



For Better Understanding on China–Pakistan and CPEC

Gleanings from the National & Chinese Press

February 16-28, 2025



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February 16, 2025

Business Recorder

China-Pakistan cooperation

EDITORIAL: President Asif Ali Zardari has recently concluded a visit to China, overseeing signing of more than a dozen agreements, covering diverse fields.

The gist of the discussions and agreements reached during the visit as per a joint statement, issued by the Foreign Office on Thursday, was that “the China-Pakistan relationship remains of strategic significance, and any attempt to disrupt or undermine it is bound to fail” - apparently, a reference to hostile forces-inspired attacks on Chinese nationals and interests as well as sanctions the US imposed last December on a Chinese research institute and several companies, it said, were involved in supplying ballistic missiles-applicable items to Pakistan. Both sides also reiterated their commitment to upgrade the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) by incorporating in its second phase industrial growth, innovation, green energy and some other open corridors. That could be the real and much talked-about game changer. The bond between Pakistan and China, based on mutual respect and cooperation, has stood the test of time for over seven decades. Relations with certain other countries, both transactional and interventionist in nature have not been very dependable. China has been a strategic partner and truly an ‘All Weather Friend’, which adheres to a policy of non-interference in internal affairs of other nations. Aside from mutually beneficial expansion in trade, agriculture, private sector linkages, regional connectivity through the CPEC, the two sides have agreed to enhance collaboration in emerging technologies, including artificial intelligence. China having decided early on not to remain the world’s factory, focused its attention on research and development of innovative technologies with the result that it has emerged as the global leader in green energies while its electric vehicles industry is not only the largest in the world but has been giving tough competition to Elon Musk’s Tesla company. What’s more, its open-source AI app DeepSeek has taken the world by storm. We can and must benefit from these technologies to address our multifaceted challenges. The advancements in the field of AI thus far hold indeterminate but huge possibilities for progress and development. The president’s visit was also an occasion for reiteration of support for the two countries’ respective positions on geopolitical issues such as China’s stance on Taiwan and policies vis-a-vis Xinjiang, Xizang, Hong Kong, and the South China Sea; and Pakistan’s dispute with India over Kashmir. China reaffirmed that it should be resolved in accordance with the UN Charter, relevant Security Council resolutions, and bilateral agreements. As regards the more immediate problem, both sides urged the interim Afghan government to take “visible and verifiable” action against terrorist groups. They also called for increased international effort to stabilise Afghanistan and integrate it into the global economy. Hopefully, this will encourage moderate elements within the Afghan Taliban leadership to rein in terrorist groups, particularly the TTP using Afghan soil to launch attacks into Pakistan.

<https://www.brecorder.com/news/40348251/china-pakistan-cooperation>

No need to feel threatened from China's progress, world told

ISLAMABAD: President Asif Ali Zardari has declared that the world needs not to feel threatened from the rapid progress of China as it would also be beneficial for them.

In an interview with the Chinese state media during his visit to China, President Zardari said "Being neighbours with China for decades, we know that China does not interfere in the internal affairs of other countries."

Zardari mentioned that the rapid development and transformation of China over the past few decades have greatly impressed him. The contribution of each individual in China to their respective fields is benefiting the nation as a whole, he added.

Zardari emphasized that China's rise is a positive development, and there is no need to be fearful.

Praising China's foreign policy, President Zardari said it is a source of stability in the region. Additionally, President Zardari stressed the need to further deepen Pakistan-China friendship, economic, and diplomatic cooperation.

"China has never been an occupier. So why should one neighbour which knows that the Chinese are not the kind who want to interfere in other countries be scared. I would never be scared of China," the president said.

"I would be scared of another country but not China," he added. Zardari remarked that individual excellence showcased by the people of China in their respective fields is resulting in the collective benefit of the nation.

President Zardari appreciated rapid transformation in China, noting massive changes in Chinese cities since his last visit a decade ago.

"Every time I come, it's another city. Every city is another city, even Beijing. I'm coming here now after 10 years, and it's new to me – the look of it, buildings, this and that, people – everything is different. It's the fact that you have such hardworking people. Everybody is working in their own field, and it ends up in a collective advantage to the nation," Zardari said.

<https://www.brecorder.com/news/40348291/no-need-to-feel-threatened-from-chinas-progress-world-told>

Zardari heaps praise on the rise of China

President says Pakistan owing to mutual extensive cooperation and partnership wants maximum benefits from the Chinese advancements and experiences in different fields

ISLAMABAD: President Asif Ali Zardari desired that Pakistan, due to its closer geographical proximity with China, would like to take advantage from the Chinese advancements in different fields including agriculture, communication space, technology and industry.

In an interview with CCTV during his recent visit to China and broadcast by the national TV channels Saturday, the president said Pakistan accorded high priority to all-weather

friendship with China as the latter had always been a steadfast friend, and stood by Pakistan in difficult times.

He also reaffirmed Pakistan's unwavering support to China, its leadership and the nation, saying that they firmly believed in their strongest friendly bonds.

He said Pakistan, due to its geographical location and owing to mutual extensive cooperation and partnership, wanted maximum benefits from the Chinese advancements and experiences in different fields.

He also termed the Chinese achievements in realms of science and technology as 'good things' for the entire world and the region.

The president said agriculture was a sector where China could help as Pakistan's per acre yield was less when compared with China.

Responding to a query to China-Pakistan cooperation in space technology, he said Pakistan wanted to take advantage from the Chinese technology, adding Pakistan was growing its capacity in this regard by forging partnership with China, 'which is a good thing'.

He said Pakistan could use the Chinese technology for its advancement, in every field, whether it was utility of water or it was climate change. Pakistan wanted to take advantage from the Chinese lessons.

The president expressed his satisfaction over the pace of connectivity and development under the umbrella of CPEC which was fast transforming the economic landscape of Pakistan.

The president said, during his recent visit to China, the two sides had discussed the industrial development. The industrial parks would be only for China; and worked upon by the Pakistani labourers while the chief executive of a company could be running a business online while sitting in China.

The president said that China and Pakistan were known as all-weather friends.

"If I cannot develop myself to China's standards, I can bask in China's glory," he said, underscoring to take advantage from the Chinese technology for their coming generations.

Responding to a query, he said Pakistan wanted to take advantage of its position and its ties with the Chinese people that spanned over centuries.

Expressing his affection for the Chinese people, he said that he loved them and would always stand with China.

"Goodwill, goodwill and goodwill", it is always the trust and goodwill and in-depth relationship," the president said while summoning up his recent visit.

The president also lauded President Xi as a 'very strong and very steadfast' who understood a lot of things, adding that he wanted to convey to the world that they were all-weather friends.

Further admiring President Xi's political philosophy and his governance; he observed that China had made strides in different fields, showing 'a very vast difference' under the Chinese president's leadership.

To another question, President Zardari said that relationship between Pakistan and China was centuries old as people from the two countries had been travelling and interacting with each other.

This relationship was based upon humanity and trust, he said, adding the Chinese people had never been inhuman and never gone to another country to massacre people. China had never been an occupier.

President Zardari, who held meetings with the Chinese leadership during his visit, said that Pakistan had been home to the world's oldest civilizations like Harrapa and Mohenjo-daro while the Chinese had their own oldest global civilization that tied them together.

To a query about China's progress, he said that every time he arrived there, he was impressed with the new developments in different cities and cited Beijing city where he had last visited ten years back.

It was the fact that the Chinese people were hard-working. Everybody was working in his own field for the collective advantage of the Chinese nation, he opined.

The president said China has been home to 1.4 billion people and the world could not compete because it was all about the new technology.

About China's rapid advancements in different sectors, he said the world should not be scared of such rapid growth.

He said Pakistan as a neighbor knew that the Chinese were not the kind who wanted to interfere in other country. "I will never be scared of China" in terms of its fast progress," he maintained. President Zardari expressed his confidence that Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), as the significant global forum, would move forward after China assumed its chair for the next year.

<https://www.brecorder.com/news/40348290/zardari-heaps-praise-on-the-rise-of-china>

The News

'Production-oriented, market-driven economy vital for CPEC potential'

Rasheed Khalid

Islamabad : Haroon Sharif, Chairperson. Pakistan Regional Economic Forum (PREF), has said that many view CPEC as either a geopolitical shift or a massive infrastructure project, but in reality, it is an economic development approach based on connectivity which implies a connection between economic hubs in which large amount of economic resources and actors are concentrated along a defined geography.

Mr Sharif was giving a talk on "China Pakistan Economic Corridor 2.0: impact, challenges and opportunities" organised here by Institute of Regional Studies (IRS). Mr Sharif shared his extensive insights based on years of experience in international development and economic diplomacy. He argued that connectivity alone is not enough, it must be complemented by trade expansion and private sector participation. About the development of Special Economic Zones (SEZs) he underscored that merely setting up infrastructure is not enough — there

must be a comprehensive policy framework, efficient governance and adequate financing. Economic zones only thrive when there are joint ventures, investment-friendly policies and structured governance models that attract investors. He suggested overcoming the dependency mindset and adopt self-driven solution approach. Debt must be utilised to create productive assets. There was a consensus that Pakistan must transition from a debt-reliant model to private capital-driven economic activity.

He argued that real economic progress will not come from government-to-government (G2G) agreements alone but from a market-driven approach where private investors and businesses lead. Pakistan must create an economic environment that attracts sustainable investment. People need to take ownership which will also help address the security challenges.

<https://e.thenews.com.pk/detail?id=383889>

No need to fear China's rise: Zardari

ISLAMABAD: Praising China's remarkable growth and rise on the global stage, President Asif Ali Zardari has said that the development showcased by Beijing was a positive thing and there was no need for the world to fear it. Speaking during an interview to the Chinese state media on his five-day visit to the country, President Zardari underscored that Beijing's fast-paced development and transformation over the past few decades had impressed him to a great extent. "China has never been an occupier. [...] So why should one neighbour which knows that the Chinese are not the kind who want to interfere in other countries be scared. I would never be scared of China," the president said. "I would be scared of another country but not China," he added. He remarked that individual excellence showcased by the people of China in their respective fields was resulting in the collective benefit of the nation.

The president, in the first week of February, had reached China on an invitation of his Chinese counterpart President Xi Jinping. During his stay in Beijing, President Zardari — accompanied by a delegation comprising Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar, Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi, Senator Saleem Mandviwala and Dr Asim Hussain — held various meetings with Chinese leadership, including President Xi and Prime Minister Li Qiang. Meanwhile, lauding China's foreign policy during the interview, President Zardari said that as Beijing's neighbour, Islamabad was aware of the former's policy of non-interference with regard to internal matters of other countries. China's foreign policy, he noted, was a source of regional stability. Expanding on the Pak-China relations, the president opined that the evergreen friendship between the two countries was not limited to good times. Noting that Pakistan and China are close neighbours and will remain friends in all circumstances, the president stressed that Islamabad to fully benefit from Beijing's development and its geography. Commending his Chinese counterpart for being persistent and having an understanding of the global outlook, President Zardari also appreciated his political philosophy and style of governance while underscoring multiple milestones achieved by the neighbouring country under his leadership. Highlighting the need to improve roads and communications infrastructure with China, he said that Beijing could help Islamabad in the agricultural sector. <https://e.thenews.com.pk/detail?id=383984>

K2 Daily

<p>بقیہ</p> <p>چین کیساتھ مختلف شعبوں میں وسیع تعاون کے خواہاں ہیں، صدر زرداری</p> <p>اسلام آباد (انٹرنیٹ ڈیسک) صدر مملکت آصف علی زرداری نے (ہفتی 7 بجے نمبر 4)</p>	<p>کہا ہے کہ پاکستان چین کے ساتھ اپنی ہندوستانی قربت کی بنیاد پر دوست مواصلات، علاقائی چینالوئی اور مختلف سیٹ مختلف شعبہ جات میں چینی ترقی سے مستفید ہونے کا خواہاں ہے۔ اپنے حالیہ دورہ چین کے دوران ہی سی سی ٹی وی کو اپنے گئے انٹرویو میں صدر مملکت نے کہا کہ پاکستان چین کے ساتھ صدا بہادر دوستی کو اولین ترجیح دیتا ہے جیسا کہ چین ہمیشہ سے ہمارا جیت قدم دوست رہا ہے اور ہر مشکل وقت میں پاکستان کے ساتھ کھڑا رہا ہے۔ صدر نے چین، اس کی قیادت اور قوم کے لیے پاکستان کی غیر محزول حمایت کا اعادہ کرتے ہوئے کہا کہ وہ ان مربوط ترین دوستانہ تعلقات پر پختہ یقین رکھتے ہیں۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ پاکستان اپنے ہندوستانی مل وقوع اور باہمی وسیع تر تعاون اور شراکت داری کی وجہ سے مختلف شعبہ جات میں چینی ترقی اور تجارت سے زیادہ سے زیادہ فائدہ اٹھانا چاہتا ہے۔ انہوں نے سائنس اور چینالوئی کے شعبوں میں چینی کامیابیوں کو چری دیا اور خطے کے لیے خوال آئندہ شراکت قرار دیا۔ صدر نے کہا کہ زراعت ایک ایسا شعبہ ہے جہاں چین ہماری معاونت کر سکتا ہے کیونکہ پاکستان کی فی ایکڑ پیداوار چین کے مقابلے میں کم ہے۔ علاقائی چینالوئی میں چین پاکستان تعاون کے سوال کے جواب میں انہوں نے کہا کہ پاکستان چینی چینالوئی سے مستفید ہونے کا خواہاں ہے۔</p>
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https://epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_GB&Date=2025-02-16

https://epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_GB&Page=Baqia&Date=2025-02-16

