



For Better Understanding on  
**China–Pakistan and  
CPEC**  
Gleanings from the  
National & Chinese Press

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**May 16-31, 2023**

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**May 16, 2023**

**Daily Times**

**Int'l seminar on China-Pakistan Science & Technology Cooperation held**

The first International Seminar on the theme of “China-Pakistan Science and Technology Enterprises Cooperation” was held at the China-Pakistan Science and Technology Cooperation Center in Beijing.

The Zhongguancun Belt and Road Industrial Promotion Association (ZBRA) and the Embassy of Pakistan in China co-hosted the seminar where more than 30 renowned science and technology organizations, both public and private, participated, Gwadar Pro reported on Monday.

Khan Muhammad Wazir, Science and Technology Counsellor at the Pakistan Embassy in Beijing, presented Pakistan’s need for scientific and technological cooperation through the modernization of industry by using technology and innovation, biodiversity and climate change, and disaster mitigation and prevention.

He pointed out that there is great potential for scientific and technological cooperation between China and Pakistan in diverse fields such as emerging technologies, advanced and new materials, green energy technologies, digital economy, smart cities, minerals and natural resources, and modernization of agriculture through technology.

He further stated that Pakistan needs food processing technologies, herbal medicines, ocean sciences, transport and highway technologies, space sciences, aeronautics and aerospace, medical technologies, drug discovery, and vaccine development on the fast track.

“The Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) are focusing on promoting innovation and entrepreneurship, encouraging people-to-people exchanges, establishing joint research laboratories, cooperating on the establishment of technology and hi-tech parks, facilitating technology transfer initiatives, promoting quality scientific research in new and high-tech, enhancing innovation capacity through joint R&D, establishing institutional linkages, initiating cooperation on STEM education and science popularization, and establishing an international think tank for S&T and economic development,” he added.

Khan Muhammad proposed that a coordination committee comprising representatives from ZBRA, the Pakistan Embassy in Beijing, MOST China, MoST Pakistan, the Chinese Academy of Sciences, and STZA, etc. needs to be jointly constituted to operate the China-Pakistan Science and Technology Cooperation Center located in Beijing.

Zhang Xiaodong, the President of ZBRA, introduced the construction of the China-Pakistan Science and Technology Cooperation Center. He shared that the objectives of the Center are to build a bridge between China-Pakistan youth innovation and entrepreneurship.

He informed that under the framework of 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.

Representatives of participating institutions, both public and private, delivered presentations and expressed their willingness to cooperate with Pakistan in their respective areas.

They agreed to hold separate meetings with ZBRA and the Embassy of Pakistan for practical cooperation.

It is to be noted that the Seminar proposed that the 2nd international Seminar of the China-Pakistan Science and Technology Cooperation Center will be held in Pakistan at the end of this year or early next year.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1093604/intl-seminar-on-china-pakistan-science-technology-cooperation-held/>

### **Int'l joint lab established to strengthen China-Pakistan horticultural collaboration**

The signing ceremony of the International Joint Laboratory on Horticulture Research, a collaboration between Huazhong Agricultural University (HZAU), China and University of Agriculture, Faisalabad (UAF), Pakistan, was held at HZAU. The joint laboratory will focus on horticultural research, with an emphasis on improving crop productivity, developing new varieties and promoting sustainable agricultural practices, according to Gwadar Pro on Tuesday. The laboratory will provide a platform for joint research projects between HZAU and UAF as well as for academic exchange programs for students and faculty. The scope of the joint laboratory includes innovative research activities in the industrial chain of horticultural crops, such as germplasm innovation, culture or production, and post-harvest technology innovation for fruits, vegetables, flowers and ornamental plants, with an emphasis on the use of modern agricultural techniques, equipment and management systems. The joint lab encourages both institutions to develop special programs and/or internships that provide opportunities for students and/or faculty members to gain practical experience in their fields. It also encourages the publication of joint research findings in peer-reviewed journals. It is worth mentioning that in the past decade, Pakistani students from the College of Horticulture and Forestry Sciences at HZAU have published more than 60 scientific articles in international SCI journals. HAZU and UAF have a long history of collaboration in scientific research, talent development and cultivation. More than 50 UAF alumni are studying or have already graduated from the College of Horticulture and Forestry Sciences, HZAU. Both universities jointly established the China-Pakistan Horticulture Research and Demonstration Centre last year, which has enhanced their partnership and promoted the exchange of knowledge in the field of horticulture. The inauguration ceremony was witnessed by HZAU President Dr. Li Zhaohu and UAF Vice Chancellor Dr. Iqrar Ahmad Khan. The two sides also visualized upcoming cooperation in joint research on food security under climate change, mechanization for small landholders, demonstration of Chinese technologies at UAF, etc.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1094035/intl-joint-lab-established-to-strengthen-china-pakistan-horticultural-collaboration/>



## The Nation

### **Pakistani students pledge strong Pak-China linkages**

ISLAMABAD - Pakistani students showed their commitment towards promoting linkages between China and Pakistan during a students' forum held at the Pakistani Embassy in Beijing.

Speaking on the occasion, the Ambassador briefed the students about the significance of China-Pakistan bilateral relations and ongoing cooperation in diverse fields.

According to a Gwadar Pro's report, he noted that education now forms an important element of the 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 China's 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.

The forum was part of the 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.

The students were also briefed on the consular services offered by the Pakistani Embassy and Consulates General in China and also on the recently launched first-of-its-kind portal for Pakistani students and professionals in China (<http://studentsinchina.pk>), which aimed to gather Pakistani students, scholars, and professionals on one platform for sharing success stories and discussions on important academic issues.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2023-05-16/page-3/detail-4>

### **Tripartite Afg-Pak-China dialogue welcomed**

LAHORE - Welcoming the tripartite dialogues between China, Pakistan and Afghanistan, Pakistan Business Forum (PBF) Lahore President and Executive Committee member of the Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry Muhammad Ejaz Tanveer has said these parleys are very significant due to the strategic location of these countries and their complementary economic strengths. In a statement issued here on Monday, Muhammad Ejaz Tanveer said Pakistan shares a border with both China and Afghanistan, making it a key trade hub between the two countries. This proximity makes the transportation of goods faster and more cost-effective. Similarly, China is a major exporter of manufactured goods, while Afghanistan and Pakistan have abundant natural resources, such as minerals, precious stones, and agricultural products. This creates opportunities for trade in both raw materials and finished goods, he added. China has been investing heavily in infrastructure development in Pakistan through the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) project. This includes the construction of highways, railways, and ports that will improve connectivity and trade between the three

countries. He said that China and Pakistan have a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) that has been in effect since 2006, which has resulted in increased trade between the two countries. Pakistan and Afghanistan are also working towards a bilateral Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA) that would further reduce trade barriers and collaboration of these three countries will lead to new avenues of economic prosperity in the region, Ejaz observed. Greater trade between Pakistan, China, and Afghanistan could facilitate greater regional integration and cooperation, which could lead to increased trade with other neighbouring countries. Overall, the potential for trade between Pakistan, China, and Afghanistan is significant. Greater trade and economic cooperation between three countries could lead to increased economic growth, job creation, and regional stability.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2023-05-16/page-8/detail-1>

## K2 Daily



[https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP\\_ICT&Page=Back\\_Page&Date=2023-05-16](https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=Back_Page&Date=2023-05-16)

[https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP\\_ICT&Page=Classified&Date=2023-05-16](https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=Classified&Date=2023-05-16)

**May 17, 2023**

## The Nation

### **Thar coal power project starts generating 2640MW electricity**

ISLAMABAD - A total of 2640MW Cheap electricity from Thar coal is now being provided to Pakistan's National Grid with the help of coal mining and power plant projects initiated in the Thar desert under China- Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), Gwadar Pro reported on Tuesday.

The work on the 220-Km long Transmission line from Thar Coal Mine to Mityari converter station has been completed. The transmission line will help in evacuating electricity from Thar coal mine Block 1.





[https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP\\_ICT&Page=International%20/%20Local%20News&Date=2023-05-17](https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=International%20/%20Local%20News&Date=2023-05-17)

[https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP\\_ICT&Page=Classified&Date=2023-05-17](https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=Classified&Date=2023-05-17)

**May 18, 2023**

### **The Express Tribune**

#### **Sichuan-Punjab business platform to be set up soon**

Pakistan's dairy product exports expected to reach \$10 billion

CHENGDU: A platform will be set up soon between Sichuan and Punjab to connect the business community of the two places, announced Pakistan's Ambassador to China Moin ul Haque and invited China's private sector to become part of the new platform.

The ambassador made the remarks recently in a meeting with entrepreneurs from 50 enterprises in Sichuan and Chongqing areas at the China-Pakistan Economic and Cultural Exchange Incubation Centre in Chengdu.

Commercial Counsellor Ghulam Qadir also attended the meeting and highlighted the progress and potential of Pakistan-China cooperation.

"Agriculture is a key area. We are very strong in this sector. I would like to share with you that the protocol for exporting Pakistan's dairy products is very near to completion. It will open a market of \$10 billion," he said.

"Another related sector is meat. We are all set to export Pakistani beef for the first time to China in less than a month," Qadir said, adding that the protocol on red pepper and other products would also be approved.

For example, the first batch of cherry buyers from 18 Chinese enterprises has arrived in Pakistan.

He told the China Economic Net that China had 30 million Muslims with great demand for halal food and its beef price was almost three times higher compared to the price in Pakistan. After his speech, some entrepreneurs sought contacts of Pakistani beef exporters.

Pakistan-Sichuan Chamber of Commerce Chairman Li Hongwu said that they had been trying to bring Pakistani beef to Chengdu for more than four years.

"It's great to know that the channel has been finally opened. I think the future commercial cooperation between Sichuan and Pakistan will be more and more smooth," he voiced hope.

"We are going to hold an international food and agriculture expo in August in Karachi. We hope to take more than 50 companies from Chengdu to participate in it," Qadir revealed.

Apart from agriculture, Pakistan was also interested in new technologies, Qadir said while talking to a drone manufacturer.

"Drone is a new industry. Pakistan has a lot of related cooperation with China already, especially in the defence sector. We will like more cooperation for civil use."



THE ARTICLE ORIGINALLY APPEARED ON THE CHINA ECONOMIC NET

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2417310/sichuan-punjab-business-platform-to-be-set-up-soon>

### **The Nation**

#### **More exports from Pakistan to boost confidence of Chinese: Envoy**

ISLAMABAD - More exports from Pakistan will boost confidence of Chinese enterprises, said Moinul- Haque, Pakistani Ambassador to China during his meeting with traders and businessmen from 50 enterprises in Sichuan and Chongqing area here at the China-Pakistan Economic and Cultural Exchange Incubation Centre.

“We will soon set up a platform between Sichuan and Punjab to connect the business community of the two places. We invite you all to be part of that,” he said according to a report published by Gwadar Pro on Wednesday.

Commercial Counsellor, Ghulam Qadir, also attended the meeting and introduced some new progress and potentials of Pak-China cooperation.

“Agriculture is a key area. We are very strong in this sector. I would like to share with you that protocol for exporting Pakistan’s dairy products is very near completion. It will open a market of \$10 billion. Another related sector is meat, we are all set to export Pakistani beef for the first time to China in less than a month. Our protocol on red pepper and other products will also be approved. For example, the first batch of cherry buyers from 18 Chinese enterprises has arrived in Pakistan.”

Ghulam Qadir told us that China has 30 million Muslims with great demand for halal food, and its beef price is almost 3 times compared to the price of beef in Pakistan. After his speech, some entrepreneurs required the contacts of Pakistani beef exporters.

Li Hongwu, chairman of Pakistan Sichuan Chamber of Commerce, said that they have been trying to bring Pakistani beef to Chengdu for more than four years. “It’s great to know that the channel has been finally opened. I think the future commercial cooperation between Sichuan and Pakistan will be more and more smooth.”

“We are going to hold an international food and agriculture expo in August in Karachi. We hope to take more than 50 companies from Chengdu to Participate,” said Ghulam Qadir. Apart from agriculture, Pakistan is also interested in cooperation in new technologies. Ghulam Qadir showed his interests during his talk with a drone company.

“Drone is a new industry. Pakistan has a lot of related cooperation with China already, especially in the defence sector. We will like more cooperation for civil use. I know China is now a leading country in making drones. We especially need drones for the agriculture sector and in disaster management.”

“Pakistan will be the next hub of Chinese manufacturing. We have great land and population, and Sichuan and Chongqing area has advanced technologies, we welcome you all to come to Pakistan for investment and relocation.” he said.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2023-05-18/page-10/detail-3>

**May 19, 2023**

**Daily Times**

**JF-17 Thunder aircraft symbol of Pak-China special relationship: Moin**

Pakistan Ambassador to China, Moin ul Haque has said that the joint production of JF 17 Thunder Aircraft at Chengdu Aircraft Industries Corporation has become a symbol of the special relationship between Pakistan and China.

He made these remarks in a meeting with Wang Xiaohui, Secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Sichuan Provincial Committee, the highest-ranking CPC official in the province of Sichuan. This was the first meeting of the Ambassador during his four-day official visit to Sichuan province. During the meeting, Ambassador Haque underlined the close friendship and importance of China-Pakistan ties which were based on political trust, strategic partnership and practical cooperation. The Ambassador acknowledged the existing enduring relationship between Pakistan and Sichuan which had grown stronger over the years, especially after the opening of the Consulate-General of Pakistan in Chengdu in 2007.

Ambassador Haque also expressed gratitude to the leadership and the people of Sichuan province for their timely and generous assistance to Pakistan during the Covid-19 pandemic and in the wake of recent unprecedented floods in Pakistan. The Ambassador noted that the joint production of JF-17 Thunder Aircraft at Chengdu Aircraft Industries Corporation (CAIC) had become a symbol of our special relationship.

Many enterprises from Sichuan were investing in Pakistan in the energy, investment and agriculture sectors. The cultural and educational linkages were also growing with over 1,000 students enrolled in various universities in Sichuan. Recalling the consensus reached during the recent interactions of the leadership, the Ambassador requested the support of the Party Secretary for strengthening trade, investment and developmental linkages through focused and practical cooperation by using the already-existing sister province relationship between Sichuan and Punjab. Party Secretary Wang reaffirmed the importance of China-Pakistan relations and the enduring partnership between Sichuan and Pakistan. He also recalled the help extended by Pakistan during the earthquake in Sichuan in 2008.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1094529/jf-17-thunder-aircraft-symbol-of-pak-china-special-relationship-moin/>

**Chinese college expressing interest in sharing expertise with Balochistan**

Zhangjiakou Vocational and Technical College has expressed interest in extending its expertise to the Pakistani province of Balochistan, providing Pakistani students with valuable skills and education, Gwadar Pro reported on Thursday.

Naseem Khan Achakzai, Advisor to the Speaker of Balochistan Assembly, visited Zhangjiakou Vocational and Technical College and was briefed about a program designed to help Pakistani students gain necessary knowledge and experience to become successful professionals. The Chinese side informed that through this program, Chinese experts are providing training in various fields such as agriculture, engineering, and computer science.

The program includes lectures, workshops, and hands-on activities. Naseem told Gwadar Pro that the collaboration between China and Pakistan will enable both countries to benefit from each other's expertise and resources. "In my opinion, the best gift someone can give is the gift of knowledge and education, and the people of Balochistan need the highest education and vocational training to contribute to the growth and development of Pakistan.

The vocational training institution I visited is a great example for the people and government of Balochistan to learn from China and further collaborate in the skills area." He suggested that the best way to bring the people of China and Pakistan closer is through education and exchange, and the cooperation between Pakistan and China, as well as their determination to stand together, will always remain alive in history and the collective consciousness of both peoples.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1094569/chinese-college-expressing-interest-in-sharing-expertise-with-balochistan/>

### **Chinese tech upgrading Pakistan's agri industry: envoy**

"Agricultural projects under China-Pakistan Economic Corridor have a positive impact on improving local agricultural technology and upgrading Pakistan's agricultural industry," said Moin ul Haque, while visiting the headquarter of Pak-China red chili project in Sichuan Province in China.

According to Chen Changwei, chairman of Sichuan Litong Food Company, which has brought its chili cultivation experience and management techniques to Pakistan, Pakistan has a great potential to export dried chilli to China with the trade preferences between the two countries. According to Gwadar Pro, the 15,000 acres of chili planted in South Punjab in 2023 have already been picked, with 10,000 tonnes of dried peppers expected to be harvested in the second half of 2023.

After 3 years of demonstration planting, a growing number of farmers are seeing the quality and economic benefits of chili. The success of the demonstration base for chili cultivation is attracting more attention from local small and medium-sized farmers through surveys, trial planting, small-scale planting and large-scale planting. The ambassador also visited the production and R&D center of Pixian Douban, a major bean paste production base of Litong. Pixian Douban, made of Sichuan red chili, is an intangible cultural heritage of China. Chen expressed his willingness to extend the industrial chain to Pakistan. Chen added that the company has invested in a preliminary chili processing plant in Pakistan to facilitate the cultivation, promotion and trade of agricultural products such as sorghum, sesame and peanuts, so that more Pakistani agricultural products can be involved in the global supply chain.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1094568/chinese-tech-upgrading-pakistans-agri-industry-envoy/>

### **CPEC creates over 155,000 local jobs in Pakistan: NDRC**

The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), which is marking its 10th anniversary this year, has played an important role in bilateral cooperation between China and Pakistan and

created over 155,000 local jobs for Pakistani people, China's National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) has said.

During a regular press conference, the NDRC said the CPEC had achieved fruitful results, including the Gwadar Port and relevant cooperation projects in energy, infrastructure and industry.

“Specifically, multiple highway construction programs are progressing on schedule. Power plants that have entered commercial operation provide nearly one-third of Pakistan's national electricity demand, having changed the situation of power shortage in the country,” it added.

The Gwadar Port co-built by China and Pakistan has made great progress in creating a regional logistics hub and industrial base.

In addition, the construction of the first phase of the Rashakai Special Economic Zone in Pakistan had been completed and achieved positive results in business attraction, said the NDRC.

As of the end of 2022, the CPEC had created 236,000 jobs, and the number of Pakistani workers reached 155,000.

The NDRC vowed to accelerate cooperation in transport, energy and industrial sectors and areas related to people's livelihoods, and further expand collaboration in the agricultural, mineral and technological fields, Global Times reported on Thursday.

Meanwhile, in order to expand the influence of the CPEC, the foreign ministers of China, Afghanistan and Pakistan have agreed to extend the program to Afghanistan, to further advance cooperation under the BRI.

As a landlocked country, Afghanistan mainly relies on Pakistani ports for international trade. 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, the 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.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1094720/cpec-creates-over-155000-local-jobs-in-pakistan-ndrc/>

### Jang News

**چین کی مقبوضہ کشمیر میں جی 20 اجلاس کی مخالفت، شرکت نہ کرنے کا فیصلہ**

چین نے بھارت کی طرف سے مقبوضہ کشمیر میں اگلے ہفتے منعقدہ جی 20 سیاحتی اجلاس کی مخالفت کرتے ہوئے شرکت نہ کرنے کا فیصلہ کیا ہے۔

بھارت کے پاس رواں برس جی 20 ممالک کی سربراہی ہے اور وہ ملک بھر میں اجلاس منعقد کر رہا ہے۔

چین کی وزارت خارجہ کے ترجمان وینگ وین بن نے کہا کہ چین ایک متنازع علاقے میں کسی بھی قسم کے جی 20 اجلاس کی مخالفت کرتا ہے اور ایسے کسی بھی اجلاس میں

شرکت نہیں کرے گا۔

واضح رہے کہ 2019 میں بھارت نے کشمیر کی خصوصی آئینی حیثیت ختم کر دی تھی۔

متبوضہ کشمیر کے شہر سرینگر میں 22 سے 24 مئی کو جی 20 رکن ممالک کے ورکنگ گروپ کی سیاحت سے متعلق میٹنگ ہوگی۔

<https://jang.com.pk/news/1227598>

**May 20, 2023**

**Daily Times**

### **Pakistan Week inaugurated in Sichuan**

Pakistan Ambassador to China, Moin-ul-Haque has inaugurated Pakistan Week in Sichuan, where for a week, May 18-25, the picturesque Lidui Park, would be hosting Pakistani handicrafts and ornaments, along with a photo exhibition.

The Pakistan Week, hosted by Sichuan People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries, Dujiangyan Municipal Government, and the Consulate General of Pakistan in Chengdu officially kicked off in Dujiangyan.

At the opening ceremony, Dujiangyan City and Murree City of Pakistan established a friendly and cooperative relationship.

Over 50 people, Hunain Abbas Khan, Acting Consul General of the Consulate General of Pakistan in Chengdu, Zhang Yadan, Mayor of Dujiangyan, representatives of the Pakistan Business Association and enterprises in Sichuan, Pakistani friends in Sichuan, and relevant Chinese representatives attended the opening ceremony.

Themed "Working hand in hand for a closer China-Pakistan bond under the Belt and Road Initiative", the event will be held in Dujiangyan City from May 18 to 24, including a Pakistan tourism photo exhibition, Pakistani culture exhibition, Pakistani film show, and Pakistani culture lecture.

According to the relevant responsible person for Sichuan Provincial People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries, this cultural week will further promote the understanding of Sichuan people of Pakistan, build a platform for friendly exchanges and mutual learning among civilizations, effectively promote and expand the exchanges and cooperation between the two sides in the fields of culture, tourism, economy and trade, education and sister cities, and turn the friendship between China and Pakistan into the fruitful results of win-win cooperation and common development. It will benefit the people of our two countries.

At the tourism photo exhibition held in Fulong Temple of Dujiangyan Scenic Area, a series of pictures of Pakistan's beautiful natural scenery, fresh local customs, and colorful traditional culture attracted tourists to stop and watch.

Dujiangyan Travel Pavilion at Fulong Temple Square showcases traditional Pakistani clothes, dazzling jewelry, and hand-made rugs copied from ancient Chinese artists, which vividly interpret the fusion and collision of Chinese and Pakistani culture.

The unique Pakistani film shows and cultural lectures make Dujiangyan residents enjoy the charm of "Iron Pakistan" culture at their doorsteps.

In October 2022, Sichuan Huadu Nuclear Equipment Manufacturing Co., LTD., located in an industry functional zone in Dujiangyan, donated money to Pakistan to help people affected by



floods. A small donation is an epitome of the China-Pakistan friendship and the construction of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor.

During the event, Dujiangyan City and Murree City signed an MOU to establish friendly and cooperative relations.

It is a concrete action of Dujiangyan City to deepen the friendly relations between China and Pakistan, which will write a new chapter of opening up and cooperation between the two places.

The two sides will take this as a starting point and continuously strengthen sister-city exchanges, economic and trade investment, and cultural exchanges, so as to draw on each other's strengths and achieve win-win results.

As one of the few cities with three heritages in the world, namely, World Natural Heritage, World Cultural Heritage, and Heritage Irrigation Structures, in recent years, Dujiangyan City actively integrate into the construction of "the Belt and Road" and Chengdu-Chongqing twin city economic circle and serve the overall situation of the national diplomacy.

The cultural tourism economy is flourishing, and the city is open to the world. We have established international sister-city or friendly cooperative relations with 31 cities in 25 countries, and our "circle of friends" is spread across five continents and the title of "Tianfu International Meeting Room" receives guests worldwide.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1095007/pakistan-week-inaugurated-in-sichuan/>

### **Chinese company to lay 16,000 km long fiber optic cable kicks off**

A technology-based multinational private Chinese enterprise Friday kicked off a project to deploy 16,000 kilometers (km) long fiber optic cable to speed up digitalization and networking process in Pakistan. "Sunwalk Pvt Limited is focusing on fast deployment on concentrating on quality according to ITU-T Standards. We are always committed to the best services in Pakistan," its Chief Executive Officer Tony Lee said while addressing at a ceremony. Chief Business Officer Sunwalk Group Pakistan Afshaan Malik said despite the current economic situation in the country her company is committed to providing optic cable to the people of Pakistan keeping in view the Pak-China long-term Strategic Relationships. Afshaan said her company is in the process of issuing the ROW (Right of Way) from government departments so we can proceed with our work immediately because after getting the ROW we are planning to invest \$100 million. Her telecom group, she said already invested \$ 5 million in Khuzdar (Baluchistan) where no commercial fiber was available. She maintained that being a technology-based diversified Chinese Group our main project was the deployment of optical fiber all over Pakistan, for the purpose Sunwalk acquired a TIP LICENSE from PTA in the year 2002.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1094941/chinese-company-to-lay-16000-km-long-fiber-optic-cable-kicks-off/>

## Pakistan Observer

### **Ahsan shows commitment to continue implementing CPEC**

Federal Minister for Planning Development and Special Initiatives Ahsan Iqbal wrote a letter to China's newly-appointed Chairman National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) Zheng Shanjie, in which, congratulated him and expressed his commitment to continue implementing the Belt and Road initiative and the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

Iqbal noted that the NDRC and Planning Ministry has maintained a strong partnership, working closely to develop the flagship CPEC project, which is a central pillar of the bilateral economic partnership between the two countries, said a press release issued here.

Since coming into power in April 2022, the incumbent government has revived stalled CPEC projects, which have been expedited under Iqbal's leadership as Planning Minister.

In fact, he was declared "CPEC" by Chinese leadership following his visit to China last month and engagements with Chinese leaders.

Iqbal highlighted the successful completion of the first phase of the CPEC, which has transformed Pakistan's economic landscape by laying a solid foundation for cooperation in industrialization, agriculture, science and technology, and socio-economic development.

Shanjie expressed willingness to deepen and strengthen cooperation with Iqbal to actively implement important consensus reached by the leaders of both countries.

He appreciated Iqbal's dedication to the implementation of CPEC, which has remained a game-changer for the region. The two parties agreed to further strengthen Pakistan-China strategic relations.

The 10-year celebrations of CPEC will be celebrated in July 2023, and the 12th Joint Cooperation Committee meeting will be scheduled.—APP

<https://pakobserver.net/ahsan-shows-commitment-to-continue-implementing-cpec/>

### **Chinese technology upgrading Pakistan's agri industry: Moin**

Agricultural projects under China-Pakistan Economic Corridor have a positive impact on improving local agricultural technology and upgrading Pakistan's agricultural industry," said Moin ul Haque, while visiting hetr the headquarter of Pak-China red chili project, Sichuan Province in China.

According to Chen Changwei, chairman of Sichuan Litong Food Company, which has brought its chili cultivation experience and management techniques to Pakistan, Pakistan has a great potential to export dried chilli to China with the trade preferences between the two countries. According to Gwadar Pro, the 15,000 acres of chili planted in South Punjab in 2023 have already been picked, with 10,000 tonnes of dried peppers expected to be harvested in the second half of 2023.

After 3 years of demonstration planting, a growing number of farmers are seeing the quality and economic benefits of chili.

The success of the demonstration base for chili cultivation is attracting more attention from local small and medium-sized farmers through surveys, trial planting, small-scale planting and large-scale planting. The ambassador also visited the production and R&D center of Pixian Douban, a major bean paste production base of Litong. Pixian Douban, made of Sichuan red chili, is an intangible cultural heritage of China.

Chen expressed his willingness to extend the industrial chain to Pakistan.

Chen added that the company has invested in a preliminary chili processing plant in Pakistan to facilitate the cultivation, promotion and trade of agricultural products such as sorghum, sesame and peanuts, so that more Pakistani agricultural products can be involved in the global supply chain.

<https://pakobserver.net/chinese-technology-upgrading-pakistans-agri-industry-moin/>

## **The Nation**

### **Pakistan to celebrate 10th anniversary of CPEC in July**

ISLAMABAD - Pakistan is gearing up to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) in July.

Last Thursday, Pakistani Federal Minister for Planning Development and Special Initiatives, Ahsan Iqbal, chaired a meeting to review the progress made on CPEC projects and issued directives to celebrate the significant economic progress in underdeveloped areas of Pakistan as a result of CPEC.

Ahsan Iqbal also directed all ministries and divisions to submit proposals of development projects to be presented in an upcoming Joint Coordination Committee (JCC) scheduled to be held in July, according to Gwadar Pro.

Each ministry was asked to submit reports on its project, emphasising the economic and social benefits they bring to Pakistan and rejected negative propaganda against CPEC.

The meeting was apprised of the significant progress made in CPEC projects, particularly after the 11th JCC meeting held in October 2022 and the visit of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to China.

The minister directed the concerned stakeholders to organise regular meetings of joint working groups (JWGs) to ensure timely completion of projects.

The minister also instructed the ministries to expedite work on special economic zones (SEZs) to attract Chinese industrial relocation to Pakistan with low-cost production and to finalise proposals with concrete agendas for the upcoming JCC in which both countries will celebrate the ten years' progress made in CPEC.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/05-May-2023/pakistan-to-celebrate-10th-anniversary-of-cpec-in-july>

## **“10 years of Belt and Road Initiative: Navigating towards a community of a shared future for mankind”**

*QAISER NAWAB*

Since the dawn of human civilizations there has always been need for the interconnectedness and cooperation for the shared future. Thousands of years ago, the ancient Silk Road offered this initiative that enabled interconnectedness and communication between Asian and European civilizations. In the wake of twenty first century, the world and its people required such an initiative for shared future and its increasing importance began to be felt all-around. One of the initiatives that actually embodies and represent the idea of shared future for the mankind is Belt and Road Initiative. Belt and Road Initiative seeks to revive the ancient Silk Road to interconnect the mankind through network of trade, transportation and infrastructural projects that aims to build communities where all the nations can prosper in cooperative manners.

The year 2023 marks 10th anniversary of the Belt and Road Initiative with the theme “Navigating towards a Community of a Shared Future for Mankind,” reflecting its aim to foster global cooperative and inclusive development. This initiative offers humanity much needed improvement in transportation links to enhance the communication, cultural exchanges and transformative potential for the better future for generations to come. The efforts of the Belt and Road Initiative embodies creation of new connections and corridors across the Central Asia, Black Caspian and Caucasus, Mediterranean-bordering states and the entire European Union particularly the region of Central-Eastern-Baltic.

Belt and Road Initiative launched by the China’s president Xi Jinping envisioned a world of shared global governance and development that offered wide range of opportunities for its participants and to the world as whole. The commitment of the Chinese leadership can clearly be identified by the fact this mega project involves investment around multi-billion dollars for global infrastructure and development that is spread across the seventy states across three continents Asia, Africa and Europe.

It is referred as truly monumental and grandiose due to its transformative potential for the development of the world. Its five goals infrastructure connectivity, policy coordination, trade, financial integration and people to people exchange explains its transformative potential. Since the ten years of its launch its transformative potential and goals are realizing its game changer role in the form of promotion of economic growth, regional cooperation, transportation and infrastructure development in the countries that are part of it.

Its significance and transformative role can be analyzed by the statistics and facts that substantiates its credibility. For instance, BRI has facilitated trade and investment in the participant countries have reached \$20 billion in 2020 along the massive investment in the development of means of communication, transportations and infrastructure. The established Exclusive Economic Zones and Corridors extend across the three continents. These corridors and zones not only stimulate economic growth but also connect different regions and countries along the Silk Road route. These developments are expected to enhance regional cooperation and integration and increase the competitiveness of the participant states. These

corridors include China-Central Asia-West Asia Economic Corridor, China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), China-Mongolia-Russia Economic Corridor and China-Indochina Peninsula Economic Corridor. Among the other corridors of the China-Malaysia Industrial Park, Bangladesh-China-India-Myanmar Economic Corridor (BCIM) and the New Eurasian Land Bridge. Similarly, the Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs) include Bohai Sea, East China Sea, Yellow Sea, South China Sea.

Besides, the individual participant countries' economic growth and development also accounts for the vision of the shared future. In South Asia, China-Pakistan Economic Corridor has offered Pakistan with 6 projects of transportation and infrastructure, 16 energy projects among which 2 are under construction and many under consideration. Overall, 27 projects of worth 19 billion dollars have been completed and about 35-billion-dollar other projects are part of BRI in China-Pakistan-Economic Corridor. Under BRI the 24 projects of development of transportation have created a web of interconnectivity across the country. BRI has also helped Pakistan to overcome its energy deficiencies by adding 6910 MW of electricity to national grid. Furthermore, offers Pakistan with secure future as the World Bank report indicates that Pakistan through BRI will be able to create 2 million jobs and its GDP growth is expected to increase to 6% by 2025.

In Central Asia Kazakhstan is another participant state that has experienced development and growth under BRI. In the terms of economic growth, Kazakhstan's economy has received investment of more than 35 billion dollars. This investment mainly focuses on the areas of energy and transportation sector a much-needed requirement for Kazakhstan. As Kazakhstan is natural transit point for the interconnectivity, BRI has interconnectivity projects such as China-Kazakhstan Railway and Khorgos Gateway among the other developmental projects.

Similarly, in the Southeast Asia Indonesia is another state that has experienced growth and development under Belt and Road Initiative. According to the Indonesian Investment Coordinating Board (BKPM), under the BRI Indonesian economy has received investment of around 19.8 billion dollars. Its development projects include Jakarta-Bandung high speed railway project, creation 40,000 jobs and greater regional integration.

