



For Better Understanding on China-Pakistan and CPEC

Gleanings from the National Press

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September 01, 2022

Daily Times

Chinese firms come forward to help flood-stricken people

Chinese companies in Pakistan are making efforts to minimize consequences such as project suspension and road damage caused by the heavy flooding that has devastated many parts of the country while offering aid to those in need.

Though there has been a “measurable” impact on operations, no casualties have been reported among employees now, several Chinese state-owned companies told the Global Times. While the heavy rain that has lasted for months has devastated many areas of the country, and some projects involving Chinese companies have suffered disruption and damage, several state-owned companies that the newspaper spoke to said that there have been no casualties among their employees and the impact on their projects are controllable so far.

Meanwhile, they are beefing up efforts to minimize the disruption while offering support to those in need.

In the past two months, Pakistan has continued to experience extreme weather. Sindh, Punjab and other regions have been affected by several rounds of heavy rainfall and mudslides, and projects in the affected areas have suffered varying degrees of losses, a person with infrastructure firm Power Construction Corporation of China (PowerChina) said.

The economic impact is tangible as the construction site and roads used by the Chinese-funded enterprise’s project have been flooded, and the on-site facilities and finished products were damaged to a large extent, the company said.

Some ongoing projects have had to be suspended to curb further losses.

External roads were damaged, communications were interrupted and the transportation of production and living supplies was also interrupted, the person with PowerChina said. Some of the disaster-stricken project sites could not be accessed, and personnel access was also affected, according to the company.

Despite the disruption, the overall impact on Chinese companies is controllable so far as companies have taken contingency measures, the insiders said.

Since the disaster, the project departments of Chinese-funded enterprises have responded actively.

They have organized construction personnel and promptly repaired damaged roads, while also trying to replenish living materials, according to PowerChina.

A manager surnamed Jin with Henan D.R. Construction Group said that at present, their projects and factories are located near Lahore and Faisalabad in Punjab Province, and the impact has been

relatively small. “We are mainly trying to do a good job of drainage after rain at project sites,” Jin said.

A spokesperson for the Pakistan Branch of China State Construction Engineering Corporation told that the flood would have a “certain impact” on its motorway alignment protection as the company was in the last year of the defect notification period, which meant it would be responsible for repairing damage during this period. But he stressed that “it is a positive test for the project.” As an important country under the Belt and Road Initiative, Pakistan has been pursuing infrastructure projects ranging from power plants to dams, with the participation of Chinese companies.

For example, China State Construction has carried out a number of infrastructure projects in Pakistan, including the Peshawar-Karachi Motorway project (Sukkur-Multan section), which is designed for a speed of 120 kilometers per hour, with six lanes and a total length of 392 kilometers. It was listed as an “early harvest project” under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor.

Zhang Shilu, general manager of Zhengbang Agriculture Pakistan (Pvt) Limited, is currently in Lahore, and the impact has been controllable for the most part. The company’s plant is based in Faisalabad, the second largest city in Punjab after Lahore, Zhang told the newspaper. But there were still tangible effects in general terms, such as with the sales of agricultural goods like fertilizers, Zhang said. “This year’s cotton crop in Pakistan would have been greatly affected. About 50 percent of the cotton producing areas have been affected by the heavy rainfall,” Zhang estimated.

While trying to minimize the impact on their personnel and projects, Chinese companies are also going all out to offer assistance for those in need. PowerChina is preparing donations of goods and funds that are needed while providing assistance to local Pakistani employees who have been affected by the disaster at home.

Jin’s company has been actively responding to the call for assistance from the Chinese Embassy in Pakistan by donating money and materials to those in need.

China State Construction has also donated Rs 600,000 in response to calls from the embassy and the local Chinese business chamber.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/990790/chinese-firms-come-forward-to-help-flood-stricken-people/>

Preparation of China-Pakistan Int’l Industrial Academic Integration Alliance starts

The preparatory work of China-Pakistan International Industrial Academic Integration Alliance has started, says a report published by China Economic Net (CEN) on Tuesday.

“In the next 3 to 5 years, we will cultivate 30,000-50,000 skillful youth in Pakistan”, Muhammad Ammar, Secretary General, China-Pakistan International Industrial Academic Integration Alliance (Preparatory) said at a discussion panel.

The discussion focused on the Exploration of China-Pakistan International Industrial-Education Integration Cooperation in Vocational Education, which is part of the China-Pakistan TVET Cooperation and Development Seminar organized by Tang International Education Group and hosted by the Pakistani Embassy in China.

“These youth will serve the needs of CPEC construction”, he added. In addition, China-Pakistan Vocational Education and Employment Research Center will be established under the Alliance, and international vocational skill contests will be organized for skillful youth in Pakistan, as well as in SCO countries in the future.

According to Sajid Baloch, Executive Director, National Vocational and Technical Training Commission (NAVTTTC), in the future, a million manpower with high skills will be required in Pakistan, especially in the Special Economic Zones (SEZ) and CPEC projects.

“Vocational and technical training is crucial for us to realize the national goals of enhanced productivity and export. It is high time that we invest in the workforce in Pakistan”, he said.

It is learned that via the alliance, Pakistan and China will join efforts in building advanced international professional standards, curriculum standards and digital curriculum resources, training teachers for vocational colleges in Pakistan, providing language and skills training for Pakistani youth, building China-Pakistan International College in Pakistan and China-Pakistan Center of Excellence for Vocational Education, carrying out international scientific research cooperation projects, holding international skills competitions, promoting international school-enterprise cooperation and industry-education integration projects represented by Pakistani teachers and students coming to China for training and employment, etc.

In recent several years, China-Pakistan vocational education is gaining pace. “CPEC construction has injected momentum to the accelerating vocational education development, and this message has been felt by the people”, Ms. Afifa Shajia Awais, Education Attaché, Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan Beijing told CEN in an interview.

“This will bring an ocean of opportunities, from Gilgit Baltistan to Gwadar. In our rural revitalization project, we can use technical and vocational training to equip young people not only for their livelihood, but also to keep the industries moving”, she said.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/990777/preparation-of-china-pakistan-intl-industrial-academic-integration-alliance-starts/>

Dawn News

‘Pakistan doesn’t have to choose between US and China’

Anwar Iqbal

Secretary of State’s aide says US worried by Islamabad’s path as nations entering into deals with China ‘don’t end up well’

WASHINGTON: The United States doesn’t ask Pakistan to choose between it and China, but rather wants countries “to be able to have a choice”. However, Washington is worried that nations entering into relationships with China “are not going to end up well”, said Derek Chollet, a senior adviser to the US Secretary of State.

In an interview with Dawn, Counselor Chollet said Washington was not “afraid of competing with China, but would like to have a fair competition”.

He stressed that the US had honest differences with both India and Pakistan, but wanted to maintain and diversify its strong relationship with Islamabad.

Mr Chollet also spoke about former prime minister Imran Khan’s allegations of US involvement in toppling his government, pointing out that those claims were completely baseless.

Asked if the US was upset with the former premier and those allegations make him a less liked politician in the States, Mr Chollet said: “All I can say is that there is nothing to the allegations. Those were not true.”

“What we want to stay focused on is where we are going in the US-Pakistan relationship, to reflect on all that we have achieved in 75 years but also all that we must achieve in the coming 75 years.”

The US official also underlined Washington’s concerns about the current floods in Pakistan, pointing out that the Biden administration already announced \$30 million in assistance and was willing to do more.

“These horrific floods are something that we have not seen since 2010. And by some accounts, it is worse than the floods of 2010,” he said. “It is a climate cataclysm that we are seeing in Pakistan. It is just devastating.”

The US, he said, was committed to “doing our part with our partners in the international community to help Pakistan respond to this terrible natural disaster.”

The US would also work with the United Nations to raise \$160m for the flood victims, he added.

Responding to a question about his statement that the US was not afraid of having a fair competition with China, he said: “Pakistan has a close relationship with China, has for many years. The US again, is not asking countries to choose between the US and China. We just want countries to be able to have a choice.”

Reminded that in the past, this relationship was more linked to US security concerns about the region, Mr Chollet said: “We are interested in diversifying the relationship even further. We already have a fairly strong and robust business relationship. But I think that is something that we are interested in growing further.”

Asked if Pakistan still had strategic value for the US, he said: “Oh, absolutely. I mean, Pakistan is one of the world’s largest Muslim countries. It has the fifth or sixth largest population. It is a critically important country to the US.”

“And that is why we are committed as we project forward over the next 75 years, to find ways that we can deepen this partnership and achieve so many of the shared interests and goals that we have.”

On a question about why sometimes people in Pakistan feel that India gets an unfair advantage — for instance, Washington allows it to purchase cheap oil from Russia while preventing Pakistan from doing so — Mr Chollet said: “Our relationship with each country stands on its own. And we have much that we share with both countries,” he said. “We do have honest differences with both countries. What matters is how we work through those differences.”

“Our perspective in terms of working with Pakistan is we are going to work through those differences in the spirit of partnership, and cooperation and try to keep an eye on all that we share. We both are going to remain true to our interests and our values. But we see much that we share together.”

Do US concerns about China make India a more valuable ally? To this, he said: “These relationships, we do not see them as conjoined. They are separate relationships. And we have separate sets of goals, ambitions, and challenges with both countries.”

However, he agreed that the US had a concern about China globally. “In South Asia and in East Asia, in Southeast Asia, all around the world, China is playing a role that in many cases is not consistent with what we think our interests are,” he said.

The US, he said, committed to finding ways to work with China on shared interests, for example, on climate change, but the Chinese pulled out of these discussions.

Asked if Pakistan could also face a Sri Lanka-like situation because of the Chinese loans, he said: “What we are worried about is that countries — whether in South Asia or all around the world — entering into relationships with China are not going to end up well.”

“And so, we want to be very candid with countries about the choices that they make. And again, the critical thing, it is not for the US to decide, these are choices.”

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1707841>

The Express Tribune

Pakistan features on China e-commerce platform

Giant platform facilitates national pavilions in selling specialties

BEIJING: China's giant e-commerce platform JD.com has national pavilions of more than 60 countries including Pakistan.

It leverages a network of about 1,400 warehouses, covering more than 25 million square metres, plus 80 bonded warehouses and overseas warehouses, making it Asia's top online business platform.

Zhao Ping, Vice President of the Academy of China Council for the Promotion of International Trade, said that JD is helping the international supply chain to connect with the largest domestic supply chain and its employees are becoming more technology-driven and management-driven.

"We see there is a perfect match, and we forecast the coexistence of humans and robots in society in the future," she added. She said that the development of China's supply chain and the integration of digital technology would help developing countries benefit from these supply chain systems.

Liu Hui, Director of Consumption and Industry Development Research Institute of JD.com, maintained that JD has a pathway for logistics parks in over 200 countries and regions worldwide. "We have over 60 national pavilions of different countries. Every country can open up a national pavilion on JD.com and sell their local specialties and products," he added.

JD International Logistics is operating around 80 bonded and overseas warehouses and cargo flight routes between China and other countries including the US, UK and Thailand.

Besides, there are various shipping services by air, railway, sea, and trucks as well as other cross-border services and overseas orders can be delivered door-to-door as fast as 48 hours.

There are logistics networks, warehouse networks, line-haul transportation networks, last-mile delivery networks, bulky item logistics networks, cold-chain logistics networks, and cross-border logistics networks. It also plans to invest in an overseas supply chain to keep its position top in Asia and move forward to become the number one in the world.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2374156/pakistan-features-on-china-e-commerce-platform>

September 02, 2022

Business Recorder

Chinese firm donates \$250,000 for flood-hit people of Balochistan

KARACHI: MCC Resource Development Company, a Chinese company working in Pakistan, has donated \$250,000 for flood victims of Pakistan's largest province Balochistan.

He Xuping, Chairman MCC Resource Development Company handed over the Cheque of \$250,000 to Faisal Naseem, Director, Provincial Disaster Management Authority, Balochistan at a ceremony held at Chinese Consulate General in Karachi on Thursday. The Chinese Consul General Li Bijian was also present on this occasion.

Speaking on this occasion, Chinese Consul General Li Bijian said that the Chinese government and its people have expressed solidarity with Pakistani flood victim families. The Chinese government has sent relief goods for flood hit people in Pakistan.

While appreciating the MCC for its donation of \$250,000 for flood victims of Balochistan, the Consul General requested all Chinese companies working in Pakistan to provide all possible support to the people of Pakistan who have severely suffer in recent flash flood.

Faisal Naseem, Director, Provincial Disaster Management Authority, Balochistan thanked the Chinese Consul General and MCC representatives for their donation for flood victims of Balochistan.

He Xuping, Chairman of MCC Resource Development Company said that the flash flood disaster not seen in recent decades has ruined thousands of houses and destroyed large number of facilities and equipment within Pakistan, causing great injuries to the country and its people with the fatality of more than 1,100 and loss of about \$10 billion dollars.

“On behalf of MCC and more than 3,000 Chinese and Pakistani employees working in Pakistan, I express condolence to those Pakistanis who lost their lives in the floods and sympathy to the governments and people affected by the disasters,” he said.

Being instructed by MCC which is under the direct management of China Minmetals Group, MCC projects of Saindak and Duddar should pay close attention to the local disaster situations with the utmost effort and support to the local government and people in fighting against the flood disaster apart from their own flood relief work, he said.

Upon obtaining the detailed report on the flood disaster in Pakistan, MCC immediately held the thematic meeting and decided to donate \$250,000 to Balochistan where the infrastructure conditions are poor in all aspects but severely affected by the floods in light of supporting the government and people to fight against the floods and rebuild their homeland, he added. As the two subsidiaries of China Minmetals Group that have been operating in Baluchistan for many years, regardless of their own serious damages and huge impact on the normal production and life brought by the floods, Saindak and Duddar still responded to the call of the Chinese and Pakistani governments and carried out the Group instructions without any hesitation, demonstrating the fact that even the floods are merciless but Chinese and Pakistanis are helping each other out through thick and thin, He Xuping said.

“Although with the small business scales, Saindak and Duddar always hold the concept of “Joint Construction and Shared Benefits” while taking the social responsibility fulfillment as one of the basic responsibilities. In recent years, only the accumulated amount of direct donations on the disaster relief or others to the people at different places, institutions of all levels, and

organizations of all kinds has reached to \$5 million, and the expenses on the social responsibility in other aspects have reached \$10 million. Actually, Saindak is far from the core areas of the floods, but our hearts are always beating together with the victims of the floods. We are encouraging the employees to donate money or materials voluntarily, and providing special assistance to the employees whose families were damaged by the floods. Soon after the floods, Duddar not only organized the road rescue but prepared food packages for the surrounding 30 families that were so seriously affected by the floods disasters.”

Common good should be pursued wholeheartedly, and different cultures should be valued equally. Under the strategic guidance of the CPEC by the Chinese and Pakistani governments and the guidance of the Chinese Embassy and Consulates in Pakistan, the two subsidiaries of MCC in Pakistan will adhere to the spirit of “No slacking and never delaying” to promote their strong development just for the greater capacity and responsibility in future, he said. “We are willing to further participate in the economic and social construction of Pakistan, and work together with Pakistanis - Iron Brothers to effectively boost the mining development in Pakistan.”

Successful operations of Saindak Copper-gold project and Duddar Lead-Zinc project should be adopted as the foundation to build the model and long-lasting projects of China-Pakistan cooperation, he said. “We are ready to work with Pakistani brothers to deepen the China-Pakistan friendship and make more endeavors towards the development of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor,” he added.

Liu Kai, Company Secretary and Vice President of MCC Duddar Mining Company (Private) Limited, in his speech said there has never been a huge historical disaster that was not compensated by historical progress. “I believe that the fraternal Pakistani government and people will be able to overcome the flood at an early date, rebuild their homes, and continue to move towards a better tomorrow,” he added.

He said the floods have caused many brothers and sisters in Pakistan to lose their homes and even their lives. “We are brought together today by a shared desire and love. We have different skin colors, different cultures, and different languages, but our hearts are connected and resonate at the same frequency. Because, we are real friends and all-weather brothers,” he said.

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2022/09/02/5-page/941514-news.html>

Daily Times

Chinese consul general announces Rs300m aid for flood affected people

Chinese Consul General Zhao Shiren called on Punjab Chief Minister Chaudhry Parvez Elahi at his office and announced giving Rs300 million aid for rehabilitation of flood affected people on behalf of the Chinese Consulate General in Lahore.

He expressed deep sorrow over the loss of lives and properties due to floods in Punjab and reiterated the commitment to cooperate for the rehabilitation of the affected people. It was

further agreed to accelerate the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), investment and promotion of bilateral cooperation in education and other sectors.

The CM thanked the Chinese leadership and people for their cooperation to assist the flood victims, while Zhao Shiren appreciated the public-centric approach of Parvez Elahi and observed that he has shown good performance in a short period.

The CM appreciated the cooperation extended by China to flood victims. The Chinese cooperation with the flood victims is praiseworthy, he said, and mentioned that rehabilitation work has been started in the province.

Zhao Shiren announced giving consul general scholarships to the students of Punjab, adding that assistance would be provided for the improvement and rectification of CCTV cameras of Punjab Safe Cities Authority. In addition, an MoU would also be signed for joint training to expedite the organizational capacity of the Punjab police; he said and assured of cooperation for the development of infrastructure, power plants, education, health and dam projects. A friend in need is a friend indeed, he said.

“I am saddened over the loss of life and property due to floods and China shares the pain of the distressed population,” he said. “More steps would also be taken to promote bilateral relations and access to quality education for children of backward areas would be ensured through economic education cooperation” he added.

Deputy Consul General Cao Ke, Director Political and Counsellor Affairs Du Yue, Director Admin Zhao Fushan, Liu Qinbo and Commercial Consul Yan Yang, chief secretary, IG police, principal secretary to CM, chairman P&D, ACS, secretary SED and others were also present.

Meanwhile, Parvez Elahi said that the continuous struggle of Syed Ali Gillani Shaheed for the freedom of Indian Occupied Kashmir cannot be described in words.

In his message, the CM noted that Syed Ali Gillani Shaheed devoted all his life to the cause of freedom of Indian Occupied Kashmir and he valiantly countered Indian state-sponsored atrocities throughout his life.

“The invaluable role played by Syed Ali Gillani Shaheed in the freedom struggle is a bright chapter of the Kashmir movement,” he added.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/991050/chinese-consul-general-announces-rs300m-aid-for-flood-affected-people/>

Pakistan, China set up JWG on disaster relief

China will continue to offer assistance to Pakistan and the China’s International Development Cooperation Agency (CIDCA) has established a Joint Working Group (JWP) with Pakistani side on implementing follow up cooperation with regard to emergency disaster relief, Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesperson, Wang Wenbin said on Thursday.

“Going forward, we will continue to offer assistance and China’s International Development Cooperation Agency has established a joint working group with the Pakistani side on implementing follow up cooperation with regard to emergency disaster relief,” he said during his regular briefing while updating on China’s assistance to Pakistan in the flood rescue and rehabilitation efforts.

He informed that the Chinese localities were also working actively to offer sympathy and support to Pakistan. A friend in need is a friend indeed. “We believe that Pakistani people will overcome the floods and our brotherly friendship will be further elevated,” he added.

The spokesperson said that since, Pakistan was hit by the floods, China had been following and closely looking at the situation on the ground and acted promptly to offer assistance. “The foreign ministry spokesperson already released information on August 29,” he added. On same day, President Xi Jinping sent a message to President Dr. Arif Alvi extending sympathy for the severe floods, and said that as all-weather strategic cooperative partners and ironclad friends, China-Pakistan had long stood together with mutual assistance.

“China will continue to offer much needed assistance to Pakistan and support its disaster relief efforts,” he added.

Premier Li Keqiang also sent a message of sympathy to Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif. Wang Wenbin informed that the Chinese government had been actively working to implement the pledged assistance while the pledged emergency cash assistance had been delivered.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/991068/pakistan-china-set-up-jwg-on-disaster-relief/>

Chinese intercropping system brings high yield and profitability to Pakistan

China’s maize-soybean strip intercropping technology completed harvest at 65 demonstration sites in Punjab, Sindh and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa recently, and the production of maize and soybeans reached 8,490 kg and 889 kg per hectare respectively in the intercropped fields.

According to China Economic Net (CEN), compared with the production of solely cropped maize and soybeans at these 65 sites which are 8,995 kg and 1,531 kg per hectare respectively, the intercropping technology definitely creates much more economic benefits. “Up till now the best system for high yield and profitability is maize-soybean strip intercropping system. Last season, farmers had adopted our technology on more than 1500 acres of land, and the number is increasing day by day,” said Muhammad Ali Raza, post-doc of Sichuan Agricultural University (SAU) and the Director of the National Research Center for Intercropping, the Islamia University of Bahawalpur (IUB).

Moreover, the production of soybeans in intercropped fields still has the potential to rise in the coming days. “The abrupt increase in temperature decreased the soybean production. In addition, we don’t yet have the high yielding soybean varieties here, for which we still need help from China,” Dr. Raza said. Now, China’s advanced intercropping technology is being applied to various types of crops in Pakistan at the National Research Center for Intercropping jointly built

by Sichuan Agricultural University (SAU) and the Islamia University of Bahawalpur (IUB) in August, 2021.

“We have started the research on developing strip intercropping systems of maize-peanut, maize-pea, sugarcane-soybean, sugarcane-mustard, wheat-mustard, wheat-soybean, wheat-chickpea, potato-maize and canola-pea,” he added. Next season, the scientists of the National Research Center for Intercropping will work for the development of erect type maize hybrids which have already been developed at the labs of Sichuan Agricultural University, and shade-tolerant high-yielding soybean varieties for intercropping systems. “Last season, we had planted 22 acres of maize and soybeans with our intercropping specific planter. We will use this planter on a larger scale in the coming spring season,” Dr. Ali Raza said.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/991330/chinese-intercropping-system-brings-high-yield-and-profitability-to-pakistan/>

The Express Tribune

Chinese firm offers low-cost housing units

Urges government of Pakistan to exempt imported raw material from duties and taxes

LAHORE: Chinese investors have extended their help in rehabilitating Pakistan’s flood victims by offering to produce pre-fabricated houses in their existing plant in Faisalabad.

At a press conference held in Lahore on Thursday, Hanan DR Group Country Head (Pakistan), Mr Zhang explained that, a few years ago, the company had invested \$150 million in an Industrial Estate at Faisalabad’s Free-zone M3IC.

“On an emergency basis, we are focusing on helping the flood victims by building low-cost houses for approximately Rs1.8 million at no profit,” he said.

The actual value of a single unit, he said, is approximately Rs2.6 to 2.8 million

While the management has decided not to make any profit from this project, they did urge the government of Pakistan to exempt the imported raw material from all taxes and duties.