February 17, 2025

Nawaiwaqt News

چین میں دو پاکستانی طلباء نے معمر شخص کو بچالیا، جرات مند اندہ اقدام پر سراہا گیا

اسلام آباد (خبرنگار) چین کی گنان میڈیکل یونیورسٹی کے دو پاکستانی طالب علموں یوسف خان اور محمد رفیع اللہ جو اد کو شنگھائی ریلوے سٹیشن پر اچانک طبی ایمر جنسی کا شکار ہونے والے معمر شخص کی زندگی بچانے کے لئے جرات مند اندہ اور فلاحی اقدامات پر سراہا گیا ہے۔ چائنہ اکنامک نیٹ کے مطابق یہ واقعہ شنگھائی سونگ جیانگ ریلوے سٹیشن پر پیش آیا۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/laohore/2025-02-17/page-8/detail-18>

February 18, 2025

Express News

پاکستان اور چینی وزرائے خارجہ کی نیویارک میں آج اہم ملاقات

وزیر خارجہ اسحق ڈار آج نیویارک میں اپنے چینی ہم منصب وانگ یی کے ساتھ علاقائی اور بین الاقوامی پیش رفت کے پس منظر میں ایک اہم ملاقات کر رہے ہیں۔ اسحاق ڈار اور وانگ یی "کثیر جہات پر عمل: عالمی طرز حکمرانی میں اصلاحات اور بہتری" کے عنوان سے اقوام متحدہ کی سلامتی کونسل کے خصوصی اجلاس میں شرکت کے لیے نیویارک میں ہیں، چینی وزیر خارجہ نے ڈار کو یو این ایس سی اجلاس کے لیے خصوصی دعوت دی۔ دونوں رہنما باہمی تعلقات، علاقائی اور بین الاقوامی امور اور امریکی صدر ڈونلڈ ٹرمپ کی پالیسیوں پر تبادلہ خیال کریں گے۔ اسحق ڈار نے پیر کو آئی سی ممالک کے سفیروں سے خطاب کیا اور غزہ سے لے کر کشمیر اور افغانستان سے لے کر اسلاموفوبیا تک کے مسائل پر بات کی۔ انھوں نے فلسطین اور کشمیر کیلئے پاکستان کے عزم کا اعادہ کیا اور کہا پاکستان فلسطین میں منصفانہ اور پائیدار امن کے لیے اپنی کوششیں جاری رکھے گا۔ اسحاق ڈار نے آئی سی پر زور دیا کہ وہ فلسطینی ریاست کو عالمی سطح پر تسلیم کرنے اور اقوام متحدہ میں فلسطین کی مکمل رکنیت کو یقینی بنانے کے لیے فیصلہ کن اقدامات کرے۔ افغانستان سے متعلق اسحاق نے افغان سرزمین سے کام کرنے والے ٹی ٹی پی کے عسکریت پسندوں سے بڑھتے ہوئے دہشت گردی کے خطرے سے خبردار کیا اور کہا پاکستان اپنے عوام کے تحفظ کے لیے تمام ضروری اقدامات کرے گا۔

<https://www.express.pk/story/2748390/pakistan-aur-cheeni-wazraye-kharja-ki-new-york-mein-aaj-ahem-mulaqaat-2748390>

Nawaiwaqt News

جی بی سی اور پاکستان چائنہ جوائنٹ چیمر کے درمیان مفاہمتی یادداشت پر دستخط

گوجرانوالہ (نمائندہ خصوصی) گوجرانوالہ بزنس سینٹر اور پاکستان چائنہ جوائنٹ چیمر کے درمیان مفاہمتی یادداشت پر دستخط کیے گئے۔ وفد نے لاہور میں پاکستان چائنہ جوائنٹ چیمر کے مرکزی دفتر کا دورہ کیا۔ وفد میں عثمان نواز باجوہ (ڈائریکٹر جی بی سی) خواجہ شارق کلیم، ارسلان شاہد، حبیب اللہ چوہدری، فائق کلیم، روحان اشرف اور چوہدری محسن شامل تھے۔ اس موقع پر گفتگو کرتے ہوئے پاکستان چائنہ جوائنٹ چیمر کے سیکرٹری جنرل صلاح الدین حنیف کا کہنا تھا کہ پاکستان چائنہ جوائنٹ چیمر کا قیام 2014 میں عمل میں آیا، ہم اب تک 54 پاک چائنہ ایکسپوز کا اہتمام کر چکے ہیں۔ دونوں ممالک کے درمیان باہمی تجارت میں قابل ذکر اضافہ دیکھنے کو ملا ہے، دوطرفہ تجارت کا حجم 16 ارب ڈالر سے تجاوز کر چکا ہے جو دونوں ممالک کے اقتصادی تعلقات کی مضبوطی کو ظاہر کرتا ہے۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/lahore/2025-02-18/page-4/detail-7>

چینی صنعتیں پاکستان منتقل کرنے کیلئے وسیع گنجائش موجود: ابوذر شاد، خالد عثمان

لاہور (کامرس رپورٹر) لاہور چیمر آف کامرس اینڈ انڈسٹری کے صدر میاں ابوذر شاد، سینئر نائب صدر انجینئر خالد عثمان اور نائب صدر شہد ندیر چودھری نے چینی تاجروں کے وفد سے ملاقات میں چینی سرمایہ کاروں کو پاکستان میں صنعتکاری شروع کرنے کی دعوت دی ہے جس سیمکلمہ معیشت کو مدد ملے گی۔ لاہور چیمر کے عہدیداروں نے کہا چینی سرمایہ کاروں کیلئے اپنی صنعتیں پاکستان منتقل کرنے کی وسیع گنجائش ہے اور سرمایہ کار سستی افرادی قوت سے بھی استفادہ کر سکیں گے۔ انہوں نے وفد کو سستی اور ہنرمند پاکستانی ورکر فورس اور حکومت کی سرمایہ دوست پالیسیوں سے آگاہ کیا۔ انہوں نے کہا پاکستان کاروبار کیلئے بہترین جگہ ہے۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/lahore/2025-02-18/page-6/detail-29>

February 19, 2025

Daily Times

China, Pakistan strengthen renewable energy ties with strategic agreement

Strategic cooperation agreement to enhance clean energy collaboration was signed between Mingyang Smart Energy Group Co., Ltd., China and the Energy Department of Sindh, Pakistan, in Beijing on February 6.

Under the agreement, Mingyang Smart Energy will construct a 350MW wind-solar integrated power storage project and a 75MW wind power project in Sindh. These projects are expected to be completed and operational within three years, China Economic Net (CEN) reported on Tuesday.

The signing ceremony was witnessed by President Asif Ali Zardari (During his visit to China) and Zhang Qiyang, President of Global Business Line and CTO of Mingyang Smart Energy, and officials from the Energy Department of Sindh were the signatories.

According to the Chinese company, the partnership builds on the long-standing energy collaboration between China and Pakistan. Notably, in 2017, the two nations launched their first Chinese-funded wind power project in Sindh, which included 33 wind turbines from Mingyang Smart Energy.

This project, which was successfully connected to the grid, served as a landmark for China-Pakistan clean energy cooperation. It not only provided local employment opportunities but also spurred the development of related industries, particularly in the supply chain for wind power components.

This new agreement underscores the ongoing commitment between China and Pakistan to advance clean energy solutions, contributing to both countries' green development goals.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1267039/china-pakistan-strengthen-renewable-energy-ties-with-strategic-agreement/>

Bilawal sees Pakistan as 'bridge builder' between China and US

* PPP chief highlights Pakistan's historical role in fostering dialogue between Beijing and Washington

Pakistan can serve as a "bridge builder" between China and the United States amid growing global tensions, Pakistan Peoples Party Chairman Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari said during the sidelines of the Munich Security Conference.

Speaking in an interview with Deutsche Welle, Bilawal highlighted Pakistan's historical role in fostering dialogue between Beijing and Washington.

"If you want to put us in a camp, we would like to see ourselves as bridge builders," he said, adding that Pakistan aims to bridge gaps rather than deepen divisions.

Bilawal described former US president Donald Trump as a "deal maker," suggesting that Pakistan could engage with the US on key regional challenges under his leadership. He also

stressed that Pakistan seeks better ties with India despite regional rivalries, cautioning that US support for India as a counterweight to China could fuel an arms race.

Bilawal noted Pakistan's stable ties with China but emphasised that the country must remain connected to the broader world.

Last year, Pakistan's Foreign Office reiterated that relations with China and the US were equally important, rejecting zero-sum diplomacy.

On security, Bilawal linked Pakistan's current challenges to the US withdrawal from Afghanistan, which he said empowered militant groups such as the Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) and Daesh.

He highlighted Pakistan's past success in countering militancy and called for political consensus to tackle the issue.

Pakistan had played a pivotal role in establishing diplomatic relations between the United States and China in the early 1970s, acting as a key intermediary.

In 1971, Pakistan facilitated secret communications between the US and China. Then President Yahya Khan served as a conduit between US President Richard Nixon and Chinese Premier Zhou Enlai.

Pakistan arranged a clandestine visit for US National Security Adviser Henry Kissinger to Beijing in July 1971. Officially, Kissinger was on a trip to Pakistan, but he feigned illness and was quietly flown to China from Islamabad.

Kissinger's visit paved the way for President Nixon's groundbreaking trip to China in 1972, marking the beginning of formal diplomatic relations between the two countries.

Pakistan's role was crucial due to its friendly ties with both nations at the time, earning the country significant diplomatic goodwill from both the US and China. This triangular diplomacy also helped Pakistan strengthen its international standing, especially as it navigated regional challenges with India.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1266957/bilawal-sees-pakistan-as-bridge-builder-between-china-and-us/>

The Nation

Dar holds meeting with Chinese FM.

ISLAMABAD -Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar yesterday urged the need for international cooperation and commitment to multilateralism to address emerging global challenges.

The Deputy Prime Minister addressed the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) High-Level Open Debate on "Practicing Multilateralism: Reforming and Improving Global Governance" in New York.

Dar welcomed China's initiative and emphasized the need for international cooperation and commitment to multilateralism to address emerging global challenges.

The ministerial meeting was convened by China as a signature event during its presidency of the Security Council. The session was chaired by Member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and Minister of Foreign Affairs of China Wang Yi. Pakistan is currently a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council for the term 2025-2026. The Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister welcomed China's initiative. He emphasized the need for international cooperation and commitment to multilateralism to address emerging global challenges. He called for upholding principles of the UN Charter, including self-determination, the non-use of force, respect for sovereignty, and the peaceful resolution of disputes. The Deputy Prime Minister expressed deep concerns over the grave situation in Occupied Palestinian Territories, in particular Gaza, condemning the massive loss of civilian lives and the persistent violations of international law by Israel. He called for the full implementation of the agreement to secure a permanent ceasefire in the Gaza and the urgent humanitarian support to the Palestinian people and the revival of a political process to achieve the two-state solution, with a viable, sovereign State of Palestine based on pre-1967 borders, with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital. He rejected any displacement of the Palestinian people from their homeland. The Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister also highlighted the denial of the Kashmiri people's right to self-determination, and called upon the international community to seek a peaceful resolution of Jammu and Kashmir dispute in accordance with the relevant UN Security Council resolutions and wishes of the Kashmiri people. Dar proposed the adoption of a roadmap for strengthening multilateralism and reforming the global governance. He emphasized the need for a more inclusive, democratic, and accountable Security Council, reforming the international financial architecture and strengthening international cooperation to address emerging challenges, particularly the regulation of transformative technologies like artificial intelligence. Pakistan and China yesterday agreed to enhance the existing cooperation to highest levels. Meanwhile, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar met Member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and Minister of Foreign Affairs Wang Yi in the New York at the sidelines of Ministerial Meeting of the United Nations Security Council. The meeting between the two leaders was marked by traditional warmth and cordiality, as is the hallmark of Pakistan-China friendship. During the meeting, both sides exchanged views on the entire range of bilateral relations including the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). Global and regional issues of shared interest were also discussed. In his remarks, Foreign Minister Wang Yi said that China accorded a special significance to Pakistan in its foreign policy, including its role as a non-permanent member of the Security Council. China would continue to firmly support Pakistan on its core issues and socio-economic development. He emphasized that guided by the vision of the leadership and aspirations of the people of two countries, China would continue to enhance its ironclad ties with Pakistan for safeguarding the shared interests of the two counties. The two sides also discussed speedy implementation of phase-II of CPEC and expressed satisfaction at the steady development of CPEC. The two sides agreed to further expand cooperation under CPEC for harnessing its shared benefits.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/19-Feb-2025/dar-urges-world-coop-commitment-to-multilateralism>

