambassador-discuss-CPEC,-PM%E2%80%99s-upcoming-China-visit>

The News

Pak-China joint lab for AI, smart agriculture established

Islamabad: With the aim of promoting the latest trends in agriculture to enhance productivity, the Pakistan China Joint Lab for Artificial Intelligence and Smart Agriculture (AI&SA) has been established at the University of Agriculture Faisalabad (UAF). UAF Vice-Chancellor Dr Iqrar Ahmad Khan and CEO CAS Cognizer Dr Wu Jun jointly inaugurated the lab, while guests including Project Director National Aerospace Science and Technology Park Tauseef-ur-Rehman, DG Pakistan Meteorological Department Sahibzada Khan, Dean Faculty of Sciences Dr. Ijaz Ahmad Bhatti, Director Center for Advanced Studies Dr Sultan Habibullah, Progressive farmer Mushtaq Gill, In-charge Precision Agriculture Lab CAS UAF Dr. Saqib Ali were present in the inaugural ceremony. International Seminar on Artificial Intelligence

and Smart Agriculture was also organized by the Precision Agriculture Lab, Gwadar Pro reported on Wednesday. “We can increase production and minimize the cost of production by promoting data science, drone technology and other smart agriculture technology in the sector.” Dr. Iqrar Ahmad Khan, Vice Chancellor UAF noted at an address. He added that in 25,000 villages in Punjab, if drone technology for spraying is introduced on rent, it will help raise the productivity, lower the cost of production and bring health benefit for the farming community. Dr Wu Jun emphasized that while conducting advanced research in the laboratory, measures will also be taken to popularize advanced practical technologies among local farmers in order to reform and upgrade local agriculture. “To pioneer a future where AI-driven innovations revolutionize agriculture, the three partners, UAF, Guangzhou Institute of Software Application Technology, as well as Guangzhou CAS Cogniser Information Technology Co., Ltd will work jointly on capacity building, faculty and staff development programs, such as exchange students, faculty members and staff, collaborative research projects and organize joint symposia, seminars, workshops and conference.” As for the field of study, Dr. Wu introduced that it will mainly involve high throughput plant phenotyping, crop health monitoring, intelligent crop yield mapping and crop water requirement analyses with AI and Imagery. “As is well-known that the University of Agriculture Faisalabad is the best agricultural university in Pakistan. I firmly believe that the research in the laboratory will bring a brighter future for Pakistan’s agriculture.” Sahibzada Khan introduced that an agri-tech mobile app called Kissan Weather has been launched and all possible steps are being taken to promote it in the farming community so that as many farmers as possible can master the technology. Addressing the seminar, Dr Saqib Ali highlighted that the best steps are being taken for smart agriculture in the Precision Agriculture Lab of UAF, by which the farmer can realize the dream of prosperity.

<https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1186876-pak-china-joint-lab-for-ai-smart-agriculture-established>

Express News

سی پیک کا دوسرا مرحلہ ، احسن اقبال کی چینی حکام سے ملاقاتیں

چینی نائب وزیر اعظم نے وفاقی وزیر کو م نے وفاقی وزیر کو مسٹر سی پیک قرار دیدیا، چین تاریخی دوست ، احسن ایم ایل ون منصوبے پر

تبادلہ خیال ، دونوں ممالک کی ویزا کی سہولت کو مزید بڑھانے پر اتفاق

بیجنگ (نیوز ایجنسیاں) وفاقی وزیر منصوبہ بندی احسن اقبال نے کہا ہے کہ سی پیک کے پہلے مرحلے کے تحت 25 ارب ڈالر کے منصوبے پاکستان میں زیر تکمیل ہیں، چین پاکستان کا تاریخی دوست ہے جس نے مشکل وقت میں ہمارا ساتھ دیا، ان خیالات کا اظہار انہوں نے چین بیجنگ کے بعد بیجنگ ایئر پورٹ سے خصوصی پیغام میں کیا، انہوں نے کہا کہ چین پاکستان کا تاریخی دوست ہے، سی پیک کے دوسرے مرحلے میں زراعت، صنعت، گرین توانائی اور ٹیکنالوجی کے شعبے کو فروغ دیا جائیگا، ان کے ہمراہ وزیر اعظم کے م، معاون خصوصی برائے امور خارجہ طارق فاطمی بھی ہیں، وفاقی وزیر نے کئی اہم ملاقاتیں کیں، چین کے نائب وزیر خارجہ سن ویڈوگ کیسا تھ اپنی ملاقات میں وفاقی وزیر نے وسیع پیمانے پر بات چیت کی جس میں سی پیک کے پہلے عشرے کے کامیاب اختتام اور اس کی دوسری دہائی میں حاصل ہونے والی پیشرفت کا جائزہ بھی شامل تھا، چینی نائب وزیر اعظم نے وفاقی وزیر کو مسٹر سی پیک کہا اور ایکسپورٹ، انرجی، ایکویٹی، ای پاکستان اور ماحولیات

کو نوٹ کیا، وفاقی وزیر نے سی پیک کی اعلیٰ معیار کی ترقی کے لئے پاکستان کے عزم کا اعادہ کیا، انہوں نے سی پیک کے دوسرے مرحلے کیلئے زیادہ سے زیادہ بزنس ٹو بزنس روابط کی ضرورت پر روشنی ڈالی جس کے لئے پاکستانی تاجروں کو ویزوں کے اجرا میں سہولت فراہم کی جانی پشاور سے کراچی ریلوے مین لائن منصوبے کی اہمیت پر روشنی ڈالی دونوں ممالک نے ویزا کی سہولت کو مزید ML-چاہئے، انہوں نے 1 بڑھانے پر اتفاق کیا، اجلاس نئے دور میں مشترکہ مستقبل کی چین پاکستان کمیونٹی کو فروغ دینے کے مقصد کے ساتھ دونوں فریقوں کے درمیان اعلیٰ سطح کے تبادلوں کو جاری رکھنے کے مشترکہ عزم کے ساتھ اختتام پذیر ہوا۔

https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1110966481&Issue=NP_LHE&Date=20240509

سی پیک کے ایم ایل ون منصوبے کی منظوری موخر CDWP

دائرہ کار میں کمی، تبدیل شدہ ڈیزائن نے پراجیکٹ ناقابل عمل بنا دیا، آئندہ ہفتے پھر غور ہو گا

ارب کے 3 منصوبے ایکٹ کو بھیجنے کی منظوری، جہانزیب خان کی زیر صدارت اجلاس 126

اسلام آباد (شہباز رانا، وقائع نگار) پاکستان نے گزشتہ روز سی پیک کے 6.7 ارب ڈالر کے ایم ایل ون منصوبے کی منظوری اس وقت موخر کر دی جب یہ معلوم ہوا کہ دائرہ کار میں کمی اور تبدیل شدہ ڈیزائن نے اس سٹریٹنگ پراجیکٹ کو ناقابل عمل بنا دیا ہے، میگا ڈولپمنٹ منصوبوں کی منظوری کیلئے بنائی گئی سینٹرل ڈولپمنٹ ورکنگ پارٹی (سی ڈی ڈی) نے مذکورہ منصوبے کے ڈیزائن، دائرہ کار اور مالیاتی تخمینے پر اعتراضات اٹھائے ہیں، ڈپٹی چیئرمین پلاننگ کمیشن جہانزیب خان کی زیر صدارت سی ڈی ڈی ڈی ڈی کے اجلاس میں شامل شرکانے بتایا کہ سی پیک منصوبے کی منظوری وزیر منصوبہ بندی احسن اقبال کے بیٹنگ کے باعث موخر کر دی گئی، وزیر خارجہ اسحاق ڈار اگلے ہفتے بیٹنگ جارہے ہیں۔ پاکستان کی کمزور مالی حالت کی وجہ سے چین نے پاکستان کو منصوبے کی لاگت ایک تہائی کم کر کے 6.7 ارب ڈالر کرنے کی تجویز دی ہے۔ تاہم منصوبہ بندی کمیشن کے حکام کے مطابق لاگت میں کمی نے اس منصوبے کو ناقابل عمل بنا دیا ہے، اجلاس کو بتایا گیا کہ منصوبے میں ٹرین کی رفتار کی حد 160 کلومیٹر فی گھنٹہ سے کم کر کے 120 کلومیٹر کر دی گئی ہے، ٹرین کا فریکوئنسی آپریشن کم کر کے لائن کی استعداد کم کر دی گئی، رولنگ سٹاک خارج کر دیا گیا، ایکسل لوڈ بھی کم کر دیا گیا، دونوں جانب باڑ بھی ختم کر دی گئی، اجلاس کے دوران اس پر اتفاق پایا گیا کہ جزئیات تبدیل کرنے اور زیادہ لاگت کے باعث منصوبہ قابل عمل نہیں رہا، اجلاس میں فیصلہ کیا گیا کہ آئندہ بدھ کو دوبارہ اس منصوبے پر منظوری کیلئے غور کیا جائے گا۔ چین نے نئے قرض پر بات چیت سے انکار کر دیا ہے اور کہا ہے کہ پہلے پاکستان ترمیم شدہ منصوبے کی منظوری دے۔ مزید برآں سی ڈی ڈی ڈی نے مجموعی طور پر 126 ارب روپے کی لاگت کے تین منصوبے ایکٹ کو بھیجنے کی منظوری دی، پہلا منصوبہ جگلوٹ سکرو روڈ (ایس - 1) 164 کلومیٹر کی مرمت اور اپ گریڈیشن، دوسرا منصوبہ اے ڈی بی فلڈ ایئر جنسی لون کے تحت مورو سے رانی پور تک این - 5 کی بحالی اور وزیر اعظم کا پروگرام برائے سپائٹائٹس سی کا خاتمہ کا منصوبہ حتیٰ منظوری کیلئے ایکٹ بھیجا دیا۔

https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1110966525&Issue=NP_LHE&Date=20240509

Jang News

پاکستان کا پہلا سیٹلائٹ آئی کیوب قمر چاند کے ذیلی مدار میں داخل

چاند کیلئے پاکستان کا پہلا سیٹلائٹ مشن آئی کیوب قمر چاند کے مدار میں پہنچ گیا، تمام ذیلی نظاموں کی تصدیق میں ہفتہ لگ سکتا ہے، چاند کی پہلی تصویر 15 یا 16 مئی تک موصول ہونے کی توقع، آئی کیوب قمر کو کامیابی سے چاند کے مدار میں چھوڑ دیا گیا، ذرائع کے مطابق ڈاکٹر خرم خورشید، ڈاکٹر قمر السلام چین میں موجود ہیں، مدار کی جانچ اور تصدیق میں ذیلی نظام کا جائزہ لیا جائے گا، سیٹلائٹ امیجنگ سسٹم کے آپریشنل ہونے سے پہلے تمام ذیلی نظاموں کی تصدیق میں تقریباً ایک ہفتہ لگ سکتا ہے، چاند کی پہلی تصویر 15 یا 16 مئی تک موصول ہونے کی توقع ہے، سپارکو ترجمان کے مطابق مدار پر پہنچنے کے بعد سیٹلائٹ ڈیزائن کے مطابق کارکردگی کا مظاہرہ کر رہا ہے، تمام ذیلی نظام کا ڈیٹا بہترین نتائج دے رہا ہے، امیجنگ پے لوڈ مکمل طور پر فعال ہے۔

<https://e.jang.com.pk/detail/681403>

K2 Daily

بقیہ 35
 کورٹین پر ڈوکول کے تحت ایکسپورٹ ہوگی۔
 انہوں نے کہا کہ گلگت بلتستان میں صرف 20 ٹن
 چیری کی پیکنگ، کولڈ سٹوریج اور کورٹین کی سہولت
 دستیاب ہے۔ جبکہ کسانوں اور تاجروں کو ٹھکڑ
 زراعت کی جانب سے گلگت بلتستان پر ڈوکول
 کے تحت ٹریڈنگ اور رہنمائی دینی رہی ہے مگر
 ایکسپورٹ پر ڈوکول پر عملدرآمد نہ ہونے کے برابر
 ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا چیری پیکنگ اور کورٹین
 پر ڈوکول کے تحت ایکسپورٹ ہوگی انہوں نے کہا
 گزشتہ 3 سال میں 6 لاکھ سے زیادہ چیری کے
 پودے لگائے گئے ہیں اور چیری کی پیداوار میں حریہ
 اضافہ متوقع ہے۔

چیری کی چین ایکسپورٹ، 250 ہانگات کی رجسٹریشن مکمل
 رجسٹرڈ کرنے کا عمل جاری، چیری پیکنگ اور کورٹین پر ڈوکول کے تحت ایکسپورٹ ہوگی

گزشتہ 3 سال میں 6 لاکھ سے زیادہ چیری کے پودے لگائے گئے ہیں اور چیری کی پیداوار میں حریہ اضافہ متوقع ہے۔

گلگت (نامہ نگار نسیم) لاہور: گلگت بلتستان میں چیری کی ایکسپورٹ پر ڈوکول کے تحت ایکسپورٹ ہوئے رجسٹرڈ کیا
 زراعت گلگت بلتستان اقبال حسین نے کہا ہے کہ
 چیری کی چین کو ایکسپورٹ کرنے کے لئے 250
 چیری ہانگات کو رجسٹرڈ کیا ہے۔ گلگت بلتستان
 ایگریکلچر ڈیپارٹمنٹ اور فیڈرل آف پلانٹ
 پروڈکشن اینڈ کورٹین کی ہم نے گلگت بلتستان میں
 چیری کے ہانگات کا سروے اور رجسٹریشن کو مکمل
 چیری پیکنگ اور (باقی صفحہ 6 جیہ نمبر 35)

https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=Classified&Date=2024-05-09

https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=Gilgit%20Baltistan%20News&Date=2024-05-09

May 10, 2024

The Express Tribune

Pakistan, China discuss partnerships

BEIJING: Federal Minister for Planning, Development, and Special Initiatives, Ahsan Iqbal, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister (SAPM) on Foreign Affairs, Syed Tariq Fatemi, and Ambassador of Pakistan to China, Khalil Hashmi, convened with three leading Chinese companies specializing in power transmission and distribution: Power China, TBEA Co Ltd, and Electric Power Planning & Engineering Institute (EPPEI), a subsidiary of China Energy, according to a press statement released on Thursday. The meeting took place at the Pakistan Embassy in Beijing. The minister informed the companies about the transmission losses faced by the power sector in Pakistan and encouraged them to provide assistance through technological, innovative, and cost-effective means. The Chinese companies presented their expertise in power transmission and highlighted their practical application in other countries. It was agreed that Chinese experts would meet with Pakistani power sector officials visiting Beijing next week. Additionally, the Chinese companies would share a list of questions to gather detailed data related to Pakistan's power sector.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2465924/pakistan-china-discuss-partnerships>

The Nation

China, Pakistan to enhance disaster preparedness in mountain regions

ISLAMABAD - In a latest move to bolster disaster resilience in Pakistan's northern mountainous areas, the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) and the National Disaster Management Authority of Pakistan (NDMA) signed a cooperation agreement here at the NDMA headquarters. The agreement, formalized between the China-Pakistan Joint Research Centre for Earth Sciences (CPJRC) and National Disaster Management Institute (NDMI) at a ceremony. This aims to improve disaster management, especially in Pakistan's northern mountain regions that are prone to earthquakes and landslides, Gwadar Pro reported on Thursday. As per the agreement, both sides will work to promote the implementation of mountain disaster risk simulation and early warning forecast systems at NDMA, and to deploy advanced disaster risk simulation and early warning forecasting systems in the mountain areas. It is expected to set up new monitoring stations that will enhance risk assessment and data collection, crucial for timely and effective disaster response. Academician Cui Peng, Executive Deputy Director and Chief Scientist of CPJRC, showcased the mountain disaster risk simulation and early warning forecast system, expressing optimism about its successful implementation in Pakistan and the potential for effective future collaboration between the two sides. He noted that the signing of the cooperation agreement would enhance further cooperation and exchange between the parties. Nadeem Paracha, Director of NDMI, highlighted fruitful partnerships with Chinese universities, research institutions, and enterprises, and expressed intention to support and facilitate Chinese field scientific research and the collection and sharing of foundational data in Pakistan. He added that NDMI will help innovate in areas such as early warning and forecasting systems and the

establishment of monitoring stations. CPJRC, established by CAS and Pakistan's Higher Education Commission under a mutual agreement, focuses on scientific research and education in earth sciences. It is based at Quaid-i-Azam University and hosted by the Institute of Mountain Hazards and Environment, CAS.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/10-May-2024/china-pakistan-to-enhance-disaster-preparedness-in-mountain-regions>

May 11, 2024

Pakistan Observer

China, Pakistan to accelerate CPEC cooperation

Pakistani Minister for Planning, Development, and Special Initiatives, Prof. Ahsan Iqbal, met with Zhao Chenxin, Vice Chairman of the National Development and Reform Commission of China at the NDRC headquarters here on Friday. Both sides agreed to enhance bilateral relations and accelerate cooperation under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor. Accompanying him were Special Assistant to the Prime Minister, Syed Tariq Fatemi, Ambassador of Pakistan to China, Khalil Hashmi, and other senior officials from the Pakistani Embassy in Beijing. Recalling the launch of CPEC more than a decade ago, the Minister remarked, "The decade of CPEC has been a remarkable journey. Since 2013, the relevant institutions from both sides have worked as one team and successfully implemented key energy and physical infrastructure projects, laying a strong foundation for the next phase of CPEC." Mr. Zhao Chenxin appreciated the role and leadership of Minister Iqbal in making CPEC a success, stating, "You are greatly respected for your valuable contribution towards CPEC." While reviewing the progress during the first phase of CPEC, both sides expressed their resolve to accelerate the high-quality development of the project as it transitions to its next phase. Recalling the five corridors announced by Vice Premier He Lifeng during his visit to Pakistan last year, the Minister for Planning renewed the commitment of the Government of Pakistan to enhance the socio-economic benefits of CPEC, significantly improving the lives and livelihoods of the people.