According to the country head, two hundred houses could be prepared every month and over two thousand houses in a year. Each house would be soundproof and earthquake-resistant, consisting of two rooms, a kitchen, and a toilet.

“These houses will be constructed on a single story, on a covered area of approximately 550sqft each and will be able to withstand fire with a 50-year structural guarantee,” he added.

He added that electricity would also be provided via solar panels, along with clean drinking water and other state-of-the-art facilities.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2374303/chinese-firm-offers-low-cost-housing-units>

Pakistan to get hybrid power plant

Project aims to minimise power cost, tackle climate change

KARACHI: The private sector on Thursday announced their decision to set up Pakistan's first ever one-gigawatt wind-solar hybrid power plant with the aim to counter the expensive power and climate crises in Pakistan.

“We are setting up the first private sector run power plant outside of the government's ambit,” Engro Energy CEO Yusuf Siddiqui said while speaking at the Annual State of Renewables Conference 2022 organised by the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) and Unilever.

“The one-gigawatt hybrid power plant (including thermal) will start producing 500 MW in the first phase by the end of 2024 and the remaining 500 MW will start production in 2025, at Jhampir, Sindh.”

Siddiqui explained that this was going to be the first plant in Pakistan being set up without having acquired a fixed rate of return from the government. “The company will produce power on its own and sell it to the private sector. This is what is happening in the US and Europe,” he said.

Thermal electricity, which has the largest share in power generation in Pakistan, also bears exorbitant fuel costs. As global powers wrestle with fragile fuel supply chains and disrupted economies, aggravated further by the Russia-Ukraine conflict, Pakistan's reliance on expensive imported fuels like furnace oil, diesel, coal and RLNG is no longer feasible; financially or in light of climate change.

Hybrid power plants, integrated through solar and wind power generation, harness the full potential of clean, renewable energy and provide a more reliable solution to Pakistan's “power affordability” issue.

“At present, government is the sole purchaser of power nationwide. The plants operating on the government's guarantee (rate of return) are mounting up capacity payments (fixed cost) and circular debt in the country,” he said.

Pakistan Business Council (PBC) CEO Ehsan Malik observed that the expensive use of energy was creating circular debt, impacting the government's fiscal capacity and as a whole hurting the environment, trade and employment in Pakistan.

“The government did not address some fundamental flaws when it raised the power tariff. The industry cannot be left a hostage to inefficiencies,” he remarked.

Speaking to the audience Malik asked if anyone had seen a publicity campaign encouraging energy conservation, he claimed “5% energy conservation can save \$3 billion in import bill.”

Alternate Energy Development Board (AEDB) CEO Shah Jahan Mirza said the government is set to announce a special scheme to establish solar parks and promote renewable energy next month. They aim to install solar plants of 6,000 megawatt in the parks, he said.

Initially, the government planned to set up 2,400 MW solar project. “We have proposed an exemption of taxes and duties on the import of solar equipment,” he said.

The total installed capacity of solar and wind is 600 MW and 1985 MW respectively in July 2022. Accordingly, the share of renewable energy stands at 5% in the energy mix at present.

The government aims to increase the share of renewable energy, including large hydros, to 60% by 2030.

“Sindh is rich in wind and solar resources and carries high potential to produce renewable energy,” said Abu Bakar Ahmed, Secretary of the Sindh Government Energy Department.

He said the Sindh government is facilitating foreign investors to set up a garbage-run 200 MW power plant in the province. “Half (100MW) of the planned production from garbage would come into the system within one year,” he explained.

Former Finance Minister, Dr Shamshad Akhtar criticised global greenhouse gas emitters for impacting the climate in vulnerable countries and for their insufficient financial cooperation in the fight against global warming.

“The world requires \$7-14 billion annually to mitigate the risk of climate change, which is well beyond financial constraints,” she maintained.

In his address, SDPI Executive Director Dr Abid Qaiyum Suleri said the heavy rainfall and flash floods are a manifestation of climate change.

“Renewable energy mix can play a crucial role in emission reduction to mitigate these disastrous climatic impacts,” he said.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2374296/pakistan-to-get-hybrid-power-plant>

The Nation

Bilawal Terms Aid From China As Timely, Useful

ISLAMABAD – Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari has appreciated aid from China amid destructive flash floods in the country as timely and useful.

The Foreign Minister acknowledged that the international response had been encouraging, reported Gwadar Pro on Thursday.

“Among the deliveries, four Chinese planes have delivered a total of 3,000 tents and other relief goods.” Bilawal mentioned. The Foreign Minister accompanied diplomats on a flight over the flooded regions, which Climate Change Minister Sherry Rehman earlier described as “one third (33 percent) of the country.”

The FM remarked that China had acted fast and sent useful aid on time. He also thanked other countries for their contribution.

Global aid has already started arriving in Pakistan as the scale of flood devastation unfolds, with planes carrying tents, food and medicines arriving from China, Turkey and the United Arab Emirates.

International aid agencies have asked for the easing of curbs on imports of food from India, Finance Minister Miftah Ismail said.

Climate Change Minister Sherry Rehman told a news conference it will take a long time to bring the situation under control. “There is a severe issue of clean drinking water in the flooded areas. Diseases are spreading,” she warned.

Colossal volumes of water are pouring into the Indus River, spilling out along its length and leaving vast tracks of land submerged.

The floods have washed away standing and stored crops that officials say will likely lead to a food shortage, with prices of edible items shooting up in a country already suffering from 24.9% inflation.

<https://nation.com.pk/2022/09/02/bilawal-terms-aid-from-china-as-timely-useful-2/>

September 03, 2022

Daily Times

Envoy hails China for helping Pakistan amid floods

Pakistan Ambassador to China, Moin ul Haque said on Friday that Pakistan-China was not only a state-to-state relationship but it ran in the hearts of the people of the two countries.

This sentiment is once again clearly evident in case of the recent floods in Pakistan, in the response of which we have seen a continuous outpouring of sympathy and support from the Chinese side – leadership and people, he said while chairing a meeting here at Pakistan Embassy.

Ambassador Haque said, a very touching example of this friendship was young Mingxuan, a little friend of Pakistan, who decided to donate all his money for flood victims in Pakistan.

This gracious gesture is a manifestation of the fact that the spirit of friendship nurtured by the earlier generations has been passed on to our children as well, he added.

Ambassador Haque observed that this was not the first time that such gestures, have been extended, as when Covid-19 pandemic initially broke out in China, Pakistan sent all its Covid-related supplies to China without keeping anything for itself.

Later, when Covid-19 pandemic spread in Pakistan, China was our largest source of supply of medical equipment and later vaccines. Our two countries indeed share weal and woe, he added.

Noting this generous gesture by the Chinese child, Pakistan's Ambassador to China expressed gratitude in his tweet: Young Mingxuan donated all his new year's money to help children affected by floods in Pakistan, a classic example of (Giving all that one has). Indeed a touching and heartwarming gesture. Thank you our little friend.

<https://dailymail.com.pk/991546/envoy-hails-china-for-helping-pakistan-amid-floods/>

The Nation

CPEC Presents Enormous Growth Opportunities For SMEs

ISLAMABAD – Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), which are essential to economic empowerment, can benefit greatly from China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), reported WealthPK.

In developing nations, the SME sector plays a crucial role in achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 2030 by creating job opportunities, alleviating poverty, promoting innovation and fostering sustainable industrialization, and reducing income inequalities.

Dr Liaquat Ali Shah, Executive Director and Head of Policy Division at CPEC Authority, told WealthPK that CPEC presents enormous opportunities for SMEs to flourish.

“The second phase of CPEC has been smoothly initiated. In Pakistan, the SMEs growth has been slow for which CPEC can act as a remedy and way forward for the economic revival. Investment prospects are highly favourable for the local and international SMEs in the country,” he said.

Dr Liaquat said Pakistan's export growth to China and rest of the world is very low.

“Pakistan has an opportunity to access the international markets by utilising the Chinese expertise through CPEC and cash in on opportunities in supply chain management, agriculture, livestock, minerals, food processing, surgical instruments, construction, and ICT, where joint ventures are highly supportive for local SMEs,” he said.

He suggested that special attention should be paid to SME development for creating employment opportunities and enhancing GDP (gross domestic product) growth in the country. The SMEs have less access to information and communication channels and they face difficulties complying with labour, environmental, social, and international standards, therefore, they operate in limited markets.

“Technical training for employees is required to improve skills, raise production, and prepare them for the upcoming opportunities from CPEC. It is imperative that the government resolve the infrastructure and regulatory issues in order for the SME sector to grow rapidly. SMEs need policies that empower them and allow them to reach their full potential,” he stated.

According to the LCCI President Mian Nauman Kabir, there is an excellent opportunity to involve Chinese and other foreign companies with local firms to transfer knowledge and technology, particularly in the industrial and agro-processing sectors.

He stated that export-led growth holds the key to sustainable economic development.

“Our products and services must meet global standards. Despite the fact that we cannot generate good revenue by exporting raw material and semi-finished goods, we have to go for value addition to all sectors of the economy. The government needs to take proactive measures to boost exports,” he stated.

According to Small and Medium Enterprises Development Authority (SMEDA), it has taken various initiatives to support SMEs.

The organization has an all-encompassing mandate for fostering the growth of the SME sector through its portfolio of services including business development, infrastructure development through establishing common facility centres, industry support for productivity enhancement and energy efficiency, human capital development through its training programs, and SME related projects with national and international development partners.

<https://nation.com.pk/2022/09/03/cpec-presents-enormous-growth-opportunities-for-smes/>

September 04, 2022

Daily Times

China tourism and culture week to kick off soon

The China Cultural Center in Pakistan has launched a series of online activities to celebrate the global “2022 China Tourism and Culture Week” in September.

The launching ceremony of “2022 Chinese Tourism Culture Week” is scheduled to be held in Beijing on September 6, said a news release on Saturday. Minister of Culture and Tourism Hu Heping will attend and address the event. The “2022 China Tourism and Culture Week” will end on September 15. “2022 China Tourism and Culture Week” is jointly hosted by Bureau of International Exchange and Cooperation, Department of Intangible Cultural Heritage, Ministry of Culture and Tourism and People’s Daily Online, and organized by Overseas China Cultural Center and Overseas China National Tourism Office.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/992045/china-tourism-and-culture-week-to-kick-off-soon/>

China to provide 300m RMB more in emergency relief

The Government of China has decided to provide an additional 300 million RMB in emergency relief supplies on the basis of the 100 million RMB which has already been provided. At this difficult time when Pakistan is suffering from major floods, China shares the difficulties of Pakistan and we are ready to support our iron brothers within all of our capacity, sources of Chinese Embassy said here on Saturday.

Earlier, Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Wang Wenbin said in Beijing that China closely following the flood situation in Pakistan.

“Since the floods hit Pakistan, China has been closely following the situation. We responded immediately and made every effort to provide relief assistance,” he said. China will send several batches of urgently-needed supplies to Pakistan successively. Early this week, the latest batch of China’s aid for Pakistani flood victims consisting of 3,000 tents reached Pakistan’s southern port city of Karachi.

According to Wang, following the latest batch of tents, the remaining supplies will be transported to the disaster-stricken areas as soon as possible.

Those tents were collected from China’s Sichuan province, which suffered devastating earthquake in 2008.

At the time, Pakistan rushed to China’s assistance and provided unreserved help by sending all its tents in stock to the stricken area, which deeply touched the Chinese people. The Red Cross Society of China provided USD 300,000 in emergency cash assistance to the Pakistan Red Crescent Society, and launched a handover ceremony in Islamabad this week.

The Chinese enterprises in Pakistan’s southwest Balochistan province donated USD 250,000 on September 1 to the flood victims of the province. “In China, provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities directly under the Central Government are acting in various ways to express sympathy or support to Pakistan.

The China International Development Cooperation Agency has set up a joint working group with Pakistan on the implementation of follow-up cooperation in emergency relief,” said Wang.

Meanwhile, Pakistani Embassy in China is appealing to relevant organizations, enterprises and caring people to raise funds, tents and other necessary relief materials, according to reports.

Going forward, China will continue to provide Pakistan with urgently-needed help and support its disaster relief work,” Wang said. “A friend in need is a friend indeed; true gold can stand the test of fire. I am confident that the Pakistani people will prevail over the floods at an early date and the brotherly bond between China and Pakistan will be further elevated.”?

Over 1,100 people lost their lives and more than 33.04 million people were affected by the floods, according to Pakistan’s National Disaster Management Authority. Notably, the scale of needs in Pakistan is rising like the flood waters.

It requires the world’s collective and prioritized attention, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said on Tuesday, calling on the international community to take urgent, collective action to help the government and people of Pakistan in their hour of need.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/992307/china-to-provide-300m-rmb-more-in-emergency-relief/>

Officials visit Rashakai SEZ

Officials from Rashakai Special Economic Zone Development and Operations Company (RSEZDOC) and China Road and Bridge Corporations (CRBC), along with the members of the Board of Directors (BoD) KP-EZDMC, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

Economic Zones Development and Management Company (KP-EZDMC), Javed Iqbal Khattak, Vice Chairman-KPBOIT, Said Mehmood and Director KP-TEVTA, met with Special Assistant to Chief Minister KP on Industries, Abdul Karim Tordher, said a press release issued here on Saturday. Hassan Farid, Member BoD KP-EZDMC and Director RSEZDOC was also present on the occasion. The Special Assistant was briefed by the RSEZDOC team on the Rashakai Special Economic Zone (SEZ) through a detailed presentation on the progress of development work, marketing strategy chosen for the promotion of the Zone, enterprises presently working, enterprises in the approval process and concerns pertaining to the Zone. In addition, the Special Assistant conducted a detailed site inspection to monitor the ongoing development in the Zone. With an area of 1000 acres, Rashakai Special Economic Zone is a premier CPEC project and is a Prioritized Special Economic Zone.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/992259/officials-visit-rashakai-sez/>

Dawn News

China, UK pledge aid for flood-hit areas

Amin Ahmed

ISLAMABAD: As relief efforts in flood-hit areas pick up pace, more countries, international agencies, charities and private corporations have pledged aid for the people who have been displaced.

The Chinese government has announced providing additional flood relief items worth RMB 300 million.

In a tweet, China International Development Cooperation Agency Chairman Luo Zhaohui said, “At this difficult time when Pakistan is suffering from major floods, China shares the difficulties of Pakistan, and we are ready to support our iron brothers within our capacity.”

Last week, the country donated 100m RMB worth of emergency relief supplies.

Chinese govt announces RMB 300m; Australia to give \$2m

Australia has also announced \$2m in humanitarian assistance for the flood-affected people.

The announcement was made by Australian High Commissioner to Pakistan Neil Hawkins during his visit to Benazir Income Support Program (BISP) headquarter.

Moreover, British High Commissioner to Pakistan Christian Turner has reaffirmed the UK’s commitment to Pakistan in this hour of need.

Mr Turner visited Khyber Pakhtunkhwa’s Nowshera and Kakolabas areas, where a UK-based charity Islamic Relief was involved in relief work.

Earlier, Islamic Relief launched ‘Pakistan Floods Appeal’ to collect funds for relief efforts with the UK government announcing that it will match pound for pound for the first £5m in donations.

This was part of £15m pledged by the country for urgent life-saving support, including water and sanitation, shelter and home repairs, and primary healthcare, especially for women and girls.

EU activates Civil Protection Mechanism

Moreover, the European Commission has activated the EU Civil Protection Mechanism (EUCPM) following a request from Pakistani authorities.

The commission has also mobilised 2.35m euros in emergency humanitarian funding, while Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France and Sweden have offered shelter items, medical supplies, non-food items, water pumps, bailey bridge, and medical and water purification teams.

As international relief agencies mobilise resources for relief efforts, UN Population Fund (UNFPA) Executive Director Dr Natalia Kanem said the Fund was urgently providing hospital tents, reproductive health kits and life-saving supplies to the affected population.

According to the UNFPA statement, of the 33m people affected, 6.4m need immediate humanitarian assistance, including more than 1.6m women of reproductive age. Out of these, an estimated 128,000 are pregnant, with 42,000 births expected in the next three months.

The Human Rights Watch has also urged donors to meet the needs of pregnant women.

Canadian companies pledge aid

Two of the Canada's largest cellular companies have announced a donation of \$100,000 to support flood relief efforts in Pakistan.

The amount will be channeled through Red Cross Canada to support the response.

The largest cellular company, Rogers, announced a donation of \$50,000, while its chief competitor, Bell Canada announced a donation of \$50,000.

Meanwhile, a UK-based NGO WaterAid has allocated Rs126 million to flood relief efforts, it said in a press release on Saturday.

Bakhtawar Mian in Islamabad also contributed to this report

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1708318>

The Nation

PM Shehbaz Thanks President Xi Jinping For Assistance Of RMB 400 Million For Flood Affectees

ISLAMABAD – Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif Saturday expressed gratitude to President of China Xi Jinping for assistance package of RMB 400 million for flood affectees in Pakistan.

In a tweet on social media platform Twitter, he said, “Highly grateful to H.E. President Xi Jinping for Chinese assistance package of RMB 400 million, up from initial RMB 100 million, for flood victims in Pakistan.”

“This is a reflection of our unique bond of friendship. This support will help provide much needed relief to the people,” he added.

<https://nation.com.pk/2022/09/04/pm-shehbaz-thanks-president-xi-jinping-for-assistance-of-rmb-400-million-for-flood-affectees/>

September 05, 2022

Business Recorder

Chinese CG visits Faisalabad

FAISALABAD: Consul General of Peoples Republic of China, Zhao Shiren visited Faisalabad and took a briefing on the facilities and security measures provided to Chinese investors in the Special Economic Zones under the arrangements by Faisalabad Industrial Estate Development and Management Company (FIEDMC).

In the briefing session held at Time Ceramics, chairman Board of Investment and Trade Fazeel Asif, secretary Industries Punjab Ahmed Javed Qazi and Deputy Commissioner / CEO FIEDMC Imran Hamid Sheikh welcomed the Chinese Consul General. Assistant Commissioner Chak Jhamra Khawar Bashir, Special Protection Unit and the officers of FIEDMC were also present.

Secretary Industries Punjab said M3 Industrial City, Value Addition City and Allama Iqbal Industrial City organized by FIEDMC are the major special economic zones of Pakistan where Chinese companies have been provided with the best facilities with a pleasant environment and comprehensive security measures have been taken. He also mentioned the eternal friendship of Pakistan and China, and said the purpose of the Chinese Consul General’s visit to Faisalabad is to review the facilities in the Special Economic Zones. He said the journey of industrial development is at its peak and domestic and foreign investors and wide opportunities are being provided.

Chairman Punjab Investment Board thanked the Chinese CG for coming and said measures will be continued to promote investment. The Deputy Commissioner / CEO said that Value Addition City have 225 Acre, M3 Industrial City 4356 and Allama Iqbal Industrial City have 3217 Acre land where pharmaceutical, textile, paint, steel, furniture, chemicals, processing, mobile and other industries are established. He said that special packages are given on the purchase of plots in special economic zones.

He said that in addition to roads, sewage, water supply, shopping malls and other facilities, rapid progress is also being made for 100% electricity and gas connections in the zones. He said that steps are also being taken to solve the problems faced by Chinese investors. The Consul General described the visit as ideal and thanked the administration and police officers and said that the Chinese government is sending 10 trucks of equipment for help flood affectees of Pakistan.

He said that there will be full cooperation with FIEDMC in the future to ensure the investment of more Chinese companies in the Special Economic Zones. He said that the companies related to

investment in the economic zones of FIEDMC a delegation consisting of their representatives will come to Pakistan and visit the Economic Zones to implement the investment agreements. He said that China and Pakistan are bound in an eternal relationship of friendship and this trip will express interest. Consul General also visited M3 Industrial City and took a briefing regarding the investment at the site. The Souvenir were shared among Deputy Commissioner and Chinese CG.—PR

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2022/09/05/3-page/941715-news.html>

Railways to get 50 new coaches from China in December

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Railways would receive first batch of 50 new coaches from China in December to upgrade current rolling stock and provide modern facilities to the passengers.

“Out of total 230 coaches around 50 will be provided as completely built units and the remaining 184 to be manufactured in the county by the department’s engineers and technical staff under the supervision of the Chinese experts,” an official told APP.

He said the coaches would have the capacity to run at the train’s speed of 160 kilometers per hour and the teams of Pakistan Railways were in China for the inspection of the prototypes of the coaches as well as the modern high-capacity wagons.

The official said the experts of China were also providing training to the technical staff of Pakistan Railways on manufacturing of such rolling stock.

He said Pakistan Railway was planning to upgrade the dilapidated track as the Khanpur-Kotri section was not fit for high-speed train operation while most of the Main Line-I (ML-I) parts were fit for the 120km per hour train operation.

“After the completion of the ML-I project under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), the entire ML-1 track would have the capacity to bear the rolling stock operations at the speed of 160km per hour,” he added.

He said that under another similar nature contract, a Chinese company would manufacture 800 freight wagons and 20 brake wagons. The manufacturing of 184 coaches in Pakistan would be under the ‘Transfer of Technology’ project. For the coaches planned to be manufactured in Pakistan – Pakistan Railways Carriage Factory, Islamabad - the Chinese firm would provide spare parts and raw materials.

The official said the teams of Pakistan Railways had left for China mid of August consisting of 18 officials for design inspections, 20 for other inspections and the others for participating in the training related to the transfer of technology.—APP

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2022/09/05/7-page/941752-news.html>

Daily Times

MoU signed to boost Sino-Pak buffalo business cooperation

Royal Group, China, and JW Holdings, Pakistan, in the spirit to enhance cooperation in buffalo business between the two countries, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) as a side event of the 2022 China International Fair for Trade in Services (CIFTIS), China Economic Net (CEN) reported on Sunday.

According to the MoU, the two companies will deepen cooperation in buffalo farm building, buffalo dairy products deep-processing and other related projects. “We and JW Holdings will jointly invest USD 100 million, to develop buffalo breeding and buffalo milk and meat products processing industry in Pakistan, build a number of modern large-scale buffalo disease-free pastures, dairy processing plants and slaughterhouses, and jointly promote and sell buffalo milk and meat products produced in Pakistan to ASEAN countries and the Middle East region,” said Teng Cuijin, deputy president of Royal Cell Biotechnology Corp., while taking an exclusive interview with CEN.

Also, “we will deepen cooperation in research and development of buffalo germplasm, standardized feeding and deep processing of dairy products,” she told the reporter, adding that Royal Group has accelerated the implementation of its cooperation project with Pakistan’s buffalo business since 2021. As per Teng, the project is based in Punjab, one of Pakistan’s major agricultural provinces that enjoys a similar climate with south China’s Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, in which Royal Group is based. And that, she added, makes it more feasible when introducing quality Pakistani buffalo germplasm to China.

