



For Better Understanding on China-Pakistan and CPEC

Gleanings from the National Press

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May 01, 2022

Business Recorder

Former Karachi University security advisor submits report on CCTV cameras

KARACHI: The former Campus Security Advisor of the University of Karachi Dr Moiz Khan has submitted a detailed report on the cameras installed at different locations of the campus to the acting Vice Chancellor of the University Professor Dr Nasira Khatoon.

In his detailed report, submitted on Friday, Dr Moiz Khan mentioned that the installation of the CCTV security cameras was being gradually increased as cameras were installed at all the entrance and exit gates of the University of Karachi in the first phase.

He informed in the report that the Silver Jubilee Gate, Staff Town Gate (Sheikh Zayed Islamic Center), Maskan Gate, and Metroville Gate, are used for the movement of public and private vehicles to enter or exit the campus while there is only one gate known as Ayub Goth Gate which is used by pedestrians only. All of these gates have four cameras each that are fully functional.

Dr Moiz Khan in his report said that apart from this, cameras are also installed at various places on the main roads and departments adjoining the roads of the University of Karachi through which the roads on the campus are also being monitored.

According to his report, security cameras are installed outside the Karachi University Business School, as well as at the Confucius Institute, the main entrance of the Institute of Business Administration, and its gates number one and four, cameras were installed on the Pharmacy Square (Chowk) whereas the security cameras were also installed at Masjid-e-Ibrahim, Sardar Yasin Malik Professional Development Centre, Karachi University Clinic, Security Office, Majeed Hotel, Girls Hostel Azadi Chowk, UBL Bank, Microbiology, Faculty of Pharmacy, Department of Mass Communication and other departments and institutions. He mentioned that the cameras installed at Pharmacy Chowk were out of order and the rest of the cameras were in working condition.

Dr Moiz Khan reported that the progress so far made to probe the unfortunate incident was only made possible by these cameras.

In his report, he informed the varsity's administration that all these cameras do not have a centralized control room but the recording system of each camera is installed nearby the position of these cameras.

He reported that owing to the long distance from one place to another, the cameras' monitoring system was divided to avoid technical errors and other difficulties.

The reports carried by various media outlets regarding non-functional or unavailable cameras on the campus are misleading and untruthful and they should be clarified by every means.

The University of Karachi is one of the largest and most renowned universities in the country, and its students are making names for the country and the university all over the world. The University of Karachi belongs to all of us and we all need to play our due role to stop all kinds of negative propaganda against it.

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2022/05/01/3-page/928172-news.html>

Daily Times

Elements behind KU attack want to sabotage CPEC: Alvi

In order to express solidarity with the people and the Government of China, President Dr Arif Alvi Saturday visited the Embassy of China and offered his heartfelt condolences over the loss of precious lives of Chinese nationals in a terrorist attack that took place in Karachi on April 26.

Talking to the Charge d' Affaires, Pang Chunxue and officers of the Chinese Embassy, the president said the entire Pakistani nation was in deep pain and shock over the unfortunate incident and shared the grief of Chinese brothers and sisters. He reiterated the resolve that Pakistan would leave no stone unturned to ensure the safety of Chinese nationals and bring to justice the elements involved in this heinous incident.

Condemning the incident, the president said the hostile intent of the enemies was behind it who wanted to harm Pak-China friendship and China Pakistan Economic Corridor project, but they would not succeed in their designs as both the countries enjoyed deep friendship and were strongly committed to further strengthen the all-weather friendship.

He asked the charge d' affaires to convey his heartfelt condolences to the Chinese people, Communist Party and President Xi Jinping. The charge d' affaires thanked the president for visiting the embassy and expressing solidarity with the people and the Government of China.

She said both countries had a shared future and had a long history of friendship and close cooperation. She condemned the attack and hoped that the culprits behind the incident would be apprehended and punished. Later, the president wrote remarks in the visitor's book of the embassy.

Talking to the media, the president said friendship between the two countries was enshrined in the brotherly relations of the citizens of Pakistan and China. He opined that losing the three Chinese brothers in Karachi attack was like losing some relatives in Pakistan. The president stressed upon the need to destroy the nefarious terrorist designs that wanted to discourage China from helping Pakistan and expansion of the Belt Road Initiative (BRI).

Pakistan had been very successful to defeat such designs but the Karachi terrorist attack took place which was very painful, he said and assured that the culprits involved in the attack would be brought to justice, besides improving the safety of the Chinese nationals.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/928605/elements-behind-ku-attack-want-to-sabotage-cpec-alvi/>

CPEC administrative restructuring in full swing

The administrative restructuring of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) has kicked off in full swing, Gwadar Pro reported on Saturday.

In an expeditious step, CPEC Authority is being merged into CPEC Secretariat. With an incorporation process going in full swing, CPEC Secretariat that stayed inactive has been restored to function properly.

Its two wings – CPEC Support Project and CPEC Centre of Excellence – that were made non-operational are also likely to be resurrected. “CPEC Authority is being assimilated into CPEC Secretariat,” Ayesha Khan, official in the Ministry of Planning, Development & Special Initiative (PD &SI) told Gwadar Pro. “Managerial and administrative restructuring process is in the making. Within two or three days, a prolific picture will be clearly visible to figure out the scope and design of the new set-up and understand how the new changes will be incorporated and how they will be executed,” she added.

CPEC Authority, that remained headless for many months, got a new head after PML-Q MNA Chaudhry Salik Hussain becomes the new CPEC Authority chairman on April 22.

The Last CPEC authority chairman was Lieutenant General (retired) Asim Saleem Bajwa who took charge in November 2019 for four years. Amid controversy, he resigned on 3rd August, 2021. Since then, CPEC Authority remained without Chairman. Khalid Mansoor, former CEO of HUBCO, took charge as Special Assistant to Prime Minister on CPEC Affairs shortly.

Two days back, a meeting was held to take stock of CPEC Authority dysfunctionality and dormancy of Center of Excellence established in Pakistan Institutes Development Economics (PIDE). “The idea of the center was to conduct an empirical research which could help tap new opportunities,” said the Federal Minister for Planning, Development & Special Initiatives Ahsan Iqbal while directing Registrar PIDE to submit a complete action plan and their achievements. “We have little knowledge about the Chinese market, therefore, a quality research center is a dire need of time, particularly in the field of industrial cooperation,” he added.

Meanwhile, as ongoing CPEC bureaucratic and administrative overhaul is at full throttle, it is highly likely that many bodies formed by previous government to oversight CPEC progress will be abolished one by one.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/928544/cpec-administrative-restructuring-in-full-swing/>

Kh Saad chairs meetings on ML-1

Presiding over the meeting on the latest situation of ML-1, the Federal Minister expressed concern over the fact that no work could be done on this important project in the last four years. “Where we left off, no progress has been made since then, even our special unit has been dismantled,” he said. The Railway Minister said that ML-1 is the lifeline of the railways. Giving

instructions regarding the Special Purpose Vehicle, the Federal Minister said that it should be restored immediately and in the present circumstances, the railway administration should reset its priorities so that talks could be held with China in this regard.

Presiding over the meeting regarding the Rabta application, the Federal Minister for Railways directed the authorities to review all the legal and technical aspects and submit its report.

During the briefing on the development plans of the railways, the Minister urged not to make such a long wish list which is not feasible. Only make plans that can be completed, he added. During the meeting, the Federal Minister gave guidelines on rolling stock and infrastructure projects.

Minister also sought details regarding the investment of railways in Gwadar, rail link from Basima to Gwadar and construction of railway station and railway terminal at Gwadar.

After the meeting, Secretary Railways and Chief Executive Officer Pakistan Railways also got approved various appointments from the Minister.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/928517/kh-saad-chairs-meetings-on-ml-1/>

Chongqing companies to invest in Pakistan

The companies from Chongqing, China will be fully supported to invest in Pakistan, and the BOI looks forward to deepening relations with the Government of Chongqing, China. This was stated by Asim Ayub, Project Director of Pakistan Board of Investment highlighted on 2022 Chongqing Jiangbei District International Investment Promotion. During the 6th Joint Working Group meeting on CPEC Industrial Cooperation (IC) held by National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) of China and Board of Investment (BOI) Pakistan, NDRC proposed the inclusion of the provincial and municipal Development and Reforms Commissions for advancing the industrial cooperation between Pakistan and China. Strengthening economic and trade exchanges between Chongqing and Pakistani cities is of great significance to give full play to their complementary advantages, carrying out pragmatic exchanges and cooperation, and benefiting people in the cities, China Economic Net (CEN) reported. Chongqing's cooperation with Pakistan covers a wide range of fields, including trade, business, education, etc., and there is still great potential to be further unleashed.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/928641/chongqing-companies-to-invest-in-pakistan/>

Dawn News

Securing CPEC & Balochistan

Muhammad Amir Rana

THE suicide blast targeting a van with Chinese faculty near Karachi University's Confucius Institute was an attack on China's soft power. The terrorists seemed aware that the institute

symbolized China's cultural and civilizational expression, and that China, more than others, was keen to project a soft image.

Secondly, the terrorists used a woman suicide bomber to draw greater international attention and increase the impact. This has triggered a debate on the changing dynamics of the Baloch insurgent movement.

As expected, the reaction from China was strong: the Chinese foreign ministry said that those behind the incident would have to pay the price. The statement will increase the pressure on the Pakistani government. This time, Pakistan reacted to the attack in a more coherent manner than in the past. When terrorists belonging to the banned TTP attacked a bus carrying Chinese workers near the Dasu dam site in 2021, the then government had tried to cover up the facts, declaring the incident was due to a technical fault in the vehicle. It was only because of Chinese pressure that the government changed its stance and allowed Chinese investigators to help the Pakistani agencies investigate the attack. In contrast, following the Karachi University blast, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif rushed to the Chinese embassy to express his condolences and promised to bring the perpetrators to justice.

Mr Sharif's gesture may be appreciated by China, but to address Chinese concerns about security, the state institutions here will have to take measures that can satisfy Beijing. This is also essential for the smooth implementation of the CPEC projects.

Pakistan has already invested a large amount of money in protecting Chinese nationals and securing CPEC projects. A Special Security Division was created in 2016. It comprises two light infantry divisions (reportedly, the first was created in September 2016 and the second in 2020), with 15,000 troops each. The SSD also has support from 32,000 security personnel forces of the Frontier Corps, police and Levies, apart from a dedicated intelligence network to prevent or neutralise terrorism-related threats.

State institutions here will have to take safety measures that satisfy Beijing.

The Chinese companies working on CPEC-related projects are satisfied with the security measures, as the Global Times, a state-owned Chinese newspaper, recently reported. However, the cost of security, to which China contributes, is very high.

Secondly, the entire approach to safeguarding CPEC is very conventional and mainly based on protecting the work sites and escorting convoys of engineers and workers. Chinese companies remain apprehensive about the security of their staff in major urban centres. Many Chinese working in Pakistan in small industries, such as restaurants and the manufacturing sector, do not get proper security cover.

The cost of security is also a major factor that makes CPEC projects more expensive. According to a media report, Pakistan has again postponed the approval of a Rs36 billion project meant to provide security to Chinese nationals engaged in the construction of the multibillion-dollar ML-I project. The latter is a mega project requiring a large security blanket. Besides, managing,

training and screening of security personnel is also a critical aspect about which the Chinese are concerned.

Conventional security for CPEC projects is essential, but state institutions cannot ignore the strategic and political context. Cursing external elements alone cannot solve the problem. There is also a need for deep introspection and a review of approaches. A thorough review is required of Pakistan's policy towards the Afghan Taliban, who have not fulfilled any expectations related to terrorism threats in Pakistan emanating from across the border. The proscribed TTP are enjoying the full patronage of the Taliban regime, who give them access to the weapons left behind by Nato forces. Similarly, Baloch insurgents are still using Afghan soil to hide and to hatch terrorist plots against Pakistan.

The causes of unrest in Balochistan are well known and have been repeatedly discussed on these pages and elsewhere. State institutions are experimenting with selective measures — ranging from reconciliation to amnesty — to address the problem of insurgency. However, nothing has gone well because all such initiatives are poorly designed, and the purpose has been to isolate the insurgent leadership rather than bring fighters back to normal life. The security establishment is engaged in a broader dialogue with the Baloch people, especially the youth. It is important to understand the perspectives on the ground. But first, it should lead to a change in approach, and second, political actors should also initiate such processes. Like the other provinces, Balochistan deserves a free and fair election, and this is crucial to creating a dialogue.

Fulfilling this demand won't cost much, and would, in fact, be a great leap forward in addressing the grievances of Balochistan and reducing insecurity for Pakistanis and foreigners in the country. If the state is sincere in isolating and demoralising the insurgent movement in the province, it will have to address the issue of the Baloch missing persons. Every suspect involved in terrorism and anti-state activities will have to be brought within the orbit of the rule of law. The judiciary will have to be efficient and decide such cases on a priority basis to give the message that justice is being done.

After ensuring this, the state institutions will have to focus on enhancing their analysis skills. No doubt, Baloch militancy has become a more lethal movement and is indigenising itself because of the current leadership of its groups. The Balochistan Liberation Army's Majeed Brigade has become notorious for using lethal tactics with an element of surprise. The quick changes in its operational strategies make the job of law-enforcement agencies difficult. After the Karachi attack, the probability of using female fighters and suicide bombers in more complex guerrilla operations has increased. The law-enforcement agencies need to be vigilant. There is a need to study the tactics and strategies of the terrorist organisations across the world; the BLA is not averse to adopting the tactics of the religious terrorist groups as long as these serve its purpose.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1687711>

Nawaiwaqt News

وزیر بین الاقوامی امور کمیونسٹ پارٹی چین کا احسن اقبال کے نام خط

اسلام آباد (نمائندہ خصوصی) وزیر بین الاقوامی امور کمیونسٹ پارٹی چین سونگ تاو نے مسلم لیگ (ن) کے سیکرٹری جنرل اور وزیر منصوبہ بندی پروفیسر احسن اقبال کے نام خط میں ان کو وزیر منصوبہ بندی احسن اقبال کو وزارت سنبھالنے پر مبارک باد دی، چینی وزیر نے کہا کہ پاکستان چین تعلقات، سی پیک کی کامیابی کے حوالے سے وزیر منصوبہ بندی احسن اقبال کی گرانقدر کاوشیں ہیں، کمیونسٹ پارٹی چین اور پاکستان مسلم لیگ (ن) کے مابین دوستانہ دیرپا تعلقات ہیں، دونوں سیاسی جماعتوں کے مابین حکومتی امور کے تجربات کی روشنی میں تعاون کو مزید فروغ دینا چاہتے ہیں۔ بین الجہتی روابط کے ذریعہ دونوں ممالک اور سی پیک کی ترقی میں اپنا حصہ ڈالنے کیلئے تیار ہیں۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/lahore/2022-05-01/page-3/detail-10>

May 02, 2022

Daily Times

Pakistan needs to follow China's worker friendly policies

Pakistan needed to follow worker-friendly policies of China for socio-economic progress. This was stated by Pakistanis living in China on International Labor Day.

Dr. Babar Ijaz, Overseas Business Manager, Shandong Rainbow Agricultural Technology Co. Ltd told China Economic Net that living in China for around 6 years, he has eye-witnessed the new heights of the progress China has made in the last 20 years, because of worker-friendly policies. Chinese government commemorates the struggles of the laborers and protects their rights. "I have been provided with equal holidays and the freedom to work independently. The Chinese staff is very friendly and respects our cultural needs in our daily work routine," Babar mentioned.

He further said that every year on May 1, individuals and groups of laborers who have excelled in their work are honored in China. He believes that equal rights for laborers play a major role in a country's economy. "Working in the agriculture sector, we always need labor to work in the field for sowing and harvesting of crops. Laborers do a tough job irrespective of their desire to work. I salute all worker's efforts to build an agriculture-based economy and I wish they get enough wages and facilities to work in a conducive environment. I always feel protected and provided with a safe work environment in China", he added.

Asif Jalil, the owner of Tiffin and one-one food supply chain here told CEN that Pakistanis in China including some businessmen, who settled after completing their education here, professionals employed by multinationals like Nestle, Nokia, Coca Cola, and other Chinese companies are satisfied due to better working environment here. He added that these Pakistanis freely promote Pakistani culture in China in collaboration with the Pakistani embassy, consulates, and Chinese authorities as well. "China offers an excellent working environment to foreigners while enabling them to enjoy the Chinese culture through interaction with their

colleagues and business associates. Chinese companies also offer training facilities to Pakistanis in various hi-tech areas,” Asif mentioned.

He stated that Pakistani businessmen are involved in trading between Pakistan and China, while a large number of students are studying at various Chinese Universities and also actively participating in different activities including part-time jobs and most of them are satisfied with Chinese policies.

Shahid Afraz Khan, working as a foreign expert with China Media Group told China Economic Net that 1st May is being celebrated around the world as International Workers’ Day. While this day is an occasion to pay tribute to the greatness of the workers, it also calls for the introduction of new encouraging labor-friendly policies, the introduction of new trends of jobs, and increased employment opportunities, while prioritizing their welfare and employment.

He added that this day reminds the world that the protection of workers’ rights must be ensured. “I have been working in China for almost six years. My observation is that with each passing year, the Chinese leadership has improved the working environment, increased facilities for workers, and made all possible improvements in employment policies,” he added.

Shahid further said that China’s top leadership also appreciates the role of workers in the country’s development, and from time-to-time important instructions are issued in this regard. Working in China is also fortunate in the sense that you get equal opportunities to advance here, no discrimination is made between Chinese employees and foreign employees and the truth is that the benefits of foreigners are quite high. “The advantage of a good working environment is that your creativity is exposed and you can pursue your career without any pressure. That is why we are seeing more and more foreigners preferring to work in China. I hope that the Chinese government will further improve its employment policies to provide opportunities for the best talent in the world and in the coming years, more foreigners will be working in various Chinese companies,” Shahid mentioned.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/929453/pakistan-needs-to-follow-chinas-worker-friendly-policies/>

Dawn News

30 buses for Islamabad's Airport metro service depart from China

Kashif Abbasi

ISLAMABAD: As many as 30 buses for the Peshawar Mor - Airport Metro Bus Service are expected to reach Islamabad after 20 days.

These buses, which were supposed to be sent in February, could not be transported at that time due to the spread of Covid-19 in Shanghai. Due to this, Capital Development Authority (CDA) had been forced to start the service using borrowed buses.

The authority, a couple of weeks ago, on the direction of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif started the much-delayed service with 15 borrowed buses, which were taken from Rawalpindi - Islamabad Metro Bus Service.

The CDA asked its contractor to change the port and on Sunday, the buses were sent from Zhenjiang Port. “CDA Chairman Amer Ali Ahmed was in touch with Chinese authorities and with the contractor and finally on Sunday, the buses were sent,” a source told Dawn.

Sources in CDA said 10 of the buses will be operated on the route from Rawat to Faizabad. Earlier, the civic agency had placed the order for procuring 30 buses to an international bus manufacturing company called Higer Bus Company, which had submitted a bid of Rs728 million for the 30 buses.

Work on the 25.6-kilometre long metro bus track worth Rs16 billion was started by the PML-N government in 2017. It was supposed to be completed within a year however, after the change of government in 2018, the project saw an inordinate delay.

The project was executed by the National Highway Authority (NHA) and last year on the direction of the then government, CDA took over the project and started the process of procuring buses and setting up the command, control and ticketing systems.

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on his first day in office, directed the CDA to run the bus service within five days as this project had been delayed for long. On his direction, the officials of CDA and other government organisations remained on their toes and successfully launched the bus service. Free rides were provided by the service to passengers in Ramazan.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1687763/30-buses-for-islamabads-airport-metro-service-depart-from-china>

Pakistan Observer

Chinese experience in precision agriculture to improve outputs: Experts

Chinese experience in precision agriculture will greatly help improve Pakistan’s agricultural outputs, China Economic Net (CEN) reported on Sunday quoting Experts.

“The climatic condition of many parts of China are quite similar to that of Pakistan. Thus it is a great opportunity to learn from the Chinese experience in precision agriculture to improve Pakistan’s agricultural outputs,” said Dr. Muhammad Naveed Tahir, Associate Professor from Department of Agronomy, Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi (PMAS-AAUR).

As Dr. Tahir puts it, precision agriculture (PA) is of great importance for Pakistan for three reasons. First of all, much of the most productive agricultural land in the country is turned into housing land, significantly reducing agricultural land.

Secondly, the cost of agricultural input is increasing these years, making it more necessary for farmers to consider and apply the input in a precise way. Lastly, environmental issues have been getting serious due to the overuse of fertilizers pesticides, weedicides, fungicides, etc.

“That’s why PA is important for Pakistan to increase agricultural productivity per unit area to feed such a large population of over 212 million,” he explained.

However, “Actual application of PA technologies needs trained personnel, but they are not available in most of the developing countries including Pakistan,” Dr. Tahir told CEN.

<https://pakobserver.net/chinese-experience-in-precision-agriculture-to-improve-outputs-experts/>

The Nation

USA, China, UK Remain Top 3 Destinations Of Pakistani Exports During 9 Months

ISLAMABAD – The United States remained the top export destination of Pakistani products during the first nine months of financial year (2021-22), followed by China and United Kingdom (UK).

Total exports to the USA during July-March (2021-22) were recorded at \$5000.275 million against the exports of \$3564.575 million during July- March (2020-21), showing growth of 40.27 percent, according to State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) data. This was followed by China, wherein Pakistan exported goods worth \$2126.778 million against the exports of \$1405.890 million during last year, showing an increase of 51.27 percent. UK was the third top export destination, where Pakistan exported products worth \$1671.218 million during the months under review against the exports of \$1508.325 million, showing growth of 10.79 percent, SBP data revealed. Among other countries, Pakistani exports to UAE stood at \$1360.317 million against \$1086.763 million during last year, showing an increase of 25.17 percent while the exports to Germany were recorded at \$1297.94 million against \$1134.728 million last year, the data showed. During July- March (2021-22), the exports to Holland were recorded \$1067.644 million against \$830.646 million whereas the exports to Italy stood at \$758.795 million against \$559.664 million.

Pakistan’s exports to Spain were recorded at \$827.686 million against the exports of \$595.201 million while the exports to Afghanistan were recorded \$369.382 million against \$ 746.347 million during last year. The exports to Bangladesh stood at \$648.936 million against \$438.626 million, showing growth of 47.94 percent, according to SBP data. Similarly, the exports to France during the months under review were recorded at \$379.661 million against \$330.983 million while the exports to Belgium stood at \$524.059 million against \$417.837 million. Pakistan’s exports to Saudi Arabia were recorded at \$303.194 million during the current year as compared to \$365.513 million last year whereas the exports to Canada stood at \$294.467 million against \$228.539, to Malaysia \$316.572 million against \$15.572 million. Overall Pakistan’s

exports to other countries witnessed an increase of 26.64 percent in nine months, from US \$18.713 billion to US \$ 23.699 billion.

<https://nation.com.pk/2022/05/02/usa-china-uk-remain-top-3-destinations-of-pakistani-exports-during-9-months/>

The News

Ahsan Iqbal rubbishes claims work on CPEC stopped

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Planning and Development Ahsan Iqbal has rubbished claims that work on the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) had been stopped after the new government came to power.

Reacting to a tweet by a retired military officer, he tweeted, "Respect yourself, don't tell a lie. The CPEC was shut down after false propaganda by Imran Niazi. Over \$29b projects had been launched in the PMLN government while no new project worth even \$1b started in the PTI tenure. Even approved projects were put in cold storage."

Earlier, a retired military officer had tweeted that a major target of the new government had been completed after work on the CPEC stopped. "Chinese engineers are leaving Pakistan. A plan to harm Pakistan is underway," he alleged.

<https://e.thenews.com.pk/detail?id=83589>

May 03, 2022

Business Recorder

Pakistani olive oil farmers eyeing Chinese cooperation

BEIJING: China's demand for Pakistani olive oil is high and as long as Pakistan has market demand or export demand, cooperation with China is absolutely imperative, said Zhou Ning, Marketing Director at Green Organic Food.

In addition to market, Pakistani farmers need Chinese agricultural technology and investment. Syed Yousaf Ali, a farmer with a 100-acre estate said that he is now using a Chinese machine that picks olives of different sizes. "Compared with other agricultural machines around the world, Chinese machines are inexpensive."

Farhan Pasha, the scientific officer in charge of the olive program at the Barani Agricultural Research Institute, on the other hand talking to China Economic Net (CEN) hoped to cooperate with China in terms of cold-pressing technology, pest control and other agricultural technologies. Against the backdrop of successful cultivation of cash crops such as chili peppers, a joint venture between China and Pakistan for olive cultivation and processing is also a viable solution. Dr Ramzan Ansari believes that it would be a win-win result for both countries if they receive assistance from China and start production here.

On a macro level, the cooperation between the two countries in the olive industry holds even greater potential. Dr. Ramzan Ansari suggested that some areas with high agricultural potential, including the Potohar region, could become exclusive agricultural zones under the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

Pakistan's nascent olive oil industry, although a late starter, has played a visible role in Pakistan's food security and even economic recovery, as Inam ul Haq said, "If we can stop importing olive oil and make ourselves self-sufficient, then it will be an olive revolution for us." Pakistan's annual vegetable oil consumption amounts to 5 million tons, while the share of some less-consumed vegetable oils such as mustard oil is about 400,000 tons. Thirty percent of the demand is satisfied by domestically produced oilseeds, while the remaining seventy percent is met by imports. Due to the increase in import prices, it is a severe test for Pakistan's foreign trade deficit and foreign exchange reserves.

Pakistan, which has a large area of land suitable for growing olive trees, has been producing olive oil since 2010 with the help of countries such as Italy and Spain. Currently, it produces about 1,500 tons of olive oil and 830 tons of table olives per year, all of which are consumed domestically. Pakistan has set a target of producing 16,000 tons of olive oil by 2027. Syed Yousaf Ali has been growing olives since 2006. In his opinion, the olive tree has low requirements of land.

Another farmer, Malik Shafiq, described the olive tree as a "tough plant". It was an uneven wasteland when he started planting it a decade ago. "It is not affected by the worst weather conditions. It can grow in the wasteland, and the cost is half that of other crops." Farhan Pasha said that the main areas in Pakistan fit for olive cultivation are Balochistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK) and Punjab, in addition to Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) and Gilgit-Baltistan (GB). Pakistan has 10 million acres of land suitable for olive cultivation, which is almost twice as much as Spain, the world's largest olive oil producer. As olive trees are able to survive in dry, arid conditions not fit for other crops normally, they don't compete with other fruit trees, grain crops or oil crops in these areas.

To encourage olive cultivation, the Pakistani government has planned to issue olive oil marketing and branding certification to the private sector. The goal of it is to plant over 50,000 acres in the country by 2022. Now, Pakistan is the only South Asian country to be included in the International Olive Council.

Inam ul Haq, who works as a horticulturist at the Barani Agricultural Research Institute in Chakwal, said that the local government has spared no efforts to subsidize olive cultivation. "Since 2015, the Punjab government has been providing subsidies to local gardeners to turn the Potohar region into 'Olive Valley', that is, providing olive saplings free of charge for plantation."

In the past five years, nearly 1.4 million olive trees have been planted in Potohar region, covering almost 9,000 acres of land. The project has made use of less fertile and undeveloped land. In addition, the government has offered up to 70% subsidy on the installation of solar

power systems and nearly 60% subsidy on drip irrigation systems, with an estimated 800 families getting benefits and turning their less fertile land into olive groves. The government has also provided 50% subsidy to agricultural machines that may be needed during harvest seasons, such as shakers.