<https://pakobserver.net/china-pakistan-to-accelerate-cpec-cooperation/>

Call for Pak-China joint council on agri development under CPEC

The experts at a policy dialogue have demanded Pakistan-China council on agriculture development led by the private sector of both the countries to focus technology transfer and capacity building of Pakistani farmers on modern technologies under China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). The experts were addressing at the policy dialogue of Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) titled "Greening of the CPEC: Sustainable Agriculture in Pakistan and the Learnings from China" organized here Friday. Dr Hassan Daud Butt, former project director CPEC, former CEO Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Board of Investment said that the future of agriculture production and food security relied on technology advancement, good policies and leadership. However, it was pertinent to establish a council of agriculture development led by private sector and linked them to Chinese counterparts that would help achieve targets swiftly. He said China has made massive

progress in the field of agriculture through consistent policies, leadership and technology-driven interventions. Butt added that the Chinese advancement in agriculture sector was unique in its fashion as less public capital and more private sector investment was utilized in developing the agriculture sector.

<https://pakobserver.net/call-for-pak-china-joint-council-on-agri-development-under-cpec/>

Book enthusiasts gather at KCFR's 'CHINA LEADS' launching event

The Karachi Council on Foreign Relations (KCFR) orchestrated a vibrant book launch event for 'CHINA LEADS' by Dr. Junaid Ahmad, hosted at a local hotel. Attended by a multitude of book enthusiasts, the gathering was graced by the presence of Yang Yundong, the Consul General of the People's Republic of China, as the Chief Guest. The event, presided over by Ms. Nadira Panjwani, Chairperson of KCFR, featured insightful reviews of the book by three distinguished scholars. These included Amb (R) Hasan Javed, a former ambassador of Pakistan with extensive experience in China, Mian Shaukat Hussain, and a prominent businessman with five decades of engagement with China, and Prof Dr. Athar Ahmed, an esteemed expert in international marketing and Dean of Greenwich University. 'CHINA LEADS' was hailed as a pioneering work, shedding light on the profound wisdom and knowledge embedded within Chinese civilization and language, spanning over 5,000 years. The audience learned of China's historical stance of defense rather than aggression, with Chairman Mao's transformative leadership post-1949 civil war highlighted. Dr. Junaid Ahmad, the author, shared insights into the extensive research behind the book, boasting over 400 references from credible sources. He expressed gratitude to KCFR, the Chinese Consul General, the reviewers, and the audience, addressing queries and providing further context on the book's contents. The book, 'CHINA LEADS', meticulously examines China's remarkable advancements across various sectors, comparing them with other nations of similar stature such as Russia, USA, Canada, Brazil, and India. Moreover, it delves into China's significant contributions to other nations since its independence in 1949, offering a comprehensive resource for students and researchers interested in the subject.

<https://pakobserver.net/book-enthusiasts-gather-at-kcfrs-china-leads-launching-event/>

The News

Pakistan extends anti-dumping duty on Chinese steel products

LAHORE: Pakistan will continue to impose anti-dumping duties on Chinese steel products, the National Tariff Commission said in a notification on Friday, in a move aimed at protecting the local industry. As per notice issued by NTC regarding conclusion of sunset review of anti-dumping duty imposed on dumped imports of deformed concrete reinforcing steel bars into Pakistan originating in and/ or exported from the People's Republic of China, has decided to continue anti-dumping duty on imports of steel bars from China, which were first imposed in October, 2017. The Commission has determined that, in case the anti-dumping duty imposed on dumped imports of Rebars from China is terminated, the domestic industry would be likely to suffer on account of decline in production, capacity utilization, sales, market share, profits and productivity etc, reads notification. Regarding continuation of

Definitive Anti-dumping Duty, Commission concludes that in view of the analysis with regard to likely continuation of dumping of rebars from China and likely material injury to the domestic industry, there is a need to continue imposition of definitive anti-dumping duty on dumped imports of rebars from China. Thus, the Commission has decided to continue definitive anti-dumping duty on Rebars from China at the rate of 19.15 percent ad valorem for another period of five years with effect from October 17, 2022. National Tariff Commission took the decision under Section 58 of the Anti-Dumping Duties Act, 2015. This Sunset Review was initiated on October 17, 2022 upon receipt of an application under Section 58(3) of the Act from M/s Amreli Steels Limited, Karachi, M/s Agha Steel Industries Limited, Karachi and M/s Mughal Iron & Steels Industries Limited, Lahore who are domestic producers of Rebars. The Commission had imposed anti-dumping duty at the rate of 19.15 percent with effect from October 23, 2017 for a period of five years on Rebars imported from China. In accordance with provisions of the Act and the Anti-Dumping Duties Rules, 2022, the Commission has conducted and concluded the Sunset Review: The product under Review includes Deformed Steel Concrete Reinforcing Bars. Such Rebars are in various diameters up to and including 40 mm, in various finishes including indentation, ribs, grooves or other deformations excluding plain round bars, imported from China. It is classified under Pakistan Customs Tariff No. 7214.2010, 7214.2090, 7214.3010, 7214.3090, 7214.9910, 7214.9990, 7215.1010, 7215.1090, 7215.5010, 7215.5090, 7215.9010, 7215.9090, 7228.2090, 7228.3090, 7228.1000, 7228.4000, 7228.5000, and 7228.6000. The sunset review has been conducted on the basis of data/information for the last three years i.e. from July 01, 2019 to June 30, 2022. In terms of Section 50 of the Act read with Rule 40 of the Rules, the Commission has determined that there is likelihood of continuation and recurrence of dumping of Rebars from China, in case antidumping duty imposed on dumped imports of Rebars from China is terminated. Likely Increase in Volume of Dumped Imports: After imposition of antidumping duty, the volume of dumped imports of Rebars has significantly decreased, which impacted positively on production, sales and prices of Rebars. It may be noted that before imposition of antidumping duty, imports from China was reportedly around 125,000 tons per year.

<https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1187615-pakistan-extends-anti-dumping-duty-on-chinese-steel-products>

Pakistan seeks Chinese help over two hydropower projects

BEIJING: The Minister for Planning, Development, and Special Initiatives, Prof. Ahsan Iqbal, held a meeting with the Vice Chairman of the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC), Zhao Chenxin, at the NDRC headquarters here on Friday. The minister was accompanied by the Special Assistant to the Prime Minister, Syed Tariq Fatemi, and the Ambassador of Pakistan to China, Khalil Hashmi, and other senior officials of the embassy. Recalling the launch of CPEC a decade ago, the minister said, "The decade of CPEC has been a remarkable journey. Since 2013, the relevant institutions from the two sides have worked as one team and successfully implemented key energy and physical infrastructure projects, laying a strong foundation for the next phase of CPEC." Zhao Chenxin appreciated the role and leadership of the minister in making CPEC a success. While

reviewing progress during the first phase of CPEC, both sides expressed their resolve to accelerate progress on the high-quality development of the project as it transitions to its next phase. Recalling the five corridors announced by Vice Premier He Lifeng during his visit to Pakistan last year, the minister renewed the commitment of the government to even further enhance the socio-economic benefits of CEPC, with significant improvements to the lives and livelihoods of the people. Emphasizing the importance of deepening bilateral energy cooperation, Ahsan Iqbal conveyed to the Chinese side the interest of the government of Pakistan to diversify the country's energy mix through the transition towards clean and renewable energy. In that context, he sought the Chinese government's continued cooperation and support for the early implementation of the Azad Pattan and Kohala Hydel Power Projects. Recalling the consensus achieved by both leaderships on the early implementation of ML-I and KKH realignment projects, Ahsan Iqbal reiterated the strategic significance of these projects and highlighted the benefits of enhanced connectivity for both countries. In that context, both sides agreed to accelerate internal procedures for the early implementation of these projects. Both sides also discussed enhancing road and highway infrastructure cooperation, including by signing four MoUs for launching technical studies on the D.I. Khan-Zhob Road, Mirpur-Muzaffarabad-Manshehra Motorway, Babusar Tunnel, and Karachi-Hyderabad Motorway. Underscoring the importance of industrial cooperation, both sides agreed to implement the Industrial Cooperation Framework Agreement and develop an action plan for the modernization of industry, agriculture, and mines and mineral sectors. Both China and Pakistan would priorities cooperation on artificial intelligence and agriculture modernization in the second phase of CPEC. The socio-economic development of Balochistan, including Gwadar, remains a top priority for both governments. In that context, both sides agreed to enhance the connectivity of the coastal city of Gwadar, including by constructing the Eastbay Motorway to fully harness the potential of its port and industrial zone. Both sides also agreed to hold the next round of the CPEC Joint Coordination Committee (JCC), to be co-chaired by the Minister for Planning, Development, and Special Initiatives, before the prime minister visited China.

<https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1187778-pakistan-seeks-chinese-help-over-two-hydropower-projects>

Express News

سی پیک پاکستان کیلئے بڑی تبدیلی کے طور ابھرا: احسن اقبال

ای فائیو فریم ورک فیئر 11 کوریڈورز کے مطابق ہے: بیجنگ میں سیمینار سے خطاب

بیجنگ (وفاقی نگار، اے پی پی) وفاقی وزیر برائے منصوبہ بندی، ترقی و خصوصی اقدامات پر وفیسر احسن اقبال نے بیجنگ میں این ڈی آر سی کے بیلٹ اینڈ روڈ سینٹر کے زیر اہتمام سی پیک اور بیلٹ اینڈ روڈ پلان اور اس سے آگے کی دہائی کے موضوع پر سیمینار سے جامع خطاب کیا۔ احسن اقبال نے زور دیا کہ سی پیک پاکستان کے لئے ایک بڑی تبدیلی کے منصوبے کے طور پر ابھرا ہے جس سے ملک کو انفراسٹرکچر کی ترقی کی فوری ضروریات اور بجلی کی پیداوار میں 8 ہزار میگاواٹ کا اضافہ کر کے بجلی کی بار بار بندش سے نمٹنے میں مدد ملے گی۔ سی پیک اور بیلٹ اینڈ روڈ پلان کے ایک اہم منصوبے نے متعدد سنگ میل طے کئے ہیں۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ ای فائیو کا فریم ورک یعنی ایکسپورٹ، ای پاکستان،

انوائرنمنٹ، انرجی اور ایکیویٹی حکومت پاکستان کی جانب سے بنایا گیا ہے جو سی پیک فیزا کے ترقی، معاش، اختراع، سبز توانائی اور جامع علاقائی ترقی کے پانچ کو ریڈورز کے مطابق ہے۔ احسن اقبال نے بیجنگ ہیڈ کوارٹر میں نیشنل ڈویلپمنٹ اینڈ ریفارم کمیشن کے چھ ممبران کے ساتھ بھی ملاقات کی۔ دونوں فریقین نے صنعتی تعاون کے فریم ورک معاہدے کو نافذ کرنے اور صنعت، زراعت اور کانوں اور معدنیات کے شعبوں کی جدید کاری کے لیے ایک ایکشن پلان تیار کرنے پر اتفاق کیا۔

https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1110970563&Issue=NP_LHE&Date=20240511

K2 Daily

بقیہ 54

ہوا ہے، ہم چین میں پاکستان کا مارکیٹ شیئر آسانی سے 13 ارب سے بڑھا کر 30 ارب ڈالر کر سکتے ہیں۔ چائے، آٹا، کھجور، تیل کے مطابق وقتی وزیر برائے منصوبہ بندی، ترقی و خصوصی اقدامات پروٹیکشن اقبال نے ایک بیان میں کہا ہے کہ کم چین پاکستان اقتصادی راہداری (سی پیک) کے دوسرے مرحلے کے جوائنٹ ورک کے نفاذ کے لیے جتنی ہم منصوبوں کے ساتھ کام کر رہے ہیں، جس میں زمین، زمین، یعنی زراعت، صنعت اور ٹیکنالوجی میں دو طرفہ تعاون کو مضبوط بنانے پر روشنی ڈالی گئی ہے۔ اس کے علاوہ چین کو برآمدات میں اضافے اور پاک چین تعلیمی و تکنیکی تبادلے کو وسعت دینے پر بھی زور دیا گیا۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ پاکستان کو چین کی مالی اعانت سے فائدہ ہوا ہے اور یہ نلٹا ہے کہ سی پیک ہونے پر آئی قرضوں کا جال ہے، میرے خیال میں کچھ بھی نہیں ہے۔ سی پیک کے دوسرے مرحلے پر نظر ڈالنے ہوئے انہوں نے کہا کہ ہماری ترجیح کاروبار سے کاروباری تعاون کی طرف بڑھنا ہے۔ چین دنیا سے تقریباً 2.7 ٹریلین ڈالر مالیت کا سامان درآمد کرتا ہے جبکہ پاکستان کا حصہ صرف 3 ارب ڈالر ہے۔ میرے خیال میں ہم چین میں پاکستان کا مارکیٹ شیئر آسانی سے 13 ارب سے بڑھا کر 30 ارب ڈالر کر سکتے ہیں۔

چین کو بڑا ایکٹ 30 ارب ڈالر کر نیٹا پلان

سی پیک اور پی آر آئی کو قرضوں کا جال کہنا غلط، منصوبوں سے 20 لاکھ ملازمین پیدا ہوں گے
سی پیک کے دوسرے مرحلے میں ترجیح کاروباری تعاون کی طرف بڑھنا ہے، احسن اقبال
چین (آئی این پی) وقتی وزیر برائے صنعتی تعاون کے ملازمتوں ہیں، اس نے سی پیک کو تیز کر کے پیش قدمی میں مدد کی، 20 لاکھ سے
منصوبہ بندی، ترقی و خصوصی اقدامات پروٹیکشن اقبال نے کہا ہے کہ سی پیک کے دوسرے مرحلے میں ہمیں
اقبال نے کہا ہے کہ پاکستان اور چین کے درمیان، سی پیک نے پاکستان کو ترقی اور ترقی کے راستے سے فائدہ (باقی صفحہ 6 بجے نمبر 54)

https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=Classified&Date=2024-05-11

https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=Back_Page&Date=2024-05-11

Nawaiwaqt News

پاکستانی سیٹلائٹ مشن آئی کیوب قمر سے پہلی تصویر موصول چاند کے گرد 3 چکر لگائے

پاکستان کا پہلا سیٹلائٹ مشن آئی کیوب قمر کامیابی سے چاند کے مدار میں داخل ہو گیا جس کی پہلی تصویر سامنے آگئی۔ انسٹی ٹیوٹ آف سپیس ٹیکنالوجی کے مطابق آئی کیوب قمر نے چاند کے گرد 3 چکر لگائے ہیں۔ مشن 3 سے 6 ماہ تک چاند کے مدار میں گردش کرے گا۔ پاکستان کا سیٹلائٹ آئی کیوب قمر 8 مئی کو کامیابی سے چاند کے مدار میں داخل ہو گیا تھا۔ انسٹی ٹیوٹ آف سپیس ٹیکنالوجی کے مطابق چاند کے مدار میں داخل ہونے والا پہلا پاکستانی سیٹلائٹ آئی کیوب قمر 12 گھنٹے میں چاند کا چکر مکمل کرتا ہے، آئی کیوب قمر چاند کے مدار میں چاند کی سطح سے دو سو کلومیٹر کے فاصلے سے منظر کشی کرے گا۔ آئی کیوب قمر کے سنگلز 3 لاکھ 60 ہزار سے 4 لاکھ کلومیٹر کا فاصلہ طے

کر کے زمین پر موصول ہوں گے۔ ترجمان نے بتایا کہ آئی کیوب قمر کے کنٹرولرز، سب سسٹمز اور پروٹوکولز کی مدار میں ٹیسٹنگ کا سلسلہ جاری ہے۔ یہ مشن چاند کے مدار میں پہنچنے کے بعد 5 سے 6 دن تک تجرباتی مراحل میں رہے گا۔ یاد رہے کہ آئی کیوب قمر کو چینی مشن چینگ 6 کے ساتھ 3 مئی کو مینان اسپیس لانچ سائٹ سے خلا میں بھیجا گیا تھا۔ آئی کیوب قمر سے لی گئی پہلی تصویر باضابطہ طور پر پاکستانی سفیر کے حوالے کر دی گئی۔ آئی کیوب قمر کی اس پہلی تصویر میں سورج کی روشنی دکھائی دے رہی ہے۔ چائنا میٹیل اسپیس ایڈمنسٹریشن میں آئی کیوب قمر کے کامیاب مشن پر خصوصی تقریب کا انعقاد کیا گیا جس میں چینی حکام نے آئی کیوب قمر سے موصول ہونے والا پہلا امیج پاکستانی سفیر خلیل ہاشمی کے حوالے کر دیا۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2024-05-11/page-1/detail-37>

May 12, 2024

The Express Tribune

Cotton yarn exports to China surge 66%

BEIJING: Pakistan's cotton yarn exports to China reached \$166.37 million, an increase of 65.85%, in the first quarter of 2024, according to statistics of the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China (GACC). In the first quarter (January-March) of the current calendar year, imports of "uncombed single cotton yarn containing 85% or above" (commodity code 52051200) from Pakistan crossed \$99.12 million, compared with \$72.70 million in the same period of last year. Similarly, imports of cotton yarn (commodity code 52051100) touched \$65.78 million, up from \$26.28 million in the corresponding period of the previous year. Keywin Trading Ltd General Manager of China Operations Sajjad Mazahir told China Economic Net that China's increasing demand for Pakistan's cotton textiles came because the Chinese industry balanced itself with both exports and local downstream orders. A few years ago, Pakistan's textile products were in demand only for exports but now it has taken a good market share in China's domestic market too. Currently, Pakistan's supplies include cotton, cotton yarns and Griege fabric. They were preferred by many customers due to their competitive prices and quality. Yet, Pakistan needs to do much to diversify its textile exports. "The textile industry in Pakistan is facing challenges from high cost of electricity and slow demand globally, and the Chinese market gives Pakistani exporters ample opportunities," he added. Mazahir said that for diversification, Pakistan had to provide finished products to the local Chinese market and a lot of effort was required to leverage advantages of the Pakistan-China free trade agreement (FTA). "Though most of our products are covered under the zero duty structure, many cannot enter Chinese markets in good volumes, such as home textiles, towels, apparel, etc.," he added. This article originally appeared on China Economic Net

