



For Better Understanding on China–Pakistan and CPEC

Gleanings from the National & Chinese Press

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May 01, 2023

Daily Times

GB delegation left for china to discuss matters of mutual interest

A delegation from Gilgit-Baltistan, headed by Speaker Syed Amjad Ali Zaidi, has left for Tashkorghan County in the Chinese province of Xinjiang to discuss matters of mutual interest. The delegation includes senior minister Col (r) Abbaidullah Baig, member assembly Ayub Waziri, and officials from various departments. This visit comes after the recent opening of the border for passengers and traders between Gilgit-Baltistan and Tashkorghan county, which was closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The delegation will hold talks with their Chinese counterparts on matters of mutual interest, including trade, tourism, and cultural exchange. Gilgit-Baltistan is a region in Pakistan that shares a border with China's Xinjiang province. The two regions have a long history of cultural and economic ties, and this visit is expected to further strengthen their relationship.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1088745/gb-delegation-left-for-china-to-discuss-matters-of-mutual-interest/>

Dawn News

NBFCs grow on back of Chinese investments

Kalbe Ali

ISLAMABAD: As up to 53 per cent of the adult population in Pakistan has no access to banks and related financial services, the gap is being filled by a growing number of Non-Banking Finance Companies (NBFCs), which not only provide various banking services to customers but also rid the market of illegal players.

As most Pakistanis fail to avail of banking services, they have no option but to rely on 'loan sharks' to finance household expenditures on credit or for other emergency expenses. However, the NBFCs have been introduced by the government to provide services to the unbanked population in order to eliminate the unregulated credit market. These companies provide financial services, mainly relating to credit, under five categories: investment banks, non-bank microfinance companies, leasing companies, housing finance companies, and discounting companies.

As the NBFCs aim to eliminate unregulated and illegal players in the field, their number continues to grow – despite the economic turndown – on the back of Chinese investments in the small and micro financial sector.

'Legend Financial Services' is the latest firm to obtain a licence from the Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP).

Official says growth of finance companies will eliminate unregulated credit market

A senior official of the SECP said that registered companies giving digital loans or providing goods on credits were regulated entities and any violation of law, including coercing customers, were checked.

“Since banks do not operate at a micro level, only these NBFCs can eliminate illegal and unregulated lending, including the sale of household goods at exorbitant credits,” the official said in reference to instalments.

As the investments in NBFCs continue to grow, many Chinese law firms have also established their offices in Pakistan to facilitate their clients belonging to mainland China.

Donna Tang of Esquare Legal firm – which acquired the licence for ‘Legend Financial Services’ – has opened an international office in Islamabad amid millions of dollars of investments by Chinese nationals in Pakistan.

Ms Tang told Dawn said that the entry of Chinese law firms in Pakistan was an important development, citing deepening economic ties between China and Pakistan.

She said the enhanced ties highlighted the importance of legal expertise to facilitate investments and will also strengthen confidence of Chinese investors in Pakistan.

“The Chinese investments are not only in NBFCs, but our firm has also obtained a licence from the Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (Drap) for a Chinese medicine company,” she said, adding that this registration is part of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) health corridor project – an integral component of the CPEC initiative.

“The NBFCs play a crucial role in the financial and fintech ecosystem and Pakistan has seen a 600pc growth in the NBFC sector in the last year,” she claimed.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1750158>

The Nation

Pakistan national pavilion opens in Langfang China

ISLAMABAD - Pakistan’s national pavilion is opened at the Skill International Arts Centre in China’s Langfang.

The pavilion displays the diversity of the country’s products, cultural heritage, and economic potential.

The pavilion is themed ‘Emerging Pakistan,’ and aims to showcase Pakistan’s dedication to economic development and traditional products in China, Gwadar Pro reported.

The opening ceremony was graced by the Ambassador of Pakistan to China, Moin-ul-Haque, and the pavilion includes a range of exhibits, from a traditional Pakistani truck decorated with intricate motifs to handcrafted products and cultural displays highlighting the country’s rich diversity.

According to the ambassador, this is Langfang’s first National Pavilion.

“I’m delighted to inaugurate the Pakistan National Pavilion, and Pakistan is the first country to establish its National Pavilion in the Skill International Arts centre,” he said.

He stated that the 75th anniversary of Pakistan’s independence was celebrated in this centre last year, and the event was a resounding success despite the Covid-19 pandemic, attracting

around 10,000 visitors and contributing to the establishment of the Pakistan National Pavilion here.

He believes that the pavilion will attract millions of visitors here.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2023-05-01/page-3/detail-1>

Chinese engineers install shaft pan in 884-MW power plant

NARAN - Chinese engineers on Sunday successfully installed a shaft pan in Sukki Kinari 884 megawatts hydropower project which would provide a base for water preservation and power generation.

According to the details, the pan shaft has an important role in generating electricity by converting energy from an outflow between the upstream water and downstream water. The system comprises a vertical shaft, the shaft crown of which forms an inlet level that is essentially parallel to the bottom and which below the water level of the upper water runs.

Under Construction Suki Kinari Hydropower Project-884MW Shaft 234m deep double chamber surge shaft which is being constructed to neutralise the hammering effect of water due to the sudden shutdown of generating units last year.

90 percent work of the Sukki Kinari hydropower project has been completed while the installation of the heavy transmission line is in progress at a rapid pace.

The total gross installed capacity of Sukki Kinari Project is 873.508-MW with the supply of 4 sets of impulse turbines. SK project is a foreign direct investment project by Suki Kinari Hydro (Private) Limited. It is a joint venture by White Crystal Limited, Saudi Arabia (58%), Eden Inc Behad, Malaysia (20%), China Gezhouba Group Company Limited (CGGC) (20%), etc. The run-of-river facility is one of the early-harvest clean energy projects under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). Gezhouba Group, China is implementing the project at around \$2 billion.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2023-05-01/page-3/detail-5>

Digital Agri Expo opens window for sustainable Sino-Pak agri coop

ISLAMABAD - First World Expo on Digital Agriculture held in Weifang, China's Shandong province has opened a window for sustainable Sino-Pak agriculture cooperation, said Dr Hussain Ahmad Janjua, Principal, Atta-ur-Rahman School of Applied Biosciences (ASAB), National University of Sciences and Technology (NUST).

“Undoubtedly, the Smart Agriculture Expo has opened up a brand new path for sustainable agriculture worldwide in the future,” he said in an interview with the China Economic Net (CEN).

At the just-concluded first World Expo, NUST showcased agricultural technologies including cotton virus prevention and control, plant vaccines, climate change monitoring equipment, agricultural product transportation and preservation, looking forward to all round and in-depth cooperation with Chinese agricultural enterprises and universities.

“We have signed a contract with Weifang Engineering Vocational College, carrying out cooperation on crop fertilizers, such as the application of ecological organic fertilizers in the fields,” Dr Janjua said, “in addition, we have just visited Qingzhou Jiuzhou Farm Vegetable Cooperative, which impressed me greatly. We are very interested in their vegetable green-house technology.”

A series of agricultural APP they developed for monitoring the real-time status of the field is also a technology that we are very happy to apply in Pakistan, by which researchers and farmers can accurately monitor the biotic and abiotic stress on plants.”

“For agricultural by-product processing, wheat gene editing, soil microbiology, rice planting and processing, etc., all of which NUST is currently researching, but has not yet cooperated with China.

To my way of thinking, these are promising fields.” Dr Janjua told the reporter that how to deal with climate change in the agricultural field is a hot issue that is of great concern to the whole world and China has made great achievements in this regard. “If we can cooperate with our friends in smart agriculture to tackle climate change, it will be so meaningful.”

2023 marks the 10th anniversary of the Belt and Road Initiative and the 10th anniversary of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor. On this occasion, Dr Janjua expressed his vision for the future, “Many of our researchers and students are conducting research in China related to sustainable agriculture, smart agriculture and the like.”

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2023-05-01/page-4/detail-2>

Fantastic China’ event held in Islamabad

SHAFQAT ALI

ISLAMABAD - An event titled ‘Fantastic China’ was held here yesterday to draw attention to Pakistan and China’s ongoing scientific and technological cooperation as well as China’s accomplishments over the past 10 years. The event was organized by China Media Group FM-98 in collaboration with Pakistan Science Foundation.

Speaking on the occasion, Science Commissioner of the Chinese Embassy in Islamabad Yin Shengxin said that 175 science research projects had been successfully carried out in China, greatly raising the standard of living for Chinese citizens. He said China places a high value on the advancement of science and technology and that it has made numerous world class scientific and technological advances. He maintained that China and Pakistan had greatly aided one another.

He said China places a high value on Pakistan’s scientific and technical cooperation. In his address, Minister of State for Interior Abdul Rehman Khan Kanju said China has consistently supported Pakistan in science, technology, and other areas for which the entire Pakistani nation is appreciative. In his speech, Chairman of the Pakistan Science Foundation Dr Shahid Mahmood Baig said China’s contributions to the world in the areas of science and technology were commendable. He said the Pakistan Science Foundation has the chance to gain a lot from China’s scientific accomplishments.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2023-05-01/page-13/detail-5>

The News

Discussion between PM, junior minister leaked: Pakistan can't afford middle ground between US, China: Khar

By Muhammad Saleh Zaafir

ISLAMABAD: Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hina Rabbani Khar suggested that Pakistan must stop maintaining a “middle ground” between China and the United States, the Washington Post reported on Sunday.

President Biden's global agenda faces significant challenges as major developing nations seek to evade the intensifying standoff between the United States, Russia and China and, in some cases, exploit that rivalry for their own gain, classified American intelligence assessments show, according to the newspaper.

The documents, among a trove of US secrets, leaked online through the Discord messaging platform, provide a rare glimpse into the private calculations by key emerging powers, including India, Brazil, Pakistan and Egypt, as they attempt to straddle allegiances in an era when America is no longer the world's unchallenged superpower.

Among the leaked data is a record of an important discussion between Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Minister of State Hina Rabbani Khar wherein the two, along with an assistant, were talking about Pakistan's ties with the United States during the month of March this year.

The record of the discussion on crucial foreign policy, which has been named Discord Leaks, also reveals the prime minister's conversation on the United Nations' voting on the Ukraine and Russia conflict, according to the Washington Post.

During the discussion, an assistant advised the prime minister that supporting the resolution could jeopardise Pakistan's trade and energy deals with Russia and would give the impression of a change in Pakistan's position. When the UN General Assembly voted February 23, Pakistan was among 32 countries that abstained.

According to the leaked documents, Khar said that Pakistan should avoid appeasing the West and that the country's desire to maintain a strategic partnership with the US would sacrifice the full benefits of its original strategic partnership with the long-term friendly nation China.

“According to one of the leaked documents, Hina Rabbani Khar, Pakistan's minister of state for foreign affairs, argued in March that her country can ‘no longer try to maintain a middle ground between China and the United States’,” the Washington Post wrote in its story.

Pakistani officials, according to the US news outlet, have refused to comment on the matter. The White House also did not respond to a request for comment.

The story by Washington Post, in which the record has been leaked, revolved around the declining support for the US on the war between Russia and Ukraine. The American publication's story comes at a time when the US has already confirmed that it has no

objection to Pakistan's decision to import oil from Moscow. "Each country is going to make its own sovereign decisions as it relates to its energy supply," US State Department spokesperson Vedant Patel said during a weekly briefing.

The statement was issued in response to a question regarding Pakistan's deal with Russia after it placed its first order for crude oil. Accordingly, one cargo ship will dock at the Karachi Port in May.

Meanwhile, Russian President Vladimir Putin hosted Chinese leader Xi Jinping for two days of closely-watched talks in March this year — a meeting crucial for the region's altering political and diplomatic atmosphere.

Meanwhile, the Foreign Office has declined to comment on the reported conversation between Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hina Rabbani Khar that appeared in a US newspaper.

Highly-placed sources in the Foreign Office told The News Sunday evening that in accordance with the established policy, the Foreign Office doesn't offer any comments on such reported leaks. The government does not discuss such subjects publicly, it said.

In the meanwhile, the government is considering a thorough probe as such "spying" activities are detrimental to the national interests. A decision to initiate a formal probe is likely to be taken this week, the sources added. Another source told this scribe that relevant agencies have been tasked to look into the matter.

<https://e.thenews.com.pk/detail?id=197919>

Army chief's visit to China: how to benefit

Shakeel Ahmad Ramay

Chief of Army Staff (COAS) Gen Asim Munir has concluded his visit to China at a time when the situation in the country is complicated. On the one hand, geo-politics has entangled Pakistan in a web of challenges while, on the other, global players have deployed numerous institutions to suck any available breathing space. FATF has shaken whole investment and trade fabric of the country. It killed investment and trade opportunities by creating fear among the potential investors and trade partners.

Pakistan has met all the demands of IMF, but still the Fund is not releasing new tranche. The political and economic situation of the country is quite messy and the parties are busy in power game with no time for tackling the economic crisis.

The COAS's visit is extremely important, as it will help strengthen existing relationship between the two countries and pave way for a new cooperation. The outcome of the meetings between Gen Asim and top military and civil leadership of China has reinforced the expectations. It was assured Chinese leadership will put all efforts to help Pakistan come out of the crisis and will stand firmly by Pakistan in every situation. Pakistan, on its part, reiterated its support to sovereignty of China.

It is good to note China is ready to assist our country in solving its problems. Pakistan, however, needs to understand that without actions nothing is possible. It has to come out of

obsession of self-importance and put its house in order. We should stop daydreaming and prepare ourselves to face reality and work hard to change the prevailing situation.

The first step should be to devise policies on the basis of ground realities keeping a strong focus on future. At this point of time, Pakistan needs to focus on cooperation in vital areas under CPEC through State Owned Enterprises (SOEs). It does not mean it should lose focus on fourth industrial revolution.

In case of agriculture, Pakistan should build joint ventures with Chinese companies to foster agricultural growth. Joint ventures will help Pakistan solve problems like financial resources, technology and high-quality inputs to support rapid development of sector. China is already showing deep interest in fostering agriculture cooperation. This cooperation will also bring positive outcome for China. It would be a good opportunity for Chinese companies to develop business by bringing technology and quality inputs to Pakistani market. China can also import good quality food from Pakistan.

Pakistan can invite countries like Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Qatar to join the consortium. These countries would be happy to join, as they are looking for sustainable source of food. According to statistics, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Qatar import more than 80-85 percent food to meet the need of their population. Thus, by investing in this cooperation, they can ensure food security of their people.

The cooperation can be started immediately, as Pakistan has culturable wasteland. According to government statistics, Pakistan has 8.89 million acres of culturable wasteland. Though, all the provinces have wasteland, Balochistan comes at top with 4.26 million acres. It is proposed starting point of this cooperation should be Balochistan. It will bring rapid development in the province, which is direly needed. The tribal leaders are also enthusiastic. During my interaction with some of them, I found they have ideas to revolutionise agriculture. Besides, it will be a good opportunity to give new impetus to activities at the Gwadar Port. Pakistan can also encourage private sector to build joint ventures with Chinese companies. The CPEC Authority had proposed 100 model farms.

State Owned Enterprises (SOEs) should be used to catalyse industrial cooperation. Pakistan should invite Chinese private and SOEs to invest in SOEs like Pakistan Steel Mills etc. It is low hanging area for cooperation. As hard infrastructure is already in place, Pakistan only needs investment and better management. Joint ventures with Chinese SOEs or private will help Pakistani SOEs at multiple levels. The SOEs will secure required investment. The Chinese counterpart will run the SOEs on business rational. It will help get rid of political interference and cronyism. Pakistan can also explore the options to expand cooperation to service sectors like like PIA etc.

Pakistan needs fresh ideas, innovative policies and institutional arrangements to foster cooperation. It needs to get rid of outdated and fake intellectuals and inefficient institutional setup. New institutions which can cater the needs of CPEC cooperation also required.

Thus, Pakistan should establish a strong central body with decision-making powers to steer the implementation of CPEC. Otherwise, it is feared all the hard work done by Chief of Army Staff will go waste.

<https://e.thenews.com.pk/detail?id=198003>

Express News

خنجراب بارڈر تجارت کیلئے سارا سال کھلا رکھنے کی منظوری

چین نے پاکستان سے برآمد ہونے والی مختلف مصنوعات پر عائد پابندیاں بھی ختم کر دی (فوٹو: انٹرنیٹ)
چینی حکومت نے خنجراب بارڈر تجارت کیلئے سارا سال کھلا رکھنے کی منظوری دے دی۔ بیجنگ / اسلام آباد
چین کی حکومت نے خنجراب بارڈر تجارت کیلئے سارا سال کھلا رکھنے کی منظوری دے دی، اس راستے تجارت کا باقاعدہ آغاز ہو چکا ہے، چین نے پاکستان سے برآمد ہونے والی مختلف مصنوعات پر عائد پابندیاں بھی ختم کر دی ہیں۔

برطانوی نشریاتی ادارے کی رپورٹ کے مطابق چین نے پاکستانی برآمدات کیلئے تجارتی دروازے کھول دیے ہیں جس سے تمام تاجران مستفید ہو سکیں گے۔
گزشتہ چار برسوں سے پاک چین سرحدی تجارت بند تھی جس کی وجہ سے تاجر معاشی مشکلات کا شکار تھے اور معیشت پر بھی منفی اثرات مرتب ہو رہے تھے۔

<https://www.express.pk/story/2476199/6/>

May 02, 2023

Daily Times

Pak envoy thanks China for help in Sudan evacuations

Pakistan Ambassador to China Moin ul Haque has expressed appreciation to China for helping more than 200 Pakistani nationals' evacuation from Sudan. During a meeting with Liu Jinsong, director-general of the Department of Asian Affairs of the Foreign Ministry of China, Haque said that China's assistance demonstrated once again how strong the Pakistan-China friendship is.

Liu said that as China tried its best to ensure that Chinese nationals were evacuated from Sudan in a safe manner, it also helped some people from other friendly countries including Pakistan to leave the African country, which demonstrated the iron-clad friendship between China and Pakistan as well as its responsibility as a major country.

On April 29, the spokesperson for Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mumtaz Zahra Baloch, took to Twitter to express gratitude towards China for evacuating a group of 216 Pakistani citizens from Port Sudan to Jeddah aboard China's Weishanhu naval vessel. In a tweet, the spokesperson wrote: "A batch of 216 Pakistani nationals arrive in Jeddah from Port Sudan aboard Chinese Navy's Weishanhu today. We are grateful to our Chinese friends for this gesture of support and friendship."

Currently, 573 Pakistani citizens have been safely evacuated from Sudan through the collaborative efforts of Pakistan and China, including the latest batch of 97 individuals who arrived at JIA in Karachi via Jeddah on a PAF C-130 aircraft this morning. Earlier, Mumtaz Zahra Baloch tweeted that the safe evacuation of every Pakistani and bringing them back home remains the "top priority."

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1089028/pak-envoy-thanks-china-for-help-in-sudan-evacuations/>

Express News

کاشغر گوادریلوے منصوبہ، چین کی بجٹ مختص کرنے کی تصدیق

سینیٹ کی قائمہ کمیٹی برائے پٹرولیم اور قدرتی وسائل کے چیئرمین سینیٹر عبدالقادر نے کہا ہے چین نے اس منصوبے پر عملدرآمد اور اس کیلئے بجٹ مختص: اسلام آباد کرنے کی تصدیق کر دی ہے۔

سینیٹ کی قائمہ کمیٹی برائے پٹرولیم اور قدرتی وسائل کے چیئرمین سینیٹر عبدالقادر نے کہا ہے کہ کاشغر سے گوادریلوے کاریلوے لائن منصوبہ پر اپنی شاہراہ ریشم کی بحالی کے عظیم الشان منصوبے کا حصہ ہے، یہ منصوبہ مغربی ممالک کے روایتی راستوں پر انحصار کم کرنے میں مددگار ثابت ہوگا، ریلوے کا یہ انفراسٹرکچر چین، پاکستان، ایران، ترکی اور مغربی ممالک کیلئے انتہائی موثر کوریڈر ثابت ہوگا۔

گوادریلوے کے مطابق سینیٹر عبدالقادر نے کہا ہے کہ بلوچستان کو چینی صوبے سنگیانگ سے ملانے کیلئے کاشغر سے گوادریلوے تقریباً 1860 کلومیٹر طویل ریلوے لائن کا منصوبہ بنایا گیا ہے۔

قادر نے بتایا کہ چین نے اس منصوبے پر عملدرآمد اور اس کیلئے بجٹ مختص کرنے کی تصدیق کر دی ہے، یہ منصوبہ 58 ارب ڈالر کی لاگت سے مکمل کیا جائے گا اور کہا کہ ریلوے لائن کا یہ منصوبہ درحقیقت اسی منصوبے کا حصہ ہے۔

<https://www.express.pk/story/2476566/6/>

چین کے نئے وزیر خارجہ 5 مئی کو پاکستان کا پہلا دورہ کریں گے

چینی وزیر خارجہ جن گانگ عہدہ سنبھالنے کے بعد 5 مئی کو پاکستان کا پہلا دورہ کریں گے۔: اسلام آباد

ذرائع کے مطابق چینی وزیر خارجہ بھارتی شہر گوانگژو میں ایس سی او کانفرنس کے فوراً بعد اسلام آباد پہنچیں گے، وزیر خارجہ بلاول بھٹو زرداری نے چینی وزیر خارجہ کو دورہ پاکستان کی دعوت دی ہے۔

پاکستان اور چین کے درمیان 6 مئی کو اسٹریٹجک مذاکرات ہوں گے، ذرائع کے مطابق پاکستان اور چین کا 6 تاریخ کو اسلام آباد میں افغانستان کے ساتھ سہ فریقی مذاکرات کا بھی امکان ہے۔

افغان عبوری وزیر خارجہ کی 6 مئی کو اسلام آباد کا امکان ہے۔ پاکستان، چین اور افغانستان کے وزرائے خارجہ کے موجودہ میکسزیم کاسہ فریقی اجلاس اسلام آباد میں ہوگا۔ وزرائے خارجہ میکسزیم کا آخری اجلاس ستمبر 2019 میں اسلام آباد میں ہوا تھا، ذرائع کا کہنا ہے کہ اقوام متحدہ نے افغان وفد کو اسلام آباد جانے کی اجازت دے دی ہے۔ واضح رہے کہ افغان عبوری وزیر خارجہ اقوام متحدہ کی سفری پابندی کے تحت ہیں اور انہیں کسی بھی ملک کے سفر کیلئے استثنائی کے تحت اقوام متحدہ سے اجازت درکار ہوتی ہے۔

<https://www.express.pk/story/2476796/1/>

May 03, 2023

Business Recorder

Chinese FM to arrive on 5th

ALI HUSSAIN

ISLAMABAD: Chinese Foreign Minister Qin Gang will visit Pakistan from May 5-6 for holding crucial talks with Pakistani authorities on further strengthening strategic partnership and economic cooperation between the two strategic partners.

Diplomatic sources told Business Recorder that during his maiden visit to Pakistan, the Chinese FM will also attend the trilateral meeting on Afghanistan with Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari and Afghan interim Foreign Minister Amir Khan Muttaqi who will also be visiting Pakistan from May 6-9. In the bilateral context, the sources said that Foreign Minister Qin Gang would hold bilateral talks with FM Bilawal, on Saturday, in which, the two sides would review the entire gamut of bilateral relations and strategic partnership, focusing on the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). Besides, they added that a trilateral meeting of the foreign ministers of Pakistan, China and Afghanistan was also scheduled on Saturday in which the three sides would exchange views on the situation in Afghanistan as well as explore the ways and means with regard to strengthening cooperation with Afghanistan to deal with challenges, the top of which the issue of terrorism as well as economic and humanitarian crises.

The Chinese FM will be arriving in Islamabad after the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Foreign Ministers' meeting, being held in Goa, India from May 4-5.

Meanwhile, a United Nations Security Council (UNSC) committee has allowed the Afghan interim Foreign Minister Muttaqi to travel to Pakistan, who has been subjected to a travel ban, asset freeze and arms embargo under the UN Security Council sanctions.

In Islamabad from May 6-9, the sources said the Afghan interim foreign minister would hold bilateral talks with FM Bilawal on issues of mutual interest, cooperation in the fields of trade and investment and most importantly on Pakistan's grave concerns over the involvement of banned Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) in terrorism in the country.

Muttaqi will also be attending the meeting of the three foreign ministers on the issue of Afghanistan in which he is expected to update the Chinese and Pakistani sides on the steps taken or being taken by the interim government of the Taliban to honour international commitments, besides discussing ways for continued cooperation among the three countries in various areas.

The visit of the Taliban's top diplomat comes as special representatives of nearly two dozen countries and international institutions discussed Afghanistan's situation in a meeting on Monday in Qatar, organised by the United Nations with UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres for talks on Afghanistan, focusing the plight of women and girls under the Taliban's interim government. Taliban authorities were not invited to attend the closed-door two-day meeting in Doha. Pakistan is being represented in the moot by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hina Rabbani Khar.

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2023/05/03/1-page/961432-news.html>

Daily Times

Pakistan and China – the friends in need

Farooq Awan

The recent evacuation of Pakistani nationals from Sudan by the Chinese government is a testament to the strong and enduring friendship between the two countries. In the midst of a

chaotic and dangerous situation, it was China who came forward to ensure the safety of Pakistani friends. This act of solidarity has further deepened the strong bond between China and Pakistan, and is another reminder of the importance of mutual cooperation and bilateral support in times of need.

Pakistan's Ambassador to China Moinul Haque has conveyed heartfelt gratitude to Director-General Liu Jinsong of the Department of Asian Affairs of the Chinese Foreign Ministry for the assistance provided by Beijing in evacuating overseas Pakistanis in Sudan. He expressed his appreciation for China's support, which facilitated the safe evacuation of over 200 Pakistanis from Sudan using Chinese vehicles and military vessels.

While China ensured the safe evacuation of its own citizens, it also made extensive efforts to assist in the evacuation of overseas nationals belonging to Pakistan as well as other friendly countries in Sudan. This noble act has not only demonstrated the unwavering friendship between China and Pakistan but also highlighted China's role as a responsible player in the comity of nations.

The strong friendship between China and Pakistan is based on a number of factors. The two countries share a common enemy in shape of terrorism, and they are both committed to promoting peace and stability in the region. China and Pakistan also have a shared interest in economic development of two countries as well as the region and the globe.

China has been a major source of economic and military assistance to Pakistan, and the two countries have worked together on a number of important regional initiatives. In recent years, China has also been a key supporter of Pakistan in its fight against terrorism.

The two countries formally settled all of their boundary matters with the Sino-Pakistani Agreement of 1963. Chinese military assistance to Pakistan began in 1966 and a strategic alliance was formed in 1972, while economic cooperation began in 1979. China is now one of the largest trading partners of Pakistan.

Pakistan-China bilateral relations have over the time evolved into an extensive partnership driven primarily by Pakistan's strategic importance. In 2001, after the 9/11 attacks, China stood by Pakistan. In 2011, during the Arab Spring, China provided financial assistance to Pakistan to help it deal with the economic impact of the unrest. In 2011, China helped evacuate Pakistani nationals from Libya during the civil war. In 2014, when the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) began to threaten Pakistan, China provided military assistance to help Pakistan fight the threat.

China's support for Pakistan on international forums like the UNSC is also a testimony to Pakistan-China friendship. China has vetoed a number of UNSC resolutions that would have negatively impacted Pakistan. China has also supported Pakistan's membership in the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG).

The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is a major example of China's support for Pakistan. CPEC is a \$62 billion project that will connect Gwadar port to China's Xinjiang province. CPEC will have a major impact on Pakistan's economy, and it will help improve Pakistan's infrastructure.

China consistently prioritizes Pakistan in its neighbourhood diplomacy and remains committed to working closely with Pakistan to continuously support each other. The friendship between China and Pakistan is a valuable asset for both countries. It helps to promote peace and stability in the region, and it also provides a platform for cooperation on a range of important issues. The two countries are committed to working together to build a better future for their people and the world at large.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1089381/pakistan-and-china-the-friends-in-need/>

Pakistani entrepreneurs excel at Canton Fair exhibition

Pakistani entrepreneurs excelled at Canton Fair exhibition, Gwadar Pro reported on Tuesday. The Canton Fair is a prestigious event for businessmen from all over the world, and Pakistani enterprises have shined in the exhibition for years.

This year was no exception, as Pakistani businessmen demonstrated their innovative products and services to an international audience, said Sardar Muhammad Pakistani Counselor General at Guangzhou.

The Pakistani Counselor General who was present at the fair, said he was proud to witness the success of these Pakistani businesses.

He said that the Canton Fair is an admirable platform for Pakistani businessmen to showcase their products and increase business and upsurge prosperity for all the people. He added that the Chinese market is open to Pakistani products and Chinese consumers show interests to buy Pakistani products besides Pakistani businessmen are well received in the Canton Fair.

“There are nine Pakistani companies participating in the third phase of Canton Fair and the main products that they are offering are related to the textile sector.

There are stationery items, bags, and leather products. I’m sure that they will have a very good response here and will find good partners in this fair,” he added.

He further said that the Pakistani textile sector is very good in terms of quality and Chinese people like to buy Pakistani linen bed sheets and related items.

Sardar said that e-commerce sector is flourishing in Pakistan and there is a huge scope for collaboration with those in China who have gone much more advanced in e-commerce.

It is to be noted that, the 133rd Canton Fair is scheduled from April 15 to May 5 in Guangzhou, China.

The export-oriented fair will showcase 16 product categories with 54 exhibition sections and nearly 70,000 exhibition booths and 73 percent of exhibitors are from countries and regions along the Belt and Road Initiatives.

In the third phase of the Canton Fair which started on 1 May, seven Pakistani textile companies, and two office supplies and leather products enterprises are participating.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1089586/pakistani-entrepreneurs-excel-at-canton-fair-exhibition/>

China's water-saving agriculture technology benefits BRI countries

Researchers at Gansu Academy of Agricultural Sciences (GAAS) have successfully developed technology that can not only avoid resource waste and effectively save water but also improve soil fertility and reduce evaporation at the soil surface.

Muhammad Ali Raza, a Pakistani doctor, who is among those researchers, has been working on an experiment on the utilization of plastic mulch and drip irrigation in cereal-legume intercropping systems at a water-saving agricultural research station located in the city of Zhangye in northwest China's Gansu Province. "The crop straws are processed into mulch and used in soybean-corn compound planting fields," he explained, highlighting the role of the technology in reducing waste and saving water.

Raza, 33, came to the Gansu Academy of Agricultural Sciences (GAAS) to pursue his postdoctoral studies after the GAAS signed a memorandum with a university in Pakistan in 2022 to carry out cooperation in modern agricultural technology transformation and personnel training projects, China's Xinhua reported on Tuesday. In recent years, GAAS has signed cooperation agreements with institutions in Pakistan, Tajikistan, Malaysia and other countries participating in the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) to conduct extensive cooperation in agricultural science and technology.

Lettuce grown in water and chili on the substrate are thriving in an intelligent greenhouse at the GAAS, thanks to the efforts of Ma Zhongming, the head of the organization. Ma has dedicated himself to the research and promotion of soilless cultivation technologies, resulting in these impressive outcomes.

"Soilless cultivation is suitable for arid regions and holds great potential for agricultural cooperation with some Belt and Road countries," said Ma, who is also Raza's professor.

"I'm excited about the research. My study area is related to dry farming and facility agriculture in China, and I am looking forward to introducing relevant technologies in Pakistan in the future," Raza said. Xiong Youcai, a professor at Lanzhou University's College of Ecology, has led a team dedicated to dryland agriculture research and technology promotion since 2011 in East Africa.

The all-film double-furrow sowing, an agricultural technology originating from China's arid Loess Plateau, has now been applied to agricultural production in Kenya and other countries based on local conditions to help relieve the impact of severe drought on food production.

In 2022, Xiong's team, with the support of the National Natural Science Foundation of China, launched an international cooperation project involving the efficient utilization and adaptive management of rainwater resources in dryland agriculture in the East African Plateau. The project was designed to further expand the adaptability and benefits of dryland agricultural technology.

"Take Kenya as an example. If the technology of all-film double-furrow sowing is effectively promoted in the country, one-third of Kenya's land can feed the whole population of Kenya," Xiong said. "BRI agricultural cooperation has seen continuous progress, and it will be further

advanced in the area of agricultural technology, personnel exchanges and agricultural policy,” Ma said.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1089477/chinas-water-saving-agriculture-technology-benefits-bri-countries/>

Dawn News

UAF, Chinese university to strengthen collaboration for soybean research

TOBA TEK SINGH: The University of Agricultural Faisalabad (UAF) and the Chinese University of Hong Kong will strengthen collaboration and pave the way for the sharing of more soybean accessions and technical guidance.

This was discussed at a seminar on the genomics of soybean organised by the Centre of Agricultural Biochemistry and Biotechnology (CABB) at the UAF on Tuesday.

Prof Hon Ming Lam and Prof Ting Fan Chanf from the Chinese University of Hong Kong, Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture at UAF Prof Dr Muhammad Sarwar Khan, Director of CABB UAF Prof Dr Bushra Sadia, and Dr Hafiz Mamoounur Rehman spoke.

Hon Ming Lam mentioned that they are developing stress-tolerant soybean varieties for arid and semi-arid areas in Northwest China. They also visited the fields to assess the performance of soybean accessions grown in collaboration with UAF.

The professors from the Chinese University of Hong Kong expressed hope that their germplasm will be of great value in establishing the soybean crop in the country.

Prof Dr Khan stated that these efforts will be a step forward in reducing soybean imports and will serve as a significant milestone in making the country self-sufficient in soybean production.

SELF-IMMOLATE: A grade eight student of a private school in Ghulam Muhammadabad area of Faisalabad attempted to self-immolate on Tuesday after being prohibited by his father from using or having a mobile phone.

According to the Razaabad police in Faisalabad, 13-year-old Zainul Abideen went to school after his father, Sajjad Ahmad, took his mobile phone and gave him some money to fill the petrol tank in his motorcycle.

According to his teachers and classmates, he left school after a few minutes, and at a deserted place near Chak 219-RB, he sprayed petrol on his clothes and set himself on fire.

Some passersby tried to extinguish the fire, but a major portion of his body had already been burnt. Rescue 1122 shifted him to the burn unit at the Allied Hospital, where his condition was reported to be serious.

GCUF: Teachers from the Government College University, Faisalabad, (GCUF) staged a protest demonstration in front of the university registrar’s office against the non-payment of disparity reduction allowance (DRA) to them.

Office bearers of the Academic Staff Association announced their boycott of the upcoming Punjab assembly election duties as a form of protest. They informed reporters that, according

to the decision of the Punjab government, all employees of different departments were being paid a 15 per cent DRA along with their salaries. However, university teachers and other employees were being deprived of this allowance, as the Higher Education Commission has deemed the university an autonomous institution.

They stated that the district election commissioner had announced the election duty training schedule for them, but they would not attend the training until their demand to approve a 15 per cent DRA for all GCUF teachers and employees is met.

SEMINAR: A one-day international seminar was organised by the Directorate of International Linkages of the GCUF on Tuesday.

The seminar aimed to raise awareness among students about the benefits of using biological materials and making them reusable.

Prof Dr Amanullah from the Canadian University of Alberta delivered a lecture on biological materials obtained from renewable resources.

The Director of International Linkages, Prof Dr Shahzad Ali Shahid Chattha, presented a report on the performance of the directorate to the seminar participants.

He also provided information about the agreements with international universities, as well as the academic activities and scholarships associated with them.

Registrar Pro Dr Hidayat Rasool, Prof Dr Farhat Jabeen, and other department heads participated in the seminar. The seminar also discussed various educational activities and employment opportunities in Canada for Pakistani students and teachers.

FIRE: After a strenuous effort, firefighters managed to extinguish a fire that broke out in a restaurant, located on Canal Road near the Chak 204-RB bridge in Faisalabad.

They prevented the fire from spreading to the adjacent filling station.

The kitchen, electronics and parts of the building were damaged in the restaurant.

According to a report from Rescue 1122, the fire was caused by a gas leak in the kitchen.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1750618/uaf-chinese-university-to-strengthen-collaboration-for-soybean-research#:~:text=UAF%2C%20Chinese%20university%20to%20strengthen%20collaboration%20for%20soybean%20research,-Our%20Correspondent%20Published&text=TOBA%20TEK%20SINGH%3A%20The%20University,soybean%20accessions%20and%20technical%20guidance>

Pakistan Observer

China's Manifestation of "Geo-economics" & BRI

Saheer Liaqat

CHINA, in an unprecedented space of time, has emerged as the second largest economy in the world and is exerting a form of 'geo-economics' influence that is transforming the nature of international relations in the 21st century. Through this remarkable achievement, China

has enticed so much attention in the world and international actors are curious about what Chinese leadership intends to do with its growing power and economic leverage.

China's Belt & Road Initiative is one of the key manifestations of China's goal to re-establish the fabled 'Silk Route' which historically had an important expression in China's long-standing economic significance in Asia. In the context of long-run economic restructuring, an expanding material geo-economics influence, and the development of a more self-confident and externally oriented policy agenda, it is no coincidence that China's leaders, especially Xi Jinping, have been talking about this possibility which potentially incorporates direct and indirect sources of influence.

BRI is a transcontinental long-term policy and investment program and a global initiative aimed at infrastructure development and acceleration of the economic integration of countries along the historic Silk Road with a prime focus on Asia, Eastern Europe, Eastern Africa, and the Middle East – a region of great significance in terms of emerging markets. The Belt & Road Initiative was unveiled by Chinese President Xi Jinping in 2013 and was initially known as One Belt One Road till 2016. According to the official data, as of March 2022, 146 countries and 32 international organizations have taken part in the Initiative through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), representing more than a third of the world's GDP and two-thirds of the world's population altogether.

BRI was officially launched to achieve five major goals including policy coordination, infrastructure, trade, financial integration and people-to-people cooperation. China, via the 21st-century Maritime Silk Road, is developing an inclusive, mutually open, balanced and valuable economic cooperation framework aimed at regional integration and connectivity. In the early years of the BRI, eight whimsical trade routes were central to Beijing's ambitions of trade connectivity: six land-based economic corridors encompassing the "Silk Road Economic Belt" and two maritime trade routes containing the "21st Century Maritime Silk Road". The Chinese government departments: National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) laid the action plans for these trade routes of BRI in 2015, in the "Vision and Actions" agenda.

The two principal aspects of the BRI constitute the 'Silk Road Economic Belt' (SREB) and the 'Maritime Silk Road' (MSR). MSR is designed primarily to effectively link and integrate the maritime states of Southeast and South Asia in particular whereas, SREB, on the contrary, intends to re-establish and modernize traditional overland connections with Central and South Asia, connecting them to both China itself and ultimately to Europe. BRI combines new and old projects, covers an extensive geographic scope and includes efforts to strengthen hard and soft infrastructure, and cultural ties. It envisages an integrated network of ports, railways and roads, a development that will help consolidate China's place at the centre of economic activity across much of Asia and Europe.

The initial stimulus for BRI was provided by the economic downturn in the face of the Global Financial crisis of 2008 in the West that provided China with a huge opportunity to come to the front and play a leading role in global economic development by bringing more countries into its economic orbit. Therefore, since BRI's launch in 2013, it has been serving Beijing's geopolitical and geo-economic objectives by expanding China's influence around the globe.

In its early years, Beijing sought to simply strengthen its ties with the governments abroad and gain a foothold as one of their key economic partner using the strategy of offering loans, investment and summitry while avoiding confrontation with the US. Thus, China engaged diplomatically with the countries where the US was less-invested politically such as countries in Southeast Asia, South Asia, Central Asia, Latin America and Sub-Saharan Africa and the economic corridors situated at the heart of BRI mainly traverse these regions. The economic corridor of Pakistan serves as the best example, signifying this approach of Beijing.

CPEC, the principal project of BRI in Pakistan, a mega project worth billions of dollars is not only an economic corridor or transit route for the Chinese market but includes infrastructure and energy projects, construction of modern transportation networks, industrialization and the improvement of Gwadar Port which is the most operational port regarding oil and gas shipping lanes. Moreover, there is a range of proposed special economic zones that runs about 2700 km along the route from Kashgar, China's westernmost city, through central Pakistan to Gwadar port on Pakistan's southwest coast, with these projects mainly focused on boosting the economic performance of Pakistan making the country a regional economic hub.

Rationally speaking, BRI has the full potential to achieve considerable economic and political gains for China and many of them have been explicitly acknowledged in China's official policy communiqué, for example, the expansion of China's export markets, the reduction of trade frictions such as tariffs and transportation costs and the promotion of the Renminbi (RMB) as an international currency. China's growing economic stature has enabled it to transit from a grand strategy that merely sought its economic goals to one that benefits it to leverage its growing economic power in achieving unreachable foreign policy goals.

China's economic rise has also given China's leaders generally, and Xi, in particular, much greater potential agency. Chinese leaders are keen to use it to restore their former dominant status at the forefront of international diplomacy and great power politics and especially in its region which is widely supported by both the leadership of the PRC and by the population more generally. It cannot be denied that China's enhanced geo-economic influence and rising power are giving it an upper hand to pursue these ambitions much more rapidly that had hardly been possible a decade ago or two.

Though predictable implications and consequences of BRI cannot be fully judged its possible trajectory is already becoming clear. China has both the state capacity and the practical experience in making such a project a reality. It has both the material resource and the key agencies, such as the National Development and Reform Commission (NRDC) that have developed detailed plans for the successful implementation of specific aspects of the BRI. It is therefore important to emphasize that despite the shift to a more market-oriented economy, Beijing and its developmental agencies continue to play a major role in the overall coordination of economic development while projecting soft power in the form of geo-economics.

<https://pakobserver.net/chinasmanifestation-of-geo-economics-bri-by-saher-liaqat>

The Express Tribune

Chinese nationals security increased

Chinese nationals have been attacked by terrorists in the past

KARACHI: Inspector General of Police (IG) Sindh Ghulam Nabi Memon has called for increased security measures for Chinese nationals working on various projects in Pakistan, including the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and other government sponsored and private ventures.

During a meeting held via video link at the Central Police Office in Karachi, IG Sindh reviewed the security arrangements for Chinese residents and expats related to CPEC and non-CPEC projects. He also issued necessary instructions to ensure their safety.

According to the briefing given by the DIG Special Protection Unit (SPU) CPEC, the security of Chinese nationals has been augmented with CCTV cameras and watchtowers installed at their living and working places.

Memon emphasised the need to deploy three-tier security for the Chinese people. He further instructed all duties assigned by DIG for SPU (CPEC) and DIG Special Branch Sindh to be feasible, including surprise visits to Chinese locations associated with CPEC and non-CPEC projects to check the security measures.

The meeting was attended by Additional IGs CTD, Karachi, Special Branch, Operations, DIGs IT, Headquarters Sindh, SPU CPEC, RRF, and other police officers. Meanwhile, police officers of Hyderabad, SBA, Mirpur Khas, DIGs of Sukkur and Larkana along with respective SSPs participated through video link.

Chinese nationals have been attacked by terrorists in the past.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2414788/chinese-nationals-security-increased>

The Nation

Pakistan, China intensify efforts on Afghanistan stability

SHAFQAT ALI

ISLAMABAD - Pakistan and China have intensified efforts for Afghanistan stability as the top diplomats of the three countries plan to meet next week in Islamabad to discuss the regional situation and cooperation, officials said yesterday.

Yesterday, a UN Security Council committee agreed to allow the Taliban administration's Foreign Minister Amir Khan Muttaqi to travel to Pakistan from Afghanistan next week to meet with the foreign ministers of Pakistan and China.

Muttaqi has long been subjected to a travel ban, asset freeze and arms embargo under Security Council sanctions.

According to a letter to the 15-member Security Council Taliban sanctions committee, Pakistan's UN mission requested an exemption for Muttaqi to travel between May 6-9 "for a meeting with the foreign ministers of Pakistan and China."

It did not say what the ministers would discuss but said Pakistan would cover all costs associated with Muttaqi's trip.

Chinese and Pakistani officials have said in the past that they would welcome Taliban-led Afghanistan into the multibillion dollar China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) infrastructure project, part of the Belt and Road Initiative.

Senior Pakistani diplomats told The Nation that Pakistan and China had been discussing peace and stability in Afghanistan for long.

“A stable Afghanistan is in Pakistan and China's interest. Engaging Afghanistan in CPEC will benefit all,” he said.

Another diplomat said Afghanistan will be urged to cooperate with the regional countries and move forward instead of isolating itself. “Hopefully, the FMs meeting will bring results,” he said.

Afghanistan sits as a key geographical trade and transit route between South and Central Asia and has billions of dollars of untapped mineral resources.

This week, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres began a two-day meeting in Doha with special envoys on Afghanistan from various countries that aims “to achieve a common understanding within the international community on how to engage with the Taliban,” UN spokesman Stephane Dujarric said.

He said the closed-door meeting would discuss key issues, such as human rights - in particular women's and girls' rights - inclusive governance, countering terrorism and drug trafficking.

China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Norway, Pakistan, Qatar, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, Britain, the United States, Uzbekistan, the European Union and the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation are taking part in the meeting. The Taliban administration was not invited to the Doha meeting.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2023-05-03/page-12/detail-3>

Jang News

سہ ملکی مذاکرات، افغان اور چینی وزرائے خارجہ رواں ہفتے پاکستان آئیں گے

اسلام آباد (فاروق اقدس / خصوصی رپورٹ) چینی وزیر خارجہ چن گانگ اور طالبان انتظامیہ کے وزیر خارجہ امیر خان متقی رواں ہفتے کے آخر تک پاکستان کا دورہ کریں گے۔

دونوں وزرائے خارجہ پاکستانی ہم منصب بلاول بھٹو سے ملاقات کریں گے، افغان وفد میں کاروباری افراد بھی شامل ہوں گے۔

افغان وزارت خارجہ کی جانب سے جاری بیان میں حتمی تاریخ کا اعلان نہیں کیا گیا تاہم امکانی طور پر دونوں وزرائے خارجہ 5 اور 6 مئی کو پاکستان کے دورے پر اسلام آباد

آئیں گے۔

دونوں کی وزیر خارجہ بلاول بھٹو سے دن آن دن ملاقات کے علاوہ وفد کی سطح پر مذاکرات بھی ہوں گے۔

چینی وزیر خارجہ نے منصب کی ذمہ داریاں سنبھالنے کے بعد پہلی مرتبہ پاکستان کا دورہ کرینگے وہ بھارت کے شہر گوا میں ہونیوالی شنگھائی تعاون تنظیم کے اجلاس میں شرکت کے بعد براہ راست بھارت سے پاکستان آئینگے اور سہ فریقی مذاکرات میں اپنے وفد کے ہمراہ شامل ہونگے۔
افغان وزیر خارجہ کے ہمراہ آئیوالے وفد میں افغانستان کے کاروباری اور سیاسی زعماء بھی شامل ہونگے۔

<https://jang.com.pk/news/1221457>

منصوبوں پر کام کر نیوالے چینی شہریوں پر خود کش حملے کا خدشہ، ریڈ الٹ جاری

ٹھٹھہ (شاہد صدیقی) ضلع میں مختلف پروجیکٹس پر کام کر نیوالے چینی شہریوں کے لئے ریڈ الٹ جاری کر دیا گیا۔
چینی شہریوں پر خود کش حملوں کے خطرے کی رپورٹ ملی ہے نقل و حرکت بلٹ پروف گاڑیوں میں کرنے کی ہدایت کر دی گئی ہے۔
ضلع کے تمام پولیس افسران کو جاری لیٹر میں چینی شہریوں کے حوالے سے ہدایات دیتے ہوئے کہا گیا ہے کہ خفیہ ایجنسیوں کی رپورٹس کے مطابق مختلف پروجیکٹس پر کام کر نیوالے چینی شہریوں پر خود کش حملوں کا خطرہ ہے اور دہشت گرد اس مقصد کے لئے ریکی بھی کر چکے ہیں۔

<https://jang.com.pk/news/1221462>

K2 Daily

چینی اور مغربی جمہوری نظام میں نمایاں فرق کیا ہے؟

دنیا کے مختلف ممالک اور مغربی ذرائع ابلاغ چین کے جمہوری نظام پر ہمیشہ تنقید کرتے دکھائی دیتے ہیں۔ لیکن حقیقت یہ ہے کہ اس نظام سے چین کے عوام جس طرح براہ راست مستفید ہو رہے ہیں اس طرح اپنے آپ کو جمہوریت کا چھیننے کھلانے والے ممالک کے عوام بھی مستفید نہیں ہو رہے۔ سوشلسٹ نظام عوامی جمہوریت چین کا بنیادی نظام ہے اور اس نظام نے چین کے عوام کو ترقی کی جو منازل طے کر رہی ہیں شاید کوئی دوسرا نظام چینی عوام کو ترقی کے اتنے مواقع فراہم نہ کر پاتا تو عوامی کانگریس کا نظام چین کا بنیادی سیاسی نظام ہے۔ یہ نظام مغربی ممالک کے سیاسی نظام سے بالکل مختلف ہے۔ چین کی قومی عوامی کانگریس وہ واحد ادارہ ہے جو قانون سازی میں تمام چینی عوام کے اقتدارات کی نمائندگی کرتا ہے۔ اٹھارہ سال اور اس سے زیادہ عرصے کے لئے چینی شہریوں کو عوامی کانگریس کے نمائندوں کے انتخابات میں حصہ لینے اور امیدوار بننے کا حق حاصل ہے۔ چین میں کانگریس چینی کمیونسٹ پارٹی کے علاوہ آٹھ جمہوری پارٹیاں ہیں۔ ان پارٹیوں میں چین کی کومن ٹانگ انقلابی کمیٹی اور چین کی جمہوری لیگ، چین کی قومی تعمیر کی جمہوری ایسوسی ایشن، چین میں جمہوریت کے فروغ کی ایسوسی ایشن

ہے کہ یہ اپنے آپ کو جمہوریت کی مغربی شکل سے الگ کرتا ہے جو اکثر عوامی بنیاد پر مبنی والی سیاست، طاقتور کی حکمرانی اور حکم سیاسی ماحول کے حتمی اثرات سے چھٹی ہوئی ہے۔ افسس سوائیس میں اپنے قیام کے بعد سے چینی کمیونسٹ پارٹی نے ہمیشہ چینی شہریوں کی بھلائی اور چینی معاشرے کی ترقی کو ترجیح دی ہے۔ یہی وجہ ہے کہ آج چین ترقی کی منازل طے کرتا ہو ابہت ہی نام نہاد



تحریر: ندیم خان

انتشار اور چنانہ حالات کا سامنا کر رہی ہیں۔ جمہوریت کی اصل روح عوام کو بہتر معیار زندگی فراہم کرنا ہے۔ چین، چینی کمیونسٹ پارٹی کی مدد پر ترقی یافتہ ممالک کے عوام کو حتمی معنوں میں جمہوریت کے ثمرات پہنچا رہا ہے۔ چین نے اپنے اوپر جمہوری نظام کے حوالے سے نام نہاد تنقید کو ختم کیا۔ چینی پارٹی اور اپنی تمام تر توجہ اپنے عوام کی فلاح و بہبود پر مرکوز کی۔ یہی وجہ ہے کہ چین آج دنیا کی دوسری بڑی معیشت ہے اور اس کی ترقی کا یہ سفر تیزی کے ساتھ جاری و ساری ہے۔ چین کی کمیونسٹ پارٹی عوام کی شمولیت اور حمایت سے حکومت کرتی ہے۔ یہی سی ای سی کی قیادت ملک بھر میں اس بات کو یقینی بناتی ہے کہ عوام کی ملک کی حکمرانی پر مضبوط گرفت ہو اور جمہوری اصول اور پالیسیاں سب سے اہم اور مقدم رہیں۔ چینی طرز کے جمہوری نظام نے جو نتائج اور فوائد چینی عوام کو دیے ہیں اس کے بعد چینی عوام کو کسی دوسرے یا مغربی طرز کے جمہوری نظام کو فائدہ کو کرنے کی کبھی ضرورت نہیں آئی۔ چینی طرز کا جمہوری نظام، چین کے جمہوری نظام پر تنقید کرنے والے امریکہ سمیت کئی ممالک کے جمہوری نظام سے بہتر اور عوام کی ترقی و خوشحالی پر مبنی ہے۔ لہذا امریکہ اور دیگر مغربی ممالک کو چاہیے کہ وہ چین کے جمہوری نظام پر بلا ہت تنقید کرنے کی بجائے

جمہوریتوں سے بہت آگے نکل چکا ہے۔ چینی قیادت نے اس بات کو یقینی بنانے کے لئے مسلسل انتھک محنت کی کہ طاقت کا اصل سرچشمہ عوام ہیں۔ جمہوری نظام پر صحیح معنوں میں نقل و در آمد کے حوالے سے چین محض نعرہ دہن تک محدود نہیں ہے۔ چین کے جمہوری سیاسی نظام میں توجہ صرف اور



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May 04, 2023

Dawn News

Artwork show marks anniversary of China's project

LAHORE: The University of Education (UE), in collaboration with the Lahore Museum, organised a Star Moon Road: China-Pakistan contemporary art exchange exhibition, to mark the 10th anniversary of China's 'Belt and Road Initiative'.