The advantages of growing olive trees are obvious. On the one hand, they can meet local demand for edible oil while reduce trade deficit, on the other hand, they mitigate climate change and effectively address the challenge of water security. It is no wonder that provincial governments have introduced subsidies to encourage olive cultivation.

Due to its favourable climate and geographical location, the quality of olive fruit produced in Pakistan is among the best around the world despite its late start. According to Inam-ul Haq, the quality of olive oil produced locally in Pakistan is almost the same as that of well-established olive producing countries. Farhan Pasha said that Pakistani olive oil from Quetta won the highest grade at a recent competition held in Italy.

At present, there are several traditional methods used in the harvesting of olive fruits, including knocking, hand harvesting and chemical ripening harvesting. In Pakistan, hand harvesting is mainly adopted. We've seen other countries have adopted mechanical harvesting, but we haven't," said Malik Shafiq.

Dr Ramzan Ansari, who is in charge of olive research at the Barani Agricultural Research Institute, sees agricultural machines are what Pakistan lacks.

"Marketing is a completely different sector. A farmer can't do everything by himself. What he can do is either marketing the product or adding value by processing the fruit. If business investors enter this sector and do value-added production and then marketing, it can make positive contribution to this sector and the society," Syed Yousaf Ali said.—APP

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2022/05/03/9-page/928397-news.html>

Pakistan Observer

CPEC helping Pakistan combat energy crisis

The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is a key player in helping combat the chronic energy crisis in Pakistan, reports WealthPK.

In June 2014, power generation was 1,400MW against a demand of 17,400MW, resulting in a shortage of 3,400MW. During that time, major cities and rural areas experienced approximately 6 to 10-hour load shedding.

Owing to industrialization and population growth, the power demand has increased with time. In 2021, electricity demand was 25,000MW, but transmission and distribution capacity was 22,000MW. The same year, the generation capacity was 37,261 MW.

The energy sector contributes significantly to the economic growth. Energy is one of the primary driving forces behind economic growth and industrial productivity and is at the core of any

modern economy. Official sources indicate that 10 energy projects have been completed and are generating electricity, six are currently in the construction phase, and five are under consideration. The major projects completed under the CPEC are Sahiwal Coal-fired Power Plant with a capacity of 1,320MW, Port Qasim coal-fired power plant with 1,320MW, China Hub Coal Power Project with 1,320MW capacity, and Engro Thar Coal Power Project with 660 MW capacity.

As soon as the Covid-19 lockdown in Pakistan was lifted, almost all sectors of business, trade, and industry got back to work quickly. The reason for this can be attributed to CPEC energy projects, which have been actively and efficiently producing a significant amount of Pakistan's energy supply.

Dr. Abedullah, Chief of Research at Islamabad-based Pakistan Institute of Development Economics, told WealthPK that the CPEC has a great deal of importance for Pakistan because it not only largely solved the country's serious electricity shortage, but also brought advanced technology and job opportunities.

According to him, the CPEC power plants are providing Pakistan with electricity at the cheapest rates. When this energy is transmitted through the High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) line, it prevents a substantial amount of electricity from being wasted and eventually provides the consumers with cheaper electricity.

<https://pakobserver.net/cpec-helping-pakistan-combat-energy-crisis/>

The Express Tribune

China annoyed but undeterred

Chinese resolve to stay on in Pakistan should not deflect officials from addressing longstanding simmering issues

The April 26 suicide bombing on a van near the Confucius Institute at the Karachi University, killing three Chinese academics, came as a yet another shock, though not unsurprising. Understandably, China's Foreign Ministry strongly condemned the attack, "demanded" Pakistan punish the perpetrators, protect Chinese citizens and prevent such incidents from happening again. "The blood of the Chinese people should not be shed in vain, and those behind this incident will surely pay the price," it said in a statement.

This strong-worded message prompted speculation as to how annoyed the Chinese were on the latest loss of three of their citizens. But they are not oblivious either to China-focused acts of terror across Pakistan. Nor do they lack understanding on the dynamics of this kind of terror, particularly in areas where CPEC development projects are underway.

That is why the statement by a spokesperson within 48 hours of the initial response was much more measured and reflective of the nature of challenges flowing from geopolitics for both China and Pakistan.

“The Pakistani side is going all out to investigate and hunt down the perpetrators... I want to stress that terrorism is the common enemy of all humanity. China and Pakistan are resolved and able to keep terrorists at bay and make them pay the price,” Wang Wenbin, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs spokesperson, told a media briefing.

In fact the spokesperson reiterated as to how Beijing plans to take the bilateral relationship forward.

“China has always supported Pakistan’s national development. We will continue to support Pakistan’s economic and social development and improvement of people’s livelihood. The Pakistani government has pledged to strengthen security for Chinese personnel, projects and institutions in Pakistan and not to allow any force to undermine the great China-Pakistan friendship and cooperation. We believe that the Pakistani side will earnestly take robust measures to ensure that China-Pakistan cooperation moves ahead in a safe and smooth manner,” Wenbin said.

Officials also underlined that any attempt to undermine China-Pakistan friendship and cooperation will be thwarted by the Chinese and Pakistani people. “We would also like to remind Chinese citizens, institutions, projects and personnel in Pakistan to take extra security precautions and pay close attention to security risks,” the foreign ministry in Beijing said.

Chinese officials also realise that the Baloch insurgency is not a low-intensity conflict anymore because of its possible links to proxy terrorism directed at China and its allies. Baloch militants have been tactfully targeting Chinese interests in Karachi, Gwadar and elsewhere. Back in August 2018, Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA) terrorists targeted the Chinese consulate in Karachi, followed by a similar attack in 2020 at the Pakistan Stock Exchange where the Chinese have major investments — nearly 40 per cent in terms of share-holding, according to some estimates.

The obvious objective is to shake the financial and trading nerve centre of Pakistan, mostly through suicide bombings. And this time the BLA engaged a female bomber. This indicates the terrorists’ strategy is also evolving with the passage of time, particularly after the alliance with the Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), which introduced the fidayeen (suicide-bombers) attacks into the BLA tactics.

No surprise that the nexus between BLA, BNA (Baloch Nationalist Army) and TTP emerged stronger after the Afghan Taliban’s return to Kabul in August last year. At the core of the anti-China attacks is the Majeed Brigade of BLA — a unit which recruits, trains and produces fidayeen for the Baloch separatist movements and has claimed responsibility for all the three strikes in Karachi. While trying their best to endear local populations through community-focused work in various parts of Balochistan, Chinese officials and their companies view these outfits as instruments of proxy terrorism and hence not inclined to squarely blame Pakistan alone.

That the Chinese leadership is seized with the worrying consequences of geopolitics (Ukraine war and the US projection of China's emergence as a big challenge to the US interests) is also evident from an initiative that President Xi Jinping unveiled in his keynote speech via video on April 25 at the opening ceremony of the Boao Forum for Asia Annual Conference 2022. President Xi introduced his vision of upholding "common, comprehensive, cooperative and sustainable" security for all and underlined that the legitimate security concerns of all countries should be taken seriously and that no country's security should be built at the cost of others' security.

Following up on the initiative, Foreign Minister Wang Yi wrote in an oped that Xi's vision contributes Chinese wisdom to addressing the peace deficit of humanity and coping with global security challenges, and his initiative meets the common aspirations of countries around the world to uphold multilateralism and safeguard international solidarity.

The Chinese resolve to stay on in Pakistan should, nevertheless, not deflect officials from addressing longstanding simmering issues such as under-development in Balochistan, alleged human rights violations, unemployment and missing persons. We need to openly address them in an inclusive way to forestall unnecessary speculation and criticism.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2355145/china-annoyed-but-undeterred>

The Nation

Govt Convenes Meeting Of CPEC Joint Working Group On Security After Eid

ISLAMABAD – To review the security of the China Pakistan Economic Corridor projects and the Chinese nationals, the government has convened the meeting of the Joint Working Group on CPEC after Eid.

Federal Minister for Planning and Development Ahsan Iqbal convened a meeting of CPEC Joint Working Group on security after Eid, said statement issued here. The meeting will be chaired by the Federal Minister for Planning and will be attended by Interior Minister Rana Sanaullah along with senior security officials. The meeting will review the overall security of CPEC projects and Chinese citizens. The JWG on Security meeting will be updated regarding the progress of the investigation of Karachi University incident. Last week four people including three Chinese citizens and one Pakistani were killed in a suicide bombing at Karachi University's premises. Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif had already directed the interior ministry to engage provinces for the provision of security to CPEC projects.

Meanwhile, source told The Nation that next month the government is likely to approve a project for the provision of security to the Chinese working on the proposed Up-gradation of Pakistan Railways Mainline-1 (ML-1). The project, which will cost approximately Rs36b, was deferred by the Central Development Working Party in its previous meeting and now it will be resubmitted to forum. It is worth to mention here that National Assembly's Parliamentary

Committee on China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) had noted that most of the burden of security was being shouldered by the army and said that police and other stakeholders should also play their role in dispensation of security mechanism. The committee chairman Sher Ali Arbab, while highlighting gap in coordination at various levels among ministries/divisions responsible for security of CPEC, recommended that the meeting of the Joint Working Group (JWG) on security of CPEC from the Pakistan side be held regularly and its minutes be shared with the committee.

<https://nation.com.pk/2022/05/03/govt-convenes-meeting-of-cpec-joint-working-group-on-security-after-eid/>

May 06, 2022

Daily Times

China hails Pakistan's show of solidarity after Karachi terror incident

Pakistani top leadership's show of solidarity with China over killing of Chinese citizens in Karachi once again demonstrated that all weather strategic cooperative partnership between China and Pakistan is deeply rooted in the hearts of the people and any attempt to undermine mutual trust and cooperation is doomed to fail, Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesperson, Zhao Lijian said on Thursday.

Addressing a regular briefing held in Beijing, he said that after attack of the Confucius Institute at the University of Karachi, President Arif Alvi, Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif, Speaker of the National Assembly, Raja Pevaz Ashraf, Foreign Minister, Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, Tehreek Insaf, Leader Imran Khan and other lawmakers of the Senate of Pakistan and National Assembly visited the Chinese embassy to pay their condolences. Different social sectors in Pakistan also expressed their condemnation and condolences.

"This once again shows that the all-weather strategic cooperative partnership between China and Pakistan is deeply rooted in the hearts of the people and that the attempt of terrorist forces to undermine China-Pakistan mutual trust and cooperation is doomed to fail," he said in response to a question raised by APP.

The spokesperson said that China would work with Pakistan to get to the bottom of the truth, bring the perpetrators to justice, and give a satisfactory explanation and answer to the two peoples.

He said that China paid great attention to Pakistan's commitment to strengthening the security of Chinese personnel, projects and institutions. "We are ready to work with Pakistan to ensure the smooth operation of our cooperation in a safe manner and prevent such incidents from happening again," he added.

On April 26, three Chinese teachers of Confucius Institute at Karachi University and their driver were killed when their shuttle van was hit by in a suicide attack. Soon after incident, Minister

Shehbaz Sharif visited Chinese Embassy in Islamabad and met with China's Acting Ambassador, Pang Chunxue to convey his condolences. He instructed the relevant authorities to conduct a thorough investigation into the incident and assured that the government would spare no efforts to apprehend the perpetrators and hold them accountable.

On the same afternoon, Chief Minister of Sindh Province, Murad Ali Shah paid visit to the Chinese Consulate General in Karachi to offer condolences to the families of victims. Later, President Dr. Arif Alvi, Speaker National Assembly, Raja Pervaiz Ashraf, Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto, Chairman, Tehrik-e-Insaf, Imran Khan, several members of the Senate of Pakistan and National Assembly paid separate visits to the Chinese Embassy in Islamabad to offer condolences and express solidarity and support.

They strongly condemned the Karachi blast in which three Chinese teachers and a Pakistani driver lost their lives.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/930106/china-hails-pakistans-show-of-solidarity-after-karachi-terror-incident/>

Pakistan Observer

Attempts to undermine Pak-China ties doomed to fail: Beijing

Pakistani top leadership's show of solidarity with China over the killing of Chinese citizens in Karachi once again demonstrated that the all-weather strategic cooperative partnership between China and Pakistan is deeply rooted in the hearts of the people and any attempt to undermine mutual trust and cooperation is doomed to fail, Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Zhao Lijian said on Thursday.

Addressing a regular briefing, he said following the attack at the University of Karachi, President Arif Alvi, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, Speaker of the National Assembly Raja Pervaiz Ashraf, Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari, PTI Chairman Imran Khan and other lawmakers visited the Chinese embassy to offer their condolences.

"This once again shows that the All-Weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership between China and Pakistan is deeply rooted in the hearts of the people and that the attempt of terrorist forces to undermine the China-Pakistan mutual trust and cooperation is doomed to fail," he said in response to a question.

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On April 26, three Chinese teachers of Confucius Institute at Karachi University and their driver were killed when their shuttle van was hit by a suicide attack.

https://pakobserver.net/attempts-to-undermine-pak-china-ties-doomed-to-fail-beijing/?utm_source=rss&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=attempts-to-undermine-pak-china-ties-doomed-to-fail-beijing

Industrialization in Pakistan to boom under CPEC Phase-II

The second phase of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is paving the way towards industrialization and bringing economic stability to the country, WealthPK reported.

In the first phase of the CPEC, the government played a major role as the projects included were related to infrastructure and electricity. But the second phase necessitated a total shift in management and player roles. In the second phase, industrialists, the private sector, and the business community will play a larger role.

The government's role will be limited to that of a facilitator, establishing effective regulations, laws, and efficient infrastructure to promote business-to-business (B2B) and people-to-people links.

Chinese enterprises are relocating to other regions of the world. Therefore, Pakistan is utilising this chance and creating a conducive business climate to attract Chinese outbound foreign direct investment (OFDI).

This will improve industry's competitiveness, technology transfer, import substitution, export-led growth, human capital development, job creation, and a variety of other direct and indirect economic advantages, reports WealthPK.

The signing of the Framework Agreement on Industrial Collaboration has opened up a new universe of economic potential for Pakistani companies to leverage technological and financial cooperation through joint ventures with Chinese companies.

The agreement is intended to strengthen B2B and project-to-project (P2P) ties, balance and modernize existing industry, expedite special economic zones (SEZ) development and promotion, seek technical and financial assistance from China, increase production capacity, and facilitate businesses with financial institutions on both sides.

The CPEC industrial cooperation is open to third-country involvement. Both countries will advertise these SEZs effectively at a global level in order to attract investment from all over the world. The CPEC will also focus on the development of Pakistan's agriculture, manufacturing, chemicals, textiles, and home appliances.

Aside from that, vocational training and the hiring of local personnel, including professionals, in CPEC projects have been given careful consideration.

<https://pakobserver.net/industrialization-in-pakistan-to-boom-under-cpec-phase-ii/>

11,650 MW electricity added to national grid during 2013-18

As many as 11,650 MW electricity was added to the national grid system during a period of 2013 to 2018.

About 3000 MW clean energy had been added to the system during the said period, Ministry of Energy said in a statement here Thursday.

Out of total 3000 MW, 1350 MW hydel and 1400 MW wind and solar energy was included in the system.

Similarly, some 680 MW had been added to the national grid through nuclear energy source during 2013 to 2018, it further said.

For the first time, work on local Thar Coal based projects was started in the country during the said period. Thar Coal power generation projects were started under China Pakistan Economic Corridor, the Power Division said. 660 MW Thar Coal power project has already been supply cheap electricity. Work on 884 MW Sukki Kinari hydel project was started in 2018 which would start generation by 2024.

Similarly, 720 MW Karrot was launched in 2017 and it would start supply power to the national grid in July this year.

Various power projects under CPEC faced inordinate delay to the then government policies after 2018. Three power projects based on Thar Coal having 2000 MW capacity were also delayed. Another important project of 1320 MW proposed at Thar Coal Block VI did not go ahead due to government stalemate.—APP

<https://pakobserver.net/11650-mw-electricity-added-to-national-grid-during-2013-18>

The Express Tribune

China hails Pakistan support post-KU attack

Partnership between China and Pakistan deeply rooted, attempts to undermine doomed to fail: Chinese FM Spokesperson

BEIJING: Pakistani top leadership's show of solidarity with China over killing of Chinese citizens in Karachi once again demonstrated that all weather strategic cooperative partnership between China and Pakistan is deeply rooted in the hearts of the people and any attempt to undermine mutual trust and cooperation is doomed to fail, Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesperson, Zhao Lijian said on Thursday.

Addressing a regular briefing, he said, after attack of the Confucius Institute at the University of Karachi, President Arif Alvi, Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif, Speaker of the National Assembly Raja Pevaz Ashraf, Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, Tehreek-e-Insaf Leader Imran Khan and other lawmakers of the Senate of Pakistan and National Assembly visited the Chinese

embassy to pay their condolences. Different social sectors in Pakistan also expressed their condemnation and condolences.

“This once again shows that the All Weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership between China and Pakistan is deeply rooted in the hearts of the people and that the attempt of terrorist forces to undermine China-Pakistan mutual trust and cooperation is doomed to fail,” he said in response to a question raised by APP.

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Soon after the incident, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif visited Chinese Embassy in Islamabad and met with China’s Acting Ambassador, Pang Chunxue to convey his condolences.

He instructed the relevant authorities to conduct a thorough investigation into the incident and assured that the government would spare no efforts to apprehend the perpetrators and hold them accountable.

On the same afternoon, Chief Minister of Sindh Province, Murad Ali Shah paid visit to the Chinese Consulate General in Karachi to offer condolences to the families of victims.

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They strongly condemned the Karachi blast in which three Chinese teachers and a Pakistani driver lost their lives.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2355373/china-hails-pakistan-support-post-ku-attack>

The Nation

US Condemns Suicide Attack On Chinese Tutors In Karachi University

WASHINGTON – The United States will continue cooperating with Pakistan on counterterrorism and border security, a State Department spokesperson said Wednesday, while reiterating Washington’s condemnation of last month’s terrorist attack in Karachi University, amid spike in such attacks across the country.

“We value our bilateral relationship. We want to continue to work together in areas where we do have mutual interests with our Pakistani partners. That includes counterterrorism. That includes border security as well,” Spokesman Ned Price said at his daily press briefing on Wednesday.

He was responding to a question whether the U.S. was reviewing the former Trump administration-imposed suspension of security aid to Islamabad following the deadly terrorist attack in Karachi, as such attacks emanating from Afghanistan continue to rise across Pakistan.

“We strongly condemned the terrorist attack against Karachi University in Pakistan. We reiterate that condemnation today. A terrorist attack anywhere is an affront to humanity everywhere,” State Department Spokesperson said “But for a terrorist attack to take place at a university or at a religious site or at some of the locations we’ve seen recently, that is a true affront to mankind,” he said. Following the attack, the banned Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA) claimed responsibility. Three Chinese teachers and their Pakistani driver were killed in the attack.

<https://nation.com.pk/2022/05/06/us-condemns-suicide-attack-on-chinese-tutors-in-karachi-university/>

Express News

سی پیک منصوبوں اور چینی باشندوں کی سیکورٹی بڑھائی جائے، احسن اقبال کی ہدایت

وفاقی وزیر منصوبہ بندی احسن اقبال نے قانون نافذ کرنے والے اداروں کو سی پیک سے متعلقہ منصوبوں اور چینی باشندوں کی سیکورٹی بڑھانے کی ہدایت کر دی۔ اسلام آباد ایکسپریس نیوز کے مطابق وفاقی وزیر منصوبہ بندی پروفیسر احسن اقبال کی زیر صدارت سی پیک سیکورٹی پر اعلیٰ سطح کا اجلاس ہوا، جس میں قانون نافذ کرنے والے اداروں کے نمائندوں نے بھی شرکت کی۔

وزیر منصوبہ بندی نے سی پیک سے متعلقہ منصوبوں کی سیکورٹی بڑھانے کی ہدایت کرتے ہوئے کہا کہ قانون نافذ کرنے والے ادارے سی پیک منصوبوں پر کام کرنے والے چینی باشندوں کی حفاظت کو بھی یقینی بنائیں۔

احسن اقبال کا کہنا تھا کہ آج دنیا میں غیر روایتی ہتھکنڈوں کی جنگ ہے، سانحہ کراچی یونیورسٹی پر تشویش ہے۔ انہوں نے ہدایت کی کہ ہر ماہ سی پیک سیکورٹی کے ورکنگ گروپ کے اجلاس کو یقینی بنایا جائے۔

وفاقی وزیر نے کہا کہ سی پیک قومی معیشت میں کلیدی اہمیت حاصل ہے، سوشل میڈیا پر ملک دشمن نظریات کا مقابلہ مضبوط متبادل بیانیہ سے ہو سکتا ہے، قومی بیانیے کی ترویج کے حوالے سے وزارت اطلاعات و نشریات کا کردار بہت اہم ہے، ریاست کی طرف سے مؤثر بیانیہ تشکیل دینے کی ضرورت ہے۔ انہوں نے مزید کہا کہ تمام اسٹیک ہولڈرز بشمول سیاسی قیادت کو مل کر بلوچستان کی محرومی دور کرنے کے لئے قدم اٹھانے ہیں۔

<https://www.express.pk/story/2319112/1/>

Nawaiwaqt News

سی پیک: چینی کمپنیوں کی 28 ارب ڈالر کے نئے منصوبوں میں دلچسپی ظاہر کی

اسلام آباد (نامہ نگار) چینی کمپنیوں نے سی پیک کے تحت پاکستان میں 28 ارب ڈالر کے نئے منصوبوں میں دلچسپی ظاہر کی ہے، جن میں گوادریں آئل ریفاؤنڈری، ملک میں فابریک آپٹیک نیٹ ورک، موبائل فون بنانے کے کارخانے سمیت 16 منصوبے شامل ہیں۔ رپورٹ کے مطابق سابق وزیر اعظم عمران خان کے رواں سال فروری میں چین کے دورے میں پاکستان میں چینی کمپنیوں کی سرمایہ کاری کے حوالے سے متعدد منصوبے زیر غور آئے تھے، ان میں سے سب سے بڑے منصوبے کی تجویز دو چینی کمپنیوں کے کنسورشیم نے پیش کی ہے، جس کے تحت گوادریں 19 ارب ڈالر کی لاگت سے متعدد ریفاؤنڈری اور کارخانے لگائے جائیں گے، ان میں پیٹرولیم کیٹیکل اور انڈسٹریل پارک پسپا شامل ہے، جس میں آئل ریفاؤنڈری، سینٹ پلانٹ، واٹر ڈی سیلینیشن پلانٹ اور بجلی کے کارخانے شامل ہیں۔ ان کے علاوہ گوادریں، ہی ساڑھے چار ارب ڈالر کی سائیکلنگ پارک لگانے کا منصوبہ بھی زیر غور ہے، اس کے تحت لوہے، دھات اور کاغذ کے دوبارہ استعمال کے قابل بنانے کے پلانٹ لگائے جائیں گے تاکہ انہیں برآمد کیا جاسکے۔ اسلام آباد میں پانچ ہزار گھر بنانے کا ایک منصوبہ بھی چین کی سرکاری کمپنی نے تجویز کیا ہے۔ کراچی کی مچھر کالونی میں کوشل زون کی تعمیر کا منصوبہ بھی 35 لاکھ ڈالر کی لاگت سے زیر غور ہے۔ چینی کمپنیوں کی طرف سے مجوزہ منصوبوں میں کیڑے مار ادویات کی تیاری کا پلانٹ، مرغیوں اور مویشیوں کی خوراک کی تیاری کا کارخانہ اور مکئی و سویا بین کی صنعتی پیمانے پر کاشت کے منصوبے بھی شامل ہیں۔ اس کے علاوہ آٹھ کروڑ لاگت سے بھینسوں کے دودھ کیلئے فارم اور پھر ملک پراڈکٹس کی پراسسنگ فیکٹری بھی لگانے کا منصوبہ زیر غور ہے۔ زرعی سائنس اور ٹیکنالوجی ٹرانسفر کیلئے 55 کروڑ ڈالر کا منصوبہ بھی حتمی شکل پانے کا منتظر ہے۔ اسی کمپنی نے ایل این جی کو ذخیرہ کرنے کا پلانٹ بھی لگانے میں دلچسپی ظاہر کی ہے۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/lahore/2022-05-06/page-10/detail-1>

اسلام آباد: سی پیک فیز ٹو: صنعت کاری کو مزید فروغ ملے گا

اسلام آباد (آئی این پی) صنعتی تعاون کے فریم ورک معاہدے پر دستخط نے پاکستانی کمپنیوں کیلئے چینی کمپنیوں کیساتھ مشترکہ منصوبوں کے ذریعے تکنیکی اور مالیاتی تعاون سے فائدہ اٹھانے کے لیے ایک نئی دنیا تشکیل دے دی ہے۔ اس معاہدے کا مقصد بی ٹی او اور پرو جیکٹ ٹوپرو جیکٹ پی ٹی او پی تعلقات کو مضبوط بنانا، موجودہ صنعت کو متوازن اور جدید بنانا، خصوصی اقتصادی زون کی ترقی اور فروغ میں تیزی لانا، چین سے تکنیکی اور مالیاتی امداد حاصل کرنا، پیداواری صلاحیت میں اضافہ، اور کاروبار کو آسان بنانا ہے۔ دونوں ممالک پوری دنیا سے سرمایہ کاری کو راغب کرنے کے لئے ان خصوصی اقتصادی زون کی عالمی سطح پر موثر طریقے سے تشہیر کریں گے۔ سی پیک پاکستان کی زراعت، مینوفیکچرنگ، کیمیکل، ٹیکسٹائل اور گھریلو آلات کی ترقی پر بھی توجہ دے گا۔ اس کے علاوہ سی پیک منصوبوں میں پیشہ ورانہ تربیت اور پیشہ ور افراد سمیت مقامی افراد کی خدمات حاصل کرنے پر بھی احتیاط سے غور کیا گیا ہے۔ سی پیک اتھارٹی کے مطابق حکومت نے ان زونز میں یونٹس کے قیام کے لیے پلانٹس اور مشینری کی درآمد پر کسٹم چارجز اور ٹیکسز کی مد میں 49.39 بلین روپے معاف کر دیئے ہیں۔ سی پیک کے دوسرے مرحلے کے تحت خصوصی اقتصادی زونز میں صنعت کاری سے ملک بھر میں تقریباً 475,000 براہ راست اور 10 لاکھ بالواسطہ ملازمتیں پیدا ہونے کی توقع ہے۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/lahore/2022-05-06/page-10/detail-17>

May 07, 2022

Daily Times

Chinese power giant distributes ration to 700 families

More than 700 deserving families of local communities adjacent to Pakistan's Thar Block-1 Integrated Coal Mine Power Project were gifted Ration Hampers during the holy month of Ramadan by Thar Coal Block-1 Power Generation Company (TCB-1), Shanghai Electric, China's leading energy equipment manufacturer.

Themed "Food Drive with Love", the campaign was to guarantee food security of the locals for the year 2022, according to China Economic Net (CEN).

Each ration package contains 14 items, including flour, sugar, rice as well as other essential items, suiting regional food habits and ensuring that each family of nearby communities can celebrate Eid al-Fitr with satisfaction and happiness.

"Ramadan is about love, devotion, and caring," source from TCB-1 told the reporter, adding that on the basis of fully respecting local culture and customs and carrying the sharing and giving spirit, the ration distribution is part of their sincere commitment to improving local community's livelihood.

As per TCB-1, the ration packages can help relieve some of the burdens faced by local residents and TCB-1 staff felt so rewarded when seeing the heartfelt smiles of these neighbors.

Thousands of beneficiaries will enjoy a joyous and peaceful celebration of Eid al-Fitr when receiving the Ramadan hampers.