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2466190/cotton-yarn-exports-to-china-surge-66>

The Nation

Pakistani fishing industry immensely attractive to Chinese investors: PCJCCI

ISLAMABAD - President of Pakistan China Joint Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCJCCI), Moazzam Ghurki has stated that the Pakistani fishing industry is immensely attractive to Chinese investors. China has a huge consumer market for aquatic products and is one of the largest buyers in Pakistan. According to Gwadar Pro, the main aquatic categories of Pakistan's exports to China include ribbon fish, croakers, sole fish, cuttlefish, etc. Pakistan's seafood exports to China reached \$247.3 million, marking a 13 percent increase for the January-December period in 2023 year-on-year. It can be increased to \$ 600 or 700 million," he elaborated while chairing a meeting held here. In his comments, PCJCCI Senior Vice President Fang Yulong said that the Pakistani fishing industry is hugely attractive to Chinese investors, and the Pakistani fishing community welcomes Chinese investors as they can get jobs and good prices from foreign investors. "In order to improve its exports, we are ready to transfer our technological advancements to Pakistan." China, by collaborating with the Pakistani government, can ask its quality experts of aquatic products to visit Pakistan's fishery and give their suggestions to the Pakistani government regarding cold chain food safety," he added. The joint chamber's Vice President Hamza Khalid was of the view that China is willing to encourage Pakistani exporters who want to establish flake ice factories and processing units adopting modern technology. Salahuddin Hanif, Secretary General PCJCCI, opined that it was necessary to educate the fishermen to return from fishing within six days to maintain the good quality of their catches. China, by collaborating with the Pakistani government, can start awareness programs, training, and workshops for exporters and common fishermen.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/12-May-2024/pakistani-fishing-industry-immensely-attractive-to-chinese-investors-pcjcci>

Express News

پاکستان، چین کا سی پیک کے تحت دو طرفہ تعاون بڑھانے پر اتفاق

بیجنگ (این این آئی) چین اور پاکستان نے سی پیک کے تحت دو طرفہ تعلقات کو بڑھانے اور تعاون کو تیز کرنے پر اتفاق کیا ہے اور کہا ہے کہ منصوبے کے اگلے مرحلے میں منتقلی کے ساتھ ساتھ اس کی اعلیٰ معیار کی ترقی کو تیز کیا جائیگا، سی پیک کے دوسرے مرحلے میں مصنوعی ذہانت اور زرعی جدید کاری پر تعاون کو ترجیح دیں گے، فریقین کے درمیان ان ایم ایل ون اور کے کے ایچ کی تشکیل نو کے منصوبوں پر جلد عمل درآمد کے لئے داخلی داخلی طریقہ کار کو تیز کرنے پر بھی اتفاق کیا گیا۔ گوادر پرو کے مطابق وزیر منصوبہ بندی احسن اقبال نے بیجنگ میں این ڈی آر سی ہیڈ کوارٹرز میں نیشنل ڈویلپمنٹ اینڈ ریفارم کمیشن آف چین کے وائس چیئرمین ژاؤ چنسن سے ملاقات کی۔ احسن اقبال نے حکومت پاکستان کے اس عزم کا اعادہ کیا کہ وہ سی پیک کے سماجی و اقتصادی فوائد میں اضافہ کرے گی اور لوگوں کی زندگیوں اور معاش کو نمایاں طور پر بہتر بنائے گی۔ انہوں نے آزاد چین اور کوہالہ ہائیڈرو پاور پراجیکٹس پر جلد عمل درآمد کے لئے چینی حکومت سے مسلسل تعاون اور حمایت طلب کی۔ فریقین نے صنعتی تعاون فریم ورک معاہدے پر عمل

در آمد اور صنعت، زراعت اور کانوں اور معدنیات کے شعبوں کو جدید بنانے کیلئے ایک ایکشن پلان تیار کرنے پر بھی اتفاق کیا۔ چین اور پاکستان دونوں سی پیک کے دوسرے مرحلے میں مصنوعی ذہانت اور زرعی جدید کاری پر تعاون کو ترجیح دیں گے۔ فریقین نے وزیر اعظم کے دورہ چین سے قبل سی پیک کی جوائنٹ کو آرڈینیشن کمیٹی (جے سی سی) کا اگلا دور منعقد کرنے پر بھی اتفاق کیا جس کی مشترکہ صدارت احسن اقبال کریں گے۔

https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1110971622&Issue=NP_LHE&Date=20240512

K2 Daily

پاکستان چین ہر راہ قرار کی تشکیل نو پیش رفت

سی پیک کے دوسرے مرحلے میں مصنوعی ذہانت اور زرعی جدید کاری کو ترجیح دینے کا فیصلہ
ایم ایل ون پر کام تیز کرنے پر اتفاق، چینی حکام سی پیک کیلئے احسن اقبال کے کام کے مترقب
پیک (آئی این پی) چین اور پاکستان نے اتفاق کی کرتے ہوئے کہا ہے کہ منصوبے کے تحت میں مصنوعی ذہانت اور زرعی جدید کاری پر تعاون کو
پاک چین اقتصادی راہداری (سی پیک) کے تحت مرحلے میں ملنے کے ساتھ ساتھ اس کی اعلیٰ میڈیا ترجیحوں کے فریقین کے درمیان ایم ایل ون اور
دوطرفہ تعلقات کو بڑھانے اور تعاون کو تیز کرنے پر زور دیا جائے گا، سی پیک کے دوسرے مرحلے کے اگلی کی تکمیل (بانی 7 جولائی 2025)

بقیہ 25

نو کے منصوبوں پر چارٹرڈ ور آف کے لئے داخلی
طریقہ کار کو تیز کرنے پر اتفاق ہوا ہے۔ گوارڈ پرو
کے مطابق پاکستان کے وزیر برائے منصوبہ بندی،
ترقی و خصوصی اقدامات پروڈیوسر احسن اقبال نے
پیک میں این ڈی آر سی ہیلڈ گوارڈز میں پیش
ڈیولپمنٹ اینڈ ریلوے کمیشن آف چین (این ڈی
آر سی) کے ڈائریکٹر جنرل ڈاؤنٹن سے ملاقات
کی۔ فریقین نے پاک چین اقتصادی راہداری (سی
پیک) کے تحت دوطرفہ تعلقات کو بڑھانے اور
تعاون کو تیز کرنے پر اتفاق کیا۔ گوارڈ پرو کے مطابق
ان کے ہمراہ وزیر اعظم کے معاون خصوصی سید
طارق قاضی، چین میں پاکستان کے سفیر ظہیر ہاشمی
اور بیجنگ میں پاکستانی سفارت خانے کے ڈیپٹی سیکرٹری
حکام علی موجود تھے۔ گوارڈ پرو کے مطابق ایک دہائی
سے زائد عرصہ گلی سی پیک کے آغاز کو یاد کرتے
ہوئے وفاقی وزیر نے کہا کہ سی پیک کی دہائی ایک
قابل ذکر سفر رہا ہے۔ 2013 سے دونوں
اطراف کے حلقہ اداروں نے ایک ٹیم کے طور پر
کام کیا ہے اور توانائی اور ٹرانسپورٹ انفراسٹرکچر کے اہم
منصوبوں پر کامیابی سے عملدرآمد کیا ہے، جس سے
سی پیک کے اگلے مرحلے کی منصوبہ بنیاد رکھی گئی
ہے۔ ڈاؤنٹن نے سی پیک کو کامیاب بنانے میں
وزیر اقبال کے کردار اور قیادت کو سراہتے ہوئے کہا
کہ "سی پیک میں آپ کے گراں قدر کردار پر آپ
کا بہت احترام کیا جاتا ہے۔"

https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=Baqia&Date=2024-05-12

https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=Front_Page&Date=2024-05-12

May 13, 2024

Dunya News

Ishaq Dar to leave for China today for strategic dialogue

ISLAMABAD (Dunya News) - Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Muhammad Ishaq Dar will leave for China today (Monday) to co-chair the 5th Pakistan-China Foreign Ministers' Strategic Dialogue with Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi in Beijing. The two sides will comprehensively review Pakistan-China bilateral relations including economic and trade cooperation; high-level exchanges and visits; up-gradation of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor and future connectivity initiatives. They will also exchange views on the unfolding regional geopolitical landscape and bilateral cooperation at the multilateral fora. On the sidelines of the Strategic Dialogue, the Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister is expected to meet Chinese leaders, senior Ministers and leading corporate executives. Deputy Prime Minister's visit reaffirms mutual support on issues of core interest; enhancing economic and trade cooperation including China Pakistan Economic Corridor and reinforcing joint commitment to regional peace and development.

<https://dunyanews.tv/en/Pakistan/811252-Ishaq-Dar-to-leave-for-China-today-for-strategic-dialogue>

Pakistan Observer

Deputy PM to leave for China today to co-chair Strategic Dialogue with Chinese FM

ISLAMABAD – Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Muhammad Ishaq Dar is to leave for China today to co-chair the 5th Pakistan-China Foreign Ministers' Strategic Dialogue with Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi in Beijing. The two sides will comprehensively review Pakistan-China bilateral relations including economic and trade cooperation, high-level exchanges and visits, up-gradation of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor and future connectivity initiatives. They will also exchange views on the unfolding regional geopolitical landscape and bilateral cooperation at the multilateral fora.

<https://pakobserver.net/deputy-pm-to-leave-for-china-today-to-co-chair-strategic-dialogue-with-chinese-fm/>

The Express Tribune

Chinese envoy explores future of Pakistan-China strategic collaboration

Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan Jiang Zaidong elucidated on the concept of "new quality productive forces" and its implications for the transformative collaboration between China and Pakistan. According to Ambassador Zaidong, this concept, introduced by Chinese President Xi Jinping in September 2023, underscores the fusion of innovation, technology, and industry to drive sustainable development and prosperity. At its core, the vision recognizes innovation as the catalyst for progress in the 21st century. President Xi Jinping's advocacy for integrating scientific and technological resources stresses leveraging

advancements in these fields to enhance productivity and spur the emergence of new industries and economic sectors. Ambassador Zaidong stated, “New quality productive forces are characterized by innovation; the key lies in high quality, the essence is advanced productivity.” This approach aligns with China's pursuit of high-quality development, evident in its resilient economy, which surpassed 126 trillion yuan (\$17.51 trillion) in GDP in 2023, with a growth rate of 5.2%, ranking among the world's major economies. Looking forward to 2024, coinciding with the 75th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China, Ambassador Zaidong outlined China's strategic focus. With a target GDP growth rate of around 5%, the emphasis remains on modernizing the industrial sector and advancing new quality productive forces. China's role as a global economic powerhouse and agent of positive change is underscored by Ambassador Zaidong. The envisioned advancements not only bolster China's economy but also offer opportunities for international cooperation and mutual prosperity, with Pakistan recognized as "our iron-clad friend." For Pakistan, this partnership holds profound implications. Ambassador Jiang underscored the country's strategic importance, demographic dividend, and abundant natural resources, highlighting its potential for development. Aligning Pakistan's "5Es" framework with China's vision can unlock its full potential and chart a path toward self-reliance and sustainable growth. Central to China-Pakistan collaboration is the successful implementation of CPEC Phase One, yielding dividends in renewable energy, information technology, and biotechnology. As CPEC enters Phase Two, both nations are committed to elevating the corridor, leveraging Pakistan's advantages for self-reliance and sustainable growth. Ambassador Zaidong noted Pakistan's ongoing reforms and the orderly formation of a new government, signaling renewed focus on national development. China reaffirmed its unwavering support for Pakistan's reform agenda, pledging to implement key consensus reached by the leadership of both countries. In conclusion, Ambassador Zaidong expressed China's readiness to work with Pakistan to implement important consensus, promoting integration of CPEC's "Five Corridors" and Pakistan's "5Es" framework, fostering a closer China-Pakistan community and opening a future of peace, development, and win-win cooperation.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2466424/chinese-envoy-explores-future-of-pakistan-china-strategic-collaboration>

The Nation 13-05-2024

GB facilities to help attract Chinese tourists

Extensive tourist facilities, especially in the Northern Areas, offer Pakistan an opportunity to attract Chinese tourists. This can not only help ensure a sustainable livelihood for the locals but also bring the much-needed foreign exchange to the country. Managing Director of Pakistan Tourism Development Corporation (PTDC) Aftab ur Rehman Rana made the remarks while talking to WealthPK. He said China and Pakistan were neighboring countries with good diplomatic relationships, people-to-people contacts, and cultural exchanges. “They are linked through air and land routes. Under the project ‘China-Pakistan Economic Corridor’ or CPEC, an improved infrastructure from Khunjerab to Gwadar is established. Further, the roads and highways linked with the CPEC provide not only trade and business opportunities

but also make the tourists' access to the tourist sites easier," he said. He said, "If we travel toward Gwadar, the tourist sites in Sindh, Balochistan, Punjab, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP), and Gilgit-Baltistan (GB) can be reached. The main element in tourism is accessibility and the CPEC is making it possible. The next step is the development of boarding and lodging facilities all along, which will open up new opportunities for investors to develop new hotels and resorts. Many Chinese companies or individuals are even interested in coming and investing in developing tourism resorts in Pakistan." Aftab told WealthPK that the two governments held a dialogue on improving the tourist inflow. In 2023, he said, a number of meetings were held between the embassy officials on both sides, and a tour operator exchange program was also launched. The Chinese operators visited their Pakistani counterparts and the PTDC officials visited Urumqi in Xinjiang. A plan to increase the flight frequency toward Urumqi and Kashgar is also under discussion. He said, "Xinjiang is now a tourist hub in China with a well-developed infrastructure. It is expected that from 2024 onward, a better mechanism will lead to much better tourist traffic between Xinjiang and Gilgit-Baltistan (GB) through the Khunjerab border. The Pakistani government is working to improve the infrastructure facilities in GB. The Skardu airport has also been declared as an international airport and hopefully, very soon Urumqi and Skardu will be well-connected. On the same route, a tourist bus service is also part of the agenda to provide economic transport service to visitors from both sides." He said that there were a lot of cultural, language, food, and other social differences among the two countries. To bridge this gap and to make the communication better between the two nations, the PTDC has published a literature in the Chinese language explaining the tourist sites, local culture, facilities, and accessibility sources. A lot of digital material is also available in the Pakistani embassy in Beijing. Speaking to WealthPK, Deputy Director of Tourism and Culture, Youth Affairs, Archaeology and Museums Department, GB, Sajid Hussain said, "The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor is a window of opportunity, especially for GB concerning tourism promotion. Karakoram Highway passes alongside Hunza, Gilgit, and Diamer districts covering around 1,000 kilometers. A lot of Chinese tourists visit here to enjoy the nature and adventure tourism. After the pandemic, the footfall of Chinese adventure tourists has been tremendous. Per annum, at least 80, 00 to 10,000 Chinese tourists visit the region for adventure tourism". He said Gilgit-Baltistan region was full of unique landscapes and archaeological aspects to explore. The whole region is full of tourism potential and it is also a major source of livelihood. Much of tourism here revolves around eco and adventure tourism. Only 20 percent of the area has been discovered so far while the remaining 80 percent is still a panorama of exploration. To date, Sajid said, at least 38,000 Buddhist inscriptions, carvings, and models have been explored while a great historical asset is still there to be dugged out. Sajid shared with WealthPK that after the snow melts (from May to the end of November), traders from Pakistan also visit China in good numbers to buy different products or to attend trade fares. The GB tourism department coordinates them in this concern and business promotion activities get hiked across borders.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/13-May-2024/gb-facilities-to-help-attract-chinese-tourists>

‘Strengthening coop with China needed to enhance mushroom export’

Faisalabad - Pakistan enjoys rich potential for mushroom exports through enhanced cooperation with China, and tapping new markets. This was stated by Dr Muhammad Muzammil Jahangir, an Associate Professor at the University of Agriculture, Faisalabad (UAF), who holds a PhD from Zhejiang University, China and has been a leading researcher in the field of mushroom production, processing, and storage in an interview with Gwadar Pro. He highlighted the potential of strengthening cooperation with China in a bid to expand mushroom exports. “Pakistan’s rich agricultural resources and favorable climatic conditions make it a prime location for mushroom cultivation. With a focus on quality, variety, sustainable production methods and international cooperation, Pakistani mushrooms are poised for further gains in the international market,” Dr. Muhammad Muzammil Jahangir said. Nutritional value, health benefits and economic viability of mushrooms, particularly button and oyster varieties, are key factors to driving export growth of mushrooms. In recent years, Pakistan has successfully exported mushrooms to countries including France, China, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, the United Arab Emirates, Spain, Oman, Mozambique and Malaysia. According to World Bank, Pakistan’s exports for the period 2019-2021 totaled approximately \$6,000,000, indicating a promising start. Dr Muzammil Jahangir pointed out that despite this, Pakistan’s actual export volume in the mushroom industry was still relatively low compared to established exporters such as China, Netherlands and Poland. He said, “Pakistani exporters face competition in terms of pricing, quality and market access. The country’s mushroom exports have not reached their full potential due to lack of technology and market access.” China is one of the world’s largest consumers and producers of mushrooms, with its annual output of edible fungi reaching more than 40 million tons, with a total value of over RMB 300 billion, accounting for nearly 80 percent of the world’s output. He believes that as a major exporter, China boasts advanced mushroom cultivation techniques and a robust supply chain that could improve Pakistan’s mushroom sector. By sharing best practices and engaging in joint research and development initiatives, the two countries can benefit from this mutually beneficial partnership. In the context of agriculture and food processing, Pakistan and China have signed agreements and initiatives aimed at enhancing bilateral trade, technology transfer and agriculture development. Dr Muzammil Jahangir highlighted that it was plausible that joint initiatives or exchanges in agriculture between the two countries could directly or indirectly benefit the mushroom industry. He also proposes to establish specialized research and innovation centers dedicated to mushroom cultivation, processing, and value addition in Pakistan. “Through these centers, both sides can advance sustainable mushroom production and contribute to environmental conservation, economic development, and social well-being,” he added.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/13-May-2024/strengthening-coop-with-china-needed-to-enhance-mushroom-export>