Nawaiwaqt News

سی پیک، گوادربندر گاہ کا خطے میں تجارت، خوشحالی میں اہم کردار ہوگا: زرداری

اسلام آباد (نمائندہ خصوصی) صدر مملکت آصف علی زرداری نے پاکستان کے علاقائی روابط اور اقتصادی تعاون کو مزید مستحکم کرنے کے عزم کا اعادہ کرتے ہوئے کہا ہے کہ چین پاکستان اقتصادی راہداری (سی پیک) اور گوادربندر گاہ خطے میں تجارت اور خوشحالی کو فروغ دینے میں اہم کردار ادا کریں گے۔ پاکستان کی جغرافیائی اہمیت اسے ایک منفرد حیثیت دیتی ہے۔ "قدرتی تجارتی راہداری" ملک، چین، وسطی ایشیا اور مشرق وسطیٰ کو آپس میں جوڑنے کا ذریعہ بن سکتا ہے۔ وہ گزشتہ روز ایوان صدر میں پاکستان چین انسٹی ٹیوٹ کے زیر اہتمام بین الاقوامی کانفرنس "علاقائی روابط اور پاکستان: ابھرتے مواقع" کے اختتامی اجلاس سے خطاب کر رہے تھے۔ تقریب میں وزیر اعلیٰ بلوچستان سردار سرفراز بگٹی، پاکستان چین انسٹی ٹیوٹ کے چیئرمین سینئر مشاہد حسین سید، متحدہ عرب امارات میں قائم گلوبل کونسل آف ٹالرنس اینڈ پیس کے صدر احمد جروان الحمد، سفارتی برادری کے ارکان، ماہرین تعلیم اور میڈیا نمائندگان نے شرکت کی۔ صدر مملکت نے کہا کہ انہوں نے اپنی طویل اسیری کے دوران گوادربندر گاہ کو ایک مشترکہ اقتصادی مرکز کے طور پر تصور کیا تھا۔ سی پیک اور گوادربندر گاہ ہماری آنے والی نسلوں کے لیے ثمرات لے کر آئیں گے۔ صدر مملکت نے اس موقع پر اس امر کی بھی نشاندہی کی کہ پاکستان تاجکستان سے بلوچستان تک پانی لانے کے مختلف امکانات پر غور کر رہا ہے، اور اس حوالے سے متحدہ عرب امارات کی حکومت کے تعاون سے ایک فہرست سٹیٹس کی مکمل کی جا چکی ہے۔ سرفراز بگٹی نے صدر آصف علی زرداری کے سی پیک کے تصور، آغاز اور عملی نفاذ میں کردار کو سراہا۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ گوادربندر گاہ جدید سہولیات سے آراستہ ہو کر عالمی سطح کی ایک اہم بندرگاہ میں تبدیل ہو جائے گی، جو نہ صرف عالمی منڈیوں تک رسائی فراہم کرے گی بلکہ علاقائی ممالک کے لیے بھی ایک گیٹ وے کا کردار ادا کرے گی۔ مشاہد حسین سید نے اپنے خطاب میں کہا کہ سی پیک علاقائی تعاون کو فروغ دینے اور نئے پل تعمیر کرنے میں کلیدی کردار ادا کرے گا۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ جنوبی ایشیا میں تجارتی، اقتصادی، ثقافتی اور عوامی روابط کے فروغ میں بڑی دلچسپی پائی جاتی ہے اور اس تناظر میں پاکستان ایک مرکزی کردار کے طور پر ابھر رہا ہے۔ احمد جروان الحمد نے علاقائی روابط کے فروغ میں پاکستان کی کوششوں کو سراہا۔ انہوں نے زور دیا کہ خطے میں رواداری، تعلیم اور کاروباری تعاون کو فروغ دینے کے لیے پل تعمیر کیے جائیں اور مشترکہ اقدامات کیے جائیں۔ اقتصادی و تجارتی ماہرین نے بھی خطاب کیا۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/lahore/2025-02-19/page-10/detail-19>

K2 Daily



https://epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP_GB&Page=Front_Page&Date=2025-02-19

February 20, 2025

Daily Times

Time to aim high and far to deepen China-Pakistan ties

Jiang Zaidong

At the invitation of H.E. President Xi Jinping, H.E. President Zardari paid a successful state visit to China earlier this month. We are pleased to see that since the establishment of the new Pakistani government in last year, China and Pakistan have maintained close high-level exchanges. Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif visited China in June last year, Premier Li Qiang visited Pakistan in last October, and President Zardari visited China this time; all these visits fully demonstrate the closeness of our ironclad friendship and the high level of China-Pakistan All-weather Strategic Cooperation. In particular, President Xi Jinping held talks with President Zardari and Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif respectively, and reached important consensus, charting the course and injecting robust momentum for advancing China-Pakistan All-weather Strategic Cooperation under the new circumstances. We are ready to work with Pakistani side for the implementation, and turn those important consensus into tangible practices and fruitful outcomes of our bilateral cooperation.

We must aim high and far to deepen high-level strategic cooperation. The development of China-Pakistan relations over the past year further indicates that high-level strategic guidance is the fundamental guarantee for the steady and long-term development of our bilateral relations. This year marks the 10th anniversary of President Xi Jinping's historic visit to Pakistan in 2015, and in the next year, we will celebrate the 75th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Pakistan, presenting significant moments and development opportunities for China-Pakistan relations.

The reason why our bilateral relations have achieved leapfrog development over the past decade, and entered a new phase of jointly building a closer Community of Shared Future, is because President Xi, together with Pakistani leaders, renewed the positioning of China-Pakistan relations in the new era, making the two countries the world's first All-weather Strategic Cooperative Partners.

The reason why the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) has developed into a comprehensive cooperation framework covering multiple fields over the past decade, earning the reputation of being a "game-changer" for Pakistan's national development, and entered a new stage of jointly building the "upgraded version" of CPEC, is because President Xi, together with Pakistani leaders, outlined the overall layout of the CPEC construction and promoted the CPEC as a symbolic project under the Belt and Road Initiative.

We are ready to work with Pakistan to fully understand and appreciate the profound significance and valuable insights from President Xi's historic visit and consistently view and develop China-Pakistan relations from a strategic level. By combining a long-term vision with pragmatic actions, we aim to continuously advance the China-Pakistan All-weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership, accelerate the building of an even closer China-Pakistan Community with a Shared Future in the New Era, to celebrate the 75th anniversary of our

diplomatic relations with the vivid practice of high-quality CPEC development and other various cooperation.

We must keep our feet on the ground to deepen high-level practical cooperation. President Xi Jinping has stated that China is ready to walk hand in hand with Pakistan on our respective paths to modernization, and welcomes Pakistan to become one of the first countries to benefit from China's further deepening of reform comprehensively and expanding high-standard opening up.

China is ready to deepen practical cooperation with Pakistan in various fields, work together to upgrade CPEC cooperation, and help Pakistan consolidate its development foundations and unleash its development potential. We are prepared to work with Pakistan to ensure effective implementation, focusing on the following aspects: Firstly, prioritizing key projects. We'll continue to advance the realignment of the Karakoram Highway Phase-II and the upgrade of the Main Line-1 railway project. Actively promote the comprehensive development and operation of Gwadar Port, and ensure the safe and stable operation of the Khunjerab Pass. Secondly, creating highlights, especially in agricultural cooperation. Last year, China-Pakistan agricultural trade exceeded \$1 billion, with Pakistan enjoying a valuable surplus of \$237 million. On February 14 this year, the first batch of 26.5 tons of high-value-added buffalo dairy products arrived in China, a modest quantity but of great significance, showcasing the resilience and prospects of our bilateral agricultural cooperation. While advancing existing agricultural projects, we should promptly identify a second batch of CPEC agricultural projects, so that grains, cotton, oil, meat and dairy products can all be covered.

Leveraging Xinjiang's proximity and cooperative foundation with Pakistan, we aim to promote modern and efficient agricultural cooperation. We'll expand new models like contract farming to enhance the sense of fulfillment for enterprises and farmers in both countries. Thirdly, cultivating growth points. We'll accelerate the construction of model Special Economic Zones (SEZs), attract more export-oriented enterprises, explore cooperation in emerging fields such as artificial intelligence (AI), develop cross-border E-commerce collaborations, and welcome third-party participation in CPEC cooperation, to better harness the potential of B2B collaborations.

We must keep pace with the times to deepen high-level security cooperation. President Xi Jinping emphasized that security is the prerequisite for development, and development is the guarantee for security. Security cooperation and economic cooperation are complementary, and like both wheels of a bicycle, they should advance together.

These important insights provided an action plan for coordinating security and economic cooperation. As the world enters a period of turbulence and transformation, China-Pakistan cooperation faces increasing risks and challenges, highlighting the need for more reliable security guarantees. Both sides must adapt to changing circumstances, continually enhancing security cooperation to safeguard practical cooperation between our nations. During his visit, President Zardari reiterated Pakistan's commitment to ensuring the safety of Chinese personnel, projects, and institutions in Pakistan.

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif also repeatedly stated that Pakistan will resolutely combat and severely punish terrorists. Pakistan's military, police, and other relevant parties have made relentless efforts and significant sacrifices in combating terrorism. We highly appreciate these actions and hope that Pakistan will continue to advance investigations and apprehensions related to anti-China terrorist incidents, increase security investments, and strengthen and optimize security measures.

This will genuinely allow Chinese enterprises to operate with peace of mind, allow Chinese personnel to live in tranquility, and allow China-Pakistan cooperation to develop in a secure environment. We will, as always, firmly support Pakistan's counter-terrorism efforts and are ready to provide necessary support for Pakistan's anti-terrorism capacity building. We also look forward to working with Pakistan to practise the Global Security Initiative, enhance development cooperation to eradicate the breeding grounds of terrorism, and promote multilateral counter-terrorism cooperation to effectively rally our collective forces against terrorism.

We must put people first to deepen high-level cooperation in improving livelihoods. President Xi Jinping emphasized that China's friendly policy toward Pakistan is always directed towards the entire Pakistani people. He pointed out that the planning and layout of the CPEC should take into account all regions of Pakistan so that the benefits of development can be shared by all Pakistani people.

This reflects his deep affection for the Pakistani people and his vision of building a Community with a Shared Future for Mankind. We are pleased to see that the newly built Gwadar New International Airport, fully funded by China, has recently commenced commercial operations, marking Gwadar's new step toward a regional connectivity hub.

Over the past 6 months, the China-Pakistan Friendship Hospital, also donated by China, has provided medical services to 150,000 patients, and 1,260 newborns have been delivered there, bringing warmth and joy to many.

Together with Pakistan, we have distributed 20,000 "health kits", and launched a congenital heart disease treatment program for children, both of which have been widely welcomed. Looking ahead, we will continue to carry out more "small but beautiful" projects that benefit people's livelihoods, to further enhance the Pakistani people's sense of fulfillment. We will help Pakistan in developing human resources, increasing training opportunities, and implement the bilateral initiative of sending 1,000 Pakistanis to China for modern agricultural training. We will expand cooperation in education, media, think tanks, youth exchanges, and the film and television industries, to foster mutual learning between civilizations and strengthen cultural and people-to-people ties, so that the China-Pakistan friendship will be passed along generations to come.

We must uphold multilateralism to deepen high-level international collaboration. President Xi Jinping stated that China appreciates Pakistan's active support for the three global initiatives and participation in relevant cooperation, and is ready to work with Pakistan to uphold the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, resist unilateralism and hegemonic

practices, strengthen multilateral coordination, and safeguard the common interests of developing countries.

In light of the current global landscape, President Xi's instructions are particularly important and inspiring. This year marks the 80th anniversary of the founding of the United Nations.

The past 80 years is a period of accelerated advancement in world multipolarity and economic globalization, a period that has witnessed people across the world forging ahead and meeting challenges together, and also a period during which the Global South has been rising and growing in strength.

In the face of the profoundly changing international landscape, the Global South should not only achieve the historic feat of moving toward modernization together, but also remain at the forefront of improving the global governance system.

As two key countries of the Global South, with Pakistan currently holding a non-permanent seat on the UN Security Council, China and Pakistan are better-positioned to advance high-level international collaboration.

On February 18, Member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and Foreign Minister Wang Yi chaired a high-level UN Security Council meeting, where Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Dar, along with representatives from many other countries, joined China in voicing strong support for practising true multilateralism.

We highly commend these efforts and look forward to strengthening coordination with Pakistan.

Together, we will work toward an equal and orderly multipolar world, and universally-beneficial and inclusive economic globalization, to jointly protect the interests of developing countries and the international equity and justice.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1267469/time-to-aim-high-and-far-to-deepen-china-pakistan-ties/>

China-Pak jointly develop agri app with cutting-edge AI tool

In the vast wheat fields of Punjab Province, drones are patrolling the air, and intelligent systems have replaced manual labor to take care of crops.

Free from the pain of field labor during the broiling summer season, local farmers could accurately monitor fertilization and irrigation with just a few clicks on their mobile phones or tablets.

“Previously, I could only see which fields performed well when it was almost harvest time.

Now, I check crop health regularly on my mobile and can fix problems early, which has helped me improve yields and reduce losses,” Muhammad Taj from Gujranwala, Punjab, marvels at the new agricultural artificial intelligence app, Kisan 360, newly installed on his phone.

The China-Pakistan cooperation project Using Computer Vision to Realize High-Throughput Crop Monitoring for Climate-Smart Agriculture has injected sci-tech element into Punjab's farmland, with Kisan 360 is the result of their painstaking efforts.

