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China-Pakistan and CPEC

Gleanings from the National & Chinese Press

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June 01, 2024

Business Recorder

'China is ready to collaborate with all S. Asian countries to build a future of development and prosperity'

China is dedicated to assisting Pakistan in enhancing its manufacturing sector and export capabilities, this was stated by Economic Counsellor of China to Pakistan Yang Guangyuan in Islamabad during China-South Asia Business Council Exchange Symposium held at a local hotel in 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. "Pakistan offers substantial investment opportunities across various sectors, including agriculture, energy, services, industries, and technology," stated Tola. "The growing confidence of the investor community is evident from the record-breaking performances in Pakistan's stock market, reflecting the positive trajectory of our economic policies. I warmly invite Chinese enterprises and digital cooperation manufacturers to collaborate with us on energy management systems, digital economy, and green energy transition plans, he added. Dr Erfa Iqbal, Additional Secretary, BOI, Pakistan while addressing the symposium emphasized the urgency of bridging the existing gaps. "With CPEC entering its second phase, it's critical to accelerate our progress. The current challenge lies in the lack of industrialization in Pakistan. We need comprehensive proposals and B2B events from both the government and the private sector to achieve tangible results." Qurat Ul Ain, Vice President, FPCCI, elaborated on the critical role of industries cooperation in this context. "China, as a leading advocate for green development, has made significant strides in renewable energy, promoting circular economy practices, and investing in eco-friendly technologies," she stated.

https://epaper.brecorder.com/2024/06/01/5-page/994479-news.html

Dunya News

PM Shehbaz to embark on China visit seeking investment next week

ISLAMABAD (Web Desk) - Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif will leave for China on a five-day official visit next week on the invitation of Chinese leadership. According to foreign office, the prime minister will meet President Xi Jinping and hold delegation level talks with Premier Li Qiang in Beijing. The two sides will undertake discussions to further strengthen the all-weather strategic cooperative partnership, upgrade CPEC, advance trade and investment, enhance cooperation in security and defense, energy, space, science and technology. The prime minister will also hold meetings with the Chairman of standing committee of the National People's Congress and heads of key government departments. The foreign office spokesperson said an important aspect of the prime minister's visit will be meeting with the corporate executives of leading Chinese companies dealing in oil and gas, energy, ICT and emerging technologies. In the Chinese city Shenzhen, the prime minister will address Pakistan-China Business Forum. He will also visit economic and agriculture zones in China. According to foreign office, the prime minister's visit is a manifestation of the iron clad China-Pakistan friendship characterized by frequent high level exchanges and dialogue. Earlier, the prime minister directed the authorities concerned to prepare an action plan to encourage the Chinese companies to set up industries in Pakistan. Chairing a meeting in Islamabad on Friday regarding his upcoming China visit, he assured that Pakistan will provide all possible facilities to Chinese industrialists and investors. The prime minister directed to formulate a comprehensive plan regarding productive business-to-business meetings between the two countries during his visit to China. A detailed briefing was given to prime minister regarding the preparations for his visit to China. A delegation of industrialists, investors and entrepreneurs from Pakistan will also accompany Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif during his visit to Chinese city Shenzhen. It was informed that the delegation will meet the Chinese business community and discuss the promotion of business-to-business relations between the two countries. The prime minister directed Pakistani ambassador in China to provide all possible facilities to the Pakistani business delegation in China.

https://dunyanews.tv/en/Pakistan/815512-PM-Shehbaz-to-embark-on-China-visit-seeking-investment-next-week

Pakistan Observer

Beijing awaits PM Shehbaz's visit for enhanced joint development: Mao Ning

BEIJING – The Chinese Foreign Ministry said that Beijing looked forward to the visit of Pakistan's Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, considering it as an opportunity to promote greater joint development. At her regular briefing in Beijing on Saturday, Spokesperson Mao Ning said the visit would boost the China-Pakistan all-weather strategic partnership. Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif will pay an official visit of China from June Tuesday to Saturday on the invitation of Chinese Premier Li Qiang. This is his first visit to China after the establishment of the new government this year.

https://pakobserver.net/beijing-awaits-pm-shehbazs-visit-for-enhanced-joint-development-mao-ning/

Pakistan thanks China launching Pak Sat MM-1

Pakistan's authorities thanked China for successfully launching a multi-mission communication satellite for Pakistan using a Long March-3B rocket. The launch occurred at the Xichang Satellite Launch Center in the southwestern province of Sichuan on Thursday. Deputy Prime Minister of Pakistan Mohammad Ishaq Dar, said that his heartiest congratulations to the nation on the successful launch of the Pakistan Multi-Mission Communication Satellite (PakSat-MM1). He further said that 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," he said. "I extend my heartiest congratulations to the people of Pakistan and commend the entire team at Pakistan Space & Upper Atmosphere Research Commission (SUPARCO) for their tireless efforts", he added.

https://pakobserver.net/pakistan-thanks-china-launching-pak-sat-mm-1/

The Express Tribune

Pakistani companies shine at SIAL Shanghai

Nine leading Pakistani companies specialising in logistics, rice mills, frozen meals, and a wide array of fruits, juices, pink salt products, candies, snacks, and dried fruits made a strong presence at the 2024 Salon International De L'Alimentation (SIAL) in Shanghai. The exhibition, held from May 28 to 30, attracted over 5,000 exhibitors from 75 countries and regions, showcasing more than 350,000 innovative and unique food and beverage products from around the world. The Pakistani contingent's participation highlighted the country's rich agricultural heritage and growing capabilities in food processing and logistics. One standout company was the National Logistics Corporation, represented by Director Plans Muhammad Yousaf. "With our robust network, we can ensure efficient and timely delivery of products from Pakistan to China and beyond," he said. In the rice sector, Kumar Kewlani, representing a rice mill, said, "We have been exporting rice to China since the market opened up, with shipments of thousands of tonnes monthly. Exhibiting here is a great way to showcase the unique qualities of Pakistani rice."

https://tribune.com.pk/story/2469255/pakistani-companies-shine-at-sial-shanghai

Express News

4 سے 8 جون تک شہباز شریف صدر شی جن پنگ وزیر اعظم لی کیانگ کارپوریٹ ایگزیکٹوز سے ملیں گے، چینی وزارت خارجہ

وزیر اعظم کی زیر صدارت اہم اجلاس دورہ کیلئے وزارتوں کی تیاریوں کا جائزہ، چایی سرمایہ کاروں کو تمام سہولیات دینے کی ہدایت

اسلام آباد (کامران یوسف اثر چیون رپورٹ نمائندہ خصوصی ، ایکسپریس رپورٹر کو میرا عظم محمد شہباز شریف عوامی جمہوریہ چین کے صدر شی جن پنگ اور وزیر اعظم لی کیا تک کی دعوت پر 4 سے 8 جون تک چین کا سر کاری دورہ کریں گے ۔ وزیر اعظم کے دورہ چین کے تمام انتظامات کو حتمی شکل دیدی گئی ہے ، وزراء سمیت 110 رکنی تجارتی و سرمایہ کاری وفد بھی وزیر اعظم کے ہمراہ چین جائیگا۔ وزیر اعظم آفس نے پی آئی سے انتظامیہ کو دورہ چین کیلئے

چارٹرڈ جہاز تیار کرنے کا حکم دیدیا ہے ۔ پی آئی اے انتظامیہ نے وزیر اعظم آفس کو ایئر بس اے 320 کی دستیابی سے آگاہ کر دیا ہے جبکہ جہاز کے تمام اخراجات وزیر اعظم آفس کی جانب سے ادا کیے جائینگے ۔ چارٹرڈ فلائٹ اسلام آباد سے شینزن کیلئے 4 جون کو اڑان بھرے گا جبکہ وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف کے چین میں قیام کے دوران چارٹرڈ جہاز 4 روز تک شینزن میں ہی رکے گا۔ دفتر خارجہ کے مطابق وزیر اعظم بیجنگ کے علاوہ عیان اور شینزن شہروں کا بھی دورہ کریں گے۔ بیجنگ میں قیام کے دوران وزیر اعظم صدرشی جن پنگ سے ملاقات اور وزیر اعظم لی کیانگ کے ساتھ وفود کی سطح پر بات چیت کریں گے۔ وہ نیشنل پیپلز کانگریس کی سٹینڈنگ کمیٹی کے چیئرمین نژاؤ بیچی اور اہم سرکاری محکموں کے سربراہان سے بھی ملاقاتیں کریں گے۔ وزیر اعظم کے دورے کا ایک اہم پہلو تیل و گیس، توانائی ، آئی سی ٹی اور ابھرتی ہوئی ٹیکنالوجیز کی سرکردہ چینی کمپنیوں کے کارپوریٹ ایگزیکٹوز سے ملاقاتیں ہوں گی۔ وزیر اعظم شینزن میں دونوں ممالک کے سرکردہ تاجروں ، کاروباری شخصیات اور سرمایہ کاروں کے ساتھ ساتھ چانکا پاکستان بزنس فورم ب کریں گے ۔ وہ چین میں اقتصادی اور زرعی زونز کا بھی دورہ کریں گے ۔ دورہ کے دوران فریقین بک کو آپریٹو پارٹنر شپ پر بات چیت کریں گے ۔ فریقین چین پاکستان اقتصادی راہداری کو اپ گریڈ کرنے ، تجارت اور سرمایہ کاری کو آگے بڑھانے، سلامتی اور دفاع. توانائی، سپیس، سائنس اور ٹیکنالوجی اور تعلیم میں تعاون کو بڑھانے سمیت ثقافتی تعاون اور عوام کے درمیان رابطوں کو فروغ دے کر پاک چین دوستی کی مستقبل کی سمت طے کر کے مزید مضبوط بنانے کے لئے بات چیت کریں گے ۔ دریں اثنا چینی وزارت خارجہ نے وزیر اعظم محمد شہباز شریف کے دورہ پر پاکستان چین دوستی کو ماؤنٹ تائی سے تشبیہ دیتے ہوئے اسے انتہائی مضبوط اور مستحکم قرار دیا ہے۔ ماؤنٹ تائی چین کے پانچ مقدس پہاڑوں میں سے ایک ہے اور اسے چین کے مذہب میں ایک کلیدی اہمیت حاصل ہے۔ ماؤنٹ تائی چین کے صوبہ شاندونگ کا سب سے اونچا مقام ہے۔ چین کی وزارت خارجہ نے کہا کہ وہ پاکستان کے وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف کے دورہ چین کے بے تابی سے منتظر ہیں اور اسے زیادہ سے زیادہ مشترکہ ترقی کو فروغ دینے کے لئے ایک موقع کے طور پر دیکھتے ہیں۔ چینی وزارت خارجہ کی ترجمان ما تنک نے جمعہ کو دارالحکومت بیجنگ میں اپنی مع معمول کی پریٹنگ کے دوران کہا کہ یہ دورہ چین پاکستان سدا بہار سٹریجک شراکت داری کو فروغ دے گا اور نئے دور میں مشتر کہ مقدر رکھنے والی قریبی کمیونٹی کی تعمیر کرے گا۔ وفاقی وزیر اطلاعات و نشریات عطا اللہ تارڑ نے جمعہ کو کامی را پہلے کے پلیٹ فارم ایکس پر اپنے بیان میں کہا ہے کہ وزیر اعظم نے صبح 7 بجے دورہ چین کے حوالے سے اجلاس منعقد کیا۔ اجلاس میں اس اہم دورے کے حوالے سے مختلف وزارتوں کی تیاری کا جائزہ لیا گیا۔ وزیراً اعظم نے دورہ چین کے دوران نتیجہ خیز بزنس ٹو بزنس ملاقاتوں کے حوالے سے جامع پلان ترتیب دینے اور چینی انڈسٹری کو پاکستان میں صنعتیں لگانے کی ترغیب دینے کے حوالے سے لائحہ عمل بنانے کی ہدایت کی۔ وزیر اعظم نے کہا کہ حکومت چینی صنعت کاروں اور سرمایہ کاروں کو ہر ممکن سہولیات فراہم کرے گی۔ اجلاس میں نائب وزیر اعظم و وزیر خارجہ اسحاق ڈار ، وفاقی وزیر تجارت جام کمال خان ، وفاقی وزیر اقتصادی امور احد خان چیمہ ، وفاقی وزیر صنعت و پیداوار رانا تنویر حسین، وفاقی وزیر اطلاعات و نشریات عطا اللہ تارڑ ، وفاقی وزیر پٹرولیم مصدق ملک ، وفاقی وزیر نجکاری عبد العلیم خان ، وزیر مملکت برائے انفارمیشن ٹیکنالوجی و ٹیلی کام شزا فاطمہ ، وزیر اعظم کے معاون خصوصی طارق فاطمی ، وزیر اعظم کے کو آرڈینیٹر رانا احسان افضل ، ڈپٹی چیئر مین پلاننگ کمیشن جہانزیب خان اور اعلی سرکاری افسران نے شرکت کی۔ وفاقی وزیر منصوبہ بندی احسن اقبال اور چین میں تعینات پاکستان کے سفیر اجلاس میں بذریعہ وڈیو لنک شریک ہوئے۔ وزیر اعظم نے چین میں تعینات پاکستانی سفیر کو پاکستانی کاروباری وفد کو چین میں ہر ممکن سہولیات فراہم کرنے کی بھی ہدایت کی۔

https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1111010961&Issue=NP_LHE&Date=20240601

Jang News

پاکستان سے دوستی "ماؤنٹ تائی" کی طرح مستحکم ہے، چینی وزارت خارجہ

ترجمان چینی وزارت خارجہ نے پاکستان چین دوستی کو ماؤنٹ تائی سے تشبیہ دیتے ہوئے اسے انتہائی مضبوط اور مستحکم قرار دیا ہے۔ جمعہ کو چینی دفتر خارجہ نے وزیراعظم محمد شہباز شریف کے دورہ چین سے متعلق اہم بیان جاری کیا ہے۔

https://e.jang.com.pk/detail/695293

K2 Daily



چین نے پاکستان سے دوستی کو مقدس پہاڑ سے تشبیہ دیدی، وزیراعظم 4 جون سے دورہ کریں گے

بیجنگ (مانیٹرنگ ڈیسک) چین کی وزارت خارجہ نے کہا ہے کہ (باقی صفحہ 7 بقیہ نمبر 21)

بقیہ 21

وزیراعظم لی کیانگ کی دعوت پر وزیراعظم شہباز شریف 4 سے 8 جون تک دورہ کریں گے اور

ہماری دوستی وقت کی کسوٹی پر کھڑی رہی ہے۔ چین کی وزارت خارجہ کی ترجمان نے بیان میں پاک۔چین دوستی کو ماؤنٹ تائی سے تشبیہ دیتے ہوئے اسے انتہائی مضبوط اور مستحکم قرار دیا اور کہا کہ وزیراعظم شہباز شریف 4 سے 8 جون تک چین کا دورہ کریں گے۔ ماؤنٹ تائی چین کے پانچ مقدس پہاڑوں میں سے ایک ہے اور اسے چین کے مذہب میں ایک کلیدی اہمیت حاصل ہے، ماؤنٹ تائی چین کے صوبہ شانڈونگ کا سب سے اونچا مقام ہے۔ چینی وزارت خارجہ کی ترجمان کے مطابق نے وزیراعظم کے مطابق اسلامی جمہوریہ پاکستان کے وزیراعظم شہباز شریف چینی وزیراعظم لی کیانگ کی دعوت پر 4 سے 8 جون 2024 تک عوامی جمہوریہ چین کا دورہ کریں گے۔ بیان میں کہا گیا ہے کہ پاکستان میں موجودہ حکومت کے قیام کے بعد وزیراعظم شہباز شریف کا یہ پہلا دورہ چین ہوگا اور وہ اپنے دورے میں صدر شی جن پنگ، وزیراعظم لی کیانگ اور نیشنل پیپلز کانگریس کی اسٹینڈنگ کمیٹی کے چیئرمین ژاؤ لیجی سے ملاقات کریں گے۔ دونوں ممالک کے رہنما پاک۔چین تعلقات اور باہمی دلچسپی کے امور پر تبادلہ خیال کریں گے اور دوطرفہ تعلقات کے فروغ کے لیے مشترکہ طور پر لائحہ عمل تیار کریں گے۔ وزیراعظم شہباز شریف دارالحکومت بیجنگ کے علاوہ چینی صوبوں گوانگ ڈونگ اور شانزی کا بھی دورہ کریں گے۔ چینی دفتر خارجہ کی ترجمان نے کہا کہ چین اور پاکستان کی دوستی طویل مدتی اسٹرٹیجک تعاون پر مبنی ہے، دونوں ممالک اہم شراکت دار اور مضبوط دوست ہیں۔ بیان میں کہا گیا کہ ہماری دوستی وقت کی کسوٹی پر کھڑی رہی ہے اور ماؤنٹ تائی کی طرح مستحکم ہے۔

https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=Baqia&Date=2024-06-01

https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Date=2024-06-01

June 02, 2024

Business Recorder

Power generation component of DBDP

PM likely to seek Chinese investment

MUSHTAQ GHUMMAN

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif is likely to seek Chinese investment in power generation component of 4,500 MW Diamer Bhasha Dam Project (DBDP) as borrowing capacity from the international capital and financial market is constrained due to sovereign credit rating and economic vulnerabilities amidst ongoing challenges posed by increasing external financing needs, sources close to Chairman WAPDA told Business Recorder. Sharing the details, sources said DBDP is a multipurpose project with an installed capacity of 4,500 MW, a gross storage capacity of 8.1 MAF. Project will generate 18.1 billion units per annum (additional 2.5 billion units in existing downstream projects). This is a critical project to restore energy sector viability and reduce carbon foot print in the current energy mix. The project assumes multifarious advantages because of its large water storage capacity that can mitigate Pakistan's water scarcity problems and help in augmenting irrigation water supplies for the Indus plain and safeguard food security of Pakistan, while driving the development of allied industry and other sectors and promoting the economic and social development of Pakistan. The entire Project comprises of three components namely, dam, power generation and LA&R (land Acquisition & Resettlement). The PC-1 for the dam part was approved by ECNEC in November 2018 and is now in implementation phase, while the 2nd revised PC-I for LA&R was approved in April 2021 at the cost of Rs 175 billion. The PC-1 for the power generation facilities was approved by ECNEC in April 2023 at a total cost of Rs 1.424.36 trillion A major challenge for timely implementation of the Project is the financing cost and efforts have been ongoing to find an anchor financier. With the support of the EAD, WAPDA has reached out to various Multilateral Development Banks' (MDBs) including SFD, ISDB, ADB and AIIB but a breakthrough is awaited. "The overall foreign exchange needs of the project are $ 4.0 billion, out of which, WAPDA has raised $ 500 million through a Green Eurobond issuance for meeting the initial forex requirements. However, the borrowing capacity from the international capital and financial market is constrained due to sovereign credit rating and economic vulnerabilities amidst ongoing challenges posed by increasing external financing needs, "the sources quoted Chairman WAPDA, Lt. Gen Engineer Sajjad Ghani(retired) as saying, in his communication with concerned quarters. Additionally, WAPDA is pursuing avenues for financing DBDP through following two options: (i) partial divestment of WAPDA equity shareholding in Ghazi Barotha Hydropower Project. In this case, an MoU was signed between GOP and Kuwait Investment Authority (KIA) for executing the process through KIA's subsidiary Enertech. WAPDA is in the process of hiring sell-side Transaction Advisor' and would start engagement with Enertech after their onboarding; and (ii) an investment/debt arrangement with KSA wherein WAPDA will earmark a slice of its revenue to a financing vehicle created for this purpose which will be paid out to the foreign investor and would essentially cover the expected Return on Equity

(RoE) as well as the redemption of the investment. The debt portion is being sought through the Saudi Fund for Development (SFD). During the preparatory meeting for the upcoming visit to China, the Prime Minister has directed that Diamer Bhasha Dam Project (DBDP) be considered for inclusion into CPEC portfolio. In this regard, WAPDA has recommended that the 'Power Generation Component' of the DBD Project be pitched as a big-ticket project with the Chinese Government and a' Framework Agreement for review of feasibility study of the Power Generation Component' be agreed during this visit. The sources said, WAPDA has requested consideration of its proposal in 13 Joint Task Cooperation Committee as it was discussed in the preparatory meeting for the committee held on May 21 2024 under the chairmanship of Federal Minister for PD&SI.

https://epaper.brecorder.com/2024/06/02/1-page/994513-news.html

Daily Times

Pakistan, China sign MoU to help invest in key projects for promotion of industrial cooperation

The National Bank of Pakistan (NBP) has agreed to partner with China-Pakistan International Silk Road Industry Investment Management Company Limited by signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to facilitate investment in key projects for promotion of industrial cooperation between China and Pakistan and supporting the establishment of special economic zones and other sectors of economy and bilateral trade. Economic Minister, Aslam Chaudhary, Liu Jiang Hua from China-Pakistan International Silk Road Industry Investment Management Company Limited, Representatives from Dan Zhou Government, Hai Nan Province, Zhang Yu Bo, MCC & Bank of Tianjin witnessed the signing ceremony held at Pakistan Embassy here on Saturday. The event was also joined virtually by Riaz Hussain, SEVP and Group Chief, International, Financial Institutions and Remittances Group and Hasan Jamal, SVP, Investment Banking Group National Bank of Pakistan, Head Office, Karachi. Addressing the participants on occasion, Aslam Chaudhary briefed them about the incentives offered by the present government to attract the foreign investment especially from China. He informed that special economic zones are being established across Pakistan where the Chinese enterprises could relocate their industry and export products to different countries taking advantage of preferential agreements signed by Pakistan with various countries. The Economic Minister said that Pakistan having a population of over 225 million is itself a big market and the Chinese companies could benefit from it. He said that the government is focusing the industrialization in the second phase of China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and offering opportunities in various sectors. He invited the Chinese entrepreneurs to come to Pakistan and avail facilities and incentives for setting up their industrial units. Aslam Chaudhary opined that the MoU would help the Chinese companies for investment in different projects and promote industrial cooperation between the two countries. Speaking on the occasion, Chief Representative of NBP, Sheikh Muhammad Shariq told the audience that the National Bank of Pakistan is the largest and state-owned bank and amongst the Domestic Systematic Important Bank from Pakistan, operating with 18 overseas branches located in South Asia, Central Asia, Middle East, Western Europe and North America. He said that NBP is amongst the major lender to the projects under China-Pakistan Economic Corridor

(CPEC) and handling large portion of bilateral trade between China and Pakistan. We also maintain the largest portfolio of Corporate and Investment Banking in Pakistan, he added. Sheikh Shariq said that the MoU represents a commitment to fostering stronger ties, enhancing financial cooperation, and exploring new opportunities for growth and innovation. This would also help that NBP will open and operational branch in China to further facilitate bilateral trade and through this partnership, the bank aims to leverage its collective expertise and resources to develop cutting-edge financial solutions, support sustainable economic development, and better serve the two communities, he added. Honorary Investment Counselor, Board of Investment (BoI), Pakistan, Philip Jian Peng welcomed the distinguished guests and thanked them for their support as the two sides embark on exciting new chapter. Senior officials, a large number of the representatives of various Chinese companies were present.

https://dailytimes.com.pk/1197291/pakistan-china-sign-mou-to-help-invest-in-key-projects-for-promotion-of-industrial-cooperation/#google_vignette

Dawn News

Pakistan, China sign agreement to facilitate investment in key projects

BEIJING: The National Bank of Pakistan (NBP) and China-Pakistan International Silk Road Industry Investment Management Company Ltd have signed a MoU to facilitate investment in key projects, promote industrial cooperation, support the establishment of special economic zones (SEZs) and boost bilateral trade. Economic Minister Aslam Chaudhary, Liu Jiang Hua from China-Pakistan International Silk Road Industry Investment Management Company Limited, representatives from Dan Zhou Government, Hai Nan Province, Zhang Yu Bo, and MCC & Bank of Tianjin witnessed the signing ceremony held at Pakistan Embassy on Saturday. The event was joined virtually by Riaz Hussain, SEVP and Group Chief, International, Financial Institutions and Remittances Group and Hasan Jamal, SVP, Investment Banking Group National Bank of Pakistan, Head Office, and Karachi. Mr. Chaudhary briefed the participants on the government incentives offered to attract foreign investment, especially from China. He said SEZs are being established across Pakistan where Chinese enterprises could relocate their industry and export products to different countries, taking advantage of preferential agreements signed by Pakistan with various countries. The minister said that Pakistan, with a population of over 225 million, is itself a big market, and Chinese companies could benefit from it. He said the government is focusing on industrialization in the second phase of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and offering opportunities in various sectors. He invited Chinese entrepreneurs to come to Pakistan and take advantage of facilities and incentives for setting up their industrial units. Aslam Chaudhary opined that the MoU would help the Chinese companies invest in different projects and promote industrial cooperation between the two countries. Sheikh Muhammad Shariq told the audience that NBP is the largest and state-owned bank and amongst the domestic systematic important bank from Pakistan, operating with 18 overseas branches located in South Asia, Central Asia, Middle East, Western Europe and North America. He said that NBP is amongst the major lender to the projects under CPEC and handling large portion of bilateral trade between China and Pakistan. “We also maintain the largest portfolio

of corporate and investment banking in Pakistan, he added. Mr Shariq said that the MoU represents a commitment to fostering stronger ties, enhancing financial cooperation, and exploring new opportunities for growth and innovation. This would also help that NBP will open an operational branch in China to further facilitate bilateral trade. Through this partnership, the bank aims to leverage its collective expertise and resources to develop cutting-edge financial solutions, support sustainable economic development, and better serve the two communities, he added.

https://www.dawn.com/news/1837180/pakistan-china-sign-agreement-to-facilitate-investment-in-key-projects

DEVELOPMENT: WHAT THE CHINESE ARE SAYING ABOUT CPEC

Dr Muhammad Ali Shaikh

Pakistan and China formally established their diplomatic relations on May 21, 1951. For almost half a century, their primary focus remained mostly on strategic cooperation, evolving into 'higher than the Himalayas and deeper than the oceans' friendship, but devoid of significant economic partnerships. Even in 1999, the bilateral trade volume accounted for just 0.27 percent of China's total trade. The shift from the strategic friendship to economic partnership came during the early years of the present century, when both the countries developed an interest in the development of Gwadar as a deep-seaport and connecting it with China through land routes. This strategic-cum-economic initiative was designated as the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and brought under the umbrella of China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). Under the CPEC, China invested billions of dollars in Pakistan in various sectors, from energy generation to construction of roads, highways and rail networks. This heavy investment in Pakistan on the part of China invoked Chinese scholars and academics' interest in Pakistan, resulting in a huge surge of research literature on various aspects related to Pakistan. A lot has been said and written in Pakistan about the China Pakistan Economic Corridor and its transformative potential. But how do Chinese academics and scholars see it and the challenges they see in its implementation? However, as most of the research literature was in Mandarin, and confined to China's exclusive academic networks, only a limited number of people could access it. Recently, some of the important articles written about CPEC by Chinese scholars were translated into English. The present article is based on these translated articles. A disclaimer is also in order here that the views quoted or referred to in this article do not necessarily represent the entire Chinese academic and research community.

Pakistan's Expectations

One of the Chinese scholars' major concerns has been Pakistan's exaggerated and unrealistic expectations of CPEC, which they fear would be harmful for Pakistan and China relations in the long run. Professor Xuemei Qian of China's prestigious Peking University highlighted the vast difference in understanding about CPEC among Pakistani and Chinese people, stating, "Pakistani people… believe it [CPEC] is their hope to change their lives", while for China, it is "just a project of the BRI. Qian writes that many Pakistanis regard CPEC a "game-changer" and even a "fate-changer", expecting that, when completed, CPEC would bring

fundamental changes to their lives. "However, whether CPEC can really change Pakistan, or to what extent can it change, is a question that can only be answered when it is completed," she states. At the moment she said she was more concerned "whether CPEC can be implemented successfully." Qian also disputes the oft-quoted financial size of CPEC, amounting to $46 billion, stating that the figure was self-projected, and based on rough estimates of individual CPEC projects, calculated privately by some individuals. She is of the view that this unauthentic figure was "translated by Pakistani media as well as the politicians" into the financial size of the project under their own motives, without any input or commitment on the part of the Chinese government. "The developers from Punjab and Sindh, who had made a fortune from trading land in Balochistan, did not build schools and other social infrastructures as they had agreed," writes Professor Ruoshui Jiao of Lanzhou University. "The government [too] did not fulfil its promise to promote the economic and social development of Balochistan, and the rural areas of Balochistan were getting even poorer." Qian feels that the negative fallout of believing in this erroneous figure has already unleashed struggles among various social and political forces in Pakistan, so as to grab the maximum share of benefits. This, the scholar believes, has resulted in "actions and competitions for interests, spreading among political parties and provinces, private and public sectors, government and the military forces." She also states that, while people in Pakistan are highly enthusiastic about the CPEC, the people in China "tend to be more concerned about the hardships and risks CPEC might encounter and bring about." Similar optimistic views about CPEC in Pakistan were highlighted in their joint paper by Professor Yao Huang of USA's Duke University and Dr Yan He of China's Tsinghua University. They wrote that being "one of the slowest developing South Asian countries, Pakistan considers CPEC as a lifeline to stimulate its economy and promote its infrastructure." In their view "the government, military and research institutes in Pakistan have placed high expectations on China's enormous investments [under CPEC]." Aside from this optimism, the feelings of pessimism about CPEC prevailing in a segment of Pakistani society were highlighted by Dongkun Li of China's Southwest Jiaotong University. The scholar stated that certain people in Pakistan "tend to believe that CPEC might leave Pakistan heavily indebted, domestic enterprises might be hit hard, and even the political intentions of Pakistan might be controlled by China." Li fears that these "gaps in understanding of CPEC by Pakistani society are likely to evolve into more anti-China movements in the future. And this is also the major challenge that Chinese FDI [Foreign Direct Investment] in Pakistan might encounter in the future."

Obstacles to Chinese Investment

One of the primary concerns of many Chinese scholars have been the risks and threats to China's FDI. "Pakistan's political risks are very high, only slightly better than Somalia and Syria," commented Li. "Pakistan is significantly below the world average level in aspects of corruption control, government effectiveness, political stability and control over violence and terrorism, laws and regulations and rule of law, etc.," Li continues while advising Chinese stakeholders to exercise prudence while making FDI in Pakistan. Among the top-most deterrents for Chinese FDI in Pakistan is religious extremism and sectarianism. "Different religious sects not only have different doctrines, laws, ceremonies and cultures, but also political demands and material rights. Therefore, religious fights in Pakistan are considerably

fierce… increasing the threat to Chinese FDI in Pakistan," Li writes. "Featured by its suddenness, uncertainty and mass destruction, terrorism… has become the major institutional risk for Chinese investors to decide whether to invest in Pakistan or not," Li observed. Some scholars have associated the degree of terrorism with poverty and lack of socio-economic development in that region. "The poorer the provinces remain, the more likely their inhabitants will be attracted and involved in radicalism," wrote Huang and He. "A large number of militants are from the lowest socio-economic segments of society, and most of the terrorist activities have been implemented by young males in the country… Having no opportunities in poverty, young people are likely to be attracted by madrassas associated with armed militant organizations which offer food, shelter, and a sense of group identity," the scholars observed.

Militancy in Balochistan

Chinese scholars have extensively addressed the issue relating to militancy in Balochistan, citing it as the gravest threat for CPEC. "Local separatists have taken various actions to fight for their independence, posing a major threat to CPEC," wrote Dr Yuhang Xie of Southwest Jiaotong University. "In order to achieve their independent political goals, they [have] used bomb blasts and launched armed attacks on various energy infrastructures and non-Baloch people in Balochistan, which [has] made the local security situation very critical," she continued. Some Chinese scholars have pointed out that lack of stakes and benefits for local Baloch population in the development projects was an important factor contributing towards unrest in Balochistan. "The developers from Punjab and Sindh, who had made a fortune from trading land in Balochistan, did not build schools and other social infrastructures as they had agreed," wrote Professor Ruoshui Jiao of Lanzhou University. "The government [too] did not fulfil its promise to promote the economic and social development of Balochistan, and the rural areas of Balochistan were getting even poorer," he continued. Jiao was of the view that the Baloch "are dissatisfied with the excessive power of the central government and believe that the rights and interests of the province are not respected and protected, feeling strongly [they are] being deprived." He gave the example of Gwadar port, where he said the "technical jobs were occupied mostly by the Punjabi people or other ethnic groups, and hardly by the [Baloch] people." Some scholars have underscored the link between the tribal or feudal sardari system and the turmoil in Balochistan. "The biggest risk for CPEC comes from the province of Balochistan, where the sardari system and tribal structure has been preserved till today… It is now the most serious political issue in Pakistan and the most prominent challenge for CPEC," wrote Jiao. Highlighting the essence of this tribal system, Xie wrote: "Under the sardari system and tribal structure, tribal members are loyal to tribal leaders and lack a sense of belonging towards Pakistan. This makes the ordinary Baloch people susceptible to incitement by the sardars to defy the federal government." But instead of blaming the Baloch and their sardars, Xie holds the federal government responsible for it. "The federal government is, in fact, largely responsible for the powerful grip the sardari system continues to have on the region," she states. "By neglecting its Balochistan's socio-economic development for too long, the federal government has contributed to the widespread poverty and the low levels of political literacy and educational attainment in the

province, which [is responsible] for the population's susceptibility to incitement," she observed.

Pakistan's Political Dynamics

Chinese scholars have also studied Pakistan's political and fiscal systems to determine their impact on CPEC. One aspect highlighted by many of them is Pakistan's lopsided federal structure. "Since Pakistan adopts federalism, there is a serious imbalance existing in the functioning of Parliament, because economic development and population distribution differ greatly among all the provinces… Dominance of only one province [Punjab] and one ethnic group [Punjabis] have escalated the political conflicts among all provinces and ethnic groups," wrote Li. Some scholars have attributed the selection of the eastern route for CPEC — passing through already relatively developed areas of Punjab and Sindh — over the western route, passing through poor and socio-economically backward provinces of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan, to the Punjab's dominant political role in Pakistan. The reason officially cited for preference of eastern route over the western one was the better security situation in Punjab and Sindh compared with the western route provinces of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan. However, Huang & He found it "untenable to view eastern provinces as safe havens, because CPEC's facilities and employees can hardly be exempted from threats of attacks regardless of their locations." Jiao claimed that the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) government had (allegedly) "intended to make Punjab province the privileged and biggest beneficiary of CPEC, which was firmly opposed by Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa provinces. Some scholars also have focused on the poor performance of provincial governments in the social and economic development of their people, despite obtaining huge additional finances under the 7th National Finance Commission (NFC) Award. "With a larger share of revenue. The provinces also obtained greater social sector responsibilities [under] the 18th Amendment… However, the outcomes did not measure up to people's expectations. Key social indicators, like the net primary school enrolment rate, infant mortality, and coverage of tap drinking water showed a degenerating trend instead," wrote Huang and him. Jiao has also discussed in detail the dynastic character of Pakistan's political parties and its implications for CPEC. He has indicated that, while in the past there were just few families sitting at the top of their respective parties, the dynastic trend in politics has presently reached even the local or district level. "At the local level, it is embodied by several big families occupying and consolidating their spheres of influence, who have formed their own vote warehouses and continue to strengthen the influence of dynastic politics through benefit transmission and vote control," he opined. Because of the dynastic character, "ordinary people are hardly participating in democratic politics," Jiao stated. Jiao argues that, in such a dynasty-based political system, the interests of respective families take preference over everything else. "Even the national interests have never been the priority of Pakistan's [dynastic] politics, let alone the interests of CPEC for China and Pakistan." To sum up, let me state that this is just a tip of the proverbial iceberg. Chinese scholars have written much more than that. A sort of consensus among them, in the words of Huang and He, is that "CPEC seems more challenging and high-risk than other corridors." I may add here that the only silver lining in the dark clouds for CPEC in the coming years is in China's strategic interests in the Indian Ocean region.

https://www.dawn.com/news/1837268/development-what-the-chinese-are-saying-about-cpec

Chinese advice

Muhammad Amir Rana

PAKISTAN'S law-enforcement agencies have completed the investigation of the Dasu terrorist attack carried out against Chinese nationals in March, in record time. This is, indeed, a remarkable achievement, but it does not seem to have impressed the Chinese authorities very much, as there have been reports that Beijing wants a large-scale anti-terrorism operation, like Zarb-i-Azb, against the militants. On March 26, a convoy of Chinese nationals travelling from Islamabad to the Dasu Hydropower Project site in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's Kohistan district was attacked by Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) terrorists. The government announced compensation of $2.5 million for the families of the five Chinese nationals who lost their lives in the attack. A joint investigation team comprising police and intelligence agencies' personnel was immediately formed to address Chinese concerns regarding the capability of Pakistani law enforcers to probe a high-profile terrorist attack. The reports of China's demand for a massive counterterrorism operation are reflective of Beijing's concerns over the escalating threats to Chinese nationals working on CPEC-related and other projects in this country. Pakistan has a history of launching such counterterrorism operations at the request of China. The Lal Masjid operation in Islamabad in 2007 was launched after Chinese President Hu Jintao called Gen Musharraf. Prior to the operation, women students of the Jamia Hafsa madressah had kidnapped Chinese health workers who they believed were commercial sex workers. One can take precautionary steps against terrorist groups, but what about intolerance? International pressure, including from the Chinese, also worked in 2014 when the Pakistan military launched Operation Zarb-i-Azb in North Waziristan. China fully supported the Financial Action Task Force's recommendation that Pakistan comply with its counterterrorism financing and anti-money laundering commitments. The maximum favor the Chinese officials extended to Pakistan in this case was to support the country's need for more time to fulfil the financial watchdog's requirements. However, China's latest demand regarding a large-scale operation does not seem feasible, as the TTP and its affiliates are hiding in Afghanistan, and cross-border operations would trigger a major conflict in the region. Moreover, there is also the Baloch insurgency, which is a complex issue that needs to be handled delicately. There is already an ongoing encounter between the insurgents and security forces in Balochistan. Any misadventure is likely to incur heavy political and security cost. Pakistan's economy is in the throes of a deep crisis, and a massive military operation would entail its own costs. At the same time, it seems that the Pakistani leadership is underestimating the demands of its friends for a fully secure environment for their investment. This is not only about China, a major investor in Pakistan, but also other friends of the country, such as Saudi Arabia, which have concerns similar to Beijing's when it comes to putting their money here. These states are taking security concerns very seriously. Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman recently approved a cooperation agreement between the Presidency of State Security in the kingdom and the military intelligence in Pakistan to combat terrorism and it's financing. The Pakistani leadership appears overly confident in its assessment that the security challenges at home can

be mitigated as before; it wants the states that are looking at investment prospects in the country to trust its capabilities. However, terrorist incidents such as the Dasu attack will only shake the confidence of foreign investors. No doubt, the Taliban's Afghanistan has emerged as a major security challenge for the country, but terrorism and extremism have a long history of state institutions using them as tools for political and strategic purposes. One can be aware of the dynamics of terrorist groups and take precautions, but what about intolerance, which can erupt suddenly and result in the lynching of innocent people? The state has fanned the flames of intolerance in society, and this has eroded the social fabric and made conditions insecure for the minorities and for those who think differently from the state. Intolerance has become a huge hurdle in the way of economic progress, including foreign investment. How will the Chinese forget the incident last year when one of their nationals barely escaped lynching by a mob at the Dasu Hydropower Project site? The Chinese official was simply asking employees to complete their work before going for prayers. Security firms dealing in risk assessment most often cite the killing of Priyantha Kumara Diyawadana, a Sri Lankan national lynched by a mob on Dec 3, 2021, in Sialkot, to show who controls the environment for investment. If you were to ask a Pakistani official or leader, they would claim that Pakistanis are moderate in their views and the most tolerant society among Muslim nations. Such a claim was recently made in Beijing. Lynching incidents are dismissed as the actions of a few misguided and emotional youths. However, defending the indefensible causes more damage and shakes even friendly countries' confidence in one's ability to maintain security. The truth is that Pakistan's social indicators are amongst the poorest anywhere. A major reason for this is substandard education and an extensive network of religious institutions that nurture extremism and intolerance in the country. The establishment has not stopped considering the political utility of religious institutions either. Extremism and intolerance are thriving with state support, as the power elites are not willing to review their connection with the clergy. Making policies to counter extremism and terrorism satisfies their conscience, and they believe that by simply placing policy drafts in the cupboards of the relevant ministries, they will automatically solve the issue. The maximum effort by the state to solve the problem has been to create institutions to counter extremism. Eventually, these institutions are used to appease the clergy. China goes by its own model to forcefully 'harmonize' its ethnic and religious communities. However, for Pakistan, the first and foremost priority must be to abandon its approach of pacifying the sentiments of the hardliners, and instead, stand with the weak and the victims, regardless of their religion or community.

https://www.dawn.com/news/1837210/chinese-advice

Pakistan Observer

China visit

PRIME Minister Shehbaz Sharif is to undertake a five day visit to China from June 04 at the invitation of Chinese President Xi Jinping and his counterpart Li Qiang for wide-ranging talks aimed at upgradation and expansion of ties in various fields. He will also meet corporate executives of leading Chinese companies in the fuel, energy and IT sectors besides addressing Pakistan-China Business Forum at Shenzhen. According to Foreign Office spokesperson, the two sides will undertake discussions to further strengthen the all-weather

strategic cooperative partnership; upgrade the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, advance trade and investment; enhance cooperation in security and defense, energy, space, science and technology and education; and promote cultural cooperation and people-to-people contacts, thus setting the future trajectory for Pakistan-China friendship. The visit assumes special significance as it takes place at a time when the Federal Government is about to present the budget for the next financial year and the date of its presentation has been delayed because of the visit, which means it has close linkages with the budgetary plans of the country. China has been a reliable source for external inflows and there are also expectations from people of Pakistan that the friendly country would continue to help accelerate the pace of socio-economic progress through CPEC. It is encouraging that the Government is according due priority and attention to preparations for the visit to make it tangible and result oriented. The Prime Minister convened a preparatory meeting where he issued a number of directives to different ministries and departments to create strategies aimed at attracting Chinese industries to establish their operations in Pakistan, assuring them of the government's complete support and facilitation. He also urged Pakistan's ambassador to China to provide comprehensive assistance to the Pakistani business delegation during their visit. He gave instructions for development of thorough plans to conduct productive business-to-business meetings between the two countries. Notably, China is also according greater importance to the visit, with the Chinese Foreign Ministry asserting that Beijing looks forward to the visit of PM Shehbaz, seeing it as an 'opportunity to promote greater joint development'. It may also be mentioned that ahead of the visit the Government approved the construction of 241-kilometer long Thakot-Raikot section of Karakorum Highway under the CPEC at a cost of $2 billion. This project, no doubt, has special importance because of its potential to give a boost to economic and commercial relations between the two countries but more important is the need to launch and implement the much-talked-about second phase of the CPEC which has the prospects to help overcome Pakistan's economic woes.

https://pakobserver.net/china-visit-2/

The Express Tribune

MoU inked for funding key projects

BEIJING: The National Bank of Pakistan (NBP) has agreed to partner with China-Pakistan International Silk Road Industry Investment Management Company Limited by signing a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to facilitate investment in key projects for promotion of industrial cooperation between the two countries. Under the MoU, they will support the establishment of Special Economic Zones (SEZs), different sectors of the economy and bilateral trade. Economic Minister Embassy of Pakistan in Beijing Aslam Chaudhary, Liu Jiang Hua from the China-Pakistan International Silk Road Industry Investment Management Company Limited, representatives from Dan Zhou Government, Hai Nan province, Zhang Yu Bo, MCC and Bank of Tianjin witnessed the signing ceremony held at the Pakistan embassy on Saturday. The event was also joined virtually by Riaz Hussain, SEVP and Group Chief, International, Financial Institutions and Remittances Group and Hasan Jamal, SVP, Investment Banking Group, NBP Head Office, Karachi. Addressing the participants on the occasion, Aslam Chaudhary briefed them about the incentives offered by the present

government to attract foreign investment, especially from China. He informed the audience that SEZs were being established across Pakistan where Chinese enterprises could relocate their industries and export products to different countries by taking advantage of preferential agreements signed by Pakistan with various countries. The economic minister said that Pakistan having a population of over 225 million was itself a big market and Chinese companies could benefit from it. He said that the government was focusing on industrialization in the second phase of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and offering opportunities in various sectors. He invited Chinese entrepreneurs to come to Pakistan and avail themselves of the facilities and incentives for setting up their industrial units. Chaudhary was of the view that the MoU would help Chinese companies to invest in different projects and promote industrial cooperation between the two countries. Speaking on the occasion, NBP Chief Representative Sheikh Muhammad Shariq told the audience that the NBP was the largest state-owned bank and amongst the important banks of Pakistan. It is operating with 18 overseas branches located in South Asia, Central Asia, the Middle East, Western Europe and North America. He pointed out that the NBP was amongst the major lenders to projects under CPEC and handling a large proportion of bilateral trade between China and Pakistan. "We also maintain the largest portfolio of corporate and investment banking in Pakistan," he added. Shariq said that the MoU represented a commitment to fostering stronger ties, enhancing financial cooperation, and exploring new opportunities for growth and innovation. It would also help NBP to open a branch in China to further facilitate bilateral trade and through the partnership, the bank aimed to leverage its collective expertise and resources to develop cutting-edge financial solutions, support sustainable economic development, and better serve the two communities, he added. Board of Investment (BOI) Pakistan Honorary Investment Counsellor Philip Jian Peng welcomed the guests and thanked them for their support as the two sides embarked on an exciting new chapter. Senior officials and a large number of representatives of various Chinese companies were present. https://tribune.com.pk/story/2469361/mou-inked-for-funding-key-projects

The Nation

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

BEIJING - Chinese experts said 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. At a high-level meeting, 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. 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. 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 revealed that 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 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.

https://www.nation.com.pk/02-Jun-2024/pakistan-eyes-on-ramped-up-cpec-cooperation-with-china-to-grow-economy

Express News

چین کی زرعی ترقی سے بہت کچھ سیکھا جا سکتا ہے ، شاہد خاقان

اے آئی کی وجہ سے بڑی تعداد میں روزگار کے مواقع ختم ہو سکتے ہیں، چین میں خطاب

چھنگ دو (ش نہوا) بواؤ فورم ایشیا کے ڈائریکٹر شاہد خاقان عباسی نے کہا ہے کہ پاکستان چین میں زرعی شعبے میں ہونے والی ترقی سے بہت کچھ سیکھ سکتا ہے ، خصوصاً اے آئی ایک بار پھر ثقافت کے شعبے میں بڑا کردار ادا کرے گی ، ان خیالات کا اظہار انہوں نے چین کے صوبے سیچوان کے دارالحکومت چھنگ دو میں گزشتہ روز شروع ہونے والے بواؤ فورم برائے ایشیا کے گلوبل اربن اینڈ رورل ڈویلپمنٹ فورم سے خطاب کرتے ہوئے کیا ، انہوں نے کہا کہ شہری اور دیہی ترقی کے درمیان فرق کی وجہ سے اس وقت دنیا کی آبادی کا دسواں حصہ انتہائی غربت کا شکار ہے، ہمیں اس ناہموار ترقی اور فرق کے مسئلہ کا حل نکالنا ہو گا، ہمیں دیہی معاشی ترقی کے اس مسئلے کو حل کرنے کے لیے بنیادی باتوں سے شروعات کرنا ہو گی، انفراسٹرکچر ، صحت اور تعلیم اس حوالے سے بہت اہم ہیں ، ان کا کہنا تھا کہ قانونی فریم ورک کے تحت اے آئی کے حوالے سے کچھ چیلنجز موجود ہیں، اے آئی

کی وجہ سے بڑی تعداد میں روزگار کے مواقع ختم ہو سکتے ہیں اس لیے معاشی ترقی کے لحاظ سے شہری اور دیہی علاقوں میں توازن پیدا کرتے ہوئے ان وسائل کو زیادہ منصفانہ اور متوازن طریقے سے تقسیم کیا جانا چاہیے۔

https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1111013012&Issue=NP_LHE&Date=20240602

June 03, 2024

Business Recorder

PM to visit China on 4th

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif will leave for China on official visit on June 4. Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif will arrive in the Chinese city of Shenzhen in the first phase of his visit. During the visit, the prime minister will have access to renowned tech companies.

Shenzhen is considered an economic powerhouse, with a GDP growth of over 6% in 2023. The prime minister is seeking extensive business partnerships in China, with a strong possibility of significant interest from Chinese companies and investors. The PM‘s visit will significantly increase bilateral trade between Pakistan and China.

https://epaper.brecorder.com/2024/06/03/1-page/994566-news.html

Key projects

NBP, Chinese company sign MoU to facilitate investment

The National Bank of Pakistan (NBP) has agreed to partner with China-Pakistan International Silk Road Industry Investment Management Company Limited through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to facilitate investment in key projects, China Economic Net reported on Sunday.

This aimed at promoting industrial cooperation between China and Pakistan and supporting the establishment of special economic zones and other sectors of the economy and bilateral trade. Aslam Chaudhary, Economic Minister of Pakistani Embassy in Beijing, Liu Jianghua from China-Pakistan International Silk Road Industry Investment Management Company Limited, Representatives from Danzhou Government, Hainan Province, Zhang Yubo, MCC & Bank of Tianjin witnessed the signing ceremony held at the Pakistani Embassy in Beijing on Saturday.

Addressing the participants, Aslam Chaudhary briefed them on the incentives offered by the Pakistani government to attract foreign investment, especially from China.

He informed that special economic zones are being established across Pakistan where the Chinese enterprises could relocate their industry and export products to different countries, taking advantage of preferential agreements signed by Pakistan with various countries. Speaking on the occasion, Chief Representative of NBP Sheikh Muhammad Shariq told the audience that NBP is amongst the major lenders to the projects under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and handles a large portion of bilateral trade. He said that the MoU represents a commitment to fostering stronger ties, enhancing financial cooperation,

and exploring new opportunities for growth and innovation. Jian Peng, Honorary Investment Counsellor for Pakistan's Board of Investment (BoI) welcomed the distinguished guests and thanked them for their support as the two sides embarked on an exciting new chapter.

Senior officials, a large number of the representatives of various Chinese companies were present. The event was also joined virtually by Riaz Hussain, SEVP and Group Chief, International, Financial Institutions and Remittances Group and Hasan Jamal, SVP, Investment Banking.

https://epaper.brecorder.com/2024/06/03/4-page/994593-news.html

Dawn News

Pakistan, China set to reinvigorate economic corridor project connecting Xinjiang to Gwadar

Ahead of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's visit to China from June 4, hopes are high in Islamabad that the flagging multibillion-dollar China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) will be revived.

This is after a successful visit in mid-May by Deputy Prime Minister Ishaq Dar to Beijing, at which pledges were made by both sides to put the massive investment plan back on track after it has languished in recent years because of project delays, financial problems and a spate of deadly terrorist attacks on Chinese nationals working on the projects. "We have achieved much of what we wished for from this visit," Dar declared at a press conference on his return to Islamabad.

Earlier in Beijing, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi at his joint press conference with Dar had said: "The two sides agreed to strengthen the docking of development strategies and build an upgraded version of CPEC."

Muneeb Salman, a research associate at the Institute of Strategic Studies, said: "Dar has set the stage now and we expect to see meaningful developments in the CPEC during the upcoming visit of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to Beijing." PM Shehbaz is expected to follow up on the recent progress made during Dar's visit and seal further agreements when he travels to Beijing.

Apart from meeting Chinese President Xi Jinping, PM Shehbaz will be holding talks with Premier Li Qiang on topics such as upgrading the CPEC, advancing trade and investment and enhancing cooperation in security and defense, energy, space, science and technology, and education. He will also meet executives of Chinese companies in the fields of oil and gas, energy, information and communications technology, and emerging technologies, according to a statement from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Reinvigorating the CPEC is important to Pakistan's struggling economy, which is beset by high inflation rates, trade deficits and massive debt, with the problems exacerbated by the Covid-19 pandemic, Russia-Ukraine war, catastrophic floods and political instability.

High inflation rates — which hit a record 38 per cent in May 2023 before easing to 17.3pc in April 2024 after the government raised interest rates — are grueling for the 240 million

population, 40pc of which live below the poverty line. CPEC is a central component of China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) to construct infrastructure, including energy and transport links, across continents.

Formally launched in 2013, CPEC aims to link China's western region of Xinjiang to Gwadar port on the shores of the Arabian Sea, effectively connecting China with the Middle East, Africa and Europe and shortening its trade routes. For Pakistan, it means being part of the regional and global trade links through the BRI and getting much-needed communication and energy infrastructure. Even before the BRI's launch, the Chinese had helped to build the deep sea port at Gwadar, a small fishing village in western Balochistan, in 2002.

As part of CPEC, the port was to be further developed to include a special economic zone and a floating liquefied natural gas facility among other things. The $46 billion project also included road and rail links and energy infrastructure development.

At the time, many analysts saw CPEC as a game-changer for the Pakistani economy, bringing much-needed investment and infrastructure development that would boost economic growth, create millions of jobs and reduce poverty. But implementation has slowed down in recent years for various reasons that are a combination of economic and security factors.

China, which has invested $26bn in CPEC so far, has shown reluctance recently to fund fresh projects in part because of its own economic slowdown but also because of delays in existing CPEC projects caused by bureaucratic corruption, the recent political instability in Pakistan, and the security threats in Balochistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Sindh. Pakistan's own economic crisis has not helped matters.

At the end-2022, of the nine approved special economic zones, four were still under construction and five yet to be launched. As for transport infrastructure, only six projects were completed, five were under construction and 13 were yet to start. However, about a dozen coal-fired power plants have been installed in addition to over half a dozen motorways and mass transit projects under the first phase.

More road projects and a railway line are planned for the second phase. The security concerns plaguing the CPEC projects were underscored on March 25, when a terrorist attack targeting a vehicle ferrying workers to the Chinese-built Dasu Hydropower Project in KP left five Chinese nationals and one Pakistani dead.

"The attack raised troubling questions whether it was simply targeting Chinese nationals or an attempt to undermine Sino-Pakistan relations and sabotage progress on the crucial second phase of the CPEC," Salman said.

The brazen assault, which drew strong condemnation from the Chinese authorities, highlighted the persistent threats faced by Beijing's infrastructure investment in Pakistan despite Islamabad's assurances of foolproof security measures for CPEC personnel and assets. In 2022, a suicide bomber killed Chinese teachers in Karachi and in 2021, nine Chinese workers were killed in what was seen as a "bomb attack" on a bus in northern Pakistan.

Such attacks have come about as ethnic Baloch communities see China as collaborating with Islamabad to exploit the abundant mineral and energy resources of Balochistan and worry that development spurred by CPEC will marginalize them.

Still, Beijing now appears keen to revitalize the CPEC at a time when other countries have appeared interested in investing in Pakistan after the current government of PM Shehbaz took power following the February elections. For example, in April, Saudi Arabia committed to investing $5bn in Pakistan's mining and energy sector with a long-term investment plan of $25bn. The government of the United Arab Emirates has also committed $10bn in investment for different projects in the country, Islamabad said on May 23.

While the CPEC faces economic, security and political challenges, China views it as a strategically vital project that advances its economic, political and security interests in the region and beyond. "There are many long-term interests attached with the project," remarked Haris Zarnir, business editor at a local news channel, Dunya News. Not only can Chinese companies reach the Middle Eastern and African markets in cost-effective ways, but CPEC can also be a counterbalance to India by strengthening China's ties with Pakistan as a key ally in the region, he told The Straits Times.

Overall, while CPEC has brought much-needed investment and infrastructure development to Pakistan, the expectations of significant economic growth, job creation and regional connectivity have not been fully met yet. There are ongoing concerns about debt sustainability, transparency, security and geopolitical tensions that Pakistan needs to address to capitalize fully on the potential of the CPEC, analysts observe.

https://www.dawn.com/news/1837540

PM Shehbaz's China trip geared towards more investment, says minister

ISLAMABAD: The economy is expected to be high on the agenda when Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif makes a five-day trip to China next week, but the outcomes of the visit are not expected to have any major impact on budget preparations. Chinese foreign ministry spokeswoman Mao Ning confirmed on Friday that Mr Sharif's trip, which starts tomorrow, will include talks with President Xi Jinping and Premier Li Qiang. PM Shehbaz will also visit Guangdong province, China's economic hub, and the northwestern province of Shaanxi. "Under the guidance of the leaders of the two cou-n-tries, China and Pakistan have in recent years had close high-level exchanges, steadily advanced practical cooperation … on the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), and mai-n-tai-ned sound communication and coordination in international and regional affairs," Ms. Mao said. But the PM's first trip to China since starting his second term will be focused on government-to-government and businessmen-to-businessmen investments in energy and agriculture sectors and Special Economic Zones. That has already been prepared, Federal Minister for Planning and Development Ahsan Iqbal told Dawn on Sunday. The annual federal budget, which is usually presented in the first week of June, has been delayed due to the PM's planned trip, and is expected to be presented in parliament on June 10 or later after PM Shehbaz signs it off following his return, according to sources. During the PM's visit, Beijing is expected to formally inaugurate the second phase of the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) that

will envisage deeper cooperation in the fields of energy, agriculture, infrastructure and projects related to the cross-country rail line, Main Line-1. The minister said the agreements regarding energy-related projects will be made along the lines of deals with Independent Power Producers, and thus will not impact the budget. Similarly, agreements in the agriculture sector will be investment-oriented. Mr Iqbal, who is also supervising CPEC projects in Pakistan, said the ML-1 project would also be in the limelight during the PM's visit, and the government had already allocated some funds for it in the coming budget. He said funds had also been earmarked for the realignment of the Karakoram Highway, as the project is also expected to come under discussion during the prime minister's visit. Chinese debt accounts for 13 per cent of Pakistan's total foreign debt, South China Morning Post quoted Zhao Shiren, China's counsel general in Lahore, as saying in March. Zhu Yongbiao, a professor with School of Politics and International Relations at Lanzhou University, told SCMP, "The main area [of the visit] is still economic and trade cooperation, in order to help Pakistan's development and enhance its capacity of self-reliance". As of the end of 2022, the CPEC had brought in a total direct investment of US$25.4 billion to Pakistan, official news agency Xinhua reported, citing data from the Chinese embassy in Islamabad. Afghanistan could be another topic discussed during the talks. China has started to lean on Afghanistan's Taliban regime to prevent cross-border attacks on Chinese personnel after Islamabad claimed that an attack on Chinese nationals in March was orchestrated from across its Western border. https://www.dawn.com/news/1837423

Pakistan Observer

Ambassador Zaidong describes PM Shehbaz's upcoming China visit 'milestone' in bilateral ties

ISLAMABAD – Chinese Ambassador in Pakistan Jiang Zaidong said on Monday that under the guidance of two leadership and strong support from the people of both countries, the upcoming visit of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to China would achieve complete success and become a milestone in the development of China-Pakistan relations. The ambassador in an interview with state broadcaster, a day before the prime minister's five-day visit from June 4-8, 2024 to China, said that all preparatory works had entered the final stage, and discussions on Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) were in full progress. At the invitation of Premier Li Qiang, PM Shehbaz will pay an official visit to China. This is his first visit to China after assuming the office this year. Highlighting the components of the visit, he said the prime minister would meet and have talks with Chinese President Xi Jinping, Premier Li Qiang and Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress Zhao Leji. The leaders will have an in-depth exchange of views on China-Pakistan relations and issues of mutual interest, and jointly draw up a blueprint for the growth of bilateral relations. In addition to Beijing, the prime minister will visit Guangdong and Shaanxi. "China stands ready to work with Pakistan through this visit to make greater progress in our all-weather strategic cooperative partnership and take new steps in building of an even closer China-Pakistan community with a shared future in the new era," the envoy remarked. Calling China and Pakistan all-weather strategic cooperative partners and ironclad friends, he said "Our friendship has stood the test of time and remained rock-solid and—to

use a Chinese expression—"steady as Mount Tai." He said in recent years, both countries had close high-level exchanges, conducted fruitful and high-quality cooperation on the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), and maintained sound communication and coordination in international and regional affairs. Regarding CPEC, he said the landmark BRI project 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, generating a strong impetus to Pakistan's economic and social development. Under the second phase of CPEC, he said both countries would implement the important consensus reached by their leaders including the strengthening synergy of development strategies and policy coordination and accelerate progress on mega projects including upgradation of ML-1, the Gwadar Port and realignment of Karakoram Highway Phase II. Moreover, the two countries will strengthen cooperation in industry, agriculture, mining, new energy, information technology and other fields based on local conditions and further negotiate and promote trade liberalization. "Looking forward to the second phase of CPEC, we are ready to work with Pakistan to … 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" framework, to create an upgraded version of the CPEC and build a closer China-Pakistan community with a shared future in the new era." He said that China was also ready to further promote high-quality Belt and Road cooperation with the Pakistani side, to implement the Global Development Initiative (GDI), Global Security Initiative (GSI) and the Global Civilization Initiative (GCI), and to make positive contributions to building an equal and orderly multi-polar world as well as a universally beneficial and inclusive economic globalization. About the launch of Pakistan's lunar mission ICUBE-Q satellite with Chinese cooperation, Ambassador Jiang Zaidong said that since May this year, China-Pakistan aerospace cooperation had achieved frequent success. A week after its launch, Pakistan's ICUBE-Q successfully transmitted images from lunar orbit, marking Pakistan's inaugural step from "zero to one" in deep space exploration and making Pakistan one of the few members of the "deep space club". He said that on May 30, Pakistan's multi-mission communication satellite, PakSat MM1, was again successfully launched from China's Xichang Satellite Launch Center, which was on its way to the geostationary orbit and would bring revolutionary changes to Pakistan's telecommunications, the internet, and television landscape, contributing to Digital Pakistan. "We will enhance cooperation and knowledge transfer in more "down-to-earth" sectors such as agriculture, new energy, and information technology, to promote the building of upgraded version of CPEC, and constantly enrich the significance and practices of the China-Pakistan community with a shared future," he resolved. Discussing the security cooperation and efforts to thwart the enemy's attempts to undermine peace, the envoy said that the Dasu terrorist attack on March 26 further necessitated a secure and stable environment for practical cooperation between China and Pakistan and the CPEC. "So far in 2024, Pakistani security forces have collectively conducted 13,135 intelligence-based operations against terrorists and their facilitators, during which 249 terrorists were eliminated while 396 were arrested. Pakistan also has made great sacrifices, with two officers and 60 soldiers sacrificing their precious lives," he said and highly appreciated Pakistan's great efforts to protect the security of Chinese personnel,

projects and institutions in Pakistan over the years. "Just as the foreign ministers of our two countries stressed… no attempt to undermine China-Pakistan cooperation will ever succeed…We hope and believe that Pakistan will continue to handle the follow-ups of the Dasu terrorist attack, step up efforts to combat terrorism, enhance the security of Chinese personnel, institutions and projects, and such kind of terrorist attack should never take place," he remarked. He said China would work with Pakistan to thoroughly implement the Global Security Initiative, promote all-weather strategic cooperative partnership into a more secure new stage, strengthen counter-terrorism security cooperation and unswervingly safeguard the common security. Ambassador Jiang Zaidong said that China would also help Pakistan enhance its counter-terrorism capacity-building, jointly deal with the growing number of non-traditional security threats, and provide a reliable security guarantee for economic cooperation and common development between the two countries. Commenting on the 75th anniversary of the founding of China, he said that during the period, the country had created two miracles – rapid economic growth and long-term social stability. "Facing a new wave of technological revolution and industrial transformation, we adhere to the path of Chinese 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." To a question, the ambassador said that the Pakistani government's "5Es" framework not only met Pakistan's current development needs, but also chimed with China's approach of promoting high-quality development through new quality productive forces, which indicated that bilateral cooperation would yield more fruitful results.

https://pakobserver.net/ambassador-zaidong-describes-pm-shehbazs-upcoming-china-visit-milestone-in-bilateral-ties/

Solidify the Ironclad Friendship Open up a Glorious New Chapter

At the invitation of Premier Li Qiang of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan will start his official visit to China tomorrow. It will be Prime Minister Shehbaz's first visit to China since the inauguration. We hope and believe the visit will inject strong impetus to upgrade the China-Pakistan all-weather strategic cooperation, provide constant boost to Pakistan's economic and social development, send strong signal of solidarity and cooperation between our two countries to the international community. The strategic communication between leaders of the two countries guides our relations. Over the past 73 years, leaders of the two countries frequently visited each other like close relatives. Under the strategic guidance of our leaders, the ironclad friendship between China and Pakistan stood the test of times. It has become as solid as rock and as steady as mountain. In March, immediately after Pakistan's general election, President Xi Jinping sent congratulatory letters to President Zardari and Prime Minister Shehbaz respectively on their inauguration, highlighting that we should jointly build the upgraded version of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and an even closer China-Pakistan community with a shared future for the new era. Pakistani leaders replied with gratitude, expressing their strong agreement with President Xi Jinping's important opinion. PM Shehbaz said in letter that the new government regards high-quality

building of the CPEC as its core agenda and will spare no efforts in implementation. It is against this backdrop that PM Shehbaz pays his first official visit to China, realizing the first meeting between top leaders of China and Pakistan since the new government came into office. During the visit, President Xi Jinping, Premier Li Qiang and Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress Zhao Leji will meet with PM Shehbaz and exchange views on major subjects in our bilateral relations. We are ready to implement the important consensus reached by our leaders, elevate our all-weather cooperative partnership to a new level with new achievements, to truly benefit both peoples and enrich the profound meaning and vivid practices of the China-Pakistan community with a shared future. Pragmatic cooperation across the board strengthens and refreshes the momentum in our relations. Since the CPEC's start in 2013 and President Xi Jinping's historic visit to Pakistan in 2015, the CPEC, 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, 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 the Belt and Road international cooperation, batch after batch of projects have been launched, completed and put into operation under the framework of CPEC, bringing a total of US $25.4 billion in direct investment, 236,000 jobs, 510km of highway, more than 8,000 megawatt of electricity and 886km of core electricity transmission network. On 30 May, the multi-mission communication satellite PakSat MM1 was successfully launched from China's Xichang Satellite Launch Center. It will bring about revolutionary changes to Pakistan's telecommunications landscape, and stand as another testament to PM Shehbaz's praise that "China-Pakistan friendship is beyond the boundary and has now reached the outer space" in commenting the launch of lunar probe ICUBE-Q in early May. We expect the leaders to reach new important consensus on high quality development of the CPEC, so that we can constantly level up our pragmatic cooperation to assist Pakistan to achieve sustainable development, and refresh the momentum for future development of our relations. All-weather strategic cooperation ensures and safeguards our relations. As good neighbors, good friends, good partners and good brothers, our peoples stand together through thick and thin, our ironclad friendship becomes even stronger as time goes by. History will remember that at critical moments when the People's Republic of China restored the lawful seat in the United Nations, faced with natural disasters and difficult challenges, our ironclad brother Pakistan always stepped forward and provided precious help. History will also remember that China has always been Pakistan's strong backing when Pakistan is in need. Whether it's Pakistan's generous provision of tents to China during the Wenchuan earthquake in 2008, the firm support between each other in jointly fighting the COVID-19, China's full efforts in helping Pakistan cope with the once-in-a-century flood in 2022, or China-donated aid projects including Gwadar seawater desalination plant and China-Pakistan friendship hospital, our time-tested friendship constantly evolves with practice. During PM's visit, there's no doubt that leaders from both sides will reiterate the firm support for each other on respective core interests and major concerns. It will once again show the all-weather friendship's important role in ensuring and safeguarding our relations. In a turbulent and changing world, a healthy, steady and powerful China-Pakistan relationship holds significant meaning to regional peace

and prosperity. This year marks the 75th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China. It is also the opening year of the second "golden decade" in the Belt and Road international cooperation. To our brother Pakistan, this year is the starting year for the new government to comprehensively advance governance. It is also an important year when Pakistani people strive to open a new prospect in national development. China and Pakistan are both developing countries. We face the same historical mission of developing economy and improving people's livelihood. We will take this opportunity to deepen governance experience exchanges and mutual learning between civilizations, promote development theories sharing and policy coordination, so as to step up the building of an even closer China-Pakistan community with a shared future for the new era, and contribute to the equal and orderly multipolarization and the universally beneficial and inclusive globalization. We wish Prime Minister Shehbaz's visit to China a great success. Long live China-Pakistan friendship! Chin-Pak dosti zindabad!

https://pakobserver.net/solidify-the-ironclad-friendship-open-up-a-glorious-new-chapter/

Pakistani, Chinese kids gather to celebrate Int'l Children's Day

As countries around the globe mark the International Children's Day, Pakistan and Chinese children gathered at a hotel hall in federal capital Islamabad to celebrate the important occasion to promote cultural and educational exchanges.

Holding red and green flags of China and Pakistan, and enthusiastically signing "Long Live Pakistan-China Friendship," the children were mingling with each other and learning about Pakistani and Chinese culture.

The event, attended by parents, teachers, volunteers and officials, featured art performance, kung fu shows and paintings by both Pakistani and Chinese students. The performances by the children casted a spell on the audience, with attendees cheering loudly every time the children performed on the stage.

Talking to Xinhua news agency after performing on a Chinese song, a student named Sara said that Pakistani children are conveying their love for China, its people and culture through various art performances. "Today I feel so happy that I get to perform on the Chinese song. I have been learning the Chinese language at my school and now I can understand the language well. I feel great that both Pakistan and Chinese children are learning about each other's cultures," the 7th grader said. Sara said that she also has participated in the painting competition and won an award. "I painted flags of Pakistan and China, a panda and national monument of Pakistan to express my love for China as well as for my own country Pakistan." Sidra Sajjid, an eight-year-old student who performed the Chinese kung fu during the event, said that she got to learn about the different moves of the Chinese martial arts from her Chinese teacher at the school. "I have been learning kung fu moves over the last few days.

https://pakobserver.net/pakistani-chinese-kids-gather-to-celebrate-intl-childrens-day/

The Express Tribune

A new challenge for Pakistan

Is Afghanistan once again becoming a battleground for major powers? After over four decades of unrest and turmoil in the war-ravaged country, international and regional powers, which in the past competed for influence in Afghanistan, developed minimum consensus on the future of Afghanistan when the US-led foreign forces left the region. The US, China, Russia, Pakistan, Iran and other key stakeholders agreed that the Afghan Taliban rule would get recognition only after they met certain conditions, which included the formation of an inclusive government, respecting the human and women rights and denying use of Afghan soil by terrorist groups. Pakistan was one of the only three countries that recognized the Taliban's first rule from 1996 to 2001 but this time it went with the international consensus on the question of recognition.

The understanding among the big players and stakeholders remained in place for good two years before the international consensus started blowing apart. The first sign of rupture came in March when China accepted the full time ambassador appointed by the Taliban regime.

Though Beijing never officially recognized the Taliban government, accepting a full time Ambassador was seen as tacit recognition. And now, another major power and stakeholder in Afghanistan is inching closer to establishing full-fledged ties with the Taliban. Russia is hinting at recognizing the Taliban government. As part of the first step, the Russian ministry of justice and foreign affairs recommended that President Vladimir Putin remove the Afghan Taliban from the list of terrorist organizations.

Moscow banned the Afghan Taliban in 2003 when they were waging a war against the US-led foreign forces. The move is aimed at paving the way for potential recognition of the Taliban government. President Putin this week said the Afghan Taliban are a "reality" while deputy chairman of Russia's Security Council said Moscow was close to establishing a "full-fledged" relationship with the Taliban government. "The Taliban are now in power, and we are close to establishing full-fledged relations with them," Dmitry Medvedev said.

He noted that the situation had changed over the last 20 years. "Now things are different," he said. Russia special envoy on Afghanistan Zamir Kabulov noted Monday that the Taliban had "come a long way towards being recognized" since seizing power. "But there are still a few hurdles to overcome, after which the Russian leadership will make a decision," he said, without elaborating.

The Russian envoy was also quoted as saying that his government had extended an invitation to the Taliban to attend a June 5-8 St Petersburg International Economic Forum. But the US did not like the Russian move, saying the Afghan Taliban had not done enough to be given recognition. John Kirby, the spokesperson for the US National Security Council, told reporters in response to the Russian move that it did not send the right message. He said the Taliban had yet to fulfil a single promise they made. He ruled out any possibility of the US recognizing the Taliban government anytime soon. A US State department strategy paper released earlier this year cautioned US policymakers about the growing influence of its rivals — China, Russia and Iran — in Afghanistan. The strategy paper advocated preserving the US

interests and not letting its adversaries take a foothold in Afghanistan. For Pakistan, this is not a good omen. Unlike the first Taliban rule, this time Pakistan was hoping to evolve a broader consensus at least at the regional level on the future of Afghanistan. Initially, Islamabad was enthusiastic about the return of the Taliban and hence pushed for greater engagement. However, the Taliban government's failure to tackle the terrorist threat dampened those spirits. Ironically, when other regional players seek greater engagement with the Taliban regime, Pakistan is pushing for Kabul's isolation. But international and regional players seem to be only interested in preserving their own interests.

https://tribune.com.pk/story/2469487/a-new-challenge-for-pakistan

The Nation

Pakistan, China celebrate Children's Cultural Festival

ISLAMABAD - On the joyous occasion of Children's Day, children from China and Pakistan gathered to celebrate their cultural diversity and strengthen ties between the two nations. The inaugural China-Pakistan Children's Cultural Festival, jointly organized by the Overseas Chinese Association of Pakistan, the Chinese Language Education Association in Pakistan, China-Pakistan Educational and Cultural Centre and the China-Pakistan Youth Solidarity Initiative, was held in celebration of the 73rd anniversary of the establishment of the diplomatic relations between the two countries. According to Gwadar Pro, the festival, held in a vibrant atmosphere, featured a wide range of art performances showcasing the unique cultural heritage of both countries. Children from China performed traditional dances and music, while Pakistani children presented folk songs and stories that captured the essence of their rich cultural traditions. The performances were met with thunderous applause, demonstrating the strong cultural ties between the two nations. Offstage, the festival offered interactive activities that provide an immersive cultural experience for children. Language exchange sessions enabled children to communicate in each other's languages, fostering cross-cultural understanding and friendship. Art workshops and traditional handicraft experiences gave children the opportunity to explore and appreciate the artistic traditions of each other. Amidst the lively performances and cultural festivities, a unique event took place—the awarding ceremony for the 1st Pakistani "Silk Road Cup" art competition. Artworks on display ranged from vibrant paintings of pandas and antelopes to abstract interpretations of the Silk Road. The ceremony recognized the exceptional talent and creativity of young artists from both China and Pakistan. The event was attended by dignitaries including former Pakistani Counsellor to China Zamir Awan, Executive Director of Pakistan-China Institute Mustafa Hyder Sayed, President of the Overseas Chinese Association of Pakistan La Jielian and Chairman of Chinese Language Education Association Ma Bin. They delivered heartfelt speeches reflecting on the decades-long friendship between China and Pakistan, stressing the importance of cooperation and looking forward to a brighter future of strengthened ties.

https://www.nation.com.pk/03-Jun-2024/pakistan-china-celebrate-children-s-cultural-festival

The News

Various MoUs likely during PM's China visit starting tomorrow

Muhammad Anis

ISLAMABAD: The upcoming visit of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to China starting on Tuesday (tomorrow) will open up avenues of economic and trade ties between the two countries, a senior official of the Prime Minister's Office told The News on Sunday. The official said the visit on the invitation of President Xi Jinping and Prime Minister Li Qiang would help promote economic and trade ties at government-to-government level and between private sectors of the two countries, particularly in the field of energy and IT sectors. He said various memorandums of understanding (MoUs) and agreements were likely to be signed during the prime minister's current visit. The PM will meet corporate executives of leading Chinese companies in fuel, energy and also address Pakistan-China Business Forum. The PM would meet entrepreneurs and investment from both countries. He will visit the cities of Beijing, Xian and Shenzhen. He will meet President Xi Jinping in Beijing and hold "delegation-level talks" with Premier Qiang. He will meet the chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress and the heads of key government departments. Keeping in view importance of visit, the PM also chaired a meeting on Friday to work out the necessary details. He was briefed that on his visit to Shenzhen, a delegation of industrialists, investors and entrepreneurs from Pakistan would accompany him. The delegation would meet the Chinese business community and promote business-to-business relations between both countries. The PM said, "Pakistan government will provide all possible facilities to Chinese industrialists and investors." Sources said the PM would be accompanied by Deputy Prime Minister Ishaq Dar, Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb, Ministers for Energy, Petroleum, IT, Information and Broadcasting, Planning and Development and senior bureaucrats of ministries concerned.

https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1196324-various-mous-likely-during-pm-s-china-visit-starting-tomorrow

China-Pakistan brotherhood in new era

Shakeel Ahmad Ramay

The China-Pakistan brotherhood has endured all the challenges, rather has gotten stronger with time. And now, in the words of President Xi, Pakistan and China are iron brothers. In the words of Ms. Mao Ning, spokeswoman for China's Foreign Office, "China and Pakistan are all-weather strategic cooperative partners and iron-clad friends. Our friendship has stood the test of time and remained rock-solid and-to use a Chinese expression-steady as Mount Tai". Moreover, cooperation between the two countries is multifaceted, which cannot be comprehended by traditional theories of international relations or bilateral friendship. China and Pakistan always assisted each other in protecting their core interest like Taiwan, the South China Sea, Tibet, Kashmir, etc. With the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) launch, the relationship entered a new era. CPEC is part of Belt and Road Initiative, the flagship project of President Xi's vision of China in the New Era and Community with a

Shared Future. CPEC has been assigned the status of BRI's flagship project. The economic cooperation between China and Pakistan has been ongoing since early 1950s. The first trade transaction between the two countries was conducted in 1952. Since then, they have strived to strengthen cooperation by signing multiple agreements, including Investment Protection Agreement 1989, Energy Cooperation Framework 2006, Free Trade Agreement 2006, etc. It was estimated total investment from China in Pakistan was around $15 billion. Huawei, Haier, China mobile and port shipping companies were leading investors, along with others. However, CPEC has changed the whole dynamics and given it a new impetus to cooperation. CPEC, with its vast potential, presents Pakistan with a transformative opportunity and numerous options to pursue the dream of sustainable development, sparking hope for a brighter future. Since establishing the relationship, the top leadership of both countries has dedicated efforts to strengthening it. In continuation of this policy, Pakistan Prime Minister will arrive in China on June 4. The visit is happening at a very critical time due to multiple reasons. The hegemonic powers have unleashed an all-out campaign against China. They are busy creating a web of chaos in China's surroundings. The Russia-Ukraine conflict and sudden withdrawal of forces from Afghanistan are part of this strategy. Now, these powers are pressuring Pakistan to curtail its relationship with China, abandon CPEC and become part of their nefarious agenda. Pakistan, however, has refused to be part of any group or activity against China. Therefore, they consider Pakistan a stumbling block to fulfilling their agenda, and launched a complex campaign against it. They have launched numerous players like IMF, FATF and others to panelized Pakistan. They are putting all efforts into engaging China in a hot conflict. They are actively fanning conflict in South China Sea by using regional countries as proxies. Unfortunately, some regional countries have become part of their agenda. Simultaneously, they violated One China Policy and complicated Taiwan issue. It is an undeniable fact that Taiwan is part of China, but they are pushing Taiwan to claim the status of an independent state. These powers are targeting CPEC. It is an unfortunate reality since its inception CPEC has been the prime target of anti-Pakistan, anti-China and Pakistan friendship forces. The opponents are doing everything to sabotage CPEC. They have unleashed fifth-generation warfare on CPEC. They are targeting in a very systematic and sophisticated way. First, they launched narrative warfare. They dubbed CPEC as a debt trap, East India Company, capturing Pakistani resources, etc. With the failure of their propaganda, they launched hot warfare tactics. They are targeting Chinese nationals in Pakistan and trying to create a wedge between the two countries. It is an open secret the US and its allies are opposing CPEC, and India is actively involved in sabotage activities. They have accelerated their efforts after the successful completion of the first phase of CPEC. China and Pakistan should develop mechanisms for cooperation on four levels-military, intelligence, police and narrative-building. The military, security and intelligence coalition should focus on the international dimensions of threats and risks. They should jointly map the opponents, enemies, potential threats, actors of threats and fake friends. Based on mapping, they should launch joint operations to counter the threats. Second, both sides must develop solid platforms to develop narrative by using facts and data to counter fifth-generation warfare. This is extremely important because opponents and enemies of CPEC and China and Pakistan are building fake narratives to damage CPEC and bilateral relations. For example, they use fake news and propaganda about Xinjiang to promote terrorism and terrorist attacks. Thus,

the two countries must work on creating their narrative and sharing the truth with the world. These powers are militarizing Asia-Pacific and engaging regional countries to play proxies. Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (QUAD) is a prime example of this. It is a threat to both China's and Pakistan's security and economic interests. 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 the 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. It is a clear sign the Western block did not like it. China has just started the journey to achieve the goal of high-quality development and adopted New Quality Productive Forces. It is perceived new quality productive forces will assist China in achieving the goal of high-quality development and transition from Industry 3.0 to Industry 4.0. The Western countries are opposing the transition and have erected numerous obstacles to check the progress of China, such as CHIP and Science Act, strategic rivalry, etc. In a nutshell, China and Pakistan are facing numerous challenges, individually and jointly. This situation urges both the countries to work more closely to deter opponents' plans. It is suggested China and Pakistan build joint security and economic development mechanisms. One plausible option can be the "Maritime Partnership for Community with a Shared Future" in the Asia-Pacific and South China Sea region. Both the countries can also invite other countries to join the partnership. Military and security agencies from both the countries should build joint operational mechanisms and platforms. China should take the lead on global issues, and Pakistan should play an active role at the regional level. These are only suggestions; China and Pakistan can further explore the options and come up with refined and wise policies and strategies.

https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1196286-china-pakistan-brotherhood-in-new-era

Express News

دو طرفہ تعلقات، پاکستان کی اقتصادی، سماجی ترقی کو فروغ ، عالمی برادری کو ہمارے درمیان تعاون ، یکجہتی کا مضبوط اشارہ ملے گا ، دونوں ملک ایک دوسرے کی حمایت کا اعادہ کرینگے

پاک چین دوستی وقت کی آزمائش پر پورا اتری، سی پیک کے تحت پاکستان میں 25.4 ارب ڈالر کی براہ راست سرمایہ کاری کی گئی ، 2 لاکھ 36 ہزار ملازمتیں پیدا ہوئیں : جیانگ زیڈ ونگ

اسلام آباد (ٹریبیون رپورٹ) پاکستان میں چین کے سفیر جیانگ زیڈونگ نے کہا ہے کہ وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف کا دورہ چین دونوں ممالک کے درمیان ہمہ موسمی سٹریٹجک تعاون کو فروغ دینے کیلئے مضبوط تحریک پیدا کرے گا اور دو طرف تعلقات کو مزید فروغ ملے گا، انہوں نے توقع ظاہر کی کہ دورے کے دوران دونوں ممالک کے رہنما سی پیک کے اعلیٰ معیار کی ترقی پر اتفاق رائے تک پہنچیں گے ۔ وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف کل منگل کو پانچ روزہ دورے پر چین روانہ ہوں گے۔ اعلیٰ سطح کا وفد بھی ان کے ہمراہ ہو گا، انہیں اس دورے کی دعوت چینی ہم منصب لی کیانگ نے دی ہے ۔ شہباز شریف چینی چینی صدر شی جن پنگ ، وزیر اعظم لی کیانگ، نیشنل پیپلز کانگریس کی سٹینڈنگ کمیٹی کے چیئر مین ژاؤ لیجی اور دیگر حکام سے ملاقاتیں کریں گے جن میں دو طرفہ اقتصادی تعلقات، سی پیک ، علاقائی ، عالمی اور باہمی دلچسپی کے دیگر امور پر تبادلہ خیال کیا جائیگا۔ وزیر اعظم بجنگ کے علاوہ چین کے شہروں ژیان اور شینزین کے بھی دورہ کرینگے ۔ چینی سفیر نے ایک بیان میں کہا کہ وزیر اعظم کا یہ دورہ پاکستان کی اقتصادی اور سماجی ترقی کو فروغ دے گا اور عالمی برادری کو دونوں ممالک کے درمیان یکجہتی اور تعاون کا مضبوط اشارہ بھیجے گا۔ دونوں ممالک کے رہنماؤں کے درمیان سٹریجک رابطے ہمارے تعلقات کی رہنمائی کرتے ہیں۔ گزشتہ 73 سالوں کے دوران دونوں ممالک کے رہنما قریبی رشتہ داروں کی طرح ایک دوسرے سے ملاقاتیں کرتے رہے ہیں۔ ہمارے قائدین کی رہنمائی میں، چین اور پاکستان کے درمیان مضبوط دوستی وقت کی آزمائش پر پورا اتری۔ چینی سفیر نے توقع ظاہر کی کہ دونوں ممالک کے رہنما سی پیک کی اعلی معیار کی ترقی پر نئے اہم اتفاق رائے پر پہنچیں گے تاکہ چین پاکستان کے ساتھ اپنے عملی تعاون کو

مسلسل بڑھا اور پائیدار ترقی کے حصول میں معاون بن سکے اور مستقبل میں تعلقات کے فروغ کی رفتار کو تیز کیا جا سکے۔ اس میں کوئی شک نہیں کہ دورے کے دوران دونوں اطراف کے رہنما متعلقہ بنیادی مفادات اور اہم خدشات پر ایک دوسرے کی مضبوط حمایت کا اعادہ کریں گے۔ انہوں نے کہا بیلٹ اینڈ روڈ بین الاقوامی تعاون کے طور پر سی پیک کے تحت سکیموں کی ایک کے بعد ایک کھیپ شروع اور مکمل کی گئی ہے۔ ان سکیموں کے نتیجے میں پاکستان میں 25.4 ارب ڈالر کی براہ راست سرمایہ کاری ہوئی ، 236,000 ملازمتیں پیدا کی گئیں ، 510 کلو میٹر ہائی وے ، 8,000 میگاواٹ سے زیادہ بجلی اور 886 کلو میٹر کور پاور ٹرانسمیشن نیٹ ورک وجود میں آیا۔ چینی سفیر نے کہا مارچ میں عام انتخابات کے بعد صدرشی جن پنگ نے صدر آصف علی زرداری اور وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف کو عہدے سنبھالنے پر مبارکباد کے خطوط بھیجے ، جس میں اس بات پر روشنی ڈالی گئی کہ دونوں ممالک کو مشترکہ طور پر سی پیک کے اپ گریڈ شدہ ورژن کی تعمیر کرنی چاہئے۔ پاکستانی رہنماؤں نے صدر شی جن پنگ کی اہم رائے کے ساتھ اپنے مضبوط اتفاق کا اظہار کرتے ہوئے شکریہ ادا کیا۔ وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف نے ایک خط میں لکھا ہے کہ حکومت نے سی پیک کی اعلیٰ معیار کی تعمیر کو اپنا بنیادی ایجنڈا سمجھا اور اس پر عمل درآمد میں کوئی کسر اٹھا نہیں رکھی۔

https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1111016348&Issue=NP_LHE&Date=20240603

