



For Better Understanding on China–Pakistan and CPEC

Gleanings from the National & Chinese Press

October 16-31, 2022

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October 16, 2022

Daily Times

PIA cuts fare for students on flights to China

Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) has further cut down its fare in order to facilitate students and other passengers travelling from Pakistan to China with immediate effect.

“Now, ex-Pakistan fare for students with taxes will be around Rs 248,000 while ex-Pakistan fare for other passengers will be around RMB 10,000,” said official sources here on Saturday.

Last month, the national flag carrier had offered a discount from 10 percent to 15 percent and an additional seven percent discount on surcharge for students wishing to travel between Pakistan and China. Currently, PIA is operating two weekly flights on Islamabad-Chengdu-Islamabad and Islamabad-Xian-Beijing-Islamabad routes.

Pakistani students who wish to join their studies at Chinese educational institutes and other passengers planning to travel to China can benefit from the new discount.

A large number of Pakistani students enrolled in Chinese universities could not return to China following Covid-19 travel restrictions. They are planning to come back to China to join offline classes as the Chinese authorities have allowed them to return.

On June 20, a special PIA plane brought the first batch of Pakistani students from Islamabad to Xian. These students were stuck in their home country because of the travel restriction under the Covid-19 pandemic.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1013035/pia-cuts-fare-for-students-on-flights-to-china/>

Pakistan Observer

Sino-Pak friendship will last forever despite Indo-US fake news

Sultan M Hali

STEPHEN Solarz, a seasoned US politician, was once asked during an international seminar in Washington DC, “Which two countries in the world have the closest ties?”

” His response shocked the audience. They were expecting him to name the US and Israel but he categorically stated that “Pakistan and China have the closest ties.

” He went on to rationalize his reply with examples, categorically stating that most bilateral relations were transactional but not in the case of Pakistan and China, which are founded on a solid edifice of understanding, compassion and mutual respect.

This happened many decades ago and Sino-Pak friendship has grown stronger and the bonds have gelled into solidarity and cohesion.

Unfortunately, two countries, India and the US oppose the fraternal ties between China and Pakistan.

They leave no stone unturned in trying to drive a wedge in the Sino-Pak ties which remain rock-solid.

Take the case of the exposé by the European Union's DisinfoLab in its 90-page report which unearthed the machinations of an international network funded by organizations with Indian leanings.

The detailed disclosures labeled Indian Chronicles comprise 265 fake media outlets, multiple dubious think tanks and NGOs, financed by Indian or pro-Indian entities surreptitiously working to destabilize Pakistan while simultaneously besmirching Islamabad's image internationally.

The clandestine operation was cloaked slyly using defunct media, think tanks, NGOs and using the identities of deceased writers and academics to lend an aura of authority to the bogus stories but being quoted by mainstream media to add authenticity to the intrigues being hatched to denigrate Pakistan.

The most despicable aspect of The Indian Chronicles is that it attempts to drive a wedge between Pakistan and China through its plethora of fake news.

One of the primary targets of the US and India is the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and its flagship project China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

Ignoring the hard fact that the BRI has become a widely welcomed international project with a far-reaching and profound impact on the world, the mega project has played a major role in deepening international cooperation, promoting closer ties between countries, and boosting global growth with nearly 150 countries and organizations joining it.

In effect, there is an underlying link between the BRI and the vision of building a new type of international relations and a community with a shared future for humankind.

According to The Indian Chronicles investigation, the US and India have worked together to produce a lot of systematic disinformation against Pakistan and China.

A fake news that emanated from The Indian Chronicles states: "Under CPEC our rivers are being diverted for hydropower projects and these projects are causing water shortages.

The projects would forever destroy the ecology of our region.

Scores of young men from Gilgit-Baltistan are serving 70-90 years of imprisonment for protesting against the plunder of our national resources."

India and the US work in tandem to denigrate both China and Pakistan and discredit BRI and CPEC.

USCENTCOM operating under the US Department of Defence has created a website "Pakistan Forward" through which fake news is mixed with actual ones and disseminated.

Some of the topics alone tell the whole story: 'Chinese-built power plants become economic burden for Pakistan'; 'Beijing ramps up investment in Urdu media amid rise in anti-China sentiment'; 'Violence at Balochistan mines spotlights grievances over Chinese investment'; 'Rise of anti-China movement in Gwadar highlights failed promises'; 'Pashtun tribes in Balochistan block highway, halt work in protest of CPEC'; 'Healthcare workers shun Chinese-made vaccines over reliability, safety concerns'; 'Beijing stirs further outrage by

detaining Uighur wives of Pakistani nationals'; 'Is China building a military base in Gwadar?'; this is just the tip of the iceberg but clearly depicts the element of yellow journalism.

A case in point is the Indian secret agency RAW's senior operative Commander Kulbhoshan Jadhav, who was apprehended from Balochistan and has confessed to hatching plots to destabilize Pakistan and China through sabotage of CPEC projects.

Reportedly, with the support of the US, International Court of Justice took up the case of the terror monger on behalf of India, to have him released.

US President Donald Trump launched a trade war against China and also initiated efforts to strengthen the relationship with its allies and partners under the overarching umbrella of the Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP) Strategy with the aim of having the "sole superpower status" in the region.

The US invited India to join the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (Quad) along with Japan and Australia to ensure and support a "free, open and prosperous" Indo-Pacific region but in fact to contain China.

Earlier India signed the US proposal "Logistic Exchange Memorandum of Agreement" to enable both countries to use their air and naval bases for their military assets in terms of rest, refueling and maintenance in both the times of war and peace, perfidiously to act as a bulwark against China.

If that were not enough, India has provided shelter to Tibetan dissident Dalai Lama while he also receives 180,000 US dollars a year from the CIA to foment trouble.

According to now declassified reports, CIA launched "St Circus Operation" in 1956, which trained Tibetan guerrillas on a South-Pacific island to kill, shoot, lay mines and make bombs.

The Indo-US nexus fabricates fake news regarding alleged maltreatment of the Muslim Uighur community in Xinjiang and propagates it amongst hardliner Muslims in Pakistan to create hatred against the Chinese.

The Indian Chronicles mentioned earlier, by use of hybrid warfare, since 2005, have had direct control of more than ten NGOs accredited to the UN Human Rights Council.

The odious organization comprises above 550 website domain names registered, which generate fake media in Brussels and Geneva, and 750 fake media in 116 countries.

It has resorted to the resurrection of dead people, defunct media and non-existent NGOs. It has indulged in identity theft, impersonation of EU institutions and through its machinations and manipulations caused the involvement of European Parliament.

Such malevolent attempts will never succeed because China-Pakistan friendship lasts forever and the BRI and CPEC are here to stay despite the malevolent attempts to derail it.

—The Author is a Retired Group Captain of PAF, who has written several books on China.

<https://pakobserver.net/sino-pak-friendship-will-last-forever-despite-indo-us-fake-news-by-sultan-m-hali/>

October 17, 2022

Daily Times

Bilawal extends best wishes to CPC

Minister for Foreign Affairs Bilawal Bhutto Zardari Sunday extended his best wishes to the Communist Party of China (CPC) on its 20th National Congress. In a message, Bilawal Bhutto said throughout its history, the Chinese Communist Party had made enormous contributions to progress and prosperity of the Chinese nation and for global peace. “Leaders like Chairman Mao hold a legendary status in this journey and the Chinese march towards development. Now under the visionary leadership of the General Secretary Xi Jinping, the People’s Republic of China is moving at a fast pace towards the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation,” he added. Bilawal said that the 20th National Congress was taking place at a time when the tides had changed and were transforming the international political, economic and social landscape. “I am confident that under the wise leadership of the CPC, China will continue to play its due role in the international politics and for global peace.” “Pakistan People’s Party and the Communist Party of China enjoy a rich history of bilateral cooperation and exchanges,” he recalled. “Steered by my grandfather Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto and my parents Shaheed Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto and former president Asif Ali Zardari, the two parties have established close bonds and contributed to solidify bilateral friendship between our two countries,” he said. The foreign minister said the people of Pakistan had watched with great fascination and pride the ascent of its closest friend and strategic partner.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1013314/bilawal-extends-best-wishes-to-cpc/>

**Broad prospects exist for Pak-China traditional medicine cooperation:
experts**

Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) and Unani Tibb (traditional medicine in Pakistan) enjoy a broad space of collaboration in research and development, management and production,” highlighted Prof. Liu Xinmin, Member, Expert Advisory Panel on Traditional Medicine, World Health Organization (WHO) and Co-Director of Sino-Pakistan Cooperation Center on TCM (SPCCTCM).

On the efficacy and safety of Jinhua Qinggan Granules (JHGG) in treating COVID-19 patients in Pakistan at the beginning of this year, Prof. Liu Xinmin said, “this is China’s first proprietary Chinese medicine to complete clinical trials guided by drug registration abroad, and it is also the first proprietary Chinese medicine to be verified by foreign scientists on the basis of international evidence-based medicine abroad.”

Prof. Liu Xinmin said in an interview, “The International Center for Chemical and Biological Sciences (ICCBS), University of Karachi is internationally influential in the field of natural product chemistry. This is another recognition of traditional Chinese medicine in Pakistan and even the international community after the successful clinical trial of Yinhuang Qingfei Capsule in Pakistan, and it is also a major booster to promote cooperation in traditional medicine between China and Pakistan,” China Economic Net (CEN) reported.

Pakistani herbal medicines have rich resources in the treatment of respiratory and skin diseases, and the products are exported to Central Asia and other countries. Pakistanis are accustomed to taking herbal medicines and are highly receptive to TCM.

“In recent years, the industrial scale and research & development level of TCM have been significantly improved. China’s management experience of high-quality herbal medicine resources can be shared with Pakistan. Pakistan is very active in international and exchange platforms, and Pakistan and China can jointly increase the popularity and influence of traditional medicine in the world,” Prof. Liu suggested.

After thousands of years of development, TCM has developed numerous effective treatments for the plague. TCM has sustained efficacy in the face of complex and variable viruses, and it is well-suited to cope with the ever-changing COVID-19 virus.

Prof. Liu Qingquan, President of Beijing Hospital of TCM introduced that TCM has formed an extremely strict theoretical law, and its rapid accessibility is one of its greatest advantages and characteristics. “Chinese medicine is a very valuable crystallization of human civilization, and we hope to serve mankind. Complementation of traditional Chinese and Western medicine can improve the overall therapeutic effect.”

JHQG is produced by Juxiechang (Beijing) Pharmaceutical Company. According to Mao Zhibing, R&D Director of Juxiechang, the clinical testing of JHQG in Pakistan was carried out with the support of the Chinese and Pakistani governments and top-level research teams.

The protocols were approved by the Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan, Ethics Committees in Pakistan, etc.

“We intend to have more cooperation with Pakistan, such as conducting clinical studies in Pakistan on JHQG for additional indications, including upper respiratory tract infections of influenza. Pakistan also invites us to build a factory there, and we will send a local operation team to conduct clinical trials and market some other varieties there. In this way, both sides can form a cluster effect in the clinical application, sales, and use of products,” Mao concluded.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1013690/broad-prospects-exist-for-pak-china-traditional-medicine-cooperation-experts/>

Nawaiwaqt News

سی پی سی کی 20 ویں قومی کانگریس چین کی ترقی کو فروغ دیگی، معین الحق

اسلام آباد (نامہ نگار) چین میں پاکستانی سفیر معین الحق نے کہا ہے کہ کمیونسٹ پارٹی آف چائنا (سی پی سی) کی 20 ویں قومی کانگریس چین کی ترقی اور دنیا کی خوشحالی کو فروغ دے گی۔ چائنا کنٹراکٹ نیٹ کے مطابق سفیر نے کہا کہ یہ کانگریس چین کی جاری ترقی اور ڈویلپمنٹ کے سفر کو آگے بڑھانے کے لیے ایک مضبوط بنیاد رکھے گی۔ مجھے امید ہے کہ یہ کانگریس چین پاکستان تعلقات کے فروغ میں ایک نئے باب کا آغاز کرے گی اور ہم اس کی مکمل کامیابی کے خواہش مند ہیں، یہ نہ صرف چین کی ملکی سیاست، معیشت کے لیے اہم فیصلے کرے گی بلکہ چینی اقتصادی ترقی کے لیے مستقبل کی رفتار بھی طے کرے گی۔ انہوں نے مزید کہا کہ سی پی سی کی قیادت میں چین نے شاندار ترقی اور ڈویلپمنٹ حاصل کی ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا چین نے اپنے معاشرے اور اپنی معیشت کے تمام پہلوؤں میں اچھی کارکردگی کا مظاہرہ کیا ہے۔ میں واقعی مواصلاتی نقل

و حمل، تیز رفتار ٹرین، صنعتی ترقی، زراعت، جدت کاری کے شعبوں میں اعلیٰ معیار کی ترقی کے پیمانے اور وسعت، ماحولیات کا تحفظ اور ایجوکیشن سے بہت متاثر ہوا ہوں۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ پاک چین مستقبل کے تعلقات زندگی کے تمام شعبوں میں بہت روشن اور بہت امید افزا ہیں۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2022-10-17/page-8/detail-22>

October 18, 2022

Business Recorder

SUGS: Chinese firms to be invited to JVs

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan is to invite Chinese firms to join hands with Pakistani companies in proposed Joint Ventures (JVs) in development and operation of Strategic Underground Gas Storages (SUGC), well informed sources in Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives told Business Recorder.

This offer will be made in the draft minutes of the 11th Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) meeting on China Pakistan Economic Corridor, expected to be held soon.

The SUGS project shall be developed in line with the dynamics of future energy requirements of Pakistan, progressing gas import projects and techno-commercial considerations. A Feasibility Study is being carried out through Asian Development Bank (ADB) appointed consultants to recommend the potential sites for developing the gas storage facilities. The Pakistani side proposed participation of Chinese companies in Joint Ventures (JVs) with Pakistani companies in project development and operation. The Chinese side is willing to provide necessary support in this regard, the sources added.

According to the first draft minutes, JCC noted that, with the joint efforts of both sides, energy cooperation projects under CPEC have been going on smoothly. So far, 12 projects, with a total installed capacity of 6,370 MW, have been commissioned, along with a transmission line of 4000-MW HVDC (Matiari-Lahore Transmission Line). The total investment in these projects is around USD 12 billion. The annual energy output is about 35 billion KWh. Currently three projects are under construction, with a total installed capacity of 2534 MW and total investment of \$5 billion.

During the COVID-19 period, the joint efforts of both sides achieved the safe and stable operation of CPEC power stations that provided 1/3 of the total power supply for Pakistan, which was an extremely important support during this period. The under-construction energy cooperation projects continued to make steady progress even during the COVID period. Both sides were satisfied with the progress of CPEC energy cooperation projects.

JCC noted that the matter of the Withholding Tax (WHT) of offshore procurement contract for Kohala and Azad Pattan projects has already been settled, which will help in the smooth execution of the projects. Similarly, Government of Pakistan has also waived the 17 per cent Sales Tax on import of plant and machinery/ equipment for under construction energy projects. The Pakistani side is committed to maintain the tax and tariff policies stable and establish a more standardized and facilitating power market in Pakistan. The Chinese side is

willing to share development experience and provide support in relevant fields to the Pakistani side.

JCC noted that 700.7MW Azad Pattan HPP, 1124MW Kohala Hydel Project and 1320MW Thar Block-1 Power Plant would significantly contribute to the optimization of energy mix and thereby help economic and social development in Pakistan. Both sides reiterated that the remaining 600MW Zonergy Projects at Quaid-e-Azam Solar Park will be implemented, in accordance with Pakistan's generation planning by means acceptable to both sides. Both sides recognized that there was need to rethink the 300MW Gwadar Power Plant, in view of the escalating international coal prices, which were resulting in exceptionally high prices of electricity and liquidity issues for the power sector. It was decided to consider the options of substituting the project with a renewable energy project, installing/ designing it for local (Thar) coal or shifting it to Thar.

The Chinese side appreciated the efforts made by the Pakistani side to fully pay the tariff of CPEC energy projects in a timely manner and hoped a further increase in the tariff settlement ratio to ensure repayment of the bank loan and normal operation of CPEC energy projects. In addition, as per the agreement on the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor Energy Project Cooperation between China and Pakistan, signed in 2014, the Chinese side hopes that the Pakistani side would establish a revolving account soon. JCC suggested that following the in-depth cooperation in CPEC energy projects, both sides should strengthen their communication and cooperation in terms of energy planning, skills training, etc., so as to push forward the energy mix optimization and upgrade the capacity building of energy governance in Pakistan.

Both sides agreed to carry out a joint study for future development of Thar Coal blocks with a view to meeting Pakistan's energy needs, conversion of coal into other products for domestic demand, as well as, exports.

The Chinese side offers support to the Pakistani side to attract international investors including Chinese enterprises to Pakistan so as to foster oil industry development in future. Both sides agreed to prepare a policy framework for coal to liquid engineering plant based on Thar coal at Thar for coal gasification to fertilizer project. The Chinese side welcomed the development of this framework and offered to collaborate in formulating the policy framework in terms of technical know-how.

On Industrial & SEZs Development, Pakistani side noted that the projects for provision of electricity and gas at the zero point of the following CPEC SEZs (Rashakai SEZ in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, AIIC SEZ in Punjab, Dhabeji SEZ in Sindh and Bostan SEZ in Balochistan) were on track and would be completed as per the deadline.

South-North Gas pipeline project: The Feasibility Study has been examined by the Pakistani side. The Chinese side noted the progress of this program, and offered support to carry out related actions under the framework of development plan for oil & gas sector of Pakistan.

Both sides discussed National Seismic study of Sedimentary Area to seek Chinese equipment, crews and expertise. Seismic data will allow delineating subsurface structure ensuring to establish and confirm the subsurface understandings of geology and structure and

national and international companies will benefit from having reliable subsurface information, especially in frontier areas, which may lead to investment in drilling wells. The Pakistani side proposed participation of the Chinese side in this project. The Chinese side agreed to discuss the project in the next meeting of JEWG. Joint Prospecting, Exploration, Development and Marketing of Metallic Minerals: Pakistan Metallic Mineral sector offers plausible opportunities for revenue generation and growth, particularly in the Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa which are host to number of metals of high economic value. The Pakistani side invited technically capable and financially sound Chinese companies in the exploration, development and production of metallic minerals.—MUSHTAQ GHUMMAN

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2022/10/18/12-page/945311-news.html>

Daily Times

CPC 20th Congress a crucial event in Chinese history

Pakistan considers the historic 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC) an important event in the life and history of the Chinese national ethos. Amidst the global and regional challenges, and the rise of threats of global climate change, food, and energy security crisis, China is leading the vision to foster forward the ideals of the forefathers to set the national course in days to come, according to an article published by Gwadar Pro on Monday.

The historic Congress began on October 16, participating by representatives from all over China to share their wishes, aspirations, and insights for making the destiny of their country for the next five years. It is expected that the 20th Congress will discuss the progress made since the 19th Congress and review the past decade of the new era. The discussion will likely be around the context of building strength to deal with emerging regional and global challenges. Before the 20th Congress, several other essential decision-making meetings happened that created the pathway for the 20th Congress to be productive and based on the wishes and aspirations of the people. Important decisions are expected to be made in this congress, especially related to the leadership, structures of CPC, governance matters, foreign policy matters, regional and international challenges, and how China should take specific positions on the issues that impact the people of the country. For the reform and opening-up period, China has chosen a steady path that is progress and development-oriented. China never interfered in any other state matters and has never used force against other countries. The only strategy that China has used for constructive engagement with other countries was to share the development, progress, and technology to help countries uplift their lives. The CPC leadership has ensured that this path of development progress should be maintained.

Pakistan is one of the largest beneficiaries of China's development and progress. Ever since its policy of opening-up and the subsequent ventures like the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and its most active China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and now the Global Development Initiative (GDI) and Global Security Initiative (GSI), China has remained on an upward trajectory in the context of bilateral as well multilateral collaboration for mutual benefit with many countries. China has supported Pakistan and is genuinely considered an all-weather friend with the essence of iron brotherhood. The upcoming 20th National

Congress of the Communist Party of China is also crucial for Pakistan since the discussion will be around the future course of economic, trade, bilateral, and multilateral cooperation.

The new dimension of the period of development cooperation with Pakistan will be impacted. CPEC is in the second critical phase, where industrial collaboration is ongoing with social and economic impacts. The upcoming congress might also consider ways to deepen cooperation with Pakistan and the regional countries. CPEC has not only remained a game changer for Pakistan but has created an immense lifeline for the people of Pakistan to build their lives on. China has always remained an essential cornerstone of Pakistan's foreign policy, and the engagement has remained phenomenal. China has supported Pakistan in tackling COVID-19, the recent floods, and so on. With resilience, determination and steadfastness, China has achieved its goals through systematic ways to make progress and development. Through these meetings and five years plans, China has achieved its impetus to build socialism with Chinese characteristics. As a leading member of the global community, China is standing tall in its resolve to build peace, progress, and a shared future with equal economic opportunities for all including Pakistan, the article added.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1013965/cpc-20th-congress-a-crucial-event-in-chinese-history/>

Govt to complete all CPEC projects without delay: minister

Minister for Planning Development and Special Initiatives Ahsan Iqbal Monday said that the incumbent government was committed to complete all the projects being executed under China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) without any delay.

The minister gave this assurance to the Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan Nong Rong who called on him here on Monday.

During the meeting, matters related to mutual cooperation on energy and electricity projects especially those being executed under the umbrella of CPEC.

Ahsan Iqbal reiterated that the main objective of the CPEC was to promote the industrial sector in Pakistan. He said that China's cooperation to make Special Economic Zones (SEZs), a success was commendable and Pakistan would continue its efforts to complete the Zones. Professor Iqbal further added that on the directions of the Prime Minister, the work on the electricity transmission lines in Gwadar was going on fast track and would be completed in time.

"The supply of electricity to Gwadar will start from Iran in December this year and from National Grid in March next year," said the minister while assuring the Chinese envoy that the incumbent government is committed to complete the CPEC projects without any delay and added that self-reliance in the energy sector will stabilize the economy.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1014055/govt-to-complete-all-cpec-projects-without-delay-minister/>

Dawn News

Chinese diplomat congratulates PPP on election win

LAHORE: Consul General of China in Lahore Zhao Shiran met PPP Punjab acting president Rana Farooq Saeed at the party office on Monday and congratulated him on winning National Assembly by-elections in Karachi and Multan.

The diplomat said that during the visit of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari next month, there are possibilities of positive discussions regarding Pakistan's previous debts.

He said the PPP and the Communist Party of China have a family-like relationship due to their common ideology.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1715602/chinese-diplomat-congratulates-ppp-on-election-win>

Pakistan Observer

China's rise under Xi

WHILST kicking off China's five yearly Communist Party Congress on Sunday, President Xi Jinping made a wide ranging speech highlighting signature policies and vowing to lead the Chinese people of all ethnic groups in a concerted effort to realize the Second Centenary Goal of building China into a great modern socialist country in all respects and to advance the rejuvenation of the Chinese nation on all fronts through a Chinese path to modernization.

These very words on the part of Chinese President really indicate his visionary and farsighted leadership qualities which have always focused on development and modernization whilst harbouring no aggressive designs against anybody.

When Xi became leader of the Communist Party back in 2012, he had pledged to spearhead the great rejuvenation of the Chinese people.

Almost ten years on, China today has become a global super power and its economy is on course to topple the US's as the biggest.

It became possible only because of the entire focus of Chinese leadership on welfare of its people and advancements in all major sectors be it Information Technology, Industries, Agriculture, Space and so on.

In every sector, the Chinese people have made amazing progress because of their dedication and commitment to work, which in fact is a model for other countries like Pakistan to emulate.

Chinese government has reportedly invested 1.6 trillion Yuan between 2013 and 2021 to improve living standards through building roads, houses and infrastructure.

Apart from lifting millions of people out of poverty, the Chinese leadership has also been stern against the corrupt elements without any discrimination.

The way China coped with Covid-19 epidemic by putting the people and their lives first is really remarkable.

What really is inspiring about President Xi is that he believes in taking other countries along in the development journey.

His mega and innovative Belt and Road Initiative is directed towards that end to achieve the goal of common prosperity.

The success of this initiative can be gauged from the fact that more and more countries are joining it.

Whilst we pray for more successes for the Chinese people in the years ahead, it is also for our political leadership to learn from the Chinese model and exploit the true potential of this country.

<https://pakobserver.net/chinas-rise-under-xi/>

The Express Tribune

BRI leads through GDI and GSI

China is perceived to be a revisionist state attempting to challenge the prevalent world order steered by USA

China's rise, by means of economy over past three decades, has overawed the West. China was integrated into 'laissez faire system' by USA to wean it away from erstwhile USSR. Chinese leadership, starting with Deng Xiaoping, adopted the concept of socialism with Chinese characteristics. It essentially meant shift from command economy to the market economy, having a strong political control inside the country. It helped China grow at an amazing speed.

The Chinese rise, complemented by BRI, is being viewed with scepticism and a bid to expand Chinese sphere of influence in the garb of trade and connectivity, claimed as a win-win cooperation. China, however, claims BRI is not a solo but a symphony revolving around voluntary participation and cooperation. The five principals of UN Charter sit at its vision. Sovereignty of the states; dialogue; consultation; rule of law; and win-win cooperation would steer BRI.

At Belt and Road Forum 2014, President Xi Jinping remarked "the ancient silk routes thrived during the times of peace, but lost vigour in the times of war. The pursuit of the Belt and Road Initiative requires a peaceful and stable environment." Yang Jiechi termed it as "working for community with a shared future for mankind by promoting international cooperation and multilateralism". CPEC, one of the six land corridors of BRI, revolves around the vision "to improve the lives of the people of Pakistan and China".

The Global Development Initiative (GDI) was presented by President Xi during UNGA 21. He said the initiative will provide "invaluable guidance to developing countries in pursuit of more people centred development". The main elements of the GDI are: development comes first; focus on people not the capital; non-discrimination; innovative use of technology for development; protect nature by a green development approach; and the initiative would be action-oriented. GDI is aligned to the UN's SDGs 2030.

The Global Security Initiative (GSI) aims at mitigation of evolving threats “posed by unilateralism, hegemony, power politics and increasing deficits in peace, security, trust and governance” Wang Wenbin communicated. President Xi said GSI was “to uphold the principles of indivisible security, build a balanced, effective and sustainable security architecture and oppose building of national security on the basis of insecurity to other countries”.

China’s critics interpret these utterances very differently. China is perceived to be a revisionist state attempting to challenge the prevalent world order steered by USA. China claims all these initiatives are for collective good that will integrate the world through intertwined destinies that could beget well-knit world community engendering enduring peace. US apprehensions may not be unfounded. It is a fact the hegemons have a life span of 90-100 years, and then the challengers emerge. The transitions have often been bloody. Graham Allison, in his book *Destined for War: Can America and China Escape Thucydides’ Trap?* presents analyses of 16 such cases from past 500 years. Out of these 14 cases ended in conflicts.

China is a civilisational state. Having been a great power of the times, despite being powerful and in possession of a sizeable naval fleet, in its history of thousands of years it never invaded or annexed any country. It had no colonies. From 1405-1433 Admiral Zheng He, a Muslim, undertook seven voyages with hundreds of ships and thousands of sailors in the Indo-pacific region. All the voyages were aimed at establishing cultural and trade ties. The next Chinese emperor ordered dismantling of the fleet, presumably to forestall development of any offensive capability or projecting threat to other countries. Chinese conduct is largely impacted by Confucian thoughts of peaceful coexistence. Hence, emergence of a warring China seems least likely. It may become a superpower in next 25-30 years, and may flex military muscles but its history and culture preclude such possibility. One wishes and hopes that USA and China could avoid a military confrontation, and develop understanding to co-exist for a peaceful World.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2382040/bri-leads-through-gdi-and-gsi>

Nawaiwaqt News

چین کے سفیر کی احسن اقبال سے ملاقات، تووانائی، بجلی کے منصوبوں پر تبادلہ خیال

اسلام آباد (نمائندہ خصوصی) پاکستان میں چین کے سفیر لونگ لونگ نے وفاقی وزیر برائے منصوبہ بندی و ترقی و خصوصی اقدامات پروفیسر احسن اقبال سے ملاقات کی اور تووانائی اور بجلی کے منصوبوں پر باہمی تعاون سے متعلق امور پر تبادلہ خیال کیا، ملاقات میں سی پیک کے تحت جاری منصوبوں پر بھی تبادلہ خیال کیا گیا، وفاقی وزیر نے اس بات کا اعادہ کیا کہ سی پیک کا بنیادی مقصد پاکستان میں صنعتی شعبے کو فروغ دینا ہے، وفاقی وزیر نے کہا کہ خصوصی اقتصادی زونز کو کامیاب بنانے کے لیے چین کا تعاون قابل تحسین ہے اور پاکستان ان زونز کی تکمیل کے لیے اپنی کوششیں جاری رکھے گا۔ پروفیسر اقبال نے مزید کہا کہ وزیر اعظم کی ہدایت پر گوادر میں بجلی کی ترسیل لائنوں پر کام تیزی سے جاری ہے اور اسے بروقت مکمل کیا جائے گا۔ انکا مزید کہنا تھا کہ گوادر کو بجلی کی فراہمی رواں سال دسمبر میں ایران سے اور اگلے سال مارچ میں نیشنل گرڈ سے شروع کر دی جائے گی۔ وفاقی وزیر نے مزید کہا کہ موجودہ حکومت سی پیک منصوبوں کو بغیر کسی تاخیر کے مکمل کرنے کے لیے پرعزم ہے۔ پروفیسر اقبال نے کہا کہ بلوچستان کی خوشحالی گوادر کی ترقی سے وابستہ ہے اور موجودہ حکومت سی پیک کے تحت تمام منصوبے گوادر میں مکمل کرے گی۔ چینی سفیر نے حکومت خصوصاً وزیر منصوبہ

بندی و ترقی کی کوششوں کو سراہا اور تمام تر تعاون جاری رکھنے کا عزم کیا۔ دریں اثنا وفاقی وزیر منصوبہ بندی پروفیسر احسن اقبال کا غربت کے خاتمے کے عالمی دن کے موقع پہ اپنے ایک پیغام میں کہا ہے کہ معاشرے کے غریب طبقات کو مالی اعانت فراہم کرنے کے علاوہ حکومت کی اولین ترجیح عوام کو معاشی طور پر خود کفیل بنانا ہے۔ وفاقی وزیر کا کہنا تھا کہ حکومت مہنگائی کو کم کرنے، اور عام آدمی کی قوت خرید کو بہتر بنانے کے لیے اقدامات کر رہی ہے، تاکہ ایک عام آدمی کی قوت خرید میں آسانیاں پیدا کی جاسکیں۔ گزشتہ حکومت نے عوام سے پہلے ایک کروڑ نو کروڑوں اور ان کے لیے پچاس لاکھ گھر تعمیر کرنے کے وعدے کیے تھے۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2022-10-18/page-1/detail-23>

کیونست پارٹی کا نگرہیں، چین کی پاکستان کے ساتھ ترقیاتی تعاون کی مدت، نئی سمت ہوگی

اسلام آباد (نوائے وقت رپورٹ) چین نے اصلاحات اور کھلے پن کے لیے ایک مستحکم راستے کا انتخاب کیا ہے، چین نے کبھی کسی دوسرے کے ریاستی معاملات میں مداخلت کی نہ ہی کبھی دوسرے ممالک کے خلاف طاقت کا استعمال کیا، سی پی سی قیادت نے اس بات کو یقینی بنایا کہ ترقی کے اس راستے کو برقرار رکھا جائے، پاکستان چین کی ترقی اور پیشرفت سے سب سے زیادہ مستفید ہونے والوں میں سے ایک ہے، 20 ویں قومی کانگریس پاکستان کے لیے انتہائی اہم ہے، پاکستان کے ساتھ ترقیاتی تعاون کی مدت کی نئی سمت ہوگی۔ گوادرو پرو کے مطابق کیونست پارٹی آف چائنا (سی پی سی) کی تاریخی 20 ویں قومی کانگریس شروع ہو گئی ہے، اگلے پانچ سالوں کے لیے اپنے ملک کی تقدیر بدلنے میں اپنی خواہشات، خیالات اور بصیرت کا اظہار کیا جائے گا۔ ہر دوسرے ملک کی طرح پاکستان بھی اسے چینی قومی اخلاقیات کی زندگی اور تاریخ کا ایک اہم حصہ سمجھتا ہے۔ عالمی اور علاقائی چیلنجوں اور عالمی ماحولیاتی تبدیلیوں، خوراک اور توانائی کے تحفظ کے بحران کے خطرات میں اضافے کے درمیان، چین آنے والے دنوں میں قومی روش طے کرنے کے لیے آباؤ اجداد کے نظریات کو آگے بڑھانے کے وژن کی رہنمائی کر رہا ہے۔ گوادرو پرو کے مطابق توقع ہے کہ 20 ویں کانگریس 19 ویں کانگریس کے بعد ہونے والی پیش رفت پر تبادلہ خیال کرے گی اور نئے دور کی گزشتہ دہائی کا جائزہ لے گی۔ اس کانگریس میں اہم فیصلے کیے جانے کی توقع ہے، گوادرو پرو کے مطابق اصلاحات اور کھلے پن کی مدت کے لیے چین نے ایک مستحکم راستے کا انتخاب کیا ہے جو ترقی پر مبنی ہے۔ چین نے کبھی کسی دوسرے کے ریاستی معاملات میں مداخلت نہیں کی اور نہ ہی کبھی دوسرے ممالک کے خلاف طاقت کا استعمال کیا۔ چین نے دوسرے ممالک کے ساتھ تعمیری روابط کے لیے استعمال ہونے والی واحد حکمت عملی ترقی، پیشرفت اور ٹیکنالوجی کا اشتراک کیا تاکہ ممالک کو ان کی زندگیوں کو بلند کرنے میں مدد ملے۔ گوادرو پرو کے مطابق پاکستان چین کی ترقی اور پیشرفت سے سب سے زیادہ مستفید ہونے والوں میں سے ایک ہے۔ گوادرو پرو کے مطابق چین نے پاکستان کی حمایت کی ہے اور اسے حقیقی طور پر آہنی بھائی چارے کے جوہر کے ساتھ سدا بہار دوست سمجھا جاتا ہے۔ چین کی کیونست پارٹی کی 20 ویں قومی کانگریس پاکستان کے لیے بھی انتہائی اہم ہے کیونکہ اس میں اقتصادی، تجارتی، دو طرفہ اور کثیر الجہتی تعاون کے مستقبل کے لائحہ عمل پر بات ہوگی۔ پاکستان کے ساتھ ترقیاتی تعاون کی مدت کی نئی سمت ہوگی۔ سی بی کے دوسرے اہم مرحلے میں ہے، جہاں سماجی اور اقتصادی اثرات کے ساتھ صنعتی تعاون جاری ہے۔ گوادرو پرو کے مطابق کانگریس پاکستان اور علاقائی ممالک کے ساتھ تعاون کو گہرا کرنے کے طریقوں پر بھی غور کر سکتی ہے۔ الٹی برادری کے ایک سرکردہ رکن کے طور پر، چین امن، ترقی اور پاکستان سمیت سب کے لیے یکساں اقتصادی مواقع کے ساتھ ایک مشترکہ مستقبل کی تعمیر کے اپنے عزم میں مضبوط کھڑا ہے۔

کیونست پارٹی

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2022-10-18/page-8/detail-48>

October 19, 2022

Daily Times

Preparations for 11th CPEC JCC reviewed

Minister for Planning Development and Special Initiatives Professor Ahsan Iqbal on Tuesday reviewed progress over the upcoming 11th meeting of Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) on China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) to be held by the end of this month.

The meeting was attended by Secretary Planning Commission, Secretary Communication, Executive Director CPEC and representatives from various ministries. During the pre-CPEC JCC meeting, major deliverable projects were discussed in length, which will be taken up in the up-coming JCC meeting.

It is noted that Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif would be visiting China later this week and 11th JCC would have a significance since the incumbent government has already revived CPEC projects, which remained neglected during the last four years of PTI's tenure.

During the meeting, several projects in various sectors such as energy, transport, information technology, socio-economic development, industrial cooperation, science & technology, transport infrastructure and international cooperation were discussed.

The respective ministries shared their deliverable proposals of projects after conducting their Joint Working Groups JWGs to be taken up in JCC with the Chinese authorities. The minister directed the Power Division to expedite the approval process of energy policy for Gilgit Baltistan (GB) so that already agreed projects for GB could be pushed forward. The minister also stated that Chinese authorities have shown great interest in mining sector and directed the concerned ministry to make a tangible proposal in this regard.

“The Chinese are ready to set-up a working group on the mining sector therefore, we must give them some tangible proposals,” said the minister, while stressing the ministries to make a concrete plan rather than a business-as usual approach.

He further directed that the Development and Production Facility of Solar Panels for domestic use as well as export may be considered for inclusion in the agenda of the meeting.

During the meeting, representative from IT informed the minister that Pakistan and China decided to set up six sub-working groups on communication technology infrastructure, application innovation, policy and regulation, HR development, cyber security and radio spectrum regulation.

Similarly, it was also proposed that the Pak-China Technology Business Forum would be formally established during the JCC meeting. The minister also directed the concerned ministries to focus on the long-term plans as well so projects could be operationalised.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1014434/preparations-for-11th-cpec-jcc-reviewed/>

Pakistan Observer

KP-EZDMC participates in Industrial Expo 2022

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Economic Zones Development and Management Company (KP-EZDMC) participated in 6th Pakistan Industrial Expo 2022, Lahore, said a press release issued here on Tuesday.

The three-day expo was held at Expo Centre, Lahore in which a large number of Chinese manufacturers, chamber representatives from different provinces of Pakistan and industrial units representing various sectors attended the event. During the expo KP-EZDMC presented economic zones to a large number of audiences visiting company stalls and briefed them on new projects and investment opportunities for establishing their industrial units in economic zones operated under the auspices of the company.—APP

<https://pakobserver.net/kp-ezdmc-participates-in-industrial-expo-2022/>

Commodity Exhibition, Trading Center in Gwadar Free zone to be functional by early 2023

Southern China Commodity Exhibition and Trading Center being constructed to host grand business exhibitions in Gwadar Free Trade Zone will be functional by end of next year, noted CCCC-FHDI Engineering CO.,LTD., the project constructor.

“The main structure of the center was successfully capped recently. This progress makes it possible that the infrastructure will be functional by early 2023,” the project constructor.

The project covers an area of about 2,000 square metres.

The centre consists of an exhibition hall, business area, meeting rooms, sports area, office, dormitory, etc.

Upon completion, it will exhibit Pakistani and Chinese commodities to visitors from home and abroad, China Economic Net (CEN) reported.

As per the constructor, the first floor is designed to display goods. And it can be used as a conference center when needed, which is expected to accommodate 500 people.

Also, it can serve as sports venues to host large-scale cultural and sports activities, such as basketball matches, badminton matches and other events.

“We will work hard and make unremitting efforts to build the project into a center for exhibition and sales, trade and logistics in Gwadar,” CCCC-FHDI Engineering CO.,LTD. said.—APP

<https://pakobserver.net/commodity-exhibition-trading-center-in-gwadar-free-zone-to-be-functional-by-early-2023/>

CRBC donates \$100,000 in PM’s Flood Relief Fund

China Road and Bridge Corporation (CRBC), a key Chinese State-owned company Tuesday donated US\$ 100,000 in Prime Minister’s Flood Relief Fund for the relief and rehabilitation of flood victims in Pakistan.

President of CRBC, Wang Lijun presented the donation cheque to Pakistan Ambassador to China, Moin Ul Haque in a simple ceremony held at the Embassy here .

Sharing his condolences with the bereaved families, President Wang Lijun said, his company would continue to support the flood affected victims in Pakistan who were facing the havoc created by the torrential rains and floods that destroyed their houses and livelihoods.

He expressed his good wishes for Pakistan's government efforts for the post-flood rehabilitation and infrastructure development in the affected areas.

Speaking on the occasion, Ambassador Moin conveyed gratitude and sincere appreciation of the government and the people of Pakistan to the company's leadership for their generous assistance.

The ambassador said that Pakistan and China had always stood together in difficult times and Chinese assistance to the flood victims' rehabilitation had once again proven the unique nature of fraternal ties between the two countries.

He presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Wang Lijun for the CRBC generous donation.—APP

<https://pakobserver.net/crbc-donates-100000-in-pms-flood-relief-fund/>

CPEC-BRI and Green CPC 2022: A Policy Review

Mehmood-Ul-Hassan Khan

Global warming has now become a “new normal” in the world which is producing “devastating” socio-economy, geopolitical and geostrategic consequences.

It is estimated that global warming will reach 2.4°C this century over pre-industrial times, far exceeding the Paris Agreement goal of well below 2°C. However, green policies and technologies may be useful to curb the increasing temperatures in the future in which CPEC-BRI and CPC may play an important role in the future.

Keeping in view, the urgent need of anti-climate change policies, the Chinese President Xi Jinping while addressing the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC) promised that China would apply the new development philosophy, foster a new pattern of green development, promote high-quality development and advance the rejuvenation of the Chinese nation on all fronts through a Chinese path to modernization.

In this regard, Xi plans to accelerate the development of a new energy system and play an active role in the global governance against climate change.

Actually, he underscored the positioning of energy transition and new sources of fuel in the country's future economy, including technologies that underpin carbon capture and hydrogen production.

Hopefully, Xi's useful comments and commitments about climate change also point to Beijing's desire for a more influential voice in global climate change policy and negotiations where the global South is expected to ramp up its demands.

He pledged to promote an in-depth energy revolution, enhance clean and efficient use of coal, accelerate the development of a new energy system, and get actively involved in global governance in response to climate change.

In this context, development of Green CPEC & BRI projects may play an important role in the days to come.

The Chinese President upheld his country's strong commitments of environmental conservation, protection of natural ecosystems like rivers and forests, and the need to adjust the existing industrial structure to control pollution and tackle climate change which is commendable.

He emphasized that policy makers of China must stick to the philosophy that clear waters and lush mountains are precious.

He dubbed that harmonious co-existence of human and nature should be a mission embedded in our development plans.

He suggested that joint and collective promotion of de-carbonization, pollution mitigation, afforestation and reforestation should be pursued as soon as possible.

He urged to prioritize eco-system in national development, save energy and resources as well as facilitate green, low-carbon development.

In addition to this he suggested that a comprehensive and holistic policy should be followed to pursue green and low-carbon development through emphasis on balancing energy transition and the stability and security of the nation's energy system, and the need to include all-round energy and resource saving, including the use of coal to avoid disruptions.

He mentioned that there should be an active and stable promotion of carbon peaking and carbon neutrality, based on regional as well as global energy and resource availability.

He rightly suggested gradual policies and persuasions of climate change by establishing a balanced approach between the old and new ways and means of energy modernization.

Thus he categorically supported establishing a reliable, renewables-centered energy ecosystem first, before indiscriminately cutting the use of fossil fuels.

He concluded that China's industrial and supply chains will be made more resilient and secure through further strengthening of national systems for energy production, supply, storage and marketing to ensure energy security.

In response, Beijing has implemented policies to curb emissions and stem further degradation, such as by signing the 2015 Paris Agreement on climate and pledging to be carbon neutral by 2060.

President Xi Jinping has recognized climate change as one of his administration's top concerns, and Beijing has made a variety of pledges to address it.

These include: achieving carbon neutrality by 2060; reaching peak carbon dioxide emissions before 2030; having renewable energy sources account for 25 percent of total energy consumption by 2030; reducing carbon intensity, or the amount of carbon emitted per unit of

GDP, by more than 65 percent by 2030; installing enough solar and wind power generators to have a combined capacity of 1.2 billion kilowatts by 2030; and, boosting forest coverage by around six billion cubic meters by 2030.

In this connection, the Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan, Nong Rong, said that China and Pakistan have boosted cooperation in green energy.

Five wind power projects have been completed under CPEC with a total capacity of 300 megawatts and another 300-megawatt solar power project has been completed.

The Chinese envoy shared that more green projects are ongoing under CPEC as the Karot hydropower plant has successfully entered commercial operations and large hydropower projects are also being carried out in the country.

Green and sustainable development is also generating huge employment opportunities in Pakistan. According to statistics, CPEC has created 85,000 jobs for Pakistan.