“We use drones equipped with visual recognition equipment to achieve intelligent management of crop monitoring, cultivation management, pest and disease analysis, and agricultural production, including growth determination, health monitoring, water requirement analysis, fertilization, and pesticide application,” introduced Dr. Wu Jun, the Chinese project leader.

Initially, local farmers expressed doubts about smart technology. “It’s too complicated for us, and its effectiveness and practicality have not been proven.” The Pakistani team addressed their doubts by producing text guides and audio-visual materials on vegetation health maps in the local dialect and sharing them with farmers in real time.

“I come from a farming family, understanding very well the problems faced by Pakistani farmers today, with severe heat waves and water shortages becoming our main challenges.

Providing farmers with real-time data to help them optimize their planting decisions and ensure food security for their communities is urgent,” Saqib Ali, a Pakistani researcher at the China-Pakistan Joint Laboratory for Agriculture, told Gwadar Pro.

“Our AI APP now live on both the Apple App Store and Android Play Store. We have conducted training sessions in Punjab and Islamabad, with a user base of approximately 1,000 farmers.” “Taking fertilization as an example, Kisan360 uses satellite imagery and artificial intelligence to provide farmers with real-time insights into moisture and nitrogen levels, helping to identify areas that require precise fertilization, then farmers can listen to these reports in local Urdu language,” the researcher added. Saqib Ali highlighted that bilateral team have deployed a ChatBot in the app using DeepSeek. He emphasized that as an open-source model, it could be used to fine tune by using their own Pakistani related crop data. “It is in the testing phase. We are fine-tuning DeepSeek to better understand and address the specific farming needs of Pakistan, incorporating local agricultural knowledge to provide more tailored insights for farmers. DeepSeek has proven to be extremely valuable for us in understanding and meeting the unique challenges of farming in Pakistan.” “Pakistan is currently in urgent need of agricultural practices driven by advanced technology. This project is an opportunity for Pakistan. After promotion, more and more farmers will be interested in it, which can bring substantial changes to local agriculture.” said Dr. Sultan Habibullah Khan, Director of the Center for Agricultural and Food Security Research at the University of Agriculture, Faisalabad. Dr. Wu Jun told GP that the World Bank and the Asian Disaster Management Center have provided funding support for this project, emphasizing the importance of this innovative solution in addressing climate challenges and enhancing agricultural sustainability. “In the future, our China-Pakistan Agricultural Laboratory plans to promote this technology throughout Pakistan within two years, to comprehensively promote sustainable agricultural development through AI+, as a new tool under the new era.”

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1267200/china-pak-jointly-develop-agri-app-with-cutting-edge-ai-tool/>

The Nation

Pakistan receives over \$100m FDI from China in Jan

ISLAMABAD - Pakistan attracted foreign direct investment (FDI) worth \$239 million in January 2025, with China emerging as the top investor, contributing 42.2% of the total inflows, according to the latest data released by the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP).

During the month, FDI inflows from China stood at \$100.8 million, while outflows were recorded at a mere \$2.7 million, bringing the net FDI from China to \$98.1 million. China's Hong Kong also played a significant role, contributing \$20.6 million in FDI, with \$2.2 million in outflows, resulting in a net inflow of \$20.4 million. Other major investors included the United Kingdom (\$19.5 million), Switzerland (\$17.2 million), the United States (\$12.1 million), Kuwait (\$3.9 million), and Malta (\$3.8 million).

In the first seven months of FY25 (July-January), Pakistan received \$2122.3 million (\$2.1223 billion) FDI from all foreign investors; however with \$ 598.7 million outflow the net FDI has stood at \$1523.6 million (\$1.5236 billion). In these seven months, Pakistan received a total FDI of \$902.2 million from China. However, with outflows amounting to \$268.6 million, the net FDI stood at \$633.6 million. China maintained its position as the largest investor, accounting for the bulk of the investment. Comparatively, during the same period in FY24, Pakistan received \$460.6 million in FDI from China, but outflows of \$342.6 million resulted in a net FDI of just \$118 million, Gwadar Pro reported on Wednesday.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/20-Feb-2025/pakistan-receives-over-dollar-100m-fdi-from-china-in-jan>

Express News

چین میں میڈیکل کے 2 پاکستانی طلباء کے چرچے کیوں ہو رہے ہیں؛ ملک کا نام روشن کر دیا

چین میں میڈیکل کی تعلیم حاصل کرنے والے دو پاکستانی طلباء یوسف خان اور رفیق اللہ کو وہاں خوب سراہا اور بہر و قرار دیا جا رہا ہے۔ پاکستانی طلباء اُس دن سیاحت کے نیت سے ریلوے اسٹیشن پہنچے تھے جہاں ایک بزرگ شہری زمین پر گرے ہوئے تھے اور پولیس اہلکار ارد گرد کھڑے تھے۔ خیال رہے کہ چین میں کسی بھی شخص کو بغیر اجازت ہاتھ لگانا غیر قانونی ہے چاہے یہ کام طبی امداد کے لیے ہی کیوں نہ کیا جائے۔ میڈیکل کے طلباء ہونے کی وجہ سے یوسف خان اور رفیق پہلی نظر میں سمجھ گئے کہ بزرگ شہری کو فوری طبی امداد کی ضرورت ہے۔ اس کے لیے انھوں نے پولیس سے اجازت بھی لی۔ زمین پر نیم بے ہوش پڑے شخص کی نبض معمول سے کم رفتار میں چل رہی تھی، دل کی دھڑکن بے ترتیب تھی اور سانس بھی اکھڑ رہی تھی۔ میڈیکل کالج کے فاسٹل ایئر کے طلباء ہونے کی حیثیت سے وہ دونوں یہ جان چکے تھے کہ یہ علامات دل کے دورے کی ہیں۔ اس لیے انھوں نے ایک لمحہ ضائع کیے بغیر کارڈیو پلیموٹری سسٹیکیشن، یعنی سی پی آر کرنے کا فیصلہ کیا۔ یوسف نے اپنے دونوں ہاتھ متاثرہ شخص کی چھاتی پر رکھ کر سی پی آر کرنا شروع کیا جب کہ رفیق نے وقفے وقفے سے منہ کے ذریعے سانس دی۔ یہ عمل مسلسل دہرائے جانے کے چند ہی لمحوں میں متاثرہ شخص کی سانس بحال ہونا شروع ہو گئی اور یہ پورا واقعہ سی سی ٹی وی کیمروں میں محفوظ ہو گیا۔ سی سی ٹی وی فوٹیجز سوشل میڈیا پر وائرل ہو گئی اور صارفین نے پاکستانی طلباء کے جذبہ ہمدردی کو سراہا۔ بی بی سی کے مطابق دیکھتے ہی دیکھتے دونوں طلباء چین میں ہیرو بن گئے اور چینی میڈیا نے ان کا انٹرویو بھی کیا۔ پاکستان میں چین کے سفارت خانے نے ”ایکس“ پر اپنی پوسٹ میں بھی پاکستانی طلباء یوسف خان اور رفیق اللہ کو سراہا۔

<https://www.express.pk/story/2748857/china-two-pakistani-medical-students-2748857>

Nawaiwaqt News

پاکستان اور چین نے مصنوعی ذہانت سے لیس ایگریکلچرل ایپ تیار کر لی

اسلام آباد (خبرنگار) پاکستان اور چین نے ملکر جدید مصنوعی ذہانت سے لیس ایگریکلچرل ایپ تیار کر لی۔ اس منصوبے کی مالی معاونت عالمی بینک اور ایشین ڈیزاسٹر مینجمنٹ سینٹر نے فراہم کی ہے۔ اے آئی پلس کے ذریعے پائیدار زرعی ترقی کو جامع طور پر فروغ ملے گا۔ گوادر پرو کے مطابق صوبہ پنجاب کے گندم کے وسیع و عریض کھیتوں میں ڈرون فضا میں گشت کر رہے ہیں اور فصلوں کی دیکھ بھال کے لیے دستی مزدوری کی جگہ انٹیلیجنس نظام نے لے لی ہے۔ شدید گرمیوں کے موسم میں کھیتوں میں مزدوری کے درد سے آزاد، مقامی کسان اپنے موبائل فون یا ٹیبلیٹ پر صرف چند کلک کے ذریعے کھاد اور آبپاشی کی درست نگرانی کر سکتے تھے۔ گوادر پرو کے مطابق گوجرانوالہ، پنجاب سے تعلق رکھنے والے محمد تاج اپنے فون پر نئی انسٹال کردہ نئی زرعی مصنوعی ذہانت ایپ کسان 360 پر حیرت زدہ ہیں۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ جب فصل کی کٹائی کا وقت قریب ہو تا تو پہلے میں صرف یہ دیکھ سکتا تھا کہ کون سے کھیت میں فصل اچھی ہے۔ ایپ تیار

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/lahore/2025-02-20/page-8/detail-43>

February 21, 2025

The Nation

Karot HPP launches report on China's role in Pak uplift

ISLAMABAD - China Three Gorges South Asia Investment Ltd. has launched the Karot Hydropower Project Report 2025, detailing the successful operations of the Chinese power initiative under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

The report was unveiled at the one-day International Conference on 'Regional Connectivity & Pakistan: Emerging Opportunities,' hosted by the Pakistan-China Institute in Islamabad.

It emphasizes the significant benefits of Foreign Direct Investment in Pakistan.

The event drew global dignitaries, who commended the contributions of Chinese companies to Pakistan's development.

According to Gwadar Pro, the report emphasizes that Chinese companies have brought over 8,900 megawatts of power capacity and the 660 KV HVDC Matiari-Lahore Transmission line to Pakistan, with an investment of approximately USD 16 billion.

These achievements have not only effectively addressed energy shortages but have also spurred technological innovation, increased employment, and boosted economic growth.

It further notes that Chinese companies have actively engaged with local communities across Pakistan, fulfilling their corporate social responsibilities and supporting the country's sustainable economic and social development.

Their efforts have significantly contributed to modernizing Pakistan's energy infrastructure, laying a robust foundation for the nation's progress.

A key highlight of the report is the Karot Hydropower Project (HPP), which generates approximately 3,206 GWh of clean and renewable energy annually.

The project plays a crucial role in reducing carbon dioxide emissions by around 35 million tons each year, successfully implementing the Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP).

Additionally, the project has been instrumental in creating jobs, employing nearly 5,000 individuals during its construction phase and sustaining around 150 jobs during operations.

This has not only helped reduce unemployment but has also promoted economic growth and skill development within local communities.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/21-Feb-2025/karot-hpp-launches-report-on-china-s-role-in-pak-uplift#:~:text=Additionally%2C%20the%20project,within%20local%20communities.>

The News

SIFC wants BoI to devise framework for SEZs

Khalid Mustafa

ISLAMABAD: The Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC) has directed the Board of Investment (BoI) to develop a comprehensive framework for Special Economic Zones (SEZs), aligning them with international standards.

The proposed model will introduce modern parameters, incorporating self-contained facilities such as healthcare, education, residential areas and foreign enclaves, similar to the next-generation SEZs being developed in China.

“SIFC’s Executive Committee that met here on January 22, 2025 also asked the BoI to communicate to the council the timeline for finalisation of consultations with all provincial chief ministers, including CM Gilgit-Baltistan and prime minister AJK, regarding implementation of the action plan on optimization of SEZs, approved by the 11th apex committee meeting of the SIFC,” officials, who were part of the 12th executive committee meeting, told this scribe. “Weekly meetings of the already constituted working group on industrial cooperation and optimization of the SEZs will be held to expedite speedy progress on the plan. To achieve this, a new framework should be designed to integrate all relevant aspects in a holistic manner.

“Five SEZs, previously agreed upon under CPEC [China-Pakistan Economic Corridor] and with Iran, have been approved in principle being international commitments.” The 18-point recommendations of the SEZ survey, held in July-August 2024, have also been shared with provinces for implementation. The approval committee endorsed the land lease policy for BQIP in the light of 11th ACM and formulation of policy for other SEZs as per SEZs law, after consulting provinces/ stakeholders.

“The BoI has already approved the land lease policy for establishing special economic zones (SEZs) and an action plan to streamline these zones. The BoI’s approval committee briefed the SIFC executive committee meeting about completing a survey of 35 industrial zones nationwide.” <https://e.thenews.com.pk/detail?id=385193>

February 22, 2025

The News

Sino-Pak universities to improve wheat improvement

Islamabad: An agreement on China-Pakistan Joint Laboratory for Wheat Germplasm Innovation and Biological Breeding was reached among Hebei Agricultural University (HEBAU), COMSATS University Islamabad and National Institute for Genomics and Advanced Biotechnology (NIGAB).

This has been termed as a significant step in boosting the development of wheat seed industry and related sectors in the two countries. “Wheat plays a crucial strategic role in both China and Pakistan. Due to different geographical conditions, there is great genetic diversity in wheat germplasm resources between the two countries, exhibiting great potential for wheat variety improvement through germplasm exchange,” said Prof. Liu Dongcheng, Dean, College of Agronomy, HEBAU in an interview with China Economic Net (CEN).

As Prof. Liu observed, China boasts advantages in basic research and molecular breeding while Pakistan has rich experience in soilless cultivation and tissue culture. Through cooperation, the cultivation level and efficiency of wheat varieties both with high and low amylose content can be lifted.