The opening ceremony of the exhibition was held at the main campus in Township. UE Vice Chancellor Prof Dr Talat Naseer Pasha presided over the ceremony, with Punjab Health Minister Dr Javed Akram as the chief guest.

Sixteen artists from China and two from Pakistan participated in the event, showcasing their works. Chinese Deputy Consul General Cao Ke, political and social personalities, vice chancellors of various universities, intellectuals, experts in the field of culture and arts, university directors/principals, and students were present at the opening ceremony.

Prof Pasha mentioned that China, as a friend, has supported Pakistan in every difficult hour, fostering deep love between the people of both countries.

He emphasised the importance of holding the exhibition to promote awareness and understanding of each other's culture, arts, and traditions for the people of both countries.

He highlighted that through the showcased artworks in this exhibition, one can catch a glimpse of the culture, behavior, and positive role of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor.

Dr Akram stated that art knows no borders, and cultural exchange is bringing the people of both countries closer together.

He pointed out that the China Belt and Road Initiative is not only promoting economic development but also fostering cultural and educational exchanges and cooperation between Pakistan and China.

Chinese Deputy Consul General Cao Ke mentioned that the exhibition of the best works from Pakistan continues in China, providing a new way for the Chinese people to understand Pakistani culture and civilization.

He emphasised that hosting art exhibitions in both countries allows the people to understand each other and undoubtedly strengthens the relations between the two nations.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1750768/artwork-show-marks-anniversary-of-chinas-project>

The News

Govt plans to celebrate 1st decade of CPEC with zeal in July

Mehtab Haider

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan has decided to celebrate first decade of China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) in upcoming July 2023 with zeal and zest and the government is expected to invite Chinese leadership on this occasion.

Top official sources said that the CPEC was launched in July 2013 so ten years would be completed in upcoming July so the government decided to celebrate it with full zeal and zest.

According to official announcement, Federal Minister for Planning Development & Special Initiatives Prof Ahsan Iqbal on Thursday directed all ministries and divisions to finalise proposals of development projects for an up-coming Joint Coordination Committee (JCC) to be held in July 2023.

The minister gave these directions while chairing a meeting to review progress over CPEC projects. The meeting was attended by the Secretary Ministry of Planning Development & Special Initiatives, Chief Economist, PD CPEC, senior specialists CPEC secretariat, representatives of the various ministries and divisions, officials of Pakistan embassy in China, officials of Chinese embassy in Pakistan and other stakeholders.

During the meeting, the minister was apprised over the progress of CPEC projects particularly after the 11th JCC meeting held in October 2022 and the recent visit of the minister to China.

It is noted that in April last month, the minister visited China and held meetings with key Chinese officials to expedite the CPEC projects. The CPEC agreement was signed between Pakistan and China on July 5, 2013 during the PMLN's tenure and ten years will be completed in July this year.

During the meeting, the minister directed the concerned stakeholders to hold meetings of JWG's on a regular basis so that projects can be completed timely. The minister also directed the ministries to finalise proposals with a concrete agenda for upcoming JCC in which both countries will rejoice the 10 years' celebration of CPEC.

Each ministry should prepare a report on its project that has economic and social benefits for Pakistan, said the minister, while reiterating that the decade of CPEC should be celebrated very well while rejecting the negative propaganda against CPEC.

Since the government came into power in April last year, the CPEC projects have been expedited and the first visit of Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif to China was a clear indication that the government is committed to complete CPEC projects which remained neglected by the previous government, said the minister.

The minister also directed the relevant ministry to expedite work on Special Economic Zones SEZs in order to gain a piece of the Chinese industry's relocation to Pakistan with low-cost production.

<https://e.thenews.com.pk/detail?id=198898>

Nawaiwaqt News

سی پیک کیخلاف پراپیگنڈا مسٹر د' 10 سالہ تقریبات منائیں گے: احسن اقبال

اسلام آباد (خبرنگار خصوصی) وفاقی وزیر برائے منصوبہ بندی اور خصوصی اقدامات پروفیسر احسن اقبال نے تمام وزارتوں اور ڈویژنوں کو جولائی 2023ء میں ہونے والی آئندہ مشترکہ رابطہ کمیٹی (جے سی سی) کے لیے ترقیاتی منصوبوں کی تجاویز کو حتمی شکل دینے کی ہدایت کی ہے۔ وفاقی وزیر نے یہ ہدایات سی پیک منصوبوں پر پیش رفت کا جائزہ لینے کے لیے اجلاس کی صدارت کرتے ہوئے دیں۔ اجلاس میں وفاقی وزیر کو سی پیک منصوبوں کی پیش رفت کے بارے میں آگاہ کیا گیا۔ وفاقی وزیر نے متعلقہ سٹیک ہولڈرز کو ہدایت کی کہ وہ جو انٹورکنگ گروپس کے اجلاس مستقل بنیادوں پر کریں تاکہ منصوبوں کو بروقت مکمل کیا جاسکے۔ وفاقی وزیر نے وزارتوں کو آئندہ جے سی سی کے لیے ٹھوس ایجنڈے کے ساتھ تجاویز کو حتمی شکل دینے کی ہدایت بھی کی جس میں دونوں ممالک سی پیک کے 10 سالہ جشن کی تقریبات بھی منائیں جائیں گی۔ وفاقی وزیر نے سی پیک کے خلاف منفی پراپیگنڈے کو مسٹر د کرتے ہوئے مزید کہا کہ سی پیک کی 10 سالہ تقریبات کو بھرپور طریقے سے منایا جائے گا اور اس سلسلے میں چینی حکام کو پاکستان آنے کی دعوت بھی دی جائے گی تاکہ سی پیک کے خلاف جھوٹا پراپیگنڈا کرنے والوں کو ایک واضح پیغام دیا جاسکے۔ احسن اقبال نے کہا ہے

کہ ٹیکنالوجی، بجلی، کنسٹرکشن، معاشیات اور ایکسپورٹ سیکٹر سے تعلق رکھنے والے کنسلٹنٹس اور ماہرین کو وزارت میں ہائر کیا جائے گا۔ پروفیسر احسن اقبال نے کہا ہے کہ ملک میں وسائل کی متوازی تقسیم کو یقینی بنانا ترجیح ہے، پائیدار اور مستحکم ترقی کا انحصار ہر فرد، طبقہ اور علاقے تک ترقی کے ثمرات فراہم کرنے پر ہے۔ ان خیالات کا اظہار انہوں نے بدھ کو اپنی زیر صدارت پسماندہ اضلاع میں ترقیاتی منصوبوں پر اجلاس میں کیا۔ انہوں نے کہا 20 پسماندہ ترین اضلاع میں ترقی کے لئے پیکیج تیار کیا گیا جس میں 50 فیصد وفاقی حکومت اور 50 فیصد صوبائی حکومتیں حصہ ڈالیں گی۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/lahore/2023-05-04/page-1/detail-25>

May 05, 2023

Business Recorder

Trilateral dialogue

ALI HUSSAIN

ISLAMABAD: Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Qin Gang and acting Afghan Foreign Minister Amir Khan Muttaqi will arrive Friday (Apr 5) for bilateral talks as well as participate in the 5th China-Pakistan-Afghanistan Trilateral Foreign Ministers' Dialogue scheduled to be held on Saturday.

The Foreign Office Thursday said the acting Afghan Foreign Minister will arrive Friday on a four-day visit for holding bilateral talks with Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari as well as participate in the 5th China-Pakistan-Afghanistan Trilateral Foreign Ministers' Dialogue. In his visit from 5th to 8th May 2023, the Afghan acting foreign minister will be accompanied by a high-level delegation, which includes the acting Afghan Minister for Commerce and Industry Haji Nooruddin Azizi, and senior officials from the Afghan Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Transport and Trade, according to a statement of the Foreign Office on Thursday.

Apart from holding bilateral meetings, the acting Afghan foreign minister will also participate in the 5th China-Pakistan-Afghanistan Trilateral Foreign Ministers' Dialogue on 6th May 2023. State Councilor and Foreign Minister of China Qin Gang, during his two-day visit from May 5-6, will participate in the Trilateral Foreign Minister's Dialogue, besides co-chairing the 4th round of the Pakistan-China Strategic Dialogue.

“The visit of the acting Afghan Foreign Minister is a continuation of Pakistan's political engagement process with Afghanistan, which, inter alia, included visit of Pakistan's Minister of State for Foreign Affairs to Kabul on 29 November 2022 and visit of a high-level delegation led by the Defence Minister of Pakistan to Kabul on 22 February 2023,” read the statement.

During the visit, it added that the two sides will review the entire spectrum of bilateral relations between Pakistan and Afghanistan in the political, economic, trade, connectivity, peace and security, and education domains.

“Pakistan is desirous of a peaceful, prosperous, stable and connected Afghanistan and reiterates its commitment to pursue continuous and practical engagement with the Interim Afghan government,” it added.

The visit of the Taliban's top diplomat comes as special representatives of nearly two dozen countries and international institutions discussed Afghanistan's situation in a meeting earlier this week in Qatar. The meeting was organised by the United Nations and was chaired by UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres while the talks focused on Afghanistan, particularly the plight of women and girls under the Taliban's interim government. Taliban authorities were not invited to attend the closed-door two-day meeting in Doha. Pakistan was represented by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hina Rabbani Khar in the moot.

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2023/05/05/12-page/961664-news.html>

Daily Times

Thar Block-1 Integrated Coal Mining Project empowers local women

Local females are making their presence felt in a mega CPEC power project in the desert. The Thar Block-1 Integrated Coal Mine Power Project, a key part of the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), is in full swing and local women are playing their role.

The Thar Block-1 Integrated Coal Mine Power Project, which is producing 1320 MW electricity, has trained and employed local women to work on the project as part of their initiative aimed at women empowerment in the impoverished region. A total of 21 women from the surrounding areas of Mithi and Islamkot have been hired for solar panel cleaning. The women are aged between 18-45 and apart from three younger ones all of them are married and mothers.

“This job is like a life-changing opportunity for all of us,” says Komal Kumari, from Mithi, who lives with her parents. She is the Supervisor of the Solar panel cleaning team at the project.

Komal has been working with the Thar Block-1 Integrated Coal Mine Power Project for the last four months and has witnessed much betterment in the lives of all the women working under her supervision.

“Females have finally stepped out of their homes. It's a huge step towards women empowerment. These women are not educated. They used to be helpless and scared before they started working. Things are changing. People who used to object to my working are now calling me to give their wives or daughters a job as well. There is so much awareness among women now,” she says.

Mr Meng Donghai, CEO Thar Coal Block-1 Power Generation Company (PVT) Limited, a subsidiary of Shanghai Electric, said that his company will continue initiating CSR activities in a bid to help improve the lives of the local population in Thar. “We have created this opportunity for women workers as we are fully aware that in order to make a difference women need to be empowered,” he said.

“At Shanghai Electric we recognize the importance of educating and training local residents in the energy industry. We have implemented several initiatives, including on-board training sessions for local workers. Our efforts have resulted in providing 18,000 job opportunities and training schools in Thar to teach life-changing vocational skills. The Block-1 Integrated

Project's contribution has positively impacted Pakistan's economy and improved the quality of life for locals," he added.

"I joined the Thar Block-1 Integrated Project on December 26, 2022, as a solar panel cleaner, and it has been a life changing experience for me. I have become financially stronger and have learned skills through their training. I see my future with the company very bright, and I will continue working very hard," says Radha, one of the women workers. Komal said that women like Radha have learned fast and are getting better at their job.

"All these women were very needy. Now they are helping their families. They are earning. Their families are prospering. Their children can now go to school. Their ability to manage time has immensely improved due to working in a professional environment. Now they have become great at juggling their personal and professional lives. They were scared to step out or talk to someone initially. Now they are very confident, stepping out in the world and are taking care of the needs of their families. Their lives have been truly changed towards a better future."

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1090176/thar-block-1-integrated-coal-mining-project-empowers-local-women/>

Dawn News

Gilgit-Baltistan seeks relaxation in exports to China

Jamil Nagri

GILGIT: A delegation from Gilgit-Baltistan has visited the Tashkurgan town in Xinjiang, an autonomous territory in northwest China, to discuss matters of mutual interest and sought relaxation on exports to the neighbouring country through Khunjerab Pass.

The parliamentary delegation, headed by GB Assembly Speaker Syed Amjad Ali Zaidi and on a five-day visit to Xinjiang, also asked Chinese authorities to include five items from GB in the free trade agreement.

In a meeting between Chinese authorities and the GB delegation, the two sides agreed to start weekly flight operations between the Tashkurgan and Kashgar areas of Xinjiang and Gilgit-Baltistan of Pakistan to boost bilateral trade and tourism.

They also agreed to establish a joint small business bank to facilitate small traders and businesses. The two sides agreed to establish a trade zone in GB to promote border trade.

The Tashkurgan authorities said that they would lift travel restrictions within Xinjiang region for the border pass holders of Gilgit-Baltistan.

The Chinese side assured that GB would be equally benefited in the upcoming China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) projects.

Certain other issues were also discussed during the meetings, such as the establishment of fruit and minerals processing zones and scientific help from Chinese experts in agriculture, food and climate change by setting up a research institute in GB or cooperation with the region's local universities.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1751011>

The Express Tribune

Pakistan, China to work for peace

Pakistan and China have reaffirmed their resolve to work together for promoting regional peace and prosperity and for jointly coping with external challenges.

Both the sides emphasised the need to further advance and deepen bilateral cooperation in the areas of trade, economy, culture and defence for the mutual benefit of the two countries.

The two sides also called for increasing bilateral exchanges, people-to-people contacts, and cooperation in the fields of culture and tourism to further cement bilateral ties.

The bilateral matters were discussed at a meeting between President Dr Arif Alvi and the visiting State Councillor and Minister of Foreign Affairs of China Qin Gang, who along with the members of his delegation, called on him, at Aiwan-e-Sadr on Friday.

The meeting was also attended by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hina Rabbani Khar, Chinese Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Sun Weidong, and senior government officials of Pakistan and China.

Welcoming the foreign minister of China, the president said that Pakistan-China relations were rooted in mutual trust, understanding, goodwill and both sides firmly supported each other on core issues. He highlighted that Pakistan-China mutual cooperation was assuming an even greater significance in the light of new developments taking place in the regional and international arenas.

The president said that Pakistan was committed to the completion of China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and Gwadar port, which would play a significant role in the promotion of bilateral trade, besides enhancing regional trade and connectivity.

He said that Pakistan would take effective measures to ensure the security of the Chinese personnel working on various CPEC projects.

He expressed optimism that the recent opening of Khunjerab Pass would facilitate the movement of goods from Xinjiang to Gwadar and vice versa.

The president emphasised the need to increase economic and commercial cooperation, particularly in the IT and agriculture sectors, adding that Chinese investors should benefit from Pakistan's business and investment-friendly policies.

The president expressed concern over the planned holding of G-20 Summit events by India in the Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) and termed it an attempt on the part of India to divert the world's attention away from the ground realities and its atrocities against the people of IIOJK. He said that Pakistan supported China on all its core issues, including the "One-China policy", Taiwan, Tibet, Xinjiang, Hong Kong, and the South China Sea.

He also appreciated the support provided by China during last year's unprecedented floods in Pakistan and the COVID-19 pandemic.

The State Councillor and Foreign Minister of China Qin Gang, said that China and Pakistan were all-weather friends and the friendship between the two countries was “as solid as a rock”.

He stated that in view of the fast-changing world, Pakistan and China needed to further fortify and strengthen bilateral cooperation to meet the emerging regional and international challenges. He called for advancing cooperation in all areas of mutual interest, especially on projects of strategic importance.

Qin Gang stated that China was cognizant of Pakistan’s economic difficulties, saying that it was the priority of his country to help Pakistan. He said that China would welcome Pakistani students to study in Chinese educational institutions.

He also thanked the President of Pakistan for visiting China in March 2020 to show solidarity with the people and government of China during the COVID-19 pandemic.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2415276/pakistan-china-to-work-for-peace>

The Nation

Chinese FM Visit

China’s State Councillor and Foreign Minister, Qin Gang, is set to embark on a two-day official visit to Pakistan from May 5 to attend the Pakistan-China Strategic Dialogue. This is an extremely important visit considering the longstanding strategic partnership Islamabad and Beijing share, and this will be an opportunity to discuss key issues of bilateral and regional importance.

This will be the Foreign Minister’s first official trip to Pakistan which is being viewed as an important part of the recent intensive interaction between Beijing and Islamabad. As per reports, during his visit, Mr Gang will meet with Pakistani leaders and co-chair the fourth strategic dialogue between the foreign ministers of China and Pakistan with FM Bilawal Bhutto Zardari. This structured mechanism for dialogue has been designed to review bilateral cooperation in key areas.

It is expected that the two sides will draw up a roadmap for multidimensional cooperation, and discuss the evolving regional and global landscape. These meetings are important for the implementation of the important consensus reached by the leaders of the two countries, further deepening the strategic communication and practical cooperation between China and Pakistan.

There are a number of key issues that are of mutual interest to Islamabad and Beijing. These include the situation in IIOJK, regional military alliances that are taking shape, Afghanistan, and conflict hotspots across the globe. With regards to Afghanistan, China has been a vocal supporter of engaging with the Afghan interim government as it understands the adverse consequences for the people of Afghanistan and other countries in the long run for not doing so. Considering all that is taking place in the region, it is important for the two strategic partners to take stock of the evolving situation to promote regional peace, stability, development and prosperity. Most importantly, in light of Pakistan’s existential economic crisis, China’s support and assistance will be key if Islamabad is to successfully weather this

storm. Therefore, this visit is going to be critical for Islamabad to address the aforementioned areas of interest and concern with its all-weather friend.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2023-05-05/page-6/detail-0>

Understanding China Fellowship Programme 2023 launched

ISLAMABAD-The Asian Institute of Eco- Civilization Research and Development (AIERD) in collaboration with PMAS-Arid Agriculture University, Rawalpindi has launched the Understanding China Fellowship Program 2023 for the Pakistani youth intending and aspiring to understand China.

Experts on China from Universities of both countries and think tanks will deliver lectures and conduct workshops to train the participants. The program is supported by the Chinese Embassy in Pakistan, Gwadar Pro reported on Thursday. Shakeel Ahmad Ramay, CEO AIERD said that the objective of the program is to equip the participants with knowledge and information about China's success in different fields.

“We want to acquaint them with the Chinese model of development and shared prosperity.

And to provide them guidelines as to how they can suggest a way forward to Pakistani policymakers in line with the Chinese way of thinking”.

As per the notification, youth having at least Bachelor's degrees or Master's degrees in social sciences disciplines will be preferably encouraged to apply. There will be no gender discrimination and equal opportunities will be given to everyone.

After initial scrutiny selected candidates will be called for an interview in the first week of July for the final selection.

The two-month long program will be divided into two parts. The first part comprises lectures, presentations and discussions. While in the second part, each participant will produce a 2000-word concept paper on his/her understanding of China.

After the program, the participants will be awarded certificates along with a cheque of Rs. 10,000 honorariums on their successful completion of the program. The candidates will be required to fill out the application form by 15th June 2023.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2023-05-05/page-13/detail-6>

The News

Chinese technology can help cut down healthcare cost ten times: experts

M. Waqar Bhatti

ISLAMABAD: Healthcare expenses and the cost of doing health business can be brought down 10 times in Pakistan by adopting Chinese medical technology and following medical ethics while prescribing medicines and diagnostic tests, experts said on Thursday.

They also called for promoting lifestyle medicine in the country including traditional Chinese medicine, Ayurvedic and Unani medicine and introducing emerging technologies like stem cell and gene therapies to treat incurable diseases.

“Current inappropriate use of high-cost Western medical technology is exponentially increasing the cost of doing business in the health sector. Hospitals tend to pass on this heavy burden on the patients resulting in catastrophic expenditures and chances of impoverishment even in the middle-class families due to higher cost of treatment”, said Prof. Shahzad Ali Khan, Vice Chancellor Health Services Academy (HSA) Islamabad while addressing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signing ceremony. Chief Executive Officer of the Institute of Regenerative Medicine (IRM) Dr Salman Ghani, CEO of the Islamabad Healthcare Regulatory Authority (IHRA) Dr Quaid Saeed, Registrar HSA Dr Tariq Mahmood, Prof. Ramesh Kumar, former medical director CDA Dr Hasan Orooj and others were also present.

Under the MoU, signed between the Institute of Regenerative Medicine (IRM) and the Health Services Academy (HSA), certificate and diploma courses would be started by the academy for the training of healthcare professionals in the field of regenerative medicine, stem cell technology and use of latest medical equipment and technology. Prof. Shahzad maintained that Pakistani healthcare professionals need to switch to alternate sources of medical technology, especially enhance collaboration with China in the fields of biotechnology, regenerative medicine and traditional Chinese medicines, which are not only highly effective but are also inexpensive and affordable.

Deploring that the majority of technicians in the private healthcare sector were untrained, Prof. Shahzad said the Health Services Academy had started developing partnerships with national and international health institutions to start diploma, certificate and degree courses so that trained and qualified manpower could be provided to the healthcare sector in the country. “Till 2018, HSA was a dormant institute but after that, we started developing partnerships with national and international universities and healthcare institutions and at the moment, we have established collaborations with US, European and Asian varsities and institutions for the medical technology transfer and training of our students and professionals”, he informed. Urging the Institute of Regenerative Medicine (IRM) to promote lifestyle medicine in Pakistan, he said HSA and IRM could collaborate not only to introduce highly effective and inexpensive medical treatment to various diseases but also to provide trained manpower to introduce alternative forms of medicines and treatment in Pakistan.

Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Institute of Regenerative Medicine Dr Salman Gilani said IRM was the only institute in Pakistan where specialized stem cell regenerative medicine procedures were being performed, saying all kinds of diseases including hereditary diseases like Thalassemia, bone and joint issues like osteoarthritis, baldness, cancers, stroke and many others could be treated and even cured. “We have used the stem cell technology very effectively in some of the diseases and in the next phase, we are going to introduce gene therapy to treat and cure hereditary diseases including Thalassemia, bone regeneration and treatment of auto-immune disorders”, he said adding that IRM was the only institute which had its own stem cell lab in the country.

To a query, he said cost of the regenerative medicine in many of the cases was three to four times less than the traditional medical treatment, saying stem cell treatment for the degenerative joint disease of the knee is four times less than the replacement of both the knee

joints. “Our MoU with HSA would provide quality human resources in the field of medical technology, who would not only be serving at IRM and institutes like it but would also be going abroad and earning valuable foreign exchange for the country”, Dr Salman Ghani added.

<https://e.thenews.com.pk/detail?id=199212>

5th China-Pakistan-Afghanistan Trilateral Foreign Ministers Dialogue tomorrow: Afghan, Chinese FMs due today

Mariana Baabar

ISLAMABAD: The Foreign Office Thursday announced the visit of Afghan Acting Foreign Minister Maulvi Amir Khan Muttaqi to Islamabad from May 5 to 8.

Pakistan says it desires a peaceful, prosperous, stable and connected Afghanistan and reiterates its commitment to pursue continuous and practical engagement with the interim Afghan government.

“The visit of the acting Afghan foreign minister is continuation of Pakistan’s political engagement process with Afghanistan which, inter alia, included the visit of Pakistan’s Minister of State for Foreign Affairs to Kabul on 29 November 2022 and visit of a high-level delegation led by the defence minister of Pakistan to Kabul on 22 February 2023,” said the Foreign Office.

This is the first visit of Muttaqi since the formation of Shehbaz Sharif government. He had earlier visited in November 2021.

Muttaqi will lead a high-level delegation, which includes Acting Afghan Minister for Commerce and Industry, Haji Nooruddin Azizi, and senior officials from the Afghan Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Transport and Trade.

“Apart from holding bilateral meetings, Muttaqi will also participate in the 5th China-Pakistan-Afghanistan Trilateral Foreign Ministers Dialogue on May 6. State Councilor and Foreign Minister of the Peoples Republic of China Qin Gang will also participate in the Trilateral Foreign Minister’s Dialogue,” added the Foreign Office.

During the visit, the two sides will review the entire spectrum of Pak-Afghan relations in the political, economic, trade, connectivity, peace and security, and education domains.

The Afghan Foreign Office, on the eve of the departure of Muttaqi, said a comprehensive political and business delegation will accompany the foreign minister and he will “hold comprehensive bilateral talks on political, Pakistan-Afghanistan economic relations, regional stability and transit.”

For Pakistan, the most important issue for discussion, as was conveyed to Kabul by Ministers Khar and Asif, will be the continued presence of TTP inside Afghanistan and the inability of Afghan Interim government to stop them from attacking Pakistan.

Earlier, Pakistan also announced the visit of China's State Councillor and Foreign Minister Qin Gang on May 5 and 6. This would be his first official visit to Pakistan since assuming the office.

Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari and State Councillor Qin Gang will co-chair the 4th round of the Pakistan-China Strategic Dialogue.

"The Strategic Dialogue is a structured mechanism that reviews bilateral cooperation in key areas. The two sides will reaffirm the abiding vitality of the All-Weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership; develop a roadmap for multidimensional cooperation between Pakistan and China; and discuss the evolving regional and global landscape," stated the Foreign Office. The 3rd round of Pakistan-China Strategic Dialogue took place in July 2021 in Chengdu, China.

<https://e.thenews.com.pk/detail?id=199170>

Express News

چینی وزیر خارجہ پاکستان پہنچ گئے

چین کے وزیر خارجہ چھن گانگ سے فریقینی اجلاس میں شرکت کے لیے اسلام آباد پہنچ گئے۔ : اسلام

سرکاری ٹی وی رپورٹ کے مطابق چینی وزیر خارجہ عہدہ سنبھالنے کے بعد پہلا سرکاری دورہ کر رہے ہیں، وہ اسلام آباد میں ہونے والے سے فریقینی اجلاس میں شرکت کے لیے پاکستان آئے ہیں۔

سے فریقینی اجلاس کی میزبانی کر رہا ہے جس میں افغانستان اور چین کے وزرائے خارجہ شرکت کریں گے اور یہ اجلاس ہفتہ 6 مئی کو اسلام آباد میں منعقد کیا جائے گا۔ افغانستان کے قائم مقام وزیر خارجہ تین روزہ دورے پر آج پاکستان پہنچیں گے اور وہ بھی اجلاس میں شرکت کریں گے۔ دفتر خارجہ کی ترجمان کے مطابق افغانستان کے قائم مقام وزیر خارجہ مولوی امیر خان متقی وفد کے ہمراہ تین روزہ دورے پر پاکستان پہنچیں گے۔ افغان وفد میں قائم مقام افغان وزیر تجارت و صنعت حاجی نور الدین عزیز اور اعلیٰ حکام شامل ہوں گے۔

افغان وزیر خارجہ کے دورے کے دوران دوطرفہ اجلاس بھی منعقد ہوں گے۔ ترجمان دفتر خارجہ کے مطابق قائم مقام افغان وزیر خارجہ کا دورہ افغانستان کے ساتھ پاکستان کے سیاسی تعلقات کے عمل کا تسلسل ہے۔

<https://www.express.pk/story/2478291/1/>

K2 Daily

بقیہ 34

ملنے آنے کے لیے وصول کرنے والے بن
ہے، ہر قافلہ کو 10 کلوگرام آنے کے تین
چیلے دیے گئے۔ گوادر ہر دو کے مطابق کراچی
میں پکن کے قنصلیت جنرل کی جانب سے جانا
اور نیز پورٹ ہولڈنگ کینی، سرکاری قہلوں،
مقامی انتظامیہ اور پاک فوج کے اشتراک سے
شروع کیے گئے انسان دوستی کے کارہ عمل کے سلسلے
میں ہر قافلہ کو 10 کلوگرام آنے کے تین چیلے
ملے۔ گوادر ہر دو کے مطابق زیادہ تر وصول کنندگان
کا تعلق مہی گیری برادری سے ہے۔ مہی گیریوں کی
تعمیر و مرمت میں پکن پارٹی کے سیکرٹری آدم قادر پکن
نے قنصلیت جنرل کی طرف سے آنے کے چیلوں
کے سلسلے کی تحریف کرتے ہوئے کہا کہ قہلوں میں
انسانی کی لہر سے ہی طرح طرح فریب لوگوں کو
اس طرح کی امداد و ہمدستی کی اشد ضرورت ہے۔

چینی قنصل خانے کا گوادر کے
غریب لوگوں کیلئے آنے
کے 10 ہزار قہلوں کا سلسلے
گوادر (آئی این بی) چینی قنصلیت کراچی
کی جانب سے گوادر کے نیکو لوگوں کو امداد سلسلے کیے
کے 10,000 (باقی صفحہ 7 پر نمبر 34)

[Dailyk2 E-Paper | Issue=NP ICT&Page=Back_Page&Date=2023-05-05](https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/Issue=NP_ICT&Page=Back_Page&Date=2023-05-05)

[Dailyk2 E-Paper | Issue=NP ICT&Page=Baqia&Date=2023-05-05](https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/Issue=NP_ICT&Page=Baqia&Date=2023-05-05)

Nawaiwaqt News

وائس چانسلر یونیورسٹی آف سرگودھا ہمسایہ ملک چین کے دورے کے بعد وطن واپس

لاہور (کامرس رپورٹ) وائس چانسلر یونیورسٹی آف سرگودھا پروفیسر ڈاکٹر قیصر عباس ہمسایہ ملک چین کے دورے کے بعد وطن واپس آگئے۔ اس دورہ میں پاکستان بھر کی مختلف جامعات کے وائس چانسلر، اساتذہ اور ماہرین تعلیم بھی شامل تھے۔ دتیان شوئی نارمل یونیورسٹی کے ساتھ باہمی تعاون کے ارادے کے خط پر بھی دستخط کیے۔ وائس چانسلر پروفیسر ڈاکٹر قیصر عباس نے یونیورسٹی انس آف دی ہیلتھ اینڈ روڈ 2023 کے فورم میں شرکت کی جہاں عالمی موسمیاتی تبدیلی اور ماحولیاتی تحفظ اور یونیورسٹیوں کی پائیدار ترقی کیلئے اعلیٰ معیاری تعاون کے موضوعات پر اظہار خیال کرنے اور تجربات کا اشتراک کرنے کیلئے دنیا بھر کی مختلف یونیورسٹیوں کے مندوبین موجود تھے۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/lahore/2023-05-05/page-6/detail-8>

May 06, 2023

Business Recorder

Chinese FM arrives in Islamabad to attend strategic dialogue

ALI HUSSAIN

ISLAMABAD: Foreign Minister of China Qin Gang arrived on a two-day official visit on Friday to participate in the 4th round of the Pakistan-China Strategic Dialogue as well as the 5th China-Pakistan-Afghanistan Trilateral Foreign Ministers' Dialogue being held on Saturday (today).

Upon his arrival at Nur Khan Airbase, he was received by high officials of the Foreign Office.

At the invitation of Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari, China's State Councillor and Foreign Minister Qin Gang is on his maiden visit to Pakistan since assuming office. Foreign Minister Bilawal and State Councillor Qin Gang will co-chair the 4th round of the Pakistan-China Strategic Dialogue Saturday (today) followed by a joint media stakeout. The Strategic Dialogue is a structured mechanism that reviews bilateral cooperation in key areas. "The two sides will reaffirm the abiding vitality of the All-Weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership; develop a roadmap for multidimensional cooperation between Pakistan and China; and discuss the evolving regional and global landscape," Foreign Office said in a statement. The 3rd round of the Pakistan-China Strategic Dialogue took place in July 2021 in Chengdu, China.

The Acting Afghan Foreign Minister, Amir Khan Muttaqi, is also scheduled to arrive later on Friday night on a four-day official visit for bilateral talks as well as for participating in the 5th China-Pakistan-Afghanistan Trilateral Foreign Ministers' Dialogue scheduled to be held on Saturday.

In his visit from 5th to 8th May 2023, the Afghan acting foreign minister will be accompanied by a high-level delegation, which includes the acting Afghan Minister for Commerce and Industry Haji Nooruddin Azizi, and senior officials from the Afghan ministries of Foreign Affairs, Transport and Trade.

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2023/05/06/10-page/961725-news.html>

Rs300bn dues of CPEC IPPs likely to be cleared next month

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan is likely to assure the visiting Chinese Foreign Minister Qin Gang that outstanding payments of Rs 300 billion of CPEC IPPs will be cleared in July 2023, well informed sources told Business Recorder.

Power Division, sources said, has sought an amount of Rs 700 billion from Finance Division in federal budget 2023-24 to clear overdue payments of Independent Power Producers (IPPs), CPEC IPPs and equity injection.

Recently China's Charge d' Affaires met with SAPM on Coordination, Syed Tariq Fatemi and conveyed concerns of Chinese power companies saying that their overdue receivables have reached \$ 1.5 billion.

SAPM on Coordination in a letter to Power Minister, referred to his breakfast meeting with Chinese Charge d' Affaires, in which the latter noted that overdue payments to the Chinese IPPs currently stand at \$1.5 billion. This is causing huge concern among Chinese businesses, he added. Chinese Charge d' Affaires complained that Chinese power plants at Hub, Sahiwal and Port Qasim are facing currency exchange restrictions, causing difficulty in coal import.

Pakistan, sources said, has also floated a proposal to Chinese government for renegotiation on contracts of power projects established under CPEC on the pattern of other IPPs or to purchase 1200-MW electricity from Pakistan for onward supply to Afghanistan.

Acting Afghan Minister for Foreign Affairs is also in Islamabad to discuss different bilateral issues with Pakistan.

According to sources, over-dues/ receivables of CPEC IPPs are now over Rs 300 billion, and IPPs may default and suspend operations of power plants as per suspension clauses of the signed Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs).

The sources further stated that if the pacts with the CPEC IPPs are similarly re-negotiated, an initial working suggests that Pakistan can save \$ 14.29 billion over the life of these projects which comes to an average of \$0.48 billion per year for average project life of 30 years.

“When initial inquiries were made with the Chinese officials to explore the possibility of seeking a similar support from CPEC-IPPs, it was indicated that doing so would not be in line with the spirit of CPEC as it would seriously affect the sanctity of contracts signed under CPEC framework agreement,” the sources said adding that the Chinese government would not view favourably the underlying fact that such a demand may be coming at the behest of the IFIs and other western lenders.

The sources further contended that one way to offset the cost, i.e., \$ 0.48 billion per year can be to sell power to China for further provision of electricity to Afghanistan, and Pakistan can

propose to China to consider provision of electricity to Afghanistan through Pakistan for 30 years as part of their development assistance to Afghanistan. China through a contract may buy power from Pakistan and provide it to Afghanistan either at cost or at reduced rates as per its political terms.

Pakistan can allocate power from its power pool to China, the sources said, adding that China can also offer to lay transmission line connecting Pakistan grid to the nearest point in Afghanistan and invest in their grid.

The power balance of Pakistan shows that it has surplus power of at least 3,970-MW till 2030 which will increase over time.

Pakistan will supply power on its power purchase basket price on the basis of energy transfer rate and capacity transfer rate already in place for transfer pricing of power generation cost to the Discos and KE which is currently Rs 12/unit approximately. —MUSHTAQ GHUMMAN

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2023/05/06/10-page/961727-news.html>

Daily Times

Helping Pakistan in economic difficulties a ‘priority’: China

Pakistan and China have reaffirmed their resolve to work together for promoting regional peace and prosperity and for jointly coping with external challenges.

Both sides emphasised the need to further advance and deepen bilateral cooperation in the areas of trade, economy, culture and defence for the mutual benefit of the two countries.

The two sides also called for increasing bilateral exchanges, people-to-people contacts, and cooperation in the fields of culture and tourism to further cement bilateral ties. The bilateral matters were discussed at a meeting between President Dr Arif Alvi and the visiting State Councillor and Minister of Foreign Affairs of China Qin Gang, who along with the members of his delegation, called on him, at Aiwan-e-Sadr on Friday. The meeting was also attended by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hina Rabbani Khar, Chinese Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Sun Weidong, and senior government officials of Pakistan and China.

Welcoming the Foreign Minister of China, the President said that Pakistan-China relations were rooted in mutual trust, understanding, goodwill and both sides firmly supported each other on core issues. He highlighted that Pakistan-China mutual cooperation was assuming an even greater significance in the light of new developments taking place in the regional and international arenas. The President said that Pakistan was committed to the completion of China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and Gwadar port, which would play a significant role in the promotion of bilateral trade, besides enhancing regional trade and connectivity. He said that Pakistan would take effective measures to ensure the security of the Chinese personnel working on various CPEC projects. He expressed optimism that the recent opening of Khunjerab Pass would facilitate the movement of goods from Xinjiang to Gwadar and vice versa.

The President emphasised the need to increase economic and commercial cooperation, particularly in the IT and agriculture sectors, adding that Chinese investors should benefit from Pakistan's business and investment-friendly policies.

The President expressed concern over the planned holding of G-20 Summit events by India in the Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) and termed it an attempt on the part of India to divert the world's attention away from the ground realities and its atrocities against the people of IIOJK. He said that Pakistan supported China on all its core issues, including the "One-China policy", Taiwan, Tibet, Xinjiang, Hong Kong, and the South China Sea. He also appreciated the support provided by China during last year's unprecedented floods in Pakistan and the COVID-19 pandemic. The State Councillor and Foreign Minister of China Qin Gang, said that China and Pakistan were all-weather friends and the friendship between the two countries was "as solid as a rock".

He stated that in view of the fast-changing world, Pakistan and China needed to further fortify and strengthen bilateral cooperation to meet the emerging regional and international challenges. He called for advancing cooperation in all areas of mutual interest, especially on projects of strategic importance.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1090463/helping-pakistan-in-economic-difficulties-a-priority-china/>

Pakistan Observer

Pakistan-China reaffirm resolve to work together for regional peace and prosperity

Pakistan and China have reaffirmed the resolve to work together for promoting regional peace and prosperity as well as jointly cope with external challenges. Both sides emphasised the need to further advance and deepen bilateral cooperation in the areas of trade, economy, culture and defence for the mutual benefit of the two countries. The two sides also called for increasing bilateral exchanges, people-to-people contacts, and cooperation in the fields of culture and tourism to further cement bilateral ties.

This was discussed at a meeting between President Dr Arif Alvi and the visiting State Councillor and Minister of Foreign Affairs of People's Republic of China, Mr Qin Gang, who along with the members of his delegation, called on him, at Aiwan-e-Sadr, today. The meeting was also attended by the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Ms Hina Rabbani Khar, Chinese Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Sun Weidong, and senior government officials of Pakistan and China.

Welcoming the Foreign Minister of China, the President said that Pakistan-China relations were rooted in mutual trust, understanding, goodwill and both sides firmly supported each other on core issues. He highlighted that Pakistan-China mutual cooperation was assuming an even greater significance in the light of new developments taking place in the regional and international arenas.

The President said that Pakistan was committed to the completion of China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and Gwadar port, which would play a significant role in the

promotion of bilateral trade, besides enhancing regional trade and connectivity. He said that Pakistan would take effective measures to ensure the security of the Chinese personnel working on various CPEC projects. He expressed optimism that the recent opening of Khunjerab Pass would facilitate the movement of goods from Xinjiang to Gwadar and vice versa.

<https://pakobserver.net/pakistan-china-reaffirm-resolve-to-work-together-for-regional-peace-and-prosperity/>

The Express Tribune

Chinese bank opens LC for Russian oil import

Pakistan will pay for 100,000 tons of crude oil in Chinese yuan

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan has opened a Letter of Credit (LC) in the Bank of China for import of first oil cargo from Russia, which is expected to arrive in the last week of May.

According to sources, the LC has been opened in the Chinese bank in an attempt to make payment for the cargo – the first-ever purchase of Russian oil by Pakistan – in Chinese yuan. Russia will send a ship carrying 100,000 tons of crude oil.

At present, Pakistan is importing crude oil on a free-on-board (fob) basis, which means refineries will pay for the oil to be transported to the port.

However, Islamabad is importing oil from Russia on a cost, insurance and freight (CIF) basis, which means it will pay for the cargo after delivery at its port.

Though the payment for Russian oil will be in yuan, it will put a burden on Pakistan's foreign exchange reserves.

Pakistan receives currencies like UAE dirham and Saudi riyal from the two countries, hence, it would have been easier to make payments in those currencies instead of yuan, officials said, adding that yuan was not available and the country would have to buy it.

Consequently, Pakistan will have to arrange US dollars to buy the Chinese currency at a time when it is struggling to ease the pressure on its reserves. Already, imports have been restricted to reduce the burden of arranging dollars.

Initially, Moscow offered the option of making payments in three currencies including the UAE dirham, Chinese yuan and Russian ruble. The decision to pay in yuan came in the wake of US sanctions on Russia.

Pakistan, which follows the Platts price index, is hoping to get a discount of \$16 to \$18 per barrel on Russian crude oil.

“Russian oil will be shipped to Pakistan Refinery Limited (PRL) for testing its quality and production of refined products,” a source said.

This way, the economics of petroleum products produced from the first Russian cargo will be assessed based on the discount offered. So far, the specifications have not been found to be too good. Additionally, the freight rate is very high.

The discount has been offered to match the quality and freight rate for Arab Light Crude which Pakistani refineries are currently processing.

In addition to this, the ratio of Russian oil-based refined products will vary, which can disturb the economics of petroleum products.

According to the source, the processing of Arab Light crude leads to production of 45% high-speed diesel (HSD) and 25% furnace oil while the Russian crude will produce 32% HSD and 50% furnace oil.

“If we take such a ratio, Pakistan will require higher discounts from Russia,” the source remarked.

According to sources, the government will make a final decision after PRL submits its test report including the production ratio of diesel, petrol and furnace oil.

Refineries have already been facing difficulties in disposing of furnace oil after the country’s power plants shifted focus to liquefied natural gas (LNG).

Where would the furnace oil go, sources asked, adding that low production of HSD would increase cost, eroding the incentives given by Russia. Of late, the refineries have started exporting furnace oil.

During the previous tenure of Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N), the government began LNG import for the first time in 2015. However, it did not conduct due diligence for the consumption of furnace oil. Since then, the refineries have been in trouble, facing partial shutdown several times over power sector’s refusal to lift furnace oil stocks.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2415367/chinese-bank-opens-lc-for-russian-oil-import>

The Nation

91 percent profit from Gwadar Port operations goes to Chinese company

Fawad Yousafzai

ISLAMABAD-The Senate Standing Committee on Maritime Affairs was Friday apprised that 91 percent profit from Gwadar Port operations went to Chinese company whereas Pakistan’s share was only 9 percent, however maintenance/dredging of the port was the responsibility of Pakistan.

The Senate Standing Committee on Maritime Affairs that met with Senator Rubina Khalid in chair was told that the Gwadar Port Authority (GPA) was unable to carry out this most important obligation (maintenance/dredging) on annual basis due to non-provision of required funds.

While taking briefing on the regular maintenance and dredging facilities of Karachi Post Trust, Senator Saifullah Abro raised questions on the procurement of the hopper Barges in 2013-14 to which the official of the ministry replied that dredgers were not purchased at that time. Presently KPT has four dredgers, the official added.

Senator Saifullah Abro recommended that a report may be sought on all the tenders issued and advertised and the reason why the tender is not executed and need to re-tender arises. The committee observed that re-tendering is an expensive process also if the tender is not executed timely the purchase cost increases with lapse of time.

The committee was also briefed on the designed depth of channel/berths/Ops/FMs, sanctioned depth, volumes and dredging priority and dredging platforms. The chairman committee stressed that the dredgers should be well maintained.

The committee was briefed that KPT has sufficient number of dredging platforms only to meet its own maintenance dredging requirements in Karachi Port/Berths. It was also briefed that the existing servers are relatively old and frequently require extensive repair/maintenance works even though it met the annual requirement however requires progressive replacement in next 03 -05 years.

While discussing the implementation status of the recommendations made by the committee relating to re-writing the “Pakistan Merchant Marine Shipping Policy” and “Pakistan Merchant Shipping Ordinance,2001”, officials apprised that the committee has been constituted comprising all key stakeholders to review and make amendments in the policy.

The meeting was attended by Senator Nuzhat Sadiq, Senator Mohammad Abdul Qadir, Senator Muhammad Akram, Senator Saifullah Abro, Senator Nisar Ahmed Khuhro along with officials of concerned departments.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2023-05-06/page-1/detail-12>

China, Pakistan step up exchanges in art, culture

ISLAMABAD - China and Pakistan have stepped up exchanges in the fields of art and culture, China Economic Net (CEN) reported on Friday

“We are discussing with Chinese guest professors about long-term research on various aspects of Chinese and Pakistani arts and crafts. The safeguarding of the rock carvings and ancient inscriptions in our northern areas is also possible under such collaboration,” Prof Dr Zarawar Khan, Department of Tourism and Hospitality, University of Swat said while attending the China-Pakistan Contemporary Arts Exchange Exhibition.

The exhibition is taking place at the University of Education, Lahore from May 3-5 and in tandem at the Lahore Museum from May 3-7.

More than 100 pieces of works by Pakistani and Chinese artists, including Chinese painting, Chinese calligraphy, sculpture and other forms of art, are on display.

“The art exhibition is one of its kind ever held at the University of Education in Lahore in collaboration with the Chinese art historians, students and delegates. The exhibition has added new dimensions to our knowledge about the ancient religious, cultural and commercial interaction between China and Pakistan,” said Dr Zarawar Khan.