Lastly, among many other participants of BRI Ethiopia in Africa is another case study that reflects the development under the framework of shared future. Ethiopia has participated in the Belt and Road Initiative under the projects such as Hawassa industrial park and Addis Ababa-Djibouti railway. Such projects have enabled Ethiopia to overcome its trade barriers and foster cross-border trade between Ethiopia and other regional states. The improved infrastructure, transportation and communication has helped Ethiopia to make its conditions favorable for foreign investment and business activities.

These individual case studies and statistical data clearly indicates that Belt and Road Initiative is marching towards the establishment of community of shared future for mankind by promoting global inclusiveness, interconnectedness and cooperation in the world. Therefore, the anniversary of the China's Belt and Road Initiative is celebration of the efforts for greater integration, interconnectivity and cooperation among the mankind. The revival of the historical trades and interconnection among the communities of the world, Belt and Road initiative is transforming the economic, social and political landscape towards the efforts that



aims to build more connected and prosper communities who will be equipped to overcome challenges such as climate change, poverty and underdevelopment. Overall, the first decade of BRI marks a successful beginning towards a shared future, where infrastructure development translates into economic and social prosperity for all. The next decade promises to bear the fruits of this great project, in line with its objectives.

Qaiser Nawab is a highly esteemed international expert on the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), Afghanistan, South and Central Asia. With a passion for global peace and climate activism, Qaiser is also recognized as a prominent Pakistani youth leader, United Nations SDGs advocate, and freelance journalist. Qaiser can be reached at [qaisernawab098@gmail.com](mailto:qaisernawab098@gmail.com)

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2023-05-20/page-9/detail-0>

## The News

### **China boycotts G20 meeting in IIOJ&K**

*Mariana Baabar*

ISLAMABAD: China announced on Friday that despite being a member state of G20, it will not attend the upcoming G20 meeting in Indian-Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Wang Wenbin said.

“China firmly opposes holding any form of G20 meetings in disputed territories, and will not attend such meetings”, Foreign Ministry spokesman Wang Wenbin said during his regular briefing held at International Press Center (IPC).

India has a plan to host the G20 summit meeting on tourism from May 22 to May 24 at the Sher-e-Kashmir International Convention Center in Srinagar, Occupied Jammu and Kashmir. Ahead of India’s G20 meeting of the working group on tourism on May 22-24, Fernand de Varennes, UN Special Rapporteur on minority issues, warned that the Indian government is seeking to normalize what some have described as a military occupation by instrumentalising a G20 meeting and portray it as an international “seal of approval”.

Pakistan on Thursday welcomed Fernan de Varenne’s statement saying, “ In this statement, the Special Rapporteur has warned against Indian plans to hold the G-20 Tourism Working Group meeting in Srinagar. He has rightly said that India is providing a “vener of support to a façade of normalcy” at a time when massive human rights violations, illegal and arbitrary arrests, political persecution, restrictions, and even suppression of free media and human rights defenders continue to escalate”. India, which holds the chair of G20 this year, has organised a series of meetings across the country in the run-up to the summit in New Delhi in September.

China was earlier angered when in 2019, India created two federal territories of IIOJK, Ladakh and Jammu and Kashmir. According to unconfirmed reports, Turkey a strong ally of Pakistan is also expected to boycott the Srinagar G 20 meeting. As yet Pakistan’s Foreign Officials have not reacted to China’s decision.

<https://e.thenews.com.pk/detail?id=203854>

## **Pakistan, China enjoying ideal relations: minister**

LAHORE: Pakistan, China Joint Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCJCCI) and All-Pakistan Chinese Enterprises Association (APCEA) organised an event to celebrate diplomatic relations between Pakistan and China here on Friday.

Speaking on the occasion, Minister of Local Government and Community Development Ibrahim Hassan Murad said that the government believed the bilateral relationship between the two neighbouring countries is characterized by feelings of mutual trust, respect and goodwill towards each other. Both the countries are enjoying ideal relations. He observed that the PCJCCI and APCEA are doing remarkable work for the promotion friendly relations between the two countries. Consul General China Zhao Shiren stated that the combination of Chinese technological advancements and Pakistan's natural and human resources can bring revolutionary changes in the region. It is quite clear that (CPEC) is the strongest pillar of economic, commercial and cultural connectivity between Pakistan and China.

Chairperson, All Pakistan Chinese Enterprises' Association Sunny Yang shared that our friendship started almost 70 years ago and it has been further strengthened with every passing decade. The rising of China as an international economic power is proving beneficial for Pakistan with every passing day. Along with the governments of both the countries, the business leaderships of private sectors are also playing an important role in strengthening economic relations.

<https://e.thenews.com.pk/detail?id=203791>

## **China's Dujiangyan to be Murree's sister city**

*Farooq Aqdas*

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan and China have signed an agreement to establish a "sister city" link between Murree and Dujiangyan city. In order to promote people-to-people contact and communication between Murree and Dujiangyan, a signing ceremony was held in Beijing. Pakistan's Ambassador to China Moin ul Haque and Mayor Zhang Yadan represented Murree and Dujiangyan respectively. The cooperation was made by keeping in view of the scintillating atmosphere and mountainous beauty of the two cities. The mutual experience of hosting 30 million tourists annually will help Murree administration in upgrading basic tourism infrastructure.

<https://e.thenews.com.pk/detail?id=203896>

**May 21, 2023**

### **Business Recorder**

## **72nd anniversary of Sino-Pak diplomatic relations observed**

PESHAWAR: The Pakistan-China relations are exemplary and we should learn from the China's Leadership and Peoples dedication and devotion for their loving home land and their vital role in China's stand on international stage with pride. The recent past China's global positive role for peace and economic development is a guideline for us. This was stated by

former Justice Irshad Qaiser Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Minister for Higher Education, Law, Parliamentary Affairs, Human Rights, Archives & Libraries at a Cake cutting and Friendship Awards distribution ceremony organized by Pakistan China Friendship Association (PCFA) Khyber Pakhtunkhwa-Pakistan and China Study Centre (CSC) University of Peshawar jointly.

Apart from Chief Guest the event was graced by Prof Dr Muhammad Idress Vice Chancellor University of Peshawar, Ahmad Hassan Chairman Governor Inspection Team, Prof Dr Shah Jehan Vice Chancellor Iqra University, Furruk Saqlian Chairman KP Text Book Board, Dr Zahid Anwar, Syed Ali Nawaz Gillani Secretary-General PCFA and Prof Dr Kausar Takreem Coordinator CSC apart from large number of Friends of China various walks of life and UoP. Madam Bao Zhong Counselor from the Embassy of People's Republic of China joined the event as Key Note Speaker on video link from Embassy.

Prof Dr Kausar Takreem Coordinator CSC said that China and Pakistan have a friendly relationship. Both countries supported each other through thick and thin. She said that CSC is thankful to Federal and Provincial Governments, HEC, Vice Chancellor, UoP, and Chinese Embassy Islamabad for its wholehearted support to the CSC.

Syed Ali Nawaz Gilani, Secretary General PCFA KP, Pakistan in his speech said that Sino-Pakistan Relations have strengthened over time. Traditionally the relations with China are very old. Peshawar-Urumqi and Abbottabad-Kashgar are sister cities since 1985 and 2007 respectively. The relations between Pakistan and China today are at a high peak and we expect that both the countries will continue supporting each other and will work for the progress of the people. The vital role of CPC in promoting and strengthening through Political interaction all level also give new heights.

Madam Bao Zhang Political Councilor China Embassy, Islamabad thanked the organizers for arranging a seminar to celebrate the occasion in a befitting manner. She appreciated the efforts of the former Director CSC Prof Dr Zahid Anwar who has facilitated the establishment of the relationship between the two countries through the CCS UoP. She also extended her best wishes to the new coordinator China Study Center, UoP Prof Dr Kausar Takreem, and ensured her full support. She said the world is undergoing some dramatic changes the collective rise of China, Pakistan, and other developing countries has had a profound impact on the international landscape. Madam Bao Zhog mentioned that during recent visit of Chinese Foreign Minister and State Counsellor Qin Gang, the visiting Chinese Foreign Minister China advocates that all countries should stick to independence and follow the development paths suited to their national conditions and calls for mutual respect equality and win-win cooperation among countries. The Chinese Foreign Minister during recent visit stressed that relay baton of China-Pakistan friendship has been passed to younger generation. She said that the cooperation will continue with the CSC and PCFA in promoting government-to-government cooperation, business-to-business cooperation, and people to people contact.—PR

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2023/05/21/3-page/962931-news.html>

## Daily Times

### **Pakistan showcases high quality products at China-ASEAN Forum exhibition**

Acting Consul General, Pakistan Consulate, Guangzhou, China Sardar Muhammad paid a three-day visit to Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region of China and attended the 12th China-ASEAN Mining Cooperation Forum and Exhibition and met the leadership of business organizations of the Region.

The meetings were aimed at exploring potential business opportunities and enhancing trade and investment cooperation between Pakistan and Guangxi Zhuang.

In his interaction with Liao Pinhu, Vice Governor of the region, Sardar Muhammad, discussed matters of mutual interest including cooperation in Mining sector. He visited the China Council for Promotion of International Trade, Guangxi Zhuang Committee and met its Chairperson Ms. Yang Yanya and discussed with her potential for collaboration in sectors including textile and agriculture.

The chairperson was also extended an invitation to visit Pakistan for Textpo 2023. Sardar Muhammad also visited China-ASEAN Expo Secretariat and had a detailed meeting with Dr. Wei Zhaohui, Secretary General of the secretariat. The two sides discussed potential areas of collaboration in trade and investment as well as opportunities for Pakistan's participation in the upcoming CAEXPO. During his visit to China-ASEAN Mercantile Exchange Display Centre the Acting Consul General was given a tour of the Pakistan Pavilion which has showcased a wide range of high-quality products including textiles, leather goods, food items and handicrafts. Mr. Muhammad also held detailed discussions with Ms. Zhao, Chairperson of the China-ASEAN Commodity Convergence Centre, on measures for further enhancing Pakistan's participation in CAMEX and on strategies for improving the marketing of Pakistani products. Sardar Muhammad also paid a visit to the Royal Group Corporation Limited Head office and discussed with Haiyan, Vice Chairman and Ms. Teng Cuijin, Vice President of the Group, the Group's projects in Pakistan and its plans for further future investment there.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1095425/pakistan-showcases-high-quality-products-at-china-asean-forum-exhibition/>

## Pakistan Observer

### **Chinese govt to accomplish all announced ventures: Yang**

The Karachi Editors Club (KEC) delegation paid a visit to the recently pointed Consul General of China in Karachi, Yang Yundong, following his assumption of the esteemed position — succeeding Li Bijian — who was transferred in January 2023. The delegation was warmly received by Shang Hailong, the Protocol Secretary of the Consul General. Zhang Hao, the Vice Consul General, was also in attendance during the meeting.

Yang graciously extended a warm welcome to the KEC delegation and engaged in a fruitful hour-long discussion. Prior to the meeting, the KEC delegation presented a symbolic Jinnah

Cap, an honorary membership certificate of the KEC, a bouquet, and the book &quot;Amazing China&quot; authored by Manzar Naqvi, as tokens of appreciation. During the meeting, Yang placed great emphasis on the robust and elevated China- Pakistan all-weather strategic cooperative partnership. He underscored the pivotal role played by the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor in fostering economic collaboration between the two nations. Yang expressed his firm belief that through the active involvement of Karachi Editors Club, the Pakistani media would be empowered to provide objective and truthful coverage of China&#39;s development. He encouraged the delegation to share the inspiring narrative of China-Pakistan cooperation and contribute to the establishment of a closer-knit China-Pakistan community, bound together by a shared future, in this new era. Yang further underscored the unwavering commitment of the Chinese government to successfully accomplish all announced ventures, while expressing eagerness to embark on new initiatives that would mutually benefit both nations. He acknowledged the presence of various challenges but remained steadfast in his belief that the Sino-Pak relations would flourish and thrive in the times ahead.

Earlier, Mubasher Mir, President of the Karachi Editors Club (KEC), in his address, provided insights into the organization&#39;s notable standing as a distinguished media think- tank in Karachi, Pakistan, devoted to societal and national progress. He highlighted the recent establishment of a specialised committee within the KEC called the &quot;Silk Road Media Corridor (SRMC),&quot; under the astute leadership of KEC Secretary General, Manzar Naqvi.

The primary objective of the SRMC is to counteract negative propaganda surrounding the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and its flagship endeavor, the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). Mubasher ardently expressed the committee&#39;s strong desire to promote forthcoming CPEC projects, reflecting their steadfast dedication to this cause.

Mir sought updates on the latest progress regarding the previously disclosed initiatives within the framework of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), with a particular emphasis on the ML-1 project and the development of economic zones. He underlined the profound and enduring bond between Pakistan and China, accentuating how the establishment of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor has played a pivotal role in propelling Pakistan&#39;s economic and social advancement, while significantly improving the welfare of its populace. Furthermore, he affirmed the unshakable commitment of the Karachi Editors Club to actively and impartially promote Pakistani media coverage pertaining to the cherished camaraderie and collaboration between Pakistan and China, thereby making a valuable contribution in strengthening the bilateral ties between the two nations.

During this auspicious event, Manzar Naqvi seized the opportunity to formally present the esteemed members of the KEC delegation, namely Agha Masood Hussain, Iqbal Jamil, Khurram Jafarani, and Muhammad Noman Nizami. Filled with genuine warmth, Naqvi extended heartfelt congratulations to Yang Yundong, the recently appointed Consul General of the People&#39;s Republic of China (PRC) in Karachi, while expressing firm confidence in the Consulate forthcoming achievements under Yundong&#39;s proficient guidance, owing to his vast expertise and dynamic leadership prowess. Naqvi further extolled Yang



remarkable vision, characterised by his determination to expand the partnership between China and Pakistan. He applauded Yang's profound comprehension of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), along with its noteworthy flagship undertaking, the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), as well as his awareness of the intricate dynamics inherent within the local market. Naqvi conveyed his sincere gratitude for Yang's commitment towards nurturing a symbiotic relationship that yields mutual benefits for both nations. Furthermore, Manzar Naqvi disclosed that under his chairmanship, the Silk Road Media Corridor (SRMC) consists of 26 esteemed members hailing from China, India, and Pakistan. Expressing his earnest intentions, Manzar conveyed his aspirations to seek guidance from the consulate in the imminent future, with the aim of further enhancing the commendable work conducted by the SRMC and effectively countering the detrimental propaganda directed against China and the BRI, emanating from Western sources. He emphasised that the completion of CPEC projects is imperative for revitalising Pakistan's deteriorating economy.

During this momentous occasion, Agha Masood Hussain, Iqbal Jamil, and Khurram Jafarani were graciously invited to impart their insightful thoughts and perspectives.

<https://pakobserver.net/chinese-govt-to-accomplish-all-announced-ventures-yang/>

### **The cautious optimism on engaging Afghanistan in CPEC**

Extending the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), a signature program of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), to Afghanistan was a key talking point in a recent Pakistan-China-Afghanistan trilateral foreign ministers' dialogue. The meeting was not where this idea was first raised. Afghanistan showed interest in the BRI even before the US withdrawal, with an Afghan delegation participating in a China-hosted BRI forum in 2017.

However, a joint statement issued after the dialogue seems to tell that there is a sense of urgency, especially on the part of Kabul, to push ahead with this idea. Many governments have broken off engagement with the Taliban since its return to power, but Islamabad and Beijing have maintained their ties with the group. To Kabul, this scenario means that embracing the CPEC is probably a viable option to generate economic activity in Afghanistan.

Supporting Afghanistan's reconstruction is among the top priorities in a position paper released by the Chinese government earlier this year. On top of providing aid, engaging Afghanistan in the CPEC is another important path towards that goal, because the CPEC's track record says a lot about what the program could potentially bring about if it is extended to Afghanistan.

First of all, the CPEC's effect in job creation is crystal clear. Data compiled by China's top economic planning agency shows that since the CPEC was launched a decade ago, it had created 236,000 jobs, including 155,000 jobs for Pakistani workers, as of the end of last year. Pakistani officials predict that the CPEC could result in the creation of up to 2.3 million jobs by 2030.

In the case of Afghanistan, unemployment is a long-lasting challenge. While the international community's attention is focused on the hundreds of thousands of jobs lost since the Taliban takeover, things were no better during the US occupation. Reuters reported in 2007 that

Afghanistan's jobless rate was about 40% at the time, with many more people underemployed. At this point, it's difficult to estimate how many jobs the CPEC could create in Afghanistan. However, given the fact that Afghanistan's population size is only less than 20% of that of Pakistan, the CPEC will certainly be capable of providing a sizable relief to Afghanistan's unemployment as long as its job creation momentum could be replicated in the country.

Over the years, the CPEC has added some 6,000 megawatts to Pakistan's power supply capacity. To put this figure into a big picture, the country's installed electricity generation capacity was 22,812 megawatts in 2013. Power shortage is still an issue in Pakistan today because of its increasing energy demand, but the situation has noticeably improved. An energy crisis that hit the country in 2013 led to power cuts of up to 20 hours a day. When a major blackout occurred in October 2022, it took hours to restore.

In comparison to Pakistan, power seems to be a bigger challenge in Afghanistan. The current power generation capacity in the country is merely hundreds of megawatts, which, according to the International Committee of the Red Cross, only supplies 22% of Afghanistan's power need. In other words, the power capacity that the CPEC alone has so far created far exceeds the entire need of Afghanistan, meaning that the CPEC has great potentials in addressing Afghanistan's power shortfall.

Closely related to job creation and power generation is the fact that the CPEC has helped improve the industrial capacity and infrastructure networks in Pakistan. In turn, that means more trade. Topline Securities, a brokerage house, predicted in 2017 that the CPEC would help Pakistan's exports grow 4.5% a year till 2025, higher than the previous decade's average of 3%. While in actuality that probably has not been the case due to unexpected factors like the Covid-19 pandemic and last year's flooding, there is not a lack of highlights. Pakistan's exports for 2018 increased nearly 10% year on year, and its exports for 2021 was a hike of nearly 13% from 2020.

When it comes to Afghanistan, in theory there's no reason why the CPEC can't bring more trade. To some extent, Afghanistan is already benefiting from the CPEC. In 2020, the Gwadar deep-sea port, a landmark CPEC project, began handling transit cargo headed to and from Afghanistan. Afghanistan had traditionally relied on the two southern Pakistani ports of Karachi and Qasim for international trade. By comparison, Gwadar offers a shorter Pakistani overland link for the rapid delivery of goods. On the other hand, if a motorway project linking Kabul and the northwestern Pakistani city of Peshawar could proceed as planned, transportation along Afghanistan's traditional transit trade routes will become more efficient. China has already built a section of a motorway between Peshawar and Karachi, cutting the commuting time between that section's two ends from 11 hours to 4 hours.

Afghanistan's geographic location means that it can position itself as a regional hub linking South Asia, East Asia, Central Asia and the Middle East to each other. The CPEC alone is perhaps unable to help Afghanistan achieve this goal. This is why Pakistan and China acknowledge that other existing projects such as the Central Asia-South Asia power project and the Trans-Afghan railway would enhance regional connectivity and prosperity, and one important thing will be how to align the standards of different projects.

The CPEC portrays a rosy blueprint for Afghanistan. That being said, Pakistan and China do have a legitimate concern about the security risks of extending the CPEC to Afghanistan. The Taliban seems to have mustered plenty of political will to cut ties with terrorism, pledging it doesn't allow any individual or group, including the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan and the Eastern Turkistan Islamic Movement, to use Afghan territories to conduct terrorist activities. Apart from political will, the actual capability in combating terrorism also matters. The construction of the CPEC has witnessed profound China-Pakistan security cooperation, with Pakistan having allocated tremendous security resources to protect CPEC projects. The lessons and inspirations drawn from the cooperation could be useful to safeguarding the CPEC's future footprints in Afghanistan.

Security is usually seen as the precondition of development. There's certainly truth to it, but it's also possible to pursue the two at the same time. Xinjiang, which is one end of the CPEC, represents a good example. The western Chinese region launched its well-known de-radicalization campaign in 2017 with a determination to get rid of terrorism. In the meantime, Xinjiang has managed to achieve a regional GDP growth higher than China's national figure in 5 out of the 6 years since then. Balochistan, the other end of the CPEC, is another case to look at. The Pakistani province saw multiple attempted separatist insurgencies before the CPEC's launch, but investments in the region led to a drop in separatist groups. In 2016, more than 800 suspected militants surrendered to Pakistan's security forces. Both Xinjiang and Balochistan might offer some inspirations on how to address the security concerns of extending the CPEC to Afghanistan.

Afghanistan's destiny is in the hands of Afghans, but neighboring countries ought to provide assistance, without strings attached, to help the country walk out of poverty and instability. This cause requires commitment and policy continuity. These two things are what the CPEC, which features an ironclad Pakistan-China partnership, can offer.

<https://pakobserver.net/the-cautious-optimism-on-engaging-afghanistan-in-cpec/>

## **The Nation**

### **Stability, cooperation and development**

*Zhao Shiren - Chinese Consul General Lahore*

May 21st marks the 72nd anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the People's Republic of China and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. It is high time to celebrate. A thousand-mile journey begins with the very first step. Nurtured by successive generations of leadership of our two great nations ever since 1951, the China-Pakistani relationship has grown into a time-tested, long-standing and all-weather strategic cooperative partnership.

Over the past 72 years, we have built exemplary fraternity on consensus, mutual respect and reciprocal support, rather than banking on parochial interests, short-term benefits, or mere geopolitics. China always puts Pakistan on priority in its neighborhood diplomacy and the two countries firmly support each other's core interests no matter how the international landscape changes. This tradition has carried weight on the bilateral ties all along the way

into today and made a tremendous contribution to regional security and world peace. It is not only a valuable asset for both countries but also sets an example for state-to-state relations of different political systems and cultures.

Facing the choppy water and headwinds, China and Pakistan have acted in tandem and in solidarity. The last 3 years had seen both countries giving a helping hand to each other in fighting the Covid-19 pandemic, the unprecedented flood calamity, and the evacuation effort of 200 more Pakistani diaspora by Chinese navy ship from the war-torn Sudan to Saudi Arabia. This year when Pakistan was handling the extraordinary financial and economic challenges featured by a paucity of foreign exchange reserves and daunting external debt repayment, China, to the best of its capacity, came firstly and immediately to loan, deposit and rollover, rendering much-needed assistance for Pakistan's financial stabilization.

This year also witnesses the resumption and regaining momentum of the high-level exchanges and visits. Since Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif paid his maiden official visit to China last November, the new Chinese Premier Li Qiang held the first telephonic conversation with him. Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Qin Gang made his inaugural visit to Islamabad in early May, co-chairing with Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari the 4th round of the Foreign Minister-level Strategic Dialogue. Both reaffirmed their unwavering resolve to further uplift the bilateral ties. Meanwhile, Pakistan Army Chief General Asim Munir visited the People's Liberation Army headquarters to explore military cooperation. More visits will be seen in the coming months.

This year, the Khunjerab Pass, a major land artery connecting China and Pakistan, has been reopened after an almost three-year hiatus, giving a momentous spur to cross-border trade and travel activities. Number of flights between the two countries is also on the rise. China Southern Airlines is poised to resume its flight operations from Lahore to Urumqi on June 13th, providing more relief to China-bound travelers from Lahore and Punjab. The Gandhara Art Exhibition at the Palace Museum in Beijing, an essential part of the China-Pakistan Year of Tourism & Exchanges, has attracted many Chinese visitors whose numbers are more than expected. This May, the "Star Moon Road: Pakistan-China Contemporary Arts Exchange" was also successfully launched at the Lahore Museum and University of Education Lahore.

2023 also marks the 10th anniversary of the Belt and Road Initiative and consequently the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor. Under the strategic guidance of the leadership of the two countries, CPEC has become a lifeline and game changer for Pakistani socio-economic transformation. While tackling the infrastructural and power supply deficits and enhancing industrial cooperation, the CPEC projects have created 236, 000 direct jobs and employed 155, 000 local people by the end of 2022. It has empowered human resources, boosted capacity building and improved the livelihood of ordinary Pakistanis. The 12th JCC meeting is scheduled for July. The new Gwadar International Airport will be in full operation coming September. More focus will be given to cooperation on industry, agriculture, science, information technology and renewable energy, and the ML-1 mega project is also set to pace up. Going forward, CPEC will remain on track and strive for high-quality development.

China is now embarking on the great cause of achieving national rejuvenation through Chinese modernization, which will bring new opportunities to the development of our

bilateral relations. Muhammad Ali Jinnah, the founding father of Pakistan once said, “It is only with united effort that we shall be able to translate our dreams into reality.” Affected by international spillover and coupled with the unfolding political developments, Pakistan arrives at a trying moment. Development hinges on stability and prosperity goes hand in hand with unity. A country’s better future requires taking all stakeholders on board. Pakistanis are resilient and capable of managing their own affairs. We sincerely wish Pakistan peace, harmony and growth.

History and the ground reality have more than once testified that our leaders have been leading from the front in making the difference felt on bilateral and global horizons, that China and Pakistan have always been standing with each other through weal and woe, in thick and thin, weathering all storms. It is the beauty of the all-weather friendship. 2023 will again showcase China’s commitment to further join hands with Pakistan in synergizing our development strategies, deepening all-around cooperation, expanding cultural exchanges and people-to-people contacts, and achieving more progress for building an exemplary community of a shared future.

Long live the China-Pakistan friendship!

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2023-05-21/page-6/detail-4>

## **Beekeepers can overcome challenges by following Chinese style of bee-keeping**

*By Xinhua*

ISLAMABAD-Pakistan has a huge potential in honey production but due to multiple factors local beekeepers are facing challenges that can be overcome by following the Chinese style of bee-keeping, experts said.

Speaking at the China-Pakistan Apiculture Forum the other day, Pakistani and Chinese experts said the Pak-China apiculture cooperation is a way forward toward a successful honey production sector of Pakistan. Nadia Rehman, a member of food security and climate change of Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives, told the webinar that such cooperation will lead to knowledge sharing, research collaboration and technology transfer, and result in enhanced honey yield in Pakistan. She added that 390,000 people in Pakistan are involved in beekeeping and produce over 4,000 tons of honey annually, and if they adopt modern technologies, honey production can surge to 70,000 tons a year and create about 87,000 green jobs.

Speaking at the event, Muhammad Naeem, vice chancellor of Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University in Rawalpindi, said many people from rural areas of Pakistan are associated with beekeeping which becomes a profitable business and a great source of livelihood. The annual yield per colony was 30 to 35 kg, but recently due to climate change effects it decreased to 10 to 12 kg, posing a serious challenge for beekeepers to continue the business, he said. Naeem added that to help Pakistani beekeepers overcome the challenge, his university is helping them not only to increase the yield but also find alternative ways to earn money, by introducing Chinese technology. Now a training course on beekeeping and honey



processing technology for Pakistan is being held in which 39 participants from different universities, research institutes, beekeeping associations, honey traders, and beekeepers are getting the most advanced knowledge of beekeeping from Chinese professors, Naeem said.

“As China is playing a leading role in the research and development of beekeeping in the world, the knowledge sharing by Chinese experts regarding modern beekeeping techniques can be very useful for Pakistani beekeepers and the scientific community,” he added. Pang Chunxue, charge d’affaires of the Chinese Embassy in Pakistan, told the webinar that agriculture is one of pillar industries of Pakistan and a key area for bilateral cooperation between China and Pakistan. “Agricultural cooperation is crucial to the high-quality development of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor. China is committed to supporting Pakistan in revitalizing its agriculture, livestock, dairy, fisheries and food processing sectors to attain sustainable growth and meet the challenge of poverty alleviation,” she added.

The honey produced in Pakistan enjoys a good reputation for its unique taste and high quality for a long time, but has been suffering from problems of low production, low price and small scale, she said. Pang added that China has a history of beekeeping for more than 2,000 years and is one of the earliest countries in the world to raise bees. Nowadays the beekeeping industry in China has developed rapidly and exports of related products rank top in the world. “As ironclad brothers, the Chinese government is happy to share the advanced technology of beekeeping and honey-processing with Pakistani people to promote the beekeeping industry and improve people’s livelihood,” she said. President of the Apicultural Science Association of China Wu Jie said that the association is willing to work with beekeeping research institutes and universities in Pakistan to strengthen cooperation, and promote common development and prosperity of the beekeeping industry in China and Pakistan.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2023-05-21/page-9/detail-0>

## The News

### **Stability, cooperation and development**

*Zhao Shiren*

May 21 marks the 72nd anniversary of the establishment of the diplomatic relations between the People’s Republic of China and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. It is high time to celebrate. A thousand-mile journey begins with the very first step. Nurtured by successive generations of leadership of our two great nations ever since 1951, China-Pakistani relationship has grown into a time-tested, long-standing and all-weather strategic cooperative partnership.

Over the past 72 years, we have built exemplary fraternity on consensus, mutual respect and reciprocal support, rather than banking on parochial interests, short-term benefits or mere geopolitics.

China always puts Pakistan on priority in its neighborhood diplomacy and the two countries firmly support each other’s core interests no matter how international landscape changes. This tradition has carried weight on the bilateral ties all along the way into today, and made tremendous contribution to regional security and world peace. It is not only a valuable asset

for both countries, but also sets an example for state-to-state relations of different political systems and cultures.

Facing the choppy water and headwinds, China and Pakistan have acted in tandem and in solidarity. The last 3 years had seen both countries giving helping hand to each other in fighting the Covid-19 pandemic, the unprecedented flood calamity, and the evacuation effort of 200 more Pakistani diaspora by Chinese navy ship from the war-torn Sudan to Saudi Arabia. This year when Pakistan was handling the extraordinary financial and economic challenges featured by a paucity of foreign exchange reserves and daunting external debt repayment, China, to the best of its capacity, came firstly and immediately to loan, deposit and rollover, rendering much-needed assistance for Pakistan's financial stabilization.

This year also witnesses the resumption and regaining momentum of the high-level exchanges and visits. Since Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif paid his maiden official visit to China last November, the new Chinese Premier Li Qiang had held the first telephonic conversation with him. Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Qin Gang made his inaugural visit to Islamabad in early May, co-chairing with Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari the 4th round of the Foreign Minister-level Strategic Dialogue. Both reaffirmed their unwavering resolve to further uplift the bilateral ties.

Meanwhile, Pakistan Army Chief General Asim Munir visited the People's Liberation Army headquarters to explore military cooperation. More visits will be seen in coming months.

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Long live China-Pakistan friendship!