Pakistan itself is a big animal husbandry country. “They have a quality germplasm of buffalo, but they mainly raise them in a free-range way. While China has rich experience in buffalo farming, management and intensive production, which can be shared with our Pakistani friends,” Teng told CEN. With the signing of the MoU, “we will train local talents, improve local agricultural technology and promote the development of local industries in Pakistan.

At the same time, the introduction of quality germplasm from Pakistan to China will promote the development and upgrading of China’s dairy industry,” Teng Cuijin pinpointed. Themed “cooperate for better development, innovate for a greener future,” the 2022 CIFTIS is co-hosted by Ministry of Commerce, China and the Beijing municipal government. It is a crucial platform for China to expand opening-up, deepen cooperation and pioneer innovation, which has made a positive contribution to promoting the development of the global services industry and services trade.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/992714/mou-signed-to-boost-sino-pak-buffalo-business-cooperation/>

Dawn News

The VC parallels for China and Pakistan

Mutaher Khan

For all the doom and gloom being spelt out regarding the future of venture capital, especially with regards to its suitability for Pakistan, the country has shown a fair bit of resilience amid a global downturn. New (and old) investors continue to back Pakistani entrepreneurs, with Peter Thiel — the founder of PayPal and Palantir Technologies — becoming the latest high-profile addition.

Overall investments into the startup ecosystem of \$325 million year-to-date are still on track to at least match the 2021 total of \$366m, according to Data Darbar, even if that's on the back of deals closed earlier. Sure, the rounds might further slowdown as many foreign investors reassess their allocation to both the venture capital (VC) asset class and Pakistan. But that's not the case with William Bao Bean, the General Partner of SOSV, the fourth most active VC firm globally in Q2 as per Pitchbook, with assets under management of \$1.2 billion.

In a little over two years, the fund has invested in 16 Pakistani companies. Unlike many international investors who entered the local market out of fear of missing out in 2021, Mr Bean and his fund seem to have the country as part of the broader strategy.

“We are doing Pakistan for Pakistan,” says Mr Bean in answer to whether the shaky macro risks have changed how he views the market. As someone who covered the Chinese telecom, media and technology sectors for Deutsche Bank in the 2000s, he sees many parallels between China then and Pakistan today. “When I started covering China internet in 2003, the total valuations of all the startups was \$3bn. My goal was to help Jack Ma explain Alibaba, the business-to-business (B2B) marketplace, to global investors for its initial public offering. Since then, the sector's market cap has risen to \$2.5 trillion. Pakistan today is \$3bn, so I am hoping for something similar,” he adds.

In 2003, the total valuation of all the startups in China was \$3bn, but since then, the sector's market cap has risen to \$2.5tr — Pakistan today is at \$3bn, so there is hope for a similar path

“I want to do the same thing here as I did in China: explain, to my best, the local market to people from around the world. My biggest goal here is not just to help startups get off the ground and grow but also to make sure that the global investors can understand and be comfortable writing cheques here,” Mr Bean explains.

For now, the fund is primarily looking at early-stage startups trying to solve the ‘big problems’, which essentially share one characteristic: those solving the ‘big problems’ like digitising kiriyana, logistics, and insurance, among others.

Initially, the terms of the deal are pretty standard: take 5-7 per cent of common equity and invest \$150,000 though the valuation can differ. Of that, \$45,000 is the programme cost that the

portfolio companies undergo — in the case of Pakistan, the erstwhile MOX and Chinaccelerator were recently merged into one and rebranded as Orbit Startups.

Mr Bean feels beyond the money invested, these programmes are what set SOSV apart. “Our value addition is enterprise sales and customer acquisition, and all the startups get free advertising along with a strong corporate network,” he says. The fund makes follow-on investments, though its pockets are a little tight there. “We have a follow-on fund for \$20m+ Series B and onwards, which doesn’t conflict with the core fund [\$277m]. We try and maintain as close to our pro rata as possible, but last year, our companies in Orbit closed \$286m in follow-on funding. Meanwhile, our whole budget for follow-on in a year is \$3.5m, and the pro rata on that is \$15m,” says the investor.

The 16-company portfolio of Orbit in Pakistan has cumulatively raised more than \$53m since the commencement of their operations, of which the five that have gone for subsequent rounds did receive follow-on funding from SOSV. Of course, the numbers are skewed by Dastgyr’s \$37m — the only startup in the portfolio to have raised Series A investment while the remaining fifteen are still pre-seed or seed.

The fund has already been exposed to logistics and e-commerce (B2B kiriyana and direct-to-consumer brands like HighStreet and PriceOye) and is now looking at missing sectors. “We are looking at agri, health, edtech — any company that has a high customer acquisition problem but the business makes money and can benefit from our free advertising and distribution,” says Mr Bean.

The author is the co-founder of Data Darbar, a private market portal

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1708465>

Pakistan Observer

Pak-China enhancing agricultural coop under CPEC: Commercial Counsellor

Pakistan and China are enhancing agricultural cooperation under China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) while Pakistan is ready to become food basket for China, Commercial Counsellor, Pakistan Embassy Beijing, Ghulam Qadir said.

He made these remarks while addressing International Forum on Development and Investment of Modern Supply Chain of Food on sidelines of 2022 China International Fair for Trade in Services (CIFTIS) held here.

Ghulam Qadir pointed out that rice export from Pakistan registered phenomenal growth in the last decade, adding, “In 2010 Pakistan’s exports of rice to China were only 3000 MT but now Pakistan is exporting nearly one million MT rice annually.”

He expressed the confidence that Pakistan had a potential to become a food basket of China, by utilizing its fertile and vast arable land. Pakistan, he said, was looking forward to enhancing the

bilateral food supply chain and agricultural cooperation by using China's latest technologies and methods.

“We are looking forward to China's investment and technology transfer for agricultural modernization and better productivity in Pakistan. We will also enhance our bilateral trade by using the latest methods like e-commerce and online platforms,” he added.

Ghulam Qadir attended opening ceremony held on August 31 as well as participated in several activities including signing ceremony of Royal Group and JW Group, Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Roundtable Seminar on Digital Trade with relevant organizations and summit Forum on China's International Economic Cooperation “Going Global.”

More than 120 companies and organizations, such as well-known law firms, leading asset evaluation agencies, large business service providers in China and abroad, and national-level human resources industrial parks are attending the exhibition online and offline.

Among them, many are the world's top 500 firms and leading companies in their respective industries.

The five-day supply chain and business services exhibition of the China International Fair for Trade in Services (CIFTIS) featuring renowned Chinese and international business service providers and their achievements in innovation will conclude on September 5.

<https://pakobserver.net/pak-china-enhancing-agricultural-coop-under-cpec-commercial-counsellor/>

Pakistan Pavilion set up in China Int'l Fair for Trade in Services

A Pakistan National Pavilion being set up in the China International Fair for Trade in Services (CIFTIS) for the first time, China Economic Net (CEN) reported on Sunday.

The 2022 CIFTIS witnessed the flourishing business of these Pakistani merchants. With this platform, they are logging their growing appetite for the Chinese market. “How about this necklace? It's more stunning than the former one. Yep dear all from Pakistan! Quality ones!” In front of the Pakistani jewelry stall stands a Chinese buyer who is in a video call with his wife, holding his mobile phone to shoot the gems shining in the booth.

<https://pakobserver.net/pakistan-pavilion-set-up-in-china-intl-fair-for-trade-in-services/>

China asks Pakistan to provide list of urgently needed supplies

Luo Zhaohui, Director of China International Development Cooperation Agency has announced that China will provide another 300 million yuan of relief supplies to Pakistan.

He announced the message while meeting with Chairman National Disaster Management Authority, Pakistan Lt-Gen AKhtar Nawaz via video.

Luo Zhaohui requested the Pakistani side to provide a list of urgently needed supplies at an early date and determine the mode of transportation so that the Chinese assistance can reach the flood victims as soon as possible.

He highlighted the higher than mountain, deeper than sea, and sweeter than honey all-weather friendship between the two countries, recalling that during the Wenchuan Earthquake in China in 2008, Pakistan sent all its tents in stock to the stricken area.

At the onset of the flood in Pakistan, Chinese military aircraft carried 3,000 tents for assistance. China has also raised 200 tons of onions as needed by Pakistan, which will arrive in Pakistan via the Karakoram Highway within a week.

The China Meteorological Administration has been providing real-time weather forecasts to Pakistan. Ordinary Chinese people, enterprises and local governments are also raising donations in cash and kind, manifesting the iron clad friendship between the two countries.

He said that in the next step, China is ready to share the experience in disaster relief and provide support in post-disaster reconstruction.

Lt-Gen AKhtar Nawaz, Chairman National Disaster Management Authority, Pakistan, thanked Chinese leadership and Chinese people for their assistance. He briefed that the first batch of tents provided by China has reached the flood-stricken areas.

He introduced in detail the latest situation and relief efforts in Pakistan, shared specific needs in the following step and expressed readiness to cooperate with China in distributing relief supplies.

Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan Nong Rong, Consul General in Karachi Li Bijian, Pakistani Ambassador to China Moin ul Haque, and members from the Ministry of Commerce, the Ministry of Emergency Management, the Bureau of Meteorology and other departments of China attended the video meeting.

<https://pakobserver.net/china-asks-pakistan-to-provide-list-of-urgently-needed-supplies/>

The Nation

PCJCCI Suggests Pak Dairy Products' Export To China

LAHORE – The cooperation between China and Pakistan on dairy industry and multifarious demands for high-quality dairy products in China will provide a contemporary path of development for Pakistan's dairy industry. Pakistan China Joint Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCJCCI) President Mr Wang Zihai expressed these views in a think-tank session held here at PCJCCI Secretariat on Sunday. He added, "We have learned that Pakistan is the most important exporter and producer of dairy products in South Asia; whereas, Chinese technologies are low-priced if we adopt the techniques and technology used by China, Pakistan could advance in this industry." PCJCCI president said that China is willing to explore more about Pakistani dairy industry to see if it has the opportunity to be part of Pakistan in this sector. From 2011 to 2022, China's dairy imports rose at a compound annual growth of 12.3 percent, and the demand

is still expanding. Milk powder, liquid milk, high value-added dairy products such as whey, cheese, butter and cream are also in high demand in the Chinese market. PCJCCI Senior Vice President Ehsan Choudhry said that currently, China's dairy imports mainly come from New Zealand (40.44 percent), the Netherlands (17.15 percent) and Australia (7.38 percent). Pakistan's government should support this industry to boost export and domestic production, especially to control the adulteration of loose milk. He asserted that the local farmers are facing many problems, such as a lack of education, latest storage facilities, transfer of milk, and cold storage; the government should come forward to train and educate them with the modern technology. In this way, Chinese consumers' demands for high quality dairy products will be satisfied. Meanwhile, Pakistan's economic development, industrial upgrading and industrial chain extension can be expected in the process. PCJCCI Vice President Sarfaraz Butt said: "Animal husbandry is one of the pillar industries in Pakistan. Specifically, Balochistan, where Gawadar Port under China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is located in, is with unique advantages of breeding beef cattle and dairy cows." He added that the construction of epidemic-free area in Gawadar Port is progressing in an orderly way. If the industrial chain of China can be extended to Pakistan, it is expected to achieve win-win outcomes for the dairy industry of both countries. The joint chamber's Secretary General Salahuddin Hanif said that Pakistan is among world's top five largest milk producers, with over 60 million tonnes of milk production each year.

Such ventures and exports could definitely add value to Pakistan's economy.

<https://nation.com.pk/2022/09/05/pcjcci-suggests-pak-dairy-products-export-to-china/>

September 06, 2022

Daily Times

China, Pakistan build network to forecast environmental disasters

The Peshawar Station under "The Belt and Road" Lidar Network initiated by China's Lanzhou University has been set up in Pakistan, according to China Economic Net (CEN). The Peshawar Station, the first atmospheric Lidar observation station in Pakistan, will serve for the forecast of weather and environmental disasters and researches on global climate change by providing basic data.

In late July 2022, Li Wuren, an engineer and Li Meishi, a postgraduate both from College of Atmospheric Sciences of Lanzhou University, paid a visit to University of Peshawar, Pakistan. They helped the Pakistani team conduct the installation and trial run of Raman-Polarization lidar, multi-band sun photometer, system of intelligent monitor and UPS stabilized voltage supply at Peshawar station.

At present, all instruments and equipment at Peshawar Station run smoothly and collect a lot of important parameters, including the backscattering and extinction coefficients of atmospheric aerosol and cloud, Angstrom exponent, aerosol boundary layer height, as well as spectral

distribution of aerosol optical depth. These are supportive for the accurate forecasting of extreme weather events.

Therefore, its establishment will significantly ease the lack of observational data on air pollutants, dust aerosols, water vapor and meteorological elements in the areas along the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

Li Wuren told China Economic Net that Peshawar station is one of stations of Lanzhou University's "The Belt and Road" Lidar Network. "In addition to Peshawar station, we are going to set up another station in Gwadar. Now we are preparing for it," Li added.

The lidar network runs from Lanzhou in the east, through Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region of China, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Iran, Israel to Algeria in the west. Stretching across over 8,000 kilometers, it is planned to set up 14 ground-based observing stations to obtain the atmospheric monitoring data in arid and semi-arid regions all over the world.

According to Li, the lidar network is along the Silk Road Economic Belt, which is also the world's main dust belt in arid and semi-arid regions. "Lanzhou University is actively engaged in the construction of lidar network and carried out joint monitoring and research on atmospheric composition with partners to serve the countries and regions along the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI)," said Bi Jianrong from the Key Laboratory of Semi-Arid Climate Change, Ministry of Education, Lanzhou University.

Now Pakistan's rain-triggered flash floods have inundated one-third of the country. According to Abid Qaiyum Suleri, a member of Pakistan's Climate Change Council, Pakistan has received the highest rainfall in at least three decades and the rain is running at more than 780% above average levels.

The rain is brought by the Asian Summer Monsoon, essentially a colossal sea breeze. It usually brings South Asia 70-80% of its annual rainfall between June and September every year. As for the ongoing flood, Bi Jianrong advised the Pakistani side to expedite early warning and monitoring and strengthen staff training to have more forecasts and prediction methods. In addition, Bi Jianrong pointed out that to enhance the early warning capacity, countries and regions should cooperate with each other.

"Only by cooperation, can the analysis and forecast be more accurate," he added. "International cooperation is essential for combating climate change. It is about the fate of all mankind," said Huang Zhongwei, a professor of Lanzhou University and team leader of China's self-developed multiband Raman-fluorescence lidar.

Lanzhou University will build the "the Belt and Road" lidar network into a platform for talents training, scientific research and international cooperation, said Huang.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/993019/china-pakistan-build-network-to-forecast-environmental-disasters/>

Chinese company to provide more solar panels to Pakistan

Chinese company will provide more solar panels for roof to help ease power shortage in Pakistan.

During summers, many areas in Pakistan suffered prolonged power outages, driving up people's demand for solar panels on roof. In the future, we will focus on the distributed solar power in Pakistan, providing more solar panels on roof for residents as well as industrial and commercial buildings", said Mr. Li Xiaopeng, Regional Sales Manager of Longi Solar in an interview with China Economic Net (CEN).

The Chinese solar giant, which has rolled out the first one-stop solar solution in its home country, has signed an MoU with the largest bank in Pakistan HBL to provide financial support to potential solar panel users. Responding to the recent flood in Pakistan, Mr. Li said the company is planning to provide assistance to locals through free distribution of clean drinking water and solar systems. "In addition, we are working with our Pakistani partners to donate a 20KW solar energy system to a local school for the hearing-impaired. We will also roll out a scholarship program in Lahore this month to cover the tuition fee of 20 primary school students for a year", Mr. Li said.

As more extreme weather occurs, the company is adapting its products to the aggravating climate change, such as the operation and maintenance of solar devices under high temperature, which haunted Pakistan this summer, alert of extreme weather conditions, and methods to protect the solar devices when flood hits. Recently, the company supplied nearly 50MW of solar modules to BESTWAY Cement, Pakistan's second-largest cement manufacturer. Up to now, the equipment at Farooqia, Chakwal, KalarKahar, and Hattar plants have been installed. After they are connected to the grid, it is expected to generate 77GWh of electricity a year and reduce nearly 600,000 tons of carbon dioxide emissions.

"Pakistan will add 3,000 MW of wind power and 7,000 MW of photovoltaic capacity by 2030 to meet its target of generating 25% of its electricity from renewable sources by 2025 and 30% by 2030. Undoubtedly, we will see a very strong demand for new energy in Pakistan in the future. We are working with Pakistani partners to propel the country into the Gigawatt Era in terms of solar usage", Mr. Li added.

<https://dailymtimes.com.pk/993232/chinese-company-to-provide-more-solar-panels-to-pakistan/>

China to dispatch 200 tons of onions to Pakistan

China has put together 200 tons of onions and will soon dispatch via Karakoram Highway to the flood-hit people of Pakistan, Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesperson, Mao Ning said on Monday.

"Based on Pakistan's needs, the Chinese side has put together 200 tons of vegetables and will deliver them via the Karakoram Highway as soon as possible," she said during her regular briefing while responding to a question asked by APP correspondent. Mao Ning, a member of

the Communist Party of China (CPC), took over as 33rd spokesperson of Chinese Foreign Ministry.

China Meteorological Administration provided Pakistan with real-time weather forecast and technological support, she added. She announced that on top of the RMB 100 million emergency humanitarian assistance, the Chinese government has decided to provide additional disaster relief supplies worth RMB 300 million.

Chairman of China International Development Cooperation Agency, Luo Zhaohui on Saturday announced the donation decision during his virtual meeting with Chairman of National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), Akhtar Nawaz. Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari in their separate have already expressed profound gratitude to the Chinese leadership and people for the additional relief assistance for flood victims in Pakistan.

The spokeswoman said, since the beginning of the floods, the Chinese side had been standing together with Pakistan and making every effort to provide disaster relief assistance. She said, the Chinese leaders including President Xi Jinping and Premier, Li Keqiang sent messages of sympathy to their Pakistani counterparts.

The Chinese government promptly sent urgently needed supplies, including tents to Pakistan. The Red Cross Society of China offered donations to the Pakistan Red Crescent Society. Sub-national governments, organizations and people in China have all expressed sympathies and support in various ways.

“A ruthless disaster can bring out the best of humanity. We’re ready to maintain close communication cooperation with Pakistani side to fully give them the help and assistance,” she commented.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/993233/china-to-dispatch-200-tons-of-onions-to-pakistan/>

Express News

گوا در فری زون فیئر 2 سے بائیو اکانومی کا نیا دور شروع

گوا در فری زون فیئر 2 سے بائیو اکانومی کا نیا دور شروع ہو گا۔ : گوا در

گوا در فری زون فیئر ٹو میں فارمی انڈسٹری، مویشی پالنے اور لائیو سٹاک کی ترقی سے بااختیار بائیو اکانومی کا ایک نیا دور شروع ہو گا، چینی کمپنی ایلو ویرا کی کاشت کیلئے زمین تیار کرے گی، کاشت کے تکنیکی ماہرین کی رہنمائی اور تربیت کرے گی، زراعت اور مویشی پالنے کی صنعت میں ہنرمندوں کے علم میں اضافہ ہو گا۔ ملٹی نیشنل کارپوریشن اگلے 3 سال میں 20 ملین ڈالر کی سرمایہ کاری کرے گی، جنوبی افریقہ، نائیجیریا اور کینیا سے کھپ کے پہلا کلسٹر کراچی پورٹ پہنچ گیا، اسے ویلیو ایڈیشن کے لیے گوا در پورٹ بھیجا جائے۔

<https://www.express.pk/story/2369065/6/>

Jang News

وزیر اعظم سے چین کے سفیر نوگ روگ کی ملاقات

اسلام آباد میں وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف سے چین کے سفیر نوگ روگ نے ملاقات کی اور چینی صدر وو وزیر اعظم کے تعزیت اور ہمدردی کے پیغامات پہنچائے۔ وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف نے چین کی جانب سے سیلاب متاثرین کیلئے امدادی سامان بھجوانے، چینی صدر اور وزیر اعظم کے تعزیت اور ہمدردی کے پیغامات پر اظہار تشکر کیا ہے۔ اس موقع پر شہباز شریف نے کہا کہ سیلاب زدگان کے لیے امداد کی فوری فراہمی پر حکومت پاکستان اور عوام تہہ دل سے مشکور ہیں۔ واضح رہے کہ چین نے سیلاب متاثرین کیلئے 25 ہزار ٹن سمیت امداد کو 400 ملین یو آں تک بڑھا دیا ہے۔

<https://jang.com.pk/news/1132461>

September 07, 2022

Business Recorder

NA panel opposes setting up of Pak-China Gwadar varsity in Lahore

ISLAMABAD: A parliamentary body on Tuesday opposed the establishment of “Pak-China Gwadar University, Lahore” at Lahore instead of Gwadar and demanded that it should be set up in Gwadar.

The parliamentarians raised the matter while taking up the “The Pak-China Gwadar University Lahore Bill, 2022” moved by MNA Ghaus Buz Khan Mahar during the National Assembly Standing Committee on Federal Education, Professional Training, National Heritage and Culture meeting held under the chairmanship of MNA Makhdoom Syed Samiul Hassan Gillani. The MNAs questioned that when the name of the university is Pak-China Gwadar University, then why it was planned to be set up in Lahore instead of Gwadar.

They said that the university should be set in Gwadar as these areas need more educational institutions.

Dr Mukhtar Ahmed, chairman Higher Education Commission (HEC) also said that he has also similar kind of reservations over the setting up of Pak-China Gwadar University in Lahore. However, the committee did not discuss “The Pak China Gwadar University Lahore Bill 2022” as the mover was absent. According to the statement of objects and reasons of the bill, the purpose and objects of the establishment of Pak-China Gwadar University, Lahore are to promote and disseminate knowledge and to provide education, training, research, demonstration, and scholarship in such branches of learning, as it may determine.

Further, industry and the relevant organisations or institutions to promote public-private partnership, innovation and research, development, and industrialisation for the purpose of education and training development shall be made.

MNA Dr Shazia Sobia Aslam Soomro said that the ground realities in different universities of Balochistan are not as presented. Due to threats students are studying in universities in Balochistan, she said, adding that last year, Balochistan University remained closed for six

months.

The HEC chairman said that we have set up campuses in the rural areas of Balochistan for the promotion of higher education in the province. Mukhtar said that the commission is also taking different steps to improve governance in universities across the country. He said that he held a meeting with vice-chancellors (VCs) of all universities soon after the devastating floods in the country and directed VCs of universities located in or close to flood-hit areas to accommodate flood victims. We have also set up around six groups for providing different kinds of assistance including medical, agriculture, infrastructure, and a group of data collection.

Mukhtar said that a medical group has been set up to provide medical facilities in flood-affected areas. Another team of agriculture experts would guide farmers in flood-hit areas and another team of engineers would provide guidance about infrastructure development. An IT team has been set up for the collection of data regarding the damages, he said.