Jang News

وزیراعظم کل سے چین کا 4 روزہ دورہ کرینگے، کئی اہم سمجھوتے متوقع

وزیراعظم شہباز شریف کل منگل سے چین کے چار روزہ دورے پر روانہ ہونگے جہاں پاک چین دوستی کے مستقبل کا لائحہ عمل ملکر تیار کیا جائیگا، وزیراعظم چین کے صدر اور وزیراعظم سمیت مختلف شعبوں کے کارپوریٹ اداروں کے سربراہوں سے ملاقاتیں اور چینی شہروں ژیان اور ژن شن کے بھی دورے کرینگے جہاں وہ بزنس فورم سے بھی خطاب کرینگے، جس میں دونوں ممالک کے تاجروں اور سرمایہ کاروں کی شرکت متوقع ہے۔ دفترخارجہ سے جاری بیان کے مطابق چین کے صدر ژی جن پنگ اور وزیراعظم لی چیانگ کی دعوت پر وزیراعظم شہباز شریف 4 سے 8 جون کا چین کا ایک انتہائی اہم دورہ کریں گے

https://e.jang.com.pk/detail/696398

K2 Daily



بقیہ 47

بڑھتی ہوئی طلب اور آبی وسائل میں کمی کی وجہ سے پانی کی قلت کا سامنا ہے۔ آب و ہوا کی تبدیلی نے صورتحال کو مزید خراب کر دیا ہے، جس کے نتیجے میں مقامی ذخائر اور دریاں میں پانی کی سطح میں کمی واقع ہوئی ہے۔ گوادر پرو کے مطابق اس اہم مسئلے کو حل کرنے کے لئے ہی ایس سی ای سی نے پانی کی فراہمی کے منصوبے کے پہلے مرحلے کی تعمیر کے لئے قدم اٹھایا ہے۔ گوادر پرو کے مطابق یہ منصوبہ چاہان ڈیم کو پانی کے بنیادی ذریعہ کے طور پر استعمال کرے گا، جسے واٹر ٹریٹمنٹ پلانٹ میں روزانہ 12 ایم جی ڈی خام پانی پمپ کرنے کے لئے ڈیزائن کیا گیا ہے۔ صاف کرنے کے سخت عمل کے بعد ٹریٹڈ پانی کو انٹرمیڈیٹ پمپنگ اسٹیشنوں، واٹر پلانٹس، بجلی کی فراہمی اور گریویٹی پائپ لائنوں کے نیٹ ورک کے ذریعے مختلف سپلائی زونز میں تقسیم کیا جائے گا۔ گوادر پرو کے مطابق توقع ہے کہ اس منصوبے سے 30 لاکھ سے زائد افراد کو پینے کا صاف پانی میسر آئے گا جس سے خطے میں پانی کی قلت میں نمایاں کمی آئے گی۔ اس سے نہ صرف رہائشیوں کے معیار زندگی میں بہتری آئے گی بلکہ شہر میں حفظان صحت کے مجموعی حالات میں بھی مدد ملے گی۔



راولپنڈی میں پانی فراہمی کا بیڑہ چینی کمپنی نے اٹھا لیا

چاہان ڈیم کو بنیادی ذریعے کے طور پر استعمال کرتے ہوئے 30 لاکھ افراد کو پانی فراہم کیا جائیگا

ٹریٹڈ پانی کو انٹرمیڈیٹ پمپنگ سٹیشنوں، واٹر پلانٹس، گریویٹی پائپ لائنوں کے ذریعے تقسیم کیا جائے گا

راولپنڈی (آئی این پی) دنیا کے سب سے بڑے تعمیراتی ٹھیکیدار چائنا اسٹیٹ کنسٹرکشن انجینئرنگ کارپوریشن لمیٹڈ (سی ایس سی ای سی) نے راولپنڈی میں پانی کی فراہمی کے اہم منصوبے کے پہلے مرحلے کے آغاز کر دیا ہے۔ اس منصوبے کا مقصد شہر کو درپیش پانی کی دائمی قلت کے مسئلے کو حل کرنا اور اس کے رہائشیوں کو پینے کا صاف پانی فراہم کرنا ہے۔ گوادر پرو کے مطابق راولپنڈی کو حالیہ برسوں میں (باقی صفحہ 6 بقیہ نمبر 47)

https://epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=Classified&Date=2024-06-03

https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=Back_Page&Date=2024-06-03

Nawaiwaqt

وزیراعظم کا کل دورہ چین، اربوں ڈالرز کے 4 منصوبوں کا اعلان ہو گا

وزیراعظم شہباز شریف 4 جون سے 8 جون تک چین کا دورہ کریں گے۔ وزیرِ اعظم شہباز شریف کے دورہ چین کی مصروفیات سے متعلق جاری اعلامیہ کے مطابق وزیرِ اعظم شہباز شریف کا چینی شہر شینزین کا دورہ 4 اور 5 جون کو ہو گا جبکہ 6 سے 7 جون تک چین کے شہر بیجنگ کا دورہ کریں گے۔ اعلامیے میں کہا گیا کہ وزیرِ اعظم شہباز شریف 8 جون کو چین کے شہر ژیان کا دورہ کریں گے اور 8 جون کو چین کا دورہ مکمل کر کے وطن واپس پہنچیں گے۔ وزیرِ اعظم دورہ چین میں حکومتی عہدیداروں بالخصوص چینی صدر سے ملیں گے۔ یہ دورہ سرمایہ کاروں کو پاکستان میں پرامن اور قابلِ عمل ماحول دینے میں کردار ادا کرے گا۔ اعلامیے کے مطابق دورے سے چینی کمپنیوں کو پاکستان میں سرمایہ کاری کے لیے راغب کرنے کا موقع ملے گا۔ وزیرِ اعظم کے دورے سے پاکستان اور چین کے درمیان دو طرفہ تجارت میں اضافہ ہو گا۔ وزیر اعظم کا دورہ پاک چین اقتصادی تعلقات کو مضبوط بنانے کی جانب ایک اور اہم قدم ہے۔ مضبوط کاروباری شراکت داریاں قائم کرنے سے دونوں ممالک کو طویل مدتی فوائد ملیں گے۔ اعلامیے میں کہا گیا کہ وزیرِ اعظم شہباز شریف کے چین کے دورے میں معروف ٹیک کمپنیوں تک رسائی ملے گی۔ وزیرِ اعظم شہباز شریف چین میں بڑے پیمانے پر کاروباری شراکت داری کے خواہاں ہیں۔ دریں اثناء باخبر ذرائع کے مطابق وزیراعظم کے دورہ چین پر سی پیک فیز 2 کا اعلان کیا جائے گا۔ جس میں بلین ڈالر کے 4 منصوبے شامل ہیں۔ ان میں پہلے ایگری کلچر دوسرے نمبر پر ایم ایل ون ایل منصوبہ پر کام شروع کرنے کا اعلان ہو گا۔ ایم ایل ون منصوبہ تقریباً 6.7 بلین ڈالر کا منصوبہ ہے۔ تیسرے بزنس ٹو بزنس ڈیل جبکہ نمبر 4 پر قراقرم ہائی وے کی ری الائنمنٹ شامل ہے۔

https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2024-06-03/page-1/detail-41

June 04, 2024

Business Recorder

Contractual obligations, rollovers, loans

PM’s China visit aims at getting a breathing space

ZAHEER ABBASI, NUZHAT NAZAR

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif’s visit to China aims to secure delays in pending contractual obligations to Chinese companies, reschedule rollovers and budget support loans till the end of the under consideration Extended Fund Facility programme and launch of phase II of China Pakistan Economic Corridor. This was revealed by various stakeholders on condition of strict anonymity. The wish list is very ambitious and it is doubtful if China will approve all three items on the list, independent economists commented to BR. They argued that the delays in pending contractual dues to Chinese companies is linked to the launch of Phase II of CPEC, and the Chinese have already told previous high level Pakistani delegations that they will not renegotiate the terms of the contracts as projects in other countries would then be up for renegotiation. When Business Recorder sought a response from Finance Ministry officials on the agenda items they expressed their total ignorance. A handful of people around the finance minister know the situation. Even the staffers that in previous years were engaged in the budget exercise this year are simply twiddling their thumbs, sources further added. The date of the budget presentation is still not firmed up and independent economists maintain that this maybe because unless China, as Pakistan’s largest creditor, extends support sought by Pakistan the IMF may not agree to a staff level agreement on the successor programme, the first stage in securing a new programme. Sources said that the prime minister hopes to secure Chinese cooperation in agriculture, information technology, energy, and alternative

energy under CPEC and has directed the federal ministries to prepare new cooperation projects between the two countries in this regard. A successful visit of Shehbaz Sharif can increase investors' confidence and subsequently lead to overall investment, officials believe. Background interaction with the officials reveal that the budget date, the National Economic Council (NEC) meeting, or release of the Economic Survey, all have been put on hold till the prime minister's return from China. According to the officials, the NEC that approves the development outlay and set macroeconomic targets for the next fiscal year has not yet been constituted and all the formalities in this regard will most likely be met after the prime minister's return from China. Sources said that there is no clarity whether the prime minister would return on 7th or 8th of June; however, they added the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) is finalising tax-related proposals and the finance bill, keeping in view the tentative budget date of June 10, 2024.

https://epaper.brecorder.com/2024/06/04/1-page/994663-news.html

PM's visit to Beijing

NEA China conveyed desire for early implementation of 3 power projects

Pakistan embassy in China has reportedly conveyed Islamabad's strong desire for an early implementation of three power projects during the visit of Prime Minister to Beijing, well informed sources told Business Recorder. In a letter to National Energy Administration (NEA) China, Pakistan embassy has recalled the understanding evolved at the 13th meeting (online) of the CPEC's joint Coordination Committee and the 9th Joint Working Group meeting (online) on Energy (JPEP) as well as 8th meeting of the Energy Planning Expert Panel (EPEP) from May 15-17 in Beijing on the future energy cooperation between the two sides. In that context, Embassy has conveyed Government of Pakistan's strong desire to make an announcement on the early implementation of three energy projects during the upcoming visit of the Prime Minister to China from June 4-8, 2024. The three projects are, 300MW Gwadar power plant, 700MW Azad Patten Hydro Power Plant (HPP) and 1100MW Kohala Hydro Power Project. The three projects are at advanced stage of achieving financial close from the Chinese side. The Pakistan side has proposed making an announcement for the early implementation of these projects at the MoU signing ceremony. The following four Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs) are also expected to be signed during the visit of Prime Minister: (i) MoU on Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI); (ii) MoU on joint study for the future development of Thar coal blocks; (iii) MoU on deepening cooperation for improving governance of the power sector and; (iv) MoU on joint study for identification of potential sites for pumped Storage Hydro Power Projects. The sources said that Prime Minister has accorded approval to his proposed meetings with the Heads of National Development and Reform Commission, National Energy Administration, EXIM Bank of China and Chinese corporate executives from Sinopec, China Gezhouba Group, China Power and State Grid Corp. of China. He is also expected to meet Luo Zhaohui, Chairman of China International Development Cooperation Agency

https://epaper.brecorder.com/2024/06/04/2-page/994673-news.html

The PM's visit to China

The Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan, Jiang Zeidong, recently stated that Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's visit to China would lead to an upgrade of China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and "send a strong signal of solidarity and cooperation between the two countries to the international community." He added that so far China has directly invested 25.4 billion dollars in Pakistan (inclusive of constructing 510 kilometres of roads, 8000MW of electricity generation and 886 kilometres of transmission network), and created 236,000 jobs." While these are noteworthy engagements reflective of the long-term "ironclad friendship" between the two countries, yet Pakistani administrations' persistent neglect and failure, barring none, to undertake politically challenging reforms, particularly in the power and tax sectors coupled with averseness to curb the galloping increase in current expenditure that would require reducing the size of the federal government, has brought the country to its knees in dealings with international creditors – be they multilaterals or bilaterals. Dating back to 2018 the multilaterals (including the International Monetary Fund), were unwilling to compromise on one condition: the Pakistan government must ensure pledged assistance from bilaterals; this implied a withdrawal of IMF's stated claim on its website that "in low income countries IMF lending is also typically meant to catalyse financial support from other donors and development partners". Ironically, friendly countries, China, the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia, in turn, made the country being on a rigidly monitored Fund programme a prerequisite for the release of their pledged assistance. Thus neither the multilaterals nor the friendly countries showed any degree of confidence in the government's intent to undertake reforms that would typically end the existing elite capture – be it in terms of the budgeted allocations (with around 7 percent of the entire labour force that is employed by the government budgeted more than 50 percent of its annual outlay inclusive of pensions) or heavy dependence on indirect taxes for revenue source (with more than 70 percent of all revenue sources to indirect taxes whose incidence on the poor is greater than on the rich). In this context, notwithstanding claims of high growth rates during their tenures, neither the 2013-18 Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) government nor the 2018-22 Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) government, implemented the much-needed reforms and sadly continued with policies designed to safeguard the elite capture of our economy evident from multiple amnesty schemes. In addition, Ishaq Dar as the finance minister, damaged the economy irretrievably by controlling the rupee-dollar parity as well as relying on foreign loans at a time when rates were lower abroad than in the domestic market, which accounts for the country's current high indebtedness payable in dollars that necessitates more borrowing. China has emerged as the country's largest creditor, in terms of rollovers and the payment in dollars as per contracts signed during the Nawaz Sharif's premiership (2013-17). The government is also wooing China to directly invest in Pakistan to further strengthen our foreign exchange reserves that are sourced almost entirely to debt. The prime minister's dash to China just prior to the presentation of the budget, which reportedly has been deferred from 7 June, should therefore come as no surprise. Some reports indicate that the Fund team which engaged with the government authorities on a successor programme to the just completed Stand-By Arrangement has, like in the previous two programmes, insisted that (i) the government seeks firm pledge from China to not only rollover more than 6 billion dollars for

the duration of the next programme (which could be anywhere from 3 to 4 years) but also to (ii) seek a deferral of our contractual obligations as well as seek FDI that does not require sovereign guarantees (which must remain limited as per the Fund). The current state of the economy is attributable to flawed policies, elite capture of resources and last but not least, lack of appropriate macroeconomic, power and petroleum sector policies. One can only hope this will change for without meaningful reforms it is the general public that will continue to pay the price and its patience is clearly wearing thin.

https://epaper.brecorder.com/2024/06/04/6-page/994705-news.html

Second phase of CPEC to focus on agri, industrial cooperation: Chinese CG

Not many Pakistanis have visited China to this day, but we are working and remain hopeful to create more opportunities so our friends from Pakistan can visit China, said Yang Yundong Consul General of the People's Republic of China. He was hosting office bearers of the All Pakistan Newspapers Society at the Consulate. "Today we are happy to host you all friends at the Consulate for an authentic Chinese dinner, and my heartiest greetings to Sarmad Ali on becoming Senator. We would like Pakistanis to visit China but unfortunately not many Pakistanis have visited China, he stated. We acknowledge Pakistan's support to China in all forums. It is because of the significance of our friendship. China is developing very fast, and the change is many a times a pleasant surprise for even Chinese working abroad when they travel back home." said CG Yang He further added that our focus must be on more exchanges between the media outlets of both countries and APNS can play a role in bringing them together. The Second Phase of CPEC is more important and will focus on agriculture, industrial cooperation and trade for increasing exports from Pakistan and benefiting the lives of people at grassroot level. The delegation of APNS was led by its Secretary General, Senator Sarmad Ali. While expressing his views, Sarmad said that Pakistan is expecting to see investment in agriculture, mining, hospitality & tourism as well as other sectors from China. "Gwadar needs to be developed as a model urban town and the new airport will provide more opportunities in increasing connectivity. Proper real estate development along with hotels is also needed in Gwadar. Chinese media outlets have their offices in Islamabad including 'People's Daily', 'Xinhua News Agency', Guangming Daily. Sarmad Ali said, China has been a true friend in need for Pakistan. "Chinese people have a special place for Pakistan in their heart and they call us Iron Brother 'Batie'. "During my visits to China I have seen even the common people refer to Pakistanis as their Iron brothers. As China is now the biggest manufacturer of EV vehicles, it is progressing rapidly in cutting edge technology. We hope that China's advancement in EV technology will benefit Pakistan as well. The second phase of CPEC will play a pivotal role in furthering Pakistan's exports and trade." The dinner was also attended by Deputy Consul General Zhang Hao, APNS Finance Secretary Shahab Zuberi, Kazi Asad Abid, Javed Mehr Shamsi, Younus Mehar, Athar Kazi, Kazi Sajjad Abassi, and Bilal Farooqui. Also Zahid H. Karani, Mustafa Karani, Yousuf Karani, and officials from the Consulate were present. The APNS delegation thanked Yang Yundong and his colleagues for their hospitality and a love filled authentic Chinese cuisine.
https://epaper.brecorder.com/2024/06/04/7-page/994710-news.html

Chinese IPPs step up pressure for payment of dues

As Prime Minister, Shehbaz Sharif is leaving for China on a four-day (June 4-8) official visit on Tuesday (today), Chinese power generation and transmission companies have increased their pressure on the government to get maximum possible pending overdue amount, well informed sources told Business Recorder.

Central Power Purchasing Agency– Guaranteed (CPPA-G) paid an amount of Rs 70 billion to Chinese IPPs a day earlier and intend to make another instalment soon along with other IPPs before June 30, 2024 as a substantial amount is being arranged from Karachi.

The outstanding dues of CPEC power projects are about Rs 550 billion and this was the key issue discussed during recent visits of Ishaq Dar, Deputy Prime Minister/ Foreign Minister and Ashan Iqbal, Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives, who is also incharge of CPEC projects, to Beijing.

According to Port Qasim Electric Power Company (private) Limited (PQEPC), its total due amount reached Rs 94.5 billion; i.e., $ 340 million till May 23, with a delay payment period of over 6 months which could escalate. The company also wants to highlight that Settlement Agreement for resolving the Capacity Power Purchase (CPP) deduction issue due to non-availability of foreign exchange has been initiated by both parties.

Following the official signing of the agreement, the amount will be increased by Rs 13.6 billion. The sources said Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has received a letter from former Prime Minister of Qatar Sheikh Hamad Bin Jasim Bin Jaber Al Thani for payment of $450 million dollars as receivables of PQEPC, which established 1320-MW imported coal power plant at Port Qasim.

Shanghai Electric, Thar Coal Block-1, Integrated Energy Project, in a letter to Governor State Bank of Pakistan has stated that it is critical for Thar Coal-1 Power Generation Company (Private Limited) to deposit $ 79 million in the Debt Service Account (DSRA) in accordance with the Term Facility Agreement (TFA) of January 19, 2020.

The Company further stated that it has comprehensively explained the position in its letter of May 10, 2024 in relation to the obligations of the Company to China Development Bank and other financiers, in respect of the facility of $ 1,364,000,000 availed by the company.

The power company argued that delaying this payment could result in penalties and higher costs which would impact its ability to avail a bridge loan, thereby negatively impacting on the financial stability of the project.

M/s Engro Thar has also written a letter maintaining that its outstanding dues from CPPA-G have surged to Rs 76 billion and requested CPPA-G to expedite the clearance of its overdue receivables and ensure the immediate payment of at least an additional Rs 15 billion. However, CPPA-G has paid 50 per cent of the demanded amount. Another Chinese company, CHIC Pak Company Limited (Pvt.) limited, has expressed concerns regarding viability of the tariff determination of May 14, 2024 for 300-MW coal fired power plant at Gwadar.

M/s PMLTE (Pak- Matiari Lahore Transmission Company (Private) Limited, in a letter to Managing Director NTDC, has stated that despite the express terms and requirements, the

Purchaser/ NTDC is currently still settling the payment for the invoice of November 2023, which has become overdue since January 02, 2024; in addition the invoices for December, 2023 and January/ February/ March/ April , 2024 are all outstanding, and as a result, the total outstanding amounts (inclusive of interest on delayed Payments) payable to PMLTC under the Transmission Services Agreement (TSA) to date have reached a staggering amount of Rs 56.6 billion (inclusive sales tax), out of which the amount of Rs 46,966 billion has become overdue.

President of Sinosure, a key state-owned insurance company of China which accords mandatory insurance approval to mega projects, reiterated concerns shared by other Chinese financial institutions and government officials.

https://epaper.brecorder.com/2024/06/04/12-page/994752-news.html

Daily Times

PM Shehbaz's China visit to become a milestone in bilateral relations: Chinese Envoy

Chinese Ambassador in Pakistan Jiang Zaidong said on Monday that under the guidance of two leadership and strong support from the people of both countries, the upcoming visit of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to China would achieve complete success and become a milestone in the development of China-Pakistan relations. The ambassador in an interview with APP, a day before the prime minister's five-day visit from June 4-8, 2024 to China, said that all preparatory works had entered the final stage, and discussions on Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) were in full progress At the invitation of Premier Li Qiang, Prime Minister Shehbaz will pay an official visit to China. This is his first visit to China after assuming the office this year. Highlighting the components of the visit, he said the prime minister would meet and have talks with Chinese President Xi Jinping, Premier Li Qiang and the Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress Zhao Leji. The leaders will have an in-depth exchange of views on China-Pakistan relations and issues of mutual interest, and jointly draw up a blueprint for the growth of bilateral relations. In addition to Beijing, the prime minister will visit Guangdong and Shaanxi. "China stands ready to work with Pakistan through this visit to make greater progress in our all-weather strategic cooperative partnership and take new steps in building of an even closer China-Pakistan community with a shared future in the new era," the envoy remarked. Calling China and Pakistan all-weather strategic cooperative partners and ironclad friends, he said "Our friendship has stood the test of time and remained rock-solid and—to use a Chinese expression—"steady as Mount Tai." He said in recent years, both countries had close high-level exchanges, conducted fruitful and high-quality cooperation on the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), and maintained sound communication and coordination in international and regional affairs. Regarding CPEC, he said the landmark BRI project 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, generating a strong impetus to Pakistan's economic and social development. Under the second phase of CPEC, he said both countries would implement the important consensus reached by their leaders

including the strengthening synergy of development strategies and policy coordination and accelerate progress on mega projects including upgradation of ML-1, the Gwadar Port and realignment of Karakoram Highway Phase II. Moreover, the two countries will strengthen cooperation in industry, agriculture, mining, new energy, information technology and other fields based on local conditions and further negotiate and promote trade liberalization. "Looking forward to the second phase of CPEC, we are ready to work with Pakistan to 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" framework, to create an upgraded version of the CPEC and build a closer China-Pakistan community with a shared future in the new era." He said that China was also ready to further promote high-quality Belt and Road cooperation with the Pakistani side, to 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 multi-polar world as well as a universally beneficial and inclusive economic globalization. About the launch of Pakistan's lunar mission ICUBE-Q satellite with Chinese cooperation, Ambassador Jiang Zaidong said that since May this year, China-Pakistan aerospace cooperation has achieved frequent success. A week after its launch, Pakistan's ICUBE-Q successfully transmitted images from lunar orbit, marking Pakistan's inaugural step from "zero to one" in deep space exploration and making Pakistan one of the few members of the "deep space club". He said that on May 30, Pakistan's multi-mission communication satellite, PakSat MM1, was again successfully launched from China's Xichang Satellite Launch Center, which was on its way to the geostationary orbit and would bring revolutionary changes to Pakistan's telecommunications, the internet, and television landscape, contributing to Digital Pakistan. "We will enhance cooperation and knowledge transfer in more "down-to-earth" sectors such as agriculture, new energy, and information technology, to promote the building of an upgraded version of CPEC, and constantly enrich the significance and practices of the China-Pakistan community with a shared future," he resolved. Discussing the security cooperation and efforts to thwart the enemy's attempts to undermine peace, the envoy said that the Dasu terrorist attack on March 26 further necessitated a secure and stable environment for practical cooperation between China, Pakistan, and the CPEC. "So far in 2024, Pakistani security forces have collectively conducted 13,135 intelligence-based operations against terrorists and their facilitators, during which 249 terrorists were eliminated while 396 were arrested. Pakistan also has made great sacrifices, with two officers and 60 soldiers sacrificing their precious lives," he said and highly appreciated Pakistan's great efforts to protect the security of Chinese personnel, projects and institutions in Pakistan over the years. "Just as the foreign ministers of our two countries stressed… no attempt to undermine China-Pakistan cooperation will ever succeed…We hope and believe that Pakistan will continue to handle the follow-ups of the Dasu terrorist attack, step up efforts to combat terrorism, enhance the security of Chinese personnel, institutions and projects, and such kind of terrorist attack should never take place," he remarked. He said China would work with Pakistan to thoroughly implement the Global Security Initiative, promote all-weather strategic cooperative partnership into a more secure new stage, strengthen counter-terrorism security cooperation and unswervingly safeguard the common security. Ambassador Jiang Zaidong

said that China would also help Pakistan enhance its counter-terrorism capacity-building, jointly deal with the growing number of non-traditional security threats, and provide a reliable security guarantee for economic cooperation and common development between the two countries.

Commenting on the 75th anniversary of the founding of China, he said that during the period, the country had created two miracles – rapid economic growth and long-term social stability.

"Facing a new wave of technological revolution and industrial transformation, we adhere to the path of Chinese 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."

To a question, the ambassador said that the Pakistani government's "5Es" framework not only met Pakistan's current development needs, but also chimed with China's approach of promoting high-quality development through new quality productive forces, which indicated that bilateral cooperation would yield more fruitful results.

https://dailytimes.com.pk/1197746/pm-shehbazs-china-visit-to-become-a-milestone-in-bilateral-relations-chinese-envoy/

Dunya News

PM to leave for China on five-day official visit today

ISLAMABAD (Dunya News) - Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif will undertake a five-day official visit to China from tomorrow at the invitation of Chinese President Xi Jinping and Premier Li Qiang. During the three-segment trip, the Prime Minister will visit the cities of Xi'an and Shenzhen, besides Beijing. Shehbaz Sharif will meet President Xi Jinping and hold delegation-level talks with Premier Li Qiang in Beijing. He will also hold meetings with Chairman of Standing Committee of the National People's Congress Zhao Leji and heads of key government departments. An important aspect of the Prime Minister's visit will be meetings with corporate executives of leading Chinese companies dealing in oil and gas, energy, ICT, and emerging technologies. In Shenzhen, Prime Minister will address the China-Pakistan Business Forum with leading businesspersons, entrepreneurs, and investors from both countries. He will also visit Economic and Agricultural Zones in China. The two sides will undertake discussions to further upgrade China-Pakistan Economic Corridor and advance trade and investment. The talks will be held to enhance cooperation in security and defense, energy, space, science and technology, and education sectors

https://dunyanews.tv/en/Pakistan/816227-PM-to-leave-for-China-on-five-day-official-visit-today

Pakistan Observer

Chinese envoy highlights media's role in strengthening Pak-China cooperation

The Chinese Consul General, Yang Yundong, emphasized the critical role of media in enhancing Pak-China relations during a dinner hosted for the office bearers of the All-Pakistan Newspapers Society (APNS) at the Chinese Consulate in Karachi. He acknowledged the limited exposure many Pakistanis have had to China and expressed optimism about increasing opportunities for cultural and informational exchanges. "Today we are happy to host you all friends at the Consulate for Chinese dinner, and my heartiest greetings to Mr. Sarmad Ali on becoming a Senator. Unfortunately, many Pakistanis have not visited China. We acknowledge Pakistan's support for China in all forums, it is the significance of our friendship. China is developing very fast, and the change is many a times a pleasant surprise for working diplomats of China, when they travel back home," said Yang Yundong. Yang stressed the importance of media exchanges between the two countries, noting that APNS could play a significant role in bridging the informational gap. He highlighted the importance of the second phase of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), which focuses on agriculture, industrial cooperation, and trade to enhance Pakistan's export capabilities and improve livelihoods at the grassroots level. Leading the APNS delegation, Secretary General and Senator Sarmad Ali Khan echoed the importance of Chinese investment in various sectors of Pakistan, including agriculture, mining, and hospitality. He emphasized the development needs of Gwadar, particularly its infrastructure and connectivity, to maximize its potential. "Gwadar needs to be developed as a city in such, the new airport will provide more opportunities in increasing connectivity. Development of land and hotels is also required in Gwadar. Some Chinese media have their office in Islamabad the likes of 'People's Daily', 'Xinhua News Agency', and more presence is expected," stated Sarmad Ali Khan. He also recognized China as a steadfast ally of Pakistan, recounting his own experiences and the strong bond between the two nations. "Chinese people have a special place for Pakistan in their heart and they call us Iron Brother 'Batie'. As China is now the biggest manufacturer of EV vehicles, it is progressing rapidly in cutting edge technology, and the second phase of CPEC will play a pivotal role in Pakistan's success in exports and trade." The event was attended by Deputy Consul General Zhang Hao, APNS Finance Secretary Shahab Zuberi, Dr. Tanvir CE, Shamsi, Kazi Asad Abid, Younis Mehar, Athar Kazi, Kazi Sajjad Abassi, M. Bilal Farooqui, Zahid H. Karani, Mustafa Karani, Yousuf Karani, and other consulate officials. The APNS delegation expressed their gratitude to Yang Yundong and his colleagues for their warm hospitality and the delightful Chinese cuisine, underscoring the mutual respect and friendship between the two nations.

https://pakobserver.net/chinese-envoy-highlights-medias-role-in-strengthening-pak-china-cooperation/

The Express Tribune

PM Shehbaz Sharif departs for China on five-day visit to strengthen bilateral ties

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif set off on Tuesday for a five-day official visit to Beijing China, starting from June 4 to June 8. The premier was invited by China's Prime Minister Li Qiang, marking his first visit since assuming office this year.

Discussions with Chinese leaders are expected during the meeting, including President Xi Jinping, Prime Minister Li Qiang, and Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress Zhao Leji to jointly outline a framework for enhancing bilateral ties. The premier is also scheduled to speak at the Business-to-Business Forum, where representatives from 79 Pakistani companies will meet with Chinese counterparts.

The visit aims to advance the evergreen strategic cooperative partnership between the two nations and to take new steps in a shared future.

In all those years, both countries have engaged in high-level exchanges, productive cooperation on the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), and maintained strong coordination on international and regional matters.

Under the second phase of CPEC, Pakistan and China will implement the key consensus reached by their leaders, which includes strengthening development strategies and policy coordination. They will also accelerate progress on mega projects such as the "ML-1" upgrade, Gwadar Port, and the Karakoram Highway Phase II renovation.

The BRI project has brought a total of $25.4 billion in direct investment, 236,000 jobs, 510 kilometers of highways, over 8,000 megawatts of electricity, and an 886-kilometer core transmission network, that has strengthened Pakistan's economic and social development.

Earlier, the Chinese envoy highlighted that as a landmark project of the Belt and Road international cooperation, batch after batch of schemes had been launched, completed as well, and put into operation under the framework of CPEC. He continued that these schemes had resulted in $25.4 billion in direct investment, 236,000 jobs, 510 kilometers of highway, more than 8,000 MW of electricity, and 886 kilometers of core power transmission network. The visit seeks to bolster collaboration in industry, agriculture, mining, energy, and IT while promoting trade liberalization. Shehbaz Sharif to hold B2B meetings in China. Last week, the PM presided over a meeting to discuss the development of thorough plans to conduct productive business-to-business meetings between the two countries. He directed the relevant authorities to create strategies aimed at attracting Chinese industries to establish their operations in Pakistan, assuring them of the government's complete support and facilitation. The PM urged Pakistan’s ambassador to China to provide comprehensive assistance to the Pakistani business delegation during their visit.

https://tribune.com.pk/story/2469703/pm-shehbaz-sharif-departs-for-china-on-five-day-visit-to-strengthen-bilateral-ties

Pakistan eyes loans, infra deals during PM's China visit

ISLAMABAD: On the eve of the prime minister's departure to Beijing, Pakistan decided to make a bullet payment to Chinese power plants for reducing their outstanding dues in a bid to break the ice to secure financing for infrastructure projects and a $600 million commercial loan. Sources told *The Express Tribune* that the energy ministry was processing Rs70 billion payments to the Chinese power plants, although the Prime Minister's Office desired to clear at least Rs150 billion payments. They said that the Ministry of Finance released Rs225 billion to the energy ministry out of the budgeted subsidies aimed at providing maximum room for making payments to the Chinese power plants. However, no additional funds were provided and the expectation was that the energy ministry would create the space while remaining within the approved envelope. An official of the Energy Ministry confirmed only Rs70 billion in payments. The Finance Ministry gave Rs70 billion in pending K-Electric arrears, Rs100 billion in advance claims of the subsidies and another Rs55 billion was released against Azad Jammu and Kashmir subsidy. The sources said that in a meeting held a few days ago, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif had desired that at least Rs150 billion should be released to the Chinese power plants. As of the end of April, the outstanding dues of the Chinese power plants set up under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) amounted to Rs506 billion or $1.8 billion. After he visited Beijing, Foreign Minister and Deputy Prime Minister Ishaq Dar had advised Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to clear at least Rs200 billion dues of Chinese IPPs from now till July. The money is being released on the intervention of Ishaq Dar and the Prime Minister. The Ministry of Finance had already communicated to the International Monetary Fund that it did not have any plan to release money to CPEC IPPs over and above the available fiscal space in the budget. The sources said that during his visit starting today (Tuesday) the Prime Minister was keen to make tangible progress on the Mainline-I project of the CPEC, Kohala hydropower Project, Azad Pattan hydropower project and Karakoram Highway expansion. The government was also hopeful of getting $600 million in commercial loans from Beijing, which Chinese authorities had earlier refused to give due to Pakistan's failure to honor the energy framework agreement. In January this year, China linked the approval of a $600 million new foreign commercial loan with the prior settlement of the debt that Pakistan owed to the Chinese power plants. Pakistan is seeking from the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China (ICBC) and the Bank of China a total loan of $600 million. Each bank has long been approached for $300 million in financing. Under the Energy Framework Agreement of the CPEC, Pakistan had committed to setting up a revolving fund and depositing an amount equal to 21% of the invoices generated for power payments. The 21% is the sum that the Pakistani authorities fail to collect, adding to the vicious power sector circular debt. The arrangement had been sought to protect Chinese firms from circular debt. But instead of setting up a fund, Pakistan in October 2022 opened a Pakistan Energy Revolving Account (PERA) at the State Bank of Pakistan with Rs48 billion in annual allocations with a condition to withdraw a maximum of Rs4 billion per month. As a result, the Chinese IPPs' debt is now hovering around Rs500 billion. Out of the Rs70 billion, a significant chunk is being paid to the Thar Coal project of the CPEC. Due to huge outstanding liabilities, Chinese insurance company M/s Sinosure is also not providing any fresh lending to power sector projects in Pakistan. This has affected the Kohala hydropower

and Azad Pattan hydropower projects. During a recent interaction with the Chinese authorities, Pakistan requested to show progress on these two hydropower projects, the sources said. However, the Chinese officials urged to move carefully due to the energy sector viability issues, they added. The prime minister has listed the two power plants as part of the tangible outcomes of his visit. The Prime Minister also wants to sign an agreement on the construction of the 1,726-kilometer-long $6.7 billion Mainline-I project of the CPEC. However, the sources said that the Chinese authorities advised Pakistan to first begin construction work only on the 182 km long Karachi-Hyderabad section of the track. The revised cost of the Karachi-Hyderabad section is now $1.1 billion, which both China and Pakistan can afford to finance. The Karachi-Hyderabad Section will be constructed as per original design i.e. speed 160 km per hour with complete fencing, unlike the rest of the track where the speed has been reduced to 120 km per hour and the fencing has been eliminated to save the cost. China, in the past, had also raised the issue of Pakistan's overall public debt unsustainability and its implications for obtaining a $6 billion new loan for the Mainline-I railways project of the CPEC. The sources said that the Pakistani authorities also wish to achieve some progress on the $2 billion Karakoram Highway section of Raikot-Thakot. The Chinese authorities sought some time to work out the modalities of the project. They added that China has asked to provide electricity to Gwadar and make the port city commercially active. Pakistan imports electricity from Iran to meet the electricity needs of Gwadar –the jewel of the CPEC. The Prime Minister is expected to give an assurance to the Chinese leadership that in future no terror incident like the Bisham attack, in which five Chinese nationals were killed, would take place due to the additional measures that it is taking to protect Chinese nationals. Pakistan has also processed over $2.5 million payment in compensation to the families of the Chinese deceased nationals.

https://tribune.com.pk/story/2469642/pakistan-eyes-loans-infra-deals-during-pms-china-visit

The Nation

RDA seals Chinese construction company office

Rawalpindi - The Enforcement Squad of Rawalpindi Development Authority (RDA) sealed the office of a Chinese construction company and its under-construction projects in the Eighteen Housing Project on Monday.

This action was taken due to security risks highlighted by the Ministry of Interior.

The projects affected were identified at Plot No. F-006/B, Road 54 (Commercial), and Plot No. F-006/5 (Apartment), according to an RDA spokesperson. Notices had been previously issued to Mr. Li Xiaotao, Chief Executive Officer of China Gezhouba Construction and Management Services Private Limited, and Mr. Tarek Hamdy, Chief Executive Officer of M/S Elite Estates Private Limited, regarding their projects in the Eighteen Housing Society.

Chinese residents had expressed concerns about feeling insecure due to the ongoing construction by the foreign company. Additionally, the company undertook these projects without notifying the relevant security agencies.

The RDA spokesperson stated that these measures are in the national interest. Movement of Chinese residents within the private society has been restricted pending the issuance of a Security NOC from the Punjab Government.

This issue was also discussed in a recent meeting at the Deputy Commissioner Office Rawalpindi, where serious security concerns were raised about Chinese nationals moving without adhering to government security protocols.

The RDA Enforcement Squad, with the assistance of police from the Naseerabad Police Station, conducted the operation. Key team members included Muhammad Samiuallah Niazi, Deputy Director Planning, Atif Mahmood, Deputy Director Building Control, and Muhammad Usman Bajwa, Assistant Director Building Control RDA / Incharge Enforcement Squad, along with RDA Scheme/Building Inspectors and other team members.

https://www.nation.com.pk/04-Jun-2024/rda-seals-chinese-construction-company-office

Role of media significant for deeper Pak-China cooperation: Chinese CG

KARACHI - Consul General of People's Republic of China in Karachi, Yang Yundong, has said the role of media was significant for deeper Pak-China cooperation in all spheres and Chinese government would create more opportunity for Pakistani friends to visit China. He said this while addressing the office bearers of All Pakistan Newspapers Society (APNS) who were invited for a dinner hosted here at the Consulate on Sunday night by him.

Yang Yundong said unfortunately not many Pakistanis had visited China to this day, but we were working and remain hopeful to create more opportunities so our friends in Pakistan could visit his country.

"Today we are happy to host you all friends at the Consulate for Chinese dinner, and my heartiest greetings to Sarmad Ali on becoming the Senator. China is developing very fast, and the change is many a times a pleasant surprise for working diplomats of China, when they travel back home," CG Yang said.

He further added, our focus must be on more exchanges between the media of both countries, and APNS could play a role in bridging the gap. The second phase of CPEC was more important with focus on agriculture, industrial cooperation and trade for increasing exports of Pakistan and benefiting the lives of people at grassroots level, he added.

The delegation of APNS was led by its Secretary General, Senator Sarmad Ali Khan. While expressing his views, Sarmad Ali said, Pakistan was expecting to see investment in agriculture, mining, accommodation and other sectors and China was seen as a key element in it. Gwadar needs to be developed as a city in such, the new airport will provide more opportunities in increasing connectivity.

Development of land and hotels is also required in Gwadar. Some Chinese media have their office in Islamabad the likes of 'People's Daily', 'Xinhua News Agency', and more presence is expected. Sarmad said, China had been a friend in need for Pakistan. Chinese people have a special place for Pakistan in their heart and they call us Iron Brother 'Batie', I learned it on my last visit to China a few years back.

As China is now the biggest manufacturer of EV vehicles, it is progressing rapidly in cutting edge technology, and the second phase of CPEC will play a pivotal role in Pakistan's success in exports and trade.

The attendees included, Deputy CG Zhang Hao, APNS Finance Secretary Shahab Zuberi, Dr Tanvir, Shamsi, Kazi Asad Abid, Younis Mehar, Athar Kazi, Kazi Sajjad Abassi, and M Bilal Farooqui, also present were Zahid H Karani, Mustafa Karani, Yousuf Karani, and officials from the Consulate.

The APNS delegation thanked Yang Yundong and his colleagues for their hospitality and a love filled Chinese cuisine.

https://www.nation.com.pk/04-Jun-2024/role-of-media-significant-for-deeper-pak-china-cooperation-chinese-cg

Express News

وزیر اعظم آفس 150 ارب کی ادائیگیاں چاہتا ، وزارت توانائی کی 70 ارب پر کارروائی ، رقم شہباز ڈار کی مداخلت پر جاری کی جارہی

بیجنگ دورے کے بعد ڈار نے 200 ارب کی ادائیگی کا مشورہ دیا ، شہباز دورہ چین میں اہم منصوبوں پر پیشرفت کے خواہشمند

اسلام آباد (شہباز رانا) وزیر اعظم کی بیجنگ روانگی کے موقع پر پاکستان نے بنیادی ڈھانچے کے منصوبوں کیلئے فنانسنگ اور 600 ملین ڈالر کا تجارتی قرضہ حاصل کرنے کیلئے چینی پاور پلانٹس کے بقایا واجبات کم کرنے کیلئے بات ادائیگی کا فیصلہ کیا ہے ۔ ایکسپریس ٹریبیون کے مطابق وزارت توانائی 70 ارب روپے کی ادائیگیوں پر کارروائی کر رہی ہے حالانکہ وزیر اعظم آفس کم از کم 150 ارب روپے کی ادائیگیاں کرنا چاہتا ہے۔ وزارت خزانہ نے بجٹ میں دی گئی سبسڈیز میں سے وزارت توانائی کو 225 ارب روپے جاری کئے جس کا مقصد چینی پاور پلانٹس کو ادائیگیوں کیلئے زیادہ سے زیادہ گنجائش فراہم کرنا ہے تاہم اضافی فنڈ ز نہیں دیئے گئے اور توقع تھی وزارت توانائی منظور شدہ حد میں رہتے ہوئے جگہ پیدا کرے گی۔ وزارت توانائی کے اہلکار نے صرف 70 ارب کی ادائیگیوں کی تصدیق کی۔ وزارت خزانہ نے کے الیکٹرک کے بقایا جات کی مد میں 70 ارب ، سبسڈی کے پیشگی دعووں کی مد میں 100 ارب اور آزاد جموں و کشمیر سبسڈی کی مد میں مزید 55 ارب جاری کئے۔ چند روز قبل ہونے والی ملاقات میں وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف نے خواہش ظاہر کی کہ چینی پاور پلانٹس کو کم از کم 150 ارب روپے جاری کئے جائیں ۔ اپریل کے آخر تک اقتصادی راہداری کے تحت لگائے گئے چینی پاور پلانٹس کے بقایا جات 506 ارب روپے یا 1.8 ارب ڈالر تھے ۔ بیجنگ کے دورے کے بعد نائب وزیر اعظم اسحاق ڈار نے وزیراعظم شہباز شریف کو مشورہ دیا تھا کہ اب سے جولائی تک چینی آئی پی پیز کے کم از کم 200 ارب روپے کے واجبات کی ادائیگی کی جائے۔ یہ رقم نائب وزیر اعظم اور وزیر اعظم کی مداخلت پر جاری کی جارہی ہے۔ وزارت خزانہ نے پہلے ہی عالمی مالیاتی فنڈ کوآگاہ کر دیا تھا کہ اس کے پاس سی پیک کے آئی پی پیز کو دستیاب مالیاتی جگہ سے زیادہ رقم جاری کرنے کا کوئی منصوبہ نہیں ہے۔ وزیر اعظم آج سے شروع ہونے والے دورے کے دوران سی پیک کے مین لائن ون منصوبے کو ہالہ ہائیڈرو پاور پراجیکٹ ، آزاد تین ہائیڈرو پاور پراجیکٹ اور قراقرم ہائی وے کی توسیع پر ٹھوس پیش رفت کے خواہشمند تھے ۔ بیجنگ سے 600 ملین ڈالر کا تجارتی قرضہ ملنے کی امید ہے، جسے چینی حکام نے پاکستان کی جانب سے توانائی کے فریم ورک معاہدے پر عمل نہ کرنے پر دینے سے انکار کر دیا تھا۔ رواں سال جنوری میں چین نے 600 ملین ڈالر کے نئے غیر ملکی تجارتی قرض کی منظوری پہلے سے طے شدہ معاہدے سے جوڑ دی، جس کے تحت چینی پاور پلانٹس کا قرضہ دیتا ہے۔ پاکستان انڈسٹریل اینڈ کمرشل بینک آف چائنا اور بینک آف چائنا سے 600 ملین ڈالر کا قرض مانگ رہا ہے۔ سی پیک کے انرجی فریم ورک ایگریمنٹ کے تحت، پاکستان نے بجلی کی ادائیگیوں کیلئے تیار کردہ انوائسز کے 21 فیصد کے برابر رقم جمع کرنے کا عہد کیا تھا۔ یہ دور تم ہے جسے پاکستانی حکام جمع کرنے میں ناکام رہے ہیں ، جس سے شعبہ توانائی کے گشتی قرضے میں اضافہ ہوا ہے۔ یہ انتظام چینی فرموں کو گردشی قرضوں سے بچانے کیلئے کیا گیا لیکن پاکستان نے فنڈ قائم کرنے کے بجائے اکتوبر 2022 ء میں سٹیٹ بینک میں پاکستان انرجی ریوالونگ اکاؤنٹ کھولا جس میں 48 ارب روپے سالانہ مختص کئے گئے ، جس میں زیادہ سے زیادہ 4 ارب روپے ماہانہ نکالنے کی شرط تھی۔ اس کے نتیجے میں چینی آئی پی پیز کا قرضہ اب 500 ارب روپے کے لگ بھگ ہے ۔ 70 ارب روپے میں سے سی پیک کے تھر کول منصوبے کو اہم حصہ ادا کیا جارہا ہے۔ بہت زیادہ واجبات کی وجہ سے ، چینی

بھی پاکستان میں توانائی کے منصوبوں کا نیا قرضہ نہیں دے رہی ، جس کے باعث کو Sinosures / M انشورنس کمپنی ہالہ ہائیڈرو پاور اور آزاد تین ہائیڈرو پاور منصوبے متاثر ہوئے ہیں۔ ذرائع نے بتایا چینی حکام کے ساتھ حالیہ بات چیت کے دوران پاکستان نے ان دو پن بجلی منصوبوں پر پیش رفت ظاہر کرنے کی درخواست کی تاہم ، چینی حکام نے احتیاط سے آگے بڑھنے پر زور دیا۔ وزیر اعظم نے دورے سے ٹھوس نتائج حاصل کرنے کیلئے دو پاور پلانٹس کی فہرست دی ہے۔ وزیر اعظم 1,726 کلو میٹر طویل 6.7 ارب ڈالر کےسی پیک کے مین لائن ۔ امنصوبے کی تعمیر کے معاہدے پر بھی دستخط کرنا چاہتے ہیں۔ تاہم ذرائع کے مطابق چینی حکام نے پاکستان کو مشورہ دیا وہ پہلے صرف 182 کلومیٹر طویل کراچی ، حیدر آباد سیکشن پر تعمیراتی کام شروع کرے۔ اس کی نظر ثانی شدہ لاگت اب 1.1 ارب ڈالر ہے جسے چین اور پاکستان دونوں مل کر برداشت سکتے ہیں۔ کراچی حیدر آباد سیکشن اصل ڈیزائن کے مطابق تعمیر کیا جائے گا یعنی مکمل باڑ لگانے کے ساتھ سپیڈ 160 کلو میٹر فی گھنٹہ ، باقی ٹریک کے بر عکس جہاں رفتار کم کر کے 120 کلو میٹر فی گھنٹہ کر دیا گیا ہے اور باڑ لگانا ختم کر دیا گیا ہے تاکہ لاگت بچائیں۔ چین نے ماضی میں پاکستان کے مجموعی عوامی قرضوں کے عدم استحکام اور سی پیک کے مین لائن ۔ ارلوے منصوبے کیلئے 6 ارب ڈالر کے نئے قرضے کیلئے اس کے مضمرات کا معاملہ اٹھایا تھا۔ ذرائع نے بتایا پاکستانی حکام بھی کچھ حاصل کرنا چاہتے ہیں جیسے رائے کوٹ تھاکوٹ کے قراقرم ہائی وے سیکشن پر 2 ارب ڈالر پیش رفت ہو گی ۔ چینی حکام نے منصوبے کے طریقہ کار پر کام کرنے کیلئے کچھ وقت مانگا۔ انہوں نے مزید کہا چین نے گوادر کو بجلی فراہم کرنے اور بندرگاہی شہر کو تجارتی طور پر فعال بنانے کا کہا ہے۔ سی پیک کے زیور گوادر کی بجلی فراہم کرنے کیلئے ایران سے پاکستان بجلی درآمد کرتا ہے۔ توقع ہے وزیر اعظم چینی قیادت کو یقین دہانی کرائیں گے مستقبل میں بشام والا واقعہ پیش نہیں آئے گا، جس میں پانچ چینی قوم مارے جائیں گے۔

چینی تحفظ کیلئے آگے بڑھنے کی وجہ سے گوگل ٹرانسلیٹ میں کھولیں۔

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Jang News

چاہتے ہیں زیادہ پاکستانی چین کا دورہ کریں، چینی قونصل جنرل کراچی

عوامی جمہوریہ چین کے قونصل جنرل یانگ یونڈونگ نے قونصل خانےمیں آل پاکستان نیوز پیپرز سوسائٹی کے عہدیداروں کی میزبانی کے دوران خطاب کرتے ہوئے کہا کہ آج تک بہت کم پاکستانی چین دیکھ سکے ہیں، لیکن ہم مزید مواقع پیدا کرنے کے لیے کام کر رہے ہیں اور پر امید ہیں کہ زیادہ پاکستانی دوست چین کا دورہ کر سکیں گے۔انہوں نے کہا کہ ہمیں قونصلیٹ میں آپ تمام دوستوں کی روایتی چینی عشائیہ پر میزبانی کرتے ہوئے خوشی ہو رہی ہے، میں سرمد علی کو سینیٹر بننے پر دلی مبارکباد پیش کرتا ہوں۔ہم چاہتے ہیں کہ زیادہ پاکستانی چین کا دورہ کریں، لیکن بدقسمتی سے بہت سے پاکستانی چین نہیں جاسکے۔انہوں نے کہا کہ ہم تمام فورمز پر چین کے لیے پاکستان کی حمایت کو دل کی گہرائیوں سے سراہتے ہیں، یہ ہماری دوستی کی ترجمانی کرتا ہے۔انہوں نے مزید کہا کہ چین بہت تیزی سے ترقی کر رہا ہے، حتیٰ کہ یہ تبدیلی چین سے باہر کام کرنے والے چینی افراد کے لیے بھی کئی بار خوشگوار حیرت کا باعث ہوتی ہے، جب وہ وطن واپس آتے ہیں۔ یانگ یونڈونگ نے مزید کہا کہ ہماری توجہ دونوں ممالک کے میڈیا کے درمیان زیادہ سے زیادہ تعاون پر ہونی چاہیے اور اے پی این ایس اس خلیج کو پر کرنے میں اپنا کردار ادا کر سکتی ہے۔ انہوں نے مزید کہا کہ چین پاکستان اقتصادی راہداری کا دوسرا مرحلہ جہاں پاکستان کی برآمدات، زراعت، صنعتی تعاون اور تجارت بڑھانے کے لئے زیادہ اہم ہے تو وہیں نچلی سطح پر لوگوں کی زندگیوں کو فائدہ پہنچانے کے لئے بھی اتنا ہی ضروری ہے۔اے پی این ایس کے وفد کی قیادت اس کے سیکرٹری جنرل سینیٹر سرمد علی کر رہے تھے۔ اپنے خیالات کا اظہار کرتے ہوئے سرمد علی نے کہا کہ پاکستان زراعت، کان کنی، ہوٹل کی صنعت اور دیگر شعبوں میں سرمایہ کاری کی توقع کر رہا ہے اور اس میں چین کو ایک اہم عنصر کے طور پر دیکھا جا رہا ہے۔انہوں نے کہا کہ گوادر کو ایک جدید شہر کے طرز پر ترقی دینے کی ضرورت ہے، نئے ہوائی اڈے کی تعمیر سے رابطوں کو بڑھانے کے مزید مواقع فراہم ہوں گے۔ گوادر میں ریئل اسٹیٹ اور ہوٹلوں کی ترقی بھی ضروری ہے۔ کچھ چینی میڈیا کے اسلام آباد میں دفاتر ہیں جن مینپیلز ڈیلی،شنہوا نیوز ایجنسی، اور روزنامہ گوانگ منگ شامل ہیں ،جبکہ مزید اداروں کی آمد متوقع ہے۔سرمد علی نے کہا کہ چین پاکستان کا ہمیشہ مدد کو آنے والا کہتے 'Batie' چینی لوگوں کے دل میں پاکستان کے لیے ایک خاص مقام ہے اور وہ ہمیں فولادی بھائی' حقیقی دوست ہے۔ ہیں،میں نے چند سال قبل اپنے دورہ چین کے دوران دیکھا کہ عام چینی عوام بھی پاکستان کو اپنا فولادی بھائی تصور کرتے ہیں چونکہ چین اب الیکٹرانک وہیکلز کا سب سے بڑا مینوفیکچرر ہے، وہ جدید ٹیکنالوجی میں تیزی سے ترقی کر رہا ہے ہمیں امید ہے کہ چین کی الیکٹرانک گاڑیوں میں ترقی سے پاکستان بھی مستفید ہوگا انہوں نے مزید کہا کہ سی پیک کا دوسرا مرحلہ برآمدات اور تجارت میں پاکستان کی کامیابی میں اہم کردار ادا کرے گا۔تقریب کے شرکاء میں نائب قونصل جنرل

ژانگ ہاو، اے پی این ایس کے فنانس سیکرٹری شہاب زبیری، جاوید مہر شمسی، قاضی اسد عابد، یونس مہر، اطہر قاضی، قاضی سجاد عباسی، ایم بلال فاروقی اور دیگر حاضرین میں زاہد کرانی، مصطفیٰ کرانی اور یوسف کرانی شامل تھے۔

https://e.jang.com.pk/detail/697172

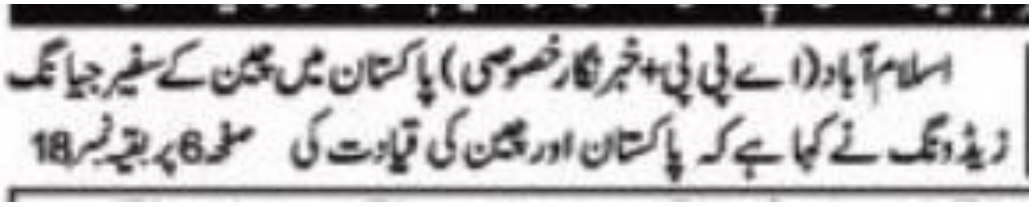
Nawaiwaqt



وزیراعظم آج چین جائیں گے، ارب ڈالر قرض رواں اور کئے جانے کا امکان دورہ کامیاب ہوگا: چینی سفیر

شہباز شریف بیجنگ میں بڑے پیمانے پر کاروباری شراکت کے خوابوں کا جن کو مہمیز دیں گے، 10 معاہدوں اہم ایم او یوز پر دستخط ہوں گے، چینی ایگزیکٹوز سے ملیں گے، بزنس فورم سے خطاب کریں گے

دورہ علاقائی امن، سرحد پار دہشتگردی کے خاتمے کیلئے پاکستان کی کوششوں کو مہمیز دے گا، چینی ہیکروں کی پاکستان کی دفاعی صنعت، زراعت، کان کنی کی آئی ٹی اور دیگر شعبوں میں تنصیبات کو نقصان پہنچانے



اسلام آباد (اے پی پی+خبر نگار خصوصی) پاکستان میں چین کے سفیر جیانگ زیڈونگ نے کہا ہے کہ پاکستان اور چین کی قیادت کی صفحہ 6 پر بقیہ نمبر 18

بقیہ 18 | چینی سفیر

رہنمائی اور دونوں ممالک کے عوام کی بھرپور حمایت سے شہباز شریف کا دورہ چین کامیابی سے ہمکنار ہوگا اور یہ دورہ دونوں ملکوں کے تعلقات میں سنگ میل ثابت ہوگا۔ سی پیک کے دوسرے مرحلے کے تحت دونوں ممالک طے پانے والے اہم اتفاق رائے کو عملی جامہ پہنائیں گے۔ دونوں ممالک صنعت، زراعت، کان کنی، توانائی، انفارمیشن ٹیکنالوجی اور دیگر شعبوں میں تعاون کو مزید تقویت دیں گے۔ ان خیالات کا اظہار انہوں نے وزیر اعظم کے پانچ روزہ دورہ چین کے آغاز سے قبل "اے پی پی" کو انٹرویو میں کیا۔ شہباز شریف 4 سے 8 جون تک چین کا سرکاری دورہ وزیر اعظم لی کیانگ کی دعوت پر کریں گے۔ رواں سال وزارت عظمیٰ کا عہدہ سنبھالنے کے بعد یہ ان کا چین کا پہلا دورہ ہوگا۔ چین کے سفیر نے کہا کہ چین اس دورے کے ذریعے پاکستان کے ساتھ کام کرنے کے لیے پرعزم ہے تاکہ دونوں ملکوں کے درمیان سدا بہار تزویراتی تعاون پر مبنی شراکت داری میں مزید پیش رفت ہو اور نئے دور میں مشترکہ مستقبل کے ساتھ قریبی چین پاکستان تعلقات کے لئے نئے اقدامات کیے جا سکیں۔ انہوں نے دورے کے ایجنڈے کا ذکر کرتے ہوئے کہا کہ شہباز شریف چین کے صدر شی جن پنگ، وزیر اعظم لی کیانگ اور نیشنل پیپلز کانگریس کی سٹینڈنگ کمیٹی کے چیئرمین ژاؤ لیجی سے ملاقات اور بات چیت کریں گے۔ دونوں رہنما چین پاکستان تعلقات اور باہمی دلچسپی کے امور پر تفصیلی تبادلہ خیال کریں گے اور دوطرفہ تعلقات کے فروغ کے لیے مشترکہ طور پر ایک خاکہ تیار کریں گے۔ وزیر اعظم بیجنگ کے علاوہ گوانگ ڈونگ اور شانشی کا بھی دورہ کریں گے۔ حالیہ برسوں کے دوران دونوں ممالک نے اعلیٰ سطح کے قریبی تبادلے کیے۔ چین پاکستان اقتصادی راہداری (سی پیک) پر نتیجہ خیز تعاون کیا اور بین الاقوامی اور علاقائی معاملات میں مضبوط رابطے اور ہم آہنگی کو برقرار رکھا۔ سی پیک کے حوالے سے انہوں نے کہا کہ تاریخی بی آر آئی منصوبے سے مجموعی طور پر 25 ارب 40 کروڑ ڈالر کی براہ راست سرمایہ کاری، 236000 ملازمتیں، 510 کلومیٹر ہائی ویز، 8 ہزار میگاواٹ سے زیادہ بجلی اور 886 کلومیٹر کور ٹرانسمیشن نیٹ ورک بچھایا گیا جس سے پاکستان کی معاشی اور سماجی ترقی میں مضبوط ہوئی۔ سی پیک کے دوسرے مرحلے کے تحت دونوں ممالک اپنے رہنماؤں کی طرف سے طے پانے والے اہم اتفاق رائے کو عملی جامہ پہنائیں گے جس میں ترقیاتی حکمت عملی اور پالیسی کوآرڈینیشن کی مضبوطی شامل ہے جبکہ "ایم ایل ون" کی اپ گریڈیشن، گوادر پندرگاہ اور قراقرم ہائی وے فیز II کی بحالی سمیت میگا پراجیکٹس پر پیش رفت کو تیز کریں گے۔ سفیر نے کہا کہ دونوں ممالک مقامی حالات کی بنیاد پر صنعت، زراعت، کان کنی، توانائی، انفارمیشن ٹیکنالوجی اور دیگر شعبوں میں تعاون کو مضبوط کریں گے اور مزید گفت و شنید اور تجارتی لبرلائزیشن کو فروغ دیں گے۔ چین کے سفیر نے کہا کہ 26 مارچ کو داسو دہشت گردانہ حملے کے بعد چین اور پاکستان اور سی پیک کے درمیان عملی تعاون کے لیے ایک محفوظ اور مستحکم ماحول کی مزید ضرورت ہے۔ 2024 میں اب تک پاکستانی سیکیورٹی فورسز نے دہشت گردوں اور ان کے سہولت کاروں کے خلاف مجموعی طور پر 13135 انٹیلی جنس پر مبنی آپریشن کیے ہیں جن میں 249 دہشت گردوں کو ہلاک جبکہ 396 کو گرفتار کیا گیا۔ چین کے سفیر نے کہا کہ چین پاکستان کے ساتھ مل کر گلوبل سیکورٹی انیشیٹو کو مکمل طور پر نافذ کرنے، سدا بہار تزویراتی تعاون پر مبنی شراکت داری کو مزید محفوظ، انسداد دہشت گردی سیکورٹی تعاون کو مضبوط اور مشترکہ سلامتی کے غیر متزلزل تحفظ کے لیے کام کرے گا۔ سفیر جیانگ زیڈونگ نے کہا کہ چین پاکستان کی انسداد دہشت گردی کی صلاحیت کو بڑھانے، غیر روایتی سیکورٹی خطرات کی بڑھتی ہوئی تعداد سے مشترکہ طور پر نمٹنے اور دونوں ممالک کے درمیان اقتصادی تعاون اور مشترکہ ترقی کے لیے قابل اعتماد سیکورٹی ضمانت فراہم کرنے میں بھی مدد کرے گا۔ چین کے قیام کی 75 ویں سالگرہ کا ذکر کرتے ہوئے انہوں نے کہا کہ اس عرصے کے دوران ملک میں تیز اقتصادی ترقی اور طویل مدتی سماجی استحکام پیدا ہوا۔ ایک سوال کے جواب میں سفیر نے کہا کہ پاکستانی حکومت کا "فائیو ایز" فریم ورک نہ صرف پاکستان کی موجودہ ترقی کی ضروریات کو پورا کرتا ہے بلکہ اعلیٰ معیار کی ترقی کو فروغ دینے کے چین کے نقطہ نظر سے بھی متاثر ہے جس سے یہ اشارہ ملتا ہے کہ دونوں ملکوں کے درمیان دوطرفہ تعاون مزید نتیجہ خیز ہوگا۔

https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2024-06-04/page-1

https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2024-06-04/page-6

June 05, 2024

Business Recorder

Pakistan, China agree to explore opportunities under CPEC

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif Tuesday met with Party Secretary of Shenzhen Municipal Committee and Deputy Party Secretary of Guangdong Provincial Committee Meng Fanli in Shenzhen China Tuesday. The Prime Minister noted that the deep-rooted ties between Pakistan and China were characterized by frequent engagement and dialogue at the leadership level, people-to-people contacts, cultural and educational exchanges. He lauded the impressive economic growth and exemplary innovative spirit of Guangdong province. He also termed Shenzhen as a trade gateway for China's business linkages with Pakistan. Reaffirming the time-honoured all-weather strategic cooperative partnership between Pakistan and China, the two sides agreed on the need to explore opportunities for increased cooperation between Pakistan and Guangdong province particularly under CPEC. Shehbaz Sharif and Party Secretary Meng Fanli underlined the importance of robust linkages and exchanges between scientists, innovators and businessmen to harness the true potential for enhanced partnership in science and technology, innovation and trade and economic cooperation. They also agreed that Pakistan-China Business Conference to be held tomorrow can make an important contribution in this regard.

https://epaper.brecorder.com/2024/06/05/1-page/994761-news.html

Daily Times

CPEC phase-II to grow business links between Pak-China

Minister for Planning and Development Ahsan Iqbal Tuesday said that the economic and cultural connections between the people of China and Pakistan are strong and focused. In a video message ahead of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's visit to China, he said that a delegation comprising of one hundred and twenty six Pakistani businessmen is also visiting China, PTV news channel reported.

"China has an important role in Pakistan's development. It has always helped Pakistan in difficult times," he added. He said there is a big opportunity for us to export the country's products to neighboring China, adding, Pakistani business delegation will sign investment and export agreements with their Chinese counterparts during the visit.

The Minister for Planning also recalled that the first phase of CPEC focused on infrastructure development, adding, this also provided two hundred thousand job opportunities to the youth. Ahsan Iqbal said the government is focusing all its efforts on ensuring high growth rate on sustainable basis.

https://dailytimes.com.pk/1198182/cpec-phase-ii-to-grow-business-links-between-pak-china/

Chinese consumers show consistent enthusiasm in Pakistan's colourd gemstones

Chinese consumers showed consistent enthusiasm in Pakistan's colourd Gemstones, China Economic Net (CEN) reported on Tuesday. According to the report, the 2024 Beijing International Gold, Jewelry, and Gemstone Exhibition concluded on June 3 at the Beijing Exhibition Center. The event featured exhibitors not only from major Chinese cities such as Beijing, Shanghai, Shenzhen, and Guangzhou but also from various international jewelers. Chinese consumers showed consistent enthusiasm for gold, jade, pearls, and other precious items. Notably, there was a marked interest in colored gemstones, with a significant crowd around the booths of exhibitors from Pakistan and Sri Lanka. "The quality of colored gemstones from Pakistan and Sri Lanka caught my eye, so I stopped to ask about the prices. I might find something good to buy," a consumer shared with the reporter. In 2023, the total import and export value of China's jewelry industry reached a record high of $145.334 billion, an increase of 8.62% year-on-year. Chinese consumers show a strong interest in gold and silver jewelry products for both their aesthetic and investment value. Additionally, Pakistan's exports of gems and precious stones to China saw a 47 percent increase in 2023, indicating growing recognition of the quality of Pakistani gemstones among Chinese buyers. Muhammad Amjad, the owner of PIEDRA, a Pakistani colored gemstone company, brought emeralds, aquamarines, and other gems from Peshawar to the exhibition. "I came to China in 2006 and have been in the colored gemstone business ever since.

The reason for choosing to do business in China is simple: the good relationship between the two countries and the strong purchasing power of Chinese consumers. My partners here have never deceived me, which I value highly. Although sales have fluctuated in the past few years due to various factors, the market is now recovering, and I am very confident," Muhammad Amjad told the reporter. Since 2023, demand for colored gemstones in China has been steadily expanding, supplementing the traditional safe-haven asset of gold. According to market research by the China Gems and Jade Association (Beijing) Fund Management Co., the average price increase for colored gemstones across all categories in China during the first half of 2023 ranged between 30% and 50%. Prices for larger or relatively rare gems surged by as much as 100% to 150%. "Although the demand for precious-colored gemstones hasn't surged as dramatically as that for gold, it has remained relatively stable, with a consistent customer base.

In recent years, with the rise of e-commerce and social media platforms, younger consumers have become increasingly accepting of colored gemstones," said Ma Xiaozhong, a jeweler from China. Ma owns Muny Asia Jewellery, a colored gemstone company in Beijing, and has been in the business for over 20 years. "We source raw gemstones from around the world, process them domestically, and sell them both locally and in Western markets. Unfortunately, we haven't established stable cooperation with Pakistan." When asked why, Ma provided a cautious response: "Pakistan's gemstone industry has a longer history than China's. In Peshawar's gemstone market, you can find family businesses that have been around for a century. It's difficult for outsiders to enter the market, and it's not easy for foreigners to do business there. Pakistan's gem certification institutions aren't aligned with international

standards, and some certification documents are not recognized." Ma's story highlights a missed opportunity. Various indicators suggest that China, as Pakistan's all-weather strategic partner, boasts a thriving and growing market for colored gemstones. Pakistan, with its diverse geological conditions, is rich in high-quality natural-colored gemstones. However, the two countries have not fully leveraged their friendly relations to explore the potential of this industry. Currently, a few Pakistani companies with stable cash flow, gemstone resources, and professional design teams have the necessary conditions to enter the Chinese market.

In contrast, Peshawar-based traders, who rely on bulk sales, face numerous challenges in establishing deeper cooperation with China. From the perspective of a brand jeweler, Muhammad Amjad shared some insights with us: "One problem is that Pakistan lacks effective advertising methods. Chinese businessmen are smart; they use short video platforms like TikTok and Kuaishou to promote their brands or unique national gemstones, leaving a lasting impression on consumers and even driving up product prices. In contrast, we can only wait in Peshawar for buyers from other countries."

Indeed, lacking product visibility hampers sales, especially for goods with financial attributes, but visibility must be predicated on quality. Muhammad added, "Secondly, we urgently need to establish a gem certification institution that meets international standards. Our laboratories don't meet these standards, and traders from around the world label our gems with other countries' tags and sell them to high-end jewelry brands like Cartier. This harms us." Recently, Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif emphasized in a statement from his office, "Efforts should be made to obtain international certifications for precious stones and the products made from them, and to ensure Pakistani representation in global exhibitions." Furthermore, Pakistan's gemstone export industry faces significant hurdles due to a lack of financial infrastructure. In Azad Market Namak Mandi, gem trader Abdul Ahad highlighted key issues: "One major issue is payment; many of our clients prefer PayPal, which is not available in Pakistan.

Another issue is the lack of DHL branches, leading to slow shipping times of 15-20 days, despite using DHL's name." Another pressing challenge is gemstone cutting. High-quality cutting significantly enhances the value of gemstones, yet Pakistan's gemstone cutting sector remains underdeveloped. The equipment and methods used are outdated, resulting in lower-quality cuts. "The cutting techniques and tools in Pakistan are outdated. We lack modern machinery and rely on traditional hand-cutting methods, which cannot meet international market demands for modern cuts," Abdul Ahad added. Two weeks ago, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif emphasized in an office statement the need to develop the country's gems and precious stones sector, urging authorities to take steps to grant it the status of an industry. Under the trade bridge established by the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), the exchange of technology and equipment is inevitable. Colored gemstones could potentially become a cornerstone of Pakistan's economic revitalization, the CEN added.

https://dailytimes.com.pk/1198183/chinese-consumers-show-consistent-enthusiasm-in-pakistans-colourd-gemstones/

Shehbaz begins China trip as two nations move to upgrade CPEC

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday landed in China's Shenzhen on the first leg of his official visit to the country, as Islamabad seeks initiation of the long-due second phase of the multi-billion-dollar China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) project, aside from attracting more Chinese investment. Upon arrival in the Chinese city, PM Shehbaz was welcomed by Vice Mayor of Shenzhen city of China, Luo Huanghao. "Impressed by the city's skyline and development that symbolizes modern day China. Looking forward to my engagements with the provincial authorities, business community and industry giants here before proceeding to Beijing for official talks with President Xi Jinping, Premier Li Qiang and other Chinese leaders and high officials," the premier wrote on his X handle after landing in the Chinese city. This is Sharif's maiden visit to Islamabad's longtime ally after assuming his second term in March this year. During his two-day stay in Shenzhen, the prime minister and his delegation will meet the leadership of the Guangdong province and Shenzhen Municipal Government as well as leading Chinese companies in innovation and high-tech sectors. Among the high-level meetings scheduled for his official trip, PM Shehbaz is set to meet President Xi Jinping and conduct delegation-level talks with Premier Li Qiang in the Chinese capital. Before boarding the plane from Lahore to China, PM Shehbaz expressed confidence that his visit will further elevate friendship to a higher pedestal between Islamabad and Beijing. He said that China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) would be taken to a new era in which special focus would be given to the promotion of business-to-business links as well as the execution of mega projects on a government-to-government basis. Presenting his agenda for talks with top Chinese leadership, the premier said new agreements and partnership will be discussed in the areas of agriculture, mines and minerals, information technology, infrastructure development, skill and vocational training of youth, industries, and Special Economic Zones. The prime minister added that discussion will also be held on commercialization of Gwadar port as well as the expansion of silk route through sea and road. Highlighting the strong bonds that exist between the two countries, PM Shehbaz said Pakistan-China friendship is everlasting and there is no precedence of such a relationship in the world. He said Beijing always supported Pakistan unconditionally in difficult times. The premier said China has always raised voice for the oppressed Kashmiri people in categorical terms. He added that Pakistan also supports the Chinese stance on their core issues including One China policy and South China Sea. PM Shehbaz was highly appreciative of the vision and dynamic leadership of President Xi Jinping saying his approach not only has made China the second largest economic and military power in the world but also led the world towards peace and prosperity. "We are coming with serious plans. We will engage with you and return to Pakistan with great dividends that will benefit Chinese and Pakistani companies and the two countries will have their relations strengthened and become much higher than the Himalayas or any other highest peaks and deeper than the deepest oceans," the prime minister said in an interview with the representatives of different Chinese media groups including Xinhua news agency, national broadcaster CCTV and CGTN Urdu, prior to his first official visit to China after assuming office. He said through the visit, Pakistan hoped to promote interaction between enterprises in both countries, utilize Special Economic Zones and Pakistan's labor advantages to establish joint ventures, facilitate the transfer of industries and

technologies, and enhance Pakistan's manufacturing output, to promote constructing upgraded China-Pakistan Economic Corridor. In a detailed interaction, the prime minister spelled out his government's priorities to improve the national economy through structural and institutional reforms, cost-cutting, industrialization and facilitation of the investors. He said Pakistan intended to learn from Chinese experiences and build the SEZs with the first one to be developed at Pakistan Steel Mills premises already connected with the rail network and located near the port. He invited the Chinese provinces and companies to build SEZs and enter into joint ventures with Pakistani companies for mutual benefits. Also inviting the Chinese textile sector to set up their units in Pakistan, Prime Minister Shehbaz said that during the visit he would also persuade Huawei to launch short courses for Pakistani youth in information technology and artificial intelligence to make them open their offices and offer their services in the Gulf States and send remittances back to Pakistan. Similarly, by learning from Chinese agriculture technology, Pakistan desired to multiply its agricultural produce and export them. About the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), he said since the start of its construction in 2013, the achievements of the project had been obvious to all. "From a more convenient and faster transportation network to a cleaner and more stable energy infrastructure, the CPEC has brought broad development opportunities to Pakistan." He said as CPEC was entering the second phase, and a new stage of high-quality development, the two countries were cooperating in agriculture, mining, labor-intensive light industry and other fields.

https://dailytimes.com.pk/1198231/shehbaz-begins-china-trip-as-two-nations-move-to-upgrade-cpec/

Dawn News

Shehbaz lands in China's tech hub with lofty plans

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Sheh-baz Sharif arrived in Shenzhen on Tues-day as he kicked off a five-day visit to China. This is the premier's first visit to China following the Feb 8 elections, and will likely see the inauguration of the second phase of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) project and a number of agreements being signed between the two countries. In Shenzhen, which is a hub for innovation, technology and research-led companies, the prime minister met Meng Fanli, party secretary of the Shenzhen Municipal Committee, and Deputy Party Secretary of Guangdong Provincial Committee in Shenzhen, the PM Office media wing said in a press release, as well as leading Chinese companies in innovation and high-tech sectors. Soon after his arrival, the prime minister took to X, saying that he was "impressed by the city's skyline and development that symbolizes modern day China". Engages with local leaders, business community ahead of high-level meetings in Beijing "Looking forward to my engagements with the provincial authorities, business community and industry giants here before proceeding to Beijing for official talks with President Xi Jinping, Premier Li Qiang and other Chinese leaders and high officials," he tweeted. He also inaugurated the Pakistan-China Business Conference in line with his vision to support, promote and lead collaboration between the businessmen of the two countries. A delegation of leading Pakistani business persons attended the conference for collaboration with the influential Chinese counterparts. Apart from prominent business figures, the

Pakistani delegation in--cludes Deputy Prime Minister Ishaq Dar, Defense Minister Khawaja Asif, Planning Minister Ahsan Iqbal, Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb, Petroleum Minister Dr Musaddik Malik, Information and Broadcasting Minister Attaullah Tarar, Food Security Minister Rana Tanveer Hussain, Commerce Minis-ter Jam Kamal Khan, Privatization Minister Abdul Aleem Khan and Minister of State for Information Technology Shaza Fatima Khawaja. In a televised statement before his departure, the premier expressed hope that his visit would take the two countries' bilateral relationship to new heights. The prime minister said with the support from the ministers, government officers and experts, they would hold talks with the Chinese leadership on multiple subjects. Both sides would discuss cooperation in multiple sectors like agriculture, information technology, infrastructure, youth skill training, vocational training, industrialization, Special Economic Zones, expansion and commercialization of Gwadar Port, mining, and minerals, and sign accords, he said. Discussion on the expansion of the Silk Route through road and sea linkages is also said to be on the agenda. Earlier, in an interview with representatives of Chinese media groups, including Xinhua news agency, national broadcaster CCTV and CGTN Urdu, the PM said: "We are coming with serious plans." Through the visit, he said, Pakistan hoped to promote interaction between enterprises in both countries, utilize Special Economic Zones and Pakistan's labor advantages to establish joint ventures, facilitate the transfer of industries and technologies, and enhance Pakistan's manufacturing output, to promote constructing upgraded China-Pakistan Economic Corridor. He said Pakistan intended to lea-rn from Chinese experiences and build SEZs with the first one to be developed on Pakistan Steel Mills premises already connected with the rail network and located near the port. He also invited the Chinese companies to build SEZs and enter into joint ventures with Pakis-tani companies for mutual benefits. Inviting the Chinese textile sector to set up their units in Pakistan, Prime Minister Shehbaz said that during the visit he would also persuade Huawei to launch short courses for Pakistani youth in information technology and artificial intelligence to make them open their offices and offer their services in the Gulf States and send remittances back to Pakistan. Similarly, by learning from Chinese agriculture technology, Pakistan desired to multiply its agricultural produce and export them.

https://www.dawn.com/news/1837892/shehbaz-lands-in-chinas-tech-hub-with-lofty-plans

Dunya News

PM reiterates resolve to deepen digital ties with China during visit to Huawei headquarters

SHENZHEN (Dunya News) - Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has reiterated his commitment to advancing an innovative, inclusive and sustainable digital transformation for Pakistan. He expressed this resolve, while visiting the Huawei Technologies Corporation headquarters in Shenzhen. Commending the latest innovative technologies, he invited Huawei to expand its investment portfolio in Pakistan.

During the visit, it was also discussed as to how Huawei and Pakistan can collaborate to build a better, digital future together. On his arrival at the headquarters, Huawei Chairman Liang Hua received the PM and his delegation who also visited the Exhibition Centre of the Huawei

and commended the innovation of company's operations. At the exhibition Centre, he was briefed about different fields, especially, e-governance, digital banking, telecommunication and artificial intelligence.

The PM appreciated the safe-city projects in Pakistan, which were completed with Huawei's cooperation. The premier apprised the chairman about the measures taken by the government to promote investment and ease of doing business.

He encouraged the Huawei Corporation to establish safe-city projects on priority basis in different Pakistani cities, especially were projects under CPEC are underway. The PM highlighted Pakistan's steps to digitize government offices on priority basis.

He said a big conglomerate like the Huawei Technologies Corporation has ample investment opportunities in Pakistan in various fields like tax system, e-governance, and the artificial intelligence. He invited Huawei Corporation chairman to invest in modern technology in the agriculture sector of Pakistan. The PM also extended an invitation to Huawei Chairman to visit Pakistan. Under the framework agreement, Huawei will provide free training to 200,000 Pakistani youth in the field of Information Technology, including the artificial intelligence.

Besides, Huawei will extend its cooperation in establishing safe-cities in Pakistan, e-governance, and digitization of economy. Later, Huawei chairman hosted a luncheon in honor of the Prime Minister and his delegation.

https://dunyanews.tv/en/Pakistan/816613-PM-visits-Huexpresses-resolve-to-deepen-ties-with-China-in-digital-realm

Pakistan Observer

CPEC phase-II to grow business links between Pakistan-China: Ahsan

Minister for Planning and Development Ahsan Iqbal Tuesday said that the economic and cultural connections between the people of China and Pakistan are strong and focused. In a video message ahead of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's visit to China, he said that a delegation comprising of one hundred and twenty six Pakistani businessmen is also visiting China, PTV news channel reported. "China has an important role in Pakistan's development. It has always helped Pakistan in difficult times," he added. He said there is a big opportunity for us to export the country's products to neighboring China, adding, Pakistani business delegation will sign investment and export agreements with their Chinese counterparts during the visit. The Minister for Planning also recalled that the first phase of CPEC focused on infrastructure development, adding, this also provided two hundred thousand job opportunities to the youth. Ahsan Iqbal said the government is focusing all its efforts on ensuring high growth rate on sustainable basis.—APP

https://pakobserver.net/cpec-phase-ii-to-grow-business-links-between-pakistan-china-ahsan/

The Express Tribune

Finance Minister Aurangzeb unveils Pakistan's plan to tap into the Chinese capital market

SHENZHEN: Pakistan's Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb has highlighted the country's potential to harness economic opportunities by entering the Chinese capital markets through the introduction of the Panda bond.

He made the statement at the "Pak-China Business Forum" on Wednesday. A Pakistani delegation that was led by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif had arrived in China on Tuesday to attend the forum and discuss opportunities for accessing Chinese capital markets. As he addressed the forum, the Pakistani finance minister affirmed the prospects of successfully implementing this initiative by following the example of the Egyptian model.

He ensured that the preparatory stages of this initiative are under sway with Pakistan's authorities constantly being in touch with the Chinese regulatory authorities and he promised that the plan would begin initiation in the upcoming fiscal year.

He highlighted this move represents a significant shift in their economic approach under Prime Minister Sharif's leadership. Aurangzeb also emphasized that agriculture and information technology are key drivers of growth for Pakistan's economy.

He attributed the stability of the currency to structural economic changes implemented under Shehbaz Sharif's leadership. Additionally, Aurangzeb reported a decrease in inflation in May, further demonstrating the country's economic resilience.

He emphasized how the special economic zones (SEZs) will be a crucial pillar in driving export-led growth and how enhancing foreign direct investment (FDI) in the form of business-to-business investments would facilitate joint ventures and experience transfers between both nations. The conference also underscored increasing foreign investments in Pakistan, signaling growing confidence from international investors.

Aurangzeb credited Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif for driving these economic improvements and fostering a conducive environment for growth and development.

https://tribune.com.pk/story/2469896/finance-minister-aurangzeb-unveils-pakistans-plan-to-tap-into-the-chinese-capital-market

China-aided airport in Gwadar starts flight test

GWADAR: The China-aided New Gwadar International Airport in Pakistan has started carrying out a five-day flight test from Tuesday, marking that the project is about to enter the final sprint stage, the airport's project management team said.

Ding Kan, head of the project management team, told Xinhua that the flight test work of the airport, being built under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and located in the southwest port city of Gwadar, is organized and implemented by Pakistan's Civil Aviation Authority (CAA). The main purpose of the activity is to check the standardization and safety of the project's navigation facilities, navigational aids, flight procedures and road surface

performance, he said, adding that the test is an important nodal target of the project's construction, which is of great significance for the safety and quality of the flights at the new airport.

