



For Better Understanding on China–Pakistan and CPEC

Gleanings from the National & Chinese Press

October 16-31, 2023

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October 16, 2023

Business Recorder

Renewable energy

China can sculpt a sustainable blueprint for Pakistan

ISLAMABAD: On the 10th anniversary of China's influential Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), the evolving partnership between Pakistan and China can potentially lead the charge towards a sustainable tomorrow. At the heart of this transformative journey lies the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), which now emerges not just as a symbol of enduring friendship but could also become a beacon for global environmental stewardship.

To this end, Renewables First (RF) in partnership with People of Asia for Climate Solutions (PACS) released a brief emphasising China's unparalleled potential in steering this shift toward green energy. "With its global leadership in the Renewable Energy domain, China can sculpt a sustainable blueprint for Pakistan, serving as a model for other nations on the BRI corridor," stated the report.

Historically, CPEC's infrastructural progress, heavily backed by Chinese investments, leaned predominantly on coal projects. This demands pivoting towards renewable energy deployment going forward to address the underlying environmental footprint of previous projects. The report underscores, "In a rapidly changing world where climate vulnerabilities threaten geopolitical and socioeconomic landscapes, the thematic core of projects like CPEC must resonate with global sustainability aspirations."

Tom Xiaojun Wang, Executive Director of PACS, reflected on this evolution, stating, "Under the BRI, there are important corridors, such as CPEC, that connect countries with China through mutually agreed, designed, and constructed sustainable projects."

Ranking amongst the most vulnerable countries to climate change poised with river flow reductions, alarming glacial melt rates, and frequent catastrophic flooding, embarking on greener and sustainable development ventures has become an existential necessity for Pakistan.

China's 2021 landmark decision to curtail overseas coal plant projects, paired with its unwavering commitment to harness renewable energy sources, signals a renewed vision for CPEC. This strategic alignment is bolstered by Pakistan's ambitious target of propelling solar and wind share to 30% of its total electricity mix by 2030.

Moreover, opportunities for holistic collaborations are abundant. Beyond the power sector, Pakistan's initiatives to electrify transport, industrial, and domestic sectors amplify the synergy between the two nations, ensuring benefits that extend beyond borders. Economic setbacks, such as Pakistan's challenges in managing power payments, emphasise the dire need for both environmentally prudent and fiscally strategic collaborations.

Companies like Goldwind are already making substantial inroads in Pakistan's renewable energy sector. But the landscape promises further expansion. Solar and wind energy sectors

are forecasted to surge dramatically in the next decade, further elevating CPEC as an emblematic epicentre for green investments.

“China and Pakistan are poised at a unique intersection of economic growth and environmental diligence,” said Muhammad Basit Ghauri, Sr. Associate at RF. “Blending economic aspirations with environmental tenets can redefine CPEC, transforming it from a mere infrastructural marvel to a global touchstone in sustainable overseas development,” he further explained.

As the world grapples with the challenges of climate change, initiatives like CPEC become instrumental in crafting a responsive strategy. By harnessing China’s global green initiatives and leveraging Pakistan’s expansive renewable energy potential, the ensuing decade of CPEC promises a narrative of progress, prosperity, and above all, sustainability.—PR

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2023/10/16/2-page/974472-news.html>

Disappointing signal for PM’s visit

Pak-China Business, Investment Forum event cancelled

ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwar-ul-Haq’s visit to China to participate in the 3rd Build and Road Forum (BRF) scheduled to be held October 17-18, 2023 has reportedly received a disappointing signal: that the event of Pak-China Business and Investment Forum has been cancelled, well informed sources in Board of Investment (BoI) told Business Recorder.

Board of Investment had made all preparations for a successful Business and Investment Forum and informed all the relevant Ministries and Organisations about it. However, now the BoI has informed the Ministries of National Food Security and Research, Power Division, Petroleum Division, Industries and Production, Information Technology and Telecommunication and Chairman, Special Technology Zones Authority (STZA) that the Business and Investment Forum has been cancelled, the sources added.

Meanwhile, the caretaker Prime Minister presided over a meeting on his forthcoming visit to China and discussed different bilateral issues with the concerned Ministries and passed on directives to them for further input.

The sources said, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Commerce and Power Division were directed to provide inputs on the issues to be raised with the Chinese leadership, i.e., Free Trade Agreement (FTA), measures to improve balance of trade with China, Sinasure approvals for Kohala and Azad Pattan (Power Division), and delay in payment to Chinese IPPs while highlighting that a major portion of the dues were paid.

Caretaker Prime Minister has directed Ministry of Information, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Embassy of Pakistan in Beijing to prepare coordinated media strategy for projection of the visit. This would include, inter alia, a briefing by Secretary Information and additional Secretary (Asia Pacific) MoFA, which has already been done. Publication of Prime Minister’s article in Chinese press, PM’s interaction with Chinese media and timely supply of media material for each engagement during the visit is also on the cards.

According to sources, Power Division and Finance Division have been directed to ensure partial payment to Chinese IPPs of outstanding dues to be made before the visit. An amount up to Rs 12 billion is likely to be paid to Chinese power companies on Monday (today).

Shah Jahan Mirza, Managing Director Private Power and Infrastructure Board (PPIB) which deals with CPEC IPPs, is also expected to accompany the caretaker Prime Minister to assist him in meetings with the Chinese leadership and CEOs of the relevant companies. Regarding the Gwadar Power Plant, Minister for Power, Muhammad Ali may brief the Chinese side during his interaction.

It has also been decided that following officials of Government of Pakistan/ Gilgit Baltistan will join Prime Minister during official engagements in Beijing: Chief Secretary, Gilgit Baltistan, Director General Transit Trade, FBR, Collector Customs, and GB Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC) will lead on agriculture.

Pakistan is expected to seek Chinese investment on the following hydropower projects with completed feasibility studies: (i) 10MW HPP at Tormik Skardu; (ii) 15MW HPP Sakarkoi Gilgit; (iii) 40MW HPP Basho Skardu; (iv) 80MW HPP Phandar Ghizer; and 100MW HPP Kiu Gilgit. The sources said brief on Gwadar Port including status of New Gwadar Airport has already been provided to the Prime Minister.

Prime Minister directed Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Communication to explore possibility of MoU on Yarik-Zhob Section N-50 of western corridor during the visit to China. Signing of Five Year Action Plan for Highway Technical Cooperation between China and Pakistan is also on the cards.

The concerned Ministries have also updated Prime Minister on over two dozen pacts to be signed during his visit to China and incentive packages for SEZs. —MUSHTAQ GHUMMAN

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2023/10/16/12-page/974535-news.html>

Dawn News

Beijing to strengthen CPEC for another decade

ISLAMABAD: Chinese ambassador in Pakistan Jiang Zaidong has expressed his country's readiness to further promote the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) in partnership with Pakistan.

“We are ready to work with our Pakistani colleagues from all walks of life to further promote the projects in the next 10 years of CPEC,” the Chinese ambassador said at a seminar, “CPEC and My Life”.

“What was agreed between President Xi Jinping and the Pakistani leaders for high-quality, sustainable and enhanced cooperation and support in the fields of security and development, we can implement with mutual consensus,” he said.

The Chinese ambassador believed that Pakistan and China could jointly transform the CPEC corridor into a corridor of love and peace. He noted that mutual cooperation in new fields like industry, agriculture, mining, science and technology, and IT sectors could be expanded.

“Thus, a new chapter can be added to CPEC, bringing the people of China and Pakistan closer in the common future,” maintained Chinese ambassador Jiang Zaidong.

CPEC enters a new phase

Caretaker Information Minister Murtaza Solangi said that interaction between the top leadership of both countries in China would further enhance the bilateral relationship to new heights as caretaker Prime Minister Anwaarul Haq Kakar leaves for China on Monday (today) to participate in Belt and Road Forum being hosted by the Chinese President Xi Jinping in Beijing.

Mr Solangi expressed his happiness about people at the grassroots level being invited to speak about the positive impact of CPEC on their lives.

He pointed out that people have greatly benefited from various CPEC projects, such as the Orange Train in Lahore, Thar coal in Sindh, and Gwadar in Balochistan.

Changing economic landscape

Discussing the establishment of the Special Investment Facilitation Council by Pakistan to provide one-window facilities to investors, the minister said as CPEC enters a new phase, Pakistan eagerly anticipates increased bilateral cooperation in mining, agriculture, IT, and other sectors.

He emphasised that improving geographical linkages through enhanced road, rail and air transportation systems would foster more frequent people-to-people contacts and enhance mutual understanding through academic connections.

Foreign Secretary Syrus Qazi, in his address, noted that the CPEC as President Xi’s flagship Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) project, symbolises Pakistan-China strategic cooperation.

“CPEC has broken new ground in regional connectivity and is multiplying opportunities for economic integration for the entire region, while taking our higher-than-the-Himalayas friendship with China to even greater heights,” Mr Qazi said.

The foreign secretary said that from the Pakistan-China border in Xinjiang all the way to the deep-sea ports of Karachi and Gwadar, the economic landscape of Pakistan has been transformed in the last 10 years.

“Our infrastructure has been upgraded, unleashing the productivity of our large, youthful and skilled population,” he added.

Mr Qazi noted that CPEC ensured rapid economic development in the less privileged and remote sections of the country.

He said that the shared goal of Pakistan and China was to develop Gwadar as the regional trade and connectivity hub, linking it with markets in Central Asia and the Middle East.

“The implementation of such a massive project requires strong political and public support,” observed the foreign secretary.

[https://www.dawn.com/news/1781275#:~:text=ISLAMABAD%3A%20Chinese%20ambassador%20in%20Pakistan,CPEC\)%20in%20partnership%20with%20Pakistan.](https://www.dawn.com/news/1781275#:~:text=ISLAMABAD%3A%20Chinese%20ambassador%20in%20Pakistan,CPEC)%20in%20partnership%20with%20Pakistan.)

Pakistan Observer

Mega event in Beijing China to showcase achievements and potential of BRI

AS PART of the celebrations to mark completion of ten years of the historic Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), China is hosting a mega event in Beijing to showcase achievements of the widely-acclaimed vision of President Xi Jinping and its vast potential to accelerate the pace of socio-economic progress in almost all continents of the globe. The third Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation would be held in the Chinese capital on October 17 and 18, which will be attended by leaders from 130 countries and 30 international organizations.

Pakistan, which is considered to be the living example of the success of the flagship project of the BRI – China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) – would be effectively represented by Prime Minister Anwar-ul-Haq Kakar. The visit would provide him an opportunity for an indepth exchange of views with the Chinese leadership on ways and means to take the bilateral cooperation to new heights to the mutual advantage of the people of the two countries.

The Chinese President, who launched the initiative in 2013 as part of his vision of shared prosperity, would deliver a key-note address at the forum, which is being held under the theme “High Quality Belt and Road Initiative: Together for Common Development and Prosperity”. The event would feature three high-level forums on connectivity, green development, and digital economy, as well as six seminars.

The two-day Forum has special significance as it will have in-person participation by a large number of delegates from different parts of the world as no Forum could be held after 2019 due to concerns and precautions arising out of Covid-19. The Forum also assumes importance as it would be held weeks after announcement of some countries about the launch of a new India-Middle East-Europe Corridor. It might take years for the new plan to lift off because of political, economic and geographic constraints but through their hard work, commitment and dedication, Chinese have already demonstrated to the world that the BRI has the potential to change the entire landscape of world. In fact, the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) grows from China but serves the world as over the past decade, an open China has joined hands with more and more partners for a better world. Some international observers comment that no country in history has ever tried to roll out policies to build economic ties among so many countries across various continents.

The success of the Chinese initiative lies in the meticulous planning, lining up of necessary finances and fast-track implementation of the mutually identified projects with partner countries. BRI is not a paper dream as Pakistan is already reaping benefits of the projects completed under the Early Harvest programme of the CPEC. Propaganda by internal and external elements notwithstanding, the fact remains and there is universal consensus in Pakistan that the CPEC has helped accelerate the pace of socio-economic development in the country, especially in the realm of energy sector where Pakistan now has enough generation capacity to meet its growing power needs for years– thanks to completion of a number of energy projects with the cooperation of China. Similarly, connectivity has also improved a lot due to world class highways and motorways and modernization of ports and the two countries

have entered into an understanding to expand their cooperation under the framework of the CPEC. Implementation of various development projects would help make Gwadar deep seaport a hub of regional trade and investment, while establishment of several industrial zones and modernization of the railway infrastructure under the famous ML-I project would expedite the pace of economic development and create enormous employment opportunities for people nearest to their homes. Agriculture is the backbone of Pakistan's economy but the country could not exploit its proper potential because of financial and other constraints. It augurs well for the sector that China has expressed its willingness to extend necessary cooperation for modernization of agriculture and meaningfully increase yields of various crops.

No doubt, Pakistan is the principal beneficiary of the BRI but it is not the only country to benefit as China has so far signed cooperation agreements with 152 nations of the globe and 32 international organizations, which is a clear testimony of the acceptability and viability of this global connectivity and development initiative. The BRI has galvanized nearly USD 01 trillion of investment, launched more than 3,000 cooperation projects, and created an array of national landmarks, livelihood projects and milestones of cooperation.

The BRI has witnessed substantial trade and investment since its inception. Data shows that from 2013 to 2022, the cumulative value of imports and exports between China and BRI partner countries reached \$19.1 trillion, boasting an average annual growth rate of 6.4 percent. Additionally, cumulative two-way investment between China and partner countries amounted to \$380 billion, including \$240 billion from China.

Analysts argue and rightly so that the BRI was welcomed by various countries as, unlike some other influential and powerful countries, Chinese never insisted on one development model for all countries but emphasized that each country should chose its own development path according to its national conditions. Secondly, Chinese, who are work alcoholic, believed in fast-track completion of the agreed projects and as a result these are accomplished not only in the specified timeframe but also without cost escalation, which is a major problem for many countries. It is, therefore, rightly said that the BRI has enhanced the voice of developing countries and emerging economies in regional and global economic governance, and is of great significance to global governance reforms. As an open platform for cooperation, the BRI aims to build a fair, equitable and transparent system of international trade and investment rules, and make economic globalization more open, inclusive, balanced and beneficial to all. The effective operation of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, the Belt and Road Special Lending Scheme, the Silk Road Fund, Silk Road theme bonds, and other new instruments will help ease the problem of inaccessible and expensive financing.

Another aspect of the Belt and Road cooperation is innovation as China has not only integrated itself into the global scientific and technological innovation network, but also helped spread the fruits of innovation to more countries and peoples. China has carried out extensive cooperation with partner countries in smart cities, mobile payment, cross-border e-commerce and other areas of digital economy, and supported them in establishing and improving technology markets. China has set up the Technology Transfer South-South Cooperation Center with the United Nations Development Program, promoted cooperation

among higher education institutions and research institutes, and helped partner countries cultivate future innovators.

At a time when the world is sharply divided on some issues like the latest conflict in Gaza and the Ukraine war, the Forum would enable the leadership of the participating countries to have formal and informal exchanges on regional and global issues as well as options to forge development partnership. It will offer a platform to address common challenges like climate change, poverty, and healthcare, promoting joint efforts and knowledge sharing.

For Pakistan, which has established a Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC) to attract investment, the Forum presents a unique opportunity of interaction not only with the Chinese leadership but also with delegates of other countries. The Foreign Office and Pakistan Embassy in Beijing have a special responsibility to line up meetings of the Prime Minister and the accompanying Ministers with leaders of the countries of special interest to Pakistan.

As for CPEC, Pakistan and China have moved ahead in different areas but as pointed out recently by Minister for Privatization Fawad Hasan Fawad, the country could not exploit the real potential of the initiative because of its internal weaknesses and lack of necessary commitment. It is hoped that the factors behind this phenomenon would be addressed squarely, clearing the way for reactivation of all dormant projects and programmes and expansion of the scope of the CPEC to include more areas with potential to accelerate the pace of socio-economic development.

There are reports that China and many other participating countries would sign agreements and MoUs on the sidelines of the Beijing Forum and it is hoped groundwork would be done to sign similar agreements between Islamabad and Beijing with clear timelines for their completion.

<https://pakobserver.net/mega-event-in-beijing-china-to-showcase-achievements-and-potential-of-bri/#:~:text=AS%20PART%20of%20the%20celebrations%20to%20mark%20completion,progress%20in%20almost%20all%20continents%20of%20the%20globe>

China joint ventures brought transformative benefits to Pakistan: Afridi

Pakistan-China joint ventures brought transformative benefits to Pakistan, said Shah Faisal Afridi, a prominent business leader and advocate of economic development.

China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) has provided unique opportunities for the tremendous growth of Pakistani businesses, he stated this during his recent visit to China for the third Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation to be held in Beijing from October 17 to 18, according to Gwadar Pro. Faisal pointed out that the CPEC projects are not just about infrastructure development but also exceptional opportunities for entrepreneurs and are leading the revival of internationalization in Pakistan. As CPEC construction enters its second phase of industrial cooperation, it has created a more favorable environment for entrepreneurs to thrive. As the president of JW SEZ Group, which has established joint ventures with Chinese brands and companies including Haier, Foton, SAIC, Deli, Royal, Sinovac, and has become one of the major players in Pakistan's industries in home

appliances, electronics, glass manufacturing, dairy, agriculture, automotive, real estate development, sports and healthcare, Faisal has been doing business with China for 23 years.

He highlighted that Pakistan-China joint ventures have brought transformative benefits to Pakistan.

<https://pakobserver.net/china-joint-ventures-brought-transformative-benefits-to-pakistan-afridi/>

Express News

پاکستان کا چین کو برآمدات میں 100 فیصد اضافہ

پاکستان کی چین کو برآمدات میں 100 فیصد اضافہ ریکارڈ کیا گیا ہے۔ اسلام آباد

گزشتہ سال کے مقابلے میں رواں سال ستمبر میں پاکستان کی چین کو برآمدات کی مجموعی مالیت 350 ملین ڈالر رہی۔

گواڈر پروکے مطابق ٹریڈ ڈیولپمنٹ اتھارٹی پاکستان کی جانب سے جاری کردہ تازہ ترین رپورٹ میں بتایا گیا ہے کہ ستمبر 2023 میں پاکستان کی چین کو برآمدات کی مجموعی مالیت 350 ملین ڈالر رہی جو گزشتہ مالی سال کے اسی مہینے کے دوران 174 ملین ڈالر مالیت کی برآمدات کے مقابلے میں 100 فیصد زیادہ ہے۔

گواڈر پروکے مطابق ستمبر میں دنیا کے تمام شراکت دار ممالک کو پاکستان کی مجموعی برآمدات 12 اعشاریہ 46 ارب ڈالر ریکارڈ کی گئیں، جن میں چین کا حصہ 14 اعشاریہ 20 ملین ڈالر رہا۔

مالی سال 23-24 کی پہلی سہ ماہی کے دوران دنیا کے تمام شراکت دار ممالک کو پاکستان کی برآمدات 16 اعشاریہ 89 ارب ڈالر تک پہنچ گئیں، اس میں سے چین کو برآمدات کا حجم 1729 اعشاریہ 7 ملین ڈالر رہا جو پاکستان کی مجموعی برآمدات کا تقریباً 110 اعشاریہ 57 فیصد بنتا ہے۔

<https://www.express.pk/story/2552056/6/>

K2 Daily News

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|  | بیلٹ اینڈ روڈ فورم، نگران وزیر اعظم انوار الحق کا کڑ کل چین جائیگے |
| <p>ایئر روڈ فورم برائے نئی انڈونیشیا قیادت میں حرکت کیلئے نیکو۔ چین کا دورہ کریں گے۔ وزیر اعظم آفس کی جانب سے جاری ٹویٹ کے مطابق وزیر اعظم انوار الحق کی انڈونیشیا کی تقریب میں شرکت کریں گے اور 18 اکتوبر کو لنکائی بی ایک ایئر فورس بیس میں سے "کے" ہتھیاروں پر مشتمل اعلیٰ سطح کے فورم سے خطاب کریں گے۔ اس کے دوران وزیر اعظم چین میں چینی صدر شی جن پنگ سے دوطرفہ مذاکرات کے ساتھ ساتھ اعلیٰ سطحی قیادت، سربراہی کارروائی، کاروباری مصلحتات اور فورم میں شریک دیگر ممالک کے سربراہان سے بھی مذاکرات بھی کریں گے۔</p> | <p>اسلام آباد (این این آئی) نگران وزیر اعظم انوار الحق کا کڑ چینی صدر شی جن پنگ کی دعوت پر (کل) منگل 17 اور 18 اکتوبر کو منعقد ہونے والے فورم سے طاب (بانی سال 77) 16) 16</p> |

https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Date=2023-10-16

https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=Baqia&Date=2023-10-16

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|  <p>دقیقہ 55</p> | <p>پاکستان کی چین کو برآمدات</p> <p>میں 100 فیصد اضافہ</p> |
| <p>کے مقابلے میں 100.5 لاکھ ٹن لیاں اضافہ ہوا ہے۔ گوارہ کے مطابق ریڈیو پاکستان تقریباً پاکستان (ٹی ڈی اے ٹی) کی جانب سے جاری کردہ تازہ ترین رپورٹ بتایا گیا ہے کہ ستمبر 2023 میں پاکستان کی چین کو برآمدات کی مجموعی قیمت 350.2 ملین ڈالر ہی ہو کر مشرقی مئی سال کے اسی مہینے کے دوران 174.7 ملین ڈالر مالیت کی برآمدات کے مقابلے میں 100.5 لاکھ ٹن زیادہ ہے۔ گوارہ کے مطابق ستمبر میں دنیا کے تمام شرکاء دارممالک کو پاکستان کی مجموعی برآمدات 2.465 ارب ڈالر گزارا کی گئیں جن میں چین کا حصہ 14.20 ملین ڈالر رہا۔ مئی سال 23-24 کی ٹیلی سرہائی کے دوران دنیا کے تمام شرکاء دارممالک کو پاکستان کی برآمدات 6.899 ارب ڈالر تک پہنچ گئیں۔ اس میں سے چین کو برآمدات کا حجم 729.7 ملین ڈالر رہا جو پاکستان کی مجموعی برآمدات کا تقریباً 10.57 فیصد ہے۔</p> | <p>اسلام آباد (آئی این ٹی) پاکستان کی چین کو ستمبر 2023 میں برآمدات میں گزشتہ مئی سال کے اسی مہینے (مئی 2022) کے مقابلے میں 100 فیصد اضافہ ہوا ہے۔</p> |

https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=Back_Page&Date=2023-10-16

https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=Back_Page&Date=2023-10-16

Nawaiwaqt News

سی پیک کے ان مٹ اثرات ہیں۔ مرتضیٰ سولنگی، 10 برسوں میں منصوبوں کی مزید فروغ دینگے۔ چینی سفیر

اسلام آباد (خبرنگار خصوصی) مگر ان وفاقی وزیر اطلاعات و نشریات مرتضیٰ سولنگی نے کہا ہے کہ سی پیک نے لاکھوں پاکستانیوں کی زندگیوں پر انٹ مثبت اثرات مرتب کئے ہیں، سی پیک نے ہمارے عوام کیلئے ترقی کی نئی راہیں کھولیں، پاکستان اور چین اس تعاون کو مزید مضبوط بنانے کے لئے پرعزم ہیں، سی پیک کے نہ صرف چین اور پاکستان بلکہ ایران، افغانستان، وسطی ایشیا سمیت پورے خطے پر مثبت اثرات مرتب ہوں گے۔ ان خیالات کا اظہار انہوں نے گزشتہ روز ”سی پیک اینڈ مائی لائف“ کے موضوع پر منعقدہ سیمینار سے خطاب کرتے ہوئے کیا۔ مرتضیٰ سولنگی نے کہا کہ سی پیک نے لوگوں کی زندگیوں پر انٹ مثبت اثرات مرتب کئے ہیں۔ لاہور میں اورنج ٹرین، سندھ میں تھر کول اور بلوچستان میں گوادر جیسے سی پیک منصوبوں سے عوام کو بے پناہ فائدہ ہوا ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ سی پیک نئے مرحلے میں داخل ہو رہا ہے، پاکستان کا کئی، زراعت، آئی ٹی اور دیگر شعبوں میں دو طرفہ تعاون کو مزید بڑھانے کا خواہاں ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ روڈ، ریل اور فضائی ٹرانسپورٹیشن کے بہتر نظام کے ذریعے جغرافیائی روابط بڑھنے سے لوگوں سے لوگوں تک روابط اور ثقافتی تعلقات کو فروغ ملے گا جبکہ کاروبار کے زیادہ حجم کے نتیجے میں ہم آہنگی اور پائیدار ترقی ممکن ہو سکے گی۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ چین پاکستان اقتصادی راہداری (سی پیک) گلوبلائزڈ دنیا میں اقتصادی ترقی کی جانب سفر ہے، یہ ”آئیڈیل امن اور ترقی سب کے لئے“ کے ماڈل پر مبنی ہے۔ سیمینار سے خطاب کرتے ہوئے سیکرٹری خارجہ سائرس قاضی نے کہا کہ چین پاکستان اقتصادی راہداری (سی پیک) صدر شی کے بیلٹ اینڈروڈ انیشیٹیو (بی آر آئی) کے فلیگ شپ منصوبے کے طور پر پاکستان اور چین کے درمیان سٹریٹجک تعاون کی علامت ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ سی پیک اقتصادی اور تجارتی تعلقات کو ہمارے بہترین سیاسی تعلقات کے برابر لانے کیلئے دونوں ممالک کی مربوط کوششوں کا نتیجہ ہے۔ سی پیک کی بدولت ہمارا بنیادی ڈھانچہ اپ گریڈ ہوا۔ سی پیک نے ہمارے معاشرے کے پس ماندہ اور دور دراز طبقات کی تیز رفتار اقتصادی ترقی کو یقینی بنایا ہے۔ سیمینار سے پاکستان میں چین کے سفیر جیانگ ڈی ڈونگ نے بھی خطاب کیا اور پاکستان کے ساتھ شراکت داری میں سی پیک کے فروغ کے لئے اپنے ملک کی تیاریوں سے متعلق اظہار خیال کیا۔ چین کے سفیر نے کہا کہ ہم آئندہ 10 سالوں کے دوران سی پیک کے منصوبوں کو مزید فروغ دینے کے لئے پاکستان اور پاکستانی عوام کے ساتھ مل کر کام کیلئے تیار ہیں۔ مرتضیٰ سولنگی

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/lahore/2023-10-16/page-1/detail-8>

October 17, 2023

Business Recorder

PM arrives in Beijing

BEIJING: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Monday arrived here to participate in the 3rd Belt and Road Forum (BRF) for International Cooperation.

At the airport, he was warmly received by Chinese Minister of Science & Technology Wang Zhigang, Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan Jiang Zaidong and Ambassador of Pakistan to China Moin-ul-Haq, the PM Office Media Wing said in a press release.

The prime minister is undertaking the visit at the invitation of Chinese President Xi Jinping. He is accompanied by a high-level delegation including members of the cabinet and senior government officials.

He would will attend the opening ceremony of the BRF and address the high-level forum titled ‘Connectivity in an Open Global Economy’ to be held on October 18.

The caretaker prime minister will hold bilateral meetings with President Xi Jinping, Premier Li Qiang and Li Xi, member of the Standing Committee of Politburo of CPC Central Committee.

The leaders will discuss all facets of bilateral relations, with particular focus on strengthening trade and economic cooperation between the two countries. They will exchange views on major regional and global developments.

The prime minister will also meet other leaders of the countries participating in the BRF.

He will also meet with leading Chinese entrepreneurs and preside over an interactive roundtable on CPEC to explore new avenues for strengthening trade and investment ties between Pakistan and China.

To further strengthen regional connectivity, trade, investment and people-to-people contacts between the neighbouring regions of Pakistan and China, Prime Minister Kakar will pay a two-day visit to Urumqi, Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region of China.

In Urumqi, he will meet the local leadership and business persons, and deliver a speech at the Xinjiang University.

“The visit of the prime minister comes in the backdrop of ongoing celebrations marking the 10 years of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), the flagship project of China’s Belt and Road Initiative (BRI),” the news release said. —APP

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2023/10/17/1-page/974561-news.html>

PM describes CPEC as ‘corridor of socio-economic growth’

ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar has expressed the country’s commitment to jointly building the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), saying the project has transformed the socio-economic landscape of Pakistan.

“The CPEC has transformed the socio-economic landscape of Pakistan, upgrading modern infrastructure, enhancing regional connectivity, ensuring energy security, and creating jobs,” the prime minister wrote in his article published in Global Times China.

PM Kakar, who is set to participate in the Third Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation in China on October 17-18 which marks the completion of a decade of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), said Pakistan endorses China’s vision of CPEC as a corridor of growth.

As the flagship project of the BRI, he said, CPEC marks a milestone in Pakistan-China relations by placing “economic cooperation and connectivity at the very center of the bilateral agenda”, making the two countries more interconnected.

“We fully endorse China’s proposal of developing the CPEC as a corridor of growth, livelihood, innovation, greenness, and openness - representing our two countries’ preference for a human-centric approach, inclusivity, and green development,” he said.

The prime minister said Pakistan and China as close friends, strategic partners, and iron brothers, are moving forward toward a destiny of shared future.

“The tale of China-Pakistan relations is not an ordinary one. It is an account of brotherhood, friendship, and trust, the foundations of which were laid more than 70 years ago,” he said.

Kakar said the timeless Pakistan-China partnership and deep-rooted friendship serve the interests of both countries and remain the cornerstone of Pakistan’s foreign policy.

He said Pakistan and its people, with absolute confidence, value the relationship greatly, and proudly call China as best friend. It is heart-warming that in China, the term “Ba Tie” meaning Iron Brother is reserved only for Pakistan, he added.

He termed the historical evolution of the Pakistan-China relationship amid the evolving regional and global developments as an “exemplary model of inter-state relationship”.

“The unique relationship of more than seven decades, underpinned by the rationale of strong political support, mutual trust, and all-round practical cooperation, has matured into a strong strategic partnership,” he said.

The prime minister paid tribute to the vision and statesmanship of President Xi Jinping who propounded the vision of building a global community of shared future, a new idea for global governance and cooperation, and a fresh approach toward international exchanges, thus drawing up a new blueprint for a better interconnected world. He quoted Zhou Enlai, China’s first premier, who once said that “the friendly interactions between the peoples of China and Pakistan date back to the dawn of history” and mentioned in this regard the historic links such as the Silk Road and Gandhara civilization.

The prime minister said Pakistan was a pioneering member of the Group of Friends of the Global Development Initiative (GDI) proposed by President Xi Jinping and played an active role in giving it a more concrete shape.

“As the first one to ink a Memorandum of Understanding on the GDI, Pakistan stands ready to benefit from this cooperation in areas of education, healthcare, climate change, and poverty reduction,” he said.

He said Pakistan’s foreign policy objectives were based on “peace within and peace without,” as outlined by the founding father Muhammad Ali Jinnah.

Kakar said in a world marred by multiple challenges like conflicts, economic recessions, food insecurity, social inequalities, and climate change, the salience of the Pakistan-China all-weather strategic cooperative partnership assumed great importance. He expressed gratitude to China for its support for Pakistan’s sovereignty, territorial integrity, and economic security, and its principled support on the issue of Kashmir.—APP

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2023/10/17/3-page/974580-news.html>

Dawn News

PM Kakar lands in China to mark decade of CPEC

ISLAMABAD: Carr-ying high hopes about the future of the China-Pak-istan Economic Corridor (CPEC), Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaarul Haq Kakar arrived in Beijing on Monday to participate in the 3rd Belt and Road Forum (BRF) for Inter-national Cooperation.

At the airport, he was received by Chinese Min-ister of Science & Techno-logy Wang Zhigang, Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan Jiang Zaidong and Ambassador of Pakistan to China Moinul Haq, the PM’s Office said in a press release.

The prime minister is undertaking the visit at the invitation of Chinese President Xi Jinping. He is accompanied by a high-level delegation including members of the cabinet and senior government officials.

Beijing began welcoming on Monday representatives of 130 countries for the summit.

PM Kakar will attend the opening ceremony of the BRF and address the high-level forum titled ‘Conne-ctivity in an Open Global Economy’ to be held on Oct 18. He will hold bilateral meetings with Presi-dent Xi Jinping, Premier Li Qiang and Li Xi, member of the Standing Committee of Politburo of CPC Central Committee.

The leaders will discuss all facets of bilateral relations, with particular focus on strengthening trade and economic cooperation between the two countries. They will exchange views on major regional and global developments.

He will also meet leading Chinese entrepreneurs and preside over an interactive roundtable on the CPEC to explore new avenues for strengthening trade and investment ties between Pakistan and China.

To further strengthen regional connectivity, trade, investment and people-to-people contact between the neighbouring regions of Pakistan and China, Mr Kakar will pay a two-day visit to Urumqi, Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region of China.

In Urumqi, he will meet the local leadership and business persons, and deliver a speech at Xinjiang University.

10 years of CPEC

“The visit of the prime minister comes in the backdrop of ongoing celebrations marking the 10 years of the CPEC, the flagship project of China’s Belt and Road Initiative (BRI),” the press release said.

“The CPEC has transformed the socio-economic landscape of Pakistan, upgrading modern infrastructure, enhancing regional connectivity, ensuring energy security, and creating jobs,” the caretaker premier wrote in his article published in Global Times.

As the flagship project of the BRI, he said, the CPEC marks a milestone in Pakistan-China relations by placing “economic cooperation and connectivity at the very centre of the bilateral agenda”, making the two countries more interconnected.

“We fully endorse China’s proposal of developing the CPEC as a corridor of growth, livelihood, innovation, greenness, and openness — representing our two countries’ preference for a human-centric approach, inclusivity, and green development,” he said.

The caretaker PM said Pakistan was a pioneering member of the “Group of Friends of the Global Development Initiative proposed by President Xi and played an active role in giving it a more concrete shape”.

Mr Kakar said in a world marred by multiple challenges like conflicts, economic recessions, food insecurity, social inequalities, and climate change, the salience of the Pakistan-China all-weather strategic cooperative partnership assumed great importance.

He thanked China for its support for Pakistan’s sovereignty, territorial integrity, and economic security, and its principled support on the issue of Kashmir.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1781518>

Pakistan Observer

Pakistan-China Partnership: Bridging Nations, Building Communities

Anwaar ul Haq Kakar Prime Minister of Pakistan

The tale of Pakistan-China relations is not an ordinary one. It is an account of brotherhood, friendship and trust whose foundations were laid more than seventy years ago. The vision of the leadership of our two countries at the time laid a solid basis for a relationship, which has subsequently been carefully nurtured into a robust, vibrant, time-tested, all-weather strategic cooperative partnership. Pakistan and its people, I can say with absolute confidence, value the relationship greatly, and proudly call China our ‘Best Friend’. It is heart-warming that in China, the term ‘Ba Tie’ (Iron Brother), is reserved only for Pakistan.

The timeless Pakistan-China partnership and deep-rooted friendship serves the interest of both countries, being the historic choice of our people. Pakistan’s relations with China remain the cornerstone of our foreign policy. The close time-tested friendship with China enjoys the abiding support of the people of Pakistan.

With a time-honored history of brotherhood, our two countries have stood together in rain or shine, building an exemplary ‘iron-clad’ friendship. Despite the vicissitudes of times and

changes in international landscape, the All-Weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership has grown into a towering tree with its deep roots of love in the hearts of the two peoples. The bond of love and affection, that the peoples of the two countries have for each other, indeed remains “higher than the mountains, deeper than the sea and sweeter than honey”.

Zhou Enlai, China’s first Premier, once said, that the friendly interactions between the peoples of China and Pakistan date back to the dawn of history. Certainly, Pakistan-China relations are the continuation of ancient civilizational bonds that had existed between our two nations since ancient times. The flow of trade through the ancient Silk Road and geographical proximity brought the two great Asian civilizations together. Monks and thinkers from China made their historical journeys to Taxila and other Buddhist places in Pakistan, painting a beautiful picture of Gandhara civilization and bringing Buddhist wisdom to China, thus binding the two nations together in an everlasting bond.

The historical evolution of Pakistan-China relationship, and its growing importance in the wake of evolving regional and global developments, remains an exemplary model of inter-state relationship.

The unique relationship of seven decades, underpinned by the rationale of strong political support, mutual trust and all-round practical cooperation, has matured into a strong strategic partnership. I would soon be traveling to Beijing, on my first visit after assuming office, to participate in the Third Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation – the event which will mark the completion of a decade of Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), the iconic and visionary project of President Xi Jinping.

We pay tribute to the vision and statesmanship of President Xi Jinping who, ten years ago, propounded the Vision of a Community with a Shared Future for Mankind, introducing a novel concept for international development partnership, a new idea for global governance and cooperation, and a fresh approach towards international exchanges, thus drawing up a new blueprint for a better inter-connected world. The core of the visionary concept is built on socio-economic development; with focus on the elements of inclusivity, common prosperity and win-win cooperation. It embodies the ideals of an open, inter-connected, clean and beautiful world that enjoys lasting peace and sustainable security. As we delve more into this concept, it becomes clear that it draws upon the ancient Chinese philosophy and wisdom. The concept of *tiānxihe*, translating as “harmony under heaven”, refers to the whole world and promotes diversity, while emphasizing harmonious and mutual inter-dependence as the means to enduring peace.

As noted by the recent white paper released by the Chinese State Council, BRI is a ‘key pillar’ of the Global Community of Shared Future. The subsequent unveiling of the concepts – including Global Development Initiative (GDI), the Global Security Initiative (GSI) and the Global Civilization Initiative (GCI) – have further refined the concept of “Shared Community.” Pakistan was amongst the first countries to join BRI. As the flagship project of China’s Belt and Road Initiative, CPEC marks a milestone in Pakistan-China relations; by placing economic cooperation and connectivity at the very center of bilateral agenda, making the two countries more inter-connected than ever before. CPEC remains a shining example of the BRI’s promise of economic prosperity and connectivity. It has transformed the socio-

economic landscape of Pakistan, upgrading modern infrastructure, enhancing regional connectivity, ensuring energy security and creating jobs.

This year Pakistan hosted a series of events and activities marking the successful first decade of CPEC. We were also pleased to welcome Chinese Vice Premier He Lifeng, as Special Envoy of President Xi Jinping, in Pakistan to attend ten-year celebrations of China Pakistan Economic Corridor. Pakistan remains committed to the high-quality implementation and completion of the second phase of CPEC. We fully endorse China's proposal of developing CPEC as a corridor of growth, innovation, livelihood, green economy, openness and inclusiveness – representing our two countries' preference for human-centric approach, inclusivity and green development. Pakistan is also a pioneering member of GDI Group of Friends and has played an active role in giving it a more concrete shape. As the first priority partner under GDI, and the first one to ink an MoU on GDI, Pakistan stands ready to benefit from this cooperation in areas of education, health, climate change and poverty reduction, thus making meaningful contributions to achieving the SDGs in a timely manner. Pakistan has also supported the GSI and its adherence to the UN Charter and principles of multilateralism and non-interference in internal affairs. Having suffered for long due to unresolved disputes, conflicts and terrorism, we also advocate dialogue and constructive engagement based on mutual respect, for ensuring regional peace in South Asia. The GCI is yet another landmark and timely initiative of President Xi, promoting respect for diversity, peaceful co-existence, mutual learning and inclusiveness. In a world marred with discord and divisiveness, dialogue between civilizations can be a means to peace and reconciliation. Pakistan's foreign policy objectives have always been those of "peace within and peace without", as outlined by our founding father Muhammad Ali Jinnah. It was, therefore, all but natural for Pakistan to endorse these key initiatives put forth by President Xi Jinping.

In a world marred by multiple challenges like conflicts, economic recessions, food insecurity, social inequalities and climate change, the salience of Pakistan-China strategic partnership assumes great importance. It is a source of pride and comfort for our two peoples and a factor of peace and stability in the region and beyond.

Ours is a relationship of the past, present and the future; and nothing can alter this reality. As per our long-standing tradition, we support each other on our core issues. We are grateful to China for its support to Pakistan's sovereignty, territorial integrity and economic security and its principled support on the issue of Jammu and Kashmir. We reaffirm our commitment to One-China Policy and our support to China on its core issues including Taiwan, Hong Kong, Tibet, Xinjiang and the South China Sea.

As close friends, strategic partners and iron brothers, Pakistan and China are moving forward towards a destiny of shared future. I remain confident and convinced that our friendship will further strengthen in the coming days and attain even greater heights in the years to come. Long live Pakistan-China Friendship!

<https://pakobserver.net/pakistan-china-partnership-bridging-nations-building-communities/>

CPEC major milestone in shape of successful projects in several sectors: Solangi

Caretaker Federal Minister for Information Murtaza Solangi said on Monday that China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) was a major milestone in shape of successful projects in Pakistan including road infrastructure, power sector, and industrial zones worth 62 billion dollars. Delivering his speech at the CPEC Art Exhibition jointly organised by Behria University and China Media Group here he said he was glad to note that relations between Pakistan and China were getting stronger with every passing day. The minister said that above all people were the heart and soul of every thing and they were focus of every initiative that the government launched. The minister said it was well established fact that arts and culture had a deeper impact on human lives. He said it was encouraging that in this event not only art pieces were being exhibited but interactive media was also included in this exhibition. He hoped that new interactive media would attract more young people and make them aware of the importance of Pakistan,China friendship and how this was reflected through the CPEC projects. He stressed that the present government was vigorously continuing its efforts to facilitate CPEC projects by ensuring the implementation of the policies. Solangi said that Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaarul Haq had left for China to represent Pakistan in the Third Belt and Road Forum. As the 10 year celebrations of CPEC were being observed, there would be good news regarding road infrastructure, green initiative, technology, export processing zones, special economic zones and ML-1, said Murtaza Solangi. He said it was the pledge of the present caretaker regime to provide relief to the people and steps were being taken for the welfare of the people. "Due to the reduction in the prices of petroleum products, many people are happy today", Murtaza Solangi remarked.

The government, he added had brought the benefit of petroleum products to the masses as the effects of reduction in the prices of petroleum products should be passed on to the people.

He said the caretaker dispensation in collaboration with the provincial governments and district administration was striving to ensure that transport fares were reduced after a cut in petroleum products prices.

<https://pakobserver.net/cpec-major-milestone-in-shape-of-successful-projects-in-several-sectors-solangi/#:~:text=Caretaker%20Federal%20Minister%20for%20Information%20Murtaza%20Solangi%20said,sector%2C%20and%20industrial%20zones%20worth%2062%20billion%20dollars>

Jang News

پاکستان کا چینی کمپنی سے 2 ارب ڈالر زبر آمدات بڑھانے کا معاہدہ طے

پاکستان اور چین کے تجارتی تعلقات میں بڑی پیش رفت ہوئی ہے۔

ذرائع کے مطابق چینی کمپنی کے ساتھ 2 ارب ڈالر زبر آمدات بڑھانے کا معاہدہ طے پا گیا ہے۔

وزارت تجارت کے ذرائع نے بتایا ہے کہ پاک چین دو طرفہ سرمایہ کاری و تجارت بڑھانے کا معاہدہ ہوا۔

یہ معاہدہ وزیر صنعت و تجارت گوہرا عجاز کے دورہ چین کے دوران ہوا۔

ذرائع کا کہنا ہے کہ معاہدے کے تحت چینی کمپنی پاکستان کنسورٹیم قائم کرے گی، چینی کمپنی پاکستان سے لال مرچ، گوشت سمیت دیگر مصنوعات درآمد کرے گی۔

ذرائع کا یہ بھی کہنا ہے کہ چینی کمپنی پاکستانی کمپنیوں کے ساتھ مشترکہ منصوبہ شروع کرے گی۔

<https://jang.com.pk/news/1279538>

چین میں نگران وزیر اعظم انوارالحق کا کڑ اور روسی صدر کی ملاقات

چین میں منعقدہ تیسرے بیلٹ اینڈ روڈ فورم کے موقع پر نگران وزیر اعظم انوارالحق کا کڑ اور روسی صدر ولادیمیر پوٹن کے درمیان ملاقات ہوئی۔

اعلامیہ کے مطابق روسی صدر نے نگران وزیر اعظم انوارالحق کا کڑ کا استقبال کیا، دونوں رہنماؤں نے علاقائی تعاون کے فروغ کیلئے خطے میں روابط کی مضبوطی کی اہمیت پر زور دیا۔

ملاقات میں باہمی دلچسپی کے امور اور علاقائی و بین الاقوامی امور پر گفتگو کی گئی، دونوں رہنماؤں نے تجارت، سرمایہ کاری اور توانائی کے شعبوں میں تعاون پر بات چیت کی۔

اعلامیہ میں بتایا گیا کہ دونوں رہنماؤں نے روس پاکستان کے بڑھتے ہوئے تعلقات پر اطمینان کا اظہار کیا۔

ملاقات میں یورپ اور ایشیا کے درمیان موصلاتی روابط بڑھانے پر بات چیت کی گئی۔

وزیر اعظم انوارالحق کا کڑ اور روسی صدر نے علاقائی و عالمی امور بشمول مشرق وسطیٰ میں ابھرتی صورت حال پر بھی گفتگو کی۔

<https://jang.com.pk/news/1279657>

Nawaiwaqt News

شی جن پنگ کی دعوت پر وزیر اعظم بیجنگ پہنچ گئے: پرتپاک استقبال

اسلام آباد (خبر نگار خصوصی) نگران وزیر اعظم انوارالحق کا کڑ چینی صدر شی جن پنگ کی دعوت پر اسلام آباد سے بیجنگ پہنچ گئے۔ بیجنگ پہنچنے پر ان کا پرتپاک استقبال

کیا گیا۔ چین کے وزیر سائنس و ٹیکنالوجی وانگ ژو گانگ، پاکستان میں چین کے سفیر جیانگ ژی ڈونگ اور اعلیٰ حکام نے ان کا خیر مقدم کیا۔ چین کے فنکاروں نے روایتی

رقص کے ساتھ وزیر اعظم کا استقبال کیا۔ وزیر اعظم کو پھولوں کا گلہستہ پیش کیا گیا۔ پاکستان اور چین کے قومی ترانے بجائے گئے۔ وزیر اعظم اپنے دورہ چین کے دوران

17 اور 18 اکتوبر کو منعقد ہونے والے تیسرے بیلٹ اینڈ روڈ فورم (بی آر ایف) برائے بین الاقوامی تعاون میں شرکت کریں گے۔ بیلٹ اینڈ روڈ فورم میں پاکستان کی

نمائندگی کرتے ہوئے وزیر اعظم چین پاکستان اقتصادی راہداری (سی پیک) کے تحت گزشتہ دس برسوں میں ہونے والی ترقیاتی کامیابیوں کے ساتھ ساتھ مستقبل کے

اہداف اور اس کلیدی منصوبے پر پاکستان کے بھرپور تعاون کا اعادہ کریں گے۔ وزیر اعظم بی آر ایف کی افتتاحی تقریب میں شرکت کے علاوہ 18 اکتوبر کو عالمی معیشت میں

موصلاتی رابطوں کے موضوع پر منعقدہ اعلیٰ سطح فورم سے خطاب کریں گے۔ وزیر اعظم کی چین میں چینی صدر شی جن پنگ، وزیر اعظم لی چیانگ اور سی پی سی سنٹرل

کمیٹی کی پولٹ بیورو کی سٹینڈنگ کمیٹی کے رکن لی شی سے ملاقات کے ساتھ ساتھ اعلیٰ چینی قیادت اور فورم میں شریک دیگر ممالک کے سربراہان سے بھی ملاقات ہوگی۔

وزیر اعظم پاکستان میں بیرونی سرمایہ کاری کے فروغ کیلئے چین میں کاروباری شخصیات اور سرمایہ کاروں سے بھی ملاقاتیں کریں گے۔ سکیانگ اور پاکستان کے عوام کے مابین

تعلقات اور کاروبار و سرمایہ کاری کے فروغ کیلئے وزیر اعظم ارومچی کا دورہ کریں گے جہاں وزیر اعظم وہاں کے مقامی عمائدین و کاروباری شخصیات سے ملاقاتیں کریں گے۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/lahore/2023-10-17/page-1/detail-28>

October 18, 2023

Business Recorder

CPEC a practical manifestation of win-win cooperation: PM

BEIJING: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar has said that the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, one of the signature projects under the Belt and Road Initiative, is a practical manifestation of win-win cooperation and shared prosperity and a commendable endeavour in building a China-Pakistan community with a shared future.

“All these elements also form the bedrock of President Xi Jinping’s visionary Belt and Road Initiative,” he said in an exclusive interview with China Daily published here on Tuesday.

The Prime Minister lauded the Belt and Road Initiative for having “advanced inclusive development to reduce poverty and inequality, improved people’s ability to pay taxes and enhanced governments’ ability to retire their debts.”

The Pakistani leader, who took office in August as the eighth caretaker Prime Minister of Pakistan, is visiting China for the third Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation, which will be held in Beijing on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Kakar dismissed theories that the BRI has led participating countries into ‘debt traps’, saying that China is offering “a unique mechanism of development financing to developing countries — which is without conditions and different from the traditional development financing models.”

“It is wrong to describe BRI financing as a ‘debt trap’; it is rather an essential tool for helping countries in achieving comprehensive and inclusive development of their peoples,” he added.

He explained that the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, which has brought about a direct investment of \$25.4 billion to Pakistan and created a total of 236,000 jobs, is a key to the nation’s socioeconomic progress.

“The project underlines an excellent example of an open, coordinated and inclusive development paradigm that benefits all parts of the country and all segments of society,” he said, adding that the development of Gwadar Port has already opened new economic opportunities.

“Strategically located, the port is now functional and regularly handling cargo ships including transshipment trade for Afghanistan. A free economic zone is in place offering lucrative incentives for local, Chinese and other international investors,” Kakar said, adding that a new international airport will also be inaugurated, bringing the port closer to its vision of serving as the hub of regional trade and connectivity.

Meanwhile, the Prime Minister emphasized that the “foolproof safety and security of Chinese personnel and institutions is our topmost priority,” adding that the Pakistani government has put in place stringent security protocols to safeguard Chinese workers and entrepreneurs. He cited examples including regular security briefings, risk assessment and information exchanges between the two nations, in order to identify potential threats and come up with solutions accordingly.

“These concerted efforts underline Pakistan’s solid commitment to provide a secure environment for our Chinese brothers and sisters, who are contributing to Pakistan’s socioeconomic development and progress,” he added.

Kakar said he has high expectations for the forum, during which he will meet with Chinese leaders.

“It has provided both our countries with a stage to reaffirm our commitment to international cooperation and development, while highlighting the successes, reviewing the lessons learned and charting the future trajectory of the CPEC,” he said.

“Our relations with China form the cornerstone of our foreign policy. I am here to reaffirm our commitment to this all-weather strategic cooperative partnership,” Kakar said, describing China as a strategic and trustworthy development partner.”

He also spoke highly of China’s remarkable achievement in having lifted more than 800 million people from abject poverty, under the leadership of the Communist Party of China.

“Like China, Pakistan too is a developing country, with a population of 240 million. There is so much that we can learn from China to put our nation on a path of sustainable development.”—APP

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2023/10/18/3-page/974679-news.html>

Daily Times

PM invites Chinese investment in solar parks

** Kakar says Pakistan keen to learn from China's models for building industrial parks and SEZs*

Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaarul Haq Kakar on Tuesday invited China to invest in solar parks to support Pakistan’s fight against climate change and help reduce Pakistan’s energy import bill.

Addressing a conference in China, PM Kakar said investments in solar parks would benefit two-fold, explaining that “on one hand they will support Pakistan’s endeavours to climate action and also help reduce energy import bill”.

The prime minister expressed Pakistan’s desire to learn from China’s models for building industrial parks and special economic zones.

He highlighted that China and Pakistan enjoyed a time-tested relationship based on mutual trust and shared interests. “Despite international politics, our friendship has remained steadfast.”

The interim premier emphasised that there was no bilateral relation more important for Pakistan than its friendship with China. “This special relation enjoys across-the-board national consensus in Pakistan,” he said. “There should be no doubt that Pakistan would undermine our unique affection for China.”

Terming CPEC the manifestation of Pak-China strategic cooperation, Kakar said the project symbolises coordinated efforts of the two countries to bring their economic and trade ties at par with each other.

The project also symbolises the two countries' excellent political relations, he added.

“For Pakistan, CPEC is a transformative project central to advancing our national agenda to sustainable development,” the prime minister continued, adding that the geoeconomic landscape of the country – from Gilgit-Baltistan to the deep sea ports of Karachi and Gwadar – was transformed in the last few years due to CPEC.

Kakar said the infrastructure of the country was upgraded and the potential of the large youth population was unleashed due to CPEC.

“It is already proving to be a catalyst for job creation, poverty alleviation, and rural revitalisation giving strength to the vulnerable and underprivileged apart from reaching the remote sections of society,” he added.

“I myself come from Balochistan, an underdeveloped province of Pakistan, and generally believe that CPEC is a beacon of development, progress, and prosperity for the people of my province.” Explaining that CPEC was a symbol of Pak-China strategic trust, interim PM Kakar said Pakistan was seeking to create new drives of growth that would benefit the wider region and beyond.

He announced that Pakistan was open to “drawing new partners who wish to join us in availing benefits from CPEC”. “Since the visit of Chinese President Xi Jinping to Pakistan, Pakistan has added 800km of roads and motorways into our network injecting more than 8000MW of energy and generating more than 2,000 new jobs for our people,” Kakar said.

The caretaker prime minister expressed that the next phase of CPEC should seek a deeper integration of “our economies with a focus on diversification and innovation”. Concluding his talk, PM Kakar deemed skill development and vocational training programs critical for the success of CPEC. Later in the evening, the prime minister attended a state banquet, hosted by Chinese President Xi Jinping for world leaders participating in the 3rd Belt and Road Forum. In a post on X (erstwhile Twitter), the premier said he received an “incredibly warm welcome” from President Xi Jinping and First Lady Peng Liyuan.

PM Kakar was accompanied by senior ministers of his cabinet, the PM Office (PMO) said in a press release. Held at the iconic Great Hall of the Peoples, the banquet was attended by the heads of state/government of Russia, Kenya, Ethiopia, Mongolia, Hungary, Sri Lanka, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Papua New Guinea, Mozambique and Chile, among several other world leaders. During the gathering, PM Kakar held informal interactions with the world leaders attending the event.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1140550/pm-invites-chinese-investment-in-solar-parks/>

CPEC crucial for Pakistan's economic recovery

There is no doubt that the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor is crucial to Pakistan's economic recovery, says a report on Tuesday.

The most crucial point is that the development and growth of the Belt and Road Initiative has enabled Pakistan to make extraordinary progress in infrastructure construction, import and export logistics, etc.

Belt and Road Initiative is China's epoch-making plan for global economic development. For Pakistan, the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor is launched here as a flagship project of the Belt and Road Initiative.

China can effectively connect the Indian Ocean and the Arabian Sea through roads, and it has also opened a new door for Pakistan's future diversified economic development.

An economic corridor like the Belt and Road covering a vast territory connects all participating countries in Central Asia, Africa, and Europe into a huge common development network. Not long ago, on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the construction of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, officials from the National Development and Reform Commission of China once again emphasized the importance of the project to Pakistan, China, and even the world.

In August 2023, Chinese President Xi Jinping proposed in his keynote speech at the China-Africa Leaders' Dialogue that China will mobilize the enthusiasm of China's cooperation resources and enterprises in Africa to support Africa in developing manufacturing and achieving industrialization and economic diversification. Facts have proven that China does not seek to impose anything on other countries through the Belt and Road Initiative, but rather hopes to develop a diversified strategy that takes into account the actual problems and specific needs of other countries.

Ten years have passed since the official implementation of the Belt and Road Initiative in 2013. After this year's summit forum, the BRI will enter a new stage, and all participating countries will work together to bring industrialization to a new level. For Pakistan, this possible change will be of extraordinary importance because Pakistan has the potential to promote new developments based on its original industrial base and revitalize the national economy. China and Pakistan will sign a series of new memorandums of understanding.

China and Pakistan will sign 11 agreements on infrastructure, energy and other projects. In addition, the two countries decided to issue announcements to further promote comprehensive cooperation in various fields of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor.

In Pakistan, work is in full swing during the meeting between Chinese President Xi Jinping and Prime Minister Kakar. According to media reports, Pakistan and China have reached an agreement on the financing of the ML-1 project. Moreover, the Ministry of Planning, Development & Special Initiatives has reached consensus with other relevant ministries and the Chinese Embassy on working documents for multiple cooperation projects, which will also be officially signed at the Belt and Road Forum during Prime Minister Kakar's visit

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1140652/cpec-crucial-for-pakistans-economic-recovery/>

A Maiden Visit to China

Muhammad Zahid Rifat

Neighbouring countries China and Pakistan have the most ideal friendly relations which is unparalleled between any other two countries of the world. Words are not enough to describe the time-tested, all-weather friendship between the two countries which is higher than the Himalayas and deeper than the Arabian Sea.

Pakistan's most friendly country China is hosting the 3rd Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) forum for further promoting and strengthening international cooperation which is scheduled to take place on October 17 and 18 in Beijing. During this mega event, Chinese policymakers are likely to unveil new priorities, plans, policies and projects aiming at advancing regional and global development and connectivity through the BRI which is quite rightly often described as the "21st Century Project of the Century ". more than 120 countries have confirmed their participation in this quite significant event. The participating countries are likely to be represented at the highest possible level.

At the 3rd BRI Forum Pakistan is going to be represented at the highest level by Caretaker Prime Minister Anwarul Haq Kakar who will be paying his maiden visit to China for three days from October 16. The visit is likely to turn out to be quite productive despite being short. The visiting Pakistani leader will not only hold meetings with the top Chinese leadership but also avail the opportunity to interact with leaders from other friendly countries besides signing as many as 15 important agreements and Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) to be launched and implemented in different parts of Pakistan under the great changer China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) framework. Chinese leadership time and again has reiterated their commitment and willingness to continue supporting high-quality development under the CPEC banner

which has just completed its first decade has already brought tangible benefits to Pakistan's economic development and its people through investment and projects in different sectors.

According to the information available from diplomatic sources concerned, during Caretaker Prime Minister Anwarul Haq's visit, the two sides are likely to sign about two dozen pacts at the 3rd BRI Forum. The agreements and MoUs to be signed by the visiting Pakistani leader along with the relevant Chinese authorities will cover as many as eight key areas including urban sustainable development, major issues of Belt and Road Cooperation, mineral development, industrial cooperation, research on the routes for industrial cooperation, export exchange mechanism on Gwadar Port, development, Green and Low-Carbon Development and Digital Economy Cooperation.

Launching of the ML-1 mega project has been hanging in the balance for some time due to the signing of a concessional financing agreement.

Agreements and MoUs to be initialled, signed and discussed at the appropriate levels during the visit of Caretaker Prime Minister Anwarul Haq Kakar are most likely to include Pakistan Railways Mega Main Line (ML-1) project for upgradation and rehabilitation of Karachi to Peshawar rail track substantially increasing passenger and goods trains, Karachi Circular

Railway, realignment of Karakoram Highway (KKH) Thakot-Raikot section due to construction of Dasu Dam, Dera Ismail Khan -Zhob Road project, Mirpur-Muzaffarabad - Mansehra road, Babusar Tunnel and Karachi-Hyderabad Motorway (M-9) among others. Agreements regarding protocol for the export of donkey skins, dairy products and meat export for the first time will also be during the caretaker PM's visit. Other agreements also likely to be initiated on the somewhat historic visit of the Pakistani leader include Advanced Metering Infrastructure, Pakistan Space Centre and Urban Development of Gwadar obviously all under the framework of CPEC.

Launching of the ML-1 mega project has been hanging in the balance for some time due to the signing of a concessional financing agreement. According to the sources, all obstacles have been sorted out at the appropriate level and China has now agreed to sign the concessional financing agreement providing more than \$ 6 billion for the mega project work which was now expected to start in earnest if all goes well.

During the first decade of CPEC, the ironed friendship between China and Pakistan has been further strengthened and consolidated. The achievements under the CPEC framework under the great game changer in different sectors and regions of Pakistan will in all fairness be highlighted in a separate article soon, please.

As briefly mentioned above, during his three-day visits Caretaker Prime Minister Anwarul Haq Kakar will be going through a hectic schedule of activities and engagements. Besides attending the 3rd Belt and Road Initiative forum for international cooperation on October 17 and 18, he will be holding important meetings with the top Chinese leaders and also the highest government leaders from the participating countries and exchange views with them on matters of mutual interest and promote Pakistan's bilateral relations and further strengthening existing very warm and cordial relations with China as well as with a host of other friendly countries.

Anwarul Haq Kakar after taking oath as the 8th Caretaker Prime Minister of Pakistan on the auspicious occasion of Independence Day has paid maiden visits to New York (USA), London (Britain) and Saudi Arabia during his first two months in power and is all set to visit China on another maiden visit at the start of the third month in the office.

He has been quite active as such both in the internal and external sectors, visiting different parts of the country to ascertain problems and issues faced by the people and taking appropriate measures for resolving them at the earliest and providing much elusive relief to the people at large as the representative of the people of Pakistan.

More about Caretaker Prime Minister Anwarul Haq's visit to China and its possible outcome and impacts after it has been completed after some time, please.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1140462/a-maiden-visit-to-china/>

Pakistan Observer

Kakar attends banquet hosted by President Xi

Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar attended a state banquet hosted by Chinese President Xi Jinping in Beijing for the world leaders attending the “Third Belt and Road Forum” in China.