The meeting was also attended by MNA Mehnaz Akbar Aziz, Chaudhry Muhammad Hamid Hameed, Mian Najeedud Din Awaisi, Farrukh Khan, Dr Nisar Ahmad Cheema, Dr Muhammad Afzal Khan, Mussarat Asif Khawaja, and senior officials of the HEC.

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2022/09/07/12-page/941956-news.html>

Daily Times

Chinese pioneer industrialists invited to invest in Pakistan's SEZs

Commercial Counsellor, Pakistan Embassy Beijing, Ghulam Qadir has called upon the Chinese pioneer industrialists to take advantage of the incentives and investment-friendly policies offered by Pakistani government for the foreign investment in the special economic zones (SEZ's).

The Chinese entrepreneurs could avail incentives offered at Special Economic Zones (SEZs) as well as lease and transfer of land by foreign investors and facilitation for foreign real estate developers, he told participants of a seminar titled 'Summit Forum on China's International Economic Cooperation Going Global' held on sidelines of the 2022 China International Fair for Trade in Services (CFTIS). He remarked that investors could also get advantages of a complete tax holiday for contractors and sub-contractors for 20 years and exemption from customs duty for 40 years on the import of equipment and material for construction and operation of the free zone.

About enhanced bilateral cooperation between China and Pakistan, he said the Free Trade Agreement paved way for Pakistan to promote local products through e-commerce platforms. "Our products are available for sale on famous Chinese online platforms particularly Jingdong (JD.com)," he added. Terming Pakistan's current exports to China just a drop in the ocean, he said that Pakistani exports goods got over 91% market access at zero rates after signing of China-Pakistan FTA.

He informed that efforts were being made to enhance Pakistan's exports to China by sectoral strategies, promotion activities, integrating into Chinese E-commerce giants and promoting efficiency-seeking investment from China. According to experts, the six-day event achieved fruitful results and brought fresh hope to stagnating global economic growth. Themed "Cooperate for Better Development, Innovate for a Greener Future" CIFTIS 2022 featured greater internationalization, with the participation of over 7,800 companies online and more than 2,400 enterprises in-person, including 507 industry-leading enterprises and Global Fortune 500 companies. A total of 71 countries and international organizations exhibited at the fair this year, with the total exhibition area increasing 20 percent from last year to reach 152,000 square meters.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/993632/chinese-pioneer-industrialists-invited-to-invest-in-pakistans-sezs/>

Pakistan Observer

Pak supports China's efforts for socio-economic uplift in Xinjiang: FO

Foreign Office says Pakistan supports China's efforts for socio economic development, harmony and peace and stability in Xinjiang.

Responding to the queries of the media persons, Foreign Office Spokesperson Asim Iftikhar said China has succeeded in lifting over seven hundred million people out of poverty in the last thirty five years, thus improving their living standards and the enjoyment of fundamental human rights.

The spokesperson said Pakistan appreciates China's constructive engagement with the UN human rights system as well as the OIC General Secretariat, as evident by visits of the former High Commissioner for Human Rights and OIC delegation to China.

The spokesperson said Pakistan reaffirms its abiding commitment to advance all human rights universally in accordance with the principles of the UN Charter.

Asim Iftikhar said Pakistan as a responsible member of the UN with strong commitment to multilateralism, Pakistan believes in the principles of the UN charter including respect for political independence, sovereignty and non-interference in internal affairs of state. It is our consistent position that non politicization, universality, objectivity, dialogue and constructive engagement should be the main tools to promote universal respect for human rights.—NNI

<https://pakobserver.net/pak-supports-chinas-efforts-for-socio-economic-uplift-in-xinjiang-fo/>

BRI & Blessings of Xiconomics

Dr Mehmood Ul Hassan Khan

THE Chinese Belt & Road Initiative (BRI) has become an economic equalizer and industrialization stimulator in the world. It has further enhanced chances of greater regional

connectivity, infrastructural development, integrated transport system, economic corridors, immense industrialization and last but not the least eradication of poverty.

Whereas, Xiconomics summarizes the long-term guiding principles of the world's second largest economy which derives from the numerous philosophies of the Chinese President Xi Jinping. His philosophies have further strengthened and expanded China's positive, productive and participatory role in the world in which the project of the 21st century i.e. BRI played an important role. Moreover, reorient domestic development via Dual Circulation has also been tremendously contributory.

The Xiconomics, a new kind of international economy based on economic equality, shared prosperity, community development, greater regional connectivity, immense socio-economic integration and generation of new jobs in the world was merged. Thus the birth of BRI in 2013 was not out of the blue moon but logical stimulation of numerous national policies and programs of expansion of macro-economy.

Xi has reshaped China's major economic decision-making institutions most notably the Central Economic and Financial Affairs Commission since becoming President which further streamlined, systemized and strengthened the real potential of macro-economy of China due to which it has become the champion of innovations and artificial intelligence technologies in the world.

Xi's first term (2013-18) was confined to addressing domestic socio-economic problems and policy flaws which were accordingly rectified with the introduction of constant structural reform. Ultimately, Xiconomics revolutionized Chinese national economy by gearing up massive but sensible industrialization, infrastructural development, immense social development (more than 850 million people have been pulled out of extreme poverty), digitalization, greater regional connectivity, country-wide financial integration, banking stimulations and last but not the least, provision and protection of basic human rights which ultimately transformed the Chinese economy and institutionalized social modernization.

It has helped China claim around 18% of global GDP, and put it on track to overtaking the US as the world's largest economy.

The BRI was first used and utilized to revive connections along ancient trade routes (Silk Routes) and tap non-Western markets before turning into an ambitious strategy to expand China's positive role in more than 140 countries in Asia, Europe, Africa and South America.

Initially, the BRI was predicated on infrastructure connectivity but expanded to include trade and investment with the establishment of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, Silk Road Fund and the New Development Bank.

According to the Ministry of Commerce (2021-2022) the non-financial outbound investment in 57 countries involved in the belt and road strategy rose by 14.1% year on year to US\$20.3 billion in 2021, up from US\$14.8 billion in 2015. During the last 40 years of opening-up, China's GDP

increased to 12 trillion US dollars from 175 billion, with an average annual economic growth of 9.5% and the size of China's economy increased by 35 times. Moreover, China's GDP per capita reached 8640 US dollars from 156 US dollars. The percentage of the China' GDP in the world economy has increased from 1.8% to 18%. Hopefully, the development and completion of the BRI projects in more than 140 member countries will further foster its GDP and further enhance GNP, social development and poverty reduction.

Despite western propaganda, China has been a major stimulator and driving force for the world economy. With rapid economic growth, China has contributed over 30% of global growth in recent years and made significant contribution to mitigating the influence of Asian financial crisis and the global financial crisis. Interestingly, China is now the largest trading partner of more than 120 countries. China's imports have increased 170 fold, reaching 1.85 trillion US dollars last year, supporting tens of millions of jobs worldwide. Chinese companies have actively invested abroad, which set up 372,000 businesses in 190 countries and different regions, with a total investment of 1.36 trillion US dollars. According to many published reports the BRI's investment may reach US\$5 trillion in the days to come.

According to Chinese official data from 2013 to 2017, trade between China and countries along the BRI exceeded US\$5 trillion. Chinese investment in these countries topped US\$70 billion. Chinese companies have paid US\$2.2 billion in tax and fee to host countries and created more than 450,000 local jobs.

The Xiconomics introduced many structural reforms comprising establishing a negative list for foreign investment, fiscal reform, an initial public offering registration mechanism and financial opening, all of which fuelled enthusiasm that pro-market reforms would continue. In this regard, the "new normal" placed an emphasis on quality, rather than the pace of economic expansion, with Beijing focusing on a medium-growth stage. It downplayed GDP and concentrated on addressing problems like rising debt, rampant shadow banking and demographic challenges.

Policy-makers introduced supply-side structural adjustments, including tackling industrial overcapacity, regulation of the property market and deleveraging. Efforts were also made to shrink the size of shadow banking off balance sheet lending and defuse a variety of financial risks buried in local government financing vehicles, peer-to-peer lending platforms and problematic small banks.

The real estate sector was also reshaped and further regularized which afterward proved one of the main pillars of growth. Widespread speculations were snubbed and eradicated. Moreover, the Chinese State-owned enterprises (SOEs) have long been the backbone to China's socialist market economy. But Xiconomics pledged to make them bigger and stronger. Its SOEs have become the backbone of the Chinese socialist system. Net assets of non-financial state firms increased up to 76 trillion RMB (US\$11 trillion) in 2019 from 40.1 trillion RMB in 2015.

Dual circulation was also one of the main economic policies of the Xiconomics which highlighted both internal and external circulation, but marked a shift from China's decades-old,

export-oriented development model, setting a series of new goals for the next 15 years. The plan placed greater focus on the domestic market, or internal circulation, and is China's strategic adaptation to an increasingly unstable and hostile outside world. In the future, there will be less reliance on export-driven growth, or external circulation, although it will not be abandoned altogether.

Under Xiconomics, China has been pursuing common prosperity which calls for fairer distribution of wealth as the main objective in its next stage of development. It resultantly lifted hundreds of millions of Chinese (850 millions) out of poverty and a vibrant middle class emerged. Consumption became a driver of growth, rather than capital-intensive investment which has been popular in previous decades. Subsequently, tax incentives were introduced and social security networks were institutionalized which increased personal earnings of the poor.

Small and medium-sized enterprises were also developed. Xi called for the protection of property rights, reiterating the country will continue developing both the private and foreign sectors, while keeping public ownership at the core of the Chinese economy.

The Xiconomics also blessed its macro-economy which succeeded in combating deadly COVID-19 became the first major economy to recover from the initial shock of the coronavirus.

To conclude, BRI is the "by-product" and "rebirth" of the Xiconomics which regulates the relationship between the "visible hand" of the government and the "invisible hand" of the market in the modern world of corporate governance.

The Xiconomics emphasizes the market's decisive role in allocating resources; at the same time, it allows the government to perform its functions better. It has promoted the sound interaction between an efficient market and a capable government, offering inspiration to economies worldwide struggling to improve governance.

Its policy support has transformed China into the world's most suitable country for innovative business investment and development. It succeeded to construct 21 Free Trade Zones (FTZS) and implemented the new Foreign Investment Law which successfully shortened the negative list for foreign investment and facilitated the entry into force of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership thus China has laid out favourable policies to make its market more promising.

Xiconomics pushed forward supply-side structural reforms; carried out fiscal policy; introduced business & investment friendly taxation and financial reforms; enhanced property rights protection; and improved anti-monopoly regulations. Resultantly, the high quality development of socialist market economy was merged and the BRI became the jewel of the Xiconomics.

<https://pakobserver.net/bri-blessings-of-xiconomics-by-dr-mehmood-ul-hassan-khan/>

CPEC: Economic Opportunities and Strategic dividends

Shah Meer

Devastating floods have caused havoc across Pakistan, destroying barren lands, inundating roads and collapsing the entire fabric of statecraft.

The torrential rains came at a time when Pakistan is almost on the verge of economic default, foreign exchange reserves are shrinking and the country is dependent on foreign aid. Amid these catastrophes, Islamabad needs sustainable economic development, which it can achieve by refocusing on the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

After the change of guards in Pakistan, the newly appointed Planning Minister, Ahsan Iqbal, reasserted Pakistan's position with regards to the CPEC and said that CPEC could enable Pakistan to become an industrial economy.

Arguably, CPEC is a ray of hope for Pakistan in many ways. Firstly, agriculture contributes nearly 23 per cent to the national GDP and half of the population is indirectly involved in it. It also holds 44 per cent of the share in national employment.

Development in agriculture means an improvement in the life of half of the population of the country. Unfortunately, as per German Watch, Pakistan is the 8th most vulnerable country to climate change in the world.

Pakistan hosted its warmest March in the last sixty years which came during the last heat-wave, causing a wheat deficit of four million and a 30 per cent reduction in mango production. Flood and torrential rains damaged more than two thirds of the dates of Khairpur District leaving 100,000 people jobless.

At a time when heat-waves are predicted to be more frequent in South Asia in this century, Chashma Right Bank Canal (CRBC) under CPEC would be a real game changer for the agriculture sector of Pakistan.

CRBC can irrigate more than 300,000 acres of land in Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa (KP). It can also improve the efficiency of irrigation technology and help in crop farming, livestock breeding and forestry.

It has the potential to tackle the food shortage and boost the foreign reserves of Pakistan. Also, it would uplift the socio-economic condition of the region while providing employment.

Secondly, CPEC can help reduce Islamabad's dependency on fossil fuels for electricity generation. There are six major non-renewable energy projects under CPEC responsible for generating thousands of Megawatts of electricity using solar, hydro and wind power.

It has two chief impacts on Pakistan: Islamabad can switch to renewable energy at a time when it is being affected the most by climate change. It can also achieve Nationally Determined Contributions which are the core principle of the Paris Agreement.

Thirdly, the infrastructure projects are also worth mentioning. The 392 kilometres-long Sukkur-Multan Motorway is considered the largest transport infrastructure project of CPEC. It has created more than 30,000 job opportunities.

A similar transport project is the ML1 multibillion-dollar railway project stretching from Peshawar to Karachi. The project encompasses a digital signalling system, fast transport, and is capable of holding load and traffic. The World Bank considered this project beneficial for Pakistan.

Fourthly, geo-strategically, it further closes Islamabad to Beijing leaving New Delhi alone in search for a formidable ally in the region. Pakistan can take leverage of this partnership for accelerating the Kashmir Cause.

As India is evolving so far in the Western Bloc for China's containment, it enjoys unprecedented perks and privileges given by the West. Consequently, it can render Pakistan insecure in the region.

Holding stronger ties with Beijing will help Islamabad to use Beijing on diplomatic and economic fronts fighting Indian privileges and assertions in global affairs in general and in international institutions in particular.

Fifthly, CPEC is a multibillion-dollar project which intends to achieve diverse targets and objectives. It is an investment that is unprecedented and game-changing.

Islamabad can use this opportunity to portray Pakistan's soft image in the world at a time when global politics pivots to 'soft power. CPEC can be used for breaking the stereotypes against Pakistan. The country is being portrayed as a politically unstable, terrorist-prone and extremist country.

To achieve the benefits mentioned above, Pakistan needs a tripartite consensus claiming that be it any government of any political party, CPEC must be continued in a balanced flow since it is the game changer and ray of hope for Pakistan.

Islamabad also needs to assure that political instability must be controlled and sought out in no time. Moreover, separatists in Balochistan must be accommodated inclusively. Foreign interference and propaganda be dealt with prudence.

Finally, the CPEC is the need of the time for gaining inclusive and sustainable economic development in Pakistan.

Successfully negotiating a one billion dollar bailout package with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) or getting aid from friendly nations may pillar economic collapse, but it cannot sustain economic prosperity.

Economic prosperity begins with industrialization and Foreign Direct Investment (FDI). Pakistan so far has achieved industrialization and FDI in the shape of CPEC and the latter undoubtedly is a ray of hope in the darkness.

<https://pakobserver.net/cpec-economic-opportunities-and-strategic-dividends-by-shah-meer/>

The Express Tribune

Exports to China just a drop in ocean

Envoy says FTA has cleared path for deepening bilateral cooperation

BEIJING: China-Pakistan Free Trade Agreement (FTA) has paved the way for enhancing bilateral cooperation and Pakistan aims to promote local products through e-commerce platforms, remarked Pakistan's Commercial Counsellor to China Ghulam Qadir.

Speaking at the "Summit Forum on China's International Economic Cooperation Going Global", held at the National Convention Centre, he informed the participants that Pakistani products were available on famous Chinese online platforms and Pakistan had a national pavilion on Jingdong (JD.com), one of China's largest e-commerce platforms.

"Pakistan's current exports to China are just a drop in the ocean. China-Pakistan FTA gave access to over 91% of Pakistani export market at zero rates," he pointed out.

Besides, "efforts are underway to further improve our exports to China via sector-specific strategies, promotional activities, integration with Chinese e-commerce giants and promotion of efficiency-seeking investment from China into Pakistan."

Qadir encouraged Chinese investors to invest in Pakistan and take advantage of friendly policies, that allow up to 100% foreign ownership.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2375242/exports-to-china-just-a-drop-in-ocean>

The Nation

Pakistan Supports China On Xjnjiang

Shafqat Ali

ISLAMABAD – Pakistan yesterday supported China on the Xjnjiang issue after the Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) issued a report on human rights in Xinjiang.

Foreign Office spokesperson Asim Iftikhar Ahmed said Pakistan had taken note of the release of the OHCHR report on human rights in Xinjiang.

"As a responsible member of the United Nations with strong commitment to multilateralism, Pakistan believes in the principles of the UN Charter including respect for political independence, sovereignty and non-interference in internal affairs of states," he added. The spokesperson said it was "our consistent position that non-politicization, universality, objectivity, dialogue and constructive engagement should be the main tools to promote universal respect for human rights." He said, "Pakistan supports China's efforts for socio-economic development, harmony and peace and stability in Xinjiang. China has succeeded in lifting over 700 million people out of poverty in the last 35 years, thus improving their living conditions and the

enjoyment of fundamental human rights.” He further said: “We appreciate China’s constructive engagement with the UN human rights system as well as the OIC General Secretariat, as evidenced by visits of the former High Commissioner for Human Rights and OIC delegation to China.” Ahmed said Pakistan “reaffirms its abiding commitment to advance all human rights universally in accordance with the principles of the UN Charter.” Earlier, a long-awaited report by the Office of the OHCHR into the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region (XUAR) concluded that “serious human rights violations” against the Uyghur and “other predominantly Muslim communities” have been committed. The report published in the wake of the visit by UN High Commissioner of Human Rights, Michelle Bachelet in May, said that “allegations of patterns of torture, or ill treatment, including forced medical treatment and adverse conditions of detention, are credible, as are allegations of individual incidents of sexual and gender based violence.” In a strongly worded assessment at the end of the report, OHCHR said that the extent of arbitrary detentions against Uyghur and others, in context of “restrictions and deprivation more generally of fundamental rights, enjoyed individually and collectively, may constitute international crimes, in particular crimes against humanity.”

<https://nation.com.pk/2022/09/07/pakistan-supports-china-on-xjnjiang/>

September 08, 2022

Daily Times

Chinese meteorological company steps up Pakistan cooperation

As Pakistan is heavily hit by the rare flood, the country is stepping up cooperation with Chinese meteorological companies, China Economic Net (CEN) reported on Wednesday. “Currently, we are working on the provision of automatic weather stations (AWS) and technologies. If conditions permit, we are also looking to building meteorological labs with our Pakistani partners”, Zhuge, CEO of ZOGLAB, a professional Chinese manufacturer specialized in instruments for atmosphere and environment, told CEN.

The quantity and quality of meteorological equipment in China top the world. For customers in South and Southeast Asia, Chinese meteorological equipment is more cost-effective compared with similar products with the same index and precision manufactured in the US and European countries. “A set of automatic weather station sold at around RMB 300,000 by western countries can be bought at around RMB 200,000 from China”, he said, citing the AWS for field environment monitoring displayed during the China International Fair for Trade in Services (CIFTIS) which ended yesterday in Beijing.

“The cost is controlled at RMB 50,000-60,000. Automatic Weather Station is a very economical option for Pakistan compared with the radars and satellites which require long-term, huge investment”, Zhuge added. According to the CEO, Pakistan and China can also collaborate to establish meteorological standards to improve the accuracy of the data acquired by the existing weather stations.

“Taking a step further, China can provide the meteorological radars, satellite receivers, etc. to Pakistan to set up a three-dimensional meteorological observation system that covers equipment on the ground, in the sea, in the air and in the space”, informed Mr. Zhuge. He further elaborated that meteorological alert is different from weather forecast. The former, which targets the meteorological disasters, requires a whole set of observation devices and equipment.

“In this sense, all countries are a community with a shared future in the face of meteorological disasters, and the future lies in data sharing,” he added.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/994171/chinese-meteorological-company-steps-up-pakistan-cooperation/>

Pakistan stands with China in wake of Sichuan quake disaster: President

President Dr Arif Alvi on Wednesday expressed grief over the loss of lives in China following the earthquake in its Sichuan area, and said Pakistan will stand with China in difficult times.

“I assure you that the people of Pakistan and the Government of Pakistan stand with the Chinese people and the Government of China with the same spirit as the Chinese people are standing with the victims of unfolding super floods,” he said in a message of condolence for the Chinese people. President Alvi said he was deeply saddened and grieved to hear about the devastating earthquake that hit Sichuan province in southwestern China, resulting in the loss of precious lives and destruction of property. “On behalf of the people of Pakistan, and myself, I wish to convey my deepest condolences to the Chinese leadership and my heartfelt sympathies to the people of Sichuan, over the loss of 66 precious lives in the recent earthquake, which has also caused damage to communication infrastructure and other properties,” he said.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/994141/pakistan-stands-with-china-in-wake-of-sichuan-quake-disaster-president/>

Pak-China trade volume expected to double in next few years: ambassador

Pakistan Ambassador to China, Moin ul Haque said, “Last year Pak-China trade volume hit a record level. We expect that in the next 3 to 5 years, we can double this level”.

“Every year CIFTIS is growing and becoming bigger and bigger. I think this is China’s strength – innovations, new technologies, new approaches, new development...” Moin ul Haque said in an interview with China Economic Net (CEN) during China International Fair for Trade in Services (CIFTIS). Scheduled from August 31 to September 5, the 6-day-long event was successfully held in Beijing. It witnessed an active engagement of Pakistani officials, experts, merchants and so on.

Commercial Counsellor of the Embassy of Pakistan in China, Ghulam Qadir said, “This fair is a wonderful opportunity for Pakistan and other countries to represent themselves and showcase their unique products. In terms of services, this is one of the areas where we are focusing more and where we are trying to carve out a win-win solution to enterprises of both countries.”

“China is already Pakistan’s largest trading partner and last year our trade volume hit a record level. We expect that in the next 3 to 5 years, we can double this level,” Moin ul Haque told CEN, adding that both countries are working together to expand bilateral trade, especially to boost Pakistan’s exports to China.

The ambassador pinpointed, “Our cooperation in trade in services is currently a weak area, so using this platform of CIFTIS, we hope to improve our bilateral trade, like logistics, financial services, e-commerce.”

“Surely we are looking forward to our participation not only in CIFTIS, but also in other trade fairs, like China International Import Expo to be held in November,” he further said. “We welcome Chinese firms to invest in Pakistan,” Ghulam Qadir said, adding that “There is so much to be done, and we are looking forward to it.”

