



For Better Understanding on
China-Pakistan and
CPEC
Gleanings from the
National Press

September 01-15, 2021

A pilot project of PICS

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Data collected and compiled by Rabeeha Safdar, Alishba Aslam and Zohaib Sultan

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September 01, 2021

Business Recorder

Nong, Bajwa discuss CPEC, Afghanistan

RAWALPINDI: Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan Nong Rong called on General Qamar Javed Bajwa, Chief of Army Staff (COAS) at GHQ, on Tuesday.

During the meeting, matters of mutual interest, developing Afghanistan situation and regional security were discussed in detail. COAS reiterated the resolve to thwart designs of those inimical to the CPEC.

The dignitary appreciated Pakistan's sincere efforts for bringing peace and stability in the region, especially in the light of recent developments in Afghanistan and reiterated that China will continue to support Pakistan as a strategic partner.—NNI

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2021/09/01/1-page/898977-news.html>

Daily Times

Govt wants to see more Chinese investment: Asad Umar

Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Asad Umar on Tuesday said that the government wants to see more Chinese investors coming to Pakistan and would provide them all possible facilitation in this regard.

Asad Umar assured that issues relating to investments are being taken up at the highest level and would be resolved on a priority basis, said a press release issued here. Minister for Planning, Development, and Special Initiatives Asad Umar met a delegation of Port Qasim Electric Power Company (PQEPC) led by Guo Guangling. The minister welcomed the delegation and said that Chinese investors have made a significant contribution to Pakistan's economy. The delegation briefed the minister on the latest operational status of the 1320 MW Port Qasim Coal Power project. SAPM on CPEC Khalid Mansoor and senior officials attended the meeting. Guo Guangling briefed the meeting regarding the latest operational updates and their future potential investments plans in the energy sector.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/810509/govt-wants-to-see-more-chinese-investment-asad-uamr/>

Dunya News

Pakistan, China wish to see formation of inclusive govt in Afghanistan: Pak envoy

BEIJING (APP) – Pakistan Ambassador to China, Moinul Haque Tuesday said both Pakistan and China wish to see an early political settlement and formation of an inclusive, broad-based, and participatory government in Afghanistan.

The two countries would continue supporting all efforts in that direction, he told Global Times in an exclusive interview.

“There is a need to protect and promote the rights of the people of Afghanistan, particularly women and girls, minorities, and vulnerable groups. Pakistan and China have been calling on the Taliban to respect the rights of all Afghan people. We expect that no country is harmed by terrorist organizations and groups operating in Afghanistan,” he said.

The ambassador said both Pakistan and China are closely monitoring the rapidly evolving situation. First and foremost, it is important to prevent violence in Afghanistan. It is crucial to ensure that a humanitarian situation does not arise.

The people of Afghanistan need support from the international community including food supplies, medicine and COVID vaccines, he added.

Currently, the Pakistani Embassy in Kabul is still functioning normally. The ambassador said the situation is complex with many challenges. The terror attacks near the airport indicated the difficulties of maintaining a diplomatic and consular presence on the ground.

He introduced that the embassy’s diplomatic staff are not only facilitating peaceful political settlement in Afghanistan, but are also helping other countries evacuate their nationals to safety.

“We hope that the Taliban would be able to maintain law and order and prevent terrorist outfits from carrying out further attacks,” he said.

He said to prevent a terrorist spillover from Afghanistan, Pakistan had been taking various steps, including fencing of a porous, 2,600-kilometer long border with Afghanistan and has increased the number of check posts along the border.

“We have completed 90 percent of the fencing and are continuing with patrols along the border. Our security forces remain vigilant and have been conducting various intelligence-based operations against these terrorist elements,” he added.

The ambassador stressed that Pakistan is also concerned about the possibility of a refugee influx. He noted that it is extremely difficult to distinguish terrorists hiding among civilians in case of large movement of people across the border.

The situation in Afghanistan is still unstable with large crowds trying to leave the country.

On Thursday, at least 170 Afghans and 13 US soldiers were killed, and about 200 people wounded in the suicide blast that hit the eastern gate of Hamad Karzai International airport in Kabul. On Sunday,

US military forces carried out an airstrike in Kabul against a suspected ISIS-K vehicle following its drone strike on the terror group in Nangarhar province in eastern Afghanistan on Friday.

US forces left Afghanistan on Monday, meeting the deadline to withdraw forces from the country after a failed 20-year war. As with its irresponsible departure, concerns of the spillover of terrorism are swirling.

Ambassador Haque said Pakistan remains cognizant of the threat posed by terrorist organizations, including TTP, Daesh, ETIM, and others operating from Afghanistan.

According to him, the people of Afghanistan have suffered immensely due to conflict in the country spanning over four decades. After Afghanistan, has Pakistan suffered the most, with over 80,000 casualties and \$150 billion in economic losses.

“No country is more desirous of peace in Afghanistan than Pakistan. Similarly, as Afghanistan’s largest neighbor, China also desires a peaceful and stable Afghanistan,” he said.

China and Pakistan have been closely coordinating on the Afghan issue. This month, China’s State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi had a conversation with Pakistani Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi, talking about the latest situation in Afghanistan, including support for the country to fight terrorism, enhancing communication with the Taliban to ensure safety of Chinese and Pakistani personnel and institutions in the country.

He noted that China and Pakistan are also discussing the situation with other regional countries to ensure the maintenance of peace and stability.

For this purpose, the Foreign Minister of Pakistan recently visited Afghanistan’s neighboring countries, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, and Iran. The evolving regional situation demands increasingly closer coordination.

Asked about the concrete cooperative plan to fight terrorism between China and Pakistan, Ambassador Haque said the two countries have a robust defense and counter-terrorism cooperation.

“We continue to work through existing mechanisms to build capacities, share intelligence, and coordinate our efforts. In view of the emerging challenges and threats, the two countries would enhance and strengthen the existing cooperation and coordination,” he said.

He praised China as a responsible world power. “China has already expressed its desire to assist the people of Afghanistan with humanitarian assistance and in rebuilding their war-torn country. China has also emerged as the biggest contributor to the global COVID-19 vaccination effort. Afghanistan has one of the lowest vaccination rates in the world, and could benefit from further Chinese assistance,” he said.

When asked about how he witnesses the importance of India’s engagement with the Taliban, he said they expect India to play a positive and constructive role. “In the past, India has acted as a spoiler and worked against peace in Afghanistan,” he said.

“In fact, any effort of the regional countries should be aimed at stabilizing the situation with a view to ease the sufferings of the Afghan people,” he stressed.

<https://dunyanews.tv/en/Pakistan/617641-Pakistan,-China-wish-to-see-formation-of-inclusive-govt-in-Afghanistan>

Pakistan Observer

CPEC & FOOD SECURITY

China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) phase-II will be initiated very soon in the country. It will include social development, agriculture cooperation, formation of special economic free zones and massive industrialization. According to the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (2020-2021) the agricultural sector contributes about 24 percent of the country's GDP, accounts for half of the employed labor force and is the largest source of foreign exchange earnings.

Prime Minister Imran Khan sought support from China to boost the agricultural sector of the country to ensure sustainable development and prosperity. Pakistan is now inching towards modern agriculture and it will be following China's experience to uplift agro-based industries. Pakistan Primer termed Chinese agricultural cooperation vital for its further development, utility and consolidation. Thus the importance of CPEC is high for achieving the goals of food surplus and high productivity in the country.

Food security has become a global issue because of numerous interrelated reasons. According to a report by WFP (2017-2018), about sixty percent of the population in Pakistan is food insecure, access to food is limited or uneven, and malnutrition is widespread. Moreover, constant price-hike and inflationary trends have burnt the souls of common people to buy even necessary food items of their lives. So, CPEC has strategic importance to food security in the country which has numerous socio-economic multiplier effects and dividends too.

Further the WFP notes that an average Pakistani household spends more than 50 percent of monthly income on food which makes them particularly vulnerable to food inflation. Thus food security is a serious issue in the country which can be resolved under the flagship projects of CPEC.

In this connection, unfortunately food security in the country has become a challenge due to several factors including high population growth, rapid urbanization, price fluctuations, erratic food production and inefficient food distribution systems.

Climate change is also posing a serious threat to food security and there is a need to make agricultural practices more resilient and sustainable. Thus bilateral agricultural cooperation between Pakistan and China is the need of the hour to cope with food security problem in the country.

Nevertheless, CPEC has become an emerging geopolitical prestige. Therefore, the CPEC platform would be used to build basic infrastructural and agricultural economic zones in the country which may further support to perk up the food security. Many published research studies vividly reflected the positive impact of various CPEC initiatives on food security of Pakistan.

It showed that CPEC initiatives would tend to improve the food security status in Pakistan. It suggested that developing countries like Pakistan may use economic corridors such as CPEC as a

strategic tool to improve the food security situation. The National Food Security Policy (2014-2015) highlighted a number of measures to promote seed production in the country.

These consisted of strengthening and restructuring of Federal Seed Certification and Registration Department; development of the requisite legislative and regulatory support system for development of the modern seed industry and establishing seed technology research and training institute. In this regard, Chinese expertise and broadening of the CPEC portfolio (phase-II) can certainly help Pakistan achieve its policy objectives. The joint efforts made to enhance seed production will pave way for a healthier and wealthier society.

Pakistan Agricultural Research Council (PARC) emphasized the need for better productivity in various potential agriculture sub-sectors to overcome the issue of food security. In this context, the phase-II of the CPEC offers a good opportunity to help the agriculture sector recover, but the government should facilitate common farmers to take advantage of the CPEC. The PARC Chairman called for a business oriented model for alleviating the agriculture sector under the umbrella of CPEC. In this regard, a combination of different commodities and products being manufactured along the CPEC routes has significant potential. There is a huge potential for the production and export of fodder, edible oils and palm oil, whereas pulses and oilseeds are some other lucrative areas which can be invested in parallel to ongoing mega projects of CPEC.

In this regard, careful measures should be taken in the areas of production, diversification, post-harvest handling, processing, certification, and value addition all aimed at converting the harvest into high-value products while enabling them to maintain standards for international trade in which CPEC phase-II role would be terminal.

China is the world's largest importer of farm produce, and China alone accounts for around 10pc of the world's total farm produce trade. China is a net importer of bulk agriculture products and there has been rapid growth in its imports from BRI countries. Pakistan can find a vast client in China for crops such as soybean, barley, corn, wheat and cereals which should be promoted under CPEC.

China and Pakistan launched an online platform to collect and display information and achievements of agricultural and industrial cooperation between the two countries, aiming at enhancing bilateral cooperation under the CPEC in the two sectors in January 2021. It is hoped that enhanced cooperation with China in the field of agriculture can bring a green revolution in Pakistan and give stimulus to the economic and social development.

Critical analysis reveals that Pakistan and China have a long history of agricultural cooperation and Pakistan has excelled in many areas due to enhanced bilateral agricultural research and development activities. China has not only established its agricultural sector on modern lines, but also extended its help to countries including Pakistan under the Belt and Road Initiative of which the CPEC is a flagship project, to boost agricultural development.

Being a prominent regional expert of CPEC & BRI, I suggest that mutual agriculture cooperation in the fields of seed industry, agricultural material and machinery, agricultural product

processing, agricultural investment and supporting service systems such as warehousing, cold chain and logistics should be initiated as soon as possible to promote the transformation and upgrading of the agricultural sector. It is hoped that agricultural cooperation will not only improve the crop production and ensure food security, but it will also be a fate changer for the people of Pakistan.

Crops like cotton and wheat have been directly affected recently due to severe climate change and unexpected rains in the country. So Pakistan is in need of cooperating with China to produce resistant varieties to better cope with adverse impacts of climate change. Both countries should promote agriculture cooperation in terms of agricultural planting machinery; water-saving irrigation devices; agricultural facilities and equipment; agricultural and sideline product processing machinery; signature agricultural machinery for the production of tea, edible fungus, etc.; garden machinery; agricultural transport machinery; engineering machinery that is applicable in agriculture and various kinds of agricultural machinery accessories.

More focus should be given to agricultural aircraft for seeding, fertilizing, weeding, pest control, etc.; aerial remote sensing technique, measurement technology, and testing equipment; aerial pesticide application technology and spraying equipment; general aviation industrial parks and financial and investment institutions; service enterprises providing services of renting, fixing, maintenance, driver training, etc.

To conclude both countries should also extend cooperation in agriculture drone and artificial intelligence technologies equipment; intelligent irrigation equipment and system; intelligent control, environmental perception, remote monitoring, precision operation, and intensive feeding technologies and equipment.

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

September 02, 2021

Daily Times

China-Pakistan Eternal Strategic Ties

Pathik Hasan

When Mao Zedong sent General Geng Biao as Pakistan's second ambassador in 1970, he was told, "Look at Pakistan. This is the western window of China." Mao's words were spot-on, both metaphorically and geographically. In the 1960s, Pakistan acted as China's diplomatic window with the West. Pakistan also played a role in normalising the Sino-US relations in 1971. Today, through the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, Mao's words are literally coming true. Zhen Geng Biao later became China's defence minister and later deputy prime minister. He played an important role in building Sino-Pakistani strategic relations. On the other hand, Pakistan's then prime minister, Ali Bogra, and Foreign Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, who later became the prime minister, played important roles. Sadly, the people of Pakistan, especially its youth, are not aware of the history and the depth of Pak-China relations. Some pro-Western Pakistanis even

question China's goodwill towards a strong Pakistan. Despite tensions in international politics and a change of leadership, relations between the two countries have survived because they are based on strong foundations and national interests. For the past five decades, Pakistan has strongly supported China's unity and regional integration. They did their best to support the Chinese legitimate position in the UN. And Pakistan has resisted the criticism of China on human rights and its attempts to downplay its socio-economic achievements. On the other hand, Beijing has continued to extend comprehensive cooperation to Pakistan. Between 2001-21, the Taliban attacks and the Baloch Insurgent Movements cost Pakistan hundreds of billions of dollars. This has shattered Pakistan's economy. China is working to back up the economy. In 1965, China deployed troops along the disputed India border to prevent India from deploying troops. China has built other manufacturing infrastructure in Pakistan, including a heavy construction complex in Taxila. Besides, it has also helped with financial assistance based on grants. China has supplied ballistic missiles to Pakistan despite the US pressure and sanctions. They have also helped develop Pakistan's current missile capability system. China is the only country interested in selling civilian nuclear reactors to Pakistan. They have even blocked India's inclusion in the Nuclear Suppliers Group. For almost three decades, China has always opened its doors to Pakistan whenever it acquires new weapons. China has shown only interest in jointly building state-of-the-art military fighter jets and other weapons with Pakistan.

As China's economy has improved, it has repeatedly extended a hand of financial assistance to Pakistan.

China and Pakistan have tanks, warplanes, missiles, sophisticated weapons, which will work together at the critical juncture when China-Pakistan becomes the superpower. As China's economy has improved, it has repeatedly extended a hand of financial assistance (loans, bank deposits, grants) to Pakistan. They have come forward in times of Pakistan's emergency. As part of the ambitious Belt and Road Initiative, China has decided to finance the implementation of Pakistan's CPEC. All roads and bridges are being upgraded and built for free. After all, while India is threatening to isolate Pakistan through world media and diplomatic propaganda and threatening 'surgical strikes' and 'limited war', while the United States is blaming Pakistan for its failure in Afghanistan and pressuring it to adhere to its policy, China is in the Security Council in favour of Pakistan and They influence all capitals, through which they are protecting Pakistan from various international pressures and negative measures. In the drama that is now unfolding in Asia, the relationship between South Asia and its neighbours depends on Sino-US, Sino-Indian and Pakistan-India relations. The US has declared China as its rival in its latest national security document. Former US President Donald Trump has expressed frustration over China's "failure" to deter or punish North Korea and reduce the Sino-US trade deficit. Biden Administration's focus is also shifting towards China in the case of countering China. A trade decision against China has been started. Moreover, the Pentagon has a position on freedom of movement in the South China Sea. The US wants to build relations with its neighbours to deal with China. China is easing tensions with disputed countries over maritime boundaries to add fuel to the US campaign. They are even trying to bridge the gap with Asia's two main rivals—

India and Japan. For example, in the case of Dangling (Doklana), the withdrawal of Indian troops was suppressed by China to protect India's face. They also approved the UN list of terrorists at the BRICS conference. Of course, Beijing does not want the inclusion of India in the anti-China US alliance. Perhaps, their strategic diplomacy will work on complex strategic decisions. Yes, it was clear that Trump and his generals were moving towards open military and strategic confrontation against China. Now, Biden is going to start this. India has already joined QUAD with the US, Japan and Australia. India sees itself as a natural rival to China. He wants to gain power like China. They still remember the defeat of 1962. Moreover, their border issue with China has not been resolved yet. Naturally, a strong, anti-Muslim Modi's Delhi see the anti-China as a foe, "democratic" America as a "natural ally." In this situation, Pakistan has no choice but to further strengthen its strategic relationship with China. The only option is to bow down to the Indo-American kingdom. Despite the long and cordial partnership, Pakistan and China need to take urgent decisions to deepen and strengthen their relationship. These include cracking down militant groups such as ETIM, which pose a threat to China's security; eliminating external threats to the implementation of the CPEC, especially in Gilgit-Baltistan and Balochistan; implementing the CPEC project efficiently; assisting China in modernising Pakistan's economy and trying to bring back peace to end the Indo-Pakistani conflict—to stand together against this threat, rapidly modernise Pakistan's military and maintain the PLA's strategic engagement with them. Naturally, China and Pakistan hope that America's current all-encompassing expansion will stop and more responsible politics will be practised—perhaps in the Biden era. Until that day comes, Pakistan and China will have to keep their western windows open.

The writer is a Dhaka-based activist, researcher and freelance columnist with a particular interest in international issues.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/810728/china-pakistan-eternal-strategic-ties/>

BRI excellent example to strengthen international cooperation

The China-proposed Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) serves as an excellent example to strengthen cooperation for everybody around the world, said Klaus Schwab, founder and executive chairman of the World Economic Forum (WEF).

Schwab made the remarks when delivering a speech at the sixth Belt and Road Summit, which runs from Wednesday to Thursday online under the theme of "Driving growth through fostering regional and international trade."

The BRI is "the most ambitious template for inter-regional trade and development ever," he said. "If its future expansion is built on the pillars of sustainability, of inclusiveness and of resilience, it may also be the greatest contributor to economic and social development ever."

Noting the importance of trade and cooperation, Schwab said, "If we look back at the economic progress the world has made in the past 75 years, economic cooperation has played a decisive role and has lifted hundreds of millions of people out of poverty."

“The goal of increased economic trade and cooperation today is clear. It should help provide a more prosperous outlook for all people involved and ensure we can continue to benefit from a healthy planet for many generations to come,” he added.

To strengthen globalisation, Schwab thinks strengthening regional cooperation should be the priority now. “We should promote intra-regional and inter-regional cooperation, especially in the fields of economy, trade, science, but all technology,” he said.

Schwab said he believes more regional and global cooperation are needed in digital trade and governance, in tackling the COVID-19 pandemic, in green infrastructure and in global supply chains.

“By connecting a large part of the world, it (BRI) allows for cooperation between countries with economic complementarity that creates excellent scope for win-win commercial exchange,” Schwab pointed out.

The event, jointly organised by China’s Hong Kong Special Administrative Region government and the Hong Kong Trade Development Council is expected to bring together more than 6,000 government officials, entrepreneurs and business leaders from more than 80 countries and regions to exchange insights on multilateral cooperation and explore concrete business opportunities.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/810969/bri-excellent-example-to-strengthen-international-cooperation/>

Pakistan Observer

CPEC Project: Matiari-Lahore transmission line achieves commercial operation date successfully

The flagship project under CPEC ±660 kV HVDC Matiari – Lahore Transmission Line has achieved its commercial operation date successfully on Wednesday as per agreed timeline between National Transmission and Despatch Company Ltd (NTDC) and Pak Matiari-Lahore Transmission Line Company (PMLTC).

Prior to its COD, as many as 8 power tests on different voltage levels were performed successfully.

The power test include Commissioning Tests (DC Station Tests) Lahore Commissioning Tests (DC Station Tests) Matiari, Mono-pole Low Power System Tests (Upto 400 MW each pole), Bi-pole Low Power System Tests (Upto 800 MW Bi-pole), Mono-pole High Power Tests (2200 MW, each pole) (A5:), Bi-pole High Power Tests at Maximum Available Power .

<https://pakobserver.net/cpec-project-matiari-lahore-transmission-line-achieves-commercial-operation-date-successfully/>

The Nation

Pakistan to participate in 18th China-Asean Expo

BEIJING - Pakistan, like previous year, will participate as Special Partner Country in the upcoming 18th China-ASEAN Expo (CAEXPO) to be held in Nanning from September 10 to 13.

The inaugural ceremony of the expo is likely to feature a special message from President Dr. Arif Alvi together with the leaders of China and ASEAN countries. A Pakistan Pavilion will be established to further promote export of products like jewelry, precious stones, marbles, carpets, furniture, handicrafts and sports goods from Pakistan to China, Pakistan Ambassador to China, Moin ul Haque said on Wednesday.

“Around 18 stalls will be set up at the pavilion by the Pakistani traders and exporters based in China,” he told APP. Haque said that a Trade and Investment Conference would be organized on sidelines of the expo to discuss trade and investment opportunities between the entrepreneurs of the two countries.

Advisor to the Prime Minister on Commerce, Abdul Razzak Dawood will address the expo through video link and brief the participants about the business opportunities in Pakistan as well as the investment friendly environment there.

The expo themed ‘Sharing the New International Land-Sea Trade Corridor, Jointly Building the China-ASEAN Community with a Shared Future’ is a high-level dialogue platform of concerted efforts, successfully convened for 17 consecutive years.

This year’s expo will continue to deliver the friendly signal of China-ASEAN cooperation with the participation of Chinese and ASEAN state leaders at the opening ceremony and many high-end activities.

With the help of CAEXPO, the China-ASEAN Free Trade Area has developed vigorously, business opportunities from the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) have been continuously expanded, and fruitful cooperation has brought tangible benefits to the peoples on both sides.

ASEAN became China’s largest trading partner for the first time in history last year. In the first half of 2021, the import and export volume between China and ASEAN reached USD 410.76 billion, a year-on-year increase of 38.2 per cent. The past 17 CAEXPOs have attracted 926,000 Chinese and ASEAN participants, and made a series of important achievements in goods trade, investment cooperation and international production capacity cooperation, which have effectively promoted the upgrading and development of China-ASEAN economic and trade cooperation. The 18th CAEXPO will continue to promote cooperation between the two sides. The exhibition’s contents will be optimised, with economic and trade activities covering production capacity, digital economy, science and technology and environmental protection.

The delegations from 31 provinces, regions and cities in China have confirmed participation. ASEAN countries will use an exhibition area of 12,600 square metres, with the presence of many leading corporations.

The normalised operation of on-line CAEXPO throughout the year will greatly enhance the effectiveness of economic and trade cooperation.

<https://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2021-09-02/page-9/detail-5>

The News

Lessons from China

Sajid Abbasi

This refers to the article 'Learning from China' by Muhammad Abdul Basit. The writer aptly pointed out the points which can be learned from our neighbouring country. Establishing local governments has never been a priority of our mainstream political parties. These parties have been focusing on their limited political gains. They usually use development funds as a tool to control their voters. The incumbent PM was an ardent advocate of empowered local governments. But after coming to power, he also chose the same path that was chosen by his political rivals. I agree with the suggestions and solutions presented by the writer and hope that if we follow the Chinese model of the local government system, we can successfully deal with a majority of our administrative and development issues.

<https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/886421-lessons-from-china>

K2 Daily

چینی شہریوں کی پاکستانی طالب علم کا خواب پورا کرنے میں مدد
 نان ننگ (شہور) لیکن کے جنوبی شہر لیو ژو ہو میں رہنے والے ننگ کے مدد اور محنت کے ساتھ ساتھ اب پاکستانی طالب علم ڈیو ڈی نے خواب پورا کرنے کے لیے وطن لیکن کے شہر ڈیو ڈی کے لیے روانہ ہو رہا ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ میں اس وقت شہر لیو ژو ہو سے انوراج گئے میں ٹیگاپورٹ گسوں کر رہا ہوں اور میں شکر گزار ہوں کہ بہت سارے چینی لوگوں نے میری جانب تعاون کا ہاتھ بڑھایا ہے۔ صوبہ پنجاب سے تعلق رکھنے (ہاتی سطر 6 جیہ نمبر 10)

بقیہ 10
 والے 36 سالہ ڈیو ڈی چینی حکومت کی طرف سے وکیل کے ساتھ 2012 میں لیکن آنے اور انہوں نے مشرقی شہر شھائی میں میٹرل سائنس میں ایم ایس ڈگری شروع کی تھی۔ تاہم میٹرل سائنس ڈیو ڈی کا پتہ یہ ہے کہ انہوں نے کہا کہ وہ سازی کی تعلیم پر اصرار ہے۔

https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=International

https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=Classified

September 03, 2021

Daily Times

Traditional Chinese medicine for Covid set to enter Pakistani market

We are registering Lianhua Qingwen Capsule/Granule (a Chinese medicine that is conducive to curing novel coronavirus pneumonia) in Pakistan. We expect it to be approved by the end of the year, Zhang Yuling, Deputy General Manager of Yiling Pharmaceutical told China Economic Net in an interview.

Recently, the company signed a Memorandum of Strategic Cooperation to set up a “Belt and Road” Traditional Chinese Medicine distribution center in collaboration with Ningxia Taiji Yangzhi Health Management Company, a professional enterprise engaging in health technology research and promotion, elderly care, health product production, and sales.

The center, once established, shall provide “creative” Chinese medicines (medicines manufactured with traditional materials and modern technologies) and Traditional Chinese Medicines for respiratory health developed by Yiling Pharmaceutical independently to “Belt and Road” countries

The exemplary medicine, Lianhua Qingwen Capsule, with proven effect in controlling pulmonary infection and eliminating cold symptoms, is the only medicine in the “health kit” gifted by China’s Foreign Ministry to overseas Chinese students. It is also the world’s first compound Chinese medicine approved by the US FDA for clinical studies. “Since the outbreak of the pandemic, Lianhua Qingwen Capsule has been registered and exported to nearly 30 countries and regions, covering Canada, Russia, Singapore, Philippines, etc.

Specifically, it is used for Covid-19 treatment in Thailand, Indonesia, Mongolia, Kuwait, Uzbekistan, etc. The Cambodian government has incorporated in the home-based treatment for Covid-19 patients with mild symptoms”, introduced Zhang. Apart from broader registration, more Chinese medicinal materials will be explored and introduced, research cooperation will be facilitated, medical training will be provided, and medicinal cultural exchanges will be held in BRI countries.

“In Pakistan, we face a different culture and a different system of medicinal registration regulations. But I believe that by showcasing the effect of Traditional Chinese Medicine with scientific methods that comply with international standards, people in more countries will start to recognize its power”, said Zhang.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/811195/traditional-chinese-medicine-for-covid-set-to-enter-pakistani-market/>

China ready to help implement UN sustainable development agenda: Xi

Chinese President Xi Jinping on Thursday sent a congratulatory letter to the Forum on 20th Anniversary of Juncao Assistance and Sustainable Development Cooperation, which was held both online and offline in Beijing.

Juncao, which is famed as ‘magic grass’, is two Chinese characters meaning ‘mushroom’ and ‘grass’. The particular breed of grass was discovered by Chinese scientists to be an economical and environment-friendly substitute for timber traditionally used as a substrate for growing mushrooms. Juncao technology has now been disseminated to 106 countries through training programs or on-site demonstrations.

In his letter, Xi said the technology has facilitated the efficient use of three major agricultural resources – light, heat and water – and realized the recycling of plant, animal and fungal materials, benefiting ecological, food and energy security.

Xi said he has paid close attention to international cooperation on Juncao technology for a long time. Since China built the first overseas demonstration base for Juncao technology in Papua New Guinea in 2001, the technology has been introduced to more than 100 countries, playing an important role in alleviating poverty, creating jobs, promoting the use of renewable energy, addressing climate change and improving people’s welfare, he noted. China stands ready to work with relevant parties to make further contributions to the implementation of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, he said, expressing hope that Juncao technology will bring more benefits to people in developing countries.

The forum was co-hosted by the China International Development Cooperation Agency and the Fujian provincial government.

