For Better Understanding on

China-Pakistan and CPEC

Gleanings from the National & Chinese Press

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May 16, 2024

Business Recorder

‘Upgraded’ version of CPEC

China ready to work with Pakistan

China is ready to pool efforts with Pakistan to promote an “upgraded version” of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), foreign minister Wang Yi said on Wednesday, according to his ministry. Wang met with Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Mohammad Ishaq Dar in Beijing on Wednesday. Reuters OUR REPORTER ADDS FROM ISLAMABAD: Pakistan and China have renewed their joint commitment to advance the high-quality development of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) in its second phase, with its focus on five corridors namely, growth, innovation, open, livelihood, and green corridors. According to a separate statement issued here by Foreign Office, Foreign Minister Senator Ishaq Dar co-chaired the 5th round of China-Pakistan Strategic Dialogue with Member of the Politburo of CPC Central Committee and Foreign Minister Wang Yi in Beijing on Wednesday. It stated that the two sides reviewed the entire gamut of bilateral relations and discussed regional and international issues of mutual interest. Noting the China-Pakistan “All Weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership”, the deputy prime minister underlined relations with China as the cornerstone of Pakistan’s foreign policy. It added that the deputy prime minister highlighted the threats posed to regional peace and security due to India’s illegal occupation of Jammu and Kashmir, and appreciated China’s principled stance on the Jammu and Kashmir dispute. “Both sides reiterated the resolve to further deepen the bilateral ties through continued high-level exchanges and bilateral consultative mechanisms. They also renewed the commitment to advance the high-quality development of CPEC in its second phase with its focus on five corridors namely, growth, innovation, open, livelihood, [and] green corridors,” read the Foreign Office statement. However, no joint statement was issued of the 5th round of the China-Pakistan Strategic Dialogue and the two foreign ministers held a joint press conference at the conclusion of the dialogue in Beijing.

https://epaper.brecorder.com/2024/05/16/1-page/993070-news.html

Dawn News

In talks with Dar, China vows to ‘upgrade’ CPEC

BEIJING: China is ready to work with Pakistan to develop an “upgraded version” of the China-Pakis-tan Economic Corridor (CPEC) project, Foreign Minister Wang Yi told his Pakistani counterpart on Wednesday. In talks with Ishaq Dar, Pakistan’s new deputy prime minister, Wang hailed the “ironclad” relationship between the neighboring countries and pledged to advance CPEC, the South China Morning Post reported

https://www.dawn.com/news/1833783/in-talks-with-dar-china-vows-to-upgrade-cpec

Dunya News

Pakistan, China reiterate resolve to further deepen ties

BEIJING (Dunya News) - Pakistan and China have reiterated the resolve to further deepen the bilateral ties through continued high-level exchanges and bilateral consultative mechanisms. This resolve was expressed at the 5th round of China-Pakistan Strategic Dialogue, co-chaired by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar and Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi in Beijing on Wednesday. They also renewed the commitment to advance the high quality development of CPEC in its second phase with its focus on five corridors namely growth, innovation, open, livelihood, green corridors. Both sides reviewed the entire gamut of bilateral relations and discussed regional and international issues of mutual interest. Noting the China Pakistan 'All Weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership', the Deputy Prime Minister underlined relations with China as the cornerstone of Pakistan's foreign policy. He also highlighted the threats posed to regional peace and security due to India's illegal occupation of Jammu and Kashmir and appreciated China's principled stance on the Jammu and Kashmir dispute.

https://dunyanews.tv/en/Pakistan/812005-Pakistan,-China-reiterate-resolve-to-further-deepen-ties

Pakistan Observer

New development brings new opportunities, provides new impetus, and resolves new challenges

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

This year marks the 75th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China and is a critical year for achieving the goals and tasks of China's 14th Five-Year Plan. Facing a new wave of technological revolution and industrial transformation, we adhere to the path of Chinese-style modernization, comprehensively promote high-quality development, accelerate the development of new quality productive forces, transform and upgrade traditional industries, cultivate and strengthen emerging industries, and lay out the construction of future-oriented industries, so as to achieve a series of new developments. In 2023, exports of China's "new trio", namely electric vehicles, lithium batteries, and photovoltaic products, experienced a significant surge, surpassing 146 billion US dollars. The three major emerging industries, including biomedicine, artificial intelligence and nanotechnology applications, are booming, and the annual output of 2023 exceeded US$55 billion. The integrated development of the digital economy and the tangible economy is expected to reach US$15.7 trillion in 2027. Last year's new developments laid a solid foundation for this year's "good start". In the first quarter, China's GDP grew by 5.3% year-on-year, maintaining progress while ensuring stability. "Stability" has been further consolidated, with industry and service industries growing by 6% and 5% respectively year-on-year. While the trend of "progress" has become more obvious, with new energy vehicle production and sales increasing by 28.2% and 31.8% respectively. What is particularly gratifying is that the import and export of goods trade increased by 5.7% year-on-year in the first four months of this year, and the growth rate of

imports was nearly 2 percentage points higher than that of exports. The upward trend of China's economy has not changed, and China remains an important engine of global development. We are ready to use China's new development to provide new opportunities for the world, and first of all, benefit our iron-clad friend Pakistan. This year marks the first year of Pakistan's new government and an important year for the brotherly Pakistani people to open a new prospect in national development. The Pakistani government's "5Es" framework not only meets Pakistan's current development needs, but also chimes with China's approach of promoting high-quality development through new quality productive forces, which indicates that 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, two hydropower plant and one solar power station within CPEC framework, with six more hydropower stations under construction upon bilateral cooperation. The steady supply of clean energy from the sky and river helps maintain Pakistan's energy security. 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. The rapeseed harvester promoted in Pakistan reduces local harvest losses from 40% to 8%. On May 10, China handed over the data of Pakistan's ICUBE-QSatellite from the Chang'e-6 mission to Pakistan, launching a new practice in aerospace cooperation between the two countries. Looking forward to CPEC Phase 2, we are ready to work with Pakistan to implement the important consensus reached by leaders of the two countries, inject new impetus into China-Pakistan cooperation with China's new development, and promote the in-depth integration of 5Cs (5 Corridors: growth corridor, livelihood-enhancing corridor, innovation corridor, green corridor and open corridor) with 5Es, create an upgraded version of the CPEC and build a closer China-Pakistan community with a shared future in the new era. This year is also an election year for the "largest economy" of the world. Unsurprisingly, it is also a year when politicians in relevant countries creates false narratives to divert domestic problems. After hyping to no avail "China's economic collapse theory" and "China's economic peak theory", they concocted the so-called "China's overcapacity theory." The reality is that, first China does not have the problem of "overcapacity", let alone exporting "excess production capacity" to the outside world In 2023, China's industrial capacity utilization rate rebounded quarter by quarter, reaching 74.3%, 74.5%, 75.6% and 75.9% respectively, and the automobile manufacturing capacity utilization rate will move towards the threshold of 80%. China's new energy products are mainly supplied to the domestic market. For example, in 2023, the export volume of new energy vehicles only account for 12.7% of production, of which only 13,000 vehicles were exported to the United States, accounting for only 0.82% of export volume. China's solar battery exports to the United States account for only 0.1% of exports. If this small amount of exports would harm the US, then it is too fragile. Second, the competitive advantage of China's new energy industry is rooted in the country's ultra-large-scale market, complete industrial system, abundant human resources and huge investment in R&D. It does not rely on so-called "unfair competition" or so-called "subsidies." On the contrary, the United States passed a bill in 2022

to provide tax credits of up to US$7,500 for the purchase of every local new energy vehicle and provide manufacturing subsidies for photovoltaic companies. From March 2020 to the end of 2022, the subsidy plan approved by the European Commission totaled up to 3.8 trillion euros, and the subsidy for the battery project alone is as high as 600 million euros. It is crystal clear who is using subsidies to engage in unfair competition. Third, China's new energy product exports benefit the world and make important contributions to addressing climate change and promoting green transformation. In 2023, China exported 1.203 million new energy vehicles, becoming an important force leading the transformation of the global automobile industry. In 2023, the world's newly installed renewable energy capacity was 510 million kilowatts, with China contributing more than half. China's wind power and photovoltaic products are exported to more than 200 countries and regions, and the total emission reductions for other countries accounted for approximately 41% of the global carbon emission reductions converted from renewable energy in the same period. In particular, it has helped developing countries obtain clean, reliable and affordable energy. We believe justice lies in the heart of the people. In recent years, the global climate change situation has become increasingly grim, and the demand for new energy products has become more urgent. According to estimates by the International Energy Agency, global demand for new energy vehicles in 2030 will be 4.5 times that of 2022, and demand for new photovoltaic installed capacity will be four times that of 2022. From the perspective of global market demand and future development potential, China's new energy production capacity is not surplus but insufficient. The real overcapacity is the surplus of fake news, disinformation, and fallacies concocted by certain countries against China out of domestic political needs and zero-sum game mentality. It is actually practicing trade protectionism in the disguise of opposing so-called "overcapacity". Tripping China up will not make certain countries run faster, but will only undermine the stability and smoothness of the global industrial and supply chains and hinder the green transformation of the global economy, thus posing new challenges to countries around the world, especially developing countries, in promoting economic recovery. Countries including China and Pakistan, relying on our own unremitting efforts and mutually beneficial cooperation to seek development and revitalization, must be highly vigilant and work together to respond. China and Pakistan are all-weather strategic cooperative partners and stalwarts of the international community in safeguarding fairness and justice and promoting development and progress. China is ready to work with friends from all walks of life in Pakistan to advocate universally beneficial and inclusive economic globalization, comply with the common aspirations of countries around the world, especially developing countries, work together to make the "cake" of economic globalization bigger and fairly share it, and resolutely oppose unilateralism, protectionism, firmly promote trade and investment liberalization and facilitation, and achieve mutual benefit, win-win results, and common prosperity.

https://pakobserver.net/new-development-brings-new-opportunities-provides-new-impetus-and-resolves-new-challenges/

'Iron-clad friendship' – Pakistan, China vow to build upgraded version of CPEC

ISLAMABAD – Pakistan and China have agreed to build an upgraded version of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). The two sides reached the understanding at Fifth Round of Pakistan-China Foreign Ministers' Strategic Dialogue co-chaired by Ishaq Dar and Wang Yi in Beijing. The two sides will jointly promote the deepening and practical implementation of China's eight actions to support high-quality joint construction of the Belt and Road. "We will jointly build the growth corridor, the livelihood corridor, the innovation corridor, the green corridor and the opening corridor, and synergize with Pakistan's development plans and priorities to build an upgraded version of the China-Pakistan economic corridor," read the joint press release. During the Strategic Dialogue, the two sides exchanged views on bilateral relations and bilateral cooperation in strategic, economic, political, defense and security, trade, investment, business, people-to-people and cultural fields, and discussed international and regional issues of common concern. The two sides agreed to jointly take measures to safeguard common interests, enhance the well-being of the two peoples and jointly promote regional peace, development and prosperity. They reaffirmed that China and Pakistan are all-weather strategic cooperative partners, the "iron-clad" friendship between the two countries is solid as a rock, and the strategic mutual trust between the two countries is unbreakable. The sound and robust development of China-Pakistan relations is of great strategic significance to regional peace, development and stability. The two sides will implement the important consensus reached by the leaders of the two countries, intensify exchanges at all levels, deepen the exchange of experience in governance, further strengthen win-win cooperation in various fields, and accelerate the construction of a closer China-Pakistan community of shared future in the new era. Pakistan and China officials reaffirmed their firm support for each other on issues concerning each other's core interests. The Pakistani side reiterated that it firmly adheres to the one-China principle and that Taiwan is an inalienable part of the Chinese territory, firmly supports all efforts made by the Chinese government to realize national reunification, and opposes any form of "Taiwan independence." "Pakistan firmly supports China on issues related to Xinjiang, Tibet, Hong Kong and the South China Sea," said the press release. The Chinese side reiterated its support for Pakistan in safeguarding national sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity, in pursuing a development path suited to its national conditions and achieving economic prosperity, in firmly combating terrorism, and in playing a greater role in international and regional affairs. The two sides strongly condemned the terrorist attack on the convoy of Chinese personnel of the "March 26" Dasu Hydropower Project in Pakistan and stressed that any attempt to undermine China-Pakistan cooperation will never succeed. The Pakistani side is committed to maintaining the "iron core" friendship with China, will spare no effort to find the real culprits and bring them to justice, take more practical and effective security measures, and make every effort to ensure the safety of Chinese personnel, projects and institutions in Pakistan. The Chinese side recognizes the contributions and sacrifices made by the Pakistani side in combating terrorism over the years. The two sides reaffirmed their "zero tolerance" attitude in combating all forms of terrorism and agreed to further strengthen counter-terrorism and security cooperation in an all-round way. The two

sides called on the international community to strengthen counter-terrorism cooperation and resolutely oppose the adoption of "double standards" on the issue of counter-terrorism. They will jointly promote the deepening and practical implementation of China's eight actions to support high-quality joint construction of the Belt and Road. The two sides agreed to speed up major connectivity projects such as the upgrading and renovation of Main Railway Line 1, Gwadar Port and the second phase of the Karakoram Highway, and strengthen cooperation in agriculture, industrial parks, and mining and information technology in light of local conditions to enhance Pakistan's capacity for sustainable development. They also agreed that the Hongqilaf Highway Port plays an important role in promoting economic and trade exchanges and people-to-people exchanges between China and Pakistan, and agreed to speed up the work of opening the Hongqilaf Port all year round. Both sides discussed existing cooperation in the field of energy and agreed to further strengthen such cooperation. They agreed to further strengthen cooperation in the financial and banking sectors of the two countries, including supporting each other on regional and international platforms. The Pakistani side thanked China for its financial support and timely assistance when Pakistan faced natural disasters such as floods. The two sides expressed satisfaction with the expanding space cooperation between the two countries and agreed to further deepen cooperation on this basis and explore space in a peaceful and mutually beneficial manner. They stressed the importance of maintaining peace and stability in South Asia, the need to resolve all outstanding disputes, and opposed any unilateral actions. Pakistan briefed China on the latest development of the situation in Jammu and Kashmir. China reiterated that the Kashmir issue is a dispute left over from history and should be properly resolved through peaceful means in accordance with the UN Charter, relevant UN Security Council resolutions and relevant bilateral agreements. The two sides reaffirmed their readiness to cooperate actively within the framework of the Global Development Initiative, the Global Security Initiative and the Global Civilization Initiative. "Pakistan highly commends China's efforts to safeguard the sustainable development rights and interests of developing countries." Pakistan and China expressed satisfaction with the cooperation in multilateral mechanisms such as the United Nations and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, and agreed to strengthen coordination and cooperation to safeguard the common interests of developing countries and international fairness and justice. The two sides reaffirmed their commitment to the purposes and principles of the UN Charter, support for multilateralism and free trade, and oppose "coterie" and camp confrontation. They agreed to strengthen communication and coordination on the Afghan issue and called on the international community to make joint efforts to help Afghanistan properly cope with the humanitarian situation. "We encourage Afghanistan to pursue inclusive governance, moderate governance, good-neighborliness, firm fight against terrorism, including not allowing the use of Afghan territory for terrorist activities, and play a positive and constructive role in Afghanistan's stable development and integration into the international community." The two sides reiterated that the fundamental solution to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict lies in the implementation of the two-state solution and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state. The resolutions adopted by the UN Security Council are binding and should be effectively implemented, leading to an immediate, unconditional and lasting ceasefire. The international community should increase its input to the question of Palestine with a greater sense of urgency and make greater efforts

to promote the early resumption of peace talks between Palestine and Israel so as to achieve lasting peace. The two sides reaffirmed that China and Pakistan are good neighbors, good friends, good partners and good brothers, and will carry forward the "iron core" friendship, deepen mutually beneficial cooperation, strengthen strategic coordination, and constantly set new goals and create new prospects for the China-Pakistan all-weather strategic cooperative partnership.

https://pakobserver.net/iron-clad-friendship-pakistan-china-vow-to-build-upgraded-version-of-cpec/

The Express Tribune

Cabinet for resolving CPEC SEZ issues

ISLAMABAD: The cabinet has directed the ministries concerned to resolve the issues of dividends, revolving fund and taxation pertaining to the CPEC Special Economic Zones (SEZs) as a positive signal before the upcoming visit of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to China. Sources told The Express Tribune that the cabinet in a recent meeting directed the CPEC (China-Pakistan Economic Corridor) Secretariat to expedite the finalization of sustainable projects for five corridors under CPEC phase-II before the PM's trip to Beijing. The five corridors include livelihood, innovation, and green energy, open and inclusive regional development. The cabinet urged the Ministry of Finance to clear the dividends owed to the Chinese firms operating in Pakistan well ahead of meetings with Chinese counterparts to portray a positive image of the country. Regarding the revolving fund, the cabinet gave directives that the Power Division, Petroleum Division, Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Planning should meet to come up with a solution. While considering the imposition of minimum taxes in the CPEC SEZs, the Ministry of Finance was directed to take immediate action to withdraw them. It was pointed out that first meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Chinese Investment Projects (CCOCIP) had been held recently. The minister for planning, being the committee chairman, apprised the cabinet that the security of Chinese nationals in Pakistan, overdue payables to CPEC independent power plants (IPPs), revolving account for the IPPs, and provision of electricity to the Rashakai SEZ and incentive packages for SEZs were discussed in the first CCOCIP meeting. For the security of Chinese nationals, the CCOCIP directed the Interior Division to continue taking concrete measures to restore the confidence of Chinese and other investors. It was decided to establish standard operating procedures (SOPs) for high-security measures to instill confidence in the security measures taken for foreign nationals in Pakistan. Possibilities could also be explored for recruiting security personnel on a contract basis instead of only on a permanent basis. Regarding the outstanding dues of IPPs and the revolving account, the CCOCIP directed the Power Division to provide comprehensive briefings in the next meeting. While discussing the provision of electricity to the Rashakai SEZ, the CCOCIP directed the Power Division to resolve the issue by involving the National Electric Power Regulatory Authority, Board of Investment and the CPEC Secretariat. The cabinet considered a summary titled "Ratification of decisions taken by the Cabinet Committee on Chinese Investment Projects in its meeting held on April 30, 2024," and endorsed the decisions. https://tribune.com.pk/story/2466800/cabinet-for-resolving-cpec-sez-issues

The Nation

Pakistan, China agree to fast-track mega projects

Foreign ministers agree to expedite ML-1 Railway Line, Gwadar Port, Karakoram Highway projects Chinese FM says relationship between Islamabad, Beijing serves as a pillar for regional peace Dar reaffirms Pakistan's commitment to bringing perpetrators of Shangla terrorist attack to justice.

ISLAMABAD - Pakistan and China Wednesday agreed to expedite the advancement of several key projects including the ML-1 railway line, Gwadar Port Development, and realignment of Phase-2 of the Karakoram Highway. Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar, along with Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi, made this announcement during a joint news conference held in Beijing. They also pledged to enhance collaboration in various sectors such as agriculture, mining, energy, Information Technology (IT), and industry as part of the second phase of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), with a focus on fostering growth, innovation, sustainability, and inclusivity.

They reached a consensus on finalizing the modalities for third-party involvement in CPEC and expressed appreciation for China's ongoing support and development assistance to Pakistan.

Emphasizing the significance of the Karakoram Highway as a vital link in the geographical connectivity between the two nations and a crucial component of CPEC, they agreed to initiate all-weather operations at the Khunjerab-Sost border crossing soon.

DPM Dar underscored the enduring strategic partnership between Pakistan and China, affirming mutual support on core issues and concerns, including sovereignty and territorial integrity. He highlighted Pakistan's concerns regarding regional peace and security stemming from India's actions in Jammu and Kashmir, urging resolution in line with the aspirations of the Kashmiri people and UN Security Council resolutions.

He reiterated Pakistan's unwavering support for China on key matters such as Xinjiang, the South China Sea, and Taiwan. Regarding Afghanistan, both nations stressed the importance of a peaceful and stable Afghanistan for regional development and called for action against terrorist groups operating in the region. Dar expressed condolences for the victims of a terrorist attack in Shangla, reaffirming Pakistan's commitment to bringing the perpetrators to justice and ensuring the safety of Chinese nationals in Pakistan.

He also reiterated Pakistan's stance against bloc politics and advocated for constructive engagement among members of the international community. Dar mentioned the upcoming celebration of the 73rd anniversary of Pakistan-China friendship, emphasizing its significance in global affairs and the development of both nations.

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi welcomed Senator Dar's visit, underlining the significance of his role as Deputy Prime Minister. "The relationship between Pakistan and China is not only strategic but also deeply rooted in mutual trust and respect," he remarked.

He added: “This unbreakable bond serves as a pillar for regional peace and prosperity, growing ever stronger with time.” Earlier, in a meeting with Dar, Chinese vice Premier Ding Xuexiang reiterated China’s steadfast support for Pakistan across various fields, including the economy, trade, and investment. Both sides emphasized the importance of expediting CPEC projects for mutual prosperity and deepening the enduring friendship between Pakistan and China.

Dar once again condemned the Shangla attack and assured a zero-tolerance approach towards its perpetrators. He also commended the progress made by CPEC and expressed optimism about its positive impact on industry, agriculture, and mineral development in Phase-II. Discussions also touched upon enhancing connectivity through the Khunjerab border crossing and simplifying the visa regime between the two nations.

https://www.nation.com.pk/16-May-2024/pakistan-china-agree-to-fast-track-mega-projects

Chinese technology JI gets license for solar panels of Longi, Huawei Invertors in Pakistan

LAHORE - The Chinese Technology JI has got license for solar panels of Longi and Huawei Invertors in Pakistan and Afghanistan. The companies have started their operations after being inaugurated by CEO Mr. JI from China. Mr. JI while talking after opening ceremony said the demand for solar panels in Pakistan is increasing day by day. “We will provide complete solar panel solution with big finance and these two companies Longi and Huawei are of international standard,” he said. Mr. JI said the Pakistani industry and people will benefit from the cheaper electricity, adding to the growth and development of the economy of Pakistan. General Manager LONGI Ali Majid and other businessmen were also present on the occasion.

https://www.nation.com.pk/16-May-2024/chinese-technology-ji-gets-licence-for-solar-panels-of-longi-huawei-invertors-in-pakistan

Express News

گرین کوریڈور سمیت 5 راہداریوں پر توجہ مرکوز کی جائیگی ، ایم ایل ون ، گوادر ، کان کنی دیگر شعبوں میں تعاون بڑھایا جائے گا

شانگلہ حملے کے ذمے دار انجام تک پہنچائیں گے ، کشمیر پر حمایت کیلیے شکر گزار ، ڈار ، پاک، چین تعلقات امن کیلیے اہم ، چینی وزیر خارجہ

بیجنگ (مانیٹرنگ ڈیسک ، ایجنسیاں) پاکستان اور چین کے درمیان بیجنگ میں اسٹرٹیجک مذاکرات کا پانچواں دور ہوا جس میں دونوں ممالک نے ایک دوسرے کے مفادات کے تحفظ ، جغرافیائی سرحدوں کی حمایت کی یقین دہانی کرائی اور مختلف شعبوں میں تعاون بڑھانے پر اتفاق کیا ہے۔ نائب وزیر اعظم اور وزیر خارجہ اسحاق ڈار نے بیجنگ میں سی پی سی کی مرکزی کمیٹی کے پولٹ بیورو کے رکن اور وزیر خارجہ وانگ ژی کے ساتھ چین پاکستان سٹر بیجنگ ڈائیلاگ کے پانچویں دور کی مشترکہ صدارت کی۔ فریقین نے اعلیٰ سطح کے تبادلوں اور دو طرفہ مشاورتی طریقہ کار کے ذریعے دو طرفہ تعلقات کو مزید وسعت دینے کے عزم کا اعادہ کیا اور سی پیک کے دوسرے مرحلے میں اعلیٰ معیار کی ترقی کو آگے بڑھانے کے عزم کی بھی تجدید کی جس میں ترقی ، اختراع ، روزگار اور گرین کوریڈور سمیت پانچ راہداریوں پر توجہ مرکوز کی جائے گی۔ مشتر کہ نیوز کانفرنس میں اسحاق ڈار نے چین کیسا تھ تعلقات کو پاکستان کی خارجہ پالیسی کا سنگ بنیاد قرار دیا اور کشمیر پر چین کے اصولی موقف کو سراہا۔ انہوں نے کہا چینی ہم منصب سے سی پیک اور جغرافیائی صورتحال اور دیگر موضوعات پر بات چیت ہوئی ، مسئلہ کشمیر کے حل کے بغیر خطے میں امن ممکن نہیں ، مسئلہ کشمیر پر چین کے مسلسل حمایت کرنے پر اس کے شکر گزار ہیں۔ مذاکرات میں چین اور ہمارے درمیان کئی اہم امور پر

اتفاق ہوا ہے، پاکستان تائیوان اور جنوبی بحیرہ چین سمیت تمام بنیادی امور پر چین کی حمایت جاری رکھے گا جب کہ چین نے پاکستان کی خود مختاری ، علاقائی و جغرافیائی سلامتی کے حوالے پر چین کی حمایت جاری رکھے گا جب کہ چین نے پاکستان کی خود مختاری ، علاقائی و جغرافیائی سلامتی کے حوالے سے حمایت جاری رکھنے کی یقین دہانی کرائی ہے۔ پاک چین دوستی علاقائی اور عالمی امن و استحکام کیلئے ضروری ہے۔ افغان عبوری حکومت اپنی سرزمین پر دہشت گر د پناہ گاہوں کو ختم کرے ۔ شانگلہ حملے کے ذمہ داروں کو کیفر کردار تک پہنچائیں گے ۔ اگلے سال پاک چین مثالی دوستی کی 73 ویں سالگرہ ہو گی ۔ ایم ایل ون ، گوادر بندر گارہ، کان کنی ، آئی ٹی، توانائی اور زراعت میں تعاون بڑھانے پر اتفاق ہوا۔ چینی وزیر خارجہ وانگ ژی نے کہا کہ چین اور پاکستان تزویراتی شراکت دار ہیں ہماری دوستی چٹان کی طرح مضبوط ہے جو کہ وقت گزرنے کے ساتھ ساتھ مزید مضبوط ہو رہی ہے ، پاکستان اور چین کے تعلقات علاقائی امن اور خوشحالی کیلئے انتہائی اہم ہیں جو کہ باہمی اعتماد پر مبنی ہیں۔ علاوہ ازیں اسحاق ڈار نے چین کے ایگزیکٹو نائب وزیر اعظم ڈنگ زوکسیان سے ملاقات کی اور شانگلہ حملے پر تعزیت کا اظہار کیا اور مجرموں کو کیفر کردار تک پہنچانے کی یقین دہانی اور مارے جانے والے چینی کارکنوں کی خدمات کو سراہا۔ دونوں رہنماؤں نے سی پیک کے دوسرے مرحلے ، تجارت، اقتصادی تعاون اور سرمایہ کاری سمیت دو طرفہ تعلقات پر تفصیلی تبادلہ خیال کیا۔ انہوں نے خنجر اب بارڈر کراسنگ کے ذریعے رابطے اور ویزا کے آسان نظام پر بھی تبادلہ خیال اور تعاون کے تمام شعبوں میں پاک چین تعلقات کی بڑھتی ہوئی رفتار کو بر قرار رکھنے اور پاک چین دوستی کو مزید گہرا کر نے پر اتفاق کیا۔

https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1110979716&Issue=NP_KHI&Date=20240516

Jang News

پاکستان سے ''اپ گریڈڈ'' اقتصادی راہداری پر کام کرنے کو تیار ہیں، چینی وزیر خارجہ

چین کے وزیر خارجہ وانگ ژی نے کہا ہے کہ پاکستان سے 'اپ گریڈڈ' اقتصادی راہداری پر کام کرنے کو تیار ہیں جبکہ نائب وزیر اعظم اور وزیر خارجہ محمد اسحاق ڈار نے کہا ہے کہ پاک چین دوستی علاقائی اور عالمی امن واستحکام کے لئے ضروری ہے، مسئلہ کشمیر کے منصفانہ حل کے بغیر خطہ میں پائیدار امن ممکن نہیں، پاکستان تائیوان اور جنوبی بحیرہ چین سمیت تمام بنیادی امور پر چین کی حمایت جاری رکھے گا۔ تفصیلات کے مطابق بدھ کو پاکستان اور چین کے درمیان اسٹر ٹیجک ڈائیلاگ کے پانچویں دور کے بعد چین کے وزیر خارجہ وانگ ژی کے ہمراہ مشترکہ پریس کانفرنس سے خطاب کرتے ہوئے اسحاق ڈار نے کہا کہ سی پیک نے پاکستان کی معاشی ترقی میں اہم کردار ادا کیا ہے، چین نے پاکستان کی علاقائی سالمیت، خود مختاری اور سلامتی پر اپنی حمایت جاری رکھنے کا اعادہ کیا، مسئلہ کشمیر پر چین کی مسلسل حمایت کا شکریہ ادا کرتے ہیں۔ نائب وزیر اعظم اور وزیر خارجہ نے چین کی طرف سے گر مجوشی پر مبنی استقبال کو سراہتے ہوئے کہا کہ میری اور پاکستانی وفد کی بہترین مہمان نوازی پر چینی قیادت کا شکریہ ادا کر تا ہوں۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ میری چین کے نائب وزیر اعظم سے مختلف موضوعات پر تعمیری اور مفید بات چیت ہوئی ہے، سی پیک، علاقائی، جغرافیائی صورتحال سمیت مختلف امور پر بات چیت ہوئی۔

https://e.jang.com.pk/detail/685638

Nawaiwaqt News



بقیہ 1 وزیر خارجہ

پاکستان کی خود مختاری اور مسئلہ کشمیر پر حمایت جاری رکھیں گے چین

دوستی علاقائی عالمی امن و استحکام کیلئے ضروری اسحاق ڈار

چین، پاکستان دوستی چٹان کی طرح مضبوط، دن چائنا پالیسی پر پاکستان کا موقف قابل تحسین ہے: چینی وزیر خارجہ، مسئلہ کشمیر حل کئے بغیر خطے میں امن ممکن نہیں، حمایت پر شکر گزار ہیں، اسحاق ڈار

پاکستان چین اسٹریٹجک مذاکرات پانچواں دور، وزرائے خارجہ کی مشترکہ نیوز کانفرنس، سی پیک دوسرے مرحلے، دو طرفہ تعلقات، تجارت بارڈر کراسنگ رابطے، ویزا آسان نظام پر تبادلہ خیال

بیجنگ (اے پی پی نوائے وقت رپورٹ) مذاکرات کا پانچواں دور ہوا جس میں دونوں ممالک سرحدوں کی حمایت کی یقین دہانی کرائی اسٹریٹجک مذاکرات کا پانچواں دور ہوا جس کے بعد چین اور پاکستان کے درمیان بیجنگ میں اسٹریٹجک نے ایک دوسرے کے مفادات کے تحفظ، جغرافیائی ہے۔ پاکستان اور چین کے درمیان بیجنگ میں دونوں وزرائے خارجہ نے صفحہ 6 پر بقیہ نمبر 1

https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2024-05-16/page-1

https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2024-05-16/page-6

May 17, 2024

Business Recorder

High-quality B&R cooperation

Pakistan, China agree to deepen Beijing's steps

Pakistan and China have agreed to deepen and substantiate Beijing's eight major steps to support high-quality Belt and Road cooperation, and forge an "upgraded version" of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) by jointly building a growth corridor, as the two sides reaffirmed to upgrade strategic cooperation to break new ground and set new goals in their "All-weather" Strategic Cooperative Partnership. This was agreed in the Fifth Round of the China-Pakistan Foreign Ministers' Strategic Dialogue co-chaired by foreign ministers of the two countries in Beijing on May 15, 2024. According to a joint statement issued simultaneously in Islamabad and Beijing on Thursday, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar visited China from May 13 to May 16, 2024, at the invitation of a member

of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and Foreign Minister Wang Yi. During the dialogue, the two sides exchanged views on the entire range of bilateral relations and cooperation, including in strategic, economic, political, defence and security, trade, investment and commerce, and cultural and people-to-people domains. International and regional issues of shared interest were also discussed and the two sides reached consensus to collectively take measures to safeguard their common interest, promote the socio-economic development of peoples of the two countries, and work together to promote peace, development and prosperity of the region. "The two sides will work together to deepen and substantiate China's eight major steps to support high-quality Belt and Road cooperation, and forge an "upgraded version" of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) by jointly building a growth corridor, a livelihood-enhancing corridor, an innovation corridor, a green corridor and an open corridor, by aligning them with Pakistan's development framework and priorities," according to the joint statement. It was also agreed to accelerate progress on major connectivity projects including upgradation of ML-1, the Gwadar Port, realignment of Karakoram Highway Phase II, strengthen cooperation in agriculture, industrial parks, mining, information technology and other fields according to local conditions, and enhance Pakistan's capacity for sustainable development. "The two sides believe that the Khunjerab Pass plays an important role in promoting bilateral trade and people-to-people exchanges, and agreed to speed up efforts to make sure that the Khunjerab Pass can function all year round," it added. The two sides discussed ongoing energy cooperation and agreed to further enhance it. It was agreed to further strengthen financial and banking cooperation, including through support to each other at regional and international forums. "The Pakistani side appreciated China for providing support for its fiscal and financial sectors and assistance in the face of floods and other natural disasters," it added. Both sides also expressed satisfaction at their expanding space cooperation and agreed to further build on it for a peaceful and mutually beneficial exploration of space.

https://epaper.brecorder.com/2024/05/17/1-page/993166-news.html

MoF asked to make CPEC SEZs tax-free

The federal cabinet has directed Finance Ministry to clear dividends owed to Chinese firms operating in Pakistan and to ensure that there was no imposition of taxes in the CPEC Special Economic Zones and in case if any tax was being imposed, it should be withdrawn immediately, well informed sources told Business Recorder. During discussion on CPEC projects, Ahsan Iqbal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives, as Chairman of Cabinet Committee on Chinese Investment in Pakistan (CCoCIP), apprised the cabinet that during the meeting with the Chinese counterparts issues relating to security for Chinese nationals in Pakistan, overdue payable amounts of CPEC IPPs, Revolving Account for CPEC IPPs, provision of electricity to Rashakai SEZ, and fiscal incentive package for CPEC SEZs were discussed in first meeting of CCoCIP The Chair CCoCIP presented the summary of decisions as taken in the meeting to address the issues. On the issue of "Security of Chinese Nationals in Pakistan," the CCoCIP directed Interior Division to: (i) continue to take concrete measures so that the confidence of Chinese and other investors can be restored; (ii) adopt a holistic approach to address the security concerns which should include an

awareness campaign for the local communities where Chinese nationals are working; and (iii) make SOPs for taking the security measures to instil confidence in measures taken for the security of foreign nationals working in Pakistan. Possibilities should be explored to recruit the security personnel on contract basis instead of recruiting only on permanent basis. On the issues of "over-dues of CPEC IPPs and Revolving Account", the CCoCIP directed the Power Division to comprehensively brief the forum in next meeting of CCoCIP. The dues of CPEC IPPs have touched Rs 500 billion due to CPP-G's lethargic behaviour. Board of Investment (BoI) was tasked to conduct a study for the identification of export-based clusters to increase exports up to $100 billion in the next eight years with the input of Commerce Division. Commerce Division will chalk out a clear strategy for export-led growth by taking Petroleum, Industries & Production, National Food Security & Research and IT Divisions on board. CPEC Secretariat was directed to expeditiously finalise sustainable projects for five corridors namely, corridor of growth, livelihood, innovation, green energy and open & inclusive regional development under CPEC-2, well before the Prime Minister's visit to China which is expected in 4-6 weeks. All concerned Ministries/ Divisions are to submit their proposals in the form of summaries, on the aforementioned issues, for the CCoCIP in the next meeting in light of rule 18(1) read with rule 23(4) of Rules of Business, 1973. Taking note of the scenario presented by the Chairman CCoCIP, the cabinet urged the Ministry of Finance and Revenue to clear dividends owed to the Chinese firms operating in Pakistan well ahead of the upcoming meetings with Chinese counterparts to send a positive signal to the Chinese side. On the issue of Revolving Fund, it was directed that the Power Division, Petroleum Division, Ministry of Finance and Revenue and Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives shall meet to resolve the issue. Regarding imposition of minimum taxes in the CPEC Special Economic Zones, the Ministry of Finance and Revenue was directed to take action for withdrawing the same immediately. After discussion, Ministry of Finance and Revenue was directed to clear dividends owed to Chinese firms operating in Pakistan and to ensure that there was no imposition of taxes in the CPEC Special Economic Zones and in case if any tax was being imposed, it should be withdrawn immediately. It was also decided that a special meeting of the Federal Ministers of Finance and Revenue, Petroleum, Foreign Affairs, and Planning, Development and Special Initiatives may be held to review the progress on preparations for the upcoming visit of the Prime Minister of Pakistan to China.
https://epaper.brecorder.com/2024/05/17/1-page/993178-news.html

Dawn News

Chinese diplomat says work on CPEC phase-II being accelerated

LAHORE: China is expediting work on CPEC phase-II to materialize the dream of a shared future in the new era for the benefit of the two nations, says Chinese Consul General in Lahore Zhao Shiren. "Pakistan and China are all-weather strategic cooperative partners, and Beijing hopes to work with Islamabad to reach new heights of iron-clad friendship," Mr Zhao said at an Iftar dinner hosted by Institute of International Relations and Media Research (IIRMR) Chairman Muhammad Mehdi on Saturday. Iranian Consul General in Lahore Mehra Movahed said his country stood fully prepared to expand and deepen its all-out ties with Pakistan. Turkish Consul General in Lahore Durmus Bastug felicitated the PML-N-led

coalition government, saying fraternal relations between Islamabad and Ankara would deepen and expand in the new era. He said that following in the footsteps of glorious congeniality between the two countries, Turkiye would always stand by Pakistan.

https://www.dawn.com/news/1821988

Dunya News

Pakistan, China agree on more investment in CPEC, peace in region: FO

ISLAMABAD (Dunya News) - Foreign Office Spokesperson Mumtaz Zahra Baloch said on Friday that Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar had useful meetings with Chinese officials during his visit to China. Both countries agreed on peace in the region and investment. Mumtaz Zahra Baloch told the weekly news briefing that various investment issues including CPEC were discussed in the meetings of Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar. Discussions were also held regarding work on the second part of CPEC. Various issues including regional peace and stability were discussed. The Foreign Office said that during meetings of Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar with the Chinese authorities, both sides expressed their resolve to curb terrorism and eliminate forces that sabotaged peace. She said India was involved in human rights violations in occupied Kashmir and Indian forces were continuing their aggression in the occupied valley. The international community should take notice of the ongoing Indian atrocities in held Kashmir. Baloch further said series of attacks on Palestinians in Gaza must be stopped forthwith. She said, "Pakistan welcomes the General Assembly resolution on Palestine's permanent membership in the United Nations," she added. Dar to lead Pakistani delegation at sco cfms meeting. Meanwhile, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar, at the invitation of his Kazakh counterpart, will lead the Pakistani delegation to the regular meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers (CFMs) of Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), being held from 20th to 21st of this month in Astana, Kazakhstan. The foreign minister will also hold bilateral meetings with his counterparts on the sidelines of the Council of Foreign Ministers meeting.

https://dunyanews.tv/en/Pakistan/812352-Pakistan,-China-agree-on-more-investment-in-CPEC,-peace-in-region:-FO

Pakistan Observer

Islamabad to track masterminds of attack on Chinese workers

Pakistan vowed to pursue the masterminds behind a suicide attack that claimed the lives of five Chinese engineers earlier this year while reaffirming its commitment to the regional connectivity initiative launched by President Xi Jinping’s administration during Deputy Prime Minister Ishaq Dar’s three-day visit to Beijing. According to a statement issued by the Foreign Office of Pakistan on Thursday, Dar, who is also the foreign minister, began his trip to China on May 13 where he co-chaired the Fifth Round of China-Pakistan Foreign Ministers’ Strategic Dialogue with his counterpart Wang Yi before concluding his visit. During his stay in Beijing, the two sides discussed multiple global and regional challenges, including the second phase of the multibillion-dollar China-Pakistan Economic Corridor. The foreign office said both countries condemned the March 26 suicide attack on the Chinese

workers who were on their way to the Dasu Hydropower Project in the northwestern Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province. “In keeping with its ironclad friendship with China, the Pakistani side would hunt down the perpetrators and bring them to justice, take more effective security measures, and make all-out efforts to ensure the safety of Chinese personnel, projects and institutions in Pakistan,” the statement said while providing details of the discussions between both countries.

https://pakobserver.net/islamabad-to-track-masterminds-of-attack-on-chinese-workers/

Pak, China agree for stronger multi-sphere cooperation

Pakistan and China have agreed to strengthen cooperation in energy, banking and financial sectors and accelerate progress on connectivity projects, besides making joint efforts to support high-quality Belt and Road cooperation and forge an ‘upgraded version’ of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor. The bilateral ties and cooperation were discussed during the Fifth Round of the Pakistan-China Foreign Ministers’ Strategic Dialogue held in Beijing and co-chaired by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar and Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi. According to a joint press release of the Fifth Round of Pakistan-China Foreign Ministers’ Strategic Dialogue, issued by the Foreign Office Thursday, the two sides exchanged views on the entire range of bilateral relations and cooperation, including in strategic, economic, political, defense and security, trade, investment and commerce, and cultural and people-to-people domains.