CPEC has been dubbed as a “people-centric, socially inclusive, environment-friendly and green and sustainable initiative.

With a growing emphasis on green development, China and Pakistan have been working to build a green corridor to focus on areas of agriculture, environment, food, climate change and food security.

“Our two sides are now working to finalise the blueprint of the green corridor to carry out practical cooperation. In this connection, agriculture has been identified as a key area of cooperation.

In this connection, China’s renewable energy facilities and services have become a global leader during the last ten years. Now its 339 cities are enjoying fruits of green energy in terms of qualitative air and environment.

Its green growth has further increased from 14.25 percent to 25.5 percent during 2012-2021 which shows Chinese strong pledges towards climate change threats which should also be replicated on CPEC-BRI projects.

Chinese enterprises have built around 70 percent of global hydropower stations in South Asia, Africa, Central Asia and Middle East regions.

On the green development front, China’s accumulative afforestation area amounted to approximately 59.44 million hectares from 2013 to 2021.

It is also the largest wind turbine manufacturer and a major supplier of photovoltaic components in the world which demonstrates its constant persuasions towards green future and green technologies.

To conclude, the policy-makers of China and leadership of the CPC should promote more low-carbon technologies, from solar and wind power to battery storage and EVs, which are technologically feasible and commercially viable projects in the CPEC and BRI.

In this connection, member countries should provide conducive policy frameworks to support the development of useful projects.

Financial institutions and the domestic banking industry of the member countries should chalk out frameworks such as the Task Force on Climate Related Financial Disclosures to measure, manage and disclose their climate risks.

Green finance mechanisms to support infrastructure financing, such as green bonds or green loans, have grown rapidly over the past decade but remain at a nascent stage which should be further accelerated in the CPEC & BRI projects.

<https://pakobserver.net/cpec-bri-and-green-cpc-2022-a-policy-review-by-mehmood-ul-hassan-khan/>

CPEC: The game changer for Balochistan

Shahzadi Irrum

PAKISTAN and China are not only all-weather friends, but strategic partners as well. Their friendship, which is termed as deeper than the oceans and higher than the Himalayas, is based on mutual understanding, trust and shared aims and interests.

China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is a flagship project of Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) formerly known as One Belt and One Road (OBOR) Initiative which is designed to connect about 60 countries of Asia, Africa and Europe. Ever since CPEC was launched, it has become the centre of attraction for Asian analysts.

Proponents of this plan in China and Pakistan believe CPEC as a “game changer” that will reshape the economy of China, Pakistan and especially of Balochistan province. Thus, the aim of this article is to highlight how this project will change the current status of Balochistan.

CPEC is basically an integral part of China’s bigger BRI which was originally launched in the year 2013 by the Chinese President Xi Jinping.

Geographically, China-Pakistan Economic Corridor extends about 2000km through a road and railway network which connect Pakistan port of Gwadar to Kashgar in China.

This multifarious deal involves many broad areas of cooperation such as coal-fired power plants, hydroelectric wind generated power plants, solar power stations, road and rail network, sea and air ports and infrastructure development for industrial zones.

CPEC has the potential to generate a plethora of chances for the people of Balochistan and it is believed that this plan will be a game changer for the entire province and has the potential to solve its interlinked economic and social problems.

China has promised to invest \$46 billion in CPEC in Pakistan, which covers a highway network from Khunjerab to Gwadar, energy projects and the establishment of economic zones.

The stated policy of the Pakistan government is to spread the benefits of this investment through the equitable distribution of resources and projects to all the provinces. Since, Balochistan and Gwadar port are the backbone of CPEC, the project of CPEC will pose a positive impact on Balochistan and will contribute to the development of the whole province.

The project will address the social and economic issues of Balochistan and after the completion of numerous plans which are under-development, Balochistan in general and Gwadar in particular will change into an economic and commercial hub.

The CPEC project will not only create economic opportunities for the rural population of Balochistan, but also the decades old grievances of the people will be removed by the construction of road networks.

The Government of Pakistan has been investing heavily in CPEC, for several development schemes, Former Prime Minister, Imran Khan allocated about PKR600 billion for different development projects in Southern Balochistan, including 31 dams,150MW power project, Gwadar Airport and different roads and infrastructural development schemes.

Likewise, the current Prime Minister of Pakistan Shehbaz Sharif said, “when the CPEC project will be completed, it will definitely create job opportunities and would usher in a new era of development and bring long time prosperity in Balochistan.” He immediately made two visits to Gwadar after assuming power and oversaw the work on Gwadar CPEC projects.

The CPEC project will help produce 2.3 million jobs between 2015 and 2030 and will increase its annual economic growth rate from 2 to 2.5%. It aims at bringing long-term development to the province.

The vision of CPEC also includes creation of Special Economic Zones, industrial parks, trade centres and technical cooperation. Many of the projects are in the implementation phase while extensive planning is underway on others.

The CPEC power projects will bring new changes in the province. First, these projects will diminish political tension between the province and the centre which are based on the perception that the land of Balochistan is exploited to serve the interest of others.

Second, in Balochistan the provision of electricity will boost economic activity and also improve the living standard of the people in rural areas and third, the development of these projects will create employment opportunities for the local population of Balochistan.

CPEC is successfully progressing in Pakistan as many other countries are interested to invest in Pakistan under this project. Balochistan is the nerve centre of this project and therefore this project will provide benefits to it the most.

Many projects of regional connectivity, industrial development, energy, education and vocational training that are progressing under the CPEC will soon change the socio-economic landscape of Balochistan and improve the lifestyle of the local residents by mitigating poverty and reducing unemployment.

However, many negative external elements have created hurdles in the development of the CPEC with false propaganda and creating a negative sense in the minds of local people as they want to keep them uneducated, under developed and economically dependent.

As these elements know that if this project is completed successfully, it will be a game changer for the socio-economic development of Balochistan as well as of Pakistan in future.

Therefore, for Balochistan to progress and to come at par with the rest of the country, it is important that the authorities invest their time and money in the development of CPEC and its related projects which in turn can bring dividends to the coming generations of the province.

—Assistant Research Fellow Balochistan Think Tank Network, Quetta

<https://pakobserver.net/cpec-the-game-changer-for-balochistan-by-shahzadi-irrum/>

The Nation

Cost of Main Line-1 project revised upwards to \$9.85 billion

Fawad Yousafzai

ISLAMABAD-The cost of railway Main Line-1 (ML-1) project has been revised upwards to \$9.85 billion (approximately Rs2 trillion) which is 45pc higher than the approved cost of the project.

Beside the construction cost, the provision of security to ML-I will cost another Rs36 billion, for which a separate project will be executed, official source told The Nation. Main Line-1 (ML-1) is China Pakistan Economic Corridor's umbrella project and its main component includes the upgradation and doubling of Main Line-1 from Karachi to Peshawar and Taxila to Havelian (1733km). The project is on the agenda of the upcoming 11th JCC meeting. The Central Development Working Party (CDWP) will today (Wednesday) consider two projects related to ML-I. One project related to the upgradation of Pakistan Main Line-1(ML-1) and establishment of dry port near Havelian.

The proposed estimated cost of the project is around Rs 1.97 trillion. The second project is related to the provision of security for the ML-1 project. The cost of the security of ML-1 project is Rs 35.991b. The project cost has been escalated to \$9.85b from the original PC-I cost of \$ 6.807bn approved by the Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (ECNEC) in August 2020. It is proposed that the project will be implemented in three packages and ECNEC had approved package-I of the project in 2020. Package-1 of ML-I is having five components including Nawabshah - Rohri Section, Multan-Lahore Section, Lahore-Lalalamusa Section, Kaluwal-Pindora Section and Upgradation of Pakistan Railways Academy Walton. However, the approved rationalized cost of the project was being considered as unrealistic both by the Chinese and Pakistani sides, the source said. The scope of the project included the laying of a new track with improved subgrade for 160 km/h, increase in speed from 65-105 km/h to 120-160 km/h, rehabilitation and construction of major bridges, provision of modern signaling & telecom systems, conversion of level crossings into underpasses/ fly overs, fencing of tracks, establishment of dry port near Havelian and upgradation of Walton Training Academy. ML-1 Project had been declared 'Strategic' by 6th JCC meeting and its feasibility has already been completed. Framework agreement on ML-1 was signed on 15th May 2017 during PM visit to China, while commercial contract for preliminary design was signed on 15th May 2017. The Project will be completed in 3 packages. The PC-1 of the project had been approved by ECNEC on 5th

August 2020, however owing to the Chinese concern now it has been revised. The concessional financing agreement between China and Pakistan has yet to be signed.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2022-10-19/page-8/detail-0>

11th meeting of JCC of CPEC likely to be held on 27th

Fawad Yousafzai

ISLAMABAD-The 11th meeting of the Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) of China Pakistan Economic Corridor is likely to be held on 27th October, it was learnt reliably here.

The meeting will be held virtually and final presentation to the Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif on the JCC meeting will be given today (Wednesday), official source told The Nation. According to the source, the main agenda item to be discussed in the upcoming JCC include Main Line 1 (ML-I), Karachi Circular Railway, realignment of Karkurram Highway(KKH), Gwadar Eastbay, M9 and 300MW coal fired power plant Gwadar, the source maintained. Besides, new memorandum of understanding is likely to be signed during the upcoming JCC meeting, the source added.

Meanwhile, a press statement issued here stated that Federal Minister for Planning Development & Special Initiatives Professor Ahsan Iqbal on Tuesday reviewed progress over the next 11th Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) meeting to be held at the end of this month. The meeting was attended by the Secretary Planning Commission, Secretary Communication, Executive Director China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) while representatives from various ministries were also present. During the pre-CPEC JCC meeting, major deliverable projects were discussed in length which will be taken up in the upcoming JCC meeting.

It is noted that Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif will be visiting China later this week and 11th JCC will have a significance since the incumbent government has already revived CPEC projects which remained neglected during the last four years of PTI's tenure, the statement said. During the meeting, several projects in various sectors like energy, transport, information technology, socio-economic development, industrial cooperation, science & technology, transport infrastructure and international cooperation were discussed. The respective ministries shared their deliverable proposals of projects after conducting their Joint Working Groups JWGs to be taken up in JCC with the Chinese authorities.

The minister directed the Power Division to expedite the approval process of energy policy for Gilgit Baltistan (GB) so that already agreed projects for GB could be pushed forward. The minister also stated that Chinese authorities have shown great interest in mining sector and directed the concerned ministry to make a tangible proposal in this regard. "The Chinese are ready to set up a working group on the mining sector therefore, we must give them some tangible proposals," said the minister, while stressing the ministries to make a concrete plan rather than a business-as usual approach.

He further directed that the development and production facility of solar panels for domestic use as well as export may be considered for inclusion in the agenda of the meeting. During a meeting, representative from information technology informed that minister that both countries decided to set up six sub-working groups on communication technology

infrastructure, application innovation, policy and regulation, HR development, cyber security and radio spectrum regulation. Similarly, it was also proposed that the Pak-China Technology Business Forum will be formally established during the JCC meeting. The minister also directed the ministries concerned to focus on the long-term plans as well so projects could be operationalised.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2022-10-19/page-8/detail-1>

October 20, 2022

Business Recorder

CPEC: PM given briefing ahead of China visit

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif has termed the ML-1 project as a game changer for Pakistan and the flagship project of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

The prime minister made these remarks while chairing a review meeting on the progress of CPEC and other Chinese projects on Wednesday.

In the meeting, a detailed briefing was given on infrastructure projects, especially (ML-1), Karachi Circular Railway, Karakoram Highway, and other projects. Apart from this, 10,000-megawatt solar power project and hydropower projects were also discussed. The current situation of CPEC projects, ongoing work and a comprehensive action plan to speed up the pace of these projects in the future were presented to the meeting. In the meeting, Sindh chief minister thanked the prime minister for making Karachi Circular Railway (KCR) a part of the CPEC.

The prime minister stated that the completion of the CPEC projects within the specified period was a national priority. He issued instructions to work on them.

The premier stated that the ML-1 project will play an important role in the economic development of the country by connecting Pakistan's ports with China and the Central Asian states. This project is the backbone of Pakistan Railways, he added.

The prime minister said that Pakistan welcomes the interest of Chinese companies in investing in Pakistan's solar energy projects and added that the CPEC is now moving from a government-to-government phase to a business-to-business phase. He said that the Karachi Circular Railway (KCR) will reduce the traffic problems in Karachi and provide safe travel facilities to the residents of the megacity.

The meeting was attended by former Prime Minister Shahid Khaqan Abbasi, federal ministers, Ahsan Iqbal, Khawaja Saad Rafique, Salik Hussain, Syed Naveed Qamar, Marriyum Aurangzeb, Syed Murtaza Mahmood, Tariq Bashir Cheema, and others, while the Sindh chief minister participated in the meeting through video link.—ZAHEER ABBASI

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2022/10/20/1-page/945398-news.html>

Daily Times

Industrial boom nears as CPEC enters B2B phase

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Wednesday said the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) was set to enter the next business-to-business (B2B) mode after the productive government-level phase. Chairing a review meeting on CPEC, the prime minister said the government had rejuvenated the multi-billion dollar project that faced hiatus during the previous government. The meeting focused on infrastructure projects, particularly Main Line-1 (ML-1), Karachi Circular Railway and Karakoram Highway. The project related to the production of 10,000-megawatt electricity from solar and wind sources also came under discussion. Shehbaz Sharif said Pakistan was about to witness an industrial boom with the restoration of CPEC projects. He welcomed the interest of Chinese companies to invest in Pakistan's solar projects. The prime minister said the ML-1 rail project would play an important role in the strengthening of the national economy by connecting the country's ports with China and Central Asia. He termed the ML-1 project the 'backbone' of the country with high prospects of progress. The meeting was attended by former prime minister Shahid Khaqan Abbasi, federal ministers Ahsan Iqbal, Khawaja Saad Rafique, Salik Hussain, Syed Naveed Qamar, Marriyum Aurangzeb, Syed Murtaza Mehmood and Tariq Bashir Cheema, Adviser to the PM Ahad Cheema, Minister of State for Petroleum Dr Musaddik Malik, special assistants Tariq Fatemi, Zafaruddin Mehmood, Jahanzeb Khan and Syed Fahad Hussain, PM's Coordinator Rana Ahsan Afzal, Badar Shehbaz and senior officials. Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah joined the meeting through video link. Meanwhile, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, who made history by chairing the first meeting of Pakistan Climate Change Council (PCCC), in a major decision regarding the rehabilitation of flood affected people and to avoid environmental dangers in future, has directed to devise a national plan for the construction of houses and infrastructure that could withstand climate change effects.

He also directed to propose measures for adopting the housing and construction styles as per climate changes and formulating a strategy in coordination with the federal and provincial governments to tackle the environmental issues timely and on permanent basis. Pakistan Climate Change Council was established on the pattern of the Council of Common Interest (CCI) with all the federal and provincial stakeholders on board. The prime minister besides directing to make PCCC a fully functional institution also called for formulating a comprehensive national plan to identify the climate changer dangers in future. In that regard, he directed to constitute a committee of experts for the preparation of comprehensive plan.

The prime minister referred to the recent devastation caused by climate change induced floods in Sindh and Balochistan and said that despite less than 1 percent share in carbon emissions, Pakistan was among the top 10 climate change effected countries. He said that without forgetting this devastation, they had to prepare for future and rehabilitation of the flood affected people. The Climate Change Council had a vital role in that respect, he added.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1014980/industrial-boom-nears-as-cpec-enters-b2b-phase/>

The Express Tribune

Billions needed to expand CPEC

New investment, rescheduling of debt also on agenda of PM's visit to China

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan may seek a multibillion-dollar financing window from China to fund 10,000 megawatts solar-powered electricity generation projects, as it is also set to make a new pitch for further expansion of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) during Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's visit.

PM Shehbaz Sharif chaired a meeting on Wednesday to review and finalise the agenda for his maiden visit to Beijing, expected on November 1st. Pakistan has a long list of projects, including billions of dollars' worth new schemes that it wants China to finance. These include a tripartite agreement between China, Pakistan and Saudi Arabia to set up an oil refinery in Gwadar.

The government is planning to setup 10,000 MW solar power plants with an estimated value of \$5 billion. "We are keen to get up to \$2 billion Chinese financing and will pitch a generalised framework agreement for signing during the PM's visit," said an official of the energy ministry.

The request for Chinese financing for the solar power plants will depend upon the outcome of planned international competitive bidding for the plants and its endorsement by the Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) of the CPEC meeting. The 11th session of the JCC is also tentatively scheduled for October 27th, according to officials.

PM Sharif, who is scheduled to leave for Beijing in the first week of November, will take up the issue only if the Chinese companies win the solar power plants' bids, said a senior official from the energy ministry. Pakistan desires for China to open a line of credit for the Chinese companies to invest in the solar projects.

Signing of the tripartite cooperation agreement to set up an oil refinery and petrochemical complex in Gwadar has also been proposed for the PM's visit. According to officials privy to these discussions, Saudi's Aramco has shown an interest in giving the contracts to Chinese companies for the refinery deal.

Separately, China's East Sea Group has also offered to establish a five million tonnes capacity oil refinery in Gwadar's Free Zone with an investment of \$3.6 billion. This development may also be included in the agenda for further discussions during the PM's visit, said the officials.

The non-payments of dues by the Chinese Independent Power Plants (IPP), amounting to around Rs240 billion, and the opening of a dedicated bank account to save them from circular debt in the future are the two key stumbling blocks in the way of new Chinese investment.

In connection to this, the Economic Coordination Committee of the cabinet is expected to approve a bank account for CPEC with around Rs100 billion before the PM's visit in an attempt to remove the bottleneck.

Meanwhile, Planning Minister Ahsan Iqbal said that Pakistan wanted to revive CPEC and also launch new initiatives. During the PTI tenure, CPEC remained in the cold storage.

In case the outstanding issues of the power sector are resolved, Pakistan will seek Chinese help to expedite work on the \$1.6 billion Azad Patan hydropower project and the \$2.5 billion Kohala hydropower project. The financial closure of the \$3 billion 1,320 MW Thar Block-I project will also be achieved.

Pitching the Advanced Metering Infrastructure project for Chinese financing is also on the table, as Pakistan eyes an investment of \$1.25 billion to address the issue of high distribution losses and low recovery of bills.

China will also be asked to finance a new transmission line between Hub and Gwadar for smooth supply. At the same time, however, the government is keen to shift the proposed 300MW Gwadar power plant to local Thar coal.

The government has also discussed the signing of two MoUs to conduct feasibility studies on the construction of the Babusar Top tunnel and the rehabilitation of the Karachi-Hyderabad Motorway. Financing requests for the Sagu-Zhob Road project and Mansehra-Muzaffarabad Road project have also been proposed for the JCC and PM's visit.

Pakistan is also considering proposing the signing of a framework agreement for the construction of the Thakot-Raikot section of the Karakoram Highway.

The Ministry of Industries had proposed setting up a Special Economic Zone on the land of Pakistan Steel Mills (PSM), but Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah had objected saying his province was not taken into confidence. As a result, PM Sharif directed the planning minister to take the province on board as the government also wants to sign a government-to-government framework agreement to set up the requisite SEZ on the PSM's land during the visit.

With regards to the IT sector, it is hoped that Pakistan and China sign a framework strategic cooperation agreement on the production of semiconductors.

During the PM's visit, Pakistan will also seek new loans and rescheduling of its debt, however, the government has yet to finalise the package. According to officials from the Ministry of Commerce, seeking increased market access for Pakistani products is also part of the PM's agenda.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2382536/billions-needed-to-expand-cpec>

October 21, 2022

Business Recorder

CPEC: Ministries directed to remove bottlenecks

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Ahsan Iqbal directed the concerned ministries to remove all the bottlenecks and expedite the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) projects without any further delay.

The minister made these directions while chairing a meeting with the heads of different companies working under CPEC projects, here on Thursday.

The meeting was attended by the executive director, CPEC, representatives from various ministries and heads of various companies working in Pakistan under the CEPC projects.

The minister, while directing the concerned ministries to remove all the bottlenecks and expedite the work said, “The CPEC projects are the top priority of the incumbent government and it will be completed timely, no delay will be accepted.

He highlighted that China and Pakistan are two brotherly countries and we always resolve all mutual matters in a friendly environment. He also directed the relevant ministries to resolve the matters which include the clearance of pending approvals for imports of equipment where no foreign exchange is involved, expedite the amicable resolution for matters relating to road infrastructure projects. Such issues must be resolved immediately and submit the report in two days, said the ministry, while reiterating the CPEC is the game changer for the region and the government is committed to implement all the project through letter and spirit.

During the meeting, it was also decided that a dedicated meeting will be held on the Gwadar projects soon in which issues related to the Gwadar will be addressed.—NAVEED BUTT

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2022/10/21/12-page/945545-news.html>

Dawn News

China ‘thwarts’ Indian move ahead of FATF moot

UNITED NATIONS: China has once again thwarted an Indian move in the United Nations to malign Pakistan just days before an important meeting of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF).

The first FATF plenary under the two-year Singapore presidency is taking place on Oct 20-21 in Paris.

The financial watchdog is expected to consider a proposal to move Pakistan from the so-called gray list of potential violators to the whitelist.

On Tuesday, India made a move in the United States to blacklist Shahid Mahmood, who had been designated by the US in 2016 as a Lashkar-e-Taiba fundraiser. On Wednesday, India made another move to blacklist Hafiz Talah Saeed, the son of Lashkar-e-Taiba chief Hafiz Saeed.

China, however, thwarted both moves by putting a hold on the Indian proposals.

Highlighting such groups so close to the FATF plenary would have boosted India’s efforts to keep Pakistan on the gray list.

“These Indian listings relate to moribund organisations and are designed to malign Pakistan and distract attention from India’s sponsorship of TTP and BLA terrorism,” Pakistan’s UN Ambassador Munir Akram told Dawn.

Besides supporting terrorist groups in Pakistan, India was also going for Chinese targets to “sabotage CPEC and Pakistan-China economic cooperation,” Ambassador Akram added. “We’re glad China has rejected India’s malign moves.”

In Islamabad, a spokesperson for the Ministry for Foreign Affairs told journalists that such moves were part of a “malevolent campaign” by India, through media leaks.

“This is not the first time the Indian media has been fed through official leaks to promote misleading, baseless and fabricated propaganda against Pakistan, just before the official FATF meetings,” the spokesperson said.

The statement noted that the FATF and the wider international community “has repeatedly acknowledged the steps taken by Pakistan to improve its anti-money-laundering and counter-terrorism-financing regime.”

The spokesperson pointed out that despite India’s “feverish attempts” to politicise the process and cast doubts on Pakistan’s efforts and accomplishments, FATF agreed in its June 2022 Plenary meeting that Pakistan had fully completed all substantive and procedural requirements of both its 2018 and 2021 Action Plans.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1716090>

Pakistan Observer

Resolve to rejuvenate CPEC

PRIME Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Wednesday said the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) was set to enter the next business-to-business (B2B) mode after the productive government-level phase. Chairing a review meeting on CPEC, the Premier said the government had rejuvenated the multi-billion dollar project that faced a hiatus during the previous government’s tenure.

The meeting focused on infrastructure projects, particularly Main Line-1 (ML-1), Karachi Circular Railway and Karakoram Highway.

The project related to the production of 10,000MW electricity from solar and wind sources also came under discussion.

There can be no two opinions that the CPEC is instrumental in accelerating the pace of socio-economic development of Pakistan and has become a major factor in stimulating economic activities in the far-flung and backward regions of the country.

There is, therefore, logic to pursue the initiative with the same zeal as people witnessed in the initial years of its launching and implementation.

The Prime Minister has justifiably complained about the lack of desired progress during tenure of PTI Government but rejuvenation is also not picking up despite assumption of power by a party that conceived and launched the project.

Understandably, the country is under great pressure from some countries and multilateral donors on the issue of smooth execution of the initiative but the government and the policy-

makers will have to take a firm decision keeping in view the economic interests of the country.

The country has already suffered a lot due to lacklustre implementation of the CPEC as in the case of only one project – ML-I – the cost has surged by 45pc due to inaction and indecisiveness on the part of Pakistani authorities.

We have been hearing about the second phase of the CPEC but the progress is confined to rhetoric and no physical activity is being witnessed vis-à-vis projects in various sectors.

The Prime Minister has also talked about B2B mode, which essentially entails proper and expeditious implementation of vital projects of economic zones but progress on them is also marred by unresolved issues.

There is no doubt that the Chinese companies are willing to invest in different sectors but investment would not come in a void and special attention will have to be focused on facilitation of investors and completion of all projects linked to optimal operation of Gwadar Port.

We hope tangible progress would be made on all issues relating to CPEC during the coming 11th session of the JCC and the forthcoming visit of the Prime Minister to China.

<https://pakobserver.net/resolve-to-rejuvenate-cpec/>

Kohala Hydro power project to complete by 2025

The 1,124 MW Kohala Hydropower Project is likely to be completed by December 2025 with the cost of \$2.4 billion. The annual generation capacity of run-of-the-river project is 4,800 GWh, said an official source.

The diversion dam site is on Jhelum River near Sarran Village 40 km upstream from Muzaffarabad and a 20 km long tunnel connects to the powerhouse which is located at Barsala, 7 km upstream from Kohala Bridge.

The Kohala hydroelectric scheme will have a gravity, roller-concrete compacted dam on the upper branch of the Jhelum, 40 km from Muzaffarabad. —APP

<https://pakobserver.net/kohala-hydro-power-project-to-complete-by-2025>

The Nation

Flood aid from Xingjiang reaches Gwadar

ISLAMABAD - Gwadar becomes the recipient of fresh flood donation as the first truck of donation sent by China's Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region has reached Gwadar offering congenial vibes of Pakistan-China friendship that stands tall in the face of all-natural calamity including flash flood and numerous testing times. According to Gwadar Pro on Thursday, the government of Karamay, a city in the north of Xinjiang, China, sent a truck of aid materials worth RMB 200,000 including sleeping bags, tents and other winter-proof items. The relief items were transported to Gwadar and would be taken to the flood-hit areas. This batch of aid materials departed from Khunjerab in Xinjiang on October 5 and passed through Pakistan's Gilgit-Baltistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Punjab, Sindh, and Balochistan. It

took 13 days covering 3,150 kilometres to reach Gwadar Port safely. Officials of Karamay City believe that the Pakistani people will soon overcome the disaster and rebuild their beautiful homeland. Relief items were received by China Overseas Port Holding Company (COPHC) and were handed over to local government chief officer Ayaz Gorgej. Official of the local government told Gwadar Pro that governments of Balochistan and other provinces have been seeking details of flood victims in a bid to distribute the aid as per requirements. To ensure transparency and trackability, records of all aid items for the flood-stricken areas are being made digital, he added. Pakistan estimates the total losses from its recent floods could be as high as \$40b, \$10b more than the government's initial estimate.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2022-10-21/page-4/detail-12>

Ahsan for allaying all concerns of Chinese companies, expediting work on CPEC projects

Fawad Yousafzai

ISLAMABAD-Planning Minister Ahsan Iqbal has directed the ministries concerned to allay all the concerns of the Chinese companies and remove all the bottlenecks from the China Pakistan Economic Corridor Project (CPEC) within next two days.

The minister has also directed to expedite the work on the CPEC projects particularly Gwadar International Airport project, official source told The Nation. In order to address the pending issues to implement the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) projects, a meeting between the Federal Minister for Planning, Development & Special Initiatives Professor Ahsan Iqbal and head of the Chinese companies was held here on Thursday. The meeting was attended by the Executive Director, CPEC, representatives from various ministries and heads of various companies working in Pakistan under the CEPC projects.

Mostly the issues of the Chinese investors were related to right of ways and tariff issues, the source said. The minister wants to resolve all the pending issues prior to the upcoming meeting of the 11th Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) of CPEC, the source said. The meeting of the JCC is scheduled for October 27. Next meeting over the progress on the removal of Chinese Companies concern and bottlenecks of the CPEC project will be held on Monday. "The CPEC projects are the top priority of the incumbent government and it will be completed timely, no delay will be accepted," said the minister, while directing the ministries concerned to remove all the bottlenecks and expedite the work.

The minister highlighted that China and Pakistan are two brotherly countries and we always resolve all the mutual matters in a friendly environment. The minister also directed the relevant ministries to resolve the matters which include the clearance of pending approvals for imports of equipment where no foreign exchange is involved, expedite the amicable resolution for matters relating to road infrastructure projects. Such issues must be resolved immediately and submit the report in two days, said the ministry, while reiterating CPEC is the game changer for the region and the government is committed to implement all projects through letter and spirit. During the meeting, it was also decided that a dedicated meeting will be held on the Gwadar projects soon in which issues related to the Gwadar will be addressed.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2022-10-21/page-8/detail-0>

China remains Pakistan's largest trading partner during July-September

ISLAMABAD-Despite a 30.67% decline in bilateral trade, China remained Pakistan's largest trading partner during the first quarter (July-September) of the current fiscal year (2022-23), the Ministry of Commerce reported.

The bilateral trade volume dropped to \$3.952 billion during the first quarter (Q1) of the current fiscal year from \$5.701 billion in the same period of last fiscal year, data shows. Pakistan recorded \$3.121 billion trade deficit with China during Q1 of FY23 against the deficit of \$4.393 billion during the same quarter of last fiscal year. Pakistan's exports to China also fell by 36.45% during the period under review and were recorded at \$415.57 million against \$653.96 million during the same quarter of last year. Imports from China dropped to \$3.536 billion during Q1 of FY23 from \$5.047 billion in the corresponding period of FY22, registering a negative growth of 29.93%. Despite substantial decrease in imports, China remained Pakistan's largest source of imports during the period under review. In a month-wise comparison, negative growth in the bilateral trade was observed during all three months of Q1. The bilateral trade volume declined by 45.70% during September to \$1.112 billion from \$2.048 during the corresponding month of last year.

Pakistan's exports to China posted a negative growth of 33% during September this year and were recorded at \$175.08 million against \$261.86 million during the same month of last year. Imports from China also declined by 48% during September to \$937.27 million from \$1787.9 million during the same month of last year. A negative growth of 17.51% and 18.10% was also observed in July and August, respectively, in the bilateral trade. According to the Ministry of Commerce, with the bilateral trade volume of \$19.457 billion, China remained Pakistan's largest trading partner during the fiscal year 2021-22. Pakistan's exports to China were recorded at \$3.111 billion in 2021-22 while imports were \$16.346 billion. Pakistan's export items to China included cotton, copper, cereals, fish, crustaceans, molluscs, aquatics invertebrates, oil seed, oleagic fruits, grain, seed, fruits, beverages, spirits and vinegar, aluminium, apparel, salt, sulphur, leather and plastics.

Pakistan's imports from China are electrical and electronic equipment, machinery, nuclear reactors, boilers, pharmaceutical products, mineral fuels, oils, distillation products, organic chemicals, iron and steel, vehicles other than railway, tramway, plastics, fertilizers, manmade filaments, and rubbers. The Government of Pakistan imposed a ban on imports of various luxury items in May this year. The ban was lifted in August. However, it caused substantial decline in the volume of imports during the first quarter. According to experts, China is the largest food market and Pakistan can enhance its exports to the neighbouring country by exporting food items, especially fruits, vegetables, rice and fish.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2022-10-21/page-8/detail-1>

Pakistan expects relaxation from China as PM prepares for visit

ISLAMABAD - Pakistan expects relaxations from China as Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif prepares for an important visit to Beijing, officials said yesterday.

Prime Minister Sharif will embark on a crucial trip to China in the days to come. The date is being finalised through the diplomatic channels.

This week, Minister for Planning and Development Ahsan Iqbal said that Sharif's "visit to China next month is expected to give a new impetus to CPEC (China-Pakistan Economic Corridor) project."

Diplomatic sources suggest that the Prime Minister would seek relaxation in the payment of Chinese debt after the decision that the country would not go to the Paris Club for rescheduling its \$27 billion debt.

The IMF says Pakistan's total non-Paris Club bilateral debt currently stands at about \$27 billion, of which Chinese debt is about \$23 billion. Finance Minister Ishaq Dar says that Pakistan needs around \$34 billion during the current year to pay off debts and meet the current account deficit.

Pakistan reports 45 coronavirus cases, no death in 24 hours

"The PM will seek help of the Chinese leadership in coming out of the financial crisis as we face the floods situation. We are hopeful China will be helpful as it has always been," said a close aide of the PM.

Another official said Pakistan was expecting relaxations from China to move forward. "They will obviously listen to us and help us. They know the situation and have been supportive amid the floods," he added.

CPEC, he said, will be another key matter to be discussed and the PM will reassure the Chinese leadership about expedited work on the CPEC projects.

The \$60 billion CPEC is part of China's ambitious Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), a pet project of President Xi Jinping. China has historically come to Pakistan's rescue with economic, political, and military assistance and the leadership of the two countries has often described their ties as "all-weather".

Dry weather expected in most parts of country: PMD

This week, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif said China had always stood by Pakistan in difficult times and extended support both at the internal and external fronts for Islamabad.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2022-10-21/page-12/detail-7>

Chinese language course concludes at Police Line

Israr Ahmad

ISLAMABAD-Islamabad Police in cooperation with the Consulate of China Embassy organised a Chinese language course for police officials at police lines headquarters, which was completed on Thursday and a closing ceremony was held at police lines headquarters, a police public relations officer said.

He said that Commandant Police training college Islamabad DIG Syed Fareed Shah and Consulate General of China Embassy Mr. Li Yue were chief guests of the ceremony.

Twenty two officials from different divisions participated in the Chinese language course organised by Islamabad Police and Consulate of China Embassy. The course duration was 20 days in which police officials learned about Chinese literature.

Course Coordinator SP CTD Tahir Mehmood Khan highlighted the importance of the course to the police officials who participated and completed the course and said that the initiative was aimed to increase the professional skills and abilities of the Islamabad Police officials.

Consulate General of China Embassy Mr. Li Yue congratulated the police officials who participated and completed the course and expressed good wishes for their future. This type of courses will continue in future as well, he maintained.

At the end of the ceremony, course completion certificates were awarded among the participants.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2022-10-21/page-13/detail-10>

October 22, 2022

The Express Tribune

Pak-China digital corridor to boost IT cooperation

Training centres will be set up for developing software in different IT fields’

BEIJING: Pakistan and China have agreed to launch three new corridors, including the China-Pakistan Digital Corridor that will help enhance cooperation in different fields of information technology, said Pakistan’s Ambassador to China Moinul Haque.

In an interview with China Economic Net (CEN), Haque stressed that Pakistan has a rich repertoire of talent and human resources in different fields of science and technology and IT-based science and technology has become very important for the country.

“We will be an important source of help for China in terms of software development. So, we are working together to set up training centres in Pakistan for developing software in different fields of IT,” he stated.

The ambassador pointed out that the two countries recently agreed to launch three new corridors – the China-Pakistan Green Corridor, which will focus on the agricultural environment, food security and green development; the China-Pakistan Health Corridor, which will help Pakistan achieve efficiency in the medical field; and the China-Pakistan Digital Corridor, which will boost Pakistan’s IT industry.

Former FIA additional director general and Digital Pakistan founder Ammar Jaffri said that emerging technologies have now become a lifeline for the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals’ (SDGs) targets.

“We are aiming to organise an international conference on artificial intelligence on March 23, 2023, in which local and foreign enterprises will participate, and we will make strategic decisions to engage the government of Pakistan and international organisations in mega projects,” he mentioned.

He emphasised the need for focusing on artificial intelligence in the areas of cyber security, SDGs and emerging technologies where Pakistan has to work with China as Islamabad has the advantage of a huge young population in the region.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2382841/pak-china-digital-corridor-to-boost-it-cooperation>

What's eating Gwadar

The road infrastructure, at least along the coastline, and the hospitality industry have come a long way

'Dream big. But keep it simple,' instructed Art Williams' aspirational audio back in the 1990s. For those who don't know, Arthur L Williams Jr is a school football coach turned insurance executive in Palm Beach, Florida. He made a fortune in his adopted career and has been spreading the word through his aspirational talks and speeches since. I found his audio tape in a relative's study. In his speech, he also discusses the importance of finding clients before establishing a brick-and-mortar shop.

When you land in Gwadar, the first thought that strikes your mind is how difficult it is to keep this big dream simple. For one, to the untrained mind, there is hardly anything there. And if you are returning to the city after 17 years, like me, it takes a while to connect the old memories with the new ones to recognise what has changed and how much. For instance, new roads with fancy names have been built. An elaborate port has sprung up. But so have security pickets.

As you must have guessed, my previous visit to Gwadar was in 2005. That was before the start of the insurgency. This meant that three accompanying fellow journalists and I could travel by road via Coastal Highway. We had to rent a car from Karachi, and the long journey did not fail to impress us with its imposing beauty. And when we reached Gwadar, the four things we found were pristine beaches, fish, coast-to-coast property dealer shops selling Gwadar master plan for 10 thousand rupees a pop, and rudimentary trappings of the hospitality industry. One benefit of this visit and a vagabond's lifestyle was that you could connect with the ordinary folks on the streets. The local population was exceedingly friendly. Since then, the port city has remained close to my heart even though I did not get a chance to visit again.

The city kept returning to the headlines for one reason or another. Still, it wasn't until the 2015 launch of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor that it would claim its rightful place in our collective imagination. Since then, I have been itching to go back and see the progress for myself. And finally, this month, an opportunity presented itself. When I was asked if I would be willing to be a part of a delegation of the Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI) to Gwadar, I jumped at the chance. The delegation was headed by the former foreign secretary and the institute's current Director General, Ambassador Aizaz Chaudhry. If you are the only journalist in a delegation featuring distinguished career diplomats, academicians/researchers, and businessmen, the journey can be its own reward. I have a bag full of insights and anecdotes that I am putting aside for the rainy days when the topics of discussion are scant and/or I am facing writer's block. For now, let us return to the subject at hand.

The air travel between Karachi's ageing but bustling airport to Gwadar's airstrip is almost one hour long, was smooth and uneventful. The first shock was the airstrip itself. The new under-construction airport will start functioning next year. Until then, the current one gives you the feeling of landing a crop duster on an abandoned airstrip far away from civilisation. The city's character, as experienced, at first sight, has not changed much in the last 17 years and resembles a dust-blown shanty town in the middle of nowhere. As I said earlier, the road infrastructure, at least along the coastline, and the hospitality industry have come a long way, as there are two international quality hotels (PC and Gwadar Business Centre, where we stayed). But in the middle of nowhere isn't an exaggeration. Gwadar is still not hooked up to the national grid for electricity. For power supply, the local population relies on Iran and, as is the case of businesses, the generators run by the China Overseas Ports Holding Company Pakistan (Pvt) Ltd (COPHC). Likewise, water supply is a big issue. The 2017 census shows the local population to be around 90 thousand, but the local authorities claim it is about 130 thousand now. Gwadar now has a university, although it is still in its infancy and will soon be shifted to a formal building. The internet and mobile connectivity is also unreliable. As we entered the city, three out of four mobile networks were down. They came back online within hours. But complete day-long outages are a matter of routine.

During our interactions, we met with the DG of Gwadar Development Authority, senior officials of Gwadar Port Authority, the representatives of the COPHC, public servants, and senior security officials. The COPHC office bearer showed us how the company is developing climate-resistant breeds of vegetables, fruits, flora, and fauna to turn the entire region green despite the dearth of water. They have also created job opportunities for local women. When during our interaction with a senior security official we asked if there was any local requirement we could highlight, we were told the university needed at least two buses for the university. Our interactions with the students and faculty at the university brought to our attention the infinite human potential this region has. The only people we could not meet were the politicians because they were not there. And this lack of political interest shows.

In hindsight, one thing stuck with me. Our Chinese friends told us that they had been here for years, but because of the security situation, they could not go outside the port or the security cordon. As an ethnic Baloch who has covered the sub-nationalist politics for a considerable time, I have to flag the stupidity of attacking the investors who create immense opportunities for the local population. The idea that the local people will not benefit from economic growth is preposterous. So if I were a part of a sub-nationalist group supported by foreign elements and asked to attack such investment, I would use my right to be selfish for my people and region and refuse the ask.

This is your city, and no one can take it from you. The Chinese staff has restricted itself to the port and has not used any aggressive tactics, showing the value China attaches to the bilateral relationship. These projects can potentially uplift Balochistan's entire population out of poverty. Why not benefit from them?

In conclusion, let me point out that Gwadar's potential is not hidden from the naked eye. It is there. And all office bearers we met are too eager to do their part. But somehow, the inertia

so far gives the impression of an abandoned dream. Brick-and-mortar work is slowly underway without full-blown local business activity, connectivity, amenities, and foot traffic.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2382827/whats-eating-gwadar>

The News

Pakistan, China to launch three new projects

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan and China have decided to launch three new corridors besides the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

These include the China-Pakistan Green Corridor (CPGC), which will focus on agricultural environment, food security and green development, the China-Pakistan Health Corridor (CPHC), which will help Pakistan get efficiency in the medical field, and the China-Pakistan Digital Corridor (CPDC), which will boost Pakistan's IT industry. This was announced by Pakistan's Ambassador to China Moinul Haq, while talking to the China Economic Net (CEN) in Beijing.

Ambassador Haque said Pakistan has a rich repertoire of talent and human resources in different fields of science and technology and IT-based science and technology have become very important for Pakistan. "We would be an important source of help for China in terms of software development. So, we are working together to set up training centres in Pakistan for developing software in different fields of IT," he said. The envoy attached great significance to the new projects that are being launched with great enthusiasm.

The sources have indicated here that the formal launching of the projects could take place during the next month's visit of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to China. He has been invited by Chinese President Xi Jinping. The schedule and relevant details for the trip are being worked out through diplomatic channels on a priority basis, the sources said. The new corridors would become sources of strengthening Pakistan-China ties and will provide a new unshakable bond of the proximity of the two nations, the sources said.

Former Additional Director General FIA and Founder of Digital Pakistan Ammar Jaffri has said that emerging technologies have now become a lifeline for the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) & targets. "We are aiming to organise an international conference on artificial intelligence (AI) on 23rd March 2023 in which local and foreign enterprises will participate and we would take strategic decisions to engage the Government of Pakistan, and international organisations in our mega projects", he mentioned.

Jaffri said that AI in areas of cyber security, SDGs and emerging technologies is a much-needed zone where Pakistan has to work with China while Pakistan has a young population advantage in the region. The sources reminded the scope of Pakistan-China friendship and cooperation would cater to the fields that help Pakistan to overcome its economic complexities and start moving on the path of fiscal self-sufficiency.

<https://e.thenews.com.pk/detail?id=140080>

October 23, 2022

Business Recorder

Dar reaffirms resolve to fully implement CPEC project

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Muhammad Ishaq Dar Saturday reaffirmed the firm resolve of the government for successfully implementing China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) project as it will play an important role in taking local economy forward as well as cementing the bilateral relationship between both the countries.

Talking to Ambassador of the People's Republic of China Nong Rong, who called on him, Dar said that Pakistan and China were enjoying deep-rooted friendly relations which were strengthening with each passing day, said a press release.

The minister further highlighted the economic challenges and policies of the present government with aim to bring about economic and fiscal stability. He also appreciated the support extended by the Chinese leadership for flood relief and refinancing of syndicate facility of RMB 15 billion (US\$ 2.24 billion) to Pakistan.

The Ambassador reaffirmed the Chinese Government's continued support to Pakistan and thanked the Government of Pakistan on facilitating Chinese companies in various projects in Pakistan. He also assured full support and cooperation of Chinese Government in developing Special Economic Zones as part of the CPEC.

The proposed visit of Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif to China was also discussed in the meeting and both sides hoped that the visit will enhance bilateral relations between both the countries.—APP

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2022/10/23/1-page/945618-news.html>

Daily Times

Chinese delegation explores business scope in Pakistan

A delegation of Pakistan-China Business Forum (PCBF) led by Chairman Sheikh Nasir Ali visited Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI) and showed keen interest to explore business and investment opportunities in Pakistan.

The delegation discussed various options to boost Pak-China business and investment cooperation. The delegation vowed to work jointly for facilitating the business matchmaking and sharing the relevant information regarding the B2B events, exhibitions and trade fairs.

Speaking at the occasion, Sheikh Nasir Ali, Chairman, PCBF said that the forum was working to promote business linkages between Chinese and Pakistani companies to enhance business collaboration, joint ventures and investment between the two countries. He said that PCBF would bring more Chinese companies to Pakistan for JVs and investment in special economic zones of Pakistan being set up in CPEC.