As the leading developer of Thar Block-1 Integrated Coal Mine Power Project, Shanghai Electric is capable of powering 4 million households in Pakistan with 1320 megawatts of indigenous, affordable and reliable electricity after COD.

It also shoulders corporate social responsibility (CSR) by donating relief supplies and food to orphanage foundations, initiating Covid-19 vaccination campaigns, launching free Chinese language training programs and so on.

Up until now, the project has hired more than 7,000 Pakistani workers in its coal mine and power plant projects in Thar, Sindh, Pakistan.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/930465/chinese-power-giant-distributes-ration-to-700-families/>

Chinese dishes find ways on Pakistani tables on Eid days

On Eid gala days, Chinese dishes interestingly have found their ways on Pakistani tables emerging as one of preferred cuisines among diverse array of traditional foodstuff craved by local people mostly in urban areas in the country.

According to a report published by Gwadar Pro on Friday, all three Eid days from May 3 to May 5, local enthusiasts of Chinese food, in a good number, visited foody destinations and quenched their appetite for yummy and aromatic Chinese dishes like Beef Chili Dry, Egg Fried Rice, Steamed Chicken Dumplings, Peking duck, the Mongolian Beef Steak, Kung Pao Chicken, Chicken in Oyster Sauce and other delicious items.

Foodie people craving for contemporary Chinese dishes also threw parties to their dear ones and friends to savor Crispy Chicken with Sweet and Sour Chili Sauce or the Crispy Sweet and Sour Sauce Prawns along with Vegetable Chowmein, an in in-depth survey revealed.

As per survey details, Chinese restaurants, many continental hotels as well as street eateries that offered Chinese food made a roaring business due to rush of Pakistani people there on Eid days.

While one chef Khawar Javed from a home-based business told Gwadar Pro that considerable demand for Chinese meals compelled him to perfect their preparation, another household women Ms Nadara believed that making these dishes helped people feel and recognize the foodie culture of Chinese community.

Masood Sheikh, a delivery boy working at Food Panda said that among other dishes, 40 percent orders were placed regarding Chinese foods including Chicken with Cashew Nuts, Lettuce Wraps with Wok-Fried Chicken and Crunchy Honey Beef, Seaweed and Prawn Wonton Soup, Hot and Sour Soup, Spring Rolls, Steamed Chicken or Prawn Dumplings and Roasted Peking Duck.

A range of seafood and noodle options were other items that he delivered to people's homes, he added.

A Chinese restaurant owner Mr. Burhan Hameed was asked to give the reason behind soaring interest for Chinese dishes among Pakistani people, he replied that Pakistani businessmen who used to visit China have been cultivating love for Chinese food. After returning Pakistan, they desired for them and established Chinese restaurants offering such Chinese scrumptious cuisines.

“Prawn Tempura, Steamed Chicken Dumplings, Szechuan Chicken, soups, dim sum and desserts are among those Chinese food items that created pangs of hunger for Chinese dishes among local Pakistani people,” he added.

Mr Ming, an astute chef who creates flavourful food offering Szechuan and Cantonese favourites to diners said that online food program, food adventures and food choices globally are also setting people's interest afire.

Among other countries' dishes, Chinese food diversity wins the hearts of Pakistani people as they love Seaweed and Prawn Wonton Soup, Hot and Sour Soup, Spring Rolls, Steamed Chicken or Prawn Dumplings and Roasted Peking Duck.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/930464/chinese-dishes-find-ways-on-pakistani-tables-on-eid-days/>

Security review meeting on CPEC to be held every month

Minister for Planning and Development Ahsan Iqbal on Friday said that a security review meeting will be held every month on China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

The Planning Ministry said in a statement that the directives were issued by the minister while chairing a meeting to review the security progress on CPEC projects. The meeting was attended by the secretary Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the secretary Ministry of Interior, the secretary Ministry of Information, and other relevant stakeholders.

Ahsan Iqbal urged the need to build a safe and secure environment for CPEC and to effectively tackle kinetic and non-kinetic challenges.

“CPEC is a flagship project of Pakistan and China Economic Cooperation which can enable Pakistan to become an industrial economy. It is unfortunate that the momentum of 2013-18 could not be sustained,” said the minister.

Ahsan Iqbal also expressed concern that Pakistan’s side of CPEC’s Joint Working Group on Security was also not holding meetings frequently. He directed the Interior Ministry to regularly convene its meetings on a monthly basis. He also emphasised that the National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA) should function as per its laid role and objectives so the government can be provided with an in-depth assessment of security challenges that are grounded in the socio-economic of the country.

“It will help the government expand its security lens by addressing socio-economic grievances of the people that may if left unaddressed translate into security challenges. Our security lens must also focus on limiting the vulnerability of our youth towards violence, extremism and propaganda,” said the minister.

Ahsan Iqbal also directed all line ministries to ensure that laid down security protocols are followed by the Chinese nationals working on the CPEC. Furthermore, the minister stated that propaganda against CPEC is an attempt to deny people of less developed regions in Pakistan from positive socio-economic externalises that will stem from CPEC.

Meanwhile, Ahsan Iqbal said while talking to a private news channel that the PML-N believed in serving the masses, rather than politics of revenge and agitation.

He said the bad performance of the PTI left the country in isolation and economically under the darkness. He said the PML-N will expose the PTI poor performance and legacy before the public and PML-N led government would leave no stone unturned to put the country on road to progress.

The minister said PTI leadership has defamed because of introducing new un-ethical culture in the politics and have lost all moral ground in the field after losing power. He also criticized the PTI for their sit-inns politics as masses wanted to have a politically and economically stable country rather off baseless accusations of previous regimes.

The minister alleged that Imran Khan was the biggest ever money launderer of the history of the country in politics and was involved in extra un-constitutional activities. He said the PML-N will follow all cases regarding money laundering under the law which the PTI has passed in its tenure.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/930532/security-review-meeting-on-cpec-to-be-held-every-month/>

Exports to China up nearly 17pc in first quarter

Pakistan's export to China crossed \$ 1.039b in the first quarter of 2022, recording a nearly 17pc increase from January to March this year, as per General Administration of Customs of the People Republic of China (GACC).

According to data from GACC, in the first three months of this year, China's exports to Pakistan also increased 28.69pc amounting to \$6.058b as compared with the previous year which was \$ 4.70b.

Badar uz Zaman, Commercial Counselor of Pakistani Embassy in Beijing told China Economic Net (CEN) after the implementation of the second phase of China-Pakistan Free Trade Agreement in 2020 – which allowed Pakistani manufacturers and traders to export around 313 new products to the Chinese market with zero duties – and with the deepening of economic and trade cooperation between the two countries, bilateral trade is increasing every year.

“Now Pakistani traders can export overall more than 1,000 items to China at zero tariffs which helped enhance Pakistan's exports to China”, he stated.

He further said that the second phase of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) with a special focus on agriculture, science and technology, and socioeconomic development also assisted expansion of cooperation.

Besides, the enhanced agricultural cooperation for the last two to three years between the two countries, especially in hybrid seeds, latest technologies, pesticide, and urea, helped increase the production of crops and this surplus yield helped increase export to China.”

Among the growth of trade in major products between the two countries, textiles, seafood, and agricultural products have increased year on year, which has promoted Pakistan's economic recovery and increased its exports to China.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/930574/exports-to-china-up-nearly-17pc-in-first-quarter/>

Dawn News

GB govt beefs up Chinese citizens' security

Jamil Nagri

GILGIT: The Gilgit-Baltistan government has beefed up the security of Chinese citizens working on various projects, including Diamer-Basha dam.

According to official sources, a foreigners' security cell had been set up in the GB home department on directives of the region's chief secretary for better coordination on the security of Chinese citizens.

The cell will ensure the implementation of SOPs for the security of foreigners and Chinese citizens and carry out coordination and liaison with regional and federal law-enforcement agencies.

The GB government issued directives to all officials concerned to follow the rules and regulations and the National Counterterrorism Authority (Nacta) policy.

All stakeholders have been directed to ensure a specified height of boundary walls, security guards at residences, installations of cameras, etc., of Chinese residents and offices.

Besides, the district administration will carry out extensive monitoring to ensure the safety of Chinese citizens.

Control rooms equipped with phone and fax machines have been established in all districts for immediate response.

The GB government has also started reviewing security arrangements of hotels and Chinese camps across the region to ensure the safety of Chinese staff working on various projects.

In this regard, Diamer's Deputy Commissioner Fayyaz Ahmed and SSP Sher Khan visited the Shang Chinese camp and reviewed security arrangements.

Mr Ahmed also met Chinese employees and officials and briefed them on important issues related to security.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1688395>

The Nation

The Risks And Rewards Of SEZs

AHSAN MUNIR

Since the signing of the CPEC agreement—a project worth more than 60 billion USD between Pakistan and China—it has been heralded as a game-changer for Pakistan's economy. Tomes after tomes have been written about the supposed benefits of CPEC to Pakistan, and all subsequent governments have claimed that CPEC will industrialise the country and create hundreds of thousands of jobs across Pakistan.

Presently, we are in the second phase of CPEC. First-phase projects were basically in infrastructure such as power stations and transportation and predominantly aimed to improve overall infrastructure quality, making it more convenient for people's lives and creating employment opportunities. The second phase of CPEC is claimed to focus more on industrial cooperation, agriculture, medical services, education, and poverty alleviation. Further, special economic zones (SEZs) have been planned in the second phase, and a few are in the process of

being established along the CPEC route. The governments, both at the provincial and federal levels, are endeavouring to develop and facilitate the establishment of SEZs.

The majority of investment in CPEC from China is in the form of loans, which need to be paid back along with interest. And any loan is good enough if it can create jobs and profits in a sustained manner. There have been claims but no hard statistics to back the claims by the successive governments of job creation due to CPEC. For instance, the first phase of CPEC, consisting of infrastructure development, has been officially declared completed. However, statistics have not been released as to how many jobs—both temporary and permanent—were generated during this phase. And most importantly, how this phase benefitted our economy is unclear; where our cement factories went into overdrive to provide cement for infrastructure projects, for instance. And whether Pakistan Steel Mills was working overtime to provide steel to infrastructure projects. Similarly, another indicator of a performing economy and industrialisation is the ever-increasing demand for engineering personnel. On the contrary, we are seeing joblessness among engineering professionals continuously on the rise by the day.

Now, we are in the second phase of CPEC—industrialisation which will supposedly industrialise our economy and again create hundreds of thousands of jobs and will help reduce imports and increase exports. However, other than mere claims and prophecies, no mechanisms have been offered as to how SEZs will be populated to generate jobs and kickstart the economy. On the contrary, since the inception of CPEC, we have been asking for loans, bail-out packages from IMF and brotherly countries, and requesting roll-overs of loans to China.

The mere establishment of SEZs does not per se bring industrial uplift and employment, as has been previously tried and experimented with by Pakistan. Further, the SEZs are being modelled upon the SEZs of China. However, China started with a few SEZs at specially chosen locations and based on the lessons learned, tweaked the laws and incentives for local and foreign investment for existing and new SEZs. Moreover, the success of an SEZ depends upon the type of industries being set up and the level of value-addition being brought about by these industries, and the tax exemptions and rebates should be proportionate to the value-addition achieved and local employment generated. However, other than vague claims, it is not clear what types of industries will be set up and what value they will bring to our economy. Now, at a great financial cost, SEZs are being established, and any setback in the setting up and operationalising of SEZs will increase the debt liabilities of Pakistan. Sri Lanka is one example where loans-funded projects did not perform as envisaged. Similarly in Africa and in the Balkans, projects and initiatives are not performing as intended, which is leaving these countries' economies in shambles.

<https://nation.com.pk/2022/05/07/the-risks-and-rewards-of-sezs/>

Jang News

سی پیک پاکستان کے دشمنوں کو کھٹکتا ہے، احسن اقبال

وفاقی وزیر احسن اقبال نے کہا ہے کہ سی پیک پاکستان کے دشمنوں کو کھٹکتا ہے، جس حکومت کا منفی ایجنڈا ہو، وہ کبھی ترقیاتی کام نہیں کر سکتی۔ جیونیوز کے پروگرام جرگہ میں گفتگو کے دوران احسن اقبال نے کہا کہ پاکستان میں ہماری حکومت آئی تھی تو وژن 2025 کا منصوبہ بنایا تھا۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ سال 2016 میں ہم نے سوچا چین سے معیشت جوڑ لیں تو پاکستان کو ترقی کا محرک ملے گا۔ وفاقی وزیر نے مزید کہا کہ سی پیک کے تحت سال 2020 سے 2025 کا صنعتی فیڈرل کیا گیا تھا، ہم نے ماضی میں 19 اقتصادی زونز کی نشاندہی کی تھی۔ ان کا کہنا تھا کہ 9 میں سے کسی ایک بھی اقتصادی زون میں انفراسٹرکچر نہیں ہے، افسوس کی بات ہے کہ منصوبے کے 15 کنٹیکٹ زونز پر کام ہی نہیں کیا گیا۔ احسن اقبال نے یہ بھی کہا کہ ہمیں بتایا گیا ہے سی پیک کے تحت پہلا اقتصادی زون 2024 میں ہو گا، ایم ایل ون آج بھی وہیں ہے، جہاں سال 2018 میں چھوڑ کر گئے تھے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ پچھلے دور میں آئی بی کو اپوزیشن کے خلاف جھوٹے کیسز میں مدد کا ٹاسک دیا گیا، 16 ارب کی اسلام آباد میٹرو ہماری حکومت کے آتے ہی 10 دن میں چلا دی گئی۔

وفاقی وزیر نے کہا کہ سی پیک پاکستان کے دشمنوں کو کھٹکتا ہے، سیکڑوں چینوں نے مجھے بتایا وہ واپس جا رہے ہیں واپس نہیں آئیں گے۔ ان کا کہنا تھا کہ چین کو سی پیک پر پیشرفت سے آگاہ رکھیں گے، بیجنگ حکومت سے کو آرڈینیشن بہتر کریں گے، پاکستان میں چین کی کمپنیوں سے میننگ میں ان کے تحفظات پر بات کروں گا۔

<https://jang.com.pk/news/1083339>

May 08, 2022

Dawn News

Chinese confidence in Pakistan's security 'shaken'

Baqir Sajjad Syed

ISLAMABAD: There may have been no exodus of Chinese workers from Pakistan after the Karachi University attack, but they look less confident about the country's ability to protect them.

"The Chinese confidence in Pakistan's security system's ability to protect their citizens and their projects is seriously shaken," said Senator Mushahid Hussain, chairman of the Senate Defence Committee.

Senator Mushahid, who led a Senate delegation to the Chinese embassy last week to express his condolences over the loss of three Chinese lives in a suicide attack on their van on the university's premises last month, was sharing the mood on the Chinese side in a conversation with Dawn on Friday.

The Karachi University attack was the third terrorist attack on Chinese citizens on Pakistani soil in a year.

“It has caused serious concern and understandable indignation in China. More so, the pattern of attacks is so recurring and it’s clear that Pakistani promises of ‘foolproof security’ are mere words, not matched by countermeasures on the ground,” he maintained.

Criticising the security arrangements, he said security agencies seemed to have been caught napping. “If such attacks continue, not just Chinese but other foreign investors will be forced to review their role in Pakistan,” he said.

There were reports on social media of Chinese workers leaving Pakistan in large numbers after the attack.

A Chinese source denied such reports, adding that it was a regular movement of Chinese workers and citizens living in Pakistan on a weekly flight from Karachi that was presented by some as an “exodus”.

The source, however, noted that terrorist attacks do impact the confidence of the Chinese community living here.

FIA’s cybercrime wing said the tweet claiming that thousands of Chinese were leaving from Karachi’s airport because of threats was a “baseless and panic-creating video tweet”.

Head of FIA Cyber Crime Sindh Imran Riaz told Dawn that action would be taken against the person who tweeted it once the ongoing investigations were complete.

At a media conference in Beijing, Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesman Lijian Zhao expressed hope that “the plot of terrorist forces to undermine the two countries’ mutual trust and cooperation will not succeed”.

He said the Chinese side would work with Pakistan to conduct a thorough investigation, reveal the truth, bring the perpetrators to justice, and explain to the people of both countries.

China, he maintained, attached importance to Pakistan’s strengthening security measures to protect Chinese personnel, projects and institutions in Pakistan and stood ready to work together with the Pakistani side to ensure safe and smooth progress in bilateral cooperation and prevent similar incidents from happening in the future.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1688570>

Pakistan Observer

Bridge connecting Pakistan, China gets washed away

Rapid melting of glaciers a matter of concern: bilawal

The main bridge connecting Pakistan and China on Saturday got washed away due to the outburst of Shishper glacier.

The outburst in Shishper glacier due to the extreme heat conditions has destroyed the cultivated lands and houses on both sides of the canal. The Karakoram Highway was also severely

damaged, and the main bridge connecting Pakistan and China got washed away, leaving hundreds of tourists stranded on both sides of the Karakoram Highway.

The historic bridge of Pak-China corridor which was an important part of connecting Karakoram Highway to Hunza, for which crores of rupees had also been spent for its safekeeping, could not be saved.

Meanwhile, Foreign Minister and PPP chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari said on Saturday that rapid melting of glaciers in Gilgit-Baltistan is a matter of concern.

In his statement on the flood situation in Gilgit, he said that the situation created by the eruption of the lake on the Sheshpar Glacier needs to be dealt with on an urgent basis, to ensure that no harm is done to the local population and the land routes remain open.

Bilawal went on to say that he hopes the administration will ensure that ordinary people, tourists do not face any difficulties. The minister further said that the people of Gilgit-Baltistan will not be left alone by the PPP in difficult times.

He said that the rapid melting of glaciers is a matter of concern, adding that the climate change can no longer be hidden in the sand like an ostrich and collective and concerted efforts on the issue of climate change are a necessity.

<https://pakobserver.net/bridge-connecting-pakistan-china-gets-washed-away/>

Pakistan's exports to China have crossed 1.039 billion dollars mark: Aisha

Minister of State for Finance and Revenue Aisha Ghaus Pasha Saturday hailed that Pakistan and China were working closely on further deepening bilateral economic ties where Pakistan's exports to China have crossed 1.039 billion dollars mark in the first quarter.

The Pakistan-China trade volume has shown an upward trajectory over the years, she said while speaking to current Affair program.

The country at this point of time needs foreign reserves and we have to diversify our trade with other countries, she said, adding, we have to explore new markets apart from our usual trading partners.

Minister further explained that there is still a huge potential to increase our commerce with China and intention of the incumbent government is to maximize the trade volume.

Pakistan is also keen to have foreign investment in the second phase of China Pakistan Economic Corridor, she mentioned.

She said priority of the present government is to develop industries and it is keen to take certain initiatives to expand the product portfolio for exports.

In the upcoming budget, the government will introduce certain policies in this regard, she highlighted.

The focus will not only be on sustaining growth momentum but to increase it at the maximum level, Aisha Ghaus added.

The entire country will benefit as a result of foreign direct investment which is dependent on the economic and political stability, she added.—APP

https://pakobserver.net/pakistans-exports-to-china-have-crossed-1-039-billion-dollars-mark-aisha/?utm_source=rss&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=pakistans-exports-to-china-have-crossed-1-039-billion-dollars-mark-aisha

The Express Tribune

Only 3 CPEC projects in Gwadar completed

Progress report says nine projects are lagging behind schedule

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan could complete only three China-Pakistan Economic Corridor projects in Gwadar having value of over \$300 million, as one-dozen schemes costing nearly \$2 billion remain unfinished including water supply and electricity provision, according to the CPEC Authority.

According to the CPEC Authority, the progress review of the projects revealed that all the schemes having socio-economic benefits for Gwadar – considered as the crown jewel of CPEC – were falling behind their original completion schedules.

The CPEC Authority, which Planning Minister Ahsan Iqbal wants to wrap up, gave the status update report to the new government last month.

So far, only three schemes have been declared completed by the CPEC Authority, including \$4 million Gwadar Smart Port City Master Plan, which cannot be called a project.

The other two schemes are the Physical Infrastructure of Gwadar Port and the Free Zone Phase-1 costing \$300 million and Pak-China Technical and Vocational Institute that has been built with a \$10 million Chinese grant. Even there is no indigenous electricity for the port, as the country imports power from Iran to meet the city's energy needs.

CPEC remained dormant during most of the time of the previous PTI government but lately there had been some progress after the last political regime brought in Khalid Mansoor as special assistant to the PM on CPEC affairs. Yet, he could not take these schemes across the finishing line.

The \$179 million Eastbay Expressway – a road link connecting the port with free zone and the city – that should have been completed a few years ago, is still shown as an under-implementation scheme, although on documents the project is 99% completed. China has provided interest-free loan for the scheme. The CPEC Authority expects that the project will be completed by June.

Work on necessary facilities like fresh water treatment, water supply and distribution network project worth \$72 million is still 65% completed. The project should have been readied by 2017. In its documents, the project is shown as funded by the federal government.

According to the original plan, China was supposed to commit 90% financing for the project. In 2016, Pakistan had requested the National Development Reforms Commission (NDRC) of China to provide a grant for the project.

China had informed Pakistan that the grant might take at least two years for approval and the country could not afford to wait that long.

The report revealed that Gwadar's water requirements by 2020 would be 20 million gallons per day, as against the earlier supply of only two million.

Water was planned to be pumped from the sea for purification and onward supply to the residential and industrial areas in Gwadar.

The project includes construction of a pipeline from Swad Dam with a capacity of five million gallons per day and Shadi Kure Dam with a capacity 2.5 million gallons per day to supply water to Gwadar City. It would upgrade the existing distribution system which was not sufficient to carry the available water as it consisted of six inches diameter pipeline which needed to be replaced by a 12-inch diameter pipeline.

Now, the new expected completion date is June 2022.

In addition, two other schemes, \$14 million worth of 1.2 million gallons per day desalination plant in Gwadar remained at a very initial stage of work, with only 3% work done. The government expected that the project could be ready before the end of the current year.

The second project –\$32 million worth five-million gallons per day desalination plant remained at the planning stage, according to the CPEC Authority.

The New Gwadar International Airport which, too, should have been completed a few years ago, remained under the implementation stage and hardly 36% work was done on the scheme, according to the CPEC Authority. China is providing \$230 million grant for the project.

Hardly 20% work was finished on the \$100 million Pak-China Friendship Hospital, Gwadar. The project involved upgradation of the existing 50-bed hospital to 150 beds. The hospital was being constructed on 68 acres of land. Despite its importance for the local population, the project did not come on the radar of the previous PTI government.

The Gwadar Airport and Gwadar Hospital projects had faced problems in importing certain steel materials which attracted anti-dumping duties.

The \$285 million scheme for the Infrastructure of Gwadar Free Zone Phase-II was only 3% complete, according to the CPEC Authority.

The CPEC Authority progress report is in line with an assessment of the Board of Investment that wrote to former Prime Minister Imran Khan that “long being marketed as the centre piece of

CPEC, Gwadar has yet to reach the heights of expected industrial development that can serve as a catalyst for domestic and foreign investment”.

“On ground visit to the Gwadar Free Zone revealed that the present area of the zone is neither suitable nor suffice for establishing heavy industry,” it added. Pakistan had also planned to set up 300 megawatts Gwadar power plant to provide home-based electricity. But the report showed that hardly 3% work was done on the scheme.

The power project was marred with problems due to the PTI government’s failure to clear Rs300 billion dues of those Chinese power plants that were already in operation. It led to the closure of 1,980MW Chinese IPPs, which was unthinkable till a few months ago.

The \$266 million Breakwater project at the port remained at the planning stage and its PC-I had been submitted to the Planning Commission for funding from the Public Sector Development Programme. Similarly, another Dredging of Berthing Areas and Channels project remained at the feasibility stage level.

The Gwadar Smart Environmental and Sanitation System costing \$14 million and Gwadar Fish Harbor and Boat-Making Industry on West Bay with \$32 million investment also remained in the pipeline, according to the CPEC Authority.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2355606/only-3-cpec-projects-in-gwadar-completed>

The News

Importers cry for help as shipments stuck at China port

KARACHI: Importers have called on the government to help release Pakistani import shipments stuck at Shanghai seaport as the Chinese industrial and trade hub is currently under a strict lockdown to contain the new Covid outbreak, The News learnt on Saturday.

Pakistan relies heavily on China for imports especially for raw materials for textile, chemicals as well as the consumer goods to meet the domestic needs.

The country’s imports from China make 27 percent of total imports. During the last financial year, the country imported \$15.5 billion worth of goods from China out of the total import bill of the country, which totaled \$56.37 billion in the last fiscal year.

According to the people in the trade and industry circles, the problem popped up in the month of March this year and intensified in April, when a strict lockdown was imposed to contain Covid in the industrial hub and port city of China.

Masood Naqi, industrialist and representative of Korangi Association of Trade & Industry (KATI) confirmed to The News that importers were facing huge problems due to stuck import consignments.

He said this situation was also not good for the country’s exports as the same containers would be used for it.

“This has been a serious problem for local industry for the last two months,” Naqi said and added that the supply chain of raw materials for local industry largely depended on imports from China, especially textile and chemical industries.

“Consumer goods like electronics, plastics etc are also imported from China.”

Naqi said around 2,000 containers used to come from China carrying imported goods and the same were used for export after delivery of imported cargoes.

"Now half of these containers are coming to Pakistan after staying stuck at Shanghai and two other ports of China."

The issue was taken up with the government when it had started emerging as a threat to trade, the KATI chief added.

“In March this year, former federal ministers Ali Zaidi and Abdul Razaq Dawood were urged to intervene and help resolve the issue; however, a change of regime put everything on hold and the new government will take time to step in.”

Rahman Panjwani, a freight forwarder, said the issue of stuck containers was worrying; however, it was hard to figure how many containers were stuck at Shanghai port.

"Some containers carrying imported cargo did arrive in Pakistan, but are trapped in clearance because their documents are yet not received," Panjwani said.