https://pakobserver.net/pak-china-agree-for-stronger-multi-sphere-cooperation/

China reiterates firm support

THE visit of Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar to China has been a resounding success as the two friendly countries have expressed their firm resolve to work hand in hand to push China-Pakistan all-weather strategic cooperative partnership to a new level. The commitment to this effect came during the fifth round of the Foreign Minister Level China-Pakistan Strategic Dialogue which was co-chaired by Dar and the Chinese FM Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi in Beijing on Wednesday. The two sides pledged to enhance pragmatic cooperation in all fields. The latest understanding is reflective of the growing understanding of the two countries to consolidate and diversify their ties in every sphere of life despite conspiracies being hatched by vested interests. This is also in line with repeated pronouncements made by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and his cabinet colleagues to revive the momentum of cooperation in all fields which, unfortunately, remained somewhat wanting due to lack of due interest by the PTI Government, understandably under foreign pressure. Chinese leadership including President Xi Jinping has also been expressing their commitment to work closely with the new government in Pakistan to help the country regain stability in every respect. It is a matter of great satisfaction to the people of Pakistan that the Chinese Foreign Minister, who is also a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, categorically stated that his country firmly supports Pakistan in safeguarding national sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity and in playing a bigger role in international and regional affairs. This is important in the backdrop of both visible and invisible efforts being made to destabilize Pakistan and squeeze

the country economically through different tactics. As against this, China is among a few other friendly countries (like Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirate and Qatar) that extend concrete financial and economic assistance to help stabilize the country. The Chinese FM expressed the confidence that under the leadership of the new government, Pakistan will enter a new stage of political unity, social stability, controllable security and sustainable development. These are, indeed, goals of the government in Pakistan and Beijing deserves appreciation for not only understanding the aspirations of people of Pakistan but expressing full support in realization of these cherished objectives. The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is a landmark initiative that is contributing immensely to socio-economic development of Pakistan. However, due to lack of necessary vision on the part of the previous government in Pakistan, almost all projects under the banner of this initiative remained dormant, denying the country of far-reaching benefits besides integrating far-off and backward regions with the national mainstream. It is encouraging that the Shehbaz Sharif Government is making sustained efforts to revive the lost momentum of the Corridor and the two countries reached important understanding in this regard during the recent visit of Pakistan delegation led by Prof. Ahsan Iqbal. In a highly appreciable development, Foreign Minister Wang Yi told his Pakistani counterpart that China was ready to work with Pakistan to develop an "upgraded version" of the CPEC. His remarks that both sides should effectively implement the Framework Agreement on Industrial Cooperation, strengthening cooperation in areas like industry, agriculture, mining, new energy and information technology are reflective of the willingness of China to help Pakistan implement its vision about industrialization and modernization of the country's agriculture. Similar sentiments were also expressed by Chinese Executive vice Premier, Ding Xuexiang, during his meeting with Mr. Dar when the former expressed China's full support to Pakistan in all areas of cooperation, including economy, trade and investment, and reaffirmed the importance of fast-track implementation of CPEC projects for mutual prosperity and development. We have been emphasizing in these columns repeatedly that political commitment and willingness to take the iron-clad relationship to a higher pedestal is there and there is a need to translate these pledges into concrete plans on a fast track basis especially in relation to an all-encompassing implementation of the second phase of the CPEC.

https://pakobserver.net/china-reiterates-firm-support/

The News

Pakistan plans to get tenor of $15.36bn Chinese IPPs debt extended

ISLAMABAD: With the arrival of an IMF team to gauge Islamabad's capability to repay the escalating debt, Pakistan is contemplating options to seek a 5-year extension in the tenor of Chinese IPPs' outstanding debt of $15.36 billion. The consent of the Chinese government as well as its IPPs operating in the country is mandatory to alter the existing contracts, which might require long negotiations to clinch the desired results. "If the government decides to make a formal request to China, then it will require long negotiations. One of the options is to reduce the tariff for consumers by Rs1.1 from 2024-2029, and Rs0.9 from year 2030 to 2040. So, in totality, the average tariff will reduce by Rs0.18 kWh from 2024 to 2040 with an extension in the tenor of debt for five years from 2036-2041," top official sources confirmed

while talking to The News on Thursday. According to the official workings done by the relevant ministries, which are currently under consideration at the highest level for making requests to China, if the Chinese IPPs debt got an extension in the tenor of the existing debt, then the outstanding liability would escalate from $15.36 billion to $16.61 billion, witnessing a surge by $1.3 billion over five years. In rupee terms, the cost of IPP debt would go up by Rs377 billion over five years. The Pakistani authorities have made justifications to convince the high-ups and argued that the current power tariff structure concentrates debt service repayments in the first 10 years, placing a substantial financial burden on consumers during the project's initial phase. By extending the debt tenor, the burden can be unloaded and staggered over a longer period. A total of 21 IPP projects are going on in Pakistan under the CPEC, including eight projects of coal, four projects of hydel power, eight of wind power and one transmission line. The total outstanding debt of Chinese IPPs stands at $15.36 billion. To seek an extension in the tenor of IPPs' debt, Pakistan will have to kick-start hectic negotiations at the Government to Government (G2G) level and then with the Chinese IPPs. It could help reduce the consumer burden, improve cash flow for consumers and stimulate the economic growth of Pakistan. The financing cost will go up by $1.257 billion after lengthy negotiations with the IPPs, lenders and alteration of contracts. The bifurcation of outstanding Chinese IPPs liabilities revealed that in financial year 2023-24, the Sahiwal Coal's outstanding loans and liabilities stood at $740 million with the interest spread of 4.5 percent, Port Qasim coal project outstanding liability $872 million with interest spread of 3.5 percent, China Power Hub coal project having outstanding liability of $965 million with interest spread of 4.08 percent, Engro Power Thar outstanding liability of $491 million with interest spread of 4.32 percent & 3.5 percent, Thar Energy Coal outstanding liability of $350 million with interest spread of 4.5 percent, Thal Nova Coal outstanding liability of $362 million with interest spread of 4.5 percent, TCB-1 Coal project outstanding liability of $1.369 billion with interest spread of 4.5 percent, Gwadar Coal outstanding liability of $287 million with interest spread of 4 percent, Karot Hydro outstanding liability of $1.255 billion, Sukki Kinari hydro project outstanding liability of $1.28 billion with interest of 4.5 percent, Azad Patan hydro $1.01 billion, Kohala Power outstanding liability of $2.07 billion, Pak Matiari-Lahore Transmission Company Transmission Line outstanding liability of $1.15 billion. Eight wind power projects have outstanding liability in the range of $40 to $88 million in each project. Meanwhile, the IMF has asked Pakistan to explicitly share its outstanding liabilities on account of pensions, State Owned Enterprises (SOEs) and subsidies over the next five years because major outstanding liabilities were kept off the books, making it hard for them to gauge the actual outstanding debt and liabilities of the government. On power tariff, the Nepra high-ups briefed the IMF team to ascertain the baseline tariff during which a heated debate occurred. For clinching the deal, the government will have to seek the consent of visiting IMF team to kick-start formal negotiations for a fresh bailout package because the IMF has not yet converted the negotiations into formal talks. If the baseline tariff is agreed to be jacked up by Rs5 to 7 per unit, the average tariff standing at Rs29 per unit will go up to Rs35 or 36 per unit. The gas tariff will also go up by an average of over 60 percent from July 2024. https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1189901-pakistan-plans-to-get-tenor-of-1536bn-chinese-ipps-debt-extended

Express News

پاکستان کا چین کے توانائی قرضوں کی تجدید پر غور ، تجاویز تیار

وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف دورہ بیجنگ کے دوران چینی حکام کو تجاویز پیش کریں گے

چین کی آمادگی کی صورت میں پاکستان 5 سال میں 1 ارب 30 کروڑ ڈالر اضافی ادا کریگا

اسلام آباد (رپورٹ / شہباز رانا) وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف کے دورہ بیجنگ سے قبل حکومت پاکستان نے چین کے 15 ارب 40 کروڑ ڈالر مالیت کے توانائی کے شعبے کے قرضہ جات کی تجدید کے لیے تجویز تشکیل دی ہیں جس کا مقصد صارفین کے لیے بجلی کی قیمتوں میں 3 روپے فی یونٹ کمی لانا ہے ، ان تجاویز کی تیاری میں شامل انتظامی افراد کے مطابق ان تجاویز کا مقصد چین کے قرضوں کو طویل المدت میں ادا کرنا ہے جس کے نتیجے میں زر مبادلہ کے ذخائر میں کمی بتدریج ہو گی کیونکہ ہر سال ساڑھے 5 کروڑ سے ساڑھے 7 کروڑ ڈالر توانائی کے قرض کی ادائیگی میں ملکی خزانے سے نکل جاتے ہیں۔ذرائع کے مطابق حکومت کی خواہش ہے کہ توانائی کے شعبے میں چین کی جانب سے لگائے گئے 21 منصوبوں پر چینی قرضوں کی ادائیگی میں مزید 5 سال کا اضافہ کیا جائے تاہم ان 5 برسوں کے اضافے کی صورت میں پاکستان کو مزید ایک ارب 30 کروڑ ڈالر چین کو قرض کے سود کی مد میں ادا کرنا کی ہوں گے یعنی 2040 کے اختتام تک چین کے ان قرضوں پر پاکستان کو مجموعی طور پر 16 ارب 60 کروڑ ڈالر ادا کرے گا۔ذرائع کا کہنا تھا کہ ابھی ان تجاویز کو چین کے ساتھ شیئر نہیں کیا گیا ہے اور نہ ہی اس میں عالمی مالیاتی فنڈ کوئی دخل ہے۔اس حوالے سے وزارت توانائی سے جب رابطہ کیا گیا تو وہاں سے سرکاری طور پر کوئی رد عمل موصول نہیں ہوا۔واضح رہے کہ وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف 4 سے 7 جولائی تک چین کا دورہ کریں گے جہاں وہ دوطرفہ دلچسپی کے امور پر مذاکرات کریں گے۔

https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1110981588&Issue=NP_KHI&Date=20240517

Jang News

چین کا 15 ارب ڈالر قرض، پاکستان 5 سال توسیع کا خواہاں

پاکستان چین سے قرض توسیع کا خواہاں ہے اور آئی پی پیز کے 15.36 ارب ڈالر واپس کرنے کی مدت 5 سال بڑھانے کیلئے آپشنز کی تلاش کر رہا ہے، اس حوالے سے اسلام آباد کو چینی حکومت اور آئی پی پیز کی رضامندی درکار ہو گی، طویل مذاکرات کی ضرورت پڑ سکتی ہے، پاکستان قرض مزید 377 ارب روپے بڑھ جائے گا۔ادھر آئی ایم ایف نے پاکستان سے مطالبہ کیا ہے کہ آئندہ پانچ سال کے دوران پنشن، سرکاری اداروں اور سبسڈیز کے حوالے بقایاجات کی تفصیلات واضح شیئر کی جائیں۔پاور ٹیرف پر نیپرا حکام کی آئی ایم ایف کو بیس لائن ٹیرف پر بریفنگ، گرما گرم بحث، 5 سے 7 روپے اضافے سے نرخ 35 سے 36 روپے فی یونٹ ہو جائیں گے۔تفصیلات کے مطابق آئی ایم ایف کے مشن کی اسلام آباد میں موجودگی کے دوران جو کہ پاکستان کے بڑھتے ہوئے قرض کی ادائیگی کی صلاحیت کا جائزہ لے رہا ہے اور اس نے قرض کے نئے معاہدے پر رسمی مذاکرات شروع ہونے سے پہلے ہی، پنشنوں، ایس او ایز اور سبسڈیز سے متعلق واجب الادا رقوم کے حسابات مانگ لیے ہیں۔پاکستان چین سے یہ درخواست کرنے کے آپشن تلاش کر رہا ہے کہ آئی پی پیز کے باقی ماندہ قرض کے لیے 15.3 ارب ڈالر کے قرض کو پانچ سال تک کی توسیع دے۔اس عمل کے لیے پاکستان کو چینی حکومت کی آمادگی درکار ہو گی اسی طرح ملک میں کام کرنے والے آئی پی پیز کے موجودہ کنٹریکٹس کو بھی تبدیل کرنا ہو گا جس کے لیے طویل مذاکرات کرنا ہوں گے۔اگر حکومت چین سے رسمی درخواست کرنے کا فیصلہ کرتی ہے تو اس کیلئے طویل مذاکرات درکار ہوں گے اور یہ ایک آپشن ہے جس سے صارفین کے لیے ٹیرف 2024 سے 2029 تک 1.1 روپیہ سستا ہو سکتا ہے جبکہ 2023 سے 2040 کے درمیان 0.9 روپے سستا ہو سکتا ہے چنانچہ سے اس مجموعی طور پر ٹیرف 018

کلوواٹ ہاور تک 2024 سے 2040 کے درمیان کم ہو سکتا ہے۔ سرکاری ورکنگ کے مطابق پتہ چلا ہے کہ اگر چینی آئی پی پیز کے قرض پر توسیع مل جائے تو موجودہ قرض جو کہ 15.3 ارب ڈالر ہے وہ سولہ اعشایہ اکسٹھ ڈالر ہو جائے گا اور اس طرح پانچ سال میں اس قرض کی مالیت میں ایک ارب 30 کروڑ ڈالر کا اضافہ ہو جائے گا۔ روپوں کے حوالے سے دیکھا جائے تو آئی پی پیز کے قرض کی لاگت پانچ سال کے عرصے کے دوران 377 ارب روپے بڑھ جائے گی۔ پاکستانی حکام نے اعلیٰ حکام کو قائل کرنے کیلئے اس کی ایک توجیہ بھی بنالی ہے اور ان کا موقف ہے کہ موجودہ پاور ٹیرف اسٹرکچر کی ادائیگی کو پہلے 10 سال میں ادا کرنے پر مرتکز ہے جس سے صارفین پر بہت زیادہ مالیاتی بوجھ آتا ہے۔ قرض کی مدت میں توسیع سے یہ بوجھ کم ہو سکتا ہے اور اسے بڑے عرصے تک پھیلایا جاسکتا ہے۔ سی پیک کے تحت مجموعی طور پر 21 آئی پی پی پروجیکٹ ہیں جن میں سے 8 پروجیکٹ کوئلے پر، 4 پن بجلی کے منصوبے، 8 پون بجلی کے اور ایک ٹرانسمیشن لائن کا منصوبہ ہے اور ان کا مجموعی قرض 15.3 ارب ڈالر ہے۔ آئی پی پیز کے قرض میں یہ توسیع حاصل کرنے کے لیے پاکستان کو چین کے ساتھ حکومت سے حکومت کی سطح پر بھرپور مذاکرات کرنا ہوں گے اور پھر اس کے بعد چینی آئی پی پیز کے ساتھ بھی مذاکرات کرنا ہوں گے۔ اس سے صارفین پر بوجھ کم کرنے میں مدد مل سکے گی، نقد رقوم کا بہاؤ بہتر ہو سکے گا اور پاکستان میں معاشی نمو کو تقویت ملے گی۔ اگرچہ اس فنانسنگ کی لاگت (اس پر سود) 1.257 ارب ڈالر تک بڑھ سکتا ہے۔ موجودہ مذاکرات کے دوران آئی ایم ایف نے پاکستان سے کہا ہے کہ وہ کھلے عام اپنی واجب الادا ادائیگیوں سے آگاہ کرے جو کہ پنشنوں، ریاستی کنٹرول میں چلنے والے کاروباری اداروں اور سبسڈیز سے متعلق ہوں اور یہ سارے حسابات آئندہ پانچ سال سے متعلق ہوں کیوں کہ واجب الادا ادائیگیوں کو کھاتوں سے باہر رکھا جاتا ہے جس کی وجہ سے باقی ماندہ قرض اور واجب الادا ادائیگیوں کی حقیقی صورتحال کا پتہ چلانا مشکل ہوتا ہے۔ بجلی کے ٹیرف کے حوالے سے نیپرا کے سرکردہ عہدیداروں نے آئی ایم ایف کی ٹیم کو بیس لائن ٹیرف کے بارے میں بتایا اور اس موقع پر سخت بحث و مباحثہ ہوا۔ آئی ایم ایف کی ڈیل حاصل کرنے کے لیے حکومت کو آئی ایم ایف کی دورے پر آئی ہوئی ٹیم کو یہ آمادگی دینا ہوگی جس کے بعد نئے بیل آؤٹ پیکیج کیلئے رسمی مذاکرات شروع ہو سکیں گے کیونکہ ابھی تک آئی ایم ایف جو بات چیت کر رہا ہے یہ رسمی مذاکرات نہیں ہیں۔ اگر بجلی کے بنیادی ٹیرف میں 5 سے 7 روپے فی یونٹ اضافے پر اتفاق ہو جاتا ہے تو اوسط بنیادی یونٹ جو ابھی 29 روپے پر ہے وہ 35 یا چھتیس روپے تک پہنچ جائے گا۔ گیس کا ٹیرف بھی جولائی سے ایک مرتبہ پھر بڑھے گا اور یہ اوسطاً ساٹھ فیصد تک بڑھ سکتا ہے۔

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دستخط کا امکان MoU پاکستان اور چین کا کروڈ ٹو پیٹرو کیمیکل ریفائنری کیلئے

پاکستان اور چین آئندہ ماہ وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف کے دورہ بیجنگ کے دوران خام تیل سے پیٹرو کیمیکل ریفائنری پر تعاون کے لیے مفاہمت کی یادداشت پر دستخط کر سکتے ہیں۔ وزارت توانائی کے سینئر عہدیدار نے دی نیوز کو بتایا کہ وزیر اعظم کے دورے کے دوران دونوں حکومتیں خام تیل سے پیٹرو کیمیکل ریفائنری پر ایم او یو پر دستخط کر سکتے ہیں۔ پاکستان اسٹیٹ آئل، چینی کمپنی 'سائنوپیک' اور سعودی آرامکو اس بات کا جائزہ لینے کے لیے مشترکہ مطالعہ کرنے پر راضی ہو سکتے ہیں کہ آیا خام سے پیٹرو کیمیکل ریفائنری مذکورہ تینوں اسٹیک ہولڈرز کے لیے اقتصادی اور فائدہ مند ہوگی یا نہیں۔ مشترکہ مطالعہ کے نتائج مجوزہ منصوبے میں سرمایہ کاری کے لیے راہ ہموار کریں گے۔ مشترکہ مطالعہ مکمل ہونے کے بعد اس منصوبے کے سائز اور صلاحیت کا فیصلہ کیا جائے گا۔ سعودی آرامکو بھی گرین ریفائنری کے بجائے پیٹرو کیمیکل ریفائنری کی جانب مائل ہے، یہ اس پر منحصر ہے کہ مشترکہ مطالعہ شروع ہونے اور مکمل ہونے کے بعد کیا بتاتا ہے۔ اس کے بعد سائنوپیک اور سعودی آرامکو فیصلہ کریں گے کہ انہیں پیٹرو کیمیکل ریفائنری کا حصہ ہونا چاہیے یا نہیں۔ سعودی عرب یہ بھی چاہتا ہے کہ انجینئرنگ، پروکیورمنٹ اور کنسٹرکشن (ای پی سی) کا ٹھیکہ چائنا سائنوپیک کو دیا جائے اور اس سلسلے میں حکومت پاکستان کی جانب سے نامزد کردہ پاکستان اسٹیٹ آئل، بینک آف چائنا اور چائنا سائنوپیک کے ساتھ رابطے میں ہے۔ سائنوپیک بھی سعودی عرب کو خدمات (رگز، ویل سروس، جیوفزیکل ایکسپلوریشن، پائپ لائنز، سڑکیں اور پل، اور دیگر ای پی سی پروجیکٹس) فراہم کر رہا ہے

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چینی قونصل جنرل لاہور کو سیکرٹریٹ میں چائنیز کی سکیورٹی پر بریفنگ

ہوم سیکرٹری پنجاب نورالا امین مینگل سے گزشتہ روز لاہور میں تعینات چینی قونصل جنرل مسٹر ژاؤشیرین نے سول سیکرٹریٹ میں ملاقات کی جس میں چینی شہریوں اور پراجیکٹس کی سیکورٹی سمیت باہمی دلچسپی کے امور پر تبادلہ خیال کیا گیا۔ ہوم سیکرٹری نے صوبے بھر میں مختلف پراجیکٹ پر کام کرنے والے چائنیز کی سیکورٹی پر قونصل جنرل کو بریف کیا، چینی قونصل جنرل نے پنجاب میں چائنیز کیلئے کیے جانے والے سیکورٹی انتظامات پر اطمینان کا اظہار کیا۔ ہوم سیکرٹری نورالا امین مینگل نے بتایا کہ پنجاب میں مختلف پراجیکٹ پر چائنیز کو مکمل سیکورٹی فراہم کی جارہی ہے، تمام فیکٹریوں کی انتظامیہ کو بلٹ پروف گاڑیوں سمیت فول پروف سکیورٹی انتظامات کرنے کے احکامات جاری کئے گئے، جن پر عمل یقینی بنایا جائے گا۔

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May 18, 2024

Business Recorder

Mineral, mining sector

Chinese firm MCC keen to increase investment

ZAHEER ABBASI

The Chinese company Metallurgical Corporation of China (MCC) Tongstin has expressed deep interest in increasing its investment in the mineral and mining sector in Pakistan. The interest was shown by the Chinese company's delegation led by its Chairman Wang Jaicheng that met with Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Friday. The company gave a detailed briefing to the prime minister regarding the construction of a mineral park in Pakistan and informed about the further investment plan. The prime minister welcomed the Chinese company and said that the government is taking steps on a priority basis to increase foreign investment in the country. The prime minister said that China is Pakistan's long-standing friend and important partner in development, and added that China helped Pakistan in every difficult time, for which, the entire nation is grateful to the Chinese leadership and the Chinese people. He invited the Chinese company to invest in the mineral sector in Pakistan from mining to the production of export goods. In order to increase the exports of Pakistan, investment will be provided every facility for the extraction of minerals, their processing and export of their products. The premier directed the concerned federal ministers and officers to consult with the Chinese company. He also directed to include the chief minister of Balochistan and relevant institutions and stakeholders of the province in the consultation process. On Thursday, the delegation of MCC also met with the Minister for Planning and Development and Special Imitative, Ahsan Iqbal. The minister told the delegation that mining is a priority area of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) Phase 2. In response to the company's request to seek inclusion of their latest project in CPEC, the minister directed them to prepare their proposal. It was discussed during the meeting that if their energy needs are met by establishing a national power grid, the operational cost of all mining projects in the province will be reduced. The Saindak Copper-Gold Project in Balochistan is operated by

MCCT Resources Development Company (Pvt) Ltd (MRDL). The MCCT submitted a proposal of establishing a mineral industrial park in Pakistan which consists of copper/ lead/ zinc refining and deep processing, giving more value addition to the mineral products. With the development of more mining projects, establishing such an industrial park will become feasible. The mineral industrial park will also attract investors to invest in metal refineries and processing plant which produces wires, rods, plate and other products. Meanwhile, power supply, water supply, transportation and other industries can also develop to facilitate the industrial park.

https://epaper.brecorder.com/2024/05/18/1-page/993255-news.html

Dunya News

Chinese firm aims to expand investments in Pakistan, shows interest in mining sector

ISLAMABAD (Dunya News) – A notable Chinese company has expressed keen interest in expanding its investment in Pakistan, in yet another sign of investor confidence boost in the leadership of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif. A delegation from Chinese firm MCC Tongsin Resources led by its Chairman Wang Jaichen called on PM Shehbaz here on Friday. The premier invited the Chinese company to invest in Pakistan's mining sector and manufacturing of export goods. Shehbaz assured the delegation that his government would extend all-out facilitation to the company from minerals exploration and processing to the export of goods. The PM instructed the relevant federal ministers and officers to continue consultation with the Chinese firm, taking the Balochistan chief minister, provincial departments and stakeholders on board. The delegates reposed trust in PM Shehbaz's leadership, and expressed keen interest in enhancing their investment in Pakistan's mining and minerals sectors. The delegation briefed Prime Minister Shehbaz about the construction of a mineral park in Pakistan and their future investment plans. The premier welcomed the Chinese firm and highlighted the priority steps by his government to promote foreign investment in Pakistan. He said that being a time-tested friend, China supported Pakistan in every difficult hour for which the Pakistani nation was grateful to the leadership and people of China. Federal ministers Ahad Khan Cheema, Dr Musaddik Malik, Rana Tanveer Hussain, Jam Kamal Khan and relevant senior officers attended the meeting.

https://dunyanews.tv/en/Business/812328-Chinese-firm-aims-to-expand-investments-in-Pakistan,-shows-interest-in-m

Pakistan Observer

Govt taking steps to increase foreign investment in Pakistan: PM

A Chinese company MCC Tongsin Resources has expressed deep interest in increasing its investment in the mineral and mining sector of Pakistan. The interest was expressed by Chairman of MCC Tongsin Resources Wang Jicheng during a meeting with Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif in Islamabad. The company gave a detailed briefing to the Prime Minister regarding the construction of a mineral park in Pakistan and informed about the further investment plan. Welcoming the Chinese company, the Prime Minister said the government

is taking steps on priority basis to increase foreign investment in the country. The Prime Minister invited the Chinese company to invest in the mineral sector in Pakistan from mining to the production of export goods. He said the investment will be extended full facilitation for extraction of minerals, their processing and export of their products in order to enhance the country's exports. The Prime Minister directed the concerned federal ministers and officers to consult with the Chinese company. He also directed to include the Chief Minister of Balochistan and relevant departments and stakeholders of the province in the consultation process. Shehbaz Sharif said China is Pakistan's long-standing friend and important partner in development. He said China helped Pakistan in difficult times, for which the entire Pakistan nation, is grateful to the Chinese leadership and people. Federal ministers Ahad Khan Cheema, Dr Musaddik Malik, Rana Tanveer Hussain, Jam Kamal Khan and relevant senior officers attended the meeting.

https://pakobserver.net/govt-taking-steps-to-increase-foreign-investment-in-pakistan-pm/

The News

CPEC helped change world's lens for Pakistan: Ahsan

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Ahsan Iqbal Friday participated in a national workshop on "CPEC's impact on socioeconomic development and security of Balochistan" at the National Defense University here. Shi Yuanqiang, DCM of the Chinese Embassy in Pakistan, participated in the event. The purpose of the event was to engage with the parliamentarians, students, civil society and academia from Balochistan particularly and other areas of Pakistan. Shi Yuanqiang congratulated the minister on his recent visit to China that has helped revitalized CPEC and paved the way for major breakthroughs in the upcoming visits of prime minister of Pakistan. Moreover, he pointed out that as envisioned by China, CPEC had indeed been a game changer creating jobs and livelihoods across Pakistan. In his address, Ahsan thanked China for stepping up back in 2013 when the world was terming Pakistan a safe haven for terrorism but CPEC helped change the world's lens for Pakistan from a security state to a land of foreign direct investment opportunities. He said in the recent World Economic Forum event, misinformation, followed by polarization, was ranked as the biggest risk and threat to the world, and the same risk had haunted Pakistan. Thus, it is imperative that we limit our vulnerability to misinformation and polarization of society to protect mega development projects like CPEC, he added. He remarked that the 21st century saw a transition from geopolitics to geo-economics. In 2013, the government recognized this and took initiative to transform years-long brotherly relations of Pakistan-China into actual economic ties. It came as a shock to Ahsan when he found out that in 2013, China ranked as 12-13th interns of FDI in Pakistan - CPEC helped China become as the top in list of FDI in Pakistan. The minister said Pakistan must realize that today there is no global block politics on the basis of ethnicity, religion and other conventional factors instead today's politics centers around geo-economics. The economic strength of passport determines entry to G-7, G-20 and other trading blocks. He said CPEC was key to sustainable development as it ensured I) creation of wealth ii) distribution of wealth iii) promoting competitiveness. CPEC's gains in the energy sector where an additional 7000 MWs of electricity has been added to the national grid and

infrastructure sector, where thousands of kilometers long motorways/roads have been built, has made enemy nervy and triggered propaganda against the project that was thwarted successfully. He said it's sad that Pakistan had not been able to capitalize episodic economic progress episodes in 1965, where war had badly affected it. In 1991, when the government opened markets, worked on deregulations/financial inclusion and other progressive measures but all measures became a victim of political instability. In 2018, CPEC brought an FDI of around $46bn out of which $25bn was actualized but the political adventurism cost Pakistan and resulted in derailing of CPEC. The loss of momentum in CPEC is a dent in all the hard work that led to the initiation of work on Gwadar Port, Gwadar Hospital, Gwadar Business Free Zone, Resolution of Supply of Water and Electricity to Gwadar, Road Connectivity of Gwadar to Quetta in which 40 FWO Jawans were martyred, Special Economic Zones, Gwadar University and others - From 2018-22 there was absolutely no progress resulting in additional grievances of the people.

https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1190384-cpec-helped-change-world-s-lens-for-pakistan-ahsan

Express News

سی پیک پر 25.4 بلین ڈالر کی سرمایہ کاری کر چکے ، چینی قونصلر

مسئلہ کشمیر تاریخ کا دمیر بینہ تنازع ، سلامتی کونسل کی قرار داروں کے مطابق حل ہونا چاہیے

یانگ یونڈونگ کا پاک چین سفارتی تعلقات کے قیام کی 70 ویں سالگرہ پر سیمینار سے خطاب

کراچی (اسٹاف رپورٹر) گزشتہ 11 برسوں میں سی پیک منصوبے میں 25.4 بلین امریکی ڈالرز کی براہ راست سرمایہ کاری کی گئی ہے ، مسئلہ کشمیر تاریخ کا ایک دیرینہ تنازعہ ہے ، جسے اقوام متحدہ کے چارٹر ، سلامتی کونسل کی متعلقہ قرار دادوں اور دو طرفہ معاہدوں کے مطابق پر امن طریقے سے حل کیا جانا چاہیے ، چینی قونصل جنرل یانگ یونڈونگ نے کراچی میں چینی قونصلیٹ جنرل کی جانب سے پاکستان، چین سفارتی تعلقات کے قیام کی 73 ویں سالگرہ کے سلسلے میں منعقدہ سیمینار سے خطاب کرتے ہوئے کہا کہ باہمی تعلقات دونوں ممالک کی قیادت حکومتوں اور عوام کی رہنمائی اور مشترکہ کوششوں سے آگے بڑھ رہے ہیں، سی پیک میں خطیر سرمایہ کاری کے علاوہ 236000 ملازمتیں ، 510 کلو میٹر ہائی ویز ، 8000 میگاواٹ سے زیادہ بجلی اور 886 کلو میٹر کور ٹرانسمیشن نیٹ ورک لایا گیا بیچ بدلتے ہوئے بین الاقوامی منظر نامے کے باوجود ہماری آہنی دوستی اور جامع تعاون پروان چڑھی ہے ، پاکستان کی پہلی قمری تحقیقات کو چین کے چانگ 6 کے ساتھ وینچانگ اسپیس لانچ سینٹر میں کامیابی کے ساتھ لانچ کیا گیا، جس کی خلائی تحقیق کے شعبے میں دو طرفہ تعاون کو مزید وسعت ملی ، ون چائنا اصول پر پاکستان کی ثابت قدمی کو سراہتے ہوئے قومی اتحاد کے حصول کے لیے چینی حکومت کی کوششوں کی مضبوطی سے حمایت کی اور کہا کہ " چین اس معاملے پر پاکستان کے موقف کو سراہتا ہے۔

https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1110982779&Issue=NP_KHI&Date=20240518

Jang News

11 برس میں 25.4 بلین ڈالر کی سرمایہ کاری کی، چینی قونصل جنرل کراچی

کراچی میں چین کے قونصل جنرل یانگ یونڈونگ نے کہا ہے کہ چین نے گوادر پورٹ، لاہور اورنج لائن جیسے سی پیک منصوبوں میں گزشتہ 11 برس کے دروان مجموعی طور پر 25.4 بلین امریکی ڈالر کی براہ راست سرمایہ کاری کی، 236000 ملازمتیں، 510 کلومیٹر ہائی ویز، 8000 میگاواٹ سے زیادہ بجلی اور 886 کلومیٹر کوٹرانسمیشن نیٹ ورک لایا گیا ہے۔ توانائی، سائنس اور ٹیکنالوجی، تعلیم، ثقافت، سیاحت، میڈیا اور دیگر کئی شعبوں میں تعاون جاری ہے۔ ان خیالات کا اظہار انھوں نے کراچی میں چینی قونصلیٹ جنرل کی جانب سے چین پاکستان سفارتی تعلقات کے قیام کی 73 ویں سالگرہ کے سلسلے میں منعقدہ سیمینار سے خطاب کرتے ہوئے کہا کہ یہ تعلقات دونوں ممالک کی قیادت، حکومتوں اور عوام کی رہنمائی اور مشترکہ کوششوں سے آگے بڑھ رہے ہیں۔

https://e.jang.com.pk/detail/686718

Nawaiwaqt

صنعتوں کیلئے سستی بجلی، گیس یقینی بنائیں گے: شہباز شریف

وزیراعظم محمد شہباز شریف نے کہا ہے کہ صنعتی ترقی اور برآمدات بڑھانے کیلئے صنعتوں کو کم لاگت پر بجلی و گیس کی فراہمی یقینی بنائیں گے، صنعتوں کو سہولیات فراہم کرنا حکومت کی ترجیح ہے، صنعتوں کے فروغ اور ملک میں موجود پیداواری استعداد کو بروئے کار لانے کے لئے ہر ممکنہ کوشش اور اقدامات اٹھائے جائیں گے، بجلی اور گیس کی ٹیرف ریشنلائزیشن کے لیے صنعتوں سے مشاورت کی جائے۔ جمعہ وزیراعظم محمد شہباز شریف کی زیر صدارت صنعتی شعبے کو سہولیات کی فراہمی کے حوالے سے اجلاس کے شرکاء سے گفتگو کرتے ہوئے وزیراعظم نے کہا کہ صنعتی شعبے کو درپیش مسائل کا ترجیحی بنیادوں پر حل تلاش کیا جائے۔ وزیراعظم نے برآمدی شعبے کی صنعتوں کے لئے ٹیرف ریشنلائزیشن کے حوالے سے حکمت عملی فی الفور تیار کرنے کی ہدایت کی۔ وزیراعظم نے ہدایت کی کہ بجلی اور گیس کی ٹیرف ریشنلائزیشن کے لیے صنعتوں سے مشاورت کی جائے۔ اجلاس کو صنعتوں و گھریلو صارفین کو فراہم کی جانے والی بجلی کے نرخوں کے حوالے سے بریفنگ دی گئی۔ علاوہ ازیں وزیراعظم شہباز شریف نے کہا ہے کہ حکومت بیرونی سرمایہ کاری میں اضافے کے لئے ترجیحی بنیادوں پر اقدامات کر رہی ہے اور چینی کمپنی ایم سی سی ٹونگسن ریسورسز نے پاکستان میں معدنیات وکان کنی کے شعبے میں اپنی سرمایہ کاری بڑھانے میں گہری دلچسپی کا اظہار کیا ہے۔ وزیراعظم شہباز شریف سے چیئرمین وانگ جائی چینگ کی قیادت میں چینی کمپنی ایم سی سی ٹونگسن ریسورسز کے وفد نے یہاں ملاقات کی۔ کمپنی نے پاکستان میں منرل پارک بنانے کے حوالے سے وزیراعظم کو تفصیلی بریفنگ دی اور مزید سرمایہ کاری کے منصوبے سے آگاہ کیا۔ وزیراعظم نے چینی کمپنی کا خیر مقدم کیا اور کہا کہ چین نے پاکستان کی ہر برے وقت میں مدد کی جس پر مجھ سمیت پوری قوم چینی قیادت اور چینی عوام کی شکر گزار ہے۔ وزیراعظم نیچینی کمپنی کو پاکستان میں معدنیات کے شعبے میں کان کنی سے لے کر برآمدی اشیاء کی تیاری کیلئے سرمایہ کاری کرنے کی دعوت دی۔ وزیراعظم نے کہا کہ پاکستان کی برآمدات میں اضافے کیلئے معدنیات نکالنے، ان کی پراسیسنگ اور ان کی مصنوعات کو برآمد کرنے کیلئے سرمایہ کاری کو مکمل سہولت دی جائے گی۔ وزیراعظم نے متعلقہ وفاقی وزرا اور افسران کو چینی کمپنی کے ساتھ مشاورت کی ہدایت کی۔ وزیراعظم نے مشاورتی عمل میں وزیراعلی بلوچستان اور صوبے کے متعلقہ اداروں و اسٹیک ہولڈرز کو شامل کرنے کی بھی ہدایت کی۔ دوسری طرف وزیراعظم محمد شہباز شریف نے کہا ہے کہ حکومت کی کاروبار دوست پالیسیوں کے مثبت نتائج آنا شروع ہوگئے ہیں، بیرونی سرمایہ کاروں اور کاروباری برادری کو ملک میں روزگار کی فراہمی، ملکی برآمدات میں اضافے اور معاشی ترقی میں اپنا بھرپور کردار ادا کرنے کیلئے حکومت ہر قسم کی معاونت فراہم کر رہی ہے۔ مشروبات بنانے والی بین الاقوامی کمپنیوں کے وفد نے جمعہ کو ملاقات کی۔ ملاقات میں کوکا کولا پاکستان و افغانستان کے نائب صدر وولکان، سی ای او پیپسی کو پاکستان و افغانستان محمد کھوسہ کی قیادت میں وفد نے ملاقات کی جبکہ کمپنیوں نے وزیراعظم کی کاروبار دوست پالیسیوں پر انہیں خراجِ تحسین پیش کیا۔ وفد نے آگاہ کیا کہ بین الاقوامی مشروبات بنانے والی کمپنیوں کے پاکستان میں 25 کے قریب کارخانے ہیں جن میں 1 لاکھ 30 ہزار لوگوں کو براہ

راست روزگار فراہم کیا جاتا ہے۔ وفد نے بتایا کمپنیاں ملکی خزانے کو ٹیکس کی مد میں ہر برس خطیر حصہ ادا کرتی ہیں۔ اس موقع پر وزیر اعظم نے کہا کہ بیرونی سرمایہ کاروں اور کاروباری برادری کو ملک میں روزگار کی فراہمی، ملکی برآمدات میں اضافے اور معاشی ترقی میں اپنا بھرپور کردار ادا کرنے کیلئے حکومت ہر قسم کی معاونت فراہم کر رہی ہے۔ یہ امر خوش آئند ہے کہ حکومت کی کاروبار دوست پالیسیوں کے مثبت نتائج آنا شروع ہو گئے ہیں۔ وزیر اعظم نے کہا کہ بین الاقوامی کمپنیاں کارپوریٹ سوشل کے تحت سرگرمیوں سے اپنا مثبت کردار ادا کریں۔ وزیر اعظم نے متعلقہ حکام کو بین الاقوامی کمپنیوں کی تجاویز پر مشاورت کے بعد ان کے مسائل (CSR) ریسپانسبلٹی کا حل جلد پیش کرنے کی ہدایت کر دی۔