In a video message for the Forum on 20th Anniversary of Juncao Assistance and Sustainable Development Cooperation, Prime Minister Imran Khan commended China for sharing this beneficial technology with over 100 countries, which has already benefited thousands of people across the continents over the past 20 years. He said the world at large and the people of the Global South in particular, are grappling with multiple challenges, including climate change, poverty, and food insecurity.

“With relentless efforts towards ending poverty in all its manifestations, extreme poverty had been steadily declining in the past two decades. However, Covid-19 pandemic triggered an economic meltdown which has slowed down global progress. The extreme poverty rose in 2020 for the first time in over 20 years,” Imran Khan said. “Achievement of food security, and improved nutrition, have become an even greater challenge for developing countries. Sustainable ways of achieving economic recovery, growth and development are critical, during the

pandemic. Juncao technology is one such way. It helps small-scale farmers to develop low-cost, commercial-scale mushroom cultivation,' he added.

The prime minister said China is a role model for developing countries in poverty alleviation. "China's stellar growth has brought 800 million people out of poverty over the past four decades. China's leadership role in climate change is also highly appreciated. I commend President Xi's vision of a "prosperous, clean and beautiful world" and initiative to achieve carbon neutrality by 2060," he added.

"Poverty alleviation and tackling climate change are my government's key priorities. We launched a wide-ranging social safety program called 'Ehsaas', with the objective of uplifting marginalized people, eradicating poverty, and supporting vulnerable households. Our Ehsaas Emergency Cash programme cushioned the most vulnerable part of our population from economic shocks of the Covid-19 pandemic," Imran Khan said. "As one of the most climate-vulnerable countries, Pakistan fully supports international efforts to combat this scourge. Under a well-articulated climate change and environmental agenda, consisting of a number of flagship green initiatives, we are progressing towards a Clean and Green Pakistan. As part of one of the most ambitious efforts to expand and restore forests – we have already planted a billion trees as part of our 10 Billion Tree Project," he added.

"Our green initiatives resonate with the "United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030. We hope it will contribute to preventing, halting, and reversing the degradation of ecosystems. I am pleased to note that innovative Juncao technology – at the confluence of poverty alleviation and sustainable development – suits our society and economy. Such innovative, affordable and eco-friendly technologies may help catalyze our progress towards achieving the first two Sustainable Development Goals: no poverty and zero hunger. Our National Poverty Graduation Program, which empowers people by providing livelihood, creating assets and trainings, can play a vital role in collaboration with Juncao technology," he said. "Let me conclude by expressing my strong resolve and commitment to international cooperation aimed at poverty alleviation and sustainable growth, and addressing climate change," he added.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/811278/china-ready-to-help-implement-un-sustainable-development-agenda-xi/>

Pakistan Observer

Sialkot- Kharian Motorway

Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting Farrukh Habib on Thursday said completion of Sialkot-Kharian Motorway would reduce travel time between the two cities and create thousands of employment opportunities.

The 69 km motorway, whose foundation stone was laid by Prime Minister Imran Khan, would cost Rs 27.32 billion and it would reduce the traveling between the two stations by an hour, he said in a series of tweet.

The minister said the road would have five interchanges, five flyovers, 21 km of service roads and would create thousands of job opportunities.—INP

<https://pakobserver.net/sialkot-kharian-motorway/>

Fruits of CPEC

THE first China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) project in the power evacuation and transmission sector, the 660kV High-Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) Matiari-Lahore transmission line, started commercial operations on Wednesday on its scheduled date.

The project proved its significance and relevance on the very first day of the operation as it saved the country from a major breakdown by protecting the transmission, dispatch and distribution systems from a possible cascading effect due to tripping at Jamshoro.

Contrary to the propaganda unleashed by some vested interests, the CPEC is proving highly beneficial for the economy of Pakistan as the projects completed under its framework are accelerating the pace of progress and development in different sectors.

It is an established fact that the power generation projects completed under the early harvest programme of the CPEC have helped Pakistan get rid of otherwise perennial electricity shortage that hampered economic development and added to the woes of the consumers.

Now this HVDC project would help stabilize the transmission system, shielding it against possible breakdowns and increasing the capacity to sustain more loads by the national transmission system.

This is the first and the biggest HVDC transmission line to evacuate 4,000 megawatts from power plants in the south in direct current (DC) mode, transport and transmit it to Lahore after converting it into alternate current (AC) mode and finally feed it to the distribution systems in the load centres in Punjab.

Managing Director National Transmission and Despatch Company Azaz Ahmad has made a happy announcement that there are now meagre chances of blackouts, breakdowns etc due to system constraints since the entire NTDC transmission and dispatch system has attained stability.

It is also satisfying that the friendly country China is also providing valuable assistance for construction of several hydel power projects, the completion of which would help bring down the overall energy tariff. Similarly, CPEC is also hugely contributing to improvement of the country's infrastructure, which would pave the way for increased investment in different spheres of life.

There is, therefore, dire need to focus on completion of all ongoing CPEC projects and finalize plans for its second phase as the country cannot afford to lose a golden opportunity for accelerating the pace of progress and prosperity.

<https://pakobserver.net/fruits-of-cpec/>

The Nation

CPEC and India's woes

Malik Muhammad Ashraf

Conceptually speaking, the characterisation of CPEC as a game changer towards an eternal strategic partnership between China and Pakistan is beyond reproach.

But unfortunately this envisaged economic bonanza is an eyesore for some countries. India in particular is making strenuous efforts to sabotage the implementation of CPEC. Repeated attacks on security forces in Balochistan by the Balochistan Liberation Army, the assault on Karachi Stock Exchange on June 20, 2020 and targeting a bus on July 14, 2021 which killed nine Chinese engineers, three Pakistanis and 28 other working on Hydro-power project at Dasu Dam, all had the Indian imprint, related to undermining CPEC.

According to media reports, a special desk has been created in RAW to undermine and thwart the implementation of CPEC about which intelligence agencies of Pakistan have gathered authentic information. The RAW chief reports directly to the Indian Prime Minister who is personally supervising the venture.

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, during his interaction with Chinese leaders, reportedly expressed concerns over Chinese investment in Pakistan under CPEC but they rightly refused to entertain Indian reservations in this regard. The Indian position is that the corridor would be passing through disputed territory (Gilgit-Baltistan). It may be pointed out that India had also raised the same argument with the Asian Development Bank which was one of the financiers of the Diamer-Bhasha Dam and the bank consequently showed some reluctance in fulfilling its commitments after the Indian objections.

RAW has also been backing and sponsoring the insurgency in Balochistan and cross-border terrorism using Afghan territory. The nexus between RAW, TTP, and the Afghan intelligence (NDS) is a well-known fact. RAW has established sanctuaries and training camps for the terrorists on Afghan soil. Pakistan persistently raised this issue with the government of Ashraf Ghani, urging him to abolish those camps which were being used by RAW to destabilise Balochistan and undermine CPEC. But it remained indifferent to Pakistani requests and allowed the Indians to use Afghan soil, sponsoring acts of terrorism in Pakistan, particularly Balochistan.

The arrest of Kalbhushan Jhadav in Balochistan and his confessions left no doubt about India's support to insurgency in Balochistan and sponsoring of acts of terrorism within Pakistan. The renewed spate of acts of terrorism in Balochistan and KP also testifies to Indian involvement.

The modus operandi of RAW for sabotaging CPEC seems to exacerbate the security situation in Pakistan through acts of terrorism and consequently the creation of an ambience of despondency among the masses as well as fomenting mistrust between China and Pakistan, where her efforts have hit the wall. Indian antics have further strengthened the resolve of the Pakistani and Chinese leaders to pay unruffled attention to the completion of the projects under CPEC.

Undermining CPEC is also a part of the US-India nexus designed to contain China. A sustained campaign has been unleashed to create doubts about CPEC and the likely benefits accruing to Pakistan. The biggest argument being advanced by the US is that Chinese loans would exponentially add to the debt burden of the country and Pakistan like Sri Lanka would be caught in the Chinese debt trap. The contention in this propaganda is contrary to the ground realities. The major portion of the CPEC projects are direct Chinese investments in Pakistan. Chinese loans only constitute 6 percent of the total debt burden of Pakistan. The reality is that these loans have been advanced on rates lower than given by international lending agencies. The role of a spoiler of the peace process in Afghanistan by India was also a part of the strategy to sabotage CPEC and harm Pakistan's strategic interests.

India has also unleashed a sustained campaign to malign Pakistan as revealed by the EU Disinfo Lab recently. It has not only failed to respond to positive overtures by Pakistan for beginning a new chapter of amity between the two countries and peaceful resolution of the disputes between them, but it also continues on the path of confrontation wedded to undermining interests of Pakistan by all means.

It is pertinent to point out that both Pakistan and China have repeatedly asked India to join CPEC and play its role in the shared economic prosperity of the region, as envisaged in the objectives of the BRI initiative of the Chinese President XI Jinping. The concept of 'One-Belt One-Road' envisions partnership with countries along the route to develop an infrastructure which is absolutely essential for sustainable development of any country. China has also established the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), which is a major step towards providing required finances to partner countries for the development of necessary infrastructure in their lands to be able to contribute to the shared economic prosperity and making the project a success as envisaged. It is estimated that the annual trade volume between China and the Belt and Road countries will surpass \$2.5 trillion in a decade or so, changing the political and economic landscape of the world.

It is indeed a pity that the Indian leadership has failed to comprehend the benefits of CPEC to the region including India and is pursuing a policy of undermining it at the behest of her strategic partners who are hell-bent to stop china from emerging as the major economic and military power of the world, which in any case is bound to fail. China is now unstoppable. India's own economic development and prosperity are inextricably linked to peace and security in the South Asian region. It is therefore in India's own long-term interest to abandon its hostile posture towards Pakistan as well as the attempts to sabotage CPEC. Indian leaders need to understand that their attempts to destabilise the region as the strategic partner of the USA will ultimately also undermine the strategic interests of their country.

<https://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2021-09-03/page-6/detail-0>

The News

Pakistan to fill farm tech gaps with Chinese expertise

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan will engage China to lift its agriculture sector by taking advantage of World's largest producer's advancement in farming technologies to boost the country's agrarian economy through China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) projects.

It was stated by Khalid Mansoor, the newly appointed Special Assistant to Prime Minister on CPEC Affairs, while addressing Chinese media.

He said CPEC, a flagship project of the China-proposed Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), was critical for the economic revival of Pakistan.

“CPEC's Phase II will be developing an industrial hub in the country, providing many opportunities for local and foreign investors.”

Underlining the importance of CPEC for uplifting the country's agriculture sector, Mansoor said Pakistan was an agricultural country and its economic growth was dependent on the development of the agriculture sector.

“There are several areas where we can benefit from the excellent research and experience of Chinese agricultural sector, for improving the quality of the seed, and then benefiting from the research and development to improve our yield, and to improve and modernise our mechanical cultivation and harvesting.”

He said Pakistan was also working on upgrading its livestock sector and enhancing its meat exports, which could all be expected to achieve with the cooperation of China. Talking about the commitment of the two countries to make CPEC a green corridor, the official said they would be growing a number of trees along the CPEC route and “we want to make sure that as the industrial hubs increase they do not pose threat to people's health living around them and also those industries are not polluting the environment by producing emissions”.

Coal power plants working under CPEC in Pakistan were making sure they used state-of-the-art technology to meet world standards in emissions, removing the apprehensions that they were hazardous to the environment, he said.

The official said the common people of Pakistan were the ultimate beneficiaries of the CPEC projects.

“We believe wherever we are putting our industry, the adjoining community should fully benefit... Projects are underway, which are going to be improving their health, their education, their livelihood, so specific projects are being developed and there are several projects which are in the implementation stage with the help of China's grant, including vocational institute, the hospital, the international airport, etc” Mansoor added. Apart from job opportunities and livelihood prospects, CPEC was also solving the daily life problems of people, he said, citing the

example of the country's southwest Gwadar district where people had a shortage of clean drinking water and electricity.

"So, we are working very closely with the authorities like Gwadar Development Authority, Gwadar Port Authority, and the Chinese company to make sure all sorts of facilitations are being provided to residents of Gwadar."

The Special Assistant said in the phase two, huge job opportunities would be created for people and special importance would be attached to their skill enhancement and for that purpose, vocational training institutes would be constructed in special economic zones.

"The strategy is the unskilled people are going to be trained and hired in the project activity and thereafter, they will get opportunities to earn and support their families."

On the role of the BRI in Pak-Afghan cooperation, Mansoor said BRI would unfold a lot of economic opportunities for landlocked Afghanistan, which would get the chance to enhance its exports through regional connectivity offered by the BRI.

"The BRI has got a clear-cut mandate for the regional connectivity, whether it is in Afghanistan or other neighboring countries," he said, adding that CPEC phase two would not only bring revolution to Pakistan but also benefit Afghanistan.

He said due to CPEC's special economic zones, Pakistan was going to become a major manufacturing hub, which would not only uplift its economy, but also create huge opportunities for Afghanistan to rebuild and revive its economy.

"Afghanistan is a landlocked country, so it will have to depend on Pakistan for its needs in terms of importing and exporting. So we believe this regional connectivity through the BRI will be really providing opportunities for us to develop further ties with our brotherly country Afghanistan and also providing the mutual opportunities for the growth of the economy in Afghanistan and Pakistan," the Special Assistant added.

<https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/886936-pakistan-to-fill-farm-tech-gaps-with-chinese-expertise>

September 04, 2021

Daily Times

Pakistan to revive tourism through China's assistance: envoy

Pakistan will revive its tourism through cooperation with China, Pakistan Ambassador to China Moinul Haq said here on Friday.

"Pakistan has recently signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on tourism with Chinese tourism associations and forged partnership with travel agencies", he said at the 2021 World Tourism Cities Federation (WTCF) Fragrant Hills Tourism Summit and World Conference on Tourism Cooperation and Development held here.

“We are to launch a Chinese-language website called Discover Batie (also known as Discover Pakistan) to popularise Pakistan’s rich repertoire of culture and tourism resources across China,” he added.

The theme of this year’s WTCF Fragrant Hills Tourism Summit and World Conference on Tourism Cooperation and Development 2021 is “Revitalizing World Tourism and Energizing City Development”.

The event conducted the in-depth analysis on the new demands, new changes and new trends brought by the Covid-19 pandemic on the development of world tourism and tourism cities, explore new opportunities, new agenda and new actions for the sustainable development of world tourism in the post-pandemic era, provide the support of concept, technology and model for the comprehensive recovery of world tourism.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/811673/pakistan-to-revive-tourism-through-chinas-assistance-envoy/>

The Express Tribune

Huge job opportunities’ are coming under CPEC phase

BEIJING: Khalid Mansoor, the special assistant to the Prime Minister on CPEC affairs, has said that huge job opportunities will be created for the people under phase two of the multibillion-dollar project and special importance will be attached to their skill enhancement and for that purpose, vocational training institutes will be constructed in special economic zones.

"The strategy is that the unskilled people are going to be trained and hired in the project activity and thereafter, they will get opportunities to earn and support their families," Mansoor told Chinese media.

On the role of the Belt and Road Initiative in Pak-Afghan cooperation, he said that BRI would unfold a lot of economic opportunities for landlocked Afghanistan, which will get the chance to enhance its exports through regional connectivity offered by the BRI.

"The BRI has got a clear-cut mandate for regional connectivity, whether it is in Afghanistan or other neighboring countries," he said, adding that CPEC phase two will not only bring revolution to Pakistan but also benefit Afghanistan.

He said that due to CPEC's special economic zones, his country is going to be a major manufacturing hub which will not only uplift Pakistan's economy but will also create huge opportunities for Afghanistan to rebuild and revive its economy.

"Afghanistan is a landlocked country, so it will have to depend on Pakistan for its needs in terms of importing and exporting. So we believe that this regional connectivity through the BRI will be really provide opportunities for us to develop further ties with our brotherly country Afghanistan and also provide mutual opportunities for growth of the economy in Afghanistan and Pakistan," he added.

He said CPEC is one of the most important projects for the economic revival of Pakistan, Mansoor said.

"CPEC's phase two will be developing an industrial hub in the country, providing many opportunities for local and foreign investors."

Underlining the importance of CPEC to uplifting the agriculture sector of his country, Mansoor said that Pakistan is an agricultural country and its economy depends on the development of the agriculture sector, which meets most of the food requirements of the country.

"There are several areas where we can benefit from the excellent research and experience of Chinese agricultural sector, for improving the quality of the seed, and then benefiting from the research and development to improve our yield, and to improve and modernise our mechanical cultivation and harvesting."

He said that Pakistan is also working on upgrading its livestock sector and enhancing its meat exports, which can all be expected to achieve with the cooperation of China.

Talking about the commitment of the two countries to make CPEC a green corridor, the official said that they would be growing a number of trees along the CPEC route and "we want to make sure that as the industrial hub is going to be increased, it should not be detrimental for the people's health and also make sure that it is not polluting the environment by producing emissions".

Coal power plants working under CPEC in Pakistan are making sure that they use state-of-the-art technology to meet world standards in emissions, removing the apprehensions that they are hazardous to the environment, he said.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2318546/huge-job-opportunities-are-coming-under-cpec-phase-2>

The Nation

China a role model for developing states against poverty

ISLAMABAD - Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan described China as a "role model" for the developing countries in poverty alleviation as Chinese stellar growth has brought 800 million people out of penury.

Prime Minister Khan was speaking virtually at a forum on the 20th anniversary of Juncao Assistance and Sustainable Development Cooperation held in Beijing. He commended China for sharing this beneficial technology with over 100 countries, which has already benefited thousands of people across the continents over the past 20 years. He said the world at large, and the people of the Global South in particular, are grappling with multiple challenges, including climate change, poverty, and food insecurity. He maintained that with relentless efforts towards ending poverty in all its manifestations, extreme poverty had been steadily declining in the past two decades. "Covid-19 pandemic triggered an economic meltdown which has slowed down

global progress, and the extreme poverty rose in 2020 for the first time in over 20 years,” he added.

The PM said, “Sustainable ways of achieving economic recovery, growth and development are critical, during the pandemic. Juncao technology is one such way. It helps small-scale farmers to develop low-cost, commercial-scale mushroom cultivation.”

He said that we launched a wide-ranging social safety programme called ‘Ehsaas’, with the objective of uplifting marginalised people, eradicating poverty, and supporting vulnerable households. “Our ‘Ehsaas Emergency Cash’ programme cushioned the most vulnerable part of our population from economic shocks of the Covid-19 pandemic,” he maintained.

He said that as one of the most climate-vulnerable countries, Pakistan fully supports international efforts to combat this scourge. He contended that under a well-articulated climate change and environmental agenda, consisting of a number of flagship green initiatives, we are progressing towards a Clean and Green Pakistan. PM said, as part of one of the most ambitious efforts to expand and restore forests, we have already planted a billion trees as part of our 10 Billion Tree Project. He said our green initiatives resonate with the “United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030” and hoped it will contribute to preventing, halting, and reversing the degradation of ecosystems.

Prime Minister Imran Khan expressed his strong resolve and commitment to international cooperation aimed at poverty alleviation and sustainable growth, and addressing climate change.

<https://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2021-09-04/page-3/detail-0>

Taliban say CPEC linking with Afghanistan ‘very important’

ISLAMABAD - Spokesperson of the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan Zabihullah Mujahid said Friday said that Afghanistan appreciated the longstanding contributions of Pakistan towards the Afghan people.

He also hoped that Pakistan’s help to the Afghan nation will continue in terms of its peace efforts and increasing the bilateral trade and commerce.

Zabihullah Mujahid was speaking at the Pak-Afghan Youth Forum’s (PAYF’s) International Conference titled “Rebuilding Afghanistan Together”. He said that the extension of China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) by linking it with Afghanistan was very important. Zabihullah Mujahid further assured Pakistan that it will not have any threat from Afghanistan.

<https://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2021-09-04/page-5/detail-1>

Housing Ministry, China State Construction sign MoU

ISLAMABAD - The Ministry of Housing & Works and China State Construction Engineering Corporation Ltd on Friday signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) regarding

construction of low cost housing units as well as upgradation of slums for the low income citizens of Pakistan across the country.

This massive initiative will cater for essential elements of community living with provision of clean water and hygienically safe environment.

The MoU was signed by Dr. Imran Zeb Khan, Secretary Housing & Works on behalf of Government of Pakistan, and Qin Guomin, Chief Representative of M/s China State Construction Engineering Corporation Ltd. on behalf of China State Construction Engineering Corporation Ltd.

Through this MoU, the government of Pakistan is interested to seek Chinese investment in construction and housing sectors to undertake mega projects that will create vast job opportunities in the country which will ultimately promote the economic development of Pakistan. The MoU will provide a base towards building affordable housing units along with construction of infrastructure i.e. roads, water supply, provision of electricity, natural gas, sewerage system and allied facilities. According to the MoU, the project could be integrated in China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) in future implementation.

The MoU stated that the China State Construction Engineering Corporation Ltd shall have significant part in financing promotion, feasibility study, investment estimation, planning, design and construction of the housing schemes. On the other side, the government of Pakistan through Ministry of Housing & Works shall have significant role in supply of land, change of land nature, land acquisition, planning and construction permission, property rights transfer, mortgage loan policy, marketing and sales of housing units, etc.

<https://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2021-09-04/page-8/detail-3>

The News

Sino-Pak trust motivates agri varsities cooperation

ISLAMABAD: “China’s friendship with Pakistan and its openness towards Pakistan are very critical when we choose foreign universities to cooperate with.

In some western universities they don’t allow Pakistani students to study certain subjects.

But the strong trust between China and Pakistan allows Pakistani students to get the knowledge of particular subjects of Pakistan’s national needs,” said Prof. Athar Mahboob, Vice Chancellor of the Islamia University of Bahawalpur, in an interview with China Economic Net.

He referred to recently established Intercropping Center and China-Pakistan agricultural cooperation.

The first-ever intercropping center jointly established by Sichuan Agricultural University and the Islamia University of Bahawalpur was inaugurated by Prime Minister Imran Khan on August 11, hailed as a milestone in agricultural cooperation between the two countries’ universities.

Intercropping, making the most of the light, can harvest more than one crop in the same land, which is applicable for Pakistan with decreasing farmland but blessed with abundant sunlight.

“We could contribute to the growth of the agriculture sector and help ensure the food security of Pakistan by learning from the Chinese experience,” Prof. Athar Mahboob said.

“The Prime Minister was very happy to see that the scientists in Pakistan are working on solving the real problems and needs faced by the country with the help from our Chinese brothers.

He said the Islamia University of Bahawalpur is like a role model for other Pakistani universities and full support in every way from the government was committed,” Prof. Athar Mahboob recalled Imran Khan’s words, which is definitely encouraging for the university leader who included enhancing cooperation with China in the university’s development plan in the next few years.

On August 11, Muhammad Ali Raza, Sichuan Agricultural University post-doc who demonstrates maize-soybean strip intercropping technology in Pakistan, represents the technology to PM Imran Khan. [Photo provided by Muhammad Ali Raza]

The Islamia University of Bahawalpur is an old general public university with 14 domains of knowledge including law, management, computing, engineering, etc. Approaching the 100th year after founding, it took the step to establish ties with Chinese universities.

“Everyone recognizes in the world that China has made a lot of efforts to reach the top level. Even though the world top 100 universities are still dominated by American and European universities, Chinese universities are getting very close to breaking that barrier.

Moreover, some of the research that is happening in Chinese universities is even more advanced. We believe with the pace that China is moving, maybe in 10 years, China may overtake many of the best universities in the world, and we want to be able to benefit from this positive development that China has had and to be part of it. We believe it’s a win-win situation for both countries,” Prof. Athar Mahboob highlighted.

<https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/887654-sino-pak-trust-motivates-agri-varsities-cooperation>

September 05, 2021

Pakistan Observer

Pakistan, other countries to exhibit products in 18th China-ASEAN Expo

The exhibitors from over 20 countries including Pakistan, Poland, South Korea, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, Russia, France, Spain and other more than 20 countries at the upcoming 18th China-ASEAN Expo to be held in Nanning, China from Sept 10 to 13.

Pakistan, like previous year, will be the special partner country at expo. A Pakistan Pavilion will be established to display major export and cultural items as well as print and audio-visual material on tourist attractions in Pakistan.

Pakistan traders and businessmen will showcase various Pakistani products especially jewelry, precious stones, marble, carpets, furniture, handicrafts, and sports goods during the exhibition.

Trade and Investment Conference will also be organized on sidelines of the expo as part of the celebrations of 70 years of the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Pakistan, he added.

Pakistan Ambassador to China, Moin ul Haque will brief the Chinese investors and entrepreneurs regarding investment-friendly environment offered by the present government in Pakistan.

According to senior Chinese government officials, the event will facilitate China and the 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) to further broaden trade relations under the regional free trade agreements and support the recovery of global economy.

The exhibitors and purchasing agents from Japan, Republic of Korea, New Zealand, and other signatory states of Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) have been invited to participate in the expo this year.

The exhibition will hold 27 high-level forums, covering sectors from green development to digital economy—APP

<https://pakobserver.net/pakistan-other-countries-to-exhibit-products-in-18th-china-asean-expo/>

The Express Tribune

Pine nuts: luxury in Chinese market

BEIJING: It is still a month away from Pakistan's pine nut harvest season, but Chinese buyers can't wait. On a mainstream e-commerce platform in China, a store selling Pakistani pine nuts (produced in western Pakistan) has sold 10,000+ bags a month, and got 3,009 comments.

“The pine nut has a strong flavour with full and large kernel. It can be shelled with just a slight pinch, and fresh kernels lay inside.” Those comments have shown Chinese consumers' high praise for them. However, it is only one of hundreds of Pakistani pine nut e-retailers in China.

Consumers' favour for Pakistani pine nuts has led to troubles for Chinese businessmen. “In the past lean year for Pakistani pine nuts, I could purchase them whenever I wanted. However, it turned out be a tough year to import raw pine nuts in 2020 when Pakistan had a bumper harvest of pine nuts,” a director of a Chinese enterprise, which has been engaging in Pakistani pine nuts processing for more than 10 years, told China Economic Net (CEN). “Moreover, the price of Pakistani pine nuts has been soaring high. This year is the 11th year of our Pakistani pine nut business, but we all think of turning to other fields,” he added.

In China's nut market, Pakistani pine nuts can be described as a real luxury product. Its selling price on China's main e-commerce platforms is about RMB 320-600 (about Rs7,510-14,080) per kg. However, Pakistani exporters said the local pine nut price is halved, only Rs1,700 (about RMB 71) per kg.

How does the price of the same product see such a great difference in China and Pakistan? Is Pakistan likely to export more pine nuts to China?

Chinese demand

According to the data released by the International Nut and Dried Fruit Council, China is the second largest consumer of pine nut. In 2018, the pine nut consumption in China amounted to approximately 3,474 tons, about 1.2 times the average annual output of Pakistan in recent five years.

As one of the three major pine nut varieties in the Chinese market, Pakistani pine nuts enjoy a high premium and are listed as high-end snacks. A bag of 250g Pakistani pine nuts costs about RMB 80 (about Rs2,033), nearly twice that of other Chinese pine nut varieties.

The favour of Chinese consumers for Pakistani pine nuts has driven huge import demand, and China has become the main export destination of Pakistani pine nuts. According to the data released by Pakistan Agriculture Marketing Information Service, Pakistan exported 692 tons and 73.9 tons of pine nuts to China in fiscal year 2018-19 (July 2018 June 2019, bumper harvest of Pakistani pine nuts) and 2019-20 (lean year for Pakistani pine nuts), respectively, with a value of Rs820 million and Rs190 million, accounting for 45.86% and 14% of the total export of Pakistani pine nuts.

However, after the bumper harvest of Pakistani pine nuts in October last year, Chinese enterprises have continued to face the problems of purchase difficulties and high prices.

“Obviously, it was a bumper harvest year. Before the Spring Festival (February), I wanted to buy extra 200 bags. They were out of stock. After the Spring Festival, the price of raw materials rose abnormally, from RMB 180 /kg (about Rs4,566) to RMB 220/kg (about Rs5,581). Compared with RMB 120 per kg (about Rs3,044) in previous years, it has increased by RMB 100 (about Rs2,537), almost doubling,” said the director, adding that “my clients were unwilling to take them. Only four out of 50 clients could accept the price”.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2318645/pine-nuts-luxury-in-chinese-market>

September 06, 2021

Daily Times

China may help Pak achieve \$5bn gems, jewelry export target

Chinese investors have recently shown interest in establishing and investing in lapidary units along China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) route, which may help Pakistan achieve its \$5 Billion Gems & Jewelry export target.