Sheikh Ejaz, Co-Chairman PCBF said that their forum would cooperate with ICCI in its efforts for a new industrial zone in the region as it would improve Pakistan's exports, reduce imports and attract more investment from China as well.

He said that by investing in Pakistan, Chinese companies can export to Africa, Middle East and other countries. He said that a showroom would be set up in China to display Pakistani products in order to improve their exports.

Liu Shao Hong, Vice Chairman PCBF said that Chinese companies were interested to invest in green energy in Pakistan and PCBF would like to work with ICCI to bring Chinese investors to Pakistan.

Addressing the delegation, Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari, President, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry said that Chinese companies should transfer technology and set up industrial units in Pakistan to produce imports substitutions. He said that Pakistan's annual imports of electronics was around US\$ 10 billion and Chinese companies should invest in Pakistan to produce electronics goods. He said that many sectors of Pakistan's economy including IT, engineering, manufacturing, construction, tourism, warehousing, cold chain logistics, air freight & transportation, trucking and urban transport offered great investment opportunities and stressed that Chinese investors should take benefit of them by investing in Pakistan.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1016567/chinese-delegation-explores-business-scope-in-pakistan/>

Dunya News

China's Xi clinches third term, with loyalists on Standing Committee

BEIJING (Reuters) - China's Xi Jinping secured a precedent-breaking third leadership term on Sunday and introduced a new Politburo Standing Committee that is stacked with loyalists, cementing his place as the country's most powerful ruler since Mao Zedong.

Shanghai Communist Party chief Li Qiang followed Xi onto the stage at the Great Hall of the People, meaning he is likely to succeed Li Keqiang as premier when he retires in March.

The other members of the seven man Standing Committee, China's top governing body, are Zhao Leji and Wang Huning, who return from the previous committee, and newcomers Cai Qi, Ding Xuexiang and Li Xi. All are perceived to have close allegiance to Xi, 69, who was also re-appointed on Sunday as chairman of the Central Military Commission.

<https://dunyanews.tv/en/World/672511-Chinese-President-Xi-secures-historic-third-term-in-office>

Pakistan Observer

Where will China go after the 20th National Congress of the CPC?

Zhou Rong

The 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC), which has attracted worldwide attention, has concluded.

So, what kind of message does this Congress convey to the world, especially our Pakistani friends, and what does it mean for the betterment of Pakistan?

I believe that Mr. Xi Jinping sent the message to the world at this party congress that the starting point of all the work of the CPC is to serve the people.

He emphasized that the country is the people, and the people are the country. The CPC leads the people to fight and defend the country and safeguard the heart of the people.

Governing the country is constantly benefiting the people. To benefit the people is the essential requirement of establishment of the party for the public and governing for the people.

China will insist on ensuring and improving people's livelihood in the process of development, will encourage joint efforts to create a better life, and will continuously realize the people's yearning for a better life.

In the past ten years, the Chinese people's quality of life has improved tremendously. Mr. Xi Jinping said, "We must realize, maintain and develop the fundamental interests of the masses, take cognizance of their needs reaching down to the grassroots.

Adopt measures to benefit people's livelihood and warm their hearts, focus on solving their urgent problems, improve the basic public service system, enhance balance and accessibility, and solidly promote common prosperity.

" It is notable that rather than fix grand targets, Xi Jinping focused on poverty alleviation and solving urgent problems to govern the people.

Mr. Xi Jinping said that we must improve the distribution system, adhere to the principle of distribution based on people's work efforts and qualities, and coexist with multiple distribution methods, adhere to the principle of more work and more rewards, encourage hard work to gain prosperity, promote fair opportunities, increase the income of low-income people, expand middle-income groups, and regulate income, not allow the income gap to widen; establish distribution order and standardize wealth accumulation mechanism.

He reiterated that the CPC acknowledges that all the people have aspirations to lead a good life, not encourage a few people to become rich overnight.

Support the people in the lower strata and eliminate unreasonable restrictions and employment discrimination that affect equal employment, so that everyone has the opportunity to realize their own development through hard work.

Mr. Xi Jinping said that the establishment of a birth support policy system, the implementation of the national strategy to actively respond to the aging population, the promotion of inheritance, innovation and development of traditional Chinese medicine, the improvement of the public health system, the strengthening of the major epidemic prevention and treatment system and the construction of emergency response capabilities will effectively curb the spread of major infectious diseases and pandemic.

He announced that China will no longer implement a strict family-planning policy; a policy that allows couples to have only one child has ended, and China will encourage families to have two or three children.

Additionally, China has always adopted a zero-tolerance strategy for major infectious diseases.

Facts have proved that China's dynamic zero policy is effective and sustainable. For the low-carbon economy, Mr. Xi Jinping emphasized that China "must accelerate the green transformation of its development form, and will implement a comprehensive conservation strategy, will develop green and low-carbon industries, advocate green consumption, and promote the formation of green and low-carbon production methods and lifestyles.

China will promote the prevention and control of environmental pollution further, and continue to defend blue sky, clear water, and pure land.

China has basically eliminated severe pollution, has eradicated dark and odorous water bodies, has strengthened the prevention and control of soil pollution sources, and has basically improved the level of environmental infrastructure, and has promoted the improvement of urban and rural living milieu.

China will improve the diversity and stability of ecosystems, Sustainability will speed up the implementation of major projects for the protection and restoration of important ecosystems, and will implement major projects for biodiversity conservation, promote grasslands, forests, rivers, lakes and wetlands for recuperation, and will implement a ten-year ban on fishing in the Yangtze River, will improve the system of fallow and rotation of cultivated land.

China will actively and steadily promote carbon neutrality based on China's energy and resource endowments, China will adhere to the principle of step-by-step planning to implement carbon peaking and will promote the energy revolution further, will strengthen the clean and efficient use of coal, and will speed up the development and construction of a new energy system, China will actively participate in the global governance of climate change".

Anyone who has been to China ten years ago or in the last one or two years can make the comparison and notice that China's cities have less air pollution, less smog, and no stinky gutters.

The goal of eliminating black and odorous water bodies has been achieved. Rural revitalization has produced initial outcomes, not only villages build roads, but also paid heed to environmental protection.

Preliminary success has been achieved in the defense of clear water, blue sky and pure land in the countryside.

The role of the new energy industry in China's economy is growing. Pakistan is China's all-weather strategic cooperative partner, and the friendship between the two countries has grown stronger with time.

The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor has made significant contributions to boosting Pakistan's economy but we feel that this is not enough.

In the future, China will need to help Pakistan in a broader span. That is not only to help Pakistan build bridges, roads and power stations, and open up industrial parks, but also help Pakistan to achieve a green and low-carbon economy, and help Pakistan improve its technical capabilities and organizational mobilization capabilities to resist natural disasters and face more challenges.

China's successful experience of reform and opening door policy will surely better benefit the Pakistani people.

The writer is Senior Researcher, for Financial Studies of Chongyang Institute, Renmin University China

<https://pakobserver.net/where-will-china-go-after-the-20th-national-congress-of-the-cpc-by-zhou-rong/>

The Express Tribune

Pakistan seeks \$6.3b China debt rollover

New proposal to seek fresh Chinese loan to repay maturing bilateral debt during FY 2022-23 also under consideration

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan on Saturday requested China to rollover its \$6.3 billion debt that is maturing in next eight months as part of its overall plan to arrange \$34 billion in the current fiscal year to meet its debt and external trade-related obligations.

Another proposal was also under consideration to seek a fresh Chinese loan to repay the maturing bilateral debt during the fiscal year 2022-23, ending on June 30.

The issue of rollover and refinancing of nearly \$6.3 billion commercial loans and the central bank debt was discussed in a meeting between Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan Nong Rong and Finance Minister Mohammad Ishaq Dar.

The \$3.3 billion Chinese commercial loans and three \$3 billion worth SAFE deposits loans were maturing from now till June next year, according to the Ministry of Finance officials.

The SAFE deposit is on the balance sheet of the central bank. In addition to this, over \$900 million bilateral Chinese debt was becoming due during the current fiscal year.

For the current fiscal year, the International Monetary Fund and the Ministry of Finance have estimated Pakistan's gross external financing requirements in the range of \$32 billion to \$34 billion, excluding the impact of the recent devastating floods.

Pakistan has already obtained \$2.2 billion loans during July-September quarter while Saudi Arabia has also announced to rollover \$3 billion debt maturing in December this year. The country still needs to arrange \$29 billion and it is looking for minimum \$6.3 billion to \$7.2 billion rollovers from China in addition to any fresh lending.

Sources said that this time the government was seeking rollover of the \$3 billion SAFE deposit for more than one year, preferably for three to five years. China has extended a total \$4 billion in SAFE deposits and out of this \$1 billion has already been rolled over in July this year.

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif is visiting Beijing on November 1 with a long list of new projects and requests to rollover the existing debt, considering sanctioning of new debt and preferential trade treatment for certain exportable goods.

Pakistan is under pressure from the western institutions and the governments to seek rollover of Chinese debt, currently standing at \$26.7 billion including public and publicly guaranteed debt.

Chinese commercial loans cannot be rolled over but can be refinanced, which requires the government to first pay the maturing debt and then get it back. This consumes significant time, which in turn puts pressure on the foreign exchange reserves until the transaction is not reversed.

China had taken three months' time in refinancing a \$2.3 billion commercial loan that Pakistan paid back in March. Pakistan's gross foreign exchange reserves currently stand at \$7.5 billion.

"The Finance Minister also appreciated the support extended by the Chinese leadership for flood relief and refinancing of syndicate facilities of RMB 15 billion (US\$ 2.24 billion) to Pakistan", according to a statement issued by the Ministry of Finance after the meeting.

The statement suggests that both the sides discussed the issue of the commercial loans refinancing.

Fitch – the international credit rating agency – on Friday highlighted the contradictory debt rollover statements given by Pakistani policymakers.

"The previous finance minister said before resigning that Pakistan would seek debt relief from non-commercial creditors. Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif also appealed for debt relief within the Paris Club framework. More recently, however, the Minister of Finance (Ishaq Dar) publicly ruled this out," Fitch stated. It downgraded Pakistan to the highly risky debt category.

Dar took a right decision to withdraw the move of seeking Paris Club debt restructuring. The Paris Club debt rescheduling decision was unnerving the global markets.

The finance minister further highlighted the economic challenges and policies of the present government with the aim to bring about economic and fiscal stability, the finance ministry stated.

Sources said that both sides also discussed the issue of outstanding Chinese dues on account of payments to the Chinese Independent Power Producers for the cost of the electricity purchase.

Pakistan is expected to solve the lingering issue of opening a bank account to save the Chinese companies from the vicious cycle of circular debt before the PM's visit.

The proposed visit of PM Shehbaz to China was also discussed in the meeting and both sides hoped that it would enhance bilateral relations between both the countries, the finance ministry said.

Dar assured his full support for the successful implementation of CPEC projects, according to the statement.

Rong reaffirmed the Chinese government's continued support to Pakistan and thanked Islamabad for facilitating Chinese companies in various projects in Pakistan, it added.

He also assured full support and cooperation of the Chinese Government in developing Special Economic Zones as part of CPEC.

The issue of changing the design and scope of a much-delayed 300 megawatts Gwadar imported coal-fired power plant also came under discussion. Pakistan wants to shelve the plan due to the high cost of imported fuel and its preference for local resources.

The China Communications Construction Group (CCCC) had planned to set up the plant at a cost of \$542 million. But diplomatic sources said that the Chinese government was not keen to either change the fuel to LNG or use Thar coal due its high cost.

Pakistan cannot make any unilateral change in the project and will have to place its decision before the JCC for endorsement, which makes strategic planning for CPEC.

The JCC meeting is scheduled to be held on October 27.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2383139/pakistan-seeks-63b-china-debt-rollover>

PM's China visit being closely watched

Pakistan may seek a multibillion-dollar financing window from China to fund 10,000 megawatts solar-powered projects

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's expected visit to China next month could create problems for Pakistan on the economic front as the international monetary institutions would closely watch it in view of the world undergoing rapid realignment, political and economic experts discussed on Saturday.

The experts, Shahbaz Rana and Kamran Yousaf, who hosts The Express News talk show, The Review, said that the world was witnessing realignment of big powers like China, Russia and the US, and it was obvious who has influence over the global monetary institutions like the IMF and the World Bank, among others.

On Pakistan exiting the FATF's grey list, they said, Pakistan got relief because it worked really hard.

The hosts said that Pakistan has prepared a new wish list of 18 high-priority projects for the PM's maiden visit to China scheduled for November 1, saying the economic assistance tops the list.

They said that Pakistan may seek a multibillion-dollar financing window from China to fund 10,000 megawatts solar-powered electricity generation projects, as it is also set to make a new pitch for further expansion of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) during the visit.

On Friday, the hosts revealed that PM Shehbaz chaired a meeting to review and finalise the agenda for his maiden visit to Beijing this week, saying Pakistan has a long list of projects, including billions of dollars' worth new schemes that it wants China to finance.

These include a tripartite agreement between China, Pakistan and Saudi Arabia to set up an oil refinery in Gwadar, they said.

While commenting on Finance Minister Ishaq Dar's recent visit to Washington, the hosts noted that that Pakistan was hopeful that it would receive some concessions from the IMF and the World Bank after the devastating floods but that didn't materialise.

Rana revealed that during Pakistani authorities' recent interaction with the IMF and the WB, the principal lenders have advised Pakistan to stay on course and stick to the programme targets. He said that the finance minister was denied meetings with key officials during his visit on different pretexts.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2383141/pms-china-visit-being-closely-watched>

The Nation

Chinese firm's smart logistics centres to revolutionise Pak e-commerce ecosystem

Xinhua

ISLAMABAD-Pakistan has put its first-ever smart distribution centre (SDC) into operations in the port city of Karachi, with experts and officials hailing the development as a milestone towards revolutionising Pakistan's e-commerce ecosystem.

Built by Cainiao Smart Logistics Network of China in partnership with Daraz, the largest player in Pakistan's e-commerce market, the 50,000-square-meter-large distribution center will be one of the most technologically advanced logistics facilities in South Asia, equipped with an automatic assembly line and smart distribution set-up with least human interference to ensure operational quality and stability. Talking to Xinhua, Syed Zamin Ali, project manager of the SDC in Karachi, said that Pakistan's e-commerce industry has been witnessing a robust growth over the last few years and the number of registered e-commerce merchants, platforms and online payment facilities are also on the rise, showing that more and more Pakistani people are making digital purchases and payments. According to the latest data released by the State Bank of Pakistan, the e-commerce market in fiscal year 2020 is estimated to have expanded to 234.6 billion rupees (1.07 billion U.S. dollars) from 150.8 billion rupees in the previous year, up 55.6 percent on a year-on-year basis.

“With the size increase of the e-commerce market of Pakistan and considering the future prospects, there is a dire need of improving our logistics capabilities to boost our customers' experience,” Ali said. “Both sellers and buyers were facing difficulties due to an outdated manual distribution system which involved a number of tedious tasks and labor before the package actually reached its destination,” he said, adding that the manual task was heavily error-prone and time-consuming, undermining customers' trust.

Thanks to the newly introduced automated distribution center, the project manager said most of the problems have now been solved as it would decrease manual errors by 90 percent and increase the sorting capacity by over four times. In the coming days, the Chinese firm is going to operationalize another smart logistic hub in Lahore, Ali said, expressing hope to build more of such centers across the country to bring more efficiency to Pakistan's logistics sector.

Enthusiastically operating the new SDC, 25-year-old Younus Khan was optimistic to dispatch millions of packages in the coming days as a mega sale campaign is just around the corner, saying "now we are fully equipped to make on-time deliveries without any error." "I, along with other staff members, have been learning about the new system from the Chinese engineers over the last few months. The hard work bears fruit as now we have made it fully operational. The knowledge, skills, and devotion of our Chinese brothers really inspired me a lot," Khan told Xinhua.

He said that the two logistic facilities in Karachi and Lahore have a capacity to process around 1 million orders a day, making them the most efficient facilities in Pakistan. "I believe it is just the start of something big in the country's e-commerce industry." Congratulating the Chinese and Pakistani experts for successfully accomplishing the new venture, Commerce Minister Syed Naveed Qamar said the SDCs would provide smart solutions to problems being faced by the supply chain systems and help the e-commerce industry usher in a new era of smart logistics.

E-commerce has become one of the key drivers of Pakistan's economy, and the investment by the Chinese firm in the industry will be a game changer for Pakistan and beyond, he said. "China is the world's largest e-commerce market with annual online sales worth hundreds of billions of dollars, and Pakistan has a lot to learn from them in terms of knowledge base, experience and technology to take our e-commerce industry to new heights," Qamar told Xinhua. He said there is a huge potential in Pakistan's e-commerce market, and the incumbent government has been making efforts to incentivize the industry to speed up digital transformation.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2022-10-23/page-9/detail-0>

Dar, Nong Rong discuss PM's visit to China

ISLAMABAD - Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Muhammad Ishaq Dar Saturday reaffirmed the firm resolve of the government for successfully implementing China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) project as it will play an important role in taking local economy forward as well as cementing the bilateral relationship between both the countries.

Talking to Ambassador of the People's Republic of China Nong Rong, who called on him, the minister said that Pakistan and China were enjoying deep-rooted friendly relations which were strengthening with each passing day, said a press release.

The minister further highlighted the economic challenges and policies of the present government with aim to bring about economic and fiscal stability. He also appreciated the

support extended by the Chinese leadership for flood relief and refinancing of syndicate facility of RMB 15 billion (US\$ 2.24 billion) to Pakistan.

The ambassador reaffirmed the Chinese Government's continued support to Pakistan and thanked the Government of Pakistan on facilitating Chinese companies in various projects in Pakistan. He also assured full support and cooperation of Chinese Government in developing Special Economic Zones as part of CPEC.

The proposed visit of Prime Minister of Pakistan to China was also discussed in the meeting and both sides hoped that the visit will enhance bilateral relations between both the countries.

Dar felicitates nation on country's exit from FATF grey list

Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue, Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar has felicitated the nation on removal of Pakistan's name from the Financial Action Task Force's (FATF) grey list.

In a tweet, the finance minister said that the efforts of the civil-military team under the leadership of Prime Minister, Shehbaz Sharif in achieving the goal were highly commendable.

"Heartiest congratulations to the Nation on removal of Pakistan's name today from the FATF's 'grey list'. Efforts of the civil-military team under the leadership of PM @CMShehbaz in achieving this goal are highly commendable. Pakistan Zindabad", he tweeted.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2022-10-23/page-12/detail-5>

K2 Daily News

بقیہ 23

پاکستان کی ایک ترقیاتی اور علاقائی انضمام کی کلید ہے۔ انہوں نے مزید کہا کہ یہ شراکت دار ممالک کے لیے اقتصادی اور سیاسی طور پر فائدہ مند ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ سی پی پی کے منصوبوں کے تحت پاکستان کو پچھلے 65 سالوں کے کل پورٹ فولیو میں سے 30 بلین ڈالر کی ملٹی سرمایہ کاری معمول ہو چکا ہے جس سے ملک جی ڈی پی سے ترقی کر رہا ہے اور اس کی معیشت میں انقلاب برپا کر رہا ہے۔ ڈاکٹر نے ملک کے قومی منصوبے سے منسلک قابل عمل ترقیاتی منصوبوں کی نشاندہی کرنے کی ضرورت پر زور دیا۔ انہوں نے مزید کہا کہ پاکستان کو بین الاقوامی میچ پرائیوٹس سے وزارت تمام ممالک کے ساتھ شراکت داری کرنی چاہیے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ یہ شراکت داری سب کے لیے بہتری کی صورت حال ہوگی۔

سی پی پی، پاکستان میں 30 ارب ڈالر کی سرمایہ کاری مکمل

پاکستانی معیشت کو پائیدار بنیادوں پر مضبوط کرنے کے لیے نئی راہیں کھول دی ہیں

پاکستان کو پائیدار اقتصادی ترقی کیلئے تمام مواقع سے فائدہ اٹھانے کی ضرورت ہے، راجہ پرواز گل نے کہا ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ سی پی پی کے منصوبوں کے تحت پاکستان میں اب تک 30 ارب ڈالر کی سرمایہ کاری ہو چکی ہے، یہ تمام منصوبے پاکستان کی ترقی اور خوشحالی کا ضامن ہیں۔ پاکستان کو بین الاقوامی میچ پرائیوٹس سے تمام مواقع سے فائدہ اٹھانے کی ضرورت ہے۔ سی پی پی کے تمام مواقع سے فائدہ اٹھانے کی ضرورت ہے۔ پاکستان کو پائیدار اقتصادی ترقی اور ترقی کی ضروریات کو پورا کرنے میں مدد دے سکتے ہیں۔

اسٹیٹ ڈویلپمنٹ (ہفتی 6 اپریل 2023)

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October 24, 2022

Business Recorder

Study on Gwadar power project

MUSHTAQ GHUMMAN

Chinese firm seeks approval of additional cost

ISLAMABAD: Chinese company, CIHC Pak Power Company (Pvt) Limited has sought approval of additional cost on study for conversion of 330-MW Gwadar Port power project from imported coal to Thar coal.

In a letter to Managing Director, PPIB, Shah Jahan Mirza, the company Chairman Zhao Bo has cited the reference to the Meeting Minutes duly issued by PPIB on September 28, 2022 and on July 15, 2022.

The power firm, on urging of PPIB, to switch the project from imported South African coal to local Thar coal, engaged a power design institute to formulate a proposal for the initial analysis and shared a brief report on Thar coal blending with PPIB. According to the Chinese company, in initial study the design institute has suggested that local Thar coal is not feasible and company may blend 20 per cent Thar coal with 80 per cent imported South African coal, and even so the Company may redesign the plant but it is unaffordable to resolve the issue of frangibility, fast weathering, self-ignite, high water content and other adverse characters of Thar coal under current existing conditions.

The company contended that obviously cost disadvantage of Thar coal for not mining mouth plant is clear-cut compared to imported coal cost in the long run, if NEPRA accepts all the relevant coal cost will be passed through in tariffs but the exceeding part of the cost between imported coal and Thar coal will be on the end-consumers' shoulders.

The company maintains that shifting from Thar coal to imported coal will be basically impossible after the plant construction, as is in the case of imported coal IPPs in operation nowadays being required to shift fuel from imported coal to Thar coal.

“It should be considered that whether it is worth to give up opportunity cost and whether it will contribute to the positive trend of foreign exchange reserves under the comparative advantage principle in reality since government required the Company to utilize a possible much higher cost resource in future,” the CEO of the company questioned.

However, the Company has shown its intent to conduct further study on the Thar coal economic and technical feasibility analysis as per the requirement raised by PPIB in view of the low foreign exchange reserve situation of the government.

During meeting on September 15, the company requested PPIB to provide necessary available information to it, i.e., coal transportation studies (existing transportation & newly planned transportation system, details of proposed railway project from Thar to Chor (105-Km), and work jointly in order to complete the study on fast track.

The company has conveyed that it would submit study for PPIB's estimation and approval so that the Company may change the design and apply for the modification on environment NOC, tariff determination, generation license, IA & PPA and other related consents in Pakistan and China

In view of strategic importance of this project, the Company has spent more than \$22 million for project development in order to avoid further increasing the development cost of the project, and suggested both parties should concentrate their time on researching the feasibility of Thar coal transportation at the first phase and then carry out/ revise the feasibility study of the power plant on Thar coal as fuel after transportation proposal becomes feasible.

The company has also requested the PPIB that expenses incurred on studies and other auxiliary costs shall be considered and approved by NEPRA in the tariff.—MUSHTAQ GHUMMAN

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2022/10/24/1-page/945669-news.html>

11 power projects completed under CPEC

ISLAMABAD: As many as 11 power projects with accumulative capacity of 6,369 MW under China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) have been commissioned while 10 more projects are under various stages of development.

According to data, in the energy mix of CPEC power projects, coal is leading with 8,220 MW, hydel 3,428 MW, solar 1000 MW and wind 400 MW. The projects already completed are included 1320 MW each Sahiwal Coal Power, Port Qasim, China-HUB Coal Power, 660 MW Engro Thar Power and Mine, 330 MW HUBCO Thar, 720 MW Karot Hydropower, 400 MW Quaid-e-Azam Solar Park, 100 MW UEP Wind Farm, 99 MW Three Gorge Wind Power Projects, 50 MW each Sachal Wind Farm and Hydro China Dawood Wind. The projects which are under various stages of development are included 1,320 MW Shanghai Electric (TCB-1) and Mine, 330 MW ThalNova Thar Power, Azad 700.7 MW Azad Pattan Hydropower Project, 1,124 MW Kohala Hydropower, 884 MW Suki Kinari Hydropower, 1,320 MW Thar (Oracle) Coal Plant, 600 MW Quaid-e-Azam Solar Park, 300 MW Gwadar Coal/Solar Power Plant and 50 MW each Cacho Wind Power and Westren Energy Pvt Ltd.

330 MW ThalNova Thar Power Project will start generation by December while 1320 MW Shanghai Electric will commence its generation before the next summer season. There are some six potential power projects which is expected to be included in CPEC in future are 640 MW Mahl Hydropower, 135 MW Taunsa Hydropower, 350 MW Toren More Hydropower, 260 MW Jameshill More Hydropower and 80 Phander Hydropower Projects.—APP

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2022/10/24/2-page/945676-news.html>

PM's visit to China at critical juncture

Preparations are underway for the forthcoming maiden visit of Shehbaz Sharif to China as the Prime Minister and the wish-list seeking additional investment/support submitted by the relevant departments/ministries is getting rather exhaustive. It includes Karachi circular railway, Karakoram highway, 10,000MW solar power projects and hydropower projects.

From the Chinese side there is considerable pressure to make the payment of dues to Chinese companies operating in Pakistan for projects constructed under the umbrella of China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

This envisaged support is in addition to the rollover of loans of more than 4 billion dollars by the Chinese (against around 9 billion dollars pledges from Arab countries, including Saudi Arabia, in investment and loans) that they have already pledged directly to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) on Pakistan's behalf which was a prior condition for the approval of the ongoing Extended Fund Facility programme effective 1 July 2019 and which has remained a prior condition for all subsequent quarterly reviews, including the last successful seventh/eighth review. The IMF in a report released recently has noted that the Chinese debt to Pakistan has been revised upwards by 4.6 billion dollars to about 30 billion dollars by September 2022 from 25.1 billion dollars in February 2022 – triple the amount of IMF debt and more than the amount given either by the World Bank or the Asian Development Bank. And further the report notes that the debt shows that China is playing a role similar to the IMF's in Pakistan by providing financing during balance of payment crises rather than World Bank-style concessionary project financing.

It is significant to note that all power sector projects that were established during the 2013-18 PML-N (Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz) tenure under the CPEC were on the same lines as those established under the previous power policy which allowed for payments in dollars as well as capacity payments – conditions which not only raised the domestic tariffs to exorbitant levels but have also compromised the export sector's ability to compete in the international market that, in turn, compelled administrations, including the previous government, to cap the utility tariff which implied a major rise in subsidies that the country's narrow fiscal space can simply not withstand. The recent decision by Finance Minister Ishaq Dar to allow the five export sectors electricity at the rate of 19.99 rupees per unit, projected to cost the taxpayers 90 to 100 billion rupees, is not going to go down well with the taxpayers or with the IMF that has already urged the government to spend on subsidies targeted to the vulnerable and the poor.

The Chinese have already expressed their inability to renegotiate the terms of the agreed power contracts, arguing that if they give Pakistan this benefit other countries too would demand renegotiations, however, reports indicate that the Chinese have offered that other concessions can be given which may account for the long wish-list prepared by the government to be discussed during Sharif's visit to China. One must however urge the government to consider the cost of any additional borrowing and at the same time negotiate the terms much more vigorously than was evidently done back in 2013-18.

The projects cited for possible Chinese assistance however are for infrastructure development and while these have a high rate of internal and economic returns, a prime consideration before embarking on any project, yet one would also suggest that the government negotiates the terms more vigorously than in the past as well as focus on improving the yield of crops as well as investment in social sectors, particularly healthcare. It is important to note that China under the CPEC invested billions of dollars in our deficient infrastructure; however, there were clearly some issues relating to the projects, including setting up coal plants away from

the source, which has led to high transport costs as well as health hazards and focusing on generating when transmission was clearly a major issue. There is, therefore, a need for the government to get input from sector experts as well as the generalists in our ministries/departments.

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2022/10/24/6-page/945715-news.html>

Daily Times

Shehbaz felicitates Xi on re-election

President Dr Arif Alvi and Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Sunday felicitated President Xi Jinping on his re-election as general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) for the third term. The president, on his Twitter handle, extended his heartiest congratulations to President Xi Jinping on his re-election as CPC General Secretary, and the best wishes for his health and happiness. “He is a true friend of Pakistan and champion for All-Weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership between Pakistan and China,” the president posted in a tweet. On his Twitter handle the prime minister posted “On behalf of the entire Pakistani nation, I congratulate President Xi Jinping on his reelection as CPC General Secretary for the 3rd term.” The prime minister further said that it was a glowing tribute to President Xi’s sagacious stewardship and unwavering devotion for serving the people of China. The prime minister was one of the first world leaders who had sent a message of congratulation to President Xi Jinping on his re-election as party’s secretary general.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1016891/shehbaz-felicitates-xi-on-re-election/>

Pakistan Observer

Xi gets third term, elected Secretary General of CPC

China’s President Xi Jinping has been elected general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) for third five-year term. This was announced at a press conference after the first plenary session of 20th Central Committee’s in Beijing.

The session, presided over by President Xi, was attended by 203 members of the 20th CPC Central Committee and 168 alternate members.

President Xi was also named chairman of the CPC Central Military Commission at the session. The members of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee were also elected at the session that are Xi Jinping, Li Qiang, Zhao Leji, Wang Huning, Cai Qi, Ding Xuexiang and Li Xi.

The session named the members of the Central Military Commission. The session approved the secretary, deputy secretaries and members of the Standing Committee of the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection elected at the first plenary session of the 20th CCDI.

Later on addressing the news conference at Great Hall in Beijing, President Xi said China cannot develop without the world, and the world also needs China.

He said after more than 40 years of unflagging efforts towards reform and opening up, we have created two miracles – rapid economic development and long-term social stability.

Meanwhile, Xi Jinping expressed China's commitment to further promoting the building of a human community with a shared future.

"We will work with peoples of all other countries to champion humanity's shared values of peace, development, fairness, justice, democracy, and freedom to safeguard global peace and promote global development, and keep promoting the building of a human community with a shared future," Xi said when meeting the press at the Great Hall of the People.

Stressing that the world is grappling with unprecedented challenges, Xi said the CPC has consistently called on the people of the world to grasp and shape the future and destiny of humanity. "When all countries pursue the cause of common good, we can live in harmony, engage in cooperation for mutual benefit and join hands to create a brighter future for the world," he added. President Dr Arif Alvi and Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif have extended heartiest congratulations to the Chinese President Xi Jinping on his re-election as General Secretary of Communist Party of China.

In their tweets on Sunday, they paid glowing tribute to his sagacious stewardship and unwavering devotion for serving the people of China. The president Dr Arif Alvi on his Twitter handle, extended his heartiest congratulations to President Xi Jinping on his re-election as CPC General Secretary, and the best wishes for his health and happiness. Dr Arif Alvi said the Chinese President is a true friend of Pakistan and champion for All-Weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership between Pakistan and China.

"He is a true friend of Pakistan and champion for All-Weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership between Pakistan and China," the president posted in a tweet.

In a tweet on Sunday, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has congratulated President Xi Jinping on his re-election as General Secretary of Communist Party of China for the 3rd term.

He said it is a glowing tribute to his sagacious stewardship and unwavering devotion for serving the people of China. Chairman Senate Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani has also felicitated Chinese President Xi Jinping on being elected as General Secretary of the Communist Party of China for the third consecutive term.

In his message, he said that under the prudent leadership of President Xi Jinping, China is making unprecedented progress in every field. He said Pakistani people and leadership attach great importance to relations with China.

Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto also felicitated Chinese President Xi Jinping on his re-election as CPC General Secretary. He said it reflects enduring confidence of the Chinese nation in his sagacious leadership and befitting acknowledgement of his lifelong service to China.

Earlier, China's Xi Jinping secured a precedent-breaking third leadership term on Sunday and introduced a new Politburo Standing Committee that is stacked with loyalists, cementing his place as the country's most powerful ruler since Mao Zedong.

The Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party elected Xi as its general secretary for another five-year term, Xinhua reported, tilting the country decisively back towards one-man rule after decades of power-sharing among its elite.

His anointment caps a week-long gathering of the Communist Party faithful in China's capital during which high-ranking cadres endorsed his "core position" in the leadership and approved a sweeping reshuffle that saw several top officials step down. "I wish to thank the whole party sincerely for the trust you have placed in us," Xi told journalists at Beijing's Great Hall of the People after the closed-door vote was announced.

He promised to "work diligently in the performance of our duties to prove worthy of the great trust of our party and our people." Xi was also reappointed head of China's Central Military Commission.

The 69-year-old is now all but certain to sail through to a third term as China's president, due to be formally announced during the government's annual legislative sessions in March. After being re-elected as the general secretary of the CPC, Xi met with the press along with other newly-elected members of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee including Li Qiang, Zhao Leji, Wang Huning, Cai Qi, Ding Xuexiang and Li Xi.

In his address, Xi said that China will open its door wider to the rest of the world. He added that they will also deepen reforms and "opening up across the board."

<https://pakobserver.net/xi-gets-third-term-elected-secretary-general-of-cpc/>

Three new corridors

The upcoming visit of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to Beijing is all set to add new dimension and give impetus to multi billion dollars China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

Talking to China Economic Net, Pakistan's Ambassador to China Moinul Haq shared some important developments taking place between the two countries saying it has been decided to launch Green, Health and Digital corridors- the successful implementation of these in fact will change the whole l The Green Corridor will focus on agriculture, food security and green development. Pakistan is an agrarian economy but except for lip service, nothing concrete has been done on our part to realise its full potential.

While on the other side, China like any other sector has made major strides in this field too.

Thus, we can learn a lot from the Chinese experience to bolster our agriculture productivity and bring barren area under cultivation.

However, the focus should go beyond just importing agriculture machinery and equipment from China.

Though we need latest equipment to facilitate our farmers yet we should also seek Chinese cooperation to strengthen our research institutes and universities, enabling them to take the lead in agricultural development.

Be it wheat, cotton, rice or any other crop, our farmers need new varieties that bring more yields.

Under this corridor, we will suggest our government to establish linkages of our agriculture research institutes with that of China.

In addition, Chinese help or investment should also be sought to bring vast swathes of land in areas like Cholistan under cultivation.

The scope of this corridor can be expanded to cooperation in other related areas such as livestock, forestry and fisheries.

As regards digital corridor, we have no doubt in saying that Pakistan has immense potential given the talent of our youth.

In recent years, China has emerged as a technological giant and their investment in establishment of relevant training centres in the country will help us harness the potential of our youth.

Neighbouring India is earning hundreds of billions of dollars from IT related exports every year while our IT exports stand somewhere between four billion dollars.

We believe that right kind of interventions in this field can help Pakistan break the begging bowl once and for all and achieve self-reliance.

For this to happen, we will have to improve quality of education at our IT related educational institutions.

Given the size of our population, we in fact need more institutes to enable the youth stand on their own feet.

Similarly, there is an immense scope of cooperation in the field of health and medicine.

We believe under this corridor, the focus will be on establishing new hospitals, medical universities, research centres, pharmacies and care giving organisations.

There is a need to promote medical exchanges to learn from each other's experiences and identify the scope of cooperation in this field.

Our herbal medicines have rich resources in treatment of respiratory and skin diseases, and the products are also exported to Central Asia and other countries.

Then our people are also highly receptive to traditional Chinese medicines. Given the importance peoples of Pakistan and China give to traditional medicines, relevant authorities can engage to promote research, development, management and production of herbal medicines.

At the same time, our pharmaceutical sector is ripe for investment. Comprising 700 plus manufacturers and thousands of distributors, Pakistan's \$4 billion pharmaceutical market has been growing at a good pace and the Chinese investment definitely will give it a major push to make it a strong exported oriented industry to earn valuable foreign exchange.

The first phase of CPEC which envisaged construction of road infrastructure and energy projects has been successful in view of their completion in record times.

The same model should be replicated in the construction of these three new corridors.

While both Pakistan and China are expanding their cooperation to new areas, we are confident that this will take relationship to new heights and bring the two nations further close to each other landscape of Pakistan and help it address most of its economic woes.

<https://pakobserver.net/three-new-corridors/>

The Express Tribune

Chinese experts suggest how to prevent floods

An 11-member delegation visits flood-ravaged areas to assess the situation

ISLAMABAD: A delegation of Chinese disaster management experts submitted their preliminary report on the damage caused by the recent floods in Pakistan and suggested measures to prevent similar disasters in the future.

According to Gwadar Pro, an 11-member delegation led by Xu Xianbiao of the Department of Flood Control and Drought Relief of the Ministry of Emergency Management of China submitted the report after visiting various flood-affected areas of Pakistan.

The delegation also included experts from the Ministry of Water Resources of China and the Meteorological Administration of China.

According to the Gwadar Pro report, the heaviest rainfall since 1961 affected 84 districts, or one-third of Pakistan's total area, affecting about 33 million people, or one-seventh of the country's total population.

The report stated that Pakistan has not been able to deal with the post-disaster situation alone.

It said that southern parts of the country are still inundated, and waterlogged areas are prone to infectious diseases and people lack access to clean drinking water.

Homeless people living in shelters are in dire need of emergency assistance, it highlighted.

The report stated that crops have been destroyed over vast tracts of land and food shortages and hunger are being faced by the people.

Chinese team leader Xianbiao also shared China's practical experience of flood control.

He said that the team would come out with its detailed report soon and hoped that the Chinese and Pakistani authorities would work together to deal with the situation.

The report called for better relief efforts to ensure food, clean water, clothing, medical aid and shelter to the affected people.

The report emphasised the speeding up of drainage in waterlogged areas and prioritising maintenance of lifeline installations to restore electricity and transportation infrastructure as well as production and livelihoods in flood-affected areas.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2383252/chinese-experts-suggest-how-to-prevent-floods>

Pakistan leadership felicitates Xi on re-election

President Arif Alvi termed Xi a true friend of Pakistan

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan leadership on Sunday felicitated Chinese President Xi Jinping on his re-election as General Secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) for a third-term.

President Dr Arif Alvi and Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, Senate Chairman Sadiq Sanjrani, as well as Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) supremo Nawaz Sharif extended their best wishes to Xi.

Writing on his Twitter handle, President Arif Alvi extended his heartiest congratulations and his best wishes to President Xi Jinping. The president termed Xi a true friend of Pakistan.

”He is a true friend of Pakistan and champion for All-Weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership between Pakistan and China,” the president posted in the tweet.

The prime minister posted on his Twitter handle: “On behalf of the entire Pakistani nation, I congratulate President Xi Jinping on his re-election as CPC General Secretary for the 3rd term.”

The prime minister said that being re-elected for the third term was a glowing tribute to President Xi’s sagacious stewardship and unwavering devotion for serving the people of China.

Senate Chairman Sadiq Sanjrani, in a congratulatory message, said that “under the prudent leadership of President Xi Jinping, China is making unprecedented progress in every field”.

“Pakistani people and leadership attach great importance to relations with China,” he said, adding that the Pakistani leadership aimed to promote the joint Pak-China comprehensive strategic partnership and advance bilateral relations.

Former prime minister Nawaz Sharif sent his “heartiest congratulations to President Xi Jinping on his re-election in “recognition of his services” by the Chinese people and their confidence in his able leadership.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2383259/pakistan-leadership-felicitates-xi-on-re-election>

Pakistan’s to-do list before PM’s visit to China

Islamabad will have to fast-track CPEC’s 2nd phase, redefine security framework

ISLAMABAD: The Prime Minister of Pakistan, Shehbaz Sharif, is planning to visit China, his first state visit to the country since assuming office. The visit holds great significance due to three reasons. First, the visit is taking place just after the conclusion of the all-important 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China. Second, it comes in the wake of President Biden’s statement on the nuclear assets of Pakistan. Third, the visit comes at a time where regional and global dynamics are shifting rapidly. Thus, it is anticipated that both countries will seek ways to enhance bilateral relations, according to the needs of the contemporary situation.

It is hoped that in the leadership of President Xi Jinping, a true friend of Pakistan, the relationship will be further strengthened. President Xi coined the term “iron brother” during his last visit to Pakistan. Most recently in Uzbekistan, President Xi declared that, irrespective of the situation, China will always stand by Pakistan. This statement reflects the strong ties that bind both countries together.

Although the agenda of the visit is wide-ranging (security, technology, RMB account, rescheduling of loans), CPEC shall remain the focal point of discussion. Thus, it is advised

that the PM task his team to devise a comprehensive framework to accelerate work on CPEC and discuss this further with the Chinese leadership. The framework must revolve around the needs of the second phase of CPEC, including addressing concerns about security and ensuring a conducive business environment for CPEC-related projects.

There is a need to understand that the dynamics and requirements of the second phase of CPEC are entirely different from the first one. The first phase was designed to take care of the immediate and urgent needs of Pakistan in the fields of infrastructure and energy. Cooperation was forged through a government-to-government arrangement. This helped fast-track the implementation of CPEC projects.

In contrast, the second phase is designed to cater to the long term needs of Pakistan. The major areas of cooperation in this regard are in industry, agriculture and technology. In the second phase, the private sector will take the lead and help implement projects through business-to-business cooperation.

The framework should concentrate on improving CPEC security arrangements. There is no doubt that security institutions of the state played a vital role in securing investment during the first phase of CPEC. Now, Pakistan is reaping the benefits in the form of enhanced electricity capacity, better infrastructure and greater employment opportunities.

However, the security needs of the second phase are different from the first one, as it will be led by the private sector. Moreover, in the second phase, the workforce and investment will be spread all across the country. Hence, there is a need to re-examine the security framework and try to tune it according to the new needs.

Moreover, the opponents of CPEC have deployed instruments of fifth-generation warfare to sabotage the investment. The withdrawal of US and NATO forces from Afghanistan has further complicated the situation.

Crucially, the business environment of Pakistan is not very conducive for investment. It is complicated and involves multiple actors. Despite improvement in the “Ease of Doing Business” ranking, foreign investors continue to face hurdles and obstacles. The government’s rhetoric of facilitating the business community has not translated into concrete action. For example, the granting of an electricity connection takes 113 days, a construction permit 125 days and 105 days are required for property registration. In reality, however, it takes much longer than this.

Furthermore, there are 35 departments or agencies involved in the taxation system. Lack of harmonisation of tax policies of provinces is one of the biggest bottlenecks to attracting foreign direct investment. Another problem is inconsistency in the taxation policy which dilutes the trust of the business community. Corruption also remains a major concern. In a nutshell, inefficiency within the governance infrastructure of Pakistan is a major barrier to creating an enabling environment for the business community.

In this context, if Pakistan wants to make this visit successful, work on two areas is required. First, Pakistan will have to devise a system, which can facilitate fast track implementation of the second phase of CPEC. One option can be to create a centralised body to steer the

cooperation. The body must have the powers of decision making, policy formulation and implementation. The work of the body must be immune to external influence.

Unfortunately, the government has abolished the CPEC Authority, which was serving in this capacity. The government must now delegate this responsibility to one of the federal ministries like the Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives or the Board of Investment. However, the work of the body must be checked through a stringent mechanism of monitoring and evaluation. For that purpose, a high-profile M&E committee should be constituted, composed of heads of five major political parties, services chiefs, chief justice, headed by the prime minister of Pakistan. The composition of the committee has been proposed keeping in view the diversity of the CPEC programs. The M&E committee must meet twice a year to review progress of the CPEC programs, the performance of the central body and make the required decisions for improvement.

The government will also have to redefine the security framework. There is a need to enhance the role of the police department for the second phase of CPEC. No other institution in the country has a ground level security infrastructure like the police.

The writer is a political economist and a visiting research fellow at Hebei University, China

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2383199/pakistans-to-do-list-before-pms-visit-to-china>

The Nation

Pakistan expects further closeness with China under Xi

SHAFQAT ALI

ISLAMABAD - Pakistan expects further closeness with China under reelected Xi Jinping who has been a strong support of Pakistan during his last ten years in power.