Following the completion of the flight test, the project will enter the final sprint stage, and it is expected that the airport will be completed and handed over to the local authorities in 2024, the Chinese manager said. The construction of this 4F-class airport, started in October 2019, is one of the flagship projects of the CPEC. Upon completion, it will become a modern landmark in Gwadar, which can significantly improve the infrastructural conditions in Gwadar and would lay a better foundation for the future development of the port as well as the city.

https://tribune.com.pk/story/2469949/china-aided-airport-in-gwadar-starts-flight-test

The Nation

Chinese consumers show consistent enthusiasm in Pak gemstones

ISLAMABAD - Chinese consumers showed consistent enthusiasm in Pakistan's colored Gemstones, China Economic Net (CEN) reported on Tuesday. According to the report, the 2024 Beijing International Gold, Jewelry, and Gemstone Exhibition concluded on June 3 at the Beijing Exhibition Centre. The event featured exhibitors not only from major Chinese cities such as Beijing, Shanghai, Shenzhen, and Guangzhou but also from various international jewelers. Chinese consumers showed consistent enthusiasm for gold, jade, pearls, and other precious items. Notably, there was a marked interest in colored gemstones, with a significant crowd around the booths of exhibitors from Pakistan and Sri Lanka. "The quality of colored gemstones from Pakistan and Sri Lanka caught my eye, so I stopped to ask about the prices. I might find something good to buy," a consumer shared with the reporter. In 2023, the total import and export value of China's jeweler industry reached a record high of $145.334 billion, an increase of 8.62% year-on-year. Chinese consumers show a strong interest in gold and silver jeweler products for both their aesthetic and investment value. Additionally, Pakistan's exports of gems and precious stones to China saw a 47 percent increase in 2023, indicating growing recognition of the quality of Pakistani gemstones among Chinese buyers. Although sales have fluctuated in the past few years due to various factors, the market is now recovering, and I am very confident," Muhammad Amjad told the reporter. Since 2023, demand for coloured gemstones in China has been steadily expanding, supplementing the traditional safe-haven asset of gold. According to market research by the China Gems and Jade Association (Beijing) Fund Management Co, the average price increase for coloured gemstones across all categories in China during the first half of 2023 ranged between 30% and 50%. In Peshawar's gemstone market, you can find family businesses that have been around for a century. It's difficult for outsiders to enter the market, and it's not easy for foreigners to do business there. Pakistan's gem certification institutions aren't aligned with international standards, and some certification documents are not recognized." Ma's story highlights a missed opportunity. Various indicators suggest that China, as Pakistan's all-weather strategic partner, boasts a thriving and growing market for coloured gemstones. Pakistan, with its diverse geological conditions, is rich in high-quality natural-

coloured gemstones. However, the two countries have not fully leveraged their friendly relations to explore the potential of this industry. Currently, a few Pakistani companies with stable cash flow, gemstone resources, and professional design teams have the necessary conditions to enter the Chinese market. In contrast, Peshawar-based traders, who rely on bulk sales, face numerous challenges in establishing deeper cooperation with China. From the perspective of a brand jeweller, Muhammad Amjad shared some insights with us: "One problem is that Pakistan lacks effective advertising methods. Chinese businessmen are smart; they use short video platforms like TikTok and Kuaishou to promote their brands or unique national gemstones, leaving a lasting impression on consumers and even driving up product prices. In contrast, we can only wait in Peshawar for buyers from other countries." Indeed, lacking product visibility hampers sales, especially for goods with financial attributes, but visibility must be predicated on quality. Muhammad added, "Secondly, we urgently need to establish a gem certification institution that meets international standards. In Azad Market Namak Mandi, gem trader Abdul Ahad highlighted key issues: "One major issue is payment; many of our clients prefer PayPal, which is not available in Pakistan. Another issue is the lack of DHL branches, leading to slow shipping times of 15-20 days, despite using DHL's name." Another pressing challenge is gemstone cutting. High-quality cutting significantly enhances the value of gemstones, yet Pakistan's gemstone cutting sector remains underdeveloped. Two weeks ago, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif emphasized in an office statement the need to develop the country's gems and precious stones sector, urging authorities to take steps to grant it the status of an industry. Under the trade bridge established by the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), the exchange of technology and equipment is inevitable. Coloured gemstones could potentially become a cornerstone of Pakistan's economic revitalization, the CEN added

https://www.nation.com.pk/05-Jun-2024/chinese-consumers-show-consistent-enthusiasm-in-pak-gemstones

The News

CPEC entering new phase of high quality development: Shehbaz

ISLAMABAD: As Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif departed for a five-day official visit to China on Tuesday, he said the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) had brought broad development opportunities to Pakistan and was entering the second phase of high-quality development. Shehbaz arrived here on the first leg of his five-day official visit to China from June 4 to 8, to meet the Chinese leadership and the business community. As the prime minister landed at the Shenzhen Airport, he was warmly received by Vice Mayor of Shenzhen city of China Luo Huanghao, Chinese Ambassador in Pakistan Jiang Zaidong, Pakistan's Ambassador in Beijing Khalil Hashmi and senior diplomatic officials. Shehbaz reiterated his commitment to strengthening bilateral ties by engaging in discussions with the Chinese business leaders to secure investments and yield dividends, mutually beneficial for companies on both sides. "We are coming with serious plans. We will engage with you and return to Pakistan with great dividends that will benefit Chinese and Pakistani companies and the two countries will have their relations strengthened and become much higher than the Himalayas or any other highest peaks and deeper than the deepest oceans," the prime minister

said in an interview with the representatives of different Chinese media groups, including Xinhua, national broadcaster CCTV and CGTN Urdu, prior to his first official visit to China after assuming the office. He said through the visit, Pakistan hoped to promote interaction between enterprises in both countries, utilize Special Economic Zones and Pakistan's labor advantages to establish joint ventures, facilitate the transfer of industries and technologies, and enhance Pakistan's manufacturing output, to promote constructing upgraded China-Pakistan Economic Corridor. In a detailed interaction, the prime minister spelled out his government's priorities to improve the national economy through structural and institutional reforms, cost-cutting, industrialization and facilitation of the investors. He said Pakistan intended to learn from the Chinese experiences and build the SEZs with the first one to be developed at Pakistan Steel Mills premises already connected with the rail network and located near the port. He invited the Chinese provinces and companies to build SEZs and enter into joint ventures with Pakistani companies for mutual benefits. Also inviting the Chinese textile sector to set up their units in Pakistan, Prime Minister Shehbaz said during the visit he would also persuade Huawei to launch short courses for Pakistani youth in information technology and artificial intelligence to make them open their offices and offer their services in the Gulf States and send remittances back to Pakistan. Similarly, by learning from Chinese agriculture technology, Pakistan desired to multiply its agricultural produce and export them. Discussing bilateral relations, the prime minister said, "We are two iron brothers, our friendship is unshakable and our hearts beat together." He appreciated the Chinese support for Pakistan through the most difficult times and said Pakistan considered China one of its most trusted friends around the globe. He said Pakistan firmly adhered to the one-China principle and this commitment would always be unwavering. About the Chinese development, he said, "Today, China has become a giant through vision, hard work, and serious and untiring efforts. All doubts about the Chinese model, have been rubbished by the evidence of history." Referring to the congratulatory message from Chinese President Xi Jinping after his election, Prime Minister Shehbaz said, "This reflected the two countries'' friendship, which will always be fresh in his mind. He appreciated President Xi's leadership which steered millions of the Chinese people out of poverty and that during the visit, he wanted to learn from the Chinese model of poverty alleviation. He said Pakistan was also ready to learn from China's governance experience, deepen reforms and counter-corruption, create enabling circumstances for Chinese investors, and provide policy support for investors. About the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), he said since the start of its construction in 2013, the achievements of the project had been obvious to all. "From a more convenient and faster transportation network to a cleaner and more stable energy infrastructure, the CPEC has brought broad development opportunities to Pakistan." He said as CPEC was entering the second phase, and a new stage of high-quality development, the two countries were cooperating in agriculture, mining, labor-intensive light industry and other fields. Referring to the launch of Pakistan's first moon satellite and multi-mission communication satellite with Chinese support, the prime minister said the scientific and technological cooperation between the two countries had promoted Pakistan's scientific and technological progress. The multi-mission communication satellite is expected to change Pakistan's current digital environment, provide fast Internet facilities for the whole country, improve people's lives, and promote e-commerce, online government affairs and economic

development, he added. After landing here, the prime minister took to X saying, "Impressed by the city's skyline and development that symbolizes modern day China. Looking forward to my engagements with the provincial authorities, business community and industry giants here before proceeding to Beijing for official talks with President Xi Jinping, Premier Li Qiang and other Chinese leaders and high officials." Meanwhile, reiterating zero tolerance for corruption, inefficiency and incompetence, Shehbaz said his decision to abolish the Pakistan Public Works Department (Pak-PWD) was a step towards removing the rot that was eating the system like a cancer from within. He said years of poor performance and corruption, as well as the failure to achieve the set objectives led to the packing of Pak-PWD. "I am fully committed to building a more honest, dedicated and efficient bureaucracy that will deliver high-quality public service and raise standards of governance," the prime minister wrote on his X timeline, a day after he issued the directives in a high-level meeting on Monday. In the meeting, the prime minister was apprised of a report compiled by a committee headed by Deputy Chairman of Planning Commission Jahanzeb Khan which recommended the abolition of certain government entities and the merger of others. The prime minister directed the committee for finalization of further recommendations.

https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1197016-cpec-entering-new-phase-of-high-quality-development-shehbaz

PM Shehbaz Sharif in Beijing to hold meetings with Chinese officials

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif accompanied by a high-level delegation reached Beijing, as part of the second leg of his five-day trip to China, on Wednesday to hold important meetings with the Chinese government officials. Chinese vice Foreign Minister Sun Weidong received the premier, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar and other members of the cabinet and senior officials upon their arrival at the airport. The PM's visit to Beijing includes an extensive programmer reflecting depth and breadth of Pakistan-China ties, during which he will meet the Chinese president, the premier and the chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress. He will also attend a Pakistan-China Friendship and Business event and have meetings with the chief executive officers of leading Chinese companies working on China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) projects. A number of memorandum of understandings (MoUs) are likely to be signed between the two countries on cooperation in various fields.

PM invites Huawei to invest in various sectors in Pakistan

Earlier, PM Shehbaz invited the Chinese tech company Huawei to invest in Pakistan's taxation, and e-governance sectors besides enhancing its presence in Pakistan's Safe City projects, during his visit to its headquarters in Shenzhen. Upon his arrival at the headquarters, the premier was welcomed by Huawei Chairman Liang Hua. The chairman briefed the prime minister about Huawei's operations worldwide, particularly in Pakistan, and expressed keen interest in investing in country's different sectors. He was also briefed about different sectors including e-governance, digital banking, telecommunication and artificial intelligence. The premier appreciated the innovative operations of Huawei, including the Safe City projects and urged the company to increase its investments, particularly in the cities where CPEC projects were being executed. He apprised the company chairman of the steps taken by the

government for promotion of investment and ease of doing business in the country. The premier, highlighting the government's priority measures for digitization of government offices, said there existed immense investment potential for giants like Huawei in taxation system, e-governance, and artificial intelligence. Later, PM Shehbaz also attended the signing ceremony of a framework agreement between Huawei and Pakistan's Ministry of Science and Technology under which the company would impart free of charge training to around 200,000 youngsters in information technology including the artificial intelligence. Besides, the company would also extend its support to Pakistan in establishment of Safe Cities, e-governance and digitization of economy.

https://www.thenews.com.pk/latest/1197223-pm-shehbaz-sharif-in-beijing-to-hold-meetings-with-chinese-officials

Express News

پاکستان ، چین آئرن برادر ، چینی کمپنیوں کے اشتراک سے برآمدات میں اضافہ کیلئے کوشاں ، آئی ٹی، مصنوعی ذہانت، زراعت و دیگر شعبوں میں تعاون بڑھانا چاہتے ہیں

شہباز شریف دورے کے آغاز پر چین کے شہر شینزن پہنچے ، صوبہ گوانگ ڈونگ کے نائب سربراہ کی ملاقات، عشائیہ دیا ، وزیر اعظم آج بزنس فورم میں شرکت کریں گے

اسلام آباد ، شینزن (خالد محمود ، ایجنسیاں) وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف پانچ روزہ دورے پر چین پہنچ گئے ، وہ دورے کے پہلے مرحلے میں چین کے شہر شینزن پہنچے ہیں۔ ہوائی اڈے پر اعلیٰ چینی حکام، پاکستان میں چین کے سفیر جیانگ زیدونگ، پاکستان کے چین میں سفیر خلیل ہاشمی اور اعلی سفارتی اہلکاروں نے پر تپاک استقبال کیا۔ وزیر اعظم سے چین کی کمیونسٹ پارٹی کے شینزن کے سربراہ اور صوبہ گوانگ ڈونگ کے نائب سربراہ مینگ ف ینلی نے ملاقات کی ملاقات اور شینزن آمد کا خیر مقدم کیا۔ شہباز شریف نے کہا کہ کئی برس بعد شینزن آکر دلی خوشی ہوئی۔ پاکستان اور چین کی دوستی ہمالیہ سے اونچی ، سمندر سے گہری اور شہد سے میٹھی ہے۔ پاکستان چین کی ون چائنہ پالیسی کی بھر پور حمایت کرتا ہے ۔ شینزن لاہور کا سسٹر شہر اور گوانگ ڈونگ پنجاب کا سٹر صوبہ ہے۔ پاکستان چین کی ترقی سے بہت متاثر اور اس سے سیکھنا چاہتا ہے۔ ہماری حکومت سی پیک کے دوسرے مرحلے میں پاکستانی اور چینی کمپنیوں کے اشتراک اور سرمایہ کاری سے ملکی برآمدات میں اضافہ کیلئے کوشاں ہے۔ پاکستان چین کے ساتھ انفارمیشن ٹیکنالوجی ، مصنوعی ذہانت، جدید زراعت و دیگر شعبوں میں اشتراک کے فروغ کا خواہاں ہے۔ ملاقات کے بعد مینگ ف منلی نے وزیر اعظم اور پاکستانی وفد کے اعزاز میں عشائیہ کا اہتمام کیا۔ وزیر اعظم کے ہمراہ وفد میں اسحاق ڈار ، خواجہ آصف، احسن اقبال، محمد اورنگزیب، مصدق ملک، عطااللہ تارڑ، رانا تنویر ، جام کمال، عبدالعلیم خان ، شزہ فاطمہ خواجہ اور معروف کاروباری شخصیات شامل ہیں۔ شینزن پہنچنے پر وزیر اعظم نے ایکس پر پیغام میں کہا شہر کے افق اور ترقی سے بہت متاثر ہوا جو جدید چین کی عکاس ہے۔ وزیر اعظم آج بدھ کو پاک چائنہ بزنس فورم میں شرکت کریں گے ، وہ معروف چینی ہائی ٹیک کمپنیوں کے سربراہان سے بھی ملاقات کریں گے ۔ وزیر اعظم چین کے صدر شی جن پنگ ، وزیر اعظم لی کیانگ اور نیشنل پیپلز کانگریس کی سٹینڈنگ کمیٹی کے چیئر مین ژالیچی سے بھی ملاقات کرینگے ۔ چین روانگی سے قبل چینی میڈیا گروپس کو انٹرویو میں شہباز شریف نے چین کے ساتھ دوطرفہ تعلقات اور اقتصادی ، تجارتی و سرمایہ کاری روابط کو مزید مضبوط بنانے کے عزم کا اعادہ کرتے ہوئے کہا سی پیک اعلیٰ معیار کی ترقی کے دوسرے مرحلہ میں داخل ہو رہا ہے ، دونوں ممالک کے درمیان تعاون سے پاکستان کی سائنسی و تکنیکی ترقی کو فروغ ملا ہے ، چینی کمپنیاں پاکستان میں سرمایہ کاری کریں اور پاکستانی کمپنیوں کے ساتھ مل کر مشترکہ منصوبے بنائیں۔ سی پیک کو بھی اپ گریڈ کیا جائیگا۔ پاکستان چین تجربات سے سیکھنا چاہتا ہے اور خصوصی اقتصادی زونز کے قیام کا خواہاں ہے، پہلا اقتصادی زون پاکستان سٹیل ملز میں قائم کیا جائے گا جسے پہلے ہی ریل نیٹ ورک سے منسلک کیا جا چکا ہے۔ ہواوے کمپنی کو بھی قائل کریں گے کہ وہ انفارمیشن ٹیکنالوجی اور مصنوعی ذہانت کے حوالہ سے پاکستانی نوجوانوں کیلئے مختصر مدت کے کورسز شروع کرے۔ پاکستان اور چین آئرن برادرز اور ہماری دوستی لازوال ہے۔ ہم غربت کے خاتمے کے چینی ماڈل سے سیکھنا چاہتے ہیں۔ چین کے تعاون سے ملٹی مشن کمیونیکیشن سیٹلائٹ لانچنگ سے پاکستان کا موجودہ ڈیجیٹل ماحول تبدیل ہونے کی توقع ہے ، پورے ملک کیلئے تیز رفتار انٹر نیٹ سہولیات فراہم ہوں گی۔ ایک بیان میں وزیر اعظم نے اپنے دورہ چین کو پاک چین دوستی اور تعاون کیلئے سنگ میل قرار دیتے ہوئے کہا دونوں ممالک کے در میان زراعت ، بنیادی ڈھانچے کی

ترقی ، پیشہ ورانہ تربیت ، گوادر پورٹ کی توسیع ، صنعت ، معد نیات اور انفارمیشن ٹیکنالوجی سمیت مختلف شعبوں میں نئی شراکت داری قائم ہو گی ، سی پیک ایک نئے دور میں داخل ہو گا، سی پیک فیز ٹو ، بزنس ٹو بزنس روابط ، حکومت سے حکومت کی سطح پر بڑے منصوبوں پر غور کیا جائیگا۔ چینی صدرشی جن پنگ ایک عظیم لیڈر ہیں ان کی سوچ ، انداز ، فکر اور وژن کی بنیاد پر دنیا میں جنگوں کے خاتمے کیلئے کوشش کی جا رہی ہے اور دنیا میں امن، خوشحالی اور ترقی کو فروغ دیا جارہا ہے۔ چین نے کشمیر کے عوام کی آزادی کیلئے ہمیشہ آواز اٹھائی جبکہ پاکستان نے ہمیشہ چین کی ون چائنا پالیسی سمیت ہر حوالے سے حمایت کی ہے ۔ ایک ٹویٹ میں شہباز شریف نے کہا کر پشن ، نااہلی اور نالائقی کو برداشت نہیں کیا جائے گا۔ پاکستان پبلک ورکس ڈیپارٹمنٹ (پی ڈبلیو ڈی) کو ختم کرنے کا میرا فیصلہ اس خرابی کو دور کرنے کی طرف ایک قدم ہے جو ہمارے نظام کو اندر سے کینسر کی طرح کھا رہی ہے۔ میں ایک ایماندار ، دیانتدار اور اہل بیورو کریسی بنانے کیلئے پوری طرح پر عزم ہوں جو اعلیٰ معیار کی عوامی خدمت فراہم کرے گی اور حکمرانی کے معیار کو بلند کرے گی ۔ علاوہ ازیں وزیر اعظم سے ایم کیوایم کے ڈاکٹر خالد مقبول صدیقی نے رابطہ کر کے حیدر آباد کا دورہ کرنے کی درخواست کی ہے ۔ انہوں نے کہا حیدر آباد سانحہ میں شہید و زخمی ہونے والوں کی تعزیت و عیادت کے ساتھ ان کیلئے معاوضے کا اعلان بھی کیا جائےb

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Jang News

سی پیک اب نئے دور میں داخل ہورہا ہے،وزیراعظم، 5روزہ دورے پر چین پہنچ گئے

پاکستان اور چین کی کمپنیوں کے درمیان مفاہمت کی 16یادداشتوں پر دستخط ہوں گےجبکہ وزیراعظم شہبازشریف نے کہاہے کہ سی پیک اب نئے دورمیں داخل ہورہا ہے ‘ پاکستان چین کے ساتھ انفارمیشن ٹیکنالوجی، مصنوعی ذہانت‘ جدید زراعت و دیگر شعبوں میں اشتراک کے فروغ کا خواہاں ہے۔تفصیلات کے مطابق شہباز شریف اپنے پانچ روزہ دورہ چین کے پہلے مرحلے کیلئے شینزن پہنچ گئے ۔وزیر اعظم کا شینزن ہوائی اڈے پر اعلیٰ چینی حکام، پاکستان میں چین کے سفیر جیانگ زیدونگ، پاکستان کے چین میں سفیر خلیل ہاشمی اور اعلیٰ سفارتی اہلکاروں نے پرتپاک استقبال کیا۔علاوہ ازیں چین کی کمیونسٹ پارٹی کے شینزن کے سربراہ اور صوبہ گوانگ ڈونگ کے نائب سربراہ مینگ فینلی نے شہباز شریف سے شینزن میں ملاقات کی۔

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وزیراعظم کا دورہ چین،ML ون منصوبے کے مالی معاملات طے پانے کا امکان

سی پیک کےتحت چھ ارب ستر کروڑ ڈالرز کےکراچی تاپشاور ریلوے اپ گریڈیشن منصوبے میں بڑے بریک تھروکی راہ ہموار ہونے لگی۔وزیراعظم شہبا زشریف کےدورہ چین میں ایم ایل ون منصوبے کےمالی معاملات طے پانےکاامکان ہے۔ ایم ایل ون منصوبے کے لیے فنانسنگ معاہدےکے امورکو حتمی شکل دی جائے گی۔ معاملات طےپانےپرپاکستان اور چین کےدرمیان فنانسنگ کامعاہدہ ہوگا۔حکومتی ذرائع کےمطابق ایم ایل ون منصوبے کےلیے85فیصد یا پانچ ارب ستر کروڑ ڈالرز فنڈزچین کی جانب سے فراہم کیےجانےکاامکان ہےجبکہ منصوبے کےلیےپاکستان اپنے وسائل سے15فیصد یا تقریباً ایک ارب ڈالرز فنڈزفراہم کرے گا۔

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Nawaiwaqt

شہباز شریف کا سی پیک وژن: پاکستان خوشحالی کی راہ پر

سیدہ آمنہ بتول

پاکستان اور چین کے اقتصادی منظرنامے کو نئی شکل میں ڈھالتے ہوئے، وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف پاک چین اقتصادی راہداری (سی پیک) منصوبے کی سربراہی کر رہے ہیں، اس شاندار منصوبے کامقصد دونوں ممالک کے درمیان اقتصادی تعاون اور علاقائی روابط کو فروغ دینا ہے۔ سی پیک کے دوسرے مرحلے کا آغاز ہو چکا، یہ منصوبہ دونوں قوموں کے درمیان ترقی کی نئی راہوں کی تلاش، صنعتی فروغ، زرعی جدت اور سائنسی تعاون پرمبنی تعلقات کو مزید مستحکم کرنے

پر مرکوز ہے۔ 2015 میں آغاز کردہ یہ منصوبہ اس وقت کے وزیر اعظم نواز شریف کی زیرحکومت بیلٹ اینڈ روڈ انیشی ایٹو (BRI) کا اہم حصہ ہے، جو کہ حطے میں تعلقات کی مضبوط اور اقتصادی ترقی کو فروغ دینے کے لیے تیارکیا گیا عظیم منصوبہ ہے۔سی پیک نے پاکستان میں نمایاں پیش ظاہر کی جس کے نتیجے میں جدید شاہراہوں، ریلویز اور ہوائی اڈوں کے انفراسٹرکچر نے جہاں سفر کے دورانیے کو کم کیا وہیں تجارتی امکانات کو بھی روشن کیا۔ منصوبے میں توانائی کے حوالے سے 10,000 میگاواٹ کے گرڈ سٹیشن جیسے اقدامات نے بجلی کی قلت کو تاریخ کاحصہ بنا تے ہوئے صنعتی توسیع کو تقویت دی۔ نو شانداراکنامک زون کی موجودگی بین الاقوامی سرمایہ کاری کے لیے دلچسپی کے ساتھ نئے کاروبار اور روزگار کے مواقع بھی پیدا کر رہی ہے۔ روزگار اورمعاشی ترقی کو ہوا دیتے ہوئے سی پیک پاکستان کو نئی بلندیوں پر لے جا رہا ہے،اسی طرح خطے میں اس کی مرکزی اقتصادی حیثیت کی بنیاد پر مزیدترقی اور غربت کے خاتمے کی اہمیت کے پیش نظراس کے عالمی مقام میں بھی اضافہ ہورہا ہے۔وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف نے سی پیک کی کامیابی کے حوالے سے اپنے عزم کودہراتے ہوئے منصوبے کے فیز 2 پر مزیدتیزی سے کام کے عزم کا اعادہ کیا ہے، جس میں صنعتی تعاون، زراعت، اور سائنس و ٹیکنالوجی شامل ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا، "ہم سی پیک کو اپنے لوگوں کی اقتصادی ترقی اور خوشحالی کا نیا دور اورکامیابی کی مثال بنانا چاہتے ہیں۔" فیز 2 کے آغاز کے ساتھ، پاکستان میں اقتصادی ترقی کی نئی لہر آئی ہے، جو علاقائی تجارت اور کاروبارمیں اسکے کلیدی کردارمزید مستحکم کررہی ہے۔ شہباز شریف نے پاکستان کی اقتصادی ترقی اور خوشحالی میں سی پیک کی اہمیت کوجانتے ہوئے اسکی کامیابی کے لیے غیر متزلزل عزم کا اظہار کیا ہے۔ ان کی زیر قیادت حکومت نے منصوبے کی بروقت اورمناسب تکمیل کے لیے فیصلہ کن اقدامات اٹھائے ہیں۔سی پیک پر پیشرفت میں تیز ی لانے کے لیے حکومت نے کثیر جہتی طریقہ کار اختیار کیا ہے۔ انفراسٹرکچر ڈویلپمنٹ ، پاورجنریشن، اور صنعتی تعاون کو ترجیح دیتے ہوئے تیزی سے کام کیا گیا ۔ اس کے علاوہ ، اسٹیک ہولڈرز کے درمیان ہم آہنگی اور تعاون کو بڑھانے کے لیے ادارہ جاتی فریم ورک کوبھی مضبوط کیا گیا ، جو ایک مربوط اور باہمی تعاون پر مبنی نقطہ نظر کو یقینی بناتا ہے۔ غیر ملکی سرمایہ کاری کوفروغ اور سازگار کاروباری ماحول کی تشکیل کے لیے سرمایہ کار دوست پالیسیاں اور مراعات بھی متعارف کرائی گئی ہیں۔ مزید برآں، حکومت نے پائیدار ترقی اور ماحولیاتی تحفظ پر زوردیتے ہوئے ،سی پیک کے تمام منصوبوں میں ماحول دوست طرز عمل اور سماجی ذمہ داری کو خاص اہمیت دی۔ ایک جامع نقطہ نظر اپناتے ہوئے، حکومت سی پیک کو ہرلحاظ سے ایک کامیاب منصوبہ بنانا چاہتی ہے، جس میں اقتصادی ترقی، روزگار کے مواقع اور شہریوں کے معیار زندگی کو بہتر بنانے جیسے عوامل شامل ہیں۔وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف نے چین کے ساتھ قریبی تعاون پر زور دیتے ہوئے باہمی فوائد اور اعتماد کو یقینی بنایاتاکہ بیلٹ اینڈ روڈ انیشیٹو میں کلیدی شراکت دار کے طور پر پاکستان کی پوزیشن کو مستحکم کیا جاسکے ۔ ان کوششوں کے ذریعے، پاکستان سی پیک کے مکمل ثمرات جیسے اقتصادی ترقی ، روزگار کے مواقع اور اپنے شہریوں کے لیے معیار زندگی کو بہتر بنانے جیسے نتائج حاصل کرسکے گا۔ سابق وزیر اعظم نواز شریف جنہوں نے سی پیک کاآغاز کیا تھا، کے سٹریٹجک وژن کی بنیاد پر، وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف اس پر عمل درآمدکا کردار انتہائی موثر انداز میں نبھارہے ہیں ۔ پنجاب کے وزیر اعلیٰ کے طور پر اپنے دور میں بھی، انہوں نے سی پیک منصوبوں کو موثر اندازمیں فعال بنانے کے لیے ان کی بروقت تکمیل اور ترقی کو یقینی بنایا۔ ان کی نگرانی میں، لاہور مینبننے والی اورنج لائن میٹرو ٹرین جیسے اہم انفراسٹرکچرزکی ترقی نے شہری نقل و حرکت میں خاطرخواہ اضافہ کیا۔ شہباز شریف نے سی پیک میں توانائی کے منصوبوں کو ترجیح دی ہے، جس کی مثال ساہیوال کول پاور پراجیکٹ کی جلد تکمیل ہے، جس سے 1,320 میگاواٹ بجلی حاصل اورلوڈ شیڈنگ میں نمایاں کمی میں کرداراداکیا۔ ان کے اسی اسٹریٹجک وژن اور انتظامی مہارت نے چینی سرمایہ کاروں کو متاثر کرنے کے لیے خصوصی اقتصادی زونز (SEZs) کے قیام میں سہولت فراہم کی۔ ایک قابل ذکر مثال فیصل آباد میں علامہ اقبال انڈسٹریل سٹی ہے، جس نے ملازمت کے ہزاروں مواقع پیدا کیے اورصنعتی پیداوار میں اضافہ کیا۔

سی پیک کے متنازعہ کشمیری علاقے سے گزرنے والے راستے پر ہندوستانی موقف اور درپیش چیلنجوں کے باوجود، شہباز شریف سی پیک کے دوسرے مرحلے کی کامیابی سے پُر امید ہیں۔ پہلا مرحلہ، جس میں توانائی اور بنیادی ڈھانچے کے منصوبوں پر توجہ دی گئی تھی، کامیابی سے مکمل ہو چکا ہے۔ آنے والے مرحلے میں زرعی پراجیکٹس، پاکستان ریلویز کی مین لائن-1، بزنس ٹو بزنس ڈیلز، اور شاہراہ قراقرم کی از سر نوترقی پر کام شامل ہے ۔ شہباز شریف کی زیر قیادت سی پیک کے معاشی اثرات انتہائی نمایاں رہے ۔ انفراسٹرکچر کی ترقی، جیسا کہ ملتان سکھر موٹروے نے نقل و حرکت کوآسان کیا، سفر کا وقت کم اور کاروباری حضرات، مسافروں اور سیاحوں کے لیے یکسانطورپرخرچ میں کمی کاباعث بنی۔ پاکستان میں سی پیک منصوبوں کے آغاز سے روزگار کے مواقعوں میں اضافہ، اقتصادی ترقی اور ہزاروں پاکستانیوں کے لیے مفید اقدام کے طور پر کام کیا ہے۔ سی پیک پاکستان کے معاشی مستقبل کے لیے گیم چینجر ہے۔ منصوبے نے پہلے ہی ملکی معیشت پراپنے مثبت اثرات مرتب کرتے ہوئے ملکی ترقی اوروسعت میں کردارادا کیا۔وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف کی ٹھوس کاوشوں اور 2024 میں سی پیک پر خصوصی توجہ نے منصوبے میں نئی جان ڈال دی ہے، ان کوششوں نے منصوبے کی کامیابی کو یقینی بناتے ہوئے علاقائی اقتصادی معاملات میں پاکستان کی پوزیشن کومزید

مستحکم کیا ہے۔ سی پیک پرپیشرفت کے ساتھ، اس پر ترقی کی رفتار کو برقرار رکھنا، شفافیت، احتساب اور ماحولیاتی پائیداری کو یقینی بنانااہمیت اختیارکرگیا ہے تاکہ اسے پاکستان اور خطے کے لوگوں کے لیے زیادہ سے زیادہ مفید بنایا جاسکےہم وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف کے کامیاب دورہ چین کے خواہاں ہیں اورسی پیک کے دوسرے مرحلے کے پُرجوش آغاز کی توقع رکھتے ہیں، جس سے دونوں ممالک کے درمیان اقتصادی تعاون اور دوستی کو مزید فروغ اورتقویت ملے گی۔

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سی پیک منصوبے اور پاکستان کی ترقی، چولی دامن کا ساتھ: شہباز شریف

وزیراعظم شہباز شریف 5 روزہ دورہ پر چین کے شہر شینزن پہنچ گئے، جہاں سے انہوں نے اپنا پہلا پیغام بھی جاری کر دیا ہے۔ وزیراعظم شہباز شریف کا اعلیٰ چینی حکام اور پاکستان میں چین کے سفیر نے استقبال کیا۔ شہباز شریف جدید آئی ٹی کمپنیوں کا دورہ اور فورم میں شرکت کریں گے۔ 79 پاکستانی کمپنیوں کے نمائندے چینی کمپنیوں کے نمائندوں سے ملاقاتیں کریں گے۔ شہباز شریف نے سماجی رابطے کی ویب سائٹ ایکس پر اپنے پیغام میں کہا ہے کہ چینی قیادت کی دعوت پر اپنے پہلے سرکاری دورے پر شینزن پہنچا ہوں، شہر کے افق اور ترقی سے بہت متاثر ہوا جو جدید چین کی عکاس ہے۔ صوبائی حکام کے ساتھ مصروفیات کے لئے پُرجوش ہوں۔ شینزن کی کاروباری اور صنعتی شخصیات کے ساتھ ملاقاتیں کروں گا۔ شینزن کے بعد صدر شی جن پنگ، وزیراعظم لی کیانگ اور دیگر چینی رہنماؤں کے ساتھ ملاقاتوں کے لئے بیجنگ جاؤں گا۔ دورے سے قبل جاری پیغام میں شہباز شریف نے کہا ہے کہ پاکستان اور چین دوستی کے لازوال رشتے میں بندھے ہیں، چین نے ہر مشکل وقت میں پاکستان کا غیر مشروط ساتھ دیا، چین کے تعاون کے ساتھ نواز شریف کے دور کے دوران بجلی کے اندھیرے ختم ہوگئے۔ اس سے پاکستان کے مخالفین کے پیٹ میں بہت بل پڑے لیکن ہمین اس سے گھبرانا نہیں چاہیے، میں چین کے صدر شی جن پنگ کی لیڈر شپ کا دل سے معترف ہوں، انہوں نے پاکستان اور چین کی دوستی نا صرف ہمالیہ نما بنائی بلکہ اسے سمندروں سے گہرا کر دیا۔ اس میں کوئی شک نہیں کہ چین کی پاکستان کے ساتھ لازوال دوستی ہے۔ ہم ایک دوسرے پر اعتماد کرتے ہیں، ہم ایک خاندان کی طرح گفتگو کرتے ہیں، چین پاکستان کا ایک ایسا دوست ہے جس کی کوئی دوسری نظیر نہیں ملتی۔ خلیجی برادر ممالک بھی ہمارے پر اعتماد دوست ہیں لیکن چین کے ساتھ ہمارا ہمسائے کا تعلق ہے جو 75 سال پر محیط ہے۔ چین نے ہر مشکل وقت میں پاکستان کا غیر مشروط ساتھ دیا چاہے طوفان ہو یا جنگ، جس طرح ایک بھائی دوسرے بھائی کا ساتھ دیتا ہے۔ نواز شریف کے پچھلے دور میں چین اور پاکستان کی دوستی دوسرے مرحلے میں شامل ہوئی اور سی پیک کے ذریعے پاکستان میں نواز شریف نے بطور وزیر اعظم تقریبا39 ارب ڈالر کی سرمایہ کاری کا اہتمام کیا، اس کے نتیجے میں پاکستان میں بے پناہ خوشحالی آئی اور سب سے بڑا سنگین مسئلہ بجلی کا، جس کی وجہ سے اندھیرے چھائے ہوئے تھے۔ صنعتیں دم توڑ چکی تھیں، چین کے تعاون کے ساتھ نواز شریف کے دورہ کے دوران بجلی کے اندھیرے ختم ہو گئے۔ اس سے پاکستان کے مخالفین کے پیٹ میں بہت بل پڑے لیکن ہمیں اس سے گھبرانا نہیں چاہیے۔ ہمارا یہ دورہ اس دوستی کی ایک اور اونچی سمت متعین کرے گا اور اس میں سی پیک کو ہم نئے دور میں داخل کریں گے جسے میں سی پیک فیز 2 کا نام دیتا ہوں، اس میں بزنس ٹو بزنس جو تعلقات ہیں اس میں بے پناہ بہتری لانے کی کوشش کی جائے گی اور اسی طرح حکومت ٹو حکومت میں جو بڑے منصوبے ہیں اس پر بھی گفتگو کریں گے۔ شہباز شریف نے بتایا کہ میں چین کے صدر شی جن پنگ، جن کی ماہرانہ قیادت کی وجہ سے چین دنیا کی ایک بڑی طاقت بن گیا، کی لیڈر شپ کا دل سے معترف ہوں۔ ہم چین کے شکر گزار ہیں کہ انہوں نے کشمیر کے عوام کے لیے آواز اٹھائی اور کشمیری بھائیوں کی حمایت کی۔ پاکستان چین کے تمام معاملات کے حوالے سے حمایت کی چاہے وہ ون کنٹری ٹو سسٹم ہو، ہانگ کانگ ہو، تائیوان ہو جس کو پاکستان چین کا اٹوٹ انگ سمجھتا ہے۔ ان معاملات میں پاکستان چین سے متفق ہے اور اس کا ساتھ دیتا ہے۔ قبل ازیں وزیر اعظم نے ٹویٹ میں کہا کہ کرپشن، ناقابلیت اور نااہلی پر زیرو ٹالرنس ہے۔ سماجی رابطے کی ویب سائٹ ایکس پر جاری بیان میں ان کا کہنا تھا کہ پی ڈبلیو ڈی کو ختم کرنا ناسور کو دورکرنے کی جانب ایک قدم ہے، یہ ناسور ہمارے نظام کو اندر سے کینسرکی طرح کھا رہا ہے۔ انہوں نے لکھا کہ ایک زیادہ ایماندار اور مؤثر بیوروکریسی کی تشکیل کے لیے پوری طرح پر عزم ہوں، ایسی بیورو کریسی جو اعلیٰ معیار کی عوامی خدمات کی فراہمی اور حکمرانی کا معیار بلند کرے گی۔ علاوہ ازیں ایم ایل ون منصوبہ میں کراچی تا پشاور ریلوے ٹریک کی اپ گریڈیشن کے منصوبے میں بڑے بریک تھرو کی راہ ہموار کی۔ وزیراعظم کے دورہ چین میں ایم ایل ون منصوبے کے مالی معاملات طے پانے کا امکان ہے۔ ایم ایل ون منصوبے کیلئے فنانسنگ معاہدے کے امور کو حتمی شکل دی جائے گی۔ معاملات طے پانے پر پاکستان اور چین کے درمیان فنانسنگ کا معاہدہ ہوگا۔ ایم ایل ون منصوبے کیلئے 85 فیصد فنڈز چین کی جانب سے فراہم کئے جانے کا امکان ہے۔ حکومتی ذرائع کے مطابق منصوبے کیلئے پاکستان اپنے وسائل سے 15 فیصد فنڈز فراہم کرے گا۔ ایم ایل ون منصوبہ 8 سال میں مکمل کرنے کا اندازہ لگایا گیا ہے۔ منصوبے کے تحت کراچی سے پشاور تک 1726 کلو میٹر ڈبل ٹریک کو اپ گریڈ کیا جائے گا۔ سی ڈی ڈبلیو پی نے گزشتہ ماہ ایم ایل ون منصوبے کا نظرثانی پی سی ون منظور ہو چکا ہے۔ سی ڈی ڈبلیو پی نے 6 ارب 70 کروڑ ڈالر کے ایم ایل ون منصوبے کی

منظوری دی تھی۔ دورے پر روانگی سے پہلے انٹرویو میں وزیراعظم شہباز شریف نے چین کے ساتھ دوطرفہ تعلقات اور اقتصادی، تجارتی و سرمایہ کاری روابط کو مزید مضبوط بنانے کے عزم کا اعادہ کرتے ہوئے کہا ہے کہ پاکستان چین کے تجربات سے استفادہ کرکے برآمدات میں اضافے کا خواہاں ہے، سی پیک اعلیٰ معیار کی ترقی کے دوسرے مرحلہ میں داخل ہو رہا ہے، دونوں ممالک کے درمیان تعاون سے پاکستان کی سائنسی و تکنیکی ترقی کو فروغ ملا ہے ، چینی کمپنیاں پاکستان میں سرمایہ کاری کریں اور پاکستانی کمپنیوں کے ساتھ مل کر مشترکہ منصوبے بنائیں۔ وزیراعظم نے کہا کہ دونوں ممالک کی کمپنیوں کے باہمی فائدے اور سرمایہ کاری کے فروغ کیلئے چین کی کاروباری شخصیات کے ساتھ بات چیت کے ذریعے دوطرفہ تعلقات کو مضبوط بنایا جائے گا، چین پاکستان اقتصادی راہداری کو بھی اپ گریڈ کیا جائے گا۔ پاکستان اور چین آئرن برادرز ہیں اور ہماری دوستی لازوال ہے اور ہمارے دل ایک دوسرے کیساتھ دھڑکتے ہیں۔انہوں نے مشکل ترین وقت میں چین کی طرف سے پاکستان کی حمایت کو سراہا اور کہا کہ پاکستان چین کو دنیا بھر میں اپنا سب سے قابل اعتماد دوست سمجھتا ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ پاکستان ون چائنا اصول پر مضبوطی سے کاربند ہے اور یہ عزم ہمیشہ اٹل رہے گا۔ چین پاکستان اقتصادی راہداری (سی پیک) کے حوالہ سے وزیراعظم نے کہا کہ 2013 میں اس کے آغاز کے بعد سے حاصل ہونے والی کامیابیاں سب کے سامنے عیاں ہیں۔ توانائی کے صاف اور بہتر بنیادی ڈھانچہ کے حوالہ سے تیز تر اور مفید نقل و حمل کے نیٹ ورک کے نتیجہ میں سی پیک سے پاکستان کیلئے وسیع تر ترقی کے مواقع پیدا ہوئے ہیں۔ بعد ازاں شینزن میں شہباز شریف نے چینی میڈیا سے گفتگو میں پاک چین تعلقات اہم قرار دیتے ہوئے کہا ہے کہ سی پیک اب نئے دور میں داخل ہورہا ہے۔ ون بیلٹ ون روڈ صدر شی جن پنگ کا شاندار منصوبہ ہے، جو اس سوچ کی عکاسی کرتا ہے کہ دنیا میں امن قائم کئے بغیر ترقی اور خوشحالی ممکن نہیں ہے۔ سی پیک ون بیلٹ ون روڈ کا حصہ ہے، جس کے تحت پاکستان میں بے پناہ ترقی ہوئی اور منصوبے لگائے گئے جن کا پاکستان کی معاشی ترقی کے ساتھ چولی دامن کا ساتھ ہے۔ اللہ تعالیٰ نے تھرکول کی صورت میں پاکستان کو بہت بڑا خزانہ دیا عطا کیا ہے اور تیل کے مقابلے میں کوئلہ سے سستی بجلی بنائی جا سکتی ہے، اس کے استعمال سے نہ صرف سستی بجلی پیدا ہو سکتی ہے بلکہ اربوں ڈالر کی درآمدی بچت بھی ہو سکتی ہے۔ صدر شی جن پنگ کا دل کی اتھاہ گہرائیوں سے شکریہ ادا کرتا ہوں جنہوں نے سی پیک کے حوالے سے پاکستان میں بے پناہ سرمایہ کاری کی اور اب سی پیک ایک نئے مرحلے میں داخل ہو رہا ہے، جس میں بی ٹو بی اس کا سب سے اہم جزو ہو گا۔ زراعت میں ہم چین کے تجربات سے مدد حاصل کرنا چاہتے ہیں، چینی کمپنیوں کے ساتھ زراعت کے شعبے میں معاہدے کئے جائیں گے، مجھے پوری امید ہے کہ چینی قیادت ہمارا پورا ساتھ دے گی۔ وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف نے کہا ہے کہ پاکستان جدید ٹیکنالوجی سے ملکی زرعی شعبے کی پیداوار اور زرعی برآمدات میں اضافے کیلئے کوشاں ہے، پاکستان چین کے ساتھ انفارمیشن ٹیکنالوجی، مصنوعی ذہانت، جدید زراعت و دیگر شعبوں میں اشتراک کے فروغ کا خواہاں ہے۔ چین کی کمیونسٹ پارٹی کے شینزن کے سربراہ اور صوبہ گوانگ ڈونگ کے نائب سربراہ مینگ فینلی نے وزیرِ اعظم شہباز شریف سے شینزن میں ملاقات کی۔ ملاقات میں مینگ فین لی نے وزیر اعظم کا شینزن آنے پر خیرمقدم کیا اور انہیں شینزن کے حوالے سے تفصیلی طور پر آگاہ کیا۔ وزیر اعظم نے کہا کہ کئی برس بعد شینزن آکر دلی خوشی ہوئی، شینزن کی حکومت اور اس کے عوام کی مہمان نوازی پر مشکور ہوں۔ شینزن لاہور کا سسٹر شہر اور گوانگ ڈونگ پنجاب کا سسٹر صوبہ ہے، پاکستان چین کی ترقی سے بہت متاثر ہے اور چین کی ترقی سے سیکھنا چاہتا ہے۔ ہماری حکومت سی پیک کے دوسرے مرحلے میں پاکستانی اور چینی کمپنیوں کے اشتراک اور سرمایہ کاری سے ملکی برآمدات میں اضافے کیلئے کوشاں ہے، اپنے دورے کے شینزن سے آغاز کا مقصد شینزن کی ترقی بالخصوص انفارمیشن ٹیکنالوجی کے شعبے کی ترقی سے سیکھنا ہے۔ پاکستانی حکومت جدید ٹیکنالوجی سے ملکی زرعی شعبے کی پیداوار اور زرعی برآمدات میں اضافے کیلئے کوشاں ہے، پاکستان کی سب سے بڑی طاقت اس کی نوجوان افرادی قوت ہے جو ملکی آبادی کے 60 فیصد ہے، شینزن اور پاکستان میں یہ قدر مشترک ہے، امید کرتا ہوں کہ شینزن میں پاکستانی طلباء کی تعداد میں مزید اضافہ ہوگا۔ مینگ فینلی نے کہا کہ چین اور پاکستان کی دوستی بہت مضبوط اور گہری ہے، شینزن کی حکومت اور شینزن کے لوگوں کیلئے آپ کی میزبانی اعزاز کی بات ہے۔ مینگ فینلی نے کہا کہ امید کرتا ہوں آپ کی چینی اعلیٰ قیادت بالخصوص چینی صدر شی جن پنگ اور چینی وزیرِ اعظم لی کیانگ کے ساتھ ملاقاتیں دونوں ممالک کے باہمی تعلقات اور شراکت داری کے فروغ کے حوالے سے مفید ثابت ہوں گی، شینزن میں پاکستانی طلباء کی بڑی تعداد زیرِ تعلیم ہے، پاکستان اور شینزن کے مابین تجارت کے فروغ کے وسیع مواقع موجود ہیں۔ ملاقات کے بعد مینگ فینلی نے وزیرِ اعظم اور پاکستانی وفد کے اعزاز میں عشائیہ کا اہتمام کیا۔

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Business Recorder

Five-day China visit

PM vows security to investments, individuals

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Wednesday, assuring all-out facilitation to Chinese investors, and security of Chinese individuals, projects and investments in Pakistan, emphasised that mutually rewarding business-to-business cooperation was key to a bright future for the two people. The prime minister, addressing the Pakistan-China Business Forum during his five-day China visit, highlighted bilateral trade and investment potential, especially in key sectors including transfer of Chinese technology, industry and partnership in IT, agriculture, mining, steel, textiles and renewable energy. The prime minister repeatedly lauded the Chinese model of development and economic transformation and vowed to replicate the same in Pakistan. "I will go back to Pakistan with this resolve, come what may, we will follow this model of great economic transformation in Pakistan. This model is enough to copy and simulate if we are sincere to our purpose and people. By God, I can tell you this is difficult but not impossible," he told the gathering of hundreds of business leaders from Pakistan and China. As the Business Forum also marked the B2B matchmaking, he urged the Pakistani businessmen to sit with their Chinese counterparts and find out ways to move Chinese textile industries to Pakistan and make joint collaborations in steel and other industries. "Today is the opportunity, time and moment to capture. Sit down with Chinese friends to have serious discussions.

I want to ensure you not as prime minister but as Chief Executive of Pakistan that I will give you the fullest support so that businessmen of Pakistan and China get benefits jointly," he remarked. He informed the Forum that Pakistan had mineral deposits of around $10 trillion while the country's exports stood at $30 billion. The minerals deposits offer huge potential to dig out and convert them into finished and semi-finished goods for exports, he added.

He assured the Chinese side that his government had already initiated structural changes in Pakistan to control corruption. Prime Minister Shehbaz drew a comparison between the $500 billion GDP of the 13-million city of Shenzhen and the $380 billion GDP of Pakistan with 250 million population and called it the Chinese city's swift transformation a "miracle of this century" and the "eighth wonder of the world", necessitating for others to learn the lesson from.

He appreciated Chinese President Xi Jinping's dynamic and visionary leadership which elevated his country to become the second-largest economy and military power within a short span of time and steered 700 million people out of poverty, despite pressures and challenges. He also recalled that during the decades of 50s or 60s, Pakistan's economic indicators were better than those of China and called for a collective resolve to regain its stature.

The prime minister also lauded President Xi's vision of peace and development including the Belt and Road Initiative under China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) that had benefited Pakistan immensely through huge investment. Referring to a terror attack on Chinese workers

in Besham in the recent past, the prime minister conveyed his condolence for the "dastardly and heart-wrenching" incident and called it "one of the saddest" days of his life when the whole nation felt saddened. He said the government had taken various measures to ensure foolproof security to protect the lives of Chinese workers in Pakistan. "I will spare no effort to protect the lives of Chinese workers and assure and guarantee that we will provide them security more than our children.

This will never happen again," he assured. In his remarks, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar sharing a past account of Pakistan's good track record of economic performance being 24th largest economy, said the frequent change of governments and political uncertainty led to serious setbacks in the program. However, he said Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif had a very clear roadmap featuring export-led growth coupled with industrialization and import-substitution driven industry with a core idea to reduce the fiscal deficit. The deputy prime minister highlighted the country's potential in IT, agriculture, mining and minerals and said that the Business Forum was different from the previous typical events as it featured matchmaking of business entities from Pakistan and China. He urged the Chinese businessmen to look into Pakistan's potential and told them that the labor costs in Pakistan were very competitive. Besides, for facilitation and smooth processing of investment, the Special Investment Facilitation Council has been formed under the prime minister with all relevant ministries and provincial chief ministers working under one umbrella for the purpose. "This is the high time you considered B2B joint ventures. The outline is clear. We are going for a deep structural economic transformation. We are working on a fast track to reach the target of joining G20. You will see, the government will be exiting from business," he remarked. He urged the Chinese firms to participate in the privatization process of around 84 state-owned enterprises under consideration. Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb highlighting the country's overall economic outlook told the gathering that all economic indicators were in the right direction and with a positive trajectory. "The agriculture GDP growth during this fiscal year of 6.25% is a real bright spot," he said. He said on the current account side, remittances had held ground and the exports have moved up not only in terms of traditional sectors of textile but also agriculture, on the back of bumper crops, and Information Technology. The finance minister said that the country's current account deficit was going to be less than a billion dollars during this fiscal. He said that Pakistan was in talks with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for a longer and larger programme, which was crucial to ensure permanence in micro-economic stability and to execute the structural changes. In his opening remarks, Pakistan's Ambassador in Beijing Khalil Hashmi said the forum would pave the new pathway for economic and trade cooperation. He said the forum had been organised in the city considering its remarkable growth, innovation culture and and global reputation for Shenzhen Speed. He said the conference, attended by around 500 business leaders from Pakistan and China, would also provide an opportunity for the businessmen of both sides to network and forge mutually beneficial ventures.

https://epaper.brecorder.com/2024/06/06/1-page/994859-news.html

Pakistan keen to access Chinese capital markets: Aurangzeb

Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb said on Wednesday that Pakistan was keen to access Chinese capital markets as the cash-strapped country looked to raise finances from international markets. If that happens, it would be Pakistan's first venture into China's capital markets, Aurangzeb said. Islamabad could return to the international bond market this year, he said at a business conference in the Chinese city of Shenzhen, where he was part of a delegation led by Pakistan's Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on a five-day official visit. He has previously said that Pakistan would like to raise $300 million in Panda bonds by tapping the Chinese bond market as and when the country's credit rating improved. Over 100 businessmen and companies from Pakistan were part of the delegation, seeking business opportunities days ahead of Pakistan's annual budget. Islamabad and Beijing have long been close allies. China has always been forthcoming with financial help to Pakistan, which needs external financing support again, ahead of seeking a new long and longer IMF Extended Fund Facility (EFF). Chinese loan rollovers have in the past helped Pakistan improve its external financing health to secure IMF loans. Beijing has over $65 billion in investment in road, infrastructure and development projects under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor as part of President Xi's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). The IMF held two weeks of talks with Pakistani authorities last month to discuss fiscal consolidation measures and structural reforms before formal negotiations for a new loan, which Islamabad hopes could be worth at least $6 billion. Aurangzeb said Pakistan's macroeconomic indicators were showing a path to stabilization, with inflation slowing to a 30- month low. "Policy rate will start moving down," the finance minister said of the key rate, which Islamabad had held steady at 22% for seven straight monetary policy meetings.

https://epaper.brecorder.com/2024/06/06/1-page/994861-news.html

Pakistan, China sign 32 agreements in 'historic moment'

During the current visit of the prime minister of Pakistan to China, the promotion of business activities between the two countries were reviewed in detail and Federal Minister for Board of Investment Abdul Aleem Khan and Commerce Minister Jam Kamal Khan held meetings with CEOs of major Chinese companies. Talking in this regard, Federal Minister Abdul Aleem Khan said that as many as 500 companies from China and 100 from Pakistan took part in this Pak China business forum while 32 MoUs were signed in addition to bilateral negotiations which were held with Chinese companies and remained successful. Abdul Aleem Khan said that this is the best opportunity for Pakistani business community. He indicated that this conference has provided best platform for both sides connectivity which will last in long term business ties. Khan further said that apart from investment it will also be an opportunity for China for direct export to the other countries, as well. While talking to the business entrepreneurs, Abdul Aleem Khan said that Pakistan will fully encourage Chinese companies for setting business activities there while the private sector will be given complete free hand to invest in energy, infrastructure development, farming, engineering construction and logistics sectors. Aleem Khan further said that the participation of well-known businessmen from Pakistan in the visit to China is encouraging and in the near future in Pakistan's sectors of hotels, tourism, culture, sports goods, textile, decoration industry and

airport designing will be the main fields for offering investments. He asserted that there is no doubt that Pakistan is full of potential and very much rich in natural resources that even today business activities can be promoted on a large scale with a suitable environment which will also drive the economy and create employment for the youth. Federal Ministers Aleem Khan and Jam Kamal held different consultative meetings with important Chinese business groups in which bilateral proposals were discussed and plans were finalised to go ahead. It is mentionable that Pakistan's Ministry of Commerce, Board of Investment and National Food Security took part with their Chinese counterparts in holding business-to-business activities. Aleem Khan and Jam Kamal Khan spent a busy day on the first leg of this tour where deliberations were held in detail between the two countries. Moreover, agreements and negotiations were undertaken by holding consultative meetings with important Chinese business groups along with the Pakistani business community.

https://epaper.brecorder.com/2024/06/06/1-page/994862-news.html

Daily Times

Pakistan-China Friendship: Building a brighter future for upgraded version of CPEC in the new era

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif said on Wednesday that China and Pakistan are determined to take the upgraded version of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) to new heights to advance regional connectivity, integration, and common prosperity, thus forging a new era of growth and development for nations in the region and beyond.

Chinese President Xi Jinping's state visit to Pakistan in 2015 was a milestone event of epoch-making significance for the development of bilateral relations, leaving me with fond memories and injecting new momentum into enhancing mutual trust and economic cooperation between the two countries. This visit has also pushed forward the construction of the CPEC to new heights, attracting more Chinese investment into key sectors in Pakistan, creating more job opportunities, stimulating economic growth, and promoting macroeconomic stability and development in my country.

There can be no better practice to achieve a vision of common prosperity in the modern era. "We are thankful to President Xi and the Chinese government for this strong support for Pakistan during challenging times," the prime minister wrote in an article published by Global Times ahead of his important meeting with the Chinese leadership here. While highlighting that the upgraded version of the CPEC promises an even brighter future, he said, both sides have jointly built a growth corridor, a livelihood-enhancing corridor, an innovation corridor, a green corridor, and an open corridor, which resonate with the people-centric development agenda of the Pakistani government. The CPEC has already taken off at a swift pace, promoting cooperation in industrialization, agriculture, IT, and mining as priority sectors under the framework of the CPEC. Infused with the spirit of win-win cooperation, the upgraded version of the CPEC envisions over 60 high-quality cooperation projects. Pakistan is dedicated to realizing this goal by further elevating its time-tested and enduring partnership with China to greater heights, he added. On his official visit to China at the invitation of Chinese Premier Li Qiang, he said, he said, this is his first official visit to China since

assuming the office of the Prime Minister this time. “I see the visit as a vital opportunity to further strengthen cooperation between Pakistan and China across political, economic, trade, and investment domains. Personally, it will also be an opportunity for me to, once again, benefit from Chinese wisdom on issues of peace, security, and development,” he added. Shehbaz Sharif said, since assuming the office of Prime Minister this time, he has been singularly focused on a comprehensive governance and economic reform agenda to bolster our economy in an uncertain international economic landscape. “Our primary focus is to streamline regulations, maintain policy continuity, and foster an environment conducive to strong, equitable, and resilient economic growth,” he added.

He said that his government is also cultivating a business-friendly environment that places a high premium on Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), supports the capital needs of our economic development, drives productivity, enhances exports, and fosters job creation. To bring improvements to the service sector, the government has started to work on measures such as an increased number of vocational training programs; encouraging public-private partnership in skill development, especially for digital jobs; and investing in advanced technologies for the modernization of manufacturing, increasing our productivity in all sectors of the national economy. “My aim is to replicate China’s successful model of a virtuous cycle of development and prosperity,” he added.

The prime minister said, as he believes that the upgraded version of the CPEC should be based on cooperation between the two governments, he constituted a Cabinet Committee on Chinese Investment Projects (CCoCIP) in March this year, which specifically oversees and facilitates Chinese investment plans in Pakistan. He informed that the CCoCIP is chaired by a seasoned Minister for Planning, Development, and Special Initiatives, who brings a wealth of experience to China-Pakistan economic and development cooperation.

“In all our endeavors, we are fully committed to supporting and securing Chinese personnel, projects, and institutions as they continue to make immense contributions to the development and prosperity of Pakistan,” he added. Regarding the establishment of a Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC) to foster and enhance Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in Pakistan, through a “whole of a government approach” and a “one window facility,” he said, the Council is delivering results in the increasing ease of doing business, removing barriers, and optimizing synergy between federal and provincial governments.

It is prioritizing key sectors in Pakistan such as agriculture, mining, information technology, and energy through foreign investments. “I am personally leading this work to ensure the highest level of implementation of our commitment to achieve the desired results, “he added. Shehbaz Sharif said it is gratifying to see that our reform initiatives and the priority sectors for attracting the FDI are dovetailed by the five corridors envisioned for the upgraded version of the CPEC, namely growth, livelihood, innovation, green, and open corridors.

For example, the development of SEZs and industrialization as our national priorities correspond to the CPEC’s “growth corridor.” Similarly, IT as another national priority sector corresponds to the innovation corridor; clean energy and agriculture to the green corridor; and mines and minerals to the livelihood corridor, he added. The prime minister remarked that the upgraded version of the CPEC is rightly envisaged as an accelerator for job creation

and economic growth through attracting the FDI and industrialization with a focus on boosting Pakistan's capacity to export high-quality labor-intensive goods and services, particularly to the Chinese market. Finally, the CPEC's "open corridor" resonates with our outreach to international partners to invest in Pakistan and benefit from a win-win proposition, he added. Expressing his determination to promote more similar exchanges, he said, on one hand, the government is committed to seeking more higher education cooperation between China and Pakistan in the field of "new quality productive forces," and on the other hand, to further deepen the friendship and trust between our two countries and peoples. Shehbaz Sharif said, Pakistan shares China's vision when it comes to promoting international peace and regional stability, advancing sustainable development, and committing to true multilateralism for a more equal, prosperous, and peaceful world. President Xi proposed the milestone "three major global initiatives," namely the Global Development Initiative, the Global Security Initiative, and the Global Civilization Initiative, which have pointed the way for China and Pakistan as well as countries around the world to work together to build a global community of shared future, he added. The prime minister said, Pakistan and China have an iron-clad friendship spanning 73 years, marked by shared sentiments of unparalleled strategic trust, camaraderie, and unflinching solidarity. "Our "All Weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership" has grown into a sturdy tree with deep roots in the hearts of our two peoples. We have stood by each other, through weal and woe, sharing good as well as challenging times together, in the true spirit of iron-clad friendship," he added. He said, the special relationship between the two countries is rooted in the mutual understanding of the people of both countries, and built on shared ideals, values, and aspirations. This has made China and Pakistan good neighbors, good friends, and good brothers who understand, trust, and support each other. "Our remarkable bond is also deeply rooted in history, with a rich legacy of social, cultural, and economic linkages dating back over 2,000 years.

Our ancestors from both sides traversed the ancient Silk Road to forge a path of cultural exchanges and trade cooperation that binds our nations together," he added. He pointed out that Pakistan's northern areas served as a vital artery for the ancient Silk Road, connecting China to the Middle East, Africa, and Europe, and that, in turn, enabled the flow and exchange of trade, knowledge, and culture, profoundly influencing the development process of nations across the region. Its modern-day manifestation is the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), a flagship project of the visionary joint building of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), which has revived the ancient Silk Road, now connecting China and Pakistan through air, rail, and sea routes, and even spans to Central Asia, Europe, and Africa, he said. The prime minister strongly believes that with the joint efforts of our two sides, the China-Pakistan deepening cooperation will yield even greater benefits, improving the lives of our citizens – our most vital assets – while building a stronger China-Pakistan Community of Shared Future in the New Era. Long live Pakistan-China Friendship!

https://dailytimes.com.pk/1198363/pakistan-china-friendship-building-a-brighter-future-for-upgraded-version-of-cpec-in-the-new-era/

PM brought innovation in CPEC: Tarar

Federal Minister for Information, Broadcasting, National Heritage and Culture Attaullah Tarar on Wednesday said that Prime Minister (PM) Shehbaz Sharif had brought an innovation within China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). Talking to the media here, the minister said that a new era was beginning in CPEC under the vision of the Prime Minister. More than 500 Pakistani and Shenzhen businessmen participated in Business to Business Conference in Shenzhen, he added. "The relations between Pakistan and China are entering a new era which is an important milestone for the Pakistani economy," the minister said. He opined that business-to-business meetings and conferences in Shenzhen will play a significant role in the stability and development of Pakistan's economy. The minister said that a meeting with the owner of a mobile phone manufacturing plant was held whose factory was operational in Pakistan. He said that it will export its mobile sets from Pakistan. He said that there was also a discussion regarding electric vehicles manufacturing. He said that PM Shehbaz Sharif will also meet the Chinese leadership in Beijing. He said with the grace of Allah Almighty, Pakistan will make rapid progress owing to these measures.

https://dailytimes.com.pk/1198359/pm-brought-innovation-in-cpec-tarar/

US, China, UK remain top destinations for Pakistani exports

The United States (US) remained the top export destination of Pakistani products during the first ten months of the current financial year 2023-24, followed by China and the United Kingdom (UK). Total exports to the US during July-April 2023-24 were recorded at US 4,497.658 million against the exports of US $ 4,993.310 million during July-April 2022-23, showing a decline of 9.92 percent, according to the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP). This was followed by China, wherein Pakistan exported goods worth US $2,341.089 million against the exports of US $1,700.303 million last year, showing an increase of 37.68 percent. UK was the third top export destination, where Pakistan exported products worth US $1,683.655 million during the months under review against the exports of US $1,645.754 million, SBP data revealed. Among other countries, Pakistani exports to UAE stood at US $1,637.779 million against US $1,207.041 million last year, showing an increase of 35.68 percent while the exports to Germany were recorded at US $1,235.348 million against US $1,366.321 million last year, data said. During July-April, the exports to Holland were recorded at $1,143.879 million against $1,210.378 million whereas the exports to Italy stood at $918.011 million against $951.240 million. Pakistan's exports to Spain were recorded at $1,199.450 million against the exports of US $1,156.110 million while the exports to Afghanistan were recorded at $433.567 million against $435.954 million last year. The exports to Bangladesh stood at US $542.165 million against US $644.104 million. Similarly, the exports to France during the months under review were recorded at US $421.556 million against US $487.161 million while the exports to Belgium stood at US $447.907 million against US $583.823 million.

https://dailytimes.com.pk/1198416/us-china-uk-remain-top-destinations-for-pakistani-exports/

Chinese firm shows interest in investing in Pakistan's mobile phones, e-bikes, Fintech sectors

Chairman of Chinese firm Transsion Holdings Zhu Zhaojiang on Wednesday called on Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif here and conveyed his company's interest in enhancing investment in mobile phone manufacturing unit and investing in electric bikes, modern agriculture, mobile phone manufacturing and Fintech sectors. He said the incumbent government was extending all-out-facilitation to foreign investors and businessmen. He also invited Transsion Holdings to manufacture goods in Pakistan for export purposes, citing the country's immense resources and youth bulge. Zhu Zhaojiang apprised the prime minister of his company's current operations in Pakistan, global exports and the future plans to enhance investment in Pakistan. It was told that the company had already established a mobile phone manufacturing unit in Pakistan providing employment to around 5,000 Pakistani workers. He said the company desired to expand its investment in the mobile phone industry which would also increase mobile phone export from Pakistan.

https://dailytimes.com.pk/1198361/chinese-firm-shows-interest-in-investing-in-pakistans-mobile-phones-e-bikes-fintech-sectors/

Pakistan eyes access to Chinese capital markets: Aurangzeb

Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb has said that Pakistan was keen to access Chinese capital markets, as Islamabad seeks to raise finances from international avenues. The remarks came on Wednesday while addressing the Pak-China Business Forum being held in Shenzhen. "During the next fiscal year, we want to go in with Pakistan's inaugural Panda bond issue to access the Chinese capital market which is the second largest and deepest market in the world," said Aurangzeb. "At our end, we are in the preparatory stages, we are going to be in touch with the regulatory authorities in China because this is going to follow a structure followed by the Government of Egypt, which is going to be a guarantee-back structure in terms of the inaugural Panda bond in this market," he said. The finance minister said that he expects the policy rate to decline this year on the back of a significant decline in the inflation rate, which has come down from a peak of 38% to a little over 11% in May. "It has beaten the market consensus," said Aurangzeb, adding that not only core inflation but also food inflation is declining. Pakistan's headline inflation clocked in at 11.8% on a year-on-year basis in May, the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS) said on Monday, much lower than the reading in April when it stood at 17.3%. "While this is very much in the domain of the central bank, we do expect that the policy rate will start moving down in line with inflation, because we now have enough cushion in terms of the positive real interest rate that we need to maintain. "So the interest rate regime in Pakistan, which has been an issue for a while, we should start seeing some relief on that front during the course of this calendar year," he said. In his address, Aurangzeb admitted that "with respect to our Chinese partners and investors there have been some temporary hiccups, in terms of delays in payments, repatriation". "I want to assure you that these were not structural in nature, as we go forward we are there to help support, assist any way we can," he said. The finance minister reiterated that all macro indicators of Pakistan are moving in the right direction with a positive trajectory. "The agriculture GDP growth during this fiscal year of 6.25% is a real bright

spot," he said. "On the fiscal side, we have a primary surplus, due to both fiscal consolidation and fiscal discipline. "On the current account side, remittances have held ground and the exports have moved up not only in terms of traditional sectors of textile but agriculture, on the back of bumper crops, and Information Technology," he added. He said that the country's current account deficit is going to be less than a billion dollars during this fiscal. He said that Pakistan is in talks with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for a longer and larger programme, which is crucial to ensure permanence in microeconomic stability and to execute the structural changes.

https://dailytimes.com.pk/1198430/pakistan-eyes-access-to-chinese-capital-markets-aurangzeb/

PM invites Huawei to invest in Pakistan's safe city, taxation, e-governance sectors

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Wednesday visited the Huawei headquarters here and invited the company to invest in Pakistan's taxation and e-governance sectors besides enhancing its presence in Pakistan's Safe City projects.

On his arrival at the headquarters, Huawei Chairman Liang Hua welcomed him which followed the playing of national anthems and his visit of the Exhibition Center. The chairman briefed the prime minister about Huawei's operations worldwide, particularly in Pakistan and expressed keen interest in investing in the country's different sectors.

He was also briefed about different sectors including e-governance, digital banking, telecommunication and artificial intelligence.

The prime minister, who later held a bilateral meeting with Chairman Liang Hua along with his delegation, appreciated the Safe City projects executed by Huawei in Pakistan and invited the company to invest in the projects, particularly in the cities where the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) projects were being executed.

He apprised the company chairman of the steps taken by the government for the promotion of investment and ease of doing business in the country.

The prime minister, highlighting the government's priority measures for digitization of government offices, said there existed immense investment potential for giants like Huawei in the taxation system, e-governance, and artificial intelligence.

He also invited the Huawei chairman to invest in the introduction of modern technology in the agriculture sector and also invited the Huawei chairman to visit Pakistan.

Later, the prime minister also attended the signing ceremony of a framework agreement between Huawei and Pakistan's Ministry of Science and Technology under which the company would impart free of charge training to around 200,000 youngsters in information technology including artificial intelligence.

Besides, the company would also extend its support to Pakistan in the establishment of Safe Cities, e-governance and digitization of the economy. The company chairman also hosted a luncheon reception for the prime minister and his delegation. After visiting the Huawei

headquarters, the prime minister took to X saying, "I was impressed by the latest innovative technologies that are changing the world and the way we live.

In the meeting, they discussed how Huawei and Pakistan could collaborate to build a better and digital future together. The prime minister also reiterated his commitment to advancing an innovative, inclusive and sustainable digital transformation for Pakistan.

https://dailytimes.com.pk/1198360/pm-invites-huawei-to-invest-in-pakistans-safe-city-taxation-e-governance-sectors/

Dawn News

PM Shehbaz in China pledges full support, security for investors

Syed Irfan Raza

ISLAMABAD: Emphasizing the need for business-to-business cooperation between Pakistan and China, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Wednesday assured Chinese investors and their investment-oriented projects of all-out facilitation and foolproof security in Pakistan. Addressing the Pakistan-China Business Forum in Shenzhen on the second day of his China visit, the PM highlighted bilateral trade and investment potential, especially in key sectors including transfer of Chinese technology, industry and partnership in IT, agriculture, mining, steel, textiles and renewable energy. He repeatedly lauded the Chinese model of development and economic transformation and vowed to replicate the same in Pakistan. "I will go back to Pakistan with this resolve, come what may, we will follow this model of great economic transformation in Pakistan. This model is enough to copy and simulate if we are sincere to our purpose and people. By God, I can tell you this is difficult but not impossible," he told the gathering of hundreds of business leaders from Pakistan and China. He also urged Pakistani businessmen to sit with their Chinese counterparts and find ways to move Chinese textile industries to Pakistan and make joint collaborations in steel and other industries. He told the forum that Pakistan had mineral deposits of around $10 trillion, while the country's exports stood at $30 billion. The mineral deposits offer huge potential to convert them into finished and semi-finished goods for exports, he said. The PM also assured the Chinese side that his government had already started structural changes to rein in corruption. PM Shehbaz drew a comparison between the $500 billion GDP of the 13 million-strong city of Shenzhen and the $380 billion GDP of Pakistan, with its 250 million people, and called the Chinese city's swift transformation a "miracle of this century", which others could learn from. Referring to a terror attack on Chinese workers in Besham in the recent past, the prime minister conveyed his condolences, saying that the government had taken various measures to ensure foolproof security to protect the lives of Chinese workers in Pakistan. "I will spare no effort to protect the lives of Chinese workers and assure and guarantee that we will provide them security more than our children. This will never happen again," he added. Earlier, PM Shehbaz was greeted at Beijing airport by Chinese vice For-e-ign Minister Sun Weidong and offici-als of Pakistan's embassy in Beijing. The prime minister has an extensive programme in Beijing and will meet with Chinese President Xi Jinping, Premier Li Qiang and chairman of the National People's Congress Standing Committee. He will also attend a Pakistan-China Friendship and Business event and have meetings with the CEOs of leading

Chinese companies working on CPEC projects. SHENZHEN: PM Shehbaz Sharif witnesses the signing of an agreement between the Ministry of Information Technology and Huawei, on Wednesday.—PPI. A number of MoUs between the two countries on cooperation in various fields are likely to be signed. On Wednesday, the prime minister also visited the Nanshan One-Stop Service Centre and the Shenzhen Exhibition Museum.

Visit to Huawei

Also on Wednesday, PM Shehbaz visited the headquarter of Chinese telecommunications and technology giant, Huawei, and invited the company to invest in Pakistan's taxation and e-governance sectors besides enhancing its presence in the various Safe City projects operational across the country. He also invited the Huawei chairman to invest in the introduction of modern technology in the agriculture sector and also invited the Huawei chairman to visit Pakistan. Later, the prime minister also attended the signing ceremony of a framework agreement between Huawei and Pakistan's Ministry of Science and Technology under which the company would impart free of charge training to around 200,000 youngsters in information technology including artificial intelligence. Besides, the company would also extend its support to Pakistan in the establishment of Safe Cities, e-governance and digitization of the economy.

https://www.dawn.com/news/1838106/pm-shehbaz-in-china-pledges-full-support-security-for-investors

Pakistan Observer

China felicitates Pakistan on UNSC Non-Permanent Membership

Islamabad – Iron friend China has congratulated Pakistan for being elected as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council (UNSC) for 2025-2026 term.

A statement issued by Chinese Embassy extended felicitation to Pakistan for non-permanent membership of UNSC.

"Looking forward to enhancing coordination with Pakistan at the UNSC to work for peace and speak up for justice," the statement reads. UN General Assembly elected these five countries, and Pakistan got 182 votes, meeting the criterion of obtaining two-thirds of the votes.

The Asian nation will serve from January 1, 2025, to December 31, 2026. This marks Pakistan's eighth term as a non-permanent member of the UNSC.

https://pakobserver.net/china-felicitates-pakistan-on-unsc-non-permanent-membership/

32 MoUs signed at Pak-China Business Forum in Shenzhen

BEIJING – Thirty-two memorandums of understanding were signed at the Pakistan-China Business Forum in Shenzhen to boost bilateral trade and investment relations between the two countries.

Minister for Privatization and Board of Investment, Abdul Aleem Khan, in a statement said 500 Chinese companies and 100 companies from Pakistan participated in the forum. On the

other hand, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif who is leading Pakistan delegation will spend a busy day in Beijing today. The Prime Minister will address Pakistan-China Friendship and Business Reception.

The Prime Minister will meet the heads of China International Development Agency, China Exim Bank, China Power, China Energy, China Road and Bridge Corporation, China Construction and Communication Corporation. Shehbaz Sharif will also visit Science Park and Academy of Agricultural Sciences.

https://pakobserver.net/32-mous-signed-at-pak-china-business-forum-in-shenzhen/

Pakistan desires Chinese investment in ML-1 upgradation project: PM

BEIJING – Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday said Pakistan desired Chinese investment in ML-1 upgradation project. He was talking to Chairman of China International Cooperation Agency (CIDCA) Ambassador Luo Zhaohui who called on him in Beijing. The Prime Minister emphasized the need for cooperation between Pakistan and China in the fields of agriculture, information technology, blue economy, communication, minerals and mining. He said security of Chinese nationals in Pakistan is priority of the government. The Prime Minister underlined that the governments and the peoples of both countries have always stood in solidarity with each other during times of natural disasters and calamities. He commended CIDCA's pivotal role in supporting developing countries and particularly Pakistan during the Covid-19 pandemic, the post-2022 flood reconstruction and grant of polio vaccines. Shehbaz Sharif appreciated the robust support of CIDCA for CPEC projects and for Pakistan's socioeconomic development, particularly the Pakistan-China Friendship Hospital, the Desalination Plant in Gwadar, and the New Gwadar International Airport. Ambassador Luo Zhaohui offered CIDCA's support to Pakistan in Special Economic Zones and Health Sector. Terming China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) as the hallmark of ironclad friendship between Pakistan and China, they noted that the Joint Working Group on Socioeconomic Development under the CPEC had yielded positive results. They also expressed the confidence that the momentum would continue in the CPEC phase II to improve lives and livelihoods of the people.

https://pakobserver.net/pakistan-desires-chinese-investment-in-ml-1-upgradation-project-pm/

Chinese Consul General Zhao Shiren visits Chaudhary Shujaat

Chinese Consul General Zhao Shiren visited former Prime Minister ChaudharyShujaat Hussain at his residence in Gulberg on Wednesday. The Chinese consul general expressed good wishes for Chaudhry Shujaat Hussain's well-being and complete recovery. Chaudhary Shafay Hussain, the son of Chaudhary Shujaat Hussain, was also present there. Mr. Zhao Shiren praised ChaudharyShujaat Hussain as a seasoned politician and a prominent figure in Pakistan's politics. He thanked Chaudhary Shujaat for writing a letter to the Prime Minister regarding Chinese security with reference to the bulletproof vehicles. He also expressed gratitude to the governments of Pakistan and Punjab for providing full-proof security to Chinese nationals. The Chinese Consul General said that the current time is the best and the environment is conducive for investment in Punjab. More Chinese companies would be attracted to invest in Punjab. The discussions were also held during the meeting to enhance

economic cooperation between Punjab and China. Chaudhry Shujaat said that the friendship between Pakistan and China is strong, and efforts should be made to further strengthen economic cooperation between the two countries. He mentioned that numerous Chinese companies had already invested in various sectors in Punjab. He welcomed further investment from Chinese companies in solar technology and other sectors. More than 15 Chinese solar companies had already held meetings regarding solar panel manufacturing in Punjab. The minister said that a high-level delegation from Punjab would visit China next month. During the visit, the meetings would be held with Chinese investors, associations, solar experts and garment specialists.

https://pakobserver.net/chinese-consul-general-zhao-shiren-visits-chaudhary-shujaat/

PM hails "Shenzhen Speed" at Pak- China Business Conference

Shenzhen's modernization offers Pakistan lessons to copy and emulate. A few decades ago, Shenzhen was a small fishing village, but today, with a population of 17 million people, it has created a GDP of around USD 500 billion", Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif said at the Pakistan China Business Conference held today in Shenzhen, according to a report carried by China Economic Net (CEN) on Wednesday. "The Shenzhen speed is remarkable achievement. Going back to Pakistan, it's enough for us to learn from", he said. Going through the history of China, he attributed China's dynamic economic advancement to the "solidarity" of Chinese people, their "untiring efforts" and "forward-going visons" of the leadership. He also highlighted China's achievements in erty alleviation, and youth empowerment. Referring to the ensuing B2B session of the conference, which provides opportunities "of unprecedented scale" for bilateral companies in ICT, EV, solar, textile, steel, agriculture, etc. to explore chances of cooperation, he urged Pakistani companies to sit down with Chinese counterparts and find out how to attract China's industries to Pakistan. "Pakistan's mining sector is worth USD 10 trillion, but for now only USD 30 million is availed. Today is the moment for you to capture", he said, adding that support will be provided like never before for mutual benefit. He also extolled China's commitment to bringing peace to the world. Hailing China's role as a friend, neighbor, and close partner of Pakistan through thick and thin, he pledged to spare no effort in protecting the lives of Chinese brothers and sisters in Pakistan.—INP

https://pakobserver.net/pm-hails-shenzhen-speed-at-pak-china-business-conference/

Chinese firm keen to invest in Pakistan mobile phones, e-bikes

Chairman of Chinese firm Transsion Holdings Zhu Zhaojiang on Wednesday called on Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif here and conveyed his company's interest in enhancing investment in mobile phone manufacturing unit and investing in electric bikes, modern agriculture, mobile phone manufacturing and Fintech sectors. The prime minister, who is in China for a five-day official visit, urged the relevant federal ministers and Pakistan's Ambassador in China to formulate an early strategy, in coordination with the Chinese company. He said the incumbent government was extending all-out-facilitation to foreign investors and businessmen. He also invited Transsion Holdings to manufacture goods in Pakistan for export purposes, citing the country's immense resources and youth bulge. Zhu Zhaojiang apprised

the prime minister of his company's current operations in Pakistan, global exports and the future plans to enhance investment in Pakistan. It was told that the company had already established a mobile phone manufacturing unit in Pakistan providing employment to around 5,000 Pakistani workers. He said the company desired to expand its investment in the mobile phone industry which would also increase mobile phone export from Pakistan. Federal ministers Ishaq Dar, Khawaja Muhammad Asif, AhsanIqbal, Muhammad Aurangzeb, Abdul Aleem Khan, Jam Kamal Khan, AttaullahTarar and Minister of State Shaza Fatima Khawaja attended the meeting.—APP

https://pakobserver.net/chinese-firm-keen-to-invest-in-pakistan-mobile-phones-e-bikes

First batch of Pak aquatic products reaches Kashgar

A shipment of fresh aquatic products from Pakistan successfully entered China via the Kashgar airport in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region, CEN reported on Wednesday. This event marks a significant milestone as the region embarks on international trade in fresh aquatic products. The shipment, carried by a China Southern Airlines flight from Islamabad to Kashgar, comprised a total of 774 kilograms of aquatic products valued at $2,760.

https://pakobserver.net/first-batch-of-pak-aquatic-products-reaches-kashgar/

The Express Tribune

PM Shehbaz Sharif vows to follow Chinese model of success

BEIJING: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday reiterated his resolve to make Pakistan a great nation and regain its position by following the Chinese development model through utmost hard work and a sharp focus on industrial and agricultural progress. "If we follow the Chinese model, I have no doubt, Pakistan will regain its position in the comity of nations and will be respected like our Chinese brothers are respected by friends and foes… We will follow your model, work hard untiringly, put in our sweat and blood, and make Pakistan a great country," the prime minister said addressing the 4th Pakistan-China Friendship and Business Reception in Beijing. He told the gathering of Pakistani and Chinese business leaders that Pakistan would follow Chinese President Xi Jinping's vision to focus on progress and prosperity by avoiding conflicts and cited immense Chinese progress and projects like the Belt and Road Initiative, China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, Global Development Initiative (GDI) and the Global Security Initiative (GSI). The prime minister, who is in China on a five-day official visit, advised the Pakistani people against being dejected or losing hope rather than standing up and accepting the challenge to reach the level of Chinese progress within a few years or decades. He said that the China-Pakistan friendship had no parallel in the world which remained unshakeable and unreachable even during the storms, wars, and earthquakes. Recalling the Chinese journey of swift development to become the second biggest economic and military power under President Xi's vision, PM Shehbaz said it was achieved only through hard work and untiring efforts. "All Pakistanis will also have to pass through this thorny process. There is no other way to earn respect in the world," he remarked. He said having come into being two years after Pakistan, China took its trade to trillions of dollars while Pakistan's hovered around $30-40 billion in terms of

exports. PM Shehbaz said that China has excelled in information technology and artificial intelligence. He also referred to the "wonderful" bilateral cooperation in the space programme as Pakistan recently sent a lunar satellite and a space satellite recently with Chinese collaboration. Referring to the sad and gruesome attack by Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) killing five Chinese workers in Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa's Besham in April, PM Shehbaz condemned the incident and conveyed his deepest condolence to the families of those who were killed. He said that the incident which sent a shockwave across Pakistan was the nefarious plot of enemies of China-Pakistan friendship and CPEC as well as those who did not want to see bilateral ties rising to the apex of glory. "I want to make a solemn pledge that whatever is humanly possible, we will put in all measures and arrangements to protect the lives of every Chinese citizen in Punjab, Sindh, Balochistan, K-P, G-B and AJK. I want to make a solemn commitment that the security of Chinese nationals will be more than that of my own and my children," he assured.

https://tribune.com.pk/story/2470088/pm-shehbaz-sharif-vows-to-follow-chinese-model-of-success

PM envisions CPEC Phase II deepening bilateral ties

BEIJING: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday expressed the confidence that the next phase of the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) would serve to further deepen the strategic partnership between the two countries. Highlighting CPEC as the major plank of Pakistan's economic reform agenda, the prime minister said that CPEC presented a success story of mutually beneficial bilateral cooperation and a solid foundation for Pakistan's economic development. He was speaking at the Pakistan-China Friendship and Business event co-organized by Pakistan Embassy in China, Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries (CPAFFC) and China International Cultural Communication Center (CICCC) in Beijing. The event was also attended by senior members of the prime minister's entourage and a large number of prominent Chinese dignitaries, officials, academics, think-tank experts and businesspersons. The prime minister urged the Chinese investors and businesspersons to make use of the investment opportunities in Pakistan, especially with the establishment of Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC) that offers one-window solution to international investors. He called for practical and mutually beneficial cooperation in priority areas of mining, ICT and agriculture. The prime minister underscored the importance of multilateralism and international law for international peace, security and development. He appreciated China's approach of cooperation and dialogue, particularly with the countries of the developing world, through a journey of common understanding and shared prosperity. Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday met the Chairman of China International Cooperation Agency (CIDCA) Ambassador Luo Zhaohui wherein they exchanged views on the unique and enduring China-Pakistan friendship and the promotion of pragmatic cooperation driven by common development, strategic trust and mutual benefit. The prime minister appreciated the robust support of CIDCA for CPEC projects and for Pakistan's socioeconomic development, particularly the establishment of Pakistan-China Friendship Hospital, the Desalination Plant in Gwadar, and the New Gwadar International Airport. Terming the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor

(CPEC) as the hallmark of ironclad friendship between Pakistan and China, they noted that the Joint Working Group on Socioeconomic Development under the CPEC had yielded positive results. They also expressed confidence that the momentum would continue in the CPEC phase II to improve the lives and livelihoods of the people. Prime Minister Shehbaz underlined that the governments and the peoples of both countries had always stood in solidarity with each other during times of natural disasters and calamities. He commended CIDCA's pivotal role in supporting developing countries particularly Pakistan during the COVID-19 pandemic, the post-2022 flood reconstruction, and the grant of polio vaccines. The CIDCA chairman expressed commitment to further deepening China-Pakistan cooperation across diverse fields. He also underlined the need to expand the bilateral partnership in infrastructure development, climate change response, and human resource development, including under the ambit of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and the Global Development Initiative (GDI).