Talking to Gwadar Pro. Zhao Lanying who is running an import-export business for last two decades said that a large number of Chinese investment can be brought to Pakistan for setting up lapidaries and special industrial parks for cutting, polishing, faceting and carving of gemstones.

“I have years of experience with Pakistani traders and manufacturers, and I think setting up of gems and jewelry special industrial parks in Pakistan will help the development of gem industry of both countries,” Lanying said.

“Pakistan and Chinese government should join hands and collaborate with each other and learn from each other’s experience,” Lanying added, according to Gwadar Pro.

The Chinese government may also invest in the extraction of gemstones as most of the gemstones get wasted due to indiscriminate blasting which can be reduced if modern mining machinery is used for extraction.

According to Gems, Jewelry and Minerals Task Force, Pakistan has the potential of earning \$5 billion annually through the exports of precious stones, which will have a positive impact on the national economy and create millions of jobs.

Prime Minister Imran Khan and his government are keen to take special measures to bring up this huge market, and a few major steps are in process to be taken in this regard.

First a Jewelry City will be set up to pool resources, provide one-stop operations to address the problems that are faced by the sector and provide incentives to investors.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/812534/china-may-help-pak-achieve-5bn-gems-jewelry-export-target/>

Dunya News

Rashid welcomes Taliban's desire to become part of CPEC

ISLAMABAD (Dunya News) - Interior Minister Sheikh Rashid Ahmed has welcomed Taliban's desire to become part of multi billion dollars China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) project.

Talking to the media persons in Islamabad on Monday, he said the CPEC is the jugular vein of Pakistan, and the friendship between Pakistan and China is higher than the Himalayas.

The Interior Minister said that those who perpetrated recent suicide attacks in Gwadar and Mastung had come from Afghanistan. He said the Afghans have assured that they will not allow their land to be used against Pakistan. He said Pakistan desires peace and stability in Afghanistan. He said progress of Pakistan and Afghanistan is interlinked.

<https://dunyanews.tv/en/Pakistan/618483-Rashid-welcomes-Taliban-desire-to-become-part-of-CPEC>

Exports to China more than double YoY in Aug'21

ISLAMABAD (Web Desk) - Pakistan's exports to China more than doubled YoY to \$197.27 million during August 2021, compared to \$94mn in August 2020.

Adviser to PM for Commerce and Investment Abdul Razak Dawood, said in a tweet, that during August 2021 the exports of home textiles, men's garments, cotton fabric, rice, jerseys, fruits, vegetables and t-shirts increased as compared to August 2020.

On the other hand, the exports of surgical instruments, fish and fish products, cement, tents and canvas and wood articles of wood decreased, he announced.

The advisor further said that in terms of geographical spread, the exports to the US, China, the UK, The Netherlands, Germany and Spain increased while those to Afghanistan, Denmark, South Korea, Indonesia, Singapore and Czech Republic decreased during Aug 2021 as compared to Aug 2020.

The exports of services during July 2021 increased by 6.4% to USD 483 million as compared to USD 454 million during July 2020, he added.

<https://dunyanews.tv/en/Business/618463-Exports-to-China-more-than-double-YoY-in-Aug%E2%80%9921>

The Nation

Rashid predicts ‘a new bloc’ comprising Pakistan, China, Iran, Russia

Interior Minister says region getting safe from pressure of those who are very far from this region | India’s bemoaning condition proves shameful defeat in Afghanistan

TORKHAM BORDER - Federal Interior Minister Sheikh Rashid Ahmad said Sunday that the ‘hue and cry’ of India on the prevailing regional situation was a natural outcome as it faced a shameful defeat with humiliation and disgrace in Afghanistan, witnessed by the whole world.

Talking to media persons at the Torkham border, the minister said the whole world was well aware of India’s such bemoaning condition as it invested billions of dollars in establishing Afghanistan’s National Directorate of Security (NDS) and 60 training camps in Afghanistan in the last 40 years.

He said the Indian intelligence agency, Research and Analysis Wing (RAW), and Afghanistan’s National Directorate of Security (NDS) were also in a state of stress on facing such defeat in fulfillment of their nefarious designs. Sheikh said, “Their demoralised faces at the time of evacuation from Afghanistan were ample proof of their downfall, which was captured by the media also.” He added the whole world was giggling at the defeat of NDS from its own Afghan people.

He dispelled this impression being presented by India that a large number of people were present at the Torkham border and that there were Afghan refugee camps. He made it clear that there was no such camp.

He said Pakistan had completed the safe evacuation of 10,000 persons from Afghanistan, adding that 21-day transit visa was being given on arrival. He said Pakistan was supporting the foreigners’ evacuation after the takeover of the Taliban in Afghanistan on humanitarian grounds.

Sheikh Rashid said, “Our responsibility was just to assist them and reach their border safely.” He said there was no burden of Afghan refugees on Pakistan. The minister said no one was

expecting this breakthrough and taking over of the Taliban in the shortest time. “Now Taliban have to play a responsible role and fulfil its commitments with the international world.”

He thanked Allah Almighty that there was no report of any massacre or bloodshed in Afghanistan as Afghans were handling their country’s matters impeccably and resolving their outstanding issues with mutual consensus.

He repeated the commitment of Prime Minister Imran Khan that Pakistan would not allow using its land against Afghanistan and added that the Afghan Taliban had also promised that Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) would not be given permission to operate against Pakistan.

Sheikh Rashid added that long-lasting peace in Afghanistan was important for the region as well as for the international world. He said Pakistan would continue playing its role in maintaining peace in Afghanistan and for a stable government. He said peace and progress in Afghanistan was a must for peace and progress in Pakistan and in the entire region.

He also predicted formation of a new bloc in the region and the future important role of Pakistan, China, Iran, and Russia in ensuring lasting peace in the region. He added this region was now getting safe from the pressure of those who were very far from this region.

Congratulating the nation in advance on Defence Day on September 6, the minister said the Pakistan Army was proficiently accomplishing its responsibility to safeguard the country and performing duties on borders to protect every inch of the motherland.

He said Pakistan’s security agencies were vigilant to respond to any threat from enemies. Pakistan Army was deployed at the borders, he said, adding that forces were monitoring movement along the divide.

The minister said the whole nation should be proud of having such professional security agencies and their sincere contribution to the country. “We had sacrificed more than any country of the world with loss of 80,000 lives and over 100,000 who sustained injuries but still our morals were high with having the world’s most professional and sound army,” he added.

Sheikh Rashid said, “We expect great respect and honour from the international world on these sacrifices just for maintaining peace and stability for the entire world. We are the major contributor to maintaining peace in the region.”

While appreciating the arrangements made for facilitating those coming from Afghanistan he said, the best arrangements had been made by Pakistan Army, NADRA, FIA and FC at the Torkham border.

He said the government had decided to double the FIA and NADRA immigration staff at the Torkham border. “I will also visit the Chaman border to examine arrangements there and all basic facilities will also be provided.” Rashid said instructions had been issued to increase other related services at the Torkham border besides the expansion of roads.

Replying to a question, he said 97 percent work on fencing with 2,680 km had been completed at the Pak-Afghan border while 48 percent work had been completed on fencing at the Pak-Iran border.

He condemned the Mastung suicide attack of a motorbike on FC personnel that claimed three lives and injured 20 others. He said the investigating agencies were tracing the actual culprits behind this incident and added that so far involvement of Daesh, TTP or BLA was not clear.

The minister said Muslim Ummah had condemned the insulting treatment of Indian troops with mortal remains of Hurriyat leader Syed Ali Geelani. He said opposition parties had no vision to understand the changing political situation in the region and advised their leadership to observe their changes.

<https://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2021-09-06/page-1/detail-3>

The News

Malik fears India can use TTP, Daesh to target CPEC

ISLAMABAD: Former interior minister and Chairman Institute of Research and Reforms (IRR) Senator Abdul Rehman Malik fears that India could launch a new hybrid war against Pakistan with using Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) and Daesh to target China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

In a panel interview with The News and Jang on Sunday, Rehman Malik said Modi's war doctrine is anti-Pakistan and anti-Muslim and through this anti-Pakistan madness he was able to win the elections. He said Modi made good use of the RSS in the elections and involved in atrocities on Indian Muslims and people of Kashmir and these atrocities amount to war crimes. "I will go to the International Court of Justice against Modi's war crimes as Modi was a war criminal and will commit more such crimes and atrocities in the future," he said.

He said General Bajwa Doctrine proved successful. He said, "We have not taken timely action regarding Kashmir and he had written a letter to the Foreign Office regarding Modi's war crimes that he should be tried in the International Court of Justice to get rid of him. I will take Modi to ICJ. Our experts can prove that Modi is a war criminal."

He stressed the need to revisit of country's foreign policy due to current situation in the region. "We should not have to dependent on the United States and instead defensive policy against India, we should adopt aggressive policy against India," he said.

Rehman Malik said he had been saying since long ago that ISIS is here and in the coming days this matter will not be easy. "The people of South Punjab joined ISIS and then the people of Syria and Turkey also joined it. "Abu Bakr Baghdadi of ISIS trained in Khost and those countries that used ISIS know that ISIS and TTP are currently in Nuristan and Daesh people who came from Syria are operating from there who may worsen the situation for Pakistan, but law enforcement, the Pakistani army and defense agencies are ready to fight them all," he said.

He said the time to come will tell how much Afghanistan will support in the future as China will invest heavily in Afghanistan in the future. “China is ready to invest 14 billion dollars in Afghanistan,” he said. “Pakistan, Afghanistan and China bloc coupled with RCD solution of peace in Afghanistan and later on also include Turkey and Iran in the bloc,” he said.

Rehman Malik said the promises made by the Taliban of lasting peace in the region and the two treaties must be fulfilled and they must be lenient, especially with regard to women.

In a reply to a question, he said that everyone knows that the withdrawal of US forces from Afghanistan was because of the dialogue between Taliban and US authorities in Qatar and now that the Taliban are back, the international community should give a chance to peace in Afghanistan by recognising their government if they adopt moderate policy as committed in Doha agreement.

Rehman Malik said that the people are facing immense inflation at the moment, the value of the rupee has fallen badly, dollar was rising that will add further inflation in the coming days.

In a reply to another question, Rehman Malik stress the need of revise the social justice system in the country. “We have to bring reforms in the police, local governments and justice system in the country,” he said.

<https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/888640-malik-fears-india-can-use-ttp-daesh-to-target-cpec>

September 07, 2021

Business Recorder

On CPEC

Despite recent security incidents targeting Chinese personnel, the Sino-Pak relationship endures. Both countries have promptly engaged at high level in recent months to move past misunderstandings. Pakistan has reportedly assured China of foolproof security. Beijing also seems cognizant of the fluid regional situation post-US withdrawal having an impact on Pakistan. Pakistan’s Parliamentary Committee on CPEC has recently singled out “security” as a key challenge that needs to be addressed.

Against this backdrop, it remains to be seen as to how soon the CPEC-related activities can become mainstream again. Hanging in the balance are mega projects like the overhaul of 1,800km ML-1 Railway track, operationalization of special economic zones, and agreement on a framework for industrial cooperation between the two countries.

For activity to return, both countries would need to move things fast under the CPEC’s high-level Joint Coordination Committee (JCC) platform. The tenth JCC meeting was scheduled to take place in July after a gap of over one and a half years, with expectations of significant progress. But unfortunately, it was postponed after the tragic Dasu incident. A new date has not been officially announced yet.

Having said that, things are still moving in Pakistan. A major change took place last month when a renowned energy sector professional, who has experience working with the Chinese and on CPEC energy projects, was appointed as Prime Minister's Special Assistant on CPEC Affairs. This development coincided with resignation of the Chairman of the recently-established CPEC Authority.

The said authority was supposed to fast-track bureaucratic processes underpinning the mega projects, but now security-related issues have become paramount. It remains to be seen what kind of operational and tactical acumen the SAPM brings to the table, especially in removing hurdles facing CPEC energy sector projects as well as the slow-moving infrastructure development projects in the Gwadar area.

A low-profile, but significant, development took place earlier this month when it was announced that the 660kV (HVDC) Matiari-Lahore long-distance power transmission line project had been operationalized. This project, which falls under the CPEC Cooperation Agreement, is expected to help the NTDC's transmission system in minimizing system-wide breakdowns. Going forward, Pakistan will need to show progress on the ground to excite Beijing's interest in revitalizing CPEC portfolio. Prior to recent security challenges, the element of "financing" was said to be the main issue hampering progress on projects like ML-1. In some ways, the recent security situation has weakened Pakistan's hand in negotiations. Let's see if the two countries can find agreeable terms.

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2021/09/07/13-page/899801-news.html>

Daily Times

CAEXPO to promote cooperation between China and Pakistan

After joining the 17th China-ASEAN Expo (CAEXPO) in 2020 for the first time as a Special Partner Country, Pakistan will participate in the upcoming 18th CAEXPO with the same honorary title.

An official told China Economic Net that, Pakistan, as one of the countries along the Belt and Road and a geographical neighbor to the ASEAN countries, has actively joined the CAEXPO for many years to enhance its exchange and cooperation with China and other countries along the Belt and Road. This year marks the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties between China and Pakistan. By seizing the cooperative and business opportunities of the 18th CAEXPO, Pakistan will fully showcase its national image and further promote its exchange and cooperation with China and the ASEAN countries.

The CAEXPO's purposes expand from serving the "10+1" countries (China and 10 ASEAN countries) to promoting RCEP and the Belt and Road Initiative and opening up to the rest of the world. With a theme of "Sharing Opportunities Created by the New Land-Sea Corridor, Building the China-ASEAN Community with a Shared Future", the 18th CAEXPO will be held in

Nanning, China from September 10 to 13 in a mixed model of “Physical + On-line CAEXPO” adopted for the second time.

An exhibition area of 12,000 square meters will be allocated to the exhibitors of the 10 ASEAN countries, and each ASEAN country shall have its own exhibition area as usual. At the 18th CAEXPO, Pakistan, with an exhibition area of 81 square meters, will showcase its national image and organize 15 Pakistani companies to show mainly carpet, marble, wood handicrafts, and other specialty products of the country with 28 booths.

The CAEXPO will adopt a mixed model of “Physical + On-line CAEXPO” to host events in celebration of the 70th anniversary of diplomatic relations between the two countries and the 2021 Forum on China-Pakistan Economic and Trade Cooperation to further advance the sound development of the China-Pakistan partnership.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/812879/caexpo-to-promote-cooperation-between-china-and-pakistan/>

Dunya News

Govt traces terrorists behind Gwadar, Quetta incidents: Sheikh

ISLAMABAD (Dunya News) - Minister for Interior, Sheikh Rasheed Ahmad on Monday said that the government had achieved a major success in tracing the origin of attackers behind Gwadar and Quetta terrorist incidents.

Addressing a press conference, the minister said that suicide bombers in Gwadar blast, took place on August 20 and another explosion targeting FC convoy on Mastung Road in Quetta, had been identified adding he said that they had come from Afghanistan.

He said that two boys lost their lives while four others, including a Chinese national got injured when a suicide bomber blew himself up targeting a vehicle carrying Chinese nationals in Gwadar while four people died and 20 injured on Sunday in a suicide attack near a check post on Mastung Road in Quetta.

Replying to a question, he said that the Taliban’s desire to become part of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) project is a positive sign. “CPEC is the jugular vein of Pakistan, and the friendship between Pakistan and China is higher than the Himalayas.”

He reiterated that the Taliban leadership had assured that Afghan soil will not be used against Pakistan, maintaining that situation at the Torkham border is normal and the government had not established any refugee camp at Torkham border or any other part of the country.

He said that the whole world was well aware of India’s such bemoaning condition as it invested billions of dollars in establishing Afghanistan’s National Directorate of Security (NDS) and making 60 training camps in Afghanistan during last 40 years.

He said that the Indian intelligence agency, Research and Analysis Wing (RAW), and Afghanistan’s National Directorate of Security (NDS) were also in a state of stress after facing defeat in fulfillment of their nefarious designs.

He added long-lasting peace in Afghanistan was important for the region as well as for the international world. He said that Pakistan would continue playing its role in maintaining peace in Afghanistan and for a stable government.

He said that peace and progress in Afghanistan was a must for peace and progress in Pakistan and in the entire region and that Pakistan wants peace and stability in Afghanistan.

He claimed that Afghanistan was going to be the central point of world politics in the days to come. "We had sacrificed more than any country in the world with the loss of 80,000 lives and over 100,000 who received injuries and disabilities, but still our morals are high with having the world's most professional and sound army."

Sheikh Rasheed said, "We expect great respect and honor from the international world of these sacrifices just for maintaining peace and stability of the entire world. We are the major contributor to maintaining peace in the region."

He said that the Pakistan Army was proficiently accomplishing its responsibility to safeguard the country and performing duties on borders to protect every inch of the motherland. He said that Pakistan's security agencies were vigilant to respond to any threat from enemies.

He said that armed forces were monitoring movement along the divide. The minister said that the whole nation should be proud of having such professional security agencies and their sincere contribution towards the country.

Commenting on the opposition's protest against the government, Sheikh Rasheed said that the opposition will not be successful in their motives as public had fully rejected the politics of both Pakistan Muslim League (N) and Pakistan People's Party (PPP).

<https://dunyanews.tv/en/Pakistan/618558-Govt-traces-terrorists-behind-Gwadar,-Quetta-incidents:-Sheikh>

Nawaiwaqt News

پاکستان کی تشویش جازدور کریں گے، سی پیک میں شمولیت کے خواہشمند طالبان

کابل (شہنوا + نوائے وقت رپورٹ) افغان طالبان کے ترجمان ذبیح اللہ مجاہد کا کہنا ہے کہ جن معاملات پر پاکستان کو تشویش ہے سب حل کریں گے، ہماری سر زمین پاکستان کیخلاف استعمال نہیں ہوگی۔ افغان میڈیا کے مطابق کابل میں طالبان ترجمان نے پریس کانفرنس کرتے ہوئے کہا ہے کہ پاکستانی وفد افغانستان میں امن وامان سے متعلق بات چیت کے لیے آیا تھا۔ وفد نے سیورٹی اور دیگر معاملات پر بات کی۔ پاکستان سے درخواست ہے وہ افغانوں کے لیے سرحدوں کے دروازے کھلے رکھے جبکہ پاکستان افغانستان کے ساتھ کھڑا ہے جس پر ان کے شکر گزار ہیں۔ پاک چین اقتصادی راہداری خطے کو جوڑنے کیلئے بہت اہم منصوبہ ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ ہمسایہ ہونے کے ناطے مختلف معاملات پر پاکستان کی تشویش جازدور ہے تاہم جن معاملات پر پاکستان کو تشویش ہے انہیں حل کریں گے جبکہ ہماری سر زمین پاکستان کے خلاف استعمال نہیں ہوگی۔ ذبیح اللہ مجاہد نے کہا کہ دشمن کے آخری گڑھ صوبہ پنج شیر کو بھی فتح کر لیا۔ قوم کی دعاؤں سے کامیابی حاصل کی۔ وادی کے لوگ ہمارے بھائی ہیں۔ کوئی انتقامی کارروائی نہیں ہوگی۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ امارت اسلامیہ افغانستان میں اب جنگ کا دور ختم ہو چکا۔ طالبان کی طرف سے اقتدار سنبھالنے پر عام معافی کا اعلان کیا گیا۔ پنج شیر میں کوشش کی گئی کہ عام شہریوں کا نقصان نہ

ہو۔ کابل میں حالات ٹھیک اور ہمارے کنٹرول میں ہیں۔ چین نے ہمیں معاونت کی یقین دہانی کرائی ہے۔ ہماری خواہش ہوگی چین کے بڑے اقتصادی منصوبوں کا حصہ بنیں۔ طالبان ترجمان کا کہنا تھا کہ افغانستان سی پیک منصوبے میں شمولیت کا خواہاں ہے۔ نئی حکومت کی تشکیل میں تمام فریقین کو شامل کیا جائے گا۔ کاساگیس پائپ لائن منصوبہ بھی پایہ تکمیل تک پہنچایا جائے گا۔ ذبح اللہ مجاہد نے دنیا سے اپیل کی کہ افغانستان کی تعمیر و ترقی میں مالی معاونت کریں۔ عام معافی کے بعد کسی کو گرفتار نہیں کیا۔ گرفتاریاں عام جرائم میں ملوث افراد کی ہو سکتی ہیں۔ افغانستان میں ہوائی فائرنگ پر بھی پابندی عائد کر دی۔ فائرنگ کرنیوالے 80 افراد کو گرفتار کیا۔ عام شہریوں کے اسلحہ رکھنے پر پابندی ہوگی۔ ذبح اللہ مجاہد کا کہنا تھا کہ قطر اور ترکی کی معاونت سے کابل ایئر پورٹ بحال کر دیا۔ کابل ایئر پورٹ جلد بیرون ملک پروازوں کیلئے بحال کر دیا جائے گا۔ طالبان کی سکیورٹی فورسز کا یونیفارم متعارف کرایا ہے۔ پنج شیر میں جنگ کی وجہ سے جزوی غذائی قلت کا سامنا تھا۔ افغانستان کے اصل مالک افغان عوام ہیں۔ جلد حکومت کا اعلان کریں گے۔ پنج شیر میں بجلی، ٹیلی فون اور انٹرنیٹ بحال کر دیا۔ پنج شیر میں طالبان نے صوبے کے تمام 17 اضلاع کا کنٹرول سنبھالنے کا دعویٰ کیا ہے۔ لڑائی میں مزاراحتی فورس کے ترجمان اور ڈاکٹر عبداللہ عبداللہ کے بھانجے فہیم دشتی، تین اہم کمانڈرز جنرل عبدالودود، منیب امیری اور گل حیدر مارے گئے۔ جھڑپوں میں ایک طالبان کمانڈر بھی 13 محافظوں سمیت ہلاک ہو گیا۔ خواتین کے حقوق سے متعلق سوال پر ترجمان افغان طالبان کا کہنا تھا کہ حکومت بننے کے بعد خواتین کو صحیح وقت پر احتجاج کرنے اور آواز اٹھانے کا حق ہے۔ سی پیک کے حوالے سے بات کرتے ہوئے ذبح اللہ مجاہد کا کہنا تھا کہ افغانستان سی پیک منصوبوں میں شمولیت کا خواہاں ہے۔ ذبح اللہ مجاہد نے کرغزستان، افغانستان، تاجکستان اور پاکستان کے درمیان چار ملکی بجلی کے منصوبے کاسا، کو بھی تکمیل تک پہنچانے کے عزم کا اظہار کیا۔ ترجمان افغان طالبان ذبح اللہ مجاہد نے دعویٰ کیا ہے کہ سابق نائب افغان صدر امر اللہ صالح افغانستان سے فرار ہو گئے ہیں۔ ایک سوال کے جواب میں انہوں نے بتایا کہ طالبان کے سپریم لیڈر ملا ہیبت اللہ اخوندزادہ جلد منظر عام پر آئیں گے۔ افغانستان کی سابق افواج نئی حکومت کے ساتھ شامل ہو جائیں اور ملکی سلامتی کے لیے اپنا کردار ادا کریں۔ حکومت کے خلاف کسی بھی قسم کی بغاوت کو سختی سے کچل دیا جائے گا۔ ترجمان طالبان نے بتایا کہ ابتدائی طور پر ایک عبوری حکومت تشکیل دی جائے گی۔ تکنیکی معاملات حل ہوتے ہی نئی حکومت کا اعلان کر دیا جائے گا۔ ترجمان افغان طالبان کا کہنا تھا کہ حکومت میں آتے ہی تمام سرمایہ کاروں کیلئے پر اعتماد فضا بحال کریں گے۔ طالبان کی طرف سے فہیم دشتی کے قتل کی تردید کی گئی ہے۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/lahore/2021-09-07/page-1/detail-32>

چین میں امن مشقیں شروع: پاکستان سمیت متعدد ممالک شریک

بیجنگ (شہنشاہ) چین کی وسطی صوبے ہینان میں "مشترکہ مستقبل-2021" کے نام سے بین الاقوامی امن مشقیں پیر سے شروع ہو گئی ہیں۔ چینی فوج کی جانب سے منعقدہ اپنی نوعیت کی اس پہلی فوجی مشق میں چین، پاکستان، منگولیا اور تھائی لینڈ سمیت دیگر ممالک کے فوجی دستے شریک ہیں۔ امن مشقوں میں میدان جنگ میں جاسوسی، پولیسنگ اور گشت، شہریوں کا تحفظ، انسداد دہشت گردی کوششیں، طبی امداد اور وبائی رد عمل شامل جیسی مہارتیں شامل ہیں۔ 15 ستمبر تک جاری رہنے والی ان مشقوں کا مقصد اقوام متحدہ امن مشن میں شریک ممالک کے درمیان عملی تعاون کو فروغ اور امن قائم کرنے والی سٹینڈ بائی فورسز کی صلاحیت کو فروغ دینا ہے۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/lahore/2021-09-07/page-1/detail-32>

September 08, 2021

Daily Times

Pak, China varsities develop high-yield hybrid rice varieties with latest tech
Wuhan University and University of the Punjab are jointly developing high-yield hybrid rice varieties with AI, big data, 5G and remote sensing technologies, according to the Forum of

International Cooperation & Development of Honglian Type Hybrid Rice in Luotian, Hubei Province.

In Luotian those rice varieties are cultivated under the Wuhan University -University of the Punjab Joint Research Center for Honglian Type Hybrid Rice, says a report published by China Economic Net (CEN) on Tuesday. The Forum of International Cooperation & Development of Honglian Type Hybrid Rice concluded last week in Luotian, Hubei where high-yield rice varieties are cultivated under the Wuhan University-University of the Punjab Joint Research Center for Honglian Type Hybrid Rice. The Pakistani counterparts attend the forum online.

Honglian hybrid rice, developed by Prof. Zhu Yinguo of Wuhan University, member of the Chinese Academy of Engineering, is one of the world's three major types of cytoplasmic male sterility (CMS) of rice (*Oryza sativa* L.) that has been commercially used in hybrid rice seed production. By 2021, the accumulated acreage of Honglian hybrid rice globally has exceeded about 30 million hectares.

In 2019, Wuhan University and University of the Punjab established cooperation ties to develop Honglian hybrid rice in Pakistan together. In the past two years, Honglian hybrid rice achieved promising harvests in six demonstrative plots in Lahore, Gujranwala, Vehari, Pakpattan in Punjab, Shikar Pur and Larkana in Sindh, basically covering main rice planting regions in Pakistan.

In 2020, three excellent varieties of Honglian hybrid were submitted to Pakistan's regional trials for seed certification and registration, and the results indicated that the yield of Honglian hybrid rice performed distinctly higher than the check varieties among the total 104 hybrid rice varieties. "It's worth mentioning that Honglian WR1901 had a high seed setting rate of 95% and a yield of 12.9 tons/ha, higher than that of the control group by 12.17%, which aroused great interest from local farmers and dealers.

This May, the varieties submitted to trails again and the results will be got in December," Zhu Renshan, Leader of Wuhan University-University of the Punjab Joint Research Center for Honglian Type Hybrid Rice, told China Economic Net. Now, more high-yield hybrid rice varieties are being cultivated in Luotian Base of Wuhan University-University of the Punjab Joint Research Center for Honglian Type Hybrid Rice, which inaugurated on April 23, 2021.

The base is being developed into a high-tech hybrid rice seed production base of complete mechanization and intelligentization. So far, 80 hectares of land have been put into trial. With the two universities' efforts, rice production in Pakistan may be improved, which will not only lift Pakistan's exports to other countries but also help safeguard the two countries' food security in the future.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/813404/pak-china-varsities-develop-high-yield-hybrid-rice-varieties-with-latest-tech/>

CPEC making progress in many areas, including energy: China

A Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson said on Tuesday that the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) an important priority project in the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) had strongly promoted economic and social development in Pakistan and also played an active role in regional connectivity.

“The CPEC is an important priority project in BRI. Since inception, it made progress in many areas including energy,” Wang Wenbin said during his regular briefing held here while commenting over commercial operation of 660kV High-Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) Matiari-Lahore Power Transmission Line Project.