Themed “cooperate for better development, innovate for a greener future,” the 2022 CIFTIS is co-hosted by Ministry of Commerce, China and the Beijing municipal government. It is a crucial platform for China to expand opening-up, deepen cooperation and pioneer innovation, which has made a positive contribution to promoting the development of the global services industry and services trade.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/994302/pak-china-trade-volume-expected-to-double-in-next-few-years-ambassador/>

Dawn News

Beijing’s experience in dealing with disasters can help Islamabad

LAHORE: China on Wednesday offered to help Pakistan face major calamities like floods based on its vast experience in disaster management.

“The Chinese side is always ready to help Pakistan in the face of major natural disasters,” Chinese Consul General in Lahore Zhao Shiren said while addressing a webinar to commemorate the 71st anniversary of the establishment Pak-China diplomatic relations, held under the auspices of the Institute of International Relations and Media Research (IIRMR).

The diplomat also acknowledged that the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) had been “further expedited with new Pakistan speed” under the leadership of Chinese President Xi Jinping and Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif.

He further said China had expressed grief and solidarity over the loss of life and property due to unprecedented flooding in Pakistan, and sent two batches of emergency humanitarian supplies in cash and kind.

Consul general says CPEC has been ‘further expedited with new Pakistan speed’ under Shehbaz, Xi’s leadership

“More assistance will follow accordingly. The consulate, together with the Chinese community in Lahore, also mobilised resources to help the flood relief and rehabilitation efforts. The

Overseas Chinese Chamber of Commerce in Lahore alone donated and dispatched 10 trucks of food and medicine supplies to south Punjab. We believe that under the leadership of its government, both central and provincial, and with the joint support of the international community, Pakistan can face the challenge, and the post-calamity rehabilitation and reconstruction will be fast-tracked,” said Mr Shiren.

Also speaking on the occasion, Prof Zhou Rong of Chong Yong Institute at the Renmin University said China had vast successful experience in mitigating flood-related damage. “By improving water conservancy infrastructure, weather forecast mechanisms and public awareness, China made a difference. While the country is still facing floods, the losses are gradually decreasing. All these are worth learning for our Pakistani friends,” he maintained.

‘CPEC expedited with Pakistan speed’

The Chinese consul general also announced that the Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) on the CPEC would soon be convened to check progress on the implementation of the framework agreements on industrial and agricultural cooperation, and people’s livelihood projects.

He said that under the leadership of President Xi and PM Sharif, the CPEC process had been “further expedited with new Pakistan speed”, entering a fast-track growth and expansion. “The Karot hydropower plant began generating electricity, the Gwadar port development produced substantive progress with the East Bay Expressway operationalised.

“All five CPEC-related mega projects in Punjab have either been successfully accomplished or are meeting their pronounced targets, yielding early harvests to mutual satisfaction. More tangible benefits will come with time to contribute to the better livelihood and well-being of the Pakistani people,” the consul general said, claiming CPEC improved Pakistan’s infrastructure and alleviated acute power shortage, playing a pivotal role in pulling Pakistan out of poverty.

The PML-N-led coalition government has blamed the previous Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf government for “stalling the CPEC project”.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1709024/beijings-experience-in-dealing-with-disasters-can-help-islamabad>

Pakistan Observer

China-Pakistan Youth Joint Forces to support Pakistan flood relief efforts

Affected by strong monsoon rains, many provinces in Pakistan have suffered multiple rounds of torrential rains since mid-June this year, causing severe flooding. Since mid-June, the death toll from monsoon rains in Pakistan has risen to 1,314 and the number of injured to 12,703, according to the National Disaster Management Authority of Pakistan on September 4. In the past 24 hours, another 24 people have died in disasters related to torrential rains and floods across Pakistan.

On August 26, the China-Pakistan Youth Exchange Community immediately launched flood relief in Pakistan. The China-Pakistan youth exchange community is a non-governmental team formed spontaneously by Chinese students studying abroad, overseas Chinese and Pakistani youth. (the group was established in 2013. Over the years, it has been committed to people-to-people exchanges, public charity and cultural dissemination, paying attention to vulnerable groups such as poor families, students in need, orphans and the elderly.

Through efforts, the team contacted the China Foundation for Rural Development to jointly establish a platform for action. The China-Pakistan youth exchange community has established a rescue system in Pakistan. The China Foundation for Rural Development mainly supports disaster relief operations, resource mobilization, construction of logistics and transport routes from China to Pakistan, and work briefs. Beijing One Heart Sphere Charity Foundation joined the platform on September 5 and plans to raise follow-up materials and medical resources support.

According to the investigation of the front team, the flood in Gilgit mountain area has damaged houses and caused a large loss of daily necessities, which has made the families in economic difficulties worse. Many children have worn out shoes and clothes and are in urgent need of various daily necessities and food supplies. Now that the weather is getting colder, the need for temporary housing has become a major talking point.

Large areas of Baluchistan province are still submerged in floodwaters. As they handed out supplies, the team found families with their homes still submerged and many of their belongings damaged. Disasters and secondary disasters are still developing. At the same time, due to a variety of constraints in Baluchistan, it is difficult to transport materials, and the government also needs support and assistance for roads and security.

Demand is high in Multan, where people need not only food but also feed for their livestock, and many families' last remaining livestock are their last source of income. There are 800,000 people displaced in the affected areas of Pakistan, but the community can only provide assistance to a very small number of people. Volunteers need to transport supplies into the disaster-hit areas one door after another. To reach the aid as safely and quickly as possible, they need to distribute more times, which is a difficult process.

According to Ma Bin from the China-Pakistan youth exchange community, as of September 5, the community had purchased kitchen utensils, toothpaste soap, infant milk powder, women's products, rice, flour, oil, salt and other daily necessities for the victims in Multan, Swat, KPK, Gilgit, Baluchistan and other areas. A total of 1,200 grain and oil packs, 600 daily life packages, 11,000 meals were provided, 1,100 tents were built (a resettlement site for 1,100 families will be set up in the future) and 3,000 families were assisted. The China Foundation for Rural Development will join forces with the China-Pakistan Youth Exchange Community and the Beijing One Heart Sphere Charity Foundation to support Pakistan's flood relief efforts.

<https://pakobserver.net/china-pakistan-youth-joint-forces-to-support-pakistan-flood-relief-efforts/>

The Nation

CPEC growth, Sino-Pak ties go into overdrive: Zhao Shiren

LAHORE - Chinese Consul General Lahore Zhao Shiren has said that CPEC growth and Sino-Pak relations have gone into overdrive under the strategic guidance and strong leadership of President Xi Jinping and Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif.

Speaking at the Webinar to commemorate 71th anniversary of Pak-China diplomatic relations held under the auspices of Institute of International Relations and Media Research (IIRMR), Zhao Shiren said that China has shown its grief and sorrow over the losses of life and property expressing solidarity with Pakistan terribly hit by flash flood.

“Taking stock of the unprecedented flooding in Pakistan, Chinese Consulate Lahore, together with the Chinese community in Lahore, has mobilized resources to help the flood relief and rehabilitation efforts. China also provided two batches of emergency humanitarian supplies in cash and in kind. More assistance will follow accordingly,” he added.

Govt issues Rs480m to 24 Sindh districts sans Karachi for spray machines

“Very soon a new round of CPEC JCC meeting is to be convened and the agenda might touch upon the implementation of the Framework Agreements on Industrial and Agricultural Cooperation and people’s livelihood projects,” he mentioned. All the five CPEC-related mega projects in Punjab, he said, are either successfully accomplished or meeting their pronounced targets, yielding early harvests to mutual satisfaction.

“The CPEC process has been further expedited with new Pakistan speed, entering a fast-track growth and expansion. The Karot Hydro-power plant began generating electricity, Gwadar port development produced substantive progress with East Bay Expressway operationalized,” he added.

Sharing his views, IIRMR Chairman Muhammad Mehdi said: “Pakistan is currently suffering from a great natural calamity and we are happy that our neighboring country China is standing by our side as always in this time of trouble. The messages sent by the Chinese leadership at this difficult stage are very hopeful for Pakistani nation.” Chinese President Xi Jinping expressed solidarity and said: “China will continue to provide urgently needed assistance, (and) support Pakistan in its disaster relief work. Chinese Prime Minister Li sent a message to Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif and assured him that Beijing is ready to support and assist flood relief efforts in the country to the greatest extent possible.”

<https://www.nation.com.pk/08-Sep-2022/cpec-growth-sino-pak-ties-go-into-overdrive-zhao-shiren>

Nawaiwaqt News

پاکستان اور چین کی دوستی مثالی: پرویز اشرف، سفیر کی ملاقات

اسلام آباد (نامہ نگار) چینی سفیر نے قومی اسمبلی کے سپیکر راجہ پرویز اشرف سے ملاقات کی۔ دو طرفہ تعلقات سمیت باہمی دلچسپی کے امور پر تبادلہ خیال کیا۔ دونوں رہنماوں نے پاک چین دو طرفہ تعلقات کو مزید وسعت دینے پر زور دیا۔ سپیکر قومی اسمبلی نے کہا کہ چین اور پاکستان کی دوستی مثالی ہے۔

راجہ پرویز اشرف

سیلاب متاثرین کیلئے امارات میں فنڈ ریزنگ مہم شروع کر دی: سفیر

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/lahore/2022-09-08/page-8/detail-31>

September 09, 2022

Daily Times

Pak-China green cooperation needed to tackle climate change: envoy

Pakistan-China cooperation in green development and ecological protection is getting more and more significant when it comes to addressing climate change issues, noted Pakistan's Ambassador to China, Moin Ul Haque.

“Pakistan has recently been affected by severe floods; and China is also facing drought now. Both countries are impacted by climate change. So these innovations and new approaches to tackle climate change are very important for the two countries,” Moin ul Haque said in an interview with China Economic Net during the 2022 China International Fair for Trade in Services (CIFTIS).

For the first time an environmental services sector was included in the CIFTIS to display new technologies and applications in ecological protection and energy conservation.

Pakistan is one of those countries that are vastly affected by the consequences of climate change despite being the least contributors to the shift in weather behaviour. “And this is true for all developing countries. So it is in our own interest that we work together with all the countries, especially China, in this respect,” Haque told CEN.

“We're more than happy to share China's experience in this field,” pinpointed Zhang Tianli from National Early Warning Centre, China. “For example, when it comes to floods, with WMO Global Multi-Hazard Alert System-Asia (GMAS-A) we are able to issue early warnings and have affectees who need shelter and support prepared.”

Zhang noted Pakistan has been wrecked and devastated by the recent floods, and had many losses of precious lives and infrastructure. “In the future, the Belt and Road countries, and countries prone to disasters will be included in cooperation.”

Terming China a world leader in terms of pursuing environmental protection and leading the fight against climate change, the ambassador said that “We are very happy to have partnership with China in this perspective. We’ve just launched a green corridor focusing not only on agricultural cooperation, food security, but also on environment and ecology.”

As per Ghulam Qadir, Commercial Counsellor of the Embassy of Pakistan in China, China has comparative advantage in green development and there is a lot more potential that can be tapped for both countries. “It’s an area we look forward to strengthening.”

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/994517/pak-china-green-cooperation-needed-to-tackle-climate-change-envoy/>

Pakistan Observer

China extending cash support, relief goods for flood-devastated people

Consul General of China in Lahore, Mr Zhao Shiren has reiterated his government’s commitment and resolve to provide lasting assistance for the flood-affected people of Pakistan.

In a meeting with Editor-in-Chief of Pakistan Observer Mr Faisal Zahid Malik, China’s Consul General said the scale and magnitude of the floods was catastrophic and people of the flood-hit areas were caught almost unaware by these flash floods. “Our government and people stand by the people and the government of Pakistan in this hour of difficulty,” he said and assured his government’s all-out support for the Pakistani brothers and sisters.

China is among the first countries which dispatched relief goods including 3,000 tents and other relief material besides millions of RMB cash assistance, and additional disaster-relief supplies worth 300 million RMB on top of the 100 million RMB emergency humanitarian assistance are on the way. The Consulate General, together with the Chinese community in Lahore, also mobilized resources to help the flood relief and rehabilitation efforts.

He said, “We consider Pakistan our iron brother and China will continue to help and assist Pakistan in relief work.” He said Chinese leaders had sent messages of sympathy to their Pakistani counterparts on the terrible floods that have hit all the four provinces of Pakistan. “I am sure through our joint efforts, we will overcome the difficulties,” he said.

The Consul General also spoke on the recent visit of the US House Speaker Nancy Pelosi to Taiwan and termed it very provocative and against the diplomatic norms. He made it clear that China’s stance on the Taiwan issue was consistent and crystal-clear i.e. “There is only one China in the world and Taiwan is part of China.”

The Government of the People’s Republic of China is the sole legal government representing the entire China, he said, adding this is at the heart of the one-China principle and also a universal consensus of the international community and a basic norm in international relations.

Resolutely safeguarding China's sovereignty and territorial integrity is the firm will of more than 1.4 billion Chinese people and to achieve China's full reunification is the shared aspiration and sacred duty of all the Chinese people.

Mr Zhao Shiren emphasized that public opinion would not be defied, and the trend of the times could not be reversed. No other country, force or individual shall underestimate the firm resolve, strong will and great capability of the Chinese Government and people to defend state sovereignty and territorial integrity and to achieve national reunification and rejuvenation.

About China Pakistan Economic Corridor, the Consul General was of the view that first and the foremost, solidarity, stability and security (3S) were the essential criteria to ensure the timely and quality implementation of CPEC in the hosting country.

Foreign investment, trade and the expedition of CPEC projects is precondition on social unison, predictable and stable policy and safe and business-friendly environment, he said.

China seeks brotherly relations with Pakistan not only for the sake of the government, but also is more for the people, the country and the nation, he said, adding no matter which political party was in power, we are of the view that the iron-clad relations and CPEC will sustain and the Pakistani government should make policy deliverable based on consensus, while political parties also needed to put national interests before the partisan ones.

Secondly, he said, CPEC was a shared undertaking, a common endeavour as the Pakistani people had the (co)-ownership of the projects. While implementing the Belt & Road Initiative, we Chinese always seek extensive consultation, joint contribution and shared benefits with partners and stakeholders. This principle also applies to the CPEC, he said and added that ownership meant taking the driver seat, boldness and responsibilities.

“We invite Pakistani brothers to synergize our development strategies and have close policy dialogues. We spare no effort to make CPEC more resilient, vibrant and mutually beneficial. After all, the future of CPEC is ultimately in Pakistanis' hand and we hereby ask for more initiatives from our Pakistani partners,” he said.

Thirdly, we must bring all stakeholders on board and launch a CPEC-related publicity offensive in particular. In addition to creating a favourable policy, security and business environment, a friendly public opinion is required to cement CPEC growth. CPEC, like the BRI, has won along its way more and more friends and partners from the region and around the world. About a handful of opponents to the CPEC his views were as the CPEC was transforming from Phase I to Phase II and that too with a renewed pace, some false narratives, negative propaganda and vicious rumors were on the rise. Misperceptions about CPEC projects, their aims, utilities and scopes were there, misinformation and disinformation are disseminated on social media and in that context, both Pakistan and China should make joint efforts to reach out to a wide sector of the Pakistani society and thus launch a CPEC awareness campaign to build up national consensus.

We should also invest more on messaging accurate, precise and truthful information about CPEC projects, and further engage media outlets, so as to form positive narratives and depict soft image of CPEC projects and Chinese investment, mitigating fake and fictional news, counteracting the negative propaganda and consolidating the CPEC process, he said adding, “Media plays an important role in this, thus I wish Pakistan Observer can contribute its part to the sustainable development of the CPEC.”

<https://pakobserver.net/china-extending-cash-support-relief-goods-for-flood-devastated-people/>

September 10, 2022

Dawn News

Air chief, Chinese envoy discuss cooperation

ISLAMABAD: Chief of the Air Staff Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Ahmed Baber Sidhu on Friday shared broad contours of PAF’s modernisation drive to achieve operational capability in the contemporary warfare in air, space and cyber space domains as per the PAF’s operational construct.

He said this when Ambassador of the People’s Republic of China, Nong Rong, called on in his office here. Several key areas of mutual interest along with regional developments were discussed.

The Air Chief also highlighted that both the countries enjoyed unprecedented strategic partnership and reiterated his resolve to further enhance the existing bilateral ties in military to military cooperation and training domains between PAF and People’s Liberation Army Air Force (PLAAF).

CAS further said, “Pakistan values its strong diplomatic, economic, defence relationship and time-tested friendship with China which are based on convergence on all important issues relating to regional peace, security and stability.”

The visiting dignitary praised the professionalism of PAF personnel and the exceptional progress made by PAF over the years, especially through indigenization. He appreciated Pakistan’s efforts in promoting regional peace. Both leaders vowed to further consolidate cooperation in various fields including emerging technologies and mutual cooperation in military industry. The ambassador also offered condolences to the people of Pakistan over the loss of life and devastation caused by floods.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1709298/air-chief-chinese-envoy-discuss-cooperation>

Govt to start clearing dues of Chinese IPPs from next week

Khaleeq Kiani

ISLAMABAD: The government on Friday promised to start making payments to independent power producers (IPPs) set up under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor early next week and

set a schedule for regular monthly payments for a full fiscal year to the satisfaction of Chinese investors.

Pakistan's Central Power Purchasing Agency (CPPA) owes around Rs260 billion to Chinese IPPs on account of power purchases. The payables, which dropped from around Rs300bn to about Rs220bn by the close of last fiscal year, have surged again.

The government has assured the International Monetary Fund that it would seek discounts from IPPs on account of capacity payments through extension in debt servicing tenure from 10 years at present to 20 years and discounts in interest rates.

Presiding over a meeting of all stakeholders and chief executives of Chinese IPPs, Finance Minister Miftah Ismail directed the power division to ensure that at least funds required for fuel arrangements were arranged on top priority as the sponsors complained that their cash requirements for fuel, particularly coal, had increased manifold because of the global market and they were short of inventories.

Miftah forms committee to address concerns of independent power producers set up under CPEC as payables touch Rs260bn

The power division assured the meeting that they had been meeting financial requirements on account of debt payment and fuel in the past and would honour these commitments in future as well. A power division official said his understanding was that Rs40-50bn would be paid next week.

The meeting was also attended by Power Minister Khurram Dastgir, prime minister's special assistants Dr Muhammad Jehanzeb Khan, Tariq Fatemi and Zafaruddin Mehmood, power secretary, CEOs of Chinese IPPs and officials of the finance and power divisions.

The meeting also constituted a committee comprising representatives of finance and power divisions and the CPEC Authority to hold regular fortnightly meetings with Chinese IPPs to hold to review all issues and address them in a timely manner.

The Chinese investors also agitated for the creation of a revolving fund for payment of at least 20pc of dues against debt servicing and fuel requirements on a monthly basis directly from the collection of bills by the power distribution companies.

The revolving fund, promised by Pakistan authorities to CPEC IPPs at the outset, could not be operationalised, sometimes leading bills to pile up because of non-payments for months.

An official statement said Friday's meeting discussed the issue of outstanding payments to Chinese IPPs in Pakistan and other hurdles faced by them.

Finance Minister Ismail assured the investors that CPEC was a flagship project of friendship between Pakistan and China and expressed the resolve of the present government to provide all kinds of facilities to Chinese investors and promised to address their concerns immediately.

The finance minister also formed a committee comprising representatives from finance and power divisions and CPEC to hold meetings with Chinese IPPS regularly.

The CEOs of Chinese IPPs expressed their satisfaction over addressing and resolving their issues, the finance ministry said in a statement.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1709308>

The Express Tribune

Chinese firms collect funds for flood relief

Chinese commercial consul says Chinese govt, people concerned about the plight of the flood-hit people of Pakistan

QUETTA: Under the auspices of the Gwadar Port Authority (GPA) a fund raising ceremony for the flood victims of Balochistan was held on Friday.

Chinese Commercial Consul based in Karachi, Pang Guan Gopan, GOC Gwadar Major General Inayat Hussain, Chairman GPA Naseer Khan Kashani, Navy Admiral Imtiaz Ali, Director Finance Gwadar Development Authority Tariq Aziz Lassi Additional Deputy Commissioner General Zakir Ali Baloch and other officials attended the event.

Addressing the ceremony, chairman GPA informed the participants that Authority had decided to accept funds from the Chinese companies working in Gwadar and other sources to help the flood stricken people of the province.

“Rs1 million have been collected from two days’ salaries of officers and officials and one day salaries of lower scale employees of GPA have been donated to flood affectees,” he said.

Speaking on the occasion, the Chinese commercial consul said that the Chinese government and people are concerned about the plight of the flood-hit people of Pakistan.

“Chinese companies working in Gwadar Free Zone have collected Rs5.88 million donations for the flood-hit people,” he said, adding that Chinese government and its people always stand with Pakistan and its people in this difficult time.

“We are always ready to provide all possible assistance for the relief and rehabilitation of the flood victims,” he said.

Other speakers expressed their wish that the rehabilitation process of the affected areas will be completed at earliest.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2375893/chinese-firms-collect-funds-for-flood-relief>

The Nation

China's Flood Aid Makes A Difference

YASIR HABIB KHAN

China's "humanitarian and aid diplomacy" in flood-hit areas in the length and breadth of Pakistan is raising the bar for others. After Pakistan has been grappling with heavy rains and flash flood calamities causing humanitarian crises including infrastructure destruction, victims' displacement, homelessness, and deaths, China has come up with philanthropist endeavours in flood relief besides aid deliveries as a fulfillment of its obligations "as a responsible global power" and ironclad friend of Pakistan.

Chinese Consul General Lahore Zhao Shiren announced giving Rs300 million in aid for the rehabilitation of flood-affected people on behalf of the Chinese Consulate General in Lahore during his meeting with Punjab Chief Minister Chaudhry Parvez Elahi. He expressed deep sorrow over the loss of lives and properties due to floods in Punjab and reiterated the commitment to cooperate for the rehabilitation of the affected people. Ambassador of China Nong Rong on behalf of the Red Cross Society of China handed over \$300,000 in emergency cash assistance to the Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS) for the flood disaster-affected people. Besides, All-Pakistan Chinese Enterprises' Association (APCEA) has also donated PKR 15 million to the PM Flood Relief Fund.

China's government handed over flood relief supplies including 3000 tents to the government of Pakistan in a bid to help Pakistan to expedite rescue and relief operation in all flood-stricken areas in the country. The first batch of this assistance—3,000 tents—were earlier handed over in the day to the Pakistani government in Karachi, he said. "It is a part of our donation package worthy of 100 Million RMB, including 25,000 tents and other relief materials. The gesture of Pak-China brotherhood particularly in crunch is not only exhibited by the government rather it is embedded in all Chinese people. Liu Xiaojun, a pilot of Y-20 transport aircraft in a tweet shared by Deputy Consul General Lahore Chao Ke stole the hearts of every Pakistan when he said that this is a special mission for him. In a Wenchuan earthquake Relief operation in 2008, he said "we always remember Pakistan's immediate helping hand to us." "As the people of Sichuan, I deeply feel the brotherhood of two countries and helping each other," he added.