The prime minister was accompanied by the senior ministers of the federal Cabinet on the occasion, a press release issued by the Prime Minister’s Office stated.

Held at the Great Hall of the Peoples, the state banquet was attended by the heads of the state/government of Russia, Kenya, Ethiopia, Mongolia, Hungary, Sri Lanka, Kazhakastan, Uzbekistan, Papua New Guinea, Mozambique and Chile, among several other world leaders.

Chinese President Xi and first lady Madame Peng Liyuan welcomed PM Kakar at the event, where he also held informal interactions with the world leaders attending the event.

<https://pakobserver.net/kakar-attends-banquet-hosted-by-president-xi/#:~:text=Caretaker%20Prime%20Minister%20Anwaar-ul-Haq%20Kakar%20attended%20a%20state,the%20%E2%80%9CThird%20Belt%20and%20Road%20Forum%E2%80%9D%20in%20China>

PM predicts bright future of Pak-China relations under CPEC

CPEC proved as catalyst of poverty alleviation, job creation: PM

Based on the principles of mutual trust and sharing, a bright future of Pakistan-China cooperation should be entirely predictable.

Pakistan Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar pointed out on Tuesday while attending the Pakistan-China Business Forum.

Prime Minister Kakkar noted that China and Pakistan are holding a series of celebrations for the 10th anniversary of the Belt and Road Initiative and the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), and he was honored to participate in the third Belt and Road Summit Forum at such a special moment.

“Due to this unique all-round partnership, Pakistan’s socio-economic development has undergone tremendous changes in the past decade.

Our infrastructure and technological levels have ushered in all-round upgrades, and the progress in the employment field has also been obvious to all,” Kakkar emphasized.

“For now, Pakistani society generally believes that cooperation has brought development and progress to Pakistan, reducing doubts caused by backwardness and misunderstandings. At present, we should focus on how to keep this development and progress sustainable and extend the positive effects to our neighbors such as Afghanistan and other countries in the region.” Prime Minister Kakar emphasized that Pakistan is considering creating new growth drivers to increase the well-being of the wider region, especially the majority of farmers. At this point, both China and Pakistan are determined to strengthen regional trade, seek more

cooperation opportunities, and provide services for dozens of countries. billions of people creating a better future, according to China Economic Net.

Meanwhile Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Tuesday terming China-Pakistan Economic Corridor a manifestation of strategic relationship said the project has proved as a “catalyst of growth, poverty alleviation and job creation”. “The CPEC is a beacon of progress and prosperity. It is not just an economic corridor, but a symbol of Pak-China strategic trust,” he said in an interaction with representatives of leading Chinese think-tanks and scholars. PM Kakar, who is in China on an official visit to attend the Belt and Road Forum, said the CPEC had transformed the socio-economic landscape of Pakistan, upgrading modern infrastructure, enhancing regional connectivity and ensuring energy security.

He mentioned that since the launch of CPEC during the landmark visit of President Xi Jinping to Pakistan in 2015, the project resulted in addition of 800 kilometres of roads, and creation of 8,000 mega watt electricity, and 0.2 million job opportunities.

<https://pakobserver.net/pm-predicts-bright-future-of-pak-china-relations-under-cpec/>

CM, Chinese company agree to remove bottlenecks to start KCR project

Caretaker Sindh Chief Minister Justice (rtd) and Vice President of Chinese company (CRCC) Li Samaa in their meeting at CRCC International Headquarters, agreed to remove the only two remaining bottlenecks to start the much-awaited Karachi Circular Railway (KCR). According to the CM house press release issued here on Tuesday, the meeting was held on the sideline of The Third Belt and Road Forum (BRF) for International Cooperation in Beijing. Justice Baqar said that in a Review meeting of CPEC Projects held on Feb 9, 2023, it was decided that China Railway Authority required afresh feasibility based on Chinese standards to establish funding/ project cost of the KCR Project. The Sindh government Transport dept completed the KCR Feasibility Study along with the collaboration of a Chinese Firm (CRCC) with a revised cost of \$2.002 billion. At this CRCC Vice President said that a joint survey conducted by the Sindh government in collaboration with ICRC International has been submitted to the Chinese authorities. He pointed out that only two issues were left to resolve before starting the project.

The CRCC vice president urged the Sindh CM to settle the issues of Right Of Way (ROW) and Sovereignty guarantee to be issued by the Pakistan government. At this, the interim CM said that his government and the Ministry of Railways of Pakistan have discussed ROW issues and the agreement between the two would be achieved shortly.

He added that as far as sovereignty guarantee was concerned that has not been an issue now. The CRCC vice President termed it good news to carry forward the project. The CM said that the Sindh government through the federal government of Pakistan would approach the Chinese authorities to speed up the KCR project.

The CM said that the updated feasibility Study has also been submitted to the China Railway Authority through the Planning Commission. Under the updated feasibility the KCRs circular route spans approximately 43 kilometers (27 miles), intricately connecting Karachi's diverse landscape, including industrial zones, residential neighborhoods, and bustling

commercial districts. It weaves through pivotal locations such as Karachi City Station, Landhi, Malir, Drigh Road, and Orangi.

This well-structured route played a pivotal role in reducing traffic congestion and combatting air pollution by offering a reliable alternative to road transportation. Out of its 24 Stations, 11 would be at Grade and 13 elevated. Its ridership would be 650,000 passengers daily.

<https://pakobserver.net/cm-chinese-company-agree-to-remove-bottlenecks-to-start-kcr-project/#:~:text=Caretaker%20Sindh%20Chief%20Minister%20Justice%20%28rtd%29%20and%20Vice,to%20start%20the%20much-awaited%20Karachi%20Circular%20Railway%20%28KCR%29>

The third belt and road forum

Dr Muhammad Shakeel Ahmad

THE Third Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation, underway in Beijing (Oct. 17-18), marks a significant milestone in the realization of President Xi Jinping's vision for Chinese sustainable development. Rooted in the principles of socialism with Chinese characteristics, this forum symbolizes a commitment to international collaboration, harmonious coexistence and the pursuit of shared prosperity. As the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) enters its tenth year since its launch in 2013, the forum becomes a crucial platform for fostering global sustainable development cooperation.

Inaugurating the maiden Belt and Road Forum in the year 2017, President Xi Jinping evoked the bygone era of the Silk Road, accentuating its historical import in linking Asia, Europe and Africa. Launched in 2013, the Belt and Road Initiative aspires to resurrect and expand upon this historical legacy, nurturing economic interconnection, infrastructure advancement and cultural interchange among nations. The Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation materialized as a conduit for dialogue and collaboration amongst nations engaged in the BRI. Its inception in Beijing in 2017 saw the gathering of leaders and representatives from over a hundred countries and international organizations. It functioned as a forum for deliberations on policy synchronization, infrastructure augmentation, trade and financial amalgamation. The Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation (BRF) stands as a testament to the evolving paradigm of global collaboration in the 21st century. Launched by China in 2013, the BRI has burgeoned into a comprehensive framework for international cooperation, nurturing economic development, connectivity and cultural exchange among participating nations.

Xi Jinping's exposition on "Socialism with Chinese Characteristics" encapsulates the crux of his leadership, laying emphasis on collaboration, harmonious coexistence and a scenario of mutual benefit. This departure from the competitive ethos associated with capitalist leadership propels China as an alternative trajectory for global governance. The accentuation on socialist core values and the commitment to crafting a "great modern socialist country" signify a distinctive model for international leadership, expounded during the inaugural BRI forum in 2017. President Xi Jinping delineated a comprehensive vision for sustainable development during the Belt and Road Forum. At its core was the integration of economic

growth with environmental responsibility, acknowledging the global challenges posed by climate change and environmental degradation.

In his oration, President Xi advocated for a verdant and low-carbon approach to development, accentuating clean energy, ecological preservation and sustainable practices aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations. Connectivity emerged as another pivotal theme, underscoring the importance of nurturing digital, cultural and people-to-people connections. Inclusivity emerged as a cardinal principle in Xi's vision, countering the surge of protectionism and fostering a more cooperative and interconnected world. The Second Belt and Road Forum in April 2019 brought together leaders and delegates from over 150 countries, fostering open discussions on various facets of the BRI, including concerns about transparency, environmental impact and debt sustainability associated with BRI projects. In his keynote address, President Xi reiterated the virtues of cooperation, openness and inclusivity in the pursuit of shared development. Measures were proclaimed to fortify transparency, debt sustainability and risk management in BRI projects.

The BRF in 2019 underscored the weight of international cooperation in realizing BRI objectives. Bilateral agreements inked during the forum evidenced a commitment to nurturing mutual understanding and manifesting the shared vision of a more interconnected world. At the heart of President Xi's vision for sustainable development lies the concept of a community with a shared future for humanity – economically viable, socially inclusive and environmentally responsible. He called for concerted endeavours to confront global challenges such as climate change, poverty and inequality, aligning with the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations. In the twenty-first century, confronted with unparalleled challenges spanning economic disparities to environmental decay, Xi Jinping's espousal of socialism with Chinese characteristics proffers an alternative to the entrenched capitalist paradigm. Unlike the cutthroat nature of capitalism, socialism, as championed by China, underscores collaboration and mutual benefit, fostering economic development, infrastructure connectivity and shared prosperity.

Chinese socialism, amalgamating Marxist-Leninist principles with pragmatic policies tailored to China's unique developmental context, heralds a paradigm shift from the contradictions of global capitalism. Emphasizing harmony and collective well-being, Chinese socialism positions itself as a viable alternative to the globalist narrative, illustrated by the eradication of absolute poverty and the pursuit of common prosperity. The Belt and Road Initiative transcends its identity as a mere infrastructure project; it is an embodiment of socialist core values. The initiative aspires to engender win-win outcomes for all participating nations, aligning seamlessly with Xi Jinping's vision of shared prosperity and complementing the Sustainable Development Goals outlined by the United Nations.

As the Third Belt and Road Forum unfolds, it serves as a testimony to the growth and impact of the initiative, fostering international cooperation and comprehension. In the current panorama of global leadership, Chinese socialism emerges as a compelling alternative, offering a vision of governance anchored in collaboration, harmony and shared prosperity. The Belt and Road Initiative, showcased in the Third Belt and Road Forum, stands as a beacon of hope for a more equitable and harmonious future. Xi Jinping's leadership,

grounded in socialist principles, delineates a roadmap for addressing global challenges and realizing sustainable development on an international scale. As the world grapples with the crises associated with capitalism, China's socialist leadership proffers a distinctive trajectory for global governance and cooperation.

The Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation marks a significant milestone in the annals of global collaboration. By furnishing a platform for dialogue, coordination and partnership, the BRF has contributed to augmented connectivity, economic development and cultural exchange among participating nations. As the initiative continues to evolve, addressing challenges and incorporating feedback will be imperative to ensuring the enduring success and sustainability of the Belt and Road Initiative as a catalyst for international cooperation in the twenty-first century. In the spirit of President Xi Jinping's vision, the Third Belt and Road Forum has the potential to set the stage for a new era of sustainable development that is inclusive, environmentally conscious and socially responsible.

By harnessing the collective wisdom and resources of participating nations, we can build a future where prosperity is shared, development is sustainable and the bonds of friendship between nations are strengthened. As the world looks to Beijing for this landmark event, there is a sense of optimism and anticipation. The Third Belt and Road Forum is not just a meeting of nations; it is a platform for building bridges, both literal and metaphorical, that connect us all in the pursuit of a better, more prosperous world. May this forum be a beacon of hope, cooperation and progress, guiding us towards a future where the vision of President Xi Jinping becomes a reality for the benefit of all humanity.

—The writer is a Chief Executive Global Strategic Institute for Sustainable Development-GSISD.

<https://pakobserver.net/the-third-belt-and-road-forum/>

Belt and Road Initiative: A transformative force in Pakistan and the region

Naseem Khan Achakzai

THE Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), proposed by China in 2013, has today emerged as one of the most ambitious and transformative development projects in modern history. Spanning across Asia, Europe, Africa, and beyond, this colossal infrastructure and economic development initiative has had a profound impact on various countries and Pakistan is one of them. As a young professional working closely with the policymakers in an advisory role in Pakistan and especially in Balochistan, the writer's journey within this dynamic landscape has been marked by tremendous opportunities and challenges leading to significant professional growth and insights. The BRI has stimulated an array of research topics and demands for analysis, which has provided think tanks in Pakistan with ample opportunities to delve into diverse areas such as international relations, economics, infrastructure development, and geopolitics. A very strategic plan that has helped this scribe design and execute was establishing strategic partnership between the provinces of Xingjiang and Balochistan in agriculture exchange and research. Balochistan and Xingjiang have a vital position of importance in the CPEC. A connection was established between the Ministry of Agriculture Balochistan and Xingjiang which was successfully executed by the delegation-

level visit of Minister Agriculture of Balochistan, Zmark Khan Achakzai and his team to Xingjiang to establish cooperation in the field of agriculture.

Besides, the BRI has brought together an extensive network of stakeholders, including the government officials, diplomats, academics, and business leaders from both China and Pakistan. Participating in the BRI-related events, conferences, and seminars has allowed the writer to establish valuable connections and collaborations with experts from various backgrounds.

These interactions have opened doors to collaborative research projects, knowledge exchange and policy dialogues. August 2019 and the Gwadar business Center when the Gwadar Master plan was to be approved, the writer was in Gwadar with the then Chief Minister Balochistan Jam Kamal Khan and witnessed the process as they were hosting the first highlevel Pakistan China Youth conclave in Gwadar with over 50 young leaders from China and the Chief Minister along with the Cabinet signed the new Gwadar Master Plan in presence of other stakeholders.

The BRI has been at the forefront of Pakistan's foreign policy agenda, offering numerous opportunities to engage with policymakers and provide evidence-based recommendations. Through participation in the roundtable discussions and policy briefings, the writer has been able to contribute to informed policy decisions, helping shape Pakistan's stance on BRI-related matters and fostering a deeper understanding of its implications.

The BRI has had a profound impact on Pakistan's economy and trade dynamics. The development of infrastructure projects under the initiative has boosted trade connectivity and economic growth in the region.

Beyond infrastructure and economic development, the BRI emphasizes cultural exchange and people-to-people connectivity. The BRI is not without its geopolitical complexities, and its impact on regional dynamics cannot be understated. Being situated at the crossroads of South Asia, China, and the Middle East, Pakistan occupies a critical geopolitical position in the BRI. The writer has gained valuable insights into the intricate web of geopolitics in the region to analyze power dynamics, security challenges, and the evolving alliances in this strategic landscape. This geopolitical acumen has elevated the quality of analysis and policy recommendations.

Beside, effective communication with the Chinese stakeholders is essential for meaningful collaboration within the BRI framework. Navigating the evolving landscape of the BRI has required adaptability and resilience. The shifting priorities, project timelines, and geopolitical dynamics have demanded quick thinking and the ability to pivot in response to new challenges. While the BRI presents its share of complexities and controversies, its role in shaping the professional growth of think tank professionals in Pakistan cannot be overstated.

<https://pakobserver.net/belt-and-road-imitative-a-transformative-force-in-pakistan-and-the-region/#:~:text=The%20BRI%20has%20had%20a%20profound%20impact%20on,the%20BRI%20emphasizes%20cultural%20exchange%20and%20people-to-people%20connectivity>

CPEC commendable endeavour in building China-Pak community with shared future: PM

Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar has said that the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, one of the signature projects under the Belt and Road Initiative, is a practical manifestation of win-win cooperation and shared prosperity and a commendable endeavor in building a China-Pakistan community with a shared future.

“All these elements also form the bedrock of President Xi Jinping’s visionary Belt and Road Initiative,” he said in an exclusive interview with China Daily published here on Tuesday.

The prime minister lauded the Belt and Road Initiative for having “advanced inclusive development to reduce poverty and inequality, improved people’s ability to pay taxes and enhanced governments’ ability to retire their debts”. The Pakistani leader, who took office in August as the eighth caretaker prime minister of Pakistan, is visiting China for the third Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation, which will be held in Beijing on Tuesday and Wednesday. Kakar dismissed theories that the BRI has led participating countries into “debt traps”, saying that China is offering “a unique mechanism of development financing to developing countries — which is without conditions and different from the traditional development financing models”.

“It is wrong to describe BRI financing as a ‘debt trap’; it is rather an essential tool for helping countries in achieving comprehensive and inclusive development of their peoples,” he added.

<https://pakobserver.net/cpec-commendable-endeavour-in-building-china-pak-community-with-shared-future-pm/#:~:text=Caretaker%20Prime%20Minister%20Anwaar-ul-Haq%20Kakar%20has%20said%20that,building%20a%20China-Pakistan%20community%20with%20a%20shared%20future>

Belt and Road Initiative: A Road of Innovation for the New Era

Gauhar Zahid Malik

The 3rd BRI Forum for International Cooperation will be commenced today in Beijing. 140 countries and 30 organizations are going to participate in it which vividly reflects the BRI’s global importance in term of trans-regional connectivity, infrastructure development, socio-economic growth and last but not least, eradication of poverty and generation of new jobs.

Now the BRI has entered into its 2nd phase which hopefully will be focused on innovations, artificial intelligence technologies, ICT, big data management, quantum technologies, G-5-6, hybrid agriculture, green energies mainly wind, solar, blue/green hydrogen power generation, lithium batteries and last but not least, health services in all the member countries.

President Xi Jinping stressed that the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) is innovative by nature and its success needs to be powered by further innovation. Now the Chinese policy makers have already put the BRI on the path of openness, modernization, inclusiveness and qualitative industrialization transforming the economies and communities of more than 153 member countries.

In the last ten year the BRI has further consolidated the foundations of sustainable economic development in all the member countries. It remained positive, productive and participatory in term of making investment, sharing basic information, assisting in implementation and last but not least, sending experts for timely training to cope with disasters in their countries.

Precisely the BRI has been promoting the spirits of international cooperation, economic globalization, industrialization, innovations and last but not least, integrated trans-regional rails, ports and other transport means in all the member countries since 2013.

Belt and Road cooperation has pooled resources of innovation from various parties, banks and financial institutions injecting strong impetus into the development of partner countries and bringing tangible benefits to the people. A road of innovation for the new era is connecting China to the greater world.

This is a road that inspires innovative ideas for befitting mutual cooperation. Rooted in the spirit of harmony, inclusiveness, and cooperation of the ancient Silk Road, the BRI has put forward the innovative principle of extensive consultation and joint contribution for shared benefit, and abandoned the zero-sum mentality featured in the donors-dominated, Western-led model of international cooperation. Moreover, it has been cooperative, coordinative and collaborative in the last decade and has never been exploitative or conquest to any member country through unilaterally imposing any condition.

Thus BRI has created a new vision for international cooperation which has promoted the spirits of just economic system and social stability in the member countries as well as in the world. Just as the British commentator Martin Jacques observed, the BRI is completely novel and, in terms of its global impact, a bold and new project unprecedented in its character and conception. Even many international publications have already dubbed the BRI as the “Biggest Project of the 21st Century”.

This is a road that brings together resources of innovation. In the past decade, Belt and Road cooperation has spurred greater innovation in science and technology. From promoting people-to-people exchanges in science and technology to jointly building laboratories, from enhancing cooperation on science and technology parks to building technology transfer centers, the vision for a community of innovation featuring shared development philosophies, unimpeded flow of production factors, networked technology facilities, connected innovation chains and vibrant people-to-people exchanges is turning into reality. The splendid achievements of the BRI in the last decade are the testimony of “Xi’s Supreme Vision and Reality”.

At the water-conserving irrigation laboratory jointly built by China and Egypt, water can be channeled to the roots of crops through underground seeping pipes with just a tap on the phone. This advanced water-saving irrigation system from China provides an effective solution to the problems of high temperature, drought and water shortage that plague Egypt’s agricultural development.

Belt and Road cooperation is also instrumental in integrating resources of innovation from all parties. China and Portugal are located by the Pacific and the Atlantic respectively, with different climates and geographical conditions, yet greater cooperation on innovation

including Joint International Research Laboratory of Marine Biology inaugurated in 2017 and the Belt and Road Joint Laboratory on Space and Sea Technology Advanced Research launched in 2021 not only enables information sharing between the two countries, but also promotes complementarily in scientific research capabilities, thus producing a multiplying effect.

This is a road that delivers the benefits of scientific and technological innovation to the people. Through Belt and Road cooperation, China has not only integrated itself into the global scientific and technological innovation network, but also helped spread the fruits of innovation to more countries and peoples.

China has carried out extensive cooperation with partner countries in smart cities, mobile payment, cross-border e-commerce and other areas of digital economy, and supported them in establishing and improving technology markets. China has set up the Technology Transfer South-South Cooperation Center with the United Nations Development Program, promoted cooperation among higher education institutions and research institutes, and helped partner countries cultivate future innovators.

As co-chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Bill Gates said, China has an incredible mix of expertise and experience, as well as investment in scientific and technological innovation, and it will be able to make unique contributions to sharing its technologies and its lessons.

Hopefully, China will continue to promote Belt and Road cooperation on innovation, fully tap the potential of innovation, open up broader space for win-win cooperation, and provide more shared treasures for people worldwide to achieve common development and prosperity.

<https://pakobserver.net/belt-and-road-initiative-a-road-of-innovation-for-the-new-era-1/>

BRI play role in regional economic development: Sami

Caretaker Minister for Planning, Development & Special Initiatives, Sami Saeed highlighted Pakistan's national pride in being a significant contributor to the success of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and emphasized the pivotal role of the BRI in fostering regional connectivity and economic development.

During the meeting with the Chinese technology enterprises minister underscored Pakistan's commitment to further strengthening its partnership with China with a focus on infrastructure development and sustainable growth. He further said that Pakistan's active involvement in the BRI reflects the country's steadfast dedication to fostering mutually beneficial relationships and enhancing global cooperation, CEN reported on Tuesday.

Zhang Xiaodong, President of Zhongguancun the Belt and Road Industrial Promotion Association (ZBRA), introduced the cooperation between China and Pakistan and further said that Zhongguancun the Belt and Road Industrial Promotion Association, Pakistan Embassy in China, Special Technology Zones Authority and other Pakistani institutions will jointly select 100 Chinese enterprises that intend to expand the Pakistani market to visit Pakistan for docking, investigation, investment and business development.—APP

<https://pakobserver.net/bri-play-role-in-regional-economic-development-sami/>

BRI: Paving the way for a global community of shared future

Engr Qaiser Nawab

THE Third Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation, a grand diplomatic event hosted by China, is set to usher in substantial outcomes, heralding a new era of international cooperation and development. This forum, celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Belt and Road Initiative, promises to deliver a wealth of opportunities and benefits to more than 140 participating countries and over 30 international organizations. Under the phenomenal Chinese leadership, the forum is poised to take the BRI to new heights, building upon its impressive track record and emphasizing principles rooted in history, the realities of today, and a vision for a better future.

The Belt and Road Initiative is more than just a monumental infrastructure project; it embodies a vision for a global community of shared future. The initiative is deeply rooted in history, harking back to the ancient Silk Road that connected Asia, Europe and Africa, fostering cultural exchanges and driving human progress. In the modern era, President Xi Jinping's proposal in 2013 has breathed new life into this vision, uniting countries in an international effort to promote peace, development and shared prosperity.

Over the past decade, the BRI has evolved from an idea into a global reality, transforming the landscape of international cooperation. It has transcended political and ideological boundaries, welcoming countries at various stages of development to share in its benefits. By focusing on economic globalization and improving the global governance system, the BRI has offered concrete solutions to global development challenges, helping nations along the path to modernization and enhancing a sense of unity and shared destiny.

The BRI's principles of extensive consultation, joint contribution and shared benefits represent a break from traditional geopolitical power struggles and an embrace of a more equitable, inclusive approach to cooperation. These principles acknowledge that all countries, regardless of size or wealth, have a role to play and a voice to be heard in the process. This means creating opportunities for countries to participate on an equal footing and to share in the collective wisdom of nations.

Extensive consultation promotes multilateralism, fostering collective decision-making that respects the unique characteristics of each nation. It encourages collaboration among economies at different stages of development, allowing them to identify and establish innovative cooperation mechanisms. These principles actively engage businesses, where their expertise and resources are harnessed for mutual gain, and where the government's role is to create platforms, establish mechanisms and provide guidance.

Shared benefits emphasize win-win cooperation, ensuring that no country is left behind. The BRI prioritizes development, poverty eradication, job creation and improvement in people's well-being. It goes beyond infrastructure development, delving into areas such as public health, education and disaster mitigation. By promoting small-scale yet impactful projects, the BRI directly improves the lives of people in participating countries, embodying the vision of a global community of shared future.

The BRI embraces green, low-carbon development, respecting the natural world and its laws. It stands as a response to the pressing global issues of environmental degradation and climate change. By fostering cooperation in green infrastructure, renewable energy, eco-friendly transport and sustainable finance, the BRI leads the way in combating climate change and advancing sustainable development. Clean governance is integral to the BRI's success, ensuring that resources and projects are managed with integrity and efficiency. Efforts to combat corruption and promote lawful operations guarantee that the BRI remains a beacon of clean governance and financial transparency. The Belt and Road Initiative provides a path to global well-being. It aims to create lasting peace, universal security and sustainable prosperity. It represents a new model of international relations based on mutual respect, equity, justice and win-win cooperation, and it fosters a new vision of common, comprehensive, cooperative and sustainable security. It stands as a testament to the power of development to underpin peace and security.

The BRI seeks to build a prosperous future that is inclusive and balanced, rejecting exploitative colonialism and embracing the principles of win-win outcomes and shared development. By prioritizing development as a common goal, the BRI leverages resources and strengths to ignite the growth engines of participating countries and foster a new centre for global economic growth.

In its commitment to openness, the BRI transcends national borders and ideological differences. It aims to create an environment conducive to open development and construct a system of international trade and investment rules that is fair, equitable and transparent. The BRI seeks to build an open global economy that benefits all, reflecting the world's shared commitment to global economic interconnectedness.

The BRI embraces innovation, leveraging digital and smart development to explore new business forms, technologies and models. It seeks fresh sources of growth and innovative development pathways to drive transformative advancements. The BRI aims to build a resource-efficient, eco-conscious and low-carbon Silk Road, making a significant contribution to addressing climate change. The BRI promotes equality, mutual learning and inclusiveness among civilizations. It seeks to foster mutual understanding, respect and trust among nations, broadening consensus on ideas and values and achieving new human progress. By encouraging deeper exchanges among political parties, social organizations, think tanks and sub-national communities, the BRI aims to improve the lives of people around the world. As the Third Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation has approached, it is clear that the Belt and Road Initiative is not merely a collection of infrastructure projects but a visionary blueprint for a global community of shared future. It embodies a commitment to equality, inclusiveness and mutual benefit, embracing green and clean development and seeking to pave the way to global well-being. The BRI provides a path to lasting peace, sustainable prosperity, openness, innovation and social progress, offering a model of international cooperation that transcends traditional geopolitical rivalries and underscores the power of unity and shared destiny. The forum promises substantial outcomes, representing a pivotal moment in the journey toward a better world.

<https://pakobserver.net/bri-paving-the-way-for-a-global-community-of-shared-future/>

China's Belt and Road Initiative: A Transformative Global Game-Changer

The Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation, inaugurated by Chinese President Xi Jinping in Beijing on Tuesday under the theme of “High-quality Belt and Road Cooperation: Together for Common Development and Prosperity,” marks the BRI's 10th anniversary. This forum, attended by representatives from 130 countries and 30 international organizations, is a crucial platform for global diplomacy.

President Xi Jinping's presence and keynote speech underscore the forum's significance. Notably, Pakistan's Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaarul Haq Kakar's participation demonstrates the strong relations between China and Pakistan. Kakar's visit is an affirmation of commitment to the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). During the visit, multiple agreements are expected to be signed between China and Pakistan.

The BRI has completed over 3,000 projects in the last decade, gaining support from over 180 countries and international organizations. This international effort reflects the project's ambition to promote economic development, industrial transformation, green energy, human capital development, and multiculturalism.

Despite geopolitical challenges from the US, EU, and India, the BRI remains strong, and alternative projects like Build Back Better World (BBBW) and Global Gateway (GGW) have yet to materialize. The recent Israel-Hamas war adds further complexity to the region's dynamics.

The CPEC's achievements and upcoming goals will be highlighted during the forum. The BRI's principles of extensive consultation, joint contribution, and shared benefits will be emphasized, underlining the tangible benefits of the CPEC, including substantial investments, job creation, and infrastructure development.

During the forum, Pakistan and China are expected to sign over two dozen agreements, covering areas such as Urban Sustainable Development, Belt and Road Cooperation, Mineral Development, Industrial Cooperation, Gwadar Port Development, Green and Low-carbon Development, and Digital Economy Cooperation. Projects like Main Railway Line-1, Karachi Circular Railway (KCR), Babusar tunnel, and Karachi-Hyderabad Motorway (M-9) will be discussed.

At a time when geopolitics threatens global unity, the BRI stands as a beacon of international cooperation. Over the past decade, it has facilitated economic growth and global partnerships. China's dedication to openness, inclusiveness, and equal partnerships has resulted in collaboration with over 150 countries and 30 international organizations.

The Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation will serve as a critical platform for countries and regions participating in the BRI to plan high-quality Belt and Road cooperation. Amidst a complex global geo-economic situation, the forum's global significance is expected to attract attention from around the world.

In conclusion, the upcoming Belt and Road Forum marks a significant milestone in the development of the Belt and Road Initiative. It underscores the commitment of China and its

partner nations to advancing global cooperation and sustainable development. The participation of leaders like Pakistan's

Additionally, the BRI has made it easier to interchange cultures and advance commercial prospects. Through cooperative efforts, areas become more aware of one another's languages, cultures, and customs. Through fostering understanding and compassion amongst people, this cultural interchange opens the door to long-lasting relationships that transcend beyond business collaboration.

While recognizing the BRI's accomplishments, we must also address the concerns and challenges it presents. In any endeavor of this magnitude, complexities and potential pitfalls are inevitable.

One concern revolves around the financial aspects of BRI projects. Critics argue that some participating countries have found themselves burdened with debt due to the financial terms of these initiatives. While infrastructure development is undoubtedly essential, it is vital to ensure that participating nations do not face economic hardships in the process.

Transparency and accountability are additional issues. There have been cases of opacity in the implementation of certain BRI projects, leaving room for speculation and mistrust. To maintain the integrity of the initiative, transparency and open dialogue are paramount.

Moreover, the Belt and Road Initiative has the potential to shape China as a positive global influencer. Many observers perceive the initiative as a strategic means for China to extend its constructive global influence. This perspective highlights China's role in promoting international cooperation and stability, thereby diminishing concerns about potential power imbalances.

One way to solidify the BRI's positive impact is by enhancing debt sustainability. China and participating countries should work together to establish fair and reasonable financial terms for projects. This approach will prevent excessive debt burdens and contribute to the long-term success of the initiative.

Accountability and transparency have to be the BRI's top priorities going forward. It is crucial that all parties involved—including governments, international organizations, and civil society—communicate clearly and openly. This strategy will allay worries about covert intentions and foster confidence. Moreover, the BRI can benefit from a more pronounced commitment to environmental sustainability. As the world grapples with climate change, a greener approach to infrastructure development can set a positive example and align with global environmental goals.

Geopolitical concerns should not be dismissed but rather addressed diplomatically. China, as the driving force behind the BRI, can foster an environment of cooperation and mutual benefit, dispelling doubts about ulterior motives.

The Belt and Road Initiative's 10th anniversary offers an opportune moment to reflect on its multifaceted impact. While celebrating its transformative infrastructure achievements, we must also confront the challenges and concerns that have arisen along the way.

Careful and inclusive measures are needed to strike a balance between the BRI's potential for global benefit and its potential for unforeseen downsides. The BRI's second decade offers a chance to improve openness, advance environmental responsibility, prioritize debt sustainability, and sharpen its strategy. By resolving these issues, the BRI has the potential to significantly alter the global landscape by promoting interconnectedness, economic growth, and international understanding. As we navigate the future of the BRI, the world watches with anticipation, hopeful that this initiative, which has already left an indelible mark on the global landscape, will continue to shape a brighter and more connected future for all.

<https://pakobserver.net/chinas-belt-and-road-initiative-a-transformative-global-game-changer-1/>

The Express Tribune

Festival marks 10th CPEC launch anniversary

Event also commemorates founding of People's Republic of China

ISLAMABAD: An event was held to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the launch of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and "Belt and Road" (BRI) initiative and the 74th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China on Monday. The event titled Pakistan-China Friendship Festival was organised by the All Pakistan-China Friendship Association (APCFA) in collaboration with the Chinese Embassy in Serena Hotel Islamabad. According to a press statement, Chinese calligraphy classes, Chinese culinary training sessions, Chinese calligraphy workshops, musical band performances and other stalls of traditional items promoting the bilateral culture of both countries were part of the event.

HE Zhang Heqing, Cultural Counsellor and Director of China Cultural Centre in Pakistan graced the event as the chief guest. In his remarks at the event, he expressed his heartfelt appreciation to APCFA for "their hard work in organising such a significant event and actively participating in similar cultural promotion activities encouraging youth in both the countries". He further said: "China and Pakistan are good neighbours by rivers and mountains. Since the establishment of diplomatic relations both countries have stood the twists and turns, challenges and hard times." He went on to add that both countries enjoyed long histories. "Pakistan has a 4600-year history dating back to the Mohinjo Daro and Harappa civilizations. China has a long history dating back to the Liangzhu civilizations," he said, adding that the second similarity both countries shared was population. "China has the world's largest population, and Pakistan is most likely the world's fifth largest." Endorsing the remarks of the other speakers, he also acknowledged the role that youth have played and will play in the development of both countries. He hoped that the youth would study hard and make greater progress for Pakistan and that they would be great ambassadors of the China-Pakistan friendship.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2441630/festival-marks-10th-cpec-launch-anniversary>

KCR clears 'last hurdle'

Sindh govt, Chinese firm reach agreement to initiate the project

KARACHI: Sindh's Caretaker Chief Minister Justice (ret'd) Maqbool Baqar and Vice President of China Railway Construction Corporation Li Samaa reached an agreement during their meeting at the CRCC International Headquarters to remove the only two remaining hurdles to the long-awaited Karachi Circular Railway (KCR) project. The meeting took place on the sidelines of the Third Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation starting in Beijing from tomorrow. The CM explained that during a review meeting of CPEC projects on February 9, it was decided that the China Railway Authority needed a fresh feasibility study based on Chinese standards to determine the funding and project cost for the KCR project. The Sindh government's Transport Department, in collaboration with the CRCC, has completed the KCR feasibility study, which now estimates the project's cost at over \$2 billion. The CRCC vice president revealed that a joint survey conducted by the Sindh government, in collaboration with the CRCC, has been submitted to the Chinese authorities. He pointed out that only two issues remain to be resolved before commencing the project.

He urged the Sindh CM to address the issues of Right Of Way (ROW) and the sovereignty guarantee to be issued by the Pakistan government. CM Baqar mentioned that his government and the Ministry of Railways have already discussed the ROW issues and anticipate reaching an agreement shortly. Regarding the sovereign guarantee, it is no longer an issue, he added. The CRCC vice president welcomed this news as a positive step forward for the project. CM Baqar affirmed that his administration, with the support of the federal government, would engage with the Chinese authorities to expedite the KCR project. According to the updated feasibility study, which has been submitted to the China Railway Authority through the Planning Commission, the KCR's circular route spans approximately 43 kilometres, connecting Karachi's diverse landscape, including industrial zones, residential neighbourhoods, and bustling commercial districts. The route weaves through key locations such as City Station, Landhi, Malir, Drigh Road, and Orangi. This well-structured route plays a pivotal role in reducing traffic congestion and combating air pollution by providing a reliable alternative to road transportation. Out of its 24 stations, 11 will be at ground level, and 13 will be elevated. The system is expected to accommodate 650,000 passengers per day.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2441634/kcr-clears-last-hurdle>

Express News

چائنا ریلوے کنسٹرکشن کارپوریشن کراچی سرکلر ریلوے بنائے گی

نگراں وزیر اعلیٰ سندھ جسٹس (ر) مقبول باقر نے کہا ہے کہ چائنا ریلوے کنسٹرکشن کارپوریشن کراچی سرکلر ریلوے بنائے گی۔ کراچی

نگراں وزیر اعلیٰ سندھ جسٹس (ر) مقبول باقر نے کہا ہے کہ کراچی میں سرکلر ریلوے چائنا ریلوے کنسٹرکشن کارپوریشن (سی آئی سی) بنائے گی، یہ فیصلہ نگراں وزیر اعلیٰ

سندھ جسٹس (ر) مقبول باقر اور چائنا ریلوے کنسٹرکشن کارپوریشن (سی آئی سی) کے صدر مسٹر لی سما کی اور نائب صدر گونجی رین کے درمیان بیجنگ میں سی آئی سی

ہیڈ کوارٹر میں ہونے والی ملاقات میں کیا گیا۔

اجلاس میں سی آر سی سی نائب صدر نے بریفنگ دیتے ہوئے کہا کہ ٹرانسپورٹ اینڈ ماس ٹرانزٹ ڈپارٹمنٹ حکومت سندھ اور ہماری چائینز کمپنی سی آر سی سی نے ملکر کے سی آر سی سی فزبیلٹی رپورٹ بنائی ہے، اس لیے چائینز حکام کراچی میں سرکلر ریلوے بنائیں گے۔

نگران وزیر اعلیٰ سندھ نے کہا کہ کراچی سرکلر ریلوے کو سی پیک میں 2016 میں شامل کیا گیا تھا، اجلاس میں بتایا گیا کہ 2023 میں سی پیک کے اجلاس میں فیصلے ہوا کہ چائینز ریلوے اتھارٹی کو نئے سرے سے فزبیلٹی کی ضرورت ہے اور حکومت سندھ نے چینی فرم سی آر سی سی کے تعاون کے ساتھ دوبارہ فزبیلٹی رپورٹ تیار کی، جس کے مطابق سی آر سی سی 2.002 بلین ڈالر کی لاگت آئے گی۔ پلاننگ کمیشن کے ذریعے چائینز ریلوے اتھارٹی کو پیش کردہ فزبیلٹی اسٹڈی کو اپ ڈیٹ کیا گیا۔

اجلاس میں بریفنگ کے دوران بتایا گیا کہ سی آر سی سی کی سرکلر ریلوے تقریباً 43 کلومیٹر (27 میل) پر پھیلا ہوا ہے، جس میں سی آر سی سی شہر کراچی کے متنوع منظر نامے بشمول صنعتی زون، تجارتی اور رہائشی علاقوں کو جوڑتا ہے۔

بریفنگ کے دوران بتایا گیا کہ چینی معیارات پر مبنی تازہ ترین فزبیلٹی اسٹڈی کے مطابق سی آر سی سی منصوبے کی لاگت 2.002 بلین ڈالر بنتی ہے، کراچی سرکلر ریلوے کے 124 اسٹیشنز ہونگے اور یومیہ 650000 مسافر سفر کریں گے۔

نگران وزیر اعلیٰ سندھ اور سی آر سی سی کے نائب صدر نے فیصلہ کیا کہ سندھ حکومت کے سی آر سی سی کے روٹ کی اراضی مسائل حل کرے گی۔

<https://www.express.pk/story/2553086/6/>

Nawaiwaqt News

چینی صدر کی دعوت پر نگران وزیر اعظم کا دورہ چین

نگران وزیر اعظم انوار الحق کاکڑ چینی صدر شی جن پنگ کی دعوت پر اسلام آباد سے بیجنگ پہنچ گئے ہیں جہاں پہنچنے پر ان کا پرتیاک استقبال کیا گیا۔ چین کے وزیر سائنس و ٹیکنالوجی وانگ ڈوگانگ، پاکستان میں چین کے سفیر جیانگ ڈی ڈونگ اور اعلیٰ حکام نے پاکستانی وزیر اعظم کا خیر مقدم کیا۔ اس موقع پر چین کے فنکاروں نے روایتی رقص کے ساتھ وزیر اعظم کا استقبال کیا اور پاکستان اور چین کے قومی ترانے بجائے گئے۔ وزیر اعظم اپنے دورہ چین کے دوران آج منعقد ہونے والے تیسرے ہیلٹ اینڈ روڈ فورم (بی آر ایف) برائے بین الاقوامی تعاون میں شرکت کریں گے۔ ہیلٹ اینڈ روڈ فورم میں پاکستان کی نمائندگی کرتے ہوئے وزیر اعظم چین پاکستان اقتصادی راہداری (سی پیک) کے تحت گزشتہ دس برسوں میں ہونے والی ترقیاتی کامیابیوں کے ساتھ ساتھ مستقبل کے اہداف اور اس کلیدی منصوبے پر پاکستان کے بھرپور تعاون کا اعادہ کریں گے۔

انوار الحق کاکڑ بی آر ایف کی افتتاحی تقریب میں شرکت کے علاوہ آج 18 اکتوبر کو عالمی معیشت میں مواصلاتی رابطوں کے موضوع پر منعقدہ اعلیٰ سطح فورم سے بھی خطاب کریں گے۔ وزیر اعظم کی چین میں چینی صدر شی جن پنگ، وزیر اعظم لی چیانگ اور کمیونسٹ پارٹی آف چائنا (سی پی سی) سنٹرل کمیٹی کی پولٹ بورو کی سٹیڈنگ کمیٹی کے رکن لی شی سے ملاقات کے ساتھ ساتھ اعلیٰ چینی قیادت اور فورم میں شریک دیگر ممالک کے سربراہان سے بھی ملاقات ہوگی۔ وزیر اعظم پاکستان میں بیرونی سرمایہ کاری کے فروغ کے لیے چین میں کاروباری شخصیات اور سرمایہ کاروں سے بھی ملاقاتیں کریں گے۔ سنگاپور اور پاکستان کے عوام کے مابین تعلقات اور کاروبار و سرمایہ کاری کے فروغ کے لیے وزیر اعظم اردوچی کا دورہ کریں گے جہاں وزیر اعظم مقامی عمائدین و کاروباری شخصیات سے ملاقاتیں کریں گے۔

ویسے تو یہ دورہ کئی حوالے سے بہت اہمیت کا حامل ہے لیکن اس کی ایک خاص بات یہ بھی ہے کہ نگران وزیر اعظم انوار الحق کاکڑ کی اس دوران روس کے صدر ولادیمیر پوٹن سے بھی ملاقات ہوگی۔ بتایا گیا ہے کہ یہ ملاقات ون آن ون ہوگی۔ بدلتے ہوئے عالمی منظر نامے میں پاکستان کا چین کے ساتھ ساتھ روس سے بڑھتا ہوا تعلق خطے میں ایک نئے ماحول کو جنم دے گا جس سے امن و استحکام اور خوشحالی و ترقی کا نیا دور شروع ہوگا۔ علاوہ ازیں، بھارت خطے میں طاقت کے توازن کو بگاڑنے اور اپنے توسیع پسندانہ عزائم کے تحت جو اقدامات کرتا ہے ان کو بھی لگام ڈالنے کا موقع ملے گا۔ نگران وزیر اعظم کے دورہ چین کی شکل میں پاکستان کو ایک اچھا موقع ملا ہے، اب اس

موقع کا فائدہ اٹھاتے ہوئے وزیر اعظم کو چینی قیادت اور روسی صدر سے تمام اہم امور پر سیر حاصل گفتگو کرنی چاہیے تاکہ تینوں ممالک کے باہمی تعلقات کو فروغ ملے۔ پاکستان اور چین کے تعلقات کے حوالے سے 'گلوبل ٹائمز' میں شائع ہونے والے ایک مضمون میں نگران وزیر اعظم نے لکھا کہ سی پیک نے پاکستان کے سماجی و اقتصادی منظر نامے کو تبدیل کر دیا ہے، جدید انفراسٹرکچر کو اپ گریڈ کیا ہے، علاقائی رابطوں کو بڑھایا ہے، توانائی کی حفاظت کو یقینی بنایا گیا ہے اور ملازمتیں پیدا کی گئی ہیں۔ بیلٹ اینڈ روڈ انیشی ایٹو (بی آر آئی) کے فلیگ شپ پراجیکٹ کے طور پر سی پیک پاکستان اور چین کے تعلقات میں ایک سنگ میل کی حیثیت رکھتا ہے۔ اس منصوبے میں اقتصادی تعاون اور روابط کو دو طرفہ ایجنڈے کے لیے مرکزی حیثیت دی گئی ہے جس سے دونوں ممالک کو ایک دوسرے سے مزید جڑنے کا موقع ملا ہے۔ انوار الحق کا کڑ نے اپنے مضمون میں مزید لکھا ہے کہ ہم ترقی، معاشی بہتری، اختراع اور دونوں ملکوں کے تعلقات میں کھلے پن کی تجویز کی مکمل حمایت کرتے ہیں۔

چین کا شمار ان ممالک میں ہوتا ہے جنہوں نے اقتصادی و دفاعی اور تزویراتی تعاون کے علاوہ بین الاقوامی تنازعات کے ضمن میں بھی ہمیشہ پاکستان کا بھرپور ساتھ دیا ہے اور اسی حوالے سے نگران وزیر اعظم نے اپنے مذکورہ مضمون میں پاکستان کی خود مختاری، علاقائی سالمیت اور اقتصادی سلامتی کے لیے چین کی حمایت اور مسئلہ کشمیر پر اصولی تائید پر چین کا شکریہ ادا کیا۔ مسئلہ کشمیر پر چین کی حمایت کی وجہ سے ہم کئی اہم بین الاقوامی فورمز پر بھارت کے مقابلے میں اپنی بات کو بھرپور انداز میں عالمی برادری تک پہنچانے کے قابل ہوئے ہیں جس کے چین بجا طور پر ہماری طرف سے شکریے کا بھی مستحق ہے۔ یہ بھی ایک حقیقت ہے کہ پاکستان کبھی بھی اگر بین الاقوامی اداروں اور عالمی برادری کو ساتھ ملا کر مسئلہ کشمیر حل کرانے کے قابل ہوا تو اس حوالے سے چین کا تعاون بھرپور کردار ادا کرے گا۔

پاکستان اور چین کے باہمی تعلقات کتنے مضبوط اور مستحکم ہیں یہ ساری دنیا جانتی ہے۔ سی پیک ان ہمسایہ ممالک کے دو طرفہ تعلق کی مضبوطی کی ایک اہم دلیل ہے۔ اقتصادی تعاون کا یہ منصوبہ صرف پاکستان اور چین کو ہی فائدہ نہیں پہنچا رہا ہے بلکہ اس سے دنیا کے سوسے زائد ممالک کو فائدہ پہنچ رہا ہے اسی لیے بی آر ایف برائے بین الاقوامی تعاون کی تقریب میں شرکت کے لیے دنیا کے ایک سو تیس ممالک کے مندوبین چینی دارالحکومت پہنچے ہوئے ہیں۔ پاکستان کو اس منصوبے سے خصوصی طور پر فائدہ پہنچے گا اور ہمیں اس سے بھرپور فائدہ اٹھانے کی ضرورت بھی ہے کیونکہ اس وقت ہمارے معیشت جس حال کو پہنچی ہوئی ہے اسے بحال کرنے اور مستحکم بنانے کے لیے ہمیں چین اور روس جیسے مضبوط اور ترقی یافتہ ممالک کے تعاون کی اشد ضرورت ہے اور یہ خوش آئند بات ہے کہ دونوں ممالک ہمارے ساتھ ہر طرح کا تعاون کرنے کو تیار بھی ہیں۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/laohre/2023-10-18/page-5/detail-11>

October 19, 2023

Business Recorder

CPEC projects worth \$25bn completed: PM

ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar said on Wednesday that his country has completed more than 50 projects worth \$25 billion under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

Kakar was speaking at the Belt and Road Forum in Beijing.

The CPEC is a flagship project under China's Belt and Road Initiative, with more than \$65 billion pledged for road, rail and other infrastructure developments in the South Asian nation of 241 million people.

"We have completed over 50 projects worth \$25 billion under the CPEC," Kakar said, adding that a very significant airport at the Gwadar port, which is being built with Chinese money as part of the CPEC, will soon be inaugurated.

Representatives of more than 130 countries, largely from the Global South, attended the forum, including several heads of state, of whom the most prominent was Xi's "dear friend" Russian President Vladimir Putin. Building industrial zones with Chinese and local Pakistani collaboration remains in the pipeline, together with a rail track of over 2600km costing nearly \$7 billion, the biggest single project under the CPEC.

Clean energy projects were expected to be completed in the next four to five years under the CPEC, Kakar said.—Reuters

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2023/10/19/1-page/974764-news.html>

Goals of open global economy, connectivity

Pakistan committed to working with China, regional partners: PM

BEIJING: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Wednesday said Pakistan was committed to working with China and other regional partners in achieving the ideals of an open global economy and promoting connectivity on a trans-continental scale.

"With shared responsibility and by embracing the vision of working together, we can create a brighter, peaceful, and sustainable future for ourselves and for our generations," he said in his address at the high-level event of the Third Belt and Road Forum (BRF) on "Connectivity in an Open Global Economy." The two-day forum, which marked the 10 years of the multi-billion dollar cross-regional Belt and Road Initiative, kicked off in China's capital Beijing with representatives from 140 countries in attendance.

PM Kakar said Pakistan endorsed China's vision of global connectivity and also looked forward to joining hands with other partners across borders and regions to materialize the projects.

"I am hopeful that together we can shape a world with the bonds that unite us together, rather than the forces that divide us," he said.

The prime minister congratulated President Xi Jinping for his revolutionary idea of the Belt and Road Initiative launched 10 years ago that proved instrumental in bringing common development and shared prosperity.

He termed enhanced connectivity a profound factor in development and progress in the modern age of globalization.

"The BRI's concept of shared future for mankind is not about road and railway infrastructure, but also to create linkages among civilizations and nations," he said.

He mentioned that the world faced a number of challenges including post-pandemic effects, the divide between the developed and the impoverished, peace, and food security. Kakar highlighted that BRI's flagship project China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) played a crucial role in generating new economic opportunities in Pakistan.

Underscoring its salience for Pakistan's robust economic development, he endorsed the Chinese proposal for developing CPEC as a corridor of growth, innovation, livelihood, green economy, openness, and inclusiveness.

The prime minister underlined the need for a united global response to address complex transnational challenges faced by humankind and to prevent backsliding on the gains achieved under the UN Sustainable Development Goals and 2030 Agenda.

He emphasised the urgency of addressing infrastructure gaps in the developing world by investing in transportation, energy, and digital economy. In Pakistan, he said CPEC's 50 projects worth \$25 billion investment resulted in the creation of modern highways, seaports, airports, and rapid mass transit systems. He said the government of Pakistan had taken steps to make the country a trade hub by connecting Gwadar with the landlocked countries, thus opening new vistas to the west and beyond.

Kakar expressed confidence that as CPEC crossed its decade of launch, the next phase would be poised to accommodate rural farmers, students, and small tradesmen and ensure improvement in living standards, poverty alleviation, and jobs creation. He said Pakistan's collaboration with China in the information technology sector and CPEC's green corridor would ensure modernization, food security, and agricultural and environmental protection.—
APP

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2023/10/19/1-page/974766-news.html>

Pakistan, China agree to strengthen high-level engagement

BEIJING: Pakistan and China on Wednesday agreed to further strengthen high-level dialogue and engagement besides deepening the political, economic, education, science & technology, cultural, and people-to-people relations.

The bilateral ties were discussed in a bilateral meeting between caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar and Chinese Premier Li Qiang on the sidelines of Third Belt and Road Forum (BRF).

Accompanied by the ministers and senior officials, the two leaders reaffirmed the time-tested and iron-clad friendship between Pakistan and China.

Prime Minister Kakar extended felicitations to the Chinese leadership on the successful holding of the Third Belt and Road Forum (BRF).

Noting the depth and breadth of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), the prime minister termed it as a project of immense significance for the world in terms of connectivity and shared prosperity.

The two leaders discussed bilateral collaboration in the context of CPEC and prospects of further deepening economic linkages.

Prime Minister Kakar underscored the importance of CPEC for Pakistan's economy and noted with satisfaction its expansion into new areas of development – including industrial development; livelihood projects; ICT; mining and minerals exploration and agriculture. He expressed the confidence that Chinese investment in Special Economic Zones (SEZs) will contribute in diversification of Pakistan's export basket and expansion of its industrial base. Premier Li Qiang underlined the steady growth of bilateral cooperation and noted the positive momentum of CPEC projects.

He hoped that leadership consensus would give further boost to trade and economic relations between the two countries.

The two prime ministers also witnessed the signing ceremony in which several MoUs/agreements were signed in areas of commerce, communication and transport including MLI, connectivity food security & research, media exchanges, space cooperation, urban sustainable development, capacity building, mineral development and industrial cooperation, climate change, vaccine development.—APP

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2023/10/19/1-page/974767-news.html>

Daily Times

Chinese enterprise eyeing enhanced ‘soft connectivity’ with Pakistan and others

“Having established cooperation with 157 countries in the world including Pakistan, we aim to take a step further to leverage our advantages in the whole infrastructure industrial chain and promote the ‘soft connectivity’ of rules and standards and people-to-people exchanges with the Belt and Road countries”.

This was stated by Wang Tongzhou, Chairman of China Communications Construction in an interview with China Economic Net (CEN) after the Belt and Road CEO Conference held here.

Wang Tongzhou, Chairman of China Communications Construction in an interview at the Third Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation [Photo/China Economic Net]

The construction company has undertaken a series of major infrastructure projects in Pakistan, including the KKH Phase-II, Gwadar Port, Eastbay Express Way etc., upgrading facilities for Pakistani people and breaking local technical boundaries. “As iron brothers, we have full confidence in our cooperation with Pakistan”, Mr. Wang told CEN. For him, technology transfer is of critical importance in enhancing soft connectivity.

“On one hand, frontier technologies such as IoT, big data, AI, etc. will be more widely employed. Through digital connectivity, more smart transportation projects will be built”, he said. “In addition, green, low-carbon technologies are expected to be applied throughout the process of as many projects as possible to empower Belt and Road countries to achieve energy conservation and emission goals as the world is moving towards green, low-carbon, intelligent development”, he added.

By transferring technologies, standards are shared and chances for people-to-people connections are created. According to Mr. Wang, all of the six projects for which agreements have been signed at the Belt and Road CEO Conference put priority on people-to-people connectivity and green technologies.

The Conference was the first official event of the ongoing Third Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation. Nearly 300 Chinese and international delegates signed agreements at the conference, involving 68 countries and covering projects in infrastructure, clean energy, artificial intelligence, financial services, modern agriculture, rail transit, etc. As of

June 2023, China had signed 107 documents with standardization bodies in 65 countries and also with regional and international organizations, in areas covering civil aviation, climate change, agri-food, building materials, electric vehicles, oil and gas pipelines, logistics, small hydropower stations, oceanography, and surveying and mapping, according to a white paper on Belt and Road Initiative released last week.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1141094/chinese-enterprise-eyeing-enhanced-soft-connectivity-with-pakistan-and-others/>

Dawn News

Pakistan, China commit to broaden CPEC horizons

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan and China on Wednesday agreed to expand the scope of the multibillion-dollar CPEC infrastructure project, which will now diversify to areas like industrial development, ICT, livelihood projects, mining and mineral exploration, and agriculture. Presently, the corridor is confined to road and rail connectivity and economic zones.

Both countries also signed an agreement on the strategic Main Line-1 (ML-1) rail project, the Ministry of Railways said.

Both sides also agreed to strengthen high-level dialogue and engagement besides deepening the political, economic, education, science and technology, cultural, and people-to-people relations.

The commitments came during Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaarul Haq Kakar's meeting with the top Chinese leadership. Mr Kakar is in China to attend the 3rd Belt and Road Forum in Beijing.

According to the Prime Minister's Office (PMO), bilateral ties were discussed in a meeting between Prime Minister Kakar and Chinese Premier Li Qiang on the sidelines of the conference.

The two leaders also witnessed the signing ceremony in which several memorandums of understanding (MoUs) and agreements were signed in the areas of commerce, communication and transport, including the Main Line-1 (ML-1) rail agreement, food security and research, media exchanges, space cooperation, urban sustainable development, capacity building, mineral development and industrial cooperation, climate change, vaccine development.

The United Energy Group of China and Pakistan Refinery Ltd signed an MoU for a \$1.5 billion investment to boost the refinery's production capacity. The agreement will help increase the PRL's petrol production capacity from 250,000 tonnes to 1.6 million tonnes and high-speed diesel from 600,000 tonnes to 2m tonnes.

ML-1

In Islamabad, Railways Secretary Syed Mazhar Ali Shah said in a statement that work on the ML-1 would kick off shortly. The rail project, whose cost has been revised downwards from

\$9bn to \$6.7bn, will span 1,733 kilometres, connecting Peshawar to Karachi. Besides, the number of trains travelling to and from both cities could potentially expand to 100.

The crucial agreement, signed in Beijing, would help transform Pakistan's entire transportation network, Mr Shah said. He hoped the rail project would propel Pakistan Railways' market share from 4pc to 20pc and create 20,000 jobs for technical experts.

'Shared prosperity'

During the meeting, Mr Kakar described the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) as a project of immense significance for the world in terms of connectivity and shared prosperity.

As CPEC has crossed its 10-year mark, Mr Kakar hoped the project's next phase would uplift rural farmers, foster education, bolster small businesses, generate many jobs and alleviate poverty.

He said Pakistan's collaboration with China in the information technology sector and CPEC's green corridor would ensure modernisation, food security, and agricultural and environmental protection.

"This vision promotes cooperation, collective security, inclusive and sustainable development, and a balanced ecosystem as the only way to address global challenges," he said.

Prime Minister Kakar expressed confidence that Chinese investment in special economic zones (SEZs) would help diversify Pakistan's export basket and expand its industrial base.

Premier Li Qiang of China underlined the steady growth of bilateral cooperation and noted the positive momentum of CPEC projects. He hoped that leadership consensus would give a further boost to trade and economic relations between the two countries.

'Committed to working with China'

Earlier, in his address at the high-level event at the forum, Mr Kakar said Pakistan was committed to working with China and other regional partners in achieving the ideals of an open global economy and promoting connectivity on a trans-continental scale.

"With shared responsibility and by embracing the vision of working together, we can create a brighter, peaceful, and sustainable future for ourselves and for our generations," he was quoted as saying.

Mr Kakar said Pakistan endorsed China's global connectivity vision and looked forward to joining hands with other partners across borders and regions to materialise the projects.

"I am hopeful that together we can shape a world with the bonds that unite us together, rather than the forces that divide us," he said.

The prime minister said the world faced several challenges, including post-Covid effects, the divide between the developed and the impoverished, peace, and food security.

CPEC had played a crucial role in generating new economic opportunities in Pakistan, he said and endorsed the Chinese proposal for developing CPEC as a corridor of growth, innovation, livelihood, green economy, openness, and inclusiveness.

PM Kakar underlined the need for a united global response to address complex transnational challenges faced by humankind and to prevent backsliding on the gains achieved under the UN Sustainable Development Goals and 2030 Agenda.

He emphasised the need for the urgency of addressing infrastructure gaps in the developing world by investing in transportation, energy, and the digital economy.

In Pakistan, he said CPEC's 50 projects worth \$25bn investment helped create modern highways, seaports, airports, and rapid mass transit systems.

The government of Pakistan, he said, had taken steps to make the country a trade hub by connecting Gwadar with the landlocked countries, thus opening new vistas to the west and beyond.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1782003>

In meeting with Xi, PM Kakar hails Pak-China partnership as ‘made in heaven’

Prime Minister Anwaarul Haq Kakar on Thursday met Chinese President Xi Jinping in Beijing and hailed Pakistan's partnership with its neighbour as “made in heaven”.

“We will always stand with China and trust you blindly,” the premier told President Xi during a meeting on the sidelines of the third Belt and Road Forum (BRF) for Inter-national Cooperation.

The premier is in China on a two-day visit to attend the forum which is being held amid the backdrop of ongoing celebrations marking 10 years of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

A day earlier, the two countries had decided to expand the scope of the multibillion-dollar infrastructure project, which will now diversify to areas like industrial development, ICT, livelihood projects, mining and mineral exploration, and agriculture.

During his meeting with President Xi today, PM Kakar expressed Pakistan's “deep commitment” to China. He described the ties between the two countries as “sweeter than honey” and an “iron-clad brotherhood”.

“The kind of global challenges that many nations are facing today, they need answers — deep and long-term answers. And the Belt and Road Initiative is an answer to all those questions,” Kakar said.

He stated that the path of modernisation adopted by China for the past many years was a lesson for Pakistan on how a country could transform the lives of millions of people.

Kakar reiterated that Pakistan would stand steadfast with China and there was no “dissenting view” in this regard.

“I reiterate that Pakistan will not allow anything to undermine our strategic partnership and we actually mean that. We will continue to strengthen, realise and articulate in our actions [...] we will not just show commitment through words but also through action,” he said.

The Chinese should be assured that Pakistan would not “take back an inch” in its relationship with China, the PM vowed.

Separately, in a post on X (formerly Twitter), Kakar said: “President Xi reassured that China would continue supporting Pakistan’s sovereignty, territorial integrity and development, and would continue supporting us in harnessing our geo-economic potential and as a hub of regional trade and economics, which is our shared vision”.