Yesterday, the Communist Party of China formally reelected Xi Jinping, the party's General Secretary for another five years, paving the way for his historic third term as Chinese president. The widely expected announcement came after a week-long Communist Party Congress.

Shanghai Communist Party chief Li Qiang, 63, followed Xi onto the stage at the Great Hall of the People as the new Politburo Standing Committee was introduced, putting him in line to succeed Li Keqiang as premier when he retires in March. The other members of the seven man Standing Committee are Zhao Leji and Wang Huning, who return from the previous committee, and newcomers Cai Qi, Ding Xuexiang and Li Xi. Li Qiang is also new to the Standing Committee. President Dr Arif Alvi and Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif were quick to felicitate President Xi Jinping on his reelection.

The president, on his twitter handle, extended his heartiest congratulations to President Xi Jinping on his reelection as CPC General Secretary, and the best wishes for his health and happiness. "He is a true friend of Pakistan and champion for all-weather strategic cooperative partnership between Pakistan and China," the president said.

On his twitter handle, the prime minister posted, "On behalf of the entire Pakistani nation, I congratulate

President Xi Jinping on his reelection as CPC General Secretary for the 3rd term.” The prime minister said that it was a glowing tribute to President Xi’s sagacious stewardship and unwavering devotion for serving the people of China. Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif is planning to visit China soon and discuss the bilateral and regional issues. In recent years, Pakistan and China have paid special attention to their economic cooperation. Pakistan was amongst the first countries to join the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).

As a pilot project of the BRI, the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) boasts of tangible outcomes in about six years of its life.

First, it has helped Pakistan overcome its persistent energy shortfall. Pakistan was incurring a loss of about \$4 billion on account of this shortfall prior to the CPEC.

Some major energy projects have been completed in record time and more are in the pipeline, keeping with Pakistan’s strategy to diversify its energy mix. Chinese companies have used super critical technology in coal-based power plants to prevent environmental pollution. Also, some key infrastructure and transportation projects, including the upgrading of Karakoram Highway have been undertaken.

The work on the Gwadar Port and allied infrastructure is ongoing. Work is also picking up on three priority Special Economic Zones.

China has so far invested about \$26 billion in these projects, generating about 75,000 local jobs. For several years now, China has been Pakistan’s largest investor and the biggest trading partner. Chinese investment in the CPEC is expected to grow with the addition of new projects.

The CPEC’s scope has been expanded in its next phase to include cooperation in agri-culture, industry, oil and gas, science and technology, information technology, education, tourism and socio-economic projects.

The CPEC is an economic partnership project with no hidden agenda. It is meant to help Pakistan in overcoming its serious development deficit and to facilitate its emergence as a regional trade and energy hub.

This conforms to Pakistan’s pivot to geo-economics paradigm in its foreign policy. China is opening its western regions and their proximity to Pakistan offers new avenues for economic collaboration.

Pakistan wishes to leverage its unique advantage of being a bridgehead between China, South Asia, Central Asia and the Middle East, through enhanced trade and investment that will benefit all the regions.

The Central Asian Republics (CARs), which are landlocked, are keen to take advantage of the CPEC to reach the Pakistani ports of Gwadar and Karachi.

Pakistani diplomats said President Xi Jinping had been a close friend of Pakistan and during his leadership; the two countries had come even closer.

“His third term will definitely bring us further closer. We hope to complete the CPEC projects in time. Xi Jinping is a great friend of Pakistan,” said one diplomat.

Another diplomat said PM Shehbaz Sharif will discuss more cooperation with China in the years to come. “The PM will assure the Chinese leadership to expedite work on the CPEC projects,” he added.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2022-10-24/page-1/detail-1>

Meeting reviews security measures at Rashakai SEZ

Peshawar - A quarterly security and safety review meeting was held at Rashakai Special Economic Zone (SEZ) under the auspices of Security and Safety Department, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Economic Zones Development and Management Company (KP-EZDMC), said a press release issued here on Sunday. The meeting was attended by the officers of China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) Special Security Department (SSD), Special Security Unit (SSU) Police, Acting SP Ameer Hussain, Station House Officer (SHO) Police Station Misri Banda Nowshera, Security Officer of CRBC and Manager Rashakai SEZ. The meeting was part of the series of regular meetings being held periodically to assess the security related issues for better coordination between the stakeholders.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2022-10-24/page-4/detail-10>

Another suspect involved in Chinese dental clinic shooting arrested

KARACHI - A big development was made in the investigation of firing incident on a dental clinic of a Chinese national in Saddar, Karachi as the CTD police with the help of an intelligence agency on Sunday arrested another suspect involved in the high-profile shooting case. The CTD claimed to have arrested another suspect involved in the attack on a dental clinic run by a Chinese doctor in Karachi. They said that the suspect was arrested as a result of various raids, the CTD conducted in collaboration with a sensitive agency of the country. They revealed that the suspect was an accomplice of prime suspect Waqar Kushik who had already been arrested on Oct 14 by the CTD. They said that the suspect helped Waqar to flee the scene by driving him to safety on his motorcycle after the shooting. On the pointation of prime suspect Waqar and with the help of technological assistance, the police have arrested another four suspects involved in the shooting. The police are also undertaking investigations regarding the contacts of the arrested suspects with the head and commanders of an outlawed organization. The investigators are conducting forensic analyses of the suspects' mobile phones and the recovered gun. On Sept 28, a Chinese dentist couple was critically wounded when a man posing as patient entered their clinic in a busy commercial area of Saddar and opened indiscriminate fire on the victims injuring Dr Richard Hu, his wife Phen Teyin and killing their assistant Ronald Raymond Chou. Dr Richard Hu ran this private clinic in Karachi for more than 40 years and the three victims held dual nationality of China and Pakistan, a police official told media after the shooting. Police on Oct 14, arrested a suspect, Waqar Kushik, who was said to be associated with the Sindh People's Army and was caught during a targeted operation.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2022-10-24/page-13/detail-1>

October 25, 2022

Daily Times

Pakistan proposes to include climate change sector in CPEC

Pakistan on Monday proposed the inclusion of “Water Resources Management & Climate Change” as new area of cooperation under the framework of China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) for efficient water resources management, development of climate resilient infrastructure. The proposal was made in the third meeting of Joint Working Group (JWG) between the government of Pakistan and People’s Republic of China was held here to review the long-term plan of China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). The meeting was co-chaired by Secretary Ministry of Planning Development & Special Initiatives Syed Zafar Ali Shah and Pan Jiang through video conference with interval of three years. Director General of the National Development & Reforms Commission of China, representatives of Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Aviation, Finance, Economic Affairs, Gwadar Port Authority, Gwadar Development Authority as well as representatives of their counterparts in China have also attended the meeting. The meeting reviewed and summarized the implementation status of the CPEC projects and deliberated upon the future course of action with regard to implementation of the CPEC long-term plan. Both the sides expressed satisfaction on steady progress made on various projects and agreed to start deepening the work done and then execution of the second phase of CPEC, which is focused on Agriculture Cooperation, Industrial Cooperation, Science & Technology, Information Technology and Socio-Economic Development. It was noted that since the last meeting of JWG on Planning and CPEC Long Term Plan held on November, 2019 a number of developments have taken place. Globally this period remained marred by COVID-19 pandemic preventing free movement of people between countries and regions. Despite these restrictions and difficulties posed by the pandemic, substantial progress has been achieved. Both the sides noted that out of 26 CPEC-Early Harvest Projects, 14 projects including Karachi-Lahore Motorway: Multan-Sukkur Section, KKH (Phase-II) upgradation & reconstruction from Raikot to Islamabad via Mansehra, Eastbay Expressway, 1320 MW Port Qasim Power Plant, 1320MW Sahiwal Power Plant and 720 MW Karot HPP, etc. have been completed, while currently 5 projects including New Gwadar International Airport and 873 MW Suki Kinari HPP etc are under execution.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1017639/pakistan-proposes-to-include-climate-change-sector-in-cpec/>

Pakistan Observer

President Xi excels

CHINA’S President Xi Jinping has secured a historic third term as the Communist Party’s leader, cementing his place as the nation’s most influential ruler since Mao Zedong.

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) elected Xi as its General Secretary for a precedent-breaking five-year term on Sunday.

“China cannot develop without the world, and the world also needs China,” said Xi Jinping as he spoke to the press after securing a historic third term as leader.

“After more than 40 years of unflinching efforts towards reform and opening up, we have created two miracles — rapid economic development and long-term social stability.”

The remarks made by President Xi amply sum up the rationale behind his resounding success and the massive trust that people of China and their representatives have demonstrated in his leadership.

There can be no two opinions that the far-sighted vision and well-thought-out policies pursued by China during his tenure have hugely elevated the status of China as an economic giant and a military power to be reckoned with.

The election of Xi as General Secretary of the party and a new seven-member Politburo Standing Committee (PSC) is a clear message that China would continue its march on the chosen path of progress and prosperity, frustrating designs of its rivals and enemies who wanted to create roadblocks through a multi-pronged strategy.

President Xi, who is a firm believer in peace and progress, scuttled such conspiracies in the past and hopefully, with the renewed support of his people, he would succeed in taking his nation to the zenith of economic development.

The level of trust and confidence that the party has reposed in his leadership is understandable as Xi not only presided over economic rise of China in the comity of nations but also introduced all-encompassing reforms at home and made firm choices on the foreign policy front, elevating the prestige and honour of the country further.

He reached out to the outside world not through guns or pressure tactics as is being done by some other countries to advance their regional and global agendas but through partnership in development, widely hailed as the policy of shared prosperity.

His Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) is the living example of his policy and Pakistan is proud to have become the practical example of the beneficial implementation of this project.

The success of the initiative can be gauged by the fact that till March 2022, 146 countries and 32 international organizations had signed cooperation agreements for BRI, which is living proof of the leadership qualities of President Xi and his policy of peaceful co-existence.

Another visionary project successfully launched by President Xi in pursuit of his policy of shared prosperity is Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), which is instrumental in providing financing for ‘Infrastructure for Tomorrow’ and has the potential to lower dependence of the countries on the West-dominated IMF and the World Bank.

President Xi has also strengthened his credentials as a global peace-maker by exercising utmost restraint in the face of provocations on the issues of Hong Kong and South China Sea and has been espousing the cause of peace and security by emphasizing peaceful resolution of conflicts.

At the same time, his robust foreign policy particularly towards the US and tough stances on Hong Kong and Taiwan have raised his stature further high in the eyes of his people.

Analysts also point out that one of the most dominating personality traits of President Xi is that he is a careful listener. He doesn't make unilateral decisions and instead of imposing his views, he listens carefully to others and then makes informed decisions.

He also lays firm emphasis on 'Chinese characteristics' and through policies on domestic and foreign affairs, education and even medicine, Xi has repeatedly emphasized the importance of values such as spirit, resolve, wisdom, culture, sense of civilization. There is no denying the fact that the leadership qualities of President Xi are behind the unstoppable and sustained economic growth and development of China.

It is because of this that Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has pointed out that his re-election as General Secretary of the CPC is a glowing tribute to his sagacious stewardship and unwavering devotion for serving the people of China.

People of Pakistan are justifiably delighted over the auspicious development as President Xi Jinping is a true friend of Pakistan.

<https://pakobserver.net/president-xi-excels/>

Upper Shaft of Suki Kinari Hydropower project in Pakistan cut through

The upper shaft of the Suki Kinari Hydropower Project ("the Project") in Pakistan invested and constructed by CEEC was successfully cut through, marking the overall completion of the excavation works of the Project's pressure shaft group.

This milestone lays a solid foundation for the installation and construction of steel lining of penstocks in later stage, celebrating the 20th National Congress of the CPC with practical actions. Representatives of SK Project Company, CRE of the Client, project principals of contractors, etc. attended the ceremony. Penstocks of the Project adopt double-line parallel tunnels, with each penstock comprising 3 shafts and 4 adits.

Extremely complicated geological conditions of surrounding rocks raise high requirements for construction techniques. The slag guide shafts are firstly formed by raise-boring and are then expanded by manual drilling and blasting from top to bottom to form pressure shafts.

To tackle technological challenges in shaft construction, SK Project Company organized multiple meetings before construction, prepared flexible schemes based on the actual conditions, drew lessons from the industry-leading construction management modes, completed technical reserve and optimized the construction processes to ensure quality and efficient shaft construction.

<https://pakobserver.net/upper-shaft-of-suki-kinari-hydropower-project-in-pakistan-cut-through/>

The Nation

Pak-China cooperation in water resources management, climate change proposed

Fawad Yousafzai

ISLAMABAD-Pakistan has proposed China for the inclusion of water resources management and climate change as new area of cooperation under the framework of China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) long-term plan.

The proposal from Pakistani side came in the third meeting of Joint Working Group (JWG), between the governments of Pakistan and People's Republic of China, held here to review the long-term plan of China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

The Joint Working Group (JWG) long-term plan of China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) was held after the delay of three years. The meeting was co-chaired by Secretary Ministry of Planning, Development & Special Initiatives Syed Zafar Ali Shah and Pan Jiang through video conference with interval of three years. Director General of the National Development & Reforms Commission of China, representatives of Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Aviation, Finance, Economic Affairs, Gwadar Port Authority, Gwadar Development Authority as well as representatives of their counterparts in China also attended the meeting.

The meeting reviewed and summarized the implementation status of the CPEC projects and deliberated upon the future course of action with regard to implementation of the CPEC long-term plan. Both sides expressed satisfaction on steady progress made on various projects and agreed to start deepening the work done and then execution of the second phase of CPEC, which is focused on agriculture cooperation, industrial cooperation, science & technology, information technology and socio-economic development.

It was noted that since the last meeting of JWG on Planning & CPEC Long Term Plan held on November, 2019 a number of developments have taken place. Globally this period remained marred by COVID-19 pandemic preventing free movement of people between countries and regions. Despite these restrictions and difficulties posed by the pandemic, substantial progress has been achieved. Both sides noted that out of 26 CPEC-Early Harvest Projects, 14 projects including Karachi-Lahore Motorway: Multan-Sukkur Section, KKH (Phase-II) upgradation & reconstruction from Raikot to Islamabad via Mansehra, Eastbay Expressway, 1320 MW Port Qasim Power Plant, 1320MW Sahiwal Power Plant and 720 MW Karot HPP, etc. have been completed, while currently 5 projects including New Gwadar International Airport and 873 MW Suki Kinari HPP etc are under execution.

The meeting was also informed that the government of Pakistan was actively implementing various projects, in close collaboration with the provincial governments to ensure efficient and time completion with a view to view to make the CPEC a roaring success and directly monitoring the progress of these projects on a monthly basis. The two sides resolved to redouble the efforts to tap the full potential of cooperation as well as to make sure that the population of Pakistan fully benefit from these projects by utilizing the massive opportunities being created in various sectors.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2022-10-25/page-8/detail-0>

The News

Pak-China joint group meets ahead of JCC session

Mehtab Haider

ISLAMABAD: Ahead of holding the upcoming Joint Coordination Committee (JCC) session scheduled next week, Pakistan and China on Monday held a joint working group (JWG) meeting as part of preparation for the upcoming JCC meeting.

The Pakistani side proposed the inclusion of “Water Resources Management and Climate Change” as a new area of cooperation under the framework of CPEC for efficient water resources management and development of climate resilient infrastructure.

The JCC is expected to be held virtually on October 27, 2022 ahead of the upcoming visit of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif next month. According to official statement issued by the Ministry of Planning, the third meeting of the joint working group (JWG) between the government of Pakistan and the People’s Republic of China was held on Monday to review the long-term plan of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

The meeting was co-chaired by Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Secretary Syed Zafar Ali Shah and Pan Jiang through a video conference after the interval of three years. Director General of the National Development and Reforms Commission of China, representatives of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Aviation, Finance, Economic Affairs, Gwadar Port Authority, Gwadar Development Authority as well as the representatives of their counterparts in China also attended the meeting.

The meeting reviewed and summarised the implementation status of the CPEC projects and deliberated upon the future course of action with regard to implementation of the CPEC’s long-term plan. Both sides expressed satisfaction on steady progress made on various projects and agreed to start deepening the work done and then execution of the second phase of CPEC, which is focused on agriculture and industrial cooperation, science and technology, information technology and socio-economic development.

It was noted that since the last meeting of JWG on planning and CPEC’s long-term plan held in November, 2019, a number of developments have taken place. Globally, this period remained marred by the Covid-19 pandemic, preventing free movement of people between countries and regions. Despite these restrictions and difficulties posed by the pandemic, substantial progress has been achieved.

Both sides noted that out of 26 CPEC-Early Harvest Projects, 14 projects, including Karachi-Lahore Motorway: Multan-Sukkur Section, KKH (Phase-II) upgradation and reconstruction from Raikot to Islamabad via Mansehra, Eastbay Expressway, 1320 MW Port Qasim Power Plant, 1,320MW Sahiwal Power Plant and 720 MW Karot HPP, etc. have been completed, while currently, five projects, including New Gwadar International Airport and 873 MW Suki Kinari HPP are under execution. The meeting was also informed that the government was actively implementing various projects, in close collaboration with the provincial

governments to ensure efficient and timely completion with a view to make the CPEC a roaring success and directly monitoring the progress of these projects on a monthly basis.

The two sides resolved to redouble the efforts to tap the full potential of cooperation as well as make sure that the people of Pakistan fully benefit from these projects by utilising the massive opportunities being created in various sectors.

<https://e.thenews.com.pk/detail?id=140912>

Nawaiwaqt News

چین، پاکستان فوڈ سکیورٹی، پلانٹ بائیو ٹیکنالوجی کیلئے ریسرچ سینٹر بنائینگے

لاہور (این این آئی) ایک چینی ریسرچ یونیورسٹی اور ایک پاکستانی یونیورسٹی مشترکہ طور پر فوڈ سکیورٹی اور پلانٹ بائیو ٹیکنالوجی پر ایک تحقیقی مرکز قائم کریں گی۔ یہ بات لین این یونیورسٹی کے کالج آف لائف سائنس کے پروفیسر ڈاکٹر وانگ ڈی پیگ نے ایک انٹرویو میں بتائی۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ یہ تحقیقی مرکز چین کی لین این یونیورسٹی اور پاکستان کی عبدالولی خان یونیورسٹی کے درمیان دستخط کی جانے والی مفادہمتی یادداشت کا حصہ ہے۔ ایم او یو کے تحت لین این یونیورسٹی میں قائم کیے جانے والے ریسرچ سینٹر اور لیبارٹریز میں بائیو ٹیکنالوجی، ایگری انومی اور فوڈ سائنسز کے شعبوں پر توجہ دی جائے گی۔ معاہدے کے مطابق دونوں فریق متعلقہ یونیورسٹیوں کے محققین کو ریسرچ سینٹر میں کام کرنے اور طلباء کی نگرانی کیلئے بھی بھرتیاں کریں گے۔ باہمی مفادات کی تحقیق کے لیے دو مشترکہ تحقیقی گروپ بنائے جائیں گے۔ ایم فل اور پی ایچ ڈی کے طلبہ کا مشترکہ تربیتی پروگرام بھی پیش کیا جائے گا۔ حالیہ برسوں میں، چینی اور پاکستانی محققین کی بڑھتی ہوئی تعداد نے بگڑتی ہوئی موسمیاتی تبدیلی کے اثرات کو کم کرنے کیلئے مشترکہ طور پر تحقیقی منصوبے شروع کیے ہیں۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/lahore/2022-10-25/page-10/detail-9>

October 26, 2022

Business Recorder

6th Pakistan Industrial Expo

Chinese, Pakistan cos reach \$39.8m intent orders

LAHORE: The Chinese and Pakistan companies during the 6th Pakistan Industrial Expo reached intention orders worth US 39.8 million dollars during the total 2,381 match-making meetings arranged by the organizers.

The sixth edition of this annual feature hosted in the provincial metropolis by the Everest Expo International to provide an opportunity for Pakistani industrialists to see the latest Chinese machinery and experience its utility in their own city was participated by over 150 companies including 134 Chinese and 22 from Pakistan.

Chinese Consul General to Lahore Zhao Shiren inaugurated this exhibition where the latest technology and state-of-the-art Computerized Numerically Controlled (CNC) machinery was showcased with a view to upgrading the Pakistani industrial sector. It was visited by over 5,256 industrialists and businessmen representing different chambers and organisations.

Everest Expo International Ltd CEO Yousuf terming the sixth edition as the most successful edition especially after the Covid-19 wave said that various Chinese companies also signed

memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Peshawar, Swabi, Larkana, Women chamber Layyah and Sargodha chambers and Daroghawala and Sahiwal industries association.

Construction Association of Pakistan (CAP) Vice Chairman Chaudhry Aamir Majeed also visited the exhibition along with his peers.

Everest Expo International Manager Expo Zeeshan Hashmi said that it was planned that the machinery placed at the exhibition will be moved to a permanent display centre established by his organization in Lahore. But, he happily, announced that all the machinery in these stalls was sold out.

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2022/10/26/2-page/945898-news.html>

Daily Times

US, UK, China top three destinations of Pakistani exports in Q1 FY2022-23

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

Total exports to the US during July-September (2022-23) were recorded at US\$ 1657.359 million against the exports of US\$ 1565.321 million during July-September (2021-22), showing growth of 5.87 percent, according to State Bank of Pakistan (SBP). This was followed by the UK, wherein Pakistan exported goods worth US\$ 519.870 million against the exports of US\$ 549.825 million last year, showing a decrease of 5.44 percent.

China was the third top export destination, where Pakistan exported goods worth US\$ 501.0007 million during the quarter under review against the exports of US\$ 559.179 million during last year, showing a nominal decline of 10.40 percent, SBP data revealed.

Among other countries, Pakistani exports to Germany stood at US\$ 455.778 million against US\$ 406.294 million last year, showing an increase of 12.17 percent while the exports to UAE were recorded at US\$ 369.918 million against US\$ 407.151 million last year.

During July-September (2022-23), the exports to the Netherlands were recorded at US\$ 377.282 million against US\$ 328.654 million whereas the exports to Afghanistan stood at US\$ 127.157 million against US\$ 127.647 million. Pakistan's exports to Italy were recorded at US\$ 308.178 million against the exports of US\$ 252.776 million while the exports to Spain were recorded at US\$ 324.583 million against US\$ 225.080 million last year.

Whereas, the exports to Bangladesh stood at US\$ 234.504 million against US\$ 175.388 million. Similarly, the exports to France during the months under review were recorded at US\$ 153.504 million against US\$ 119.046 million while the exports to Saudi Arabia stood at US\$ 115.114 million against US\$ 92.817 million.

Pakistan's exports to Türkiye were recorded at US\$ 94.998 million during the current year compared to US\$ 78.106 million last year whereas the exports to Canada stood at US\$ 125.720 million against US\$ 91.520 million, and exports to Poland were US\$ 93.711 million against US\$ 87.265 million whereas the exports to Australia stood at US\$ 76.371 million during the current year against US\$ 71.079 million during last year. Overall Pakistan's

exports to other countries witnessed a growth of 11.34 percent in two months, from US\$ 4574.040 million to US\$ 5092.977 million, the SBP data showed.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1018197/us-uk-china-top-three-destinations-of-pakistani-exports-in-q1-fy2022-23/>

China welcomes FATF's removal of Pakistan from its grey list

China welcomes the decision of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) to remove Pakistan from its “grey list” and would like to send congratulations to Pakistan”, said Wang Wenbin, Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesperson, at a regular press conference, Gwadar Pre reported on Tuesday.

He said that this has been made possible thanks to Pakistan's effort to firmly follow through on its political commitment and continuously improve and enhance its Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism (AML/CFT) system over the past five years despite the difficulties.

This also shows international support and recognition of Pakistan's endeavor in this regard. “We look forward to Pakistan's positive contributions to advancing international counterterrorism cooperation and protecting the security of the international financial system”, he said.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1018193/china-welcomes-fatfs-removal-of-pakistan-from-its-grey-list/>

Pakistan Observer

Activities on CPEC front

AHEAD of holding the upcoming Joint Coordination Committee (JCC) session scheduled next week, Pakistan and China on Monday held a joint working group (JWG) meeting as part of preparation for the upcoming JCC meeting.

The Pakistani side proposed the inclusion of “Water Resources Management and Climate Change” as a new area of cooperation under the framework of CPEC for efficient water resources management and development of climate resilient infrastructure.

The spirited and enthusiastic discussions between Pakistan and China on the need to reinvigorate different activities under the framework of CPEC augur well not just for the ultimate fate of the historic initiative but also for sustained socio-economic development of the country.

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif is scheduled to visit China sometime in November when the two sides are expected to sign agreements to expedite work on the project and necessary preparations are being made to make the visit fruitful.

The Joint Coordination Committee (JCC) is also scheduled to meet next week and deliberations of the joint working group would surely serve as positive input for the crucial session.

It is encouraging that the both sides expressed satisfaction on steady progress made on various projects and agreed to start deepening the work done and then execution of the second phase of CPEC, which is focused on agriculture and industrial cooperation, science and technology, information technology and socio-economic development.

According to Pakistan's envoy to Beijing, the two countries have agreed to launch three more corridors on health, IT and agriculture and we hope the proposition of Pakistan to include water resource management and climate change as a new area of mutual collaboration would find favour with China, which has rich expertise in the field.

Proper exploitation of potential cooperation in these four areas can help resolve economic and financial woes of Pakistan but the outcome is dependent on the ability of our relevant ministries to propose workable and economically viable projects for the purpose.

Lacklustre approach adopted by the previous government relayed wrong signals to the other side and therefore, our interlocutors will have to work hard to undo the damage.

<https://pakobserver.net/activities-on-cpec-front/>

Pak, China agree to execute second phase of CPEC

Pakistan and China have expressed satisfaction on steady progress made on various projects and agreed to execute second phase of CPEC. According to press release, the third meeting of Joint Working between Pakistan and China was held on Tuesday to review the long-term plan of China Pakistan Economic Corridor.

The meeting was co-chaired by Secretary Ministry of Planning Development and Special Initiatives Syed Zafar Ali Shah and Pan Jiang through video conference. The meeting reviewed and summarized the implementation status of the CPEC projects and deliberated upon the future course of action with regard to implementation of the CPEC long-term plan.

Both sides expressed satisfaction on steady progress made on various projects, focused on Agriculture Cooperation, Industrial Cooperation, Science and Technology, Information Technology and Socio-Economic Development.

Both sides noted that out of 26 CPEC-Early Harvest Projects, 14 projects including Karachi-Lahore Motorway, Multan-Sukkur Section, KKH (Phase-II) up gradation and reconstruction from Raikot to Islamabad via Mansehra, Eastbay Expressway, 1320 MW Port Qasim Power Plant, 1320MW Sahiwal Power Plant and 720 MW Karot HPP have been completed, while currently 5 projects including New Gwadar International Airport and 873 MW Suki Kinari HPP are under execution.

The meeting was also informed that the Government of Pakistan is actively implementing various projects, in close collaboration with the Provincial Governments to ensure efficient and time completion with a view to view to make the CPEC a roaring success and directly monitoring the progress of these projects on a monthly basis.

The two sides resolved to redouble the efforts to tap the full potential of cooperation as well as to make sure that the population of Pakistan fully benefit from these projects by utilizing the massive opportunities being created in various sectors.

Pakistani side proposed the inclusion of “Water Resources Management & Climate Change” as new area of cooperation under the framework of CPEC for efficient water resources management, development of climate resilient infrastructure.

Director General of the National Development and Reforms Commission of China, representatives of Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Aviation, Finance, Economic Affairs, Gwadar Port Authority, Gwadar Development Authority as well as representatives of their counterparts in China also attended the meeting.

<https://pakobserver.net/pak-china-agree-to-execute-second-phase-of-cpec/>

BRI & CPEC will continue to prosper despite Indian Chronicles

S. M. Hali

THE exposé by the European Union’s Disinfo Lab in its 90-page report has shocked the world because it unearths the machinations of an international network funded by organizations with Indian leanings. The detailed disclosures labelled Indian Chronicles comprise 265 fake media outlets, multiple dubious think tanks and NGOs, financed by Indian or pro-Indian entities surreptitiously working to destabilize Pakistan while simultaneously besmirching Islamabad’s image internationally.

The clandestine operation was cloaked slyly using defunct media, think tanks, NGOs and using the identities of deceased writers and academics to lend an aura of authority to the bogus stories but being quoted by mainstream media to add authenticity to the intrigues being hatched to denigrate Pakistan.

While it is startling that it took so long to uncover the heinous plot and can be considered a failure of the concerned departments, India’s use of odious means to obtain the desired effects, stem from centuries old teachings.

Indian history illustrates that ancient Indians had gained great expertise in this secret art. The techniques and operational methods adopted by them were highly advanced, and can be usefully emulated today.

From the spasas of Varuna, the fore-runners of the modern globe-trotting spies (the etymological affinity of the two terms is noticeable) to Chanakya’s final manifestation of this art in the Arthashastra which is in fact a systematic codification of a wide variety of scattered information copiously found in the Epics, – the Mahabharata and the Ramayana – the Purānas and literary works of Bhasa, Kalidāsa, Magha and Bana; and the Tamil Sangam literature, transcends unprecedented heights in this discipline.

The vision of the Arthashastra is truly breathtaking, its practical utility timeless and the clarity of its exposition unique.

The techniques of manipulating public opinion and creating disinformation, propounded by Chanakya, anticipated modern intelligence systems by several centuries.

No wonder then that the nearly 2500 years old lessons in deceit, guile, hypocrisy, machination, and gore taught by that Master strategist, Chanakya alias Kautilya (literally

meaning ‘crooked’) was adopted in toto by India and its chief intelligence agency, the Research and Analysis Wing (RAW).

The most despicable aspect of The Indian Chronicles is that it attempts to drive a wedge between Pakistan and China through its plethora of fake news.

According to The Indian Chronicles investigation, the US and India have worked together to produce a lot of systematic disinformation against Pakistan and China.

In the future, such disinformation campaigns will pose a challenge to the China-Pakistan friendship and the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), a major project between the two countries.

Indian Chronicles have been targeting China’s mega project Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) as well as its flagship CPEC.

It is no coincidence that an Indian news network ANI and the network of fake local media outlets are working hand in glove to disseminate the venomous articles to denigrate Pakistan as well as China.

Take the case of the “Center for Environmental and Management Studies”, which is surreptitiously presented as a “UK-based rights group” headed by Amjad Ayub Mirza, who is defined as an “activist from PoK” (Pakistan-occupied Kashmir).

Amjad Ayub Mirza presents himself as the Executive Director of the NGO and as a Consultant for the “Jammu Kashmir Peace and Development Institute.” He is also featured in many articles of the ANI News agency.

The core theme of the original NGO – environment – was hijacked by Indian Chronicles to undermine Pakistan. Here is a solid example: “Under CPEC our rivers are being diverted for hydropower projects and these projects are causing water shortages.

The projects would forever destroy the ecology of our region. Scores of young men from Gilgit-Baltistan are serving 70-90 years of imprisonment for protesting against the plunder of our national resources.”

Let us examine some other insidious topics of Indian Chronicles Op-Eds, which clearly depict the malice being propagated.

‘Beijing’s accountability in the COVID-19 cover up’ by Member European Parliament (MEP) Angel Dzhambazki; ‘Is Italy’s ongoing and forthcoming crisis an opportunity for China?’ by MEP Gianna Gancia; ‘Convenient to call out France on Islamophobia, but lips sealed for China’ by MEP Fulvio Martusciello ‘The coronavirus in light of the “Chinese virus” by MEP Virginie Joron; and two articles by Henri Malosse: ‘Erdogan – China’s new puppet?’ and ‘Killing for Organs – China’s State Terrorism’.

The key figure, the report says, is Ankit Srivastava, who is currently deputy chairman of the Srivastava Group.

Researchers found 265 pro-India sites operating in 65 countries and territories, the report said. Traced back to Srivastava Group(SG), an Indian holding company based in Delhi.

SG establishes direct links with at least 10 UN-accredited NGOs and uses them to criticize Pakistan as well as China in the international community and advance India's interests.

There has been a mushrooming rise in the practice of yellow journalism laid out by Indian Chronicles, claiming that the appearance of China in Gwadar has actually reiterated the Baloch insurgency.

The Indian media is swift to make false claims about how Gwadar seems to be not safe for investing in foreign business but that's where the Indian media is twisting the facts.

The 15-year global disinformation campaign for promoting Indian interests is a blatant slander against Pakistan and denigrating China, attempting to isolate Pakistan and create mistrust between the Iron Brothers China and Pakistan so that India can gain recognition and support from the international community.

The method in the madness is that by use of hybrid warfare, since 2005, the Indian Chronicles has had direct control of more than ten NGOs accredited to the UN Human Rights Council.

It has over 550 website domain names registered. Which generates fake media in Brussels and Geneva, and 750 fake media in 116 countries. It has resorted to the resurrection of dead people, defunct media and non-existent NGOs.

It has indulged in identity theft, impersonation of EU institutions and through its machinations and manipulations caused the involvement of the European Parliament.

Such malevolent attempts will never succeed because the Belt and Road Initiative as well as the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor will prosper, see fruition and bring to the region and the world.

<https://pakobserver.net/bri-cpec-will-continue-to-prosper-despite-indian-chronicles-by-s-m-hali/>

Going Global and CPEC

Dr Abdus Sattar Abbasi

TWO high-profile initiatives of the Going Global strategy of China which laid the foundation for departure from self-reliance to become a global actor are belt and road initiative and capacity cooperation.

According to Tristan Kenderdine from Australian National University and Han Ling from Columbia University, "Belt and Road is part of a wider attempt to recreate complex interdependence and provides the macro geopolitical setting, it is a much broader canvas, one which China hopes to use to smooth its longer-term integration into both the world economy and the global security apparatus.

Unlike Belt and Road (B&R), which is a linear geopolitical concept, capacity cooperation is rather a practical financial measure for shifting China's excess industrial plants offshore to perpetuate the investment-driven project system model of economic development."

Going Global 2.0 started focusing on China's claim to become the champion of free trade. China quickly adapted weaknesses of Going Global 1.0 policy to control corruption and governance issues.

China also realized that it is not the high-handedness and rent-seeking which can create space for China as a global actor but the partnership and engagement can open doors of global markets for China.

Terminologies which we noticed in several agitations in Balochistan particularly in Gwadar clearly indicate lack of awareness about the transformation in China's going global policies on one hand and probably some on-ground mismanagement on the other hand which created unrest in local masses.

The most noticed protest in the recent past with the slogan of 'Gwadar ko haq do', 'Give rights to Gwadar' led by Maulana Hidayat-ur-Rehman, a generally acceptable figure, has also raised questions about mishandling of local administration.

One of the participants expressed his concerns in these words, "When we go out to the sea, we cannot return home because the Chinese VIP movement is happening.

Imagine that we spend eight hours working at the sea and then we are blocked because some Chinese engineer is moving about. Even if it is a Chinese cook, we have to wait on the roads for hours together.

The situation is so bad that we cannot even take a patient to the hospital if the coastal highway is blocked by the security forces." This certainly indicates maladministration of people in-charge of daily affairs.

There is a need to educate masses in Baluchistan and Sindh and particularly in Gwadar that China's foreign implementation of the "flying geese model" drives the economic development of underdeveloped countries at one hand and provides an opportunity to utilize China's expertise on the other, therefore, making it a three dimensional policy together with the benefits of B&R Initiative.

According to the GRISP Development Forum, "The flying geese (FG) model intends to explain the catching-up process of industrialization of latecomer economies from the three aspects.

Intra-industry aspect: product development within a particular developing country, with a single industry growing from import to production to export enabling sustainable growth.

Inter-industry aspect: sequential appearance and development of industries in a particular developing country, with industries being diversified and upgraded from consumer goods to capital goods and/or from simple to more sophisticated products.

International aspect: subsequent relocation process of industries from advanced to developing countries during the latter's catching-up process."

If we take the FG model optimistically, we can create a win-win situation for both China and Pakistan and particularly those who are directly exposed to the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) from Gilgit to Gwadar.

Capacity cooperation model can benefit on two fronts: first, building industrial parks focusing ‘comparative advantage’ for different goods and services; second, upgradation of facilities and infrastructure through Sino-Pak industrial collaborations utilizing proposed industrial parks.

Policy-makers have to consider the anxiety of the local population when they exclaim that Balochistan contains richest mineral resources, its people receive little of the income derived from those resources and are deprived of the education, medical-care and are subject to environmental challenges due to extensive mining activities.

China has exceptionally progressed in latest technologies while Pakistan has the vibrant youth to contribute to the global demand of technologically skilled human resources.

Instead of transferring only aging or environment-unfriendly industries to the proposed technology parks included in the master plan of CPEC, relevant authorities should deliberate working on a wide variety of options considering both absolute advantage and comparative advantage to develop reliable infrastructure for future needs of industrial and technological developments.

It is not that complicated to develop frameworks utilizing both absolute and comparative advantages which according to Investopedia, “largely influence how and why nations and businesses devote resources to the production of particular goods and services.

Absolute advantage describes a scenario in which one entity can manufacture a product at a higher quality and at a faster rate for a greater profit than another competing business or country can accomplish.

Comparative advantage, on the other hand, takes into consideration the opportunity costs involved when choosing to manufacture multiple types of goods with limited resources.”

Pakistan is a country of diverse seasons and lands with innumerable dimensions of producing a variety of both agricultural and industrial goods based on local environment and resources.

Politics and economics of CPEC are intertwined due to several internal and external stakeholders to the project. It is indeed a challenging task to ensure smooth execution due to numerous interest groups and regional forces being impacted by the progress and completion of CPEC.

Currently the most important aspect is to address local resistance because despite the promises of connectivity and development of the entire nation CPEC projects have become a target of terrorist attacks due to both inability to comprehend scope and benefits of the project and interventions of forces which consider CPEC as a threat for their regional and global hegemony.

This can be achieved by inculcating consensus, effective stakeholder management, public education & engagement and inclusion of indigenous communities and all relevant segments of the society.

<https://pakobserver.net/going-global-and-cpec-by-dr-abdus-sattar-abbasi/>

The Express Tribune

PM set to undertake maiden China visit

Seeks \$6.3 billion rollover of the Chinese loans

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif is expected to fly Beijing on November 1, amid economic slump, for the first time since holding the chief executive's office.

Shehbaz had to wait for over 6 months before China invited him to visit. It was unusual because the new prime minister often visits Beijing within weeks of taking charge of the office.

There were multiple reasons cited behind the delay in the visit. One of the reasons included the strict covid-19 protocol being followed by China. However, it is believed that China was concerned over the domestic political situation in Pakistan before inviting the prime minister.

Observers believe the visit of Shehbaz indicates the Beijing's trust in the incumbent government to complete the remaining term.

The agenda of the visit includes reviewing the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and seeking debt restructuring. The government is keen to seek \$6.3 billion rollover of the Chinese loans. Besides the roll over, Islamabad may seek more financial assistance in order to shore up its depleting foreign reserves.

An official handout issued by the foreign office said that Prime Minister Shehbaz will visit China on 1-2 November with a high-level delegation including Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari. The prime minister is undertaking the visit at the invitation of Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China Li Keqiang.

This would be the prime minister's first visit to China since assuming office in April 2022 and follows his meeting with President Xi Jinping in Uzbekistan on 16th September 2022, according to the official handout.

The prime minister will be among the first leaders to visit China following the historic 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China. The 20th National Congress approved Xi's third term as China's President in a departure from the country's Constitution that earlier restricted the President's tenure for two terms.

President Xi has become the strongest Chinese leader after the founder of Peoples Republic of China Mao Zedong.

The statement said the prime minister's visit represents the continuity of frequent leadership level exchanges between Pakistan and China.

The prime minister will meet with President Xi Jinping and hold delegation level talks with Premier Li Keqiang. The two sides will review the all-weather strategic cooperation partnership and exchange views on regional and global developments.

The visit is also expected to advance the wide ranging bilateral cooperation agenda with the conclusion of a number of MoUs/agreements in diverse areas and consolidate the momentum

of CPEC cooperation in the wake of the 11th meeting of the CPEC Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) on 27th October 2022.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2383500/pm-set-to-undertake-maiden-china-visit>

The Nation

Pakistan hopes relief from KSA, China for economic revival

SHAFQAT ALI

ISLAMABAD - Pakistan is looking at the trusted friends again to revive the economic situation as the country fights destructive floods that have affected millions.

Pakistan hopes to get relief from Saudi Arabia and China to keep moving during the ongoing visit of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to Saudi Arabia and the upcoming trip to China. Prime Minister Sharif has discussed rollover of \$3 billion in deposits which mature in December this year, and additional financial support with Saudi Arabian authorities. Pakistan urgently requires rapid financial assistance from friendly countries like Saudi Arabia and China, as well as from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to avoid a balance of payments catastrophe. The PM also discussed the continuance of the oil facility on a payment plan with the Saudi authorities and the realisation of a \$10–\$12 billion prospective investment for the development of the petrochemical complex at Gwadar Port. Later, PM Shehbaz Sharif also intends to travel to China in the coming days.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2022-10-26/page-1/detail-4>

People-to-people exchanges under CPEC

Dr Liaqat Ali Shah

People-to-people exchanges are one of China's three main pillars of foreign policy. Trade and economic cooperation and political trust are the other two. The exchanges foster understanding among people and strengthen the social foundation for healthy international relations. And for that very reason, it is the sine qua non of the Chinese foreign policy framework and has thus been made part of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor to achieve the intended objectives; however, its full implementation under CPEC has yet to be realized.

The people-to-people exchanges program in China is often equated with cultural exchanges and is spearheaded by the Chinese Ministry of Culture as per the Belt & Road Initiative Cultural Development Action Plan which has been formulated in line with the 13th Five-year plan. However, other ministries and departments are part and parcel of the program depending on the area of interest. The program often emphasizes health, education, science & technology, sports, tourism, and environmental protection, and is promoted through state-led interventions across countries.

The exchange program is not limited to BRI participants. The U.S.-China people-to-people exchange program (referred to as CPE) is the most extensive of all with over 150 projects across the Action Plan's specified areas. With China's increased emphasis on people-to-people connectivity as evidenced by a number of policy documents as well as the scope and

substance of the program, it is opportune to formulate a “structured” exchange program under CPEC to achieve broader policy objectives in the areas of interest. The exchanges in CPEC have been scattered and spontaneous, thus far. For example, scholarships to Pakistani students are offered in Chinese universities but the Higher Education Commission of Pakistan is not in the picture. A few interventions in vocational education and training, health, water supply, and media in addition to livelihood and poverty alleviation projects are either done or underway. The visit of young workers to China under an MoU signed between M/o Planning Development & Special Initiative and the All-China Federation of Trade Unions (ACFTU) is another intervention to bring the people of the two countries together. However, the social space for “working together” to achieve the broader objective of a “shared future” is large and expansive, and more so in the second phase of CPEC and beyond.

The second phase of the CPEC development plan focuses on areas where people-to-people interaction is critical, such as science and technology, information technology, agriculture, and socioeconomic development. Even more so for industrialization drive as future business models will be more people-centric. In short, a broader framework to enable the exchanges is highly desirable at this stage because it will help make the CPEC development plan more sustainable and inclusive. The framework cannot be limited to the aforementioned areas, which are desirable but limited in scope as the Chinese ongoing people-to-people exchange program focuses beyond technical fields. Concerted efforts are required to develop tourism, and promote exchanges in cultural areas such as fine arts, heritage, and sports. Language barriers are to be overcome if the exchanges are to be productive. In hierarchical, government-to-government (G2G) relationships, one can circumvent the issue, but in the people-to-people contexts, for deeper cultural understanding, each other’s language must be promoted and properly understood. Media & journalism can be promoted to inform people of both sides of each other’s respective strengths and to become painters of each other’s image in their respective countries. Many joint cultural projects on the shared history of the Himalayas can be undertaken to bring the two nations closer together. The entertainment industry must be used to effectively channel cultural exchanges. City affiliation or sister city concept is widely used as an effective means of fostering amity among people tied in such relationship, which then translates into economic benefits, and ultimately into citizens’ prosperity.

International volunteer activities are another key area where the people to people connectivity could be materialized. More Chinese NGOs if encouraged to work could greatly promote the goodwill of the people of China in Pakistan and vice versa. For this to happen, non-governmental interactions must be encouraged and promoted. Forums such as China’s NGO network of International Exchanges (CNIE), Silk Road Community Building Initiative, China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation (CFPA), and China Medical Association among others must be connected with their counterparts in Pakistan to resolve our pressing concerns in poverty alleviation, improvement in healthcare, enhancing employability skills, etc.