“Low amylose wheat varieties can notably improve the quality of ‘Chapati’, a representative Pakistani flour-based food, while high amylose wheat varieties can help diabetics and promote weight loss,” he added.

At present, the two sides are jointly conducting research on ‘Rapid Improvement of Starch Quality in Wheat and Cultivation of New Wheat Varieties by Genomics.’ Several high amylose wheat germplasms and local high yielding and high quality wheat germplasm materials rich in iron and zinc from Pakistan have been introduced to China.

It’s learned that the joint laboratory will focus on molecular breeding research for improving the protein, starch and nutritional qualities of Pakistani high yielding wheat varieties, to cultivate new high and low amylose wheat varieties for the two nations.

Simultaneously, the cooperation between HEBAU and Pakistani institutions is expected to cover basic research, breeding application, cultivation techniques and machinery production for crops including wheat, corn and cotton, and industries of grain, oil, vegetable, fruit and livestock in the future.

<https://e.thenews.com.pk/detail?id=385279>

February 25, 2025

Daily Times

Pak-China cooperation on education, media to be expanded: Chinese envoy

Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan, Jiang Zaidong Monday said that it is a high time to take profound and substantial steps to further strengthen China-Pakistan all-weather strategic cooperative partnership.

“We are ready to expand cooperation with Pakistan in education, media, think tanks, youth exchanges, and the film and television industries, to foster mutual learning between civilizations and strengthen cultural and people-to-people ties,” the ambassador said talking to media after addressing a ceremony.

The ambassador said, “We will help Pakistan in developing human resources, increasing training opportunities, and implement the bilateral initiative of sending 1,000 Pakistanis to China for modern agricultural training.”

He said that at the invitation of President Xi Jinping, President of Pakistan Asif Ali Zardari paid a successful state visit to China earlier this month. “We are pleased to see that since the establishment of the new Pakistani government last year, China and Pakistan have maintained close high-level exchanges.”

He said, “We are ready to work with Pakistani side for the implementation, and turn those important consensus into tangible practices and fruitful outcomes of our bilateral cooperation.”

The ambassador said, “We must aim high to deepen high-level strategic cooperation.” He added the development of China-Pakistan relations over the past year further indicates that high-level strategic guidance is the fundamental guarantee for the steady and long-term development of our bilateral relations.”

He said that this year marks the 10th anniversary of President Xi Jinping’s historic visit to Pakistan in 2015, and in the next year, we will celebrate the 75th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Pakistan, presenting significant moments and development opportunities for China-Pakistan relations.

He said that China is ready to work with Pakistan to fully understand and appreciate the profound significance and valuable insights from President Xi’s historic visit and consistently view and develop China-Pakistan relations from a strategic level.

The ambassador said, “By combining a long-term vision with pragmatic actions, we aim to continuously advance the China-Pakistan all-weather strategic cooperative partnership, accelerate the building of an even closer China-Pakistan community with a shared future in the new era, to celebrate the 75th anniversary of our diplomatic relations with the vivid practice of high-quality CPEC development and other cooperation.”

He said that China is ready to deepen practical cooperation with Pakistan in various fields, work together to upgrade CPEC cooperation, and help Pakistan consolidate its development foundations and unleash its development potential.

“We are prepared to work with Pakistan to ensure effective implementation, focusing on key projects. We’ll continue to advance the realignment of the Karakoram Highway Phase II and the upgrade of the Main Line-1 railway project, actively promote the comprehensive development and operation of Gwadar Port, and ensure the stable operation of the Khunjerab Pass besides expanding cooperation in agricultural.”

He said that last year, China-Pakistan agricultural trade exceeded \$1 billion, with Pakistan enjoying a valuable surplus of \$237 million. On February 14 this year, the first batch of 26.5 tons of high-value-added buffalo dairy products arrived in China, which is great significance, showcasing the resilience and prospects of our bilateral agricultural cooperation.

He said that while advancing existing agricultural projects, we should promptly identify a second batch of CPEC agricultural projects, so that grains, cotton, oil, meat and dairy products can all be covered.

Jiang Zaidong said, “We aim to promote modern and efficient agricultural cooperation. We’ll expand new models like contract farming to enhance the sense of fulfillment for enterprises and farmers in both countries.”

He said that while focusing on cultivating growth points, We’ll accelerate the construction of model Special Economic Zones (SEZs), attract more export-oriented enterprises, explore cooperation in emerging fields such as artificial intelligence (AI), develop cross-border E-commerce collaborations, and welcome third-party participation in CPEC cooperation, to better harness the potential of B2B collaborations.

He said that China will continue to carry out more small but beautiful projects to benefit people of Pakistan’s livelihoods.

<https://dailytimes.com.pk/1268708/pak-china-cooperation-on-education-media-to-be-expanded-chinese-envoy/>

Nawaiwaqt News

مریم نواز کی کاوشیں، پاک چین دوستی کے معاشی ثمرات

وزیر اعلیٰ پنجاب محترمہ مریم نواز نے صرف ایک سال میں اپنی کارکردگی سے تمام سیاسی پنڈتوں کو خوشگوار حیرت میں ڈال دیا ہے۔ پنجاب کے ہر محاذ پر بطور چیف ایگزیکٹو ان کا کردار قابل تقلید مثال بن کر سامنے آیا ہے۔ وزیر اعلیٰ مریم نواز نے یوں تو ملک کے سب سے بڑے صوبے پنجاب میں درپیش مسائل کو بطور چیلنج قبول کیا اور اس کے حل کے لئے جو انقلابی اقدامات اٹھائے ہیں، عوام کے روشن مستقبل کی نوید سنار ہے ہیں۔ خاص طور پر عوامی جمہوریہ چین کے ساتھ دوستانہ، برادرانہ تعلقات کو نئی جہت دی ہے جسے تمام سنجیدہ حلقوں میں سراہا جا رہا ہے۔

عوامی جمہوریہ چین کے قومی دن یکم اکتوبر 2024 کی مناسبت سے لاہور کے نجی ہوٹل میں 22 ستمبر 2024 کو پنجاب کے مختلف شعبوں سے تعلق رکھنے والی نمایاں شخصیات کا ایک جم غفیر تھا جس میں وزیر اعلیٰ مریم نواز چینی توئیں جنرل لاہور مسٹر ژانگ شیری کی دعوت پر بطور چیف گیسٹ مدعو تھیں۔ چینی جہاں بھی ہوں اپنا قومی دن بڑے

اہتمام سے مناتے ہیں اور وہ اپنی خوشیوں میں سب کو شامل کرتے ہیں۔ یقیناً چینوں کے لئے یہ خاص اہمیت کا دن ہے اور اس روز وزیر اعلیٰ پنجاب محترمہ مریم نواز کے چہرے پر چینی بھائیوں کے لئے خوشی ان کے چہرے سے آشکار ہو رہی تھی۔ مریم نواز شریف کا انداز اپنائیت، مسکراتا چہرہ، پر خلوص جذباتوں سے مزین بھائی چارے کی لازوال داستان لئے پاک چین فولادی دوستی کا ترجمان بن کر نمایاں تھا۔ چینی بھائیوں نے بھی وزیر اعلیٰ پنجاب کا پرتپاک استقبال کیا۔ پاک چین دوستی پر نازاں پاکستانی چینی بھائیوں کی خوشی دوبالا کرنے جمع ہوئے۔ مریم نواز چینی بہن بھائیوں سمیت جانے پہچانے پاکستانی چہروں، جو بھی سامنے آتا، خوشگوار انداز میں ملتیں، خیریت دریافت کرتیں اور آگے بڑھ جاتیں۔ وزیر اعلیٰ پنجاب نے اپنے صدارتی خطاب میں عوامی جمہوریہ چین کے قومی دن پر چینی قونصل جنرل بشمول سفارتی سٹاف و تقریب میں شامل دیگر چینوں کو مبارکبادی اور کہا وہ پنجاب میں ترقی و خوشحالی کے لئے چین کے ساتھ مل کر آگے بڑھیں گی۔ پاک چین دوستی کا بانڈ محض سٹریٹجک مفادات پر مبنی نہیں، یہ دل اور روح کا رشتہ ہے۔ چین ایک ایسے رہنما کے طور پر ابھر ا جس کا وزن سرحدوں سے ماوراء ہے، ہمارے مشترکہ مستقبل کا ایک اہم ترین ثبوت چین پاکستان الٹاناک کو ریڈور ہے۔ چینی قوم نے ترقی کے ساتھ ساتھ دنیا کی طرف دوستی کا ہاتھ بھی بڑھایا، سی بیک پاکستان کے معاشی منظر نامے کو تبدیل کر رہا ہے، پاور کوریڈور سے لے کر عام شہریوں کے دلوں تک چین نے گھر کر لیا ہے۔ مریم نواز کا کہنا تھا کہ چین کی عظمت امن، تعاون، انسانیت کی بھلائی کے غیر متزلزل عزم میں مضمر ہے، ہم عظیم چینی قوم کا احترام کرتے ہیں، چین کی کامیابیاں ہمارے لیے بھی حوصلہ افزاء اور قابل تقلید ہیں۔ وزیر اعلیٰ پنجاب نے کہا کہ ضرورت کی ہر گھڑی میں چین پاکستان کے ساتھ کھڑا رہا ہے، پاکستان اور چین خوشحالی اور پرامن مستقبل کی طرف ہاتھ تھام کر آگے بڑھ رہے ہیں، ہر عالمی بحران میں چین کا کردار ناقابل فراموش ہے۔

بلاشبہ وزیر اعلیٰ پنجاب مریم نواز کے انداز نے تقریب کو فیملی فنکشن بنادیا، تقریب میں موجود نوائے وقت گروپ کی ٹینجنگ ڈائریکٹر میزہ مجید نظامی سے ملیں، خیریت دریافت کیں۔ گورنر پنجاب سردار سلیم حیدر، سپیکر پنجاب اسمبلی ملک احمد خان، سینئر صوبائی وزیر مریم اورنگزیب، نوائے وقت گروپ کے چیف آپریٹنگ آفیسر لیفٹیننٹ کرنل (ر) سید احمد ندیم قادری اور چینی قونصل جنرل مسٹر ژاؤ شیریں کی اہلیہ سمیت، آئی جی پولیس پنجاب اور سی سی پی او بھی موجود تھے۔ چینی قونصل جنرل نے خطاب میں وزیر اعلیٰ پنجاب کے عوام دوست اقدامات کا اعتراف اور انہیں خراج تحسین پیش کیا اور کہا نواز شریف آئی ٹی ٹی، کینسر ہسپتال، ایئر ایسولینس اور اپنی چھت اپنا گھر پروگرام قابل ذکر ہیں۔ ژاؤ شیریں نے کہا کہ سولر بینل پروگرام سے عوام کو حقیقی ریلیف ملے گا۔ وزیر اعلیٰ پنجاب نے صرف چینی قومی دن کی تقریب میں چینوں کے دل نہیں جیتے بلکہ وہ صوبے کی چیف ایگزیکٹو بننے کے سفر کا ایک سال پورا ہونے کے دوران چاک و چوبند اور خاصی متحرک نظر آئیں جس کی ماضی میں مثال نہیں ملتی۔

وزیر اعلیٰ مریم نواز نے دسمبر 2024 میں کمیونسٹ پارٹی آف چائنا کی دعوت پر دورہ چین کیا۔ وزیر اعلیٰ پنجاب کے 8 سے 15 دسمبر 2024 تک آٹھ روزہ پہلے سرکاری دورے کی خاص بات پنجاب حکومت کی ماحول دوست ٹرانسپورٹ، زراعت، ہیلتھ سمیت دیگر شعبوں میں 50 سے زائد چینی اداروں کے ساتھ متعدد مفاہمت کی یادداشتوں پر دستخط تھی۔

مریم نواز 32 سال بعد چین پہنچیں، آج ایک نیا چین دیکھ رہی ہوں جسے لوگ موجودہ دور کا جدید معجزہ کہتے ہیں، چین ایک زندہ معاشی معجزہ ہے اور ہر شعبے میں اس کی ترقی معجزانہ ہے۔ شنگھائی میں موسمیاتی تبدیلی اور ماحولیات کے حوالے سے خصوصی اجلاس میں ماحولیاتی آلودگی کے خاتمے کے لئے چین کے ساتھ مشترکہ ورکنگ گروپ قائم کرنے کی تجویز شہ سرخی بنی۔ طے یہ پایا کہ بیجنگ-پنجاب ورکنگ گروپ نانل شیزنگ، پالیسی سازی، صلاحیت سازی، ڈیٹا شیزنگ اور ٹیکنالوجی ٹرانسفر پر کام کرے گا۔ کاربن کا اخراج کم کرنے کے لئے بیجنگ-پنجاب ورکنگ گروپ کے اشتراک سے گرین اربن پلاننگ، گرین انرجی، ای ٹرانسپورٹ کو بھی ممکن بنایا جائے گا۔ وزیر اعلیٰ پنجاب نے چین کی ترقی کی کھل کر تعریف کی، چین مکمل طور پر بدل چکا ہے اور اس کی ترقی پاکستان اور دیگر ترقی پذیر ممالک کے لئے ایک مینار ہے۔ چین نے ماحولیاتی اور فضائی آلودگی پر مکمل قابو پا کر دنیا کو دنگ کر دیا ہے۔ سینئر پروویزر رشید، سینئر صوبائی وزیر مریم اورنگزیب، صوبائی وزیر اطلاعات عظمیٰ بخاری و دیگر پر مشتمل وفد کے ہمراہ وزیر اعلیٰ نے درجنوں اداروں کے دورے کئے۔ بیجنگ میں روبو ٹک زرعی آلات بنانے والے ادارے اے آئی فورس ٹیک کا دورہ، کمیونسٹ پارٹی آف چائنا