Post pandemic, Chinese students, art experts and historians are restoring contacts with Pakistan to conduct research on bilateral arts and crafts and enhance cultural interactions. The

exhibition is also part of the ongoing efforts to mark the ten-year anniversary of the Belt and Road Initiative.

According to Hao, Director of the International Office, Hebei Academy of Fine Arts, after the conclusion of the two exhibition areas, the exhibits will continue to be on display at the local art centre for more than a week. The academy will also donate some excellent works to the University of Education and the Lahore Museum for commemoration.

He told CEN that in the Lahore Museum, a China Pavilion was built last year, but many collections were copies donated by locals. This exhibition that showcases original pieces of Chinese artists catches eyes and holds value for further research.

Along with the exhibition, China Pakistan Culture, Art and Education Forum was also held at the University of Education, Lahore on May 3.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2023-05-06/page-10/detail-3>

The News

Chinese university to launch certificate course on acupuncture

M. Waqar Bhatti

Islamabad: The Health Services Academy (HSA) Islamabad Friday announced to launch a certificate course on acupuncture in collaboration with Chinese Acupuncture Centre (CAC) Islamabad and Gansu University of Chinese Medicine, China.

The certificate course is meant to promote the traditional Chinese method of treatment and create awareness among people of this unique way of treatment. The goal is to establish and implement lawful TCM practices in Pakistan in collaboration with the regulators.

The announcement to start the certificate course was made at a ceremony, which was attended by Li Yue, counsellor of Embassy of People's Republic of China in Pakistan while Prof. Zhao Jirong, president of Gansu University of Chinese Medicine gave a comprehensive presentation about Chinese medicine.

Vice Chancellor, HSA Prof Dr Shahzad Ali Khan welcomed all participants and elaborated the role of Institutes of higher education in promotion, capacity/confidence building, training and creating awareness among health professionals about traditional methods of treatment.

He proposed to expand this collaboration into a tripartite agreement and open new avenues such as faculty exchange, student exchange, joint research etc and apprised that Health Services Academy is actively engaged with national and international organisations in academia, research, and development projects.

“HSA being top ranked Higher Education Commission's recognised Degree Awarding Institute is serving as a national and international hub for public health, training, research, knowledge exchange and policy advice,” he added.

Director, Quality Assurance HSA, Dr. Nadeem Sajjad briefed the participants about the structure and working of HAS and emphasised that proposed collaboration will provides a

structural framework to collaborating parties in promoting diplomas and short courses in the field of acupuncture and TCM which will help launch degree programs in the future.

The Project Lead Dr La Jielian , CEO of CAC thanked all august guests and HSA for providing this forum for this joint venture. On the occasion, HAS and Gansu University China and CAC, Islamabad mutually agreed to sign a document of understanding after meeting all formalities to expand the collaboration.

<https://e.thenews.com.pk/detail?id=199359>

CPAC to benefit farmers in Pakistan

LAHORE: The China-Pakistan Agricultural Corridor (CPAC) project would bring socio-economic development for farmers in Pakistan and further pave the way for a new era of collaboration between the two all-weather strategic partners.

The Pakistan-China Joint Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCJCCI) has been planning to design a joint application for projects in the field of agricultural sciences to work for the social and economic development of the two countries.

PCJCCI President Moazzam Ghurki addressing a think tank session on Friday said that CPAC was a project of high significance and would serve as a model for other countries in the region to emulate and reinforce the belief that cooperation and partnership could lead to benefits for all. China pledged to open up its markets for Pakistani agriculture products like rice and fish, and to facilitate Pakistan in the marketing of its Halal food products. The Chinese also aim to provide modern agricultural technologies.

PCJCCI Senior Vice President Fang Yulong said that agriculture in the South Asian countries, was struggling with low productivity, supply shortfalls, low returns to farmers, lack of advanced technology and trained professionals. All of these problems were threatening the food security of the region, he added.

Addressing these issues will have a significant impact on people's lives, particularly in Pakistan, as it is an agro-economic country with immense potential for crop production and research in agricultural sciences.

“We are actively pursuing research on plant biotechnology, environmental sciences, agri-technology and agribusiness with emphasis on precision agriculture, multi-spectral sensing of crop fields, 3D printing and scanning applications, early detection of pathogens and effective plant disease management,” Yulong said.

<https://e.thenews.com.pk/detail?id=199233>

Jang News

سی پیک کو مزید فائدہ مند بنانے کیلئے تعاون بڑھا رہے ہیں، چینی وزیر خارجہ

چینی وزیر خارجہ چن گانگ کا کہنا ہے کہ پاکستان اور چین پاک چین اقتصادی راہداری (سی پیک) کی دسویں سالگرہ منا رہے ہیں، دونوں ممالک اس منصوبے پر متفق ہیں۔

اسلام آباد میں پاکستان کے وزیر خارجہ بلاول بھٹو زرداری کے ہمراہ پریس کانفرنس کرتے ہوئے چینی وزیر خارجہ چن گانگ کا کہنا تھا کہ سی پیک کو مزید فائدہ مند بنانے

کے لیے تمام شعبوں میں تعاون بڑھا رہے ہیں۔

انہوں نے یہ بھی کہا کہ سی پیک پر متفق ہیں۔ صنعت، توانائی، زرعی شعبوں میں تعاون چاہتے ہیں۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ وزیر خارجہ پاکستان سے اسٹریٹیجک ڈائیلاگ ہوئے ہیں، ملاقات میں دو طرفہ تعاون، اسٹریٹیجک معاملات پر بات چیت ہوئی۔ ان کا کہنا تھا کہ پاکستان اور چین کے تعلقات بہت مضبوط ہیں، پاکستان چین کی نیا مستقبل شیمز کریں گی۔ انہوں نے بتایا کہ وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف کا دورہ چین بہت اہم رہا اور اس کے مثبت ثمرات سامنے آئے۔ جن گانگ کا کہنا تھا کہ پاکستان کی سلامتی، قومی استحکام، عوامی ترقی، خوشحالی کے ساتھ ہیں۔ پاکستان اور چین کو تمام شعبوں میں تعلقات بڑھانا اور مضبوط کرنا ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ کورونا کی وجہ سے متاثر ہونے والے شعبوں میں توجہ دی جائے گی، کمرشل فلائٹس اور بس سروسز دوبارہ شروع کی جائیں گی۔ انہوں نے بتایا کہ مختلف شعبوں میں چین کی کمپنیاں سرمایہ کاری کر رہی ہیں۔

چینی وزیر خارجہ کا کہنا تھا کہ بیجنگ دہشتگردی کے خلاف جنگ میں اسلام آباد کے کردار کو سراہتا ہے، پاکستان کو دہشتگردی کے خلاف جنگ میں حتمی کامیابی حاصل ہوگی۔

<https://jang.com.pk/news/1222821>

سی پیک پاکستان اور چین کے درمیان اہم منصوبہ ہے، بلاول بھٹو

وزیر خارجہ بلاول بھٹو نے کہا ہے کہ سی پیک پاکستان اور چین کے درمیان اہم منصوبہ ہے۔ چینی ہم منصب کے ساتھ مشترکہ پریس کانفرنس کرتے ہوئے بلاول بھٹو زرداری نے کہا کہ پاکستان اور چین کی دوستی کو ستر سال ہو چکے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ چین نے کشمیر سمیت ہر معاملے پر پاکستان کی حمایت کی، مذاکرات کے دوران چینی وزیر خارجہ کے ساتھ اہم امور زیر غور آئے۔ بلاول بھٹو زرداری کا کہنا ہے کہ پاکستان ون چائنہ پالیسی کی حمایت کرتا ہے، پُر امن افغانستان کے بارے میں دونوں ممالک متفق ہیں، پاکستان اور چین کے درمیان باہمی دلچسپی اور تجارتی تعلقات ہیں

واضح رہے کہ پاکستان، چین اور افغان وزرائے خارجہ سہ فریقی مذاکرات آج اسلام آباد میں ہو رہے ہیں

<https://jang.com.pk/news/1222799>

پاکستان اور چین کے تعلقات نئی بلندیوں کو چھو رہے ہیں، بلاول بھٹو

وزیر خارجہ بلاول بھٹو زرداری نے کہا ہے کہ پاکستان اور چین کے تعلقات نئی بلندیوں کو چھو رہے ہیں۔ پاکستان اور چین کے درمیان وفود کی سطح پر بات چیت کا آغاز ہو گیا۔ چینی وزیر خارجہ اور بلاول بھٹو کے درمیان ون آن ون ملاقات ہوئی، ملاقات میں دو طرفہ امور سمیت علاقائی صورت حال پر تبادلہ خیال کیا گیا۔ اس موقع پر گفتگو کرتے ہوئے بلاول بھٹو زرداری نے کہا کہ چینی وزیر خارجہ کو پاکستان آمد پر خوش آمدید کہتے ہیں۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ چین کے ساتھ پاکستان کے دیرینہ تعلقات ہیں، چین کی غیر مشروط حمایت پر شکر گزار ہیں۔ بلاول بھٹو کا کہنا ہے کہ پاکستان ون چائنہ پالیسی کی حمایت کرتا ہے، چین نے عالمی سطح کے ہر فورم پر پاکستان کی غیر مشروط حمایت کی۔ وزیر خارجہ نے کہا کہ پاکستان ہر عالمی فورم پر چین کے مفادات کی حمایت جاری رکھے گا۔ ان کا کہنا ہے کہ آصف زرداری اور نواز شریف نے چین کے ساتھ منصوبے شروع کیے، وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف چین کے ساتھ تعلقات کو اہمیت دیتے ہیں۔

<https://jang.com.pk/news/1222780>

Nawaiwaqt News

بھارت کو سی پیک سے تکلیف دہ ہشتگردی پر پوائنٹ سکورنگ نہ کرے، بلاول

کراچی (نوائے وقت رپورٹ) وزیر خارجہ بلاول بھٹو زرداری نے بھارتی شہر گوام میں ایس سی او اجلاس میں شرکت کے بعد واپسی پر کراچی میں پریس کانفرنس سے خطاب میں کہا ہے کہ بھارت کا میرا دورہ وہاں اپنا مقصد رکھنے سے متعلق کامیاب رہا۔ مقبوضہ کشمیر پر پاکستان کا مقصد قف رکن ممالک کے سامنے رکھا۔ حیران ہوا کہ بی جے پی کا ایک بھی مسلمان رکن پارلیمنٹ نہیں۔ ہم نے جو نکات ضروری تھے وہ اجلاس میں اٹھائے۔ مقبوضہ کشمیر سے متعلق ہمارے اصولی مقصد قف میں کوئی تبدیلی نہیں۔ بھارت مقبوضہ کشمیر کے متعلق 5 اگست 2019 کا فیصلہ واپس لے۔ بھارت کی سر زمین پر کشمیر کا زکوہا کر گیا۔ بھارتی عوام میں کشمیر سے متعلق یکطرفہ بیانیہ چل رہا تھا۔ کشمیر کا تشخص بحال کئے بغیر مذاکرات ممکن نہیں۔ پاکستان دہشت گردی سے سب سے زیادہ متاثر ہوا ہے۔ دہشت گردی کو مسلمانوں سے جوڑنے کا بیانیہ دم توڑ رہا ہے۔ بھارت کو شاید سی پیک کے معاملے پر تکلیف ہے۔ بھارت کے علاوہ تمام ایس سی او اور رکن ممالک سی پیک کا حصہ بننا چاہتے ہیں۔ کشمیر کی بات کرنے پر بھارتی وزیر خارجہ آگ بگولہ ہو رہے تھے۔ بھارت میں ایک سیاسی جماعت نے میرے سر کی قیمت لگائی۔ بھارت میں اقلیتیں مودی کے ظلم کا شکار ہیں۔ بھارت دنیا بھر میں مسلمانوں کو دہش گرد قرار دیتا ہے۔ کشمیر پر بھارت اپنا یکطرفہ فیصلہ واپس نہیں لیتا تو بات نہیں ہوگی۔ بھارت کی تنقید کے پیچھے ان کا اپنا عدم تحفظ کا احساس ہے۔ بی جے پی کی کوشش ہے کہ ہر مسلمان کو دہشت گرد دکھایا جائے۔ اجلاس میں بی جے پی اور آریس ایس کے جھوٹے پروپیگنڈے کا جواب دیا۔ ہم نے بھارت کی سر زمین پر پاکستان کا مقدمہ لڑا۔ جس سے بھی ملاقات ہوئی اس نے سی پیک پر وجہ کی تعریف کی۔ بھارت کے علاوہ ایس سی او کا ہر رکن سی پیک کی تعریف کرتا ہے۔ سیاستدان جو بھی کہتے ہیں خطے کے عوام امن چاہتے ہیں۔ بی جے پی میں نفرت اتنی بڑھ گئی کہ وہ مجھے بھی دہشت گرد قرار دینا چاہتے ہیں۔ بھارت کا شہری بھی اگر دہشت گردی کا شکار ہو جائے ان کیلئے بھی درد ہوتا ہے۔ جب تک ہم دہشت گردی کے مسئلے کو سیاسی کریں گے لوگ مرتے رہیں گے۔ ہم تو خود دہشت گردی سے متاثر ہوئے ہیں۔ بھارت نے عمل سے دکھایا کہ نہ وہ عالمی قوانین اور نہ معاہدوں کو اہمیت دیتا ہے۔ بھارتی وزیر خارجہ نے جو بھی بات کی وہ ان کی مرضی ہے۔ ان کی تنقید کے پیچھے ان کی سکیورٹی ہے۔ جس جماعت کا بھارتی وزیر خارجہ ہے وہ جھوٹا پروپیگنڈا کر رہی ہے۔ کیا سیاسی جماعتیں سر کی قیمت لگاتی ہیں؟۔ یہ دہشت گرد ہیں۔ بھارت کب تک یو این قرار دادوں اور عالمی قوانین کو نظر انداز کرے گا۔ وزیر خارجہ بلاول بھٹو زرداری نے ایک انٹرویو میں کہا ہے کہ بھارتی جاسوس کلجوشن یاد یونیورسٹی کمانڈر اور ریاستی ایکٹر تھا۔ وہ پاکستان میں کیا کر رہا تھا۔ اگر وہ بھارتی نہیں تھا تو بھارتی حکومت اس کا دفاع کیوں کر رہی ہے۔ سرحد پار دہشت گردی کے بھارتی الزام پر بلاول بھٹو نے دو ٹوک جواب میں بھارتی میزبان سے کہا کہ پاکستان ممبئی حملے کا عدالتی ٹرائل کر رہا ہے لیکن بھارت نے سمجھوتہ ایکسپریس حملے کے ملزمان کو بری کر دیا ہے جس میں پاکستانی شہید ہوئے۔ پاک بھارت تعلقات میں انجمن 5 اگست 2019ء کے بعد آیا۔ بھارت میں جب بھی الیکشن ہوں وہ دہشت گردی کے کسی واقعہ کی آڑ میں پاکستان کو بدنام کرتا اور پاکستان کا رڈ استعمال کرتا ہے۔ جبکہ پاکستانی الیکشن میں بھارت دہشت گردی کا کوئی کردار نہیں۔ کابل پر قبضے کے بعد پاکستان اور افغانستان دہشت گردوں کا پہلا نشانہ ہیں۔ مگر ہم آخری نشانہ نہیں ہوں گے۔ ماضی میں جو کچھ بھی ہوا مگر ہمیں ملکر کام کرنا چاہئے۔ ایک کے سوا تمام وزرائے خارجہ سے الگ الگ ملاقاتیں ہوئیں۔ بھارت بین الاقوامی اور دو طرفہ سمجھوتوں کی خلاف ورزی کر سکتا ہے تو بات جیت کا کیا مستقبل ہے۔ بھارت کے عوام اور میڈیا کا جو بھی مقصد ہو ہم بہتر تعلقات چاہتے ہیں۔ امن ہماری منزل ہے۔ پاکستان اور بھارت کے عوام امن چاہتے ہیں۔ ایس سی او کی چیئرمین شپ 2026ء میں پاکستان کے پاس ہوگی۔ میں نے کوشش کی ہماری بلائینڈ کرکٹ ٹیم کو بھارت جانا تھا لیکن ان کو ویزا نہیں دیا گیا۔ کھیل کو سیاست اور خارجہ پالیسی سے الگ ہونا چاہئے۔ دہشت گردی کے خاتمے کیلئے مل کر کام کرنا ہوگا۔ مخصوص سیاسی جماعت ہر موقع پر اپنے ذاتی مفاد کو دیکھ رہی ہے۔ نامہ نہاد پارٹی کی عادت ہے کہ مخالفت برائے مخالفت کرتی ہے۔ بھارت میں کسی پارٹی کی نہیں پاکستان کی نمائندگی کر رہا ہوں۔ پی ٹی آئی نے ہمیشہ سیاسی مفاد کو ملکی مفاد پر ترجیح دی ہے۔ گوام میں پریس کانفرنس کرتے ہوئے کہا بھارت کو کشمیر سے متعلق 4 اگست 2019 کی صورت حال پر واپس آنا ہوگا۔ بھارت کو بات چیت کیلئے سازگار ماحول پیدا کرنا ہوگا۔ بلاول بھٹو زرداری کا کہنا تھا کہ اجلاس کے موقع پر مختلف وزرائے خارجہ سے ملاقات ہوئی، ایک کے سوا تمام وزرائے خارجہ سے الگ الگ ملاقاتیں ہوئیں۔ ان کا کہنا تھا کہ 5 اگست 2019 کو بھارت نے غیر قانونی اقدامات کیے، 2019 کے اقدامات سے بھارت نے اقوام متحدہ کی قراردادوں کی خلاف ورزی کی، بھارت کے 5

اگست 2019 کے اقدام نے دونوں ممالک کے حالات کو تبدیل کر دیا۔ وزیر خارجہ کا کہنا تھا کہ کشمیر کے بارے میں پاکستان کی پالیسی میں کوئی تبدیلی نہیں، پاکستان کا کشمیر سے متعلق ٹھوس اور واضح موقف ہے، بھارت کے ایک طرفہ اقدامات سے تعلقات متاثر ہوئے، بھارت کو کشمیر سے متعلق 14 اگست 2019 کی صورت حال پر واپس آنا ہوگا، بھارت کو بات چیت کے لئے سازگار ماحول پیدا کرنا ہوگا، پاکستان اور بھارت کے عوام امن چاہتے ہیں۔ ایک سوال کے جواب میں انہوں نے کہا کہ بھارتی وزیر خارجہ سے آن کیمرہ ہاتھ ملانے میں مجھے کوئی مسئلہ نہیں، یہ بھارتی وزیر سے ہی پوچھا جائے۔ بھارتی وزیر خارجہ اور میرا ایک ہی طریقے سے ایک دوسرے کو سلام کرنا میرے لیے خوشی کی بات ہے۔ بھارتی وزیر خارجہ سب سے ایک ہی طریقے سے ملے۔ کھیلوں سے متعلق سوال پر وزیر خارجہ کا کہنا تھا کہ بھارت میں بلائینڈ کرکٹ میچ ہو رہا تھا، اس میں پاکستانی ٹیم کو جانا تھا مگر ویزا نہیں مل سکا، بھارت کیوں پاکستان کی بلائینڈ کرکٹ ٹیم سے ڈرتا ہے؟۔ کھیل کو سیاست اور خارجہ پالیسی سے الگ رکھنا چاہیے۔ بلاول نے ٹویٹ میں کہا ہے کہ ایس سی او اور اے خارجہ کو نسل اجلاس کے بعد دورہ ختم ہوا۔ آج چین اور افغان وزرائے خارجہ سے ملاقاتیں ہوں گی۔ دو طرفہ ملاقاتوں کے بعد سہ فریقی اجلاس بھی ہوگا۔ بلاول بھٹو زرداری کی شنگھائی تعاون تنظیم کو اجلاس میں چینی ہم منصب سے سائیدلان پر ملاقات ہوئی۔

اسلام آباد (خصوصی نامہ نگار) وزیر خارجہ بلاول بھٹو زرداری کا شنگھائی تعاون تنظیم کے وزیر خارجہ کو نسل کے اجلاس سے خطاب کرتے ہوئے کہا ہے ایس سی او کے اجلاس میں پاکستان کی نمائندگی میرے لیے اعزاز کی بات ہے، مشترکہ اقتصادی ویژن آگے بڑھانے کے لیے اجتماعی رابطے میں سرمایہ کاری ضروری ہے، سی پیک وسط ایشیائی ریاستوں کو راہداری تجارت کے لیے بہترین موقع فراہم کرتا ہے۔ ترجمان دفتر خارجہ کے مطابق بھارت کے شہر گوام میں شنگھائی تعاون تنظیم (ایس سی او) کے وزیر خارجہ کو نسل کے اجلاس سے چیئر مین ڈاکٹر ایس جے شکر، ایس سی او کے رکن ممالک کے وزرائے خارجہ اور ایس سی او کے سیکرٹری جنرل نے اجلاس میں شرکت کی۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ ایس سی او کے اجلاس میں پاکستان کی نمائندگی میرے لیے اعزاز کی بات ہے، مشترکہ اقتصادی ویژن آگے بڑھانے کے لیے اجتماعی رابطے میں سرمایہ کاری ضروری ہے، سی پیک وسط ایشیائی ریاستوں کو راہداری تجارت کے لیے بہترین موقع فراہم کرتا ہے۔ وزیر خارجہ نے کہا کہ، پاکستان دہشتگردی کے خاتمے کی کوششوں کا حصہ بننے کے لیے پرعزم ہے، افغانستان کی صورت حال نئے چیلنجز کے ساتھ ساتھ مواقع بھی پیش کرتی ہے۔ بلاول بھٹو زرداری نے پاکستان کے اس مطالبے کو دہرایا کہ بین الاقوامی برادری عبوری افغان حکومت کے ساتھ با معنی بات چیت کرے تاکہ وہ واقعات کو بہتر طریقے سے سمجھ سکیں۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ افغانستان بڑی طاقتوں کے لیے کھیل کا میدان بنتا رہا ہے، ہمیں افغانستان کے بارے میں ماضی کی غلطیوں کو نہیں دہرانا چاہئے۔ وزیر خارجہ نے کہا کہ بین الاقوامی برادری کو افغان حکام پر سیاسی شمولیت کے عالمی طور پر قبول شدہ اصولوں کو اپنانے اور لڑکیوں کے تعلیم کے حق سمیت تمام افغانوں کے حقوق کا احترام کرنے پر زور دینا جاری رکھنا چاہیے، اس کے ساتھ ساتھ عالمی برادری کو بھی افغانستان، خطے اور پوری دنیا کی سلامتی کے لیے انسداد دہشت گردی کی صلاحیت کو بڑھانے میں مدد کرنی چاہیے۔ بلاول بھٹو زرداری نے کہا کہ یہ بات تشویشناک ہے کہ بین الاقوامی برادری کے برعکس افغانستان میں دہشت گرد گروپ آپس میں زیادہ تعاون کر رہے ہیں، پاکستان عبوری افغان حکام سے مطالبہ کرتا ہے کہ وہ دہشت گردی کے لیے افغان سرزمین کے استعمال کی اجازت نہ دینے کے اپنے وعدوں کو برقرار رکھیں۔ انہوں نے بین الاقوامی برادری سے مطالبہ کیا ہے کہ وہ ان سیکورٹی خدشات کو دور کرنے کے لیے کام کرے تاکہ نہ صرف افغانستان بلکہ پورے خطے کی حقیقی صلاحیتوں سے استفادہ کیا جاسکے۔ وزیر خارجہ نے کہا کہ ایک پرامن اور مستحکم افغانستان نہ صرف علاقائی انضمام اور اقتصادی تعاون بلکہ عالمی امن اور استحکام کی کلید ہے، ہمیں یقین ہے کہ ایس سی او افغانستان رابطہ گروپ افغانستان کے ساتھ عملی تعاون کو مربوط کرنے میں کردار ادا کر سکتا ہے۔ بلاول بھٹو زرداری نے کہا کہ ایس سی او کا قیام پورے یوریشیا میں سیکورٹی کو یقینی بنانے کے لیے کیا گیا تھا، یہ تنظیم خود مختاری، علاقائی سالمیت اور لوگوں کے حق خود ارادیت کے اقوام متحدہ کے اصولوں پر سختی سے عمل پیرا ہے۔ وزیر خارجہ بلاول بھٹو زرداری نے سعودی عرب اور ایران کے درمیان اختلافات کو ختم کرنے کے لئے چین کے حالیہ کردار کو قابل ستائش قرار دیتے ہوئے کہا کہ دونوں ممالک ایس سی او سے بھی وابستہ ہیں۔ وسیع تر تعاون، علاقائی یکجہتی اور اقتصادی مواقع کی راہ ہموار کرتے ہوئے امن کی صلاحیت کو کھول سکتے ہیں۔ بین الاقوامی قانون اور سلامتی کو نسل کی قراردادوں کی خلاف ورزی کرتے ہوئے ریاستوں کے یکطرفہ اور غیر قانونی اقدامات شنگھائی تعاون تنظیم کے مقاصد کے خلاف ہیں، موسمیاتی بحران انسانیت کے لیے ایک خطرہ قرار دیتے ہوئے انہوں نے کہا کہ پاکستان کو حال ہی میں بڑی موسمیاتی تباہی کا سامنا کرنا پڑا۔ انہوں نے اس بات پر زور دیا کہ کرہ ارض کو صرف اس صورت میں موسمیاتی

تبدیلیوں کی تباہ کاریوں سے بچایا جاسکتا ہے جب عالمی برادری متحد ہو کر کام کرے گی۔ انہوں نے ترقی یافتہ دنیا کو موسمیاتی فنانس کے لیے سالانہ 100 ارب ڈالر فراہم کرنے کے عزم پر زور دیا۔ وزیر خارجہ نے کنیکٹیوٹیٹی کا ذکر کرتے ہوئے کہا کہ پاکستان اس سال ستمبر میں ٹرانسپورٹ پر کانفرنس کی میزبانی کا منتظر ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ چین پاکستان اقتصادی راہداری علاقائی رابطوں کے لیے ایک طاقت کا اضافہ ہو سکتا ہے، ایران کو مبارکباد دی جو جلد ہی ایس سی او کارکن بن جائے گا۔ انہوں نے بحرین، کویت، مالدیپ، میانمار اور متحدہ عرب امارات کے ایس سی او کے نئے ڈیپلائگ پارٹنرز کے طور پر خیر مقدم کیا۔ پاکستان کو بین الاقوامی سطح پر مشہور بے نظیر انکم سپورٹ پروگرام پر فخر ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ پاکستان کی طرف سے تجویز کردہ غربت کے خاتمے پر خصوصی ورکنگ گروپ کا قیام اس سمت میں ایک قدم ہو گا۔ دہشت گردی سے عالمی سلامتی کو خطرات لاحق ہیں۔ بلاول بھٹو زرداری نے کہا کہ آئیے سفارتی پوائنٹ سکورنگ کے لیے دہشت گردی کو ہتھیار بنانے میں نہ پھنسیں۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ شنگھائی تعاون تنظیم کے بہت سے ممالک کو دہشت گردی کی لعنت کا سامنا کر رہے ہیں، ایس سی او کو مزید مضبوط کرنے کی ضرورت ہے تاکہ امن اور سلامتی کو بڑھتے ہوئے خطرات سے موثر طریقے سے نمٹا جاسکے۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/lahore/2023-05-06/page-1/detail-36>

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Daily Times

For Peace, Development

Pakistan and China Saturday here reaffirmed resolve to further strengthen their time-tested and All-Weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership through continued close consultations at the leadership level, enhanced practical cooperation and robust implementation of the CPEC projects. Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari and State Councilor and Foreign Minister of China Qin Gang made the commitment during the 4th round of the Foreign Minister level Pakistan-China Strategic Dialogue co-chaired by them.

The Chinese foreign minister was on his first official visit to Pakistan from 5 to 6 May.

During the dialogue, the entire range of bilateral relations and cooperation, including in political, strategic, economic, defence, security, education and cultural domains was reviewed. Regional and global issues of mutual interest were also discussed.

Recalling the consensus reached between the leadership of the two countries during the visit of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to Beijing in November 2022, the two sides agreed to further strengthen Pakistan-China strategic relations amidst profound regional and international changes. The ministers expressed satisfaction at the growing momentum in high-level exchanges between Pakistan and China while reaffirming the need for convening important bilateral sectoral engagements.

The ministers underlined that Pakistan-China friendship was a historic reality and a conscious choice of the two nations. As 'All-Weather Strategic Cooperative Partners', Pakistan and China enjoy complete mutual trust, and their iron-clad friendship enjoys complete consensus in both countries.

Both sides agreed on continuing their enduring support on issues concerning each other's core national interests.

Reaffirming Pakistan's special place in China's neighbourhood diplomacy, the Chinese side reiterated its firm support for Pakistan's sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity, as well as its unity, stability, and economic prosperity. The Pakistani side reiterated its commitment to the "One China" policy as well as its firm support to China on all core issues of its national interest, including Taiwan, Xinjiang, Tibet, Hong Kong and the South China Sea.

Welcoming the completion of a decade of CPEC in 2023, the two sides hailed CPEC as a shining example of Belt and Road cooperation which has accelerated socio-economic development, job creation and improvement of people's livelihoods in Pakistan. Reaffirming their commitment to the high-quality development of CPEC, both sides noted with satisfaction the steady progress of CPEC projects. The two sides reiterated the key significance of ML-1 project under the CPEC framework and agreed to advance its earliest implementation. They also agreed to actively advance the Karachi Circular Railway alongside key areas of cooperation including agriculture, science and technology, IT, and renewable energy.

The two sides reviewed the progress of various projects in Gwadar, including the Friendship Hospital and New Gwadar International Airport (NGIA). Both sides reiterated their resolve to make Gwadar a high-quality port and a hub for regional trade and connectivity.

Acknowledging industrialization as highly conducive to long-term sustainable economic growth and development, they also agreed to work together in the guidance of the Framework Agreement on Industrial Cooperation to actively advance industrial cooperation. Both sides reiterated that CPEC is an open and inclusive platform for win-win cooperation and invited third parties to maximize benefits from CPEC.

The Pakistani side expressed gratitude to the Chinese side for its economic and financial support, and its generous assistance package for post-flood reconstruction and rehabilitation. The two sides reiterated their firm resolve to counter-terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. Acknowledging the endeavours and sacrifices made by Pakistan in the fight against terrorism and extremism, the Chinese side appreciated the measures taken by Pakistan to ensure enhanced security of Chinese projects, personnel and institutions in Pakistan, as well as the steps are taken to apprehend and bring to justice the perpetrators targeting Chinese nationals in Dasu, Karachi and other attacks.

The two sides agreed to further build on the cooperation in security and counter-terrorism domains. Both sides underscored the importance of maintaining peace and stability in South Asia, and the need for resolution of all outstanding disputes.

The Pakistani side briefed the Chinese side on the latest developments of the situation in Jammu & Kashmir. The Chinese side reiterated that the Kashmir dispute was left over from history between India and Pakistan and should be properly and peacefully resolved in accordance with the UN Charter, relevant Security Council resolutions and bilateral agreements. Both sides opposed any unilateral actions that further complicate the already volatile situation.

Stressing that peace and stability in Afghanistan are vital for socio-economic development, connectivity and prosperity in the region, both sides called on all stakeholders to work together for a peaceful, stable, prosperous and united Afghanistan, which would firmly combat terrorism and live in harmony with its neighbours.

The two sides underscored the need for the international community to provide continued assistance and support to Afghanistan including through unfreezing of Afghanistan's overseas financial assets. The two sides agreed to continue their humanitarian and economic assistance for the Afghan people and enhance development cooperation in Afghanistan, including through the extension of CPEC to Afghanistan.

Meanwhile, addressing a joint press conference with the visiting Chinese Foreign Minister Qin Gang after holding 4th Pakistan China Strategic Dialogue, he said "We will continue to work together with all stakeholders for peaceful, stable, prosperous and united Afghanistan."

While referring to the long-standing and time-tested friendly ties between Pakistan and China, he said the two countries, like in the past, would continue to support each other in the decades to come.

The minister reiterated Pakistan's firm support for China "on all its core issues, including One-China policy, Taiwan, Tibet, Xinjiang, Hong Kong and the South China Sea". "We are committed to remaining engaged with China to promote south-south cooperation, especially in light of emerging global concerns like human-induced climate change," he added. The minister further termed Pakistan-China friendship as irreversible, 'a historic reality and a consensus choice of the two nations'.

Bilawal also expressed gratitude to the Chinese leadership for its generous and timely assistance as their country was facing the meltdown effects of the global economy.

About China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), Bilawal termed it 'a win-win economic initiative, open to all investors around the world'.

He reiterated Pakistan's abiding commitment to its high-quality development, adding the CPEC remained a shining example of the Belt and Road cooperation, which spurred the socio-economic development, job creation and improvement in the livelihoods of the people of Pakistan.

Bilawal appreciated China's "principled and just stance" on the issue of Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK).

The foreign minister said that the two countries were celebrating the 72 years of friendship.

Speaking on the occasion, Chinese FM Qin Gang said that the all-weather cooperation and friendship between the two countries had been forged by history and consensus. He thanked Pakistan for its support to China's core issues and reiterated support to Pakistan's territorial integrity, sovereignty and national development. He viewed the increasingly fortified and deepened cooperation between the two countries which was contributing to the world's peace and development.

Referring to PM Shehbaz's recent visit, he said, frequent interaction among them would further strengthen the strategic cooperation.

He also expressed satisfaction over the pace of work on CPEC and stressed upon exploring new areas of cooperation in agriculture and energy.

The Chinese foreign minister said they encouraged Chinese companies to invest in Pakistan and also welcomed quality products from Pakistan into China. He reiterated to continue their all-out support to Pakistan's economic stability in the face of global economic situation and the natural disasters.

He further said that Foreign Minister Bilawal had informed about the measures for protection of Chinese citizens in Pakistan. The Chinese foreign minister said that mutual flights between Pakistan and China had become normal.

Qin Gang also acknowledged Pakistan's sacrifices and contributions in the fight against terrorism. About Afghanistan, he stressed that international community should take concrete efforts to alleviate sufferings of the Afghan people and expressed the hope that the trilateral dialogue would create further consensus on the issue of Afghanistan among countries of the region.

Pakistan and China were committed to help in the reconstruction of Afghanistan, he added. He also thanked for the warm hospitality extended to him and apprised of his meeting with President Dr Arif Alvi. Earlier, Foreign Ministers of Pakistan, China and Afghanistan Saturday held discussions covering areas of political engagement, counter-terrorism, trade and connectivity. Pakistan hosted the 5th China-Pakistan-Afghanistan Trilateral Foreign Ministers dialogue here at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, China's Foreign Minister Qin Gang, and Acting Foreign Minister of Afghanistan Amir Khan Muttaqi held productive discussions on matters of mutual concern. According to Foreign Office, "Pakistan is looking forward to advancing our common agenda for regional cooperation under the trilateral framework."

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1090788/for-peace-development/>

Pakistan's pavilion at SCODA to help enhance exports to China, other SCO states

Pakistan's pavilion at the Qingdao SCODA Pearl International Expo Center is a great platform to enhance Pakistan's exports to China and other countries of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO). "This kind of online platform is very important to enhance our exports but it has to be more demand-driven," Commercial Councilor, Pakistan Embassy Beijing, Ghulam Qadir told APP. The international expo center is located in the core area of the SCO Local Economic and Trade Cooperation Demonstration Area (SCODA), with a total area of 168,800 square meters. In November 2022, the center was put into operation. Pakistan has exhibited products including clothes, rice, and various food items, and also displayed its culture and traditions at one of the exhibition halls. Ghulam Qadir said that there is a need to see what kinds of products are being imported by China and what are their preferences.

“We also need to know the demand by the other SCO countries, and based on their demand, we need to increase and diversify such products which are to be displayed here,” he added. He said the pavilion facility is actually supported by the government of China. And it was given to Pakistan for the very reason that the Chinese government also wants Pakistan to enhance its exports to China. He pointed out that there is a huge trade deficit with China which could be bridged to enhance Pakistan’s export to China. “This pavilion is a great opportunity to showcase our brands, diversified products, our talents. People can have a taste of Pakistani food and other products,” he added. In a recent media tour to Qingdao, Shandong province organized by the CICG Center for Asia and Pacific and the Information Office of the Qingdao Municipal People’s Government, the correspondents from Pakistan, China, and other countries were briefed that the SCODA was designed with the purpose of building China’s first and only business, tourism and cultural complex for SCO countries, and a space for experiencing new scenarios of cultural tourism.

To further facilitate economic and trade cooperation with the SCO countries and build a modern trade comprehensive service carrier, the SCO Local Economic and Trade Cooperation Demonstration Area (SCODA) took into consideration the economic and trade application scenarios and cooperation needs of SCO countries, relied on the China International Trade Single Window, and creatively established the China-SCO Local Economic and Trade Cooperation Comprehensive Service Platform.

The platform was officially launched online on November 25, 2022. With the support of the General Administration of Customs, it has become the first international zone of the China International Trade Single Window. The purpose of the platform is to build a home port for Chinese enterprises to enter other SCO countries, and vice versa. It provides services for trade entities, logistics entities, financial institutions, and regulatory agencies through three application carriers: an online web page, a handheld mobile terminal, and an offline service center. The Service Platform consists of three major systems: comprehensive information display, comprehensive function application, and comprehensive data release. With the eight modules of cross-border procurement, one-stop clearance, full-chain logistics, intelligent tax engine, featured finance, panoramic-service, new district window, digital SCO, and 73 sub-functions, the platform provides SCO countries with the full-cycle, full-factor, and full-chain one-stop solutions for economic and trade cooperation, with the integration of trade with customs clearance, logistics, and finance.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1090906/pakistans-pavilion-at-scoda-to-help-enhance-exports-to-china-other-sco-states/>

Pakistani textile merchants carve out niche at Canton Fair

“Business is good this time. Our trade volume may reach \$1 million for this phase,” said Gauhar Mustafa, Owner, Gohar Textile Mills Pvt Ltd., Pakistan, at the 133rd China Import and Export Fair held in Guangzhou, China.

The 133rd China Import and Export Fair, also known as the Canton Fair, concluded its third and final phase in Guangzhou, China on May 5. Over the past five days, textiles, fabrics and clothes were showcased alongside other products to international buyers. It is Mustafa’s 5th

time attending the fair. This year he had sustainable, recyclable home textiles with him. “We are getting many customers worldwide,” he pointed out, adding that as China’s epidemic prevention and control has entered a new stage, it is easier for international traders like him to travel back and forth, and trade delegations find it better to fortify ties with their partners and peers and explore new opportunities.

For Tayyab Rasheed, Director Marketing (Towel Division), A.I. Textiles, Pakistan, the story is even longer. It is his 7th time here.

The textile sector in Pakistan has an overwhelming impact on the economy, contributing 60% to the country’s exports. In today’s highly competitive global environment, the textile sector needs to upgrade its supply chain, improve productivity, and maximize value-addition to be able to survive.

However, Pakistan’s textile group exports declined by 14.2 percent during the first 10 months (July-April) of the current fiscal year 2022-23 (FY23) and stood at \$13.71 billion as compared to \$15.97 billion during the same period last year, according to data released by All Pakistan Textile Manufacturers Association (APTMA) on May 2. Standing out today as a leading manufacturer of quality Greige, fabric & made ups for home and institutional textile sectors across the globe, the company attracted buyers from different countries.

Rasheed told China Economic Net that some Chinese companies visited their booth, expressing willingness to deepen trade ties with the company as they offer fair price and fine quality at the same time. “They also want to explore the Pakistani market. We hope that China and Pakistan can do more business and cooperate more with each other,” he further said.

As Rasheed put it, the textile sector in Pakistan has its competitiveness. Our industry is expanding – Pakistan produces its own cotton; now it has a state of the art machinery imported from Europe, China and so on; our labor cost is less than some other countries in Asia; therefore, we have edges to sell our quality products at cheaper prices.”

“I’m here to sell my products and I’m here to represent my country Pakistan,” he said proudly. He told the reporter that before they got many orders, many customers from this fair. And this time, “Hopefully we will increase our sales with the whole world.”

Launched in 1957 and held twice yearly, Canton Fair is considered a major gauge of China’s foreign trade. This year’s fair resumed all on-site activities in Guangzhou, after being held largely online since 2020 due to COVID-19 prevention measures.

The on-site activities of the 133rd Canton Fair occupied an area of 1.5 million square meters, with 35,000 companies participating offline and foot traffic exceeding 2.9 million people. All figures set new records. During the offline exhibitions, export deals worth a total of \$21.69 billion were signed, which was better than expected, according to fair spokesperson Xu Bing.

The event attracted overseas buyers from more than 220 countries and regions either online or offline. Nearly 130,000 buyers attended the offline exhibitions, with approximately half coming from countries along the Belt and Road.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1090899/pakistani-textile-merchants-carve-out-niche-at-canton-fair/>

The Nation

Pakistan, China, Afghanistan discuss terrorism, trade

ISLAMABAD - Foreign Ministers of Pakistan, China and Afghanistan on Saturday held discussions covering areas of political engagement, counter-terrorism, trade and connectivity.

Pakistan hosted the 5th China-Pakistan-Afghanistan Trilateral Foreign Ministers dialogue here at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, China's Foreign Minister Qin Gang and Acting Foreign Minister of Afghanistan Amir Khan Muttaqi held productive discussions on matters of mutual concern.

According to Foreign Office, "Pakistan looks forward to advancing our common agenda for regional cooperation under trilateral framework."

Chinese and Afghan foreign ministers, Qin Gang and Mawlawi Amir Khan Muttaqi, had arrived in Pakistan a day earlier to participate the meeting. In addition to attending the fifth round of the trilateral dialogue between the three countries, the two foreign ministers also held bilateral discussions with their Pakistani counterpart Bilawal Bhutto Zardari.

Muttaqi, Afghanistan's interim foreign minister, was granted a travel ban exemption by the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) earlier this month allowing him to travel to Pakistan. He has long been subjected to a travel ban, asset freeze and arms embargo under UNSC sanctions.

While this was the Chinese foreign minister's first visit to Pakistan, Muttaqi last travelled to Pakistan in November 2021, just a few months after the Afghan Taliban took control in Kabul.

The visit to Pakistan by the Afghan minister comes in the same week the UN hosted a conference on Afghanistan in Doha, Qatar, without inviting the Afghan government.

Pakistan and Afghanistan share a 2,600 km-long border, also known as the Durand Line. However, Muttaqi's visit comes at a time when Pakistan has seen a dramatic increase in violent attacks in the northwestern province of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and the southwestern province of Balochistan, both of which border Afghanistan.

Authorities in Pakistan say the attacks are launched from within Afghan territory by Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), an armed group ideologically aligned with the Afghan Taliban.

However, despite the exchange of terse words between the authorities of both countries, Pakistan has continued to hold talks with the Afghan Taliban without officially recognising them as the country's lawful government.

In his address to the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) in India over the weekend, Foreign Minister Bhutto Zardari urged the international community to "meaningfully engage" with the interim Afghan government.

“After being the playground for great powers, time and time again, we owe it to the people of Afghanistan to not repeat the mistakes of the past,” he said in the speech in the Indian city of Goa.

China, the third participant in the dialogue, also has significant interests in the other two countries. Beijing is Pakistan’s key economic and defence partner and has invested heavily in Pakistan, headlining with \$ 60 billion in the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) project. The multiple attacks by armed groups have targeted Chinese nationals and their interests in Pakistan in recent years.

In March 2022, then Chinese foreign minister Wang Yi also made a surprise visit to Kabul where he met the Taliban leaders “to discuss various issues, including the extension of political relations, economic, and transit cooperation”.

Official sources told The Nation that Pakistan urged Afghanistan to stop the militants from using its soil against Pakistan.

The three sides also discussed Afghanistan’s engagement in the CPEC which will benefit Afghanistan as well as the whole region.

One official said FM Bilawal will hold a bilateral meeting with FM Muttaqi today (May 7) to discuss the issues between the two Muslim-majority countries.

“The FM will share evidences with the Afghan counterpart regarding Afghan link to the recent terror attacks,” said the official.

Enhancing the trade ties will also be discussed when the two FMs meet, said another official.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2023-05-07/page-1/detail-2>

Pakistan, China call for alleviating sufferings of Afghan people

SHAFQAT ALI

Bilawal Bhutto says peace, stability in Afghanistan key to regional development, Chinese Foreign Minister Qin Gang expresses satisfaction over pace of work on CPEC.

ISLAMABAD - Pakistan and China Saturday reiterated their abiding commitment to the high-quality development of China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) project. This came at the fourth round of Pakistan-China Strategic Dialogue in Islamabad on Saturday which was co-chaired by Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari and Chinese Foreign Minister Qin Gang.

Later, Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari reiterated that peace and stability in Afghanistan remained vital for the socio-economic development, connectivity and prosperity of the region. Addressing a joint press conference with the visiting Chinese Foreign Minister Qin Gang after holding the 4th Pakistan China Strategic Dialogue, he said “We will continue to work together with all stakeholders for peaceful, stable, prosperous and united Afghanistan.”

While referring to the long-standing and time-tested friendly ties between Pakistan and China, he said the two countries, like in the past, would continue to support each other in the decades to come.

The minister reiterated Pakistan's firm support for China "on all its core issues, including One-China policy, Taiwan, Tibet, Xinjiang, Hong Kong and the South China Sea". "We are committed to remaining engaged with China to promote south-south cooperation, especially in light of emerging global concerns like human-induced climate change," he added. The minister further termed Pakistan-China friendship as irreversible, 'a historic reality and a consensus choice of the two nations'.

Bilawal also expressed gratitude to the Chinese leadership for its generous and timely assistance as their country was facing the meltdown effects of the global economy. About China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), Bilawal termed it 'a win-win economic initiative, open to all investors around the world'.

He reiterated Pakistan's abiding commitment to its high-quality development, adding the CPEC remained a shining example of the Belt and Road cooperation, which spurred the socioeconomic development, job creation and improvement in the livelihoods of the people of Pakistan.

Bilawal appreciated China's "principled and just stance" on the issue of Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK).

The foreign minister said that the two countries were celebrating the 72 years of friendship.

During their delegation-level talks, they discussed the entire spectrum of bilateral friendship and ties, adding they were also celebrating the completion of a decade of CPEC.

The foreign minister said that engagement of the Afghan authorities was must and it was their consistent message to them 'help us help you.'

He said they discussed how to best achieve peace and stability in the region, adding to unlock the potential of Afghanistan for the benefits of the Afghan people, stability and peace there was critical. For them, he said the core issue, the red line was the issue of terrorism which posed a serious threat to the regional peace and a stumbling block in the way of prosperity of Afghan people.

He said that during his recent SCO-CFM meetings, they discussed different projects within the framework of SCO including CASA, Trans-Afghan railways, but all these projects hinged upon addressing the security issues in Afghanistan.

Speaking on the occasion, Chinese FM Qin Gang said that the all-weather cooperation and friendship between the two countries had been forged by history and consensus. He thanked Pakistan for its support to China's core issues and reiterated support to Pakistan's territorial integrity, sovereignty and national development.

He viewed the increasingly fortified and deepened cooperation between the two countries which was contributing to the world's peace and development.

Referring to PM Shehbaz's recent visit, he said, frequent interaction among them would further strengthen the strategic cooperation. He also expressed satisfaction over the pace of work on CPEC and stressed upon exploring new areas of cooperation in agriculture and energy.

The Chinese foreign minister said they encouraged Chinese companies to invest in Pakistan and also welcomed quality products from Pakistan into China. He reiterated to continue their all out support to Pakistan's economic stability in the face of global economic situation and the natural disasters.

He further said that Foreign Minister Bilawal had informed about the measures for protection of Chinese citizens in Pakistan. The Chinese foreign minister said that mutual flights between Pakistan and China had become normal.

Qin Gang also acknowledged Pakistan's sacrifices and contributions in the fight against terrorism.

About Afghanistan, he stressed that international community should take concrete efforts to alleviate sufferings of the Afghan people and expressed the hope that the trilateral dialogue would create further consensus on the issue of Afghanistan among countries of the region. Pakistan and China were committed to help in the reconstruction of Afghanistan, he added. He also thanked for the warm hospitality extended to him and apprised of his meeting with President Dr Arif Alvi. He said we oppose the cold war mentality and bloc confrontation.

Responding to a question regarding China-Pakistan-Afghanistan Trilateral Foreign Ministers' Dialogue, the Chinese Foreign Minister said this dialogue will help to uphold peace and stability in the region. He said China is ready to support Afghanistan for its economic reconstruction.

He expressed hope that interim Afghan government will embrace inclusive governance; moderate polices and maintain friendly relations with its neighbours. He urged the international community to take concrete actions to help the Afghan people and alleviate their sufferings.

Earlier, addressing a delegation-level meeting with the Chinese Foreign Minister at the Foreign Office, he also lauded China's firm support to Pakistan's territorial integrity, sovereignty and national development as well as China's principled and just stance on the Jammu and Kashmir dispute.

"There is absolute unison when it comes to the Pak-China strategic partnership," he added. He said China had always proved to be a reliable partner and a trusted friend. He said a recent manifestation of this friendship was reflected by the Chinese assistance in the evacuation of Pakistani nationals from Sudan.