Chinese President Xi Jinping also sent a message of condolence to his Pakistani counterpart, Arif Alvi, over the severe floods hitting the country. After the floods struck, China responded immediately, and will continue to provide urgently needed assistance to Pakistan and support the country in its disaster relief work, he said. Xi also said he believes that with the joint efforts of the Pakistani government and people, those in the disaster-hit areas will surely overcome the flood and rebuild their homes as early as possible. The Industrial and Commercial Bank of China

(ICBC) and the Bank of China (BOC) are listed among the thirty-three banks in Pakistan for collecting donations for ‘Prime Minister’s Flood Relief Fund, 2022’.

The Chinese enterprises in Pakistan also donated humanitarian aid of over 15.5 million Pakistani rupees (about 71,340 U.S. dollars) for the country’s flood victims in a ceremony held by the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA). The donation was made to the prime minister’s relief fund, established by Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif for the flood victims. The All-Pakistan Chinese Enterprises’ Association (APCEA) donated the money with the slogan “together through the rain; heading towards the rainbow,” expressing the resolve of the Chinese community to help Pakistanis in their hour of need.

China’s Henan DR Group also announced to produce of low-cost pre-fabricated houses for the Pakistani flood affectees at the Faisalabad Free-Zone M3IC in Punjab. The company’s management decided not to make any profit from the rehabilitation of flood victims. The company plan to prepare 200 houses per month and more than 2000 houses in a year. The provinces of Balochistan and Sindh have so far this year received five to six times their 30-year average rainfall. Across the country, about 150 bridges and 3,500 kilometers (2,200 miles) of roads have been destroyed. More than 700,000 livestock and 2 million acres of crops and orchards have also been lost.

<https://nation.com.pk/2022/09/10/chinas-flood-aid-makes-a-difference/>

Pakistani Market Needs More JVs With Chinese Enterprises

ISLAMABAD – China and Pakistan have agreed to enhance their economic and business relationships through joint ventures (JVs).

Any JV, formed with a partner from another country, can help achieve strategic goals like lowering production costs, accessing international market, enhancing competitiveness, or becoming familiar with the unique international environment.

While talking to WealthPK, Haroon Sharif, a former chairman of Board of Investment, said different developments were taking place as far as Pakistan’s sustainable development goals were concerned. According to the International Monetary Fund, Pakistan needs \$16 billion annually for the next 10 years to meet the goals. “Involvement of private sector in meeting the goals has to be ensured because we cannot continue to take soft loans, grants or government-to-government investments for achieving such targets.”

“Our governance structure does not allow for private markets to put money in government sectors. Amid the shrinking government fiscal space, we need to work on private capital’s flow by ensuring a very strong governance structure.”

He stated that Pakistan’s industry needs to forge joint ventures with their counterparts in China to help raise the productivity level and competitiveness. Each Special Economic Zone (SEZ) being built in Pakistan has specific geographical competency and unique competitive production potential that could be utilised by joint venturing with Chinese companies.

He said the Board of Investment has identified suitable industries to be relocated to the priority economic zones.

Haroon Sharif said Pakistan needs to produce solar panels and inverters locally by promoting their production in the SEZs with the Chinese expertise.

“There is a huge potential for launching JVs in Pakistan, but lack of finance is the big problem. This can be ensured by attracting the private sector,” he said.

Haroon Sharif said the government in collaboration with international institutions and the private sector needs to start working on developing a framework to help build robust infrastructure, particularly in agriculture and industrial sectors, to enhance productivity and boost exports.

<https://nation.com.pk/2022/09/10/pakistani-market-needs-more-jvs-with-chinese-enterprises/>

The News

Punjab police, China’s Jiangsu Security Dept to work together

LAHORE: Inspector General Police Punjab Faisal Shahkar has said that it is very important to keep cooperation and working relationship active with police forces of neighbouring countries for capacity building of police personnel, provision of modern equipment and crime prevention.

He expressed these views while talking to officers at the MoU signing ceremony between Punjab Police and Jiangsu Public Security Department of China at the Central Police Office on Thursday.

IG Punjab Faisal Shahkar and Chinese Consul General Lahore Zhao Shiren were present at the MoU signing ceremony while Jiangsu Police Chief and senior Chinese officials participated through video link. Under the MoU, Punjab Police and Jiangsu will work together to protect constitutional rights of each other's citizens, investors, national institutions and official interests in their areas, and both institutions will cooperate and promote friendly relations. Punjab Police and Jiangsu Police General will ensure exchange of modern equipment and intelligence sharing to improve the quality of policing, while regular training courses will be held to increase the efficiency of personnel. Chinese Consul General Zhao Shiren said that this MoU will further strengthen mutual relations and cooperation.

Security: Security of mosques, Imam Bargahs, shrines, markets and sensitive installations remained tightened on Jumatul Mubarak. Police officers visited different areas of the City, including mosques, religious places, markets and business hubs to check the security arrangements. Dolphin Squad and Police Response Unit conducted effective patrolling at all the sensitive mosques and Imam Bargahs. Police checked all the vehicles, particularly suspicious persons at the entry and exit points of the City.

PSCA: Quetta Safe City Project DG visited Punjab Safe Cities Authority Headquarters Qurban Lines here Friday. DIG Shahzad Aslam was apprised of the functions and structure of the premier project of Punjab Safe Cities Authority by COO PSCA. DG Quetta Safe City

appreciated the technologies and practices in place as were demonstrated to them in detail, especially about Intelligent Traffic Management System and Electronic ticketing. He was briefed in detail as to how an intelligent traffic management system works in reducing traffic violations and ultimately road crashes.

He also expressed awe and satisfaction with the authority's capability to record and produce geo-positioning data and tagging of vehicles within the metropolis.

<https://e.thenews.com.pk/detail?id=126450>

K2 Daily



https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=Back_Page&Date=2022-09-10

https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=Classified&Date=2022-09-10

September 11, 2022

Daily Times

China airlifts over 5,000 tents for flood-stricken people: envoy

China has pledged to provide urgently-needed supplies including 25,000 tents to assist Pakistan government in its flood relief efforts and dispatched around 5,000 tents for flood-stricken people, Pakistan Ambassador to China, Moin ul Haque said.

China has so far airlifted urgently-need flood relief supplies consisting 5,000 tents by its military cargo planes, he said during an interaction with members of Pakistan community at Pakistan Embassy, Beijing.

He informed that soon after floods in Pakistan, the Chinese government announced a relief package of RMB 400 million while the Chinese provincial governments and institutions also announced donations for badly affected people in Pakistan.

Ambassador Haque said that Pakistan embassy Beijing and Pakistani Consulates in different cities of China launched fund raising campaign. The Chinese and Pakistani people had deposited over RMB 12 million in the relief fund in first eight days of the campaign.

He said that to help overcome any shortage of food items, China would soon dispatch 200 tons of vegetables especially tomato, onion to Pakistan via Karakorum Highway.

“We will enhance our flood management capacity with the cooperation of China to minimize human and material losses during floods,” he added.

Terming China an all-weather friend and true brother, he said, “We will seek long-term support from China for rehabilitation of our people after the end of rescue and relief phase.”

He also called upon the community to assist in the government relief and rehabilitation efforts for the flood-stricken brethren and sisters in Pakistan.

Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) Country Director, Qadir Bux Sangi told the gathering that the national flag carrier would airlift relief goods free of cost from China to Pakistan.

Sabir Jan, a renowned Pakistani businessman offered to bear transportation cost of flood relief supplies from Xinxiang to Sust (Gilgit Baltistan) via Khunjerab pass.

Dr. Sajid Khurshid, a Pakistani educationist and other members of the community gave useful suggestions and proposals for fund raising and controlling the possible outbreak of waterborne diseases following the floods.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/995549/china-airlifts-over-5000-tents-for-flood-stricken-people-envoy/>

China’s automobile assembled in Pakistan cheaper than western imported vehicles

Chairman Islamabad Stock Exchange and ZLK Securities Zahid Latif Khan on Saturday said Haval H6 which was a completely knocked down (CKD) economic vehicle with most modern features of international brand cars.

Addressing the launching ceremony of Haval H6 here, Zahid Latif Khan said the country’s prevailing economic situation had casted huge impacts on the automobile industry of the country and resulted in skyrocketing rise in it’s prices. However, the Chinese made Haval cars were CKD vehicles meaning locally manufactured within the country. He said the manufacturing company had also introduced after sale service and spare parts of the Chinese vehicle that had made it more user friendly and viable. “China is the future and inception of a Chinese vehicle manufactured in Pakistan is a great success and it will bring positive impacts on our industry,” he added. Khan said that the after sale service benefits and availability of spare parts alongside the launching of Haval would benefit it’s users and could compete the Western made vehicles that were considered as latest and modernized cars.

It was, he said in way less than any German or Western vehicle and possessed many attractive features for it’s users. Haval, he said was cheaper as compared to the imported western cars and would help public use modern cars. Haval Rawalpindi Motors unveiled the CKD units of Haval H6 in Rawalpindi. The first customers received their beloved Haval H6 and attended the event. Both the variants of Haval H6 were put on display for public viewing. Haval H6 comes in two variants, 1.5 Turbo FWD and 2.0 Turbo AWD. Haval is introduced by Sazgar Engineering Works Limited in Pakistan. Haval H6 has been the leading sports use vehicle (SUV) seller in

China for the past several years and is primed to be a success in Pakistani market aswell. The event was attended by Zahid Latif Khan, Chairman Islamabad Stock Exchange and ZLK Securities as chief guest. The chief guest was warmly received by Managing Director Haval Rawalpindi Motors Uzair Afsar and Director Operations Raja Amir Saleem. Zahid Khan handed over the keys to the very first customer who pre booked the vehicle.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/995596/chinas-automobile-assembled-in-pakistan-cheaper-than-western-imported-vehicles/>

K2 Daily

40

5.884 ملین روپے کا عطیہ دیے گا اور پورے
مطابق فٹوریزنگ کمپنی کے پہلے دورے دوران کوہر
میں کام کرنے والی چینی کمپنیوں کی طرف سے مجموعی
طور پر 15 ملین روپے کی رقم خرچ اور عطیہ کی گئی
ہے جس میں سی ای او نے ان کا کسی نے 2.36 ملین
روپے کا عطیہ کیا۔ کوہر پورے مطابق اس کے بعد
اور وہی جیسے کہ نئے گاڑی اور مختلف ایندھن
پروجیکٹ 100,000 روپے، چاکا پائپر
انجینئرنگ کمپنی 700,000 روپے، چاکا
پاکستان فٹوریز شپ ہسپتال 600,000 روپے
کوہر ہواگا انکوبیوٹلر 200,000 روپے،
سی ای سی ای سی سائپ ایف ایف ایف انجینئرنگ کمپنی
200,000 روپے، لین ای ٹریڈنگ
150,000 روپے، CCCC سی ای سی ای سی
پی ای آئی سی ای 110,000 روپے، ایف ایف
سین 100,000 روپے، یو این
ہولڈنگز 100,000 روپے، ساڈھ سٹورل
یو ٹورنٹی آف ٹورنٹری ایڈ ٹیکنالوجی سے پروڈیوسر
ڈاکٹ سین 100,000 روپے اور، ونگ
کینگ ٹریڈ کمپنی نے 100,000 روپے کا
عطیہ کیا۔

چینی کمپنیوں کی جانب سے
دوسری بار فٹوریزنگ
5.884 ملین روپے کا عطیہ
کوہر (آئی این پی) کوہر میں چینی کمپنیوں
نے جبر کو چاکا پائپر فٹوریزنگ کمپنی کے
دوسرے ماڈل میں (پالی سٹر 6 اینڈ نمبر 40)

https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=Back_Page&Date=2022-09-11

https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=Classified&Date=2022-09-11

September 12, 2022

Pakistan Observer

Pakistan to participate in 19th China-ASEAN Expo in Nanning

Pakistan will participate in the 19th China-ASEAN Expo and China-ASEAN Business and Investment Summit to be held in Nanning, Capital of Guangxi Zhuang autonomous region of China, from September 16 to 19.

The relevant authorities have completed all the arrangements in this regard, sources said here on Sunday.

Pakistani traders and industrialists will display handicrafts, furniture, auto parts, gem stones, carpets, sports goods, agricultural machinery and surgical instruments during the expo. Themed in sharing new opportunities of the RCEP and jointly advancing version 3.0 of the China-

ASEAN Free Trade Area, the events will showcase the new achievements and highlights of the economic and trade cooperation between the two sides.

Covering an area of 102,000 square meters, this year's exhibition for the first time will feature several sections on new energy vehicles, culture and tourism, healthcare and cross-border e-commerce.

As many as 21 high-level forums and more than 80 economic and trade promotion activities will be held during the expo.

China has remained ASEAN's largest trading partner for 13 consecutive years.

During the first seven months of this year, their trade with each other surged 13.1 percent year-on-year to \$544.9 billion, accounting for 15 percent of China's total foreign trade during the period.

As of the end of July, bilateral investment between China and ASEAN had exceeded \$340 billion, while the turnover of Chinese enterprises from project contracts in ASEAN countries exceeded \$380 billion.

<https://pakobserver.net/pakistan-to-participate-in-19th-china-asean-expo-in-nanning/>

The Express Tribune

China lauds security measures for its citizens

Islamabad, Beijing agree to enhance cooperation in law-enforcement domain

ISLAMABAD: Beijing on Sunday appreciated and acknowledged the measures taken by Islamabad to ensure the safety and security of its projects and personnel in Pakistan as well as the efforts made towards unearthing the terrorists and their facilitators targeting Chinese nationals.

Additionally, Pakistan and China in-principle reached an agreement on various joint measures that includes furthering cooperation in the law enforcement domain. It also includes capacity building of the law enforcement agencies.

Islamabad and Beijing also agreed to the need for countering the agendas of the hostile elements in ensuring safety and security of Chinese personnel and projects in Pakistan through mutual efforts.

The acknowledgment came and decisions were made during the 9th meeting of the Joint Working Group on Safety and Security of the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) held at the Chinese Embassy.

The meeting was co-chaired by Special Secretary Ministry of Interior Saif Anjum and the Chinese ministry of public security director general. Ambassador of China to Pakistan Nong Rong was also present in the meeting.

“It was reiterated that ensuring safety and security of CPEC projects in Pakistan is of immense significance in furthering the bilateral relations,” an official statement read.

“In order to further enhance the prospects of bilateral relations, [an] in-principle agreement had been made on various joint measures including furthering cooperation in the law enforcement domain and capacity building of the law enforcement agencies,” it added.

Both sides also mulled over the proposal of establishing a separate joint working group for the security of non-corridor projects.

“[Islamabad and Beijing] agreed to the need of countering the agendas of the hostile elements in ensuring safety and security of Chinese personnel and projects in Pakistan through mutual efforts,” the statement added.

Earlier this year, China's most senior and influential diplomat Yang Jiechi, a member of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) and director of its Central Commission on Foreign Affairs, had visited Pakistan.

Reportedly, he was on a special mission against the backdrop of Chinese concerns over the security of its nationals in Pakistan after the increased attacks against its interests and personnel.

It was said he had come to discuss two main issues: security of Chinese and dues of Chinese companies particularly in the power sector. However, officials had back then said China said it could compromise on the issue of dues but it would never be on the security of its national.

China was particularly concerned over the lack of progress in investigation into the Karachi University attack in April in which three Chinese teachers were killed. It wanted progress into the case and persecution of those behind the attack.

Sources had claimed at that time that the top Chinese official was informed that the mastermind of Karachi University attack was arrested and another suspect killed.

It was said the Karachi University attack was claimed by Majid Brigade, a wing of Baloch terrorist organisations formed especially to target CPEC and Chinese interests in Pakistan.

China shares Pakistan's concerns that Majid Brigade is being backed by external forces, including India.

Because of increased attacks on its nationals, China wanted to bring its own security but the proposal was not acceptable to Pakistan as it had assured Beijing to ensure foolproof security for its nationals.

On July 29, the Chinese ambassador to Pakistan had called on Chief of Army Staff (COAS) Gen Qamar Javed Bajwa at the GHQ.

During the meeting, matters of mutual interest, defence collaboration, progress on CPEC and regional security were discussed in detail.

The COAS had said that Pakistan valued China's role in global and regional affairs and the country looked forward to enhancing the strategic partnership.

The army chief had reiterated that Pakistan remained committed to cooperate with its international partners for peace and stability in the region.

Ambassador Rong had thanked the army chief for the special measures taken for provision of safe and secure environment for Chinese personnel employed on various projects in Pakistan and efforts towards regional stability.

He had also assured to play his role for further improvement in diplomatic cooperation with Pakistan at all levels.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2376176/china-lauds-security-measures-for-its-citizens>

The Nation

CPEC Channelising Economic Diplomacy: PBF

LAHORE – The Pakistan Businesses Forum (PBF) said on Sunday that China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) was playing a role in channelising the notion of economic diplomacy in policy-making arenas. “Indubitably, CPEC has the potential to become a breeding ground for Pakistan’s venture of economic diplomacy not only through special economic zones but also by enhancing regional connectivity in multifarious manner.” Addressing the PBF executive committee here, forum’s Deputy Secretary General (Economic) Dr Laraib Elahi said that it was a widely accepted fact that economy was central to foreign policy and was curated in accordance to it. Since geo-economics shaped geopolitics, she added, it was indispensable to ensure economic amplification through diplomatic means to build and maintain regional influence. She asserted that it would not be wise to bifurcate economic policy and foreign policy, as it was an effective tool of national security as well. She said that the West, being far ahead of the rest of the world, had realised the importance of economic diplomacy and had set up European Union – the biggest trade bloc, with more than 100 countries in trade relations – was the epitome of building trade superstructure over diplomatic infrastructure. The EU started its envious journey from a treaty of merely six countries trading in just two goods (European coal and steel community) ultimately coalescing the entire continent. The PBF office-bearer observed that Pakistan’s trade outreach was limited to European states that stretched to American continent for most. If it coupled with aggressive yet prudent diplomacy supplemented with local think tanks or NGOs, the reach could turn global within no time. No doubt the centre of gravity for the global economy had now shifted from the West to Asia and Africa, later it would be labelled as the ‘Continent of the Future’ owing to its promising economic potential and lucrative investment. In this perspective, Pakistan would also have to diversify its exports by focusing more on the CPEC. According to US Department of Agriculture, she mentioned, Pakistan’s domestic rice consumption was 3.7 million tonnes and exportable supply had been 7.3 million tonnes during financial year 2021-22, this large surplus was an opportunity to bolster exports, and it happened only through rigorous economic diplomacy. However, there was a dire need to

institutionalize the ethos of economic diplomacy to keep pace with rest of the world, Dr Laraib added.

<https://nation.com.pk/2022/09/12/cpec-channelising-economic-diplomacy-pbf/>

September 13, 2022

Daily Times

Sino-Pak relations withstand tests, friendship remains rock solid: official

Director General of the Asian Affairs Department, Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Liu Jinsong has said that over the past year, China-Pakistan relations withstood tests and the friendship between the two countries remained rock-solid.

“China had made full efforts to help fight the floods in Pakistan. Since June, Pakistan has encountered the most severe flood disaster in decades. It has caused more than 1,000 deaths and affected over 33 million people. Satellite images show that one eighth of Pakistan’s land was covered by floods,” he said in his speech at recently held online 2nd Pakistan-China Think Tank Forum.

The dry land turned into swamps, where rainstorm and floods washed away bridges and roads, cut off transportation, inundated farmland, destroyed houses, displaced local residents and put kids out of school, Global Times quoted him as saying.

He said, the Chinese people empathized with the people of Pakistan and share their pain and concern. At the same time, we admire the tenacious character of the Pakistani people who have pulled together for self-relief and quickly begun rebuilding their homes.

Terming China and Pakistan ironclad brothers with a tradition of mutual support and help, he said, “We will never forget that in the aftermath of the Wenchuan earthquake in 2008, Pakistan promptly sent every tent it had to China’s affected areas by military planes. For every kindness it receives, China will return many times more.”

Liu Jinsong said the Chinese side regarded ironclad brother’s difficulties as its own difficulties. As severe floods hit Pakistan, President Xi Jinping and Premier Li Keqiang sent messages of condolences to President Arif Alvi and Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif respectively.

China has provided 4,000 tents, 50,000 blankets and 50,000 pieces of waterproof tarp under the social and livelihood cooperation framework of the CPEC and all of them were put into use on the frontline against floods, he added.

The director general informed that with the urgent coordination of the China International Development Cooperation Agency (CIDCA), China provided Pakistan with 100 million RMB yuan of emergency humanitarian aid. At the end of August, the first 3,000 tents of a total of 25,000 were flown from Sichuan Province to Pakistan by Chinese military airplanes and put into use.

As the flood situation evolved, CIDCA added 300 million RMB yuan of humanitarian assistance. Other urgent relief supplies such as vegetables and tents are being arranged quickly, he added.

He said, the Chinese people are lending a helping hand as well. Pakistani Embassy's emergency relief account received 1 million yuan of donations within hours after it's opened. A primary school student from Beijing named Luan Mingxuan donated all his pocket money. Chinese civilian teams of rescue volunteers have arrived in Pakistan.

The Chinese companies in Pakistan took the initiative to repair affected roads and bridges. Recently, Prime Minister Shehbaz expressed sympathy over the deaths and injuries caused by the earthquake in Luding County, Sichuan Province. Floods are merciless but human beings are compassionate.

"It is proved once again that China-Pakistan friendship is higher than the mountain, deeper than the sea and sweeter than honey. We are convinced that our Pakistani brothers will prevail over the disaster and rebuild their home," he added.

About CPEC, he said, it was providing strong support for Pakistan's economic development and social stability. Not long ago, the Karot plant, the first hydropower project under CPEC, was put into operation after seven years' construction. It has created thousands of local jobs and, with an annual output of 3.2 billion kWh, it now provides affordable clean energy for 5 million families.

It is estimated to reduce 3.5 million tons of carbon emissions every year, which will help Pakistan enhance energy security and transition into a green economy.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/996221/sino-pak-relations-withstand-tests-friendship-remains-rock-solid-official/>

CSCEC contributes to Pakistan's flood relief efforts

A team of Peshawar-Karachi Motorway (PKM) led by China State Construction Engineering Group Co., Ltd (CSCEC) is massively contributing to Pakistan's relief efforts.

After knowing the devastating flood situation in different parts of Pakistan, the team promptly purchased a large number of local necessities such as rice, grain, oil and sugar, and distributed the relief food to 800 nearby poor victims free of charge, thus relieving the urgent needs of local people.

The PKM project team prepared about 500 boxes of various kinds of drugs for treating post-disaster epidemics, organised medical teams to visit nearby villages for free diagnosis, and carried out free medicine delivery activities to equip local villagers with the knowledge of post-disaster disease prevention, thus avoiding the occurrence of infectious diseases, and ensuring the physical health and food safety of the people in the flood-hit areas.