<https://e.thenews.com.pk/detail?id=84880>

Express News

“صدر ایوب! ہمیں چین کی جاسوسی کرنے دیں”

شام کا وقت ہے۔ دریائے پوٹومیک سے آنے والی ٹھنڈی ہوا دل و دماغ کو طراوت بخش رہی ہے۔

آج امریکا کے پہلے صدر، جارج واشنگٹن کی رہائش گاہ ”ماؤنٹ ورنون“ پر بہت چہل پہل ہے۔ اس رہائش گاہ کو حال ہی میں ”قومی یادگار“ کا درجہ دیا گیا ہے۔ دراصل آج رات ماؤنٹ ورنون میں مہمان پاکستانی صدر، ایوب خان کے اعزاز میں سرکاری عشائے کا اہتمام کیا گیا ہے۔

یہ امریکا کی تاریخ میں پہلا اور آخری موقع تھا کہ بانی صدر جارج واشنگٹن کی رہائش گاہ پر عشائے کا اہتمام ہوا۔ یہ خوبصورت اور شاندار قومی یادگار امریکی ریاست ورجینیا کی فیڈرل کونسل کاؤنٹی میں واقع ہے۔

صدر ایوب خان کے میزبان امریکی صدر، جان ایف کینیڈی تھے جنہوں نے محض چھ ماہ قبل حکومت کی باگ ڈور سنبھالی تھی۔ تاہم ان کے اقتدار کا آغاز کچھ اچھا نہیں ہوا تھا۔ امریکی خفیہ ایجنسی سی آئی اے نے معاصر ملک، کیوبا پر حملے کا منصوبہ بنا رکھا تھا۔ مگر وہ بری طرح سے ناکامی کا شکار ہوا۔ پھر ویانا، آسٹریا میں سوویت وزیر اعظم، نکیتا خروشیف کے ساتھ نوجوان امریکی صدر کی ملاقات بھی سود مند ثابت نہ ہوئی۔

صدر کینیڈی پر یہ شدید دباؤ

ان ناکامیوں کے باعث صدر کینیڈی پر یہ شدید دباؤ تھا کہ وہ کوئی نمایاں کارنامہ کر دکھائے۔ آخر دنیا کی سب سے بڑی اسلامی مملکت کے صدر نے امریکا کا دورہ کیا، تو صدر کینیڈی کو اپنے جوہر دکھانے کا سنہرا موقع مل گیا۔

صدر ایوب خان 11 جولائی 1961ء کو امریکا پہنچے۔ اسی دن بروز منگل ماؤنٹ ورنون میں پاکستانی مہمانوں کے لیے زبردست عشائیے کا بندوبست کیا گیا۔ اس موقع پر امریکی صدر اپنے پاکستانی معاصر سے ایک اہم مطالبہ منوانا چاہتے تھے۔

صدر ایوب خان کو ماؤنٹ ورنون میں سرکاری عشائیہ دینے کا خیال امریکی صدر کی حسین و جمیل بیگم، جیکولین کینیڈی کو آیا۔ دراصل ایک ماہ قبل ہی وہ آسٹریا کے دورے پر میں دیے گئے سرکاری عشائیے میں شریک ہوئی تھیں۔ (Schönbrunn Palace) شون برون محل

یہ شاہی محل آسٹریا کے سابق ہسپارگ بادشاہوں کی رہائش گاہ تھا جو سترہویں صدی میں تعمیر ہوا۔ شاہی محل کی شان و شوکت اور چکاچوند نے امریکی خاتون اوّل کو از حد متاثر کیا۔ ایک ہفتے بعد امریکی جوڈا فرانس پہنچا۔ وہاں بھی فرانسیزیوں نے ورسائے کے عظیم الشان محل میں امریکی جوڑے کو دعوت عشائیہ دی۔ فرانسیزی شاہی محل کے تزک و احتشام نے بھی خاتون اول پر گہرا تاثر چھوڑا۔

امریکا میں کوئی شاہی محل ایسی قسم کی پر شکوہ عمارت نہیں تھی، تاہم جیکولین کینیڈی کی نظریں پہلے امریکی صدر کے خوبصورت مینشن پر جا گئیں۔ دریائے پوٹومیک کے کنارے واقع یہ وسیع و عریض مینشن امریکی قصر صدارت، وائٹ ہاؤس سے چند میل دور ہے۔ خاتون اوّل کو محسوس ہو گیا کہ اس تاریخی رہائش گاہ کی شاندار تاریخ اور دریا کا ساتھ شام کے وقت کا ماحول پاکستانی مقامی مہمانوں پر سحر طاری کر دے گا۔

پاکستانی مہمانوں کے لیے خاص اہتمام

جیکولین کینیڈی نے پھر جون 1961ء میں ماؤنٹ ورنون کا دورہ کیا۔ وہ قرب و جوار کا مشاہدہ کر کے جاننا چاہتی تھیں کہ کیا وہاں سرکاری عشائیے کی اہم تقریب منعقد ہو سکتی ہے۔ اس سلسلے میں انھوں نے رہائش گاہ کے منتظم سے بھی مشورہ کیا۔ منتظم نے انھیں بتایا کہ اسی تجویز پر عمل درآمد کے لیے کئی چیلنجوں سے عہدہ براں ہونا پڑے گا۔

دراصل مینشن اتنا بڑا نہیں تھا کہ اس کے اندر سرکاری عشائیے جیسی بڑی تقریب منعقد ہو سکے۔ لہذا نشستوں کا اہتمام برآمدے میں کرنے کا فیصلہ ہوا۔ پھر اس زمانے میں ماؤنٹ ورنون میں بجلی نہیں تھی۔ نیز اس کا سامان بھی قدیم نوعیت کا تھا۔

اس میں جدید سہولیات سے لیس باورچی خانہ تھا اور نہ ریفریجریٹر! چنانچہ فیصلہ ہوا کہ کھانا وائٹ ہاؤس میں تیار کر کے یہاں لایا جائے۔ وائٹ ہاؤس کے ملازمین ہی کو مہمان نوازی بھی کرنا تھی۔

غرض ماؤنٹ ورنون میں سرکاری عشائیے کی تقریب منعقد کرنے کی خاطر بڑے پاپڑیلے پڑتے۔ چونکہ امریکی خاتون اوّل کی یہی خواہش تھی لہذا منصوبے پر عمل درآمد شروع ہو گیا۔ امریکی خفیہ ایجنسیوں اور بحریہ کے دستوں نے علاقوں کی سکیورٹی سنبھال لی۔ جبکہ فورٹ مارز سے امریکی بری فوج کا ایک دستہ بھی ماؤنٹ ورنون آپہنچا۔ اس دستے نے فوجی بیڈیجیا کر مہمانان گرامی کا شاندار استقبال کرنا تھا۔

امریکی خاتون اوّل نے نیشنل سیمفونی آرکسٹر کو بھی سرکاری عشائیے کے لیے بلوایا۔ کھانے کے بعد ارکان آرکسٹر نے اپنے کمالات سے پاکستانی مہمانوں کو محظوظ کرنا تھا۔ نیز کی خدمات حاصل کی گئیں۔ اس کمپنی نے پھولوں اور دیگر آرائشی (Tiffany's) برآمدے میں پنڈال بنانے کے لیے آرائش و زیبائش کرنے والی مشہور کمپنی، ٹفنی اینڈ کمپنی ایشیا کی مدد سے نہایت خوبصورت پنڈال تیار کیا جہاں پیٹھ کر سبھی نے کھانا کھایا۔

تاریخی تقریب

مہمان کشتیوں کے چھوٹے سے جلوس کی صورت ماؤنٹ ورنون پہنچے۔ سب سے آگے صدارتی کشتی ”ہینی فنر“ خراماں خراماں تیر رہی تھی۔ اس کے بعد امریکی بحریہ کے وزیر (سیکرٹری) کی کشتی تھی۔ کشتیوں کا یہ قافلہ واشنگٹن میں واقع بندرگاہ سے روانہ ہوا۔ دریائے پوٹومیک میں سفر کرتا پندرہ میل طے کر کے ماؤنٹ ورنون پہنچا۔

مہمانوں میں جو نوجوان تھے، وہ کشتیوں سے اتر کر پیدل ہی ماؤنٹ ورنون کی سمت چل پڑے۔ ان میں سب سے نمایاں امریکی صدر کے چھوٹے بھائی اور اٹارنی جنرل، رابرٹ کینیڈی تھے۔ پاکستانی صدر، ان کی دختر اور میزبان لیوزین میں پیچھے کر اپنی منزل تک پہنچے۔

مہمانوں کی فہرست میں سب سے اوپر صدر مملکت پاکستان اور ان کی دختر، بیگم ثناء اختر اور نگ زیب کا نام تھا۔ دیگر مہمانوں میں پاکستانی وزیر خارجہ، وزیر خزانہ اور تبا امریکا میں پاکستانی سفیر، عزیز احمد شامل تھے۔

دلچسپ بات یہ ہے کہ عزیز احمد نے جب یہ سنا کہ سرکاری عشائیہ وائٹ ہاؤس نہیں ماؤنٹ ورنون میں ہو رہا ہے، تو وہ کچھ پریشان ہو گئے۔ انھیں محسوس ہوا جیسے امریکی پاکستانی مہمانوں کو کمتر سمجھ رہے ہیں۔ لیکن امریکیوں نے انھیں سمجھایا کہ پاکستانی مہمانوں کے اعزاز میں ماؤنٹ ورنون میں عشائیہ دینا زیادہ اہمیت کا حامل ہے۔ حقیقتاً یہ تقریب تاریخی درجہ حاصل کر لے گی۔ جب بات پاکستانی سفیر سمجھ گئے، تو ان کی جان میں جان آئی۔

”واشنگٹن کی ”کریم

اس سرکاری عشائیے میں نئی امریکی حکومت کے سبھی نمایاں اور درخشندہ ستارے شریک ہوئے۔ صدر، نائب صدر اور اٹارنی جنرل تو بیگمات کے ساتھ آئے ہی، سیکرٹری خارجہ، ڈین رسک، سیکرٹری دفاع، رابرٹ میکنا مارا اور سیکرٹری بحریہ، جان کونلے بھی اپنی بیویوں کے ساتھ آئے۔

امریکی افواج کے کمانڈر، چیپٹین آف دی جوائنٹ چیفس آف اسٹاف، جنرل لیمن لسنتر بھی بیگم کے ساتھ عشائیے میں تشریف لائے۔ غرض یہ کہنا بے جا نہ ہو گا کہ پاکستانی مہمانوں کے اعزاز میں منعقدہ تقریب میں واشنگٹن کی ”کریم“ جمع ہو گئی۔ وہاں امریکی حکمران طبقے کا ہر اہم رکن موجود تھا۔

اس تقریب میں سب سے زیادہ پر جوش ہستی سی آئی اے کے ڈائریکٹر، ایلن ڈیولاس کی تھی۔ وہ کینیڈی خاندان کے پرانے واقف کار تھے۔ اسی لیے صدر کینیڈی برسر اقتدار آئے، تو انھوں نے ایلن کو بدستور ڈائریکٹر سی آئی اے بنائے رکھا، حالانکہ ان کی تقرری سابقہ ریپبلکن صدر نے کی تھی۔

یہ ایلن ڈیولاس ہی ہیں جنھوں نے کیوبا پر ناکام حملے (بے آف پگ معاملے) کی منصوبہ بندی انجام دی تھی۔ یہ پلان کامیاب نہ ہو سکا تاہم امریکی صدر اب بھی اپنے ڈائریکٹر پر اعتماد کرتے تھے۔ اسی لیے پاکستان سمیت دیگر بیرون ممالک میں جاری سی آئی اے کے خفیہ آپریشن بدستور اپنا کام کرتے رہے۔ پاکستان میں جاری امریکی خفیہ ایجنسی کے خفیہ آپریشنوں کو صدر ایوب خان کی منظوری حاصل تھی۔

دو خفیہ اور اہم آپریشن

کھانے کا وقت رات آٹھ بجے تھا۔ اس سے قبل مہمانان گرامی نے پہلے امریکی صدر کے مینشن کا دورہ کیا۔ اس دوران مہمان مالٹے اور دیگر پھلوں کے رس سے لطف اندوز ہوئے۔ دونوں صدور موقع کی مناسبت سے رسمی لباس میں ملبوس تھے۔ جب یہ مرحلہ ختم ہوا، تو صدر کینیڈی نے پاکستانی صدر کو ساتھ لیا اور دونوں تنہا باغ میں چہل قدمی کرنے لگے۔ یہی وہ وقت تھا جب امریکی صدر نے اپنا مطالبہ ایوب خان کے سامنے پیش کیا۔

اس زمانے میں سی آئی اے نے پاکستان میں دو نہایت خفیہ اور اہم آپریشن شروع کر رکھے تھے۔ ایک آپریشن تو سال بھر پہلے ہی طشت از بام ہو گیا جب سوویت یونین نے امریکا کا بوٹو طیارہ مار گرایا۔ یہ طیارہ سوویت یونین کی جاسوسی کر رہا تھا۔ اس کو پشاور میں پاک فضائیہ کی ایئر بیس، بڈھ بیر سے اڑایا جاتا تھا۔ اس خفیہ منصوبے کا نام ”آپریشن گرینڈ سلام“ تھا۔

یوٹو طیارہ گرانے کے کچھ عرصے بعد پیرس میں امریکی صدر آئزن ہاور اور سوویت وزیر اعظم خروشیف کے مابین ملاقات ہوئی۔ سوویت لیڈر یوٹو طیارہ سے جاسوسی کرانے پر امریکی صدر سے معذرت چاہتے تھے۔ جب آئزن ہاور نے انکار کیا، تو بد مزگی پیدا ہو گئی اور ملاقات کا انجام اچھا نہیں ہوا۔

اس واقعے کے بعد سی آئی اے نے سوویت یونین کی فضاؤں میں پاکستان سے بھیجے گئے یوٹو طیارے بھجوانے بند کر دیے، تاہم پاکستانی سر زمین پہ ایک اور خفیہ آپریشن جاری رہا۔ یہ آپریشن بھی سابقہ امریکی صدر، آئزن ہاور کے زمانے میں شروع ہوا اور اب تک انجام پارہا تھا۔ اس کے ذریعے چین کے خلاف سرگرمیاں جاری تھیں۔

چین تبت کو اپنا حصہ سمجھتا تھا۔ اس لیے 1951ء میں کمیونسٹ چین نے تبت پہ قبضہ کر لیا۔ تاہم تبتی اپنے ملک کو آزاد و خود مختار مانتے تھے۔ وہ چین کے خلاف مسلح مزاحمت کرنے لگے۔ امریکا ان تبتیوں کا حامی تھا۔ چنانچہ مشرقی پاکستان میں ڈھاکہ کے قریب ایک ہوائی اڈے سے امریکی ان تبتیوں کو اسلحہ اور دیگر ضروری سامان بذریعہ ہوائی جہاز بھجوانے لگے۔

بعد ازاں سی آئی اے امریکی ریاست کو لورڈو میں تبتیوں کو چھاپہ مار جنگ کی تربیت دینے لگی۔ یہ تبتی گوریلے بھی مشرقی پاکستان کے راستے ہی بذریعہ ہوائی جہاز تبت میں اتارے جاتے۔ کچھ عرصے بعد سی آئی اے نے یوٹو طیارے بھی پاکستانی ایئر بیس پر پہنچا دیے۔ یہ طیارے پھر چین کی فضاؤں میں اڑ کر مختلف عسکری مقامات کی تصاویر لینے لگے۔

امریکی حکومت کی مدد

سی آئی اے کے اس آپریشن کو بھی صدر ایوب خان کی منظوری حاصل تھی۔ دراصل تبت پاکستانی سوویت یونین اور چین، دونوں کو بھارت کا دوست سمجھتے تھے۔ دشمن کا دوست بھی مخالف ہوتا ہے کہ مصداق پاکستانی حکومت دونوں ممالک کو اپنا حریف تصور کرتی تھی۔ پھر وہ ان کے کمیونسٹ نظریات سے بھی متفق نہ تھی۔ ادھر امریکا پچھلے دس سال سے پاکستان کو بھاری مالی و عسکری امداد دے رہا تھا۔

اس مالی تعاون سے کئی اہم نوعیت کے سرکاری منصوبے پایہ تکمیل تک پہنچے۔ 1954ء میں سیبر طیارے دیئے جن کی وجہ سے پاک فضائیہ طاقتور ہو گئی۔ 1960ء میں امریکا کی بھاگ دوڑ کے باعث سندھ طاس معاہدہ انجام پایا جس سے پانی کا مسئلہ طے ہوا۔ غرض اس زمانے میں امریکی حکومت کئی لحاظ سے پاکستان کی مالی، عسکری و معاشی مدد کر رہی تھی۔ چنانچہ پاکستانی حکومت نے بھی ضروری سمجھا کہ کمیونسٹ ممالک کے خلاف امریکی مہمات میں اس کا ساتھ دیا جائے۔

مشرق پاکستان میں چینوں کی جاسوسی کا خفیہ مشن جاری تھا کہ ایک رکاوٹ آڑے آگئی۔ جب جنوری 1961ء میں صدر کینیڈی برسر اقتدار آئے، تو انھوں نے بھارتیوں کی خوشنودی کے لیے اعلان کیا کہ بھارت کو نصف ارب ڈالر کی معاشی مدد دی جائے گی۔ اس اعلان نے صدر پاکستان، ایوب خان کو برا فروختہ کر دیا۔ وہ جنوبی ایشیا میں بھارت نہیں پاکستان کو امریکا کا قریب ترین اتحادی سمجھتے تھے۔ اسی لیے ناراض ہو کر انھوں نے ڈھاکہ ایئر بیس سے امریکی طیاروں کے اڑنے پر پابندی لگا دی۔ یہ دو ماہ پہلے کا واقعہ تھا۔

تنہائی میں ملاقات کریں

آج کے برعکس اس زمانے میں پاکستان سب سے بڑا اسلامی ملک ہونے کی وجہ سے اہم ملک سمجھا جاتا تھا۔ نیز صدر ایوب خان خارجہ امور میں آزادی سے فیصلے کرتے تھے کیونکہ پاکستان معاشی طور پر خاصا مضبوط تھا۔ اس نے عالمی و مقامی مالی اداروں کے قرض نہیں دینے تھے جن میں سے بیشتر امریکی و برطانوی بینکار چلاتے ہیں۔ لہذا امریکی جہازوں کی اڑان پر پابندی لگا کر انھوں نے اپنی ناراضی ظاہر کر دی۔ وہ صدر کینیڈی کی بھارت نوازی پر خوش نہیں تھے۔

تاہم پاکستانی صدر نے یہ ضرور خیال رکھا کہ دونوں مملکتوں کے مابین شکر رنجی پس پردہ ہی رہے اور عوام کے سامنے نہیں آنے پائے۔ بس وہ امریکیوں کو بتانا چاہتے تھے کہ بھارت کی طرف ان کا بھگاؤ پاکستان کو پسند نہیں آیا اور یہ منفی عوامل کا حامل بھی ہے۔

جب یہ طے پا گیا کہ پاکستانی صدر کے اعزاز میں ماؤنٹ ورنون پر سرکاری عشاء یہ ہو گا، تو سی آئی اے کے ڈائریکٹر، ایلن ڈیولاس اپنے صدر سے ملے۔ انھوں نے صدر کینیڈی کو مشورہ دیا کہ وہ ایوب خان سے تنہائی میں ملاقات کریں اور تب اپنی مانگیں سامنے رکھیں۔ مسٹر ایلن کو یقین تھا کہ صدر کینیڈی اپنی پُرکشش شخصیت اور رومانوی ماحول کے بل بوتے پر پاکستانی حکمران سے اپنا مطالبہ منوالیں گے۔ ان کی پیشین گوئی درست ثابت ہوئی۔

صدر کینیڈی چاہتے تھے کہ ایوب خان امریکی طیاروں کی اڑان پر لگائی پابندی واپس لے لیں۔ پاکستانی صدر نے کچھ مزاحمت کرنے کے بعد میزبان کی بات مان لی۔ یوں چین کے خلاف جاری امریکی سرگرمیوں میں پاکستان پھر اس کا اتحادی بن گیا۔ یہی وجہ تھی کہ اس زمانے میں چینی حکومت پاکستان کو شک و شبہ کی نگاہ سے دیکھتی تھی۔

اپنی یہ بات منوالی

تاہم ایک تجربے کار لیڈر ہونے کے باعث صدر ایوب خان نے مفت میں امریکی صدر کا مطالبہ قبول نہیں کیا۔ انھوں نے بھی اپنی یہ بات منوالی کہ مستقبل میں کبھی امریکانے بھارت کو اسلحہ فروخت کیا، تو وہ پہلے پاکستان سے ضرور مشورہ کرے گا۔ افسوس کہ بظاہر خود کو سچا اور مخلص کہنے والے امریکی حکمران اس وعدے پر پورے نہیں اترے۔ جب اگلے سال چین اور بھارت کی جنگ ہوئی، تو صدر کینیڈی نے ایوب خان سے کیا گیا اپنا عہد توڑا اور بالابالا بھارتیوں کو اسلحہ بھجوا دیا۔ امریکیوں کی اس بد عہدی نے ایوب خان کو بہت مایوس کر ڈالا۔

“لیکن ابھی ماؤنٹ ورنون میں سرکاری عشاء یہ آب و تاب سے جاری تھا۔ مقررہ وقت پاکستانی مہمان گرامی کی خدمت میں چکن کا خصوصی فرانسسی سالن ”پولٹ چاسر چاولوں کے ساتھ پیش کیا گیا۔ اس کے ساتھ پھلوں کے رس تھے۔ میٹھے کے طور پر کریم میں ڈوبی رس بھریاں کھائی گئیں۔ (Poulet Chasseur)

کیونسٹوں کے جال میں

صدر کینیڈی جس میز پر اجماع ہوئے وہاں سفید ساڑھی میں ملبوس بیگم اور نگ زیب بھی بیٹھی تھیں۔ جبکہ صدر ایوب خان جس میز پر بیٹھے وہاں حسین و جمیل جیکولین کینیڈی تشریف فرما تھیں۔ اس موقع پر پاکستانی صدر نے خطاب کرتے ہوئے دنیا والوں کو خبردار کیا: ”ایشیا میں کوئی بھی ملک سیدھی راہ پر نہیں چلا، تو وہ کیونسٹوں کے جال میں پھنس سکتا ہے۔“ صدر کینیڈی نے اپنی تقریر میں ایوب خان کو ”پاکستان کا جارج واشنگٹن“ قرار دیا۔ سرکاری عشاء یہ رات بارہ بجے ختم ہوا۔ اب مہمانان گرامی کو سڑک کے راستے واپس واشنگٹن پہنچایا گیا۔

صدر کینیڈی کی کاہنہ میں بعض وزیر تبت میں جاری سی آئی اے آپریشن کے خلاف تھے۔ بھارت میں امریکی سفیر، جان کینتھ گلبرٹ کا بھی خیال تھا ”اس آپریشن سے امریکا کو فائدہ نہیں ہو گا، الٹا میلے کھیلے تبتی قبائلی ہمارے گلے پڑ جائیں گے۔“ بعض کا کہنا تھا کہ جو اب چینی بھی امریکیوں کے خلاف کوئی قدم اٹھا سکتے ہیں۔

ان خدشات کے باوجود صدر کینیڈی نے سی آئی اے آپریشن جاری رکھا اور اس سے امریکیوں کو فائدہ بھی ملے۔ مثال کے طور پر تینتی گوریلوں نے چین کے سرکاری دفاتر پر حملے کیے، تو وہاں سے انھیں ڈھیروں سرکاری دستاویزات ملیں۔ انھوں نے دستاویز امریکا کے حوالے کر دیں۔ اس زمانے میں امریکی کمیونسٹ چین کے متعلق کچھ نہیں جانتے تھے۔ لہذا ان دستاویز سے امریکی حکومت کو چینی حکومت کے بارے میں کافی معلومات حاصل ہوئیں۔

چین کی فضاؤں میں امریکی یوٹوپیارے کی اڑائیں بھی کامیاب رہیں۔ ان کی مدد سے امریکیوں کو چینی ایٹمی منصوبے کے متعلق معلومات ملیں جو لوپ نور ٹیسٹ فیسلٹی میں خفیہ طور پر جاری تھا۔ تاہم آپریشن کے مخالف امریکیوں کی ایک پیشین گوئی نے حقیقت کا چولا پہن لیا۔

پاکستان نہیں بھارت

چین کا حکمران طبقہ پاکستان نہیں بھارت کو اپنا حقیقی دشمن سمجھتا تھا۔ وجہ یہ کہ تبت میں خانہ جنگی بنیادی طور پر بھارت کی پشت پناہی کی وجہ سے جاری تھی۔ بھارت کے ساتھ چین کے سرحدی تنازعات بھی تھے۔ اس لیے جب امریکا اور بھارت کے مابین دوستی بڑھنے لگی، تو چینی حکومت کو سخت تاؤ آیا۔ اسے یقین ہو گیا کہ نہرو حکومت امریکیوں کی آشری باد سے چینی سرحدی علاقے پر قبضہ کرنا چاہتی ہے۔ چنانچہ چین نے دونوں قوتوں کو سبق سکھانے کے واسطے اکتوبر 1962ء میں بھارت پر حملہ کر دیا۔

یہ حملہ جنوبی ایشیا کی تاریخ کا دھارا بدل گیا۔ اول اس کی وجہ سے چین اور بھارت کی دشمنی کا آغاز ہوا جو کسی حد تک اب بھی جاری ہے۔ دوم پاکستان اور چین قریب آگئے۔ بعد ازاں ان کے مابین ایسی مستحکم دوستی نے جنم لیا جو پہاڑوں سے بھی زیادہ مضبوط ہے۔ گویا 1962ء کا سال جنوبی ایشیا کے لیے کاپالٹ دینے والا ثابت ہوا۔

اگلے سال ذوالفقار علی بھٹو وزیر خارجہ بنے تو انھوں نے چین کا دورہ کیا۔ وہ چینی رہنما، ماوزے تنگ اور وزیر اعظم، چو این لائی سے ذاتی تعلقات قائم کرنے میں کامیاب رہے۔ جلد ہی دونوں ممالک نے باہمی مسائل حل کیے اور ایک دوسرے کے قریب آگئے۔ 1965ء میں صدر ایوب خان نے چین کا دورہ کیا اور یوں دونوں پڑوسیوں کے مابین ایسے تعلق کا آغاز ہوا جسے ہمالیہ سے بلند اور بحیرہ عرب سے گہرا قرار دیا گیا۔

... اعزاز جو پاکستانی صدر کو ملا مگر

ابھی مگر جولائی 1961ء چل رہا ہے جب پاکستانی صدر امریکی میزبانوں کی شاندار مہمان نوازی سے لطف اندوز ہو رہے تھے۔ ماؤنٹ ورنون میں پاکستانی مہمانوں کو جو سرکاری عشائیہ دیا گیا، اسے امریکی اخبارات نے نمایاں جگہ دی۔ کینیڈی جوڑا اس تقریب کے ذریعے جو کامیابیاں حاصل کرنا چاہتا تھا، وہ انھیں پانے میں کامیاب رہا۔ سیاسی طور پر صدر کینیڈی کو یہ کامیابی ملی کہ مشرقی پاکستان میں جاری خفیہ تبت آپریشن کو نئی زندگی مل گئی جسے نئی حکومت کی بڑی فتح سمجھا گیا۔ جبکہ عشائیے کے ذریعے کینیڈی جوڑے کو دارالحکومت میں اپنے معاشرتی تعلقات بڑھانے میں مدد ملی۔

جیسا کہ بتایا گیا، یہ پہلا اور آخری موقع تھا کہ دنیا کی سب سے بڑی سپر پاور کے صدر نے کسی مہمان حکمران کے اعزاز میں ماؤنٹ ورنون جیسی تاریخی جگہ پر سرکاری عشائیہ دیا۔ یہ اعزاز پاکستان کے صدر ہی کو نصیب ہوا۔ یہ حقیقت آشکار کرتی ہے کہ محض ساٹھ برس قبل عالمی سطح پر پاکستان کو عزت و وقار کی نگاہ سے دیکھا جاتا تھا۔

اس زمانے میں جنوبی کوریا، سنگاپور اور ملائیشیا جیسے نو آزاد ایشیائی ملک ترقی کا اپنا ماڈل پاکستانی ماڈل کے مطابق استوار کر رہے تھے۔ ان ملکوں کے محب وطن، دیانت دار اور اچھے منتظم حکمرانوں نے تو پاکستانی ماڈل پہ عمل کرتے ہوئے اپنے ممالک کو خوشحال اور ترقی یافتہ ریاستوں میں بدل دیا جہاں شہریوں کو ہر قسم کی سہولیات میسر ہیں۔ صد افسوس کہ پاکستان میں حکمران طبقہ جلد ذاتی مفادات، کرپشن اور نااہلی کا نشانہ بن کر نہ صرف منزل کھو بیٹھا بلکہ اس نے ملک و قوم کو تنزلی کے گڑھے میں دکھیل دیا۔ امجد اسلام امجد ہمیں

یاد دلاتے ہیں

کروڑوں لوگ تھے جن کا
 نہ کوئی نام لیتا تھا، نہ کچھ پہچان باقی تھی
 ہر اک رستے میں وحشت تھی
 سبھی آنکھوں میں حسرت تھی
 نہ آباء سی ہنر مندی، نہ اگلی شان باقی تھی
 کھلا سر پر جو اس اعلان کا نحو شبو بھر اسایا
 تو ان کی جاں میں جاں آئی
 دہن میں پھر زباں آئی
 بہتر سال پہلے کا وہ اک احسان مت بھولو
 خدا کی خاص رحمت ہے یہ، ”پاکستان“ مت بھولو

<https://www.express.pk/story/2319093/1/>

May 09, 2022

Business Recorder

Issues of Chinese cos, promotion of RMB

PMO doing spadework ahead of PM's China visit

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Office (PMO) has sought details of issues being faced by the Chinese companies, and measures meant to facilitate promotion of Chinese currency RMB, well informed sources told Business Recorder.