Friendship with China was a cornerstone of Pakistan's foreign policy, he reiterated.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2023-05-07/page-1/detail-1>

Two Chinese traditional medicines complete clinical trials in Pakistan

BEIJING - The clinical trials of two traditional Chinese medicines, Houtou Jianweiling tablets and Fuke qianjin capsules have been completed in Pakistan, according to the results announced by a Pakistani clinical research body. In this regard, the test conclusion report of the randomized double-blind human clinical trials was presented at a ceremony held at the International Center for Chemical and Biological Sciences (ICCBS), China Economic Net reported on Saturday. The two clinical trials were conducted by the International Joint Laboratory of Traditional Chinese Medicine and Ethnic Medicine of Hunan University of Chinese Medicine (HUCM) and Sino-Pakistan TCM Clinic Research Center of ICCBS in Karachi. This is another breakthrough after HUCM promoted Yinhuang Qingfei Capsule to become the first Chinese patent medicine entering Pakistan in 2019. A delegation of 16 Chinese researchers and industrialists from central China's Hunan Province visited Pakistan and participated in the event. They also participated in the dialogue for collaboration in the fields of traditional medicine, biotechnology and public health between China and members of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC). Dai Aiguo, President of HUCM, said that the acceptance of Chinese medicine in Pakistan is increasing, and the cooperation between the two countries' traditional medicines is gaining momentum. "In future, the two sides will carry out exchange and cooperation in a greater scope, wider field and deeper level", Dai said. During the visit to the University of Karachi, the HUCM and ICCBS discussed and exchanged views on the construction of Sino-Pakistan TCM Research Center, the Atta-ur-Rahman Academician Workstation and three other platforms. The two sides showed interest in cooperation and signed a cooperation framework agreement. "China and Pakistan have vast scope for cooperation in TCM. The successful trial of these two medicines in Pakistan marks a new achievement of HUCM's International Joint Laboratory. It also a remarkable step that will promote cooperation in TCM between China and Pakistan," Dai said. The visit marked a new round of ten year engagement since HUCM and ICCBS signed a cooperation agreement in 2013. Fruitful results have been achieved in scientific research, academic exchanges and personnel training between the two sides. More enterprises, experts and scholars will be engaged in this field in the future, according to HUCM.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2023-05-07/page-12/detail-0>

The News

China hopes Pakistan political forces will uphold stability

Mariana Baabar

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan and China on Saturday announced that both the countries which have stood with each other for decades would continue to stand with each other in the future decades to come, to ensure peace and stability in the region specially Afghanistan, as it remained vital to the socio-economic prosperity, connectivity, and development in the region.

China as Pakistan's good neighbor, friend, and partner, sincerely hoped that the political forces in Pakistan will build consensus uphold stability and more effectively address domestic and external challenges so that it could focus on growing the economy, improving people's lives and bring the country into a fast track towards development and rejuvenation.

China commended Pakistan in its fight against terrorism and firmly believed that Pakistan will be victor in the counterterrorism, while Pakistan appreciated China's "principled and just stance" on the issue of Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJ&K) as well as its "firm support for Pakistan's territorial integrity, sovereignty and national development, said a joint statement issued by Pakistan and China after dialogue between both the countries, said a joint statement issued by Pakistan and China after dialogue between both the countries.

Acknowledging the endeavours and sacrifices made by Pakistan in fight against terrorism and extremism, the Chinese side appreciated the measures taken by Pakistan to ensure enhanced security of Chinese projects, personnel and institutions in Pakistan, as well as the steps taken to apprehend and bring to justice the perpetrators targeting Chinese nationals in Dasu, Karachi and other attacks. The two sides agreed to further build on the cooperation in security and counter-terrorism domains.

The Chinese foreign minister reiterated that the Kashmir dispute was left over from history between India and Pakistan and should be properly and peacefully resolved in accordance with the UN Charter, relevant Security Council resolutions and bilateral agreements. Both sides opposed any unilateral actions that further complicate the already volatile situation.

China also held out an assurance to Kabul that together with Pakistan they were ready to actively support and help Afghanistan with its economic reconstruction but it was important that the Taliban take the security concerns of its neighbours seriously and take stronger measures to counter various terror forces within Afghanistan.

Both sides in their talks emphasised that there should be a stable Afghanistan which would firmly combat terrorism and live in harmony with its neighbours.

The two sides underscored the need for the international community to provide continued assistance and support to Afghanistan, including through unfreezing of Afghanistan's overseas financial assets. The two sides agreed to continue their humanitarian and economic assistance for the Afghan people and enhance development cooperation in Kabul, including through extension of CPEC to Afghanistan, said the Foreign Office.

The Foreign Office saw several meetings between Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari and his visiting Chinese counterpart Qin Gang.

Delegation level talks were held followed by a one-on-one meeting between the two foreign ministers who had earlier met during the SCO meeting in Goa.

Later, the two sides held the 4th Pakistan-China Strategic Dialogue which was followed by a joint press briefing. The Chinese side on their request did not want the statement of Qin Gang to be aired live.

Bilateral talks were also held between Pakistan and Afghanistan at the Foreign Office, while China also held bilateral talks with Afghanistan.

Afghan officials said that the bilateral with China focused on "important" political, commercial, economic, transit and bilateral issues" were discussed.

Before the two ministers joined their Afghan counterpart Amir Khan Muttaqi for the fifth China-Pakistan-Afghanistan Trilateral Foreign Ministers' Dialogue, Minister Bilawal told the media that peace and stability in Afghanistan was important for the region's socioeconomic development and vowed to work together with all stakeholders, including China, towards its achievement.

During the media briefing, Bilawal reiterated Pakistan's firm support for China "on all its core issues, including One-China policy, Taiwan, Tibet, Xinjiang, Hong Kong and the South China Sea".

"Pakistan remains profoundly grateful to China for its generous and timely assistance as we continue to grapple with the headwinds in a global economy, and we remain against bloc politics or great power competition of any kind," he added.

While commenting on CPEC, Minister Bilawal said: "CPEC remains a shining example of the Belt and Road Cooperation, which is accelerated socioeconomic development, job creation and improvement of the people's livelihoods in Pakistan. We are committed to remaining engaged with China to promote south-south cooperation, especially in light of emerging global concerns like human-induced climate change."

He pointed out that this year marks the completion of a decade of CPEC project which has accelerated socio economic development, job creation and improvement of people's livelihoods in Pakistan. He said that this corridor project remains a win-win economic initiative opened to all investors around the world.

On the same issue, the Chinese foreign minister said that his counterpart had briefed him on the measures that Pakistan had taken to protect Chinese citizens which were appreciated.

"I believe that Pakistani people do not need empty talks. What they need is concrete assistance. As Pakistan's iron friend, China will as always work with Pakistan through the platform of CPEC, align our development strategies, share China's development opportunities and build an even closer China-Pakistan community with a shared future," said Qin Gang.

The Chinese foreign minister made it clear to all stakeholders that unless there was internal stability inside Pakistan, CPEC projects could not move ahead.

"China sincerely hopes Pakistan political forces can get together and overcome issues of political stability so that they can grow on the economic front together with us," he told the joint press conference.

Calling for political stability inside Pakistan, Qin Gang remarked: "We sincerely believe that the political forces in Pakistan will build consensus, uphold stability and more effectively address domestic and external challenges so that it could focus on growing the economy, improving people's lives."

Stability, he emphasised, is the premise of development which is in turn rooted in security. He reiterated Chinese firm support for Pakistan's sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity as well as its unity, stability and economic prosperity.

Given the financial constraints of Pakistan, the Chinese foreign minister said that the current financial and foreign exchange pressure on Islamabad will prompt Beijing to take a close look at possible solutions and will do its best to help Pakistan address such pressure.

“I want to reiterate that financial cooperation between China and Pakistan is for the economic development and the betterment of people’s lives in Pakistan. For those, who are making such false accusations about debt traps, I suggest that you ask those people what have they done for the national development and well-being of the Pakistani people what kind of investment they have made in Pakistan”, the minister said without naming the US which has been critical of CPEC.

During the Pakistan -China Strategic Dialogue, the Foreign Office said: “The entire range of bilateral relations and cooperation, including in political, strategic, economic, defence security, education and cultural domains was reviewed. Regional and global issues of mutual interest were discussed.”

Reviewing their cooperation on regional and international issues at multilateral forums such as the United Nations and Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO), the two sides agreed to further deepen their coordination and cooperation to safeguard mutual interests. Both sides reaffirmed their commitment to the purposes and principles of the UN Charter, and support for multilateralism, free trade and win-win cooperation.

<https://e.thenews.com.pk/detail?id=199723>

Chinese advice to Pak political forces comes for second time

Muhammad Saleh Zaair

ISLAMABAD: Expressing concern over the deepening strife among the political leaders, China on Saturday impressed upon the political forces in Pakistan to unite and overcome the issues of political stability.

The advice has come from visiting Chinese Foreign Minister Qin Gang, who concluded his maiden two-day visit to Pakistan on Saturday.

He had talks with host Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari and led his country’s delegation in the fifth Pakistan-China-Afghanistan Trilateral Foreign Ministers Dialogue at the Foreign Office here with “productive discussions on political engagement, counter-terrorism trade and connectivity.”

Highly placed diplomatic sources reminded that China offered similar advice to Pakistan way back in early 1971 when the Awami League of East Pakistan started agitation in the eastern part of the country and its leader Sheikh Mujib ur Rehman tried to force the government to come to his terms for resolution of political disputes.

Former late Chinese Prime Minister Zhou Enlai, who was an acclaimed visionary statesman, asked the rulers of Pakistan through quiet diplomacy to settle political issues citing the evil designs of Pakistan’s foes to dismember it.

The leadership of the Awami League despite the initiatives of the government subverted the desire of the government for rapprochement. The sources pointed out that now the advice has

come openly from China, asking quarrelling political forces to settle their dispute through peaceful means.

Interestingly, the government has not yet reacted to the advice but some leaders from the PTI have welcomed it. The sources reminded The News that when the Chinese foreign minister was engaged in dialogue here in the federal capital on Saturday, the PTI leaders were busy in agitation not on the roads near the Red Zone of Islamabad but also in the garrison city Rawalpindi. Similar scenes were created in Lahore and Peshawar.

It would be pertinent to recall that Chinese President Xi Jinping had to come to Pakistan on his first visit in 2014 and he had to ink with then Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif CPEC's historic billion dollars agreement, PTI leader Imran Khan started a sit-in in Red-Zone of Islamabad. He declined the request of the Chinese ambassador in Pakistan to suspend his sit-in for two days so that the visit could take place hassle-free.

The visit had to be called off and the agreement signing was delayed for months.

<https://e.thenews.com.pk/detail?id=199799>

PTI hails Chinese FM's statement on need for political stability

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leaders Saturday warmly welcomed the visiting Chinese Foreign Minister Qin Gang's statement that political forces can get together and overcome the issues of political stability, so that they can grow on the domestic and economic front together with them.

"His statement is a testimony to time-tested friendship of the true iron brothers," they noted.

PTI Central Secretary General Asad Umar, Senior Vice President Fawad Chaudhry and Central Secretary Information Farrukh Habib said, in their statements that the Chinese foreign minister had rightly pointed out the significance of political stability in the country.

Asad Umar said that honoured to have foreign minister of China in Pakistan. He added that the Pak-China relationship has stood the test of time and both countries have proven to be true iron brothers.

"As an elected representative of Islamabad, a special welcome to his excellency to Islamabad in the beautiful Chinese embassy of Pakistan," he added.

Fawad said that PTI welcomed the Chinese foreign minister in Pakistan; Pak-China relationship constituted a unique foreign policy experience that was primarily based on people to people understanding of each other's issues and sentiments, hence it's beyond government and persons in power.

"Chinese FM has rightly pointed out the significance of political stability, as PTI has always maintained that economic stability cannot be achieved in persistent political turmoil, elections is the only way forward for political stability of Pakistan," he said.

Farrukh Habib welcomed the statement of Chinese foreign minister, who emphasised political stability in Pakistan.

<https://e.thenews.com.pk/detail?id=199800>

Express News

آرمی چیف سے چینی وزیر خارجہ، افغان قائم مقام وزیر خارجہ کی ملاقات

آرمی چیف جنرل سید عاصم منیر سے چینی اسٹیٹ کونسلر اور وزیر خارجہ جن کنگ اور افغان قائم مقام وزیر خارجہ امیر متقی کی علیحدہ علیحدہ ملاقات ہوئی جس میں سی پیک، افغانستان کی صورت حال اور خطے میں قیام امن پر تبادلہ خیال کیا گیا۔

آئی ایس پی آر کے مطابق آرمی ہاؤس میں چینی وزیر خارجہ سے ملاقات میں علاقائی سلامتی اور دفاعی تعاون سمیت باہمی دلچسپی کے امور پر تبادلہ خیال کیا گیا، ملاقات کے دوران آرمی چیف نے چین پاکستان اسٹریٹجک تعلقات کے لیے پاکستان کے عزم کا اعادہ کیا۔ آرمی چیف نے چین پاکستان اکنامک کوریڈور منصوبے کے لیے بھی مکمل حمایت کا اعادہ کیا، یہ منصوبہ چین کے بیلٹ اینڈ روڈ انیشیٹیو کا ایک اہم جزو ہے۔

آرمی چیف نے علاقائی اور بین الاقوامی معاملات پر پاکستان کے لیے چین کی غیر متزلزل حمایت کو بھی سراہا۔ وزیر خارجہ جن کنگ نے برادر ممالک کے درمیان دیرینہ تزویراتی تعلقات کی اہمیت کو اجاگر کیا۔ چینی وزیر خارجہ نے سی پیک پر ہونے والی پیش رفت پر اطمینان کا اظہار کیا، چینی وزیر خارجہ نے سی پیک کی بروقت تکمیل کے لیے چین کے عزم کا اعادہ کیا۔

چینی وزیر خارجہ نے علاقائی امن و استحکام کو برقرار رکھنے کے لیے پاکستان کی کوششوں کو بھی سراہا۔ دونوں شخصیات نے خطے میں سیکیورٹی کی ابھرتی ہوئی صورت حال پر بھی تبادلہ خیال کیا۔

آرمی چیف نے خطے میں امن اور استحکام کو فروغ دینے میں چین کے کردار کو تسلیم کیا۔ دونوں فریقوں نے مشترکہ سیکیورٹی چیلنجوں کا مؤثر طریقے سے مقابلہ کرنے کے لیے دفاع اور سلامتی کے شعبوں میں اپنے موجودہ تعاون کو بڑھانے پر اتفاق کیا۔ فریقین نے پاکستان اور چین کے درمیان دوستی کو مزید مضبوط کرنے کے عزم کا اعادہ کیا۔ آرمی چیف جنرل سید عاصم منیر سے قائم مقام افغان وزیر برائے خارجہ امور امیر خان متقی نے ان کے دفتر میں ملاقات کی۔ آرمی چیف اور افغان قائم مقام وزیر خارجہ نے باہمی دلچسپی کے امور پر تبادلہ خیال کیا۔ ملاقات میں علاقائی سلامتی، بارڈر مینجمنٹ اور موجودہ سیکیورٹی ماحول میں بہتری کے لیے دوطرفہ سیکیورٹی میکانزم کو باقاعدہ بنانے کے پہلوؤں پر تبادلہ خیال کیا گیا۔

آرمی چیف نے دہشت گردی اور انتہا پسندی کے مشترکہ چیلنجوں سے مؤثر طریقے سے نمٹنے کے لیے دونوں برادر ہمسایوں کے درمیان تعاون بڑھانے کی ضرورت پر زور دیا۔ ملاقات میں آرمی چیف نے باہمی دلچسپی کے امور میں افغان عبوری حکومت کی جانب سے مکمل حمایت اور عزم کی ضرورت کا اعادہ کیا۔

وزیر خارجہ متقی نے افغانستان کے عوام کے لیے پاکستان کی روایتی حمایت کو سراہا۔ افغان وزیر خارجہ نے پاکستان افغانستان میں امن اور ترقی میں سہولت کاری کے لیے کردار کو سراہا۔ انہوں نے علاقائی استحکام اور خوشحالی کے فروغ کے لیے پاکستان کے ساتھ مل کر کام کرنے کی خواہش کا بھی اظہار کیا۔ فریقین نے دوطرفہ تعلقات کو مضبوط بنانے اور مشترکہ تشویش کے مسائل کو حل کرنے کے لیے باقاعدہ رابطوں کو برقرار رکھنے کی اہمیت پر اتفاق کیا۔

آرمی چیف نے ایک مستحکم، پر امن اور خوشحال افغانستان کے لیے پاکستان کے عزم کا اعادہ کیا۔

<https://www.express.pk/story/2478954/1/>

K2 Daily





https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP ICT&Page=Front_Page&Date=2023-05-07

<https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP ICT&Page=Baqia&Date=2023-05-07>

چینی وزیر خارجہ چن گانگ کی صدر عارف علوی سے ملاقات

پاکستان کے دورے پر آئے ہوئے چینی وزیر خارجہ چن گانگ کی صدر ڈاکٹر عارف علوی سے ملاقات کے دوران پاکستان اور چین نے علاقائی امن اور خوشحالی کے فروغ اور بیرونی چیلنجوں سے مشترکہ طور پر نمٹنے، علاقائی امن اور خوشحالی کے فروغ کیلئے مل کر کام کرنے کے عزم کا اعادہ کیا ہے۔ اس موقع پر دونوں ممالک کے مشترکہ فائدے کیلئے تجارت، معیشت، ثقافت اور دفاع کے شعبوں کے علاوہ عوامی روابط اور ثقافت و سیاحت کے شعبوں میں دو طرفہ تعاون کو مزید آگے بڑھانے اور گہرا کرنے کی ضرورت پر زور دیا گیا۔ پاکستان چین اقتصادی راہداری (سی بی سی) اور گواڈر بندرگاہ کی تکمیل کیلئے پر عزم میں ہیں اور یہ علاقائی تجارت اور روابط کو بڑھانے کے علاوہ دو طرفہ تجارت کے فروغ میں اہم کردار ادا کرے گا۔ چن گانگ نے کہا کہ چین اور پاکستان کی دوستی سدا بہار ہے اور ”چٹان کی طرح مضبوط“ ہے۔

تیزی سے بدلتی ہوئی عالمی حالات کے پیش نظر پاکستان اور چین کو ابھرتے ہوئے علاقائی اور بین الاقوامی چیلنجوں سے نمٹنے کیلئے دو طرفہ تعاون کو مزید مضبوط اور مستحکم کرنے کی ضرورت ہے۔ اس دوستی کی پائیداری کا ثبوت یہ ہے کہ یہ دوستی حکومتی سطح پر ہی نہیں عوامی سطح پر بھی ہے۔ حکومتیں اور حکومتی پالیسیاں تبدیل ہوتی رہتی ہیں لیکن عوامی سطح پر رشتے مضبوط اور گہرے رہتے ہیں۔ یہی وجہ ہے کہ وقت گزرنے کے ساتھ ساتھ یہ دوستی مزید مستحکم ہو رہی ہے۔ عوامی سطح پر دوستی کو مزید گہرا کرنے کیلئے پاکستان کی مختلف یونیورسٹیز میں کنفیو شس انسٹی ٹیوٹ اور چائینیز ریسرچ سینٹر جبکہ چین میں پاکستانی ریسرچ سینٹر اپنے فرانسس سرانجام دے رہے ہیں۔ دونوں ممالک کے مابین باہمی دلچسپی کے تمام شعبوں بالخصوص ترقیاتی اہمیت کے حامل منصوبوں پر جو تعاون کو دیکھنے میں آرہا ہے، وہ بھی اپنی مثال آپ ہے۔ بد قسمتی سے سابقہ حکومت کی پالیسیوں کے پاک چین تعلقات میں کچھ غلط فہمیاں پیدا ہوئیں جس کے باعث سی بی سی منصوبہ متاثر ہوا۔ موجودہ دور حکومت میں اس منصوبے پر پیش رفت ہوتی نظر آرہی ہے۔ گزشتہ روز چینی وزیر خارجہ چن گانگ نے بھی دفاع کے شعبوں سمیت سی بی سی اور گواڈر بندرگاہ کو تکمیل تک پہنچانے کا عزم ظاہر کیا ہے۔ خطے میں پاک چین دوستی امن، ترقی اور خوشحالی کی ضمانت بن چکی ہے اور یہ تعاون خطے میں مزید استحکام لائے گا۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/lahore/2023-05-07/page-5/detail-5>

May 08, 2023

Business Recorder

Qin, COAS discuss CPEC, other matters

ISLAMABAD: Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Asim Munir and Chinese State Councillor and Foreign Minister Qin Gang discussed issues of mutual interest including regional security and defence cooperation between the two countries.

According to the army's media wing on Sunday, "during the meeting, the COAS reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to China-Pakistan Strategic relationship. The COAS also pledged full support for China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) project, which is a vital component of China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). He also appreciated China's unwavering support for Pakistan on regional and international issues."

Foreign Minister Qin Gang underscored the importance of the longstanding strategic relationship between the brotherly nations and expressed his satisfaction over the progress made on the CPEC while reiterating China's commitment to its timely completion. He also appreciated Pakistan's efforts in maintaining regional peace and stability, especially the support of Pakistan Armed Forces for provision of security to Chinese nationals and projects in Pakistan.

The two dignitaries also discussed the evolving security situation in the region. The COAS acknowledged China's role in promoting peace and stability in the region, and both sides agreed to enhance their existing cooperation in defence and security domains to effectively counter common security challenges. The meeting concluded on a positive note, with both sides reiterating their resolve to further strengthen the time-tested, all-weather friendship between Pakistan and China.

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2023/05/08/1-page/961792-news.html>

Pakistan, China to work for peaceful, stable Afghanistan: PM

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif Sunday said the 5th Trilateral Foreign Ministers' Dialogue held in Islamabad on Saturday underscored the unwavering consensus of Pakistan and China to work for a peaceful, stable and prosperous Afghanistan in the interest of Afghan people.

In a tweet on social media platform Twitter, he said, "Unlocking economic potential of the region remains contingent on restoration of regional peace and stability. Investing in peace & stability through a collective & sustained focus will ensure win-win outcomes, including the success of initiatives aimed at greater regional connectivity & socio-economic progress."—APP

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2023/05/08/3-page/961813-news.html>

PM's interest brings new life to Gwadar projects

ISLAMABAD: Soon after assuming office, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif took keen interest in the development of Gwadar and personally visited the port city last year, where he

announced a 100 billion development package for the Balochistan province with a sizable amount fixed for the city besides inaugurating some key infrastructure projects including Eastbay Expressway.

During his visit to the city in June last year, the prime minister ordered to complete all the ongoing development projects of water, electricity and infrastructure in Gwadar in the stipulated time.

He warned of zero tolerance on any further interruption in the projects of water and electricity saying that the 1.2 million gallons of desalination plant in Gwadar should be completed as soon as possible.

PM Shehbaz said the network of pipelines for the provision of water in houses should be immediately improved and also ordered an inquiry to identify those responsible for delaying the projects.

Shehbaz directed the relevant authorities to begin dredging at the Gwadar port besides taking practical steps for breakwater.

He further directed that the construction of Gwadar Hospital should be completed in September instead of December.

He also ordered to include all 16,523 poor families of Gwadar in the Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP).

The prime minister also broke ground for the Gwadar Seawater Desalination Plant by China Aid, Jingtal Gwadar Private Limited, Hangmei Lubricant Plant, Hangeng Agricultural Industrial Park, Gwadar Expo Centre and Gwadar Fertilizer Plant, besides distribution of 3,000 solar panels.

As a result of the prime minister's special directives, remarkable progress has been made so far on several projects in Gwadar.

According to official sources, some 20 new projects are on the way of completion in 2023 and onward years as per their scheduled timeframes.

The 1.2 million gallon water per day desalination plant which is in the final stage, would be operational in a few weeks while the progress of Gwadar international airport is also on track and is likely to be completed in 2023.

The other ongoing projects in Gwadar include Gwadar Free Zone North (Phase 11), the Gwadar Safe City Project, three electricity projects, the Gwadar Smart Port City Master Plan, Gwadar Tourism Project, New management model of Pak-China Technical and Vocational Institute (PCT & VI), State of Art Shipyard Project, Oil Refinery project, Green Gwadar Project, Pak-China Friendship Hospital, fisher community projects, Gwadar Port dredging project, Export-oriented projects, Fishing industry, Warehouse industry, and Gwadar Huafa Exhibition and Trading Center.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif inaugurated a component of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), the six-lane Eastbay Expressway connecting the Gwadar Port with the Makran Coastal Highway, also providing a link to Karachi.

The Eastbay Expressway is a major infrastructure project in the city of Gwadar. This construction of the 19-kilometer highway runs parallel to the coastline, and has four interchanges, two bridges, and a toll plaza. The expressway is designed to handle heavy traffic, and is expected to significantly reduce transportation costs and time for goods moving to and from the Gwadar port.

The completion of the Eastbay Expressway is a major milestone in the development of Gwadar as a major port city. The Gwadar Port, which is the centerpiece of the CPEC, is strategically located at the mouth of the Persian Gulf, and has the potential to become a major hub for trade and commerce in the region.—APP

[BR-ePaper | May 08, 2023 | Page National News Page 4 \(brecorder.com\)](#)

Daily Times

Pak-China friendship to grow stronger: Zehri

Senator Samina Mumtaz Zehri on Sunday said Pakistan-China friendship is higher and stronger than the Himalayas and this friendship will continue to grow stronger. She expressed these views on the completion of a decade of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor project this year. She said that Pakistan's relations with China have always been cordial, and it is getting better and stronger with time.

She said that the role of China in the region is important and for socio-economic development, Afghanistan is willing to work together with all stakeholders including Pakistan and China to achieve peace and stability in Afghanistan.

“Peace and stability in the region is indispensable for socio-economic development, connectivity and prosperity,” she said adding that Pakistan will continue to work with all stakeholders for a peaceful, stable, prosperous and united Afghanistan.

She said that Pakistan looks forward to working with all countries to address the common challenges of development and connectivity. We remain committed to engaging with China to promote cooperation in the light of emerging concerns such as man-made climate change, she added. Appreciating the fair stand, she said that China has always supported Pakistan's stance, for which we are grateful for China's continuous cooperation and support.

Senator Samina Mumtaz Zehri said that bilateral cooperation between the two countries needs to be further strengthened and consolidated. She further said that Pakistan and China are always ready to help in the reconstruction of Afghanistan and hope that Afghanistan will also address the concerns of its neighbours about terrorism.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1091039/pak-china-friendship-to-grow-stronger-zehri/>

New envoy to help bring Pakistan, China, Iran closer: Chinese scholar

Pakistan has appointed Muhammad Mudassir Tipu, a senior diplomat with extensive experience of working in China, as its new Ambassador to Iran. Tipu, who previously served as the Director General (China) and Consul General to Chengdu, has been entrusted with this important position. This appointment is seen as a positive development that can foster closer

ties between Pakistan, China, and Iran, particularly in the context of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), according to a report published by Gwadar Pro on Sunday.

Prof. Song Zhihui, the Director of the Pakistan Study Center at Sichuan University, expressed the significance of the appointment of the new ambassador to Iran. He highlighted that Iran's growing geopolitical importance, particularly in light of the Saudi-Iranian reconciliation facilitated by China, makes this assignment crucial. According to him, Pakistan can play a dynamic role in this process, which could result in substantial political and economic advantages for Pakistan.

The professor emphasized that Iran, Pakistan, China, and Saudi Arabia are natural partners in promoting regional economic growth, connectivity, and trade opportunities. Prof. Song emphasized the significant neighborly relationship between Pakistan and Iran, with Islamabad seeking to enhance diplomatic, economic, and security ties with Tehran. Notably, Iran holds a crucial position as an important participant in China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), with the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) serving as a key point of convergence.

He further stated that by fostering greater cooperation among China, Pakistan, Iran, and other regional stakeholders, the region can experience a robust boost in economic development, positively impacting the lives of billions of people. Considering the long-term feasibility and effectiveness of CPEC, Iran has consistently shown interest in joining this major economic corridor. Recently, Pakistan and Iran have been actively working towards strengthening their energy and trade cooperation. Both countries have also agreed to establish a joint committee to expedite the implementation of a Free Trade Agreement (FTA).

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1091077/new-envoy-to-help-bring-pakistan-china-iran-closer-chinese-scholar/>

Dunya News

China to deepen military ties with Pakistan

(Reuters) - China's defence minister on Monday told Pakistan's navy chief that their militaries including their navies should "expand into new fields of cooperation" to bolster the capability of the two neighbours in safeguarding security in the region.

Ties between the two militaries stretch back years, with their navies and air forces holding bilateral exercises in each other's territory.

For China, Pakistan and its access to the Arabian Sea are key in the event of a maritime blockade in the Strait of Malacca.

But Chinese interest in the region has stirred concern, especially in neighbouring India after China opened its first overseas military base in Djibouti on the northwestern fringe of the Indian Ocean in 2017.

China's Defence Minister Li Shangfu told Chief of Naval Staff Amjad Khan Niazi, who was visiting Beijing, that the two countries' military relationship was a key part of bilateral ties.

“The two militaries should expand into new areas of exchanges, create new high points of cooperation to continuously enhance their ability to deal with all sorts of risks and challenges, and jointly maintain the security interests of the two countries and of the region,” said Li, according to a statement on China’s Ministry of National Defense website.

Niazi’s visit comes after Zhang Youxia, vice chairman of China’s Central Military Commission, met Chief of Army Staff (COAS) Asim Munir in late April and assured that the Chinese military was willing to deepen and expand cooperation with Pakistan’s military.

So far, China has not disclosed if it had sought military access to Pakistan’s deepwater port of Gwadar.

The Pentagon previously identified Pakistan as a possible location for a future Chinese military base, with Gwadar seen as the likely location.

Any sign of that happening would fuel New Delhi’s worries about growing Chinese military alliances and assets in its own backyard.

In 2022, New Delhi expressed concern over a Chinese survey ship’s visit to a strategic port in Sri Lanka. In 2014, Sri Lanka angered India when a Chinese submarine and a warship were allowed to dock in Colombo.

<https://dunyanews.tv/en/World/722051-China-to-deepen-military-ties-with-Pakistan>

Pakistan Observer

Commitment to CPEC and China’s sincere advice

At fourth round of Pakistan-China strategic dialogue co-chaired by Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari and Chinese Foreign Minister Qin Gang at the Foreign Office in Islamabad on Saturday, both sides reaffirmed their abiding commitment to high quality development of multibillion-dollar China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) project. The reiteration has come at a time when both countries mark the completion of a decade of this strategic and multidimensional project under which state of the art road infrastructure was completed in Pakistan and establishment of various power plants helped the country to overcome power outages.

The strategic dialogue sent a strong message that regardless of conspiracies being hatched against this mega project, both countries are committed to take it forward for mutual benefit of their peoples. In fact this project was launched back in 2013 when no other country was ready to invest in Pakistan due to its dire security situation. By deciding to invest billions of dollars under the CPEC, China at that time proved itself a true and reliable friend of Pakistan. Even Chinese workers were attacked inside Pakistan yet work on important projects such as Dasu Hydropower was not halted. This shows matchless depth of this relationship. Because of various reasons, it was noticed that pace of the CPEC slowed down in last few years yet we expect that recent dialogue will again trigger this project with more speed.

It is a matter of satisfaction that there is now renewed focus on long delayed projects. At the press stakeout, the Chinese FM stated that they have agreed to accelerate work on upgradation of railway line from Peshawar and Karachi (ML-1) and Gwadar Port projects.

Given Pakistan's geo location, being at cross roads of South Asia and the Middle East, these two projects are of immense importance to make the country a trade hub in the region. Hurdles in the way of work initiation on ML-1 should be removed through greater level of engagement at relevant quarters. Cooperation in other sectors especially industrial, IT and agriculture also needs to be taken forward in a fast paced manner. Responsibility rests with our authorities concerned to remove all obstacles in the way of Chinese investment in the SEZs being established under the CPEC. There should not be any further delay in operationalisation of these SEZs.

However, question arises whether in current political squabbling investors including from China will turn to Pakistan. In fact our close friends are also concerned over current state of affairs. At the press talk, the Chinese FM in a soft and mild tone stated "as a good neighbour, good friend and a good partner, we sincerely hope that political forces in Pakistan will build consensus, uphold stability and more effectively address domestic and external challenges so that it could focus on growing the economy, improving people's life and bring the country towards a fast track development and rejuvenation." Nobody should feel offended over these remarks because these really manifests as how much China care for development and well being of the people and Pakistan. True friends are those who not only stand by you in difficult times but also point out where we are heading wrong. In fact what the Chinese FM said is the voice of the whole Pakistani nation. Qin Gang through his words has spoken hearts and minds of Pakistani people. Shared prosperity is the vision of Chinese President Xi Jin Ping and definitely he wants to see benefits of development reaching first in a country that they trust more. The fourth round of strategic dialogue has come at a time when the country is faced with immense economic challenges and finding it hard to revive the IMF programme. While Chinese side has assured to extend full financial assistance to Pakistan, which should be a matter of solace but at the same time we should start putting our own house in order. The sincere advice on part of Chinese friends should not fall on deaf ears. The political leadership while rising above their egoistic and hate based politics, should review their conduct and move forward to bring much needed stability to set the country's direction right.

<https://pakobserver.net/commitment-to-cpec-and-chinas-sincere-advice/>

The Nation

Pakistan, China renew pledge to strengthen strategic friendship

Tahir Niaz

Chinese, Afghan foreign ministers separately call on Army Chief Gen Asim Minir in Islamabad, Kabul agree to work closely to promote regional stability, prosperity.

ISLAMABAD - Pakistan and China on Sunday reiterated their resolve to further strengthen the time-tested, all-weather friendship between the two nations.

Chief of the Army Staff (COAS), General Syed Asim Munir, met with Chinese State Councillor and Foreign Minister Qin Gang at his office here on Sunday. According to the ISPR, both the sides discussed matters of mutual interest including regional security and defence cooperation. During the meeting, the COAS reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to

China-Pakistan strategic relationship. He also pledged full support for China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) project, which is a vital component of China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). He also appreciated China's unwavering support for Pakistan on regional and international issues.

Foreign Minister Qin Gang underscored the importance of the longstanding strategic relationship between the brotherly nations and expressed his satisfaction over the progress made on the CPEC while reiterating China's commitment to its timely completion. He also appreciated Pakistan's efforts in maintaining regional peace and stability, especially the support of Pakistan Armed Forces for provision of security to Chinese Nationals and projects in Pakistan.

The two dignitaries also discussed the evolving security situation in the region. The Army Chief acknowledged China's role in promoting peace and stability in the region, and both sides agreed to enhance their existing cooperation in defence and security domains to effectively counter common security challenges.

The meeting concluded on a positive note with both sides reiterating their resolve to further strengthen the time-tested, all-weather friendship between Pakistan and China.

Earlier, Acting Afghan Minister for Foreign Affairs, Amir Khan Muttaqi, called on Chief of the Army Staff (COAS), General Syed Asim Munir.

During the meeting, they discussed areas of mutual interest.

According to the ISPR, the COAS and Afghan dignitary discussed issues of mutual interest including aspects related to regional security, border management, and forming bilateral security mechanism for improvement in the current security environment.

The Army Chief stressed the need for enhanced cooperation between the two brotherly neighbours to effectively tackle the common challenges of terrorism and extremism.

He reiterated the need for full support and commitment from the Afghan interim government in matters of mutual interest.

Foreign Minister Muttaqi appreciated Pakistan's traditional support for the people of Afghanistan and acknowledged the important role that Pakistan continues to play in facilitating peace and development in Afghanistan.

He also expressed his desire to work closely with Pakistan to promote regional stability and prosperity.

Both the sides agreed on the importance of maintaining regular contacts to strengthen bilateral ties and address issues of common concern. The COAS reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to a stable, peaceful and prosperous Afghanistan, according to the ISPR.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2023-05-08/page-1/detail-13>

Training courses start for New Gwadar Int'l Airport

ISLAMABAD - In order to ensure the efficient operations of the upcoming New Gwadar International Airport (NGIA), which is expected to be operational in September this year, China has offered training courses for government officials.

These courses aim to enhance the professional capabilities of officials in 15 different categories. The 20-day training course is scheduled to commence on July 08 and conclude on July 27.

These training courses are designed to provide government officials with necessary skills to improve their technical, administrative, and managerial expertise. According to the information available to Gwadar Pro, all expenses will be covered by China.

Suitable candidates who meet the eligibility criteria will be nominated and their approval will be forwarded to the Ministry of Economic Affairs, Economic Affairs Division of the Government of Pakistan by May 16.

An official from the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA), who is involved in the New Gwadar International Airport (NGIA) project, informed Gwadar Pro that the construction of the airport, which is estimated to cost Rs51.284 billion, is progressing rapidly.

This progress is a result of the renewed commitment from the government and the collaborative efforts of all stakeholders, including the Civil Aviation Authority and China Communications Construction Company.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2023-05-08/page-3/detail-1>

The News

China, Taliban discuss bringing Afghanistan into BRI

ISLAMABAD: China and the Taliban have discussed plans to bring Afghanistan into the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) infrastructure project as Beijing looks to boost investment in the crisis-hit country, foreign media reported on Sunday. Visiting China's Foreign Minister Qin Gang held talks with Afghanistan's acting foreign minister Amir Khan Muttaqi and his Pakistan counterpart Bilawal Bhutto Zardari as part of the China-Pakistan-Afghanistan trilateral foreign ministers' dialogue in Islamabad. The trio discussed security and trade while Afghanistan also said it "hopes to strengthen cooperation with China in infrastructure development within the framework of the Belt and Road Initiative", according to China's foreign ministry.

Since ousting the Nato-backed government in 2021 after two decades of war, the Taliban have courted global powers, including China and Russia, for investment to shore up the crumbling economy and ease the regime's international isolation. This includes efforts to attract Chinese infrastructure investment to connect Afghanistan with neighbours, such as Pakistan, through the BRI. Beijing has invested billions in Pakistan through the ambitious China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), an under-construction network of roads, trains and ports, which is ultimately expected to be worth up to \$60 billion.

“The idea is to engage Afghanistan in economic activity that has already linked China and Pakistan together,” a Pakistani official told the Financial Times. Chinese and Afghan officials said in January that the state-run Xinjiang Central Asia Petroleum and Gas Company had agreed a deal to drill for oil in the country. The Taliban also last year agreed a deal with Russia to source oil and wheat.

But while Afghanistan’s rich, unexplored reserves of minerals such as lithium and copper have long enticed foreign nations, meaningful investment in infrastructure or mining has so far proved prohibitively difficult because of the precarious security situation.

State-owned China Metallurgical Group Corporation in 2007 secured the rights to Mes Aynak, one of the world’s largest known copper reserves, but did not develop it.

Afghanistan has suffered an economic catastrophe since the Taliban’s return prompted the US and its allies to cut off most financing. China and Pakistan both consider maintaining ties with the Taliban as vital to their security.

Russia’s Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov met Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari in India this week, and the pair discussed the situation in Afghanistan.

In remarks to journalists, Lavrov said he expected the Taliban to “deliver (on) their promises to come up with an inclusive government ...[and] ensuring the representation of the full spectrum of political forces in Afghanistan”. He added: “This hasn’t been done yet.”

<https://e.thenews.com.pk/detail?id=200001>

Chinese FM’s visit to Pakistan: key takeaways

Shakeel Ahmad Ramay

Chinese Foreign Minister Qin Gang has just concluded his visit to Pakistan. He was here to participate in the bilateral and trilateral strategic dialogues.

Before delving into the visit of China’s foreign minister, it is appropriate to say China and Pakistan enjoy unique relationship. The two countries always stood shoulder to shoulder while facing the challenges. The most recent example comes from Sudan. After breakout of civil war, China extended helping hand to Pakistani community in that country. China did not only evacuate Chinese citizens but also helped Pakistanis. It reinforces the idea of all-weather brotherhood.

Another distinguished characteristic of Pakistan-China relationship is that China always helped us to go for self-sufficiency. It is based on the reality not exaggeration. China aided Pakistan in building Heavy Mechanical Complex Taxila, Heavy Forge Factory, Pakistan Aeronautical Complex, Pakistan Ordnance Factories and production facilities for the Navy etc. Cooperation in building JF-17 Thunder stands out among all. The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor is ultimate example on this front.

The visit of Qin Gang is important because it is happening just after the successful visit of Chief of Army Staff of Pakistan to China.

Qin Gang started his visit by attending a reception hosted by President Arif Alvi which shows how much importance Pakistan attaches with relationship with China. It was followed by

bilateral talks where both the countries reiterated their commitment to each other's core interests. Qin Gang also spent some time with young Pakistani diplomats. He concluded his visit with his meeting with the Army Chief.

Apart from other things, there are three key takeaways from bilateral dialogue. First, Qin categorically stated China is ready to work with Pakistan for building security capacity and security system. It is a game-changing offer, especially to build security system. The reason is China is one of the most advanced countries in term of building modern security system. Moreover, China does not have any match like artificial intelligence-based warfare etc in certain areas. Pakistan must avail this opportunity.

Second, it is for the first time any high-level Chinese official talked about political stability in Pakistan. It shows China is really concerned about the situation in Pakistan. Thus, Pakistan must give a cool head to brotherly advice and try to put its house in order.

Third, Pakistan and China decided to make high-quality development cornerstone of bilateral economic linkages and give a new impetus to CPEC. It will help Pakistan tackle dual challenges of stagnant economic growth and high vulnerability to climate change. Philosophy of high-quality development puts equal focus on the development needs of society and principles of nature.

In coming days, we can expect a new momentum in green investment under CPEC. However, Pakistan needs to put its house in order to benefit from this investment. On the trilateral front, foreign ministers of China, Pakistan and Afghanistan huddled together to address the most urgent issues of Afghanistan.

Unfortunately, the situation in Afghanistan is worrisome right now. World Food Programme has reported 19.9 million Afghan people are food insecure. The situation can aggravate further as millions of people do not have secure jobs. It is feared terrorists can use this situation for their malicious agenda.

Despite such challenges, the world community is not diverting due attention to Afghanistan. Western countries are more focus to fulfil their agenda even at the cost of human life. Freezing of assets and sanctions imposed by the US is an example to explain the phenomena.

In nutshell, global dynamics are aggravating the humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan. It was satisfactory to note Qin was fully cognizant of the ground realities. That's why he assured China will help Afghanistan realise self-reliance, peace, stability, development and prosperity at an early date. Pakistan showed strong commitment to the needs of Afghan people and peace in Afghanistan.

Pakistan also highlighted the importance of Afghanistan for regional connectivity and expansion of CPEC to Central Asia. Afghanistan reiterated its commitment to not allowing any actor to use Afghanistan's soil for terrorist activities, especially against China. The Kabul also expressed its willingness to be an active member of BRI.

The result of tri-lateral talks shows the three countries are committed to resolving the issues of Afghanistan on urgent basis. However, it is suggested they should promote the role of youth to materialise this commitment. It is needed because the youth are worst victim of

crisis in Afghanistan and are highly vulnerable as they are prime target of terrorist organisations for recruitment.

Thus, there is a need of mechanisms which can strengthen the role of youth and counter the terrorist organisations.

It is good to note youth are also enthusiastic and willing to contribute. They are looking for opportunity for meaningful contribution. This is not a random statement but major finding from interaction with youth at Afghanistan-Pakistan-China Youth Forum.

The forum is being run by China Fudan University, various universities of Afghanistan and Pakistan including Kabul Polytechnic University and University of Peshawar etc. The forum is hosted at Asian Institute of Eco-civilisation Research and Development. It can assist three governments in engaging youth for meaningful interaction.

In conclusion, the visit of Qin Gang can be termed as a great success. It is hoped the visit will open new windows of opportunities for development and sustainable peace.