The first and second divisions of the PKM project, while completing their own rescue and relief efforts, and figuring out the local flood situation, sent a disaster relief team of 25 people, carrying 11 sets of large machinery and equipment, including loaders, dump trucks, excavators

and pumps, to help nearby villages repair roads and divert floods. After several days of emergency repairs, 30 kilometres of water-damaged roads were opened in four nearby villages to ensure unimpeded access to local disaster relief channels. The PKM project also has managers on duty 24 hours a day to patrol the surrounding dangerous areas and help local victims out of trouble.

Amanullah, a flood victim, was extremely touched to see the busy figure of the relief team. “Thank our Chinese brothers and sisters for providing machinery and equipment for the village, draining floodwaters, and clearing our roads, and thank those who helped us in this difficult time,” he said.

Xiao Hua, head of the PKM project, said “the PKM project team will make full use of its advantages to ensure the unimpeded flow of the PKM highway during the floods, maintain a valuable rescue and escape route for the Pakistani people, and make every effort to support local flood fighting and disaster relief, and help the Pakistani people rebuild their homes.”

The PKM highway project stretches 392 kilometres from Sukkur in Sindh Province in the south to Multan, the economic centre of Punjab Province in the north.

The CSCEC Representative Office has also donated Rs 600,000 to flood-affected people through the All-Pakistan Chinese Enterprises’ Association to support the local government’s flood relief efforts.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/996516/cscec-contributes-to-pakistans-flood-relief-efforts/>

Pakistan Observer

China vs US role in Afghanistan & Pakistan for regional development

Muhammad Ehsan

IN August 2021, as US troops left Afghanistan in a hurry, the chaotic scenes of Kabul airport shocked the world.

The United States left after 20 years of war, leaving Afghanistan in a devastated mess. A year later, how do the Afghan people feel about this “Afghan War” in the United States? How will the global public evaluate the mark that the United States has left on Afghanistan?

On the first anniversary of the withdrawal of U.S. troops from Afghanistan, a poll conducted by the CGTN think tank of CCTV and the Institute of National Governance and Public Opinion Ecology of Chinese University showed that nearly 80% of Afghan respondents believe that the war in Afghanistan has made the United States lose faith in the world.

In addition, 80.4% of respondents worldwide said that the effect of the war waged in the name of counter-terrorism was “more terrorist”.

Nearly eighty percent of Afghan respondents called the Afghan War a “complete defeat” for the United States.

In 2001, the United States launched a war in Afghanistan in the name of counterterrorism.

Among the Afghan people surveyed, 78.2% of the respondents believe that “the US overthrow of another sovereign government in the name of counter-terrorism is completely wrong”, and 62.4% of the respondents worldwide hold the same view.

In addition, 79.6% of Afghan respondents believe that “the United States did not achieve the goal of sending troops at that time, it was a complete failure”, and this proportion also reached 67% of global respondents.

The United States has claimed to “build a stable, strong and prosperous Afghanistan,” yet a whopping 79 percent of local respondents believe the U.S. has not delivered its promises, up from 70.7 percent of global respondents.

The war in Afghanistan has caused the United States to continue to lose credibility with the international community, and 68.9% of Afghan respondents believe that the credibility of the United States has declined.

Looking back at the 20 years since the US military invaded Afghanistan, more than half of Afghan respondents believe that “Afghanistan is worse than before” (53.5%).

In the 20 years since the United States invaded Afghanistan, Afghanistan has encountered severe challenges in various fields such as security, economy and people’s livelihood.

The result of this war in the name of counter-terrorism is “the more anti-terrorist the more fearful” it is.

Polls show that as many as 75.8 percent of Afghan respondents believe that “the soil for terrorism remains until the withdrawal of US troops from Afghanistan,” and this proportion is as high as 80.4 percent of global respondents.

In addition to the inability to guarantee the safety of life, the economic and livelihood conditions in Afghanistan have also deteriorated in the past 20 years.

Among Afghan respondents, 56.6 percent believe that “when US troops withdraw in 2021, the Afghan economy is more difficult than in 2001,” and 52.3 percent believe that “when US troops withdraw in 2021, the Afghan people are poorer than in 2001.

” In response to the US freeze on the Central Bank of Afghanistan’s \$7 billion in assets, 74.1% of Afghan respondents believe that this is “naked plunder”, and 68.5% of global respondents believe that the United States should unfreeze these assets and return them to Afghanistan.

At the beginning of the military station, the United States made a commitment to “build a stable, strong and prosperous Afghanistan.

” After 20 years of withdrawing troops, the United States has “not fulfilled its commitments”.

Respondents around the world highly agree with China’s advocacy of the principles of Afghan reconstruction.

At present, Afghanistan is in a critical period of chaos and governance. In the view of Afghan respondents, among the many changes in the local situation in the past year, the top three are “the security situation has improved significantly”, “the Afghan people have freed themselves from interference from foreign forces and governed the country by themselves” and “people’s livelihood has gradually improved”, accounting for 68.3%, 49.1% and 28.3% respectively.

Nearly 60% of global respondents (58.7%) expressed optimistic expectations for the reconstruction of Afghanistan.

Among global respondents, the top three key factors in Afghanistan’s reconstruction were “eliminating terror and extremism” (45.6 percent), “building an inclusive government” (43.9 percent) and “establishing normal diplomatic relations with the rest of the world” (43.8 percent).

On August the 30th, Chinese media announced that the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China will be held in Beijing on October 16th, 2022, a top priority for the Chinese Communist Party and the Chinese people.

The conference will make a summary report on China’s development in the past five years and elect new leadership.

In terms of the reconstruction of Afghanistan, China has always adhered to the principle of “Afghan-led and Afghan-owned” and supported Afghanistan in embarking on a path of self-reliance, prosperity, progress and peaceful development.

These propositions and practices of the Chinese side were appreciated by 76.7% of the global respondents, and this proportion was as high as 87.8% and 81.8% of the respondents in Afghanistan’s neighbours and developing countries, respectively.

It is worth mentioning that in the minds of Afghan respondents, neighbouring countries, including China, Pakistan and Iran, will play an important role in the reconstruction process of Afghanistan, accounting for 65.7%.

As China’s good friend, good neighbour, good partner and good brother, the Pakistani people will continue to “fully support China” on issues involving China’s core interests and regional development.

We believe that the Chinese government will lead the Chinese people to create greater glory.

The experience of the Communist Party of China in governing will contribute to Pakistan and regional development and will benefit the world.

—The writer is PhD in International Relations based in Beijing.

<https://pakobserver.net/china-vs-us-role-in-afghanistan-pakistan-for-regional-development-by-muhammad-ehsan/>

The Express Tribune

27 CPEC projects costing \$19b completed

Work on 63 more schemes worth \$35b will end by 2030

ISLAMABAD: Some 27 projects worth \$19 billion have so far been completed under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) while 63 more with investment of \$35.2 billion are scheduled to be completed by 2030, a report titled “Overview of Pakistan’s Power Sector and its Future Outlook” issued by the China Three Gorges South Asia Investment Ltd (CSAIL) revealed.

According to the report, 27 projects are at implementation stages with investment of \$7.7 billion, which are scheduled to be completed by 2025. Thirty six more projects are in the pipeline with an approximate investment of \$27.5 billion, which will be completed by 2030.

According to details, in the energy sector, 11 projects with investment of \$12 billion have so far been completed, while four projects worth \$6 billion are under the implementation process, which are expected to be completed by 2025.

Similarly, seven more projects worth \$7.4 billion are in the pipeline and are expected to be completed by 2030.

The report highlighted that in the infrastructure sector, seven projects with investment of \$6.7 billion had been completed while six more projects of \$0.9 billion would be completed by 2025 and 12 projects of \$10.4 billion were expected to be completed by 2030.

Likewise, in Gwadar, three projects of \$200 million have so far been completed. Furthermore, two projects of \$230 million will be completed by 2025 and two more projects costing \$150 million are scheduled to be completed by 2030.

Four out of the nine identified Special Economic Zones (SEZs) would be completed by 2025 against an investment of \$500 million while the remaining five SEZs would be completed by 2030 with investment of \$1 billion, the CSAIL report revealed.

In addition to this, six socio-economic projects have so far been completed with an investment of \$10 million while 11 projects of \$90 million will be completed by 2025 and 10 projects of \$900 million will be ready by 2030.

The report described industrial cooperation, agriculture, science and technology and information technology as newly added sectors under the mega CPEC project that are at the planning stage for third-party participation.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2376322/27-cpec-projects-costing-19b-completed>

The Nation

Pakistan needs effective strategy to enhance trade with Asean under CPEC

ISLAMABAD - Pakistan needs to chalk out an effective and result-oriented strategy to enhance trade ties with the member countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) under the framework of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), WealthPK reported.

CPEC has provided Pakistan with a great opportunity to attract investment from different countries including the members of ASEAN. Various projects under CPEC have the potential to increase trade between Pakistan and ASEAN countries. According to ASEAN Committee Islamabad (ACI) Chairman Ambassador Nguyen Tien Phong, trade between Pakistan and ASEAN countries reached approximately \$11b during the previous fiscal. He said that ASEAN and Pakistan had undertaken a joint feasibility study for a free trade agreement to enhance and expand the overall economic engagement.

“There is a huge economic potential to be realised through the regional comprehensive economic partnership. East Asia is Pakistan’s primary trading partner due to the growing trend of globalisation. With an emphasis on enhancing trade, investing and collaboration in various industries, this transition from geopolitics to geo-economics has been evident in recent years,” said the ambassador. ASEAN has become a 10-member vibrant organisation. Its members include Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam, with an overall Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of more than \$3 trillion. ASEAN is now the fifth largest economy in the world. It is expected to become the fourth largest economy by 2050.

A research fellow at the Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad, who wished not to be named, told WealthPK that ASEAN encouraged collaboration with Pakistan particularly in the areas of trade and investment, education, human resources development and tourism. “Pakistan and ASEAN countries share many commonalities including a strong affinity for culture and religion though Pakistan has not benefited to the desired level from trade with the members of ASEAN despite liberalising its economy,” she said.

The research fellow said that Pakistan could attract adequate investment from the members of ASEAN by promoting CPEC and offering them a variety of favourable proposals under different schemes of the mega project.

“As soon as Gwadar is completed, Pakistan will have a deep-water port that can serve as a gateway to landlocked Central Asian countries. Later on, they may use it for exports to ASEAN countries as well,” she said. She said that the unsatisfactory volume of exports was a persistent problem for Pakistan’s economy as it adversely affected the GDP growth. However, she said that the special economic zones (SEZs) being established in different areas of Pakistan under CPEC would attract foreign investment.

“As Pakistan tries to diversify its industrial base, ASEAN markets may offer opportunities to it. Pakistan can also benefit from the experience of some ASEAN countries like Singapore, Malaysia and Thailand in achieving economic progress through industrialisation,” said the research fellow. She said that Pakistan also has an opportunity to boost its exports by finalising the free trade agreement with ASEAN. She stressed the need to explore prospective areas for mutual cooperation between Pakistan and ASEAN countries to boost bilateral trade in a variety of domains. “Pakistan lacks competency and efficiency in the production line. Resultantly, the exports to the ASEAN market are confined to a few non-value-added products,” she told WealthPK. Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Ahsan Iqbal has said on different forums that Pakistan should follow Malaysia’s model of progress to transform its economy and increase its per capita income and GDP.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2022-09-13/page-9/detail-0>

K2 Daily



https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=Gilgit%20Baltistan%20News&Date=2022-09-13

https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_ICT&Page=Classified&Date=2022-09-13

September 14, 2022

Daily Times

Chinese investors come to field to help flood victims

Chinese investors in Pakistan have come to the field to help the flood victims. Panda Industries Association, an organization of Chinese investors in Pakistan, has sent seven trucks of relief goods worth millions of rupees to Dera Ghazi Khan for 4,000 flood victims in Punjab.

Chinese Consul General Zhao Shiren released seven trucks of relief goods for Dera Ghazi Khan from Challenge Textile Manga Mandi on Multan Road, Lahore. Addressing the ceremony of dispatching relief materials at Manga Mandi Challenge Textile Factory, Chinese Consul General

Zhao Shiren said that seven trucks will be handed over to Commissioner Dera Ghazi Khan tomorrow.

The Chinese government has also given assistance of Rs13.20 billion to the Pakistan government and it will be increased the aid further and assistance will continue until the complete recovery of the flood victims. Qamar Khan, Patron Chief of Panda Industries Association, an organization of Chinese investors in Pakistan, said that the first batch of goods sent to the flood victims included mosquito nets, ready-to-eat items, mineral water, clothes, tents and medicines.

He said that trucks of relief goods will be handed over to Commissioner Dera Ghazi Khan tomorrow and these goods will be distributed among the flood victims of Rajanpur. Karen Chen, Managing Director of Challenge Textile Company, while speaking, said that Pakistan and China are two brotherly neighboring countries and the flood victims are in dire need of help and China stands with Pakistan in this hour of difficulty.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/996785/chinese-investors-come-to-aid-to-help-flood-victims/>

Dawn News

Chinese firm contacted for repair of Rohri-Karachi section

RAHIM YAR KHAN: As the current deficit of the Pakistan Railways (PR) stands at Rs13 billion, it will take 15 to 20 years more to make it a self-sufficient organisation, warned federal minister Khwaja Saad Rafique.

Speaking with citizen representatives and the media here on Tuesday, Mr Rafique said a Chinese railway company had been asked to repair the Rohri-Karachi railway section first.

The rickety section is notorious for causing a number of trains accidents claiming lives of passengers and frequent derailments.

The minister, who is on a whirlwind five-day tour to inspect different railway stations in the backdrop of recent floods, said due to the current economic scenario, the PR had become a victim of financial crisis because its infrastructure was badly damaged in Sindh and Balochistan by the calamity.

PR deficit rises to Rs13bn, says Saad

He said he could not run the passenger trains until the flood situation became clear.

“We are trying to get investment from international monetary institutions [for improving railways infrastructure],” he said.

He regretted that that ML-I (Main Line-I) project had already been delayed for four years and now its estimated cost had swelled to around Rs4 billion. He added that the framework agreement signed by the PML-N government before 2018 had expired now and he was trying for its revival within a month.

He alleged that former minister Sheikh Rashid dissolved the Project Management Unit (PMU), adding that he would rearrange the unit by manning it with honest officers within two weeks. The minister visited different portions of RYK railway station and later held a meeting with divisional superintendent of Sukkur division and RYK Chamber of Commerce and Industry member Farzand Ali Farhat, who is also campaigning for improvement of railways.

After the meeting, Mr Farhat told Dawn that the minister had pledged that the RYK railway station would be redesigned on the model of Bahawalpur railway station at a cost of Rs250 million and upgraded from Grade II to Grade III station, adding that the construction work for the purpose would be started soon.

The minister, he said, also announced stops of Sir Syed Express and Karakoram Express at RYK after approval of relevant quarters.

He said the minister said that a full AC coach for RYK passengers would be soon approved in both Up and Down Rehman Baba Express.

He added that the ticket quota for RYK railway station would be doubled in all trains after the restoration of tracks.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1709990/chinese-firm-contacted-for-repair-of-rohri-karachi-section>

Pakistan Observer

Pakistan to sign agriculture cooperation deal with SCO members

Pakistan has decided to sign a deal with the member countries of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) ahead of the prime minister's visit to Uzbekistan.

The federal cabinet has approved a summary for cooperation with the SCO countries in agriculture sector, sources said. The cabinet given its approval through a circuitry summary.

The agreement will be signed during Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's upcoming visit of Uzbekistan to attend the Shanghai Cooperation Organization summit, which will be held on September 15,16. —INP

<https://pakobserver.net/pakistan-to-sign-agriculture-cooperation-deal-with-sco-members/>

China transports 200 tons of onions to aid flood-hit area

China's Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region's government has transported 200 tons of onions through the Khunjerab Pass to help people in the flood-affected areas in Pakistan.

Turk loads of onions donated by the Government of Xinjiang on their way to Pakistan for the flood-affected areas. Thank you China; Thank you Xinjiang, Pakistan's Ambassador to China, Moin ul Haque said in a tweet.

Chinese Embassy in Pakistan also said that 200 tons of onions provided by China to aid Pakistan's flood-affected areas have been transported to Pakistan through Khunjerab Pass. Hope

this batch of supplies can help people in the affected areas to defeat the floods and resume normal life as soon as possible.

Recently, Chairman of China International Development Cooperation Agency, Luo Zhaohui during a virtual meeting with Chairman, National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) Akhtar Nawaz had announced to provide onions to ensure food supplies to the flood-hit people in Pakistan.

As per official sources, at the end of August, the first 3,000 tents of a total of 25,000 were flown from Sichuan Province to Pakistan by Chinese military airplanes and put into use.

<https://pakobserver.net/china-transport-200-tons-of-onions-to-aid-flood-hit-area/>

Recommendations for the development of SEZs under CPEC

S M Hali

SEZs have come a long way since their inception. Different countries adopted regulations and parameters of their operation conducive to their own specific environment and conditions, Pakistan has a tried and tested module in the shape of Chinese SEZs.

The key to this model is that SEZ integration and management require adequate governmental interventions and regional planning. Some recommendations are offered here for optimum utilization of the opportunity.

There is a need to develop an apolitical body led and staffed by technocrats to oversee the establishment of SEZs, and urban development under CPEC.

The proposed body should have a long-term vision because economic transformation can take decades. In this regard, it is important for policymakers to undertake joint actions in order to promote synergies and coordination among the different players.

Successful zones use a “holistic” or “systematic” approach. This approach involves all the important aspects (both “soft” and “hard”) for building a conducive industrial or business ecosystem.

Successful SEZ programs necessitate strong government support as part of the long-term national development strategy; a robust legal and regulatory framework and strong institutions, including effective one-stop-shop services; prototype design for broader national reforms; strategic location with sound infrastructure; strong commercial viability and significant economic and social returns; and an awareness of potential environmental concerns, and a willingness to address them to create an environmentally sustainable operation.

To make the SEZs an integral part of a long-term development strategy, planning must be fully integrated into national or regional industrial policies and economic development strategies, based on real market demand.

Sound legal and institutional frameworks with strong and long-term, well-coordinated government commitment should be established with a predictable and transparent legal and

regulatory framework to ensure the clarity of roles and responsibilities of various parties, and to provide protection and certainty to the developers and investors as well as ensure that the zones attract the right investment.

Creation of an attractive business environment, including efficient public services (such as a one-stop shop) and good infrastructures is imperative.

Operations must be carefully planned, designed and managed because developing a zone is a very expensive undertaking.

Ensuring the availability of strong human power can be made through skills training, customized and specialized education that generate, upgrade and deepen knowledge and skills.

Continuous technological and industrial learning, innovation, upgrading enhances productivity and sustains long-term competitiveness to keep pace with technological and industrial innovation.

Strategic and strong connectivity among individuals, firms, countries and regions is increasingly understood as a key factor in achieving competitiveness and sustainable, inclusive economic growth.

Linkages with the local economy must be created while a good balance between industrial development and social/urban development will create dividends.

An independent monitoring and evaluation system is essential because SEZ programs are very expensive and highly risky endeavors, meriting a close watch to avoid wastefulness, pilferage and industrial espionage.

Legislation must be put in place and implemented effectively to stipulate the performance criteria of zone programs, and to set conditions for handling the transitions necessary when zones reach the end of their productive life cycles, and/or for dealing with underachieving programs.

Environmental and sustainability issues can be addressed through the creation of Eco-Industrial Parks (EIPs), which cover a wide spectrum of approaches but lead to more sustainable economic development.

EIPs can help reduce the operational cost and greenhouse gas emissions, and as a spill-over impact they can lead to cleaner production by avoiding air emissions that most conventional power plants cause.

The impact of green factories or buildings is far more holistic, leading to multiple benefits in terms of energy and water consumption saved, emissions avoided and reduced waste.

The roots of EIPs go back as far as the late 19th century in European industrial zones. However, the concept truly began to develop in the post-World War II period in Denmark, Germany and Finland in an unplanned, organic way as a result of resource constraints and high energy costs.

These early steps mainly arose in the form of industrial symbiosis and efficiency measures. In the 1990s, other European countries and non-European developed countries such as the United

States, Japan and Canada started incorporating EIP concepts, partially or fully, in their design of industrial zones.

In the 2000s, Japan, China and South Korea boosted their efforts to support EIPs with national policies as a means to strengthen their global competitiveness.

Hence, over the past five years, EIPs have become a prominent global tool for industrial zones/parks, while retrofit activities continue in over 40 countries.

In case of Pakistan, the local employment opportunities and capacity building should be the main focus that should be achieved with mutual consultation and understanding between both China and Pakistan.

Moreover, industrial cooperation under CPEC will help us to attract those labour-intensive industries and jobs that will definitely change the destiny of Pakistan, if executed with due diligence.

Prior to the advent of China's economic reforms, in 1979 China's GDP per capita was lower than Pakistan. However, presently China stands at US \$ 8069 while Pakistan is still stuck between US \$ 1400 to 1500.

The key to Pakistan's success in CPEC is China's wholehearted support but have we geared ourselves to make optimum utilization of the opportunity? China has all the experience that Pakistan needs but the need of the hour is to keep all the differences aside and leave no stone unturned to make CPEC an exemplary economic development project between China and Pakistan for the rest to follow.

<https://pakobserver.net/recommendations-for-the-development-of-sezs-under-cpec-by-s-m-hali/>

BRI & SCO and Role of Uzbekistan: An Expert Opinion

Dr Mehmood Ul Hassan Khan

Time and again, the Head of States of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) through a joint communiqué reaffirmed their support to the Chinese Belt and Road Initiative.

The official statement supports the view that in Central Asia, the BRI is rated as an important tool for promoting a Post-Covid era of prosperity and stability.

In this connection, the signing of a joint declaration between China and Russia linking the BRI to the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) in 2015 has further strengthened the role of the BRI.

Russia has become a major supporter of the BRI as most railway routes from China to Europe pass through its territory.

Through the BRI, Russia should be able to rejuvenate some of its regions and create new opportunities in several sectors.

Furthermore, the "Silk Fund", a Chinese state fund dedicated to financing BRI projects, has supported several initiatives in Russia.

Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan are also fully “engaged” in the BRI. The increasing rail traffic between China and Europe has opened up new opportunities for both the important countries of Central Asia and of course SCO.

The BRI also supports Uzbekistan National Economic Development Strategy and Kazakhstan’s own national development policy “Nurly Zhol” that is focused on updating outdated infrastructure.

Tajikistan is home to several large BRI infrastructure projects (such as the 4G network deployed by Huawei). In Kyrgyzstan, several BRI projects have been in the process.