He emphasised that the BRI started from China but its opportunities and outcomes benefited the whole world. “So far, there are 140 partner countries that have signed cooperative documents and BRI has already become the largest international cooperation platform benefitting largest scale in the world,” he added.

The spokesperson said that China was ready to work with different countries including Pakistan to build high quality BRI to deliver more benefits and share more dividends. It may be mentioned here that the flagship HVDC line project achieved its commercial operation date (COD) successfully last week.

The 878-Kilometre 4,000 MW project has been completed by PMLTC (Pvt) Limited on Built-Own-Operate-Transfer basis for 25 years. The project will evacuate power from the new generating units located in the south, including Thar coal projects. The HVDC technology is a maiden addition to the national grid though it has been widely used for long time around the world. It fulfils the need for long-distance high-power transmission from generating stations in far-flung areas to the densely located load centres.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/813412/cpec-making-progress-in-many-areas-including-energy-china/>

Pakistan Observer

Changing global power dynamics and CPEC

Dr Shoaib Baloch

THE rise and fall of great powers change the dynamics of world politics. When the key players in the global system rise or fall, changes occur in global power structure, players and interests.

So, tension mounts between old and new players over retention or transition of power. No country—particularly those which are important for competing powers—can escape this global transformation and power struggle.

In retrospect, power transition had occurred either between civilizations or nation states with painful tragedy of war and conflict.

Power transitions, for example, between the Greeks to Romans, Romans to Muslims, Muslims to British and British to the most recent dominant power, the US, ended up with war and destruction.

The US and British, however, didn't go to war over power transition after the end of the World War-II because the British had been exhausted in the war and didn't have the energy to go to another conflict for power retention.

Now, in the 21st century, the US and China are at daggers drawn over global supremacy. The US has been the dominant actor in international politics after the end of the Cold War, but China's rise as the economic superpower has trembled the US with fear of being replaced as the world's hegemonic power.

Both powers will compete to redefine the global power structure, norms and values that may suit their interests.

Change in global power configuration has been triggered by emerging economies. Many countries, particularly in Asia, have experienced economic growth that has changed the global wealth structure.

China, Japan, India, South Korea, Singapore and Malaysia have achieved remarkable economic growth in the past two decades.

Parag Kanna writes in the book 'The Future is Asian' that 'in the 19th century, the world was Europeanized, in the 20th century, it was Americanized.

Now in the 21st century, the world is being irreversibly Asianized.' As global wealth structure changes, it will alter the power dynamics in different regions of the world.

China has become the economic powerhouse in Asia; it will, as projected, overtake the US as the leading economy of the world within two decades.

Shifting global wealth dynamics defines the future course of great power structure in the international system.

The US and China will be the dominant actors; both powers endeavour to wield greater clout on world affairs.

The US, after attaining hegemonic position, has become the status quo power so it will use its strength and energy to preserve its standing in world affairs.

But China is an emerging power that will challenge the US to provide space for its interests in the existing global structure which is led by the US.

Will the US make an adjustment to China is the critical question in the minds of realists. As the realpolitik saying goes, compromise can be made for interest, but interest can never be compromised.

Changing global power dynamics from one actor to another, from one region to another will create foreign policy challenges for smaller countries.

Pakistan's engagement with great powers has been on the basis of geopolitics. Pakistan's geostrategic position has provided it the opportunity to engage with great powers to deal with regional crisis.

The US-Pak relations, notwithstanding several other avenues of cooperation, mainly evolve around Afghanistan, which has been the umbilical cord that has connected both countries during the Cold war, post-9/11 and now post-US Afghanistan. But the US interests have changed from fighting global terrorism to managing great powers.

The US sees China as its 'greatest national security threat' than terrorism, so it has shifted its focus on China to contain it.

In this scenario, Pakistan faces foreign policy challenges to craft a balanced approach by neither antagonizing the US nor compromising its relations with China. Therefore, Pakistan needs inclusive policy measures to deal with both powers.

Pakistan's geoeconomic shift is an inclusive strategy that encompasses all countries in the region and beyond to be equal partners on economic terms.

Economic engagement is a tension-free area that facilitates Pakistan to redefine its relations with great powers and create new terms of engagement—while not getting sucked into the US-China mounting tension.

Besides, good economic relations with neighbours, particularly India, will palliate the fear of conflict, opening windows for cooperation and confidence building measures that may create the path of reconciliation of Kashmir quagmire and strategic dialogue on the arms race in South Asia. This doctrinal shift incorporates regional connectivity, investment and commercial intercourse.

Pakistan's geostrategic position makes it the regional economic hub and energy transit corridor for two big energy-starved markets, China and India. Equally, the China-Iran economic deal, TAPI, and CASA 1000 energy projects will revolutionize the regional economy by connecting all dots in the region through Pakistan. The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, which is the central plank of Pakistan's geo-economic policy, connects all regional countries for trade and investment.

Despite strained relations, Pakistan and India can engage with each other over connectivity as India needs access to the Central Asian Republics for energy and trade.

Besides, Pakistan and Iran, with converging interests, are partners of China's economic development programs can benefit from regional economic connectivity.

Although the US has withdrawn from Afghanistan, it certainly wants a stabilized post-US Afghanistan order.

Pakistan's geoeconomic policy will lure the US to cooperate with the country on Afghanistan; regional connectivity can stabilize Afghanistan's economy.

To make the geo-economics policy successful, Pakistan needs to bolster its economic diplomacy by appointing the best diplomats in Asia, which has become the fertile ground for economic growth in the 21st century.

Besides, the regional organizations, such as the SCO and SAARC, through deft diplomacy, are to be introduced with this Pakistan's new policy initiatives because all member countries may redefine their engagement with Pakistan.

However, the evolving situation in Afghanistan, internal political discord and the lack of economic reforms in Pakistan are the principal impediments which may put the country in the reverse gear.

Therefore, regional peace, national harmony and painful reforms are sine qua non for Pakistan's engagement with other countries in a changing world.

<https://pakobserver.net/changing-global-power-dynamics-and-cpec-by-dr-shoaib-baloch/>

CPEC: Pakistan-Uzbekistan multifaceted regional connectivity

Dr Mehmood Ul Hassan Khan

After the fall of Kabul "geopolitics" has been converted into geo-economy and consequently sincere efforts are being carried out now to achieve the ultimate goal of greater regional connectivity between Pakistan and the Central Asian States (CAS), especially with the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Since we live in the era of globalization in which active, productive and beneficial regionalism has its own importance. Economic hub transportation facilities, seaport maritime connections and last but not the least, railway tracks are the new attributors of economic stimulation and greater regional connectivity.

Moreover, the Chinese concept of shared prosperity in the shape of One Belt One Road Initiative (BRI) and its flagship project China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) have given new "impetus" to regional connectivity.

In this context, Pakistan and Uzbekistan have been "striving" hard to achieve stability and peace in the region through greater regional connectivity by jointly working to bring harmony to Afghanistan.

Most recently, Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi visited Uzbekistan and called on President Shavkat Mirziyoyev.

The Foreign Minister reiterated commitment to enhance bilateral ties in all areas of mutual interests for the greater regional connectivity.

The President of Uzbekistan termed relations with Pakistan important. He remarked that Uzbekistan was keen to develop ties with Pakistan in all areas, particularly in transport and connectivity.

Moreover, President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev's "Ten Initiatives" are a roadmap of greater regional connectivity between Central Asia and South Asia which needs to be implemented as soon as possible.

It is a modern "Transportation Network Modelling and Calibration" to create modern, efficient and safe transport and logistics infrastructure in Central Asia and South Asia. It is "Bible of Commercial Diplomacy" which eschews conspiracies, conflicts and contradictions and promotes spirits of cooperation, coordination and collaboration among the main stakeholder in the region.

According to President Mirziyoyev the Termez-Mazar-i-Sharif-Kabul-Peshawar railway has the "potential" to become the main "architecture" of the greater regional connectivity between Central Asia and South Asia. In this connection, the proposed Trans-Regional Railway Project (TRRP) has already received "necessary" political patronage and financial support from all the main stakeholders in the region and beyond.

Prime Minister Imran Khan while addressing the "Pak-Uzbek Business Forum" projected the strategic importance and utility of CPEC which would be used for achieving the desired goals of greater connectivity, socio-economic integration, eradication of poverty, new job generation and last but not the least, stability and harmony in the region.

-He termed Pakistan's connectivity with Uzbekistan in trade and bilateral spheres a giant step to open up new avenues of prosperity in the region.

He assured the businessmen and traders of Uzbekistan that Pakistan will extend all possible facilitations in promotion of trade. He labeled the trans-regional railway project as revolutionary development among Pakistan, Uzbekistan and Afghanistan.

He termed regional peace and security essential for socio-economic prosperity. He also called for more frequent flights between Pakistan and Uzbekistan.

He emphasized that the Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA), banking system, financial cooperation and improvement in customs would open a new era of cooperation between Pakistan and Uzbekistan. He said Pakistani businessmen have come up with a plan for investment in Uzbekistan.

More than US\$ 500 million agreements were signed between the Pak-Uzbek Business Forum between Pakistan & Uzbek investors and trade houses. Uzbekistan has now become a land of

opportunities and one of the biggest attractions of seeking foreign direct investments in the region and beyond in which Shavkat Mirziyoyev's constant structural reforms played a vital role.

It has expanded its trade & commerce relationship beyond the immediate neighbourhood.

In this connection, a series of spells of high officials meetings, interactive sessions, exchange of mutually beneficial proposals, economic incentives, trade promotion pledges, and last but not the least, constant seaports facilitations has now revolutionized the "concept" of regional connectivity between Pakistan and Uzbekistan.

It seems that successful commercial diplomacy of both the countries is now paying its dividends and "caravans" of greater regional connectivity have been embarked on their successful infinite voyages.

The first shipment under the Convention on International Transport of Goods for traffic-in-transit of goods crossed the border reached Pakistan from Uzbekistan via Afghanistan in 48 hours.

It actually diminished the concept of double landlocked doctrine and enhanced regional connectivity.

The Ministry of Commerce termed it a "new milestone" which has been achieved as the result of collaboration between the transport companies of the two sides.

It followed the successful shipment of first-ever cargo from Pakistan to Uzbekistan earlier this month.

It marked the beginning of a new era where trucks from both sides will take trade cargo to and from Karachi and Gwadar ports. On May 11, 2021 a cargo truck with an Uzbek license plate safely crossed the Afghan transit route in two days and reached the Torkham checkpoint near Peshawar.

It is successfully achieved with the help of the Embassy of Uzbekistan in Islamabad and the Ministry of Commerce of Pakistan and the partners of Asad Trans and Best Trans Pvt Ltd.

All main stakeholders have been working since January this year on this project for direct delivery of Uzbek goods to Pakistani cities through Afghanistan according to the "supplier's warehouse-importer's warehouse" scheme.

The specified transit transportation of Uzbek goods is the implementation of a trans-Afghan transport and logistics project initiated by the President of Uzbekistan.

It reduces the cost of transportation of Uzbek goods, including shipping at the Uzbek-Afghan border and subsequently at the Afghan-Pakistani border, in accordance with the TIR Carnet Convention dated 1975, members of which are Uzbekistan, Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Being a prominent regional expert of Uzbekistan & CIS, I suggest that since both countries have now signed "strategic partnership" more "concrete" steps should be initiated to make it 'mutually' beneficial in terms of trade and commerce, joint ventures, industrialization and of course regional connectivity.

Even “symbolic” gestures in terms of joint film production should be started as soon as possible. In this regard as a ‘pilot’ project Uzbek famous historic drama “Mendirman Jaloliddin” should be aired on Pakistan TV with Urdu translation.

Moreover, an interactive, informative and productive “internship” program may be started at once, in which Centre of Global & Strategic Studies (CGSS) having rich experience and expertise may play a decisive role. To achieve the direct flight mechanism direct flights have been again restarted between the two countries.

Now more focus should be given to include and encourage private sectors of both the countries to “accelerate” the pace of bilateral trade and commerce ties between the two sides.

In this regard, the concept of modern segmentation/classification may be used through formation of “corridor of knowledge” in which the CGSS may play an important role in the days to come.

Cultural diplomacy in terms of education cooperation, joint publications, joint think-tanks (Pak-Uzbek), media cooperation and last but not the least “digital connectivity” is the need of the hour.

Since both countries have “comparative advantages” in the textile sector which should be clubbed through forming a “Joint Textile City (JTC) in free economic zone on a reciprocal basis.

To conclude a “Joint Transport Company (JTC)” formation of “Reciprocal Trade Houses (RTHs)” a “Joint Merchandise Shipping Company (JMSC) and last but not least revival of financial and banking ties may be good omen for both the countries in which CPEC may be a connecting hub.

<https://pakobserver.net/cpec-pakistan-uzbekistan-multifaceted-regional-connectivity-dr-mehmood-ul-hassan-khan/>

September 09, 2021

Business Recorder

Pakistani troops taking part in peacekeeping exercise in China

BEIJING: A contingent of Pakistan armed forces is participating in the 10-day “Shared Destiny 2021” multinational peacekeeping live exercise started at a military training base in Central China’s Henan province.

Troops from four nation; China, Pakistan, Mongolia and Thailand took part in an opening ceremony at the People’s Liberation Army Ground Force’s Queshan Combined Tactical Training Base and then moved to multiple training ranges to conduct drills, according to the Chinese military’s headquarters at the exercise said in a statement. The exercise is the first multinational peacekeeping exercise held by the Chinese military and is focused on joint operations by peacekeepers from several nations. —APP

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2021/09/09/7-page/899989-news.html>

Daily Times

Taliban's handover of military bases to China, Pakistan 'purely fake news'

China's Foreign Ministry spokesperson has termed Indian media's groundless report on Taliban's handover of military bases to China and Pakistan 'purely fake', Gawdar Pro reported on Wednesday.

An Indian newspaper had reported that Taliban can hand over Afghan airbase in Bagram to China, and Kandahar base to Pakistan for operational purposes. It claimed that China and Taliban are discussing this matter, and Pakistan Air Force engineers are inspecting all the five former US airbases in Afghanistan.

"I can tell you this is purely fake news," said the Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Wang Wenbin at a regular press conference.

"On Sep 6, Wang Wenbin just highlighted China's position on the Afghan issue as 'clear and consistent'. We always respect the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Afghanistan and support the Afghan people in independently choosing a development path suited to their national conditions. We also support Afghanistan in forming an open, inclusive and broadly representative government, pursuing moderate and prudent domestic and foreign policies, resolutely fighting against all kinds of terrorist forces and developing friendly relations with other countries, especially neighboring countries," he said at the press conference."

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/813875/talibans-handover-of-military-bases-to-china-pakistan-purely-fake-news/>

Pak-China agree to enhance cooperation in agricultural-input production

Pakistan and China on Wednesday agreed to explore and enhance bilateral relationship in areas of production of agriculture inputs particularly pesticides, fertiliser, machinery and support services including agricultural education and research.

The consensus to this regard was developed in a meeting held between Minister for National Food Security and Research Syed Fakhar Imam and Ambassador of the People's Republic of China in Pakistan Nong Rong, who called on the Minister here today, said in a press release.

Both sides also agreed to enhance cooperation in agricultural infrastructure in the regions along the CPEC, besides crop farming, livestock breeding, forestry and food growing, and aquatic and fishery in the regions along the CPEC.

They agreed for development of comprehensive agricultural production capacity, construction of farmland water conservancy facility and agricultural products circulation facility as well as collaboration in forestry, horticulture, fisheries and livestock medicines and vaccines and strengthening production of horticultural products. Speaking on the occasion Fakhar imam said that China and Pakistan have an excellent relationship which is a model for other countries.

Fakhar said that Pakistan and China should enhance their relationship in regard to agro trade between the two countries and can achieve new heights if Pakistan enhances export of fruits, vegetables and rice to China. He said Pakistan has huge export potential in terms of vegetables and fruits such as mango, citrus fruits, apple cherries. He said that the trade between the two countries has huge potential and can be increased significantly.

He said Prime Minister Imran Khan has put high priority on the development of the high tech, construction and agriculture sector. The minister said that technological exchange between China and Pakistan can enhance the agricultural sector of the country. The two dignitaries agreed to sign two MoUs to enhance export of onion to China and to introduce revolutionary Chinese Juncao technology. Fakhar Imam said that cooperation amongst countries at every level needs to be increased if the world wants to move towards sustainable and nature friendly development.

Two dignitaries agreed to sign more MoUs to increase trade amongst the two countries. The Chinese ambassador said that Juncao technology allows farmers to grow different types of nutritional mushrooms from chopped grasses without cutting down trees and damaging the environment. He said it can be used for producing feed, biogas and also minimise soil erosion to combat desertification. He said farmers can generate income in 7-10 days after planting mushroom substrate packs.

The ambassador said that one hectare of land produces 300 tons of fresh grass per year which can grow 120 tons of fresh mushrooms or feed 300 goats. It solves the forage shortage in the winter season as well. He said that 13 centres of this technology have been set up globally and the next will be set up in Pakistan. The ambassador said that three tier exchanges should be promoted: Government to Government, Business to Business and Research to Research.

He said that PARC and Agricultural Research Institute of Beijing should take the lead on research-based exchange of technology. He said that the agricultural yield in Pakistan is almost half of that of China and that latest technological advances in agriculture can uplift the agro-economy of Pakistan.

Ambassador Nong Rong said that the agricultural bilateral trade between the two countries has immense potential. He said exchange of agricultural technologies can enhance the productivity of agriculture in Pakistan and thus should be a primary area of focus. Both dignitaries agreed to enhance trade and exchange of technologies in the agriculture sector.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/814081/pak-china-agree-to-enhance-cooperation-in-agricultural-input-production/>

Pakistan-China photography and painting exhibition held

To celebrate the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Pakistan and China, a photography and art exhibition of Pakistani and Chinese photographers and painters was held in Beijing.

The exhibition was jointly organized by Embassy of Pakistan and Home and Abroad Press at Huabei Guowen International Gallery.

The artworks of Pakistani photographers, Mohammad Azhar Hafiz and Syed Mehdi Bukhari and notable Chinese artists including Feng Shoubin, Chen Manchon, Li Shuangliang, Zhang Bin and Zhang Xiaowen were displayed at the exhibition.

Addressing at the opening ceremony, Pakistan Ambassador to China, Moin ul Haque appreciated the innovative style and rich imagination of the artists to demonstrate cultural diversity, history and social norms and mores of two countries.

He also highlighted the affinity between the culture and artistic style of two countries and its role in solidifying bilateral relations between Pakistan and China.

Ambassador Haque informed that Pakistan and China had so far organised more than 70 events of different nature, mostly in culture, which were helping to bring the people of two countries together.

The very special friendship between the two countries had been transformed into an iron brotherhood and all weather strategic partnership and friendship which had grown stronger and stronger year by year, he added.

Ambassador Haque said that Pak-China friendship was not only between the two governments, but it was also a friendship and relationship between enterprises, institutions, academic institutions and most importantly between people of the two countries.

He expressed the confidence that this exhibition would help in fostering and promoting a better understanding between our two people.

Ambassador Haque said that Pakistan was a beautiful and diverse country with rich history and cultural heritage, hospitable people and very delicious cuisine and invited the Chinese friends to visit and explore Pakistan.

He said that to promote tourism between the two countries, Pakistan Embassy in China had established a dedicated website in Chinese Language which is called “Discover Bathie” which would soon be launched.

He said that the two countries would hold the first women forum and hoped that this year a forum of the two women entrepreneurs of the two countries would also be held.

During her speech, Ms. Yan Wei, the President of Home and Abroad Press hailed all-weather strategic cooperative partnership between Pakistan and China.

Expressing satisfaction at the increasing cultural and people-to-people linkages between the two countries, she added that artists of two countries should further deepen their interaction and collaboration to explore new innovation in artistic style and solidifying bilateral friendship between Pakistan and China.

The event was attended by the senior officials including Ms. Li Ping, Vice President of China Women Entrepreneurs Association, media representatives and Embassy's officers. The ceremony concluded with the awards of certificates by the Ambassador to the participating artists.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/814009/pakistan-china-photography-and-painting-exhibition-held/>

Dawn News

Bilawal seeks parliament debate on Afghanistan, CPEC attacks

MULTAN: Pakistan Peoples Party Chairman Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari says the issues relating to Afghanistan and attacks on the staff working on the projects of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) should be discussed in parliament.

Speaking to media persons here on Wednesday, the PPP chairman reiterated that Imran Khan's government had isolated Pakistan in the world. He said the government was in a fix over the Afghan issue.

"The government should bring all the important issues, including the Afghan situation, to parliament. The action plan against terrorism and extremism should be brought out from cold storage," he said.

He said those who had announced that they would establish a separate province within 100 days had failed to establish it even after three years.

He said the PPP was the only party which comes into power with the support of the masses.

"We are hiding our cards right now. There will be a jiyala prime minister and a jiyala chief minister after the next election," he said.

"People welcomed me in Multan, Dera Ghazi Khan, Lodhran and Vehari for which I am thankful to them. Only the PPP is doing the politics of opposition and has broken political stagnation. We will show our cards at the time of election," he said.

He said that even the allies of the PTI government were expressing their concerns over the proposed Pakistan Media Development Authority.

"Parvaiz Elahi expressed his concern over the proposed authority. Imran Khan should realise that his allies have concerns over it," he said.

He said there was an obvious difference between the policies of the PPP and other political parties.

"The PPP makes its economic policies for common Pakistanis while the remaining parties make their policies for the rich. Whenever the PPP comes into power, it provide jobs to the people besides initiating the schemes such as Benazir Income Support Program," he said.

Earlier, the PPP chairman told another delegation of media persons that the PPP had concerns regarding Afghanistan situation.

“Pakistan’s first priority in connection with Afghanistan should be the protection of the rights of women, children, minorities and other segments of society,” he said. He said the attacks were being carried out on the staff working on the CPEC over which China had expressed its concerns publicly.

Meanwhile, JUI-F Dera Ghazi Khan leader Muhammad Javed Khan Somro, Malik Muhammad Jamil Punnu of PML-N, Muzaffargarh District Council Vice Chairman Malik Abid Mahmood and Muhammad Sajid Deena, a councillor from Jatoi, met the PPP chairman and announced joining the party.

Bilawal condoled the death of former Peoples Labour Bureau Punjab president Malik Bashir Ahmad.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1645325>

The Nation

Chinese envoy lauds Nawa-i-Waqt Group’s efforts to promote BRI, CPEC

SHAFQAT ALI

ISLAMABAD - Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan Nong Rong yesterday said that Nawa-i-Waqt group had impressively promoted the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

“Glad to talk with Syed Ahmad Nadeem Qadri, director (administration) of Nawa-i-Waqt Group. Deeply impressed by the Group's efforts and your personal input in promoting BRI and CPEC,” the envoy tweeted with the picture of the meeting.

He added: “Let’s deepen our cooperation and further strengthen the friendship between our two peoples.” Daily The Nation and Daily Nawa-i-Waqt of the Nawa-i-Waqt Group give special focus to Pakistan-China ties. The BRI and CPEC are widely covered by the leading national dailies. Separately, yesterday, Ambassador Nong Rong called on the Federal Minister for National Food Security and Research Syed Fakhar Imam.

The two dignitaries agreed to explore and enhance relationship in the areas of production of agriculture inputs particularly pesticides, fertilizer, machinery and support services including agricultural education and research.

The Chinese Ambassador said that Juncao technology allows farmers to grow different types of nutritional mushrooms from chopped grasses without cutting down trees and damaging the environment. He said it can be used for producing feed, biogas and also minimize soil erosion to combat desertification. He said farmers can generate income in 7-10 days after planting mushroom substrate packs.

The ambassador said that 1 hectare land produces 300 tons of fresh grass per year which can grow 120 tons of fresh mushroom or feed 300 goats. It solves the forage shortage in the winter

season as well. He said that 13 centres of this technology have been set up globally and the next will be set up in Pakistan.

<https://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2021-09-09/page-12/detail-6>

The News

Pakistan, China to sign two MoUs to boost agri exports

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan and China have agreed to sign two memorandum of understanding (MoUs) to enhance export of onion to China and to introduce revolutionary Chinese Juncao technology in Pakistan, a statement said on Wednesday.

It was decided at a meeting between the Chinese ambassador Nong Rong and minister of National Food Security and Research Syed Fakhar Imam.

The ambassador said Juncao technology allows farmers to grow different types of nutritional mushrooms from chopped grasses without cutting down trees and damaging the environment.

"It can be used for producing feed, biogas and also minimize soil erosion to combat desertification." He said farmers can generate income in 7-10 days after planting mushroom substrate packs.

The ambassador said that one hectare of land produces 300 tons of fresh grass per year which can grow 120 tons of fresh mushroom or feed 300 goats. It solves the forage shortage in the winter season as well.

"13 centres of this technology have been set up globally and the next will be set up in Pakistan."

Rong said three tier exchanges should be promoted: government to government, business to business and research to research.

"PARC and Agricultural Research Institute of Beijing should take the lead on research-based exchange of technology."

He said the agricultural yield in Pakistan is almost half of that of China and that latest technological advances in agriculture can uplift the agro-economy of Pakistan. Ambassador Rong said the agricultural bilateral trade between the two countries has immense potential and exchange of agricultural technologies can enhance the productivity of agriculture in Pakistan and thus should be a primary area of focus.

Minister Imam said the trade between the two countries can achieve new heights if Pakistan enhances export of fruits, vegetables and rice to China. He said Pakistan has huge export potential in terms vegetables and fruits such as mango, citrus fruits, apple cherries etc.