He added that the Chinese President had also accepted his invitation to visit Pakistan at the earliest.

PM seeks Chinese investment

Earlier today, Kakar also met a number of Chinese corporate executives, state-run *Radio Pakistan* reported.

During the meetings, the premier encouraged Chinese firms to explore the “vast investment potential in Pakistan, especially in information technology, agriculture, renewable energy, textile, digital economy and the mining sector”.

According to the report, the PM apprised Chinese businessmen of Pakistan’s initiatives for economic and financial stability.

Sharing Pakistan’s vision for sustainable and inclusive development, he outlined Pakistan’s investor-friendly policies, including the establishment of the Special Investment Facilitation Council, which he said would act as a one-window platform to facilitate foreign investment.

Meanwhile, Chinese entrepreneurs briefed the premier on their business portfolios in Pakistan and expressed interest in working with Pakistani partners.

PM Kakar also invited the executives to Pakistan to discuss their business interests with the relevant ministers, *Radio Pakistan* added.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1782119/in-meeting-with-xi-pm-kakar-hails-pak-china-partnership-as-made-in-heaven>

Dunya News

Pakistan, China firms sign MoU for \$1.5bn investment in petroleum sector

BEIJING (APP) - The United Energy Group of China and Pakistan Refinery Limited on Wednesday signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) for an investment worth \$1.5 billion in the petroleum sector.

Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaarul Haq Kakar and Federal Energy Minister Muhammad Ali also witnessed the ceremony.

The agreement will help increase the petrol production capacity of the refinery from 250,000 metric tonnes to 1.6 million metric tonnes and high speed diesel from 0.6 million metric tonnes to 2 million metric tonnes.

Both petrol and high speed diesel coming from the refinery would prove to be an alternative of the imported costly fuel.

[https://dunyanews.tv/en/Business/763823-Pakistan,-China-firms-sign-MoU-for-\\$1.5bn-investment-in-petroleum-sector](https://dunyanews.tv/en/Business/763823-Pakistan,-China-firms-sign-MoU-for-$1.5bn-investment-in-petroleum-sector)

Pakistan Observer

CPEC turns Pakistan into trade, transit hub: PM Kakar

Pakistan committed to work with China, regional partners on goals of open global economy, connectivity: PM

Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Wednesday said Pakistan was committed to working with China and other regional partners in achieving the ideals of an open global economy and promoting connectivity on a trans-continental scale.

“With shared responsibility and by embracing the vision of working together, we can create a brighter, peaceful, and sustainable future for ourselves and for our generations,” he said in his address at the high-level event of the Third Belt and Road Forum on ‘Connectivity in an Open Global Economy’.

The two-day forum, which marked the 10 years of the multi-billion dollar cross-regional Belt and Road Initiative, kicked off in China’s capital Beijing with representatives from 140 countries in attendance.

He said the government of Pakistan had taken steps to make the country a trade hub by connecting Gwadar with the landlocked countries, thus opening new vistas to the west and beyond.

PM Kakar said Pakistan endorsed China’s vision of global connectivity and also looked forward to joining hands with other partners across borders and regions to materialize the projects.

“I am hopeful that together we can shape a world with the bonds that unite us together, rather than the forces that divide us,” he said.

The prime minister congratulated President Xi Jinping for his revolutionary idea of the Belt and Road Initiative launched 10 years ago that proved instrumental in bringing common development and shared prosperity. He termed enhanced connectivity a profound factor in development and progress in the modern age of globalization.

“The BRI’s concept of shared future for mankind is not about road and railway infrastructure, but also to create linkages among civilizations and nations,” he said. He mentioned that the world faced a number of challenges including post-pandemic effects, the divide between the developed and the impoverished, peace, and food security.

<https://pakobserver.net/cpec-turns-pakistan-into-trade-transit-hub-pm-kakar/>

Kakar, Qiang agree to deepen economic, S&T relations

Pakistan, China sign various MoUs/agreements

Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Kakar held a bilateral meeting Wednesday with Chinese Premier Li Qiang at the sidelines of Third Belt and Road Forum in Beijing.

The two leaders reaffirmed the time-tested and iron-clad friendship between Pakistan and China and agreed to further strengthen high-level dialogue and engagement. They also agreed to deepen the political, economic, education, science & technology, cultural, and people-to-people relations.

The Prime Minister extended felicitations to the Chinese leadership on the successful holding of the Third Belt and Road Forum. Noting the depth and breadth of the Belt and Road Initiative, the Prime Minister termed it as a project of immense significance for the world in terms of connectivity and shared prosperity.

The two leaders discussed bilateral collaboration in the context of CPEC and prospects of further deepening economic linkages. Prime Minister Kakar underscored the importance of CPEC for Pakistan's economy and noted with satisfaction its expansion into new areas of development including industrial development; livelihood projects; ICT; mining and minerals exploration and agriculture. He expressed the confidence that Chinese investment in Specialized Economic Zone's export basket and expansion of its industrial base.

Premier Li Qiang underlined the steady growth of bilateral cooperation and noted the positive momentum of CPEC projects. He hoped that leadership consensus would give further boost to trade and economic relations between the two countries.

The two Prime Ministers also witnessed the signing ceremony in which several MoUs/Agreements were signed in areas of commerce, communication and transport including ML-I, connectivity food security & research, media exchanges, space cooperation, urban sustainable development, capacity building, mineral development and industrial cooperation, climate change, vaccine development.

<https://pakobserver.net/kakar-qiang-agree-to-deepen-economic-st-relations/>

3rd BRF and Xi's Vision

Gauhar Zahid Malik

Today the Chinese President Xi Jinping delivered a keynote speech in the 3rd BRF. It was very impressive and comprehensive too. It was holistic disseminating the message of hope and harmony.

The BRF CEO Conference 2023 has become one of the biggest economic diplomacy achievements of China, concluding the bilateral & trilateral investments up to US\$92.5 billion. More than 1000 representatives of the national, regional as well as international companies participated and inked the meaningful contracts. Green energy, trade in services, digitalization, bio-medicine, tourism, and infrastructure development.

The Chinese president Xi covered all aspects of BRI's past achievements, present status and future priorities. It is constructive, positive, productive giving the message of hope of brighter future through international cooperation, economic globalization, openness, inclusiveness, modernization and qualitative industrialization in all the member countries and rest of the world. It clearly explains the important experience in achieving the success of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and proposes China's support.

Moreover, the speech was highly constructive, positive and effective. It was a positive message of hope sent by President Xi Jinping and China to all member countries and the world, that is, all countries should jointly work for achieving the goals of modernization, qualitative industrialization and economic globalization which may be achieved through inclusiveness, openness, modernization and digitalization.

During his speech Xi narrated success story of the BRI in the last ten years which was based on an important methodology of peace and prosperity.

President Xi concluded that only mutually befitting propositions and beneficial cooperation can achieve wonders and enable countries to foster faster economic development which also reflects China's role as a responsible country and its International mindedness. In addition to this the Global South and Global Community Development with Shared Future remained the driving force for continued joint development in the member countries of the BRI.

President Xi rightly maintained that taking other country's economic development as a threat and industrial growth and freedom as a risk will not allow the world to live a better life and develop faster. In this regard, he termed international cooperation and economic globalization as essential forces of the future.

Furthermore, emerging ideological confrontation or geopolitical games should not be encouraged. Moreover he rightly opposed unilateral sanctions, economic marginalization, social coercion, and opposed new notions of decoupling and disconnection, disturbing the easy and smooth supplies of value chains in the world.

It seems that the eight actions for high-quality joint construction of the BRI proposed by President Xi are an important guide for action in the next step of BRI countries to move forward together, expand cooperation, and realize the modernization of countries around the world.

Xi's announcement of new Global Initiative of AI is a new value addition in the strategic expansion of the BRI in the future which will definitely further increase spirits of development and digitalization in the member countries. Interestingly, Xi announcement of allocations of 700 billion RMB for new window of financing to BRI's member countries is timely vividly reflects the Chinese wisdom of global community with shared future and global financial integration having holistic spirits of GDI, GSI and GCI.

Furthermore promise to hold First BRI Science & Technology Forum is another hallmark of his well drafted and delivered speech showing the path of future that belongs to innovations, modernization and green energy in all the member countries.

Xi speech is the Chinese Brand of Geo-Economics mitigating the spillover socio-economic, geopolitical and geostrategic ramifications of the Global North economic protectionism, imposition of unilateral sanctions and last but not least, containing China. The speech is full of hope and courage to overcome all hurdles and jointly move forward to achieve the desired goals of socio-economic prosperity, trans-regional connectivity and human capital growth in all the member countries of the BRI.

The China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is the flagship project of the BRI. The success of the BRI in terms of further expansion, connectivity, modernization, openness, digitalization, green transformation and qualitative industrialization is directly correlated with the success of CPEC Phase 1 & Phase II in Pakistan.

As a pilot project for the BRI, the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor was one of the earliest BRI projects proposed to start high-quality development. CPEC has played a huge role in early harvest projects in transportation, energy infrastructure, Gwadar Port and actively promoted the completion and commissioning of projects, laying a solid foundation for the CPEC's next high-quality development in the fields of industrial cooperation, agriculture, science and technology, and people's livelihood projects.

Currently Pakistan badly needs investments, innovations, green energy transformation (blue/green hydrogen generation power technologies), solar, wind, and other renewables, digitalization, hybrid agriculture, lithium batteries, EVs and many other advanced technologies of artificial intelligence in the country and an early start of the CPEC Phase-II would bring more inflows of FDI's in the country.

Comparative study of our foreign policy upholds that we share holistic and comprehensive bilateral relations with China. China has been the cornerstone of our foreign policy in the last seven decades.

We have preferably desired to have socio-economic relations with China and CPEC has further enhanced our ties up skies.

The CPEC in the last decade has brought a total of \$25.4 billion in direct investment, 155,000 direct jobs, 510 kilometres of expressways, 8,200 megawatts of power capacity and 886 kilometres of core power transmission grid to Pakistan, injecting strong momentum into Pakistan's economic and social development spheres.

Hopefully, Chinese policies of Global Development Initiative, Global Security Initiative and Global Civilizational Initiative with Pakistan will provide more impetus to development and stability.

It is predicted that after the visit of Prime Minister Anwar Ul Kakar the initiation of CPEC Phase-II will be started as soon as possible in the country.

SEZs such as the Gwadar Port Free Zone and the Rashakai SEZ will have attracted more investments.

<https://pakobserver.net/3rd-brf-and-xis-vision/>

CPEC heralds transformative epoch for Pak economy

Muhammad Usman

ON 5 October, a meeting between the caretaker Foreign Minister of Pakistan, Jalil Abbas Jilani and Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi took place at the third Trans-Himalaya Forum for International Cooperation held in Nyingchi, Xizang. During the meeting, both representatives expressed their commitment to the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) to strengthen ties and promote bilateral growth and development.

2023 marks 10 years since the start of Chinese President XI Jinping's ambitious Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, the flagship project of BRI, is a billion-dollar project that aims to link China's Kashgar city, Xinjiang province in the Northwest to Pakistan's Gwadar Port in the southern region. The 62-billion-dollar estimated initiative has developed steadily over the past decade with over 25 billion dollars already invested in various projects across Pakistan.

Chinese investment in the railways, roads, energy sector and the maritime industry came at a crucial point, helping Pakistan bridge the unexpected gap in monetary influx created by the discontinuation of US aid in 2018. During COVID-19 as well, Chinese investment in CPEC projects across the country kept Pakistan's economy floating in trying times.

Pakistan and China boast a strong friendship of more than 70 years and the ties between the countries have strengthened further with China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) of which CPEC is a part of. Pakistan harbours a positive attitude towards the Chinese initiative and Pakistani media has also shown positive sentiments in support of the CPEC.

In December 2020, the Sukkur-Multan Motorway, one of the biggest transportation infrastructure projects was completed and handed over to the Pakistani authorities. The project not only opened new avenues in the declining job sector but also boosted economic development and better traffic conditions. With time, the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor has benefitted the local population with better job opportunities and contributed to the energy sector as well.

The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor has greatly benefitted the local population, from roads and railways to job opportunities and economic development. The development of Gwadar Port alone has greatly contributed to the country's financial growth. The development of the maritime industry has given locals access to the international market. Similarly, the development of local infrastructure has helped create more job and business opportunities.

One of the most significant advantages of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) thus far has been the generation of opportunities in the job sector. As of 2023, CPEC has created more than 190,000 jobs. In terms of the energy sector, the Karot Hydropower project has added 720 MW to the electrical grid. Additionally, in the agricultural sector, the Pakistan-China Red Chilli Contract Farming Project is yielding an estimated 700 tons of dried chilli. The development in various sectors has ultimately contributed to the overall economic growth of the country.

With bigger and better opportunities for export and better facilities in general, locals have had the opportunity to increase their income and improve their living conditions. Safe and secure trade prospects and unimpeded connectivity across nations are the hallmark benefits of CPEC that have transformed Pakistan's economic scene for the better.

<https://pakobserver.net/cpec-heralds-transformative-epoch-for-pak-economy/>

Development for all: Xi's admirable vision

PRESIDENT Xi Jinping's address at the opening session of the Belt and Road Forum has once again highlighted China's commitment to fostering shared prosperity and inclusive development across the globe. President Xi's vision of enhancing practical cooperation within the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) reflects a profound understanding of the interconnected nature of the modern world and the need for collaborative efforts to achieve sustainable progress. His emphasis on both large-scale infrastructure projects and small-scale livelihood programs underscores the holistic approach necessary to uplift communities and drive economic growth. This very vision and forward looking approach on the part of President Xi needs to be appreciated by all. The announcement of increased funding for BRI projects, including the establishment of substantial financing windows by the China Development Bank and the Export-Import Bank of China, alongside the injection of additional capital into the Silk Road Fund, signifies a crucial step towards ensuring the successful implementation of critical infrastructure and development initiatives. This injection of funds will undoubtedly provide a significant impetus for the advancement of developing economies, facilitating job creation, technology transfer and the establishment of vital economic corridors. President Xi's commitment to fostering mutual prosperity through sustainable financial support demonstrates China's unwavering dedication to the socio-economic advancement of partner countries. It is imperative for other major global players to take a cue from China's proactive approach and align their strategies with the shared prosperity vision outlined by President Xi. By prioritizing collaboration and shared benefits, countries can forge strong partnerships aimed at fostering sustainable development and bridging the economic disparities prevalent in many regions. Such collaborative efforts are essential for promoting a global environment conducive to peace, stability, and prosperity for all nations. It is crucial for countries like Pakistan to actively engage with their Chinese counterparts and capitalize on the opportunities presented by the Belt and Road Initiative. Pakistan's active participation in securing additional funding for China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) related projects will not only fuel economic activities but also pave the way for addressing the nation's pressing economic challenges. Given the mutual trust and confidence that exists between China and Pakistan, both nations can further solidify their economic ties and contribute to the overall development and prosperity of the region.

<https://pakobserver.net/development-for-all-xis-admirable-vision/>

Express News

پاکستان چین پر اندھا اعتماد کرتا ہے، نگراں وزیر اعظم

نگراں وزیر اعظم انوار الحق کا کڑے کہا ہے کہ پاکستان چین پر اندھا اعتماد کرتا ہے اور وہ چین کے ساتھ شراکت داری کو نقصان پہنچانے کی کسی کو اجازت نہیں: بیجنگ دے گا۔

ان خیالات کا اظہار انہوں نے جمعرات کے روز بیجنگ میں چینی صدر شی جن پنگ سے ملاقات میں کیا۔ تیسرے بلیٹ اینڈ روڈ فارم کی سائڈ لائن پر گریٹ ہال آف پیپل میں 140 ممالک کے سربراہان و وزرائے اعظم کی ملاقات ہوئی۔

عبوری وزیر اعظم نے اس بات پر بھی زور دیا کہ پاکستان ثابت قدمی سے چین کے شانہ بشانہ کھڑا رہے گا اور دو طرفہ شراکت داری کو نقصان پہنچانے کی اجازت نہیں دے گا۔

میٹنگ میں اپنے ابتدائی کلمات کے دوران وزیر اعظم کا کڑے چین کے لیے پاکستان کی بھرپور حمایت کا اعادہ کیا اور اس بات پر زور دیا کہ پاکستان کے عزم کا اظہار صرف الفاظ سے نہیں بلکہ عمل سے کیا جائے گا۔

وزیر اعظم نے اس ملاقات کے حوالے سے سماجی رابطے کی سائٹ پر پیغام اور تصاویر شیئر کرتے ہوئے لکھا کہ 'عوامی ہال میں چینی صدر سے ملاقات ہوئی، جس میں ہم نے کثیر الجہتی پاک چین تعلقات کی مختلف جہتوں پر تبادلہ خیال کیا اور اقتصادی و تجارتی تعلقات کی دسویں سالگرہ پر مبارکباد پیش کی۔ وزیر اعظم کا کڑے واضح کیا کہ پاکستان کا چین کے ساتھ قریبی تعلقات سے پیچھے ہٹنے کا کوئی ارادہ نہیں ہے۔

دریں اثناء صدر شی نے وزیر اعظم اور ان کے ہمراہ آنے والے وفد کا پرتپاک استقبال کیا جس میں نگران وفاقی وزیر خزانہ شمشاد اختر، نگران وفاقی وزیر داخلہ سرفراز بگٹی، نگران وزیر خارجہ جلیل عباس جیلانی اور نگران وفاقی وزیر تجارت و صنعت و تجارت گوبر اعجاز شامل تھے۔

وزیر اعظم نے اس بات کی بھی نشاندہی کی کہ چینی صدر کی جانب سے فورم میں پیش کردہ آٹھ تجاویز بہت اہم اور آپس میں جوڑنے والی ہیں۔ انہوں نے بیلٹ اینڈ روڈ انیشیٹیو کو دنیا بھر میں متعدد اقوام کو درپیش سیاسی، اقتصادی اور تہذیبی چیلنجوں کے لیے ایک عملی اور عملی رد عمل کے طور پر بیان کیا۔ وزیر اعظم کا کڑے اعتراف کیا کہ چین کی بے مثال ترقی نے عالمی رول ماڈل کے طور پر کام کیا، جس نے لاکھوں لوگوں کی زندگیوں کو بدل دیا۔ پاکستان کے تمام سیاسی ڈھانچے میں چین کے لیے منفقہ حمایت موجود ہے۔

چینی صدر نے جواب میں کہا کہ چین اپنی روایتی دوستی کو مزید مضبوط بنانے اور دو طرفہ شراکت کو مزید گہرا کرنے کے لیے پاکستان کے ساتھ مل کر کام کرنے کے لیے تیار کی ترقی کو تیز کرنے کے (CPEC) ہے۔ انہوں نے علاقائی امن اور ترقی کے لیے کام کرتے ہوئے اعلیٰ معیار کی ترقی کے عزم کے ساتھ چین پاکستان اقتصادی راہداری اپنے عزم کا اعادہ کیا۔

<https://www.express.pk/story/2553939/1/>

Nawaiwaqt News

بلاک کی سیاست نہیں چاہتے، بی آر آئی کے ذریعے دروازے دنیا کیلئے کھول دیئے: چینی صدر

بیجنگ (نوائے وقت رپورٹ + آئی این پی) بیجنگ میں تیسرے بیلٹ اینڈ روڈ فورم سے خطاب کرتے ہوئے چینی صدر شی جن پنگ نے کہا کہ کرونا دور میں بیلٹ اینڈ روڈ منصوبہ زندگی بچانے کا سبب بنا۔ بی آر آئی مل کر منصوبہ بندی، تعمیر اور فائدہ اٹھانے کا ذریعہ ہے۔ چینی صدر نے کہا کہ بیلٹ اینڈ روڈ کے ذریعے چین اپنے دروازے وسیع تر کھول رہا ہے۔ چین 140 ممالک اور علاقوں کیلئے اہم تجارتی شراکت دار بن چکا ہے۔ صدر شی جن پنگ کا کہنا تھا کہ جب آپ کسی کو پھول دیتے ہیں تو خوشبو آپ کے ہاتھوں میں بھی رہتی ہے۔ باہمی تعاون نہ صرف ایک بلکہ دیگر ممالک کے عوام کو بھی فائدہ دے گا۔ چینی صدر نے اپنے خطاب میں کہا کہ بلاک کی سیاست ہمارا انتخاب نہیں۔ یکطرفہ پابندیوں کے خلاف ہیں۔ عالمی ماڈرنائزیشن امن اور خوشحالی کیلئے ہونی چاہیے۔ چینی صدر نے بیلٹ اینڈ روڈ انیشیٹیو کو مزید بڑھانے اور مضبوط کرنے کے ساتھ بی آر آئی سے متعلق 8 نکاتی ایجنڈے کا بھی اعلان کیا۔ افتتاحی تقریب سے اپنے خطاب میں روسی صدر ولادیمیر پوٹن نے بیلٹ اینڈ روڈ پراجیکٹ کی کامیابی پر چین کو مبارکباد پیش کی۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/lahore/2023-10-19/page-1/detail-35>

چین اور دیگر شراکت داروں کے ساتھ مل کر کام کرنے کے لئے پر عزم: وزیر اعظم

اسلام آباد بیجنگ (نمائندہ خصوصی + خبرنگار خصوصی + نوائے وقت رپورٹ) نگران وزیر اعظم انوار الحق کا کڑی چینی ہم منصب اور صدر شی جن پنگ سے ملاقاتیں ہوئی ہیں۔ بیجنگ میں منعقدہ تیسرے بی آر آئی فورم میں خطاب کیا۔ وزیر اعظم نے چینی کمپنی کے ساتھ ڈیڑھ ارب ڈالر کے ایم او یو معاہدہ پر دستخط کرنے کی تقریب میں بھی شرکت کی۔ اقوام متحدہ کے سیکرٹری جنرل، پاپوانیوگنی اور قازقستان کے صدور سمیت اہم شخصیات سے ملاقات میں بات چیت کی۔ نگران وزیر اعظم انوار الحق کا کڑ نے کہا ہے کہ بیلٹ اینڈ روڈ انیشی ایٹو (بی آر آئی) ترقی و خوشحالی اور خطے کے لئے گیم چینجر منصوبہ ہے۔ سی بی کے بی آر آئی کا فلیگ شپ منصوبہ ہے۔ پاکستان سی بی کے دیگر ملکوں اور شراکت داروں کا خیر مقدم کرے گا۔ دنیا کو ماحولیاتی تبدیلی، غذائی تحفظ اور وباؤں کے چیلنج درپیش ہیں۔ مشترکہ ترقی اور خوشحالی کے منصوبوں میں ہی انسانیت کی فلاح ہے۔ تیسرے بیلٹ اینڈ روڈ کے اعلیٰ سطح فورم سے خطاب کرتے ہوئے انہوں نے کہا کہ بی آر آئی فورم میں شرکت پر بے حد خوشی ہے۔

بیلٹ اینڈ روڈ کے تصور پر صدر شی کو مبارکباد پیش کرتا ہوں۔ بی آر آئی ترقی و خوشحالی کا منصوبہ ہے، بی آر آئی اور سی بی کے دس سال مکمل ہو چکے ہیں۔ عوامی سطح پر رابطوں اور معاشی ترقی کو بی آر آئی سے فروغ ملا ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ مربوط روابط ہی عوام کی خوشحالی کا سبب بنتے ہیں۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ چین کے ترقیاتی ماڈلز سے بے حد متاثر ہیں۔ دنیا کو ماحولیاتی تبدیلی، غذائی تحفظ اور وباؤں کے چیلنج درپیش ہیں۔ ٹرانسپورٹیشن، توانائی اور ڈیجیٹل تفریق کے خاتمے کے لئے عالمی سرمایہ کاری ضروری ہے۔ سی بی کے تحت 25 ارب ڈالر کے 50 منصوبے مکمل ہو چکے ہیں۔

سی بی کے منصوبوں سے پاکستان میں 8 ہزار میگا واٹ بجلی پیدا ہو رہی ہے اور دس ہزار میگا واٹ کے منصوبے زیر تکمیل ہیں۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ گوادر میں بین الاقوامی ایئر پورٹ جلد فعال ہو جائے گا۔ پاکستان سی بی کے دیگر ملکوں اور شراکت داروں کا خیر مقدم کرے گا۔ نگران وزیر اعظم انوار الحق کا کڑ نے کہا ہے کہ چین کے ایسٹ سی گروپ کے چیئرمین فانگ یولونگ کے ساتھ مثبت اور تعمیری بات چیت ہوئی، جس میں پاکستان کے کاروبار دوست پالیسیوں، نجی شعبہ کی نمو اور پاکستان چین اقتصادی تعلقات کو مزید وسعت بنانے کے حوالے سے تبادلہ خیال ہوا۔ علاوہ ازیں نگران وزیر اعظم انوار الحق کا کڑ نے کہا ہے کہ حکومت معاشی ترقی کیلئے کاروبار دوست اور سرمایہ کاری میں سہولت فراہم کرنے کیلئے اقدامات اٹھا رہی ہے۔ وزیر اعظم آفس کے میڈیا ونگ سے جاری بیان کے مطابق ان خیالات کا اظہار انہوں نے چیئرمین ایسٹ سی گروپ فانگ یولونگ سے گفتگو کرتے ہوئے کیا جنہوں نے یہاں بیجنگ میں تیسرے بیلٹ اینڈ روڈ فورم کے موقع پر ان سے وفد کے ہمراہ ملاقات کی۔ ملاقات میں وزیر اعظم نے وفد کو حکومت کی کاروبار دوست پالیسیوں کے بارے بتایا۔ ملاقات میں فانگ یولونگ نے وزیر اعظم کو بتایا کہ ایسٹ سی گروپ گوادر فری زون میں ریفاہنری میں سرمایہ کاری کر رہا ہے۔

نگران وزیر اعظم انوار الحق نے پاپوانیوگنی کے وزیر اعظم جیمز ماراپے سے ملاقات کی۔ یہ ملاقات بیجنگ میں تیسرے بیلٹ اینڈ روڈ فورم کے موقع پر ہوئی۔ نگران وزیر اعظم انوار الحق کا کڑ اور چین کے وزیر اعظم لی کی چیانگ نے دوطرفہ تعلقات کو مزید مضبوط بنانے کے عزم کے اعادہ کرتے ہوئے سیاسی، اقتصادی، تعلیم، سائنس و ٹیکنالوجی، ثقافتی اور عوامی روابط کو وسعت دینے پر اتفاق کیا ہے۔

یہ اتفاق رائے بیجنگ میں تیسرے بیلٹ اینڈ روڈ فورم کے موقع پر دونوں رہنماؤں کی ملاقات میں ہوا۔ اس موقع پر نگران وفاقی کابینہ کے ارکان اور اعلیٰ حکام موجود تھے۔ دونوں رہنماؤں نے مضبوط اور دیرینہ پاک چین تعلقات کا ذکر کرتے ہوئے باہمی تعلقات کو مزید فروغ دینے کے عزم کا اعادہ کیا۔ دونوں رہنماؤں نے سیاسی، اقتصادی، شعبہ تعلیم، سائنس و ٹیکنالوجی، ثقافتی اور عوامی سطح پر تعلقات کو وسعت دینے پر اتفاق کیا۔ وزیر اعظم لی کی چیانگ نے پاک چین تعلقات کے فروغ اور چین پاکستان اقتصادی راہداری کی تعمیری اور ترقی کی رفتار پر اطمینان کا اظہار کیا۔ انہوں نے اس امید کا بھی اظہار کیا کہ دونوں ملکوں کی قیادت کی ہم آہنگی دونوں ممالک کے مابین تجارت اور اقتصادی تعلقات کو مزید فروغ دے گی۔ دونوں وزراء نے اعظم چین اور پاکستان کے مابین مختلف شعبوں میں تعاون کی مفاہمتی یادداشتوں پر دستخط کی تقریب میں شریک ہوئے۔

ان شعبوں میں کامرس، مواصلات (ایم ایل ون)، غذائی تحفظ و تحقیق، میڈیا تبادلوں، خلائی تعاون، پائیدار شہری ترقی، صنعتی تعاون، افرادی قوت کی استعداد میں اضافے، معدنیات کی ترقی، موسمیاتی تبدیلی اور ویکسین بنانے کے شعبے شامل ہیں۔ پاکستان اور چین نے پٹرولیم کے شعبے میں 1 ارب 50 کروڑ ڈالر کی سرمایہ کاری سے متعلق مفاہمت کی یادداشت پر دستخط کر دیئے ہیں۔ وزیر اعظم نے سیکرٹری جنرل اقوام متحدہ انٹونیو گوتریش سے ملاقات کی۔ ملاقات میں دونوں رہنماؤں نے عالمی و علاقائی امور پر تفصیلی گفتگو کی۔ وزیر اعظم نے اسرائیل کی جانب سے غزہ ہسپتال پر حملے اور ایک ہی دن میں حملوں کے نتیجے میں 500 فلسطینیوں کی شہادت کو انسانیت سوز اور انسانی حقوق کی شدید خلاف ورزی قرار دیا۔ وزیر اعظم نے نہتے فلسطینیوں پر اسرائیلی حملوں کی بھرپور مذمت کی اور فوری جنگ بندی کے ساتھ ساتھ متاثرین تک امداد کی ترسیل پر زور دیا۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/lahore/2023-10-19/page-1/detail-39>

October 20, 2023

Business Recorder

Xi explains how he looks at CPEC, bilateral relations

BEIJING: President of China Xi Jinping said on Thursday that his country stood ready to work with Pakistan to carry forward the traditional friendship and deepen the bilateral partnership.

He also reiterated the resolve to accelerate building China-Pakistan partnership in the new era of community for shared future for benefit of the two peoples.

He also assured caretaker prime minister Anwaar-ul-Haq that China was committed to the high quality development of CPEC (China Pakistan Economic Corridor), development and working for peace development in the region.-

“Pakistan will not take an inch back when it comes to our relations with China,” he remarked as the two leaders met to discuss the bilateral and regional matters.

Earlier, President Xi warmly received the prime minister as he arrived to hold the meeting accompanied by his delegation members, including Shamshad Akhtar, Sarfaraz Bugti, Gohar Ejaz and others.

Calling the bilateral partnership made in “heaven”, prime minister Kakar said that Pakistan blindly trusted China and that the country would not allow anything to undermine the bilateral strategic partnership.

The prime minister, in his opening remarks while meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping, said Pakistan firmly supported One China policy and would show it through its actions, not mere words. The meeting took place on the sidelines of the Third Belt and Road Forum, attended by leadership and representatives of around 140 nations.

In his remarks,

The prime minister thanked the Chinese leader for inviting him to attend the “historic” Belt and Road Forum and also congratulated him for the “resounding” success of the event.

He said President Xi’s address at the Forum was “profound, deep and visionary”, which offered a lot of opportunities for the countries like Pakistan.

“I used to hear the phrases of (Pak-China friendship) ‘sweater than honey’ and ‘iron clad brotherhood’, but I realise that this moment is for Pakistan when you say ‘when China does well, the rest of the world does well.’

“This is the moment for Pakistan to come and seize the opportunity,” he remarked.

He said eight proposals President Xi had put forth at the Forum were actually a roadmap for not just physical connectivity but also an important stabilising factor in international order.

Prime Minister Kakar said the Belt and Road Initiative was a “pragmatic” and “practical” answer to the global political, economic and civilisational challenges faced by many nations.

He said China’s unprecedented progress was a role model which transformed the lives of the millions of its people, also having no parallel in the world history.

He told the Chinese president that across the whole political structures in Pakistan, there was no dissenting view about China.

Prime Minister Kakar said that President Xi’s vision of the community of shared future was very relevant in the current disturbing time.—APP

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2023/10/20/1-page/974839-news.html>

PM encourages Chinese firms to explore Pakistan’s vast potential

BEIJING: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Thursday encouraged China’s corporate executives to explore the vast investment potential of Pakistan. The prime minister said this in a meeting with a number of Chinese corporate executives on the sidelines of the Third Belt and Road Forum here. The CEOs and executives of Chinese enterprises who called on the prime minister included Minmetals, MCC, China Communication Construction Company (CCCC), China Road and Bridge Corporation (CRBC), COFCO, Amer International Group, China Energy, Power China and China Gezhouba Group. The PM apprised the Chinese businessmen of Pakistan’s initiatives for economic and financial stability.

Sharing Pakistan’s vision for sustainable and inclusive development, he outlined Pakistan’s investor-friendly policies; including the establishment of Special Investment Facilitation Council, which will act as a one-window platform to facilitate foreign investment.

He encouraged the Chinese corporate executives to explore the vast investment potential of Pakistan, especially in ICT, agriculture, renewable energy, textile, digital economy and, mining and minerals sectors.

Appreciating the measures taken by Pakistan to attract foreign investment, the entrepreneurs briefed the prime minister on their business portfolios in Pakistan.

They also expressed their keen interest in working with Pakistani partners to expand their business footprint in Pakistan.

Prime Minister Kakar also invited the executives of Chinese companies to Pakistan to discuss their business interests with relevant ministers.—APP

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2023/10/20/1-page/974840-news.html>

Chinese delegation visits CCP

ISLAMABAD: The Competition Commission of Pakistan hosted a 6-member Chinese delegation led by Dr Gan Lin, Vice Minister of the State Administration for Market Regulation. The delegation included Xu Lefu, Director General of the Department II of Antimonopoly Enforcement; Zhou Zhigao, Deputy Director General of the Department of Competition Policy and Coordination; Ms Zhao Lingzhi, Director of the General Office; Ms Hu Xinyue, Director of the Department of Competition Policy and Coordination; and Yang Jiheng, Director of the Department I of Antimonopoly Enforcement.

Chairman Dr Kabir Ahmed Sidhu, in his introductory remarks, extended a warm welcome to the visitors. He underscored the importance of Pakistan-China relations in the contemporary world and the strategic significance of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) for Pakistan's economic transformation and regional prosperity.

He shared Pakistan's perspective on China's SAMR that played a vital role in lifting China out of sheer poverty. Stressing that the CCP can learn a great deal from the SAMR, Dr Kabir underscored the importance of removing obstacles and impediments from all sectors of economy, curb market abuse manipulation and collusive behaviour. He emphasized that from nationalization to privatization; the Pakistani markets are fragmented and are characterized by domination of few players whereas China has been very successful in controlling Cartels and its State Owned Entities.

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2023/10/20/3-page/974860-news.html>

Daily Times

KAKAR SAYS PAKISTAN WON'T ALLOW ANYTHING TO UNDERMINE CHINA TIES: Xi vows high-quality CPEC development

** Chinese president says Beijing ready to work with Islamabad to carry forward traditional friendship and deepen bilateral partnership*

** Kakar says Pakistan firmly supports One China policy and will show it through its actions, not mere words*

Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Thursday, calling the bilateral partnership made in "heaven", said that Pakistan blindly trusted China and that the country would not allow anything to undermine the bilateral strategic partnership.

The prime minister, in his opening remarks while meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping, said Pakistan firmly supported One China policy and would show it through its actions, not mere words.

The meeting took place on the sidelines of the Third Belt and Road Forum, attended by leadership and representatives of around 140 nations. "Pakistan will not take an inch back when it comes to our relations with China," he remarked as the two leaders met to discuss the bilateral and regional matters.

President Xi warmly received the prime minister as he arrived to hold the meeting accompanied by his delegation members, including Shamshad Akhtar, Sarfaraz Bugti, Gohar Ejaz and others.

The prime minister thanked the Chinese leader for inviting him to attend the “historic” Belt and Road Forum and also congratulated him for the “resounding” success of the event. He said President Xi’s address at the Forum was “profound, deep and visionary”, which offered a lot of opportunities for the countries like Pakistan.

“I used to hear the phrases of (Pak-China friendship) ‘sweeter than honey’ and ‘iron clad brotherhood’, but I realise that this moment is for Pakistan when you say ‘when China does well, the rest of the world does well.’

“This is the moment for Pakistan to come and seize the opportunity,” he remarked.

He said eight proposals President Xi had put forth at the Forum were actually a roadmap for not just physical connectivity but also an important stabilising factor in international order.

Prime Minister Kakar said the Belt and Road Initiative was a “pragmatic” and “practical” answer to the global political, economic and civilisational challenges faced by many nations.

He said China’s unprecedented progress was a role model which transformed the lives of the millions of its people, also having no parallel in the world history. He told the Chinese president that across the whole political structures in Pakistan, there was no dissenting view about China.

Prime Minister Kakar said that President Xi’s vision of the community of shared future was very relevant in the current disturbing time.

In his remarks, President Xi said that China stood ready to work with Pakistan to carry forward the traditional friendship and deepen the bilateral partnership.

He also reiterated the resolve to accelerate building China-Pakistan partnership in the new era of community for shared future for benefit of the two peoples.

He also assured that China was committed for the high quality development of CPEC (China Pakistan Economic Corridor) development and working for peace development in the region.

Meanwhile, Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar said Pakistan was offering opportunities to Chinese companies and the world to invest in mining and metallurgy sectors with high productivity yields.

The prime minister expressed these views as he met Chairman Minmentals Weng Zuliang and Chairman China Metallurgical Group Corporation Chen Jianuang in Beijing.

The meeting was held on the sidelines of Third Belt and Road Forum which was opened by President Xi Jinping on Wednesday.

PM Kakar apprised the delegation about the Special Investment Facilitation Council set up for the promotion of foreign investment in the country.

The heads of the Chinese companies expressed keen interest to invest in Pakistan.

Meanwhile, Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar said that the promotion of tourism and the development of road and rail infrastructure were inevitable to make Pakistan a transitional economy.

The prime minister said this in a meeting with CEO of China Communications Construction Company (CCCC) Wang Haihui and Chairman of China Road and Bridge Corporation (CRBC).

The heads of the Chinese firms apprised the prime minister of the ongoing projects of CCCC and CRBC under the China Pakistan Economic Corridor.

They expressed their keen interest to enhance their investment in the development of infrastructure, renewable energy, and other sectors.

The prime minister appreciated the Chinese companies' projects as well as their interest to enhance their investment.

Prime Minister Kakar told the heads of Chinese firms that Pakistan was taking measures for the uplift of infrastructure.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1141435/kakar-says-pakistan-wont-allow-anything-to-undermine-china-ties-xi-vows-high-quality-cpec-development/>

CPEC generates 236,000 jobs in Pakistan

** With total funds of \$25bn that have been invested in energy, IT, transport, etc. under CPEC so far, local social and economic conditions being greatly improved*

Data from the Chinese Embassy in Pakistan shows that till the end of 2022, CPEC has generated a total of 236,000 jobs in Pakistan, China Economic Net (CEN) reported on Thursday.

It has been a decade since China unveiled the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). Ten years on, what has the mega project brought to the people of the countries along the BRI route, and what can we expect from BRI in the days to come?

Pakistanis working on China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), a massive project under BRI to capitalize on Pakistan's geographical importance and improve Pakistan's socio-economic conditions, shared their views.

Pakistan is a country facing a severe power shortage. According to Ktrade Research, the percentage of the population in Pakistan that has access to electricity in 18 years increased by only 1.1 ppts.

However, 9,740MW in capacity created by CPEC had fueled the number rose by 3.8 ppts in just 4 years.

CPEC power plants are providing cheaper electricity by utilizing coal reserves, which reduced Pakistan's oil and gas bill burden.

Inside the Thar Block-1 Integrated Coal Mine Power Project, an open-pit coal mine with an annual lignite output of 7.8 million tons and a total capacity of 1,320MW, is providing the most cost-effective energy to millions of Pakistani households.

Gul Hassan, a mining engineer with Sino Sindh Resources (Pvt.) Ltd. (SSRL), told China Economic Net (CEN), “The Thar Block-1 project has been instrumental in transforming the lives of people in Thar.”

Furthermore, renewable energy projects of water, wind, etc. under CPEC are also optimizing the country’s energy structure.

Peerzada Zain ul Abideen, O&M manager of PowerChina HDEC Engineering Company Limited Pakistan, proudly said that the 12 projects in Jhimpir of his company have generated 1888.29 GWh of electricity so far.

In Gharo, Sindh, Muhammad Saleem Munshi, Chief Financial Officer of Hydrochina Dawood Power (Pvt) Limited told CEN that the wind speed in the area is up to 7 meters per second. If properly developed, it can meet 5%-10% of the nation’s power demand. Data from the Chinese Embassy in Pakistan shows that till the end of 2022, CPEC has generated a total of 236,000 jobs in Pakistan.

Azim ul Haq is a HSE Engineer working at the 1263MW Punjab Power Plant in Jhang to ensure the project personnel’s safety and health standards are met. “Earnings from this job provide comfortable living for my families.

Although living away from family and my newborn daughter is difficult, given that the power project’s location is far from my home town, the company provides me with all kinds of benefits and allows me to take vacations as needed,” he said.

“Locals find learning and working opportunities here. Most of the engineers, managers, and workers are from nearby areas”, Peerzada Zain ul Abideen said, adding, “I myself have also been offered a job that my family and friends are proud of and a good salary”.

Muhammad Waqas, Director Finance of the UEP 100MW wind farm in Jhimpir said the most worthwhile thing he ever did was to choose wind power as his career while he also holds certificates in computer programming, teaching, and accountant. “I can learn state-of-the-art technologies of one of the most promising sectors.

Chinese brothers are transferring the advanced mechanism to Pakistan”, he said, adding, “Before the pandemic, I went to China every year to learn about power-related technologies and business know-how”.

Mir Arslan Ali, Assistant Duty Officer of the Control and Protection Department, Matiari to Lahore ± 660 kV HVDC Transmission Line project, is training junior engineers to grasp the state-of-the-art power transmission technology from China. [Photo provided to CEN]

With total funds of \$25 bn that have been invested in energy, IT, transport, etc. under CPEC so far, local social and economic conditions are being greatly improved.

“Since the start of construction, the project has actively contributed to the local construction of Thar, and its development is changing with each passing day,” Mazhar Ali Khan said. “I believe that the Thar Project will bring more vitality to the local social and economic development after its commercial operation date.”

In Gharo, Sindh, due to the 49.5 MW Dawood Wind Power Project, a closed school in a nearby village with about 600 families living in it can reopen and provide education to children. “We were surprised to find that the deserted school was used as a poultry storage house,” Muhammad Saleem Munshi said.

They reconstructed and renovated the school to let more children get an education.

Breakthroughs in industrial cooperation have also been achieved. Samee Ullah told CEN that with the completion of Rashakai SEZ Phase 1, the main tasks will be to make standard procedures, rules and regulations for enterprises.

“To achieve the above goals, we have to go through a lot of technical, commercial and legal procedures which may take some time, but we are pretty much hopeful and determined for this.

Right now, several enterprises entered into zone and are performing their own construction in the SEZ. So, this is just beginning!” he exclaimed.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1141483/cpec-generates-236000-jobs-in-pakistan/>

Pak China investment, CMEC sign MoU

A memorandum of understanding (MoU) has been signed between Pak China Investment Company (PCICL) & China Machinery Engineering Corporation (CMEC) paving the way for collaboration & growth opportunities for the projects under development of CMEC. The MoU aims to open doors for various collaboration opportunities such as working capital facility, supply chain financing, equity investing and any other financial services required by CMEC in Pakistan.

The MoU was formalized during a ceremony in Beijing, China. Managing Director of PCICL; Mr. Hassan Raza & Vice President of CMEC; Mr. Li Kan signed the MoU on the occasion.

CMEC has solidified its position in the global market. CMEC is a renowned company and a core subsidiary of SINOMACH. Established in 1978, CMEC holds the distinction of being China’s first engineering & trade Company. Over the Past four decades, CMEC has grown internationally. The company focuses on engineering contracting and industrial development, with a comprehensive industry chain encompassing trade, design, survey research and development.

PCICL was established in 2007 with the aim of promoting trade and investment between Pakistan and China. Their wide range of financial services has been instrumental in driving growth and progress in Pakistan. The company’s objective is to finance economically viable and technically feasible projects. Over the past 15 years, PCICL has played a crucial role in the economic development of Pakistan. They actively advise and attract Chinese investment in various sectors such as infrastructure, industrial, agriculture, services, information technology and manufacturing. PCLCL has participated in several mega power projects under the CPEC through funded and non-funded facilities.

Both companies reaffirmed the time-tested and strong friendship between Pakistan and China and exchanged views on the myriad facets of bilateral engagement.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Raza said that signing this MoU between PCICL and CMEC aims to further enhance bilateral trade & investment between China & Pakistan. Mr. Li expressed his positive anticipations for future investment in Pakistan and it will be a great step towards enhancing economic cooperation, emphasizing the brotherly relation between two countries.

According to the MoU, both sides agreed to cooperate and establish a comprehensive cooperation model, with the objective to leverage the strengths of both parties and enhance the bilateral financial Cooperation.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1141351/pak-china-investment-cmec-sign-mou/>

Pakistan joins newly-launched Beijing Initiative for Green Development

In a major development of the concerted efforts towards a green future, the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) of Pakistan joined the Beijing Initiative for Belt and Road Green Development as a founding member.

The initiative was launched in Beijing today at the High-Level Forum on Green Development. The Forum is part of the two-day Third Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation that ended today. The Green Investment and Finance Project (GIFP) of BRI partners was kicked off in tandem. Dr. Abid Qaiyum Suleri, executive director of the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), told reporter from China Economic Net (CEN) that green financing is the solution to climate-friendly economic growth.

“Our institution will continue to work closely with Chinese partners to address common climate concerns”.

Shakeel Ahmad Ramay, Chief Executive Officer of Asian Institute of Eco-civilization Research and Development, said in an interview with CEN that as Pakistan is facing both economic and environmental challenges, green financing will help the country mitigate both problems, reducing poverty and providing climate-compatible infrastructure.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1141480/pakistan-joins-newly-launched-beijing-initiative-for-green-development/>

Dawn News

CPEC’s potential

PAKISTAN is the ‘key link’ in Beijing’s multi-trillion-dollar transactional Belt and Road Initiative and, therefore, one of the few participating countries that have gained the most from Chinese investments under this global cooperation umbrella.

However, Sino-Pakistan cooperation on CPEC — BRI’s flagship project, which seeks to connect countries across continents via rail, road and maritime routes — has remained restricted to Beijing’s investments in energy and transport infrastructure projects in Pakistan over the last one decade.

Chinese firms invested over \$25bn in infrastructure development in Pakistan at a time when investments from elsewhere were drying up. But no progress has been made in industry and agriculture to boost productivity and exports.

While physical infrastructure is crucial to trade development and economic growth, it is vital for Pakistan to increase productivity and exports through foreign investment and technology transfer for tackling its perpetual balance-of-payments and debt crises.

That is precisely why many maintain that Islamabad has failed to fully realise CPEC's promise, and missed a golden opportunity to fix its economy.

China's renewed push for BRI global cooperation at the third Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation held this week to mark the first decade of BRI's launch has afforded Pakistan yet another chance to expand bilateral economic ties with Beijing beyond debt-creating energy and transport schemes.

Thus, we may take heart from the multiple agreements reached between the two countries to expand CPEC's scope, and expand bilateral economic and investment cooperation to industry, mining, agriculture, livelihood projects, science and technology, education, etc.

Simultaneously, Beijing has agreed to finance and upgrade the rail track from Peshawar to Karachi at the reduced cost of \$6.7bn and to invest \$1.5bn in the refinery business here.

These agreements were signed during interim Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar's Beijing visit to participate in the forum where he also met President Xi Jinping and Prime Minister Li Qiang.

In the past, bilateral cooperation in these important areas was set back by multiple factors: irresponsible statements by PTI ministers against CPEC investment, bureaucratic impediments, painfully slow progress on Special Economic Zones for creating industrial infrastructure to facilitate the relocation of Chinese industry, poor regulatory and policy regimes, the dollar liquidity crunch and the like.

At the same time, the Covid pandemic, Beijing's tensions with the West, and its concerns over security for Chinese nationals working in Pakistan also slowed momentum on BRI and CPEC.

That President Xi told the forum that China is moving from "sketching the outline" towards "filling in the details" shows that Beijing is reasserting its position as leader of "economic multilateralism and globalisation".

The question is: are we ready to seize this second chance to fully realise the potential of cooperation on CPEC to develop a green, open and inclusive economy?

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1782286/cpecs-potential>

China committed to CPEC, regional peace, President Xi assures PM Kakar

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan and China on Thursday reiterated their resolve to further cement their partnership for a shared future and benefit of their peoples, with caretaker Prime Minister Anwaarul Haq Kakar saying Islamabad would not allow anything to undermine the strategic partnership with Beijing. Both sides renewed this pledge during a delegation-level

meeting between caretaker Prime Minister Anwaarul Haq Kakar and Chinese President Xi Jinping at the Great Hall of People on the sidelines of the 3rd Belt and Road Forum. According to a statement issued by the Prime Minister's Office (PMO), President Xi said China was ready to carry forward the traditional friendship and deepen the bilateral partnership with Pakistan. He also assured that China was committed to the CPEC and peace in the region. PM Kakar called the bilateral partnership "made in heaven", saying Pakistan "blindly trusted China" and that the country would not "allow anything to undermine the bilateral strategic partnership".

Pakistan will 'not allow anything' to undermine ties with Beijing, asserts PM

In his opening remarks, he said Pakistan firmly supported the 'One-China Policy' and added Islamabad would not budge on its relationship with China. He said eight proposals President Xi had put forth at the forum "were actually a roadmap for not just physical connectivity but also an important stabilising factor in international order". He said the Belt and Road Initiative was a "pragmatic" and "practical" answer to the global challenges.

'Multi-faceted ties'

Following his meeting with Mr Xi, PM Kakar tweeted that "various dimensions of the multi-faceted Pakistan-China relationship" were discussed at the meeting. "...I underscored that Pakistan would continue working with China to promote regional connectivity and economic development and to make Gwadar as a connectivity hub and for the socio-economic development of Pakistan." He said President Xi reassured that China would continue supporting Pakistan's sovereignty, territorial integrity and development, and would continue supporting Islamabad in harnessing its geo-economic potential. "I also extended an invitation to President Xi to visit Pakistan at his earliest convenience, which he graciously accepted," he added.

Meeting with Chinese entrepreneurs

PM Kakar also encouraged China's corporate executives to explore the vast investment potential of Pakistan. The caretaker prime minister said this in a meeting with a number of Chinese corporate executives on the sidelines of the Third Belt and Road Forum here.

The CEOs and executives of Chinese enterprises included Minmetals, MCC, China Communication Construction Company, China Road and Bridge Corporation, Amer International Group, Power China, China Energy and China Gezhouba Group. Sharing Pakistan's vision for sustainable and inclusive development, he outlined Pakistan's investor-friendly policies, including the establishment of the Special Investment Facilitation Council, which will act as a one-window platform to facilitate foreign investment. He encouraged China's corporate executives to explore the vast investment potential of Pakistan, especially in ICT, agriculture, renewable energy, textile, digital economy and, mining and minerals sectors.

Later, the caretaker premier visited Urumqi.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1782254/china-committed-to-cpec-regional-peace-president-xi-assures-pm-kakar>

Now is the time to further strengthen Pak-China friendship, says PM Kakar

Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaarul Haq Kakar said on Friday that now was the time to further the friendship between Pakistan and China.

“In Pakistan, we say a good neighbour is a treasure. In this regard, we are very fortunate to have China as a good brother, good neighbour, good partner and a good friend.

“Now is the time to further strengthen this friendship. Together, let us chart a new course of peace, prosperity and win-win development,” Kakar said. He made the remarks while addressing students and faculty at Xinjiang University in China’s Urumqi.

A day earlier, the two countries had reiterated their resolve to further cement their partnership, with Kakar saying Islamabad would not allow anything to undermine the strategic partnership with Beijing.

Both sides renewed this pledge during a delegation-level meeting between the caretaker premier and Chinese President Xi Jinping at the Great Hall of People on the sidelines of the 3rd Belt and Road Forum.

“Our time tested ties have remained unaffected by vicissitudes of time. In Pakistan, we have a complete consensus across the political spectrum about the [...] of Pak-China friendship for the progress and prosperity of our two countries, and regional peace and development,” he said.

“We view our ties with China from a strategic long-term perspective. In the ever-changing global landscape, China-Pakistan friendship is a constant and would always remain so,” he said.

“Building upon the success of our political ties, the two countries have placed special focus on our economic partnership manifested in the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC),” he said.

Kakar said that CPEC was a “true example” of the Belt and Road Initiative’s (BRI) stated objectives. “It has helped us upgrade our transport and communication network, address energy shortages and develop Gwadar port in the province of Balochistan,” he said.

The premier said that CPEC projects had not only stimulated economic growth but had also improved the lives and the livelihood of Pakistani citizens while also enhancing regional connectivity.

Kakar then referred to a speech given by Xi last year about making Xinjiang the frontier of Belt and Road connectivity. “This announcement by President Xi was a recognition of Xinjiang’s historical role as a hub of connectivity as part of the ancient Silk Road,” he said.

He said that his visit to Xinjiang on the tenth anniversary of the BRI was happening at “an important juncture”. “It represents a profound milestone in the enduring friendship between Pakistan and China and the people of our two great nations,” the prime minister said.

“My visit signifies our commitment to promoting connectivity, not just in terms of infrastructure but also in terms of human connections. My visit is essentially about charting a new roadmap and envisioning a new future based on economic synergy and greater connectivity.

“The key element of Pakistan’s vision for cooperation with Xinjiang include reaffirmation of Pakistan’s principled position on Xinjiang and our unequivocal support to China on matters related to its core interest.”

He said that Pakistan aimed to utilise Xinjiang’s position as an important part of CPEC and its linkages with Pakistan. “We would jointly work to identify the respective strengths of Gilgit-Baltistan (GB) and Xinjiang [...] and building on our synergies for improving the livelihoods of the people of our region.” He went on to say that as per the consensus reached during his visit to Beijing, the land border at Khunjerab would be converted into an all-weather border.

“We would like to upgrade customs and other logistic services to facilitate trade and movement of people. Gwadar is a key component of our CPEC partnership. I would propose that we deepen economic cooperation by affectively using the sister-city relationship between Karamay and Gwadar, and Kashgar and Gwadar.

“We seek to learn from Xinjiang’s success in agricultural modernisation. We would also aim to set up a joint agricultural demonstration zone in Pakistan to introduce modern farming techniques and practices. We also aim to develop linkages between industries of Xinjiang and Pakistan, especially GB region.”

Kakar said one particular area in this regard could be solar energy, a key sector in Xinjiang.

He said that Pakistan looked forward to promoting cultural cooperation and people-to-people connections with Xinjiang. “We invite more tourists from Xinjiang and other parts of China to visit tourist places in Pakistan,” he said.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1782319/now-is-the-time-to-further-strengthen-pak-china-friendship-says-pm-kakar>

Dunya News

CPEC 10-year celebrations and ground realities

Faisal Ali Ghumman

The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is no doubt a billions of dollars initiative with multi-dimensional investments to the benefit of both Pakistan and China.

Some key projects in sectors of energy, road and railway infrastructure and special economic zones were accomplished in the last 10 years or so and a good number of others are still in the pipeline.

Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaarul Haq Kakar, who has recently attended the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) forum, told the participants of the forum that Pakistan had completed \$25 billion worth 50 projects under the CPEC.

He announced inauguration of mega airport in Gwadar under the CPEC soon. The premier's address follows the recent 10-year celebrations of the CPEC.

The continuity of the mega initiative should be a good sign for cash-strapped Pakistan, but some ground realities raise eyebrows over pace of working on projects.

Political instability, post-Covid economic challenges and cost of doing business hurdles have apparently restricted companies from China and other countries to avoid investment.

The country has witnessed a quantum size of investments in road and energy sectors, but investment in building Special Economic Zones (SEZs) and Industrial Parks as part of economic activities and employment generation remained unsatisfactory.

The power projects under the CPEC were also aimed at feeding energy to the SEZs and industrial parks in addition to catering to the needs of general masses.

Taxation, cumbersome official procedures, and regulatory issues in Pakistan are irking the Chinese investors to relocate their units from China to Pakistan. The red-tapism and corruption in the bureaucracy are contributing factors. Non-seriousness on the part of the successive regimes is evident from the fact that around 60 per cent land for SEZs is still unoccupied despite passage of the SEZ Act in 2012.

The CPEC lost its momentum when Chinese investors initially got upset over disturbing statements issued by some members of a previous government.

The functioning of Gwadar port at full scale and ML-1 railway line project (connecting between Karachi and Peshawar) have also not seen any further progress.

Former Federal Minister for Planning, Development, and Special Initiatives, Ahsan Iqbal was quoted as having said in July this year that the much-anticipated ML-1 project might start this year with China's support. According to the official record, the project has already faced four-year delay. As far as Gwadar port operations are concerned, top government officials in their official statements are seen showing resolve to make the port [fully] operational soon and overcoming dredging problem. Ex-prime minister Shehbaz Sharif, during his July 27 visit to Gwadar, had indicated core issue of dredging of the port which was a continuous process to prevent accumulating silt. "The Gwadar port will be operational soon and its commissioning will give a fillip to business and trade activities," Balochistan's caretaker Chief Minister Mir Ali Mardan Domki said in last week of September this year.

As 10 years have passed, the caretaker government and regular government after general elections must need to counter "lackluster approach" towards key CPEC projects and expedite them after removing procedural bottlenecks. While Pakistan is already facing slow economic growth, balance of payment issues, rising inflation and unemployment and dwindling businesses, any further delays in economic activities and criticism by respective opposition parties will further aggravate the economic woes of the country.

Pakistan's economic prosperity and well-being of the people of Pakistan seem attached to the success of the CPEC now.

<https://dunyanews.tv/en/Business/764187-CPEC-10-year-celebrations-and-ground-realities>

Pakistan Observer

Pakistan blindly trusts China: Kakar to Xi

Saud Faisal Malik, Beijing

Hails Pak-China partnership as ‘made in heaven’; Xi reiterates resolve to accelerate development of CPEC

In a meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping, Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaarul Haq Kakar on Thursday reaffirmed the unwavering trust and commitment between Pakistan and China, branding their bilateral partnership as one made in “heaven”.

The meeting was held on the sidelines of the Third Belt and Road Forum at the Great Hall of People, a gathering attended by leaders and delegates from approximately 140 nations.

The interim PM also emphasised that Pakistan would stand steadfastly by China’s side and would not allow anything to undermine this vital strategic partnership.

During his opening remarks in the meeting, Prime Minister Kakar reiterated Pakistan’s strong support for the “One China policy”, stressing that their commitment would be demonstrated through actions, not just words.

“Had the privilege of meeting with President Xi Jinping at the iconic Great Hall of People in Beijing. We discussed various dimensions of the multi-faceted Pakistan-China relationship and reaffirmed our longstanding and steadfast friendship, all-weather strategic cooperation, economic and trade ties, and CPEC.

I congratulated him on the success of the 3rd Belt and Road Forum and the 10th anniversary of BRI,” said the PM in a post on his X account. Earlier, President Xi warmly received the premier and his accompanying delegation, which included notable figures like Caretaker Federal Finance Minister Shamshad Akhtar, Caretaker Federal Interior Minister Sarfraz Bugti, Caretaker Foreign Minister Jalil Abbas Jilani and Caretaker Federal Minister for Commerce and Industries & Production Gohar Ejaz. Prime Minister Kakar extended his gratitude to President Xi for the invitation to this “historic” forum and commended the remarkable success of the event.

In his address, Prime Minister Kakar lauded President Xi’s speech at the Belt and Road Forum as “profound, deep, and visionary,” offering abundant opportunities, particularly for Pakistan.

<https://pakobserver.net/pakistan-blindly-trusts-china-kakar-to-xi/>

Contribution to CPEC: PO wins Silk Road News Award 2023

Senator Mushahid receives ‘special award’ in recognition of his role in fostering Pak-China connectivity

Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed, Chairman of Pakistan’s “Friends of Silk Road Club” and “Pakistan-China Institute” was on Thursday bestowed with the prestigious “Silk Road Special Contribution Award” at the 2023 Media Cooperation Forum on Belt and Road in recognition of his role in fostering Pakistan-China connectivity at people-to-people and

government-to-government levels and for vocally advocating the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) at all forums.

The ceremony was held on the sidelines of the 3rd Belt & Road Forum and organized by the Belt and Road News Network (BRNN) with the People's Daily of China as the council chair.

This recognition celebrates Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed's exceptional contributions to fostering international cooperation and connectivity, particularly in strengthening Pakistan's relationship with China and advancing the Belt and Road Initiative's principles, further highlighting his vital role in promoting regional development and diplomacy.

Pakistan's leading English language newspaper, Daily Pakistan Observer, was also awarded the prestigious 'In-depth Reporting Award' at the Silk Road Global News Awards 2023.

Executive Editor and President of Pakistan Observer, Gauhar Zahid Malik received the award. The award recognized outstanding journalism and reporting on the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and its global impact.

The award was conferred by Li Shulei, Chief of Media, Information & Communication of the Communist Party of China and also Member of the Party's top policymaking Political Bureau.

Ms Sun Haiyan, Vice Minister of the International Department of the CPC Central Committee, Ms XING Bo, Vice President of China Media Group and Mr Qu Yingpu Editor-in-Chief of China Daily also spoke on the occasion and congratulated the award recipients.

In his acceptance speech, Senator Mushahid Hussain said he was 'humbled & honoured' to be given the prestig just myself but for Pakistan and its people'. Two other Awardees were from Uganda and Russia, and the 3 Award winners were chosen from amongst 4485 participants from 80 countries.