MoUs

Pakistan and China on Thursday signed multiple Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) to enhance bilateral cooperation in agriculture, labor-intensive manufacturing industry, digital economy, green economy and logistic ecosystem. The MoUs were signed between Pakistan's Board of Investment (BoI) and several Chinese entities at a signing ceremony witnessed by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Mohammad Ishaq Dar, who is accompanying Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on a five-day visit to China. Special Assistant to the Prime Minister Syed Tariq Fatemi, Foreign Secretary Muhammad Syrus Sajjad Qazi, Pakistan's Ambassador to China Khalil Hashmi, Secretary Board of Investment Rahim Hayat Qureshi and Additional Secretary BOI Dr Erfa Iqbal were also present on the occasion. Speaking on the occasion, the deputy prime minister and foreign minister emphasized the importance of China's outward-looking global economic policies, the capacity of Chinese enterprises to invest in the international market and the matching potential of Pakistan's domestic market. Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif witnesses signing of Memorandums of Understanding regarding cooperation in different fields between China and Pakistan, in Beijing, China, March 06, 2024. He highlighted the supportive environment in Pakistan for Chinese businesses interested in relocating industries from China. Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday said Pakistan was taking steps to improve governance, increase the tax net and ensure ease of doing business to attract foreign direct investment (FDI), state-run Radio Pakistan reported. During a meeting with China Exim Bank President Dr Wu Fulin in Beijing today, the premier said the results of reform measures had started appearing as the "inflation in the food sector had been controlled to a great extent". He said that the current account deficit had narrowed and public debt had been brought to a more sustainable level, Radio Pakistan said.

https://tribune.com.pk/story/2470147/pm-envisions-cpec-phase-ii-deepening-bilateral-ties

The Nation

Business-to-business coop key to Pak, China bright future: PM

Shehbaz guarantees facilitation, security to Chinese investments. Invites Huawei to invest in Pakistan's safe city, taxation, e-governance sectors. PM visits Nanshan one-stop center; directs to replicate model in Pakistan. Lauds President Xi's dynamic and visionary role for making China as world's economic and military power. Chinese show interest in investing in Pak mobile phones, e-bikes, Fint SHENZHEN - Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Wednesday, assuring all-out facilitation to Chinese investors, and security of Chinese individuals, projects and investments in Pakistan, emphasized that mutually rewarding business-to-business cooperation was key to a bright future for the two people. The prime minister, addressing the Pakistan-China Business Forum during his five-day China visit, highlighted bilateral trade and investment potential, especially in key sectors including transfer of Chinese technology, industry and partnership in IT, agriculture, mining, steel, textiles and renewable energy. The prime minister repeatedly lauded the Chinese model of development and economic transformation and vowed to replicate the same in Pakistan. "I will go back to Pakistan with this resolve, come what may, we will follow this model of great economic transformation in Pakistan. This model is enough to copy and simulate if we are sincere to our purpose and people. By God, I can tell you this is difficult but not impossible," he told the gathering of hundreds of business leaders from Pakistan and China. As the Business Forum also marked the B2B matchmaking, he urged the Pakistani businessmen to sit with their Chinese counterparts and find out ways to move Chinese textile industries to Pakistan and make joint collaborations in steel and other industries. "Today is the opportunity, time and moment to capture. Sit down with Chinese friends to have serious discussions. I want to ensure you not as prime minister but as Chief Executive of Pakistan that I will give you the fullest support so that businessmen of Pakistan and China get benefits jointly," he remarked. He informed the Forum that Pakistan had mineral deposits of around $10 trillion while the country's exports stood at $30 billion. The minerals deposits offer huge potential to dig out and convert them into finished and semi-finished goods for exports, he added. He assured the Chinese side that his government had already initiated structural changes in Pakistan to control corruption. He drew a comparison between the $500 billion GDP of the 13-million city of Shenzhen and the $380 billion GDP of Pakistan with 250 million population and called it the Chinese city's swift transformation a "miracle of this century" and the "eighth wonder of the world", necessitating for others to learn the lesson from. He appreciated Chinese President Xi Jinping's dynamic and visionary leadership which elevated his country to become the second-largest economy and military power within a short span of time and steered 700 million people out of poverty, despite pressures and challenges. Referring to a terror attack on Chinese workers in Besham in the recent past, the prime minister conveyed his condolence for the "dastardly and heart-wrenching" incident and called it "one of the saddest" days of his life when the whole nation felt saddened. He said the government had taken various measures to ensure foolproof security to protect the lives of Chinese workers in Pakistan. Meanwhile, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif visited the Huawei headquarters here and invited the company to invest in Pakistan's taxation and e-governance sectors besides enhancing its presence in Pakistan's Safe City projects. On his arrival at the

headquarters, Huawei Chairman Liang Hua welcomed him which followed the playing of national anthems and his visit of the Exhibition Center. The chairman briefed the prime minister about Huawei's operations worldwide, particularly in Pakistan and expressed keen interest in investing in the country's different sectors. He was also briefed about different sectors including e-governance, digital banking, telecommunication and artificial intelligence. Prime Minister Shehbaz, who is on a five-day visit to China, appreciated the innovative operations of Huawei and urged the company to increase its investment in Pakistan. The prime minister, who later held a bilateral meeting with Chairman Liang Hua along with his delegation, appreciated the Safe City projects executed by Huawei in Pakistan and invited the company to invest in the projects, particularly in the cities where the China–Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) projects were being executed. He apprised the company chairman of the steps taken by the government for the promotion of investment and ease of doing business in the country. The prime minister, highlighting the government's priority measures for digitization of government offices, said there existed immense investment potential for giants like Huawei in the taxation system, e-governance, and artificial intelligence. He also invited the Huawei chairman to invest in the introduction of modern technology in the agriculture sector and also invited the Huawei chairman to visit Pakistan. Later, the prime minister also attended the signing ceremony of a framework agreement between Huawei and Pakistan's Ministry of Science and Technology under which the company would impart free of charge training to around 200,000 youngsters in information technology including artificial intelligence. Besides, the company would also extend its support to Pakistan in the establishment of Safe Cities, e-governance and digitization of the economy. Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif also visited the Nanshan One-Stop Service Center and Shenzhen Exhibition Museum and directed his ministers to immediately coordinate with the Center to replicate a similar modern system in Pakistan. On his arrival at the Center, the prime minister was received by Member of Party Leadership Government of Shenzhen Nanshan District Peoples Government and Deputy Mayor Li Zhinha. He was briefed about the digital system established at the Center to register companies and carry out other processes under one roof. He lauded the modern systems developed at the Nanshan One-Stop Services for the registration of companies and businesses. The prime minister instructed Minister of State for Information Technology Shaza Fatima Khawaja and Secretary IT and other relevant authorities to hold discussions with the Center to establish an identical modern system in Pakistan. He also directed the relevant authorities to take necessary measures to establish a similar system in the country with Chinese cooperation. He also instructed the authorities concerned to introduce a similar modern and swift system in Pakistan to provide basic facilities to the common citizens as well. The prime minister visited Shenzhen Exhibition Museum where he was briefed about the development journey of the Shenzhen city. He took a round of different sections of the museum and appreciated the city's transformation within a short period. Later, Chairman of Chinese firm Transsion Holdings Zhu Zhaojiang called on Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif here and conveyed his company's interest in enhancing investment in mobile phone manufacturing unit and investing in electric bikes, modern agriculture, mobile phone manufacturing and Fintech sectors. The prime minister urged the relevant federal ministers and Pakistan's Ambassador in China to formulate an early strategy, in coordination with the Chinese company. He said the

incumbent government was extending all-out-facilitation to foreign investors and businessmen. He also invited Transsion Holdings to manufacture goods in Pakistan for export purposes, citing the country's immense resources and youth bulge. Zhu Zhaojiang apprised the prime minister of his company's current operations in Pakistan, global exports and the future plans to enhance investment in Pakistan. It was told that the company had already established a mobile phone manufacturing unit in Pakistan providing employment to around 5,000 Pakistani workers. He said the company desired to expand its investment in the mobile phone industry which would also increase mobile phone export from Pakistan.

https://www.nation.com.pk/06-Jun-2024/business-to-business-coop-key-to-pak-china-bright-future-pm

PM Shehbaz visits Zhongguancun Science Park

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday visited Zhongguancun Science Park, China's Silicon Valley in the outskirts of Beijing. He was accompanied by Deputy Prime Minister Mohammad Ishaq Dar and other members of the entourage. The prime minister was briefed on China's tech start-ups culture and the innovative environment and cutting-edge research taking place in the Science Park. The discussions focused on potential collaboration and partnerships in tech start-ups, R&D centers, and digital infrastructure. The prime minister appreciated the scientific and technological advancement in China and highlighted the immense potential for cooperation between Pakistan and China which can boost technological progress and innovation in Pakistan.

https://www.nation.com.pk/06-Jun-2024/pm-shehbaz-visits-zhongguancun-science-park

Express News

پاکستانی کمپنیاں چیلی ماڈل اپنائیں ، سرمایہ کاروں سے تعاون کرینگے وزیر اعظم کا شیتون میں بزنس کا نفرنس سے لخطاب ، ہواوے ہیڈ کوارٹرز کا دورہ، بیجنگ آتی گئے

بزنس کا نفرنس میں 120 پاکستانی کمپنیوں کی شرکت ، ایم او یوز پر و خط الیکٹرانکس، ٹیکسٹائل اور یہ سازی، بہلاتے کیٹر، آٹو موبائل، زراعت، دیگر شعبوں میں ہوئے

اسلام آبا ، شینان (خالد محمود بار شدہ انصاری، ایجنسیاں کو زیر اعظم شہباز شریف نے کہا ہے کہ چین کی ترقی ہم سب کیلئے قابل تقلید مثال ہے، پاکستانی کمپنیاں اپنی ماں اپنائیں، اپنی مصنوعات کو بہتر انداز میں دنیا کے سامنے پیش کریں ، حکومت مکمل تعاون کرے گی ، ہم عہد کرتے ہیں کہ قائد اعظم کے وژن پر عمل کر کے پاکستان کو ترقی دلائیں گے، پاکستان سے بد عنوانی اور سرکانگ کی روک تھام کیلئے موثر اقدامات اور ڈھانچہ جاتی تبدیلیاں لائی جا رہی ہیں۔ چین کے شہر شیون میں پاک چین بزنس کا نفر نس سے خطاب کرتے ہوئے انہوں نے کیا شینزن نے مختصر مدت میں ترقی کی منازل ملے کی ہیں، ہمیں ماضی کو پیچھے چھوڑ کر آگے بڑھنا ہے۔ چین دنیا کی دوسری بڑی معیشت اور فوجی قوت ہے جو ایک بڑی کامیابی ہے۔ تالی صدر کی جن پانگ کی 3 ہڈی کا مہیا ہوں میں کر پشن کا خاتمہ 70 کروڑ افراد کو تحریت کی مٹی سے تکان اور چینی نوجوانوں کو با اختیار بنانا شامل ہے۔ بزنس کا نفرنس میں پاکستان کیلئے سنہری مواقع ہیں ، ہمارے کاروباری لوگ چینی ہم عصروں کے ساتھ مل بیٹھیں اور مشتر کہ سرمایہ کاری کے مواقع تلاش کریں، میں سرمایہ کاروں اور تاجروں کو حکومت کی جانب سے مکمل تعاون کی یقین دہانی کرواتا ہوں۔ پاکستان کے معدنی وسائل 10 ٹریلین ڈالر تک ہیں جبکہ ہماری پر آمدات کا حجم صرف 30 ارب ڈالر ہے۔ پاکستانی کمپنیاں ایلی مال اپنائیں، حکومت پاکستان آپ کے ساتھ ہے ، ہم نے پہلے ہی ڈھانچہ جاتی تبدیلیاں شروع کر دی ہیں۔ بلٹ اینڈ روڈ انیشی اپنو ترقی کی عمارت ہے۔ پاکستان میں چینی باشندوں فول پروف سیکورٹی فراہم کرنے کا تہیہ کر رکھا ہے۔ چین وہ قابل بھروسہ دوست ہے جس نے ہر آزمائش اور مشکل میں پاکستان کا ساتھ دیا۔ بزنس کا نفرنس کے موقع پر پاکستانی اور چینی کمپنیوں کے درمیان برنس نو بزنس میٹنگز

کے بعد مختلف شعبوں میں 32 مفاہمت کی یادداشتوں پر د خلط کئے گئے ہیں۔ وزارت تجارت کے اعلامیے کے مطابق دونوں ممالک کی کاروباری برادری کے باہمی دہی کے شعبوں میں الیکٹرانکس دو گھریلو آلات، آئی سی ٹی، نیکٹا نکر پکڑے، جلت سازی ، معدنیات اور ادویہ سازی کے شعبے شامل ہیں۔ پاکستان اور چین کے نجی شعبہ نے توانائی کے شعبے میں چار ایم او یوز، آٹو موبائل کے شعبہ میں دو، ثقافتی تعاون کے شعبہ میں ایک جبکہ انفار میشن اینڈ کمیو نویشن کیانا وجی (آئی سی ٹی) کے شعبہ میں چارا یہ جو یو زیر داخلہ کئے۔ اور یہ سازی اور ہیلتھ کیئر سیکٹر میں ہے۔ لاجسٹکس کے شعبہ میں چار ہ زراعت اور خوا پرو سیونگ کے شعبہ میں مفاہمت کی 10 یادداشتوں پر بھی دستہ کئے گئے۔ دونوں ممالک کے بھی شعبوں نے آپنیکل ظاہر نیٹ ورک کے شعبے میں لیٹر آف نیٹ پر بھی دستخط کئے تقریب کے انعقاد میں بورڈ آف انویسٹمنٹ نے اہم کرداره کیا۔ وفاقی وزیر سرمایہ کاری پورزا عبد العلیم خان اور وزیر تجارت جام کمال نے چینی کمپنیوں کے سربراہان سے ملاقاتیں کیں۔ چین کی کمپنیوں نے پاکستان کے مختلف اہم شعبوں میں بھاری سرمایہ کاری کیلئے اظہار د کاپی کیا اور معاہدوں پر حملہ کئے گئے۔ زراعت، فرٹیلائزر، آئی ٹی موبائل مینو فیکچر یک، فارما سونیل ، فت و غیر اور ظاہر کے شعبوں میں سرمایہ کاری ہو گی۔ توانائی با نظر اسٹر پھر او یلپمنٹ ، فارمنگ انجینئر تک کشتر کشی کا جتک، ہو خنک، نور ازم، کچر، سپورٹس گذار، ایک ٹائل ڈیکوریشن اللہ سفر کی اور ائیر پورٹ ڈیزائننگ کے شعبے میں بھی سرمایہ کاری ہو گی۔ بزنس کا نفرنس میں پاکستان سے 120 کمپنیوں نے شرکت کی جبکہ مشن کی 500 سے زائد کمپنیوں اور ممتاز کاروباری شخصیات کی پاکستانی کمپنیوں کے ساتھ بزنس نو بزنس میننگز ہوئیں۔ علاوہ ازیں شہباز شریف نے شینزن میں چین کی ڈیجیٹل ٹیکنالوجی کمپنی ہواوے کے ہیڈ کوارٹرز کا دورہ کیا ، اس موقع پر چینی کمپنی اور وزارت سائنس و ٹیکنالوجی کے مابین فریم ورک معاہدے پر دستخط کئے گئے ، چیئر مین ہواوے نے پاکستان کے مختلف شعبوں میں سرمایہ کاری میں گیری و میسی کا اختیار کیا جبکہ وزیر اعظم نے ہواوے کو پاکستان میں سرمایہ کاری کو وسعت دینے اور پاکستان کے مختلف شہروں میں تر جنگی بنیاد پر سیف سٹی منصوبے قا ئم کرنے کی دعوت دی۔ وزیر اعظم نے ہواوے ہیڈ کوارٹرز میں انگیزی شیشن سینٹر کا دورہ کیا۔ وزیر اعظم نے چیئر مین ہواوے کو ملاقات میں حکومت کے پاکستان میں سرمایہ کاری کے فروغ اور کاروبار کی سہولت کیلئے اٹھائے گئے اقدامات سے آگاہ کیا اور حکومت سرکاری دفاتر کو تر جنگی بنیادوں پروا بھیٹا ئر کرنے کیلئے اقدمات اٹھارہی ہے۔ ٹیکس کا نظام ہی گورننس، مصنوعی ذہانت کے شعبوں میں ہواوے میسی بڑی کمپنی کیلئے پاکستان میں سرمایہ کاری کے وسیع مواقع موجود ہیں۔ فریم ورک ایگریمنٹ کے تحت ہواوے پاکستان کے 2 لاکھ نوجوانوں کو انفارمیشن ٹیکنالوجی کے شعبے جشمول مصنوعی ذہانت کے شعبے میں مفت تربیت فراہم کریگا۔ اس کے علاوہ ہواوے پاکستان میں سیف سٹیز کے قیام ہی گورننس اور معیشت کی ڈیجیٹائیز نیشن میں بھی بھر پور تعاون فراہم کرے گلہ ہواوے کے چیئر مین نے وزیر اعظم اور پاکستانی وفد کے اعزاز میں ظہرانہ بھی دیا ایک ٹویٹ میں وزیر اعظم نے کہا ہواوے ہیڈ کوارٹرز کے دورے میں پاکستان کیلئے اختراعی ، جامع اور پائیدار ڈیجیٹل تبدیلی کو آگے بڑھانے کے عزم کا اعادہ کیا۔ شہباز شریف نے ٹھیلوں میں نانشان دن سٹاپ سروسز سینٹر اور شینتون ایگری پیشن میوزیم کا دورہ کیا اور موقع پر ہی وفاقی وزرا اور متعلقہ پاکستانی حکام کو نانشان ون سناپ سروسز سینٹر کے ساتھ مذاکرات کر کے پاکستان میں ایسے جدید نظام کے قیام کیلئے لائحہ عمل کو حتمی شکل دینے کی ہدایت کر دی۔ وزیر اعظم سے چینی کمپنی تران امین ہولڈ نگر کے بانی و ماہر میں ڈو ڈا جیانگ نے ملاقات کی۔ کمپنی نے پاکستان میں اپنے موبائل بنانے کے یونٹ میں سرمایہ کاری میں وسعت اور چار شعبوں موبائل فونز کی تیاری الیکٹرک بائیں ، جدید زراعت اور فن لیک میں سرمایہ کاری میں گیری دما ہی کا اختیار کیا۔ شہباز شریف نے کیا حکومت غیر ملکی سرمایہ کاروں، کاروباری شخصیات کو سہولیات که فرامی ٹیلی نار ہی ہے۔ بعد ازاں وزیر اعظم اپنے دورے کے دوسرے مرحلے میں چینی دارالحکومت بینک آتی گئے۔ ایر پورٹ پر ان کے نائب وزیر خارجہ سن ویڈو تک اور پیانگ میں پاکستانی سفارت خانے کے حکام نے وزیر اعظم کا استقبال کیا۔ لانگ میں اپنے قیام کے دوران وزیر اعظم چینی صدر روز یر اعظم اور چیئر مین نیل پیپلز کانگریس سٹینڈ تک کھلی سے الگ الگ ملاقات کریں گے۔ چین اور پاکستان کے درمیان مختلف شعبوں میں تعاون بڑھانے کے حوالے سے کئی مفاہمتی یادداشتوں پر بھی وخلط ہوں گے۔ عالمی یوم ماحولیات پر اپنے پیغام میں وزیر اعظم نے کہا پاکستان ماحولیاتی چیلنجوں سے نمٹنے اور پائیداریت کیلئے عالمی کوششوں میں تعاون کیلئے پر عزم ہے۔ گلوبل ٹائٹر میں شائع مضمون میں وزیر اعظم نے کہا پاکستان اور چین سی پیک کو نئی بلندیوں پر لے جانے کیلئے پر عزم ہیں۔ سی پیک سے خطے اور دنیا میں ترقی اور خوشحالی کے ایک نئے دور کا آغاز ہوگا۔ سی پیک کا اپ گرید شدہ در ژن مرید روشن مستقبل کی نوید ہے۔ اس میں سے زائد اعلی معیار کے تعاون کے منصوبوں کا تصور پیش کیا گیا ہے۔ اپنے دورے کو پاکستان اور چین کے در میان سیاسی ، اقتصادی، تجارتی اور سرمایہ کاری کے شعبوں میں تعاون کو مزید متظام کرنے کا ایک اہم موقع سمجھتا ہوں۔

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پاک، چین تعلقات نئے دور میں داخل ہو رہے : عطا تارڑ

اسلام آباد ، شینزن (نمائندہ خصوصی ، اے پی پی) وفاقی وزیر اطلاعات عطا اللہ تارڑ نے کہا ہے کہ وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف کے وژن کے تحت سی پیک میں ایک نئے دور کا آغاز ہو رہا ہے۔ میڈیا سے گفتگو کرتے ہوئے انہوں نے کہا شہباز شریف سی پیک کے اندر ایک نئی جدت لے کر آئے ہیں۔ پاکستان اور چین کے درمیان تعلقات ایک نئے دور میں داخل ہو رہے ہیں جو پاکستانی معیشت کے لئے اہم سنگ میل ہیں۔ شینزن میں بزنس ٹو بزنس ملاقاتیں اور کا نفرنس پاکستان کی معیشت کے استحکام اور ترقی میں اپنا بھر پور کر دار ادا کریں گی۔

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چینی کمپنیاں نجکاری کے عمل میں حصہ لیں : اسحاق ڈار

وزیر اعظم کے دورہ چین سے نئی معاشی ترقی کا آغاز ہ کا آغاز ہوگا : جام کا م کمال ، رانا تنویر حسین

کاروباری معاہدوں سے بزنس ٹو بزنس سرگرمیاں بڑھیں گے : علیم خان ، شزہ فاطمہ

اسلام آباد ، شینزن (خصوصی رپورٹر اے پی پی) نائب وزیر اعظم اور وزیر خارجہ اسحاق ڈار نے چینی کمپنیوں پر زور دیا ہے کہ وہ پاکستان میں نجکاری کیلئے زیر غور 84 سرکاری اداروں کی نجکاری کے عمل میں حصہ لیں۔ پاک چین بزنس فورم سے خطاب کرتے ہوئے انہوں نے کہا پاکستان میں مزدوری کی لاگت بہت مسابقتی ہے جبکہ سرمایہ کاری کی سہولت اور آسان پروسیسنگ کے لیے وزیر اعظم کی سربراہی میں خصوصی سرمایہ کاری سہولت کونسل تشکیل دی گئی ہے جس میں تمام متعلقہ وزارتیں اور صوبائی وزرا اعلی ایک چھتری کے نیچے کام کر رہے ہیں۔ ہم ایک گہری ساختی اقتصادی تبدیلی کی طرف جارہے ہیں اور ہم جی 20 میں شمولیت کے ہدف تک پہنچنے کیلئے تیز رفتاری سے کام کر رہے ہیں۔ پاکستان میں آئی ٹی، زراعت ، معدنی وسائل سمیت مختلف شعبوں میں سرمایہ کاری کے بے پناہ مواقع ہیں۔ وفاقی وزیر تجارت جام کمال نے میڈیا سے گفتگو کرتے ہوئے کہا وزیر اعظم کے حالیہ دورہ چین سے پاکستان میں نئی اقتصادی و معاشی ترقی کا آغاز ہو گا۔ پاکستان چینی سرمایہ کاری کا مکمل تحفظ کرے گا اور کاروباری افراد کی بھر پور معاونت کی جائے گی۔ وزیر صنعت و پیداوار رانا تنویر نے کہا شینزن چین کا بزنس اور انڈسٹریل حب ہے ، دونوں ممالک کے درمیان بی 2 بی تعلقات بڑھانے کا اچھا موقع ہے۔ دونوں ممالک کے تاجران مل کر معاملات طے کر سکتے ہیں۔ وفاقی وزیر سرمایہ کاری بورڈ عبدالعلیم خان نے کہا ہے کہ کاروباری معاہدوں میں بزنس ٹو بزنس سرگرمیوں کو عملی طور پر فروغ ملے گا جبکہ چین کو پاکستان میں بڑے پیمانے پر سرمایہ کاری کرنے کے لئے ایک منفرد پلیٹ فارم میسر ہو گا۔ وزیر مملکت برائے آئی ٹی و ٹیلی کمیونیکیشن شزہ فاطمہ خواجہ نے شینزن میں سن واک گروپ اور ٹیکنالوجی کمپنی زیڈ ٹی ای کے وفود سے گفتگو کرتے ہوئے کہاڈیجیٹلائزیشن کیلئے آپٹیکل فائبر کیبل نیٹ ورک بہت اہم ہے، موجودہ حکومت ملک بھر میں معیاری ٹیلی کام سروسز کی فراہمی کے لئے کوشاں ہے۔

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Jang News

چین سے 32 ایم او یوز پر دستخط، قرض نہیں کاروبار اور ترقی کیلئے آیا ہوں، پاکستانی کمپنیاں چینی ماڈل اپنائیں، شہباز شریف

شینزن، بیجنگ (نیوز ایجنسیاں، مانیٹرنگ ڈیسک) وزیراعظم شہباز شریف کے دورہ چین میں بزنس ٹو بزنس میٹنگز کے بعد مختلف شعبوں میں 32مفاہمت کی یادداشتوں (ایم او یوز) پر دستخط کیے گئے ہیں، توانائی، آٹو موبائل، آئی ٹی، ادویہ سازی اور دیگر شعبوں میں تعاون ہوگا، چینی کمپنیوں نے پاکستان میں الیکٹرک بائیکس، جدید زراعت میں سرمایہ کاری کیلئے کی تربیت دیگا، وزیراعظم شہباز شریف کا کہنا ہے کہ میں AI دلچسپی کا اظہار کیا ہے، چین 2، لاکھ پاکستانیوں کو بھی قرض نہیں کاروبار اور ترقی کیلئے آیا ہوں، پاکستانی کمپنیاں چینی ماڈل اپنائیں،

وزیراعظم نے ہواوے ہیڈ کوارٹر اور چینی میوزیم کا دورہ کیا، اس موقع پر انہوں نے ہواوے کو پاکستان میں سرمایہ کاری کو وسعت دینے اور سیف سٹی منصوبے قائم کرنے کی دعوت دی، جبکہ وزیر خزانہ محمد اورنگزیب نے کہا ہے کہ وزیراعظم کے ایجنڈے کے تحت معیشت کی ترقی میں حکومت نہیں بلکہ نجی شعبہ اپنا کلیدی کردار ادا کریگا،

آئندہ مالی سال کے دوران پانڈا بانڈ جاری کرینگے، چینی تاجروں اور سرمایہ کاروں کو پاکستان میں اپنی سرمایہ کاری میں اضافہ کرنا چاہیے،کرنٹ اکاؤنٹ خسارہ کم، ترسیلات زر اور برآمدات میں اضافہ ہو رہا ہے، ٹیکس شرح بڑھا کر 14فیصد کرینگے، نائب وزیراعظم اسحق ڈار نے کہا پاکستان میں آئی ٹی، معدنی وسائل سمیت کئی شعبوں میں سرمایہ کاری کے وسیع مواقع موجود ہیں۔تفصیلات کے مطابق شینزن میں وزیراعظم نے ہواوے اور وزارت سائنس و ٹیکنالوجی کے مابین فریم ورک معاہدے پر دستخط کی تقریب میں بھی شرکت کی۔

فریم ورک ایگریمنٹ کے تحت ہواوے پاکستان کے 2 لاکھ نوجوانوں کو انفارمیشن ٹیکنالوجی کے شعبے بشمول مصنوعی ذہانت کے شعبے میں مفت تربیت فراہم کریگا۔

اسکے علاوہ ہواوے پاکستان میں سیف سٹیز کے قیام، ای گورننس اور معیشت کی ڈیجیٹائزیشن میں بھی بھرپور تعاون فراہم کریگا، ہواوے کے چیئرمین نے وزیراعظم اور پاکستانی وفد کے اعزاز میں ظہرانہ بھی دیا۔

وزیراعظم شہبازشریف کے ہواوے ہیڈ کوارٹرز پہنچنے پر ہواوے کمپنی کے چیئرمین لیانگ ہوا نے پر تپاک استقبال کیا، ملی نغمے بجائے گئے، وزیراعظم کو دورے کے دوران کمپنی کے حکام کی طرف سے بریفنگ دی گئی۔ پاکستانی

چیئرمین ہواوے نے پاکستان کے مختلف شعبوں میں سرمایہ کاری میں گہری دلچسپی کا اظہار کیا جبکہ وزیراعظم نے ہواوے کو پاکستان میں سرمایہ کاری کو وسعت دینے اور پاکستان کے مختلف شہروں میں ترجیحی بنیاد پر سیف سٹی منصوبے قائم کرنے کی دعوت دی۔ وزیراعظم نے ہواوے ہیڈ کوارٹرز میں ایگزیبیشن سینٹر کا دورہ کیا،

چیئرمین ہواوے نے وزیراعظم کو ہواوے کے دنیا بھر بالخصوص پاکستان میں آپریشنز بارے میں آگاہ کیا اور پاکستان کے مختلف شعبوں میں سرمایہ کاری میں گہری دلچسپی کا اظہار کیا۔

وزیراعظم نے ہواوے کے آپریشنز کی جدت کی تعریف کی اور ہواوے کو پاکستان میں اپنی سرمایہ کاری کو وسعت دینے کی ترغیب دی۔ایگزیبیشن سینٹر میں وزیراعظم کو مختلف شعبوں بالخصوص ای گورننس، ڈیجیٹل بینکنگ، ٹیلی کمیونی کیشن، مصنوعی ذہانت کے حوالے سے بریفنگ دی۔

وزیراعظم نے ہواوے کے تعاون سے پاکستان میں بننے والے سیف سٹی منصوبوں کی تعریف کی۔

وزیراعظم اور پاکستانی وفد کی چیئرمین ہواوے کے ساتھ دوطرفہ ملاقات ہوئی، ملاقات میں وزیراعظم نے چیئرمین ہواوے کو حکومت کے پاکستان میں سرمایہ کاری کے فروغ اور کاروبار کی سہولت کیلئے اٹھائے گئے اقدامات سے آگاہ کیا۔

وزیراعظم نے ہواوے کو پاکستان کے مختلف شہروں بالخصوص ایسے شہر جن میں سی پیک منصوبوں پر کام جاری ہے ان میں ترجیحی بنیادوں پر سیف سٹی منصوبے قائم کرنے کی دعوت دی۔

وزیراعظم نے کہا کہ حکومت سرکاری دفاتر کو ترجیحی بنیادوں پر ڈیجیٹائز کرنے کیلئے اقدامات اٹھا رہی ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ ٹیکس کا نظام، ای گورننس،

مصنوعی ذہانت کے شعبوں میں ہواوے جیسی بڑی کمپنی کیلئے پاکستان میں سرمایہ کاری کے وسیع مواقع موجود ہیں۔

وزیراعظم شہباز شریف نے ہواوے کے چیئرمین کو پاکستان میں زرعی شعبے میں جدید ٹیکنالوجی میں سرمایہ کاری کی بھی دعوت دی۔

وزیراعظم نے چیئرمین ہواوے کو جلد پاکستان کے دورے کی بھی دعوت دی۔

https://e.jang.com.pk/detail/698337

Nawaiwaqt News



https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2024-06-06/page-1

https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2024-06-06/page-6

June 07, 2024

Business Recorder

Reform steps yielding results: PM

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday said the reform measures taken by his government had already started yielding results in the form of successfully tapered food inflation, reduced current account deficit and public debt down to a more sustainable level.

The prime minister, talking to Chairman of China Export-Import Bank (EXIM) Dr Wu Fulin here, highlighted his government's reform agenda focused on governance, taxation, and ease of doing business to attract Foreign Direct Investment (FDI).

He appreciated the EXIM Bank's continued support for the modernization of industries, agriculture and IT sectors of Pakistan. He also discussed the possible role of the China EXIM Bank in financing Pakistan-China joint venture projects and trade financing as part of efforts to boost Pakistan's exports to international markets.

The EXIM Bank chairman underscored the critical role of economic and financial cooperation under CPEC phase II and China EXIM Bank's strategic partnership with

Pakistan and support to advance sustainable development under the concept of 'shared prosperity'.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif met the Chairman of China International Cooperation Agency (CIDCA) Ambassador Luo Zhaohui wherein they exchanged views on the unique and enduring China-Pakistan friendship and the promotion of pragmatic cooperation driven by common development, strategic trust, and mutual benefit.

The PM, who arrived here Wednesday on the second leg of his five-day China visit, appreciated the robust support of CIDCA for CPEC projects and Pakistan's socioeconomic development, particularly the establishment of Pakistan-China Friendship Hospital, the Desalination Plant in Gwadar, and the New Gwadar International Airport.

Terming the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) as the hallmark of ironclad friendship between Pakistan and China, they noted that the Joint Working Group on Socioeconomic Development under the CPEC had yielded positive results.

They also expressed confidence that the momentum would continue in the CPEC phase II to improve the lives and livelihoods of the people. PM Shehbaz underlined that the governments and the peoples of both countries had always stood in solidarity with each other during times of natural disasters and calamities.

He commended CIDCA's pivotal role in supporting developing countries particularly Pakistan during the Covid-19 pandemic, the post-2022 flood reconstruction, and the grant of polio vaccines.

The CIDCA chairman expressed commitment to further deepening China-Pakistan cooperation across diverse fields. He also underlined the need to expand the bilateral partnership in infrastructure development, climate change response, and human resource development, including under the ambit of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and the Global Development Initiative.

https://epaper.brecorder.com/2024/06/07/1-page/994951-news.html

Alternative energy system

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Wednesday, reiterating his government's commitment to strengthen the alternative energy system in the country, highlighted that there existed a huge potential for investment in the sector. The prime minister, in a meeting with Chairman of Power China here, said his government was taking massive action to curb power theft across the country. The Power China chairman appreciated the high quality and swift completion of Sahiwal Coal Power Plant, also mentioning the Pakistan Speed and Punjab Speed in the reference to the accelerated completion of development projects. The company chairman told the prime minister that a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) would be signed with Pakistan to improve the power transmission network and reduce the line losses. Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar, Defence Minister Khawaja Muhammad Asif, Planning Minister Ahsan Iqbal, Information and Broadcasting Minister Attaullah Tarar, Power Minister Awais Ahmed Leghari and Special Assistant to PM Tariq Fatemi also attended the meeting. https://epaper.brecorder.com/2024/06/07/1-page/994953-news.html

Cherry export to China begins

The first consignment of cherries was dispatched to China on 5th June through refereed container. The success in export of fresh cherries from Pakistan is the fruit of the Phyto sanitary agreement signed between China and Pakistan in 2022, wherein China had granted market access to Pakistan for export of fresh cherries. Immediately after the signing of protocol, Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP) and Department of Plant Protection (DPP) assisted eligible orchard owners in registering with General Administration of Chinese Customs. Pakistan Horticulture Development & Export Company (PHDEC) also conducted cherry product development activities aimed to educate farmers on the adoption of sound agricultural practices that can significantly increase production and fruit size, especially for renowned varieties like black and French cherries. With these efforts more than 100 cherry orchards, a cold store and packing house at Rahim Abad are registered with GACC. The approval of the cherry orchards and the processing facility led to the expedition vis-a-vis export of fresh cherries to China. National Logistic Cell (NLC) has provided required refereed containers. It is pertinent to mention that logistic cost of cherry export is meeting through Export Development Fund (EDF).

https://epaper.brecorder.com/2024/06/07/4-page/994970-news.html

Daily Times

PM Shehbaz's visit proves to be milestone in development of Pak-China relations

Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives, Prof Ahsan Iqbal Thursday said that the ongoing visit of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to China would prove to be a milestone in the development of Pakistan-China relations. "This is the first official visit of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to China after the establishment of new government in Pakistan early this year and the visit will prove to be a milestone in the development of Pakistan-China relations," he told APP. He said that Pakistan and China had laid the foundation of historic project of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) in 2013 and this pilot project of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) has resulted in significant social and economic development in Pakistan during the last 10 years. The minister pointed out that a large number of achievements have been made particularly in the energy sector, adding, more than 8000 MW power projects were constructed while motorway and highways were also built. Similarly, we laid foundation of information highway through fiber optic cable and upgraded Gwadar seaport as well as work was initiated on construction of special economic zones. But unfortunately, that momentum could not be maintained between the years 2018 and 2022 due to some political changes, Covid-19 pandemic and climate disaster in the country in the year 2022 which caused a colossal loss to the economy, he added. Prof Ahsan Iqbal remarked that the present government has resumed work on the CPEC projects with new vigor and commitment adding, "Now we are entering in the phase-2 of the CPEC under which five new corridors have been identified as per consensus reached between the leadership of both the countries". These new corridors include growth corridor, livelihood corridor, innovation corridor, green energy corridor and open and inclusive regional

development corridor, he added. He said in the second phase, the government is focusing to promote industrial cooperation with China through business-to-business linkages. In this regard, the Pakistan-China Business Conference was organized in coastal city of Shenzhen during first leg of the prime minister's visit to China which was attended by more than 350 entrepreneurs from both Pakistan and China. The federal minister said that agreement would be signed with China to upgrade agriculture sector as the present leadership intends to benefit from China's experience in modern agriculture and also use of science and technology in this sector. "We will send our agriculture scientists to China for training and borrow modern techniques so that Pakistan could enhance agricultural productivity," he added. About cooperation in science and technology, he said that both countries would further enhance cooperation in this sector. About upgradation of railways, he said, the present government is trying to modernize the 150 years old railways system which was damaged during floods in the country and initiate the ML-1 project. Prof Ahsan Iqbal said that work will start on green energy projects such as hydel power projects in Kohala, Azad Pattan having 2000 MW capacity, this year. He said that Huawei, China's leading high-tech company has made a strategic partnership with Pakistan and it will help us to implement digitalization process in the country. Prof Ahsan Iqbal is accompanying the prime minister during his five-day visit of China.

https://dailytimes.com.pk/1198647/pm-shehbazs-visit-proves-to-be-milestone-in-development-of-pak-china-relations/

Shehbaz pushes Chinese for deeper collaboration

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif assuring resource availability pledged to provide steadfast support for foreign investors. The prime minister, addressing the Pakistan-China Business Forum during his five-day China visit, highlighted bilateral trade and investment potential, especially in key sectors including transfer of Chinese technology, industry and partnership in IT, agriculture, mining, steel, textiles and renewable energy. He emphasized that mutually rewarding business-to-business cooperation was key to a bright future for the two sides. The prime minister repeatedly lauded the Chinese model of development and economic transformation and vowed to replicate the same in Pakistan. "I will go back to Pakistan with this resolve, come what may, we will follow this model of great economic transformation in Pakistan. This model is enough to copy and simulate if we are sincere to our purpose and people. By God, I can tell you this is difficult but not impossible," he told the gathering of hundreds of business leaders from Pakistan and China. As the Business Forum also marked the B2B matchmaking, he urged the Pakistani businessmen to sit with their Chinese counterparts and find out ways to move Chinese textile industries to Pakistan and make joint collaborations in steel and other industries. "Today is the opportunity, time and moment to capture. Sit down with Chinese friends to have serious discussions. I want to ensure you not as prime minister but as Chief Executive of Pakistan that I will give you the fullest support so that businessmen of Pakistan and China get benefits jointly," he remarked. He informed the Forum that Pakistan had mineral deposits of around $10 trillion while the country's exports stood at $30 billion. The minerals deposits offer huge potential to dig out and convert them into finished and semi-finished goods for exports, he added. He assured the Chinese side that

his government had already initiated structural changes in Pakistan to control corruption. Prime Minister Shehbaz drew a comparison between the $500 billion GDP of the 13-million city of Shenzhen and the $380 billion GDP of Pakistan with 250 million population and called it the Chinese city's swift transformation a "miracle of this century" and the "eighth wonder of the world", necessitating for others to learn the lesson from. He appreciated Chinese President Xi Jinping's dynamic and visionary leadership which elevated his country to become the second-largest economy and military power within a short span of time and steered 700 million people out of poverty, despite pressures and challenges. He also recalled that during the decades of 50s or 60s, Pakistan's economic indicators were better than those of China and called for a collective resolve to regain its stature. The prime minister also lauded President Xi's vision of peace and development including the Belt and Road Initiative under China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) that had benefited Pakistan immensely through huge investment. Referring to a terror attack on Chinese workers in Besham in the recent past, the prime minister conveyed his condolence for the "dastardly and heart-wrenching" incident and called it "one of the saddest" days of his life when the whole nation felt saddened. He said the government had taken various measures to ensure foolproof security to protect the lives of Chinese workers in Pakistan. "I will spare no effort to protect the lives of Chinese workers and assure and guarantee that we will provide them security more than our children. This will never happen again," he assured. In his remarks, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar sharing a past account of Pakistan's good track record of economic performance being 24th largest economy, said the frequent change of governments and political uncertainty led to serious setbacks in the program. However, he said Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif had a very clear roadmap featuring export-led growth coupled with industrialization and import-substitution driven industry with a core idea to reduce the fiscal deficit. The deputy prime minister highlighted the country's potential in IT, agriculture, mining and minerals and said that the Business Forum was different from the previous typical events as it featured matchmaking of business entities from Pakistan and China. He urged the Chinese businessmen to look into Pakistan's potential and told them that the labor costs in Pakistan were very competitive. Besides, for facilitation and smooth processing of investment, the Special Investment Facilitation Council has been formed under the prime minister with all relevant ministries and provincial chief ministers working under one umbrella for the purpose. "This is the high time you considered B2B joint ventures. The outline is clear. We are going for a deep structural economic transformation. We are working on a fast track to reach the target of joining G20. You will see, the government will be exiting from business," he remarked. He urged the Chinese firms to participate in the privatization process of around 84 state-owned enterprises under consideration. Finance Minister, Muhammad Aurangzeb highlighting the country's overall economic outlook told the gathering that all economic indicators were in the right direction and with a positive trajectory. "The agriculture GDP growth during this fiscal year of 6.25% is a real bright spot," he said. He said on the current account side, remittances had held ground and the exports have moved up not only in terms of traditional sectors of textile but also agriculture, on the back of bumper crops, and Information Technology. The finance minister said that the country's current account deficit was going to be less than a billion dollars during this fiscal. He said that Pakistan was in talks with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for a longer

and larger programme, which was crucial to ensure permanence in micro-economic stability and to execute the structural changes. In his opening remarks, Pakistan's Ambassador in Beijing Khalil Hashmi said the forum would pave the new pathway for economic and trade cooperation. He said the forum had been organized in the city considering its remarkable growth, innovation culture and global reputation for Shenzhen Speed. He said the conference, attended by around 500 business leaders from Pakistan and China, would also provide an opportunity for the businessmen of both sides to network and forge mutually beneficial ventures. Pakistan and China signed 32 memorandums of agreement in the fields of IT, textiles, leather and footwear, minerals, pharmaceuticals and agriculture and food processing on the sidelines of the business conference, a statement from the prime minister's office said. "A historic moment between private sectors of Pakistan and China was observed today when 32 MoUs in different fields were signed on the sidelines of the Pakistan Business Conference in Shenzhen after the B2B (business to business) meetings between the Pakistani businessmen and their counterparts from China," the PMO said. "The areas of interest for the business community of both sides included the fields of electronics & home appliances, ICT, textile, leather & footwear, minerals and pharmaceuticals etc." The private sectors of both countries signed four MoUs in the field of energy, two in automobiles, one in cultural cooperation, four in IT, six in pharmaceutical and health care, four in logistics and ten in agriculture and food processing. A Letter of Intent (LoI) in the field of Optical Fibre Networks was also signed. "Business Conference Shenzhen 2024 will not only pave the ground for the introduction of Pakistani products in the regional markets, but it will also leave a positive impact of strong regional government-business relations on Pakistan economy's strategic transformations," the PMO said. "An unprecedented next level industrial cooperation between the two nations is expected out of this B2B initiative of the government." "Many businesses sat together and participation took place," National Bank of Pakistan President Rehmat Ali Shamsi, who is part of the delegation visiting China, told state media. "Plus, many MOUs were also signed."

https://dailytimes.com.pk/1198570/shehbaz-pushes-chinese-for-deeper-collaboration/

MoU inked between China and Pakistan for aquaculture development

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed for the development of sustainable and commercially viable aquaculture projects in Gwadar, China Economic Net (CEN) on Thursday. The MoU, signed between China Overseas Ports Holding Company, Guangdong HaiWei Aquaculture Group, Gwadar Seafood Company, and HKH-CAS Pvt. Ltd, at a B2B matchmaking session of the "Pakistan China Business Conference" inaugurated by PM Shehbaz Sharif in Shenzhen. It was aimed at to leverage the technological expertise, resources, and industry experience of the Chinese companies and the local knowledge and community connections of the Pakistani counterparts to support the growth of the aquaculture sector in Gwadar. For this purpose, advanced aquaculture technologies, including hatchery management, farming techniques, and processing capabilities, are expected to be transferred from China based on feasibility assessments and site selection for aquaculture projects in Gwadar. Contracting companies told CEN that investment will be made for the development of integrated aquaculture facilities and local personnel shall be trained in modern aquaculture

practices. While the aquatic sector contributes greatly to the livelihood of coastal residents in Pakistan, a lack of advanced facilities and knowledge support has been hindering them from fully leveraging this promising industry, which currently accounts for only less than one percent of GDP but has the potential to play a much bigger role in the national economy. Apart from establishing sustainable and environmentally responsible aquaculture operations, the facilitation of market access and distribution channels for aquaculture products is also part of this joint endeavor. Out of Pakistan's total fishery exports, 60 percent are destined for China. Last year, China's import of seafood from Pakistan surged by 13%, offering Pakistani exporters a vast market.

https://dailytimes.com.pk/1198732/mou-inked-between-china-and-pakistan-for-aquaculture-development/

PM vows to follow Chinese model of success

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday reiterated his resolve to make Pakistan a great nation and regain its position by following the Chinese development model through utmost hard work and a sharp focus on industrial and agricultural progress. "If we follow the Chinese model, I have no doubt, Pakistan will regain its position in the comity of nations and will be respected like our Chinese brothers are respected by friends and foes… We will follow your model, work hard untiringly, put in our sweat and blood, and make Pakistan a great country," the prime minister said addressing the 4th Pakistan-China Friendship and Business Reception in Beijing. He told the gathering of Pakistani and Chinese business leaders that Pakistan would follow Chinese President Xi Jinping's vision to focus on progress and prosperity by avoiding conflicts and cited immense Chinese progress and projects like the Belt and Road Initiative, China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, Global Development Initiative (GDI) and the Global Security Initiative (GSI). The prime minister, who is in China on a five-day official visit, advised the Pakistani people against being dejected or losing hope rather than standing up and accepting the challenge to reach the level of Chinese progress within a few years or decades. He said that the China-Pakistan friendship had no parallel in the world which remained unshakeable and unreachable even during the storms, wars, and earthquakes. Recalling the Chinese journey of swift development to become the second biggest economic and military power under President Xi's vision, PM Shehbaz said it was achieved only through hard work and untiring efforts. "All Pakistanis will also have to pass through this thorny process. There is no other way to earn respect in the world," he remarked. He said having come into being two years after Pakistan, China took its trade to trillions of dollars while Pakistan's hovered around $30-40 billion in terms of exports. PM Shehbaz said that China has excelled in information technology and artificial intelligence. He also referred to the "wonderful" bilateral cooperation in the space programme as Pakistan recently sent a lunar satellite and a space satellite recently with Chinese collaboration. Referring to the sad and gruesome attack by Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) killing five Chinese workers in Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa's Besham in April, PM Shehbaz condemned the incident and conveyed his deepest condolence to the families of those who were killed. He said that the incident which sent a shockwave across Pakistan was the nefarious plot of enemies of China-Pakistan friendship and CPEC as well as those who did not want to see bilateral ties rising to the apex

of glory. "I want to make a solemn pledge that whatever is humanly possible, we will put in all measures and arrangements to protect the lives of every Chinese citizen in Punjab, Sindh, Balochistan, K-P, G-B and AJK. I want to make a solemn commitment that the security of Chinese nationals will be more than that of my own and my children," he assured. Separately, Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday said Pakistan was taking steps to improve governance, increase the tax net and ensure ease of doing business to attract foreign direct investment (FDI), state-run Radio Pakistan reported. During a meeting with China Exim Bank President Dr Wu Fulin in Beijing today, the premier said the results of reform measures had started appearing as the "inflation in the food sector had been controlled to a great extent". He also expressed Pakistan's desire for Chinese investment in the ML-1 upgradation project in a meeting with China International Development Cooperation Agency (Cidca) Chairman Luo Zhaohui, Radio Pakistan reported. Emphasizing the need for cooperation between Pakistan and China in agriculture, tech, blue economy, communication, minerals and mining, the premier assured Zhaohui that the security of Chinese nationals in Pakistan was the government's priority. The prime minister commended Cidca's pivotal role in supporting Pakistan during the Covid-19 pandemic, the post-2022 flood reconstruction and in the grant of polio vaccines, the report said. According to Radio Pakistan, Zhaohui offered Cidca's support to Pakistan in Special Economic Zones and the health sector. PM Shehbaz also met with the chairman of China Northern Industry Corporation, asserting that the Pakistani government was facilitating FDI and inviting him to invest in the KCR project, Radio Pakistan reported.

https://dailytimes.com.pk/1198788/pm-vows-to-follow-chinese-model-of-success/

Dawn News

Mechanisms urged to counter opponents of CPEC

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan and China need to work closely to deter opponents' plan to sabotage China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) - a prime target of international actors who are against the development of both countries. Under such a situation, Islamabad and Beijing should develop cooperation mechanisms at four levels – military, intelligence, police and narrative building. This was stated by political economist and Asian Institute of Eco-civilization Research and Development (AIERD) chief executive officer Shakeel Ahmad Ramay. According to a statement, Mr Ramay said security had become a main issue in recent times, therefore, the military, security and intelligence agencies of both countries should devise joint operational mechanisms and implementation plans. "The military, security and intelligence coalition should focus on the international dimensions of threats and risks. It should jointly map the opponents, potential threats, actors of threats and fake friends and then based on this mapping launch joint operations to counter them," he said. Mr Ramay said the opponents of CPEC had unleashed fifth-generation warfare on the mega project and started targeting it in a very systematic and sophisticated way. "First they resorted to a narrative warfare by dubbing CPEC a debt trap, another East India Company and an attempt to capture Pakistani resources," he added. "When this propaganda failed, the CPEC opponents launched hot warfare tactics by targeting Chinese nationals in Pakistan and attempted to create a wedge between both nations. It is part of a grand strategy to check China's peaceful rise by creating a web of chaos in its surroundings, but Pakistan has proved to be a stumbling block in

achieving the goal," he said, adding that every effort was therefore being made to destabilize Pakistan. Suggesting ways to counter the narrative propaganda, her said Pakistan and China should set up solid platforms and rely on facts and data to counter the fifth-generation warfare. "This is extremely important because opponents and enemies are actively building fake narratives to damage CPEC and bilateral relations between both countries," he said. On the economic front, he said Pakistan's tax system was complex and companies found it difficult to run their businesses smoothly. Besides, registering a company and getting an electricity connection or construction permit was a tedious process, he added. Against this backdrop, he said the decision of Pakistan's civil and military leadership to change the business environment positively and set up the Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC) was welcoming. However, in order to improve its efficiency, the council should be made a powerful body that decided on its own and served as a one-stop for all services. Mr Ramay said to strengthen cooperation and exploit the full potential of CPEC, Pakistan should learn from the Chinese system of economy, people-centric governance and the balanced role of state-owned enterprises as well as the private sector.

https://www.dawn.com/news/1838231/mechanisms-urged-to-counter-opponents-of-cpec

PM Shehbaz, President Xi agree to upgrade CPEC, advance development in 2nd phase

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Chinese President Xi Jinping reaffirmed their consensus on the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor's (CPEC) high-quality development and the timely completion of major ongoing projects in a productive meeting on Friday. The two leaders also affirmed their consensus on CPEC's upgradation and advancing the mega project's development in its second phase. The developments came as the premier and his delegation's five-day China visit nears its end. This is PM Shehbaz's first visit to China following the February 8 general elections, and will likely see the inauguration of CPEC's second phase. The trip has led to a delay in the annual federal budget — usually presented in the first week of June — and is now expected to be presented on June 12, according to the government's tentative plan. The prime minister briefed President Xi on Pakistan's policies for economic reforms, sustained growth, industrial development, agricultural modernization, regional connectivity and the critical role played by CPEC in the country's development. He asserted Pakistan's commitment to CPEC's high-quality development and to fostering synergy between the development strategies of the two countries through close coordination. The meeting between the two leaders was held at the historic Great Hall of the People. The two leaders were accompanied by federal ministers and senior officials. Chief of Army Staff General Asim Munir was also a part of the delegation. This was the first meeting of PM Shehbaz with President Xi since assuming office. The meeting was marked by "traditional warmth reflective of the ironclad friendship and close strategic ties between the two countries", according to a statement from the Prime Minister's Office. The prime minister thanked President Xi for the warm and gracious welcome accorded to him and his delegation in China. He recalled the historic visit of President Xi to Pakistan in 2015 when CPEC was formally operationalized, marking a new chapter in their bilateral relationship. The two leaders reaffirmed the time-honored "All-Weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership" and

resolved to deepen cooperation across diverse domains ranging from political and security to economic, trade, and people-to-people exchanges. They also exchanged views on regional and global developments, including Afghanistan, Palestine and South Asia, as well as the human rights situation in Indian-occupied Kashmir. The two sides reiterated their longstanding support for each other's issues of core interest. Commending President Xi's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and Global Development Initiative, the prime minister underscored that as the flagship project of BRI, CPEC had significantly contributed to Pakistan's socio-economic development. He underlined Pakistan's commitment and full support for the safety and security of the Chinese nationals, projects and institutions in Pakistan. He underlined that the government's agenda for people-centric, socio-economic development resonated with the concept of "shared prosperity" embraced by China. President Xi Jinping also hosted a banquet in honor of the prime minister where another round of discussion on different matters of mutual interests was held. "China will, as always, firmly support Pakistan and safeguard its national sovereignty and territorial integrity," Xi told PM Shehbaz, adding that the two countries' "all-weather strategic partnership … had broad development prospects." Xi also said that China would help Pakistan with its economic and social development. Xi told PM Shehbaz that their two countries should focus on "promoting the joint construction of CPEC" and Chinese and Pakistani firms 31 Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) covering technology, agriculture, trade, energy, coal and gasification. The Chinese leader also called on Shehbaz to step up efforts to ensure the security of Chinese projects in Pakistan. Shehbaz, Chinese premier resolve to protect CPEC Earlier, PM Shehbaz met Chinese Premier Li Qiang in Beijing, where they resolved to protect CPEC "from its detractors and adversaries", the Foreign Office (FO) said. Addressing a weekly press briefing, FO spokesperson Mumtaz Zahra Baloch said the two leaders held delegation-level talks this morning. During the talks, premiers Shehbaz and Qiang "expressed their firm commitment to protect CPEC from its detractors and adversaries", the FO spokesperson said. They reiterated their unwavering support for each other on core issues and also reaffirmed their continued commitment to CPEC's high-quality development and the timely completion of all ongoing projects, Zahra said. According to the FO spokesperson, the two leaders asserted that the Pakistan-China All-Weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership was "characterized by mutual trust, shared principles and strategic convergence". PM Shehbaz also reaffirmed Pakistan's "unflinching resolve" to ensure the safety and security of Chinese personnel and projects in Pakistan, Zahra said. She further said the two nations agreed to maintain high-level exchanges, including "strengthening institutional linkages at all tiers and in all spheres of bilateral cooperation". "Pakistan and China will also continue to consult closely on issues of regional and global significance and multilateral fora, especially during the two-year tenure of Pakistan" as a non-member of the United Nations Security Council, the FO spokesperson said. Zahra highlighted that 32 MoUs and agreements were also signed, which were aimed at "deepening cooperation in transport infrastructure, industry, energy, agriculture, media, health, water and socio-economic development" among other areas. PM Shehbaz will later travel to the city of Xi'an where he will hold meetings with the provincial leadership and business leaders in agricultural and green energy sectors, she added. As he arrived at the Great Hall of People in Beijing to meet with Qiang, the prime minister was presented with a Guard of Honor.

China trip

On Tuesday, PM Shehbaz and most of the federal cabinet members landed in China's tech hub of Shenzhen as they embarked on their five-day trip to the neighboring country to seek more investments.

The next day, the premier had emphasized the need for business-to-business cooperation between the two nations and assured Chinese investors of all-out facilitation and foolproof security. He had also invited technology giant Huawei to invest in Pakistan's taxation and e-governance sectors besides enhancing its presence in the various Safe City projects operational across the country.

The two nations also signed 32 MoUs to promote trade and investment. A day ago, PM Shehbaz met potential Chinese investors, including the president of China's Exim Bank to whom he assured that Pakistan was taking steps to improve governance, increase the tax net and ensure ease of doing business to attract foreign direct investment.

Speaking at the 4th Pakistan-China Friendship and Business Reception in Beijing later during the day, he asserted that Pakistan could become a "great nation" if it followed the Chinese development model, focusing on industrial and agricultural growth.

Apart from prominent business figures, the Pakistani delegation in--cludes Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar, Defense Minister Khawaja Asif, Planning Minister Ahsan Iqbal, Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb, Petroleum Minister Dr Musaddik Malik, Information and Broadcasting Minister Attaullah Tarar, Food Security Minister Rana Tanveer Hussain, Commerce Minis-ter Jam Kamal Khan, Privatization Minister Abdul Aleem Khan and Minister of State for Information Technology Shaza Fatima Khawaja.

https://www.dawn.com/news/1838396/pm-shehbaz-chinese-premier-resolve-to-protect-cpec-from-detractors-adversaries-fo

Pakistan Observer

Opportunities for cooperation between KP, China highlighted

KP Minister for Local Government and Rural Development, Arshad Ayub Khan has highlighted the vast opportunities for cooperation between the local governments of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and various provinces of China.

He emphasized the desire for local governments to fully benefit from China's experience. Minister Arshad Ayub Khan expressed these views during his visit to China Window, a Chinese cultural center established in Peshawar. During the visit, he toured various galleries, signed the friendship wall, and recorded his comments in the guest book.

Speaking to the media, he noted that Peshawar and Urumqi, as well as Abbottabad and Kashgar, hold the status of twin cities.

He expressed a desire to organize events that facilitate cultural exchanges, sending representatives from local governments and cultural delegations to China and inviting Chinese delegations to Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Arshad Ayub Khan praised the strong Pakistan-

China friendship and underscored the importance of advancing technological transformation to further strengthen this bond.

He affirmed that the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) project would play a crucial role in the transfer of modern technology.

He paid rich tribute to Amjad Aziz Malik, to be moving spirit behind the project, and describing the Chinese Cultural Center in Peshawar as a remarkable symbol of Pakistan-China friendship He also commended the center's efforts in fostering ties between the two nations. He particularly praised the Chinese language teaching program at China Window.

https://pakobserver.net/opportunities-for-cooperation-between-kp-china-highlighted/

Wrote a new chapter of Pak-China cooperation in Shenzhen: Dar

Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar on Thursday said that by holding the Pakistan-China Business Forum in Shenzhen, the government had written a new chapter of bilateral cooperation and in the coming months, the model would be reciprocated by inviting Chinese companies to Pakistan. The deputy prime minister, in his address at the 4th Pakistan-China Friendship and Business event here, said that the hugely attended Business Forum aimed at tangible, targeted, substantive and result-oriented economic cooperation with a focus on attracting and facilitating Chinese investments in 13 export-oriented sectors inside Pakistan. He told the gathering that Pakistan's Ambassador in China Ambassador Khalil Hashmi and his team successfully mobilized over 400 Chinese businesspersons and entrepreneurs who came together to network with around 120 Pakistani counterparts on a scale that was unprecedented. "I am confident they have started a new journey of win-win partnership and joint cooperation.

In the months ahead, we will reciprocate this model further and invite Chinese companies to Pakistan," the deputy prime minister remarked. Calling the Friendship and Business event a "cherished tradition" and the "essence of friendship and mutual respect", Dar said that over the years, the platform had played a pivotal role in bringing together leaders, policymakers, business executives, and entrepreneurs from both countries. He said the gathering was aimed at engaging to further strengthen our iron-clad and space-partners friendship. It sets the tone for our future interactions, providing a foundation for deeper economic ties and stronger cultural connections, he added.

He said in the local context, the forum served as a testament to China's dedication to fostering international partnerships. It is a symbol of how traditions and cultural exchanges can be harnessed to promote understanding, peace, prosperity and development. Dar said that currently, the world was at the cusp of a new era, witnessing profound and fast-paced changes which would, as before, test the resilience of China-Pakistan iron-clad friendship.—APP

https://pakobserver.net/wrote-a-new-chapter-of-pak-china-cooperation-in-shenzhen-dar/

PM pledges to make Pakistan 'great nation'

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif Thursday reiterated his resolve to make Pakistan a great nation by following the Chinese development model through utmost hard work and a sharp focus on industrial and agricultural progress.

"If we follow the Chinese model, I have no doubt, Pakistan will regain its position in the comity of nations and will be respected like our Chinese brothers are done by friends and foes. We will follow your model, work hard untiringly, put in our sweat and blood, and make Pakistan a great country," the prime minister said addressing the 4th Pakistan-China Friendship and Business Reception in Beijing., He told the gathering of Pakistani and Chinese business leaders that Pakistan would follow Chinese President Xi Jinping's vision to focus on progress and prosperity by avoiding conflicts and cited immense Chinese progress and projects like the Belt and Road Initiative, China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, Global Development Initiative and the Global Security Initiative.

The prime minister, who is in China on a five-day official visit, advised the Pakistani people against being dejected or losing hope rather than standing up and accepting the challenge to reach the level of Chinese progress within a few years or decades. He said the China-Pakistan friendship had no parallel, noting that it remained unshakeable and unreachable even during the storms, wars, and earthquakes.

Recalling the Chinese journey of swift development to become the second biggest economic and military power under President Xi's vision, PM Shehbaz said it was achieved only through hard work and untiring efforts. "All Pakistanis will also have to pass through this thorny process. There is no other way to earn respect in the world," he remarked. He said having come into being two years after Pakistan, China took its trade to trillions of dollars while Pakistan's hovered around $30-40 billion in terms of exports. Besides, China has excelled in information technology and artificial intelligence. He also referred to the "wonderful" bilateral cooperation in space programmes as Pakistan recently sent a lunar satellite and a space satellite recently with Chinese collaboration. Referring to the sad and gruesome attack by banned Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan, in which five Chinese workers were killed in Becham in April, the premier condemned the incident and conveyed his deepest condolence to the families of those who were killed.

He said the incident, which sent a shockwave across Pakistan, was the nefarious plot of enemies of China-Pakistan friendship and CPEC as well as those who did not want to see bilateral ties rising to the apex of glory. "I want to make a solemn pledge that whatever is humanly possible, we will put in all measures and arrangements to protect the lives of every Chinese citizen in Punjab, Sindh, Balochistan, KP, GB and AJK. I want to make a solemn commitment that the security of Chinese nationals will be more than that of my own and my children," he assured.—APP

https://pakobserver.net/pm-pledges-to-make-pakistan-great-nation/

The Express Tribune

PM Shehbaz, President Xi agree to upgrade CPEC, advance development in second phase

BEIJING**:** Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Chinese President Xi Jinping held a productive meeting on Friday, reaffirming their commitment to the high-quality development of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and the timely completion of ongoing projects. They also agreed on upgrading CPEC and advancing its second phase.

The prime minister briefed President Xi on Pakistan's policies for economic reform, industrial development, agricultural modernization, and regional connectivity. He emphasized the critical role CPEC plays in Pakistan's development, asserting Pakistan's commitment to fostering synergy between the development strategies of the two countries through close coordination.

The meeting took place at the historic Great Hall of the People, with both leaders accompanied by federal ministers and senior officials. This was PM Shehbaz's first meeting with President Xi since assuming office in 2024. The encounter was marked by traditional warmth, reflective of the strong friendship and close strategic ties between the two nations. The prime minister thanked President Xi for the warm welcome extended to him and his delegation.

He recalled President Xi's historic visit to Pakistan in 2015, which marked the formal operationalization of CPEC, ushering in a new chapter in bilateral relations. The leaders reaffirmed the "All-Weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership" and expressed their resolve to deepen cooperation across diverse domains, including political, security, economic, trade, and people-to-people exchanges. They also discussed regional and global developments, including the situations in Afghanistan, Palestine, and South Asia, particularly the human rights situation in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK). Both sides reiterated their longstanding support for each other's core interests. Commending President Xi's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and Global Development Initiative (GDI), Prime Minister Shehbaz highlighted CPEC's significant contributions to Pakistan's socio-economic development as the flagship project of BRI. He reiterated Pakistan's commitment to ensuring the safety and security of Chinese nationals, projects, and institutions in Pakistan. The prime minister also noted that Pakistan's agenda for people-centric socio-economic development aligns with China's concept of 'shared prosperity.' President Xi Jinping hosted a banquet in honor of Prime Minister Shehbaz, during which another round of discussions on matters of mutual interest took place.

https://tribune.com.pk/story/2470320/pm-shehbaz-president-xi-agree-to-upgrade-cpec-advance-development-in-second-phase

The Nation

PM's visit to China to be fruitful: Yang Yundong

KARACHI - Consul General of China in Karachi Yang Yundong has said that Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's recent visit to China will be fruitful. Talking to Nawa-i-Waqt at Chinese Consulate in Karachi, Yang Yundong said the business community of both the countries would get great business opportunities.

Yundong said phase two of CPEC was going to start, work was going on many new projects. He said there should be no language barrier for businessman to businessman activities. A lot of work was being done to eliminate the language barrier, currently Chinese language was being taught in 80 countries.

The Chinese Consul General highly appreciated the proposal made by Nawa-i-Waqt to make Chinese language a part of the subject syllabus. Under CPEC's phase 2, B2B activities would accelerate with G2G, so business opportunities would be created for the people along with business for the business community of both countries. Friendship between China and Pakistan is promoting mutual relations which is directly benefiting the people of both sides, He said.

Xinjiang had made great strides in development, China had lifted hundreds of millions of people out of poverty, he said. Western and Indian media were spreading misinformation in this regard, which was opposite to ground realities. He clarified that China's civilization spanned over centuries and history was a witness that China had never interfered in any country. China respected the sovereignty of every country and was ready to share its experiences with everyone.

"We want more and more Pakistanis to visit China," he said. The media of Pakistan has played an excellent role in countering the misinformation of the western media. In this regard, the services of The Nation and Nawa-e-Waqt are commendable.

https://www.nation.com.pk/07-Jun-2024/pm-s-visit-to-china-to-be-fruitful-yang-yundong

Pakistan China's trusted friend: Dar

ISLAMABAD - Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar said yesterday that Pakistan was China's trusted friend. He said the Pakistan-China Business Forum held in Shenzhen had marked a new era of bilateral cooperation.

Speaking at the 4th Pakistan-China Friendship and Business event, he emphasized that the well-attended Business Forum aimed to foster concrete, targeted, and result-oriented economic cooperation, particularly by attracting and facilitating Chinese investments in 13 export-oriented sectors within Pakistan.

He highlighted that in the forthcoming months, this model would be reciprocated by inviting Chinese companies to Pakistan. During his address, the Deputy Prime Minister praised the efforts of Pakistan's Ambassador to China, Khalil Hashmi, and his team for successfully mobilizing over 400 Chinese businesspersons and entrepreneurs to engage with approximately 120 Pakistani counterparts. This large-scale networking effort, he noted, was

unprecedented. “I am confident that this marks the beginning of a new journey of win-win partnership and joint cooperation. In the months ahead, we will extend this model further and invite Chinese companies to Pakistan,” he remarked.

Dar described the Friendship and Business event as a “cherished tradition” embodying “the essence of friendship and mutual respect.”

Over the years, he said, this platform has played a crucial role in uniting leaders, policymakers, business executives, and entrepreneurs from both nations. The event aims to further solidify the “iron-clad and space-partners” friendship between Pakistan and China, laying the groundwork for deeper economic ties and stronger cultural connections, he added.

He also pointed out that the forum serves as a testament to China’s commitment to fostering international partnerships.

It symbolizes how traditions and cultural exchanges can be leveraged to promote understanding, peace, prosperity, and development. Dar noted the world was on the cusp of a new era, witnessing profound and rapid changes that will test the resilience of the China-Pakistan friendship.

https://www.nation.com.pk/07-Jun-2024/pakistan-china-s-trusted-friend-dar

Don’t lose hope, follow Chinese model, PM urges Pakistanis

Shehbaz Sharif calls for focusing on industrial, agricultural progress. Assures Beijing Chinese nationals will be provided more security than that of his own and his children in Pakistan. BEIJING - Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday reiterated his resolve to make Pakistan a great nation and regain its position by following the Chinese development model through utmost hard work and a sharp focus on industrial and agricultural progress. “If we follow the Chinese model, I have no doubt, Pakistan will regain its position in the comity of nations and will be respected like our Chinese brothers are done by friends and foes... We will follow your model, work hard untiringly, put in our sweat and blood, and make Pakistan a great country,” the prime minister said addressing the 4th Pakistan-China Friendship and Business Reception here.

He told the gathering of Pakistani and Chinese business leaders that Pakistan would follow Chinese President Xi Jinping’s vision to focus on progress and prosperity by avoiding conflicts and cited immense Chinese progress and projects like the Belt and Road Initiative, China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, Global Development Initiative (GDI) and the Global Security Initiative (GSI). The prime minister who is in China on a five-day official visit, advised the Pakistani people against being dejected or losing hope rather than standing up and accepting the challenge to reach the level of Chinese progress within a few years or decades. He said the China-Pakistan friendship had no parallel in the world which remained unshakeable and unreachable even during the storms, wars, and earthquakes. Recalling the Chinese journey of swift development to become the second biggest economic and military power under President Xi’s vision, Prime Minister Shehbaz said it was achieved only through hard work and untiring efforts. “All Pakistanis will also have to pass through this thorny process. There is no other way to earn respect in the world,” he remarked. He said having

come into being two years after Pakistan, China took its trade to trillions of dollars while Pakistan's hovered around $30-40 billion in terms of exports. Besides, China has excelled in information technology and artificial intelligence. He also referred to the "wonderful" bilateral cooperation in space program as Pakistan recently sent a lunar satellite and a space satellite recently with Chinese collaboration. Referring to the sad and gruesome attack by TTP killing five Chinese workers in Besham in April, Prime Minister Shehbaz condemned the incident and conveyed his deepest condolence to the families of those who were killed. He said the incident which sent a shock wave across Pakistan was the nefarious plot of enemies of China-Pakistan friendship and CPEC as well as those who did not want to see bilateral ties rising to the apex of glory. "I want to make a solemn pledge that whatever is humanly possible, we will put in all measures and arrangements to protect the lives of every Chinese citizen in Punjab, Sindh, Balochistan, KP, GB and AJK. I want to make a solemn commitment that the security of Chinese nationals will be more than that of my own and my children," he assured. Also, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Wednesday reiterating his government's commitment to strengthen the alternative energy system in the country highlighted that there existed a huge potential for investment in the sector. The prime minister, in a meeting with Chairman of Power China here, said that his government was taking massive action to curb power theft across the country. The Power China chairman appreciated the high quality and swift completion of Sahiwal Coal Power Plant, also mentioning the Pakistan Speed and Punjab Speed in the reference to the accelerated completion of development projects.

The company chairman told the prime minister that a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) would be signed with Pakistan to improve the power transmission network and reduce the line losses. Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar, Defense Minister Khawaja Muhammad Asif, Planning Minister Ahsan Iqbal, Information and Broadcasting Minister Attaullah Tarar, Power Minister Awais Ahmed Leghari and Special Assistant to PM Tariq Fatemi also attended the meeting. Meanwhile, Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday visited Zhongguancun Science Park, China's Silicon Valley in the outskirts of Beijing. He was accompanied by Deputy Prime Minister Mohammad Ishaq Dar and other members of the entourage. The prime minister was briefed on China's tech start-ups culture and the innovative environment and cutting-edge research taking place in the Science Park. The discussions focused on potential collaboration and partnerships in tech start-ups, R&D centers, and digital infrastructure. The prime minister appreciated the scientific and technological advancement in China and highlighted the immense potential for cooperation between Pakistan and China which can boost technological progress and innovation in Pakistan.

https://www.nation.com.pk/07-Jun-2024/don-t-lose-hope-follow-chinese-model-pm-urges-pakistanis

The News

Pak sends first cherry consignment to China

KARACHI: Pakistan has sent its first consignment of cherries to China through a refrigerated container, the Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP) announced on Thursday. Fresh cherries from Pakistan exported to China after the phytosanitary agreement signed between two countries in 2022, wherein China had granted market access to Pakistan for export of fresh cherries. Immediately after the signing of the protocol, the TDAP and the Department of Plant Protection (DPP) assisted eligible orchard owners in registering with the General Administration of Chinese Customs (GACC). The Pakistan Horticulture Development and Export Company (PHDEC) also conducted cherry product development activities aimed to educate farmers on the adoption of sound agricultural practices that can significantly increase production and fruit size, especially for renowned varieties like black and French cherries The Pakistan Horticulture and Development Export Company has chalked out a plan with the assistance of the GB extension department for enhancing the production of varieties demanded by Chinese consumers. In this regard, more cherry orchards are being assisted to improve farming practices. It is also planned to establish processing and packaging facilities at major hubs in GB. Chief executive of TDAP Zubair Motiwala said: "growers will be the major beneficiary of the cherries export. He said that TDAP and the PHDEC are trying their level best to capitalize on the 1.2 billion-people Chinese market.

https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1197636-pak-sends-first-cherry-consignment-to-china

Pakistan to regain its position emulating China model: PM

BEIJING: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday reiterated his resolve to make Pakistan a great nation and regain its position by following the Chinese development model through utmost hard work and a sharp focus on industrial and agricultural progress. "If we follow the Chinese model, I have no doubt, Pakistan will regain its position in the comity of nations and will be respected like our Chinese brothers are done by friends and foes. We will follow your model, work hard untiringly, put in our sweat and blood, and make Pakistan a great country," the prime minister said while addressing the 4th Pakistan-China Friendship and Business reception here. He told the gathering of Pakistani and Chinese business leaders that Pakistan would follow Chinese President Xi Jinping's vision to focus on progress and prosperity by avoiding conflicts and cited immense Chinese progress and projects like the Belt and Road Initiative, China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, Global Development Initiative (GDI) and the Global Security Initiative (GSI). The prime minister, who is in China on a five-day official visit, advised the Pakistani people against dejection or losing hope, rather than standing up and accepting the challenge to reach the level of Chinese progress within a few years or decades. He said the China-Pakistan friendship had no parallel in the world which remained unshakeable and unreachable even during the storms, wars and earthquakes. Recalling the Chinese journey of swift development to become the second biggest economic and military power under President Xi's vision, Prime Minister Shehbaz said it was achieved only through hard work and untiring efforts. "All Pakistanis will also have to pass through this thorny process. There is no other way to earn respect in the world," he remarked. He said China took

its trade to trillions of dollars while Pakistan's hovered around $30-40 billion in terms of exports. Besides, China has excelled in information technology and artificial intelligence. He also referred to the "wonderful" bilateral cooperation in space programmer as Pakistan recently sent a lunar satellite and a space satellite recently with Chinese collaboration. Referring to the sad and gruesome attack by the Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) killing five Chinese workers in Bisham in April, Shehbaz condemned the incident and conveyed his deepest condolence to the families of those who were killed. He said the incident which sent a shockwave across Pakistan was the nefarious plot of enemies of Pakistan-China friendship and CPEC as well as those who did not want to see bilateral ties rising to the apex of glory. "I want to make a solemn pledge that whatever is humanly possible, we will put in all measures and arrangements to protect the lives of every Chinese citizen in Punjab, Sindh, Balochistan, KP, GB and AJK. I want to make a solemn commitment that the security of Chinese nationals will be more than that of my own and my children," he assured. Meanwhile, talking to Chairman of China Export-Import Bank (EXIM) Dr Wu Fulin here, the prime minister said the reform measures taken by his government had already started yielding results in the form of successfully tapered food inflation, reduced current account deficit and public debt down to a more sustainable level. The prime minister highlighted his government's reform agenda focused on governance, taxation, and ease of doing business to attract Foreign Direct Investment (FDI). He appreciated the EXIM Bank's continued support for the modernization of industries, agriculture and IT sectors of Pakistan. He also discussed the possible role of the China EXIM Bank in financing Pakistan-China joint venture projects and trade financing as part of efforts to boost Pakistan's exports to international markets. The EXIM Bank chairman underscored the critical role of economic and financial cooperation under CPEC phase II and China EXIM Bank's strategic partnership with Pakistan and support to advance sustainable development under the concept of "shared prosperity". Separately, in a meeting with the chairman of Power China here, PM Shehbaz, reiterating his government's commitment to strengthen the alternative energy system in the country, highlighted that there existed a huge potential for investment in the sector. The Power China chairman appreciated the high quality and swift completion of Sahiwal Coal Power Plant, also mentioning the 'Pakistan Speed' and 'Punjab Speed' in reference to the accelerated completion of development projects in tenures of Shehbaz Sharif as Punjab Chief Minister and prime minister. The company chairman told the prime minister that a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) would be signed with Pakistan to improve the power transmission network and reduce the line losses. Meanwhile, PM Shehbaz invited the China Northern Industry Corporation (Norinco) to invest in Pakistan's communications infrastructure project, particularly the Karachi Circular Railway. The prime minister, talking to the Norinco chairman, highlighted that the government was taking measures to bring ease of doing business and had established the Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC) for the purpose. The Norinco chairman particularly mentioned 'Punjab Speed' and 'Pakistan Speed', referring to the swift completion of development projects during Shehbaz Sharif's stint, and also appreciated him for ensuring projects' quality under his supervision. The company head recalled that under Shehbaz's supervision, the Lahore Orange Line project was completed timely. Later, a representative of Norinco, in a statement, said that in the meeting with the prime minister, they discussed the Lahore Orange

Train project which was an important component of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor and a symbol of Pak-China friendship.

He said both countries worked jointly on the said project and reiterated that Norinco would come up with new projects to continue contributing to Pakistan's development. Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday met the Chairman of China International Cooperation Agency (Cidca) Ambassador Luo Zhaohui wherein they exchanged views on the unique and enduring China-Pakistan friendship and the promotion of pragmatic cooperation driven by common development, strategic trust, and mutual benefit. The prime minister, who arrived here Wednesday on the second leg of his five-day China visit, appreciated the robust support of Cidca for CPEC projects and Pakistan's socioeconomic development, particularly the establishment of Pakistan-China Friendship Hospital, the Desalination Plant in Gwadar, and the New Gwadar International Airport.

The Cidca chairman expressed commitment to further deepening China-Pakistan cooperation across diverse fields. He also underlined the need to expand the bilateral partnership in infrastructure development, climate change response, and human resource development, including under the ambit of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and the Global Development Initiative (GDI).

Meanwhile, the prime minister visited Zhongguancun Science Park, China's Silicon Valley, in the outskirts of Beijing. He was accompanied by Deputy PM Ishaq Dar and other members of the entourage. The discussions focused on potential collaboration and partnerships in tech start-ups, R&D centers, and digital infrastructure.

Meanwhile, Pakistan and China signed multiple MoUs to enhance bilateral cooperation in agriculture, labor-intensive manufacturing industry, digital economy, green economy and logistic ecosystem. The MoUs were signed between Pakistan's Board of Investment (BoI) and several Chinese entities at a signing ceremony witnessed by Ishaq Dar. Speaking on the occasion, the deputy prime minister and foreign minister emphasized the importance of China's outward-looking global economic policies, the capacity of Chinese enterprises to invest in the international market and the matching potential of Pakistan's domestic market. He highlighted the supportive environment in Pakistan for Chinese businesses interested in relocating industries from China.

Separately, Prime Minister Shehbaz also witnessed signing of various MoUs to expand cooperation in different fields between China and Pakistan. A MoU was signed between Pakistan and China regarding manufacturing of solar panels and YTO trackers. The MoU was signed between Pakistan's Habib Rafique Limited and Beijing Global Hydrogen Industries Company Limited. Another MoU was signed between the Pakistan Investment Board and the Institute of Structural Economics, Peking University, to promote the CPEC.

https://thenews.com.pk/print/1197781-pakistan-to-regain-its-position-emulating-china-model-pm

Pakistan, China build consensus on CPEC upgradation, advancement to project's second phase

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Chinese President Xi Jinping on Friday affirmed consensus on the upgradation of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and advancing high-quality development of the multibillion-dollar project in the second phase in a meeting at the historic Great Hall of the People in Beijing PM Shehbaz and President Xi expressed the resolve to further deepen cooperation across diverse domains ranging from political and security to economic, trade, and people-to-people exchanges. The top leaders of the friendly countries reaffirmed the time-honored 'All-Weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership'. PM Shehbaz held a long and in-depth discussion in a meeting with President Xi in the Chinese capital, today. The two leaders were accompanied by the federal ministers and senior officials. This was the premier's first meeting with the president of China since assuming office in 2024. The meeting was marked by traditional warmth reflective of the ironclad friendship and close strategic ties between the two countries, an official statement issued by the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) read. PM Shehbaz thanked President Xi for the warm and gracious welcome accorded to him and his delegation in China. He recalled the historic visit of President Xi Jinping to Pakistan in 2015 where the multibillion-dollar China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) was formally operationalized marking a new chapter in the bilateral relationship. They also exchanged views on regional and global developments including Afghanistan, Palestine and South Asia including the serious human rights situation in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK). The two sides reiterated their longstanding support for each other's issues of core interest. Commending President Xi's visionary Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and Global Development Initiative (GDI), the prime minister underscored that as the flagship project of BRI, CPEC had significantly contributed to Pakistan's socioeconomic development. The two leaders reaffirmed the consensus for high-quality development of CPEC and timely completion of major ongoing projects. The two leaders affirmed consensus on the upgradation of CPEC and advancing high-quality development of CPEC in the second phase. PM Shehbaz reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to the high-quality development of CPEC and to foster synergy between the development strategies of the two countries through close coordination. He underlined Pakistan's commitment and full support for the safety and security of Chinese nationals, projects and institutions in Pakistan. Shehbaz briefed Xi on Pakistan's policies for economic reform and sustained growth, industrial development, agricultural modernization and regional connectivity and the critical role played by CPEC in the country's development. He underlined that the Pakistani government's agenda for people-centric, socio-economic development resonates with the concept of 'shared prosperity' embraced by China. The Chinese president also hosted a banquet in honor of PM Shehbaz, where another round of discussion on different matters of mutual interests was held.

https://www.thenews.com.pk/latest/1197937-pakistan-china-build-consensus-of-cpec-upgradation-advancement-to-projects-second-phase

Pakistan, China resolve to protect CPEC from 'detractors, adversaries'

Pakistani and Chinese prime ministers on Friday expressed the commitment to protect the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) from its “detractors and adversaries”, while also ensuring the safety of Chinese personnel in Pakistan. PM Shehbaz Sharif is on an official visit to China from June 4 to 8 at the invitation of President Xi Jinping, seeking to upgrade cooperation under the CPEC, a key part of Beijing's Belt and Road Initiative. In a statement, the PM's Office said during the meeting, the two sides discussed the significance of Gwadar as an important pillar of the CPEC and agreed to expedite the timely completion of all related infrastructure projects to transform Gwadar into a regional economic hub. "They also expressed their firm commitment to protect the CPEC from its detractors and adversaries and to upgrade CPEC in the form of enhanced cooperation," the statement said. The prime minister reaffirmed Pakistan's unflinching resolve to ensure the safety and security of Chinese personnel and projects in Pakistan. Chinese investment and financial support since 2013 have been key for the South Asian nation's struggling economy, including the rolling over of loans so that Islamabad is able to meet external financing needs at a time when foreign reserves are critically low. China has also invested billions in various power projects and road networks in Pakistan under the $65 billion CPEC plan, but the implementation of various projects has slowed in recent months.