The purpose of this exercise is supposedly to complete homework prior to the visit of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to China, dates of which are being exchanged between the Foreign Ministries of both countries.

Meanwhile, Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives, Ahsan Iqbal has convened an inter-ministerial meeting on Monday (today) to discuss issues being faced by the Chinese companies. According to sources, to expand the depth and breadth of RMB application under the principle of step-by-step progress it has been decided that first use of RMB be promoted in the trial zone and then to achieve breakthroughs in RMB settlement and financing polices, RMB capital circulation system be established.

It has also been suggested that State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) should meet with PBOC and propose to list direct quotes for RMB- PKR transactions in the CFETS and designate selected banks as cross-currency market makers in both countries. These banks provide direct RMB – PKR exchange services with reference to the RMB-PKR quotes provided by the China Foreign Exchange Trade System and settle currency positions with each other. The relevant clients holding the relevant trading currency positions can be used for trade between China and Pakistan or for investment into the Chinese or Pakistani market.

Some of the issues being faced by the Chinese companies are as follows: (i) All Pakistan Chinese Enterprises Association (APCEA): the vetting of visa application takes long time;(ii) China Road and Bridge Corporation (additional incentives to promote investment in SEZs especially Rashakai SEZ), realignment of KKH (Thakot- Railkot section) the project is promoted at slow pace; (iii) China Communications Construction Company Limited (dispute about different understanding of the contract of KKH phase-II, (Thakot-Havelian section);(iv) Beijing Urban Construction Group Co. Ltd/ China Railway Beijing Engineering Group Co. Ltd: the anti-dumping duty imposed on the wire rod and steel rebar.—MUSHTAQ GHUMMAN

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2022/05/09/1-page/928780-news.html>

PM accuses PTI govt of annoying China, stalling CPEC

LAHORE: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif said on Sunday that Imran-led government had angered China, which is the closest friend of Pakistan and has always helped in difficult times.

“The CPEC was put into cold storage but we are making efforts to restart the CPEC projects,” he said while talking to media here at the PML-N Secretariat Sunday.

Interior Minister Rana Sanaullah Khan, Law Minister Azam Nazir Tarar, Information Minister Marriyum Aurangzeb, Attaullah Tarar and Azma Bukhari were also present.

The PM said that Saudi Arabia and UAE were also not happy with Pakistan. To a query, he said that the United States was a superpower and his government wanted good relations with her on equal footing.

When asked about the return of Nawaz Sharif to Pakistan, Shehbaz Sharif said the PML-N supremo would return to home as soon as doctors allow him to travel. Regarding cases against Nawaz Sharif, he said these are pending in the courts which will decide the same.

To a query, the PM said the PML-N’s way of politics does not support personal attacks against anyone. We do not believe in revenge but law would take its due course against those who committed any wrong, the government would not interfere in such cases, he said.

When asked about Imran Khan’s ‘long march’ to Islamabad, he said what this laadla (spoiled child) would get by marching on Islamabad. He did nothing in his nearly four years of government except causing manifold problems for the country and countrymen. He said Rana Sanaullah has devised a strategy to deal with PTI’s long march.

Answering a question, Shehbaz Sharif said that the date for fresh elections would be announced after consultation with the allies of current government. He said that PML-N and its allies may join hands for the next elections. He said electoral reforms are necessary before elections; we will invite the PTI for electoral reforms whether they come or not.

He further said the government is working selflessly to provide relief to the masses and results would start appearing soon. He said that the challenges that Pakistan is facing now have never been seen before and Pakistan will face the biggest budget deficit in history. The former government reduced oil prices without consulting that is a violation of IMF agreements, he said, adding: “There was abundant electricity in the country but a power crisis arose due to inefficiency.”

To another query, he said there will be improvement in hospitals and waste management.

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2022/05/09/2-page/928788-news.html>

Daily Times

Civil work of Thar Coal Block-1 to complete this year

Civil works of the under-construction 1,320 MW Shanghai Electric Thar Coal Block-1 Power Generation Company (PVT) Ltd. project is planned to achieve its COD within this year.

According to Gwadar Pro, once the projected is completed, the project’s energy production will be enough to power four million households in Pakistan. 32-year-old Sufyan Ansar Warraich is among those who made these miracles possible. He was awarded as one of the outstanding Pakistani Staff of CPEC Projects in 2021 due to his excellent performance at work.

There is a saying ‘Bridge the gap and get things done’ this is story of CPEC’s Pioneer 32-year-old Sufyan Ansar Warraich who works as the Administrative Commissioner in Shanghai Electric Thar Coal Block-1 Power Generation Company (PVT) Ltd. He works with his teammates to take care of around 180 employees, like their living, their office, their food, their entry, their exit...”

Together with his coworkers, Warraich devotes himself to the construction of Thar Coal Block-1 Power Plant, a combined coalmine and coal-powered energy generation project under China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) located in Islamkot, Tharparkar District, Sindh, Pakistan.

The project cannot be built without excellent management and hardworking front-line Chinese and Pakistani staff, but it also needs bridges like Warraich to narrow the gap. Joined the company in December 2020, Warraich mainly cares about the administration, public relations and social responsibility work of the site. His life is filled with cultural differences, language differences and arrangement differences, but he loves to take on such challenges.

As per Liu Chaoqun, Schedule Manager of the company, Warraich once studied at Harbin Engineering University, which is located in Harbin, the Ice City of China. This experience made Warraich know Chinese culture well and helped him take good care of both Pakistani and Chinese employees. “You can always count on Sufyan!” Liu Chaoqun said.

According to the multinational corporation Shanghai Electric, it hires both Pakistani and Chinese workers. There are about 5,000 employees working at the site of Thar Coal Block-1 Power Plant, among which a large amount are Muslims. “I work on both sides – for the Chinese site and the Pakistani side,” Warraich tries his best to bridge different cultures.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/931404/civil-work-of-thar-coal-block-1-to-complete-this-year/>

Dunya News

Karachi University blast: last rites of slain Chinese teachers performed

KARACHI (Dunya News) - The last rites of the Chinese teachers who were killed in the suicide blast at Karachi University were performed on Monday.

Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah, DG Rangers, IG Sindh, Acting VC Karachi University and other personalities also were present on the occasion.

It is pertinent to mention here that on April 26, four people, including three Chinese nationals were killed in a suicide attack outside the Confucius Institute at Karachi University and the bodies of Chinese nationals were handed over to the Chinese authorities in a cold storage while strict security arrangements were made on the occasion.

<https://dunyaNews.tv/en/Pakistan/651629-Karachi-University-blast:-last-rites-of-slain-Chinese-teachers-performed>

Pakistan Observer

Govt diligently working on CPEC, Reko Diq projects: PM

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has said that the previous government tackled CPEC in a very pathetic way and his government is diligently working on the execution of CPEC and Reko Diq projects. He was of the view that the decision on new general elections would be taken after consultation with all the allied parties.

He expressed these views in a meeting with a delegation of Council of Pakistan Newspapers Editors (CPNE) and beat reporters in Lahore on Sunday. He reiterated his government’s resolve to religiously follow the CPEC and Reko Diq projects till their completion.

He was of the view that the justice system was badly damaged in the tenure of the former Prime Minister and they have now started up-gradation of the judicial system in the best interest of the common man. He said, “Now we have returned to the old Pakistan and his government will try to align the things in old fashion rather than Naya Pakistan”. To a question that why he visited Kot Lakhpat jail again when he had been released after a long time, he said that one must not forget the people who had stood by him in hard times. He went there to meet the officials who treated him in a better way during his imprisonment.

To another question, the Narcotics trend was being raised in Lahore and the number of addicted people in Lahore was increasing day by day what was the government strategy to control this

menace, he signaled to Rana Sana Ullah that he would respond better to this question. Rana Sana Ullah said that he would pass directions to the authorities concerned to check this issue shortly.

https://pakobserver.net/govt-diligently-working-on-cpec-reko-diq-projects-pm/?utm_source=rss&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=govt-diligently-working-on-cpec-reko-diq-projects-pm

CPEC and emerging security irritants

Dr Mehmood-ul-Hassan Khan

The new incumbent government of Pakistan and its policy makers are trying their best to initiate China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) Phase-II in the country which would further strengthen Pak-China bilateral relations in diverse sector of economy, industrialization, energy production, social development, health capacity building mechanism, development of special economic zones, agriculture, and last but not least, infrastructure development in the country.

However, their efforts have confronted with very serious snags. Deteriorating law and order situation in Balochistan and planned targeting/killings of Chinese people in Pakistan has become an eye-opener for the government, its agencies, paramilitary forces and establishment which needs to be rectified as soon as possible.

In this connection, TTP sponsored and scattered acts of terrorism in different parts of the country have raised serious security concerns.

Allegedly secret but holy alliance of the TTP and Taliban have changed the security equation that is why stakeholders of both countries are now taking all possible counter measures to cope this sponsored targeting killings of Chinese people and workers at various projects of the CPEC.

Moreover, increasing social unrest among the different factions of the society and communities in Balochistan needs to be taken seriously.

Robust development of strategic Gawdar Seaport has direct correlation with the wellbeing of local people and communities alike.

The most recent visit of the Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to Quetta is right policy initiative in right direction.

Resolution of genuine concerns of locals needs to be tackled as economic stimulation not security imperative.

Furthermore, increasing political divide and impassable heat in the country is not a good omen for the socio-economic development and the easy and smooth sailing of the CPEC projects especially early initiation of its phase-II.

Political unity not widening division is need of the hour. There is an urgent need to fix the declining trust deficits among different stakeholders of both countries in terms of deferred

payments, security parameters, allocation of funds, restart of derailed projects, and early start of CPEC Phase-II in the country.

Additionally, there is an urgent need to start high level mutual policy and political consultations on the issue of slow development of the CPEC in special economic zones in the country.

Innovative scheme of arrangements, persuasion of befitting financial modules, suitable public-private simulations, channelization of domestic banking industry and last but not least, removal of undue bureaucratic impediments should be mantra of the government.

The government of China and its foreign ministry appreciated Pakistani top leadership's show of solidarity with China over the killing of Chinese citizens in Karachi which vividly reflected that the all-weather strategic cooperative partnership between China and Pakistan is deeply rooted in the hearts of the people and any attempt to undermine mutual trust and cooperation is doomed to fail.

In this regard, the spokesperson said that Beijing would work with Islamabad to get to the bottom of the truth, bring the perpetrators to justice, and give a satisfactory explanation and answer to the people of the two countries.

According to spokesperson China paid great attention to Pakistan's commitment to strengthening the security of Chinese personnel, projects and institutions.

He pledged to work with Pakistan to ensure the smooth operation of cooperation in a safe manner and prevent such incidents from happening again.

Unfortunately, on April 26, three Chinese teachers of Confucius Institute at Karachi University and their driver were killed when their shuttle van was hit by a suicide attack.

Soon after the incident, PM Shehbaz visited the Chinese embassy in Islamabad and met China's acting Ambassador Pang Chunxue to convey his condolences.

In this direction, he immediately instructed the relevant authorities to conduct a thorough investigation into the incident and assured the government would spare no efforts to apprehend the perpetrators and hold them accountable. Moreover, Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives, Ahsan Iqbal asked the Ministry of Interior to ensure a security review meeting should be held every month on the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

While chagrining a meeting, the minister gave the direction while to review the security progress on CPEC projects.

The meeting was attended by the Secretary Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Secretary Ministry of Interior, the Secretary Ministry of Information and other relevant stakeholders.

The Minister emphasised the need to build a safe and secure environment for CPEC and to effectively tackle security problems pertaining to state and non-state actors.

The minister termed the CPEC game changer which would enable Pakistan to become an industrial economy.

It is unfortunate that the momentum of 2013-18 couldn't be sustained, said the Minister. He also expressed concern that Pakistan's side of CPEC's joint working group on security has not been meeting frequently.

He directed the Ministry of Interior to regularly convene its meetings on a monthly basis. He added that without a coordinated effort, there can be gaps which must be filled.

The minister Iqbal upheld the role of the National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA) which should be further streamlined and systematized in accordance with their established role and objectives in order to provide the government with an in-depth assessment of security challenges rooted in the country's socioeconomic conditions.

He suggested that the government should follow holistic socio-economic and geopolitical policies to address socio-economic grievances of the people that may, if left unaddressed, translate into security challenges.

To conclude, changing socio-economic partnerships, proprietorships and problems, geopolitical encroachments and geostrategic conflict realities, there is an urgent need to completely transform security system of the Chinese citizens, workers and teachers in the country.

Foolproof and integrated security module is need of the hour. Red lines in human security parameters should be plugged in as soon as possible.

Drastic shift in gender oriented terrorism must be studied as a new emerging potential security threat through chalking out of a comprehensive security policy and road map.

It is suggested that Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif would review security arrangements for the Chinese nationals working in Pakistan on regular basis.

In view of potential threats from within and outside the country being faced by the CPEC and other joint ventures between the two countries, the premier would assess all the mechanisms earlier devised for ensuring the security of the Chinese nationals and the new plan being devised by the planning and interior ministries.

The inputs of the military establishment being the most important security stakeholder should also be included and preferred.

There is an urgent need to re-approach the country heads of all the Chinese companies working in the country to seek their input in security and other arrangements.

Engagement of all the provinces especially the Balochistan government, for the provision of the security in Gwadar should be a foremost priority of the incumbent government.

It is bitter reality that mere condolence will not dissuade series of conspiracies but constant spirits of cooperation, coordination and collaboration among all the stakeholders of both the countries is the need of the hour.

—The writer is Director, the Centre for South Asia & International Studies Islamabad & regional expert, China, CPEC & BRI.

<https://pakobserver.net/cpec-and-emerging-security-irritants-by-dr-mehmood-ul-hassan-khan/>

The Nation

‘Imran Khan Angered China, Saudi Arabia, UAE’

LAHORE – Prime Minister Mian Shehbaz Sharif on Sunday had four consecutive interactions with the journalists in Lahore at different levels in a day, but the one with the beat reporters was really a grapevine communication devoid of the usual formalities. Prime minister was visibly in a good mood and did not show any sign of exhaustion from the hectic schedule he had been following since morning. He talked about a host of issues but in a frank and candid manner not overwhelmed by the dictates of a formal style of a high-profile personality.

The prime minister was accompanied by Interior Minister Rana Sana Ullah, Federal Minister for law Azam Nazeer Tarar, Information Minister Marriyum Aurangzeb and party’s additional secretary general Attaullah Tarar.

He would answer questions in a pleasant mood while chewing the food also offered to the journalists to satiate their evening snack cravings. He called the journalists sitting in front of him as companions of the bad times.

Shehbaz Sharif also recalled the days when he would appear before the court in connection with the cases instituted against him by the previous government. “I remember the days when chairs were removed from the courts [to make us stand].

Emboldened by the prime minister’s courtesy and humour, the journalist also asked some amusing questions. A journalist asked: How come you went to the prison again after a few days we brought you back? It was an indirect reference to the prime minister’s recent visit to Kot Lakhpat jail where he had spent a few months during his incarceration.

The premier responded with a broad smile and said: “I went to see my companions there with whom I had a good time. One should not forget the companions of bad times. In good times, everyone is with you; but if a person speaks sweetly in difficult times, no one should forget him”.

He added that following his inspection of the jail, he had directed the provincial authorities to chalk out a plan for jail reforms.

To a question about increasing use of drugs in society and educational institutes, Shehbaz Sharif diverted the question to Interior Minister Rana Sana Ullah who sat close to him. “Rana Sanaullah is here to play a role in controlling drugs in the country. Who knows better than him to control the use of drugs”, the premier smilingly said in an indirect reference to the drug case instituted against Rana Sana Ullah by the last government.

Asked by a reporter as to how his government would cope with the existing challenges, the premier replied: “Will talk to you on this issue privately on some other day”. To another question about not repeating the old practices of seeking revenge, the prime minister replied in the affirmative saying: “Old Pakistan is back”. I have said many times that there is no revenge in Nawaz Sharif’s dictionary. Law will take its course, however. Illegal and unconstitutional acts will not be allowed under the law”.

To a question about next general elections, Shehbaz Sharif did not rule out the possibility of early elections but linked such a decision to be taken with the consensus of allied parties.

“The term of this government will end in August next year, but a decision about it will be taken in consultation with the coalition partners”. He said his government wanted to introduce election reforms before the general elections.

Asked if the present ruling alliance will go into the next elections together, the prime minister said his party wanted the allied parties to form an electoral alliance but a decision to this effect will be taken after evolving consensus. “We will try to form an alliance for the next elections and the PML-N will play its part in it”, he added.

To a question about extending service to the present army chief, the prime minister said a decision will be taken when the time comes. He also condemned efforts by certain quarters to drag the army into politics. “The army is an institution of 22 crore people which protects the borders. We should keep the army away from politics”, he said.

Talking about relations with other countries, he said that Imran Khan Niazi destroyed relations with all the countries. “Imran Khan angered China, Saudi Arabia and UAE.”

He has left no narrative that the nation will follow”. He said America was a superpower and wanted friendly relations with this country on an equal basis. “We are not anti-America. We should work with the United States on the basis of equality”. If we stand on our own two feet, other countries will be happy with it”. He said he would try to mend relations with China which was a best friend.

“If the Corona situation in China improves, I will visit China to put the relations back on the track”. He said he would also try to revive the CEPAC which suffered a blow during the previous government.

To a question about Nawaz Sharif’s return, he said: Mian Nawaz Sharif’s case is with the courts, they will decide on it”.

<https://nation.com.pk/2022/05/09/imran-khan-angered-china-saudi-arabia-uae/>

Express News

سی پیک منصوبوں کی بحالی کیلئے چینی کمپنیوں کا حکومت سے رابطہ

چینی کمپنیوں نے سی پیک منصوبوں کو دوبارہ کام شروع کرنے اور کام کی رفتار تیز کرنے کیلئے درپیش مسائل کے حل کیلئے وفاقی حکومت سے رجوع کر لیا۔: اسلام آباد

ایکسپریس نیوز کے مطابق گزشتہ دور حکومت میں سست روی کا شکار سی پیک منصوبوں کے کاموں میں تیزی لانے کے لیے اور ترقیاتی منصوبوں کو درپیش مسائل کے حل کے لیے پاکستان میں کام کرنے والی 27 چائنیز کمپنیوں نے تفصیلی لیٹر حکومت کو ارسال کیا ہے۔

خط میں وزارت صنعت و پیداوار، وزارت خزانہ، وزارت میری ٹائم افیئرز، وزارت مواصلات، وزارت تجارت، وزارت داخلہ، وزارت توانائی، وزارت آبی وسائل، وزارت انفارمیشن ٹیکنالوجی، وزارت نیشنل فوڈ سیکورٹی اینڈ ریسرچ، کابینہ ڈویژن، سرمایہ کاری بورڈ، فیڈرل بورڈ آف ریونیو سے متعلق مسائل کے علاوہ پنجاب، بلوچستان اور خیبر پختونخواہ کی صوبائی حکومتوں کے ساتھ درپیش مسائل بارے بھی آگہا کیا گیا ہے۔

خط میں وفاقی حکومت سے درخواست کی گئی ہے کہ چائنیز کمپنیوں کے منصوبوں کی راہ میں حال رکاوٹیں دور کی جائیں۔

ایکسپریس نیوز کو موصول دستاویز میں کہا گیا ہے کہ آل پاکستان چائنیز انٹرنیٹ براؤزر ایسوسی ایشن (ای پی سی ای اے) کی ایکریڈیٹڈ چائنیز کمپنیوں کیلئے ویزوں کی توسیع سے متعلق مسائل کے حل کیلئے اور ویزوں کی توثیق میں بلا جواز تاخیر دور کرنے کیلئے مجاز دفتر مختص کیا جائے جو اس معاملے میں آل پاکستان چائنیز انٹرنیٹ براؤزر ایسوسی ایشن کے ساتھ رابطے میں رہے۔

دستاویز کے مطابق رینکئی اسپیشل اکنامک زون سمیت دیگر ترقیاتی منصوبے تعمیر کرنیوالی چائنیز کمپنیز چائنہ روڈ اینڈ بریج کارپوریشن نے زیر تعمیر رینکئی اسپیشل اکنامک زون میں سرمایہ کاری کو فروغ دینے کیلئے اضافی مراعات مانگی ہیں۔

دستاویز میں کہا گیا ہے کہ کراچی کوشل جامع ڈویلپمنٹ زون پراجیکٹ جلد سے جلد شروع کرنے کیلئے چائنہ روڈ اینڈ بریج کارپوریشن اور کراچی پورٹ ٹرسٹ کے درمیان انویسٹمنٹ فریم ورک ایگریمنٹ پر جلد دستخط کی توقع ظاہر کی ہے۔

علاوہ ازیں سست روی کے شکار منصوبے ری الائنمنٹ آف کے کے ایچ (تھاہ کوٹ تارائے کوٹ سیکشن) منصوبے پر کام کی رفتار تیز کرنے کیلئے جلد سے جلد فیوڈ سٹی اسٹڈی اور پی سی ون مکمل کرنے کی درخواست کی ہے اور اس حوالے سے وزارت مواصلات اور این ایچ اے کو اس منصوبے پر کام شروع کرنے کیلئے فیوڈ سٹی اسٹڈی اور پی سی ون جلد مکمل کرنے کے ساتھ ساتھ مالی مذاکرات جلد شروع کرنے کی بھی درخواست کی گئی ہے۔

دستاویز میں مزید بتایا گیا ہے کہ کے کے ایچ پراجیکٹ فیئر ٹو کے تحت تھاہ کوٹ تاحویلیاں سیکشن پر کام کرنے والی چہنیز کمپنی چائنہ کمیونیکیشنز کنسٹرکشن کمپنی لمیٹڈ نے منصوبے کے معاہدے میں مختلف غلط فہمیوں کی وجہ سے پیدا ہونے والے تنازعہ کو فوری حل کرنے کی درخواست کی ہے اور چائنیز کمپنی نے توقع ظاہر کی ہے کہ سی پیک فریم ورک کے تحت طریقین اس منصوبے بارے کنٹریکٹ میں غلط فہمیوں سے پیدا ہونے والا تنازعہ دوستانہ ماحول میں مذاکرات کے ذریعے طے کر لیں گے۔

دستاویز میں مزید بتایا گیا ہے کہ نیو گوادر انٹرنیشنل ایئر پورٹ پراجیکٹ تعمیر کرنیوالی چائنیز کمپنی نے بیجنگ اربن کنسٹرکشن گروپ کمپنی لمیٹڈ اور چائنہ ریلوے بیجنگ انجینئرنگ گروپ کارپوریشن لمیٹڈ نے واٹر راڈ اور اسٹیل ری بار پر عائد انسداد ڈیمنگ ڈیوٹی سے چھوٹ دینے اور ڈی سائٹیشن پلانٹ پر عملدرآمد کی رفتار تیز کرنے کی درخواست کی ہے۔ کمپنی کا کہنا ہے کہ لیٹر آف ایکسچینجز اینڈ عملدرآمد معاہدوں کے تحت پاکستان کی کسٹمز ڈیپارٹمنٹ کو نیو گوادر انٹرنیشنل ایئر پورٹ پراجیکٹ تعمیر کرنے کیلئے واٹر راڈ اور اسٹیل ری بار پر عائد انسداد ڈیمنگ ڈیوٹی سے چھوٹ دینی چاہیے۔

دستاویز کے مطابق نیو گوا اور انٹرنیشنل ایئر پورٹ پراجیکٹ کی تعمیر کیلئے پاکستان اور چائینیز حکومتوں کے درمیان طے پانچواں لے معاہدے کے مطابق فوری طور پر درکار اشیاء کیلئے انتظامات کئے جائیں اور اس بارے میں حکومت بلوچستان اور گوا ڈویلپمنٹ اتھارٹی کو ضروری اقدامات کی ہدایات کی درخواست کی گئی ہے اس کے علاوہ گانسو کنسٹرکشن انویسٹمنٹ کمپنی کے منصوبے پاک چائنہ فرینڈ شپ ہسپتال پراجیکٹ کی راہ میں حاصل رکاوٹیں دور کرنے کی بھی درخواست کی ہے

<https://www.express.pk/story/2320214/1/>

Jang News

سی پیک منصوبوں پرست روی قومی جرم ہے، احسن اقبال

احسن اقبال کی زیر صدارت سی پیک پر کام کرنے والی چینی کمپنیوں کے سربراہان کے ساتھ جائزہ اجلاس ہوا۔ اس اجلاس میں ڈپٹی چیئرمین پلاننگ کمیشن، سیکریٹری پلاننگ، وزارتوں کے سیکریٹریز، سینئر افسران بھی موجود تھے۔ دوران اجلاس توانائی کے شعبے سے منسلک چینی کمپنیوں کے مسائل پر تفصیلی بات چیت ہوئی، اس معاملے پر بریفنگ بھی دی گئی۔ وفاقی وزیر نے پاور ڈویژن، نیپرا اور این ٹی ڈی سی کو مسائل کے حل کی تجاویز دینے کی ہدایت بھی کی۔ احسن اقبال نے چینی سرمایہ کاروں کے مسائل زیر التوا رکھنے پر برہمی کا اظہار کیا جبکہ چینی سرمایہ کاروں نے حکومتی تعاون پر اعتماد کا اظہار کیا۔ وفاقی وزیر منصوبہ بندی نے دوران اجلاس کہا کہ پاک چین اقتصادی راہداری (سی پیک) دونوں ممالک کی دوستی کا شاہکار منصوبہ ہے۔ اُن کا کہنا تھا کہ سی پیک منصوبوں پرست روی قومی جرم ہے، اس کی کامیابی دونوں اطراف کے تعاون سے ممکن ہوئی۔ احسن اقبال نے کہا کہ ہر 15 دن بعد سی پیک کا جائزہ اجلاس بلا یا جائے، چینی سرمایہ کاروں کو مکمل تحفظ دینے کی ہدایات دی گئی ہیں۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ گزشتہ 4 سالوں میں گوا اور کولاپرواہی سے پستی بنا دیا گیا، گزشتہ 2 برسوں میں گوا اور ماسٹر پلان سٹی کا نقشہ، گوا اور بندر گاہ سے منسلک تک نہیں کیا گیا۔

<https://jang.com.pk/news/1084094>

Nawaiwaqt News

سی پیک پاکستان کے دشمنوں کو کھٹکتا ہے، احسن اقبال

اسلام آباد (این این آئی) وفاقی وزیر احسن اقبال نے کہا ہے کہ سی پیک پاکستان کے دشمنوں کو کھٹکتا ہے، جس حکومت کا منہ ایجنڈا ہو، وہ کبھی ترقیاتی کام نہیں کر سکتی۔ پاکستان میں ہماری حکومت آئی تھی تو وژن 2025 کا منصوبہ بنایا تھا۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ سال 2016 میں ہم نے سوچا چین سے معیشت جوڑ لیں تو پاکستان کو ترقی کا محرک ملے گا۔ سی پیک کے تحت سال 2020 سے 2025 کا صنعتی فیڑے کیا گیا تھا، ہم نے ماضی میں 19 اقتصادی زونز کی نشاندہی کی تھی۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ 9 میں سے کسی ایک بھی اقتصادی زون میں انفراسٹرکچر نہیں ہے، افسوس کی بات ہے کہ منصوبے کے 15 کنٹاک زونز پر کام ہی نہیں کیا گیا۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/lahore/2022-05-09/page-1/detail-2>