Consul General of China in Lahore

<https://e.thenews.com.pk/detail?id=204218>

### Express News

#### چین کی عدم شرکت کے باعث سرینگر میں جی 20 کانفرنس ناکام ہوگئی، صدر آزاد کشمیر

صدر آزاد جموں کشمیر سلطان محمود چوہدری کا کہنا ہے کہ چین سمیت دیگر ممالک کی جی 20 کانفرنس میں عدم شرکت کے اعلان کے بعد بھارت کی سرینگر میں: اسلام آباد جی 20 کانفرنس ناکام ہوگئی۔

کشمیر ہاؤس اسلام آباد کشمیری نژاد برطانوی ممبر پارلیمنٹ مرزا خالد محمود کے ہمراہ پریس کانفرنس کرتے ہوئے صدر آزاد جموں و کشمیر نے کہا کہ بھارت مقبوضہ کشمیر میں جی 20 کانفرنس کے انعقاد میں بری طرح سے ناکام ہو گیا ہے اور اس میں خطے کے ایک اہم ملک چین نے کانفرنس کا بائیکاٹ کیا ہے۔

انہوں نے کہا کہ انٹرنیشنل کمیونٹی کو یہ باور کروانے کی ضرورت ہے کہ خطے میں قیام امن کی کنجی مسئلہ کشمیر کے حل میں مضر ہے۔ بھارت جی 20 کانفرنس کا انعقاد کر کے دنیا کی آنکھوں میں دھول جھونکنا چاہتا تھا اور یہ تاثر دینا چاہتا تھا کہ مقبوضہ کشمیر ایک پر امن علاقہ ہے جبکہ اصل صورت حال اس برعکس ہے کیونکہ بھارت نے مقبوضہ کشمیر میں انسانی حقوق کی پامالی میں بے انتہاء اضافہ کر دیا ہے اور کشمیری عوام پر عرصہ حیات تنگ کر دیا گیا ہے۔

صدر آزاد کشمیر نے کہا کہ اقوام متحدہ کے کمیشن برائے انسانی حقوق نے مقبوضہ کشمیر میں جاری ظلم و بربریت پر 2018-19 میں ایک مفصل رپورٹ پیش کی تھی جس میں اقوام متحدہ سے مطالبہ کیا گیا تھا کہ مقبوضہ کشمیر میں جاری انسانی حقوق کی پامالی کی تحقیقات کے لیے ایک کمیشن تشکیل دیا جائے جو اپنی غیر جانبدارانہ تحقیقات کر کے رپورٹ اقوام متحدہ کے سیکریٹری جنرل کو پیش کرے۔ انٹرنیشنل کمیونٹی کشمیری عوام کو ان کا حق خود ارادیت دلوانے اور مقبوضہ کشمیر میں انسانی حقوق کی پامالی بند کرانے کے لیے اپنا کردار ادا کرے۔

انہوں نے کہا کہ 105 اگست 2019ء کے بعد سے بھارت نے مقبوضہ کشمیر میں بڑے پیمانے پر انسانی حقوق کی خلاف ورزیاں شروع کی ہوئی ہیں اور مقبوضہ کشمیر کی ڈیمو گرافی اور حلقہ بندیوں میں تبدیلیاں جاری ہیں جس سے بھارت آبادی کا تناسب اپنے حق میں کرنا چاہتا ہے، جس سے وہ مسئلہ کشمیر کو ختم اور مقبوضہ کشمیر کو ہڑپ کرنا چاہتا ہے۔

بیرسٹر سلطان محمود چوہدری نے کہا کہ انٹرنیشنل کمیونٹی مقبوضہ کشمیر میں جاری مظالم بند کرانے کے لیے بھارت پر زور دے، عالمی برادری مقبوضہ کشمیر میں انسانی حقوق کی پامالی کا نوٹس لے۔ مقبوضہ کشمیر کی صورتحال اس وقت انتہائی مخدوش ہے اور کشمیری عوام مسئلہ کشمیر کے حل اور اپنے حق خودارادیت کے لیے انٹرنیشنل کمیونٹی کی جانب دیکھ رہے ہیں۔

انہوں نے مزید کہا کہ میری کال پر نیویارک میں اقوام متحدہ کے دفتر کے سامنے، واشنگٹن میں وائٹ ہاؤس کے سامنے، لندن میں برطانوی وزیر اعظم کی رہائش گاہ کے سامنے، جنیوا میں اقوام متحدہ کے انسانی حقوق کمیشن کے دفتر کے سامنے جبکہ برسلسز میں یورپی پارلیمنٹ کے سامنے، اسی طرح پیرس میں ایٹل ٹاور کے سامنے جبکہ اسپین کے دارالحکومت بارسلونا سمیت دنیا بھر میں مقیم کشمیری آج احتجاجی مظاہرے کر رہے ہیں اور عالمی برادری سے مطالبہ کر رہے ہیں کہ وہ مقبوضہ کشمیر میں بھارت کی طرف سے جاری انسانی حقوق کی پامالی بند کرانے کے لیے اپنا رول ادا کرے۔

اس موقع پر برطانوی ممبر پارلیمنٹ مرزا خالد محمود نے کہا کہ ہم برطانوی پارلیمنٹ اور حکومت کے سامنے مسئلہ کشمیر کو اٹھانے کے لیے اپنی تمام کوششیں جاری رکھیں گے۔ اس کے علاوہ دیگر فورمز پر بھی مقبوضہ کشمیر میں جاری مظالم اور کشمیری عوام کے حق خودارادیت کے لیے آواز بلند کریں گے۔

<https://www.express.pk/story/2486300/1/>

**May 22, 2023**

## **Business Recorder**

### **72 years of diplomatic ties**

Punjab CM visits Chinese Consulate

LAHORE: Caretaker Chief Minister Punjab Mohsin Naqvi on the eve of 72nd anniversary of Pakistan- China diplomatic relations visited the Chinese Consulate.

He met with the Consul General of China Zhao Shiren and felicitated him on completion of 72 years of Pakistan-China diplomatic relations and also cut a cake.

The Chinese Consul General thanked the Caretaker CM and expressed good wishes for him. Matters pertaining to the promotion of trade and economic relations came under discussion during the meeting.

Mohsin Naqvi while talking with the Chinese Consul General stated that we would benefit from the cooperation of China in agriculture, healthcare technology and education sectors. He remarked that the new year of Pakistan-China relations would open further new avenues of cooperation in all sectors of life between the two countries.

Mohsin Naqvi outlined that Pakistan and China are standing shoulder to shoulder for a bright tomorrow and our relationship for the whole world of countries is a role model adding that Pakistan-China mutual trust is exemplary. He highlighted that China's unflinching support in time of need speaks volumes of Pakistan- China friendship. Mohsin Naqvi underscored that

China has proved to be our all-weather friend, a strong partner and a reliable neighbour. Mohsin Naqvi stated that we heartily acknowledge the unique cooperation of China in the progress of Pakistan. He emphasized that the triumphs of China are a matter of pride for Pakistan and CPEC is proving to be a milestone in promoting regional contacts and cooperation between the two countries. The importance of Pakistan- China relations exceed far before for the regional stability and Punjab government is thankful to the Chinese support and cooperation in various sectors. Caretaker CM remarked that the Punjab government is determined to further enhance this exemplary friendship and cooperation with China. The Chinese Consul General on this occasion stated that Pakistan and China are highly reliable friends and we would continue all sorts of cooperation with the Punjab government in future, as well.

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2023/05/22/3--page/963021-news.html>

### Daily Times

#### **China, Pakistan celebrate 72nd anniversary of diplomatic ties**

On the occasion of the 72nd anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Pakistan, Chinese Embassy held the reception on “China-Pakistan Unbreakable Friendship and the Bright Future” on May 19. H.E. Ms. Pang Chunxue, Charge d’Affaires of the Chinese Embassy, the chief guest, H.E. Dr. Asad Majeed Khan, Foreign Secretary of Pakistan, H.E. Mr. Mazhar Javed, Director General of Foreign Service Academy spoke at the reception, which were attended by former Pakistani Ambassadors to China, officials from MFA and Pakistani young diplomats along with Chinese diplomats.

Ms. Pang welcomed friends old and new to the Chinese Embassy, emphasized that the China-Pakistan relationship has profound historical roots, solid public support and strong practical needs. Under the strong leadership of President Xi Jinping, China is steadfastly advancing the process of Chinese modernization. China will provide new opportunities for the development of countries including Pakistan, with new accomplishments in Chinese modernization. As developing countries, both China and Pakistan are constantly exploring development paths that suit their own national conditions, and are actively committed to maintaining world peace and stability.svg%3E

Ms. Pang stated that this year marks the 10th anniversary of the Belt and Road Initiative proposed by President Xi Jinping, and the 10th anniversary of the launch of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor. With the joint efforts of both sides, CPEC has achieved fruitful outcomes covering areas of industry, agriculture, IT, disaster prevention and mitigation, etc., which made significant contributions to promoting Pakistan’s economic and social development, upgrading Pakistan’s infrastructure, improving Pakistani people’s well-being, enhancing people to people contact and deepening regional connectivity. CPEC has become well-known hallmark of China-Pakistan cooperation.

Ms. Pang said that from 5th May to 6th May, Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Qin Gang paid a successful visit to Pakistan, which is of tremendous significance in solidifying and deepening the China-Pakistan all-weather strategic partnership of cooperation. She conveyed great appreciation to successive generations of diplomats from the



two countries for their painstaking efforts and contributions, and asserted that China will join hands with Pakistan to implement the consensus reached by the leaders of the two countries in real earnest and continuously promote the great cause of China-Pakistan friendship with great strides.

Pakistan Foreign Secretary Dr Asad Majeed Khan applauded the contribution of generations of the two countries' diplomats to the achievements of China and Pakistan unbreakable friendship and cooperation. The change of the compound of Chinese Embassy in Pakistan itself is the witness of the development of friendship with its previous compound been handed over to Pakistan government and became the Foreign Service Academy and the new compound became the biggest one in all Chinese Embassies abroad.

He appreciated that Chinese friends always unswervingly provide generous help, give strong support to Pakistan's sovereignty and independence, financial stability and infrastructure construction. China-Pakistan Economic Corridor has brought prosperity and progress to Pakistan's economy and society, which Pakistan is deeply grateful of. In the year marking the 10th anniversary of the "Belt and Road Initiative" and the launch of the CPEC, China and Pakistan should jointly celebrate this memorable moment. Now that the baton of China-Pakistan friendship has been handed over to a new generation of diplomats, it is hoped that diplomats of the two countries will work together to build a closer China-Pakistan community with a shared future.

Dr. Mazhar Javed said that the relations between China and Pakistan have been nurtured by both sides for last 72 years. All-round cooperation between the two sides provides valuable opportunities for exchanges and learning between the younger generation. The engagement of State Councilor and Foreign Minister H.E. Mr. Qin Gang with Pakistani young diplomats in his visit to Islamabad and the reception held are very helpful to Pakistani Young diplomats in strengthening their understanding of the China-Pakistan iron-clad relationship. He hoped that young diplomats will continue the traditional friendship throughout their career, and promote greater development of China-Pakistan relations.

Before the reception, the guests watched the photos on history of the China-Pakistan friendship and the transformation of the Chinese Embassy compound, enjoyed traditional Chinese tea ceremony performance, and made dumplings by themselves. The whole atmosphere was warm, cheerful and harmonious. The former ambassadors to China recalled their spectacular memories in China and said China and Pakistan need to cement the iron-clad friendship and promote the comprehensive pragmatic cooperation to a new higher level. Pakistani young diplomats said the reception is very warm and impressive, not only enhancing their knowledge and understanding of China and the CPC, but also tightening the friendship between the young diplomats between the two countries.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1095484/china-pakistan-celebrate-72nd-anniversary-of-diplomatic-ties/>

### **Punjab to benefit from China in healthcare, education sectors: Naqvi**

Caretaker Chief Minister Punjab Mohsin Naqvi on the eve of 72nd anniversary of Pakistan-China diplomatic relations visited the Chinese Consulate. Provincial Caretaker Minister for

Industries SM Tanvir, Famous Industrialist Gohar Ejaz and Mian Ahsan accompanied him, said a handout issued here.

The CM met with the Consul General of China Mr. Zhao Shiren and felicitated him on completion of 72 years of Pakistan-China diplomatic relations and cut a cake. The Chinese Consul General thanked the CM and expressed good wishes for him. Matters pertaining to the promotion of trade and economic relations came under discussion during the meeting.

Talking with the Chinese Consul General, the CM said the government would benefit from the cooperation of China in agriculture, healthcare technology and education sectors, adding that the new year of Pakistan-China relations would open further new avenues of cooperation in all sectors of life between the two countries. He said that Pakistan and China were standing shoulder to shoulder for a bright tomorrow and our relationship for the whole world of countries was a role model. Mohsin Naqvi highlighted that China's unflinching support in time of need speaks volumes of Pakistan- China friendship.

The CM said "We heartily acknowledge the unique cooperation of China in the progress of Pakistan." He emphasized the triumphs of China were a matter of pride for Pakistan and CPEC (China-Pakistan Economic Corridor) was proving to be a milestone in promoting regional contacts and cooperation between the two countries. The importance of Pakistan-China relations exceed far before for the regional stability and Punjab government was thankful to the Chinese support and cooperation in various sectors. Punjab government was determined to further enhance the exemplary friendship and cooperation with China, he added.

The Chinese Consul General also assured their full cooperation with the Punjab government in future as well, saying that Pakistan and China were highly reliable friends. CM directs to achieve cotton production targets: Caretaker Chief Minister Punjab Mohsin Naqvi presided over a meeting at CM office in which progress with regard to cotton sowing was reviewed. Mohsin Naqvi directed to achieve cotton sowing and production targets under every circumstances.

It was decided during the meeting that farmers yielding more cotton production, would be awarded cash prizes and the relevant staff would be encouraged in achieving the requisite cotton sowing target. The meeting decided that the cotton farmers should not face shortage of any essential item including water, seeds and manure during cotton sowing. Addressing the meeting, the CM said "We have to achieve the cotton sowing target and completely looking after cotton fields is essential as well." He directed prevention of water theft incidents and assured provision of water required for cotton fields.

The CM directed to undertake more effective action against those selling fake medicines and seeds across the province. The proposal to conduct crops survey through a satellite was reviewed. Minimum cotton support price had been fixed at rupees 8,500, he said and added that achieving cotton sowing target was a mission. He outlined that the cotton field could prove to be an economic game changer for the province as well as for the farmers.

APTMA (All Pakistan Textile Mills Association) Patron in Chief Gohar Ejaz, Fawad Mukhtar, Chief Secretary, secretaries of agriculture, finance, irrigation and officials of

agriculture department attended the meeting. All divisional commissioners and agriculture experts attended the meeting via video link.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1095469/punjab-to-benefit-from-china-in-healthcare-education-sectors-naqvi/>

### **Dawn News**

#### **MoUs to facilitate cherry exports to China signed**

*Jamil Nagri*

GILGIT: Eleven members of a business delegation from China returned home on Sunday, while three others will fly from Islamabad, after a successful visit to Gilgit-Baltistan where they signed several MoUs with officials, businessmen and representatives of chambers of commerce to facilitate cherry trade.

The 14-member delegation of Chinese businessmen had arrived in Gilgit-Baltistan last week for a four-day visit to explore the potential of importing cherries from Pakistan. The delegation visited cherry orchards, packing units and cold storage facilities to inspect the local cherry production and assess the potential for importing cherries to Chinese markets.

All these activities were conducted in accordance with the newly signed protocol between the two countries.

Special assistant to the GB chief minister on information technology, Mohammad Ali Quaid, told Dawn that the delegation visited GB to check the quality of local cherries, the water treatment process, cold storage facilities, and packaging procedures.

11 Chinese traders return from GB, others will fly from Islamabad

He explained that the export of cherries from Pakistan to China had not yet started.

Earlier, the ministry signed a protocol agreement with Chinese Customs outlining the phytosanitary requirements for exporting fresh cherries to China.

Mr Quaid disclosed that another delegation from the Chinese quarantine department has planned a visit to GB. Once the Chinese officials fulfill the necessary SOPs, the import of cherries from Pakistan would be allowed.

Mohammad Raziq, president of the Hunza Chamber of Commerce, told Dawn that the purpose of the visit was quality assessment of the entire process from cherry production to packaging.

However, Mr Raziq explained that cherries from Gilgit-Baltistan would be exported from Pakistan if Chinese quarantine authorities gave the go-ahead.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1754961>

## The Nation

### **China, Pakistan to step up agriculture cooperation**

BEIJING-China-Pakistan Apiculture Forum was held in Changsha, China, days ahead of the World Bee Day which falls on Sunday. The forum is also a core part of the Training Course on Beekeeping and Honey Processing Technology for Pakistan which was undertaken by an agricultural group in Hunan Province, China and takes place from May 10 to May 23, 2023, China Economic Net reported. On the forum, Pang Chunxue, Charge de Affairs of the Embassy of the PRC in Pakistan shared that Chinese government is happy to share the advanced technology of beekeeping and honey-processing with Pakistani people to promote the beekeeping industry and improve people's lives. "The honey produced in Pakistan enjoys a good reputation for its unique taste and high quality for a long time, but has been suffering from problems of low production, low price, and small scale. China has a history of beekeeping for more than 2,000 years and is one of the earliest countries in the world to raise bees," she introduced. Both China and Pakistan possess rich beekeeping traditions and have the potential to revolutionise this sector through collaborative efforts.

In 2019, each beekeeper brought 11.7-kg of honey in Pakistan on average, while the world average is 20.6-kg. FAO statistics show that about 390,000 people in Pakistan are involved in beekeeping and produce over 4,000 tonnes of honey annually. However, if modern production technologies and standard production procedures are adopted, the country's honey production is expected to surge to 70,000 tons a year and create about 87,000 green jobs. According to Ms. Nadia Rehman, Member Food Security and Climate Change, Planning Commission of Pakistan, both countries can engage in knowledge exchange, research partnerships, and technology transfer to fully realise the potential of apiculture cooperation. China's expertise can be shared with Pakistan in terms of large-scale beekeeping practices, honey production and value addition, she said. Additionally, China's experience in breeding disease-resistant bee strains and genetic conservation can greatly contribute to strengthening Pakistan's bee populations, she elaborated.

As of 2020, India is the country with the highest number of beehives, at around 12.2 million, but China outstrips India in terms of production volume, producing about 458,000 metric tonnes of honey in 2020. Collaborative efforts can also be directed towards research projects that explore the adaptation of bee species to different regions in Pakistan, identify native plant species that support healthy pollinator populations, and develop innovative beekeeping practices suitable for local contexts. Furthermore, the cooperation in apiculture between China and Pakistan goes beyond the economic aspects. It aligns with the broader goals of sustainable development, environmental preservation, and biodiversity conservation. The exchange of knowledge and joint research endeavors will lead to improved beekeeping practices, disease management, and sustainable beekeeping techniques in Pakistan. By working together, the two nations can address common challenges such as climate change, habitat loss, and the use of harmful pesticides, promoting the well-being of bees and their crucial role in ecosystems.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2023-05-22/page-8/detail-3>

**May 23, 2023**

**Pakistan Observer**

**China steadfastly supports Pakistan**

FOREIGN Secretary, Dr Asad Majeed Khan, has complimented China for its steadfast support to Pakistan pointing out Beijing always unswervingly provided generous help, gave strong support to Pakistan's sovereignty and independence, financial stability and infrastructure construction. He was speaking at a reception hosted by the Chinese Embassy in Islamabad where Chinese Charge d'Affaires Pang Chunxue emphasized that the bilateral relationship has profound historical roots, solid public support and strong practical needs.

What the two senior officials have said is borne out by the ground realities as the two countries always stood by each other through thick and thin. Despite serious limitations, Pakistan supports the causes that are dear to Beijing and China never disappointed Pakistan whenever the country needed economic cooperation, financial support or diplomatic leverage in the fast changing regional and global scenarios. Latest is the bold decision of China to puncture the designs of the Modi Government to seek global legitimacy for India's illegal policy towards Jammu and Kashmir. China exposed Indian designs by refusing to attend the G-20 tourism meeting in Srinagar citing the disputed nature of the territory, which prompted other friends of Pakistan — Saudi Arabia, Turkey and Egypt to follow the suit. It is also known to all that at a time when the IMF tool was being used to coerce Pakistan, China took the lead in extending much-needed financial support. China has also demonstrated its sincerity for the well being of people of Pakistan by agreeing to intensify economic cooperation under the framework of CPEC. After signing a deal to upgrade and modernize ML-I, which is the lifeline of Pakistan's communication sector, China has expressed its readiness to undertake a \$58 billion railway line to link Gwadar with Kashgar. It is now for Pakistan to make right choices and benefit from the opportunities so generously offered by China to help resolve its economic woes.

<https://pakobserver.net/china-steadfastly-supports-pakistan/>

**The Express Tribune**

**China hailed for G20 moot boycott**

AJK president says peace in region is conditional to settlement of Kashmir dispute

MUZZAFARABAD: Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) President Barrister Sultan Mehmood Chaudhry and British MP Mirza Khalid Mehmood have said that the G-20 Working Group meeting being held by India in Srinagar has failed because key members of the group, including China, had categorically refused to attend the conference.

Addressing a press conference at his office in Islamabad on Sunday, they claimed that, along with China, many other members of the group would skip the meeting.

Referring to the Indian government's nefarious designs to use the high-profile event to achieve its strategic objectives, they said that the G-20 nations' decision to skip the



conference being held in the restive region was a clear indication that they have refused to become brand ambassadors of India's so-called normalcy narrative on Kashmir.

They said that India's main motive behind organising the G-20 Summit events in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) was meant to hoodwink the international community by creating a false impression that everything was normal in Kashmir.

Highlighting the delicate situation in the region, they said that the political and human rights situation in the held territory had further worsened since Narendra Modi's government stripped the region of its special status on August 5, 2019.

They said that on one hand, India had intensified human rights violations, while on the other, a massive onslaught to change the region's demography and its political landscape was launched to convert the Muslim majority of the state into a minority.

Voicing their grave concern over the abysmal situation in the region, they said, "It is high time that the international community should take effective cognizance of the matter and pressurise India to stop bloodshed and violence in occupied Kashmir."

Citing the United Nations Commission on Human Rights report, they said that the commission had released a detailed report on the human rights situation in the IIOJK in 2018 and called for the establishment of a commission of inquiry to investigate the ongoing human rights violations being committed by the Indian occupation forces.

They said that it was imperative that the world community should influence the government of India to allow a fact-finding mission to visit the occupied territory and implement the recommendations of the report the commission had released in 2018.

President Chaudhry further said that on his call protest demonstrations were being held all across the globe, especially in the influential world capitals, including Washington, London, Brussels, Geneva and Paris.

The main purpose of these protests was to register People's anguish and resentment against India's decision to hold a G-20 conference in Kashmir, which happens to be a disputed territory, he added.

He also said that the international community needs to realise that the key to peace in the region lies in the settlement of the longstanding Kashmir dispute.

He added that India wanted to mislead the world about Kashmir by holding the G-20 conference and wanted to give the impression that occupied Kashmir was a peaceful area.

On this occasion, British MP Mirza Khalid Mehmood said, "We will continue our efforts to raise the issue of Kashmir at the international level."

They also appreciated the Chinese leadership for taking a principled stance on holding of G-20 summit in the disputed territory.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2417953/china-hailed-for-g20-moot-boycott>

## **China, Pakistan enhance agricultural collaboration**

Sign letter of intent to collaborate on teaching, training and research

SHANGHAI: The Shanghai Academy of Agricultural Sciences (SAAS) and the University of Agriculture, Faisalabad (UAF) have signed a Letter of Intent (LoI) on China-Pakistan agricultural science and technology collaboration. This milestone agreement signifies a new era of agricultural cooperation between the two countries.

The LoI outlines the intention of both institutions to collaborate on joint teaching, training, research, and other mutually agreed activities. The goal is to strengthen the program and foster a closer relationship between SAAS and UAF.

Areas of collaboration specified in the LoI include post-harvest treatment of agricultural products, integrated pest management in crops such as rice, corn, and nut fruits, understanding the molecular mechanisms of pests and their interaction with agricultural products, utilization of agricultural resources, germplasm evaluation, deployment of specialty maize hybrids, and more.

The signing ceremony was witnessed by SAAS President Professor Cai Youming and UAF Vice Chancellor Dr Iqar Ahmad Khan.

Prof Khan expressed his enthusiasm for learning from China's expertise in post-harvest processing, biological breeding, product innovation, technical services, and knowledge transfer.

The aim is to leverage each other's strengths and establish a robust mechanism for exchange and cooperation.

This collaboration holds great promise for the agricultural sectors of both countries. By sharing knowledge, expertise, and resources, China and Pakistan can work together to address common challenges and drive innovation in the field of agriculture. The LoI signing marks a significant step towards deepening bilateral ties and unlocking new opportunities for growth and development in the agricultural sector.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2418101/china-pakistan-enhance-agricultural-collaboration>

**May 24, 2023**

**Dunya News**

### **New air cargo routes launched between China and Pakistan**

BEIJING (APP) - In a milestone move to bolster trade ties between China and Pakistan, two new air cargo routes have been inaugurated recently between the two countries, according to a statement released by Nanning Customs District of China.

It is learned that the new air routes will operate between Nanning, capital of China's southwest autonomous region of Guangxi, and the Pakistani cities of Karachi and Lahore, Chinese media reported.

As per the announcement, the first freight flight between Nanning and Lahore took off on the early morning of May 16th, marking the first air freight route between Guangxi and Pakistan, and the following day, a second cargo route from Nanning to Karachi was launched.

The Nanning-Karachi route is set to operate three times a week on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, while the Nanning-Lahore route is scheduled to run four times a week on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays, and Sundays, overseas business manager of Guangxi Civil Aviation Industry Development Co., Ltd told the press.

The flights from Karachi/ Lahore to Nanning will primarily transport Pakistani fruits and seafood to China, and those from Nanning to Karachi/ Lahore will deliver Chinese clothing accessories and other goods to the Pakistani market.

It is pertinent to mention that Pakistan has enhanced collaboration with Guangxi over the past few years as a growing number of Pakistani enterprises increase their presence in business activities and exhibitions such as the China-ASEAN Expo (CAEXPO) in the region.

<https://dunyanews.tv/en/Business/726177-New-air-cargo-routes-launched-between-China-Pakistan>

### **Pakistan Observer**

#### **BRI stands for greater regional connectivity**

*Dr. Mehmood Ul Hassan Khan*

Most recently Uzbekistan's President Shavkat Mirziyoyev attended the China-Central Asia Summit in Xi'an city and delivered a "keynote" speech during which he upheld that Central Asian countries and China have developed a "mature" relationship based on trust, respect and "mutual interest".

During his speech Mirziyoyev rightly proposed the "goals" of further increasing the trade volume between Central Asian countries and China by 2030 through promoting "balanced growth" in the supply of industrial goods and agricultural products, establishing effective trade and logistics infrastructure and modern wholesale distribution networks as well as establishing "green channels" and unified e-commerce platforms. Thus he endorsed the "strategic importance" and utility of the BRI.

In 2015, Uzbekistan became a partner of the BRI and joined the Asian International Investment Bank (AIIB). Both countries signed over 100 bilateral agreements which have further strengthened their economic cooperation. China-Uzbekistan bilateral trade has increased "140 times" in the last 30 years. It increased by 21.8 percent to nearly "US\$9.78 billion" in 2022-2023 which is getting momentum by each passing day. Uzbekistan also showed strong interest in cooperating with China on electric vehicles, new energy industry and digital cooperation. Moreover, Qamchiq Tunnel in Uzbekistan has revolutionized the concept of regional connectivity.

Interestingly, in the first meeting of the heads of C+C5 countries, China emphasized Uzbekistan to deepen industrial cooperation, investment and win-win cooperation in BRI and to increase regional industrial development in sectors such as digital economy, energy and agriculture.

China's interaction with Uzbekistan is to further develop "South-South Cooperation" through BRI and the construction of an alternative route which would further strengthen existing maritime routes, regional hydrocarbon and mineral resources, export markets, loans and investments in the local economy.

Interestingly, Uzbekistan holds "strategic importance" in the further development of BRI because in the China-Central Asia-West Asia BRI Corridor, two of the BRI routes pass through Uzbekistan, which will connect it to China and Iran. It also ideally positions in Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, (Tashkent, Samarkand, Navi), and Turkmenistan Corridor, while it also keeps its key position in Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan (Andijan, Pap, Tashkent, Samarkand, Navi) and Turkmenistan-Iran Corridor.

China's BRI has invested in Uzbekistan in sectors such as industries, raw material, energy, infrastructure, telecommunications, advanced technology, construction of thermal power plants and upgrading of hydroelectric power plants, development of digital and fiber optic infrastructure, and 5G.

Chinese companies under the BRI are also active in the sectors such as renewable energy resources and mining of Uzbekistan, especially in the cement sector and numerous factory projects, special economic zones, free trade zones, industrial parks (SEZs), building material, chemical and chemical industry companies, agriculture and logistics and textiles. Cooperation between the BRI and the development strategy of New Uzbekistan for 2022-2026 has also been taken on by Beijing.

More attention has been paid to the "China-Kyrgyzstan-Uzbekistan road corridor" and the "China-Kyrgyzstan-Uzbekistan railway". In mid-September 2022, the representatives of these three countries signed a memorandum of cooperation for the implementation of the China-Kyrgyzstan-Uzbekistan railway or CKU project.

Uzbekistan is the "largest consumer market" in Central Asia and a major regional "agricultural" and "manufacturing" exporter. Uzbekistan-BRI can be an ideal "geographical axis" of connecting China, South Eurasia, South Asia and the Middle East, the Caspian Sea, Persian Gulf ports and the Black Sea. The completion of the BRI projects will greatly increase the trade, investment, and GDP of Uzbekistan and the competitiveness of Uzbekistan's exports.

China plans to increase trade with the five Central Asian countries to US\$70 billion by 2030. Uzbekistan's future potential for continued BRI inclusion is significant with Uzbekistan signing BRI infrastructure related contracts worth US\$16 billion with China in 2022. By using the BRI, Uzbekistan is diversifying its infrastructure network and reducing delivery times to the country by approximately 15 percent.

It is good omen that the Uzbek government termed BRI as an important contribution to reaching the national GDP goal of US\$100 billion in GDP, doubling exports to more than US\$30 billion dollars by 2030, and diversifying the economy.

To conclude, Uzbekistan's President Shavkat Mirziyoyev presented comprehensive "roadmap" of greater regional connectivity and pinpointed that the widening gaps in sustainable transport and logistics chains, food and energy security challenges, emerging

socio-economic and geopolitical instability out of constant tight monetary policy, economic meltdown and high inflation causing serious risks for all the Central Asian countries which should be handled closer coordination and practical interaction. Thus he rightly supported the basic concept of the China-Central Asia Summit and the BRI i.e. greater regional connectivity and immense socio-economic integration.

The Uzbek President highlighted the importance of establishing the effective interaction mechanisms in the main areas of regional cooperation mainly trade, investment, transport and humanitarian ties and fully supported the further development of BRI.

He emphasized the strategic importance of achieving and securing sustainable development for improving the living standards of the population and the efficiency of poverty reduction. He suggested initiating a new economic dialogue and strengthening the interconnectedness for achieving the Global Goals and 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Furthermore, deepening industrial cooperation, attracting digital technologies and introducing innovations, especially in agriculture, can be effectively resolved through direct interregional contacts with the provinces of China, he further added.

He rightly showcased that the revival of the “Great Silk Road and the Trans-Eurasian Highway would be key components of the China-Kyrgyzstan-Uzbekistan automobile and railroad.

In this connection, the construction of the Trans-Afghan Corridor will further enhance connectivity with China, especially Pakistan, and the countries of South Asia by alternative ways within the BRI mechanism.

It seems that Uzbekistan’s President Shavkat Mirziyoyev “Development Strategy 2022-2026” coincides with the Chinese President’s GDI, GSI and GCI consolidating the spirit of community with a shared future. The dream of CPEC greater regional connectivity directly relates to the further strengthening of China-Central Asia and BRI. The Trans-Regional Rail project of Uzbekistan-Pakistan and Afghanistan would further strengthen the true spirit of greater regional connectivity in the days to come.

<https://pakobserver.net/bri-stands-for-greater-regional-connectivity-by-dr-mehmood-ul-hassan-khan/>

### **CPEC: A Decade of Progress and Promise.**

*S.N. Gilani*

In the past ten years, the China-Pak Economic Corridor (CPEC) has become a vital project for building infrastructure around the world. It connects China’s western areas to the Arabian Sea through Pakistan, making it an important link between countries. This ambitious project started in 2013 and has been a catalyst for change in both countries. It has the potential to bring economic growth, regional connections, and better living standards to the area.

The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) project is a major initiative that aims to connect Gwadar port in Pakistan’s Balochistan province to China’s northwestern region of Xinjiang through an extensive network of highways, railways and pipelines. The project is



not just about infrastructure development but also about establishing a robust economic relationship between the two countries.

The CPEC project is an essential part of China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) which is a massive infrastructure and trade project aimed at boosting China's economic growth and expanding its influence in the world. It is a vital component of the BRI, as it provides China with a shorter and more secure route to the Arabian Sea, bypassing the Malacca Strait, which is currently the busiest and most critical shipping lane in the world.

The CPEC project is not only crucial for China's economic development but also for Pakistan's economic growth and regional connectivity. The project will help Pakistan to overcome its chronic energy shortage which has been a significant impediment to its economic growth. The project includes several energy projects, including coal-fired power plants, hydroelectric power stations and wind farms, which will add approximately 17,000 megawatts of electricity to Pakistan's national grid.

Moreover, the CPEC project will create numerous job opportunities for the Pakistani youth. The development of special economic zones (SEZs) along the CPEC route is attracting foreign investment, technology transfer and job creation. The SEZs are designed to provide a favorable environment for business, offering tax incentives and streamlined regulatory procedures. The project is expected to create more than two million job opportunities for the Pakistani youth by 2030.

The CPEC project has already started to show its impact on Pakistan's economy. The project has helped in reviving Pakistan's construction industry which had been in decline for several years. The construction of highways, railways and pipelines has created thousands of job opportunities for local workers. The project has also increased Pakistan's foreign direct investment (FDI) which had been low compared to other developing countries.

The CPEC project has been an excellent opportunity for China to expand its trade and investment footprint in South Asia, the Middle East and Central Asia while providing Pakistan with much-needed foreign investment and infrastructure development. The project is a flagship initiative of China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), which aims to promote economic cooperation and connectivity among countries in Asia, Africa and Europe.

The CPEC has progressed significantly over the past decade with a focus on infrastructure and energy projects. The project has helped Pakistan address its chronic energy shortage with the addition of over 6,000 megawatts of electricity to the national grid, reducing power outages and boosting economic activity. The CPEC project has also helped Pakistan develop its Blue Economy through the development of Gwadar port which will provide a strategic trade route to China and the rest of the world.

CPEC has also played a crucial role in creating rural-urban synergy and regional connectivity in Pakistan. The SEZs along the CPEC route have attracted significant investment from Chinese companies which has led to the creation of new employment opportunities and the transfer of technology and skills. The SEZs have also helped Pakistan diversify its export basket with the export of agri-based products such as sesame seeds, seafood and rice. China has been providing Pakistan with advanced agricultural technology, including drip irrigation

systems, seed treatment and pest control techniques. This technology transfer has helped Pakistan improve its crop yields and reduce water wastage, resulting in increased agricultural production and revenue.