In short, the exchange options are limitless, and the variety of exchanges is only limited by the imagination and available resources of the two countries. To better implement the exchange program, governments must limit their roles to the formulation, initiation, and

facilitation of these exchanges. Once on track, it should hand it over, if not entirely, then at least partially, to non-governmental stakeholders. Nonetheless, for broader coordination, a joint working group under the CPEC Institutional framework may be established with private sector participation to further forge people-to-people connectivity through the CPEC platform. It is time to use people-to-people connectivity to facilitate the flow of people, ideas, and know-how across the Pak-China borders. It will not only serve as a channel to promote amity, tolerance, and goodwill among people outside of professional networks but will also make us active citizens of the BRI community with a shared future. It is hoped that the upcoming Prime Minister's visit to China and the forthcoming 11th JCC meeting will give broader meaning to the people-to-people connectivity for inclusive and thus sustainable CPEC development.

— The writer is a freelance contributor.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2022-10-26/page-9/detail-5>

The News

Pakistan, China to sign MoU to combat poverty

Mehtab Haider

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan and China have agreed on signing an MoU on Global Development Initiatives (GDI) in order to combat poverty and explore specific development cooperation projects by using Chinese grants and interest-free and concessional loans.

The MoU is expected to be signed during the upcoming visit of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to China on November 2. According to the MoU, the China International Development Cooperation Agency and the Economic Affairs Division through friendly consultations have reached a consensus on strengthening development cooperation and promoting the implementation of Global Development Initiative (GDI).

Both sides agree that China and Pakistan are all-weather strategic cooperative partners and iron friends, and their traditional friendship has been firmer with time. Both sides agree that global developments have entered a critical juncture and developing countries are facing serious challenges in achieving the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals.

The GDI, proposed by President Xi Jinping, will effectively promote a global development partnership that is united, equal, balanced and inclusive, and gives a strong impetus to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Both sides are willing to actively expand cooperation under the framework of the GDI. Both sides agree to explore specific development cooperation projects by using Chinese grant, interest-free loans, concessional loans, global development and South-South cooperation fund, etc. The Pakistani side is willing to actively consider applying for a certain percentage of funds to match projects as appropriate.

Both sides agree to work together to promote the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals and actively engage in tripartite cooperation to implement more projects to promote economic development and improve people's livelihood in Pakistan. Both sides agree to focus on the

following aspects: Poverty reduction, healthcare, education, infrastructure, agriculture, plan and consultation, culture and sports, law enforcement cooperation, human resource development, think tank exchanges and other projects in line with the GDI.

Both sides agree to establish a consultation mechanism and hold regular online or offline meetings. Delegations of directors will be sent to each other annually to enhance exchanges, solve problems in a timely manner and promote efficient implementation of development cooperation.

Both sides agree to conduct regular joint inspections to monitor and evaluate assistance projects, and ensure the integrity and effectiveness of the projects. According to press release issued by the Ministry of Economic Affairs Division (EAD) the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework – UNSDCF (2023-2027) was signed with the Government of Pakistan for five years (2023-2027) at the Ministry of Economic Affairs on 25th October.

Secretary Economic Affairs Division Dr. Kazim Niaz signed on behalf of Pakistan, while the UNSDCF was represented by the Resident & Humanitarian Coordinator Julien Harneis. The secretary EAD warmly welcomed the UN coordinator and appreciated the role of the United Nations for developing the first ever UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework UNSDCF (2023-27) for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals in Pakistan. He further said the priorities of the federal and provincial governments were in sync with the UNSDCF.

“Pakistan is grateful for the United Nation’s support to achieve Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and for its continuous support during the flood relief and rescue efforts. The Government of Pakistan is committed to working with the United Nations in Pakistan to make a lasting contribution to national development priorities to improve the living conditions of the people in the country,” said Secretary Kazim Niaz.

The Cooperation Framework is the result of a year-long, nationwide consultative process between the government and technical line ministries, resident and non-resident UN agencies, national and international civil society organizations, said Mr. Harneis. He assured of the UN’s continued support to Pakistan as the work begins on fulfilling the obligations and commitments set in the framework.

The UNSDCF for Pakistan advances five priority outcomes; basic social services, gender equality and women’s empowerment, climate change and the environment, sustainable inclusive economic growth and decent work, and governance and will be implemented from January 2023 to December 2027.

<https://e.thenews.com.pk/detail?id=141470>

October 27, 2022

Business Recorder

PM’s visit set to spur CPEC momentum

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif will embark on a two-day official visit to China from November 1-2 to hold talks with the Chinese leadership on a range of issues,

besides signing agreements and MoUs in diverse areas and consolidating the momentum of China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) cooperation.

Foreign Office, in a statement, said that the prime minister will be accompanied by a high-level delegation, including Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari.

The prime minister is undertaking the visit at the invitation of Li Keqiang, Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China.

“The visit is also expected to advance the wide-ranging bilateral cooperation agenda with the conclusion of a number of MoUs/ Agreements in diverse areas, and consolidate the momentum of CPEC cooperation in the wake of the 11th meeting of the CPEC Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) on 27th October 2022,” it added.

This would be Prime Minister's first visit to China since assuming office in April 2022 and follows his meeting with President Xi Jinping in Uzbekistan on 16th September 2022. Prime Minister will be among the first leaders to visit China following the historic 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China.

“Prime Minister's visit represents the continuity of frequent leadership level exchanges between Pakistan and China. The Prime Minister will meet with President Xi Jinping and hold delegation level talks with Premier Li Keqiang,” it stated, adding that the two sides will review the All-Weather Strategic Cooperation Partnership and exchange views on regional and global developments.

Earlier, the Prime Minister held a visit to Saudi Arabia on October 25 on the invitation of the Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman. While in the Kingdom, the Prime Minister held a bilateral meeting with the Crown Prince, along with members of his entourage. He also addressed the Future Investment Initiative (FII) Conference during his visit to Saudi Arabia.

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2022/10/27/1-page/945952-news.html>

The Express Tribune

For Pakistan... China or America?

Are we in the midst of a power-relationship reset with Great Powers?

Are we in the midst of a power-relationship reset with Great Powers? Is something amiss? Are there new tidings on the event horizon? And what should the mandarins of our foreign policy understand and attempt, besides churning out stale talking points for our youthful foreign minister and a savvier minister of state for foreign affairs during their foreign junkets? How should Pakistan meander its policy course amidst the US-China plus Russia rivalry; US-Saudi chasm; and the war in Ukraine that would only get intense, if the US deep state is any guide?

Damage control was in play after President Joe Biden's not so off-the-cuff remarks about Pakistan being 'the most dangerous nation' possessing 'nukes without cohesion', in a speech at Democratic Party Congressional Campaign Committee reception on 13th October 2022. To clarify, White House Press Secretary Karine Jean-Pierre on 15th October stated that President Biden "views a secure and prosperous Pakistan as critical to US interests". Meanwhile

Pakistan protested with the US ambassador in Islamabad. Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif rejected the US President's remarks, reiterating Pakistan was a "responsible nuclear state".

The controversy was hard on the heels of the COAS's American yatra that our political pundits were trying very hard to ascribe some 'meaning'. As opined earlier, it was a delayed, re-scheduled, routine visit of no consequence, other than photo-op and some post-retirement memorabilia. The only feeble effort was perhaps to fillip a faltering relationship that was more intimate military-to-military.

Imran Khan condemned the remarks, dubbing them an "unwarranted conclusion" by President Biden. IK's second 'uncalled for' conclusion in his 15th October tweet read: "...unlike the US which has been involved in wars across the world, when has Pakistan shown aggression, especially post-nuclearization?"

That the statement rattled Pakistani hierarchy is indicative of our domestic imperatives. In other developments, US Special Representative for Afghanistan Thomas West, during his interview with Voice of America's Urdu service (aired last weekend), dismissed the notion that the US needs Pakistan's interlocution with Afghanistan (IEA), saying "I don't think we need a third country". He also clarified the US did not require Pakistan's airspace to reach Afghanistan.

On the other hand, the US has been involved in interlocution with international community to help Pakistan recover from the devastating floods. Pakistan's de-listing from the FATF Grey List and some F-16 spares could also be an intelligent conjecture.

There are some broad and visible strands. First, there is ambiguity (intentional or otherwise) amongst the various organs of the US Government, pertaining to its Pakistan policy. And this is not unusual in a democratic dispensation as vast as the US. Second, America's skepticism about BRI/CPEC and Chinese role in Pakistan creates pro and anti-Pakistan undercurrents. Third, the pro-Indian US cohort has finally got on to the realism of Indo-US relations. For a long time, I had advocated that India would never ride the anti-China bandwagon despite the US inducements. Chanakya Kautilya aka Vishnugupta (375–283 BCE), the Indian sage was preaching statecraft when there was no US. The US-Indian chasm over Ukraine is out in the open, hence some carrots coming Pakistan's way.

Some foreign policy experts believe opening to Pakistan was US's signal to both India and China. I had outlined the 'constants and variables' of Pak-US bilateralism in my previous writings on the subject. However, the US Administration is giving more credence to the transitory (and mostly negative) 'variables', rather than the enduring (and positive) 'constants'. America is framing its ties through transactional current affairs, like counter-terrorism, support for Ukraine, and nuclear safety, all seemingly carrying Pakistan's 'negative' relevance.

As far as China goes, its bond with Pakistan spans government to government, military to military, industry to industry and people to people. Adherence to and success of the CPEC's Long-Term Plan (LTP) could have further deepened this multifaceted geostrategic partnership...to the great chagrin of the US and pro-US elite in Pakistan. Gen Bajwa visited Beijing in September, and now PM Shehbaz is slated to visit the Middle Kingdom. Chinese

concerns remain safety of its CPEC workforce in Pakistan. The issue of ETIM-related terrorism also resurfaces occasionally. Other than these relatively minor irritants, Pak-China ties are on a strong and ever-positive trajectory.

Some Indian analysts credit Pak-China bonhomie to the common denominator of a hostile India, built after the 1962 Sino-Indian border dispute; when in 1963, Pakistan ceded Shaksgam Valley to China. The valley was claimed by India. However, this assertion is overtaken by events. CPEC today is the flagship project of the greater BRI, spanning 126 countries and 29 international organisations. With a staggering investment of over \$1.3 trillion, 'The Initiative' would ultimately cover over 65 countries, 60% of the world-population and 40% of the global GDP. During the recently concluded SCO Summit (15-16 September) in Uzbekistan, President Xi Jinping declared to always stand with Pakistan, irrespective of the situation.

Over the horizon is an emerging Saudi-US chasm, aggravated by Saudi Arabia declining to produce more oil to stabilise and bring down the gas station price for the American consumers, critical for the US mid-term elections in November this year. Pakistan has expressed solidarity with the Kingdom appreciating Saudi concerns for 'avoiding market volatility'.

Putting it all together, the best course of action for our foreign policy is to cuddle 'positive and enduring relevance' with all important countries and avoid bloc politics. There are multiple areas where both Pakistan and the US can cooperate like education, food security, energy, climate change and IT. The US can complement rather than confront the BRI/CPEC, to maintain its own 'cost effective and positive regional leverage'. Economic relations alone will catapult the critical Pak-US relationship to a new level. Narrow security-focus will feed into anti-Americanism, the 'being used' syndrome and other negative fallout.

However, in case of continuing US bellicosity, Pakistan should know where to turn to. A declining superpower or a rising star with colossal power and potential of positivity, alliances and goodwill...the precise tools that made 20th Century, the American Century. It is only a matter of time that the present US/West-led exploitative economic system is replaced by a Chinese alternative, whose contours are visible on the horizon. It will be somewhere in this Century that global power would decidedly shift towards the East.

So, for Pakistan, it is both China and the US...and then China.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2383544/for-pakistan-china-or-america>

The Nation

China sends more aid for flood victims

ISLAMABAD - A batch of humanitarian aid worth RMB300,000 has been dispatched to Pakistan for flood affectees. Shipment of the supplies will arrive at the Karachi Port by sea, Gwadar Pro reported on Wednesday. The supplies, donated by the Red Cross Society of China Guangxi Branch, including 4,286 blankets will be distributed among the flood affectees in Pakistan. During the dispatch ceremony, Wang Lei, Executive Vice Chairman of the Red Cross Society of China Guangxi Branch, expressed his sincere sympathy to the

people of Pakistan who suffered from the natural disaster. He hoped that the materials donated by the people of Guangxi could help them overcome the difficulties. He also wished an early recovery in the flood-hit areas. Ahmed Farooq, Deputy Chief of the Pakistani Embassy in China, also attended the ceremony online and expressed his thanks to the people of Guangxi. It is learned that the materials will be received by the National Disaster Management Authority of Pakistan.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2022-10-27/page-4/detail-8>

Chinese firms briefed about promising investment landscape in Pakistan

BEIJING-Pakistan Ambassador to China, Moin ul Haque has briefed the Chinese companies about the promising investment landscape in Pakistan and called upon them to take advantage of attractive incentives offered under China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) framework and make Pakistan their investment and business destination.

“The Chinese investors and businessmen get special attention at the highest level and they are warmly welcomed in Pakistan for business and trade to promote economic cooperation between our two countries,” he said while addressing China-Pakistan Trade and Industrial Cooperation Forum held at Pakistan Embassy.

“Both countries cooperate in almost every field but in recent times, there has been a more focus on cooperation in the fields of trade, investments, industry and agriculture,” he added. The ambassador said that Pakistan is China’s largest trading partner and the key source of foreign direct investments. The second phase of the Free Trade Agreement launched in early 2020, has allowed larger access of products to each other’s markets. He said that the liberalised trade between the two countries was contributing to record numbers of bilateral trade.

Pakistan, he said, was the fifth largest populous country in the world and a large market, adding, “We are a young and very talented population which is contributing to the nation-building process as well as a very attractive and skilled labour market.” He called upon the Chinese companies could take benefit of Pakistan’s geographic location as the country is not only a neighbour of China, but it also has very close links with the neighbouring regions of South Asia, West Asia and Central Asia. Expressing his pleasure over the participation of a large number of Chinese companies in the forum, he assured them that the concerned departments of the two countries would continue to facilitate the Chinese businessmen and companies to enhance trade and industrial cooperation. The ambassador appreciated the support extended by UBL for hosting the forum.

Addressing on the occasion, the Chairman of China Overseas Port Holding Zhang Baozhong updated the audience about Gwadar Port, Special Economic Zone, Gwadar Airport and other projects being carried out there. He said that the port offers numerous benefits to foreign and local traders and added that there are no demurrage charges, while there is security and safety of cargo with speedy customs clearance and free storage of container for the three months period.

The chairman urged the Chinese companies and traders to come forward and take advantage of opportunities and invest in special economic zones and other projects. Speaking on the

occasion, the Head of Chancery, Naeem Iqbal Cheema briefed the participants about the facilities offered to the Chinese companies and investors under the CPEC flagship project. “There are certain advantages of investing in the projects under CPEC compared to other projects. There is a very strong leadership support and the projects under this framework get easy financing and other facilities”, he added.

Commercial Counselor, Ghulam Qadar in his presentation threw light on the incentives as well as facilities being offered under the CPEC the Chinese investors and traders in Pakistan. Chief Representative of United Bank Limited (UBL) in China, Falak Sher Zaman said that his bank was providing services to facilitate the Chinese companies to promote trade and investment between the two countries. The forum was jointly hosted by the Embassy of Pakistan, United Bank Limited (UBL), Beijing Innovation Alliance (BJIA) and the Economic and Commercial Counselors Alliance in China.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2022-10-27/page-9/detail-0>

The News

Nong calls on Ahsan, discusses CPEC projects

Mehtab Haider

ISLAMABAD: Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan Nong Rong on Wednesday called on Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Ahsan Iqbal and discussed various CPEC projects ahead of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif’s upcoming visit to China.

The meeting lasted for an hour and discussed the ongoing projects under the CPEC, which would be taken up during the upcoming visit of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to China. Planning Minister Ahsan Iqbal emphasised the importance of the various CPEP projects and reiterated that the government is committed to uplifting the CPEC projects.

“The upcoming visit of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif will be significant, especially at a time when President Xi Jinping has been elected for the third term as China’s leader,” Ahsan said.

The minister also emphasised the importance of the ML-1 project, Karachi Circular Railways and several other projects in different sectors, such as energy, information technology, agriculture and others. “CPEC projects will have a significant impact on Pakistan’s economy and we are committed to completing the project on time,” he said, assuring the Chinese envoy that the incumbent is committed to completing the CPEC projects without any delay and added that self-reliance in the energy sector would stabilise the economy.

He said Balochistan’s prosperity is linked to the development of Gwadar, adding that the incumbent government would complete all the CPEC projects.

The Chinese ambassador lauded the efforts of the government and assured his complete cooperation.

<https://e.thenews.com.pk/detail?id=141885>

Jang News

چین کا مسئلہ کشمیر کو اقوام متحدہ کی قراردادوں کے مطابق حل کرنے کا مطالبہ

مقبوضہ کشمیر پر بھارت کے قبضے کیخلاف کشمیریوں کے یوم سیاہ کے موقع پر چین نے مسئلہ کشمیر کو اقوام متحدہ کی قراردادوں کے مطابق حل کرنے کا مطالبہ کیا ہے۔ چینی وزارت خارجہ کی ترجمان ماؤ تنگ نے اس حوالے سے کہا کہ کشمیر کے تنازع پر چین کا موقف مستقل اور واضح ہے۔ ان کا کہنا تھا کہ کشمیر، بھارت اور پاکستان کے درمیان تاریخی مسئلہ ہے۔ مسئلہ کشمیر اقوام متحدہ کے چارٹر اور سلامتی کونسل کی قراردادوں کے مطابق حل ہونا چاہیے۔ چینی ترجمان نے مزید کہا کہ کشمیر کے مسئلے کو دوطرفہ معاہدوں کے تحت پُر امن طریقے سے حل کیا جانا چاہیے۔ متعلقہ فریقین صورتحال پیچیدہ بنانے والے یکطرفہ اقدامات سے گریز کریں۔

چینی وزارت خارجہ کی ترجمان نے کہا کہ کشمیر کے تنازع کو بات چیت اور مشاورت سے حل کیا جانا چاہیے۔

<https://jang.com.pk/news/1152336>

Nawaiwaqt News

وزیر اعظم کا دورہ چین، سی پیک کے تحت اہم منصوبوں پر دستخط کئے جائیں گے

اسلام آباد (عمرت جعفری) شہباز شریف کے دورہ چین، سی پیک کے تحت اہم منصوبوں پر دستخط کئے جائیں گے، ذرائع نے بتایا ہے کہ پاکستان اور چین کے درمیان سی پیک پر قائم جے سی سی کا اجلاس آج جمعرات کو ہو گا، اجلاس کی صدارت وزیر منصوبہ بندی احسن اقبال اور چین کے نیشنل ڈویلپمنٹ اینڈ ریفرنارمز کمیشن کے وائس چیئرمین مشر کہ طور پر کریں گے، جن میں ان منصوبوں کے تفصیلات کو طے کیا جائے گا جن میں دورے کے دوران دستخط ہونا ہے اور ان کی تیاری کئی روز پہلے سے کی جاتی تھی، جے سی سی کے اجلاس میں ریلوے کے منصوبے ایم ایل ون منصوبے پر بات ہو گی، اس کی منظوری پہلے ہی سی ڈی ڈی ڈی پٹی نے دے رکھی ہے۔

دورہ چین

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/lahore/2022-10-27/page-8/detail-0>

سی پیک پاکستانی زرعی جدیدیت نوڈ انڈسٹریل ایزیشن کو فروغ دینا

لاہور (این این آئی) چینی کمپنی اگلے سال چین کی جدید افزائش نسل کی ٹیکنالوجی پاکستان لائے گی، کمپنی پاکستان کے ممتاز زرعی اداروں کے ساتھ مل کر مختلف قسم کی ٹیکنالوجی کی تحقیق، پیداوار، صنعتی ترقی کی تحقیق، تکنیکی تربیت، تحقیق اور ترقی کے شعبے میں بھی کام کرے گی۔ کالی مرچ کی پیداوار کے ماہر ڈانگ جیٹونے جو پاکستان میں کوگرین ہاؤس میں کالی مرچ کے پودے اگانے کے بارے میں تربیت دینے میں مصروف ہیں نے کہا کہ چینی کمپنی 2022-2023 کے دوران ملتان میں 1,000 ایکڑ پر کالی مرچ کی کاشت کے نمائش باغ لگائے گی۔ جنوبی پنجاب میں کالی مرچ کے 15,000 ایکڑ سے زیادہ آرڈر لینے کا منصوبہ ہے۔ جس میں 30,000 ٹن خشک مرچ کی کٹائی کا منصوبہ ہے۔ کمپنی لاہور اور ملتان میں کالی مرچ کے دو پراسیسنگ پلانٹس بنانے کا بھی ارادہ رکھتی ہے۔ چینی کمپنی لیٹونگ کے چیئرمین چن چانگ وائی نے دعویٰ کیا کہ کمپنی اگلے سال چین کی جدید افزائش نسل کی ٹیکنالوجی پاکستان لائے گی۔

پاکستان کے ممتاز زرعی اداروں کے ساتھ مل کر مختلف قسم کی ٹیکنالوجی کی تحقیق، پیداوار، صنعتی ترقی کی تحقیق، تکنیکی تربیت، تحقیق اور ترقی کے شعبے میں کام کرے گی۔ ٹیسٹنگ پلیٹ فارم، مارکیٹنگ اور ہب من ریسورس پلیٹ فارم جو سی پیک کے تحت زرعی ٹیکنالوجی کے اہم کردار کو پورا کر رہا ہے۔ چن کے مطابق عالمی منڈی میں بہت زیادہ مانگ کی وجہ سے چین اور پاکستان کے درمیان نوڈ سیکٹر میں مضبوط تکمیل اور نوڈ پروسیسنگ کے روشن امکانات ہیں۔ اس وقت پاکستان کو برآمدات کے ذریعے زر مبادلہ کے ناکافی ذخائر کو دور کرنے کی اشد ضرورت ہے۔ صنعتی انضمام کے ذریعے، سیچوان لیٹونگ پاکستان میں زرعی مصنوعات اور نوڈ پروسیسنگ کی مصنوعات کی تجارت

دوسرے ممالک کے ساتھ کرے گا۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ ایک اندازے کے مطابق 2026 تک زرعی فوڈ پروسیسنگ مصنوعات کی تجارت کا حجم 3 بلین امریکی ڈالر تک پہنچ جائے گا۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/lahore/2022-10-27/page-12/detail-7>

October 28, 2022

Business Recorder

Projects finalised ahead of PM's China's visit

NAVEED BUTT

ISLAMABAD: The meeting of 11th Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) Thursday finalized several development projects which would be signed by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif during his visit to Beijing on November 1.

The meeting of 11th Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) was held here through video conference with both sides expressing satisfaction over the ongoing projects under the CPEC while several projects were proposed.

The meeting was co-chaired by Federal Minister for Planning Development & Special Initiatives Ahsan Iqbal & Vice Chairman National Development & Reform Commission (NDRC) China Lin Nianxiu.

During the meeting, the conveners of the Joint Working Groups JWGs on Energy, Transport Infrastructure, Gwadar, Socio-Economic Development, Security, Long-Term Planning of CPEC, Industrial Cooperation, International Cooperation, Science & Technology, and Agriculture Cooperation made a presentation highlighting the progress on their specific areas and the future plans of actions.

The minister highlighted three basic objectives in the 11th JCC which includes the revival of CPEC, which has been revived since the government came into power in April this year. The inclusion of new projects which will increase the CPEC's portfolio and third was Business to Business cooperation, which was earlier based on Government to Government. The JCC was organized keeping in view the important visit of Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif to be scheduled on November 1, 2022 in which all important MoUs will be signed formally, said the minister, while briefing the media after the JCC, who has honoured to co-chaired the first 7th JCC meetings. The upcoming visit of Prime Minister Sharif will be significant especially at a time when President Xi Jinping of China has elected a third term as China leader," said the minister, while reiterating that the incumbent government has revived the CPEC which remained neglected in the past.

The JCC also highlighted the significance of the key projects for energy and infrastructure development; which are now operational and providing a myriad of opportunities for socio-economic development in Pakistan.

These projects include; 2x660 MW Port Qasim Power Plants, 2x660 MW Sahiwal Power Plant, 2x330 MW Engro Thar Power Plants; 50 MW Hydro China Dawood Wind Farm Thatta; 1000 MW Quaid e Azam Solar Park, Bahawalpur.

Similarly, in Infrastructure Projects, KKH Phase II (Havelian - Thakot Section), Peshawar-Karachi Motorway (Multan-Sukkur Section), Hakla - DI Khan Motorway and Orange Line Metro Train – Lahore has been completed. The meeting was informed by the Ministry of Energy, 11 projects of over 6370 MW have been completed, along with an HVDC Transmission Line of 880 km. Three more projects of around 1200 MW are expected to be completed within 2023-24.

It was also informed that another 3100 MW which have achieved 90% milestones for FC (700 MW Azad Pattan HPP, 1124MW Kohala Hydel Project and 1320 MW Thar Coal Block-I), are finalized at the earliest so as to get closer to our envisaged target of 17000 MW.

The project in Motorways & Highways of around 888 Km was also highlighted which has been constructed with both Chinese and local financing (another 853 under construction through local financing). The KKH-Thakot-Havelian, one of the flagship projects of this sector, has received international recognition.

Similarly, another priority project, the Karachi Circular Railway (KCR) was discussed in length which will benefit a large segment of the population of our largest city of Pakistan, Karachi. The Provincial Government of Sindh has revised the project documents and its internal processing by Pakistan government is being completed. The project is proposed to be implemented under G2G arrangement on the lines of Lahore Orange Line Metro Train Project (OLMTP). “We have fulfilled all the formalities to initiate this project as Cabinet also approved it,” said the minister, while highlighting the significance of the project which will have a great positive impact on Pakistan’s economy.

Both sides have also agreed to start the ML-1 project which was considered to be the backbone of the CPEC and remained neglected in the past. It was agreed to include a new area of “Water Resource Management and Climate Change which will have great importance especially after the recent flood which badly affected Pakistan.

Similarly, both sides have agreed to explore new avenues in the Mining sector and it was decided to set up a new working group to explore the sector.

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2022/10/28/1-page/946029-news.html>

Daily Times

Kashmir should be resolved as per UN resolutions: China

Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Mao Ning on Thursday said that the Kashmir issue should be properly resolved peacefully in accordance with the United Nations (UN) charter, relevant Security Council resolutions and bilateral agreement and stressed to avoid taking unilateral actions that could further complicate the situation. “China’s position on the issue of Kashmir has been consistent and clear. This is an issue left over by history between India and Pakistan and should be properly managed peacefully in accordance with the UN charter, relevant Security Council resolutions and relevant bilateral agreements,” she said during her regular briefing held at International Press Center (IPC). On this day, October 27, 1947, India undertook a unilateral action in Kashmir and forcibly occupied the territory of Jammu and Kashmir. Terming Kashmir an issue left over by history between India and Pakistan, she said

that the relevant parties should avoid taking unilateral actions that could further complicate the situation but rather engage in dialogue and consultations to resolve the dispute and maintain peace and stability in the region. It may be mentioned here that Pakistanis and Kashmiris all over the world observe October 27 every year as “Black Day” to protest India’s illegal occupation of Kashmir on the same date in 1947. The suffering of the Kashmiri people started with the invasion of the 80,000 Indian Army in Jammu and Kashmir. Indian occupation has continued for 75 years, and the people of Jammu and Kashmir have been resisting the Indian occupation for this entire time.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1018974/kashmir-should-be-resolved-as-per-un-resolutions-china/>

Dunya News

Pakistan export to China up 2pct in Jan-Sept 2022

BEIJING (Dunya News) – Pakistan’s export to China crossed US\$2.57 billion in the first nine months of this year, up 2 percent year on year, shows the official data from the General Administration of Customs of the People’s Republic of China (GACC).

Ghulam Qadir, Commercial Counsellor at Pakistan Embassy in China, told China Economic Net (CEN) that Pakistan’s exports to China are increasing every month on a yearly basis and the Pakistani government is working hard to increase export to China and reduce the trade deficit to enhance bilateral trade.

“We are working with the Chinese partners to shift some of the strategic and priority sectors and manufacturing facilities to Pakistan. Our main target is to produce products in Pakistan and export to the world”, he stated.

According to data from GACC, in the month of September Pakistan’s exports to China crossed US\$182.18 million whereas, in the same month last year, it was \$257.47 million which showed the floods hit badly Pakistan’s exports worldwide.

Overall, from January to September 2022, China’s imports and exports from Pakistan counted US\$ 20.19 billion up 3% year on year while in the same period of 2021 it was US\$19.60 billion, whereas in the month of September Pakistan’s exports to China decreased by 29 percent year-on-year, due to heavy monsoon caused floods and COVID-19 which destroyed many sectors including agriculture, infrastructure, and industry.

According to a Pakistani expert, the trade potential volume between Pakistan and China in all sectors is always great and the business community can take benefit from it.

He said recent floods have devastated Pakistan’s economy because 33 million people have been affected and the agriculture sector has faced losses, adding that but still there is a space for increasing trade activity because China is the second largest economy in the world and a major trading partner of Pakistan.

The exports of major products to China increased such as rice, Zinc ores & concentrates, oil seeds and oleaginous fruits, sesamum seeds, pine nuts, seafood, and other agricultural products.

<https://dunyanews.tv/en/Business/673234-Pakistan-export-to-China-up-2pct-in-Jan-Sept-2022>

Chines envoy Nong Rong calls on Ishaq Dar

ISLAMABAD (Dunya News) – The Ambassador of the People’s Republic of China to Pakistan Nong Rong called on Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar on Friday.

Finance Minister Ishaq Dar welcomed the Chinese ambassador and highlighted about the friendly and multi-dimensional historic bilateral ties between Pakistan and China, said a press release.

The finance minister shared huge gratitude toward Government of China for providing support to Pakistan in this time of devastated floods. The latest flood losses were also discussed in the meeting.

Both sides further discussed about fast-tracking progress on CPEC and exchanged views on further enhancing brotherly relations between both the countries.

It was also shared that CPEC was a key project and its completion in timely manner was imperative for reaping the lucrative returns.

The Chinese ambassador shared historical brotherly ties between both the countries and assured the finance minister of continuous facilitation and support to Pakistan.

At the same time, the Chinese ambassador also shared thankful sentiments toward Government of Pakistan for facilitating the Chinese companies working on various projects in Pakistan.

In concluding remarks, the finance minister extended gratitude to the Chinese Ambassador Nong Rong for continuous support and cooperation being offered by the Government of China.

<https://dunyanews.tv/en/Business/673258-Chines-envoy-Nong-Rong-calls-on-Ishaq-Dar>

The Express Tribune

China urged to fast-track projects

Delay may cause collapse of rail system, hurt 3,100MW power schemes

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan on Thursday urged China to put \$18.5 billion worth of five projects on the fast track, as it feared that any further delay would cause collapse of the rail system in one year and delay 3,100 megawatts of electricity generation.

The plea was made by Minister for Planning and Development Ahsan Iqbal during the 11th Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) meeting. Iqbal has chaired eight out of the total 11 JCC sessions.

China-Pakistan Economic Corridor’s (CPEC) JCC meeting ended without any new announcement and it discussed the “missed opportunities” and “prolonged delays” in the execution of schemes agreed eight years ago.

Besides Ahsan Iqbal, the meeting was co-chaired by National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) Vice Chairman Lin Nianxiu.

Islamabad requested Beijing to consider the \$10 billion Mainline-I railway project, \$1.2 billion Karachi Circular Railway project, \$1.6 billion Azad Pattan hydropower project, \$2.5 billion Kohala power project and \$3 billion Thar Block-I coal project on priority, according to officials who attended the meeting.

“These projects are facing years of delay due to obstacles from both sides,” an official said.

In addition to that, the planning minister reminded China to consider Pakistan’s request for the relocation of \$584 million Gwadar power plant due to certain concerns.

The minister highlighted the missed opportunities, particularly Pakistan’s failure to take advantage of Chinese experience to develop the Special Economic Zones (SEZs).

He also pointed to the “prolonged delays” in the execution of projects while seeking the Chinese help to save Pakistan’s rail system.

“The government has not signed minutes of the 11th JCC and a formal announcement about the outcome will be made during the visit of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to China,” said the minister. “The PM will go on a two-day visit on November 1.”

A diplomatic source said that some projects in the infrastructure and energy sectors were expected to see new progress during the PM’s visit. Similarly, facilitation arrangements for export of some agricultural products to China will be made. Memoranda of understanding (MoUs) for cooperation in information technology and SEZs as well as capacity building for security will also be signed. “Had we announced the JCC decisions, it would have stolen the thunder of PM’s visit,” remarked Ahsan Iqbal.

Initiated in 2013, so far 28 projects worth \$18.8 billion have been completed while \$34 billion worth of schemes are either being implemented or at various stages of planning.

“If we don’t start the ML-I project immediately, the mainline of Pakistan Railways will likely collapse within one year,” Iqbal told the NDRC vice chairman.

He added that since China took the ML-I project in CPEC fold, Pakistan Railways had not invested in the project.

Last week, Pakistan increased the project cost to \$10 billion, a surge of 45%, which the planning minister said was done on the Chinese demand.

“Signing of the commercial deal will pave the way for a financing agreement for the ML-I project,” said Iqbal while urging China to give the go-ahead for the commercial contract.

The minister said that China had accepted the importance of starting work on Mainline-I and Karachi Circular Railway.

The government reviewed the progress on implementation of the ongoing schemes and identified new areas of cooperation, Iqbal said after the meeting.

Pakistan once again assured China that it remained committed to the tax and tariff policies agreed under the CPEC framework while reiterating that it would resolve the issues being faced by the Chinese independent power producers.

The minister lamented “prolonged delays” in the execution of three projects having total generation capacity of 3,100MW. He urged China to ensure early finalisation of their financing deals.

Pakistan sought the Chinese help to expedite work on the \$1.6 billion Azad Pattan hydropower project and \$2.5 billion Kohala hydropower project. The financial close of the \$3 billion 1,320MW Thar Block-I project also remains pending.

But it is Pakistan that should be blamed for the delay, as the country has not been able to meet a core agreement condition of opening a bank account to save Chinese energy producers from circular debt.

Pakistan urged China to review alternative options for the 300MW imported coal-fired power plant, highlighting that the prices of imported coal were significantly higher and the government also wanted to apply strict environmental control in Gwadar.

But Pakistan pitched China to finance a new transmission line between Hub and Gwadar for smooth supply.

The planning minister admitted that Pakistan “has not been able to replicate Chinese experience in the SEZ area”.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2383643/china-urged-to-fast-track-projects>

Chinese firm to build \$4.5b refinery

Plant will have oil processing capacity of 8 million tons

East Sea Group Limited has planned to invest \$4.5 billion in Pakistan to build a refinery with annual oil processing capacity of 8 million tons.

It was disclosed by East Sea Group CEO Fang Yulong, who is also Senior Vice President of Pakistan-China Joint Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCJCCI), during a briefing at the PCJCCI Secretariat on Thursday.

“We will build Gwadar Petroleum Storage and Transportation Trading Centre; this project will attract world’s major oil trading companies to Gwadar Port,” he announced.

Fang revealed that the company would place at least six ships of crude oil for blending and trans-shipment at Gwadar Port with a total of 2 million tons per month. It will provide oil to major oil-producing countries in the Middle East for sales and blending services.

The CEO stressed that the development of energy industry was an important catalyst for the transformation of economic structure. “It can not only stimulate and guarantee the development of various downstream industries, but will also further reduce the trade deficit and increase foreign exchange reserves.”

He called Gwadar “the throat of several important maritime routes from Africa, Europe, the Red Sea, the Strait of Hormuz and the Persian Gulf to East Asia and the Pacific”.

Its strategic location close to major oil-producing countries and shipping routes and good political relations with oil-producing states make the port a potential energy and petro-chemical trade centre.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2383646/chinese-firm-to-build-45b-refinery?amp=1>

The News

CPEC projects

Some news reports suggest that Dar has reaffirmed his resolve to implement CPEC projects. This is undoubtedly a much-needed initiative which was badly handled by the previous regime – like many other projects.

To meet the current economic challenges of Pakistan, implementing CPEC projects is a must. This will take the economy forward and bring prosperity in the country, lead to considerable reduction in inflation and create employment opportunities for the unemployed.

Engr Asim Nawab

<https://e.thenews.com.pk/detail?id=141932>

Nawaiwaqt News

پاکستان صنعتی ترقی کیلئے چینی ٹیکنالوجی استعمال کر سکتا ہے: مر تفضلی محمود

لاہور (کامرس رپورٹر) وفاقی وزیر برائے صنعت و پیداوار سید مرتضیٰ محمود نے کہا کہ پاکستان اپنی صنعت کو اپ گریڈ کرنے اور پائیدار پیداوار حاصل کرنے کیلئے چینی سرمایہ اور ٹیکنالوجی کو استعمال کر سکتا ہے، چینی مارکیٹ کی ضروریات کو نوٹ کیا ہے اور میری وزارت اس کا بہت قریب سے جائزہ لے رہی ہے۔ بہت سی ملازمتیں اس وقت چین سے ان ممالک میں منتقل کی جا رہی ہیں جہاں سستی لیبر دستیاب ہے اور پاکستان بھی اس میں شامل ہے، اگر دوسرے ممالک سے موازنہ کریں تو پاکستان میں لیبر بہت سستی اور ہنرمند ہے، پاکستان میں غیر ملکی سرمایہ کاری کو راغب کرنے کی بہت زیادہ صلاحیت ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ حالیہ برسوں میں ویتنام میں بہت زیادہ صنعتکاری ہوئی ہے، اس کی ایک وجہ ان کی سستی مزدوری ہے، اس طرح ہمیں صحیح پالیسیوں اور طویل مدتی پالیسیوں کے ذریعے پاکستان کی صلاحیت کو ایک بہترین سطح تک لے جانا ہے۔ وفاقی وزیر سید مرتضیٰ محمود نے مزید کہا کہ پاکستان اور چین دونوں کے تقابلی فوائد ہیں اور صنعتی منتقلی کے ذریعے دونوں فریق ایک جیت کا حل حاصل کر سکتے ہیں۔ چونکہ سی پیک دوسرے مرحلے میں داخل ہو رہا ہے اور پاکستان میں سرمایہ کاری کا ماحول بہتر ہو گیا ہے، اس لیے پاکستان کی طرف اعلیٰ معیار کے سرمایہ کاری کے منصوبے متوجہ ہوئے جس سے اس کی معیشت کو مضبوط ترقی کا محرک ملا ہے، اہم بات یہ ہے کہ ہم لوگ اپنی پالیسیوں کو بہتر بنائیں، حکومت کا کام حوصلہ افزائی اور سہولت فراہم کرنا ہے، ہمیں اپنی پالیسیوں کا از سر نو جائزہ لینے کی ضرورت ہے۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/lahore/2022-10-28/page-12/detail-2>

چین، پاکستان کے درمیان فوڈ سیکٹر میں مضبوط تکمیل اور فوڈ پروسیسنگ کے روشن امکانات

لاہور (آئی این پی) چین اور پاکستان کے درمیان فوڈ سیکٹر میں مضبوط تکمیل اور فوڈ پروسیسنگ کے روشن امکانات ہیں، چینی کمپنی ملتان میں 1000 ایکڑ پر کالی مرچ کی کاشت کے نمائشی باغ لگائے گی۔ کمپنی لاہور اور ملتان میں کالی مرچ کے دو پروسیسنگ پلانٹس لگانے کی بھی خواہاں ہے، اعلیٰ قسم کی مرچوں کی کٹائی کے لیے لی ٹونگ مقامی کسانوں کو ٹیکنالوجی اور تربیت فراہم کر رہی ہے۔ گوادر پروکے مطابق پنیری بڑھانے کا بنیادی عمل بیج کو زمین میں یکساں طور پر تقسیم کرنا ہے بیجوں کو مٹی سے جذب

کرنے کے لئے پانی کا چھڑکاؤ کرنا، انہیں پلاسٹک کی فلم سے ڈھانپنا، اور پھر درجہ حرارت اور نمی کو بڑھانے کیلئے ایک چھوٹا سا آرک شیڈ بنانا ہے۔ ان خیالات کا اظہار کالی مرچ کی پیداوار کے ماہر ژانگ جیشونے کیا۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/lahore/2022-10-28/page-12/detail-5>

October 29, 2022

Business Recorder

PM likely to seek debt relief from China

ALI HUSSAIN

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif is likely to seek debt relief from China during his upcoming visit to Beijing from November 1-2 amid deteriorating economic situation and dwindling forex reserves.

The Prime Minister is scheduled to undertake a two-day official visit to China on the invitation of Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China Li Keqiang – the first visit to China since assuming office in April 2022.

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif is scheduled to hold talks with the Chinese leadership on a host of issues, prominently the economic cooperation, China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and UN Security Council reforms as well as regional A senior official of the Foreign Office on condition of anonymity said that although one should not expect that there is going to be a “blast” as a result of the visit, various working level agreements would be signed during the trip which would have a positive impact on the Pakistan's economy, taking the CEPC forward and further deepening the “all-weather strategic cooperation partnership” between the two countries.

A number of agreements have been finalized to be signed during the visit while some are at the final stage of finalization and these will be signed later when finalized, the official added. To a question as to whether the Prime Minister will emphasize on the debt relief during his meetings with the Chinese leadership, the official said: “These are issues among many others on which the two sides exchange views frequently and we are discussing it [debt relief].” The official added that China is the biggest contributor in financial support to Pakistan. Another official of the Foreign Office, however, stated that the issue of the debt relief is a technical matter and the Finance Minister is already in touch with the Chinese side in this regard.

When asked as to whether Finance Minister Ishaq Dar is also part of the Prime Minister's delegation in his visit, the official said that Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari is confirmed while the composition of the delegation has not yet been finalized.

On CPEC, the official said that CPEC is definitely an important project and the two countries are committed to take it forward.

She said that the visit is taking place after the 11th Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) meeting that took place on Thursday and the Prime Minister's talks with the Chinese

leadership will also focus on advancing the CPEC. She added that the focus of the CPEC has now again shifted towards the infrastructure projects.

About the security to Chinese officials, the official said that the government is committed to ensure security of the Chinese officials in the country, adding that the subject remains a talking point of the agenda of the leadership and the Pakistani side update them on the security arrangements as well as the progress in the investigation against the past terrorist attacks against Chinese nationals.

To another question, the senior Foreign Office official said that Pakistan is pursuing a “balanced and independent” foreign policy, adding that Pakistan has a principled position that both China and the United States are important powers and the country has independent relations with both the countries.

Asked whether the work on CPEC projects were stopped during the previous government of former prime minister Imran Khan, the official said that it was a misperception that the work on CPEC was stopped, adding that previously the focus was on the social sector development which has now again shifted to infrastructure development.

About the proposed reforms in the UN Security Council, the senior official of the Foreign Office said that both China and Pakistan are among the countries that are against any expansion in permanent members of the Security Council and the leadership of the two countries would exchange views on the subject during the Prime Minister’s visit.

The official further stated that both the countries would celebrate the next year as a tourism development year and Pakistan expects Chinese nationals to visit Pakistan tourists’ spots which will further enhance people-to-people contact between the two countries.

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2022/10/29/1-page/946114-news.html>

Daily Times

Sino-Pak cooperation in buffalo embryo production to create win-win outcomes

Sino-Pak cooperation in buffalo embryo production and transfer will create win-win outcomes, says a report published by China Economic Net (CEN) on Friday.

In recent years, buffalo milk has been increasingly more popular in China because of its certain health benefits and flavorsome taste.

To tap the massive market potential of buffalo milk in China, Sino-Pak cooperation in buffalo embryo production, breeding and dairy processing is already happening and has achieved new milestone lately.

In China, many buffalo are hybrids of Chinese native buffalo and Pakistani buffalo for more than two or three generations. “Pakistan’s buffalo is superior to China’s local buffalo in terms of production and body shape.

The milk yield of Pakistan’s buffalo is 5 to 6 times that of the Chinese local buffalo,” Lan Yong, Director for Animal Husbandry, Royal Cell Biotechnology (Guangxi) Ltd. said.