Mushahid thanked China for its consistent and enduring support to Pakistan, particularly investment in CPEC projects. Referring to the speech of President Xi Jinping at the Belt & Road Forum, he said 'BRI is a new platform for international economic cooperation' terming the BRI as the 'most significant development and diplomatic initiative in the 21st Century'.

He said the core of the BRI and, indeed, Pakistan-China relations, was the people-to-people connectivity, especially the role of media, think tanks, academia, youth and NGOs to build a more 'open, inclusive and interconnected world'. Quoting Chairman Mao, he said 'An idea becomes a material force when it is grasped by millions and millions of people and the BRI is today a material force in the world bringing benefits and opportunities globally.'

Referring to the international situation, Senator Mushahid Hussain said in the Middle East, 'We are witnessing genocide in Gaza, where the West is complicit in Israeli crimes as they are supporting Israel' and all their talk of human rights and democracy is 'hypocritical based on double standards'. He termed the Gaza situation as a 'struggle between the oppressed and oppressors' and 'we are with the oppressed & heroic Palestinians'. The Silk Road Global News Awards is a significant platform that has been included in the List of Deliverables for the Second Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation, emphasizing its importance in promoting international collaboration and awareness.

These awards serve to celebrate and amplify the stories of the Belt and Road, shedding light on the experiences and achievements of countries and people along this vital route.

In a statement, Pakistan Observer's Chairman & CEO Mr Faisal Zahid Malik expressed gratitude for the remarkable recognition and reiterated that the newspaper was committed to continuing its mission of providing in-depth, insightful, and impactful reporting on global events and developments.

<https://pakobserver.net/contribution-to-cpec-po-wins-silk-road-news-award-2023/#:~:text=Senator%20Mushahid%20Hussain%20Sayed%2C%20Chairman%20of%20Pakistan%E2%80%99s%20%E2%80%9CFriends,China%20Pakistan%20Economic%20Corridor%20%28CPEC%29%20at%20all%20forums>

CPEC in focus

It is heartening to note that the flagship project of the historic vision of the Chinese President, Xi Jinping about shared prosperity — China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) remained in the limelight during deliberations of the Third Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) Forum in Beijing, where Prime Minister Anwar-ul-Haq Kakar represented Pakistan. It was cited as a great achievement by not only the leadership of China and Pakistan but also attracted attention of other delegates, who showed keen interest to become part of the Chinese endeavour to connect the entire globe in a strong network of roads and economic linkages. As was widely expected, the Forum provided a platform for discussions, agreements and partnerships, further strengthening global connectivity and fostering international economic cooperation. The most important consensus reached at this forum was to open a new stage of high-quality Belt and Road cooperation which is bound to create even more new opportunities for the global economy and become a boon for the global landscape. The success of the Third Forum can be gauged by the fact that a total of 458 outcomes were achieved, far more than the second BRF. It was because of the successful experience of the last ten years that while addressing a galaxy of heads of State and Government and representatives of international organizations, the Chinese President underlined that the BRI pursues development, promotes win-win outcomes and inspires hopes. Other leaders attending the Forum also concurred with him as they believed the Chinese-sponsored initiative has effectively promoted the progress of our planet, said foreign leaders and experts, vowing to deepen Belt and Road cooperation to achieve higher-quality and higher-level common development in the next “golden decade.” Russian President Vladimir Putin said the BRI has achieved great success and has become an important international public good widely recognized by the world, expressing his confidence in greater achievements of this great cause. Kazakh President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev announced that his country plans to build 1,300 km of new railways in the next three years in synergy with the Belt and Road Initiative. Throwing his full weight behind the vision of the Chinese President, his Indonesian counterpart Joko Widodo also called on all partner countries to collectively make the BRI stronger and more impactful. Argentina vowed to work with China to support multilateralism and strengthen communication and coordination within the frameworks of the G20 and BRICS cooperation mechanism. And in an important development, Pakistan and China agreed to expand the scope of the multibillion-dollar CPEC infrastructure project which will

now diversify to areas like industrial development, ICT, livelihood projects, mining and mineral exploration and agriculture. Presently, the corridor is confined to road and rail connectivity, energy sector and economic zones. The two countries signed several memorandums of understanding (MoUs) and agreements in the areas of commerce, communication and transport, including the Main Line-1 (ML-1) rail agreement, food security and research, media exchanges, space cooperation, urban sustainable development, capacity building, mineral development, industrial cooperation, climate change and vaccine development. The ML-I project is expected to help transform Pakistan's entire transportation network, propelling Pakistan Railways' market share from 4pc to 20pc and create 20,000 jobs for technical experts. The United Energy Group of China and Pakistan Refinery Ltd signed an MoU for a \$1.5 billion investment to boost the refinery's production capacity. The agreement will help increase the PRL's petrol production capacity from 250,000 tonnes to 1.6 million tonnes and high-speed diesel from 600,000 tonnes to 2m tonnes. As Pakistan has already benefited hugely from the CPEC, Prime Minister Kakar highlighted Pakistan's active partnership in the BRI and proudly proclaimed full support for it. He further reflected on the monumental impact of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), operationalized during President Xi's visit in 2015, which had seen the completion of nearly 50 projects worth \$25 billion. Kakar also unveiled the next phase of CPEC, where it would be transformed into a corridor of growth, linking economies, creating opportunities and offering access to global markets. The commitment of the two countries to pursue the CPEC to new heights was evident from the fact that they are determined to collaborate in the fields of IT, science and technology to advance cooperation and improve the lives of their people. We are sure that CPEC is poised to become a role model for bilateral cooperation for progress and prosperity.

<https://pakobserver.net/cpec-in-focus/>

CCP hosts China's state minister for market regulation authority

Chairman Competition Commission of Pakistan Dr. Kabir Ahmed Sidhu and Vice Minister of State Administration for Market Regulation (SAMR), China, engaged in fruitful discussion on the current state of markets and regulations in China and Pakistan.

Both decided to collaborate to provide training and capacity building, exchange of knowledge to detect cartels and engage in research projects to enhance efficiency of the regulatory bodies.

China is Pakistan's all-weather strategic partner. CPEC has brought about total of 25.4B direct investment in Pakistan. 17.55 B in revenue, 2.12B in Taxes & more than 192,000 direct jobs.

It is a game-changer since it benefits the entire South Asia by enhancing regional connectivity and economic development.

China has lifted population of 1.4B out of sheer poverty. This remarkable accomplishment has only come about by organising their markets. China's SAMR has played a vital role in achieving this task.

CCP can learn a great deal from Chinese example. CCP is also mandated to remove obstacles and impediments from all sectors of economy, curb market abuse manipulation and collusive behaviour.

From nationalization to privatization, Pakistani markets are fragmented and characterized by domination of few players. China has been very successful in controlling Cartels and its State-Owned Entities.

Dr. Gan Lin invited Dr. Sidhu and his colleagues to China on International Competition forum.

<https://pakobserver.net/ccp-hosts-chinas-state-minister-for-market-regulation-authority/>

Jang News

انوارالحق کی صدر شہ سے ملاقات، پاک چین اسٹریٹجک روابط اور عالمی فورم پر تعاون جاری رکھنے پر اتفاق

بیجنگ (اے پی پی) نگرہاں وزیر اعظم انوارالحق کا کڑنے کہا ہے کہ بیلٹ اینڈ روڈ منصوبہ دنیا کو درپیش چیلنجوں سے نمٹنے کا بہترین ذریعہ ہے، دنیا کی کوئی طاقت پاکستان چین تعلقات میں دراڑیں نہیں ڈال سکتی۔ تفصیلات کے مطابق انوارالحق کا کڑ اور چین کے صدر شی جن پنگ نے سی بی کے تیز تر تعمیر کی اہمیت پر زور دیتے ہوئے اسے ترقی، روزگار، جدت اور گرین ڈویلپمنٹ کی راہداری بنانے کیلئے کلیدی قرار دیا جبکہ مختلف سطحوں پر اسٹریٹجک روابط اور بین الاقوامی فورمز پر تعاون جاری رکھنے کے ساتھ ساتھ تذبذباتی شراکت داری کو مزید مضبوط بنانے پر اتفاق کیا گیا ہے۔ دونوں راہنماؤں کے درمیان جمعرات کو تیسرے بیلٹ اینڈ روڈ فورم کے موقع پر گریٹ ہال آف پیپلز میں ملاقات ہوئی۔ دونوں راہنماؤں نے ابھرتے ہوئے علاقائی اور عالمی امور پر گفتگو کی اور تمام امور پر اتفاق رائے پایا گیا۔ انہوں نے اس بات پر بھی زور دیا کہ پاکستان کی پائیدار اور مجموعی سماجی و اقتصادی ترقی اس سے منسلک ہے۔

<https://jang.com.pk/news/1280432>

ون بیلٹ ون روڈ منصوبہ گوادر سے افغانستان تک جائیگا: قونصل جنرل چین

چینی قونصل جنرل یانگ یین ڈونگ کا کہنا ہے کہ پاک چین اقتصادی راہداری منصوبہ تیزی سے آگے بڑھ رہا ہے، قطر نے بھی سی بی کے لیے دہلی ظاہر کی ہے جبکہ تجارت کے فروغ کے لیے ون بیلٹ ون روڈ منصوبہ گوادر سے افغانستان تک جائے گا۔ انہوں نے کراچی میں صحافیوں سے غیر رسمی گفتگو کے دوران کہا کہ کوئی بھی ملک سی بی کے سرمایہ کاری کر سکتا ہے اس حوالے سے حال ہی میں قطری حکام نے سی بی کے کا حصہ بننے میں دلچسپی کا اظہار کیا ہے۔

ایک سوال کے جواب میں چینی قونصل جنرل نے کہا کہ سی بی کے بارے میں یہ تاثر غلط ہے کہ اس منصوبے میں صرف چینی انجینئرز یا ماہرین کام کر رہے ہیں بلکہ موجودہ صورت حال میں پاکستانی انجینئرز اور ماہرین کی ایک خاص تعداد بھی سی بی کے کا حصہ ہے۔

اپنے دفتر میں ہونے والی گفتگو کے دوران انہوں نے کہا کہ پاکستان اور چین سی بی کے ساتھ ساتھ بلوچستان میں مقامی لوگوں کا طرز زندگی بدلنے کے لیے بھی کام کر رہے ہیں، بالخصوص گوادر کی مقامی آبادی کو مختلف بنیادی انسانی سہولتیں فراہم کی جا چکی ہیں جبکہ پینے کے صاف پانی کی فراہمی کا منصوبہ تکمیل کے آخری مراحل میں ہے۔

انہوں نے بتایا کہ گوادر شہر میں سول لائٹس لگانے کے منصوبے پر بھی کام تیزی سے جاری ہے۔

ایک سوال کے جواب میں انہوں نے کہا کہ گوادر میں انٹرنیشنل ایئرپورٹ کی تعمیر مکمل ہو چکی ہے، اسٹیٹ آف دی آرٹ منصوبے کا افتتاح بہت جلد ہونے والا ہے۔

چینی قونصل جنرل یانگ یان ڈونگ نے ون بیلٹ ون روڈ کا تذکرہ کرتے ہوئے اس منصوبے میں توسیع پروگرام کا بتایا اور کہا کہ ون بیلٹ ون روڈ منصوبہ گوادر سے

افغانستان تک جائے گا جس سے اس خطے میں تجارت کو فروغ ملے گا۔

<https://jang.com.pk/news/1280536>

K2 Daily News

پاکستان مضبوط بھائی قابل دست صدرا چینی چین پلوس اعتماد کرتے ہیں کاکڑ

چین پاکستان کی سلیبت، سرحدوں کے تحفظ اور ترقی کے حصول میں معاونت کرتا رہے گا

گمران وزیر اعظم کی چینی صدر سے ملاقات، سٹریٹجک روابط اور عالمی فورمز پر تعاون جاری رکھنے پر اتفاق

پکنگ (پاکستان ڈیسک)۔ چینی وزیر اعظم وانگ کانگ نے پاکستان کی وزیر اعظم مریم نواز کو اپنے دور رسائی کے دوران پکنگ میں ملاقات کی۔ ملاقات میں دونوں سربراہوں نے چین پاکستان کی سلیبت، سرحدوں کے تحفظ اور ترقی کے حصول میں معاونت کرتا رہے گا اور ترقی میں شراکت دار رہے۔ چینی صدر نے مزید کہا کہ چین پاکستان کو اپنی فنانس، سائنس، ٹیکنالوجی اور ترقی کے حصول اور ترقی کے حصول میں معاونت کرتا رہے گا اور ترقی میں شراکت دار رہے۔ چینی صدر نے مزید کہا کہ چین پاکستان کو اپنی فنانس، سائنس، ٹیکنالوجی اور ترقی کے حصول اور ترقی کے حصول میں معاونت کرتا رہے گا اور ترقی میں شراکت دار رہے۔ چینی صدر نے مزید کہا کہ چین پاکستان کو اپنی فنانس، سائنس، ٹیکنالوجی اور ترقی کے حصول اور ترقی کے حصول میں معاونت کرتا رہے گا اور ترقی میں شراکت دار رہے۔

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بقیہ 32

کرتے ہوئے کیا جنہوں نے جمہوریت کو جیسا ان سے طاقت کی جس میں پاکستان میں کبھی ہی اور مہر طاقت کے شیعہ میں سرمایہ کاری کے معاملے سے بات چیت کی گی۔ دونوں کہتے ہیں پاکستان میں سرمایہ کاری میں گوری وکٹی کا اظہار کیا۔ وزیر اعظم نے شراکت داری کی کاروبار دوست پالیسیوں کے بارے میں کہا۔ وزیر اعظم نے شراکت داری میں سرمایہ کاری کی سہولت کو تسلیم کیا۔ وزیر اعظم نے کہا کہ حکومت "عمل آف دی گورنمنٹ" کے تحت پاکستان میں سرمایہ کاری کے فروغ کیلئے اقدامات کر رہی ہے۔ سی ای او ہانگ کانگ کیلئے کونسلر جنرل کینی ڈاکہ ہائی اور ٹیکنالوجی ہانگ کانگ اور ڈی ایچ کارپوریشن نے اسی امور اہل حق کا کڑ سے طاقت کی ملاقات میں شراکت داری کیلئے کے تحت سی ای او اور ای آر آئی کے پاکستان میں جاری منصوبوں کے بارے میں کہا۔ شراکت داری پاکستان میں انٹرنیشنل تعمیر تھیل چوبہ ڈی ایچ اور دیگر شعبوں میں اپنی سرمایہ کاری کے معاملے میں گوری وکٹی کا اظہار کیا۔ وزیر اعظم نے کینی ڈاکہ کے پاکستان میں منصوبوں کی پڑائی کی اور ان کی سرمایہ کاری کے معاملے میں ہانگ کانگ کی طرف سے سرمایہ کاری کے بارے میں کہا کہ پاکستان ملک بھر میں انٹرنیشنل ترقی کیلئے اقدامات اٹھا رہا ہے۔ انہوں نے حرج کہا کہ پاکستان کو تازہ نیشنل اتھورٹی جاسٹس اور ملک میں سیاست کی ترقی کیلئے ریلوے اور ریلوے انٹرنیشنل اتھارٹی ضروری ہے۔ وزیر اعظم نے کینی ڈاکہ کے پاکستان میں سرمایہ کاری میں اضافے میں وکٹی کا غیر متحمس کیا۔ نگران وزیر اعظم اور اہل حق کا کڑ سے تیز میں امر ایچ جی ڈاکہ دہلی نے بھی ملاقات کی۔ وزیر اعظم آفس سے ہانگ کانگ کے مطابق طاقت میں امر ایچ جی نے پاکستان میں تازہ اور اسٹیل کی صنعت میں سرمایہ کاری میں گوری وکٹی کا اظہار کیا۔ وزیر اعظم نے امر ایچ جی کی پاکستان میں سرمایہ کاری میں وکٹی کا غیر متحمس کیا اور انہیں خصوصی سرمایہ کاری سہولت کو تسلیم کرنے کے بارے میں کہا کہ جس کے تحت کان کی مدد طاقت کے شیعہ میں سرمایہ کاری کیلئے دن دہلا آپریشن کی سہولت فراہم کی جارہی ہے۔

چین پاکستان میں سرمایہ کاری کا خواہشمند دیکھتا ہے

چینی کمپنیوں نے کان کنی، معدنیات، سٹیل، تانبے کی صنعت میں سرمایہ کاری کی خواہش کا اظہار کر دیا۔ وزیر اعظم سے چینی کمپنیوں کے حکام کی ملاقات میں، انٹرنیشنل چیمبر، قابل تجدید توانائی منصوبوں پر تبادلہ خیال

چنگ (بین الاقوامی) نگران وزیر اعظم انوار سہولت کو تسلیم کیا اور حکومت ان امور کے تیز میں ایک ڈی ایچ اور اہل حق کا کڑ ہے کہ پاکستان میں سرمایہ کاری سرمایہ کاروں کو بہتر سہولت فراہم کرے گی۔ ان چار ڈی ایچ آپریشن آف ہانگ کانگ کے تیز میں جن کے کل امان ہانگ کانگ کے لئے خصوصی سرمایہ کاری، شراکت داری کا اظہار انہوں نے دورہ ہانگ کانگ کے دوران (17 تا 20 ستمبر 2023)

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Nawaiwaqt News

خطے میں امن و استحکام کے ضامن سی پیک اور بی آر آئی کے منصوبے

نگران وزیر اعظم انوار الحق کا کڑ نے گزشتہ روز بیجنگ میں چین کے صدر شی جن پنگ، اپنے ہم منصب چینی وزیر اعظم اور دوسری عالمی قیادتوں سے ملاقاتیں کیں اور تیسرے بی آر آئی فورم سے خطاب کیا۔ انہوں نے چینی کمپنی کے ساتھ ڈیڑھ ارب ڈالر کے ایم او یو پر بھی دستخط کئے اور پاکستان ریلوے کی اپ گریڈیشن کیلئے بھی معاہدہ کیا۔ ایم ایل ون منصوبے کی لاگت 9 ارب ڈالر سے کم ہو کر 6.7 ارب ڈالر ہو گئی ہے۔ نگران وزیر اعظم نے یو این سیکرٹری جنرل انتونیو گوتیس، پاپوا نیو گنی اور قازقستان کے صدر اور دوسری عالمی شخصیات سے ملاقاتوں کے دوران کہا کہ بیلٹ اینڈ روڈ انیشی ایٹو (بی آر آئی) ترقی و خوشحالی اور خطے کیلئے گیم چینجر منصوبہ ہے۔ اگلے بقول سی پیک بی آر آئی کا فلیگ شپ منصوبہ ہے، پاکستان سی پیک میں دیگر ملکوں اور شرکاء کو خیر مقدم کرے گا۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ دنیا کو ماحولیاتی تبدیلی، غذائی تحفظ اور دباؤ کے چیلنجز درپیش ہیں، مشترکہ ترقی اور خوشحالی کے منصوبوں میں ہی انسانیت کی فلاح ہے۔ انہوں نے بیلٹ اینڈ روڈ کے تصور پر چین کے صدر شی جن پنگ کو مبارکباد پیش کی۔

نگران وزیر اعظم کا کہنا تھا کہ خطے کی ترقی اور استحکام کے حامل منصوبوں بی آر آئی اور سی پیک کو قائم ہونے دس سال گزر چکے ہیں۔ عوامی سطح پر رابطوں اور معاشی ترقی کو بی آر آئی کے ذریعے فروغ ملا ہے جبکہ مربوط روابط ہی عوام کی خوشحالی کا سبب بنتے ہیں۔ اگلے بقول سی پیک کے تحت 25 ارب ڈالر کے پچاس منصوبے مکمل ہو چکے ہیں۔ سی پیک کے منصوبوں سے

پاکستان میں آٹھ ہزار میگاواٹ بجلی پیدا ہو رہی ہے جبکہ دس ہزار میگاواٹ کے منصوبے زیر تکمیل ہیں۔ پاکستان سی پیک میں دیگر ممالک کی شمولیت کا خیر مقدم کریگا۔ یہ امر واقع ہے کہ 1948ء میں عوامی جمہوریہ چین کے دنیا کے نقشے پر نمودار ہونے کے ساتھ ہی پاکستان کے اسکے ساتھ برادرانہ، دوستانہ تعلقات استوار ہو گئے تھے اور اقوام عالم میں چین کو تسلیم کرنا اور اپلا ملک بھی پاکستان تھا چنانچہ اسی وقت پاکستان اور چین کے مابین سفارتی تعلقات استوار ہوئے جو گزرتے وقت کے ساتھ مستحکم ہوتے چلے گئے اور پاکستان چین دوستی شہدے میٹھی، سمندروں سے گہری اور ہمالیہ سے بلند ہونے کے تصور کے تحت دنیا میں ایک ضرب المثل بن گئی۔ خوش قسمتی سے اپنے اپنے ملک کی ترقی و سلامتی اور خطے کے امن و استحکام کے تناظر میں پاکستان اور چین کے مفادات بھی سانچے نظر آئے اور اپنے توسیع پسندانہ عزائم کی بنیاد پر بھارت ان دونوں ممالک کے مشترکہ دشمن کے طور پر ابھر کر سامنے آیا تو پاکستان اور چین کے مابین مشترکہ دفاعی حکمت عملی کے راستے بھی کھل گئے۔ اس طرح یہ دونوں ممالک مشترکہ دفاعی حصار بنا کر دفاعی تعاون کی بھی یادگار مثالیں قائم کر چکے ہیں جبکہ اقوام متحدہ اور دوسرے عالمی اور علاقائی فورموں پر اور وناچل پر دیش اور کشمیر کے تنازعات پر دونوں ممالک ایک دوسرے کے موقف کا کھل کر ساتھ نبھاتے ہیں۔

چونکہ یہ دونوں تنازعات بھارت کے توسیع پسندانہ عزائم کی جانب پیش رفت کرنے سے پیدا ہوئے ہیں چنانچہ بھارت دونوں کا مشترکہ دشمن ہے۔ اگر امریکہ بھارت کو اپنا فطری اتحادی قرار دیکر اسکے پیدا کردہ علاقائی تنازعات میں اس کا ساتھ دیتا ہے تو اس سے پاکستان اور چین کے امریکہ کے ساتھ تعلقات کا متاثر ہونا بھی فطری امر ہے۔ انہی زمینی حقائق کی بنیاد پر اس خطے میں چین اور پاکستان کو امریکی عمل دخل کا موثر ٹوڑ کرنے کی مشترکہ حکمت عملی طے کرنے کی ضرورت محسوس ہوئی چنانچہ آج چین اور پاکستان ہر فیئلڈ میں ایک دوسرے کے کندھے سے کندھا ملانے کھڑے ہیں جن کی لازوال دوستی لامحالہ پورے خطے کے امن و استحکام کی بھی ضمانت بن چکی ہے۔

اگرچہ چین کے بھارت کے ساتھ بھی اقتصادی تعلقات ہیں اور 2014ء میں تحریک انصاف اور عوامی تحریک کے ڈی چوک اسلام آباد میں حکومت مخالف طویل دھرنے کے باعث صدر عوامی جمہوریہ چین اپنا شیڈولڈ دورہ پاکستان موخر کر کے بھارت چلے گئے تھے جہاں چین اور بھارت کے مابین 42 ارب ڈالر کے اقتصادی معاہدے ہوئے۔ اسکے باوجود 2013ء میں شروع ہوئے چین پاکستان اقتصادی راہداری (سی پیک) کے مشترکہ منصوبے نے پاکستان چین تعلقات کا بندھن مزید مضبوط بنایا ہے۔ یہ منصوبہ بلاشبہ چین اور پاکستان ہی نہیں، پورے خطے کی اقتصادی ترقی و خوشحالی کا ضامن بن چکا ہے جس کے اپریشنل ہونے سے علاقائی اور عالمی منڈیوں کے باہم تجارتی اشتراک کے راستے بھی کھل چکے ہیں۔ ایسی تجارتی سرگرمیاں چونکہ ایک دوسرے سے وابستہ ممالک کے اندر امن و استحکام کی متقاضی ہوتی ہیں اس لئے اپنے اپنے ملک میں قیام امن کو یقینی بنانا بھی سی پیک سے وابستہ ہر ملک کی ضرورت بن چکا ہے۔ اس لئے سی پیک ہی بالآخر علاقائی اور عالمی امن و استحکام کی بنیاد بنے گا جبکہ اب چین کے پی آر آئی منصوبے کے ساتھ سی پیک کے وابستہ ہونے سے پورے خطے کا امن و استحکام نوشتہ دیوار نظر آ رہا ہے۔

یہ صورتحال اس خطے میں توسیع پسندانہ عزائم رکھنے والے بھارت اور اسکے سرپرست امریکہ کو قابل قبول نہیں اس لئے ان دونوں ممالک نے پہلے سی پیک کو سبوتاژ کرنے کیلئے ایک مشترکہ سازشی منصوبہ تیار کیا جس کے تحت امریکی وزارت خارجہ نے باضابطہ طور پر سی پیک پر اس حوالے سے تحفظات کا اظہار کیا کہ یہ پاکستان کے متنازعہ شمالی علاقہ جات میں قائم ہو رہا ہے۔ بھارت نے بھی اسی تناظر میں سی پیک پر شور و غوغا کیا اور بد قسمتی سے اسے پاکستان میں موجود بعض سیاسی عناصر کی بھی حمایت حاصل ہو گئی جس کا عملی اظہار پی ٹی آئی کی حکومت کی تشکیل کے بعد اسکے بعض وزراء کی جانب سے دیئے گئے بیانات کی صورت میں بھی ہو گیا جبکہ پی ٹی آئی کے دور میں سی پیک کی تکمیل کیلئے کسی قسم کی پیش رفت بھی نہ کی گئی جو بادی النظر میں پاکستان کی ترقی روکنے کے بھارتی عزائم کی ہی تکمیل تھی۔

اب باہمی اشتراک کا یہ منصوبہ بھی اپریشنل ہو چکا ہے اور اسکے عالمی تجارتی تعاون پر مبنی چین کے وسیع تر منصوبے پی آر آئی کے ساتھ منسلک ہونے سے علاقائی تعاون کے نئے راستے بھی کھل رہے ہیں جس سے پاکستان کا شاندار مستقبل اجاگر ہوتا نظر آ رہا ہے تو اس کا کریڈٹ بلاشبہ ہمارے بے لوث دوست چین کے حصے میں ہی آئے گا۔ اس امر کا اظہار ہی گزشتہ روز پی آر آئی کے اعلیٰ سطح کے فورم کی میٹنگ میں یو این سیکرٹری جنرل اور پی آر آئی سے وابستہ ممالک کی قیادتوں کی شمولیت اور اس منصوبے کو مزید آگے بڑھانے کے ٹھوس عزم کے ذریعے کیا گیا ہے۔ پاکستان کو بالخصوص توانائی کے شعبے میں ان منصوبوں کے جو ثمرات حاصل ہو رہے ہیں، مگر ان وزیر اعظم نے اس کا بھی کھل کر اظہار کیا جو ہمارے شاندار مستقبل اور امن و استحکام کا عکاس ہے۔ پاکستان چین دوستی بلاشبہ اس پورے خطے کیلئے ایک نعمت غیر مترقبہ کی حیثیت اختیار کر چکی ہے جس پر دونوں ممالک کی قیادتیں مبارکباد کی مستحق ہیں۔

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چین پر اندھا اعتبار، دنیا کی کوئی طاقت تعلقات خراب نہیں کرا سکتی: وزیر اعظم

اسلام آباد (خبرنگار خصوصی) نگران وزیر اعظم انوار الحق کاکڑ کی چین کے صدر شی جن پنگ کی گریٹ ہال آف پیپلز، بیجنگ میں ملاقات ہوئی۔ ملاقات بیجنگ میں منعقدہ تیسرے بیلٹ اینڈ روڈ فورم کے موقع پر ہوئی۔ وزیر اعظم نے چینی صدر کو تیسرے بیلٹ اینڈ روڈ فورم کے کامیاب انعقاد پر مبارکباد پیش کی اور ان کے بیلٹ اینڈ روڈ انٹیلیجیٹ کے مستقبل کے لائحہ عمل کے حوالے سے پیش کردہ 8 نکات کی تعریف کی۔ دونوں رہنماؤں نے پاکستان اور چین کے مابین (Belt and Road Initiative) ایٹو سٹرٹجک تعاون پر مبنی شراکت داری اور بین الاقوامی سطح پر ابھرتی ہوئی صورتحال کے پس منظر میں اس کی سٹرٹجک اہمیت کو اجاگر کیا۔ ملاقات میں اس بات پر اتفاق ہوا کہ دونوں ممالک کے باہمی مفاد کیلئے اعلیٰ سطحی روابط کو مزید مضبوط کیا جائے گا۔ وزیر اعظم انوار الحق کاکڑ نے کہا کہ پاکستان اور چین قابل اعتماد شراکت دار اور بہترین دوست ہیں۔ چین کے کلیدی امور پر پاکستان کے غیر مشروط ساتھ کا اعادہ کرتے ہوئے وزیر اعظم نے کہا کہ پاکستان اور چین کے تعلقات خطے میں امن و استحکام کا باعث ہیں۔ دنیا کی کوئی طاقت پاک چین تعلقات میں دراڑ نہیں ڈال سکتی۔ صدر شی جن پنگ نے کہا کہ پاکستان چین کا مضبوط بھائی اور قابل اعتماد دوست اور امن و ترقی میں شراکت دار ہے۔ چین پاکستان کو اپنی خارجہ پالیسی میں بہت اہمیت دیتا ہے اور چین، پاکستان کی اپنی سالمیت، سرحدوں کے تحفظ اور ترقی کے حصول میں معاونت کرتا رہے گا۔ دونوں رہنماؤں نے بہتر علاقائی روابط اور اقتصادی ترقی کیلئے باہمی تعاون پر گفتگو کی جو دونوں ممالک کا مشترکہ ویژن ہے۔ وزیر اعظم انوار الحق کاکڑ نے کہا کہ پاکستان، چین کے ساتھ علاقائی روابط اور پاکستان کے لوگوں کی سماجی و اقتصادی ترقی کیلئے باہمی تعاون پر گفتگو کی جو دونوں ممالک کا مشترکہ ویژن ہے۔ وزیر اعظم انوار الحق کاکڑ نے کہا کہ موجودہ اقتصادی استعداد، اور اسے ابھرتا ہوا علاقائی تجارت کا مرکز بنانے میں تعاون جاری رکھنے کی یقین دہانی کرائی۔ دونوں رہنماؤں نے سی بی کے تعمیر کے نئے دور کی رفتار کو اسے ترقی، روزگار، جدت اور گرین ڈویلپمنٹ کی راہداری بنانے کیلئے کلیدی قرار دیا۔ انہوں نے اس بات پر بھی زور دیا کہ پاکستان کی پائیدار اور مجموعی سماجی و اقتصادی ترقی اس سے منسلک ہے۔ دونوں رہنماؤں نے ابھرتے ہوئے علاقائی اور عالمی امور پر گفتگو کی اور تمام امور پر اتفاق رائے کیا۔ انہوں نے اتفاق کیا کہ دونوں ممالک مختلف سطحوں پر سٹرٹجک روابط اور بین الاقوامی فورمز پر تعاون جاری رکھیں گے۔ علاوہ ازیں نگران وزیر اعظم انوار الحق کاکڑ اور روسی صدر ولادیمیر پوٹن کے مابین چین میں منعقدہ تیسرے بیلٹ اینڈ روڈ فورم کے موقع پر ملاقات ہوئی جہاں ملاقات کیلئے آمد پر روسی صدر ولادیمیر پوٹن نے وزیر اعظم انوار الحق کاکڑ کا استقبال کیا۔ دونوں رہنماؤں نے علاقائی تعاون کے فروغ کیلئے خطے میں روابط کی مضبوطی کی اہمیت پر زور دیا۔ ملاقات میں باہمی دلچسپی کے امور اور علاقائی و بین الاقوامی امور پر گفتگو ہوئی۔ دونوں رہنماؤں نے تجارت، سرمایہ کاری اور توانائی پر خصوصی توجہ مرکوز کرتے ہوئے دو طرفہ تعاون کا جائزہ لیا اور پاکستان روس تعلقات میں مسلسل توسیع پر اطمینان کا اظہار کیا۔ دونوں رہنماؤں نے پوریشن کینیڈی بڑھانے کے امکانات اور ریل، سڑک اور توانائی کی راہداری کے ذریعے علاقائی انضمام میں پاکستان کے اہم کردار پر بھی تبادلہ خیال کیا۔ انوار الحق کاکڑ نے پورے خطے کی اقتصادی ترقی کیلئے علاقائی انضمام کو بڑھانے کی ضرورت پر زور دیا اور روس کے ساتھ تجارت اور سرمایہ کاری، توانائی رابطے اور انسداد دہشتگردی کے شعبوں میں دو طرفہ تعاون کو مزید وسعت دینے اور مضبوط کرنے کیلئے پاکستان کے عزم کا اعادہ کیا۔ صدر پوٹن نے خطے میں روابط کی مضبوطی پر زور دیا۔ علاوہ ازیں نگران وزیر اعظم انوار الحق کاکڑ سے چین کی کمیونسٹ پارٹی کی مرکزی کمیٹی کے بین الاقوامی ڈیپارٹمنٹ کے وزیر لیو جیان چاؤ نے ملاقات کی۔ وزیر اعظم نے پاکستان اور چین کے مابین دیرینہ تاریخی تعلقات کا ذکر کرتے ہوئے چین کی کمیونسٹ پارٹی کے پاک چین تعلقات اور باہمی ہم آہنگی بڑھانے میں کردار کو سراہا۔ وزیر اعظم نے چین کی ترقی میں کمیونسٹ پارٹی کے کلیدی کردار کی بھی تعریف کی۔ انوار الحق کاکڑ سے چائینہ انجینئرنگ گروپ (چائینہ نے بھی بیجنگ میں ملاقات کی۔ وزیر اعظم نے چائینہ (Song Ling) اور گیز ہوا گروپ کے صدر سو لنگ (Wu Ling) انجینیئر کے نائب جنرل مینیجر وو لنگ انجینیئر کے پاکستان میں بجلی کے منصوبوں کو سراہا بالخصوص قابل تجدید توانائی کے منصوبوں کی تعریف کی۔ علاوہ ازیں نگران وزیر اعظم انوار الحق کاکڑ سے پاور کنسٹرکشن نے بھی بیجنگ میں ملاقات کی۔ وزیر اعظم آفس کے میڈیا ونگ کی جانب سے جاری اعلامیہ کے (Wang Bin) کارپوریشن چائینہ (پاور چائینہ) کے صدر وانگ بن مطابق ملاقات میں پاکستان اور چین کے مابین تعمیراتی شعبے میں تعاون کے فروغ پر تفصیلی گفتگو ہوئی۔ نگران وزیر اعظم نے سی بی کے تحت پاکستان میں انفراسٹرکچر کے وفد نے صدر COFCO ترقی میں چین کے کردار بالخصوص پاور چائینہ کے کردار کو سراہا۔ دریں اثناء نگران وزیر اعظم انوار الحق کاکڑ سے چائینہ آئل اینڈ فوڈ سٹنز

کی قیادت میں ملاقات کی۔ ملاقات میں نگران وزیر اعظم نے شرکاء کو پاکستان کے زرعی شعبے کے حوالے سے آگاہ کیا۔ کوکوکو کے (Luan Richeng) لوآن ریحینگ وفد نے پاکستان میں سرمایہ کاری میں گہری دلچسپی کا اظہار کیا جس کا وزیر اعظم نے خیر مقدم کیا۔ علاوہ ازیں انوار الحق کا کڑ سے چیئر مین امر انٹرنیشنل وانگ وسین نے ملاقات کی۔ ملاقات میں امر انٹرنیشنل نے پاکستان میں تانبے اور سٹیل کی صنعت میں سرمایہ کاری میں گہری دلچسپی کا اظہار کیا۔ وزیر اعظم نے امر انٹرنیشنل کی پاکستان میں سرمایہ کاری میں دلچسپی کا خیر مقدم کیا۔ انوار الحق کا کڑ نے کہا ہے کہ پاکستان ملک بھر میں انفراسٹرکچر کی ترقی کیلئے اقدامات اٹھا رہا ہے۔ پاکستان کو ٹرانزیشنل اکانومی بنانے اور ملک میں سیاحت کی ترقی کیلئے ریلوے اور روڈ انفراسٹرکچر انتہائی ضروری ہے۔ ان خیالات کا اظہار انہوں نے سی ای او چائنا کمیونیکیشنز کنسٹرکشن کمپنی وانگ ہائی ہوئی اور چیئر مین چائنا روڈ اینڈ اینڈربرج کارپوریشن سے گفتگو کرتے ہوئے کیا۔ ملاقات میں شرکاء نے سی سی سی اور سی آر بی سی کے پاکستان میں جاری منصوبوں کے بارے میں آگاہ کیا۔ نگران وزیر اعظم انوار الحق کا کڑ نے کہا ہے کہ پاکستان میں سرمایہ کاری کے عمل کو آسان بنانے کے لئے خصوصی سرمایہ کاری سہولت کو نسل کا قیام عمل میں لایا گیا ہے اور حکومت سرمایہ کاروں کو ہر ممکن سہولت فراہم کرے گی۔ ان خیالات کا اظہار انہوں نے دورہ چین کے دوران مین میٹلز کے چیئر مین ویگ ٹولیا ٹانگ اور میٹالرجیکل کوآپریشن آف چائنا کے چیئر مین چن جیانوانگ سے گفتگو کرتے ہوئے کیا جنہوں نے ان سے ملاقات کی۔ دونوں کمپنیوں نے پاکستان میں سرمایہ کاری میں گہری دلچسپی کا اظہار کیا۔ نگران وزیر اعظم انوار الحق کا کڑ نے سی پیک کو پاک چین دوستی کے لیے سنگ میل قرار دیتے ہوئے کہا ہے کہ پاکستان میں پچھلے دس سال میں سی پیک کے ثمرات معاشی ترقی کی صورت میں سامنے آئے ہیں۔ سی پیک سے پاکستان کی معاشی ترقی و خوشحالی کے ساتھ ساتھ خطے میں مواصلاتی روابط کو فروغ ملے گا۔ انہوں نے ان خیالات کا اظہار چائنا ڈویلپمنٹ کوآپریشن اینڈ اینڈربرج کارپوریشن سے ملاقات کے دوران کیا۔ وزیر اعظم انوار الحق کا کڑ اور لوہ زاف ہوئی نے چین اور پاکستان کے درمیان سی پیک کے تحت زراعت، صحت، تعلیم، پیشہ ورانہ تربیت، صاف پانی کی فراہمی اور تخفیف غربت سے متعلق تعاون پر تبادلہ خیال کیا۔ لوہ زاف ہوئی نے چین کے گلوبل ڈویلپمنٹ انیٹی ایٹیو پرمیٹرز آمد کو تیز کرنے کے لیے وزیر اعظم کی تجویز کا خیر مقدم کیا۔ نگران وزیر اعظم نے سی ای او چائنا کمیونیکیشنز کنسٹرکشن کمپنی وانگ ہائی ہوئی اور چیئر مین چائنا روڈ اینڈ اینڈربرج کارپوریشن سے ملاقات کی ملاقات میں شرکاء نے سی پیک کے تحت سی سی سی اور سی آر بی سی کے پاکستان میں جاری منصوبوں کے بارے میں آگاہ کیا۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/lahore/2023-10-20/page-1/detail-28>

October 21, 2023

Business Recorder

China ready to boost Pakistan ties but urges security guarantee: Xi

BEIJING: China is willing to strengthen co-operation and promote solidarity with Pakistan but has urged it to guarantee the safety of Chinese organisations and personnel working there, China's foreign ministry said, quoting President Xi Jinping.

China is a major ally and investor in Pakistan but both separatist and Islamist militants have attacked Chinese projects over recent years, killing Chinese personnel.

Xi on Thursday evening met caretaker prime minister, Anwar ul Haq Kakar, who is in Beijing this week for a forum on China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).

Xi said both countries should pursue an "upgraded version" of a China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, enhancing cooperation in industrial parks, agriculture and mining, new energy, as well as early implementation of major connectivity projects.

At the same time, he called for security for Chinese interests.

“We hope the Pakistani side will guarantee the safety of Chinese institutions and personnel in Pakistan,” the ministry cited Xi as telling Kakar.

Kakar said on Wednesday Pakistan had completed more than 50 projects worth \$25 billion under the CPEC, a flagship project under China’s BRI with more than \$65 billion pledged for road, rail and other infrastructure developments.

Xi said China was open to buttressing cooperation within the UN and Shanghai Cooperation Organisation framework and safeguard the interests of developing countries.

China also welcomed more high-quality agricultural imports from Pakistan, the ministry said in a statement late on Thursday.

Separatist insurgents in Pakistan’s resource-rich Balochistan province say China has ignored warnings not to enter deals with the Pakistani government. China has also warned of the danger of Islamist militants in Pakistan.—Reuters

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2023/10/21/1-page/974948-news.html>

Joint statement issued

Pakistan, China reiterate resolve to move forward together

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan and China have reiterated the resolve to move forward together on the path of development, and accelerate the building of an even closer Pak-China community with a shared future in the new era.

In a joint statement, after completion of Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar’s visit to China, the two sides reaffirmed their support for each other on issues concerning their respective core interests and major concerns.

During the visit, the two sides signed 20 agreements and MoUs, covering cooperation on the BRI, infrastructure, mining, industry, green and low-carbon development, health, space cooperation, digital economy, development cooperation and export of agricultural products to China.

Both the countries reaffirmed that mutual trust remains at the core of China-Pakistan relationship.

They agreed that China and Pakistan are all-weather strategic cooperative partners and iron brothers and friendship between the two countries is time-tested and unbreakable. The joint statement further stated that the two sides recognized that the Belt and Road Initiative is a strong driver of world economic growth, provides a platform for international economic cooperation, opens up space for common development around the globe and has become a widely welcomed international public good as well as an important practice in building a community with a shared future for mankind.

Both the sides agreed to work more closely together on high-quality Belt and Road cooperation, and usher in a bright future of peace, development and win-win cooperation.

The two sides recognized that the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, as a pioneering project of the BRI, has yielded fruitful outcomes in the 10 years since its inception and has now entered a new stage of high-quality development.

Both the countries also reaffirmed the resolve to jointly build a growth corridor, a livelihood-enhancing corridor, an innovation corridor, a green corridor and an open corridor, and continue to build CPEC into an exemplary project of high-quality Belt and Road cooperation.

Recognizing the significance of Gwadar Port as an important node in cross-regional connectivity, the two sides agreed to speed up development of the Port and its auxiliary projects.

The two sides reviewed with satisfaction the progress of the desalination plant, the New Gwadar International Airport (NGIA), the Pak-China Friendship Hospital and other projects. Both the sides reiterated their resolve to make Gwadar a high-quality port, a regional trade hub and a connectivity node.

Recognizing that the ML-1 upgradation is an important project under the CPEC framework and is of great significance to Pakistan's social and economic development, the two sides agreed to carry out the common understanding of the leaders of the two countries to implement the project at an early date.

The two sides reviewed with satisfaction the important progress made in the preliminary work of the Karakoram Highway (Raikot-Thakot section) realignment project and agreed to fast track its implementation.

They affirmed their resolve to further move forward to launch preparatory work for D.I. Khan-Zhob Road Project to build momentum towards enhancing connectivity and socio-economic development of Pakistan, under CPEC.

They also agreed to actively promote the implementation of the Framework Agreement on Industrial Cooperation to support Pakistan's industrialization, and encourage Chinese companies to set up manufacturing facilities in Pakistan.

The two sides reiterated that CPEC is an open and inclusive platform for win-win cooperation, and welcome third parties to benefit from investments in CPEC cooperation priority areas such as industry, agriculture, ICT, science and technology. Both the sides also agreed to strengthen cooperation in the mining industry, including in the fields of geological survey, joint research on geology and minerals, training of talent, and planning of mining industrial parks.

Under Agricultural cooperation, they agreed to strengthen cooperation in areas such as crop cultivation, prevention and control of animal and plant diseases, agricultural mechanization, exchange of agricultural technology, and trade in agricultural products.

They acknowledged the recent momentum for increase in business exchanges between the two countries and further resolved to facilitate B2B exchanges. Both the sides also agreed to make efforts to enhance the level of bilateral people-to-people exchanges and facilitation.

The two sides announced that the Khunjerab pass would function all year round and agreed to step up the infrastructure construction and management of the Khunjerab pass and improve its passage conditions.

They expressed satisfaction with the progress of cooperation on currency swap agreement and Renminbi settlement and clearing, and agreed to further strengthen financial and banking cooperation. Pakistani side thanked China's valuable support for its financial sector.

The two sides agreed to further enhance counter-terrorism cooperation to promote world peace and security.

In tourism sector, they agreed to continue to strengthen the exchanges between the two countries.

On Afghanistan issue, both the sides agreed to strengthen communication and coordination on the issue of Afghanistan and jointly uphold regional peace and stability.

The Pakistani side appreciated China's assistance for Pakistan's post-flood reconstruction and recovery.

China will continue to support Pakistan in improving people's livelihood and post-disaster reconstruction, with priority to implementing effective livelihood assistance projects, to deliver social and economic benefits, especially to the most affected and vulnerable people, in line with the concept of shared prosperity.

For promotion of Pakistan's exports, China said it welcomes more high-quality Pakistani products and more qualified Pakistani enterprises to enter the Chinese market.

On Kashmir issue, the Chinese side reiterated that Kashmir is a long-standing dispute left from history that should be properly and peacefully resolved in accordance with the UN Charter, relevant UN Security Council resolutions and bilateral agreements.

Expressing satisfaction with the close cooperation, trust and communication between the armed forces of the two countries, the two sides agreed to maintain high-level mil-to-mil visits and exchanges and deepen cooperation in areas of training, joint exercises and military technology.

Over the Palestine crisis, the two sides expressed deep concerns on the current escalation of tensions and violence between Palestine and Israel and called for an immediate ceasefire and cessation of hostilities and every possible effort to protect civilians and avert an even worse humanitarian disaster in Gaza.

Both the sides reiterated that the fundamental way out of the conflict lies in implementing the two-state solution and establishing an independent State of Palestine.—INP

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2023/10/21/3-page/974960-news.html>

Pakistan joins China's club of lunar base partners

BEIJING: Pakistan has joined China's expanding club of partners in an ambitious project to build a research station on the moon's south pole.

Jointly with Chinese Premier Li Qiang, caretaker Prime Minister Anwar ul Haq Kakar witnessed the signing of an initial cooperation agreement in Beijing on Wednesday.

The China National Space Administration said on Friday cooperation would cover areas including the engineering and operational aspects of the Chinese lunar base programme.

China, which aims to become a major space power by 2030, has already secured cooperation from Russia, Venezuela and South Africa.

It has fixed a target to land its astronauts on the moon by the end of this decade.

The timeline to build an outpost on the south pole coincides with NASA's more ambitious Artemis programme, which aims to put US astronauts back on the lunar surface in December 2025, barring delays.—Reuters

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2023/10/21/8-page/974996-news.html>

Daily Times

25th Textile Asia Trade Fair ignites China-Pakistan textile synergy

** Companies from cities and provinces like Shanghai, Guangzhou, Jiangsu, Fujian, and Shandong express desire to relocate their production units to Punjab, with a minimum investment of \$25m per unit*

The 25th Textile Asia International Trade Fair featured over 550 international brands and attracted more than 450 foreign delegates from 27 countries.

“The expo acts as a source of motivation and real opportunities for business ventures to the local businesses and industries,” stated Moazzam Ghurki, President of Pakistan China Joint Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCJCCI), the organizer of the event.

“We will try to facilitate joint ventures of the international brand owners with local companies from Gujranwala, Lahore, Sialkot, and Faisalabad, and we will also arrange training for engineers from these cities who manufacture spare parts for sewing and textiles,” he added according to a report carried by Gwadar Pro on Friday.

Dongqi Group, one of the leading Chinese textile enterprises, participated in the event. “The expo provided an excellent opportunity to showcase our advanced technology and high-quality products to potential partners and customers.

We were particularly interested in establishing collaborations with Pakistan's textile industry, which has great growth potential,” said the exhibitor of Dongqi Group.

During the exhibition, Dongqi Group had fruitful interactions with visitors from Pakistan and other countries. “We secured significant orders and established preliminary cooperation intentions with promising partners.” he added.

Salahuddin Hanif, Secretary General PCJCCI highlighted the immense interest shown by many Chinese companies in Pakistan's textile industry.

“Companies from cities and provinces like Shanghai, Guangzhou, Jiangsu, Fujian, and Shandong have expressed their desire to relocate their production units to Punjab, with a minimum investment of \$25 million per unit.

The companies also plan to transfer their technologies, besides buying back Pakistani products after value-addition here. This will not only boost local exports but also contribute to reducing the trade deficit between Pakistan and China.” He shared.

The success of the Textile Asia International Trade Fair further highlights the strong cooperation between the textile industries of Pakistan and China.

This exhibition serves as a testament to the robust bilateral relations between the two countries and their commitment to fostering economic growth and trade partnerships.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1141812/25th-textile-asia-trade-fair-ignites-china-pakistan-textile-synergy/>

Over 200 Chinese, Pakistani businessmen discuss ways to foster closer ties

** Pakistan's Ambassador to China, Moin ul Haque expresses optimism about prospects of enhanced economic collaboration*

More than 200 Chinese and Pakistani prominent business leaders gathered during an interactive session here to foster closer ties and explore new avenues of collaboration.

The event organized by CZK Group which was attended by Caretaker Minister for Commerce and Industry, Dr Gohar Ijaz, Caretaker Minister of Energy, Power and Petroleum, Muhammad Ali and Caretaker Minister for Planning, Development & Special Initiatives, Muhammad Sami Saeed. The event provided a platform for Pakistani businessmen to share their success stories and experiences of doing business with their Chinese counterparts.

The business leaders expressed their interest in capitalizing on the vast potential that China China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) offers to further solidify China-Pakistan economic relations. Addressing on the occasion, Dr. Ijaz emphasized the historical ties between the two nations and highlighted the potential for further economic integration.

He stated that the gathering symbolizes the enduring friendship between China and Pakistan, and our commitment to building a stronger, more prosperous future together, adding, “We are ready to explore new horizons in our economic partnership.”

He further said that the discussions revolved around key sectors where both China and Pakistan could benefit from increased collaboration. These sectors included infrastructure development, energy, trade, and technology, among others. Pakistan’s Ambassador to China, Moin ul Haque expressed optimism about the prospects of enhanced economic collaboration.

“Pakistan and China have been time-tested friends, and events like this are crucial in translating our strong political ties into tangible economic outcomes. The gathering of businessmen is a testament to our commitment to achieving that,” he remarked. Chairman of CZK Group and organizer of the event, Yafei Liu said the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) provided a platform to businessmen gather here and they are using e-commerce platforms to innovate form optimization solutions to promote Pakistani products to enter the Chinese consumer market and also exploring new cooperation and achieve new breakthroughs in energy, agriculture, infrastructure construction and other aspects. “The path of China-Pakistan cooperation will definitely become vast and broad, and the friendship between the people of China and Pakistan is bound to grow deeper and deeper,” he added.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1141811/over-200-chinese-pakistani-businessmen-discuss-ways-to-foster-closer-ties/>

PAKISTAN TO WORK ON GB- XINJIANG ECONOMIC LINKAGES: PM: Pakistan, China call for ceasefire in Gaza

** Joint statement emphasises two-state solution to end Israel-Palestine tension*

Pakistan and China on Friday expressed deep concern over the current escalation of tensions and violence between Palestine and Israel, and called for an immediate ceasefire.

In a joint statement issued at the conclusion of Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar's visit to China, both sides reiterated that the fundamental way out of the conflict lied in implementing the "two-state solution and establishing an independent State of Palestine."

The joint statement called for the cessation of hostilities and every possible effort to protect civilians and avert an even worse humanitarian disaster in Gaza. The two sides reaffirmed their commitment to the purposes and principles of the UN Charter and to jointly upholding the international system with the United Nations at its core, the international order underpinned by international law, and the basic norms governing international relations underpinned by the purposes and principles of the UN Charter.

"Both sides stand for unity and cooperation of the international community, oppose hegemonism and power politics, adhere to true multilateralism, and promote humanity's common values of peace, development, equity, justice, democracy and freedom," it said.

Pakistan and China agreed to actively promote the implementation of the Framework Agreement on Industrial Cooperation to support the industrialization, and encourage Chinese companies to set up manufacturing facilities in Pakistan. The two sides reiterated that China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) was an open and inclusive platform for win-win cooperation.

The corridor welcomed third parties to benefit from investments in CPEC cooperation priority areas such as industry, agriculture, ICT, science and technology.

During the visit, Prime Minister Anwaar ul Haq Kakar met President Xi Jinping, Premier Li Qiang and Li Xi, member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) and Secretary of the CPC Central Commission for Discipline Inspection.

In a warm and cordial atmosphere, leaders of the two countries had in-depth exchanges of views and reached extensive consensus on strengthening the China-Pakistan all-weather strategic cooperative partnership, practical cooperation in various areas, and international and regional issues of mutual interest. The two sides reaffirmed that mutual trust remains at the core of China-Pakistan relationship.

The two sides agreed that China and Pakistan are All-Weather Strategic Cooperative Partners and iron brothers, friendship between the two countries is time-tested and unbreakable.

The Chinese side reiterated that the China-Pakistan relationship was a priority in its foreign relations.

The Pakistani side underscored that the Pakistan-China relationship was the cornerstone of its foreign policy.

The two sides will continue to view the relationship between China and Pakistan from a strategic and long-term perspective, move forward together on the path of development, and accelerate the building of an even closer China-Pakistan Community with a Shared Future in the new era.

The two sides reaffirmed their support for each other on issues concerning their respective core interests and major concerns.

The Pakistani side reaffirmed its firm commitment to the One-China Principle and that Taiwan was an inalienable part of China's territory, and Pakistan firmly supported the Chinese government's efforts to achieve national re-unification, and opposes any form of Taiwan independence. Pakistan firmly supports China on issues concerning the South China Sea, Hong Kong, Xinjiang and Xizang.

The Chinese side reiterated its support for Pakistan in safeguarding its sovereignty, national independence and territorial integrity, in pursuing a development path of economic stability suited to Pakistan's national conditions, in fighting terrorism, and in playing a bigger role in regional and international affairs.

The Pakistani side warmly congratulated the Chinese side on its successful organization of the Third Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation. The Chinese side commended Pakistan's consistent support for and participation in Belt and Road cooperation.

The two sides recognized that the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) "is a strong driver of world economic growth, provides a platform for international economic cooperation, opens up space for common development around the globe, and has become a widely welcomed international public good as well as an important practice in building a community with a shared future for mankind".

Both sides agreed to work more closely together on high-quality Belt and Road cooperation, and usher in a bright future of peace, development and win-win cooperation.

The two sides recognized that the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) as a pioneering project of the BRI, had yielded fruitful outcomes in the 10 years since its inception, and had now entered a new stage of high-quality development.

They reaffirmed the resolve to jointly build a growth corridor, a livelihood-enhancing corridor, an innovation corridor, a green corridor and an open corridor, and continue to build CPEC into an exemplary project of high-quality Belt and Road cooperation.

Recognizing the significance of Gwadar Port as an important node in cross-regional connectivity, the two sides agreed to speed up development of the Port and its auxiliary projects.

The two sides reviewed with satisfaction the progress of the desalination plant, the New Gwadar International Airport (NGIA), the Pak-China Friendship Hospital and other projects. They reiterated their resolve to make Gwadar a high-quality port, a regional trade hub and a connectivity node.

Recognizing that the ML-1 upgradation is an important project under the CPEC framework and is of great significance to Pakistan's social and economic development, the two sides agreed to carry out the common understanding of the leaders of the two countries to implement the project at an early date.

They reviewed with satisfaction the important progress made in the preliminary work of the Karakoram Highway (Raikot-Thakot section) realignment project and agreed to fast track its implementation.

The two sides affirmed their resolve to further move forward to launch preparatory work for D.I. Khan-Zhob Road Project to build momentum towards enhancing connectivity and socio-economic development of Pakistan, under CPEC.

The Chinese side appreciated the efforts of the Pakistani side to vigorously develop Photovoltaic and other renewable energy projects, which are in alignment with the green, low carbon and environmentally friendly development of the energy sector.

Both sides encouraged Chinese companies to further participate in the development of such projects in line with normal commercial principles to achieve win-win outcomes. The two sides agreed to strengthen cooperation in the mining industry, including in the fields of geological survey, joint research on geology and minerals, training of talent, and planning of mining industrial parks.

They recognized that agricultural cooperation between the two countries is rich in potential, and that sound progress has been made in crop breeding and pest control projects especially under the framework of CPEC.

The two sides agreed to strengthen cooperation in areas such as crop cultivation, prevention and control of animal and plant diseases, agricultural mechanization, exchange of agricultural technology, and trade in agricultural products.

The two sides agreed to strengthen exchanges and cooperation under the framework of the CPEC Joint Working Group on Information Technology Industry, jointly improve the construction and management of digital infrastructure.

The other areas include advance cooperation in cutting-edge technologies and the capacity building for information technology service, and promote high-quality development of the digital economy.

Both sides reviewed with satisfaction the positive results achieved under the CPEC Working Group on Socio-Economic Cooperation. The Pakistani side appreciated China's assistance for Pakistan's post-flood reconstruction and recovery.

China will continue to support Pakistan in improving people's livelihood and post-disaster reconstruction, with priority to implementing effective livelihood assistance projects, to deliver social and economic benefits, especially to the most affected and vulnerable people, in line with the concept of 'shared prosperity'.

The Chinese side expressed its willingness to support Pakistan in expanding exports to China under the framework of the China-Pakistan Free Trade Agreement, and will help Pakistan

improve its export capacity through experience sharing, special studies, expert exchanges and personnel training.

The Pakistani side welcomed more Chinese companies to invest in Pakistan and informed about the recent initiatives for improving investment climate, initiatives and creation of the Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC).

The Chinese side appreciated Pakistan's efforts to facilitate Chinese investments and businesses in Pakistan.

The two sides acknowledged the recent momentum for increase in business exchanges between the two countries and further resolved to facilitate B2B exchanges. Both sides agreed to make efforts to enhance the level of bilateral people-to-people exchanges and facilitation.

Meanwhile, Kakar said Pakistan aimed to utilize the position of China's Xinjiang province as an "important node" of the economic corridor between the two countries. In this regard, he said, Pakistan would jointly work with China to identify the respective strengths of Gilgit Baltistan and Xinjiang.

Addressing the students and faculty at Xinjiang University, he said "the two neighbouring regions had the potential to build synergies for improving the livelihoods of their people." PM Kakar flew to Xinjiang's capital Urumqi Thursday evening from Beijing where he participated in the Third Belt and Road Forum and met the Chinese leadership and other foreign dignitaries.

The prime minister said as per the consensus reached in Beijing during his visit, a land border at Sost, Khunjerab would be converted into an all-weather border."We would like to upgrade the customs and other logistics services to facilitate trade and the movement of people, he said.

PM Kakar termed Gwadar a key component of the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and proposed to deepen economic cooperation by effectively using the sister-city relationship with China's Kashgar and Karamay.

"We seek to learn from Xinjiang's success in agricultural modernization and aim to set up a joint agricultural demonstration zone to introduce modern farming techniques and practices in Pakistan," he said. He said Pakistan desired linkages with the industries of Xinjiang and Pakistan, particularly the Gilgit-Baltistan region with a focus on cooperation in solar energy.

He emphasized collaboration between the two regions in areas of culture, agriculture, tourism, education and joint research. Pakistan, he said, would like more of its students to study in China.

He invited tourists from Xinjiang and other parts of China to visit Pakistan and mentioned that recently a 15-member group of Chinese tour operators visited Pakistan and returned via Sost Khunjerab border. The prime minister said Xinjiang was known for its rich diversity in culture and hospitality, adding that the region had a special place in the hearts of Pakistanis for the neighbourly linkages. Xinjiang, he said, was not only a channel of trade but a vital bridge connecting the two nations. Kakar said the unique Pak-China relationship was rooted

in bilateral trust, shared aspirations and invaluable warmth nurtured by successive generations.”Pakistan views its ties with China as a longstanding strategic partnership,” he said.

He mentioned that as CPEC entered its new phase, it helped in developing Pakistan’s infrastructure and improved the lives of its citizens. “My visit to China is essential in chalking out a new road map and a new vision based on economic, people-to-people bonds, sustainable development, peace and stability and academic and technical exchanges. <https://dailytimes.com.pk/1141742/pakistan-to-work-on-gb-xinjiang-economic-linkages-pm-pakistan-china-call-for-ceasefire-in-gaza/>

Sino-Pak discusses economic cooperation through BRI

China and Pakistan have negotiated for the strengthening of bilateral cooperation and the pivotal role of China in the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and Pakistan’s economic growth.

Federal Minister of Commerce, Industry and Production, Dr. Gohar Ejaz held a meeting with Chinese EXIM Bank President Mr. Ren Shengjun, said a press release issued here on Friday.

Federal Minister of Commerce, Industry and Production, Dr. Gohar Ejaz, was given a warm welcome in Shanghai by Mr. Ren Shengjun, the President of the EXIM Bank.