<https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/889796-pakistan-china-to-sign-two-mous-to-boost-agri-exports>

Express News

افغانستان میں پاکستان اور چین کے مفادات یکساں ہیں، بیجنگ میں پاکستانی سفیر معین الحق

افغانستان کی تازہ ترین صورت حال کے حوالے چین میں تعینات پاکستان کے سفیر جناب معین الحق نے چائنا گلوبل ٹیلی ویژن نیٹ ورک (سی جی ٹی این) کو دیئے گئے ایک خصوصی انٹرویو میں کہا کہ افغانستان سے امریکی افواج کا انخلا ذمہ دارانہ ہونا چاہیے تھا لیکن بد قسمتی سے ایسا نہیں ہوا۔

تفصیلات کے مطابق، جناب معین الحق کا کہنا تھا کہ ہم پر امید تھی کہ افغانستان سے امریکی فوجیوں کا انخلا زیادہ ذمہ دارانہ اور منظم انداز میں ہو گا جبکہ یہ سیاسی عمل جاری امن مذاکرات کے ساتھ ہم آہنگ بھی ہو گا۔ بد قسمتی سے ایسا نہیں ہوا۔

ان کا مزید کہنا تھا کہ افغان مسئلہ سیاسی عمل سے حل ہونا چاہیے، ایک ایسا سیاسی تصفیہ ہونا چاہیے جو افغان عوام کی خواہشات کے مطابق ہو۔

ایک پر امن افغانستان خطے اور پاکستان کے بہترین مفاد میں ہے۔ گزشتہ دو دہائیوں سے افغانستان میں جاری انتشار کی وجہ سے سب سے زیادہ نقصان پاکستان کو ہوا ہے۔ چنانچہ پاکستان اس طویل تنازعے کے پر امن حل کا خواہاں ہے اور ہم امید کرتے ہیں کہ افغانستان کی تمام جماعتیں، عوام اور سیاسی دھڑے اس تاریخی موقع سے فائدہ اٹھا کر مستقبل کے لیے بہترین لائحہ عمل اختیار کریں گے۔

ان کا یہ بھی کہنا تھا کہ افغانستان کے پڑوسی ممالک کی حیثیت سے چین اور پاکستان کے مفادات آپس میں ملتے ہیں۔ افغانستان کے مستقبل کے بارے میں ہمارے خیالات ایک جیسے ہیں۔

حال ہی میں، جھنگد میں ہمارے وزرائے خارجہ کا اجلاس، اسٹریٹجک ڈائلاگ کا تیسرا سیشن ہوا جہاں افغانستان کے مسئلے پر تفصیلی گفتگو ہوئی۔

اُس وقت افغانستان میں جاری پیش رفت، موجودہ کیفیت تک نہیں پہنچی تھی لیکن تب بھی ہم نے ایک بہت مضبوط پیغام دیا تھا کہ دونوں ممالک افغانستان کا امن اور استحکام چاہتے ہیں اور ایسی حکومت جو افغانستان میں تمام نسلی گروہوں کے مفاد کو مد نظر رکھے۔

آگے بڑھتے ہوئے، دونوں ممالک افغانستان کی تعمیر نو میں مدد کر سکتے ہیں۔ جیسا کہ آپ جانتے ہیں، ہم نے اس بات پر بھی اتفاق کیا ہے کہ چین پاکستان اقتصادی راہداری کو افغانستان تک بڑھایا جاسکتا ہے،“ جناب معین الحق نے کہا۔

<https://www.express.pk/story/2222725/10/>

K2 Daily

اِسی سیک میں یا پوچھو و ڈسمیت اہم منصوبے شامل ہونگے لاہور عظیم

وزیراعظم کے ڈون کے مطابق جی بی بی میں انفراسٹرکچر کو بہتر بنانے کیلئے خلیفہ رقم مختص کی گئی، مردانی بالا، یا عین کا دورہ

مستقبل قریب میں گلگت بلتستان سیاحت کا حب بنے گا، صحت، تعلیم، بجلی منصوبوں پر خصوصی توجہ سے

شہر (سی رپورٹ) وزیراعظم نے ان کے ساتھ ساتھ اہم شاہراہیں تعمیر کی جائیں گی۔ کرتے ہوئے انہوں نے بتایا کہ وہ اپنے سفر کے دوران کے مطابق لے گا ہے کہ سی ایک میں اہم منصوبے شامل ہو۔ ان خیالات کا اظہار انہوں نے مردانی بالا اور یا عین انہوں نے کہا کہ وزیراعظم کے ڈون کے مطابق رہے ہیں، سی ایک پراجیکٹ کے تحت شہر سے گزرنے والی نئی شاہراہ کی ساخت کا دورہ گلگت بلتستان میں (آئی سٹو 7 جی 34)

بقیہ 34

انفراسٹرکچر کو بہتر بنانے کیلئے خلیفہ رقم مختص کی گئی ہے۔ ترقیاتی منصوبوں سے گلگت بلتستان میں سیاحت کا حب بنے گا۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ ترقیاتی منصوبوں کی حکومت نے خلیفہ رقم مختص کی ہے۔ صحت، تعلیم اور بجلی پراجیکٹوں پر خصوصی توجہ سے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ وہ اپنے سفر کے دوران کے مطابق لے گا ہے کہ سی ایک میں اہم منصوبے شامل ہو۔

https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=Back_Page&Date=2021-09-09

https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=Baqia&Date=2021-09-09

Nawaiwaqt News

چین اور پاکستان کے بہترین تعلقات دیگر ممالک کیلئے مثال ہے: فخر امام

اسلام آباد (نامہ نگار) پاکستان میں عوامی جمہوریہ چین کے سفیر نونگ رونگ نے وفاقی وزیر برائے قومی غذائی تحفظ و تحقیق سید فخر امام سے ملاقات کی۔ وزارت کے اعلیٰ حکام بھی اس موقع پر موجود تھے۔ وفاقی وزیر نے سفیر کا خیر مقدم کرتے ہوئے کہا کہ چین اور پاکستان کے درمیان بہترین تعلقات ہیں۔ جو دوسرے ممالک کے لیے مثال ہے۔ وفاقی وزیر نے کہا کہ پاکستان اور چین کو زرعی معیشت کے حوالے سے اپنے تعلقات کو وسعت دینی چاہیے۔ سی پیک کے ساتھ علاقوں میں فصلوں کی کاشتکاری، مویشیوں کی افزائش، جنگلات اور خوراک کی پیداوار بڑھانے، آبی اور مانی گیری کے شعبوں میں تعاون کو مزید مضبوط کریں۔ وفاقی وزیر برائے قومی خوراک و تحفظ سید فخر امام نے کہا کہ اگر پاکستان چین کو پھلوں، سبزیوں اور چاول کی برآمدات بڑھاتا ہے تو دونوں ممالک کے درمیان تجارت کی نئی سطح حاصل ہو سکتی ہے۔ دونوں معززین نے چینی جنکاؤ ٹیکنالوجی متعارف کرانے کے لیے ایم او یو کے ساتھ ساتھ چین کو بیاز کی برآمد بڑھانے کے لیے ایم او یو پر دستخط کرنے پر اتفاق رائے کیا۔ چینی سفیر نے کہا کہ زرعی ٹیکنالوجی کا تبادلہ پاکستان میں زراعت کی پیداواری صلاحیت کو بڑھا سکتا ہے اور اس کو توجہ کا بنیادی شعبہ ہونا چاہیے۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/lahore/2021-09-09/page-8/detail-10>

September 10, 2021

Business Recorder

Bahria varsity holds online global conference on ‘Pak-Sino Partnership’

ISLAMABAD: Bahria University Islamabad organised an online international conference on “Pak-Sino Partnership: Prospects and Challenges in Higher Education Collaboration.” Ali Muhammad Khan, Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs, was the Chief Guest of the ceremony.

Nong Rong, China’s Ambassador to Pakistan, Moin ul Haque, Pakistan’s Ambassador to China and other officials attended the event.

According to a press release, the objective of the conference was to provide Pakistani and Chinese academicians and practitioners a platform to present their knowledge and experience regarding potential areas of academic partnership between China and Pakistan.

The conference focused on various themes highlighting different modes of academic collaboration including Sino-Pak bilateral research partnership, short-term exchange and split programmes, scholarships, China-Pakistan Economic Corridor) and cross-border industry-academia linkages as well as commercialization of applied research through Business Innovation Centre (BIC) and Science and Technology Parks (STP).

The speakers highlighted that higher education was the key towards developing required human resource with the skills which can contribute towards the development of any region.

This can be achieved through dissemination and conception of advance knowledge through strong focus on research and analysis, speakers said.

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2021/09/10/11-page/900157-news.html>

KKHPP tenders

Wapda allows Power China to join in

ISLAMABAD: The Water and Power Development Authority (Wapda) has reportedly allowed Power China to participate in its tenders despite terminating the contract of 128 MW Keyal Khwar Hydro Power Project.

Official documents and informed sources revealed to Business Recorder that Wapda issued the civil works, ie, hydro steel works of 128 MW Keyal Khwar Hydro Power Project to M/s Sinohydro - Hajvairy JV on August 28, 2014 after competitive bidding under Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (PPRA) rules. Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) is investigating the matter.

The Auditor General of Pakistan, in its recent audit report raised questions on the firm for not meeting the contracts conditions.

According to sources, due to land acquisition problems and resettlement, the order to commence was issued to the contractor on August 12, 2016 establishing the contract commencement date as August 13, 2016 and the completion date May 05, 2020 under financing of KfW Germany.

The sources maintained that since then the project authorities/employer and the engineer assisted the contractor to the utmost possible extent to resolve the internal dispute of the JV Partners as well as the multiple problems and difficulties in commencement and execution of the civil and hydraulic steel works completion within stipulated construction schedule of four years. In this context, several high-level meetings were held during past six months between head office representatives of the contractor's JV firms, the employer and the engineer, but no positive results could be achieved.

The source said contractor during the course of fourteen months since commencement of the project has hardly achieved any considerable milestone in project implementation and execution/implementation of works.

The engineer was issued several notices to correct in pursuance of sub-clause 15.1 of conditions of contract however Sinohydro JV still delayed and mismanaged the works. Wapda issued several warnings which are as follows: (i) contractor's lack of highly qualified and professionals throughout the contractor's Project Management team; (ii) serious reluctance of the Contractor's Project Management and staff towards strict compliance with numerous contractual obligations and requirements; (iii) Contractor's unwillingness/reluctance/inability to ensure a timely elaboration and finalization of the contractor's numerous design and construction documentation; (iv) Contractor's insistence in implementation of modifications to the project layout instead of implementation of the works in accordance with the Contractor's commitments as per signed

contract; (v) Contractor failed to submit the contractor's updated Programme of the works, duly revised in accordance with the actual progress of the works/extensive delays and in strict compliance with the requirement of General Condition of Sub-Clause 8.3; and (vi) Contractor did not submit a formal statement, confirming all differences and internal disputes between the JV partners have been mutually resolved, and manually committing the continued implementation of the contract in accordance to contractor's JV agreement.

Transparency International wrote a letter on December 10, 2020 to the relevant authorities regarding the discrepancies and favoritism toward this contractor.

Due to the non-serious and unprofessional behavior of Sinohydro JV, Wapda issued letter of termination of contract KKHPP-02 "construction of civil & hydraulic works for Keyal Khwar Hydropower Project" under General Condition of Sub-Clause 15.2.

The sources said due to inordinate delay in work by Sinohydro /Power China Group, Pakistan has faced huge loss in generation and revenue during electricity shortfall: around 2,200 GWh loss in generation and Rs 6 billion in revenue in addition to increase in cost of project by Rs 2 billion. The sources maintained that no action has been taken by Wapda, PPRA or any other agency/department against the company for not performing according to the contract. The project Commercial and Operation Date (COD) has been delayed for more than seven years, the sources said, adding that KfW financing has expired and Wapda has again requested them for refinancing. Only for consultancy of the project an amount of euro 8.2 million has been paid.—
MUSHTAQ GHUMMAN

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2021/09/10/12-page/900165-news.html>

Daily Times

FPCCI represents Pakistan in SCO Business Council Meeting

Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI) president and SCO Business Council Pakistan chairman Mian Nasser Hyatt Maggo addressed the SCO Business Council Board Meeting in Dushanbe, Tajikistan. Presidents/chairmen of all member countries (India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Pakistan, China, Russia, Uzbekistan, and Tajikistan) were present at the meeting.

Nasser Hyatt Maggo raised the issues of economic, trade, and investment liberalization within the powerful bloc of SCO. He also highlighted the economic and commercial potential of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India (TAPI) Gas Pipeline Project.

Nasser Hyatt Maggo commended the SCO Business Council's efforts to build bilateral, regional, and multilateral links and connectivity to maximize the benefits of regional trade through economic blocs. He praised the organizer for putting on the multinational high-profile event and bringing together eight countries.

Veteran business leader and convener of International Forums at FPCCI Amjad Rafi appreciated the efforts of Tajikistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry discussed the Global Challenges of Migration Processes in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic within the SCO: Problems and Prospects in International Conference on Migration.

On the sideline of the other events like International Conference on Cooperation and Exchange of Experiences between the Leading Cities/Capitals of SCO under Smart City held wherein Mr. Shahid Ahmed Khan, Director FS&R (Pvt) Ltd gave a presentation on Smart City of Pakistan (Lahore and Islamabad) which are ECO-Friendly Venture in the Future. While in Round Table was centered on supporting Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in SCO, Mr. Zubair Hyder Sheikh, President and CEO Lumina Consulting Services Pvt Ltd gave a presentation on Issues of support and development of Micro, small and medium-sized enterprises within the SCO.

All meetings and conferences within the program were centered on tangible economic and social cooperation between the member countries of SCO. Round Table was centered on supporting Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in SCO, and it was suggested that MSMEs in the member countries may be promoted through support mechanisms in the realms of access to finance, regulatory protections, and cooperation among the member countries; as MSMEs are the real engine of growth coupled with employment generation.

FPCCI is looking forward to enhanced trade and investment within SCO and forging a formidable economic alliance for mutual prosperity and development of the member nations.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/814510/fpcci-represents-pakistan-in-sco-business-council-meeting/>

Pakistan's exports to China register 109pc YoY growth in August

Pakistan's exports to China shot up to \$197.27 million in August 2021 against \$94.4 million in August 2020, Gwadar Pro reported.

According to statistics shared by the ministry of commerce, Pakistan's exports to China grew by 109pc on year-over-year basis. It said that China had become the second largest exports destination for Pakistan.

During the month, Pakistan saw exports growth to the US, UK, Holland, Germany and Spain as well, but exports to China registered the highest growth. Exports to the U.S. and Spain grew by 60pc each, while Holland imported 46pc more goods and services from Pakistan during the period. Pakistan's exports to China are steadily going up after Beijing granted several concessions to Islamabad under the upgraded Free Trade Agreement (FTA-II), effective since January 1, 2020. Under FTA-II, China eliminated tariffs on 313 major export items from Pakistan.

Impact of the upgraded FTA between the two Iron Brothers is evident from the fact that Pakistan's exports to China are continuously surging despite the pandemic.

Keeping in view the positive trajectory, prime minister's aid on commerce Abdul Razak Dawood expressed the hope last month that Pakistan's exports to China could cross the \$3 billion mark during the current fiscal year. On the other hand, China is assisting Pakistan in many ways to develop Pakistan's exports sector. Also, experts believe that Pakistani growers and traders could easily tap the over \$100 billion food import market of China.

Currently, China is providing technical support to Pakistan to improve its yields of cotton, oilseeds, sugarcane, wheat, maize and rice, which not only can satisfy the local demand but also enables Islamabad to export food items to other countries.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/814506/pakistans-exports-to-china-register-109pc-yoy-growth-in-august/>

Pakistan pavilion inaugurated in Nanning, China to promote Pakistani products

Pakistan Ambassador to China Moin ul Haque on Thursday formally inaugurated the Pakistan Pavilion established at the China-Singapore Nanning International Logistic Park to promote Pakistani products in China and other ASEAN countries.

Speaking at the plaque unveiling ceremony, the ambassador said that the pavilion would play a key role in promoting the trade ties between China and other ASEAN countries. He said that Pakistan is participating in China-ASEAN Expo as a special partner country for the second time which is indeed an honour.

“Pakistan and China are celebrating the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations this year and both countries are organising different events to further promote their bilateral relations and friendship,” he added.

About the China-ASEAN Expo scheduled to start on Friday, he said that it has a great importance as it is one of the three premier expos in China.

He informed that President Dr Arif Alvi will address the opening ceremony via video message.

“We are also organising a very important trade and investment seminar on Saturday to invite local traders and entrepreneurs for investment in Pakistan.”

He said that participation of Pakistan at the China-ASEAN Expo has a great significance and added, approximately 20 Pakistani traders are showcasing the Pakistani products.

“We would like to establish a stronger relationship with the traders in the Guangxi Zhuang region and I have discussed ways and means with the vice governor of Guangxi autonomous region of China,” he added. He said that Pakistan also intends to have sister cities and sister provinces with Guangxi in near future.

“We will encourage the investors from Guangxi to invest in Pakistan, and we hope that we'll be able to develop more people to people and cultural ties,” he added.

Talking to APP, he expressed his happiness over Pakistan's participation in 18th edition of China-ASEAN Expo and said, "This is the second time that Pakistan has been invited to participate as a guest country and this is very important because this year China and Pakistan are also celebrating 70 years of the establishment of diplomatic relations.

"We have dedicated our participation in China-ASEAN Expo this year to our 70 years journey with China," he added.

Ambassador Haque said that Pakistan has also very important historical, political, cultural, and economic ties with ASEAN countries. And, so in that respect, I think that participation in this extraordinary China-ASEAN Expo would help Pakistan to enhance trade with these countries having approximately 2 billion population and nearly \$18 trillion of GDP."

He said that with China-ASEAN free trade agreement, the expo provides very large opportunities to Pakistani traders and businessmen and hoped that the participation of Pakistan in the China-ASEAN expo will be a triangular cooperation between Pakistan, China and ASEAN countries. In his welcome speech, Wang Xiaodong, member of the standing committee of CPC Guangxi Zhuang autonomous region committee, party secretary of CPC nanning municipal committee said that this pavilion would help Pakistan to sell its products especially carpets, furniture and textile.

He expressed the confidence that the pavilion would fully showcase the national image of Pakistan.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/814509/pakistan-pavilion-inaugurated-in-nanning-china-to-promote-pakistani-products-2/>

Pakistan Observer

Improving security must for completion of CPEC Projects

Improving the security situation is imperative for quick pace and completion of the work on Gwadar Port and other China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) projects. Pakistan cannot afford sabotage incidents like those in Gwadar, Karachi, and Dasu recently, and must act swiftly to prevent them in future.

Participants of a webinar titled 'Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) vs Build Back Better World (B3W): Where does Pakistan Stand?' organized by Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) expressed these views.

They were of the view though B3W was a good initiative in terms of competition yet it was too late and a bit ambiguous.

However, they said Pakistan should welcome investments from all countries.

Pakistan needs to identify and cultivate all the emerging opportunities of economic development, particularly, those being offered by regional and global development initiatives including Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) vs Build Back Better World (B3W).

In this scenario, a robust engagement with all the stakeholders and improving relevant policy framework should be the key priorities for Pakistan.

Mustafa Syed, Executive Director, Pakistan China Institute, while sharing his views about international trade diplomacy, emphasized that Pakistan needed to identify viable development projects linked with its national plan.

“Pakistan should partner with all countries as this partnership will be a win-win for all,” he said. Hassan Daud Butt, CEO, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Board of Investment (BoI) explained that Pakistan had been able to showcase through BRI it could absorb investment.

“We can leverage what we know and by benefiting from BRI, where Afghanistan is a partner country, and B3W, which can provide state-of-the-art equipment, we can connect the East with the West, bringing harmony and people-to-people connections and infrastructure,” said Hassan Daud.

Dr Abid Qayum Suleri, Executive Director, SDPI, highlighted that under B3W, climate, health security, digital technology, and gender equity, etc. are some of the key focused areas which are quite different from what BRI offers. He added further that B3W projects would be evaluated through various different lenses such as norms on corruption, human rights, labor rights, and environmental standards.

“Pakistan is in a unique position, and It needs equally good relations with all powers in this multipolar world including China, Russia, US, EU, etc., Dr Suleri said and added that a single country or economic bloc cannot tackle global challenges.

The challenges such as COVID-19 and climate change should also remain areas of the key focus, he added.

Director China Study Centre, Institute of Strategic Studies, Dr Talat Shabbir, while giving a comparative perspective, highlighted that BRI was mostly about economic connectivity. He said that BRI relied on bilateral loans and state-guaranteed funds whereas B3W plans to mobilize bilateral, multilateral, and private sector capital and tools.

<https://pakobserver.net/improving-security-must-for-completion-of-cpec-projects/>

The News

CAEXPO acts as bridge of China-Pak cooperation

BEIJING: “At this year’s China-ASEAN Expo (CAEXPO), President Arif Alvi will deliver a video speech at the opening ceremony, and Pakistani ambassador to China Moin ul Haque will attend it on Friday.

This is the second time that Pakistan joined CAEXPO as a Special Partner Country. It is of great significance to both countries,” said Wang Lei, Secretary-General of the Secretariat of the CAEXPO in an interview with China Economic Net.

The 18th CAEXPO will be held in Nanning, China from September 10 to 13 in a mixed model of Physical & Online CAEXPO adopted for the second time, with the theme of “Sharing Opportunities Created by the New Land-Sea Corridor, Building the China-ASEAN Community with a shared Future”.

As an important window for exchanges and cooperation between China and ASEAN and other “Belt and Road” countries, CAEXPO has played an important role in promoting economic and trade cooperation between Pakistan and China.

Last year, President of Pakistan Arif Alvi stated in a video speech at the opening ceremony of the 17th CAEXPO that the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor has created miracles.

Nowadays, China has become Pakistan’s largest trading partner, largest source of imports and the second largest export destination. Since the signing of the China-Pakistan Free Trade Agreement in 2006, the proportion of tariff lines with zero-tariff products between China and Pakistan has gradually increased from 35% to 75%.

<https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/890592-caexpo-acts-as-bridge-of-china-pak-cooperation>

September 11, 2021

Daily Times

Pakistan Pavilion unveiled to promote products in China’s Guangxi region

China-ASEAN Mercantile Exchange Plaque was unveiled at the China-Singapore Nanning International Logistic Park here to promote Pakistani goods in China as well as other ASEAN countries. According to China Economic Net, Pakistani Ambassador to China, Moin ul Haque formally unveiled the plaque along with local Chinese leaders. Speaking at the occasion, he said that the pavilion would play a key role in promoting the trade ties between China and other ASEAN countries.

“Pakistan and China are celebrating the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations this year, and both countries are organizing different events to promote bilateral relations and friendship.” The ambassador further said the China-ASEAN Expo, scheduled to start on Friday, has great importance as it is one of three premier expos in China. Pakistan is participating in China-ASEAN Expo as a special partner country for the second time, and approximately 20 Pakistani traders will showcase Pakistani products.

“This pavilion would fully showcase the national image of Pakistan and its people,” the ambassador said, “We will also organize a trade and investment seminar on Saturday to invite local traders and entrepreneurs for investment in Pakistan.” The ambassador said that Pakistan also intends to establish sister cities and sister provinces with Guangxi in the near future. “We would like to establish a stronger relationship with traders from Guangxi Zhuang region. We will encourage the investors from Guangxi to invest in Pakistan, and we hope that we’ll be able to develop more people to people and cultural ties”

He informed that President Dr. Arif Avli would address the opening ceremony via video message. “Pakistan has important historical, political, cultural, and economic ties with ASEAN countries. And, so in that respect, I think that participation in this extraordinary China-ASEAN Expo would help Pakistan enhance trade with these countries having approximately 2 billion population” he said. Information in this article comes from third party providers. This website does not provide explicit or implied warranty for such information and is not liable for any losses directly or indirectly caused by using such information.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/814760/pakistan-pavilion-unveiled-to-promote-products-in-chinas-guangxi-region/>

Pakistan to participate in Beijing Book Fair

To commemorate the 70th anniversary of establishment of diplomatic ties between Pakistan and China, Pakistan is set to participate as the Country of Honour in 28th Beijing International Book Fair to be held on September 14-18. Pakistan’s participation was formally announced in a special press conference held here on Thursday at the Headquarters of China National Publications Import & Export Corporation (CNPIEC). The event was attended by Li Wenhong, the Party Secretary and Executive Director of CNPIEC; Ahmed Farooq, Deputy Head of Mission of the Embassy of Pakistan and representatives of leading media organizations. High ranking officials of the Publicity Department of Communist Party of China and Beijing Municipality also participated in the press conference. Sharing her views, Li Wenhong stated that Pakistan has been specially invited to participate in BIBF-21 to celebrate the 70th anniversary of establishment of diplomatic ties between Pakistan and China. Hailing deepening cultural linkages between Pakistan and China, she added that Pakistan’s participation would inject a new impetus to bilateral ties between the two countries.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/814890/pakistan-to-participate-in-beijing-book-fair/>

MoU signed to promote China-Pak cooperation in international arbitration

Guangzhou Arbitration Commission (GZAC), China and Center for International Investment and Commercial Arbitration (CIICA) – Pakistan’s first international arbitration center – signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), to deepen cooperation in international arbitration between both countries.

According to GZAC, the signing of MoU symbolizes the joint construction of Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) by arbitration organizations of China and Pakistan.

In the future, the two sides will further promote the “Four Sharing”, explore new paths for the development of online dispute settlement mechanisms, jointly cope with the increasing number of transnational disputes and offer international arbitration services in a better way, CEN reported.

Chen Simin, Director of GZAC, noted on the occasion that the cooperation reached between CIICA and GZAC in the “Four Sharing” will surely promote the cooperation between China and Pakistan in the field of arbitration legal services.

Rana Sajjad Ahmad, Founder & President of CIICA, pointed out that at present, the construction of CPEC is of great importance to Pakistan’s development, and there is an urgent need to improve the relevant legal dispute settlement mechanism.

“CIICA highly acknowledges the innovation and achievements in the construction of the online dispute settlement mechanism of GZAC,” he said, adding that CIICA is willing to collaborate with GZAC to promote the integration and interoperability of arbitration legal services between both countries.

Yang Yong, Director of China Council for the Promotion of International Trade, Guangzhou Committee, congratulates on the signing of the MoU and said it is hoped that through this cooperation, both sides can deepen mutual understanding and actively promote the development of bilateral trade and investment cooperation with international commercial arbitration.

With the deepening of trade and industrial cooperation between China and Pakistan, how to deal with the inevitable transnational commercial disputes has become a common concern of both sides. “Therefore, international arbitration is getting more and more important in promoting trade, investment, finance and infrastructure construction in CPEC,” remarked Ahmer Bilal Sufi, Former Federal Minister for Law and Parliamentary Affairs of Pakistan.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/815249/mou-signed-to-promote-china-pak-cooperation-in-international-arbitration/>

Dunya News

Govt allotted 1500 acres land for SEZ: Khusro

KARACHI (Dunya News) – Federal Minister Makhdoom Khusro Bakhtyar Thursday said "Karachi is the country’s largest industrial city where availability of industrial land has been a problem."

The Ministry of Industries and Production has allotted 1500 acres of land for Special Economic Zone, the minister said during his visit to National Industrial Park.

He said Special Economic Zone would provide one window operation to domestic and foreign investors.

Khusro Bakhtyar said Karachi Industrial Park will be established at a cost of Rs. 7 billion which will help boost the country’s industrial production and exports.

The Management of Pakistan Industrial Development Corporation on the occasion briefed the federal minister about Special Economic Zones.

Khusro Bakhtyar was told that 278.5 acres of land has been allotted for National Industrial Park. A total of 22 domestic and foreign companies have invested in National Industrial Park.

Later, Federal Minister for Industries and Production Makhdoom Khusro Bakhtyar also visited Pakistan Steel Mill.

Minister said the government is going to privatise PSM in order to make it more profitable and to meet steel requirements of the county amid growing construction industry. Khusro Bakhtyar said the government will soon formulate a comprehensive steel policy to revamp steel industry in the country.

<https://dunyanews.tv/en/Business/619048-Govt-allotted-1500-acres-land-for-SEZ-Khusro>

Pakistan Observer

Pakistani mangoes to be promoted at China's e-commerce platform

“We are willing to explore the new sales model of China-Pakistan cross-border agricultural products and help build a sales channel for Pakistani agricultural products in China,” said Deng Zhengping, CEO of Fenxiang, a Chinese social e-commerce platform.

As per the China Economic Net, Fenxiang will cooperate with relevant parties of Pakistan in imports and exports of agricultural products and sales on e-commerce platform in China, in light of in-depth discussion between Zhang Xing, senior vice president of Fenxiang, and Badar U Zaman, the Commercial Counselor of Pakistani Embassy.

This cooperation will not only be conducive to Pakistan's fruit exports, but also to the high-quality development of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) as this year marks the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Pakistan.

“Chinese will buy and taste sweet and juicy Pakistani mangoes on Fenxiang App and our WeChat mini-program soon,” Deng added.

Deng said that Pakistani mangoes are high-quality and Chinese customers are satisfied with the sweetness of Pakistani mangoes.

“We will make best use of our resources and advantages and carry out various marketing planning to promote Pakistani mangoes and strive for better sales,” Deng said.

Fenxiang has mature operational experience and successful cases in fresh products sales.

According to Deng, Fenxiang has organized many successful sales campaigns for different fruits, like oranges produced in Pujiang, apples of Akesu, Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region and cherry tomato of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region.

Fenxiang's efforts has managed to help many farmers get out of poverty.

Fenxiang Social E-Commerce is a new type of social e-commerce platform. Based on its own merchant resources and Jingdong supply chain, it selects global good goods and focuses on

community sharing. It provides services for groups such as promoters, shopping guides, treasure moms and logistics personnel.

<https://pakobserver.net/pakistani-mangoes-to-be-promoted-at-chinas-e-commerce-platform/>

The Express Tribune

UK investors want to set up units in SEZ

FAISALABAD: British investors intend to establish hi-tech business units in the M3 Industrial City, said UK Representative to Punjab Alex Ballinger. In a meeting with Faisalabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FCCI) former executive member Haji Muhammad Idrees on Friday, the envoy said that Pakistan and the UK enjoyed close relations with special focus on Faisalabad. “Both countries are trying to enhance bilateral trade and maximum facilities are being provided to local investors, who are ready to launch joint ventures,” he said. The UK representative appreciated the establishment of M3 Industrial City and Allama Iqbal Industrial City, terming them the most suitable places to establish new industrial units. He was of the view that joint ventures between the two nations would not only enhance the production of exportable surplus but would also create job opportunities for the unemployed youth.

The envoy emphasised that the UK’s exit from the European Union would not affect its imports from Pakistan as Islamabad would continue to enjoy the same privileges and perks. During the meeting, National Group official Javed Iqbal urged domestic and foreign investors to take benefit of the industrial estates.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2319618/uk-investors-want-to-set-up-units-in-sez>

The Nation

3-day Sino-Pak partnership conference concludes

ISLAMABAD - Closing ceremony of three days International Conference on Pak-Sino Partnership was held at Bahria University here in hybrid mode on Friday.

Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral Muhammad Amjad Khan Niazi NI (M) SBt was the chief guest of the ceremony. According to the Pakistan Navy officials, several dignitaries and keynote speakers including Lt General (R) Muhammad Asghar member HEC and former Consultant CPEC (Guest of Honour), Huawei and Dr Sander Schroevers, Dean Heilongjiang International University, China, and others attended the ceremony. The objective of the conference was to provide Pakistani and Chinese academicians and practitioners a platform to present their knowledge and experience regarding potential areas of academic partnership between China and Pakistan.

While addressing the ceremony, Admiral Muhammad Amjad Khan Niazi said that there is a great deal of learning for Pakistani higher education institutes from Chinese counterparts in terms of teaching methodologies. The admiral emphasised on promotion of Chinese language at Pakistani higher education institutes for better social and economic integration of two countries.

The conference involved various national and international speakers who highlighted their experiences, revolving around different modes of academic cooperation possible between Pakistan and China. In addition, several challenges faced in terms of executing these collaborative activities were also discussed with view to overcome these challenges and converting them into opportunities.

The recommendations of the conference are believed to pave the way for academic institutes in Pakistan and China to develop meaningful academic cooperation in future, while keeping in view the larger picture of regional development.

<https://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2021-09-11/page-3/detail-4>

18th China-Asean Expo kicks off in Nanning

NANNING - The 18th China-ASEAN Expo (CAEXPO) formally kicked off in Nanning, China's Gungxi Autonomous Region here on Friday aimed at providing new business and development opportunities to China, ASEAN and other regional countries especially Pakistan.

Like previous year, Pakistan is participating in the China-ASEAN Expo as special partner country. President Dr. Arif Alvi, in his video message screened at the opening ceremony, said that there would be a lot of discussions between the Pakistani, Chinese and other ASEAN countries businessmen and traders to enhance trade. While congratulating China for organizing the expo, he expressed the confidence that it would further cement good partnership between China and Pakistan, and other ASEAN countries.

Pakistan, the president said, has set up a pavilion at the exhibition hall of the Expo in which a number of goods such as sports, jewelry, gems, minerals products, etc are being displayed.

Chinese Vice President Wang Qishan was the chief guest during the opening ceremony and he also read out congratulatory message of President Xi Jinping for the expo. Pakistan Ambassador to China, Moin ul Haque along with Vice President Qishan and representatives of ASEAN countries pushed button to formally open the expo. The theme of this year expo is "Sharing Opportunities Created by the New Land-Sea Corridor, Building the China-ASEAN Community with a Shared Future".

For many years, Pakistan has been an active participant of the China-ASEAN Expo to promote its specialty products, seek cooperative partners, and tap into the Chinese and ASEAN markets.

So far, a total of 64 Pakistani official bodies and enterprises have used 122 booths since the 13th CAEXPO to showcase its national image, top carpets, wood furniture, handicrafts and other specialty products. Through this platform, Pakistan has achieved remarkable results.

This year too, as special Partner Country, Pakistan has set up a national product exhibition area to showcase its superior products and achievements in the key industries, and will host a number of events including the Pakistan Trade and Investment Promotion Forum.

All these efforts will promote the economic and trade exchanges and cooperation between Pakistan and China and ASEAN countries. Pakistan, with an exhibition area of 81 square meters, showcase its national image and organize over 20 Pakistani companies to show carpet, marble, wood handicrafts and other products of the country.

Ambassador Moin ul Haque will address the China-Pakistan Economic and Trade Forum on the sideline of the expo and invite businessmen from China-ASEAN countries to take advantage of incentives offered for present government for the foreign investment.

An exhibition area of 12,000 square meters has been allocated to the exhibitors of the 10 ASEAN countries, and each ASEAN country has its own exhibition area as usual.

Following the practice of the previous Expo, an international exhibition area for the countries along the Belt and Road has also been set up to accommodate the exhibitors from over 20 countries, including Pakistan, Poland, Republic of Korea, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, Russia, France and Spain.

<https://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2021-09-11/page-9/detail-0>

Nawaiwaqt News

ہائر ایجوکیشن کے اداروں کو چینی تدریسی طریقوں کو اپنانے کی ضرورت ہے، نیول چیف

اسلام آباد (نامہ نگار) پاک چین شراکت داری کے موضوع پر تین روزہ بین الاقوامی کانفرنس کی اختتامی تقریب بحرہ یونیورسٹی، اسلام آباد میں ہائیر ڈیپارٹمنٹ میں منعقد ہوئی۔ چیف آف دی نیول سٹاف ایڈمرل محمد امجد خان نیازی اس موقع پر مہمان خصوصی تھے۔ اختتامی تقریب میں کئی معززین اور اہم مقررین نے کانفرنس سے خطاب کیا جن میں لیفٹیننٹ جنرل (ر) محمد اصغر، ممبر ایچ ای سی اور سابق مشیر برائے سی پیک شہزاد رشید مہمان خصوصی، چیف ٹیکنیکل آفیسر ہواے اور ڈاکٹر ساندھ شروئے ورز، ڈین ہیلانگ جانگ انٹرنیشنل یونیورسٹی، چانگنا بھی شامل تھے۔ اس کانفرنس کا مقصد پاکستانی اور چینی تعلیمی اداروں اور شراکت داروں میں اعلیٰ تعلیم کے فروغ کے لیے ایک پلیٹ فارم مہیا کرنا تھا جہاں وہ اپنے علم اور تجربات کو بیان کر سکیں اور واضح کریں کہ پاکستان اور چین کے درمیان کن شعبوں میں اعلیٰ تعلیمی شراکت داری کے زیادہ امکانات ہو سکتے ہیں۔ تقریب سے خطاب کرتے ہوئے ایڈمرل محمد امجد خان، نشان امتیاز نے کہا کہ پاکستان کے ہائر ایجوکیشن کے اداروں کو چینی تدریسی طریقوں کو اپنانے کی ضرورت ہے۔ انہوں نے دونوں ممالک کے مابین معاشرتی اور معاشی استحکام کے لئے پاکستانی ہائر ایجوکیشن کے اداروں میں چینی زبان کے فروغ پر زور دیا۔ مزید برآں، چیف آف دی نیول سٹاف نے مستقبل میں بحرہ یونیورسٹی میں آرٹیفیشل انٹیلیجنس سنٹر کے قیام کے لئے اپنے وژن کا اظہار کیا۔ اس کانفرنس سے کئی قومی اور بین الاقوامی مقررین نے خطاب کیا جنہوں نے پاکستان اور چین کے درمیان مختلف تعلیمی طریقوں اور تعاون کے بارے میں اپنے تجربات اور مشاہدات پر روشنی ڈالی۔ اس کے علاوہ کانفرنس میں درپیش چیلنجز کا بھی تفصیل سے ذکر کیا گیا۔ اس موقع پر کئی اشتراک عمل کے اقدامات اور سرگرمیوں کے ضمن میں بھی درپیش مشکلات کو زیر بحث لایا گیا کہ ان کو کیسے دور کیا جائے اور ان کو کیسے مواقع کی صورت میں پلٹ دیا جائے۔ توقع ہے کہ اس کانفرنس کی سفارشات سے پاکستان اور چین کے اعلیٰ تعلیمی اداروں میں باہمی تعاون اور ترقی کی نئی راہیں کھلیں گی اور مستقبل میں باہمی اور علمی تعاون کو فروغ ملے گا جو علاقائی ترقی کا پیش خیمہ ثابت ہوگا۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/lahore/2021-09-11/page-8/detail-38>

September 12, 2021

Pakistan Observer

Moin urges Chinese to invest in Pakistan

Pakistan's Ambassador to China, Moin-ul-Haque has asked leading Chinese entrepreneurs to benefit from an investment-friendly environment in Pakistan.

The ambassador was addressing the participants of the China-Pakistan Trade and Business Forum held on the sidelines of China-ASEAN Expo being held in Nanning, Guangxi Region of China. The ambassador said a number of ongoing and planned projects being completed under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) provide tremendous investment opportunities for the Chinese companies.

He said that there are vast investment opportunities in the special economic zones being developed under the CPEC, out of which three have already been developed.

Haque also visited different stalls established at the 18th China-Asean Expo and talked with the Pakistani businessmen and buyers.

He said the China-Asean Expo will serve as a platform to boost in-depth development of China-Pakistan cooperation and all-weather strategic partnership of cooperation.

He said like the previous year, Pakistan is participating in this year's expo as a special partner country this year too, adding that Pakistan attended the 17th CAEXPO with the same honorary title and set up its pavilion and booths to promote its products.

Pakistan, he said, is one of the countries along the Belt and Road and a geographical neighbour to the Asean countries. For many years, Pakistan has actively joined the CAEXPO, through which to enhance its exchange and cooperation with China and other countries along the Belt and Road.

He said the China-Asean countries have a population of over two billion people and a more than \$18 trillion economy, which provides a good platform to expand its trade with these countries.

Haque said that Pakistan's textile sector has a complete supply chain system and the agriculture sector makes it a more competitive country in the world.

The government is also focusing on the value addition of these sectors, which would help promote exports.

“Pakistan is the fourth largest milk producing country and now we are paying attention to produce value-added dairy products such as cheese and butter, which are in high demand in China as well as Asean countries,” he said.—TLTP

<https://pakobserver.net/moin-urges-chinese-to-invest-in-pakistan/>

Nawaiwaqt News

پاکستان سمیت 7 ملکوں کے اٹیلی جنس چیفس کا اہم اجلاس

اسلام آباد (نمائندہ خصوصی) افغانستان کی سکیورٹی صورتحال پر اسلام آباد میں ڈی جی آئی ایس آئی لیفٹیننٹ جنرل فیض حمید کی میزبانی میں علاقائی ملکوں کے اٹیلی جنس سربراہوں کا اجلاس ہوا۔ افغانستان میں امن اور استحکام کی کوششوں میں پاکستان پیش پیش ہے، وفاقی دارالحکومت میں منعقد اجلاس میں پاکستان سمیت چین، ایران، روس، تاجکستان، ترکمانستان اور ازبکستان کے اٹیلی جنس چیفس نے اہم ملاقات کی۔ ملاقات میں افغانستان کی سکیورٹی صورتحال پر تبادلہ خیال کیا گیا جبکہ خطے میں دیرپا امن و سلامتی کی صورتحال پر بھی بات چیت کی گئی۔ اٹیلی جنس چیفس کے اجلاس کی میزبانی ڈی جی آئی ایس آئی لیفٹیننٹ جنرل فیض حمید نے کی۔ افغانستان میں طالبان کے کنٹرول کے بعد ریجنل اٹیلی جنس اداروں کے سربراہوں کے درمیان یہ اپنی نوعیت کا پہلا اجلاس تھا جس میں اتفاق ہوا کہ افغانستان میں دہشت گردی کی روک تھام کو یقینی بنانے کے لئے کوآرڈینیٹیشن کے ساتھ ساتھ اٹیلی جنس شیئرنگ کی جائے گی، ذرائع نے بتایا ہے کہ سات ممالک کا یہ اجلاس ایس سی اور سمٹ سے چند روز پہلے منعقد ہوا ہے، اس سمٹ میں وزیراعظم عمران خان بھی شریک ہوں گے، اجلاس میں قازقستان کی شرکت کے حوالے سے میڈیا میں کنفیوژن پایا گیا، اس ملک کی شرکت کے بارے میں تصدیق موجود نہیں، اجلاس میں تمام ممالک کی جانب سے افغانستان کو تہانہ چھوڑنے پر اتفاق کیا گیا۔ ذرائع کے مطابق اجلاس میں افغانستان میں امن و امان کو سبوتاژ کرنے والے عناصر کے حوالے سے مشترکہ لائحہ عمل پر اتفاق پایا گیا۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/lahore/2021-09-12/page-1/detail-38>

September 13, 2021

Daily Times

Pakistan's exports to China have hit a new high: envoy

Pakistan's exports have recorded a new volume, exports to China are showing great momentum as well, and we hope that by the end of this year, we will have a new breakthrough," said Pakistan's Ambassador to China Moin ul Haque.

The ambassador talked to Gwadar Pro after he visited the Pakistani pavilion of the 18th China-ASEAN Expo (CAEXPO).

CAEXPO kicked off last Friday in Nanning. This is the second time in a row that Pakistan has been invited to participate in as a special partner. Haque visited the Pakistani pavilion and conversated with Pakistani exhibitors. Then, he was exclusively interviewed by Gwadar Pro. He believed that Pakistani goods have a strong competitive force, especially the textile sector, which remains one of Pakistan's flagship products.

"Pakistan is one of the few countries which has a complete ecosystem of textile, from weaving to dyeing, making garments and clothes. Textile is our strongest sector, so you can see the products from home textile to ladies' clothes are all showcased here," Haque said. "Second, the food sector in Pakistan is very important. Pakistan is one of the largest leading countries in production of wheat, rice, sugarcane, cotton as essential raw materials, which have made us one of the most competitive countries in the region. Now, the government is focusing towards industrialization to

do value addition for these products,” he added. The third competitive commodity of Pakistan is milk products. Haque introduced: “We are the 4th largest country as equal to China in milk production. Now we are focusing on also bringing a revolution in the dairy sector by doing value addition such as making cheese, yogurt and other products, then exporting to ASEAN, China, and even the whole region.” He also mentioned sports products as his favorite Pakistani goods, and he’s proud that “Pakistan is the largest producer of footballs in the world, and most world-class tournaments have assigned Pakistani football as their official football. Not only football, but we also make other sports goods like boxing gloves, motorcycle gloves, and so on.”

After visiting the pavilion, he said: “This is the second time that Pakistan has been invited to participate as a special partner country. We were given this honor for 2 years continuously, which is unprecedented in the history of CAEXPO. In another sense, it is important because China and Pakistan are celebrating the 70th anniversary of our friendship this year. Pakistan’s participation is dedicated to this milestone. I’m so happy to see such a beautifully designed pavilion and Pakistani products, which are very important export products of Pakistan. 14 Pakistani stores, which are set up by Pakistani traders, are displaying these different products.”

Haque emphasized that CAEXPO is very important for Pakistan because it represents two large markets: “China, which is the second largest economy in the world, and ASEAN, which has become a very important trading block in the region, represents about 2 billion people and \$18 trillion economy. Now these countries have set up RCEP regional cooperation partnership.” The international situation is closely related to Pakistan. Haque said: “Pakistan has a close friendship with China and ASEAN. Pakistan’s presence and cooperation with China and ASEAN, provides our traders new opportunities to come here and use this platform to export to RCEP block. So, we think that this platform will help in building trilateral cooperation in trade and investments.” “Pakistan has already opened the market of China and ASEAN. Now Pakistan has FTA with China, and launched its second phase last year. In recent years, both Pakistan and China have opened their markets, and nearly 1,000 products are exported duty free.

In addition, the Pakistani government is also helping to promote trade and create an enabling environment for our traders to converge here and share their projects, and the results are clear and evident.

These years, Pakistan’s exports have been recorded a new volume, exports to China are showing a great momentum as well, and we hope that by the end of this year, we will have a new breakthrough,” Haque added.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/815711/pakistans-exports-to-china-have-hit-a-new-high-envoy/>

Dunya News

CPEC 10th JCC to be held next week: Khalid Mansoor

(APP) – Special Assistant to Prime Minister on CPEC Khalid Mansoor said on Monday that Pakistan was committed to take forward the journey of development under the second phase of

China China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) at fast speed by making it a safe and secure corridor to enhance bilateral trade ties.

He said he was very optimistic about the mega project as the Chinese authorities had agreed to hold the 10th Joint Coordination Committee (JCC) on 23rd or 24th of current month. Addressing his maiden press conference here after taking his new charge, the SAPM said security was a big concern for the Chinese and to upraise the Chinese confidence, he briefed the Chinese Authorities about overall security situation assuring that additional security measures had been taken by the government.

Chief Executives of eight companies established in Faisalabad Industrial Estate and Manufacturing Company (FIEDMC)-the CPEC prioritized Special Economic Zone (SEZ) in Punjab- were also present on the occasion.

The 10th annual meeting of Joint Coordination Committee (JCC) on CPEC was earlier scheduled on July 16, 2021 but was postponed due to certain security issues in the country.

Khalid Mansoor said there were nine Joint Working Groups (JWGs) of the JCC in various sectors including Agriculture, Energy, Infrastructure, Science and Technology and others and various new projects in all these sectors would come under consideration in the meeting.

He said the international forces who were against the mega project would fail in their nefarious designs.

Mansoor said the first phase brought an investment of \$25 billion out of which \$13 billion worth of project had been completed while the rest \$12 billion projects were in the pipeline and were likely to be completed within a year.

The magnitude of second phase, he said was huge as a variety of sectors were involved which would attract huge foreign investment besides thousands of new jobs for locals.

He said the first SEZ under CPEC-FIEDMC was functional for last three years and during that period, number of Chinese companies had brought investment of \$845 million in total.

“The Chief Executive Officers (CEOs) of the Chinese companies met with the Prime Minister today and informed him about the progress of their companies,” he added.

He said a Chinese company who makes prefabricated homes has established its set up in the FIEDC with an investment of \$20 million and it would start making homes in Pakistan very soon.

Further he said another company has established its electric bikes and three wheelers manufacturing plant in the SEZ at an area of 5 acres and it has also started its production

Likewise a Chinese company has established an LED bulb manufacturing plant with an investment of \$18 million.

Another ceramic tiles’ manufacturing Chinese company has also set up its plant with \$300 million at an area of 120 acres, he added.

Similarly an international mobile company OPPO had also set up its plant in the SEZ.

He said a Chinese company “Challenge” who prepares high value apparel for world renowned companies such as Adidas, Rebook and American Eagle had also established its plant which had recorded \$150 million exports during previous year while it aimed at increasing the level of export up to \$450 million in one year.

He said the CPEC Authority would provide one window for the Chinese investors to facilitate them.

The four prioritized SEZs, Rashakai in KPK, FIEDMC in Punjab, Dhabeji in Sindh and Gwadar in Balochistan would be provided Plug and Play execution environment to ensure speedy development of industrial sector, he added.

To a question, the SAPM said an action plan had been made to resolve the issues in the projects that were facing delays. He said since CPEC was of national importance all political parties had showed full support on this project.

To another question, Mansoor said for setting up industrial units in FIEDMC, the Chinese investors were allowed both options either to get the land on lease or to purchase the land on ownership basis.

Replying to another question, he said complete transparency was ensured in all the projects under CPEC. “I have been involved in power projects worth of over \$5 billion but I never have witnessed any kickbacks in the projects”.

He also dispelled the impression that Chinese companies were importing labour from China saying that a large number of Pakistanis were recruited in the CPEC projects and they were also being given skilled training.

<https://dunyanews.tv/en/Business/619575-CPEC-10th-JCC-to-be-held-next-week-Khalid-Mansoor>

The Nation

CPEC role model Hussain Imam says he feels proud of being CPEC builder

Khawar Abbas Sandhu

LAHORE - Power supply is the basic guarantee for the normal operation at Gwadar International Terminals Limited. In order to ensure local production work and residents’ electricity consumption, all generating units in the power plant operate continuously, providing stable power supply for port equipment, factories and residential areas.

Once an ordinary field worker, Syed Muhammad Hussain Imam now works as the supervisor of the terminal engineering department at Gwadar International Terminals Limited. The open-minded man is mainly responsible for the power and fresh water supply of Gwadar Port and free zone, as well as the operation and maintenance of relevant machinery and equipment.

When Hussain Imam first came to work in Gwadar in July 2015, the desalination plant and power plant facilities in the port area were outdated and not working properly. Thanks to his team's efforts, Gwadar Port has now undergone tremendous changes. New terminal equipment has been installed and adjusted, office buildings have been renovated, wharf storage yards have been expanded, and desalination plant equipment has been introduced there.

Located on the shores of the Arabian Sea, Gwadar area suffers acute scarcity of water, with annual rainfall less than 4 inches. Now Hussain Imam's desalination plant supplies fresh water to the entire port area. Starting in March, the temperature in Gwadar can reach more than 40 degrees Celsius, with the ground temperature soaring to nearly 70 degrees Celsius during the hottest days. Around August, there will be serious red tides in the waters near Gwadar, which can easily cause equipment failure at the desalination plant. In order to ensure fresh water supply in the area, workers need to repair equipment in the first time.

Moved by the fact that China Overseas Ports Holding Company regularly supplies fresh water to local residents to alleviate their shortage of drinking water, Hussain Imam volunteered to join the construction of the fresh water supply pipeline and led his Pakistani colleagues to complete the work before the hottest days come.

In addition, Syed Hussain Imam is responsible for supervising container ship loading and unloading, and ensuring the operation and maintenance of bridge cranes at the docks. "We work as a team, now we have carried out intermediary trade to Afghanistan, LPG transportation, ocean-going fishery cargo transit, etc., which greatly increased the cargo throughput of Gwadar Port," he said proudly.

In June 2018, when Hussain Imam came to China for the first time and visited Tianjin, he was deeply impressed by this highly mechanised port.

"The construction of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) has brought tangible benefits to the Pakistani people. I am very proud to be one of the builders of CPEC.

<https://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2021-09-13/page-10/detail-3>

Jang News

سی پیک دوسرے مرحلے میں داخل ہو رہا ہے، خالد منصور

پاک چین اکنامک کوریڈور (سی پیک) امور کے معاون خصوصی خالد منصور نے کہا ہے کہ سی پیک دوسرے مرحلے میں داخل ہو رہا ہے۔

میڈیا سے گفتگو میں خالد منصور نے کہا کہ سی پیک پر 13 ارب ڈالر کی سرمایہ کاری ہو چکی ہے، جبکہ 12 ارب ڈالر کے منصوبے جاری ہیں۔

انہوں نے مزید کہا کہ چینی کمپنیاں فیصل آباد کے خصوصی اقتصادی زون میں سرمایہ کاری کرنا چاہتی ہیں، چینی کمپنی 5 مرلے کا گھر 40 دن میں بنا دے گی۔

سی پیک امور کے معاون خصوصی نے یہ بھی کہا کہ چین کو سی پیک کے قرضوں کی واپسی پر بات چیت شروع ہو چکی ہے۔

اُن کا کہنا تھا کہ قرضوں کی واپسی ایسے چاہتے ہیں جو دونوں ملکوں کے لیے سود مند ہو، سی بی سی میں کنگ نیکیس کی غلط افواہیں ہیں۔

<https://jang.com.pk/news/984211>

September 14, 2021

Business Recorder

Chinese businessmen meet PM

ISLAMABAD: A delegation of heads of Chinese companies Monday called on Prime Minister Imran Khan and expressed interest in investing in Pakistan.

The delegation acknowledged the investor-friendly policies of the government of Pakistan and expressed keen interest in investing in Pakistan.

The premier said that there are vast opportunities for the development of medium and small industries in Pakistan, in which, Chinese companies can play a role.

The prime minister said that the government has been pursuing the ease-of-doing-business policy and providing incentives to investors. The prime minister assured that he would himself chair a review once in a month to resolve the issues being faced by them.

Pakistan can learn a lot from China in terms of industrial development, he said, adding that Chinese investment will create employment opportunities in Pakistan as well as learning of skills.

The prime minister underlined that there is a need to focus on agriculture, fisheries, vegetables and fruits, high-yielding livestock, IT and technology, and small industries. The government will provide all possible facilities to the investors. The delegation included CEO Easy Prefabricated Homes (Pvt) Ltd, CEO La Hee Trading International (Pvt), White Lavisation (Pvt) Ltd, CEO Zheng bang Agriculture Pakistan (Pvt Ltd, CEO Exert Tech (Pvt) Ltd, and CEO Challenge Fashion (Pvt) Ltd. Chinese Ambassador Nong Rang was also present at the meeting.

Federal ministers, Muhammad Hammad Azhar, Shaukat Tarin, Asad Umar, Trade Adviser Abdul Razzak Dawood, Special Assistant CPEC Khalid Mansoor, and senior officials were also present.

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2021/09/14/1-page/900534-news.html>

Govt working to repay \$3bn Chinese investment: Khalid

ZAHEER ABBASI

ISLAMABAD: The government has started discussion with China to resolve repayment of US\$3 billion China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) investment, becoming due, in a win-win situation for both the countries.

This was stated by the SAPM on China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), Khalid Mansoor, on Monday, in response to a question.

He said that repayment of US\$3 billion to China is becoming due. Asked whether Pakistani authorities have taken up the issues with Chinese, he said: This is a “sensitive topic” and it was being taken up very effectively to try and find out a win-win situation.

He said, Chinese companies have made \$845 million investment in Allama Iqbal Industrial Zone, Faisalabad, during the last three years.

Mansoor said that Pakistan has to make payment of Chinese investment because the Chinese companies, whose projects have already been completed, have to declare dividend.

He said that so far, \$25 billion investment was made in Pakistan under the CPEC projects, adding that \$12 billion projects are at completion stage and they would be fully completed within a year. The first stage of the CPEC is at the completion stage and it was entering into phase-II, he added.

To another question, he said that relevant departments/agencies are closely monitoring the fallout of the Afghanistan situation, as well as, its impacts.

He said that the CPEC projects are the responsibility of the army, and the army has created two divisions to provide security to the Chinese working on the CPEC projects.

He said that certainly security was a concern for the Chinese and to boost their confidence he himself visited Gawdar after recent attacks on the Chinese working on the CPEC projects in Pakistan, and received briefing on security and subsequently, a detailed briefing on additional security measures was given to the Chinese Embassy. “And now, date of Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) has been decided and it would be held on 23rd or 24th of September.” About the allegation that previous government has taken kickbacks on the CPEC projects, he recounted personal experiences and stated that he was directly involved in \$5 billion investment in this CPEC project, while working in Hubco, etc. “I can say on oath that I was never asked for kickbacks and not given any penny to anyone.”

He said that the government had announced upfront tariff and offered incentives for investment in the power sector. He said he can state with confidence that he had not seen such a thing.

About the significance of the briefing, he said that the Chinese investors making \$845 million investment in various projects in Allama Iqbal Industrial City met with the Prime Minister to inform him about their projects.

He said economic activities in some of the SEZs have already been started. In Allama Iqbal Industrial City, investment of eight Chinese companies was in the final stage.

He said that during the last three years, Chinese companies have made investment of 845 million. He said this investment was made in pre-fabricated homes, transport two-wheel and three-wheel electric vehicles, LED lights, ceramics tiles, liquid and solid detergents, and

agriculture sector, as well as, manufacturing of mobile phones, and making of track suit, etc. He said that general impression was that the investment is now coming into the country and Gwadar port is up and running, and now the CPEC is entering the phase-II and the government's priority is that one SEZ in each province would be provided plug-and-play execution environment.

“We are in full preparation with coordination with the Chinese embassy, and creating one-window operation in the CPEC Authority. There would be multiple sectors in phase-II and issues of existing investors would be resolved.

Replying to a question, he said that after assuming office, he prepared an action plan for all those projects which have either been slowed down or delayed and all the political parties have provided cooperation. “We have an eye on all the projects facing delay,” he added.

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2021/09/14/1-page/900533-news.html>

Daily Times

China ready to further increase imports from Pakistan: minister

China is ready to further expand imports from Pakistan, said Ren Hongbin, Vice Minister, Ministry of Commerce of China, Gwadar Pro reported on Monday.

Addressing the Bilateral Trade/Investment Forum, a sub-activity of the 18th China-ASEAN Expo (CAEXPO) held in Nanning, Ren Hongbin said that since the establishment of diplomatic ties 70 years ago, China and Pakistan have maintained vigorous relations and signed and implemented a series of agreements and guiding documents.

China has been Pakistan's largest trading partner for six consecutive years. In the first half of 2021, two-way trade reached \$12.65 billion. In 2020, China's direct investment in Pakistan was \$532.8 million, and China has been Pakistan's largest source of foreign investment for many years in a row.