'Unwavering support'

During the talks, the two leaders discussed the entire spectrum of bilateral relations and discussed regional and global developments of mutual interest. They noted that the Pakistan-China All-Weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership was characterized by mutual trust, shared principles and strategic convergence. Premier Li congratulated Prime Minister Shehbaz on Pakistan's election as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council. The two leaders reaffirmed unwavering support for each other on core issues and expressed continued commitment and support for the high-quality development of the CPEC. They also emphasized the timely completion of all ongoing projects with a special focus on industrial development, agriculture modernization, Science & Technology and the development of Special Economic Zones for mutually beneficial and socio-economic development of Pakistan. The two sides agreed to maintain high-level exchanges including strengthening institutional linkages at all tiers and in all spheres of bilateral cooperation. Pakistan and China will also continue to consult closely on issues of regional and global significance and multilateral fora, especially during the two-year tenure of Pakistan as a non-member of the UNSC. The delegation-level talks were followed by an MoU signing ceremony, witnessed by Prime Minister Shehbaz and Premier Qiang, where both signed 23 MoUs and agreements deepening cooperation in transport infrastructure, industry, energy, agriculture, media, health, water, socio-economic development and others of mutual interest. The meeting was followed by an official banquet hosted by Premier Li Qiang in honor of the prime minister.

https://www.thenews.com.pk/latest/1197847-pakistan-china-resolve-to-protect-cpec-from-detractors-adversaries

Express News

پاکستان سے چیری کی پہلی کھیپ چین بھیج دی گئی

کراچی (سٹاف رپورٹر) چین کو پاکستان سے چیری کی پہلی کھیپ 5 جون کو ریفریڈ کنٹینر کے ذریعے بھیجی گئی، پاکستان سے تازہ چیری کی برآمد میں کامیابی چین اور پاکستان کے درمیان 2022 میں طے پانے والے فائٹو سیٹری معاہدے کا نتیجہ ہے۔

https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1111023846&Issue=NP_LHE&Date=20240607

Jang News

ون بیلٹ ون روڈ، صدر شی کا شاندار منصوبہ، وزیراعظم، چیئرمین چائنا امپورٹ ایکسپورٹ بینک نے شہباز شریف کو پاکستان اسپیڈ کا نام دیدیا

چیئرمین چائنا امپورٹ ایکسپورٹ بینک نےشہباز شریف کو پاکستان اسپیڈ کا نام دیدیا، ایگزم بینک کے چیئرمین نے وزیراعظم سے گفتگو کرتے ہوئے کہا جس طرح آپ نے پنجاب اسپیڈ سے کام کیا اور بہترین کارکردگی دکھائی اسی طرح ہمیں پاکستان اسپیڈ نظر آنا شروع ہو گئی ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا پاکستان کا ہر منصوبہ چائنا ایگزم بینک کے لئے ترجیحی حیثیت کے تحت اقتصادی اور مالی تعاون کے اہم کردار اور چائنا ایگزم بینک کی پاکستان II رکھتا ہے۔ انہوں نے سی پیک فیز۔ کے ساتھ اسٹریٹجک شراکت داری اور ''مشترکہ خوشحالی'' کے تصور کے تحت پائیدار ترقی کو آگے بڑھانے کے لیے تعاون پر زور دیا۔چائنا ایگزم بینک کی سابقہ چیئرپرسن ہو زیاولیان نے محمد شہباز شریف کے وزیر اعلیٰ پنجاب کے دور میں ان کے زیرنگرانی تیز رفتار ترقیاتی منصوبوں کی وجہ سے شہباز اسپیڈ کی اصطلاح استعمال کی تھی،وزیراعظم محمد شہباز شریف نے کہا ہے کہ پاکستان زراعت کے شعبے کی استعداد بڑھانے کے لئے چینی تجربات سے فائدہ اٹھانا چاہتا ہے، حکومت گورننس کی بہتری، ٹیکس نیٹ بڑھانے اور کاروبار میں آسانی کے حوالے سے اقدامات اٹھا رہی ہے، ریلوے مین لائن ون کی اپ گریڈیشن کا منصوبہ سرمایہ کاری کے لیے بالکل تیار ہے،چائنا ایگزم بینک نے پاکستان کی معاشی ترقی میں اہم کردار ادا کیا ہے۔ انہوں نے ان خیالات کا اظہار چائنا ایکسپورٹ امپورٹ بینک (سی ای ایکس آئی ایم)کے چیئرمین ڈاکٹر وو فلن سے گفتگو کرتے ہوئے کیا جنہوں نے وزیراعظم سے یہاں ملاقات کی۔

https://e.jang.com.pk/detail/698865

معاشی اصلاحات کے ایجنڈے پر عمل پیرا ہیں، وزیر اعظم

وزیراعظم محمد شہباز شریف نے پاکستان کو خود انحصاری کی منزل سے ہمکنار کرنے اور ترقی کیلئے چین کے ماڈل سے استفادہ کے عزم کا اظہار کرتے ہوئے کہا ہے کہ پاکستان معاشی اصلاحات کے ایجنڈے پر عمل پیرا ہے، بدعنوانی کے خاتمہ، بنیادی ڈھانچہ میں تبدیلی اور برآمدات کےفروغ کیلئے اقدامات کر رہے ہیں، وقت آ گیا ہے کہ پاکستان اور چین کی شراکت داری کو معاشی اہداف کے حصول کیلئے نتیجہ خیز بنائیں، سی پیک اور دیگر منصوبوں پر کام کرنے والے چینی باشندوں کی فول پروف سکیورٹی کو یقینی بنایا جائے گا۔ون بیلٹ ون روڈ صدر شی کا شاندار منصوبہ ہے،ان خیالات کا اظہار انہوں نے بیجنگ میں پاک چائنا فرینڈشپ اینڈ بزنس ریسپشن سے خطاب کرتے ہوئے کیا۔ وزیراعظم نے کہا کہ پاک چائنا فرینڈشپ اینڈ بزنس ریسپشن کی تقریب سے خطاب میرے لئے اعزاز ہے، پاکستان اور چین کی غیر مشروط دوستی کا طویل سفر باہمی اعتماد اور احترام کے رشتوں پر قائم ہے، یہ پائیدار دوستی سرحدوں سے باہر اب خلاؤں میں پہنچ چکی ہے، چین کی کم عرصہ میں تیز رفتار ترقی ہمارے لئے مشعل راہ ہے، پاکستان 24 کروڑ آبادی کا ملک ہے ، پاکستان کے سعودی عرب ،یو اے ای ،کویت ، ایران، افغانستان اور دیگر خلیجی ممالک کے ساتھ برادرانہ تعلقات ہیں لیکن پاکستان اور چین کے درمیان دوستی اور بھائی چارے کی دنیا میں کہیں مثال نہیں ملتی ،یہ دوستی ذاتی مفاد کے لئے نہیں ،چین نے سیلاب، زلزلوں اور دیگر قدرتی آفات سمیت ہر مشکل گھڑی میں پاکستان کا ساتھ دیا ہے ،یہ نہ ختم ہونے والی دوستی اور تعلق ہے ۔وزیراعظم نے کہا کہ پاکستان اور چین کی دوستی بے لوث اور ہر آزمائش پر پوری اتری ہے ۔

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Nawaiwaqt

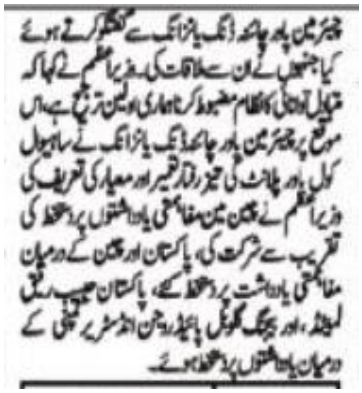


پاکستان کو کاروبار دوست ترجیح وزیر اعظم

ایم ایل ون گرین لائن منصوبے میں چینی سرمایہ کاری کے خواہاں

سپیشل ایئر مشن سے چاک چین دوستی مضبوط سے مضبوط تر پارلیمنٹ میں پہنچ چکی چین کی تیز رفتار ترقی ہمارے لئے مشعل راہ ہے شہباز شریف

اسلام آباد (خبر نگار خصوصی) وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف نے پاکستان کو خود انحصاری کی منزل سے ہمکنار کرنے اور ترقی کیلئے چین کے ساتھ سے استفادہ کے عزم کا اظہار کرتے ہوئے کہا ہے کہ پاکستان معاشی اصلاحات کے ایجنڈے پر عمل پیرا ہے، بدعنوانی کے خاتمے، بنیادی ڈھانچے میں تبدیلی اور برآمدات کے فروغ کیلئے اقدامات کر رہے ہیں، وقت آ گیا ہے کہ پاکستان صفحہ 6 پر بقیہ نمبر 2



چیئرمین پاور چائنہ لمیٹڈ یانزانگ سے گفتگو کرتے ہوئے

کیا جنہوں نے ان سے ملاقات کی۔ وزیر اعظم نے کہا کہ توانائی کا نظام مضبوط کرنا ہماری اولین ترجیح ہے، اس موقع پر چیئرمین پاور چائنہ لمیٹڈ یانزانگ نے ساہیوال کول پاور پلانٹ کی تیز رفتار تعمیر اور معیار کی تعریف کی وزیر اعظم نے چین میں مفاہمتی یادداشتوں پر دستخط کی تقریب سے شرکت کی، پاکستان اور چین کے درمیان مفاہمتی یادداشت پر دستخط کئے، پاکستان حبیب رفیق لمیٹڈ، اور بیجنگ گوشن پائیڈرو جن انڈسٹریز لمیٹڈ کے درمیان یادداشتوں پر دستخط ہوئے۔



بقیہ 2 | وزیر اعظم

پاکستان اور چین کی شراکت داری معاشی لحاظ سے کے حصول کیلئے توانائی کے شعبے میں کی یک اور مگر منصوبوں پر کام کرنے والے بیجنگ یا شنگھائی کی فول پروف سکیورٹی کی جائے گا۔ ان خیالات کا اظہار انہوں نے بیجنگ میں پاک چائنا فرینڈ شپ ایوارڈ نس سے خطاب کرتے ہوئے کیا۔ شہباز شریف سے چائنا نیشنل انٹرنیشنل کارپوریشن (نورنگو) کے چیئرمین نے ملاقات کی۔ چیئرمین نورنگو نے محمد شہباز شریف کے بطور وزیر اعلیٰ پنجاب ترقیاتی منصوبوں کو تیز رفتاری سے مکمل کرنے اور پاکستان اور پنجاب پیپلز پارٹی کا خصوصی ذکر کیا۔ کہا کہ آپ کی سربراہی میں لاہور اورنج ٹرین میٹرو کا منصوبہ بروقت تیار ہوا ان خیالات کا اظہار انہوں نے

https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2024-06-07/page-1

https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2024-06-07/page-6



وزیراعظم کا دورہ نتیجہ خیز ہوگا، سی پیک ٹو شروع ہونے جارہا ہے: چینی قونصل جنرل

نئے منصوبوں پر کام شروع ہوگا، سی ٹو سی کے ساتھ پی ٹو پی سرگرمیوں میں تیزی آئے گی، روزگار بڑھے گا

چین نے سینکڑوں ملین افراد کو غربت سے نکالا، یانگ یونڈونگ کی نوائے وقت سے گفتگو

کراچی (غلام عباس سندھو) کراچی میں چین وزیراعظم شہباز شریف کا حالیہ دورہ چین نتیجہ خیز کے قونصل جنرل یانگ یونڈونگ نے کہا ہے کہ ثابت ہوگا، سی پیک کا فیز ٹو صفحہ 6 پر بقیہ نمبر 7

بقیہ 7 چینی قونصل جنرل

شروع ہونے جارہا ہے۔ متعدد نئے منصوبوں پر کام جاری ہے۔ یہ باتیں انہوں نے نوائے وقت کے نمائندے کو کراچی کنسولیٹ میں ملاقات میں کہیں۔ یانگ یونڈونگ نے کہا کہ بزنس ٹو بزنس مین کاروبار کے لئے زبان کی رکاوٹ نہیں ہونی چاہیے۔ زبان کی رکاوٹ دور کرنے کے لئے بہت کام کیا جارہا ہے۔ اس وقت 80 ممالک میں چینی زبان سکھائی جارہی ہے۔ چینی قونصل جنرل نے نوائے وقت کی طرف سے چینی زبان کو اولمپک سبجیکٹ کا حصہ بنانے کی تجویز کو خوب سراہا۔ فیز ٹو کے تحت سی ٹو سی کے ساتھ پی ٹو پی سرگرمیوں میں تیزی آئے گی تو دونوں ممالک کی بہتر پارٹنرشپ کے لئے کاروبار کے ساتھ عوام کے لئے روزگار کے مواقع پیدا ہوں گے۔ چین جو تیزی سے ترقی میں بہت آگے بڑھ گیا، چین نے سینکڑوں ملین افراد کو غربت سے نکال دیا۔ مغربی اور بھارتی میڈیا اس حوالے سے اس انفارمیشن پھیلا رہا ہے۔ چین ہر ملک کی خودمختاری کا احترام کرتا ہے اور اپنے تجربات سب کو شیئر کرنے کے لئے تیار ہے۔ ہم چاہتے ہیں کہ زیادہ سے زیادہ پاکستانی چین کا دورہ کریں۔ مغربی میڈیا کی اس انفارمیشن کو مسترد کرنے میں پاکستان کے میڈیا نے بہترین کردار ادا کیا ہے۔ اس حوالے سے روزنامہ نوائے وقت اور ڈی جی پبلک کی خدمات قابل تحسین ہیں۔

https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2024-06-07/page-1

https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2024-06-07/page-6

June 08, 2024

Business Recorder

PM meets Xi ahead of budget, IMF talks

China's President Xi Jinping met Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif in Beijing on Friday, Chinese state media reported, days before Pakistan presents its annual budget and applies for a new International Monetary Fund (IMF) loan. Pakistan's location on the Arabian Sea gives it strategic importance for China, providing an overland route out towards the Gulf of Aden and onto the Suez Canal, and enabling Chinese ships to avoid the potential chokepoint of the Malacca Strait. "China will, as always, firmly support Pakistan and safeguard its national sovereignty and territorial integrity," Xi told Sharif, adding that the two countries' "all-weather strategic partnership... had broad development prospects." Xi also said that China would also help Pakistan with its economic and social development. Pakistan is in the middle of a debt crisis As such, Sharif's government is expected to seek at least $6 billion under a new IMF programme after it presents its annual budget on June 12. And the $27 billion or so that Pakistan owes China, according to World Bank data, is central to this next round of discussions with the fund. The IMF in May opened discussions on the new loan after Islamabad completed a short-term $3 billion programme, which helped stave off a sovereign debt default last summer. Pakistan owes China almost 13% of its total debt, which was taken on to pay for infrastructure projects over the years and other types of spending. Beijing has lent Islamabad almost twice as much as its second- and third-ranked multilateral lenders, the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank, to which Pakistan owes $16.2 billion and $13.7 billion respectively. Chinese firms have also invested a further $14 billion in Pakistan since a new economic corridor connecting their countries was announced in the summer of 2013 as part of Chinese President Xi Jinping's flagship Belt and Road Initiative, data from

the American Enterprise Institute think tank shows. Most of that investment was made by Chinese state-owned energy companies financing fossil-fuel and nuclear power plants, as well as logistics routes under construction connecting Gwadar Port in the Arabian Sea with the Xinjiang region in China's northwest. Xi told Sharif that their two countries should focus on "promoting the joint construction of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor," and Chinese and Pakistani firms 31 memoranda of understanding covering technology, agriculture, trade, energy, coal and gasification, according to Pakistan's commerce ministry.

https://epaper.brecorder.com/2024/06/08/1-page/995059-news.html

China, Pakistan express commitment

Pakistan and China on Friday expressed their firm commitment to protect the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) from its detractors and adversaries, besides, ensuring high-quality development and timely completion of its all ongoing projects. The bilateral ties and cooperation were discussed in the delegation-level talks between Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif and Chinese Premier Li Qiang at the Great Hall of the People. The prime minister was accompanied by key members of his cabinet. A welcome ceremony was arranged in honour of the prime minister on his arrival at the Great Hall of the People. During the talks, the two leaders discussed the entire spectrum of bilateral relations, and regional and global developments of mutual interest. They noted that the Pakistan-China All-Weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership was characterised by mutual trust, shared principles and strategic convergence. Premier Li congratulated Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Pakistan's election as a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council. The two leaders reaffirmed unwavering support for each other on core issues, and expressed continued commitment and support for the high-quality development of CPEC. They also emphasised the timely completion of all ongoing projects with a special focus on industrial development, agriculture modernisation, science and technology, and development of Special Economic Zones for mutually beneficial and socioeconomic development of Pakistan. The two sides discussed the significance of Gwadar as an important pillar of the CPEC and agreed to expedite the timely completion of all related infrastructure projects to transform it into a regional economic hub. They also expressed their firm commitment to protect the CPEC from its detractors and adversaries, and to upgrade it in the form of enhanced cooperation. Prime Minister Shehbaz reaffirmed Pakistan's unflinching resolve to ensure the safety and security of Chinese personnel and projects in Pakistan. The two sides agreed to maintain high-level exchanges, including strengthening institutional linkages at all tiers and in all spheres of bilateral cooperation. Pakistan and China would also continue to consult closely on issues of regional and global significance and multilateral fora, especially during the two-year tenure of Pakistan as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council. The delegation-level talks were followed by an MoU signing ceremony, witnessed by Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif and Premier Li Qiang. The two sides signed 23 memorandums of understanding (MoUs) and agreements deepening cooperation in transport infrastructure, industry, energy, agriculture, media, health, water, socio-economic development and others of mutual interest. https://epaper.brecorder.com/2024/06/08/1-page/995061-news.html

Pakistan, China ink 23 MoUs

Pakistan and China have signed 23 Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) to deepen bilateral cooperation in multiple areas including transport infrastructure, industry, energy, agriculture, media, health, water, socioeconomic development, and other areas of mutual interest. The MoUs were signed after Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and his Chinese counterpart Li Qiang held delegation-level talks in Beijing on Friday wherein they reaffirmed that the Pakistan-China Strategic Cooperative Partnership was characterized by mutual trust, shared principles, and strategic governance, Foreign Office spokesperson Mumtaz Zahra Baloch told the media at her weekly press briefing. Both sides also expressed unwavering support for each other's core issues and reiterated their commitment to the high-quality development of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and the timely completion of ongoing projects. Both sides also resolved to protect the CPEC from detractors and adversaries with Prime Minister Shehbaz PM reaffirming commitment to ensure the safety and security of Chinese personnel and projects in Pakistan. The two countries agreed to maintain high-level exchanges, including strengthening of institutional linkages in all tiers and spheres, besides continuing to holding consultations on matters of bilateral and global significance, particularly during Pakistan's two-year term as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council for the term 2025-2026.

https://epaper.brecorder.com/2024/06/08/1-page/995063-news.html

PM's China visit: take-home messages

Farhat Ali

The much-trumpeted high level official visit of prime minister Shehbaz Sharif to China is at its tail end. It is a high-level visit with high expectations as a significantly high number of federal ministers, dignitaries and advisors supported by an equal number of government functionaries and around 100 business leaders from Pakistan are reported to have accompanied the prime minister. To narrate, in generic terms, such high level visits from Pakistan to China in the past, notably, after the roll out of CPEC (China Pakistan Economic Corridor), were bullish at both ends with Pakistan taking home few mega projects to be paid for in installments over the years. Pakistan is now struggling against the payback challenge and the mood at the current visit is bearish with no project for Pakistan to carry back home. Pakistan's addiction to loans with a mindset that 'somebody else at some other time would pay for it' has resulted in Pakistan becoming a perpetual loan seeker from the IMF. The country has derailed the CPEC that was once considered as a game changer for the economic and fiscal sustainability of the country. The name of the game is to turn loans into revenue generation and profitability, but this is something which gets lost in the muddled governance of the country. The current visit of the prime minister is devoted to the path of soft targets; notably, business-to-business meetings, showcase of China's spectacular rise as a world leader in technological excellence and trust-building between the government of Pakistan and China, which suffered setbacks on security concerns for Chinese citizens in Pakistan and an enabling business environment in Pakistan under the background of a setback to China-sponsored projects in Pakistan. The soft targets, under the prevailing economic and fiscal

challenges, may work better for Pakistan. The high point of the current visit of the prime minister is business-to-business (B2B) meetings between the business leaders of China and Pakistan. Reportedly, as many as 500 companies from China and 100 from Pakistan took part in Pakistan-China business meetings in which 32 MoUs are reported to have been signed. Also, some bilateral negotiations were held with Chinese companies. Prime minister Shehbaz Sharif drew a comparison between the $500 billion GDP of Shenzhen, a city of 13 million people, and the $380 billion GDP of Pakistan with a population of 250 million and described the Chinese city's swift transformation a "miracle of this century" and the "eighth wonder of the world", necessitating for others to learn the lesson from. "I will go back to Pakistan with this resolve; come what may, we will follow this model of great economic transformation in Pakistan. This model is enough to copy and simulate if we are sincere to our purpose and people. By God, I can tell you this is difficult but not impossible," he told a gathering of hundreds of business leaders from Pakistan and China. As the Business Forum also marked the B2B matchmaking, he urged the Pakistani businessmen to sit with their Chinese counterparts and find out ways to move Chinese textile industries to Pakistan and make joint collaborations in steel and other industries. "Today is the opportunity, time and moment to capture. Sit down with Chinese friends to have serious discussions. I want to ensure you not as prime minister but as Chief Executive of Pakistan that I will give you the fullest support so that businessmen of Pakistan and China get benefits jointly," the prime minister remarked. The Pakistan delegation was showcased the spectacular technological advancement China made in all spheres of life - having started its journey to progress in 1948 (one year after creation of Pakistan in 1947). This did not go unnoticed by the prime minister who acknowledged that Pakistan has lost its way. He recalled that during the decades of 50s or 60s, Pakistan's economic indicators were better than those of China and called for a collective resolve to regain its stature. China's offer for collaboration in scientific research and development and support to startups needs to be worked upon with the indulgence of the private sector. On the complex issue of protecting the lives of Chinese citizens in Pakistan, the prime minister said: "I will spare no effort to protect the lives of our Chinese brothers and sisters in Pakistan. I want to assure and guarantee you, that we will provide them security, more than our own self. This is my pledge and commitment that this will never happen again." He assured the Chinese side that his government had already initiated structural changes in Pakistan to control corruption. He, however, did not specify reforms. While there are no mega projects to take home but there are a number of soft targets and opportunities to take home and diligently work upon. Foremost is the B2B collaboration, collaboration in scientific research and development in industry, development of startups and migration of Chinese textile industries to Pakistan. All this needs to be done on B2B with the government facilitating the process at an arm's length. Having underlined the opportunities, there are formidable challenges to make things happen in Pakistan. Cost and ease of doing business in Pakistan continue to pose a serious challenge to the sustainability of businesses, notably, the industrial sector. While the prime minister was vowing security to the Chinese, in Pakistan, around the same time, the business community of Karachi was holding a press conference, raising concerns over lawlessness in Karachi and urging the prime minister, the chief of army staff, the chief minister of Sindh and the interior minister to take notice of the rising lawlessness in Karachi, which, if not promptly addressed, would lead to the flight of

investment from the largest city of the country and intensify problems for the already ailing economy. Such news in the media does not go unnoticed by the local and foreign investors nor by China and Saudi Arabia - the two potential foreign investors in Pakistan. In B2B meetings in China around 32 MoU are reported to have been signed. The track record of MoUs materializing into reality on ground, in case of Pakistan, is unfortunately not encouraging at all. It was only last month that a 50-member delegation of businessmen representing 30 business groups in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia visited Pakistan and held 447 B2B meetings with more than 140 Pakistani companies. In the report submitted to the premier, a follow-up mechanism has been proposed for facilitating business interaction among the companies of both the countries. Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has been informed that only two memoranda of understanding (MoUs) have been signed on business-to-business (B2B) — fried onion products and human resource development (HRD). However, with China it might work out better in view of each side understanding the markets better and the prevailing workable supplier and importer relationship and seamless supply chain mechanism. One thing which remains intact against all odds is the high regard in which China holds its relationship with Pakistan and vice versa. The current visit is scheduled to round off in Beijing amidst full protocol and meetings between the Prime Minister Shehbaz and President of China Xi Jinping.

https://epaper.brecorder.com/2024/06/08/5-page/995096-news.html

Financial facilitation to augment Pakistan-China business activities, says NBP President

National Bank of Pakistan (NBP) President, Rehmat Ali Hasnie, participated in the Pakistan China Business Conference held in Shenzhen, China. Hasnie was among the delegation accompanying Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif who on Tuesday landed in China's Shenzhen on his official visit to the country, as Islamabad aims to advance bilateral trade and economic ties with Beijing and attract Chinese investors via business-to-business (B2B) projects. The conference provided a platform for fostering economic ties between Pakistan and China. Hasnie met with key officials, including SHI Weigan, Director-General of the Shenzhen Local Financial Supervision Administration, to discuss potential opportunities for establishing an NBP branch in Shenzhen and exploring the city's government incentives. The President NBP also held fruitful discussions with representatives from the Ministry of Finance and Silk Road International Investment Management Co. Ltd. (SRIIF) about potential collaboration opportunities. Furthermore, Hasnie met with Wallace LAI, COO of Huawei Technologies, and Ethan SUN, CEO of Huawei Pakistan, to explore avenues for collaboration on smart products, financial solutions, and services. He also visited the Huawei Technology Centre, gaining insights into their latest advancements. Hasnie participated in a media interview with China Economic News and shared his views about the conference with PTV, Pakistan's national television network. He expressed his optimism about the conference, highlighting the "new chapter" it opens for both countries and the intention of both sides for "provision of a business-friendly environment." He also assured NBP's commitment to providing maximum banking facilitation for businesses emerging from this collaboration. https://epaper.brecorder.com/2024/06/08/6-page/995101-news.html

Daily Times

Unmanned aerial vehicle industry, heralding new frontiers for Pak-China cooperation

The year 2024 marks the start of a soaring UAV (unmanned aerial vehicle) industry, heralding new frontiers for Pakistan-China cooperation", Sun Yang, Vice President of Shenzhen UAV Industry Association told CEN at the Pakistan China Business Forum held in Shenzhen. In response to agricultural disruptions caused by climate change, Pakistan and China are bolstering cooperation in applying UAVs to mitigate impacts in the agricultural sector. Ghulam Qadir, Commercial Counsellor of the Pakistani Embassy in China, has revealed a plan to invite 50 to 60 Chinese technology companies to visit Pakistan this and next month, including those in the UAV and AI sectors. According to Mr. Dong, CEO of Baina Zhihang, a UAV startup in Shenzhen, South Asia and South America are the most promising markets for low-altitude economic development and cooperation. "The vast rice paddies in South Asian countries provide boundless opportunities for UAV usage, from weed control to fertilizer and pesticide distribution", he said, adding that close people-to-people connections and exchanges also facilitate communication and technical training. "As an emerging industry, drone-related laws and regulations are often similar among various Asian countries, laying the foundation for international cooperation", Dong told CEN reporter. In China, the "low-altitude economy" represented by UAVs has been termed as a strategic emerging industry and a new growth engine. "Low-altitude" refers to an airspace range below 1000 meters vertically, extending as needed to not more than 3000 meters. Last year, China's civilian drone industry registered a year-on-year increase of 32%. It is forecasted the market size of China's low-altitude economy is expected to reach RMB 1.5 trillion by 2025 and RMB 3.5 trillion by 2035. In Shenzhen, a special economic zone in southern China, consumption-level UAVs take up 70% of the global market, and the figure for industry-level usage is around 50%. Last year, over 400,000 trips were concluded successfully here by the UAV fleet of Meituan alone, which is China's top retail technology company. "Efforts are being made within the industry to make safe, stable UAVs with passengers on board", Sun Yang said. By then, commuting by air would become a reality. Sun Yang pointed out that, to fully leverage this cutting-edge technology, Pakistan requires the establishment of physical infrastructure, communication and sensing networks, digital operations, as well as regulatory and service mechanisms. "Besides farmlands, more application scenarios can be explored, such as package delivery, mid-air sightseeing, first aid, urban patrol, etc.", he said. Agencies

Chinese Medicines

Tianjin Modern Vocational Technology College (TMVTC) and MNS University of Agriculture Multan collaborated on a project to establish an Herbal Medicine Planting, Testing, and Processing Base under Pakistani Luban Workshop. The project, in collaboration with Tianjin Pharmaceutical Darentang Co., Ltd. and Tianjin Tailai Import and Export Co., Ltd, is dedicated to promoting the cultivation and processing of Traditional Chinese Medicines in Multan, Gwadar Pro reported on Friday. This initiative integrates industry and vocational education, aims to spread the culture of Chinese medicine, trains overseas technical talents, and supports the international development of TCM. The project was

officially launched at the 11th Conference on Chinese Herbal Medicine Base Collaboration for Shared Benefits held last week. The project focuses on integrating China's TCM brands with foreign cultural exchange brands, merging innovation with engineering practice, and combining TCM international trade with the training of local technicians. This forms a "three-combination" vocational education model to support the global expansion of TCM. The model received high attention from industry experts and pharmaceutical enterprises attending the conference. The Pakistani Luban Workshop project selected and cultivated high-quality licorice, comfrey and cistanche, which are of high quality and have high yields in Multan. Through large-scale planting, we can acquire high-quality and affordable Chinese medicinal materials, thereby boosting local income. At the same time, the cooperation project will promote the integration of Chinese herbs into international markets and support health programs with Chinese characteristics. To strengthen cooperation between the industry, university, and research institute of the project, TMVTC hired experts in the field of biopharmaceuticals as mentors. Dr. Liang Yu, pharmacology professor at Tsinghua University and one of the mentors of the project, emphasized that the cultivation of traditional Chinese herbs abroad is crucial for the global expansion of TCM.

https://dailytimes.com.pk/1199074/unmanned-aerial-vehicle-industry-heralding-new-frontiers-for-pak-china-cooperation/

Shehbaz, XI reaffirm CPEC commitments

Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif and Chinese President Xi Jinping Friday held a productive meeting, reaffirming the consensus to high-quality development of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and timely completion of major ongoing projects. The two leaders also affirmed consensus on up-gradation of the CPEC and advancing the development of the mega project in the second phase. The prime minister briefed President Xi on Pakistan's policies for economic reforms and sustained growth, industrial development, agricultural modernization and regional connectivity, and the critical role played by the CPEC in the country's development.

He asserted Pakistan's commitment to high-quality development of the CPEC and to foster synergy between the development strategies of the two countries through close coordination. The meeting between the two leaders was held at the historic Great Hall of the People. The two leaders were accompanied by the federal ministers and senior officials. This was the first meeting of PM Shehbaz with the President of China since assuming office in 2024. The meeting was marked by traditional warmth reflective of the ironclad friendship and close strategic ties between the two countries.

The prime minister thanked President Xi Jinping for the warm and gracious welcome accorded to him and his delegation in China. He recalled the historic visit of the President Xi Jinping to Pakistan in 2015 when the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) was formally operationalized marking a new chapter in the bilateral relationship. The two leaders reaffirmed the time-honored 'All-Weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership' and expressed the resolve to further deepen cooperation across diverse domains ranging from political and security to economic, trade, and people-to- people exchanges. They also exchanged views on regional and global developments, including Afghanistan, Palestine and South Asia, besides

the serious human rights situation in the Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK). The two sides reiterated their longstanding support on each other's issues of core interest. Commending President Xi's visionary Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and Global Development Initiative (GDI), the prime minister underscored that as the flagship project of BRI, the China Pakistan Economic Corridor had significantly contributed to Pakistan's socio-economic development. He underlined Pakistan's commitment and full support for safety and security of the Chinese nationals, projects and institutions in Pakistan. He underlined that the government's agenda for people centric, socio-economic development resonates with the concept of 'shared prosperity' embraced by China.

President Xi Jinping also hosted a banquet in honor of the prime minister, where another round of discussion on different matters of mutual interests was held. Earlier, Pakistan and China on Friday signed 23 Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) to deepen bilateral cooperation in multiple areas including transport infrastructure, industry, energy, agriculture, media, health, water, socioeconomic development, and other areas of mutual interest. The MoUs were signed after Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and his Chinese counterpart Li Qiang held delegation-level talks wherein they reaffirmed that the Pakistan-China Strategic Cooperative Partnership was characterized by mutual trust, shared principles, and strategic governance, Foreign Office spokesperson Mumtaz Zahra Baloch told the media at her weekly press briefing.

Both sides also expressed unwavering support for each other's core issues and reiterated their commitment to the high-quality development of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and the timely completion of ongoing projects. Both sides also resolved to protect the CPEC from detractors and adversaries with Prime Minister Shehbaz PM reaffirming commitment to ensure the safety and security of Chinese personnel and projects in Pakistan. The two countries agreed to maintain high-level exchanges, including strengthening of institutional linkages in all tiers and spheres, besides continuing to holding consultations on matters of bilateral and global significance, particularly during Pakistan's two-year term as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council for the term 2025-2026. The spokesperson said, "Since his arrival in China, the prime minister has met with Chinese investors and businesspersons to explore investment opportunities in Pakistan." In the meeting and events including a Business Forum in Shenzhen, he encouraged the Chinese companies to invest and develop joint ventures. Several MoUs have also been signed with Chinese companies in economy, green energy, textiles, and manufacturing. Before he departed for a five-day visit to China, the prime minister had told the Chinese media in an interview that he would engage with Chinese business leaders to secure investments and yield dividends mutually beneficial for companies on both sides. "We are coming with serious plans. We will engage with you and return to Pakistan with great dividends that will benefit Chinese and Pakistani companies and the two countries will have their relations strengthened and become much higher than the Himalayas or any other highest peaks and deeper than the deepest oceans," he remarked.

https://dailytimes.com.pk/1199194/shehbaz-xi-reaffirm-cpec-commitments/

NBP President interested to open first branch in mainland China

In a strategic move to expand global footprint and enhance digital banking capabilities, President of the National Bank of Pakistan (NBP), Rehmat Ali Hasnie showed interest in opening the bank's first branch in mainland China. Under the leadership of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, this initiative is part of a broader effort to capitalize on the opportunities presented by the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), aiming to strengthen cross-border financial collaboration and advance digital connectivity between the two nations, he told China Economic Net (CEN). The NBP president, who attended Pakistan-China Business Forum in Shenzhen said the new branch is expected to facilitate increased trade and investment flows while leveraging cutting-edge digital banking technologies to provide seamless financial services. After the visit of the Prime Minister to China, Hasnie hopes trade volume between China and Pakistan will increase and banks will need to innovate and provide robust trade financing mechanisms to support it. He said that earlier this month NBP signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with China-Pakistan International Silk Road Industry Investment Management Co., Ltd. to facilitate investment in key projects for the promotion of industrial cooperation between China and Pakistan and support the establishment of special economic zones and other sectors. As BRI's emphasis on connectivity and modernization extends to financial technology, Rehmat noted that "the adoption of advanced digital banking platforms and fintech solutions will be critical to efficiently manage the financial transactions and services associated with BRI projects", and added that to fully leverage the benefits of BRI, Pakistan's banking sector must address issues such as regulatory reforms, risk management, and the enhancement of cybersecurity measures. The president emphasized that NBP is committed to playing a pivotal role in the country's successful implementation of CPEC. "We are actively working to align our strategies with the objectives of BRI, ensuring that we not only support national economic growth but also strengthen our position in the regional and global banking landscape," he affirmed.

https://dailytimes.com.pk/1199071/nbp-president-interested-to-open-first-branch-in-mainland-china/

Pakistan Observer

Study in China: Check fully funded placement offers for Pakistani students

An exciting offer is now available for undergraduate or graduate students looking for transformative educational experiences in China as Higher Education Commission (HEC) is offering a fully funded study placement opportunity in China for six months. Higher Education Commission (HEC) rolled out 6-month study placement program in China, as the program offers lifetime opportunity, promoting cross-cultural awareness and improving professional abilities. The new step aim is to provide scholars with fresh knowledge and perspectives, empowering them to forge academic connections for success in a rapidly globalizing world. By discovering unique routes to academic success and professional advancement, scholars and students are urged to undertake this transformative venture and add to the international talent reservoir. https://pakobserver.net/study-in-china-check-fully-funded-placement-offers-for-pakistani-students/

The Express Tribune

PM Shehbaz visits historical Chinese Terracotta Warriors Museum in Xi'an

BEIJING: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, accompanied by the Pakistani delegation, visited the historical site of China, Terracotta Warriors Museum on Saturday. The visit was part of an invitation extended by the Chinese President Xi Jinping to the prime minister to visit the museum in his hometown, Xi'an. During the visit the prime minister and the delegation were briefed on the preservation and restoration of historical heritage and the promotion of tourism. PM Shehbaz, who is on a five-day official visit to China, visited various sections of the museum and commended the beauty of ancient Chinese heritage and the skill of Chinese artisans. "Great nations protect and take care of their historical assets like the Chinese do," he said, adding that the skill of the Chinese craftsmen of 200 BC was admirable. The prime minister also appreciated the Chinese government's efforts in preserving and restoring the historical site saying that Pakistan was also rich in historical and cultural heritage. He said the government would also restore and promote its own historical sites as tourist destinations. He also thanked the President Xi for inviting him to visit the museum. Federal Ministers Khawaja Muhammad Asif, Ahsan Iqbal, Muhammad Aurangzeb, Ataullah Tarar, Dr Musadik Malik, Sardar Awais Khan Leghari, Rana Tanveer Hussain also accompanied the prime minister during the visit.

https://tribune.com.pk/story/2470470/pm-shehbaz-visits-historical-chinese-terracotta-warriors-museum-in-xian

The News

Details of 23 MoUs, pacts signed with China

Documents were signed after Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and his Chinese counterpart Li Qiang held talks BEIJING: Pakistan and China on Friday signed 23 Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) and agreements to deepen bilateral cooperation in areas including transport infrastructure, industry, energy, agriculture, media, health, water and socioeconomic development.

The documents were signed after Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and his Chinese counterpart Li Qiang held delegation-level talks wherein they reaffirmed that the Pakistan-China Strategic Cooperative Partnership was characterized by mutual trust, shared principles, and strategic governance.

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Chinese Premier Li Qiang witnessed the ceremony as representatives from both sides signed the documents. Pakistan and China signed the agreements for the co-production of films, and news exchange and cooperation.

The MoUs were signed between Pakistan Television Corporation and China Media Group; on the feasibility studies of DI Khan-Zhob National Highway 50, Muzaffarabad-Mirpur-Mangla Expressway and Karachi-Hyderabad Motorway 9; and construction of a tunnel at Babusar on Mansehra-Chilas National Highway. Both sides signed a document on modalities for third

party participation in China-Pakistan Economic Corridor; MoUs on re-alignment of KKH, agricultural cooperation, and anti-monopoly cooperation; an action plan on implementation of 2022 Industrial Cooperation Framework; a protocol on surveying, mapping and geo-information in scientific and technical fields; and a study on the establishment of an effective energy management system.

Two countries signed Letters of Intent for workshops on capacity building on governance, and industrial park development; and handing over certificate for Pak-China Friendship Hospital in Gwadar and Desalination Plant in Gwadar.

Both sides also signed Letters of Exchange for the reconstruction of primary schools in Sindh; the Lady Health Workers Workstations project; and Junaco Cultivation Demonstration and Projection project; besides an endorsement of the agreement reached in the 7th Joint Working Group to enhance cooperation under CPEC.

https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1198174-details-of-23-mous-pacts-signed-with-china

Pakistan, China agree on CPEC upgrade, advance to 2nd phase

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan and China Friday affirmed their consensus on upgradation of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and advancing the high-quality development to the second phase. In a meeting at the historic Great Hall of the People in Beijing, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Chinese President Xi Jinping expressed their resolve to further deepen cooperation across diverse fields ranging from political and security to economic, trade, and people-to-people exchanges. The top leaders of the friendly countries also reaffirmed the time-honored 'All-Weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership', an official statement, issued by the Prime Minister's Office (PMO), said. PM Shehbaz held a long and in-depth discussion in meeting with President Xi. Chief of the Army Staff General Asim Munir was also present in the meeting.

The two leaders were accompanied by the federal ministers and senior officials. This was the premier's first meeting with the president of China since assuming office in 2024. The meeting was marked by traditional warmth reflective of the ironclad friendship and close strategic ties between the two countries. PM Shehbaz thanked President Xi for the warm and gracious welcome accorded to him and his delegation in China. He recalled the historic visit of President Xi Jinping to Pakistan in 2015 where the multibillion-dollar CPEC was formally operationalized, marking a new chapter in the bilateral relationship.

They also exchanged views on regional and global developments including Afghanistan, Palestine and South Asia including the serious human rights situation in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK).

The two sides reiterated their longstanding support for each other's issues of core interest. Commending President Xi's visionary Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and Global Development Initiative (GDI), the prime minister underscored that as the flagship project of BRI, CPEC had significantly contributed to Pakistan's socioeconomic development. The two leaders reaffirmed the consensus for high-quality development of CPEC and timely completion of major ongoing projects. PM Shehbaz reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to the

high-quality development of CPEC and to foster synergy between the development strategies of the two countries through close coordination. He underlined Pakistan's commitment and full support for the safety and security of Chinese nationals, projects and institutions in Pakistan. Shehbaz briefed Xi on Pakistan's policies for economic reform and sustained growth, industrial development, agricultural modernization and regional connectivity and the critical role played by CPEC in the country's development.

He underlined that the Pakistani government's agenda for people-centric, socio-economic development resonates with the concept of 'shared prosperity' embraced by China. The Chinese president also hosted a banquet in honor of PM Shehbaz, where another round of discussion on different matters of mutual interests was held.

Separately, PM Shehbaz Sharif and Chinese Premier Li Qiang held a meeting at the Great Hall of the People on Friday and the two leaders expressed their firm commitment to protect the CPEC project from its detractors and adversaries, ensure timely completion of all ongoing projects, and support the high-quality CPEC development. The prime minister was accompanied by key members of his cabinet. A welcome ceremony was arranged in honor of the prime minister on his arrival at the Great Hall of the People.

The two leaders discussed the entire spectrum of bilateral relations, regional and global developments of mutual interest. Premier Li congratulated PM Shehbaz Sharif on Pakistan's election as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council. They also emphasized timely completion of all ongoing projects with a special focus on industrial development, agriculture modernization, science and technology, and development of Special Economic Zones for mutually beneficial and socio-economic development of Pakistan.

The two sides discussed the significance of Gwadar as an important pillar of CPEC and agreed to expedite the timely completion of all related infrastructure projects to transform Gwadar into a regional economic hub. Pakistan and China will also continue to consult closely on issues of regional and global significance and multilateral fora, especially during the two-year tenure of Pakistan as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council.

The delegation-level talks were followed by an MoU signing ceremony, witnessed by PM Shehbaz Sharif and Premier Li Qiang, where both signed 23 MoUs and agreements deepening cooperation in transport infrastructure, industry, energy, agriculture, media, health, water, socio-economic development and others of mutual interest. The meeting was followed by an official banquet hosted by Premier Li Qiang in honor of the prime minister. PM Shehbaz Sharif was given a guard of honor at the Great Hall of the People. The national anthems of Pakistan and China were played as the prime minister stood at the salute dias along with his Chinese counterpart. A smartly-turned-out contingent of the People's Liberation Army presented the guard of honor to the prime minister, which he reviewed before proceeding to the bilateral meeting. PM Shehbaz Sharif also met Chairman of China's National People's Congress (NPC) Standing Committee Zhao Leji wherein they agreed to promote engagement and cooperation between the NPC and the Parliament of Pakistan. The PM, who is on a five-day official visit to China, proposed several initiatives to strengthen parliamentary exchanges, including enhancing interactions between the China-Pakistan Friendship Groups and exchanging delegations of young parliamentarians. PM Shehbaz paid

rich tribute to Chairman Zhao for his contributions to the Chinese politics and society, and congratulated him on successfully convening the NPC's annual session.

Meanwhile, Cheng Xizhong, Visiting Professor at Southwest University of Political Science and Law, said on Friday PM Shehbaz Sharif was visiting China at a critical time when CPEC had completed the first phase of construction, achieved fruitful results and was moving towards second phase of practical cooperation.

"I feel that this visit by Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to China is a very important one. First, this is his first visit to China since he was elected prime minister for the second time in March this year. "Second, it is a visit at a critical time when the CPEC has completed the first phase of construction, achieved fruitful results and now is moving to the second phase of practical cooperation.

"Third, this is a visit at a time when the international and regional situation is grave and complex and the threat of terrorism poses a challenge to the economic cooperation between the two countries," he told CGTN while commenting on PM Shehbaz's visit.

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Pak-China friendship crucial for economic uplift, says Swati

PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Assembly Speaker Babar Saleem Swati said on Friday that Pak-China friendship was crucial for the economic development and prosperity of both nations. He expressed these views during his visit to China Window, a Chinese Cultural Center in Peshawar, where he also addressed the Dragon Boat Festival ceremony, said a press release. Engineer Said Mehmood, Vice-Chairman of the KP Board of Investment and Peshawar Press Club President Arshad Aziz Malik were present on the occasion. Swati stressed the need for learning in various fields from our brotherly neighbour, China. Welcoming the second phase of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, Swati commended China's investment in CPEC projects. He hoped these projects, including hydropower and the Rashakai Economic Zone, would create millions of jobs in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. In his address at the Dragon Boat Festival, he attributed the strength of Sin-Pak friendship to the mutual protection of each other's interests and unwavering support during difficult times. Swati said it was imperative for Pakistan to learn from China's development and leverage its experiences for Pakistan's economic growth and the well-being of its people. The speaker praised the China Window administration for organizing free Chinese language courses and lauded the initiative to celebrate the Dragon Boat Festival, marking it as a gesture of solidarity with our Chinese brothers and sisters. Earlier, he toured the cultural center, explored various galleries, signed the friendship wall, and left his comments in the visitors' book. Engineer Syed Mehmood and Arshad Aziz Malik acknowledged the Chinese people's enthusiasm for their festivals, including the Dragon Boat Festival.

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Express News

وزیر اعظم کے دورہ چین کے مثبت نتائج سامنے آرہے، شہباز رانا

مفاہمتی یادداشتوں میں 10 صرف فوڈ اور ایگریکلچر سیکٹر سے متعلق ہیں، تجزیہ کار

چینی کمپنیوں کے واجبات اور سیکیورٹی اہم معاملات، کامران یوسف ، دی ریویو میں گفتگو

اسلام آباد (مانیٹرنگ ڈیسک) تجزیہ کار شہباز رانا نے کہا کہ وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف کے دورہ چین کے کافی مثبت نتائج سامنے آرہے ہیں ، اس دورے میں مجموعی طور پر پاکستان اور چین کے مابین 32 مفاہمتی یادداشتوں پر دستخط کیے گئے ہیں ، ایکسپریس نیوز کے پروگرام دی ریویو میں گفتگو کرتے ہوئے انھوں نے کہا کہ ان مفاہمتی یادداشتوں میں 10 صرف فوڈ اور ایگریکلچر سیکٹر سے متعلق ہیں ، اس کے علاوہ 4 انرجی سیکٹر ، 4 انفارمیشن ٹیکنالوجی ، 6 فارماسیوٹیکل سیکٹر ، 2 آٹو موبائل سیکٹر ، 1 او پیٹیکل فائبر کے سیکٹر میں شامل ہیں، دونوں ممالک کا اس وقت نجی شعبے میں تعاون کو فروغ دینے پر فوکس ہے ، گور نمنٹ ٹو گور نمنٹ سطح پر صرف 3 مفاہمتی یاداشتوں پر دستخط ہوئے ہیں، اگر اس دورے میں چار چیزیں ہو گئی ہیں تو وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف کا دورہ کامیاب رہا ہے ورنہ کامیاب نہیں رہا، یہ چار چیزیں پاکستان نے جو ٹارگٹ کی تھیں ان میں نمبر ایک 6.7 ارب ڈالر کا پاکستان ریلوے کا مین لائن پروجیکٹ ہے ، دوسرے نمبر پر پاکستان کی خواہش تھی کہ کوہالہ ہائیڈرو پاور پر جیکٹ اور آزاد پتن پاور پروجیکٹ پر کچھ ایگریمنٹ ہو جائیں ، اس کے علاوہ پاکستان کی خواہش تھی کہ قراقرم ہائی وے پر کچھ ڈویلپمنٹ ہو جائے، ایم ایل ون پروجیکٹ کے حوالے سے چینی حکام نے پاکستان کو تجویز دی ہے کہ اس کو ٹکڑوں میں کریں کیونکہ یک دم 6.7 ارب ڈالر آپ نہیں لے سکتے ، اتنی کی پیٹی نہیں ہے، اس کی شروعات کراچی حیدر آباد سیکٹر سے کر لیں جس کی لاگت تقریباً ایک ارب ڈالر کی ہے۔ تجزیہ کار کامران یوسف نے کہا کہ موجودہ حالات میں دو اہم ایشوز پاکستان اور چین کے درمیان سامنے آئے ہیں ان میں ایک تو چائنیز کمپنی نے پاکستان میں جو پاور پلانٹس لگائے ہیں ان کو پاکستان نے جو پیسے ادا کرنے ہیں وہ 500 ارب روپے سے زائد ہو چکے ہیں، دوسرا پاکستان میں کام کرنے والے چائنیز شہریوں کی سیکیورٹی یورٹی کا معاملہ ہے ، یہ دونوں ایشوز چین کیلیے بڑے ۔ ہے بڑے سنجیدہ ہیں ، اس سلسلے میں ڈپٹی پرائم منسٹر اسحاق ڈار نے چائنیز حکام کو یقین دہانی کرائی تھی کہ پاکستان کم از کم 200 ارب روپیہ چینی کارخانوں کو جولائی کے آخر تک ادا کر دے گا۔

https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1111026388&Issue=NP_LHE&Date=20240608

سی پیک میں تھرڈ پارٹی کی شرکت بابو سر ٹنل ، اہم شاہراہوں کی تعمیر، قراقرم ہائی وے کی ری الائنمنٹ ، اطلاعات، سائنس و دیگر شعبوں میں تعاون بڑھایا جائیگا

وزیر اعظم کی چینی صدر اور وزیر اعظم سے ملاقاتیں ، کشمیر سمیت عالمی امور پر تبادلہ خیال ، پاکستان میں چینی باشندوں کی حفاظت کیلئے غیر متزلزل عزم کا اعادہ

۔ اسلام آباد (نمائندہ خصوصی اے پی پی) وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف اور صدر شی جن پنگ نے اقتصادی راہداری (سی پیک) کی اپ گریڈیشن ، باہمی پائیدار شراکت داری کو مزید مستحکم بنانے سیاسی، سکیورٹی، اقتصادی، تجارتی، صنعت، زراعت کی جدید کاری اور عوام سے عوام کے تبادلوں سمیت دیگر مختلف شعبوں میں تعاون کو مزید فروغ دینے کے عزم کا اظہار کیا ہے۔ گزشتہ روز وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف کی بیجنگ کے تاریخی گریٹ ہال آف دی پیپلز میں چینی صدر شی جن پنگ سے طویل اور تفصیلی ملاقات ہوئی ، اس موقع پر وفاقی وزراء اور اعلی حکام بھی موجود تھے ۔ دونوں رہنماؤں نے افغانستان ، فلسطین اور جنوبی ایشیا سمیت علاقائی اور عالمی امور بشمول بھارتی غیر قانونی مقبوضہ جموں و کشمیر میں انسانی حقوق کی سنگین صورتحال پر تبادلہ خیال کیا۔ فریقین نے ایک دوسرے کے بنیادی دلچسپی کے امور پر اپنی دیرینہ حمایت کا اعادہ کیا۔ وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف نے صدرشی کے ویژنری پیلٹ اینڈ روڈ انیشیٹو اور گلوبل ڈویلپمنٹ انیشیٹو کو سراہتے ہوئے اس بات پر زور دیا کہ بی آر آئی کے فلیگ شپ منصوبے کے طور پر چین پاکستان اقتصادی راہداری نے پاکستان کی سماجی و اقتصادی ترقی میں نمایاں کردار ادا کیا ہے ۔ دونوں رہنماؤں نے سی پیک کے تحت جاری بڑے منصوبوں کی بر وقت تکمیل ، سی پیک کی اپ گریڈیشن اور دوسرے مرحلے میں سی پیک کے تحت ترقیاتی منصوبے آگے بڑھانے پر اتفاق کیا۔ وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف نے پاکستان میں چینی شہریوں ، منصوبوں اور اداروں کی حفاظت اور سلامتی کے لیے پاکستان کے عزم اور مکمل حمایت پر زور دیا۔ وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف نے اس بات پر زور دیا کہ حکومت کا عوام پر مرکوز ، سماجی و اقتصادی ترقی کا ایجنڈا چین کے مشترکہ خوشحالی کے تصور پر مبنی ہے۔ صدر شی جن پنگ نے وزیر اعظم کے اعزاز میں عشائیے کا بھی اہتمام کیا جہاں باہمی دلچسپی کے امور پر بات چیت کا ایک اور دور ہوا۔ 2024 ء میں عہدہ سنبھالنے کے بعد چین کے صدر کے ساتھ وزیر اعظم شہ پہلی ملاقات تھی۔ قبل ازیں پاکستان اور چین

کے درمیان 23 معاہدوں اور مفاہمتی یادداشتوں پر دستخط کیے گئے۔ اس حوالے سے تقریب میں وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف، آرمی چیف جنرل سید عاصم منیر اور چینی وزیر اعظم لی کیانگ نے شرکت کی۔ جن معاہدوں اور مفاہمتی یادداشتوں پر دستخط کیے گئے ان میں مشترکہ فلم سازی، خبروں اور اطلاعات کے تبادلے اور تعاون، پاکستان ٹیلی ویژن کارپوریشن اور چائینہ میڈیا گروپ کے درمیان مفاہمتی یادداشت، سی پیک میں تھر ڈپارٹی کی شراکت داری کے حوالے سے ضابطہ کار پر دستخط کے علاوہ ڈیرہ اسماعیل خان ، غروب قومی شاہراہ کی فری بیلٹی سنڈی، مظفر آباد، میر پور منگلا ایکسپریس وے کی فری سیبلٹی سٹڈی ، مانسہرہ چلا اس قومی شاہراہ پر بابو سر کے مقام پر ٹنل کی تعمیر ، کراچی حیدر آباد موٹر وے ایم 9 کے حوالے سے فری بیلٹی سنڈی، قراقرم ہائی وے کی ری الائنمنٹ کی مفاہمتی یادداشتوں پر دستخط کیے گئے۔ مزید برال 2022 ء کے صنعتی تعاون کے فریم ورک کے نفاذ کے حوالے سے ایکشن پلان ، سائنسی اور تکنیکی شعبوں میں سردی سنگ ، میپنگ اور جیو انفارمیشن کے حوالے سے پروٹوکول پر دستخط کیے گئے۔ زراعت کے شعبے میں تعاون بڑھانے ، توانائی کے مؤثر مینجمنٹ سسٹم کے حوالے سے سنڈی ، اجارہ داری کے خاتمے میں تعاون کے حوالے سے مفاہمتی یادداشت، گورنفس کے شعبے میں استعداد کار بڑھانے کے حوالے سے ورکشاپ کا لیٹر آف انٹینٹ، انڈسٹریل پارک کی تعمیر کے حوالے سے ورکشاپ کا لیٹر آف انٹینٹ ، ساتویں جو الٹ در کنگ گروپ کے سی پیک کے تحت صنعتی شعبے میں تعاون بڑھانے کے اتفاق کی توثیق، پاک چین دوستی ہسپتال گوادر کی حوالگی کا سرٹیفکیٹ، گوادر میں سمندری پانی کو میٹھا کرنے کے پلانٹ کی حوالگی کا سر ٹیفکیٹ، سندھ میں پرائمری سکولوں کی دوبارہ تعمیر کا لیٹر آف ایکھینچ، لیڈی ہیلتھ ورکر زورک سٹیشن کے منصوبے کا لیٹر آف ایک چینج، جونا کو کلٹیویشن ڈیما نسٹریشن اینڈ پروجیکشن کے منصوبے کا لیٹر آف ایک چھینچ شامل ہے۔ اس سے قبل وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف نے چینی ہم منصب کی چیانگ سے وفود کی سطح پر ملاقات کی۔ گریٹ ہال آف دی پیپلز پہنچنے پروزیر اعظم کے اعزاز میں استقبالیہ تقریب کا اہتمام کیا گیا اور انہیں پیپلز لبریشن آرمی کے دستے کی جانب سے گارڈ آف آنر پیش کیا گیا۔ وزیر اعظم کی چیانگ نے وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف کو پر تکلف ظہرانہ دیا۔ پاکستانی ملی نغموں کی دھنوں نے ظہرانہ کی فضا کو پاک چین دوستی کے رنگوں کی قوس قزاح بنا دیا ۔ دونوں وزرائے اعظم نے اس ملاقات میں باہمی اعتماد اور مشتر کہ اصولوں پر مبنی سٹریٹجک شراکت داری پر اطمینان کا اظہار کرتے ہوئے اہم معاملات پر ایک دوسرے کی غیر متزلزل حمایت کا اعادہ اور سی پیک کے اعلی معیار کی ترقی کے لیے مسلسل عزم کا اظہار کیا۔ دونوں رہنماؤں نے اس امر پر بھی اطمینان کا اظہار کیا کہ پاک چین آل ویدر سنٹر بیجنگ کو آپر یٹو پارٹنر شپ جو کہ باہمی اعتماد اور مشتر کہ اصولوں پر مبنی ہے وقت کے ساتھ مزید مضبوط ہو رہی ہے۔ وزیر اعظم لی نے وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف کو اقوام متحدہ کی سلامتی کونسل کا غیر مستقل رکن منتخب ہونے پر مبارکباد دی۔ فریقین نے گو اور شہر کی سی پیک کے ایک اہم ستون کے طور پر اہمیت پر تبادلہ خیال کیا اور گوادر کو علاقائی اقتصادی مرکز میں تبدیل کرنے کے لیے تمام متعلقہ بنیادی ڈھانچے کے منصوبوں کی بر وقت تکمیل پر اتفاق کیا۔ جمعہ کو ایکس پر اپنی پوسٹ میں وزیر اعظم نے کہا ہے کہ لی آج وزیر اعظم کی چیانگ سے ملاقات کرنا اعزاز کی بات ہے ، چین کے ساتھ پاکستانی عوام کی قابل فخر دوستی مزید مستحکم ہوئی ہے ، یہ امن، ترقی و خوشحالی کے لئے ان کی مشترکہ خواہش کو تقویت دیتی ہے ، انہوں نے کہا کہ میری حکومت کے بارے میں اچھے تبصروں پر وزیر اعظم کی چیانگ کا شکر گزار ہوں۔ وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف اور چین کی نیشنل پیپلز کانگریس کی قائمہ کمیٹی کے چیئر مین ژاؤ لیجی کے درمیان بھی ملاقات ہوئی۔ فریقین نے نیشنل پیپلز کانگریس اور پاکستان کی پارلیمنٹ کے درمیان روابط اور تعاون کو فروغ دینے پر اتفاق کیا۔ پاکستان کی اقتصادی ترقی میں چین پاکستان اقتصادی راہداری کے اہم کردار کو اجاگر کرتے ہوئے وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف نے کہا کہ سی پیک کے فیز 11 کے تحت پائیدار ترقی ، خصوصی اقتصادی زونز، صنعتوں، IT، کانوں اور معدنیات، زراعت اور متبادل توانائی کے شعبوں میں تعاون کو ترجیح دی جائے گی۔

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سی پیک کی اپ گریڈیشن پر اتفاق، شہباز شریف کی چینی صدر، وزیراعظم سے ملاقاتیں، آرمی چیف بھی موجود، منصوبوں کی حفاظت یقینی بنانے کا عزم

وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف کی چینی صدر شی جن پنگ سے طویل ملاقات ‘سی پیک کی اپ گریڈیشن پراتفاق‘ دونوں رہنماؤں نے موجودپائیدارشراکت داری کی توثیق کی اور سیاسی، سکیورٹی، اقتصادی اور تجارتی تعلقات سمیت مختلف شعبوں میں مزیدتعاون بڑھانے کے عزم کا اظہارکیا‘چینی صدر کا کہنا ہے کہ پاکستان کی علاقائی سالمیت اورقومی سلامتی کی حمایت ہمیشہ جاری رہے گی جبکہ شہبازشریف نے کہا ہے کہ پاکستان میں چینی شہریوں، منصوبوں اور اداروں کی حفاظت یقینی بنائیں گے‘سی پیک کے دوسرے مرحلہ کے تحت پائیدار ترقی، خصوصی اقتصادی زونز ، صنعتوں، آئی ٹی، کانوں اور معدنیات، زراعت اور متبادل توانائی کے شعبوں میں تعاون کو ترجیح دی جائے گی‘دونوں ممالک کے درمیان ہونے والے

مذاکرات میں آرمی چیف جنرل عاصم منیر نے بھی خصوصی طورپر شرکت کی ' شہباز شریف کا بیجنگ میں عظیم عوامی ہال آمد پر چین کے وزیراعظم لی چیانگ نے استقبال کیا'شہباز شریف کی نیشنل پیپلز کانگریس کی قائمہ کمیٹی کے چیئرمین ژاؤ لیجی سے بھی ملاقات 'چینی وزیراعظم لی چیانگ سے وفود کی سطح پر مذاکرات'اہم معاملات پر ایک دوسرے کی غیر متزلزل حمایت کا اعادہ کیا۔ وزیراعظم کو چین کی پیپلز لبریشن آرمی کے دستے نے گارڈ آف آنر پیش کیا ۔ تفصیلات کے مطابق جمعہ کو بیجنگ عظیم عوامی ہال میں میں شہبازشریف نے صدر شی جن پنگ سے طویل ملاقات کی جس میں دونوں رہنماؤں نے سی پیک کی اپ گریڈیشن اور دوسرے مرحلے میں ترقیاتی منصوبے آگے بڑھانے پر اتفاق کیا۔ ملاقات میں علاقائی اورعالمی امور پر تبادلہ خیال کیا گیا جبکہ افغانستان، فلسطین اورجنوبی ایشیا بشمول مقبوضہ کشمیرکی صورتحال پر بھی گفتگو کی گئی۔فریقین نے ایک دوسرے کے بنیادی دلچسپی کے امور پر اپنی دیرینہ حمایت کا اعادہ کیا۔ اس موقع پر وزیر اعظم کا کہنا تھاکہ سی پیک نے پاکستان کی سماجی و اقتصادی ترقی میں نمایاں کردار ادا کیا' حکومت کا سماجی واقتصادی ترقی کاایجنڈا چین کےمشترکہ خوشحالی کےتصورپرمبنی ہے۔صدرشی جن پنگ نے وزیراعظم کے اعزاز میں عشائیے کا بھی اہتمام کیا اور عشائیے میں بھی باہمی دلچسپی کے امور پر بات چیت کا ایک اور دور ہوا۔قبل ازیں شہباز شریف نے چین کی نیشنل پیپلز کانگریس کی قائمہ کمیٹی کے چیئرمین ژاؤ لیجی سے ملاقات کی۔اس موقع پر وزیراعظم نے کہا کہ سی پیک کے دوسرے مرحلہ کے تحت پائیدار ترقی، خصوصی اقتصادی زونز، صنعتوں، آئی ٹی ، کانوں اور معدنیات، زراعت اور متبادل توانائی کے شعبوں میں تعاون کو ترجیح دی جائے گی دونوں فریقوں نے ایک دوسرے کے بنیادی مفادات کی حمایت کا اعادہ کیا۔ دونوں رہنماؤں نے نیشنل پیپلز کانگریس اور پاکستان کی پارلیمنٹ کے درمیان روابط اور تعاون کو فروغ دینے پر اتفاق کیا۔ دریں اثناءشہبازشریف کے اعزاز میں چین کے وزیراعظم لی چیانگ نے پرتکلف ظہرانہ دیا' شہباز شریف نے لی چیانگ کے برادرانہ جذبات اور پرتپاک میزبانی پرشکریہ ادا کیا اور کہا کہ چین عظیم اور قابل اعتماد بھائی ہے، چین کی ترقی پر ہر پاکستانی کو فخر ہے ۔ چین کے وزیراعظم نے کہا کہ آپ کے جذبے، کام کی رفتار اور عہد کی پاسداری سے بے حد متاثر ہیں ۔

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پاکستان اور چین کی کمپنیوں کے مابین 30 ایم او یوز پر دستخط

پاکستان اور چین کی کمپنیوں کے مابین مختلف شعبوں میں 30ایم او یوز پر دستخط ہو ئے جبکہ ایک لیٹر آف انٹینٹ پر بھی دستخط کیے گئے ہیں'جن شعبوں میں مفاہمت کی یادداشتوں (ایم او یو) پر دستخط کیے گئے ہیں ان میں توانائی ، ادویات سازی ، صحت ، ثقافت، زراعت ، فوڈ پروسسنگ ، برآمدات ، لاجسٹک، آئی ٹی 'کمپیوٹرٹیکنالوجی کی منتقلی 'اسمارٹ ڈیوائسزکی تیاری اوردیگرمنصوبے شامل ہیں ، وزیراعظم کے دورہ چین کے دوران جن پاکستانی اور چینی کمپنیوں نے معاہدوں پر دستخط کیے ان میں توانائی کے شعبے میں پاکستان تھر کول گیسی فکیشن کے منصوبے کے لیے ہولو انجینئرنگ اینڈ ٹیکنالوجی اور پاکستان کی ایشیا پاک انوسٹمنٹ لمٹیڈ کے مابین ایم او یو ہوا،گرین توانائی ہائیڈروجن پروجیکٹ کےلیے پاکستان کی کمپنی حبیب رفیق انجینئرنگ اور چین کی بیجنگ گلوبل ہائیڈروجن انڈسٹری ، پاکستان میں متبادل توانائی کی پیداوار میں تعاون کے فریم ورک کےلیے پی وی سولر پینلز منصوبے کے لیے ایم او یو پر دستخط ہوئے ، پنجاب وسندھ گرین ٹرانسپورٹ کوآپریشن فریم ورک کےلیے الیکٹرک گاڑیوں کے لیے پاور چائنا انٹرنیشنل اور ڈائیو پاکستان کے مابین معاہدہ ہوا، الیکٹرک وہیکل سی بی یو اور مقامی پرزہ جات کی تیاری کےلیے شینزن ٹیکنالوجی اور مہران کمرشل انٹرپرائزز کے مابین ایم او یو ہوا، جبکہ پاکستان میں یو ٹانگ سٹی بسوں کی تیاری کے نئے پلانٹ کے لیے جوائنٹ وینچر پر دستخط کیے گئے ہیں ، ثقافت کے شعبے میں تعاون کےلیے پرائم کنٹریکٹنگ سولوشن اور چین کے وائی سٹار فیملی میڈیا گروپ کے مابین ایم او یو ہوا ہے، ادویات سازی اور صحت کے شعبے میں پاکستان میں ویکسین کو تیار شدہ درآمد کرنے اور اس کی ٹیکنالوجی کی منتقلی کے لیے ایم او یو ہوا،پاکستان میں آئی وی ڈی ریجنٹس کی تیاری کے لیے مینوفیکچرنگ یونٹ کے قیام ، ویٹرو ڈایگناسٹک ڈیوائس مینوفیکچرنگ کےلیے ٹیکنالوجی کی منتقلی کےلیے ایم او یو ، انسداد کینسر اور بائیوجیکل مصنوعات کی تیاری کے لیے ایم او یو ، کیئر ٹرٹیمنٹ ڈیوائس کی مقامی طورپر تیاری اور ٹیکنالوجی منتقلی اور پاکستان میں تیزی سے امینو کرمیٹوگرامی ٹیسٹنگ کٹ کی تیاری کےلیے ٹیکنالوجی منتقلی کے لیے کمپنیوں کے مابین ایم او یو پر دستخط کیے گئے ہیں ، آئی ٹی کے شعبے میں پاکستان میں کمپیوٹرکی تیاری اور اسمبلی کے لیے ٹیکنالوجی کی منتقلی ، پاکستان میں چینی فیکٹریوں کی منتقلی اور کمپنیوں کے فروغ کے لیے آئی ٹی سی این ایشیا پلیٹ فارم کےذریعے ٹیکنالوجی منتقلی کے لیے ایم او یو ، سمارٹ گھڑیوں کے سی کےڈی کاروبار کے لیے ایم او یو اور سمارٹ ڈیوائسز کی تیاری اور ڈویلپمنٹ کےلیے آر اینڈ ڈی سینٹر کےقیام کےلیے ایم او یو پر دستخط کیے گئے ہیں ، پاکستان کی برآمدات اور لاجسٹک کےفروغ کےلیے کراچی میں ایکسپورٹ پروسسنگ زون میں اسمارٹ سٹی کے قیام کےلیے سٹریٹجک پارٹنر شپ کے لیے ایم اویو ، چین اور پاکستان کے مابین برآمدی تجارت کے فروغ اور لاجسٹک اور کوریئر سروسز میں تعاون کے لیے بھی ایم او یو کیاگیا۔

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Nawaiwaqt

23 سمجھوتے، سی پیک کی اپ گریڈیشن، دوسرا مرحلہ آگے بڑھانے پر اتفاق

وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف کی چین کے صدر شی جن پنگ سے ملاقات ہوئی جس میں دونوں رہنماؤں نے پاک چین اقتصادی راہداری کی اپ گریڈیشن اور فیز ٹو پر اتفاق کیا گیا۔ وزیراعظم ہاؤس کی جانب سے جاری اعلامیے کے مطابق شہبازشریف نے آج بیجنگ کے تاریخی گریٹ ہال آف دی پیپل میں چینی صدر شی جن پنگ سے طویل اور تفصیلی ملاقات کی۔ چینی صدر کا عہدہ سنبھالنے کے بعد دونوں رہنماؤں کی یہ پہلی ملاقات تھی جس میں وفاقی وزراء اور اعلیٰ حکام بھی موجود تھے۔وزیراعظم نے چین میں پرتپاک استقبال پر صدر شی جن پنگ کا شکریہ ادا کیا۔ اجلاس میں دونوں ممالک کے درمیان موجود پائیدار شراکت داری کی توثیق کی اور اسے مزید مستحکم بنانے پر اتفاق کیا گیا۔ دونوں رہنماؤں نے سیاسی ، سیکورٹی ، اقتصادی، تجارتی اور عوام سے عوام کے تبادلے سمیت دیگر مختلف شعبوں میں تعاون کو مزید فروغ دینے کے عزم کا اظہار کیا۔ملاقات میں علاقائی اور عالمی امور بشمول افغانستان، فلسطین اور جنوبی ایشیا بشمول بھارتی غیر قانونی مقبوضہ جموں و کشمیر میں انسانی حقوق کی سنگین صورتحال پر بھی تبادلہ خیال کیا گیا

جبکہ دونوں رہنماؤں نے ایک دوسرے کے بنیادی دلچسپی کے امور پر اپنی دیرینہ حمایت کا اعادہ کیا۔ دونوں رہنماؤں نے سی پیک کے تحت جاری بڑے منصوبوں کی بروقت تکمیل پر اتفاق رائے کا اعادہ کیا۔دونوں رہنماؤں نے سی پیک کی اپ گریڈیشن اور دوسرے مرحلے میں سی پیک کے تحت ترقیاتی منصوبوں آگے بڑھانے پر اتفاق رائے کیا۔انہوں نے پاکستان میں چینی شہریوں، منصوبوں اور اداروں کی حفاظت اور سلامتی کے لیے پاکستان کے عزم اور مکمل حمایت پر زور دیا۔صدر شی جن پنگ نے وزیر اعظم کے اعزاز میں عشائیے کا بھی اہتمام کیا جہاں باہمی دلچسپی کے امور پر بات چیت کا ایک اور دور ہوا۔چینی میڈیا کے مطابق اس موقع پر وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف اور چینی صد شی جن پھنگ کی ملاقات میں آرمی چیف جنرل عاصم منیر بھی موجود تھے ،

چینی صدر نے کہا کہ پاکستان اور چین اچھے دوست، ہمسائے اور بھائی ہیں، پاکستان اور چین کے سٹریٹجک تعلقات گہرے ہوئے جا رہے ہیں، چین ہمیشہ پاکستان کے ساتھ کام کرنے کیلئے تیار ہے دو طرفہ تعلقات کے فروغ اور خطے کے استحکام کیلئے ساتھ کھڑے ہیں۔ وزیراعظم شہباز شریف دورہ چین کے تیسرے مرحلے میں شی آن پہنچ گئے، شانسی صوبے کے بائب گورنر ، نے وزیر اعظم کا استقبال کیا ، وزیر اعظم دورہ میں صوبہ کی اعلی قیادت سے ملاقات کرینگے، جدید زراعت کے ادارے ، انسٹیٹیوٹ کا دورہ کریں گے۔

اسلام آباد (خبر نگار خصوصی) وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف دورہ چین کے موقع پر گریٹ ہال آف پیپل پہنچے جہاں چین کی پیپلز لبریشن آرمی کے دستے کی جانب سے انہیں گارڈ آف آنر پیش کیا گیا۔ گریٹ ہال آف پیپل پہنچنے پر چینی وزیراعظم لی چیانگ نے شہباز شریف کا استقبال کیا، آرمی چیف جنرل عاصم منیر، وفاقی وزرڑ سمیت دیگر افراد استقبالیہ تقریب میں موجود تھے۔ چینی وزیر اعظم لی چیانگ نے پاک چین دوستی کو بے مثال قرار دیتے ہوئے کہا ہے کہ ہماری دوستی آزمائش کی ہرگھڑی میں پوری اتری ہے، ہم پاکستان کے ساتھ مضبوط اقتصادی شراکت داری چاہتے ہیں۔ وزیراعظم شہباز شریف نے چینی ہم منصب لی چیانگ سے وفد کے ہمراہ ملاقات کی۔گریٹ ہال آف دی پیپل میں چین کے وزیراعظم لی وفود کی سطح پر بات چیت کے بعد مفاہمتی یادداشتوں پر دستخط کی تقریب ہوئی جس میں وزیراعظم محمد شہباز شریف اور وزیراعظم لی کیانگ نے شرکت کی۔ تقریب کے دونوں ممالک کے درمیان ٹیلی ویژن ، فلم، ٹرانسپورٹ انفراسٹرکچر، صنعت، توانائی، زراعت، ، صحت، سماجی، اقتصادی ترقی اور باہمی دلچسپی کے دیگر شعبوں میں تعاون کو مزید مضبوط بنانے کے لئے مفاہمتی یادداشتوں اور معاہدوں پر دستخط کیے گئے ۔

ملاقات کے بعد وزیر اعظم لی چیانگ نے وزیر اعظم کے اعزاز میں ایک ظہرانے کا اہتمام کیا۔ دونوں رہنماؤں نے ملاقات میں سی پیک کی ترقی کے لئے مسلسل عزم اور حمایت کا اظہار کیا اور سی پیک کو اپ گریڈ کر کے مزید تعاون بڑھانے پر بھی اتفاق کیا۔ مفاہمتی یادداشتوں پر دستخط کی تقریب میں دونوں ممالک کے درمیان ٹیلی ویژن، فلم، ٹرانسپورٹ انفراسٹرکچر سمیت 23 مفاہمتی یادداشتوں اور معاہدوں پر دستخط کیے گئے۔ ملاقات کے بعد چینی وزیراعظم لی چیانگ نے وزیراعظم شہبازشریف کے اعزاز میں ظہرانے کا اہتام کیا۔ وزیراعظم شہباز شریف نے پرتپاک میزبانی پرشکریہ ادا کیا اور کہا کہ چین عظیم اور قابل اعتماد بھائی ہے، چین کی ترقی پر ہر پاکستانی کو فخر ہے ۔ وزیراعظم شہبازشریف ظہرانہ میں آئے تو چین کی فوج کے بینڈ نے پاکستانی ملی نغموں کی دھنیں بجانا شروع کیں، دونوں وزرائے اعظم نے تالیاں بجا کر سازندوں کو داد دی ۔جمعہ کو ایکس پر اپنی پوسٹ میں وزیراعظم نے کہا کہ آج وزیر اعظم لی چیانگ سے ملاقات کرنا اعزاز کی بات ہے، ملاقات کے دوران باہمی دلچسپی کے تمام شعبوں بشمول دوطرفہ اور علاقائی اور عالمی پیشرفت پر تفصیلی تبادلہ خیال کیا۔ پاک چین سدا بہار سٹریٹجک پارٹنرشپ کو مزید مضبوط بنانے اور بڑھتے ہوئے تعاون کی صورت میں سی پیک کو اپ گریڈ کرنے کی ہماری مشترکہ خواہش کا اعادہ کیا۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ میری حکومت کے بارے میں اچھے تبصروں پر وزیر اعظم لی چیانگ کا شکر گزار ہوں۔وزیر اعظم لی چیانگ کو پاکستان کے دورے کی پُرتپاک دعوت

دی۔ شہباز شریف نے چین کی نیشنل پیپلز کانگریس کی قائمہ کمیٹی کے چیئرمین ژاؤ لیجی سے ملاقات کی۔ وزیر اعظم نے مزید کہا کہ چین کے ساتھ مضبوط تعلقات پاکستان کی خارجہ پالیسی کی بنیاد ہے ۔ دونوں ممالک کے درمیان منفرد اور خصوصی تعلقات سٹریٹجک اعتماد، مشترکہ نظریات اور عملی تعاون پر مبنی ہیں۔ وزیراعظم نے کہا کہ سی پیک کے دوسرے مرحلہ کے تحت پائیدار ترقی، خصوصی اقتصادی زونز، صنعتوں، آئی ٹی ، کانوں اور معدنیات، زراعت اور متبادل توانائی کے شعبوں میں تعاون کو ترجیح دی جائے گی۔دونوں رہنماؤں نے نیشنل پیپلز کانگریس اور پاکستان کی پارلیمنٹ کے درمیان روابط اور تعاون کو فروغ دینے پر اتفاق کیا۔

https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2024-06-08/page-1/detail-6

June 09, 2024

Business Recorder

Competition law & policy

CCP inks MoU with China's SAMR

The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with China's State Administration for Market Regulation (SAMR) during the Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's visit to China. The MoU aims to enhance bilateral cooperation in the field of competition law and policy, marking a significant milestone in Sino-Pakistani relations. SAMR, a ministerial-level agency under China's State Council, is responsible for enforcing anti-monopoly laws and regulating markets. The MoU signifies a new era of collaboration in anti-trust activities between the two nations. On October 19, 2023, a high-profile Chinese delegation led by Dr. Gan Lin, Vice Minister of SAMR visited the CCP. Discussions between CCP Chairman Dr. Kabir Ahmed Sidhu and Vice Minister Gan Lin highlighted the strategic importance of a partnership focusing on enhancing market regulations, providing training and capacity building, sharing expertise in cartel detection, and collaborating on research projects to improve regulatory efficiency. China's substantial investments in Pakistan, particularly through the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), are expected to increase significantly with the second phase of CPEC.

To accommodate this growth, the CCP is developing a comprehensive legal and regulatory framework. The MoU outlines a framework for cooperation through bilateral meetings, training programs, workshops, research collaborations, and information exchange. The MoU aims to ensure sound and effective enforcement of competition law, which is crucial for market efficiency and consumer welfare. By fostering technical collaboration and information sharing, this partnership will strengthen bilateral ties and create favourable conditions for economic development. This is the first international MOU in the Commission's 16-year history. Moreover, CCP will soon be signing MOUs with competition agencies of Russia, Turkey, and Egypt. This MoU heralds a new chapter in Pakistan-China relations, promoting stronger economic ties and mutual benefits through enhanced cooperation in competition law and policy.

https://epaper.brecorder.com/2024/06/09/1-page/995136-news.html

Chinese CZK Huarui Group to invest in Pakistan

The visit of the prime minister and federal ministers to China is going on to seek investment in various sectors, and for promotion of bilateral trade activities. Federal Minister for Investment Board, Communications and Privatisation Abdul Aleem in Beijing on Saturday held an important session with China's 60-year-old CZK Huarui Group. In these negotiations attended by the delegation from Pakistan it was decided by high-ups of China business group to invest in Pakistan in artificial intelligence, science and technology, modern agriculture, healthcare, logistics, infrastructure while expertise will be made in supply chain market sectors. It was also on the main agenda to enhance E Commerce in Pakistan through cooperation of China which is the dire need of the hour. Federal Minister of Investment Board Abdul Aleem Khan assured the Chinese authorities of providing a favourable and congenial environment in Pakistan and said that as neighbours, trade relations of China and Pakistan are of great importance in the region which has positive effects on both countries. Chinese group Chairman Liu Yafie, General Manager Sophia Lee, Davi Dong, Chen Wenlong and Shi Jie assured the Pakistani delegation that their group will play a major role in increasing import and export goods in Pakistan, besides bilateral collaboration in Industry Academia Research and Asset Management will also be focused. In the meeting, Federal Minister for Commerce Jam Kamal Khan assured the Chinese authorities of full cooperation in trade terms and appreciated the interest of the Chinese authorities in investing at big scale in Pakistan. Meanwhile, the delegation of Tangshan Donghua Iron and Steel Group from Beijing also held a meeting with the Federal Minister of Investment Board, Communications and Privatization Abdul Aleem Khan and discussed with him the investment opportunities in various sectors. Pakistan Steel Mills and field of iron came under discussion in this meeting. Senior Advisor to Chairman Donghua Group Luo Shu briefed Federal Minister Abdul Aleem Khan on the possibilities of investment in Pakistan by her organisation and discussed bilateral trade issues.

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Meeting with POWERCHINA chief

PM briefed about clean, low-carbon energy prospects

Chairman of POWERCHINA, Ding Yanzhang, has called on Pakistan's Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif during his state visit to Beijing, China, the POWERCHINA has said. The two sides held in-depth discussions on promoting cooperation in areas such as energy and power planning, clean energy development, and major projects under construction in Pakistan, according to a statement received here on Saturday. Prime Minister Shehbaz expressed gratitude to POWERCHINA for its long-standing contributions to Pakistan's energy and power infrastructure development. POWERCHINA has actively participated in the construction of the CPEC by leveraging its own resource advantages, investing in and constructing a series of landmark and influential projects, which have played a positive role in improving Pakistan's energy structure and enhancing energy security. Currently, the Pakistani government is committed to green energy transition and industrial cooperation development, hoping that POWERCHINA will continue to leverage its professional

advantages, deepen cooperation, and actively participate in the planning and construction of relevant major projects to make new contributions to further deepening cooperation between the two countries in the energy and economic fields. Chairman Ding congratulated PM Shehbaz on his reappointment as Prime Minister and thanked the Pakistani government for its long-term support and assistance to POWERCHINA. He stated that as a global leader in clean, low-carbon energy, water resources, and environmental construction, POWERCHINA actively practices the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), and has been involved in the early stages of the CPEC construction, effectively driving local employment and promoting Pakistan's economic and social development.

https://epaper.brecorder.com/2024/06/09/1-page/995138-news.html

Belt and Road cooperation

Pakistan, China commit to carry out 8 major steps

Pakistan and China have expressed their commitment to carrying out the eight major steps for supporting high-quality Belt and Road cooperation, forging an "upgraded version" of 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, aligning with Pakistan's 5Es Framework based on Exports, E-Pakistan, Environment, Energy, and Equity & Empowerment to better benefit the two countries and their peoples. This was announced in a joint statement issued on Saturday at the conclusion of five-day official visit of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to China from June 4-8. Following is the complete text of the joint statement; "During the visit, Xi Jinping, President of the People's Republic of China met with Prime Minister Sharif. Prime Minister Sharif held talks with Premier Li Qiang of the State Council, and met with Zhao Leji, Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress. The two sides had candid and in-depth exchanges of views on the entire spectrum of bilateral relations as well as regional situation and international landscape and reached extensive consensus on further strengthening the Pakistan-China All-Weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership and promoting practical cooperation in various areas, and on international and regional issues of mutual interest. The two sides agreed that Pakistan and China are All-Weather Strategic Cooperative Partners and ironclad friends, and the two countries have always understood, trusted and supported each other. Since the establishment of diplomatic ties 73 years ago, Pakistan-China relations have stood the test of changing international environment and have been as solid as a rock, and as unshakable as a mountain. The Chinese side reiterated that the Pakistan-China relationship is a priority in its foreign relations. The Pakistani side underscored that the Pakistan-China relationship is the cornerstone of its foreign policy. The two sides enjoy unbreakable strategic mutual trust, fruitful practical cooperation in various fields, and maintain close coordination on international and regional affairs. The two sides would continue to view the relationship between Pakistan and China from a strategic height and a long-term perspective, take effective measures to safeguard the common interests of Pakistan and China, promote socio-economic development and well-being of the two peoples, work together to jointly uphold regional peace, stability, development and prosperity, and accelerate the building of an even closer Pakistan-China Community with a Shared Future in the New Era. The Chinese side

congratulated Pakistan on holding successful general elections, and expressed best wishes for the new Pakistani government in leading the Pakistani people in their endeavors to achieve socio-economic development, prosperity, unity, stability and security. The two sides will explore avenues to deepen experience-sharing in state governance and synergize their development strategies. The Pakistani side spoke highly of China's major development achievements in the New Era, and expressed good wishes to the Chinese people that under the strong leadership of the Communist Party of China, China will realize the second centenary goal of building China into a great modern socialist country in every dimension. The Pakistani side spoke highly of and supports China's all-round efforts to advance the building of a strong country and achieve national rejuvenation through a Chinese path to modernization, believes 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. Both sides stressed that the authority of the UN General Assembly Resolution 2758 brooks no dispute or challenge. Pakistan reaffirmed its firm commitment to the one-China principle, and reiterated that Taiwan is an inalienable part of the People's Republic 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 its national conditions and in its efforts to safeguard national security, stability, development and 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 Pakistan-China friendship and cooperation will ever succeed. The Chinese side appreciated the Pakistani side's active pursuit and conduct of the investigation and its findings, and hoped that the Pakistani side would continue to make every effort to hunt down any perpetrators and make sure they receive deserved severe punishment. The Pakistani side was committed to enhancing security forces deployment and taking more effective security measures, and making all-out efforts to ensure the safety of Chinese personnel, projects and institutions in Pakistan. 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, and opposed the politicization and instrumentalization of counter-terrorism. The two sides stood ready to work with the international community to strengthen multilateral counter-terrorism cooperation within multilateral frameworks such as the United Nations. The two sides recognized that the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) has been a pioneering project of the Belt and Road Initiative. Since the launch of CPEC, the two sides have adhered to the principle of "planning together, building together, and benefiting together," and promoted the construction of CPEC to achieve fruitful results, which has changed the development landscape of Pakistan, benefited its people's well-being,

and promoted the integrated development of Pakistan and China. After the successful first decade of CPEC, the two sides are committed to carrying out the eight major steps for supporting high-quality Belt and Road cooperation, forging an "upgraded version" of CPEC by jointly building a growth corridor, a livelihood-enhancing corridor, an innovation corridor, a green corridor and an open corridor, aligning with Pakistan's 5Es Framework based on Exports, E-Pakistan, Environment, Energy, and Equity & Empowerment to better benefit the two countries and their peoples, working together to build CPEC into an exemplary project of high-quality building of Belt and Road cooperation. Expressing satisfaction at the holding of the 13th CPEC's Joint Coordination Committee (JCC) meeting (online) on May 24, 2024, the two sides agreed to expeditiously implement consensus achieved by the JCC. The two sides reaffirmed that upgradation of ML-I is an important project under the CPEC framework and is of strategic significance to Pakistan's socio-economic development. The two sides agreed to implement the common understanding of the leaders of the two countries, actively explore advancing the project in a "phased manner" and start working on financing modalities. The two sides recognized that the Karakoram Highway (Raikot-Thakot) realignment project is of great significance for the smooth operation of the only land-based channel between Pakistan and China.

The two sides reviewed with satisfaction the important progress made in the preliminary work of the project, and signed the framework agreement of the project during this visit. The two sides believed that the Khunjerab-Sost pass plays an important role in promoting trade and people-to-people exchanges between Pakistan and China. The two sides agreed to advance upgradation of the inspection infrastructure of the Khunjerab-Sost pass so as to realize the all year-round function of the Khunjerab-Sost pass at an early date.

Recognizing the significance of Gwadar Port as an important node in cross-regional connectivity, the two sides were satisfied that the New Gwadar International Airport will soon be finished, and reiterated the need to speed up the development of the auxiliary infrastructure of the Gwadar Port in order to fully realize the potential of the coastal city, especially as a transshipment hub with a shipyard. The two sides put great emphasis on industry cooperation under the framework of high-quality CPEC development.

The two sides signed the Action Plan for Framework Agreement on Industrial Cooperation under CPEC to strengthen industrial cooperation in various areas suited to their local conditions. China reiterated its commitment to Pakistan's industrialization, and will encourage Chinese companies to invest in Pakistan's Special Economic Zones in accordance with the market and commercial principles. Pakistan agreed to optimize its business environment and policy framework to further facilitate Chinese investment. The two sides reiterated that CPEC is an open and inclusive platform for win-win cooperation, and welcomed third parties to actively participate in the CPEC cooperation priority areas such as industry, agriculture, ICT, science and technology and mining. Recognizing that mining is an important breakthrough area for industrial cooperation, both sides agreed to strengthen long-term planning for mining cooperation, promote the implementation of the Agreement to Strengthen Mining and Industrial Cooperation under the CPEC Framework collectively, and take actions such as geological survey, joint geology and minerals research and talent

training. The two sides expressed their willingness to actively encourage Chinese companies to invest in the mining industry of Pakistan, and strengthen the planning of mining industrial parks, including downstream mineral processing.

The Chinese side expressed its willingness to strengthen cooperation with Pakistan in such areas as offshore oil and gas resources, and natural gas hydrate. The Chinese side would encourage Chinese companies to actively participate in the development of offshore oil and gas blocks of Pakistan. Both sides agreed that agricultural cooperation between the two countries enjoys a bright future.

The two sides would carry out practical cooperation for modernizing agriculture in Pakistan in areas such as seed technology, crop cultivation, drip irrigation, prevention and control of animal and plant diseases, agricultural mechanization, production capacity cooperation, and agricultural technology exchanges. Both sides were satisfied with the outcomes reached in the second meeting under the framework of the CPEC Joint Working Group on Information Technology Industry.

The two sides are willing to enhance policy coordination in related areas, and promote experience sharing and talent training. The two sides agreed to strengthen development of the Pakistan-China digital information channel, and promote the integration of information and communication technology infrastructure and develop an innovation corridor through Pakistan.

The two sides were satisfied with the progress in energy cooperation between Pakistan and China. The two sides reaffirmed the significance of enhancing bilateral energy cooperation, expressed commitment to further strengthening collaboration in clean energy sector, and encouraged Chinese companies to engage in hydropower and other relevant projects based on market principles and commercial operations and achieve win-win outcomes. While appreciating China's contributions to addressing power shortages in Pakistan, both sides agreed to launch a new phase of energy cooperation, by modernizing production, transmission and distribution systems to reduce line and other losses.

China was committed to further implementing more "small yet smart" livelihood programs in Pakistan. The two sides agreed to promptly implement post-disaster reconstruction aid projects aided by China in Pakistan at an early date. The two sides welcomed CIDCA's enhanced contributions to complementing the efforts of the Government of Pakistan in promoting socio-economic development and creating further livelihood opportunities for the people of Pakistan as envisaged under Global Development Initiative (GDI). Under the framework of the Phase II of Pakistan-China Free Trade Agreement, both sides agree to conduct further consultation and actively explore concessional arrangements for mutual benefit and win-win outcomes. The two sides agreed to further strengthen bilateral cooperation in the financial sector and stand ready to support each other in regional and international multilateral financial forums. The leaders expressed satisfaction on the completion of the report of Pakistan's Industrial Landscape and Suggestion to Improve its Export Capacity, and expected the report, as reference would contribute to Pakistan's industrial and export capacity. The Pakistani government identified 13 priority sectors for

enhancing export oriented industry and encouraged Chinese top companies in these sectors to make investment in Pakistan.