اسلام آباد (خبر نگار خصوصی) وزیر اعظم محمد شہباز شریف نے کہا ہے کہ پاکستانیوں کے دل اپنے کشمیری بہن بھائیوں کے ساتھ دھڑکتے ہیں یہ کیسے ممکن تھا کہ آزاد کشمیر میں ہمارے بہن بھائی مشکل میں ہوں اور ہم چین سے بیٹھیں۔ انہوں نے پاکستان مسلم لیگ (ن) آزاد جموں و کشمیر کے صدر شاہ غلام قادر کی قیادت میں پارٹی وفد سے گفتگو کرتے ہوئے کیا۔ جنہوں نے جمعہ کو یہاں ان سے ملاقات کی۔ ملاقات میں وفاقی وزرا بھی شریک ہوئے۔ وفد نے آزاد کشمیر کی حالیہ صورتحال پر قابو پانے اور مسائل کے حل پر وزیر اعظم کو خراج تحسین پیش کیا۔ وفد نے پاکستان کی معیشت کی بحالی اور ملک میں بیرونی سرمایہ کاری لانے کیلئے اٹھائے جا رہے اقدامات کی تعریف کی۔ وزیر اعظم نے وفد کو آزاد کشمیر کی ترقی و خوشحالی میں اپنا بھرپور کردار ادا کرنے کی ہدایت کی۔ وزیر اعظم نے کہا کہ آپ اپنی بھرپور کوشش کریں کہ آزاد کشمیر کے عوام کو زیادہ سے زیادہ ریلیف ملے۔ پاکستانیوں کے دل اپنے کشمیری بہنوں اور بھائیوں کے ساتھ دھڑکتے ہیں۔ یہ کیسے ممکن تھا کہ آزاد کشمیر میں ہمارے بہن اور بھائی مشکل میں ہوں اور ہم چین سے بیٹھیں۔ وزیر اعظم نے کہا کہ پاکستان کشمیر کاز کو دنیا بھر میں اجاگر کر رہا ہے۔ پاکستان ہمیشہ کشمیریوں کی اخلاقی، سیاسی اور سفارتی حمایت جاری رکھے گا۔ ملاقات میں پاکستان مسلم لیگ (ن) آزاد جموں و کشمیر کے امور پر بھی گفتگو کی گئی۔ وزیر اعظم نے وفد کو آزاد جموں و کشمیر میں پارٹی کو مزید منظم کرنے کی ہدایت کی۔ وزیر اعظم نے کہا کہ عوام سے اپنے روابط میں مزید بہتری لائیں۔ وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف نے موذی امراض سے بچاؤ، بہبود آبادی اور صحت کے مسائل کے سدباب کیلئے ایک جامع منصوبے کے اجراء کا فیصلہ کرتے ہوئے کہا ہے کہ پاکستان کے روشن مستقبل کیلئے بچوں کی بہترین نشوونما ضروری ہے، حکومت بچوں کی بہترین نشوونما کیلئے ترجیحی بنیادوں پر اقدامات اٹھائے گی، صوبائی حکومتوں کو پروگرام کے حوالے سے مشاورت میں شامل کیا جائے، وزیر اعظم محمد شہباز شریف کی زیر صدارت بین الاقوامی ماہرین کا بچوں کی نشوونما میں کمی کے سدباب کیلئے اعلیٰ سطح کا اجلاس منعقد ہوا۔ وزیر اعظم کو عالمی بینک کی جانب سے پاکستان میں بچوں کی نشوونما کے حوالے سے اعداد و شمار پر مفصل رپورٹ پیش کی گئی۔ علاوہ ازیں اجلاس کو ٹی بی، ہیپاٹائیٹس، ذیابیطس اور دیگر موذی بیماریوں کے حوالے سے بھی پاکستان کے اعداد و شمار پیش کئے گئے روکنے کیلئے تجاویز پیش۔

https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2024-05-18/page-1/detail-33

May 19, 2024

The News

PU holds seminar on CPEC importance

LAHORE: Punjab University Pakistan Study Centre (PSC) organized an international symposium on "CPEC and Regional Dynamics". Dry Agnieszka Nitza-Makowska, Dry Kerry Longhurst from Poland, Dry Iram Naseer of FC College University Lahore, Former Dean Faculty of Arts & Humanities Prof Dry M Iqbal Chawla, Director PSC Prof Dry Naumana Kiran, faculty members and students were also present. Dry Kerry Longhurst highlighted China's focus on soft power, particularly the 'green aspect' of Chinese power, which encompasses environmental security other than human security. She emphasized the significance of CPEC in this context as China collaborates with regional powers to promote the agenda of better environmental conditions. Dry Nitza-Makowska emphasized China's use

of soft power tools, including foreign policy, culture, and domestic values to gain trust and termed it a game changer. Dry M Iqbal Chawla said now the world was heading towards multi polarization and in the meantime China was emerging as an economic power and she was not only interested in Asia but also in Europe for economic progress. Dry Iram Naseer discussed regionalism and the evolution of the world from integrated empires to global, interconnected, independent states. She said that CPEC has the potential to reshape the geopolitical dynamics of the region. She elaborated that Pakistan is important for China's One Belt One Road initiative, with a focus on infrastructure development and regional connectivity because of its geopolitical position. Earlier Dry Naumana Kiran talked about the purpose and theme of the symposium. She also emphasized the potential of CPEC to reshape geopolitical dynamics.

https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1190635-pu-holds-seminar-on-cpec-importance

Express News

سی پیک پاک چین تعلقات میں نیا محرک بن کر ابھرا، چین

اسلام آباد (اے پی پی) چینی سفارتخانے کے ڈپٹی چیف آف مشنز شی یوان چھیانگ نے کہا ہے کہ چین پاکستان اقتصادی راہداری منصوبہ (سی پیک) دونوں ممالک کے باہمی تعلقات میں ایک نئے محرک کی علامت بن کر ابھرا ہے۔پاکستان میں سنکیانگ کے نقطہ نظر کے حوالے سے منعقدہ تقریب سے خطاب کرتے ہوئے انہوں نے کہا کہ پاک چین تعلقات میں مزید وسعت آرہی ہے ، سی پیک دونوں ممالک کے لیے اہم منصوبہ ہے۔دو طرفہ تعلقات پر بات کرتے ہوئے ڈی سی ایم شی نے چین پاکستان اقتصادی تعاون فریم ورک میں فائیو ایز کی اہمیت پر زور دیا اور اس حوالے سے پاکستانی حکومت کی تعریف کی جس کی بنیادی وجہ اس ترقیاتی ویژن کا چین کے نقطہ نظر سے ہم آہنگ ہونا ہے۔انہوں نے سی پیک کے پہلے مرحلے کے تحت حاصل شدہ کامیابیوں پر روشنی ڈالی جس میں قابل تجدید توانائی ، گوادر پورٹ کی تعمیر، ووکیشنل ٹریننگ سینٹرز، صحت و تعلیم کے شعبہ میں سرمایہ کاری اور دیگر شعبوں کی ٹرانسفر میشن شامل ہے جس کے تحت پاکستان میں سماجی و معاشی انقلاب برپا ہو رہا ہے۔تقریب کے اختتام پر مقررین میں اعزازی شیلڈ ز بھی تقسیم کی گئیں۔

https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1110984813&Issue=NP_KHI&Date=20240519

May 20, 2024

Pakistan Observer

Yundong reaffirms strong China-Pakistan partnership on diplomatic anniversary

On the 73rd anniversary of China-Pakistan diplomatic relations, Chinese Consul General in Karachi, Yang Yundong, reaffirmed his commitment to enhancing the “all-weather strategic cooperative partnership” between the two nations. Speaking at a seminar organized by the Chinese Consulate General, Yundong emphasized the enduring and robust friendship, calling for closer cooperation and deeper ties in the new era. Yundong highlighted that under the strategic guidance of their leaderships, the relationship between China and Pakistan has flourished. “Our comprehensive cooperation has solidified into an ‘ironclad’ friendship,

enduring the ever-changing international landscape," he remarked. Pakistan was the first Islamic country to recognize the People's Republic of China and establish diplomatic relations. This historical bond, symbolized by projects like the Karakoram Highway, continues to serve as a model for peaceful coexistence and mutually beneficial cooperation. Over the past 11 years, the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) has brought $25.4 billion in direct investment, created 236,000 jobs, and added significant infrastructure, including 510 kilometers of highways and 8,000 megawatts of electricity. Projects like Gwadar Port and the Lahore Orange Line have bolstered Pakistan's economic and social development, bringing tangible benefits to local communities. Yundong also noted Pakistan's successful launch of its first lunar probe, ICUBE-Qamar, alongside China's Chang'e 6, marking a new chapter in bilateral space exploration cooperation. This achievement has been warmly received in Pakistan, highlighting the expanding scope of collaboration. Addressing the Kashmir issue, Yundong reiterated China's stance that it should be resolved through peaceful means in accordance with the UN Charter and relevant Security Council resolutions. He praised Pakistan's steadfast support for the one-China principle and affirmed China's position on Taiwan, asserting that Taiwan has always been an integral part of China. Director General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Liaison Office Karachi, Irfan Soomro, echoed Yundong's sentiments, praising China's rapid economic growth and transformation. He expressed hope that high-level visits, such as that of Deputy Prime Minister Ishaq Dar, will further reinforce the exemplary relations and advance CPEC. Other speakers, including Nadira Panjwani of the Karachi Council on Foreign Relations and former diplomat Saeed Hussain Javed, emphasized the need for stronger people-to-people contacts and swift implementation of CPEC's second phase. They reiterated support for the One China Policy, cautioning that tensions in the Taiwanese Strait could impact regional peace. The seminar underscored the shared commitment of China and Pakistan to peace, economic globalization, and a prosperous future for both nations.

https://pakobserver.net/yundong-reaffirms-strong-china-pakistan-partnership-on-diplomatic-anniversary/

The Express Tribune

Beijing urged to encourage Kabul to crack down on terror groups

ISLAMABAD**:** Planning Minister Ahsan Iqbal said on Sunday Pakistan was not opposed to Afghanistan's inclusion in the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) project but would like Beijing to persuade Kabul to crack down on terrorist groups operating from its soil. In an interview with Voice of America (VOA), Iqbal reaffirmed the government's commitment to ensuring security for Chinese nationals working in the country, stressing that a special security unit as well as local law-enforcement had been tasked with their safety. "When you are fighting terrorism, the terrorists always try to find a way somewhere," the minister said, while responding to a question about the security situation. But, he added, the Chinese government had made it "very clear that such cowardly incidents" would not deter it from pursuing CPEC. Iqbal said that the Chinese investment in the mega-development project helped turn around the national economy at a time when the country was passing through difficult times. "CPEC put Pakistan on the sustainable growth and development trajectory

and showed China's trust in Pakistan," he added. "When China decided to invest $25 billion in Pakistan, this is [in] 2013, when we had 18 hours of power shortages and frequent suicide bombings [and] at that time they decided to come to Pakistan and support Pakistan," he stated. "China considers Pakistan as a strategic friend and has confidence in Pakistan," Iqbal said. "I think it is the same sense of confidence that Chinese investors and Chinese government have in this government," the minister added. According to the planning minister, the recent bullish performance of the country's stock exchange also showed that the local investors had full confidence in the direction the current government was following.

https://tribune.com.pk/story/2467391/beijing-urged-to-encourage-kabul-to-crack-down-on-terror-groups

The Nation

13th JCC meeting of CPEC to be held on May 24

ISLAMABAD - The meeting of 13th Joint Cooperation Committee of China Pakistan Economic Corridor will be held on May 24, it is learnt reliably here. It has been agreed that JCC meeting will be conducted virtually and it will revolve around formalization of all the 11 Joint Working Groups of CPEC, the establishment of the Joint Working Group on security of the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) with new mandate/scope, and Main Line-1 (ML-1), official source told The Nation. Both Pakistan and China are serious regarding the second phase of CPEC, which they are likely to kick-off during the next JCC, the source said. The meeting of the JCC will be held on May 24, with security of the Chinese working in Pakistan, and ML-I will be on top of the agenda, the source said. Pakistan will propose the increase of number of active Joint Working Groups on CPEC from the existing 5 to 11. Currently only five CPEC JWGs are active, while the remaining are idles or none active, the source said. Beside, expansion in the scope of the existing JWG has also been proposed. Regarding security, the source said that a new joint working group has been proposed with much active role and enlarged scope. Under the proposal new scope of the security JWG will be discussed in the meeting, which will enables the transfer of surveillance and technical support from china. Similarly, ML-I is also on the top of the agenda and positive response from China will be considered a positive gesture for the Chinese interest in Phase-II of the CPEC. The mode of financing will be discussed in the next meeting. Various mode of the financing for ML-I is under consideration which includes loans, soft loans, BOT based, and PPP mode. China was insisting the approval of re-modified PC-I of the ML-I, and it has been decided to approve it from the relevant forums. The meeting of the Central Development Working Party held last week to consider re-modified 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 had deferred the approval and will now consider it in the next CDWP meeting to be held next week. Several new growth corridors will be proposed for adding to the scope of CPEC, which includes livelihood enhancing corridor, innovation corridor and green Corridor. Similarly, Multidimensional Belt and Road Connectivity Network have also been proposed for the next JCC meeting, which includes open economy, practical cooperation, green development, scientific innovation, people-to-people exchange, integrity and compliance between both the countries. 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.

https://www.nation.com.pk/18-May-2024/13th-jcc-meeting-of-cpec-to-be-held-on-may-24

The News

China invested in Pakistan in difficult times: Ahsan

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Planning Development and Special Initiatives Professor Ahsan Iqbal has said that China invested in Pakistan under China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) project when the country was passing through difficult times, which helped to turnaround the local economy and put it on the sustainable growth and development trajectory. "When China decided to invest $25 billion in Pakistan, this is [in] 2013, when we had 18 hours of power shortages and frequent suicide bombings at that time they decided to come to Pakistan and support Pakistan," he stated in an interview with VOA. This shows they have trust and confidence in Pakistan, he said adding that recent bullish performance of the country's stock exchange showed that the local investors had full confidence in the direction the government was following. "I think it is the same sense of confidence that Chinese investors and Chinese government has in this government," he said adding that "China considers Pakistan as a strategic friend and has confidence in Pakistan," Regarding the security of the Chinese nationals, the minister reaffirmed the government's commitment for ensuring security of Chinese nationals and said that a special security unit as well as local law enforcement were tasked with ensuring their safety. To another question regarding issues of security threats, the minister maintained that when you were fighting terrorism, the terrorists always tried to find a way somewhere. Ahsan Iqbal said that the Chinese government had made it very clear that such cowardly incidents would not deter them from pursuing CPEC. The minister further informed that Pakistan was not opposed to Afghanistan's inclusion in a Chinese-funded mega-development project, but would like Beijing to persuade Kabul to crack down on terrorist groups operating on its soil.

https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1191041-china-invested-in-pakistan-in-difficult-times-ahsan

May 21, 2024

Daily Times

Chinese Textile Company secures 100 acres of land for export-oriented SEZ

Challenge Fashion (Pvt) Ltd, a Chinese textile company, has acquired 100 acres of land in Lahore, Pakistan's emerging economic hub, with an aim to develop a Special Economic Zone (SEZ) for a textile park. The company plans to commence the construction of an export-based garment factory after completing a 3-kilometer access road from the main highway to the proposed site of a textile park. "The factory infrastructure is expected to be built within 12 months," stated an official from Challenge Fashion in an interview with Gwadar Pro. The

garment factory is expected to help Pakistan earn 500 million US dollars in foreign exchange and create 30,000 jobs each year. Challenge Fashion (Pvt.) Ltd plans to invest 150 million US dollars over the next 3-5 years. If everything progresses as planned, it is expected to attract an additional investment of 100 million US dollars in supporting industries. The official mentioned that acquiring high-quality fabrics is a significant challenge. Currently, more than 80% of the surface accessories are imported, which substantially hinders the company's pace of expanding its industrial scale. "The company plans to develop the park into the most innovative and sustainable textile industry base in South Asia, showcasing China's park design concept and construction standards to Pakistani counterparts. This will promote the most efficient and environmentally friendly automated fabric production equipment and garment production systems, and spread modern production management science," the official added. The official also stated that the establishment of a supply chain cluster would help improve Pakistan's labor structure and management. "We hope to demonstrate China's industrial park standards to our Pakistani counterparts by creating a Chinese-regulated industrial park project," the official said. "We aim to enable Chinese enterprises interested in an overseas layout to see Pakistan's investment potential and also provide project landing sites for SMEs so that they can fully benefit from the preferential investment policies provided by the Pakistani government," the official asserted. The official further explained that "the tariff-free treatment of textiles exported to the EU, combined with China's Free Trade Agreement, can guarantee the price competitiveness of Pakistani products. Pakistani fabrics exported to Africa or Jordan can enter North America without tariffs, and the route is much shorter than from East Asia."

https://dailytimes.com.pk/1193809/chinese-textile-company-secures-100-acres-of-land-for-export-oriented-sez/

Gwadar women garment factory goes full steam ahead

The Gwadar Women Garment Factory, also known as the Gwadar Women's Development Employment Center, has increased its efforts to obtain orders from public and private enterprises after four years of operation at Gwadar Port. The factory was established in collaboration with the Chinese Consulate in Karachi and the China Overseas Port Holding Company. It is ready to fulfill and deliver the orders of tailor-made uniforms of employees of national and multinational companies. Talking to Gwadar Pro, Ms. Zaitoon Abdullah, the factory's supervisor, stated that the factory's female workers have developed the necessary skills to meet production standards. She noted that the factory has been producing uniforms for workers of Chinese companies at Gwadar Port for the past four years. She further mentioned that the factory is focusing on embroidery to increase revenue and described the Gwadar Garment Factory as a successful case of enhancing women's empowerment in the region. Zaitoon commented on the career opportunities at the factory, noting that tailoring offers a viable career path for creative women in Gwadar who are skilled in fabric work. She emphasized that the women employed at the factory are poised for a promising career in Pakistan's garment industry. The factory was initiated as part of China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) to impact gender equality and women's empowerment in the beneficiary countries. "This factory aligns with China's commitments to advancing women's

mainstreaming and empowerment under the BRI framework as stipulated by international law," stated a Chinese official at Gwadar Port. The facility is equipped with necessary sewing tools and features an environment conducive to productivity, including a well-lit ambiance, a management room, and a store. It has become a focal point in the community for offering training opportunities to unskilled women and for allowing semi-skilled tailors to refine their skills according to contemporary standards.

https://dailytimes.com.pk/1193799/gwadar-women-garment-factory-goes-full-steam-ahead/

Pakistan Observer

KP museums join Chinese organizations for educational event

In celebration of the International Museum Day, the Directorate of Archaeology and Museums of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK) Government in Pakistan collaborated with Chinese public welfare organizations, Gandhara Guardians and the China-Pakistan Youth Exchange Community, to host an educational event centered on museums. Children were invited to the Peshawar Museum and the Swat Museum to engage in interactive displays that highlight the cultural heritage of Gandhara, an ancient civilization in Pakistan's history. The initiative aimed to foster a deeper understanding and appreciation of local cultural relics among the youth, attracting about 100 children from the local community, Gwadar Pro reported on Monday. A key feature of the event was the "Gandhara Heavenly King Tug-of-War Competition," a traditional game inspired by relief sculptures found at Gandhara archaeological sites. These sculptures, which date from the 1st century BCE to the 3rd century CE, depict locals engaging in competitive sports such as tug-of-war during festivals. Participants emulated ancient Gandhara youths by taking up the ropes and recreating a scene from the reliefs known as "youths carrying floral garlands." These reliefs symbolize festive scenes in a utopian world, and the tug-of-war ropes today connect the young participants, fostering a bond of friendship that complements the spirit of the International Museum Day. They actively engage local communities, particularly youth, in learning about and preserving their cultural heritage. As part of the festivities, the China-Pakistan Youth Exchange Team gifted each child a new pair of shoes, a gesture that was warmly received by the participants and their families.

https://pakobserver.net/kp-museums-join-chinese-organizations-for-educational-event/

The Express Tribune

CPEC phase-II to begin soon, says Chinese diplomat

LAHORE: Chinese Consul General Zhao Shiren announced that the second phase of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) project will commence soon, promising prosperity for the region. He made this statement while addressing the national conference on '73 Years of Pak-China Diplomatic Relations: Achievements and Way Forward,' organized by Punjab University's School of Communication Studies at Hameed Nizami Hall. In his address, Zhao Shiren emphasized China's continued support for Pakistan on defense and national security issues, expressing hope that Pakistan will soon become a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council. He mentioned that Federal Minister of

Pakistan Prof Ahsan Iqbal is scheduled to visit China soon to meet with Chinese authorities and investors to attract investment in Pakistan. Additionally, Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif is set to make a significant visit to China at the beginning of June. Zhao Shiren highlighted the cooperation between China and Pakistan in sectors such as mining, IT, and energy. He recalled that Pakistan was the first Muslim-majority country to recognize China's independent status in 1951, a historic milestone that the Chinese nation deeply appreciates. Over the past 73 years, a relationship of trust has developed between the governments and peoples of both countries. The consul general assured ongoing cooperation with the Punjab government to promote educational, economic, and cultural relations. Dr Noshina Saleem praised China's significant role in Pakistan's socio-economic development, reflecting the deep, generational friendship between the two nations. She noted China's consistent support for Pakistan on international issues, including the Kashmir conflict. Kashif Anwar commended China's contribution to Pakistan's development at various levels, describing CPEC as a transformative project that will create numerous opportunities for trade, investment, and employment. Dr Mahmoodul Hassan emphasized that CPEC and the One Belt One Road initiative will further strengthen bilateral relations and stabilize the economy, highlighting the increase in exports between the two countries over the past 27 years. Dr Mian Hanan described the CPEC Corridor project as a gift to the region's people, marking the beginning of a new chapter of prosperity. The event concluded with a cake-cutting ceremony to celebrate 73 years of diplomatic relations between Pakistan and China.

https://tribune.com.pk/story/2467515/cpec-phase-ii-to-begin-soon-says-chinese-diplomat

The Nation

Working Together for a Shared Future

Zhao Shiren - Chinese Consul General Lahore

Pakistan is the first country in the Muslim world to formally recognize and officially establish diplomatic relations with the People’s Republic of China on 21 May 1951. The 1.4 billion Chinese people will never ever forget this. Under the able leadership of generations of both countries, China and Pakistan have been standing by each other while navigating the vicissitudes of the international landscape. This relationship has weathered all storms and withstood the test of time. During its 73-year journey, it has always been at the forefront and set a shining example for state-to-state relations. Over the past 73 years, China and Pakistan have remained good neighbours, partners, and friends and treated each other with sincerity and respect. The two sides have met the original aspirations of diplomacy and have always respected and supported each other’s development endeavors. Pakistan has firmly adhered to the One-China principle and provided whole-heart support to China on issues involving the latter’s core interests. China has reciprocated Pakistan in helping safeguard its national sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity, supportive of the latter to play a greater role in international and regional affairs. China and Pakistan have carried forward the “iron core” friendship and deepened the all-weather strategic cooperative partnership. Over the past 73 years, the two countries have maintained high-level contacts and enhanced mutual political trust. Since 2013, the President of Pakistan has paid state visits or attended events in China six times, and the Prime Minister has visited China or attended meetings as many as

twelve times. In 2015, President Xi Jinping paid his state visit to Pakistan, and the two sides uplifted the bilateral ties to an all-weather strategic cooperative partnership. In early June this year, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif will undertake his first official visit to China after the formation of the PML(N)-led coalition government in Islamabad in March. Over the past 73 years, China and Pakistan have remained good partners for win-win cooperation. The trade volume between the two countries has grown from more than 10 million US dollars at the beginning to over 20 billion US dollars today. As a flagship project of the Belt and Road Initiative, the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor has been steadily advanced, promoting Pakistan's economic development, and bringing tangible benefits to the local people. One week ago, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar visited Beijing and co-chaired with Foreign Minister Wang Yi, his Chinese counterpart, the Fifth China-Pakistan FMs' Strategic Dialogue. Both sides agreed to accelerate progress on major connectivity projects including the upgradation of ML-1, the Gwadar Port, the realignment of Karakoram Highway Phase II, strengthen cooperation in agriculture, industrial parks, mining, information technology and other fields, and enhance Pakistan's capacity for sustainable development. The year 2024 also marks the 75th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China. Through 75 years of persistent hard work, the Chinese people have, under the strong leadership of the Communist Party of China, turned China from a backward and impoverished country into the world's second-largest economy. Several hundred million people in rural areas were lifted out of poverty, a miracle in the history of humanity. The Chinese economy registered 5.2% growth in 2023 and is expected to grow by around 5% in 2024 with greater progress toward high-quality development. China will remain a source of global growth and create more opportunities for all countries. One thing that has made China's remarkable development possible is to align its development with security imperatives. We believe that security and development are like two wings of one bird and two wheels of one vehicle. On one hand, security is an essential prerequisite for development. Only with national security and social stability can the economy and society enjoy sustainable development. On the other, development provides a guarantee for security. Only by promoting sustained socioeconomic development can we build a solid material foundation for national prosperity, people's happiness and well-being, and social harmony and political stability. Development that ignores security has hidden dangers and is unsustainable. Going forward, we must not only promote development with security but also ensure security with development. The 26 March Bisham terrorist attack, claiming 5 innocent Chinese engineers, has again exposed the ugliness of the terrorism menace in Pakistan as facing the CPEC. China strongly condemns the cowardly attack and hopes that Pakistan will swiftly bring the culprits to exemplary justice and proceed to take all possible measures to ensure maximum security and safety of the Chinese personnel, institutions, and projects in Pakistan. We do recognize Pakistan's contributions and sacrifices in combating terrorism over the years and stand ready to strengthen bilateral cooperation to flush out the terrorism menace in the country, making sure any future attempt to undermine China-Pakistan cooperation will never succeed. At present, both China and Pakistan stand at an important stage of development. China is pursuing high-quality development and promoting high-standard opening up and is working to build itself into a great modern socialist country in all respects and advancing the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation on all fronts through Chinese modernization.

Pakistan, on its part, is making every single effort for socioeconomic transformation and greater development. I have full confidence in this shared noble cause for China and Pakistan and believe that the unbreakable and long-standing friendship will prosper and reach a new height with each passing day. Let each and every soul of both countries work for a better and shared future of this common community. May the China-Pakistan diplomatic relations remain everlasting. Long live China-Pakistan!

https://www.nation.com.pk/21-May-2024/working-together-for-a-shared-future

The News

CPEC second phase to begin soon: Chinese envoy

LAHORE: Chinese Consul General HE Zhao Shiren has said that the second phase of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) project will begin soon, which will bring prosperity to the people of the region. He was addressing a national conference on "73 years of Pak-China Diplomatic Relations: Achievements and Way forward" organized by Punjab University School of Communication Studies here on Monday. Director School of Communication Studies Prof Dry Noshina Saleem, President Lahore Chamber of Commerce Kashif Anwar, faculty members and a large number of students were present. In his address, HE Zhao Shirin said that China would continue to support Pakistan on defense and national security issues and, (Inshallah), Pakistan will soon become a permanent member of the Security Council of the United Nations. He also said that in the beginning of June, Prime Minister of Pakistan Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif will pay a very important visit to China. He said that China was cooperating with Pakistan in mining, IT, energy and other sectors. He said that Pakistan was the first country in the Muslim world to recognize the independent status of China in 1951, which was a part of history and the Chinese nation could never forget it. He said that a relationship of trust has also been developed in 73 years among the governments and the peoples of both the countries. He said that the Consul General Lahore will continue to cooperate with the Punjab government in promoting educational, economic and cultural relations.

https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1191364-cpec-second-phase-to-begin-soon-chinese-envoy

K2 Daily



بقیہ 45

کے مطابق چینی ٹیکسٹائل کمپنی ہینگ فیشن پرائیویٹ لمیٹڈ نے ٹیکسٹائل پارک کیلئے خصوصی اقتصادی زون (ایس ای زیڈ) بنانے کے مقصد سے پاکستان کے ابھرتے ہوئے اقتصادی مرکز لاہور میں 100 ایکڑ اراضی حاصل کرلی ہے۔ کمپنی مرکزی شاہراہ سے ٹیکسٹائل پارک کی مجوزہ سائٹ تک 3 کلومیٹر رسائی سڑک مکمل کرنے کے بعد برآمد پر مبنی گارمنٹ فیکٹری کی تعمیر شروع کرنے کا ارادہ رکھتی ہے۔ ہینگ فیشن کے ایک عہدیدار نے گوادر پرو کے ساتھ ایک انٹرویو میں کہا، "فیکٹری کا بنیادی ڈھانچہ 12 ماہ کے اندر تعمیر ہونے کی توقع ہے۔ گوادر پرو کے مطابق توقع ہے کہ اس گارمنٹس فیکٹری سے پاکستان کو 500 ملین امریکی ڈالر کا زرمبادلہ کمانے اور ہر سال 30,000 ملازمتیں پیدا کرنے میں مدد ملے گی۔ ہینگ فیشن (پرائیویٹ) لمیٹڈ اگلے 5-3 سالوں میں 150 ملین امریکی ڈالر کی سرمایہ کاری کا ارادہ رکھتا ہے۔ اگر سب کچھ منصوبہ بندی کے مطابق آگے بڑھتا ہے، تو توقع ہے کہ معاون صنعتوں میں 100 ملین امریکی ڈالر کی اضافی سرمایہ کاری کو راغب کیا جائے گا۔



چینی کمپنی نے گارمنٹس فیکٹری کیلئے 100 ایکڑ اراضی حاصل کرلی

کمپنی آئندہ 3 سے 5 سالوں میں 150 ملین ڈالر کی سرمایہ کاری کرے گی

پاکستان کو 500 ملین ڈالر کا زرمبادلہ، ہر سال 30000 ملازمتیں پیدا ہونگی

لاہور (آئی این پی) چینی ٹیکسٹائل کمپنی نے لاہور میں 100 ایکڑ اراضی حاصل کرلی، کمپنی جلد برآمد پر مبنی گارمنٹ فیکٹری کی تعمیر شروع کردے گی، فیکٹری کی تعمیر سے پاکستان کو 500 ملین ڈالر کا زرمبادلہ، ہر سال 30,000 ملازمتیں پیدا ہوگی۔ گوادر پرو (باقی صفحہ 7 بقیہ نمبر 45)

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

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

May 22, 2024

Business Recorder

Punjab commerce minister meets Chinese CG

Provincial Minister of Industry and Commerce Chaudhry Shafay Hussain on Tuesday met with Chinese Consul General Zhao Shiren at the Chinese Consulate in Lahore. They discussed increasing Chinese investment in Punjab, security for Chinese nationals, and enhancing economic cooperation. During the meeting, they agreed to enhance cooperation in the textile industry, information technology, and other sectors. A Garment City is being built on 2,000 acres of land near Lahore, and work has also begun on the IT City project. A labor colony will also be established in the Garment City, as labor is cheap in Punjab, and Chinese

companies can increase their investment here. The best security has been provided to the Chinese working on these projects. The Provincial Minister of Industry and Commerce emphasized that increasing economic cooperation between China and Pakistan is a need of the hour. The Chinese Consul General expressed his readiness to provide all possible cooperation in the Garment City and IT City projects. Zhao Shiren also appreciated the measures taken to improve the security of Chinese nationals.

https://epaper.brecorder.com/2024/05/22/2-page/993574-news.html

Daily Times

China-Pakistan Friendship Flourish and Prosper Forever

Chinese Ambassador Jiang Zaidong said here on Tuesday that China-Pakistan Friendship will flourish and prosper forever. In his address delivered at "friendship forever" event celebrating China Pakistan establishing 73 years of diplomatic relations held here at Pakistan-China center, he said he is very happy to celebrate the 73rd anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Pakistan. On behalf of the Chinese Embassy, he extended his warm congratulations and sincere gratitude to friends from all walks of life who have long been committed to China-Pakistan friendship! The Ambassador said, "President Xi Jinping said that China-Pakistan friendship is like a thriving tree with deep roots and luxuriant leaves. Since the newly born People's Republic of China established diplomatic ties with the Islamic Republic of Pakistan in 1951, the two countries have embarked on a new chapter of China-Pakistan friendship. It has evolved into an all-weather strategic cooperative partnership. From the Chinese tallow tree planted by Chinese Premier Zhou Enlai in Shakarparian Park in 1964, to the pine trees planted by President Xi Jinping and Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif at the Prime Minister House in 2015, under the nurturing of the leaders of our two countries and the joint efforts of both sides, China-Pakistan friendship has grown into a towering tree, deeply rooted in the hearts of the two peoples. Over the past 73 years, leaders of the two countries frequently visited each other like close relatives, guiding the development of China-Pakistan relations. In 2015, President Xi Jinping's historic state visit to Pakistan elevated the bilateral relations to all-weather strategic cooperative partnership, and set the goal of building an even closer China-Pakistan community with a shared future in the new era, which provided fundamental principles and operational guidelines to the development of China-Pakistan relations. Immediately after Pakistan's general election, President Xi Jinping sent congratulatory letters to President Zardari and Prime Minister Shehbaz respectively on their inauguration; Premier Li Qiang sent congratulatory letter to Prime Minister Shehbaz as well, all of which acted as strong driving force for our all-weather strategic cooperation. Last week, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Dar paid his first official visit to China in new capacity. Member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and Deputy Premier Ding Xuexiang met with DPM Dar, and Member of the Political Bureau of CPC Central Committee and Foreign Minister Wang Yi held talks with DPM Dar respectively, which reflected the great importance both sides attach to China-Pakistan relations. Under the strategic guidance of our leaders, the iron-clad friendship between China and Pakistan stood the test of times. It has become as solid as rock and as heavy as mountain. Over the past 73

years, our all-weather friendship has increasingly been transformed into pragmatic cooperation, injecting inexhaustible impetus into the building of the community with a shared future. In particular, the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, from the initial layout of cooperation with focus on Gwadar Port, infrastructure development, energy and industrial cooperation, to the construction of an "upgraded version" with growth corridor, livelihood enhancing corridor, innovation corridor, green corridor and open corridor, it has now become an important platform and a well-known name card for all-round cooperation between the two countries. As a landmark project of Belt and Road Initiative cooperation, batch after batch of projects have been launched, completed and put into operation under the framework of CPEC, which has brought a total of US $25.4 billion in direct investment, 236000 jobs, 510km of highways, more than 8000 megawatts of electricity and 886km of core transmission network, continuously enhancing the capacity of sustainable development for Pakistan. At the same time, counter-terrorism cooperation, defense cooperation and people-to-people exchanges are also fruitful, constantly enriching the connotation of all-weather strategic cooperation between the two countries. Over the past 73 years, the two peoples have shared weal and woe, and the bond of friendship has become even stronger. This Pakistan-China Friendship Center where we are now is a showcase of China-Pakistan traditional friendship from generation to generation. Tough times reveal true friends, just like pure gold can stand the test of fire. History will remember that at critical moments when New China restored the lawful seat in the United Nations, or faced with natural disasters and difficult challenges, our iron-clad brother of Pakistan always stepped forward and provided precious help. History will also remember that China has always been Pakistan's strong backing when Pakistan was in need. From Pakistan's generous provision of tents to China during the Wenchuan earthquake in 2008, to China's full efforts to help Pakistan cope with the "flood of the century" in 2022; from the firm support between the two countries in jointly fighting the COVID-19, to the selfless assistance projects such as the Gwadar Seawater Desalination Plant and Pakistan-China Friendship Hospital which completed last year, the China-Pakistan traditional friendship is getting wider and longer like the Karakoram Highway. This year marks the 75th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China and is a critical year for achieving the goals and tasks of China's 14th Five-Year Plan. It is also the first year for the new government of Pakistan to comprehensively advance governance, and an important year for the brotherly Pakistani people to open a new prospect in national development. Both China and Pakistan are developing countries, facing the same historical task of developing economy and improving people's livelihoods. Against the backdrop of turbulent international situations and a continuously declining world economy, we are ready to provide new opportunities for world development with new achievements of Chinese modernization, and first benefit our iron-clad friend Pakistan. We are ready to work with the Pakistani side to implement the consensus reached by leaders of both countries, promote China-Pakistan all-weather strategic cooperative partnership to a new level and achieve new results, and truly benefit both countries and two peoples. We are ready to further promote high-quality Belt and Road cooperation with the Pakistani side, implement the Global Development Initiative (GDI), Global Security Initiative (GSI) and the Global Civilization Initiative (GCI), and make positive contributions to building an equal and orderly multipolar world as well as a universally beneficial and inclusive economic globalization. Since China

and Pakistan established diplomatic relations 73 years ago, the two sides have always firmly supported each other on issues related to each other's core interests. Just five days ago, in the joint press release of the fifth round of China-Pakistan Foreign Ministers' Strategic Dialogue, China reiterated its support for Pakistan to safeguard its sovereignty, national independence and territorial integrity, and Pakistan reaffirmed its firm commitment to the one-China principle. We highly appreciate that. Before conclude, I would also like to share the latest development in the Taiwan Strait. Yesterday, at the so-called "inauguration ceremony," the leaders of China's Taiwan region wantonly preached the separatist fallacy of "Taiwan independence," openly incited confrontation between the two sides of the Taiwan Strait, and vainly attempted to "rely on foreign countries to seek independence." Recently, certain countries have wantonly distorted UN General Assembly Resolution 2758 and maliciously hyped the so-called "undetermined status of Taiwan" in a vain attempt to "use Taiwan to contain China." In the face of this countercurrent, political dignitaries from many countries, including President Zardari, and people from all walks of life have made it clear that they abide by the one-China principle and firmly support China's cause of opposing "independence" and promoting reunification and justice. This once again shows that a just cause enjoys abundant support while an unjust cause finds little support. "Relying on foreign countries to seek independence" is doomed to failure, and that "using Taiwan to contain China" will not succeed. No matter how the situation in Taiwan changes, no matter who is in power, the fact that both sides of the strait belong to one China will not be changed, and the general trend of China's eventual reunification will not be stopped.

https://dailytimes.com.pk/1193885/china-pakistan-friendship-flourish-and-prosper-forever/

Dunya News

Pakistan adheres to one-China principle, says President Zardari

President Asif Ali Zardari has emphasized that Pakistan firmly adheres to the one-China principle, always choosing to stand on the right side of history. In an interview with a Chinese media outlet on Wednesday, marking the 73rd anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Pakistan, the president remarked that "Pakistani people love China as there is no conditionality between us". This marked President Zardari's first interaction with any foreign media after being re-elected for the second time in March. Having visited China nine times during his first term, President Zardari reaffirmed Islamabad's commitment to upholding the one-China principle, rejecting any form of "Taiwan independence". Transitioning to the development of Gwadar Port, Zardari noted significant progress since the launch of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) 11 years ago. He emphasized that the port remains open to investors from around the globe. Zardari highlighted Pakistan's initiative to encourage the inclusion of Chinese language in school curricula, aiming to strengthen ties between the two nations. Emphasizing the importance of people-to-people exchanges, Zardari called for policies facilitating movement between the two countries. Appreciating China's achievements, Zardari attributed its success to the continuation of policies, expressing Pakistan's desire for increased involvement in China's development process. https://dunyanews.tv/en/Pakistan/813363-Pakistan-adheres-to-one-China-principle,-says-President-Zardari

CPEC is enhancing Pakistan's developmental capacity: Chinese ambassador

ISLAMABAD (APP) - Chinese ambassador to Pakistan Jiang Zaidong said that CPEC's various projects are continuously enhancing the capacity of sustainable development for Pakistan. A momentous occasion celebrated with warmth and gratitude, Chinese ambassador underscored the enduring strength of this friendship poised for unprecedented economic and strategic cooperation. He was speaking at a ceremony held to mark the 73rd anniversary of China-Pakistan diplomatic relations. The ambassador said over the past 73 years, our all-weather friendship has increasingly been transformed into pragmatic cooperation, injecting inexhaustible impetus into the building of the community with a shared future. "The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor has become an important platform for all-round cooperation between the two countries," he said. Chinese ambassador added that as a landmark project of Belt and Road Initiative cooperation, batch after batch of projects have been launched. He was of the view that direct investment of US $25.4 billion was brought while 236,000 jobs were created through CPEC. At the same time, counter-terrorism cooperation, defense cooperation and people-to-people exchanges are also fruitful, constantly enriching the connotation of all-weather strategic cooperation between the two countries.

https://dunyanews.tv/en/Business/813420-CPEC-is-enhancing-Pakistan%E2%80%99s-developmental-capacity:-Chinese-ambassador

Pakistan Observer

To ensure security of Chinese in Hazara top priority: DIG

Security of Chinese in Hazara is top priority and will provide fool proof security on all mega ongoing projects currently under progress in Hazara Division says DIG Hazara Tahir Ayub. Land and drug mafia do not deserve any concession and there will be no compromise on law and order as we had set our priorities and will be utilizing our all best capabilities to maintain law and order with protection of lives of the public and foreign workers Says TahirAyub while talking to group senior journalist here on Tuesday. Tahir Ayub Khan said that complete security is being provided to the Chinese in Kohistan.

https://pakobserver.net/to-ensure-security-of-chinese-in-hazara-top-priority-dig/

Gwadar women garment factory goes full steam ahead

The Gwadar Women Garment Factory, also known as the Gwadar Women's Development Employment Center, has increased its efforts to obtain orders from public and private enterprises after four years of operation at Gwadar Port. It is ready to fulfil and deliver the orders of tailor-made uniforms of employees of national and multinational companies. Talking to Gwadar Pro, Ms. Zaitoon Abdullah, the factory's supervisor, stated that the factory's female workers have developed the necessary skills to meet production standards. She noted that the factory has been producing uniforms for workers of Chinese companies at Gwadar Port for the past four years. She further mentioned that the factory is focusing on embroidery to increase revenue and described the Gwadar Garment Factory as a successful case of enhancing women's empowerment in the region. Zaitoon commented on the career

opportunities at the factory, noting that tailoring offers a viable career path for creative women in Gwadar who are skilled in fabric work. She emphasized that the women employed at the factory.