In addition, bilateral anti-epidemic cooperation has achieved remarkable results, and a batch of important consensus has been reached on promoting trade and investment in order to rapidly recover the economy of the two countries in the post-epidemic era.” Ren added, “At a new historical starting point, China is ready to further deepen its economic and trade cooperation with Pakistan and continue to take positive measures to expand the import from Pakistan. China hopes that Pakistan will make good use of CAEXPO and other platforms to actively display its products, technologies and services, further expand its export to China, promote sustained growth of bilateral trade, strengthen cooperation in infrastructure construction, mineral exploitation and other key areas, and push for deeper and more concrete China-Pakistan all-weather strategic cooperative partnership,” he added.

The event was sponsored by China's Ministry of Commerce, Pakistan's Ministry of Commerce, the Government of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, and the Pakistani embassy in China.

The forum, themed “Jointly building the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor and sharing the opportunities of China-Pakistan economic and trade cooperation in the new era”, aimed to promote the high-quality development of BRI and CPEC and discusses how to make full use of CAEXPO to promote trilateral economic, trade and investment cooperation among China, Pakistan and ASEAN.

Liu Hongwu, Vice Chairman of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, Ren Hongbin, Vice Minister of Commerce of China, Moinul Haque, Pakistani Ambassador to China, Nong Rong, Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan, and Saeed Hamid Ali, Assistant Secretary of the Ministry of Commerce of Pakistan attended and addressed the forum.

Wang Lei, Secretary General of the Secretariat of CAEXPO hosted the forum.

Liu Hongwu said in his opening words: “in recent years, the growing communication between Guangxi and Pakistan in the areas of economy and trade, agriculture, science and technology continued to be deepened.

The trade volume between Guangxi and Pakistan reached \$112 million in 2020, up 130% from the previous year. Pakistan’s export volume to Guangxi is ranked in the top3 provinces in China, and up 358.8% from the previous year.

The two sides have maintained close exchanges and cooperation in buffalo breeding and sugarcane planting technologies. A number of universities and research institutes in Guangxi have set up joint laboratories with Pakistan to deepen cooperation in scientific research.

Guangxi is willing to share the new opportunities and new routes with Pakistan, to strengthen economic cooperation and to achieve mutual benefit and win-win results.

Moin Haque said: “Pakistan has already opened the market of China and ASEAN. Now Pakistan has FTA with China, and launched its second phase last year. In recent years, both Pakistan and China have opened their markets, and nearly 1,000 products are exported duty free. In addition, the Pakistani government is also helping promote trade and create an enabling environment for our traders to converge here and share their projects, and the results are clear and evident. These years, Pakistan’s exports have recorded a new volume, exports to China are showing great momentum as well, and we hope that by the end of this year, we will have a new breakthrough.”

Nong Rong said: “CAEXPO is an important platform for cooperation between China and ASEAN countries. Through the special partner mechanism, it provides a broad stage for BRI countries to strengthen economic and trade cooperation with China and ASEAN countries. Pakistan is an important participant of BRI, a specially invited partner of the 17th and 18th CAEXPO, and also an important member of the ASEAN Regional Forum. As the world is facing the severe test of changes and COVID-19, the two sides should continue to follow the important consensus reached by the leaders of the two countries to promote high-quality development of CPEC and bring more benefits to our people.”

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/815989/china-ready-to-further-increase-imports-from-pakistan-minister/>

Tripartite cooperation conducive to sustainable development of CPEC

As China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) has entered its second phase, new energy cooperation between Pakistan, ASEAN and China will still play an important role, said Badar uz Zaman, Commercial Counsellor of Embassy of Pakistan in China.

“Sustainable development will be an unavoidable important agenda in the tripartite cooperation,” he said in an interview during the 18th China-ASEAN Expo which concluded on Monday.

At the 70th Anniversary of Establishment of Diplomatic Relations between China and Pakistan and Bilateral Trade and Investment Forum, a sub-activity of the Expo, representatives of Chinese energy enterprises shared their successful experience of participating in CPEC.

Ren Hongbin, Vice Minister of Commerce of China said, “China hopes that Pakistan will make good use of CAEXPO and other platforms to promote sustained growth of bilateral trade and strengthen cooperation in sustainable development.”

After the forum, Badar told CEN, “Thanks to the effort of Pakistan and China, we have completed many projects of energy, which is the major sector of CPEC. Sustainable development is an important global issue.”

Pakistan is also focusing on the products and industries related to new energy including solar, hydro, and wind, he said and added. In addition to that, we are already working on some industrial products, special economic zones and other projects regarding sustainable development. Therefore, the second phase of CPEC is a new stage in which we are focusing more on the environment and socio-ecology.

In order to ensure the sustainable development of CPEC and renewable energy growth under the context of COVID-19 pandemic, Pakistan and China have taken numerous measures to ensure the projects go ahead.

Ning Jizhe, Director of China’s National Bureau of Statistics, also said during the Expo that strengthening international cooperation on environmental protection and jointly tackling climate change will be an important precondition for economic recovery and production capacity recovery in the post-COVID-19 era.

Badar said, we are complying with all the requirements, all the quality, and all the quarantine and systematic requirements of CDC. Thanks to the unremitting efforts of the builders from our two countries, the bilateral trade has been increasing, renewable energy projects have been signed and operated normally, and our productive capacity has been developed to cope with the worldwide public crisis.

He also agreed that the tripartite cooperation between Pakistan, China and ASEAN countries is conducive to sustainable development of CPEC, adding, China has Free Trade Agreements

(FTA) with both ASEAN and Pakistan. BRI also provides favorable conditions for the three sides to reach a consensus on low-carbon transformation and renewable energy development.

During the Expo, China has also shown its consistent positive attitude towards developing clean energy and realizing sustainable development.

Zhang Jianhua, Chairman of China's National Energy Administration, said, at present, China's new energy installed capacity accounts for one third of the world's total. China has built the largest power network in the world with the strongest transmission capacity, the highest operational voltage level, the most new-energy interconnection and the best safe operation record.

China has endeavored to work together with BRI countries to push forward the power sector green and low-carbon transition and realize high-quality development, strive for mutual benefit through cooperation based on trust. China will also actively contribute her wisdom and strength to the sustainable development of BRI countries society and economy.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/816148/tripartite-cooperation-conducive-to-sustainable-development-of-cpec/>

Dawn News

Chinese investment to boost job opportunities: PM Imran

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Imran Khan has said that the government is focusing on the 'ease of doing business' policy and extending facilities to investors.

During a meeting with heads of Chinese companies on Monday, he expressed the confidence that Chinese investment in Pakistan would open up immense employment opportunities.

The prime minister said Pakistan could learn a lot from China in terms of industrial development, agriculture, fisheries, vegetables and fruits, high-yielding livestock and information technology.

The delegation appreciated the investor-friendly policies of the government and expressed keen interest in investing in Pakistan.

China's ambassador Nong Rong, federal ministers Hammad Azhar, Shaukat Tareen and Asad Umer and Commerce Adviser Abdul Razak Dawood, Special Assistant to the PM on the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor Khalid Mansoor and senior officials attended the meeting.

Later, Interior Minister Sheikh Rashid met the prime minister and apprised him about the law and order situation in the country.

Rashid discusses law and order situation with PM

He gave details of the protest and demonstration being staged by various groups and sections of society, including the opposition and the media, against the government's policies and decisions.

He informed the PM about a protest lodged by members of the Shia sect on the arrest of religious leader Shehanshah Naqvi in Islamabad on Sunday night.

Meanwhile, Special Assistant to the PM on Poverty Reduction and Social Protection Dr Sania Nishtar briefed the prime minister on different projects of the government's flagship Ehsaas programme.

She apprised Mr Khan of progress on these projects, besides giving a briefing on Panahghahs (shelter homes).

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1646253>

The Express Tribune

Talks begin to roll over \$3b CPEC debt

Pakistan, China also agree to hold long-delayed JCC meeting

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan and China have begun talks for the rollover of \$3 billion worth of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) debt and have also agreed to hold a much-delayed meeting of the CPEC strategic committee, Khalid Mansoor, an aide to the prime minister, said on Monday. An announced delay in holding the 10th meeting of the Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) of CPEC and Pakistan's discomfort with payment of upcoming debt of CPEC energy projects was sending negative signals about the government's seriousness towards the multibillion-dollar strategic initiative.

For the restructuring of debt of CPEC energy projects, "talks with Chinese authorities have begun for a win-win situation", said Special Assistant to Prime Minister on CPEC Affairs Khalid Mansoor while addressing his maiden press conference. He maintained that Pakistan was committed to making payments against the Chinese investment in energy sector projects.

A diplomatic source told The Express Tribune that debt rescheduling talks were at a very initial stage. Mansoor last month replaced Asim Saleem Bajwa as Pakistan's focal person on CPEC. But Mansoor has not yet been notified as chairman of the CPEC Authority. In May this year, Special Assistant to PM on Power and Petroleum Tabish Gohar told The Express Tribune that in order to eliminate the need for increasing power tariff by Rs1.50 per unit, the government would request China to roll over nearly \$3 billion in principal loan repayments to 12 Chinese independent power producers that were due in three years.

Gohar said that Pakistan would seek deferment of the \$3 billion repayments for 10 to 12 years, which in turn would reduce the tariff increase requirement by Rs1.50 per unit. China has set up 12 power plants under CPEC and the repayment of Chinese debt is included in electricity tariffs. Consumers will pay them in rupees and the government will return them in dollars. Debt payments are due against Kohala hydropower project, Karot hydropower project, Suki Kinari power project, Port Qasim power project, Sahiwal power plant, Hubco power plant and Engro power generation project among others.

In addition to the \$3 billion in principal payments, the dividend payments also stand at \$1.5 billion during the next three fiscal years. Against inflows of \$19 billion, the outflows from CPEC

power projects are estimated at over \$31 billion on account of both dividend and debt repayments over a period of 20 years, as per documents of the planning and development ministry from December 2018. Commercial loans for setting up power plants had been arranged at an interest rate of London Interbank Offered Rate (Libor) plus 4.5%. However, it is the return on equity, which in some cases is as high as 34.2%, that will cause an outflow of \$11.3 billion.

Mansoor said that the Chinese embassy had conveyed September 23 and 24 as the dates for holding the 10th meeting of JCC. After nine Chinese citizens were killed in an attack, China had abruptly postponed the 10th JCC meeting in July this year. The 10th JCC meeting is seen as critical for what is called reenergizing CPEC, making the CPEC Long-Term Plan 2017-30 effective and to address issues being faced by Chinese companies working on CPEC projects, including a delay in clearing their power generation dues.

The provision of security to Chinese nationals and CPEC assets is also included in the agenda of the 10th JCC meeting. The JCC meeting has been scheduled after a gap of almost two years.

Both sides will take up all issues that caused CPEC to slow down in the past three years. A total of 27 projects, 17 fast-track and 10 priority ones, had been identified for development under the first phase of CPEC seven years ago. The fast-track projects had been marked to be completed within the first year and the priority projects were planned to be completed within two to three years. However, after seven years of CPEC, only four fast-track projects have been completed while work on the remaining six was under way.

The federal government blames Covid-19 for the slow progress on CPEC projects but analysts said that the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) government has pushed CPEC on the backburner as a policy. So far, \$25 billion worth of investments had been made under CPEC and out of that \$13 billion worth of projects had already been completed, said Mansoor. He said that the remaining \$12 billion worth of projects would be completed in one year, indicating a delay of at least four years compared with their original schedules. The SAPM said that during the past two months, he had tried to resolve the issues being faced by the Chinese investors. He said that Chinese companies had made \$845 million investment in the past three years.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2320020/talks-begin-to-roll-over-3b-cpec-debt>

The Nation

Chinese invested over \$1b in 2nd phase of CPEC in Pakistan

Mateen Haider

ISLAMABAD - Various leading Chinese companies have invested over one billion US dollars in different sectors in the second phase of the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) in Pakistan which would not only create job opportunities but also make the country's economy strong, vibrant, robust and export oriented.

This was stated by Special Assistant to Prime Minister on CPEC and Chairman CPEC Khalid Masroor while addressing a news conference at the CPEC head office along with Chinese businessmen after meeting Prime Minister Imran Khan here yesterday.

Sharing the details, Khalid Masroor said that CEOs of eight Chinese companies met the PM and briefed him about their investment plans and also bottlenecks which they are facing in their projects in Pakistan.

He said these companies have invested in Faisalabad Industrial City and their assembling and production plants have started working.

A Chinese company, expert in making prefab homes, has been given land and it has invested \$20 million in setting up of its plant which would make cost effective homes on five-marla land with a cost of four million only.

Khalid Masroor said another Chinese company, expert in producing cheap transport of two and three wheelers, has also been allotted land for their production facility. He said these two and three wheeler transport would be electric vehicles.

He also said another Chinese company known for LEDs has invested 30 million USD for setting up an assembly plant of LED lights in Pakistan.

“The company has been urged by CPEC to convert the assembly plant to production plant”, Khalid Masroor said.

The CPEC chairman said another known Chinese company producing ceramics/tiles have made an investment of 300 million USD in Faisalabad Industrial City. “This company would produce three-meter largest tiles in Pakistan”, he said.

He said in the field of agriculture, another Chinese company has invested 10 million USD and they have been given 11 acres of land.

“The company has employed graduates passed from Agriculture University of Faisalabad”, Masroor said.

A known Chinese mobile phone company has set up its assembly plant which would produce the best quality mobile phones, Khalid Masroor said.

He said a known Chinese garments company has invested 250 million USD in garments manufacturing plants over an area of 100 acres adding that this company has started its production and hoped company garments exports would touch 450 million USD in the near future.

“Another Chinese company known for producing detergent liquids has invested 35 billion USD over an area of 22 acres of land”, Khalid Masroor said.

Answering various questions, the SAPM on CPEC said the prime Minister took strong exception to the complaints of the delegation concerning various departments and told the businessmen that they should report to the PM office directly for swift response and resolution of their problems.

He said the one-window system has been made at CPEC so that Chinese businessmen and companies may not face any hurdle in getting NOCs for their business and factories.

One large industrial zone has already been set up in each province for Chinese companies Rashakai in KP, Faisalabad Industrial City in Punjab and Dhabaji in Sindh and one for Balochistan in Gwadar.

Answering another question, he said the projects under CPEC being reviewed so that such projects could be completed in near future.

He termed the issue of repayment of 3 billion USD of Chinese loans as important and sensitive and said that it matter would be discussed with the Chinese government for rescheduling of these loans.

Replying to another question, he said CPEC projects would continue. He said two special security divisions created by the Pakistan army are providing best security to Chinese projects across Pakistan.

“The Chinese have demanded something more for better security and their demands have been addressed”, Khalid Masroor said.

He said the meeting of Pakistan-China high level strategic forum which was earlier delayed is expected to meet on 23rd or 24th of September 2021 adding that final dates would be announced shortly.

Qamar Khan, a cousin and friend of PM Imran Khan, who accompanied the SAPM on CPEC and Chinese delegation said at the news conference, said the total value of this latest Chinese investment is one billion USD and hoped in the near future five more major companies would invest more in Pakistan which would create massive job opportunities and economic activity.

“PM Imran Khan was very concerned about the problems being faced by these companies and issued on the spot directives for urgent resolution of their problems and made it clear that problems being faced by them should be immediately addressed”, Qamar Khan said.

<https://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2021-09-14/page-1/detail-5>

Nawaiwaqt News

بھارت سی پیک مخالف قوتوں کے ساتھ گلہ جوڑ میں مصروف

چوہدری شاہد اجمل

پاکستان اور چین نے داسو ہائیڈرو پاور پلانٹ پر دہشتگردانہ حملہ میں بھارت کے ملوث ہونے کو بے نقاب کیا ہے جس سے یہ بات ایک بار پھر ثابت ہو گئی ہے کہ ہمارا ازلی دشمن بھارت سی پیک مخالف قوتوں کے ساتھ مل کر اس منصوبے کے خلاف سازشوں میں مصروف ہے اور اس مقصد کے لیے افغانستان کی سرزمین کو استعمال کرتا آ رہا ہے، افغانستان میں امن سے بھارت کے ان مذموم مقاصد کو ناکامی کا منہ دیکھنا پڑا ہے، چین نے بھی داسو میں چینی انجینئرز اور اہلکاروں پر حملے سے متعلق پاکستان کی تحقیقات پر اطمینان کا اظہار

کیا ہے، تحقیقاتی اداروں نے دن رات ایک کر کے حملے میں ملوث پورے نیٹ ورک کو گرفتار کیا، واقعے کی تحقیقات کے دوران 1400 کلومیٹر طویل راستے پر تمام سی سی ٹی وی کیمروں کی فوٹیج کا مکمل جائزہ لیا گیا، واقعے میں جو گاڑی استعمال کی گئی اسے ملک میں اسمگل کیا گیا تھا، اس واقعے کے بعد چین اور پاکستان نے فیصلہ کیا کہ ہم نے مل کر اس بزدلانہ حرکت کا مقابلہ کرنا ہے، پاکستان اور چین نے فیصلہ کیا ہے کہ ہمارے سی پیک کے تمام منصوبے جاری رہیں گے اور بروقت مکمل کیے جائیں گے، پاکستان اور چین کی اسٹریٹیجک شراکت داری کسی منصوبہ بندی کا شکار نہیں ہوگی اور جاری رہے گی، ہمارے برادرانہ تعلقات پر ایسے منصوبے اثر انداز نہیں ہوں گے اور ہم اپنے تعاون کو مزید توسیع دینے کی کوشش کریں گے۔ پاکستان کا واضح موقف ہے کہ اپنی سر زمین کو کسی بھی دوسرے ملک کے خلاف استعمال ہونے کی اجازت نہیں دیں گے، اس واقعے کے بعد اقوام متحدہ کی سلامتی کونسل نے بھی 14 جولائی کو ہونے والے داسو بس حملے کی مذمت کرتے ہوئے پاکستان کو دہشت گردی کے خلاف جنگ میں مسلسل حمایت کی یقین دہانی کروائی۔

وزیر خارجہ شاہ محمود قریشی کا کہنا ہے کہ داسو ہائیڈرو پاور پلانٹ پر حملے میں افغانستان اور بھارت کی خفیہ ایجنسیز 'این ڈی ایس' اور 'را' ملوث ہیں اور ان عناصر کو پاکستان میں چین کی سرمایہ کاری اور معاشی روابط ہضم نہیں ہو رہی۔ داسو واقعے کے بعد پاکستان کے تمام ادارے حرکت میں آئے اور انہوں نے اپنی تحقیقات کافی الفور آغاز کیا، چین سے ہمارے تعلقات کی نوعیت کے پیش نظر ہم نے چین کو صورتحال سے باخبر رکھا اور اپنی اس کوشش میں کافی حد تک کامیاب بھی رہے۔ ان کا کہنا تھا کہ چین کو اس واقعے پر تشویش تھی اور وہ موقع کا جائزہ لینا چاہتے تھے جس پر ہم نے ان کو خوش آمدید کہا اور ان کو جائے حادثہ پر لے کر گئے اور ان کو تمام تربیثی شرف سے آگاہ کرتے آئے ہیں۔ ان کا کہنا تھا کہ یہ عناصر اپنے عزائم میں ناکام ہوئے اور جو چاہتے تھے وہ حاصل نہ کر پائے، اس واقعے کے بعد چین اور پاکستان نے فیصلہ کیا کہ ہم نے مل کر اس بزدلانہ حرکت کا مقابلہ کرنا ہے۔ وزیر خارجہ نے کہا کہ ہم نے فیصلہ کیا ہے کہ ہمارے سی پیک کے تمام منصوبے جاری رہیں گے اور بروقت مکمل کیے جائیں گے، پاکستان اور چین کی اسٹریٹیجک شراکت داری کسی منصوبہ بندی کا شکار نہیں ہوگی اور جاری رہے گی، ہمارے برادرانہ تعلقات پر ایسے منصوبے اثر انداز نہیں ہوں گے اور ہم اپنے تعاون کو مزید توسیع دینے کی کوشش کریں گے۔ چین نے خیبر پختونخواہ کے ضلع کوہستان کے علاقے داسو میں چینی انجینئرز اور اہلکاروں پر حملے سے متعلق پاکستان کی تحقیقات پر اطمینان کا اظہار کیا ہے۔ چینی وزارت خارجہ کی جانب سے جاری بیان کے مطابق پاکستان نے مختصر وقت میں بڑی پیش رفت دکھائی ہے۔ چین پاکستانی اقدامات کو سراہتا ہے۔ چینی وزارت خارجہ کے مطابق چینی منصوبوں کی حفاظت کے لیے مل کر سیکورٹی پلان بہتر بنائیں گے۔ وزیر خارجہ شاہ محمود قریشی کا کہنا ہے کہ داسو میں چینی انجینئرز کی گاڑی پر حملہ بھارت اور افغانستان کا گٹھ جوڑ ہے۔ حملے کی منصوبہ بندی افغانستان میں ہوئی اور اس سازش میں بھارتی خفیہ ایجنسی را اور افغانی ایجنسی این ڈی ایس شامل تھی۔ حملے میں ملوث پورے نیٹ ورک کو گرفتار کر لیا گیا ہے۔ شاہ محمود قریشی کا کہنا ہے کہ چینی ورکرز کی گاڑی پر خود کش حملہ کیا گیا۔ اس منصوبے کے بیٹڈر اور اس کے پورے نیٹ ورک کو گرفتار کر لیا گیا ہے۔ شاہ محمود قریشی نے کہا کہ داسو ہائیڈرو پاور پلانٹ پر حملے میں افغانستان اور بھارت کی خفیہ ایجنسیز 'این ڈی ایس' اور 'را' ملوث ہیں اور ان عناصر کو پاکستان میں چین کی سرمایہ کاری اور معاشی روابط ہضم نہیں ہو رہی۔ داسو واقعے کے بعد پاکستان کے تمام ادارے حرکت میں آئے اور انہوں نے اپنی تحقیقات کافی الفور آغاز کیا، چین سے ہمارے تعلقات کی نوعیت کے پیش نظر ہم نے چین کو صورتحال سے باخبر رکھا اور اپنی اس کوشش میں کافی حد تک کامیاب بھی رہے۔ ان کا کہنا تھا کہ چین کو اس واقعے پر تشویش تھی اور وہ موقع کا جائزہ لینا چاہتے تھے جس پر ہم نے ان کو خوش آمدید کہا اور ان کو جائے حادثہ پر لے کر گئے اور تمام تربیثی شرف سے آگاہ کرتے آئے ہیں۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ اس واقعے کی تحقیقات کے دوران 1400 کلومیٹر طویل راستے پر تمام سی سی ٹی وی کیمروں کی فوٹیج کا مکمل جائزہ لیا گیا اور ہم اپنی تحقیقات میں اسی کو بنیاد بنا رہے ہیں۔ شاہ محمود قریشی نے کہا کہ یہ خود کش حملہ تھا اور جہاں یہ واقعہ رونما ہوا وہاں بارودی مواد لے کر جانے والی گاڑی کے ڈرائیور کے انگوٹھے اور انگلی کے ساتھ ساتھ جسم کے اعضا ملے اور ان اعضا اور وہاں سے ملنے والی دیگر اشیاء کا باریک بینی سے جائزہ لیا گیا۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ وہاں سے ملنے والے موبائل کے ڈیٹا کے تجزیے کے بعد ہم اس نتیجے میں پہنچے کہ ایک بلاسٹنگ کیس ہے اور اس کو حل کرنا آسان دکھائی نہیں دے رہا تھا لیکن یہ مشکل اور پیچیدہ کام ہمارے اداروں نے کامیابی سے کر لیا۔ ان کا کہنا تھا کہ داسو ہائیڈرو پاور پراجیکٹ پر کام کرنے والے ایک ہزار سے زائد افراد کی جانچ پڑتال کی گئی، سوالات کیے گئے اور تحقیق میں شامل کیا گیا، جو گاڑی اس واقعے میں استعمال کی گئی، اس کے بارے میں آج ہم یہ کہہ سکتے ہیں کہ ہم نے اس کو شناخت کر لیا

ہے اور اس کی نقل و حرکت کو پکڑ لیا ہے کہ وہ کہاں سے آئی۔ وزیر خارجہ نے کہا کہ اس واقعے کے پیٹرنز تک بھی ہم پہنچ گئے ہیں اور اس کے تانے بانے جہاں سے جڑتے ہیں، واقعے میں جو گاڑی استعمال کی گئی اسے ملک میں اسمگل کیا گیا اور تحقیقات میں یہ بات بھی سامنے آئی کہ ان لوگوں کا پہلا ہدف داسو پراجیکٹ نہیں تھا بلکہ ان کی پہلی کوشش دیامر بھاشا ڈیم کے مقام پر حملہ کرنے کی تھی لیکن وہاں کامیابی نہ ملنے پر انہوں نے پھر دوسرا رخ اختیار کیا اور داسو پراجیکٹ کو نشانہ بنایا۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ ہماری تحقیقات کے مطابق اس منصوبے میں افغانستان کی سرزمین کو استعمال کیا گیا، اس کی منصوبہ بندی اور عملدرآمد میں این ڈی ایس اور راکے گٹھ جوڑ کا تعلق دکھائی دے رہا ہے اور ان عناصر کو پاکستان میں چین کی سرمایہ کاری اور معاشی روابط ہضم نہیں ہو رہی۔ ان کا کہنا تھا کہ یہ عناصر اپنے عزائم میں ناکام ہوئے اور جو چاہتے تھے وہ حاصل نہ کر پائے اور اس واقعے کے بعد چین اور پاکستان نے فیصلہ کیا کہ ہم نے مل کر اس بزدلانہ حرکت کا مقابلہ کرنا ہے۔ شاہ محمود قریشی نے کہا کہ میں چین گیا تھا جہاں اسٹریٹجک ڈائلاگ کے دوران یہ معاملہ بھی زیر بحث آیا اور تبادلہ خیال کے بعد ہم اس نتیجے پر پہنچے ہیں کہ چین اب تک ہونے والی تحقیقات سے مطمئن ہے، وہ سمجھتے ہیں کہ پاکستان نے انہیں شفاف انداز میں تمام صورت حال سے باخبر رکھا ہے اور ان سے چیزیں شیئر کی ہیں۔ ان کا کہنا تھا کہ پاکستان اور چین نے اس عدم کا اظہار کیا ہے کہ تحقیقات کو اس حد تک لے کر جائیں گے کہ اس واقعے میں ملوث افراد کو ناصرف بے نقاب کیا جائے بلکہ قرار واقعی سزا بھی دی جائے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ ہم نے اپنے ایسے تمام منصوبوں کی سیکورٹی کو بڑھانے کا فیصلہ کیا ہے اور اپنے سیکورٹی اقدامات پر نظر ثانی کے بعد اسے بہتر کرنے کی بھی کوشش کی ہے۔ وزیر خارجہ نے کہا کہ ہم نے فیصلہ کیا ہے کہ ہمارے ہی بیک کے تمام منصوبے جاری رہیں گے اور بروقت مکمل کیے جائیں گے، پاکستان اور چین کی اسٹریٹجک شراکت داری کسی منصوبہ بندی کا شکار نہیں ہوگی اور جاری رہے گی، ہمارے برادرانہ تعلقات پر ایسے منصوبے اثر انداز نہیں ہوں گے اور ہم اپنے تعاون کو مزید توسیع دینے کی کوشش کریں گے۔