Despite the challenges posed by COVID-19, terrorism and political instability, the CPEC project has continued to progress. The second phase of the project is focused on agriculture sector development, socio-economic projects and academic partnerships to improve research and development collaborations. The CPEC project has the potential to transform Pakistan's agricultural sector which accounts for a significant share of the country's GDP and employs more than 40% of the country's labour force. The project aims to introduce modern farming techniques, improve water management and increase the yield of crops such as cotton, wheat and rice.

CPEC has helped Pakistan in addressing its human development challenges such as poverty, unemployment and inequality. The project has created over 100,000 job opportunities for the Pakistani youth and provided training and skill development to thousands of workers. It also helped Pakistan address its sustainability challenges, such as climate change, water scarcity, and environmental degradation. The project has introduced renewable energy technologies such as wind and solar, to Pakistan's energy mix, reducing the country's reliance on fossil fuels. The project has also helped improve Pakistan's water management system with the construction of dams, reservoirs and irrigation networks.

The bond between Pakistan and China is one that has withstood the test of time, enduring every obstacle that has come their way. The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, being the star project of the Belt and Road Initiative, has brought about a plethora of advantages to both nations and the entire region. As we celebrate the 10th anniversary of the CPEC, it is crucial to reflect on its triumphs and look ahead with a sense of hopefulness. Through unwavering cooperation, partnership and mutual regard, Pakistan and China can scale greater heights of progress and affluence, not just for their citizens but for the world at large.

<https://pakobserver.net/cpec-a-decade-of-progress-and-promise-by-s-n-gilani/>

### **The Nation**

#### **Pakistan-China MoU signed to deepen agri cooperation**

ISLAMABAD - Pak-China MoU has been signed to deepen all-round cooperation in agriculture sector, China Economic Net (CEN) reported on Tuesday.

The Gansu Academy of Agricultural Sciences and the Sindh Agriculture University of Tandojam officially signed a memorandum of understanding for the China-Pakistan flax research and innovation hub.

Start from September 2020, Lanzhou, the capital of Gansu Province, has launched a work task to establish flax stress-resistance and breeding foreign intellectual achievements demonstration and promotion base.

The MoU was signed through online linked by Dr Ma Zhongming, President of the GAAS , and Prof Dr Fateh Mohammad Maree, Vice Chancellor of Sindh Agriculture University of Tandojam.

Both parties agreed to encourage the transfer of a series of modern agricultural technologies from GAAS to SA U, including innovation and cultivation techniques of fruit germplasm resources in cold and arid regions, cultivation of flax and molecular breeding, forage sorghum cultivation and feeding technique, breeding and release of new cultivars in cold and arid regions: cotton, rape, flax, small miscellaneous grains, etc., as well as education and training of agriculture talents in cold and arid areas.

To be more specific, GAAS and SAU are going to organise joint research programmes, conferences and training workshops, but also exchange of the faculty, graduates (Masters and PhD students) on scholarship. Besides, exchange of academic materials and periodicals are indispensable as well.

“Our new flax varieties, the Longya series, are all selected according to the climate conditions of dry with little rainfall in Northwest China. In the planting experiments, the yield is generally more than 10 percent higher than that of the local varieties, and the resistance to diseases and insect pests is more satisfactory.

Up to now, Longya No 11, No 14, and No 15 have been planted in Pakistan preliminarily. If everything goes well, the series should be able to exert a good effect of drought resistance and increase yield under the climate conditions of Pakistan,” Zhao Wei, Researcher at the Crop Research Institute of GAAS , indicated in an interview with CEN.

Under the MoU, the parties agree to establish a flax study research and innovation hub between two countries, which focuses on high-yield and high-quality composite crops, cooperates in research, demonstration, and promotion of variety selection, optimisation of cultivation technology, plant protection, and agricultural mechanisation.

The average production of flaxseed in Pakistan is as low as 692kg per hectare because of less soil fertility, blind use of fertilizers, lack of high-yield hybrid varieties and old cultivation practice.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2023-05-24/page-4/detail-6>

### Jang News

#### مودی اصل دہشت گرد، چین، سعودیہ، ترکی کو سرینگرہ جانے پر سرخ سلام، بلاول بھٹو

اسلام آباد (نمائندہ جنگ) وزیر خارجہ بلاول بھٹو نے کہا ہے کہ انہوں نے ایک سال کے دوران ہر فورم پر کشمیریوں کی آواز موثر طور پر بلند کی ہے، کشمیری عوام کے ساتھ نسلوں کا تعلق اور ساتھ ہے، میں اپنے خاندان کی تیسری نسل ہوں جو کشمیریوں کی نمائندگی کر رہا ہوں، بھارت سمجھتا ہے کہ ہم کشمیریوں کو بھول جائیں گے، ہم شہداء کے وارث ہیں، کشمیریوں کو حق رائے دہی ملے بغیر یہ مسئلہ حل نہیں ہو سکتا، سری نگر میں بھارت کی جانب سے جی-20 کانفرنس کے خلاف احتجاج کے دوران میں صرف پاکستان کا وزیر خارجہ نہیں بلکہ آزاد کشمیر اور مقبوضہ کشمیر کا بھی وزیر خارجہ ہوں۔ باغ آزاد کشمیر میں جلسے سے خطاب کرتے ہوئے بلاول بھٹو زرداری نے کہا مودی اصل دہشت گرد ہے، چین، سعودیہ، ترکی کو سرینگرہ جانے پر سرخ سلام، ان ممالک کے شکر گزار ہیں جنہوں نے اصولی موقف اپنا کر سری نگر کے متنازع علاقے میں جی-20 سیاحت کانفرنس میں شرکت نہیں کی، چین، ترکیہ اور سعودی عرب کے شکر گزار ہیں کہ انہوں نے مودی کی دعوت مسترد کر دی۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ اس کانفرنس میں جو

ممالک شرکت کر رہے ہیں انہوں نے کم سطح کے نمائندے بھیجے ہیں اور وہ احتجاجاً اس میں شریک ہوئے ہیں، اس کا نفرنس کے انعقاد کے ذریعے بھارت کا مقصد پورا نہیں ہوا، وہ دنیا کو یہ دکھانا چاہتا تھا کہ مقبوضہ کشمیر میں حالات معمول پر ہیں تاہم ناکام نفرنس سے ان کا اصل چہرہ بے نقاب ہوا ہے۔

<https://jang.com.pk/news/1229180>

## K2 Daily

بقیہ 20

تیس دنوں سے۔ وزیر اعلیٰ گلت ہتھانے کے لیے  
بھارتی اقتدار کے خلاف مقبوضہ کشمیر کے عوام سرایا  
احتجاج ہیں۔ بھارت دنیا کو باور کرانا چاہتا تھا کہ  
کشمیر میں حالات ٹھیک ہو گئے ہیں لیکن مقبوضہ کشمیری  
عوام نے بھارت اس کو پیش کرنا کام بنا دیا۔ سری نگر  
میں جی 20 اجلاس کا انعقاد کر کے بھارت نے دنیا  
کو بتا دیا ہے کہ وہ عالمی قوانین تسلیم نہیں کرتا۔ اس  
اجلاس کے انعقاد سے بھارت نے سماجی کونسل کے  
قراردادوں کو نظر انداز کر دیا۔ وزیر اعلیٰ خالد خورشید  
نے کہا کہ بھارتی برادری پر بھارتی ذمہ داری عائد  
ہوتی ہے کہ وہ اقوام متحدہ کی قراردادوں کی روٹی میں  
مقبوضہ کشمیر کے مظلوم اور بے گناہ عوام کو نجات دہانی  
دلانے میں اپنا کردار ادا کرے۔ چائینڈ اور سموری  
عرب نے جی 20 نفرنس میں عدم حرکت کر کے  
مقبوضہ کشمیر کی منازہ حیثیت کو اٹھا کر دیا اور دنیا  
کو واضح پیغام دیا کہ مظلوم کشمیری عوام پر بھارتی مظالم  
اور تشدد کی حمایت نہیں کی جاسکتی ہے۔ بھارت کا کردار  
چھوڑو اور سلاش دہانے کے سامنے سزاں ہوتی ہے۔

جی 20 کا نفرنس  
کابائیکٹ  
چین کی مقبوضہ کشمیر کی منازہ حیثیت اجاگر کر دی  
خالد خورشید

مقبوضہ کشمیر کے عوام نے جی 20 اجلاس کو مسترد کر کے دنیا پر ثابت کر دیا بھارت کا قبضہ کشمیر عوام قبول نہیں کریں گے  
عالمی برادری پر ذمہ داری عائد ہوتی ہے وہ اقوام متحدہ کی قراردادوں کی روٹی میں کشمیر کے عوام کو نجات دلانے  
گلت (پ) وزیر اعلیٰ گلت ہتھانے کے لیے  
خورشید نے مقبوضہ کشمیر میں بھارت کی جانب سے  
جی 20 اجلاس کے انعقاد پر جاری بیان میں کہا ہے  
کر کے دنیا کو ثابت کیا کہ مقبوضہ کشمیر پر بھارت کا  
کشمیریوں کی آواز (باقی صفحہ 7 پیج نمبر 20)

[https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP\\_ICT&Page=Front\\_Page&Date=2023-05-24](https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=Front_Page&Date=2023-05-24)

[https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP\\_ICT&Page=Baqia&Date=2023-05-24](https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=Baqia&Date=2023-05-24)

پاکستان اور چین کے درمیان مذاہمت کی یادداشت پر دستخط  
کانسو آئیڈی اور سندھ ایگریکلچر یونیورسٹی آف ٹیڈو جام کے درمیان مذاہمت کی یادداشت پر دستخط

پیکس (آئی این پی) چین کی کانسو آئیڈی  
آف ایگریکلچرل سائنسز اور پاکستان کی سندھ  
ایگریکلچر یونیورسٹی آف ٹیڈو جام کے درمیان  
پانچ ماہہ طور پر چین پاکستان پیکنس ریسرچ اینڈ  
انویٹیشن سب کے لیے مذاہمت کی ایک یادداشت  
پر دستخط ہو گئے۔ چانکا انکا کب سب کے مطابق جبر  
2020 سے کانسو سب کے ادارہ حکومت لاڈو  
نے پیکنس سب کے خلاف مزاحمت اور فوٹو آئیڈی کی  
نیرنگی دانشورانہ کامیابیوں کے مظاہرے اور فروغ  
کی بنیاد قائم کرنے کے (باقی صفحہ 6 پیج نمبر 14)

بقیہ 14  
لیے ایک کام آتا ہے۔ سنی اسے اسے لکھنے کے  
صدر ڈاکٹر یحیٰ عظیم سنگ اور ٹیڈو جام کی سندھ  
ایگریکلچر یونیورسٹی کے وائس چانسلر پروفیسر ڈاکٹر  
عمادی نے ان لائن میٹنگ میں شرکت کی۔

[https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP\\_ICT&Page=International%20/%20Local%20News&Date=2023-05-24](https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=International%20/%20Local%20News&Date=2023-05-24)

[https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP\\_ICT&Page=Classified&Date=2023-05-24](https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=Classified&Date=2023-05-24)

**May 25, 2023**

**Daily Times**

### **Pakistan anticipates more investments from Shanghai Economic Zone**

Pakistan Consul General in Shanghai Hussain Haider on Wednesday said that Pakistan actively explored trade and investment cooperation opportunities with Chinese enterprises and welcomed the direct investment.

During his presentation on trade and investment opportunities in Pakistan at Pakistan International Promotion Conference in Shanghai, he provided an overview of unique Pakistani products, top exports, Pakistan foreign trade, preferential investment policies in Pakistan, the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, foreign investment incentives, and priority sectors for investment, among other topics. He said that Pakistan, situated at a crucial juncture of the Belt and Road, possesses a unique geographical location and abundant natural resources.

“With its substantial market potential, youthful workforce, and agricultural advantages, Pakistan holds significant development potential in the fields of economy, Special Economic Zones (SEZs), tourism, and culture, thus attracting Chinese investment and tourists,” he added.

The consul general mentioned, “Shanghai-based companies that have invested in Pakistan have achieved significant success and serve as exemplary Pak-China collaboration cases, adding, We anticipate further investments from the Shanghai economic zone in the post-pandemic era.”

Jiawen Pei, the chairman of Shanghai Blue Sky Economic City Development Co., Ltd, acknowledged the presence of 20,000 enterprises in the city park, many of which align with Pakistan’s encouraged investment direction, China Economic Net (CEN) reported.

He welcomed the establishment of the Pakistan National Pavilion within the economic city, aiming to expand the sales of high-quality Pakistani products through offline display and e-commerce.

The Shanghai Blue Sky Economic City is an economic development zone authorized by the government of Shanghai’s Jiading District. Established in 1994, it is located in Nanxiang, a picturesque town with a rich historical and cultural heritage and a strong presence in the gaming industry.

The chairman expressed the desire to strengthen interaction with Pakistan, jointly optimize the business environment, and serve as a bridge for cooperation between the two sides.

More than 100 enterprises in logistics, food processing, information technology, automobile parts, and hardware participated in the promotion conference, demonstrating their interest in trade and investment. They raised various questions such as the currency for settling trade transactions between China and Pakistan, laws concerning the employment of local Pakistani



employees, and preparations for joint ventures. The consul general addressed these queries on-site and provided the necessary answers.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1096653/pakistan-anticipates-more-investments-from-shanghai-economic-zone/>

### **Pak-China ceramic cooperation holds potential to benefit Pakistan's industry: Liza Zhou**

There is a brighter future for Pak-China ceramic cooperation, said Liza Zhou, senior sales manager of a top Chinese ceramic brand.

China is a major producer of ceramic, which is famous for its long history and high-cost performance.

Liza Zhou told Gwadar Pro that the quality of their products is now close to that of Italian ceramic tiles, some can even surpass them.

“Compared with Pakistani ceramics, the technology and machines of China are better. For example, the technology of gold tile only exists in China or Spain and nowhere in the world,” said Muhammad Shahid, CEO of Foshan Urban Ceramics, who has an 18-year ceramic business in China. Since Pakistan has abundant labor force, raw materials and better international trade environment, Pak-China ceramic cooperation has a great potential.

However, Chinese brands are facing some difficulties in the international market. “At present, the whole industry is facing great pressure in export. There are challenges such as trade barriers. There are competitions with other Chinese enterprises as well as fast emerging producers, such as India and Türkiye,” said Alfred Huang, assistant to General Manager of Guangdong MarcoPolo Ceramics, one of the largest ceramic tile brands in China.

Pakistan's ceramic industry is also facing challenges such as shortage of technology, taxation and rising cost of energy. “If we have better machinery here, there will be better results. If we have automatic production lines, we can achieve a higher production efficiency,” said Mazhar Iqbal, Production Manager at Deen China Ware, Gujranwala. Pak-China ceramic cooperation can be a solution to above problems both countries have encountered. Some collaborations in this sector have already begun and are operating in good shape.

“Chinese companies with millions of dollars of investments had set up their factories in Allama Iqbal Industrial Zone (Special Economic Zone Faisalabad set up under CPEC), creating thousands of jobs and boosting ceramics business,” said Mian Kashif Ashfaq, a pioneer in establishing Allama Iqbal Industrial City.

During the last two years, nine ceramics units have been established with the assistance of Chinese firms in Faisalabad's SEZ. Locally-produced ceramics tiles were cost-effective and of good quality.

“With the fast-paced development of the sector, Pakistan can also be able to earn foreign exchange by exporting ceramics,” said a spokesperson of the All-Pakistan Ceramic Tiles Manufacturers Association.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1096628/pak-china-ceramic-cooperation-holds-potential-to-benefit-pakistans-industry-liza-zhou/>

### **The News**

#### **PCJCCI calls for measures to increase mango exports to China**

LAHORE: Pakistan China Joint Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCJCCI) on Wednesday called for measures to increase mangoes exports to China, saying Pakistani mangoes account for only less than 0.36 percent of China's total mango imports.

“China is a huge market for Pakistani mangoes and there is a dire need for joint efforts from China and Pakistan to glorify potential in this sector,” PCJCCI president Moazzam Ali Ghurki said during a think tank session. He stressed that Pakistan should diversify its varieties and produce high-quality mangoes to lure Chinese buyers. Ghurki added that similar to Pak-China Knowledge Portal and Pak-China Technology Portal, PCJCCI was planning to initiate Pak-China Trade Portal as Chinese people prefer online shopping. “In this way, Pakistani exporters could use this platform for mango exports,” he said.

PCJCCI aims to provide a one-stop solution for both the Chinese and Pakistani business community. Last year, it conducted businesses to business seminars and webinars to facilitate Pakistani mango exporters and Chinese mango importers because due to catastrophic flood the mango yields were badly damaged, according to Ghurki.

“PCJCCI is also planning to organise such webinars and seminars again to establish long-term relationships between Pakistani exporters and Chinese mango importers,” he said. Senior vice president of PCJCCI Fang Yulong called for more efforts in mango packaging, preservation, deep processing and transportation. Three-dimensional transportation channels by land, sea, and air should be fully utilised for rapid delivery, he urged.

“In terms of packaging, the maturity and appearance of each box is the key to boosting sales. At the same time, we can establish large warehouse supermarkets in major Chinese cities. With the improvement of people's living standards and the pursuit of nutritional diversity, the consumption of the king of fruits is increasing year by year in China,” Yulong said.

PCJCCI vice president Hamza Khalid shared a data that Pakistan has exported 37.4 tonnes of fresh and dried mangoes to China in the previous years. “At present, Pakistan's mangoes account for only less than 0.36 percent of China's total mango imports,” Khalid said.

<https://e.thenews.com.pk/detail?id=205201>

**May 26, 2023**

**Daily Times**

#### **Pakistan pins hopes on China's assistance in financial crunch**

Pakistan expects China to roll over more than \$2bn in debt due next month, but is still bracing itself for other repayment deadlines that risk tipping the country into default, Financial Times reported on Thursday.

With a crucial IMF lending programme stalled, Pakistan has about \$3.7bn in overseas debt due this month and in June against its current foreign reserves of just \$4.3bn.

Two senior Pakistani officials said Beijing had committed to help the country meet two crucial debt repayments in June worth a total \$2.3bn by providing fresh funds immediately after Pakistan makes the payments. The refinancing of the commercial loans worth \$1.3bn and a Chinese government loan of \$1bn would help Pakistan avert immediate default, the Pakistani officials said. Beijing earlier this year already rolled over some loans to Pakistan. Chinese foreign minister Qin Gang also reiterated Beijing's financial support for the country on a visit to Pakistan earlier this month. In a written statement to the Financial Times, China's foreign ministry said Beijing would "help Pakistan to achieve stability". "China and Pakistan are all-weather strategic cooperative partners," it said. Several analysts said they expected the relief from China – one of Pakistan's closest allies – to come through, but warned it would not remove the risk of default.

"There's no way that the Chinese will walk back from Pakistan at this time," said Uzair Younus, director of the Pakistan Initiative at the Atlantic Council, a Washington-based think-tank, referring to the June debt deadlines. But Younus added that a severe shortage of external financing had resulted in "economic shock going through the entire society".

Pakistan, which has long relied on lenders such as the IMF and China to finance its budget deficits, is trapped in one of the worst economic crises in its history. The collapse in foreign reserves, now only enough to finance about a month of imports, has led to severe import shortages. Record-high consumer price inflation – which hit 36 per cent in April – has eroded living standards and exacerbated poverty in the country of more than 220mn people.

Central bank data shows Pakistan's foreign debt has roughly doubled since 2015 to more than \$120bn. The increase has been fuelled by rising commodity import bills, borrowing for projects including those that are part of China's Belt and Road infrastructure initiative, and the fallout of the Covid-19 pandemic. The Pakistani officials said they expected to receive up to \$400mn from foreign donors following pledges to finance recovery from devastating floods last year. But the country has for months been unable to resume a stalled \$7bn IMF programme that many analysts say is a crucial first step to turning its economic situation around. Pakistan revised its growth forecast for 2023 on Thursday to just 0.29 per cent, down from 2 per cent and trailing the IMF estimate of 0.5 per cent. Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's government has fiercely resisted some of the measures the IMF has demanded, such as tax increases and subsidy cuts. While it eventually agreed to some conditions, officials and analysts said the two sides had also clashed over how Pakistan should build up its foreign reserves.

But many analysts say an IMF deal is crucial to restore investor confidence and would help unlock further financing from other international partners such as Saudi Arabia or the United Arab Emirates.

They add that, with officials estimating that Pakistan needs to repay about \$25bn in debt in the financial year that starts in July, the country will probably require further borrowing and potentially a new IMF programme if it is to stave off default.

“The situation is extremely delicate. We are at the worst financial position in our history [in terms] of sustainability of balance of payments,” said Hafiz Pasha, a former finance minister. “This time we will need an extended arrangement with the IMF for restructuring and reprofiling of our debt.”

Yet Pakistan’s political crisis risks throttling any chance of an economic turnaround. Sharif’s government, with the backing of the country’s powerful military, is locked in a stand-off with former prime minister Imran Khan. Analysts consider Khan the most popular candidate ahead of national elections due by October. The former prime minister is on bail after being arrested this month on what he calls trumped-up corruption charges. Authorities launched a crackdown on Khan’s Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf party after violent protests by his supporters while he was in custody. Foreign officials have warned the political volatility risks distracting Pakistan from resolving its economic problems. While in Islamabad, China’s Qin called on Pakistani politicians to “uphold stability so that [they] can focus on growing the economy”.

“Political stability is the prerequisite to overall stability. The optimistic scenario is Pakistan getting political stability in the next three months,” said Ali Farid Khwaja, head of Karachi-based brokerage KTrade Securities. “If they cannot deliver on political stability, then a default scenario looks more likely.” Miftah Ismail, another former finance minister, said deep economic reform would also be needed. “Pakistan’s viability at this point depends on magnanimity of its friends,” he said. “Radical solutions have to be adopted to widen the tax net and reduce expenditure to impress the outside world.”

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1096817/pakistan-pins-hopes-on-chinas-assistance-in-financial-crunch/>

### **Gwadar Port starts its first-ever direct export to China**

In a major development, Gwadar port started its first-ever direct export to China on May 24, as five containers carrying pharmaceutical raw materials left the Gwadar Free Zone for the Chinese port city of Tianjin, Hangeng Trading Company told Gwadar Pro.

The shipment will reach China within 30 days. Describing it as a major breakthrough, the company’s CEO Andy Liao said, “Starting from June, we will increase the volume of import and export goods. It’s a huge achievement and historical moment for Gwadar.”

Gwadar Port leads the high-quality development of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, an important pilot project of the China-proposed Belt and Road Initiative and one of the main platforms for deepening bilateral cooperation.

“The direct exports will play a role in increasing remittances to Pakistan and improve Pakistan’s economy,” he said. “More investors and companies will come to Pakistan after seeing easy export facilities between Pakistan and China. Our special thanks go to Customs and Terminal Corporation for their 5-star service,” Liao added.

According to the company’s trading manager Abdul Razzaq, 30 local workers from Gwadar were employed for the processing of pharmaceutical raw materials.

He said that celebrations are going on in the Gwadar Free Zone and among all the stakeholders on this historical achievement.

Liao hoped and appealed that the State Bank of Pakistan can use Gwadar as a pilot park for RMB settlement as it will attract more investors to invest in Gwadar and also exports can bring foreign exchange, which is helpful for Pakistan's economic development.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1096901/gwadar-port-starts-its-first-ever-direct-export-to-china/>

### **Dawn News**

#### **Pakistan has not joined 'China bloc': FO**

*Iftikhar A. Khan*

ISLAMABAD: Amid a global power rivalry between the United States and China, Pakistan on Thursday rejected speculations it had joined 'the China bloc'.

"I would like to refute any such speculation that Pakistan has joined one bloc or the other. Pakistan has a consistent policy that we do not believe in bloc politics," Foreign Office spokesperson Mumtaz Zahra Baloch told a weekly press briefing here.

She said Pakistan had an "All Weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership" with China. She noted that it was a relationship that had grown from strength to strength over the last several decades and both countries were committed to this relationship.

Similarly, she said, Pakistan had excellent relations with a large number of countries around the world, in the Middle East, in Asia Pacific, in Europe and in Africa.

"The United States esp-ecially is one of the oldest friends and partner of Pakistan and the biggest export market. Our relations with the United States are perhaps as old as Pakistan itself. Pakistan-US relations are multidimensional with several areas of cooperation with Pakistani Americans acting as a bridge between Pakistan and the United States. We have no desire to take sides or to join one bloc or the other," she said.

Answering a question about a letter written to US Secretary of State by more than 60 congressmen about human rights violation in Pakistan, she said: "We have seen the letter. We do not agree with the characterisation of events of May 9 and the situation in Pakistan, as reflected in that letter."

She said the National Security Committee had spelt out the factual situation around the events of May 9. "Pakistan remains committed to its constitutional obligations to protect the rights and property of all its citizens. These constitutional guarantees and fundamental freedoms are being underwritten by our judiciary," she remarked.

Criticising India's move to host the meeting of the G-20 Tourism Working Group in Srinagar, she said Jammu and Kashmir was an internationally-recognised disputed territory.

She said the dispute had remained on the agenda of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) for over seven decades. In that backdrop, India hosted the meeting in Indian-held Kashmir in complete disregard of the relevant UN Security Council Resolutions, principles of the UN Charter and international law.

"By holding the G20 meeting in Srinagar, India cannot hide the reality of its illegal occupation of IIOJK and oppression of the Kashmiri people. India's facade of normalcy in



Kashmir is met by the harsh reality that IIOJK remains one of the most militarised zones on the planet,” she remarked. She appreciated China, Saudi Arabia, Türkiye, Egypt and Oman for not attending the Srinagar meeting. These countries have stood for international law and for the UN Charter. She said India has politicised yet another international forum, and it was exploiting its position as the current Chair to advance its self-serving agenda.

“India should instead provide unhindered access to international media and independent human rights organisations to report on the situation in IIOJK. It must bring an end to the repression it has unleashed there, agree to the establishment of the UN Commission of Inquiry and hold a UN supervised plebiscite for the people of Kashmir to determine their own future,” she stressed.

Ms Baloch also announced that the government had appointed Ambassador Asif Ali Khan Durrani as Pakistan’s Special Representative on Afghanistan. A retired Foreign Service officer, Ambassador Durrani served as Pakistan’s Ambassador to Iran and the UAE. He also served in various capacities at Pakistan’s Missions in Kabul, Tehran, New Delhi, London and the Permanent Mission to the UN, New York.

As the Special Representative on Afghanistan, Ambassador Durrani will serve as a bridge between international partners and the Pakistani leadership. He will also represent Pakistan in major international mechanisms on Afghanistan held at the level of Special Representatives.

Answering a question, she rejected claims by some that President Dr Arif Alvi was holding secret meetings with ambassadors of various countries, without taking the Foreign Office on board.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1755880#:~:text=ISLAMABAD%3A%20Amid%20a%20global%20power,one%20bloc%20or%20the%20other.>

### **The Express Tribune**

#### **Matiari-Thar transmission line inaugurated**

220km quad bundle transmission line completed in record time of four months for Rs20 billion

HYDERABAD: Federal Minister for Energy (Power Division), Khurram Dastagir Khan, marked a momentous occasion on Thursday as he inaugurated the 220-kilometer Matiari-Thar 500 KV Quad Bundle transmission line. The project, completed in a record time of four months at a cost of Rs20 billion, was directed by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and executed by the National Transmission Dispatch Company (NTDC).

Addressing the media at a local hotel before the inauguration, Minister Khurram Dastagir hailed the transmission line as a revolutionary achievement. The line, entirely indigenous, will carry the cheapest electricity generated from local Thar coal across the country.

The minister revealed that this transmission line was initially scheduled for completion four years ago but had been delayed by the previous government’s inability to execute the project. However, under the guidance of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, the NTDC, led by its managing director and a dedicated team, completed the project in just four months.

Furthermore, the NTDC managed to save Rs1 billion by collaborating with five local companies to bring the total cost down to Rs20 billion.

Dastagir emphasised that the current federal government had successfully produced 1980 megawatts of new and affordable electricity from Thar coal. The power generated will be transmitted to the national grid through the Matiari-Lahore transmission line, a crucial part of the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) project.

Highlighting an unprecedented achievement, the minister stated that high-power cables, transformers, and conductors were being manufactured by local companies, thus preserving foreign currency reserves.

Acknowledging the country's challenging economic conditions and rising inflation, Dastagir affirmed that Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and allied parties, including the Pakistan People's Party, JUI, MQM, and parties from Balochistan and Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa, were dedicated to lifting the nation out of this difficult situation. In a veiled criticism of opponents, he stressed that while they might attempt to dismantle facilities, the government would continue building them.

The minister commended the NTDC, along with support from sensitive agencies and the DIG Hyderabad, for effectively curbing the theft of transmission line cables and conductors, which had cost the nation billions of rupees.

Addressing concerns about power outages and transformer repairs, the minister clarified that load shedding was being carried out due to line losses and not due to electricity shortages. He announced that modern vehicles equipped with safety equipment had been provided to the Hyderabad Electric Supply Company (HESCO) management for on-site transformer repairs without the need for removal.

Dastagir urged electricity consumers to cooperate with HESCO by paying their bills promptly and reducing losses, which would help alleviate load shedding.

Regarding the transfer of power distribution companies to the provinces, the federal minister acknowledged that it was a complex and legal matter that would require time to materialise.

In a separate event, the minister visited HESCO headquarters, where he handed over 15 modern vehicles equipped with safety measures to the company's CEO. These vehicles, purchased at a cost of Rs230 million, will facilitate technical staff in the on-site repair of power transformers.

Following the visit, the minister, accompanied by State Minister Hashim Notezai, MD NTDC, PML(N) Sindh President Sayed Muhammad Shah, MNA Khealdas Kohistani, HESCO Chief Myzafar Abbasi, and others, paid a visit to the shrine of Hazrat Shah Abdul Latif Bhittai in Bhit Shah.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2418634/matiari-thar-transmission-line-inaugurated>

## **The Nation**

### **China, KSA, Türkiye stand to uphold int'l law: Pakistan**

*SHAFQAT ALI*

US Congressmen's letter to Antony Blinken 'contains distorted facts'.

Pakistan will continue to extend support to Kashmiris.

ISLAMABAD - Pakistan said yesterday that China, Saudi Arabia and Türkiye stood for international law and for the primacy of the UN charter by not participating in the G-20 meeting in occupied Kashmir.

At her weekly press briefing in Islamabad on Thursday, Foreign Office spokesperson Mumtaz Zahra Baloch appreciated China, Saudi Arabia, Türkiye, Egypt and Oman for not attending the G-20 meeting in the Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK).

The spokesperson said Pakistan had categorically rejected India's move to host the meeting of G-20 Tourism Working Group in Srinagar.

She said India had clearly failed in hiding the reality in IIOJK behind a veneer of normalcy, as demonstrated by low level representation and the absence of a number of important invitees at the Srinagar meeting.

She said India hosted this meeting in IIOJK in complete disregard to the relevant UN Security Council Resolutions, principles of the UN Charter and international law. The spokesperson pointed out that the G-20 was established primarily to address global financial and economic issues. She said by holding this meeting in the occupied territory, India has politicized yet another international forum and is exploiting its position as the current chair to advance its self-serving agenda.

Baloch said India should instead provide unhindered access to the international media and independent human rights organizations to report on the situation in IIOJK. The spokesperson said, Pakistan for its part, will continue to extend its moral, diplomatic and political support to the Kashmiri people's just struggle for realization of their inalienable right to self-determination.

To a question, she said Pakistan has not joined one bloc or the other. "Pakistan has a consistent policy that we do not believe in bloc politics. We have an all-weather strategic cooperative partnership with China. It is a relationship that has grown from strength to strength over the last several decades and both countries are committed to this relationship," she said.

The spokesperson added: "Similarly, Pakistan has excellent relations with a large number of countries around the world including the Middle East, Asia Pacific, Europe and Africa. The United States is one of the oldest friends and partners of Pakistan and the biggest export market. Pakistan-US relations are multidimensional with several areas of cooperation. We have no desire to take sides or to join one bloc or the other."

Asked about a letter written to US Secretary of State Antony John Blinken by more than 60 congressmen regarding alleged 'human rights violation' in Pakistan, she said: "We have seen the letter. We do not agree with the characterization of the events of May 9 and the situation in Pakistan, as reflected in that letter. The National Security Committee has spelt out the factual situation around the events of May 9. Pakistan remains committed to its constitutional obligations to protect the rights and property of all its citizens. These constitutional guarantees and fundamental freedoms are being underwritten by our judiciary." Questioned about the former US secretary of state Mike Pompeii's statement on the current politics of Pakistan, Baloch said: "We will not comment on the statements by people who are not in government or hold any public office. Pakistan has the resilience and capacity to overcome all domestic challenges."