https://pakobserver.net/gwadar-women-garment-factory-goes-full-steam-ahead/

The Nation

Pakistan, China celebrate 73rd anniversary of diplomatic relations

ISLAMABAD - Pakistan and China yesterday celebrated the 73rd anniversary of Pakistan-China diplomatic relations. Pakistan and China's diplomatic journey, which commenced on the 21st of May in 1951, has evolved into a formidable alliance with each passing day and year. Pakistan and China established diplomatic relations on 21 May 1951. This relationship has built on the strength of its successive achievements and has become formidable with each passing day and year. Pakistan was one of the first countries that recognize the People Republic of China. Over the years, the relationship has blossomed into an All-Weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership. Pakistan considers China as one of its closest friends and partners and China considers Pakistan as its Iron Brother. The bilateral relationship between the two neighboring countries is characterized by feelings of mutual trust, respect, and goodwill towards each other. There is a regular exchange of visits at the highest level between the two countries. Strategic cooperation between Pakistan and China has grown over the past several decades. Economically, China is Pakistan's largest trading partner and a major investor, especially in infrastructure and energy sector. With the official launch of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), the bilateral relationship has been elevated to a higher level. CPEC is a flagship project of Chinese President Xi Jinping's initiative of "One Road and One Belt". It aims at enhancing connectivity and improving infrastructure between Pakistan and China. Several projects are being implemented under CPEC, for the enhancement of infrastructure and generation of energy. People-to-people contacts are an important aspect of the bilateral relationship. Pakistan and China have several Consultations mechanisms including Strategic Dialogue at Foreign Ministers' level, Political Consultations at Foreign Secretary/ Vice-Minister Level; consultations on South Asia, Arms Control, Counter-terrorism; Human Rights; Peacekeeping; Maritime Dialogue; Border management consultations, and Consular affairs. Pakistan and China also have robust defense collaboration. The cooperation spans high-level military exchanges, structured defense and security talks, joint exercises, training of personnel in each other's institutions, joint defense production and defense trade. The militaries of the two countries have institutionalized three tiers of bilateral consultations to enable close cooperation at all levels. There is an extensive range of cooperation, including joint ventures, for the production of military equipment, aircraft, submarines, and tanks. China is also the recipient of the largest number of military training officials from Pakistan. China is Pakistan's largest single trading partner; while Pakistan is China's second-largest trading partner in South Asia. Yesterdaym Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Mohammad Ishaq Dar and Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi agreed to further strengthen the mutually beneficial cooperation and high-quality development of CPEC. The deputy prime minister and foreign minister met the Chinese foreign minister on the sidelines of the SCO Council of Foreign Ministers in Astana,

Kazakhstan, Ministry of Foreign Affairs posted on X account. They exchanged felicitations on the 73rd anniversary of the establishment of Pakistan-China diplomatic relations, which have grown into an 'All-Weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership'.

https://www.nation.com.pk/22-May-2024/pakistan-china-celebrate-73rd-anniversary-of-diplomatic-relations

The News

CPEC to bring about new era of uplift: governor

PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Governor Faisal Karim Kundi said on Tuesday the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) would start a new era of development in the country. He expressed these views while addressing a ceremony organized at China Window to mark the 73rd anniversary of the establishment of Pakistan-China diplomatic relations. Diplomats from Iran and Afghanistan and people from other walks of life were present on the occasion. The governor visited various galleries of the China Window, signed the friendship wall, and recorded his views in the guest book. He officially launched a video on the Pakistan-China friendship and cut the 73rd-anniversary cake. Addressing the ceremony, the governor said China had supported Pakistan in every difficult time. "The CPEC will stabilize our economy," he said and gave the credit for the cluster of projects to President Asif Ali Zardari when he held the coveted office from 2008 to 2013. The governor said Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif will visit China from June 4 and the second phase of CPEC would be discussed for a speedy implementation. He said the establishment of diplomatic relations between Pakistan and China has completed 73 years. "The China Window has provided a good opportunity to bring the people of the two countries closer," Kundi added. The governor congratulated the people of China on the 73rd anniversary of friendship and hoped that the people of Pakistan and China would continue to share in each other's happiness in the future. Earlier, China Window Administrator Amjad Aziz Malik said May marked the establishment of diplomatic relations between Pakistan and China. "This journey of friendship began on May 21, 1951, and since then China has supported Pakistan in every difficult time. And Pakistan, too, has always shared joy and sorrow with the Chinese people," he added. The administrator said the China Window was a state-of-the-art Chinese Cultural Centre established almost five years ago. He said the Chinese language courses were taught at the centre as well apart from arranging other cultural and academic activities.

https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1191747-cpec-to-bring-about-new-era-of-uplift-governor

'Pak-China ties transformed into pragmatic cooperation'

Muhammad Saleh Zafar

ISLAMABAD: Chinese Ambassador Jian Zaidong has said that the all-weather Sino-Pak friendship has transformed into a pragmatic cooperation, injecting inexhaustible impetus into the building of a community with a shared future. He was addressing a huge gathering here Tuesday at the Pakistan-China Friendship Centre to celebrate the 73rd anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Pakistan and China. Giving the historical reference, the Chinese envoy said that the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), from

the initial layout of cooperation with a focus on Gwadar Port, infrastructure development, energy and industrial cooperation, to the construction of an "upgraded version" with its corridors for growth, green, livelihood enhancing and innovation has now become an important platform and a well-known name card for all-round cooperation between the two countries. The ambassador said that as a landmark project of Belt and Road Initiative (B&RI) cooperation, batch after batch of projects has been launched, completed and put into operation under the framework of CPEC, which has brought a total of US $25.4 billion in direct investment, 236,000 jobs, 510km of highways, over 8000 MW of electricity and 886km of core transmission network besides continuously enhancing the capacity of sustainable development for Pakistan. Besides, counter-terrorism cooperation, defense cooperation and people-to-people exchanges are also fruitful, constantly enriching the connotation of all-weather strategic cooperation between the two countries. "President Xi Jinping said that the China-Pakistan friendship is like a thriving tree with deep roots and luxuriant leaves, he said and recalled that since the newly born China established diplomatic ties with Pakistan in 1951, the two countries have embarked on a new chapter of Pakistan-China friendship. It has evolved into an all-weather strategic cooperative partnership. From the Chinese tallow tree planted by Chinese Premier Zhou Enlai in Shakarparian Park in 1964 to the pine trees planted by Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif and President Xi Jinping at the Prime Minister House in 2015, under the nurturing of the leaders of our two countries and the joint efforts of both sides, Pakistan-China friendship has grown into a towering tree, deeply rooted in the hearts of the two peoples. Ambassador Jian Zaidong referred to President Xi Jinping's historic state visit to Pakistan in 2015 that elevated the bilateral relations to an all-weather strategic cooperative partnership, and set the goal of building an even closer Pakistan-China community with a shared future in the new era, which provided fundamental principles and operational guidelines to the development of China-Pakistan relations. The ambassador was of the view that history will remember that at critical moments when New China restored the lawful seat in the United Nations, or faced with natural disasters and difficult challenges, our iron-clad brother of Pakistan always stepped forward and provided precious help. "History will also remember that China has always been Pakistan's strong backing when Pakistan was in need. From Pakistan's generous provision of tents to China during the Wenchuan earthquake in 2008, to China's full efforts to help Pakistan cope with the "flood of the century" in 2022; from the firm support between the two countries in jointly fighting COVID-19, to the selfless assistance projects such as the Gwadar Seawater Desalination Plant and Pakistan-China Friendship Hospital which completed last year, the Pakistan-China traditional friendship is getting wider and longer like the Karakoram Highway," the ambassador said. "We are ready to further promote high-quality B&R cooperation with the Pakistani side, implement the Global Development Initiative, Global Security Initiative and the Global Civilization Initiative, and make positive contributions to building an equal and orderly multipolar world as well as a universally beneficial and inclusive economic globalization. The Chinese ambassador told the gathering that recently, certain countries have wantonly distorted UN General Assembly Resolution 2758 and maliciously hyped the so-called "undetermined status of Taiwan" in a vain attempt to "use Taiwan to contain China." In the face of this countercurrent, political dignitaries from many countries, including President Asif Ali Zardari, and people from all walks of life have made it

clear that they abide by the one-China principle and firmly support China's cause of opposing "independence" and promoting reunification and justice. Expressing the resolve that "using Taiwan to contain China" will not succeed, Ambassador Jian Zaidong said no matter how the situation in Taiwan changes, no matter who is in power, the fact that both sides of the strait belong to one China will not be changed, and the general trend of China's eventual reunification will not be stopped.

https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1191837-pak-china-ties-transformed-into-pragmatic-cooperation

PRL in talks with Chinese contractors, banks for $1.5bn refinery upgrade project

KARACHI: Pakistan Refinery Limited (PRL) has reached out to Chinese companies for its $1.5 billion Refinery Expansion & Upgrade Project (REUP), aimed at doubling production capacity and enhancing refining capabilities "These discussions were highly productive, laying the groundwork for the forthcoming phases of PRL's Refinery Expansion & Upgrade Project (REUP)," PRL said on Tuesday. In January this year, PRL and the United Energy Group of China (UEG) signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) for an investment worth $1.5 billion; however, since then, no tangible progress has been made on it. Now, the PRL management has visited China to hold meetings with the Chinese companies to collaborate with PRL on this mega opportunity. The REUP project is a major initiative for PRL, aimed at doubling the refinery's crude processing capacity from 50,000 barrels per day (bpd) to 100,000 bpd. This expansion will be complemented by the adoption of a state-of-the-art Deep Conversion Refinery configuration. The upgraded refinery will utilize advanced technology to meet stringent environmental standards, including the production of EURO V standard fuels, thereby significantly enhancing PRL's operational efficiency and environmental footprint. "PRL is ahead of all refineries in Pakistan right now in terms of our Refinery Expansion & Upgrade Project," said Zahid Mir, managing director & CEO of PRL. "The meetings with EPC contractors in China yielded very positive results. We have developed a comprehensive plan to award the EPC contract by the end of this year and work towards achieving financial close of the project by mid-next year. The feedback from these discussions has been overwhelmingly supportive." In addition to these strategic meetings, PRL has also proactively engaged with the Oil and Gas Regulatory Authority (OGRA) to sign a supplementary agreement .PRL has requested amendments to the existing agreements to align with the updated brownfield policy. This step is crucial for securing the regulatory support needed for the project's successful implementation and long-term sustainability. The Refinery Expansion & Upgrade Project represents a substantial investment in Pakistan's energy infrastructure. By doubling capacity, producing value-added products, and adhering to international environmental standards, including the production of EURO V compliant MS and HSD, PRL aims to strengthen its position in the global energy market and contribute significantly to the country's economic growth, the company said.

https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1191658-prl-in-talks-with-chinese-contractors-banks-for-1-5bn-refinery-upgrade-project

Express News

پاکستانی طلبا چین میں خوابوں کی تکمیل میں مصروف

بلوچستان کے 10 نوجوان چینی کالج میں سول انجینئرنگ کا 9 ماہ کا کورس کر رہے ہیں

شی جیارو آنگ (شِ نہوا) بلوچستان کے 10 نوجوان 22 مارچ کو ایک پرواز کے ذریعے چین پہنچے۔وہ شمالی صوبے ہیبے کے صدر مقام شی جیاڑ وانگ کے ایک کالج میں سول انجینئرنگ کا 9 ماہ کا کورس کریں گے۔وہ اس امید پر چین آئے ہیں کہ وہ پیشہ ورانہ مہارت اور بین الثقافتی وژن کے ساتھ اپنے آبائی علاقوں کی ترقی میں اپنا کردار ادا کریں گے۔ویسے جیاؤ ٹونگ دو کیشنل اینڈ ٹیکنیکل کالج کی چین پاکستان کلاس 2024 میں زیر تعلیم 20 سالہ طالب علم مبشر نے کہا کہ یہ تبادلہ پروگرام بہت با معنی ہے، ہم پل اور سرنگ کی تعمیر میں نئے مواد ، نئی مشین کا استعمال اور نئی تکنیک سیکھ سکتے ہیں۔مبشر نے فخر ا کہا کہ یہ ہمارے لئے خوش قسمتی ہے کہ چین میں ہمارے شہر سے آنے والے وہ پہلے ایکسچینج اسٹوڈنٹس ہیں۔کالج کے مطابق ان طلباء کی ٹیوشن، ٹرانسپورٹ اور رہائش کے تمام اخراجات چین کے فراہم کردہ وظائف سے پورے ہوں گے اس کے علاوہ انہیں فی کس 550 یو آن ماہانہ رہائشی الاؤنس بھی ملے گا۔مبشر کے چابلوچستان کے ضلع گوادر میں شہری منصوبہ بندی اور تعمیرات کے انجینئر ہیں اس ضلع میں مقامی افراد کی زندگی کے لیے بہت سا بنیادی ڈھانچہ مثلاً بندر گاہ، سمندری پانی کاڈی سیلینیشن پلانٹ، پاک چین دوستی ہسپتال وغیرہ چین کی مدد سے تعمیر کیا گیا ہے۔مبشر نے پاک چین اقتصادی راہداری (سی پیک) کے تحت مکمل کردہ منصوبوں کی اہمیت پر زور دیتے ہوئے کہا کہ میرے چانے جن منصوبوں میں کام کیا ان میں سے کئی میں چینی کمپنیوں نے سرمایہ کاری کی تھی۔ان منصوبوں میں باصلاحیت افراد کی مانگ کے پیش نظر مبشر نہ صرف بلوچستان میں روزگار کے مواقع اور مستقبل کے امکانات سے متعلق پر امید ہیں۔

https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1110991664&Issue=NP_LHE&Date=20240522

Nawaiwaqt

عالمی حالات جو بھی رہے، چین ہمیشہ پاکستان کیساتھ کھڑا رہا: چینی سفیر

چینی سفیر جیانگ ژوڈونگ نے کہا ہے کہ 1951ء میں سفارتی تعلقات سے لیکر آج تک پاک چین دوستی میں وقت کے ساتھ ساتھ مضبوطی اور گہرائی آتی گئی ہے۔دنیا کے جو بھی سیاسی و معاشی حالات رہے ان دونوں ممالک کی دوستی ہر موسم میں قائم و دائم اور ہر آزمائش پر پوری اتری ہے۔پاک چین سفارتی تعلقات کی 73ویں سالگرہ تقریب سے خطاب کرتے ہوئے انہوں نے مزید کہا کہ گزرے 73 برسوں کے دوران دونوں ملکوں کی دوستی کا درخت بہت بلند ہو چکا جس کی گہری جڑیں دونوں ممالک کے عوام کے دلوں میں ہیں۔اس دوران دونوں ممالک کے رہنماؤں نے قریبی رشتہ داروں کی طرح ایک دوسرے ملک کے دورے کئے۔2015ء میں صدر شی جن پنگ کے دورہ سے اس آزمودہ دوستی کو نئی جہت ملی۔سی پیک اور گوادر تعاون نے دونوں ممالک کے عوام کو مشترکہ مستقبل کے بندھن میں باندھ دیا۔چین نے پاکستان میں 25.4 ارب ڈالر کی براہ راست سرمایہ کاری کی جس سے 2 لاکھ 36 ہزار ملازمتیں پیدا ہوئیں۔510 کلومیٹر طویل ہائی ویز بنائے گئے جبکہ 8000 میگاواٹ بجلی کے کارخانے لگائے گئے۔دونوں ممالک ترقی پذیر ہیں اور اپنے عوام کی زندگی میں بہتری لانے اور معاشی ترقی کیلئے کوشاں ہیں۔عالمی حالات جو بھی رہے چین ہمیشہ ضرورت کے وقت پاکستان کی پشت پر کھڑا رہا اور ہمیشہ پاکستان کی مدد کی۔پاکستان نے ہمیشہ تائیوان پر چین کے مؤقف اور ون چائنا پالیسی کی حمایت کی ہے۔

https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2024-05-22/page-1/detail-13

May 23, 2024

Business Recorder

Pakistan firmly upholds One-China principle: President

President Asif Ali Zardari has reiterated that Pakistan firmly adhered to the One-China principle as the country always chooses to stand on the right side of history. “Pakistani people loved China as “there is no conditionality between us,” the president remarked in an interview with the Chinese media, published on Wednesday, marking the 73rd anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Pakistan. This was the first such interaction of President Asif Ali Zardari with any foreign media after being re-elected for the second time in March. Recalling the rapport between the previous leaders of the two countries, President Zardari said: “My late father-in-law, Pakistan’s former Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto told the nation to look East, to look towards China.” President Zardari, who had visited China nine times during his first term as Pakistani president, reaffirmed Pakistan’s stance of upholding the One-China principle, rejecting any form of “Taiwan independence.” “Taiwan is part of China. There’s no other way,” the president said, adding Pakistan will always stand by China and safeguard China’s core interests. Commenting on the development of Gwadar Port, a starting point of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), President Asif Ali Zardari said a lot of work had been done at the Gwadar Port since the launch of the CPEC 11 years ago, noting that the Port would always welcome investors from all over the world. President Zardari said Pakistan was encouraging more schools to adopt the Chinese language into their compulsory curriculum. Emphasizing the importance of strengthening people-to-people exchanges between the two countries, he called for more policies to facilitate the movement of people between the two countries.

https://epaper.brecorder.com/2024/05/23/1-page/993659-news.html

Dunya News

PIA offers 20 percent discount for students traveling from China to Pakistan

BEIJING (APP) - Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) has offered 20 percent discount for Pakistani students traveling from China to Pakistan, an official of the airline told APP here on Thursday. At present, PIA is operating one weekly flight on Islamabad-Beijing-Islamabad route on every Sunday. The students who are planning to go to Pakistan for summer holidays or want to travel to homeland after completion of their educational degrees could take benefit from the discount. Talking to APP, Ali Imran, a Pakistani researcher, said that a large number of Pakistani students are currently studying in different cities in China. The discount offered by PIA would greatly facilitate them as they could enjoy both discount in fare and increase in the baggage allowance.

https://dunyanews.tv/en/Pakistan/813606-PIA-offers-20-percent-discount-for-students-traveling-from-China-to-Paki

The Express Tribune

PM Shehbaz to visit China in first week of June

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif is expected to travel to China in the first week of June as part of his government's efforts to seek greater cooperation from Beijing to pull the country out of economic troubles. This will be Shehbaz's first visit to Beijing since he returned to the Prime Minister's Office after the February 8 elections. Official sources said that the prime minister will kick off his three day trip to China from June 4. During the visit he will meet the top Chinese leadership including President Xi Jinping. Ahead of the visit, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar and Planning Minister Ahsan Iqbal already travelled to Beijing. Dar co-chaired the strategic dialogue with his Chinese counterpart where both countries agreed to deepen their cooperation and vowed not to let incidents such as the one targeting Chinese engineers disrupt their ties. At least five Chinese engineers were killed when a suicide bomber blew himself up near Besham targeting the Chinese convoy. This was the latest attack targeting Chinese nationals and raised concerns in China about the safety and security of their citizens working in Pakistan. The joint statement issued after the strategic dialogue said both countries would bring to justice all those who were behind the terrorist attack. They also made it clear that such attacks would not undermine their bilateral cooperation. Security of Chinese nationals and China's interests has become a major issue in recent years. Although China publically never said things that might embarrass Pakistan, privately it did raise concerns over the security arrangements. The agenda of the prime minister's visit to China is wide-ranging. However, the primary focus will be on initiating the second phase of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and seeking restructuring of the $15 billion loan China gave for setting up power plants in the country. China remains Pakistan's pivotal strategic partner as it has rescued Islamabad on crucial occasions. Beijing's timely rollover of loans in July last year prevented a potential default of Pakistan. China's support is also crucial for Pakistan in the wake of changing global politics. With India's growing ties with the US, Pakistan is increasingly relying on China to protect its core interests. When the government of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif took charge after the elections, the foreign office in a brief informed the new administration that China remained central to Pakistan's foreign policy.

https://tribune.com.pk/story/2467984/pm-shehbaz-to-visit-china-in-first-week-of-june

Express News

عوام چین سے محبت کرتے ، ہماری دوستی مشروط نہیں ، زرداری

تائیوان چین کا حصہ ، پاکستان ایک چین اصول کی پاسداری کرتا ہے ، صدر کا انٹرویو

اسلام آباد (ش نہوا) صدر مملکت آصف علی زرداری نے کہا ہے کہ پاکستان ایک چین اصول کی پاسداری کرتا ہے کیونکہ پاکستان نے ہمیشہ تاریخ کی درست سمت کا انتخاب کیا ہے، گزشتہ روز چین پاکستان سفارتی تعلقات کے قیام کی 73 ویں سالگرہ منائی گئی، چینی میڈیا کو حالیہ انٹرویو میں صدر مملکت آصف علی زرداری دونوں ممالک کی گزشتہ نسل کے رہنماؤں کے درمیان تعلقات کو یاد کرتے ہوئے کہا کہ ان کے مرحوم سسر اور سابق وزیر اعظم ذوالفقار علی بھٹو نے قوم سے کہا تھا کہ مشرق کی طرف دیکھو ، چین کی طرف دیکھو، پاکستانی عوام چین سے محبت

کرتے ہیں کیونکہ ہماری دوستی مشروط نہیں ہے ، انٹرویو میں صدر زرداری نے تائیوان کی آزادی کو مسترد کرتے ہوئے ایک چین اصول کی پاسداری کے پاکستانی موقف کا اعادہ کیا ، صدر نے کہا کہ تائیوان چین کا حصہ ہے، پاکستان ہمیشہ چین کے ساتھ ہے اور چین کے بنیادی مفادات کا تحفظ کرے گا، سی پیک پر تبصرہ کرتے ہوئے انہوں نے کہا کہ 11 برس قبل سی پیک کے آغاز کے بعد سے گوادر بندرگاہ میں ترقی ہوئی ہے، یہ بندرگاہ دنیا بھر کے سرمایہ کاروں کا ہمیشہ خیر مقدم کرے گی، انہوں نے کہا کہ پاکستان زیادہ سے زیاہ سکولوں کی حوصلہ افزائی کر رہا ہے کہ وہ چینی زبان کی تعلیم کو اپنے نصاب کا حصہ بنائیں، انہوں نے دونوں ممالک کے درمیان لوگوں کی نقل و حرکت کو آسان بنانے کیلئے مزید پالیسیوں پر زور دیا ، صدر زرداری نے انٹرویو کے اختتام پر چینی زبان میں کہا پاک چین دوستی زندہ باد"۔

https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1110994263&Issue=NP_LHE&Date=20240523

Jang News

پاکستان ''ون چائنا'' اصول کی پاسداری کرتا ہے، صدر زرداری

صدر مملکت آصف علی زرداری نے اس امر کا اعادہ کیا ہے کہ پاکستان ہمیشہ تاریخ کے صحیح رخ پر کھڑا رہنے کے راستے کا انتخاب کرتے ہوئے ''ون چائنا'' کے اصول کی پاسداری کرتا ہے۔ چین اور پاکستان کے درمیان سفارتی تعلقات کے قیام کی 73 ویں سالگرہ کے موقع پر بدھ کو شائع ہونے والے چینی میڈیا کو انٹرویو میں صدر نے کہا کہ پاکستانی عوام چین سے غیر مشروط محبت کرتے ہیں۔ صدر زرداری نے کہا کہ پاکستان ہمیشہ چین کے ساتھ کھڑا رہے گا اور چین کے بنیادی مفادات کا تحفظ کریگا

https://e.jang.com.pk/detail/689799

May 24, 2024

Dawn News

CPEC's joint committee meets virtually today

ISLAMABAD: China and Pakistan will hold 13th Joint Coordination Committee (JCC) of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) virtually today (Friday) in the run-up to Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's first visit to China after coming to power early this year. Pakistan is pushing for expediting approval of financing for development of $6.7bn Main Line-1 (ML-1), notwithstanding internal opposition, and about $1.9bn Karachi Circular Railway during the JCC as part of the second phase of the multi-billion dollar CPEC initiative launched in 2013. The JCC will be followed by PM Sharif's visit to Beijing, expected in the first week of June. The JCC meetings have been taking place alternatively in Pakistan and China. The last (12th JCC) meeting had taken place in Beijing in July last year. Sources in the Planning Commission said that despite internal opposition from the ministries of finance and economic affairs over the $6.7bn ML-1 project amid country's higher debt indicators and tight scrutiny by the International Monetary Fund, the Pakistani side led by Planning and Development Minister Ahsan Iqbal was urging the Chinese side to expedite the approval of 1,733km railway line from Karachi to Peshawar. The project was cleared by the Central Development Working Party (CDWP) on Wednesday for submission to the Executive Committee of National Economic Council (Ecnec) for approval at an estimated cost of $6.7bn. The speed on the ML-1 has now been reduced to 120-160km per hour from originally conceived speed of 260km per hour in 2015-16. The project was then promised for

takeoff early 2018 but had been delaying because of challenging financing terms. The Chinese side has this time insisted PM Sharif's visit should follow the 13th JCC so that outstanding issues are settled and a roadmap for cooperation under CPEC-2 is finalized during the high-profile state-level meeting. Payables to Chinese power producers have gone beyond Rs550bn as of April 30, informed sources said. Pakistani has also pushed for early materialization of two major hydropower projects in Azad Kashmir. The "re-modified PC-1 for upgrade of Pakistan Railways existing ML-1 and establishment of dry port near Havelian" is proposed to be financed through foreign funding under the CPEC framework agreement. A flagship project of Belt and Road Initiative, Pakistan and China have been implementing CPEC as strategic cooperation for sustainable growth and development. The government claims that phase-1 of CPEC has transformed Pakistan's economic landscape laying a solid foundation for cooperation in industrialization, agriculture, science & technology and socio-economic development. The Planning Commission has put the number of direct jobs created by CPEC at 236,000, providing employment to more than 155,000 Pakistanis. In the second phase, Pakistan is inviting Chinese companies to invest in the industrial sector.

https://www.dawn.com/news/1835357

Dunya News

Minister says CPEC to enhance enduring Pak-China bond

ISLAMABAD (Dunya News) – Federal Minister for Planning Ahsan Iqbal reiterated on Friday Pakistan government's commitment to further strengthen ties with China. During a meeting of the 13th Joint Coordination Committee of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) in Islamabad on Friday, the minister emphasized that the investment between the two countries was increasing which, in his view, would bolster bilateral ties. Ahsan Iqbal underscored the significance of CPEC as a vital project between China and Pakistan, highlighting the successful completion of its first 10 years. The minister said that work was underway in various sectors, including the economy, energy, education, and the environment, in the second phase of CPEC. Iqbal underscored that the CPEC project was the flagship initiative of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), which would further enhance the enduring relationship with China. The minister stated that Chinese and Pakistani authorities would engage in detailed discussions to address challenges related to CPEC. He said that the Gwadar Port was being developed with modern infrastructure, and the ML-1 project would be completed in two phases.

https://dunyanews.tv/en/Business/813878-Minister-says-CPEC-to-enhance-enduring-Pak-China-bond

The News

JCC to consider today Pakistan's request for $6.7bn ML-1 financing deal

Mehtab Haider

ISLAMABAD: Amid increasing concerns about the escalating circular debt of Chinese IPPs and the security of their personnel, the Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) under CPEC is all set to consider Pakistan's request for finalizing financing agreement for Mainline (ML-1) construction at cost of $6.7 billion. The revised PC-1 approved by the Central Development Working Party (CDWP) recommended the ECNEC for approving the first phase of ML-1 at the cost of $3.3 billion. The scope of ML-1 was revised after which the speed of trains would be reduced from 160-180-km to 120-kilometres. There will be dual rail tracks, but different bridges and other features have been modified to reduce its cost. There will be three new areas which might come under discussion in JCC, being held on Friday (today). In Science and Technology, Science, technology, and innovation cooperation has reached new height. Projects, such as the Talented Young Scientist Programme (TYSP), China-Pakistan Joint Research Centre on Earth Sciences (CPJRC), and China-Pakistan STEM Education Hundred Schools Alliance Project have achieved significant progress. Joint research, personnel exchange, technology transfer, and cooperation in other areas have flourished. Both sides will work together to tap into the cooperation needs, develop higher-quality cooperation projects, and give better role to science, technology, and innovation in bolstering high-quality CPEC and China-Pakistan cooperative relations. On agriculture, CPEC has increased the potential of agricultural cooperation between China and Pakistan. The bilateral agricultural trade grew from US$590 million to US$1.32 billion from 2013 to 2022, a 124 per cent increase. The cooperation has expanded from trade to investment and services. The cooperation on crop production, seed development, water management, agro-product processing, agricultural machinery, and information application has also flourished. Investments by Chinese companies in buffalo breeding and dairy processing, chili contract farming and processing and donkey slaughterhouse and product processing have successfully been initiated. Both sides will work together to launch more public and private sector initiatives to bolster industries, benefit peoples for win-win cooperation in agriculture. On information technology, efforts are underway to strengthening cooperation in ICT Infrastructure Development, ICT Application Innovation, Cybersecurity, Policy and Regulation, Radio Spectrum Regulation and Human Resource Development and encourage enterprises from both sides to expand cooperation in this sector. As the flagship project of Belt and Road Initiative, CPEC is of strategic significance for Pakistan and its sustainable growth and development. Phase-I of CPEC has transformed Pakistan's economic landscape laying a solid foundation for cooperation in industrialization, agriculture, science and technology and socioeconomic development and has directly created 236,000 jobs, provided employment to more than 155,000 Pakistanis. In the 2nd phase, Chinese companies are expected to invest in the industrial sector. There are a number of opportunities for Chinese investors to make profitable investments in variety of sectors of Pakistan. Energy: The CPEC energy projects have stimulated the vitality in Pakistan's economic development. Up to now, 19 energy projects with a total installed capacity of 13,010-MW have been commissioned. Among

them, 14 projects have been put into commercial operation, with a total installed capacity of 8,020-MW, accounting for 19.4pc of Pakistani total installed capacity, and achieving a 4000-MW of transmission capacity.

Electricity Generation Capacity added: 8,020-MW (plus development of Thar coalmines 15 MTPA)

Transmission Lines completed: 880-km

1 Project (Suki Kinari HPP) currently under implementation: 884-MW

Projects at planning stage including Kohal HPP, Azad Pattan HPP, Gwadar Coal Power Plant: 4,144-MW

Transport Infrastructure: Transport Infrastructure sector under CPEC has also made significant accomplishments. Signature projects, including KKH-II (Havelian-Thakot) project, Peshawar to Karachi Highway (Sukkur-Multan) and Lahore Orange Line, have been operating smoothly. The comprehensive and multi-dimensional CPEC infrastructure network, led by Gwadar Port, mainlining of KKH project, and improvement in air transportation contributed towards developing Pakistan into a regional connectivity hub and in modernization of Pakistan's economy.

809-km of new Motorways/Highways (3 projects – including one through PSDP) completed

Orange Line Metro Train Project completed

820-km Optic Fibre laid

Infrastructure projects under construction: 5 road projects (676-km - 4 PSDP)

International airport at Gwadar (under construction through Chinese grant from CIDCA)

Major infrastructure projects in pipeline: Railways - Main Line-1 (ML-1): 1733-km. Chinese side is being urged to expedite the approval of financing for development of Phase-1 of the project and revised PC-1 submitted to Planning Commission for consideration and Karachi Circular Railway (planned to be executed in G2G mode), revised feasibility study submitted to Chinese side. Industrial cooperation: Industrial cooperation under CPEC is pivotal for the second phase of CPEC's high quality development. CPEC Framework Agreement on Industrial Cooperation has been signed. The construction of the Rashakai Special Economic Zone, Phase-I has been completed and efforts are being made to populate it with Chinese and other enterprises. Both sides agreed to implement the Framework Agreement on industrial cooperation for tangible outcomes, and to reach consensus on mining cooperation, B2B collaboration and relocation of Chinese industries in the SEZs as the breakthrough for next phase cooperation. The Chinese enterprises are encouraged to establish B2B linkages with Pakistani companies whereas the Pakistani government continues to improve its business environment and provide utmost facilitation to the Chinese companies, making industrial cooperation more successful. 4 SEZs (Rashakai, Faisalabad, Dhabeji, Bostan) out of total nine agreed SEZs and Gwadar Free Zone being developed on priority. Gwadar: Gwadar Port, as the leading CPEC project, can now successfully operate at full capacity. The Gwadar Free Zone phase-1 (60 acres) has been successfully completed and supporting facilities have been

improved and much larger phase-II (2,221 acres) being developed; Eastbay Expressway (19-km); Faquer School, Pak-China Technical & Vocational Institute, Pak-China Friendship Hospital Gwadar; 1.2 MGD Seawater Desalination Plant and Fraternity Emergency Care Centre have been completed and transferred to Pakistani authorities. New Gwadar International Airport is near completion, and the dredging project is under implementation. Efforts are underway to enrich the business scope of Gwadar Port and Free Zone, and facilitate in the improvement of transport, healthcare, water and power supply, and education for the port city

Projects completed: Seven projects (Eastbay Expressway, Gwadar Port & Free Zone (Phase-I), Smart Port City Master Plan, Vocational Institute and Water Supply, Gwadar Hospital & 1.2 MGD Desalination Plant).

Projects under implementation: Two projects (NGIA and 300MW Coal Power Plant)

Projects in pipeline: Five projects (Construction of Breakwater, Dredging of Berthing Areas and Channels, Gwadar Smart Environmental & Sanitation System and landfill, Gwadar Fish Harbour and 2 MGD Desalination Plant (PSDP). Socioeconomic development: Socioeconomic Development Cooperation under CPEC has achieved effective and practical fruits. Total 27 projects have been conceived in two batches (1st Batch 17 projects & 2nd batch 10 Projects), so far, in 6 areas (agriculture, education, healthcare, poverty alleviation, power supply, vocational training) have been successfully implemented, improving local healthcare and education conditions.

Projects completed: 11

Projects under Implementation: 10

Projects in pipeline: 6

List of 3rd batch 57 projects shared with Chinese side for consideration during the 3rd JWG meeting on Socioeconomic Development.

https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1192650-jcc-to-consider-today-pakistan-s-request-for-6-7bn-ml-1-financing-deal

Express News

دیامر بھاشا ڈیم میں سرمایہ کاری کیلئے ایک بار پھر چین کو پیشکش

منصوبے کیلئے مزید ساڑھے 3 ارب ڈالر درکار ، سعودی عرب نے دلچسپی ظاہر نہیں کی

دورہ چین میں ا شہباز شریف پاکستان میں : چینی کمپنیوں کی مشکلات پر بھی بات کریں گے

اسلام آباد (رپورٹ / شہباز رانا) پاکستان نے دیامر بھاشا ڈیم میں سرمایہ کاری کے لیے چین کو راغب کرنے کا فیصلہ کر لیا، تفصیلات کے مطابق دیامر بھاشا ڈیم جو کہ زیر تکمیل منصوبہ ہے اور جس کے لیے مزید ساڑھے 3 ارب ڈالر کی سرمایہ کاری درکار ہے اس کے لیے چین کو راغب کرنے کا فیصلہ کیا ہے کیونکہ سعودی عرب کی جانب سے اس منصوبے میں اب تک کوئی دلچسپی ظاہر نہیں کی گئی ہے۔حکومتی ذرائع نے ایکسپریس کو بتایا کہ وزیر اعظم شہباز ز شہ شریف نے وزارت منصوبہ بندی کو ہدایات جاری کی ہے کہ وہ دیامر بھاشا ڈیم کو پاکستان چین

اقتصادی راہدی منصوبے میں شامل کرے۔یہ ہدایات سی پیک کے حوالے سے قائم مشترکہ تعاون کمیٹی کے آج (جمعے کے روز) ہونے والے اجلاس سے قبل جاری کی گئی ہیں۔یہ اجلاس وڈیو لنک کے ذریعے منعقد ہو گا جس میں سی پیک کی مجموعی پیش رفت کا جائزہ لیا جائے گا۔پاکستان کی جانب سے وزیر منصوبہ بندی احسن اقبال جبکہ چین کی جانب سے نیشنل ڈیولپمنٹ اینڈ ریفارمز کمیشن کے وائس چیئر مین نمائندگی کریں گے۔ ذرائع کے مطابق وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف کی جانب سے یہ ہدایات ان کے عنقریب دورہ چین سے قبل جاری کی گئی ہیں جہاں وہ پاکستان میں سرگرم عمل چینی کمپنیوں کو در پیش مسائل کے حوالے سے بھی بات چیت کریں گے۔گزشتہ سات برسوں کے دوران یہ دوسرا موقع ہے جب پاکستان نے دیامر بھاشا ڈیم کو سی پیک میں شامل کرنے کا فیصلہ کیا ہے۔اس سے قبل نومبر 2017 میں پاکستان نے دیامر بھاشا ڈیم کو سی پیک میں شامل کرنے کی درخواست واپس لے لی تھی اور اس وقت کے واپڈا کے چیئر مین مزمل حسین کے مطابق چین کی جانب سے اس منصوبے کی ملکیت کے حوالے سے سخت شرائط عائد کی گئی تھیں جس کے بعد پاکستان نے اسے سی پیک میں شامل کرنے کی درخواست واپس لے لی تھی ۔گزشتہ ماہ پاکستان نے دیامر بھاشا ڈیم میں سرمایہ کاری کے لیے سعودی عرب کو بھی پیشکش کی تھی جس کے لیے سعودی عرب کو 1 ارب 20 کروڑ ڈالر اس منصوبے میں لگانے تھی جبکہ مزید 2 ارب 30 کروڑ ڈالر دس سال قرض پر فراہم کرنے کے انتظامات کرنا تھے۔ایک سینئر حکومتی اہلکار کے مطابق حکومت کو اس منصوبے کے لیے 3 ارب 50 کروڑ ڈالر کی کمی کا سامنا تھا اور پاکستان کو امید تھی کہ سعودی عرب اس میں دلچسپی ظاہر کرے گا تاہم پاکستان کو اس حوالے سے کوئی رد عمل موصول نہیں ہوا۔علاوہ ازیں وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف نے ایک بار پھر ہدایات جاری کی ہیں سرکاری سطح پر درآمدات کے لیے گوادر بندرگاہ کا استعمال کیا جائے تاہم بندرگاہ پر اب بھی بہت سی سہولیات کے فقدان کے سبب اسے پوری طرح استعمال نہیں کیا جارہا۔

https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1110996449&Issue=NP_LHE&Date=20240524

Jang News

سی پیک جے سی سی اجلاس آج، ایم ایل ون و دیگر منصوبوں کی منظوری دی جائیگی

سی پیک کے اعلیٰ ترین فورم مشترکہ تعاون کمیٹی (جے سی سی) کا 13 واں اجلاس آج اسلام آباد میں ہو گا۔اجلاس کی مشترکہ صدارت چیئر مین نیشنل ڈیولپمنٹ اینڈ ریفارم کمیشن این ڈی آر سی اور وفاقی وزیر منصوبہ بندی احسن اقبال کریں گے۔جے سی سی اجلاس میں ایم ایل ون منصوبے سمیت زراعت، آئی ٹی اور صنعتی ترقی کے منصوبوں کی منظوری دی جائے گی,جے سی سی کے پہلے 12 اجلاس کامیاب رہے اور ان کے فیصلوں پر عملدرآمد تیزی سے جاری ہے,جے سی سی کے 13 ویں اجلاس کی بہت اہمیت ہے کیونکہ پاکستان اور چین نے پہلے ہی سی پیک کے دوسرے مرحلے کے تحت پانچ نئے اقتصادی راہداریوں پر ورکنگ گروپس قائم کیے ہیں،جو وزارت منصوبہ بندی کے تیار کردہ 5Es فریم ورک کے مطابق ہیں

https://e.jang.com.pk/detail/690302%22

K2 Daily



بقیہ 3

ہے۔ حملے میں ہلاک چینی کارکنوں کا تعلق داسو ہائیڈرو پاور پراجیکٹ سے تھا جو ورلڈ بینک کے تعاون سے تعمیر کیا جارہا ہے، اس پراجیکٹ کے مکمل ہونے سے 4320 میگاواٹ بجلی کی پیداوار متوقع ہے لیکن بدقسمتی سے یہ پراجیکٹ دوبارہ دہشتگرد حملوں سے متاثر ہوا ہے۔ اس پراجیکٹ پر پہلا دہشتگرد حملہ 14 جولائی 2021 کو ہوا تھا جس میں 10 چینی ہلاک اور 20 زخمی ہوئے تھے جبکہ رواں سال دوسرے حملے میں 6 چینی اور ایک پاکستانی اپنی جانوں سے ہاتھ دھو بیٹھے۔ 6 مقتول چینیوں کے ورثاء کیلئے مذکورہ زرتلافی کی سمری کی منظوری ای سی سی نے دیدی ہے۔

شانگلہ حملہ 6 ہلاک چینیوں کیلئے 25 لاکھ 80 ہزار ڈالرز تلافی

حملے میں 6 چینی کارکن ہلاک ہوئے تھے، جاں بحق پاکستانی کیلئے 25 لاکھ روپے منظور

ڈیم سے 4320 میگاواٹ بجلی کی پیداوار متوقع، پراجیکٹ دوسری مرتبہ دہشتگرد حملوں سے متاثر ہوا

اسلام آباد (نمائندہ ڈیلیک) حکومت نے 26 مارچ 2024 کو دہشتگرد حملے میں ہلاک چینی باشندوں کیلئے 25 لاکھ 80 ہزار ڈالرز زر تلافی کا اعلان کیا ہے جس کی ای سی سی نے منظوری دیدی ہے۔ وزیر خزانہ محمد اورنگزیب کی زیر صدارت اجلاس میں منظوری دی گئی، داسو ڈیم حملے میں 6 چینی کارکن ہلاک ہوئے تھے جبکہ حملے میں جاں بحق پاکستانی کیلئے 25 لاکھ روپے کی سفارش کی تھی جس کی بھی منظوری دیدی گئی (باقی صفحہ 7 بقیہ نمبر 3)

https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_GB&Page=Baqia&Date=2024-05-24

https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_GB&Page=Back_Page&Date=2024-05-24