President Mr. Ren Shengjun commenced the meeting by expressing his desire to see Pakistan become China’s hub for productivity and development, emphasizing that now is the opportune time to seize these prospects. He was encouraged by the progress of CPEC and recognized the positive impact of infrastructure developments on connectivity and Pakistan’s foreign trade.

President Mr. Ren Shengjun disclosed that EXIM Bank had concluded its internal processes for debt restructuring, which would facilitate transactions in RMB and further enhance trade relations. He commended the establishment of the PCC as a promising mechanism for driving private investment and thanked Minister Dr. Gohar Ejaz for his visit, underscoring its significance in enhancing communication.

Minister Dr. Gohar Ejaz responded by emphasizing the vital role of China as a key partner in the Belt and Road Initiative, which has already transformed lives in Pakistan. The initial phase of BRI infrastructure development has eradicated electricity outages and facilitated the generation of surplus electricity, setting the stage for industrialization.

The Minister highlighted the upcoming phase of BRI, focused on private-to-private sector cooperation, and praised Pakistan’s Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC) for expeditiously removing bottlenecks and fast-tracking major projects. Dr. Gohar Ejaz announced the establishment of Special Economic Zones (SEZs) in Karachi, Lahore, Multan, and Faisalabad, each equipped with state-of-the-art facilities to facilitate industrial growth.

To boost the export of products resulting from increased industrial activities, Pakistan is actively negotiating agreements for market access with regional countries and blocs while simultaneously exploring transit trade arrangements with these nations. The Karachi transit route holds immense potential for the development of industrial units along its path, including official trade in RMB with Russia and other countries.

The Minister highlighted Pakistan's commitment to opening up its mining sector for investment and encouraged Chinese companies to become partners in this development. He also expressed a significant interest from Chinese firms in the agriculture sector.

Dr. Gohar Ejaz announced the formation of the Pakistan Corporate Consortium (PCC), comprising ten top-performing business houses, aiming to partner with potential Chinese investors for investment and the establishment of Joint Ventures. The Minister requested EXIM Bank's support in relocating industries to Pakistan.

The meeting concluded on an optimistic note, with both sides reaffirming their commitment to strengthen economic ties and enhance cooperation between Pakistan and China, a partnership set to bring prosperity and development to both nations.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1141810/sino-pak-discusses-economic-cooperation-through-bri/>

Pakistan Observer

Pak-China ties cornerstone of foreign policy: Kakar

Pakistan to learn from Xinjiang's success in agri modernisation; Islamabad to work with Beijing on GB-Xinjiang economic linkages

Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaarul Haq Kakar said on Friday that now was the time to further the friendship between Pakistan and China.

"In Pakistan, we say a good neighbour is a treasure. In this regard, we are very fortunate to have China as a good brother, good neighbour, good partner and a good friend.

"Now is the time to further strengthen this friendship. Together, let us chart a new course of peace, prosperity and win-win development," Kakar said. He made the remarks while addressing students and faculty at Xinjiang University in China's Urumqi.

"Our time tested ties have remained unaffected by vicissitudes of time. In Pakistan, we have a complete consensus across the political spectrum about the [...] of Pak-China friendship for the progress and prosperity of our two countries, and regional peace and development," he said.

"We view our ties with China from a strategic long-term perspective. In the ever-changing global landscape, China-Pakistan friendship is a constant and would always remain so," he said.

"Building upon the success of our political ties, the two countries have placed special focus on our economic partnership manifested in the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor," he said.

Kakar said that CPEC was a "true example" of the Belt and Road Initiative's stated objectives. "It has helped us upgrade our transport and communication network, address energy shortages and develop Gwadar port in the province of Balochistan," he said.

The premier said that CPEC projects had not only stimulated economic growth but had also improved the lives and the livelihood of Pakistani citizens while also enhancing regional connectivity.

Kakar then referred to a speech given by Xi last year about making Xinjiang the frontier of Belt and Road connectivity. “This announcement by President Xi was a recognition of Xinjiang’s historical role as a hub of connectivity as part of the ancient Silk Road,” he said.

<https://pakobserver.net/pak-china-ties-cornerstone-of-foreign-policy-kakar/>

PM’s visit to China & geo-economics of BRF 2023

Dr Mehmood Ul Hassan Khan

MOST recently, the caretaker Prime Minister Anwar Ul Haq Kakar visited China and attended the 3rd BRF 2023. During his stay he met the Chinese Premier Li Qiang and President Xi Jinping. During their detailed meetings both sides thoroughly discussed matters of mutual interests and gearing-up of bilateral ties and initiation of CPEC Phase-II projects in the country. It is evident that the Chinese leadership has reaffirmed their support for Pakistan and CPEC which show their strategic vision of openness, modernization, global community for shared development and qualitative industrial development. It is good omen that Prime Minister Kakar succeeded to achieve the approval and inclusion of new meaningful projects under the flagship project of CPEC mainly ML-1 which is indeed the real outcome of his visit to Beijing.

The signing of many new MOUs mainly in commerce, communication, deepening of research on the BRI projects, exchange of experts, climate change, transport, vaccine cooperation, agriculture/food security, industrial cooperation, green energy (solar parks) and last but not the least, urban sustainable development will open vistas of cooperation and coordination between the two sides and private companies to make investment in the days to come. In this regard, ML-1 (US\$ 7 billion) would be game changer for the upgradation, expansion and connectivity of Pakistan Rails in the country. Definitely after completion, it would be an engine of inter-provincial connectivity and stimulating force for business activities and commerce.

In addition to this, approval of green energy, building of solar parks would also be another new value addition in the CPEC Phase-II. Critical analysis establishes that the Chinese latest pledges and signing of numerous MoUs will further enhance its tally of foreign direct investment which is currently dried in the country. The building of solar parks will further enhance energy generating power in the country which will be a giant step toward cheaper, environment & human friendly era, reducing even sky-high energy import bill of Pakistan. Furthermore, substantial development in urban sustainable development would open window of opportunity for smart/green living, mitigating the effects of looming global warming which has reached boiling point around the world.

Geopolitically and geo-strategically, Premier Kakar’s visit to Beijing also represents a diplomatic success. The emerging trends in the Middle East due to the ongoing conflict between Israel and Hamas, the Russia-Ukraine conflict, deteriorating law and order situations/terrorism in different regions of Afghanistan, the increasing military presence of the US in the Asia Pacific region, and, last but not the least, the widening gap between the Global North and Global South through unilateral economic protectionism, socio-economic sanctions, technological bans, and CHIP (China, Huawei, Iran, and Pakistan) have further

marginalized the brighter prospects for Pakistan. The close political consultations, diplomatic support, and additional pledges of economic cooperation, especially in CPEC Phase-II, hold great significance.

The true spirits of geo-economics and holistic spirits of the Chinese wisdom of international cooperation, economic globalization, modernization, digitalization, e-commerce, development of human capital and green energy mesmerized the audience in the recently held 3rd BRF 2023 which clearly highlighted the Chinese economic power in terms of industrial diversification, modern technologies, green energy and human capital attracting more and more multinational companies and business houses to make investment. Xi's announcement of new Global Initiative of AI is a new value addition in the strategic expansion of the BRI in the future which will definitely further increase spirits of development and digitalization in the member countries.

In this context, the BRF CEO conference, with agreements and contracts totaling US\$92.5 billion, vividly reflects China's current economic strength and its promising future in the days to come. Transport, green energy, digital cooperation, bio-medicine, tourism and people to people were the main areas of business deals. The participation of more than 1000 representatives of businesses from all the continents endorsed the Chinese economic policies of openness and modernization. According to the Chinese figures its central SoEs invested over US\$ 1 trillion with over 5000 BRI projects in the last decade. Simply all the member countries of the BRI were persuaded by the holistic and humanistic vision of Xi Jinping. Moreover, the participation of 140 countries and 30 international organizations also signalled the highest levels of positivity and productivity and healthy prospects of the Chinese macro-economy and, of course, the further strategic expansion of the One Belt One Road in the coming years around the globe.

For the further expansion, trans-regional connectivity, and greening of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), Chinese President Xi Jinping announced several major steps. These include the construction of a multi-dimensional Belt and Road connectivity network, support for an open world economy, initiation of various livelihood projects, pilot zones for Silk Road e-commerce cooperation, entry into free trade agreements and investment protection treaties with more countries, promotion of green development, advancement in scientific and technological innovation, fostering people-to-people exchanges, generating integrity-based Belt and Road cooperation, and institutional building for international Belt and Road cooperation. Thus, it showcases the new strategic roadmap for the BRI in the next decade, which relies on economic development, socio-economic integration, trans-regional connectivity, green transformation, investment, innovations and digitalization.

In summary, Premier Kakar's visit to Beijing brought further deepening of bilateral relations and further strengthening of cooperation in diverse sectors of the economy, industry, innovation, modernization and CPEC Phase-II. The approval of ML-1 is the most significant achievement of his visit to China which holds great socio-economic and industrial significance. Achieving political and diplomatic support for mitigating the emerging geopolitical and geostrategic ramifications is another substantial success of Premier Kakar's visit to BRF 2023.

The speech of the Chinese President Xi Jinping was highly constructive, positive and effective. It was a positive message of hope to all the member countries and rest of the world. It carried the commitment of joint cooperation for achieving the goals of modernization, qualitative industrialization and economic globalization which may be achieved through inclusiveness, openness, modernization and digitalization. President Xi termed the principles of consultation, cooperation, and shared benefits, openness, green, and clean development, as well as high standards and sustainability as the core foundations of the BRI in the last ten years. Hopefully, these guiding principles will also be important tool for high-quality Belt and Road cooperation. Hopefully Xi's Global Development, Global Security, Global Civilizational and Global Artificial Intelligence Initiatives would further foster the green BRI in the world.

—The writer is Executive Director, Centre for South Asia & International Studies, Islamabad, regional expert China, BRI & CPEC & senior analyst, world affairs, Pakistan Observer.

<https://pakobserver.net/pms-visit-to-china-geo-economics-of-brf-2023/>

The Express Tribune

BRI drives Pakistan's green transformation

Solar energy market expected to grow from 1.3GW in 2023 to 9.77GW by 2028

BEIJING: “The Green Silk Road is an important tool that can help us all pull out of the dead ends of the past and set us on a new pathway that benefits people and planet alike,” United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres emphasised in his speech at the high-level forum on green development of the third Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation held on October 18. With the theme of Green Silk Road for Harmony with Nature, more than 400 people from over 40 countries attended the green development forum, sharing the results of “Green Silk Road” construction in the past decade. “Green development truly matters,” stated Zafaruddin Mahmood, former special assistant to the prime minister of Pakistan, adding “thanks to China-proposed BRI, significant changes have driven Pakistan's green transformation, including the solar and wind power facilities from scratch.”

Lately, Chinese solar solutions giant LONGi announced that they are about to achieve the magnificent goal of 2 gigawatts (GW) in Pakistan. Statistics from the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) showed that Pakistan's solar energy market size is expected to grow from 1.3GW in 2023 to 9.77GW by 2028, at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 49.68% during the forecast period (2023-2028).

Not only in Pakistan, among more BRI partners, Chinese companies have also expanded their global presence to launch green projects, backed up with investments and advanced supply chains. As the world's largest producer of solar panels and wind turbines and a leading manufacturer of new energy vehicles, China has unparalleled advantages in promoting the popularisation of green and sustainable energy.

Official data showed that the export value of China's solar panels, lithium-ion batteries and electric vehicles stood at \$109 billion in the first three quarters of the year, soaring 41.7% year-on-year. The export value has grown in double digits for 14 consecutive quarters.

On the same day, LONGi officially launched the first phase of its Serendah Module Plant in Malaysia. Located in Serendah, Selangor state on Malaysia's west coast, the 566,560-square-metre module factory, with an investment of \$380 million, represents LONGi's inaugural manufacturing presence in West Malaysia.

There will be two phases of construction, with a combined capacity of 8.8GW, the company said. The first phase is already operating and work has started on the second phase.

The Serendah module plant has created 900 local jobs, with the number anticipated to exceed 2,000 eventually.

Furthermore, in 2022, LONGi has provided one-third of the core equipment for all photovoltaic projects in five Central Asian countries. The 50-megawatt Balkhash Power Station Phase-I, as LONGi's largest project in Kazakhstan, can help reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 70,000 tons per year. The first batch of 20MW modules of Uzbekistan's 1GW photovoltaic project also arrived in Tashkent not long ago through the China-Europe freight train.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2442198/bri-drives-pakistans-green-transformation>

The Nation

China, Pakistan will have shared future in new era: Joint communiqué

ISLAMABAD - Pakistan and China have agreed that both countries are all-weather strategic cooperative partners and iron brothers and friendship between the two countries is time-tested and unbreakable, this was said in a joint communiqué issued at the end of Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaarul Haq Kakar's five-day visit to China. The Chinese side reiterated that the Sino-Pak relationship is a priority in its foreign relations. The Pakistani side underscored that the ties between both countries are the cornerstone of its foreign policy. The two sides will continue to view the mutual relationship from a strategic and long-term perspective, move forward together on the path of development, and accelerate the building of an even closer China-Pakistan community with a shared future in the new era. The communiqué said at the invitation of President Xi Jinping of the People's Republic of China, Prime Minister Anwaarul Haq Kakar of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan visited China from October 16 to 20 to attend the Third Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation.

In Beijing, President Xi Jinping met with Prime Minister Anwaar ul Haq Kakar. The Prime Minister of Pakistan also met with Premier Li Qiang and Mr. Li Xi, member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) and Secretary of the CPC Central Commission for Discipline Inspection. In a warm and cordial atmosphere, leaders of the two countries had in-depth exchanges of views and reached extensive consensus on strengthening the China-Pakistan all-weather strategic cooperative partnership, practical cooperation in various areas, and international and regional

issues of mutual interest. The two sides reaffirmed that mutual trust remains at the core of China-Pakistan relationship.

4. The two sides reaffirmed their support for each other on issues concerning their respective core interests and major concerns. The Pakistani side reaffirmed its firm commitment to the one-China Principle and that Taiwan is an inalienable part of China's territory, and Pakistan firmly supports the Chinese government's efforts to achieve national reunification, and opposes any form of "Taiwan independence." Pakistan firmly supports China on issues concerning the South China Sea, Hong Kong, Xinjiang and Xizang. The Chinese side reiterated its support for Pakistan in safeguarding its sovereignty, national independence and territorial integrity, in pursuing a development path of economic stability suited to Pakistan's national conditions, in fighting terrorism, and in playing a bigger role in regional and international affairs.

5. The Pakistani side warmly congratulated the Chinese side on its successful organization of the Third Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation. The Chinese side commended Pakistan's consistent support for and participation in Belt and Road cooperation. The two sides recognized that the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) is a strong driver of world economic growth, provides a platform for international economic cooperation, opens up space for common development around the globe, and has become a widely welcomed international public good as well as an important practice in building a community with a shared future for mankind. Both sides agreed to work more closely together on high-quality Belt and Road cooperation, and usher in a bright future of peace, development and win-win cooperation.

6. The two sides recognized that the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) as a pioneering project of the BRI, has yielded fruitful outcomes in the 10 years since its inception, and has now entered a new stage of high-quality development. The two sides reaffirmed the resolve to jointly build a growth corridor, a livelihood-enhancing corridor, an innovation corridor, a green corridor and an open corridor, and continue to build CPEC into an exemplary project of high-quality Belt and Road cooperation.

7. Recognizing the significance of Gwadar Port as an important node in cross-regional connectivity, the two sides agreed to speed up development of the Port and its auxiliary projects. The two sides reviewed with satisfaction the progress of the desalination plant, the New Gwadar International Airport (NGIA), the Pak-China Friendship Hospital and other projects. Both sides reiterated their resolve to make Gwadar a high-quality port, a regional trade hub and a connectivity node.

8. Recognizing that the ML-1 upgradation is an important project under the CPEC framework and is of great significance to Pakistan's social and economic development, the two sides agreed to carry out the common understanding of the leaders of the two countries to implement the project at an early date. The two sides reviewed with satisfaction the important progress made in the preliminary work of the Karakoram Highway (Raikot-Thakot section) realignment project and agreed to fast track its implementation. <https://www.nation.com.pk/21-Oct-2023/china-pakistan-will-have-shared-future-in-new-era-joint-communicue>

October 22, 2023

Business Recorder

BRF sidelines

Gohar interacts with Chinese business leaders

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Commerce Dr Gohar Ijaz concluded a series of highly productive meetings with China's prominent business leaders and investment groups on the sidelines of the 3rd Belt and Road Forum in Beijing.

These meetings were aimed at strengthening economic ties between Pakistan and China and exploring various investment opportunities in Pakistan, said a press release issued here.

Dr Gohar Ejaz met with Wang Zihai, Director of China-Pakistan (Qingdao) International Cooperation Hub.

The discussions centred on investment opportunities in Pakistan, including areas such as Civilian and Defence equipment, EV Lithium batteries, solar panels, and semiconductors. The role of the Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC) in facilitating these opportunities was a key point of conversation.

In a meeting with Li Yiman, Chairperson of Eman Logistics, the focus was on expanding Pakistan's presence on Chinese digital platforms.

Eman Logistics plans to launch "Pakistan National Pavilion" display centres in China, demonstrating a commitment to digital diplomacy. The Minister assured full support and facilitation for this endeavour.

Dr Ejaz also engaged with Jin Weidong, President of Wellhope, a leading Chinese agri-producer.

The Minister highlighted the significant opportunities within Pakistan's agricultural, poultry, and meat sectors. Wellhope's global leadership in smart farming and meat processing can pave the way for a mutually beneficial partnership.

The Minister met with Wang Guidong of Donghua Group, emphasising Pakistan Steel Mills' privatisation and the government's dedication to the process.

The establishment of SIFC is set to bolster these efforts, and all possible facilitation for the partnership was assured.

A productive working lunch was held with representatives from MCC, China's metallurgy giant, a key player in the Saindak Copper-Gold Project.

The discussions revolved around expanding collaboration and tapping into MCC's expertise to foster partnership growth.

The minister also visited COFCO, a leading global food procurement agency, to discuss the possibilities of enhancing Pakistan's grains and food exports to China.

Dr Gohar invited them to establish their regional office in Pakistan to procure more Pakistani products invest in Pakistan and make it a hub of its global value chain and storage network with support from SIFC.

He also urged the COFCO to establish a Joint Working Group between the COFCO, Pakistani businessmen and the Ministry of Commerce.

Dr Ejaz met with several other prominent Chinese enterprises and organisations, including Shandong Xinxu Group, ADM Group, China National Agriculture Development, China National Fisheries Corp, Tianjin Meat Association, and CNAGS.

These discussions explored collaboration in various sectors, such as mining, trade, hospitality, construction, EV infrastructure, agriculture, and rice sourcing.—APP

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2023/10/22/8-page/975069-news.html>

Pakistan Observer

Pakistan, China agree to strengthen cooperation between mainstream media

Pakistan and China have decided to further strengthen cooperation between the mainstream media of the two countries.

The decision was made during a meeting of Chinese media delegation led by China's Political Counsellor Ms. Bao Zhong with the Caretaker Federal Minister for Information Murtaza Solangi, said a press release issued here on Saturday.

The two sides also decided to highlight Pakistan China Economic Corridor projects through PTV, Radio Pakistan and APP. Both the countries agreed to further strengthen practical cooperation in joint reporting and exchange of media delegations.

In his remarks, Minister for Information Murtaza Solangi said that Pakistan valued ??Chinese President Xi Jinping's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).

"BRI project is a manifestation of bringing peace and prosperity through economic development", Murtaza Solangi maintained.

The role of media in creating public awareness regarding the centrality of CPEC and iron friendship with China for economic development was indispensable, Murtaza Solangi opined.

The minister said that Pakistan would strengthen ties and cooperation with China in various fields in the new phase of high-quality development of CPEC.

The minister expressed Pakistan's desire to benefit from China's development experience. "We will benefit from China's achievements in poverty alleviation, research and development, information technology, media and other fields", he added.

Speaking on the occasion, Chinese Political Counsellor said CPEC will be made a corridor of love and friendship. She assured that China would increase cooperation with Pakistan in media, information technology, agriculture and industrial sector.

Besides Federal Secretary Information and Broadcasting Zahoor Ahmed, Executive Director General EP Wing, Managing Director APP, Director General PBC and Director Current Affairs PTV were present in the meeting.

<https://pakobserver.net/pakistan-china-agree-to-strengthen-cooperation-between-mainstream-media/>

Upgraded version of CPEC

It should be a source of satisfaction and pride for people of Pakistan that as a result of the visit of Prime Minister Anwar-ul-Haq Kakar to Beijing, Pakistan and China have reached an understanding to take their bilateral cooperation to new heights through the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). The CPEC assumed centre-stage in wide-ranging discussions that the premier had with President Xi Jinping, his Chinese counterpart Li Qiang and other senior officials. This became evident from the remarks that Mr Xi made during a meeting with PM Kakar emphasizing that both countries should pursue an “upgraded version” of the CPEC, enhancing cooperation in industrial parks, agriculture and mining, new energy, as well as early implementation of major connectivity projects.

This is significant if seen in the backdrop of consistent reports about outside pressure on Pakistan to scale-down cooperation with China on this flagship project as well as terrorist and sabotage activities sponsored by some foreign powers to undermine progress on the historic initiative. In fact, it was because of the conspiracies hatched by these powers that the CPEC lost its original momentum during the last five years but the agreements signed recently bear testimony to the fact that the two sides are determined to accelerate the pace of implementation. As per the consensus reached in Beijing during the PM’s visit, a land border at Sost, Khunjerab would be converted into an all-weather border by upgrading the customs and other logistics services to facilitate trade and the movement of people. Similarly, there is also an understanding that all development projects at Gwadar, a key component of the CPEC, would be completed on a priority basis to make the seaport a hub of bilateral and regional trade and investment. There is satisfactory progress on the desalination plant, the New Gwadar International Airport (NGIA), the Pak-China Friendship Hospital and other projects. The CPEC being a pioneering project of Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) of the Chinese President, the two countries, in a landmark development, declared to jointly build a growth corridor, a livelihood-enhancing corridor, an innovation corridor, a green corridor and an open corridor, and continue to build CPEC into an exemplary project of high-quality Belt and Road cooperation. The Prime Minister also declared that during his visit the two countries chalked out a new road-map and a new vision based on economic, people-to-people bonds, sustainable development, peace and stability and academic and technical exchanges. The Pakistani side underscored that the Pakistan-China relationship is the cornerstone of its foreign policy.

The two sides will continue to view the relationship between China and Pakistan from a strategic and long-term perspective, move forward together on the path of development, and accelerate the building of an even closer China-Pakistan community with a shared future in the new era. As for BRI, the two sides recognized that it is a strong driver of world economic growth, provides a platform for international economic cooperation, opens up space for

common development around the globe, and has become a widely welcomed international public good as well as an important practice in building a community with a shared future for mankind. Both sides agreed to work more closely together on high-quality Belt and Road cooperation, and usher in a bright future of peace, development and win-win cooperation.

Pakistan and China also affirmed their resolve to further move forward to launch preparatory work for D.I. Khan-Zhob road project to build momentum towards enhancing connectivity and socio-economic development of Pakistan, under CPEC. In a welcome development, a number of Chinese companies have expressed their keen resolve to invest in green energy projects in Pakistan following Islamabad's commitment to vigorously develop photovoltaic and other renewable energy projects, which are in alignment with the green, low carbon and environmentally friendly development of the energy sector. Another important understanding reached during the visit of the Prime Minister is to actively promote the implementation of the Framework Agreement on Industrial Cooperation to support Pakistan's industrialization, and encourage Chinese companies to set up manufacturing facilities in Pakistan. All this shows there is greater commitment on the Chinese side to help strengthen Pakistan's economy, which is presently the prime concern of the people as well as the Government. We hope understanding on all dimensions of the mutual cooperation would be translated into practical programmes and projects through proper follow up and concerns of the Chinese side about security would be appropriately addressed.

<https://pakobserver.net/upgraded-version-of-cpec/>

Gohar conducts successful meetings with Chinese business leaders

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These discussions explored collaboration in various sectors, such as mining, trade, hospitality, construction, EV infrastructure, agriculture, and rice sourcing.

Dr Ejaz underscored Pakistan's commitment to meeting China's export standards and promised rapid processing plant setup if exports to China are green lit.—APP

<https://pakobserver.net/gohar-conducts-successful-meetings-with-chinese-business-leaders/#:~:text=Federal%20Minister%20for%20Commerce%20Dr%20Gohar%20Ijaz%20concluded,the%203rd%20Belt%20and%20Road%20Forum%20in%20Beijing>

Express News

ستمبر میں چین سے 7.72 ملین ڈالر کی غیر ملکی سرمایہ کاری موصول ہوئی

ستمبر میں پاکستان کو چین سے 7.72 ملین امریکی ڈالر کی براہ راست غیر ملکی سرمایہ کاری (ایف ڈی آئی) موصول ہوئی جس سے مالی سال 2023-24 کی پہلی: اسلام آباد سہ ماہی کے دوران دوست ہمسایہ ملک سے مجموعی طور پر 3.126 ملین ڈالر کی براہ راست غیر ملکی سرمایہ کاری (ایف ڈی آئی) آئی۔

اسٹیٹ بینک کے مطابق ستمبر میں چین سے ترسیلات زر 4.84 ملین ڈالر ریکارڈ کی گئیں جبکہ بیرون ملک سے ترسیلات زر 7.11 ملین ڈالر رہیں جس کے نتیجے میں 7.72 ملین ڈالر کی خالص آمد ہوئی۔ مالی سال 23-24 کی پہلی سہ ماہی کے دوران پاکستان کی مجموعی ایف ڈی آئی 412 ملین ڈالر رہی جو گزشتہ مالی سال کے اسی عرصے کے مقابلے میں 9.28 فیصد کا نمایاں اضافہ ہے۔

<https://www.express.pk/story/2555016/6/>

Nawaiwaqt News

اسرائیلی بربریت کیخلاف پاکستان اور چین کا مشترکہ اعلامیہ

اکستان اور چین نے فلسطین اور اسرائیل کے مابین کشیدگی اور تشدد کی موجودہ بڑھتی ہوئی شدت پر گہری تشویش کا اظہار کرتے ہوئے فوری جنگ بندی کا مطالبہ کیا ہے۔ نگران وزیر اعظم انوار الحق کا کڑے دورہ چین کے اختتام پر جاری ہونیوالے مشترکہ بیان میں دونوں ممالک نے اس بات کا اعادہ کیا کہ تنازعہ سے نکلنے کا بنیادی راستہ ”دو ریاستی حل اور فلسطین کی آزاد ریاست کے قیام“ میں مضمر ہے۔ مشترکہ بیان میں فلسطین، اسرائیل خاصیت بند کرنے، شہریوں کے تحفظ اور غزہ میں مزید انسانی تباہی سے بچنے کیلئے تمام تر کوششیں بروئے کار لانے کا بھی مطالبہ کیا گیا۔ دریں اثناء نگران وزیر اعظم نے سکیناگ کے دار الحکومت ارومچی کی مسجد میں نماز جمعہ ادا کی اور مسلم امہ کی ترقی و خوشحالی اور غزہ کے مظلوم عوام کے حق میں دعا کی۔ وزیر اعظم کا کڑا صدر عوامی جمہوریہ چین شی جن پنگ کی دعوت پر دورہ چین پر گئے تھے جہاں انہوں نے چین کے عالمی رابطہ و ترقی کے منصوبہ ہیٹ ایجنڈا روڈ انیشی ایٹو (بی آر آئی) کی میٹنگ میں شرکت کی اور اس میٹنگ میں شریک دوسری عالمی قیادتوں بشمول صدر روس پوٹن سے ملاقاتیں بھی کیں۔

غزہ کے علاقے میں اسرائیلی وحشت و بربریت کی ننگ انسانیت کا رو و نایاں شروع ہوئے پندرہ دن سے زیادہ گزر گئے ہیں اور اسرائیلی بربریت میں بتدریج اضافہ ہو رہا ہے۔ یہ سلسلہ فلسطینی عوام کی نمائندہ تنظیم حماس کی جانب سے اسرائیل کے زیر قبضہ فلسطین کے علاقوں پر میزائل حملوں کے بعد شروع ہوا جس کے بعد اسرائیل نے اپنے مسلسل فضائی اور زمینی حملوں کے ذریعے غزہ کو انسانی آبادی سمیت ملیامیٹ کرنے میں کوئی کسر نہیں چھوڑی۔ حد تو یہ ہے کہ اسرائیل نے سکولوں، مدارس، مارکیٹوں اور مساجد تک کو بھی وحشیانہ بمباری کا نشانہ بنایا اور بے بس انسانوں کے جسموں کے چھیتھرے اڑادیئے۔ غزہ کا علاقہ اس وقت عملاً گھنڈرات میں تبدیل ہو چکا ہے اور خواتین بچوں سمیت اسرائیلی بمباری اور زمینی حملوں سے شہید ہونیوالوں کی لاشیں اس علاقے میں جا بجا بکھری نظر آتی ہیں جنہیں دفنانے کیلئے بھی جگہ کم پڑ گئی ہے۔ میڈیا رپورٹس کے مطابق اسرائیلی حملوں سے اب تک پانچ ہزار سے زائد فلسطینی باشندے شہید ہو چکے ہیں اور زخمی ہونیوالے ہزاروں باشندوں کی بے بسی اور کسمپرسی دیکھی نہیں جاتی جنہیں نہ ادویات دستیاب ہیں نہ خوراک۔ اور غزہ کے ہسپتال تباہ ہونے کے باعث زخمی اور انکے لواحقین کھلے آسمان تلے پڑے خدا تعالیٰ اور اپنے مسلمان بھائیوں کو مدد کیلئے پکار رہے ہیں۔ بھوک، پیاس کا شروع ہونیوالا انسانی المیہ پورے غزہ میں پھیل چکا ہے جہاں فی الحقیقت کربلا پایا ہے اور اس پر مستزاد یہ کہ اقوام عالم میں ان مظلوموں کیلئے انسانیت کی تڑپ بھی نظر نہیں آرہی اور ظالم اسرائیل کے ہاتھ روکنے کے بجائے امریکہ، برطانیہ اور انکے حلیف دوسرے یورپی ممالک اس کی پشت پر کھڑے ہو گئے ہیں جس کی غزہ میں جاری بربریت کی نہ صرف اسے تھکی دے کر حوصلہ افزائی کی جارہی ہے بلکہ اسے جنگی سازوسامان کی شکل میں کمک بھی فراہم کی جارہی ہے۔ امریکی صدر اور برطانوی وزیر اعظم نے تو باقاعدہ طور پر اسرائیل جاکر اسرائیلی فوج کے حوصلے بڑھائے اور غزہ میں اسکے حملوں کو جائز قرار دیا۔ مسلم دنیا کو تو اسرائیلی بربریت پر جیسے سانپ سونگھا ہوا ہے جس کی قیادتوں اور نمائندہ تنظیم آئی سی کی جانب سے محض رسمی مذمتی بیانات اور قراردادوں کے سوا کوئی عملی قدم نہیں اٹھایا گیا جبکہ اسرائیلی بربریت پر نمائندہ عالمی ادارہ اقوام متحدہ بے بسی کی چادر اوڑھے بیٹھا ہے جس کی سلامتی کونسل میں اسرائیل کی مذمت اور اسکے حملے کو انکے کیلئے روس کی پیش کردہ قرارداد کی منظوری تک کی نوبت نہیں آنے دی گئی۔ چنانچہ اسرائیل کے حوصلے اتنے بڑھ گئے ہیں کہ وہ غزہ میں مساجد کے ساتھ ساتھ گر جاگھروس کو بھی وحشیانہ بمباری کے ذریعے ادھیڑ اور مسمار کر رہا ہے۔ گزشتہ روز اسرائیلی جنگی طیاروں نے غزہ میں ایک چرچ اور مسجد پر بیک وقت بمباری کی جس کے نتیجے میں درجنوں فلسطینی باشندے شہید ہو گئے۔ اس سے بخوبی اندازہ لگایا جاسکتا ہے کہ اسرائیل اپنے جنگی جنون میں کس طرح عالمی جنگی قوانین و اخلاقیات اور اقوام متحدہ کے چارٹر کی بھی دھیماں بکھیر رہا ہے۔ اس صورت حال میں اسرائیل اور اسکے سرپرستوں امریکہ اور برطانیہ کی مسلم دنیا کیخلاف جنونیت بالآخر پوری دنیا کو تیسری عالمی جنگ کی جانب دھکیل دیگی کیونکہ فلسطینیوں کے بہائے جانے والے خون ناحق پر بالخصوص مسلم دنیا آخر تک خاموشی اور مصلحتوں کی چادر اوڑھے بیٹھی رہ سکتی ہے۔ اسرائیل کو امریکہ اور برطانیہ کی سرپرستی و معاونت حاصل ہونے کے بعد یقیناً مشرق وسطیٰ، عرب ریاستوں اور جنوبی ایشیائی ریاستوں سمیت دنیا میں انسانی بقاء کے حوالے سے بے چینی بڑھ رہی ہے۔ چین اور روس کو بھی اسی تناظر میں خطے کے امن کی فکر لاحق ہے جو علاقائی اور عالمی فورموں پر اسرائیلی بربریت کا سلسلہ رکوانے کیلئے کوششیں بروئے

کارلارہے ہیں جبکہ مسلم دنیا میں ایران، ترکیہ پہلے ہی فلسطینیوں کی عملی امداد و معاونت کی حکمت عملی طے کر چکے ہیں چنانچہ سعودی عرب سمیت عرب ریاستیں بھی بالآخر فلسطینیوں کی حمایت میں عملیت پسندی کی جانب آجائیں گی۔ سعودی عرب کا اسرائیل کے ساتھ جاری امن مذاکرات معطل کرنا، اسکی جانب سے فلسطین کیلئے عملی کردار کا ہی عندیہ ہے جبکہ پاکستان عملی کردار کیلئے سعودی عرب کی جانب دیکھ رہا ہے جو اسکے فیصلے پر لیک کہے گا۔ چنانچہ اسرائیلی بربریت کا سلسلہ تادیر جاری نہیں رہ سکتا۔ مسلم دنیا بھی انگڑائی لے گی اور مظلوم فلسطینیوں کے شانہ بشانہ کھڑی ہو کر انکے آزاد وطن کی جدوجہد میں شریک ہوگی تو یقیناً یہ معرکہ حق و باطل ہوگا جس کا راستہ الحادی قوتیں اسرائیل کو بلا شیری دیکر خود ہموار کر رہی ہیں۔

اسرائیلی مظالم کینخلاف جمعۃ المبارک کو مسلم دنیا سمیت دنیا بھر میں یوم دفاع غرہ و شہدائے فلسطین منایا گیا جس کے دوران احتجاجی جلسوں، جلوسوں اور ریلیوں کے ذریعے فلسطینی عوام کے ساتھ یکجہتی کا اظہار کیا گیا اور اسرائیلی مظالم کینخلاف انکے ساتھ عملی طور پر کھڑے ہونے کا اعلان کیا گیا۔ پاکستان میں تمام مکاتب فکر، متحدہ علماء کونسل اور ورلڈ پابسان ختم نبوت کی جانب سے کئے گئے احتجاجی مظاہروں میں اسرائیل کے پرچم بھی نذر آتش کئے گئے اور بے گھر فلسطینیوں کو سہارا دینے کیلئے امدادی کیپ بھی لگائے گئے جو فلسطینیوں کے ساتھ یکجہتی کے اظہار کا صائب اقدام تھا۔ آج اسرائیلی جنگی جنونیت کو ٹھوس انداز میں روکنے کی اس لئے بھی ضرورت ہے کہ ہمارے خطے میں مظلوم کشمیری عوام بھی گزشتہ سات دہائیوں سے زائد عرصہ اپنے حق خود ارادیت کی جدوجہد میں بھارتی مظالم برداشت کر رہے ہیں جن کی بے مثال قربانیوں کا سلسلہ آج بھی جاری ہے۔ ایسے مظالم پر آج اسرائیل کے حوصلے امریکی سرپرستی میں بلند ہو رہے ہیں تو کل کو بھارت بھی الحادی قوتوں کے آلہ کار کے طور پر خطہ کشمیر کو ملیا میٹ کرنے کا سوچے گا اور پاکستان کی سلامتی کینخلاف اپنے جارحانہ اقدامات مزید آگے بڑھائے گا۔ اس تناظر میں اس خطے میں پاکستان، چین، روس کی شکل میں طاقت کے ایک نئے بلاک کی جتنی آج ضرورت ہے، شاید پہلے کبھی نہیں تھی۔

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پاک چین مشترکہ اعلامیہ میں باہمی تعلقات، مسائل کے حل پر اتفاق

اسلام آباد (نمائندہ خصوصی) نگران اور وزیر اعظم انوار الحق کاکڑ کا چین کا اہم دورہ اختتام پذیر ہو گیا، جس میں نگران وزیر اعظم نے علاقائی روابط اور مشترکہ خوشحالی کے لیے اجتماعی کوششوں کی ضرورت کی بھرپور وکالت کے علاوہ چین پاکستان اقتصادی راہداری (سی پیک) منصوبوں کی بروقت تکمیل کے لیے پاکستان کے عزم کا اعادہ کیا، جو بیلٹ اینڈ روڈ انیشیٹیو (بی آر آئی) کا فلیگ شپ منصوبہ ہے۔ وزیر اعظم صدر شی جن پنگ کی دعوت پر بین الاقوامی تعاون کے تیسرے بیلٹ اینڈ روڈ فورم میں شرکت اور خطاب کے لیے بیجنگ، چین گئے۔ چینی صدر شی جن پنگ نے تقریباً 140 ممالک کی شرکت کے ساتھ فورم کا افتتاح کیا۔ نگران وزیر اعظم انوار الحق کاکڑ کے علاوہ فورم کے معززین میں روس کے صدر ولادی میر پوٹن، ایتھوپیا کے وزیر اعظم ابی احمد، سری لنکا کے صدر رائیل وکرما سنگھے، جمہوریہ کنگو کے صدر ڈینس ساسو، بنگلیسہ، پاپوا نیو گنی کے وزیر اعظم جیمز ماراپے، کمبوڈیا کے وزیر اعظم ہن مانیٹ، ار جنٹائن کے وزیر اعظم ہان مانیٹ شامل تھے۔ صدر البرٹو فرنانڈیز، ہنگری کے وزیر اعظم وکٹر اوربان اور انڈونیشیا کے صدر جو کو ویدوڈونے بھی فورم میں شرکت کی۔ اپنے خطاب میں نگران وزیر اعظم نے پاکستان میں نئے اقتصادی مواقع پیدا کرنے میں سی پیک کے اہم کردار پر روشنی ڈالی۔ فورم کے موقع پر انہوں نے روس، کینیا اور سری لنکا سمیت مختلف ممالک کے رہنماؤں سے بھی ملاقات کی۔ انہوں نے چینی صدر شی جن پنگ اور وزیر اعظم لی کیانگ کے ساتھ ساتھ چین کی کمیونسٹ پارٹی کی سینئر قیادت سے بھی ملاقاتیں کیں۔ مشترکہ اعلامیہ میں چین پاکستان ہمہ موسمی تزویراتی تعاون پر مبنی شراکت داری، مختلف شعبوں میں عملی تعاون اور باہمی تعلقات کے بین الاقوامی اور علاقائی مسائل پر وسیع اتفاق رائے کیا۔ دونوں فریقوں نے اس بات کا اعادہ کیا کہ پاک چین تعلقات کی بنیاد باہمی اعتماد پر ہے۔ چینی تھنک ٹینکس اور سکارلز کے ساتھ بات چیت کے دوران، وزیر اعظم نے سی پیک کو سٹریٹجک تعلقات کا مظہر قرار دیا جو "ترقی، غربت کے خاتمے اور روزگار کے مواقع پیدا کرنے کا محرک ثابت ہوا"۔ نگران وزیر اعظم نے تیسرے بی آر ایف کے موقع پر روسی فیڈریشن کے صدر ولادی میر پوٹن سے بھی ملاقات کی۔ وزیر اعظم نے قازقستان کے صدر قاسم جومارت توکایف اور سری لنکا کے صدر رائیل وکرما سنگھے سے ملاقات کی۔ انہوں نے تیسرے بیلٹ اینڈ روڈ فورم کے موقع پر اقوام متحدہ کے سیکرٹری جنرل انتونیو گوتیریس سے بھی ملاقات کی اور غرہ کی صورت حال پر تبادلہ خیال کیا۔ اس کے علاوہ وزیر اعظم نے چین کی

سرکردہ کمپنیوں کے سربراہان سے ملاقاتیں کیں اور ان کے کارپوریٹ ایگزیکٹوز کی پاکستان میں سرمایہ کاری کے وسیع امکانات کو تلاش کرنے کی ترغیب دی۔ ان میں چینی کاروباری اداروں ایم سی سی، چائنا کمیونیکیشن کنسٹرکشن کمپنی، چائنا روڈ اینڈ برج کارپوریشن، عامر انٹرنیشنل گروپ، پاور چائنا، چائنا انرجی اور چائنا گیزو باگروپ کے سی ای او اور ایگزیکٹوز شامل تھے۔ دورے کے دوران یونائیٹڈ انرجی گروپ آف چائنا اور پاکستان ریفا سٹری لمیٹڈ نے پٹرولیم سیکٹر میں 1.5 بلین ڈالر کی سرمایہ کاری کے لیے مفاہمت کی یادداشت پر دستخط کیے۔ دونوں فریقوں نے 20 معاہدوں اور مفاہمت ناموں پر دستخط کیے۔ دورے کے آخری مرحلے میں وزیر اعظم نے اروچھی کا دورہ کیا اور سی پی سی کی مرکزی کمیٹی کے پولٹ بیورو کے رکن مازنگروئی سے ملاقات کے علاوہ سکیٹاگ یونیورسٹی میں طلباء سے خطاب کیا۔ صنعت کاری اور زراعت کے شعبوں میں بھی تعاون کو مضبوط بنانے پر اتفاق کیا۔ قبل ازیں نگران وزیر اعظم نے چین میں تیسرے بیلٹ اینڈ روڈ فورم میں شرکت کرنے والے عالمی رہنماؤں کے لیے صدر شی جن پنگ کی جانب سے دی گئی سرکاری ضیافت میں بھی شرکت کی۔ عظیم عوامی ہاں میں منعقدہ ریاستی ضیافت میں روس، کینیا، ایتھوپیا، منگولیا، ہنگری، سری لنکا، قازقستان، ازبکستان، پاپوا نیو گنی، موزمبیق اور چلی کے سربراہان مملکت / حکومت اور دیگر عالمی رہنماؤں نے شرکت کی۔ ضیافت میں صدر شی جن پنگ اور خاتون اول میڈم پینگ لی یوان نے وزیر اعظم کا استقبال کیا۔

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چین کے ممتاز کاروباری رہنماؤں، سرمایہ کاری گروپوں کے ساتھ پاکستان کے مذاکرات مکمل

اسلام آباد (نمائندہ خصوصی) وفاقی وزیر تجارت ڈاکٹر گوہر اعجاز نے شنگھائی میں تیسرے بیلٹ اینڈ روڈ فورم کے موقع پر چین کے ممتاز کاروباری رہنماؤں اور سرمایہ کاری گروپوں کے ساتھ انتہائی کامیاب ملاقاتوں کا سلسلہ ختم کیا۔ ان ملاقاتوں کا مقصد پاکستان اور چین کے درمیان اقتصادی تعلقات کو مضبوط بنانا اور پاکستان میں سرمایہ کاری کے مختلف مواقع تلاش کرنا تھا۔ ڈاکٹر گوہر اعجاز نے چائنا پاکستان (چنگ ڈاؤن) انٹرنیشنل کو آپریشن ہب کے ڈائریکٹر مسٹر وانگ زیہائی سے ملاقات کی۔ بات چیت کا ، لیتیم بیٹریز، سولر پنیلز اور سی سی کنڈکٹرز جیسے شعبے شامل تھے۔ ان مواقع کو آسان EV مرکز پاکستان میں سرمایہ کاری کے مواقع پر تھا، جس میں سول اور ڈیفنس آلات، بنانے میں اسپیشل انویسٹمنٹ فیسیلیٹیشن کو نسل در نسل کو دار گفتگو کا ایک اہم نکتہ تھا۔ ایمان لاجسٹک کی چیئر پرسن محترمہ لی ایمان سے ملاقات میں چینی ڈیجیٹل پلٹ فارمز پر پاکستان کی موجودگی کو بڑھانے پر توجہ مرکوز کی گئی۔ ایمان لاجسٹکس ڈیجیٹل سفارت کاری کے عزم کو ظاہر کرتے ہوئے چین میں ڈسپلینڈ سٹریٹجی شروع کرنے کا ارادہ رکھتی ہے۔ وزیر نے اس کوشش کے لیے مکمل تعاون اور سہولت فراہم کرنے کی یقین دہانی کرائی۔ وزیر ڈاکٹر اعجاز نے چینی زرعی پروڈیوسر ویلہوپ کے صدر مسٹر جن ویڈونگ سے بھی ملاقات کی۔ وزیر نے پاکستان کے زرعی، پولٹری اور گوشت کے شعبوں میں نمایاں سرمایہ کاری مواقع پر روشنی ڈالی۔ ویلہوپ کی سمارٹ فارمنگ اور گوشت کی پروسیسنگ میں عالمی قیادت باہمی طور پر فائدہ مند شراکت داری کی راہ ہموار کر سکتی ہے۔ وزیر نے ڈوگھو اگروپ کے مسٹر وانگ گائیڈونگ سے ملاقات کی، پاکستان اسٹیل ملز کی نجکاری اور اس عمل کے لیے حکومت کی لگن پر زور دیا۔ اے س آئی اے سی کا قیام ان کوششوں کو تقویت دینے کے لیے تیار ہے، اور شراکت داری کے لیے ہر ممکن سہولت فراہم کرنے کی یقین دہانی کرائی گئی۔ اے م سی سی کے نمائندوں کے ساتھ ایک نتیجہ خیز ورکنگ لٹچ کا انعقاد کیا گیا، جو چین کی دھات کاری کی بڑی کمپنی ہے، جو سینڈک کارپوریشن پر ایکٹو میں ایک اہم کھلاڑی ہے۔ بات چیت تعاون کو بڑھانے اور شراکت داری کو فروغ دینے کے لیے اے م سی سی کی مہارت کو استعمال کرنے کے گروہ ہوئی۔ ڈاکٹر اعجاز نے کئی دیگر ممتاز چینی کاروباری اداروں اور تنظیموں سے ملاقاتیں کیں، جن میں شانڈونگ زن سو گروپ، اے ڈی ایم گروپ، چائنا انٹرنیشنل شامل ہیں۔ وزیر نے پاکستان کے اناج اور چین کو خوراک کی برآمدات میں CNAGS ایگریکلچر ڈیولپمنٹ، چائنا انٹرنیشنل فٹریز کارپوریشن، تیانجن میٹ ایسوسی ایشن، اور اضافی کے امکانات پر تبادلہ خیال کرنے کے لیے خوراک کی خریداری کی ایک معروف عالمی ایجنسی کوف کو بھی دورہ کیا۔ ڈاکٹر گوہر نے انہیں مزید پاکستانی مصنوعات کی خریداری کے لیے پاکستان میں اپنا علاقائی دفتر قائم کرنے اور پاکستان میں سرمایہ کاری کرنے اور اے س آئی اے سی کے تعاون سے اسے اپنے عالمی ویلیو چین اور اسٹوریج نیٹ ورک کامرکز بنانے کی دعوت دی۔ ڈاکٹر گوہر نے پیشکش کی کہ پاکستانی تاجروں اور وزارت تجارت کے درمیان ایک مشترکہ ورکنگ گروپ قائم کرے۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/lahore/2023-10-22/page-10/detail-19>

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Business Recorder

Sanjrani to leave for China to attend global moot

SARDAR SIKANDER SHAHEEN

ISLAMABAD: Faced with strong criticism from the mainstream political parties, Pakistan People's Party (PPP) and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), in particular over his 'failure' to summon the requisitioned Senate session, so far, Chairman Senate Sadiq Sanjrani is now set to leave for China for attending an international moot.

Sanjrani, according to Senate Secretariat, has been specially invited by China to attend the International Symposium to commemorate the 10th anniversary of China's Principle of Amity, Sincerity, Mutual Benefit, and Inclusiveness in Neighbourhood Diplomacy.

"The event, to be held on October 24, 2023, at the Diaoyutai State Guesthouse in Beijing, will feature chairman Senate as a distinguished Chief Guest," an official statement from the Senate Secretariat said on Sunday.

Earlier on Thursday, Senator Ali Zafar from PTI announced that he was planning to move a requisition, by Thursday afternoon, for convening the Senate session, and that they had the required number of signatures of the senators for this purpose. "Israel's killings/ slaughter of innocent civilians, attack on Gaza, and Pakistan's political/ economic crisis /Imran Khan's persecution will be on agenda," he said in a statement.

However, the PTI senator's plan was left pending due to the passing away of his father and former senator S M Zafar the same day (Thursday). On Friday, the PPP moved a requisition in the Senate Secretariat with PTI's support to take up Israel's atrocities on Palestinians in Gaza. This is the third time in over a month that the PPP has moved a requisition calling upon the chairman Senate to summon the Senate session to discuss related issues. On previous two occasions, the Senate Secretariat rejected the related requisitions, claiming that the signatures of certain lawmakers on the requisitions were "unverified." This received strong backlash from political parties that were of the view that Senate Secretariat lacked any authority to reject a requisition. The chairman Senate has the authority to summon a requisitioned session under Article 54(3) of the constitution, on a requisition signed by not less than one-fourth of the total membership of the house.

Apart from the Senate requisition controversy, Sanjrani has also remained under fire from political parties for his alleged failure to exercise his authority in the matters related to the house business. Last year, the opposition senators lambasted Sanjrani for not issuing the production orders of PTI's Azam Swati who was arrested by Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) over "defamatory" social media posts against top military officials. Rule 84 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Senate 2012 provides that the chairman Senate or chairman of a Senate committee may summon a senator, in the related session(s), in custody on the charge of any offence or under any law relating to preventive detention.

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2023/10/23/4-page/975102-news.html>

ML-1 will be a driving force in next phase of CPEC: PBF

PESHAWAR: The Pakistan Business Forum (PBF) has lauded the initiative of China and Pakistan to agree under Beijing's Belt and Road Initiative, signing a much delayed key deal to construct a multibillion dollar railway project.

Talking to media on Sunday, PBF KP Chairman, Muhammad Ashafque Paracha said ML-1, railway project is designed to connect Pakistan's northwestern city of Peshawar to the southern port city of Karachi through a more than 2,600 kilometer track and it's one of biggest single project under the CPEC and is central to it. This project designed to connect Pakistan's northwestern city of Peshawar to the southern port city of Karachi through a more than 2,600 kilometer track with a price tag of \$7 billion. This project connects Xinjiang with Gwadar port and will unlock the access of Xinjiang to the warm waters to give it access to markets of the Middle East and Europe," Paracha said. "The ML-1 will be the key driving force and catalyst in the next phase of CPEC projects as its execution will help boost Pakistan's local industry, such as steel, cement and other local manufacturing," he added.

However, PBF is expected to take 10 years minimum and increase the line capacity from 34 to 134 trains each way per day, moving up to 165 kilometers per hour - twice as fast as they currently run. PBF KP Chairman said CPEC had played a "crucial role in generating new economic opportunities" in Pakistan since it was launched a decade ago. According to PBF, CPEC has created 200,000 jobs, built more than 1,400 kilometers of highways and roads, and added thousands of megawatts of electricity to the national grid, effectively ending years of power outages in the country of about 241 million people. According to officials, the port of Gwadar has handled 600,000 tons of cargo in the last 18 months.

PBF Regional President Peshawar, Danial Ahmed further said a new international airport China is building in Gwadar would soon be inaugurated, turning it into a hub of regional trade and connectivity. He added that CPEC energy projects have injected at least 8,000 megawatts of electricity into Pakistan's national grid, and nearly 10,000 megawatts of additional and clean energy projects are expected to be completed within the next five years. The CPEC is building industrial zones to attract local and Chinese investors, enabling cash strapped Pakistan to increase its exports and boost its foreign exchange reserves. Similarly, Pakistan's mineral-rich southwestern province of Baluchistan, which hosts Gwadar, has seen significant CPEC related investments despite a years-long ethnic Baluch separatist insurgency. Although China's BRI investments have led to the construction of much needed infrastructure in Pakistan. One must understand Gwadar Port has seen major progress and is marching towards the goal of becoming a logistics center and industrial base; he added.

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2023/10/23/11-page/975158-news.html>

20 MoUs inked during China visit: PM

ISLAMABAD: The caretaker Prime Minister, Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar, has maintained that around 20 memorandums of understanding (MoUs) have been signed during his recent visit to China and a follow-up mechanism has also been devised.

Addressing a press conference along with ministers for Commerce, Privatization, Information and Broadcasting and Foreign Affairs, the caretaker prime minister said that a dedicated wing has been set up in the Prime Minister's Office for planning, coordination, and cooperation in this regard.

He said although it was a multilateral forum, they have held bilateral important meetings including with the president, and Chinese state-owned and private business leadership. He hoped that Chinese private business entities' serious partnership will be visible in BRI transformation in relation to industries, agriculture activities, and mining, etc.

He said that the Chinese have supported Pakistan's traditional stance on Kashmir.

He said that constructive and productive meetings were held with the Russian president, the Kenyan president, and the Sri Lankan president, as well.

The caretaker premier added that the Middle East conflict was raised with various leaders including the Russian president, the Chinese leader, as well as, Sri Lankan president.

He said that he has come back from China with three slogans: planning, coordination, and cooperation. This would help to overcome the challenges.

He further stated that the second phase of BRI is seeing the serious involvement of Chinese private companies.

The caretaker prime minister further stated that he also raised the murder case of journalist Arshad Sharif with the president of Kenya and he was informed about the update and promised to work in close coordination with Pakistani authorities.

Replying to questions, the caretaker prime minister said that a process for implementation of the Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) law would require that the accused should come forward so that law could take its course and punishment would be given by the courts.

He said that Chinese investment would be a stimulant to economic growth, thus the government's focus should be on the outcome of investment.

Replying to questions, he said that the meeting with the Russian president was the initiative of the Foreign Office as in new geo-strategic alignment and economic requirements both sides have their own requirements. He said that Russians are very important players in the region.

He said that the Afghan citizens who have worked with the US or other countries, if those countries are ready to take them back and Pakistan becomes their transit route, then the government is ready to facilitate them.

Kakar said that the action is being taken only against illegal residents in Pakistan. According to international laws, the government is taking action against illegal residents.

To a question about elections, the caretaker premier said that very soon there will be elections in the country and its date will be announced soon.

In response to a question of concerns regarding a lack of level playing field for political parties, Kakar said that if a level playing field means that an environment should be created for a particular party, he cannot say anything about it.

He also defended the NADRA and other officials for getting the former prime minister's biometrics at the airport and stated that Nawaz Sharif is a citizen of Pakistan and the government has not made any unusual facilitation in his biometrics. This has not given him any political advantage, which is being questioned by making an issue. He also mentioned in this regard, a level playing field of 2018 and stated a front was formed in South Punjab. The caretaker prime minister said that if the court imposes a ban on someone or any party, then that is a different matter; the government would have to accept it as it had happened in the past. It will also happen in the future unless the parliament makes any changes in this regard.

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2023/10/24/1-page/975179-news.html>

Pakistan Observer

Chemical engineers to get training in China

KhwajaFareed University of Engineering and Information Technology (KFUEIT), Rahim Yar Khan, Punjab entered into an agreement for training of its students in China.

The university commenced its training program for 150 chemical engineers via an online ceremony, Gwadar Pro reported quoting a press statement.

Under this collaboration, KFUEIT has partnered with TANG Int'l Education Group, which will provide specialized language and methodology training to its graduates before they embark on their engineering projects in Nigeria.

The ceremony was attended by representatives from KFUEIT, TANG Int'l, North West Normal University, and Nigerian industrial delegates.

Previously, KFUEIT and TANG had signed a MoU to facilitate the training of 150 chemical engineers in China before deploying them to work on international projects in Africa.

During his address on the occasion, Vice-Chancellor KFUEIT Prof. Dr. Muhammad SeulemanTahir said that the university's chemical engineers are now taking their first steps in the practical field through cooperation with the Chinese partners.

He highlighted the importance of learning Chinese language and proposed the establishment of a centre for teaching Chinese to the students in KFUEIT.

Additionally, representatives from Nigeria, TANG Int'l, and North West Normal University discussed plans to expand and deepen collaboration between KFUEIT and its Chinese and Nigerian counterparts.

An official of TANG Int'l told Gwadar Pro that the selected students will first get 3-4 months training in Pakistan and later get 2-3 months training in China before their deployment in Nigeria.

<https://pakobserver.net/chemical-engineers-to-get-training-in-china/>

Jang News

پاکستان میں سی پیک پر جیکٹس کو توانائی فراہم کرنے کیلئے تیار ہیں، ایرانی سفیر

لاہور (آصف محمود بٹ) پاکستان میں تعینات ایرانی سفیر ڈاکٹر رضا امیری مقدم نے کہا ہے کہ اقوام متحدہ کی سکیورٹی کونسل گزشتہ کئی سالوں سے صرف چند ممالک کے ہاتھوں میں کھیل رہی ہے اور مسئلہ فلسطین اور کشمیر سمیت مسلم امہ سے متعلقہ دیگر مسائل کو حل کرنے میں مکمل طور پر ناکام ہو چکی ہے۔

ایران پاکستان میں جاری سی پیک پر جیکٹس کو توانائی فراہم کرنے کے لئے تیار ہے۔

عرب ممالک کے اسرائیل کے ساتھ ڈائلاگ بڑی سٹرٹیجک غلطی ہے، سعودی عرب کی موجودہ قیادت یہ سمجھنا شروع ہو گئی ہے کہ امریکہ اب ماضی جیسی طاقت نہیں رہا، فلسطین اور اسرائیل دور یاستی پلان اسرائیل نے خود ہی بنایا تھا جو اب اسے قابل قبول نہیں۔

ایران اور پاکستان کے دشمن وہ ہیں جو یہاں بد امنی کو فروغ دے رہے ہیں۔ ہو سکتا ہے ہم جسے پاکستان کا دشمن سمجھ رہے ہوں پاکستان کسی وجہ سے اسے اپنا دشمن نہ سمجھتا ہو۔

پاک ایران تعلقات میں دشمن رکاوٹ پیدا کرنے کی کوشش کر سکتا ہے، عرب ممالک کے صہیونی ریاست اسرائیل کے ساتھ ڈائلاگ ایک بڑی سٹرٹیجک غلطی ہے، اسرائیل صرف فلسطین پر قبضہ نہیں چاہتا بلکہ مغربی کنارے سے دریائے فرات تک قبضہ کر کے تمام عرب خطے کو اپنی ریاست کا حصہ سمجھتا ہے۔ ہم نے فلسطین کی ریاست کے متعلق ایک جمہوری فارمولا پیش کیا جسے پہلے مان کر اب قبول نہیں کیا جا رہا۔

اسرائیل کے خلاف حماس کے موجودہ آپریشن کی تاریخ میں مثال نہیں ملتی۔ دنیا حیران ہے کہ ایران کی بجائے حماس نے اسرائیل پر حملوں کی پلاننگ کی۔ ان خیالات کا اظہار انہوں نے گزشتہ روز ”جنگ“ سے خصوصی گفتگو کے دوران کیا۔

ڈاکٹر رضا امیری نے کہا کہ اگر مسلم عرب ہوش میں نہ آئے تو اسرائیل کے ان عزائم کو نہیں روک پائیں گے۔ 42 سال سے صہیونی ریاست کو تسلیم نہیں کیا، اسلامی جمہوریہ ایران کے قیام سے قبل فلسطینی غلیل اور پتھر کے ساتھ اسرائیل سے لڑ رہے تھے اور آج فلسطینی راکٹ سے لڑ رہے ہیں۔

انہوں نے کہا کہ فلسطین کی جتنی ایران نے مدد کی ہے کسی دوسرے ملک نے نہیں کی۔ کوئی شک نہیں کہ اسرائیل اس وقت فلسطینیوں کی نسل کشی کر رہا ہے۔ ایرانی سفیر نے کہا کہ کبھی اسرائیل کو تسلیم کیا نہ آئندہ کبھی کریں گے۔ ایران نے ہمیشہ حق کا ساتھ دیا اس پر ہمیں فخر ہے۔

ڈاکٹر رضا امیری نے کہا کہ اسرائیل بربریت کو اس مقام پر لے گیا ہے کہ یورپ اور انگلینڈ میں بھی اس کے خلاف لاکھوں لوگ سڑکوں پر نکل آئے ہیں۔

ایرانی سفیر نے کہا کہ سعودی عرب کے ساتھ دوستانہ اور باہمی تعلقات کو فروغ دیں گے اور امید کرتے ہیں کہ سعودی عرب بھی معاملات کو اسی نگاہ سے دیکھے گا۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ کچھ سال قبل ایک حادثے کی وجہ سے سعودی عرب نے ہمارے ساتھ تعلقات توڑے لیکن ہم نے کبھی سعودی عرب کے ساتھ تعلقات نہیں توڑے۔

انہوں نے کہا کہ ہم خطے کے دو اہم ممالک ایران اور سعودی عرب کے تعلقات کو خطے میں مفاد میں سمجھتے ہیں۔

ڈاکٹر رضا امیری نے کہا کہ سعودی عرب کی موجودہ قیادت یہ سمجھنا شروع ہو گئی ہے کہ امریکہ اب ماضی جیسی طاقت نہیں رہا وہ ہمارے اور سعودی عرب کے درمیان تعلقات میں رکاوٹ پیدا نہیں کر سکتا۔

انہوں نے کہا کہ ایران نے سعودی عرب سمیت تمام ملکوں سے تعلقات کو فروغ دیا۔

عراقی کے ساتھ آٹھ سالہ جنگ میں عرب ممالک نے صدام حسین کا ساتھ دیا جس کے بعد یہ ثابت ہوا کہ صدام نہ صرف ہمارا دشمن تھا بلکہ عربوں کا بھی دشمن نکلا۔
ایرانی سفیر نے کہا پاکستان اور ایران کے درمیان تجارت کا حجم دو ارب چالیس کروڑ ڈالر ہے جس کو دس گنا بڑھا سکتے ہیں۔

انہوں نے کہا کہ پاکستان میں تیار ہونے والی مصنوعات ایران کی ستر فیصد ضروریات کو پورا کر سکتی ہیں۔

پاکستان ایران کو چاول، گندم دالیں اور گوشت سمیت دیگر چیزیں بھجوا کر کثیر زر مبادلہ حاصل کر سکتا ہے جبکہ ایران سے پاکستان بھجوائی جانے والی چیزوں میں سرفہرست تیل، اور بلڈنگ میٹریل ہے۔

<https://jang.com.pk/news/1281418>

Nawaiwaqt News

وزیر اعظم آج دورہ چین کے دوران معاہدوں سے قوم کو آگاہ کریں گے

اسلام آباد (نوائے وقت رپورٹ) نگران وزیر اعظم انوارالحق کا کڑ آج نیوز کانفرنس میں دورہ چین کے بارے میں قوم کو تفصیلات بتائیں گے۔ ذرائع کے مطابق وزیر اعظم انوارالحق کا کڑ سی پیک سمیت متعدد معاہدوں سے متعلق عوام کو بریف کریں گے۔ وزیر اعظم نگران حکومت کے امن وامان سے متعلق امور پر بھی آگاہی دیں گے۔ غیر قانونی مقیم غیر ملکی افراد کی بے دخلی سے متعلق امور کے بارے میں بھی آگاہ کریں گے۔ نگران وزیر اعظم انوارالحق کا کڑ سمگلنگ کی روک تھام اور عوام کو ریلیف کی فراہمی کے اقدامات سے بھی آگاہ کریں گے۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/lahore/2023-10-23/page-1/detail-10>

October 24, 2023

Daily Times

Country's exports likely to improve with Chinese investment in SEZs

* *SCCI president says BRI forum not only provides opportunities for leaders of different countries to hold debates on benefits and fruits of this multi-billion dollar CPEC project*

Sarhad Chamber of Commerce and Industry president Fuad Ishaq termed the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) as a guarantee for regional development and prosperity and emphasized the need for timely completion of Special Economic Zones under the CPEC.