<https://e.thenews.com.pk/detail?id=200078>

Jang News

چین، پاکستان، افغانستان کا سلامتی کے چیلنجز سے نمٹنے کیلئے تعاون بڑھانے پر اتفاق، اعلامیہ

چین، پاکستان اور افغانستان نے سلامتی کے چیلنجز سے نمٹنے کے لیے تعاون بڑھانے پر اتفاق کیا ہے۔

اسلام آباد میں ہونے والے چین، پاکستان اور افغانستان کے وزرائے خارجہ مذاکرات کا مشترکہ اعلامیہ جاری کر دیا گیا۔

مشترکہ اعلامیہ میں کہا گیا ہے کہ پرامن، مستحکم اور خوشحال افغانستان خطے کے مفاد میں ہے، وزرائے خارجہ نے سہ فریقی تعاون کی اہمیت پر زور دیا۔

اعلامیہ میں کہا گیا کہ تینوں ملکوں نے باہمی سلامتی، ترقی اور سیاسی شعبوں میں تعاون بڑھانے کا عزم کیا ہے۔

اعلامیہ کے مطابق فریقین نے سلامتی کے چیلنجزوں سے نمٹنے کی ضرورت پر زور دیا، یہ چیلنجز علاقائی اور عالمی سلامتی کے لیے ایک سنگین خطرہ ہیں۔

تینوں ممالک نے سلامتی کے چیلنجز سے نمٹنے، سیکورٹی، منظم جرائم، منشیات اسمگلنگ کے انسداد پر تعاون بڑھانے پر اتفاق کیا۔

اعلامیہ کے مطابق تینوں ملکوں نے ٹی ٹی پی کو اپنی سر زمین کے استعمال کی اجازت نہ دینے پر زور دیا۔

اعلامیہ میں کہا گیا ہے کہ تینوں ممالک نے ایٹرن ترکستان اسلامک موومنٹ کو اپنی سر زمین کے استعمال کی اجازت نہ دینے پر بھی زور دیا۔

اعلامیہ کے مطابق تینوں ممالک نے افغانستان کے اندرونی معاملات میں مداخلت نہ کرنے، افغانستان کے امن، استحکام اور تعمیر نو کی ضرورت پر زور دیا۔

اعلامیہ میں مزید کہا گیا ہے کہ افغان معیشت کی بحالی کے لیے حقیقت پسندانہ راستے تلاش کرنے کی اہمیت پر بھی زور دیا گیا۔

<https://jang.com.pk/news/1223605>

K2 Daily

بقیہ 25
ہے کہ چین اور افغانستان کے درمیان تعاون کی
میزبانی کرنا اجازت ہے۔ سماجی رابطے کی ویب
سائٹ ٹویٹر پر وزیر خارجہ بلاول بھٹو زرداری کا کہنا تھا
کہ سر فریقی مذاکرات کی صدارت کرتے ہوئے نئے
اجازت کی بات ہے، مذاکرات میں سیاسی امور، انسداد
دہشت گردی، تجارت اور ممالک پر قبضہ جڑی بات چیت
کی گئی۔ وزیر خارجہ بلاول بھٹو زرداری کا کہنا تھا کہ
تینوں ممالک تعمیری تعاون کیلئے برآمد ہیں۔

**چین اور افغانستان کے
وزرائے خارجہ کی میزبانی
کرنا اجازت ہے، بلاول**
اسلام آباد (آئی این پی) وزیر خارجہ بلاول
بھٹو زرداری نے کہا (آئی این پی) 7 ستمبر 2025

https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=Front_Page&Date=2023-05-08

https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=Baqia&Date=2023-05-08

Nawaiwaqt News

پاک چین مذاکرات: سی پیک کو وسعت دینے کا فیصلہ

چین پاکستان کا ایسا دوست ہے جس نے ہمیشہ اور ہر طرح کے حالات میں پاکستان کا ساتھ دے کر اپنے خلوص کا ثبوت دیا ہے۔ اس وقت بھی پاکستان جن سنگین معاشی مسائل میں الجھا ہوا ہے ان سے نبرد آزما ہونے کے لیے جو ممالک پاکستان کی بھرپور مدد کر رہے ہیں چین ان میں سے ایک ہے۔ دوروز پہلے چینی وزیر خارجہ چن گانگ وفاقی دارالحکومت اسلام آباد میں تھے جہاں انھوں نے پاک چین ترویجی مذاکرات کے چوتھے دور کے سلسلے میں پاکستانی ہم منصب بلاول بھٹو زرداری سے ملاقات کی۔ ان مذاکرات کے بعد دونوں وزرائے خارجہ نے ایک مشترکہ پریس کانفرنس سے خطاب کیا جس میں بلاول بھٹو زرداری نے کہا کہ پاکستان اور چین کی دوستی 72 سال پرانی ہے جو کئی برسوں سے مضبوط تر ہو رہی ہے اور نسلوں اور سیاسی تقسیم کے باوجود اس پر اتفاق رائے پایا جاتا ہے۔

بلاول زرداری کا کہنا تھا کہ آج چینی وزیر خارجہ سے بات چیت میں ہم نے پاکستان اور چین کے باہمی تعاون کے پورے سیکٹرم پر خیالات کا تبادلہ کیا اور نئی پیش رفتوں کے تناظر میں دونوں اقوام کے باہمی مفادات کے لیے اس شراکت داری کی اہمیت پر اتفاق کیا۔ انھوں نے مزید کہا کہ رواں برس چین پاکستان اقتصادی راہداری (سی پیک) کے منصوبے کو ایک دہائی مکمل ہو گئی ہے جو بیلٹ اینڈ روڈ تعاون کی نمایاں مثال ہے جو سماجی و اقتصادی ترقی کو فروغ دے رہا ہے۔ بلاول زرداری نے یہ بھی کہا کہ سی پیک ایک ایسا معاشی اقدام ہے جو پوری دنیا کے سرمایہ کاروں کے لیے کھلا ہوا ہے، پاکستان چین کی فراغ دلی اور بروقت تعاون پر اس کا شکر گزار ہے۔ وزیر خارجہ کا مزید کہنا تھا کہ پاکستان اور چین کی دوستی کا ایک حالیہ مظہر سوڈان سے ہمارے شہریوں کے انخلا میں فوری چینی مدد ہے۔ بلاول بھٹو زرداری نے پاکستان کی علاقائی سالمیت، خود مختاری اور قومی ترقی کے لیے چین کی بھرپور حمایت کے ساتھ ساتھ تنازع کشمیر پر اس کے اصولی اور منصفانہ موقف کو سراہا۔

پریس کانفرنس سے خطاب کرتے ہوئے چینی وزیر خارجہ نے کہا کہ چین پاکستان کی خود مختاری اور قومی وقار سمیت ہر قسم کی حمایت جاری رکھے گا، چین کی حمایت پر پاکستان کے کردار کو سراہتے ہیں۔ انھوں نے کہا کہ دونوں اطراف نے سی پیک میں پیش رفت پر اطمینان کا اظہار کیا ہے، دونوں ممالک زراعت، سائنس و ٹیکنالوجی اور توانائی سمیت دیگر شعبوں میں بھی تعاون کو فروغ دیں گے۔ چین کے وزیر خارجہ نے مزید کہا کہ دونوں ملکوں کے درمیان پروازیں مکمل طور پر بحال کر دی گئی ہیں۔ درہ خنجراب کو بھی کھول دیا گیا ہے، دونوں ملکوں کے درمیان دو طرفہ تعاون کو مزید مضبوط اور مستحکم کرنے کی ضرورت ہے۔ چینی وزیر خارجہ کا کہنا تھا کہ پاکستان کو دہشت گردی کے خلاف جنگ میں حتمی کامیابی حاصل ہوگی، کورونا کی وجہ سے متاثر ہونے والے شعبوں پر توجہ دی جائے گی، کمرشل فلائٹ اور بس سروسز دوبارہ شروع کی جائے گی، ثقافتی تبادلوں کے لیے بھی اقدامات کیے جائیں گے، پاکستان اور چین سی پیک کی دسویں سالگرہ منا رہے ہیں، سی پیک کو مزید فائدہ مند بنانے کے لیے تمام شعبوں میں تعاون بڑھا رہے ہیں۔

پاک چین وزرائے خارجہ ترویجی مذاکرات کے چوتھے دور کے اعلائیے میں کہا گیا کہ مذاکرات میں سیاسی، اقتصادی، دفاعی سلامتی، تعلیم اور ثقافتی شعبوں میں تعاون کا جائزہ لیا گیا۔ پاکستان اور چین نے دو طرفہ شعبوں میں تعاون کی ضرورت کا اعادہ کیا۔ دونوں ملکوں نے ترویجی تعلقات کو مزید مضبوط بنانے پر اتفاق کیا۔ پاکستان نے تائیوان، سنگاپور، تبت اور ہانگ کانگ سمیت بنیادی مسائل پر چین کی حمایت کے عزم کا اعادہ کیا۔ مذاکرات کے دوران دونوں ملکوں نے سی پیک منصوبوں میں پیشرفت پر اطمینان کا اظہار کیا اور ایم ایل ون منصوبے کی جلد تکمیل پر اتفاق کیا۔ کراچی سرکٹریبلوے کو آگے بڑھانے پر بھی اتفاق کیا گیا۔ بات چیت کے دوران پاکستان نے چینی وفد کو جموں و کشمیر کی تازہ ترین صورتحال سے آگاہ کیا، چین نے اس بات کا اعادہ کیا کہ بھارت اور پاکستان کے درمیان تنازعہ کشمیر تاریخ میں تصفیہ طلب ہے اور اسے اقوام متحدہ کے چارٹر، سلامتی کونسل کی متعلقہ قراردادوں اور دو طرفہ معاہدوں کے مطابق مناسب اور پرامن طریقے سے حل کیا جانا چاہیے۔

اس وقت پاکستان کو جن سنگین اقتصادی مسائل کا سامنا کرنا پڑ رہا ہے ان سے نکلنے کے لیے اسے چین اور سعودی عرب جیسے مخلص دوستوں کے تعاون کی ضرورت ہے تاہم یہ تعاون زیادہ مفید اسی صورت میں ہو سکتا ہے جب ملک کے اندر سیاسی استحکام پیدا ہو جس کے لیے سیاسی قیادت کو مل کر بیٹھنا ہو گا۔ یہ خوش آئند بات ہے کہ چین اس ملک مرحلے میں ہماری مدد کر رہا ہے اور سی پیک کے ذریعے پاکستان کی معیشت کو بہتر بنانے کے لیے ہم سے ہر ممکن تعاون کر رہا ہے لیکن اب دیکھنا یہ ہے کہ ہماری سیاسی قیادت موجودہ چیلنجوں سے نبرد آزما ہونے کے لیے اپنا کردار کیسے ادا کرتی ہے۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/lahore/2023-05-08/page-5/detail-11>

May 09, 2023

Dawn News

CPEC will be extended to Afghanistan as trilateral cooperation set to deepen

Iftikhar A. Khan

ISLAMABAD: The foreign ministers of Pakistan, China, and Afghanistan have reaffirmed their commitment to strengthen trilateral cooperation under the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and jointly extend the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) to Afghanistan.

Following the trilateral dialogue, the three sides issued a joint statement, expressing their determination to leverage Afghanistan's potential as a hub for regional connectivity.

Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari, State Councilor and Foreign Minister Qin Gang of China, and Acting Foreign Minister Mawlawi Amir Khan Muttaqi of Afghanistan participated in the dialogue representing their respective countries.

During the meeting, the three foreign ministers emphasised the significance of ongoing projects such as CASA-1000, TAPI, and Trans-Afghan Railways, highlighting their potential to boost regional connectivity and promote economic development and prosperity in the region.

The three parties emphasised the need to advance "hard connectivity" in infrastructure and "soft connectivity" in norms and standards.

They agreed to explore measures to facilitate the movement of people and trade activities. They also decided to boost transit trade through the Gwadar Port.

Three states vow to prevent TTP, ETIM from using their territories to harm security; need to avoid interference in Afghan affairs stressed

The foreign ministers acknowledged that a peaceful, stable, and prosperous Afghanistan is in the best interest of the region. They emphasised the critical role of trilateral cooperation in promoting this objective.

The three sides agreed to further deepen and expand their cooperation in the domains of security, development, and politics, guided by the principles of mutual respect, equal-footed consultation, and mutual benefit.

The three parties highlighted the importance of addressing security challenges that pose a significant threat to regional and global security, and directly impacting the stability and economic prosperity of the entire region. They agreed to coordinate on security matters, including organised crime, drug smuggling and others.

They called upon the international community to strengthen bilateral and multilateral cooperation, and provide the necessary supplies, equipment, and technical assistance to relevant countries in this regard.

The three sides stressed the importance of preventing any individual, group, or party, including the banned Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) and the Eastern Turkistan Islamic Movement (ETIM), from using their territories to harm or threaten regional security and interests or carry out terrorist activities. They also stressed the need to avoid interfering in Afghanistan's internal affairs and instead focus on promoting peace, stability, and reconstruction in the country.

Highlighting the need to boost economic activity in Afghanistan, the ministers emphasised the significance of exploring feasible pathways towards reviving the Afghan economy.

As a step towards this goal, they agreed to consider additional support for the reconstruction of Afghanistan and exploring trilateral investment opportunities that promote industrialisation and job creation.

Expressing the solidarity with the people of Afghanistan they stressed the crucial need for sustained and urgent humanitarian support, including bridging funding gaps for humanitarian operations. They underlined that humanitarian support for the people of Afghanistan should not be linked to any political considerations.

They expressed satisfaction with the current trilateral cooperation and agreed to carry out exchange and training programs, as well as strengthen people-to-people exchanges by implementing trilateral programs in line with the List of China-Afghanistan-Pakistan Trilateral Practical Cooperation Projects adopted by the foreign ministers during this dialogue.

The three sides reiterated their cooperation in areas of mutual interest, such as economic development, capacity building and improving livelihoods. The ministers agreed to enhance cooperation in agriculture, trade, energy, capacity building and border management.

The ministers also urged the international community to engage constructively with Afghanistan, acknowledging the efforts made under various mechanisms and formats, including the Neighboring Countries of Afghanistan, to promote dialogue and constructive engagement with the Afghan Interim Government.

The ministers also urged the international community to provide assistance to Afghanistan in countering narcotics effectively and developing alternative crops to enhance its capacity for independent and sustainable development.

They called on the relevant countries to lift their unilateral sanctions against Afghanistan, return assets overseas for the benefit of the Afghan people, and create opportunities for economic development and prosperity in Afghanistan.

Taking note of the Afghan Interim Government's repeated assurances to respect and protect women's rights and interests, they called on the international community to support the reconstruction and development of Afghanistan and to help Afghanistan improve governance and strengthen capacity building to effectively protect the basic rights and interests of all segments of Afghan society, including women and children.

The ministers expressed gratitude to neighbouring countries, especially Pakistan, for hosting millions of Afghan refugees and providing them with generous hospitality.

They called on the international community to provide necessary support and assistance to these countries and Afghanistan for the dignified return and reintegration of refugees into Afghan society.

The three sides emphasised their commitment to continuing the trilateral cooperation mechanism, including the Director-General Level Practical Cooperation Dialogue, and to forging closer, good-neighbourly relations and partnerships.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1751728>

Pakistan, China to bolster naval capabilities for regional security

BEIJING: Pakistan and China seek to expand their naval ties as the two sides look forward to enhancing capabilities and deepening cooperation to deal with regional security challenges.

This was agreed upon in a meeting between Chinese Defence Minister Li Shangfu and Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Amjad Khan Niazi on Monday.

The Chinese minister said the two militaries should "expand into new fields of cooperation" to safeguard the region's security.

"The two militaries should expand into new areas of exchanges, create new high points of cooperation to continuously enhance their ability to deal with all sorts of risks and challenges, and jointly maintain the security interests of the two countries and of the region," said Li, according to a statement on China's Ministry of National Defense website.

Admiral Niazi's visit to Beijing comes after Zhang Youxia, vice chairman of China's Central Military Commission, said in late April that the Chinese military was willing to deepen and expand cooperation with Pakistan's military.

The army, navy and air force of the two nations are already cooperating in several avenues and have held bilateral exercises in each other's territory.

But Chinese interest in the region has stirred concern, especially in neighbouring India after China opened its first overseas military base in Djibouti on the northwestern fringe of the Indian Ocean in 2017. For China, Pakistan and its access to the Arabian Sea is key in the event of a maritime blockade in the Strait of Malacca.

The Pentagon previously identified Pakistan as a possible location for a future Chinese military base, with Gwadar seen as the likely location. Any sign of that happening would fuel New Delhi's worries over growing Chinese military alliances and assets in its backyard. In 2022, New Delhi expressed concern over a Chinese survey ship's visit to a strategic port in Sri Lanka.

In 2014, Sri Lanka angered India when a Chinese submarine and a warship were allowed to dock in Colombo.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1751725#:~:text=BEIJING%3A%20Pakistan%20and%20China%20seek,deal%20with%20regional%20security%20challenges.>

Dunya News

Pakistan, China, Afghanistan reaffirm befitting response to terrorist outfits including TTP

ISLAMABAD (Dunya News) - Pakistan, China and Afghanistan on Monday vowed joint action against terrorist organisations, groups or individuals.

The trilateral dialogue of the foreign ministers of Afghanistan, China and Pakistan also called upon the international community for sustained and urgent humanitarian assistance to Afghanistan, reiterating resolve to fully harness country's potential for regional connectivity.

The 5th China Afghanistan-Pakistan Foreign Ministers' Dialogue was held here on Saturday (May 6) attended by Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, State Councilor and Foreign Minister Qin Gang of China and the Acting Foreign Minister Mawlawi Amir Khan Muttaqi of Afghanistan, according to the joint statement issued here by the Foreign Office.

The three foreign ministers underscored the need to tackle security challenges posing a serious threat to regional and global security, and directly impacting the stability and economic prosperity of the entire region.

They stressed the importance of sustained and urgent humanitarian support to the people of Afghanistan including the imperative to bridge funding gaps for humanitarian operations.

Emphasising for exploring realistic pathways towards the revival of the Afghan economy, the three sides reaffirmed their resolve to fully harness Afghanistan's potential as a hub for regional connectivity.

They underscored the need to refrain from intervening into internal affairs of Afghanistan, and to promote Afghan peace, stability and reconstruction.

The three sides urged the relevant countries lift their unilateral sanctions against Afghanistan and return the assets overseas for the benefit of the Afghan people, and create opportunities for economic development and prosperity in Afghanistan.

Stressing that a peaceful, stable and prosperous Afghanistan served the common interest of the region, the foreign ministers underscored the critical importance of trilateral cooperation in promoting this objective.

The three sides resolved to further deepen and expand their cooperation in the security, development and political domains based on the principles of mutual respect, equal-footed consultation and mutual benefit.

They agreed to coordinate and cooperate on security, organized crimes, drugs smuggling etc. and called on the international community to strengthen bilateral and multilateral

cooperation, and provide necessary supplies, equipment and technical assistance in this regard to the relevant countries.

Trilateral FMs dialogue calls for urgent humanitarian support to Afghanistan, harnessing connectivity potential.

The foreign ministers stressed on the need of not allowing any individual, group or party, including the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), the Eastern Turkistan Islamic Movement (ETIM) etc., to use their territories to harm and threaten regional security and interests, or conduct terrorist actions and activities.

Underscoring the imperative to generate economic activity within Afghanistan, the ministers stressed the importance of exploring realistic pathways towards the revival of the Afghan economy.

To this end, the ministers agreed to consider further supporting the reconstruction of Afghanistan and exploring trilateral investment possibilities aimed at industrialization and job creation.

Expressing solidarity with the people of Afghanistan, the foreign ministers underlined that humanitarian support to the people of Afghanistan must remain delinked from any political considerations.

They reaffirmed their resolve to fully harness Afghanistan's potential as a hub for regional connectivity.

They also reaffirmed their commitment to further the trilateral cooperation under the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), and to jointly extend the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor to Afghanistan.

The three foreign ministers stressed that the importance of existing projects including CASA-1000, TAPI, Trans-Afghan Railways etc. would enhance regional connectivity as well as ensure economic uplift and prosperity for the peoples of this region.

They emphasized to push forward the "hard connectivity" in infrastructure and "soft connectivity" in norms and standards, further explore the facilitating measures for the movement of people and trade activities between the three countries. They also agreed to enhance transit trade through Gwadar Port.

Expressing satisfaction at the existing trilateral cooperation, the three sides agreed to carry out exchange and training programs and to strengthen people-to-people exchanges by conducting the trilateral programs in line with the List of China-Afghanistan-Pakistan Trilateral Practical Cooperation Projects, adopted by Foreign Ministers in this dialogue.

The foreign ministers reaffirmed to continue cooperation in areas of mutual interest like economic development, capacity building, and improving livelihoods. They agreed to strengthen cooperation in the fields such as agriculture, trade, energy, capacity building, border management etc.

The ministers called upon the international community to engage constructively with the Afghan side.

In this regard, they acknowledged the efforts made under the aegis of various mechanisms and formats, including in particular, the Neighbouring Countries of Afghanistan, to promote dialogue and constructive engagement with the Interim Afghan Government.

The three sides also urged the international community to assist Afghanistan in countering narcotics effectively and develop alternative crops to enhance its capacity for independent and sustainable development.

Taking note of the Afghan Interim Government's repeated assurances to respect and protect women's rights and interests, the foreign ministers called on the international community to support the reconstruction and development of Afghanistan, and help Afghanistan to improve governance and strengthen the capacity building, so as to effectively protect the basic rights and interests of all segments of the Afghan society, including women and children.

They expressed appreciation to the neighbouring countries, in particular, Pakistan, for the generous hospitality in hosting millions of Afghan refugees, and called on the international community to provide necessary support and assistance to these countries and Afghanistan for the dignified return and reintegration of refugees into the Afghan society.

The three sides resolved to continue with the trilateral cooperation mechanism, including the Director-General Level Practical Cooperation Dialogue, and forge closer-good neighborly relations and partnership.

China and Afghanistan thanked Pakistan for the successful organization of the 5th China-Afghanistan-Pakistan Foreign Ministers' Dialogue and its warm hospitality.

<https://dunyanews.tv/en/Pakistan/722088-China,-Afghanistan,-Pakistan-agree-to-increase-cooperation-to-deal-with->

The Nation

China's growing influence to bring stability in region: Experts

ISLAMABAD - Chinese diplomacy is asserting itself, and it is essential for balancing the world's political order. Pakistan is a sincere partner in these efforts and believes that China's growing influence will bring peace and stability in the region.

This was stated by Amir Rana, Director of Pak Institute for Peace Studies (PIPS), while commenting on China's critical role in promoting the resumption of diplomatic relations between Saudi Arabia and Iran, thus opening a landmark adjustment of tension and resolution in the Middle East.

The rapprochement between Iran and Saudi Arabia is a testimonial of China's rising influence in the Middle East. Restoring the diplomatic ties between the two countries will help reduce sectarian tensions in the Muslim world and provide an opportunity for economic and political cooperation.

The agreement will provide immediate and long-term humanitarian, economic, and political dividends for the Middle East region and the world.

It is early to say that Pakistan and India can move in the same direction and resume dialogue. However, in a recent interview with Gwadar Pro, such events certainly inspire the nations at the odd, said Amir Rana.

He believes Pakistani Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto's attending the meeting of the SCO Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs held in India on May 5 was a result of China's push. It was the first visit to India by a Pakistani foreign minister in more than a decade and indeed a promising development, thanks to China and Russia's facilitation of this channel.

Speaking at the SCO Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Chinese State Councillor and Foreign Minister Qin Gang pointed out that today's world faces multiple crises and challenges, including the resurgence of the Cold War, the surge of unilateral protectionism, and the rise of hegemonism and power politics.

Participants spoke highly of the SCO's contribution to regional security and development as an important platform for regional cooperation. They agreed to strengthen security cooperation and jointly combat terrorism, separatism, drug production and trafficking, and cyber crimes.

In a meeting with Qin on May 5 in Islamabad, President Arif Alvi stressed that Pakistan would make every effort to ensure the safety of Chinese personnel and institutions in Pakistan and is ready to work with China for peace and reconstruction in Afghanistan.

The number of terrorist attacks in Pakistan has increased statistically, with several major attacks in a row having an adverse impact. Amir noted that most of the attacks had been confined to the border areas with Afghanistan, which have been effectively dealt with by Pakistan's security services.

He underlined that "as an all-weather strategic partnership, China and Pakistan have growing trust in each other. Both sides are making unremitting efforts through ongoing dialogue and cooperation such as joint anti-terrorism exercises and research by think tanks to ensure the safety of Chinese personnel in Pakistan, especially engineers working on CPEC projects."

Amir added that the meeting between the foreign ministers of China, Pakistan, and Afghanistan in Islamabad reflected the commitment by China and Pakistan to play their role as United Nations' mandate.

The Chinese FM tried to convince the Afghans to fulfil their commitment to fighting terrorism and political reconciliation seriously. China is committed to advancing the trilateral dialogue and cooperation between China, Afghanistan, and Pakistan based on equity, pragmatic friendship, and mutual benefit principles.

Responding to a question, he said that all emerging developments indicate that instead of engaging with Pakistan on managing border security and countering terrorism, the Taliban-led government appears more interested in strengthening its economic and trade relations with the countries in the region, including Pakistan.

While that is a genuine policy priority of the Taliban, their adamant attitude on the issue of TTP may only influence Pakistan in support of broadening engagement with Afghanistan in other areas, especially with progress on Pakistan's immediate concerns and sensitivities.

China is actively implementing a Global Security Initiative and nurturing a new order in international relations. Pakistan is a partner of China in the global security initiative and has actively expanded security cooperation among BRI countries.

“By expanding security cooperation, a range of traditional problems facing Pakistan, including food security, climate security, and defence security, will be effectively alleviated,” Amir added.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/09-May-2023/china-s-growing-influence-to-bring-stability-in-region-experts>

Pak-China-Afghan talks set the stage for enhanced partnership

SHAFQAT ALI

Joint statement calls for refraining from interfering in Afghan internal affairs.

ISLAMABAD - The Pakistan-China-Afghanistan trilateral talks held this week have set the stage for enhanced partnership and regional connectivity.

The trilateral dialogue of the foreign ministers of Afghanistan, China and Pakistan held in Islamabad on May 6 called upon the international community for sustained and urgent humanitarian assistance to Afghanistan, reiterating resolve to fully harness country’s potential for regional connectivity. The 5th China Afghanistan-Pakistan Foreign Ministers’ Dialogue was attended by Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, State Councillor and Foreign Minister Qin Gang of China and the Acting Foreign Minister Mawlawi Amir Khan Muttaqi of Afghanistan, according to the joint statement issued here by the Foreign Office after consultation of the three sides.

The three Foreign Ministers stressed the importance of sustained and urgent humanitarian support to the people of Afghanistan including the imperative to bridge funding gaps for humanitarian operations. Emphasising for exploring realistic pathways towards the revival of the Afghan economy, the three sides reaffirmed their resolve to fully harness Afghanistan’s potential as a hub for regional connectivity.

They underscored the need to re-frain from intervening into internal affairs of Afghanistan, and to promote Afghan peace, stability and reconstruction. The three sides urged the relevant countries lift their unilateral sanctions against Afghanistan and return the assets overseas for the benefit of the Afghan people, and create opportunities for economic development and prosperity in Afghanistan. Stressing that a peaceful, stable and prosperous Afghanistan served the common interest of the region, the foreign ministers underscored the critical importance of trilateral cooperation in promoting this objective.

They underscored the need to tackle security challenges posing a serious threat to regional and global security, and directly impacting the stability and economic prosperity of the entire region. Underscoring the imperative to generate economic activity within Afghanistan, the ministers stressed the importance of exploring realistic pathways towards the revival of the Afghan economy.

Expressing solidarity with the people of Afghanistan, the foreign ministers underlined that humanitarian support to the people of Afghanistan must remain delinked from any political considerations.

They reaffirmed their resolve to fully harness Afghanistan's potential as a hub for regional connectivity.

They also reaffirmed their commitment to further the trilateral cooperation under the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), and to jointly extend the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) to Afghanistan.

The three foreign ministers stressed that the importance of existing projects including CASA-1000, TAPI, Trans-Afghan Railways etc. would enhance regional connectivity as well as ensure economic uplift and prosperity for the peoples of this region. The Foreign Ministers reaffirmed to continue cooperation in areas of mutual interest like economic development, capacity building, and improving livelihoods. They agreed to strengthen cooperation in the fields such as agriculture, trade, energy, capacity building, border management etc.

Taking note of the Afghan Interim Government's repeated assurances to respect and protect women's rights and interests, the foreign ministers called on the international community to support the reconstruction and development of Afghanistan, and help Afghanistan to improve governance and strengthen the capacity building, so as to effectively protect the basic rights and interests of all segments of the Afghan society, including women and children.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2023-05-09/page-12/detail-6>

Pakistani truck art exhibition attracts Chinese students

BEIJING-The first truck art exhibition showcasing Pakistan's diverse cultural landscape in Langfang, China has attracted a large number of Chinese students. "A special Truck Art workshop conducted by artist Ali and his team in Silk Road International Cultural Centre. Dozens of Chinese students enthusiastically participated to learn about this dazzling and colorful Pakistani art," Pakistan Ambassador to China, Moin ul Haque said on Monday. The Truck Art exhibition was opened in Langfang, China to celebrate Pakistan's 83rd National Day and 2023 as the China-Pakistan Year of Tourism Exchanges. The exhibition, which will continue till July 24, was organised by Pakistan Embassy in Beijing, in collaboration with Silk Road International Art Center, Langfang and renowned truck artists enterprise 'Phool Patti'. The opening ceremony held recently was attended by more than 300 people including Chinese dignitaries, government officials, and members of the diplomatic corps, business executives, media representatives and Pakistani community. A specially-designed truck model and other items ranging from bicycles, murals, clothes, fans, and ceramic pots were designed by the Phool Patti team for the exhibition which would last for three months. Ali Salman Anchan, the team leader from Phool Patti would also hold special live workshops along with his team for the visitors to the exhibition. Termed as "Art on Wheels" by many, this artistic expression represents cheerfulness, optimism, appreciating the beautiful aspects of nature and seeing life in its brightest and most positive way.

As part of a cultural exchange project between both countries, the exhibition features a series of commissioned works and large-scale site-specific works, live events, along with educational programs.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2023-05-09/page-15/detail-4>

The News

China's concerns

Pakistan's internal stability is not hidden from anyone, least of all its neighbours. On his first visit to the country, during which he held meetings with civil and military leaders, Chinese Foreign Minister Qin Gang has said that China sincerely hopes political forces in Pakistan will build consensus uphold stability and more effectively address domestic and external challenges so that it can focus on growing the economy, improving people's lives and bringing the country into a fast track towards development and rejuvenation. Gang was here to participate in the China-Pakistan-Afghanistan Trilateral Foreign Ministers Dialogue on May 6. Besides the trilateral meeting, Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari and his Chinese counterpart also co-chaired the fourth round of the Pakistan-China Strategic Dialogue.

The remarks by China are quite important. The past year in Pakistan has been tumultuous without a break. Even on the day of the trilateral dialogue, the PTI chose to hold rallies across the country apparently in solidarity with the constitution, the Supreme Court and Chief Justice Umar Ata Bandial. Those who are not new to the business and consumption of news would remember when in 2014 Chinese President Xi Jinping's first state visit to Pakistan was postponed due to the PTI's dharna in Islamabad. In the context of all that has been going on in Pakistan, both politically and economically, the Chinese foreign minister was not wrong in pointing out that Pakistan needs stability. How our political parties think they can get us investment in the midst of this political circus as well as the recent rise in terrorism is beyond understanding. This is why a political consensus is needed on essentially every sphere of governance and government: from the economic crisis to terrorism to elections and power struggles in the country.

That the Chinese foreign minister raised the issue of stability within Pakistan shows that China is committed to its relations with Pakistan and wants a prospering neighbour with which it has such ties that the Chinese have invested in a lot – both financially, in the defence sector, in infrastructure and diplomatically. It is now incumbent for all political forces in the country to realize that other countries, and especially our longtime friends and strategic partners, are also looking at the political uncertainty that has led to an economic catastrophe quite closely and cautiously. To resolve this issue, all political parties should sit down and put their political differences aside in order to build a consensus on the way forward. Without a consensus, no elections can lead to any conflict resolution and whoever comes to power will face protests on the streets, as has become a norm since the 2014 dharna. Such protests, however democratic, are used to destabilize sitting governments. When friends like China, a country that is very careful on what to say in public, start pointing out that 'stability' is needed in Pakistan, it is time to take notice of these words and pay heed to what is being said

between the lines. China, in fact, is looking at playing the role of a stable mature power in other matters too, even with the US which has done everything in its power to dislodge China from its path of growth. On Monday Foreign Minister said it is essential to stabilize China-US relations after a series of “erroneous words and deeds” led to a chill in ties. Our internal chaos is really now in the hands of our political forces. Regardless of what institution is leaning what way, our political actors need to understand that the international community is looking and what it’s seeing in our domestic politics is not looking too promising.

<https://e.thenews.com.pk/detail?id=200166>

Nawaiwaqt News

چین نے پاکستان کی مسلسل مدد کا اعلان کر کے دل جیت لیے: جہانگیر اشرف

لاہور (خبرنگار) ڈیہو کریک پارٹی کے صدر ”جہانگیر اشرف وینس“ نے ملک چین کا شکریہ ادا کرتے کہا ہے کہ عالمی اقتصادی دباؤ کم کرنے کے لیے پاکستان کی مسلسل مدد کرنے کا اعلان کر کے چائینہ نے پاکستانی عوام کے دل جیت لیے ہیں انہوں نے کہا کہ برصغیر ہندوپاک اور ایشیاء کے لوگ صدیوں سے یورپ کی طرف دیکھتے رہے، جب امریکہ س± پر پادور بنا تو اس کے ساتھ ہی بنے مگر خوش حالی کی جگہ غلامی ہی مقدر بنی لیکن اب خوشی کی بات ہے کہ غریب ملکوں کے مسائل حل کرنے کے لیے چین کی قیادت مثبت انداز سے امید کا مظہر بن کر سامنے آئی ہے جہانگیر اشرف وینس نے کہا کہ پاکستان نے اقوام متحدہ کے تحت دنیا کے مختلف ممالک میں خدمات سرانجام دے کر جو شہرت اور عزت حاصل کی اس کا تقاضا ہے کہ چین کے تعاون سے ایشیائی ملکوں کی بہتری کے لیے کام شروع کیا جائے انہوں نے کہا کہ ڈیہو کریک پارٹی کی خواہش کہ ”پاکستان اندورنی طور پر ایک مہذب، جمہوری اور فلاحی ریاست بنے جو بیرونی طور پر دنیا بھر میں امن و سلامتی اور انسانیت کی عزت و تکریم کی مددگار بنے“ کی تکمیل کا وقت قریب آتا جا رہا ہے۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/lahore/2023-05-09/page-2/detail-10>

آرمی چیف سے چینی اور افغان وزرائے خارجہ کی ملاقاتیں

شدید اقتصادی بحران اور دہشت گردی دو ایسے مسائل ہیں جن سے اس وقت پاکستان نبرد آزما ہے۔ یہ دونوں مسائل ایک دوسرے سے جڑے ہوئے بھی ہیں، اس لیے ایسا نہیں ہو سکتا کہ پاکستان ایک کو چھوڑ کر دوسرے پر قابو پانے کی سعی میں مصروف ہو جائے۔ ان مسائل کے حل کے لیے برادر ملک چین کا تعاون پاکستان کے لیے بہت مفید ثابت ہو سکتا ہے۔ دہشت گردی سے نمٹنے کے لیے ہمیں افغانستان کے تعاون کی ضرورت ہے کیونکہ اس وقت ہمیں دہشت گردی کی جس نئی لہر کا سامنا کرنا پڑ رہا ہے اس کے پیچھے کا لعدم تحریک طالبان پاکستان (ٹی ٹی پی) اور دیگر ایسے گروہوں کا ہاتھ ہے جو پاک افغان سرحد سے ملحقہ علاقوں میں موجود ہیں اور پاکستان میں جب سکیورٹی فورسز ان کے خلاف کارروائیاں کرتی ہیں تو پناہ لینے کے لیے افغانستان چلے جاتے ہیں۔ اس صورتحال میں افغانستان میں قائم طالبان کی عبوری حکومت کے تعاون کے بغیر اس مسئلے کا حل نہیں نکالا جاسکتا۔

چین کے ساتھ مشترکہ سکیورٹی چیلنجوں کا موثر طریقے سے مقابلہ کرنے کے لیے پاک فوج کے سربراہ سید عاصم منیر سے چینی اسٹیٹ کونسلر اور وزیر خارجہ کن گانگ نے ملاقات کی جس میں دونوں فریقین نے دفاع اور سلامتی کے شعبوں میں اپنے موجودہ تعاون کو بڑھانے پر اتفاق کیا۔ مسلح افواج کے شعبہ تعلقات عامہ (آئی ایس پی آر) کی جانب سے جاری بیان کے مطابق، آرمی چیف نے چین پاکستان اقتصادی راہداری (سی پیک) منصوبے کے لیے بھی مکمل حمایت کا وعدہ کیا جو کہ چین کے بیلٹ اینڈ روڈ انیشی ایٹو کا ایک اہم جزو ہے۔ وزیر خارجہ کن گانگ نے برادر ممالک کے درمیان دیرینہ تزویراتی تعلقات کی اہمیت کو اجاگر کیا اور سی پیک پر ہونے والی پیش رفت پر

اطمینان کا اظہار کرتے ہوئے اس کی بروقت تکمیل کے لیے چین کے عزم کا اعادہ کیا۔ آرمی چیف نے خطے میں امن اور استحکام کو فروغ دینے میں چین کے کردار کا اعتراف کیا اور دونوں فریقوں نے مشترکہ سکیورٹی چیلنجوں کا موثر طریقے سے مقابلہ کرنے کے لیے دفاع اور سلامتی کے شعبوں میں اپنے موجودہ تعاون کو بڑھانے پر اتفاق کیا۔ دہشت گردی اور انتہا پسندی کے مشترکہ چیلنجوں سے موثر طریقے سے نمٹنے کے لیے پاکستان اور افغانستان کے درمیان تعاون بڑھانے سے متعلق بات چیت کے لیے جنرل عاصم منیر سے قائم مقام افغان وزیر برائے خارجہ امور امیر خان متقی نے ان کے دفتر میں ملاقات کی۔ آرمی چیف اور افغان وزیر خارجہ نے علاقائی سلامتی، بارڈر مینجمنٹ اور موجودہ سکیورٹی ماحول میں بہتری کے لیے دو طرفہ سکیورٹی میکانزم کو باقاعدہ بنانے کے پہلوؤں پر تبادلہ خیال کیا۔ امیر خان متقی نے باہمی دلچسپی کے امور میں افغان عبوری حکومت کی جانب سے مکمل حمایت اور عزم کی ضرورت کا اعادہ کیا۔ افغان وزیر خارجہ نے علاقائی استحکام اور خوشحالی کے فروغ کے لیے پاکستان کے ساتھ مل کر کام کرنے کی خواہش کا بھی اظہار کیا۔ فریقین نے دو طرفہ تعلقات کو مضبوط بنانے اور مشترکہ توثیق کے مسائل کو حل کرنے کے لیے باقاعدہ رابطوں کو برقرار رکھنے کی اہمیت پر اتفاق کیا۔ آرمی چیف نے ایک مستحکم، پر امن اور خوشحال افغانستان کے لیے پاکستان کے عزم کا اعادہ کیا۔

افغانستان میں قیام امن کے لیے ہونے والی کوششوں کے ضمن میں پاکستان نے دوروز پہلے چین اور افغانستان کے ساتھ فریقی مذاکرات کے پانچویں دور میں شرکت کی جس میں سیاسی مشغولیت، انسداد دہشت گردی کے خلاف تعاون سمیت فریقی فریم ورک کے تحت تجارت، سرمایہ کاری اور روابط کاری کے تعاون کو بڑھانے اتفاق کیا گیا۔ تینوں ملکوں کے وزرائے خارجہ کے مابین ہونے والے اس مذاکراتی دور میں سیاسی امور، انسداد دہشت گردی، تجارت اور روابط پر نتیجہ خیز بات چیت کی گئی۔ اسی طرح پاک افغان وزرائے خارجہ نے آپس میں ہونے والی ملاقات کے دوران دہشت گردی سے نمٹنے اور دو طرفہ تعاون کو گہرا کرنے کے لیے تعاون بڑھانے، دو طرفہ اور ٹرانزٹ تجارت کے حوالے سے علاقائی اقتصادی انضمام اور روابط کے فروغ کے مقصد کو آگے بڑھانے کے لیے تجارت کی راہ میں حائل رکاوٹوں کو دور کرنے پر اتفاق کیا۔ دونوں رہنماؤں نے امن و سلامتی کے ساتھ ساتھ تجارت اور روابط سمیت باہمی دلچسپی کے اہم امور پر واضح اور تفصیلی تبادلہ خیال کیا۔

پاکستان کو اس وقت جن سنگین مسائل کا سامنا ہے ان کے پیدا ہونے کی وجہ میں سے ایک یہ بھی ہے کہ خطے میں ایسے عناصر بھی موجود ہیں جو طاقت کے توازن کو بگاڑنے کے لیے کسی بھی حد تک جانے کو تیار رہتے ہیں۔ ایسے میں چین اور افغانستان کے ساتھ روابط کو فروغ دینا اور مختلف معاملات میں تعاون بڑھانا وقت کی اہم ضرورت ہے۔ تینوں ملکوں کے وزرائے خارجہ کے مابین ہونے والے مذاکرات سے بہتر نتائج برآمد ہونے کی توقع رکھنی چاہیے۔ اسی طرح پاک فوج کے سربراہ سے چینی اور افغان وزرائے خارجہ کی جو ملاقاتیں ہوئی ہیں ان کے نتیجے میں سکیورٹی کے سلسلے میں تعاون مزید بڑھنے کی امید رکھنی چاہیے جس سے ایک طرف دہشت گردی پر قابو پانے میں مدد ملے گی اور دوسری جانب ایسا لائحہ عمل ترتیب دیا جائے گا جو شریکین کو خطے میں طاقت کا توازن بگاڑنے سے باز رکھے گا۔ اس خوش آئند صورت حال سے صرف پاکستان ہی نہیں بلکہ چین اور افغانستان کو بھی فائدہ حاصل ہو گا اور خطے کے اندر اور باہر موجود دیگر ممالک بھی اس سے مستفید ہوں گے۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/lahore/2023-05-09/page-5/detail-6>

May 10, 2023

Daily Times

Charge'd Affairs, embassy of China calls on finance minister

Charge'd Affairs, Embassy of the People's Republic of China Pang Chunxue on Tuesday called on Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar and conveyed best wishes and greetings from Qin Gang, the State Councillor and Foreign Minister of China. The two sides discussed various avenues, especially available for both countries in order to enhance the existing cooperation to unprecedented levels. They also discussed the progress on China-Pakistan Economic Corridor projects and programs in Pakistan, said a press release. The minister also highlighted the deep-rooted historical bilateral relations

between Pakistan and China and commended the Chinese support to Pakistan on multiple fronts. He also underscored the need to deepen bilateral relations further in the economic, trade, and financial sectors. Senator Ishaq Dar said that with the support of China, Pakistan would become a growing economy in the region as well as the world soon. Pang Chunxue reciprocated the sentiments and admired the friendly relations between the two countries. She guaranteed the continuous support of the Chinese government to the people of Pakistan. She praised the huge potential of Pakistan in agriculture, Industry, IT, and services sectors. Chunxue said that China wishes to work together with Pakistan to bring economic prosperity to the region.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1091686/charged-affairs-embassy-of-china-calls-on-finance-minister/>

Pakistani men's garment export to China increases by 29% in Q1 of 2023

Pakistani men's garment export to China experienced a significant growth of 29% in the first quarter of 2023. This growth can be attributed to Pakistan's strong manufacturing capability and the high quality of its garments, Ghulam Qadir, the Commercial Counsellor of the Pakistan Embassy in Beijing, said on Tuesday.

"In the first three months of 2023, Pakistani men's garment exports from Pakistan to China reached approximately \$6 million, compared to \$4.27 million during the same period in 2022, representing a 29% increase. Men's or boys' trousers under the cotton community code (61034200) accounted for \$3.47 million, compared to \$1.67 million in January-March 2022," he stated.

Ghulam Qadir further shared that Pakistan is preparing to host the largest textile exhibition this month, China Economic Net (CEN) reported.

Over 70 top fabric enterprises have already confirmed their participation, and it is anticipated that more than 100 Chinese textile enterprises will also take part in the event. The exhibition is scheduled to take place from May 26th to 28th at the Karachi Expo Center.

Pakistani men's clothing exports to China in 2022 amounted to \$28.66 million, compared to \$21.62 million in 2021, indicating an increase of nearly 33%. Among the top items, men's or boys' trousers made of cotton (under community code 61034200) accounted for \$17.94 million in 2022, while in 2021, the value was \$12.59 million.

He further emphasized that Pakistan's competitive pricing has led to an increasing number of Chinese businesses sourcing clothing from Pakistan, establishing them as a significant economic partner. The rise in exports can also be attributed to the growing demand of Chinese consumers for stylish and fashionable Pakistani clothing options.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1091712/pakistani-mens-garment-export-to-china-increases-by-29-in-q1-of-2023/>

Pakistan Observer

China's fresh gestures

TWO separate developments speak volumes about Chinese commitment to regional peace and security as well as welfare of people of Pakistan and also that of Afghanistan. Following a trilateral dialogue among Pakistan, China and Afghanistan, the three sides issued a joint statement, which, among other things, reaffirms their commitment to strengthen trilateral cooperation under the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and jointly extend the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) to Afghanistan. And China's Defence Minister Li Shangfu on Monday told Pakistan's naval chief Admiral Amjad Khan Niazi that their militaries including their navies should "expand into new fields of cooperation" to bolster the capability of the two neighbours in safeguarding security in the region.

These are not ordinary statements but part of the overall vision of the Chinese leadership for a peaceful and prosperous region and there are bright prospects to realize this cherished objective as Beijing is more than willing to extend financial and technical cooperation for the purpose. Extension of CPEC to Afghanistan, plan to build \$58 billion railway line to link the port city of Gwadar with Kashgar in Xinjiang province of China and offer of military cooperation to deal with all sorts of risks and challenges mean much both for Pakistan and impoverished Afghanistan in terms of their economic development and safeguarding their sovereignty and territorial integrity, especially in the backdrop of highly discriminatory approaches adopted by some influential countries including measures to isolate Afghanistan. Extension of CPEC to Afghanistan should receive priority attention of the three countries as it would help transform the otherwise war-torn country into a hub of connectivity, ensure enormous economic and employment opportunities for Afghan people and give the much-needed boost to the efforts of Pakistan and China to increase trade with the Central Asian Republics (CARs). China is already investing heavily on development and modernization of the port and its facilities in Gwadar and completion of these projects would help realize the target of making Gwadar a hub of regional trade and connectivity for which a strong reference has also been made in the joint statement. Together with CASA-1000, TAPI, and Trans-Afghan Railways, these plans have the potential to revolutionize regional trade and connectivity to the benefit of all participating countries. The prospects for successful implementation of all these plans and initiatives are there as the way the Taliban have governed Afghanistan during the last one year has sent strong signals to the outside world for restoration of genuine peace and stability in the country. Lack of instability and precarious security situation were the major hurdles in the way of implementation of plans for regional and bilateral cooperation in different fields but the Taliban have effectively run the country despite challenges thrown by the virtual boycott of the outside world. China's sincerity to the cause of regional peace, security and progress is also manifested by its deep commitment to the Afghan peace process. The trilateral mechanism has started bearing fruits as three parties highlighted the importance of addressing security challenges that pose a significant threat to regional and global security, and directly impacting the stability and economic prosperity of the entire region. They agreed to coordinate on security matters, including organised crime, drug smuggling and others. Highlighting the need to boost economic activity in Afghanistan,

the three countries emphasized the significance of exploring feasible pathways towards reviving the Afghan economy. As a step towards this goal, they agreed to consider additional support for the reconstruction of Afghanistan and exploring trilateral investment opportunities that promote industrialization and job creation and this is important as resolution of the economic challenges would allow the Taliban Government to focus more attention on improving internal and border security. As CPEC is progressing well and offers huge opportunities for expansion of regional trade, some forces are continuously hatching conspiracies against the initiative. Attempts are being made to undermine efforts aimed at realizing the full economic and trade potential of Gwadar and this calls for urgent and proper investment to make the Pakistan Navy powerful enough to foil these designs effectively. In this backdrop, the offer made by China's Defence Minister deserves serious consideration, who affirmed that "the two militaries should expand into new areas of exchanges, create new high points of cooperation to continuously enhance their ability to deal with all sorts of risks and challenges, and jointly maintain the security interests of the two countries and of the region." We hope practical measures would be taken on a priority basis to transform into reality the understanding reached during the visit of the naval chief to China.

<https://pakobserver.net/chinas-fresh-gestures/>

BRI and Changan's Unique Schemes of FDIs

Dr Mehmood Ul Hassan Khan

The Chinese Belt & Road Initiative (BRI) has entered into its tenth year, making a new history of world class infrastructure development, regional connectivity, integrated transport, economic and sea corridors in the member countries.

It adopted holistic and comprehensive models and modules of foreign direct investment (FDI) to finance numerous mega projects in the member countries around the globe. In this regard, Chongqing Changan Automobile Co has played an important role in introducing a new modern and smart automobile to facilitate the BRI countries in terms of sustainable development in the automobile sector.

According to the Chinese official data (December 2022) BRI investment in 2022 was unusually dominated by private sector enterprises, including CATL, Alibaba and Changan Automobile Co while construction contracts were dominated by state-owned enterprises (SOEs).

In this connection, potential future engagements can be expected in five project types: manufacturing in new technologies (e.g., batteries), trade-enabling infrastructure (including pipelines, roads), ICT (e.g., data centres), resource-backed deals (e.g., mining, oil, gas), high visibility or strategic projects (e.g., railway). Hopefully, Changan has a unique plan of further FDIs in the member countries of the BRI to provide smart and green vehicles in the days to come.

Moreover, Chinese engagement through financial investment and contractual cooperation for 2022 in the 150 countries of the BRI was more than USD 69.8 billion based on over 200 deals. Cumulative BRI engagement since the announcement of the BRI in 2013 is USD 962

billion, about USD 573 in construction contracts and USD 389 in non-financial investment in which even Changan substantial FDI played an important role.

Moreover, transport-related engagement is an important actor to provide the means to trade between China and the BRI countries. Accordingly, China has invested in and constructed projects in road, rail, aviation, shipping and logistics across the world.

In the two years, Chinese Changan Auto manufacturer collaborated with Pakistan Master Motor Corporation to establish a plant in Karachi with an initial capacity of 30,000 vehicles a year and thus established a world class supply chain of modern automobiles in the country which is the one of the biggest beneficiaries of the BRI.

China's BRI continues to play a pivotal role in the auto industry by facilitating collaboration and investment opportunities among auto-related stakeholders and markets participating in the BRI. There has been an increase in autos-related investment due to the creation of new BRI partnerships (Indonesia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Pakistan and Argentina).

It seems that electric vehicle (EV) manufacturers and mining companies from China heavily invested in BRI countries and established a durable EV supply chain, as highlighted by strong growth in investment in Argentina and Chile for lithium, Indonesia for nickel and Mozambique for graphite.

South East Asia has also become a key region for China-based automakers selling petrol and diesel cars to expand their market share, as demand for these vehicles slows in the domestic market. This is evidenced by the growth in auto manufacturing investment and auto parts and components' exports to the region in which Changan has the lion share.

Chinese automaker Changan Auto will invest \$285 million in a facility in Thailand to produce 100,000 electric vehicles annually, according to the country's Board of Investment (BOI). The Co aims to market EVs in Thailand, Southeast Asia and Australia.

Changan Automobile, a leading Chinese car manufacturer, has recently announced it will invest 9.8 billion baht (US\$ 285 million) in Thailand, to set up its first right-hand drive electric vehicle (EV) production base outside China.

Critical analysis reveals that Changan Automobile is one of the leaders in EV and intelligent driving technology, with its headquarters and main production base located in Chongqing, China. The Co is China's fourth-largest automaker, with sales of over 2 million vehicles last year. It also has a joint investment with Ford and Mazda to produce cars in China.

Moreover, Changan Automobile Group, China's fourth-biggest automaker by sales volume, will invest 30 billion Yuan (\$4.7 billion) in research and development (R&D) over the next five years. The manufacturer, which counts Chongqing Changan Automobile Co Ltd among its listed subsidiaries, has spent 5 percent of annual revenue from 2016 to 2020 for R&D.

Interestingly, Changan is on a mission to build the vehicles that people want and need. By producing efficient, safe, stylish and affordable cars, Changan has earned the business of many satisfied customers, and the admiration of many happy employees in the BRI member countries around the globe. It is even a popular brand in Uzbekistan and Azerbaijan.

According to latest figures (December 2022) Changan Automobile Co increased its sales volume in 2022 by 4.9 percent year-over-year (y/y) to 2,053,000. Now it is planning to launch 12 brand-new models under three marquees of Changan, Deepal as well as Avatar, a premium brand co-built by Changan in partnership with Huawei and CATL.

Most recently, it unveiled the hybrid technology IDD, which stands for intelligent dual drive, and three new hybrid models. By 2025, the group's sales will reach 4 million vehicles a year. It is hoped that sales of Changan-branded vehicles will reach 3 million units and NEVs will account for 35 percent.

To conclude, Chongqing, already the size of the Bangladesh economy, has succeeded to double its digital economy to \$156 billion by 2022 driving 60 percent of GDP growth. 70,000 5G base stations by 2022 while then more than double to 150,000 by 2025 would be a great achievement. The role of Changan in the GDP of Chongqing is substantial which is a good omen for automobile development.

Changan has become an icon of style and smartness, precision and productivity, connectivity and compassion, customers' first choice and affordability, substitute and sensitivity, innovation and integrity, technology and tenderness and alternativeness and accommodation. Thus the future belongs to Changan.

Moreover, Changan Automobile Co has completely transformed the concept of cheap, smart and modern EVs vehicles in the BRI countries. Thus its role in terms of FDI's in the automobile sector in the BRI countries is on the rise which is good omen for the investors and consumers alike.