Nawaiwaqt

سی پیک کے تحت 13 ویں مشترکہ تعاون کمیٹی کا اجلاس آج ہو گا

وزارت منصوبہ بندی نے بیان جاری کیا ہے جس میں کہا گیا ہے کہ رواں برس مارچ میں موجودہ حکومت کے برسر اقتدار آنے کے بعد سے، چین پاکستان اقتصادی راہداری سی پیک پر عمل درآمد کو تیز کیا گیا ہے۔ پاک چین اقتصادی راہداری کی مشترکہ تعاون کمیٹی کا 13 واں اجلاس آج منعقد کیا جارہا ہے، جے سی سی سی پیک میں فیصلہ سازی کا ایک اعلیٰ ادارہ ہے۔ اجلاس کی مشترکہ صدارت چیئرمین نیشنل ڈیویلپمنٹ اینڈ ریفارم کمیشن این ڈی آر سی اور وفاقی وزیر منصوبہ بندی احسن اقبال کریں گے۔ جے سی سی کے پہلے 12 اجلاس کامیاب رہے اور ان کے فیصلوں پر عملدرآمد تیزی سے جاری ہے۔ پاکستان اور چین نے سی پیک کے دوسرے مرحلے کے تحت پانچ نئے اقتصادی راہداریوں پر ورکنگ گروپس قائم کیے ہیں۔ ان راہداریوں میں روزگار کی تخلیق، اختراع، گرین انرجی، اور جامع علاقائی ترقی شامل ہیں۔ وزارت منصوبہ بندی اور این ڈی آر سی ہر راہداری کے لیے سٹریٹجک روڈمیپ پیش کریں گے۔ دوطرفہ تعاون کے حوالے سے اہم اعلانات وزیراعظم شہباز شریف کے آئندہ دورہ بیجنگ کے دوران کیے جائیں گے۔ فریم ورک کو پانچ اقتصادی راہداریوں سے منسلک کیا جائے گا۔

https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2024-05-24/page-1/detail-13

May 25, 2024

Business Recorder

Cost of CPEC's ML1 project cut to $6.8bn

Federal Minister for Planning Development and Special Initiatives, Ahsan Iqbal said on Friday that thirteenth Joint Coordination Committee (JCC) of CPEC reiterated to work on developing projects. Speaking to the media after the 13th JCC on Friday, Federal Minister Ahsan Iqbal said that these projects include Azad Patan project, and Kohala project. These projects will provide 1800 MW of hydel energy to Pakistan. Concrete announcements regarding these projects are expected during the visit of the Prime Minister of Pakistan to China. Besides, in the light of the economic situation of Pakistan, the ML1 project of CPEC was revised. The cost of the project has been reduced from $10 billion to $6.8 billion. The ML1 project will be constructed in phases. Its purpose is to enable implementation in accordance with the economic laws of Pakistan. Federal Minister Professor Ahsan Iqbal has the honour of having presided over 10 out of 13 JCC meetings. Speaking to the media after the 13th JCC, Federal Minister Ahsan Iqbal said that CPEC is a milestone of friendship between Pakistan and China. CPEC has provided this friendship with a strong foundation for economic and economic cooperation. From 2013 to 2018, 25 billion dollars were invested in Pakistan under CPEC. He said that the journey of CPEC slowed down after 2018 due to change of government. Criticism of CPEC during this period caused big investors to leave Pakistan, as a result of which Pakistan suffered huge losses in investment. Further damage to Pakistan's economy was caused by severe climate changes, floods and corona virus. Highlighting the projects in Gwadar, Federal Minister Ahsan Iqbal said that during the 16-month government tenure in Gwadar, water, electricity projects and dredging projects of Gwadar port were reactivated. Owing to the lack of dredging of Gwadar port, the depth of Gwadar port was reduced by one and a half meters due to which big ships could not anchor. The government completed this work in 6 months. Similarly, the transmission line from Iran was brought to Gwadar. Gwadar was also got connected to the national grid through a transmission line for the first time. Pipeline connection from Gwadar dam to supply more brackish water. With these steps, China has regained its confidence in Pakistan to continue CPEC with renewed rigour. Federal Minister Ahsan Iqbal also said that the Deputy Prime Minister of China visited Pakistan on the completion of 10 years of CPEC. On this occasion, he identified 5 new corridors for Phase 2 of CPEC. These include Growth Corridor, Economic Development Projects Corridor, Innovation Corridor, Green Corridor, and Regional Connectivity Corridor. All these five corridors are in line with Pakistan's economic development framework, the Five Es and Vision 2025, for which Pakistan strives. In the thirteenth JCC, it was reiterated to work on developing projects. These projects include Azad Patan project, and Kohala project. These projects will provide 1800 MW of hydel energy to Pakistan. Concrete announcements regarding these projects are expected during the visit of the Prime Minister of Pakistan to China. Besides, in the light of the economic situation of Pakistan, the ML1 project of CPEC was revised. The cost of the project has been reduced from $10 billion to $6.8 billion. The ML1 project will be constructed in phases. Its purpose is to enable implementation in accordance with the economic laws of Pakistan. During question

answers session, Minister Ahsan Iqbal was asked about delays in circular debt of Chinese IPPs. Minister said that China's patience and collaboration despite delays is commendable, as they understand Pakistan's economic situation. He shared that due payments will be cleared at the earliest and instructions had already been given to relevant departments. Minister was asked if length of ML1 had been reduced after its cost was lowered from $10 billion to $6.8billion. The minister answered that the basic infrastructural length is same but time/speed for completion will be increased as the project will be materialized in multiple phases. To a question inquiring how much loss CPEC projects had suffered during PTI tenure, Minister stated that the progress on CPEC projects had regressed by at least 10 years. Furthermore, Minister said that the decision to use local coal instead of imported coal will help promote the vision of incorporating green economy. 300 Megawatt Gwadar coal will fulfill local demand for fuel along the Makran coast region and 1800 MGW will fulfill remaining demand through Kohala and Azad Pattan projects. These two projects will take 6-8 years until completion. Minister Iqbal further shared that National Energy Administration of China will visit Pakistan to prepare recommendations to reduce power losses during project construction phases. They will also make solutions to convert regular energy efficiently into green energy.

https://epaper.brecorder.com/2024/05/25/1-page/993846-news.html

Daily Times

PM wants to boost exports with help of Chinese expertise

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Friday said that Pakistan wanted to benefit from the Chinese experiences to promote its Information Technology sector and boost exports. He was talking to a delegation of the representatives of the Chinese companies which called on him at the PM House. The prime minister, while welcoming the delegation, said China and Pakistan enjoyed long-standing brotherly relations that were further strengthening with the passage of time. "China has an important role in Pakistan's development. It has always helped Pakistan in difficult times for which the entire nation, including me, is grateful to the Chinese leadership and the people," he said. He emphasized that the security and protection of the Chinese workers and citizens was the top priority of the government. "The government has taken all possible measures to ensure foolproof security of the Chinese citizens in Pakistan," he said, adding that in that regard a comprehensive plan had been prepared. As regards the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), the prime minister said that his upcoming visit to China would be fully focused on the second phase of the mega project, besides further promoting bilateral economic relations. PM Shehbaz pointed out that China was the second largest economy in the world, which was a source of great satisfaction for Pakistan. "The way China lifted 700 million people out of poverty is a beacon for us." The prime minister said Pakistan was an agriculture country and it wanted to utilize modern technology in the sector. He informed the delegation that the government was taking measures on priority to increase the foreign direct investment in the country. Reforms were being introduced at the government level to expand the tax net, discourage tax leakages and stop tax theft from the system. He also invited the Chinese companies to invest in Pakistan's electric and hybrid auto sector. The prime minister also directed the authorities concerned to resolve all the issues of the Chinese companies in Pakistan. During the meeting, Minister for

Planning and Development Ahsan Iqbal briefed the prime minister about meeting of the Joint Coordination Committee of CPEC. He said it was agreed in the meeting that the up-gradation of the Pakistan Railways Main Line 1 (ML-1), realignment of Karakoram Highway, establishment of Special Economic Zones, Gwadar port and Agriculture Demonstration Zones would be the prioritized projects of the second phase of CPEC. The representatives of the Chinese companies, while terming Pakistan their second home, expressed their resolve to further expand their businesses and investment in the country. Separately, Shehbaz Sharif held a telephone conversation with Prime Minister Simon Harris of the Republic of Ireland. The Prime Minister felicitated him on his assumption of office and remarked lightheartedly that his youth and dynamism would bring major changes in Ireland.

https://dailytimes.com.pk/1194843/pm-wants-to-boost-exports-with-help-of-chinese-expertise/

Ahsan Iqbal terms CPEC a transformative force in the region

Federal Minister for Planning, Development, and Special Initiatives, Ahsan Iqbal on Friday said that the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) has become a transformative force in the region as the flagship project of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), especially for Pakistan. The minister said that CPEC will enhance cooperation and development for both countries in the fields of agriculture, industry, information technology and science. The minister and Vice Chairman National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) Li Chunlin jointly chaired the 13th Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) meeting. At the beginning of the meeting, Li Chunlin praised the Pakistani minister of planning for his deep commitment to CPEC and his active role in promoting it. Ahsan Iqbal chaired 10 of the 13th JCC meetings held so far, which is quite an honor in itself, said Li Chenlin. Federal Minister for Privatization, Minister of Communications, Federal Minister of Information Technology, Secretary Planning, Secretary Energy, Secretary Communications, Secretary Board of Investment, and senior officials of federal and provincial ministries participated in the meeting. In the JCC meeting, the Pakistan side appreciated the vision of Chinese leadership to upgrade the second phase of CPEC with the inclusion of these new corridors which are in harmony with Pakistan's 5E framework. Meanwhile speaking on the occasion, Ahsan Iqbal said, "We are ready to work with NDRC to finalize the scope and implementation plan on these corridors. Both sides are highly committed to this shared vision, and together, both countries have embarked on a journey of shared dreams, working hand in hand to build high-quality development projects." Last year, Pakistan and China celebrated a decade of successful high-quality development and ever closer collaboration under CPEC, he said. The minister stated that during the celebrations, Vice Premier He Lifeng unveiled five new corridors proposed by President Xi Jinping, including the Growth Corridor, Livelihood Enhancing Corridor, Innovation Corridor, Green Corridor, and Opening Up/Regional Connectivity Corridor. Ahsan Iqbal said that Gwadar Port has been made operational and several infrastructure and social sector projects have been completed. He said that these developments are pivotal in the transformation of Gwadar into a smart port city, promising to significantly improve the lives and livelihoods of the people of Gwadar and its adjoining coastal areas. As we shift our focus from government-to-government (G2G) to business-to-

business (B2B) cooperation in the next phase of CPEC, we emphasize high-quality development in industrialization, agriculture, and science and information technologies, he said. Ahsan said that now is the time to attract investors and manufacturers to populate the Special Economic Zones, develop the Gwadar as a business district, and create high-quality tourist resorts in Gwadar. "To this end, we propose signing of a MoU to promote cooperation in these areas", he said. He said the second phase of CPEC has begun, but much work remains to ensure its success. "We are progressing on developing four priority SEZs, including Rashakai SEZ, Allama Iqbal Industrial City, Dhabeji SEZ, and Bostan SEZ. However, we need to replicate the Chinese experience in this area", he maintained. He said, "to set up our SEZs similarly to Chinese SEZs, we require support from your technical experts to advise our SEZ authorities regularly and this can be facilitated under the Industrial Cooperation Framework Agreement recently signed by both sides". "We earnestly seek relocation of Chinese industries in these SEZs and Chinese companies can relocate their manufacturing units in these SEZs and take benefits from the cheaper labor force, high return on investment and easy and cheaper access to world markets. The government proposes to convene the Pakistan-China Business Forum in collaboration with NDRC for matchmaking between Pakistani and Chinese enterprises," he said. Ahsan said that the steady progress CPEC has made since its inception in 2013 and in the energy sector, "we have successfully completed 16projects, with generation capacity of 8,020 MW, along with two coal mines and a + 660 kV HVDC transmission line and the total investment in these projects is around USD 16 Billion. Currently, one hydropower project 884 MW Suki Kinari worth of USD 1.707 Billion is under construction expected to be commissioned by November 2024." He said that three power projects, including two hydel (Azad Pattan 700 MW and Kohala 1124 MW) and one coal based (Gwadar) are with generation capacity of 2124.7 MW worth USD 4.157 Billion are at the advance stage to achieve financial closing and we urge Chinese side for their support in achieving groundbreaking of these projects as soon as possible. He said that in the transport infrastructure sector, eight (08) projects have been completed thus far at a cost of US$ 6.7 billion and several projects including roads, Airport (Gwadar) and Digital Media projects are well underway. "We hope to see Gwadar Airport in service soon. CPEC has contributed in the construction of around 888 km of motorways and highways with both Chinese and local financing. Additionally, another 853 km are currently under construction through local financing." He informed that China and Pakistan have made significant progress on the Pakistan Railways Mainline-1 project and the re-modified PC-1 has been approved with a cost of USD 6.76 billion in two phases.

https://dailytimes.com.pk/1194881/ahsan-iqbal-terms-cpec-a-transformative-force-in-the-region/

Chinese Food and Cultural Festival held at KIU to celebrate diplomatic ties

Karakoram International University (KIU) in Gilgit-Baltistan hosted a vibrant Chinese Food and Cultural Festival, bringing the rich flavors and traditions of China to its campus. The event was held to celebrate the deep-rooted friendship between Pakistan and China, especially on the 73rd anniversary of the establishment of their diplomatic relations, Gwadar Pro reported. Chinese Food and Cultural Festival held at KIU to celebrate 73rd anniversary of Pakistan-China diplomatic relations. The festival was a culmination of weeks of planning and preparation, with China Study Center, International Office, and the Confucius Institute at KIU working closely together to ensure a successful event. The venue was transformed into a bustling marketplace with stalls showcasing a wide array of Chinese delicacies and cultural artifacts. The festival offered a unique opportunity for students and participants to immerse themselves in the diverse flavors and culinary traditions of China. Local teachers guided them through the preparation of various local and Chinese delicacies, including dumplings, which were then enjoyed by all. The hands-on experience allows participants to not only taste the food but also understand the art and craftsmanship behind its preparation. The enthusiasm of the students was palpable as they participated in workshops on using chopsticks, learning the finesse of eating traditional Chinese dishes such as noodles and dumplings with this ancient utensil. The joy of mastering a new skill was evident on their faces. In addition to the culinary aspect, the festival also showcases China's rich cultural heritage. As a highlight of the event, Prof Dr Sajjad, Director International Office of KIU performed Chinese Tai Chi, demonstrating his deep understanding and love for Chinese culture having lived in China himself. The festival was a lively affair, attracting over 100 participants. China Study Center and the Confucius Institute at KIU plan to continue hosting such cultural festivals in the future with the aim of further strengthening the bonds between Pakistan and China through cultural exchange and mutual understanding.

https://dailytimes.com.pk/1194857/chinese-food-and-cultural-festival-held-at-kiu-to-celebrate-diplomatic-ties/

Dawn News

PM to visit China in June to join formal launch of CPEC-II

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif will visit China in the first week of next month to join formal launching of the second phase of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC-II). A source in the Prime Minister's Office told Dawn that PM Shehbaz was scheduled to leave for China on June 4, but the date of visit could slightly be changed. Infrastructure and energy projects were part of the CPEC's first phase. In CPEC-II, both countries will focus on agriculture, Main Line-I of Pakistan Railways, businessmen-to-businessmen deals and realignment of Karakorum Highway (KKH) etc. While presiding over a meeting of representatives of the Chinese companies, the prime minister said that Pakistan wanted to benefit from Chinese experiences to promote its IT sector and to boost exports. "China has an important role in Pakistan's development. It has always helped Pakistan in difficult times for which the entire nation, including me, is grateful to the Chinese leadership and the people," the PM said. He assured the Chinese firms that security and protection of

Chinese workers and citizens was the top priority of the government. "The government has taken all possible measures to ensure foolproof security of the Chinese citizens in Pakistan," he told the meeting, adding that a comprehensive plan had been prepared in this regard. Mr Sharif said that Pakistan was an agriculture country and it wanted to utilize China's modern technology in this sector. He invited Chinese companies to invest in Pakistan's electric, hybrid auto sector and other sectors.

JCC meeting

In a related development, Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Ahsan Iqbal and China's Vice Chairman of National Development Reform Commission Li Chunlin co-chaired a meeting of the Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC), adds APP. In the meeting, the Pakistan side appreciated the vision of Chinese leadership to upgrade the second phase of CPEC with the inclusion of new corridors. Speaking at the JCC meeting, Mr Iqbal said: "We are ready to work with NDRC to finalize the scope and implementation plan on these corridors." The minister said that last year China's Vice Premier He Lifeng unveiled five new corridors proposed by President Xi Jinping, including Growth Corridor, Livelihood Enhancing Corridor, Innovation Corridor, Green Corridor, and Opening Up/Regional Connectivity Corridor. Mr Iqbal said Gwadar Port had been made operational and several other projects completed. "Now is the time to attract investors and manufacturers to populate the Special Economic Zones (SEZs), develop Gwadar as a business district, and create high-quality tourist resorts in Gwadar. To this end, we propose signing of a MoU to promote cooperation in these areas," he said. He said the second phase of CPEC had already begun, but much work remained to ensure its success. "We are progressing on developing four priority SEZs, including Rashakai SEZ, Allama Iqbal Industrial City, Dhabeji SEZ, and Bostan SEZ. But we need to replicate the Chinese experience in this area," he said.

https://www.dawn.com/news/1835561/pm-to-visit-china-in-june-to-join-formal-launch-of-cpec-ii

Dunya News

PM seeks Chinese expertise to boost exports, promote IT industry

ISLAMABAD (Web Desk) - Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Friday said that Pakistan wanted to benefit from the Chinese experiences to promote its Information Technology sector and boost exports. He was talking to a delegation of the representatives of the Chinese companies which called on him at the PM House. The prime minister, while welcoming the delegation, said China and Pakistan enjoyed long-standing brotherly relations that were further strengthening with the passage of time. "China has an important role in Pakistan's development. It has always helped Pakistan in difficult times for which the entire nation, including me, is grateful to the Chinese leadership and the people," he said. He emphasized that the security and protection of the Chinese workers and citizens was the top priority of the government. "The government has taken all possible measures to ensure foolproof security of the Chinese citizens in Pakistan," he said, adding that in that regard a comprehensive plan had been prepared. As regards the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), the prime minister said that his upcoming visit to China would be fully focused on

the second phase of the mega project, besides further promoting bilateral economic relations. PM Shehbaz pointed out that China was the second largest economy in the world, which was a source of great satisfaction for Pakistan. “The way China lifted 700 million people out of poverty is a beacon for us.” The prime minister said Pakistan was an agriculture country and it wanted to utilize modern technology in the sector. He informed the delegation that the government was taking measures on priority to increase the foreign direct investment in the country. Reforms were being introduced at the government level to expand the tax net, discourage tax leakages and stop tax theft from the system. He also invited the Chinese companies to invest in Pakistan’s electric and hybrid auto sector. The prime minister also directed the authorities concerned to resolve all the issues of the Chinese companies in Pakistan. During the meeting, Minister for Planning and Development Ahsan Iqbal briefed the prime minister about meeting of the Joint Coordination Committee of CPEC. He said it was agreed in the meeting that the up-gradation of the Pakistan Railways Main Line 1 (ML-1), realignment of Karakoram Highway, establishment of Special Economic Zones, Gwadar port and Agriculture Demonstration Zones would be the prioritized projects of the second phase of CPEC. The representatives of the Chinese companies, while terming Pakistan their second home, expressed their resolve to further expand their businesses and investment in the country.

https://dunyanews.tv/en/Pakistan/813997-PM-seeks-Chinese-expertise-to-boost-exports,-promote-IT-industry

New security plan to protect Chinese citizens working in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD (Dunya News) - Preparations have begun to establish the safe cities project in Dasu and Chilas under a foolproof security plan for Chinese and other foreign citizens working in Pakistan. A meeting was held under the chairmanship of Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi to review the establishment of the Dasu and Chilas Safe City Project. The goal is not just to install cameras, but to create a system equipped with advanced technology and artificial intelligence tools. Mohsin Naqvi said the project would ensure the surveillance and security of these areas. He mentioned that the Islamabad police would provide full support for this. He directed Wapda, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa police, and Islamabad police to prepare a comprehensive plan in this regard. The interior minister formed a committee consisting of the Islamabad IGP, the Hazara RPO, and Wapda representative. Naqvi instructed to present a comprehensive plan for the establishment of the project within 15 days. He stressed that protecting the Chinese citizens working on construction and development projects in Pakistan was a national responsibility. Federal Secretary Interior Khurram Ali Agha, Wapda chairman retired Lt Gen Sajjad Ghani, Islamabad Chief Commissioner Muhammad Ali Randhawa, and IGP Ali Nasir Rizvi attended the meeting. Also, the Additional Chief Secretary Home, Additional IG Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, and Hazara RPO participated through a video link.

https://dunyanews.tv/en/Pakistan/814129-Safe-City-in-Dasu-and-Chilas-for-Chinese-citizens-working-in-Pakistan

Pakistan Observer

$4b investment expected in power sector under CPEC: Ahsan

Minister for Planning and Development Ahsan Iqbal said on Friday that the country's power sector can expect another $4 billion investment through the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor. Addressing the virtual meeting of the 13th Joint Cooperation Committee, the minister said the additional investment is in the last stages of finalization. The Joint Cooperation Committee is the main decision-making body for CPEC, which convenes annually. The Pakistani side was headed by Iqbal while the Chinese team was led by the chairman of Beijing's National Development and Reform Commission. He emphasized that the previous year marked a decade of high-quality development since CPEC's inception in 2013. The minister announced the addition of five new corridors focusing on growth, livelihood enhancement, innovation, green initiatives, and regional connectivity. He expressed Pakistan's appreciation for China's vision in updating the second phase of CPEC with the new corridors. The planning minister reiterated Pakistan's readiness to collaborate with the NDRC to achieve "China and Pakistan's shared vision of high-quality development". Since its inception CPEC has made steady progress, said Iqbal and highlighted that 16 energy projects have generated more than 8,000MW of electricity.

https://pakobserver.net/4b-investment-expected-in-power-sector-under-cpec-ahsan/

The Express Tribune

Pakistan seeks $17b from China

Islamabad requested China to fund the Diamer Basha dam, Hyderabad-Sukkur motorway, and Mainline-I project of the Pakistan Railways, in addition to four other roads and bridge projects. The estimated value of these nine energy and infrastructure projects exceeds $17 billion, including the $4.5 billion cost of the energy schemes. The request was made during the 13th Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) meeting, the highest decision-making body of the CPEC. The Pakistani side was headed by Minister for Planning Ahsan Iqbal, while the Chinese team was led by the chairman of Beijing's National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) during the JCC meeting. "We have agreed to perform the ground-breaking ceremony of three energy projects with a capacity of 2100 MW this year," said Iqbal, while addressing a press conference. These projects include the Azad Patan power project, Kohala hydropower project, and the Gwadar coal-fired power plant, he added. In response to a question about the rationality of adding 2,100 MW more capacity when the country is expected to pay Rs2.8 trillion in idle capacity payments in the next fiscal year, Iqbal stated that the two hydropower projects would be commissioned in the next six to eight years, by which time the electricity demand would be sufficient. He also noted the need for a 300 MW coal-fired power project to meet the needs of Gwadar and surrounding areas. The minister mentioned that China has raised the issue of the repayment of their Rs523 billion dues on account of electricity purchases, but the country can only make these payments when the economic situation improves. The planning minister also stated that China has agreed to study a proposal to convert imported-coal projects to local coal for coal-based power generation. This move would save $1 billion per annum in coal costs and facilitate timely

payments to Chinese energy suppliers. Iqbal further shared that the National Energy Administration of China will visit Pakistan to prepare recommendations to reduce power losses during project construction phases and to convert regular energy efficiently into green energy. Pakistan also proposed seven infrastructure projects for Chinese financing, including the $6.7 billion Mainline-I project of the CPEC. The planning minister mentioned that the Diamer Basha Dam, Panjgor-Mashkoor road, Hyderabad-Sukkur Motorway, Zhob-Quetta road, Quetta-Karachi road, Thakot-Raikot section of the Karakoram Highway, and the Wanghu Tunnel at the M-8 motorway have also been proposed for inclusion in the CPEC. Under Phase-I of the CPEC, China had invested $28 billion in energy and infrastructure projects. However, it seems that the government is still hoping to secure at least $17 billion more for energy and infrastructure schemes. The government has already prepared a plan to reschedule $17 billion in Chinese energy debt amid China's reluctance to entertain any such request. The planning minister stated that Pakistan has revised the design of the Main Line-1 (ML-1) project from a $10 billion "high-end" to a more functional level project worth $6.8 billion. He mentioned that the ML-1 project will be constructed in phases. Responding to a question about compromising the quality of the ML-1 project, Iqbal stated that the train's speed will be 120 kilometers per hour but could be increased to 160 km per hour in the future. The planning minister reiterated Pakistan's readiness to collaborate with the NDRC to achieve "China and Pakistan's shared vision of high-quality development." Iqbal mentioned several projects ready for bidding by Chinese companies and expressed hope for the immediate start of the process for the ML-1 project, the country's largest railway scheme. The minister further said that the "re-modified PC-1 for the upgrade of Pakistan Railways existing ML-1 and establishment of a dry port near Havelian" is proposed to be financed through foreign funding under the CPEC framework agreement. He requested the NDRC and National Railway Administration to authorize the bidding process and establish timelines for ground-breaking. Referring to the Karachi Circular Railways (KCR) project, he noted its expected implementation under a government-to-government (G2G) arrangement similar to the Lahore Orange Line Metro project. The planning minister also maintained that the Gwadar port is operational along with several other infrastructure and social projects. He emphasized the transition from G2G to business-to-business (B2B) collaborations in the next phases, focusing on high-quality development and transforming Gwadar into a business district and added that progress is ongoing in developing four priority special economic zones (SEZs). Iqbal stressed the need to replicate Chinese expertise in setting up these SEZs, requiring support from technical experts facilitated under the recently signed industrial cooperation framework agreement. He invited Chinese manufacturers to relocate to these SEZs to benefit from Pakistan's low-cost labor force, high return on investment, and easy access to global markets. Pakistan has also proposed setting up two new working groups on Water Resources and a Working Group on Climate Change. https://tribune.com.pk/story/2468199/pakistan-seeks-17b-from-china

The News

AIERD, Arid University launch China fellowship

Islamabad: The Asian Institute of Eco-civilization Research and Development (AIERD), in collaboration with Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University has launched the Understanding China Fellowship Programme 2024 for the youth intending and aspiring to understand China. Chief Executive Officer (CEO), AIERD, Shakeel Ahmed Ramay told APP that under the fellowship experts on China from Pakistani and Chinese universities and think tanks would deliver lectures and conduct workshops to train the participants. The program was supported by the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Pakistan, he added. The basic objectives of the program are to equip the participants with the knowledge and information about Chinese success in different fields, acquaint them with the Chinese model of development and shared prosperity, and provide them guidelines as to how they can suggest a way forward to Pakistani policymakers in line with the Chinese way of thinking. The fellowship is a four-month long duration programme to be divided into two parts. The first part comprises lectures, presentations, and discussions. In the second part, each participant will have to produce a 2000-word concept paper on his/her understanding of China. "The youth who have at least a bachelor's degree or master's degree in social sciences disciplines will be preferably encouraged to apply.

https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1193317-aierd-arid-university-launch-china-fellowship

Foolproof security for Chinese: Naqvi seeks plan to establish 'Safe City' in Dasu, Chilas

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Interior Mohsin Naqvi chaired a meeting on the establishment of Safe City Project in Dasu and Chilas to ensure foolproof security of Chinese and foreign nationals. The minister has formed a special committee to seek a comprehensive plan in this regard and directed the committee to submit final recommendations within 15 days. The minister said the prime minister had directed to establish the safe city project in Dasu and Chilas. He highlighted that the purpose of Safe City is not just to install cameras but a system that is equipped with advanced technology and artificial intelligence tools, adding the Safe City project will ensure surveillance and security of the entire area. The minister further said that Islamabad Police will provide all kinds of support in this regard. He directed that Water and Power Development Authority (Wapda), Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Police and Islamabad Police should jointly prepare a comprehensive plan in this regard. The minister also constituted a committee comprising IG Islamabad, RPO Hazara and the representative of Wapda. He said that it was their responsibility to ensure the security of Chinese citizens working for the progress and development of Pakistan. He promised no effort will be spared in this regard. The meeting was attended by Federal Secretary for Interior Khurram Ali Agha, Chairman Wapda Lieutenant General (R) Sajjad Ghani, Chief Commissioner Islamabad Muhammad Ali Randhawa, and IG Islamabad Ali Nasir Rizvi. Additionally, the Additional Chief Secretary Home, Additional IG Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and RPO Hazara joined the meeting via video link. https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1193375-foolproof-security-for-chinese-naqvi-seeks-plan-to-establish-safe-city-in-dasu-chilas

PM Shehbaz reiterates support for 'One China policy'

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif Sunday reiterated Islamabad's support to Beijing's "One China" policy on Taiwan issue while terming the Island nation as an inalienable part of China. Taking to social media platform X, formerly Twitter, PM Shehbaz said: "Pakistan has always extended its principled support to the Chinese position on Taiwan and will continue to do so. Pakistan adheres to the 'One China' policy." Supporting China's efforts for national reunification, the prime minister stressed that the so-called elections or transition of the self-proclaimed government in Taiwan do not change the objective facts on the Taiwan issue. The One China policy PM Shehbaz referred to translates to diplomatic acknowledgement and support for Beijing's stance that only one Chinese government — a key aspect of Beijing's policy-making and diplomatic standing and a fundamental pillar of its relations with the United States. As per the BBC, Taiwan, which began its "separate" rule after the nationalists retreated to the Island nation following the Chinese Civil War, is considered by China as its part which is destined to be unified with the mainland. Under the said policy, a country which intends to have diplomatic ties with China cannot continue to have relations with Taiwan as the latter, Beijing maintains, is a part of mainland China.

https://www.thenews.com.pk/latest/1193450-pm-shehbaz-reiterates-support-for-one-china-policy

Express News

چینی شہریوں کی سکیورٹی کیلئے جامع پلان ترتیب، دورہ چین کا محور سی پیک ۱۱، معاشی تعلقات کا فروغ ہو گا: چینی وفد سے گفتگو

ای پکس کمیٹی کا اہم اجلاس آج طلب، SIFC مار خور قدرتی ورثے کی علامت، عالمی دن پر پیغام ، قیادت شرکت کریگی عسکری، سول

اسلام آباد (نمائندہ خصوصی) وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف نے کہا ہے کہ چین پاکستان کی ترقی میں اہم شراکت دار ہے ، پاکستان ہر محاذ پر چین کے سا ساتھ کھڑا رہے گا۔ ہے گا۔ بر آمدات بڑھانے کے حوالے سے چینی تجربات سے فائدہ اٹھانا چاہتے ہیں۔ چین پاکستان کی برآمدات کو چین اور خطے کے دوسرے ملکوں تک پہنچانے میں اپنے تجربات کی روشنی میں پاکستان کی مدد کرے ۔ وزیر اعظم سے پاکستان میں چینی کمپنیوں کے نمائندوں کے وفد نے وزیر اعظم ہاؤس میں ملاقات کی۔ وزیر اعظم نے گفتگو کرتے ہوئے مزید کہا کہ چین نے پاکستان کی ہر برے وقت میں مدد کی جس پر مجھ سمیت پوری قوم چینی قیادت اور چینی عوام کی مشکور ہے۔ پاکستان ہر محاذ پر چین کے ساتھ کھڑا ہے گا۔ وزیر اعظم نے کہا کہ چینی شہریوں کی سکیورٹی اور تحفظ حکومت کی اولین ترجیح ہے۔ پاکستان میں مقیم چینی شہریوں کو فول پروف سکیورٹی کیلئے جامع پلان ترتیب دیا گہ دیا گیا ہے۔ وزیر اعظم نے؟ نے چینی کمپنیوں کو لو سپیشل اکنامک زونز میں بی ٹوبی ٹرانزیکشنز کے تحت صنعتیں لگانے کی ترغیب دی۔ انہوں نے چینی ٹیکسٹائل انڈسٹری کو پاکستان میں اپنی صنعتیں قائم کرنے کی دعوت بھی دی۔ وزیر اعظم نے کہا کہ سی پیک کے اگلے مرحلے کیلئے ہمیں اپنی افرادی قوت کو بہترین تکنیکی و فنی تربیت دینی ہے ، پاکستان آئی ٹی سیکٹر کے فروغ کے لئے چین کی آئی ٹی انڈسٹری کی مہارت سے فائدہ اٹھانے کا خواہاں ہے۔ چینی کمپنیاں پاکستان میں الیکڑک اور ہائیبرڈ گاڑیوں کے پلانٹ لگائیں۔ میرے آنے والے دورہ چین کا محور سی پیک 11- اور پاکستان اور چین کے درمیان معاشی تعلقات کا مزید فروغ ہو گا۔ چین نے جس طرح 700 ملین افراد کو غربت سے نکالاوہ ہمارے لئے مشعل راہ ہے۔ بر آمدات بڑھانے کے حوالے سے چینی تجربات سے فائدہ اٹھانا چاہتے ہیں۔ وزیر اعظم نے ایس آئی ایف سی ای پکس کمیٹی کا اہم اجلاس آج (بروز ہفتہ) وزیر اعظم ہاؤس میں دو پہر ایک بجے طلب کر لیا۔ اجلاس میں اعلی عسکری اور سول قیادت شرکت کرے گی۔ اجلاس میں وفاقی وزراء اور چیف سیکریٹریز بھی موجود ہوں گے۔ اجلاس میں ایس آئی ایف سی ایگزیکٹو کمیٹی کے فیصلوں کی توثیق دی جائے گی ۔

https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1110998481&Issue=NP_LHE&Date=20240525

K2 Daily



چین سے سرمایہ کاری معاملات آگے بڑھ رہے ہیں، حسن اقبال

دونوں ممالک کے درمیان سی پیک اہم منصوبہ، چین سے مضبوط تعلقات کو مزید فروغ دیں گے

ایم ایل ون اور کراچی سرکلر ریلوے منصوبہ سی پیک کے اولین ترجیحی ایجنڈے میں شامل ہے، خطاب

اسلام آباد (آئی این پی) وفاقی وزیر منصوبہ بندی احسن اقبال نے کہا ہے کہ پاکستان اور چین میں سرمایہ کاری پر معاملات آگے بڑھ رہے ہیں، دونوں ممالک کے درمیان سی پیک اہم منصوبہ ہے، چین سے مضبوط تعلقات کو مزید فروغ دیں گے، اسلام آباد میں چین-پاک اقتصادی راہداری (سی پیک) کے تحت 13 ویں مشترکہ تعاون کمیٹی (جے سی سی) کا اجلاس ہوا (باقی صفحہ 6 بقیہ نمبر 60)

بقیہ 60

جس سے خطاب کرتے ہوئے احسن اقبال نے کہا کہ پاکستان اور چین کے درمیان سرمایہ کاری میں مزید اضافہ ہو رہا ہے، چین اور پاکستان کے درمیان سی پیک اہم منصوبہ ہے، چین سے مضبوط تعلقات کو مزید فروغ دیں گے۔ ان کا کہنا تھا کہ درپیش چیلنجز کے خاتمے کے لیے پاکستان اور چین کے حکام تفصیلی گفتگو کریں گے، پاکستان اور چین نے سی پیک کے 10 سال کامیابی سے مکمل کر لیے، پاکستان معیشت، ماحولیات، توانائی، تعلیم سمیت اہم منصوبوں پر کام کر رہا ہے۔ احسن اقبال نے کہا کہ سی پیک منصوبہ پی آر آئی کا فلیگ شپ پروجیکٹ ہے۔ اجلاس میں کراچی تا پشاور ریلوے مین لائن ون (ایم ایل ون) اپ گریڈیشن منصوبہ، کراچی سرکلر ریلوے کا منصوبہ جے سی سی کے اولین ترجیحی ایجنڈے میں شامل ہے۔ سی پیک کے تحت 13 ویں مشترکہ تعاون کمیٹی کا اجلاس دو چوکل ہے، پاکستانی وفد کی قیادت وزیر منصوبہ بندی احسن اقبال نے کی جبکہ چینی وفد کی قیادت نیشنل ڈیولپمنٹ اینڈ ریفارم کمیشن (این ڈی آر سی) کے چیئرمین نے کی

https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_GB&Page=Classified&Date=2024-05-25

https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_GB&Page=Back_Page&Date=2024-05-25

Nawaiwaqt

چین مخلص دوست: سپیکر پنجاب اسمبلی، سفیر کی ملاقات

نے اسمبلی چیمبر میں ملاقات کی۔ چینی قونصل جنرل نے ملک محمد (Mr. Zhao Shiren) سپیکر پنجاب اسمبلی ملک محمد احمد خان سے چین کے قونصل جنرل ژاؤشیرین احمد خان کو سپیکر پنجاب اسمبلی کا منصب سنبھالنے پر مبارکباد دی۔ ملاقات میں پاک چین تعلقات کے فروغ، سی پیک کے منصوبوں اور نئے شعبوں میں تعاون بڑھانے پر تبادلہ خیال کیا گیا۔ سپیکر ملک محمد احمد خان نے کہا کہ مختلف شعبوں اور پارلیمانی وفود کے تبادلے دونوں ملکوں کے لئے سود مند ثابت ہوں گے۔ چین پاکستان کی ترقی و خوشحالی میں ایک سچے اور مخلص دوست کا کردار ادا کر رہا ہے۔ انہوں نے مزید کہا کہ وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف کی قیادت میں، پاک چین معاشی تعلقات کی نئی جہتوں پر کام شروع ہو چکا ہے۔ وزیر اعلیٰ مریم نواز کی قیادت میں پنجاب پھر سے ترقی کی راہ پر گامزن ہو گیا ہے۔ اس موقع پر چینی قونصل جنرل ژاؤشیرین کا کہنا تھا کہ تعلیم، زراعت، تجارت اور سرمایہ کاری کے فروغ کیلئے ملکر کام کریں گے۔ چین پاکستان کے ساتھ اپنے تعلقات کو بہت اہمیت دیتا ہے۔ سیکرٹری جنرل پنجاب اسمبلی چوہدری عامر حبیب، سٹاف آفیسر عماد حسین بھلی اور ترجمان پنجاب اسمبلی راؤ ماجد علی بھی موجود تھے۔

https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2024-05-25/page-8/detail-24

May 26, 2024

Business Recorder

Mining sector-Chinese firm assured of investment facilitation

The Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC) apex committee on Saturday assured a Chinese firm of providing facilitation for investment in the mining sector. Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif chaired the meeting, attended by the four chief ministers, information minister, finance minister, interior minister and defence minister. The committee expressed interest in increasing investment in the mining and minerals sector during a briefing on Pakistan's mining sector. Participants were also informed about additional investment plans. The briefing also covered the matter in line with fool-proof security of Chinese citizens working in Pakistan. It was said that China had invested over $65 billion in energy and infrastructure projects in Pakistan. The meeting focused on prioritized sectors, including mining, minerals, IT, and agriculture, and engaged in discussions with delegations from Saudi Arabia, UAE, Japan, Azerbaijan, Qatar, and other countries. Earlier, the Prime Minister House had accepted the request of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Governor Faisal Karim Kundi and invited Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur. Gandapur had accepted to attend the key huddle. Expressing his gratitude, Gandapur affirmed his attendance at the meeting, emphasising the importance of KP's participation in endorsing projects crucial for the region's prosperity. "I will definitely attend the meeting," he assured. Before the start of the meeting, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Chief of the Army Staff General Asim Munir held one-on-one meeting at the PM House discussing a range of issues including country's security. The prime minister and the army chief also deliberated upon the SIFC efficacy and investment-related issues, sources said. Shehbaz welcomed General Asim Munir upon his arrival at the PM House to attend the SIFC Apex Committee meeting.

https://epaper.brecorder.com/2024/05/26/1-page/993904-news.html

Daily Times

Pakistan to follow China's example to enhance exports: PM

Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif said on Friday that his country will learn from China's experience to eradicate poverty and enhance exports to increase foreign exchange reserves, the Prime Minister's Office said. In a meeting held in his office, Sharif said that China's success in lifting more than 700 million people out of poverty serves as a role model for Pakistan, the office said in a statement. He added that Pakistan wants to benefit from China's experiences in increasing exports which will act as a major step to increase foreign exchange reserves and decrease poverty. "Pakistan and China share longstanding and deep brotherly relations which are strengthening over time," he said, adding that China has always helped Pakistan in difficult times, for which he, along with the entire nation, is grateful to the Chinese leadership and people. The prime minister encouraged Chinese companies to set up industries in Special Economic Zones being established under the framework of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). Launched in 2013, CPEC, a flagship project of the China-proposed Belt and Road Initiative, is a corridor linking 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. The prime minister said thorough preparations are being made for CPEC's new phase and its successful initiation will further strengthen economic relations between Pakistan and China. The prime minister emphasized that Pakistan, being an agricultural country, is committed to adopting the modern techniques and technology of China in agriculture to increase productivity. He also invited Chinese companies to set up plants for electric and hybrid vehicles in Pakistan to help the country achieve the goal of shifting to electric vehicles in the transportation sector to mitigate the impacts of climate change. Separately, Shehbaz Sharif reaffirmed on Saturday Pakistan's strong commitment to the just struggle of the Palestinian people. In a post on his X handle, the premier said that in a telephonic conversation with the Prime Minister of Ireland Simon Harris yesterday, he lauded the International Court of Justice's (ICJ) decision to order Israel to stop its assault on Rafah. Admiring Ireland's recent decision to recognize the state of Palestine, Shebhbaz said this move will not only send a message of hope and solidarity to the innocent Palestinians who are suffering Israel's brutal atrocities but would also go a long way in promoting Palestine's cause and encourage other countries to follow suit. Highlighting the Indian oppression in Kashmir, the prime minister hoped Kashmiris would also receive similar attention from the international community stating they also have been enduring brutal occupation and denial of fundamental human rights for the last seven decades. Harris said Ireland had taken a principled decision in consultation with other European allies because the extent of Israel's military action in Gaza could no longer be condoned in any way. Ireland felt that the decision was necessary to promote normalization in the occupied territories, he added. PM Shehbaz also paid tributes to the courage of the 13 ICJ judges who made the decision and thanked South Africa for filing the petition.

https://dailytimes.com.pk/1195184/pakistan-to-follow-chinas-example-to-enhance-exports-pm/

Pak Envoy invites Chinese, in'l enterprises to invest in STZs, UAV sectors

Pakistan Ambassador to China, Khalil Hashmi briefed Chinese and international enterprises and entrepreneurs about the lucrative incentives being offered by the government and invited them to invest in National Aerospace Science and Technology Parks as well as in the thriving UAV sector in Pakistan. Addressing at the opening ceremony of 8th Drone World Congress being held from May 24 to 26 in the southern Chinese metropolis of Shenzhen, he briefed the participants on UAV landscape, research and development and investment opportunities in Pakistan. Ambassador Hashmi highlighted Pakistan's strengths including youthful population, underlining the significant dividends for investors and collaborators who seize the opportunity to partner with Pakistan in its UAV journey. He also highlighted progress and achievement of Pakistan in development and deployment of drones and UAVs for diverse purposes. In an interaction with entrepreneurs and enterprises at the congress, the ambassador encouraged them to avail the lucrative incentives and invest in the Special Technology Zones (STZs) in Pakistan. Pakistan is the guest country of honor at this year's congress being co-hosted by institutions including the China Electronic Information Industry Federation and the

China Civil Airports Association. The congress, with a theme of "Low-altitude Economy, The Future," witnessed the participation of nearly 500 enterprises from home and abroad. More than 10,000 industry experts, scholars and entrepreneurs from over 110 countries and regions are attending the congress. It included a range of activities, such as parallel forums and exchange meetings, focusing on topics such as the low-altitude economy and artificial intelligence robots. It may be mentioned here that the low-altitude economy is an economic concept that relies on low-altitude airspace, with the general aviation sector playing a dominant role.

https://dailytimes.com.pk/1195216/pak-envoy-invites-chinese-inl-enterprises-to-invest-in-stzs-uav-sectors/

Dunya News

Afghan soil used in attack on Chinese nationals, says Mohsin Naqvi

LAHORE (Dunya News) - Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi said that Afghan soil was used in the attack on Chinese nationals working in Pakistan. Speaking to media in Lahore, the interior minister said that China always supported Pakistan and we have very deep ties with this country. "The attack on Chinese nationals was pre-planned and we have raised the issue with the interim government of Afghanistan," Naqvi said. He added that Pakistan has beefed up the security at borders and we know very well the forces who want to sabotage the Sino-Pak ties. According to Mohsin Naqvi, the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) is being supported in the border areas and we have very strong evidence of it. "We have made new SOPs for the security of Chinese nationals working in Pakistan. The prime minister will also visit China next month," said Naqvi. The chairman of National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA) Rai Tahir said that the car used in the suicide attack entered Pakistan via Afghanistan. "The TTP was behind the attack on Chinese nationals in Besham and the plan was orchestrated in Afghanistan," said Rai Tahir. Five Chinese nationals were killed when the vehicle they were travelling by was attacked near Besham – a town located in Shangla district of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in March this year. A suicide bomber had rammed an explosives-laden vehicle into the convoy of Chinese engineers which was on its way from Islamabad to their camp in Dasu. Dasu is the site of a major dam and the area had also been attacked in the past. A blast on a bus had killed 13 people, including nine Chinese nationals, in 2021.

https://dunyanews.tv/en/Pakistan/814304-Afghan-soil-used-in-attack-on-Chinese-nationals,-says-Mohsin-Naqvi

Pakistan Observer

Punjab govt seeks to manufacture solar panels in collaboration with Chinese companies

LAHORE – Punjab government stays ahead of other governments in promoting solar energy as part of their efforts to reduce carbon emissions and combat climate changes, and now government aims to establish solar panel factories. Minister for Industry and Commerce Shafay Hussain has affirmed strong commitment to promote the local manufacturing of solar

panels in the region. During a meeting with a delegation from Chinese solar company, the minister discussed establishment of solar panel factories in Punjab – emphasizing the government's keen interest in clean energy. Minister also highlighted eagerness of Chinese companies to invest in Punjab's solar energy sector and the government's commitment to providing them with necessary support. Pakistan also eyes to form long-term policy to encourage investment in solar energy sector, noting that Chinese companies have expressed their willingness to invest, making this an opportune time for solar energy investment in Punjab.