She said, "We welcome the recent normalization of relations between Saudi Arabia and Iran, Iran and Egypt and the peace measures which have been taken with respect to the conflict in Yemen. We also welcome the return of Syria to the Arab League fold. We hope that with peace restored and normalization of relations between countries in the region, all of which are good friends of Pakistan, new opportunities would arise for progress and prosperity of the people of this region, including for the people of Pakistan," she added.

The spokesperson urged India not to mix politics with sports. India's approach has, however, remained very disappointing. India is a country that refused visas for the blind cricket team and politicized sports.

Baloch said Foreign Minister of Republic of Belarus, Sergei Aleinik, will undertake an official visit to Islamabad on May 30-31, 2023, at the invitation of Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari.

She said Foreign Secretary Dr Asad Majeed Khan will travel to Azerbaijan and Georgia from 31st May to 1st June 2023 to hold bilateral political consultations.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2023-05-26/page-12/detail-3>

## K2 Daily



تنگی میڈیا کی ایک رپورٹ کے مطابق آج گوادر پورٹ کا مقام بھی گہریوں کا ایک چھوٹا سا کمانڈو چمکا رہا بلکہ چین پاکستان اقتصادی راہداری کا ایک چمکا ہوا نمونہ ہے۔ گوادر پورٹ پر ایک کثیر القاصد ارتحال تعمیر کیا گیا ہے جس میں تین ڈرائیونگ ڈینی تین برجس ہیں، جس سے سمندری راستے سفلر ہے ہیں۔ گوادر ایسٹ سیکرٹریٹس ہے پاکستان کے سب سے بڑے شہر کراچی کی طرف جاتا ہے۔

**سی پیک کے تحت گوادر پورٹ چمکا ہوا نمونہ ہے، چینی میڈیا**

اسلام آباد (آئی این پی) گواہاں سال مہلات ایئر روڈ ہمیشہ ایئر فیل کرے اور چین پاکستان اقتصادی راہداری کے آغاز کی دسویں سالگرہ ہے۔ سی پیک منصوبہ چین اور پاکستان کی مشترکہ کوششوں سے طرٹ ایئر روڈ کی مشترکہ تعمیر میں تعاون کی ایک نیا نمونہ بن چکا ہے۔ اس منصوبے کے تحت گوادر پورٹ، قزاقی کے منصوبے اور اسپریشن اور انٹرا سٹریٹجر کی تعمیر میں سالوں سے ہماری ہے جو تھامس نیچر ری ہے۔ جمعرات کے روز (ہفتی صوبہ 6 بجے نمبر 31)

[https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP\\_ICT&Page=Gilgit%20Baltistan%20News&Date=2023-05-26](https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=Gilgit%20Baltistan%20News&Date=2023-05-26)

[https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP\\_ICT&Page=Classified&Date=2023-05-26](https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=Classified&Date=2023-05-26)

## Nawaiwaqt

### "Love Export Policy of China!"

پیغمبر انقلاب صلی اللہ علیہ وآلہ وسلم کی حدیث مبارکہ کے مطابق آپ نے مسلمانوں کو تلقین کی تھی کہ ”علم حاصل کرو! خواہ تمہیں چین ہی کیوں نہ جانا پڑے!“۔ معزز ٹیپوں سے کتابیں چھپنا شروع ہو گئی تھیں اور یقیناً ”مدینۃ العلم“ صلی اللہ علیہ وآلہ وسلم کو اس (Blogs) قارئین! ان دنوں چین میں کاغذ ایجاد ہو چکا تھا اور لکڑی کے کا ادراک بھی ہو گا؟

“!پاک بھارت جنگ 1965ء”

ستمبر 1965ء کو بھارت نے بین الاقوامی سرحدوں کی خلاف ورزی کرتے ہوئے پاکستان پر جارحانہ حملہ کیا تو عالمی برادری میں اس کی بہت بدنامی ہوئی۔ 17 دن کی 6 (Mao) جنگ میں پاکستانی قوم متحد تھی اور اس نے پاکستان کی مسلح افواج کے شانہ بشانہ بھارتی جارحیت کا مقابلہ کیا۔ عوامی جمہوریہ چین کے بانی چیئر مین، ماؤزے تنگ نے پاکستان کی بھرپور مدد کر کے، حکومت پاکستان اور پاکستانی عوام کے دل موہ لئے تھے۔ (Zhou Enlai) اور وزیر اعظم، چو۔ این۔ لائی (Zdeong) “!قائد اعظم / ماؤزے تنگ”

اہم بات یہ کہ ”بانی پاکستان حضرت قائد اعظم محمد علی جناح نے جب 14 اگست 1947ء کو گورنر جنرل آف پاکستان کا منصب سنبھالا تو اپنی ساری جائیداد کا ایک بنا کر اسے قوم کے نام کر دیا تھا!“۔ چیئر مین ماؤزے تنگ کا بھی یہی انداز تھا۔ 9 ستمبر 1976ء کو جب ان کا انتقال ہوا تو انہوں نے ترکے میں 6 جوڑے کپڑے ”Trust“ ایک لائبریری اور بینک میں چند ڈالرز چھوڑے تھے۔ (Uniforms)

“!پاک چین دوستی”

معزز قارئین! کل 21 مئی کو پاک، چین دوستی اور سفارتی تعلقات کا 72 واں سال منایا گیا۔ صدر پاکستان جناب عارف الرحمن علوی، وزیر اعظم میاں شہباز شریف اور دوسرے اکابرین نے اپنے چینی ہم منصبوں کو مبارکباد کے پیغامات دیئے ہیں۔ وزیر خارجہ بلاول بھٹو زرداری، وزیر مملکت برائے خارجہ امور محترمہ حنا ربانی کھر اور دوسرے اکابرین چین کے دوستانہ دورے پر ہیں۔

“!دو بار دورہ چین”

ان دنوں وفاقی وزیر اطلاعات و نشریات شیخ رشید احمد کی قیادت میں گیارہ سینئر صحافیوں کے (معزز قارئین! یہ میری خوش قسمتی ہے کہ ”پہلی بار اگست 1991ء میں ساتھ اور دوسری بار 1996ء میں وزیر اعظم محترمہ بے نظیر بھٹو کی میڈیا ٹیم کے رکن کی حیثیت سے عوامی جمہوریہ چین کا دورہ کرنے کا موقع ملا۔ میں دونوں مواقع پر، عوامی جمہوریہ چین کے سیاستدانوں، شاعروں، ادیبوں، دانشوروں، وکلاء، صحافیوں اور غیر صحافیوں سے جو بھی علم حاصل کر سکا، وہ میں نے کیا۔ دونوں بار مجھے شیشے کے ... میں محفوظ، چیئر مین ماؤزے تنگ کے جسدِ خاکی کو بھی دیکھنے کا موقع ملا معزز قارئین! میں نے اپنے دورہ چین کے بارے ایک نظم لکھی، ملاحظہ فرمائیں ”Box“ ایک

“!ہمالہ سے عظیم تر ہے پاک چین دوستی”

...O...

!یہ قُرتوں کی داستاں، یہ لذتِ ہمسائیگی

!ہیں، رشتے اعتماد کے، ہے احترامِ باہمی



!دونوں کا مقصد ایک ہے، قائم ہوا من و آشتی

!ہمالہ سے عظیم تر ہے، پاک چین دوستی

... O ...

!مخلص و بے ریائی کے، حسین گل کھلے ہوئے

!سدا سے ہیں، عوام کے دلوں سے دل ملے ہوئے

!محبوبوں کی دُھن پہ رقص کر رہی ہے زندگی

!ہمالہ سے عظیم تر ہے پاک چین دوستی

...O...

!خدا کی بارگاہ میں، دانائی ہی قبول ہے

!تم پائو علم چین سے“ فرمودہ رسول ہے ”

!اُس دور میں بھی چین تھا سچ علم و آگہی

!ہمالہ سے عظیم تر ہے پاک چین دوستی

...O...

!کشیر ہو یا ہو عراق یا سرزمین فلسطین

!چمکے گی شمع حریت، ہو گا اجالا بالقیس

!دیوی امن کی ناپے گی، ہو گی فضا میں نغسی

!ہمالہ سے عظیم تر ہے پاک چین دوستی

...O...

!کس درجہ تیزی آئی ہے، رفتار ماہ وصال میں

!خود بھنس گیا ہے سامراج، اپنے بچھائے جال میں

!عفریت ظلم و جور کو، کرنا پڑے گی خود کشی

!ہمالہ سے عظیم تر ہے پاک چین دوستی

...O...

معزز قارئین! اسلام آباد میں ”مفسر نظریہ پاکستان“ جناب مجید نظامی کے خرید خاص، تحریک پاکستان کے (گولڈ میڈلسٹ) کارکن چاچا غلام نبی بختاوری کے فرزند، چیئرمین ”پاکستان کلچرل فورم“ اسلام آباد، برادر عزیز، ظفر بختاوری نے میری اس نظم کو دنیا بھر کے سفارتخانوں میں پھیلا دیا تھا۔ ظفر بختاوری خود 7/8 بار عوامی جمہوریہ چین کا دورہ کر چکے ہیں۔ انہوں نے اپنا آخری دورہ چین اگست 2016ء میں کیا۔

میرے دو دوست، تحریک پاکستان کے (گولڈ میڈلسٹ) کارکنان لاہور کے مرزا شجاع الدین بیگ امرتسری (موجودہ چیئرمین پیمر اپر ڈیفینس مرزا محمد سلیم بیگ کے والد صاحب) اور پاکستان شریف کے چودھری محمد اکرم طور (اردو، پنجابی کے نامور شاعر اور روزنامہ ”نوائے وقت“ کے سینئر ادارتی رکن، سعید آسی کے والد صاحب) نے تو میری اس نظم کو بیرون ملک بہت سے فرزند ان و دختران پاکستان تک پہنچا دیا تھا۔

! ”عزت مآب ”شی۔ چن۔ پنگ“

”اور ان کی اہلیہ، خاتون اول ”پنگ۔ لیو۔ آن (Xi Jin Ping)“ معزز قارئین! اپریل 2015ء میں عوامی جمہوریہ کے موجودہ صدر عزت مآب ”شی۔ چن۔ پنگ“ دورہ پاکستان پر تشریف لائے تو 23 اپریل 2015ء کو ”نوائے وقت“ میں، میرے دوست ”شاعر سیاست“ نے انہیں خطاب (Madam Peng Liyu An) کرتے ہوئے کہا تھا کہ

”جگ جگ جیو، ٹیس، شی چن پنگ جی“

... مکمل دو شعر یوں تھے ہیں

!جی ”King“ ٹیس تے ہو، ساڈے دل دے

!جی ”Bring“ شالا مڑ مڑ، پیار

!جی ”Thing“ پیار توں وڈی، نہیں کوئی

!جگ جگ جیو، ٹیس، شی چن پنگ، جی

...O...

"Love Export Policy"

کیا کرتی تھی لیکن (Export) برآمد (Revolution) ”سوویت یونین اپنے دوست ملکوں کو اپنا ”انقلاب“ Superpower“ دسمبر 1991ء سے پہلے دوسری 8 اختیار کر رکھی ہے۔ ”Love Export Policy“ عوامی جمہوریہ چین کا کمال یہ ہے کیا کہ ”اُس نے دوست ملکوں سے

سے ہم ہمنگنا ہونے کا موقع ملے گا؟ لیکن مجھے شک ہے کہ ”Love Export Policy“ معزز قارئین!۔ مجھے یقین ہے کہ ”افغانستان میں طالبان حکومت کو بھی ”Live in my Heart and Pay No Rent“ صادق آئے گی یا نہیں کہ۔ ”Phrase“ طالبان کی حکومت کے لئے انگریزی کی یہ

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/lahore/2023-05-26/page-5/detail-8>

**May 27, 2023**

**Business Recorder**

**China for closer cooperation in diverse fields**

ISLAMABAD: Pang Chunxue, charge d' affaires of the Chinese Embassy, on Friday, called for close cooperation between Pakistan and China in the domains of agriculture, industry, technology, and all other areas of mutual interest.

The Chinese diplomat was speaking at a seminar, titled, “Global Development Initiative – Catalyst for Development Cooperation”, organised by the China-Pakistan Study Centre (CPSC) at the Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI).

In her remarks, she stated that the Global Development Initiative (GDI) is a re-prioritisation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the rejuvenation of global development efforts.

Noting that the GDI was an initiative that aimed to reactivate international development cooperation, she highlighted in detail the progress made in advancing the aims and objectives of GDI through practical cooperation with partner countries and organisations.

She added that Pakistan occupied the position of a “priority partner” in the GDI framework. “The two countries needed to work hand-in-glove in the domains of agriculture, industry, technology and all other areas of mutual interest,” she added.

In his address as the chief guest, Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed, chairman Senate Standing Committee on Defence, lauded China for the launch of the far-reaching and consequential GDI.

He stated that the world is currently experiencing both transformation and turmoil, adding that different leaders are describing this decade in different ways.

Sayed pointed out that President Macron had accurately stated that “this decade marked the end of 300 years of Western dominance”. He added that the current era is witnessing the rise of China and the “Asian Century”.

Despite global conflicts, climate change, poverty, and energy-related challenges, he stated that China has shown impressive leadership.

“China’s global strategy included the Global Development Initiative, Global Security Initiative, and Global Civilization Initiative, which shared many similarities. This initiative reflected that the Chinese values were all about cooperation, peace and respect,” he said. He noted that Chinese strategic culture without a second thought was an embodiment of cooperation, peace and respect for all. He further stated that Pakistan and China shared a long-standing, all-weather and time-tested strategic relationship. Therefore, both should work together to build an “Asian Century” of progress, prosperity and cooperation, he added.

In his remarks, Director General ISSI Ambassador Sohail Mahmood (retd) said that the GDI was a critical initiative launched by China at a time when the world was deeply affected by the health and economic effects of the Covid-19 pandemic and the deficit in the achievement of SDGs was growing.

He added that President Xi Jinping presented the GDI at the 76th Session of the UN General Assembly in September 2021 to pool efforts to tackle the challenges of the world and to facilitate the post-pandemic recovery.

He noted that Pakistan is one of the first countries to lend its strong support for the GDI, adding that Pakistan is also among the first countries to become a member of the GDI’s “Group of Friends” at the United Nations.

He said that a lot of progress has since been achieved from that platform. He underscored that at a time of global food, fuel and financial crises, initiatives like GDI were essential for the developing world.

He also highlighted the contribution of BRI's flagship project, CPEC, to Pakistan's continued progress and prosperity. He hoped that GDI would be perceived in its right perspective by all in that it helped advance the noble cause of achievement of SDGs by 2030.

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2023/05/27/2-page/963466-news.html>

### **Daily Times**

#### **Pakistan Cultural Week concludes in Chengdu**

The 2023 Pakistan Week, started from May 18 came to a successful close in Dujiangyan, Chengdu, Sichuan region, China Economic Net (CEN) reported on Friday. Themed “Working hand in hand for a closer China-Pakistan bond under the Belt and Road Initiative”, the 7-day event showcased traditional Pakistani clothes, dazzling jewelry and hand-made rugs copied from ancient Chinese artists, which vividly interpreted the fusion and collision of Chinese and Pakistani culture.

“Children are our future. That is why I was particularly excited to have the opportunity to visit Wanhui Academy in Dujiangyan, to talk to representatives and discuss Pakistan-China relations,” said Agha Hunain Abbas Khan, Acting Consul General of the Consulate General of Pakistan in Chengdu, expressing his excitement to communicate with local children and representatives to know more about the long-lasting friendship between both countries.

During the event, the Chinese city of Dujiangyan and the Pakistani city of Murree signed a Letter of Intent for the establishment of a sister-city relationship to cement people-to-people exchanges and enhance practical cooperation. Also the military action-romance film “Parwaaz Hai Junoon” was screened for local residents to enjoy the charm of the friendly country on their doorsteps.

According to Sichuan Provincial People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries, this cultural week will promote the understanding of Sichuan people on Pakistan, and effectively boost the exchanges and cooperation between the two sides in fields of culture, tourism, economy, trade, and education. Hosted by Sichuan People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries, Dujiangyan Municipal Government, and the Consulate General of Pakistan in Chengdu, the event is an important part of the 2023 China-Pakistan Year of Tourism and Exchanges.

It included a Pakistan tourism photo exhibition, a Pakistani culture exhibition, a Pakistani film show, and a Pakistani culture lecture.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1097282/pakistan-cultural-week-concludes-in-chengdu/>

#### **Gwadar Port desilting operation takes pace**

Gwadar port desilting operation has picked up momentum after ministry of planning urged to accelerate the work on the special directives of Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif.

Desilting mega process has been galvanized in order to restore original depth of navigational channel at Gwadar Port offering heavyweight ships to float well. It will ensure seamless movement of all type of vessels, facilitating them to dock at ease.

Gwadar Port Authority Project Director Dawood Baloch told Gwadar pro that after the mobilization of required paraphernalia and test-run to ensure operational efficiency engaging China Harbor Engineering Company Ltd (CHEC), dredging operation has moved into high gear. “We plan to reclaim 14.5 meters natural and original operational depth at Gwadar Port at a cost of Rs 4.7 billion,” he added. He expressed satisfaction on the pace of operation.

“Under title of “the maintenance dredging of a navigational channel of Gwadar Port”, Project will complete in 12 months as per agreement signed between CHEC and Gwadar Port Authority (GPA),” he added.

Another GPA official told Gwadar Pro that since earlier they planned to kickstart only one part of dredging process in two or three phases at Gwadar Port, so around Rs 1 billion was allocated in 2022-2023 budget for a partial dredging.

Later, he said, it was finalized to do complete dredging at one fell swoop. Hence, now cost of the project stands at Rs 4.7 billion. On a query, he noted that having gone through bidding process officially launched by GPA last year, CHEC won the contract of maintenance dredging construction on the forward swing waters, approach channel of the Gwadar Port Terminal.

He added that GPA awarded the contract to CHEC after gauging technical assessment on the basis of international experience and financial worth of all participant companies in a bidding process.

“It will pave the way for the construction of additional berths from existing 602 meters length to 1500 meters. Moreover, frequent dredging will help maintain original depth of the channel.”

The total cost of dredging, he said, has been determined as per cubic meter considering the scale of operation and size of the area to be cleared from siltation.

Gwadar Port has been handling ship with a draught of 11.6 meters. Last time dredging operation got underway in 2015.

CHEC, award-winner of dredging operation, is an engineering contractor and a subsidiary of China Communications Construction Company (CCCC), providing infrastructure construction, such as marine engineering, dredging and reclamation, road and bridge, railways, airports and plant construction. It is the second largest dredging company in the world, carrying out projects in Asia, Africa, and Europe.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1097287/gwadar-port-desilting-operation-takes-pace/>



## Dawn News

### **Mardan UET, Chinese institution agree to promote research**

PESHAWAR: The University of Engineering and Technology, Mardan, has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Tang Chinese Education and Technology to promote research, human resource development and cultural exchanges and provide job opportunities to students in the two countries.

The MoU signing ceremony was witnessed by Mardan UET Vice-Chancellor Prof Sadiqullah, and Max Ma, Executive President of Tang Chinese Education, Pakistan.

The MoU encompasses various collaborative areas, including research and teaching promotion, skill development programmes, training and internships, joint research projects, student and faculty exchange programmes, short-term/distance learning courses, technical training centres, and more.

It aims to foster technology promotion, human resource development and environmental sustainability through organising seminars, workshops and conferences.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1756063#:~:text=PESHAWAR%3A%20The%20University%20of%20Engineering,students%20in%20the%20two%20countries.>

## The Nation

### **Pakistani wheat scientists attend annual meeting of China-Pakistan Joint Lab**

BEIJING - A six-member delegation of senior wheat scientists from Pakistan participated in a 10-day training and attended the first annual meeting of the China-Pakistan Joint Lab in China. Counsellor of Science and Technology at the Pakistan Embassy, Beijing, Khan Muhammad Wazir informed APP that the China-Pakistan Joint Lab on Wheat Molecular Breeding was recently established with the support of China's Ministry of Science and Technology (MoST). He said that a branch of the Lab has been established in the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (CAAS), Beijing while another branch of the Joint Lab is being established in Quaid-i-Azam University, Pakistan. The Joint Lab will conduct collaborative research on molecular breeding, test and select Chinese germplasm in Pakistan, train scientists and technical people from Pakistan and will organize workshops. The collaboration is expected to develop new wheat varieties with high yield and disease resistance and to enhance the capacity of wheat breeders and technical people.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2023-05-27/page-8/detail-1>

### **China a potential market for Pakistan's textile products**

ISLAMABAD-There are huge prospects for unique and high quality made-in-Pakistan products like bedding, bed sheets, quilts, pillows, pillowcases, towels, curtains, stationery items, bags and sports-wear articles in China, said Mian Kashif Ashfaq, CEO of Pakistan Furniture Council.

Talking to INP-WealthPK following his participation in the Canton Fair 2023 held in Guangdong province of China, Kashif said the Canton Fair is one of the world's biggest trade fairs where one could find everything from a needle to heavy machinery, adding that Pakistan has the potential to benefit from such a mega event. According to Kashif, the fair offered an ample opportunity for Pakistani entrepreneurs to develop an understanding of the latest trends in the international business and develop a wide range of trade connections, partnerships, and networks with both local and international organizations.

Pakistani companies set up eight stalls in Phase-3 of the fair which concluded on May 5, 2023. It was Pakistani companies' first physical participation in the fair after a three-year break when regular physical participation could not take place due to the Covid-19 restrictions. Scheduled from April 15 to May 5, the 133rd event attracted buyers from over 220 countries and regions this year. About 35,000 enterprises set up nearly 70,000 booths, making it the largest-ever fair in the history.

"Pakistan-made products were showcased with all other allied services. We received a very positive feedback from international buyers, and hopes are high that our textile industry will enhance the exports in the coming years," said Kashif. He also informed WealthPK that the Pakistan Furniture Council and ChenOne – one of the leading household products manufacturers in Pakistan – held a series of meetings with other multinationals and exchanged professional expertise to further improve the quality of their products, bringing it on a par with international standards.

He urged the Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP) to organize single-country exhibitions in Pakistan for effective and result-oriented promotion of Pakistani products in the world.

"The Canton Fair 2023 is the largest event in history, with a record number of exhibition areas and exhibitors. The number of its offline exhibitors rose to more than 34,000 this year, with more than 9,000 new exhibitors, and 39,281 online exhibition enterprises. It has been an amazing opportunity and we hope that the Pak-China entrepreneur level coordination will prove fruitful in the coming months with the expanding business opportunities," Kashif added.

He also observed that e-commerce was very important when exploring the Chinese market and underlined the need for its growth in Pakistan.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2023-05-27/page-8/detail-6>

### **Gwadar Port desilting operation geared up on PM's directions**

ISLAMABAD - Gwadar port desilting operation has picked robust momentum after ministry of planning urged to accelerate the work on the special directives of Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif.

Desilting mega process has been galvanized in order to restore original depth of navigational channel at Gwadar Port offering heavyweight ships to float well.

It will ensure seamless movement of all type of vessels, facilitating them to dock at ease.

Gwadar Port Authority Project Director Dawood Baloch told Gwadar pro that after the mobilization of required paraphernalia and test-run to ensure operational efficiency engaging China Harbor Engineering Company Ltd (CHEC), dredging operation has moved into high gear.

“We plan to reclaim 14.5 meters natural and original operational depth at Gwadar Port at a cost of Rs 4.7 billion,” he added. He expressed satisfaction on the pace of operation.

“Under title of “the maintenance dredging of a navigational channel of Gwadar Port”, Project will complete in 12 months as per agreement signed between CHEC and Gwadar Port Authority (GPA),” he added.

Another GPA official told Gwadar Pro that since earlier they planned to kickstart only one part of dredging process in two or three phases at Gwadar Port, so around Rs 1 billion was allocated in 2022- 2023 budget for a partial dredging.

Later, he said, it was finalized to do complete dredging at one fell swoop. Hence, now cost of the project stands at Rs 4.7 billion.

On a query, he noted that having gone through bidding process officially launched by GPA last year, CHEC won the contract of maintenance dredging construction on the forward swing waters, approach channel of the Gwadar Port Terminal.

He added that GPA awarded the contract to CHEC after gauging technical assessment on the basis of international experience and financial worth of all participant companies in a bidding process.

“It will pave the way for the construction of additional berths from existing 602 meters length to 1500 meters. Moreover, frequent dredging will help maintain original depth of the channel.”

The total cost of dredging, he said, has been determined as per cubic meter considering the scale of operation and size of the area to be cleared from siltation. Gwadar Port has been handling ship with a draught of 11.6 meters. Last time dredging operation got underway in 2015.

CHEC, award-winner of dredging operation, is an engineering contractor and a subsidiary of China Communications Construction Company (CCCC), providing infrastructure construction, such as marine engineering, dredging and reclamation, road and bridge, railways, airports and plant construction. It is the second largest dredging company in the world, carrying out projects in Asia, Africa, and Europe.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2023-05-27/page-10/detail-3>

**May 28, 2023**

**Daily Times**

### **Seminar held on China’s Global Development Initiative**

China Pakistan Study Centre (CPSC) at the Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI), organized a seminar here on China’s “Global Development Initiative” aimed at development

cooperation for achieving sustainable development goals. The chief guest at the seminar was Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed, Chairperson Senate Defense Committee. Former Ambassador to China Masood Khalid was the keynote speaker.

While delivering his address, Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed lauded China for the launch of the far-reaching and consequential Global Development Initiative (GDI). He stated that the world was currently experiencing both transformation and turmoil. Different leaders were describing this decade in different ways. President Macron accurately stated that this decade marked the end of 300 years of Western dominance.

The current era was witnessing the rise of China and the ‘Asian Century.’ Despite global conflicts, climate change, poverty, and energy-related challenges, China had shown impressive leadership. China’s global strategy included the Global Development Initiative, Global Security Initiative, and Global Civilization Initiative, which shared many similarities. This initiative reflected that Chinese values were all about cooperation, peace and respect. He noted that Chinese strategic culture without a second thought was an embodiment of cooperation, peace and respect for all.

He concluded by saying that Pakistan and China shared a long-standing, all-weather and time-tested strategic relationship. Therefore, both should work together to build an Asian century of progress, prosperity and cooperation. In his welcome remarks, Director General ISSI Ambassador Sohail Mahmood said that GDI was a critical initiative launched by China at a time when the world was deeply affected by the health and economic effects of Covid-19 pandemic and the deficit in the achievement of SDGs was growing.

President Xi Jinping presented the GDI at the 76th Session of the UN General Assembly in September 2021 to pool efforts to tackle the challenges of the world and to facilitate the post-pandemic recovery. He noted that Pakistan was one of the first countries to lend its strong support to the GDI. Pakistan was also among the first countries to become a member of the GDI’s ‘Group of Friends’ at the United Nations. A lot of progress had since been achieved from that platform.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1097526/seminar-held-on-chinas-global-development-initiative/>

## **Stable Pakistan and China**

*Ali Anwar*

Pakistan and China have a very close relationship, which has contributed significantly to the stability of Pakistan. China has invested heavily in Pakistan’s infrastructure development, energy projects, and industrial zones. This has created job opportunities for locals and increased economic activity, leading to stability. China has helped Pakistan in combating terrorism and improving border security. This has helped to maintain stability in the country. China has been a strong supporter of Pakistan in international forums, which has helped Pakistan to maintain its sovereignty and stability. China has provided significant military aid and training to Pakistan’s armed forces, which has improved its capability to defend its sovereignty. Overall, the strong relationship between Pakistan and China has played a crucial role in contributing to the stability of Pakistan by enhancing its economic, security, political,

cultural, and military aspects. If we look into the history, the relationship between the two countries has been 72 years. The friendship between Pakistan and China is said to be higher than the Himalayas, deeper than the sea and sweeter than honey. Pakistan's other neighbour India is also emerging as an economic power, even Bangladesh is developing surprisingly but Pakistan continued to perform well in the economic field and at one time Pakistan was the most prosperous country in South Asia and East Asia. Examples of Pakistan were given and Pakistan was considered a superpower in Asia, but today it is the case that the neighbouring countries which we have been helping have gone far ahead of us. But today the situation has changed, China has become a global economic power, India has become the fifth-largest economy in the world, and Bangladesh has become the second-largest economy in South Asia after India. In South Asia, Sri Lanka, Nepal and Afghanistan are the only countries that can be said to be behind Pakistan But the Pakistani rupee has also fallen below Sri Lanka and Nepal against the dollar.

Pakistan is suffering from severe economic problems and the value of the rupee is continuously depreciating.

As I mentioned at the beginning of the column, China has been instrumental in making Pakistan's defence and security impregnable. The secret of China's development is hidden in its economic development that despite the tensions with the United States and India, it did not end its trade with these countries and China imports more than five hundred billion dollars annually to the United States alone. Similarly, China's trade volume with India is more than 100 billion dollars, in comparison with Pakistan, with which China has very friendly relations, its annual trade volume is 23 billion dollars.

The foundation of the CPEC Pakistan China Economic Corridor was laid on May 22, 2013. 2023 also marks the 10th anniversary of the Belt and Road Initiative and the resulting China-Pakistan Economic Corridor. Under the strategic guidance of the leadership of both countries, CPEC has become a lifeline and game changer for Pakistani socio-economic transformation. The main objective of the China-Pakistan Corridor project is to build an integrated infrastructure for trade activities. Along with this, China's One Belt Road project is a game changer project which is a great project to eradicate world poverty and strengthen the economy. If the CPEC project in Pakistan is evaluated in relation to the economy of Pakistan, the country's economy will develop rapidly after the completion of the project and the start of commercial activities. This is a project that has seen negligible progress in the previous regime, but the current military and political leadership has given orders to speed up the project, without a doubt, it is a project that can change the destiny of Pakistan. Because the relationship between Pakistan and China has completed 72 years, at a time when Pakistan is suffering from economic difficulties, China can play an important role in the stability of Pakistan. This year, when Pakistan was dealing with extraordinary financial and economic challenges due to a lack of foreign exchange reserves and difficulty in repaying external debt, China was the first and immediate support for loans, deposits and rollovers. If Pakistan implements the CPEC and related projects with the help of China in the true sense, Pakistan can achieve political and economic stability.



The reason for the delay in the agreement with the IMF is that Pakistan is suffering from severe economic problems and the value of the rupee is continuously depreciating.

Although Pakistan's Finance Minister Ishaq Dar has once again strongly rejected rumours of the country defaulting, economic experts say that if the instalment from the International Monetary Fund is delayed, the economic situation will worsen in this situation. If there is no agreement with the IMF, Pakistan will have to make a plan together with China for economic stability because it is a friend of Pakistan who can get Pakistan out of difficulties.

The writer is an old Aitchisonian who believes in freedom of expression, a freelance columnist, entrepreneur and social activist.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1097532/stable-pakistan-and-china/>

### **Dawn News**

#### **Current era witnessing rise of China: Mushahid**

ISLAMABAD: Senate Defence Committee chairman Senator Mushahid Hussain Syed on Saturday said that the current era was witnessing the rise of China and the 'Asian Century'.

He was addressing a seminar on China's 'Global Development Initiative' organised by China Pakistan Study Centre at the Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad on Saturday.

As chief guest, Senator Mushahid Hussain Syed lauded China for the launch of the far-reaching and consequential Global Development Initiative (GDI). Former Chinese ambassador Masood Khalid was the keynote speaker.

He said the world was currently experiencing both transformation and turmoil. Different leaders were describing this decade in different ways.

French President Emmanuel Macron rightly said this decade marked the end of 300 years of Western dominance, he stated.

Despite global conflicts, climate change, poverty, and energy-related challenges, China had shown impressive leadership. China's global strategy included the Global Development Initiative, Global Security Initiative, and Global Civilisation Initiative, which shared many similarities.

This initiative reflected that Chinese values were all about cooperation, peace and respect.

He noted that Chinese strategic culture without a second thought was an embodiment of cooperation, peace and respect for all.

In his welcome remarks, Director General ISSI Ambassador Sohail Mahmood said that GDI was a critical initiative launched by China at a time when the world was deeply affected by the health and economic effects of Covid-19 pandemic and the deficit in the achievement of SDGs was growing.

Chinese President Xi Jinping presented the GDI at the 76th Session of the UN General Assembly in September 2021 to pool efforts to tackle the challenges of the world and to facilitate the post-pandemic recovery.

Pang Chunxue, Charge d' Affaires of the Chinese embassy, noted that GDI was a re-prioritisation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and rejuvenation of global development efforts.

Noting that GDI was an initiative that aimed to reactivate international development cooperation, she highlighted in detail the progress made in advancing the aims and objectives of GDI through practical cooperation with partner countries and organisations.

She added that Pakistan occupied the position of a 'priority partner' in the GDI framework.

Ambassador Masood Khalid said that the launch of the Global Development Initiative (GDI), Global Civilisation Initiative (GCI), and Global Security Initiative (GSI) was taking place at a time of major transformation in the international system.

The major motivation behind GDI was the adverse impact of Covid-19. GDI aimed to take advantage of technology, innovation, and modern infrastructure to tackle the issues faced by the world.