Pakistan marking a milestone in boosting e-commerce ties with China

SHANGHAI - Pakistan officially launched its merchandise pavilion on the popular Chinese social media platform Douyin at the Global Hub in Shanghai Waigaoqiao Free Trade Zone, marking a milestone in boosting e-commerce ties with China. This event, supported by the Shanghai Municipal Commission of Commerce and the Pakistani Embassy in China, comes as a fruit of Pakistan and China's commitment to strengthening their economic ties. In November 2022, the two countries signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on e-commerce cooperation, officially entering into Silk Road e-commerce partnership. According to Gwadar Pro, the MoU aims to foster cooperation in areas such as e-commerce policy, trade facilitation and cross-border e-commerce. The Pakistan Merchandise Pavilion on Douyin will feature a wide range of Pakistani products including traditional handicrafts, textiles, jewellery and other specialties. Chinese consumers will have direct access to authentic Pakistani products, enhancing their shopping experience and fostering a deeper understanding of Pakistan's rich culture and trade traditions. Addressing the launching ceremony, Deputy Consul General of Pakistan in Shanghai Muhammad Atif highlighted the importance of this online showcase. "The opening of this official online pavilion showcases Pakistan's distinctive commodities and colourful culture to Chinese customers," he said. Aqeel Choudhry, Head of the Pavilion, emphasized the power of China's "new media" in facilitating the rapid dissemination of information and enhancing user engagement. "The platform has provided service and promotional facilitation for the Pakistan Merchandise Pavilion, enabling it to attract attention and participation through engaging content and authentic marketing campaigns." On the occasion, Pakistan National Pavilion signed MOUs respectively with the Shanghai Silk Road Yunpin Alliance and the Silk Road Cities Alliance, aiming to further enhance economic cooperation and boost trade between the two countries.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/13-May-2024/pakistan-marking-a-milestone-in-boosting-e-commerce-ties-with-china>

FM arrives in Beijing today to hold China-Pakistan FMs' Strategic Dialogue

BEIJING - Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Mohammad Ishaq Dar will arrive here today (Monday) on an official visit to China and hold the fifth round of the China-Pakistan Foreign Ministers' Strategic Dialogue. From May 13 to 16, Ishaq Dar will visit the Chinese capital at the invitation of Member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and Minister of Foreign Affairs Wang Yi. This visit is the first official visit to China by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Mohammad Ishaq Dar after he took office. It is also an important part of the institutionalized interactions between the Chinese and Pakistani foreign ministries. While commenting on the current relations with Pakistan and China's expectation for the visit, a Chinese foreign ministry's spokesperson said that China would like to work with Pakistan to take this visit as an opportunity to deliver on the important common understandings between the leaders, carry forward the traditional friendship, step up strategic communication and coordination, deepen practical cooperation in various areas, upgrade the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, deepen the China-Pakistan all-weather strategic cooperative partnership, and accelerate the building of an even closer

China-Pakistan community with a shared future in the new era. China and Pakistan are all-weather strategic cooperative partners and ironclad friends. In recent years, the two countries have maintained close high-level exchanges and interactions at all levels, jointly responded to the evolving international and regional landscape, deepened mutually beneficial cooperation, and further strengthened the friendship between the two countries. Right after this year's elections in Pakistan were concluded, President Xi Jinping, Premier Li Qiang and Chairman Zhao Leji sent congratulatory messages to Pakistani leaders to extend our sincere congratulations and best wishes. On the sidelines of the strategic dialogue, the deputy prime minister and foreign minister is expected to meet Chinese leaders, senior ministers and leading corporate executives. The deputy prime minister's visit is part of regular high-level exchanges between Pakistan and China.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/13-May-2024/fm-arrives-in-beijing-today-to-hold-china-pakistan-fms-strategic-dialogue>

Pakistan, China on path to new heights of friendship

ISLAMABAD - Pakistan and China are on the path to new heights of friendship amid top Pakistani leaders continuing visits to Beijing and the proposed trip by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif.

The anticipation is palpable as Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar prepares for his journey to China today.

The PM will also fly to China within days. Beijing's unwavering support, manifested through financial aid and strategic partnerships, has been a cornerstone of Pakistan's economic stability in tumultuous times. The recent extension of a multi-billion-dollar loan was not just a lifeline but a symbol of solidarity in the face of adversity.

The agenda for Dar's visit is ambitious yet crucial. Discussions of paramount importance include bilateral trade, cooperation, and the evolution of the monumental China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

This ambitious initiative, representative of President Xi Jinping's vision encapsulated in the Belt and Road Initiative, holds the promise of transformative change for both nations.

Against the backdrop of geopolitical shifts and regional dynamics, the dialogue between Dar and his Chinese counterpart, Wang Yi, transcends mere diplomatic niceties.

It will delve into the heart of mutual interests and shared aspirations, exploring avenues for deeper collaboration in the face of evolving challenges.

For Pakistan, the spectre of financial obligations and security threats loom over the CPEC project, underscoring the delicate balance between ambition and pragmatism. Pakistan's commitment to fulfilling its end of the bargain is unwavering, but the road ahead is fraught with challenges.

As Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's visit to China is on the anvil, the stakes are higher than ever.

The 13th meeting of the joint cooperation committee on CPEC held the promise of accelerating progress and realizing shared ambitions. It was a testament to the enduring bond between Pakistan and China, forged in the crucible of mutual trust and shared aspirations. In the tapestry of Pakistan-China relations, each diplomatic encounter, each investment deal, and each milestone in the CPEC project painted a picture of resilience, determination, and boundless potential. As the journey towards progress continues, the partnership between the two nation's remains steadfast, a beacon of hope in an ever-changing world. The foreign ministry yesterday said Deputy Prime Minister Ishaq Dar's visit is part of regular high-level exchanges between Pakistan and China.

“It reflects the importance attached by the two countries to further deepening the ‘All-Weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership’ reaffirming mutual support on issues of core interest; enhancing economic and trade cooperation including CPEC and reinforcing joint commitment to regional peace and development,” the foreign ministry said.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/13-May-2024/pakistan-china-on-path-to-new-heights-of-friendship>

Express News

چین: پاکستانی جوڑے کے سائنسی خواب کو تعبیر مل گئی

جنید علی صدیقی اور ان کی اہلیہ حرا ناز یونیورسٹی میں تعلیم حاصل کر رہے ہیں

گوئی یانگ (ش نہوا) چین کے جنوب مغربی صوبے گوئی ژو میں گوئی ژو یونیورسٹی کے کالج آف لائف سائنسز کی لیبارٹری میں پاکستان طالب علم جنید علی صدیقی مائیکرو سکوپ سے حشرات کے نمونوں کا مشاہدہ کرنے پر مشغول ہیں۔ ایک ایک کر کے مختلف اشاریہ ریکارڈ کرنے کے بعد وہ دوبارہ کنسول پر آئے، احتیاط سے دستانے پہنے اور تجرباتی رہی ایجنٹس کو مکس کر دیا۔ 37 سالہ علی اس وقت کالج آف لائف سائنسز میں انٹو مولوجی میں پوسٹ ڈاکٹریٹ کر رہے ہیں وہ 2 برس سے زائد عرصے سے گوئی ژو میں ہیں اور گوئی ژو سے انہیں لگاؤ ہو گیا ہے۔ وہ کہتے ہیں کہ پاکستان اور چین بھائی ہیں۔ چین ہمارا اچھا دوست ہے اور ہم ایک گھرانے کی مانند ہیں۔ علی تقریباً 8 برس سے چین میں مقیم ہیں۔ 2015ء میں انہوں نے فوجیان ایگریکلچر اینڈ فارسٹری یونیورسٹی سے ڈاکٹریٹ کی ڈگری حاصل کی تھی۔ انہوں نے 2022 میں اپنے سائنسی تحقیق کا خواب پورا کرنے کیلئے گوئی ژو آنے کا فیصلہ کیا۔ فی الوقت علی پوسٹ ڈاکٹریٹ محقق کی حیثیت سے سائنسی تحقیق میں مصروف منظم زندگی بسر کر رہے ہیں۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ گوئی ژو پہاڑی وسائل سے مالا مال خطہ ہے جو ہمیں اپنے تجربات کرنے اور مختلف حیاتیاتی انواع اقسام کی حفاظت کا مطالعہ کرنے کے لئے حشرات کے نمونے مہیا کرتا رہتا ہے۔ مجھے فطرت سے لگاؤ ہے اور میں اپنی فطرت میں موجود حیاتیات، حشرات اور پودوں کا مطالعہ کرنا بھی پسند کرتا ہوں۔ زیادہ نامیاتی اور ماحول دوست طریقے سے فطرت پر انسانی سرگرمیوں کے اثرات کو کیسے کم کیا جائے یہ میری تحقیق کا مرکزی نقطہ نگاہ ہے علی کی اہلیہ حرا ناز ایک برس سے زائد عرصے سے چین میں ہیں اور فی الوقت علی کے ساتھ اسی یونیورسٹی میں نامیاتی کیمیا میں ڈاکٹریٹ کی تعلیم حاصل کر رہی ہیں۔

https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1110974831&issue=NP_LHE&Date=20240513

Jang News

اسحاق ڈار کا دورہ اسٹریٹجک تعاون کو مضبوط کرنے میں مدد دینا، چین

چین نے کہا ہے کہ پاکستان کے نائب وزیر اعظم اور وزیر خارجہ سینئر اسحاق ڈار کا دورہ چین اسٹریٹجک تعاون پر مبنی شراکت داری کو مزید مضبوط کرنے اور دیگر موضوعات کی اپ گریڈیشن کو وسعت دے گا۔ اسحاق ڈار اتوار کی نصف شب بیجنگ پہنچے جہاں ان کا پرتپاک استقبال کیا گیا۔ وہ (CPEC) کے علاوہ چین پاکستان اقتصادی راہداری چین میں مہمان عہدیداروں اور ہم منصب کے ساتھ چین پاکستان وزراے خارجہ کے اسٹریٹجک ڈائیلگ کے پانچویں دور کا آغاز کریں گے۔ اس موقع پر چینی رہنماؤں، سینئر وزراء اور کارپوریٹ سیکٹر کے عہدیداروں سے ملاقات متوقع ہے۔

<https://e.jang.com.pk/detail/683876%22>

Nawaiwaqt

وزیر خارجہ اسحاق ڈار 4 روزہ دورہ پر آج چین روانہ ہوں گے

نائب وزیر اعظم اور وزیر خارجہ اسحاق ڈار آج 13 مئی بروز پیر سے 16 مئی تک چین کا 4 روزہ دورہ کریں گے۔ ترجمان دفتر خارجہ کے مطابق دورے کے دوران اسحاق ڈار چینی وزیر خارجہ کے ساتھ پانچویں پاک چین وزراے خارجہ اسٹریٹجک ڈائیلگ کی شریک صدارت کریں گے۔ دونوں فریقین اقتصادی اور تجارتی تعاون سمیت پاک چین دوطرفہ تعلقات کا جامع جائزہ لیں گے، اعلیٰ سطح کے تبادلے اور چین پاکستان اقتصادی راہداری کی اپ گریڈیشن اور مستقبل کے رابطے کے اقدامات ہوں گے۔ ترجمان کا کہنا تھا کہ دونوں رہنما علاقائی جغرافیائی سیاسی منظر نامے اور کثیرالجہتی فورم پر دوطرفہ تعاون پر بھی تبادلہ خیال کریں گے۔ دفتر خارجہ کے ترجمان کے مطابق اسٹریٹجک ڈائیلگ کے موقع پر وزیر خارجہ اسحاق ڈار کی چینی رہنما، سینئر وزراء اور سرکردہ کارپوریٹ ایگزیکٹوز سے ملاقات بھی متوقع ہے۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2024-05-13/page-1/detail-17>

May 14, 2024

Business Recorder

Pakistan committed to SCO's charter: Dar

Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Mohammad Ishaq Dar has expressed Pakistan's strong commitment to advancing Shanghai Cooperation Organization's security and development cooperation agenda. He was talking to Secretary-General of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), Ambassador Zhang Ming in Beijing on Monday. Ishaq Dar reaffirmed Pakistan's unwavering commitment to the SCO Charter and the Organization's fundamental ideals as enunciated in the 'Shanghai Spirit.' The deputy prime minister is on a four-day visit to China to co-chair the Fifth Pakistan-China Foreign Ministers' Strategic Dialogue with Chinese Minister of Foreign Affairs Wang Yi which would cover the full spectrum of Pakistan-China relations. Senator Ishaq Dar reaffirmed Pakistan's unwavering commitment to the SCO Charter and the Organization's fundamental ideals as enunciated in the 'Shanghai Spirit.' Ambassador Zhang conveyed his best wishes to the Government of Pakistan on assuming the Chair and reiterated SCO Secretariat's continued support to Pakistan during its tenure as Chair of the Heads of Government of the Organization.

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2024/05/14/4-page/992907-news.html>

Dunya News

Ahsan reviews preparations for PM's upcoming China visit, CPEC Phase-2

ISLAMABAD (Web Desk) - Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives, Ahsan Iqbal chaired a meeting on Monday to discuss preparations for the Prime Minister's upcoming visit to China and review progress on China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) Phase 2. The meeting was attended by Secretary Planning and senior officials of the Ministry of Planning, according to press release issued by planning ministry. The minister reviewed the expected progress on CPEC Phase 2 during his recent visit to China last week and briefed on the preparations and agenda for the upcoming JCC meeting scheduled to be held next week. Officials briefed the Federal Minister on the ongoing and proposed projects under consideration by various ministries. The Minister emphasized that ensuring progress on ongoing and newly proposed development projects under CPEC Phase 2 would be a key agenda item of the Prime Minister's visit to China. "All ministries and departments will have to play an active role in the completion of CPEC projects," he added. He said, solid progress on ML-1 would prove to be a milestone for Pakistan's communication and trade sectors adding promoting cooperation with China in other sectors, including technology transfer, was top government priority. In addition, he said technology transfer would provide Pakistan with invaluable opportunities to increase its experience and capacity. He said, in Phase 2, business-to-business cooperation would start in addition to cooperation between the two governments. The minister said after Government-to-Government, Business-to-Business would prove to be a significant strategic development in terms of partnership between Pakistan and China, adding China has developed a clear vision and roadmap "We will also have to move forward with a vision for national development," Ahsan Iqbal stressed, saying that Pakistan was the most important country in the region in terms of regional cooperation and its relations. "The Prime Minister's visit to China will mark the beginning of a new era of cooperation in all sectors, including CPEC," Ahsan said.

<https://dunyanews.tv/en/Pakistan/811495-Ahsan-reviews-preparations-for-PM%E2%80%99s-upcoming-China-visit,-CPEC-Phase-2>

Pakistan Observer

Enhancing China-Pakistan cooperation with new quality productive forces

In recent months, the term "new quality productive forces" has sparked intense discussions both in China and globally. The concept was first put forward by President Xi Jinping during his inspection tour in China's northeast Heilongjiang Province in September 2023, emphasizing the integration of scientific and technological innovation resources to lead the development of strategic emerging industries and future-oriented industries, so as to accelerate the formation of new quality productive forces. As President Xi Jinping pointed out, new quality productive forces are characterized by innovation; the key lies in high quality, the essence is advanced productivity. Among all factors, sci-tech innovation plays a leading role and is the core element in the development of new quality productive forces. Facing a new wave of technological revolution and industrial transformation, it is crucial to seize opportunities, intensify and invigorate innovation efforts, transform and upgrade

traditional industries, cultivate and strengthen emerging industries, and with a visionary approach lay out the construction of future-oriented industries, and refine the modernized industrial system. Currently, the Chinese government is promoting high-quality development with great efforts, with new quality productive forces already taking shape and robustly propelling high-quality development in practice. Despite the extremely complex international environment, China's economy has generally rebounded and improved. We have achieved significant progress in building a modernized industrial system, new breakthroughs in sci-tech innovation, deepened reform and opening up, consolidated and strengthened foundation for secure development, steady improvement in environment and substantial well-being of the people. In 2023, China's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) exceeded 126 trillion yuan (\$17.51 trillion). The growth rate of 5.2% met our target and ranked high among world's major economies, contributing to 30% of the growth of the global economy. The year 2024 marks the 75th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China. The target for this year's GDP growth rate is around 5%, with the primary task to vigorously promote the building of a modernized industrial system and accelerate the development of new quality productive forces. There is no doubt that it will benefit the improvement of the total factor productivity, constantly shape new momentum and advantages for development, promote a new leap in productivity, and sustain the continuous high-quality growth of China's economy, bringing new opportunities to countries around the world, in particular to our iron-clad friend Pakistan. Pakistan boasts a strategic geographical location, significant demographic dividend, and abundant natural resources, which provide uniquely advantageous conditions for development. The Pakistani government's "5Es" framework, pillared by growth, security, reform, livelihood, innovation, productivity and connectivity, not only meets Pakistan's current development needs, but also chimes with China's approach of promoting high-quality development through new productive forces. As all-weather strategic cooperative partners, our pragmatic bilateral cooperation under the main framework of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) will yield more fruitful results. The achievements of CPEC Phase One have provided crucial support for Pakistan's economic and social development, including early gains made in cooperation in fields of renewable energy, information technology and biotechnology. Up to now, China has helped Pakistan build four wind farms, one hydropower plant and one solar power station, with two more hydropower stations under construction. The steady supply of clean energy helps maintain Pakistan's energy security. Chinese enterprises have also built the project of Lahore Safe City, employing technology to greatly enhance police response efficiency and reduce traffic violations by 40%. The establishment of a buffalo embryo laboratory by Chinese company in Pakistan with an annual production capacity of 30,000 embryos has empowered agricultural cooperation between our two countries. As CPEC enters Phase Two, both sides will seize the opportunity of jointly building an upgraded version of the corridor with high standards, to turn Pakistan's unique advantages into development momentum and help Pakistan achieve self-reliance and sustainable development. Moreover, with the orderly formation of the new government, Pakistan is initiating reforms across the board, committed to breaking new ground for national development. China stands ready to work with Pakistan to implement the important consensus reached by the leaders of both countries, meet each other halfway and forge ahead hand in hand, promote the integration of CPEC's "Five Corridors" (5Cs), namely

corridors of growth, livelihood enhancement, innovation, greenness and openness, and Pakistan's "5Es" framework, to build an even closer China-Pakistan community with a shared future in the new era, and jointly open up a bright future of peace, development and win-win cooperation.