Update on Solar net metering policy

Amid the sepcualtions over solar net-metering policy, Federal Minister for Energy Awais Ahmad Khan Leghari cleared air that government has no plans to end which allows consumers to sell excess electricity generated by their solar systems. Minister dismissed reports suggesting a shift to a new gross-metering mechanism, stressing the government's commitment to promoting solar power, citing its initiation by PML-N leader Nawaz Sharif. He further assured that consumers with existing net-metering contracts would not be affected and that any policy changes would involve stakeholder consultation. He also addressed drop in electricity demand and expressed hope for a plan to tackle power theft in KP.

https://pakobserver.net/punjab-govt-seeks-to-manufacture-solar-panels-in-collaboration-with-chinese-companies/

Express News

چین : ترقی کی حیرت انگیز مثال (پہلا حصہ

زاہدہ حنا

چین اور پاکستان کے درمیان سرد جنگ کے دور سے بہترین تعلقات قائم ہیں۔چین نے خود کو مشکل وقتوں میں پاکستان کا ایک قابل اعتماد دوست ثابت کیا ہے۔پاکستان نے بھی مختلف عالمی فورم پر علاقائی اور بین الا قوامی سیاست کے حوالے سے چین کے موقف کی ہمیشہ آگے بڑھ کر حمایت کی ہے۔اکیسویں صدی میں دنیا ایک بالکل نئے دور میں داخل ہو چکی ہے ، جس میں ماضی کی ترجیحات تبدیل ہو رہی ہیں۔ماضی میں فوجی تعلقات کو مضبوط بنانے کو زیادہ ترجیح حاصل تھی ، اب باہمی تعلقات میں معاشی مزارات کو زیادہ ترجیح دی جانے لگی ہے۔گزشتہ دہائیوں میں چین نے پاکستان کے دفاعی شعبے کو ترقی دینے میں اہم کر دار ادا کیا ہے لیکن اب اس کی خواہش اور ترجیح یہ ہے کہ معیشت اور تجارت کے شعبوں میں پاکستان کے ساتھ زیادہ تعاون اور شراکت داری کی جائے۔اس حوالے سے سی پیک کی مثال ہمارے سامنے ہے۔بیرونی اور اندرونی سطح پر ایسی طاقتیں اور عناصر موجود ہیں جو چین کے بڑھتے ہوئے عالمی اور علاقائی کردار کو اپنے لیے ایک بڑا خطرہ محسوس کرتے ہیں۔ سی پیک کو ناکام بنانے کی جو کوششیں کی جاتی رہی ہیں وہ کسی سے ڈھکی چھپی نہیں ہیں۔اس تناظر میں پاک چین تعلقات میں کچھ عرصے سے ایک دباؤ محسوس کیا جارہا تھا جسے ختم کرنے کے لیے حالیہ دنوں میں کئی پیش قدمیاں کی گئی ہیں۔خبریں ہیں کہ پاکستان کے وزیر اعظم ایک بڑے وفد کے ساتھ چین کا دورہ کرنے والے ہیں۔چین اس وقت امریکا کے بعد دنیا کی سب سے بڑی معاشی اور فوجی طاقت ہے۔ہمارے لیے یہ امر خوش آئند ہے کہ دنیا کی دوسری سب سے بڑی طاقت کے نہ صرف ہم پڑوسی ہیں بلکہ اس سے ہمارے بہترین تعلقات بھی قائم ہیں۔ چین کی اہمیت اور افادیت کو سمجھنے کے لیے اس عظیم ملک کے تاریخی، تہذیبی اور معاشی تناظر پر نظر ڈالنی ضروری ہے۔چین کی وہ تاریخ جو

آثار قدیمہ اور دوسرے شواہد کے ذریعے ہم تک پہنچی ہے ، چار ہزار برس سے زیادہ کے عرصے پر پھیلی ہوئی ہے، شنگھائی کے ہٹارٹیکل میوزیم میں 2100 برس قبل مسیح کے تانبے کے برتن، ہتھیار اور زیورات دیکھے جو کھدائی میں برآمد ہوئے ہیں اور چینی دست کاروں اور صناعوں کی بے پناہ مہارت پر گواہی ہیں۔چینیوں نے گزشتہ چند دہائیوں میں آثار قدیمہ کو ڈھونڈ نکالنے اور پھر اسے محفوظ کرنے کا کام جس لگن اور جانفشانی سے کیا ہے ، اس کے مظاہر ان کے عجائب گھروں سے کہیں بڑھ کر زبان میں نظر آئے جس کا تذکرہ بعد میں کروں گی اور ایک ہم ہیں کہ صرف موہنجو دڑو ، ہڑپہ اور گندھارا کے آثار کی حفاظت نہ کر سکے بلکہ ہمیں تو اپنے عجائب گھروں میں رکھی ہوئی نادرا شیاء کو بھی غیروں کے ہاتھوں فروخت کر دینے میں حیا نہ آئی، تب ہی یہ عالم ہے کہ ہر دوسرے چوتھے عجائب گھروں سے مہاتما بدھ کے مجسموں، موہنجودڑو اور ہڑپہ سے نکلنے والی ہزا رہابرس پرانی چیزوں کے غائب ہو جانے کی خبریں چھپتی رہتی ہیں۔چینیوں کے بارے میں یہ خبر تو سب ہی رکھتے ہیں کہ کاغذ ، چھپائی، قطب نما اور بار دو چینیوں کی ایجاد ہیں۔کاغذ اور چھپائی نے انسان کو گوٹن برگ کے متحرک چھاپہ خانے سے آج کے جدید ترین چھاپہ خانوں اور کروڑوں ، اربوں کتابوں کا وارث بنادیا۔قطب نما کی انگلی تھام کر ان گنت مہم جو سفر پر نکلے اور دنیا کے دشوار ترین گوشوں تک پہنچے۔ادھر بارود ہے کہ جس کی ایجاد نے جنگ کے دائرے کو اتنا بڑھایا اور پھیلایا کہ آج ہم اپنی دنیا کو ہزاروں مرتبہ خاکستر کرنے والے ہتھیاروں کے انبار لگائے بیٹھے ہیں۔یہ بھی چین تھا جس نے لاوتزے اور کنفیوشش ایسے بڑے فلسفی اور دانشور پیدا کیے جن کے نام اور کام کی گونج آج بھی چاروں کھونٹ سنائی دیتی ہے اسی طرح ریاضی ، جغرافیہ ، طب اور علم ال ہیت میں بھی چینی گزرے زمانوں سے استاد الاساتذہ تسلیم کیے جاتے ہیں۔پرانا چین ایک عظیم الشان جدو جہد اور خونیں شب وروز سے گزر کر کم اکتوبر 1949 کو عوامی جمہوریہ چین کے نام سے دنیا کے نقشے پر ابھرا۔سب سے پہلے اسے جس ملک نے تسلیم کیا اس وقت کا سوویت یونین تھا جس نے 3 اکتوبر 1949 کو اس سے سفارتی تعلقات قائم کیے۔پاکستان نے چین کے وجود میں آنے کے خاصے دنوں بعد یعنی 21 مئی 1951 کو اسے تسلیم کیا جبکہ سوشلسٹ بلاک کے ملکوں کو چھوڑ کر ایشیا میں ہندوستان، انڈو نیشیا اور مغرب میں سوئیڈن ، ڈنمارک، سوئٹزر لینڈ اور فن لینڈ پاکستان سے پہلے چین سے سفارتی تعلقات قائم کر چکے تھے۔تعلقات کی استواری کے بعد پاکستان اور چین کی دوستی میں تیزی سے اضافہ ہوا۔1962 میں چین اور ہندوستان کے درمیان سرحدی جھڑپوں نے پاکستان اور چین کی دوستی کو کچھ زیادہ ہی مستحکم کر دیا اور یہ دوستی اس انتہا کو پہنچی کہ پاکستان نے چین اور امریکا کے درمیان برف کو پگھلانے اور سفارتی تعلقات بحال کرانے میں بنیادی کردار ادا کیا۔1971 میں یہ اسلام آباد کا ہوائی اڈا تھا جہاں سے اس وقت کے امریکی وزیر خارجہ ہنری کس نجر نے بیجنگ کے لیے ایک خفیہ پرواز میں سفر کیا اور اس سفارت کاری کا آغاز ہوا جو آج بھی " پنگ پانگ ڈپلومیسی " کے نام سے یاد کی جاتی ہے۔کل کے سیاسی حقائق یہ تھے کہ چین اور امریکا ایک دوسرے کے بدترین دشمن تھے جبکہ آج ایک دوسرے کے بہترین دوست ہیں اور ان کے درمیان تجارت اور صنعتی اشتراک اپنی انتہا کو پہنچ چکا ہے۔ معروضی حقائق کل یہ تھے کہ چین پاکستان کو اپنے بہترین دوستوں کی صف اوّل میں رکھتا تھا آج پاکستان تو وہیں کھڑا ہے جہاں وہ روز اول سے تھا لیکن تمام تر دوستی کے باوجود چین کی ترجیحات پہلے سے بہت بدل چکی ہیں۔ہماری اور چینیوں کی سرکاری دوستی تو بس چار پانچ دہائیوں کا قصہ ہے لیکن جہاں تک بر صغیر اور چین کے درمیان تاریخی ، تہذیبی اور علمی وادبی رابطوں کا معاملہ ہے تو وہ ہزاروں برس پر پھیلا ہوا ہے دور کیوں جائیں ، یہی دیکھ لیں کہ ہمارے داستانی ادب میں چین و ما چین کے خطاو ختن کی شہزادیوں کے کیسے کیسے قصے ہیں، عورتیں ہیں تو چینی ریشم پر ریشہ خطمی ہیں، مرد ہیں تو مانی کے نادرہ کار اور پر بہار تصویروں کے مجموعے " ارژنگ کا ذکر کرتے نہیں تھکتے اور لیجیے الہ دین کا قصہ تو رہا جاتا ہے ، ہمارے آپ کے بچپن کی آنکھوں کا تارا، غربت کا مارا الہ دین جس نے جادوئی چراغ ڈھونڈ نکالا تھا۔زمین پر گھستا تو چراغ کا جن دست بستہ حاضر ہو جاتا۔الہ دین چینی تھا تو اس کا جن روسی یا امریکی ہونے سے تو رہا، یقینا اس کا ڈومیسائل بھی چین کا ہو گا تب ہی الہ

دین کا بندہ بے دام تھا اور اگر قصہ حاتم طائی نظر سے گزرا ہو ، تو اس کے دوست منیر شامی کو بھلا کون بھول سکتا ہے۔منیر شامی کی کاہلی کا یہ عالم کہ عشق میں گرفتار ہوا اور محبوبہ دل نواز سے شادی کی ہامی اس شرط پر بھری کہ میاں ذری کی ذری چند سوالوں کے جواب تو لیتے آئیو۔ تو اللہ کے اس بندے نے سوالوں کا پرچہ حاتم طائی کے ہاتھ میں تھمایا اور خود اٹوائی کھٹوائی لے کر پڑ رہا کہ اس زمانے میں یہی و تیرہ عشاق کا تھا اور رہ گیا حاتم طائی تو وہ ایک سوال کے جواب کے لیے شہر "پیکن "تک ہو آیا جو بعد میں پیکنگ کہلایا۔اب بیجنگ کے نام سے یاد کیا جاتا ہے اور دنیا کے ان چند دارالحکومتوں میں سے ہے جن کی خوشنودی دنیا کے تمام چھوٹے بڑے ملکوں کو عزیز ہے۔(جاری ہے)

https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1110999397&Issue=NP_LHE&Date=20240526

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Pakistan Observer

GB University holds Chinese food festival

Karakoram International University (KIU) in Gilgit-Baltistan hosted a vibrant Chinese Food and Cultural Festival, bringing the rich flavors and traditions of China to its campus. The event was held to celebrate the deep-rooted friendship between Pakistan and China, especially on the 73rd anniversary of the establishment of their diplomatic relations. Chinese Food and Cultural Festival held at KIU to celebrate 73rd anniversary of Pakistan-China diplomatic relations.

https://pakobserver.net/gb-university-holds-chinese-food-festival/

The Express Tribune

Making PM's visit to China successful

ISLAMABAD: A few days ago, the deputy prime minister and planning minister of Pakistan visited China. The planning minister was in China to discuss the Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) agenda and explore options for further enhancing cooperation under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) framework. The deputy PM engaged with the Chinese leadership to discuss the future course of cooperation, the acceleration of the second phase of CPEC, and matters of mutual security. He also discussed the upcoming visit of the prime minister of Pakistan to China. The PM's visit to China is expected in the coming days, most likely in June. Therefore, these two visits were important, and it is expected that the premier's visit will conclude with positive outcomes. The prime minister is visiting China at a crucial moment for several reasons. First, China has just started the journey to achieve the goal of high-quality development and adopted the New Quality Productive Forces. It is perceived that these new productive forces will assist China in achieving the goal of high-quality development and transition from Industry 3.0 to Industry 4.0. This transition will create numerous opportunities along the supply chain, and Pakistan can benefit from these opportunities by adopting a wise policy. Second, regional and extra-regional situations are becoming extremely complicated. Western powers led by the USA are creating a web of chaos around China. Many experts believe that the USA is encouraging India to play an active role in Afghanistan and regional countries to complete this web of chaos. Third, a new

world order is emerging. Many countries have shown resistance to Western bullying attitudes. President Xi Jinping's recent visit to Europe and President Putin's hosting in China have further accelerated this process. President Xi visited Europe to explore options for mutual win-win cooperation, but Western media described it as an effort to divide the West. This is a clear sign that the Western bloc did not like it. Fourth, Pakistan is considered a stumbling block to netting the web of chaos around China. Therefore, all efforts are being made to weaken Pakistan and create a wedge between China and Pakistan. Fifth, Pakistan's weak financial status is being exploited by international financial institutions like the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and many Western countries. China is helping Pakistan avoid default, but the IMF is pushing hard to accept its terms and conditions, with CPEC being a primary target. Therefore, the visit is important not only for bilateral cooperation but also for its global relevance and significance. Pakistan must analyses the dynamics carefully and devise a policy to make the visit successful. The biggest challenge at this point is the security of Chinese personnel and investment in Pakistan. After the withdrawal of USA and NATO forces from Afghanistan, terrorists are using Afghan soil to attack Pakistan, and Chinese investment and personnel are the prime targets. Recently, I visited China and met with businesspeople, experts, policymakers, and other officials. They all emphasized the importance of security. Businessmen were eager to invest in Pakistan, as the government of China and the Communist Party of China encouraged people to invest in Pakistan. However, they stressed the need for a solid security framework. Thus, a security plan must be devised according to the needs of the second phase of CPEC, regional dynamics, global changes, the emergence of the new world order, and the significance of fifth-generation warfare. Two fundamental changes are needed: the roles and responsibilities of civil and military agencies and the relationship between the security apparatus and Chinese companies and personnel working in Pakistan. Moreover, the government must put in serious efforts to address the concerns of potential investors. First, the government must carefully map the potential elements of security threats. Second, identify the actors involved. Third, prepare an action plan to eliminate threats without any discrimination. Fourth, Pakistan and China must work hand in hand to devise a security policy and plan to secure mutual interests. The government must also have concrete policies and plans to facilitate the investment and business community. Despite improving the "Ease of Doing Business" ranking, the ground-level business environment is not very conducive to investment. Pakistan established the Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC) to solve these issues, but it remains a facilitation body without decision-making or implementation powers. To benefit from the SIFC, Pakistan must take five steps: minimize the role of bureaucracy and the army in devising economic policies, staff SIFC with economic experts, grant SIFC decision-making powers, study the Shenzhen model for reforms, and ensure the ruling elite invests in Pakistan to build trust. Unfortunately, leaks show that the ruling elite is taking money out of Pakistan. Against this backdrop, how can we convince investors, let alone Chinese investors? Since its creation, Pakistan has implemented a liberal economic and governance system. Despite all efforts, we cannot progress; rather, we are in reverse mode. The economy is deteriorating daily, and financial status has become extremely fragile. Thus, we can try something different. We can learn from the Chinese system of economy, people-centric governance, the balanced role of state-owned enterprises and the private sector, merit-based governance, and whole process democracy,

among other things. Additionally, Pakistan must communicate its financial situation with China and the undue pressure it faces from the IMF and Western countries. Pakistan needs more financial cooperation from China to avert this pressure. In conclusion, the visit will not benefit Pakistan much without taking the required decisions to solve the issues of the business environment and security. Therefore, it is suggested that the government spend less time on rhetoric and more time devising concrete policies and plans that can satisfy the concerns of China and the business community.

https://tribune.com.pk/story/2468444/making-pms-visit-to-china-successful

The News

Imports from China increase by 116pc year-on-year in April

ISLAMABAD: Before Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's visit to China, the statistics of imports from China have come out. Imports from China are continuously increasing in the current government. Imports from China increased on an annual and monthly basis in April and increased by 116% year-on-year while imports from China had increased by 18% during the first ten months of the current financial year from July to April. Pakistan's dependence on China is the highest in terms of imports. This fiscal year, Pakistan's imports from China are the highest compared to any other country. According to sources, in April, imports from China amounted to $1.44 billion, whereas in April last year, the volume of imports from China was $667.6 million dollars. This means that in April this year, imports from China have increased by 116% on an annual basis while in March 2024, imports from China were over $1.3 billion. Sources say that in the first 10 months of this financial year, imports from China increased by 18 percent, after which imports from China during July 2023 to April 2024 were over $11.63 billion. Imports from China in the same period last year were over $9.84 billion.

https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1193752-imports-from-china-increase-by-116pc-year-on-year-in-april

Pakistan understands security key to success of CPEC

Shakeel Ahmad Ramay

Pakistani leadership is on a streak of trips to China. First, the Planning Minister spent a few days in China. He engaged with relevant ministers and the leadership of CPEC. He was followed by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister. He discussed options to accelerate implementation of second phase of CPEC and security cooperation. The Prime Minister is likely to visit China during the first week of June. Both sides are expected to finalize framework of cooperation and expedite implementation of second phase of CPEC. It is a good omen Pakistani leadership is putting serious effort into accelerating cooperation and work under the CPEC. Pakistan is mindful it would be difficult to exploit full potential of second phase of CPEC without addressing security concerns. Thus, Pakistan is taking series actions on the security front to make the visit fruitful. It is needed because opponents of CPEC and China-Pakistan relationship have accelerated their efforts. They have forged alliances with terrorist organizations to sabotage CPEC and Chinese investment in Pakistan.

They are attacking Chinese with the financial and technical support of opponents of CPEC like India and others. The security arrangements for second phase of CPEC also do not match the needs of second phase. Against this backdrop, Pakistan needs a two-pronged policy and action framework to eliminate threats and satisfy the security needs of all stakeholders. First, Pakistan will have to find a way to check foreign interference and snub the supporters of terrorists. More precisely, Pakistan will have to expose the supporters of terrorists and break their alliance with terrorist organizations. It will be a complex task because the opponents are equipped with modern tools and have abundant resources at their disposal to sabotage CPEC. Moreover, they work sophisticatedly and have deployed all tools of fifth-generation warfare. They start by constructing and paddling anti-China and anti-CPEC narratives like debt trap, hegemony, Xinjiang, etc., through the so-called independent think tanks and consultancy outlets. Second, they deploy media outlets to spread anti-CPEC and anti-China narratives. Third, they train local people to use social media disguised as media training, journalism for livelihood, entrepreneurial journalism, etc. Later on, these trained resources are bombarded with fake news, lies and propaganda material. In this way, these people are used to spread lies and anti-CPEC and anti-China narratives. Fourth, after creating favorable circumstances, they deploy terrorist organizations to attack the CPEC sites and Chinese nationals and dub it as anger of local people. The task is huge and involves foreign culprits. Hence, it will be extremely challenging for Pakistan to handle it alone. Pakistan and China must join hands to design and erect security framework for the second phase of CPEC and future cooperation. This is required because global players are deeply involved in anti-CPEC and anti-China-Pakistan activities. They are trying to make Pakistan an example for not complying with their agenda by destabilizing the country. They feel Pakistan is only the stumbling block to creating a web of chaos in the surroundings of China. For example, in Eurasia, they are fanning Russia-Ukraine conflict, and are putting all their resources into agitating China over Taiwan. Pakistan is undoubtedly doing its best to combat the challenge, but matching them in terms of resources is Herculean task. Thus, it should establish cooperation mechanisms at two levels. Intelligence agencies from both countries should build joint operational systems to gather information, devise countermeasures, and deploy joint operations to combat or eliminate the risk. There is a strong need to pool resources to fight back fifth-generation warfare, especially propaganda. It is common knowledge social media has enhanced the influence of propaganda. It is used to spread lies and create a wedge among the people of a country and between the countries. For example, the opponents of CPEC and Pakistan-China relationship use baseless propaganda of Xinjiang. They use the name of Xinjinag to influence terrorist groups and ask them to join them to hurt Chinese interests and its nationals. Pakistan will have to reassess the ground-level security apparatus, as it was erected by considering the needs of the first phase of CPEC. This helped Pakistan minimize security threats and protect Chinese nationals. However, the dynamics of the second phase are entirely different. The projects and personnel will be spread throughout the country, and Pakistan cannot afford to depute the army on such a big scale. The opponents have also accelerated their efforts to sabotage CPEC and China-Pakistan relations. On the other hand, the Ukraine-Russia conflict and the withdrawal of US and Nato forces from Afghanistan have further complicated the situation. Therefore, there is a need for a new security framework. The process should start with the mapping exercise. Map the security requirements of the second phase. Map the

security stakeholders. Pakistan should comprehensively map opponents, enemies and fake friends. There should be no ifs and buts—Pakistan should clearly draw a line between its friends and enemies, opponents and fake friends of Islamabad, CPEC, and its relations with China. After completing the mapping, Pakistan should define the roles of different institutions. For the second phase, the police can be an ideal candidate to take the lead as they have experience working in the civil community, have deep roots in society, and understand the situation well. Police also maintain profiles of suspicious people. Thus, the police should be the leading force on the ground and supported by the armed forces. Military intelligence agencies should work with civilian intelligence agencies to devise a comprehensive system to detect threats and take timely actions. The army should be deputed to protect important installments, big personalities and important sites. For all hard actions, the army should take the lead. In conclusion, Pakistan understands security holds the master key to unlocking the full potential of CPEC. Investment cannot be attracted without erecting foolproof security mechanisms and ensuring personnel security. Since President Xi Jinping assumed leadership, the security vision, policy and sphere of security influence have continuously evolved. China equates the security of each individual to security of whole nation. This is China's new red line, and it does not compromise on it. Understanding the new vision will help Pakistan address China's security concerns and exploit the full potential of CPEC.

https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1193717-pakistan-understands-security-key-to-success-of-cpec

Jang News

چین سے درآمدات کے اعداد و شمار

وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف کے دورہ چین سے قبل چین سے درآمدات کے اعدادوشمار سامنے آگئے۔موجودہ حکومت میں چین سے درآمدات پرانحصار میں مسلسل اضافہ ہورہا ہے ۔اپریل میں سالانہ اور ماہانہ بنیادوں پر چین سے درآمدات بڑھ گئیں۔اپریل میں سالانہ بنیادوں پرچین سے درآمدات میں ایک سو سولہ فیصد کا بڑا اضافہ ہوا جبکہ رواں مالی سال کے پہلے دس ماہ جولائی تا اپریل کے دوران چین سے درآمدات اٹھارہ فیصد بڑھیں۔پاکستان کا درآمدات کے لحاظ سے چین پر انحصار سب سے زیادہ ہے۔رواں مالی سال بھی پاکستان کی کسی بھی ملک کے مقابلے میں چین سے درآمدات سب سے زیادہ ہیں۔ ذرائع کے مطابق گذشتہ ماہ اپریل میں چین سے درآآ مدات ایک ارب 44 کروڑ 33لاکھ ڈالرز رہیں جبکہ گذشتہ سال اپریل میں چین سے درآمدات کاحجم66 کروڑ 76لاکھ ڈالرز تھا یعنی اس سال اپریل میں سالانہ بنیادوں پر چین سے درآمدات 116فیصد بڑھی ہیں جبکہ مارچ2024میں چین سےدرآمدات ایک ارب 30 کروڑ57 لاکھ ڈالرز تھیں۔ذرائع کا کہنا ہے کہ رواں مالی سال کے پہلے 10 ماہ میں چین سے درآمدات میں 18 فیصد اضافہ ہوا جس کے بعد جولائی2023 سے اپریل 2024کے دوران چین سے درآمدات11ارب63کروڑ38لاکھ ڈالرز رہیں جبکہ گذشتہ سال اسی مدت میں چین سےدرآمدات 9ارب 84 کروڑ94 لاکھ ڈالرز تھیں۔

https://e.jang.com.pk/detail/692197%22

K2 Daily



بقیہ 38

آہنی بھائی اور تزویراتی شراکت دار ہیں۔ پاکستان قومی اتحاد کیلئے چینی حکومت کی کوششوں کی حمایت کرتا ہے۔ وزیراعظم نے کہا کہ نام نہاد انتخابات یا حکومت کی خودساختہ تبدیلی تائیوان کے معاملے پر حقائق نہیں بدل سکتی۔ وزیراعظم شہباز شریف نے واضح کیا کہ پاکستان نے تائیوان کے معاملے پر ہمیشہ چین کے موقف کی حمایت کی اور کرتا رہے گا۔

چین آہنی بھائی اور تزویراتی شراکت دار، شہباز شریف

تائیوان کے معاملے پر چینی موقف کی حمایت کرتے رہیں گے

نام نہاد انتخابات تائیوان کے معاملے پر حقائق نہیں بدل سکتے

اسلام آباد (آئی این پی) وزیراعظم شہباز شریف نے کہا ہے کہ پاکستان ایک چین پالیسی پر عمل پیرا ہے اور تائیوان کو چین کا ناقابل تنسیخ حصہ تصور کرتا ہے۔ وزیراعظم شہباز شریف نے سماجی رابطے کی ویب سائٹ ایکس پر اپنے ٹویٹ میں لکھا کہ پاکستان اور چین (باقی صفحہ 7 بقیہ نمبر 38)

https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_GB&Page=Baqia&Date=2024-05-27

https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_GB&Page=Back_Page&Date=2024-05-27

May 28, 2024

Daily Times

China, Pakistan to continue work on strengthening security

China will continue to work with Pakistan to strengthen security cooperation and ensure safety and security of Chinese personnel, projects and installations in the country, Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesperson, Mao Ning said on Monday. Pakistani authorities held a press conference on Sunday and released the investigation results of the terrorist attack on the vehicle and Chinese personnel of the Dasu hydropower project. In response to a question in this regard during a regular press conference, she said, “We attach great importance to the important press conference made by Pakistan”. Mao Ning said that China will support Pakistan in getting to the bottom of what happened and hunting down and punishing the perpetrators. Terming terrorism a common enemy of humanity and a tumor for regional development and stability, she said that China calls on countries in the region to strengthen counter terrorism cooperation, root out terrorist organizations, remove their breeding ground and protect common security and development interests of all countries. Federal Interior Minister, Mohsin Naqvi and Counter Terrorism Chief Rao Tahir announced the arrest of 11 militants linked to the deadly suicide bombing in March, which claimed the lives of five Chinese engineers in the country’s north, near the Afghan border.

https://dailytimes.com.pk/1195768/china-pakistan-to-continue-work-on-strengthening-security/

Dunya News

PM Shehbaz invites Chinese firms to establish textile industry in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD (Dunya News) – Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday invited Chinese companies, working in the textile sector, to establish their industry in Pakistan, stating that his government would ensure the provision of every possible facility to Chinese investors and industrialists. During a meeting on Pakistan-China cooperation, the premier accentuated that China was a key partner in Pakistan's development and Pakistan's desired to enhance cooperation in agriculture, information technology and energy, as well as to increase exports to China. During the meeting, various ministries presented their proposals to promote the Pak-China economic relationship. PM Shehbaz reiterated the government's commitment to providing foolproof security to Chinese nationals working in Pakistan, noting that a comprehensive security plan had already been formulated. He informed the meeting participants that the government was preparing for the second phase of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), and expressed hope that, with China's cooperation, Gwadar Port would become a logistics hub. Shehbaz highlighted that the second phase of the CPEC would include the establishment of agriculture demonstration zones. He instructed the ministries to prepare for the launch of new projects with Chinese cooperation and to enhance business-to-business linkages. Shehbaz also mentioned that China could assist Pakistan in formulating a strategy to boost its exports. Federal ministers Ahsan Iqbal, Jam Kamal Khan, Ahad Khan Cheema, Muhammad Aurangzeb, Attaullah Tarar, Dr Musaddik Malik and relevant officers attended the meeting.

https://dunyanews.tv/en/Business/814729-PM-Shehbaz-invites-Chinese-firms-to-establish-textile-industry-in-Pakist

Pakistan Observer

China will continue to work with Pak to strengthen security coop, says Mao Ning

China will continue to work with Pakistan to strengthen security cooperation and ensure safety and security of Chinese personnel, projects and installations in the country, Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesperson, Mao Ning said on Monday. Pakistani authorities held a press conference on Sunday and released the investigation results of the terrorist attack on the vehicle and Chinese personnel of the Dasu hydro power project. In response to a question in this regard during a regular press conference, she said, "We attach great importance to the important press conference made by Pakistan". Mao Ning said that China will support Pakistan in getting to the bottom of what happened and hunting down and punishing the perpetrators. Terming terrorism a common enemy of humanity and a tumor for regional development and stability, she said that China calls on countries in the region to strengthen counter terrorism cooperation.

https://pakobserver.net/china-will-continue-to-work-with-pak-to-strengthen-security-coop-says-mao-ning/

The Nation

IGP visits Chinese Consulate in Lahore, meets Consul General Zhao Shiren

LAHORE - Inspector General of Police Punjab Dr Usman Anwar paid a visit to the Chinese Consulate General Office where he met with Chinese Consul General Zhao Shiren. Accompanying IG Punjab were DIG Special Protection Unit Muntazir Mehdi, DIG Operations Lahore Faisal Kamran, and CTO Amara Athar. The meeting primarily focused on discussing security concerns regarding Chinese citizens, engineers, experts, and business delegations in Punjab. Dr. Usman Anwar emphasized that the security of Chinese experts and citizens is of greatest importance for the department, reaffirming Punjab police's unwavering commitment to safeguarding them. He highlighted the vigilant stance of the Special Protection Unit (SPU) in ensuring the security of Chinese citizens and experts across the province. Furthermore, Dr. Usman Anwar underscored the enhanced security measures implemented for Chinese residents, including tightened patrolling by Punjab Police and the Punjab Highway Patrol team along the traffic routes frequented by Chinese citizens. IG Punjab also noted the heightened security measures in place for the residences, offices, and working sites of Chinese citizens, emphasizing the concerted efforts to bolster their safety. Additionally, he acknowledged the invaluable support extended by China to Punjab Police in terms of information sharing, modern training, and capacity building. In response, the Chinese Consul General expressed satisfaction with the security arrangements provided by the Punjab Police for Chinese experts and citizens involved in various projects, particularly the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). Consul General Zhao Shiren lauded the Punjab Police for their commendable efforts in ensuring the safety of Chinese citizens, underscoring the significance of their collaborative endeavors.

https://www.nation.com.pk/28-May-2024/igp-visits-chinese-consulate-in-lahore-meets-consul-general-zhao-shiren

The News

PM Shehbaz for boosting cooperation with China in IT, agriculture sectors

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif Tuesday expressed Pakistan's willingness to boost bilateral cooperation in agriculture, information technology (IT) and energy sectors with China. Chairing a high-level review meeting regarding increasing cooperation between the two nations in various fields, the premier termed China as an important partner in country's development and stressed on increasing exports of local products to Beijing.

Inviting Chinese firms, especially from the textile sector, to establish plants in Pakistan, PM Shehbaz also reassured that the government will provide all possible facilities to Chinese industrialists and investors.

Speaking at the huddle, also attended by Federal Planning Minister Ahsan Iqbal, Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb and other senior officials, the prime minister said that the government is ardently preparing for the second phase of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

"Gwadar port will be made a logistics hub with Chinese cooperation [...] the establishment of Agriculture Demonstration Zones will be an important project in the next phase of CPEC," he said.

Underscoring that China can help Pakistan in setting up a strategy for increasing its exports, the PM also directed relevant ministries to prepare new projects aimed at enhancing Pakistan-China cooperation as well as undertake measures to promote business to business ties. The review meeting comes as PM Shehbaz is set to undertake his maiden visit to China in the second week of June in response to President Xi Jinping's invitation.

Comprehensive security plan for Chinese nationals

On the issue of safety of Chinese citizens in Pakistan, PM Shehbaz said that foolproof security will be provided to Chinese nationals and that a comprehensive security plan has already been chalked up in this regard.

The prime minister's remarks come after Beijing, on Monday, reaffirmed its commitment to continue working with Pakistani authorities to strengthen security cooperation and ensure the safety and security of Chinese personnel.

Speaking at a press conference Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Mao Ning said that Beijing will continue supporting Islamabad in the investigation of the Dasu attack to hunt down and punish the perpetrators of the terrorist attack.

The spokesperson's comment came after Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi held a joint press conference with National Counter-Terrorism Authority (Necta) officials on the issue of Dasu suicide attack which saw at least six people, including five Chinese nationals, being killed after a suicide bomber rammed into their vehicle in Bisham.

During the presser, the minister called on Afghanistan to hand over the militants involved in the deadly attack. "[Pakistan has formally] requested the interim government in Afghanistan to arrest the leadership of [banned] TTP," he said.

Meanwhile, Necta head Tahir Rai revealed that said that the explosive-laden vehicle that had hit the bus carrying the Chinese nationals reached Pakistan via Afghanistan.

The official revealed that 11 suspects have been arrested in this case so far.