کے منسٹر سے ملاقات اور ظہرانے میں شرکت، ماحولیات کے وزیر سے بھی ملاقات ہوئی۔ بلیوٹیک اسیرالائنس، ہائی جیامیڈیکل، شی جی تان ہسپتال اور بیجنگ میونسپل کمیشن آف ٹرانسپورٹ کو بھی وزٹ کیا۔

گوانگ ڈو میں مریم نواز کی زیر صدارت کانفرنس ہوئی، چین اور ہانگ کانگ کی 60 سے زائد نمایاں کمپنیوں کے حکام شریک ہوئے۔ وزیر اعلیٰ نے ورکنگ گروپ کے قیام، فوکل پرسن مقرر اور ہیپ ڈیک قائم کرنے کا اعلان کیا۔ ہیلتھ، آرٹی فیٹل انٹیلی جنس، زراعت، انفارمیشن ٹیکنالوجی، ویسٹ مینجمنٹ، سولر انرجی اور دیگر سیکٹرز کے نمائندوں نے اپنے اداروں کے بارے میں تفصیلی بریفنگ دی۔ چینی ٹیکنالوجی کمپنیوں نے پنجاب میں سرمایہ کاری کیلئے دلچسپی کا اظہار کیا۔ پاک چائنہ فری ٹریڈ کے بارے میں تجاویز اور سفارشات کا جائزہ لیا گیا۔ مریم نواز شریف نے پنجاب کو چینی کمپنیوں کے لئے "لینڈ آف اپرچونٹی" قرار دیا اور چینی کمپنیوں کو پنجاب میں ون ونڈو آپریشن کی سہولت دینے کا فیصلہ کیا۔

شنکھائی میں کمیونسٹ پارٹی کی میوزیم جنکو سولر کمپنی اور منہانگ ڈسٹرکٹ انڈسٹریل زون، شنکھائی ایکسپریس سیکول اور ہواؤے ٹیکنالوجی کے دورے بھی کئے۔ وزیر اعلیٰ مریم نواز کا پنجاب چین انویسٹمنٹ کانفرنس سے خطاب اور چائینہ کی حکمران جماعت کے اعلیٰ سطح وفد سے ملاقاتیں یقیناً مستقبل میں ثمرات کی منتظر ہیں۔ چینوں کی خوبی ہے وہ کسی حکمران کو بلا لیں تو اپنی ترقی کے تمام پوشیدہ امور عیاں کر دیتے ہیں اور مسلم لیگ ن کی حکومت کا کردار چین کے نزدیک ہمیشہ ہی تعمیری رہا ہے۔ یہی وجہ ہے کہ وزیر اعلیٰ مریم نواز کی دورہ چین میں مصروفیات دراصل چینی اعتماد کا مظہر ہے۔ وزیر اعلیٰ مریم نواز نے شنکھائی کے ڈسٹرکٹ لونگ گانگ میں چینی کمپنی کا دورہ کیا اور مختلف شعبے دیکھے اور اسی تناظر میں لاہور کو ماڈرن ڈیجیٹل سٹی بنانے کیلئے مختلف تجاویز اور سفارشات پر گفتگو کی۔ چینی کمپنی کے تعاون سے لاہور کو پاکستان کا پہلا جدید ترین سمارٹ سٹی بنانے کا فیصلہ کیا گیا۔ وزیر اعلیٰ نے کمپنی کے صدر کو لاہور آنے اور پاکستان بالخصوص پنجاب میں سرمایہ کاری کی دعوت دی۔ وزیر اعلیٰ نے کمپنی کو نواز شریف آئی ٹی سٹی میں آفس قائم کرنے پر تعاون کی پیشکش کی۔ مریم نواز نے پنجاب میں اسیمبلنگ اور مینوفیکچرنگ پلانٹ لگانے پر بھرپور تعاون کی یقین دہانی کرائی۔ ملاقاتوں میں ای کامرس، ایکو سسٹم پروڈکشن، ہیلتھ اور ایجوکیشن ڈیپارٹمنٹ کی ڈیجیٹلائزیشن سے متعلق امور پر تبادلہ خیال کیا گیا بعد ازاں وزیر اعلیٰ پنجاب مریم نواز شریف شنکھائی سے ڈسٹرکٹ یائٹین پہنچ گئیں۔ پنجاب بھر میں ریٹیل آفس اور آفٹر سیل سروس سنٹر قائم کرنے کی بھی پیشکش کی۔ کینسر اور دیگر جینیاتی بیماریوں کے علاج کیلئے عالمی شہرت یافتہ میڈیسن کمپنی کا دورہ کیا۔ حکومت پنجاب اور بی جی آئی کے ساتھ کینسر کے علاج اور دیگر امور میں اشتراک کار کے ایم او پر دستخط کئے گئے۔ رائس پروڈکشن کی نئی ٹیکنیک متعارف کرانے، بی جی آئی جینو مکس کینسر کے علاج کے لئے محکمہ صحت اور حکومت پنجاب کی معاونت کرے گا۔ وزیر اعلیٰ نے پنجاب میں جینیاتی جانچ کیلئے لیبارٹریز اور طبی نمونوں کی نقل و حمل سیکٹر میں سرمایہ کاری، پنجاب میں ریسرچ سنٹر قائم کرنے کی بھی دعوت دی۔ کمپنی نے پنجاب حکومت کی پیشکش پر مثبت رد عمل کا اظہار کیا اور مستقبل میں تعاون بڑھانے کے عزم کا اعادہ کیا۔ مریم نواز شریف کو بی جی آئی ہیڈ کوارٹر میں ڈی این اے سنسٹھیسز لیب، سیکونسنگ لیب اور ایس ٹی اوکس لیب کے بارے میں بھی تفصیلی بریفنگ دی گئی۔ وزیر اعلیٰ اور وفد نے شن زن سے وانگ ڈو تک چین کی ہائی سپیڈ ٹرین پر سفر کیا۔ وزیر اعلیٰ اور وفد نے ہائی سپیڈ ریلوے ٹرین پر سفر کو یاد گار اور عمدہ تجربہ قرار دیا اور پنجاب میں ہائی سپیڈ ریلوے سسٹم متعارف کرانے کے عزم کا اظہار کیا۔ شریف خاندان کی چین کی ترقی سے متعلق آگہی و اعتراف اور پاکستان چین دوستی کو پروان چڑھانے، سی پیک کے آغاز و فروغ کی صورت ملک پاکستان کی ترقی میں خصوصی کاوشوں کا عملی اظہار مریم نواز کے دورہ چین میں خود اعتمادی کی صورت واضح نظر آ رہا تھا۔ مریم نواز نے کہا کہ چینی صدر شی جن پنگ نے ایک مشترکہ منزل کا وزن دیا۔ چینی صدر نہ صرف اپنی محنت کے ثمرات میں دوسروں کو شامل کر رہے ہیں بلکہ ان کے ساتھ اپنی کامیابیاں بھی بانٹ رہے ہیں۔ چین ماحولیاتی آلودگی کے خطرات سے دوچار ممالک کی مدد کر رہا ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ پنجاب ایک بڑا صوبہ ہے اور وہ اس کی چیف ایگزیکٹو ہیں جس کی آبادی 15 کروڑ ہے۔ سب سے بڑے صوبے کو ماحولیاتی مسائل کا سامنا ہے۔ پنجاب کو معاشی طور پر مستحکم اور عوامی فلاحی صوبہ بنانا چاہتی ہوں۔ مجھے ایسا پنجاب چاہیے جہاں لوگوں کو لگے کہ حکومت ان کاماں کی طرح خیال رکھتی ہے۔ پنجاب کو ماحول کے لحاظ سے مضبوط اور لچکدار بنانے کے لیے عزم ہوں۔ وزیر اعلیٰ پنجاب کے دورے سے قبل چین کے وزیر اعظم لی چیانگ کی اکتوبر میں شنکھائی تعاون کونسل (ایس سی او) کے سربراہی اجلاس میں شرکت کے لئے 4 روزہ دورے پر اسلام آباد آمد مسلم لیگ ن کی پاکستان چین دوستی کا شاندار مظہر ہے، یہ کسی بھی چینی وزیر اعظم کا 11 سال

بعد پاکستان کا پہلا دورہ تھا۔ وزیر اعلیٰ پنجاب کے دورہ چین کے بعد 3 جنوری 2025 کو چین کے چیگ ڈو جنرل کو آرڈینیٹر برائے آئی سی ٹی سی ہب مس سکارلٹ اور ڈپٹی سی ای او ہواوے مسٹریورے پر مشتمل اعلیٰ سطح وفد نے پنجاب ہاؤس اسلام آباد میں ملاقات کی، یہ ملاقات دراصل دورہ چین کے ثمرات ہیں کہ چینی وفد نے 700 ملین ڈالر کی سرمایہ کاری پر رضامندی ظاہر کی جس کی وزیر اعلیٰ مریم نواز نے اصولی منظوری بھی دیدی، چیگ ڈو حکومت کے تعاون سے ای۔ ٹیکسی سروس کا جلد آغاز کریں گے۔ نواز شریف آئی ٹی سٹی میں چینی کمپنی کمپیوٹنگ سنٹر بھی قائم کریں گی، ملاقات میں نواز شریف آئی ٹی سٹی میں ڈیٹا اور کلاؤڈ سینٹر قائم کرنے پر اتفاق کیا گیا، حکومت پنجاب ڈیٹا اور کلاؤڈ سینٹر قائم کرنے کیلئے اراضی اور بلڈنگ فراہم کریں گی۔ وزیر اعلیٰ کا کہنا تھا کہ چین کے تعاون سے پنجاب کو سب سے بڑا آرٹیفیشل انٹیلی جنس سنٹر بنانا چاہتے ہیں، چینی کمپنی پاکستانی نوجوانوں کو آن لائن ورلڈوائیڈ ٹریڈنگ کی بھی ٹریننگ دے گی۔ لاہور میں سمارٹ کنٹرول روم، سمارٹ ٹریفک کنٹرول، سمارٹ وزیر اعلیٰ مریم نواز کے کامیاب دورہ ٹرانسپورٹ، سمارٹ سینی ٹیشن سنٹر بھی بنے گا۔ اس حوالے سے مریم نواز کا کہنا تھا کہ پنجاب بہت جلد خطے کا آئی ٹی حب بنے گا۔ چین کے بعد پنجاب میں بھی پلچل شروع ہو گئی، متعلقہ وزارتیں اور بیوروکریسی متحرک ہوئیں، 14 جنوری 2024 کو لاہور میں چین کے قونصل جنرل ڈاؤ شیرین نے پنجاب کے محکمہ زراعت کے سیکرٹری افتخار علی ساہو سے ملاقات کی اور وزیر اعلیٰ پنجاب مریم نواز کے دورہ چین کے زرعی تعاون پر عملدرآمد کے حوالے سے تبادلہ خیال کیا۔ ڈاؤ شیرین نے پنجاب میں زرعی جدیدیت کو فروغ دینے کے لئے پاکستان سے مل کر کام کرنے پر آمادگی ظاہر کی۔ سیکرٹری زراعت نے چینی قونصل جنرل کو پنجاب میں زرعی تعاون کے منصوبوں اور ترقی کی اگلی لائن کے بارے میں بریفنگ دی اور قونصلیٹ جنرل کا شکریہ ادا کیا۔ ٹھیک دودن بعد 16 جنوری کو چینی قونصل جنرل نے پنجاب حکومت کے سینئر اکنامک ایڈوائزر اور پاک چائنہ ڈیسک کے سربراہ جلال حسن سے بھی ملاقات کی اور خواہش ظاہر کی کہ پنجاب کا پاک چائنہ ڈیسک صوبے میں چینی سرمایہ کاری کو فروغ دینے اور دوطرفہ تعلقات کی ترقی میں فعال کردار ادا کرے گا۔ جلال حسن نے قونصلیٹ جنرل کو وزیر اعلیٰ پنجاب کے دورہ چین پر عملدرآمد سے آگاہ کیا۔ وزیر اعلیٰ مریم نواز نے جیسے ہی پاکستان کے سب سے بڑے صوبے کا اقتدار سنبھالا تو جیلنجوں کا امتحان تھا۔ مریم نواز نے 26 فروری 2024 کو پاکستان کے سب سے بڑے صوبے پنجاب کا بطور وزیر اعلیٰ حلف اٹھایا تو مشکلات کا بھنور تھا اور وقت بھی کم تھا، ٹھیک اگلے ماہ مارچ 26 کو خیبر پی کے کے ضلع شانگلہ میں ہشام کے علاقے میں چینی انجینئر زپر خود کش حملہ ہو گیا۔ پانچ چینی انجینئرز سمیت چھ قیمتی جانیں غلی گئیں تو پورے ملک میں سوگ کی کیفیت طاری ہو گئی، وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف چینی سفارتخانے اسلام آباد پہنچے تو وزیر اعلیٰ مریم نواز شریف اپنی کاہنہ کے ارکان، چیف سیکرٹری، سیکرٹری داخلہ اور آئی جی کو لے کر لاہور میں چینی قونصلیٹ پہنچیں، قونصل جنرل ڈاؤ شیرین اور دیگر سفارتی سٹاف سے ملاقات کی۔ وزیر اعلیٰ نے شانگلہ حملے میں چینی باشندوں کی جانیں جانے پر افسوس کا اظہار اور تعزیت کی۔ پاکستان اور چین بے مثال دوست ہیں، بزدلانہ کارروائیاں یہ دوستی متاثر نہیں کر سکتیں، وزیر اعلیٰ مریم نواز نے چینی بھائیوں کی فول پروف سیوریٹی کی یقین دہانی کرائی۔ قونصل جنرل ڈاؤ شیرین نے شکریہ ادا کیا۔ یہی موقع تھا جب مریم نواز نے باہمی تعاون اور اشتراک کا سلسلہ جاری رکھنے کے عزم کا اظہار کیا اور ایک سال بعد وزیر اعلیٰ مریم نواز کی انتہک کاوشوں کی بدولت پاکستان اور چین کی دوستی کو نیا عروج ملا اور اس کے ثمرات پنجاب سمیت پورے ملک کے عوام کے لئے آسانیاں اور خوشیاں لے کر آئے۔