Fuad Ishaq hoped the country's exports would be further enhanced by Chinese investment in Special Economic Zones (SEZs) and strengthened industrial capacity building.

He said CPEC projects will bring good investment prospects for the country.

Timely completion of special economic zones under CPEC would generate further economic activities and employment opportunities and lead the national economy and country toward stabilization, the SCCI chief asserted.

Fuad Ishaq made these remarks during his visit to China Window (Chinese Culture Centre) in Peshawar, said a press release issued here on Monday.

Accompanied by the SCCI Secretary General Sajjad Aziz, the chamber president said China-Pakistan relations further strengthened with the passage of time, and the roots of this Sino-Pak friendship are in people of the both countries.

He said the Pakistani nation was highly proud of friendship with China and expressed full trust in it.

He witnessed various galleries and signed on the friendship wall during a visit to the China Window.

Later, the SCCI chief talking to the media said the Road and Belt Initiative (BRI) forum not only provided opportunities for leaders of different countries to hold debates on the benefits and fruits of this multi-billion dollar CPEC project but has also opened a new chapter partnership for more than 140 countries and economic progress after announcement regarding BRI by Chinese president during the forum.

He said caretaker Prime Minister Anwar ul Haq Kakar put Pakistan's stance before the whole world in an efficient manner while speaking at the forum.

He was of the view that signing on to the ML-I project would initiate a new process of economic progress through Pakistan Railways.

He continued to say CPEC project will bring economic development, especially, since a new era of prosperity will begin in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

He said the project will help to further strengthen connectivity and promote overall progress.

The chamber president said CPEC has entered into a new phase of execution and construction that will promote industrialization, provision of employment opportunities, and progress in multiple sectors including mining, IT and agriculture.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1142559/countrys-exports-likely-to-improve-with-chinese-investment-in-sezs/>

October 25, 2023

Daily Times

China to assist Pakistan in enhancing its exports to China

MOU will go long way in increasing Pakistan's exports to China and will contribute to job creation, and balancing bilateral trade

During his recent visit to China Pakistan's Minister of Commerce Dr.Gohar Ejaz signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on Pakistan's behalf with the Chinese Minister of Commerce Wang Wentao in Beijing.

Under the MOU, China will assist Pakistan in enhancing its exports to China.

The MOU will go a long way in increasing Pakistan's exports to China and will contribute to job creation, in addition to balancing bilateral trade, said the Commerce Minister, according to a report published by Gwadar Pro on Tuesday.

Earlier, the Ministry of Commerce concluded a series of highly productive meetings with prominent Chinese business leaders and investment groups on the sidelines of the 3rd Belt and Road Forum in Beijing.

The meetings were aimed at strengthening economic ties between Pakistan and China and exploring various investment opportunities in Pakistan.

According to the Ministry's official statement, Dr. Gohar Ejaz met with Wang Zihai, Director of China-Pakistan (Qingdao) International Cooperation Hub.

The discussions centered on investment opportunities in Pakistan, including areas such as civilian and defense equipment, EV lithium batteries, solar panels, and semiconductors.

The role of the Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC) in facilitating these opportunities was a key point of conversation.

In a meeting with Li Yiman, Chairperson of Eman Logistics, the focus was on expanding Pakistan's presence on Chinese digital platforms.

Eman Logistics plans to launch "Pakistan National Pavilion" display centers in China, demonstrating a commitment to digital diplomacy.

The Minister also engaged with Jin Weidong, President of Wellhope, a leading Chinese agri-producer. The company's global leadership in smart farming and meat processing can pave the way for a mutually beneficial partnership.

The Minister met with Wang Guidong of Donghua Group, emphasizing Pakistan Steel Mills' privatization and the government's dedication to the process. The establishment of SIFC is set to bolster these efforts, and all possible facilitation for the partnership was assured.

A productive working lunch was held with representatives from MCC, China's metallurgy giant, a key player in the Saindak Copper-Gold Project. The discussions revolved around expanding collaboration and tapping into MCC's expertise to foster partnership growth.

The minister also visited COFCO, a leading global food procurement agency, to discuss the possibilities of enhancing Pakistan's grains and food exports to China.

Dr. Gohar invited them to establish their regional offices in Pakistan to procure more Pakistani products, invest in Pakistan, and make it a hub of its global value chain and storage network with support from SIFC.

Dr. Gohar also urged COFCO to establish a Joint Working Group between COFCO, the Pakistani business community, and the Ministry of Commerce.

The Commerce Minister met with several other prominent Chinese enterprises and organizations, including Shandong Xinxu Group, ADM Group, China National Agriculture Development, China National Fisheries Corp, Tianjin Meat Association, and CNAGS.

The discussions explored collaboration in various sectors, such as mining, trade, hospitality, construction, EV infrastructure, agriculture, and rice sourcing.

In a separate meeting with BYD, a global leader in electric vehicles (EVs), discussions focused on investment opportunities in Pakistan and the government's supportive policies, including the role of SIFC.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1142906/china-to-assist-pakistan-in-enhancing-its-exports-to-china/>

BRI facilitates fruitful medical cooperation between China, Pakistan

In past 10 years, China has seen increasing medical cooperation with countries and regions jointly building the Belt and Road, including Pakistan

Anzal Mahnoor enjoys her time as an MBBS (Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery) student at Hainan Medical University, located in Haikou, the capital of south China's Hainan Province.

“Here in this university, I get a chance to make wonderful friends, and I get a chance to fulfill my dream to become a good doctor,” said the 24-year-old from Pakistan. “I get a lot of knowledge regarding my studies from my best teachers.”

She is one of the abundant talents coming to Hainan as medical cooperation between China and Pakistan has grown fruitful in the past decade thanks to the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), Xinhua reported on Tuesday.

China proposed the idea of building an economic belt along the Silk Road in Kazakhstan in 2013, which, combined with the proposal of the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road, eventually became the Belt and Road Initiative. As a primary hub along the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road, Hainan has made use of favorable supporting policies and its unique advantages to pioneer the country's high-level opening up.

In the past 10 years, China has seen increasing medical cooperation with countries and regions jointly building the Belt and Road, including Pakistan. Through a series of mechanisms, tens of thousands of health professionals have been trained in areas such as health management, public health, and medical research.

In Hainan, for instance, the Belt and Road Tropical Medical Alliance was established in 2018, led by Hainan Medical University. The alliance currently has several member units from Pakistan.

So far, the alliance has successfully organized five medicine forums. More than 120 universities, medical institutions, and research institutes from more than 30 countries and regions have joined the alliance.

Medical cooperation between China and Pakistan has brought opportunities for many students from Pakistan.

This summer, in the city of Dongfang, Hainan Province, a number of students from Pakistan and China formed a medical team at a local health center to provide cardiopulmonary resuscitation training and other medical services to villagers.

These students of Hainan Medical University used what they learned in class to assist the professional medical experts. They took the patients' blood pressure and registered their information, and experienced other things done by grassroots doctors.

"This university has given me a lot of education," said Malik Usman Haider, 27, a student from Pakistan studying medicine at Hainan Medical University. "In the future, I want to stay here. China has given me so much and the government helps me, and the university also helps me a lot, so I want to give them something in return. It is a way to say thank you."

"I want to become a good doctor in the future," said Fraz Ahmad Shams, 28, also from Pakistan and an MBBS student at Hainan Medical University. "Maybe I will come back to China to do my master's degree."

Xia Qianfeng, dean of the Tropical Medical School under Hainan Medical University, said that in the future, the Belt and Road Tropical Medical Alliance will continue to work together with all member units to build a bridge of friendship with the world, and provide more opportunities for public health cooperation.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1142905/bri-facilitates-fruitful-medical-cooperation-between-china-pakistan/>

Pakistan Observer

Pak-China film award ceremony held to promote cultural exchanges

Pak-China film award ceremony held here to promote cultural exchanges. Minister for National Heritage and Culture, Jamal Shah said on the occasion that the cultural bridge's impact is long-lasting. In a passionate speech delivered at the Pakistan Embassy, he shed light on the intrinsic power embedded within the nation's rich heritage and cultural tapestry, asserting its potential to foster unity and resilience in the face of modern challenges, Gwadar Pro reported

About Pakistan's outstanding achievement in the culture awarding ceremony of Ba'Tie Girl, the first China-Pakistan co-production film, he said that Ba'Tie Girl is a feature film based on the friendship between the people of China and Pakistan which is co-produced by Hunarkada production and China Film Administration.

"We are planning to organize an cultural caravan by the end of this year aimed at transcending economic ties and strengthening cultural bonds between Pakistan, China, and the Central Asian States," the minister said.

The Minister informed that the caravan will start from Xi'an, China, and travel through Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Iran, UAE, Oman, Gwadar, and Karachi before culminating in Islamabad.

"CPEC will be documented to reflect upon the land, life, and the people along China-Pakistan Economic Corridor and Silk Route covering Central Asian countries during December this year," he added.

"The next film, called Cut is also going to be a joint venture between China and Pakistan and that is about the multifaceted Pakistani film industry.

The story is about a struggle for a few motivated filmmakers to try to revive the Pakistani film industry. Some Chinese friends join them to support their struggle and eventually they succeed,” he stated.

On that occasion, the Ambassador of Pakistan to China Moin ul Haque said that the most important part of assistance is the cultural cooperation, the people-to-people exchanges between our two countries.

“The film is about the empowerment of women, friendship, resilience, tolerance, and understanding. I think it’s also about the goodness that you find in each other’s hearts,” the Ambassador added.

Xie Peng, Chairman of Chengcheng Film Company told the audience that the film *Batie Girl* tells a heartwarming story of mutual help and redemption between a young Chinese woman Lu You and a Pakistani girl Nasa from a unique female perspective.

“Through the friendship of ordinary people from both China and Pakistan, the movie reflects the genuine bond between the two countries, highlighting the profound significance of building a community with a shared future for mankind,” he added.

He said that promoting film and cultural exchanges and cooperation between China and Pakistan not only presents the real-life scenarios of the two countries to the audience, enhancing mutual understanding and recognition among the people of both nations, but also aligns with the aspirations of both China and Pakistan to explore new film themes and rejuvenate the film industry.

“We will use film as a messenger of cultural exchange between China and Pakistan, continuously contributing to the preservation and continuation of the China-Pakistan friendship,” he stated.

<https://pakobserver.net/pak-china-film-award-ceremony-held-to-promote-cultural-exchanges/>

BRI brings paradigm shift to concept of uplift, connectivity, regional integration: Sadiq

Chairman Senate, Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani said on Tuesday that Belt and Road Initiative with a worldwide appeal and membership has brought a paradigm shift to the concept of development, connectivity and regional integration.

In these testing times, Chinese President Xi’s landmark initiatives of Belt and Road Initiative, Global Development Initiative, Global Security Initiative and Global Civilization Initiative offer us a wholesome and practical solution for international peace and security.

The Chairman Senate made these remarks while addressing the opening ceremony of International Symposium to commemorate the 10th anniversary of China’s principles of Amity, Sincerity, Mutual Benefit and Inclusiveness in Neighbourhood Diplomacy held here.

Director of the Office of the Central Commission of Foreign Affairs and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Wang Yi read the written speech by President Xi and also delivered a speech.

Sadiq Sanjrani said that China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) has become a model and exemplary project of BRI having transformed the economic landscape of Pakistan. As an open and inclusive platform, CPEC is now inviting participation from third countries.

The Global Development Initiative has placed development at the core of China's exchanges with the world, accelerating the UN 2030 SDGs Agenda. Pakistan is the first partner country of China under GDI.

"Together, as good neighbours and best friends, we are charting a course of action for socio-economic development and uplift," he added.

He said that similarly, Global Security and Global Civilization Initiatives are setting a new course by presenting over-arching concepts contributing positively to the global security and civilizational landscapes. These initiatives are also assuming an increasingly central role in our neighbourhood diplomacy and concepts.

Terming Pakistan-China relationship as a practical demonstration of the vision of our founding father, he said it is an all-weather partnership deeply rooted in mutual trust and respect. It is time-tested and timeless, and nurtured over the years by successive generations of our governments and our people.

The chairman said that the unfolding crisis in Gaza has shaken the very soul of humanity, adding, Israeli aggression on Gaza continues unabated with complete blockade and no supply of essential food and medicines.—APP

<https://pakobserver.net/bri-brings-paradigm-shift-to-concept-of-uplift-connectivity-regional-integration-sadiq/>

BRI provides a new model of cooperation that helps address global challenges: Pakistani expert

Editor's Note: The third Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation, the most significant celebration marking the 10th anniversary of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), is being held in Beijing from Tuesday to Wednesday. Delegates from over 140 countries and 30-plus international organizations are gathering at this high-profile event in Beijing to discuss and review the accomplishments of BRI cooperation.

AbidSuleri (Suleri), Executive Director of the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) of Pakistan, also a founder member of BRI International Green Development Coalition (BRIGC), is attending the forum in Beijing, who noted in an interview with the Global Times (GT) reporter Wang Yi that the BRI offers a new cooperative model to fuel up economic development. The mutually beneficial cooperation between China and Pakistan under the BRI and the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) has provided Pakistan with important opportunity to deepen cooperation.

GT: This year marks the 10th anniversary of the BRI and the CPEC. How do you view the accomplishments of China-Pakistan economic and trade cooperation under the BRI and CPEC over the past decade?

Suleri: The CPEC is one of the flagship projects under the BRI. In order to completely understand the accomplishments of the CPEC, one needs to look back to recall what were Pakistan's developmental needs when CPEC started in 2013. At that time, Pakistan desperately needed electricity and it wanted infrastructure to improve connectivity within and across its borders. The phase one of CPEC remained successful, and Pakistan got all that it asked for, such as power generation plants, road infrastructure, and a deep-sea port at Gwadar.

GT: As China-Pakistan cooperation enters a new stage, how do you view the outlook for mutually beneficial cooperation? What is your view on the future cooperation between China and Pakistan?

Suleri: It can be said that the successful completion of CPEC stage one has provided Pakistan with the necessary prerequisites for the second stage of the CPEC. The future economic cooperation potential between China and Pakistan depends mainly on Pakistan's readiness to utilize the "hardware" that was built during the first stage of the CPEC.

Entering the next stage of the CPEC is a manifestation that both resolve to complement each other. The businesses and companies have learned how to create a win-win situation for both sides through better negotiations and agreeing to pragmatic terms and conditions. In a situation where Pakistan is investment-thirsty, and China is exploring venues to diversify its manufacturing supply chains as a safeguard against the West's "de-risking," cooperation between China and Pakistan can be mutually beneficial to both countries.

GT: BRI cooperation is characterized by openness and inclusiveness. Do you agree that the BRI provides a new cooperative model to activate global economic development?

Suleri: The BRI provides a new cooperative model to activate global economic development by creating a platform for dialogue, collaboration, and mutual benefit among more than 150 countries and international organizations. The BRI aims to enhance connectivity and integration across regions and sectors, such as infrastructure, trade, finance, policy, culture, and people.

By doing so, the BRI can help address the common challenges facing the world, such as poverty reduction, climate change, pandemic response, and digital transformation. The BRI follows the guiding principle of extensive consultation, joint contribution, and shared benefits, which ensures that all participants have an equal say and stake in the cooperation.

The BRI also respects the diversity and sovereignty of each country and seeks to promote win-win outcomes and common development. In a world of geoeconomics, the BRI is not a geopolitical or ideological agenda but a vision of openness and inclusiveness for global economic development.

GT: In the face of headwinds and uncertainty across the current global economic landscape, what role does the BRI play in promoting the South-South cooperation? What impetus does BRI cooperation provide for economic development of developing countries?

Suleri: UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said in February 2023, and I quote, "Today's poly-crises are compounding shocks on developing countries – in large part because of an

unfair global financial system that is short-term, crisis-prone, and that further exacerbates inequalities. We need to massively scale up affordable long-term financing by aligning all financing flows to the SDGs and improving the terms of lending of multilateral development banks. The high cost of debt and increasing risks of debt distress demand decisive action to make at least \$500 billion dollars available annually to developing countries and convert short-term lending into long-term debt at lower interest rates.”

Assessing Chinese initiatives under the BRI for developing countries against the UN heads’ above-quoted statement, one will find that China is filling the vacuum left by the global financial system. For comparison, according to a report by AidData, a US-based research lab, China provided \$462 billion in official finance to 164 countries from 2008 to 2019, compared to \$467 billion by the World Bank and \$89 billion by the IMF.

GT: Since the launch of the BRI cooperation, new multilateral international financial institutions such as the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) and the Silk Road Fund have been established. What benefits do these financial institutions bring to developing countries?

Suleri: Timely access to money, with almost no strings attached, is what is required by most of the developing countries, and the financial institutions like AIIB and Silk Road Fund are serving that purpose. They provide more funding and financing options for infrastructure projects in Asia, which are essential for economic development, connectivity, and integration.

The AIIB has a capital base of \$100 billion, with over 90 percent of this contributed by Asian countries. They adopt a demand-driven and client-oriented approach, which respects the sovereignty and needs of developing countries.

GT: The BRI promotes the development of infrastructure, trade, and industries across partnering countries. However, some Western media outlets have never stopped hyping the “debt trap.” How do you view the attacks?

Suleri: First thing first, let us assume that BRI initiatives are debt offered to member countries for their development needs. Debt is neither good nor bad.

The borrowing governments have to show maturity and responsibility to ensure that they enhance productivity and promote inclusive growth through the money they borrow for BRI initiatives. One cannot blame BRI for some of its members’ lack of readiness and preparedness.

Second, the BRI and different financial institutions under it are filling in the gap created by the weakening global financial institutions. With the global financial institutions taking care of the developing world, the latter had no reason to explore alternative means of development cooperation.

GT: What is your opinion on the achievements of China’s modernization and the potential of its economic development?

Suleri: China has achieved remarkable and inspiring economic and social transformation in the past four decades, becoming the world’s second-largest economy, lifting hundreds of millions of people out of poverty, and contributing to global peace and cooperation.

China has pursued a vision of a resilient economy based on equity, sustainability, and innovation, which aims to ensure shared prosperity for all and promote social equality and justice.

China also has a clear strategy for its future development: to build itself into a great modern socialist country by the middle of this century. Advancements made by China in digital technology, artificial intelligence, climate-smart agriculture, electronic vehicles, and a transition toward a low-carbon society are some of the defining features that will shape the future economic development of China and beyond.

<https://pakobserver.net/bri-provides-a-new-model-of-cooperation-that-helps-address-global-challenges-pakistani-expert/>

BRI and roadmap for next decade

Dr Mehmood Ul Hassan Khan

DURING the recently concluded 3rd Belt and Road Forum, Chinese President Xi Jinping outlined a comprehensive strategic roadmap for the development of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) in the next decade. This roadmap is based on eight action plans and is expected to support high-quality Belt and Road cooperation.

In this regard, building of a multidimensional Belt and Road connectivity network, speeding up of high-quality development of the China-Europe Railway Express, participation in the trans-Caspian international transportation corridor and hosting of the China-Europe Railway Express Cooperation Forum will be started to strengthen further trans-regional connectivity through rails, ports and integrated transport systems in all the member countries of the BRI.

Moreover, China will build a new logistics corridor across the Eurasian continent which will be linked by direct railway and road transportation. Integration of ports, shipping and trading services under the ‘Silk Road Maritime,’ will accelerate the building of the New International Land-Sea Trade Corridor and the Air Silk Road. Thus intensified trans-regional connectivity will be initiated which will be mutually beneficial for all the member countries of the BRI in the next decade.

China’s support for an open world economy will be peacefully pursued which will increase its total trade in goods and services expected to exceed US\$ 32 trillion and US\$ 5 trillion respectively in the 2024-2028 period. Establishment of pilot zones for Silk Road e-commerce cooperation and enter into free trade agreements and investment protection treaties with more countries will be initiated in the next decade.

Furthermore, the removal of all restrictions on foreign investment access in the manufacturing sector, along with further advancement in high-standard opening up in cross-border service trade and investment, expansion of market access for digital and other products, and deepening reforms in areas including state-owned enterprises, the digital economy, intellectual property, and government procurement will be introduced, institutionalized, and rigorously implemented in the next ten years. This will significantly enhance the scope, utility, and potential of the BRI in all member countries and the world.

In this connection, financial support for BRI projects on the basis of market and business operation through the China Development Bank and the Export-Import Bank of China will each set up a 350 billion RMB (48.75 billion U.S. dollars) financing window, and that an additional 80 billion RMB will be injected into the Silk Road Fund. It will generate projects helping the countries and communities overcome their socio-economic problems and elimination poverty and generate new jobs.

Further promotion of development through extended and deepening cooperation in areas such as green infrastructure, green energy and green transportation and stepping up support for the BRI International Green Development Coalition will be mantra of the Chinese policy makers which will be people and environment friendly and will mitigating the spill-over ramifications of the global warming in the BRI's member countries.

In this context, regular holding of the BRI Green Innovation Conference, and establishing of dialogue and exchange mechanisms for the solar industry and a network of experts on green and low-carbon development will be started creating mutually beneficial propositions for all the member countries.

Hopefully, China's implementation of the Green Investment Principles for the Belt and Road, and provision of 100,000 training opportunities for partner countries by 2030 will be game changer to achieve the desired goals of greening the BRI in the future.

China's strong commitment to advance scientific and technological innovation, the Belt and Road Science, Technology and Innovation Cooperation Action Plan, and holding of the first Belt and Road Conference on Science and Technology Exchange will facilitate science and technology in the BRI's member countries.

The Global Initiative for Artificial Intelligence (AI) Governance will increase exchanges and dialogue with other countries and jointly promote the sound, orderly and secure AI development in the world. It will be a giant step towards digitalization and e-commerce removing all barriers of technological backwardness in the BRI's member countries and will provide an ideal platform for greater socio-economic, industrial and artificial intelligence transformation in the next decade.

People-to-people exchanges will be further facilitated and strengthened. China will host the Liangzhu Forum to enhance dialogue on civilizations with BRI partner countries. Thus it will increase China's soft diplomacy in these countries.

The holding of Silk Road International League of Theatres, the Silk Road International Arts Festival, the International Alliance of Museums of the Silk Road, the Silk Road International Alliance of Art Museums and the Silk Road International Library Alliance, Silk Road Scholarship and the International Tourism Alliance of Silk Road Cities will be a regular feature of the BRI in next ten years.

China pledges to promote integrity-based Belt and Road cooperation and share the Achievements and Prospects of Belt and Road Integrity Building and the High-Level Principles on Belt and Road Integrity Building. It will establish the Integrity and Compliance Evaluation System for Companies Involved in Belt and Road Cooperation, which will promote genuine scientific research and development in these countries.

Last but not the least, further strengthening of the institutional building for international Belt and Road cooperation covering energy, taxation, finance, green development, disaster reduction, anti-corruption, think tank, media, culture and other fields will be right step in right direction for achieving the optimal levels of close liaison, policy consultation, formation and implementation of the respective national policies of these countries which will further increase financial integration, good governance, fight against looming threat of climate change, formation of Corridor of Knowledge, multiculturalism and meaningful media cooperation in the member countries.

In summary, the new eight action plans of the Chinese President Xi Jinping are new “Magna Carta” of immense trans-regional connectivity and socio-economic integration. It is new “Global Constitution” of green development. It is “new Global Chapter” of economic cooperation and social freedom. It is new “Das Capital” of a just world, economic equality, economic globalization and cooperation. It is the new version of “Political Treatise, The Prince” promoting pure multiculturalism and removing all kinds of discriminations. It is indeed a “New Codes of Global Governance” based on Xi’s Global Development, Global Security, Global Civilizational and Global Artificial Intelligence (AI) Governance crating mutually beneficial propositions for all the BRI’s countries and the world alike.

<https://pakobserver.net/bri-and-roadmap-for-next-decade/>

CPEC: Driving Regional and International Growth and Development

The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is a transformative initiative set to reshape the economic landscapes of China, Pakistan, and the broader region. This extensive project encompasses infrastructure, energy, and industrial development, acting as a catalyst for growth, connectivity, and collaboration. In this comprehensive overview, we’ll explore CPEC’s regional and international impact, focusing on its effects on China, Pakistan, neighbouring countries, and the global community.

CPEC has significantly bolstered regional connectivity, creating a network linking China, Pakistan, and neighbouring countries. The Gwadar Port, a pivotal component of CPEC, serves as a gateway to the Arabian Sea, offering trade potential for landlocked Central Asian nations. Enhanced connectivity and trade facilitate economic integration and propel regional development. Infrastructure projects, including highways, railways, ports, and airports, improve transportation networks, trade facilitation, and economic growth.

II. Socio Economic Development:

CPEC offers significant employment opportunities and job creation across various sectors, leading to reduced unemployment and poverty. Special Economic Zones (SEZs) promote industrial cooperation, foreign investment, and technology transfer, spurring economic diversification in agriculture, textiles, manufacturing, and information technology.

III. China-Pakistan Relations:

CPEC deepens China-Pakistan relations, reinforcing their long-standing friendship and strategic partnership. The collaboration fosters political cooperation, economic ties, and people-to-people exchanges, strengthening the bond between the two nations. This

collaboration also enhances Pakistan's security and stability, contributing to regional peace and countering various security challenges.

IV. Regional Impact:

CPEC acts as a bridge between Central and South Asia, promoting regional connectivity and cross-border trade. It provides neighboring countries, such as Afghanistan and Iran, with opportunities for enhanced trade and access to international markets. This regional economic integration promotes economic development, peace, and stability across the region.

V. International Significance:

CPEC has gained international attention due to its potential to reshape global trade dynamics. It offers an alternative route for China's trade with Europe, bypassing the traditional sea route. This diversification serves as a vital pillar of China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), fostering international economic integration. CPEC also emphasizes sustainable development in the energy sector, promoting renewable energy sources and reducing reliance on fossil fuels.

VI. Challenges and Mitigation Strategies:

The successful implementation of CPEC faces security challenges due to regional conflicts and terrorist activities. Pakistan and China must work closely to address these concerns by strengthening security measures and promoting stability. Additionally, addressing potential socioeconomic disparities is crucial to ensure inclusive growth and equitable distribution of wealth.

VII. The Way Forward: Collaboration and Cooperation:

Policy coordination among participating countries is essential to fully harness the potential of CPEC and maximize its benefits. Engaging all stakeholders, including local communities, civil society organizations, and private sector entities, is crucial for sustainable and inclusive development under CPEC. Investing in human capital development and skill training programs is vital to create a competent workforce that can contribute effectively to the implementation and management of CPEC projects.

VIII. Global Economic Impact and Belt and Road Initiative (BRI):

CPEC holds immense significance in promoting trade expansion and economic integration on a global scale. By providing an alternative trade route between China and Europe, it reduces transportation costs and enhances efficiency, benefiting not only China and Pakistan but also countries along the CPEC route. CPEC is a crucial component of China's ambitious Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), showcasing its potential to promote regional and international growth.

IX. Regional Collaboration and Harmonious Development:

CPEC promotes the principles of shared benefits and win-win cooperation among participating countries. It encourages joint ventures, technology transfer, and knowledge sharing, fostering collaborative efforts for mutual growth. Cultural exchange initiatives under CPEC contribute to people-to-people connectivity, fostering understanding, respect, and friendship among diverse cultures.

X. CPEC and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):

CPEC's focus on infrastructure development, poverty alleviation, energy security, and sustainable practices aligns with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). By actively addressing these goals, CPEC contributes to global efforts to eradicate poverty, ensure inclusive and sustainable economic growth, and combat climate change.

XI. Green Initiatives and Environmental Sustainability:

CPEC is committed to promoting sustainable development, placing a significant emphasis on the energy sector's environmental responsibility. The initiative actively fosters the development of renewable energy sources, including wind, solar, and hydro power. By encouraging the adoption of clean and sustainable energy alternatives, CPEC aims to reduce the region's reliance on fossil fuels and contribute to global efforts to combat climate change.

The integration of green energy initiatives within CPEC underscores a forward-thinking approach to environmental sustainability. Embracing these renewable energy sources not only diminishes the carbon footprint but also addresses environmental degradation. Moreover, this strategic shift towards sustainable energy aligns with international goals to transition to cleaner and greener energy options.

Through the promotion and utilization of renewable energy technologies, CPEC paves the way for a greener and more sustainable future. By advocating for environmentally responsible practices and investing in clean energy infrastructure, this initiative sets an example for collaborative efforts towards a healthier planet. CPEC demonstrates that economic growth and environmental stewardship can go hand in hand, showcasing a pathway to sustainable development and a better quality of life for all.

XII. Future Outlook:

The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) stands as a testament to the transformative power of regional cooperation, economic integration and sustainable development. With its potential to drive regional growth, enhance connectivity and foster collaboration among countries, CPEC is a pathway towards a prosperous and interconnected future. As CPEC continues to unfold, it will be crucial to address the challenges that may arise, such as security concerns, socioeconomic inequalities, and environmental impact. By implementing appropriate mitigation strategies, fostering stakeholder involvement, and strengthening policy coordination, these challenges can be overcome, ensuring the successful realization of CPEC's vision. Looking ahead, the success of CPEC hinges on continued collaboration, transparent governance, and inclusive development practices. By capitalizing on the opportunities presented by CPEC, participating countries can harness its potential to uplift economies, improve infrastructure, promote sustainable practices, and foster a climate of peace and stability. CPEC serves as an inspiration for other regions and countries aspiring to achieve similar progress through regional collaboration and international partnerships. As the world witnesses the unfolding of CPEC's immense potential, it becomes evident that this endeavour not only transforms the fortunes of China and Pakistan but also contributes to regional and global economic growth, connectivity and sustainable development.

<https://pakobserver.net/cpec-driving-regional-and-international-growth-and-development/>

K2 Daily News



https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=Back_Page&Date=2023-10-25

https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=Baqia&Date=2023-10-25

October 26, 2023

Business Recorder

Chairman for engaging with Chinese SOEs to help revive PSM

ISLAMABAD: Chairman, Pakistan Steel Mills (PSM) Aamir Mumtaz has proposed to the Special Facilitation Investment Council (SIFC) to engage with Chinese State Owned Enterprises (SOEs) for revival of the mill and make it a primary supplier of steel products for future CPEC infrastructure projects, sources in Ministry of Industries and Production (MoI&P) told Business Recorder.

The PSM is one of the key entities which are to be sorted out by the SIFC. The forum is considering annulling current bidding process for privatisation of Steel Corp, an entity established to privatise the mills' assets, and possibly using the entire land of PSM as EPZ.

The Chairman PSM Board has welcomed all serious and sincere efforts to find a reasonable solution to the public sector entity and proposed that the SIFC Implementation Committee should order and supervise the resolution of key outstanding restructuring tasks (liability settlement, final retrenchment and utility account transfers).

Sharing thoughts on solution and opportunity sourcing, Chairman PSM Board has emphasized that an exercise should be launched immediately to consult and discuss with all parties (local and international) who have, in the past, expressed an interest in participating in the revival project of Pakistan Steel which will lead to development of proposals. All such proposals will then be brought back to the SIFC to review and approve.

He further contended that this is necessary to find solutions to the challenges facing the Mills and to take advantage of the opportunities that new technologies offer. The current expansive footprint of the Mills has built-in production inefficiencies and also leads to high land

component in the overall value. This exercise should be conducted with an open and broad mindset with the aim to bring to the table proposals that will have maximum positive impact on the economy of Pakistan. It should not rule out any option, mode and scope.

“These proposals should include any transaction mode (leasing, BOT, PPP or sale of shares),” he added.

Aamir Mumtaz further stated that it should also be open to more expansive possibilities such as multiple Steel Mills by individual investors on smaller (sub 300 acres) parcels of Pakistan Steel land, Steel Mills with newer and modern technologies (electric arc and compact/mini steel mills), collaboration with Tuwairqi Steel Mills that may aid its revival, use of Pakistan Steel Mills vast and valuable infrastructure as a shared service to a Steel Mills complex and emphasis on joint ventures and technology transfers.

He expressed the hope the SIFC will provide the appropriate framework for procurement or transaction execution that is not only within the relevant laws but is also expeditious and insulated from falling prey to red tape. Furthermore, the SIFC is expected to provide an arrangement that ensures continuity of institutional support to the project, as executing the transaction and carrying out commercial and engineering works that will be intensive and arduous. The interested parties will need reassurance that the Government has installed the appropriate transaction framework that delivers a result.

In case investor response is lukewarm for whatever reason, GoP must (use own resources) start finding creative solutions to restore some production of the Mills. This will also serve to strengthen government’s negotiating position.

On localization, the Government must remain focused on developing the capabilities of local workforce and exploitation of local resources so that any rebuild plan for the blast furnace should be tied to the development of Pakistan’s Iron Ore mining industry.

He proposed that tariffs will need to be re-evaluated to support long term steel industrial policy and revival of Pakistan Steel.

On China’s interest in PSM, he said that during the last four years. the matter of the revival of Pakistan Steel Mills was raised with the Chinese Government on many occasions. This was on the agenda of at least two Prime Ministerial visits that took place during 2019 to 2022. On each occasion, the help of the Chinese Government was sought to bring back Pakistan Steel into service. The Chinese Government officials (including the President and Premier) were sympathetic and instructed the relevant Chinese State-Owned Enterprises to cooperate and work with the Pakistani authorities. The Chinese preference was a government-to-government (G2G) deal and bringing this matter under the auspices of the CPEC program.

“My opinion was sought by the then government and I indicated that I will support whatever the Government of Pakistan decides. However, I also recommended that such a transaction should be negotiated between the relevant parties,” he said, adding that the primary party at that time was the MCC (Metallurgical Corporation of China) and preferred a G2G CPEC framework using their own funds (without requiring public funding and sovereign guarantees). They preferred a model where they could actively negotiate terms with Pakistan, rather than go through a bidding process.

“I was also supportive of this approach and confident of negotiating terms that would be the best possible for Pakistan in this situation. My push to explore reviving the mills under the umbrella of CPEC was driven by another factor,” Aamir Mumtaz said, adding that he was of the view that Pakistan Steel should be made part of CPEC with the stipulation that maximum steel used in the CPEC projects should be manufactured by Pakistan Steel. This project should be given highest priority, production restored and steel products supplied to CPEC infrastructure projects.

He recommended that it may not be advisable to raise this matter with the Chinese Government again. They may be forced to remind Pakistan that they have already offered help in the near past on several occasions and the issues have been on Pakistan side to move forward. Chairman PSM Board proposed that it might be better to start working with the representatives of Chinese relevant state-owned enterprises and if necessary, the Government of China can be engaged at a later stage. Secondly, once production is restored, Pakistan Steel should be contractually designated as the primary supplier of steel products for future CPEC infrastructure projects.—MUSHTAQ GHUMMAN

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2023/10/26/1-page/975374-news.html>

Daily Times

Pakistani handicrafts enterprise aims to increase offline presence in China

“We have many partnerships, and people enjoy using our products. We foresee an increase in the number of our physical stores in China,” said Yang Han, sales manager of a China-based Pakistani art enterprise said on Wednesday. The Pakistani brand, specializing in premium hand-made scarves and carpets from Pakistan, and Iran, boasts nine offline stores in major Chinese cities including Beijing, Hangzhou, Shanghai, Xi’an, Nanjing, and Tianjin, the sales manager told CEN in an interview at 2023 Beijing International Cultural and Tourism Consumption Expo. With an effective distribution network based in Hangzhou, Asia has become increasingly popular in China. “Our products from Pakistan, India and Iran normally arrive in Hangzhou first, and then they are distributed to offline shops in other cities,” Yang informed, adding that the handicrafts have the potential to penetrate smaller markets as well. To this end, the company has formed a dedicated expo team to promote its products at various exhibitions in China. “This year, we also participated in the China International Fair For Trade In Service (CIFTIS),” said Yang. “We plan to distribute our products from Hangzhou to various other cities, leveraging our established relationships,” he concluded.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1143030/pakistani-handicrafts-enterprise-aims-to-increase-offline-presence-in-china/>

Pakistan Observer

New accords with China to add new chapter to CPEC: PM Kakar

Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaarul Haq Kakar said Wednesday the recent agreements between Pakistan and China would add a new chapter to the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor. In a meeting with Chinese Ambassador Jiang Zaidong, the premier said China’s Belt and Road Initiative was the guarantor of development and prosperity of the entire region.

Kakar told the Chinese envoy that Pakistan was committed to the implementation of projects recently concluded with China in diverse sectors.

He expressed gratitude to Chinese President Xi Jinping and the Chinese leadership for the warm welcome and arrangements during his recent visit to China. “Pakistan will take strong steps to implement the memoranda of understanding and agreements signed during my recent visit to China.” Kakar said the friendship between China and Pakistan was “higher than towering mountains and deeper than deep seas”.

He mentioned that the people of the two countries were benefiting from the fruits of CPEC.

The Chinese ambassador assured PM Kakar of China’s full cooperation for the development and economic stability of Pakistan.

<https://pakobserver.net/new-accords-with-china-to-add-new-chapter-to-cpec-pm-kakar/#:~:text=Caretaker%20Prime%20Minister%20Anwaarul%20Haq%20Kakar%20said%20Wednesday,of%20development%20and%20prosperity%20of%20the%20entire%20region>

Strengthening Sino-Pak relations

Muhammad Zahid Rifat

CHINA and Pakistan are time-tested, all weather, trustworthy friends. Their enviable friendship has withstood all challenges and tests over the years as leadership of both the countries remain committed not to allow any breach or dent in their time-tested friendship on any account or attempts from some hostile elements from time to time. Mutually trusted and beneficial friendship between great neighbouring countries is further strengthened, promoted and consolidated with the exchange of visits by the highest level leadership and delegations as and when these take place on mutual understanding and need at the appropriate level of both the countries.

Caretaker Prime Minister Anwarul Haq Kakar has just paid an official visit to China which was quite productive, result-oriented and fruitful in more than one respect. The visit also coincided with another milestone in the bilateral ties as both China and Pakistan were celebrating the 10th anniversary of CPEC. This was his yet another foreign visit since he assumed power in mid-August 2023. He undertook the visit at the invitation of Chinese President Xi Jinping to attend the 3rd Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) forum for International Cooperation held on October 17 and 18 in Beijing which was attended by about 140 heads of states and governments from all over the world.

Caretaker Prime Minister Anwarul Haq Kakar’s quite significant visit, to say the least, quite obviously emphatically reaffirmed Pakistan’s commitment to continue working and ensure timely completion of great game changer China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) projects a major flagship under the banner of BRI initiative besides profusely advocating the dire need for continuing making collective efforts for regional connectivity and shared prosperity. Addressing the high level Forum of BRI Forum on “Connectivity in an Open Global Economy”, the visiting Pakistani leader duly appreciated President Xi’s vision for creating a global community with shared future and the BRI which were of immense significance for working and ensuring global connectivity, economic development and shared

prosperity. The visiting Pakistani leader told Chinese President that relationship with China was the cornerstone of his country's foreign policy that Pakistan stands by China and trusts it blindly, called for resolving lingering, burning Kashmir issue in accordance with the UN Security Council resolutions in a peaceful manner and reiterated Pakistan's continued support to One China.

At the end of the official visit, a joint statement was simultaneously issued from Beijing and Islamabad containing 31 points altogether. Briefly it stated that Pakistan and China have reiterated the resolve to move forward together on the path of development and accelerate the building of an even closer Pak-China community with a shared future in the new era, reaffirmed their support for each other on issues concerning their respective core interests and major concerns, also reaffirmed that mutual trust remained at the core of China-Pakistan relationship, agreed that China and Pakistan are All Weather Strategic Partners and iron brothers and friendship between the two countries is time-tested and unbreakable and also recognized that China-Pakistan economic Corridor (CPEC) , as a pioneering project of the BRI, has yielded fruitful outcomes in the ten years since its inception and has now entered a new state of high-quality development.

Caretaker Prime Minister Anwarul Kakar while going through hectic schedule of meetings and other engagements, also availed the opportunity to meet a number of world leaders on the sidelines of the BRI Forum's deliberations and discussed with them matters of mutual interest and measures to further boost his country's friendly relations for mutual benefits. They included Chinese Premier Li Qiang, UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres, Russian Federation President Vladimir Putin, Kazakhstan President Kassym Joman Tokoev, President of Sri Lanka Ranil Wickremesinghe, President of Kenya William Ruto among others. He also held meetings with the CEOs and Executives of a number of leading Chinese companies and urged and encouraged them to explore and avail the vast investment potential and opportunities of Pakistan and also visited Urumqi, met there Member of CPC's central Committee Ms Xingrui and also addressed the students of Xinjiang University.

During the visit, China and Pakistan signed as many as 20 agreements and Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) covering cooperation on the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), infrastructure, mining, industry, green and low-carbon development. Health, space cooperation, digital economy, development cooperation and export of agriculture products to China. The Pakistani leader along with his Chinese hosts witnessed the signing of the agreements and MoUs by members of the high-level delegation which had accompanied Anwarul Haq Kakar in the official visit. Details of these agreements and MoUs will be given separately in some detail as and when these are available from the official quarters concerned.

Besides PM Anwarul Haq Kakar, other dignitaries who participated in the forum included the Russian Federation President, the Ethiopian Prime Minister, the Sri Lankan President, the Republic of Congo President, the Papua New Guinea Prime Minister, the Prime Minister of Cambodia. The President of Argentina, the Hungarian Prime Minister and the President of Indonesia to mention just some of the large number of them present for want of space please.

The outcome of Caretaker Prime Minister Anwarul Kakar's successful and productive and forward looking maiden visit to the most friendly country China cannot be fully covered in all fairness and justifiably and as such there will be more later covering the prospects of further boosting cooperation under the great game changer CPEC framework in due course of time, please.

—The writer is Lahore-based freelance journalist, columnist and retired Deputy Controller (News), Radio Pakistan, Islamabad.

<https://pakobserver.net/strengthening-sino-pak-relations/#:~:text=Briefly%20it%20stated%20that%20Pakistan%20and%20China%20have,now%20entered%20a%20new%20state%20of%20high-quality%20development>

Thar Block II generates over 17,000 jobs

The power plants at Engro Thar Block II, developed within the framework of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), serve as more than just coal-fired stations utilizing indigenous resources to generate power for the country, Gwadar Pro reported on Wednesday. In fact, the development of Thar Block II has resulted in the creation of over 17,000 employment opportunities for the local community.

Khushhal Thar, an initiative by the Sindh Engro Coal Mining Company (SECMC), has played a pivotal role in providing the local community access to employment across various projects in Block II.

The Gwadar Pro quoting a statement issued by SEMSC, stated “To promote inclusivity, Khushhal Thar has facilitated over 28,000 employment opportunities, accounting for a significant 61% of the total employment in Thar Block II.”

This indicates that 17,080 individuals, making up 61% of the total workforce, have been engaged in various roles within Thar Block II. The statement, released on Tuesday evening, further emphasizes SECMC's commitment to empowering the local community.

<https://pakobserver.net/thar-block-ii-generates-over-17000-jobs/>

The Nation

Belt and Road Forum to further boost China-Pakistan time-tested relations

In a remarkable demonstration of solidarity, the leadership of China and Pakistan has once again reaffirmed their commitment to strengthen the all-weather strategic cooperative partnership, bolstering economic cooperation and enhancing regional stability.

Prime Minister Anwaar ul Haq Kakar visited China and participated in the Third Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation held in Beijing.

Both Chinese and Pakistani leaders expressed their resolve to further foster consensus on a myriad of issues to bolster economic and strategic ties between the two nations.

A highlight of the discussions was the enthusiastic recognition of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) as a catalyst for global economic growth and a platform for international cooperation.

Both countries pledged to work closely on high-quality Belt and Road projects, aiming to foster peace, development and win-win cooperation.

The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), a pioneering project of the BRI, was lauded for its fruitful outcomes over the past decade. The two sides expressed their intent to further develop CPEC into an exemplary high-quality Belt and Road cooperation project.

The successful visit culminated in the signing of 20 agreements and Memoranda of Understanding covering cooperation in multiple fields, including infrastructure, mining, industry, green and low-carbon development, health, space cooperation, digital economy, development cooperation and the export of agricultural products to China.

The significance of Gwadar Port as a critical node in cross-regional connectivity was acknowledged, with both nations vowing to expedite its development and enhance its role as a regional trade hub. A major milestone was the agreement to implement the ML-1 upgrade project, further bolstering Pakistan's social and economic development. Furthermore, the two countries agreed to continue collaboration in a variety of sectors, including renewable energy projects, manufacturing facilities, the mining industry, agriculture, information technology, and cultural cooperation.

In a positive step to promote bilateral trade and people-to-people exchanges, Pakistan and China announced that the Khunjerab Pass would function all year round as they planned to enhance its infrastructure and passage conditions.

In the realm of finance, the two sides expressed their desire to strengthen financial and banking cooperation, with China thanking Pakistan for its support in the financial sector.

Their commitment to space cooperation was also reiterated, with the signing of cooperation documents on the International Lunar Research Station. They expressed their aspiration to advance progress in exploring outer space, propelling both nations to take the lead in cutting-edge space missions.

Dr Hasan Daud Butt, a former project director of CPEC, while talking to WealthPK said that the BRI remains a vital driver of world economic growth, and the commitment of China and Pakistan to working closely on high-quality cooperation is promising for the entire region. "The CPEC, as a flagship project of the BRI, has already shown substantial progress and is set to enter a new phase of high-quality development. The joint efforts to build growth, innovation and green corridors represent a shift towards a more sustainable and diversified approach, emphasising both economic and environmental aspects."

"The commitment to expediting projects such as Gwadar Port, the ML-1 upgrade and the Karakoram Highway realignment is evidence of the determination of both countries to enhance connectivity, stimulate economic growth, and foster regional cooperation. These developments are poised to create a positive impact not only on Pakistan's economy but also on regional trade and connectivity," he underscored.

Daud Butt said that the extensive cooperation agreements in sectors ranging from renewable energy and manufacturing to agriculture and space exploration underscored the

comprehensive nature of the China-Pakistan relationship. "By diversifying their collaboration, both countries aim to ensure that the benefits of their partnership reach various segments of their societies, fostering inclusive and sustainable development.

Following the wrap-up of the Third Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation, the palpable enthusiasm between China and Pakistan resonates with optimism, signaling a brighter and more prosperous future for both nations and further strengthening the bonds of their all-weather friendship."

<https://www.nation.com.pk/26-Oct-2023/belt-and-road-forum-to-further-boost-china-pakistan-time-tested-relations>

The News

Gap of \$4bn in import data: FBR chief says China being asked to share data in real time

Mehtab Haider

ISLAMABAD: Admitting a gap of \$4 billion in import data, Pakistan has decided to take up this issue with China in order to secure Goods Declaration (GDs) wise import data, instead of the existing mechanism for securing only lump sum data under the exchange of information agreement.

During the Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Revenues meeting chaired by Senator Saleem Mandviwalla here on Wednesday, the Chairman FBR, Amjad Zubair Tiwana, said China was not providing real-time data and was sharing only lump sum data, which poses difficulties. "We are now asking China to provide GDs wise data to customs authorities," the chairman FBR said. The FBR Member Customs, Zeba Hai, said that the Customs Pakistan Single Window was integrating with the Chinese Single Window System as Pakistan's 23 percent imports were coming from China.

"There is a gap of \$3 to \$4 billion on imports from China," she said and added that discrepancies in data existed in every country but its volume in the case of China was on the higher side.

The FBR chairman also informed the committee that there were a total of 4.9 million return filers and the tax machinery wanted to jack it up to 15 million, so there was a gap of 5 to 10 million return filers. Senator Farooq H Naek said that he was tired of paying so much tax but the FBR continued to penalise only the existing taxpayers and failed to bring new and potential non-filers into the tax net. He also pointed out that the FBR had failed to bring retailers into the tax net.

The FBR chairman replied that the FBR had set a target of bringing 0.7 million return filers but could admit only 1.2 million new filers into the tax net. He said the agriculture income was provincial tax under which Rs1.2 million was exempted from taxable income. He highlighted that the provinces were failing to impose taxes on the agricultural sector.

He said the tax exemption threshold for both salaried and business individuals at present is Rs600,000 per annum, which will continue.

The committee took up the case of withdrawal of money from accounts of a private bank account holders. The governor SBP said the total amount is about Rs254 million and action has been initiated against the manager. The representative of the affected families said that the amount was around Rs350 million. Of this, Rs270 million was reverted to the accounts within six weeks. The committee emphasised that such frauds in the banking sector should be monitored and action should be taken against those responsible.

The committee also discussed fake currency notes circulating in the market. The chairman said that most fake currency notes are of Rs1,000 denomination and they were coming out of ATMs.

The governor State Bank promised to change the security features of currency notes and said that would help in curbing fake currency notes.

<https://e.thenews.com.pk/detail?id=249582>

October 27, 2023

Business Recorder

Senate panel told

PSM sell-off halted after 3 Chinese cos withdrew EoIs

ZULFIQAR AHMAD

ISLAMABAD: A parliamentary panel was informed on Thursday that the privatisation of Pakistan Steel Mills (PSM) was halted after three out of a total of four Chinese companies – which had shown interest in the bidding process – withdrew their interest.

In a briefing to the Senate standing committee on industries and production, which met here with Khalida Ateeb in the chair, the federal secretary for the Privatisation Division, Jawad Paul, said that the PSM was included in the privatisation list on June 17, 2019, but it was halted after three Chinese companies withdrew their expression of interest.

He said that due to the global decline in steel demand and adverse economic conditions, three of the Chinese companies withdrew their interest.

“Initially, four Chinese companies expressed interest in the bidding process. However, due to the global decline in steel demand and adverse economic conditions, three of these companies withdrew their interest,” he added.

Consequently, he added, in a meeting held on October 6, 2023, the Privatisation Commission Board decided to halt the privatisation process of PSM.

This decision to halt PSM privatisation was made because having only one bidder raised concerns about transparency, he said, adding a technical due diligence report indicated that an investment of approximately \$584 billion would be necessary to restore the Steel Mills Plant to its original capacity of 1.1 million metric tons per annum.

“The matter has now been submitted to the federal cabinet for a final decision,” he added.

In a briefing to the committee, the PSM officials said that the organisation generates Rs5 billion in revenue from sales, but suffers a loss of Rs12.8 million due to scrap theft.

Additionally, the company incurs an annual loss of around 30 billion rupees, they added.

The committee expressed dissatisfaction over the lack of implementation of its recommendations and regretted that despite employing over 500 security personnel, scrap theft at PSM has not diminished.

The committee directed the Ministry of Industries and Production to present their plans for the future of PSM at the next meeting.

The members of the committee also expressed annoyance over the absence of the caretaker minister for industries and production Gohar Ejaz after he skipped a meeting of the committee without any intimation.

It said the caretaker minister must ensure his presence in the next meeting next time, saying the meeting of a house committee is not a joke.

In discussing the role and functions of the Sugar Advisory Board (SAB), officials informed the committee that the board comprises ministers and secretaries of Commerce, National Food Security and Research, Industries and Production, chairman FBR, as well as chairman and zonal chairpersons of the Pakistan Sugar Mills Association and the Association of Farmers. Additionally, each provincial government is represented by one member. The officials highlighted that the primary role of the Sugar Advisory Board is to provide input on sugar demand, sugarcane production, and estimated prices of sugarcane and sugar in the country.

Besides, with assistance from the FBR, the SAB has implemented a track and trace system in every sugar mill. The committee expressed satisfaction with the Sugar Advisory Board and expressed hope that the SAB would play a significant role in controlling sugar smuggling and stabilising sugar prices in the country.

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2023/10/27/1-page/975468-news.html>

Daily Times

Pak-China cooperation in art, culture important for stronger friendship, says Jamal Shah

Federal Minister for National Heritage and Culture, Syed Jamal Shah has said that building bridges through art and culture between Pakistan and China is important and significant. “The opportunity for us to work with our Chinese brothers and sisters and express our bonds through people-to-people contacts and bridges in the form of art such as film will make our friendship more resilient and more lasting,” the minister told the Global Times.

Jamal Shah also attended the screening of Ba’Tie Girl in Beijing and awarded the Pakistan-China Cultural Exchange Envoy award to Xie Peng, the producer of the film. While trade and commerce under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) have great economic importance, Jamal Shah noted that building bridges through art and culture is equally or even more significant. The minister also noted that the film reflects the growing cultural and

collaborative ties between Pakistan and China. “I think the culture corridor should be the strongest corridor, not because I’m an artist myself, but because art and culture is the best possible means of communication. It is the most effective one,” Jamal Shah said. The friendship between Pakistan and China is higher than mountains, deeper than the ocean, sweeter than honey and stronger than steel.

And today we are going to see such friendship through film, Pakistani Ambassador to China Moin ul Haque said ahead of the screening of the film Ba’Tie Girl. The film Ba’Tie Girl is the first major co-production by Pakistani and Chinese producers. Translating to “Dost Larki” in Urdu, the title means “the girl from ironclad brother Pakistan.” It embodies the essence of friendship between the peoples of China and Pakistan. The film is about the empowering journey and the growth of girls that develops around the friendship between a Chinese female engineer associated with the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and a teenage Pakistani girl who share a passion for soccer. They bravely confront hardships and fight against biases, stereotypes and restrictions against girls in a remote and conservative village in Pakistan.

Eventually they overcome these challenges and find their inner strength. By showcasing cross-cultural friendship, mentorship, support and mutual growth, the story vividly portrays how sports can lead to growth and unity. It underscores women’s rights and depicts how the collective efforts of young girls can impact and transform their community.

It also illustrates how different cultures can coexist in harmony and foster happiness and improvement within the community. Xie said the film was officially released in August in Pakistan, where it generated a warm response and great feedback. “This is an affirmation of our production of this film and an encouragement for us to continue to create Chinese-Pakistan-themed films. We will use film as a platform for China and Pakistan to serve as an envoy of Chinese culture and inherit and continue the China-Pakistan friendship,” Xie said.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1143499/pak-china-cooperation-in-art-culture-important-for-stronger-friendship-says-jamal-shah/>

Pakistan Observer

Pakistan puts in place regulatory framework for using RMB for trade with China

Use of RMB to facilitate trade with China: Governor SBP

ISLAMABAD – State Bank of Pakistan Governor Jameel Ahmad has said that using Renminbi (RMB) for settling cross-border trade and investment transactions with China will further strengthen bilateral economic and financial ties.

He was addressing a ceremony on “Promoting the use of RMB in Cross-Border Settlement” organized by ICBC Bank in the Jinnah Conventional Center on Friday.

The event was held to mark the bank’s designation as the RMB clearing agent in Pakistan by the People’s Bank of China (PBoC).

Governor SBP elaborated that given the importance of Pakistan's economic ties with China, the SBP has put in place the required regulatory framework that facilitates the use of RMB in trade and investment transactions, such as opening of LCs and availing financing facilities in RMB.

In terms of regulations in Pakistan, RMB is at par with other international currencies, such as the US Dollar, Euro, and Japanese Yen, he asserted.

Both public and private sector enterprises in Pakistan are free to choose RMB for bilateral trade and investment activities. As a result of the Central Bank's efforts to promote the use of RMB in trade with China, RMB-denominated imports of Pakistan from China have increased from about 2% in FY18 to around 18% in FY22.

Mr. Ahmad also discussed the benefits of the local RMB clearing system and denominating trade in RMB, including fast turnaround time and reduced cost for the local banking system; easy access to the RMB settlement for the local banking system; improved and more competitive pricing of bilateral trade transactions; and opening up of new markets for Pakistani businesses.

Governor SBP emphasized that banks can play an important role by providing their customers with the necessary information about the regulatory framework in China to conduct transactions in RMB. He also expressed hope that Pakistani businesses will enhance their understanding of the Chinese market and evaluate the benefits of conducting trade in RMB at a more competitive pricing.

He viewed that this initiative of establishing a local RMB clearing system will yield long-term benefits to China-Pakistan relationship in general, and Pakistan's economy and banking system in particular. He reiterated that the SBP remains committed to providing the policy and regulatory support to further strengthen economic and financial ties with China for the mutual benefit of our consumers and businesses.

<https://pakobserver.net/sbp-puts-in-place-regulatory-framework-to-facilitate-use-of-rmb-for-trade-with-china/>

October 28, 2023

Daily Times

Power distribution work starts for Gwadar Free Zone North

Power distribution work has commenced for providing 5 Mega Watts (MW) of electricity to Gwadar Free Zone North by erecting power polls and laying electricity wires in two phases simultaneously. It will take two months to complete the work, Gwadar Pro reported on Friday. In the first phase, the Gwadar Port Authority (GPA) has started installing power infrastructure from the grid station to the perimeter walls of Gwadar Free Zone North. In the second phase, local company SIGMA Engineering Ltd has started laying the electricity distribution system from the walls of Gwadar Free Zone to the buildings of various industrial sites. SIGMA Engineering Ltd has been outsourced by China Communications Construction Company (CCCC) Limited, a GPA official told Gwadar Pro. "After completion of the entire

project, the per unit power tariff charged to factories will be around Rs 57 according to the government rate prescribed for industries. Currently, generator-based electricity is being provided to all operational factories in Gwadar Free Zone North temporarily,” he added. Progress was made after the successful joint feasibility study conducted by Quetta Electric Power Supply Company (QEPSC) and China Overseas Ports Holding Company (COPHC). The Deep Sea Port sole grid station was established in 2019 exclusively for Gwadar port and Free Zone through 3 feeders.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1143636/power-distribution-work-starts-for-gwadar-free-zone-north/>

The News

Late Chinese premier Li conveyed CPEC outline to Nawaz in May 2013

ISLAMABAD: Former Chinese prime minister Li Keqiang, who passed away a day earlier, had the distinction of conveying outline of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) on behalf of his President Xi Jinping to Pakistan’s former prime minister Nawaz Sharif and having in-depth discussion about the gigantic project way back in May 2013 in Islamabad, when the latter had yet to assume the office through oath-taking.

Nawaz Sharif was then the prime minister-elect, and he had come from Lahore in a special plane for meeting with the late Chinese dignitary in a five-star hotel of the federal capital. The meeting continued for about three hours.

Sources told The News here that the late Chinese PM, who stepped down nine months ago, was visiting Switzerland in May 2013. On his way back, he went to India for brief stay, and from there he came to Pakistan and had a meeting with Nawaz Sharif. Pakistan was under interim government and Chinese did not opt to visit a country where the administration was working under such arrangements, the sources said.