<https://pakobserver.net/enhancing-china-pakistan-cooperation-with-new-quality-productive-forces/>

The Nation

Enhancing China-Pakistan Cooperation with New Quality Productive Forces

Jiang Zaidong

In recent months, the term "new quality productive forces" has sparked intense discussions both in China and globally. The concept was first put forward by President Xi Jinping during his inspection tour in China's northeast Heilongjiang Province in September 2023, emphasizing the integration of scientific and technological innovation resources to lead the development of strategic emerging industries and future-oriented industries, so as to accelerate the formation of new quality productive forces. As President Xi Jinping pointed out, new quality productive forces are characterized by innovation; the key lies in high quality, and the essence is advanced productivity. Among all factors, sci-tech innovation plays a leading role and is the core element in the development of new quality productive forces. Facing a new wave of technological revolution and industrial transformation, it is crucial to seize opportunities, intensify and invigorate innovation efforts, transform and upgrade traditional industries, cultivate and strengthen emerging industries, and with a visionary approach lay out the construction of future-oriented industries, and refine the modernized industrial system. Currently, the Chinese government is promoting high-quality development with great efforts, with new quality productive forces already taking shape and robustly propelling high-quality development in practice. Despite the extremely complex international environment, China's economy has generally rebounded and improved. We have achieved significant progress in building a modernized industrial system, new breakthroughs in sci-tech innovation, deepened reform and opening up, consolidated and strengthened the foundation for secure development, steady improvement in environment, and substantial well-being of the people. In 2023, China's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) exceeded 126 trillion yuan (\$17.51 trillion). The growth rate of 5.2% met our target and ranked high among the world's major economies, contributing to 30% of the growth of the global economy. The year 2024 marks the 75th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China. The target for this year's GDP growth rate is around 5%, with the primary task to vigorously promote the building of a modernized industrial system and accelerate the development of new quality productive forces. There is no doubt that it will benefit the improvement of the total factor productivity, constantly shape new momentum and advantages for development, promote a new leap in productivity, and sustain the continuous high-quality growth of China's economy, bringing new opportunities to countries around the world, in particular to our iron-clad friend Pakistan. Pakistan boasts a strategic geographical

location, significant demographic dividend, and abundant natural resources, which provide uniquely advantageous conditions for development. The Pakistani government's "5Es" framework, pillared by growth, security, reform, livelihood, innovation, productivity, and connectivity, not only meets Pakistan's current development needs but also chimes with China's approach of promoting high-quality development through new productive forces. As all-weather strategic cooperative partners, our pragmatic bilateral cooperation under the main framework of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) will yield more fruitful results. The achievements of CPEC Phase One have provided crucial support for Pakistan's economic and social development, including early gains made in cooperation in fields of renewable energy, information technology, and biotechnology. Up to now, China has helped Pakistan build four wind farms, one hydropower plant, and one solar power station, with two more hydropower stations under construction. The steady supply of clean energy helps maintain Pakistan's energy security. Chinese enterprises have also built the project of Lahore Safe City, employing technology to greatly enhance police response efficiency and reduce traffic violations by 40%. The establishment of a buffalo embryo laboratory by a Chinese company in Pakistan with an annual production capacity of 30,000 embryos has empowered agricultural cooperation between our two countries. As CPEC enters Phase Two, both sides will seize the opportunity of jointly building an upgraded version of the corridor with high standards, to turn Pakistan's unique advantages into development momentum and help Pakistan achieve self-reliance and sustainable development. Moreover, with the orderly formation of the new government, Pakistan is initiating reforms across the board, committed to breaking new ground for national development. China stands ready to work with Pakistan to implement the important consensus reached by the leaders of both countries, meet each other halfway and forge ahead hand in hand, promote the integration of CPEC's "Five Corridors" (5Cs), namely corridors of growth, livelihood enhancement, innovation, greenness and openness, and Pakistan's "5Es" framework, to build an even closer China-Pakistan community with a shared future in the new era, and jointly open up a bright future of peace, development and win-win cooperation.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/14-May-2024/enhancing-china-pakistan-cooperation-with-new-quality-productive-forces>

The News

Dar invites Chinese companies to invest in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD: Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar on Monday, outlining the investor friendly policies of the government, invited the Chinese companies to set up manufacturing and processing units in Pakistan.

He was talking to Mayor of Shoguang, Zhao Tianbao who called on him in Beijing, China. Dar highlighted government of Pakistan's reform agenda in the economic domain and shared an overview of the opportunities for Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in diverse sectors of Pakistan including infrastructure development, renewable energy, textiles, agriculture, IT and mining, according to a press release issued by the Foreign Office.

Mayor Zhao expressed its gratitude to the Deputy PM for providing them the opportunity to engage in a fruitful exchange of views and share ideas, and reaffirmed their commitment to further strengthening the trade and economic ties between China and Pakistan.

He also emphasized the determination to continue exploring new avenues of cooperation in the fields of agriculture, mining and energy, through investments aimed at achieving shared prosperity and development of the two countries.

<https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1188887-dar-invites-chinese-companies-to-invest-in-pakistan>

Non-CPEC projects: Sindh IGP, departments directed to beef up security for Chinese employees

KARACHI: The Sindh Home Department has directed the Sindh Inspector General of Police (IGP), secretary Irrigation Department and other provincial authorities to beef up security of the Chinese nationals, working on different non-CPEC projects as per the standard operating procedures (SOPs) of the interior ministry. Keeping in view a report of a joint team of Intelligence Bureau and the Special Branch of the Sindh Police, the Sindh Home Department expressed dissatisfaction with the current security arrangements for the Chinese nationals. According to an official directive (a copy of which is available with The News), quoting the security audit of the joint team, Planning, Policy and Coordination Specialist Bilaludin Shaikh referred to a water supply project, where Chinese nationals are working, and pointed out many security loopholes. He said these loopholes could compromise the security of Chinese and hinder their safety in the wake of existing threats. The official letter added that trespassing of irrelevant persons at the site, forced stoppage of work, and threats by local villagers are the main security risks for Chinese workers. In the same correspondence, it was said that the project director of the same scheme reported encountering resistance from the local groups. He said the resistance impeded smooth progress of construction activities, leading to necessity of work suspension including threats to the Chinese workers. It was suggested to the Sindh government authorities to set up security checkpoints and perimeters around the project site and camp, implement security protocols for Chinese engineers and workers both on-site and during transit; and increase security personnel deployment and supply necessary resources like patrol vehicles for on-site security staff. The letter said that with regard to violation of the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and loopholes, the Irrigation Department and Sindh Police requested that instruction should be issued to the concessionaire (project management) to address the deficiencies and ensure adherence to the SOPs, issued by the interior ministry for 'Foreign Nationals Working on Non-CPEC Projects'. The letter said that on failure to comply with the SOPs, action should be taken under Section 14.1, of the 'Punitive Action against Local Companies' of the ibid SOP and the Sindh Security of vulnerable Establishments Act, 2015. The official directive recalled that the Sindh chief secretary, in a meeting held on April 9, 2024, also passed explicit directions on a zero-tolerance policy towards non-implementation of the said SOP.

<https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1188854-non-cpec-projects-sindh-igp-departments-directed-to-beef-up-security-for-chinese-employees>

May 15, 2024

Business Recorder

CPEC review meeting, Certain proportion of imports should be done thru Gwadar port:

ZAHEER ABBASI

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has directed that a certain proportion of government imports should be done from Gwadar port. This was directed by the prime minister while presiding over a review meeting regarding the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and other projects under Chinese investment on Tuesday. He directed that that a certain proportion of country's imports, especially of government imports, should be done through Gwadar port. Shehbaz Sharif also directed the ministries to coordinate with each other for speedy implementation of CPEC Phase-2 as no interruption from ministries and government agencies in this regard would be accepted. He further directed that foolproof security of Chinese residents should be ensured and stated that the China-Pakistan economic partnership is at the highest level in history and wanted the relevant officers and institutions should ensure that positive results are yielded for both countries. The meeting was informed in detail about the progress on the implementation of the second phase of CPEC. The meeting was attended by federal Ministers, Ahsan Iqbal, Mohammad Aurangzeb, Jam Kamal Khan, Ahad Khan Cheema, Rana Tanveer Hussain, Qaiser Ahmed Sheikh, Sardar Owais Leghari, Dr Musadik Malik, Abdul Aleem Khan, Special Assistant Tariq Fatemi, Coordinator to Prime Minister Rana Ehsan Afzal, and concerned high officials.

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2024/05/15/1-page/992978-news.html>

Dar, CIDCA chairman discuss Gwadar Airport, other projects

Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Mohammad Ishaq Dar on Tuesday held a luncheon meeting with Chairman of China International Development Cooperation Agency (CIDCA) Luo Zhaohui here. The two sides discussed CIDCA's various projects for the socioeconomic development of Pakistan, especially Gwadar. They also discussed the development of the New Gwadar International Airport, which is expected to be completed and inaugurated this year.

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2024/05/15/4-page/993012-news.html>

Pakistan Observer

Delay in completion of CPEC Phase II will not be tolerated: PM

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has directed all ministries to further strengthen their coordination in order to expedite the China Pakistan Economic Corridor Phase II. Chairing a meeting in Islamabad on Tuesday regarding CPEC Phase II and other projects under Chinese investment in Pakistan, he made it clear that any kind of delay in the completion of CPEC Phase II will not be tolerated. The prime minister instructed all the ministries to enhance collaboration for swift execution of the CPEC's second phase and warned against any laxity

by the ministries and government departments. Instructing the provision of foolproof security to the Chinese workers, he said the promotion of trade and commerce ties with time-tested friend China was welcoming. He told the meeting that Pakistan-China partnership was on the highest ever level, so the relevant officers and departments should strive for the positive outcomes of this relationship. Federal ministers Ahsan Iqbal, Muhammad Aurangzeb, Jam Kamal Khan, Ahad Khan Cheema, Rana Tanveer Hussain, Qaiser Ahmed Sheikh, Sardar Awais Khan Leghari, Dr Musaddik Malik, and Abdul Aleem Khan, SAPM Tariq Fatemi, PM's Coordinator Rana Ehsan Afzal and relevant senior officers attended the meeting. The provincial chief secretaries joined the meeting via video link.

<https://pakobserver.net/delay-in-completion-of-cpec-phase-ii-will-not-be-tolerated-pm/>

Pakistan, China to accelerate work on key infrastructure development schemes

Pakistan and China have agreed to expedite work on key infrastructure development schemes as the two countries strive to proceed to the next phase of the multibillion-dollar economic corridor project launched in April 2015, the Foreign Office announced here on Tuesday. Currently, Deputy Prime Minister Ishaq Dar is visiting China, where he met with Liu Jianchao, Minister for the International Department of the Communist Party of China, to discuss various dimensions of CPEC. "The two leaders reaffirmed the importance of the All-Weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership between Pakistan and China and to further reinforce mutually beneficial collaboration," the foreign office said. "They also expressed joint determination to accelerate progress on all CPEC projects including ML-I [Main Line 1] upgradation, Gwadar Port and KKH [Karakoram Highway] realignment." The three projects are central to CPEC, with ML-I upgradation, a major railway project, involving the dualization of the existing railway track from Karachi to Peshawar. The development of Gwadar Port and KKH realignment are also vital to enhance trade and connectivity within and beyond the region. Dar reaffirmed Pakistan's support to China on its core issues. The Chinese minister also said that Beijing would always support Pakistan's sovereignty, territorial integrity, and socioeconomic development. The Pakistani deputy prime minister expressed over the killings of Chinese nationals in a suicide attack in Shangla earlier this year. He noted the Pakistani authorities had a firm resolve to counter extremist violence in all its forms and manifestations and bring perpetrators of the Shangla attack to justice.

<https://pakobserver.net/pakistan-china-to-accelerate-work-on-key-infrastructure-development-schemes/>

The Express Tribune

ML-I, KKH realignment figure in Sino-Pak talks

BEIJING: Pakistan and China on Tuesday expressed joint determination to accelerate progress on all projects of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), including upgradation of ML-I, Gwadar Port and realignment of the Karakoram Highway. The bilateral ties and cooperation were discussed in a meeting between Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Senator Ishaq Dar and Minister of the International Department of the Communist Party of China (IDCPC), Liu Jianchao. The deputy prime minister is on a four-

day visit to China mainly to co-chair the 5th Pakistan-China Foreign Ministers' Strategic Dialogue with Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi. In the meeting, the two leaders also reaffirmed the importance of the all-weather strategic cooperative partnership between Pakistan and China and to further reinforce mutually beneficial collaboration. They discussed the longstanding cooperation and exchanges between the political parties of Pakistan and the Communist Party of China. Senator Dar reaffirmed Pakistan's firm support to China on its core issues while Minister Liu expressed China's support for Pakistan's sovereignty, territorial integrity and high-quality socioeconomic development. The deputy prime minister and foreign minister expressed condolences and shock over Chinese casualties in the heinous Shangla attack. He reiterated Pakistan's firm resolve to counter terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and to bring perpetrators of the Shangla attack to justice. He underlined the measures taken by Pakistan to ensure enhanced security of Chinese projects, personnel and institutions in Pakistan. Senator Dar invited Liu Jianchao to visit Pakistan to co-chair the next meeting of CPEC Joint Consultative Mechanism of Political Parties this Meanwhile, the foreign minister outlined the comprehensive reform agenda of the government that sought to foster economic growth and development by enhancing revenue, promoting austerity and harnessing foreign investment. He reaffirmed the government's commitment to creating an enabling environment for the overseas Pakistanis and harnessing their ideas and potential for national development agenda. The deputy prime minister and foreign minister held an interactive session of Pakistani professionals and students in China. APP

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2466656/ml-i-kkh-realignment-figure-in-sino-pak-talks>

The Nation

Yasir Habib Khan

In order to jack up Pakistan's agriculture exports to China in a sustainable mode, "China-led Contract Farming", a type of agriculture commercialization or corporate farming, is gaining robust traction in Pakistan. The activity is helping Pakistan to increase its export volume, growers training on modern liens, transfer of agriculture-based technology, high-income generation to farmers, and revamp of input and output of Agri-infrastructure. Top of all, China-led contract farming is becoming an instrument to curtail the poverty level in Pakistan. It is one of the game-changer phenomena among others that powered up China to uplift more than 800 million people from extreme poverty. Indeed, credit goes to Chinese companies especially China Machinery Engineering Corporation (CMEC) Pakistan, which is a pioneer in Contract Farming in Pakistan. The journey of the Pak-China agroecosystem has taken effect in the light of CPEC 2.0 agriculture cooperation under the Belt and Road Initiative's agriculture collaborations since it was propelled by Chinese President Xi Jinping in 2013. CMEC Pakistan, part of CMEC group (a flagship company of SINOMACH Group which is one of the largest manufacturing & trading groups in China), debuted contract farming with around 500 acres in Pakistan by launching Chilli model farms in 2020. Later it made a breakthrough by unleashing sesame contract farms in Pakistan which led sesame export to China around \$400 million in 2023. It is expected that sesame exports to China will exceed \$1 billion in the coming years. Meanwhile, for Sorghum crop though CMEC Pakistan is yet to initiate contract farming but made headways by germinating test plants of Sorghum with

local farmers A plethora of farmers' woes are being addressed by CMEC-led Contract farming models. CMEC-run contract farms have been brimming with multiple benefits for local farmers, such as providing smallholder farmers access to better inputs and technology, minimizing market risks, propping up income stability, and shoring up agricultural modernization. Being a part of corporate farming, CMEC contract farming in Pakistan has picked momentum as an instrument to open an era of pre-agreed prices for the purchase of a commodity, enhance agricultural productivity, improve quality standards, and provide market access to smallholder farmers. Recently I witnessed the "contract farming paradigm" led by CMEC after becoming a participant in the 1st "2024 sesame Contract Farming Project" formally rolled out by the China Machinery Engineering Cooperation (CMEC) group on 6th May in Faisalabad. Unveiling of the project came into force after 1st "the 2024 sesame contract farming" project was signed between CMEC Group and local farmer "Joiya Zarai farm Tandlianwala" in collaboration with NorthWest A & F University China, Ayub Agriculture Research Institute, Faisalabad, Government of Punjab, Oilseeds Research Institute Faisalabad) and Trade Development Authority Pakistan (TDAP) The launching ceremony of the private agriculture-based commercialization project kicked off with a seminar titled "Commercialization of sesame and Explore Potential" held at the main auditorium, Ayub Agriculture Research Institute, Faisalabad.

Following the activity, the ribbon-cutting event took place with the participation of Mr. Joiya, a local smallholder farmer, Mr Dai Bao vice General Manager of CMEC Pakistan, Prof Dr. Zhang Lixin Chairman, Silk-Road Bio-Health Agriculture Industry Alliance, NorthWest A & F University China and other CMEC officials, Agriculture scientists, government officials, local farmers, and traders.

In a seminar, CMEC (Private) Limited Pakistan Vice General Manager Dai Bao said that since China and Pakistan have been forging ahead in agriculture synergic collaborations, 1st "2024 sesame Contract Farming Project will be the impetus to opening up a brand-new chapter of Pak-China Agri-based commercialization to optimize sesame export potential. In the backdrop of the operationalization of many CMEC-run Model sesame Farms since 2020 that helped Pakistan to spur \$ 400 million in sesame export to China, it is highly likely that sesame export to China will be \$ 1000 million in the coming time, he added.

During a presentation in a seminar, CMEC senior commercial Manager Alan Xi said that with the efforts of CMEC, Pakistan has become 5th largest country in sesame production in the world.

Discussing the benefits of Pak-China sesame Contract Farming, he divulged that it is causing technology transfer with the adoption of advanced agricultural practices, improving quality standards of sesame, and increasing income generation for farmers. "CMEC contract farming also makes sure traceability systems formation, infrastructure development (irrigation system & processing facilities), skill development and capacity-building programs for farmers, strengthen trade & diplomatic relations between Pakistan and China, promote sustainable agriculture practices and contribute to poverty reduction and rural development," he added.