پاک چین اقتصادی ترقی کے ثمرات

احسن صدیق

پاکستان چائنا جو انٹنیشنل چیمبر آف کامرس اینڈ انڈسٹری (پی سی سی جے سی سی آئی) کے صدر وانگ زیہائی نے کہا ہے کہ چین پاکستان دوستی بین البریاستی تعلقات میں بے مثال رہی ہے۔ غیر متزلزل تعاون، باہمی اعتماد اور احترام اس دوستی کی اساس ہے۔ چینی اور پاکستانی اداروں کے درمیان تجارتی تبادلوں اور باہمی سرمایہ کاری کو مضبوط بنانے کی بنیاد پر، ثقافتی تبادلوں کے ذریعے پاک اس دوستی کو مزید وسعت اور گہرائی دے رہا ہے۔ میرا وٹنن یہ ہے کہ اپنے برادر (PCJCCI) دونوں ملکوں کا چیمبر آف کامرس اینڈ انڈسٹری ملک (چین) کی مدد سے پاکستان کے تحقیقی اور اقتصادی محاذ کو بلندی تک لے جایا جائے۔ یہ نہ صرف ہمیں ایک بہتر کل کی طرف لے جائے گا بلکہ ہمارے نوجوان بزنس مین کے لیے نئے افق بھی کھولے گا۔ پی سی سی جے سی سی آئی ٹیم اور ممبر انٹرنیشنل انڈسٹریل کمیشن نے کہا کہ پی سی سی جے سی سی آئی کے دوبارہ صدر کے طور پر خدمات انجام دینا ان کے لئے ایک ایک PCJCCI بہت بڑا اعزاز اور خوشی کی بات ہے۔ 2016-2017 میں میرے دور میں، چیمبر ابھی شروع ہوا تھا۔ مجھے یہ دیکھ کر خوشی ہوئی کہ اتنے مختصر عرصے میں، مرکزی دھارے کی معروف تنظیم بن گئی ہے، جس سے دو طرفہ تعلقات کو مضبوط بنانے والے کسی بھی اقدام کی سہولت فراہم کرنے میں کوئی کسر نہیں چھوڑی گئی۔ کامیابیاں ہماری چیمبر آف کامرس ٹیم کی محنت سے الگ نہیں ہیں۔ ہمارے رکن ادارے چین اور پاکستان کے درمیان تجارتی تعاون کے لیے وقف متعدد صنعتوں کا احاطہ کرتے ہیں، جن کی جانب سے، PCJCCI میں کیمیکل، ٹیکسٹائل، فرنیچر، تجارت وغیرہ شامل ہیں۔ ان سب نے دونوں ممالک کے درمیان تجارت میں حصہ بڑھانے میں اپنا کردار ادا کیا ہے۔ میں پاک چین تعاون کے لیے پر عزم مزید کاروباری اداروں کو ہمارے چیمبر میں شامل ہونے اور پاک چین اقتصادی ترقی کے ثمرات کو بانٹنے کے لیے خوش آمدید کہنا چاہوں گی۔ تعمیر کے CPEC انہوں نے کہا کہ چین اور پاکستان کے درمیان حکومت سے لے کر عوام تک معیشت، ثقافت اور تعلیم کے شعبوں میں تعاون تیزی سے بڑھ رہا ہے۔ دوسرے مرحلے میں پیش قدمی کے ساتھ، چین اور پاکستان کے درمیان تجارتی تعاون تیز رفتار ترقی کی رفتار دکھاتا رہے گا۔ ایک دوسرے کو سمجھنے کے لیے زبان ایک اہم ترین ذریعہ ہے۔ ان ملکوں کے درمیان ترقی سے زبان کے ہنر کی مانگ میں اضافہ ہو گا، اور چینی زبان سمجھنے والوں کو ٹیلنٹ مارکیٹ میں لامحالہ بہت بڑا فائدہ ہو گا۔ پی سی سی جے سی سی آئی کے ذریعے کرائے جانے والے چینی زبان کے کورسز نئے روزگار کیلئے سازگار ثابت ہو گئے۔ پی سی سی جے سی سی آئی دونوں ممالک کے درمیان موصلاتی رکاوٹوں کو ختم کرنے میں ٹیکنالوجی، بزنس میچ بنانے، اور میڈیا کے انعقاد کے ذریعے B2B کی بھرپور کوشش کر رہا ہے، چینی زبان کے مختلف کورسز کو مستقل بنیادوں پر شروع کرنے کے علاوہ، ہم چین/پاکستان کے سرکردہ کاروباری رہنماؤں کے ساتھ بات چیت کا پلیٹ فارم بھی مہیا کرتے ہیں۔ اس کے ساتھ ساتھ سیمینار، کانفرنسوں اور منصوبوں کی نمائش کا انعقاد بھی کیا جاتا ہے۔

کی و بے عالمی معیشت پر ناقابل یقین اثرات مرتب کیے ہیں۔ ڈیجیٹل مارکیٹنگ ایک اہم رجحان بن گیا ہے۔ COVID-19 انہوں نے کہا کہ تین سال تک جاری رہنے والی پاکستان کو ڈیجیٹل مارکیٹنگ کی ترقی کا فائدہ ہے۔ کمپیوٹر سروسز اور کال سینٹر سروسز سمیت پاکستان کی آئی ٹی اور آئی ٹی سپورٹ سروسز کی برآمدات مالی سال 2020..21 کی پہلی سہ ماہی میں 43.55 فیصد بڑھ کر 379 ملین ڈالر تک پہنچ گئیں، جو کہ 2019 کی پہلی سہ ماہی میں 264.19 ملین ڈالر تھیں۔ ڈیجیٹل مارکیٹنگ اور تجارت میں زیادہ پیشہ ور افراد نہیں ہیں، اس لیے ای مارکیٹنگ اور تجارت کیلئے پیشہ ورانہ اور تکنیکی تربیت ضروری ہے۔ اس کے علاوہ، ایک مضبوط لاجسٹکس سسٹم بھی اس کے بعد کی ہموار ترقی کو یقینی بنانے کا اپنی خصوصی خدمات کے ذریعے سرحد پار کاروباری و فوڈ کا اہتمام PCJCCI ایک بڑا عنصر ہے۔ سوشل میڈیا آج کل مصنوعات کی مارکیٹنگ کا ایک اور طاقتور ذریعہ ہے۔

کرنے میں پیش پیش رہا ہے۔ ہمیں پیکینگ کی اہمیت پر بھی زور دینا ہو گا اور میں تجویز کروں گا کہ پاکستانی کمپنیاں بین الاقوامی میڈیا اور دیگر تنظیموں کے ساتھ ایسے بین الاقوامی برانڈز بنانے میں تعاون کریں جن کا تعلق پاکستان سے ہو۔

انہوں نے کہا کہ چین دنیا کا سب سے زیادہ آبادی والا ملک ہے، اور چین کے سالانہ فی کس گوشت اور بین الاقوامی معیار کے درمیان فرق نے درآمد شدہ گوشت کی مانگ میں اضافہ کیا ہے۔ حالیہ برسوں میں، چین میں گوشت کی ضرورت میں مسلسل اضافہ ہو رہا ہے۔ ایف ایم ڈی فری زون کے قیام اور دیگر حکومتی کاموں سے ہم پاکستان سے گوشت کی چین کو درآمد کے زبردست مواقع تلاش کر سکتے ہیں۔ دونوں فریقین حلال فوڈ پروسیسنگ میں مشترکہ منصوبے قائم کرنے پر غور کر سکتے ہیں۔ اس بات پر زور دینا ضروری ہے کہ خصوصی اقتصادی زونز کے قیام میں چین کے منفرد تجربے کو آج پاکستان بھی مثال بنایا جاسکتا ہے۔ ڈیوٹی میں کمی، سرمایہ کاری کا اچھا ماحول، غیر ملکی سرمایہ کاری کی حوصلہ افزائی اور جدید ٹیکنالوجی متعارف کرانا پاکستان کی اقتصادی ترقی کو موثر طریقے سے فروغ دے گا۔ چھوٹے اور درمیانے درجے کے کاروباری اداروں کے لیے وسیع مواقع فراہم کرتے ہوئے خصوصی اقتصادی زونز میں نجی ادارے اہم کردار ادا کر سکتے ہیں۔

نے صرف برآمدات کے بہاؤ کو کم نہیں کیا؛ اس نے COVID-19 انہوں نے کہا کہ پاکستان کو اپنی برآمدات کو ہوشیاری اور فعال طریقے سے فروغ دینے کی ضرورت ہے۔ بہت سے خرید و فروخت جیسے بنیادی روابط کو توڑ دیا۔ برآمدات کی ترقی کے لیے مختصر اور طویل مدتی پالیسیوں کے امتزاج کی ضرورت ہوتی ہے۔ ساتھ ہی، حکومتوں کو غیر ملکی منڈیوں اور برآمدات کی ضروریات کے بارے میں معلومات جمع کرنے اور پھیلانے میں بہتری لانی چاہیے۔ انہوں نے بتایا ہمیں یہ جان کر خوشی ہوئی کہ ڈھائی سال سے زائد عرصے تک بند رہنے کے بعد، خنجراب کے مقام پر پاکستان اور چین کے درمیان ایک اہم زمینی سرحدی گزرگاہ رواں ماہ کے وسط میں تجارتی سرگرمیوں کے لیے دوبارہ کھول دی جائے گی۔ لینڈ پاس کے کھلنے سے اس میں کوئی شک نہیں کہ پاکستان سے مزید اعلیٰ معیار کا سامان چین جائے گا۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/lahore/2022-05-09/page-7/detail-2>

May 10, 2022

Business Recorder

Rising exports to China termed ‘a good sign’

LAHORE: Welcoming surge in Pak exports to China, analysts believe that provision of cheap electricity to the industry will encourage exports.

Minister of State for Finance and Revenue, Aisha Ghaus Pasha said, “It is a positive development that Pakistan’s exports to China have crossed 1.039 billion dollars mark in the first quarter. The country at this point of time needs foreign reserves and we have to diversify our trade with other countries.”

She said, “We have to explore new markets apart from our usual trading partners. There is still a huge potential to increase our trade with China and intention of the incumbent government is to maximize the trade volume. Pakistan is also keen to have foreign investment in the second phase of China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).”

She maintained that priority of the present government is to develop industries and initiatives will be taken to expand the product portfolio for exports. In the upcoming budget, the government will introduce certain policies in this regard, she said. The focus will not only be on

sustaining growth momentum but to increase it at the maximum level, she added. The entire country will benefit as a result of foreign direct investment which is dependent on the economic and political stability, Aisha said.

Economist Mirza Ikhtiyar Baig said, “The world has appreciated the efforts of Pakistan in handling the Covid-19 and maintaining a balance between economic activities and safety during pandemic. It is a good gesture that exporters reduced their profit margins while honoring their commitments.”

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2022/05/10/4-page/928951-news.html>

Issues facing Chinese investors in power sector: minister seeks suggestions

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Prof Ahsan Iqbal has directed the Power Division, the NEPRA, and the NTDC to submit their recommendations in order to resolve the issues of Chinese investors operating in the power sector.

The minister held a meeting with the heads of Chinese companies working on the CPEC projects in order to resolve their issues and to expedite the projects. He stated that the CPEC has to be implemented in the spirit of teamwork as both China and Pakistan are iron brothers and all parties have to sit together and to resolve all the pending problems in the same spirit to make the CPEC project successful.

Regarding the conversion of their visas, the minister directed the Ministry of Interior, the Board of Investment (BOI) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to devise a comprehensive mechanism for the resolution of their visa issues.

The minister stressed the importance of facilitating foreign investors and businessmen and asked the Ministry of Interior to make a soft visa policy for the CEOs of big business organizations. Iqbal also directed the National Highways Authority (NHA) to fast track Highway projects. While expressing serious concerns over zero progress on Gwadar Smart City Master Plan, the minister said that it was unfortunate that since last two years, Gwadar Smart City master plan could not be integrated with Gwadar Seaport master plan. The minister directed the concerned to immediately work on it and submit a report.

He also expressed his displeasure over no redressal of pending issues faced by Chinese investors during past four years impacting adversely the progress of the CPEC Plan.

The meeting was held on Monday at the Ministry of Planning and Development, wherein, Chinese investors appreciated the steps of direct interaction with the minister since he took charge of the ministry and hoped that all issues will be resolved to make the CPEC projects successful, which remained pending for over three years.

The minister said that the CPEC is a flagship project of friendship between the two brotherly countries and assured them that the incumbent government has taken several steps to make the CPEC project successful.

“The key objective is to listen to problems of Chinese companies working in CPEC directly and to resolve the issues immediately without any further delay,” said the minister, who assured them the coalition government will speed up the pace of CPEC like it implemented during 2013-18.

During the meeting, each Chinese investor shared his issues with the minister related to government departments and visas. While taking prompt action, minister directed the concerned ministries to submit a detailed report at the earliest on resolution of the issues so that their concerns are resolved immediately.

The meeting was attended by the deputy chairman Planning Commission, secretary PD&SI, secretary Ministry of Communication, secretary Interior, and other relevant stakeholders. Heads of over 30 Chinese companies were also present at the occasion, which are working in Pakistan on different sectors like energy, communication, Railway, and others.

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2022/05/10/7-page/928974-news.html>

Dawn News

Chinese IPPs warn of closure if not paid Rs300bn

Khaleeq Kiani

ISLAMABAD: With more than Rs300 billion in stuck up dues, more than two dozen Chinese firms operating in Pakistan on Monday said that they would be forced to shut down their power plants this month unless payments were made upfront.

This was the overwhelming theme of a meeting presided over by Minister for Planning and Development Ahsan Iqbal with more than 30 Chinese companies operating under the flagship multi-billion-dollar China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) in various areas including energy, communication, railways and others.

There was a plethora of complaints, including those relating to complex visa procedures for Chinese executives, taxation and so on, but there were also counter complaints from the Pakistani side as well, on delayed responses to their communications, informed sources told Dawn.

About 25 representatives from Chinese independent power producers (IPPs) spoke one after the other and complained about the buildup of their dues and warned that without upfront payments they would shut down within days. They said the authorities were pressuring them to maximise generation to meet peak summer needs, but “this is impossible for us in view of serious liquidity issues”.

Representatives say it is impossible to meet peak summer demand due to severe liquidity issues

They complained that fuel prices, particularly that of coal, had gone up by three to four times, which meant they should at least be given three to four times greater liquidity to make fuel arrangements. One of the coal producers reported that it was operating at half capacity due to

low coal stocks, but the authorities' push to increase output could exhaust fuel stocks in a couple of days.

Some of them said that while payments against power already supplied were not forthcoming and they had been financially handicapped due to Covid-19 pandemic, the tax authorities had started taxing them at higher rates. Also, the contractual requirement of a revolving fund for automatic payment of IPPs' dues and subsequent promises by the previous government during former prime minister Imran Khan's visit to China also remained unfulfilled, they said.

Mr Iqbal assured the Chinese that the prime minister had already taken notice of the situation and had asked the relevant authorities to brief him about the entire issue and make arrangements for early payments. He promised that their financial difficulties would be eased out within the current month.

The Chinese also expressed concern over the upcoming draft renewable energy policy that requires international competitive bidding. The chairman of the National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (Nepra), who also attended the meeting, also stressed that Chinese IPPs are also required to put their own house in order and complained that their letters to the Chinese remained unanswered for a long time, and unless regulatory requirements were addressed, some of the issues would remain unsettled.

The contractors of the Sukkur-Multan Motorway also complained about non-payments by the National Highway Authority (NHA) and protested that they were bad-named in Pakistan by the previous government even though their performance had been acknowledged with an A-Class award by the Chinese government for the project's quality. "We were accused of corruption in the previous regime without even payment for the work done," an executive was quoted as saying. Secretary Communication promised to address the payment issue, the sources said.

An official statement said the session lasted over three hours in which Chinese investors appreciated the steps of direct interaction with the minister since he took charge of the ministry and hoped that all issues would be resolved to make the CPEC projects successful, which have remained pending for over three years.

The minister assured them that the coalition government would speed up the pace of CPEC as it was implemented during 2013-18 and directed the concerned ministries to submit a detailed report at the earliest on the resolution of the issues so that their concerns are resolved immediately, the statement said.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1688875/chinese-ipps-warn-of-closure-if-not-paid-rs300bn>

Dunya News

Pakistan committed to further strengthen its strategic ties with China: Bilawal

ISLAMABAD (Dunya News) - Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari on Monday reaffirmed Pakistan's resolve to further strengthen its All-Weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership with China, including through the rapid implementation of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), a flagship project of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).

Pakistan will continue its efforts to enhance cooperation with China through CPEC, to advance its national implementation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in addition to participating actively in the work of the Global Development Initiative (GDI) Group of Friends to promote the common aspiration of a peaceful, prosperous and shared future for all mankind, he added.

The Foreign Minister was addressing the High-Level Meeting of the Group of Friends of GDI, held in virtual format in New York

In his video address, Bilawal Bhutto Zardari appreciated China's initiative to launch GDI and termed it a useful platform to accelerate and coordinate efforts for implementing the globally agreed SDGs, a press release by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs here said.

Recalling the multiple crises posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, climate change and geo-political developments, with disproportionate and devastating impacts on the Global South, he expressed deep concern over the reversal of progress in the implementation of SDGs.

He urged the GDI Group of Friends to address the challenges faced by the developing world and support emergency actions to increase cooperation in public health and vaccine equity, ensure food security, enhance energy production, promote global green economy, stimulate trade and industrialization, and eliminate the digital divide.

The Foreign Minister, noting that the multiple crises have enlarged the gap in financing for development, called upon the international community to mobilize adequate resources for SDGs and fulfill the commitment of providing at least \$100 billion annually in climate finance.

President Xi Jinping of China put forward the Global Development Initiative during his address to the 76th session of the UN General Assembly in September 2021.

In January 2022, China launched a Group of Friends of GDI in New York – which was joined by Pakistan and more than 50 other countries – as an informal cooperation and coordination mechanism for strengthening policy dialogue, sharing best practices, and promoting practical cooperation on realizing the SDGs to advance the objectives of GDI.

<https://dunyanews.tv/en/Pakistan/651666-Pakistan-committed-to-further-strengthen-its-strategic-ties-with-China:->

May 11, 2022

Daily Times

Cotton export to China increases to \$168m in three months

Pakistani cotton experts expressed confidence in the development of local cotton-related industry and yarn export to China as well as other parts of the world, which is increasing every year despite the Covid-19 pandemic.

According to the data released by the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China (GACC), China imported more than \$168 million worth of cotton yarn from Pakistan in the first three months of this year. Uncombed single cotton yarn (commodity code 52051200), containing 85pc or above, crossed \$133 million in the first quarter of 2022.

Data further showed that the export of cotton yarn (commodity code 52051100) from Pakistan to China crossed \$33.30 million, while last year in the same period it was \$34.06 million. The export of uncombed cabled cotton yarn to China crossed \$1.50 million in the first quarter of 2022.

In the first quarter of 2022, more than 51147.28 tons of cotton yarn were imported from Pakistan. As affected by Covid-19, last year the import of cotton yarn was more in terms of quantity and value.

Dr Tassarwar Hussain Malik, Director at Pakistan Central Cotton Committee (PCCC), Ministry of National Food Security and Research told China Economic Net that price is the main reason for cotton yarn export, and both farmers and exporters get a good price advantage from China. He added that Pakistan has top quality cotton because manual picking ensures its quality.

“Last year the approved minimum price was Rs 5500 per 40KG and this year cotton associations suggested Rs 8000 to keep domestic availability because Pakistan's textile sector is booming and local demands increased,” he stated. He further said that the germplasm resources of both countries are complementary. Chinese technology and new varieties of seeds could help improve Pakistan's cotton industry. Experts believe that cotton plant protection is still a big crisis in cotton production and authorities need to take it seriously while about 20pc of the cotton crop/production is lost on a yearly basis. They said that in the last 5 years, the followings are the reasons for damaged cotton crops; PBW: 10-15pc, Whitefly: 10-12pc, Other insects: 5-6pc, Cotton leaf curl disease (CLCuD) Disease: 10-15pc, Insects Disease complex: 40-45pc.

Experts said that last year's pink bollworm attack was severe and at least 200KG per acre were lost simply because of PBW which was tantamount to around 15 lac bales. They added that streamlining seed trait technologies for insect resistance and strengthening national and provincial plant protection systems are required while back-to-back heavy rainfall spells in 2019

and 2020 created drainage problems in Sindh where around 1 million bales are damaged each year.

They further said Pakistan and China should work together, especially regarding plant protection issues in Pakistan like insect pests and diseases. This year, climate change and extreme heatwaves are affecting the cotton crop, so they should take advantage of China's cotton and Pakistan's cotton to create new varieties. They added that yarn growing could be fruitful if Chinese technologies and seeds are used in Pakistan.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/932635/cotton-export-to-china-increases-to-168m-in-three-months/>

The Nation

Pakistan, China Vow To Enhance Cooperation To New Levels; Chinese Envoy Meets FM

ISLAMABAD – Pakistan and China yesterday vowed to enhance cooperation to new levels. Talking to Chinese Embassy's Charge d'Affaires Pang Chunxue in Islamabad, Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari said that Pak-China friendship was an everlasting example of infinite relations in the world. The foreign minister said that the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) project will further boost trade in the region. He said Pakistan wanted to increase trade relations with all countries of the world. The Chinese Charge d'Affaires congratulated Bilawal on assuming the post of foreign minister. Bilateral relations and issues of mutual interest were discussed during the meeting.

<https://nation.com.pk/2022/05/11/pakistan-china-vow-to-enhance-cooperation-to-new-levels-chinese-envoy-meets-fm/>

The News

No internal, external conspiracy can harm Pak-China ties: Sana

ISLAMABAD: Chinese Charge d' Affaires to Pakistan Ms Pang Chunxue on Tuesday called on Interior Minister Rana Sanaullah, and discussed Pak-China bilateral relations and other issues of mutual interests.

The Chinese envoy congratulated Rana Sanaullah on taking charge as interior minister, said a news release. The two sides discussed steps to ensure the security of Chinese nationals in Pakistan and further improve

Pak-China relations. Pakistan and China also agreed to further expand bilateral relations and provide more visa facilities to the Chinese nationals.

Both sides agreed to further improve relations between the Interior Ministry and the Chinese Embassy, and to make the security of Chinese citizens foolproof.

Rana Sanaullah expressed grief over the loss of lives of Chinese nationals in the Karachi University terror incident. He said Pak-China relations were enjoying cordial relations, which were decades old.

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif considered China as Pakistan's best and most reliable friend, he added. The coalition government under the leadership of PM Shehbaz Sharif would take Pak-China relations to a new height, and no internal or external conspiracy would succeed to spoil the same, he said.

The minister assured that the culprits involved in the Karachi University terrorist incident would be awarded exemplary punishment. He said the government was utilising all available resources to ensure the effective safety and security of the Chinese nationals in Pakistan.

A Foreign National Security Desk had been set up at the Interior Ministry in that regard. Rana Sanaullah said foolproof security arrangements had been made for the Chinese nationals working on the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) projects.

Coordination between the federation and the provinces was being made more effective to stop recurrence of terror incidents, he added. Ms Pang Chunxue lauded the Pakistani government for taking extraordinary care of the Chinese citizens.

She said they wanted complete investigation into the Karachi terrorist incident and arresting of the real culprits involved in it. She said Pak-China friendship was unprecedented and Chinese assistance in the development of Pakistan would continue.

Pang Chunxue said CPEC was a symbol of Pak-China unprecedented friendship and cordial relations. British High Commissioner Dr Christian Turner also called on the interior minister the same day.

Rana Sanaullah said Pakistan values its bilateral relations with the United Kingdom and Islamabad appreciates the role of the British government in promoting health education and human development in Pakistan.

He said there was a lot potential between Pakistan and UK in tourism trade and business opportunities. Pak-UK bilateral relations, emerging geographical political and regional issues were discussed during the meeting.

The British high commissioner congratulated Rana Sanaullah Khan on assuming the office of interior minister. The two sides also agreed to strengthen ties between the Home Office and the British Home Office to promote bilateral relations.

Rana Sanaullah said that Pakistanis diaspora in UK playing an important role in the development of the country. On the occasion the British High Commissioner said that 75 years have passed since the establishment of diplomatic relations between Pakistan and the United Kingdom and the role of British citizens of Pakistani origin in strengthening bilateral relations is very enviable. He said that a joint strategy was needed to tackle extremism and terrorism.

<https://e.thenews.com.pk/detail?id=86159>

May 12, 2022

Daily Times

Second phase of SSRL's Chinese language program in Thar begins

The first phase of a program aimed at teaching the Chinese language to youth in Thar has been completed with heartening results.

A top official of Sino Sindh Resources Private Limited, a local subsidiary of Shanghai Electric, said that dozens of boys and girls in Thar Block-1 are getting proficient in the Chinese language.

Children of local villagers in Thar Block-1 are being taught the Chinese language by qualified teachers under a long-term programme initiated by SSSL. The project which SSRL is carrying out in collaboration with the Confucius Institute, University of Karachi was inaugurated a few months ago. The first session has been recently completed and the results are quite heartening. Both boys and girls have now become familiar with the Chinese language. The second session is already underway and will conclude next month.

To encourage the students, trophies and medals and gifts for top ten will be distributed during the second session.

“Such initiatives are the need of times as the local youth are being equipped with an additional skill which will help them in establishing themselves in the future,” commented Li Jigen, SSRL's CEO.

“We have initiated this project to help local kids learn the Chinese language. This skill will be an added tool for them once they enter professional life.

“Dedicated Chinese teachers from Confucius Institute have been employed to impart Chinese language to local kids. These classes are helping the local residents of Thar in overcoming the language barrier,” he added.

A total of 30 boys and 30 girls from local schools of Thar are attending these classes. The classes are being held in three different schools. On weekends the teachers are teaching the Chinese language to local employees of SSRL, which is working on a Coal-electricity integration project in Block 1 of Thar Coalfield. It is a China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) priority implementation project.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/933264/second-phase-of-ssrls-chinese-language-program-in-thar-begins/>

Pakistan Observer

CPEC's Phase-II set to accelerate socio-economic growth in Pakistan

The second phase of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is set to accelerate socioeconomic development in Pakistan, WealthPK reported.

The official launch of CPEC about seven years ago has taken the seven-decade-long relationship between Islamabad and Beijing to a new level, enhancing their strategic partnership and cooperation in almost every field.

Through Chinese investment and the transfer of technology, the CPEC Phase-II aims to accelerate socioeconomic development in Pakistan by bringing industrial, technological, and agricultural revolutions to the region.

The second phase of the bilateral framework agreement focuses on poverty alleviation through agriculture and industrial cooperation.

The two countries have formed new Joint Working Groups (JWGs) for investment and cooperation in science and technology, information technology and agriculture.

The CPEC vision for Pakistan is to fully exploit the country's demographic and natural endowment by expanding its industrial capacity through the creation of new industrial clusters, while balancing regional socioeconomic development with domestic peace and stability. The vision is to elevate the status of South Asian and Central Asian countries in the global economy, and to promote regional economic integration through stable trade growth.

The CPEC's multiple societal advantages include increased access to markets, educational networks, and social connections; the bridging of social divides and prejudices; and, most crucially, the alleviation of social exclusion.