Owing to the fatal attack, the federal cabinet has approved the Economic Coordination Committee's (ECC) decision regarding the disbursement of $2.58 million as part of the compensation package for the families of the Chinese nationals killed in the Dasu attack.

https://www.thenews.com.pk/latest/1194186-pm-shehbaz-for-boosting-cooperation-with-china-in-it-agriculture-sectors

May 29, 2024

Business Recorder

Pakistan participates in Sial Food Show China

For the first time, Pakistan is participating in the prestigious Sial Food Show China, held from May 28-30, 2024, in Shanghai. This significant event sees eleven prominent Pakistani companies displaying a diverse array of products including rice, sesame seeds, maize, confectionery, juices, beverages, spices, logistics services, and a variety of fruits and vegetables. Sial Food Show China is one of the foremost events in the global food industry, offering a prime platform for Pakistani companies to highlight their high-quality products and establish new trade connections. China is a vital trading partner for Pakistan, especially in the food sector. Sesame seeds lead the export portfolio, with Pakistan exporting sesame seeds worth $277 million to China up until April 2024. This year also marks a milestone for Pakistan's meat industry, as heat-treated meat gained market access to China, resulting in exports valued at $1.08 million.

https://epaper.brecorder.com/2024/05/29/4-page/994149-news.html

PM for preparing new cooperation projects with China

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has directed the ministries to prepare new cooperation projects between Pakistan and China and take steps to increase business-to-business ties. The premier directed this while chairing a review meeting to increase cooperation between Pakistan and China in various fields on Tuesday. The meeting was presented proposals by various federal ministries with respect to Pakistan-China bilateral economic relations. The premier said that China is an important partner in the economic development of Pakistan. He said that Chinese industry, especially Chinese textile industry being invited to set up industries in Pakistan and the government will provide all possible facilities to Chinese industrialists and investors. He further said that foolproof security will be provided to Chinese residents living in Pakistan and a comprehensive plan has been set up for the security of Chinese citizens. The prime minister said that Gwadar Port will be made a logistics hub with Chinese cooperation and added the establishment of agriculture demonstration Zones will be an important project in the next phase of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). He said that China can help Pakistan in devising a strategy to increase Pakistan's exports. The meeting was attended by Federal Minister for Planning Ahsan Iqbal, Federal Minister for Commerce Jam Kamal Khan, Federal Minister for Economic Affairs Ahad Khan Cheema, Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Muhammad Aurangzeb, Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Attaullah Tarar, Minister for Petroleum Mussadik Malik, Federal Minister for Industries and Production Rana Tanveer Hussain, Federal Minister for Power Owais Ahmed Khan Leghari, Federal Minister for Maritime Affairs Qaiser Ahmed Sheikh (via video link), Minister of State for Information Technology and Telecom Shaza Fatima, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister Tariq Fatemi, Deputy Chairman Planning Commission Jahanzeb Khan, and concerned officials.

https://epaper.brecorder.com/2024/05/29/12-page/994209-news.html

Daily Times

Pakistani students show rich culture heritage at Chinese university

Pakistani students captivated attendees with vibrant performances and vivid cultural presentations during the 7th International Cultural Festival of Dalian University of Technology (DUT) in China The festival, themed "Winds of Connection, Dreams of the Silk Road", brought together over 10,000 faculty and students from more than 70 countries and regions, fostering a dynamic arena where cultural exchange and understanding flourishes. The Pakistani contingent put up an impressive array of performances, including the heartfelt song "Dil Pakistan," a lively dance piece titled "Pakistani Cultural Dance", the haunting melody of "Jar Sea Pekhawar Tar", and an enchanting instrumental performance "Tapple Rabab Music", not only showcasing the rich musical traditions of Pakistan, but also highlighting the talent and enthusiasm of the students. Complementing the performances, more than 8 stalls representing Pakistani culture and cuisine were set up, providing a glimpse into the country's vibrant traditions. The stalls feature the intricate art of Pakistani body painting known as Mehndi or Henna, where skilled artists painted elaborate designs on volunteers' hands.

https://dailytimes.com.pk/1195958/pakistani-students-show-rich-culture-heritage-at-chinese-university/

PM invites Chinese firms to set up plants in Pakistan

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif Tuesday invited Chinese firms, especially from the textile sector, to establish plants in Pakistan stressing that the government will provide all possible facilities to Chinese industrialists and investors. "China is an important partner in Pakistan's economic development," PM Shehbaz said while chairing a high-level review meeting regarding increasing cooperation between the two nations in various fields. Terming Beijing as a key partner of Islamabad in economic development, the premier expressed intention to boost bilateral cooperation in agriculture, information technology (IT) and energy sectors and increase exports of Pakistani products to China. Speaking at the huddle, also attended by Federal Planning Minister Ahsan Iqbal, Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb and other senior officials, the prime minister said that the government is ardently preparing for the second phase of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). "Gwadar port will be made a logistics hub with Chinese cooperation […] the establishment of Agriculture Demonstration Zones will be an important project in the next phase of CPEC," he said. Underscoring that China can help Pakistan in setting up a strategy for increasing its exports, the PM also directed relevant ministries to prepare new projects aimed at enhancing Pakistan-China cooperation as well as undertake measures to promote business to business ties. The review meeting comes as PM Shehbaz is set to undertake his maiden visit to China in the second week of June in response to President Xi Jinping's invitation. On the issue of safety of Chinese citizens in Pakistan, PM Shehbaz said that foolproof security will be provided to Chinese nationals and that a comprehensive security plan has already been chalked up in this regard. The prime minister's remarks come after Beijing, on Monday, reaffirmed its commitment to continue working with Pakistani authorities to strengthen security cooperation

and ensure the safety and security of Chinese personnel. Speaking at a press conference Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Mao Ning said that Beijing will continue supporting Islamabad in the investigation of the Dasu attack to hunt down and punish the perpetrators of the terrorist attack. The spokesperson's comment came after Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi held a joint press conference with National Counter-Terrorism Authority (Necta) officials on the issue of Dasu suicide attack which saw at least six people, including five Chinese nationals, being killed after a suicide bomber rammed into their vehicle in Bisham. During the presser, the minister called on Afghanistan to hand over the militants involved in the deadly attack. "[Pakistan has formally] requested the interim government in Afghanistan to arrest the leadership of [banned] TTP," he said. Meanwhile, Nacta head Tahir Rai revealed that said that the explosive-laden vehicle that had hit the bus carrying the Chinese nationals reached Pakistan via Afghanistan. The official revealed that 11 suspects have been arrested in this case so far. Owing to the fatal attack, the federal cabinet has approved the Economic Coordination Committee's (ECC) decision regarding the disbursement of $2.58 million as part of the compensation package for the families of the Chinese nationals killed in the Dasu attack.

https://dailytimes.com.pk/1195998/pm-invites-chinese-firms-to-set-up-plants-in-pakistan/

The Nation

Pakistan reviving Belt and Road Initiative projects: Ahsan Iqbal

ISLAMABAD - Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Ahsan Iqbal said here on Tuesday that the incumbent government was hopeful to inject some fresh momentum into projects that fall under China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), as it tries to boost the country's troubled economy. The government is looking forward to joint ventures for renewable energy projects, agriculture collaboration and possibly enticing some Chinese companies to relocate to Pakistan, Ahsan Iqbal, who also co-heads the committee responsible for the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, said in an interview with Bloomberg. "Yeah, I'm very hopeful because I was there in China recently and I had meetings with their senior leadership…So I see great interest on the Chinese side to revive the momentum for CPEC and also to take it into the second phase," he said. Pakistan was seen as a flagship destination for BRI projects, with CPEC — which includes a port in the southern town of Gwadar and new power plants — the crown jewel. The progress on new projects stalled in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic and amid Pakistan's on-going economic difficulties that have required the International Monetary Fund's intervention. According to Bloomberg report, projects worth about $25 billion came online in the first phase, including power plants that ended the nation's chronic power deficit. A Pakistani committee approved a long-delayed railway upgrade project last week. The project will be done in two phases "so there is not a big burden on Pakistan," said Iqbal. The railway, in its first phase will run from Karachi, the southern coast city, to Multan, a little over halfway to the capital, Islamabad. The government has also finished some key BRI projects that were pending for years: a water-supply project in Gwadar, dredging work at the port and an electricity transmission line from Iran. "So all these things really help China see that the new government is again serious and it restored their confidence that now Pakistan is, you know, serious about CPEC initiatives," said Iqbal.

To mark the tenth anniversary of CPEC last year, China's Vice Premier He Lifeng unveiled five new corridors including one focused on growth to boost economic activity in Pakistan. One change in the second phase would likely involve Islamabad taking a step back while urging the private sector to forge partnerships with Chinese firms. The other big focus, albeit a long-shot prospect, is to try and attract Chinese firms thinking of relocating from China amid rising labor costs and heightening geopolitical tensions. "That would be a success because at the moment more than 80 million jobs are being relocated from China to other countries because of the high level cost in China," said Iqbal. "They have gone to Vietnam and you know, Laos and Cambodia. There is now overcrowding there. So they are certainly looking for new places," he added.

https://www.nation.com.pk/29-May-2024/pakistan-reviving-belt-and-road-initiative-projects-ahsan-iqbal

PM Shehbaz likely to visit China next month

Prime Minister (PM) Shehbaz Sharif is likely to visit China from June 4 to 7 to meet Chinese President Xi Jinping and other high-ranking officials. According to sources, the visit is aimed at boosting business and strategic ties between the two friendly countries. The prime minister is expected to discuss issues including the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and phase II of the ML-1 project with the Chinese leadership. The sources said that federal ministers and other high-ranking officials will be accompanied by PM Shehbaz during the tour in which several agreements are expected to be signed. It is pertinent to mention here that the prime minister had already visited Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates and Iran after assuming the office for the second time. Earlier, PM Shehbaz Sharif said that the bilateral relations as well as the economic partnership between Pakistan and Saudi Arabia were getting stronger, terming his recent visit to Kingdom as 'historic'. The prime minister, in a statement issued following the conclusion of his visit to the Kingdom, mainly to attend the Special Meeting of World Economic Forum, said a delegation of Saudi businessmen was about to visit Pakistan in the coming days. The visit would help accelerate the pace of economic partnership between the two countries, he added.

https://www.nation.com.pk/29-May-2024/pm-shehbaz-likely-to-visit-china-next-month

Jang News

وزیراعظم شہباز شریف 4 جون کو دورہ چین پر روانہ ہونگے

وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف آئندہ ماہ کے آغاز میں چین کا دورہ کریں گے۔ ذرائع کے مطابق وزیراعظم شہباز شریف 4 جون کو دورہ چین پر روانہ ہوں گے۔ وزیراعظم شہباز شریف چینی حکام سے ملاقاتیں کریں گے اور پاکستان میں ہونے والی سرمایہ کاری پر گفتگو کریں گے۔ وزیراعظم کے ساتھ وزیر خارجہ اسحاق ڈار بھی چین جائیں گے۔ایم ایل ون پراجیکٹ کے معاہدہ پر دستخط کئے جانے کا امکان ہے

https://e.jang.com.pk/detail/693418

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Business Recorder

Viable policy coordination crucial for next phase of CPEC, moot told

ABDUL RASHEED AZAD

Speakers at a seminar while spelling out critical steps for the completion of the second phase of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) have said that viable policy coordination, system connectivity, financial integration and people-to-people contacts will be crucial to implement next phase of the CPEC. They said this here on Wednesday while speaking at a seminar titled, "Reforms Agenda for CPEC 2.0: Opportunities and the Way Forward" under its Green CPEC Alliance jointly organised by the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) and the Pakistan China Institute (PCI). CPEC was the pilot and flagship project of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) under the commitment of Pakistan-China leadership, whereas, after successful early harvest projects, the BRI has evolved and a number of countries wanted to become part of it, they observed. They said CPEC is the pillar of the BRI launched by President Xi Jinping which is undoubtedly the diplomatic and development initiative of the Century encompassing Asia, Africa, and beyond. The BRI has brought nations of the world together, whereas, the CPEC is the manifestation of Chinese confidence in Pakistan as China came to help Pakistan at a critical stage when the country barely had any other nation's support. Speaking on the occasion, Wang Shengjie, Head of Political and Press Section, Embassy of People's Republic of China, said that it is necessary for the stakeholders to understand the upgraded version of the CPEC, the guidance of the leadership of the two counties and synergizing policies to achieve its successful completion. He mentioned that the Chinese government has proposed 5C or Five Corridors framework highlighting corridors of growth, livelihood enhancement, innovation, green corridor and the open corridor. Dr Shengjie said it is a more strategic phase with many technical parts, whereas the Chinese government is mulling over to unite the 5C framework of China and 5E of Pakistan. "We are also planning to get Chinese experts in Pakistan to develop special economic zones (SEZs) who would study the current situation and figure out a suitable roadmap for developing Pakistan's SEZs," he said. Dr Abid Qaiyum Suleri, executive director SDPI said Pakistan and China can collaborate to explore the untapped potential of "Green Minerals" under the CPEC as it is the future fuel of the world, saying that the countries need to consider challenges along with opportunities as both have a common denominator of extreme weather and climate change across the region and the world. The revised trade regime is another challenge after the implementation of the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) by the European Union (EU) to report carbon emissions in the supply chain of its exports whereas US and China are working on it, he said. Suleri noted that there is a lack of indigenous infrastructure and capacity to document and gauge carbon emissions at every sector level. "Going green means replacing conventional methods of production and businesses to offset carbon emissions. The increased tariff on China's green energy transition technology due to the efficacy of these solutions is another challenge as the competing nations are increasing tariff on it to protect their local manufacturers," he said. Green metals, he said are another

important component including nickel, cobalt, lithium and other that will help in EV batteries' development that can be explored under CPEC 2.0. "Green diplomacy is another important tool that needs to be scaled up for borderless promotion of green technologies and transfer of technology," Suleri said. Executive Director PCI Mustafa Hyder Sayed said Pakistan needs policy coordination with clear reforms along with relevant bankable feasibility studies to succeed in the second phase of CPEC. Sayed said Pakistan needs to reflect on its competitiveness under CPEC in BRI as the country is competing with the world and it has to review its demands to China like Green Corridor or Greening of CPEC and also its capacities to handle such mega projects. Mustafa Hyder said the country would have to realise and materialise foolproof security for the Chinese and it also needs to develop a joint working on green energy transition under the CPEC. "Pakistan and China want to be the regional hub of connectivity from North to South and East to West that has contrasting visions of connectivity and cooperation that includes all and conversely there is a negative vision of new cold war and curtailment, and we reject that vision as 21st century cannot support zero minus sum vision. It's connectivity and CPEC is the way forward. The next decade will be more successful as the best part of the CPEC is yet to come," he said. Dr Khalid Waleed, energy expert SDPI briefed on CPEC and the energy projects said that the energy projects under CPEC are facing critical discourse due to the climate change debate, economic turmoil and financial crisis in energy projects demanding review of existing schemes. "Pakistan's carbon emissions in the energy sector are seven times more than EU which will create a serious challenge for Pakistan under CBAM, whereas, reforms are required for greening the investment of CPEC along with establishment of renewable energy diplomatic task force, B2B Green Alliance, and Sino-Pak Clean Energy Partnership," Dr Waleed said. During the panel discussion, Private Power and Infrastructure Board (PPIB) Ministry of Energy (Power Division) Managing Director Shah Jahan Mirza said during the first phase of CPEC, the country got $17 billion funding alone in the energy sector that was invested in coal, renewable and hydropower projects. He said the second phase of CPEC demanded the Pakistan government to come up with prudent and effective planning to avoid any failure in the power sector. Mirza underlined that the government's focus was on business-to-business engagement after completion of the government-to-government initiatives under the first phase of CPEC. The country, he said, would develop numerous renewable energy projects under the CPEC second phase, whereas, it also demanded formulation of robust feasibility studies to ensure bankable investment projects. NA Zuberi, senior advisor China Three Gorges South Asia Investment Limited, while highlighting the key concerns of the Chinese firms working under CPEC and the way forward to achieve successful completion of the second phase of CPEC, said frequent policy changes, cumbersome administrative procedures, bureaucratic hurdles, no framework for land acquisition, and security were the key challenges.The way forward, he said is to develop a detailed roadmap for each sector, security plans should be done in consultations with Chinese companies, strengthening of Pak-China collaboration, capacity building of Pakistani institutions, technology and knowledge transfer, robust monitoring and evaluation, public awareness and engagement, and environment sustainability.

https://epaper.brecorder.com/2024/05/30/4-page/994258-news.html

Dawn News

The great CPEC mirage

KHURRAM HUSAIN

IF you think China is gearing up for another round of massive business investments in Pakistan then I have a power plant to sell you. No such thing is about to happen and all the noise around a revival of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is either wishful thinking (at best) or a way to camouflage what really is going on. Here is one way of knowing that CPEC is not on the cusp of a major revival: there is no mention of any such thing from the Chinese side. This is one thing I have learned in my years of watching Pakistan-China relations. Be wary of what you hear from official Pakistani quarters, until you hear the same thing coming from official (or even semi-official) Chinese quarters. The Chinese state has multiple sources from where to issue statements. One is obviously the foreign ministry spokesman. But these can also come from other government functionaries, with or without attribution. Below this level, there is their media, which is entirely state-controlled, and where the editorials published can often be trial balloons or reflections of official thinking, which has not yet congealed into policy. Additionally, there can be news reports which cite developments in Pakistan and report statements by Pakistani officials, going on to cite Chinese officials on the same topic. Any utterances from these quarters are meaningful. But so far on CPEC, there is silence. Consider a few examples. On May 29, China`s official news agency, Xinhua, published a report quoting Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif talking about CPEC. The report quotes Sharif at length, saying `Pakistan desired to further enhance its cooperation with China in various sectors including agriculture, information technology, and energy under the second phase of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor ... a flagship project of the Belt and Road Initiative, the prime minister said while chairing a meeting on Pakistan-China cooperation`. But the report ends without a single reciprocal quote from the Chinese side about CPEC. Its concluding sentence is illustrative. `Launched in 2013, the CPEC is a corridor linking the Gwadar Port in southwest Pakistan`s Balochistan province with Kashgar in Northwest China`s Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region, which highlights energy, transport, and industrial cooperation in the first phase, while the new phase expands to fields of agriculture and livelihood, among others. That`s all. Now notice something about the final sentence. First, it says CPEC is a corridor that links Gwadar with Xinjiang. This is consistent with how the Chinese have talked about CPEC all along. Even in their Long-Term Plan drawn up in the heyday of CPEC a decade ago, they did not talk about a China-Pakistan economic corridor. That document always mentioned a XinjiangPakistan economic corridor. And the plans detailed therein talked about the economic benefits that would accrue to the Xinjiang Autonomous Region from greater integration with Pakistan, including access to Pakistani yarn for value addition in Xinjiang, and access to Gwadar for exports. Next, notice how the report mentions agriculture as a possible field for expanding cooperation, and something vague called `livelihood`. It makes no mention of IT and energy, two other priorities mentioned in Sharif`s statement. This shows diminished interest on the Chinese side for getting further involved in Pakistan`s economy and its myriad dysfunctions and liquidity shortages, volatile politics and security

challenges. In mid-May, Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar travelled to Beijing to attend the Fifth Round of the China-Pakistan Strategic Dialogue, following which a joint statement was issued. Some mention of CPEC was made in it, specifically an agreement to `accelerate progress on major connectivity projects including upgradation of ML-1, the Gwadar Port, realignment of Karakoram Highway Phase II, strengthen cooperation in agriculture, industrial parks, mining, information technology and other fields according to local conditions`. Of these ML-1 is a mirage, a multibillion-dollar project. At the outset, the Chinese refused even to pay for the costs of its feasibility. There is little to no chance that Pakistan will take on a $6bn-$7bn loan to pay for this project. We`ve been hearing about it for years, but it is a mirage. Regarding Gwadar Port, China has made it clear that the responsibility to build connecting infrastructure between Gwadar and the rest of the country is Pakistan`s. Let`s see if they can afford this. We will find out in due course what it means to `strengthen cooperation` in the list of fields the statement lists, but it would not be a good idea to hold your breath while we wait for the facts to roll in, `according to local conditions`. That statement was most emphatic and specific when talking about security. Every statement since then has followed suit in laying emphasis on security. The warmest words coming from the Chinese side towards Pakistan were back in November 2022, when Shehbaz Sharif met Xi Jinping in Beijing and a joint statement was released. That statement lays out China`s view of growing industrial cooperation with Pakistan and adds the following: China `hopes the Pakistani side will provide a sound business environment`. Then in the next sentence it says `President Xi expressed his great concern about the safety of Chinese nationals in Pakistan. So what exactly is Shehbaz Sharif going to China for in a visit which we were originally told would take place in May? Here is my guess. The IMF does not want its resources being used to service Chinese debt obligations, and has told the government that an agreement will only be possible if there is no positive net outflow from Pakistan to China during the programme period. This means rescheduling some of the maturities in the slew of Chinese debt instruments maturing in the next three years. And this is proving to be a hard sell for the Pakistani government. This approach is what they are dressing up as a relaunch of CPEC for public consumption.

https://epaper.dawn.com/DetailImage.php?StoryImage=30_05_2024_006_006

The News

Pakistan sees‘all-time high’ sesame exports amid market challenges

KARACHI: Pakistan’s sesame seeds, renowned for their sweet taste and high oil content, have emerged as one of the fastest-growing export commodities in recent years, The News has learnt. Sesame seed is predominantly produced in Punjab and Sindh, and its exports have reached a new milestone, soaring by an all-time high of 115 per cent and amounting to $392.43 million, according to an exporter. This comes with a 38 per cent increase in quantity during the first 10 months of FY24 compared to the same period last year. However, the surge in exports has also led to significant challenges in the domestic market. Sesame seed, being a seasonal minor crop, has seen a substantial price hike domestically, making Pakistan less competitive in major markets such as China during the off-season. Between January and March 2024, China imported sesame seeds worth over $10.37 million, with Pakistan

exporting 6,137.044 tons during this period. Prices in the international market for sesame seed have dropped sharply from $2,400 per ton to $1,500 per ton, causing a decline in Pakistan's month-on-month exports. This price crash, coupled with illegal border trade smuggling to Iran and Afghanistan, has exacerbated the situation. Smugglers purchasing sesame seed from the open market have driven up demand and local prices, without repatriating the much-needed dollars back into the country. Due to a decreased demand from China and other markets, domestic prices are now falling as hoarders release their stocks. Currently, domestic prices are around Rs16, 000 per 40 kgs and are expected to decrease further with the upcoming harvest in August, which promises a good yield. "We are offering sesame seed at $1,550 per ton, but our bulk buyers are waiting for the new crop," says Shamsul Islam Khan, a leading exporter and commodities expert. In April 2024, Pakistan exported 4,226 metric tons of sesame seed valued at $5.361 million, compared to 4,715 metric tons worth $6.158 million in March 2024. This represents a month-on-month decline of 10.36 per cent in quantity and 12.94 per cent in value. Year-on-year comparisons show a drastic drop of 75.83 per cent in quantity and 64.87 per cent in value, as April 2023 saw the exports of 17,490 metric tons valued at $15.258 million. The focus of Pakistani exporters on a limited number of destinations, coupled with a lack of investment in value-added products, has further hindered growth. Pakistan has significant potential to increase its sesame seed exports if the government adopts more open and supportive policies, per Khan. The Ministry of Commerce and the Ministry of National Food Security & Research need to modernize their approaches to enhance the export trajectory. According to Khan, CEO of the Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP) Zubair Motiwala has been instrumental in driving export growth, especially in agricultural products. Under his leadership, TDAP has organized initiatives such as the FoodAG event in August 2023 and a trade delegation to China, the world's largest sesame seed importer. These efforts aim to boost exports and leverage Pakistan's sea freight advantage over European markets.

https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1194679-pakistan-sees-all-time-high-sesame-exports-amid-market-challenges

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Business Recorder

China vows support to manufacturing sector

China is dedicated to assisting Pakistan in enhancing its manufacturing sector and export capabilities, said Yang Guangyuan, Economic Counsellor of China to Pakistan. He was speaking at China-South Asia Business Council Exchange Symposium held in local hotel, Islamabad. "China is ready to collaborate with all South Asian countries, including Pakistan, to build a future of development and prosperity. By capitalizing on the Belt and Road Initiative and CPEC, we aim to enhance the economic stability and regional prosperity of both the regions," said Guangyuan. The 2024 China-South Asia Business Council Exchange Symposium hosted by China Council for the Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT) and SAARC Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI) in partnership with the Federation of Pakistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI), aimed to strengthen China-South

Asia cooperation under the Belt & Road Initiative and establish a platform for broader business opportunities between South Asian and Chinese enterprises. Liu Qilin, Chairman of CCPIT Yunnan Sub Council, in his remarks, emphasized the importance of industrial cooperation between China and South Asian countries in advancing green development. "Against the backdrop of growing mutual trust in political affairs and sustained economic cooperation between China and South Asian countries, the China South-Asia Expo stands as a crucial platform reflecting the shared aspirations of the industrial and commercial sectors" said Qilin. Ashfaq Yousuf Tola, former State Minister, applauded the efforts of the SAARC Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SAARC CCI), the Federation of Pakistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI), and the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT) for organizing the symposium.

https://epaper.brecorder.com/2024/05/31/12-page/994406-news.html

Daily Times

Pakistani exports to China grow by 37.68% in 10 months

Pakistan's export of goods and services to China witnessed an increase of 37.68 percent during the first ten months of the current fiscal year (2023-24) as compared to the exports of the corresponding period of last year, Gwadar Pro reported quoting the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) on Thursday. The overall exports to China were recorded at $2.341 billion during July-April (2023-24) against the exports of $1.700 billion during July-April (2022-23), SBP data revealed. On a year-to-year basis, exports to China also surged by 13.56 percent from $175.542 million in April 2023 to $199.352 million in April 2024. On a month-on-month basis, exports to China decreased by 18.97 percent during April 2024 as compared to the exports of $246.030 million in March 2024, the SBP data said. Overall Pakistan's exports to other countries witnessed an increase of 10.64 percent in the first ten months, from $23.199 billion to $25.669 billion, the SBP data added. Imports from China into the country during the months under review were recorded at $10.648 billion against $8.343 billion last year, showing an increase of 27.61 percent in July-April (2023-24). Overall imports into Pakistan witnessed a decrease of 5.27 percent, from $45.766 billion to $43.353 billion.

https://dailytimes.com.pk/1196620/pakistani-exports-to-china-grow-by-37-68-in-10-months/

Dunya News

Deputy PM felicitates nation over PakSat-MM1 launch

ISLAMABAD (Dunya News) - Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar on Thursday extended his heartfelt congratulations to the nation on the successful launching of Pakistan Multi Mission Communication Satellite (PakSat-MM1). This historic achievement marks a milestone in our National Space Program, made possible with the invaluable support of our great friend and partner, China. This project exemplifies our strong technological collaboration and enduring friendship with China, the deputy prime minister said in a message. "I extend my heartfelt congratulations to the people of Pakistan and commend the entire team at Pakistan Space & Upper Atmosphere Research Commission (SUPARCO) for their tireless efforts," he said. He said the Satellite would deliver high-speed broadband

internet, significantly boosting connectivity, especially in underserved areas. Pakistan, he said remained committed to promoting science and technology as key drivers of economic growth and national development. “This launch demonstrates our resolve to invest in high-tech sectors and develop indigenous capabilities.” As we celebrate this historic achievement, let us look forward to a future where Pakistan continues to excel in science and technology, harnessing the power of connectivity to build a better world for all. May our journey into the stars be ever prosperous and peaceful,” the deputy prime minister added.

https://dunyanews.tv/en/Pakistan/815389-Deputy-PM-felicitates-nation-over-PakSat-MM1-launch

Pakistan Observer

New air cargo route between China, Pakistan starts

A new air cargo route was inaugurated on Wednesday, linking Guizhou, China with Karachi, Pakistan. The route was launched with the departure of an all-cargo plane carrying 6 tons of freight, including clothing, electronics, and various commodities, from Guiyang, the capital of Guizhou, according to CEN. After nearly six hours of flight time, the plane arrived in Karachi. It will return to Guiyang loaded with blue crabs from Pakistan, according to Guiyang Customs. The route is planned to be carried out three times a week, carrying goods including hardware accessories, clothing fabrics, electronic accessories and so on. The inauguration of the Guiyang-Karachi air cargo route is expected to facilitate trade between the two regions. https://pakobserver.net/new-air-cargo-route-between-china-pakistan-starts/

The Nation

CDWP clears two projects worth Rs609.45b

ISLAMABAD - The Central Development Working Party (CDWP) Thursday cleared two projects worth Rs609.45 billion including China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) umbrella project Karakorum Highway Phase-I (Thakot to Raikot) worth Rs567.453 billion. China has agreed to provide soft loan for Karakorum Highway Phase-I (Thakot to Raikot), China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) umbrella project, worth Rs567453.369 million (RMB 14775 million). The Central Development Working Party (CDWP), which met with Secretary Planning Awais Manzur Sumra in chair, has recommended two projects worth Rs 609.45 billion to the Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (ECNEC) for consideration. The agenda included discussions on projects of transport & communication, and energy sectors. A project related to energy sector presented in the meeting namely “Golden Gol Hydropower Project (108 MW) Chitral, (2nd Revised)” worth Rs42, 002 million was recommend to ECNEC for further consideration. The sources of finance are OPEC Fund for International Development ($30 million), Saudi Fund for Development ($97.8 million), Kuwaiti Fund for Arab Economic Development ($52.5 million) and USAID ($35.6 million grant). The main objective of the project was construction of 108MW hydropower project with an annual energy of about 476GWh. The project was commissioned in 2019 and has generated a total of 730 million units till 28.02.2024. The scope of work is preliminary works, civil works & hydraulic steel structure, hydro-mechanical equipment &

electrical equipment (three vertical shaft generators of 45MVA) transmission system & expansion 145 km, 132 kV double circuit 53 Km transmission line Golen Gol to Timergara, 132 kV single circuit line from Timergara to Chakdara and post flood rehabilitation works were part of the project scope. A project related to transport & communication sector presented in the meeting namely "China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) Karakorum Highway Phase-I (Thakot to Raikot) worth Rs567453.369 million (RMB 14775 million) was recommended to ECNEC. The project is proposed to be financed through Chinese soft loan. The PC-I of the project envisages upgradation, improvement and realigning of the KKH road from Thakot to Raikot bridge. Total length of the road is 241.086km, with the mainline of KKH of 224.911km & link roads of 16.175km. The project includes upgradation of KKH from Thakot to Dasu with bypass (103km), exclusive relocation of KKH at Dasu dam being done by WAPDA, upgradation of the excising road from Sazin to Thor Nullah & R-1 and new construction of KKH after Basha/Thor Nullah. The project will be completed in 5 years.

https://www.nation.com.pk/31-May-2024/cdwp-clears-two-projects-worth-rs609-45b

The News

Sino-Pak cultural and trade exchanges suggested

PESHAWAR: Speakers at a function called for increasing cultural and trade exchanges to strengthen the bond of friendship between Pakistan and China. They were addressing a function organized by the Pakistan-China Friendship Association, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa chapter at the KP House in Islamabad to celebrate the 73rd anniversary of the establishment of the diplomatic relations between the two neighboring countries, said a press release issued here on Thursday. The event saw participation from dignitaries, including Wang Heihua, President of the All Pakistan Chinese Enterprises Association, Saleem Khan, secretary of the Local Government Board, and Shakeel Khan, Director of PESCO. Members of the Chinese Media Group and other PCFA KP members were also in attendance. KP Minister for Local Government and Rural Development Department, Arshad Ayub Khan, highlighted the significance of this historic friendship. He emphasized the need to enhance people-to-people contacts and learn from China's successful implementation of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). "Pakistan and China are time-tested friends, and our friendship has stood the test of time. We must continue to strengthen our bonds by increasing cultural, trade, and business exchanges," said the minister. He said the CPEC was a game-changer for Pakistan's economy, and with enhanced cooperation, we would see significant development across various sectors. The minister praised the efforts of the Pakistan-China Friendship Association KP and called for more initiatives to foster cultural understanding and economic collaboration. He specifically urged for the learning of the Chinese language and deeper engagement with Chinese experts to benefit from their experience and expertise. Chinese Cultural Counsellor Zhang Heqing appreciated the role of Pakistan China Friendship Association KP in promoting bilateral relations. He highlighted the historical linkages between China and Pakistan and the cultural and economic benefits of their partnership. Hang Heqing mentioned the successful implementation of CPEC and the ambitious plans underway, including over 40 projects aimed at constructing highways and motorways to boost Pakistan's prosperity and development. Earlier, Pakistan-China Friendship Association

KP President Yousaf Ayub Khan welcomed the guests and reflected on the successful history of Pakistan-China relations. He noted that the 73rd anniversary of the relationship was a testament to the enduring success of this partnership. The association general secretary Syed Ali Nawaz Gilani said that understanding the dynamics of Chinese socio-economic development was very important for Pakistan being a close friend. He also provided a brief overview of his association's contributions and plans.

https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1195198-sino-pak-cultural-and-trade-exchanges-suggested

13 areas identified for Chinese investment

KARACHI: Pakistan has identified 13 areas in various sectors to seek Chinese investment during Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's upcoming visit to China early next month, The News learnt on Thursday. Apart from other areas, investment in the country's oil refining sector is top priority in the list of areas which will be presented during the Pakistan-China Business Conference on June 5, 2024, to be addressed by PM Shehbaz Sharif. The Pakistan delegation will brief Chinese companies about the potential sectors for investment with a focus on roping five major Chinese companies in for investing in each of these 13 sectors. The Pakistani delegation will include ministers and representatives from the country's private sector. According to official documents available with The News, the sectors identified to attract Chinese investment are related to various fields; the main ones include: refinery projects, base metal refining and fertilizer/urea production from Thar coal. These projects are full-scale naphtha cracking facilities; oil refining centres producing petrochemicals, plastic and other intermediates; large-scale base metals refining units especially copper deep refining facility; solar cells and modules manufacturing; large-scale synthetic yarn and fabric production facilities; iron and steel articles; and cell phones manufacturing, with more value addition in Pakistan. Labour-intensive sectors for relocation such as textile, leather products, pharmaceuticals, chemicals, medical equipment, footwear and toys industries, agriculture food parks, electric vehicles, electronics, laptop and other home appliances manufacturing, production of urea and fertilizer by using Thar coal gasification, semi-conductors manufacturing, and information and communication technologies are also included. For the briefing to Chinese companies, the government has selected focal persons from public- and private-sector companies from oil refining, base metal refining and fertilizer/ urea production areas. The list of these people includes CEO of Asiapak Investment Limited Shaharyar Chishti; GM Corporate Planning of Pakistan State Oil Wajeeh Ahmed; among others.

https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1195105-13-areas-identified-for-chinese-investment

Chinese Newspapers

May 16, 2024

China Daily

China, Pakistan vow to deepen cooperation

With CPEC high on agenda, enhanced relations will bolster regional prosperity

ZHAO JIA

China and Pakistan have reiterated their commitment to further deepening cooperation in various fields and jointly responding to risks and challenges to enrich their all-weather strategic cooperative partnership. The pledge was made during Pakistani Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Mohammad Ishaq Dar's four-day China visit, which began on Monday. He met with Chinese Vice-Premier Ding Xuexiang and Foreign Minister Wang Yi separately on Wednesday in Beijing.Dar chose China as the first destination for an official visit since assuming office in March, which Wang said manifested the high importance that Pakistan has attached to China. A sound, steady and robust bilateral relationship carries great significance to regional peace, stability and prosperity in a turbulent world, Wang told reporters after holding the fifth round of the China-Pakistan Foreign Ministers' Strategic Dialogue with Dar. China will continue to resolutely support Pakistan in upholding national sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity; combating terrorism; and playing a greater role in regional and international affairs, Wang said. Under the leadership of the new government, Pakistan will enter a new stage of political unity, social stability, controlled security and sustainable development, he said. Noting that Pakistan and China enjoy solid political mutual trust and a profound friendship, Dar said its relationship with China is the cornerstone of Pakistan's foreign policy and the country firmly supports China without hesitation on all issues concerning its core interests. The two sides agreed to expand practical cooperation in multiple areas and pull their weight to promote the construction of an upgraded version of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor to help Pakistan achieve better economic growth and green development, improve livelihoods and realize scientific and technological innovation. Launched in 2013, CPEC is a flagship project of the Belt and Road Initiative and has entered the second phase. By the end of 2022, CPEC had brought $25.4 billion in direct investment to Pakistan and created 236,000 job opportunities, according to official figures. Wang underlined the need for both sides to maintain the sound momentum of pragmatic cooperation and jointly build the corridors for growth, livelihood, innovation, green development and openness. He also called to actively and steadily advance third-party cooperation on CPEC and the promotion of major connectivity projects to boost Pakistan's development and regional economic integration. "We appreciate China's development assistance to Pakistan and look forward to further enhancing China's development footprint in Pakistan," Dar said. He praised CPEC for transforming Pakistan's economic landscape, and expressed hope to "further upgrade and expand" it and strengthen bilateral cooperation in areas such as energy and information technology. The two sides share the same view on ensuring common security, as Wang said China and Pakistan would further deepen anti-

terrorism security cooperation. Dar briefed Wang on the investigation of the Dasu bomb attack in March that killed five Chinese and one Pakistani, expressing deep condolences, and said Pakistan would investigate it thoroughly and bring plotters, sponsors and perpetrators of the incident to justice. Pakistan would resolutely crack down on violent and terrorist forces, and make every effort to ensure the safety of Chinese personnel, projects and institutions on its soil, he added. The two sides also agreed to oppose unilateralism, hegemony, power politics and group confrontation, vowing to strengthen coordination and cooperation in multilateral institutions and safeguard international fairness and justice.

https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202405/16/WS6645563ea31082fc043c7555.html

Joint Press Release of the Fifth Round of China-Pakistan Foreign Ministers' Strategic Dialogue

At the invitation of H.E. Wang Yi, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and Minister of Foreign Affairs, H.E. Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan visited China from May 13 to May 16, 2024. On May 15, 2024, H.E. Wang Yi and H.E. Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar co-chaired the Fifth Round of China-Pakistan Foreign Ministers' Strategic Dialogue in Beijing. During the Dialogue, the two sides exchanged views on the entire range of bilateral relations and cooperation, including in strategic, economic, political, defence and security, trade, investment and commerce, and cultural and people-to-people domains. International and regional issues of shared interest were also discussed and the two sides reached consensus to collectively take measures to safeguard their common interests, promote the socio-economic development of peoples of the two countries, and work together to promote peace, development and prosperity of the region. Both sides reiterated that China and Pakistan are All-weather Strategic Cooperative Partners sharing an unbreakable ironclad friendship and strategic mutual trust. The healthy and robust growth of China-Pakistan relations is of immense strategic significance for regional peace, development and stability. The two sides will implement the important consensus reached by the leaders of the two countries, enhance exchanges at all levels, deepen experience-sharing in state governance, further enhance win-win cooperation in all areas and accelerate the building of an even closer China-Pakistan Community with a Shared Future in the New Era. China congratulated Pakistan on holding successful general elections, and expressed good wishes to the new Pakistani government in leading the Pakistani people in their endeavor to maintain stability and security, promote economic development and prosperity. Pakistan spoke highly of China's major development achievements in the New Era under the leadership of President Xi Jinping, appreciated China's people-centered development philosophy, and believed that the Chinese path to modernization provides a new option and practical solution for developing countries to achieve independent development. The two sides reaffirmed their unyielding support for each other on issues concerning their respective core interests. The Pakistani side reaffirmed its firm commitment to the one-China principle, and reiterated that Taiwan is an inalienable part of China's territory, and that Pakistan firmly supports the Chinese government's every effort to achieve national reunification and opposes any form of "Taiwan independence." Pakistan firmly supports China on issues concerning Xinjiang,

Xizang, Hong Kong and the South China Sea. The Chinese side reiterated its steadfast support for Pakistan in safeguarding its sovereignty, national independence and territorial integrity, in pursuing a development path suited to Pakistan's national conditions and achieving economic prosperity, in firmly combating terrorism, and in playing a bigger role in regional and international affairs. The two sides strongly condemned the terrorist attack on the Chinese convoy of the Dasu Hydropower Project in Pakistan on March 26, 2024, and emphasized that no attempt to undermine China-Pakistan cooperation will ever succeed. In keeping with its ironclad friendship with China, the Pakistani side would hunt down the perpetrators and bring them to justice, take more effective security measures, and make all-out efforts to ensure the safety of Chinese personnel, projects and institutions in Pakistan. The Chinese side recognized Pakistan's contributions and sacrifices in combating terrorism over the years. The two sides reiterated their commitment to combating terrorism in all its forms and manifestations with a "zero tolerance" attitude, and agreed to further strengthen cooperation in counter-terrorism and security through a comprehensive approach. Calling on the international community to strengthen counter-terrorism cooperation, the two sides expressed their firm opposition to double standards on counter-terrorism. The two sides will work together to deepen and substantiate China's eight major steps to support high-quality Belt and Road cooperation, and forge an "upgraded version" of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) by jointly building a growth corridor, a livelihood-enhancing corridor, an innovation corridor, a green corridor and an open corridor, by aligning them with Pakistan's development framework and priorities. The two sides agreed to accelerate progress on major connectivity projects including upgradation of ML-1, the Gwadar Port, realignment of Karakoram Highway Phase II, strengthen cooperation in agriculture, industrial parks, mining, information technology and other fields according to local conditions, and enhance Pakistan's capacity for sustainable development. The two sides believe that the Khunjerab pass plays an important role in promoting bilateral trade and people-to-people exchanges, and agreed to speed up efforts to make sure the Khunjerab Pass can function all year round. The two sides discussed ongoing energy cooperation and agreed to further enhance it. The two sides agreed to further strengthen financial and banking cooperation, including through support to each other at regional and international forums. The Pakistani side appreciated China for providing support for its fiscal and financial sectors and assistance in the face of floods and other natural disasters. Both sides expressed satisfaction at their expanding space cooperation and agreed to further build on it for a peaceful and mutually-beneficial exploration of space. Both sides underscored the importance of maintaining peace and stability in South Asia, the need for resolution of all outstanding disputes, and their opposition to any unilateral action. The Pakistani side briefed the Chinese side on the latest developments of the situation in Jammu and Kashmir. The Chinese side reiterated that the Jammu and Kashmir dispute is left over from history, and should be properly and peacefully resolved in accordance with the UN Charter, relevant UN Security Council resolutions and bilateral agreements. The two sides reiterated their readiness to further enhance cooperation under the framework of the Global Development Initiative, the Global Security Initiative and the Global Civilization Initiative. Pakistan highly commended China's efforts to safeguard the rights of developing countries for sustainable development. The two sides reaffirmed their commitment to the purposes and principles of the UN Charter, support for multilateralism and free trade, and opposition to the

creation of "small circles" and bloc confrontation. The two sides agreed to strengthen communication and coordination on the Afghanistan issue. They called for concerted efforts of the international community to help Afghanistan properly address challenges in such areas as the humanitarian situation and economic development, and encourage Afghanistan to build an inclusive political framework, adopt moderate policies, pursue good-neighborliness, and firmly combat terrorism, including not allowing its territory to be used for terrorist acts. Both sides agreed to play a positive and constructive role in helping Afghanistan achieve stable development and integrate into the international community. The two sides reiterated that the fundamental way out of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict lies in the two-State solution and the establishment of an independent State of Palestine. The resolution adopted by the UN Security Council is legally binding, and should be enforced effectively to achieve an unconditional and lasting ceasefire immediately. The international community should increase input into the Palestinian question with a greater sense of urgency, step up efforts to facilitate the early resumption of peace talks between Palestine and Israel, and strive for enduring peace. The two sides reiterated that as good neighbors, good friends, good partners, and good brothers, China and Pakistan will promote their ironclad ties, deepen mutually beneficial cooperation, and upgrade strategic cooperation to break new ground and set new goals in their All-weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership.