The Chinese side welcomed Pakistan to expand exports to China. Both sides also agreed to leverage the existing and new sister city agreements for

better promoting economic integration and attracting investment in Pakistan in the priority sectors. Both sides agreed to further strengthen business to business exchanges with facilitation and preference.

The two sides recognized that collaboration in the sector of science and technology plays an important role in promoting practical cooperation between Pakistan and China.

Both sides agreed to further expand inter-governmental cooperation in scientific and technological sector, and elevate collaboration among the scientific and technological communities of both countries in areas such as joint research, technology transfer, technical training, and personnel exchanges, as well as strengthening their partnership in emerging technologies including communication infrastructure, 5G, big data, and cloud computing.

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'Trade ties with China to reach new heights'

Leaders of United Business Group (UBG) Patron-in-Chief SM Tanveer, President Zubair Tufail, Khalid Tawab, Hanif Gohar, Momin Ali Malik, Mazhar A Nasir, Malik Khuda Bakhsh and other members have expressed hope that bilateral trade and economic relations between Pakistan and China will reach new heights during Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif five-day visit to China.

This visit is expected to mark the inauguration of the second phase of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) project.

UBG representatives highlight the business community's eagerness for rapid advancements in various economic sectors, including high-tech industries, agriculture, Information Technology, infrastructure, youth skills training, vocational training, industrialization, and special economic zones.

They also emphasize the importance of expanding and commercializing the Gwadar port, as well as developments in the mining and minerals sectors.

Additionally, there are high hopes for progress in expanding the Silk Route through enhanced road and sea linkages. Moreover, UBG anticipates the signing of multiple Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) and agreements between enterprises of both countries across various sectors, with a particular focus on joint ventures in the IT, textile, and agriculture sectors.

https://epaper.brecorder.com/2024/06/09/5-page/995165-news.html

Daily Times

PM suggests emulating China's restoration of historical heritage

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and his delegation visited the Terracotta Warriors Museum in the Xi'an region of China on Saturday. During the visit, the prime minister and his delegation were apprised of the preservation and restoration of historical heritage and the promotion of tourism. He visited several parts of the museum, and appreciated the beauty of the ancient Chinese historical heritage and craftsmanship. In his remarks, Shehbaz said great nations like China protected their historical heritage. He said that the protection and restoration of historical heritage by the Chinese government were worthy of emulation. Shehbaz Sharif said that China has achieved success in every sector through its hard work. He expressed his gratitude to Chinese President Xi Jinping for his gracious invitation to visit the museum. Shehbaz asserted that Pakistan possessed a rich historical and cultural heritage, and expressed his commitment to restoring the historical landmarks of the country and transforming them into tourist attractions. Federal Ministers Khawaja Asif, Ahsan Iqbal, Muhammad Aurangzeb, Ataullah Tarar, Dr Musadik Malik, Sardar Awais Khan Leghari, Rana Tanveer also accompanied the prime minister during the visit. Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif recording his remarks in the visitors' book at Terracotta Warriors Museum in Xi'an on 8 June 2024. On Friday, Chinese President Xi Jinping praised the longstanding friendship between China and Pakistan as ideal during a meeting with Prime Minister Sharif in Beijing. The meeting, deemed crucial, took place at the historic Great Hall of the People, where both leaders discussed various matters of mutual interest. Expressing gratitude for the warm reception during his visit, PM Sharif highlighted the significance of Pakistan's relationship with China. President Xi echoed the sentiment, emphasizing that the strategic ties between the two countries continue to strengthen over time. The leaders agreed on the enhancement of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and ensuring the timely completion of major development projects. They also delved into regional and international affairs, including discussions on Afghanistan, Palestine, and the Kashmir issue.

https://dailytimes.com.pk/1199296/pm-suggests-emulating-chinas-restoration-of-historical-heritage/

Unlocking Prosperity

Sustainable economic development is a dream of every nation for which all available resources are utilized. If we turn the pages of history, we find numerous examples of how resilient nations achieved the uphill task of getting their people out of poverty and becoming economic giants. The success story of China is perhaps the most striking example in this regard. Over the past few decades, China has transformed into a global economic powerhouse, with no other country matching the pace of its economic growth since 2010. As per the statistics of the World Monetary Research Organization, the Asian economy will be in the number one position by 2050, with China leading, followed by America, Japan, Germany, and France. Additionally, the Western countries' GDP will remain at 35 percent, whereas developing countries' GDP will be 65 percent. Six countries of Asia, including India, Japan,

Indonesia, Korea, Turkey, the Philippines, Iran, and Bangladesh, will be important position holders in the Asian economy.

This begs the question: Where does Pakistan lie in the global economic landscape? How will it navigate its existing economic and political challenges? No doubt, the prospects for Pakistan's economic prosperity lie in the shape of its geostrategic location, abundant natural resources, being a gateway to regional connectivity and having a tech-savvy youth which makes up almost 65% of the country's entire population. However, despite the availability of all resources, unfortunately, Pakistan has not been able to translate the potential into lasting economic progress. Instead, the country has been constantly stuck in a web of economic challenges.

Overcoming these hurdles and unleashing Pakistan's true economic potential requires a concerted effort and strategic approach. One of the key drivers for economic transformation in Pakistan is attracting foreign direct investment. FDI not only provides much-needed capital but also tends to bring in advanced technology, expertise, and access to global markets. However, Pakistan has struggled to attract foreign investors owing to political instability, security challenges, infrastructural inadequacies, and economic recession. China China-Pakistan Economic Corridor is a game-changer project for Pakistan. The start of the second phase of CPEC is not only a continuation of the economic empowerment journey but has also further cemented the Pak-China friendship based on the vision of regional connectivity, peace, and prosperity of humanity. Industrial growth and an increase in exports are key factors for economic revival. To attract foreign investors, local businessmen should come forward and start investing in energy, agriculture, communication and IT sectors. The platform of SIFC is fully operational to address any impediment in this regard. Pak China joint venture for textiles and steel industries revival will be another breakthrough for the much-needed economic revival. While agriculture is the backbone of our economy, it falls short of meeting our food needs hence, compelling the country to rely on imports. To achieve food security and reduce our dependence on imports, we must follow the Chinese agriculture industry model as it is not only self-sufficient but also generates huge profits by exporting agricultural products.

Chinese companies are interested in corporate farming, and in this regard, research work is being carried out in collaboration with the Chinese study group. The recent visit of a Pakistan business delegation to China in this context is expected to yield positive results. Additionally, the imposition of heavy taxes is a major impediment to economic growth, especially since the manufacturing sector is facing problems due to fluctuating energy prices. This issue merits permanent solutions to provide a conducive environment for the business community. Though the latest survey by the Pakistan business confidence index has shown that the growth and confidence of the business community have improved as compared to last year, there is still a long way ahead. To achieve the target of sustainable economic growth, political stability coupled with a conducive environment and cheap industrial inputs is required.

https://dailytimes.com.pk/1199297/unlocking-prosperity/

Pak-China Joint Statement: Pakistan, China reaffirm to strengthen strategic relationship, common interests

Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Saturday arrived in Pakistan after concluding his five-day official visit to People's Republic of China. The prime minister had undertaken the visit at the invitation of Li Qiang, Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, a press release said.

During his visit, the prime minister accompanied by his high-level delegation, held meetings with the Chinese leadership, authorities; and business and investor companies. Pakistan and China on Saturday reiterated that they would continue to view the relationship between the two countries from a strategic height and a long-term perspective, take effective measures to safeguard the common interests of Pakistan and China and promote socio-economic development and well-being of the two peoples.

The two sides agreed to work together to jointly uphold regional peace, stability, development and prosperity, and accelerate the building of an even closer 'Pakistan-China Community with a Shared Future in the New Era', said a joint statement issued between the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and the People's Republic of China at the conclusion of Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif's five-day visit to China.

The two sides had candid and in-depth exchanges of views on the entire spectrum of bilateral relations as well as regional situation and international landscape and reached extensive consensus on further strengthening the Pakistan-China All-Weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership and promoting practical cooperation in various areas, and on international and regional issues of mutual interest, a press statement of the Foreign Office said.

The two sides agreed that Pakistan and China are All-Weather Strategic Cooperative Partners and ironclad friends, and the two countries have always understood, trusted and supported each other. Since the establishment of diplomatic ties 73 years ago, Pakistan-China relations have stood the test of changing international environment and have been as solid as a rock, and as unshakable as a mountain. The Chinese side reiterated that the Pakistan-China relationship is a priority in its foreign relations.

The Pakistani side underscored that the Pakistan-China relationship is the cornerstone of its foreign policy. The two sides enjoy unbreakable strategic mutual trust, fruitful practical cooperation in various fields, and maintain close coordination on international and regional affairs. The Chinese side congratulated Pakistan on holding successful general elections, and expressed best wishes for the new Pakistani government in leading the Pakistani people in their endeavors to achieve socio-economic development, prosperity, unity, stability and security.

The two sides will explore avenues to deepen experience-sharing in state governance and synergize their development strategies. The Pakistani side spoke highly of China's major development achievements in the New Era, and expressed good wishes to the Chinese people that under the strong leadership of the Communist Party of China, China will realize the second centenary goal of building China into a great modern socialist country in every dimension. The Pakistani side spoke highly of and supports China's all-round efforts to

advance the building of a strong country and achieve national rejuvenation through a Chinese path to modernization, believes 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. Both sides stressed that the authority of the UN General Assembly Resolution 2758 brooks no dispute or challenge. Pakistan reaffirmed its firm commitment to the one-China principle, and reiterated that Taiwan is an inalienable part of the People's Republic 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 its national conditions and in its efforts to safeguard national security, stability, development and 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 Pakistan-China friendship and cooperation will ever succeed.

The Chinese side appreciated the Pakistani side's active pursuit and conduct of the investigation and its findings, and hoped that the Pakistani side would continue to make every effort to hunt down any perpetrators and make sure they receive deserved severe punishment. The Pakistani side was committed to enhancing security forces deployment and taking more effective security measures, and making all-out efforts to ensure the safety of Chinese personnel, projects and institutions in Pakistan. 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, and opposed the politicization and instrumentalization of counter-terrorism. The two sides stood ready to work with the international community to strengthen multilateral counter-terrorism cooperation within multilateral frameworks such as the United Nations.

The two sides recognized that the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) has been a pioneering project of the Belt and Road Initiative. Since the launch of CPEC, the two sides have adhered to the principle of 'planning together, building together, and benefiting together,' and promoted the construction of CPEC to achieve fruitful results, which has changed the development landscape of Pakistan, benefited its people's well-being, and promoted the integrated development of Pakistan and China. After the successful first decade of CPEC, the two sides are committed to carrying out the eight major steps for supporting high-quality Belt and Road cooperation, forging an 'upgraded version' of CPEC by jointly

building a growth corridor, a livelihood-enhancing corridor, an innovation corridor, a green corridor and an open corridor, aligning with Pakistan's 5Es Framework based on Exports, E-Pakistan, Environment, Energy, and Equity & Empowerment to better benefit the two countries and their peoples, working together to build CPEC into an exemplary project of high-quality building of Belt and Road cooperation. The two sides reaffirmed that upgradation of ML-I is an important project under the CPEC framework and is of strategic significance to Pakistan's socio-economic development. The two sides agreed to implement the common understanding of the leaders of the two countries, actively explore advancing the project in a 'phased manner' and start working on financing modalities. They recognized that the Karakoram Highway (Raikot-Thakot) realignment project is of great significance for the smooth operation of the only land-based channel between Pakistan and China. The two sides reviewed with satisfaction the important progress made in the preliminary work of the project, and signed the framework agreement of the project during this visit. They believed that the Khunjerab-Sost pass plays an important role in promoting trade and people-to-people exchanges between Pakistan and China. The two sides agreed to advance upgradation of the inspection infrastructure of the Khunjerab-Sost pass so as to realize the all year-round function of the Khunjerab-Sost pass at an early date. Recognizing the significance of Gwadar Port as an important node in cross-regional connectivity, the two sides were satisfied that the New Gwadar International Airport will soon be finished, and reiterated the need to speed up the development of the auxiliary infrastructure of the Gwadar Port in order to fully realize the potential of the coastal city, especially as a transshipment hub with a shipyard. The two sides put great emphasis on industry cooperation under the framework of high-quality CPEC development. The two sides signed the Action Plan for Framework Agreement on Industrial Cooperation under CPEC to strengthen industrial cooperation in various areas suited to their local conditions. China reiterated its commitment to Pakistan's industrialization, and will encourage Chinese companies to invest in Pakistan's Special Economic Zones in accordance with the market and commercial principles. Pakistan agreed to optimize its business environment and policy framework to further facilitate Chinese investment. The two sides reiterated that CPEC is an open and inclusive platform for win-win cooperation, and welcomed third parties to actively participate in the CPEC cooperation priority areas such as industry, agriculture, ICT, science and technology and mining. Recognizing that mining is an important breakthrough area for industrial cooperation, both sides agreed to strengthen long-term planning for mining cooperation, promote the implementation of the Agreement to Strengthen Mining and Industrial Cooperation under the CPEC Framework collectively, and take actions such as geological survey, joint geology and minerals research and talent training. The two sides expressed their willingness to actively encourage Chinese companies to invest in the mining industry of Pakistan, and strengthen the planning of mining industrial parks, including downstream mineral processing. The Chinese side expressed its willingness to strengthen cooperation with Pakistan in such areas as offshore oil and gas resources, and natural gas hydrate. The Chinese side would encourage Chinese companies to actively participate in the development of offshore oil and gas blocks of Pakistan. Both sides agreed that agricultural cooperation between the two countries enjoys a bright future. The two sides would carry out practical cooperation for modernizing agriculture in Pakistan in areas such as seed technology, crop cultivation, drip irrigation, prevention and control of animal and plant

diseases, agricultural mechanization, production capacity cooperation, and agricultural technology exchanges. Both sides were satisfied with the outcomes reached in the second meeting under the framework of the CPEC Joint Working Group on Information Technology Industry. The two sides are willing to enhance policy coordination in related areas, and promote experience sharing and talent training. The two sides agreed to strengthen development of the Pakistan-China digital information channel, and promote the integration of information and communication technology infrastructure and develop an innovation corridor through Pakistan. The two sides were satisfied with the progress in energy cooperation between Pakistan and China. The two sides reaffirmed the significance of enhancing bilateral energy cooperation, expressed commitment to further strengthening collaboration in clean energy sector, and encouraged Chinese companies to engage in hydropower and other relevant projects based on market principles and commercial operations and achieve win-win outcomes. While appreciating China's contributions to addressing power shortages in Pakistan, both sides agreed to launch a new phase of energy cooperation, by modernizing production, transmission and distribution systems to reduce line and other losses. China was committed to further implementing more 'small yet smart' livelihood programs in Pakistan. The two sides agreed to promptly implement post-disaster reconstruction aid projects aided by China in Pakistan at an early date. The two sides welcomed CIDCA's enhanced contributions to complementing the efforts of the Government of Pakistan in promoting socio-economic development and creating further livelihood opportunities for the people of Pakistan as envisaged under Global Development Initiative (GDI). Under the framework of the Phase II of Pakistan-China Free Trade Agreement, both sides agree to conduct further consultation and actively explore concessional arrangements for mutual benefit and win-win outcomes. The two sides agreed to further strengthen bilateral cooperation in the financial sector and stand ready to support each other in regional and international multilateral financial forums. The leaders expressed satisfaction on the completion of the report of Pakistan's Industrial Landscape and Suggestion to improve its Export Capacity, and expected the report, as reference would contribute to Pakistan's industrial and export capacity. The Pakistani government identified 13 priority sectors for enhancing export oriented industry and encouraged Chinese top companies in these sectors to make investment in Pakistan. The Chinese side welcomed Pakistan to expand exports to China. Both sides also agreed to leverage the existing and new sister city agreements for better promoting economic integration and attracting investment in Pakistan in the priority sectors. Both sides agreed to further strengthen business to business exchanges with facilitation and preference. The two sides recognized that collaboration in the sector of science and technology plays an important role in promoting practical cooperation between Pakistan and China. Both sides agreed to further expand inter-governmental cooperation in scientific and technological sector, and elevate collaboration among the scientific and technological communities of both countries in areas such as joint research, technology transfer, technical training, and personnel exchanges, as well as strengthening their partnership in emerging technologies including communication infrastructure, 5G, big data, and cloud computing. The two sides were willing to strengthen policy coordination in the field of artificial intelligence, deepen relevant practical cooperation, and jointly promote the development of artificial intelligence technology. The Pakistani side welcomed the Global AI

Governance Initiative announced by President Xi Jinping, and China's endeavor to increase the right of developing countries in global AI governance. The two sides agreed that the international community should uphold the principle of attaching equal importance to development and security, and work together to build an open, fair and effective Al governance mechanism through dialogue, consultation and equal cooperation, so that Al technology can play a positive role in benefiting people of all countries and propel the development of human civilization. The two sides believed that the expansion and enhancement of space cooperation between the two countries will serve as a booster for Pakistan to strengthen its scientific and technological capabilities, drive economic growth, and safeguard national security. The two sides are willing to continue to deepen space cooperation for peaceful use based on equality and mutual benefit. China was committed to continuing its support for Pakistan in organizing and participating in cultural and tourism exchanges in China. Both sides reaffirmed their determination to enhance practical cooperation in the fields of culture and tourism. The two sides placed great emphasis on and were committed to further enhancing bilateral exchanges and cooperation in areas such as education, sports, broadcasting, media, and think tanks, in order to contribute to the continuation of the longstanding friendship between the two countries, the promotion of their respective rich cultures, and the advancement of exchanges and dialogue among civilizations. The two sides were committed to establishing more favorable conditions for the exchange of personnel between the two countries. The two sides attached great importance to climate change, expressed their commitment to actively implementing policies related to climate change, enhancing communication and coordination in the multilateral process of addressing climate change, and jointly upholding multilateralism and solidarity among developing countries. China reaffirmed its commitment to continue providing support and assistance to Pakistan and other developing countries in addressing climate change and mitigating the adverse impacts of extreme weather events. China was willing to collaborate with Pakistan in promoting the establishment of the Belt and Road International Cooperation Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and Emergency Management. China welcomed Pakistan to collaborate in establishing a fire information sharing liaison mechanism, and expressed willingness to cooperate with Pakistan to further enhance its disaster management capacity. The two sides expressed satisfaction that the armed forces of the two countries maintained a high-level of strategic mutual trust, developed close coordination and promoted cooperation in the long term. The two sides underscored that stronger strategic defence and security cooperation between Pakistan and China plays an irreplaceable and critical role in maintaining peace and stability and ensuring strategic balance of the region. The two sides agreed to maintain high-level military-to-military visits and exchanges and promote cooperation in areas of joint training and exercises and military technology. 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 jointly advocated an equal and orderly multipolar world and a universally beneficial and

inclusive economic globalization. “Both sides opposed hegemony, domineering and bullying, exclusionist approaches, opposed power politics, as well as unilateralism in all forms. The two sides reaffirmed their commitment to jointly upholding the international system with the United Nations as its core, the international order underpinned by international law, and the basic norms governing international relations underpinned by the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter, adhere to true multilateralism, work for a just and more equitable international order, safeguard the peace and stability of the region and the world,” it was added. The two sides agreed to further strengthen communication and coordination in the United Nations, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization and other multilateral platforms. The two sides agreed that the thought to build a community with a shared future for mankind proposed by President Xi Jinping, has guided the progress of human society, enriched the practice of global governance, and opened up a new path for the handling of international relations in a proper way.

The two sides agreed to promote the implementation of the Global Development Initiative, the Global Security Initiative and the Global Civilization Initiative. Both sides will jointly focus on development agenda, respond to security challenges, carry forward Asian values and build an open and inclusive regional architecture, so as to benefit the two peoples, maintain regional peace and prosperity and make greater contribution to peace and progress of humanity.

The Chinese side reaffirmed that China always remained a firm member of developing countries. China is willing to work together with Pakistan and other developing countries, following the principles of mutual respect, equality, mutual trust, win-win cooperation, solidarity and coordination, to jointly embark on the path of fair, open, comprehensive and innovative development, promote development and prosperity of most developing countries, and strive to achieve the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development of the United Nations. The two sides agreed to strengthen communication and coordination on the Afghanistan issue.

Both sides called for concerted efforts of the international community to positively support Afghanistan in properly addressing challenges in such areas as humanitarianism and economic development, encourage the interim government of 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 constructive role in helping Afghanistan to achieve stable development and integrate into the international community. The two sides reiterated that the fundamental way out of the current crisis in Gaza 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 two sides called on the international community for increasing political input into the Palestinian question with a greater sense of urgency, stepping up efforts to facilitate the early resumption of peace talks between Palestine and Israel, and strive for enduring peace. https://dailytimes.com.pk/1199489/pak-china-joint-statement-pakistan-china-reaffirm-to-strengthen-strategic-relationship-common-interests/

Dawn News

Pakistan, China vow to uphold regional peace

ISLAMABAD: Pak-istan and China on Saturday vowed to strengthen their strategic relations and safeguard common interests, besides promoting socio-economic development and well-being of the people of both countries. According to the Prime Minister's Office, the two sides agreed to work together to jointly uphold regional peace, stability, development and prosperity, and accelerate the building of an even closer "Pakistan-China community with a shared future in the new era", said a joint statement issued at the conclusion of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's five-day visit to China.

PM Sharif arrived in Pakistan on Saturday night.

While the Chinese side reiterated that the bilateral relationship is a priority in its foreign relations, the Pakistani side underscored that it is the cornerstone of its foreign policy.

"The two sides enjoy unbreakable strategic mutual trust, fruitful practical cooperation in various fields, and maintain close coordination on international and regional affairs," the statement said. Strengthen bilateral strategic ties, promote socio-economic development the two sides agreed to explore avenues to deepen experience-sharing in state governance and synergize their development strategies.

They stressed that the authority of the UN General Assembly Resolution 2758 brooks no dispute or challenge. The Chinese side reiterated its steadfast support for Pakistan in safeguarding its sovereignty, national independence and territorial integrity.

The Pakistani side briefed China on the latest developments of the situation in held Kashmir. The Chinese side reiterated that the Jammu and Kashmir dispute should be properly and peacefully resolved in accordance with the UN Charter, relevant UN Security Council resolutions and bilateral agreements. The two sides strongly condemned the terrorist attack on the Chinese convoy of Dasu hydropower project in Pakistan on March 26, and emphasized that no attempt to undermine Pakistan-China friendship and cooperation will ever succeed. The Pakistani side expressed commitment to enhancing security forces deployment and taking more effective security measures, and making all-out efforts to ensure the safety of Chinese personnel, projects and institutions in Pakistan. 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. They agreed to work with the international community to strengthen multilateral counter-terrorism cooperation within multilateral frameworks such as the United Nations. The two sides recognized that CPEC has been a pioneering project of the Belt and Road Initiative.

https://www.dawn.com/news/1838742/pakistan-china-vow-to-uphold-regional-peace

Pakistan Observer

Awais invites Chinese company to set-up solar manufacturing plant in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD – Minister for Power Division Sardar Awais Ahmed Khan Leghari invited the Chinese company LONGi Green Energy Technology Co. Ltd. on Saturday to set up a solar PV manufacturing plant in Pakistan. A statement issued by the Power Division here said that in a meeting with Zhenguo Li, the President of LONGi Green Energy Company, the minister invited him to set up a solar manufacturing plant in Pakistan. The minister briefed the Company's President about Pakistan's solar potential, adding that the share of renewable energy in the country's energy mix was rapidly increasing. Mr Zhenguo Li assured us that he would fully support the promotion of solar energy in Pakistan.

https://pakobserver.net/awais-invites-chinese-company-to-set-up-solar-manufacturing-plant-in-pakistan/

Gwadar Port reflects BRI's commitment to socio-economic development: Ahsan

Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Prof Ahsan Iqbal said the high-quality development of Pakistan's Gwadar port under the framework of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is a testimony that the China-proposed Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) is helping Gwadar evolve into a world-class port city brimming with opportunities. Located in the southwestern Balochistan province, the port presents significant opportunities for maritime trade in the region, including giving access to the landlocked Central Asian country of Afghanistan, he told Xinhua in a recent interview. "The current development of Gwadar is just the first step, and the port has a long way to go … In partnership with China, we hope that Gwadar will become an internationally acclaimed world-class port city, which will have tremendous opportunities for the people of Pakistan," Iqbal added. Launched in 2013, CPEC, a flagship project under the BRI, is a corridor linking Pakistan's Gwadar port with Kashgar in northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region. The first phase highlights energy, transport, and industrial cooperation, while the new phase expands to agriculture and improving livelihoods, among other areas. Under CPEC, both China and Pakistan are dedicated to developing Gwadar into a model smart city port. In this regard, a comprehensive master plan has been designed, and infrastructure is being developed. Talking about the prospects for investment in the Gwadar free zone, Iqbal said that several Chinese companies have shown interest in investing in industrial plants for both domestic production and export to other countries. He said all countries around the world have opportunities to invest in Gwadar, collaborate with Pakistan and China, and enjoy the fruits of CPEC. "CPEC and the BRI seek a shared future based on common principles of prosperity shared across people. And we appreciate that China is sharing its success with Pakistan and other countries to help them improve their infrastructure and socio-economic development," he added. He said that in Gwadar, China has not only focused on developing a state-of-the-art port facility but also contributed to the local socio-economic development with China-aided projects, including a modern hospital for the people of Gwadar, a technical

training institution, a water desalination plant, and a 4F-class international airport. He added that in addition to the mega projects, China also continues to help the underprivileged by providing them with solar panels to generate electricity and awarding scholarships for study in Chinese universities. "China's contribution in Gwadar has been precious in uplifting the lives of people and the region. Instead of just being a bystander, China has chosen to make its contribution," Iqbal said. The minister said that after completing early harvest projects in the first phase of CPEC, the forthcoming phase will unlock significant opportunities for Pakistan, enhancing livelihoods and socio-economic development. He added that it would connect Pakistan with cutting-edge technologies, drive an agricultural revolution, and enhance industrial growth to boost its industrial capabilities, helping Pakistan become an export-led growth model. Meanwhile, he expressed confidence in the new CPEC phase's development speed.

https://pakobserver.net/gwadar-port-reflects-bris-commitment-to-socio-economic-development-ahsan/

Xi, Shehbaz & CPEC phase-II

Naveed Aman Khan

PREMIER Shehbaz Sharif has returned home after very successful and comprehensive five day official visit to the People's Republic of China from June 4 to 8 on the invitation of Chinese President Xi Jinping and Premier Li Qiang for wider talks aimed at upgradation and expansion of ties in various fields. He met top corporate executives of leading Chinese companies in the fuel, energy and IT sectors besides addressing Pakistan-China Business Forum at Shenzhen. The two sides also undertook discussions to further strengthen the all-weather strategic cooperative partnership, upgrade the China Pakistan Economic Corridor, advance trade and investment, enhance cooperation in security and defense, energy, space, science and technology, education, promote cultural cooperation and people to people contacts thus setting the future trajectory for Pakistan China friendship. Chinese visionary President Xi Jinping has already opened new economic avenues for Pakistan to excel. Since its launch, CPEC, the game changer has been facing multiple challenges. The initiative is divided into three phases.

The short-term phase (2015 – 2022), the medium-term phase (2021-2025) and the long-term phase (2026 – 2030). The official launch of China Pakistan Economic Corridor took place on 20 April 2015, when the then Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif and the Chinese President Xi Jinping signed 51 agreements and Memorandums of Understanding with a combined value of US $ 46 billion.

The second phase of CPEC is aligned to very objectives. To accelerate industrialization, it was decided to set up special economic zones (SEZs) in each province of Pakistan. The first of these, Allama Iqbal Industrial City (AIIC) became operational in Faisalabad in early 2020. Pakistan and China have intensified efforts to establish a working group on five new economic corridors under the second phase of the CPEC, aligning with the 5Es framework. Both Pakistan and China have agreed to expedite the second phase of CPEC and establish a working group on five new economic corridors, including the corridor of job creation,

corridor of innovation, corridor of green energy and corridor of Inclusive regional development. Pakistan has already initiated the implementation of the 5Es framework, which includes Export, Energy, Equity, E-Pakistan and Environment. This framework will align with the five new economic corridors to advance region's prosperity in each sector under the visionary leadership of Chinese President Xi Jinping. The "One plus Four" model is proposed, wherein each SEZ in Pakistan would be partnered with one province from China, one industry group to develop specialized clusters within the SEZs, one SEZ from China to provide technical expertise and a state-owned enterprise to spearhead SEZ in Pakistan. Collaborative framework would expedite the establishment and growth of SEZs, enhancing their competitiveness and attractiveness to investors.

The success of SEZs depend upon their ability to become clusters of specific industries, fostering economies of scale and creating a vibrant eco system conducive to innovation and growth. Under CPEC, the Gwadar Port and the M-8 Motorway, will strengthen trade links and facilitate regional integration. It is encouraging that both China and Pakistan have paid due priority and attention to make Xi-Shehbaz meeting tangible and result oriented. Before leaving for China Premier Shehbaz Sharif convened a comprehensive preparatory meeting where he issued a number of directives to different ministers and departments to create strategies aimed at attracting Chinese industries to establish their operations in Pakistan, assuring them of the government's complete support and facilitation. Premier Shehbaz Sharif's visit to China assumed special significance as it took place at a time when the federal government was about to present the budget for the next financial year and the date of its presentation has been delayed because of Premier's visit which means it has very close linkage with the budgetary plans of the country. China has been a reliable source for external inflows and there are also expectations from people of Pakistan that the friendly country China would continue to help accelerate the pace of socio-economic progress through CPEC. Ahead of the visit the government of Pakistan had approved the construction of 241 km long Thakot-Raikot section of Karakorum at a cost of US $ 2 billion. This project has special importance because of its potential to give boost to economic and commercial relations between the two countries but more important is the need to launch and implement the second phase of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor which has the prospects to help overcome Pakistan economic worries. Prime Minister's recent visit to China along with high level business delegation will open new avenues of prosperity and development. Industrial revolution with the close cooperation of China will change course of the region. This is take off position. The corridor is at the verge of boom. At this stage firstly Pakistan will have to focus on uninterrupted supply of energy to the entire industrial zones in the country. Secondly, government of Pakistan will have to make law and order situation foolproof by all means. To safeguard foreign investment and Chinese officials Pakistan will have to crush terrorists across the board. Conducive environment and sound law and order conditions are always helpful for investment and industrialization in the region.

https://pakobserver.net/xi-shehbaz-cpec-phase-ii/

Sino-Pak commitment to CPEC

PRIME Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Chinese President Xi Jinping on Friday affirmed consensus on the upgradation of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and advancing high-quality development of the multibillion-dollar project in the second phase in a meeting at the historic Great Hall of the People in Beijing. PM Shehbaz and President Xi expressed the resolve to further deepen cooperation across diverse domains ranging from political and security to economic, trade and people-to-people exchanges. The two leaders of the friendly countries reaffirmed the time-honored 'All-Weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership'. This is, indeed, a welcome development as vested interests are engaged in wild propaganda against the historic initiative despite continued consensus between the leaderships, government and people of the two countries to take the process forward for mutual benefit. The reiteration of the commitment to upgrade the CPEC and advance high quality development of the project in the second phase would hopefully put all speculations to rest and the relevant ministries and departments of the two countries would work diligently to translate this consensus into concrete results. There is no denying the fact that the initial momentum of the initiative, launched by President Xi Jinping in 2015, was affected in the recent past due to multiple factors but both the Chinese President and Pakistan Prime Minister have vowed not only to accelerate work on all the ongoing projects but also move towards implementation of the second phase, which has the potential to accelerate the pace of socio-economic progress of Pakistan. This is important in the backdrop of rumors that China was not as enthusiastic to pursue CPEC as before because of the inability of Pakistan to pay back as well as the security issues vis-à-vis Chinese nationals working on different projects in Pakistan. In fact, China has, once again, made it clear that it wants to help Pakistan in every way to overcome its economic difficulties as it did before. The remarks of the Chinese President that his country will, as always, firmly support Pakistan and safeguard its national sovereignty and territorial integrity is reassuring for the people of Pakistan. He also strongly advocated that the two countries should focus on "promoting the joint construction of CPEC" and Chinese and Pakistani firms signed 31 Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) covering technology, agriculture, trade, energy, coal and gasification. Similar sentiments were also expressed by Chinese Prime Minister Li Quang during his meeting with his Pakistani counterpart in which the two leaders expressed their firm commitment to protect CPEC from its detractors and adversaries, a clear reference to attempts being made by some forces to obstruct progress on different aspects of the initiative like terrorist attacks against Chinese manpower working on development projects. PM Shehbaz also reaffirmed Pakistan's "unflinching resolve" to ensure the safety and security of Chinese personnel and projects in Pakistan. The latest developments on the CPEC front augur well for Pakistan as the project is already contributing significantly to socio-economic progress of the country and the future plans have the potential to create thousands of job opportunities and help realize the dream of Pakistan regarding industrialization and agriculture development. These plans also include projects aimed at creating world quality infrastructure that is critical to economic development. It was in this backdrop that the Prime Minister commended President Xi's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and Global Development Initiative underscoring that as the flagship project of BRI, CPEC had significantly contributed to Pakistan's socio-economic

development. The Chinese leader assured that his country would help Pakistan with its economic and social development. The visit of the Prime Minister to China was, indeed, a resounding success, especially in the context of the CPEC. One hopes sincere and concerted efforts would be made to remove hurdles in the way of the smooth completion of various projects which have greater economic significance for Pakistan. We have all along been emphasizing in these columns that, apart from other sectors, Chinese cooperation should be sought for exploitation of hydro-power potential of the country besides IT, agriculture and timely completion of Gwadar-related projects. Allocations and priorities of the next year's budget would make it clear as to which direction the country wants to proceed.

https://pakobserver.net/sino-pak-commitment-to-cpec/

The Express Tribune

COAS Gen Asim Munir meets China's Xi Jinping during visit

Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Asim Munir and Chinese President Xi Jinping met each other during the sidelines of a high-level Pakistani delegation's visit to China. A picture of General Munir shaking hands with the Chinese president, with Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif standing next to them, has been circulating on social media since end of the Pakistani delegation's visit. The delegation included PM Shehbaz Sharif, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar, Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb, Army Chief General Asim Munir and others. Separately, dozens of businessmen from Pakistan travelled to China to explore new avenues of cooperation with Chinese companies. The government machinery went overboard to promote the prime minister's visit. During the visit, Pakistan and China inked 23 Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) aimed at enhancing collaboration across various sectors. The MoUs signed in Islamabad included transportation infrastructure, industry, energy, agriculture, media, healthcare, water management, socioeconomic development, and other mutual areas of interest. Following delegation-level discussions between Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Chinese Premier Li Qiang in Beijing, Foreign Office spokesperson Mumtaz Zahra Baloch briefed the media, emphasizing the robust Pakistan-China Strategic Cooperative Partnership founded on mutual trust, shared principles, and strategic governance. Both nations reiterated staunch support for each other's key concerns and reaffirmed their dedication to advancing the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and completing ongoing projects in a timely manner. PM Shehbaz reassured commitment to ensuring the safety and security of Chinese personnel and projects within Pakistan while safeguarding the CPEC from detractors and adversaries. Additionally, they agreed to sustain high-level engagements, bolster institutional connections across all sectors, and continue consultations on bilateral and global issues

https://tribune.com.pk/story/2470564/coas-gen-asim-munir-reportedly-meets-chinas-xi-jinping-during-visit

The News

Govt to send 1,000 students to China for latest agri-training: PM

PM said government would send 1,000 students to Yangling Agricultural Demonstration Base, China XI'AN/BEIJING: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Saturday said the government would send a batch of 1,000 students to Yangling Agricultural Demonstration Base, China, for seeking the latest training in agriculture field. The prime minister decided that the government would bear their expenses and directed the ambassador of Pakistan in China and other relevant officials to give a final shape to this decision in consultation with the Chinese authorities, the PM Office Media Wing said in a press release. The prime minister also invited the Northwest Agriculture and Forestry University to open its campus in Pakistan and in this regard, assured it of all possible support from the government. The prime minister visited the Yangling Agricultural Demonstration Base and took round of its different sections and the Pakistani Pavilion, showcasing Pakistani products.

During a briefing, he was apprised of that a total of 26 countries were cooperating over agricultural research being carried out in the base. Pakistan was the pioneer country that cooperated in the base. The prime minister was also told about the Pakistani scientists and the Pakistani universities participating in the research work.

During the visit, the prime minister said that Pakistan was an agricultural country and keen for innovations to increase their agri-yield per acre. He said that increasing the country's exports by enhancing agriculture products and their processing were among the top priorities of the government. Meanwhile, Chairman of POWERCHINA, Ding Yanzhang, has called on Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif during his state visit to Beijing, China.

According to a POWERCHINA press release received here on Saturday, both sides held in-depth discussions on promoting cooperation in areas such as energy and power planning, clean energy development, and major projects under construction in Pakistan.

POWERCHINA has actively participated in the construction of the CPEC by leveraging its own resource advantages, investing in and constructing a series of landmark and influential projects, which have played a positive role in improving Pakistan's energy structure and enhancing energy security.

Also, Prime Minister Shehbaz's five-day visit of China and his meetings with top Chinese leadership and Chinese government officials have received extensive coverage in electronic and print media.

The prime minister has been in headlines of Global Television Network (CGTN) and CCTV, China's prominent English and Chinese language news channels and newspapers such as Global Times, China Daily, People's Daily, China Economic Net and a large number of other Chinese newspapers and news websites.

China state-run Xinhua News Agency interviewed the prime minister ahead of his visit while the Global Times published the prime ministers' op-ed. Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Saturday underlined the need to leverage sister-city relationships of Xi'an with Lahore and Multan through practical cooperation at city-to-city level to promote bilateral cooperation in

trade, technology, agriculture, and tourism. The prime minister, along with his delegation met Party Secretary of Shaanxi province in Xi'an, China Zhao Yide.

In the meeting, Prime Minister Shehbaz and Party Secretary Zhao discussed ways to enhance bilateral cooperation in various sectors, including trade, technology, agricultural and cultural exchanges. Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif, accompanied by the Pakistani delegation, visited the historical site of China, Terracotta Warriors Museum on Saturday. The visit was part of an invitation extended by the Chinese President Xi Jinping to the prime minister to visit the museum in his hometown, Xi'an.

https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1198495-govt-to-send-1-000-students-to-china-for-latest-agri-training-pm

CCP, China's SAMR sign MoU

ISLAMABAD: The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with China's State Administration for Market Regulation (SAMR) during Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's visit to China on Friday. The MoU aims to enhance bilateral cooperation in the field of competition law and policy, marking a significant milestone in Sino-Pakistani relations. SAMR, a ministerial-level agency under China's State Council, is responsible for enforcing anti-monopoly laws and regulating markets.

The MoU signifies a new era of collaboration in anti-trust activities between the two nations. On October 19, 2023, a high-profile Chinese delegation led by Dr Gan Lin, Vice Minister of SAMR visited the CCP.

Discussions between CCP Chairman Dr Kabir Ahmed Sidhu and Vice Minister Gan Lin highlighted the strategic importance of a partnership focusing on enhancing market regulations, providing training and capacity building, sharing expertise in cartel detection, and collaborating on research projects to improve regulatory efficiency.

China's substantial investments in Pakistan, particularly through the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), are expected to increase significantly with the second phase of CPEC. To accommodate this growth, the CCP is developing a comprehensive legal and regulatory framework.

The MoU outlines a framework for cooperation through bilateral meetings, training programmes, workshops, research collaborations, and information exchange. The MoU aims to ensure sound and effective enforcement of competition law, which is crucial for market efficiency and consumer welfare. By fostering technical collaboration and information sharing, this partnership will strengthen bilateral ties and create favourable conditions for economic development. This is the first international MOU in the Commission's 16-year history. Moreover, CCP will soon be signing MOUs with competition agencies of Russia, Turkey, and Egypt. This MoU heralds a new chapter in Pakistan-China relations, promoting stronger economic ties and mutual benefits through enhanced cooperation in competition law and policy.

https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1198486-ccp-china-s-samr-sign-mou

'China to invest in AI, science, agriculture, solar energy in Pakistan'

ISLAMABAD: Chinese business groups have committed to significant investments in Pakistan, targeting critical sectors such as Artificial Intelligence (AI), science and technology, modern agriculture, solar energy, healthcare, logistics, and infrastructure. The announcement came after high-level negotiations attended by a Pakistani delegation, where enhancing e-commerce through cooperation with China was also identified as a key agenda item due to its growing importance. The discussions underscored the potential for expertise in supply chain market sectors to drive economic growth. Enhancing e-commerce in Pakistan through cooperation with China was also a key agenda item, given its critical importance. During a visit to China by Pakistan's Prime Minister and Federal Ministers aimed at attracting investment across various sectors, significant progress was made in securing commitments. On Saturday in Beijing, Federal Minister for Investment Board, Communications, and Privatization Abdul Aleem Khan held pivotal discussions with China's CZK Huarui Group. Minister Khan assured the Chinese authorities of a favorable investment environment in Pakistan, highlighting the significance of strong trade relations between neighboring countries like China and Pakistan. He emphasized the positive regional impact of these trade relations. CZK Huarui Group's Chairman Liu Yafie, General Manager Sophia Lee, Davi Dong, Chen Wenlong, and Shi Jie assured the Pakistani delegation that their group would play a major role in increasing import and export activities in Pakistan. They also highlighted the importance of bilateral collaboration in industry-academia research and asset management. Federal Minister for Commerce Jam Kamal Khan, who was also present at the meeting, assured the Chinese authorities of full cooperation in trade matters and appreciated their interest in large-scale investments in Pakistan. In a separate meeting, the delegation from Tangshan Donghua Iron and Steel Group met with Minister Abdul Aleem Khan to discuss investment opportunities in various sectors, including Pakistan Steel Mills and the iron industry. Senior Advisor to the Chairman of Donghua Group, Ms. Luo Shu, briefed Minister Khan on the potential for investment by her organization in Pakistan and discussed bilateral trade issues. These meetings underscore the ongoing efforts to strengthen economic ties and enhance bilateral trade and investment between Pakistan and China. Meanwhile, federal power minister Awais Leghari held a meeting with President Zhenguo Lee of Longi Green Energy Technology Company Limited— the world's largest solar manufacturing company. During the meeting, Leghari briefed the company on Pakistan's solar energy capacity and ongoing initiatives to increase the share of renewable energy in the country's energy mix. "Pakistan is rapidly increasing the proportion of renewable energy in its energy mix," Leghari said, emphasizing the country's commitment to sustainable energy sources. Zhenguo Lee expressed Longi Green's commitment to supporting the growth of solar energy in Pakistan, assuring collaboration and assistance to promote solar initiatives in the country. Leghari extended an invitation to Longi Green Energy Technology to establish a solar manufacturing plant in Pakistan, highlighting the mutual benefits of such a venture. The meeting underscored Pakistan's efforts to enhance its renewable energy infrastructure and the potential for international cooperation in achieving these goals. https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1198478-china-to-invest-in-ai-science-agriculture-solar-energy-in-pakistan

Express News

اکستان کے تاریخی ورثے کو سیاحتی مقامات میں تبدیل کرینگے : شہباز شریف ، چین کے تاریخی میوزیم، زرعی مرکز کا دورہ

پاکستان، چین تزویراتی تعلقات کو مضبوط بنانے کیلئے پر عزم ، علاقائی امن کیلئے مل کر کام کرنے پر اتفاق کیا مشترکہ اعلامیہ

لاہور ، اسلام آباد ، شی آن (ایکسپریس رپورٹر، نمائندہ خصوصی ، ایجنسیاں) وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف سے شی آن میں صوبہ شانشی کے پارٹی سربراہ جاؤ ایدا نے ملاقات کی۔ وزیر اعظم نے پاکستان اور شانشی کے مابین زراعت، توانائی اور کان کنی کے شعبوں میں تعاون کے معاہدے کو حتمی شکل دینے کیلئے وزیر پٹرولیم ڈاکٹر مصدق ملک کی سربراہی میں کمیٹی بنادی۔ وزیر اعظم نے کہا کہ شی آن میں تاریخی جگہوں کو دیکھ کر چینی کاریگروں کی ہنر مندی نے متاثر کیا، چینی حکومت بالخصوص شانشی کی حکومت نے بہترین طور سے اپنے تاریخی و ثقافتی ورثے کی حفاظت کی ہے۔ پاکستان اور شانشی کے مابین زراعت میں تعاون کی دعوت دیتا ہوں، پاکستان شانشی سے جدید زراعت اور گرین انرجی کے شعبے سے بہت کچھ سیکھ سکتا ہے۔ حکومت نہ صرف جدید زراعت بلکہ زرعی اجناس کی پراسیسنگ سے انکی برآمدات کیلئے اقدامات اٹھارہی ہے ، حکومت کی اولین ترجیح ملکی برآمدات میں اضافہ اور ملک میں بیرونی سرمایہ کاری کا فروغ ہے۔ جاؤ ایدا نے کہا شانشی کی حکومت پاکستان کی زراعت و گرین انرجی کے حوالے سے ہر قسم کی معاونت کیلئے تیار ہے ۔ انہوں نے وزیر اعظم اور پاکستانی وفد کے اعزاز میں ظہرانہ بھی دیا۔ علاوہ ازیں وزیر اعظم نے پاکستان سے سرکاری خرچ پر ایک ہزار طلباو طالبات کو زراعت کی جدید تربیت کیلئے یا نگ لنگ ایگریکلچرل ڈیمانسٹریشن میں بھیجنے کا فیصلہ کیا ہے۔

اس ضمن میں انہوں نے چین میں پاکستانی سفیر اور متعلقہ حکام کو چینی حکام سے منصوبے کو حتمی شکل دینے کی ہدایت کی۔ شہباز شریف نے شی آن میں یا نگ لنگ ایگری کلچرل ٹیکنالوجی ڈیمانسٹریشن میں کا دورہ کیا۔ وزیر اعظم نے نارتھ ویسٹ ایگریکلچر و فاریسٹری یونیورسٹی کو پاکستان میں کیمپس کھولنے کی دعوت دیتے ہوئے حکومت پاکستان کی جانب اس میں ہر قسم کی معاونت فراہم کرنے کی یقین دہانی کرائی۔

وزیر اعظم کو ہیں کے مختلف حصوں اور پاکستانی پویلین کا دورہ بھی کروایا گیا۔ وزیر اعظم نے کہا کہ پاکستان ایک زرعی ملک ہے ، حکومت فی ایکڑ پیداوار میں اضافے کیلئے زراعت میں جدت کیلئے کو شاں ہے۔

وزیر اعظم نے مصنوعی روشنی کے ذریعے سبزیوں کی کاشت کے طریقہ کار کا بھی جائزہ لیا۔ شہباز شریف نے شی آن میں پاکستانی وفد کے ہمراہ چین کے تاریخی ورثہ میرا کو ٹاوار ٹئیر میوزیم کا دورہ کیا۔ چینی صدر نے وزیر اعظم کو اپنے آبائی شہرشی آن میں اس میوزیم کا دورہ کرنے کی دعوت دی تھی۔

وزیر اعظم نے میوزیم کے مختلف حصوں کا دورہ کیا اور قدیم چینی تاریخی ورثے کی خوبصورتی اور چینی ہنر کی تعریف کی اور کہا کہ عظیم قو میں چین کی طرح اپنے تاریخی ورثے کی حفاظت کرتی ہیں۔ دو سو برس قبل مسیح کے چینی کاریگروں کا ہنر قابل تعریف ہے ، چینی حکومت کی اس تاریخی ورثے کی حفاظت اور بحالی قابل تقلید ہے ، چین نے اپنی محنت سے دنیا کے ہر شعبے میں اپنا لوہا منوایا ہے۔ پاکستان تاریخی و ثقافتی ورثہ سے مالا مال ہے ، پاکستان میں بھی ایسی تاریخی جگہوں کی بحالی کے بعد انہیں سیاحتی مقامات میں تبدیل کریں گے۔

بعد ازاں وزیر اعظم چین کا پانچ روزہ دورہ مکمل کر کے وطن واپس پہنچ گئے ۔ ان کا طیارہ لاہور ایئر پورٹ پر اترا۔ ایک ٹویٹ میں شہباز شریف نے کہا وہ اپنے کامیاب دورہ چین پر انتہائی پر تپاک میزبانی پر حکومت چین اور عوام کے دلی شکر گزار ہیں۔ صدرشی جن پنگ کی ولولہ انگیز قیادت میں چین نئی بلندیوں کو چھو رہا ہے ، پاکستان کی ترقی اور خوشحالی کیلئے ہم اس سے سبق حاصل کر سکتے ہیں۔

پاکستان اور چین کے آئرن برادر ز ہونے پر فخر ہے۔ ایک اور ٹویٹ میں شہباز شریف نے ڈنمارک کے وزیر اعظم میٹے فریڈ ریکسن پر حملے کی شدید مذمت کی اور کہا سیاست میں شدت پسندی کی کوئی گنجائش نہیں۔ انہوں نے میٹے فریڈ ریکسن کی جلد صحت یابی کیلئے نیک خواہشات کا اظہار کیا۔

علاوہ ازیں وزیر اعظم کے دورہ چین کے اختتام پر مشترکہ اعلامیہ جاری کر دیا گیا جس میں کہا گیا ہے کہ پاکستان اور چین نے تزویراتی تعلقات کو مضبوط بنانے، مشترکہ مفادات کے تحفظ اور سماجی اقتصادی ترقی کے فروغ کے عزم کا اعادہ کیا ہے ، دونوں اطراف نے علاقائی امن، استحکام ، ترقی اور خوشحالی کیلئے ملکر کام کرنے پر بھی اتفاق کیا ہے ۔

دفتر خارجہ کے مطابق اعلامیہ میں کہا گیا کہ فریقین نے باہمی مفادات سے متعلق امور پر ایک دوسرے کی غیر متزلزل حمایت کا اعادہ بھی کیا۔ چین نے پاکستان کی خود مختاری، قومی آزادی اور علاقائی سالمیت کے تحفظ ، قومی حالات کے مطابق ترقی کی راہ پر گامزن ہونے اور قومی سلامتی، استحکام ، ترقی و خوشحالی کے تحفظ ، دہشت گردی کا ڈٹ کر مقابلہ کرنے اور علاقائی و بین الاقوامی امور میں نمایاں کردار ادا کرنے میں اپنی بھر پور حمایت کا اعادہ کیا۔

فریقین نے زیرو ٹالرینس کے ساتھ ہر قسم کی دہشت گردی کا مقابلہ کرنے کے اپنے عزم کا اعادہ کرتے ہوئے جامع نقطہ نظر کے ذریعے انسداد دہشت گردی اور سلامتی میں تعاون کو مزید مستحکم کرنے پر اتفاق کیا۔

فریقین نے جنوبی ایشیا میں امن واستحکام بر قرار رکھنے کی اہمیت ، تمام تصفیہ طلب تنازعات کے حل کی ضرورت اور کسی بھی یکطرفہ اقدام کی مخالفت پر زور دیا۔ چین نے کہا جموں و کشمیر کا تنازعہ اقوام متحدہ کے چارٹر ، اقوام متحدہ کی سلامتی کونسل کی متعلقہ قرار دادوں اور دو طرفہ معاہدوں کے مطابق مناسب اور پر امن طریقے سے حل کیا جانا چاہئے۔ فریقین نے اتفاق کیا کہ غزہ کے موجودہ بحران سے نکلنے کا بنیادی راستہ دور یاستی حل اور فلسطین کی ایک آزاد ریاست کے قیام میں مضمر ہے۔ سلامتی کونسل کی قرار داد کو غیر مشروط اور دیر پا جنگ بندی کے حصول کیلئے نافذ کیا جانا چاہئے۔

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وزیر اعظم کا سرکاری خرچ پر ہزار طلباء کو زراعت کی تربیت کیلئے چین بھیجنے کا فیصلہ

وزیر اعظم محمد شہباز شریف نے پاکستان سے سرکاری خرچ پر ایک ہزار طلباء و طالبات کو زراعت کی جدید تربیت کیلئے یانگلنگ ایگریکلچرل ڈیمانسٹریشن بیس بھیجنے کا فیصلہ کیاہے۔ وزیر اعظم محمد شہباز شریف نے شی-آن میں یانگلنگ ایگری کلچرل ٹیکنالوجی ڈیمانسٹریشن بیس کا دورہ کیاوزیر اعظم کو اس موقع پر بیس کے کام کے حوالے سے بریفنگ دی گئی۔وزیر اعظم کو بتایا گیا کہ ہائی ٹیک ڈیمانسٹریشن زون 2019 میں صدر شی چن پنگ کی ہدایت پر قائم ہوایانگلنگ کی زرعی یونیورسٹی میں 142 پاکستانی طالب علم زیر تعلیم ہیں۔120 طلبا یہاں سے فارغ التحصیل ہوچکے ہیں۔پاکستان میں قائد اعظم یونیورسٹی اور ایوب ایگریکلچر ریسرچ کے ساتھ مل کر زرعی اجناس پر تحقیق جاری ہے۔وزیر اعظم نے مصنوعی روشنی کے ذریعے سبزیوں کی کاشت کے طریقہ کار کا بھی جائزہ لیاوزیر اعظم کو بتایاگیا کہ یانگلنگ ایگریکلچر ہائی ٹیک انڈسٹری اینڈ ڈیمانسٹریشن بیس چین میں پہلا ہائی ٹیک صنعتی ترقی کا زون ہے۔وزیر اعظم نے نارتھ ویسٹ ایگریکلچر و فاریسٹری یونیورسٹی کو پاکستان میں کیمپس کھولنے کی دعوت دیتے ہوئے حکومتِ پاکستان کی جانب اس میں ہر قسم کی معاونت فراہم کرنے کی یقین دہانی کرائی۔وزیر اعظم کو بیس کے مختلف حصوں اور پاکستانی پویلین کا دورہ بھی کروایا گیایانگلنگ ایگریکلچرل ڈیمانسٹریشن بیس میں 26 ممالک زرعی تحقیق میں تعاون کرتے ہیں۔پاکستان سب سے پہلا ملک تھا جس نے یانگلنگ ایگریکلچرل ڈیمانسٹریشن بیس میں تعاون شروع کیا۔بریفنگ میں پاکستانی سائنسدانوں اور تحقیق میں شرکت کرنے والی پاکستانی یونیورسٹیوں کے بارے میں بھی بتایا گیا۔اس موقع پر وزیر اعظم نے کہا کہ پاکستان ایک زرعی ملک ہے، حکومت فی ایکڑ پیداوار میں اضافے کیلئے زراعت میں جدت کیلئے کوشاں ہے،پاکستانی زرعی مصنوعات اور انکی پراسیسنگ سے ملکی برآمدت میں اضافہ حکومت کی اولین ترجیح ہے۔وزیر اعظم کو جدید پلانٹ پروڈکشن فیکٹری کا بھی دورہ کروایا گیادرینا ثناوزیر اعظم محمد شہباز شریف سے شی-آن میں صوبہ شانشی کے پارٹی سربراہ (سیکرٹری) جاؤ ایدا نے ہفتہ کے روزملاقات کی۔ اس موقع پر وزیر اعظم نے پاکستان اور شانشی کے مابین زراعت، توانائی اور کان کنی کے شعبوں میں تعاون کے معاہدے کو حتمی شکل دینے کیلئے وزیرِ پیٹرولیم ڈاکٹر مصدق ملک کی سربراہی میں کمیٹی بنا دی۔

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پاکستان اور چین کا اسٹرٹیجک تعلقات کو مضبوط بنانےکے عزم کا اعادہ

پاکستان اور چین نے تزویراتی تعلقات کو مضبوط بنانے، مشترکہ مفادات کے تحفظ اور سماجی اقتصادی ترقی کے فروغ کے عزم کا اعادہ کیا ہے ، دونوں اطراف نے علاقائی امن ، استحکام ، ترقی اور خوشحالی کے لیے مل کر کام کرنے پر بھی اتفاق کیا ہے ۔ ہفتہ کو وزیراعظم محمد شہبازشریف کے پانچ روزہ سرکاری دورہ کے اختتام پر جاری کئے گئے مشترکہ اعلامیہ میں کہا گیا ہے کہ دونوں فریقین نے علاقائی امن، استحکام، ترقی اور خوشحالی کو مشترکہ طور پر برقرار رکھنے کے لئے مل کر کام کرنے اور نئے دور میں مشترکہ مستقبل کے ساتھ پاکستان اور چین کی کمیونٹی کی تعمیر کو تیز کرنے پر اتفاق کیا ہے۔ مشترکہ اعلامیہ میں پاکستان اور چین نے دہشت گردی پر دہرا معیار مسترد کرتے ہوئے سی پیک کی اہمیت پر زور دیا گیا ہے، تائیوان کی آزادی کی کی مخالفت جبکہ مسئلہ کشمیر حل کرنے پر زور دیا گیا۔ دفتر خارجہ کی جانب

سے وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف کے دورہ چین کے حوالے سے مشترکہ اعلامیہ جاری کیا گیا۔ جس میں دونوں ممالک کے درمیان سکیورٹی تعاون پر زور دیا گیا۔ مشترکہ اعلامیہ کے مطابق پاک چین دفاعی تعاون خطے میں اسٹرٹیجک توازن کے لیے اہم ہے۔ چین کا کہنا ہے کہ مسئلہ کشمیر کا حل اقوام متحدہ کی قرار دادوں کے مطابق ضروری ہے۔ مشترکہ اعلامیہ میں بین الاقوامی برادری سے انسداد دہشت گردی تعاون کو مضبوط بنانے کا مطالبہ کرتے ہوئے دونوں فریقوں نے انسداد دہشت گردی پر دوہرے معیار کی سخت مخالفت کی اور انسداد دہشت گردی کی سیاست اور آلہ کاری کی مخالفت کرتے ہوئے فریقین نے اقوام متحدہ جیسے کثیر الجہتی فریم ورک کے اندر انسداد دہشت گردی کے کثیر الجہتی تعاون کو مضبوط بنانے کے لئے بین الاقوامی برادری کے ساتھ مل کر کام کرنے کا عزم کیا۔ اعلامیہ میں کہا گیا ہے کہ فریقین نے جنوبی ایشیا میں امن و استحکام برقرار رکھنے کی اہمیت، تمام تصفیہ طلب تنازعات کے حل کی ضرورت اور کسی بھی یکطرفہ اقدام کی مخالفت پر زور دیا۔ فریقین نے اس بات کو تسلیم کیا کہ چین پاکستان اقتصادی راہداری (سی پیک) بیلٹ اینڈ روڈ انیشی ایٹو کا اہم منصوبہ ہے۔

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Nawaiwaqt

پاکستان، چین اقتصادی شراکت عوام کیلئے مفید: شہباز شریف

نے (Zhao Yide) وزیر اعظم محمد شہباز شریف سے شی-آن میں صوبہ شانشی کے پارٹی سربراہ (سیکریٹری) جاؤ ژیدے ملاقات کی۔ جاؤ نے شانشی کی قیادت اور عوام کی جانب سے وزیرِ اعظم شہباز شریف اور پاکستانی وفد کا خیر مقدم کیا۔ وزیر اعظم نے پرتپاک استقبال پر شکر یہ ادا کیا، شی آن میں تاریخی جگہوں کو دیکھ کر چینی کاریگروں کی ہنرمندی نے متاثر کیا۔ وزیراعظم نے کہا کہ گزشتہ روز صدر شی جن پنگ نے شاندار عشائیے کا اہتمام کیا، پاکستان اور چین دو آہنی بھائی ہیں، وزیر اعظم نے کہا کہ چین نے پاکستان کی ہر مشکل وقت میں مدد کی جس کیلئے مجھ سمیت پوری قوم مشکورہے وزیراعظم نے کہا کہ شانشی نے کویڈ19 کے دوران پاکستانیوں کی بھرپور مدد کی وزیر اعظم نے کہا کہ چینی قیادت کی ترقی پسندانہ سوچ نے چین کو دنیا کی بڑی اقتصادی قوت بنایا شانشی جدید زراعت اور گرین انرجی میں پوری دنیا میں مثالی نام رکھتا ہے وزیرِ اعظم نے کہا کہ پاکستان اور شانشی کے مابین زراعت میں تعاون کی دعوت دیتا ہوں، پاکستان شانشی سے جدید زراعت اور گرین انرجی کے شعبے سے بہت کچھ سیکھ سکتا ہے وزیرِ اعظم نے کہا کہ حکومت نہ صرف جدید زراعت بلکہ زرعی اجناس کی پراسیسنگ سے انکی برآمدات کیلئے اقدامات اٹھا رہی ہے، وزیر اعظم نے کہا کہ حکومت کی اولین ترجیح ملکی برآمدات میں اضافہ اور ملک میں بیرونی سرمایہ کاری کا فروغ ہے۔جائو نے کہا کہ پاکستان اور شانشی کے مابین تجارت کے فروغ کیلئے وسیع مواقع موجود ہیں شانشی کی حکومت پاکستان کی زراعت و گرین انرجی کے حوالے سے ہر قسم کی معاونت کیلئے تیارہے۔جاؤ ایدا نے وزیرِ اعظم اور پاکستانی وفد کے اعزاز میں ظہرانہ بھی دیا۔ملاقات میں وفاقی وزراء شریک تھے۔ دریں اثناء شہباز شریف اپنا پانچ روزہ تاریخی اور کامیاب دورہ چین مکمل کرکے پاکستان واپس پہنچگئے، روانہ ہوتے وقت شانشی صوبے کے نائب گورنر چَھن چْھن جیانگ، اعلی چینی و پاکستانی سفارتی اہلکاروں نے وزیرِ اعظم کو الوادع کیا۔ وزیرِ اعظم محمد شہباز شریف کا پانچ روزہ دورہء چین پاکستان اور چین کے تعلقات کی مضبوطی، دونوں ممالک کے مابین تجارتی تعلقات و اسٹریٹجک شراکت داری اور سی پیک کے دوسرے مرحلے کے آغاز کے حوالے سے اہم سنگ میل ثابت ہوا۔دورے کے حوالے سے گفتگو کرتے ہوئے وزیر اعظم نے کہا کہ حالیہ دورہ چین پاکستان اور چین کے دو طرفہ تعلقات میں ایک نئی جہت کا اضافہ ہے۔چینی قیادت شی جن پنگ اور پریمئیر لی چیانگ کا مہمان نوازی پر دل سے مشکور ہوں،پاکستان اور چین کی دوستی لازوال اور بے مثال ہے۔وزیرِ اعظم نے کہا کہ سی پیک کے دوسرے مرحلے کے تحت چینی کاروباری شخصیات و سرمایہ کاروں کی پاکستانی کاروباری شخصیات اور سرمایہ کاروں سے ملاقات ہوئی،چین کی انفارمیشن ٹیکنالوجی، زراعت، معدنیات و دیگر شعبوں میں ترقی قابل تقلید ہے۔وزیرِ اعظم نے کہا کہ چین اور پاکستان کی اقتصادی شراکت داری سے دونوں ممالک کے عوام مستفید ہونگے۔حالیہ دورہ چین کے دوران ہونے والی مثبت پیش رفت کے اثرات طویل مدت تک قائم رہیں گے۔علاوہ ازیں شہباز شریف نے ڈنمارک کے وزیر اعظم پر بزدلانہ حملے کی شدید مذمت کی ہے۔ اپنے ٹویٹ میں وزیر اعظم نے کہا کہ سیاست میں شدت پسندی کی کوئی گنجائش نہیں۔انہوں نے وزیر اعظم میٹے فریڈریکسن کی جلد صحت یابی کے لئے نیک خواہشات کا اظہار کیا۔ دریں اثنا وزیرِ اعظم نے کہا کہ پاکستان تاریخی ورثہ سے مالامال ہے، پاکستان میں تاریخی و ثقافتی مقامات کی بحالی کے بعد انہیں سیاحتی مقامات میں تبدیل کریں گے ،چینی حکومت کی تاریخی ورثہ کی حفاظت اور بحالی قابل تقلید ہے،چین نے اپنی محنت سے دنیا کے ہر شعبے میں اپنا لوہا منوایا ہے۔ وزیر اعظم نے ہفتہ کو ٹیراکوٹا وارئیر میوزیم کے دورہ کے موقع پر کیا۔ وزیرِ اعظم محمد شہباز شریف نے دورہء چین کے موقع پر شی-آن میں پاکستانی وفد کے ہمراہ چین کے تاریخی ورثہ ٹیراکوٹا وارئیر میوزیم کا دورہ کیا۔ چینی صدر شی جن پنگ نے وزیرِ اعظم کو اپنے آبائی شہر شی-آن میں ٹیرا کوٹا وارئیرز میوزیم کا دورہ کرنے کی دعوت دی تھی ۔انہوں نے کہا کہ عظیم قومیں چین کی طرح اپنے تاریخی ورثے کی حفاظت کرتی

ہیں۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ دوسو برس قبل مسیح کے چینی کاریگروں کا ہنر قابل تعریف ہے،چین نے اپنی محنت سے دنیا کے ہر شعبے میں اپنا لوہا منوایا ہے۔ وزیرِ اعظم نے مزید کہا کہ چینی صدر شی جن پنگ کی اس میوزیم کے دورے کی دعوت پربے حد مشکور ہوں۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ پاکستان تاریخی و ثقافتی ورثہ سے مالامال ہے،پاکستان میں بھی ایسی تاریخی جگہوں کی بحالی کے بعد انہیں سیاحتی مقامات میں تبدیل کریں گے۔ وزیر اعظم محمد شہبازشریف نے پاکستان سے سرکاری خرچ پر ایک ہزار طلباء و طالبات کو زراعت کی جدید تربیت کیلئے یانگلنگ ایگریکلچرل ڈیمانسٹریشن بیس بھیجنے کا فیصلہ کیا ہے ۔ وزیرِ اعظم نے چین میں پاکستانی سفیر اور متعلقہ حکام کو چینی حکام سے منصوبے کو حتمی شکل دینے کی ہدایت کردی وزیرِ اعظم کی نارتھ ویسٹ ایگریکلچر و فاریسٹری یونیورسٹی کو پاکستان میں کیمپس کھولنے کی دعوت،ہ وزیرِ اعظم محمد شہباز شریف نے آج شی۔آن میں یانگلنگ ایگریکلچرل ڈیمانسٹریشن بیس کا دورہ کیا وزیرِ اعظم کو بیس کے مختلف حصوں اور پاکستانی پویلین کا دورہ بھی کروایا گیا۔وزیرِ اعظم کو پاکستانی پویلین میں پاکستانی مصنوعات بھی دکھائی گئیں بیس میں 26 ممالک زرعی تحقیق میں تعاون کرتے ہیں پاکستان سب سے پہلا ملک تھا جس نے یانگلنگ ایگریکلچرل ڈیمانسٹریشن بیس میں تعاون شروع کیااوزیر اعظم نے کہا کہ پاکستان ایک زرعی ملک ہے، حکومت فی ایکڑ پیداوار میں اضافے کیلئے زراعت میں جدت کیلئے کوشاں ہے پاکستانی زرعی مصنوعات اور انکی پراسیسنگ سے ملکی برآمدت میں اضافہ حکومت کی اولین ترجیح ہے۔ وزیر اعظم نے کہا کہ وزیرِ اعظم کو جدید پلانٹ پروڈکشن فیکٹری کا بھی اسلام آباد (اے پی دورہ کروایا گیا ،جہاں زراعت کے عمودی طریقہ کار کے مختلف مراحل کا عملی مظاہرہ بھی پیش کیا گیا۔ پی) وزیراعظم محمد شہبازشریف کے پانچ روزہ سرکاری دورہ کے اختتام پر جاری مشترکہ اعلامیہ میں کہا گیا ہے کہ دونوں فریقین نے علاقائی امن، استحکام، ترقی اور خوشحالی کو مشترکہ طور پر برقرار رکھنے کے لئے مل کر کام کرنے اور نئے دور میں مشترکہ مستقبل کے ساتھ پاکستان اور چین کی کمیونٹی کی تعمیرکو تیز کرنے پر اتفاق کیاہے۔ دفتر خارجہ کی جانب سے جاری بیان میں کہا گیا ہے کہ چینی وفد نے اس بات کا اعادہ کیا کہ پاکستان اور چین کے تعلقات خارجہ تعلقات میں اولین ترجیح ہیں۔ پاکستان نے اس بات کا اعادہ کیا کہ پاک چین تعلقات اس کی خارجہ پالیسی کا سنگ بنیاد ہیں۔ چین کی جانب سے پاکستان کوعام انتخابات کے کامیاب انعقاد پر مبارکباد،نیک خواہشات کا اظہار کیا گیا ۔ پاکستان نے ایک چین کے اصول پر اپنے پختہ عزم اور اس بات کا اعادہ کیا کہ تائیوان عوامی جمہوریہ چین کی سرزمین کا اٹوٹ حصہ ہے اور کسی بھی قسم کی "تائیوان کی آزادی" کی مخالفت کرتا ہے۔ سنکیانگ، ژیزانگ، ہانگ کانگ اور بحیرہ جنوبی چین سے متعلق معاملات پر چین کی بھرپور حمایت کرتا ہے۔ اعلامیہ میں کہا گیا ہے کہ چین نے پاکستان کی خودمختاری، قومی آزادی اور علاقائی سالمیت کے تحفظ، ترقی کی راہ پر گامزن ہونے اور قومی سلامتی، استحکام، ترقی و خوشحالی کے تحفظ، دہشت گردی کا ڈٹ کر مقابلہ کرنے میںنمایانکردار ادا کرنے میں اپنی بھرپور حمایت کا اعادہ کیا۔ ہر قسم کی دہشت گردی کا مقابلہ کرنے کے اپنے عزم کا اعادہ کرتے ہوئے انسداد دہشت گردی اور سلامتی میں تعاون کو مزید مستحکم کرنے پر اتفاق کیا۔ مشترکہ اعلامیہ میں بین الاقوامی برادری سے انسداد دہشت گردی تعاون کو مضبوط بنانے کا مطالبہ ۔فریقین نے اس بات کو تسلیم کیا کہ چین پاکستان اقتصادی راہداری (سی پیک) بیلٹ اینڈ روڈ انیشی ایٹو کا اہم منصوبہ ہے۔ چین نے اس بات کا اعادہ کیا کہ جموں و کشمیر کا تنازعہ اقوام متحدہ کے چارٹر، اقوام متحدہ کی سلامتی کونسل کی متعلقہ قراردادوں اور دوطرفہ معاہدوں کے مطابق مناسب اور پرامن طریقے سے حل کیا جانا چاہئے۔ فریقین نے اقوام متحدہ، شنگھائی تعاون تنظیم اور دیگر کثیر الجہتی پلیٹ فارمز پر رابطے اور ہم آہنگی کو مزید مستحکم کرنے پر اتفاق کیا۔ اس بات کا اعادہ کیا کہ غزہ بحران سے نکلنے کا بنیادی راستہ دو ریاستی حل اور فلسطین کی ایک آزاد ریاست کے قیام میں مضمر ہے۔ بین الاقوامی برادری پر زور دیا کہ وہ فوری طور پر فلسطین اور اسرائیل کے درمیان امن مذاکرات کی جلد بحالی کے لیے کوششیں تیز کرے اور پائیدار امن کے لیے کوششیں تیز کرے۔

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June 10, 2024

Business Recorder

PM’s visit boosts Pak-China relations: top Chinese firms

Chinese companies operating in Pakistan expect better opportunities for the second phase of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) following Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif recent visit to China. World leading Chinese engineering and power companies such as CMEC and POWERCHINA Pakistan aimed to enhance investment and undertake new projects across various sectors. Talking to the Chinese media, Dai Bao, Vice General Manager of China Machinery Engineering Corporation (CMEC) Pakistan has expressed

strong interest in collaborating with the Pakistani government during the second phase of the CPEC. He acknowledged the recent high-level meeting between President Xi and Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif. The initial phase of the CPEC laid a robust foundation for Pakistan national destiny and established a pivotal framework for further bilateral cooperation. This progress paves the way for the next steps, and both sides eagerly anticipate the new phase of CPEC. The Prime Minister visit to China signaled the beginning of this transformative stage. The company senior representative highlighted that both nations aspire to witness fresh achievements and embrace a renewed outlook of the joint corridor. China, drawing from its experience with reform and openness, extends a friendly hand of support to Pakistan. Notably, CMEC became the first Chinese state-owned company to operate in Pakistan since 1981. "Having closely observed Pakistan progress, we are confident that both countries will reap benefits from this new chapter," Dai Bao said. "Our company has diligently prepared for this moment over the past five years, formulating comprehensive plans encompassing industrialization, agricultural modernization, trade, healthcare, education, poverty alleviation, and more." "With unwavering support from both governments, we are committed to contributing significantly to this milestone project," he added. During his recent meeting with PM Shahbaz Sharif, Ding Yanzhang, Chairman POWERCHINA assured that his company was ready to actively participate in hydro-power, new energy, and other fields in Pakistan, promoting the optimization of local energy structure and green development. The Power Construction Corporation of China would seek further investment, engineering and construction opportunities in collaboration with relevant international partners, taking full advantage of the rich water, wind, solar, and mine resources in Pakistan. Previously, it has implemented several major projects, such as Port Qasim 2—660 MW Coal-fired Power Plant, Dawood Wind Power Project, Haveli Bahadur Shah 1,230 MW Combined Cycle Coal-fired Power Project, Tarbela 4th Extension Hydropower Station (Civil Works). While presently constructing several projects, including some solar and wind power projects in Sindh, like the Tarbela 5th Extension Hydropower Project (Civil Works) and the mega project Diamer Basha Dam.

https://epaper.brecorder.com/2024/06/10/2-page/995207-news.html

Chinese textile group keen to develop textile factory: minister

Minister for Commerce, Jam Kamal Khan said on Sunday that a textile group has shown interest in developing textile factory in Pakistan. According to Commerce Ministry statement, the Commerce minister visited Beijing as part of the official delegation of the Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and accompanied the premier at grand luncheon hosted by Chinese Premier Li Qiang and witnessed MoUs and agreements signing ceremony. The minister also interacted with his counterpart, Wang Wentao during the grand luncheon as well as accompanied the prime minister in his meetings with the Chairman Shandong Ruyi, a large textile group which has shown keen interest in developing textile factory in Pakistan. Jam Kamal also accompanied the prime minister in witnessing some important MoUs related to solar panel manufacturing in Pakistan, development of agriculture park and seed technology transfer and green hydrogen energy development. The Commerce minister and minister for Privatisation and Investment jointly held meetings with the heads of renowned Chinese

companies including Sinochem, China National Chemical Engineering (two large state-owned petrochemicals and chemical companies), Sinoma (Cement plant manufacturers and economic zone developers), CZK (an e-commerce company selling Pakistani products) and Donghua Iron and Steel company. Both the ministers apprised the companies about opportunities and policies in Pakistan and urged them to invest in Pakistan and assured them of complete facilitation by the government. The companies were also invited to Pakistan in the coming month.

https://epaper.brecorder.com/2024/06/10/4-page/995233-news.html

Daily Times

BMP endorses Pak-China consensus on CPEC advancement to second phase

The Businessmen Panel (BMP) of the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI) has announced to endorse the Pak-China consensus on up-gradation of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and advancing the high-quality development to the second phase, especially the shifting of the Chinese manufacturing units to Pakistan, demanding the government for equal opportunities to Pakistanis in CPEC projects. The FPCCI former president and BMP Chairman Mian Anjum Nisar said the government needs to provide equal facilities to the local business community, as are given to the Chinese investors, endorsing the PM Shehbaz Sharif and Chinese President Xi Jinping resolve to further deepen cooperation across diverse fields ranging from political and security to economic, trade, and people-to-people exchanges. The Businessmen Panel chief declared to endorse the Pak-China agreement to set a new direction of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor for future cooperation in high economic impact areas, especially the shifting of the Chinese manufacturing units to Pakistan. Mian Anjum Nisar said that the relocation of Chinese industry to Pakistan and providing Chinese financing facilities for future projects are the welcome steps and if we could put all energies and provide enabling environment, the newly-agreed framework has the potential to transform the country from low-income to a middle-income country in the next few years. He asked the government to focus only on those projects that had a high impact on Pakistan's economy. According to reports, the decisions to expand the CPEC scope were taken during PM Shehbaz meeting with Chinese representatives. He said the meeting was fruitful and the agreed framework was promising, as it had set a new direction for the CPEC and hoped that the second phase of CPEC would yield tangible progress towards a shared goal of making this project a resounding success. He said that high consideration should be given to socio-economic and industrial cooperation in the second phase of CPEC.

He underscored that bilateral economic cooperation should proceed as planned for the mutual benefit of both the brotherly countries. It was decided to expand the CPEC to copper, gold, oil, gas and affordable housing sectors, as the copper and mineral development would benefit both the countries since China remained one of the largest copper importers. Mian Nisar said that only the oil and gas sectors have the potential to attract up to $10 billion Chinese

investment. He maintained that the revival of Pakistan Steel Mills with the help of China could also reduce the import bill by $4 billion.

He said that Pakistan's security challenges had roots in its neighborhood and to meet the challenges, there was a need to completely fence the country's borders with Afghanistan and Iran. He said that the CPEC will be a gateway of progress and prosperity for a bright future. He added that next year would prove to be a significant year for China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, as several significant milestones will be achieved by the end of the year.

It is to be noted that the top leaders of the friendly countries also reaffirmed the time-honored 'All-Weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership.

PM Shehbaz held a long and in-depth discussion in meeting with President Xi. Chief of the Army Staff General Asim Munir was also present in the meeting. The two leaders were accompanied by the federal ministers and senior officials. This was the premier's first meeting with the president of China since assuming office in 2024.

The meeting was marked by traditional warmth reflective of the ironclad friendship and close strategic ties between the two countries. PM Shehbaz thanked President Xi for the warm and gracious welcome accorded to him and his delegation in China. Commending President Xi's visionary Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and Global Development Initiative (GDI), the prime minister underscored that as the flagship project of BRI, CPEC had significantly contributed to Pakistan's socioeconomic development.

The two leaders reaffirmed the consensus for high-quality development of CPEC and timely completion of major ongoing projects. PM Shehbaz reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to the high-quality development of CPEC and to foster synergy between the development strategies of the two countries through close coordination. He underlined Pakistan's commitment and full support for the safety and security of Chinese nationals, projects and institutions in Pakistan. Shehbaz briefed Xi on Pakistan's policies for economic reform and sustained growth, industrial development, agricultural modernization and regional connectivity and the critical role played by CPEC in the country's development. He underlined that the Pakistani government's agenda for people-centric, socio-economic development resonates with the concept of 'shared prosperity' embraced by China. The Chinese president also hosted a banquet in honor of PM Shehbaz, where another round of discussion on different matters of mutual interests was held. Pakistan and China will also continue to consult closely on issues of regional and global significance and multilateral fora, especially during the two-year tenure of Pakistan as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council. The delegation-level talks were followed by an MoU signing ceremony, witnessed by PM Shehbaz Sharif and Premier Li Qiang, where both signed 23 MoUs and agreements deepening cooperation in transport infrastructure, industry, energy, agriculture, media, health, water, socio-economic development and others of mutual interest.

https://dailytimes.com.pk/1199673/bmp-endorses-pak-china-consensus-on-cpec-advancement-to-second-phase/

Dawn News

Renewing CPEC ties

Nasir Jamal

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif was in China last week for a five-day visit to push for an upgrade of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) initiative and exhort Chinese companies to invest in Pakistan. In a meeting with President Xi Jinping, the two leaders discussed various dimensions of the multi-faceted Pakistan-China relationship and reaffirmed their longstanding friendship, all-weather strategic cooperation, economic and trade ties, and CPEC. "[We] mutually decided to enhance economic cooperation through timely completion of ongoing CPEC initiatives as it enters into the next phase with five new corridors: [growth corridor, economic development projects corridor, innovation corridor, green corridor, and regional connectivity corridor]. "I underscored that Pakistan would continue to work with China to promote regional connectivity and economic development and to make Gwadar a connectivity hub for the socio-economic development of Pakistan," Mr Sharif said on X after the meeting. President Xi also promised to extend financial support through investment in different sectors. "President Xi reassured [us] that China would continue supporting Pakistan's sovereignty, territorial integrity, and development and supporting us in harnessing our geo-economic potential as a hub of regional trade and economics." The trip has produced 23 memorandums of understanding (MoUs) and agreements aiming at "deepening cooperation in technology, transport, industry, infrastructure, energy, agriculture, media, health, water, and socio-economic development." It is still unclear what these MoUs will materialize into or if these will propel the corridor project into its second phase for its monetization to help Islamabad pay back its debt. As Islamabad negotiates a tough bailout with the International Monetary Fund to steer its economy out of the doldrums, the cash-strapped Shehbaz Sharif government is looking desperately towards Beijing and the Gulf countries for investments in Pakistan to shore up its gloomy economy. The revival of official and private Chinese investments under the multi-billion-dollar corridor initiative, which has suffered a slump in recent years because of Pakistan's political, economic, and security problems, is also expected to uplift economic growth. Under the CPEC initiative, launched in 2015 and dubbed a 'game-changer' for Pakistan's economy, China has invested $25.4 billion in various transport, energy and infrastructure projects. Several other projects worth billions of dollars are in different stages of planning or execution. The CPEC initiative is also considered a flagship project of China's ambitious Belt and Road Initiative, a massive network of roads, bridges, and ports spread across nearly 100 countries that Beijing hopes will recreate the ancient Silk Road trade routes linking Europe and Asia. The project has certainly helped Pakistan improve its power and transport infrastructure. Based on the achievements of the CPEC in its first phase, the second phase — mostly based on business-to-business cooperation — is expected to yield further economic dividends for Pakistan, besides translating those benefits into higher productivity, growth, and exports through Chinese investments in manufacturing, agriculture and technology. In spite of the Chinese government's expressed desire to further boost trade and investment cooperation with Pakistan, many analysts believe that Chinese investors remain wary of venturing into

Pakistan for a variety of issues, such as poor governance or bureaucratic red tape. The Chinese have long been complaining about being hampered by the bureaucracy, and many are frustrated by the difficulties of getting things done here. The delays in arrears payments of $1.8bn the government owes Chinese power producers are also deterring other firms from investing in Pakistan. Moreover, the security of Chinese workers in Pakistan remains the most pressing concern for Beijing amid increasing attacks on Chinese nationals and interests. The last two attacks came in quick succession of a week between March 20 and 26 this year. The first attack was carried out by an armed group at the new port in Gwadar. Then, the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) fighters targeted Chinese engineers working on a Chinese-funded hydropower project near Besham and killed five Chinese workers and their Pakistani driver. There have been reports suggesting Beijing has demanded a massive counterterrorism operation to eliminate threats to its interests. The Besham attack had triggered a stern response from Beijing. "China asks Pakistan to thoroughly investigate the incident as soon as possible, hunt down the perpetrators, and bring them to justice. Meanwhile, we ask Pakistan to take effective measures to protect the safety and security of Chinese nationals, institutions, and projects in Pakistan," its Ministry of Foreign Affairs said on March 27, adding, "no attempt to sabotage China-Pakistan cooperation will ever succeed." Chinese media quoted experts as saying that counter-terrorism and safeguarding the security of the CPEC were the main focus of Mr Sharif's visit. No wonder, every speech Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has made during his trip to China centered on commitments of fool-proof security. While Mr Sharif's visit will enhance mutual trust between the two countries to tackle the challenges facing bilateral ties, expand cooperation models under the new security concept, and provide strong support for the CPEC, many argue that Pakistan needs to tamp down its exaggerated expectations from its all-weather friend.

https://www.dawn.com/news/1838830/renewing-cpec-ties

Dunya News

Attempts to disrupt Pakistan-China ties will be foiled: Tarar

ISLAMABAD (Web Desk) – Information Minister Attaullah Tarar on Monday said the enemies could not digest the development in Pakistan, as he promised to foil the efforts made by political rivals and external forces. He also noted that some forces wanted to disrupt Pakistan-China relations and were working on the nefarious agenda of creating a situation where there could not be any peace in the country. The minister promised to extend complete security to the Chinese nationals living and working in Pakistan while rooting out the menace of terrorism forever. Referring to his recent visit to China as member of a delegation accompanying Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, he said an agreement had been reached on upgradation of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). However, Tarar stressed that political stability was a prerequisite for economic stability, as he criticized those aiming at creating uncertainty in Pakistan.

YOU CAN'T BE BIGGER THAN PAKISTAN

Tarar told a press conference that no political leader could be bigger than Pakistan with reference to PTI founding chairman Imran Khan, as he questioned the "clean chit" being

given through court proceedings. He said a so-called leader had humiliated Pakistan around the globe, but the things were changing, as Pakistan was a historic juncture leading to development and prosperity. "All the prisons in Pakistan should be emptied if a clean chit is awarded in 190 million pound mega corruption case, he remarked and also cited the cipher case about which clear evidence is available.