The Technical Vocational Institute of Gwadar is the first-ever modern vocational and technical training institute being built in the port city with Chinese funding. The institute is expected to accommodate 256 trainees at a time, and provide training opportunities to at least 1,000 people every year. This project will enhance the skills of the local population to participate in the growth of the city.

<https://pakobserver.net/cpecs-phase-ii-set-to-accelerate-socio-economic-growth-in-pakistan/>

The Express Tribune

Yarn exports to China reach \$168m

Shipments to China, other countries increasing despite Covid-19 pandemic

BEIJING: Pakistani cotton experts expressed confidence in the development of local cotton-related industry and yarn export to China as well as other parts of the world, which is increasing every year despite the Covid-19 pandemic.

According to the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China (GACC), data showed that China imported more than \$168 million worth of cotton yarn from Pakistan in the first three months of this year.

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In the first quarter of 2022, more than 51,147.28 tons of cotton yarn was imported from Pakistan. As affected by Covid-19, last year the import of cotton yarn was more in terms of quantity and value.

Ministry of National Food Security and Research's Pakistan Central Cotton Committee (PCCC) Director Dr Tasawwar Hussain Malik told China Economic Net that price is the main reason for cotton yarn export, and both farmers and exporters get a good price advantage from China.

He added that Pakistan has top quality cotton because manual picking ensures its quality.

"Last year, the approved minimum price was Rs5,500 per 40 kg and this year cotton associations suggested Rs8,000 to keep domestic availability because Pakistan's textile sector is booming and local demand increased," he stated.

He said that the germplasm resources of both countries are complementary. Chinese technology and new varieties of seeds could help improve Pakistan's cotton industry.

Experts believe that cotton plant protection is still a big challenge to cotton production and authorities need to take it seriously while about 20% of the cotton crop/ production is lost on a yearly basis.

They said that in the last five years following are the reasons for damaged cotton crops – PBW (10-15%), white fly (10-12%), other insects (5-6%), cotton leaf curl disease (CLCuD) (10-15%), and insects disease complex (40-45%).

Experts told CEN that last year's pink bollworm (PBW) attack was severe and at least 200 kg per acre were lost simply because of PBW, which was tantamount to around 15 lakh bales.

They added that streamlining seed trait technologies for insect resistance and strengthening national and provincial plant protection systems are required while back-to-back heavy rainfall spells in 2019 and 2020 created drainage problems in Sindh where around one million bales are damaged each year.

They further said Pakistan and China should work together, especially regarding plant protection issues in Pakistan like insect pests and diseases. This year, climate change and extreme heat waves are affecting the cotton crop, so they should take advantage of China's cotton and Pakistan's cotton to create new varieties.

They added that yarn growing could be fruitful if Chinese technologies and seeds are used in Pakistan.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2356003/yarn-exports-to-china-reach-168m>

Karot project's first unit starts running

Will provide support to national grid in tackling energy crisis

ISLAMABAD: The unit-1 of Karot hydropower project with production capacity of 180 megawatts of electricity started running after the successful commissioning of “Wet Test”.

“The energy produced from the unit-1 will provide support to the national grid in alleviating the energy crisis,” remarked Karot Power Company CEO Wang Minsheng.

The unit-1 with capacity of 180MW is continuously running on full load and is supplying energy to the national grid, said a statement issued by Karot Power Company.

“Hard work of Chinese and Pakistani staff enabled us to achieve this important milestone,” said Minsheng. According to a statement, the 500-kilovolt switchyard of 720MW Karot hydropower project achieved back energisation on April 2, 2022.

Moreover, unit-2 of the power project has also started the wet commissioning. Karot power project's team with the support of National Transmission and Despatch Company (NTDC) will carry out the testing and commissioning of the remaining units as per schedule, said the statement. The hydropower project's timely commissioning will ease the power shortage in Pakistan. Karot is the first large-scale hydropower project under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

The project has total installed capacity of 720MW and can provide about 3.2 billion kilowatt hours of clean energy annually after completion.

It will meet the electricity demand of about 5 million people, which will ease power supply pressure in the country. The project is envisaged to start commercial operation by mid-2022. It is funded by the China Three Gorges Corporation and is part of its global push for “clean and green” infrastructure development.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2356191/karot-projects-first-unit-starts-running>

May 13, 2022

Business Recorder

Pakistan has to learn from China's experience: PCJCCI president

LAHORE: Pakistan China Joint Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCJCCI) on Thursday asked the government to take substantial steps in addressing climate change issues, and suggested learning from China's experience to counter climate change.

Wang Zihai, PCJCCI president, said Pakistan could learn from China had come a long way in its fight against climate change and environmental degradation.

Pakistan could learn from the experience of the Sino country's use of new techniques to counter climate change.

Pakistan has been experiencing severely hot conditions for the last two months (March and April) while April 2022 turned out to be the hottest month in the last 61 years.

“It's a multi-threat country in terms of climate change vulnerability that needs to do preventive measures to protect the environment, and the local communities from the ravages of climate change,” Wang said.

Senior vice president of Pakistan China Joint Chamber of Commerce and Industry Ehsan Choudhry said the region had over 5,000 large and small glaciers and more than 100 lakes, which jointly make up the world's largest fresh water reservoir. However, he lamented that Pakistan was one of the most vulnerable countries facing the risks of climate change, including melting of glaciers.

He was of the view that it's high time for Pakistan to seriously value its natural resources to combat the negative impacts of climate change. Choudhry said Pakistan needed a 30-50 years policy to tackle climate change issues.

<https://www.brecorder.com/news/40172660/climate-change-pakistan-has-to-learn-from-chinas-experience-pcjcci-president>

Daily Times

Power supply urgently needed in Gwadar for economic growth: speakers

Gwadar voices for urgent arrangements of power supply to ensure robust economic growth, business eco-system and logistic activities in Gwadar port as well as the Gwadar region.

The demand for an early supply of electricity was made at Pakistan Energy Development Conference 2022 held at China Business Center in Gwadar Port, according to Gwadar Pro. It was attended by COPHC chairman Zhang Baozhong, GDA Chairman Muneeb Qambrani, GPA Chairman Naseer Kashani, GIEDA official Waqas Ahmed, Gwadar DC Capt Jamil Ahmed, and others.

Chairman COPHC Zhang Baozhong said “with regards to development, there are some issues to be solved and power remains the foremost one. We cannot develop until enough electricity is available.”

“At COPHC, we produce electricity by generators which is very expensive. Chinese investors are keen to shift their industries from China to Pakistan. Areas of investment are very diverse and include but not limited to refinery, assembly, petrochemical, and textile. However, without power, the shift might not be possible,” he said.

“I have been here for 7 years and since then the provision of power remains my prime request on the government. The government has a plan to initiate the 300 MW power plant project. But that is yet to be materialized. I am happy to see this conference discussing energy issues. I hope the power issue will be resolved by the government soon,” he added.

“We have the capacity to generate power on a large scale but if only government is ready to purchase. But that is yet to be reviewed due to the lack of consumer demand in Gwadar due to low population density”, he added.

He recalled that in the past 7 years of his stay in Gwadar, a lot has been achieved. He witnessed close cooperation with the local community. “Our brotherly security forces have coordinated with us a lot. Because of their sincere efforts, I have been comfortable with the existing environment”, he acclaimed.

“Before I set foot on Gwadar, I was very depressed. There used to be no proper residence for Chinese people and we used to stay at PC hotel. Business activities were very limited. There were no significant movements. Nevertheless, now Gwadar has become famous and business activities have gained pace,” he clarified.

In his address, he said “we spent \$15 million to purchase 5 new cranes, replacing old ones in order to refurbish infrastructure at the port. LPG Vessel being offloaded today and a container vessel to arrive on Friday are testaments to accelerated port activities. These signals prognosticate good news for the future. However, more needs to be done. Energy issues remain the most prominent,” he added.

On a query, he said that so far, they have invested more than \$300 million in Gwadar Port and Free Zone. Important mega projects such as New International Airport, East Bay Expressway, Pakistan China Vocational Training Institute, China-Pakistan Friendship Hospital, and 1.2-MGD plant are some of the grants from the people of China for the local brothers of Gwadar.

“On 17th May, 14 Chinese investors are coming to Gwadar to assess the investment potential of Gwadar and Balochistan. In addition to Chinese, last year we received more than 17 ambassadors from the US, Canada, and countries from the European Union. Undoubtedly, energy provision stays as a prerequisite.

Without energy, no development can be achieved”, he briefed that there are strong intentions from Chinese investors to invest \$5 million to set up an oil refinery in Gwadar. Once the plan is materialized, job opportunities can be offered to the locals in addition to the induction of business activities. Other sectors such as lubricants and agriculture are also under consideration. “During my stay in China, I have discussed the matter of meat export from Pakistan to the Chinese market and the government is willing to consider,” he concluded.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/933944/power-supply-urgently-needed-in-gwadar-for-economic-growth-speakers/>

CPEC a local choice of Pakistan: seminar

The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is a local choice of Pakistan, and it has not been pressured into it and this is why this geo-economic initiative is full of bounties and brings with it strategic dividends.

Peace Research Institute Frankfurt (PRIF), Senior Researcher Dr Pascal Abb said this while addressing a seminar ‘Impact of BRI on conflict affected states: CPEC and Pakistan,’ organised by the Islamabad Policy Research Institute (IPRI) to discuss the BRI and CPEC projects’ impact on the region, a statement said on Thursday.

Dr Pascal Abb said that China’s Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) flagship project and the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) initiative enjoys complete consensus in Pakistan, and the intellectual elite, security establishment and political forces are on the same page. The success of the CPEC will change the face of the region, and usher in new developmental avenues in Pakistan. The Centre-Periphery module is a unique mechanism wherein China is rapidly on the path of increasing its influence in the region, he added.

This is all owing to China’s centrality in the region, and its consciousness to take along developing states in the new era of economic interdependence.

Dr Pascal observed that obviously there are two perceptions when it comes to Beijing and BRI, and the most dominating influence is, of course, that comes from the United States and Europe.

But the point is that now Chinese media is gathering momentum and disseminating the actual perspective and vision of development, which is across the board, he said.

It was pointed out that Pakistan and China’s interaction spreads from Karakorum Highway to Gwadar. It is a good omen that the first phase of development that concerned power plants and infrastructure is coming full circle and has successfully entered into its second sphere of industrialisation.

He also talked about the unrest and opposition to the CPEC, especially in Balochistan, by some quarters and observed that it is owing to a lack of proper communication with the locals, and the unfortunate fact that they have not been taken on board.

Talking about the slow pace of implementation of the project, it was noted that a host of factors such as Covid, law and order situation and international interference are responsible for the delay. It was pointed out that out of nine exclusive economic zones, only three have been addressed, which is unnerving.

IPRI President Ambassador Dr Muhammad Raza said that the CPEC came as a jiff of fresh air at a time when no one was willing to even invest \$500 million in Pakistan. He said that a staggering \$60 billion investment in infrastructure and development is a game-changer, and will go a long way in connecting the region as BRI comprises one-third of the world economy.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/933809/cpec-a-local-choice-of-pakistan-seminar/>

Pakistan Observer

Bilawal's emphasis on CPEC

IN a virtual meeting with his Chinese counterpart Wang Yi, Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari vowed to inject fresh momentum in bilateral strategic cooperative partnership with China and add new avenues to practical cooperation.

Reaffirming Pakistan's commitment to high quality development of CPEC, he expressed the resolve to fast tracking key projects and industrial relocation to Pakistan.

Pakistan and China friendship has no example in the world.

It is such unique relationship that is rooted deeply in the hearts of the peoples of two countries.

Since the launch of CPEC project, this relationship has transformed into a strategic economic partnership.

As a result of this game changer project, Pakistan has been able to address the issue of power shortage and develop start of the art road infrastructure project.

The next phase of the corridor project that envisages cooperation especially in the industrial sector is of immense importance.

The success of Special Economic Zones being established under the CPEC will undoubtedly turn Pakistan into a manufacturing hub and significantly bolster its exports which will go a long way in addressing its economic woes.

It is a matter of satisfaction that the Foreign Minister has laid a right emphasis on accelerating relocation of Chinese industries to Pakistan.

The focus should be given on removing all obstacles and hurdles in the way of investment in the SEZs.

All the basic amenities including gas and electricity must be ensured at these zones in order to attract the investment.

We are confident that the incumbent government and especially the Foreign Minister will enhance the level of engagement with Chinese friends at different levels to operationalize the SEZs at the earliest.

Apart from enhancing cooperation with China in the areas of information technology and agriculture, projects that are facing long delays must also be looked into.

One such is the upgradation of our railway line from Karachi to Peshawar.

This project should be taken up with the Chinese leadership on a priority basis in order to transform our railways on modern lines.

Its execution will change the fortunes of Pakistan railways and also help the country become hub of regional trade.

Any concerns of Chinese friends as regards to security must be addressed.

Practical steps need to be taken to provide foolproof security to the Chinese investors and workers.

<https://pakobserver.net/bilawals-emphasis-on-cpec/>

Pakistan committed to high quality development of CPEC: FM

Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari says Pakistan is committed to high quality development of the CPEC and looks forward to fast-tracking key projects and accelerating industrial relocation to Pakistan, especially in CPEC Special Economic Zones. Talking to his Chinese counterpart Wang Yi virtually, he appreciated transformational impact of the CPEC on Pakistan's infrastructure, energy, industrialization, socio-economic development and improvement in livelihoods of the people.

Condemning the terrorist attack in Karachi University in which three Chinese teachers lost their lives, the Foreign Minister underlined Pakistan's firm resolve to apprehend the perpetrators and bring them to justice.

Bilawal Zardari thanked his counterpart for China's firm support to Pakistan's sovereignty, territorial integrity, independence and national development, and reaffirmed Pakistan's full support to China on all issues of its core interest.

During the talk, the two sides hoped to pursue the high quality development of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor while keeping the good running and operation of the existing important projects.

<https://pakobserver.net/pakistan-committed-to-high-quality-development-of-cpec-fm/>

The Express Tribune

China ready to synergise Pak development strategy

Spokesperson says both countries want smooth running and operation of CPEC projects

BEIJING: China stands ready to synergise the development strategy with Pakistan to support Islamabad's efforts for upholding economic and financial stability, Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Zhao Lijian said on Thursday.

Spokesperson Zhao told during his regular briefing in Beijing that both the countries had agreed to carry forward traditional friendship and they would never allow any force to sabotage their strategic cooperative partnership.

The spokesperson further said that the two sides hoped to pursue high quality development of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) while maintaining the smooth running and operation of existing important projects.

“We will further deepen cooperation in industrial and other areas to boost the driving force for Pakistan’s economic development and its economic resilience,” the Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson said in response to a question.

Referring to Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi’s virtual meeting with his Pakistani counterpart Bilawal Bhutto Zardari on Wednesday, he said that the two ministers agree to strengthening “our strategic cooperative partnerships and political cooperation”.

“It is also the first official bilateral meeting after Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari was sworn in,” he said. “Both agreed that China and Pakistan should carry forward our traditional friendship,” Zhao added.

He told reporters that the two foreign ministers exchanged views on further strengthening the safeguarding of safety for Chinese citizens and institutions in Pakistan during their first meeting since the new government in Pakistan came into office.

“The foreign minister of Pakistan has reiterated that the China-Pakistan friendship remained the cornerstone for Pakistan’s foreign policy and is also a strategic priority for Pakistan,” he said. “Friendship towards China remained the shared consensus in Pakistan, transcending political differences.”

Zhao Lijian remarked that China and Pakistan would deepen practical cooperation across the board. “China stands ready to synergise the development strategy with Pakistan to support Pakistan’s efforts in upholding economic and financial stability,” he added.

State Councillor Wang Yi stressed that longstanding friendship between the two friendly countries would not be changed by individual incident and “with the concerted efforts of both sides, our partnership will continue to develop with our long-term friendship,” he said.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2356406/china-ready-to-synergise-pak-development-strategy>

Gwadar needs urgent power supply

It will ensure robust economic growth, logistic activities at port, in entire region

GWADAR: Gwadar is seeking urgent arrangements for power supply to ensure robust economic growth, business ecosystem and logistic activities at Gwadar Port as well as in the Gwadar region.

The demand for early supply of electricity was made at the Pakistan Energy Development Conference 2022 held at the China Business Centre at Gwadar Port.

China Overseas Port Holding Company (COPHC) Chairman Zhang Baozhong said “with regards to development, there are some issues to be solved and power remains the foremost one. We cannot develop until enough electricity is available.”

“At COPHC, we produce electricity by generators, which is very expensive. Chinese investors are keen to shift their industries from China to Pakistan. Areas of investment are very diverse and include but not limited to refinery, assembly, petrochemical, and textile. However, without power, the shift might not be possible,” he said.

“I have been here for seven years and since then the provision of power remains my prime request to the government. The government has a plan to initiate a 300MW power project. But that is yet to materialise. I am happy to see this conference discussing energy issues. I hope the power issue will be resolved by the government soon,” he added.

“We have the capacity to generate power on a large scale but only if the government is ready to purchase. But that is yet to be reviewed due to the lack of consumer demand in Gwadar due to a low population density.”

He recalled that in the past seven years of his stay in Gwadar, a lot has been achieved. He witnessed close cooperation with the local community.

“Our brotherly security forces have coordinated with us a lot. Because of their sincere efforts, I have been comfortable with the existing environment,” he acclaimed.

“Before I set foot on Gwadar, I was very depressed. There used to be no proper residence for Chinese people and we used to stay at PC hotel. Business activities were very limited. There were no significant movements. Nevertheless, now Gwadar has become famous and business activities have gained pace,” he clarified.

In his address, he said “we spent \$15 million to purchase five new cranes, replacing old ones, in order to refurbish infrastructure at the port. LPG vessel being offloaded today and a container vessel to arrive on Friday are testaments to the accelerated port activities. These signals prognosticate good news for the future. However, more needs to be done. Energy issues remain the most prominent.”

On a query, he said that so far they have invested more than \$300 million in Gwadar Port and Free Zone. Important mega projects such as New International Airport, East Bay Expressway, Pakistan China Vocational Training Institute, China-Pakistan Friendship Hospital, and 1.2 MGD plant are some of the grants from the people of China for the local brothers of Gwadar.

“On May 17, around 14 Chinese investors are coming to Gwadar to assess the investment potential of Gwadar and Balochistan. In addition to the Chinese, last year we received more than 17 ambassadors from the US, Canada, and countries of the European Union. Undoubtedly, energy provision stays as a prerequisite. Without energy, no development can be achieved.”

He underlined that there is strong intention from Chinese investors to invest \$5 million to set up an oil refinery in Gwadar. Once the plan materialises, job opportunities can be offered to the locals in addition to the induction of business activities.

Other sectors such as lubricants and agriculture are also under consideration. “During my stay in China, I have discussed the matter of meat export from Pakistan to the Chinese market and the government is willing to consider,” he concluded.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2356323/gwadar-needs-urgent-power-supply>

May 14, 2022

Business Recorder

CPEC Authority to be abolished, Senate panel told

ABDUL RASHEED AZAD

ISLAMABAD: The government is to abolish the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) Authority and will replace it and all matters relating to various CPEC projects will be handed over to the Planning Commission with designating a special secretary to deal with the matters. This was stated by the senior officials of the Ministry of Planning and Development while briefing the Senate Standing Committee on Planning and Development held here on Friday under the chairmanship of Senator Saleem Mandviwalla.

The officials said that the ministry is working on the modalities and a final decision in this connection will be taken soon.

The officials said that the step is being taken for facilitating the Chinese investors and contractors working on CPEC projects who are facing serious problems for the past many years.

The officials said that Chinese investors and contractors were also facing problems in getting visas and the government is to make the process swift.

The officials, while responding to the bill titled, “China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) Authority (Amendment) Bill 2021,” tabled by Senator Sherry Rehman, informed the panel that Federal Minister Ahsan Iqbal has directed the ministry to abolish the CPEC Authority.

The officials further added that the CPEC Authority was not doing enough, it was no longer needed and therefore to close it down a bill will soon be introduced in the parliament. The chairman committee adjourned the proceedings of the Committee on the proposed amendment bill of Senator Sherry Rehman, Senator Raza Rabbani, and Senator Abdul Qadir regarding the CPEC Authority till a final decision is taken.

Talking about the non-implementation of the proposals sent by the senators to the ministry on the PSDP projects, the chairman committee expressed his serious concerns. He said that he was only informed by the concerned ministry that all the budget proposals submitted by the committee have been rejected and no explanation was given for this rejection.

“We were told in the House last year that if the PSDP budget proposals were received by the ministry before March, they would be considered,” the committee chairman said.

But despite the submission of the PSDP proposals before March, the government did not consider the proposals.

Responding to the objections raised by the chairman committee, the ministry officials said the budgetary proposals made by the senators were sent to the provinces and other relevant departments.

The chairman committee, while expressing serious concern over the matters said if the ministry forwarded the proposals to the relevant departments and the provinces, and why the committee had not been kept informed. Mandviwalla said, “If we had been informed, we would have talked to the provincial departments about these projects ourselves.”

The ministry officials told the committee that the ministry’s development funds for the current financial year have already been significantly reduced.

The budget has been reduced from Rs900 billion to Rs500 billion.

The chairman committee sought full details of the correspondence with the provinces and other departments regarding the budget proposals of the senators.

Authorities have promised to provide all the details as soon as possible. The committee approved the special report on Gwadar Port after detailed consideration.

The committee meeting was attended by senators, Dinesh Kumar, Dost Mohammad Khan, Mohammad Tahir Bizenjo, Nuzhat Sadiq, Mohammad Abdul Qadir, Palwasha Mohammad Zai Khan, Hidayatullah, and officials of the concerned ministry.

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2022/05/14/8-page/929509-news.html>

Daily Times

Memorial service held for Chinese victims

A memorial service was held to remember the Chinese victims of the recent Karachi University attack, Gwadar Pro reported on Friday.

The event was attended among others by Pakistani federal ministers Shazia Marri and Khurram Dastgir Khan.

The Pakistani ministers vowed to punish the perpetrators of the attack that also killed a Pakistani national.

“Attended memorial service of the victims of terrorist that took precious lives of Chinese nationals Mr Huang Guiping, Ms Ding Mufang, Ms Chen Sai and driver Khalid Nawaz,” Shazia Marri, the minister for poverty alleviation, later tweeted.

She added: “Pakistan and China have always stood together in challenging times and will continue this tradition of mutual respect.”

Minister for Power Khurram Dastgir Khan said the perpetrators of the Karachi University (KU) terror attack would be punished.

Addressing the event, he expressed his deepest condolences to the families of the victims, and the government and the people of China. The minister said Pakistan condemned terrorism in its all forms.

On April 26, at least four people, including three Chinese nationals, were killed while four others were injured in a suicide attack outside the University of Karachi Confucius Institute.

The incident happened as a van, carrying staff members, was about to enter the Confucius Institute, located next to the commerce department.

Television footage showed a white van in flames with plumes of smoke rising from its remains. The windows of nearby buildings were also seen shattered from the impact of the explosion.

CCTV footage of the attack showed a burqa (veil)-clad woman standing outside the entrance of the Confucius Institute.

The woman detonated herself just as the van neared the institute's entrance. The banned Baloch Liberation Army (BLA) claimed responsibility for the attack.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/934456/memorial-service-held-for-chinese-victims/>

Ahsan Iqbal to visit Gwadar next week to review CPEC

Federal Minister for Planning and Development Ahsan Iqbal will visit Gwadar next week to review CPEC projects. "I intend to visit Gwadar next week to personally see the progress of CPEC projects and also to see what the deficiencies are so that the government can take steps to rectify those shortcomings," he said while taking to Gwadar Pro.

As per the minister, Gwadar is the entry gateway of CPEC. "I understand that there is a need to develop water resources, as well as electricity resources there to meet the needs of the development of Gwadar. We are working on fast track basis to bridge the gap there," he added.

Personally, he hoped that his visit to Gwadar will help him meet the local people and also the Chinese working in Gwadar so that both sides can further accelerate the implementation of CPEC projects in Gwadar.

"CPEC is very dear to my heart", said the minister, adding that ever since the holding of his office, he has held a number of meetings on CPEC and he promised to work in close coordination with all stakeholders.

"I had meeting with all the Chinese companies in Pakistan, along with the government ministries and departments, and we figured out the problems they are faced and directed government ministries to solve problems of them on fast track," he pinpointed.

Ahsan Iqbal told the reporter, "Both Pakistan and China enjoy iron-clad brotherhood. We hope to implement CPEC in a partnership and in a team spirit. In that spirit, we will implement CPEC with complete confidence and trust in each other and in very close cooperation."

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/934453/ahsan-iqbal-to-visit-gwadar-next-week-to-review-cpec/>

14 Chinese investors to visit Gwadar to assess investment potential next week

As many as 14 Chinese investors are coming to Gwadar to assess the investment potential of Gwadar and Balochistan next week, said Chairman of China Overseas Ports Holding Company (COPHC) Zhang Baozhong. “In addition to Chinese, last year we received more than 17 ambassadors from the US, Canada, and countries from the European Union,” he said during a briefing. He said that there were strong intentions from Chinese investors to invest \$5m to set up an oil refinery in Gwadar, adding, “Once the plan is materialized, job opportunities can be offered to the locals in addition to the induction of business activities. Other sectors such as lubricants and agriculture are also under consideration,” he added. Zhang informed that during his stay in China, he has discussed the matter of meat export from Pakistan to the Chinese market and the government is willing to consider, China Economic Net (CEN) reported. About development of the port, he said, “We spent \$15m to purchase five new cranes, replacing old ones in order to refurbish infrastructure at the port. LPG Vessel being offloaded today and a container vessel to arrive in a day are testaments to accelerated port activities. These signals prognosticate good news for the future. However, more needs to be done.”

On a query, he said that so far, they have invested more than \$300m in Gwadar Port and Free Zone and added, important mega projects such as New International Airport, East Bay Expressway, Pakistan China Vocational Training Institute, China-Pakistan Friendship Hospital and 1.2-MGD plant are some of the grants from the people of China for the local brothers of Gwadar. Terming provision of electricity very important for development, he said, “At COPHC, we produce electricity by generator which is very expensive.”

Chinese investors are keen to shift their industries from China to Pakistan. Areas of investment are very diverse and include but not limited to refinery, assembly, petrochemical, and textile. However, without power, the shift might not be possible,” he opined. He said the government has a plan to initiate the 300MW power plant project. That is yet to be materialized. “I hope the power issue will be resolved soon.” The Chairman recalled that in the past seven years of his stay in Gwadar, a lot has been achieved. He witnessed close cooperation with the local community. “Our brotherly security forces have coordinated with us a lot. Because of their sincere efforts, I have been comfortable with the existing environment”, he acclaimed. “Before I set foot on Gwadar, I was very depressed. There used to be no proper residence for Chinese people. Business activities were very limited. Nevertheless, now Gwadar has become famous and business activities have gained pace,” he clarified.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/934316/14-chinese-investors-to-visit-gwadar-to-assess-investment-potential-next-week/>

Pakistan Observer

Pak-China will never allow any force to sabotage friendship: Zhao Lijian

Pakistan and China have agreed to carry forward traditional friendship and both the countries will never allow any force to sabotage their all-weather strategic cooperative partnership, Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesperson, Zhao Lijian said on Thurs-day.

“State Councillor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi held a virtual meeting with his Pakistani counterpart Bilawal Bhutto Zardari yesterday. The two foreign ministers reached important consensus on deepening our all-whether strategic cooperative partnerships and political cooperation,” he said during his regular briefing in response to a question asked by APP.

He informed that the two foreign minister ex-changed views on further strengthening the safe-guarding of safety for Chinese citizens and institutions in Pakistan during their first meeting since the new government in Pakistan came into office.