https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202405/16/WS6645b1c7a31082fc043c77ad.html

Global Times

China, Pakistan set to deepen counter-terrorism security cooperation: Wang Yi

China and Pakistan will further deepen security cooperation on counter-terrorism, and call on the international community to build a united front against terrorism, combat all forms of terrorism with a "zero tolerance" attitude, and eradicate the breeding ground for terrorism by addressing both the symptoms and the root causes, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi said on Wednesday. Wang, also a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, made the remarks when meeting with the press with Pakistan's Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Mohammad Ishaq Dar after they held the fifth round of the China-Pakistan Foreign Ministers' Strategic Dialogue in Beijing on Wednesday. Wang said that the Pakistani side provided further details of the investigation into the terrorist attack that caused Chinese casualties in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province of Pakistan on March 26, and once again expressed deep condolences, as well as promising to continue to do the utmost to find the culprits and bring them to justice, while protecting the safety of Chinese personnel, projects and institutions in Pakistan. Regarding other agreements reached between the two sides, Wang said that both countries will unswervingly support each other in safeguarding their own core interests, and China appreciates the fact that the Pakistani side firmly adheres to the one-China principle. China will also, as in the past, firmly support Pakistan in safeguarding its national sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity, pursuing a path of development in line with its national conditions, combating terrorism and playing a greater role in international and regional affairs. The two sides agreed to strengthen the docking of development strategies and policy synergy, create an upgraded version of the

China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), and help Pakistan better achieve economic growth, livelihood improvement, scientific and technological innovation and green development, while actively and steadily pushing forward third-party cooperation in the CPEC, Wang said. Wang said that cooperation in the fields of industry, agriculture, mining, new energy and information technology should be strengthened according to local conditions to help Pakistan achieve independent, balanced and sustainable development. The two countries will also continue to strengthen coordination and cooperation in multilateral mechanisms, including the UN and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, to safeguard the common interests of developing countries, Wang added. Wang said that the two sides unanimously expressed their opposition to unilateralism, hegemony and power politics, as well as to any attempts to create blocs of antagonism and camps of confrontation, so as to jointly safeguard peace, stability, development and prosperity in the region and the world at large. China is confident that, under the leadership of the new government, Pakistan will enter a new phase of political unity, social stability, controlled security and sustainable development, Wang said.

https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202405/1312385.shtml

Wang Yi: Unilateralism and protectionism are bound to be crushed by the wheels of history

On May 15, 2024, Member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and Minister of Foreign Affairs Wang Yi was asked for comment on the recent unilateral sanctions and tariff hikes imposed by the United States on Chinese products when he met the press together with Pakistani Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Mohammad Ishaq Dar after the fifth round of China-Pakistan Foreign Ministers' Strategic Dialogue in Beijing. Wang Yi noted that as the world has seen, over the past weeks and months, the United States has frequently imposed unilateral sanctions, abused the Section 301 tariff review process, and waged a campaign against China's normal trade, economic and technological activities that borders on madness. Taking unscrupulous actions against China does not prove the strength of the United States, but only reveals that the United States has lost confidence and direction. It does not solve the U.S.'s own problems, but will further impede the normal functioning of global industrial and supply chains. It will not stop China's development and rejuvenation, but will only spur the 1.4 billion Chinese people to forge ahead with greater determination. The WTO has drawn a clear conclusion that the U.S.'s Section 301 tariffs violate WTO rules and international law. People with basic knowledge of international trade believe that the U.S. actions hurt others as well as the United States itself. As one of the founders of the WTO, the United States has not only failed to be a role model in complying with WTO rules, but taken the lead in breaching them; it has not only refused to correct its mistakes, but kept making even more mistakes. Is this the "fair competition" that the United States champions? How does the U.S. keep its credibility in the international community? Wang Yi stressed that unilateralism and protectionism go against the trend of the times and are bound to be crushed by the wheels of history. At this crucial moment for the global economic recovery, the international community needs to tell the United States: stop making more trouble for the world. https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202405/1312382.shtml

People Daily News

Unilateral, protectionist actions doomed to fail: Chinese FM

Unilateral and protectionist actions aimed at China by the United States expose the loss of confidence and composure on the part of the United States and are doomed to fail, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi said on Wednesday. Wang made the remarks at a joint press briefing after he and Pakistani Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Mohammad Ishaq Dar attended the fifth round of the China-Pakistan Foreign Ministers' Strategic Dialogue in Beijing. Asked to comment on the recent unilateral sanctions and high tariffs imposed by the United States on China, Wang, also a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, noted that recently, the United States has frequently imposed unilateral sanctions on China, abused Section 301 tariffs, and obsessively suppressed China's normal economic, trade and technological activities, representing the most typical form of hegemonic bullying in the world today. It demonstrates that certain individuals in the United States have become irrational in their attempt to maintain U.S. unipolar hegemony, Wang said. The unscrupulous suppression of China by the United States does not prove U.S. strength, but on the contrary exposes the loss of that country's confidence and composure. Such behavior does not help address domestic problems in the United States, but only results in a greater disruption of the normal operation of the international industrial and supply chains, Wang said, adding that the U.S. move will not deter China's development and rejuvenation. He pointed out that the World Trade Organization (WTO) has made it clear that the Section 301 tariffs imposed by the United States violate WTO rules and international law, saying it is also believed by people with basic common sense in international trade that the U.S. approach will only lead to a lose-lose situation. As one of the WTO's founding members, the United States not only fails to set a good example, but instead leads the way in violating its rules and making one mistake after another, Wang stated. He also said that the United States has claimed commitment to "fair competition," but the U.S. actions go against its words and cast serious doubt on its ability to gain the trust of the international community. Wang stressed that such unilateral and protectionist actions are contrary to the trend of the times, and are bound to be crushed by the wheels of history. "At this critical time of global economic recovery, the international community should warn the United States not to cause new troubles for the world," said Wang.

http://en.people.cn/n3/2024/0516/c90000-20170383.html

May 18, 2024

People Daily News

China-funded project helps preserve cultural heritage in Pakistan

Pakistan is rich in cultural heritage with a large number of historical cultural sites sprawling across the South Asian country. China and Pakistan take an extra mile to preserve the sites, including Takht-i-Bahi, under the Guardians of Gandhara program run by Chinese and Pakistani scholars and volunteers. ISLAMABAD, May 18 (Xinhua) -- Walking up the stone stairs ascending to the archaeological site of an ancient Buddhist monastery Takht-i-Bahi,

Muhammad Haasan immersed himself in Buddhist history and culture as the exceptionally well-preserved majestic beauty of ruins bewildered the teenager. UNESCO World Heritage Site Takht-i-Bahi, one of the most prestigious Buddhist religious establishments in the ancient Gandhara region, is located in the country's northwest Mardan district of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP). Pakistan is rich in cultural heritage with a large number of historical cultural sites sprawling across the South Asian country. China and Pakistan took an extra mile to preserve the sites, including Takht-i-Bahi, under the Guardians of Gandhara program run by Chinese and Pakistani scholars and volunteers. "Every two weeks I come here with at least 50 students to learn about the Buddhist monastery, stupas, kings and their residential facilities. Our teachers have also organized tours to other museums in various cities and teach us about civilizations and historic sites," said the 13-year-old student of the heritage conservation classes launched under the Guardians of Gandhara program. "With the help of China, we will protect and conserve the heritage sites for future generations as the heritage sites are the connection to our history, community and identity," the student said. "The stories of ancient kings are very interesting. This archeological site provides us with important information as to how people about 2,000 years ago used to live, meditate and educate themselves. It's quite fascinating," said another student Tahira. Talking to Xinhua, Maaz Ali, a teacher and conservation assistant at the Directorate of Archaeology and Museums, KP, said that the main purpose of various educational projects was to make locals living near archeological sites aware about the heritage sites of Pakistan and rebuild their connection with cultural heritage. "Especially, young generation is in charge of Guardians of Gandhara as they will take a lead in preserving these important archeological sites of Pakistan in the future," he said. According to him, Pakistani and Chinese teams have been working together on the restoration of various archeological sites in Pakistan, adding that more sites are being identified for the conservation work. With restoration work done on several sites, Ali said that the number of tourists, especially Chinese and Japanese, have increased over the past years. "Thousands of tourists have been visiting the historical sites recently, injecting new impetus into the tourism sector of Pakistan and national development." As International Museum Day is observed on May 18, Pakistan sought cooperation with China to further strengthen the protection of cultural heritage. The State Administration of Cultural Heritage of China and the National Heritage and Culture Division of Pakistan have signed a memorandum of understanding to jointly implement archaeology, cultural heritage protection and restoration, exhibition exchanges, and prevent illegal trafficking of relics. Director of Archaeology and Museums of KP Abdul Samad told Xinhua that China always walks the talk and its commitment towards preserving cultural heritage in Asia is practical, highlighting that China is collaborating with Pakistani archaeologists to preserve and restore the archeological sites using modern technologies. He said that Pakistan needs to further strengthen cooperation with China to protect heritage sites, maintain academic collaborations between universities and cultural heritage institutions in the two countries, and initiate joint scientific and technological preservation initiatives. Samad believed that China's cultural heritage cooperation and exchanges programs with various countries including Pakistan are exemplary, adding that China's effective measures for harmonious coexistence of different civilizations set examples for the world. Chen Zhigang, associate professor at Shanghai Academy of Fine Arts and director of the Guardians of Gandhara program, said that China

has established multi-level exchange relations with Pakistani governments, the archaeological bureau, museums and heritage sites. Commenting on the future cooperation plans for the protection of cultural sites and relics of Pakistan, he told Xinhua that both countries need to further focus on tourism infrastructure improvement, basic maintenance, and archaeological excavation of sites. Besides that, digitization of cultural heritage, joint scientific research projects as well as heritage education and cultural exchanges would be further encouraged in the future, he said.

http://en.people.cn/n3/2024/0518/c90000-20171408.html

May 19, 2024

Xinhua Net

China-funded project helps preserve cultural heritage in Pakistan

China and Pakistan have gone the extra mile to preserve the historical cultural sites in the South Asian country, including UNESCO World Heritage Site Takht-i-Bahi, under the Guardians of Gandhara program run by Chinese and Pakistani scholars and volunteers.

https://english.news.cn/20240519/d02e07ebe0c34b6e9bd4103932e9c21e/c.html

May 20, 2024

People Daily News

CPEC transforms Pakistan to land of FDI: minister

Iqbal said that the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) has been helping transform Pakistan to a land of foreign direct investment opportunities. Addressing an event on Friday here at the National Defence University, he said the critical importance of peace, stability, and continuous reforms in harnessing the full potential of the CPEC, the planning ministry said in a statement. Iqbal reiterated that the CPEC is pivotal for Pakistan's roadmap to a trillion-dollar economy by 2030, aligned with the 5Es Framework, focusing on export-led growth. According to the ministry, the 5Es Framework, a roadmap formulated by the Pakistani government, provides a development plan for economic revival in five areas, including exports, e-Pakistan, environment and climate change, energy and infrastructure, and equity and empowerment. He stressed the need for sustainable peace, political stability, and policy continuity in Pakistan with the entrance of CPEC in its second phase. The minister also insisted on the transition of the country from geopolitics to geo-economics, noting that economic strength now determines global standing and influence, according to the statement. Launched in 2013, the CPEC, a flagship project of the China-proposed BRI, 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. Pakistani Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Ahsan

http://en.people.cn/n3/2024/0520/c90000-20171659.html

May 22, 2024

Global Times

Event held to mark 73rd anniversary of diplomatic ties between China, Pakistan

People perform a dance during an event marking the 73rd anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Pakistan in Islamabad, Pakistan on May 21, 2024

https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202405/1312782.shtml

Xinhua Net

Pakistan firmly upholds one-China principle -- president

Taiwan is part of China. There's no other way," said President Zardari. by Deng Kaiyin, Jiang Chao, Zhang Jingy

Pakistan abides by the one-China principle as the country always chooses to stand on the right side of history, Pakistani President Asif Ali Zardari said during a recent interview with Chinese media. Tuesday marks the 73rd anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Pakistan. Recalling the rapport between the previous generations' leaders of the two countries, Zardari said: "My late father-in-law, Pakistan's former Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto told the nation to look east, to look towards China." Zardari, who had visited China nine times during his first term as Pakistani president, said Pakistani people love China as "there is no conditionality between us." In the interview, the first one with foreign media after being re-elected as Pakistan's president for the second time in March, Zardari reaffirmed Pakistan's stance of upholding one-China principle, rejecting any form of "Taiwan-independence." "Taiwan is part of China. There's no other way," the president said, adding that Pakistan will always stand with China and safeguard China's core interests. Commenting on the development of Gwadar Port, a starting point of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), Zardari said many things have been done in Gwadar port since the launch of the CPEC 11 years ago, noting that the port will always welcome investors from all over the world. Zardari said Pakistan is encouraging more schools to adopt the Chinese language into their compulsory curriculum. Emphasizing the importance of strengthening people-to-people exchanges between the two countries, he called for more policies to facilitate the movement of people between the two countries. Speaking highly of the development achievements made by the Chinese people, Zardari said that ensuring the continuation of policies is one of the key reasons behind China's success, adding that Pakistan hopes to be more involved in China's development process. "Long live Pakistan-China friendship!" Zardari said in Chinese while concluding the interview.

https://english.news.cn/20240522/7116a0a9e0a14d2b9a9ef411e9136971/c.html

Event held to mark 73rd anniversary of diplomatic ties between China, Pakistan

People perform a dance during an event marking the 73rd anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Pakistan in Islamabad, Pakistan on May 21, 2024. (Xinhua/Ahmad Kamal)

https://english.news.cn/20240522/7e33cace952d4daba71c659280657db8/c.html

May 23, 2024

People Daily News

2024 China Sport Show opens in Chengdu

The 2024 (41st) China Sport Show opened in Chengdu, southwest China's Sichuan Province here on Thursday. Based on the exhibition area planning set last year, this year's Sport Show has further segmented the hot trends in the market, and has refined the design of the four major themed exhibition areas. "China Sport Show has been held in Chengdu five times. As the engine of the economy in western China, this city has its unique advantages in location, logistics and resources, which will strongly support the original intention of this sport show," said Li Hua, the president of the sport show. As one of the biggest sport shows in China, the exhibition has attracted over 1,600 sports enterprises. The number of on-site visitors is expected to exceed 100,000 people. In addition to domestic enterprises, the show has also attracted exhibitors from 64 countries and regions, including India, South Africa, Egypt, Mexico, South Korea, the United States, Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia, Brazil, Pakistan, Italy, Britain, the United Arab Emirates, and Australia.

http://en.people.cn/n3/2024/0523/c90000-20173449.html

May 25, 2024

Xinhua Net

Pakistan to follow China's example to enhance exports: PM

Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif said on Friday that his country will learn from China's experience to eradicate poverty and enhance exports to increase foreign exchange reserves, the Prime Minister's Office said. In a meeting held in his office, Sharif said that China's success in lifting more than 700 million people out of poverty serves as a role model for Pakistan, the office said in a statement. He added that Pakistan wants to benefit from China's experiences in increasing exports which will act as a major step to increase foreign exchange reserves and decrease poverty. "Pakistan and China share longstanding and deep brotherly relations which are strengthening over time," he said, adding that China has always helped Pakistan in difficult times, for which he, along with the entire nation, is grateful to the Chinese leadership and people. The prime minister encouraged Chinese companies to set up industries in Special Economic Zones being established under the framework of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). Launched in 2013, CPEC, a flagship project of the China-proposed Belt and Road Initiative, is a corridor linking 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. The prime minister said thorough preparations are being made for CPEC's new phase and its successful initiation will further strengthen economic relations between Pakistan and China. The prime minister emphasized that Pakistan, being an agricultural country, is committed to adopting the modern techniques and technology of China in agriculture to increase productivity. He also invited Chinese companies to set up plants for electric and hybrid vehicles in Pakistan to help the country achieve the goal of shifting to electric vehicles in the transportation sector to mitigate the impacts of climate change.

https://english.news.cn/20240525/6d8df560ac984dcdbbf20072591de035/c.html

Gov't working to make Pakistan's Gwadar Port trade hub to boost economy: minister

Pakistan's Federal Minister of Maritime Affairs Qaiser Ahmed Sheikh said on Thursday that the government is working to make the country's southwest Gwadar Port a trade hub to spur additional businesses and attract foreign investments to boost the economy. The minister said in a statement that the government is taking special measures to enhance import and export capabilities by utilizing the extensive capacity and opportunities in Gwadar, which would have far-reaching benefits for the entire country. Earlier in the day, the minister chaired a high-level meeting focused on enhancing measures to increase business activity through Gwadar Port to create jobs and foster local development. The minister said the meeting agreed to upgrade port facilities, including the expansion of storage capacities, improvement of loading and unloading systems, and efficient customs processing. According to the minister, the participants decided to address sales tax and duty issues on priority and deliberated to form a comprehensive deep-sea policy to facilitate large-scale maritime activities and attract international shipping companies to Gwadar. Establishing value addition facilities and improving infrastructure to support industrial activities around the port were also discussed. This includes processing zones and logistical support to maximize the economic benefits of imports and exports through Gwadar. "In the upcoming budget, we aim to prioritize sustainable growth, innovation, and the preservation of our precious marine resources," said the minister, adding that "our vision is to create a resilient and thriving maritime sector that supports economic prosperity."

https://english.news.cn/20240525/7d7e2230c9c643a7beac95957d6cbfad/c.html

May 27, 2024

People Daily News

Pakistan to follow China's example to enhance exports: PM

Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif said on Friday that his country will learn from China's experience to eradicate poverty and enhance exports to increase foreign exchange reserves, the Prime Minister's Office said. In a meeting held in his office, Sharif said that China's success in lifting more than 700 million people out of poverty serves as a role model for Pakistan, the office said in a statement. He added that Pakistan wants to benefit from

China's experiences in increasing exports which will act as a major step to increase foreign exchange reserves and decrease poverty. "Pakistan and China share longstanding and deep brotherly relations which are strengthening over time," he said, adding that China has always helped Pakistan in difficult times, for which he, along with the entire nation, is grateful to the Chinese leadership and people. The prime minister encouraged Chinese companies to set up industries in Special Economic Zones being established under the framework of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). Launched in 2013, CPEC, a flagship project of the China-proposed Belt and Road Initiative, is a corridor linking 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. The prime minister said thorough preparations are being made for CPEC's new phase and its successful initiation will further strengthen economic relations between Pakistan and China. The prime minister emphasized that Pakistan, being an agricultural country, is committed to adopting the modern techniques and technology of China in agriculture to increase productivity. He also invited Chinese companies to set up plants for electric and hybrid vehicles in Pakistan to help the country achieve the goal of shifting to electric vehicles in the transportation sector to mitigate the impacts of climate change.

http://en.people.cn/n3/2024/0527/c90000-20174413.html

May 28, 2024

Global Times

Pakistan eyes on ramped-up CPEC cooperation with China to grow local economy

Chinese experts said on Tuesday that the continuously strengthened cooperation in the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) under the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) is poised to foster greater economic development momentum in Pakistan. It will also create new market potential for Chinese businesses. The remarks were made as China and Pakistan recently unveiled five new corridors under CPEC, while Pakistani officials have reportedly expressed hope to revitalize cooperation within the BRI framework to bolster the country's stagnating economy. The identified five new corridors for the second phase of the CPEC include the Growth Corridor, the Economic Development Projects Corridor, the Innovation Corridor, the Green Corridor, and the Regional Connectivity Corridor, the Pakistan Daily reported on Sunday. At a high-level meeting, Pakistan's Federal Minister Ahsan Iqbal highlighted the revival of projects in Gwadar and the newly identified corridor programs were the latest progress made under CPEC, which he hailed as a milestone in Pakistan-China friendship, laying a robust foundation for bilateral cooperation. China-Pakistan economic cooperation is being upgraded across a number of sectors. It is expected the next stage of bilateral ties will focus on agricultural technology, infrastructure upgrades, and quick-win projects, Liu Xiaoxue, an associate research fellow at the National Institute of International Strategy under the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, told the Global Times on Tuesday. Amid intensifying global challenges, the importance of strengthening regional cooperation, especially between Pakistan and China's vast Western regions, is growing for both countries.

Liu noted that longstanding technical exchanges and trade cooperation between the two sides are expected to deepen. Pakistan is making efforts to explore opportunities for joint ventures covering renewable energy projects, agriculture collaboration and possibly attracting Chinese companies to relocate to the country, Iqbal was cited as saying in a Bloomberg report. The CPEC stands as a pivotal flagship project under the BRI framework. Established in 2013, CPEC has been instrumental in addressing entrenched problems impeding Pakistan's development. It has significantly boosted Pakistan's infrastructure and industrialization, leading to sustainable economic and social development. Official data showed that as of the end of 2022, the program had cumulatively created 236,000 jobs for Pakistan and facilitated the addition of 510 kilometers of highways, 8,000 megawatts of electricity generation capacity, and 886 kilometers of core transmission network in Pakistan. The BRI has not only boosted economic cooperation between China and Pakistan but also attracted increased international attention and global business opportunities to Pakistan, particularly in sectors such as agriculture, manufacturing, and new energies, Liu said. Iqbal noted during an event on May 17 that the CPEC has been helping transform Pakistan to a land of foreign direct investment opportunities, Xinhua news agency reported. Iqbal revealed that Pakistan's Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, who was elected to a second successive term in March and seeking to revive China-Pakistan economic cooperation in the past two years, is likely to visit China soon. On May 15, China's Foreign Minister Wang Yi confirmed during his meeting with Pakistan's Foreign Minister Mohammad Ishaq Dar that China was committed to upgrading the CPEC while helping Pakistan to better achieve economic growth, improve people's livelihood, and promote green growth. Both sides agreed to ramp up efforts to strengthen cooperation across industry, agriculture, mining, new energy, information technology, and other fields. Wang stressed that existing major connectivity projects should be advanced to facilitate Pakistan's development and unleash its geographical advantages. The CPEC 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 the new phase expands to fields of agriculture and livelihood, among others.

https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202405/1313165.shtml

People Daily News

BRI to bring China's Xinjiang, Pakistan together for shared development, prosperity -- experts

The Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) will bring China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region and Pakistan together for joint development and prosperity under the vision of building a community with a shared future for mankind, experts have said. At a recent event themed "Dynamics of Xinjiang in Pakistani Perspective," Shi Yuanqiang, minister of the Chinese Embassy in Pakistan, said that Xinjiang, as an autonomous region bordering Pakistan and a hub of Belt and Road cooperation, can play a crucial role in developing the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and fostering people-to-people exchanges between the two nations. Launched in 2013, the CPEC, a flagship project of the China-proposed BRI, links

Pakistan's southwest Gwadar port with the city of Kashgar in Xinjiang, highlighting energy, transport, and industrial cooperation. Shi said that Xinjiang has transformed from a region once threatened by extremism, terrorism and ethnic separatist activities to one currently undergoing multifaceted development, including in agriculture and tourism. "Xinjiang now has no off-season for tourism. In 2023, it received over 265 million tourists from both at home and abroad," said Shi, adding that Xinjiang's annual cotton production exceeded 5 million tons, accounting for 91 percent of China's total. Senior analyst and author Sultan Mehmood Hali said that the China-Pakistan relationship is deep-rooted, and the two countries' enduring friendship has contributed to peace and stability in the region and the world at large. "Xinjiang holds special significance in this relationship and serves as a gateway for the two countries with historical and cultural links," said Hali, adding that China's Xinjiang and Pakistan can enhance cooperation in agriculture, trade, connectivity and culture. Waseem Ishaque, director of Area Study China at Pakistan's National University of Modern Languages, said that Xinjiang would create new opportunities for Pakistan and China, especially in trade, industry, tourism, connectivity and people-to-people exchanges, leading to prosperity for both sides.

http://en.people.cn/n3/2024/0528/c90000-20175100.html

Xinhua Net

Green China-Pakistan Economic Corridor shows China's eco-friendly vision, says Pakistani expert

The building of a green China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) demonstrates China's vision of aligning development with eco-friendly initiatives, a Pakistani environmentalist has said. The China-proposed Belt and Road Initiative envisions green development, and similarly, its flagship project CPEC is following the same methodology, Zainab Naeem, head of Ecological Sustainability and Circular Economy at Sustainable Development Policy Institute, an Islamabad-based think tank, told Xinhua in a recent interview. "So I think CPEC is one aspect where we do look forward to aligning it with the Chinese vision, and of course, learning from the Chinese. Now both governments are on the same page in terms of developing renewable energy projects and investing in eco-friendly initiatives," she said. Launched in 2013, the CPEC 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 the new phase expands to fields of agriculture and livelihood, among others. Apart from that, Pakistan can also learn from China's new green development program and other initiatives, Naeem said, adding that China believes that humans and nature can coexist harmoniously and that is why it has prioritized environmental protection and conservation as part of its new development strategy. Regarding ecological consideration and environmental protection as the key to human development, China is focusing more on improving people's living standards and offering them a favorable environment, said the environmentalist. "So under the new development strategy, China is introducing different initiatives with an improved governance structure in which the government is taking the lead and the private sector will be responsible for reporting data and managing their emissions," she said. Naeem

added that China has initiated the ecological red-line system to protect not only the already designated protected areas but also the new ecological parameters that could enhance environmental health. "In the context of urban climate resilience, I believe this initiative can be something that other countries can also learn from," said the environmentalist.

https://english.news.cn/asiapacific/20240528/dc764d1535d8453990e7a340557f1f82/c.html

Southwest China launches new air cargo route to Pakistan

A new air cargo route was launched on Tuesday linking southwest China's Guizhou Province and Pakistan's largest city Karachi. Marking the official start of the air route, an all-cargo plane carrying 6 tonnes of freight, including clothing, electronic products and other commodities, took off from Guiyang, capital of Guizhou, on Tuesday morning and arrived in Karachi in nearly six hours. The plane will return to Guiyang loaded with blue crabs from Pakistan, according to the Guiyang Customs. This is the first air route linking Guizhou and Pakistan, and it is also the first air freight route connecting the province with a Belt and Road Initiative country. Officials said the new air route will help build Guiyang into a cargo distribution center in southwest China while reducing the time for Pakistan's quality fresh products to reach Guizhou.

https://english.news.cn/asiapacific/20240528/5e185b4a1f674a1d993a27c9d603d2c2/c.html

May 29, 2024

People Daily News

Southwest China launches new air cargo route to Pakistan

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http://en.people.cn/n3/2024/0529/c90000-20175459.html

Xinhua Net

Pakistani PM hails China as key partner in country's economic development

Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif said on Tuesday that China is a key partner in his country's development and growth, bringing socio-economic benefits to the people of Pakistan. Pakistan desired to further enhance its cooperation with China in various sectors including agriculture, information technology, and energy under the second phase of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), a flagship project of the Belt and Road Initiative, the prime minister said while chairing a meeting on Pakistan-China cooperation here. After the successful completion of the first phase of the multi-billion-dollar CPEC project, Sharif said that the Pakistani government is preparing for the second phase of high-quality construction of CPEC, which involves launching new projects with Chinese cooperation and enhancing business-to-business linkages. He said that Pakistan has a lot to learn from China in formulating strategies to boost its exports, saying agriculture demonstration zones are being established and the Gwadar port would become a logistics hub with China's cooperation. All-out facilitation will be ensured to the Chinese companies, particularly those related to the textile sector, to establish their industries in Pakistan, he said. Launched in 2013, the CPEC 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 the new phase expands to fields of agriculture and livelihood, among others.

https://english.news.cn/20240529/d3d1ec5891ad447f87102dc12a38eb13/c.html

CPEC improves infrastructure, creates jobs, addresses energy shortage in Pakistan's NW province: official

The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) has significantly improved infrastructure, addressed energy shortage and created jobs over the past 11 years in Pakistan's northwest Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, according to provincial Minister for Local Government and Rural Development Arshad Ayub Khan. Speaking at a ceremony celebrating the 73rd anniversary of diplomatic relations between China and Pakistan here on Wednesday, organized by the Pak-China Friendship Association Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, the official underscored the CPEC's vital role in the province's progress through multiple projects, including highways and energy production initiatives. He emphasized the enduring significance of the Pak-China friendship and the necessity of enhancing cooperation in trade, business, industries, mining, people-to-people relations, and cultural and educational exchanges. "The CPEC, the flagship project of the Belt and Road Initiative, has been proven a game-changer for Pakistan's economy. With enhanced cooperation, we will witness significant development across various sectors in the future," the official added. Cultural Counselor of the Chinese Embassy in Pakistan Zhang Heqing also addressed the event, highlighting historical linkages between China and Pakistan. He noted that people-to-people connections as well as cultural, educational and heritage exchanges are consistently increasing between the two countries. Zhang expressed hope that further cooperation under

the CPEC would strengthen relations between China and Pakistan, and improve the livelihood of people in both countries. Yousaf Ayub Khan, president of the Pak-China Friendship Association Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, emphasized the importance of bilateral relations and expressed optimism for more meaningful engagements while learning from China's experience in various fields. Launched in 2013, the CPEC 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 the new phase expands to the fields of agriculture and livelihood.

https://english.news.cn/asiapacific/20240529/8ea56e876a8749c3945bbcdc386e4331/c.html

May 30, 2024

Global Times

China delivers advanced communication satellite to Pakistan following successful launch

China successfully launched a Pakistani communication satellite, codenamed PakSat MM1, on Thursday via a Long March 3B carrier rocket from the Xichang Satellite Launch Center in Southwest China's Sichuan Province. Mission insiders hailed the feat as a landmark in technological cooperation between the two countries. They expect the successful deployment of the satellite to significantly boost Pakistan's comprehensive social and economic development, ensure the security of its communications, and enhance its aerospace technology and industrial capabilities. Additionally, the satellite's launch is anticipated to play a major role in advancing and promoting China's foreign strategies, such as the China-proposed Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and the accelerated construction of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), they said. This satellite project is a milestone in cooperation between China and Pakistan and is expected to revolutionize communication in the country and serve as a giant leap toward a digitally connected Pakistan. The Pakistan Space and Upper Atmosphere Research Commission, or the SUPARCO told the Global Times that “this high-power multi-mission satellite will provide communication services in C, Ku, Ka Bands and SBAS services in L Band. Based on advanced communication technologies, PakSat-MM1 will play a pivotal role in the socio-economic uplift of the country. It will prove to be a stepping stone in the transformation of the country into Digital Pakistan.” “It will provide various communication services like broadband internet, and TV broadcasting,” according to Project Manager MM-1, SUPARCO, Usman Iftikhar. He said that the primary objective behind the PAKSAT MM-1 satellite is to strengthen Pakistan’s communication infrastructure, which would pave the way for broadening the horizons for connectivity, serving the unserved, Tele-education, E-health/Tele-medicine, E-governance and E-commerce while transforming Pakistan into a digital powerhouse. Both Pakistan and India are influential South Asian countries. India has long received support from the US and Russia, leading to a long-standing advantage over Pakistan in the aerospace field. The PakSat-MM1 project will contribute to the balanced development of space capabilities in the South Asian region and foster long-term cooperation in the aerospace field between China

and Pakistan, according to the contractor of the China-Pakistan satellite project, the China Great Wall Industry Corporation (CGWIC,) a subsidiary of the state-owned space giant China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation (CASC). As a milestone in China-Pakistan space cooperation, the MM1 project is the third whole-satellite project between CGWIC and Pakistan, following the Paksat-1R and PRSS-1, according to the CGWIC. The CGWIC provided Pakistan with satellite systems, launch services, ground monitoring and control stations, ground application systems, joint satellite development, technical personnel training, concessional loans for foreign aid, and insurance arrangements. This turnkey project showcases CGWIC as the main international platform for China's aerospace cooperation. Through joint development, the Chinese firm will train a large number of management and technical personnel with experience in satellite research and manufacturing for Pakistan, establishing a talent pool for Pakistan's independent space development capabilities. According to the CGWIC, the MM1 project also marked the first international satellite project to adopt BeiDou standards, with BeiDou as the primary augmentation target, achieving the implementation of high-precision BeiDou satellite navigation services. Existing international satellite-based augmentation systems, such as the US' WAAS, Europe's EGNOS and GALILEO's HAS services, all primarily augment the US' GPS and use GPS spatiotemporal benchmarks. In contrast, the MM1 satellite-based navigation augmentation system is the world's first to adopt the BeiDou spatiotemporal benchmark and to primarily augment the BeiDou system. It also specifically enhances the B2b signal format of BeiDou, broadcasting augmentation service information and providing high-precision positioning services according to CGWIC experts on Thursday. This marks the first standard output at the system level for the BeiDou satellite navigation system and is a significant milestone in the international development of BeiDou, holding important implications for the international promotion of the BeiDou system, they said.

https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202405/1313341.shtml

People Daily News

CPEC improves infrastructure, creates jobs, addresses energy shortage in Pakistan's NW province: official

The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) has significantly improved infrastructure, addressed energy shortage and created jobs over the past 11 years in Pakistan's northwest Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, according to provincial Minister for Local Government and Rural Development Arshad Ayub Khan. The official underscored the CPEC's vital role in the province's progress through multiple projects, including highways and energy production initiatives. He emphasized the enduring significance of the Pak-China friendship and the necessity of enhancing cooperation in trade, business, industries, mining, people-to-people relations, and cultural and educational exchanges. "The CPEC, the flagship project of the Belt and Road Initiative, has been proven a game-changer for Pakistan's economy. With enhanced cooperation, we will witness significant development across various sectors in the future," the official added. Cultural Counselor of the Chinese Embassy in Pakistan Zhang Heqing also addressed the event, highlighting historical linkages between China and Pakistan. He noted that people-to-people connections as well as cultural, educational and heritage exchanges are

consistently increasing between the two countries. Zhang expressed hope that further cooperation under the CPEC would strengthen relations between China and Pakistan, and improve the livelihood of people in both countries. Yousaf Ayub Khan, president of the Pak-China Friendship Association Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, emphasized the importance of bilateral relations and expressed optimism for more meaningful engagements while learning from China's experience in various fields. Launched in 2013, the CPEC 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 the new phase expands to the fields of agriculture and livelihood.

http://en.people.cn/n3/2024/0530/c90000-20176033.html

May 31, 2024

China Daily

China puts Pakistani satellite into orbit

China launched a multi-functional communication satellite for Pakistan on Thursday night from the Xichang Satellite Launch Center in the southwestern Chinese province of Sichuan, according to China Aerospace Science and Technology Corp (CASC), the nation's leading space contractor. Carrying the Pakistani satellite called PakSat MM1, a Long March 3B rocket lifted off at 8:12 pm at the launch complex and soon placed the satellite into a geosynchronous orbit, the State-owned conglomerate said in a news release. Designed and built by the China Academy of Space Technology, a CASC subsidiary in Beijing, the PakSat MM1 has a DFH-4 enhanced communication satellite structure and a designed life of about 15 years. The spacecraft has a liftoff weight of 5.4 metric tons, and is equipped with nine antennas and 48 transponders in C, Ku, Ka, and L bands. It can provide various services such as broadcasting, regional enhanced communications, and high-throughput broadband internet services. It will cover Pakistan, parts of the Indian Ocean, the Middle East, East Africa, as well as some parts of Europe, according to China Great Wall Industry, CASC's international trade arm that arranged the launch. After in-orbit tests, it will be delivered to Pakistan Space and Upper Atmosphere Research Commission and will provide high-quality transponders and broadband access resources for Pakistanis and numerous users in the region, and significantly enhance satellite communications capacity of Pakistan, China Great Wall Industry said in a statement. The Long March 3B model, developed by the China Academy of Launch Vehicle Technology, also a CASC subsidiary, is one of China most used rocket types and features good operational record. Thursday's launch marked the 96th flight of the Long March 3B and the 524th mission of the Long March family.

https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202405/31/WS66592079a31082fc043ca21c.html

Pakistani PM upcoming visit will set blueprint for bilateral ties

The upcoming official visit by Pakistani Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif from Tuesday to June 8 will see leaders of the two countries chart the future blueprint for bilateral ties, Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Mao Ning said on Friday. This is the first visit of the prime minister to China since the new cabinet of Pakistan took office this year. During his visit to China, leaders of the two countries will embark on in-depth exchange of views on bilateral ties and issues of common concerns, Mao said at a daily news conference. In addition to Beijing, the prime minister will also visit Guangdong and Shaanxi province. Mao said China and Pakistan are all-weather strategic partners and iron-clad friends, and the friendship between the two countries has survived the test of the changing times and is as solid as a rock and as stable as Mount Taishan. "Under the leadership of the two leaders, China and Pakistan have rolled out close high-level exchanges in recent years and bilateral practical cooperation has been steadily advancing," she said. Also, the two countries have achieved fruitful results in the high-quality construction of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, and both sides have maintained good communication and coordination in international and regional affairs, she added. China looks forward to taking this visit as an opportunity to jointly promote greater development of the China-Pakistan all-weather strategic cooperative partnership and take new strides to build a closer China-Pakistan community with a shared future in the new era, she said.

https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202405/31/WS66597fb7a31082fc043ca457.html

People Daily News

China launches communication satellite for Pakistan

China successfully launched a multi-mission communication satellite for Pakistan using a Long March-3B rocket, with the launch taking place at the Xichang Satellite Launch Center in the southwestern province of Sichuan, at 8:12 p.m. Thursday. The satellite has entered its planned orbit. The launch was the 524th mission of the Long March rocket series. A Long March-3B rocket carrying a multi-mission communication satellite for Pakistan blasts off from the Xichang Satellite Launch Center in southwest China's Sichuan Province, May 30, 2024. The satellite has entered its planned orbit. (Photo by Liu Yanan/Xinhua) A Long March-3B rocket carrying a multi-mission communication satellite for Pakistan blasts off from the Xichang Satellite Launch Center in southwest China's Sichuan Province, May 30, 2024. The satellite has entered its planned orbit.

http://en.people.cn/n3/2024/0531/c90000-20176306.html

Xinhua Net

Pakistan to collaborate with China to spur green transition, say Pakistani experts

Pakistani officials and experts are of the view that the country needs to collaborate with China under the framework of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) to expedite green transition, promoting low-carbon development and countering adverse impacts of climate change.

China's technologies and low-cost products in fields like new energy have become a driving force for global energy transition, helping countries to achieve carbon neutrality and reduce carbon footprints, the experts said while addressing a seminar on the greening of CPEC organized by the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), an Islamabad-based think tank. Speaking on the occasion, Abid Qaiyum Suleri, executive director of the SDPI, said that under the new phase of CPEC, Pakistan would focus on replacing conventional methods of production and businesses to offset carbon emissions. "Green metals are important components, including lithium, nickel, and others, as these metals help in the development of electric vehicle batteries. Pakistan and China can work together to explore green metals under CPEC," he said. Commenting on the increased tariff on China's green energy transition technology from the United States, Suleri said that the competing nations are increasing tariffs on China's green products to protect their local manufacturers, highlighting that it could have implications for the world. "On the one hand, countries around the globe are making efforts for carbon reduction to counter the climate change crisis, while on the other hand, more taxes are being levied. That's exactly the opposite, it can hamper global efforts towards low-carbon and climate-resilient pathways," he added.

Suleri also stressed upon promoting green diplomacy for borderless promotion of green technologies and transfer of technology. During the first phase of CPEC, China invested billions of dollars in Pakistan's energy sector including coal, renewable and hydropower projects, said Shah Jahan Mirza, a senior official of the Ministry of Energy. Pakistan would develop numerous renewable energy projects in the next phase, he said. Muhammad Badar Alam, chief executive officer of the Policy Research Institute for Equitable Development, a Pakistani think tank working for climate justice and clean energy, said that Pakistan has been facing a serious economic, environmental, and financial crisis, and CPEC will help Pakistan in addressing concerns through its environment-friendly and sustainable initiatives. Launched in 2013, the CPEC, a flagship project of the China-proposed Belt and Road Initiative, is a corridor linking 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 the new phase expands to the fields of agriculture and livelihood.

https://english.news.cn/20240531/5ec4f1b92965410095a10d31983e7fa1/c.html