DIDN'T SEE ANY FIREWALL

He also defended the Punjab Defamation Act which came into effect on Monday, arguing that the legislation was for everyone. Tarar wondered if the local TV channels and others could submit apology before courts in other countries, then why the same could not happen in Pakistan. When asked about the rumors and reports about restricting social media access, the minister quipped that he did see the Great Wall of China but didn't notice any "firewall".

https://dunyanews.tv/en/Pakistan/817621-Attempts-to-disrupt-Pakistan-China-ties-will-be-foiled:-Tarar

Pakistan Observer

Maryam congratulates PM on successful China visit

Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif has congratulated Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on undertaking a successful visit to China. In her message on Sunday, the CM paid tributes to Shehbaz Sharif for his endeavors undertaken for the progress and prosperity of Pakistan. Under the guidance of PML-N President Muhammad Nawaz Sharif, the national economy is treading on the road to progress and prosperity and the completion of CPEC projects will be expedited, she said. Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif after undertaking a successful visit to the UAE, paved the way for the country's progress and prosperity by virtue of excellent diplomacy in China as well, she expressed. The CM added that time has proved that China and other countries repose their complete trust in the leadership of PML-N, adding that the willingness of Chinese investors to contribute their valuable partnership to uplift Pakistan's economy will open new avenues of economic progress. Pak-China relations are stronger like a cliff. The resolve of Pakistan and China to work in unison for peace and stability along with attaining progress and prosperity is highly praiseworthy. By the grace of Allah Almighty, the country is moving ahead by leaps and bounds towards better economic conditions. The reduction in the prices of flour, bread and other essential edibles is welcoming. Under the dynamic leadership of Muhammad Nawaz Sharif, the PML-N government is working day in and day out for the economic prosperity of the people of Pakistan, she added.

https://pakobserver.net/maryam-congratulates-pm-on-successful-china-visit/

Agri education in China

Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif's decision to send 1,000 students to the Yangling Agricultural Demonstration Base in China underscores government's seriousness and commitment to leveraging international expertise to enhance agricultural productivity, which is of immense importance not only to ensure food security for a burgeoning population but also to bolster exports. China has made remarkable progress across various sectors, including

agriculture through relentless innovation and strategic use of technology. The transformation of China's agricultural sector, driven by cutting-edge research and technological advancements has boosted their production levels. By sending students to Yangling, the aim is to imbibe this invaluable knowledge and experience. The Yangling Agricultural Demonstration Base is a hub of international agricultural research and collaboration. The exposure of Pakistani students to such an environment will be instrumental in bringing innovative agricultural practices back home. Being an agricultural country with immense potential, learning from China's experiences is crucial. However, to maximize the benefits of this collaboration enhanced cooperation between Pakistani and Chinese research institutes should be at the forefront of this strategy. Joint research projects, exchange programmes for scientists and researchers and collaborative development of agricultural technologies can pave the way for sustained innovation in Pakistan's agriculture sector. Establishing joint agricultural research centers can facilitate continuous knowledge exchange and development of region-specific solutions. Implementing advanced Chinese agricultural technologies, such as precision farming and smart irrigation systems can significantly improve productivity. Encouraging joint ventures in agribusiness can help in the development of value-added products, thereby enhancing export potential. Regular training programmes and workshops conducted by Chinese experts can build the capacity of Pakistani farmers and agricultural professionals. This can really bring a genuine transformation in our agriculture landscape.

https://pakobserver.net/agri-education-in-china/

The Nation

Chinese training to help promote mineral sector entrepreneurship in GB: Experts

The people of Gilgit Baltistan need training in the mineral sector entrepreneurship through the coordination of Chinese and Pakistani academia and related stakeholders, opines Dr Zakir Hussain Zakir, Director of Planning and Development at the University of Baltistan, Skardu while talking to WealthPK. He said, "Despite being rich in gems and minerals, GB lags in lapidary, proper equipment, and marketing approach. A great number of young people are also unemployed. To address this issue, in 2023, with the coordination of Yunnan Land and Resources Vocational College (YLRVC), China, the University of Baltistan, Skardu (UOBS) initiated an associate diploma in geology and mineral survey. The Department of Geo-Sciences and Mineralogy in UOBS was established in 2021." He said the course spanned three years, out of which a two-year study would be completed in Pakistan while the remaining one year would be conducted in YLRVC, China, and included a more practical schedule. It is a new development in the newly established Department of Geo-Sciences and Mineralogy at the UOBS. Talking to WealthPK, Dr. Zakir said, "Before starting a degree program, UOBS and YLRVC collaborated to start the said extensive diploma. The students will be trained in e-commerce, to approach the local and international markets, and become entrepreneurs. For this, they will be deployed to different firms for internships. Before graduation, the students will be able to make their way. Besides getting expertise in mineralogy, the students are also learning the Chinese language." He said the Aga Khan Rural Support Program (AKRSP) was also actively participating in promoting

entrepreneurship concerning the mineral and gemology sectors. For this, the AGRSP announced to support young entrepreneurs with the necessary equipment to make a start. To achieve this support, a candidate must present the work plan. After the assessment of the proposal, the candidate will get free basic machinery and required tools. After that, they will improve on their own. "Other than coordination from a Chinese Institute, the Pakistan Institute of Fashion Design (PIFD), and recently, the UOBS and PIFD, in coordination with the Pakistan Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (PCSIR), have conducted a practical workshop on gem cutting and polishing, added Dr. Zakir. Talking to WealthPK, gemstones exporter Zakir Ullah alias Jhulay Lal said, "There's a need for the Chinese coordination to improve the number of entrepreneurs in the gemstone sector. In-kind initiatives are vital not only in GB but also in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) and Balochistan province. He said that by promoting the gemstone sector and improving its opportunities, Pakistan could get rid of the economic crisis.

Talking to WealthPK, Chairman All Pakistan Commercial Exporters Association of Rough and Unpolished Precious and Semi-Precious Stones (APCEA) Syed Minhajuddin Shah said, "The importance of Chinese coordination to strengthen entrepreneurs in the gemstone sector through academia and industry is no doubt a good initiative. The APCEA is also interested in coordinating with the UOBS to start such activities in KP and all other places where the gemstone raw material occurs in plenty. "Gemstone lapidary is emerging as a strong sector, and it is high time that it was properly launched in Pakistan. By popularizing training, academic education, and strengthening entrepreneurs in this concern, new opportunities can be generated."

https://www.nation.com.pk/10-Jun-2024/chinese-training-to-help-promote-mineral-sector-entrepreneurship-in-gb-experts

PM's China visit to upgrade CPEC, further bilateral ties

LAHORE - Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's recent visit to China will prove to be a catalyst for the next phase of CPEC (China-Pakistan Economic Corridor) and also further strengthen investor's relations, flourish businesses, and enhance people-to-people contact between China and Pakistan, ushering in a new era of economic prosperity in Pakistan. This was the upshot of a panel discussion on "PM Shahbaz Sharif's visit to China and its impact on Pakistan", organised by Press Information Department (PID) here at its regional office on Sunday. The panelists included renowned journalists Salman Ghani, Saleem Bukhari, Ayesha Ashfaq, Mohammad Mehdi, and Najam Wali. Director General Bushra Bashir and other officers of the PID. The discussion delved into the political and economic significance of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and its revival for Pakistan's progress. Ms. Ayesha Ashfaq, Head of Department of Development Communications at Punjab University, commenced the dialogue by underscoring the positive outcomes expected from the PM's visit, particularly highlighting the signing of 32 new agreements and MoUs. She emphasized the crucial role of effective communication, both through mainstream and social media, to elucidate the importance of CPEC to the common populace to ensure effective implementation of CPEC projects in future. Saleem Bukhari, a senior journalist and analyst, underscored the criticality of the IT sector within the signed MoUs, foreseeing its pivotal role

in Pakistan's future progress. Moving on, Najam Wali Khan, a senior broadcast journalist, stressed the correlation between economic stability and political stability, advocating for robust measures to counter misinformation and build public trust that must go along to ensure effectiveness of CPEC projects. Mohammad Mehdi, a foreign affairs expert and senior columnist, emphasized the imperative of capacity building for the effective implementation of CPEC projects. Lastly, Salman Ghani, a senior journalist, lauded PID Lahore's initiative in facilitating such discussions and called for similar debates at the parliamentary level to foster informed decision-making. The discussion concluded on an optimistic note, foreseeing PM Shahbaz Sharif's visit to China as a catalyst for the next phase of CPEC. The panelists anticipated that this important visit will definitely help in strengthening investor's relations, flourishing businesses, and enhancing people-to-people contact between China and Pakistan, thus ushering Pakistan into a new era of economic prosperity.

https://www.nation.com.pk/10-Jun-2024/pm-s-china-visit-to-upgrade-cpec-further-bilateral-ties

The News

China, Pakistan agree to strengthen mining development, industrial cooperation

BEIJING: China and Pakistan have agreed to boost mining cooperation and promote the implementation of a pact on strengthening mining development and industrial cooperation, according to a joint statement from the two countries. Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif visited Beijing from June 4 to 8, in a bid to upgrade cooperation under the multi-billion dollar China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), which is a key part of Beijing's Belt and Road Initiative. According to the joint statement published by China's foreign ministry, the countries will promote investment by Chinese firms in Pakistan's mining industry, and strengthen the planning of mining industry parks, including deep processing of ores. China will strengthen cooperation with Pakistan in areas such as marine oil and gas resources and natural gas hydrates, and will encourage Chinese firms to participate in the development of offshore oil and gas blocks in Pakistan, said the statement. Chinese investment and financial support for Pakistan since 2013 have been a boon for the South Asian nation's struggling economy, including the rolling over of loans so that Islamabad can meet external financing needs at a time when foreign reserves are critically low. Beijing has over $65 billion in investment in road, infrastructure, and development projects under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor as part of the Belt and Road scheme.

https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1198809-china-pakistan-agree-to-strengthen-mining-development-industrial-cooperation

Chinese footwear team commits major investment

LAHORE: A Chinese footwear delegation, representing the Guangdong Shoe Manufacturers Association and Guangdong Shoe Materials Association, met with Ms. Rafia Syed, Director General of the Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP), Lahore, and the other day. The director general welcomed the delegation, discussed mutual interests, and affirmed the

government's commitment to providing maximum facilitation to Chinese businessmen and investors. The delegation was accompanied by Mr. Mansoor Ehsan, Chairman of the Pakistan Footwear Manufacturers Association (PFMA), and Mr. Ahmad Fawad, Secretary General of PFMA. Hosted by PFMA and facilitated by TDAP, the Chinese delegation toured various footwear factories in Lahore and Sheikhupura, engaging in productive B2B meetings with the Pakistani footwear business community. The objective of these visits and meetings was to allow the Chinese delegation to gain an in-depth understanding of the Pakistani footwear market, thereby enabling them to make informed investment decisions. Following their assessment, the Chinese footwear delegation signed a Memorandum of Understanding with PFMA. In the first phase, the Chinese will invest RMB 50 million (approximately PKR 2 billion) in the Pakistani footwear industry. Upon the success of the initial investment and the achievement of the desired results, a further investment worth RMB 500 million (approximately PKR 20 billion) is planned. This subsequent phase will focus on footwear manufacturing, sourcing, and developing the supply chain of materials in Pakistan. The director general highlighted the substantial investment potential in Pakistan and the critical role of TDAP. She emphasized that the footwear sector is a vital part of Pakistan's manufacturing industry, significantly contributing to exports, employment, and economic growth. Pakistan is the 7th largest consumer of footwear in the world, employing around 1 million people in the sector. Ms. Rafia Syed thanked the delegation for their visit and encouraged them to invest in the Pakistani footwear sector with confidence and optimism.

https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1198732-chinese-footwear-team-commits-major-investment

Express News

چینی کمپنیاں پاکستان میں نئے منصوبے شروع کرنے کیلئے پر عزم

سی پیک کے نئے مرحلے کا بے صبری سے انتظار ہے : چائنا انجینئر نگ کارپوریشن ، پاور چائنا اسلام آباد (نیوز ایجنسیاں) چینی کمپنیوں نے پاکستان میں سرمایہ کاری بڑھانے اور مختلف شعبوں میں نئے منصوبے شروع کرنے کے عزم کا اظہار کرتے ہوئے کہا ہے کہ وزیر اعظم کے دورہ چین سے پاک چین تعلقات مزید متحکم ہوئے ، سی پیک کے ابتدائی مرحلے نے مزید دو طرفہ تعاون کے لئے ایک اہم فریم ورک قائم کیا، اس پیش رفت نے اگلے اقدامات کی راہ ہموار کی، دونوں فریق سی پیک کے نئے مرحلے کا بے صبری سے انتظار کر رہے ہیں۔ گوادر پرو کے مطابق وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف کے حالیہ دورہ چین کے بعد پاکستان میں کام کرنے والی چینی کمپنیاں سی پیک کے دوسرے مرحلے میں بہتر مواقع کیلئے پر امید ہیں۔ سی ایم ای سی اور پاور چائنا پاکستان جیسی دنیا کی معروف انجینئر نگ اور پاور کمپنیاں سرمایہ کاری بڑھانے اور مختلف شعبوں میں نئے منصوبے شروع کرنے کا ارادہ رکھتی ہیں ۔ چائنا مشینری انجینئر نگ کارپوریشن (سی ایم ای سی) پاکستان کے وائس جنرل منیجر دائی باو نے کہا پاکستان اور چین سی پیک کے نئے مرحلے کا بے صبری سے انتظار کر رہے ہیں۔ صنعت کاری، زرعی جدید کاری، تجارت، صحت کی دیکھ بھال، تعلیم، غربت کے خاتمے اور بہت کچھ پر مشتمل جامع منصوبے تیار کئے ہیں۔ شہباز شریف سے اپنی حالیہ ملاقات کے دوران پاور چائنا کے چیئر مین ڈنگ یان ژانگ نے یقین دلایا کہ ان کی کمپنی پاکستان میں پن بجلی ، نئی توانائی اور دیگر شعبوں میں فعال طور پر حصہ لینے کے لیے تیار ہے۔ پاور کنسٹرکشن کارپوریشن متعلقہ بین الا قوامی شراکت داروں کے تعاون سے مزید سرمایہ کاری ، انجینئر نگ اور تعمیراتی مواقع تلاش کرے گی، جو پاکستان میں پانی، ہوا، شمسی اور کان کنی کے وسائل سے بھر پور فائدہ اٹھائے گی۔

https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1111029673&Issue=NP_LHE&Date=20240610

چین معدنیات کے شعبے میں بھی تعاون فراہم کرے گا، احسن اقبال

نارووال (این این آئی) وفاقی وزیر منصوبہ بندی احسن اقبال نے کہا ہے کہ پاکستان ون چائنہ پالیسی پر یقین رکھتا ہے ، چین معدنیات کے شعبے میں بھی پاکستان کو تعاون فراہم کرے گا ، میڈیا سے گفتگو کرتے ہوئے انہوں نے کہا کہ چین نے ہر مشکل وقت میں پاکستان کا ساتھ دیا، نیو گوادر انٹر نیشنل ایئر پورٹ بھی رواں سال آپریشنل ہو جائے گا، چین نے کلائمنٹ چینج کے حوالے سے بھی تعاون کا یقین دلایا ہے۔

https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1111030287&Issue=NP_LHE&Date=20240610

Nawaiwaqt

وزیراعظم کا دورہ چین، سی پیک منصوبے محفوظ، جلد مکمل کرنے کا اعادہ ہوا: پاکستان

پاک فوج کے سپہ سالار جنرل عاصم منیر اور چین کے صدر شی جنپنگ کے درمیان اہم ملاقات پاکستان کے اعلیٰ سطح کے ایک وفد کے بیجنگ دورے کے اختتام پر ہوئی ہے۔ رپورٹس کے مطابق سوشل میڈیا پر وائرل ہونے والی ایک تصویر میں چیف آف آرمی اسٹاف جنرل عاصم منیر کو چین کے صدر شی جن پنگ سے مصافحہ کرتے ہوئے دیکھا جا سکتا ہے۔ اس موقع پر وزیراعظم شہباز شریف بھی موجود ہیں۔ چینی کمپنیوں کے ساتھ تجارت اور بزنس کی نئے مواقع تلاش کرنے کے لیے وفد کے ہمراہ پاکستان کے نامور تاجر بھی تھے۔ جنھوں نے دو طرفہ تجارت کے لیے دوست ملک کی کمپنیوں کے سربراہان سے ملاقاتیں کیں۔ بیجنگ میں وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف اور چینی وزیر اعظم لی کیانگ کے درمیان وفود کی سطح پر ہونے والی بات چیت کے بعد دفتر خارجہ کی ترجمان ممتاز زہرہ بلوچ نے میڈیا کو بریفنگ دیتے ہوئے کہا کہ ملاقاتوں میں باہمی اعتماد، مشترکہ اصولوں اور اسٹریٹجک گورننس پر قائم مضبوط پاک چین اسٹریٹجک کوآپریٹو پارٹنرشپ پر زور دیا گیا۔ ترجمان دفتر خارجہ کے بقول دونوں ممالک نے مختلف امور پر ایک دوسرے کے لیے بھرپور حمایت کا اعادہ کیا اور چین پاکستان اقتصادی راہداری آگے بڑھانے اور جاری منصوبوں کو بروقت مکمل کرنے کے عزم کا اعادہ بھی کیا۔ وزیر اعظم شہباز نے ملاقات کے دوران خصوصی طور پر سی پیک پروجیکٹس کو محفوظ تر بنانے، پاکستان میں چینی عملے اور منصوبوں کی حفاظت کو یقینی بنانے کے عزم کا اعادہ کیا۔ مزید برآں، دونوں ممالک نے اعلیٰ سطح پر مذاکرات اور بات چیت کو برقرار رکھنے، تمام شعبوں میں ادارہ جاتی روابط کو مضبوط بنانے، دو طرفہ اور عالمی امور پر مشاورت جاری رکھنے پر اتفاق کیا۔ یاد رہے کہ اس دورے کے دوران پاکستان اور چین نے 23 مفاہمت کی یادداشتوں (ایم او یوز) پر دستخط کیے جن کا مقصد مختلف شعبوں میں تعاون کو بڑھانا ہے۔ اسلام آباد میں دستخط کیے گئے مفاہمت کی یادداشتوں میں ٹرانسپورٹیشن انفراسٹرکچر، صنعت، توانائی، زراعت، میڈیا، صحت، پانی کا انتظام، سماجی اقتصادی ترقی اور دیگر باہمی دلچسپی کے شعبے شامل تھے۔

https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2024-06-10/page-1/detail-37

چین معدنیات کے شعبہ میں بھی تعاون فراہم کرے گا: احسن اقبال

وفاقی وزیر منصوبہ بندی احسن اقبال نے کہا کہ پاکستان ون چائنہ پالیسی پر یقین رکھتا ہے، چین معدنیات کے شعبے میں بھی پاکستان کو تعاون فراہم کرے گا۔ چین نے ہر مشکل وقت میں پاکستان کا ساتھ دیا، نیو گوادر انٹرنیشنل ایئرپورٹ بھی رواں سال آپریشنل ہو جائے گا۔ احسن اقبال نے کہا کہ سائنس و ٹیکنالوجی کے حوالے سے چین کے ساتھ معاہدہ ہوا ہے، چین نے زرعی تعاون بڑھانے کی یقین دہانی کرائی، چین کے تعاون سے سیارہ بھیجنے سے انٹرنیٹ کی سہولیات بہتر ہوں گی۔ وفاقی وزیر کا مزید کہنا تھا کہ چین نے کلائمیٹ چینج کے حوالے سے بھی تعاون کا یقین دلایا ہے۔

https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2024-06-10/page-10/detail-7

June 11, 2024

Business Recorder

PM's China visit a big success, says Tarar

NUZHAT NAZAR

Federal Information Minister Attaullah Tarar affirmed Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's recent visit to China as extremely successful and historic, highlighting that unprecedented topics were discussed during the visit. Pakistan and China inked 23 MoUs in multiple areas including transport infrastructure, industry, energy, agriculture, media, health, water and socioeconomic development. Earlier, another 32 MoUs were signed with private sector bilateral cooperation. "Pakistan-China friendship has always been timeless and exemplary," said the minister, emphasising the ongoing diplomatic achievements during a press conference on Monday. He pointed out that Pakistan's election as a member of the UN Security Council by a large majority is a significant success. The prime minister's meeting with President Xi Jinping lasted for an impressive three and a quarter hour, during which the Chinese leadership discussed upgrading the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), a topic that is rapidly advancing. Prime Minister Sharif ensured that the Karachi Circular Railway (KCR) was mentioned in every meeting, receiving a positive response from the Chinese officials. A committee has been formed to work on Main Line One, and 32 business-to-business agreements were signed. The minister reported an increase in Pakistan's IT exports and a reduction in the current account deficit, along with a rise in foreign exchange reserves and a stable currency. The Pakistan-China Business Conference saw the participation of 500 business personalities, with China committing to train 200,000 Pakistani youth in IT, a move expected to further boost IT exports. "All economic indicators are positive," stated the minister, reaffirming that the Pakistan-China friendship is ingrained in their blood. He noted that both countries have consistently supported each other and that the upgrade of CPEC will benefit the people of both nations. However, he warned that the peace and development achieved are not sitting well with Pakistan's internal and external enemies. "We will not allow the nefarious designs of our enemies to succeed," he asserted, addressing attempts to create a rift in the Pakistan-China friendship and emphasizing the nation's resolve to root out terrorism. The minister accused adversaries of fostering political instability and promoting terrorism to hinder Pakistan's relations with its neighbours. He criticised a so-called leader for isolating Pakistan on the global stage but assured that the protection of Chinese nationals in Pakistan would be ensured. "No one can damage Pakistan-China relations," he declared, adding that the world is now ready to invest and engage in trade with Pakistan. He stressed that the historic visit's benefits will reach the Pakistani public. Highlighting the significance of the prime minister's visit alongside the army chief, Tarar remarked that this demonstrated Pakistan's serious approach to security matters.

https://epaper.brecorder.com/2024/06/11/4-page/995327-news.html

PM's China visit ahead of FY2024-25 budget

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif-led delegation to China returned after a five-day visit and issued a press release highlighting an entire range of agreements on cooperation in all sectors, though none that were contractually binding. Supporters of the government legitimately point to Chinese government's policy not to publicise its commitments in terms of total support or the interest rate applicable on any such support, or indeed whether a sovereign guarantee will be required as collateral. Critics of the government, however, claim that China may refuse to share details of the type of loan and its associated conditions, yet it did not hesitate in announcing 46 billion-dollars investment with key projects that were envisioned under the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) umbrella in 2015 announced – information that is missing in the recent press release. There is intense speculation in the federal capital that the five-day visit to China, that led to a deferment of the day that the budget would be presented to parliament, may have been due to the insistence on "prior conditions" by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) team after completion of their visit to the country tasked to initiate negotiations on a "successor" to the Stand-By Arrangement programme and, perhaps, the amount of Chinese investment inflows that would support the budgeted growth projections. This claim seeks credence from the end of mission press release uploaded on the IMF website dated 24 May stating, "the mission and the authorities will continue policy discussions virtually over the coming days aiming to finalise discussions, including the financial support needed to underpin the authorities' reform efforts from the IMF and Pakistan's bilateral and multilaterals partners." Chinese assistance is considered critical with respect to the envisaged bilateral partners support, the other two critical countries being Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, and envisions a three-fold support: (i) "roll over" of the 6 to 7 billion dollars parked in the State Bank of Pakistan till the end of the next programme which is being projected at between three and four years - if this has been agreed it is very probable that the Chinese government will convey its decision directly to the IMF as on previous occasions; (ii) projected further investment inflows, given the 500 billion rupee plus pending repayments (in dollars) that Pakistan contractually agreed to under CPEC projects that are operational; and (iii) security of its citizens engaged in CPEC projects which necessitated the presence of the Chief of Army Staff in the delegation. The budget will now be presented tomorrow, on the 12th, and there are those who claim that this reflects that the Chinese assurances that were sought by the Pakistani delegation were extended and conveyed to multilaterals, particularly the IMF. This may be the case, however, it is also relevant to note that the government could not postpone the budget for much longer because its approval by parliament is necessary before 1st July, the start of next fiscal year. The budget session was initially called on 6 June but it was put off for later. All key required meetings preparatory to presentation of the budget in parliament have been delayed. National Economic Council (NEC) meeting which as per Article 156 of the Constitution is tasked to review the overall economic condition of the country and advise the Federal Government and the provincial governments, formulate plans in respect of financial, commercial, social and economic policies; has only met yesterday after having been constituted few days earlier. The budget strategy paper has also not been shared with parliament though perhaps this could be because a decision is awaited on the reserved seats. In this scenario, the Prime Minister and the Finance Minister went to

China, together with a host of other ministers and a rather heavy contingent of private sector entrepreneurs. Pakistan's economy remains extremely fragile in spite of claims to the contrary and the climate for domestic investment, leave alone foreign investment, is poor for different reasons; many of which have to do with flawed policies of the past. Pakistan's credit rating has not improved in spite of disbursement of the final tranche of the Stand-By Arrangement as previous governments, including the caretakers, continued to borrow heavily from the domestic market to fund current expenditure, which crowded out private sector borrowing and kept the country out of the international equity market. To increase leverage with the foreign investors and multilaterals/bilaterals the government must not only freeze the current expenditure to last year's level (budgeted at 13.3 trillion rupees but actually trim it further by 2 trillion rupees to 11.3 trillion rupees) – a trimming that would reduce the need to borrow from abroad while giving the government enough time to improve the macroeconomic fundamentals which would then attract foreign direct investment as well as reduce the need to levy inflationary taxes, i.e., in the indirect tax mode whose incidence on the poor is greater than on the rich and accounts for 40 percent poverty levels in this country.

https://epaper.brecorder.com/2024/06/11/6-page/995338-news.html

Daily Times

23rd 'Chinese Bridge' Karachi Division Final wraps up

The Karachi Division final of the 23rd Chinese Bridge-Chinese Proficiency Competition for international university students concluded, with Chinese Consul General Yang Yundong underscoring the pivotal role of the competition in promoting mutual learning and cultural understanding between China and the world. The competition, organized by the Chinese Consulate General in Karachi and hosted by the Confucius Institute at the University of Karachi, was held in a hybrid format combining both online and offline elements. Through the "self-introduction" segment, 6 contestants shared their unique bond and enduring passion for the Chinese language. In the "keynote speech" segment, the participants expressed their insights and perspectives on the theme, showcasing their understanding of cultural diversity and global interconnectedness. The "talent demonstration" segment witnessed contestants showcasing diverse talents and a profound love for Chinese culture. Performances range from Chinese songs and paper-cutting art to classical dance and guitar sing-alongs, all reflecting their dedication to learning and appreciating Chinese culture. Against the backdrop of intense rivalry and linguistic dexterity, Sana Ashraf, an undergraduate student majoring in Chinese at the University of Karachi, has emerged victorious in a series of challenging competitions. Her outstanding performance and profound comprehension of Chinese culture have set her apart, earning her the opportunity to represent Karachi in the final of the prestigious competition in China, Gwadar Pro reported.

https://dailytimes.com.pk/1199898/23rd-chinese-bridge-karachi-division-final-wraps-up/

Dunya News

High-powered Chinese delegation to visit Pakistan soon: PM Shehbaz

ISLAMABAD (Web Desk) - Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday said that his recent five-day visit to China remained successful as a high-powered Chinese delegation would visit Pakistan soon. The prime minister, chairing the meeting of the federal cabinet, told the members that the collective efforts by his team including the federal ministers and federal secretaries came to fruition and that the visit was a great opportunity to strengthen the Pakistan-China bilateral relations. He said that despite the security issue highlighted during the engagements with the Chinese leadership and business community, the visit concluded with a "positive note." "I can say unequivocally that the visit ended with a positive note. During the conversation with the Chinese ambassador at the banquet hosted by the Communist Party Secretary during my visit to Shanxi province, I got a deep feeling that the visit reminded very successful," Prime Minister Shehbaz remarked while apprising the cabinet members of his visit. The prime minister thanked all of his cabinet members particularly Ishaq Dar, Ahsan Iqbal, Khawaja Muhammad Asif, Dr Musaddik Malik and Shaza Fatima Khawaja, and relevant federal secretaries for their collective efforts which led to the success of the visit. He expressed confidence that the collective efforts would lead to the swift and successful execution of the second phase of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor.

https://dunyanews.tv/en/Pakistan/817874-High-powered-Chinese-delegation-to-visit-Pakistan-soon:-PM-Shehbaz

Pakistan Observer

Attempts to disrupt Pak-China ties will be foiled: Tarar

Information Minister Attaullah Tarar on Monday said the enemies could not digest the development in Pakistan, as he promised to foil the efforts made by political rivals and external forces. He also noted that some forces wanted to disrupt Pakistan-China relations and were working on the nefarious agenda of creating a situation where there could not be any peace in the country. The minister promised to extend complete security to the Chinese nationals living and working in Pakistan while rooting out the menace of terrorism forever. Minister Shehbaz Sharif, he said an agreement had been reached on upgradation of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor. However, Tarar stressed that political stability was a prerequisite for economic stability, as he criticized those aiming at creating uncertainty in Pakistan. Tarar told a press conference that no political leader could be bigger than Pakistan with reference to PTI founding chairman Imran Khan, as he questioned the "clean chit" being given through court proceedings. He said a so-called leader had humiliated Pakistan around the globe, but the things were changing, as Pakistan was a historic juncture leading to development and prosperity. "All the prisons in Pakistan should be emptied if a clean chit is awarded in 190 million pound mega corruption case, he remarked and also cited the cipher case about which clear evidence is available. He also defended the Punjab Defamation Act which came into effect on Monday, arguing that the legislation was for everyone. Tarar wondered if the local TV channels and others could submit apology before courts in other

countries, then why the same could not happen in Pakistan. When asked about the rumors and reports about restricting social media access, the minister quipped that he did see the Great Wall of China but didn't notice any "firewall". He termed Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's China visit as historic and highly successful saying it will have positive impact on the country's economy. He expressed the confidence that there will be progress on the agreements and projects such as ML-1, Karachi Circular Railway, provision of IT training to two hundred thousand Pakistani youth by a Chinese tech company and the second phase of CPEC in the next few weeks. He said the upgraded version of CPEC will be mutually beneficial for the peoples of both the countries. The Information Minister said security of the Chinese nationals is our priority. Attaullah Tarar said the economy is heading in the right direction with inflation and current account deficit coming down. He said our foreign exchange reserves are now sufficient for two months of imports. The Information Minister said the country is also registering successes on the foreign front. Referring to the election of Pakistan on the non-permanent seat of UN Security Council with a big majority, he said this shows the trust of friendly countries on Pakistan.

https://pakobserver.net/attempts-to-disrupt-pak-china-ties-will-be-foiled-tarar/

Exports to China reach $2.41b in 11 months of FY 2023-24

Pakistan's exports to China in May 2024 were recorded at $172.6 million, bringing the total exports to China for the first 11 months of FY 2023-24 to $2.4093 billion, according to a report by the Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP). This marks a slight increase of 0.1% compared to the same period in FY 2022-23, when exports to China totaled $2.407 billion, sources said, on Monday. TDAP's report also noted that Pakistan's total goods exports to all partner countries in May 2024 were $2.792 billion, a 27.08% increase over the same month in the previous financial year. From July to May 2023-24, Pakistan's exports to all partner countries were recorded at $28.07 billion, reflecting a 10.65% increase over the first 11 months of FY 2022-23. In May 2024, the export value for the textile and leather sector was $1.645.5 billion, a 17.6% increase compared to the same month of the previous year. The agro and food sector also saw a significant rise, with exports totaling $642 million, a 44.8% increase. For the period of July-May FY 2023-24, the agro and food sector's total exports were $7.464.1 billion, registering a 37.6% growth.

https://pakobserver.net/exports-to-china-reach-2-41b-in-11-months-of-fy-2023-24/

The Express Tribune

High-powered Chinese delegation to visit Pakistan soon: PM

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday said that his recent five-day visit to China remained successful as a high-powered Chinese delegation would visit Pakistan soon. The prime minister, chairing the meeting of the federal cabinet, told the members that the collective efforts by his team including the federal ministers and federal secretaries came to fruition and that the visit was a great opportunity to strengthen the Pakistan-China bilateral relations. He said that despite the security issue highlighted during the engagements with the Chinese leadership and business community, the visit concluded with a "positive note." "I

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https://tribune.com.pk/story/2470990/high-powered-chinese-delegation-to-visit-pakistan-soon-pm

India to work on border solutions with Pakistan and China, says foreign minister

MUMBAI: India will focus on finding solutions to the border issues with Pakistan and China that have long strained ties between India and its neighboring countries, Indian Foreign Minister Subrahmanyam Jaishankar said on Tuesday after assuming charge for a second straight term. Relations between India have worsened since a 2019 suicide bombing of an Indian military convoy in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) which India claims was traced to Pakistan-based militants, leading New Delhi to carry out an airstrike on what it said was a militant base in Pakistan. Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi was sworn in on Sunday for a record-equalling third term at a grand ceremony at the Rashtrapati Bhavan, the president's palace in New Delhi, attended by leaders of seven regional countries, underlining the government's "neighborhood first" policy. On Monday, leaders of the two countries engaged in diplomacy via X. Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and his elder brother and former Prime Minister Nawaz congratulated Modi, in what was Pakistan's first response to the election results from across the border. "With Pakistan, we would want to find a

solution to the issue of years-old cross-border terrorism. That cannot be the policy of a good neighbor," Jaishankar said. "With regards to China there are still some issues at the border and our focus will be on how to solve them," he said. India and China share a 3,800 km (2,400 mile) border - much of it poorly demarcated - over which the nuclear-armed nations also fought a war in 1962. They have engaged in a military standoff since July 2020 when at least 20 Indian soldiers and four Chinese troops were killed in the worst clashes in five decades.

https://tribune.com.pk/story/2471046/india-to-work-on-border-solutions-with-pakistan-and-china-says-foreign-minister

The News

Islamabad, Beijing set focus on 'upgraded version' of CPEC: China

The Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs said Tuesday that an "upgraded version" of the multi-billion project — China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) — was the "center" of bilateral talks with Islamabad during the recent visit of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to Beijing. Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Lin Jian conducted a briefing today in which he responded to the queries regarding “main achievements and highlights” of Premier Shehbaz’s much-anticipated visit to Beijing from June 4 to 8. It was Shehbaz’s first official visit to China after took over as Prime Minister of Pakistan for the second term, and the Chinese side gave him a high-level reception, Lin Jian said, adding: "President Xi Jinping, Premier Li Qiang and Chairman Zhao Leji met and held talks with him respectively." The leaders of the two countries exchanged in-depth views on China-Pakistan relations and issues of common concern and provided strategic guidance for the development of China-Pakistan relations. President Xi stressed that the China-Pakistan all-weather strategic cooperative partnership has been continuously deepened, with a solid public opinion foundation, strong endogenous driving force and broad development prospects. “China is willing to firmly support Pakistan, tighten the ties of cooperation, deepen strategic coordination, and accelerate the construction of a closer China-Pakistan community with a shared future in the new era,” said the spokesperson. The premier said that no force can shake the ironclad friendship between China and Pakistan, and Pakistan will unswervingly be China’s most reliable friend and partner. Both sides agreed that they would continue to give each other firm support on issues involving their respective core interests and major concerns. The two sides highly appreciated the positive role of the CPEC in promoting Pakistan’s national development and improving the welfare of the Pakistani people. Both countries expressed willingness to promote the high-quality joint construction of the “Belt and Road” and Pakistan’s development plan, carry out practical cooperation in various fields in accordance with local conditions. Pakistan and China also decided to promote the high-quality joint construction of the multi-billion project to go deeper and more practical, with the creation of an “upgraded version” of the CPEC as the center, so as to better help Pakistan’s economic and social development. The Pakistani government once again expressed deep condolences to the Chinese personnel who died in the March 26 Dasu terrorist attack, emphasizing that it will resolutely crack down on and severely punish the terrorists involved in the case, and take practical and effective measures to ensure the safety of Chinese personnel, projects and

institutions in Pakistan. The Pakistani side stated that President Xi's foresight and outstanding leadership have been sincerely admired and highly praised by the people of Pakistan and the world. President Xi's proposal to jointly build the "Belt and Road" initiative and the three major global initiatives with an eye on the well-being of all mankind have provided strategic guidance for promoting world peace, security, development and prosperity, Lian Jian said, adding that Pakistan highly appreciates and fully supports it. The two sides agreed to continue to strengthen cooperation and coordination within various international multilateral mechanisms, jointly promote an equal and orderly world multipolarisation and inclusive economic globalization, and jointly safeguard the common interests of the vast number of developing countries and international fairness and justice. During the visit, the two sides signed 23 cooperation documents on the CPEC, transportation infrastructure, agriculture, industry, intergovernmental assistance, market supervision, geographic surveying and mapping, media, film and television, etc. PM Shehbaz also visited Shenzhen, Xi'an and other cities. He spoke highly of the achievements made in China's economic and social development and expressed his willingness to strengthen exchanges of experience in governance with China, the spokesperson concluded.

https://www.thenews.com.pk/latest/1199399-islamabad-beijing-set-focus-on-upgraded-version-of-cpec-china

Express News

چین: زیر تعلیم پاکستانی طلبہ گندم کی نئی اقسام پیدا کرنے کے منتظر عدنان اور فرحانہ زرعی کالج کے تجرباتی کھیتوں میں " تھری سمرز " کے تحت کام کر رہے ہیں پاکستانی بنجر پہاڑوں میں گندم کی اقسام کی افزائش ہمارا مقصد ، عدنان ، فرحانہ

شی آن (ش نہوا) چین میں زیر تعلیم پاکستانی طلبہ گندم کی نئی اقسام پیدا کرنے کے منتظر ہیں، پاکستانی طالبہ فرحانہ ک مبہار نے کہا ہے چین میں تعلیم حاصل کرنے سے انہیں گندم کی نئی اقسام پیدا کر نے شوق ہوا جو پاکستان میں موسم بہار کی گندم پیدا کر نیوالے اہم علاقوں کیلئے زیادہ موزوں ہے ، پاکستان کے 2 طلبا عدنان نسیم اور فرحانہ ک مبہار چین کے شمال مغربی صوبے شانشی کے شہر یانگ لینگ واقع نارتھ ویسٹ اے اینڈایف یو نیورسٹی کے زرعی کالج کے تجرباتی کھیتوں میں گزشتہ 2 ہفتے سے رواں سال کے تھری سمرز " کے تحت کام کر رہے ہیں، نسیم نے کہا کہ چین میں ہوانگ ہوائی ہائی گندم کا ایک اہم پیداواری علاقہ ہے جہاں اوسط فی ہیکٹر پیداوار 7.5 ٹن سے زائد ہو چکی ہے جو ہماری نگاہ میں ایک معجزہ ہے چینی اساتذہ سے گندم کی افزائش کی جدید ٹیکنالوجی سیکھنا اور پاکستان کے بنجر پہاڑوں میں پودے لگانے کے لئے موزوں گندم کی اقسام کی افزائش کرنا ہمار ابنیادی مقصد ہے ، فرحانہ ک مبہار نے کہا کہ چین میں ان کی تحقیقی تجربے نے انہیں "تجربے کی افزائش " سے "درست افزائش نسل " میں تبدیلی کے قابل بنایا ۔ " مالیکیولر بریڈنگ شعبے میں چینی گندم کی افزائش کے ماہرین کی مہارت نے مجھے گندم کے ہر پودے کی اسپائیک لمبائی ، اونچائی، معیار وغیرہ کو در کار ضروریات سے آگاہی دی ہے۔ اس سے گندم کی افزائش نسل میں گزشتہ خاصیات کو تبدیل اور جین کا انتخاب بھی زیادہ سخت کر دی

https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1111032378&Issue=NP_LHE&Date=20240611

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Daily Times

LCCI acknowledges Chinese Consulate support, eyes more investment

Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI) President Kashif Anwar has expressed his gratitude for the support of the Chinese Consulate in Lahore, which has always patronized the LCCI in every way. He said that LCCI had been honored with a friendship award by the Chinese Consul General, first for any Chamber in Pakistan, which is a symbol of the strong relationship of the two organizations. He was speaking at the certificate distribution ceremony for participants in the Chinese language course here at the LCCI here on Tuesday. Chinese Consul General Zhao Shiren was the chief guest of the ceremony while LCCI Senior Vice President Zafar Mehmood Chaudhry, and LCCI Executive Committee members Raja Hassan Akhtar and Fareeha Younis and Ahmed Elahi were also present. Consul General of China Zhao Shiren and LCCI President Kashif Anwar also inaugurated the recently renovated Jinnah Auditorium at the LCCI. Kashif Anwar emphasized the importance of maintaining good relations with neighboring countries. He highlighted China's consistent support of Pakistan during challenging times. He also stressed the need to adopt new technology from China and source raw materials to boost Pakistan's exports. Kashif Anwar said that the recent visit of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to China resulted in several Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) being signed, which are expected to attract more Chinese investment to Pakistan. He said that Chinese language course at LCCI was initially planned for two months, but is now being extended to improve participants' skills. He commended the Chinese language instructor, Abdul Azeem, for his dedication and efforts. Zhao Shiren emphasized the role of language in bridging gaps and enhancing mutual understanding, noting that 30 million people worldwide, excluding China, are learning the Chinese language. He urged the Pakistani government to include Chinese in the national curriculum, asserting that the language would play a significant role in the future. He appreciated the good working relationship between the LCCI and the Chinese consulate during his three years as Consul General in Lahore. He praised LCCI President Kashif Anwar for his leadership, which earned him the friendship award, and assured continued support for the Chinese language students and teachers.

https://dailytimes.com.pk/1200295/lcci-acknowledges-chinese-consulate-support-eyes-more-investment-2/

Chinese, Pakistani enterprises sign MoU to build potato starch plant in Pakistan

In a significant move towards strengthening economic ties between Pakistan and China, leading enterprises from both countries Henan Ruzhou Ideal Starch and KASB Corporation of Pakistan, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to construct a state-of-the-art potato starch plant in Pakistan. This strategic partnership aims to leverage the abundant potato resources available in the region and cater to the growing demand for this versatile agricultural product, said Ghulam Qadir Trade and Investment Counsellor at the Embassy of

Pakistan in China. Ghulam Qadir Trade and Investment Counsellor said after the fruitful visit of Prime Minister of Pakistan Mian Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif to China, business-to-business collaboration is enhancing. This MoU will harness the expertise and technological prowess of the Chinese partners, ensuring the efficient and sustainable production of high-quality potato starch. This venture is expected to not only bolster Pakistan's agricultural sector but also contribute to the region's overall economic development, China Economic Net (CEN) reported. According to the MoU between the two enterprises memorandum of understanding will provide a new cooperation mechanism for both parties, covering knowledge sharing, technology transfer, capacity building, project management, and investment promotion in the fields of agriculture and processed products. MoU further describes that both parties fully utilize the years of experience accumulated in the fields of agriculture and processed products, leveraged by the currently favorable bilateral business environment between China and Pakistan, to pledge to the project landing in Pakistan. Henan Ruzhou Ideal Starch and KASB Corporation of Pakistan will work hard together to become the first successful potato deep processing project cooperation between China and Pakistan.

https://dailytimes.com.pk/1200286/chinese-pakistani-enterprises-sign-mou-to-build-potato-starch-plant-in-pakistan/

New Vistas of Pak-China Relations

Omay Aimen

The Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC), a unified platform that brings together civil and military leadership, has emerged as a pivotal policy component since its establishment in June 2023. It has been instrumental in addressing multiple challenges faced by local businesses and attracting investments from friendly countries. Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) has mostly encountered peculiar stumbling blocks during any government-to-government or private trade overtures and multinational corporations had trouble repatriating their shares of investment. By providing international investors with a guarantee of profit security, the SIFC has mitigated these worries to produce a conducive atmosphere that is expected to draw in up to an expected $60 billion in investments over five years. The SIFC has played a significant role in stabilizing Pakistan's foreign currency reserves; one of its major successes. Exchange businesses made a record-breaking $450 million in sales to banks in May 2024, making a substantial contribution to reserve building. A new record of around $4 billion is predicted to be sold to banks throughout the fiscal year. The currency market has become even more stable as a result of the SIFC's measures to crack down on the smuggling of foreign money. Smoother and more transparent transactions have been made possible by the advent of United Bank Limited (UBL), the third major commercial bank to run a foreign currency exchange operation, after Habib Bank Limited (HBL) and the National Bank of Pakistan (NBL). These feats in economic revival are an outcome whole of the system approach where military leadership has emerged as an important stakeholder. The success of CPEC has the potential to promote regional connectivity and integration, not just between China and Pakistan. Any foreign or domestic investment ought to accrue desired dividends if a conducive security environment is available in the country. Pakistan Army being custodian of security thus becomes a symbol of assurance to investors for policy continuity and

security. Pak-China relationship has a long history spanning 73 years, with China being Pak's all-weather friend, supporting Pakistan through thick and thin. The visit of the Prime Minister to China is also an effort in this regard where the presence of COAS General Asim Munir is reflective of a "whole of the system approach". Traditionally, China has always been a reliable partner of Pakistan since the foundation of diplomatic relations laid in the early 1950s. This connection has developed over time into multiple arenas ranging from Geo-Strategic to massive economic collaboration. The success of PM's visit to China is evident in the official statements issued by both countries. During discussions, new avenues for establishing multiple phases under CPEC 2 were explored. Pakistan reaffirmed its commitment to the One China policy and endorsed Taiwan as a part of China. China, in turn, fully endorsed Pak's integrity, sovereignty, and Kashmir policy. The initiation of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) in 2013 has brought new dimensions to this bilateral relationship between the two countries. The CPEC has been embedded as a bedrock in SIFC's initiatives due to its robust geopolitical and economic connections between the two countries. CPEC aims to boost bilateral commerce to unprecedented levels by enhancing connectivity and economic integration, promoting mutual prosperity and regional development. Consequently, bilateral trade between both countries has significantly increased and today it stands at around $20 billion. The recent visit of Pakistan's high-powered delegation under the Prime Minister has surely given a new impetus to this strategic project. The presence of COAS General Asim Munir in the meeting with President Xi Jinping has underscored Pakistan's seriousness and restored Chinese confidence in the security of CPEC and policy continuity. Pakistan Army's continued engagement with Chinese military counterparts has always been regarded as a benchmark example of military diplomacy augmenting the country's bilateral relations with our strategic ally China. The strategic partnership between China and Pakistan was further cemented by President Xi Jinping's public reaffirmation of China's commitment to promoting high-quality joint CPEC construction and upgrading the corridor, highlighting their shared vision for the project's future development and success. The prospects for Sino-Pakistani economic cooperation seem bright since both countries are dedicated to strengthening their alliance. President Xi Jinping's declaration of China's will to advance high-caliber cooperative CPEC construction and develop an improved CPEC represents the country's strategic outlook. With additional sectors of collaboration including technology, healthcare, and education, this enhanced version of CPEC seeks to broaden its reach. Future CPEC developments will place a strong emphasis on sustainability. China's assurance of enhancing its exports, cooperation in the fields of Information Technology, strategic cooperation to counter the regional threats, upgradation of ML-1 from Karachi to Peshawar and opening up of Sust and Khunjrab Pass for trade activities throughout the year were significant decisions reached during this important visit. Both states also agreed on the developing exploration of mines and minerals and converting Gwadar into a trade hub of the region. The success of CPEC has the potential to promote regional connectivity and integration, not just between China and Pakistan. The Middle East, Central Asia, and South Asia may all become more economically integrated with the help of CPEC's improved infrastructure and trade channels. It is anticipated that increased regional connection would provide wealth for everybody, peace, and new business possibilities. https://dailytimes.com.pk/1200384/new-vistas-of-pak-china-relations/

Pakistan Observer

Pakistan urged to include Chinese language in national curriculum

Chinese Consul General Zhao Shiren emphasized the crucial role of language in bridging cultural gaps and enhancing mutual understanding. The Consul General highlighted that 30 million people worldwide, excluding China, are learning the Chinese language "I ask the Pakistani government to include Chinese in the national curriculum," said Mr. Zhao, pointing out that language would play a significant role in the future. He expressed these words while addressing Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI) certificate distribution ceremony in Lahore on Tuesday. Zhao Shiren appreciated the strong working relationship between the LCCI and the Chinese consulate during his tenure as Consul General in Lahore. He commended LCCI President Kashif Anwar for his leadership, which earned him the friendship award, a first for any chamber in Pakistan. Zhao assured continued support for Chinese language students and teachers, underscoring the consulate's commitment to fostering bilateral ties. Kashif Anwar expressed his gratitude for the Chinese Consulate's consistent support for the LCCI. He noted the honor of receiving the friendship award from the Chinese Consul General, symbolizing the strong bond between the two organizations. Anwar spoke at the ceremony, attended by LCCI Senior Vice President Zafar Mehmood Ch, and LCCI Executive Committee members Raja Hassan Akhtar, Fareeha Younis, and Ahmed Elahi. During the event, Zhao Shiren and Anwar also inaugurated the newly renovated Jinnah Auditorium at the LCCI. Anwar emphasized the importance of maintaining strong relationships with neighboring countries and acknowledged China's unwavering support for Pakistan during difficult times. He stressed the need for Pakistan to adopt new technologies and source raw materials from China to enhance its exports. Anwar also mentioned the recent visit of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to China, which resulted in several Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) aimed at attracting more Chinese investment to Pakistan. He announced that the Chinese language course at LCCI, initially planned for two months, would be extended to further improve participants' skills.

https://pakobserver.net/pakistan-urged-to-include-chinese-language-in-national-curriculum/

The Express Tribune

IT sectors soar with China-Pakistan digital corridor

KARACHI: The Economic Survey of Pakistan 2024 has highlighted significant growth prospects in the IT and telecommunication sectors, driven by the China-Pakistan digital corridor. The Information Technology (IT) Industry Joint Working Group (JWP) under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is dedicated to enhancing and developing China and Pakistan's information and communication technology infrastructure. This group has aimed to establish a China-Pakistan digital corridor, bolster investment cooperation in the digital economy, and support the development and implementation of new digital technologies and applications. SI Global Solutions CEO Noman Said shared his views with The Express Tribune, stating, "This initiative, part of CPEC, aims to enhance digital connectivity through improved fibre optic networks, data centers, and cloud computing capabilities. These developments are expected to attract substantial Chinese investment, boost

local startups, create job opportunities, and position Pakistan as a regional technology hub." He further elaborated that the IT sector, with its competitive labor costs and skilled workforce, has strong potential for growth in software development and IT services. The expansion of 4G and the upcoming introduction of 5G networks further underscores the promising future of telecommunications in Pakistan. Said stressed the necessity of a long-term policy framework to sustain and maximize these opportunities. In this regard, the role of the Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC) is commendable.

By streamlining regulatory processes and fostering a business-friendly environment, the SIFC is instrumental in facilitating ease of doing business, particularly through initiatives like the one-window operation, which simplifies administrative procedures for investors. He added that the strategic focus on digital transformation and supportive policies bodes well for Pakistan's economic growth and technological advancement. Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb, in his press conference on Tuesday, also stressed the need for growth in two main sectors of the country, namely agriculture and IT, where locals can achieve substantial growth by themselves.

According to the survey, the potential impact of investing in the country's IT and telecom sectors is immense and wide-ranging. By leveraging technology, Pakistan can boost economic growth, generate employment, increase foreign exchange earnings, improve productivity across various industries, promote innovation and entrepreneurship, and enhance its global competitiveness.

Strategic investments in infrastructure, human capital development, and a supportive environment for technology-based businesses are essential steps toward unlocking Pakistan's IT and telecom sectors' full potential, thereby fostering sustainable economic growth and prosperity for the nation.

The survey suggests that the country's digital landscape is experiencing a profound transformation, opening new opportunities for growth, development, and prosperity. The Pakistan Software Export Board (PSEB) has stated in the survey that the ICT sector in Pakistan has shown significant growth. Over 20,000 IT and IT-enabled Services (ITeS) companies are registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP).

ICT export remittances increased from $339 million to $2.283 billion during FY2024 (July-March), compared to $1.944 billion the previous year. In March 2024 alone, ICT services export remittances surged to $306 million, a 36% increase from March 2023. The IT and ITeS industry achieved a trade surplus of $1.996 billion, the highest among all services, while the overall services sector recorded a trade deficit. Pakistan's ICT industry exports to 170 countries and territories. The top 15 export destinations for Pakistan's ICT industry are the USA, UK, UAE, Ireland, Singapore, Canada, China, Saudi Arabia, Germany, Norway, Sweden, Australia, Switzerland, Japan, and Malaysia.

https://tribune.com.pk/story/2471120/itt-sectors-soar-with-china-pakistan-digital-corridor

The Nation

Chinese, Pak enterprises sign MoU to build potato starch plant in Pakistan

BEIJING - In a significant move towards strengthening economic ties between Pakistan and China, leading enterprises from both countries, Henan Ruzhou Ideal Starch and KASB Corporation of Pakistan signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to construct a state-of the- art potato starch plant in Pakistan. This strategic partnership aims to leverage the abundant potato resources available in the region and cater to the growing demand for this versatile agricultural product, said Ghulam Qadir, Trade and Investment Counsellor at the Embassy of Pakistan in China. Trade and Investment Counsellor said after the fruitful visit of Prime Minister of Pakistan Mian Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif to China, business-tobusiness collaboration is enhancing. This MoU will harness the expertise and technological prowess of the Chinese partners, ensuring the efficient and sustainable production of high-quality potato starch. This venture is expected to not only bolster Pakistan's agricultural sector but also contribute to the region's overall economic development, China Economic Net (CEN) reported. Memorandum of understanding will provide a new cooperation mechanism for both parties, covering knowledge sharing, technology transfer, capacity building, project management, and investment promotion in the fields of agriculture and processed products. MoU further describes that both parties fully utilize the years of experience accumulated in the fields of agriculture and processed products, leveraged by the currently favorable bilateral business environment between China and Pakistan, to pledge to the project landing in Pakistan. Henan Ruzhou Ideal Starch and KASB Corporation of Pakistan will work hard together to become the first successful potato deep processing project cooperation between China and Pakistan.

https://www.nation.com.pk/12-Jun-2024/chinese-pak-enterprises-sign-mou-to-build-potato-starch-plant-in-pakistan

CLAS & SI launch report on Pakistan's Security and Foreign Policy

ISLAMABAD - A report on Pakistan's security and foreign policy titled "Strategy Manifesto on Security and Foreign Policy" was launched at an event in a local hotel in Islamabad says a press release. This report was prepared by the Centre for Law and Security CLAS, Sanober Institute (SI) and The Millennium Universal College TMUC after a National Conference where experts came together to formulate a set of 50 recommendations as a way forward for Pakistan's security and foreign policy. A roundtable discussion was held at the launch event, attended by former diplomats and policy experts. Federal Minister for Defense Khawaja Muhammad Asif and Information Minister Ataullah Tarrar also attended the roundtable. Federal Minister for Defense Khawaja Muhammad Asif delivered the opening note at the Roundtable as Chief Guest. He said that our relationship with China is still a bright spot in our foreign policy. He said that we made wrong choices in the past - most often these were the choices of the dictators for their personal interests. We ended up finding ourselves isolated afterwards. We have sided with everyone in Afghanistan and lost everyone as well. We have lost our foreign policy advantages in many places including the Gulf. We need to formulate a policy which is more relevant to our times and needs. He also said that

there is interesting situation after elections in India. We will see how internal politics workout in India with the new setup there. He also said that our economic woes are compelling us to have difficult choices in the domain of foreign policy. We must focus on accommodating regional interests. He admitted that I have not seen foreign policy being discussed in Parliament in the longest time. Information Minister Ataullah Tarrar was the Chief Guest at the concluding session. During his remarks, he said that we want a peaceful co-existence with India. Any talks between the two countries can take place only if they treat each other equally. Regarding government's priorities in foreign visits, he said that we are clear that "government has no business of doing business". He said we are not looking for aid but for investments and we have made it clear to our allies in recent visits. He also said that the Pakistan's recent election at United Nations shows the growing confidence on Pakistan's foreign policy. He said that Pakistan got record number of votes for this UNSC seat election. Pakistan's relationship with Iran has also improved remarkably. "We have gained an ally in the region". Mr. Tarrar also said that Prime Minister's recent visit to China was a successful feat in government's diplomacy. Pakistan and China are now committed towards launching of phase two of the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). He also mentioned that the country is finally headed towards economic stability. He said that media should also be an extended arm of government when it comes to foreign policy and feel passionate about promoting brand Pakistan in other countries. The roundtable was attended by former ambassadors, policy experts and researchers from think tanks and academia. Among the panelists were former Foreign Secretary Ambassador Aizaz Chaudhry, CEO Roots Millennium Education Group Dr. Faisal Mushtaq, former Ambassador Naghmana Hashmi, Admiral (retired) Khan Hisham, Engineer Khalid Bashir and Dr Qamar Cheema. The discussion was moderated by Rehman Azhar, Executive Director for the Centre for Law and Security. During his remarks Ambassador Aizaz Chaudhry highlighted the role of the private sector in bringing forth recommendations for foreign policy. He emphasized that Pakistan is ready for a balanced foreign policy and there should be transparency in its formulation. Policies formulated behind closed doors do not yield results. Chairman Advisory Board CLAS, Dr. Faisal Mushtaq highlighted the need for educational institutions to come together and promote research in policy-making areas. He said that the expansion of the security domain into the economy and foreign policy requires wider input, especially from civil society. Admiral (retired) Khan Hisham said foreign policy needs to be based on a principled stance. Its strategic direction must be very clear. We must take steps to implement policy decisions that can result in robust relationships with other countries. Former Ambassador Naghmana Hashmi emphasized that Pakistan's foreign policy choices were relevant to the need of the time. We need to straighten our economy to make bold and balanced foreign policy choices. Pakistan should be clear about its strategic relationship with China. Dr Qamar Cheema remarked that we had not made pragmatic choices in the past. We need change to align our foreign policy with world interests. Engineer Khalid Bashir said that economic interests should also be a driving force in our policy making. He emphasized that a lot can be done for overseas Pakistanis. Panelists were presented souvenirs at the end of countable discussion. Rehman Azhar, Executive Director CLAS thanked the audience and speakers for their participation. https://www.nation.com.pk/12-Jun-2024/clas-si-launch-report-on-pakistan-s-security-and-foreign-policy

Express News

چین انتہائی کامیاب ، ثمرات عوام تک پہنچیں گے ، صوبائی حکومتیں انسداد بجلی چوری مہم میں بھر پور ساتھ دیں

وفاقی کابینہ نے معیشت کی ڈیجیٹائزیشن، پیپر لیس گورننس کیلئے ڈیجیٹل نیشن ایکٹ کے مسودے کی اصولی منظوری دیدی

اسلام آباد (خالد محمود ، ایجنسیاں) وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف نے اپنے دورہ چین کو انتہائی کامیاب قرار دیتے ہوئے کہا ہے کہ سی پیک کے دوسرے مرحلے پر تیزی سے عملدرآمد ہو گا مستقبل قریب میں اس کے ثمرات عوام تک پہنچیں گے۔ پاک چین تعاون کو مزید وسعت دینے کیلئے جلد ایک اعلی سطحی چینی حکام کا وفد پاکستان کا دورہ کرے گا ۔ ان خیالات کا اظہار انہوں نے وفاقی کابینہ کے اجلاس میں گفتگو کرتے ہوئے کیا۔ وزیر اعظم نے کہا دورہ چین انتہائی مثبت اور کامیاب رہا۔ چین میں ہونے والی ملاقاتوں میں سکیورٹی سے متعلق امور ایجنڈے میں سر فہرست تھے۔ چینی باشندوں کی سکیورٹی سے متعلق چینی حکومت کو یقین دہائی کرائی گئی ہے۔ سی پیک کے دوسرے مرحلے پر تیزی سے عملدرآمد ہو گا۔ اس حوالے سے چینی قیادت سے مثبت بات چیت ہوئی۔ مستقبل قریب میں اس کے ثمرات عوام تک پہنچیں گے۔ انہوں نے بتایا شینزن میں پاکستان چین بزنس فورم میں پاکستانی اور چینی کاروباری و سرمایہ کاروں کے درمیان ہزار سے زائد بی ٹو بی ملاقاتیں ہوئیں، حکومت پاکستان ایک ہزار نوجوانوں کو زرعی شعبے میں پیشہ ورانہ تربیت کیلئے چین بھیجے گی۔ چینی کمپنی ہواوے ہر سال 2 لاکھ پاکستانی نوجوانوں کو انفار میشن ٹیکنالوجی کے مختلف شعبوں میں فنی اور پیشہ ورانہ تربیت فراہم کرے گی۔ وزیر اعظم نے کابینہ کو چین کی اعلی قیادت بشمول چینی صدر شی جن پنگ اور وزیر اعظم لی چیانگ سے ملاقاتوں اور دونوں ممالک کے باہمی تعلقات، اقتصادی اور سٹرٹیجک شراکت داری پر مثبت پیشرفت کے حوالے سے بھی آگاہ کیا۔ علاوہ ازیں وفاقی کابینہ نے نیشنل سکول فار پبلک پالیسی کے بورڈ آف گورنرز میں نجی اور تعلیمی شعبے سے ممبران کی تعیناتی کی منظوری دیدی۔ اسلام آباد کیلئے نیشنل کمیشن فار ہیومین رائٹس کے رکن کی تعیناتی کیلئے کابینہ کمیٹی تشکیل دینے کی منظوری دی گئی۔ وفاقی کابینہ نے ڈیجیٹل نیشن پاکستان ایکٹ 2024 کے مسودے کی اصولی منظوری دیتے ہوئے اس پر وزارت قانون و انصاف کو ضروری نظر ثانی کرنے کی ہدایت کی۔ ایکٹ کے تحت نیشنل ڈیجیٹل کمیشن اور پاکستان ڈیجیٹل اتھارٹی تشکیل دی جائیں گی اور پاکستان کی معیشت کی ڈیجیٹائزیشن اور پیپر لیس گور نفس کے ہدف کو حاصل کیا جاسکے گا۔ بل کے تحت نیشنل ڈیجیٹل کمیشن پالیسی ساز ادارہ ہو گا جو وفاقی اور صوبائی ممبران پر مشتمل ہو گا اور اس کی سربراہی وزیر اعظم خود کریں گے ۔ ڈیجیٹل پاکستان کے مقاصد کے حصول کے لئے پاکستان ڈیجیٹل اتھارٹی قائم کی جائے گی جو ایک کارپوریٹ ادارہ ہو گا اور جس کے پاس مالی اور انتظامی اختیارات ہوں گے۔ ایکٹ کا مقصد پاکستان کی معیشت ، گور نفس اور سروسز سیکٹر کو بین الاقوامی سطح پر رائج جدید ڈیجیٹل نظام سے ہم آہنگ کرنا ہے۔ وفاقی کابینہ نے ثالثی قانون (دی آر بیٹریشن بل 2024) کے مسودے پر ضروری قانون سازی کی اصولی منظوری دی۔ اس حوالے سے صوبوں کے ساتھ مشاورت کی جائیگی۔ کابینہ نے قومی احتساب بیورو اور سری لنکا کے ادارے کمیشن ٹو انویسٹی گیٹ ایلی کیشنز آف برابری کے مابین مفاہمتی یادداشت پر دستخط کرنے کی من منظوری دی۔ اس مفاہمتی یادداشت کے تحت دولت مشترکہ کے رکن ممالک کی حیثیت سے دونوں ممالک کے درمیان رشوت اور رقوم کی غیر قانونی ترسیل کے خاتمے کے لئے تعاون کو فروغ ملے گا۔ کابینہ نے سرکاری ملکیتی اداروں کے حوالے سے کابینہ کمیٹی کے 13 اور 20 مئی کو اجلاسوں میں کئے گئے فیصلوں کی توثیق کر دی۔ وفاقی کابینہ نے اقتصادی رابطہ کمیٹی کے 23 اور 27 مئی کے اجلاسوں میں کئے گئے فیصلوں، کابینہ کمیٹی برائے لیجسلیٹو کینز کے 5 جون کے اجلاس میں کئے گئے فیصلوں کی بھی توثیق کی۔ علاوہ ازیں وزیر اعظم نے صوبائی حکومتوں کو انسداد بجلی چوری مہم میں بھر پور ساتھ دینے اور بجلی چوروں کو قرار واقعی سزائیں دینے، اور بلنگ کے سد باب اور تقسیم کار کمپنیوں میں صارفین کی سہولت کے لیے موثر اور متحرک نظام قائم کرنے کی ہدایت کرتے ہوئے کہا ہے کہ بڑھتی ہوئی گرمی کے پیش نظر ملک میں کم سے کم لوڈ شیڈنگ کی جائے۔ ایک اجلاس میں شہباز شریف نے کہا نئے ٹرانسفارمرز کی خریداری صرف اور صرف بین الاقوامی معیار کی خصوصیات کے مطابق ہو ، توانائی کے شعبے میں اصلاحات کے لیے عالمی سطح پر رائج جدید نظام سے استفادہ کیا جائے۔

https://www.express.com.pk/epaper/PoPupwindow.aspx?newsID=1111034064&Issue=NP_ISB&Date=20240612

Jang News

پاکستان کے ساتھ تعلقات مزید مضبوط کرنے کیلئے تیار ہیں، چینی وزارت خارجہ

چینی وزارت خارجہ نے کہا ہے کہ ان کا ملک پاکستان کیساتھ تعاون پر مبنی تعلقات کو مزید مضبوط کرنے کیلئے تیار ہے، انہوں نے کہا اپنے دورہ بیجنگ کے موقع پر وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف نے کہا کہ چین اور پاکستان کے درمیان آہنی دوستی کو کوئی طاقت کمزور نہیں کر سکتی اور پاکستان چین کا سب سے بڑا قابل اعتماد دوست اور شراکت دار بنے گا۔ ان خیالات کا اظہار چین کی وزارت خارجہ کے ترجمان نے منگل کو پاکستان کے وزیر اعظم محمد شہباز شریف کے دورہ چین کے حوالے سے بریفنگ کے دوران صحافیوں کے سوالوں کے جواب میں کیا۔ انہوں نے پاکستان کی بھرپور حمایت، تعاون پر مبنی تعلقات کو مضبوط بنانے، اسٹریٹجک کوآرڈینیشن کو گہرا کرنے اور نئے دور میں مشترکہ مستقبل کے ساتھ ایک قریبی چین پاکستان کمیونٹی کی تعمیر کو تیز کرنے کا خواہاں ہے۔

https://e.jang.com.pk/detail/702155

Nawaiwaqt

پاکستان کیساتھ مشترکہ مستقبل، دو طرفہ کمیونٹی کی تعمیر تیز کرنے کے خواہاں ہیں: چین

چین کی وزارت خارجہ کے ترجمان نے کہا ہے کہ چین پاکستان کی بھرپور حمایت، تعاون پر مبنی تعلقات کو مضبوط بنانے، سٹرٹیجک کوآرڈینیشن کو گہرا کرنے اور نئے دور میں مشترکہ مستقبل کے ساتھ ایک قریبی چین پاکستان کمیونٹی کی تعمیر کو تیز کرنے کا خواہاں ہے۔ ان خیالات کا اظہار چین کی وزارت خارجہ کے ترجمان نے منگل کو پاکستان کے وزیر اعظم محمد شہباز شریف کے دورہ چین کے حوالے سے بریفنگ کے دوران صحافیوں کے سوالوں کے جواب میں کیا۔ شہباز شریف نے اپنے دورے کے دوران چین کے صدر شی جن پنگ، وزیر اعظم لی کیانگ اور چیئرمین ژاؤ لیجی سے ملاقات کی۔ ملاقات میں دونوں ممالک کے رہنماؤں نے پاک چین تعلقات اور مشترکہ تشویش کے امور پر تفصیلی تبادلہ خیال کیا اور پاک چین تعلقات کے فروغ کے لئے سٹرٹیجک رہنمائی فراہم کی۔ ملاقات میں صدر شی جن پنگ نے اس بات پر زور دیا کہ چین اور پاکستان کے درمیان ہر موسم میں سٹرٹیجک کوآپریٹو پارٹنرشپ مسلسل گہری ہوئی ہے، جس میں رائے عامہ کی مضبوط بنیاد، مضبوط اندرونی محرک قوت اور وسیع تر ترقی کے امکانات موجود ہیں۔ فریقین نے پاکستان کی قومی ترقی کے فروغ اور پاکستانی عوام کی فلاح و بہبود کو بہتر بنانے میں پاک چین اقتصادی راہداری کے مثبت کردار کو بھی سراہا۔ ترجمان نے مزید بتایا کہ "بیلٹ اینڈ روڈ منصوبے " اور پاکستان کے ترقیاتی منصوبے کی اعلیٰ معیار کی مشترکہ تعمیر کو فروغ دینے، مقامی حالات کے مطابق مختلف شعبوں میں عملی تعاون کرنے اور چین پاکستان اقتصادی راہداری کی اعلیٰ معیار کی مشترکہ تعمیر کو فروغ دینے کے خواہاں ہیں تاکہ چین پاکستان اقتصادی راہداری کے "اپ گریڈڈ ورژن" کو مرکز کے طور پر تخلیق کیا جا سکے تاکہ پاکستان کی معاشی اور سماجی ترقی میں بہتر مدد مل سکے۔ ترجمان بتایا کہ پاکستانی حکومت نے ایک بار پھر 26 مارچ کے داسو دہشت گرد حملے میں ہلاک ہونے والے چینی اہلکاروں سے گہری تعزیت کا اظہار کرتے ہوئے اس بات پر زور دیا کہ وہ اس معاملے میں ملوث دہشت گردوں کے خلاف سخت کارروائی کرے گی اور انہیں سخت سزا دے گی اور پاکستان میں چینی اہلکاروں، منصوبوں اور اداروں کی حفاظت کو یقینی بنانے کے لئے عملی اور موثر اقدامات کرے گی۔ فریقین نے مختلف بین الاقوامی کثیر الجہتی میکانزم کے اندر تعاون اور ہم آہنگی کو مستحکم کرنے، مشترکہ طور پر مساوی اور منظم عالمی کثیر الجہتی اور جامع اقتصادی عالمگیریت کو فروغ دینے اور ترقی پذیر ممالک کی ایک بڑی تعداد کے مشترکہ مفادات اور بین الاقوامی شفافیت اور انصاف کا مشترکہ تحفظ جاری رکھنے پر اتفاق کیا۔ دورے کے دوران فریقین نے پاک چین اقتصادی راہداری، نقل و حمل کے بنیادی ڈھانچے، زراعت، صنعت، بین الحکومتی معاونت، مارکیٹ کی نگرانی، جغرافیائی سروے اور نقشہ سازی، میڈیا، فلم اور ٹیلی ویژن وغیرہ سے متعلق تعاون کی 23 دستاویزات پر دستخط کیے۔ اس دورے کے دوران وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف نے شینزین، شیان اور دیگر شہروں کا بھی دورہ کیا۔

https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2024-06-12/page-1/detail-11

June 13, 2024

Daily Times

Navigational system goes into operation at new Gwadar airport

In a significant development, high-tech navigational system has finally come into force at New Gwadar International Airport, ensuring fully operation of sensor and signaling processes, aeronautical positioning mechanism and flight management systems. The navigation system is integral for determining an aircraft's coordinates, altitude, speed and other parameters.

It exploits geo radio positioning through a network of artificial satellites in orbit. "NGIA navigational system configure the autopilot to follow the route set before take-off and it also configure the take-off and approach routes and the information indicated by the flight controllers.

It helps to calculate the flight parameters, recommend the power settings, to reduce fuel consumption and estimate the arrival time within the route," Civil Aviation Authority of Pakistan (CCCP) official told Gwadar Pro. Along with the functionality of Navigation system, telecommunication work has also gone into operation with top-notch wifi system.

NGIA's state of art telecommunication paraphernalia involves telecom networks and systems that use various technologies and protocols to facilitate the transmission of voice, data, and audio-video signals between devices, including smartphones, computers, and other communication devices.

New Gwadar International Airport (NGIA), an iconic project of China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), cost Rs. 60.208 billion (Rs. 33 billion from Chinese grant and Rs. 27 billion from Pakistani and Omani government side).

With the joint effort of professional teams of China Communications Construction Company (CCCC) and Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) Pakistan, fencing around the New Gwadar International Airport has already been completed. New Gwadar International Airport spreading over across an area of 4,300 acres will welcome entire load of national and international passengers. In second phase, cargo complex will be built and it will come up with new capacity to handle multiple cargo stuff.

NGIA will be the biggest in Pakistan and will also become the nation's second airport. It will have the capacity to accommodate narrow-body aircraft such as ATR 72 and Boeing B-737, as well as wide-body aircraft such as Airbus A-380 and Boeing B-747 for domestic and international routes.

The airport will be operated under open sky policy and will be developed under the guidance of the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA). Jiu Zhou, a prominent Chinese company, in a joint venture with Pakistan's TNC international, has acquired Lahore Citi Hospital. In a significant move, Jiu Zhou has invested a substantial amount of Rs. 700 million to enhance the quality of medical services provided by the hospital.

The goal is to offer top-notch healthcare services to the citizens of Lahore. Shafiq Ahmad Khan, CEO TNC International, told Gwadar pro that a joint venture has been established to advance medical development.

The initial achievement of this collaboration was the establishment of GEO PAK International Hospital in Lahore, Pakistan, providing top-notch care.

He said, the Chinese company has acquired an 80% stake and intends to upgrade the hospital's medical equipment and machinery to meet the latest standards. The hospital, which opened on June 1, 2024, boasts advanced facilities, departments, machines, and technologies to offer comprehensive assistance to patients.

Ahmad emphasized that his company is facilitating the visit of numerous Chinese enterprises to enhance investment and encourage growth in various industries, such as livestock, automotive, mining, agriculture, technology, and solar energy.

He stated that the business delegations from China have expressed a strong interest following their joint meetings with local entrepreneurs and thorough analysis of the domestic market.

https://dailytimes.com.pk/1200486/navigational-system-goes-into-operation-at-new-gwadar-airport/

Dawn News

Concessions on import, solar panel making welcomed

LAHORE: Stakeholders involved in renewable energy-related businesses have welcomed concessions announced in the federal budget on the import and local manufacture of solar panels, urging the government to immediately issue details in this regard.

"Perhaps, the government has realized that renewable energy (solar, wind etc.) is the only way to save the public from expensive energy sources like thermal and coal. It has also realized that since the solar energy industry is booming fast, it cannot stop the public from using this to rid themselves of expensive, traditional sources," explained Mr Mustafa Amjad, Programme Director of the Renewable First—an energy think tank based in Islamabad.

Talking to Dawn, Mr Amjad praised the government for offering incentives to local manufacturers of solar panels.

"Incentivizing the manufacture of solar energy equipment by allowing the tax-free import of raw material is a great move.

The decision will save foreign exchange and create hundreds of jobs," he said. According to him, the "massive tax relief" has not been restricted limited to raw material for solar panels but also for the manufacture of inverters, lithium batteries, solar cells and solar batteries.

Mustafa Amjad said although hydropower is a cheap energy source, it demands huge sums of money and takes 10 to 20 years to complete such projects. "Solar power is cheaper than all other sources of energy."

He said the prices of batteries would come down soon, making the installation of solar panels affordable for most people. "Chinese companies are trying to make cheap batteries and

exporting to Pakistan. In this way the local battery prices will also be reduced considerably," he added.

Talking to Dawn, Syed Muhammad Talha Akmal, an executive at a Chinese company, said although the government has announced concessions,

"we have to wait and see whether the people engaged in the business pass on the benefit to the consumer or not".

"At present panels being imported from China are much cheaper than the locally manufactured ones. It is necessary to issue SROs that will help us to know the extent of tax concessions given by the government on the import and local manufacture of solar panels," he explained.

Mr Akmal said the concessions would enable the common man to install off-grid solar power system (excluding batteries for storage) and use cheaper energy. "If an individual installs a fully-fledged off-grid system (with batteries), they can completely get rid of expensive power from Discos."

https://www.dawn.com/news/1839536/concessions-on-import-solar-panel-making-welcomed

Pakistan Observer

Chinese company acquires Lahore City hospital, invests Rs700m

Jiu Zhou, a prominent Chinese company, in a joint venture with Pakistan's TNC international, has acquired Lahore City Hospital. In a significant move, Jiu Zhou has invested a substantial amount of Rs. 700 million to enhance the quality of medical services provided by the hospital. The goal is to offer top-notch healthcare services to the citizens of Lahore. Shafiq Ahmad Khan, CEO TNC International, told Gwadar pro that a joint venture has been established to advance medical development. The initial achievement of this collaboration was the establishment of GEO PAK International Hospital in Lahore, Pakistan, providing top-notch care. He said, the Chinese company has acquired an 80% stake and intends to upgrade the hospital's medical equipment and machinery to meet the latest standards. The hospital, which opened on June 1, 2024, boasts advanced facilities, departments, machines, and technologies to offer comprehensive assistance to patients. Ahmad emphasized that his company is facilitating the visit of numerous Chinese enterprises to enhance investment and encourage growth in various industries, such as livestock, automotive, mining, agriculture, technology, and solar energy. He stated that the business delegations from China have expressed a strong interest following their joint meetings with local entrepreneurs and thorough analysis of the domestic market. Their confidence and assurance in investing in Pakistan have been bolstered, and they are committed to conveying the potential of Pakistan's rapidly expanding market to other investment firms.

https://pakobserver.net/chinese-company-acquires-lahore-city-hospital-invests-rs700m/

The Nation

China helps Pakistan move towards knowledge-based economy

The second phase of CPEC focuses on enhancing people-to-people interaction to drive advancements in Pakistan's social sector. Key focus areas include education, vocational training, poverty alleviation, health and agriculture. Speaking to WealthPK, Dr Hassan Dawood Butt, former project director at CPEC and a senior adviser at Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), said Pakistan, with its rich pool of talent, seeks to benefit from China's advanced technological infrastructure and expertise.

"In return, China sees an opportunity to expand its footprint in the region while contributing to Pakistan's socioeconomic development.

This strategic partnership is not only about adopting best practices but also about creating a closer, shared future where educational excellence and technological innovation drive socioeconomic growth." He said that approximately 32,000 Pakistani students were studying in China, most of whom were on scholarships.

"Almost one in three students is on a scholarship." He said that Pakistan's investment in research and development had been relatively low, which has hindered the development of new technologies, products and solutions that could drive innovation and economic growth.

"China's higher education system, which has seen remarkable progress and robust development in recent years, serves as a model for Pakistan's aspirations." "China has emerged as a crucial source of both technological advancement and technology transfer. Pakistan and China have agreed on the necessity to enhance student exchange programmers, industry-related skills development, and joint research projects to benefit from each other's experiences. The Higher Education Commission of Pakistan and China Association of Higher Education are playing a pivotal role in promoting higher education, exchange programmers and research culture in Pakistan," he said. Meanwhile, talking to WealthPK, Prof Usman Mustafa, and Joint Director at Pakistan Institute of Development Economics, said that as the world moves towards a knowledge-based economy, Pakistan and China are positioning themselves at the forefront of this transformation.

"The primary reason for student unemployment in Pakistan is the lack of alignment between academia and industry.

The academic community is often unaware of industry requirements. If they understand the needs of the industry, academia can better determine which courses to offer and which technologies to focus on," he emphasized.

Usman said Pakistan and China were striving to strengthen the university-industry connections and launch student exchange programmes and joint research projects to learn from each other's experiences.

https://www.nation.com.pk/13-Jun-2024/china-helps-pakistan-move-towards-knowledge-based-economy

The News

Can China's rise change the world order?