Besides cultivating sesame seeds, he underlined the need to concentrate on its value-added productions like bakery & confectionary, oil extraction, sesame meal, cosmetics, medicine,

fuel, fertilizer, cement, pesticides, and others. In a seminar, Prof Dr Zhang Lixin Chairman, of Silk-Road Bio-Health Agriculture Industry Alliance, NorthWest A & F University China said that China has a huge demand for high-quality sesame in China and Pakistan has huge sesame production potential. The Belt and Road Initiative has brought enormous convenience facilitating China and Pakistan universities, enterprises, scientific research institutes, and growers work together.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/15-May-2024/china-led-contract-farming>

The News

Five Chinese scholars awarded PhD degrees at PU Convocation

LAHORE: For the first time in the history of Punjab University (PU), five Chinese scholars were awarded PhD degrees in the university's 133rd Convocation held here on Tuesday. PU VC Prof Dr Khalid Mahmood presided over the convocation in which as many as 343 PhD degrees, 120 MPhil, 12 Master's and 116 BS gold medals were distributed among the students. Addressing the convocation, PU VC said that those nations were progressing in the world who had revealed the secrets of the universe by promoting education and research. He said that we also have to give top priority to education and research otherwise; we will be left behind in the race of development. He said that in the last year, 28 undergraduate, 13 MPhil and 4 new PhD programmes were launched to provide human resources according to the modern needs of the market. He congratulated the Chinese scholars including Tian Xuefeng, Ren Guangxu, Gu Zhong and Cheng Linsheng in History and Yung Hee Chun on completing his PhD in the subject of Pakistan Studies. Punjab Institute of Cardiology (PIC) Medical Superintendent Dr Shoab Aslam was also awarded the degree of MS in Health Administration in the convocation.

<https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1189117-five-chinese-scholars-awarded-phd-degrees-at-pu-convocation>

Express News

بیجنگ : نائب وزیر اعظم اسحاق ڈار کی چینی وزیر سے ملاقات دو طرفہ تعاوا تعاون پر تبادلہ خیال

کے بین الاقوامی شعبہ (صباح نیوز) نائب وزیر اعظم اور وزیر خارجہ سینیٹر محمد اسحاق ڈار نے بیجنگ میں کمیونسٹ پارٹی آف چائنا کے وزیر لیو جیان چاو سے ملاقات کی، ملاقات میں پاکستان کی سیاسی جماعتوں اور چین کی کمیونسٹ پارٹی کے درمیان دیرینہ تعاون اور تبادلوں پر تبادلہ خیال کیا گیا، وزیر خارجہ نے چین کے بنیادی مسائل پر پاکستان کی مضبوط حمایت کا اعادہ کیا جبکہ وزیر لیو کا پاکستان کی خود مختاری، علاقائی سالمیت اور اعلیٰ معیار کی سماجی و اقتصادی ترقی کے لیے چین کی حمایت کا اظہار کیا۔

https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1110978800&Issue=NP_LHE&Date=20240515

Chinese Newspapers

May 02, 2024

Global Times

China's green capacity brings opportunities for developing countries' industrialization

Vaqar Ahmed

China has emerged as a global leader in the production of green and new-energy products, marking a significant milestone in its economic transformation. With exports of new-energy vehicles (NEVs), solar cells and lithium-ion battery products surpassing the 1 trillion yuan (138 billion) mark in 2023, the country has positioned itself at the forefront of the green industry revolution. This growth in emerging industries not only reflects China's commitment to sustainability but also presents numerous opportunities for developing countries seeking to accelerate their industrialization and participate in the global energy transition. The expansion of China's green industries exhibits the country's strategic vision and attention to innovation across all productive sectors. This growth is fueled by a combination of factors, including government support, technological advancements, regional and global trade, and a conducive domestic business environment. China's proactive investment in research and development, alongside its focus on scaling up production capacity, has enabled it to achieve economies of scale and drive down production costs. Additionally, the commitment to sustainable development goals has spurred investments in renewable energy infrastructure, further catalyzing the growth of green industries. Key to China's success in forming competitiveness in these emerging industries is its integrated approach to technology, manufacturing and market development. By leveraging its vast manufacturing capabilities, skilled workforce and extensive supply chain networks, China has been able to rapidly scale up production and meet the growing demand for green products both domestically and internationally. Moreover, the proactive policies have stimulated market demand and encouraged innovation in green technologies. The increasing demand for green industry and new-energy products during the energy transition presents potential for growth, both for China and the global economy. As countries worldwide seek to reduce carbon emissions and transition to renewable energy sources, the demand for clean energy technologies is expected to soar. This trend is being driven by a combination of environmental concerns, regulatory incentives and technological advancements. As such, there is a growing opportunity for countries to capitalize on the burgeoning green market and position themselves as leaders in sustainable development. In this context, the prospects of cooperation between China and other countries, particularly its neighbor - Pakistan, in the green and new-energy industries are promising. Pakistan, like many developing countries, faces challenges in meeting its energy needs while addressing environmental concerns. By partnering with China, a global leader in green technology and manufacturing, Pakistan can access state-of-the-art solutions and expertise to accelerate its transition to clean energy. Collaboration in areas such as renewable energy infrastructure, electric vehicle deployment and battery storage systems can not only enhance

Pakistan's energy security but also drive economic growth and job creation. China's contribution to the global energy transition and sustainable development extends beyond its borders. By offering cost-effective green products to countries like Pakistan, China is playing a pivotal role in promoting access to clean energy technologies and facilitating the adoption of sustainable practices worldwide. Through initiatives such as the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), the country is actively supporting infrastructure development and capacity-building efforts in partner countries, thereby promoting green growth and environmental sustainability on a global scale. Despite China's commendable efforts to promote green industries and sustainable development, it faces increasing protectionism and accusations of "overcapacity" in the international arena. Critics argue that China's rapid expansion of green manufacturing capacity has led to oversupply in certain markets, undermining the competitiveness of domestic industries in other countries. However, such accusations overlook the broader benefits of China's green capacity, including job creation, technological innovation and environmental protection. Moreover, addressing global challenges such as climate change, requires collective action and cooperation among countries, rather than protectionist measures that stifle innovation and impede progress. This is where strengthening of multilateral trade regime holds immense importance. Looking ahead, China's trade partners, particularly in the Global South, should position their industrial and trade policies in a manner which can utilize the benefits of China's green development, for example, by strengthening policy frameworks to incentivize investment in renewable energy, promoting public-private partnerships to drive innovation and investment, investing in education and training to build human capital in green technologies, facilitating technology transfer and knowledge sharing with China, addressing regulatory barriers to entry for green businesses, promoting green finance mechanisms to attract investment, and harnessing international cooperation initiatives such as the BRI to access funding, technology and expertise. Through these strategic actions, developing economies can accelerate their transition to a low-carbon milieu, achieve sustainable development objectives and pave the way for a more environmentally sustainable future.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202405/1311577.shtml>

May 03, 2024

China Daily

Pakistan aims for economic recovery

Xu Weiwei

Pakistan is navigating the challenging process of economic recovery, with the new government making some progress in pushing structural reforms, experts say. While recent developments were positive, the country still faces an uphill battle as it confronts several challenges, they said. Mustafa Hyder Sayed, executive director of Pakistan-China Institute in Islamabad, said the economy of Pakistan has been going through a volatile period because of a dip in foreign exchange reserves, circular debt and low exports and high inflation. "But the new government is undertaking structural economic reform and we have also just finalized an agreement with the International Monetary Fund, which will give us more breathing space,"

Sayed said. In addition, the second phase of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, a mega infrastructure project under the Belt and Road Initiative, "will bring significant investment into Pakistan", he said. Pakistan just received about \$1.1 billion in final tranche from the IMF as part of a total loan of about \$3 billion agreed to last year under an economic stabilization program. In a statement on Monday, the IMF said with the latest disbursement, it has provided a policy anchor to address Pakistan's domestic and external imbalances as well as a framework for financial support from multilateral and bilateral partners. Earlier, Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif said his government is diligently pursuing economic reforms to overcome current challenges in the financial sector. In a meeting of the federal cabinet last week, Sharif said with the collective efforts of all government departments, the country's economy is on the path of recovery. The government is also committed to doubling the country's export volume over the next five years, he said. Tahir Farooq, editor-in-chief at Daily Ittehad Media Group and Pakistan Economic Net, said: "The government is focusing on several fronts to rejuvenate the economy. Measures such as increasing exports and remittances, combating power theft and advancing privatization are pivotal."

Promising growth

The IT sector and inward remittances have shown promising growth, suggesting early signs of positive effect from the policies, Farooq said. Sharif's approach is "holistic and inclusive, urging the opposition to collaborate rather than confront, emphasizing the importance of national unity in economic reform", he said. Shakeel Ahmad Ramay, CEO of the Asian Institute of Eco-civilization Research and Development in Islamabad, mentioned the risks of stagnant growth, higher inflation and further economic troubles. To resolve the issue, Pakistan has to take immediate steps, Ahmad said, such as prioritizing production enhancement. He also suggested accelerating the implementation of the second phase of the CPEC, unleashing opportunities that could help reverse the economic crisis. Meanwhile, Pakistan must resist undue pressures from the West and unreasonable demands from the IMF, he said, citing suspicions that "the IMF is following the United States' agenda" and that the US wants Pakistan to shelve some CPEC projects. "It is good that the IMF is satisfied with Pakistan's performance, but the satisfaction has been achieved at the cost of the poor and middle-class Pakistan," he said. Of the 250 million people of Pakistan, 60 percent are youth under 35, Sayed said. "It is a huge opportunity for Pakistan as a market for consumer goods, and as a country that has a demographic dividend. The opportunities to grow economically are significant. "Syed Shujaat Ahmed, an independent economist, said opportunities are there, but realizing them hinges on stability and consistency of the policies in the pipeline and those that have already been drafted.

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202405/03/WS66341d06a31082fc043c5190.html>

Global Times

Reps from 12 countries, organizations express willingness to deepen space cooperation before Chang'e-6 launch

Fan Anqi and Deng Xiaoci

Around 50 guests from 12 countries' space agencies, including Pakistan, France, and Italy, as well as representatives from the United Nations and the European Space Agency, expressed on Friday willingness to seek cooperation with China in lunar and deep space exploration, as they gathered in Haikou, South China's Hainan Province, to witness the launch of Chang'e-6 lunar probe, said the China National Space Administration (CNSA) on Friday. The Chang'e-6 mission will carry a number of international payloads to the Moon, including the European Space Agency's lunar surface ion analyzer, France's radon detection instrument, Italy's laser corner reflector, and a CubeSat from Pakistan, the CNSA revealed to the Global Times. The guests are in Haikou for the Chang'e-6 International Payloads Workshop hosted by the CNSA, where they shared insights on the various scientific payloads to be sent to the Moon aboard the Chang'e-6 probe, which is scheduled to be launched between 5 to 6 pm Beijing time, with the preferred launch window targeted at 5:27 pm. The participants of the workshop praised the extensive international cooperation carried out in the Friday mission and expressed willingness to seek new cooperation in lunar and deep space exploration with China, the CNSA told the Global Times. In return, the CNSA said it is willing to work with more countries to expand human knowledge on space, enhance the well-being of all human kind, and serve the advancement of human civilization. The Chang'e-6 mission is tasked with collecting and returning samples from the moon's mysterious far side, the first endeavor of its kind in the history of human lunar exploration. The Long March-5 Y8 carrier rocket has begun to be fueled with liquid hydrogen and liquid oxygen cryogenic propellant on Friday morning.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202405/1311607.shtml>

South China Morning Post

Pakistan's Chinese stealth submarines set to spur Indian navy's upgrade as Beijing eyes oceanic expansion

Junaid Kathju

Pakistan's eight Hangor-class submarines are equipped with technology that surpass that of India's current Scorpène-class submarines, analysts say. By supplying the submarines to its Pakistani ally, China is set to establish a bigger military presence in the Indian Ocean. Pakistan's acquisition of the first of eight advanced Hangor-class Chinese submarines marks a strategic edge for Islamabad in the Indian Ocean and Arabian Sea, with analysts and former Indian military officials noting New Delhi is lagging in the underwater domain as a "greater Chinese presence" mounts in the region. The new stealth submarine for Pakistan is Beijing's way of "building a pressure point" on India, analysts say, a move which is expected to spur India to ramp up its naval capabilities. According to the analysts, the Hangor-class

submarines boasting advanced technology such as air-independent propulsion (AIP) and new sensors have an advantage over India's highest Kalvari class – or Scorpène-class – submarines. Former India's chief of naval staff Admiral Arun Prakash told This Week in Asia that diesel submarines or conventional submarines with AIP had a bigger edge as none of India's submarines were equipped with AIP technology. "The only comparable submarine to AIP-equipped subs is a nuclear-attack submarine, but they are also quite noisy and can be detected from a long range. We have nuclear submarines but those are ballistic missile submarines, they are not meant for a routine role until we have a nuclear attack." The Hangor-class boats have much greater capability in underwater endurance and can remain submerged up to 10 to 14 days, far surpassing the usual 48-hour endurance of other diesel-type vessels. While India possessed 16 conventional submarines, it recently said only six were workable and the remainder in the fleet were nearing their decommissioning date. On the other hand, with the addition of the eight Hangor-class submarines, Pakistan's total strength of AIP-equipped submarines would reach 11. It already installed a French AIP system in three of its existing Agosta 90B submarines in 2008. Prakash said India was also looking into retrofitting the AIP system into its current vessels or installing it in a new class of submarines yet to come. He estimated it would take "another seven to 10 years before India has AIP submarines".

<https://www.scmp.com/week-asia/politics/article/3261325/pakistans-chinese-stealth-submarines-set-spur-indian-navys-upgrade-beijing-eyes-oceanic-expansion>

May 06, 2024

People Daily News

Consumer-friendly business allows foreigners to make payments easily

In the Blue Harbor international shopping park in Beijing's Chaoyang District, Rana, a Pakistani national visiting China for the first time, said he had a great experience using Pakistan's NayaPay mobile app to pay for items. "It's really convenient to be able to scan and pay like in my home country," he said. Rana visited a supermarket, savored Beijing's famous roast duck, drank milk tea, and purchased several Beijing specialties and panda toys. He was able to pay for everything during his visit by scanning a code on his mobile phone, without needing to download a new application. Rana said he experienced the great convenience of China's advanced mobile phone payment system. It was China's expanding circle of overseas app payment partners that enabled Rana's mobile phone tour of Beijing. Recently, NayaPay announced that it would support payments in China through Ant Group's cross-border payment service, Alipay+. Blue Harbor is one of NayaPay's cooperative partners, and is building itself into an "inbound, consumer-friendly business circle." A number of companies in the domestic and overseas payment, financial and business services sectors have also worked together to launch a plan to build an inbound, consumer-friendly business circle in Blue Harbor, also pledging to provide more convenient services for inbound payments in major cities focusing on business and tourism. In recent years, China's government and financial institutions have implemented a series of practical measures to meet the diversified payment services needs of foreigners in China. At the beginning of this year, the Chinese

government said that it would make it more convenient for foreigners to work, study and travel in China, while optimizing its payment services. Beijing, the Chinese capital, plans to expand the service coverage of overseas bank cards in the city by the end of June. It is expected to establish payment facilities in its three, four and five-star hotels, and at tourist attractions at or above the 3A level. In Blue Harbor, convenient Alipay+ payment guides are easy to spot on shop counters, and friendly English signs remind foreign tourists to link their international Visa cards or overseas e-wallets to China's mobile payment services. "Now, even the small shops selling pigeon food here can do cross-border business with QR codes," said Zhang Xiaofei, general manager of the Blue Harbor business area. Every store counter in the area has signs reminding English-speakers that they can use their country's e-wallet or the Alipay app to pay by scanning a code, and merchants also accept Visa credit card payments, Zhang added. In south China's Guangdong Province, Shenzhen is working to build 100 convenient payment demonstration business circles to accelerate the construction of its citywide payment demonstration zone. And moving north, Shanghai has issued a plan to achieve full POS machine services coverage across major commercial businesses, in its culture and tourism sectors, and at transport hubs such as airports and railway stations. Driven by improvements such as foreigner-friendly payment services and visa-free travel policies, more and more foreign nationals are visiting, studying, living and working in China, helping to scale up China's inbound consumption market. Ant Group data shows that since 2022, foreign tourists from nearly 200 countries and regions have linked international bank cards to the Alipay app after entering China. In March this year, the cumulative transaction value of overseas visitors to China soared nearly 10-fold year on year on Alipay. Wang Jing, head of Qiankun Space, an art and culture workshop in Beijing, said that a growing number of foreign tourists are making mobile payments since domestic payment apps simplified the process of linking overseas bank cards. "Since last year, the number of foreign tourists using Alipay has increased. We recorded just a few transactions in the past, compared to more than a dozen transactions every day now -- and even more during peak holiday seasons," Wang added. Mariah, an American who has lived in Beijing for six years, works as a teacher at a local private school. She has adapted to online payments, she said, joking that she can't go out without her mobile phone now. "I often use a variety of mobile applications, such as Didi for ride-hailing services, and booking tickets online when traveling. All of these applications have their own English version, and they are very easy to use," she said. China is working to optimize its payment services for people from all over the world. And it is expected that foreigners will be able to pay for goods and services more easily in major Chinese cities very soon, no matter where the payment is made, including entry and exit ports, high-speed railway stations, and hotels and scenic spots, according to Mariah.