پاکستان چین دوستی زندہ باد

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K2 Daily

چین کا لائین تہوار کیا ہے؟

شاہد افران خان

چین کا لائین تہوار ایک ایسا تہوار ہے جس کا مقصد لائین کی صنعت کو فروغ دینا ہے۔ اس تہوار میں لائین کی مصنوعات کی نمائندگی کی جاتی ہے اور لائین کی صنعت کے کارکنوں کو مل جل کر کام کرنے کی ترغیب دی جاتی ہے۔

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February 26, 2025

Nawaiwaqt News

چین 2 لاکھ نوجوانوں کو آئی ٹی کی تعلیم دے گا: احسن اقبال

شکر گڑھ (نامہ نگار) وفاقی وزیر احسن اقبال نے گورنمنٹ پوسٹ گریجویٹ کالج شکر گڑھ میں تقسیم انعامات کی تقریب سے خطاب کرتے ہوئے کہا کہ آنے والا وقت آئی ٹی کی تعلیم سے جڑا ہے۔ ہم نوجوانوں کو چھ ماہ کے آئی ٹی کورسز سکھانے جا رہے ہیں۔ خواتین گھریلو کڑھوں کو لاکھوں کمائیں گی۔ وزیراعظم پروگرام کے تحت 2 لاکھ نوجوانوں کو چائے آئی ٹی تعلیم دے گا۔ آرٹیفیشل انٹیلی جنس کی تعلیم سے ملکی ترقی میں مثبت تبدیلی آئے گی۔ نوجوان کو سوشل میڈیا سے گمراہ کیا جاسکتا ہے۔ ایک نوجوان کی میرے سے کوئی دشمنی نہیں تھی مگر اس نے سوشل میڈیا کی پوسٹوں سے متاثر ہو کر میری جان لینے کی کوشش کی۔ نوجوان نے مجھے جو گولی ماری وہ نفرت کی گولی تھی جو آج بھی میرے جسم میں ہے۔ کچھ جماعتیں ہیں جو کہتی ہیں کہ ہمیں ووٹ دو گے تو جنت میں جاؤ گے، ان کے بہکاوے میں نہ آئیں۔ رمضان میں ہمیں ریفریشر کورس کرنا ہے۔ آج ہم نے قرآن مجید سے تعلق توڑ دیا ہے، قرآنی تعلیم سے ہم سوشل میڈیا کے بہکاوے سے بچ سکتے ہیں۔ ہمارے پاس دنگنا فساد اور گالم گلوچ کرنے والوں کی کمی نہیں ہے۔

<https://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/lahore/2025-02-26/page-1/detail-10>

February 27, 2025

The News

Chinese investors fully protected in Punjab: Shafay

LAHORE: Minister for Industries and Commerce Chaudhry Shafay Hussain met a delegation representing 20 Chinese investor companies. The meeting held at the Punjab Investment Board focused on investment opportunities in various sectors in Punjab.

Chinese investment companies expressed interest in investing in electric vehicles, pharmaceuticals, electrical appliances, artificial intelligence and other sectors. They also demanded 500 acres of land in Quaid-e-Azam Business Park (Sheikhupura) and Faisalabad Industrial Estate for setting up various industrial units. Speaking to the delegation, Chaudhry Shafay Hussain stated that the improvement of industrial infrastructure in Punjab has made the province a priority for foreign investors. He highlighted that several Chinese companies have already invested billions of dollars in Punjab and the government welcomes further investments from China.

He assured the delegation that Chinese investors and their investments in Punjab are fully protected. He also revealed that a new industrial estate and an international-standard furniture college are being established in Gujrat, along with a college dedicated to artificial intelligence.

The minister guaranteed that land would be provided to Chinese companies as per their requirements for setting up industrial units in Punjab's industrial estates. He urged Chinese investors to invest in Punjab with full confidence, assuring that the government would provide all necessary support.

Chaudhry Shafay Hussain highlighted the vast scope for joint ventures between Chinese investor companies and local investors.

He also mentioned that an expo centre is being developed in Faisalabad and emphasised the government's aim to manufacture electric vehicles and solar panels in Punjab, with discussions already underway with several companies.

The meeting was attended by DG Investment Board Dr Sohail Ahmed and other directors. The Chinese investors' delegation included Gian Zeng Hao, Li Jian, and others. Co-chairman of the Pakistan-China Business Forum, Ijaz Sheikh, and other representatives from the business community were present.

<https://e.thenews.com.pk/detail?id=386504>

February 28, 2025

The News

CM invites China to set up industrial units in KP

Mushtaq Paracha

NOWSHERA: Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur on Thursday invited the Chinese Ambassador Jiang Zaidong to establish industrial units in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, both agreed to enhance cooperation between Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and China in multiple fields.

The offer was made as the Chinese ambassador met with the chief minister at the Rashakai Special Economic Zone. They discussed investment opportunities in various sectors, including agriculture, energy, and mines and minerals.

Senior officials from the KP government and the Chinese Embassy were present during the meeting. Gandapur invited the Chinese envoy to set up industrial units in KP for solar systems manufacturing, value addition and finishing of minerals.

“Vast investment opportunities are available in sectors such as mines, energy and power in the province,” the chief minister told the Chinese ambassador, assuring that the KP government would welcome Chinese investment in the province by extending full support to investors. Gandapur said the KP government was working to provide industries with various incentives, including cheaper electricity. He said that ongoing hydropower projects were expected to generate 800 megawatts of electricity by 2028, and a provincial transmission line was being laid to supply industries with electricity at cheaper rates. The chief minister said the KP government was working on clean and green energy initiatives. In this context, a total of 130,000 deserving households are being provided with free of cost solar systems, and to 50 percent of them at subsidized rates, and on easy installments.

Enlisting the KP government measures, he said that a special mining company had been established to ensure the efficient utilization of mineral resources, aiming to maximize benefits from these resources. Of the people-friendly initiatives of the KP government, the Gandapur said under the Sehat Card Programme, 100 per cent of the population in KP was being provided with free medical treatment facilities, while work was also underway to launch a life insurance scheme for the province’s citizens. The chief minister said the KP government was providing interest-free loans worth Rs 15 billion to youth to establish their businesses, adding that for promoting homestay tourism, additional Rs 4 billion would be extended to citizens as interest-free loans.

The Chinese ambassador assured enhanced cooperation in various sectors. He praised the KP government’s initiatives to increase revenue and improve the welfare of the deserving people.

The envoy hoped the cooperation between China and Pakistan would strengthen the friendly relations between the two countries.

<https://e.thenews.com.pk/detail?id=386766>

Saudis, Chinese take interest in Pakistan agro and food industry

LAHORE: Director of Agro and Food at the Ministry of Investment, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Daifullah AlFawaz led a series of high-level meetings with key stakeholders to explore investment and trade opportunities in Pakistan's agro-food sector.

During the second day of the FoodAg Manufacturing 2025 exhibition at the Lahore Expo Centre here on Thursday, AlFawaz met with the Punjab agriculture minister, the Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC), and the Pakistan Halal Authority (PHA) to discuss collaborations in agritech, halal certification, and food exports. He also held discussions with leading companies focusing on expanding exports of Pakistani rice, meat, fruit concentrates, and sustainable packaging solutions to Saudi Arabia.

He toured the exhibition halls, exploring the diverse offerings from provincial stalls representing Balochistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Punjab, and Sindh. He also visited major processing facilities. The visit underscored the growing economic ties between the two nations and laid the groundwork for future investments and trade expansion in the agro-food sector.

High-profile meetings were also held with Chief Executive Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP) Faiz Ahmad and Secretary TDAP Sheryar Taj, in collaboration with representatives from the Punjab, KP, and Balochistan governments, centred on enhancing investment and bilateral trade in critical agricultural and food sectors. The discussions highlighted trade opportunities in agriculture, fisheries, seeds, meat, fruits, value-added fruits, and vegetables with key markets such as China, Japan, Korea, Italy, Turkey, and the US. A major focus was on the relocation of industries from China under the CPEC framework, with plans for follow-up meetings through Pakistan's trade missions in China and other strategic markets. The potential for agro-processing machinery collaboration with South Korea, Japan, and Italy was also explored in depth, emphasising technological partnerships and investment opportunities to boost the sector's growth.

The second day was marked by vibrant Business-to-Business (B2B) networking sessions, high profile meetings and the showcasing of cutting-edge technologies and innovative solutions. International and national exhibitors engaged in meaningful collaborations, while the PHDEC Pavilion highlighted Pakistan's agricultural potential.

The exhibition brought together over 152 exhibitors, including 37 international participants from China, Japan, Italy, Turkiye, South Korea, and other countries, alongside 44 national exhibitors and 24 packaging companies. The exhibition was divided into six key sectors: 'Agritech Solutions', 'Agro-Livestock Processing Machinery', 'Packaging Machinery', 'Food Storage', 'Supply Chain', and 'Ingredients'.

During the event, TDAP played a pivotal role in facilitating over 347 B2B meetings between buyers and exhibitors, leading to numerous business deals and partnerships while 4 MoUs were signed, marking significant collaborations across diverse sectors.

These included Badot (specializing in potato-based cosmetics), Bio Mark Pharmaceuticals, World Trading (focused on R&D for amino acid fertilisers and high-quality potato and garlic

seeds), Wireless Seeds, STS Robotech (innovating in fried chicken production and robotics), and Dawon Solution (advancing livestock waste management technologies). These agreements underscore the exhibition's success in fostering innovation, cross-border partnerships, and sustainable growth in the food and agriculture industries.

Moreover, factory visits were organised for international delegations, including a Chinese company and a Korean company, further strengthening cross-border collaborations. The event proved to be a transformative event, driving innovation, collaboration, and growth in the food and agriculture industry. The exhibition set a new benchmark for future events, with its diverse range of exhibitors, cutting-edge technologies, and successful B2B engagements.

<https://e.thenews.com.pk/detail?id=386571>

Chinese Newspapers

February 19, 2025

People's Daily

CPEC offers opportunities for Pakistan, regional countries to promote economic development: president

ISLAMABAD, Feb. 18 (Xinhua) -- Pakistani President Asif Ali Zardari said on Tuesday that the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) offered immense opportunities for Pakistan, China and other regional countries to promote economic development. Multiple infrastructure and road projects under the CPEC helped Pakistan to better link with neighboring countries including China, supporting trade and economic integration, the president said during a seminar on regional connectivity organized by Pakistani think-tank Pakistan-China Institute. He said that the development of Gwadar Port, a key project under the CPEC in the country's southwest Balochistan province, would bring dividends for future generations by giving impetus to trade, economic cooperation and prosperity. Stressing Pakistan's commitment to strengthen regional connectivity, Zardari said that Pakistan has great geostrategic importance which presented an option to enhance regional trade, terming the country as a "natural trade corridor" linking China, Central Asia and the Middle East. The president also emphasized the importance of revitalizing historic trade routes to further strengthen economic and cultural ties across the region. Speaking on the occasion, Chief Minister of Balochistan Sarfraz Bugti said that the CPEC is reflective of the long-standing friendship between Pakistan and China. He said that after successfully implementing the first phase of the CPEC which modernized Pakistan's transportation system by building roads, ports and airports, the CPEC has entered its second phase of trade, industrialization, economic development and regional connectivity. Terming Gwadar Port as a symbol of hope and opportunity for the people of Pakistan especially Balochistan, the chief minister said that the port would be transformed into a significant global port with state-of-the-art facilities to provide access to global markets and serve as a gateway to the world for regional countries.