After being introduced to China, the hybrid buffalo's milk production has been further lifted with advanced Chinese feeding technology, machinery, and management.

"Now our company is constructing pasture in Pakistan, to which we will apply the mature Chinese technology so as to improve the production and operation management level of pasture in Pakistan," Lan Yong said.

Notably, this year China's Royal Group and Pakistan's JW Group reached a joint venture agreement to boost the buffalo industry in Pakistan.

"Our joint venture plans to invest \$100 million in 5 years. When fully completed, we will have an annual output value of \$90 million. From the cultivation of pasture to the breeding of buffalo and deep processing, we will create nearly 1,000 jobs," Teng Cuijin, Vice President of Royal Group and General Manager of Royal Cell Biotechnology (Guangxi) Ltd. told CEN.

According to Teng Cuijin, they have built a central laboratory in Lahore, which has been officially put into use since this May. Technical exchange and training of embryonic production and breeding are going on in the lab between the company and Pakistani scientific research institutions.

"At present, the success rate of buffalo embryo transfer is still low. Embryo transfer can be done both in Pakistan and in China so that we can compare the efficiency of embryo transfer in different feeding environments.

Our experience of embryo transfer made in China can be used in Pakistan if Pakistan needs it. On the whole, we should help improve the success rate of buffalo embryo transfer not only in China but also in Pakistan to promote bilateral technical exchanges and development," Shang Jianghua, Technical Director, Royal Cell Biotechnology (Guangxi) Ltd. talked about the prospect of Sino-Pak cooperation in buffalo embryo transfer.

Shang Jianghua further said that to better use the Chinese embryonic biotechnology to help Pakistan increase its buffalo milk production, they are going to build a local technical team for buffalo embryo production including live egg collection, in vitro embryo production and embryo transfer in Pakistan.

It is learned that the Chinese and Pakistani governments have reached an agreement on the inspection and quarantine of Pakistan's buffalo embryos exported to China, and Royal Cell is already going through some import procedures, which will advance the bilateral cooperation in the buffalo milk industry to reach win-win outcomes in the near future.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1019677/sino-pak-cooperation-in-buffalo-embryo-production-to-create-win-win-outcomes/>

Dawn News

Reviving CPEC

PRIME Minister Shehbaz Sharif's first official trip to China, that begins early next week, will focus on the immediate 'restart' of the multibillion-dollar CPEC initiative and a swift completion of the pending large infrastructure projects. On the table are a \$10bn railway project, the Karachi Circular Railway, and energy generation schemes worth \$18.5bn that had

been delayed due to frosty ties between the PTI government and Beijing, deferrals in payments to Chinese power producers and the liquidity troubles Pakistan has been facing for the last five years. According to the government, the Joint Cooperation Committee meeting held after a long time has cleared the projects and a formal announcement will be made during Mr Sharif's visit. The JCC, where both sides discussed 'missed opportunities' and 'prolonged delays' in the execution of schemes like SEZs agreed upon eight years ago, also decided to include water resources management, business-to-business investments in the energy and industrial sectors and climate change concerns in the new phase of cooperation. Islamabad has also sought Chinese investment for its 10,000 MW solar power generation plan, facilitation of export of some agricultural products to China and exclusion of the 300 MW coal power plant in Gwadar.

With Pakistan in dire need of foreign loans and investments to shore up its dwindling foreign exchange reserves to stabilise its currency and external sector, the resumption of CPEC will provide relief to its teetering economy. Begun in 2015, so far 28 projects worth \$18.8bn have been completed. Other schemes worth \$34bn are under different phases of execution or at various stages of planning. It was unfortunate that the initiative lost its momentum under the Imran Khan administration due to lack of foresight; by the time the government realised its potential for Pakistan's economy and people it was already too late.

Ever since its formation, the new coalition government has repeatedly emphasised the importance of the initiative and expressed high-level political commitment to the revival of Chinese investments on multiple occasions. Mr Sharif has himself been taking an interest in resolving the payment and approval issues facing Chinese companies. That his efforts now seem to be bearing fruit is a positive sign for Pakistan as the CPEC schemes can help us bridge our infrastructure gaps and revive Pakistan's moribund economy. Nonetheless, it is advisable that the country's political leadership avoid past mistakes that had allowed this enormous investment initiative to become a source of a major public controversy due to lack of transparency in the deals done with Chinese companies. It is therefore vital that the prime minister convinces Beijing to share complete information on the deals made and the costs involved with the people and bilateral lenders. Unnecessary controversies around the CPEC initiative can be detrimental to the schemes under it as well as relations between China and Pakistan.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1717505/reviving-cpec>

Sharjeel asks Chinese firm to give time frame for bus manufacturing plant
 KARACHI: Sindh Minister for Information, Transport and Mass Transit Sharjeel Inam Memon has asked a Chinese company to submit its final proposal on setting up a bus manufacturing plant in the province as soon as possible so that reservation of land and other formalities could be completed for starting work on the facility.

The minister said this while chairing a meeting held with Yutong of China and its partners Master Motors Pakistan at his office on Friday.

Yutong Middle East and Pakistan director Mr Robin, Sales Manager Mr Paul, Master Motors Pakistan Marketing Director Muhammad Faisal Mairaj, National Radio and

Telecommunication Corporation (NRTC) Project Director Sohaib Shafiq and others attended the meeting. The meeting reviewed progress on setting up Yutong Public Transport Plant in Sindh.

It also discussed importing more buses from China under the Peoples Bus Service Project. The minister asked the Chinese firm to give a time frame for submitting its final proposal to the Sindh government. He added that the Sindh government was serious about setting up the plant and wanted to start work on it as soon as possible.

He said the plant would create employment opportunities besides other benefits.

Briefing the provincial minister, Yutong director Mr Robin said his company was working fast on the proposal of the plant; the final proposal would be submitted to the Sindh government very soon.

On the occasion, Yutong and Master Motors handed over 10 trucks of relief goods to the provincial minister for flood victims. The relief goods included 1,400 ration bags and 200 tents.

The minister thanked the Chinese company for the assistance to the flood victims and added that the Chinese government and companies had remained at the forefront in assisting the victims of the recent natural calamity.

Mr Robin said that Pakistan was their second homeland; it was their responsibility to help Pakistani brothers in the difficult time.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1717395/sharjeel-asks-chinese-firm-to-give-time-frame-for-bus-manufacturing-plant>

Pakistan Observer

Xi's third term: New vision, new path, new expectations

Dr Mehmood-ul-Hassan Khan

THE constitutional amendments and “Whole Democracy Process” of the Communist Party of China (CPC) has “empowered” Xi Jinping another five-year term as the General Secretary of the Party and President of People’s Republic of China.

Xi has now held again a “core position” in the CPC clearly indicates nation-wide “recognition” of his holistic policies and philosophies and political continuity will further “stimulate” integrated efforts of the Chinese Government to achieve the end goal of socialism with Chinese characteristics.

Keeping in view, the emerging socio-economic “recessionary” scenarios, geopolitical “contradictory” compulsions and geo-strategic “conflicting” compositions in the Asia Pacific, Central Asia, South Asia and on international stage, the Xi’s third-term is a “grand blessing” which would be an essential “stimulator” to achieve quick economic recovery, “equalizer” to maintain regional and international peace & stability and last but not the least, “neutralizer” to promote positivity of globalization, meaningful multiculturalism, effective multi-polarity

and connectivity of prosperity, integrated transport system and world-class infrastructural development in the days to come.

It anticipated that “caravans” of immense socio-economic prosperity, mutual trust, respect, national sovereignty, economic stability & sustainability, immense social development, political liberalization, investments and mega projects like BRI & CPEC would be further “accelerated” to achieve high “momentum” and institutionalization of green development in the country, region and at international level.

Moreover, dreams of achieving “2nd Centenary Goal of the CPC” i.e. moderately prosperous, modern, democratic, inclusive, green, poverty-free China with rich ethnic diversity, multiculturalism and last but not the least, peaceful co-existence between “Nature” and “Man” would be achieved during the third-term of Xi.

Therefore, Xi will succeed to realize the great “rejuvenation” of the Chinese nation through Chinese-style modernization.

It predicts that the “journey” and “success” of further modernization of China will be geared up by following the Xi philosophies of Global Development Initiative, (GDI), Global Security Initiative (GSI) and Common Prosperity Concept (CPC) which are in line with the common aspirations of the international community and economy for seeking justice, peace, and development, and will surely further build global consensus, gather strength for cooperation and inject strong positive energy into improving global governance.

So, the proposed Chinese massive modernization policy and third-term of Xi would achieve wonders in the days to come.

It seems that to achieve the desired goals of 2nd Centenary goal the Chinese government will have to double its per capita income by 2035 from the 2020 level.

In this connection, to achieve that in the next 13 years, China needs to have an annual growth rate of at least 5% which is a reasonable goal.

Hopefully, it would be achieved through qualitative development, immense social transformation/modernization, health development, initiation of a balanced regional development policies (rural & urban), transition & transmission towards green energy & revolution, excel in science & technologies and further constant structural reforms in banking & finance sector, economic liberalization from state-owned enterprises to private orbit in the days to come.

In the past decade, the share of China’s GDP in the global economy grew from 11.3% to 18.5%.

On average, the Chinese economy contributed more than 30 percent of global economic growth in recent years.

It was the first major economy to register growth after the COVID-19 pandemic wreaked havoc around the world.

China has also established the world's largest social security system, with 1.04 billion people covered by basic old-age insurance and 95 percent of the population covered by basic medical insurance.

Fiscal spending on education accounted for over 4 percent of GDP for 10 years in a row. In terms of global warming, and green transition, China's renewable energy facilities and services have become a "global leader" during the last ten years.

Now its 339 cities are enjoying fruits of green energy in terms of qualitative air and environment.

Its green growth has further increased from 14.25% to 25.5% during 2012-2021 which shows Chinese strong pledges towards climate change threats.

It is also the largest wind turbine manufacturer and a major supplier of photovoltaic components in the world which demonstrates its constant persuasions towards green future and green technologies.

Xi successfully, initiated a new holistic development philosophy that promotes innovative, coordinated, green, open and inclusive development for all. The new development philosophy has now been dubbed as "Xiconomics."

Over the past decade, China developed two domestic aircraft carriers. The fifth-generation stealth fighter aircraft, J-20, was commissioned. China also took the lead in hypersonic weapon research.

The Chinese military today has the determination and ability to safeguard China's sovereignty, unification and territorial integrity, to provide strategic support for national rejuvenation, and to make even greater contributions to world peace and development.

Moreover, Xi again pledges a peaceful persuasion of annexation of mainland's Taiwan which reflects the true essence and strength of the Chinese "Socialist System" and visionary leadership of Xi.

Xi advocates principles of amity, sincerity, mutual benefit and inclusiveness in forging friendships with all the regional countries and neighbors.

He calls for more win-win cooperation to ensure that China's development will bring even greater benefits to its neighbors.

His holistic vision of building a community with a shared future for humanity, proposes building an open, inclusive, clean and beautiful world that enjoys lasting peace, universal security, and common prosperity which should be way during his third term.

Xi adopted intensive cloud diplomacy after the outburst of the COVID-19. In 2021, he had more than 100 diplomatic activities conducted via phone, letter or video link.

Following Xi's instruction, China dispatched anti-virus supplies to more than 150 countries. Now BRI & CPEC have become a hope of regional and world connectivity and infrastructural development.

About three-quarters of the countries in the world have signed cooperation documents with China to jointly build the BRI.

—The writer is Executive Director, Centre for South Asia & International Studies, Islamabad, regional expert China, BRI & CPEC & senior analyst, world affairs, Pakistan Observer.

<https://pakobserver.net/xis-third-term-new-vision-new-path-new-expectations-by-dr-mehmood-ul-hassan-khan/>

The Nation

PM's China visit to further enhance partnership: FO

SHAFQAT ALI

ISLAMABAD - Pakistan said yesterday that the November 1-2 visit of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to China will further enhance the existing partnership.

Speaking at a weekly news briefing here, Foreign Office spokesperson Asim Iftikhar Aglhmef says Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif will visit China on 1-2 November, accompanied by Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari.

“The Prime Minister will meet with President Xi Jinping and hold delegation level talks with Premier Li. The two sides will review the All-Weather Strategic Cooperation Partnership and exchange views on regional and global developments,” he said.

Ahmed said the Prime Minister's visit is also expected to advance wide-ranging bilateral cooperation agenda with the conclusion of a number of Memorandums of Understanding and agreements in diverse areas, and consolidate the momentum of CPEC cooperation in the wake of the 11th meeting of the China-Pakistan Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) held yesterday, in which both sides expressed satisfaction over the ongoing projects under CPEC while several new projects were also proposed.

The spokesperson said Kashmir Black Day was observed yesterday to condemn the 75 years of Indian illegal occupation of parts of Jammu and Kashmir, and to reaffirm Pakistan's strong support for the just struggle of the Kashmiri people.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2022-10-29/page-1/detail-2>

PIA set to resume Islamabad-Beijing-Islamabad direct flights

BEIJING - Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) has completed all arrangements to restart its direct weekly passenger flights on the Beijing-Islamabad-Beijing route from October 30 (Sunday).

PK-854 will depart from Islamabad International airport at 6.45am on Sunday morning and arrive at the Beijing Capital Airport at 14.55 pm local time. This flight will return to Islamabad later in the evening, official sources confirmed here on Friday. The national flag carrier will resume its direct flights between Islamabad and Beijing after a gap of over two and a half years. The last PIA flight was operated on this route on February 10, 2020.

The Civil Aviation Administration of China (CAAC) stopped flights of all international airlines including PIA to and from Beijing in wake of Covid 19 pandemic prevention and control measures at the beginning of the year 2020.

As per official sources, the Civil Aviation Administration of China (CAAC) has accorded approval to PIA to restart its direct flight operation between Islamabad and Beijing considering Pakistan as the only all-weather strategic partner of China and shared interest and cooperation in various areas between the two countries. Pakistani officials, traders, and students have warmly welcomed the restart of direct PIA passenger flights between the capital cities of Pakistan and China. The flight will also facilitate Chinese personnel working on different projects being completed under China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) in Pakistan.

A Pakistani passenger who intends to leave for Islamabad from Beijing Capital Airport said that PIA is expanding its flight network for China and is providing more options to Pakistani and Chinese travelers to directly reach different cities between China and Pakistan. Earlier this month, PIA announced to decrease in its fare for Pakistani students and other passengers traveling between Pakistan to China.

Pakistani students intending to travel to China to join their studies at educational institutions in China could take benefit from the new discount. Talking to APP, Taskeen Ahmad, a Pakistani student, said that the discount would greatly facilitate Pakistani students, adding, a large number of students could now avail of the offer of discounted fare and return to their respective universities in China to resume off-line studies. Abdul Karim, a Pakistani living in the Chinese capital also expressed pleasure over the reduction offered by PIA in its fare for passengers traveling between the two friendly countries and said now people could more frequently travel between Pakistan and China.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2022-10-29/page-8/detail-4>

Nawaiwaqt News

مسئلہ کشمیر، چین کا دیرینہ موقف اور اقوام عالم کی ذمہ داری

عوامی جمہوریہ چین نے کہا ہے کہ مسئلہ کشمیر اقوام متحدہ کے چارٹر، سلامتی کونسل کی قراردادوں اور متعلقہ دو طرفہ معاہدے کے مطابق پُر امن طریقے سے حل کیا جانا چاہئے۔ وزارت خارجہ کی ترجمان ماؤنگ نے بیجنگ میں انٹرنیشنل پریس سنٹر میں معمول کی پریس بریفنگ کے دوران کشمیر پر بھارتی قبضے کے 75 سال مکمل ہونے پر بھی تبصرہ کیا۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ مسئلہ کشمیر پر چین کا موقف واضح اور غیر متزلزل ہے۔ ان کا کہنا تھا کہ مسئلہ کشمیر بھارت اور پاکستان کے درمیان تاریخ کا ایسا تنازع ہے جو طویل عرصہ سے حل طلب ہے۔ جسے اقوام متحدہ کے چارٹر، سلامتی کونسل کی متعلقہ قراردادوں اور متعلقہ دو طرفہ معاہدوں کے مطابق پُر امن طریقے سے حل کیا جانا چاہئے۔ بھارت نے 75 سال قبل 127 اکتوبر 1947ء کو یکطرفہ اقدام اٹھاتے ہوئے زبردستی جموں و کشمیر پر قبضہ کر کے وہاں اپنی فوجیں تعینات کی تھیں۔ متعلقہ فریقین کو ایسے یکطرفہ اقدامات سے گریز کرنا چاہئے جس سے صورتحال مزید پیچیدہ ہو۔

چین پاکستان کا بااعتماد دوست ملک ہے جس کے ساتھ روز اول ہی سے پاکستان کے تعلقات مثالی رہے ہیں۔ بہت سے عالمی ایجنسیوں پر پاکستان اور چین کا موقف یکساں رہا ہے۔ پاکستان نے چین کو عالمی سطح پر ایک بڑے ملک کے طور پر منوانے، امریکہ ایسی سپر پاور کے ساتھ تعلقات استوار کرنے اور اقوام متحدہ کی رکنیت دلوانے اور اسے سلامتی کونسل کے مستقل رکن بنوانے میں بھی بلاشبہ مثبت اور موثر کردار ادا کیا ہے جس کا چینی قیادت کو بجا طور پر اعتراف بھی ہے۔ دوسری طرف چین نے بھی عالمی سطح پر

پاکستان کی مکمل سپورٹ کی اور سلامتی کو نسل میں بھی پاکستان کے حق میں اپنا ووٹ استعمال کیا ہے۔ کشمیر کے ایشیوپر بھی چین پاکستان کے اصولی موقف کا حامی ہے اور دنیا کے ہر فورم پر اس نے اپنے اس موقف کا اعادہ کیا ہے۔ جمہرات کے روز بیجنگ میں چینی وزارت خارجہ کی ترجمان ماؤنگ نے انٹرنیشنل پریس سنٹر میں معمول کی پریس بریفنگ کے دوران کشمیر پر بھارتی قبضے کے 75 سال مکمل ہونے پر جو تبصرہ کیا ہے، وہ دراصل چین کے اصولی موقف کا ہی اعادہ کیا ہے۔ چین، بجا طور پر سمجھتا ہے کہ بھارت نے کشمیر پر جو جبراً قبضہ کر رکھا ہے، وہ صریحاً غیر قانونی و غیر اخلاقی ہے جس کا کوئی جواز نہیں ہے۔

بھارت ایک غاصب ملک ہے جو اپنے توسیع پسندانہ عزائم کے تحت اپنے کمزور ہمسایہ ممالک پر تسلط قائم رکھنے کیلئے ایسے جارحانہ اقدامات کرتا رہتا ہے جن کی ہر دور میں مہذب دنیا نے مذمت کی ہے۔ کشمیر پر بھی قبضہ سے پہلے وہ ریاست حیدرآباد دکن اور ریاست جونا گڑھ پر بھی بزور قبضہ کر چکا ہے جنہوں نے پاکستان کے ساتھ الحاق کا اعلان کر رکھا تھا۔ جبکہ 27 اکتوبر 1947ء کو بھارت نے اعلانیہ طور پر کشمیر میں اپنی فوج داخل کر کے باقاعدہ جارحیت کا ارتکاب کیا تھا۔ یہی نہیں، اس نے اسے اپنا ووٹ انگ قرار دیدیا اور مکمل طور پر اپنے زیر تسلط کر لیا۔ گزشتہ روز کشمیریوں نے بھارت کے اس ناجائز تسلط کے 75 سال مکمل ہونے پر دنیا بھر میں یوم سیاہ اور ساتھ ہی ساتھ یوم الحاق پاکستان منایا۔ اس موقع پر مقبوضہ کشمیر کے علاوہ آزاد کشمیر، گلگت بلتستان، کراچی، میرپور، پشاور اور کوئٹہ سمیت کئی چھوٹے بڑے شہروں میں جلے جلوس، احتجاجی ریلیاں نکالی گئیں۔ سیمینارز کا انعقاد کیا گیا اور مظاہرے کئے گئے۔ مختلف شاہراہوں، مارکیٹوں اور دیگر مقامات پر یوم سیاہ کے حوالے سے سیاہ پرچم اور بینرز لگانے لگے تھے۔ دفتر خارجہ میں کشمیری عوام کے ساتھ اظہارِ یکجہتی کیلئے تقریب منعقد کی گئی جبکہ وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف نے اپنے بیان میں کہا ہے کہ پاکستان کشمیریوں کے ساتھ کھڑا ہے اور کھڑا رہے گا۔ وزیر اعظم نے کہا کہ مشکلات کے باوجود بہادر کشمیری بے مثال قربانیاں دیکر بھارتی جارحیت کا مقابلہ کر رہے ہیں۔ اسلامی تعاون تنظیم (او آئی سی) جنرل سیکرٹریٹ نے جدہ سے یوم سیاہ کشمیر کے موقع پر جاری ایک بیان میں بھارت پر زور دیا کہ وہ 5 اگست 2019ء کو کئے گئے اپنے غیر قانونی اور یکطرفہ اقدامات کو منسوخ کرے۔ اسلامی تعاون تنظیم نے عالمی برادری پر زور دیا کہ وہ دیرینہ تنازع کشمیر کو اقوام متحدہ کی قراردادوں اور کشمیری عوام کی امنگوں کے مطابق حل کرنے کیلئے اپنی کوششیں تیز کرے۔ وزیر خارجہ بلاول بھٹو زرداری نے بھی اپنے پیغام میں کہا کہ بھارت کے غیر قانونی طور پر زیر قبضہ جموں و کشمیر پر ان کی مرضی کے خلاف غیر قانونی قبضے کے 75 سال مکمل ہو گئے ہیں۔ پاکستان عالمی برادری سے مطالبہ کرتا ہے کہ وہ بھارت کو جو اب وہ بنانے کیلئے عملی اقدامات کرے۔

کنٹرول لائن کے دونوں اطراف، پاکستان، آزاد کشمیر اور پوری دنیا میں ہر سال یوم سیاہ منانے کا بنیادی مقصد بھی یہی ہے کہ عالمی برادری کو بھارت کے جارحانہ اقدام سے آگاہ کیا جائے۔ اسے احساس دلایا جائے کہ بھارتی حکمران کشمیریوں کو نہ صرف ان کے جائز، قانونی حق سے محروم کئے ہوئے ہیں بلکہ ان پر ظلم و ستم کے پہاڑ بھی توڑ رہے ہیں۔ گزشتہ تین سال کے عرصہ میں بھارتی قابض افواج نے تقریباً 690 بے گناہ کشمیریوں کا ماورائے عدالت قتل کیا۔ ممتاز حریت رہنما غیر قانونی طور پر زیر حراست یا گھروں میں نظر بند ہیں۔ بھارتی فوج کی دہشت گردی کا سلسلہ تو اتار سے جاری ہے۔ جمہرات کو تازہ کارروائی میں ایک اور کشمیری نوجوان کو شہید کر دیا۔ غاصب فوجیوں نے نوجوانوں کو ضلع کو لگام کے علاقے سرناگ میں محاصرے اور تلاشی کی کارروائی کے دوران فائرنگ کر کے شہید کیا۔ بھارت کشمیریوں کو ان کا حق خود ارادیت دینے سے صاف انکاری ہے۔ وہ فوجی طاقت کے ذریعے کشمیر پر قبضہ جمائے ہوئے ہے۔ اس کی اس ہٹ دھرمی کی وجہ سے یہ مسئلہ سنگین سے سنگین تر ہوتا جا رہا ہے۔ اس نے بھارتی آئین سے جموں و کشمیر کی خصوصی حیثیت والی دفعات ختم کر کے پورے خطے کو ایک سلگنے والا زمین تبدیل کر دیا ہے۔ لیکن بھارتی افواج کی ہیمانہ کارروائیوں کے باوجود کشمیری عوام کے حوصلے پست نہیں ہوئے۔ وہ پورے عزم کے ساتھ آزادی کی جنگ جاری رکھے ہوئے ہیں۔ ظالم بھارتی افواج کشمیری حریت پسندوں کی آواز دبانے اور گلا گھونٹنے کی جتنی کوشش کرتی ہیں، وہ اتنی ہی طاقت سے مزاحمت کرتے ہوئے سامنے آکھڑے ہوتے ہیں۔ آج کشمیر کی نوجوان نسل بھی کسی قربانی سے گریز نہیں کر رہی اور کشمیر کی آزادی کیلئے شروع کی گئی اپنے بزرگوں کی جدوجہد آگے بڑھا رہی ہے۔ وہ کسی بھی بیرونی امداد و اعانت کے بغیر کامل خدا پر بھروسہ کرتے ہوئے بھارتی تیناؤں کے سامنے سینہ سپر ہیں۔ انہیں اب دنیا کی کوئی طاقت بھی ان کے عظیم مقصد سے پیچھے نہیں ہٹا سکتی۔

چینی حکومت کی طرف سے کشمیریوں کے ساتھ اظہارِ یکجہتی اور مسئلہ کشمیر یو این کی قراردادوں کے مطابق حل کرنے کا تقاضا بھارتی توسیع پسندانہ عزائم کے خلاف دنیا کیلئے ٹھوس پیغام ہے۔ ضروری ہے کہ ایشیائی اور عرب ریاستیں بھی اس سمت میں قدم بڑھائیں اور باہم مل کر اقوام متحدہ کی قراردادوں پر عملدرآمد کیلئے اقوام متحدہ پر دباؤ ڈالیں تاکہ خطے میں امن و امان کی راہ میں حائل یہ مسئلہ ہمیشہ کیلئے حل ہو سکے۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/lahore/2022-10-29/page-10/detail-9>

پاکستان کی چین کو برآمدات پہلے 9 ماہ میں 2.57 بلین ڈالر سے تجاوز

لاہور (کامرس رپورٹر) پاکستان کی چین کو برآمدات رواں سال کے پہلے نو مہینوں میں 2.57 بلین امریکی ڈالر سے تجاوز کر گئیں جو کہ سال بہ سال 2 فیصد زیادہ ہے۔ عوامی جمہوریہ چین کے کسٹمز کی جنرل ایڈمنسٹریشن کے سرکاری اعداد و شمار کے مطابق پاکستان کی برآمدات میں سالانہ بنیادوں پر ہر ماہ اضافہ ہو رہا ہے اور پاکستانی حکومت چین کو برآمدات بڑھانے اور تجارتی خسارے کو کم کرنے کیلئے سخت محنت کر رہی ہے۔ جی اے سی سی کے اعداد و شمار کے مطابق ستمبر کے مہینے میں پاکستان کی چین کو برآمدات 182.18 ملین امریکی ڈالر سے تجاوز کر گئیں۔

جبکہ گزشتہ سال اسی مہینے میں یہ 257.47 ملین ڈالر تھی جس سے ظاہر ہوتا ہے کہ سیلاب نے دنیا بھر میں پاکستان کی برآمدات کو بری طرح متاثر کیا۔ مجموعی طور پر جنوری سے ستمبر 2022 تک پاکستان سے چین کی درآمدات اور برآمدات میں سالانہ 3 فیصد اضافے کے ساتھ 20.19 بلین امریکی ڈالر کا اضافہ ہوا جبکہ 2021 کے اسی عرصے میں یہ 19.60 بلین امریکی ڈالر تھا، جبکہ ستمبر کے مہینے میں پاکستان کی چین کو برآمدات میں کمی واقع ہوئی۔ چین کو بڑی مصنوعات کی برآمدات میں اضافہ ہوا جیسے چاول، زنک ایکس اور کنسنٹرٹ، تیل کے بیج اور اولیگینس پھل، تل کے بیج، پائن ٹس، سمندری غذا اور دیگر زرعی مصنوعات شامل ہیں۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/lahore/2022-10-29/page-12/detail-23>

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Daily Times

Facilities to economic zones in Dera to be provided soon

The industrial revolution will be ushered in by establishing special economic zones in the province, said Manager of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Economic Zones Development and Management Company (KPEZDMC) Ashfaq Afridi.

He expressed these views during a meeting with a delegation of Central Anjman-e-Tajiran led by well-known trader Sohail Ahmed Azmi. On this occasion, other traders including Kafeel Ahmed Nizami, Naveed Ahmed Nizami, Muhammad Khalid, Malik Ikram Isar, Muhammad Umair Afzal Sadozai, Haji Abdul Rasheed Dhap, Chaudhry Javed Akhtar, Haji Muhammad Nawaz, Saeed Awan, Muhammad Ayaz, Waqar Ali Khan and Muhammad Zeeshan were also present.

The KPEZDMC Incharge expressed the hope that initiative would attract investment which would lead to economic stability in the country. He said all required facilities would be provided to the economic zones in the district and the investors to install industries in the zone, situated at Dera-Zhob road and Gomal University road, and get high earnings on their investment.

He said the CPEC western route was very important as far as its location was concerned, linking three provinces of the country. In view of such location, economic zones in Dera Ismail Khan district were very suitable for business purposes.

The traders demanded for making arrangements for security, PTCL office, clean drinking water, boundary walls and banks' branches as part of efforts to ensure a conducive environment for investors. During the meeting, the participants were briefed on the project in detail regarding the investment opportunities in the zone and update on recent developments made in the zone. Different issues pertaining to plots allotment procedures and other matters were also discussed during the meetings.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1019872/facilities-to-economic-zones-in-dera-to-be-provided-soon/>

Pakistan Observer

Dynamic Xi consolidates China

Naveed Aman Khan

XI Jinping, is elected as General Secretary of the Communist Party for 3rd five-year tenure by the new seven-member Standing Committee packed with his supporters, appeared before the local and foreign media to herald the new era, widely termed 'Xi era'.

Chinese President Xi Jinping has created history, becoming the first leader of the ruling Communist Party after party founder Mao Zedong to get reelected for an unprecedented third term in power with the prospect of ruling China for life.

New members of the Politburo Standing Committee, front to back, President Xi Jinping, Li Qiang, Zhao Leji, Wang Huning, Cai Qi, Ding Xuexiang, and Li Xi arrived at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing.

Xi's election for the third-term in power formally ended over three decades rule followed by his predecessors, barring Mao, of retiring after a 10-year tenure. Xi was first elected in 2012 and will be completing his 10-year tenure this year.

With moderates like Premier Li Keqiang, who was ranked number two, eased out in the election to over 300-member Central Committee by the once in a five year Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC), the Committee which met elected 25-member Political Bureau.

The Political Bureau elected a seven-member Standing Committee, which in turn elected Xi for a third five-year term as General Secretary.

Much on the expected lines, Xi is elected to the Central Committee to the Political Bureau and the Standing Committee and then as General Secretary with relative ease as the Congress passed the key amendment to the Party's Constitution reinforcing his core status with the directive that all party members have the obligation to follow his directives and doctrines.

Xi's emergence as the most powerful leader as President, party leader and head of the military with prospect of leader for life in the footsteps of Mao, whose extremist ideological campaigns like the Cultural Revolution resulting extermination of millions, is widely

expected to be viewed with sense of unease and concern as the one-party state has now become one-leader state.

New Politburo Standing Committee members Xi Jinping, Li Qiang, Zhao Leji, Wang Huning, Cai Qi, Ding Xuexiang and Li Xi met the media following the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing.

The well-choreographed week-long 20th Congress ended on a sordid note with former President Hu Jintao being physically escorted out under the glare of the media at the ornate Great Hall of people. The incident is seen as an irony as 79-year-old Hu had peacefully handed over power to Xi ten years ago in 2012.

A different central administration headed by the new premier will formally take place in March. The party Congress also approved an amendment of the party Constitution that could further enhance Xi's stature as China's leader.

Xi, in his brief closing remarks, said the revision of the Constitution sets out clear requirements for upholding and strengthening the party's overall leadership.

Xi asks his fellows to dare to struggle, dare to win, bury heads, work hard and determine to keep forging ahead. China must be ready to withstand high winds, choppy waters and even dangerous storms.

Confronted with drastic changes in the international landscape, especially external attempts to blackmail, contain, and blockade China. China has put its national interests first.

The CPC Congress has realized its goals of unifying thinking, fortifying confidence, charting the course and boosting morale. The Congress has also appointed new team of anti-corruption wing of the party called the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection (CCDI), which directly functions under Xi.

The CCDI has punished about five million officials, including many top army generals, in the last 10 years. Xi's shock and awe campaign helped him to consolidate his hold on power.

Resolutions are passed at the Congress eulogized Xi and his ideas, merging Marxism with Socialism with Chinese characteristics.

A resolution on an amendment to the Constitution of the CPC is adopted that all party members should follow Xi's leadership.

The Congress calls on party organizations at all levels and all-party members to follow the firm leadership of the Party Central Committee with Comrade Xi at the core, holding high the great banner of socialism with Chinese characteristics.

Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era is the Marxism of contemporary China and of the 21st Century and embodies the best Chinese culture and ethos of this era.

Another lengthy resolution on the work of the previous Congress stresses that Marxism is the fundamental guiding ideology upon which the CPC and the country are founded and thrive.

The Congress stresses that achieving the goals for the centenary of the People's Liberation Army in 2027 and more quickly elevating the people's armed forces to world-class standards are strategic tasks for building a modern socialist country in all respects.

The Congress calls on the whole party, the entire military, and the Chinese people of all ethnic groups to stay closely rallied around the Party Central Committee with Comrade Xi at its core, to keep in mind that empty talk will do nothing for the country and only solid work will make it flourish.

Premier Shehbaz Sharif's coming official visit to China will cement bilateral political and diplomatic relationships. For economic development we need to follow Chinese model of economy. It will be a beginning of new era.

—The writer is editor, book ambassador political analyst, author of several books based in Islamabad.

<https://pakobserver.net/dynamic-xi-consolidates-china-by-aveed-aman-khan/>

K2 Daily News

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Business Recorder

PM's China visit comes amid grim challenges

SARDAR SIKANDER SHAHEEN

ISLAMABAD: On the heels of the protest movement launched by Chairman Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) and former prime minister Imran Khan in the form of long march against the federal government, the PM is scheduled to fly to China tomorrow (Tuesday) on a two-day visit to hold talks with Chinese leadership on "bilateral, regional and global issues."

The PM's visit would mark the conclusion of memorandums of understanding (MoUs) and other agreements in diverse areas and help advance the agenda of bilateral cooperation, according to an official statement.

The two sides will review the “All-Weather Strategic Cooperation Partnership and exchange views on regional and global developments,” the statement said.

Sharif, who would be accompanied by Foreign Minister Bilawal-Bhutto Zardari, as well as, other senior government officials, will meet China’s President Xi Jinping and hold delegation-level talks with Premier Li Keqiang, the statement added.

The PM, according to the statement, has expressed the hope that his upcoming visit to China will “further deepen Sino-Pak strategic relations and enhance bilateral trade and business ties.”

The Prime Minister said he looks forward to his talks with Chinese leadership to enhance cooperation between the two countries in various fields.

The PM will also discuss expanding the role of China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) under the Belt and Road Initiative with Chinese leadership, the press release said.

This would be his first visit to China since he took office in April this year.

Sharif’s visit to China is taking place at a time when PTI chief has launched his long march against the federal government.

Launched on October 28 and named as a ‘Haqeeqi Azadi March’, the protest movement seeks the removal of the incumbent federal government and announcement of general elections.

Presently, people in big numbers have been seen accompanying Khan on his journey from Lahore to Islamabad. The marchers are scheduled to enter the federal capital on the coming Friday whereas the government authorities have installed barricades to block their entry.

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2022/10/31/1-page/946241-news.html>

Pakistan Observer

Sino-Pakistan ties and regional situation

Khalid Saleem

STRAWS in the wind would appear to indicate that Sino-Pakistan ties may be losing some of the warmth of yesteryears.

One fervently hopes that such fears are not backed by facts, though some of the pointers – that need not be detailed here – are disquieting, to say the least.

Pakistan-China ties have long been based on solid and unexceptional principles. The one abiding principle of Sino-Pakistan friendship has been that it is not directed against any third party.

This mutually respected principle and the common aversion of the two countries to the odious concept of regional hegemony have combined to elevate the relationship to a sublimity that has helped ensure stability and equilibrium in the region for the past many decades.

Peace and stability in the South Asia region is inextricably linked to the constructive role played by China.

Asia – the biggest continent on Earth – is in a state of re-evolution. The ultimate result of this metamorphosis is bound to have a profound impact on the shape of things to come on our planet.

Whether we like it or not, Asia is destined to emerge as the continent of the 21st century. The latent forces in Asia will shape the destiny not only of the continent itself but, in deed, of the world at large in the years to come.

Events are moving with breathtaking speed in this vast Continent, that encompasses not only the two most populous countries on the planet as well as its two most vibrant economies but also the bulk of the world's Muslim population.

In addition, the continent of Asia is heir to some of the world's most ancient civilizations. It also is the repository of some of the most coveted of the Earth's natural resources.

The newly emerged states of Central Asia have added an entirely new dimension to an already highly strategic geo-political environment in the region.

The international scenario has undergone a sea change over the turn of the millennium. Paradigms, such as they are, have lost the glitter of old and, in most cases, will need to be formulated anew.

The events unfolding in the wake of nine/eleven had the effect of bringing about a turning point in the annals of contemporary experience.

They marked an upheaval that can be compared to the rude awakening of a slumbering giant that then goes on a violent rampage against known or imagined enemies.

United States administration precipitately declared the 'war on terror' in what was a facile attempt to mollify domestic public opinion.

The retaliatory forays of the US-Britain combine and NATO first against Afghanistan and, subsequently, against Iraq had the effect of changing the very rules of the game.

The eventual enunciation of the doctrine of pre-emption made it abundantly clear that the sole superpower was no longer in a mood to bow to niceties.

It envisaged, instead, a no-holds-barred contest against an ephemeral foe that has defied definition.

The traditional goal posts were moved to suit the whims of the powers that be. South Asia has suffered for decades due to an atmosphere of suspicion and distrust, partially as a result of the undisguised hegemonic ambitions of the biggest state in the region.

Despite the emergence of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC for short), India made no conscious effort to lower its profile so as to avoid giving the smaller member states a feeling of having a 'big brother' in their midst.

Both within SAARC and without, India has made no secret of its intention to throw its weight around.

Because of largely unfounded fears that the small member states might ‘gang up’ against it, India has made no secret of its intention to deal with each neighbour individually, on bilateral basis and on its own terms.

The two landlocked member states – Nepal and Bhutan – were particularly singled out for some heavy-handed treatment.

Pakistan, too, has been on the receiving end. Despite lip service to the concept of liberalization of trade, India made little attempt to eliminate the hidden non-tariff barriers in its bilateral trade.

With all the talk about free trade, India has made little effort to ensure a level playing field in its economic and commercial dealings with its SAARC partners.

Relations between India and Pakistan give cause for particular serious concern. These two successor states of the British Indian Empire inherited several disputes that were, in effect, the legacy of a somewhat shoddy transfer of power.

The partition plan devised by the colonial administration left several loose ends, some in such vital fields as division of water resources, delineation of some strategic frontiers and the like.

The dispute relating to the state of Jammu and Kashmir continues to fester. India has shown little inclination to settle any of these contentious issues except on its own terms.

As India’s military might has augmented, it not only became more intransigent but also created newer issues in a show of undisguised ambition.

Positive fallout, if it can be termed as such, of the war against terror was that the United States used its influence to goad India and Pakistan into starting a negotiating process aimed at the settlement of their long-standing contentious issues.

The start of this dialogue raised hopes that the region would at long last establish a regime of peace, amity and good neighbourliness, which had been lacking for five decades and more.

The negative aspect of this exercise was India’s insistence on including a pointed reference to Pakistan’s ‘obligation’ to control what was termed “cross-border terrorism”.

By hindsight, it has become evident that the Indian establishment always intended to use this as a handy pretext to scupper the ‘peace talks’ at a time of their choosing.

India’s knee-jerk reaction of pointing an accusing finger at Pakistan every time a mishap occurs on its soil lends itself to only one interpretation: that India somehow lacked seriousness in the quest for peace and that it was using the negotiating process merely to gain time.

The ‘China factor’ has served to lend a stability of sorts to the otherwise fragile regional situation.

The writer is a former Ambassador and former Assistant Secretary General of OIC.

<https://pakobserver.net/sino-pakistan-ties-and-regional-situation-by-khalid-saleem/>

Shehbaz visit to reinvigorate Pak-China ties

Dr Imran Khalid

Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif is the first foreign head of a government visiting China following the conclusion of the 20th CPC National Congress, where the third term of President Xi Jinping was approved, reflecting the extra-ordinary closeness between the two neighboring countries.

He is visiting Beijing on 01 November for a two-day visit on the invitation of Chinese Premier Li Keqiang. But factually speaking, this visit is much more than just a routine diplomatic visit.

For many decades, a tradition has been established by the successive prime ministers of Pakistan to visit Beijing within the first few weeks after taking charge of the office as a gesture to show importance given to China as a trusted and reliable friend.

But, owing to the strict Covid-19 protocol being followed by China and his own engagements with domestic political compulsions, Shehbaz Sharif had to delay his ritual trip to Beijing.

The prime agenda of the visit includes reviewing the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and seeking debt restructuring.

Shehbaz Sharif is keen to seek \$6.3 billion rollover of the Chinese loans. Besides this roll over, he is likely to negotiate more financial assistance in order to shore up its depleting foreign reserves.

The China Pakistan Economic Corridor, CPEC, an integral part of President Xi Jinping's Belt and Road Initiative, is perhaps the most important strategic project for both countries, but for the last few years, it has been on low flame for various logistical and technical reasons.

Shehbaz Sharif, knowing well that Pakistan's economic resurgence is inordinately dependent upon the timely completion of CPEC and its auxiliary projects, is desperate to utilize this visit that includes his meetings with President Xi Jinping and Prime Minister Li Keqiang as an opportunity to give a booster to the whole project with a renewed enthusiasm.

Last five years have seen a relatively sluggish phase in the CPEC – financial and technical problems as well as the targeted terrorist activities against the Chinese nationals working on these projects in Pakistan have been the key contributors to this delay.

Many forces are working against the CPEC, which are not happy with the prospects of economic and infrastructure development in this region.

For China, when compared with the Straits of Malacca, which provides a shortest maritime access to Europe, Africa and the Middle East, the CPEC is certainly the best alternative route that can ensure continuity of its supply chain operations through western part of China in the event of any major conflict with the United States or any other regional power.

The Straits of Malacca are vulnerable to any hostile actions from the United States and may immediately impede the energy imports of China, which in turn may have a negative impact on the Chinese economy.

The CPEC project will allow Chinese energy imports and trade exports to circumvent and bypass these contentious areas of the South China Sea and find a new artery in the West, and thereby decrease the possibility of the US-led interference.

But more than that, the CPEC offers immense opportunities for both countries to work together on a number of economic and development projects starting from Kashgar in Xinjiang and reaching Karachi and Gwadar, southern coastal cities in Pakistan via the Khunjerab Pass and several other nodal areas.

The visit is also expected to advance the wide-ranging bilateral cooperation agenda with the conclusion of a number of MoUs/agreements in diverse areas and consolidate the momentum of CPEC cooperation in the wake of the 11th meeting of the CPEC Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) on 27th October 2022.

Prime Minister Shehbaz is expected to sign the minutes of the JCC during this visit. The JCC has agreed to go ahead with the much delayed USD 10 billion Karachi to Peshawar rail line as a key part of the CPEC.

A few other agreements were made in the JCC meeting that included a new area of “Water Resource Management and Climate Change” which is of utmost significance in the wake of catastrophic floods in Pakistan that led to the destruction of gigantic proportions.

Another important topic would be the political situation in Afghanistan, which is facing a looming food crisis after the ill-planned withdrawal of the American forces in August last year.

The cash-strapped Afghanistan is facing two kinds of acute crises: political instability and humanitarian crisis.

Any spillover of the Afghanistan crisis, which is in close proximity to the CPEC route from Gwadar to Kashgar, poses serious threats to this mega project.

So, there is likelihood of elaborate discussions between President Xi Jinping and PM Shehbaz Sharif on this serious matter that may have a long-term impact on the overall project.

Both countries are eager to see peace and stability in Afghanistan. The terrorists – with bases in Afghanistan – have been involved in more than 250 terrorist activities in Pakistan in the last six months, specifically targeting the Chinese projects and assets to discourage the Chinese teams there.