<http://en.people.cn/n3/2024/0506/c90000-20165042.html>

May 07, 2024

Shanghai Daily

The 2024 Silk Road E-commerce Carnival kicks off

Shen Mengdan

The 2024 Shanghai Silk Road E-commerce Carnival kicked off on Tuesday at Hongqiao Tiandi, or The Hub, and will run through May 17. One of the key activities of Shanghai's 5th Double Five Shopping Festival, the carnival has attracted the participation of e-commerce platforms, import and export enterprises, livestreaming companies, shopping centers, and trade promotion organizations from Belt and Road initiative participating countries. Over 50 online and offline consumer promotion activities were introduced during the launch ceremony. "I would like to thank this carnival for providing a platform for Pakistan and other countries to showcase their unique commodities and vibrant trade cultures," said Muhammad Atif, deputy consul general of the Consulate General of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan in Shanghai. "I hope this event will bring more development opportunities for China and other countries. "There will also be themed activities including livestreams to showcase commodities from various countries and regions such as Chile, Pakistan, Uzbekistan, Italy, and Africa. Consumers can not only buy commodities through e-commerce platforms or live broadcasting but also visit offline bazaars. Specialty bazaars will be held at 558 Nanjing Road E. in Huangpu District, The Hub in Minhang District, and other districts, bringing together thousands of commodities from Silk Road partner countries. At the launch ceremony, Greenland Global Commodity Trade Hub signed a strategic cooperation contract with Alibaba (Shanghai) Co Ltd and representatives of different countries to jointly promote business and trade cooperation with partner countries. Hongqiao Pinhui, or Hongqiao Import Commodities Expo and Trade Center, will also serve as a base for future foreign aid training programs, cooperating with Shanghai Business School and the Shanghai Asia-Pacific Economic and Information Technology Talent Training Center, to cultivate more Silk Road business talents. In addition, the Xinjiang Kashgar Commerce Bureau and the Shanghai Silk Road Yunpin Alliance signed an agreement to deepen the cooperation between Shanghai and Kashgar, including the establishment of the Shanghai-Kashgar E-commerce Cooperation Alliance and the construction of a livestreaming commerce base. Kashgar's trade with Central Asia accounts for more than 80 percent of the region's trade, while Shanghai's trade with Central Asia currently accounts for only 0.25 percent of the city's, indicating huge potential for cooperation between Shanghai, Kashgar, and Central Asia. Since the state approval of the creation of the "Silk Road E-commerce" cooperation pilot zone in Shanghai in October 2023, remarkable results have been achieved. At present, there are ten 100-billion-yuan e-commerce platforms in Shanghai. In the first quarter of this year, the city realized an e-commerce turnover of 897.89 billion yuan (US\$124.4 billion), an increase of 12.7 percent year on year.

<https://www.shine.cn/news/metro/2405071435/>

May 09, 2024

China Daily

CPEC the crown jewel in China, Pakistan friendship

ZHAO JIA

Calling the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor an exemplar of friendship between the two countries, Ahsan Iqbal, a senior Pakistani official, said there has always been "spring" in the relations between Pakistan and China which are always moving on an upward trajectory. CPEC, which was launched in 2013 and a flagship project under the China-proposed Belt and Road Initiative, has "benefited Pakistan's economy immensely", Iqbal, the federal minister for planning, development and special initiatives, said on Thursday in Beijing. Pakistan looks forward to further cooperating with China to seek shared economic growth as CPEC has entered into its second phase, he added. "The garden of friendship between Pakistan and China in every season has blossomed new and colorful flowers of cooperation and understanding between the people of Pakistan and China," the minister said. Iqbal lauded CPEC for transforming the development landscape of, creating jobs for and building connectivity for his country. "CPEC has helped Pakistan transform its energy and infrastructure sectors and connect several parts of the country so the fruits of development can be shared across various regions of Pakistan," Iqbal said. "It also helped create over two million jobs and helps Pakistan's workers master new technology and get trained in projects," he added. Iqbal said China outlined five corridors under CPEC last year, namely growth, livelihood, openness, inclusivity and innovation, which were well aligned with 5-E's framework, namely Export, Energy, Equity, E-Pakistan and Environment, envisioned by the government of Pakistan. Pakistan needs to take advantage of the new digital revolution to transform its growth model and is looking forward to green energy projects to cope with threats posed by climate change, he said. Iqbal hoped through discussions with Chinese officials that the two sides would be able to work out the roadmap to implement the second phase of CPEC. Iqbal arrived in Beijing on Wednesday as part of the high-level interactions between China and Pakistan; this was the first high-level visit to China since the new Pakistani government came to power in March. In another development, Iqbal denounced terrorist attacks as "dirty tricks" by those who attempt to foil the progress of CPEC and set obstacles in two countries' friendship. Speaking of the Dasu terrorist attack in March, which killed five Chinese and one Pakistani, he said the incident had been sponsored by such elements across Pakistan's border and they were enemies of friendship between the two countries. "But my message to them is that such incidents cannot stop the progress of CPEC. Pakistan and China will defeat these elements," Iqbal said. "We will do whatever is in our human resources possible to provide extra security for our Chinese brothers and sisters working in Pakistan," he added. According to the minister, Pakistan has further enhanced security on the projects where there are a large number of Chinese workers working. It has also enhanced the security in terms of support of paramilitary forces and police, and strengthened protocols of security, he said.

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202405/09/WS663cc1e5a31082fc043c63dd.html>

Global Times

Pakistan eyes green energy, technology cooperation with China in CPEC 2nd phase

Pakistan's Federal Minister for Planning, Development, and Special Initiatives Ahsan Iqbal said on Wednesday that China and Pakistan are deepening collaboration on the second phase of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), with a focus on green energy and technology cooperation, among others. Iqbal arrived in Beijing on Wednesday for a visit, in the first high-level visit by a Pakistani official to China since Pakistan's new government came to power. During the visit, Iqbal also held meetings with various Chinese officials. "China is a historical friend of Pakistan, and has supported us in difficult times," Iqbal said as he arrived in Beijing, according to a press release sent to the Global Times on Wednesday. Iqbal said that in the first phase of the CPEC, Pakistan's energy and infrastructure sectors were upgraded, and in the second phase, the agriculture, industry, green energy and technology sectors will be promoted. In terms of green energy cooperation, Iqbal said in a meeting with China's Ambassador to Pakistan Jiang Zaidong in Islamabad on Tuesday that Pakistan's aim is to establish industrial zones for the manufacturing of electric cars in collaboration with China, leveraging Pakistan's competitive advantages to reduce overall production costs and create employment opportunities for Pakistani workers, according to a separate press release. During meetings in Beijing, Iqbal also reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to the high-quality development of the CPEC, outlining future cooperation in such priority sectors as information technology, agriculture modernization, textiles, minerals and renewable energy. Iqbal also revealed details about enhanced security measures taken by Pakistan to ensure the security of Chinese personnel, according to the press release.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202405/1311936.shtml>

May 10, 2024

China Daily

Pakistan's FM to visit China

Pakistan's Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Mohammad Ishaq Dar will pay an official visit to China and hold the fifth round of the Foreign Minister-Level China-Pakistan Strategic Dialogue from May 13 to 16, Foreign Ministry spokesperson Lin Jian announced on Friday. Dar was invited by Wang Yi, a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee and Chinese foreign minister, Lin said.

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202405/10/WS663de940a31082fc043c6720.html>

China delivers space data to Pakistan

On Friday, China delivered to Pakistan the data obtained by a small experimental satellite jointly developed by researchers from both countries, according to the China National Space Administration. Zhang Kejian, director of the CNSA, handed the data carrier over to

Pakistani Ambassador to China Khalil-ur-Rahman Hashmi at a ceremony held at the administration's Beijing headquarters. They also unveiled the first image taken by the cube satellite, known as ICUBE-Q, at the ceremony. The spacecraft was jointly developed by engineers from China's Shanghai Jiao Tong University and Pakistan's Institute of Space Technology. It was onboard China's Chang'e 6 robotic lunar probe, which was launched from the Wenchang Space Launch Center in China's Hainan province on May 3 to recover samples from the moon's far side, which permanently faces away from Earth. As its secondary task, the Chinese spacecraft is set to bring four science payloads to the moon, including a passive laser retroreflector from Italy and the Sino-Pakistani satellite. According to the CNSA, the ICUBE-Q was deployed in a lunar orbit on Wednesday afternoon and soon took the first image, which shows the sun. The project has helped to demonstrate technologies for cube satellites to make detections and measurements in lunar orbit, examine the cooperation methods for China and Pakistan to carry out deep-space explorations and also pave the way for following collaboration between the two sides, the Chinese administration said.

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202405/10/WS663e06c7a31082fc043c6742.html>

Global Times

China hands over data collected from Pakistan's first satellite mission on Chang'e-6 lunar probe

Fan Anqi and Deng Xiaoci

China on Friday handed over the data collected from Pakistan's first satellite mission on the Chang'e-6 lunar probe to the Pakistan side, and together they unveiled the first image captured by the CubeSat, the Global Times learned from the China National Space Administration (CNSA) on Friday. China has carried four international projects with the Chang'e-6 probe, including the European Space Agency's lunar surface ion analyzer, France's radon detection instrument, Italy's laser corner reflector, and the first ever CubeSat from Pakistan, the CNSA previously revealed. The CubeSat, named iCube-Q, is a remote sensing satellite co-developed by Pakistan's national space agency SUPARCO and Shanghai Jiao Tong University. It was launched in early 2023.

The iCube-Q and the orbiter separated near the far side of the Moon in a 12-hour elliptical lunar orbit on Wednesday, and subsequently successfully captured the first image. The project achieved its goal of "successful separation and obtaining telemetry," marking the smooth completion of Pakistan's first-ever lunar project, the CNSA said. Through this mission, the CubeSat successfully validated nano-satellite lunar orbit detection technology, and explored the cooperation model between China and Pakistan in lunar and deep space exploration, laying the foundation for deeper cooperation between the two sides in future missions. After its grand liftoff on May 3, the Chang'e-6 lunar probe on Wednesday entered its circumlunar orbit after performing a near-moon braking procedure. Later, the Chang'e-6 probe will adjust the altitude and inclination of its circumlunar orbit with the support of China's Queqiao-2 relay satellite, and implement the separation of the orbiter-returner combination from the lander-ascender combination. The latter will then make a soft landing on the lunar surface at the South Pole-Aitken Basin, which is widely considered by industry

insiders to be one of the most challenging tasks in space exploration. A number of countries have struggled with this maneuver previously. Early in January, Japan's SLIM moon lander, took a tumble as it touched down on the lunar surface. This was described as a "success" by the Japanese space agency JAXA, even though the lander's solar panels were not angled properly to harness sunlight and power up the probe.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202405/1312051.shtml>

People Daily News

China's sci-tech innovations to revolutionize Pakistan's agricultural sector

Pakistani experts said on Thursday that the use of China's scientific and technological advancements and innovations would play a key role in revolutionizing Pakistan's agricultural sector, enhancing productivity and food security. China has not only modernized its agricultural sector, but also helped other countries including Pakistan by sharing advanced farming technologies, promoting agricultural research as well as facilitating knowledge exchange, said the experts during a seminar on sustainable agriculture organized by the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), an Islamabad-based think tank. Speaking on the occasion, Hassan Daud Butt, senior advisor at the China Study Center of the Sustainable Development Policy Institute, said that China has made massive progress in the field of agriculture through consistent policies, leadership and technology-driven interventions. The Chinese advancement in the agriculture sector was unique in its fashion as less public capital and more private sector investment was utilized in developing the agriculture sector, he said, adding that Pakistan has a lot to learn from China to modernize its agriculture sector under the framework of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). Launched in 2013, the CPEC, a flagship project of the China-proposed Belt and Road Initiative, is a corridor linking the Gwadar Port in southwest Pakistan's Balochistan province with Kashgar in northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, which highlights energy, transport, and industrial cooperation in the first phase, while in the new phase expands to fields of agriculture and livelihood, among others. "Pakistan needs to learn from China about planning on short, mid and long-term goals with a top to bottom approach with policy consistency ... Moreover, the leadership in the public and private sector needs to be strengthened through mutual collaborations," Butt said. Gulshan Irshad, an associate professor at the Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University, Rawalpindi, stressed to focus on transfer of technology, capacity building and knowledge sharing between Pakistan and China on all modern agricultural farming trends. "Under the CPEC, Pakistan and China need to further collaborate on advanced line seed variety and cropping techniques like aquaponics, hydroponics and tunnel farming," she said. She added that Pakistani farmers are welcoming to modern concepts of agriculture farming, helping them improve their crop yield and reduce the burden on soil and ecology due to environment damaging practices. Highlighting that the CPEC has played a crucial role in the modernization of the country's agricultural sector over the past decade, Misbah Khan, a senior research associate at the SDPI, stressed the need to take the cooperation between the two countries to new heights.

<http://en.people.cn/n3/2024/0510/c90000-20168145.html>

China Focus: China delivers Chang'e-6 mission cube satellite data to Pakistan

China on Friday delivered data provided by a cube satellite aboard its Chang'e-6 spacecraft to Pakistan, deepening cooperation on lunar exploration between the two countries. Zhang Kejian, head of the China National Space Administration (CNSA), handed a data carrier to Pakistani Ambassador to China Khalil-ur-Rahman Hashmi at a ceremony held in Beijing. The cube satellite, ICUBE-Q, was developed by Pakistan's Institute of Space Technology and China's Shanghai Jiao Tong University. The Chang'e-6 lunar probe was launched on May 3 and carried four international payloads, including ICUBE-Q. ICUBE-Q separated from the Chang'e-6 orbiter on May 8 to carry out exploration activities such as capturing images of the moon. The Chang'e-6 spacecraft, which successfully performed a near-moon braking procedure and entered the lunar orbit on May 8, is operating normally, with subsequent flight control work to be carried out as planned, said Ge Ping, deputy director of the CNSA's Lunar Exploration and Space Engineering Center. Both China and Pakistan attach great importance to this cooperation. During the development of the payload, government organs and scientific institutions in both countries made significant preparations, Ge said. "I believe that this cooperation is of great significance to promoting friendly relations between the two countries and enriching people's understanding of the moon," he added. The ICUBE-Q satellite is the result of the first lunar exploration cooperation project between China and Pakistan. The project was guided by the principles of equality, mutual benefits, the peaceful utilization of space and inclusive development. "We will share our scientific achievements to lay the foundation for future lunar exploration activities, which will be of great significance to promoting the construction of a global community with a shared future in outer space," he added. He noted that China and Pakistan have signed a cooperation agreement on the International Lunar Research Station. China has received Pakistan's application for payload cooperation on the Chang'e-8 mission, and its application to borrow lunar samples returned by the Chang'e-5 mission. Relevant work is progressing steadily. "We welcome Pakistan's participation in China's lunar and deep space exploration missions, and we will conduct extensive exchanges and cooperation related to space technology, space science and space applications to contribute to the peaceful use of outer space and serve civilization and global well-being," Ge said. The launch of the Chang'e-6 mission is a model example of international cooperation in action. It demonstrated that China acts on its word, and that it undertakes meaningful cooperation and extends meaningful assistance to developing countries, Khalil-ur-Rahman Hashmi said. Pakistan's involvement in ICUBE-Q is a testament to the fact that the country is also making progress in space exploration and technology, he said. This mission will open up opportunities for Pakistan to explore the deep space environment and study the dynamics and geography of the moon. It will also give impetus to higher education in the space sciences in Pakistan, said Syed Amer Ahsan Gilani, deputy director-general of the Satellite Manufacturing Department of the Pakistan Space and Upper Atmosphere Research Commission. "Space cooperation between China and Pakistan is a vital aspect of our bilateral relations," Khalil-ur-Rahman Hashmi said.

<http://en.people.cn/n3/2024/0510/c90000-20168154.html>

May 11, 2024

People Daily News

Pakistan-China lunar collaboration fuels excitement for future research in Pakistan

Pictures taken by Pakistan's satellite onboard the Chang'e-6 spacecraft of China are very encouraging and enabled Pakistani professors and students to gather information for further research about the moon, a Pakistani official said on Friday. "It is just the beginning because our satellite ICUBE-Q is still far from our targeted area of the south pole of the moon, and we are anxiously waiting to receive pictures taken from a distance of up to 200 meters from the moon's surface," Khurram Khurshid, a professor and the project manager of ICUBE-Q in the country's Institute of Space Technology (IST) told Xinhua. The cube satellite was jointly developed by Pakistan's IST and China's Shanghai Jiao Tong University. The Chang'e-6 lunar probe, launched on May 3, carried four international payloads, including ICUBE-Q. ICUBE-Q separated from the Chang'e-6 orbiter on May 8 to carry out exploration activities, such as capturing images of the moon. "About 65 to 70 students worked on different stages to build the satellite, and it was very exciting for them to receive the pictures, because they worked very hard on the project and were keeping their fingers crossed for the results," Khurshid, who is also the core member of the IST's team working on the project, said.

<http://en.people.cn/n3/2024/0511/c90000-20168280.html>

Xinhua Net News

Pakistan-China lunar collaboration fuels excitement for future research in Pakistan: official

Pictures taken by Pakistan's satellite onboard the Chang'e-6 spacecraft of China are very encouraging and enabled Pakistani professors and students to gather information for further research about the moon, a Pakistani official said on Friday. "It is just the beginning because our satellite ICUBE-Q is still far from our targeted area of the south pole of the moon, and we are anxiously waiting to receive pictures taken from a distance of up to 200 meters from the moon's surface," Khurram Khurshid, a professor and the project manager of ICUBE-Q in the country's Institute of Space Technology (IST) told Xinhua. The cube satellite was jointly developed by Pakistan's IST and China's Shanghai Jiao Tong University. The Chang'e-6 lunar probe, launched on May 3, carried four international payloads, including ICUBE-Q. ICUBE-Q separated from the Chang'e-6 orbiter on May 8 to carry out exploration activities, such as capturing images of the moon. "About 65 to 70 students worked on different stages to build the satellite, and it was very exciting for them to receive the pictures, because they worked very hard on the project and were keeping their fingers crossed for the results," Khurshid, who is also the core member of the IST's team working on the project, said.

