



Newsletter

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Message by Amb Khalid Mahmood, Chairman ISSI

China is the most trusted friend of Pakistan and their mutual relations have expanded in all directions of common interest. At ISSI, we perceived to make extensive research on their bilateral relations, CPEC and OBOR. For that purpose, we have set up a centre of excellence i.e, the China-Pakistan Study Centre (CPSC) to carry out in-depth research and provide feedback to the policy makers and relevant institutions as well as academia and public at large. This would help in further deepening time tested ties between the two countries and their peoples.

Long Live Pakistan-China friendship.



Director of CPSC meets the DCM Zhao Lijian

Dr Ahmad Rashid Malik, Director of the CPSC called on Mr Zhao Lijian, Deputy Chief of Mission of the Embassy of the People's Republic of China at Islamabad on 11 April. Mr. Lijian congratulated him for assuming the charge of the Director and hoped that the research in the areas of China-Pakistan Relations will take a new momentum after the establishment of the new think tank.



Roundtable with Mitsubishi Corporation, Tokyo

A Roundtable discussion was held between the CPSC and the representatives of the Mitsubishi Corporation, Tokyo. Ms. Xu Bu-Ming, and Mr. Seiji Matsumoto Global Strategy &

Coordination Department of Mitsubishi Corporation, Tokyo, and Mr. Kenichiro Hirai, GM, Islamabad, discussed business and investment opportunities in Pakistan especially as prevailing under the CPEC.

Technology

China is building world's highest-altitude ring road in Tibet

China is in the process of building the world's highest-altitude ring road in Lhasa, Tibet, the official Weibo of CCTV News reported. The road, with a total length of nearly 100 km, will feature seven tunnels and 27 bridges. Lhasa has an average elevation of more than 3,600 meters; thus, the ring road is designed with a speed limit of 60 km/h. It will take less than two hours to circle the city. The road is expected to be completed and open to traffic by June 2017.

People's Daily Online (Beijing),
January 4, 2017



China develops hot water drill to facilitate Antarctic expedition

China announced it had completed controlled tests on its first hot water drill, which is capable of drilling through 1,500 meters of ice and will be used for Antarctic research. This is the fourth test on the drill, it was conducted at Jilin University in northeast China's Jilin Province. The drill, which uses pressurised hot water to melt and bore into the ice, is capable of drilling 1,500 meters into the Amery Ice Shelf in Antarctica, the assessment panel

announced after an on-site review. "The drill will be invaluable to China's Antarctic scientific exploration," said Zhao Yue, head of the review panel and a researcher with the Chinese Academy of Geological Sciences. It will help Chinese arcticologists capture more data on not only ice shelves but also global warming, said the expert.

Xinhua (Beijing) April 6, 2017.



Society & Culture

Award-winning teacher showcases Chinese educational innovation



After being named one of the top 10 best teachers in the world by the Global Teacher Prize, Yang Boya, a mental health educator from Yunnan province, has successfully attracted global attention to China's education innovation. Yang is using her platform to show case the country's rising influence on international education trends. Yang has set up a centre where students – especially left-behind children – can seek professional guidance from psychologists. She is also the first Chinese teacher to earn a spot on the top 10 list of candidates for the Global Teacher Prize. Coordinated by U.K.-based non-profit Varkey Foundation, the award aims to recognise the most qualified educators in the world. It received 20,000 applications from 179 countries in 2017. "Being nominated as a top candidate for the prize, I have earned a chance to communicate with my international counterparts, as well as advocate for my Chinese colleagues. I think the international education arena needs more voices from China," Yang told this during an interview.

People's Daily Online (Beijing),
April 06, 2017



CPEC symbolises people centric approach of Pakistan, China: Nawaz

Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif has said that the multi-billion CPEC and its related projects symbolise the people centric approach of the two countries and their resolve for regional connectivity. He was talking to a high level Chinese delegation headed by Chairman of National Committee of Chinese Peoples' Political Consultative Conference Yu Zhengsheng in Islamabad on 6 April.

Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif lauded the Chinese diplomatic and materialistic support to Pakistan in its fight against terrorism. He said close cooperation between the two Parliaments will contribute towards further strengthening the friendly relations between Pakistan and China. Warmly welcoming the Chairman and the delegation members to

Pakistan, the Prime Minister said the visit will establish institutional linkages between the Parliaments of Pakistan

The Prime Minister said the upcoming "Belt and Road Forum" being held in China in May would provide an excellent opportunity for exploring important areas of connectivity, infrastructure, trade, finance, people-to-people exchanges and think-tanks cooperation between Pakistan, China and the whole world community.

On the occasion, Yu Zhengsheng thanked the Prime Minister for the warm welcome accorded by Pakistan to the delegation. He expressed the hope that Parliamentary exchanges will further augment the brotherly ties between the two countries. The Chinese

delegation also called on President Mamnoon Hussain. The President said that Pak-China friendship will ensure peace in the region "Timely completion of projects under China-Pakistan Economic Corridor will usher in an era of prosperity and progress not only in Pakistan but the whole region," he said. The President said that there is unanimity in Pakistan that CPEC will not only improve the economic condition of the country but also benefit the whole region. He noted that other countries have also evinced keen interest in linking up with CPEC to reap dividends from this mega project. The President stated that the whole world is now acknowledging China's vision of "One Belt-One Road". President Mamnoon Hussain said that Pakistan and China are close friends, neighbors and trustworthy partners and expressed optimism that the visit by delegation of CPPCC will further strengthen bilateral ties between the two countries.