Javid Husain

China's phenomenal rise over the past four decades has radically transformed the global scenario geopolitically and economically, with far-reaching implications for the world's security and economic wellbeing both at the global and regional levels. A dispassionate understanding of these developments is a must for Pakistan's policymakers to be able to safeguard Pakistan's security and economic interests against the background of the tectonic shifts taking place internationally. Deng Xiaoping's programme of market-based economic reforms and opening to the outside world set in motion a process of rapid economic growth averaging 10 per cent per annum for about four decades, enabling it to double its GDP after every seven years. Consequently, China's GDP in purchasing power parity terms overtook America's in 2014. The IMF has forecast that China's GDP in PPP terms will amount to $35.29 trillion as against $28.78 trillion for the US in 2024. In nominal dollar terms, however, China with its GDP at $18.53 trillion will lag behind America's $28.75 trillion. But even in nominal dollar terms, China may overtake the American economy in the foreseeable future if it is able to maintain an annual GDP growth rate of 5.0 per cent or above. China has also achieved remarkable technological growth, especially in quantum computing, semiconductors, artificial intelligence, biotechnology, space exploration, communications, electric vehicles, and solar panels. It is giving a tough time to its competitors in the US and Western Europe in the production of electric vehicles and solar panels, forcing them to impose high tariffs on imports from China to protect domestic industries. China currently produces about 30 per cent of the world's manufactured goods and has been the biggest trader in goods in the world since 2013. Its foreign exchange reserves were estimated to be $3.2 trillion in April 2024, the highest level in the comity of nations. China's dramatic economic and technological progress has enabled it to build up its military power rapidly over the past three decades. According to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), China's military expenditure was estimated to be $296 billion in 2023. It still lagged behind the US which allocated $916 billion for defense in the same year, but according to current projections, China's military expenditure may catch up with the US within the next two decades. The rapid rise of China's economic, technological, and military power has enabled it to pose a potent challenge to the world order, which was established at the end of World War II by the US-led West primarily to maintain its global hegemony and advance its economic and security interests behind the veneer of multilateral institutions such as the UN, World Bank, and IMF. The fact, however, is that the US and other Western countries themselves have violated the rules of the so-called rules-based order whenever they thought it suited their interests. The US invasion of Iraq in 2003 is an example of such a violation. The US and its allies, in the face of the challenge posed by China, are likely to resist fiercely any attempts to modify the rules defining the existing world order, as they are its main beneficiaries. The coming decades will, therefore, witness an intense struggle between China and the US-led West as the former pushes for rewriting the rules of the post-World War II world order to accommodate the former's interests. This struggle would be

waged not only in Eurasia but also in Africa, Latin America and the Middle East. As brought home by the conflict in Ukraine, an assertive Russia would be China's strategic ally in the coming decades in facing Western opposition to the expansion of China's power and influence at the global and regional levels. The Indo-Pacific region and the Global South would be the main arenas where the 21st century version of the Great Game would be played between the US and China. It is against this background that the US attempts to contain China by strengthening its alliances with Japan, South Korea, the Philippines and Australia, its strategic partnership with India, and such security groupings as the Quad and AUKUS. The US and its Western allies are also in the process of imposing high tariffs on imports from China to save their domestic industries and prohibiting the export of sensitive technologies to China to slow down its economic progress. There is currently a bipartisan consensus in the US Congress and its academia on the dire need to resist the worldwide expansion of China's power and influence. The cover page of the prestigious Foreign Affairs issue for May-June 2024 – which poses the question 'Can China Remake the World?' – And the leading articles carried by it reflect the growing American anxiety over China's dramatic rise. Some of these articles go to the extent of suggesting that the US should not merely manage the emerging cold war with China but win it on the lines of what it did to the Soviet Union Thus, the ingredients of Thucydides's trap, in which the conflict between an existing power and an emerging rival power becomes all but inevitable, are contained in the growing competition for power and influence between the US, the reigning superpower, and China, its main challenger in the 21st century. Both the US and China and their respective allies are likely to use all the instruments of national power at their disposal, encompassing their political, economic, military, diplomatic and cultural dimensions, in waging this competition. The coming decades will witness growing tensions and localized conflicts in which the two sides would be arrayed against each other directly or through their proxies. However, an all-out nuclear war between them would be avoided because of its likely horrendous consequences. Under President Xi Jinping, China – while strengthening itself economically, technologically and militarily – has taken several initiatives to promote its vision of the emerging global order, encompassing Beijing's preference for economic development as a foundation for human rights, common security, system diversity and multipolarity. In pursuance of these goals, President Xi has issued four distinct global programmes including the Belt and Road Initiative in 2013, the Global Development Initiative in 2021, the Global Security Initiative in 2022, and the Global Civilization Initiative in May 2023. Pakistan's policymakers need to tread carefully in formulating the country's policies in the face of the emerging new world order which will be characterized by multipolarity, diversity of systems, increasing reliance on power politics, primacy of economic and technological power, and a gradual and long-term dilution of the dominance of the US-led West. The need for Pakistan to strengthen itself economically, technologically and militarily while pursuing policies of self-reliance and peace in our neighborhood cannot be overemphasized in such a scenario. We must also attach the highest importance to the development of our strategic relationship with China while promoting normal friendly relations with Muslim-majority countries, the US-led West, Russia, and prominent countries of the Global South. Finally, we must not lower our guard in the face of the enduring threat posed to our security by India. https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1199825-can-china-s-rise-change-the-world-order

CPEC's 2nd phase to focus on ML-1, industrial cooperation, agriculture, energy

Mehtab Haider

ISLAMABAD: The annual plan for budget 2024-25 approved by the government envisages kick-starting implementation of the second phase of CPEC with a focus on industrial cooperation, agriculture modernization, socioeconomic development, and scientific collaboration in addition to the ongoing projects in infrastructure and energy. In infrastructure, Mainline-1 (ML-1) is a strategic project that will achieve significant milestone in 2024-25. The project, once implemented, is expected to considerably improve the logistics performance of the country. Moreover, projects in the mining sector are envisaged to be taken up in the years to come. In Industrial Cooperation, out of the nine special economic zones (SEZs), four economic zones namely Rashakai SEZ, Allama Iqbal Industrial Zone, Dhabeji SEZ and Bostan SEZ have been placed on the priority list. Since necessary utilities are being provided to these zones with utmost priority, it is expected that several industrial units will start their production. In pursuance of an action plan for agriculture cooperation, emphasis is drawn on enhancing the productivity of major crops, value addition in agriculture produce and export, reducing post-harvest waste and pest and disease control as well as human resource development. The development of agriculture mechanization is also part of the plan to enhance efficiency and innovate the sector. To promote cooperation in Science & Technology, the two sides have agreed to strengthen people-to-people exchanges, joint laboratories, science parks and technology transfer under the BRI Science, Technology & Innovation (STI) Action Plan. In the socioeconomic sector, out of the 27 projects identified under poverty alleviation, health, education, vocational training, agriculture and water supply, 17 fast-track projects will be implemented in 2024-25. The scope and content of the remaining 10 priority projects have been mutually shared, and letters of exchange (LoEs) will be signed in the planned year. Furthermore, collaboration in the security arena under CPEC will further be deepened by signing memorandums of understanding (MoUs) on various aspects of security. The overall aim is to provide fool-proof security -- with a harmonic combination of man and technology to CPEC projects and beyond. Future power sector projects will be considered in the CPEC framework to provide a stronger foundation for energy cooperation during the next stage. Petroleum-sector projects will be taken up under the 'Development Plan of Oil & Gas for Pakistan'. Tourism promotion as part of the long-term plan is another area of cooperation under the CPEC framework. Coastal tourism, eco-tourism in Gilgit-Baltistan, and integrated tourism zones in KP are among the areas in the tourism sector to be opened up for deliberation this year. The second phase has been initiated with emphasis on industrialization/development of SEZs, agriculture modernization, sciences & information technology cooperation, and socio-economic development. The overall objective is to reap dividends of the investment made in the 1st phase (2015-20) that has created an enabling environment for investment in other sectors as existing voids in infrastructure and energy have been filled. The next joint cooperation committee (JCC) meeting of CPEC is planned to be held in the third quarter of FY25. Several deliverables have been identified for the JCC by all stakeholders for the planned year. The following is a summary of the targets and proposed action plan during 2024-25: The power production 884-

MW Sukki-Kinari HPP project is currently under construction and is expected to be completed in November 2024. It is expected that physical work on two hydropower projects, 1,124-MW Kohala and 700.7-MW Azad Pattan, and 300-MW Gwadar Coal Power Project would be started after the financial close. The 'Development Plan of Oil & Gas Sector of Pakistan' has been launched and subsequently, the plan will be implemented which mainly includes projects related to coal-to-gasification/liquid in Thar, North-South gas pipeline, etc. The aforementioned plan will act as a guiding document for the PSDP spending in the energy sector.

https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1199812-cpec-s-2nd-phase-to-focus-on-ml-1-industrial-cooperation-agriculture-energy

June 14, 2024

Daily Times

Over 400 Pakistani youth obtain technical training under CPEC

In connection with China's endeavors to groom indigenous community with job-oriented training programs under CPEC, more than 400 local students have received modern training in Huaneng Pakistan Vocational & Technical College in Sahiwal, Punjab. Huaneng Pakistan Vocational & Technical College is operated by Huaneng Shandong Ruyi (Pakistan) Energy (Private) Limited (HSRE), the owner of Sahiwal Power Plant. The one-month-long vocational training, ended on June 1, equipped local youth with practical employment skills in areas such as computer applications, electrical technician skills, and welding. Another stunning feature of the program is that all enrolled students receive hands-on professional training free of cost. This is a blessing for the cash-strapped and downtrodden sections of the society. Gao Guangxin, Director, Operation Department, Huaneng Shandong Ruyi (Pakistan) Energy (Private) Limited (HSRE), told Gwadar Pro that providing training to local youth will help realize localization management. He expressed his pride in witnessing Sahiwal Power Plant's journey from inception to becoming a flagship project under CPEC. In August 2019, the Huaneng Pakistan Vocational & Technical College was established on site to provide free vocational technical training to local youth. It is officially registered with Technical Education & Vocational Training Authority of Pakistan. Four training courses, including computer, secretarial, electrician, and welding, are being taught so far. Through a combination of theoretical teaching and on-site practice, the training has improved the participants' employment-related skills, which has been highly recognized by the trainees. Along with training programs, upward trajectory for the professional grooming of Pakistan's young generation came to the fore when two Pakistani engineers, Fahad Ahmed and Sohail Abbas, from the 2x660MW Sahiwal Power Plant in Qadirabad, won prizes in the "Huaneng Craftsman Cup 2024" event held in China. The competition, organized by Huaneng Group Co. Ltd, featured more than 80 participants from different parts of the world. This achievement underscores the technical abilities of Pakistani engineers and strengthens the bonds of friendship and cooperation between the two nations. This initiative not only promotes localization management but also exemplifies the fruitful collaboration between China and Pakistan, fostering a spirit of mutual growth and development. Significant strides

have been made in local employment at Sahiwal Power Plant. Currently, six Pakistani employees hold positions as department managers, while eleven serve in production roles as shift leaders and team leaders. Additionally, two employees have been recognized with the prestigious title of "Outstanding Employees of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor".

https://dailytimes.com.pk/1200882/over-400-pakistani-youth-obtain-technical-training-under-cpec/

Pakistan Observer

Chinese CG praises strong partnership between Pakistan, China

Chinese Consul General Mr Zhao Shiren Explores China's Expanding Role in Global and Regional Politics and its Benefits for Pakistan at CASS Lahore The Centre for Aerospace & Security Studies (CASS) Lahore, hosted His Excellency Zhao Shiren, the Consul General of the People's Republic of China, for an enlightening guest lecture titled "China's Growing Influence in Global and Regional Politics: Benefits for Pakistan" on 14 June 2024. MrAmeer Abdullah Khan, Senior Researcher, CASS Lahore, introduced the speaker. The distinguished guest highlighted the importance of global peace. He argued that multipolarity with inclusive stakeholder engagement is more favorable than unipolarity and bipolarity for the developing world. He elaborated China's major initiatives under President Xi Jinping: the BRI, Global Development Initiative, Global Security Initiative, Global Civilization Initiative, and proposed Global AI Governance Initiative as crucial steps in this regard. He praised the strong partnership between Pakistan and China and noted significant trade growth and investment opportunities under the CPEC. Emphasizing Pakistan's future economic and social growth, he highlighted the importance of embracing global, green, and digital initiatives. He further highlighted China's mediation efforts in international security, and reaffirmed support for a two-state solution for Palestine and backed Pakistan's stance on Kashmir. The talk was followed by an engaging and interactive session, during which the participants delved deeper into the various facets and dimensions of the enduring Pakistan-China friendship. The event concluded with closing remarks by Air Marshal Asim Suleiman (Retd), President, CASS Lahore, who amplified the significance of the enduring partnership between Pakistan and China in all spheres as a vital contributor to the former's economic development and infrastructure. He stated that this strategic partnership should focus on industrializing through SEZs, developing a long-term export strategy, modernizing agriculture, and enhancing cooperation in science and technology, and security. He also acknowledged China's growing global influence and highlighted Pakistan's commitment as a strategic partner in the region and beyond. The talk provided valuable perspectives on how Pakistan can leverage its strategic alliance with China to navigate the complexities of global politics and regional developments. This event also signified the enduring partnership between the two nations.

https://pakobserver.net/chinese-cg-praises-strong-partnership-between-pakistan-china/

The Nation

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https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2024-06-14/page-10/detail-7

June 15, 2024

Daily Times

Chinese-Led JV secures Rs. 10.6 billion contract for Dargai HPP rehabilitation

The Pakistan Water and Power Development Authority (WAPDA) awarded a Rs. 10.6 billion contract for the civil and electro-mechanical rehabilitation of the Dargai Hydel Power Station. The contract was given to a Joint Venture (JV) consisting of two Chinese firms, M/s Jinlun and M/s Shuntai, and a Pakistani firm, M/s Al-Fajr International. Constructed in 1952 and having served for 72 years, the Dargai Hydel Power Station, located in Malakand, will undergo rehabilitation to continue its operation. The JV will complete the rehabilitation within three years. The contract was signed by WAPDA's General Manager (Hydel Development), Ihsan Ullah, and the authorized representative of the JV, Nabeel Tahir, Gwadar Pro reported on Friday. The contract signing ceremony was attended by WAPDA Chairman, Engr Lt Gen Sajjad Ghani (Retd), Member (Power) Jamil Akhtar, Member (Finance) Naveed Asghar Chaudhry, along with WAPDA officers, representatives of the French Development Agency (AFD), consultants, and contractors. Upon completion, the Dargai Hydel Power Station will generate 22 MW of green and clean hydel electricity, providing 130 million units of low-cost hydel electricity to the National Grid annually. The rehabilitation and capacity enhancement of the Dargai Hydel Power Station are being carried out with financial support from the French Development Agency (AFD). This project is an important part of WAPDA's two-pronged strategy for the optimal utilization of hydropower resources in Pakistan, which involves constructing new hydropower projects and rehabilitating and upgrading existing hydel power stations to maximize the ratio of environmentally friendly and low-cost hydel electricity in the National Grid.

https://dailytimes.com.pk/1201228/chinese-led-jv-secures-rs-10-6-billion-contract-for-dargai-hpp-rehabilitation/

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https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2024-06-15/page-11/detail-3

Chinese Newspapers

June 02, 2024

Global Times

Roadside concert in SW China brings global youth together

A roadside concert in Guiyang, capital of southwest China's Guizhou Province, captivated passersby recently with a special show, featuring foreign students from over 30 countries and regions performing alongside their Chinese peers. Held on the evening of May 24 as one of the highlights of the 2024 China-ASEAN Education Exchange Week, the concert provided the youth with a stage to showcase diverse cultures and make friends from around the world. Ishimwe Pacifique, a Rwandan student at Guizhou Normal University, chose to sing a pop song from his hometown. "I was surprised to have the opportunity to perform in front of so many people on the street," said the 29-year-old. "The audience was very interested in what I was doing and I really enjoyed it." Manha Abdellah from Pakistan sang two songs, including a medley with other international students. She has studied clinical medicine at Guizhou Medical University for over six months. "The audience was very enthusiastic, especially when I mentioned that I was from Pakistan. They cheered loudly, reflecting the strong friendship between China and Pakistan," she said with a warm smile. Roadside concerts in Guiyang date back to 1937, when some musical organizations taught the local people to sing patriotic songs, which aroused their fighting spirit during the Chinese People's War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression. This tradition has persisted into modern times, with pop songs now dominating the concerts, which are performed by music enthusiasts and local bands, and take place in several bustling spots of the city. In 2023, a performance in an underground passageway in the city's Guanshanhu District unexpectedly gained popularity. Through social media livestreaming, the performance went viral and transformed the roadside concert into a vibrant local cultural attraction. This special edition of the concert featuring global youth was held at the Wenchang Pavillion, a landmark of Guiyang. Data shows that about 30 concerts have been held here, attracting a total of nearly 70,000 on-site spectators and reaching more than 1 billion online viewers. Roshenskaia Svetlana, hailing from Russia, was one of the hosts of the concert. While there was a hint of nervousness on her face, she couldn't hide her excitement. "This is my first time participating in a roadside concert. The audience was exceptionally warm, and the atmosphere was lively. I also made many friends

from different countries," she said. The 20-year-old is particularly interested in Chinese intangible cultural heritage and has participated in the production of several videos showcasing the culture of ethnic minorities in Guizhou. She hopes to continue her studies in Shanghai someday and work in China's film industry after graduation. Waving glowing sticks, Cai Juping, a local college student, enjoyed the concert as a spectator for the first time and spoke highly of the fresh experience. "Though they are not professional singers, the international students are all very confident, which is great," said Cai. "I think the roadside concert is not just an occasion to promote cultural exchange; it can also help those students who live far from home feel more joy and fun while living in China."

https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202406/1313455.shtml

June 03, 2024

China Daily

Pakistan and China launch space collaboration

China successfully launched a Pakistani communication satellite, PakSat MM1, on Thursday using a Long March 3B carrier rocket at the Xichang Satellite Launch Centre in Southwest China's Sichuan province. The mission is a turning point in the two nation's technological cooperation. Pakistan Space and Upper Atmosphere Research Commission and China Great Wall Industry Corporation collaborated on the design and development of the satellite. Strengthening Pakistan's communication infrastructure is the main goal of the PakSat MM1satellite. This will open up new opportunities for connectivity, help the underprivileged, and advance tele-education, tele-health, tele-medicine, tele-governance, and e-commerce while establishing Pakistan among the global leaders in digital technology. This will be the crucial link that bridges the digital divide. Higher reach and more economical bandwidth will be provided across the nation by PakSat MM1. According to reports, Pakistan will become the 11th nation in the world to launch its own SBAS when PakSat MM1 is equipped with the Pak-SBAS (Pakistan Space Based Augmentation System) payload, which will offer integrity-based positioning, navigation, and timing services. Pakistan received satellite systems, launch services, ground monitoring and control stations, ground application systems, collaborative satellite development, training for technical staff, insurance arrangements, and concessional loans from the corporation. This turnkey project serves as a demonstration of corporation's role as China's primary worldwide platform for aerospace cooperation. The Chinese company would equip a big number of management and technical staff members with experience in satellite research and production through collaborative development, creating a talent pool for Pakistan's autonomous space development capabilities. As for the corporation, the satellite project achieved the installation of high-precision BeiDou Navigation Satellite Services and was the first international satellite project to adopt BeiDou standards. BeiDou was also the major augmentation aim. Pakistan's Prime Minister Mian Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif congratulated the whole country on the historic launch of Paksat MM1, the country's second communication satellite. He said, "I am incredibly proud of our national accomplishment," adding that "this remarkable achievement marks a significant advancement in our space and communication capabilities." The prospective impact of Paksat MM1 on internet connectivity

throughout Pakistan excites me, he said. This satellite promises to transform our digital environment and offer the quickest internet service in the entire nation with its cutting-edge communication technologies. Ishaq Dar, Pakistan's deputy prime minister, also commended the country on the Pakistan Multi Mission Communication Satellite launch's success. He said, "This historic accomplishment, which was made possible by our great friend and ally China, represents a turning point in our National Space Programme. This endeavour is a prime example of our close friendship and robust technological cooperation with China." According to him, Pakistan is dedicated to advancing science and technology as major forces behind both economic expansion and societal advancement. With this launch, Pakistan is reaffirming its commitment to building up domestic capabilities and investing in high-tech industries. Pakistan's Ambassador to China Khalil Hashmi on Thursday said the launch of a multi-mission communications satellite marked yet another important turning point in the country's space program and a new phase in China-Pakistan space cooperation. Moreover, Muhammad Yousaf Khan, Chairman of the research commission, thanked the governments of Pakistan and the People's Republic of China for their unwavering support in a message delivered on this momentous day. He expressed his gratitude to the engineering teams in both nations for their tireless work in seeing the project through to completion. In addition, the research commission's chairman reaffirmed his commitment to advancing space sciences in order to help Pakistan's socioeconomic sector. Not long ago, Pakistan also saw the launch of its first lunar satellite on May 3 of this year as well, as part of China's historic quest to gather samples from the far side of the moon that has not been extensively studied using cooperative technology. Beijing is among the closest allies of Islamabad. The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor projects, which aims to strengthen economic and technological links between the two countries, includes this cooperation as part of a larger strategic alliance. In addition to strengthening Pakistan's space technology capabilities, the successful launch and operation of these satellites has strengthened the country's strong bilateral connections and promoted stability in the area. The Author is Muhammad Humayun Asghar, a Pakistani affiliated with Beijing Institute of Technology (BIT), a leading IT university in China.

https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202406/03/WS665d55b2a31082fc043ca94b.html

People Daily News

China's Chang'e-6 lands on moon's far side to collect samples

China's Chang'e-6 touched down on the far side of the moon on Sunday morning, and will collect samples from this rarely explored terrain for the first time in human history, the China National Space Administration (CNSA) announced. Supported by the Queqiao-2 relay satellite, the lander-ascender combination of the Chang'e-6 probe successfully landed at the designated landing area at 6:23 a.m. (Beijing Time) in the South Pole-Aitken (SPA) Basin. Chang'e-6 consists of an orbiter, a returner, a lander and an ascender. Since its launch on May 3 this year, it has gone through various stages such as Earth-moon transfer, near-moon braking, lunar orbiting and landing descent. The lander-ascender combination separated from the orbiter-returner combination on May 30, said the CNSA. The lander-ascender combination began the powered descent at 6:09 a.m. The main engine with variable thrust was ignited, and the combination quickly adjusted its attitude and gradually approached the

lunar surface. During the descent, an autonomous visual obstacle avoidance system was used to automatically detect obstacles, with a visible light camera selecting a comparatively safe landing area based on the brightness and darkness of the lunar surface. The combination then hovered about 100 meters above the safe landing area and used a laser 3D scanner to detect obstacles on the lunar surface to select the final landing site before a slow vertical descent. As the combination approached the lunar surface, it shut down the engine and touched down via free fall, protected by a cushioning system. The Chang'e-6 mission is tasked with collecting and returning samples from the moon's far side, the first endeavor of its kind in the history of human lunar exploration. It has achieved a breakthrough in the design and control technology of the lunar retrograde orbit and aims to realize key technologies of intelligent and rapid sampling, as well as takeoff and ascent from the far side of the moon.

PRECISE LANDING

According to Li Chunlai, deputy chief designer of the Chang'e-6 mission, the probe landed precisely at the designated area. This area is likely to be covered with a lot of basalt, which is very beneficial for geological research and can deliver significant scientific value. The landing site is at an impact crater known as the Apollo Basin, located within the SPA Basin. The choice was made for the Apollo Basin's potential value of scientific exploration, as well as the conditions of the landing area, including communication and telemetry conditions and the flatness of the terrain, said Huang Hao, a space expert from the China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation (CASC). The colossal SPA Basin was formed by a celestial collision over 4 billion years ago and has a diameter of 2,500 kilometers, equivalent to the distance from Beijing to Hainan, and a depth of about 13 kilometers. It is the oldest and largest impact crater on the moon and in the solar system, and it may provide the earliest information available about the moon, according to scientists. The huge impact of the celestial collision that formed the SPA Basin may have ejected materials from the depths of the moon. If such materials can be collected and returned to Earth for study, they would provide new insights into both the early impact history of the solar system and the geological evolution of the moon. Huang added that the terrain on the far side of the moon is more rugged than the near side, with fewer continuous flat areas. However, the Apollo Basin is relatively flatter than other areas on the far side, which is conducive to landing. The lander is equipped with multiple sensors, including microwave, laser and optical imaging sensors which can measure distance and speed, and identify obstacles on the lunar surface, Huang said. To prevent interference to optical sensors by lunar dust during landing, the lander is also equipped with gamma-ray sensors to accurately measure the height through particle rays, ensuring that the engine can be shut down on time and the lander can touch down smoothly on the lunar surface, he added. At the same time, the landing legs play their role as buffers, absorbing the impact energy of landing and ensuring the safety of the equipment on the lander.

AUTONOMOUS SAMPLING

Ge Ping, spokesperson for the Chang'e-6 mission, said he is very excited about the successful landing, but that this is not the time to relax, as the key task of the mission, sampling on the far side of the moon, is about to begin. After the landing, the probe is scheduled to complete

sampling within two days. It has adopted two methods of moon sampling, which include using a drill to collect subsurface samples and grabbing samples on the surface with a robotic arm. According to Jin Shengyi, another space expert from the CASC, the Chang'e-6 probe development team has built a simulation lab in advance to ensure a smooth sampling process. The team members will set up a full-scale replica of the sampling area based on Chang'e-6 exploration results on the environment, rock distribution, and lunar soil conditions around the landing site. Using this simulation, they will develop and verify sampling strategies and equipment control procedures to ensure the accuracy of instructions. Due to the moon's obstruction, the Earth-moon communication window period on the far side of the moon, even with the help of the Queqiao-2 relay satellite service, is still shorter than that on the near side. Therefore, the sampling time of Chang'e-6 will be reduced to about 14 hours, compared with the 22 hours used by its predecessor Chang'e-5. To save time and improve efficiency, the development team has made the sampling process more intelligent, allowing Chang'e-6 to execute instructions and make judgments autonomously to reduce the Earth-moon interactions, Jin said. For example, after the ground control sends an instruction, the probe will execute the corresponding program in multiple actions and then use the real-time data collected by the sensors to evaluate if the instruction is well executed, thus autonomously working in a closed loop without the ground control sending command on each action. About 1,000 instructions were sent during the entire sampling process of Chang'e-5. For Chang'e-6, the number is expected to be reduced to about 400. Ge Ping, also deputy director of the CNSA's Lunar Exploration and Space Engineering Center, believes that through detailed analysis of the soil structure, physical properties and material composition of the Chang'e-6 samples, scientists will be able to deepen research on the genesis and evolutionary history of the moon, the origin of the solar system and so on, laying an improved foundation for later exploration missions to build on.

INT'L COOPERATION

Chang'e-6 is in good shape, and its three international payloads are in normal condition and will boot up and start operation, Ge said. The three payloads Ge mentioned are installed on the lander, and consist of the lunar surface negative ion analyzer of the European Space Agency (ESA), France's lunar radon detector and Italy's laser retro-reflector. The Chang'e-6 mission also carried a cube satellite from Pakistan that was aboard the orbiter. It separated from the orbiter on May 8 to carry out exploration activities, such as capturing images of the moon. China delivered data provided by the cube satellite to Pakistan on May 10. Chinese scientists will share scientific data generated by the mission with their international partners and carry out joint research, Ge said, noting that access to the Chang'e-6 samples will open for international applications at a later stage. When watching the landing process at the National Astronomical Observatories, which fall under the Chinese Academy of Sciences, Pierre-Yves Meslin, principal investigator of France's lunar radon detector program, said he and his colleagues have been thinking about this moment for years. "We were looking at the moon almost every night here in Beijing," he revealed, while adding that it is a very good idea to have international collaboration because scientific study requires a large community of scientists. "It's a very impressive and ambitious mission. We are very pleased to be a part of it. The collaboration has gone very smoothly," said Neil Melville-Kenney, technical officer

of the ESA's Negative Ions on the Lunar Surface project. "I think space exploration encourages us to consider our planet as one and our people as one," he added.

http://en.people.cn/n3/2024/0603/c90000-20176997.html

Feature: Pakistani, Chinese children gather to celebrate Int'l Children's Day

As countries around the globe mark the International Children's Day on Saturday, Pakistan and Chinese children gathered at a hotel hall in Pakistan's federal capital Islamabad to celebrate the important occasion to promote cultural and educational exchanges. Holding red and green flags of China and Pakistan, and enthusiastically signing "Long Live Pakistan-China Friendship," the children were mingling with each other and learning about Pakistani and Chinese culture. The event, attended by parents, teachers, volunteers and officials, featured art performance, kung fu shows and paintings by both Pakistani and Chinese students. The performances by the children casted a spell on the audience, with attendees cheering loudly every time the children performed on the stage. Talking to Xinhua after performing on a Chinese song, a student named Sara said that Pakistani children are conveying their love for China, its people and culture through various art performances. "Today I feel so happy that I get to perform on the Chinese song. I have been learning the Chinese language at my school and now I can understand the language well. I feel great that both Pakistan and Chinese children are learning about each others' cultures," the 7th grader said. Sara said that she also has participated in the painting competition and won an award. "I painted flags of Pakistan and China, a panda and national monument of Pakistan to express my love for China as well as for my own country Pakistan." Sidra Sajjid, an eight-year-old student who performed the Chinese kung fu during the event, said that she got to learn about the different moves of the Chinese martial arts from her Chinese teacher at the school. "I have been learning kung fu moves over the last few days. Initially it seemed a bit difficult to learn, but in a couple of days I was able to grasp them. When we were performing on the stage, the audience gave us a round of applause," Sajjid said. Highlighting the significance of bringing children together to create harmony and bridging the gap between Pakistan and China, Asma Munir Salman, a school leader of Great Maple School, Rawalpindi, said that such events hold great importance. "Children are the future of Pakistan and China...These children basically are the ones who are going to bring about the change. And instead of creating walls, these children will be breaking the walls and helping each other and taking Pakistan-China relations to new heights," Salman told Xinhua. Ma Bin, president of the China-Pak Educational Cultural Institute, said that as Pakistan and China are celebrating the 73rd anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations this year, the children from the two friendly countries have the opportunity to celebrate the festival together. "Children are the future of both countries. We hope to let more children know the stories of China and Pakistan and jointly maintain the friendship between China and Pakistan," he added.

http://en.people.cn/n3/2024/0603/c90000-20177258.html

Pakistan prime minister's China visit to focus on strengthening friendship, boosting economic ties

Zamir Ahmed Awan

At the invitation of Chinese Premier Li Qiang, Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan will pay an official visit to China from June 4 to 8, Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson Mao Ning announced on Friday. Sharif will visit China to bolster the all-weather strategic cooperative partnership between the neighboring countries. The visit will have three segments. Besides Beijing, the prime minister will visit the cities of Xi'an and Shenzhen. Xi'an is an ancient city in China and was once the beginning point of the ancient Silk Road. Shenzhen is one of the most rapidly developed cities in the world. During the last four decades, it has transformed from a poor fishing village to a hub of science, technology, innovation and commercialization. The prime minister will meet President Xi Jinping in Beijing and hold delegation-level talks with Premier Li Qiang. He will also hold meetings with the Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress Zhao Leji and heads of key government departments. An important aspect of the PM's visit will be meetings with corporate executives of leading Chinese companies dealing in oil and gas, energy, ICT, and emerging technologies. He will address the China-Pakistan Business Forum in Shenzhen with leading businesspersons, entrepreneurs, and investors from both countries. He will also visit economic and agricultural zones in China. His meetings with corporate sector leaders aim to boost China-Pakistan economic ties and attract Chinese investment in Pakistan. Sharif chaired a meeting on Friday to review the preparations for his upcoming visit to China, wherein he directed the formulation of comprehensive plans to hold result-oriented business-to-business meetings between the two countries. He instructed the relevant authorities to devise strategies for attracting Chinese industries to Pakistan, pledging government support for industrialists and investors. A delegation of industrialists, investors, and businesspeople will accompany the prime minister to Shenzhen. The delegation will hold meetings with Chinese businesses to promote business-to-business exchanges between the two countries. The prime minister has also directed Pakistan's ambassador to China to support the Pakistani business delegation during its visit. Sharif's visit is a manifestation of the iron-clad Pakistan-China friendship characterized by frequent high-level exchanges and dialogue. High-level visits are routine and provide an opportunity for close liaison, exchanging ideas, and discussing pressing matters in the region and globally. The two sides will discuss ways to strengthen their all-weather strategic cooperative partnership. They aim to upgrade the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), boost trade and investment, and enhance cooperation in security, energy, space, science, technology, and education. Additionally, they will promote cultural cooperation and people-to-people exchanges, thus shaping the future trajectory of Pakistan-China friendship. As CPEC enters its second phase, there will likely be discussions on expanding cooperation and broadening its scope. It is hoped that more projects will be added and the pace of ongoing projects will be accelerated. CPEC is a flagship project under the Belt and Road Initiative. Sharif on Sunday reaffirmed Pakistan's support for the Chinese stance on Taiwan, reiterating its commitment to the one-China principle. "As an iron-brother and a strategic partner of China, Pakistan has always extended its principled support to the

Chinese position on Taiwan and will continue to do so," the prime minister wrote on X. The people of Pakistan have high expectations for the prime minister's China visit. They believe this visit will not only strengthen the traditional friendship between China and Pakistan but will open new avenues of collaboration and opportunities for the youth of Pakistan.

https://en.people.cn/n3/2024/0603/c98649-20177354.html

June 04, 2024

Global Times

Pakistan PM starts China visit to enhance ties, expand CPEC cooperation

Zhao Yusha and Chi Jingyi

Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif kicked off his visit to China on Tuesday, which marks Sharif's first China visit since he started his second term as prime minister in March. Chinese experts said this high-level visit will further enhance ties between China and Pakistan, push forward the development and upgrade of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and expand cooperation in emerging sectors such as new technologies . While security issues along the CPEC still remain a challenge, Chinese experts said Sharif's visit will elevate mutual trust and push for new cooperation between the two countries to inject strong momentum into the CPEC. "We are coming with serious plans to make our friendship become much higher than the Himalayas and deeper than the deepest ocean of the world," Sharif said in an interview with Chinese media in Islamabad ahead of his China trip, the Xinhua News Agency reported Tuesday. Through the visit, Pakistan hopes to promote interaction between enterprises in both countries, utilize special economic zones and Pakistan's labor advantages to establish joint ventures, facilitate the transfer of industries and technologies, and enhance Pakistan's manufacturing output to promote constructing an upgraded CPEC, Sharif said. Sharif's official visit to China lasts from Tuesday to Saturday, according to an earlier announcement by the Chinese Foreign Ministry. Chinese President Xi Jinping, Premier Li Qiang, and Zhao Leji, chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, will meet or have talks with Sharif. The leaders of the two countries will have an in-depth exchange of views on China-Pakistan relations and issues of mutual interest, and jointly draw up a blueprint for the growth of bilateral relations, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Mao Ning said at a routine press briefing on May 31. In addition to Beijing, Sharif will also visit South China's Guangdong Province and Northwest China's Shaanxi Province. In an interview published on Pakistani media on Tuesday, Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan Jiang Zaidong said that he looks forward to Sharif's visit to further promote the high-quality development of the all-weather strategic cooperative partnership between China and Pakistan, continuously provide assistance for Pakistan's economic and social development and demonstrate strong China-Pakistan unity and cooperation to the international community. Enhancing the ironclad relationship between China and Pakistan is on top of Sharif's agenda as this marks his first trip to China since starting his second term as prime minister in March, Qian Feng, director of the research department at the National Strategy Institute at Tsinghua University, told the Global Times on Tuesday. To push forward the development of the CPEC, and expand bilateral cooperation to new areas such as

emerging technologies, e-commerce and ecological agriculture will be the focus of the visit, Qian said. Pakistan media the Nation reported on Tuesday that an important part of Sharif's visit will be meetings with corporate executives of leading Chinese companies dealing with oil and gas, energy, ICT, and emerging technologies. Sharif will address the China-Pakistan Business Forum with leading businesspeople, entrepreneurs and investors from both countries. He will also visit economic and agricultural zones in China. The two sides will undertake discussions to further upgrade the CPEC and advance trade and investment, according to the Nation. Sharif's visit to China with a federal cabinet and a huge business delegation have gained the attention of international community as it is proving to be another milestone for elevating the bilateral relationship to a new height, Muhammad Zamir Assadi, a Pakistani political analyst and a research fellow of the Beijing-based China International Press Communication Center, told the Global Times on Tuesday. Based on the remarkable achievements of the CPEC in phase one, this visit will lay a solid foundation for both sides to enter into the second phase of the project that is expected to yield the unaccountable economic benefits for Pakistan, Assadi said.

Fighting terrorism in focus

Experts said that counter-terrorism and safeguarding the security of the CPEC are also the main focus of Sharif's current visit. In March this year, five Chinese nationals and their Pakistani driver were killed in a suicide terrorist attack at the China-invested Dasu hydropower project. There have been similar incidents in recent years. Under the current circumstances, cooperation to protect the safety of Chinese personnel and projects in Pakistan not only contributes to the development of the CPEC, but can also help Pakistan enhance its capabilities, so as to ultimately eradicate terrorism from its roots, Qian said. While security threats remain a concern for development of the CPEC, Sharif's visit will serve to enhance mutual trust between the two countries to tackle these challenges, Zhu Yongbiao, executive director of the Research Center for the Belt and Road at Lanzhou University, told the Global Times on Tuesday. This visit will also help China and Pakistan to expand new cooperation models under the new security concept, and provide strong support for the CPEC, Zhu said.

https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202406/1313611.shtml

Xinhua Net

Pakistani PM deems Pakistan-China friendship unshakable

Tang Binhui, Jiang Chao and Zhang Jingyao

"We are coming with serious plans to make our friendship become much higher than the Himalayas and deeper than the deepest ocean of the world," Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has said. At the invitation of Chinese Premier Li Qiang, Sharif is on an official visit to China from Tuesday to Saturday. "We are two iron brothers, our friendship is unshakable and our hearts beat together," Sharif said in an interview with Chinese media in Islamabad ahead of his China tour. China has supported Pakistan through the most difficult times, and Pakistan considers China as one of the most trusted friends around the globe, he said. Pakistan firmly adheres to the one-China principle, and this commitment will, as always, be unwavering, said the prime minister. "There is absolutely total unanimity that

people from all walks of Pakistan believe that Taiwan is an integral part of China, which, as our policy, comes from the core of our heart with no discussion at all," he said. Sharif first visited China about 40 years ago, when he noticed that though underdeveloped, China was dedicated to meeting the basic needs of its people while vigorously developing modern science and technology. "Today, China has become a giant through vision, hard work, and serious and untiring efforts," said Sharif. "All doubts about the Chinese model have been rubbished by the evidence of history," he said. Sharif said when he was elected as prime minister in March, Chinese President Xi Jinping congratulated him at the earliest time. Expressing his gratitude to Xi, Sharif said the congratulations reflected the two countries' friendship, which will always be fresh in his mind. Under Xi's leadership, China has alleviated millions of its people out of poverty, Sharif said, adding that one of the agenda items for his visit is to learn from the Chinese model about how to alleviate poverty in Pakistan and help people stand on their own feet. Through the visit, Pakistan hopes to promote interaction between enterprises in both countries, utilize special economic zones and Pakistan's labor advantages to establish joint ventures, facilitate the transfer of industries and technologies, and enhance Pakistan's manufacturing output, to promote constructing upgraded China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, the prime minister said. The China-proposed Belt and Road Initiative benefits people in participating countries, promotes cooperation, and advances the world towards a vision of shared prosperity and a better future, he said. "Pakistan is willing to work with China to implement the Global Development Initiative, the Global Security Initiative, and the Global Civilization Initiative, which will bring peace, tranquility, progress, and prosperity to the world," he added. Describing China as always proactive in promoting Pakistan's business, industry, trade, and agriculture, Sharif said Pakistan is willing to issue Panda bonds and expand Chinese yuan transactions and settlements. Pakistan is willing to promote economic cooperation with China, learn from China's advanced experience in information technology and artificial intelligence, consolidate the ironclad friendship between the two countries, and achieve leapfrog development, he said. Pakistan is also ready to learn from China's governance experience, deepen reforms and counter-corruption, create enabling circumstances for Chinese investors, and provide policy support for investors, focusing on fields that can benefit both peoples to modernize the economy, he said. Highlighting the role of youth in cultural exchanges, Sharif said Pakistan is actively encouraging its young people to learn the Chinese language and study in China, and will create a favorable environment for Chinese tourists to visit Pakistan for exchanges and cooperation. "Despite the hot weather, it still doesn't match the warmth of our hearts," said the prime minister.

https://english.news.cn/20240604/8c933fe550ba49388d8c09a73bc2eb78/c.html

June 05, 2024

Global Times

Pakistan-China Friendship: Building a brighter future for upgraded version of CPEC in the new era

Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif

Pakistan and China have an iron-clad friendship spanning 73 years, marked by shared sentiments of unparalleled strategic trust, camaraderie, and unflinching solidarity. Our "All Weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership" has grown into a sturdy tree with deep roots in the hearts of our two peoples. We have stood by each other, through weal and woe, sharing good as well as challenging times together, in the true spirit of iron-clad friendship. Our special relationship is rooted in the mutual understanding of the people of both countries, and built on shared ideals, values, and aspirations. This has made China and Pakistan good neighbors, good friends, and good brothers who understand, trust, and support each other. Our remarkable bond is also deeply rooted in history, with a rich legacy of social, cultural, and economic linkages dating back over 2,000 years. Our ancestors from both sides traversed the ancient Silk Road to forge a path of cultural exchanges and trade cooperation that binds our nations together. Pakistan's northern areas served as a vital artery for the ancient Silk Road, connecting China to the Middle East, Africa, and Europe, and that, in turn, enabled the flow and exchange of trade, knowledge, and culture, profoundly influencing the development process of nations across the region. Its modern-day manifestation is the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), a flagship project of the visionary joint building of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), which has revived the ancient Silk Road, now connecting China and Pakistan through air, rail, and sea routes, and even spans to Central Asia, Europe, and Africa. China and Pakistan are determined to take the upgraded version of the CPEC to new heights to advance regional connectivity, integration, and common prosperity, thus forging a new era of growth and development for nations in the region and beyond. Chinese President Xi Jinping's state visit to Pakistan in 2015 was a milestone event of epoch-making significance for the development of bilateral relations, leaving me with fond memories and injecting new momentum into enhancing mutual trust and economic cooperation between the two countries. This visit has also pushed forward the construction of the CPEC to new heights, attracting more Chinese investment into key sectors in Pakistan, creating more job opportunities, stimulating economic growth, and promoting macroeconomic stability and development in my country. There can be no better practice to achieve a vision of common prosperity in the modern era. We are thankful to President Xi and the Chinese government for this strong support for Pakistan during challenging times.

The upgraded version of the CPEC promises an even brighter future. Both sides have jointly built a growth corridor, a livelihood-enhancing corridor, an innovation corridor, a green corridor, and an open corridor, which resonate with the people-centric development agenda of the Pakistani government. The CPEC has already taken off at a swift pace, promoting cooperation in industrialization, agriculture, IT, and mining as priority sectors under the framework of the CPEC. Infused with the spirit of win-win cooperation, the upgraded version of the CPEC envisions over 60 high-quality cooperation projects. Pakistan is dedicated to realizing this goal by further elevating its time-tested and enduring partnership with China to greater heights. I am making an official visit to China at the invitation of Chinese Premier Li Qiang. This is my first official visit to China since assuming the office of the Prime Minister this time. I see the visit as a vital opportunity to further strengthen cooperation between Pakistan and China across political, economic, trade, and investment domains. Personally, it

will also be an opportunity for me to, once again, benefit from Chinese wisdom on issues of peace, security, and development.

Since assuming the office of Prime Minister this time, I have been singularly focused on a comprehensive governance and economic reform agenda to bolster our economy in an uncertain international economic landscape. Our primary focus is to streamline regulations, maintain policy continuity, and foster an environment conducive to strong, equitable, and resilient economic growth. We are also cultivating a business-friendly environment that places a high premium on Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), supports the capital needs of our economic development, drives productivity, enhances exports, and fosters job creation. To bring improvements to the service sector, the government has started to work on measures such as an increased number of vocational training programs; encouraging public-private partnership in skill development, especially for digital jobs; and investing in advanced technologies for the modernization of manufacturing, increasing our productivity in all sectors of the national economy. My aim is to replicate China's successful model of a virtuous cycle of development and prosperity. As we believe that the upgraded version of the CPEC should be based on cooperation between the two governments, I constituted a Cabinet Committee on Chinese Investment Projects (CCoCIP) in March this year, which specifically oversees and facilitates Chinese investment plans in Pakistan. The CCoCIP is chaired by our seasoned Minister for Planning, Development, and Special Initiatives, who brings a wealth of experience to China-Pakistan economic and development cooperation. In all our endeavors, we are fully committed to supporting and securing Chinese personnel, projects, and institutions as they continue to make immense contributions to the development and prosperity of Pakistan. We have also established a Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC) to foster and enhance Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in Pakistan, through a "whole of a government approach" and a "one window facility." The Council is delivering results in the increasing ease of doing business, removing barriers, and optimizing synergy between federal and provincial governments. It is prioritizing key sectors in Pakistan such as agriculture, mining, information technology, and energy through foreign investments. I am personally leading this work to ensure the highest level of implementation of our commitment to achieve the desired results. It is gratifying to see that our reform initiatives and the priority sectors for attracting the FDI are dovetailed by the five corridors envisioned for the upgraded version of the CPEC, namely growth, livelihood, innovation, green, and open corridors. For example, the development of SEZs and industrialization as our national priorities correspond to the CPEC's "growth corridor." Similarly, IT as another national priority sector corresponds to the innovation corridor; clean energy and agriculture to the green corridor; and mines and minerals to the livelihood corridor. The upgraded version of the CPEC is rightly envisaged as an accelerator for job creation and economic growth through attracting the FDI and industrialization with a focus on boosting Pakistan's capacity to export high-quality labor-intensive goods and services, particularly to the Chinese market. Finally, the CPEC's "open corridor" resonates with our outreach to international partners to invest in Pakistan and benefit from a win-win proposition. We are determined to promote more similar exchanges. On one hand, we are committed to seeking more higher education cooperation between China and Pakistan in the field of "new quality productive forces," and

on the other hand, to further deepen the friendship and trust between our two countries and peoples. Pakistan shares China's vision when it comes to promoting international peace and regional stability, advancing sustainable development, and committing to true multilateralism for a more equal, prosperous, and peaceful world. President Xi proposed the milestone "three major global initiatives," namely the Global Development Initiative, the Global Security Initiative, and the Global Civilization Initiative, which have pointed the way for China and Pakistan as well as countries around the world to work together to build a global community of shared future. I strongly believe that with the joint efforts of our two sides, the China-Pakistan deepening cooperation will yield even greater benefits, improving the lives of our citizens - our most vital assets - while building a stronger China-Pakistan Community of Shared Future in the New Era.

https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202406/1313637.shtml

June 06, 2024

China Daily

Pakistani PM hails strong, fruitful bilateral relations

Pakistani Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif lauded on Wednesday the "visionary leadership" of President Xi Jinping and the ironclad ties between China and Pakistan, while urging his country's businesses to seize the "golden opportunities" brought by bilateral cooperation. Speaking at the China-Pakistan Business Conference in Shenzhen, Guangdong province, Sharif attributed the miraculous transformation of Shenzhen — from a small fishing village to a modern metropolis — to the forward-looking vision of great Chinese statesmen, from Deng Xiaoping to Xi. He called Xi "one of the world's greatest leaders". Sharif, who is on a five-day official visit to China, his first since taking office in March, praised the remarkable achievements made by China in fighting corruption, alleviating poverty and empowering its youths. Such efforts have delivered rich dividends, he said.

https://epaper.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202406/06/WS6660ea68a310df4030f52118.html

Saindak Copper-Gold Mine bringing wealth to country via MRDL's efforts

YUAN SHENGGAO

As an advocate for China-Pakistan friendship, MCC Resources Development Limited has been striving for operational excellence and promoting Pakistani economic development. Registered in Pakistan under the authorization of Metallurgical Corporation of China, or MCC Group, MRDL is a subsidiary of China Minmetals, a worldwide renowned mineral resources development conglomerate, which ranked 65th in the Fortune Global 500 in 2023. Operating the Saindak Copper-Gold Mine, the first large-scale mine of nonferrous minerals in Pakistan, MRDL boasts a complete industrial system of mining, concentration and smelting. So far, MRDL has created more than 2,200 local jobs and trained nearly 10,000 workers for Pakistan's mining, machinery, power and other industries. The company has procured various production materials and articles of daily use worth about $1.1 billion. It has also constructed roads, schools and hospitals; provided water, electricity, medical care and

education free of charge to six surrounding villages; committed $20 million to social responsibility efforts and contributed a running total of $722 million in taxes and profits. By 2023, the foreign exchange generated by MRDL by selling its blister copper reached $2.92 billion. Those efforts have substantially propelled Pakistan's economic growth, enhanced its border stability, and improved people's livelihoods, the company said. Meanwhile, MRDL has won an array of honors including "Best Corporate Social Responsibility Enterprise", "Top 100 Export Enterprise Contribution Award" and "Best Enterprise for Employee Skill Development". In 2013, the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor was initiated for China and Pakistan to build local infrastructure and connectivity, and boost cultural exchanges. As a committed practitioner of the CPEC and the Belt and Road Initiative, MRDL has been adhering to the strategic goals of "increasing resources, expanding scale, nurturing talents and creating benefits". With a newly built expansion project projected to deliver 2.75 million metric tons per annum, it has gained momentum for continuous production and revenue growth. In the future, MRDL aims to build a mega-industrial park that features refining and deep processing of multiple metals such as copper and lead-zinc, radiating the upstream and downstream full links including the mining of various mine resources, nonferrous smelting, logistics storage, deep processing and trade to form an economic circle supported by entity industries. MCC is a modern nonferrous mineral resources mining enterprise dedicated to the development, construction and operation of mines. As a pioneer of China-Pakistan economic cooperation, the history of MCC Group's footprint in China-Pakistan economic cooperation can be traced back decades. In the 1990s, the group completed the construction of the Saindak Copper-Gold Mine. In 2002, due to technical and financial constraints, Pakistan decided to seek partners globally through international tenders for the Saindak Copper-Gold Mine. With tremendous competitive advantages, MCC Group stood out among others and won the tender. Over the past 20 years, the company has been forging ahead through "three lease periods and six development stages" in operating the copper-gold mine. Empowered by the company's revolutionary technological innovations in South Ore Body Boundary Expansion, North-South Blend Flotation and East Ore Body Mass Development, the Saindak Copper-Gold Mine was revitalized and is becoming a model project for China-Pakistan economic cooperation.

https://epaper.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202406/06/WS6660fe7da310df4030f5215c.html

CSAIL helps to generate clean power to pursue prosperous future

YUAN SHENGGAO

Recognizing Pakistan's clean energy potential early on, China Three Gorges South Asia Investment Ltd, or CSAIL, has been a pioneer in the country's clean and renewable energy market and has made a long-term commitment in the sector under the framework of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor. Currently, CSAIL is operating three wind power projects that generate 150 megawatts in Pakistan's Jhimpir wind farm and the 720 MW Karot Hydropower Project. The company also developed the 1,124 MW Kohala Hydropower Project and the 640 MW Mahl Hydropower Project. These initiatives make CSAIL a key partner in developing Pakistan's Clean Energy Corridor, primarily by harnessing the

hydropower potential of the Jhelum River. These projects will significantly benefit Pakistan's energy mix, reduce its fuel imports and help meet its climate change targets.

The Karot project

The Karot Hydropower Project serves as the cornerstone green energy initiative under the CPEC.Sponsored by China Three Gorges Corporation, it symbolizes the ever-stronger partnership between China and Pakistan, promising substantial economic, social and environmental gains under the CPEC. Since being commissioned in June 2022, the Karot Hydropower Station has generated 6 billion kilowatt-hours, saving about 2.6 million metric tons of standard coal and reducing carbon dioxide emissions by approximately 6.56 million tons. It has met the electricity demand of more than 5 million people. Biodiversity and environmental protection are at the heart of CSAIL's mission. The Karot project has created a comprehensive Biodiversity Management Plan for the project's development and operational phases. The plan addresses regional biodiversity concerns while aiming for "no net loss" of aquatic life. The project was enlisted into the International Union for Conservation of Nature, a renowned environmental group that works at both the policy and community levels, to implement the BMP.Furthermore, the proposal aims to conserve two nearby national parks, which are included in the reservoir's catchment area. The Karot project undertook Pakistan's largest Community Investment Plan. Under it, the company sponsored 15 public infrastructure projects, including roads, bridges, water supply systems, hospitals, schools and public parks. These projects have significantly improved the quality of life for people living around the project area. The company plans to continue its corporate social responsibility projects throughout the operational phase of the project in Pakistan.

'Iron brothers'

Upholding the ironclad friendship between the two countries, CSAIL has responded during Pakistan's national emergencies. In 2020, during the global outbreak of COVID-19, China Three Gorges donated a large consignment of protective equipment to Pakistan, including 800,000 masks, 18,000 items of protective clothing and hundreds of other pieces of protective equipment. In 2022, Pakistan faced its worst floods in decades, affecting 33 million people, half of whom were children. In response to the prime minister's appeal, the company donated $650,000 to the Prime Minister's Flood Relief Fund through the country's National Disaster Management Authority. CSAIL said it prides itself on standing with the Pakistani nation and working together to achieve a greener and more prosperous future for all.

Green development

In June 2022, Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif witnessed the commissioning of the Karot project. In his address to the engineers and staff members, he expressed great joy at the project's completion. He emphasized that the project will generate environmentally friendly and cheap electricity, promoting green development in Pakistan. In 2023, on the 10th anniversary of the CPEC, Chinese officials called for upgrading it into a green and innovative corridor.

https://epaper.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202406/06/WS6660fe80a310df4030f5215e.html

Global Times

Pakistani PM Shehbaz Sharif highlights safety and economic cooperation with China

Xie Wenting and Bai Yunyi

Pakistani Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif made a strong commitment in Beijing on Thursday during a business reception event, stating that he would attach even greater importance to the safety of Chinese people in Pakistan than to the safety of his own children. He assured that Pakistan will make all necessary arrangements to protect Chinese people. Shehbaz made the commitment at the Pakistan-China Friendship and Business Reception, which was held in Beijing on Thursday, with the participation of dozens of diplomats and businesspeople from both China and Pakistan. This event was part of the activities during Shehbaz's visit to China aimed at further enhancing cooperation and pushing forward the construction of the upgraded version of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). At the invitation of Chinese Premier Li Qiang, Shehbaz is paying an official visit to China from Tuesday to Saturday. This also marks his first visit to China since the establishment of the new Pakistani government this year. At Thursday's event, Shehbaz recounted his first visit to China back in 1981 and hailed the remarkable development that China has achieved over the past decades, while stressing that Pakistan wants to learn from China's progress. In an op-ed that Shehbaz wrote in the Global Times, he said that he viewed the visit as "a vital opportunity to further strengthen cooperation between Pakistan and China across political, economic, trade, and investment domains." "Personally, it will also be an opportunity for me to, once again, benefit from Chinese wisdom on issues of peace, security, and development," he wrote in the Global Times. During this visit, in addition to leading a federal cabinet, he also led a huge business delegation.

"China is a friend; China is a big economy. Pakistan can learn from China's growth and how they achieved it. I think it is important that we come to China regularly and see what China has done and benefit from it," he told the Global Times. Ghauri owns a software development company. According to him, China is the company's biggest market, and they have over 20 customers in the country, including some big companies. The company also runs a main office in China. "We have Chinese engineers working for us, so we work together in Pakistan and China to develop software... I think there could be more cooperation with the Chinese software industry to research and develop better products," he said. Hasan Farid, a postdoctoral fellow at Hohai University, performed a song celebrating the relationship between China and Pakistan at Thursday's event. Majoring in business administration, he told the Global Times that he hopes to land a job in China in the future, after being in China for seven years. Farid believes that the prime minister's visit is a "very good opportunity, and the timing is really important for both Pakistan and China," as the visit demonstrates how serious the government of Pakistan is about CPEC and how much Pakistan is looking forward to attracting foreign investment, especially from China, which is Pakistan's all-weather strategic cooperative partner. He said people in Pakistan are also looking forward to the development of the upgraded version of the CPEC, viewing it as a "game changer" that will help Pakistan and the region develop. https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202406/1313753.shtml

People Daily News

China-aided airport in Pakistan's Gwadar port city starts flight test

The China-aided New Gwadar International Airport in Pakistan has started carrying out a five-day flight test from Tuesday, marking that the project is about to enter the final sprint stage, the airport's project management team said. Ding Kan, head of the project management team, told Xinhua that the flight test work of the airport, being built under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and located in the southwest port city of Gwadar, is organized and implemented by Pakistan's Civil Aviation Authority (CAA). The main purpose of the activity is to check the standardization and safety of the project's navigation facilities, navigational aids, flight procedures and road surface performance, he said, adding that the test is an important nodal target of the project's construction, which is of great significance for the safety and quality of the flights at the new airport. Following the completion of the flight test, the project will enter the final sprint stage, and it is expected that the airport will be completed and handed over to the local authorities in 2024, the Chinese manager said. The construction of this 4F-class airport, started in October 2019, is one of the flagship projects of the CPEC. Upon completion, it will become a modern landmark in Gwadar, which can significantly improve the infrastructural conditions in Gwadar and would lay a better foundation for the future development of the port as well as the city. A plane is greeted with a water salute after completing its flight test at the China-aided New Gwadar International Airport in the southwest port city of Gwadar, Pakistan, June 4, 2024. The China-aided New Gwadar International Airport in Pakistan has started carrying out a five-day flight test from Tuesday, marking that the project is about to enter the final sprint stage, the airport's project management team said. (China-aided New Gwadar International Airport Project Management Team/Handout via Xinhua)

http://en.people.cn/n3/2024/0606/c90000-20178411.html

June 07, 2024

China Daily

Pakistani PM praises Beijing's development

Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif said on Thursday that Pakistan will learn from China's development experience and will write its own stories of success, while addressing a China-Pakistan Friendship and Business Reception in Beijing.

He is on a five-day official visit to China and Beijing is the second leg of the trip that had taken him to Shenzhen in Guangdong province. He will thereafter visit Xi'an, the capital of Shaanxi province. "Ever since I have landed in this great country, I have been further emboldened by your success stories," he said.

https://epaper.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202406/07/WS66625808a310df4030f521de.html

China's top legislator meets with Pakistani PM

Zhao Leji, chairman of the National People's Congress (NPC) Standing Committee, met with Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif in Beijing on Friday. Noting that China and Pakistan are all-weather, strategic, cooperative partners and ironclad friends, Zhao said the two countries have maintained unwavering mutual trust and friendship since the establishment of diplomatic relations more than 70 years ago, serving as a model for the friendly coexistence of nations. Zhao said China is willing to work with Pakistan to implement the important consensus reached by the leaders of the two countries, support each other firmly, enhance cooperation in various fields, and promote the deepening of bilateral relations, contributing to the accelerated construction of a closer China-Pakistan community with a shared future in the new era. China's NPC is willing to strengthen friendly exchanges with the Pakistani parliament, and deepen exchanges and interactions at various levels, in multiple fields and through diverse channels. It is also ready to work together to provide legal support for practical cooperation, enhance communication within multilateral organizations, and safeguard the common interests of developing countries, Zhao added. Hailing the Pakistan-China relationship as unbreakable, Sharif said that Pakistan supports the major visions and initiatives proposed by the Chinese leader, and upholds the one-China principle. Pakistan is also willing to promote cooperation between the legislative institutions of the two countries, he said.

https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202406/07/WS6663087aa31082fc043cb88d.html

Global Times

Pakistan and China cooperation has reached space, even higher than sky: Pakistani planning minister

From June 4 to 8, 2024, Pakistani Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif made an official visit to China. This was Sharif's first visit to China since being re-elected as Prime Minister this year. He was accompanied by several members of the Pakistani cabinet and businessmen. Ahsan Iqbal (Iqbal), Pakistani minister for planning, development and special initiatives was among the delegation. Due to his strong promotion of cooperation under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), Ahsan Iqbal is known as "Mr. CPEC." In an exclusive interview with the Global Times (GT) reporters Xie Wenting and Bai Yunyi in Beijing, Iqbal said that over the past decade, the CPEC has transformed Pakistan's energy and infrastructure landscape, greatly advancing the country's socio-economic development. He emphasized that in the next phase, the focus of CPEC cooperation will be on industry, agriculture and information technology. In the interview, Iqbal cited the recent successful launch of a Pakistani satellite into space using a Chinese rocket as an example, saying, people used to say that the relationship between Pakistan and China was higher than the Himalayas. "Now we are also cooperating in space technology... Our cooperation has reached space, even higher than the sky." He also touched on the issue of safety regarding Chinese people and projects in Pakistan. **How do you evaluate the changes brought to Pakistan by the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) over the years? Iqbal**: The CPEC has been a flagship project of the Belt and Road Initiative. Over the last 10 years, it has immensely contributed to the

socioeconomic development of Pakistan. Through the CPEC, Pakistan has added more than 8,000 megawatts of power to its energy grid. More than 500 kilometers of motorways and 800 kilometers of highways have been constructed. A fiber optic cable has been laid, creating an information highway between China and Pakistan. Additionally, numerous new energy projects, including solar and wind renewable energy projects, have been established. Pakistan was able to productively use a coal deposit that had been buried for 70 years. It is only through the CPEC that we were able to mine and utilize it to produce the cheapest power in the country. In the process, thousands of Pakistani workers and engineers have received training in new technologies. There is now more business-to-business cooperation, and special economic zones are being set up. In the second phase of the CPEC, our focus is to develop more industrial cooperation to promote special economic zones and provide incentives to Chinese companies to relocate with a low cost of production in Pakistan. We also aim to promote cooperation in the agriculture sector, as China is a leader in science and technology application in agriculture. We want to modernize our agriculture sector, as well as the IT sector, including information technology and artificial intelligence. We are establishing working groups to foster more cooperation in these fields. Likewise, there is more emphasis on people-to-people exchange and cooperation. The CPEC has brought Pakistan and China closer together. While we had a relatively weak economic partnership in the past, the CPEC has established a strategic economic partnership, completing Pakistan's strong political, economic, and people-to-people relationship with China. This makes our relationship unbreakable. Pakistan and China have been time-tested friends, with our relationship always advancing. Just as it used to be said that our friendship was higher than the Himalayan mountains, now we are also cooperating in space technology. Recently, with China's help, we launched Pakistan's largest satellite. This space cooperation elevates our friendship beyond the skies. **Pakistan is currently facing significant economic challenges. Will those economic difficulties pose a challenge to the construction of the second phase of the CPEC? Iqbal**: The challenges we are facing in terms of economic hardships are temporary because Pakistan has very strong fundamentals. It has a strong agricultural sector, strong industrial base, and abundant mineral resources. Therefore, we hope and believe that we will be able to turn around Pakistan's economy. Unfortunately, we faced a very bad climate disaster in 2022, which caused a $30 billion loss to Pakistan's economy. These setbacks were significant, but our economy is now recovering. The stock market has set a new record, surpassing a 76,000-point mark, which has never happened in the history of the country. This demonstrates that both local and international investors have complete faith and confidence in the economic policies of the present government. **What new and concrete progress on advancing the CPEC does your side expect to reach with China during this visit? Iqbal**: We hope to start the second phase of CPEC. Under this phase, we envision five corridors: a growth corridor, a livelihood-enhancing corridor, an innovation corridor, a green corridor and an open corridor. Through these five corridors, the footprint of CPEC will expand in various fields. We hope that CPEC will also be able to bring other countries in the region together. It will become a major initiative for shared prosperity in the region. **Many are concerned that while the CPEC and other Chinese economic projects in Pakistan have made significant progress, they have also been concerns over terrorism threats. What measures will the Pakistani government take to protect Chinese personnel and**

enterprises in Pakistan? Iqbal: Pakistan is taking extra precautions for the safety and security of Chinese citizens, and we have a special dedicated army force of more than 11,000 people to protect Chinese workers. The terrorism attacks are conducted by groups that are enemies of Pakistan, China and CPEC. Through such covert actions, they want to stop and sabotage CPEC. However, we will not let anyone hinder the progress of CPEC because they cannot defeat the spirit of the people of Pakistan and China. Just a few days ago, I was attending a meeting of Chinese companies in Islamabad, where a senior manager, who was from the same company where the incident happened, shared a touching story. He had just arrived that morning from Beijing, and he recounted how his wife and daughter expressed fear for his safety. They asked him if he should go, and he replied, "Pakistan is my second home, and I will fulfill my duty." We deeply respect and salute the spirit of our Chinese brothers who consider Pakistan their second home. Similarly, Pakistan is indeed their second home, and our relationship is unbreakable. Such terrorist actions, which are enemies of CPEC, will never be able to halt its progress or shake the resolve of the Chinese and Pakistani people to move forward.

https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202406/1313792.shtml

Xinhua Net

Pakistan's Gwadar port reflects BRI's commitment to local socio-economic development, says Pakistani minister

Misbah Saba Malik, Jiang Chao

The high-quality development of Pakistan's Gwadar port under the framework of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is a testimony that the China-proposed Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) is helping Gwadar evolve into a world-class port city brimming with opportunities, a Pakistani minister said. Located in the southwestern Balochistan province, the port presents significant opportunities for maritime trade in the region, including giving access to landlocked Central Asian country of Afghanistan, Ahsan Iqbal, the minister for planning, development and special initiatives, told Xinhua in a recent interview. The current development of Gwadar is just the first step and the port has a long way to go ... In partnership with China, we hope that Gwadar will become an internationally acclaimed world-class port city, which will have tremendous opportunities for the people of Pakistan," Iqbal added. Launched in 2013, CPEC, a flagship project under the BRI, is a corridor linking Pakistan's Gwadar port with Kashgar in northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, highlighting energy, transport, and industrial cooperation in the first phase, while the new phase expands to the areas of agriculture and improving livelihoods, among others. Under CPEC, both China and Pakistan are dedicated to developing Gwadar into a model smart city port, and in this regard a comprehensive master plan has been designed, with infrastructure is being developed. Talking about the prospects for investment in the Gwadar free zone, Iqbal said that several Chinese companies have showed interest in investing in industrial plants both for domestic production and export to other countries. He said chances to invest in Gwadar are available for all countries around the world to collaborate with Pakistan and China and enjoy the fruits of CPEC. "CPEC and the BRI seek a shared future

based on common principles of prosperity shared across people. And we appreciate that China is sharing its success, not just with Pakistan, but with other countries also to help them improve their infrastructure and socio-economic development," he added. In Gwadar, China has not only focused on developing the state-of-the-art port facility but also contributed to the local socio-economic development, with China-aided projects, including a modern hospital for the people of Gwadar, a technical training institution, a water desalination plant, and a 4F-class international airport, he said. Apart from the mega projects, China also keeps on helping the underprivileged people by providing them with solar panels to generate electricity, and awarding scholarships for study in Chinese universities, he added. "China's contribution in Gwadar has been very valuable in uplifting the lives of people and the region. Instead of just being a bystander, China has chosen to make its contribution," Iqbal said. After completing early harvest projects in the first phase of CPEC, the minister said, the forthcoming phase will unlock significant opportunities for Pakistan, enhancing livelihoods and socio-economic development. It will also connect Pakistan with cutting-edge technologies, driving an agricultural revolution and enhancing industrial growth to boost the country's industrial capabilities, helping Pakistan become a model of export-led growth, he added. Meanwhile, he expressed the confidence in an even faster development speed for the new phase of CPEC.

https://english.news.cn/20240607/1b8f4d31c6c34f7ea3745ad0ac86feac/c.html

June 08, 2024

China Daily

Xi reaffirms good ties with Pakistan, Brazil

President's meetings with Shehbaz Sharif, Geraldo Alckmin call for alignment of countries' development plans

More high-quality cooperation pledged

Beijing and Islamabad reaffirmed their ironclad friendship on Friday, with both sides vowing to continue enhancing high-quality cooperation on joint construction of the Belt and Road and stepping up the building of a closer China-Pakistan community with a shared future. The commitments were made when President Xi Jinping met with Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing. Sharif is on a five-day official visit to China, which will conclude late on Saturday.

https://epaper.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202406/08/WS6663a1b0a310df4030f52216.html

Chinese premier holds talks with Pakistani PM

Premier Li Qiang and Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif held talks in Beijing on Friday, agreeing to enhance the all-weather, strategic cooperative partnership to achieve more fruitful results. Li said that China has always prioritized Pakistan in its neighborhood diplomacy and stands ready to work with Pakistan to carry forward their traditional friendship, expand mutually beneficial cooperation, and accelerate the construction of a closer China-Pakistan community with a shared future in the new era to bring greater benefits to the two peoples. China firmly supports Pakistan in safeguarding its national sovereignty,

independence and territorial integrity, and in achieving unity, stability, security and prosperity, the premier said. He said China is willing to work with Pakistan to enhance the synergy of their development strategies, focus on upgrading the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), advance key projects, expand trade and investment cooperation to promote common development, and deepen cooperation on industry, agriculture, aerospace, information technology, ecology and environmental protection. He noted that China is willing to import more quality products from Pakistan and supports competent Chinese enterprises to invest in Pakistan. China will continue to support Pakistan in improving its people's livelihoods and its post-disaster reconstruction, and will carry out exchanges and cooperation with Pakistan in the fields of culture, tourism, local governments and think tanks, so that the China-Pakistan friendship will enjoy greater support among the people, Li said. China is willing to strengthen bilateral and multilateral counterterrorism and security cooperation with Pakistan, and will support Pakistan in strengthening its counterterrorism capacity-building. It is hoped that Pakistan will continue to resolutely ensure the safety of Chinese personnel, projects and institutions in Pakistan, he added. China has been Pakistan's most reliable partner, Shehbaz said, expressing gratitude to China for its significant contributions to Pakistan's economic and social development. Pakistan firmly supports China's position on issues related to Taiwan, Xizang, Xinjiang, Hong Kong and the South China Sea, and supports China in safeguarding its national sovereignty and territorial integrity, Shehbaz said. The prime minister noted that Pakistan is willing to work with China to advance the construction of the CPEC under the framework of the Belt and Road cooperation, and strengthen exchange and cooperation in such fields as the economy, trade, investment, agriculture and culture, hoping for more fruitful results from the all-weather, strategic cooperative partnership between Pakistan and China, and from the construction of a Pakistan-China community with a shared future. Expressing grief over the killing of the Chinese citizens in a terrorist attack at the Dasu Hydropower Station, Shehbaz said Pakistan will use all its strength to ensure the safety of Chinese personnel and institutions in Pakistan, and resolutely defeat any attempt that undermines the Pakistan-China friendship. After their talks, Premier Li and Prime Minister Shehbaz attended a signing ceremony for a number of bilateral cooperation documents in such fields as transport, industry, agriculture, market regulation, livelihoods, capacity-building, and film and television.

https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202406/08/WS6663cab5a31082fc043cb94e.html

June 09, 2024

Global Times

China, Pakistan issue joint statement, vowing to build CPEC into 'exemplary project of Belt and Road cooperation'

As Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's visit to China concluded on Saturday, China and Pakistan have issued a joint statement, stressing the authority of the UN General Assembly Resolution 2758 not to be disputed or challenged, while vowing to build together the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) into an exemplary project of high-quality building of Belt and Road cooperation. The two sides reiterated their All-Weather Strategic

Cooperative Partnership and ironclad friendship, with the Chinese side stressing that this pair of relationship is "a priority in its foreign relations," and the Pakistani side underscoring it as "the cornerstone of its foreign policy," Xinhua News Agency reported. Recognizing the CPEC as "a pioneering project of the Belt and Road Initiative," the joint statement said the project has changed the development landscape of Pakistan, benefited its people's well-being, and promoted the integrated development of the two countries. After the successful first decade of CPEC, the two sides are committed to carrying out the eight major steps for supporting high-quality Belt and Road cooperation, forging an "upgraded version" of the CPEC by jointly building a corridor that is innovative, green and open, aligning with Pakistan's 5Es Framework based on Exports, E-Pakistan, Environment, Energy, and Equity & Empowerment to better benefit the two countries and their peoples. China and Pakistan will work together to build CPEC into an exemplary project of high-quality building of Belt and Road cooperation. The two sides have also recognized the significance of Gwadar Port as an important node in cross-regional connectivity. They reiterated the need to speed up the development of the auxiliary infrastructure of the Gwadar Port in order to fully realize the potential of the coastal city, especially as a transshipment hub with its own shipyard. In the joint statement, they also reaffirmed their unyielding support for each other on issues concerning their respective core interests. On the Taiwan question in particular, both sides stressed that the authority of the UN General Assembly Resolution 2758 brooks no dispute or challenge. Pakistan reaffirmed its firm commitment to the one-China principle, and reiterated that Taiwan is an inalienable part of the 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." Shedding lights on counter-terrorism efforts, 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. Meanwhile, China and Pakistan expressed their firm opposition to the double standards on counter-terrorism, and opposed the politicization and instrumentalization of this effort. Chinese Premier Li Qiang held talks with Shehbaz in Beijing on Friday, noting that China is willing to work with Pakistan to enhance the synergy of their development strategies, focus on upgrading the CPEC, expand trade and investment cooperation, and deepen cooperation on industry, agriculture, aerospace, information technology, ecology and environmental protection. He noted that China is willing to import more quality products from Pakistan and supports Chinese enterprises to invest more in the country. Following their talks, Premier Li and Prime Minister Shehbaz attended a signing ceremony for a number of bilateral cooperation documents in such fields as transport, industry, agriculture, market regulation, livelihoods, capacity-building, and film and television, according to Xinhua. In an exclusive interview with the Global Times in Beijing, Ahsan Iqbal, Pakistani minister for planning, development and special initiatives, who accompanied Shehbaz on his China visit, emphasized that in the next phase, the focus of CPEC cooperation will be on industry, agriculture and information technology. Iqbal cited the recent successful launch of a Pakistani satellite into space using a Chinese rocket as an example, saying, people used to say that the relationship between Pakistan and China was higher than the Himalayas. "Now we are also cooperating in space technology... Our

cooperation has reached space, even higher than the sky." https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202406/1313821.shtml

Xinhua Net

Joint Statement between the People's Republic of China and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan

Full Text: Joint Statement between the People's Republic of China and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan

https://english.news.cn/20240609/9ff07eee0de14f4297b55e25daa70677/c.html

June 10, 2024

Global Times

China makes efforts to bring prosperity to the world alongside domestic growth

Anthony Moretti

In Beijing, the essay topic for the English test of this year's gaokao focuses on the 75th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China. Chinese middle school student Li Hua is asked to offer some suggestions to his foreign friend Jim, who wants to write a piece on this subject. To help enlighten Jim as well as those who are interested in China's development, Global Times invited several foreign experts and observers to share their insights on China's great achievements in various spheres over the past seven and half decades. On October 1 this year, the People's Republic of China (PRC) will celebrate the 75th anniversary of its founding. At the risk of engaging in hyperbole, it is doubtful the global community in 1949 would have foreseen what the nation would become over time. I begin with the obvious: The PRC, when it was officially recognized by the United Nations (UN) in 1971, was a long way from asserting itself on the global stage. But with reform and opening-up beginning seven years later, that's where the country has steadily earned its place. Through its growing diplomatic presence across the globe and its ever-expanding economy, China provides nations big and small with assurances that it is, and will remain, a proactive actor. In 2018, the Brookings Institution reviewed the first four decades of reform and opening-up. It noted that China had been "profoundly transformed" with the Chinese people understanding the clear benefits of an improved standard of living. It added the following: "A clear majority of China's people (often an overwhelming majority) express satisfaction with the regime's policies, are optimistic about the direction of the country and indicate that they expect their children to have a better life than they do." The country eradicated extreme poverty almost four years ago, and the World Bank estimates that China's per capita GDP is now above $12,000. Keep in mind that it was less than $1,000 at the beginning of this century. Chinese leader has affirmed China is now a moderately prosperous society. What's the next goal? "We are now marching in confident strides toward the second centenary goal of building China into a great modern socialist country in all respects," the Chinese president said. Alongside domestic growth, efforts have been made to bring prosperity to other nations. Perhaps the

most talked about program is the China-initiated Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), which started over 10 years ago. Roughly 150 nations are involved. Major infrastructure projects were one defining example of the BRI's initial decade. According to one estimate, China invested more than $1 trillion in the projects. Meanwhile, because the geographical scope of the BRI is constantly expanding, Latin America might become a central player in subsequent years. Whether it will rival the success of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, which since its creation according to another estimate has created "236,000 jobs and helped Pakistan add 510 kilometers of expressways and 8,000 megawatts of power supply," will become clearer over time. It is disappointing to note that as the PRC soon celebrates its 75th anniversary, its relations with the US are nowhere near where they were 50 years ago. In what seemed like the blink of an eye, following president Richard Nixon's historic visit to Beijing in 1972, the two countries established diplomatic relations, commenced high-level exchanges, signed several cooperation agreements and worked together to ensure China's accession into the World Trade Organization. Those accomplishments are just a few examples of how positive bilateral relations between the world's two most powerful nations can foster goodwill. Of course, the idea of a multipolar world, where nations need not see only one locus of international power, does not sit well in the West. That reality provides a significant cause of the fracture in the relationship. Yes, there are plenty of reasons for the US most especially to tout the world order created after World War II. However, the pressure applied to many countries during that time to adopt Western values was not positively received in many foreign capitals. China's approach is different, and should the US and its closest allies continue to view the Global South with apprehension, if not disdain, then that part of the world will continue to be amenable to Beijing's message: The Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, unveiled by late Chinese premier Zhou Enlai in 1953, form the core of China's philosophy. The global picture in 2024 remains unstable. Military conflicts in the Middle East and Eastern Europe, climate change and chronic economic inequality challenge world leaders to find the right solutions. As those efforts continue, China will be at the center of all the conversations. Its commitment to working with the UN to make the world a better place will continue. So, too, will the development of the Chinese nation.

https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202406/1313855.shtml

People Daily News

Interview: China's BRI a game changer of global trade, says Pakistani economist

The China-proposed Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) is a game changer that re-directs global trade, a Pakistani economist has said. Many countries that have a comparative advantage could not enjoy that advantage due to disconnection with other countries, Mohammad Zubair Khan, a former Pakistani commerce minister, told Xinhua in a recent interview. "With the expansion of the BRI connectivity that was planned and envisioned by China, I think that will change, and we will all benefit from the BRI structure," he said. Highlighting the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), one of the BRI's flagship projects, the economist said it is connecting the warm waters of the Arabian Sea and the Persian Gulf with the entire Asia

that lies to the north. 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. "It's not just about trade with the big economy of China, but the Central Asian economies. They can all be connected through the links into CPEC," he said. The development of Gwadar port under CPEC would play a major role in reducing the bottlenecks Pakistan had been facing in terms of trade, connectivity and access to the international markets, Khan said. The CPEC investment is an integrated approach towards facilitating Pakistan's connectivity with the entire world, he said. "So it is very essential that Gwadar is seen in a positive light by all our neighbors as it helps our integration in the region and across the globe," said the economist. This aerial photo taken on May 23, 2023 shows the Rashakai Special Economic Zone under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor in the northwest Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province of Pakistan. (China Road and Bridge Corporation/Handout via Xinhua) The economist who represented Pakistan at the first ministerial conference of the World Trade Organization, and has vast experience working with the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, rejected the West's allegation that the BRI's investment model is exploitative in nature and generates debt traps for the countries. "The Western model of foreign investment is also the same, so why will Chinese investment be detrimental to the developing world? That is not," he said, noting that the notion that the CPEC project has created a debt burden on Pakistan is factually incorrect. Most of Pakistan's debt is owed to Western creditors while China's credit accounts for a very small portion of Pakistan's total indebtedness, Khan said, adding that the government is indebted in the local currency to the domestic banks as well. "So, the debt problem has to do with the macroeconomic management," he said. The economist said the Chinese investment in CPEC has been initially in the infrastructure which the South Asian country was lacking. It was not driven by China's own interests, but suited the development needs of Pakistan, he said. Like what happened to a few other countries, the Chinese investment may result in some foreign exchange outflows, but it added to the infrastructure much needed by Pakistan, Khan said. In the next phase, once trade with China and other countries begins, following the development of the industrial, agricultural and service sectors, the issue of foreign exchange outflows, which is incorrectly termed as a debt trap, will be addressed, and there will be foreign exchange inflows into Pakistan, he noted.

http://en.people.cn/n3/2024/0610/c90000-20179653.html

China makes pioneering contributions to humanity's peaceful use of space

He Yin

The ascender of China's Chang'e-6 probe lifted off from the lunar surface on June 4, carrying samples collected from the moon's far side, which marked a historic step in humanity's peaceful use of outer space. The international community has closely followed the Chang'e-6 mission, recognizing its significant contribution to the progress of space exploration for humanity. The mission was said to be a leapfrog achievement of China's space exploration, a key milestone of the country's aerospace development, and a historic moment in human lunar

exploration. The Chang'e-6 mission's voyage to the far side of the moon marked a historic milestone, not only for China's space exploration endeavors but also for humanity's peaceful use of space. Before Chang'e-6 was sent to space, all 10 lunar sample return missions conducted by humans by far have taken place on the near side of the moon. The South Pole-Aitken Basin on the far side of the moon is considered the largest, oldest and deepest basin on the lunar surface. Collecting and analyzing samples from this region would mark the first time for humanity to obtain samples from the far side of the moon, and thereby deepen humanity's understanding of the moon's formation and the evolution of the solar system. To achieve this goal, Chang'e-6 incorporated a number of innovations, successfully overcoming the technical challenges in each stage of its mission, including landing on the far side of the moon, collecting samples, and lifting off from the lunar surface. Josef Aschbacher, director general of the European Space Agency (ESA), congratulated China on the remarkable success of Chang'e-6 mission thus far, calling it a "wonderful accomplishment." Al Jazeera of Qatar reported that the Chang'e-6 landing marks China's second descent on the far side of the moon, where no other country has reached. The mission "involves many engineering innovations, high risks and great difficulty," the report added. China has always been actively promoting international cooperation in lunar and deep space exploration, exactly mirrored by the international payloads onboard the Chang'e-6 lander, which are from the ESA, France, Italy, and Pakistan. During the Chang'e-6 mission, Chinese scientists have shared scientific data and conducted joint research with their foreign counterparts. For instance, the French lunar radon detector functioned during the Earth-moon transfer, lunar orbit, and lunar surface stages; the ESA's lunar surface negative ion analyzer operated during the lunar surface stage. Additionally, an Italian laser retroreflector mounted on the top of the lander of Chang'e-6 served as a position control point for distance measurements on the far side of the moon. The Chang'e-6 mission also carried ICUBE-Q, a cube satellite from Pakistan, which marked the first step of Pakistan's space exploration and signified the dedication of Pakistani scientists. Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif said that the ICUBE-Q moon satellite is Pakistan's first step in space and the country's scientists and engineers are proving their abilities in this field just like they did in the other fields. This is a historic moment in the journey of technological advancement as with this important success, Pakistan has entered a new era of utilizing space for its objectives, he added. This year marks the 20th anniversary of the establishment of China's lunar exploration project. Over the past 20 years, the country has constantly set new records in humanity's exploration of the moon: from Chang'e-1 capturing a complete map of the moon's surface, to Chang'e-4 achieving humanity's first soft-landing on the far side of the moon; from Chang'e-5 returning with lunar soil samples, to Chang'e-6 successfully retrieving samples from the moon's far side. Chinese space experts and personnel have always followed the lunar exploration spirit of pursuing dreams, daring to explore, cooperating in tackling difficulties and win-win cooperation. They are striving to make China strong in the aerospace sector, while also making pioneering contributions to humanity's peaceful use of space and building a community with a shared future for mankind. James Carpenter, ESA's head of planetary science research, said that it is really fantastic to see how China's lunar program has grown and become world class. "We feel privileged and happy to be part of it. We are also interested in further cooperation exploring the solar system." China's Chang'e-7 lunar exploration mission, scheduled for launch around 2026, will

carry six scientific instruments developed by six countries and one international organization, namely Egypt, Bahrain, Italy, Russia, Switzerland, Thailand and the International Lunar Observatory Association. Besides, the International Lunar Research Station (ILRS), a comprehensive scientific experiment facility program initiated by China and jointly developed by multiple countries and organizations, is moving forward rapidly. Recently, the ILRS has added new partners, including Nicaragua, the Asia-Pacific Space Cooperation Organization, and the Arab Union for Astronomy and Space Sciences. The whole world is anticipating the safe return of Chang'e-6 with the "lunar treasures." Moving forward, humanity will never cease the steps of space exploration. China will continue to deepen international aerospace exchanges and cooperation on the basis of equality, mutual benefit, peaceful use, and inclusive development. It stands ready to share development achievements with countries around the world, and work with them to explore the mysteries of the universe, expand human knowledge, improve the well-being of humanity, and serve human civilizations.

http://en.people.cn/n3/2024/0610/c90000-20179657.html

June 12, 2024

China Daily

International students engage in dragon boat race

During the recent Dragon Boat Festival, Wuhan University of Science and Technology in Hubei province hosted a vibrant friendship dragon boat race at Qinhu Lake, a cherished tradition of the university that attracted a diverse array of international students. Part of a rich tapestry of cultural events celebrating the festival, the race served as a focal point, drawing enthusiastic participation from students worldwide. Anshrah Yousafzai from Pakistan shared her excitement, highlighting the engaging activities such as zongzi (glutinous rice dumplings) making and the opportunity to don traditional Chinese hanfu dresses for reciting holiday poems. Yousafzai further expressed delight in partaking in various games and emerging victorious with a trove of prizes. Zhang Jianwei, a senior official at the university's international education institute, emphasized the significance of such traditional cultural activities in breathing life into the university's cultural heritage. By providing international students with immersive experiences in traditional Chinese culture, the university strives to transport them back in time to ancient China, enabling them to intimately engage with and appreciate the essence of the country's rich traditions.

https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202406/12/WS666965aca31082fc043cc21a.html

June 13, 2024

Global Times

Chinese new energy production capability responds to existing and future projected demand: Pakistani economist

China's "overcapacity" has become a "hot topic" in major Western media and for some officials, with the US using it as an excuse to impose tariffs. "The US considers China to be a threat to their lead and their hegemony in the field of new energy. And they are barring Chinese products and technologies from entering the US, which is unfortunate," Ishrat Husain **(Husain)**, former chief economist of the World Bank and former governor of Pakistan's Central Bank, told Global Times **(GT)** reporter Su Yaxuan. The world needs both China and the US to work together and collaborate, rather than get into confrontations, he said. **GT: Recently, the West has been hyping up China's "overcapacity." In your opinion, does China really have "overcapacity" in new energy products? Husain:** No, I don't think so. We must realize that China has been world's factory as it contributes 35 percent of global manufactured goods, which is more than the combined total of goods produced by the US, Japan, Germany, India and South Korea. China has held the position of the top manufacturing country for more than 10 years and has consistently enjoyed a trade surplus of around 10 percent of GDP by importing less than it exports to the rest of the world. China has not only invested in emerging technologies and built supporting infrastructure such as highways, airports, bullet trains, ports, which along with low wages have reduced the unit cost of production, it has also anticipated the future demand that is becoming evident due to climate change. The demand for new energy products is also rising in developing countries, which is beneficial for the economic prosperity of these countries. Climate change is one of the challenges currently facing the world. We have to go for electric vehicles (EVs), batteries, clean energy such as solar and wind as well as green technology. China is on the right track by moving in these directions. By moving forward in these areas, China has already established itself as the leader, in solar panels, batteries and production of EVs. And China is spending a lot of money on new and emerging technologies. **GT: How should we understand "overcapacity" from an economic perspective? Husain:** Overcapacity means that you are selling your goods below the production cost. But that is not what China is doing. It is producing goods based on its comparative advantage, utilizing economies of scale, top scientific manpower and world-class infrastructure. China is meeting current and future demand, both domestically and internationally, especially in emerging and developing countries, at competitive prices. In other words, China is producing those goods in response to existing and future projected demand based on its comparative advantage. This is not overcapacity. **GT: Do developing countries, especially those in the Global South, acknowledge China's "overcapacity"? Husain:** The developing countries, especially those in the Global South, do not believe that China has "overcapacity" in its energy products. This is because the new energy products being supplied are driven by demand, both current and projected for the future. China is simply trying to meet this demand and there does not appear to be any oversupply. China has developed expertise in the entire supply chain, from design to final assembly, using low-value components and parts from

other countries. As a result, its energy industry is able to produce low-cost, efficient, and high-quality products. Furthermore, other developing countries are benefiting from China's new energy sales. For example, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and African countries are switching from fossil fuels to clean, renewable energy. China has a large production capacity for solar panels, and the export prices are relatively low, which benefits countries like ours that import them. Therefore, some developing countries, like Pakistan, are now benefiting from lower prices for solar panels. A lot of people in Pakistan are now switching their rooftops to solar panels. This is a win-win situation.

GT: What is the real purpose of the US playing the "overcapacity" card? Husain: The US considers China to be a threat to their lead and hegemony in the field of new energy. They are providing subsidies and protecting their own industries while barring Chinese products and technologies from entering the US, which is unfortunate. Just like in the semiconductor and chip sector, the Joe Biden administration has provided substantial subsidies to their own semiconductor and chip factories while imposing restrictions on China. They do not want Chinese products to enter the US market. These actions go against the philosophy of their economic model as the consumers have to bear the brunt of higher prices and inflationary pressures. The world, particularly the developing countries, needs both China and the US to work together and collaborate, rather than get into confrontations. I don't believe that we should have two blocs, one led by China and the other by the US. Both of these countries have something to offer for the stability and prosperity of the world. **GT: What do you want to say about the current development of new energy in China? Husain:** I am optimistic about China's future because of the new quality productive forces, and the lead China is taking in green energy. China should continue to invest in research and development. **GT: You have denied the claim that China extracts resources from other developing countries. You believe that, unlike the West, China always asks the countries it helps what they truly need. In your view, how does China help and cooperate with other developing countries, such as Pakistan? Is there a "debt trap" as Western media claims？ Husain:** I think it is now very clear that China is a big aid provider to African countries, and it responds to the needs of the countries. It doesn't come with the preconceived notion that this is what your country should do. It comes with the proposition: What are your priorities? And we will try to help you with the priorities. Whether it is a railroad, a highway, or a motorway, an energy plant, China helps those countries in meeting their priorities. Until today, China has invested $25.4 billion in generating more than 8,000 megawatts of electricity in Pakistan. Most of it is hydropower, or electricity, which is clean energy. And they are going to compete for three more projects in the near future. So China has actually responded to our pressing needs as we are facing power outages hurting our industry and inconveniencing our households. China has come to our rescue, and I'm glad that it actually executes these projects. One of the good things about China is that its speed in executing competing projects is very high as compared to Pakistan. I don't think China's help is a debt trap. It was exaggerated by the Western media because they don't want the developing countries to be aligned with China in their development processes and because the West thinks they are losing their grip.

https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202406/1314093.shtml

Xinhua Net

GLOBALink | Motorway under CPEC cooperation contributes to development in Pakistan's remote region

The Sukkur-Multan Motorway, also known as M5, a major transportation infrastructure project under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), is contributing to the socio-economic development in central Pakistan.

https://english.news.cn/20240613/5fca83a2a1ee49e39a3c6c7cbf99bac7/c.html

June 14, 2024

People Daily News

China's technology transfer boosts self-reliance of Pakistan railways: official

Pakistan Railways inducted 40 high-quality freight wagons locally manufactured through technology transfer by China, the railways said in a statement on Wednesday. "The railways have taken a significant step towards self-reliance by adding the international standard wagons for freight trains," the statement said. The "modern wagons" were inaugurated at a railway station in east Lahore district by Chief Executive Officer Aamir Ali Baloch, who said local production marks a crucial move towards reducing dependency on imports and conserving foreign exchange. The new design allows freight trains to transport containers efficiently, enhancing their versatility, he said. "In the past, the low speed of freight trains resulted in considerable delays in the transportation of commercial goods. The inclusion of these new wagons in our fleet will increase the speed of freight trains to 100 km per hour," said Baloch. This advancement will not only expedite freight services but also contribute significantly to the national economy, he added. The locally manufactured wagons are expected to boost Pakistan Railways' freight revenue by over 9 billion rupees (about 32 million U.S. dollars) annually, providing much-needed financial stability to the institution, he said. With China's cooperation, 820 new wagons will be integrated into the railway system by the end of the fiscal year 2025-26, the statement quoted the official as saying. The cooperation reflects Pakistan Railways' dedication to modernization and efficiency, setting a new standard in the country's transportation sector, he said.

http://en.people.cn/n3/2024/0614/c90000-20181361.html

Pakistani truck carrying cherries in specialized refrigerated containers reaches China

The first truck of Pakistan's National Logistics Corporation (NLC) carrying 6 tons of cherries in specialized refrigerated containers successfully reached China Wednesday via the Khunjerab Pass, a major land port on the China-Pakistan border. Another NLC truck is scheduled to depart from the country's northern Gilgit-Baltistan region next week, the NLC said in a statement. "By utilizing specialized refrigerated containers, NLC is ensuring the cherries' freshness throughout the journey," said the statement, adding that the purpose is to boost Pakistan's agricultural exports to regional countries. The facility meets global

quarantine standards and is fully equipped to process, sort, and package high-quality cherries, said the NCL. Following the successful delivery of the initial consignment, NLC plans to maintain regular shipments of cherries to several Chinese cities, including Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou, and Huizhou in southern Guangdong province, the statement said. By leveraging these specialized reefers, NLC aims to empower orchard owners in Gilgit-Baltistan, enabling them to secure a significant share in the lucrative Chinese market, it added.

http://en.people.cn/n3/2024/0614/c90000-20181379.html

Xinhua Net

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https://english.news.cn/20240614/dbbbce7c77504acfa3885e5191a1eed9/c.html

June 15, 2024

People Daily News

Pakistan to follow China's Shenzhen lead to promote business opportunities: PM

Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif said on Friday that his country will seek assistance from Chinese experts to establish a pilot facilitation center modeled after the one-stop shop in the southern Chinese city of Shenzhen, to promote a business and investor-friendly environment, the prime minister's office said. Addressing a meeting to enhance business opportunities and facilitate the business community, Sharif said that strengthening the export sector and facilitating investors are the main priorities of the country, the office said. The prime minister also gave the greenlight to the Ease of Business Act, emphasizing that fostering a business and investment-friendly environment is vital for the country's economic

development. He proposed that documentation processes for business and trading community be simplified through one-window operations. Sharif also directed the introduction of an online one-window Pakistan business portal to integrate services from all relevant agencies into a single platform, making it easier for businesses to access required services.

http://en.people.cn/n3/2024/0615/c90000-20181655.html