Together with Kyrgyzstan and China, Uzbekistan is developing a new highway that will provide a better connection between Central Asia and China.

Currently, the Republic of Uzbekistan holds the “Chairmanship” of SCO. In this regard, the 2022 annual summit of the SCO Heads of State Council will be held on September 15-16 in Samarkand.

Uzbekistan is one of the founders of the SCO established on June 15, 2001, in Shanghai and has been actively participating in its numerous activities.

Tashkent previously chaired the Organization three times (2003-2004, 2009-2010 & 2015-2016).

For the period (2017-2021) President of Uzbekistan initiated 45 important proposals and subsequently submitted in the SCO summits aimed at increasing the effectiveness of cooperation in political, trade, economic, transport and logistics, innovation and other areas. 22 initiatives of these have already been implemented, 23 are in the process of being implemented.

Moreover, at the initiative of Uzbekistan, the “Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure” of the SCO was created in Tashkent which is commendable achievement.

Furthermore, the Uzbekistan SCO Chairmanship has some strategic priorities. Firstly, complete modernization of SCO to achieve its real scope, utility, potential and functionality. Secondly, integrated and joint efforts to ensure peace and stability in the SCO space.

Thirdly, immense socio-economic integration, enhanced cooperation in diverse sectors of economy, trade, investment, joint venture, greater regional connectivity, transport communication interconnectedness. Fourthly, extended cooperation in social development in terms of poverty reduction and ensuring food security.

Fifthly, further strengthening of cultural, humanitarian and healthcare and climate change cooperation among the member countries of the SCO. Being chairman of the SCO, Uzbekistan succeeded in holding about 80 important events not in the country but also in the member countries.

Uzbekistan initiated, coordinated and completed the process of harmonization of 37 SCO documents in one year.

Moreover, 30 of these documents were initiated by Uzbekistan, President Shavkat Mirziyoyev adopted a “holistic” and “comprehensive” policy to further enhance and “integrate” “conceptual”, “contextual” and strategic importance of the SCO.

Thus institutional expansion of the spheres of interaction in the SCO has been further streamlined, systemized and strengthened.

New innovative ideas and documents have been submitted under the chairmanship of Uzbekistan mainly; “Transport Connectivity Strategy”, the “Plan for the Development of Intra-Regional Trade”, the “Infrastructure Development Program”, and the establishment of the institution of the “SCO Goodwill Ambassador”.

Furthermore, the “Economic Forum”, the “SCO Industrial Innovation Week”, the “Forum of the Heads of Regions”, the “Forum of Industrial Cooperation”, and the exhibition of fruits and vegetables “Sunny Uzbekistan” were held which further enhanced the efficacy of the SCO.

An innovative project “Uzbekistan-SCO industrial zone” is being created in the Samarkand region.

It is designed to become an effective mechanism for the implementation of the Program to stimulate industrial cooperation between the business circles of the SCO countries.

The total population of the SCO countries is almost 3.5 billion, which roughly accounts for half of the world, and the combined GDP is estimated to be exceeding 25 percent of the global GDP. Now SCO is the world’s largest regional organization.

The total territory of the member countries exceeds 34 million square kilometers, which is more than 60 percent of the territory of the Eurasian continent. It covers three continents: Asia, Europe and Africa.

So SCO holds the key to further socio-economic prosperity and greater regional connectivity in which Uzbekistan being the connecting hub would play an important role in the days to come.

So BRI-SCO would be an ideal combination to bring peace, stability and prosperity in the region and beyond.

Hopefully, under Uzbekistan’s SCO chairmanship, it would lead the member countries towards greater socio-economic integration, resolution of conflicts, combating state and non-state security threats, smart economies, smart living, green revolution, carbon neutrality, poverty reduction and e-commerce & government etc.

In the past during its chairmanships Uzbekistan streamlined easy & smooth sailing of the SCO in terms of water diplomacy, biodiversity, climate change and delimiting border issues and legal modalities.

To conclude, for the further strengthening of socio-economic and geopolitical integration, “banking and financial integration” of the SCO member countries is the need of the hour.

Sincere efforts should be carried out to prepare an “alternative SCO clearing and payment system” in order to avoid any imminent unilateral sanctions of the West.

Last but not the least, promotion of green and sustainable development, sharing experience and technology in environmental protection and building a beautiful home featuring harmonious coexistence between man and nature must be one of the main strategic priorities of the SCO 2022.

<https://pakobserver.net/bri-sco-and-role-of-uzbekistan-an-expert-opinion-by-dr-mehmood-ul-hassan-khan/>

September 15, 2022

Daily Times

Chinese firms continue supporting Pakistan in flood relief efforts

Chinese enterprises and associations in Pakistan continue to donate materials to support Pakistan’s flood relief efforts as the recent severe floods in Pakistan have caused heavy casualties and property losses. According to China Economic Net (CEN), six Chinese companies in Pakistan’s Punjab province have jointly set up the Panda Industries Association to raise Rs. 6 million in cash and Rs. 8 million in clothing for 4,000 flood victims in Punjab. The 6 Chinese companies in the Panda Chamber include Challenge Fashion (Pvt) Co., Ltd, Easy Prefabricated Homes Ltd, LEDZONE, OPPO, TCL and Zhengbang Agriculture. A convoy of materials donated by Chinese enterprises to the flood-stricken areas of Pakistan

On the occasion, Chinese Consul General in Lahore Zhao Shiren highlighted that China and Pakistan are all-weather strategic cooperative partners. The two countries understand and support each other and more assistance is on the way. He believes and wishes that the people in the disaster-hit areas, including the southern part of Punjab Province, will overcome the difficulties at an early date, resume normal production and life and rebuild their beautiful homes.

Senior Minister of Punjab, Mian Mohammad Aslam Iqbal, lauded the efforts of the Panda Industries Association. He said that the flood had caused destruction and joint efforts should be made to help and restore the flood victims. Challenge Fashion’s Pakistani partner Qamar Khan said that it was very heartening to see how the Chinese business community operating in Punjab came forward to help the flood victims.

“They even went to the extent that they voluntarily donated part of their salaries towards this great cause. Their brotherly feelings were just as this catastrophe had hit their own motherland.” he added. The inaugural meeting of Panda Industries Association and the launching ceremony of donating supplies to flood-stricken areas in Pakistan

The Panda Industries Association expressed its grief and sorrow at the loss of life and property in Pakistan caused by the catastrophic floods. The establishment of the association aims to gather information and resources of Chinese enterprises, help Chinese companies in Pakistan solve

business problems, strengthen communication with the Pakistani business community. The association has been registered as an NGO with the Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/997354/chinese-firms-continue-supporting-pakistan-in-flood-relief-efforts/>

NBP stall attracts Chinese financial institutions in Beijing

The National Bank of Pakistan (NBP) booth set up in Shougang Park, at China International Fair for Trade-in-Services 2022, to introduce its services to the Chinese small and medium enterprises (SMEs), state-owned enterprises (SoEs), traders and ongoing cooperation with Chinese financial institutions attracted many visitors, said Shaikh Muhammad Shariq, Chief Representative of NBP in China.

The China International Fair for Trade-in-Services 2022 was last week concluded at the National Convention Center and Shougang Park Beijing. Talking to China Economic Net, Shaikh Muhammad Shariq said that during the fair, co-events such as China International Finance Annual Forum and the High-Quality Development of Insurance Forum 2022 helped investors learn more about the Chinese financial sector. “This is the first opportunity for us to set-up booth to promote NBP services to Chinese and international participants, which has provided a huge platform for the Pakistani banking sector to deepen cooperation,” he added.

“The financial sector has to play an active role to promote bilateral trade between China and Pakistan, which has seen significant growth during recent years. In order to further promote trade, NBP always played a vital role by increasing cooperation, not only in the trade sector but also in M&As, investments and other avenues”, he mentioned. Shaikh Muhammad Shariq said that CIFTIS has developed into a promotional platform for the opening and innovation of the Chinese financial industry, helped many explore the foremost fields of international finance.

He said that in Shougang Park not only did NBP participate, but also many Pakistani exhibitors displayed Pakistani products which attracted a lot of Chinese and international participants and visitors.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/997597/nbp-stall-attracts-chinese-financial-institutions-in-beijing/>

Pakistan can benefit from relocation of Chinese firms: PCJCCI

Pakistan-China Joint Chambers of Commerce and Industry (PCJCCI) President Wang Zihai said on Wednesday that China’s decision to relocate part of its manufacturing sector to cost-effective locations should help Pakistan if the country could chalk out a strategy and train its labour according to the industry’s needs.

Chairing a think-tank session held here at PCJCCI premises, he added that China was witnessing an economic transformation, following Europe’s model of relocating parts of its manufacturing sector to economically viable places that offer skilled labour at cheap rates.

PCJCCI Senior Vice President Ehsan Choudhry said that technical training should be provided to labourers so that they could take advantage of China's move. Pakistan could make its unemployed manpower effective in the current scenario by providing technical and factual training in industry-related work ambit. He was confident that Pakistan could attract the Chinese manufacturing sector by developing a trained workforce for industries. He termed the phenomenon a great industrial transfer, which had brought in plenty of opportunities. He added that one-third of Chinese manufacturers for textiles, garments, shoes and hats had already moved all, or part, of their production centres outside China.

PCJCCI Vice President Sarfaraz Butt said that around 40 per cent of the major companies had planned to move factories from China to other locations, which included Vietnam, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Philippines. He added that Pakistan had the ninth largest labour force in the world, according to the labour force 2013-2014, clocking in at 57.24 million. Out of this, 3.4 million people were unemployed, while many were employed in areas not relevant to their expertise. The joint chamber's secretary general, Salahuddin Hanif, pointed out that export of quality manpower was the main driver in growth of remittances, adding that the country had a 60 per cent economically active population that could increase productivity if their services were properly utilised.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/997598/pakistan-can-benefit-from-relocation-of-chinese-firms-pcjcci/>

Pakistan Observer

Miftah Ismail highlights importance of CPEC projects

Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Mr. Miftah Ismail held a meeting with a delegation of CNNC headed by its President Overseas Mr. Zhang Guoliang, at Finance Division, today.

Mr. Zhang Guoliang, President Overseas CNNC briefed the Finance Minister on investment in CPEC projects and presented company's report. He expressed sympathy on the loss of lives, properties and infrastructure due to the recent devastating floods in Pakistan. He also offered his company's support for the flood relief work.

Finance Minister Mr. Miftah Ismail highlighted the importance of CPEC projects in the development and progress of the region and strengthening the fraternal bonds between Pakistan and China. The Finance Minister welcomed the support of CNNC for flood relief. The meeting also discussed issues of mutual interest.

<https://pakobserver.net/miftah-ismail-highlights-importance-of-cpec-projects/>

The Express Tribune

When coups are also Made In China

Imran Jan

Nationalist Americans strongly believe that the ouster of Imran Khan from power was the work of China

In the American media, for a while now, China has been the favourite target of the accusing finger behind everything that is wrong with the world. Whether low quality of products worldwide or the snatching of the energy resources from the American influence, China takes the blame.

But here is an argument and a strong belief that nobody might have heard, making this Op-Ed part breaking news. Nationalist Americans, and I don't mean the MAGA crowd, strongly and genuinely believe that the ouster of Imran Khan from power was the work of China. That the Chinese were upset with him and didn't want him in charge. This would be the second instance of China manufacturing something that the Americans absolutely love, the first one being the manufacture of the iPhone.

With the exception of North America, the entire world believes that Khan was removed with ulterior motives. The list is long as to who could have been leading this orchestrated removal of Khan but nowhere in that list is China included except in the American minds. The most common belief is that Khan was removed from power because he vehemently declined providing bases to the Americans, which the latter wanted to use for flying drones over Afghanistan for surveillance and kill missions. There are a few other factors too but that is the highest order bit.

When I heard the narrative, I realised that perhaps the UFOs would have a better chance of being treated seriously in Pakistan than a coup Made in China. But this wouldn't be the first time the American people would believe absolute nonsense. Maybe this is not coming from ignorance but is rather rooted in an intellectual thought-experiment driven by a nationalistic urge of shifting the blame to the enemy. Perhaps they have realised that Khan is the most popular leader in Pakistan right now and being blamed for removing such a man wouldn't be fruitful, so why not put it on the enemies. Blaming China for anything bad is almost instinctual anyway. It makes sense from an intellectual standpoint to shift the public anger toward the enemy. This is a shift of sorts in that China was always blamed for doing what Washington didn't like. This time around, China is blamed for doing what Washington absolutely likes. The former was done to cater to the domestic audience, the second one is for global public opinion.

When you argue with the proponents of this narrative that people widely believe that perhaps it was actually the US that orchestrated Khan's removal because he said "Absolutely Not" to helping the Americans making new killing fields in Afghanistan, the counter-argument comes in very rational sounding words such as "it is not convincing that the US removed Khan because Americans-hardly-know-who-Khan-is". Fair enough, is it then 'convincing' that the Chinese did it when Khan was a very pro-China Prime Minister? Truth be told, it is actually laughable to even suggest that.

How many Americans had heard of Abu Musab Al Zarqawi when Colin Powell introduced him as the Al Qaeda leader perched on Northern Iraq as proof of the links between Saddam and Al Qaeda? How many Americans even today know the man Ahmed Chalabi whose bogus intelligence was treated as rock solid to justify the invasion of Iraq? How many Americans actually know that Israel torpedoed US spyship Liberty killing twice the number of US sailors

than the number of US sailors killed by Al Qaeda in the USS Cole off the coast of Yemen? The point is that basing an argument on what the Americans know or do not know can hardly be a rational argument. More specifically, when it comes to foreign policy, the American people are almost always in the dark about the activities of their elected government.

While China might have overtaken the global manufacturing industry, the global coup making still remains an American monopoly.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2376670/when-coups-are-also-made-in-china>

K2 Daily

دقیقہ 6

کیلے جی جانے والی امداد پر اٹھارہ ٹنٹر تصدیقات کے مطابق نگرانی داخلہ گلگت بلتستان اقبال حسین خان نے اس معاملے سے ڈیزاؤر ٹیم کے دفتر ہاؤس کا تقصیری دورہ کیا جہاں ڈیزاؤر کیمپز لگات بلتستان ڈیزاؤر ٹیم کے امدادی کمال الدین قرآن نے برٹشک دی امداد تک دی جانے والی امدادی سامان کوئی کام متاثرہ علاقوں تک پہنچانے کے منصوبہ کے حوالے سے نگرانی داخلہ کو آگاہ کیا اس موقع پر نگرانی داخلہ گلگت بلتستان اقبال حسین خان نے چائے گورنمنٹ ڈسٹرکٹ اور سیکرٹریٹ میں چائے سے سیلاب متاثرین کیلئے پیسے گئے امدادی سامان کی فراہمی پر ان کا تہ دل سے شکر ادا کیا اور کہا کہ کم دوست ممالک اور سیکرٹریٹ کے سیکورس ہیں جنہوں نے مشکل کی اس گزری میں ہاؤس یا کرتے ہوئے دہانے رکھوں کا عاوا کیا نگرانی داخلہ گلگت بلتستان اقبال حسین خان نے متعلقہ اداروں کو چاہت کی کہ وہ دوست ممالک کی چائے سے پیسے گئے امدادی سامان کو گلگت بلتستان کے تمام متاثرین تک پہنچایا جائے۔ انہوں نے مزید کہا کہ ڈیزاؤر ٹیم گلگت بلتستان اور چائے نگرانی گلگت بلتستان کی خصوصی دہانے کی روٹی میں شکر کے تمام متاثرہ علاقوں کی امداد اور ریلیف کیلئے اقدامات جاری ہیں اور ان کی امداد کوئی سر ہاؤس نہیں رہی جائے

چینی حکومت کا امدادی سامان جی بی ڈی ایم اے کے حوالے

امدادی سامان کو گلگت بلتستان کے تمام متاثرہ علاقوں کے لوگوں تک پہنچایا جائے

متاثرین کی امداد میں کوئی کسر باقی نہیں رکھی جائے گی، سیکرٹری داخلہ اقبال حسین

سراج الحق 19 ستمبر سے گلگت

بلتستان کا دورہ کریں گے

گلگت (ماہنامہ خصوصی) سراج الحق ایمر

جماعت اسلامی (پاکی سطر 7، پتہ نمبر 7) سے سیلاب متاثرین (پاکی سطر 7، پتہ نمبر 6)

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صدر قلم سے چینی سفیر کی ملاقات

ہا ہا ہا، چینی سفیر کے امور پر چارہ خیال

اسلام آباد (ای این آئی) وزیر مملکت برائے چارہ صدر قلم سے چینی سفیر نے ملاقات کی جس میں ہا ہا، چینی (پاکی سطر 7، پتہ نمبر 35)

دقیقہ 35

کے امور پر چارہ خیال کیا گیا۔ وزیر مملکت برائے چارہ نے کہا کہ برطانیہ میں چائے کے پاکستان کا ساتھ دیا اور حکومت پاکستان کو اپنی حکومت مشورہ کرنے کے لیے پڑا ہے۔

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بقیہ 32
ذوالحجے کی خیر خواہ امدادی کاموں میں بڑھ چڑھ کر حصہ لے رہی ہیں۔ بڑھ کے روزگاری میڈیا کے مطابق پاکستان پائیز روڈ پلٹس ایجنسی کے تحت داسو راجیکٹ کے منیجر اور نے کہا کہ موجودہ سیلابی صورتحال میں چانکا سول انجینئرنگ کنسٹرکشن کارپوریشن نے نمایاں مدد فراہم کی اور سیلاب سے شدید متاثرہ علاقوں میں سفائی سہولتی کے کاموں میں حصہ لیا ہے۔ ان کی مدد کے بغیر لوگوں کی سفائی کا کام کافی دشوار تھا۔ ہم ان کے تعاون اور مدد کو سراہتے ہیں۔

پاکستان میں چینی کمپنیاں سیلاب متاثرین کی امدادی سرگرمیوں میں پیش پیش
اسلام آباد (آئی این پی) پاکستان میں فعال چینی کمپنیاں اس وقت آفت زدہ علاقوں میں جاہ شدہ بنیادی (ہائی سٹریٹ 6 بجیہ نمبر 32)

<https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP ICT&Page=Gilgit%20Baltistan%20News>

<https://www.epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP ICT&Page=Classified>

Nawaiwaqt News

پی آئی اے کی چین کیلئے طلبائی، مسافروں کے کرائے میں 10 سے 15 فیصد کمی

(نیوز رپورٹر) چین میں کرونا پابندیوں کی وجہ سے فضائی کمپنیوں کی جانب سے کرایوں میں غیر معمولی اضافوں کے بعد پاکستانی طلبہ کو روانگی میں مشکلات کا سامنا ہے، تاہم قومی ائیر لائن نے طلبہ کی سہولت کے لیے کرایوں میں کمی کا اعلان کیا ہے۔ چین جانے والے پاکستانی طلبہ کے لیے پی آئی اے نے بڑا اعلان کیا ہے۔ جس کے تحت طلبہ کو ٹکٹوں پر 15 فی صد رعایت دی جائے گی۔ ذرائع کا کہنا ہے کہ طلبہ کے علاوہ چین جانے والے مسافروں کو بھی ٹکٹوں پر 10 فی صد رعایت حاصل ہوگی۔ علاوہ ازیں قومی ائیر لائن کی جانب سے پاکستانی طلبہ کے لیے سامان کے وزن کی حد بھی 40 سے بڑھا کر 80 کلو کروی گئی ہے۔ چینی شہر شیان کا کرایہ 5 لاکھ 19 ہزار جب کہ شندو کا کرایہ 5 لاکھ 8 ہزار روپے ہے۔ پی آئی اے کی جانب سے رعایت کے اعلان سے پاکستانی طلبہ کو ٹکٹوں پر 76 سے 78 ہزار روپے کا ڈسکاؤنٹ ملے گا جب کہ چین جانے والے مسافروں کو بھی 50 ہزار تک رعایت ملے گی۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/lahore/2022-09-15/page-1/detail-20>

چین کا ڈیرہ بگٹی میں سیمنٹ فیکٹری کے قیام کا اعلان، شاہ زین بگٹی کا خیر مقدم

اسلام آباد (نوائے وقت رپورٹر) پاکستان میں چین کے سفیر نوٹنگ روٹنگ نے ڈیرہ بگٹی میں سیمنٹ فیکٹری کے قیام کا اعلان کرتے کہا ہے کہ چین آفات کے بعد تعمیر نو میں مدد اور باہمی تعاون کو فروغ دینے کے لیے تیار ہے، چینی لوگ اپنے پاکستانی بھائیوں اور بہنوں کی مدد کو بہت اہمیت دیتے ہیں، چینی حکومت نے پاکستان کی مدد کے لیے 4 ملین یو این مالیت کے سامان کا اعلان کیا ہے۔ گوادر پرو کے مطابق چین کے سفیر نوٹنگ روٹنگ نے ڈیرہ بگٹی میں سیمنٹ فیکٹری کے قیام کا اعلان کیا اور کہا کہ ہم جانتے ہیں کہ بلوچستان کے لوگ سیلاب اور شدید بارشوں سے متاثر ہوئے ہیں، میں نے موسلا دھار بارشوں سے بہت سے مکانات کو تباہ ہوتے دیکھا، ہمیں امید ہے کہ ہم اپنے ان بھائیوں اور بہنوں کے لیے کچھ کر سکتے ہیں۔ سفیر نوٹنگ روٹنگ نے کہا کہ چینی اپنے پاکستانی بھائیوں اور بہنوں کی مدد کو بہت اہمیت دیتے ہیں اور چینی حکومت نے تباہ کن سیلاب سے نمٹنے کے لیے پاکستان کی مدد کے لیے 40 لاکھ یو این مالیت کے سامان کا اعلان کیا ہے۔ سفیر نے کہا کہ چین آفات کے بعد تعمیر نو میں مدد اور باہمی تعاون کو فروغ دینے کے لیے تیار ہے۔ گوادر پرو کے مطابق وفاقی وزیر برائے انسداد منشیات نوابزادہ شاہ زین بگٹی نے چینی سفیر کے اعلانات کا خیر مقدم کرتے ہوئے کہا کہ اگر چینی حکومت سیمنٹ میں سرمایہ کاری کرے تو

اس سے ہزاروں ملازمتیں پیدا ہوں گی، انہوں نے مزید کہا کہ یقیناً مقامی لوگوں کی رہائش گاہیں کچے مکانات سے نئے مکانات میں تبدیل ہو جائیں گی۔ مکانات انہیں تعلیم، صحت کی سہولیات اور بہت کچھ میسر ہو گا۔ واضح رہے چین کے سفیر ٹونگ روٹنگ نے وفاقی وزیر برائے انسداد منشیات نواز اداہ شاہ زین بلٹی کی دعوت پر ڈیرہ بگٹی کا دورہ کیا۔

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