Nawaz visited Beijing in the following month where he was received by President Xi. The two leaders agreed on concluding CPEC, which was termed flagship project of China’s Belt and Road Initiative, catering several countries of the world.

Chinese Premier Li Keqiang was the one who inked the CPEC with visiting prime minister Nawaz. The sources reminded that he was a true friend of Pakistan and had his hand in several projects which greatly benefitted Pakistan. It was the first occasion when Chinese state media termed Premier Li Keqiang visit to Pakistan “iron brother” besides “all-weather friend” Pakistan.

Once he vowed while addressing the lawmakers back home that “if you love China, love Pakistan too”. He was the first Chinese head of the government whose plane was escorted by six JF-17 Thunder fighter jets jointly while entering the Pakistan airspace for his maiden visit to Islamabad.

Former prime minister and president Pakistan Muslim League Nawaz (PMLN) Shehbaz Sharif, in his message, expressed his deep grief on the demise of Premier Li and said: “I am profoundly saddened by the tragic news of the demise of former premier Li Keqiang. Over

the last decade, I had the privilege of knowing Li as sincere friend of Pakistan. His substantial contributions to strengthening Sino-Pakistan relations were remarkable. Notably, his support and leadership in turning the concept of CEPEC into a transformative project would be remembered as his enduring legacy. With his passing, China has lost a dedicated and remarkable statesman while Pakistan mourns the loss of a steadfast and reliable friend. “My deepest condolences go out to his family, the CPEC and the people of China,” he concluded.

<https://e.thenews.com.pk/detail?id=250192>

Pak-China trade agreements to create employment, economic opportunities in GB: PM

ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwar-ul-Haq Kakar on Friday said the recently signed accords between Pakistan and China would open up new opportunities of employment and economic development for the people of Gilgit-Baltistan.

The prime minister expressed the views in a meeting with Chief Minister GB Gulbar Khan at the PM House.

They discussed the memorandum of understanding signed during the prime minister’s visit to China and other measures to further increase trade relations between GB and Xinjiang.

The chief minister Gilgit-Baltistan thanked the prime minister for his recent visit to GB and for taking interest in the development of the area.

Meanwhile, former senator Saleem Saifullah and Chairperson, Child Protection and Welfare Bureau (CPWB) Punjab, Sarah Ahmad also called on the Prime Minister at the PM House separately.

Saleem Saifullah lauded the economic policies of the caretaker government and invited the PM to visit the Ghulam Ishaq Khan Institute of Technology.

Sarah Ahmad discussed the matters relating to child welfare with the PM. The prime minister lauded the services of the Child Protection and Welfare Bureau and assured support on behalf of the federal government to the child protection facility.

<https://e.thenews.com.pk/detail?id=250163>

Speakers call for China’s role in Kashmir conflict

Myra Imran

Islamabad:Speakers at a roundtable conference emphasized China's involvement in the Kashmir Conflict and urged Pakistan to recognize it as a key stakeholder in the issue. Organized by the Pakistan Institute for Conflict and Security Studies (PICSS), the event featured prominent speakers and participants from various backgrounds. Former Defence Minister Lt. General (r) Naeem Khalid Lodhi, former Pakistani High Commissioner to Sri Lanka and PICSS Chairman Major General (r) Saad Khattak, Chairman of the Kashmir Institute of International Relations Altaf Hussain Wani, and President of the Kashmir Youth Alliance Dr. Mujahid Gilani were among the key speakers at the roundtable. General Lodhi asserted that China should be considered the fourth party to the Kashmir conflict, in addition

to Pakistan, India, and the Kashmiri people. He suggested that Pakistan should engage China as a stakeholder and noted that the escalating rivalry between China and the United States might present opportunities for the Kashmiri people. General Lodhi distanced himself from the viewpoint of former Chief of Army Staff General Qamar Javed Bajwa, emphasizing that such perspectives were individual and not reflective of institutional approaches. He stressed the need for Pakistan to negotiate with India from a position of strength. Major General Saad Khattak criticised the political leadership of Pakistan and Azad Kashmir, holding them accountable for the Kashmir debacle. He highlighted issues such as Kashmiri leadership acquiring properties in Pakistan and Pakistani leadership owning properties abroad, alleging insincerity toward the Kashmir Cause and the people of Kashmir. He also pointed out the presence of 30 ministers without portfolios in Azad Jammu and Kashmir, considering it a matter of shame. Altaf Wani, Chairman of the Kashmir Institute of International Relations (KIIR), expressed concerns about India's actions since August 5, 2019, aimed at altering the demographic composition of Kashmir. He argued that Pakistan had taken insufficient action in response, with only a speech at the United Nations General Assembly to its credit.

Wani critiqued the ceasefire agreement reached with India in February 2021 and criticized both Indian and Pakistani media for their handling of the Kashmir issue. He emphasized the need for Pakistan to send strong signals and not relegate the Kashmir issue to the background.

Dr. Mujahid Gilani, President of the Kashmir Youth Alliance, drew parallels between the situation in Kashmir and Gaza. He presented documented evidence of Indian atrocities against Kashmiris, stating that these atrocities had been ongoing since the Indian occupation in 1947 but had intensified since 2019. Dr. Gilani called for a consolidated and consistent Kashmir policy in Pakistan, one that would remain unaffected by changes in government or key positions.

<https://e.thenews.com.pk/detail?id=250009>

October 29, 2023

Pakistan Observer

Benefit China's revitalisation model

Naveed Aman Khan

CHINA'S battle against poverty has benefited the largest number of people in human history. To sustain poverty reduction gains, China has focused more on achieving endogenous development in areas that have been lifted out of poverty and introducing vigorous measures to support rural revitalization. China's goal is to achieve common prosperity and high-quality development including through the rural revitalization strategy with a focus in five key areas: industry development, human capital, culture, ecological environment and local governance.

China achieved its goal of poverty reduction in the new era as scheduled. Chinese have accomplished the arduous task of eliminating extreme poverty and made a significant contribution to global poverty reduction. Going forward, China will continue to sustain and expand the gains in poverty alleviation and comprehensively realize rural revitalization. China will ensure that sound fiscal policy measures will be made and implemented to support

the transition. Chinese government stands ready to continue strengthening cooperation with the World Bank in relevant areas.

China's poverty reduction story is a story of persistent growth through economic transformation. As China's economy adjusts to a new low carbon growth model, its social policies will need to be adapted to support greater labour mobility, upgrade skill levels in line with shifts in labour demand and offer improved social protection to ensure a just transition.

China's approach to poverty reduction has been based on two pillars. The first was broad-based economic transformation to open new economic opportunities and raise average incomes. The second was the recognition that targeted support was needed to alleviate persistent poverty; support was initially provided to areas disadvantaged by geography, the lack of opportunities and later to individual households. China's development points to a number of lessons for other countries. The entire world, especially Pakistan, can benefit from China's experience of successful poverty alleviation. Very wisely, China paid importance to modern technological education, an outward orientation, sustained public investment in infrastructure, and structural policies supportive of competition.

How the success of China's economic development and the associated reduction of poverty benefited from effective governance, which helped coordinate multiple government agencies and elicit cooperation from non-government stakeholders is a matter of concern. To illustrate the role of broad-based economic transformation in poverty alleviation, we need to analyze growing agricultural productivity, incremental industrialization, managed urbanization, rural-to-urban migration and the role of infrastructure. The evolution of China's approach to poverty alleviation, from place-based to country-wide social protection policies and the targeted poverty alleviation strategy since 2012 are marvellous and unmatched.

The probable future structural shifts in China's growth model, involving a shift towards consumption, high-value services and the pursuit of carbon neutrality, along with their implications for China's forthcoming policy agenda, underscore the necessity of bridging remaining gaps in the quality of education between rural and urban areas. Additionally, there is a need to enhance social protection for migrant workers and explore opportunities for better integration of various existing social security policies.

China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region has seen a positive trend in economic development and people's livelihoods have significantly improved. Development is the crucial foundation for the region's long-term stability. Chinese President Xi Jinping demands law-based governance and long-term efforts to develop Xinjiang into a region that is united, harmonious, prosperous and culturally advanced, with healthy ecosystems and people living and working in contentment.

Xinjiang has made great achievements in its social and economic development and different groups of people in the region are having a stronger sense of achievement, happiness and security as their livelihoods significantly improved. China has been strengthening support to the region both from the central government as well as other regions for helping its economic development, employment, education, healthcare etc.

Through proactive labour and employment policies, Xinjiang has continuously improved people's lives and guaranteed and developed their human rights in every field. The poverty eradication in Xinjiang had seen remarkable achievements. Almost four million people have been lifted out of poverty in the region, roughly one-seventh of its population. China's ethnic work has turned out to be a success regarding the overall improvement of Xinjiang's development and people's livelihoods, noting that the success in Xinjiang is due to the combined results of strong leadership of the CPC Central Committee and concerted efforts of the Chinese people.

<https://pakobserver.net/benefit-chinas-revitalisation-model/>

Pakistan National Pavilion inaugurated at Sichuan Agriculture Expo

Pakistan's Ambassador in China, Moin ul Haque inaugurated the Pakistan National Pavilion at the Sichuan Agriculture Expo in Chengdu. He was joined by the Vice Governor of Sichuan Province, Hu Yun, the Secretary Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP), Dr. Farheed Iqbal and Pakistan's Acting Consul General in Chengdu, Agha Hunain Abbas Khan.

The Pavilion introduces the famous tourist sites in Pakistan and displays a number of the agricultural goods produced by the country.

More than a dozen Pakistani companies displayed their agricultural products at the Pavilion. The Pavilion attracted great interest from the participants attending the Expo.

Earlier on the same day, the Ambassador participated in the Opening Ceremony of the 9th Sichuan Agriculture Expo, where Pakistan is the Country of Honour.

In his address during the opening ceremony, the Ambassador highlighted the strong bilateral relations between Pakistan and China, that are based on political trust, strategic communication, and practical cooperation.

He also highlighted the close cooperation between Pakistan and Sichuan, including through sister province and city collaborations.

Pakistan's participation in the Expo will inject impetus into the ongoing cooperation between Pakistan and China in the agriculture sector. Recently five important agriculture SPS protocols have been finalised between the two sides, giving Pakistan access to a market of US\$30 billion in cooked beef, dairy, chillies, cherries and other livestock products.

This endeavour will contribute to Pakistan's efforts to increase its exports to China. Sichuan Agriculture Expo is the largest agriculture expo in western China and caters to over 400 million people. More than 2000 exhibitors are attending the Expo and more than 200,000 people are expected to visit it. —APP

<https://pakobserver.net/pakistan-national-pavilion-inaugurated-at-sichuan-agriculture-expo/#:~:text=Pakistan%E2%80%99s%20Ambassador%20in%20China%2C%20Moin%20ul%20Haque%20inaugurated,Consul%20General%20in%20Chengdu%2C%20Agha%20Hunain%20Abbas%20Khan>

Outlook on China's foreign policy on its neighbourhood in new era

THE Twenty First Century was declared as the century of Asia. As we close in on the first quarter of this Millennium, it is essential to examine the progress made by the large mass of humanity residing in Asia and China's contribution to it. Asia, with its congruence of land mass and ancient ties of trade, commerce and cultural exchanges held immense promise in the medieval times when Europe was still enveloped in the dark ages. As mentioned by President Xi Jinping, in his recent keynote address to the 3rd BRI Forum, the pioneers of the ancient silk routes won their place in history as friendly emissaries leading camel caravans and sailing ships loaded with goods rather than conquerors.

In this backdrop, after being liberated from the strangleholds of European and Japanese imperialism, China was struggling to eke out a survival. Ironically, the Occident, wary of the rise of communism, blacked out mainland China, recognizing Taiwan as the Republic of China. This farce continued for nearly a quarter century—after which—the Communist Party of China (CPC)'s perseverance paid dividends, winning back China's genuine status in the comity of nations as well as setting it on the path of progress, leapfrogging other nations to become the world's second largest economy. Having suffered the ignominy of slavery and exploitation, China resolved to use its resources not just for the Chinese nation, but for the development of the entire region, especially Asia. This is the rationale for the paper: "Outlook on China's Foreign Policy on Its Neighbourhood in the New Era" based on the assessment and overview of the current situation and future trends in Asia. The document comprehensively outlines the achievements, policies, visions and objectives of China's neighbourhood, which has seen sporadic bursts of unease and conflict as well as periods of tranquillity and peace.

President Xi Jinping, who has emerged as a statesman and a world leader, in his report to the 20th National Congress of the CPC, accentuated that "changes of our world, our times, and of historical significance are unfolding in ways like never before, placing us once again at the crossroads of history." He highlighted that Asia is the most dynamic region with the biggest development potential in the world and will remain a promising land for global development and prosperity. However, Xi warned that global governance is dysfunctional; the Cold War mentality is resurfacing; unilateralism, protectionism and hegemonism run rampant. Simultaneously, multiple risks in such fields as energy, food, finance, industrial and supply chains and climate change are having greater impact on Asia. The Chinese President observed that Asia also faces challenges such as uneven economic growth, and pronounced security and governance issues.

In this turbulent milieu, some countries are fishing in troubled waters by creating regional military coalitions and propping up alliances and proxies to forward their vested interests, Yemen, Afghanistan. The major flashpoints for conflict are the Korean Peninsula, Palestine, Kashmir and the South China Sea. From a regional perspective the document quoted above, reveals that China and fellow Asian countries have jointly advocated the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, carried forward the Bandung Spirit of solidarity, friendship and cooperation, and kept advancing good-neighbourliness and mutually beneficial cooperation.

To promote collaboration, China has established diverse and substantive partnerships, cooperative relations and strategic ties of mutual benefit with 28 neighbouring countries and ASEAN. It has resolved historical boundary issues with 12 neighbours on land through negotiations and signed the treaties of good-neighbourliness and friendly cooperation with nine neighbouring countries. Beijing has signed and ratified the Protocol to the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia and is fully prepared to sign the Protocol to the Southeast Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty.

The achievements of China in regional cooperation are numerous, it is the largest trading partner of 18 neighbouring countries, has ratified the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), launched the mega project the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), established the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), New Development Bank and the Silk Road Fund to provide financial support for infrastructure projects. It has co-founded the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) and BRICS, both of which have admitted new members to promote cooperation, and development. It is notable that China has prudently recommended solutions to resolve the different hotspot issues in its own neighbourhood, like the Korean Peninsula, the South China Sea, Myanmar and the reconstruction and development of Afghanistan. During the trials and tribulation of the global pandemic COVID-19, China and neighbouring countries have come together to overcome difficulties, which reflects the spirit of a community with a shared future and provided leadership for global solidarity against the pandemic. The report informs that under the guidance of Xi Jinping Thought on Diplomacy, China will maintain the continuity and stability of its neighbourhood diplomacy, adhere to the policy of developing friendship and partnership with neighbours, and act on the principle of amity, sincerity, mutual benefit and inclusiveness.

It is heartening that China solemnly pledges to firmly uphold the international system with the United Nations at its core, the international order underpinned by international law, and the basic norms governing international relations based on the purposes and principles of the UN Charter. Reassuringly Beijing upholds open regionalism, practices true multilateralism, and interacts with neighbouring countries to foster Asian values centred on peace, cooperation, inclusiveness and integration.

The West has been baiting China through Taiwan, South China Sea and a few “disputed” islands in the vicinity. It is encouraging that instead of being drawn into conflict, China, after consultations with its neighbours, has opted for the path of implementing the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC) and strive for the conclusion of a Code of Conduct in the South China Sea (COC), to address maritime disagreements and differences through dialogue. This initiative includes its own national reunification, resolutely rejecting “Taiwan independence” and any other separatist activities to safeguard its national sovereignty and territorial integrity.

The referred document emphasizes that China is willing to partner its neighbouring countries, relying on the four pillars of connectivity, development, security and people-to-people exchanges and focusing on the six cooperation areas of the political sector, economy and trade, science and technology, security, people-to-people exchanges and global challenges,

work for a community with a shared future among neighbouring countries that features shared concepts, plans, benefits, security and responsibilities.

<https://pakobserver.net/outlook-on-chinas-foreign-policy-on-its-neighbourhood-in-new-era/>

Pakistan Research Centre ranked top for its contribution to BRI

The Pakistan Research Centre for a Community with Shared Future (PRCCSF) was ranked at number 1 out of 17 Research Centers operating in 155 partner countries of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) during the International Think Tank Forum 2023 held in Wuhu, China recently.

The center was awarded the top position due to its role in enhancing research and academic cooperation, promoting the concept of a shared future not only in Pakistan but also globally, and contributing significantly to the BRI and connectivity, as well as strengthening people-to-people ties, a press release on Saturday said. The International Think Tank Forum 2023, titled “Building a Community with Shared Future & Belt and Road Initiative,” was arranged by the Communication University of China, Beijing and Anhui Normal University Wuhu. Executive Director PRCCSF, who was representing Pakistan at the forum, said that the Institute for a Community with Shared Future Beijing brought together 17 think tanks from across the world, who were working on connectivity through the BRI and community of shared future. “It’s my proud privilege to announce that Pakistan Research Centre for a Community with Shared Future has been declared as the best center in the world and we are given first position,” he was quoted as saying. Speaking at the International forum, Executive Director PRCCSF highlighted that cooperation under the BRI spans various levels, from global coordination recognized by the United Nations to regional initiatives like the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the ASEAN Connectivity Plan.

<https://pakobserver.net/pakistan-research-centre-ranked-top-for-its-contribution-to-bri/#:~:text=The%20Pakistan%20Research%20Centre%20for%20a%20Community%20with,Tank%20Forum%202023%20held%20in%20Wuhu%2C%20China%20recently>

ICBC designated as RMB clearing bank to facilitate cross-border transactions with China

RMB development to provide more business opportunities: Finance Minister

The Industrial and Commercial Bank of China (ICBC) in Pakistan has opened a Renminbi (RMB) clearing bank to facilitate both Pakistani and the Chinese businesses as well as financial institutions to settle cross-border transactions and meet the financing needs of the two countries.

The grand opening ceremony, held in Islamabad, was attended by officials, experts and businessmen from Pakistan and China. The ICBC has been designated as the RMB clearing bank in Pakistan by the People’s Bank of China, according to the ICBC.

Under this facility, the ICBC would offer the services of clearing and settlement of RMB transactions and facilitate in arranging RMB buying, selling, borrowing, or lending transactions for the participating banks in Pakistan.

Speaking on the occasion, caretaker Minister for Finance, Revenue and Economic Affairs Shamshad Akhtar welcomed the establishment of RMB clearing operations in Pakistan and hoped it would connect Pakistani offshore and Chinese onshore RMB markets to facilitate the cross-border transactions in the fields of trade and investment.

She said that the services signify the further maturation of Pakistan's RMB clearing system, with China committing more resources to support the development of Pakistan's RMB system. "The development of the RMB in Pakistan is not only meaningful for China but will also provide more business opportunities for Pakistan and deepen our commercial interactions with other countries in the system," she said. The share of Chinese currency RMB or the yuan in the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) Special Drawing Rights basket has risen to over 12 percent, showing the growing importance of China in global trade, Governor of the State Bank of Pakistan, Jameel Ahmad said. The initiative of establishing a local RMB clearing system will yield long-term benefits to China-Pakistan relationship and Pakistan's economy and banking system, Ahmad said. "The SBP remains committed to providing policy and regulatory support to strengthen further economic and financial ties with China for the mutual benefit of our consumers and businesses," he added. Highlighting the China-Pakistan all-weather strategic cooperation, Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan Jiang Zaidong said that the opening of the RMB clearing bank in Pakistan will provide financial support for the two countries' cooperation on the joint building of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). China is ready to work with Pakistan to implement the important consensus reached by the leaders of the two countries, build an upgraded version of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), and make positive contributions to high-quality construction of the BRI, the ambassador said.

On the occasion, ICBC's Vice President Zhang Weiwu said the RMB clearing bank in Pakistan would further promote cooperation between the two countries in the financial field.

"The bank will promote the development of bilateral trade and support the construction of the CPEC to achieve mutual benefit and win-win cooperation of the two countries," he said.

This year marks the 10th anniversary of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) proposed by President Xi Jinping and also the 10th anniversary of the launch of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). The implementation of the Belt-and-Road Initiative and the rapid advancement of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) have propelled bilateral economic and trade relations between China and Pakistan into new realms of collaboration. Consequently, the potential for the growth of RMB-related business in the Pakistani market is at an all-time high. Launched in 2013, the CPEC, a flagship project of the China-proposed BRI, is a corridor linking the Gwadar port in southwestern Pakistan with Kashgar in northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, which highlights energy, transport and industrial cooperation.

<https://pakobserver.net/icbc-designated-as-rmb-clearing-bank-to-facilitate-cross-border-transactions-with-china/#:~:text=The%20ICBC%20has%20been%20designated%20as%20the%20RMB,lending%20transactions%20for%20the%20participating%20banks%20in%20Pakistan>

The Express Tribune

No third country to influence CPEC

Sources say third-party investment welcomed, but no decision-making role

ISLAMABAD: The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) will remain a bilateral arrangement between the two nations, and no third country will have a say in its decision-making bodies, but their investment will be welcomed, according to the draft modalities for third-party participation.

Highly placed sources told The Express Tribune that it has been proposed that neither country will give any lead role to a third nation. Decision-making in the multibillion-dollar strategic initiative will remain restricted to Pakistan and China. However, other countries can still invest in CPEC projects, they added.

Pakistan wanted to sign these modalities for third-party participation in the CPEC on the sidelines of the Belt and Road Forum two weeks ago. But the Ministry of Foreign Affairs shared the draft modalities with Chinese authorities just 10 days before the visit of Prime Minister Anwaarul Haq Kakar to Beijing, resulting in a delay in their finalisation.

Third-party involvement will not lead to the tri-lateralisation of CPEC mechanisms such as the Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) and the Joint Working Groups (JWGs), according to the draft modalities. The JCC is the highest decision-making forum of CPEC, but no country will have a seat at the JCC table.

In the past, Pakistani authorities have made statements about the participation of Saudi Arabia and Afghanistan in CPEC. But the draft modalities suggest otherwise.

The draft modalities further state that “both Pakistan and China welcome third-party participation in CPEC in mutually identified areas, on a project-by-project basis.”

But this “third-party involvement will not affect the leading role of the governments of Pakistan and China in steering CPEC.”

When contacted to inquire about the reasons for the delay in signing the framework for third-party participation, Asim Khan, a spokesman for the planning ministry, said that “both sides have agreed in principle to include third parties in CPEC projects, but the fine points are being deliberated by relevant stakeholders to make them more encompassing and meaningful.”

Khan said that this inclusiveness is a cardinal principle of CPEC, as evidenced by the example of Port Qasim Power, where third parties are already participating.

Qatar had invested \$200 million in the Port Qasim Power Plant.

The planning ministry spokesman added that third-party terms of references are being developed to further refine their participation, but in the meantime, third-party participation is still in practice on a case-by-case basis.

Last month, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs had informed the Planning Minister that modalities for participation of third parties in CPEC have been conclusively determined

through comprehensive inter-ministerial consultations. There was hope to sign these during the visit of PM Kakar.

Pakistan and China marked the one-decade celebrations of the CPEC this year -the strategic initiative of President Xi Jinping that met with success during its first five years. But it is now facing delays for the past five years. Chinese have repeatedly expressed frustration about the lack of implementation of agreements signed by both nations.

Fawad Hasan Fawad, Pakistan's focal person on CPEC from 2013-18, said that the country could not even take one-fifth benefit of the CPEC potential.

The draft modalities stated that CPEC is an open platform and inclusive initiative based on extensive consultation, joint contribution, and shared benefits. Third-party involvement is aimed at attracting high-quality capital, technology, and expertise to enrich CPEC's development, it added.

According to one of the proposed terms, third-party participation will only be made public after it is approved by Pakistani and Chinese authorities. The unilateral release of information about third-party participation will be avoided at all, according to the terms of reference.

Likewise, all potential third parties will be expected to maintain confidentiality of information until their respective projects are agreed and accepted.

The Joint Working Group on International Cooperation and Coordination is acting as the lead platform for the formulation of modalities for third-party participation in CPEC projects.

As per the proposal, the JWG on International Cooperation and Coordination would seek concurrence on the involvement modalities from the relevant authorities on both sides. After approval by relevant authorities, the JWG would forward cooperation proposals to all the concerned CPEC working groups for technical preparation and plan on implementation in their respective areas before final approval by the JCC.

It has been proposed that third parties mean foreign state-owned companies and private enterprises from countries other than Pakistan or China. They also include Multilateral Development Banks and International financial institutions.

Both countries are inclined to open industry, environment, agriculture, information technology, science and technology, developer or enterprise in special economic zones, mines & minerals and oil and gas for third-party participation.

The right to offer any project to the third nation for participation would be in the hands of Pakistan and China.

The Joint Working Groups would identify specific project proposals for third-party participation in their respective domains and get their approval from the JCC. Once intent is received from the third party, the offers would be evaluated and recommended to JCC for approval. It is also proposed that CPEC's regional scope would be expanded by improving the connectivity of neighbouring countries and regions with Pakistani sea ports.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2443508/no-third-country-to-influence-cpec>

Express News

پاکستان چین میں تیسرے فریق کو سی پیک انتظامات میں حصہ دار نہ بنانے پر اتفاق

چائنا پاکستان اکنامک کوریڈور (سی پیک) کے انتظامات دونوں ممالک باہمی طور پر سنبھالیں گے، کوئی بھی تیسرا فریق سی پیک میں سرمایہ کاری تو کر سکتا ہے لیکن: اسلام آباد سے انتظامی معاملات میں حصہ دار نہیں بنایا جائے گا۔ اعلیٰ سطحی ذرائع نے ایکسپریس ٹریبیون کو بتایا کہ پاکستان اور چائنا کے درمیان کسی بھی تیسرے فریق کو سی پیک کے انتظامات میں حصہ دار نہ بنانے پر اتفاق پایا جاتا ہے، البتہ کوئی بھی تیسرا فریق منصوبے میں سرمایہ کاری کرنا چاہے تو اس کو خوش آمدید کہا جائیگا۔

پاکستان بیلٹ اینڈ روڈ فورم کی سائیڈ لائن پر اس طریقہ کار پر دستخط کرنا چاہتا تھا، لیکن وزارت خارجہ نے تجاویز کا مسودہ نگران وزیر اعظم انوار الحق کا کڑے کے دورہ چین سے محض 10 دن پہلے چینی حکام کو دیا تھا، جس کی وجہ سے طریقہ کار کو فائل کرنے میں تاخیر کا سامنا کرنا پڑ رہا ہے۔

تیار کردہ مسودے میں کہا گیا ہے کہ پاکستان اور چین سی پیک میں تیسرے فریق کا خیر مقدم کرتے ہیں، لیکن تیسرے فریق کی شرکت سے پاکستان اور چین کے لیڈنگ رول پر کوئی اثر نہیں پڑے گا۔ معاہدے پر دستخط میں تاخیر کے معاملے پر رابطہ کرنے پر وزارت منصوبہ بندی کے ترجمان عاصم خان نے بتایا کہ دونوں ممالک تیسرے فریق کی سی پیک میں شمولیت کے حوالے سے اصولی طور پر متفق ہیں، لیکن دیگر نکات پر مزید غور کیا جا رہا ہے تاکہ ان کو مزید جامع اور با معنی بنایا جاسکے۔

انہوں نے کہا کہ تیسرے فریق کی شمولیت سی پیک کا بنیادی اصول ہے، جیسا کہ قطر نے پورٹ قاسم پاور پلانٹ میں 200 ملین ڈالر کی سرمایہ کاری کی ہے، انہوں نے کہا کہ تیسرے فریق کی شمولیت کو مزید بہتر بنانے کیلئے ٹرمز آف ریفرنس تیار کیے جا رہے ہیں۔ مسودے میں کہا گیا ہے کہ سی پیک ایک اوپن پلیٹ فارم ہے، اور وسیع مشاورت، مشترکہ شرکت، اور مشترکہ فوائد پر مبنی ایک جامع اقدام ہے، سی پیک میں تیسرے فریق کی شمولیت کا مقصد اعلیٰ معیار کے سرمائے، ٹیکنالوجی اور مہارت کو راغب کرنا ہے، تجویز کی گئی ایک شرط کے مطابق تیسرے فریق کی شمولیت کو پاکستانی اور چینی حکام کی منظوری کے بعد ہی پبلک کیا جائے گا، اسی طرح تیسرا فریق بھی منظوری تک معاملات کو خفیہ رکھنے کا پابند ہو گا۔ واضح رہے کہ تیسرے فریق سے مراد دیگر ممالک کی غیر سرکاری کمپنیاں اور نجی ادارے ہیں، سی پیک کے دائرہ کار کو وسیع کرنے کی تجویز بھی مسودے میں شامل ہے

<https://www.express.pk/story/2558312/6/>

October 30, 2023

Business Recorder

Pakistan, China agree to fast-track Gwadar Port, ML-1 upgradation

HASSAN ABBAS

LAHORE: Consul General of China in Lahore Zhao Shiren says the recently concluded 3rd Belt and Road Forum has injected a fresh energy into longstanding cooperation between China and Pakistan.

Speaking at a seminar organized by Institute of International Relations & Media Research on The 3rd BRF: Benefits to Pakistan and Global Shared Community here on Sunday, he said both sides agreed to fast track development of the Gwadar Port and ML-1 upgradation. In addition, 20 agreements and MoUs were signed, covering cooperation on the BRI, infrastructure, mining, industry, green and low-carbon development, health, space cooperation, digital, development cooperation and agricultural export to China.

CG China said during the BRF, 458 outcomes have been reached, including the Beijing Initiative for Deepening Cooperation on Connectivity, Belt and Road Green Development, International Digital Economy Cooperation, the Green Investment and Finance Partnership, and High-Level Principles on Corruption-free Belt and Road Building. They also include specific targets such as providing 100,000 training opportunities on green development for partner countries by 2030, and increasing the number of joint laboratories to 100. He said commercial agreements worth \$97.2 billion have also been concluded at the BRF CEO Conference, which will help generate jobs and growth in the BRI countries. The Forum also decided to establish a BRF secretariat to facilitate institution-building and project implementation.

Mr. S.M. Tanveer, provincial minister of the Punjab, invited Chinese companies to invest in new industries and technologies in Punjab. He said potential areas of mutual cooperation included development of agriculture parks and introduction of new methods and techniques for promoting high-yielding crops, introducing long staple cotton with modern farming techniques developed by Chinese experts, value added industry for food processing, value chain for production and export of meat to the Chinese markets, providing demand-driven technical education & vocational training for new Chinese industries coming to Punjab, and cooperation in installing air purification towers for improving air quality in Punjab.

Muhammad Mehdi, chairman of Institute of International Relations and Media Research, which organized the seminar said there can be no second opinion that Pakistan and China take the same stand on whether it is international affairs or regional issues. He said big initiatives like CPEC invoke different opinions and some even attempt to find a military purpose behind such a project. The answer to any such thinking has been very realistically given by President Xi in his speech at the recent BRI Forum when he said: “We have learned that the Silk Road spirit of peace and cooperation, openness and inclusiveness, mutual learning and mutual benefit is the most important source of strength for Belt and Road cooperation. I once said that the pioneers of the ancient silk routes won their place in history not as conquerors with warships, guns, horses or swords. Rather, they are remembered as friendly emissaries leading camel caravans and sailing ships loaded with goods.”

Muhammad Mehdi said after the recent summit, BRI has entered a new phase as the industrialization process will begin in the developing countries. For Pakistan, this possible change would be of extraordinary importance as it has the potential to revive its economy through it and what it needs is a kick-start, which the 3rd BRF promises.

Referring to the recent visit of Prime Minister Kakar to China, the Prof Zhourong Senior fellow for financial studies of Chongyang Institute of Renmin University of China said via video link that CPEC is an important project related to BRI. He said that CPEC has had a profound impact on Pakistan’s economy for the past ten years. The socio-economics of Pakistan is progressing a lot and with this project, mutual relations between Pakistan and China are getting more stable and positive changes are also taking place in the world economy.

Former Pakistan ambassador Nazir Hussain said it is unfortunate that CPEC did not progress

at the scale, and speed as had been planned because the associated projects of economic activities (special economic zones) lagged behind the schedule.

He said the historic CPEC fell victim to global propaganda and disinformation campaigns. The Western think-tanks churned out fake statistics of costs, terms of agreements, and project viability and they were joined by local influencers of dubious integrity in spreading doubts with malicious intentions. He said it was a planned effort to stall CPEC and stop China and Pakistan from opening this unique route that would connect South Asian and Chinese civilizations. He said there is a lesson for both Pakistan and China to build the capacity to respond effectively to the fake stories, disinformation, and politically motivated propaganda. Dr. Amjad Magsi from Punjab University said both countries believe in the idea of a “shared destiny” and it is that belief which is root for the success of the other. He said China’s help and cooperation to Pakistan extends way beyond CPEC, be it diplomacy, politics, military, healthcare, education, energy, infrastructure, or even disaster management.

Prof. Dr. Zhang Jiamei, Peking University, Beijing, while speaking on the video link, said that in the recent forum of BRI, a message has been given to the whole world that everyone will work together with BRI to achieve common interests that lead to a shared future. China will continue to provide high level support to CPEC. Pakistan should make every effort to protect Chinese people. We both countries will work for the common interests of mankind. There should be cultural exchange between the two countries so that there is no misunderstanding on cultural grounds.

Dr. Shabbir Ahmad Khan of Department of Political Science, Punjab University, emphasized that China is emerging as a peaceful political power and an economic giant globally. China is moving ahead in leadership than the West or the rest of the world which is facing an acute crisis of leadership. He suggested that there should be a China Monetary Fund (CMF) like the IMF to rescue friendly nations from financial stress.

Dr Ahtisham Ali from Government College University, Lahore, said that in the prospect of CPEC and Pak-China cooperation, it’s a need of the hour that people of both countries should come closer and develop cultural harmony. He said that being a professor of literature he suggests translations of literary and cultural texts to bridge the differences between the countries. He added that Urdu translations of Chinese literary texts are very few so far, however at GC University; they are trying to promote them as key sources to experience a refined taste of emotions, feelings, and word outlook of Chinese people, culture, and traditions.

Prof Salah Ud Din Ayubi from FC College said the USA replaced the global leadership of the UK in the 20th century and China is replacing the USA in the 21st century. He said the funding of BRI projects is enhancing Chinese influence in global affairs just the way Marshall Plan funding did for the USA after WWII. Although the size of CPEC is insignificant in the context of BRI, the role of China in Pakistan’s economy in general and trade in particular is by no means insignificant. He said Pakistan is the third most significant economy after India and Russia, among the 14 countries that share borders with China and it has not yet harvested the true yield of this geographical proximity. “We have more than tripled our imports from China (from \$5.2bn to \$16.3bn) and less than doubled our exports to

China (from \$1.4bn to \$2.5bn) from 2012 to 2022. This requires Pakistan to put its own house in order instead of blaming others.”

Dr Waheed Ahmad Khan said a complete transition towards geo-economics has not taken place in Pakistan’s foreign policy because of security challenges, particularly in its relationship with India and the ongoing conflict in Afghanistan; being a developing country with limited economic resources which restricts its capacity to fully leverage geo-economic strategies in its foreign policy; being situated in a complex and dynamic region, where competing interests of major powers intersect often prioritizing security and geopolitical considerations over purely economic interests; and maintaining strong defence ties with several countries that tend to receive more attention due to security imperatives. In order to address these issues, he said, Pakistan needs to focus on fostering regional cooperation, resolving political disputes, enhancing security measures, investing in infrastructure development, and diversifying its economy.

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2023/10/30/5-page/975715-news.html>

Daily Times

3rd Belt and Road Forum injects fresh impetus into Pakistan and China cooperation: Zaho

Consul General of China in Lahore Mr. Zhao Shiren says the recently concluded 3rd Belt and Road Forum has injected a fresh impetus into high-quality cooperation between China and Pakistan.

Speaking at a seminar organized by Institute of international relations & media research on The 3rd BRF: Benefits to Pakistan and Global Shared Community here on Sunday, he said both sides agreed to fast track development of the Gwadar Port and ML-1 upgradation. In addition, 20 agreements and MoUs were signed, covering cooperation on the BRI, infrastructure, mining, industry, green and low-carbon development, health, space cooperation, digital, development cooperation and agricultural export to China.

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<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1144197/3rd-belt-and-road-forum-injects-fresh-impetus-into-pakistan-and-china-cooperation-zaho/>

Dawn News

‘BRF injects fresh impetus into China-Pakistan cooperation’

LAHORE: Consul General of China in Lahore Zhao Shiren says the recently- concluded third Belt and Road Forum has injected a fresh impetus into high-quality cooperation between China and Pakistan as both sides have agreed to fast track development of the Gwadar Port and upgrade of ML-1.

Addressing a seminar organised by an NGO on “The 3rd BRF: Benefits to Pakistan and Global Shared Community” here on Sunday, Mr Shiren said both China and Pakistan have agreed to fast track the Gwadar Port and ML-1 (railway) projects.

He said that 20 agreements and MoUs were signed, covering cooperation on infrastructure development, mining, industry, green and low-carbon development, health, space cooperation, digital development cooperation and agricultural export to China.

“During the BRF, 458 outcomes have been reached, including the Beijing initiative for deepening cooperation on connectivity, Belt and Road Green Development, international digital economy cooperation, the green investment and finance partnership, and high-level principles on corruption-free belt and road building. These also include specific targets such as providing 100,000 training opportunities on green development for partner countries by 2030, and increasing the number of joint laboratories to 100.”

Mr Shiren said commercial agreements worth \$97.2 billion have also been concluded at the BRF CEO conference, which would help generate jobs and growth in the BRI countries.

He said the forum also decided to establish a BRF secretariat to facilitate institution-building and project implementation.

Punjab caretaker minister S.M. Tanveer invited Chinese companies to invest in new industries and technologies in the province. Former Pakistan ambassador Nazir Hussain, Dr Amjad Magsi, Prof Dr Zhang Jiamei, Dr Shabbir Khan, Dr Ahtisham Ali, Prof Salahuddin Ayubi and Dr Waheed Ahmad Khan also spoke.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1784824/brf-injects-fresh-impetus-into-china-pakistan-cooperation>

Pakistan Observer

Third Belt and Road Forum: A new dawn for China-Pakistan coop

In the ever-evolving landscape of international diplomacy and partnership, few alliances shine as brightly as the growing friendship between China and Pakistan. Against the backdrop of a recent gathering of distinguished guests, including Minister SM Tanvir and Consul General Zhao Shiran, the prospects of an even more robust collaboration between both the countries were explored during a seminar organized by Chinese Consulate, Lahore, and the Institute of International Relations and Media Research organized a seminar on the topic of the Third Belt and Road Forum at a local hotel. The seminar was nothing short of a testimony of their enduring partnership and the beginning of an exciting new chapter in their relationship.

A friendship forged in difficult hours: Provincial Minister of Industry and Commerce, SM Tanvir, set the tone for the seminar with his touching words, describing China as a sincere friend that has always come to Pakistan's aid in its times of need. This sentiment was not mere rhetoric, as the recent history of the two countries reveals. The signing of two crucial agreements during Pakistan's Prime Minister's visit to China and two more during a delegation led by the Chief Minister of Punjab illustrated the depth of their collaboration. It is a bond that continues to strengthen with each passing moment.

The vital role of CPEC

At the heart of this enduring partnership lies the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), a project of monumental significance for both nations. The completion of the first phase of CPEC and the commencement of work on its second phase of industrialization were highlighted by SM Tanvir. The minister emphasized that CPEC is a pivotal project for both countries and has already brought significant benefits. It opens new doors to economic prosperity and growth, paving the way for a brighter future.

Investment opportunities in Punjab

SM Tanvir extended a warm invitation to the Chinese companies to invest in Punjab's Special Economic Zones and Industrial Estates. The region, he said, offers a wealth of opportunities for cooperation, ranging from food processing and technical education to agriculture, livestock, and more. The minister's enthusiasm to leverage Chinese technology and foster industry growth was palpable, marking a crucial step towards the economic progress of both nations.

China's Commitment to Strengthen Ties: Chinese Consul General Zhao Shiran reciprocated the warmth of the sentiment, reiterating China's commitment to strengthening its relationship with Pakistan. He emphasized the vital role of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) in uplifting the economies of the entire region. Zhao Shiran painted an optimistic picture, declaring the beginning of a new era of friendship and cooperation between China and Pakistan, an era ripe with potential and promise.

<https://pakobserver.net/third-belt-and-road-forum-a-new-dawn-for-china-pakistan-coop/>

Govt plans Eastbay Expressway expansion from Gwadar Port to New Airport

The government has planned expansion of Gwadar Eastbay Expressway phase II that will connect Gwadar Port to New Gwadar International Airport (NGIA). Ministry of Maritime Affairs' Departmental Development Working Party (DDWP) has prepared PC II of Eastbay Expressway Phase II that will span over 10.5 kilo meter. It will be funded by government of Pakistan.

According to a Gwadar Pro' s report, the Eastbay Expressway Phase I has already completed and operated on June 03, 2022. It is a six-lane road around 19 kilometer long, as the main artery of Gwadar Port through which the entire traffic of the port flow realizing the dream of making Gwadar logistic and economic hub of the region in line with objectives of CPEC.

Eastbay Expressway Phase I cost USD 168 million and it provides primary connectivity of the Port and its Free Zone I and Free Zone II with Makran Coastal Highway (N-10) and Motorway 8 (CPEC's Western route) for smooth logistic transportation of import, export, and transit goods to Khujrab, border of China.

Gwadar Eastbay Expressway Phase I was approved by ECNEC on January 12, 2015. Contract Agreement was signed between GPA & CCCC on September 24 2017. The groundbreaking ceremony of Eastbay Expressway Phase I was held on November 22, 2017 by then Prime Minister. The project was part of a wider \$1.1 billion development package for the city and Port of Gwadar.

<https://pakobserver.net/govt-plans-eastbay-expressway-expansion-from-gwadar-port-to-new-airport/>

The News

\$97.2bn pacts signed at Belt and Road Forum: Chinese envoy

Asif Mehmood Butt

LAHORE: Consul General of China in Lahore Zhao Shiren said on Sunday the recently concluded 3rd Belt and Road Forum had injected a fresh impetus into high-quality cooperation between China and Pakistan.

Speaking at a seminar organised by the Institute of International Relations and Media Research on the "3rd BRF: Benefits to Pakistan and Global Shared Community," he said both sides agreed to fast track development of the Gwadar Port and ML-1 upgradation.

In addition, 20 agreements and MoUs were signed, covering cooperation on the BRI, infrastructure, mining, industry, green and low-carbon development, health, space cooperation, digital, development cooperation and agricultural export to China.

During the BRF, 458 outcomes have been reached, including the Beijing Initiative for Deepening Cooperation on Connectivity, Belt and Road Green Development, International Digital Economy Cooperation, Green Investment and Finance Partnership, and High-Level Principles on Corruption-free Belt and Road Building. They also include specific targets such

as providing 100,000 training opportunities on green development for partner countries by 2030, and increasing the number of joint laboratories to 100, he added.

Commercial agreements worth \$97.2 billion have also been concluded at the BRF CEO conference, which will help generate jobs and growth in the BRI countries. The forum also decided to establish a BRF secretariat to facilitate institution-building and project implementation, he said.

Punjab Minister S M Tanveer invited Chinese companies to invest in new industries and technologies in the province. “Potential areas of mutual cooperation include development of agriculture parks and introduction of new methods and techniques for promoting high-yielding crops, long staple cotton with modern farming techniques developed by Chinese experts, value added industry for food processing, value chain for production and export of meat to Chinese markets, providing demand-driven technical education & vocational training for new Chinese industries coming to Punjab, and cooperation in installing air purification towers for improving air quality in Punjab,” he added.

Muhammad Mehdi, chairman of the institute which organised the seminar, said there could be no second opinion that Pakistan and China take the same stand on international and regional issues. “Big initiatives like CPEC invoke different opinions and some even attempt to find a military purpose behind it. The answer to any such thinking has been very realistically given by President Xi in his speech at the recent BRI Forum when he said ‘we have learned that the Silk Road spirit of peace and cooperation, openness and inclusiveness, mutual learning and mutual benefit is the most important source of strength for Belt and Road cooperation. I once said that the pioneers of the ancient silk routes won their place in history not as conquerors with warships, guns, horses or swords. Rather, they are remembered as friendly emissaries leading camel caravans and sailing ships loaded with goods’.”

After the recent summit, the BRI has entered a new phase as the industrialisation process will begin in the developing countries. For Pakistan, the possible change would be of extraordinary importance as it has the potential to revive its economy through it and what it needs is a kickstart, which the 3rd BRF promises, he added.

Col (retd) Sayed Ahmad Nadeem Qadri said that the Belt and Road Initiative was currently the largest and unique project in the world under which more than 150 countries were reaping benefits. There are 10 corridors of BRI in which CPEC has played a significant role in the development of Pakistan under which at least 250,000 people had got employment since 2015. As a flagship project of China’s Belt and Road Initiative, the CPEC has reshaped Pakistan’s economic landscape and strengthened bilateral ties between China and Pakistan. The development of Gwadar Port City, energy projects, transportation infrastructure, and industrial cooperation are the fruits of the CPEC. It has enhanced people-to-people exchanges, fostered cultural understanding and diplomatic cooperation between the two nations.

Referring to the recent visit of Prime Minister Kakar to China, Prof Zhourong, senior fellow for financial studies of Chongyang Institute of Renmin University of China, said via video link that CPEC is an important project related to BRI. The CPEC has made a profound

impact on Pakistan's economy for the past ten years. The socio-economics of Pakistan is progressing a lot and with this project, mutual relations between Pakistan and China are getting more stable and positive changes are also taking place in the world economy, he added. Former Pakistan ambassador Nazir Hussain said it is unfortunate that the CPEC did not progress at the scale and speed as had been planned because the associated projects of economic activities (special economic zones) lagged behind the schedule. The historic CPEC fell victim to global propaganda and disinformation campaigns. Western think-tanks churned out fake statistics of costs, terms of agreements, and project viability and they were joined by local influencers of dubious integrity in spreading doubts with malicious intentions.

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<https://e.thenews.com.pk/detail?id=250709>

RMB clearing bank by ICBC: will it benefit Pakistan?

Shakeel Ahmad Ramay

Prime Minister of Pakistan's recent visit to China was dubbed as fruitful due to multiple reasons. He started the visit by attending 3rd BRI Forum on the eve of 10th anniversary of BRI. The premier urged the global community to work together to combat contemporary challenges.

He also held bilateral meetings with top leadership of China. He met with President XI Jinping and discussed the issues of bilateral interests. He also met with Prime Minister of China and others. The leadership of both countries deliberated on the future of bilateral relations and the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor. They showed their satisfaction over successful execution of CPEC projects and admired the contribution of CPEC to Pakistan's economic growth and development. They acknowledged the need to accelerate implementation of the second phase of CPEC and reap its full benefits.

Pakistan and China also signed numerous MOUs and agreements, including ML-1, accords on trade and commerce, food security & research, space cooperation, health, industrial cooperation and climate change.

Moreover, they decided to celebrate 10th anniversary of CPEC by giving a new impetus to implementing the second phase of CPEC. For that purpose, they agreed on multiple areas of cooperation. Financial cooperation was one of them. It was decided China and Pakistan would put all efforts into defining mechanisms for financial cooperation and strengthening the existing financial cooperation mechanisms.

In pursuance of these discussions and agreements, Chinese and Pakistani institutes have started implementing different programmes. Industry and Commercial Bank of China (ICBC) took the lead and launched a new initiative with the name of RMB Clearing Bank. People's Bank of China has extended its full support to this initiative to make it a success. The bank has shown great confidence in the Pakistani market and ensured it will keep improving the financial cooperation between the two countries.

The RMB by Industry and Commercial Bank of China has been designed to expedite the process of development of mechanisms for financial cooperation. Bo Zhou, Chief Executive Officer of ICBC Pakistan, said the RMB clearing bank would help improve financial cooperation in multiple areas.

It will facilitate trade and investment between the two countries. It will be more convenient for the investors to use RMB and expedite implementation of projects. It will act as a catalyst for the CPEC and accelerate the implementation of the CPEC.

It is pertinent to mention here ICBC is already playing a prominent role in CPEC. It provided financial support for different CPEC projects. It is envisioned the launch of RMB will further strengthen the role of ICBC.

It will also focus on new areas. It was pointed out ICBC will enhance funding and loans for agriculture, livestock and other sectors. It will help bridge the investment gap in Pakistan, especially in the agriculture and livestock sectors. ICBC will come up with new products to make it more dynamic. It will try to diversify the products and meet the market's needs. It will also encourage fair competition in the financial market of Pakistan.

Establishing the RMB will benefit Pakistan on multiple fronts. There would be no need for a correspondence bank for financial transactions between Pakistan and China. Before the launch of the RMB clearing bank, Pakistan had to rely on correspondent banks in Hong Kong or elsewhere. It was time-consuming and expensive, as the business community had to pay transaction fees.

Now, the RMB clearing bank will help reduce the transaction time. It will also eliminate the correspondent bank's fees. It will be more convenient for the business community to do business without third-party involvement. The RMB clearing bank will facilitate liquidity of the bank in the local market. It is assumed enhanced liquidity will encourage development of new products and businesses in the local market. New products will strengthen the financial market of Pakistan. Pakistan is also expecting the limit for the money swap will increase. Money swap arrangements have already helped Pakistan meet the country's urgent needs. The State Bank of Pakistan pointed out during the financial year of 2021-2022, Pakistan utilised 30 billion Yuan limit. It was a big relief for foreign reserves-starved country.

The availability of RMB will also lower pressure on the foreign reserves of Pakistan. RMB is emerging as new money for international transactions. Right now, it stands in the second position regarding using currency for international trade transactions. The use of RMB is increasing with every passing day, as many countries have opted for it. Saudi Arabia will use RMB for trade and economic linkages. The country is working with China to devise mechanisms for using Yuan for oil trade.

Iran has also joined the club. Brazil is promoting the use of RMB. Russia is leading the race and has signed multiple agreements of hundreds of billions of Yuan. Argentina has allowed citizens to operate RMB-based accounts.

On the other hand, RMB is gaining traction at global institutions. For example, its share in IMF's SDR has reached 12.2 percent. Though quite low compared to the potential of RMB, but significant. If the IMF implements the reform agenda in its true spirit, the share of RMB will be much more.

People's Bank of China also launched the Cross-Border Interbank Payments System (CIPS) in 2015 to facilitate international transactions further. With more liquidity, enhanced money swap limit and investment, Pakistan will have more options to use RMB in trade and invite investment.

It will help Pakistan lower its dependence on the US dollar. It is much needed, as the West has weaponised its financial system and dollar. By using both, they compel countries accept their terms and conditions.

Pakistan can also mobilise financial resources for the projects other than CPEC. With the right set of policies and plans, it can also mobilise financial resources for SIFC programmes.

RMB also has a political dimension. It is the first clearing bank in South Asia. Although India is the biggest trading partner of China in the region (more than \$125 billion in bilateral trade), ICBC selected Pakistan to open an RMB clearance bank. It shows China attaches high importance to Pakistan.

Experts say using RMB will save Pakistan from global political games. For example, Pakistan suffered immensely as it had to face wrath of FATF and other Western financial institutions after the launch of CPEC. FATF laterally suffocated investment in Pakistan by putting it on the grey list. It created a fear among the investors and potential trade partners.

Western financial institutions followed FATF's instructions and made it difficult for businessmen to operate. It was easier for them to arm-twist Pakistan, the country solely depending on the Western financial institutions. It is believed by diversifying the foreign reserves and transaction systems, Pakistan would be better positioned to avoid blackmailing by FATF and the Western institutions.

In conclusion, it can be termed an excellent initiative by the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China. It will help business community from both sides of the border expedite economic cooperation, and will further strengthen bilateral relationship.

<https://e.thenews.com.pk/detail?id=250792>

Jang News

بیلٹ اینڈ روڈ فورم، پاک چین تعاون کو نئی تحریک دی، چینی تو فیصل جنرل لاہور

لاہور (آصف محمود بٹ) چین کے تو فیصل جنرل مسٹر ژاؤ شیرین نے کہا ہے کہ تیسرے بیلٹ اینڈ روڈ فورم نے چین اور پاکستان کے درمیان اعلیٰ معیار کے تعاون کو ایک نئی تحریک دی ہے، گوادر پورٹ کی تیز رفتار ترقی اور ایم ایل ون کی اپ گریڈیشن پر اتفاق سمیت 20 معاہدوں اور مفاہمت کی یادداشتوں پر دستخط کیے گئے جن میں بی آر آئی، انفراسٹرکچر، کان کنی، صنعت، سبز اور کم کاربن کی ترقی، صحت، خلائی تعاون، ڈیجیٹل، ترقیاتی تعاون اور چین کو زرعی برآمدات شامل ہیں۔ ان خیالات کا اظہار کے موضوع ”تیسری بی آر آئی کے پاکستان اور عالمی کمیونٹی کو فوائد“ انہوں نے انسٹی ٹیوٹ آف انٹرنیشنل ریلیشنز اینڈ میڈیا ریسرچ کے زیر اہتمام مقامی ہوٹل میں پریس میٹنگ سے خطاب کرتے ہوئے کیا۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ 97.2 بلین ڈالر کے تجارتی معاہدوں سے بی آر آئی ممالک میں روزگار کے مواقع اور ترقی میں مدد ملے گی، کے قیام کا بھی فیصلہ ہوا۔ صوبائی وزیر صنعت و تجارت ایس ایم تنویر نے چینی کمپنیوں کو پنجاب میں نئی صنعتوں ”بی آر آئی سیکرٹریٹ“ پراجیکٹ پر عملدرآمد کیلئے اور ٹیکنالوجی میں سرمایہ کاری کی دعوت دیتے ہوئے کہا کہ دونوں ممالک میں ایگریکلچر پارکس کی ترقی اور زیادہ پیداوار والی فصلوں کے ساتھ لمبی سٹیبل کپاس کی تیاری، فوڈ پروسیسنگ و بیو اینڈ انڈسٹری، چین کو گوشت کی برآمد، تکنیکی، پیشہ ورانہ تربیت اور ماحول کی بہتری کیلئے ٹاورز لگانے میں تعاون کے وسیع مواقع موجود ہیں۔ چیئر مین انسٹی ٹیوٹ محمد مہدی نے کہا کہ ترقی پذیر ممالک میں صنعت کاری کا عمل شروع ہو گا۔ پاکستان کے لیے، یہ ممکنہ تبدیلی غیر معمولی اہمیت کی حامل ہوگی۔ پاکستان کے سابق سفیر نذیر حسین نے کہا کہ چین پاکستان اقتصادی راہداری نے رفتار کے مطابق پیشرفت نہیں کی، خصوصی اقتصادی زونز تاخیر کا شکار ہیں، عالمی پروڈیگنڈہ کا موثر جواب دیا کے خیال پر یقین رکھتے ہیں اور یہی یقین کامیابی کی بنیاد ہے۔ شعبہ سیاسیات ”مشترکہ تقدیر“ جائے پنجاب یونیورسٹی کے ڈاکٹر امجد گسی نے کہا کہ دونوں ممالک ایک کے ڈاکٹر شمیم احمد خان نے کہا کہ چین پر امن سیاسی طاقت اور معاشی دیو کے طور پر ابھر رہا ہے۔ دوست ممالک کیلئے چائنا مانیٹری فنڈ ہونا چاہیے۔

<https://jang.com.pk/news/1283869>

October 31, 2023

Pakistan Observer

Sino-Pak Bio health Agriculture Park inaugurated

Sino-Pak Bio health Agriculture Overseas Sci-tech Demonstration Park was inaugurated at the University of Haripur, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa last week.

The bio health agriculture park is cooperation between the University of Haripur, Pakistan and Northwest Agriculture and Forestry University Xianyang, China. “By sharing new technologies and crop varieties, the project aims to modernize Pakistan’s agriculture, increase productivity, and lift more people out of poverty,” Dr. Abdul Ghaffar, Postdoctoral fellow at North West A & F University told Gwadar Pro.

He said that the cultivation of Chinese and local high yielding varieties of different crops and vegetables remained a major area of cooperation. The park will be constructed in three phases. In the first phase, a demonstration area will be established to plant crops with low input and high value addition.

In the second phase, more will be invested in high-tech agricultural products. Joint efforts will also be made on talent training and agricultural laboratory establishment.

The third phase will focus on agricultural macro monitoring, management and big data. During the meeting, both sides agreed to extend cooperation in exchange for vegetables and other agricultural varieties through modern agricultural cooperation.

They discussed many important aspects of the development of agriculture, especially how to increase yields, the quality of vegetables, fruit and agricultural crops.

<https://pakobserver.net/sino-pak-bio-health-agriculture-park-inaugurated/>

Achievements of BRI Forum

CONSUL General of China in Lahore Zhao Shiren said on Sunday the recently concluded 3rd Belt and Road Forum was a huge success as commercial agreements worth \$97.2 were signed at the BRF CEO Conference which will help generate jobs and accelerate growth in BRI countries. Speaking at a seminar organized by the Institute of International Relations and Media Research on the “3rd BRF: Benefits to Pakistan and Global Shared Community,” he said the forum also decided to establish a BRF Secretariat to facilitate institution-building and project implementation. There is no doubt that the BRI received a fresh impetus as a result of deliberations of the participating delegates from around the globe because concrete decisions have been taken to take fruits of development and growth to different corners of the world. A swift mechanism devised by China to ensure project identification, processing and implementation would help create enormous job opportunities in different countries besides resolution of their problems and difficulties in the realm of economy. During the BRF, 458 outcomes were reached, including the Beijing Initiative for Deepening Cooperation on Connectivity, Belt and Road Green Development, International Digital Economy Cooperation, Green Investment and Finance Partnership, and High-Level Principles on Corruption-free Belt and Road Building. They also included specific targets such as providing 100,000 training opportunities on green development for partner countries by 2030 and increasing the number of joint laboratories to 100. Pakistan and China also signed 20 agreements and MoUs, covering cooperation on the BRI, infrastructure, mining, industry, green and low-carbon development, health, space cooperation, digital, development cooperation and agricultural export to China. The decision to fast-track development of Gwadar Port and ML-I upgradation would go a long way in accelerating the pace of socio-economic development in Pakistan. In this backdrop, there is a need for the two countries to intensify their mutual interaction at various levels to sort out relevant details and remove hindrances in the way of time-bound implementation of agreed projects and targets.

<https://pakobserver.net/achievements-of-bri-forum/>

The Nation

TIC at Gwadar airport for tourists

ISLAMABAD-The Pakistan Tourism Development Corporation (PTDC) is planning to establish a modern Tourist Information Center (TIC) at New Gwadar International Airport to facilitate the foreign and local tourists about their destination. Talking to APP here on Monday, a PTDC official said the establishment of TIC would provide comprehensive

information to tourists thronging to Pakistan from various countries to enjoy the beauty of recreational sites of Balochistan province.

An official said that TIC would not only play a pivotal role in promoting tourism globally but would also emphasize the need for state-of-the-art facilities. He highlighted the growing significance of Gwadar as a tourist destination, attracting visitors from across the country and around the world. He said that Caretaker Minister of State for Tourism Wasi Shah was committed to construct Tourist Information Center at Gwadar airport as soon as possible to provide all kinds of information and facilities to tourists. He further said that Wasi Shah made it clear that he would not tolerate any incompetence within his ministry, underscoring his commitment in improving the tourism experience for all.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/31-Oct-2023/tic-at-gwadar-airport-for-tourists>

K2 Daily News



https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=International / Local News

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

Chinese Newspapers

October 17, 2023

China Daily

Pakistan's PM says Belt and Road comes with benefits

Pakistani Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar has lauded the Belt and Road Initiative for having "advanced inclusive development to reduce poverty and inequality, improved people's ability to pay taxes and enhanced governments' ability to retire their debts".

In an exclusive interview with China Daily ahead of his first official visit to China, Kakar described the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, one of the signature projects under the BRI, as a practical manifestation of win-win cooperation and shared prosperity and a commendable endeavor in building a China-Pakistan community with a shared future.

"All these elements also form the bedrock of President Xi Jinping's visionary Belt and Road Initiative," he said.

The Pakistani leader, who took office in August as the eighth caretaker prime minister of Pakistan, is visiting China for the third Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation, which will be held in Beijing on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Kakar dismissed theories that the BRI has led participating countries into "debt traps", saying that China is offering "a unique mechanism of development financing to developing countries — which is without conditions and different from the traditional development financing models".

"It is wrong to describe BRI financing as a 'debt trap'; it is rather an essential tool for helping countries in achieving comprehensive and inclusive development of their peoples."

He explained that the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, which has brought about a direct investment of \$25.4 billion to Pakistan and created a total of 236,000 jobs, is key to the nation's socioeconomic progress.

"The project underlines an excellent example of an open, coordinated and inclusive development paradigm that benefits all parts of the country and all segments of society," he said, adding that the development of Gwadar Port has already opened new economic opportunities.

"Strategically located, the port is now functional and regularly handling cargo ships including transshipment trade for Afghanistan. A free economic zone is in place offering lucrative incentives for local, Chinese and other international investors," Kakar said, adding that a new international airport will also be inaugurated, bringing the port closer to its vision of serving as the hub of regional trade and connectivity.