“It is also the first official bilateral meeting after Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari was sworn in,” he added.

The spokesperson said, the two foreign ministers reached important consensus on deepening our all-whether strategic cooperative partnerships and political cooperation, adding, “Both agreed that China and Pakistan should carry forward our traditional friendship.”

He said that friendship towards China remained the shared consensus in Pakistan transcending political differences.

Foreign Minister Bilawal reiterated that the China-Pakistan friendship remained the cornerstone for Pakistan’s foreign policy, and also was a strategic priority for Pakistan.

“The new government will move forward our bilateral relations with the Pakistani speed” he added.

State Councillor Wang Yi stressed that long-standing friendship between the two friendly countries would not be changed by individual incident and said, “With the concerted efforts of both sides, our partnership will continue to develop with our long term friendship.”

Zhao Lijian remarked that China and Pakistan would deepen practical cooperation across the board. “China stands ready to synergize the development strategy with Pakistan to support Pakistan’s efforts in upholding economic and financial stability.”

He said, the two sides hoped to pursue the high quality development of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) while keeping the good running and operation of the existing important projects.

“We will further deepen cooperation in industrial and other areas to boost the driving force for Pakistan’s economic development and its economical resilience,” he added.

He said, the Chinese side would also try to improve the livelihood and wellbeing of the people in both countries and pursue highest and sustainable development for the benefits of the people.

The spokesperson said, the two sides would also deepen anti counterterrorism and law enforcement security cooperation, adding, the terrorist attacks targeting Chinese citizens over the past days are deeply followed and closely followed by the Chinese government and people.

Pakistan pledged to bring to justice the criminals and strengthen security for Chinese institutions and the people, he said and added, “They will never allow any forces to sabotage China-Pakistan relations.”

Zhao Lijian said on May 11, President Xi Jinping sent a congratulatory message to Ferdinand Romualdez Marcos on his election as President of the Philippines. On the same day, Vice President Wang Qishan sent a congratulatory message to Sara Zimmerman Duterte-Carpio on her election as Vice President of the Philippines.

As President Xi Jinping stressed in the congratulatory message, China and the Philippines are neighbors facing each other across the waters and partners through thick and thin. In recent years, with the joint efforts of both sides, China-Philippines relations have been consolidated and enhanced, bringing benefits to the people of both countries and contributing to regional peace and stability. At present, both China and the Philippines are at a critical stage of development, and bilateral relations face important opportunities and broad prospects. China attaches great importance to China-Philippines relations and stands ready to work together with the Philippines to adhere to good-neighborly friendship and common development, and push forward our comprehensive strategic cooperative relationship for the benefit of both countries and peoples.

The spokesperson said, I have noted the report you mentioned. It confirmed that Indigenous children of the US endured a tragic past of torture in Indian boarding schools. The report “expects that continued investigation will reveal the approximate number of Indian children who died at Federal Indian boarding schools to be in the thousands or tens of thousands”.

Such a report is long overdue. Prior to that, the US government had never kept official statistics on the real conditions of these schools, or verified the number of Indigenous children who went to the institutions, died there or were missing. In fact, the US was reluctant to admit the existence of the history at first, and even tried to cover it up. But the great pressure from the Indigenous community, the whole country and the wider world eventually compelled the US to look into the past and unearth facts that shock the world. The report shows from 1819 to 1969, Indigenous children went through unfair treatment including whipping, sexual abuse, forced labor and severe malnourishment in more than 400 federal Indian boarding schools, and more than 500 children died as a result.

The US is founded on the atrocious massacre and persecution of the Indigenous population. The maltreatment of Native Americans is the US original sin convicted by the Indian boarding schools, among facts. Native Americans used to be the dominant population in North America, which has shrunk to represent only 2% of the current US population after massacre and eviction.

The US adopted cultural assimilation and occupied Indian reservation with forced separation and resettlement of Indigenous children. But the trauma generations have gone through persists even till today. Native Americans are still under discrimination with worrying health conditions and destitution. Among all the ethnic communities of the US, Native Americans have the lowest life expectancy, the highest poverty rate, the highest rate of youth alcohol abuse, and the lowest community doctor-to-patient ratio. In 2019, about 25% of Native Americans lived in poverty, which is 2.5 times that of the national average.

The dark history of Indian boarding schools is only a tip of the iceberg of the US' systemic racial discrimination and human rights problems. Racial minorities including Americans of Asian, African, Latin American descent and Muslims still cannot breathe or gain security. Statistics from US research institutions revealed that anti-Asian hate crimes surged by 339% in 2021. From the "Tulsa Massacre" to George Floyd, and to Patrick Lyoya of Michigan who died of police violence not long ago, the list of African American deaths only grows amid racial discrimination. People of Latin American descent, accounting for 19% of the US population, only possess 2% of the country's wealth. Up to 93.7% of Muslims in the US are living in the shadows of Islamophobia.

The US should fulfill its commitment of "all men are created equal" with concrete actions, and adopt serious measures to truly help ethnic minorities get over their trauma. More importantly, the US should learn from history, treat the social endemic of racism, and avoid repeating the human tragedies time and again.

<https://pakobserver.net/pak-china-will-never-allow-any-force-to-sabotage-friendship-zhao-lijian/>

The Express Tribune

Govt likely to disband CPEC Authority

Matters related to CPEC will be handled by Planning Commission once the bill is passed

ISLAMABAD: The Senate Standing Committee on Planning was informed on Friday that the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) Authority will be abolished and all matters of the project will be handed over to the Planning Commission.

A meeting of the standing committee was held under the chairmanship of Senator Saleem Mandviwala at Parliament Lodges, wherein the CPEC Authority Amendment Bill, 2021, was discussed.

The ministry officials informed the meeting that according to the vision of Federal Minister for Planning Ahsan Iqbal, the mega project would be handed over to the Planning Commission. They added that the authority had not done any significant work, therefore, its disbanding is being considered, and a final decision will be taken soon.

The committee chief then adjourned the matter till a final decision is taken.

Talking about the non-implementation of the proposals sent by the senators to the ministry on Public Sector Development Programme (PSDP) projects, the chair expressed his serious concerns.

He said that he was only informed by the concerned ministry that all budget proposals sent by the committee have been rejected and no explanation was given for this rejection.

"We were told in the house last year that if the PSDP budget proposals were received by the ministry before March, they would be considered," he added.

But despite the submission of PSDP proposals before March, they were not considered, he noted.

The ministry officials said that the senators' budget proposals had been sent to the provinces and concerned departments, prompting the committee chairman to ask why the committee had not been kept informed. "If we had been informed, we would have talked to the provincial departments about these projects ourselves," they added.

The ministry officials told the committee that the ministry's development funds have already been slashed for the current financial year, and the budget has been reduced from Rs900 billion to Rs500 billion.

The chair sought full details of the correspondence with the provinces and other departments regarding the senators' budget proposals.

Officials assured the committee of provision of all the details as soon as possible.

During the meeting, the standing committee also approved the special report on Gwadar Port after detailed consideration.

The planning secretary said during the meeting that Balochistan, Gilgit-Baltistan (GB) and Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) are given priority in development funds, but highlighted problems with it.

Senator Abdul Qadir asked why a development budget of Rs1,000 billion is allocated when there is no money.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2356563/govt-likely-to-disband-cpec-authority>

The Nation

Pakistan's Rice Exports To China Surpass 466,000 Tonnes In First Quarter

BEIJING – Pakistan's rice export in the first quarter of this year surpassed 466,000 tonnes (around half-million tonnes), worth around \$176 million, according to the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China (GACC).

Data showed that during the first three months of 2022, bilateral trade has increased significantly. China imported more than 466,617 tons of different types of rice, increasing 9.34%

by volume and \$175.99 million by worth, while last year in the same period it was 426,751 tons worth \$186.45 million.

According to the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China, the Broken rice Commodity Code (10064020), increased 41.70% by worth crossing \$57.69 million. Last year in the same period it was \$40.71 million. And it also increased 47.65% by volume, surpassing 166,740 tons. Last year it was 112,925 tons.

The COVID-19 impacted the imports and exports in the last two to three months. In the first two months of 2022, China imported more than 347,434 tons of different types of rice, increasing 18% by volume while last year in the same period it was 294,240 tons worth \$127.61 million. In March, rice export to China showed an downward trend, but overall, it has increased.

The GACC data showed that from January-March of this year, the broken rice community code (10064080), significantly rose by 614% to \$23.11 million, while last year in the same period it was \$3.23 million and by volume crossed 640.44% to 667,66.25 tons, while in the first quarter of 2021 it was 9,017 tons.

Commercial Counselor of Pakistani Embassy in Beijing, Badar uz Zaman told China Economic Net (CEN) that China and Pakistan have had very close cooperation in the agriculture sector during the last three-four years and now, positive results are coming from this bilateral cooperation, adding that China's high-quality and high-yielding rice varieties have been widely promoted in Pakistan.

China's high-quality and high-yielding rice varieties have been widely promoted in Pakistan

“Although this year the COVID-19 Pandemic affected imports and exports, especially during the last two to three months, we will still achieve the target of one million tons of rice export to China. I thank the Chinese enterprises, and research institutes that introduced new varieties of seeds, promoted excellent cultivation techniques to local farmers and color sorter technologies to Pakistan, which helped increase the rice production in Pakistan and export to China,” Badar stated. He said that Chinese breeding technology to cultivate new rice varieties helped farmers easily grow high-yield, disease-resistant rice for exports.

Former Vice President of Karachi Chamber of Commerce, Shamsul Islam Khan told CEN that there are 53 Pakistani rice enterprises on the approval list of Chinese Customs, if more companies get access to the Chinese market the rice trade would increase a lot.

It may be noted that last year Pakistan exported about 973,000 tons of rice worth \$437 million to China. Last year July, China's custom allowed 7 more Pakistani rice units to export rice to the Chinese market and the total number of companies in the approved General Administration of Customs P.R of China list reached 53.

It is also worth mentioning that overall Pakistan's export to China in the first quarter of 2022 crossed \$ 1.039 billion, which recorded a nearly 17% increase from January to March this year.

<https://nation.com.pk/2022/05/14/pakistans-rice-exports-to-china-surpass-466000-tonnes-in-first-quarter/>

May 15, 2022

Business Recorder

No one will be allowed to harm Pak-China friendship: Bilawal

ALI HUSSAIN

ISLAMABAD: Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari on Saturday emphatically stated that nobody will be allowed to harm the iron-clad friendship between Pakistan and China and the two will face every challenge together and emerge even stronger.

The foreign minister was addressing a solemn memorial service held at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to honour the lives and services of the victims of the terrorist attack in Karachi University on 26 April 2022.

Three Chinese teachers, Huang Guiping, Ms Ding Mufang and Ms Chen Sai, as well as their Pakistani driver Khalid Nawaz, laid down their lives in the line of duty that day.

The memorial service was attended by Foreign Minister Bilawal, Chargé d'Affaires of the People's Republic of China in Islamabad Pang Chunxue, senior Chinese officials and Chinese nationals from all walks of life in Pakistan. Foreign Secretary Sohail Mahmood and officers of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs also attended the ceremony.

Bilawal laid floral wreaths in remembrance of the ultimate sacrifice of the Chinese teachers and recorded his remarks in the Condolence Book.

In his address, the foreign minister reiterated his strong condemnation of the Karachi terrorist attack and reaffirmed the government's commitment to thoroughly investigate the incident and bring the perpetrators to justice.

He stated that the entire nation grieved with the families and people of China at this terrible loss, and offered his heartfelt condolences. He expressed his determination to not allow anyone to harm the iron-clad friendship between Pakistan and China and underscored that the Pakistan-China 'iron-brotherhood' would continue to grow.

“The all-weather strategic cooperative partnership between Pakistan and China is time-tested and timeless. As always, we will face every challenge together and emerge even stronger...” he added.

The foreign minister further stated: “I also avail myself of this opportunity to pledge complete safety and maximum security for our Chinese friends in Pakistan. You are our guests, and we are determined to ensure your safety and comfort in our country.”

He added that the government would not rest till it had given exemplary punishment to the perpetrators of the attack.

“I know every Pakistani is proud of our hospitality and gives importance to caring for friends. Not only do we know this, but we are also known for this internationally. Neither a Sindhi Pakistani nor a Baloch Pakistani can ever tolerate the terrorism that is directed at our guests,” he added.

He pointed out that in the last decade, the people of Pakistan witnessed that citizens were targeted using religion, adding that Baloch rights were used as an excuse for carrying out the terror attacks.

He stated that together, we have to ensure that we do not tolerate such terror attacks. “We will ensure that the families of these people and our public get justice,” he pledged.

believed that they could attack Pakistan-China friendship would not succeed,” the foreign minister asserted.

The foreign secretary, in his remarks highlighted that the tragic deaths of innocent teachers had caused deep shock and anguish to every Pakistani, but this had not deterred our resolve to defeat the scourge of terrorism. He underlined that Pakistan and China had always stood by each other and expressed the confidence that the two countries could counter any challenge working together in their long-standing spirit of mutual support and close cooperation.

Speaking on the occasion, Cd’A Pang Chunxue thanked the government of Pakistan for organizing the memorial service. She appreciated the expression of solidarity and support by the entire Pakistani nation against the cowardly attack.

She vowed that the blood of the Chinese people in nurturing this timeless friendship will not be in vain, and that any attack aimed at the All-Weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership between Pakistan and China was doomed to fail.

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2022/05/15/9-page/929611-news.html>

Daily Times

Manufacturing solar panels in SEZs can lower cost

Pakistan is manufacturing cell phones in collaboration with Chinese and other companies. Similarly, the country can also take the initiative to manufacture solar panels locally.

Talking to Gwadar Pro, Amjad Hussein, renewable energy expert and consultant in Pakistan said that China is the leader in solar technology right now. Pakistan should work with China to manufacture solar panels in Pakistan under CPEC inside SEZs.

He said, “It will lower its cost for local population and will help create job opportunities. Imported solar panels are costly, despite tax and duties exemption. Therefore, it would be better for us to manufacture our own solar panels in Pakistan.”

“The manufacturing of the solar panels locally will make it affordable for the Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) to install these systems in their homes and factories,” he added.

According to solar experts, an area needs a minimum of four hours of peak sunlight in order to produce electricity that is economical. In this regard, Pakistan is the most blessed country that has sunlight most of the areas for more than 300 days, and that too with 7 to 8 peak hours of sunlight. The unbearable electricity crises in Pakistan have greatly affected not only the daily lives of people but businesses and industries as well.

Although, since the past couple of years, the government has attempted to resolve the issue of load shedding. But the gap in the demand and the production of electric energy is so vast that it cannot be covered with the current electric energy production sources alone. The Water and Power Development Authority (WAPDA) has devised a plan to increase the existing 9,406 megawatts (MW) to 20,591 MW by the year 2028-29.

A major chunk of new supply would come from Diamer- Bhasha dam with 4,800 MW capacity and Dasu Hydropower Project with 4,300 MW, which is being built on the Indus river. Another big project called Mohmand Dam with 800 MW capacity is being constructed on the Swat river.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/934909/manufacturing-solar-panels-in-sezs-can-lower-cost/>

Dawn News

First CPEC hydro project starts trial operation

Khalid Hasnain

LAHORE: The first hydropower project under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) – 720MW Karot Hydropower Project (HPP) – has started trial operations after two of its four units/turbines began power generation of 360MW on a test-run basis.

The unofficial commercial operation of the project (power generation by all four units) will begin by June 25 when the third and fourth units would also start trial operation in the coming days, paving the way for its inauguration by the prime minister on June 30, Dawn has learnt.

“The third unit will also start running within the next 10 days or so,” an official source in the Private Power Infrastructure Board (PPIB) told this correspondent on Saturday.

“The fourth unit would also be put under trial operation by June 15. All the units would start an unofficial commercial operation by June 25,” he added.

It may be mentioned that the Karot project was earlier scheduled to complete by August. However, completion of various phases at a fast pace enabled the project team to complete it by June 30—two months before the timeline.

At present, all works of the project, including most tests of the turbines, have been completed. The water filling of the pond was complete already.

The work related to the laying of the transmission line for evacuating power, transmitting and adding it into the national grid for supply to the distribution system was already done.

The project is being constructed on the river Jhelum at the dual boundary of Rawalpindi, Punjab and Kotli, Azad Jammu & Kashmir (AJK). It is being executed by China Three Gorges-CWE Investment Corporation, a leading Chinese firm, which is incorporated and registered in Pakistan as the Karot Power Company Limited.

The project is the first of the three CPEC's hydropower projects, which will start power generation before its actual deadline. The other two projects are 870MW Sukki Kenari HPP and 1,124MW Kohala HPP.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1689694/first-cpec-hydro-project-starts-trial-operation>

The Express Tribune

Sukkur-Hyderabad Motorway project to get priority

Documentation work was completed to start work on this 306km-long motorway soon

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Communications and Postal Services Asad Mahmood said on Friday afternoon that China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC)'s Sukkur-Hyderabad Motorway (M-6) will be completed on a priority basis.

The minister stated this in a meeting with Federal Minister for Water Resources Syed Khursheed Shah during his visit to the National Highway Authority (NHA) headquarters.

Mahmood remarked that timely completion of ongoing national highway and CPEC projects across the country including Sindh would not only stabilise the economy but also promote the industry, trade and agriculture.

Federal Secretary for Communications Zafar Hasan and NHA Chairman Captain (Retd) Muhammad Khurram Agha gave a detailed briefing to the federal ministers on the ongoing construction projects across the country, especially in Sindh. Minister for Communications and Postal Services Asad Mahmood assured his cabinet fellow, Khursheed Shah, and people of Sindh that the ongoing highway projects would be completed on a war-footing basis.

It was informed in the briefing that the construction of CPEC's Sukkur-Hyderabad Motorway (M-6) was one of the priorities of NHA and the project would be completed through public-private partnership.

Asad Mahmood maintained that documentation work was completed to start work on this 306km-long motorway soon. The length of the proposed Sukkur-Hyderabad Motorway would be 306 km.

The article originally appeared on the China Economic Net

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2356639/sukkur-hyderabad-motorway-project-to-get-priority>

The Nation

‘China Will Work With Pakistan’ To Bring Perpetrators Of KU Terror Attack To Justice

ISLAMABAD – Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari has expressed his determination to not allow anyone to harm the iron-clad friendship between Pakistan and China and underscored that the Pak-China “iron-brotherhood” would continue to grow.

He also reiterated his strong condemnation of Karachi terrorist attack and reaffirmed the government’s commitment to thoroughly investigate the incident and bring the perpetrators to justice. He expressed these remarks while addressing a solemn memorial service held yesterday at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to honour the lives and services of the victims of terrorist attack in Karachi University on 26 April 2022. Three Chinese teachers, Mr. Huang Guiping, Ms. Ding Mufang and Ms. Chen Sai, as well as their Pakistani driver, Khalid Nawaz, laid down their lives in the line of duty on that day.

The memorial service was also attended by Chargé d’Affaires of China in Islamabad Ms. Pang Chunxue, senior Chinese officials and Chinese nationals from all walks of life in Pakistan. Foreign Secretary Sohail Mahmood and officers of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs also attended the ceremony.

Foreign Minister Bilawal laid floral wreaths in remembrance of the ultimate sacrifice of the Chinese teachers and recorded his remarks in the Condolence Book. On the occasion, he assured that those who carried out this heinous attack would be brought to justice.

The foreign minister said that the entire nation grieved with the families and people of China at this terrible loss, and offered his heartfelt condolences.

Speaking on the occasion, Cd’A of the Embassy of China Ms. Pang Chunxue thanked the government of Pakistan for organising the memorial service. She appreciated the expression of solidarity and support by the entire Pakistani nation against the cowardly attack.

She vowed that the blood of the Chinese people in nurturing this timeless friendship will not be in vain, and that any attack aimed at the all-weather strategic cooperative partnership between Pakistan and China was doomed to fail.

Chinese Charge D’Affaires Pang Chunxue, in her remarks, also stated the Chinese killed in Karachi University attack were the cultural ambassadors between Pakistan and China, and their remarkable achievements will be written in the history of this friendship. She said we will work with Pakistan to conduct a thorough investigation into the incident to bring the perpetrators to justice.

She said China and Pakistan all weather friendship is deeply rooted in the hearts of our two peoples. She said iron clad friendship between Pakistan and China is unbreakable.

Pang Chunxue said her country will continue to support socio economic development of Pakistan. She said any attempt to undermine the two countries mutual trust and cooperation and the construction of CPEC is doomed to fail.

Foreign Secretary Sohail Mehmood, in his remarks, highlighted that the tragic deaths of innocent teachers had caused deep shock and anguish to every Pakistani, but this had not deterred our resolve to defeat the scourge of terrorism.

He underlined that Pakistan and China had always stood by each other and expressed the confidence that the two countries could counter any challenge working together in their long-standing spirit of mutual support and close cooperation.

<https://nation.com.pk/2022/05/15/china-will-work-with-pakistan-to-bring-perpetrators-of-ku-terror-attack-to-justice/>

Express News

سی پیک منصوبوں کے مسائل حل کرنے کیلئے رپورٹ طلب

وزیر اعظم آفس کی جانب سے بھجوائے جانے والے مراسلے کی ”ایکسپریس“ کو دستیاب کاپی کے مطابق تمام متعلقہ وزارتوں اور اداروں کے علاوہ سندھ، خیبر پختونخوا اور پنجاب کے چیف سیکریٹریز سے کہا گیا ہے کہ بھجوائی گئی تفصیلات کا جائزہ لیکر چائنیز کمپنیوں کو منصوبوں کی تکمیل کی راہ میں حائل رکاوٹیں اور مسائل حل کرنے سے متعلق تجاویز جلد ارسال کی جائیں تاکہ ان مشکلات کو دور کر کے ترقیاتی منصوبوں پر کام کی رفتار تیز کی جاسکے۔

واضح رہے کہ چند روز قبل پاکستان میں کام کرنے والی 27 چائنیز کمپنیوں کی جانب سے پاکستان میں جاری ترقیاتی منصوبوں کو درپیش مسائل بارے وزیر اعظم کو تفصیلی لیٹر ارسال کیا گیا تھا جس میں وزارت صنعت و پیداوار، وزارت خزانہ، وزارت میری ٹائم افیئرز، وزارت مواصلات، وزارت تجارت، وزارت داخلہ، وزارت توانائی، وزارت آبی وسائل، وزارت انفارمیشن ٹیکنالوجی، وزارت نیشنل فوڈ سیکورٹی اینڈ ریسرچ، کابینہ ڈویژن، سرمایہ کاری بورڈ، فیڈرل بورڈ آف ریونیو سے متعلق مسائل کے علاوہ پنجاب، بلوچستان اور خیبر پختونخواہ کی صوبائی حکومتوں کے ساتھ درپیش مسائل بارے آگاہ کیا گیا تھا۔

<https://www.express.pk/story/2322220/6/>

Jang News

ملک بھر میں چینی زبان پڑھانے والے چینی اساتذہ پاکستان چھوڑ گئے

کراچی (سید محمد عسکری) جامعہ کراچی میں 20 روز قبل خودکش دھماکے کے بعد پاکستان بھر میں چینی زبان پڑھانے والے چینی اساتذہ پاکستان چھوڑ کر واپس چین چلے گئے ہیں۔ اتوار کو جامعہ کراچی کے کنفیو شس انسٹیٹیوٹ اور این ای ڈی یونیورسٹی میں چینی زبان کی تعلیم دینے والے 11 چینی اساتذہ اتوار کی دوپہر 2 بجے جامعہ این ای ڈی سے اچانک وطن واپس چلے گئے۔

جامعہ این ای ڈی کے وائس چانسلر ڈاکٹر سروش لودھی نے جنگ کو بتایا کہ اچانک ہمیں دوپہر 2 بجے اطلاع ملی کہ چینی اساتذہ نے گاڑی منگوالی ہے اور وہ وطن واپس جا رہے ہیں۔ انھوں نے کہا کہ یہ بہت بڑا نقصان ہوا ہے کہ ہمارے ڈھائی ہزار طلبہ چینی زبان پڑھ رہے تھے اور ہم نے عصر حاضر کے تقاضوں کو مد نظر رکھتے ہوئے چینی زبان کے دیوبول رکھے تھے جو طلبہ کے لیے لازمی تھے۔

اب ہمیں شدید مشکلات ہوں گی اور آن لائن کلاسوں کی طرف جانا پڑے گا انہوں نے کہا ہمیں بتایا گیا ہے کنفیو شس انسٹی ٹیوٹ کے چینی ڈائریکٹر جینگ شاپنگ جو اب جبوتی میں ہیں وہ آن لائن کے معاملات دیکھیں گے۔

جامعہ کراچی کے کنفیو شس انسٹی ٹیوٹ کے پاکستانی ڈائریکٹر ڈاکٹر ناصر الدین خان نے جنگ کو بتایا کہ خود کش دھماکے کے بعد سے کنفیو شس انسٹیٹیوٹ میں چینی زبان کی تدریس معطل ہے تو اور پاکستان بھر کے کنفیو شس انسٹیٹیوٹ کے چینی اساتذہ کے پاکستان چھوڑ گئے ہیں۔

انہوں نے بتایا کہ جامعہ کراچی ملک کا پہلا ادارہ تھا جس نے رواں سال چینی زبان میں بی ایس پروگرام شروع کیا تھا جس میں 30 طلبہ داخل کیے تھے جبکہ 80 طلبہ نے چینی زبان کو اختیاری مضمون کے طور پر لے رکھا تھا اس کے علاوہ 250 افراد چینی زبان سیکھ بھی رہے تھے، اب ان سب طلبہ کا کیا ہو گا، ہم پریشان ہیں لیکن حل تو نکالنا پڑے گا۔ آن لائن کلاسز کا ارادہ ہے جبکہ وہ پاکستانی طلباء جو اب چینی زبان سیکھ چکے ہیں ان کی مدد بھی لی جاسکتی ہے۔ کنفیو شس انسٹیٹیوٹ اور مستقبل میں چینی اساتذہ کی عملی تدریس سے متعلق سوال کے جواب میں ڈاکٹر ناصر نے کہا کہ یہ معاملہ اب جامعات کی سطح پر نہیں بلکہ سفارتی اور حکومتی سطح پر ہی حل ہو گا۔

ڈاکٹر ناصر الدین نے کہا کہ اس خود کش حملے سے جامعہ کراچی کا بہت نقصان ہوا ہے حالانکہ جنگ میں اساتذہ اور طلبی عملے کو نشانہ نہیں بنایا جاتا ہے سری لنکا میں جب تامل ٹانگرز حملے کرتے تھے تو وہ بھی اساتذہ اور ڈاکٹرز کو چھوڑ دیتے تھے مگر جامعہ کراچی میں چینی اساتذہ کو مار کر بہت خراب حرکت کی گئی ہے جس کی جتنی بھی مذمت کی جائے وہ کم ہے۔

ی

ادر ہے کہ جامعہ کراچی میں چینی زبان سیکھانے کے لیے کنفیو شس انسٹی ٹیوٹ سابق وائس چانسلر ڈاکٹر قیصر کے دور میں 2013 میں قائم ہوا تھا اور چینی زبان پڑھانے کے لئے چینی اساتذہ کو جامعہ کراچی میں رہائش دی گئی تھی لیکن 20 روز قبل کنفیو شس انسٹی ٹیوٹ کے باہر خود کش حملے میں 3 چینی اساتذہ اور ایک پاکستانی ڈرائیور کی ہلاکت کے بعد تمام چینی اساتذہ جامعہ این ای ڈی یونیورسٹی منتقل ہو گئے تھے انہیں وہاں سخت سکیورٹی میں رکھا گیا تھا۔

<https://jang.com.pk/news/1086726>