<https://english.news.cn/20240511/f895de74ceef4c1f987ec248b04d7738/c.html>

China's sci-tech innovations to revolutionize Pakistan's agricultural sector

Pakistani experts said on Thursday that the use of China's scientific and technological advancements and innovations would play a key role in revolutionizing Pakistan's agricultural sector, enhancing productivity and food security. China has not only modernized its agricultural sector, but also helped other countries including Pakistan by sharing advanced farming technologies, promoting agricultural research as well as facilitating knowledge exchange, said the experts during a seminar on sustainable agriculture organized by the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), an Islamabad-based think tank. Speaking on the occasion, Hassan Daud Butt, senior advisor at the China Study Center of the Sustainable Development Policy Institute, said that China has made massive progress in the field of agriculture through consistent policies, leadership and technology-driven interventions. The Chinese advancement in the agriculture sector was unique in its fashion as less public capital and more private sector investment was utilized in developing the agriculture sector, he said, adding that Pakistan has a lot to learn from China to modernize its agriculture sector under the framework of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). Launched in 2013, the CPEC, a flagship project of the China-proposed Belt and Road Initiative, is a corridor linking the Gwadar Port in southwest Pakistan's Balochistan province with Kashgar in northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, which highlights energy, transport, and industrial cooperation in the first phase, while in the new phase expands to fields of agriculture and livelihood, among others. "Pakistan needs to learn from China about planning on short, mid and long-term goals with a top to bottom approach with policy consistency ... Moreover, the leadership in the public and private sector needs to be strengthened through mutual collaborations," Butt said. Gulshan Irshad, an associate professor at the Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University, Rawalpindi, stressed to focus on transfer of technology, capacity building and knowledge sharing between Pakistan and China on all modern agricultural farming trends. "Under the CPEC, Pakistan and China need to further collaborate on advanced line seed variety and cropping techniques like aquaponics, hydroponics and tunnel farming," she said. She added that Pakistani farmers are welcoming to modern concepts of agriculture farming, helping them improve their crop yield and reduce the burden on soil and ecology due to environment damaging practices. Highlighting that the CPEC has played a crucial role in the modernization of the country's agricultural sector over the past decade, Misbah Khan, a senior research associate at the SDPI, stressed the need to take the cooperation between the two countries to new heights. "Pakistan can create its route towards resilience, productivity and environmental stewardship by developing synergy with China's technology advancement, policy support and investment opportunities," Khan said.

<https://english.news.cn/20240511/095f197fd06747a786bae8c374b23f4e/c.html>

May 14, 2024

South China Morning Post

Pakistan wants to speed up China-linked project amid fears over fatal attacks

Ashraf Khan

Pakistan's Deputy Prime Minister Ishaq Dar is on a visit to China where he is expected to push for progress in the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor. Several recent attacks targeting Chinese nationals and Pakistan's economic woes threaten to slow the project. Pakistan aims to accelerate one of the showcase projects under the Belt and Road Initiative during the four-day visit by Deputy Prime Minister Ishaq Dar to China even as it grapples with major security and economic challenges. The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) - estimated to be worth US\$62 billion by the Brookings Institution - is the most high-profile symbol of bilateral cooperation between the two nations. However, a surge in attacks against Chinese nationals building plants and elsewhere in Pakistan in recent years has cast a shadow on the CPEC. Launched in 2015, the 15-year project aims to connect the Pakistani port of Gwadar with the Chinese city of Kashgar through a network of highways, railways, and energy projects and stimulate growth in Pakistan's economy across sectors from manufacturing to tech. During his visit from Monday, Dar will co-chair the fifth Pakistan-China Foreign Minister Strategic Dialogues with China's Minister of Foreign Affairs Wang Yi and discuss economic and other partnerships. Over the past few years, a series of deadly attacks have targeted Chinese nationals linked to the CPEC and Pakistani security installations. Chinese concerns on the safety of their nationals in Pakistan are very much legitimate," former foreign minister Khurshid Mahmood Kasuri told This Week in Asia. "We have to do much more than what we have done for their security." Among the notable incidents were the attack on the Chinese consulate in Karachi, Pakistan's financial hub, in 2018 and an assault in 2020 on the Pakistan Stock Exchange, in which Chinese entities hold a 40 per cent stake. In 2022, the Karachi University's Confucius Centre, a Chinese language and cultural centre, was the target of a suicide bombing that killed three Chinese teachers and a Pakistani national. The attacks were attributed to separatist factions including the Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA) and other ethnic Baloch and Sindhi insurgent groups that vehemently oppose the CPEC, perceiving it as a threat to their identity and fearing that its success would turn them into a minority. The most recent deadly attack occurred on March 26, when five Chinese engineers were killed in Pakistan's northwest Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province. The series of attacks in recent years has caused a strain in relations between China and Pakistan and prompted calls for Islamabad to tighten security at industrial sites where Chinese workers are based. Jiang Zaidong, the Chinese ambassador to Islamabad wrote in a local publication about the "heart-wrenching" terrorist attack that caused the deaths of the Chinese nationals. "We should do everything possible to protect their safety and value their contribution [to CPEC]." The attack in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa was believed to be carried out by an Islamist group affiliated with Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), which Pakistan claimed was based in neighbouring Afghanistan. "That attack shows destabilising external

factors against the CPEC, whereas Baloch insurgents from the left wing are said to have backing from external elements,” said Muneeb Salam, a research associate at the China Pakistan Study Centre of the Institute of Strategic Studies, referring to Islamabad’s accusations of the involvement of groups linked to India and Afghanistan in the attack. Since the launch of the CPEC, thermal and hydropower plants with a combined capacity of around 16,700 megawatts have been built by Chinese companies across Pakistan and helped the country address its energy shortages. However, Pakistan’s large budget deficit and poor balance of payments could slow progress in the CPEC and threaten to edge the country towards defaulting on its payment obligations under the project. Pakistan owes a staggering 2000 billion rupees (US\$7.2 billion) to its Chinese partners for CPEC-related debts - a heavy burden on a nation with only US\$14.5 billion in foreign exchange reserves. “Rolling over and negotiating concessions on that front won’t be a smooth sail for Pakistan,” said Asif Ali Qureshi, chief executive of Optimus Capital Management. Dar’s visit is expected to focus on several goals under the next phase of the CPEC, including establishing special economic zones in Pakistan’s four provinces and modernising its agricultural sector. Pakistan will need to focus on CPEC developments with commercial viability and improve its capability to attract foreign investors, Qureshi said. The visit comes amid closer relations between Pakistan and the United States even as Islamabad deepens its economic partnership with China. Kasuri said that one of the key planks of Pakistan’s foreign policy is its “steadfast commitment to China”. As such, Pakistan should not be forced to choose a side in the US-China rivalry. He added: “Being a sovereign state, we must get along with both global powers while prioritising our national interests.”

<https://www.scmp.com/author/ashraf-khan>

Xinhua Net News

Senior CPC official meets guests from Pakistan, Namibia, Malaysia

Liu Jianchao, head of the International Department of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, met separately with guests from Pakistan, Namibia and Malaysia on Tuesday. The guests included Pakistani Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Mohammad Ishaq Dar, Secretary General of the SWAPO Party of Namibia Sophia Shaningwa, and Nurul Izzah binti Anwar, vice president of Malaysia's Parti Keadilan Rakyat. They had in-depth discussions on strengthening interparty exchanges and cooperation and promoting the development of bilateral relations.

<https://english.news.cn/asiapacific/20240514/d55c799e736246f3a7a35338b85c9cee/c.html>

May 15, 2024

China Daily

CPEC security key to Sino-Pakistani ironclad relations

While the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor projects have yielded tangible benefits for the local economy and its people, recent attacks targeting the CPEC should serve as a cause for serious concern. Despite the enduring ironclad friendship between the two nations, the security issue must be prioritized. The killing of seven workers in the Pakistani coastal city of Gwadar in Balochistan province on May 9 hit the headlines around the world. A few weeks earlier, 11 people were shot dead in two separate incidents in Balochistan. The fact that all the seven victims in Gwadar and the nine bus passengers who were gunned down near Noshki were from Punjab province adds an ethnic dimension to the incidents, especially because the Baloch Liberation Army, designated a terror group, has been openly threatening to target people from Punjab. However, this viewpoint is too simplistic because Pakistan is facing a multidimensional terrorist threat.

<https://epaper.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202405/15/WS6643eb98a310df4030f5182a.html>

Global Times

Pakistan's new government to enhance cooperation with China in second phase of CPEC, AI technologies: minister

Leng Shumei and Xie Wenting

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi met with visiting Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Pakistan Mohammad Ishaq Dar on Wednesday. Wang called on the two countries to further enhance and develop their all-weather strategic cooperative partnership during the meeting. Ahead of Dar's visit, Pakistan's Federal Minister for Planning, Development, and Special Initiatives, Prof. Ahsan Iqbal (Iqbal) kicked off a visit to Beijing on May 8. Iqbal's visit is the first high-level visit of a Pakistani official to China since the new government came to power in March. At a press conference on May 9 at the Pakistan Embassy in Beijing, Prof. Iqbal shared his opinions on the relationship and cooperation between China and Pakistan with Global Times reporters Leng Shumei and Xie Wenting (GT). He also shared the new government's expectations for the construction of the second phase of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). **GT: Your visit is the first high-level of a Pakistani official to China under the new government. What is the significance and key objectives of your visit?** **Iqbal:** It is my great privilege to visit China after the new government was voted into office. This is the first high-level visit to be followed by a visit by the Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister. Then, hopefully very soon the Prime Minister of Pakistan is also likely to visit China. Pakistan and China have enjoyed a unique relationship and diplomatic history. This is a relationship which is always moved in an upward trajectory. This has never seen any autumn. There has always been spring in this relationship. Every season, the garden of friendship between Pakistan and China has blossomed with new colorful flowers of cooperation and understanding between the people of Pakistan and China

and the two ironclad brother countries. The significance of my visit is that this is a new government after the elections. This is our first engagement with the Chinese leadership at a senior level. In this engagement, we are trying to crystallize and define the parameters of the phase two of the CPEC, on which the Chinese side had indicated its willingness to move forward and Pakistan is also very committed to moving forward. We have discussed some high-priority projects that can be immediately started to give a jump start to kick off the second phase of the CPEC. We hope that during my visit, with discussions with Chinese leadership, we will be able to work out a road map to implement the second phase of CPEC with the same spirit and momentum, with which we were able to complete the first phase, which had a very big impact on Pakistan. **GT: How has the CPEC benefited Pakistan in the first phase and how does Pakistan plan to enhance cooperation with China in the second phase of the CPEC under the new government?** **Iqbal:** In 2013, when we kicked off the CPEC, Pakistan was facing severe energy shortages of up to 16 hours per day. And Pakistan's economy and security situation had many challenges. We can never forget that at that time China displayed its trust and confidence in the economy and the people of Pakistan and started a \$46 billion project to help Pakistan overcome its difficulties between 2013 and 2018. Within five years, we were able to harness over \$25 billion worth of projects, which helped us establish new power projects of up to 8,000-megawatt capacity, upgrade our logistics and construct new motorways to improve connectivity between Pakistan and China. Recently we celebrated a decade of the CPEC and we can take a lot of pride in the decade of the CPEC. The CPEC has helped Pakistan transform its energy sector infrastructure sectors and also created over 2 million jobs. It has helped Pakistan acquire new technology as thousands of Pakistani engineers and workers were trained in these projects. It has helped to connect several parts of the country so that the fruits of development can be shared across various regions of Pakistan. As to how to broaden cooperation from phase one to phase two, particularly, what is important now for us is three aspects. One is the agricultural sector. How do we expand our cooperation to bring new technology into the agricultural sector to enhance productivity of Pakistan? Second is how do we enhance industrial cooperation? Particularly, there is a strong case for relocation of Chinese industries to Pakistan where labor costs in China have increased and Pakistan offers a very attractive environment for relocation to the CPEC that we are setting up. And that will also help us to transform from an agrarian economy to an industrial economy, which is one of the key future goals. In this industrialization, we also want to focus on exports: How to have an export-led growth in Pakistan. So, there will also be more cooperation at the level of exports to help Pakistan develop its exports and special economic zones.

The third area is technology because China has leadership and many new fourth-generation industrial revolution technologies, particularly artificial intelligence (AI), which is a very important new platform for the future economies and digital economies. So, Pakistan is also preparing its national action plan for the adoption of AI. We will also benefit greatly in this area from China. Lastly, we also want to expand educational and technical exchange programs. I think close to 27,000 [Pakistani] students are studying in China; China has become a major destination for Pakistani students for higher education and we would like this cooperation to further expand and also to have greater partnership or twinning arrangements

between Pakistani universities and Chinese universities so that they can undertake joint research in the areas of cooperation, particularly like agriculture, industrial cooperation, and export development of Pakistan.

GT: In March, there was terrorist attack that led to the deaths of Chinese nationals. What measures will Pakistan take to protect the safety of Chinese people and projects in your country? **Iqbal:** There are enemies of the CPEC; enemies of Pakistan-China friendship, who are trying to stop the progress of the CPEC. The recent unfortunate terrorist incidents were sponsored by such elements who want to create obstacles in the way of the CPEC's progress. First of all, I offer my condolences to the families of those Chinese workers who were targets of this terrorist action; the whole Pakistani nation is in mourning. We consider Chinese engineers and workers in Pakistan as our special guests. They are working for the development of Pakistan. So, no Pakistani ever can even dream of causing any harm to any Chinese person on Pakistani soil. These incidents are sponsored from across the border. I want to assure you that we have taken further measures to enhance security for Chinese people in Pakistan. On the projects where there are large numbers of Chinese workers, we have also tried to minimize their land travel from project sites. We will moving them either by helicopters to give them added security, or we shall also now enhance the security in terms of the support of paramilitary forces, and the police and also strengthen the protocols of securities. And the message for those who want to put obstacles in the path of our friendship through such dirty tricks is very clear that such attacks cannot stop the progress of the CPEC. It cannot stop the progress of the BRI. It cannot stop progress of friendship between the ironclad brothers Pakistan and China.

GT: What is your comment on the so-called "debt trap" narrative over the BRI? **Iqbal:** Pakistan has benefited from financing by China. The whole disinformation about whether the CPEC or the BRI are debt traps has nothing grounding in reality. As a matter of fact, the CPEC has benefited Pakistan's economy immensely.

GT: The capacity of the new energy vehicles (NEVs) is still far from meeting market demand especially in developing countries. How will Pakistan cooperate with China to develop NEVs in the future? **Iqbal:** NEVs are China's strength. China is the leader now in electric vehicles. So, we are seeking to transform our transportation sector with the help of China because we also have set up goals to have a greater share in our transport for electric vehicles to reduce pollution in our cities. During my visit, I'm meeting some Chinese companies, which are interested in setting up plants in Pakistan to manufacture new-energy automobile buses. And, particularly our interest is to have buses that will clear pollution from our cities, which are electric buses. This will be a priority item for us for the future.

GT: When will the visit of the Pakistani Prime Minister take place and what will the highlights of the visit be? **Iqbal:** You have to wait for the final declaration at the time of the visit, but I can only say that we are hopeful that this will be a very productive visit because this is not an ordinary visit. This is a visit by the Prime Minister of Pakistan to Pakistan's best and the dearest country that is the most reliable friend. This is happening at a time when the new government has come in and it is dedicated to taking on the CPEC's second phase with full commitment and full momentum. So, there will be happy outcomes from the visit.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202405/1312336.shtml>

People Daily News

Senior CPC official meets guests from Pakistan, Namibia, Malaysia

Liu Jianchao, head of the International Department of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, met separately with guests from Pakistan, Namibia and Malaysia on Tuesday. The guests included Pakistani Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Mohammad Ishaq Dar, Secretary General of the SWAPO Party of Namibia Sophia Shaningwa, and Nurul Izzah binti Anwar, vice president of Malaysia's Parti Keadilan Rakyat. They had in-depth discussions on strengthening interparty exchanges and cooperation and promoting the development of bilateral relations.

<http://en.people.cn/n3/2024/0515/c90000-20169794.html>

South China Morning Post

China calls for 'upgraded' CPEC, calls on Pakistan to ensure workers' safety

Zhang Tong

Foreign Minister Wang Yi also hails 'ironclad' relationship between neighbours in talks with Pakistan's deputy prime minister Ishaq Dar's visit to Beijing comes after five Chinese engineers were killed by a suicide bomber in the northwest of the country in March. China is ready to work with Pakistan to develop an "upgraded version" of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor infrastructure project, Foreign Minister Wang Yi said on Wednesday. In talks with Ishaq Dar, Pakistan's new deputy prime minister, Wang hailed the "ironclad" relationship between the neighbouring countries and pledged to advance the CPEC, according to a Chinese foreign ministry readout.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/diplomacy/article/3262819/china-calls-upgraded-cpec-calls-pakistan-ensure-workers-safety>

Xinhua Net

China, Pakistan pledge to enhance pragmatic cooperation in various fields

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi co-chaired the fifth round of the Foreign Minister-Level China-Pakistan Strategic Dialogue with Pakistan's Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Mohammad Ishaq Dar in Beijing on Wednesday, with the two sides pledging to enhance pragmatic cooperation in various fields. Wang, also a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, noted that China and Pakistan are all-weather strategic cooperative partners. Over the years, Pakistan has firmly adhered to the one-China principle and offered China valuable support without reservation on issues concerning China's core interests. China also firmly supports Pakistan in safeguarding national sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity and in playing a bigger role in international and regional affairs. It is believed that under the leadership of the new government, Pakistan will enter a new stage of political unity, social stability, controllable security and sustainable development. China and Pakistan will support each other, share weal

and woe, and work hand in hand to push China-Pakistan all-weather strategic cooperative partnership to a new level, Wang added. China is willing to work with Pakistan to implement the important consensus reached by the leaders of the two countries, pool efforts to promote the construction of an upgraded version of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, and work together to build a closer China-Pakistan community with a shared future in the new era, Wang said. In addition, China will not waver in its determination to deepen cooperation with Pakistan, and hopes that Pakistan will continue to do its utmost to ensure the safety of Chinese personnel, projects and institutions in Pakistan and eliminate the worries of Chinese enterprises and personnel, he added. The Pakistan-China friendship is the cornerstone of Pakistan's foreign policy, Dar said, adding that Pakistan abides by the one-China principle, firmly supports China without hesitation on all issues concerning China's core interests, and looks forward to further deepening bilateral practical cooperation in various fields. Pakistan will do its utmost to ensure the safety of Chinese personnel and institutions in Pakistan.

<https://english.news.cn/20240515/e9db9e44cbd947e988506278fcb0e92c/c.html>