Meanwhile, the prime minister emphasized that the "foolproof safety and security of Chinese personnel and institutions is our topmost priority", adding that the Pakistani government has put in place stringent security protocols to safeguard Chinese workers and entrepreneurs.

He cited examples including regular security briefings, risk assessment and information exchanges between the two nations, in order to identify potential threats and come up with solutions accordingly.

"These concerted efforts underline Pakistan's solid commitment to provide a secure environment for our Chinese brothers and sisters, who are contributing to Pakistan's socioeconomic development and progress."

Kakar said he has high expectations for the forum, during which he will meet with Chinese leaders.

"It has provided both our countries with a stage to reaffirm our commitment to international cooperation and development, while highlighting the successes, reviewing the lessons learned and charting the future trajectory of the CPEC," he said.

"Our relations with China form the cornerstone of our foreign policy. I am here to reaffirm our commitment to this all-weather strategic cooperative partnership," Kakar said, describing China as a strategic and trustworthy development partner.

He also spoke highly of China's remarkable achievement in having lifted more than 800 million people from abject poverty, under the leadership of the Communist Party of China.

"Like China, Pakistan too is a developing country, with a population of 240 million. There is so much that we can learn from China to put our nation on a path of sustainable development."

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202310/17/WS652d5f9ca31090682a5e8d7b.html>

China-Pakistan cooperation yields benefits for growers

Two high-yield wheat varieties developed by Chinese and Pakistani scientists could be approved for commercial production in Pakistan as early as next year, said a lead researcher of the project.

The new varieties have strong resistance against yellow rust — a destructive crop disease widespread in Pakistan — and are expected to boost local wheat output by a large margin, said He Zhonghu, director of the China-Pakistan Joint Wheat Molecular Breeding International Lab. He is also a top wheat scientist at the Institute of Crop Sciences of the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences as well as the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center, a nonprofit research and training center headquartered in El Batan, Mexico.

"The crops are still being tested in experimental fields in Pakistan," he said, adding that the team is waiting for clearance from local authorities to mass produce the new varieties outside lab settings.

The Beijing-based Institute of Crop Sciences runs the lab in partnership with Pakistan's Quaid-i-Azam University and the National Agricultural Research Centre in the national capital Islamabad, through collaboration with the international maize and wheat center.

The lab was launched in March as part of a broader science and technology exchange program started by China to aid developing nations. It is tasked with testing and selecting Chinese germ plasm in Pakistan, training local scientists and researching new wheat varieties that can help boost the crop's yield in Pakistan.

Wheat is the most important food staple in Pakistan, but the crop's output per hectare is just half the level of that in China, experts said. The shortfall is due to a range of factors, such as the use of less-developed wheat varieties, insufficient application of fertilizers and pesticides, and a lack of mechanized farming, they added.

In recent years, progress in molecular breeding research has bolstered wheat yields in China — now a frontrunner in the field, said He, the wheat scientist.

The use and development of enhanced wheat varieties is the latest example of fruitful agricultural exchanges between the neighbors under the Belt and Road Initiative.

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202310/17/WS652ded37a31090682a5e8f27.html>

October 18, 2023

China Daily

Lahore metro project underlines friendly ties

Before visiting Pakistan in early 2020 to prepare for the launch of the country's first metro line, Li Yutao spent a long time working on the operations of many lines in Guangzhou, Guangdong province.

As a member of the first group of teams assigned by the Guangzhou Metro Group for the operation of the new line, Li and his Chinese colleagues overcame many difficulties, including high temperatures and rudimentary working and living conditions.

The Orange Line in Lahore, also the first rail transit project in the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor as part of the Belt and Road Initiative, started operations in October 2020.

The line uses Chinese standards, design, technology and equipment, and at a lower cost than similar projects in other countries. It is run and maintained by a joint team from Norinco International, the Guangzhou Metro Group and the Pakistan DW Company.

"To ensure smooth operations, we visited stations and local workers under COVID-19 prevention and control measures," said Li, the project's operations director.

As a testament to the close collaboration between China and Pakistan, the project showcases a complete urban rail transit chain solution — from design, manufacturing, construction and operation to maintenance, he added.

Stretching 25.58 kilometers, the line mainly operates on elevated tracks, running in a north-to-south direction. It features 26 stations, 24 of which are elevated with two underground.

Since its inauguration, the line has more than surpassed its contractual requirements, displaying exceptional operating performance, Li said.

In the first eight months of this year, daily passenger flow rose by 62 percent from the same period last year, with a continuous upward trend, according to the Guangzhou Metro Group, which added that more than 100 million trips have been recorded since operations started.

Li said, "More and more people are embracing the metro as their preferred mode of transportation."

He added that in the first eight months of the year, the line's highest daily passenger volume was 229,000. The line is the first of three in the Lahore Metro's master plan, and it is expected to transport 500,000 people a day by 2025.

"As a remarkable achievement for Lahore and an exemplar project of the CPEC, the line shows the high standards used in advancing construction of the corridor by building and operating the transportation infrastructure," Li said.

Data from the Chinese Embassy in Pakistan shows that as of last year, direct investment of \$25.4 billion came into the country along the CPEC, helping to create more than 236,000 jobs.

Statistics from the Ministry of Commerce show that total bilateral trade between China and Pakistan was \$26.5 billion last year, with Chinese exports accounting for more than \$23 billion.

"The inauguration of the line marked a significant milestone in the development of Lahore's urban rail transit system, making a great contribution to the local economy and quality of life," Li said.

The operating team is dedicated to delivering high-quality services, drawing on the success and expertise of metro lines in Guangzhou, he added.

"We are committed to ensuring that the line operates at a high standard, reflecting the deep commitment to the partnership between the two nations," Li said.

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202310/18/WS652f84caa31090682a5e9458.html>

Connecting dreams: BRI laying new path of cooperation

Syed Ali Nawaz Gilani

Ten years have passed since the inception of the Belt and Road Initiative. This decade is more than a mere marker; it is a milestone on the BRI's journey and, simultaneously, a new beginning. It signifies not just the progress and achievements of the past but also the promise of the future.

A decade has elapsed since the inception of the Belt and Road Initiative. This timeframe, though it might seem a mere notch on the calendar, holds a significance that extends far beyond a simple marker. It represents not just the progress and achievements of the past but, concurrently, a promise of an even more promising future.

This is a journey that, by its very essence, refuses to bow to the constraints of time. It's a story still unfolding, a testament to the unyielding spirit of progress and cooperation that characterizes our era.

In the grand tapestry of global cooperation and economic development, the BRI stands as a beacon of progress and potential. As the BRI commemorates its 10-year milestone, it's not just a moment for retrospection; it's the inception of a new era. The odyssey of the BRI has been nothing short of remarkable, reshaping the landscape of international collaboration, propelling economies toward growth, and threading infrastructural connections across the globe.

Initiated by Chinese President Xi Jinping in 2013, the BRI is an audacious undertaking designed to weave an intricate web of trade routes, linking the regions of Asia, Europe, and Africa. It comprises the "Belt," symbolizing a land-based network of infrastructure, and the "Road," representing sea-based routes connecting countries worldwide. Its overarching mission is to stimulate economic development and foster cooperation among participating nations.

One of the most striking aspects of the BRI is its transcendent ability to soar above political and geographical divisions. With the involvement of over 150 countries and 30 international organizations as signatories, it has United Nations with diverse backgrounds and ambitions.

This global consortium under the BRI stands as a testament to the vision of a shared destiny and mutual prosperity.

The BRI has shifted from being a mere aspiration to a tangible force for change, giving rise to over 3,000 cooperative projects that span diverse sectors, from transportation to energy, trade, and technology. These endeavors have given birth to bustling ports, high-speed rail networks, and flourishing economic zones, among numerous other initiatives. The BRI has transformed into a catalyst for infrastructural development and economic progress.

Supporting the BRI is a massive investment, approaching the trillion-dollar mark. This substantial financial commitment, underwritten by China and other participating nations, is the lifeblood of BRI's development, ensuring the successful implementation of its projects on a global scale.

Nevertheless, as we focus on the physical impact of the BRI, we should not overlook the social and economic underpinnings, often eclipsed by the limelight. For instance, within the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, a flagship BRI project, an essential emphasis has been placed on human development, even in the face of the clamor created by disinformation.

In 2019, China extended a generous \$1 billion to Pakistan for 27 projects concentrated in the domains of education, agriculture, and poverty alleviation. The majority of these initiatives are centered in the less-developed regions of southern Punjab and Balochistan. Notably, the Gwadar Technical and Vocational Institute was established in Gwadar, offering skill-based training in port handling and other essential areas, benefitting almost 2,000 individuals annually.

According to a World Bank assessment, CPEC alone holds the potential to uplift 1.1 million low-income Pakistanis out of poverty, unveiling the socio-economic impact of BRI's undertakings. Moreover, the economic harvest of these projects is far from insignificant. As shared by Yang Yundong, China's consul general in Pakistan, the 36 projects initiated under CPEC, some of which have reached fruition while others are steadily progressing, have generated a total income of \$17.55 billion, in addition to \$2.12 billion in tax contributions to Pakistan.

Realizing the full potential of these developmental projects and investments can be furthered if Pakistan effectively confronts the challenges posed by disinformation and propaganda propagated by CPEC detractors. Achieving this objective is entirely feasible if all stakeholders rally under a common banner, underscoring the importance of mutual trust while safeguarding economic policies and decision-making from the discord sown by political differences.

Furthermore, the legacy of the BRI stretches beyond bricks and mortar and economic growth. It extends into the domain of cooperation, encapsulating the spirit encapsulated by Xi Jinping's words: "A just cause finds great support, and a journey with many companions gets far." The BRI transcends borders, not just connecting countries physically but also fostering mutual understanding and shared prosperity.

As we reach this momentous 10-year mark, let us not become ensnared by the past. Instead, let us keep our eyes fixed on the limitless horizon. The journey of the BRI is not a finished

tale but a story still in the making, a testament to the unrelenting spirit of progress and cooperation that characterizes our era.

This decade signifies far more than a mere commemoration of past accomplishments; it serves as an unwavering embrace of the future. It symbolizes a promise of uncharted potential that beckons from the horizon, a vision that transcends the confines of history.

The Belt and Road Initiative isn't a relic of bygone times, an inert monument of past endeavors. Instead, it stands as a living, breathing entity, pulsating with vitality. It doesn't dwell in the shadow of its own history; rather, it propels itself forward, tirelessly crafting new narratives, exploring new frontiers, and sowing the seeds of fresh possibilities.

The BRI's journey isn't one of reminiscence and nostalgia; it's a forward trajectory, an ongoing narrative that continually unfolds, evolves, and reshapes itself in response to the changing tides of our world. It embodies the dynamic spirit of progress, ever-adapting and ever-advancing.

Within this living entity, the seeds of innovation and cooperation germinate, fostering the promise of a future where nations collaborate, economies flourish, and prosperity is shared. The BRI is not bound by the constraints of history; it is unburdened by the weight of the past. Instead, it forges ahead, an ever-expanding tapestry of hope and opportunity, charting a course toward a brighter and more interconnected world. Stepping into the BRI's second decade, we are reminded that this initiative is not static; it's a dynamic force, an enduring testament to what can be achieved when nations unite with a common purpose, creating a legacy that resonates for generations to come.

The writer is secretary general of Pakistan China Friendship Association Khyber Pakhtunkhwa chapter, and a Peshawar-based senior media consultant. The views don't necessarily reflect those of China Daily.

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202310/18/WS653094d6a31090682a5e9772.html>

Xinhuanet News

GLOBALink | China-funded airport in Pakistan to facilitate regional connectivity

Construction of the China-funded New Gwadar International Airport in Pakistan's southwestern Balochistan province is in full swing.

The overall progress of the airport has exceeded 75 percent, said Ding Kan, manager of the New Gwadar International Airport project management department.

He added that the runway, apron, contact road and the navigation aid lighting system of the flight area have been completed and have the conditions for flight calibration.

Covering an area of 18 square km, the new airport will be the second-largest airport in Pakistan.

As a key project under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), it will link the fast-rising port city of Gwadar with the rest of the world.

In the capital city of Islamabad, a painting enthusiast is working on a painting of the airport to mark the 10th anniversary of CPEC.

<https://english.news.cn/20231018/0400c4527c6d4e458b9584bf34eb05ee/c.html>

October 19, 2023

China Daily

Xi meets Pakistan's prime minister

BEIJING, Oct. 19 (Xinhua) -- Chinese President Xi Jinping on Thursday met with Prime Minister of Pakistan Anwar-ul-Haq Kakar, who is in Beijing for the third Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation.

Xi said that China and Pakistan are all-weather strategic cooperative partners and ironclad friends, noting that successive Pakistani governments have actively supported and participated in the Belt and Road cooperation.

Over the past 10 years, the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) has achieved fruitful results, effectively promoting Pakistan's economic and social development, and becoming an important signature project of the Belt and Road cooperation, Xi said.

He added that China will continue to support Pakistan in safeguarding national sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity.

Xi pointed out that the two countries should build an upgraded version of the CPEC that promotes growth, people's well-being, innovation, green development, and openness. They should also strengthen cooperation in fields including industrial parks, agriculture, mining, and new energy, and facilitate the early implementation of major connectivity projects for tangible results. Xi expressed the hope that the Pakistani side will take effective measures to ensure the safety of Chinese personnel and institutions in Pakistan. China is willing to strengthen cooperation with Pakistan within the framework of the United Nations and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization to promote regional unity and cooperation and safeguard legitimate rights and interests of developing countries.

Kakar said that the eight major steps newly announced by President Xi to support high-quality Belt and Road cooperation will not only strengthen global connectivity but also promote a more just and reasonable global governance system, providing important opportunities for Pakistan and other countries to achieve better development.

He said that Pakistan will always be a reliable and trustworthy friend of China and will never allow any force to undermine the Pakistan-China friendship. Pakistan will also be committed to deepening the all-weather strategic cooperative partnership with China, he added.

Pakistan is willing to closely cooperate with China to promote high-quality development of the CPEC. The Pakistani government will spare no effort to ensure the safety and interests of Chinese personnel and institutions in Pakistan, Kakar said.

Senior Chinese officials Cai Qi and Wang Yi attended the meeting.

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202310/19/WS65310bc3a31090682a5e9955.html>

Xinhuanet News

China to work with Pakistan to safeguard regional, global peace: Xi

BEIJING, Oct. 19 (Xinhua) -- Chinese President Xi Jinping on Thursday said China will work with Pakistan, which he said is an "iron-clad friend," to make new contributions to safeguarding peace and stability and promoting prosperity in the region and the world.

Over the past decade, the construction of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor has yielded fruitful results and vigorously promoted Pakistan's economic and social development, making the corridor a signature project of the Belt and Road Initiative, Xi said when meeting with Pakistan's Prime Minister Anwar-ul-Haq Kakar in Beijing.

<https://english.news.cn/20231019/5b71b4e1d96640238dc97bba8fd65bf6/c.html>

Update: Xi meets Pakistan's prime minister

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<https://english.news.cn/20231019/809d87e7ad2c4ee1889678dc21df5fb0/c.html>

October 20, 2023

China Daily

Economic corridor reshapes Pakistan

Second phase of project expected to help nation position itself as key hub for trade

Pakistan is undergoing a remarkable transformation propelled by the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, or CPEC, a project under the Belt and Road Initiative that addresses the country's long-standing economic challenges and promotes sustainable development in its second phase, analysts have said.

The South Asian country has been and will remain one of the most important partners in and a beneficiary of the BRI, said Irfan Shahzad Takalvi, founder of Eurasian Century Institute, a think tank in Islamabad.

"The second phase of CPEC and the BRI would help Pakistan further manifest its position as an important, reliable, trade and commerce hub in the tri-regional space of South, Central and West Asia, a position that is already guaranteed through the infrastructure built in Pakistan during the first phase."

Muhammad Sami Saeed, Pakistan's interim minister for planning, development and special initiatives, told a BRI seminar in Islamabad on Oct 12 that the second phase of CPEC is progressing rapidly.

"CPEC has evolved from a mere connectivity project into a symbol of enduring regional cooperation, with significant implications for development and stability in the region."

Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan Jiang Zaidong, who also spoke at the event, reaffirmed China's unwavering support for Pakistan in implementing CPEC projects.

The first phase of CPEC focused on energy and port infrastructure, which has laid the foundation for economic stability and growth in the region. The second phase will see 63 projects, valued at around \$35 billion, completed by 2030, and these endeavors underscore the commitment of both nations to fostering regional connectivity and extending the corridor's reach to Afghanistan and other Central Asian countries.

"The day is not far when Pakistan, with the help of China, will become an economic destination for Chinese and other international investors," said Tahir Farooq, editor-in-chief

of Daily ITTEHAD Group of Newspapers and the head of the Centre for Regional Connectivity with Shared Future.

Shakeel Ahmad Ramay, CEO of the Asian Institute of Eco-Civilization Research and Development in Pakistan, said Pakistan still faces multiple problems, including poverty and inflation, and it needs more rapid economic growth.

In addition, Pakistan is highly vulnerable to climate change, ranking among top 10 countries vulnerable to this phenomenon.

"The second phase of the CPEC and its commitment to high-quality development can help Pakistan to overcome both challenges, economic and climate change," Ramay said.

Green growth

High-quality development vision revolves around the philosophy of green development, green growth, and giving due importance to environment and climate needs, he said.

CPEC's Main Line 1, which traverses north to south of Pakistan, is to be upgraded. Attention is being paid to special economic zones, corporate agriculture, and social sector.

"It means massive opportunities for investment, enhanced economic activity and multiplied jobs," Ramay said.

The CPEC is set to become a major source of employment, with projections indicating that by 2030, approximately 2.3 million jobs will be created through this initiative, according to official estimates.

Ahmed Raza, an engineer at a coal-fired power plant in Port Qasim, Karachi, said: "Eight years have passed since I first joined the brilliant team of engineers at Huaneng Shandong Ruyi (Pakistan) Energy (Limited). Chinese companies have opened windows of opportunities for tens of thousands of young Pakistanis like myself."

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202310/20/WS6531db63a31090682a5e9b20.html>

Xinhuanet News

(BRF2023) Guest Opinion: The 3rd Belt and Road Forum: win-win or win-lose?

With the 3rd Belt and Road Forum, we have every reason to believe that the BRI's next decade will present the world with a more certain and win-win future.

by Xin Ping

More than 4,000 world dignitaries gathered in Beijing this week for the 3rd Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation and were greeted by the capital's ring roads decorated by the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) logo, slogans and galleries depicting flagship projects.

There's no better occasion than the 10-year celebration for stocktaking and future planning. During the three high-level forums covering connectivity, green development and the digital economy, BRI partner countries discussed how this grand project contributed to global

development. They reaffirmed their commitment to more high-quality BRI cooperation and inked more mutually beneficial deals.

Despite being hailed as a "global game-changer" that delivered tangible benefits to people worldwide, the BRI has long been targeted by some who wrongfully label it as a geopolitical scheme "crippling developing countries with heavy debt" and "pushing lucrative projects at high environmental costs." But is the BRI losing steam? Why does the West criticize it? How do Chinese authorities respond to such criticism? Out of curiosity, I analyzed the transcripts of the Foreign Ministry press conferences over the past decade. Let me share some interesting findings.

Over the past 10 years, the foreign ministry spokespeople gave 2,056 briefings and took questions from over 105 Chinese and foreign media, among which 646 were about the BRI, covering its motives, projects, goals and external doubts. The two key words of this all-encompassing corpus are "win-win" and "win-lose," reflecting the very nature of the ideological divide over the BRI between different countries.

WIN-WIN: UNITED WE STAND

Even those skeptical know that the BRI is not an empty slogan but a slew of concrete actions. As the fastest-growing economy for decades, China has the know-how to achieve leapfrog growth through connectivity. For many developing countries especially, this is precisely what they need to get through the biggest bottleneck for development. In Africa, one of the major destinations of BRI investment, this abbreviation has become a household word because it connects closely with people's daily lives.

For example, suburban road construction in Madagascar, also known as the "egg road" project, transformed the bumpy sand roads into wide, smooth asphalt that links egg-producing rural areas and Antananarivo, the capital city. The road considerably shortened the driving time and secured the transportation of 150,000 eggs per day for local poultry farmers. One broken egg less, one more dime in farmers' pockets.

All the new roads, railways, and airlines built under the BRI are like blood vessels that have greatly improved local transportation, enabling a more efficient trade network and slashing the cost for Africa to access the global market. If this doesn't improve living standards in Africa, what will?

Contrary to the predictions of some "fortune-tellers," the BRI didn't turn out to be a one-off deal but a sustainable solution. Dovetailed with the development strategies of countries participating in the initiative, the BRI is not a one-sided transaction. It identifies common interests and grounds for cooperation in light of local needs and strives to address the real concerns of the local people.

According to the latest BRI white paper released a week before the Forum, over 2,000 Chinese agricultural experts and technicians have been sent to over 70 countries and regions to help build a "Food Silk Road." The food road reconnects global food supply chains and delivers Juncao and hybrid rice technology to impoverished populations to better respond to food crises, making an incredible contribution to global poverty reduction.

Evolving with time, the BRI today is not only about "building big" but "building smart." Harnessing mushroom-growing technologies involving AI and clean energy, the BRI is gaining strategic relevance by spearheading the Global South's progress towards a greener and smarter growth paradigm.

Research shows that the 28 power plant projects, both wind and solar, invested by China potentially provided nearly 9,000 jobs and generated around 40 million U.S. dollars worth of production value in Pakistan's green sector.

At the forum's opening ceremony, China announced the Global Artificial Intelligence Governance Initiative, expounding China's proposal for hard-to-predict risks and challenges surrounding technologies that require a global response.

WIN-LOSE: DIVIDED WE FAIL

Getting back to my analysis of the foreign ministry spokespersons' transcripts from the ministry's official website, negativity surrounding the BRI involves plunging partners into a "debt trap," imposing "nontransparent terms" and "damaging the environment." These assertions are all underpinned by a "win-lose" or "zero-sum" approach: Competition is where one side wins and the other loses.

Alarmed by the expanding global influence of the BRI, the United States is attempting to orchestrate geopolitical contests to compete for attention, with the Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment and the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor as the latest examples. However, such "alternatives" to the BRI still have much to prove.

Although promising to marshal 600 billion U.S. dollars by the end of 2027, the Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment has delivered little investment for participating countries and failed to identify precise methods of protecting poor countries from crippling debt. Observers have questioned the India-Middle East-Europe plan launched by the club of the wealthy as a fanciful ambition to connect India and Europe, amounting to nothing more than a castle in the air.

Such plans pursued by Western powers, who are less inclined to set aside differences and strive for the common good, seem to share the same geopolitical logic of dividing the world into blocs and out-compete China. This idea of division hampers the world's every effort to seek common development through cooperation and makes the projects forged from Western plans bear a "colonialist flavor."

In his centerpiece speech at the forum's opening ceremony, Chinese President Xi Jinping cited the story of Zheng He, a famous navigator in the Ming Dynasty who made seven voyages to the Western Seas. Zheng is one of the pioneers of the Silk Road who "won their place in history not as conquerors with warships, guns or swords" but as "friendly emissary leading camel caravans and sailing treasure-loaded ships." China is acting from its belief that factional friction and differences aside, we are living in a global community with a shared future defined by borderless challenges and opportunities.

Today, the statue of Zheng He stands at Kenya's bustling railway station, greeting passengers boarding the Mombasa-Nairobi Railway and witnessing how the major BRI transport project on the African continent shortened distances and brought people closer.

In a turbulent world facing mounting global challenges, solidarity and cooperation is the only viable option for the world to better meet the challenges. With the 3rd Belt and Road Forum, we have every reason to believe that the BRI's next decade will present the world with a more certain and win-win future.

Editor's note: The author is a commentator on international affairs, writing regularly for Xinhua News, Global Times, China Daily, CGTN, etc. He can be reached at xinpings604@gmail.com.

The views expressed in this article are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the positions of Xinhua News Agency.

<https://english.news.cn/20231020/633764baeb044c1faa74a018950d057a/c.html>

October 23, 2023

China Daily

China's top political advisor meets Pakistan's senate chairman

BEIJING - China's top political advisor Wang Huning met with Chairman of Pakistani Senate Sadiq Sanjrani in Beijing on Monday.

Wang, chairman of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference National Committee, said that China and Pakistan are all-weather strategic cooperative partners and ironclad friends.

China is willing to work with Pakistan to further implement the important consensus reached by the leaders of the two countries, intensify high-level exchanges and strategic communication, deepen mutually beneficial cooperation in various fields, and accelerate the building of an even closer China-Pakistan community of shared future in the new era, he said.

Wang stated that the CPPCC is willing to strengthen mutual learning with the Pakistani side on governance experience to create a sound environment and gather more positive energy for China-Pakistan cooperation.

For his part, Sanjrani said that the Pakistan-China friendship and mutually beneficial cooperation had brought enormous benefits to the Pakistani people and become a model for state-to-state relations.

Pakistan appreciates China's demonstration of its role as a big country, and will always firmly abide by the one-China principle, work with China to continue supporting each other, and pass down the traditional friendship between Pakistan and China, he noted.

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202310/23/WS65363d1aa31090682a5ea344.html>

Full text: Joint Press Statement between the People's Republic of China and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan

BEIJING -- The People's Republic of China and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan on Friday issued a joint press statement.

The following is the full text of the statement.

Joint Press Statement between the People's Republic of China and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan

1. At the invitation of President Xi Jinping of the People's Republic of China, Prime Minister Anwaar ul Haq Kakar of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan visited China from October 16 to 20, 2023 to attend the Third Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation.

2. In Beijing, President Xi Jinping met with Prime Minister Anwaar ul Haq Kakar. The Prime Minister of Pakistan also met with Premier Li Qiang and Mr. Li Xi, member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) and Secretary of the CPC Central Commission for Discipline Inspection. In a warm and cordial atmosphere, leaders of the two countries had in-depth exchanges of views and reached extensive consensus on strengthening the China-Pakistan all-weather strategic cooperative partnership, practical cooperation in various areas, and international and regional issues of mutual interest. The two sides reaffirmed that mutual trust remains at the core of China-Pakistan relationship.

3. The two sides agreed that China and Pakistan are All-Weather Strategic Cooperative Partners and iron brothers; friendship between the two countries is time-tested and unbreakable. The Chinese side reiterated that the China-Pakistan 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 will continue to view the relationship between China and Pakistan from a strategic and long-term perspective, move forward together on the path of development, and accelerate the building of an even closer China-Pakistan Community with a Shared Future in the new era.

4. The two sides reaffirmed their support for each other on issues concerning their respective core interests and major concerns. The Pakistani side reaffirmed its firm commitment to the one-China Principle and that Taiwan is an inalienable part of China's territory, and Pakistan firmly supports the Chinese government's efforts to achieve national reunification, and opposes any form of "Taiwan independence." Pakistan firmly supports China on issues concerning the South China Sea, Hong Kong, Xinjiang and Xizang. The Chinese side reiterated its support for Pakistan in safeguarding its sovereignty, national independence and territorial integrity, in pursuing a development path of economic stability suited to Pakistan's national conditions, in fighting terrorism, and in playing a bigger role in regional and international affairs.

5. The Pakistani side warmly congratulated the Chinese side on its successful organization of the Third Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation. The Chinese side commended Pakistan's consistent support for and participation in Belt and Road cooperation. The two

sides recognized that the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) is a strong driver of world economic growth, provides a platform for international economic cooperation, opens up space for common development around the globe, and has become a widely welcomed international public good as well as an important practice in building a community with a shared future for mankind. Both sides agreed to work more closely together on high-quality Belt and Road cooperation, and usher in a bright future of peace, development and win-win cooperation.

6. The two sides recognized that the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) as a pioneering project of the BRI, has yielded fruitful outcomes in the 10 years since its inception, and has now entered a new stage of high-quality development. The two sides reaffirmed the resolve to jointly build a growth corridor, a livelihood-enhancing corridor, an innovation corridor, a green corridor and an open corridor, and continue to build CPEC into an exemplary project of high-quality Belt and Road cooperation.

7. Recognizing the significance of Gwadar Port as an important node in cross-regional connectivity, the two sides agreed to speed up development of the Port and its auxiliary projects. The two sides reviewed with satisfaction the progress of the desalination plant, the New Gwadar International Airport (NGIA), the Pak-China Friendship Hospital and other projects. Both sides reiterated their resolve to make Gwadar a high-quality port, a regional trade hub and a connectivity node.

8. Recognizing that the ML-1 upgradation is an important project under the CPEC framework and is of great significance to Pakistan's social and economic development, the two sides agreed to carry out the common understanding of the leaders of the two countries to implement the project at an early date. The two sides reviewed with satisfaction the important progress made in the preliminary work of the Karakoram Highway (Raikot-Thakot section) realignment project and agreed to fast track its implementation.

9. The two sides affirmed their resolve to further move forward to launch preparatory work for D.I. Khan-Zhob Road Project to build momentum towards enhancing connectivity and socio-economic development of Pakistan, under CPEC.

10. The Chinese side appreciated the efforts of the Pakistani side to vigorously develop Photovoltaic and other renewable energy projects, which are in alignment with the green, low carbon and environmentally friendly development of the energy sector. Both sides encourage Chinese companies to further participate in the development of such projects in line with normal commercial principles to achieve win-win outcomes.

11. The two sides agreed to actively promote the implementation of the Framework Agreement on Industrial Cooperation to support Pakistan's industrialization, and encourage Chinese companies to set up manufacturing facilities in Pakistan. The two sides reiterate that CPEC is an open and inclusive platform for win-win cooperation, and welcome third parties to benefit from investments in CPEC cooperation priority areas such as industry, agriculture, ICT, science and technology.

12. The two sides agreed to strengthen cooperation in the mining industry, including in the fields of geological survey, joint research on geology and minerals, training of talent, and planning of mining industrial parks.

13. The two sides recognized that agricultural cooperation between the two countries is rich in potential, and that sound progress has been made in crop breeding and pest control projects especially under the framework of CPEC. The two sides agreed to strengthen cooperation in areas such as crop cultivation, prevention and control of animal and plant diseases, agricultural mechanization, exchange of agricultural technology, and trade in agricultural products.

14. The two sides agreed to strengthen exchanges and cooperation under the framework of the CPEC Joint Working Group on Information Technology Industry, jointly improve the construction and management of digital infrastructure, advance cooperation in cutting-edge technologies and the capacity building for information technology service, and promote high-quality development of the digital economy.

15. The two sides reviewed with satisfaction the positive results achieved under the CPEC Working Group on Socio-Economic Cooperation. The Pakistani side appreciated China's assistance for Pakistan's post-flood reconstruction and recovery. China will continue to support Pakistan in improving people's livelihood and post-disaster reconstruction, with priority to implementing effective livelihood assistance projects, to deliver social and economic benefits, especially to the most affected and vulnerable people, in line with the concept of 'shared prosperity'.

16. The Chinese side expressed its willingness to support Pakistan in expanding exports to China under the framework of the China-Pakistan Free Trade Agreement, and will help Pakistan improve its export capacity through experience sharing, special studies, expert exchanges and personnel training. The Pakistani side welcomes more Chinese companies to invest in Pakistan and informed about the recent initiatives for improving investment climate, initiatives and creation of the Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC). The Chinese side appreciates Pakistan's efforts to facilitate Chinese investments and businesses in Pakistan.

17. The two sides acknowledged the recent momentum for increase in business exchanges between the two countries and further resolved to facilitate B2B exchanges. Both sides agreed to make efforts to enhance the level of bilateral people-to-people exchanges and facilitation.

18. The two sides noted the signing of the protocols on the export of heated beef and dried chili from Pakistan to China, the obtainment of Pakistani fresh cherries' quarantine access to the Chinese market, and the agreement reached on the export access of Pakistani dairy products and animal hides to China this year. China welcomes more high-quality Pakistani products and more qualified Pakistani enterprises to enter the Chinese market.

19. The two sides believe that the Khunjerab pass plays an important role in promoting bilateral trade and people-to-people exchanges. The two sides announced that the Khunjerab pass will function all year round, and agreed to step up the infrastructure construction and management of the Khunjerab pass and improve its passage conditions.

20. The two sides expressed satisfaction with the progress of cooperation on Currency Swap Agreement and Renminbi settlement and clearing, and agreed to further strengthen financial

and banking cooperation. Pakistani side thanked China's valuable support for its financial sector.

21. The two sides expressed their strong resolve to strengthen their longstanding space cooperation through deepening exchange programmes, resource mobilization and innovation to drive signal advancements in space science, technology and space application. Both sides were satisfied with the cooperation documents on International Lunar Research Station signed by the space authorities and agreed to advance progress in exploring outer space to propel both nations to take lead in the cutting edge space missions, ushering in an era of scientific breakthrough and unprecedented discoveries for the betterment of humanity and advancement of our civilizations.

22. The Pakistani side briefed the Chinese side on the situation in Jammu and Kashmir. The Chinese side reiterated that Kashmir is a long-standing dispute left from history that should be properly and peacefully resolved in accordance with the UN Charter, relevant UN Security Council resolutions and bilateral agreements.

23. The two sides condemned terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. The Chinese side recognized Pakistan's contributions and sacrifices in combating terrorism. The two sides agreed to further enhance counter-terrorism cooperation to promote world peace and security. The Pakistani side reiterated its commitment to ensuring the safety and security of all Chinese personnel, projects and institutions in Pakistan, and to hold accountable the perpetrators of the terrorist attacks targeting Chinese personnel. The Chinese side appreciated the great efforts taken by the Pakistani side in this regard. Both sides expressed complete satisfaction over ongoing bilateral security cooperation and agreed to strengthen it further.

24. The two sides noted with satisfaction the enhanced cultural cooperation in the ongoing Year of China-Pakistan Tourism exchanges. Both sides particularly commended the success of joint Gandhara Art Exhibition held at the Palace Museum and welcomed the conversion of the event into a touring exhibition in different parts of China. The Pakistan side welcomed the inclusion of Pakistan in the list of countries approved for outbound group tourism by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of China. The two sides agreed to continue to strengthen the exchanges between the tourism sector of the two countries.

25. The two sides expressed satisfaction with the close cooperation, trust and communication between the armed forces of the two countries. Underscoring that stronger strategic defence and security cooperation between China and Pakistan is an important factor of peace and stability in the region, the two sides agreed to maintain high-level mil-to-mil visits and exchanges and deepen cooperation in areas of training, joint exercises and military technology.

26. The two sides reaffirmed their commitment to the purposes and principles of the UN Charter and to jointly upholding the international system with the United Nations at its core, the international order underpinned by international law, and the basic norms governing international relations underpinned by the purposes and principles of the UN Charter. Both sides stand for unity and cooperation of the international community, oppose hegemonism

and power politics, adhere to true multilateralism, and promote humanity's common values of peace, development, equity, justice, democracy and freedom.

27. The Pakistani side expressed strong support for Chinese leadership's vision of openness, regional connectivity, economic integration and willingness to share technology. Pakistan will continue to support the Global Development Initiative, the Global Security Initiative and the Global Civilization Initiative put forward by the Chinese side, and highly commended China's efforts to safeguard the rights of developing countries for sustainable development. The above-mentioned initiatives call on the international community to attach importance to the issue of development and revitalize the global partnership for development, stress the need to pursue the vision of common, comprehensive, cooperative and sustainable security, and emphasize respect for the diversity in world civilizations and uphold the principles of equality, mutual learning, dialogue and inclusiveness among civilizations. The two sides agreed to further enhance cooperation within the framework of the above-mentioned initiatives and jointly promote development, security and cultural prosperity to contribute to building a community with a shared future for mankind.

28. The two sides agreed to strengthen communication and coordination on the issue of Afghanistan and jointly uphold regional peace and stability.

29. The two sides expressed deep concerns over the current escalation of tensions and violence between Palestine and Israel, and called for an immediate ceasefire and cessation of hostilities and every possible effort to protect civilians and avert an even worse humanitarian disaster in Gaza. Both sides reiterated that the fundamental way out of the conflict lies in implementing the two-state solution and establishing an independent State of Palestine. The international community needs to act with greater urgency, step up input into the Palestinian question, facilitate the early resumption of peace talks between Palestine and Israel, and find a way to bring about enduring peace.

30. Prime Minister Anwaar ul Haq Kakar thanked the leadership and people of China for the warm hospitality accorded to him and his delegation, and invited President Xi Jinping to visit Pakistan at an early date on behalf of the government and people of Pakistan. The two sides agree to maintain communication on that through diplomatic channels.

31. During the visit, the two sides signed 20 agreements and MoUs, covering cooperation on the BRI, infrastructure, mining, industry, green and low-carbon development, health, space cooperation, digital economy, development cooperation and export of agricultural products to China.

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202310/23/WS6535d4a2a31090682a5ea18d.html>

Xinhuanet News

Across China: BRI facilitates fruitful medical cooperation between China, Pakistan

HAIKOU, Oct. 23 (Xinhua) -- Anzal Mahnoor enjoys her time as an MBBS (Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery) student at Hainan Medical University, located in Haikou, capital of south China's Hainan Province.

"Here in this university, I get a chance to make wonderful friends, and I get a chance to fulfill my dream to become a good doctor," said the 24-year-old from Pakistan. "I get a lot of knowledge regarding my studies from my best teachers."

She is one of the abundant talents coming to Hainan as medical cooperation between China and Pakistan has grown fruitful in the past decade thanks to the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).

China proposed the idea of building an "economic belt along the Silk Road" in Kazakhstan in 2013, which, combined with the proposal of the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road, eventually became the Belt and Road Initiative.

As a primary hub along the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road, Hainan has made use of favorable supporting policies and its unique advantages to pioneer the country's high-level opening up.

In the past 10 years, China has seen increasing medical cooperation with countries and regions jointly building the Belt and Road, including Pakistan. Through a series of mechanisms, tens of thousands of health professionals have been trained in areas such as health management, public health, and medical research.

In Hainan, for instance, the Belt and Road Tropical Medical Alliance was established in 2018, led by Hainan Medical University. The alliance currently has several member units from Pakistan.

So far, the alliance has successfully organized five medicine forums. More than 120 universities, medical institutions, and research institutes from more than 30 countries and regions have joined the alliance.

Medical cooperation between China and Pakistan has brought opportunities for many students from Pakistan. This summer, in the city of Dongfang, Hainan Province, a number of students from Pakistan and China formed a medical team at a local health center to provide cardiopulmonary resuscitation training and other medical services to villagers.

These students of Hainan Medical University used what they learned in class to assist the professional medical experts. They took the patients' blood pressure and registered their information, and experienced other things done by grassroots doctors. "This university has given me a lot of education," said Malik Usman Haider, 27, a student from Pakistan studying medicine at Hainan Medical University. "In the future, I want to stay here. China has given me so much and the government helps me, and the university also helps me a lot, so I want to give them something in return. It is a way to say thank you."

"I want to become a good doctor in the future," said Fraz Ahmad Shams, 28, also from Pakistan and an MBBS student at Hainan Medical University. "Maybe I will come back to China to do my master's degree." Xia Qianfeng, dean of the tropical medical school under Hainan Medical University, said that in the future, the Belt and Road Tropical Medical Alliance will continue to work together with all member units to build a bridge of friendship with the world, and provide more opportunities for public health cooperation.

<https://english.news.cn/20231023/f92d439a71744c86b1c7de2c493b4231/c.html>

China's top political advisor meets Pakistan's senate chairman

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Wang, chairman of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) National Committee, said that China and Pakistan are all-weather strategic cooperative partners and ironclad friends.

China is willing to work with Pakistan to further implement the important consensus reached by the leaders of the two countries, intensify high-level exchanges and strategic communication, deepen mutually beneficial cooperation in various fields, and accelerate the building of an even closer China-Pakistan community of shared future in the new era, he said.

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For his part, Sanjrani said that the Pakistan-China friendship and mutually beneficial cooperation had brought enormous benefits to the Pakistani people and become a model for state-to-state relations.

Pakistan appreciates China's demonstration of its role as a big country, and will always firmly abide by the one-China principle, work with China to continue supporting each other, and pass down the traditional friendship between Pakistan and China, he noted.

<https://english.news.cn/20231023/133136f7d2e84f11bb5b5fa40251e1fc/c.html>

October 24, 2023

China Daily

Xi's speech at forum a ray of hope for developing nations

Shakeel Ahmad Ramay

Amid global challenges to peace and development, the speech by President Xi Jinping at the third Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation, which was held in Beijing last week, has offered a ray of hope to developing and least-developed countries, with a vision to tackle present and future challenges through the Belt and Road Initiative.

Xi started by emphasizing the importance of connectivity and cooperation. He rejected the ideas of decoupling or bloc politics. He categorically pointed out that decoupling is against the interests of the world, and he emphasized that the world needs to work together to overcome contemporary challenges. Furthermore, he reiterated that the world is a highly connected community, and we must strive to create a community with a shared future for a beautiful and peaceful world.

The eight-point agenda that he put forward for the BRI will pave the way to a prosperous and peaceful world of modernization.

Under the initiative, China will speed up the process to build high-quality connectivity infrastructure. It also will focus on providing a high-quality China-Europe Railway Express and participating in the Trans-Caspian International Transport Route. In addition, the country has hosted the China-Europe Railway Express Cooperation Forum and will invest in building a high-quality logistics corridor in Asia.

President Xi reiterated China's commitment to an open world and open economy. He said in the speech that China will establish numerous Silk Road e-commerce pilot zones to modernize market access, and will also deepen reforms to open up the manufacturing sector. These objectives will be achieved through high-standard opening-up and connectivity.

One major commitment is that the China Development Bank and the Export-Import Bank of China will each set up a 350 billion yuan (\$47.8 billion) financing window. It is hoped that this will help to create a better business environment at the grassroots level for small communities.

It was also mentioned that China will work on 1,000 small-scale livelihood assistance projects and will increase funding for vocational training through Luban Workshops and other programs. Moreover, the country will inject 80 billion yuan into the Silk Road Fund for BRI projects.

China's commitment to green development meets with the demands of the developing world to achieve the United Nations' 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. China will be working on multiple tiers to achieve the goal of green development. It will not only promote investment in green infrastructure, clean energy and climate-smart investments, but also will contribute to building the capacity of partner countries.

Xi also said in his speech that China is committed to high-quality cooperation in the fields of science, technology and innovation and will build around 100 joint laboratories with partner countries in the next five years. He added that the nation is fully committed to the Belt and Road Science, Technology and Innovation Cooperation Action Plan and has launched the Global Initiative for Artificial Intelligence Governance for the people-centric use of AI.

The crucial role of people-to-people connections in enhancing cooperation is destined to be enhanced. China has already set up the Silk Road International League of Theaters, the Silk Road International Arts Festival, the International Alliance of Museums of the Silk Road, the Silk Road International Alliance of Art Museums and Galleries, and the Silk Road International Library Alliance.

It also will establish the International Tourism Alliance of Silk Road Cities. This will not only enhance people-to-people connectivity, but it will also create multiple economic and livelihood opportunities. Also welcome is the fact that China will continue the Silk Road program of government-provided scholarships.

With an emphasis on integrity-based cooperation, China will work with partner countries to release the Achievements and Prospects of Belt and Road Integrity Building and the High-Level Principles on Belt and Road Integrity Building. In addition, China will establish the Integrity and Compliance Evaluation System for Companies Involved in Belt and Road Cooperation.

Experts lauded these initiatives, saying that they will help society and will also assist in creating fair markets and tackling poverty and inequality.

China's efforts to institutionalize the work of the BRI will make for lasting global benefits. The nation will establish multilateral institutions in fields including energy, taxation, financing, green development, disaster reduction, anticorruption, think tanks, media and culture.

Xi's vision and points are specific steps that will lead to the sound modernization of the world in a new era. The eight points have all the ingredients required to combat present and future challenges, and are led by the principle of win-win cooperation.

Moreover, China promotes extensive consultation, discussion and country-specific solutions, and the future development of the BRI will revolve around the vision of green and high-quality development.

China will make all efforts to promote green and high-quality development, in which the BRI International Green Development Coalition will play a pivotal role.

The author is CEO of the Asian Institute of Eco-civilization Research and Development in Pakistan.

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202310/24/WS65371ab5a31090682a5ea48d.html>

Xinhuanet News

(BRF2023) Interview: BRI promotes common prosperity, says Pakistani expert

Raheela Nazir

ISLAMABAD, Oct. 24 (Xinhua) -- The Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) helps promote common development and prosperity, said a Pakistani expert.

The BRI has facilitated infrastructure development, trade, investment, and cultural exchanges in more than 150 countries and with over 30 international organizations, promoting a shared vision of growth, peace, and prosperity, Farhat Asif, president of the Institute of Peace and Diplomatic Studies said in a recent interview with Xinhua.

Based on the principles of extensive consultation, joint contribution, and shared benefits, the BRI has the potential to make substantial contributions to a more reasonable and just global governance system and promote globalization, Asif said.

"It serves as a model for cooperative development that can inspire nations to engage in multilateral efforts to address global issues, whether they pertain to infrastructure, economic development, environmental conservation, or cultural exchange," she said.

The expert said that in Pakistan, the BRI has brought tremendous socio-economic benefits through its flagship project -- the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

Launched in 2013, the CPEC is a corridor linking the Gwadar port in southwestern Pakistan with Kashgar in northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, highlighting energy, transport and industrial cooperation.

"The CPEC has developed modern road networks, railways and ports, facilitating local businesses, generating jobs, reducing travel times and logistics costs, promoting economic growth and trade," she said, adding that the improved transportation infrastructure has led to a significant increase in Pakistan's trade volumes.

"Pakistan can now more effectively trade with countries such as China, Central Asian nations, and the Middle East. This has broadened the market for Pakistani products and enhanced economic ties with regional partners," she added.

In addition to transportation, Asif said the BRI has supported the development of energy infrastructure in Pakistan, helping the country to overcome severe energy shortages and increase power generation capacity.

Noting that the BRI has made achievements in several critical areas that directly impact the livelihoods of people in participating countries, Asif underlined that the initiative's efforts in poverty reduction, agricultural technology, vocational education, and various other aspects of people's livelihood were instrumental in improving living standards.

"Through investments, knowledge sharing, and infrastructure development, the initiative has contributed to sustainable development and provided numerous opportunities for individuals and communities," she added.

Talking about China's commitment to boosting green development, the expert said that the BRI indeed played a crucial role in promoting the construction and development of high-quality green projects across the world.

The promotion of green energy projects under the BRI aligns with the global effort to combat climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, she said, adding that the development of renewable energy such as wind, solar, and hydropower in BRI participating countries is a step towards reducing carbon emissions and transitioning to a more sustainable energy mix.

"It reflects a commitment to sustainable development and offers potential benefits to participating countries, ranging from reduced carbon emissions and environmental impact to economic growth and technological advancement," the expert said.

<https://english.news.cn/20231024/a932ee2d18f8476fac836940e2012ec5/c.html>

Chinese investments in SEZs under CPEC to enhance Pakistan's exports: business leader

ISLAMABAD, Oct. 24 (Xinhua) -- Chinese investments in the special economic zones (SEZs) being established under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) will increase Pakistan's exports and revenue, said a Pakistani business leader on Tuesday.

Fuad Ishaq, president of the Sarhad Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Pakistan's northwestern Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, said in a statement that the country's exports

would be further enhanced by Chinese investment in SEZs and industrial capacity building would also be strengthened.

The businessman added that the flagship projects of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) had brought good investment prospects for Pakistan.

"The CPEC is a guarantee for regional development and prosperity, and I hope that special economic zones under the CPEC would generate further economic activities and employment opportunities and lead the national economy and country toward stabilization," he said.

He said the CPEC has already initiated economic development and it would help the country further strengthen connectivity and promote overall progress.

Talking about the third Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation held earlier this month in Beijing, the business leader said the forum not only provided windows of opportunities to countries across the world but also showed that the BRI is full of benefits and fruits under the win-win cooperation.

Launched in 2013, the CPEC is a corridor linking the Gwadar port in southwestern Pakistan with Kashgar in northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, which highlights energy, transport and industrial cooperation.

<https://english.news.cn/asiapacific/20231024/693ff448e1b24391ba48ed3163544bbb/c.html>

GLOBALink | China introduces cutting-edge transmission project to Pakistan under CPEC

Under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), the Matiari-Lahore high-voltage direct current transmission project has guaranteed the electricity use of 10 million households in the South Asian country and provided hands-on instruction to local engineers.

<https://english.news.cn/20231024/f47c53d0d9dc4bfc8b2a58949e7cd00b/c.html>

Feature: Pakistan, China join hands to augment wheat production, enhance food security

Raheela Nazir

ISLAMABAD, Oct. 24 (Xinhua) -- Hafiz Salman, a 24-year-old Pakistani MPhil student, was keenly performing digital image processing to analyze the size and shape of wheat grains at the recently established China-Pakistan Joint Wheat Molecular Breeding International Lab in Quaid-i-Azam University in capital city Islamabad.

"We are collaborating with Chinese experts and scientists to produce the best varieties of wheat to enhance the yield of the staple crop and achieve zero hunger, which is one of the sustainable development goals of the United Nations," Salman told Xinhua.

He said that Chinese scientists have already developed high-yielding, disease-resistant and climate change-resilient varieties using DNA-based technologies and augment wheat production in China, adding that under this new initiative, the Chinese scientists would impart knowledge and information as well as the resources to get better wheat varieties suitable for Pakistan.

The lab, funded by the Science and Technology Partnership Program of the Chinese Ministry of Science and Technology, is aimed at enhancing food security, human resource development and training of Pakistani students and scientists through knowledge and research sharing.

In a conversation with Xinhua, Owais Rasheed, the head of the project and an assistant professor at Quaid-i-Azam University, said that the agricultural cooperation under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), a flagship project of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), has been bringing socio-economic benefits to Pakistan.

"Food security is an enormous challenge, not only for Pakistan but also for China, and for that we need the continuous development of staple food crops to increase productivity," he said, adding that Pakistan has a lot to learn from the Chinese experience to develop high-quality wheat varieties.

Rasheed, who has also been associated with the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences from 2013 to 2018 as a scientist, said that the results of recent research at the lab were quite promising as the researchers were able to produce wheat varieties that gave 8-10 percent more yield than conventional local varieties.

"We are going towards the registration process of new varieties, and hopefully the products from this project will be available to the farmers in the next two to three years," he added.

The professor said that several international organizations including the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center have shown interest in collaborating with the Pakistan-China lab, which would help in further strengthening linkages for the development of wheat varieties in future. With the establishment of the joint lab, Pakistan also set up its first-ever speed wheat breeding center at the National Agriculture Research Center (NARC) to develop multiple generations of wheat in minimum time by providing saplings with favorable conditions. Zahid Mehmood, a senior scientist of the NARC's wheat breeding program, told Xinhua that wheat breeding and registration of new varieties is a long process in Pakistan, normally taking 12 to 15 years. "With the speed breeding program, we are able to reduce six to seven years to develop a new variety ... we have acquired wheat samples from China. Our main purpose is to introduce good traits of Chinese varieties such as wheat lodging resistant varieties to introduce and incorporate in Pakistani varieties to create desirable characters in new products at minimum time," Mehmood said.

He said that lodging in wheat is one of the key issues Pakistani farmers encounter during wheat cultivation, substantially impacting yield, adding that other than wheat, Pakistan and China have also been working together to improve and innovate agricultural practices, farmers' capacity and livelihoods, and enhance food exports.

Besides agricultural cooperation, he said China has been assisting Pakistan under the CPEC to develop road and energy infrastructure, promoting industrialization by establishing special economic zones, trade and connectivity. Launched in 2013, the CPEC is a corridor linking the Gwadar port in southwestern Pakistan with Kashgar in northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, which highlights energy, transport and industrial cooperation.

<https://english.news.cn/20231024/33f86511ccde446999a47e1d9117c9e2/c.html>

October 25, 2023

Xinhuanet News

Pakistan, Belarus join International Lunar Research Station program

BEIJING, Oct. 25 (Xinhua) -- The China National Space Administration (CNSA) has signed cooperation documents with the space agencies of Pakistan and Belarus respectively for joint work on the International Lunar Research Station (ILRS) program.

The new cooperation effort marks the start of participation by Pakistan and Belarus in the ILRS program, said the CNSA. The program was initiated by China, with an invitation extended to organizations and scientists around the world to participate.

In the new memorandum of understanding (MOU) signed by the CNSA and the Pakistan Space and Upper Atmosphere Research Commission, the two sides will carry out extensive and in-depth cooperation and set up expert groups in the areas of demonstration, engineering implementation, operation and application of the ILRS.

The joint statement inked by the CNSA and the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus said the two sides will carry out extensive and in-depth cooperation on the construction and operation of the ILRS, including the application of space technology, new materials and electronic components, and the education and training of researchers and specialists.

China has a long history of cooperation with both countries in the space field, said the CNSA.

The building of the ILRS is expected to be carried out in three phases, with a basic model of the station expected to be completed by around 2030.

<https://english.news.cn/20231025/fb18c8be89ed42d18c1b6759aa5c902a/c.html>

October 26, 2023

Xinhuanet News

China, Pakistan to hold joint maritime exercise

BEIJING, Oct. 26 (Xinhua) -- Chinese and Pakistani navies will hold the "Sea Guardians-3" joint maritime exercise in the waters and airspace of the northern Arabian Sea in November, said a Chinese defense spokesperson on Thursday.

Wu Qian, spokesperson for the Ministry of National Defense, said at a press conference that the exercise will focus on joint response to maritime security threats, and will include subjects such as formation movement, search and rescue and anti-submarine operation. Activities such as professional exchanges and mutual visits will also be arranged.

This exercise aims to consolidate the all-weather strategic cooperative partnership and traditional friendship between the two countries and strengthen realistic combat training of the two militaries, Wu said.

<https://english.news.cn/20231026/c4b6e509f506469cbb3cc77f0773c91f/c.html>

October 27, 2023

China Daily

China-Pakistan earth sciences center inaugurated

The China-Pakistan Joint Research Center on Earth Sciences — a high-level scientific and technological innovation platform between the two countries — was inaugurated on Wednesday, according to co-founder, the Chinese Academy of Sciences.

The center was jointly established by the two countries in 2019, with its headquarters at Quaid-i-Azam University, in Pakistan's capital, Islamabad.

It will serve as a national platform for China-Pakistan science and education cooperation, covering research areas including tectonics, environment, ecology, disaster risk reduction, and sustainable development, Xinhua News Agency reported.

Mukhtar Ahmed, chairman of Pakistan's Higher Education Commission, the other co-founder, said that scientists from China and Pakistan have already carried out fruitful exploration and cooperation in scientific and technological innovation, and exchanges.

Experts from the CAS provided timely and effective assistance to Pakistan last year in response to the massive flood disaster, he added.

Ahmed expressed hope that the inauguration of the center would further expand cooperation and exchanges between the two countries in the fields of science, technology, and education, and achieve fruitful results.

Zhang Yaping, vice-president of the CAS, said that the establishment of the center is important for the academy to address the impact of climate change and natural disasters as well as promote the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor.

The academy will work with all partners to carry out closer pragmatic cooperation on scientific and technological issues related to the Belt and Road Initiative, while strengthening the region's ability to respond to natural disaster risks and boosting sustainable development.

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202310/27/WS653b96d0a31090682a5eb28d.html>

Xinhuanet News

World Insights: Foreign envoys impressed by development, rich culture in China's Xizang

GENEVA/LHASA, Oct. 27 (Xinhua) -- Journalists and foreign envoys have witnessed rapid social and economic development in China's Xizang Autonomous Region during recent visits and were impressed by its rich culture and improved quality of life.

"Seeing is believing," said Khalil Hashmi, Pakistan's permanent representative to the United Nations Office at Geneva, who described his recent trip to Xizang as "a pleasant surprise contrary to what we hear from some Western delegates."

DYNAMIC DEVELOPMENT

Permanent representative of Belarus to the United Nations Office at Geneva Larysa Belskaya shared a similar view with Hashmi after visiting Xizang on a recent trip. "The dynamic economic development of modern Xizang is very impressive," she said.

"While traveling, we saw active construction of roads and bridges, houses and infrastructure. I was very impressed by the mountain slopes dotted with endless power lines and transmission towers," the Belarussian envoy told Xinhua.

In Xizang, the envoys traveled to villages and cities and visited various places, including schools, health facilities and religious sites. "We saw a massive development in the form of highways, electricity and an excellent airport in Lhasa," said Hashmi, who has been appointed Pakistan's new envoy to China.

Hashmi said, for Xizang, which covers an area of over 1.2 million square kilometers, "it takes a huge political commitment and economic, financial commitment to connect this vast region, to put in place the infrastructure, including roads, bridges, trains, electricity, water, running water, schools, hospitals and so on."

Rapid development has benefited residents in Xizang's rural and urban areas, thanks to the Chinese government's emphasis on people-centered development.

In Xiga village, Nyinchi city, the envoys encountered a family resettled from a hard-to-reach mountainous area. The family and its neighbors were provided with comfortable accommodations, financial support and employment.

Thanks to continuous investment and support from the whole country, Xizang has undergone rapid development over recent decades, and by the end of 2019 the autonomous region had eradicated absolute poverty.

"People live simply, do not bathe in luxury, but have a good income, a cozy house and vegetable garden, work, and education for children. They have no problems with drinking water, electricity or medical care," said the Belarussian envoy.

"I believe it's a good illustration of China's policy of eradicating poverty through targeted assistance and development on the ground," she added.

RICH CULTURE

Xizang's rich culture and traditions also left deep impressions on the visitors.

At the College of Tibetan Medicine in Lhasa, unique ancient handwritten recipes were being digitized and used to advance research into Tibetan medicine and treat patients. Traditional medicine, representing centuries-old healing practices and cultural heritage, serves the region's population and the entire nation.

Ambassador Hashmi called every monastery in Lhasa a "living example of religious freedom" after witnessing large crowds of devotees praying and performing their religious rituals in traditional attire.

Contrary to popular belief, freedom of religion is respected in Xizang. According to a white paper released by China's State Council Information Office in May 2021, the region has more than 1,700 sites for Tibetan Buddhist activities, with about 46,000 monks and nuns.

The Jokhang Temple at the heart of Lhasa is a famous site for religious devotees and tourists. Visitors speaking various languages and dialects were in abundance.

Built in the seventh century, the Jokhang Temple houses numerous historical relics and exhibits quintessential Tibetan architecture. "Whether they come from Tibetan areas in China, other regions in the country, or internationally, they can all enjoy their freedom of religious belief at the Jokhang Temple," said Luosang, one of the administrative staff at the temple.

The recent trips also took journalists and foreign envoys to local schools, where students were seen attending classes in the Tibetan language and practicing traditional writing and calligraphy, music and singing.

"All these impressions allow me to say that the rich mosaic of Tibetan culture and spiritual traditions is respected, maintained and developed," said Belskaya.

EDUCATION FOR ALL

Covering more than 1.2 million square kilometers, the Xizang Autonomous Region has a much lower population density than the national average, making it inconvenient for students to attend classes. In the past, many places in the region tried to set up tent schools or "horseback schools" to offer education to more children, but mainly with compromised education quality.

More schools have been built today, and education has become much more accessible, including for farmers and herders in remote areas.

"The biggest achievement there is to make local kids who live with their parents in far-away places have the opportunity to study in primary schools, in middle schools and also in high schools to fully realize their potential and to open the path to future prosperity and social development," Hashmi said to Xinhua.

In Nagqu city, principal Awang Wangdui said his school, Baingoin Sinopec Primary School, teaches both Tibetan and Mandarin classes. Its 1,300 students are provided with free meals and basic medical care.

Herdsmen Luobu Jiacao, whose daughter is enrolled at the school, told Xinhua he was grateful the school provided heating. At some 4,700 meters above sea level, the daytime temperature fell to minus 5 degrees Celsius as he spoke to Xinhua.

Baima Jianceng, a fourth-grade student at the school, told Xinhua he loved the school for its sports activities and the friendships he forged with his classmates.

"I love to play basketball. At home, I only had a basketball hoop hand-made by my dad, and the only playmates I could find were my sisters," said Baima Jianceng, whose home is on a pastoral ranch over 100 kilometers away.

"When I came here, I was surprised to learn that the real basketball hoop was so high," said the 12-year-old boy. "I was so happy to have classmates to play with on the court."

<https://english.news.cn/20231027/570fd7f223184f0282e282060a833910/c.html>

October 28, 2023

Xinhuanet News

GLOBALink | China-Pakistan joint research center inaugurated to help mitigate climate change impacts in Pakistan

The China-Pakistan Joint Research Center on Earth Sciences (CPJRC) was inaugurated in Islamabad, aiming at promoting sci-tech cooperation against climate-induced disasters and talent cultivation.

<https://english.news.cn/20231028/03e615482cb74731a38efa8ce10636e4/c.html>

October 29, 2023

Xinhuanet News

GLOBALink | RMB clearing bank launched in Pakistan to facilitate cross-border transactions with China

The Industrial and Commercial Bank of China (ICBC) in Pakistan has opened a renminbi (RMB) clearing bank, facilitating both Pakistani and Chinese businesses and financial institutions to settle cross-border transactions and meet the financing needs of the two countries.

<https://english.news.cn/20231029/6500fc6d3b19483985ac1a2aa4088c62/c.html>