<https://pakobserver.net/bri-and-changans-unique-schemes-of-fdis-by-dr-mehmood-ul-hassan-khan/>

Strengthening Bonds Through CPEC

Syed Jamat Ali Shah

The friendly relations between Pakistan and China have been strong for decades and continue to grow with each passing year. The two nations have always stood by each other, and the bond between them has been cemented by shared interests and a deep sense of mutual respect.

The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is a prime example of this strong partnership and has brought a plethora of benefits to both nations. Pakistan and China have a long history of friendly relations which have been based on common goals and mutual respect.

The two countries have been close allies for over six decades and their relationship is built on a foundation of shared interests and cultural affinities. The two nations have supported each other through thick and thin and their partnership has only grown stronger with time. The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is a multi-billion-dollar project that has been instrumental in deepening the friendship between Pakistan and China. The project aims to connect China's western region with Pakistan's Gwadar port, thereby creating a trade route that will provide China with easier access to the Arabian Sea and the Middle East.

The CPEC will also help Pakistan to develop its infrastructure and will create numerous job opportunities for its citizens. One of the most significant benefits of the CPEC is that it will boost the economies of both Pakistan and China. The project has already created thousands of jobs in Pakistan and it is expected to create millions more in the coming years. The CPEC will also provide a much-needed boost to Pakistan's economy which has been struggling for many years.

The project will help Pakistan to develop its infrastructure, including roads, highways and power plants which will create a more conducive environment for businesses to thrive. In addition to boosting the economies of both nations, the CPEC will also enhance the strategic significance of Pakistan and China in the region. The project will provide China with a more direct route to the Arabian Sea which will help reduce its dependence on the Strait of Malacca.

This, in turn, will help in strengthening China's strategic position in the region. For Pakistan, the CPEC will provide a much-needed boost to its strategic significance, as it will become an essential transit route for Chinese goods. Another benefit of the CPEC is that it will promote regional stability and security. The project will help create a more stable and secure environment in the region by promoting economic development and cooperation between Pakistan and China.

The CPEC will also help in creating a more conducive environment for regional integration which will help reduce tension and promote peace and stability. The CPEC is also a prime example of how China and Pakistan are working together to promote sustainable development. The project is being implemented with a focus on sustainable development and it aims to create a more sustainable and environment-friendly atmosphere.

The CPEC will help promote clean energy and will reduce Pakistan's dependence on fossil fuels. This, in turn, will reduce carbon emissions and mitigate the impact of climate change. The CPEC has also been instrumental in promoting people-to-people exchanges between Pakistan and China. The project has created numerous opportunities for cultural exchange and has helped deepen the friendship between the two nations. The CPEC has also facilitated educational exchanges, which have helped promote a greater understanding of each other's cultures and values.

In conclusion, the friendly relations between Pakistan and China have been deepening over the years, and the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor is a testament to this strong partnership. The project has brought numerous benefits to both nations, including boosting their economies, enhancing their strategic significance, promoting regional stability and security, promoting sustainable development and promoting people-to-people exchanges.

The CPEC is a prime example of how two nations can work together to achieve mutual goals and build a brighter future for their citizens. Similarly, China and Pakistan, two great nations of the world, have joined hands to tackle the menace of terrorism and narcotics. The efforts of these two countries in eradicating these threats are highly commendable and deserve appreciation. Terrorism and narcotics are two of the most significant challenges facing the

world today. Both have devastating effects on society and their eradication requires a coordinated and sustained effort.

China and Pakistan have shown tremendous dedication to this cause and have made significant strides towards achieving their goals. China and Pakistan have a shared interest in combating terrorism and narcotics. Both countries have suffered greatly from these issues and understand the importance of addressing them. To tackle these problems, they have established a close working relationship and have collaborated on a range of initiatives. China and Pakistan have also strengthened their military ties to counter terrorism. The two countries have conducted joint military exercises and have exchanged intelligence to improve their capabilities in fighting terrorism.

The cooperation between the two countries has resulted in the successful elimination of several terrorist groups operating in the region. The efforts of China and Pakistan in eradicating narcotics have also been noteworthy. Both countries have taken steps to curb the production and trafficking of narcotics. China has cracked down on synthetic drug production and has implemented strict regulations to control the flow of precursor chemicals.

Pakistan has also made significant efforts to disrupt the drug trade by strengthening law enforcement agencies and increasing border controls. In conclusion, the efforts of China and Pakistan in eradicating terrorism and narcotics are a testament to their commitment to regional and global peace. The joint initiatives taken by these two countries have had a significant impact and their successes should serve as a model for other nations facing similar challenges.

It is essential that countries work together to address these issues, and the cooperation between China and Pakistan is a shining example of what can be achieved when nations come together to tackle common problems.

<https://pakobserver.net/strengthening-bonds-through-cpec-by-syed-jamat-ali-shah/>

The Nation

CPEC In Afghanistan

Trilateral cooperation has taken a positive turn as the foreign ministers of Pakistan, China, and Afghanistan have reaffirmed their commitment to the Belt and Road Initiative. This commitment aims to extend the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) to Afghanistan and ensure connectivity in the region. These discussions are a result of the recent 5th Trilateral Foreign Ministers Dialogue which was attended by the FMs of the three states.

While this news is promising, mere promises are not enough. Concrete steps and details are needed to advance both hard and soft connectivity and improve norms and standards. Additionally, timelines must be drafted to ensure that this commitment does not get lost among a sea of many other ones like this. Transit trade through the Gwadar Port and security protection against terrorist forces are vital points for the overall peacemaking process and these have been highlighted. Likewise, the terms being used must be clarified so that goals can be more tangible and achievable.

Operationalising these commitments will be challenging, but the potential benefits for the economy are significant. Trilateral investment opportunities in Afghanistan could create jobs and foster exchange in areas of mutual interest. The recent visit of the Chinese foreign minister to Pakistan is a positive development in promoting peace and prosperity in the region. Beijing's role in bringing Iran and Saudi Arabia closer highlights the importance of similar discussions being initiated at home.

We must understand what we have to offer in this space. That is why this development can be very positive if invested in it at the correct time and manner. Pakistan holds significant strategic and geographical importance, making them an essential trade offer. Leveraging Pakistan's ability to provide raw materials, manpower, and access to trade routes will be crucial for a trilateral setup. Therefore, it is in our best interest to bring this commitment to life and work towards it.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2023-05-10/page-6/detail-2>

Thar coal a promising solution to Pakistan's energy woes

ISLAMABAD-Thar Coal Power project will help Pakistan generate energy at a much lower cost, and this would be a game-changer for the country's overall development, said Shamsuddin Shaikh, former CEO of Sindh Engro Coal Mining Company, while talking to WealthPK.

"In the current global economic recession, Pakistan faces the challenge of a massive hike in the fuel price in the international market. With the help of China, Pakistan installed imported coal-based power plants as part of its CPEC investment at the beginning of the project, but now it is installing local coal-based power plants," he said.

"The Thar region of Pakistan has around 175 billion tons of coal reserves, equivalent to 50 billion tons of oil and 2,000 trillion cubic feet of natural gas," he said. "Pakistan recently successfully launched a third power plant with a capacity of 330MW based on the indigenous Thar coal. Tharparkar district in Sindh now has three plants operating on the local coal. As a result, the total installed capacity of Thar coal has increased to 990 megawatts in three years," added Shamsuddin Shaikh.

He said Pakistan currently generates 5,280MW electricity from coal, with the Thar coal contributing 1,320MW and imported coal 3,960MW to the overall power generation. "In the past, Pakistan imported coal from South Africa and Indonesia. The major question is why Pakistan is using imported coal for generating electricity instead of readily available local coal. The major problem with the local coal is that Pakistan's coal power plants are designed according to the imported coal. As a result, Pakistan is unable to switch to the local coal for the entire plant," said the Sindh Engro Coal Mining Company ex-CEO.

"In order to alter the design, a large investment is required. The second reason is that coal is being phased out of the world's energy mix because of its adverse environmental effects, so Pakistan faces financing challenges as well." "While this project can bring economic benefits and help meet Pakistan's growing energy demands, it is essential to ensure that it develops sustainably and is in line with the international environmental and social standards. Proper

planning and implementation can maximise the project's benefits and minimize the negative impacts on the environment and communities.”

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2023-05-10/page-9/detail-0>

Nawaiwaqt News

پاک چین و زرائے خارجہ مشترکہ اعلامیہ

چین کے وزیر خارجہ کی شکل میں پاکستان کا دورہ اور مذاکرات کے چار ادوار مکمل کرنے سے ظاہر ہوتا ہے کہ دونوں ممالک ایک طویل وقفے کے بعد ایک ساتھ کھڑے نظر آتے ہیں۔ پاکستان اور چین کے مابین تعلقات تاریخی اہمیت کے حامل ہیں، چین کے تعاون سے آگے بڑھنے والا سی پیک کا منصوبہ پاکستان کے لیے ایک گیم چینجر کی حیثیت رکھتا ہے۔ یہ تمام معاملات مذاکرات کے دوران زیر بحث آئے اور پھر دونوں ملکوں کی طرف سے ایک مشترکہ اعلامیہ جاری کیا گیا جس سے پاکستان اور چین کے مابین مستقبل کے تعلقات کا روشن چہرہ نظر آتا ہے، اس اعلامیہ کی ایک ایک سطر قابل غور ہے اور بڑے واضح الفاظ میں دونوں ملکوں نے باہمی تعاون پر زور دیا ہے۔

فریقین نے نومبر 2022ء میں وزیر اعظم محمد شہباز شریف کے دورہ بیجنگ کے دوران دونوں ممالک کی قیادت کے درمیان طے پانے والے اتفاق رائے کو یاد کرتے ہوئے گہری علاقائی اور بین الاقوامی تبدیلیوں کے تناظر میں پاک چین سٹریٹجک تعلقات کو مزید مضبوط بنانے پر اتفاق کیا۔ زرائے خارجہ نے پاکستان اور چین کے درمیان اعلیٰ سطح کے تبادلوں کی بڑھتی ہوئی رفتار پر اطمینان کا اظہار کرتے ہوئے اہم دو طرفہ شعبوں میں بات چیت کے انعقاد کی ضرورت کا اعادہ کیا۔ دونوں زرائے خارجہ نے اس بات پر زور دیا کہ پاک چین دوستی ایک تاریخی حقیقت ہے اور دونوں ممالک کا شعوری انتخاب ہے۔ تعاون پر مبنی سٹریٹجک پارٹنرشپ کے طور پر پاکستان اور چین کے درمیان مکمل باہمی اعتماد سے آہنی دوستی پر دونوں ممالک میں مکمل اتفاق رائے پایا جاتا ہے۔ فریقین نے ایک دوسرے کے بنیادی قومی مفادات سے متعلق امور پر اپنی مستقل حمایت جاری رکھنے پر اتفاق کیا۔ چین نے پاکستان کی خود مختاری، آزادی اور علاقائی سالمیت کے ساتھ ساتھ اس کے اتحاد، استحکام اور اقتصادی خوشحالی کے لیے اپنی مضبوط حمایت کا اعادہ کیا۔

پاکستان نے ون چائنا پالیسی کے ساتھ ساتھ تائیوان، سنگاپور، تبت، ہانگ کانگ اور بحیرہ جنوبی چین سمیت قومی مفاد کے تمام بنیادی مسائل پر چین کی مضبوط حمایت کا اعادہ کیا۔ فریقین نے 2023ء میں سی پیک کی ایک دہائی کی تکمیل کا خیر مقدم کرتے ہوئے سی پیک کو بیلٹ اینڈ روڈ انیشی ایٹیو کی ایک روشن مثال کے طور پر سراہا جس نے پاکستان میں سماجی و اقتصادی ترقی، روزگار کے مواقع اور لوگوں کی زندگیوں میں بہتری کو تیز کیا ہے۔ دونوں فریقوں نے سی پیک فریم ورک کے تحت ایم ایل ون منصوبے کی کلیدی اہمیت کا اعادہ کیا اور اس کے جلد از جلد نفاذ کو آگے بڑھانے پر اتفاق کیا۔ انھوں نے تعاون کے اہم شعبوں بشمول زراعت، سائنس و ٹیکنالوجی، آئی ٹی اور قابل تجدید توانائی کے ساتھ ساتھ کراچی سرکلر ریلوے کو فعال طور پر آگے بڑھانے پر بھی اتفاق کیا۔ دونوں ملکوں نے گواڈر میں فرینڈ شپ ہسپتال اور نیو گواڈر انٹرنیشنل ایئر پورٹ (این جی آئی اے) سمیت مختلف منصوبوں پر پیش رفت کا جائزہ لیا جبکہ گواڈر کو اعلیٰ معیار کی بندرگاہ اور علاقائی تجارت اور رابطوں کا مرکز بنانے کے عزم کا بھی اعادہ کیا۔

دونوں ممالک نے اس بات کا اعادہ کیا کہ سی پیک علاقائی تعاون کا ایک کھلا اور جامع پلیٹ فارم ہے اور دیگر علاقائی فریقوں کو سی پیک سے زیادہ سے زیادہ فائدہ حاصل کرنے کی دعوت دی۔ پاکستانی فریق نے چین کی جانب سے اس کی اقتصادی اور مالی مدد اور سیلاب کے بعد تعمیر نو اور بحالی کے لیے اس کے فراخ دلانہ امدادی پیکج پر شکریہ ادا کیا۔ مشترکہ بیان کے مطابق فریقین نے دہشت گردی کی تمام اشکال اور مظاہر سے نمٹنے کے اپنے پختہ عزم کا اعادہ کیا۔ چین نے دہشت گردی اور انتہا پسندی کے خلاف جنگ میں پاکستان کی کوششوں اور قربانیوں کا اعتراف کرتے ہوئے پاکستان میں چینی منصوبوں، اہلکاروں اور اداروں کی سکیورٹی کو بہتر بنانے کے ساتھ ساتھ داسو، کراچی اور دیگر حملوں میں چینی شہریوں کو نشانہ بنانے والے مجرموں کو گرفتار کرنے اور انصاف کے کٹہرے میں لانے کے لیے کیے گئے اقدامات کو سراہا۔ فریقین نے

سکیورٹی اور انسداد دہشت گردی کے شعبوں میں تعاون کو مزید فروغ دینے پر بھی اتفاق کیا۔ اقوام متحدہ اور شنگھائی تعاون تنظیم (ایس سی او) جیسے کثیر الجہتی فورمز پر علاقائی اور بین الاقوامی مسائل پر اپنے تعاون کا جائزہ لیتے ہوئے فریقین نے باہمی مفادات کے تحفظ کے لیے اپنے رابطوں اور تعاون کو مزید بڑھانے پر اتفاق کیا۔

مشترکہ بیان کے مطابق پاکستان نے کہا کہ وہ چین کی طرف سے پیش کردہ گلوبل ڈویلپمنٹ انیٹیو اور گلوبل سکیورٹی انیٹیو کی حمایت کرتا ہے۔ دونوں فریق جی ڈی آئی اور جی ایس آئی پر دو طرفہ اور کثیر جہتی فورمز پر تعاون کو آگے بڑھانے کے لیے تیار ہیں۔ پاکستان نے چین کی جانب سے تجویز کردہ عالمی تہذیبی اقدام کا خیر مقدم کیا۔ مشترکہ بیان کے مطابق فریقین نے جنوبی ایشیا میں امن و استحکام کو برقرار رکھنے کی اہمیت اور تمام تصفیہ طلب تنازعات کے حل کی ضرورت پر زور دیا۔ بات چیت کے دوران پاکستان نے چینی وفد کو جموں و کشمیر کی تازہ ترین صورتحال سے آگاہ کیا۔ چین نے اس بات کا اعادہ کیا کہ بھارت اور پاکستان کے درمیان تنازع کشمیر تاریخ میں تصفیہ طلب ہے اور اسے اقوام متحدہ کے چارٹر، سلامتی کونسل کی متعلقہ قراردادوں اور دو طرفہ معاہدوں کے مطابق مناسب اور پر امن طریقے سے حل کیا جانا چاہیے۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/lahore/2023-05-10/page-5/detail-8>

May 11, 2023

Daily Times

SAARC Chamber hails decision for extending CPEC to Afghanistan

The President SAARC Chamber of Commerce and Industry Iftikhar Ali Malik on Wednesday said wisdom based decision to extend China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) to Afghanistan is set to deepen trilateral cooperation under the Belt and Road Initiatives (BRI). In a press statement, he said that it was a good omen that the foreign ministers of Pakistan, China, and Afghanistan in recent trilateral talks expressed their determination to leverage Afghanistan's potential as a hub for regional connectivity. He said three foreign ministers also emphasized the significance of ongoing projects such as CASA-1000, TAPI, and Trans-Afghan Railway, highlighting their potential to boost regional connectivity and promote economic development and prosperity in the region. He said the ministers further agreed in principle to explore measures to facilitate the movement of people and trade activities besides boosting transit trade through the Gwadar port. Iftikhar Ali Malik said, "A peaceful, stable, and prosperous Afghanistan is in the best interest of the region." He said, "It's high time to further deepen and expand trilateral cooperation in the domains of security, development, and politics guided by the principles of mutual respect, equal-footed consultation, and mutual benefits." He said the security challenges must be addressed that pose a significant threat to regional and global security and directly impact the stability and economic prosperity of the entire region. He called upon the international community to strengthen bilateral and multilateral cooperation and provide the necessary supplies, equipment, and technical assistance to relevant countries. He further urged the international community to engage constructively with Afghanistan acknowledging the efforts made under various mechanisms and formats including the neighboring countries of Afghanistan to promote dialogue and meaningful engagement with the Afghan interim government. He urged the global community to support the reconstruction and development of Afghanistan to effectively protect the basic rights and interests of all segments of society including women and children.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1092140/saarc-chamber-hails-decision-for-extending-cpec-to-afghanistan/>

Pakistan Observer

China-Pakistan's unbreakable bonds

Qaiser Nawab

A new chapter in the unbreakable bond between China and Pakistan has been written as the Chinese State Councillor and Foreign Minister Qin Gang visited Pakistan on 5-6 May 2023. Beyond just diplomatic niceties, the visit encompassed a vast array of discussions, including the co-chairing of the Fourth Round of China-Pakistan Foreign Ministers' Strategic Dialogue, cementing the two countries' commitment to peace and development as 'Iron brothers, trusted friends and enduring partners'.

During the Fourth Round of China-Pakistan Foreign Ministers' Strategic Dialogue, the two nations emphasized the importance of strengthening their mutual relations, as they are 'All-Weather Strategic Cooperative Partners'. Both sides agreed to continue extending support for issues that are of core interest for both nations, including the economic, political, strategic and security realms. This comprehensive dialogue helped further solidify the longstanding friendship between China and Pakistan.

The visit of Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Qin Gang to Pakistan was also marked by the Fifth China-Pakistan-Afghanistan Foreign Ministers' Dialogue. This trilateral dialogue, which took place on May 6th, saw the three sides vow to strengthen cooperation in a variety of sectors, including political, economic, strategic and cultural domains. The meeting aimed to initiate a discourse on how to effectively tackle the blooming terrorist sanctuaries in the region.

This dialogue came at a crucial time as it followed the very important meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) which discussed the issue of terrorism and regional peace and security. The Chinese resolute for regional peace and security was clearly evident during this important meeting, which was the third important meeting on Afghanistan that the State Councilor and Foreign Minister Qin Gang attended in less than one month. In April, FM Qin Gang chaired the second informal meeting on Afghanistan between the Foreign Ministers of China, Russia, Pakistan and Iran, and attended the Fourth Foreign Ministers' Meeting among the neighbouring countries of Afghanistan in Samarkand. The Chinese Government is committed to working with other nations in the region to promote peace and security in Afghanistan and the surrounding region.

The recent meetings between Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Qin Gang and leaders from Pakistan and Afghanistan are a part of China's larger effort to promote global security and development. These efforts stem from the Global Security Initiative (GSI) launched by President Xi Jinping, which calls for a new approach to addressing the challenges of security with a win-win mindset. Unlike the conventional approach of the US-led War on Terror, the GSI emphasizes solidarity among countries and an empathetic understanding of the changing international landscape and geo-politics.

As a part of its GDI, China is committed to achieving common goals of peace, justice, cooperation and development through initiatives that support less developed nations and ensure equitable development that is beneficial for countries across the globe. GDI provides a

theoretical global focus on such initiatives, while China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) expands the development agenda from East Asia and Europe to Africa, Oceania and Latin America.

The success of these initiatives is due to China's soft power approach which prioritizes development and economic connectivity rather than meddling in and policing other states' internal affairs. This approach has been consistent and perseverant since the late 1970s, defining China's vision to emerge as a global power.

The recent meetings between Chinese and Pakistani leaders aimed to strengthen mutual relations by extending support for issues of core interest in the economic, political, strategic and security realms. The trilateral dialogue with Afghanistan was focused on strengthening cooperation in multiple sectors, including political, economic, strategic and cultural domains, and initiating a discourse on how to effectively tackle terrorist sanctuaries in the region.

China's recent diplomatic efforts in Afghanistan are a clear indication of its commitment to global security and development, and this is evident from the three important meetings that State Councilor and Foreign Minister Qin Gang attended in less than a month. The Chinese approach to Afghanistan is inclusive and far-reaching, and it is driven by their empathetic understanding of the global affairs, as well as their solidarity with the region. While the West has limited its engagement in Afghanistan to humanitarian assistance and coercive measures, China believes in diplomacy, dialogue and cooperation.

China's engagement with Afghanistan is not just about building inclusive government within the country, but also about building friendly relations with neighbouring countries and fighting terrorism. The recent breakthrough between Saudi Arabia and Iran with Chinese mediation has also boosted China's confidence and amplified its aspirations to play a bigger role in global geopolitics. China's policy on Afghanistan is a textbook interpretation of its Global Solidarity Initiative and it believes that supporting the interim Afghan government with efforts of reconstruction and development is essential for building peaceful and prosperous Afghanistan.

China's approach to Afghanistan is strikingly different from that of historical global powers like British, USSR and the US, that have tried to solve the Afghan issue with regime change. In contrast, China believes in diplomacy, dialogue and cooperation, and its recent trilateral dialogue with Pakistan and Afghanistan signifies the level of importance China is according to a peaceful and prosperous Afghanistan. The fact that the Afghan interim FM received a special travel ban exemption from UNSC to attend the trilateral dialogue, and FM Qin Gang undertook his maiden visit to Pakistan, where they do not have any full-time Ambassador, demonstrates China's commitment to the region.

China's engagement with Afghanistan and its efforts towards global security and development are critical at a time when the world is facing multiple challenges, including terrorism and regional peace and security. With the US sending its Senate-confirmed top diplomat to Pakistan last year after the lapse of four years, a full-time Chinese Ambassador accredited to Pakistan can invigorate the former's ambition for regional peace and security. The Trilateral Foreign Ministers' Dialogue has the potential to build consensus, consolidate

mutual trust and jointly contribute to peace, stability, development and prosperity in the region, and only time can tell about its success.

<https://pakobserver.net/china-pakistans-unbreakable-bonds-by-qaiser-nawab/>

The Nation

China airline to resume Lahore-Urumqi flights from June 13

ISLAMABAD - China Southern Airlines is poised to resume flight operations from Lahore to Urumqi on June 13th.

The flight operations were suspended when the pandemic erupted, causing a significant downturn in the aviation industry.

Gwadar Pro quoting an official from the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) stated the flight service will connect Lahore with Urumqi, the capital of the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region.

The flights will be scheduled on a weekly basis, specifically on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Sundays. In terms of preparedness to smoothen the resumption of flights, he said that all mandatory SOPs from administration level to technical procedures are being put into force at Lahore Airport.

Yan Yang, Commercial Counsellor at the Chinese Consulate in Lahore, hailed the resumption of flights as a positive sign, stating that it would bring a wave of convenience to travellers on both sides.

The resumption of flights from Lahore to Urumqi on June 13th, following the reopening of the Khunjerab Pass after a three-year hiatus, is expected to strengthen Pakistan-China economic and trade ties while also promoting people-to-people exchanges between the two nations. Various organisations, including the Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry, traders' bodies, and associations, warmly welcomed the resumption of flights.

They expressed that Lahore, as an emerging economic hub in Punjab, deserves to be a prime destination for China Southern Airlines.

Iqbal Haider, a Lahore-based electronic trader gave a big shoutout to the upcoming development. "It will save our time, travelling budget and energy," he said.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2023-05-11/page-3/detail-6>

Commissioning ceremony of advanced frigates for Pak Navy held in China

ISLAMABAD - Two newly-built Type 054 A/P frigates namely PNS Tippu Sultan and PNS Shahjahan were commissioned in the Pakistan Navy in an impressive ceremony held at Hudong Zhonghua Shipyard Shanghai, China.

According to a press release received here, the Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Muhammad Amjad Khan Niazi graced the ceremony as chief guest and handed over the traditional Command Scrolls to the commanding officers of Pakistan Navy Ships. Speaking on the occasion, Chief of the Naval Staff highlighted that commissioning of PNS Tippu Sultan and PNS Shahjahan ushers a new chapter in Pak-China friendship that has matured and rests

firmly on the pillars of trust, respect and mutual support. The same is manifested in our defence collaborations.

The Naval Chief further said that with the active support of Peoples Republic of China, Pakistan Navy has undertaken substantial measures to strengthen its force structure and progressive capability enhancement. The chief guest underscored that completion of the Type 054 A/P project is a major leap towards strengthening capabilities to respond to maritime threats and contribution to peace and stability in the region.

Towards the end, the Admiral thanked and praised the concerted efforts made by all major stakeholders involved in development of the ships including BOMETEC, SASTIND, PLA (N), HZ Shipyard and CSTC for timely completion of the project despite pandemic challenges.

The contract for four multi-role frigates (Type 054-A/P) for Pakistan Navy was signed between Pakistan and China in 2018. The first and second ships PNS Tughril and PNS Taimur joined PN fleet in 2022. The development of these state-of-the-art naval units for Pakistan Navy is hinged upon modern stealth design with capability to simultaneously engage in multiple naval operations to counter maritime threats. The 4000 tons frigates are technologically- advanced and highly capable platforms having enormous surface- to-surface, land attack, surface- to-air and underwater firepower coupled with extensive surveillance potential.

These ships will provide deterrence and means for averting threats in our region while contributing towards protection of Sea Lines of Communications (SLOCS). The ceremony was attended by high level civil and military dignitaries including ambassador of Pakistan to China and officials of Hudong Zhonghua Shipyard, said the press release

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2023-05-11/page-10/detail-2>

China, Pakistan join hands to cultivate medicinal talents

ISLAMABAD - Gansu University of Chinese Medicine, Pakistan Health Service Academy, and the China Acupuncture Centre and Clinical Lab in Islamabad have reached an agreement to join hands in training Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) talents as well as promoting TCM clinical diagnosis and treatment in Pakistan.

“Starting from 3-month or 6-month training, we will strive for providing education with TCM academic degrees in Pakistan,” Ms Zhang from the international office of Gansu University of Chinese Medicine told China Economic Net (CEN).

The university is located in Gansu Province in northwestern China and has set up nine TCM institutes and six TCM centres in Belt and Road countries. She said that in addition to promoting TCM therapy, especially acupuncture and moxibustion, the university will also cooperate with Pakistani regulatory authorities to push forward TCM legislation in the country.

For clinical practice, students will find opportunities at China Acupuncture Centre and Clinical Lab in Islamabad.

Dr Ahmed, Director of China Acupuncture Centre and Clinical Lab, told CEN that since the Pakistani government approved the import of Chinese medicine in 2012, it has been gaining popularity as its efficacy has been recognized by more locals. In particular, during the pandemic, the medicine donated by the Chinese government has boosted the reputation of TCM in Pakistan.

“The limited number of TCM practitioners in Pakistan requires more training conducted to cultivate personnel in this field, as has been required by Pakistan’s Ministry of Health,” Dr Ahmed told CEN, adding that while his centre has been present in Pakistan for about 30 years, this will be the first systematic TCM training it ever provides.

Apart from insufficient training, those who have learned TCM knowledge find themselves restricted in their practice due to the absence of TCM certification from authorities.

“Most TCM doctors in Pakistan work at home without a TCM license because only western medicine license is available for now”, Dr Ahmed said, adding, “Therefore, we are working to help the Pakistani Ministry of Health set up a registration and supervisory body for TCM practitioners.”

He believes with more talents and certified practitioners, TCM will develop at a faster pace and bring benefits to more people in Pakistan.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2023-05-11/page-10/detail-3>

The News

Pakistan keen to pay for Russian oil imports with Chinese Yuan

KARACHI: Pakistan has placed an order for a single cargo of Russian oil, but is keen for a long-term deal to buy the crude in Chinese currency, according to the country’s power minister.

The payment for the first shipment has been made in US dollars but Pakistan would like further purchases to be made in yuan, given the nation has a currency swap arrangement with China, Minister Khurram Dastgir Khan said in an interview late last week. “We hope that if this becomes a long-term arrangement, it’ll become a rupee and Chinese currency transaction,” he said. “And perhaps that currency swap needs to become larger in order for us to take advantage of other opportunities that might arise.”

Such a deal would dovetail with Russia’s desire to move away from using the dollar or euros for its exports and China’s ambitions to take the yuan global to chip away at the greenback’s dominance. It would also offer some relief to Pakistan, which is heavily reliant on energy imports and is trying to revive a stalled \$6.5 billion bailout package with the International Monetary Fund to avoid a default.

Pakistan’s first cargo of Russian oil will arrive within a month, and was purchased at a discount, a spokesman in the energy ministry’s petroleum division said in response to questions. China and India — the biggest importers of Russian oil — have been increasingly using yuan, rubles or UAE dirhams to pay for shipments. It’s unclear if Indian refiners have

been using rupees, but Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said this month that the Kremlin now had too much of the Indian currency that it couldn't use.

The use of the yuan in global trade, while still minuscule compared with the dollar, appears to be gaining traction. Brazilian hardwood pulp producer Suzano SA is considering selling its products to China in yuan, and Bangladesh recently agreed with Russia to settle a \$300 million payment related to the building of a nuclear plant near Dhaka in renminbi, officials familiar with the matter said. Pakistan has been trying to restart bailout talks with the IMF for about six months. The multilateral lender has expressed reservations about a plan to raise fuel prices for the wealthy to finance a subsidy for those on lower incomes, Petroleum Minister Musadik Malik said in a Bloomberg TV interview on Tuesday.

The South Asian nation's energy crisis isn't as severe as last year because of weaker demand for electricity caused by relatively cool weather and higher power prices, according to Minister Khan. That's put the country in a better position ahead of peak demand over summer, with Pakistan being able to produce more electricity from oil it's stockpiled recently and with additional coal generation coming on stream, he said. The government is also expected to soon approve a plan for Saudi Arabia to build an oil refinery in Pakistan, Khan said. The two countries agreed in principle to set up the facility in 2018.

<https://e.thenews.com.pk/detail?id=200758>

Nawaiwaqt News

کراچی، پولیس نے چینی شہری پر حملے کی کوشش ناکام بنا دی، دہشتگرد ہلاک

کراچی (این این آئی) ملیر میں پولیس نے چینی باشندے پر حملے کی کوشش ناکام بناتے ہوئے ایک دہشت گرد کو ہلاک کر دیا، جس نے مبینہ طور پر خود کش جیکٹ پہن رکھی تھی۔ پولیس حکام کے مطابق دہشتگرد پاک چائنا شپ یارڈ میں مقیم غیر ملکیوں کو نشانہ بنانا چاہتا تھا تاہم پہلے سے بھی خفیہ اطلاع پر پولیس یارڈ کے اطراف تعینات تھی۔ پولیس حکام نے بتایا کہ فائرنگ کے تبادلے میں دہشت گرد مارا گیا جبکہ ایک پولیس کانسٹیبل بھی زخمی ہوا ہے۔ پولیس حکام کے مطابق دہشت گرد نالے کے راستے یہاں تک پہنچا تھا اور بحری جہازوں کی مرمت کے مقام پر داخل ہونے کی کوشش کر رہا تھا، ڈیوٹی پر مامور پولیس اہلکاروں نے اسے روکنے کی کوشش کی تو اس نے فائرنگ کر دی، جو ابلی فائرنگ میں دہشت گرد ہلاک ہو گیا۔ پولیس حکام کے مطابق مارا گیا دہشت گرد ممکنہ طور پر خود کش حملہ آور ہے، جس نے بارودی بیٹ چینی ہوئی ہے۔ ایس ایس پی ملیر حسن سردار کے مطابق ہلاک دہشت گرد کے قبضے سے کلاشنکوف برآمد ہوئی ہے۔ دہشت گرد کی لاش کے ساتھ بارود ہونے کی اطلاع پر بم ڈسپوزل اسکواڈ کو طلب کر لیا گیا ہے جبکہ پولیس کی مزید نفری بھی طلب کر لی گئی ہے۔ پولیس حکام نے مزید بتایا کہ ہلاک دہشت گرد سے ایس ایم جی اور دیگر سامان بھی برآمد ہوا ہے

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/lahore/2023-05-11/page-10/detail-41>

May 12, 2023

Daily Times

PFC to take part in sixth China Intel Import expo

Pakistan Furniture Council (PFC) will take part in 6th China International Import Expo to discover business opportunities and explore new markets access for Pakistani products. In a statement Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of PFC Mian Kashif Ashfaq said, "PFC along with Chenone will be participating in this mega event," said a press release issued here on

Thursday. He said, “Chenone will also exhibit its high-quality international standards products to capture their share in the global market.” He said, “It’s an excellent opportunity to showcase local products and develop business deals with international buyers.” He said, “Around over a hundred companies from the country will be exhibiting their products and this expo will also offer professional buyers a sourcing platform with a wide variety of products ranging from basics to the most creative and qualitative.” Mian Kashif Ashfaq said, “PFC and Chenone have already attended several other international fairs in the US, China, Italy, Sri Lanka, etc, and introduced its products which are in great demand.” He hoped for getting orders from the foreign market. “The Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP) is facilitating the manufacturers of export products,” he added. He said, “I will also hold a series of marathon meetings with tycoons for investment to avail government unprecedented special package for foreign investors.”

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1092493/pfc-to-take-part-in-sixth-china-intel-import-expo/>

Pakistan Observer

Anti-China propaganda & facts

Usman Mahmood

FOR years, the unspoken truth about the West is that their veneer of objectivity has come off a long time ago. While touting themselves as the epitome of trustworthiness and honesty, some organizations and media practitioners in the West have no qualms about propagating lies against China. As the coordinated anti-China smear campaign is gaining steam, more intrepid with a conscience are calling it out despite the tremendous pressure to silence them.

While China was busy in the development and fulfilling its ethical duty, the western countries and media have been grouping to stage a propaganda against China as a foul tactic of Cold War continuation by various actors. One of the anti-China propaganda actor Vicky Xu has been involved in the propaganda. In reality Vicky Xu’s life is one filled with controversy. Born in Jiayuguan City, Jiangsu China with desire for independence and freedom led her down a tumultuous path and gained notoriety for her work as an analyst at Australian Strategic Policy Institute (ASPI) that claims to be independent but receives most of its funding from the Australian government and foreign government agencies.

However, her work at ASPI has been heavily criticized for serving Western interests and supporting politicians. Her most notable work, the “Uyghurs for Sale” article, falsely claimed that over 80,000 Uyghurs were forced to work in factories in mainland China, using fabricated evidence. This article caused a huge stir within the Chinese community both in China and abroad. The article claimed that over 80,000 Uyghurs were being forced to work in factories in mainland China, using fabricated evidence such as pointing to a nursing home and a primary school as detention centers. Xu’s article also listed 83 well-known brands that supposedly used forced labor including a Korean-owned company that was mistakenly identified as Chinese.

Many members of the Chinese community were outraged by Xu’s article, claiming that it was biased and contained false information. They accused Xu of betraying her country and people by providing false information to the Western media. Many also felt that Xu’s article was part

of a larger Western campaign to undermine China's economic and political power. Xu's article had far-reaching consequences. It provided an opportunity for President Trump to shift the blame to China during the US presidential election in September 2020. Despite the lack of evidence, the US Congress passed the Xinjiang-related Act, leading to a ban on Xinjiang cotton and various companies discontinuing their activities in the region.

The Chinese government responded by imposing sanctions on several US politicians, academics and human rights groups. The impact of Xu's article on the Chinese Muslim community was particularly devastating. Many Chinese Muslims felt that they were unfairly targeted by Xu's article and were worried about the impact it would have on their communities. They were concerned that Xu's article would exacerbate negative attitudes towards Muslims in China and amplify prejudices, potentially leading to further marginalization and mistreatment of Chinese Muslims.

Xu's actions have not only caused harm to her own reputation but also sparked tension between China and Australia, the two countries that have had a strained relationship in recent years. Her accusations and claims have caused a rift between the two nations, leading to a diplomatic standoff. Her actions have not only damaged her reputation but also brought into question her integrity as a journalist. Her reportage on issues related to China has come under scrutiny, with some questioning the authenticity of her sources and the veracity of her claims. This has caused significant harm to her credibility as a journalist and many believe that she has compromised the interests of both China and Australia for her personal gain.

A documentary by Australian detective Thomas, "Xu Xiuzhong's Private Life" uncovered shocking details about Xu's personal life. Islam promotes a way of life that is based on moral and ethical values, such as honesty, compassion and self-discipline. It advocates against behaviours such as drug use, alcohol consumption and extramarital relations. Therefore, for someone who has been involved in such activities, it becomes questionable why they would be selected as a representative for the Muslim community. Moreover, her past behaviour could also be used to discredit the Muslim community, causing harm to its reputation. Xu's decision to sell false stories about Xinjiang cotton in order to smear China and gain personal profit also goes against the Islamic teachings of honesty and integrity. By smearing China and spreading false information about Xinjiang cotton, she has contributed to the negative perception of the country and its people. Xu's actions have caused harm not only to herself but also to the relationship between China and Australia. She has been accused of selling out the interests of both countries for her own personal gain, which is a betrayal of trust and goes against the principles of justice and fairness in Islam.

The article written by Vicky Xu not only offended the Muslim community in Australia but also triggered fear and anxiety among Chinese Muslims. They were concerned about the negative impact it could have on their community in China. Many Chinese Muslims were deeply hurt and offended by the article, which they felt unfairly targeted them and misrepresented their beliefs and practices. They worried that Xu's words would encourage discrimination and persecution against Muslims in China, which is already a deeply concerning issue.

It is indeed ridiculous that Xu is an ambassador for Muslims despite contradicting beliefs. Islam is a religion that promotes moral and ethical behaviour, justice, fairness, peace and unity and Xu's actions go against all of these principles. It is important to hold those who claim to represent a religion accountable for their actions and behavior and to ensure that they uphold the values and principles of the religion they claim to represent.

—The writer is a PhD in International Relations based in Beijing.

<https://pakobserver.net/anti-china-propaganda-facts-by-usman-mahmood/>

The Express Tribune

China completes warship deliveries to Pakistan

The vessels will be used to safeguard the seas of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC)

BEIJING: China has delivered two frigates to Pakistan Navy, completing a four-warship deal inked in 2018, Chinese media reported, amid deepening military cooperation between the two nations in one of the world's most complex geopolitical regions.

The vessels -- two Type 054A frigates -- will be used to safeguard the seas of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), state-backed Chinese newspaper Global Times reported late on Wednesday.

CPEC is an ambitious infrastructure project that links Xinjiang in west China to Pakistan aimed at offering an alternative transportation route in the future for goods including gas. Part of the network is Gwadar port, located on a key waterway in the Arabian Sea.

Economic and military ties between the two neighbours have deepened against a shifting geopolitical backdrop, evident from Pakistan's increasing military procurement from China and joint military exercises to safeguard assets and trade routes.

For China, Pakistan and its access to the Arabian Sea is key in the event of a maritime blockade in the Strait of Malacca. China delivered the first batch of six J-10 fighter jets to Pakistan in March last year. Eight Hangor Class submarines that Pakistan ordered from China are expected to be delivered before 2028.

Earlier this week, China's defence minister told Pakistan's navy chief that their militaries, including their navies, should "expand into new fields of cooperation" to bolster their capability in safeguarding regional security. "The prospects for cooperation between the two sides, in my opinion, is getting stronger and stronger," Song Zhongping, a military commentator with Phoenix TV, told Reuters.

In South Asia, China's ties with India, with whom Pakistan has frosty relations, have deteriorated in recent years, and the withdrawal of US troops in nearby Afghanistan has raised geopolitical uncertainty in the region, pushing China and Pakistan to seek a stronger alliance. "Maintaining the peace and stability of South Asia fits with both countries' actual interests," Song said.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2416362/china-completes-warship-deliveries-to-pakistan>

The Nation

China-Pakistan Strategic Dialogue significant to region

ISLAMABAD - In a new push to achieve new heights in strategic partnership, the foreign ministers of Pakistan and China co-chaired the fourth round of the Pakistan- China Foreign Minister's Strategic Dialogue in Islamabad on 6 May.

The dialogue marks a significant milestone in the history of the All-Weather Strategic Partnership between the two countries and holds significance for the region, according to an article carried by Gwadar Pro on Thursday.

Taking place during the first visit of Chinese FM Qin Gang to Pakistan since assuming office last year, this biennial dialogue serves as a platform for both countries to address regional and global challenges through a collaborative approach in a diverse range of areas of mutual interests.

The Strategic Dialogue underscores the mutual commitment of China and Pakistan to sustain their strategic partnership amidst the growing global turbulence.

The year 2023 has been a busy and proactive year for Pakistan and China as both countries continue to engage in multiple diplomatic and security-related consultations.

This move speaks volumes about both countries' diplomatic prowess and commitment to regional stability. Earlier, both Foreign Ministers made a significant appearance in India for the SCO Foreign Minister's meeting. These engagements demonstrate the strategic depth of the bilateral relationship between the two countries. Last month, the Prime Ministers of Pakistan and China made a telephone conversation.

These multifaceted connections are the ways for the senior leadership to discuss bilateral, regional, and global issues and to seek a consensus on responses to mutual threats and agendas. Strategic dialogue frameworks like these offer the foundation for deepening political, economic, security, and military cooperation, ultimately leading to enhanced understanding and harmonious responses to shared challenges.

Looking to the future, Pakistan and China are interested in extending CPEC into Afghanistan, connecting Central Asian Republics with Pakistan via roads and railways. The growing Chinese diplomacy creating peace in the Middle East and neighbouring regions will ultimately bring a larger difference in the lives of the people in the region.

The future holds much promise for the China- Pakistan relationship, and it remains to be seen how they navigate the challenges and capitalize on the opportunities presented by their strategic partnership.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2023-05-12/page-4/detail-0>

Men's garments export to China increases 29pc in Q1 of 2023

BEIJING-Pakistani men's garment export to China experienced a significant growth of 29% in the first quarter of 2023. This growth can be attributed to Pakistan's strong manufacturing

capability and the high quality of its garments, Ghulam Qadir, the Commercial Counsellor of the Pakistan Embassy in Beijing, said.

“In the first three months of 2023, Pakistani men’s garment exports from Pakistan to China reached approximately \$6 million, compared to \$4.27 million during the same period in 2022, representing a 29% increase. Men’s or boys’ trousers under the cotton community code (61034200) accounted for \$3.47 million, compared to \$1.67 million in January-March 2022,” he stated. Ghulam Qadir further shared that Pakistan is preparing to host the largest textile exhibition this month, China Economic Net (CEN) reported. Over 70 top fabric enterprises have already confirmed their participation, and it is anticipated that more than 100 Chinese textile enterprises will also take part in the event. The exhibition is scheduled to take place from May 26th to 28th at the Karachi Expo Center.

Pakistani men’s clothing exports to China in 2022 amounted to \$28.66 million, compared to \$21.62 million in 2021, indicating an increase of nearly 33%. Among the top items, men’s or boys’ trousers made of cotton (under community code 61034200) accounted for \$17.94 million in 2022, while in 2021, the value was \$12.59 million. He further emphasized that Pakistan’s competitive pricing has led to an increasing number of Chinese businesses sourcing clothing from Pakistan, establishing them as a significant economic partner. The rise in exports can also be attributed to the growing demand of Chinese consumers for stylish and fashionable Pakistani clothing options.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2023-05-12/page-9/detail-4>

CPEC SEZs to become engines of growth for Pakistan

ISLAMABAD-The Special Economic Zones (SEZs) set up under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) are set to become the engines of growth for the economic stability of Pakistan.

Talking to WealthPK, Dr Fazal-ur-Rahman, Director of Pakistan Institute of China Studies at the Sargodha University, said, “CPEC and the associated projects will prove a historic initiative which will attract foreign investors and ultimately increase employment and business opportunities for the locals and international investors in Pakistan.” The SEZs and industrial parks are being designed with the promise of international opportunities and unlimited resources, taking the country to a journey of economic growth, he said.

He said the SEZs will take Pakistan to the path of progress and prosperity like Singapore setting records of progress and development by pursuing trade initiatives. Khalid Mansoor, former adviser to the prime minister on CPEC affairs, said Pakistan was focusing on projects that will create job opportunities for the people. “For the success of SEZs, it is imperative to combine the political, social and business elements to follow sustainable growth and lead Pakistan to the path of prosperity benefiting from the Chinese experiences,” he emphasised. Gwadar is termed the golden gate to Asia, and the CPEC is being seen as the most important route of Asian trade, said Khalid Mansoor, adding that a total of 28 mega projects had been completed in Pakistan under the project, out of which 18 were related to energy and 10 to infrastructure.

“More than 0.3 million Pakistani workers are associated with these projects, and a new dynamic skilled labour force has been developed under the Chinese supervision,” added Mansoor. “The railway and road infrastructure projects are creating new opportunities for Pakistanis to enhance regional and international trade. Approximately, 10,000MW energy will be injected into the national grid next year through different hydel and solar projects under the CPEC,” he added. Mansoor said the mega projects going to complete under the CPEC by 2025 were ML-1, Karachi-Hyderabad Motorway project, economic zones and hydropower projects. With the completion of these projects, Pakistan is likely to join the ranks of leading 25 economically stable countries, he added.

The 10 leading projects completed till 2022 include Pak-China Friendship Hospital, Pak-China Technical and Vocational Institute at Gwadar, New Gwadar International Airport, Gwadar Eastbay Expressway, Khuzdar-Basima Road (N-30), Hakla-D.I Khan Motorway, 720MW Karot Hydropower Project, AJK/Punjab, 884MW Suki Kinari Hydropower Project, KP, 330MW HUBCO ThalNova Thar Coal Power Project and 330MW HUBCO Thar Coal Power Project (Thar Energy). As per recent statistics released by the China Three Gorges South Asia Investment Limited, 36 energy projects under the CPEC are in the pipeline with a \$27 billion investment. Most of these projects are expected to be completed by 2030. According to statistics, 11 energy projects costing \$18 billion and infrastructure projects of \$7 billion have already been completed in Pakistan in 2022. It is worth mentioning that the SEZs are an economic tool that countries across the world have long employed to boost economic growth.

Pakistan signed the SEZs Act in 2012. Currently, there are nine SEZs under the CPEC. The SEZs can be a story of promise and change for Pakistan by benefiting from the Chinese experience and cooperation. Since the inception of the CPEC, the SEZs have acquired prominence and a rejuvenated sense of economic uplift is coursing through the cities and areas adjoining the SEZs across the country. Under the CPEC umbrella, the Chinese and Pakistani governments have agreed to enhance cooperation in the areas of trade and industrial cooperation while developing infrastructure and energy projects. Apart from the Gwadar Free Zone, a total of nine SEZs have been planned, including three priority SEZs in Sindh, Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa: Dhabeji SEZ, Allama Iqbal Industrial City, and Rashakai Economic Zone, respectively..

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2023-05-12/page-9/detail-5>

Nawaiwaqt News

چین نے پاکستان سے متعلق بھارتی کوششیں خاک میں ملا دیں

اسلام آباد/ بیجنگ (این این آئی) چین نے اقوام متحدہ میں پاکستان سے متعلق بھارتی کوششیں ناکام بنا دی۔ بھارت نے شدت پسند تنظیم جیش محمد کے رہنما عبدالرووف اظہر کو اقوام متحدہ کی سلامتی کونسل کی داعش اور القاعدہ پر پابندی عائد کر نیوالی فہرست میں شامل کرنے کی ایک بار پھر کوشش کی۔ بھارتی میڈیا رپورٹس کے مطابق بیجنگ نے نئی دہلی کی اس کوشش کو ناکام بناتے ہوئے تجویز کی مخالفت کر دی۔ واضح رہے کہ عبدالرووف اظہر جیش محمد کے سربراہ مسعود اظہر کے بھائی ہیں

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/lahore/2023-05-12/page-1/detail-31>

یو بی جی کا چینی باشندے پر حملے کی کوشش ناکام بنانے پر پولیس کو خراج تحسین

کراچی (کامرس رپورٹر) فیڈریشن آف پاکستان چیئرمین آف کامرس اینڈ انڈسٹری (ایف پی سی سی آئی) میں یونائیٹڈ بزنس گروپ (یو بی جی) کے صدر زبیر طفیل اور سیکریٹری جنرل سندھ ریجن حنیف گوہر نے کراچی پولیس کی جانب سے لمبر میں چینی باشندے پر حملے کی کوشش ناکام بنانے پر محکمہ پولیس کو خراج تحسین پیش کیا ہے۔ اس کارروائی میں ایک دہشت گرد کو ہلاک ہوا جس نے مبینہ طور پر خودکش جیکٹ پہن رکھی تھی۔ یو بی جی کے مرکزی ترجمان گلزار فیروز کی جانب سے جاری اعلامیہ کے مطابق زبیر طفیل اور حنیف گوہر کا کہنا تھا کہ ماضی میں بھی کراچی میں ہونے والی غیر ملکی سرمایہ کاری کو متاثر کرنے کی کوششیں کی گئیں لیکن پولیس کی جانب سے بروقت کارروائی کے سبب دہشت گردوں کو نہ صرف قابو میں کیا گیا بلکہ انہیں جہنم رسید بھی کیا گیا اور گزشتہ روز کی کامیاب پولیس کی کارروائی سے پاکستان اور چائنا کی دوستی مزید مضبوط ہوگی اور اعتماد میں اضافہ ہوگا۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/lahore/2023-05-12/page-6/detail-19>

May 13, 2023

Daily Times

Zhao Leji felicitates NA Speaker on 50th anniversary of implementation of Constitution of Pakistan

Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress of China, the national legislature, Zhao Leji, congratulated Speaker National Assembly, Raja Pervez Ashraf on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the implementation of the Constitution of Pakistan.