Be it the Baloch nationalist movements or the Tehrik i Taliban Pakistan (TTP), both have strong base camps in Afghanistan, and they have been consistently targeting the CPEC projects in particular. This is the major cause of concern for both the countries.

Being the first head of government to personally congratulate President Xi Jinping on winning an unprecedented third term as President by the 20th National Congress of CCP, Shehbaz Sharif has definitely exhibited cordiality and warmth that is hallmark of exemplary friendship between the two countries.

In view of the determination and commitment of President Xi Jinping for the BRI and CPEC, Shehbaz Sharif is expected to return home with a lot of positivity and tangible hopes.

<https://pakobserver.net/shehbaz-visit-to-reinvigorate-pak-china-ties-by-dr-imran-khalid/>

PM expects to deepen ties with China during his visit

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif said on Sunday that he expects to further deepen strategic relations and enhance trade and business ties with China during his upcoming visit.

“I hope the visit will result in further cementing our strategic relations and enhancing business and trade with China,” he told the China Global Television Network in an interview.

The premier is scheduled to begin an official visit to China on November 1. It is his first visit to the neighbouring country since he took office in April.

Shehbaz Sharif is among the first batch of foreign leaders to visit China after the conclusion of the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China in Beijing.

“I feel honoured and deeply touched. It is heartwarming to know that I am one of the first leaders from the world visiting my brotherly and friendly country China. That shows and reflects the depth of our friendship and strength of our understanding and bond,” he added.

The premier said that he looks forward to his talks with Chinese President Xi Jinping, Premier Li Keqiang and the Chinese leadership to enhance cooperation in various fields.

Regarding assistance extended by China to the flood-hit people in Pakistan, he expressed gratitude for the Chinese leadership, people and companies who have generously contributed.

“China has supplied food items, medicines, mosquito nets and lots of other items for the flood-affected people,” he added.

He said that the Chinese leadership has contributed in a big way and wants to know from the Pakistani government what else Beijing could do to support the flood-stricken people.

Appreciating the rapid development of China in economic, social and cultural fields, he opined that the neighbouring country believes in globalisation and he wanted to emulate the Chinese model of economic development.

About the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor which has entered a high-quality second phase, he said that the flagship project of the Belt and Road Initiative has transformed the energy sector and infrastructure in the country.

“The road network constructed under CPEC in all parts of the country has shortened the travelling time and now people could easily reach from one place to another,” he added.

Shehbaz said he will also discuss expanding the role of CPEC under the Belt and Road Initiative.

<https://pakobserver.net/pm-expects-to-deepen-ties-with-china-during-his-visit/>

The Express Tribune

China after the Party’s October 2022 Congress

The China that emerges following this meeting will be energised to pursue Xi’s agenda

China concluded its 20th Party Congress that placed most power in the hands of Xi Jinping, the Secretary General, who also heads the country's military commission and is the president. The China that emerges following this meeting will be energised to pursue Xi's agenda. How is Pakistan likely to be affected by the way China is likely to conduct business at home and abroad? This is an important question for several reasons. Shunned by the US, Pakistan has been turning to China for support in both economic and international affairs. The latter was exhibited by China's refusal to follow India's initiative in the UN that would have kept Islamabad on the 'grey list', administered by FATF.

The 20th Chinese Party Congress was called into session on Oct 16, with 2,295 delegates in attendance. It was in session until Oct 23 when it ended by endorsing what Xi had planned for his country and also elected new leadership. Xi was voted to continue with the three jobs he currently holds. As expected, he will continue to be the Party's Secretary General, the President of the People's Republic of China, and the head of the armed forces. These jobs will be his for another five years, giving him tenures for fifteen years. He would thus become the second longest-serving leader of China after Mao Zedong, the founder of the CCP and the supreme leader of the country until his death in 1976. Deng Xiaoping who succeeded Mao as the supreme leader made the Communist Party change its constitution so that the president was limited to two five-year terms. The constitution was followed by Presidents Jiang Zemin and Hu Jintao, each leaving the stage after serving two terms. Xi had the party remove the term limit.

What China watchers were looking forward with great anticipation was the content of the opening address given by Xi on Oct 16, and the leadership lineup with which the Congress was to close on Oct 23. The long speech covered a great deal of ground, reiterating China's policy towards Taiwan; the role of the private sector in developing the Chinese economy; bringing out of poverty the few who were still poor; making the distribution of income less inequitable; and a clear indication of how Beijing was to manage its relations with the world outside. The speech took 104 minutes to deliver and was distributed to the media as a 72-page document. It omitted two phrases that had appeared in earlier statements.

First, the country was in a "period of important strategic opportunity", implying that China did not face imminent risk of major conflict and could focus more on economic growth. Second, peace and development remained important objectives for the Chinese leadership. This time, Xi warned of "dangerous storms" on the horizon and indicated that he believed international hazards have worsened, especially since the start of the war in Ukraine. In the Communist Party, the leader's words are chosen carefully and shape the country's policies, legislation and diplomacy. "Our country has entered a period when strategic opportunity coexists with risk and challenges, and uncertainties and unforeseen factors are rising," he told party leaders present in the grand hall in Beijing.

China's constitution bars Li Keqiang, the premier for the last decade, to get another term. China experts looked at two persons as possible successors to Li and possibly also to President Xi after he is scheduled to leave office in 2028. He will then be 74 and may want to remain in office until 2033. Speculation focused on Wang Yang, the leader of the Communist Party's top advisory body, and Hu Chunhua, one of the four vice premiers in the old order.

Both men have coincidentally spent five-year terms leading Guangdong Province, a leading hub of entrepreneurship and foreign investment in the country. Wang has more of a reputation for pursuing free-market policies while in Guangdong. Hu, 59, was young enough to be viewed as a potential successor to Xi. According to Keith Bradsher, who covers China for NYT, in any case the power of the premier has diminished since Xi has created a series of Communist Party commissions to draft policies for ministries, including a commission that dictates many financial policies.

The government and the Communist Party took extraordinary steps to ensure that no disturbance occurred during the party conclave. An official with the Ministry of Public Security announced at a news conference in September that the authorities had arrested 1.4 million criminal suspects nationwide since the end of June, helping to “create safe and stable political and social environment for the successful convening of the 20th Party Congress”. According to one newspaper account, “All but the most effusive sentiment about the government must be kept at bay, too — hence the profusion of propaganda that has appeared on bridges, on billboards, in 60-foot-tall flower arrangements. The longer the slogan, the more inspiring, the thinking goes. ‘Unite More Closely Around the Party’s Central Committee That Has Comrade Xi Jinping As Its Core, Take Practical Steps to Welcome the Successful Convening of the 20th National Congress,’ reads one mega-screen above a department store.”

The party Congress concluded on Oct 23 when Xi walked on to the stage accompanied by six other members of the Standing Committee. Only a couple of those who made it to the top echelon of the Chinese system of governance were expected by China watchers to make it as the members of the powerful Standing Committee. Among them was Li Qiang, the party secretary of Shanghai who may be the country’s next PM. He has worked at the top level in Zhejiang and Jiangsu provinces considered as pillars of the national economy. His image was tainted by the harsh lockdown imposed on Shanghai under President Xi’s zero-Covid policy. By shutting down Shanghai, China’s most important economic centre, Xi set back the country’s economic progress. The year 2022 is likely to see the slowest rate of economic growth since 1980 when Deng Xiaoping opened China to the world outside its borders.

With Xi firmly in control of all aspects of policymaking, China will have zero tolerance for outside interference. Washington has been warned that its meddling in West Pacific would be strongly resisted. Beijing would not be dictated on how it approaches the Taiwan question. At one point after Russia sent in troops into Ukraine, it appeared that Beijing would stay close to Moscow. However, the way President Vladimir Putin has conducted himself in Ukraine was not to the liking of President Xi. He has clearly indicated his unhappiness with the atrocities committed by Russian troops in conducting their Ukraine operations.

Developments in China and Russia suggest that the global order is moving towards a bipolar system, with Beijing and Washington as the two poles. Pakistan has placed itself firmly on the side of China. Islamabad is following an approach that is totally different from the one it had adopted in the previous lineup when Washington and Moscow were the two poles. Then it was firmly on the side of Washington. Now it has placed itself in Beijing’s orbit.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2383956/china-after-the-partys-october-2022-congress>

The Nation

PM visit to China to further cement bilateral trade and fortify existing relations'

LAHORE - The business community Sunday viewed that upcoming visit of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to China will further cement bilateral trade and fortify existing relations. In a press statement issued here on Sunday, Coordinator to Federal Tax Ombudsman Meher Kashif Younis hoped that in the leadership of President Xi Jinping, a true friend of Pakistan, the relationship will be further strengthened. He said Chinese President recently announced during his visit to Uzbekistan that “irrespective of the situation, China will always stand by Pakistan”, which reflects the strong ties that bind both countries together. He said China is the third largest trading partner. He said the all-weather strategic cooperation, partnership and exchange of views on regional and global development will be strengthened solidified and visit will provide fresh impetus to the bilateral ties besides boosting trade. He said the visit comes at a time where regional and global dynamics are shifting rapidly. He said the major areas of cooperation are industry, agriculture and technology. He said in the second phase of CPEC, the private sector will take lead and help implement projects through business to business cooperation. He said in first phase of CPEC, Pakistan is reaping the benefits of enhanced electricity capacity, better infrastructure and great employment opportunities. Meher Kashif Younis further stated China has contributed significantly to the development of Pakistan’s industrialisation and fields of infrastructure, defence and technology. He said both leaders will vow to continue cooperation and deepen their strategic partnership. He said during the last 25 years the exports of China to Pakistan have increased at an annualized rate of 13.5 percent, from \$616 million in 1995 to \$14.7 billion in 2020. In 2020, Pakistan exported \$1.97 billion to China. He said China exports to Pakistan was \$24.24 billion in 2021 which is all the time in favour of China in terms of Pak exports which he added needs to be narrowed down significantly.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/31-Oct-2022/pm-visit-to-china-to-further-cement-bilateral-trade-and-fortify-existing-relations>

The News

PM to discuss CPEC expansion with China

BEIJING: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif said he expected to further deepen strategic relations and enhance trade and business ties with China during his upcoming visit.

“I hope the visit will result in further cementing our strategic relations and enhancing business and trade with China,” he told China Global Television Network (CGTN) in an interview.

The prime minister is scheduled to begin an official visit to China on November 1. It is his first visit to China since he took office in April. The prime minister said he would also discuss expanding the role of CPEC under the Belt and Road Initiative.

Shehbaz Sharif is among the first batch of foreign leaders to visit China after the conclusion of the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC) in Beijing.

“I feel really honoured and deeply touched and it’s very heartwarming to know that I am one of the first leaders from the world visiting my brotherly and friendly country China. That shows and reflects the depth of our friendship and strength of our understanding and our bond,” he added.

The prime minister said that he looks forward to his talks with Chinese President Xi Jinping and Premier Li Keqiang and Chinese leadership to enhance cooperation in various fields.

Regarding assistance extended by China for the flood-hit people in Pakistan, he expressed gratitude for the Chinese leadership, people and companies who have generously contributed. “China has supplied food items, medicines, mosquito nets and lots of other items for the flood-affected people,” he added.

He said that the Chinese leadership had contributed in a very big way and they want to know from the Pakistani government what else China could do to support the flood-stricken people. Appreciating the rapid development of China in economic, social and cultural fields, he opined that China believes in globalisation and he wanted to emulate the Chinese model of economic development.

About China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) which has entered a high-quality second phase, he said that the flagship project of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) has transformed the energy sector and infrastructure in Pakistan. The road network constructed under CPEC in all parts of the country has shortened the travelling time and now people could easily reach from one place to another, he added.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif Sunday said Pakistan wanted to expand trade and investment ties with China by making an optimal use of the second phase of China-Pakistan Free Trade Agreement and by enhancing industrial cooperation.

In an article penned in the Chinese newspaper, Global Times, the prime minister said, “Pakistan can serve as the manufacturing base for China and an extension of its industrial and supply chain network.” Shehbaz Sharif in the article said: Confucius once paid tribute to friends and friendship in these illuminating words; “There are three types of good friends: one that is direct and honest; one that is trustworthy, dependable, and generous when you need help; and one that is knowledgeable and talented to guide you and show you what you can’t see. China-Pakistan eternal friendship fulfils all three attributes as illustrated by the Great Master! Longevity, love and trust aptly describe Pakistan-China friendship. There is no relationship like ours which so deeply touches the soul of our people and evokes such strong emotions. Poetic expressions with emotive diction are used to captivate the essence of these fabulous ties.

Touching stories of mutual support and solidarity in difficult times, transferred from generation to generation, have become an ineffaceable element of our collective consciousness. Nurtured by the enthusiasm of our peoples and steered by vision of the leadership, the seed of Pakistan-China friendship has blossomed into an evergreen tree with

deep roots and strong branches. It has withstood the vicissitudes of international upheavals and vagaries of domestic changes.

For Pakistan, relations with China form the cornerstone of our foreign policy; in China, Pakistan is described as Ba Tie i.e. China's Iron Brother, and elsewhere our ties are appreciated for their unique strength, enduring permanence and unfathomable trust.

I would be soon in Beijing on my first bilateral visit after assuming office, and that too at an opportune time, soon after the successful conclusion of the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China.

I would like to express my heartiest felicitations to my brother General Secretary Xi Jinping and the Communist Party of China for starting a New Era of China's progress; and I say with complete confidence that it heralds the dawn of a brighter era of China-Pakistan friendship too! Ever since the beginning of my political career, China's civilizational ethos, rich historical experiences and its odyssey to become the centre of global politics and economics has been a subject of irresistible curiosity for me. In my previous visits to China, I tried to unlock the secrets of its rapid growth and development.

I was deeply impressed to observe the selfless dedication, toil and labour of Chinese people, in particular the "Chinese speed" to achieve national targets set by the leadership.

As the Chief Minister of Punjab, I tried to work with the same spirit for the province's socio-economic development. As the prime minister of Pakistan, I am determined to work with similar passion to meet our common development goals! Since my last visit to China, the international landscape has undergone a profound transformation unprecedented in its scale and scope.

Geopolitical tensions are leading to conflicts, resurrection of ideological divide, economic and technological decoupling, and costly arms race. Sadly, this is happening when a multitude of humanity continues to suffer from poverty, disease and hunger. In many parts of the world, people are still battling with Covid-19 and its aftershocks.

The spectre of climate change is looming large and is a grim reality of today. Pakistan has been its recent victim in the shape of devastating floods. The imperatives of 21st century demand a new paradigm to deal with emerging challenges as well as opportunities and to wean our region away from conflict and conflagration.

We seek friendly relations with our neighbouring countries on the basis of mutual respect and spirit of cooperation, and desire peaceful resolution of all outstanding disputes including Kashmir issue through dialogue and diplomacy based on UN charter and resolutions.

The very nature and genesis of all these challenges is unique and, if left unattended, they could reverse the march of globalisation and undo the great achievements humankind has made. It surely requires what President Xi has often said, global action, global response and solidarity. Amidst this unfolding global scenario, the salience of China-Pakistan strategic partnership has increased manifold.

The imperatives of geography, our common outlook, expanding economic partnership and an acute sense of destiny have made us a natural partner. Pakistan is committed to further

deepen bilateral ties between our two countries, continue our mutual support on core issues, continue our efforts for regional peace and connectivity and progressively advance our all-weather strategic partnership of cooperation to a new pinnacle of trust and close cooperation.

The solidarity and support China extended to Pakistan in the aftermath of Covid-19 pandemic was the vivid manifestation of our time-tested friendship.

Over sixty relief flights carrying emergency medical supplies were sent to Pakistan. Chinese-made vaccines were the mainstay of our nation-wide immunization drive.

Similarly, after the recent devastating floods in Pakistan, China's top leadership, central government ministries, provincial governments, enterprises and common people from all walks of life came forward to assist the flood-affected people of Pakistan. I was particularly touched to note that even children on watching visuals of floods in Pakistan donated their pocket-money. These moving stories truly reflect the deep affection and close fraternal bonds between our two peoples.

Pakistan today finds itself at the anvil of unprecedented changes as it marches forward for a robust, sustainable and inclusive economic development.

Like other countries, Pakistan's economy too is facing number of challenges due to global economic slowdown, rising food and oil prices and supply chain disruptions. Despite the global economic headwinds, my government is working assiduously to harness our indigenous resources and potential for ensuring prosperity and progress of our people.

In pursuance of these objectives, we draw inspiration from China's achievements be it attaining the first centenary goal of building a moderately prosperous society or its endeavours for meeting the second centenary goal of building a modern socialist country in all respects.

China is Pakistan's largest trade and investment partner. We want to expand these ties by making an optimal use of the 2nd Phase of China-Pakistan Free Trade Agreement and enhancing industrial cooperation.

Pakistan can serve as the manufacturing base for China and an extension of its industrial and supply chain network. As the fifth populous country with over 60 percent youth, talented human resource and a burgeoning market with immense growth potential, Pakistan offers attractive investment opportunities to the Chinese companies in areas of industry, agriculture modernisation, infrastructure, green energy and digital economy.

Since ancient times, the fertile river valleys of Pakistan have been the granaries of the subcontinent. Building upon the complementarities in agriculture, our two countries can fast-track bilateral cooperation to boost corporate farming, efficient water usage, development of hybrid seeds and high yield crops and establishing cold storage chains.

This cooperation has assumed an added importance to address common concerns related to food security. Climate change poses an existential threat to humanity's survival.

The recent unprecedented floods in Pakistan inundated one-third of our territory and affected over 33 million people with huge economic losses. This climate-induced catastrophe is a wake-up call for the sceptics and a clarion call for joint action.

China is leading voice for addressing the adverse impacts of climate change and has upgraded its disaster response mechanism. We look forward to learning from China's technological advancement in early warning system, building resilient infrastructure and disaster management. Knowledge-based economy has emerged as the new driver for national growth.

In Pakistan, we are laying focus on e-commerce, establishment of technology parks and smart cities. We appreciate China's rapid advancement in science and technology and want to expand cooperation in emerging and smart technologies including quantum computing, robotics, AI, and big data.

Pakistan is the earliest partner of President Xi Jinping's visionary Belt and Road Initiative. We have also ardently supported President Xi's Global Development Initiative, which complements BRI and would contribute to the implementation of UN 2030 SDGs.

Pakistan looks forward to working with China to meet GDI goals as a key partner country. China Pakistan Economic Corridor as the flagship of BRI has infused renewed vitality into our socioeconomic development in a short span of a few years. I fondly recall that CPEC was formally launched during the tenure of my brother, former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif.

As the Chief Minister of Punjab, I contributed to the then government's effort by completing many key energy and public transport projects in record time which included coal power plants at Sahiwal, Quaid-e-Azam Solar Power Park and Pakistan's first Lahore Orange Line mass transit project.

As a game-changer for Pakistan and subsequently for the broader region, CPEC is the central pillar of my government's development agenda. Under its rubric, the successful completion of energy and transport infrastructure projects have set the stage for Pakistan's economic revitalization and for laying a solid foundation for cooperation in diverse sectors.

CPEC's next phase of high quality development will encompass key areas such as industry, energy, agriculture, ICT, rail and road network and developing Gwadar Port as a hub of trade and transshipment, investment and regional connectivity.

Our overall aim is to harness the potential of CPEC for Pakistan's inclusive and sustainable growth, socioeconomic development and for improving livelihoods of our people. Safety and security of Chinese personnel and projects in Pakistan remains our top priority.

The loss of precious Chinese lives in Pakistan is our loss. We would not let anyone to damage our close friendship and strong economic partnership. My government would spare no effort to bring to justice the perpetrators of these reprehensible acts.

To a cursory observer, Pakistan-China friendship may be driven by their respective national interests. To a historian, the geographical proximity and commonality of past experiences may have brought us together.

But for us in Pakistan and in true essence, fraternal bonds between our two peoples are much deeper, transcending the general precepts of inter-state ties and uniting us in an eternal and timeless relationship.

While intensifying our efforts to expand our bilateral cultural exchanges and bringing people of our two countries together, we need to pay a special focus to encouraging more exchanges amongst our youth to bequeath finest traditions of our bilateral friendship and to help them grasp its significance in a fast-changing world. Both Pakistan and China are tied together by a common vision to play a role for bright future of our people as well as for peace and stability of the broader region.

This is a responsibility that history has placed on our shoulders and we would surely fulfill it! And I am confident that our relationship, which President Xi hailed as “taller than mountains, deeper than oceans, and sweeter than honey” in his address to Pakistan’s Parliament in April 2015, can help us achieve our common aspirations. Live Long Pakistan-China Friendship!”

<https://e.thenews.com.pk/detail?id=142881>

K2 Daily News

بقیہ 45

بھیا گیا ہے جس میں آن لائن ایٹل میڈیکل کورسز کی پیشکش کی ہے۔ چینی میڈیکل یونیورسٹیوں کے لیے سفارشی عملہ میں توفیق خانے کا کہنا ہے کہ یہ اقدام تعلیم کے شعبے میں چین پاکستان تعاون کو فروغ دیتے اور پاکستانی میڈیکل اسکولوں کے لیے معیاری طبی تدریسی مواد حصارف کرانے کے لیے ڈیزائن کیا گیا ہے۔ عملہ کے مطابق آن لائن میڈیکل کورسز میں گوانگڈو میڈیکل یونیورسٹی سے کارڈیو اسکولر فزیالوجی اور ہونی قمری گورنر پولی ٹیکنک کی رواجی ہائینڈ میڈیسن کی مناسب لیکنانولوجی شامل ہوں گی۔ حالیہ برسوں میں، پاکستان اور چین نے طبی شعبے میں تعاون کو بڑھایا ہے جس میں

پاکستان کا چینی میڈیکل کورسز متعارف کرانے کا منصوبہ

آن لائن کورسز میں کارڈیو اسکولر فزیالوجی اور ہونی قمری گورنر شامل ہوں گے

پاکستان اور چین نے بھی شعبے میں تعاون کو حالیہ برسوں میں بڑھایا ہے

لاہور (این این آئی) پاکستان چینی حصارف کرانے پر نوکر رہا ہے۔ ذرائع کے مطابق یونیورسٹیوں اور اداروں سے پاکستان میں میڈیکل چینی میڈیکل یونیورسٹیوں اور اداروں کی فرسٹ کورسوں میں معیاری آن لائن میڈیکل کورسز ایک سفارشی عملہ (باقی صفحہ 6) بقیہ نمبر 45

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Nawaiwaqt News

وزیر اعظم کے دورہ چین سے تجارت مستحکم، تعلقات مضبوط ہونگے: کاشف یونس

لاہور (کامرس رپورٹر) وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف کے دورہ چین سے دو طرفہ تجارت مزید مستحکم ہوگی اور موجودہ تعلقات مزید مضبوط ہونگے۔ گزشتہ روز ایک بیان میں وفاقی ٹیکس محتسب کے کوآرڈینیٹر مہر کاشف یونس نے امید ظاہر کرتے ہوئے کہا کہ صدر شی جن پنگ کی قیادت میں پاک چین موجودہ دوستانہ تعلقات مزید مضبوط ہوں گے۔ حالیہ دورہ ازبکستان کے دوران چین کے صدر نے کہا تھا کہ کسی بھی صورت حال سے قطع نظر، چین ہمیشہ پاکستان کے ساتھ کھڑا رہے گا۔ ان کا یہ عزم دونوں ممالک کے درمیان مضبوط تعلقات کی عکاسی کرتا ہے جبکہ چین پاکستان کا تیسرا بڑا تجارتی شراکت دار ہے۔ کاشف یونس نے کہا کہ اس دورہ سے ہمہ موسمی ترقیاتی تعاون اور شراکت داری مضبوط ہوگی اور علاقائی و عالمی صورت حال پر تبادلہ خیال ہوگا اور تجارت کو فروغ دینے کے علاوہ دورہ دو طرفہ تعلقات کو نئی تحریک فراہم کرے گا۔ یہ دورہ

ایک ایسے وقت میں ہو رہا ہے جب علاقائی اور عالمی صورتحال تیزی سے تبدیل ہو رہی ہے۔ پاکستان اور چین کے مابین تعاون کے بڑے شعبے صنعت، زراعت اور ٹیکنالوجی ہیں۔ سی پیک کے دوسرے مرحلے میں نئی شعبہ کاردار اہم ہو گا اور بزنس ٹو بزنس تعاون کے ذریعے منصوبوں کے نفاذ میں مدد ملے گی۔ سی پیک کے پہلے مرحلے میں پاکستان بجلی کی بہتر صلاحیت، بہتر انفراسٹرکچر اور روزگار کے مواقع سے استفادہ حاصل کر رہا ہے۔ مہر کاشف یونس نے مزید کہا کہ چین نے پاکستان کی صنعتی، انفراسٹرکچر، دفاع اور ٹیکنالوجی کے شعبوں میں ترقی میں نمایاں کردار ادا کیا ہے۔ دونوں سربراہان قریبی تعاون کو جاری رکھنے اور تزویراتی شراکت داری کو مزید مستحکم کرنے کا عزم کریں گے۔ گزشتہ 25 سالوں کے دوران چین کی پاکستان کو برآمدات میں 13.5 فیصد سالانہ کی شرح سے اضافہ ہوا ہے جو کہ 1995 میں 616 ملین ڈالر سے 2020 میں 14.7 بلین ڈالر تک پہنچ گئی ہیں۔ 2020 میں پاکستان نے چین کو 1.97 بلین ڈالر کی برآمدات کیں۔ 2021 میں چین کی پاکستان کو برآمدات 24.24 بلین امریکی ڈالر تھیں۔ تجارت کا یہ توازن پاکستان کی برآمدات کے لحاظ سے ہر وقت چین کے حق میں رہتا ہے جس کو نمایاں طور پر کم کرنے کی ضرورت ہے۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/lahore/2022-10-31/page-12/detail-5>

Chinese Newspapers

October 16, 2022

Global Times

New journey to the next glorious century

In the current world increasingly perplexed by uncertainty, division and confrontation, the great striving of the Communist Party of China (CPC) is of significance not only for China, but also for the entire world more than ever.

In the past 10 years, China, under the leadership of the CPC Central Committee with Comrade Xi Jinping at the core, has realized numerous historic achievements including eradication of absolute poverty, and completion of building China into a moderately prosperous society in all respects. In contrast, the US and many parts of the Western world are stuck in a plight of governance, to the extent that they have become source of instability for the world.

How should we view China's development in the past decade? How will the CPC's governance present inspiration to other countries? The following is an abstract of views of 10 global leading thinkers, based on the interviews the Global Times conducted with them.

Decoding China's success in the past decade

Shehbaz Sharif, Pakistan Prime Minister

China's stellar rise is a modern miracle. This could not have been achieved without the leadership of the Communist Party of China (CPC). By rallying the Chinese nation, the CPC lifted the yoke of colonialism and founded the People's Republic of China in 1949. Last year, the CPC celebrated its centenary and is leading China on a new journey of building a modern socialist country in an all-round way. The CPC is indeed holding high the banner of socialism with Chinese characteristics in the new era.

China has modeled itself as an economic powerhouse, and under the leadership of the CPC Central Committee with Comrade Xi Jinping at the core, has emerged as a great power. Today, China is the largest economy in the world on purchasing power parity basis. The

people-centered policies of the CPC have raised the standards of living of the Chinese people, with per capita income doubling in the last decade. China's dual-circulation strategy and emphasis on high-quality development are geared to deal with the economic realities.

I have full confidence that the Chinese nation will attain its dream of national rejuvenation under the leadership and guidance of the CPC.

John Key, former prime minister of New Zealand

The incredible thing with China is that the scale and size of the country makes policy development very difficult, but the bureaucracy in China has done a very good job of largely navigating some difficult challenges. Overall, in the last 10 to 20 years, China has done a good job of lifting a huge part of its population out of poverty.

I think the very strong focus of the Communist Party of China has been about lifting people out of poverty, about economic growth and development. The CPC focused on how to improve the financial well-being and therefore opportunities of the least well-off in China. One of the things that China has concerns about when it looks at the West is the growing inequality and the social unrest borne with it.

China has also been very focused on what is required for growth to take place. And it's very difficult. To do that you should have the infrastructure to support it. The Belt and Road Initiative has been quite an important initiative, not only because it links China with Europe, but also because their infrastructure is critically important to allow non-inflationary, highly productive growth to take place.

Mikhail Delyagin, deputy chairman of the Russian State Duma Committee on Economic Policy

The CPC has been able to maintain its role as a source of development and stability because it constantly learns and maintains high internal competition while maintaining solidarity in the face of external forces. It was able to creatively adapt the Marxism of the 19th century and its experience of the 20th century to new requirements and implement eternal values with new methods. This is a very important and useful lesson for us.

Despite all the difficulties and problems, the CPC serves the people, not businesses, and therefore serves its country, and not global capitals which are indifferent to the fate of peoples and cultures.

The intense information war waged by Western businesses against their peoples has deprived the residents of Western countries of the desire and ability to think. Therefore, they will reject communism until their way of life collapses.

Robert Lawrence Kuhn, chairman of The Kuhn Foundation

China's poverty alleviation program is the best story to undermine biases and disrupt stereotypes about China. One of the main reasons is that foreigners had very limited knowledge of China's poverty alleviation commitment and campaign, and how it really worked.

Consider three powerful parallel factors: CPC leadership, General Secretary Xi's commitment, CPC mobilization.

First, the operational leadership of the CPC; not just giving directives and pronouncements but actually implementing programs and projects through the CPC's organizational structure - central government and five levels of local governments (provincial, municipal, county, township, village).

Second, the commitment of Xi Jinping, general secretary of the CPC Central Committee, who by voicing his personal leadership repeatedly, and by allocating his personal time overtly, set an example that leaders and officials had to follow.

Third, the mobilization capacity of the CPC, able to command the country's resources in personnel and materials. For example, during the epidemic, assigning "sister" relationships between strong provinces and specific cities in Hubei, a strategy long employed in poverty alleviation between China's eastern and western provinces and cities.

George Yeo, former Singaporean minister of foreign affairs

The notion of a community with a shared future for mankind is an important proposal for the world. The world needs a meta-system which respects diversity and at the same time brings us all together in a cooperative effort. This does not mean the end of international competition. There will always be competition. Suppression of competition is unhealthy.

However, like competitive sports, there must be rules and there must be limits on competition so that human civilization as a whole is not harmed. We are all in the same boat called Planet Earth. Mankind can only share a common future if we believe that we are all brothers. Confucius reminded us that within the four seas, all men are brothers.

Koh King Kee, president of Center for New Inclusive Asia, a nongovernment Malaysian think tank

Underpinning China's success is CPC's people-oriented philosophy of governance and remaining true to its founding spirit of seeking happiness for the masses. People are the masters and always take the center stage in China's polity - socially, politically and economically.

Common prosperity is an essential requirement of socialism. Economic growth must benefit all. Over the past 10 years, the CPC has adopted a slew of development policies and administrative measures to reduce income inequality, narrowing the wealth gap, and building a just and fair moderately prosperous society.

Poverty reduction, revitalization of rural economy, acceleration of urbanization, and making available internet technology and e-commerce to even remote villages are some of the important steps that China has taken during the last decade to reduce the rural-urban divide.

Furthermore, anti-monopoly policies and efforts to build a unified national market will improve market efficiency and promote healthy competition. Infrastructure development in the Northwest and Southwest provinces will no doubt ensure a more balanced regional

development. China is also committed to building a beautiful country through green development.

China's people-oriented philosophy of governance, its efforts to build a fair and just society, its measures to promote an efficient market and green development are lessons and experiences worthy of learning by other countries.

An anchor for global stability, development

Giancarlo Elia Valori, an Italian economist

The success of China's path is an inspiration to developing countries and shows them a bright future.

From my perspective, the Chinese path is worth learning from the following points: putting improvement of people's lives at the top of governmental affairs; formulating a medium-term and long-term development strategy that suits the country's conditions; striving to maintain economic growth and solve the poverty problem; improving the country's political and economic system; and insisting on opening-up to the outside world and connecting with the world while maintaining independence.

The general principles and goals of China's policies toward developing countries are firstly based on strategic partnership, political equality, and economic cooperation. They're based on respect for each other's interests and allow all parties to benefit from cooperation.

Erik Solheim, former undersecretary-general of the United Nations and former executive director of the UN Environment Programme

The progress on air pollution in China, compared internationally, is absolutely incredible. China has reduced air pollution in seven years as much as we have done in Europe and North America in 30 years. This is absolutely remarkable and positive.

I believe it happened because this was a major demand of the Chinese people. The message was accepted by the country's political leadership. They decided to act and they acted very determinedly. That's why we're seeing pollution coming down that fast.

The "ecological civilization" coined by Chinese leadership is a great concept. It is a new way of thinking about the environment.

The old way was to avoid the negatives. Environment was about protection against the negatives. Ecological civilization, however, is about the positive, enormous progress for humans where they can live in a society which is much more environmentally friendly.

It's integrating the human aspect, the natural aspects, and technological aspects into one—creating an ecological civilization, which could unify humanity in the 21st century.

Dave Bromwich, former president of the New Zealand China Friendship Society

The 20th National Congress of the CPC is a very important meeting. It's an opportunity to review the achievements and to consider and examine challenges. So they are doing it collectively, not in an adversarial way. There's a real advantage in that they can actually build on what they've got to improve. The advantage also lies in the stability that the system can

provide and the consistency in the planning process. Because of the governance system where we see consistency and progress, a long vision, a five-year plan, it does provide the world with the opportunity to predict what China will do and what China has to offer.

The stability that is an outcome from China's long-term governance structure provides confidence in what China can provide to the world. This is of significant value to the majority of the nations in the world who are on the path to development, and can see China's achievements, and the assistance offered to them by China.

Danilo Türk, former president of Slovenia

Each of the two initiatives - the Global Development Initiative and the Global Security Initiative - provides an important conceptual framework for the future. Now, they have to be followed up by more detailed projects. They can be many and quite diverse.

China is a major player in global finance. Institutions like the IMF and the World Bank will have to be given new mandates, and groupings like the Paris Club of creditors have to be reformed. This kind of tasks should be part of the implementation of the Global Development Initiative. The Global Security Initiative, on the other hand, will have to contribute to the revival of the global security system with the UN at its center. Right now the world is moving toward a dangerous fragmentation of the global security landscape. Exclusive security arrangements such as NATO can be helpful to global security but only when they function within a globally established balance of power and within international law.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202210/1277241.shtml>

October 18, 2022

Global Times

Pakistani FM sends good wishes to successful opening of 20th CPC National Congress

On the occasion of the opening of the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC), Pakistani Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari extended good wishes to the Congress on Sunday, believing that under the wise leadership of the CPC, China will continue to play its due role in international politics and for global peace.

Bilawal said in a video sent to the Global Times by the Pakistani Embassy in China on Sunday that "as an all-weather, strategic cooperative partners and iron brothers, we're inspired by the CPC's foresight in steering the Chinese nation on a path of high-quality governance and socioeconomic development."

Throughout its history, the CPC has made enormous contributions to the progress and prosperity of the Chinese nation and for global peace, he said, recalling that Pakistan People's Party and the CPC enjoy a rich history of bilateral cooperation and exchanges. The two parties established close bonds and solidified bilateral friendship between our two countries, he said.

"As I congratulate the Chinese people on the occasion of the 20th National Congress of the CPC, I extend my best wishes to the continued peace and prosperity of the people of China under the leadership of the Communist Party of China," he said.

The 20th National Congress of the CPC opened on Sunday. Xi Jinping delivered a report to the 20th CPC National Congress on behalf of the 19th CPC Central Committee at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing.

Xi called on all members of the CPC to strive in unity to build a modern socialist China in all respects. He also expounded on the missions and tasks of the CPC on the new journey of the new era.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202210/1277281.shtml>

People's Daily

Observers worldwide laud China's milestone achievements under CPC leadership

BEIJING, Oct. 17 (Xinhua) -- The report delivered by General Secretary Xi Jinping at the opening session of the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC) on Sunday comprehensively summarizes the achievements and experience of China's reforms and development, and contains an overall strategic plan for the cause of the party and the country, overseas analysts and observers said.

The CPC will score even greater achievements, lead the Chinese people to write a new chapter along the new journey toward building a modern socialist country in all respects, and to join the rest of the world in building a better future for all humanity, the analysts and observers noted.

GREAT TRANSFORMATIONS IN NEW ERA

Xi said in the report that the past decade marked three major events of great immediate importance and profound historical significance for the cause of the party and the people.

"We embraced the centenary of the Communist Party of China; we ushered in a new era of socialism with Chinese characteristics; and we eradicated absolute poverty and finished building a moderately prosperous society in all respects, thus completing the First Centenary Goal," he said.

"This report contains the crystallization of the CPC's important experience and provides ideological guidance for China's march towards the second centenary goal," said Vanxay Tavinyan, the editor-in-chief of the Pasaxon, the newspaper of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee, who has been closely following this CPC national congress.

Deeply impressed by the CPC's adherence to the people-centered development philosophy, he said China has secured a victory in the battle against extreme poverty, the largest scale of such efforts ever made in history, and made significant contributions to global poverty reduction.

"China has achieved many milestones" in the past decade, said Shakeel Ahmad Ramay, chief executive officer of the Asian Institute of Eco-civilization Research and Development in Pakistan, after listening to the live-streamed report via the Internet.

China's big achievements have demonstrated that socialism with Chinese characteristics is presenting a better model with global appeal, Ramay added.

Under the CPC's guidance, China has shown the world how to achieve goals like eradicating extreme poverty with political will and effective actions, said Ronnie Lins, director of the China-Brazil Center for Research and Business, adding that realizing economic and social development, and eradicating poverty and social inequality are a sure way to build a healthier world.

The poverty alleviation efforts led by the CPC will be remembered by the human society as a model of good governance in human history, Lins added.

"Every time when I returned to China, I could clearly see the rapid economic and social progress in the country," said Rafael Hernandez, director of Cuban political magazine Temas, adding that he was impressed by the data on China's economic development in the report.

The CPC's historic achievements since the 18th CPC National Congress have demonstrated that the party is dedicated to pursuing happiness for the people and rejuvenation of the nation, he said, adding that it's the CPC's strong leadership that has led to China's great success today.

The 20th CPC National Congress is of great significance, said Yuri Tavrovsky, a professor with the People's Friendship University of Russia.

Over the past decade, China has made great achievements in accelerating the construction of a modern economic system, promoting technological innovation, improving state governance, eliminating extreme poverty, and pushing for green development, he said, adding that China's development path has become more attractive to the international community.

China's development is very important to global development, and China's successful experience offers reference and inspiration to many countries, said Alexey Maslov, director of the Institute of the Asian and African Studies of Moscow State University.

GREAT CONTRIBUTIONS TO HUMAN PROGRESS

From this day forward, the central task of the CPC will be to lead the Chinese people of all ethnic groups in a concerted effort to realize the Second Centenary Goal of building China into a great modern socialist country in all respects and to advance the rejuvenation of the Chinese nation on all fronts through a Chinese path to modernization, Xi emphasized in the report.

To build a modernized society for more than 1 billion people is undoubtedly a huge contribution to the progress of mankind, Adhere Cavince, a Kenya-based international relations scholar, told Xinhua.

China is setting a good example for other developing countries to hold in hand their own path to national regeneration and development, Cavince added.

The Chinese path to modernization is a modernization of shared prosperity for a huge population and it is also committed to facilitating global peace and development, said Cavince.

It is immensely important that the report elaborated on a new philosophy on China's comprehensive development for the goal of improving people's living standard, said Zivadin Jovanovic, former Serbian senior diplomat, adding that China's focus on its further modernization is really important for the global economy.

The Chinese-style modernization is a vision of a world without poverty, hunger, war, conflict, discrimination, and hegemony, among others, said Joseph Matthews, a senior professor at Cambodia's BELTEI International University.

The Chinese path to modernization pursues inclusive development, common prosperity, as well as a harmonious relationship between human and nature, and will have a direct positive impact on global development, Matthews told Xinhua.

Kanat Beisek, chairman of the Board of the Kazakh-Chinese Trade Promotion Association, said he looks forward to seeing the Chinese path to modernization, noting that through cooperation with China in such fields as agriculture, energy, e-commerce, he has deeply felt that the continuous progress of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) has benefited Kazakhstan and other countries along the route.

While concentrating on major tasks at home, Chinese development has produced positive spillover effects to the world, reflecting China's wisdom and strength, Beisek said.

The Chinese path to modernization will drive the country to make new economic and social achievements, and will also bring more cooperation and development opportunities to Kazakhstan and other developing countries, he added.

Giving great attentions to the Chinese path to modernization, the CPC national congress mapped out a clear plan for China's sustainable development in the future, said Daa Helmy, secretary-general of Cairo-based Egyptian-Chinese Chamber of Commerce.

The successes achieved by China will continue as it sticks to socialism with Chinese characteristics, Helmy said, noting that China will strongly go further in its modernization process.

JOINTLY BUILDING A BETTER FUTURE FOR HUMANITY

China has always been committed to its foreign policy goals of upholding world peace and promoting common development and is dedicated to the building of a community with a shared future for mankind, Xi said in the report.

China put forward the Global Development Initiative (GDI) and the Global Security Initiative (GSI) and is willing to implement them together with the international community. The Chinese people are ready to work hand in hand with people across the world to create an even brighter future for humanity, he said.

"From the report, I strongly feel China's determination and confidence in striding forward, developing peacefully and opening up to the outside world," said Uzbek political observer Tulanbay Kurbanov.

By striving to realize the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation through Chinese-style modernization, China will provide huge development opportunities for developing countries and inject impetus into global economic development, he added.

The GDI and GSI proposed by China are in line with the common aspirations of the international community for justice, peace, and development, and will surely further build global consensus, gather strength for cooperation, and inject strong positive energy into improving global governance, Kurbanov said.

Xi's report emphasizes that China adheres to the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence in pursuing friendship and cooperation with other countries, and will firmly support and help developing countries achieve faster growth, which will further encourage emerging economies like Indonesia to recover at a faster pace, said Teuku Rezasyah, international relations expert of Indonesia's Padjadjaran University.

Xi stressed China's commitment to the building of a community with a shared future for mankind in his report, said Wirun Phichaiwongphakdee, director of the Thailand-China Research Center of the Belt and Road Initiative, noting that no single country can solve global challenges, which require solidarity and cooperation of all countries.

The world should be a place where win-win cooperation and common development abound, and in the process, the vision of building of a community with a shared future for mankind plays a very important role, he added.

China has been providing the world with huge development opportunities through projects like the BRI and the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC), and China-Africa cooperation has been growing especially through FOCAC in the past decades, said Rwandan researcher and publisher Gerald Mbanda.

African countries are looking forward to strengthening cooperation with China under FOCAC and the BRI, he added.

The global community expects China's initiatives such as the GDI and GSI "will play more positive roles around the world in the future," said Hamed Vafaei, director of the Center for Asian Studies at the University of Tehran.

As the largest developing country in the world, China's development model is of great significance to developing countries like Iran, and many Iranian academic institutions, including his center, have been paying close attention to the congress and hope to study China's successful experience in state governance through it, he said.

"The 20th CPC National Congress is of great significance and will have far-reaching influence on China's future development as well as world peace and stability," said Luciana Santos, president of the Communist Party of Brazil.

China sticks to an independent foreign policy of peace, firmly upholds multilateralism, is actively involved in global governance, and takes the lead in improving the global governance system, playing an active role in shaping a more just and reasonable world order, Santos added.

<http://en.people.cn/n3/2022/1018/c90000-10160139.html>

October 19, 2022

Global Times

China's path enlightens more developing nations

The ongoing 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC) has grabbed the headlines of the global media outlets in recent days and while the international community is paying close attention to China's blueprint for the next five years, more people from developing countries and emerging economies have showed great interests in decoding how China successfully eradicated poverty and now ranks among strong countries.

While delivering the report to the 20th CPC National Congress on Sunday, Xi Jinping underscored the "central task" of the Party, calling for efforts to advance the rejuvenation of the Chinese nation on all fronts "through a Chinese path to modernization."

Chinese modernization, a key term defining China's journey to rejuvenation, has for the first time been written into a report to the National Congress of the CPC -- the world's largest Marxist governing party and analysts said Chinese modernization, based on exploration by generations of Chinese people and unique to the country's context, presents a correct path to realizing the Chinese dream and offers humanity a new choice for achieving modernization.