ڈی آئی جی سی ٹی ڈی خیبر پختونخوا جاوید اقبال کا کہنا ہے کہ تحقیقات سے ہمیں معلوم ہوا ہے کہ خود کش حملہ آور کا نام خالد عرف شیخ ہے جو پاکستانی نہیں۔ حملہ آور کے ہنڈلریاز اور حسین تھے جن کو گرفتار کر لیا گیا ہے۔ واقعے میں 100 سے 120 کلوگرام بارود استعمال کیا گیا تھا۔ ان کا کہنا ہے کہ حملہ آوروں کا پہلا ہدف دیامر بھاشا ڈیم تھا جس میں وہ کامیاب نہیں ہو سکے۔ دیامر بھاشا ڈیم پر ناکامی کے بعد دہشتگردوں نے داسو منصوبے کو نشانہ بنایا۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ 14 جولائی کو یہ قافلہ بسین کیمپ میں اپنی رہائش گاہ سے نکل کر کام کے مقام پر جا رہا تھا لیکن مرکزی شاہراہ پر ان کو یہ واقعہ پیش آیا۔ ان کا کہنا تھا کہ میں نے اس واقعے کی تحقیقات کی سربراہی کی اور اس دوران خفیہ اداروں اور ایجنسیوں نے ہم سے مکمل تعاون کیا۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ وقوعہ سے ہمیں حملے میں استعمال ہونے والی گاڑی کے پرزے اور مبینہ خود کش حملہ آور کے اعضا ملے، اس کا فائرنگ اور کیمیائی تجزیہ کیا اور اعضا کا ڈی این اے کیا۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ ہزار کلو میٹر طویل راستے سے سی سی ٹی وی فوٹیج لی، 500 جی بی سے زائد کی فوٹیج لی جن کا مختلف ٹیموں نے جائزہ لیا تاکہ نقل و حرکت کا پتا چلا یا جاسکے جس کے نتیجے میں حملے میں استعمال ہونے والی ہونڈا اکار کی شناخت ہو گئی۔ ڈی آئی جی نے بتایا کہ ہونڈا اٹلس سے گاڑی کا انجن نمبر چیک کر آیا لیکن کوئی کامیابی نہ ملی جبکہ وہاں سے ملنے والے موبائل فون بھی واقعے میں ہلاک و زخمی ہونے والوں کے ہی تھے۔ ان کا کہنا تھا کہ اس بلاسٹ کیس میں کامیابی اس وقت ملی جب ہمیں فوٹیج ملی، گاڑی پر "اپلائیڈ فار" کی نمبر پلیٹ لگی ہوئی تھی اور اس کو جب زیادہ قریب سے دیکھا تو ہمیں اس گاڑی کے ڈیلر کا پتا چل گیا جو چین سے تعلق رکھتا تھا۔ مالکان نے گاڑی کی شناخت کر لی اور یہ واقعے سے چھ ماہ قبل ان کے پاس آئی تھی اور ایک موبائل نمبر ملا جس سے ہم اس شخص تک پہنچے جو واقعے میں ملوث تھا اور حسین نامی یہ شخص نومبر میں یہ گاڑی لے کر چلا گیا تھا۔ ڈی آئی جی جاوید اقبال نے مزید بتایا کہ اس شخص کی باریک بینی سے جانچ پڑتال کے بعد ہم ایک دوسرے مشتبہ شخص تک پہنچے جسے ہم نے کراچی سے گرفتار کیا۔ انہوں نے بتایا کہ ان دو افراد کی تفتیش سے پتا چلا کہ اس واقعے میں ملوث چوتھا اہم شخص طارق افغانستان سے اسی واردات کو انجام دینے کے لیے آیا تھا اور یہ شخص واقعے سے ایک دن قبل خود کش بمبار سمیت گاڑی کو وقوعہ تک لے کر گیا اور ان لوگوں کی تفتیش سے تمام سہولت کاروں کو گرفتار کر لیا گیا ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ ایاز اور حسین کی تفتیش سے یہ بات بھی سامنے آئی کہ معاویہ اور طارق سمیت تین افراد نے افغانستان میں بیٹھ کر یہ منصوبہ تیار کیا اور سہولت کاری کے لیے را اور این ڈی ایس کے سینئر

افسران اس حوالے سے ان کی رہنمائی کر رہے تھے۔ ان کا کہنا تھا کہ یہ منصوبہ سات آٹھ ماہ قبل تیار کیا گیا اور اسی لیے گاڑی کئی ماہ تک چھپا کر رکھی گئی کیونکہ ان کا پہلا ہدف دیامر بھاشا ڈیم تھا۔

خیبر پختونخوا کے ضلع اپر کوہستان میں داسو ہائیڈرو پاور پلانٹ کے قریب حملے میں 9 انجینئرز، دو فرنٹیر کور (ایف سی) اہلکاروں سمیت کم از کم 12 افراد جاں بحق اور متعدد زخمی ہو گئے تھے۔ داسو منصوبے پر کام کرنے والی چینی تعمیراتی کمپنی نے کچھ وقت کے لیے ڈیم منصوبے پر کام معطل کر دیا تھا اور منصوبے پر کام کرنے والے پاکستانی ملازمین کو برطرف کرنے کے لیے خط لکھا تھا۔ بعد ازاں کمپنی نے ایک بیان جاری کیا جس میں کہا گیا کہ کمپنی کی جانب سے ورکرز کو نکالنے کا 16 جولائی کا فیصلہ متعلقہ حکام سے منظور نہیں ہوا، جس کے بعد ان قیاس آرائی کا خاتمہ ہوا جو منصوبے سے وابستہ 1800 پاکستانی ورکرز کی قسمت کے بارے میں ایک نوٹیفکیشن کے اجرا ہوا تھا اور یہ بیان سوشل میڈیا پر وائرل بھی ہوا تھا۔ اس سے قبل چینی حکومت کی جانب سے اعلیٰ سطح کے سیکورٹی وفد نے داسو ہائیڈرو پاور پراجیکٹ پر اسٹینڈرڈ آپریٹنگ پروسجرز اور نئے سیکورٹی منصوبے پر نظر ثانی کے لیے جانے و قوع کا دورہ کیا تھا۔ اس حملے کی مذمت کرتے ہوئے چینی وزارت خارجہ کے ترجمان ژاؤ لیجیان نے پاکستان پر زور دیا کہ وہ ملک میں چینی شہریوں، تنظیموں اور منصوبوں کی حفاظت کے لیے مجرمان کو سخت سے سخت سزا دیں۔ ایک بیان میں پاکستان میں قائم چینی سفارت خانے نے واقعے کی شدید مذمت کرتے ہوئے متاثرین اور زخمیوں سے اظہار تعزیت کی اور کہا کہ اس معاملے سے نمٹنے کے لیے پاکستان کے ساتھ اپنی پوری کوشش کریں گے۔ کہا گیا کہ پاکستانی حکام واقعے کی وجوہات کے بارے میں تحقیقات کر رہے ہیں۔

وفاقی وزیر داخلہ شیخ رشید نے بتایا تھا کہ داسو واقعے کی تحقیقات میں 15 چینی عہدیدار بھی شامل رہے اور چین نے پاکستان میں موجود اپنے لوگوں کی سیکورٹی کو یقینی بنانے کی استدعا کی، جس پر ہم نے انہیں یقین دہانی کرائی۔ ان کا کہنا تھا کہ چین ہمارا سب سے قریبی دوست ہے، وزیر اعظم نے وزیر خارجہ کو چین جانے کی ہدایت کی، انہوں نے وزارت داخلہ کو بھی کہا ہے کہ چینی افراد کی سیکورٹی کو مزید یقینی بنائیں۔ وفاقی وزیر نے بتایا کہ چین سے 15 رکنی ٹیم گزشتہ روز یہاں آئی جس نے ایڈیشنل سیکریٹریز اور دیگر کے ہمراہ جانے حادثہ کا دورہ کیا۔ ان کا کہنا تھا کہ بھارت، پاکستان میں مداخلت کا کوئی موقع ہاتھ سے جانے نہیں دیتا تاہم وہ بھول چکے ہیں کہ یہ 1979 والا پاکستان نہیں۔ وفاقی وزیر نے کہا کہ عمران خان نے "ڈومور" کے جواب میں "نومور" کہہ دیا ہے، پاکستان کا واضح موقف ہے کہ اپنی سر زمین کو کسی بھی دوسرے ملک کے خلاف استعمال ہونے کی اجازت نہیں دیں گے۔

آرمی چیف جنرل قمر جاوید باجوہ سے پاکستان میں تعینات چین کے سفیر ٹونگ روٹنگ نے ملاقات کی اور آرمی چیف نے پاکستان میں کام کرنے والے چینی شہریوں کی سلامتی یقینی بنانے کی یقین دہانی کرائی تھی، آرمی چیف نے داسو میں بس پر حملے کو افسوسناک قرار دیتے ہوئے چین کی حکومت اور عوام بالخصوص سوگوار خاندانوں سے دلی ہمدردی اور گہرے رنج و غم کا اظہار کیا۔ چیف آف آرمی اسٹاف نے کہا کہ پاک فوج ہمارے دوست چین کے ساتھ برادرانہ تعلقات کی بہت قدر کرتی ہے اور پاکستان میں کام کرنے والے چینی شہریوں سے مکمل تعاون اور سلامتی کو یقینی بنانے کی یقین دہانی کراتی ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ گو کہ ہم امن کے لیے کوشاں ہیں لیکن ہمیں ملک دشمن عناصر خصوصاً پاک چین اسٹریٹیجک تعاون کے لیے خطرہ بننے والے تمام عناصر کے خلاف مضبوط رہنے کی ضرورت ہے۔ دونوں فریقین نے خطے میں امن و استحکام کے لیے مستقل تعاون کی ضرورت اور ہم آہنگی پر اتفاق کیا۔

اقوام متحدہ کی سلامتی کونسل نے بھی 14 جولائی کو ہونے والے داسو حملے کی مذمت کرتے ہوئے پاکستان کو دہشت گردی کے خلاف جنگ میں مسلسل حمایت کی یقین دہانی کروائی تھی۔ نیویارک میں جاری کردہ ایک بیان میں سلامتی کونسل نے تمام ریاستوں پر زور دیا کہ مجرمان کو انصاف کے کٹہرے میں لانے کے لیے تعاون کریں۔ بیان میں کہا گیا کہ سلامتی کونسل کے اراکین پاکستان کے صوبہ خیبر پختونخوا میں 14 جولائی کو کیے گئے بزدلانہ دہشت گردی کے حملے کی سخت ترین الفاظ میں مذمت کرتے ہیں جس کے نتیجے میں

9 ستمبر، 3 پاکستانی شہری ہلاک اور متعدد زخمی ہوئے۔ سلامتی کونسل کا کہنا تھا کہ اراکین متاثر افراد کے اہل خانہ، چین اور پاکستان کی حکومتوں کے ساتھ گہری ہمدردی اور تعزیت اور زخمیوں کی جلد اور مکمل صحتیابی کے لیے نیک تمناؤں کا اظہار کرتے ہیں۔ 15 اراکین پر مشتمل کونسل نے دہشت گردی کو اس کی تمام صورتوں اور مظاہر میں مسترد کرنے کے عزم کا اعادہ کرتے ہوئے کہا کہ یہ بین الاقوامی امن اور سلامتی کے لیے انتہائی سنگین خطرات میں سے ایک ہے۔ بیان میں مزید کہا گیا کہ کونسل دہشت گردی کی ان قابل مذمت کارروائیوں کے مجرمان، منظمین، مالی معاونین اور کفیلوں کو جو ابده بنانے اور انہیں انصاف کے کٹہرے میں لانے کی ضرورت پر زور دیتی ہے۔ بیان کے مطابق کونسل اراکین نے تمام ریاستوں پر زور دیا کہ بین الاقوامی قانون اور متعلقہ سلامتی کونسل کی قراردادوں کے تحت اپنی ذمہ داریوں کے مطابق پاکستان اور چین کی حکومتوں کے علاوہ متعلقہ حکام کے ساتھ اس سلسلے میں فعال تعاون کریں۔ کونسل نے دوبارہ دہرایا کہ دہشت گردی کے کسی بھی فعل کا کہیں بھی، جب بھی اور جس نے بھی ارتکاب کیا اس سے قطع نظر، مجرمانہ اور بلا جواز ہے۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/lahore/2021-09-14/page-9/detail-0>

September 15, 2021

Daily Times

Pakistan takes part as country of honour at Beijing Book Fair

Pakistan has participated as the Country of Honour at the 28th Beijing International Book Fair (BIBF) began here at China International Exhibition Centre here on Tuesday.

Over 50 exquisitely-printed Pakistani books, regarding Pakistan's history, culture, politics, fiction and arts were showcased at Asia's largest book fair. Over 20 local paintings were also presented. Addressing the opening ceremony, Pakistan Ambassador to China, Moin ul Haq said this year, Pakistan and China are celebrating the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the both countries.

“It is an honour for Pakistan to participate as the Chief Guest Country in this book fair,” he added. Ambassador Haque said that the pavilions of Pakistan and the Communist Party of China are located simultaneously at the festival which reflects the friendly relations between the two countries.

He said many Pakistani books have been introduced using this platform and added, the exhibition will help introduce Pakistan literature and culture among Chinese people. Ambassador Haque remarked that there is a natural affinity in the literary trends of Pakistan and China.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/816317/pakistan-takes-part-as-country-of-honour-at-beijing-book-fair/>

Pakistan Observer

8 Hydro Power projects of 161MW completed in KP

Energy and Power Department Khyber Pakhtunkhwa has completed 8 different Hydro Power Projects with total capacity of 161 MW through which Rs. 3.98 Billion annual revenue is expected.

Similarly, under the solar project, five different schemes of 3.12 MW have been completed which have resulted in annual saving of Rs. 86 Million.

Work is also in progress on the construction of other seven hydro power projects with total capacity of 232 MW and 7 solar projects with total capacity of 43 MW as well. These projects are expected to generate annual revenue of Rs. 9 Billion and saving of Rs. 865 Million respectively.

This was told in a meeting of Energy & Power Department held here with Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Mahmood Khan in the chair on Tuesday.

The forum was briefed about the major achievements and overall performance of the department and was told that so far 8 hydro power projects had been completed in the province that include 81 MW Malakand-III Hydro Power Project Dargai, 18 MW Hydro Power Project Pehur, 1.8 MW Shishi Hydro Power Project Chitral, 4.2 MW Reshun Hydro Power Project Chitral, 2.6 MW Machai Hydro Power Project Mardan, 36.6 MW Daral Hydro Power Project Swat, 17 MW Ranolia Hydro Power Project Kohistan and 10 mini micro projects on Canals.

Similarly it was informed that 7 Hydro Power Projects were under construction in the different parts of the province including 10.2 MW Jabori Hydro Power Project Mansehra, 11.8 MW Karora Hydro Power Project Shangla, 40.8 MW Koto Hydro Power Project Dir Lower, 84 MW Mataltan Hydro Power Project Swat, 69 MW Lawi Hydro Power Project Chitral, 10.5 MW Chapri Charkhel Hydro Power Project Kurrum and 6.5 MW Barando Hydro Power Project District Torghar.

The authorities told that an agreement had been signed with Asian Development Bank for the construction of 300 MW Balakot Hydro Power Project adding that an agreement had also been inked with World Bank for the construction of 157 MW Madain Hydro Power Project and 88 MW Gabral Kalam Hydro Power Project.

They informed that under the Public Private Partnership, 188 MW Naran and 96 MW Batakundi Hydro Power Projects were also under construction whereas feasibility for 496 MW Spatgah Hydro Power Project was in progress.

It was further informed that PCIs of three different projects having the total capacity of 564 MW had been prepared adding that these projects would be reflected in the next Public Sector Development Program.

Briefing about the solar projects, the authorities informed that 2323 mosques had been solarized in the province adding that under the project a total of 4000 mosques would be converted on solar system.

Similarly, 8000 schools were also being solarized in the province out of which solarization of 3000 schools had been completed so far.

Expressing his satisfaction over the performance of the Energy Department, the chief minister has directed the quarters concerned to prepare workable operational plan for operating completed

mini micro hydel power stations further directing them to ensure participation of local community for the better management of these hydel power stations.

<https://pakobserver.net/8-hydro-power-projects-of-161mw-completed-in-kp/>

Peshawar-DIK Motorway will bring development in region

Provincial Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Faisal Amin Khan Gandapur on Tuesday said that the Motorway project will pave the way for development of southern districts of the province.

“Peshawar-Dera Ismail Khan Motorway will be a game changer for Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, especially for the development of southern districts,” he said while talking to APP.

He said that Motorway project is very much important for the sustainable development, trade activities etc of the province.

“It (Motorway) will connect all Southern Districts of KP and an interchange will connect Balochistan with KP too,” he said.

The project has an estimated cost of Rs276 billion and it is expected to be completed within four years. The motorway will start from Chamkani area of Peshawar by passing through Darra Adamkhel, Kohat, Hangu, Karak, Bannu, Lakki Marwat.—APP

<https://pakobserver.net/peshawar-dik-motorway-will-bring-development-in-region/>

CPEC: New Pakistan, Uzbekistan and Afghanistan

Dr Mehmood Ul Hassan Khan

China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) has entered into a new game theory in which new players in the shape of Taliban, Uzbekistan and Afghanistan have “pivotal roles” for achieving the desired goals of greater regional connectivity, immense socio-economic prosperity, energy & food integration and last but not the least, eradication of poverty in trans-regional domain.

Thus a new greater Eurasia partnership in the shape of new Pakistan, Uzbekistan and Afghanistan is “imminent” in which role of CPEC would be paramount.

In this context, formation of an interim government in Afghanistan has brightened the prospects of greater regional connectivity.

Moreover, repeated assurance and desire of Taliban to join CPEC has further “reinforced” the idea of greater regional connectivity.

Despite the US and Western propaganda against CPEC and Taliban “realignment” with China and most of the regional countries, China is all out to help the Taliban.

In this regard, China extended its holistic humanitarian assistance to the newly formed interim-government in Afghanistan by coordinating with the neighboring countries for the future roadmap about regional peace, stability, security and last but not the least, greater regional connectivity.

Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister H.E. Wang Yi while attending the First Foreign Ministers' Meeting on the Afghan Issue among the neighboring countries of Afghanistan in Beijing via video link, mocked the US policy in the region, especially in Afghanistan, and termed it dangerous for regional peace and stability.

He considered humanitarian issues, people's livelihoods and the COVID-19 pandemic vital for stability in Afghanistan. Inclusive government will support inclusive development, he added.

Wang Yi showcased his country's six multi-dimensional policies about Afghanistan covering all aspects of its socio-economic and community development, health capacity building and greater regional connectivity on the basis of "shared prosperity" in which CPEC would be a connecting hub.

It starts with helping Afghanistan and strengthens pandemic prevention and control for which China has decided to donate three million vaccine doses to the Afghan people in the first batch.

It will immediately resume China-Afghanistan freight trains, support other neighboring countries in enhancing customs clearance capacity-building with Afghanistan and facilitate Afghanistan's interaction with the outside world, especially its access to humanitarian supplies would be great help for the new Afghan interim-government.

Strengthening the management and control of refugees and migrants should be initiated and coordinated as soon as possible in which extended connectivity of CPEC would be important in the days to come.

China has been helping Afghanistan from financing the modernization of hydroelectric power stations and power transmission lines to the construction of roads, tunnels and administrative buildings.

The Chinese "Dream of Great Rejuvenation" is the basis of its vision that would change the global landscape and pave the way for a new world order based on equality and respect.

Accordingly, the pursuit of the Chinese dream was set to become the linchpin of Xi's foremost priority.

Chinese President Xi's idea of "the community of common destiny" has developed as a holistic policy of the "Chinese Dream of Great Rejuvenation" because it rejects a zero sum approach to international relations and calls for political partnerships, inclusive development, multilateral security architecture and inter-civilization exchanges.

According to Xi, through the promotion of the community of common destiny, China will create an environment conducive to the development both of China and of its neighbours.

The start of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) in 2013 was the first major step of greater regional connectivity, integration and neighborhood diplomacy had become China's top priority in foreign policy. BRI advances a vector of Chinese development that is focused on regional integration and peripheral diplomacy.

Chinese trade with the Central Asian States increased from \$1 billion in the early 2000s to nearly \$50 billion in 2018.

According to Chinese statistics (2019-2020) between 2006 and 2017, more than 25% of total FDI in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan derived from China, while Kazakhstan has become the largest recipient of Chinese investment in Central Asia, with \$16-21 billion of investment. Moreover, over the past decade, China has played a major role in large public infrastructure projects across Central Asia.

On its part, Uzbekistan has offered the use of a logistics facility in a city on its border with Afghanistan to help international efforts in supplying humanitarian aid to Afghanistan. The Termiz center is designed to accommodate up to 300 cargo trucks at any given time and is connected to the rail-road grid linking Uzbekistan and Afghanistan.

President Shavkat Mirziyoyev on August 27 assured his government of bolstering humanitarian support to Afghanistan.

It reopened the “Friendship Bridge” linking both the countries on August 26, 2021. Moreover, the checkpoints at the Imamnazar-Aqina and Serhetabat-Torghundi crossings are operating and facilitating humanitarian assistance to Afghanistan which vividly reflects Uzbekistan’s holistic foreign policy towards all neighbours.

For further strengthening of bilateral trade and innovative ideas of regional connectivity, Pakistan and Uzbekistan have tested shipments by truck through Afghanistan to gauge the viability of various routes in the region which now has bright prospects after Taliban’s assurance.

Uzbekistan has now prioritized transport connectivity with Pakistan to the ports of Gwadar and Karachi over routes through Afghanistan which may be now achieved after the settlement of political dust in Afghanistan.

During February 2021, representatives of Uzbekistan, Afghanistan and Pakistan agreed to a roadmap for the Mazar-i-Sharif-Kabul-Peshawar railway project, a 500 km track to be built over five years.

According to various research studies, the trans-regional railway project will be built alongside regional power projects the 1,000 megawatt Surkhan-Puli-Khumri high voltage power line and the 1,300 megawatt CASA-1000 energy project that supply power to Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Moreover, Pakistan and China have been trying to connect Afghanistan with CPEC. If that succeeds, Afghanistan will be an ideal connecting hub between Central Asia and the South Asia region.

China on its part is promoting its BRI & CPEC geo-economics projects that recognize “the economy forms the base of modern society” and strives to eliminate barriers to economic activity in the world’s pivotal geographic space.

Being a prominent regional expert of CPEC & BRI, I suggest that Pakistan, Uzbekistan and China should form a “trilateral forum” to speed-up diversified but integrated projects of regional connectivity. Greater regional connectivity is the need of hour to bring peace and stability in new Afghanistan, immense socio-economic prosperity and trade quantum jump of new Uzbekistan and last but not least giant leap for Pakistan’s newly announced transition from geopolitics to geo-economy.

In this regard, Chinese President Xi’s idea of “the community of common destiny through the materialization of “Dream of Great Rejuvenation” and Uzbekistan’s President Shavkat Mirziyoyev “ten initiatives” would be a roadmap for achieving dreams of greater regional connectivity between Central Asia and South Asia regions.

To conclude “China+Central Asia” (C+C5) partnership would be vital for further strengthening of greater political understanding, wider befitting economic propositions, world class infrastructural development and integrative mechanism of transport system in which strategic troika of China, Pakistan and Uzbekistan would be a balancing act for greater regional connectivity in which BRI and CPEC would play very important role in the days to come.

<https://pakobserver.net/cpec-new-pakistan-uzbekistan-and-afghanistan-by-dr-mehmood-ul-hassan-khan/>

How CPEC matters for Afghanistan?

Pathik Hasan

AFGHANISTAN is a land-locked country and at the same time there is a lot of potential in the sector of international trade.

Unfortunately, this potential of Afghanistan could not be harmonized with the wishes and aspirations of the Afghan people.

Afghanistan was a transport hub traditionally in case of ancient Silk Road connectivity but it lost this position after civil wars, the Soviet invasion in the 1980s as well as the US invasion twenty years back.

Previous US-backed regimes could not utilize the resources and potential of Afghanistan properly.

Now time is changing. The Taliban have formed an interim government in Afghanistan and are now focusing on the development of socio-economic aspects of the people.

The Taliban want to revive the economic situation of Afghanistan. They would like to be connected with the rest of the world.

China has launched a multi-billion dollar project: China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) which can be considered as a blessing for Afghanistan.

Now China, Pakistan and Russia have become well-wishers of Afghanistan for the betterment of Afghanistan.

Already, China has declared that its embassy in Afghanistan is functional. Russia shows interest to work together with Afghanistan.

Pakistan also wants to provide assistance to Afghanistan. Pakistan hopes that Afghanistan will join the multibillion-dollar China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). At the same time, Islamabad wants Kabul in China's Belt and Road Initiative.

Pakistan can give Afghanistan Transport and trans-shipment facilities for Afghanistan. Utilization of Gwadar port and CPEC by Afghanistan is some sort of example in this regard.

A write-up co-authored by Xie Jun and Chu Daye titled "Extension of CPEC into Afghanistan to boost local exports, journey of peace: analysts" in Global Times says "Afghanistan has become the first among several landlocked Central Asian countries to benefit from using the Chinese-invested Gwadar Port in Pakistan in trans-shipment trade.

In 2020, the country imported 43,000 tons of fertilizers via the port, contributing to its agricultural development".

According to this article in Global Times, Zhou Rong, a senior researcher at the Chongyang Institute for Financial Studies at Renmin University of China, said that if the CPEC is extended into Afghanistan, China could help build or improve infrastructure between Afghanistan and Pakistan to facilitate their economic exchange.

According to Tribune Express report on May 24, 2021, a spokesperson of the Chinese Foreign Ministry says, "CPEC to be extended to Afghanistan, other countries and extension would boost faster economic development in Afghanistan.

Pakistan's leading daily, Pak Observer's report on September 04, 2021 that Taliban Spokesperson Mujahid said the extension of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) by linking it with Afghanistan is very important.

He clearly stated the Taliban value China's Belt and Road Initiative as the multi-billion-dollar project will revive the ancient Silk Road.

The Taliban spokesperson in an interview with an Italian newspaper said that China will be their "major partner" in efforts to rebuilt war-torn Afghanistan.

He said that China is ready to make the investment in Afghanistan and help rebuild the war-ravaged country.

Using CPEC and Gwadar port, Afghanistan can reach the South Asian states, South-East Asian States, East Asia, Middle East, Africa. War ravaged country needs a huge number of investments at this juncture.

If Afghanistan is connected with Gwadar port and CPEC, many development partners will play a strong and structurally-effective role to take part in the development process in Afghanistan.

For example, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Malaysia may take part in Afghanistan. Many Chinese companies will be interested to invest in Afghanistan directly. Ultimately, Afghanistan will be benefitted.

The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is one of China's most ambitious projects. These include highways, railways, fiber optic networks, energy, ports, economic zones and many other projects.

It is expected to dramatically improve Afghanistan's infrastructure. A section of this economic corridor has already been launched. Goods have already been transported from China through Pakistan to the port of Gwadar.

From there, Chinese goods went to Africa and West Asia. There are also potential for Afghanistan in this regard.

China is already talking about linking Afghanistan to the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

China had been in talks with the Kabul government for a couple of years about plans to build a highway between Peshawar and Kabul, although the Afghan government has not agreed, fearing the United States will be unhappy. Now the Taliban want to be connected with CPEC for their own interest.

Moreover, China is building a road to the Afghan border through the Wakhan Corridor in Xinjiang province.

A huge number of goods and products of Afghanistan will be exported through this port if Afghanistan is connected with this port finally.

Afghanistan can import its essential commodities from various countries using this port and CPEC connectivity project.

Chinese companies will heavily invest in the energy sector of Afghanistan to fulfil the demand of Afghan people.

Many countries including China, Pakistan, countries of ASEAN, GCC can contribute to the reconstruction and development process in Afghanistan. CPEC has brought a new dream and aspiration for Afghanistan.

Now it is high time for Afghanistan to utilize it to safeguard the interest of Afghan people. Usage and utilization of CPEC by Afghanistan will develop Afghanistan in the years ahead.

<https://pakobserver.net/how-cpec-matters-for-afghanistan-by-pathik-hasan-dhaka/>

The Nation

CPEC Phase II

The benefits of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) entail not just the completion of several infrastructure projects but also the arrival of more future investment opportunities which could transform Pakistan's economy.

As CPEC enters its second phase, these benefits have started to become more apparent. Various leading Chinese companies have invested over one billion US dollars in different sectors in the second phase of the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) in Pakistan. These companies have invested in Faisalabad's Industrial City and their assembling and production plants have started working.

Sources close to the government have reported that the total value of this latest Chinese investment is \$1 billion, with the government hoping that in the near future five more major companies would invest more in Pakistan. This is a large investment, which if executed successfully, will attract even bigger amounts. This scale of investment can have a huge impact on Pakistan's economy and society; it can trigger significant job growth, boost exports and increase consumer purchasing power, which can put the economy on a positive growth-orientated cycle.

While CPEC had initially been coming in slow, these developments as the project now progresses indicate how consequential it is to make sure that the investment coming in from China is made to work effectively. Some previous Chinese companies have complained of slow work and red-tape in the past and it is important these factors slowing down business be countered.

The government is putting in work—the CEOs of some of the companies met with the Prime Minister, where he took strong exception to the complaints of the delegation concerning various departments and told businessmen that they should report to the PM office directly for swift response and resolution of their problems. This approach should be kept up to ensure that CPEC should be profitable for all stakeholders.

<https://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2021-09-15/page-6/detail-2>