<http://en.people.cn/n3/2025/0219/c90000-20278452.html>

February 20, 2025

People's Daily

China, Pakistan to boost docking of development strategies

UNITED NATIONS, Feb. 19 (Xinhua) -- As all-weather strategic cooperative partners, China and Pakistan will strengthen the docking of their development strategies, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi said here on Tuesday. Wang, also a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, met with Pakistani Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar at the UN headquarters in New York. Wang said this year marks the 80th anniversary of the UN establishment, and it is necessary to take this opportunity to review the original intention of the world body's founding, to practice and promote multilateralism, and to reform and improve global governance. In view of the current deficits in peace, development, security and governance facing the international community, China proposes to hold a high-level meeting of the UN Security Council on "Practicing multilateralism, reforming and improving global governance," said Wang.

Such a meeting is to gather more international consensus and formulate a common plan, and China is ready to work with the international community, including Pakistan, to jointly promote the meeting to achieve positive results and accelerate the construction of a just and equitable global governance system. As all-weather strategic cooperative partners, China and Pakistan have always trusted and supported each other, said the Chinese foreign minister, adding that a recent successful meeting between Chinese President Xi Jinping and Pakistani President Asif Ali Zardari added new impetus to China-Pakistan's ironclad friendship. Wang said that China gives priority to its relations with Pakistan in its neighborhood diplomacy, and will continue to uphold justice and speak out for Pakistan on international occasions. He said China will strengthen the docking of development strategies with Pakistan, especially deepen cooperation in agricultural modernization and industrialization, and will help Pakistan to enhance its capacity in self-development. Wang expressed the hope that Pakistan will take effective measures to ensure the safety of Chinese personnel, projects and institutions in Pakistan. For his part, Dar said that President Zardari's recent visit to China has been a great success, and the Pakistan-China all-weather strategic cooperative partnership has reached a new high with highly efficient progress going on in cooperation in various fields. He said Pakistan admires China for writing a great chapter in its modernization development and looks forward to strengthening high-level exchanges and development synergy with China. Dar also told Wang that he wishes the upcoming "Two Sessions" of China a complete success. Dar said that Pakistan attaches great importance to and will fully guarantee the safety of Chinese institutions and personnel in Pakistan. Pakistan appreciates China's leadership on the global agenda and will continue to work closely with China and support each other, he added.

<http://en.people.cn/n3/2025/0220/c90000-20278880.html>

Xinhua News

CPEC to develop Pakistan's knowledge-based economy through tech advancements, say experts

Raheela Nazir

ISLAMABAD, Feb. 26 (Xinhua) -- Pakistani experts and officials said that the second phase of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is all set to develop Pakistan's knowledge-based economy through technological advancements while stressing building intellectual infrastructure in the South Asian country.

Under the innovation corridor of the second phase of CPEC, Pakistan and China need to explore opportunities for enhancing technological collaboration, joint research initiatives, sharing of knowledge and capacity building, the experts said during a seminar organized by the Institute of Regional Studies (IRS), an Islamabad-based think tank, on Tuesday.

On the occasion, Jauhar Saleem, president of the IRS, said that the first phase of CPEC has helped Pakistan to build road and energy infrastructure, bringing about socio-economic benefits while improving connectivity, trade, and industrial growth.

He said that Pakistan aimed to foster innovation through partnerships between China and Pakistan in various sectors, including information technology, agriculture, mining, and others under the framework of CPEC.

He added that China and Pakistan should now focus more on enhancing cooperation in research and development, digital infrastructure and building of industrial parks to drive innovation.

Emphasizing Pakistan's potential as a connector of South, Central, East, and West Asia, he noted that the next phase of CPEC shifted the focus from building on physical construction to creating an intellectual infrastructure, since advancing toward a knowledge-based society is only possible for Pakistan by leapfrogging traditional industrialization stages.

Saleem also stressed the need to capitalize on Pakistan's young population by imparting skills and focusing on emerging technologies under CPEC.

Khalid Taimur Akram, executive director of the Pakistan Research Center for a Community with Shared Future in Islamabad, said that the first phase of CPEC was more of government-to-government collaborations, and the next phase will primarily focus on business-to-business (B2B) arrangements.

Highlighting that B2B cooperation and digital innovation are critical in strengthening Pakistan-China economic ties, the expert called for fostering open-source private ventures, enabling Pakistan to accelerate its modernization efforts and better align with the pace of Chinese innovation.

Asif Ali Khan, chairperson of the National Seed Development and Regulatory Authority, said that as the agriculture sector is the backbone of the country's economy, employing a big chunk of the labor force and significantly contributing to the domestic gross product, the sector needs to be modernized with Chinese support and knowledge sharing. "The country

must focus on modern technologies and practices in agriculture to increase high-quality production and good security," he said.

He noted that Pakistan needs to take a leaf out of China's book to revolutionize its agricultural sector, stressing that China's scientific and technological advancements and innovations can play vital roles in this regard. Talking about the ongoing cooperation between the two countries, Khan said that China has been helping Pakistan to modernize its agricultural sector over the past 10 years under CPEC, and the cooperation between the two countries must be enhanced further. Launched in 2013, CPEC, a flagship project of the China-proposed Belt and Road Initiative, is a corridor linking the Gwadar Port in southwest Pakistan's Balochistan province with Kashgar in northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region. The project highlights energy, transport, and industrial cooperation in the first phase, which in the new phase expands to fields of agriculture and livelihood, among others.

<https://english.news.cn/20250226/34f631000b5c4225890cd3372f085828/c.html>

February 25, 2025

China Daily

Pakistan to unlock full potential of 5G tech

XU WEIWEI

Pakistan's government has been actively working toward embracing 5G technology as part of its vision for digital transformation, analysts said, noting that China's experience in smart cities and the digital economy can serve as a model for Pakistan to implement 5G-driven innovations.

"The introduction of 5G will be a game-changer, driving economic growth, improving connectivity, and enabling cutting-edge technologies like artificial intelligence and smart cities," said Moiz Farooq, executive editor of Pakistan Economic Net and Daily Ittehad Media Group.

"With strong government policies, foreign investment, and Chinese collaboration, Pakistan is well-positioned to unlock 5G's full potential for economic and social transformation."

The Pakistan government plans to launch 5G services by the middle of this year, local media recently quoted officials as saying.

Pakistan's Ministry of Information Technology and Telecommunication has recently taken key steps, including policy development, spectrum allocation, and infrastructure expansion, to ensure a smooth rollout, Farooq added.

Syed Shujaat Ahmed, an independent consultant and economist, said that 5G technology can drive economic growth and digital transformation in Pakistan by creating opportunities in sectors such as e-commerce, fintech, and digital payments.

"It will support startups, small and medium-sized enterprises, and large corporations in adopting advanced digital solutions while boosting Pakistan's IT exports and expanding the digital economy," Ahmed said.

Challenges ahead

However, he noted Pakistan faces several challenges in developing 5G, including "high infrastructure costs, which require massive investments in fiber-optic networks, base stations, and equipment".

Other challenges include issues related to spectrum allocation and regulatory policies, the energy crisis, affordability concerns, and cybersecurity and data privacy risks.

Shakeel Ahmad Ramay, CEO of the Asian Institute of Eco-civilization Research and Development in Pakistan, said that as a fast-growing country with a huge population and youth bulge, young people have become the most significant users of the internet and related technology.

"However, the infrastructure could not keep pace with the demand," he said. "Therefore, Pakistan has joined hands with China to strengthen technology development and modernize the ICT infrastructure."

According to Ahmad, Chinese companies are actively working to improve the infrastructure and services in Pakistan.

For example, Zong — a prominent mobile data network operator based in Pakistan — is wholly owned by China Mobile. The company is the biggest 4G service provider with 12,000 4G sites, and it has also launched a pilot project for 5G installation and service provision, Ahmad said.

As a global leader in 5G, China can play a crucial role in Pakistan's 5G development, said Farooq from Daily Ittehad Media Group.

Farooq added that the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor's Digital Corridor Initiative can help Pakistan leverage China's expertise in fiber-optic expansion, cloud computing, and cybersecurity to ensure a fast and secure transition to 5G.

Additionally, collaboration with China can lead to technology transfer, skill development, and joint research in next-generation telecom solutions, he said.

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<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202502/25/WS67bd1b51a310c240449d70c4.html>

February 27, 2025

People's Daily

Press center for 2025 'two sessions' opens in Beijing

Liang Rui

The press center for China's annual sessions of its top legislature and political advisory body, known as the "two sessions," officially opened Thursday at the Media Center Hotel on West Chang'an Avenue in Beijing on Thursday, according to Xinhua News Agency.

The third session of the 14th National People's Congress (NPC) and the third session of the 14th National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) are set to begin on March 5 and March 4, respectively, Xinhua reported.

According to Xinhua, more than 3,000 journalists have registered to cover the "two sessions" this year, which marks the final year of China's 14th Five-Year Plan (2021-25) period. Among them, over 1,000 are journalists from Hong Kong, Macao, Taiwan and abroad. This represents an increase from last year.

The press center will host a series of press conferences and events, with heads of central government departments expected to address key domestic and international issues, Xinhua reported.

As in previous years, this year's press center has set up multiple functional areas, including a press conference hall and interview rooms, which are fully prepared to support local and international journalists covering the "two sessions," according to CCTV News on Thursday.

During the sessions, digital versions of the main session documents will be provided to journalists via the internet, eliminating the need for long queues for on-site document collection. Additionally, interview rooms will be available at the accommodations for NPC deputies and CPPCC members to facilitate media interviews, reported CCTV.

"The Chinese government has made elaborate arrangements to facilitate foreign journalists for coverage of the 'two sessions.' This year, I will be focusing on China's foreign policy. The current state of China-US relations, like trade relations, especially after the new administration takes office. China is also playing a key role in world peace and its efforts for maintaining peace in various areas," Muhammad Asghar, a correspondent from the Associated Press of Pakistan, told the Global Times on Thursday.

"For internal policy, I admire the Chinese government's steps for improving the people's welfare like job opportunities, housing, health and education facilities," Asghar added.

<http://en.people.cn/n3/2025/0227/c90000-20282561.html>

Xinhua News

GLOBALink | China's financial ecosystem efficient, strong: National Bank of Pakistan Rep.

"China's entire system is efficient and strong, so it is able to deliver very quickly." Chief representative of the National Bank of Pakistan's Beijing office said in an interview with Xinhua. #GLOBALink

<https://english.news.cn/20250227/4eb606cccf6a48ccaec91f3b7514dbe9/c.html>

February 28, 2025

China Daily

Pakistani astronaut to become first foreign visitor to China's space station

Zhao Lei

China's Tiangong space station is expected to welcome its first foreign visitor — a Pakistani astronaut who will likely become the first from the Islamic republic to fly to outer space, according to a heavyweight cooperation agreement.

The agreement, signed by the China Manned Space Agency and Pakistan's Space and Upper Atmosphere Research Commission at a ceremony in Islamabad on Friday, covers the bilateral efforts to select and train Pakistani astronauts and then send some of them to China's Tiangong space station, which has been in orbit for nearly four years.

Witnessed by Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, the signing marks the first time for China to help a foreign nation to select and train astronauts, and also the first time for the Tiangong space station to welcome a non-Chinese inhabitant, the China Manned Space Agency said in a news release.

The Chinese agency said the two sides will use about one year to complete the selection process before sending the Pakistani candidates to China to receive comprehensive and systematic training. Details of when the selection process would begin have not yet been disclosed.

After the Pakistani trainees become ready, one of them will accompany Chinese astronauts to the Tiangong space station and spend a short-term stay inside the colossal spacecraft, currently orbiting Earth at about 400 kilometers above ground, the agency noted.

To date, the highest altitude any Pakistani has ever reached is about 87.4 km, by a female polar adventurer and artist Namira Salim during a 55-minute suborbital travel arranged by American aerospace company Virgin Galactic on Oct 6, 2023.

It is common knowledge that the Karman line, an altitude of 100 km above sea level, is the start of outer space and the threshold for orbital flight.

The signing of the cooperation agreement has created fresh opportunities and set a model for more developing countries to engage in international manned space collaboration. It is expected to inspire nations worldwide to join hands in exploring the mysteries of the universe

and collectively forge a new chapter in advancing shared interests for the benefit of all humanity, according to the release. Since the launch of the Tiangong's first component in April 2021, Chinese space officials have floated the idea about picking and sending foreigners to the space station. Key project leaders such as Yang Liwei, the first Chinese in space and now a deputy chief planner of the country's manned spaceflights, and Lin Xiqiang, deputy head of the China Manned Space Agency, have said several times that China is open to international cooperation on its space station, including flights jointly crewed with other nations. Chen Shanguang, another senior official in China's manned space program, said in February 2023 that "multiple countries have told China that they hope to send their astronauts to the Tiangong station". Tiangong is one of the largest and most advanced structures ever deployed in Earth's orbit and is the only operating space station independently built by a single nation.

The Chinese outpost has three permanent parts — a core module and two science capsules — and is regularly connected to several visiting crew and cargo spaceships. It now weighs more than 100 tons and is expected to function for at least 10 years. So far, eight crews have been sent to man the space station, including the incumbent Shenzhou XIX team, which arrived at the outpost in late October and is scheduled to return in late April or early May. In August 2017, Samantha Cristoforetti of Italy and Matthias Maurer of Germany, both from the European Space Agency, participated in a sea survival exercise, which was organized by the Astronaut Center of China, in waters off the coastal city of Yantai, Shandong province. They were the first foreign astronauts to take part in training in China.

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202502/28/WS67c18997a310c240449d7e64.html>