In his message, Zhao Leji said that in past 50 years, under the guidance of the constitution, the people of Pakistan had fought steadfastly to overcome difficulties and achieved remarkable achievements in the construction and economic and social development of the country, the effective protection of national sovereignty and national dignity, China Radio International (CRI) reported on Friday.

He expressed the confidence that the Pakistani brothers would unite by strengthening their confidence and overcome the challenges on the way forward and start a new bright future for the country and the nation.

Zhao Leji emphasized that as partners of the four seasons strategic cooperation, China and Pakistan always trust and support each other and promote the unique "iron" friendship.

The National People's Congress of China is ready to strengthen friendly exchanges with the National Assembly of Pakistan and perform new services to increase friendship and promote mutual cooperation between the two countries and the two peoples.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1092699/zhao-leji-felicitates-na-speaker-on-50th-anniversary-of-implementation-of-constitution-of-pakistan/>

China Exhibition & Trading Center completed at Gwadar Port in record six-month time

The Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives on Friday announced the completion of the China Exhibition and Trading Center in a record time of six months at the Gwadar deep-sea port with the cost of \$12 million.

The project was launched in November 2022 on the direction of Minister for Planning Development and Special Initiatives Professor Ahsan Iqbal for promoting business and related activities at the Gwadar Port, a news release said.

Following the direction of the minister's directives, the China Offshore Ports Handling Company (COPHCL) started construction of the project which has been completed on Friday.

Ahsan Iqbal has further directed to conduct the third International Expo Gwadar in the newly established EXPO center in June 2023, coinciding with the 10-year celebrations of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) in July this year.

The Gwadar Ports hold immense significance as a key component of the CPEC and the broader Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).

Located strategically on the Arabian Sea, Gwadar serves as Pakistan's premier deep-water port, offering a gateway to the Arabian Gulf, Middle East, and Central Asia.

The development under CPEC aims to transform Gwadar into a major trade and economic hub, facilitating regional connectivity and enhancing Pakistan's maritime trade.

Gwadar's potential as an energy and transport corridor, coupled with its strategic location, makes it a focal point for international investment and economic cooperation, driving economic growth and regional integration.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1092658/china-exhibition-trading-center-completed-at-gwadar-port-in-record-six-month-time/>

POWERCHINA provides permanent jobs to young Pakistani engineers

POWERCHINA, the contractor of Diamer Basha Dam Project (DBDP) not only offers internship opportunities to local youth but also provides permanent jobs to meritorious students who successfully complete their internships at the site.

Recently, according to Gwadar Pro on Friday, out of six who completed their internship at DBDP obtained permanent jobs with POWERCHINA. The budding local engineers are grateful to the Chinese company for providing them with permanent employment opportunities at their doorstep. The successful candidates were awarded certificates during the closing ceremony of the six-month training program. The ceremony was attended by DBDP CEO Amir Bashir Choudhary, as well as consultants and officials from the contractor of the project, according to an official statement. "When you enter practical life you will realize the importance of this six-month training with the instruction of POWERHINA and WAPDA," Amir Bashir Choudhary told the students, adding "it will pay you a lot". Mr.

Choudhry told the students that they were an example of how DBDP was improving and developing the locals.

Civil Engineer Jaheef Ahmad was happy to complete his six-month training and get a permanent job with POWERCHINA. He appealed all young civil engineers of Diamer to avail the opportunity of internship at the project. “This internship is a big opportunity for you. You will get a certificate from an international company which will help you get jobs,” he said. Zahid Ullah, another Civil Engineer, said that he learned a lot during the training, such as support work, drilling, survey and different other tests. “I am grateful to POWERCHINA for this golden opportunity,” said Mr. Zahid. Other trainees were also jubilant with the completion of their training and invited more fresh graduates of Diamer to come and avail training opportunities at DBDP.

Last month, the Water and Power Department of Government of Gilgit Baltistan sent a letter of appreciation to POWERCHINA’s DPDP, praising its outstanding contribution in improving local residents’ lives by providing them with jobs. In April, POWERCHINA announced 190 jobs at DBDP for local communities. The Chinese company regularly trains and provides jobs to the people from the site area. In December 2022, the company provided jobs to 208 skilled and technical professionals at the project sites.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1092633/powerchina-provides-permanent-jobs-to-young-pakistani-engineers/>

The Nation

Water shortage: Chinese assistance turns the tables

ISLAMABAD - China’s collaboration in water management has helped Pakistan address its severe water scarcity problem, said Ms Saiqa Imran, Deputy Director of Pakistan Council of Research and Water Reservoirs (PCRWR), in an interview with WealthPK.

“China has helped Pakistan in various ways to manage its water resources. For instance, it has provided Pakistan with the technical expertise, equipment, and funding for construction of dams, reservoirs, and irrigation systems. It has also facilitated the transfer of advanced technology and best practices in water management,” said Saiqa. Last year the PCRWR signed a strategic cooperation agreement with the China Water Resources Beifang Investigation, Design, and Research Co. Ltd. (BIDR) to contribute to Pakistan’s development in water management and smart irrigation.

“Pakistan is facing environmental degradation as it experienced dryness with little rainfall in one season and floods in the next. There is a need for groundwater recharge solutions, especially in light of the massive floods last year. In order to increase water storage at all levels, we need to develop large, medium, and small dams, where it is possible to do so,” said the PCRWR deputy director. “It is high time to build new dams to conserve water for power generation, irrigation, and drinking purposes. Moreover, the rainwater harvesting system is the best alternative holding considerable potential, especially in areas like Islamabad. The Capital Development Authority (CDA) has introduced the rainwater

harvesting system in its building by-laws, making it necessary for every household to build a storage tank on the rooftop,' she added.

According to a report published by the PCRWR, Pakistan relies on the Indus River and its tributaries for water, with 84% of the total inflow occurring during the three monsoon months and the remaining 16% spread over the rest of the year. With increased climate variability, the wet years/seasons are becoming wetter, and the dry years/seasons drier. According to the report, the capacity of the existing reservoirs is depleting at a rate of about 0.2 MAF/year. Only in the Tarbela reservoir, 500,000 tons of sediment is depositing per day. Therefore, there is a dire need for building new reservoirs to replenish the depleting capacity.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2023-05-13/page-8/detail-3>

The News

Chinese novels translated into Urdu

Islamabad: A project of translation and publication of classic and modern literature of Pakistan and China into Urdu and Chinese has been initiated under which on the whole 100 classic books will be translated and printed.

This project is being supervised by Pakistan Academy of Letters (PAL) and Phoenix Publishing & Media Group (PPMG), China. In the first phase two Chinese novels have been published titled 'Afsha-e-Raaz' translated by Muhammad Asim Butt and 'Hawamaulan' translated by Mujaddad-ul-Arz.

<https://e.thenews.com.pk/detail?id=201458>

May 14, 2023

Business Recorder

Maira switching station

MUSHTAQ GHUMMAN

NOC issued to five Chinese to work at project

ISLAMABAD: Ministry of Interior (MoI) has issued No Objection Certificate (NOC) for five Chinese nationals at Maira Switching Station Project site in Rawalpindi, with the condition that they will not visit sensitive and defence installations, well informed sources told Business Recorder.

Deputy Secretary Interior (CPEC) Muhammad Ayaz, in a letter to Power Division, cited the latter's letter of February 13, 2023 titled "NOC/ security of Chinese national working on Maira Switching Station Project site at Rawalpindi", financed by Asian Development Bank (ADB), in which NOC regarding visit/ work/ stay of the following Chinese nationals was sought: (i) Lyu Honglin, Project Manager; (ii) Sun Dexin, Deputy Project Manager; (iii) Ye Jianbao, Site Engineer; (iv) Zhu Qubo, Site Engineer and; (v) Meng Zhengli, Site Engineer.

Ministry of Interior informed Power Division that NOC is issued for five Chinese nationals to work on the project site subject to the following conditions: (i) company may strictly warn

the foreigners to stay within the company premises and to refrain from visiting sensitive installations; (ii) foreigner(s) are not be allowed to visit prohibited/ restricted areas and any defence installation; (iii) No Global Positioning System (GPS) will be carried/ used by the foreigner; (iv) no map is issued to foreigners without permission; (v) result of Geological, Seismic and other tests are not exported outside Pakistan; (vi) no photography/ video coverage by the foreigner is allowed and no such equipment be carried; (vii) no aerial survey/ photography is allowed without permission; (viii) no warlike/ objectionable/ contraband material to be carried/ used; (ix) area clearance by Military Intelligence Directorate, GHQ; (x) physical security of the foreigner(s) to be coordinated with the local administration as per rules/ SOPs on the subject;(xi) use of wireless equipment is prohibited; (xii) all regulations regarding movement of foreigner(s) in Pakistan issued by this Ministry from time to time are fully observed in letter and spirit; (xiii) foreigner(s) visiting sites may be instructed to take safety measures against COVID-19 and; (xiv) NOC will be cancelled in case of adverse remarks from any security agency.

Ministry of Interior has also requested Power Division to convey to NTDC that foolproof security arrangements may be strengthened by deploying more security apparatus/ manpower at the project site, to avoid any untoward incident.

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2023/05/14/1-page/962308-news.html>

Mango varieties in Sindh: Chinese investors show keen interest

HYDERABAD: Chinese investors expressed their interest in the mango varieties of Sindh Province and visited Sindh Agriculture University and discussed with scientists and progressive farmers, about business opportunities in the mango-producing areas of Sindh, while participants agreed to promote the Mango Value Addition Program to gain access to lucrative international markets.

A three-member delegation from various Chinese companies led by Ms. Jinglian Yao, a Chinese consultant for business relations in international countries, met with Dr. Fateh Marri SAU VC, along with Chen Peng, He Mingchun and Pakistani businessmen Ashfaq Hussain and Syed Shakeel Shah, the meeting was attended by Dean Dr Manzoor Ali Abdro, Dr. Asia Akber Panhwer, Dr. Tahseen Fatima Miano, Dr. Shahzor Gul from SAU and discussed issues of mutual interest.

Dr. Fateh Marri said that the experts of Sindh Agriculture University are working on the value addition of mango, mango processing and its by-products, and such products are of export quality. He said that our graduates and experts are also transferring this technology to rural women and such women are doing profitable business in their homes, while the experts of the University have also successfully researched on mango products and disease-free nurseries. The Vice Chancellor also highlighted the importance of agriculture in the second phase of the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

Chen Peng said that they have started visiting the mango producing areas in Sindh and South Punjab, and they are especially looking for the varieties of mangoes, which can be available from May to September. These mangoes will be processed in bulk and exported after value addition.

Ms. Jinglian Yao said that we are initially looking for the most suitable mango varieties for the production of mango pulp, for which we plan to purchase and process 6000 tons of mangoes in the first phase, for which we need specific weight and Commodities with high pulp content will be required.

Dr Muhammad Ismail Kumbhar said Pakistan produces 1.8 million tonnes of mangoes annually, but only one percent, which is 50,000 tonnes, is exported. He said experts are doing their work to eliminate diseases in mangoes.

Dr. Asia Akbar Panhwer and Dr. Tahseen Fatima Miano, experts from the Institute of Food Sciences and Technologies gave their briefings on the mango value chain and its by-products and the efforts of Sindh Agriculture University in this regard.

On this occasion, Dr. Zulfiqar Yousafani, of the Farmers organization and a progressive farmer, said that the visit of the Chinese business delegation will provide opportunities for the mango farmers to access their products to the markets of China, and new export opportunities will be created.

Aslam Nawaz Marri, Umer Baghio, Taha Memon, Miss. Almas Zulfiqar, Osama Yousafani and others were present during the meeting.

Later, the delegation visited the Institute of Food Sciences and Technologies and appreciated the mango processing units of the University, and also visited various mango orchards.

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2023/05/14/2-page/962316-news.html>

Daily Times

PN commissions new technologically advanced Chinese frigates

Dr Anaam Mushtaq

Modern platforms in defence are critical to national security and it keeps intact the technological expertise and encourages spin-off technologies and innovation. The induction of modern weaponry increases defence capability of a country and helps to maintain credible deterrence. The journey of development and achievements of the Pakistan Navy (PN) has been relatively quiet but continuous. With the country's independence, PN started its journey with a very few old Royal Navy ships, and a one-room office in which the Naval Headquarters was established.

Despite the lack of resources and relevant production capacity at home, the PN has always commendably safeguarded the maritime borders. PN plays a crucial role in safeguarding Pakistan's maritime interests, which include securing sea lines of communication, protecting maritime resources, preventing maritime terrorism and piracy, and supporting economic development through maritime trade.

To supplement its mission, PN has invested in building a diverse fleet of surface ships. The PN also operates several bases and installations along Pakistan's coastline, which provide critical infrastructure and logistical support for its operations. In addition to its operational role, PN also contributes to regional and international efforts to maintain maritime security.

For example, it participates in multinational exercises and patrols with other navies in the region to promote cooperation and interoperability.

For the past two decades, the Indian Navy has drastically increased its spending on its obsession with Indian Ocean waters. Taking advantage of the blessings of the world powers and access to Western technology, India is constantly expanding its navy. In these circumstances, the PN cannot make any unnecessary comparisons but a well-balanced and strong navy is a basic requirement for its defence needs and for fulfilling its international and national responsibilities in the Indian Ocean. Therefore, a fleet was required that guarantees the defence of the country; safe naval routes in the region; and the protection of Pakistan's maritime resources and merchant ships.

To this end, PN while keeping in view the security challenges at Indian Ocean Region (IOR), stepping up to modernize its fleet in order to maintain a reasonable force at sea. PN has revised its development plans and inducting new technological advanced platforms into the service. Previously, PN had relied on UK and US for military equipment and in fact these military platforms had provided essential tenets of training and professionalism to PN. However, due to Geo-political tilt and military-technological partnership with China, PN has worked on a comprehensive program to transform its naval platforms especially the destroyers or frigates ships.

PN had historically been operating with 8 to 9 major surface ships which constrain country's regional footprints and influence. To redress this, the fleet size comprising of more than 50 ships was envisioned by the PN. Under this, the Navy has recently acquired new platforms including the MILGEM Class Turkish Corvettes and Chinese 054 A/P frigates.

Recently, two Type 054 A/P Frigates, PNS SHAHJAHAN and PNS TIPPU SULTAN have been commissioned together at Hudong Zhonghua Shipyard, Shanghai, China. The Chief of the Naval Staff of Islamic Republic of Pakistan Admiral Muhammad Amjad Khan Niazi graced the momentous occasion as chief guest. The commissioning ceremony of ships marked the successful culmination of Type 054A/P project with four ships of the class constructed for PN. The first and second Type 054A/P Frigates PNS TUGHRIL and PNS TAIMUR joined PN fleet in Jan 22 and Aug 22 respectively.

PNS SHAHJAHAN takes her name from the famous Muslim Emperor of sub- continent "Shahab Uddin Muhammad Khurram" also known as "Shahjahan" who was the fifth king of Mughal dynasty and ruled from 1628 to 1658. Whereas, PNS TIPPU SULTAN is named after the Muslim ruler of the kingdom of Mysore "Sultan Fateh Ali Sahab Tippu" who reigned from 1782 to 1799.

Both ships are one of the most advanced platforms of PN Surface Fleet. The construction of both frigates is hinged upon modern stealth design with capability to simultaneously execute number of naval warfare missions in a highly intense multi-threat environment. The 4000 tons frigates are technologically advanced and highly capable platforms with enormous surface to surface, land attack, surface to air and underwater firepower coupled with extensive surveillance potential. Both Frigates are fitted with potent weapons including Surface to Air (SAM) and Supersonic Surface to Surface Missiles (SSM). Besides, ships have

Guns, Torpedoes and Torpedo Defence Systems. Weapons and Sensors installed onboard ships make them state-of-the-art platforms which can perform variety of maritime Operations including Anti Surface, Anti Air, Anti-Submarine and Maritime Security Operations. These ships will provide deterrence and means for averting threats in our region while contributing towards protection of Sea Lines of Communications (SLOCS).

Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Guest underlined that construction of these frigates by the China bears testimony to the formidable defence cooperation between Pakistan and China. He further added that completion of the project is a major leap forward towards Pakistan's capabilities to response to maritime threats while contributing to peace and stability in the Indian Ocean Region. Chief of the Naval Staff also paid tribute to PLA (N) for its commendable role in pursuance of international peace and stated that bilateral engagements between PN and PLA (N) are reflective of our collaborative response against transnational threats.

Commissioning of these new Chinese platforms is undoubtedly a milestone for the PN. There is no doubt in concluding that in response to the transforming nature of the threat posted to national and maritime security, PN is developing multi-dimensional response framework. The able command of PN is really taking the force to a position where it can claim itself a "responsible farsighted navy with a vision of ensuring maritime security".

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1092928/pn-commissions-new-technologically-advanced-chinese-frigates/>

Floriculture holds potential for greater cooperation between Pakistan and China

"There is a huge potential for cooperation between China and Pakistan in the rose industry," highlighted Naeem Iqbal Cheema, Political Counsellor at Embassy of Pakistan, Beijing at the 2023 Rose products Expo held in Pingyin county, China, Gwadar Pro reported on Saturday.

At the opening ceremony of the expo, the "Belt and Road Initiative" rose industry consortium was officially established. Wang Zihai, Honorable Investment Counsellor of Pakistan, was invited as a global partner of Pingyin Rose.

Pakistan is one of the world's high-quality rose producing areas, he underlined that "we expect this consortium to serve as a carrier to further promote the bilateral and multilateral economic, trade, cultural and personnel exchanges between the two countries."

Wang added that productive clusters of Pakistani roses have been established along the Belt and Road, which is encouraging to lower costs. Taking the Pattoki rose cluster for example, the gross revenues before flower cluster development are estimated to \$24.21 million per year. Cluster development investments are expected to generate revenues from the 2nd year of the program resulting in an additional gross revenues of \$2.96 million in the 2nd year and \$13.25 million in the 5th year, according to Cluster Development Based Agriculture Transformation Plan Vision-2025.

Fresh Pakistani rose petals are normally used for ceremonial and decorative purposes, while dried petals and potted plants are mainly exported to Gulf countries.

The presentation of value-added products such as Pakistani rose essential oil, rose water extract, rose jam and rose application in the herbal and cosmetic industries will further expand the visibility of Pakistan rose among Chinese stakeholders. The comparable advantages of rose cultivation in Pakistan include different agricultural climatic zones that are best suited to various roses, high-yield and heat-tolerant varieties, and cheaper human resources.

The total area under roses in Pakistan is 9,480 acres with an annual production of 42,660 tonnes, shared by Dr. Iftikhar Ahmad, Associate Professor of the University of Agriculture, Faisalabad (UAF) in a recent interview with Gwadar Pro. Pinpointing that there are numerous possible collaboration opportunities in rose industry between China and Pakistan, Prof. Dr. Iqrar Ahmad Khan, Vice Chancellor of UAF stated that both sides could deepen exchanging rose germplasm and evaluation of Chinese commercial rose species in Pakistan, breeding for extending blooming period of *Rosa damascena* and enhancing essential oil yield and quality of *Rosa centifolia* UAF.

“Evaluation of Chinese rose rootstock for hybrid rose publicity, certification of *Rosa centifolia* ‘UAF’ value-added products, contract farming with Chinese stakeholders for production of dried rose buds and petals for export to Chinese markets are also feasible avenues,” added him.

Pakistan is a country of small farming households with a long history and rich experience in floriculture. Dr. Iqrar concluded that Pakistan’s floriculture exports could be enhanced by targeting global markets through BRI.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1093104/floriculture-holds-potential-for-greater-cooperation-between-pakistan-and-china/>

The Nation

Pakistan to start exporting boiled meat to China soon: Commercial counselor

BEIJING - With a huge potential to export meat, Pakistan is all set to start exporting boiled meat to the Chinese market in the near future, said Ghulam Qadir, Commercial Counsellor, Pakistan Embassy, Beijing on Saturday.

“China had agreed to import meat from Pakistan during Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif’s visit to Beijing in November last. Now, both sides are in the process of exchanging documents and hopefully, the agreement would be implemented in a month,” he told APP.

He informed that before its export, the meat would be boiled up to 70 degrees centigrade to make it foot and mouth disease (FMD) free.

“Three processing plants of Fauji, Tata and Green set up in Karachi have already been approved by the relevant authorities of China. These plants have good reputation and capacity”, Qadir added.

He stressed a need to work on the value chain and adopt corporate forming to enhance quality to increase its exports. “The potential investors in Pakistan should utilize modern techniques and improve processing facilities to grab this opportunity,” Qadir urged.

Responding to a question, he said that Pakistan’s current meat export was about 66,000 tons annually but the Chinese market’s demand was huge. He informed that one Chinese company had a plan to import 50,000 tons of meat but “we don’t want to see a shortage of beef or high prices of this food item in Pakistan”.

The commercial counsellor opined that Pakistan could increase meat production through investment, technology and corporate forming. According to an export, Pakistan’s fruits, vegetables and meat meet international export standards.

Data shows that Pakistan’s exports to China are improving gradually. The livestock population that currently exists in Pakistan is for dual purposes, dairy and meat, whereas competing livestock exporting economies have developed different breeds for dairy and meat purposes.

The export of meat would play a key role in achieving Pakistan’s export target of US\$10 billion to China in the future.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2023-05-14/page-8/detail-4>

May 15, 2023

Business Recorder

Chinese investors urged to set up industrial parks

BEIJING: Commercial Counsellor, Pakistan Embassy, Beijing, Ghulam Qadir has invited top Chinese enterprises to develop industrial parks in Pakistan, encouraging investment and relocation in export-oriented, efficiency-seeking and labour-intensive sectors.

He highlighted Pakistan’s strategic location, lucrative investment incentives, demographic dividend and favourable economic outlook and potential during the 3rd Changsha International Construction Equipment Exhibition. During the exhibition, he addressed a forum titled “2023 Belt and Road International Business Summit on Infrastructure and Construction Machinery,” China Economic Net (CEN) reported.

He sensitized the audience about the government’s strong will to facilitate and support Chinese companies who would enjoy substantial market access in EU and USA by manufacturing in Pakistan. “China is the largest producer and exporter of industrial equipment and construction machinery which can also develop Pakistan as the next hub of Chinese manufacturing,” Qadir added.

While citing the vision of leadership of both the countries, trade and investment counsellor also urged industrial experts and academics to provide guidance on how to make these industrial parks and economic zones more effective and conducive to attract critical levels of investment in the country.

It is to be noted that the exhibition is scheduled to be held at Changsha International Convention & Exhibition Centre and Changsha International Conference Centre from May 12 to 15 with the theme of “new generation of high-end, intelligent and new-energy construction machinery”.

It covers an exhibition area of 300,000 square meters and brings together 1,500 Chinese and foreign companies, among which 35 of the world’s top 50 construction machinery companies, while more than 300,000 people are expected to visit the exhibition, and the transaction volume of the exhibition is expected to exceed 50 billion Yuan. —APP

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2023/05/15/5-page/962417-news.html>

Daily Times

Frist int’l seminar on China-Pakistan science, technology cooperation held in Beijing

The first international seminar on “China-Pakistan Science and Technology Enterprises Cooperation” was held in the recently established China-Pakistan Science and Technology Cooperation Center, Beijing.

The seminar, participated by more than 30 Science and Technology organizations, was co-hosted by Zhongguancun, the Belt and Road Industrial Promotion Association (ZBRA) and the Embassy of Pakistan in China. While introducing the development of Zhongguancun Science and Technology Park, Lu Yinming shared the achievements of the park.

He informed that in 20 years of development, the park has gathered nearly 20,000 high-tech enterprises represented by Lenovo and Baidu, forming six advantageous industrial clusters such as the next-generation Internet, mobile Internet and a new generation of mobile communications, satellite applications, biology and health, energy conservation and environmental protection, rail transit, and four potential industrial clusters such as integrated circuits, new materials, high-end equipment and general aviation, new energy and new energy vehicles, and high-end development of modern service industries etc. While introducing the construction of the China-Pakistan Science and Technology Cooperation Center, the President of ZBRA, Zhang Xiaodong shared that the objectives of the Center viz., to build a bridge between China-Pakistan youth innovation and entrepreneurship; to open up China-Pakistan science and technology cooperation channels; to build a technology transfer cooperation platform; to provide scientific and technological support for China-Pakistan production capacity cooperation, and to strengthen the foundation for China-Pakistan scientific and technological exchanges.

He informed that under the framework of China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), the Center will prepare a cooperation plan for China-Pakistan science and technology enterprises, dock the development needs of artificial intelligence, big data, cloud computing, financial technology, biotechnology, agriculture and other fields, gather innovative elements and financial resources, and serve Chinese technology enterprises to develop in Pakistan. Science and Technology Counsellor in the Pakistan Embassy in Beijing, Khan Muhammad Wazir

after conveying the good wishes of Pakistan's Ambassador to the participants, presented Pakistan's need for scientific and technological cooperation.

He pointed out that there is great potential for scientific and technological cooperation between China and Pakistan in the fields of emerging technologies, advanced and new materials, green energy technologies, digital economy, smart cities, minerals and natural resources, modernization of agriculture and Industry through technology and innovation, biodiversity and climate change, disaster mitigation and prevention, food processing technologies, herbal medicines, ocean sciences, transport and highway technologies, space sciences, ocean sciences, aeronautics and aerospace, medical technologies, drug discovery and vaccine development.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1093349/frist-intl-seminar-on-china-pakistan-science-technology-cooperation-held-in-beijing/>

The Nation

Ambassador Haque advises Pakistani students to learn from China's high-quality development

BEIJING - Pakistan Ambassador to China, Moin ul Haque has advised Pakistani students studying in Chinese universities to focus on their studies and learn from China's high-quality development and progress.

Speaking at 'Students Forum' held at the Pakistan Embassy in Beijing on Sunday, the Ambassador briefed the students about the significance of China-Pakistan bilateral relations and ongoing cooperation in diverse fields. He noted that education now forms an important element of bilateral agenda, and a growing number of Pakistani students were choosing Chinese universities for their studies in various disciplines. There were also strong linkages between academic institutions of both countries including faculty exchanges and research programmes. Lauding their academic performance and achievements, the Ambassador advised the students to focus on their studies and learn from Chinese high-quality development and progress.

He termed them as Ambassadors of Pakistan and requested their support for the positive projection of Pakistan through arranging and participating in various cultural activities.

Separately, in a tweet, the ambassador said that it was refreshing to interact with Pakistani students in China at Students Forum held at Pakistan Embassy, China. I was impressed with these young ambassadors and their suggestions to strengthen China-Pakistan ties and the development of Pakistan.

The students were also briefed about the consular services offered by the Pakistan Embassy and Consulates General in China and also about the recently launched first of its kind Portal for Pakistani students and professionals in China (<http://studentsinchina.pk>), which aimed to gather Pakistan students, scholars, and professionals on one platform for sharing of success stories and discussions on important academic issues. Later the students actively participated in the interactive session. They appreciated the Embassy's outreach effort and termed the

forum as an important opportunity for inclusiveness and interaction between students coming from different universities.

The Forum was part of Embassy's outreach with students and aimed to promoting interaction and building community spirit amongst students. The event was attended by over 200 Pakistani students studying in different Chinese universities.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2023-05-15/page-4/detail-4>

Sargodha University signs agreement with China Agriculture University

SARGODHA - An agreement between the Sargodha University and South China Agriculture University China was signed here to get benefits after sharing experiences of each other in educational fields. The agreement was signed by Sargodha University Vice Chancellor Prof Dr Qaiser Abbas and South China Agriculture University President Prof Li Yang. According to the agreement, the both universities will promote mutual cooperation in education, research, teaching, training, capacity building and other fields. There will be mutual exchange of faculty, students, researchers, experts and other technical staff. According to the agreement, fellowships will also be issued for young researchers and post-doctoral students of both universities. Apart from this, the two universities would take steps to establish a joint agricultural research institute, said the spokesman for the Sargodha University on Sunday.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2023-05-15/page-4/detail-7>

Chinese Newspapers

May 04, 2023

China Daily

Chinese FM to visit Pakistan, attend China-Afghanistan-Pakistan Foreign Ministers' Dialogue

BEIJING - Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Qin Gang will visit Pakistan from May 5 to 6 and attend the China-Afghanistan-Pakistan Foreign Ministers' Dialogue in Pakistan, foreign ministry spokesperson Mao Ning announced on Thursday.

<https://global.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202305/04/WS64533d7fa310b6054fad1058.html>

Global Times

Pakistan: 'Phool Patti: Jingle Journey' truck art exhibition launched in Langfang

To mark the Year of Tourism Exchange between Pakistan and China, a Pakistani truck art exhibition was launched at the Silk Road International Art Center in Langfang City, North China's Hebei Province on April 29 and is set to run until July 24.

A wide range of truck art such as sculptures, murals, and multimedia products were showcased at the exhibition. All the artworks were created by the artists during their month-

long stay in China. Using traditional and modern materials and techniques, the artworks demonstrate the unique features of and creativity in truck art.

Inspired by a conversation with the Pakistani Ambassador to China Moin ul Haque, who mentioned truck art, Yang Zhi and Yang Hui, organizers of the exhibition, came up with the idea of bringing truck art to China to allow Chinese audiences to experience its charm.

"Truck art has never been shown in China. I think this exhibition will be a rare opportunity to allow more people in China to know and appreciate this art form which is full of national qualities," said Yang Zhi and Yang Hui.

The exhibition, co-hosted by the Silk Road International Art Center and the Pakistani Embassy in China, is actually an important project to mark the Year of Tourism Exchange between China and Pakistan. Apart from the exhibition, visitors can visit the studio of the Phool Patti Jingle Journey and have face-to-face interactions with the artists. They could also have a try to create truck art from May 1 to May 3. It is an excellent opportunity to understand the cultural background of truck art in Pakistan.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202305/1290112.shtml>

SCO FM meeting to reinforce consensus ahead of July summit

The ongoing Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Foreign Ministers' Meeting is not only set to further enhance mutual trust and dispel concerns among member states ahead of the upcoming SCO summit in July, but also aims to highlight the organization's role in injecting stability and positive energy into the world, which is currently facing a turbulent political and economic situation.

Shortly after the SCO Foreign Ministers' Meeting, State Councilor and Foreign Minister Qin Gang is scheduled to visit Pakistan from May 5 to 6 and attend the China-Afghanistan-Pakistan Foreign Ministers' Dialogue in Pakistan, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Mao Ning announced on Thursday.

Experts hailed China's consistent efforts in addressing the Afghan issue as a paragon of Beijing's role in playing stabilizer in the region, its good will, and also its ability in negotiating peace.

The SCO Foreign Ministers' Meeting is being held on May 4 and 5 in Panaji, the capital of Goa, India. At the meeting, Qin will exchange views with other SCO member states' foreign ministers on the international and regional situation and SCO cooperation in various fields, among other topics, to make full preparations for this year's SCO summit, the Chinese Foreign Ministry announced on Tuesday.

India's External Affairs Minister Subrahmanyam Jaishankar held a bilateral meeting with SCO Secretary General Zhang Ming in Goa and expressed appreciation for his "support for India's SCO Presidency," Indian media reported on Thursday.

"Started my meetings at SCO CFM with a productive interaction with Secretary General Zhang Ming. Appreciate his support for India's SCO Presidency. Indian presidency is driven by a commitment to SECURE SCO," Jaishankar tweeted.

Observers believe the SCO Foreign Ministers' meeting will pave the way for the SCO summit, which is scheduled to be held in New Delhi on July 3-4 this year.

The SCO Foreign Ministers' Meeting seeks to further enhance mutual trust and double down on the consensus between member states on core issues, finding a new way out for the bloc, as well as the world amid the complicated international atmosphere, Qian Feng, director of the research department at the National Strategy Institute at Tsinghua University, told the Global Times.

He said that the meeting between foreign ministers from countries such as China, Russia and India will further strengthen mutual trust, as well as dispel doubts and concerns so as to expand cooperation.

This will be Qin's second visit to India after he became foreign minister. Ahead of the Foreign Ministers' meeting, defense ministers from China and India met in New Delhi on April 27, during the SCO Defense Ministers' meeting.

When meeting with Indian Defense Minister Rajnath Singh, Chinese State Councilor and Minister of National Defense Li Shangfu said that the China-Indian border situation remains stable, and the border issue should be properly managed within bilateral ties.

SCO is an important and mature platform for China to handle diplomacy with its neighbors, and China is dexterous in handling relations between member states, said Li Yongquan, director of the Eurasian Social Development Research at the Development Research Center of the State Council, referring to the intricate relationship between SCO members, such as India and Pakistan, and Central Asian countries and Russia.

"Successful handling and inclusion of those countries embodies China's diplomatic policies which are of mutual benefit and win-win cooperation; respect each other's sovereignty and do not seek a sphere of influence," said Li, hailing the SCO's development in the past two decades amid a complicated international atmosphere as a "miracle."

Shri Dammu Ravi, Secretary (Economic Relations), Ministry of External Affairs said on Thursday that the key focus of foreign ministers includes the status of the decision that will be approved in the summit in July, the state of multilateral cooperation, and progress in admitting Iran and Belarus as full members of the grouping.

The spirit of SCO includes mutual trust, mutual benefit, respect and inclusiveness, which stands in sharp contrast to the US-led small cliques that divide countries based on ideology and focus on confrontation, said Qian.

"This is why the SCO can keep developing and draw in new members... the organization is set to inject much-needed stability and positive energy into the world, which is engulfed in uncertainty and turmoil," Qian noted.

Paragon of neighborly help

On Thursday, a spokesperson from the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced that Qin will visit Pakistan from May 5 to 6, where he will also attend the China-Afghanistan-Pakistan Foreign Ministers' Dialogue.

The spokesperson said this will be Qin's first visit to Pakistan and an important part of the recent close and frequent interactions between the two countries. During the visit, Qin will meet with the leader of Pakistan and co-chair the fourth round of the China-Pakistan Foreign Ministers' Strategic Dialogue with Pakistani Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari. The two sides will have in-person and in-depth communication on bilateral relations and the international and regional situation.

The Foreign Ministers' Meeting among the Neighboring Countries of Afghanistan and the China-Afghanistan-Pakistan Foreign Ministers' Dialogue are both important platforms for exchanges and cooperation on issues related to Afghanistan and will help bring about more consensus among regional countries on the Afghan issue. China hopes to exchange views with Afghanistan and Pakistan on the situation in Afghanistan and tri-party cooperation at the Dialogue, so as to build up consensus, consolidate mutual trust, and jointly contribute to peace, stability, development and prosperity in the region, said the spokesperson.

The international community needs to step up contact and dialogue with the Afghan interim government, support its efforts for reconstruction and development, and encourage it to build an inclusive government, exercise moderate governance, develop friendly relations with its neighbors and firmly fight terrorism, said the spokesperson.

Foreign ministers' meetings between China, Afghanistan and Pakistan have been constructive in pushing the Afghan issue onto the right path for years. During the process, China and Pakistan, Afghanistan's two neighbors, have made special efforts in preventing instability in Afghanistan from spilling over to other countries and helping rebuild the country, said experts.

China has been playing a bigger role in the reconstruction of Afghanistan in recent years, and will continue pushing for institutionalized efforts in solving this issue, said Qian. He said that by institutionalizing efforts to help reconstruct Afghanistan, China hopes to see an independent, prosperous Afghanistan better fulfill its international commitments, said Qian.

He also noted that the three countries' foreign ministers' meeting can serve as an effective platform for eradicating terrorism, as well as maintaining peace in the region.

Recently, Qin attended the fourth Foreign Ministers' Meeting among the Neighboring Countries of Afghanistan in Samarkand and the "Neighboring Countries of Afghanistan Plus Afghanistan" Foreign Ministers' Dialogue, and chaired the second Informal Meeting on Afghanistan Between Foreign Ministers of China, Russia, Pakistan and Iran.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202305/1290151.shtml>

People's Daily

Pakistani actor meets real China in pursuing his dream

(Xinhua)

XI'AN, May 4 (Xinhua) -- From a foreigner speaking broken Chinese to a movie actor and entrepreneur, Anees Qadir, 30, from Pakistan, believes Xi'an, the capital city of northwest China's Shaanxi Province, is where his dream became a reality.

During his childhood, Qadir held two dreams, becoming a pilot or an actor. In 2014, following his father's advice, the then 21-year-old came to study at Northwestern Polytechnical University in Xi'an.

It is in Xi'an where Qadir began to gain a deeper knowledge of the history of Sino-Pakistani friendship and China's success in economic development over the past decades. The Belt and Road Initiative, proposed in 2013, further strengthened his determination to stay.

The city of Xi'an impressed him with its ancient history, mouth-watering delicacies and hospitality. He has visited the Terracotta Warriors three times and his younger brother and sister are also in China.

"Now I am familiar with the city and do not need navigation apps in most cases," said Qadir with pride.

His acting career also began during his student days in Xi'an, when he used to work as a part-time model.

To him, films serve as a window to peer into an unfamiliar country and also help build bridges between different cultures.

"Before I came to China, I enjoyed watching Chinese action comedy movies such as Shaolin Soccer and Kung Fu Hustle, and held the misconception that every Chinese knows Kung Fu," he grinned.

"By traveling to Beijing, Shenzhen and other megacities and acting in different roles, I had opportunities to experience many aspects of traditional Chinese culture including calligraphy, and see the real China for myself," he added.

Qadir has so far starred in three aired movies and featured in several upcoming TV dramas. "From walk-on parts to leading roles, I want to show the audience a real China and present the sincere friendship between China and Pakistan," said Qadir.

In 2019, Qadir founded a media company in Xi'an, specializing in the production of movies, short videos and livestream shows.

In the future, he plans to take the stories of Gwadar Port and Karakoram Highway to the big screen. "As examples of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, these projects benefit our two peoples and witness selfless devotion of workers who even laid down their lives. It is worth recording," he said.

(Web editor: Zhang Kaiwei, Liang Jun)

<http://en.people.cn/n3/2023/0504/c90000-20014241.html>

Chinese FM to visit Pakistan, attend China-Afghanistan-Pakistan Foreign Ministers' Dialogue

(Xinhua)

BEIJING, May 4 (Xinhua) -- Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Qin Gang will visit Pakistan from May 5 to 6 and attend the China-Afghanistan-Pakistan Foreign Ministers' Dialogue in Pakistan, foreign ministry spokesperson Mao Ning announced on Thursday.

This will be Qin's first visit to Pakistan and an important part of the recent close and frequent interactions between the high levels of China and Pakistan, said a spokesperson for the foreign ministry. During the visit, Qin will meet with the leader of Pakistan and co-chair the fourth round of China-Pakistan Foreign Ministers' Strategic Dialogue with Pakistani Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari.

The two sides will have in-person and in-depth communication on bilateral relations and the international and regional situation, according to the spokesperson.

The spokesperson said China and Pakistan are all-weather strategic cooperative partners and ironclad friends, and the friendship is time honored. China hopes that this visit will follow through on the important common understandings between the leaders of the two countries, further deepen strategic communication and practical cooperation, promote the building of an ever closer China-Pakistan community with a shared future in the new era, and contribute positive energy to the region and the wider world, according to the spokesperson.

Noting the people of Afghanistan are still faced with severe challenges at the moment and are in dire need of more support and help from the rest of the world, the spokesperson said the international community need to step up contact and dialogue with the Afghan interim government, support its effort of reconstruction and development, and encourage it to build an inclusive government, exercise moderate governance, develop friendly relations with its neighbors and firmly fight terrorism.

China hopes to exchange views with Afghanistan and Pakistan on the situation in Afghanistan and tri-party cooperation at the China-Afghanistan-Pakistan Foreign Ministers' Dialogue, so as to build up consensus, consolidate mutual trust, and jointly contribute to peace, stability, development and prosperity in the region, the spokesperson added.

(Web editor: Zhang Kaiwei, Liang Jun)

<http://en.people.cn/n3/2023/0504/c90000-20014057.html>

May 05, 2023

Xinhuanet News

Chinese navy ship rescues Pakistanis from dire situation in Sudan

By Misbah Saba Malik

"Chinese friends opened their doors and hearts for us during our most dire circumstances" in conflict-torn Sudan, said a 42-year-old Pakistani mechanic after being evacuated aboard a Chinese navy ship to Saudi Arabia.

SWABI, Pakistan, May 5 (Xinhua) -- Nasrullah Khan, a 42-year-old Pakistani mechanic who worked in Sudan, experienced the real adversity of life for the first time since his birth when sitting anguished and penniless in Port Sudan in recent days.

Now safely in his home in Swabi, a city in Pakistan's northwest Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, he recalled the intense and moving experience, saying that "the Pakistan-China ironclad friendship helped him out of danger."

Deadly armed clashes between the Sudanese Armed Forces and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces erupted on April 15, killing hundreds of people and injuring thousands.

"It was the worst time of my life when the conflict in Sudan broke out, I was so uncertain if I could get back home because the situation was getting dismal back there. With every passing hour, my hopes were fading until I heard an announcement to get on board a Chinese navy vessel to take a voyage towards peace," Khan, who worked in a printing factory in Sudan, told Xinhua.

In the wake of the recent unrest in Sudan, Khan and thousands of other foreigners working in the African country had to flee for their lives, leaving all their belongings behind.

Khan rushed to a safer place from his workplace in the Sudanese city of Soba to the capital city of Khartoum one night in April, from where he was sent to Port Sudan by the Pakistani embassy for evacuation.

According to Pakistan's foreign ministry, over 200 Pakistani evacuees in Sudan were brought to Jeddah city of Saudi Arabia by the Chinese navy ship Weishanhu.

"We are grateful to our Chinese friends for this gesture of support and friendship," the ministry said.

Khan told Xinhua that he and other Pakistanis spent four days in a hotel near the port, adding that initially the Pakistanis were being evacuated in groups of 30 to 40 people, but when the Chinese navy vessel arrived, it evacuated over 200 Pakistanis waiting at the port.

"Chinese friends opened their doors and hearts for us during our most dire circumstances, they took good care of us and ensured that our 18-hour-long voyage to Jeddah was a comfortable one," Khan said while ruffling his daughter's hair in affection.

Khan took selfies with the Chinese navy staff, enjoyed the halal cuisine specially prepared for the Pakistani evacuees, and eventually had a peaceful sleep in a cozy room in the vessel after many days of fear and uncertainty in Sudan.

"Throughout my life, I had heard about the Pakistan-China friendship, but never had I imagined the depth of the friendship until I experienced it myself ... It made my heart swell with pride that my best friends saved my life and reunited me with my family. For us, China is indeed the most valuable friend in this time of need," the father of four children told Xinhua.

Khan Ghalib, Khan's 65-year-old father, a white-bearded man living with the children of Khan and four of his other sons in an old ancestral home in the remote area of Swabi, said that he had several sleepless nights when Khan was stranded in Sudan.

"I was worried about his life and wellbeing, and I sighed with relief when I saw him safe and sound before my eyes," Ghalib told Xinhua.

He said that since his son returned safely, he always wished the crew which had evacuated Khan the very best, and hoped that the Pakistan-China friendship would further bloom.

According to an official statement, Chinese naval vessels evacuated 493 people, including 272 Chinese and 221 foreigners from countries such as Pakistan and Brazil, from Sudan in two evacuation operations that concluded on April 29, as the evacuees arrived at the Saudi Arabian port of Jeddah.

<https://english.news.cn/20230505/cdfe84430edb4e2fbae7fa684b48d2b0/c.html>

May 06, 2023

China Daily

Chinese FM calls on young diplomats to carry forward China-Pakistan friendship

ISLAMABAD -- Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Qin Gang has called on young diplomats of China and Pakistan to jointly carry forward the two countries' friendship and promote world peace, justice and progress.

With the presence of Pakistan's Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hina Rabbani Khar, Qin made the remarks when attending a ceremony here on Friday to unveil a memorial plaque for the Foreign Service Academy of Pakistan, which was rebuilt on the previous compound of the Chinese embassy in Pakistan.

The visiting Chinese foreign minister interacted with young diplomats of Pakistan and China and shared his perspective on historic ties between the two countries, urging his young peers to be action-takers as well as advocates of China-Pakistan friendship.

Qin said that China advocates that all countries should be independent and follow a development path suited to their national realities, and calls for mutual respect, equality and win-win cooperation among countries.

In addition, China advocates that disputes should be resolved through dialogue and consultation without resorting to force or the threat of force, and that countries should join hands to address global challenges, he said.

The young diplomats of both countries should act in line with the trend of the times and the aspirations of the people of all countries, and oppose erecting barriers, inciting confrontation and stoking "a new Cold War," he said.

Qin noted that the China-Pakistan community with a shared future has profound historical roots, solid public support and strong practical needs.

China and Pakistan must redouble their efforts to ensure the success of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor in order to bring more benefits to the two peoples, the Chinese foreign minister said.

The Foreign Service Academy is the training arm of the Pakistani Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Established in September 1981, the academy has trained hundreds of Pakistani and foreign diplomats, according to the ministry's official website.

<https://global.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202305/06/WS64566abfa310b6054fad1799.html>

Global Times

China-Afghanistan-Pakistan Foreign Ministers' Dialogue expected to inject stability into regional situation

By Fei Xue

Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Qin Gang is visiting Pakistan and attending the China-Afghanistan-Pakistan Foreign Ministers' Dialogue in Pakistan, a meeting conducive to building consensus and injecting stability and positive energy into the uncertain international situation.

Not long ago, Qin attended the fourth Foreign Ministers' Meeting among the Neighboring Countries of Afghanistan and the "Neighboring Countries of Afghanistan Plus Afghanistan" Foreign Ministers' Dialogue, and chaired the second Informal Meeting on Afghanistan Between Foreign Ministers of China, Russia, Pakistan and Iran. The China-Afghanistan-Pakistan Foreign Ministers' Dialogue in Pakistan is another multilateral dialogue related to the Afghan issue that Qin has attended in less than a month.

The Middle East has been in a state of conflict and tension for decades, during which regional countries have missed out on many development opportunities and have not achieved sustained regional security. China's aim to uphold world peace and promote common development conforms to the trend of the times. China hopes to help Afghanistan out of its predicament, and Afghanistan's stable development also has positive implications for China and other neighboring countries, Li Weijian, a research fellow with the Institute for Foreign Policy Studies of the Shanghai Institutes for International Studies told the Global Times.

As two important neighbors of Afghanistan, China and Pakistan can coordinate their positions through the trilateral dialogue mechanism to jointly advance the situation in Afghanistan, in particular to avoid the spillover of security issues in Afghanistan to neighboring countries, and urge the Afghan interim government to fulfill its commitments through dialogue and contact.

According to a spokesman for the World Food Program, the malnutrition rates in Afghanistan are at record highs with half the country enduring severe hunger throughout the year. Afghanistan is facing daunting challenges and in dire need of more support and assistance from the outside world. It's expected this dialogue can be seen as an "opening ceremony" of providing much-needed aid to Afghanistan, experts noted.

By contrast, the US provoked a war in Afghanistan under the banner of "war on terror." However, over the past 20 years, the problem of terrorism in Afghanistan has not been solved, but has become even more serious. Issues such as drug proliferation, living standards, and security still face serious challenges. In lights of this situation, the US has only sought to

shirk its responsibility. The hasty withdrawal of the US troops from Afghanistan in 2021 left a mess in the country, which is also an important root cause of the current crisis in Afghanistan.

Liu Zhongmin, a professor at the Middle East Studies Institute of Shanghai International Studies University, told the Global Times that China has always advocated respecting Afghanistan's sovereignty and independence. Afghanistan has long been subject to external interference, including the Western powers led by the US and some regional powers. This is also a very significant reason for Afghanistan's plight since the war.

In addition, since US troops withdrew from Afghanistan in 2021, China has been providing support to Afghanistan for peace reconstruction and economic development. China also emphasizes that the international community needs to continue to provide Afghanistan with assistance in economy and people's livelihood to promote Afghanistan's economic reconstruction.

Currently, the counter-terrorism situation in Afghanistan remains serious. There have been criticisms from the international community, particularly on issues such as women's rights and opportunities for education.