Dr Tahir Mumtaz Awan from Comsats University noted that as people, development, and civilizations were linked GDI, GSI, and GCI inter-linked initiatives.

The Global Development Initiative by China talked about the collective development of all countries. BRI and CPEC were living examples of development initiatives launched by China.

Dr Sumeera Imran from NDU said GDI reflected President Xi's agenda of global responsibility. It was a model initiative that aimed to boost cooperation.

Dr Wang Shida from the China Institute of Contemporary International Relations (CICIR) said that the essence of President Xi Jinping's Global Development Initiative was based on some core objectives, which included adhering to priorities, inclusivity, innovation drive, action-oriented approaches, capacity building, and economic cooperation.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1756241/current-era-witnessing-rise-of-china-mushahid>

### **Pakistan Observer**

#### **China's new development paradigm to ensure global security, trade:**

##### **Report**

The Chinese model of inclusive and participatory economic growth is a path to modernization featuring globalization and multilateralism based on shared common security for every single country and the region. Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed, Chairman of the Senate Defence Committee and Founder chairman of the Pakistan-China Institute, said this while addressing a seminar titled "China for a new security, connectivity and trade paradigm."

Research and Media Fellow at Centre for China and Globalization (Beijing) Zoon Ahmed Khan chaired the seminar. The seminar was organized by the Development Communications Network (Devcom-Pakistan) in collaboration with the China Study Centre, COMSATS University Islamabad Campus.

Pakistan's bureaucratic hurdles and political instability are the main reasons for slow-paced progress on the CPEC initiatives, said Mushahud Hussain Sayed.

The BRI is connecting countries and civilizations for cultural harmony and trade, he said adding Pakistan is a major beneficiary of China's new development paradigm that has no aggressive plans against any country. The CPEC was launched when no country was willing to invest in Pakistan's infrastructure, Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed said.

Pakistan shall act fast before it's too late. All stakeholders shall play their role in expediting the progress on CPEC. The guest speakers included Ambassador (retd) Naghmana Hashmi, University of Peshawar pro-Vice Chancellor Dr Zahid Anwar, NUST China Study Centre Director Ms. Xian Yang, Bahria University Assistant Prof. Dr Hassan Daud But, Comsats University China Study Centre Director Dr. Tahir Mumtaz Awan, and Devcom-Pakistan Executive Director Munir Ahmed. Zoon said China's development was human centric that has transformed the Chinese society to become very productive. Now the GDP growth is exemplary with no person below the poverty line. Every village in China has its own solutions to the problems.

The state has provided every possible opportunity to its people to go prosperous and promote itself to the next level. Small and micro enterprises changed the lives of people while China's peaceful economic progress has provided ample opportunities to every nation to freely trade. Young people have worked hard to change the face of China.

Ambassador (R) Naghmana Hashmi said: The intensification of Sino-American competition currently forms the most important instance of great-power competition which has the potential of becoming a major conflict engulfing the entire world. It has added to the uncertainty, instability and chaos in the already worrying and unpredictable flux in the world order prevalent these days.

In the last over 73 years of its establishment, New China has left a blazing trail of remarkable achievements in all walks of human endeavour. The Chinese nation is now well on its path to achieve the dream of Great Rejuvenation of the Chinese Nation by the middle of this century and achieve the second centennial goal of establishing a moderately developed society by 2049.

Devcom-Pakistan Executive Director Munir Ahmed said China has numerous development models that can help the developing countries.

Moreover, China is also out there to finance projects in every sector on a win-win model but the partners have to be more proactive and efficient. China can inject money and technical support but cannot inject performance in the native human resource and systems. The recipients and local partners have to be vigilant enough to watch their performance.

Xian Yang said "The post-COVID-19 world has changed completely. New business models have been put into practice in China. We have to face the reality that business has entered the 4.0 era. How can China's economic model interact and communicate with Pakistan in the 4.0 era and produce good results is the topic we want to share today. China's trade situation today." China has entered a new era of logistics sales, and has formed barrier-free and borderless trade with Belarus, Russia, Serbia and many other countries. This form of trade is

what we call live streaming, and live streaming is still in its infancy in Pakistan. In this speech, we will show you our new trade forms and successful cases in detail. She said China's war on poverty alleviation. Through six years of hard work, China has completely lifted itself out of poverty. During this period, energy, agriculture, and the service industry have played a significant role, such form and specific mode of operation has been proved to be effective and correct. We want to focus on the parts of these forms and methods that are feasible for Pakistan. Dr Hassan Daud Butt while highlighting the Geo-economic potential of the CPEC project stated that going forward amidst the global and regional crises exacerbated by COVID, three facets of geography, connectivity, and human resource capacity will be significant in leveraging the true potential of any regional integration project like the CPEC.

<https://pakobserver.net/chinas-new-development-paradigm-to-ensure-global-security-trade-report/>

## The News

### **Imran took foreign funding to sabotage CPEC: PPP**

LAHORE: PPP central Punjab general-secretary Hassan Murtaza has alleged that former prime minister and PTI Chairman Imran Khan took foreign funding to sabotage China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) Project.

Addressing a press conference here Saturday, he said, "We do not say that you are a traitor, but you are not honest either". He said PTI is responsible for damaging Pakistan's relations with China and Iran, adding that people of Pakistan were befooled and made isolated from the reality through an anti-national rhetoric.

Murtaza held PTI leadership behind the May 9 incidents of arson and vandalism, and said they had been brainwashing the youth of the country for the past one year.

Other PPP leaders including Aslam Gill, Mian Ayub, Ahsan Rizvi, Zeeshan Shami, Ayesha Ghorri and Rana Ashar were present. To a question, Hassan Murtaza said many politicians are in contact with PPP. He claimed that in June PPP will be seen as a major political party in Punjab. To a question, Murtaza said he is with the state. He said PPP workers never attacked army, and PPP released thousands of political workers after 1971 war. He lauded foreign minister Bilawal Bhutto for fighting the case of Kashmir in America and India.

<https://e.thenews.com.pk/detail?id=206163>

**May 29, 2023**

**Daily Times**

### **Chinese firms' role laudable in Pakistan socio-economic development**

Chinese enterprises in Pakistan have made important contributions to local sustainable development while actively improving people's livelihood, an eight-member delegation organized by the Chinese Consulate General in Lahore said during a visit to the headquarters of PKM contractor China Construction Third Engineering Bureau (CCTEB), Gwadar Pro reported on Sunday. Xiao Hua, General Manager, CCTEB welcomed the Pakistani media and

think tank delegation and briefed the delegation on the development of the company in Pakistan and the story of construction of PKM project. He highlighted that as one of the series activities of the Open Day of “Cultural Integration and Communication”, the visit and discussion of the Pakistani delegation further deepened Pakistan’s understanding of the largest infrastructure project under the framework of China- Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

As the head of the delegation, Lt Col (Retd) Sayed Ahmad Nadeem Qadri, Director General Operations Nawa-i- Waqt Group, pointed out that the visit presented to the Pakistani media a comprehensive, three-dimensional and real Chinese enterprises. “The efforts made by CCTEB in Pakistan are conducive to the sustainable development of Pakistan. Both Chinese and Pakistani enterprises are building a green corridor for ecological protection,” he said. Undertaken in EPC model, the PKM Project is the largest transportation infrastructure project of CPEC and also a key project along the Belt and Road.

The project starts from Sukkur, Sindh, in the south, and reaches Multan, the economic center of Punjab in the north, with a total length of 392 km and a designed speed of 120 km per hour. The project includes 100 bridges, 468 underpasses, 991 culverts, 11 interchanges, 6 pairs of service areas, 5 pairs of rest areas, 22 toll stations. The project now has been completed and open to traffic. It is the highest standard motorway in Pakistan with the highest design level and the most advanced intelligent system. It adopts Chinese SBS modified asphalt technology and is the only one with full greening along the route and strong flood resistance.

The project protected the ecology by planting trees along the route, which are now growing in full vigor, forming a 392-km green gallery. The delegation members also spoke highly of many large- scale infrastructure projects being built by Chinese enterprises in Pakistan. They stressed that the architects of the two countries have devoted a lot of manpower, material resources and efforts to the projects. They expect more Chinese companies to work with local enterprises to promote local industries, help local villagers be employed, improve their skills and create a good work environment for them. The two sides can make a great contribution to Pakistan’s economic and social development by taking concrete actions to address livelihood issues such as transportation, water, healthcare and education.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1097972/chinese-firms-role-laudable-in-pakistan-socio-economic-development/>

### **The Nation**

#### **Chinese visitors get groove on Pakistan cultural feast in Beijing**

ISLAMABAD - To celebrate the China-Pakistan Year of Tourism and Exchanges, a two-day Pakistan cultural feast was held here in Beijing on Sunday by the Embassy of Pakistan, China Economic Net (CEN) reported.

Hosted by the Embassy and organized by Jinshang Group, the event depicting Pakistan and showcasing Pakistan’s beauty, landscapes, culture, food, cuisine, art attracted a great many Chinese visitors to enjoy the exotic flavour of the neighbouring country.



Speaking on the occasion, Pakistani Ambassador to China Moin ul Haque pinpointed that Pakistan is an ancient civilization and a young nation boasting rich diversity and history. Over the course of millennia, Pakistan's cultural tapestry has been embellished by multifarious streams of ideas and movements shaping its present progressive and pluralistic outlook.

"The event features Pakistani vendors offering traditional food, drinks, and goods for purchase, as well as traditional music, dance performances," Haque noted, adding that he warmly welcomed Chinese visitors to get their jollies.

"They're very new to me," a Chinese college student on site told the reporter, adding that through such events, he got the chance to know more about the country, he has been longing for travelling to. "I wish I could visit there in person one day."

Lilian Tian, Founder and President, Jinshang Group, hailed that Pakistan is a country with ancient Oriental civilization and diversified culture. "We are honored to participate in this feast," she added. The year 2023 is marked as the year of the China-Pakistan Year of Tourism and Exchange.

The two countries held various activities to celebrate the event including the Gandhara Art Exhibition held at the Palace Museum in Beijing, a Pakistani Truck Art Debut Exhibition, and so on.

With the gradual resumption of direct flights with more frequency, people-to-people exchanges between the two countries are getting more active.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2023-05-29/page-4/detail-1>

## K2 Daily

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کہا کہ 2013 میں نی پی پی اور پارکس کے ساتھ پاکستان پر حملے کرنے والوں کا مقصد اللہ کے علاوہ جین کے صدر کا دورہ کو شروع کرنا تھا۔ اسکے بعد ہی کردہ کے سر ہونے ہی بیک کے خلاف سازشیں شروع کر دیں اور اس معاہدے کی خلاف ورزی کرتے ہوئے اس منصوبے کی عمل پیکاری آئی ایم ایف کے حوالے کر دیں جس کے نتیجے میں جین تاراج ہو گیا۔ جب موجودہ حکومت اور آرمی چیف نے جین کے تعلقات دہر کر دیئے اور سی بیک کو دوبارہ بحال کرنے سے منکر کر کے جین کی پیکری کر دی تو اس نئے لے سک میں تازہ پیکری کا ماحول پیدا کرنے کے اپنی حوسم سازش دہرائی۔ اس پارک اور خون کا یہ پھیل زیادہ شدت سے چینی وزیر خارجہ کے دورے کے اگلے روز دہرایا گیا۔ سیف الدین نے کہا ہے جین میں جین کا اثر شروع مسلسل بنا رہا ہے مشرق وسطیٰ اور چینی ممالک میں امریکہ کو چھوڑ کر جین کے قریب ہور ہے ہیں اور اب امریکہ کو جین کے خلاف بھارت کے علاوہ کوئی دوست دستیاب نہیں ہے اس لئے پاکستان کو بھی جین مخالف کیمپ میں لانے کے لئے ایک سیاسی کردہ کو استعمال کیا جا رہا تھا مگر اپنی سازش ناکام بنا دی گئی ہے۔ آرمی چیف جنرل سید عامر حسین نے چینی تبادلت کو بیک عمل کرنے اور اسے سیکورٹی فراہم کرنے کی پیکری دہرائی کہ وہی ہے جس پر دوست لے کا شہر جا گوہرہ شاہان ارب ڈاکری ریل سے لائن بچھانے کے منصوبے کا اعلان کیا ہے جس سے جین اور پاکستان کے درمیان میں صرف راتم بچھ گئی ہے۔ اسکے علاوہ پاکستان میں اور ایران میں تعلقات بہتر ہو رہے ہیں۔ ایران میں پاکستان کو عملی طور پر دی جا رہی ہے، اسلام آباد، تہران، استنبول فرین کے ڈسپے پالیسی تبادلت کی تجویز زیر غور ہے اور وہ ڈو کسی طرح تعلقت کن رہا ہے جو مشرقی طاقتوں کو کسی طرح قبول نہیں۔

پاک چین تعلقات بگاڑنے کی سازش ناکام ہو گئی، اکانومی واج

اسلام آباد (آئی این پی) پاکستان اکانومی واج کے ایگزیکٹو ایگزیکٹو سیکرٹری سید الدین نے کہا ہے کہ پاکستان کو جین سے دور کر کے اکانومی سیاسی اور وفاقی طور پر برآمد کرنے کی سازش ناکام بنا دی گئی ہے۔ مغربی ممالک کی ایما پر پاکستان اور جین کے مابین دور پڑا ہے اگرچہ پاکستان کی ہمہ رگ کاسے کی کوشش تھی جو کاش مزمت ہے۔ سیف الدین نے جین جاری ہونے والے ایک بیان میں (پا پی صفحہ 6 بجے نمبر 33)



[https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP\\_ICT&Page=Gilgit%20Baltistan%20News&Date=2023-05-29](https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=Gilgit%20Baltistan%20News&Date=2023-05-29)

[https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP\\_ICT&Page=Classified&Date=2023-05-29](https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=Classified&Date=2023-05-29)

## Nawaiwaqt

### چینی پاکستان کے کاٹن اور چمڑے کے شعبوں میں سرمایہ کاری کے خواہاں

اسلام آباد (این این آئی) پاکستان میں کاٹن اور چمڑے کے شعبوں کو گوانگزو انٹرنیشنل پرائیویٹ لیمیٹڈ نے سیکرٹری تجارت اور سیکرٹری ٹریڈ کیساتھ ملاقات کے دوران ان شعبوں میں سرمایہ کاری میں دلچسپی ظاہر کی ہے۔ گوادری پرو کے مطابق گوانگزو میں چینی (TDAP) ڈیولپمنٹ اتھارٹی آف پاکستان کاروباری اداروں کے نمائندوں نے پاکستان میں سیکرٹری تجارت محمد صالح احمد فاروقی سے ملاقات کی اور سرمایہ کاری کے ذریعے ٹیکسٹائل کے شعبے میں پاکستان کی مدد کی یقین دہانی کروائی۔ اس سرمایہ کاری سے نئی ٹیکنالوجی لانے، پیداواری صلاحیت میں اضافہ اور نئی ملازمتیں پیدا ہونے کی توقع ہے۔ گوادری پرو کے مطابق فاروقی نے کہا کہ پاکستانی کاروباری ادارے پاکستان میں ٹیکسٹائل اور چمڑے کی صنعتوں کے امکانات کو دیکھ رہے ہیں جو کہ گزشتہ چند سالوں سے مسلسل بڑھ رہی ہے، انہوں نے کہا کہ چینی سرمایہ کاری اور تعاون سے یہ شعبے مزید بلند یوں تک پہنچ سکتے ہیں۔ اس سے بہت سے لوگوں کے لیے روزگار کے مواقع پیدا کر کے مقامی معیشت میں بھی مدد ملے گی۔

گوادری پرو کے مطابق گوانگزو کے ایک وفد کے ساتھ ایک سائیز لائن ملاقات کے دوران، ٹی ڈی اے پی کے سیکرٹری فرید اقبال قریشی نے کہا کہ پاکستانی کاروباری ادارے چینی کاروباری اداروں کے ساتھ طویل مدتی شراکت داری قائم کرنے کے خواہاں ہیں تاکہ دونوں ممالک میں اپنی سرمایہ کاری سے باہمی فائدے کو یقینی بنایا جاسکے۔ گوادری پرو کے مطابق انہوں نے مزید کہا کہ اس سرمایہ کاری سے پاکستان اپنے کاٹن اور چمڑے کے شعبوں کے روشن مستقبل کی طرف دیکھ سکتا ہے۔ انہوں نے چینی کاروباری اداروں کو اس بات کو بھی یقینی بنایا کہ انہیں چینی شہریوں کی حفاظت سمیت بہترین کاروباری ماحول فراہم کیا جائے گا۔ گوادری پرو کے مطابق فرید نے کہا کہ ہمارے بینک آراہمی میں تجارت کی بھی اجازت دیتے ہیں، آپ کو دوسری کرنسی حاصل کرنے کی ضرورت نہیں ہے۔ آراہمی اب کسی بھی دوسری کرنسی کی طرح اوپننگ لیٹر آف کریڈٹ (ایل سی) کے لیے ایک اچھی کرنسی ہے۔ مجموعی ماحول ترقی اور تجارت کے لیے بہت سازگار ہے۔ دونوں ممالک میں اور ہمیں پوری امید ہے کہ آپ کو یہاں موقع مل جائے گا۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/lahore/2023-05-29/page-10/detail-65>

**May 30, 2023**

**Daily Times**

### **Pak-China infrastructure construction leading to fruitful achievements**

China-Pakistan infrastructure construction is leading to fruitful achievements, mainly because of China State Construction Engineering Corporation (CSCEC) which entered the Pakistani market in 1984 long before CPEC.

Many major projects in Pakistan have been constructed by this company, which showed the quality and professionalism of this corporation, according to an article carried by Gwadar Pro on Monday. The CSCEC has built five thermal power plants in Pakistan and these projects include Jamshoro, Faisalabad, Lakhala, Kotri and Mustafa Go. Thanks to these thermal power plants, two million watts of electricity capacity has been increased in Pakistan. Along with the construction of these thermal power plants, in the mid-1990s, this corporation

completed a huge project in the Sindh province. Karachi, as the largest densely populated city in Pakistan, in which the big and long-standing problems is sewage treatment.

Thus, CSCEC played a key role in solving this problem and by building the Karachi Sewage Treatment Plant, the positive effects are permanently seen on the urban life of Karachi. A very important factor in the economic relations between China and Pakistan is the defense cooperation between the two countries.

The JF Seventeen Thunder aircraft is most important for Pakistan in terms of its defense needs and the interesting thing is that the same company is credited with construction of factory at the place where the aircraft is manufactured. This factory is located in the famous Airbase Kamra of Pakistan.

Similarly, another indispensable project was completed in Islamabad. The passenger terminal building of Islamabad International Airport has been constructed by the same company, while a large business center named Centaurus is standing in Islamabad and the construction of this business center is also a proof of the technical skills of the same company. In Lahore, the famous tallest building in the city – Arfa Karim IT Tower is also a masterpiece of the same enterprise. The building is named after a teenage girl who is a Pakistani IT luminary and the youngest Microsoft Certified Professional.

Unfortunately, she died at a very young age, so people use this building as a memorial to her. While the largest economic cooperation project between Pakistan and China CPEC, the largest transportation infrastructure project of CPEC PKM (Sukhar Multan Section) construction contract was also awarded to the same corporation in 2015.

The past record of CSCEC is a witness that whatever contract they have signed, they have completed the contract according to the spirit of the contract. It should be kept in mind that it is very impressive thing to find such a large project in CPEC.

The need is that the expertise of this corporation should be continuously benefited in CPEC and other ongoing construction projects in Pakistan and the Pakistani government and businessmen should ensure that all bills should be paid on time and in this regard, it should be protected from any pretext that the bureaucracy usually adopts.

What must be clear is high level of professionalism of this company has brought great benefits to the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor and many ongoing construction projects in Pakistan. Naturally, Our Pakistani government and business community should ensure that when we do business with such a company, the funds come in on time, while protecting it from the bureaucratic influence that affects the functioning of the economy.

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<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1098404/pak-china-infrastructure-construction-leading-to-fruitful-achievements/>

**May 31, 2023**

**Daily Times**

**US, China, UK remain top three export destinations in 10 months**

The United States (US) remained the top export destination of Pakistani products during the ten months of the current fiscal year (2022-23), followed by China and the United Kingdom (UK).

Total exports to the US during July-April (2022-23) were recorded at US\$ 4990.562 million as opposed the exports of US\$ 5618.857 million during July- April (2021-22), showing a decline of 11.18 percent, according to the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP). This was followed by China, wherein Pakistan exported goods worth US\$ 1700.955 million compared to the exports of US\$ 2342.887 million last year, showing a decrease of 27.39 percent.

UK was the third top export destination, where Pakistan exported goods worth US\$ 1643.864 million during the months under review against the exports of US\$ 1851.812 million during last year, showing a decline of 11.22 percent, SBP data revealed. Among other countries, Pakistani exports to Germany stood at US\$ 1366.068 million against US\$ 1432.029 million last year, showing a decrease of 4.60 percent while the exports to UAE were recorded at US\$ 1206.639 million opposed US\$ 1550.022 million last year.

During July- April (2022-23), the exports to Holland were recorded at US\$ 1211.647 million against US\$ 1217.163 million whereas the exports to Afghanistan stood at US\$ 435.682 million against US\$436.423 million. Pakistan's exports to Italy were recorded at US\$ 951.447 million against the exports of US\$ 857.219 million while the exports to Spain were recorded at US\$ 1154.633 million against US\$ 940.808 million last year.

Whereas, the exports to Bangladesh stood at US\$ 644.104 million against US\$ 720.509 million. Similarly, the exports to France during the months under review were recorded at US\$ 487.194 million against US\$ 430.134 million while the exports to Saudi Arabia stood at US\$ 404.767 million against US\$ 345.720 million.

Pakistan's exports to Turkiye were recorded at US\$ 269.833 million during the current year compared to US\$ 266.452 million last year whereas the exports to Canada stood at US\$ 369.702 million against US\$ 328.420 million, and Australia stood at US\$ 254.942 million during the current year against US\$ 239.333 million during last year.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1098697/us-china-uk-remain-top-three-export-destinations-in-10-months/>

**PCJCCI inked MoU with Dongying Sino-German to boost trade ties**

The Pakistan China Joint Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCJCCI) signed MoU with Dongying Sino-German (European Exchange and Cooperation Association) for the promotion of trade and investment here at PCJCCI Secretariat on Tuesday.

The PCJCCI also organized business-to-business (B2B) meeting with 10 high profile members and multi-sector Chinese trade delegation with Pakistani investors, and

entrepreneurs. The delegation was headed by Mr Wang Zihai, Honorary Investment Counselor in China, Board of Investment and Chen Guangfeng, President Dongying Sino-German (European Exchange and Cooperation Association). The meeting was also attended by top notch Pakistani businessmen, including Syed Ameer Abbas, Fast Cables Limited, Atif Hameed, TUV Austria BIC Pvt. Limited, Hassan Ahmed, Hassan Brother Company, Zaki Aijaz, Roshan Packages and others.

PCJCCI Vice President Hamza Khalid said that the delegation came with a purpose to hold interactive B2B meeting with potential partners in Pakistan. The area of interest was mainly manufacturer of steel, aluminum, plastic doors and windows production, oil drilling accessories, maintenance of environmental protection equipment, PVC insulated control cable and power cable, cross-linked polyethylene insulated electric cable, Power cable, photovoltaic cable, petrochemicals, rubber, petroleum equipment etc. He added that the Pakistan China Joint Chamber of Commerce and Industry was highly grateful to the Chinese officials for being supportive and concerned about the business development of both countries.

The head of the delegation, Wang Zihai, invited the PCJCCI members to Shandong province and extended his precious regards and offer to fully cooperate with the Pakistani officials. He also added that just as Pakistan is happy to see China's growing stature on the world stage, China, in turn sees a strong, stable and prosperous Pakistan as a source of strength." He assured that Chinese industry would keep on extending strong support to spur economic and industrial growth of Pakistan.

The delegation was warmly welcomed by Hamza Khalid, Vice President PCJCCI, and he expressed an utmost aspiration to make these business engagements purposive and productive for the businessmen of both countries. He also said that China has been an incredible support of Pakistan at all times and its constant assistance will do wonders for the emerging economic status of Pakistan and these B2B meetings will certainly have a positive impact on the business community.

Salahuddin Hanif, Secretary General PCJCCI thanked the Chinese delegation and said that it was quite encouraging that apart from public sector, private sectors of both the countries were also entering into joint ventures. The Chinese entrepreneurs highly appreciated the arrangements being done by the PCJCCI and they were also satisfied with the positive response of the companies during the meeting. It was observed that counseling with Chinese business community is mandatory to increase the quantum of trade and investment opportunities in Pakistan.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1098689/pcjcci-inked-mou-with-dongying-sino-german-to-boost-trade-ties/>

### **China-Pak aviation industry coop embracing new highs**

As a major aviation power, whether in civilian or military fields, China has cooperated closely with Pakistan in the field of aviation for decades.

According to a Gwadar Pro's report, the Gwadar International Airport under construction, as an outstanding example of China-Pakistan aviation cooperation, is located 26 kilometers northeast of the port.

So far, most of the infrastructure has been fully completed and it is expected to be officially opened for navigation in September. The same as Gwadar Port, the new airport is also a representative project of the CPEC, which can accommodate the take-off and landing of large aircraft such as Boeing 747.

In addition, the intersecting east-west air routes face China, Iran, Afghanistan, India and Central Asian countries, as well as a series of international routes will pass through this area. Therefore, the airport will gradually become an air economic and trade hub in the future.

With this platform, it will be more convenient for international goods, especially Chinese goods, to arrive in Balochistan, and then be distributed to various cities in the country. Pakistan's characteristic goods can also be transported more efficiently to all parts of the world, promoting local economic and trade development.

Except for the civilian field, China-Pakistan aviation cooperation in the military field can also be called fruitful. Fighter China-1 (FC-1), is an all-weather, single-engine, multi-purpose light fighter jointly invested and developed by two countries, which Pakistan side calls it Joint Fighter-17 Thunder (JF-17), and equips the Pakistan Air Force as the main fighter.

As early as June 1999, the two parties officially signed a cooperative research and development contract, entering the stage of prototype development.

On March 12, 2007, the fighter officially entered into service with the Pakistan Air Force. At present, JF-17 has developed three models, namely Block I, Block II and Block III, which have different avionics and weapon systems to meet different operational needs. As a milestone of Pakistan's aviation industry, it marks the first time that Pakistan has own military production line, by which the country has improved the technical level and independent capabilities of aviation industry.

The development of the aviation field, as an indispensable aspect of China-Pakistan all-weather cooperation, reflecting the mature technical level and rich practical experience of the aviation personnel of the two countries. With the successful maiden flight of the first C919 commercial flight, bilateral aviation cooperation will undoubtedly contain more possibilities.

C919, China's self-developed large passenger aircraft, kicked off its first commercial flight from Shanghai to Beijing on May 28, marking its official entry into the civil aviation market.

The flight, operated by China Eastern Airlines, took off as MU9191 at 10:32 a.m. with 128 passengers on board. With the registration number B-919A, it is the first C919 jetliner delivered worldwide.

As China's first self-developed trunk jetliner in accordance with international airworthiness standards, and owns independent intellectual property rights.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1098676/china-pak-aviation-industry-coop-embracing-new-highs/>

**Dawn News****Chinese IPP serves notice of payment default on CPPA***Kazim Alam*

KARACHI: Port Qasim Electric Power Company Ltd (PQEPC), which runs a \$1.9 billion power plant of 1,320 megawatts on imported coal, has served a formal notice of payment default on the Central Power Purchasing Agency (CPPA).

The total verified due amount that the state-backed, sole electricity purchaser owes the independent power producer (IPP) amounted to Rs77.3bn or \$263.5 million as of May 15, according to PQEPC CEO Guo Guangling.

Owned by China's Sinohydro Resources Ltd and Qatar's Al Mirqab Capital Ltd, the IPP was part of the early-harvest phase of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

Its power purchase agreement states that a failure to pay an undisputed amount by the CPPA within 35 days of the notice will constitute the power purchaser event of default.

Non-payment will trigger 'power purchaser event of default' in 35 days

The IPP has demanded that the power purchaser must make a principal payment of \$73.6m before May 31 to avoid a "facility agreement default" as well as a Government of Pakistan or "GoP default".

"Unlike the hydro, wind and solar power projects, the company, as (an) imported coal power project, requires a constant and large amount of cash flow to purchase coal and clear overdue amounts with coal suppliers for sustainable operations," said Mr Guo.

Separately, Engro Powergen Thar Ltd, which operates a \$995.4m power plant of 660MW on local coal, has told the CPPA it may shut down operations entirely because of a "severe liquidity crunch" that's made it challenging for the IPP to settle its liabilities with both lenders and suppliers.

Its outstanding receivables from the power purchaser amount to Rs65.5bn. The IPP has demanded the CPPA pay it Rs28.7bn before May 31 to help it avert a default on debt servicing.

Disbursement formula

Lucky Electric Power Company Ltd, which runs a \$1bn a coal-fired 660MW plant, has demanded the government should change the formula for allocating payments to IPPs, which is currently based on overdue amounts and doesn't prioritise energy and debt servicing requirements of electricity generators.

In other words, the current practice ensures that the CPPA disburses payments, including subsidies, among all power plants, which include even those that have remained idle due to their high unit costs.



As a result, old IPPs that have already repaid their debts and currently bill only capacity payments for their return on equity (RoE) and fixed operation and maintenance (O&M) components receive disproportionately higher payments.

In contrast, newer plants on cheaper fuels that are regularly despatched end up spending most of the payments received from the CPPA on their fuel suppliers and O&M contractors.

In a recent letter to the power purchaser, the IPP demanded that the existing allocation formula be amended to incorporate a waterfall mechanism i.e. a method that makes due payment in order of priority, albeit with exceptions and qualifications.

It demanded that the CPPA prioritise the energy and debt components in its payments while the remainder be paid to all IPPs based on their over-dues. “This will help in ensuring sustainable plant operations of the IPPs on top of the merit order and avoid any disruption in fuel supplies and also honour debt servicing payments.”

Finance Minister Ishaq Dar and Energy Minister Khurram Dastgir Khan didn’t respond to requests for comment.

[https://www.dawn.com/news/1757015#:~:text=KARACHI%3A%20Port%20Qasim%20Electric%20Power,Power%20Purchasing%20Agency%20\(CPPA\).](https://www.dawn.com/news/1757015#:~:text=KARACHI%3A%20Port%20Qasim%20Electric%20Power,Power%20Purchasing%20Agency%20(CPPA).)

### **Chinese chilli seeds give higher yields**

LAHORE: A local agriculture research company claims to have harvested three-fold more yield from Chinese hybrid chilli varieties in successful cultivation projects in Sindh and Punjab.

“We have successfully reaped 75 maunds per acre yield of chillies crop from three different Chinese varieties in the local environment against 25-30 maunds produced by indigenous seeds,” says Dr Abdul Rashid, a farm scientist of the Guard Agricultural Research & Services.

The Chinese hybrid varieties whose fruit is over six inches long had been sown on 7,500 acres in different districts of Sindh and Punjab and will be cultivated on at least 30,000 acres in the next season, Dr Rashid informed Dawn during a visit to a model chillies farm on Monday.

He says that Chinese company LTEC is collaborating with Guard to improve the productivity of local crops and that all chilli yield will be purchased from the growers for its onward export to China.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1757011#:~:text=LAHORE%3A%20A%20local%20agriculture%20research,projects%20in%20Sindh%20and%20Punjab>

### **Pakistan Observer**

### **CPEC & Corridor of Knowledge**

*Zulkafil H. Khan*

THE China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) has now brightened the chances of regional connectivity especially with Central Asian States. It has become an engine of growth. It has

become an essential fuel of energy generation in which hydropower has outperformed other sources of energy. It has become an instrument for massive industrialization. Last but not the least, it has accelerated the pace of industrialization in the country.

While inaugurating the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, President Xi-Jinping, said: “Friendship between China and Pakistan is based on trust and mutual support and we have been devoted friends through both good and hard times. To restrain the hegemonic and expansionist designs of India and Narendra Modi-led BJP Government, the need for this partnership has further intensified in the last few years in which Corridor of Knowledge may play a decisive role in the days to come.

The multibillion USD mega projects under CPEC are destined to usher in a new era of economic prosperity and peace in the region. These mammoth projects in the energy sector, strengthening of physical and telecommunication networks, upgradation and strengthening of Gwadar port and establishment of Export Promotions Zones across Pakistan, are collectively called the “Destiny Changer” in the region. The dividends of the first early harvest phase of CPEC have already created trickle-down effects to the masses in Pakistan.