China's exploration to achieve modernization and its glorious achievements in the past decade have also intrigued other countries especially developing ones, with leaders, scholars and media of these countries widely discussing China's top event.

For example, Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif said that the people of Pakistan deeply appreciate CPC's people-centric governance model, its success for China's socio-economic development and meaningful contribution to the evolution of the world's political and governance philosophy, adding that he is confident that the Chinese leadership, with foresight and wisdom, would chart a new road-map for the progress and prosperity of the Chinese nation during the Congress, according to Pakistan's Daily Time.

As strong CPC leadership, rapid economic developments, effective poverty alleviation efforts, top-level design and full implementations are the topics overseas observers and scholars are discussing, they're also speaking highly of the country's insistence to develop its own way that fits its own conditions for development as such practice has not only defied the "West-centered theory" to offer a brand new way for independent development, but also brings hope for emerging countries to realize modernization amid increasing geopolitical risks, analysts said.

Unique path to modernization

The 20th CPC National Congress and its agenda are looked at with great expectations by the world, especially developing countries, Syrian Ambassador to China Mhd. Hasanein Khaddam told the Global Times. He noted that Syrian people wish all the success to the Congress.

"We are looking for changes in the current world order that will give space to third world countries to be heard and participate in global governance. All developing countries look to China for inspiration and an expectation for a fairer world," he said.

Khaddam said that many other policies promoted by Chinese President Xi have attracted the attention of the whole world, which include building confidence in China's cultural and social heritage, focusing on scientific approaches in learning and building the country, and preserving the environment and green ecology.

The main focus for most developing countries is China's fast economic development in the past decades - how it transformed from an agricultural country into the No.2 economy in the world with the largest manufacturing sector, Yang Xiyu, senior research fellow at the China Institute of International Studies, told the Global Times.

China's gross domestic product has risen to account for 18.5 percent of the world economy, up 7.2 percentage points over the past 10 years. The world's second largest economy has become a major trading partner for over 140 countries and regions, leading the world in total volume of trade in goods.

Insisting on independent policy, China has explored a very unique way for modernization thereby increasing its national wealth, eradicating poverty, and completing industrialization and realizing all-round developments in society, Yang said, noting that such changes within a short period in a country with the largest population in the world have attracted attention from countries with similar backgrounds.

The 20th CPC National Congress report has summarized China's experience in the past decades in developing its own path with its own context - it has made market to fully play in the distribution of resources and let the government make better service. The socialist economy has overcome the economic development cycle without recession and realized rapid and high-quality development and at the same time brought great benefits to the people's livelihoods, said Yang.

Moreover, the report gives an answer on how to balance efficiency and equality in order to realize common prosperity. China's achievement in poverty alleviation is a good example on how to create wealth and increase social equality.

Danilo Türk, former president of Slovenia, told the Global Times that Chinese concepts and practices of "dual circulation" and "common prosperity" demonstrate the capacity to adjust.

"The resilience and determination of the people of China to strive toward new levels of development is the most impressive feature for a foreign observer like me. Clearly, this requires strong leadership that the CPC has provided," Türk said.

While delivering the report to the 20th CPC National Congress, Xi also pointed out that there has never been an instruction manual or ready-made solution for the Chinese people and the

Chinese nation to turn to as they fought to end the great sufferings endured since the advent of modern times.

The Party has led the people in independently blazing the path to success over the past century, and the success of Marxism in China has been realized by Chinese Communists through our own endeavors. One point underpinning these successes is that China's issues must be dealt with by Chinese people in light of the Chinese context, said the report.

Ejaz Akram, a Pakistani scholar, also professor of Religion & World Politics in Southwestern University of Political Science and Law in Chongqing, carefully read Xi's report to the congress.

Speaking highly of China's achievements in the past decade, the Pakistani scholar believes that an indigenously developed political system that is increasingly relying on its millennia old wisdom was major cause of China's success story.

"China has espoused new paradigms of development, new philosophy of governance and envisions a common future for humanity. It has chosen to tread off the beaten track of path dependency," said Akram, noting that one thing that Pakistan can take away from the 20th CPC National Congress is that roads to development and modernization are many and Pakistan must chart out its own course of development using its own civilization wisdom.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202210/1277517.shtml>

October 20, 2022

People's Daily

**Chinese experts' advice to help Pakistan in rehabilitation of flood-hit areas:
official**

ISLAMABAD, Oct. 22 (Xinhua) -- Chairman of the National Disaster Management Authority of Pakistan (NDMA) Inam Haider Malik said his country would benefit from the advice of the visiting Chinese flood control expert group in the rehabilitation process of flood-hit people.

Speaking at a meeting with the delegation on Friday, Lt. Gen. Malik said that Pakistan has a colossal work at hand, but with the help of the Chinese experts and learning from their experiences the country will come up outstandingly to tackle the problem and do something better for the next phase of reconstruction and rehabilitation.

The 11 experts sent by the Chinese government arrived in Pakistan on Oct. 11 and concluded their inspection and exchange activities in Pakistan on Oct. 21.

The expert group, which is organized by China's Ministry of Emergency Management, covered six fields including hydrology, meteorology, rescue and relief, disaster assessment, flood control planning, and flood control management.

Xu Xianbiao, head of the Chinese delegation, shared China's experience in flood control and disaster reduction and provided the Pakistani side with preliminary advice and suggestions

for recent disaster relief and medium- and long-term enhancement of flood control and disaster reduction capabilities.

The delegation visited the country's worst-hit south Sindh province for inspection on Oct. 15-17.

The delegation met the country's Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif and his cabinet on Wednesday and shared their impression of the situation in the aftermath of the floods.

During the meeting, Sharif asked China to help his country in disaster management and make it self-reliant in disaster management.

The death toll from this season's monsoon rain and floods since mid-June has risen to 1,719 along with 12,867 injuries in Pakistan, according to the NDMA.

<http://en.people.cn/n3/2022/1022/c90000-10161885.html>

China's support for Pakistani flood-hit people important in relief activities: Pakistani minister

ISLAMABAD, Oct. 21 (Xinhua) -- Pakistan's Minister of IT and Telecommunication Syed Amin Ul Haque said that his country is going through an unprecedented flood disaster, and China's support to the flood-hit people is playing an important role in relief activities.

Speaking at an event organized by the Chinese cellular network in Pakistan, Zong 4G, on Thursday, Haque said that whenever his country is in crisis, China always extends support and both the Chinese government and people stand shoulder to shoulder with the Pakistanis.

The event was aimed at donating cash to the country's south Sindh province where some districts had been worst hit in recent floods, and at appreciating efforts of local employees who worked hard to restore the cellular network after it was hampered by the rains.

Haque said that the devastating floods have affected over 33 million Pakistan people, adding that Chinese companies in Pakistan have shown great support during the tough times.

Speaking at the event, Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan Nong Rong said that China was the leading country to send donations to Pakistan in its hour of need amid the flood disaster and helped the country meet the challenges in rescue and relief operations.

"A lot of people were affected and their houses damaged. The Chinese government expressed concerns and sympathy and responded quickly to the serious situation. Currently, several batches of tents, blankets, and food donated by the Chinese side have been delivered to the people in need," he said.

Floods in Pakistan disrupted over 12 percent of the Chinese cellular network in Pakistan. As a result, the company spent most of the last few months working fervently to restore it and maintain good services.

Lauding the hard work of local employees when the catastrophe hit the country, Zong's CEO Wang Hua said that technical employees remained on their toes day and night to restore networks in areas that were completely submerged in flood water.

"Our teams recovered 99 percent of the network in three weeks, which is a commendable effort," he said.

<http://en.people.cn/n3/2022/1022/c90000-10161895.html>

Xinhuanet News

CPEC projects to bring industrial boom to Pakistan: PM

ISLAMABAD, Oct. 19 (Xinhua) -- Pakistani Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif said on Wednesday that his country is going to witness an industrial boom as the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is set to enter the next business-to-business mode after the productive government-level phase.

"The government has been completing the CPEC projects on a priority basis within the stipulated time frame for national development and growth," the prime minister said while chairing a review meeting on CPEC and other Chinese projects in the country.

Discussing various projects under CPEC, Sharif said that the railway project of Main Line-1 (ML-1) would be a game changer for Pakistan, noting that the project would ensure connectivity with the Central Asian countries and lead to the development and prosperity of the entire region.

"ML-1 will play a cardinal role in the economic development of the country by connecting Pakistani seaports with China and the Central Asian countries," he said.

The prime minister also welcomed the investment from various Chinese companies in Pakistan's solar power projects.

<https://english.news.cn/20221020/15e26efd2d9f4eb8b783fdc2d0f7bd00/c.html>

Chinese firm's smart logistics centers to revolutionize Pakistan's e-commerce ecosystem

ISLAMABAD, Oct. 20 (Xinhua) -- Pakistan has put its first-ever smart distribution center (SDC) into operations in the country's southern port city of Karachi, with experts and officials hailing the development as a milestone towards revolutionizing Pakistan's e-commerce ecosystem.

Built by Cainiao Smart Logistics Network of China in partnership with Daraz, the largest player in Pakistan's e-commerce market, the 50,000-square-meter distribution center will be one of the most technologically advanced logistics facilities in South Asia, equipped with an automatic assembly line and smart distribution set-up with least human interference to ensure operational quality and stability.

Talking to Xinhua, Syed Zamin Ali, project manager of the SDC in Karachi, said that Pakistan's e-commerce industry has been witnessing a robust growth over the last few years and the number of registered e-commerce merchants, platforms and online payment facilities are also on the rise, showing that more and more Pakistani people are making digital purchases and payments.

According to the latest data released by the State Bank of Pakistan, the e-commerce market in fiscal year 2020 is estimated to have expanded to 234.6 billion rupees (1.07 billion U.S. dollars) from 150.8 billion rupees in the previous year, up 55.6 percent on a year-on-year basis.

"With the size increase of the e-commerce market of Pakistan and considering the future prospects, there is a dire need of improving our logistics capabilities to boost our customers' experience," Ali said.

"Both sellers and buyers were facing difficulties due to an outdated manual distribution system which involved a number of tedious tasks and labor before the package actually reached its destination," he said, adding that the manual task was heavily error-prone and time-consuming, undermining customers' trust.

Thanks to the newly introduced automated distribution center, the project manager said most of the problems have now been solved as it would decrease manual errors by 90 percent and increase the sorting capacity by over four times.

In the coming days, the Chinese firm is going to operationalize another smart logistic hub in Lahore, the provincial capital of Pakistan's largest Punjab province, Ali said, expressing hope to build more of such centers across the country to bring more efficiency to Pakistan's logistics sector.

Enthusiastically operating the new SDC, 25-year-old Younus Khan was optimistic to dispatch millions of packages in the coming days as a mega sale campaign is just around the corner, saying "now we are fully equipped to make on-time deliveries without any error."

"I, along with other staff members, have been learning about the new system from the Chinese engineers over the last few months. The hard work bears fruit as now we have made it fully operational. The knowledge, skills, and devotion of our Chinese brothers really inspired me a lot," Khan told Xinhua.

He said that the two logistic facilities in Karachi and Lahore have a capacity to process around 1 million orders a day, making them the most efficient facilities in Pakistan. "I believe it is just the start of something big in the country's e-commerce industry."

Congratulating the Chinese and Pakistani experts for successfully accomplishing the new venture, Commerce Minister Syed Naveed Qamar said the SDCs would provide smart solutions to problems being faced by the supply chain systems and help the e-commerce industry usher in a new era of smart logistics.

E-commerce has become one of the key drivers of Pakistan's economy, and the investment by the Chinese firm in the industry will be a game changer for Pakistan and beyond, he said.

"China is the world's largest e-commerce market with annual online sales worth hundreds of billions of dollars, and Pakistan has a lot to learn from them in terms of knowledge base, experience and technology to take our e-commerce industry to new heights," Qamar told Xinhua.

He said there is a huge potential in Pakistan's e-commerce market, and the incumbent government has been making efforts to incentivize the industry to speed up digital transformation. (1 U.S. dollar equals 218.69 Pakistani rupees)

<https://english.news.cn/20221020/a8dab5d9a16449608e85ab1c3460933c/c.html>

China, on behalf of 25 countries, calls for lifting of unilateral coercive measures

UNITED NATIONS, Oct. 19 (Xinhua) -- A Chinese envoy on Wednesday made a joint statement at the Third Committee of the UN General Assembly, on behalf of 25 countries, calling for the immediate and complete lifting of unilateral coercive measures.

The world is facing interlocking global challenges with developing countries disproportionately affected. A true, effective and functional multilateral system based on international solidarity, unity and cooperation is urgently needed more than ever, said Dai Bing, the charge d'affaires at the Chinese Permanent Mission to the United Nations.

And yet, despite the grave hardships and challenges, developing countries and their populations continue to fall victim to unilateral coercive measures, which run counter to the purposes and principles of the UN Charter and international law, multilateralism and the basic norms of international relations, he said.

"We reaffirm the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations as well as the duty of states to cooperate with one another in accordance with the charter. We reaffirm the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which strongly urges states to refrain from promulgating and applying any unilateral economic, financial or trade measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations," he said.

Regrettably, despite the global call to urgently lift unilateral coercive measures, the imposition of these illegal measures continues to cause devastating, sometimes even life-threatening consequences, to targeted countries and their peoples. Unilateral coercive measures, coupled with secondary sanctions and over-compliance, exacerbate existing humanitarian and economic challenges, result in lack of access to essential goods and services such as food, medicine, safe drinking water, fuel and electricity, and negatively affect the enjoyment of human rights, including the right to health and the right to life, he said.

"We reaffirm our opposition to unilateral coercive measures and call on imposing states to immediately and completely cease such practice. We call on states to avoid imposing future unilateral sanctions not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations. The current circumstance calls for solidarity and unity rather than confrontation and division, to address global challenges and promote and protect human rights for all," he said.

Antigua and Barbuda, Belarus, Bolivia, Cambodia, Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Iran, Laos, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Palestine, Russia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syria, Venezuela, Zimbabwe, as well as China signed up to the statement.

<https://english.news.cn/20221020/464d4b5feb0c4b00938f59bc2f2c7221/c.html>

October 23, 2022

Global Times

Foreign congratulatory messages sent to China as 20th CPC National Congress concludes

Delegates step out of the Great Hall of the People as the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China concludes on October 22, 2022.

Delegates step out of the Great Hall of the People as the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China concludes on October 22, 2022.

The 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC) came to a successful conclusion on the morning of October 22 at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing after electing a new CPC Central Committee and a new Central Commission for Discipline Inspection, and passing the Resolution on the Report of the 19th CPC Central Committee, the Resolution on the Work Report of the 19th Central Commission for Discipline Inspection and the Resolution on the Revised Constitution of the CPC.

Leaders of foreign countries, diplomats and leaders of foreign political parties sent their congratulatory messages to China on the successful convening of the Congress, which attracted global attention, and for the positive signals carried out during the meeting that indicate China will continue making progress and contributing to global development.

Xi Jinping was elected general secretary of the 20th Central Committee of the CPC at the committee's first plenary session held on Sunday, according to a communiqué, the Xinhua News Agency reported on Sunday.

The session, presided over by Xi, was attended by 203 members of the 20th CPC Central Committee and 168 alternate members.

Xi was also named chairman of the CPC Central Military Commission at the session

Russian President Vladimir Putin congratulated Xi for being reelected as the general secretary of the CPC Central Committee of on Sunday, according to a copy of the telegram of congratulations published on the Kremlin website on Sunday, Russia's TASS news agency reported.

Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Sunday also congratulated Xi on his reelection as CPC General Secretary, Shehbaz said on Twitter.

The President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev also sent a congratulatory message to Xi on the successful completion of the 20th Congress of the CPC and his reelection to the post of general secretary of the CPC Central Committee, Uzbekistan media reported.

The 20th National Congress of the CPC is indeed an important political event which would profoundly impact the global political and economic landscape, Pakistani Ambassador to China Moin ul Haque told the Global Times in written form on Sunday.

The ambassador said that due to China's deep integration with the global economy and trade, China's stable economic growth is pivotal for global post-COVID economic recovery. Seen from this perspective, it is hoped that the Congress delegates would discuss in detail issues such as globalization, economic integration, supply-chain resilience and connectivity.

"I am confident that the outcome of the Congress would definitely send a message of stability to the jittery world markets and become the harbinger of sustainable development of humankind," said Haque.

Undoubtedly, this 20th CPC National Congress is one of the most important events for China and the world since China today represents one of the most dynamic countries in the world and has established itself internationally as a relevant and responsible actor. This has been demonstrated in concrete practice, such as the unprecedented solidarity displayed with the neediest countries within the framework of the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic, Argentine Ambassador to China Sabino Vaca Narvaja, told the Global Times previously.

Leaders of foreign political parties worldwide have also congratulated the Central Committee of the CPC on the convening of the 20th CPC National Congress.

The CPC pursues an independent policy concerning its external affairs, which promotes global development and safeguards world peace, playing a big role in advancing the cause of human progress, Saparmyrat Ovganov, chairman of the Party of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs of Turkmenistan, was quoted as saying to the Xinhua News Agency.

The 20th CPC National Congress is a major event in China's political life, which will open a new journey for China's development and further enhance China's important status in the international arena, President of the Brazilian Socialist Party Carlos Siqueira told Xinhua.

Muhammad Asghar, a special correspondent of the Associated Press of Pakistan in China, who reported the Congress on site, told the Global Times on Sunday that he is very interested in the outcome of this Congress, as he expected to learn about China's economic development and how it is going to share its experience in this area with the rest of the world, particularly developing countries.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202210/1277760.shtml>

Chinese flood control experts in Pakistan conclude inspection tour

A group of 11 experts sent by the Chinese government to Pakistan to assist the country's disaster assessment, flood prevention and relief work concluded its inspection and exchanges and returned to China on Saturday.

The group, which was organized by China's Ministry of Emergency Management, covered six fields -- hydrology, meteorology, rescue and relief, disaster assessment, flood control planning, and flood control management.

During an 11 day stay in Pakistan, the delegation visited the country's worst-hit south Sindh province for an on the ground inspection, including the cause and characteristics of the catastrophic flood, relief measures and post-disaster recovery.

The group shared China's experience in flood control and disaster reduction and provided local officials with preliminary advice and suggestions specific to recent disaster relief and the medium- and long-term enhancement of flood control and disaster reduction capabilities, according to a statement on the website of the Ministry of Emergency Management.

Chairman of the National Disaster Management Authority of Pakistan Inam Haider Malik said his country would benefit from the advice of the visiting Chinese group in the rebuilding process for flood-hit regions, the Xinhua News Agency reported.

Speaking at a meeting with the delegation on Friday, Lt. Gen. Malik said that Pakistan has a colossal task at hand, but with the help of the Chinese experts and lessons from their experience, the country will deliver an outstanding response in tackling the problem and be in a better position for the next phase of reconstruction and rehabilitation work, according to Xinhua.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202210/1277715.shtml>

October 24, 2022

Xinhuanet News

China welcomes FATF's removal of Pakistan from its grey list

BEIJING, Oct. 24 (Xinhua) -- China welcomes the decision of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) to remove Pakistan from its grey list, a foreign ministry spokesperson said on Monday.

"China congratulates Pakistan on this," spokesperson Wang Wenbin told a regular news briefing.

This has been made possible thanks to Pakistan's effort to firmly follow through on its political commitment and continuously improve and enhance its Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism (AML/CFT) system over the past five years despite the difficulties, he said.

This also shows international support and recognition of Pakistan's endeavor in this regard, he added.

"We hope that Pakistan will continue to make positive contributions to promoting international counter-terrorism cooperation and safeguarding the security of the international financial system," he said.

<https://english.news.cn/20221024/fcee44f94af045f5ab40fae70c73a6f5/c.html>

October 25, 2022

Global Times

Hear from China: Pakistani student impressed by warm letter from Chinese president, vows to be messenger of friendship

Zhang Han

Chinese people believe that letters are as valuable as gold. For thousands of years, letters, across mountains and oceans, have been delivering the writers' sentiments, friendship, and expectations.

During the past decade, Xi Jinping, general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee and Chinese president, has managed to find time to reply to some letters from ordinary people despite his busy work schedule.

Through his letters, Xi has also corresponded with international friends from all walks of life on numerous occasions, part of a series of excellent stories of China's international exchanges in the new era. The letters have also added vivid color to the diplomacy between China and other countries in the last decade.

The Global Times traced and contacted some of the recipients of Xi's letters, to hear the inspiring stories behind the letters.

Receiving a reply letter from Chinese President Xi Jinping in 2020 is "the most impressive moment" of Muhammad Arif Mughal's decade-long experience in China.

Now, as a lecturer at the University of Science and Technology Beijing (USTB), he feels obliged and honored to continue being a messenger of friendship between China and Pakistan.

Arif was a PhD candidate at the USTB in 2020. When the COVID-19 broke out and started to spread in Pakistan, he and his peers, who were staying in Pakistan, found it almost impossible to get masks.

The university tried hard to contact them and managed to send them masks and other medical supplies in March 2020, making Arif "deeply moved" for the wholehearted care, so he came up with an idea - to write a letter to express his appreciation.

Arif found that the other 51 Pakistani students at the school shared the same idea so they jointly wrote a letter to President Xi to report their study and lives in China, and expressed their deep appreciation and determination to make contributions to the development of the Belt and Road Initiative and China-Pakistan friendship.

To his surprise, he received a letter of response from President Xi on May 17, 2020, and immediately shared it with his friends and family.

Learning that the students have enriched their knowledge and made quite a few Chinese friends while studying in China, Xi said he felt happy for the achievements they have made.

"As you have felt, since the COVID-19 epidemic broke out, the Chinese government and schools have always cared for the lives and health of foreign students studying in China, providing all-round help for them," Xi noted.

The Chinese government and people put people's lives first and treat foreigners in the country the same as Chinese nationals, making no exception in offering them care, Xi wrote.

"A friend in need is a friend indeed," he said, adding that China will continue providing various help to all foreign students studying in the country.

From time to time, Arif can feel the iron-clad friendship between China and Pakistan.

When downpours and floods hit Arif's home country in August this year, China dispatched its Y-20 large transport aircraft of the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) Air Force to send most-needed humanitarian aid materials, including 3,000 tents in the first batch, to flood-hit Pakistan.

Arif recalled the warm help from his schoolmates, university staff and faculty when he first came to China in 2010 as an undergraduate student. Without them, "I could not have got used to life here so soon when I could barely speak any Chinese."

Arif was inspired by his elder brother who was awarded a scholarship at Tsinghua University for a PhD program, and after consulting with him, he decided to come to China, too.

That proved to be a wise decision and now Arif is proud of completing bachelor's and PhD degrees in a reputable Chinese university and working as a lecturer in the field of artificial intelligence. He specializes in medical data collection and AI analysis to give people health advice. In protecting lives, Arif acquired a strong sense of mission.

Arif Mughal (right) attends a cultural event in China. Photo: Courtesy of Mughal

Arif Mughal (right) attends a cultural event in China. Photo: Courtesy of Mughal

In the past decade, he also witnessed China's development miracle in person, including cash-free society, super developed subway network in Beijing, and the comfortable and convenient high-speed railways.

Having been spending most of his time in China since 2010 and described it "a second home," Arif got a deeper understanding of China's people-centered governance philosophy after the COVID-19 epidemic.

Young and old, Chinese and foreign, all of them were united to fight against the coronavirus, which reflected Xi's vision of a community with a shared future for mankind, Arif noted.

That was also in the reply letter, where Xi encouraged the students to communicate more with their Chinese peers and join hands with youth from all countries to contribute to promoting people-to-people connectivity and building a community with a shared future for mankind.

While welcoming excellent youth from other countries to study in China, Xi encouraged them to learn more about the country, communicate more with their Chinese peers and tell the world more about the China they see.

That is exactly what Arif has been doing now.

Arif actively engages with different communities in China, makes Chinese friends, attends cultural events and visits exhibitions, has bites of Chinese delicacies (with hotpot the favorite) and watches Chinese TV dramas.

Arif has also been recommending his friends and family members to come to visit China and acquire vivid, in-person experiences in this fast-growing country with friendly people and rich history and culture.

He hopes to inspire more people, just like how his elderly brother inspired him.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202210/1277911.shtml>

October 26, 2022

China Daily

My CIIE Story, Great Opportunity: Pakistani jeweler's unbreakable ties with expo

Editor's Note: The fifth China International Import Expo will open in less than 10 days. In October, several participants of the CIIE will tell their stories themed around "great opportunity" to showcase the positive changes the expo has made to the world and how it has helped build a community with a shared future for mankind over the past five years.

I was born into a big family in Pakistan that has been running a jewelry business for generations. But inspired by a friend of my father who is a traditional Chinese medicine doctor, all I wanted to be in my early years was a doctor.

As such, I learned Chinese and finally came to China in 2001 to study at the Xinjiang Medical University in Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region. I met my wife during an internship at a hospital and accompanied her to Shanghai in 2010 when she was admitted to the Naval Medical University's doctorate course.

I later decided to enter my family's business and establish my own jewelry brand called Winza. I have since attended more than 200 jewelry trade shows, forums and salons in China to learn about consumers' preferences for jewelry.

In 2019, I was invited by the president of the Shanghai Mineral Fossil Association to participate in the second CIIE. As the decision was made in haste, I only booked a 12-square-meter booth to test the water. Rubies, sapphires, and emeralds designed by my sister were showcased at the expo.

I was worried at first that few people would notice the small booth or like our products. But in the following six days, to my surprise, numerous people visited our booth. I gave away all my business cards and added many friends on WeChat. Many purchasers appreciated our design and offered to cooperate. I gained great benefits from the second expo.

At the third and fourth edition of the CIIE, I had a 36-square-meter booth and displayed 36 kinds of products. Due to the opportunities provided by the expo, our team's efforts and

support from clients, we received orders worth a few million dollars. Winza has been seeing an annual growth of 50 percent in its sales revenue since 2019.

Soon after the third CIIE, I set a plan to open Winza's first flagship store in Shanghai. With the help of Huangpu district's commission of commerce, the store was opened at the Shanghai New World Daimaru department store. Business has been growing and my company is now an A-level taxpayer in the Huangpu district.

In addition, we were invited by the CIIE Bureau to attend an investment promotion activity, which was held by China's Ministry of Commerce and the Liaoning Provincial People's Government, last year, and obtained a new development opportunity. By the end of 2022, a new Winza outlet will be unveiled in a downtown shopping mall in Shenyang, the capital of Liaoning.

The CIIE is more than a platform for small and medium-sized enterprises to showcase themselves. Companies can also learn about the latest industry trends and connect with purchasers from across China. The expo, which is held every year despite sporadic COVID-19 outbreaks, has bolstered exhibitors' confidence and demonstrated China's commitment to opening-up.

Winza will bring more premium products, including diamonds for newly-weds and handmade glasses, to the fifth CIIE. Our British designers make every single piece of our products replete with elegance and we hope Chinese customers will like them.

I also want to recruit more franchises during the expo. Winza is aiming to have more shops in Shanghai and other big cities in China in the following five years.

Several days ago, a customer from Shandong told me that she visited our booth at the CIIE every year because our jewelry design can "emotionally heal" her. A man who bought a 1-carat diamond ring for his wife during the second expo in 2019 came to us two years later to buy another one for his daughter. These stories made me realize that jewelry is both valuable collection and priceless heritage.

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202210/26/WS6358fd9da310fd2b29e7eb18.html>

Global Times

Pakistani PM to visit China after 20th CPC National Congress, 'demonstrating the special friendship and strategic mutual trust'

Cui Fandi

Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif will visit China on November 1 upon invitation by Chinese Premier Li Keqiang, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Wang Wenbin announced on Wednesday.

Sharif is among the first batch of foreign leaders to visit China after the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC) concluded, demonstrating the special friendship and strategic mutual trust between China and Pakistan, Wang said at a routine news conference.

This will also be Sharif's first visit to China since taking office in April, a continuation of the positive momentum of close high-level contacts between the two countries, Wang said.

During his visit, Sharif is scheduled to meet with Chinese President Xi Jinping. He will also hold talks with Premier Li Keqiang, and meet with Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress Li Zhanshu.

The leaders will have in-depth exchanges of views on bilateral relations and international and regional issues of common concern, and jointly plan and put forward the blueprint for the development of China-Pakistan relations, according to the Chinese Foreign Ministry.

Wang noted that China and Pakistan are all-weather strategic partners and ironclad brothers. The two countries have always understood each other, trusted each other and supported each other over the past 70 years since the establishment of diplomatic ties. "Since the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Pakistan, the bilateral relationship has been a classic example of friendly interaction between countries with different systems, social types and nationalities, which is also recognized by the international community," Qian Feng, director of the research department at the National Strategy Institute at Tsinghua University, told the Global Times on Wednesday.

China looks forward to working with Pakistan in order to take this visit as an opportunity to further promote all-weather and high-level strategic cooperation, build a closer China-Pakistan community with a shared future in the new era, and make greater contributions to the maintenance of regional peace and stability and international fairness and justice, the spokesperson noted.

Because China-Pakistan relations are an all-weather strategic partnership, the two sides have extensive and deep common language and interests in major international and regional affairs, Qian noted. The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is expected to be an important topic during Sharif's visit to China, he said.

He noted that as the CPEC has entered a high-quality second phase, the two sides will continue to solidify the all-weather strategic partnership, and then strive to promote a smoother development. It is also an important opportunity to drive the close development of political, economic, diplomatic and people-to-people exchanges between the two countries in various fields.

On Tuesday, Hu Zhaoming, spokesperson for the International Department of the CPC Central Committee, announced that General Secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee Nguyen Phu Trong will pay an official visit to China from October 30 to November 2.

Vietnam's communist party chief and the Pakistani prime minister are the first foreign leaders China has confirmed as upcoming visitors following the conclusion of the 20th CPC National Congress, which reflects that friendly cooperation with neighboring countries will continue to be an important basis of China's foreign policy, Qian said.

"Both Vietnam and Pakistan are the important neighboring countries for China," he said. "It can be understood that neighboring countries remain the foundation of China's future foreign

policy. China is laying the foundation for the construction of a community with a shared future for mankind, by continuing to strengthen cooperation with friendly neighboring countries, solidifying neighboring relations and building a neighboring community with a shared future."

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202210/1278004.shtml>

October 29, 2022

Shanghai Daily

China-built Orange Line metro train in Pakistan's Lahore makes life easier for passengers

The Orange Line Metro Train (OLMT) built under the framework of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) in Pakistan's east Lahore city brought a very positive change in the life of Mehak Idrees who takes multiple trips on the train every day.

Idrees is a mother of two and used to have to spend over 35,000 Pakistani rupees (158.10 U.S. dollars) a month on commuting. She now only needs to spend around 10,000 rupees for commuting expenses after taking the metro line.

"As a working woman I need to travel a lot within the city, and the OLMT makes me reach my office in time every morning and quickly takes me back to my kids after work. It is always on time and provides a very comfortable and secure environment for women because of its separate compartment where we can sit comfortably," Idrees told Xinhua.

She said the staff on the train are also well-trained and always ready to extend a helping hand.

As an early-harvest project of CPEC, the Orange Line project was jointly constructed by China Railway Group Corporation and China North Industries Corporation, and it was put into operation on Oct. 25, 2020 in the capital city of Punjab province, making it Pakistan's first-ever mass rapid urban transit train service.

Talking to Xinhua, Li Chen, the general manager of Pakistan Lahore Metro Orange Line O&M Project, said that the project created over 90,000 employment opportunities for locals during the construction and operations phase of the project.

"We trained the first batch of the excellent local team who can independently operate these metro lines ... Right now, all operations, maintenance, and dispatching work are being done by locals, which is a remarkable achievement," Li said, adding that the punctuality rate of the Orange Line is 99.99 percent.

An average of 120,000 people travel by Orange Line every day, which has 26 stations and covers a 27-km route, passing the areas where most middle-class people of the city lives.

The trains start operations at 6 a.m. every day, convenient for students who prefer the OLMT to save time and get a hassle-free ride to school.

"It used to take me over 40 minutes to reach school due to slow traffic on roads during rush hours in the morning. When I started traveling by this train a year ago, I got a chance to sleep

more in the morning as the train shrunk the distance and made me reach school in less than 10 minutes," Muhammad Hanan, a student in sixth grade, told Xinhua.

The train provides very comfortable ride with a central air conditioning system, the ten-year-old said.

The principal of Hanan's school Waqar Kayani said that a large number of students from his school travel by the train every day and it is having a very good impact on the health of the kids who now travel in a cleaner environment, making them perform better in school.

The principal added that there are a lot of small traffic accidents every day during peak hours of traffic due to over-crowdedness on the roads. "The train is very safe with zero accident records, so parents of the students rely more on this train service," he added.

The train also passes by some of the cultural sites and historical places of the city, helping tourists to get to the sites easily and promoting tourism of the city known as the cultural hub of Pakistan.

The train is the epitome of China-Pakistan friendship and the economic cooperation under the framework of CPEC, said Li, the general manager.

"The project brought a lot of job opportunities, and people from both countries worked on the project, so the metro line connected China and Pakistan together. Everyone here can take the metro line and feel how CPEC really helps them in their career and makes their life better," Li said

<https://www.shine.cn/news/world/2210292041/>

October 30, 2022

Global Times

**China, Pakistan to expand cooperation in key areas amid PM's visit:
Pakistani envoy**

Yin Yeping

China and Pakistan to further expand cooperation in key areas of trade, investment, infrastructure, industry, agriculture and IT, Pakistani Ambassador to China Moin ul Haque told the Global Times in an exclusive interview over the weekend, ahead of the official visit of Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to China starting on November 1.

Pakistan is among the few countries to be invited to China after the successful conclusion of the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC), which speaks of the special friendship and strategic mutual trust between the two countries, the ambassador said. This is also the prime minister's first bilateral visit to China since assuming office in April 2022.

During his visit, Sharif will meet with Chinese leaders, senior officials and representatives of the business community, according to the Pakistani ambassador.

"These interactions would provide us an excellent opportunity to review our bilateral relations and to further expand cooperation in key areas of trade, investment, infrastructure, industry, agriculture and IT," Haque said.

Both sides will discuss important regional and international issues, especially cooperation in addressing global challenges like the pandemic, climate change, inflation and poverty, he noted.

The two countries' ironclad partnership have stood the test of time, especially with China's strong supports for Pakistan during the historic flood, while the ongoing cooperation for the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) under the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) is injecting new momentum into the country's recovery from the recent natural disaster.

The report recently published by China Three Gorges International titled Overview of Pakistan's Power Sector and its Future Outlook said the energy projects of the CPEC have created more than 46,000 jobs in Pakistan, which has been widely reported by mainstream media in Pakistan. These projects have also greatly helped the country ease its foreign exchange pressure caused by its dependence on energy imports.

The ambassador said that the CPEC marks a new phase in Pakistan-China relations as it places economic cooperation and connectivity at the center of bilateral agenda.

Since its inception in 2013, the CPEC has continued to make rapid and tangible progress, and helped Pakistan address power and infrastructure bottlenecks, thus laying the foundation for sustained economic modernization, the envoy said.

Soon after taking office, Sharif visited a number of CPEC projects and has prioritized their early completion.

Co-chaired by senior officials of Pakistan and China, the 11th meeting of CPEC-Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) held on Thursday expressed satisfaction at the steady pace of CPEC projects.

During the meeting, both sides emphasized the importance of the CPEC for economic prosperity and agreed to finalize all procedural formalities prior to launching new projects including ML-I and the Karachi Circular Railway.

With all the progress smoothly underway, the ambassador expressed his confidence that guided by the strategic vision of the leadership of the two countries and hard work of the relevant departments and participating units, "CPEC would emerge as a lynchpin of region's connectivity and economic integration."

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202210/1278298.shtml>

Pakistan-China friendship: a sacred tale of abiding trust and love

Shehbaz Sharif

Confucius once paid tribute to friends and friendship in these illuminating words:

"There are three types of good friends: one that is direct and honest; one that is trustworthy, dependable, and generous when you need help; and one that is knowledgeable and talented to guide you and show you what you can't see."

China-Pakistan eternal friendship fulfils all three attributes as illustrated by the Great Master!

Longevity, love and trust aptly describe Pakistan-China friendship. There is no relationship like ours which so deeply touches the soul of our people and evokes such strong emotions. Poetic expressions with emotive diction are used to captivate the essence of these fabulous ties. Touching stories of mutual support and solidarity in difficult times, transferred from generation to generation, have become an ineffaceable element of our collective consciousness.

Nurtured by the enthusiasm of our peoples and steered by vision of the leadership, the seed of Pakistan-China friendship has blossomed into an evergreen tree with deep roots and strong branches. It has withstood the vicissitudes of international upheavals and vagaries of domestic changes.

For Pakistan, relations with China form the cornerstone of our foreign policy; in China, Pakistan is described as Ba Tie i.e. China's Iron Brother, and elsewhere our ties are appreciated for their unique strength, enduring permanence and unfathomable trust.

I would be soon in Beijing on my first bilateral visit after assuming office, and that too at an opportune time, soon after the successful conclusion of the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China.

I would like to express my heartiest felicitations to my brother General Secretary Xi Jinping and the Communist Party of China for starting a New Era of China's progress; and I say with complete confidence that it heralds the dawn of a brighter era of China-Pakistan friendship too!

Ever since the beginning of my political career, China's civilizational ethos, rich historical experiences and its odyssey to become the centre of global politics and economics has been a subject of irresistible curiosity for me.

In my previous visits to China, I tried to unlock the secrets of its rapid growth and development. I was deeply impressed to observe the selfless dedication, toil and labour of Chinese people, in particular the "Chinese speed" to achieve national targets set by the leadership. As the Chief Minister of Punjab, I tried to work with the same spirit for the province's socio-economic development. As the Prime Minister of Pakistan, I am determined to work with similar passion to meet our common development goals!

Since my last visit to China, the international landscape has undergone a profound transformation unprecedented in its scale and scope. Geopolitical tensions are leading to conflicts, resurrection of ideological divide, economic and technological decoupling, and costly arms race. Sadly, this is happening when a multitude of humanity continue to suffer from poverty, disease and hunger.

In many parts of the world, people are still battling with COVID-19 and its aftershocks. The spectre of climate change is looming large and is a grim reality of today. Pakistan has been its recent victim in the shape of devastating floods.

The imperatives of 21st century demand a new paradigm to deal with emerging challenges as well as opportunities and to wean our region away from conflict and conflagration. We seek friendly relations with our neighbouring countries on the basis of mutual respect and spirit of cooperation, and desire peaceful resolution of all outstanding disputes including Kashmir issue through dialogue and diplomacy based on UN charter and resolutions.

The very nature and genesis of all these challenges is unique and, if left unattended, they could reverse the march of globalization and undo the great achievements humankind has made. It surely requires what President Xi has often said, global action, global response and solidarity.

Amidst this unfolding global scenario, the salience of China-Pakistan strategic partnership has increased manifold. The imperatives of geography, our common outlook, expanding economic partnership and an acute sense of destiny have made us a natural partner.

Pakistan is committed to further deepen bilateral ties between our two countries, continue our mutual support on core issues, continue our efforts for regional peace and connectivity and progressively advance our all-weather strategic partnership of cooperation to a new pinnacle of trust and close cooperation.

The solidarity and support China extended to Pakistan in the aftermath of COVID-19 pandemic was the vivid manifestation of our time-tested friendship. Over sixty relief flights carrying emergency medical supplies were sent to Pakistan. Chinese-made vaccines were the mainstay of our nation-wide immunization drive.

Similarly, after the recent devastating floods in Pakistan, China's top leadership, central government ministries, provincial governments, enterprises and common people from all walks of life came forward to assist the flood-affected people of Pakistan. I was particularly touched to note that even children on watching visuals of floods in Pakistan donated their pocket-money. These moving stories truly reflect the deep affection and close fraternal bonds between our two peoples.

Pakistan today finds itself at the anvil of unprecedented changes as it marches forward for a robust, sustainable and inclusive economic development. Like other countries, Pakistan's economy too is facing number of challenges due to global economic slowdown, rising food and oil prices and supply chain disruptions. Despite the global economic headwinds, my government is working assiduously to harness our indigenous resources and potential for ensuring prosperity and progress of our people.

In pursuance of these objectives, we draw inspiration from China's achievements be it attaining the first centenary goal of building a moderately prosperous society or its endeavours for meeting the second centenary goal of building a modern socialist country in all respects.

China is Pakistan's largest trade and investment partner. We want to expand these ties by making an optimal use of the 2nd Phase of China-Pakistan Free Trade Agreement and enhancing industrial cooperation. Pakistan can serve as the manufacturing base for China and an extension of its industrial and supply chain network.

As the fifth populous country with over 60 percent youth, talented human resource and a burgeoning market with immense growth potential, Pakistan offers attractive investment opportunities to the Chinese companies in areas of industry, agriculture modernisation, infrastructure, green energy and digital economy.

Since ancient times, the fertile river valleys of Pakistan have been the granaries of the subcontinent. Building upon the complementarities in agriculture, our two countries can fast-track bilateral cooperation to boost corporate farming, efficient water usage, development of hybrid seeds and high yield crops and establishing cold storage chains. This cooperation has assumed an added importance to address common concerns related to food security.

Climate change poses an existential threat to humanity's survival. The recent unprecedented floods in Pakistan inundated one-third of our territory and affected over 33 million people with huge economic losses. This climate-induced catastrophe is a wake-up call for the sceptics and a clarion call for joint action.

China is leading voice for addressing the adverse impacts of climate change and has upgraded its disaster response mechanism. We look forward to learning from China's technological advancement in early warning system, building resilient infrastructure and disaster management.

Knowledge-based economy has emerged as the new driver for national growth. In Pakistan, we are laying focus on e-commerce, establishment of technology parks and smart cities. We appreciate China's rapid advancement in science and technology and want to expand cooperation in emerging and smart technologies including quantum computing, robotics, AI, and big data.

Pakistan is the earliest partner of President Xi Jinping's visionary Belt and Road Initiative. We have also ardently supported President Xi's Global Development Initiative, which complements BRI and would contribute to the implementation of UN 2030 SDGs. Pakistan looks forward to working with China to meet GDI goals as a key partner country.

China Pakistan Economic Corridor as the flagship of BRI has infused renewed vitality into our socioeconomic development in a short span of a few years. I fondly recall that CPEC was formally launched during the tenure of my brother, former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif. As the Chief Minister of Punjab, I contributed to the then government's effort by completing many key energy and public transport projects in record time which included coal power plants at Sahiwal, Quaid-e-Azam Solar Power Park and Pakistan's first Lahore Orange Line mass transit project.

As a game-changer for Pakistan and subsequently for the broader region, CPEC is the central pillar of my government's development agenda. Under its rubric, the successful completion of energy and transport infrastructure projects have set the stage for Pakistan's economic revitalization and for laying a solid foundation for cooperation in diverse sectors.

CPEC's next phase of high quality development will encompass key areas such as industry, energy, agriculture, ICT, rail and road network and developing Gwadar Port as a hub of trade and transshipment, investment and regional connectivity. Our overall aim is to harness the potential of CPEC for Pakistan's inclusive and sustainable growth, socioeconomic development and for improving livelihoods of our people.

Safety and security of Chinese personnel and projects in Pakistan remains our top priority. The loss of precious Chinese lives in Pakistan is our loss. We would not let anyone to damage our close friendship and strong economic partnership. My government would spare no effort to bring to justice the perpetrators of these reprehensible acts.

To a cursory observer, Pakistan-China friendship may be driven by their respective national interests. To a historian, the geographical proximity and commonality of past experiences may have brought us together. But for us in Pakistan and in true essence, fraternal bonds between our two peoples are much deeper, transcending the general precepts of inter-state ties and uniting us in an eternal and timeless relationship.

While intensifying our efforts to expand our bilateral cultural exchanges and bringing people of our two countries together, we need to pay a special focus to encouraging more exchanges amongst our youth to bequeath finest traditions of our bilateral friendship and to help them grasp its significance in a fast-changing world.

Both Pakistan and China are tied together by a common vision to play a role for bright future of our people as well as for peace and stability of the broader region. This is a responsibility that history has placed on our shoulders and we would surely fulfil it!

And I am confident that our relationship, which President Xi hailed as "taller than mountains, deeper than oceans, and sweeter than honey" in his address to Pakistan's Parliament in April 2015, can help us achieve our common aspirations.

Live Long Pakistan-China Friendship!

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<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202210/1278280.shtml>