The core of China's position on the Afghan issue is that it hopes the country can achieve stability and peace, not to continue to be a breeding ground for terrorist elements, build an inclusive government and exercise moderate governance, so as to dispel the concerns of the international community, especially its neighbors. China hopes that Afghan interim government will protect the rights of all Afghans, including women, and continue to make efforts in that direction that meet the expectations of such people and the international community, according to Geng Shuang, China's Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations.

The "Neighboring Countries of Afghanistan Plus Afghanistan" Foreign Ministers' Dialogue and the China-Afghanistan-Pakistan Foreign Ministers' Dialogue are important platforms for exchanging views and cooperating on issues related to Afghanistan, and can help build consensus among regional countries on the Afghan issue.

China looks forward to exchanging views with Afghanistan and Pakistan on the Afghan situation and trilateral cooperation through this dialogue, expanding the consensus among the three countries, consolidating mutual trust, and working together to promote regional peace, stability, and development.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202305/1290211.shtml>

People's Daily

Pakistan, China vow to strengthen ties, deepen cooperation

(Xinhua)

ISLAMABAD, May 6 (Xinhua) -- Pakistan and China have vowed to strengthen bilateral relations, jointly accelerate the construction of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor

(CPEC) and deepen cooperation in the fields including agriculture, connectivity and information technology.

At a meeting with visiting Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Qin Gang on Friday, Pakistani President Arif Alvi said the friendly relations between Pakistan and China are rooted in the profound traditional friendship between the two peoples.

The more profoundly the international situation changes, the more close and solid friendship between Pakistan and China should be forged, and the good tradition of frequent exchanges between the two countries should be carried forward, the president said.

The Pakistani side sincerely appreciates China for its great support for Pakistan's efforts in fighting the COVID-19 pandemic, implementing post-disaster reconstruction, and evacuating overseas Pakistanis from the conflict-hit Sudan, said Alvi.

The president said the Pakistani side looks forward to making joint efforts with China to push forward the CPEC construction, as well as deepen cooperation on agriculture, connectivity and information technology.

Pakistan firmly pursues the one-China policy and supports China on issues concerning its core interests, such as those concerning China's sovereignty and territorial integrity, the president stressed.

Pakistan will make every effort to ensure the safety of the Chinese personnel and institutions in Pakistan and is ready to work with China for peace and reconstruction in Afghanistan, he noted.

For his part, Qin said that China and Pakistan are all-weather strategic cooperative partners, noting that consolidating and enhancing the bilateral ironclad friendship has been the priority for the successive governments of the two countries.

Stressing that China has always stood firmly with Pakistan, Qin said the Chinese side upholds Pakistan's unity, stability, development and prosperity, and supports Pakistan in safeguarding its national independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity.

China is willing to join hands with Pakistan to implement Global Development Initiative, Global Security Initiative and Global Civilization Initiative, deepen mutually beneficial cooperation in various fields, jointly resist external risks and challenges, and steadily promote the China-Pakistan community with a shared future, Qin said.

China stands ready to work with Pakistan to promote the high-quality development of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), accelerate the CPEC construction, deepen cooperation in fields such as industry, agriculture, information technology, and disaster prevention and mitigation, and help Pakistan restore its economy and improve people's livelihood, the Chinese foreign minister said.

Qin said China and Pakistan should strengthen people-to-people and cultural exchanges, adding that China encourages more outstanding Pakistani students to study in China.

The Chinese side is ready to strengthen communication and coordination with the Pakistani side on the Afghan issue in order to promote the peace and reconstruction process in Afghanistan and contribute to regional stability and development, he added.

(Web editor: Zhang Kaiwei, Liang Jun)

<http://en.people.cn/n3/2023/0506/c90000-20015036.html>

South China Morning Post

Afghan foreign minister begins talks with China and Pakistan on rare visit abroad

Amir Khan Mutaqi is barred by sanctions from leaving Afghanistan but was granted an exemption for a trip to Islamabad to meet his neighbouring counterparts

Beijing is eyeing the vast untapped mineral resources across the shared border, and Islamabad is wary of huge security risks along the common frontier

The foreign minister of Afghanistan's Taliban government, which is not recognised by any other nation, held talks on Saturday with his counterparts from Pakistan and China during a rare visit abroad.

Amir Khan Mutaqi is barred by international sanctions from leaving Afghanistan but was granted an exemption for a trip to Islamabad just days after the United Nations secretary general again condemned the Taliban government's curbs on women.

China and Pakistan are Afghanistan's most important neighbours, with Beijing eyeing the vast untapped mineral resources that lie across their tiny shared border, and Islamabad wary of huge security risks along their much longer common frontier.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/asia/south-asia/article/3219650/afghan-foreign-minister-begins-talks-china-and-pakistan-rare-visit-abroad>

After attacks on Chinese, Pakistan pledges more security

Incidents like a suicide bombing in 2021 that killed nine Chinese nationals have prompted concerns for those working and living in Pakistan

More recently, a Chinese employee at a major hydropower project was arrested under blasphemy laws, which carry the death penalty

Chinese Foreign Minister Qin Gang shakes hands with Pakistani President Arif Alvi in Islamabad, Pakistan on Friday. Photo: Pakistan President Office via AP

Pakistan's president on Friday assured Beijing's foreign minister that his country will boost security for all Chinese nationals working on multibillion-dollar projects in the cash-strapped South Asian country.

China has been demanding more security from Pakistan for its nationals living and working in the Islamic country since 2021, when a suicide bomber killed nine Chinese and four Pakistanis in an attack in Pakistan's volatile northwest.

More recently, a Chinese national working on the Dasu Dam, a Chinese-funded hydropower project and the biggest of its kind in Pakistan, was arrested on blasphemy charges after an angry mob accused him of insulting Islam when he criticised a colleague for taking too much time to pray during working hours.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/asia/south-asia/article/3219601/after-attacks-chinese-pakistan-pledges-more-security>

Xinhuanet News

China, Pakistan vow to further all-round cooperation

ISLAMABAD, May 6 (Xinhua) -- China and Pakistan agreed on Saturday to further promote the all-round cooperation between the two countries.

When co-chairing the fourth round of the China-Pakistan Foreign Ministers' Strategic Dialogue with Pakistani Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Qin Gang said that as all-weather strategic cooperative partners, China highly appreciates Pakistan's support on issues concerning China's core interests.

China will, as always, continue to firmly support Pakistan in safeguarding its independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, back Pakistan to fight terrorism, and champion the South Asian country in maintaining unity and stability, achieving development and prosperity, and playing a bigger role in international and regional affairs, he said.

China is ready to make joint efforts with Pakistan to fully implement the important consensus reached between leaders of the two countries, maintain the momentum of high-level exchanges, and strengthen strategic communication, so as to contribute to the development of bilateral relations and bring stability to the region and the world, Qin added.

Both sides should push forward the high-quality development of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), explore new areas of cooperation in industry, agriculture, mining, science and technology and information technology, foster new growth points, and deepen cultural and people-to-people exchanges, he said.

China is willing to enhance cooperation with Pakistan in security capacity building and security system, Qin said.

China expects Pakistan to take the strictest measures to ensure the security and safety of Chinese nationals, projects and institutions, he said.

The Chinese foreign minister said that China is ready to work with Pakistan to take the lead to implement the Global Development Initiative, Global Security Initiative and Global Civilization Initiative in Pakistan and strengthen coordination within multilateral mechanisms such as the United Nations, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, safeguarding international fairness and justice, as well as common interests of developing countries.

For his part, Bilawal said that it is the consensus of various Pakistani political parties and all walks of life to consolidate the traditional friendship between Pakistan and China, and

deepening Pakistan-China friendship and cooperation is the cornerstone that remains at the center of Pakistan's foreign policy.

The Pakistani side appreciates China's assistance in evacuating Pakistani nationals from Sudan and its fight against floods, Bilawal said.

He noted that the Pakistani side firmly opposes any attempt to contain China and will always stand with China. Pakistan remains steadfast in upholding the one-China policy and firmly supports China on all issues related to its core interests.

He pointed out that Pakistan expects to closely cooperate with China in jointly advancing the CPEC construction, strengthening bilateral cooperation in agriculture, trade, finance, connectivity, cultural exchanges and counter-terrorism, and promoting a new era of the Pakistan-China all-weather strategic cooperative partnership.

The Pakistani side will do its utmost to crack down on terrorist organizations to ensure the safety of Chinese nationals, projects and institutions in Pakistan, Bilawal said.

He expressed Pakistan's support for the Global Development Initiative, Global Security Initiative and Global Civilization Initiative, pledging to work with China to combat terrorism and address global challenges such as climate change.

<https://english.news.cn/20230506/5c60909d55d94dd3ad62e32a5b3b2566/c.html>

China to help Afghanistan realize peace, stability at early date: Chinese FM

ISLAMABAD, May 6 (Xinhua) -- China is ready to help Afghanistan realize self-reliance, peace, stability, development and prosperity at an early date, Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Qin Gang said on Saturday.

While meeting with Amir Khan Muttaqi, acting foreign minister of the Afghan interim government in the Pakistani capital, Qin said China and Afghanistan are traditionally friendly neighbors connected by mountains and rivers.

The two countries have been supporting, understanding and trusting each other, he said, noting that no matter how the international situation evolves, China will always stand firmly with the Afghan people and support Afghanistan in pursuing a development path that suits its national conditions.

The Chinese side will continue to respect Afghanistan's sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity, and deepen cooperation with Afghanistan in various fields, Qin said.

Afghanistan should earnestly fulfill its commitment to fighting terrorism, resolutely crack down on terrorist forces, including the East Turkistan Islamic Movement, and ensure the safety of Chinese personnel and institutions in Afghanistan, the Chinese foreign minister said.

He noted that China will continue to advance the China-Afghanistan-Pakistan trilateral dialogue and cooperation based on the principles of equal consultation, pragmatic cooperation and friendship, and mutual benefit.

For his part, Muttaqi said Afghanistan attaches great importance to developing relations with China and will never allow any force to use its territory for anti-China activities.

Afghanistan hopes to strengthen cooperation with China in such fields as economy, trade, people-to-people exchanges and infrastructure within the framework of the Belt and Road Initiative to safeguard common interests and benefit the two peoples, Muttaqi said.

He said Afghanistan hopes to live in harmony with China, Pakistan and other neighboring countries and is willing to actively promote trilateral cooperation with China and Pakistan to promote regional stability and prosperity.

<https://english.news.cn/20230506/cea1271b05cd4638b7976213f3451830/c.html>

May 07, 2023

China Daily

China firmly supports Pakistan in achieving unity, stability: Chinese FM

ISLAMABAD - Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Qin Gang said China firmly supports Pakistan in achieving unity, stability, and economic self-reliance.

While meeting with Pakistani Chief of Army Staff Asim Munir here on Saturday, Qin said China and Pakistan are all-weather strategic cooperative partners, and their time-tested and rock-solid friendship has always maintained strong vitality.

China looks forward to higher-level cooperation and joint efforts with Pakistan to meet challenges and pursue common development and prosperity, the Chinese foreign minister said.

China firmly supports Pakistan in fighting terrorism and is ready to work with Pakistan to promote high-quality development of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor and strengthen military exchanges and defense cooperation, Qin said.

For his part, Munir said Pakistan and China are all-weather friends and brothers, and the Pakistani people often say that the friendship between the two neighbors is higher than mountains, deeper than the ocean and sweeter than honey.

The Pakistani military is firmly committed to carrying forward the Pakistan-China friendship and building an unbreakable Pakistan-China community with a shared future, Munir said.

The two sides also exchanged views on the Afghan issue and other international and regional issues of common concern.

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202305/07/WS64571a3ba310b6054fad17fe.html>

China, Afghanistan, Pakistan pledge to enhance cooperation on security, counter-terrorism

ISLAMABAD -- China, Afghanistan and Pakistan have pledged to further strengthen trilateral cooperation on security and counter-terrorism.

When attending the China-Afghanistan-Pakistan Foreign Ministers' Dialogue in the Pakistani capital on Saturday with Pakistani Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari and Acting Foreign Minister of the Afghan interim government Amir Khan Muttaqi, Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Qin Gang said that as traditional friendly neighbors, China is ready to make joint efforts with Afghanistan and Pakistan to implement the Global Development Initiative, Global Security Initiative and Global Civilization Initiative.

China is willing to share development opportunities and meet security challenges with the two countries to set an example of cooperation on neighbors, mini-multilateralism and hotspot issues through bilateral and trilateral mechanisms, he said.

The Chinese side promised to strengthen trilateral cooperation with Afghanistan and Pakistan on security and counter-terrorism, uphold the vision of common, comprehensive, cooperative, and sustainable security, and firmly oppose any form of terrorism and "double standards" on fighting terrorism, Qin said.

He called for enhanced trilateral cooperation on counter-terrorism through such mechanisms as the coordination and cooperation mechanism among neighbors of Afghanistan within the regional multilateral framework.

The Chinese foreign minister expected Afghanistan and Pakistan to take further measures to ensure the security and safety of Chinese nationals, institutions and projects.

China is willing to strengthen strategic communication and policy coordination with Afghanistan and Pakistan through the trilateral cooperation mechanism, so as to boost good-neighborliness and strategic mutual trust, Qin added.

Muttaqi and Bilawal said the China-Afghanistan-Pakistan cooperation is of great significance to regional peace and prosperity.

They said Afghanistan and Pakistan are willing to actively promote trilateral cooperation, formulate a roadmap for cooperation in such fields as politics, security and economy, safeguard the common interests of the three countries, achieve mutual benefit and win-win results, and bring benefits to the people of the three neighbors and other countries in the region.

The three foreign ministers agreed to uphold good-neighborliness and friendship, deepen political mutual trust, respect each other's sovereignty and territorial integrity, and properly address differences and disputes through equal consultation.

They made it clear to oppose interference in Afghanistan's internal affairs, illegal unilateral sanctions against Afghanistan, and all acts that undermine regional peace and stability.

The three sides pledged to strengthen counter-terrorism cooperation. China and Pakistan expressed their support for the Afghan interim government to strengthen capacity building to better cope with the threat of terrorism. Afghanistan stressed that it will not allow any forces to use its territory for activities against China and Pakistan.

They also vowed to restart the dialogue mechanism within the framework of the foreign ministers' dialogue, and strengthen exchanges and cooperation in economy, trade, agriculture, poverty reduction and people-to-people exchanges.

The three countries agreed to advance cooperation on the Belt and Road Initiative, support the extension of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor to Afghanistan, promote connectivity among the three neighbors and the region, and improve the cross-border trade system, with a view to enhancing trilateral economic integration and achieving sustainable development.

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202305/07/WS6457244aa310b6054fad1807.html>

Global Times

China, Pakistan, Afghanistan support extension of CPEC project to Afghanistan, promote trilateral economic cooperation

By Tao Mingyang

Foreign ministers of China, Afghanistan, and Pakistan have agreed to enhance trilateral cooperation in economy, poverty reduction, and agriculture, and plan to extend the project of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) to Afghanistan during the China-Afghanistan-Pakistan Foreign Ministers' Dialogue on Sunday. Foreign ministers of China, Afghanistan, and Pakistan have agreed to enhance trilateral cooperation in economy, poverty reduction, and agriculture, and plan to extend the project of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) to Afghanistan during the China-Afghanistan-Pakistan Foreign Ministers' Dialogue on Sunday.

The three countries agreed to advance cooperation on the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), promote connectivity among the three neighbors, and improve cross-border trading systems, with a view to enhancing trilateral economic integration and achieving sustainable development, according to the Xinhua News Agency.

The meeting came after a dialogue which Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Qin Gang and Pakistani Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari hailed CPEC as an example of the BRI at the 4th round of the Foreign Minister-level Pakistan-China Strategic Dialogue held in Islamabad on Saturday.

Welcoming the completion of a decade of the CPEC in 2023, the two sides hailed CPEC as a shining good example of Belt and Road cooperation which has accelerated socio-economic development, job creation and improvement of people's livelihoods in Pakistan, according to the official website of the Foreign Ministry of China.

The two sides agreed to continue their humanitarian and economic assistance for the Afghan people and enhance development cooperation in Afghanistan, including through extension of the CPEC infrastructure project to Afghanistan.

The CPEC has boosted economic development in both China and Pakistan since it was proposed 10 years ago. Afghan officials are seeking to use the initiative to advance much needed infrastructure and economic development in the country, Qian Feng, director of the

research department at the National Strategy Institute at Tsinghua University, told the Global Times on Sunday.

"One of the direct benefits brought by the CPEC to Afghanistan is cooperation linked to infrastructure construction and transport connectivity. In addition, China's advanced agriculture and poverty reduction experience could be shared with Afghanistan to fundamentally improve living standards there," Qian added.

As a landlocked country, Afghanistan mainly relies on Pakistani ports for international trade. However, due to government regulations, trade between Pakistan and Afghanistan mainly takes place via the ports of Karachi and Qasim, which poses some problems such as protracted time and higher cost.

Afghanistan has become the first among landlocked Central Asian countries to benefit from using the Chinese-invested Gwadar Port in Pakistan for future cross-border trade.

After several rounds of consultations with relevant authorities in Pakistan, Gwadar Port finally obtained an e-export trade license with Afghanistan in the second half of 2019, according to China's Ministry of Commerce.

In 2020, Afghanistan imported 43,000 tons of fertilizer via the port, contributing to its agricultural development.

However, Qian said that security concerns would be one of the outstanding challenges facing the CPEC project extension to Afghanistan, adding that companies from the three countries can look for other cooperation opportunities in advance in the region.

Qian noted that the current territorial dispute between Pakistan and Afghanistan is a barrier to regional cooperation, but the CPEC extension to Afghanistan may encourage regional communication and help resolve their dispute.

Qian noted that the current territorial dispute between Pakistan and Afghanistan is a barrier to regional cooperation, but the CPEC extension to Afghanistan may encourage regional communication and help resolve their dispute.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202305/1290253.shtml>

Xinhuanet News

China, Pakistan committed to building closer community with shared future: Chinese FM

Chinese and Pakistani foreign ministers agreed that their countries, in the post-pandemic era, will resume communication at all levels as well as consultation through mechanisms, fully implement the important consensuses reached by leaders of the two countries, and speed up China-Pakistan all-round cooperation.

ISLAMABAD, May 6 (Xinhua) -- Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Qin Gang said on Saturday that China and Pakistan, as all-weather strategic cooperative partners, are committed to building a closer China-Pakistan community with a shared future in the new era.

At a joint press conference after the fourth round of the China-Pakistan Foreign Ministers' Strategic Dialogue with Pakistani Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, Qin said that China appreciates Pakistan's political support on issues relating to China's core interests and major concerns.

China will, as always, continue to support Pakistan in safeguarding its sovereignty, territorial integrity and national dignity, finding a development path suited to its own national conditions, and playing its due role in global and regional affairs, Qin said.

The two foreign ministers agreed that their countries, in the post-pandemic era, will resume communication at all levels as well as consultation through mechanisms, fully implement the important consensus reached by leaders of the two countries, and speed up China-Pakistan all-round cooperation.

During the meeting, the two sides pledged to accelerate the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) projects and sound planning and operation in industrial cooperation, and extend the frontier of fields including agriculture, technology and new energy, so as to help Pakistan achieve higher-quality and sustainable development.

Noting that this year marks the 10th anniversary of the launch of CPEC, the Chinese foreign minister underlined its high-quality development.

Qin said that under the joint efforts of both countries, CPEC has become a model of Belt and Road cooperation, bringing about significant improvement in Pakistan's infrastructure, and tangible economic and social benefits from early harvest projects.

He pointed out that the mutually beneficial cooperation between China and Pakistan aims to help Pakistan develop its economy and improve people's livelihood.

"Some forces have fabricated the lie that China is creating a debt trap in Pakistan. I suggest our media friends ask those people what they have done for Pakistan's development and what real money they have invested in the country. I believe the people of Pakistan don't need high-sounding rhetoric, but real help," Qin said.

He stressed that stability is a prerequisite for development and security is the foundation of prosperity. China hopes that all political forces in Pakistan will build consensus, maintain stability, respond more effectively to internal and external challenges, focus on economic development and improving people's livelihood, and push the country onto the fast track of development and revitalization.

The two sides agreed to track down and severely punish the culprits in Chinese-targeted terrorist attacks, further deepen security and anti-terrorism cooperation, and enhance collaboration in regional anti-terrorism affairs.

They also agreed that they will work for Pakistan taking the lead in the implementation of the Global Development Initiative and other major initiatives, strengthen coordination and collaboration at the multilateral level, and oppose Cold War mentality, zero-sum game and bloc confrontation.

In addition, the two countries called for resolving differences through dialogue and consultation, safeguarding international fairness and justice, promoting the cause of world peace and development, and jointly building a community with a shared future for mankind.

<https://english.news.cn/20230507/ffa65824e04e4cf59f6f107583538b2d/c.html>

May 08, 2023

China Daily

FM says claim of Pakistan 'debt trap' a lie

Countries vow inclusive collaboration on high-quality development of CPEC

China has rejected accusations of creating a "debt trap" in Pakistan and it will push forward the high-quality construction of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor to help Pakistan achieve independent, balanced and sustainable development.

State Councilor and Foreign Minister Qin Gang made the remarks on Saturday at a joint news conference with Pakistani Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari in Islamabad, after they co-chaired the fourth round of the China-Pakistan Foreign Ministers' Strategic Dialogue.

Noting this year marks the 10th anniversary of the launch of CPEC, Qin said that under the joint efforts of China and Pakistan, the corridor has become a model of Belt and Road cooperation, bringing significant improvement to Pakistan's infrastructure, and tangible economic and social benefits.

The two countries are accelerating the high-quality development of the corridor and fostering new drivers of economic growth. This will help Pakistan become involved in international industrial cooperation, form competitive industry clusters and enhance export competitiveness, Qin said.

"Some forces have fabricated the lie that China is creating a 'debt trap' in Pakistan. I suggest our media friends ask those people what they have done for Pakistan's development and what real money they have invested in the country. I believe the people of Pakistan don't need high-sounding rhetoric, but real help," Qin said.

Under the CPEC platform, China will continue to work with Pakistan to promote synergy on development strategies and share development opportunities, he said.

In a joint news release on the two foreign ministers' dialogue, China and Pakistan stressed that CPEC is an open and inclusive platform for win-win cooperation and invited third parties to maximize the benefits from it.

Qin said that China is ready to deepen security cooperation and hopes that Pakistan continues to take the most stringent measures to protect the security of Chinese personnel, projects and institutions in the country.

Li Qingyan, an associate researcher at the China Institute of International Studies, said the so-called debt trap is a fabricated "narrative trap" and groundless disinformation.

Li said the debt crisis in Pakistan could be attributed to many factors, including the Ukraine conflict, the United States Federal Reserve raising interest rates, as well as Pakistan's own economic problems.

About 47 percent of Pakistan's foreign debt is owed to multilateral financial institutions, and only a small portion is owed to China, she said.

The plight is not caused by Chinese loans and CPEC has not increased the debt burden of Pakistan. The projects are transparent and have advanced in an orderly manner under consensus reached between the two countries, she said.

China and Pakistan should give full play to the leading role of CPEC in strengthening Islamabad's own development capacity, promoting the integration of competitive industries of both countries, and improving Pakistan's business environment, she said.

The two countries should also deepen communication and cooperation on security to avoid risks and improve the corridor's security guarantee, she added.

Qin also attended the fifth China-Afghanistan-Pakistan Foreign Ministers' Dialogue in Islamabad on Saturday, at which the three countries pledged to further strengthen trilateral cooperation on security and counterterrorism.

<https://global.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202305/08/WS64583020a310b6054fad186c.html>

Global Times

China-Afghanistan-Pakistan cooperation mechanism embodies wider support to GSI

By Qaiser Nawab

Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Qin Gang made his maiden visit to Pakistan from May 5 to 6. Besides meeting with the top officials of Pakistan, the visit covered an extensive agenda: During the visit, Qin attended the Fifth China-Afghanistan-Pakistan Foreign Minister's Dialogue in Islamabad on May 6.

This dialogue came at a crucial time as it followed the very important meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) that discussed the issue of terrorism and regional peace and security. Building on this momentum and the Chinese contribution to regional peace and security, this was the third important meeting on Afghanistan that Qin attended in less than a month, signifying the level of importance China is attaching to a peaceful and prosperous Afghanistan.

Last month, the Chinese foreign minister chaired the second informal meeting on Afghanistan between the Foreign Ministers of China, Russia, Pakistan, and Iran and attended the Fourth Foreign Ministers' Meeting among the Neighboring Countries of Afghanistan in Samarkand.

These meetings and efforts came as a result of the Global Security Initiative (GSI) proposed by President Xi Jinping. The world today is facing multiple risks and challenges which are unprecedented. The global security architecture is being depleted and has been in dire need of

a security concept which is both practically applicable as well as acceptable to countries across the globe. While the major powers have largely resorted to coercion for conflict resolution, GSI presents a different and workable solution managed by a coordinated set of actions to address the security challenges confronting the globe today. The concept paper presented by FM Qin in February established China's vow for the promotion of security for all in the world by safeguarding global security architecture and adopting a unified approach to maintain global peace and order.

The GSI calls on countries to acknowledge the changing international landscape in the spirit of solidarity and "address the intertwined challenges of security with a win-win mindset." Ever since the launch of the GSI, China has increased its engagement toward achieving a peaceful neighborhood. The recent diplomatic breakthrough between Saudi Arabia and Iran with Chinese mediation has boosted the confidence of regional countries in seeing peace in the region, especially under China's lead. The non-interference policy of China and its principled position placing economic prosperity of the region and a unified approach for conflict resolution and peace promotion makes the Chinese approach different and welcoming to other countries.

China's position on Afghanistan is very clear. It welcomes Afghanistan's participation in BRI and aspires to convert Afghanistan from a "land-locked" to "land-linked" country through economic cooperation and regional integration. China's role in Afghanistan is beyond politics and adheres to "Three Respects" (independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity) and "Three Nevers" (never interfering in internal affairs, seeking self-interest, and pursuing influence). Consistency and perseverance in terms of its outreach have defined the Chinese vision.

After the withdrawal of the US troops from Afghanistan, the engagement of the West in Afghanistan is limited to humanitarian assistance and is constantly engaging in coercive measures to deal with the interim Afghan government. On the other side, the Chinese approach is more inclusive and far-reaching. Driven by its empathetic understanding of global affairs, and looking at the changing landscape of Afghanistan with solidarity, Chinese policy on Afghanistan is a textbook interpretation of its GSI. China believes that supporting the interim Afghan government with efforts of reconstruction and development is important for building inclusive government within Afghanistan and friendly relations with neighboring countries and fighting terrorism.

It may be noted that the Afghan interim Foreign Minister received a travel ban exemption from UNSC to attend this meeting which entails how closely China is following its cooperation director under GSI by upholding United Nations' central role in security governance. It also discredits the erroneous conception of the West that China is striving to build an alternative "security architecture." If any the GSI places "non-interference in internal affairs" as the most important norm to reform the global security architecture contaminated by the West through its interference policies, disrespecting the territorial sovereignty and integrity of independent states, and native cultures.

This Tri-party dialogue was important to build up on the key meetings between the Foreign Ministers of neighboring countries of Afghanistan. Only time can tell but this Trilateral

Foreign Ministers' Dialogue has the potential to build consensus, consolidate mutual trust, and jointly contribute to peace, stability, development, and prosperity in the region.

The author is an international expert on the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), Afghanistan, South and Central Asia. opinion@globaltimes.com.cn

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202305/1290328.shtml>

Xinhuanet News

Chinese defense minister meets Pakistan's navy chief

BEIJING, May 8 (Xinhua) -- Chinese State Councilor and Minister of National Defense Li Shangfu met with Admiral Muhammad Amjad Khan Niazi, chief of the naval staff of the Pakistan Navy, in Beijing on Monday.

Li said the relations between the militaries of the two countries are an important part of China-Pakistan relations, and cooperation between the two sides in various fields, including the two navies, has achieved good results.

Li said the militaries of the two countries should expand new exchange areas, create new cooperation highlights, and work together to safeguard the security interests of both countries and the region.

Admiral Muhammad Amjad Khan Niazi said the Pakistani Navy is willing to establish a closer cooperation mechanism with the Chinese Navy, further deepen pragmatic exchanges and cooperation, and jointly safeguard regional security and stability.

<https://english.news.cn/20230508/ce8186622cd2450ab0563bb82f32914d/c.html>

May 09, 2023

Global Times

Afghan Taliban won't allow terror groups to harm regional security: joint statement

China, Afghanistan and Pakistan have stressed on the need of not allowing any individual, group or party, including the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), the Eastern Turkistan Islamic Movement (ETIM), to use their territories to harm and threaten regional security and interests, or conduct terrorist actions and activities, the three countries emphasized in a joint statement. The Chinese Foreign Ministry released the joint statement on Tuesday.

According to the statement, all three sides underscored the need to refrain from intervening into internal affairs of Afghanistan, and to promote Afghan peace, stability and reconstruction.

The commitment came after the fifth round of China-Afghanistan-Pakistan Foreign Ministers' Dialogue was held on Saturday in Islamabad, in which Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Qin Gang, Pakistani Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari and Acting Foreign Minister of the Afghan interim government Amir Khan Muttaqi had honest and deep exchanges of views on mutual trust, anti-terrorism and investment.

This is the first foreign ministers' dialogue between China, Afghanistan and Pakistan since the dramatic change of the situation in Afghanistan in 2021, marking the resumption of the trilateral cooperation mechanism, Chinese Foreign Ministry Wang Wenbin said at a press briefing on Tuesday.

During the dialogue, the three foreign ministers candid and in-depth exchanges on such topics as good-neighborly and mutual trust, security cooperation and counter-terrorism, connectivity, trade and investment, and reached a series of consensuses, Wang said.

Compared with the previous vague promise of countering terrorism on its land, it is the first time that the Taliban-ruled Afghanistan authority explicitly stated in a formal multilateral document that the TTP and ETIM, two terrorist organizations of grave concern to China, are not allowed to use Afghanistan's territory to conduct terror attacks, Zhu Yongbiao, director of the Center for Afghanistan Studies at Lanzhou University, told the Global Times on Tuesday.

According to the joint statement, besides expanding and deepening cooperation in political, development, and security areas, including cracking down on organized crimes and drug trafficking, the three countries stressed the importance of sustained and urgent humanitarian assistance to the Afghan people, including the urgency of bridging the humanitarian funding gap.

Afghanistan faces the largest humanitarian crisis in the world today, said UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres on May 2 following a two-day meeting on Afghanistan in the Qatari capital of Doha attended by special envoys from more than 20 countries and international organizations, including China, Russia and the US.

Guterres said 97 percent of the population in Afghanistan is living in poverty and two-thirds of them need humanitarian assistance to survive this year, and he called for more funding for the UN humanitarian response plan which seeks \$4.6 billion in funding, but has only received \$294 million dollars.

The joint statement said the Afghan interim government's repeated promises of protecting women's rights has been noticed and the three countries called on the international community to help Afghanistan support its rebuilding and improve its governance to effectively protect the basic rights of Afghan women, children and people of all social classes.

Zhu said the concerns of China and Pakistan in the joint statement are in line with the international community's. If the Taliban-ruled Afghanistan wants to win recognition and gain support from the international community, it needs to effectively fulfill its commitments such as protecting women's rights, cracking down on terrorist forces within its territory and improving its domestic security situation.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202305/1290407.shtml>

May 10, 2023

Global Times

Exclusive: China delivers two Type 054A/P frigates to the Pakistan Navy, wraps up four-ship deal

By Liu Xuanzun

China delivered two Type 054A/P frigates to Pakistan on Wednesday, indicating that all four warships of this class have been commissioned into the Pakistan Navy.

The program is a mark of the enduring China-Pakistan friendship and the high-level defense cooperation between the two countries. The vessels are expected to serve Pakistan's seaward defense as well as safeguard regional peace and stability, analysts said.

A joint delivery and commissioning ceremony for the two Type 054A/P frigates was held in the Hudong Zhonghua Shipyard in Shanghai on Wednesday, the Global Times learned from the Pakistan Navy on the day.

The two newly built Type 054A/P frigates, namely the PNS Tippu Sultan and the PNS Shahjahan, were commissioned into the Pakistan Navy, the Pakistan Navy said in a press release.

Chief of the Naval Staff of the Pakistan Navy Admiral M Amjad Khan Niazi, who is on a visit to China, attended the ceremony and boarded the vessels.

This means that the four-ship deal announced in 2018 has been fulfilled.

Before the latest delivery of the two Type 054A/P frigates, Chinese State Councilor and Defense Minister General Li Shangfu met with Niazi in Beijing on Monday, when the two agreed to enhance naval cooperation.

The first ship of this class, the PNS Tughril, was inducted into the Pakistan Navy in December 2021, and the second ship, the PNS Taimur, was inducted in June 2022. Niazi told the Global Times in an exclusive interview earlier this year that the acquisition of the Type 054A/Ps is a symbol of enduring friendship and historical affinity between the two countries.

The Type 054A/P is one of the latest multi-role frigates of Chinese origin, equipped with the state-of-the-art weapons and sensors that include CM-302 surface-to-surface missiles and LY-80 surface-to-air missiles as well as an Advanced Anti-Submarine Warfare suite and Combat Management System, enabling ships of this class to operate under multi-threat scenarios, Niazi said.

The Type 054A/Ps are being integrated into Pakistan Navy operations, and will be a mainstay of the Pakistan Navy Fleet in the coming years, ensuring the seaward defense and protection of Pakistan's vital sea lines of communication, said the Pakistani naval chief.

As a maritime nation, Pakistan has substantial stakes in keeping its seas safe and secure, including the operationalization of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor and the global

energy highway, experts told the Global Times at the AMAN-23 multinational maritime exercise held in Karachi, Pakistan in February.

Pakistan's geographical location is very important, and the commissioning of the four Type 054A/Ps can help safeguard international maritime sea lanes, Chinese military expert and TV commentator Song Zhongping told the Global Times on Wednesday.

It also means that the Pakistan Navy's main combat vessels are now superior to their main competitors in terms of comprehensive combat capabilities, Song said.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202305/1290458.shtml>

People's Daily

A decade of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor: New opportunities brought by Chinese modernization

(China.org.cn)

Editor's note: The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) commences from Kashgar, a city in China's Xinjiang, and terminates at the port city of Gwadar in Pakistan. Covering a distance of 3,000 kilometers, this corridor is a significant undertaking that has benefited over a billion people and serves as a symbol of the Belt and Road collaboration. This year marks a decade since the launch of the CPEC project, which has bolstered trade between Kashgar and China's neighboring countries and had a positive impact on Pakistan and the surrounding regions over the past ten years.

The Sahiwal Power Plant and Port Qasim Power Plant have contributed to one-third of Pakistan's power generation, while the Matiari-Lahore high-voltage direct current (HVDC) transmission and other power transmission initiatives have significantly alleviated electricity shortages. As a result, the country now has ample installed power capacity to cater to domestic demand. Furthermore, the Sahiwal Power Station project has achieved superior gas emission performance compared to local standards.

Notably, the Karot Hydropower Plant is China's first overseas hydropower project that employs solely Chinese technologies and standards.

The Karakoram Highway Phase II, Peshawar to Karachi Highway, and Pakistan's first urban transit train, the Lahore Orange Line Metro Train, are some of the projects that have contributed to increased transport capacity between China and Pakistan, as well as significant improvements to major roads in Pakistan. It's worth noting that the Lahore Orange Line Metro Train serves as Pakistan's first urban transit metro system.

The China-Pakistan cross-border optical fiber cable project has ended the era of no terrestrial optical fiber cables connecting China and Pakistan. In the field of agricultural cooperation under the CPEC framework, China has assisted Pakistan in controlling locust outbreaks by providing locust eradication supplies.

Furthermore, the Rashakai Special Economic Zone is the first industrial park established under CPEC, which has effectively integrated resources, promoted competitive industrial clusters, and bolstered exports.

The CPEC initiative has generated 192,000 job opportunities in Pakistan. The impartation of modern agricultural technologies and skills from Chinese experts to farmers in Gwadar has led to the conversion of over 100,000 square meters of new green land and increased cash crop yields.

Moreover, China's donation of the Faqeer Middle School in Pakistan, equipped with modern teaching facilities, can accommodate 1,000 students, improving the local educational infrastructure.

(Web editor: Zhang Kaiwei, Liang Jun)

<http://en.people.cn/n3/2023/0510/c90000-20016511.html>

South China Morning Post

China plans to boost naval ties with Pakistan. How will India respond?

Chinese and Pakistani navies should 'expand into new fields of cooperation', Defence Minister Li Shangfu tells Pakistan's chief of naval staff. Move seen as likely to irk India, which opposes any military aid to Pakistan and is vying with China for regional influence. China wants to boost naval cooperation with Pakistan to increase its presence in the Indian Ocean, as both countries seek to more effectively contain India, analysts said. They said that with China expected to help modernise the Pakistani armed forces through weapons sales and training, the move was also likely to irk India, given it frowns upon military aid to rival Pakistan. The assessment came as Chinese Defence Minister Li Shangfu told the Pakistani chief of naval staff that their navies should "expand into new fields of cooperation" to boost their capacity to safeguard regional security.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3219974/china-plans-boost-naval-ties-pakistan-how-will-india-respond>

May 11, 2023

China Daily

A journey to my second home

Haroon Ali Kabeer

Editor's note: *We have asked expats living in China to share their own stories about the cities they work and live in. Haroon Ali Kabeer is from Pakistan and has been living and working in Shandong province for about seven years. He is now a teacher at the Shandong Institute of Commerce and Technology.*

The culture of any country represents its national psychology and identity. People's values and opinions are transmitted to state leaders through the media and other information channels, influencing foreign policy decisions both directly and indirectly. My name is Haroon Ali Kabeer. I am from Pakistan. As a foreigner, I am impressed with

Chinese culture, infrastructure and landscapes. I have been to many cities in China like the capital city of Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou, Shenzhen, Xi'an, Urumqi, Suzhou and everywhere in Shandong.

As an academician, I understand the importance of proper research and documentation of sources. In this article, I will share my personal experience of living and working in China as an international student and foreign teacher, which has changed my life. I aim to provide an enlightening and insightful account of my life in this culturally rich and diverse country.

China is a country filled with vibrant culture, rich history and breathtaking landscapes. The country's rich culture, with its unique and advanced educational system, has made it a popular destination for international students all around the world.

In 2016, I came to China to pursue my studies and I must say it was the best decision I have made in my life. Another reason for choosing China was the iron-clad relationship between Pakistan and China. I knew the Chinese are friendly with foreigners, especially with Pakistanis.

My first impression of China was a mix of awe and amazement as I arrived at Beijing Capital International Airport on Aug 28, 2016. The city was bustling with people, the air smelled of street food, and the LED lights on buildings were telling me that I was in another world. On the second day I arrived in Jinan at Shandong University where I did my IMBA. My first few months were a bit challenging because of the language barrier, but thanks to the friendly and helpful locals, I was able to navigate my way around quickly.

One of the things I noticed was how Chinese people value education. They take their studies seriously, and schools have a meaningful curriculum. From primary schools to universities, education is highly regarded, and that is evident in the quality of the education system. The education system in China has been modeled to ensure that students are equipped with the necessary knowledge and skills to succeed in life.

As I settled down, I realized that by learning Chinese I should also explore the cultural heritage of China. As the country has a fascinating history, there are historical sites to visit everywhere you go. From the Forbidden City in Beijing and the Terracotta Warriors in Xi'an to Mount Tai in Tai'an, as well as Baotu Spring, Daming Lake and Mount Qianfo in Jinan, China has a myriad of popular tourist destinations with cultural and historical significance. After completing my IMBA, I landed a job as a teacher at the Shandong Institute of Commerce and Technology (SICT). It was my best decision in China so far to come to SICT. School leaders, colleagues and all the management staff are supporting.

The overall experience has been fulfilling and exciting. Working in China has allowed me to experience the culture more in-depth, and I have had the chance to teach international business courses to young learners, which has been rewarding.

Recently, I participated in a speech contest with the theme of "The Yellow River in My Eyes" and I won third prize. I also got an opportunity to learn the history of the Yellow River and explored the Yellow River estuary in Dongying.

In conclusion, China has become my second home. Living and working in China has been a truly unique and remarkable experience.

China has changed my life completely. I have learned so much about China's rich culture and history, met inspiring people and gained a broader understanding of the world. I hope that my experiences will inspire others to explore the rich culture and history that China has to offer.

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202305/11/WS645c4cc6a310b6054fad25bb.html>

People's Daily

China makes active efforts to promote cultural relics conservation in Asia

By Zhang Danhua, Du Yifei

As an important cradle of human civilizations, Asia has nurtured and is home to an immeasurable wealth of cultural heritage, writing a splendid chapter in the annals of world civilizations.

However, natural disasters, such as earthquakes, as well as climate change, urbanization, regional conflicts, capital and human resource shortage, and insufficient management have placed Asia's conservation of cultural heritage in an unprecedentedly complex situation.

In May 2019, Chinese President Xi Jinping proposed for making efforts to conserve cultural heritage in Asia at the Conference on Dialogue of Asian Civilizations, saying China is ready to work with other countries to protect Asian cultural heritage and better preserve and sustain Asian civilizations.

Now four years on, all parties have made active response and concerted efforts, carried out practical cooperation in the fields of research on ancient civilizations, joint archaeology, relics repair, exchanges between museums and more, and thus Asia has made new contribution to conserving the essence of human civilizations.

Last month, the first General Assembly of the Alliance for Cultural Heritage in Asia was held in Xi'an, northwest China's Shaanxi province. It was joined by 150 representatives from three international organizations and 21 countries including Pakistan.

At the assembly, the Alliance for Cultural Heritage in Asia was officially launched and a joint declaration on cultural heritage protection in Asia released.

According to the declaration, parties involved should carry out wide cooperation on promoting urban and rural cultural heritage conservation, joint archaeology, relics repair, combating illicit trafficking of cultural property, development of cultural heritage conservation technologies and training of young talents, based on the principles of mutual respect, equality, inclusiveness, opening and mutual learning.

Since Xi proposed for making efforts to conserve cultural heritage in Asia in 2019, China and other Asian countries have implemented a series of projects of the cooperation on cultural heritage conservation.

For instance, Art Exhibitions China has hosted the "Three Kingdoms Unveiling the Story" exhibition in Japan; the Palace Museum, in cooperation with relevant departments in Pakistan, has launched the "Gandhara Heritage along the Silk Road" exhibition in the Forbidden City.

Besides, Chinese professionals of archaeology and relics repair have participated in joint archaeology and conservation activities in different countries and regions in Asia. China has signed cooperation documents on cultural heritage conservation with Pakistan and South Korea, and launched senior online training programs on the conservation of stone relics together with Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Nasir Khan, deputy head of the Department of Archaeology and Museums of the National Heritage and Culture Division of Pakistan, noted that China has always helped Pakistan train professionals and shared with the latter its technological experiences of cultural relics conservation. China has offered opportunities for Pakistani professionals of cultural relics conservation to host exhibitions in China, which is conducive to introducing Pakistani culture to a larger group of audience.

At present, the "Gandhara Heritage along the Silk Road" exhibition is currently held at the Palace Museum in Beijing. Fareena Mazhar, Secretary of the National Heritage and Culture Division of Pakistan, called the exhibition an achievement of the joint efforts made by China and Pakistan.

She said the exhibition is a great outcome of China-Pakistan cultural exchanges and has received wide attention.

According to statistics, China has launched 11 relics repair projects in cooperation with Cambodia, Mongolia, Uzbekistan, Nepal, Myanmar and Kyrgyzstan over the past four years.

Besides, China has also carried out 33 joint archaeological projects with 19 countries including the United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan and Saudi Arabia, which involved the studies of major civilization routes and systems such as the land and maritime Silk Road.

China has always been active, practical, open and professional in advancing the shared mission of cultural heritage protection in Asia, and has launched wide and effective cooperation with other Asian countries, said Li Qun, vice minister of culture and tourism and head of the National Cultural Heritage Administration.

China will share relevant technologies with other countries and offer technological services in cultural heritage protection for members of the Alliance for Cultural Heritage in Asia in relics conservation and repair, joint archaeology, safety of heritage sites and other sectors.

Besides, China will provide training sessions for at least 50 cultural heritage workers from other Asian countries over the next three years, promote exchanges on technologies, philosophies and practices of cultural heritage conservation in Asia and build young professional teams of Asian cultural heritage protection.

(Web editor: Chang Sha, Du Mingming)

<http://en.people.cn/n3/2023/0511/c90000-20017237.html>

May 12, 2023

South China Morning Post

Gunman shot dead in failed attack on Chinese workers in Pakistan

Police shot dead one attacker and another is on the run after they tried to attack a boatyard in the coastal city of Karachi. Beijing recently demanded greater security for its citizens in Pakistan after a series of deadly attacks.

The Pakistani police have thwarted an attempted attack on Chinese workers in the coastal city of Karachi a week after Beijing demanded greater security for its citizens in the country.

Two militants described by police as “terrorists” attacked a boatyard owned by a Chinese company on Wednesday morning, according to the Pakistani division of Arab News.

There were around 31 Chinese workers on the site at the time of the attack. Four policemen stationed at a checkpoint opened fire and killed one assailant, while his accomplice managed to escape, according to the Pakistani newspaper Dawn. One constable was hit in the leg by a bullet during the shoot-out.

Officials told Dawn that the incident occurred at the Dawood Jetty, where the workers were repairing ships.

They said the site did not form part of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), a major infrastructure project between the two countries.

No one has claimed responsibility for the attack, but Chinese nationals have been targeted by terrorist groups over recent years.

In a meeting with his Afghan and Pakistani counterparts last week, Chinese Foreign Minister Qin Gang urged them to help fight terrorism and protect Chinese interests, adding that Beijing hoped they “will enhance the protection of Chinese nationals, institutions and projects”.

Pakistani President Arif Alvi also met Qin and pledged more security for Chinese workers.

In July 2021, a suicide bomber blew up a passenger bus carrying workers to the Chinese-funded Dasu Hydropower Project in northwestern Pakistan. Nine Chinese nationals and four Pakistanis were killed.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/diplomacy/article/3220379/gunman-shot-dead-failed-attack-chinese-workers-pakistan>

May 13, 2023

People's Daily

**China can play active role in bringing back peace, prosperity in
Afghanistan: experts**

By Raheela Nazir (Xinhua)

ISLAMABAD, May 13 (Xinhua) -- As a strong defender of world peace and close neighbor of Afghanistan, China can play an active role in bringing back stability, peace and prosperity in the war-torn country, experts said.

Unlike the United States, China supports sovereignty and territorial integrity of all countries around the globe including Afghanistan. It supports peace and reconstruction of Afghanistan with the intention of helping Afghan people in fighting terrorism, which posed a major threat to regional stability and beyond, said the experts and academics during a webinar with the theme of China Position Paper on Afghanistan on Friday.

Experts from various countries including Pakistan, China and Afghanistan attended the event organized by the Asian Institute of Eco-Civilization Research and Development, an Islamabad-based think tank.

Speaking on the occasion, Saleem Khan Safi, a senior Pakistani journalist and expert on Afghan affairs, said that a peaceful Afghanistan is crucial for regional socio-economic development and connectivity as well as for the welfare of the Afghan people, underlining that all the stakeholders should work together for the prosperity and unity of Afghanistan.

The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), a flagship project of China-proposed Belt and Road Initiative, is ready to be promoted to extend into Afghanistan under trilateral cooperation which would promote economic development and prosperity in the region, he said.

Criticizing the United States and its allies for leaving Afghanistan hastily and in a chaotic condition, Safi said that without consolidating Afghanistan or making arrangements for intra-Afghan reconciliation, the U.S.-led forces pulled out from Afghanistan, creating a severe security and humanitarian crisis.

Not only that, the United States even abandoned Afghan citizens who worked and assisted them and put their lives at risk, said the Pakistani expert, adding that the United States also seized overseas assets of Afghanistan while imposing sanctions, leaving the lives of Afghan people in shambles.

Deputy Minister of Economy of Afghan interim government Abdul Latif Nazari said that Afghanistan has been facing economic problems as the United States has blocked Afghanistan's money and imposed unilateral sanctions and pushed the country into poverty.

"We want to engage with our neighbors, regional and global economies constructively because we believe that the economic growth and sustainable development in Afghanistan are

impossible without interacting and cooperating with the neighboring regional countries," he said.

Appreciating China's position on the Afghan issue and its support for a safe and peaceful Afghanistan, Nazari said that the interaction between Afghanistan and the world will be continued.

China's effective engagement and cooperation with the Afghan interim government is based on the principle of mutual trust, respect, and equal consultations, without any interference in Afghanistan's internal affairs, Zhou Rong, Senior Fellow of Chongyang Institute for Financial Studies at Renmin University of China said.

He said that China, Pakistan and Afghanistan should work together to enhance strategic communication, interactions and political mutual trust for the betterment of all parties and bring benefits to the people of the three neighbors and other countries in the region.

The trilateral cooperation on security and counter-terrorism needs to be enhanced further as economic development is not possible without solving security issues, he added.

(Web editor: Zhang Wenjie, Wu Chaolan)

<http://en.people.cn/n3/2023/0513/c90000-20018074.html>