The academic and research collaboration between China and Pakistan have witnessed impressive growth in the last few decades in the areas of graduate studies, joint collaborative research, research funding, exchange programs, short term placement of students and faculty, organizing conferences, seminars and workshops etc. In this regard, the Centre for Global & Strategic Studies (CGSS) Islamabad has been following a holistic approach for the further strengthening of bilateral relations and especially formation of Corridor of Knowledge through conducting numerous research papers, qualitative articles about CPEC, BRI, foreign policy of China, socio-economic policies, bilateral relations, its concepts about befitting regionalism and friendly globalization, universal health policies, global humanitarian assistance and last but not the least, support to WHO and other international organizations for the betterment of humanity at large. Moreover, it has been conducting interactive sessions with experts, seminars, round table interactive programs and international conferences/webinars on various topics of mutual interest.

Its online internship programs are creating difference and disseminating a message of hope, better future and showcasing of soft image projection of China and, of course, Pakistan. It has been on the right path of forming a creditable “Corridor of Knowledge” which is essential for the rapid development of the CPCE, especially its phase-II. It has signed numerous befitting MOUs with many famous universities of the Eurasia and Middle East to create bridges of trust, better understanding and, of course, further enhancing people-to-people diplomacy and cultural cooperation.

Regional Integration Centre, University of Punjab is another noble policy making institute/think-tank which has been striving hard to promote the soft image of Pakistan through educational, cultural and people-to-people diplomacy. It grants scholarships especially for the students of Central Asian Countries and China to get enrolled and experience a qualitative education. In this regard, a joint maiden program of the RIC & CGSS entitled “Contemporary Dynamics of Pakistan” has already been started from May 31, 2021

specifically for the global diplomatic community totally free of cost because CGSS & RIC matter friendship over money.

The two important projects have started, China Pakistan Joint Research Centre at Quaid-e-Azam University and Academic Collaboration under CPEC consortium Universities. In the former mega project, three centres will be established with the main seat at QUA for earth Sciences, Labs for Cryosphere and Climate at Karakoram International University Gilgit and Marine Sciences Labs at Marine University Karachi. The CGSS has direct access to many Chinese universities, prominent think tanks and organizations which may be used for the further strengthening of the Corridor of Knowledge in the days to come.

The objectives of the Corridor of Knowledge to establish collaboration amongst the CPEC Consortium Universities include study the geo-strategic and geo-economic dimensions of the Chinese Belt and Road initiative and CPEC to understand their long-term impact on Pakistan. It is meant to develop mechanisms to fully exploit the opportunities arising out of China's appetite for global talent, and facilitate absorption of their graduates by the Pakistani economy. Thus the role of the CGSS & RIC is crucial and constant.

It supports higher education institutions (HEIs) in the development of human resources to implement the CPEC Long Term Plan. It develops the capacity of Pakistani universities for providing policy inputs to the government on the challenges emerging in the wake of implementation of CPEC Long Term Plan. Last but not least, it develops an understanding of Chinese history, culture and the governance system that has created the Chinese miracle, while drawing lessons for its own development.

The various components of the corridor of knowledge may include, joint research on climate adaptation, sustainable mountain development, food Security, urban planning, water resource management, supply chain management, IT, entrepreneurship, medicinal plants, gemstones and mineral resource management etc. It also includes talent cultivation and training, post-doctoral research, short-term training, dual degree programs between Chinese and Pakistani universities, conferences, seminars, workshops etc. In this regard, CGSS & RIC have comparative advantages over others which may be used.

On its part, the CGSS is currently conducting numerous bilateral or trilateral international conferences to showcase China's soft image to focus on the challenges faced by the two countries, with special emphasis over CPEC and BRI.

The Pakistan Observer, a leading English daily newspaper, has been striving hard to project various aspects of China's soft image by publishing unlimited articles, news, interviews and special editions on a regular basis. It has been on the frontline to mitigate spillover repercussions of the western propaganda through qualitative articles. It has now become a sign of intellectual resistance against Indian and Western propaganda, fake news and unfriendly lobbies. Mind is the ultimate power in which the Corridor of Knowledge always plays a very important role. The future development of CPEC is heavily dependent on the Corridor of Knowledge.

<https://pakobserver.net/cpec-corridor-of-knowledge-by-zulkafil-h-khan-2/>

## **The Express Tribune**

### **Gwadar investors to receive subsidy**

Port city given special economic district status

QUETTA: Balochistan Chief Minister, Mir Abdul Quddus Bizenjo has approved a summary giving a special economic district status to Gwadar.

He approved the summary of the planning and development department, government of Balochistan.

A major reason behind giving a special economic district status to Gwadar is to attract national and international investors and open new vistas of development and prosperity in the area.

The objective of this initiative is the fast track development of Gwadar and promotion of port related activities.

Establishment of special economic district (SED) is essential for tourism and other service sectors, sources in the government told The Express Tribune.

After the establishment of SED, trade, tourism, real estate and hoteling sectors will be boosted to the best level of competition, they mentioned.

The proposal for Gwadar as a Special Economic District (SED) aims at introducing vocational policies.

SED will provide an investor-friendly environment for foreign investment in the port city, the official said.

The sources stated that incentives for exemptions on federal and provincial taxes for industrial activities and concessions in visa policy for investors were also part of the special status.

With this initiative, subsidy will be provided to the investors in Gwadar in order to attract more and more investment in the shortest possible time.

This decision on behalf of the Balochistan government has come after massive development activities currently underway in Gwadar to make the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) a success.

Gwadar deep sea port has opened new vistas of development and prosperity in the region. It has so far provided jobs to thousands of youth from Balochistan and other parts of the country.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2419432/gwadar-investors-to-receive-subsidy>

## The Nation

### **BRI Agri Institute launched to rev up potato industry**

BEIJING-In a bid to turbocharge the potato industry, 11 Belt and Road (BRI) countries including China and Pakistan have joined international universities, companies and organisations to launch an international network on the potato industry at a forum held recently at China's Southwest University. A collaborative effort led by the Southwest University, the Belt and Road potato network is designed to enhance the quality and efficiency of the potato industry in BRI countries through multi-level cooperation, including academic exchanges, joint research, and technology transfer, Prof. Lyu Dianqiu, Dean of the Agronomy and Biotechnology College at Southwest University told China Economic Net (CEN) in an interview. Specifically, the innovation institute would serve as a platform to facilitate research and promote advancements in potato breeding, germplasm creation and utilisation, and construct potato cultivation demonstration bases, Prof Lyu said. The potato expert noted that the breeding-oriented cooperation "arises from a detailed study conducted to scrutinise challenges and potential in the potato industry in the BRI countries. "We found BRI countries such as Pakistan and Kazakhstan are plagued by a lack of quality potato seeds. As a token of support, each country was gifted 100 sets of germplasm rapid diagnostic kits at forum," Prof. Lyu added. As a first step, he said, training sessions would be organised to impart breeding know-how to the members. To that end, he added, participants signed a strategic cooperation agreement at forum and released a proposal for the shared construction and utilisation of "Belt and Road" International Potato Germplasm Resource Bank.

He said, "In an encouraging sign, the participating universities and enterprises have already established close ties with each other during the forum, and this serves as an inspiring start to deeper technological cooperation."

The BRI potato network partners include the CIP-China Center for Asia and the Pacific (CCCAP), Leling Xisen Potato Industry Group Co. Ltd, and many other enterprises, universities, research institutes, including the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences, S Seifullin Kazakh Agrotechnical University, and University of Lahore in Pakistan.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2023-05-31/page-8/detail-5>

## *Chinese Newspapers*

**May 16, 2023**

**People's Daily**

### **CPEC is strengthening Pakistan-China bonds**

*By Waseem Ishaque (China.org.cn)*

The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is the flagship project of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) proposed by China. It consists of multidimensional investment in areas ranging from infrastructure development, energy sector, special economic zones and oil pipelines, to the development of the Gwadar Port and Gwadar city as well as associated

facilities. The project, since it was proposed in 2015, has seen its institutional framework, relevant offices and organizations quickly become operational, with the years from 2015 to 2018 witnessing huge momentum.

It is undeniable that CPEC is a fulcrum of the BRI as it was the first such undertaking initiated by China. Its success and timely completion would represent a significant success for both China and Pakistan as it is the manifestation of a true spirit of win-win cooperation in a mega development project, which can then be replicated in other segments of the BRI.

According to official Pakistani government reports, 27 projects worth \$19 billion have so far been completed, while 63 projects with an investment total of \$35.2 billion will be completed by 2030. Despite the recent political instability and uncertain economic environment in Pakistan, the CPEC projects by and large have been moving according to schedule barring a few hurdles.

The 3,000-km-long CPEC is one of the BRI's six envisioned corridors, and the flagship project connecting the Belt from Kashgar in China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region with the Maritime Silk Road at Gwadar Port in Pakistan.

Pakistan has expressed its support for the construction of the project on multiple occasions.

In his inaugural speech in April 2022, Pakistani Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif pledged to boost construction of CPEC. Meanwhile, since last year, he has held several meetings with the Chinese ambassador and the business community to reassure them of full government support for CPEC and the security of Chinese nationals living and working in Pakistan. In November 2022, during his first visit to Beijing, the prime minister highlighted the need to speed up bilateral cooperation on development and investment.

From Pakistan's perspective, this project has been labeled a "fate changer" for the country and a "game changer" for the entire region. Commencing with the initial allocation of \$46 billion, the expected investment has been revised upward several times and now stands at \$62 billion. When completed, this will elevate Pakistan's economy and infrastructure, creating around 2.3 million job opportunities, as well as the means for enhanced cooperation and regional integration. Both countries remain committed to seeing its timely completion in 2030, with all institutional arrangements advancing smoothly both in China and Pakistan.

The vision of the BRI is anticipated to be an advantageous conduit for the prosperity and development of relevant countries and regions. It will help build a community of shared future for mankind with shared values, mutual benefits and common prosperity through win-win cooperation.

As part of the BRI, CPEC also embodies the spirit of building a community of shared future for mankind, and has witnessed pragmatic cooperation between Pakistan and China, boosting closer bilateral commercial and trade cooperation, and serving as an important driver of Pakistan's economic growth.

The construction of CPEC shows great potential in a wide range of areas. Its success is expected to pave the way for commerce, trade, transport and energy supply, which will help Pakistan to materialize its vision of becoming a progressive and developed state.



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(Web editor: Zhang Kaiwei, Liang Jun)

<http://en.people.cn/n3/2023/0516/c90000-20018906.html>

### **Xinhuanet News**

#### **CPEC hydropower project achieves dam capping in Pakistan**

ISLAMABAD, May 15 (Xinhua) -- Pakistan's Suki Kinari Hydropower project in the northwestern part of the country achieved the dam capping on Monday, marking it entering a new construction stage.

The successful capping of the concrete dam on the Kunhar River will help advance the construction progress of the power station under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), located in the Mansehra district of the South Asian country's Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province.

Calling the capping a key milestone of the 884-megawatt hydropower project, Chen Jiangbo, deputy manager of the Suki Kinari Hydropower project of China Gezhouba Group Company Ltd., which invests in and implements the project, attributed the achievement to the joint efforts made by the Chinese and Pakistani constructors despite multiple challenges.

The hydropower project started construction in January 2017 with a total investment of about 1.96 billion U.S. dollars. It will significantly optimize Pakistan's energy structure, boosting the country's economic and social development, said the Chinese deputy manager.

Once getting functional, the CPEC project will annually generate some 3.21 billion kilowatt-hours of clean electricity, replacing 1.28 million tons of coal and reducing 2.52 million tons of carbon dioxide emissions per year, he added.

Launched in 2013, the CPEC is a corridor linking Pakistan's Gwadar port with Kashgar in northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, highlighting energy, transport and industrial cooperation.

<https://english.news.cn/20230516/1de22d0e5537442aa5e476dc9c81e611/c.html>

**May 17, 2023**

**Global Times**

#### **CPEC creates about 155,000 jobs in Pakistan, continues to expand after 10 years**

The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), which is marking its 10th anniversary this year, has played an important role in bilateral cooperation between China and Pakistan and created over 155,000 local jobs for Pakistani people, China's National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) said on Wednesday.

During a regular press conference, the NDRC said the CPEC has achieved fruitful results, including the Gwadar Port and relevant cooperation projects in energy, infrastructure and industry.

Specifically, multiple highway construction programs are progressing on schedule. Power plants that have entered commercial operation provide nearly one-third of Pakistan's national electricity demand, having changed the situation of power shortage in Pakistan.

The Gwadar Port co-built by China and Pakistan has made great progress in creating a regional logistics hub and industrial base. In addition, the construction of the first phase of the Rashakai Special Economic Zone in Pakistan has been completed and achieved positive results in business attraction, said the NDRC.

As of the end of 2022, the CPEC had created 236,000 jobs, and the number of Pakistani workers reached 155,000.

The NDRC vowed to accelerate cooperation in transport, energy and industrial sectors and areas related to people's livelihoods, and further expand collaboration in the agricultural, mineral and technological fields.

Meanwhile, Pakistani Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari also hailed the CPEC as a shining example of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) at the 4th round of the Foreign Minister-level Pakistan-China Strategic Dialogue held in Islamabad.

In order to expand the influence of the CPEC, the foreign ministers of China, Afghanistan and Pakistan have agreed to extend the program to Afghanistan, to further advance cooperation under the BRI.

As a landlocked country, Afghanistan mainly relies on Pakistani ports for international trade. 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, the 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.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202305/1290894.shtml>

**May 19, 2023**

**People's Daily**

## **The unique relationship between China and Pakistan**

*By Zamir Ahmed Awan*

The relationship between China and Pakistan is characterized by a long-standing friendship, mutual trust, and cooperation on multiple fronts. Over the years, the two nations have nurtured their ties through diplomatic, political, economic, cultural, educational, defense, technological, agricultural, and other collaborative endeavors. China-Pakistan relations are unique and often referred as a role model in international relations.

The formal diplomatic relations between the two countries were established on May 21, 1951, and every year this day is marked with a high spirit of friendship by both nations with several activities and celebrations.

### **Diplomatic and political relations**

China and Pakistan share a remarkable history of diplomatic and political collaboration. The two nations have consistently supported each other on important international forums, advocating for each other's interests and concerns. They have stood together on matters of regional security and have been instrumental in maintaining stability in the region. Regular high-level visits and exchanges have further strengthened their bond and enhanced their strategic coordination. There exists a comprehensive harmony and identical approach toward international disputes, concerns, and geopolitics. Both nations have a similar vision of peaceful development, and support each other for win-win cooperation. There exists immense goodwill among the people of Pakistan for China, especially the youth.

### **Economic cooperation**

Economic cooperation is a cornerstone of China-Pakistan relations. The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), a flagship project of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), has significantly bolstered economic ties between the two countries. CPEC has transformed Pakistan's infrastructure landscape, fostering connectivity, energy cooperation, industrial development, and trade. This landmark initiative has opened new avenues for economic growth, job creation, and poverty alleviation in Pakistan. China has become the largest single investor in Pakistan. Chinese assistance has been instrumental in the revival of Pakistan's economy and has saved Pakistan from default on several occasions.

### **Cultural and educational exchanges**

China and Pakistan share a deep cultural affinity, and cultural exchanges have played a crucial role in strengthening their bond. Both nations have actively promoted cultural understanding through cultural events, festivals, and people-to-people exchanges. Furthermore, educational cooperation has flourished, with thousands of Pakistani students studying in Chinese universities, contributing to the human resource development of both countries. China has become a top priority destination for Pakistani youth for higher education.

### **Defense and security cooperation**

China and Pakistan enjoy robust defense and security cooperation, which has played a vital role in maintaining regional stability. The two countries have conducted joint military exercises, shared intelligence, and engaged in defense technology cooperation. China has been a reliable partner in supporting Pakistan's defense modernization efforts, contributing to Pakistan's national security and defense capabilities.

### **Technological collaboration**

Technological collaboration forms a crucial aspect of China-Pakistan relations. China's expertise in various fields, including information technology, telecommunications, and space exploration, has benefited Pakistan significantly. Joint research and development initiatives,

technology transfers, and cooperation in emerging sectors have propelled technological advancement in both countries. China has been assisting Pakistan in emerging technologies, with no restrictions.

### **Agricultural cooperation**

China and Pakistan have fostered agricultural cooperation, aiming to enhance food security and promote sustainable agricultural practices. Exchange programs, knowledge sharing, and joint research projects have helped improve agricultural productivity, crop diversification, and irrigation techniques. Such collaboration has had a positive impact on rural development, poverty alleviation, and farmer empowerment in Pakistan. Being an agricultural economy, Pakistan has huge potential for growth and the highest impact on its economy.

### **Key agreements and projects**

China and Pakistan have signed numerous agreements and initiated projects to solidify their partnership. The Long-Term Plan for the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, the Free Trade Agreement, and the establishment of Special Economic Zones are some notable agreements that underline their commitment to mutual growth and development. Projects like the Gwadar Port, Thar Coal Power Plant, and various infrastructure development initiatives are testimony to their shared vision and progress.

The relationship between China and Pakistan is a shining example of enduring friendship, marked by cooperation and mutual support. Their unique bond spans multiple dimensions, including diplomacy, economics, culture, education, defense, technology, and agriculture. The strategic collaboration between the two countries has yielded remarkable outcomes, benefiting both nations and contributing to regional stability and prosperity. As China and Pakistan continue to deepen their relations, their partnership serves as a model for building fruitful and enduring friendships in the international arena.

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The opinions expressed in this article reflect those of the author, and do not necessarily reflect those of People's Daily Online.

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<http://en.people.cn/n3/2023/0519/c98649-20020741.html>

## **South China Morning Post**

### **What protests in Pakistan against Imran Khan's arrest mean for China**

*C. Uday Bhaskar*

Public anger at the previously sacrosanct institution of the army, which Beijing has close links with, could risk Chinese interests in Pakistan, including the belt and road 'economic corridor'

Pakistan's former prime minister Imran Khan may have been released on bail but the country remains in a tumultuous spiral after his heavy-handed arrest at the Islamabad High Court last week by the paramilitary Rangers.

The ugly arrest and its sheer impunity – carried out by soldiers rather than the police – sparked nationwide, anti-army protests by Khan's supporters. This assault on the army is unprecedented in Pakistan. With at least nine reported dead and thousands arrested, the situation remains tense.

In recent days, the stand-off between Khan – who is seen as having the support of the chief justice – and the army chief, General Asim Munir, has revealed the country's many layers of institutional discord. This political turbulence has grave implications for Pakistan and its neighbours, primarily China.

At the heart of the turmoil is an old issue of governance – the nature of civil-military relations in a country where democracy remains fragile and distorted.

It was barely a decade after Pakistan's formation in August 1947 that the army decided to seize power. Since this first coup, by General Ayub Khan in 1958, three more army chiefs have been in power – ostensibly to stabilise the nation – the last one being General Pervez Musharraf, who ousted prime minister Nawaz Sharif in October 1999.

Over the decades, the global community has frowned upon this violation of the democratic norm by the all-powerful Pakistani army. Yet China made the strategic decision to draw closer to the Pakistani military. This determination was arrived at during the Mao years in the mid-1960s and the catalyst was Beijing's anxiety about and animus towards India – sentiments shared in even greater measure by Pakistan.

As a result, the relationship between both country's militaries became more robust and acquired an extraordinary strategic depth, particularly in relation to missiles, and even, some suggest, nuclear weapons. It is as opaque as it is substantive: during the Cold War decades and post-September 11 years, China has been a steadfast ally, particularly in the UN Security Council when Pakistan is accused of harbouring terrorists.

Sino-Pakistan relations have been described since the early years in lofty terms as being "ironclad". This description was once again used at the fourth Pakistan-China Strategic Dialogue between their foreign ministers in Islamabad on May 5-6, a few days before Khan's arrest.

A statement released after the meeting noted: "The two foreign ministers underlined that Pakistan-China friendship was a historic reality and conscious choice of the two nations. As 'All-Weather Strategic Cooperative Partners', Pakistan and China enjoy complete mutual trust, and their ironclad friendship enjoys complete consensus in both countries."

Alas, recent attacks on Chinese nationals in Pakistan are a blot on relations and a source of concern for both sides.

The crown jewel of the Sino-Pakistan relationship is the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor. The strategic dialogue statement said: "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.”

But this rosy assessment is not borne out by the developments of the last few years, during which the CPEC project has stalled. And the uproar over Khan's arrest has the potential to upset China's interests in Pakistan.

Beijing relies on the military as an institution to protect and advance its interests – among which CPEC is a key part of the Belt and Road Initiative, the grand Chinese-led connectivity project with strategic underpinnings that has President Xi Jinping's personal stamp on it.

Khan's botched arrest has produced a corrosive outcome, namely that the army – an institution that has until now been largely deemed above review and reproach by the people – is being denigrated by irate citizens for its brazen conduct over the decades. The list of transgressions include subverting democracy, nurturing Islamist terror groups, feathering their nest and bleeding the state exchequer.

The fiasco has also revealed fissures within the army, both among the senior officers and those below officer rank, with some supporting the army chief and others in sympathy with Khan.

Whether the army top brass will close ranks soon – once some of the pro-Khan corps commanders retire over the next few months – is moot. The institutional credibility of the Pakistani army has taken a beating and Beijing will have to review its options depending on the modus vivendi that Pakistan is able to arrive at.

If Khan emerges the victor in the stand-off and elections are held, possibly towards the end of the year, it is very likely that he will be elected on a sympathy vote – as the only politician who managed to stand up to the army. This would be a heady victory for civilian rule and democracy in Pakistan. But it may not be as welcome in Beijing given that Khan, while prime minister, was not quite as enthused about the CPEC and its long-term cost and benefit implications for the citizens of Pakistan.

Pakistan's future has to be decided by its people and while the prospect of the army willingly giving up its entrenched power is highly desirable, the chance of that happening is low. Beijing will have to be astute in reading the tea leaves stirred up by the Khan imbroglio.

Commodore C. Uday Bhaskar is director of the Society for Policy Studies (SPS), an independent think tank based in New Delhi

<https://www.scmp.com/comment/opinion/article/3220789/what-protests-pakistan-against-imran-khans-arrest-mean-china>

### **China banks on stability with Afghanistan belt and road agreement: experts**

Expansion of US\$60 billion China-Pakistan Economic Corridor into Afghanistan ‘a win’ for the war-torn country, but China's yields less certain

Observers said Beijing will be hoping to reduce instability in the region while building its influence



When China's Foreign Minister Qin Gang met his Afghan counterpart Amir Khan Mutaqi earlier this month, he spoke of the two nations as "traditionally friendly neighbours connected by mountains and rivers".

China would stand firmly with the Afghan people, Qin said, while Mutaqi responded that his interim government hoped to deepen cooperation with Beijing on multiple fronts, including the Belt and Road Initiative.

In a separate foreign ministers' dialogue on the same day, China, Afghanistan and Pakistan agreed to push forward with the belt and road plan's signature project, marking Kabul's recruitment to China's ambitious plans for the region.

The three countries agreed that the US\$60 billion China-Pakistan Economic Corridor will be extended into Afghanistan, as part of the scheme to promote economic cooperation and connectivity along the ancient Silk Road trade routes.

Observers said the decision to expand the belt and road plan – often viewed as Chinese President Xi Jinping's flagship infrastructure initiative – into Afghanistan would be a win for the conflict-torn, investment-hungry country.

But they were also sceptical of the economic yields that China could reap, suggesting instead that the development should be viewed through the lens of Beijing's desire to maintain stability in the region while building its influence.

The move should also be considered in the context of the United States' chaotic withdrawal from Afghanistan in 2021, they said.

Marvin Weinbaum, director for Afghanistan and Pakistan studies at Washington-based think tank the Middle East Institute, said the expansion would be a "real boon" for Kabul.

"Afghanistan badly needs infrastructure development like roads, railroads, just about anything you can think of," he said. "Afghanistan is a black hole as far as its needs are concerned."

In 2021, nine Chinese workers were killed in Pakistan by a suicide bomber. The Islamist militants behind the bus blast were backed by Indian and Afghan intelligence agencies, the Pakistani government said.

There was also a coordinated attack by militants on a Chinese-owned hotel in Kabul in December, prompting China to advise its citizens to leave Afghanistan.

The situation in Afghanistan has yet to improve dramatically since Washington's pull-out and the formation by the Taliban of an interim government, Weinbaum said. "It shows what happens when you invest in a country which is as potentially unstable as Pakistan and Afghanistan."

Beijing's concerns were evident when Qin told Mutaqi that Afghanistan should "ensure the safety and security of Chinese personnel and institutions" in the country.

Raffaello Pantucci, senior fellow at the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies in Singapore, said China's belt and road foray into Afghanistan – if it succeeds – could boost regional connectivity and make it easier for products and materials to move between markets.

But he suggested that investment was not a central part of the meeting between Qin and Mutaqi, pointing to Beijing's long-standing ability to dangle potential belt and road investments to persuade Afghanistan and Pakistan to sit at the same table.

The two neighbours have had long-standing border tensions which occasionally erupt into violence.

Pantucci said the meeting was an attempt by Beijing to again pick up the role of mediator between the two countries.

“China recognises that stability regionally comes from better comity between the two of them. Not only do they not cause problems in each other's borders, but also more widely it would help bring some stability to South Asia more generally,” he said.

Pantucci said the Chinese government has yet to commit large amounts of money to Afghanistan. There have been some aid contributions, but only one large state-linked project – an oil prospecting project in Amu Darya, he observed.

Even so, this project is being undertaken by a distant subsidiary of China National Petroleum Corporation, protecting the state-controlled entity from potential fallout from international sanctions levied on Afghanistan, he said.

To that end, Afghanistan is “not central” to the belt and road plan, but “has the potential to seriously disrupt any ambitions China has in Central and South Asia”, Pantucci said.

“An unstable Afghanistan could export violence and instability north and south, creating a major headache for Chinese investments in these countries and – even more worryingly from Beijing's perspective – create a very dangerous neighbourhood adjacent to Xinjiang, one of China's most sensitive regions.”

Weinbaum said the latest development indicated that Beijing is continuing to push its vision to expand its network in the region as part of its foreign policy to make friends, allies and economic partners.

China has increasingly sought to build ties with Afghanistan, while not formally recognising the Taliban regime. Last week's foreign ministers' meeting was the first between the three countries since the interim government took power.

Chinese foreign ministry spokesman Wang Wenbin said the dialogue's outcomes – which included a pledge by Afghanistan not to allow forces to conduct terrorism there – were of “great significance to the future development of China-Afghanistan relations”.

Alvin Camba, an assistant professor at the University of Denver's Josef Korbel School of International Studies, said the developments could mean that China will eventually officially recognise the Taliban.

While the move would enable the regime to access infrastructure funding from China – which would allow the Taliban to distribute public goods and legitimise its rule – it could be “negative”, Camba said.

“It [would] mean that governments that act outside the norms of what is acceptable can exist and thrive. In some ways, it legitimises the abuses by the Taliban,” he said, adding that it would also allow gender inequality and other features of the regime to thrive.

Camba said that even if China does not formally recognise the Taliban, it could still fund Chinese firms to pursue commercial or direct investments with Afghanistan – a similar move to Beijing’s actions when courting Taiwan’s diplomatic allies.

The success of China’s belt and road plan in Afghanistan would depend on the political and economic returns it could get, and whether it would be short-changed by the deal, he said.

“Afghanistan is an important former US-occupied region with a lot of resources to offer.”

Camba said that branching into Kabul could also allow China to signal to surrounding regions – from Central Asia to South Asia and the Middle East – encouraging countries to continue borrowing Chinese money.

According to Weinbaum, China is also trying to fill the vacuum left by the American withdrawal from Afghanistan. And it “made sense politically to have friendly government ties with Kabul”, he said.

China has engaged more visibly with the Taliban than any of its other neighbours. In an opinion piece last year, Pantucci pointed out that Beijing’s embassy in Kabul had pushed for the Taliban’s inclusion in regional forums, while Chinese institutions offered millions of dollars in aid.

“Beijing rarely wastes an opportunity to condemn the abrupt withdrawal of US forces ... and contrast it with China’s own contributions,” he wrote.

Marina Kaneti, assistant professor at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy in Singapore, said China’s engagement with Afghanistan was “indelible” from its new approach to global diplomacy.

It could be read along the same lines as Beijing’s recent exchanges with Iran and Saudi Arabia, and the success that came with the peace deal it brokered between the two Middle Eastern nations, she said.

“In other words, Beijing will use Afghanistan to continue re-drawing the limits and possibilities for international engagement and world order. If Afghanistan is a piece of a larger geostrategic play, then the very possibility for engagement and negotiations can itself count as success.”

Pantucci said Afghanistan could still be a “huge boon” to China – but he did not see that happening any time soon.

“Unfortunately, the stubborn nature of the Taliban authorities makes it highly unlikely we will see either positive outcome, though at the same time it does not guarantee a negative one,” he said.

“What is likely is that Afghanistan will be an irritant to China’s regional ambitions and one that China will continue to seek to manage and ignore, but will inevitably find itself having to play a role in trying to fix.”

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/diplomacy/article/3221012/china-banks-stability-kabul-belt-and-road-agreement-experts>

## **Xinhuanet News**

### **Roundup: Pakistani apiculture sector to thrive with Chinese know-how**

*By Misbah Saba Malik*

ISLAMABAD, May 19 (Xinhua) -- Pakistan has a huge potential in honey production but due to multiple factors local beekeepers are facing challenges that can be overcome by following the Chinese style of bee-keeping, experts said.

Speaking at the China-Pakistan Apiculture Forum on Thursday, Pakistani and Chinese experts said the Pak-China apiculture cooperation is a way forward toward a successful honey production sector of Pakistan.

Nadia Rehman, a member of food security and climate change of Pakistan's Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives, told the webinar that such cooperation will lead to knowledge sharing, research collaboration and technology transfer, and result in enhanced honey yield in the South Asian country.

She added that 390,000 people in Pakistan are involved in beekeeping and produce over 4,000 tons of honey annually, and if they adopt modern technologies, honey production can surge to 70,000 tons a year and create about 87,000 green jobs.

Speaking at the event, Muhammad Naeem, vice chancellor of Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University in Rawalpindi, said many people from rural areas of Pakistan are associated with beekeeping which becomes a profitable business and a great source of livelihood.

The annual yield per colony was 30 to 35 kg, but recently due to climate change effects it decreased to 10 to 12 kg, posing a serious challenge for beekeepers to continue the business, he said.

Naeem added that to help Pakistani beekeepers overcome the challenge, his university is helping them not only to increase the yield but also find alternative ways to earn money, by introducing Chinese technology.

Now a training course on beekeeping and honey processing technology for Pakistan is being held in which 39 participants from different universities, research institutes, beekeeping associations, honey traders, and beekeepers are getting the most advanced knowledge of beekeeping from Chinese professors, Naeem said.

"As China is playing a leading role in the research and development of beekeeping in the world, the knowledge sharing by Chinese experts regarding modern beekeeping techniques can be very useful for Pakistani beekeepers and the scientific community," he added.

Pang Chunxue, charge d'affaires of the Chinese Embassy in Pakistan, told the webinar that agriculture is one of pillar industries of Pakistan and a key area for bilateral cooperation between China and Pakistan.

"Agricultural cooperation is crucial to the high-quality development of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor. China is committed to supporting Pakistan in revitalizing its agriculture, livestock, dairy, fisheries and food processing sectors to attain sustainable growth and meet the challenge of poverty alleviation," she added.

The honey produced in Pakistan enjoys a good reputation for its unique taste and high quality for a long time, but has been suffering from problems of low production, low price and small scale, she said.

Pang added that China has a history of beekeeping for more than 2,000 years and is one of the earliest countries in the world to raise bees. Nowadays the beekeeping industry in China has developed rapidly and exports of related products rank top in the world.

"As ironclad brothers, the Chinese government is happy to share the advanced technology of beekeeping and honey-processing with Pakistani people to promote the beekeeping industry and improve people's livelihood," she said.

President of the Apicultural Science Association of China Wu Jie said that the association is willing to work with beekeeping research institutes and universities in Pakistan to strengthen cooperation, and promote common development and prosperity of the beekeeping industry in China and Pakistan.

<https://english.news.cn/20230519/5dabae34232741499e16e91d7471f3fc/c.html>

**May 21, 2023**

**Global Times**

**We emphatically endorse the spirit and philosophy of BRI, a number of activities planned to mark its 10th anniversary: Pakistani Ambassador**

We emphatically endorse the spirit and philosophy of China-proposed Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), which seeks to transcend national boundaries and lay bridges for win-win cooperation, common development, and closer economic integration for a shared future, Pakistani Ambassador to China Moin ul Haque told the Global Times in an exclusive interview.

This year marks the 10th anniversary of BRI. Pakistan is one of the earliest supporters of and participants in the BRI. One flagship project of the cooperation between China and Pakistan is CPEC.

While fully aligning with the national development agenda of Pakistan, CPEC has been the key to Pakistan's socio-economic development.

According to the ambassador, in its first phase, CPEC has helped Pakistan develop major transport infrastructure and address the country's essential energy needs. CPEC investment and its resultant effects have generated thousands of jobs. The once-arid fishing village of Gwadar has been transformed into a fully functional and operational port. In the next phase, CPEC is set to focus more on socio-economic development, agricultural cooperation, and industrialization.

The ambassador elaborated that China-Pakistan leadership in conjunction with cooperation among relevant institutions from the two sides will fuel the momentum of high-quality development of CPEC.

The two sides also plan to organize a number of activities this year to mark the 10th anniversary of BRI and CPEC development.

"On this occasion, I would also like to acknowledge the wonderful role and valuable contributions of the Chinese companies and workers from both countries who worked tirelessly even during the COVID-19 pandemic toward the smooth and timely implementation of key CPEC projects," he said.

In May, China's State Councilor and Foreign Minister Qin Gang made his inaugural visit to Pakistan, as part of recent important, and close interactions between the high levels of government in both China and Pakistan. During the visit, Qin attended the fifth China-Afghanistan-Pakistan Foreign Ministers' Dialogue in Islamabad, Pakistan on May 6. Pakistani Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari chaired the dialogue, and Acting Foreign Minister of the Afghan Interim Government Amir Khan Muttaqi was also in attendance.

During the dialogue, Qin emphasized that China is ready to strengthen counter-terrorism and security cooperation with Afghanistan and Pakistan, uphold the vision of common, comprehensive, cooperative, and sustainable security, firmly oppose any form of terrorism, reject supporting or using terrorism and "double standards" in fighting against terrorism, and strengthen cooperation efforts in combating terrorism. The three parties should strengthen cooperation in counter-terrorism and security affairs under regional multilateral frameworks including the mechanism of coordination and cooperation among Afghanistan's neighbouring countries.

Qin expressed his hope that Afghanistan and Pakistan will further strengthen safety and security measures for Chinese nationals, institutions, and projects.

During the interview, the Pakistani diplomat pointed out that Qin's first official visit to Pakistan took place "at a crucial time when we are witnessing unprecedented changes in the geo-political landscape of the globe and the region."

"Both our countries enjoy high level mutual trust at the political and institutional level and Qin's visit to Islamabad reflected the strategic nature of our partnership and the fraternal bonds of friendship between our two countries and their peoples."

In addition to CPEC, both sides also discussed cooperation in the areas of agriculture, industrialization, science and technology, IT, renewable energy, and post-flood reconstruction, as well as regional and global issues of mutual interest, he said.

Talking about the Afghan issue, Haque said that Pakistan fully supports a peaceful, secure, and stable Afghanistan. Peace and stability in Afghanistan is not only crucial for the future progress, prosperity, and development of Afghanistan, but also for the neighboring countries and the broader region.

He stressed that cooperation among Afghanistan's neighboring is of vital importance. Both Pakistan and China are strong advocates for a regional approach and actively participation in



various regional mechanisms including the SCO, the neighboring countries format, and the Pakistan-China-Afghanistan trilateral format.

"Pakistan appreciates all the efforts made by China to bring peace and stability to Afghanistan. Pakistan and China have always maintained close coordination on issues related to Afghanistan," he noted.

During the trilateral meeting in Pakistan, the three parties agreed to uphold good-neighborliness and friendship, deepen political mutual trust, respect each other's sovereignty and territorial integrity, properly handle conflicts and differences through equal consultation, oppose interference in Afghanistan's internal affairs, reject illegal unilateral sanctions against Afghanistan, and object to all acts that undermine regional peace and stability.

The three parties agreed to restart the dialogue mechanism under the framework of the Foreign Ministers' dialogue, and strengthen exchanges and cooperation in such fields as economy, trade, agriculture, poverty reduction, and cultural and people-to-people exchanges, advance Belt and Road cooperation, support the extension of CPEC to Afghanistan, promote connectivity among the three countries and the region, and improve the cross-border trade system, with a view to enhance economic integration among the three countries and achieving sustainable development, according to China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202305/1291074.shtml>

**May 25, 2023**

**Xinhuanet News**

### **Researchers from China, Pakistan develop new method to treat celiac disease**

LANZHOU, May 25 (Xinhua) -- An international research team has developed a new method to treat celiac disease, according to Lanzhou University in northwest China's Gansu Province.

The study conducted by Chinese, Pakistani and other overseas researchers has been published in the journal Food Research International.

Aman Khan, leader of the study and a Pakistani postdoctoral fellow at Lanzhou University, has been engaged in research related to the treatment of celiac disease for several years.

According to Aman, the disease, an immune disorder triggered by gluten ingestion, is quite common in Asian countries including Pakistan, as they eat lots of food made of flour, which contains gluten. He hopes to use his knowledge to help people affected by this disorder.

Inspired and supported by his advisor -- Li Xiangkai, a professor with the environmental microbiology group under Lanzhou University, Aman has been isolating probiotic bacterial strains from Pakistani fermented sourdough bread so as to use them in preventing the occurrence of celiac disease.

According to Aman, the celiac disease treatment idea was taken from a previous study conducted by their group. The previous study isolated a probiotic strain from "Jiangshui," a traditional Chinese fermented food, which could degrade uric acid and upregulate gut

microbiota. They then made yogurt with the strain and conducted a two-month human trial on 120 volunteers with hyperuricemia. Results showed that the Jiangshui-yogurt exhibited high degradation capacity for uric acid.

Guided by his advisor, Aman and his team members have successfully isolated probiotic bacterial strains called LZU-GM from Pakistani fermented sourdough bread and finished a series of experiments on mice.

"According to our experiment results and integrative analysis, isolated LZU-GM provides evidence that it can relieve adverse effects of gluten additive food and balance gut microbiota in mice," said Aman, adding that further clinical trials will be needed to determine the safety and efficacy of probiotics in fermented sourdough bread as a treatment for celiac disease.

Li Xiangkai said they will make yogurt with LZU-GM strains isolated from Pakistani sourdough bread and continue to conduct related experiments. "We are confident that the new solution will be a therapeutic adjunct agent in treating celiac disease," added Li.

<https://english.news.cn/20230525/9b5007692f0146168be663cee33292c6/c.html>

**May 28, 2023**

**China Daily**

### **China's Global Development Initiative helps achieve sustainable development goals, say Pakistani experts**

ISLAMABAD - The Global Development Initiative (GDI) proposed by China is aimed at accelerating the implementation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by focusing on people-oriented development, Pakistani experts said.

The GDI promotes stronger, greener and healthier global development by revitalizing global development cooperation and partnerships with countries and organizations around the world, said the experts and academics at a webinar, which was organized by the Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI), an Islamabad-based think tank, on Friday.

Former Foreign Secretary of Pakistan Sohail Mahmood said the GDI was a critical initiative launched by China at a time when the world was deeply affected by the health and economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and the deficit in the achievement of SDGs was growing.

Mahmood said the initiative would help tackle the challenges of the world and facilitate the post-pandemic recovery, and Pakistan was one of the first countries to lend its strong support for it.

At a time of global food, fuel and financial crises, initiatives like GDI are essential for the developing world, he said while expressing the hope that the initiative would be perceived in its right perspective by all to advance the noble cause of the achievement of SDGs by 2030.

The GDI aims to take advantage of technology, innovation and modern infrastructure in order to tackle multiple challenges faced by the world, Masood Khalid, former Pakistani ambassador to China, said.

China has proposed several initiatives including the GDI and Global Security Initiative (GSI) at a time of major transformation in the international system, Khalid said.

"Unilateralism and zero-sum mindset were creating more disorders in the already destabilized world. Amid this growing polarization, China had emerged as a spokesperson for peace, development and cooperation," he noted.

Lauding China for its launch of the far-reaching and consequential GDI, Chairman of Pakistani Senate's Defense Committee Mushahid Hussain Syed said this initiative reflected that the Chinese values are all about cooperation, peace and respect.

"Despite global conflicts, climate change, poverty and energy-related challenges, China has shown impressive leadership," said the senator.

He underlined that Pakistan and China have shared a long-standing, all-weather and time-tested strategic relationship, and the two countries should work together to build a future of progress, prosperity and cooperation.

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202305/28/WS64728f5aa310b6054fad56ba.html>

**May 29, 2023**

**China Daily**

**The endeavors of C+C5**

*MUHAMMAD ASIF NOOR*

The China-Central Asia Summit provides a pivotal platform for a future of robust economic cooperation and shared development

The recently concluded 2023 China-Central Asia Summit held in Xi'an, Shaanxi province, has left an indelible mark on regional cooperation, marking a pivotal moment in the history of the relationship between China and the Central Asian countries. This momentous gathering witnessed the convergence of all the leaders China and the Central Asian countries.

A defining outcome of this summit was the signing of the Xi'an Declaration by all participating nations, symbolizing their shared objectives and aspirations for enhanced cooperation. The signing of this comprehensive accord injected a fresh impetus into the collaborative endeavors between China and Central Asia, paving the way for a new chapter of strategic partnership and mutual growth.

The summit also served as a platform for the negotiation and formulation of a multitude of significant bilateral agreements, highlighting the depth of cooperation between China and its Central Asian partners. For instance, China signed 41 documents of cooperation with Uzbekistan and 47 documents worth \$22 billion with Kazakhstan. These bilateral agreements encompass diverse areas such as trade, investment, infrastructure development, cultural exchanges and people-to-people contacts.

The comprehensive nature of these agreements reflects the mutual commitment to fostering robust ties in various sectors of mutual interest. Such bilateral engagements serve as catalysts

for economic integration, sustainable development and regional stability, laying the foundation for a prosperous future for both China and the Central Asian countries.

The Xi'an Declaration, a pivotal outcome of the China-Central Asia Summit, holds significant implications. The establishment of a formal mechanism for regular meetings among the heads of state signifies a deeper commitment to sustained engagement and dialogue. This fosters an environment conducive to trust-building and long-term collaboration, as both sides equally invest in hosting the biennial summit.

The endorsement of the Belt and Road Initiative as a crucial framework for cooperation between China and Central Asia is important. It signifies the Central Asian countries' intent to leverage economic opportunities and enhance regional connectivity. By aligning their development strategies with the initiative, these nations are opening their doors to increased investment, trade diversification, and mutually beneficial projects that can drive sustainable development across the region. By fostering knowledge exchange, cultural understanding and people-to-people interactions, China and Central Asia are strengthening the foundation for regional integration and stability.

The Central Asian countries have made substantial headways at the bilateral level with China. For instance, Kazakhstan and China have solidified collaboration through the establishment of a new industrial transfer program, demonstrating a commitment to mutual economic development. In addition, the two countries have pledged their support of businesses operating within their borders and expressed a desire to boost tourism to each other.

As more countries successfully establish visa-free regimes with China, it paves the way for increased tourism, trade and cultural interaction. The ongoing negotiations with Kyrgyzstan exemplify the shared desire to expand bilateral relations. Through these initiatives, China and Central Asia aim to strengthen regional connectivity, promote economic cooperation, and forge closer bonds.

China's significant direct investment in Central Asian countries exceeds \$15 billion, reflecting its commitment to fostering economic ties and enhancing cooperation with these nations. The introduction of visa-free initiatives is another important step that will further solidify China's intent to deepen people-to-people exchanges and promote seamless travel between China and Central Asia. The burgeoning trade between China and the five Central Asian countries, which reached a staggering \$70 billion in 2022 and demonstrated a remarkable 22 percent growth in the first quarter of this year, serves as a testament to the escalating significance of economic cooperation.

The rise of challenges such as extremism in the region, particularly in Afghanistan, has prompted heightened security concerns among the Central Asian countries and China. Through bilateral counterterrorism exercises, military cooperation and multilateral initiatives under the framework of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization and through the "China+Central Asia" (C+C5) cooperation mechanism, China has expanded its regional security cooperation and achieved fruitful outcomes with the Central Asian countries.

For Pakistan, this summit holds great significance as the country enjoys strong partnerships with Central Asian countries and China. The promotion of regional connectivity, including

the development of transport networks and the facilitation of trade flows, can provide Pakistan with increased access to markets in both China and Central Asia. C+C5 cooperation can lead to the development of energy infrastructure, such as pipelines and power transmission projects, which can help address Pakistan's energy needs and contribute to its energy security.

The summit's emphasis on connectivity and infrastructure development complements Pakistan's ongoing efforts to strengthen its transportation networks and create linkages with regional economies especially on the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor. The promotion of cultural exchanges and people-to-people interactions under the framework of the summit can foster closer ties between Pakistan and the Central Asian countries.

Looking ahead, the China-Central Asia Summit provides a pivotal platform for envisioning a future of robust economic cooperation and shared development.

The author is the founder of the Friends of Belt and Road Initiative Forum. The author contributed this article to China Watch, a think tank powered by China Daily. The views do not necessarily reflect those of China Daily.

<https://epaper.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202305/29/WS6473f420a310b1dea957ed7f.html>

### **Power of three**

*WANG SHIDA*

The Fifth China-Afghanistan-Pakistan Foreign Ministers' Dialogue, attended by 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 in Islamabad on May 6, marks the official restart of the trilateral cooperation mechanism among the three countries.

In particular, it's worth noting that this year marks the 10th anniversary of the China-proposed Belt and Road Initiative, and both Afghanistan and Pakistan have been vigorously taking part in the joint construction of the initiative. The three countries reaffirmed their commitment to further trilateral cooperation under the framework of the initiative, and to jointly extend the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor to Afghanistan. Above all, the three sides agreed to enhance transit trade through Gwadar Port and give full play to the port's unique role in reviving the Afghan economy.

The restart of foreign minister-level meetings among the three countries shows how China is playing an active and positive role in solving international and regional hotspot issues. It also marks the implementation of the Global Development Initiative and Global Security Initiative proposed by Chinese President Xi Jinping.

The domestic situation in Afghanistan has undergone dramatic changes since the Taliban regained power and then Afghan president Ashraf Ghani fled the country in August 2021. Politics in Afghanistan has entered a new period and the regime change has triggered a chain reaction both inside and outside the country.

In August 2021, the United States hastily withdrew the last of its troops from Afghanistan, not because it had solved the Afghan issue but because of the US' domestic political agenda. The Afghan issue is far from being solved. On the contrary, because of historical reasons and complex international and regional political factors, a number of terrorist groups identified by the United Nations still exist in Afghanistan, such as the Islamic State Khorasan Province branch and al-Qaida. Over the past more than one year, the aforementioned terrorist groups have made attempts to fish in troubled waters — taking the political upheaval in Afghanistan as an opportunity to strengthen their foothold and grow stronger, and even spread to Afghanistan's surrounding areas.

For instance, Afghanistan's neighboring country Pakistan is seeing large-scale penetration of terrorist groups including the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan, which used to be active in the eastern part of Afghanistan. This has resulted in Pakistan's security situation deteriorating and an increase in terrorist attacks and casualties.

The people of Afghanistan have already gone through the extremely difficult times. However, Afghanistan, at a critical stage of transition from chaos to governance, still faces multiple challenges and is in dire need of external support and assistance.

Afghanistan and Pakistan are neighbors with close cross-border exchanges and communication. Changes in one country's domestic situation affect the other. Right now, the two countries face both unprecedented opportunities and some common challenges in maintaining peace and stability and promoting development and prosperity, and some of the challenges have triggered discord in bilateral relations. As the two countries' friendly neighbor, China has proposed and promoted the foreign ministers' meeting among the three parties, in an attempt to provide a good platform for Afghanistan and Pakistan to jointly tackle those common challenges.

The relaunch of the China-Afghanistan-Pakistan trilateral cooperation mechanism will greatly contribute to lasting peace and order in Afghanistan and its neighboring areas. We have every reason to have greater expectations from such a cooperation mechanism and China's contribution as a major country.

To start with, the three parties have reached a consensus on deepening their anti-terrorism cooperation. They have agreed to coordinate and cooperate on security, fighting organized crimes and drugs smuggling, 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.

In particular, the three sides have stressed on the need to not allow any individual, group or party, including the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan and the Eastern Turkestan Islamic Movement, to harm and threaten regional security and interests, or conduct terrorist actions and activities.

This public naming of the terror organizations by the three foreign ministers demonstrates the three countries' high degree of consensus on combating terrorism.

In the meantime, the three sides underscored the need to refrain from intervening in Afghanistan's internal affairs, and to promote Afghan peace, stability and reconstruction. In



doing so, they have conveyed the message that no country can meddle in the domestic affairs of another under the pretext of combating terrorism, nor can they adopt "double standards" on counterterrorism, supporting and using terrorist forces to achieve their own geopolitical goals. This is conducive to getting counterterrorism issues straightened out from the root, and opposing and preventing all sorts of "fake counterterrorism".

Second, reviving the Afghan economy and improving people's livelihoods are the foundations for Afghanistan's lasting peace and order. The use of humanitarian assistance as a political tool must be opposed.

If we sit by and watch the Afghan economy collapse and the humanitarian crisis worsen, the gains of reconstruction will be reversed. Due to multiple factors including natural and man-made disasters, Afghanistan still faces a severe humanitarian crisis, with a shortage of food, energy and medicine and a decrease in job opportunities becoming the biggest challenges to stabilizing the situation in the country. Against such a backdrop, the international community needs to reach a consensus to provide continued assistance to Afghanistan and enhance the coordination of such assistance by different nations.

Last, with regard to connectivity, trade and investment, the three sides agreed to continue cooperation to jointly promote regional economic development. They also agreed to consider further supporting the reconstruction of Afghanistan and exploring trilateral investment possibilities aimed at industrialization and job creation.

Situated at a crossroads in Asia, Afghanistan boasts great geographic significance and has great potential in developing the transshipment economy. To this end, the three sides reaffirmed their resolve to fully harness Afghanistan's potential as a hub for regional connectivity. They stressed that the importance of existing projects, including the Central Asia-South Asia power project, the Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India Natural Gas Pipeline Project and the Trans-Afghan Railway Project, will enhance regional connectivity and ensure economic uplift and prosperity for the peoples of this region.

In the meantime, the three sides 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 among the three countries.

The author is deputy director of the Institute of South Asian Studies at the China Institutes of Contemporary International Relations. The author contributed this article to China Watch, a think tank powered by China Daily.

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202305/29/WS6473e2c0a310b6054fad5781.html>

### **People's Daily**

#### **Feature: Chinese canola crops transform Pakistan's cooking oil industry, boosts local economy**

*By Misbah Saba Malik, Jiang Chao (Xinhua)*

GUJRANWALA, Pakistan, May 29 (Xinhua) -- Irfan Javed, a cooking oil extraction machine owner in Pakistan's east Gujranwala district, saw a business boom when freshly harvested

Chinese canola crops came onto the market and customers flocked to his shop to extract oil from the seeds.

"Initially, only the farmers who planted the Chinese canola visited here but gradually the number increased when people became aware of its health benefits and cost-effectiveness due to positive word of mouth," Javed told Xinhua.

Launched in 2013, the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is a corridor linking Pakistan's Gwadar Port with Kashgar in northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, which highlights energy, transport, and industrial cooperation in the first phase, while in the new phase expands to fields of agriculture and livelihood, among others.

Echoing the CPEC's cooperation in agriculture, Chinese company Wuhan Qingfa Hesheng Seed Co. Ltd and Pakistani company Evyol Group signed a memorandum of understanding in 2022 to produce a variety of Chinese hybrid canola and edible oil in Pakistan.

This was in order to decrease Pakistan's dependence on imported cooking oil, which has not only helped the country meet its edible oil demand but has also supported its foreign exchange reserves.

Now people purchase Chinese oilseeds directly from farmers and have their oil extracted by Javed. They utilize its oil for cooking purposes, as its taste closely resembles the edible oil commonly used in households.

Additionally, Javed himself acquires the seeds to extract oil and cater to the increasing number of customers. He said the oil content in the Chinese oilseeds is also high, as compared to other oilseeds available in the local market, which people prefer as it saves them money.

"From a 40 kg bag of other varieties of oilseed, only about 10 to 12 liters of oil are extracted, whereas the Chinese canola bag, available for 9,500 rupees (about 33 U.S. dollars) in the market, produces 14 to 16 liters of oil and about 20 kg of highly nutritious canola meal for cattle, which is sold in the market for about 4,000 rupees... it's a win-win deal," he added.

Pakistan's annual consumption of cooking oil is around 5 million tons, but due to the low economic potential of oilseeds in the local market, they are not preferred by the farmers. The country has to import about 89 percent of its oil to meet the demand, spending 3.6 billion dollars annually.

Dealers associated with oilseed distribution have said that the newly introduced variety has a high-profit margin for the farmers and, as such, it has become famous among local farmers just two years after its introduction in Pakistan.

Muhammad Rizwan, a seed distributor in Gujranwala, told Xinhua that the Chinese canola seed is resistant to diseases and has a higher yield than other previously available oilseed varieties on the market.

"Other oil seeds were sold for about 5,000 to 6,000 rupees per 40 kg on the market this year, whereas the Chinese canola was sold for up to 9,500 rupees, it also had a 20 percent to 30 percent higher yield than the other varieties," Rizwan explained.

"The seed is now a hot cake in the eyes of farmers in the Gujranwala district so we have placed a higher order than last year to the seed company to meet the demand in the next cultivation season in November this year," he added.

Last year, 11 tons of seeds were cultivated on 20,000 acres of land across the country, while this year 100 tons are expected to be cultivated due to a higher demand for the seed.

Housewife Saima Rizwan told Xinhua that she came to know about this oil six months ago from social media and how the oil extracted from Chinese canola is beneficial for health besides being cost-effective.

"I asked my husband to buy the oil and its taste was so good that we have never bought imported oil since. We cook all local dishes in the oil, and sometimes when we invite guests, they can't tell the food is cooked in canola oil rather than the commonly used palm oil," the 32-year-old told Xinhua.

Muhammad Azim, team leader of Eyvol group in Gujranwala, said that it was a bumper yield of canola this year compared to other crops, due to which farmers were very happy.

"It is a new beginning because farmers are making a good profit as consumption of locally produced oil increases," said Azim.

"As a next step, we will focus on local production of the seeds in Pakistani nurseries with the help of our Chinese friends to make the seeds more affordable for the local farmers," he said.

(Web editor: Zhang Kaiwei, Liang Jun)

<http://en.people.cn/n3/2023/0529/c90000-20025178.html>

**May 30, 2023**

**China Daily**

## **Hybrid rice succeeding in Africa, Pakistan**

*Liu Kun*

Su Zhongxiang, who has worked in foreign countries and regions to promote hybrid rice for a decade, was recently recognized among the first recipients of the Wuhan Talents in Modern Agriculture award.

Su, the rice technology supervisor for Wuhan Qingfa-Hesheng Seed Co, is working in the rice fields abroad since he left the country for Uganda in eastern Africa in 2013 to start hybrid rice cultivation, conduct experimental demonstrations and promote technology.

In Pakistan in 2015, Su and his team successfully developed a new high-quality hybrid rice variety, code named IQS479 with disease and heat resistance. The variant has a high yield and is suitable for the local climate, Su said.

Before the new high-quality hybrid rice variety was developed, Su and his team had frequently visited villages to understand residents' climate and crop planting habits.

In addition to collecting data, Su and his team have steadily improved their planting methods and used the best available.

In the daytime, they go to the fields to select rice under the scorching sun and conducted molecular marker experiments at night.

In the previous 10 years, the overseas experimental rice fields guided by Su have expanded dozens of times. He has also set up overseas experimental centers, which have successively developed a number of rice varieties suitable for different regions and climates.

Meanwhile Su has established overseas technical promotion groups and a technical guidance team (with the participation of Chinese technicians and Pakistani members) to help improve the unit yield and heat resistance of rice in the countries and regions related to the Belt and Road Initiative.

The rice yield guided by Su and his team has increased by as much as 30 percent, significantly augmenting the incomes of local farmers and creating myriad employment opportunities in Pakistan, which has become the largest importer of hybrid rice seeds from China.

Su has now registered seven scientific research varieties in foreign countries, with a total export volume exceeding 10,000 metric tons, earning more than \$60 million.

With high-quality talent, first-class technology and valuable germplasm, Su said they have spread the seeds of hybrid rice, oilseeds, fruits, vegetables, grass, flowers and related crops abroad, increasing production and value to help local people.

Su said he would further strengthen quality control to ensure that only quality Chinese seeds are sold abroad in the coming months.

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202305/30/WS6475e463a310b6054fad5d5c.html>

**May 31, 2023**

**China Daily**

### **A foreign student's journey of excellence in China**

*Muhammad Danish Yaqoob*

**Editor's note:** *We have asked expats living in China to share their own stories about the cities they work and live in. Muhammad Danish Yaqoob is from Pakistan and he now works as a medical intern at Yantai Affiliated Hospital of Binzhou Medical University.*

China's progress is awe-inspiring, with its remarkable advancements in various fields. Its education system cultivates bright minds, providing ample opportunities for personal and professional growth.

The country's breathtaking beauty, from ancient wonders to modern skylines, never fails to captivate. China's vast array of opportunities beckons those seeking success and fulfillment.

I'm Muhammad Danish Yaqoob from Pakistan. Nowadays, I'm working as a medical intern at Yantai Affiliated Hospital of Binzhou Medical University.

I came to China in 2017 to study clinical medicine at Binzhou Medical University. Fresh out of high school, I was a young boy with big dreams, and now I'm a doctor and researcher.

During my time in China, I've been presented with numerous opportunities that have propelled me professionally and academically. I've participated in competitions, met incredible and talented people, traveled to more than 30 cities around China, learned the Chinese language, tried delicious food and broadened my horizons in Chinese culture. To sum up my experiences in one sentence, China shaped me into a better version of myself which is more than I expected.

Coming to China is one of the best things in my life. I usually take part in English and Chinese speech competitions. Through these competitions, my public speaking ability has improved a lot. I have won several international speech competitions with contestants worldwide and have been appreciated by Chinese and international news channels.

In 2019, I won first prize in the English Essay Contest organized by the Silk Road Cities Alliance. In 2020, I won first prize at Beijing's "Silk Road and Young Dreams" English Speech Competition. I've also won several Chinese speech competitions.

In a recent speech contest in April 2023 titled "The Yellow River in My Eyes", I achieved the third prize. This accomplishment granted me the chance to delve into the Yellow River's historical significance and explore the beautiful Yellow River estuary in Dongying, Shandong province.

Other than winning competitions, I've got a lot of educational achievements. Being a class leader during the last five years in China, I've built strong leadership skills. It helped to build good relationships with teachers, doctors and students.

Now I'm the university ambassador internationally through my social media channels. During my studies, I actively participated in medical teaching and research. I've published several research papers in international scientific journals. It's a significant achievement for me at this age and level of career. I'm looking forward to achieving more and inspiring others in the following years.

Undoubtedly, China stands as a realm abundant with boundless opportunities. Over the past five years of residing in Shandong, each day in China has unveiled fresh horizons, instilling a sense of optimism and personal growth within me.

The sincere warmth and kindness exhibited by the people of Shandong have left an indelible mark on my heart.

Witnessing the remarkable strides made by Shandong in the realms of technology, exports and education has been nothing short of inspiring. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to the Chinese government and my dedicated teachers, who have consistently supported and guided me on a transformative journey toward realizing my utmost potential.

Their unwavering assistance has been instrumental in shaping my trajectory towards success and self-discovery.

[https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202305/31/WS6476e76aa3107584c3ac326b\\_4.html](https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202305/31/WS6476e76aa3107584c3ac326b_4.html)

## Global Times

### **China-funded compassionate home brings hope, healing to underprivileged children in Pakistan**

*By Xinhua*

The life of 10-year-old Muhammad Aftab was in ruin when Pakistan's devastating floods washed away everything his family possessed last year, leaving behind distress, suffering, and water-borne diseases among the mayhem.

"The flood water remained in our area for months and so we were affected with skin diseases, sometimes itching and pain on the rashes on our bodies got so unbearable that we could not sleep at night."

"This was until my three cousins and I were found by the Pakistan-China compassionate home in Islamabad, which helped us get rid of our hard times," Aftab, who suffers from scabies, told Xinhua from his cozy room.

For Aftab and his cousins who came from Pakistan's south Sindh province and dozens of other underprivileged children suffering from different diseases, this China-funded compassionate home is a ray of hope where they found solace and a chance to start their lives again with a new sense of hope.

The compassionate home, Islamabad China-Pakistan Youth One Heart Step and Cure Home (ICOSH) is being run in Islamabad with joint efforts from the Beijing-based charity One Heart Sphere Charity Foundation (BOHS), Islamabad-based volunteer organization China-Pakistan Youth Exchange Community (CPYEC), and Pakistani non-governmental organization (NGO) Step and Cure.

The ICOSH's journey started last year when Qiu Xu, the founder of BOHS, visited Pakistan to help flood-hit people and decided to do something more in terms of long-term charity work for the underprivileged people of China's close friend Pakistan.

For that purpose, Qiu visited several NGOs in Islamabad and joined hands with the Step and Cure and the CPYEC to launch a place for underprivileged children suffering long-term diseases, and attendants of the patients who had been admitted to hospitals for long-term treatment.

"When I visited Pakistan's hospitals, I saw underprivileged people forced to endure extreme weather conditions, sleeping on the footpaths of the hospitals to stay close to their ailing relatives, and the first thought that came to my mind was to do something for them, and also for the needy children, especially in the flood-hit areas, so I cooperated with others to launch ICOSH where they can stay and feel at home," Qiu told Xinhua.

Currently, 32 children suffering from scabies, autism, cancer, and other mental and physical diseases are staying in ICOSH where two nurses, two doctors and four caretakers are looking after them.



The rooms for attendants of the patients are also available, and its management is in contact with the administration of state-run hospitals in the area, which will recommend that the patients' attendants stay in the compassionate home.

Alisha Albert, a nurse taking care of the children, said that they have kids from across Pakistan, and the ICOSH short-listed them after getting their information from credible official sources.

"Some children including Aftab and his cousins are from flood-hit areas having serious skin diseases, we gave them medication and counseled them to take care of their personal hygiene ... We also have some cancer patients and we are in contact with local hospitals to get them treated there while their attendants can stay with us," Albert told Xinhua.

Beyond basic needs and treatment, ICOSH also focuses on emotional well-being and education of the children, and for that purpose, volunteer teachers visit the students in their rooms to create a supportive and understanding environment for the children to heal and thrive, she added.

Sobia Adnan, the Pakistani director of ICOSH and the managing director of Step and Cure, told Xinhua that she has been actively working for needy children for over 30 years, and cooperation with Chinese charities and volunteers is very significant for underprivileged Pakistani children.

Adnan, visibly moved, spoke about her experience with the Chinese charity, saying that throughout her journey, she tirelessly endeavored to cultivate a compassionate environment for children with special needs, and it was the Chinese who provided the greatest assistance.

"China's support holds immense significance for these children, and will have a profound impact on their lives," she added.

Through this cooperation, ICOSH aims to create a nurturing environment where needy children can thrive and families can receive the necessary care and support, she said, adding that "We envision a future where these children are fully integrated into the society, contributing positively to their communities."

The compassionate home stands as a beacon of hope for Pakistani children who believe that their dream to live a healthy life will be fulfilled through Pakistan-China cooperation.

Muhammad Farhan, a 15-year-old orphan whose lower body lost sensation after an accident at the age of three, and who was suffering from grade 4 bedsores when he was brought to ICOSH, told Xinhua that he found solace and hope in the compassionate home.

"It gave me a renewed sense of optimism that despite my disability, I can still strive for a fulfilling and meaningful life ... The love and kindness from China has brought ease in my life and filled my heart with warmth," he said.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202305/1291673.shtml>

## People's Daily

### **Chinese seed donation to help revive agriculture in flood-hit areas of Pakistan's Balochistan: official**

*(Xinhua)*

ISLAMABAD, May 30 (Xinhua) -- Hybrid rice seed donation from China will play a major role in rebuilding the agriculture sector of Pakistan's southwest Balochistan province, which was badly affected by devastating floods last year, a Pakistani official said on Tuesday.

Addressing the seed donation ceremony, Balochistan's legislative assembly speaker Jan Muhammad Jamali said that the government and people of China extended great help to Pakistan in rehabilitation work after the flood, and through the seed donation, it will help the people who lost all their fortune in the calamity.

Jamali said 85 percent to 90 percent of Balochistan was affected by the floods last year, and the donated seeds will revive rice plantations in the province, where rice is a major crop.

Highlighting the friendship between the two countries, Bao Zhong, counselor of political affairs of the Chinese Embassy in Pakistan, said China-Pakistan friendship is deeply embedded in the hearts of the two peoples.

She said China is willing to encourage enterprises of the two countries to carry out agricultural cooperation under the framework of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

China is ready to share its advanced agricultural development technology and experience with Pakistan to help lift its agricultural development level, the Chinese counselor said.

"China will as always help Pakistan improve the livelihood of the people of Balochistan province, promote exchanges between sister provinces and cities, and encourage the development of local industries to benefit the local people," she added.

Zhou Xusheng, director of the international business department of Wuhan Qingfa Hesheng Seed Co. Ltd, which is the donor, said the Chinese company is willing to continue to provide training on hybrid rice cultivation techniques to Pakistani farmers to help increase agricultural output and their income.

Launched in 2013, CPEC is a corridor linking Pakistan's Gwadar Port with Kashgar in northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, which highlights energy, transport, and industrial cooperation.

(Web editor: Zhang Kaiwei, Liang Jun)

<http://en.people.cn/n3/2023/0531/c90000-20025833.html>