Speaking on the occasion, Yu Zhengsheng said that China and Pakistan are iron brothers who share unanimity of views on major regional and international issues. He appreciated that being a strategically important country; Pakistan is playing an important role in the region. He also expressed satisfaction at the pace of work on CPEC projects. Chairman Senate Mian Raza Rabbani, Senator Saleem Mandviwalla and senior officials were also present on the occasion.

Pakistan Observer (Islamabad), April 7, 2017

KP approves setting up CPEC Security Force

The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government approved on April 5 in principle creating a special security force of 4,200 policemen for the security of the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) for safeguarding routes, projects, Chinese investments and the Chinese nationals. The disclosure was made in a statement issued by the home and tribal affairs department. KP govt for inclusion of 9 projects in CPEC. "The provincial government is taking keen interest in CPEC projects and

will ensure providing better security to all investors in the best interest of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa," said the statement. According to the statement, the Home and Tribal Affairs Department and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa police completed consultations on the formation and features of the CPEC Security Force. The provincial government would purchase equipment, weapons, ammunitions and vehicles worth Rs1.2 billion. KP govt for inclusion of 9 projects in CPEC. Manpower

for the special security force would initially be inducted from different sources, including police and various other security forces on contract basis. This force, it is learnt, would have its own chain of command and its strength would be gradually increased. A special cell would be set up in the Home and Tribal Affairs Department to monitor the force's activities. Personnel of the CPEC Security Force would be posted wherever CPEC projects would be launched.

The Express Tribune (Islamabad), April 6, 2017

Nine industrial zones being built under CPEC: Ahsan

Summit in Islamabad on April 6, he said this high growth rate can bring Pakistan among the top twenty-five economies of the world by 2030.

The Minister said CPEC is providing huge opportunities to international investors who can take advantage of these opportunities. Ahsan Iqbal said the whole world is now looking at this project and concerned ministers of almost all European Union countries have met him and expressed their wish to join Pakistan by investing in CPEC. He said this project can create connectivity in the region and connect three billion population of South Asia, Central Asia and China. He said

the nine industrial zones being built under CPEC will create eighty-five million new jobs. The Minister urged the international business leaders to play their role in making Pakistan an Asian Tiger by exploiting huge opportunities offered by the CPEC.

Speaking on the occasion, US Ambassador David Hale said Pakistan and the United States are enjoying long standing bilateral relations in various sectors, including business, trade, education and agriculture. He said Pakistani entrepreneurs are capable of developing innovative business ideas and they can compete any one on global scale.

Radio Pakistan (Islamabad), April 6, 2017



Minister for Planning and Development Ahsan Iqbal says Pakistan can sustain eight to ten percent economic growth for next three decades mainly due to China Pakistan Economic Corridor. Addressing a gathering of international business leaders at a Business

BeiDou Expansion to Cover Entire Southeast Asian Region

China's home-grown BeiDou Navigation Satellite System (BDS), a GPS-like global positioning system, will expand its footprints to Sri Lanka, Thailand and later to the entire Southeast Asia, in a bid to go global. According to Xinhua, company will persist in discovering models for international scientific and technical cooperation on BDS. The collaborative works will include joint construction of base stations, joint technical development and research, personnel training and exchanges.

China Daily (Beijing) April 1, 2017

China's army to put forward medical assistance worldwide

The Chinese military will continue to participate in global medical assistance, especially in African countries. Since 2003, over 4,000 soldiers who specialized in health care or logistics were dispatched on United Nations peacekeeping missions, treating more than 130,000 patients worldwide. *Xinhua* (Beijing). April 1, 2017

China's new economic zone to focus on technology, innovation: media

China's newly approved economic zone in Hebei province will focus on building clusters of high-tech and innovative businesses and take over some "non-capital functions" from Beijing. Xiongan New Area, modelled on the Shenzhen special economic zone next to Hong Kong that helped kick-start China's economic reforms in 1980. Xiongan, about 100 km (60 miles) southwest of Beijing, will draw large state-owned companies. *Reuters* (London), April 4, 2017

China rises to 15th in global tourism competitiveness ranking: report

The report attributes the improvement of China's tourism competitiveness ranking mainly to the country's increased international openness, improved ICT (information and communications technology) readiness and further investments in its tourist service infrastructure. China's increased prioritisation of its travel and tourism industry has also supported its rise.

Xinhua (Beijing), April 6, 2017

Chinese electronics giant Hisense becomes official sponsor of 2018 FIFA World Cup

Chinese electronics giant Hisense announced its status as an official sponsor of the 2018 FIFA World Cup, becoming the first-ever Chinese consumer electronics brand to sponsor the tournament. As an official FIFA World Cup sponsor, Hisense will engage in an array of global marketing and advertising activities for both the 2017 Confederations Cup and 2018 FIFA World Cup, reaching more than 200 countries and regions in the process and greatly enhancing international exposure for the brand. *Xinhua* (Beijing), April 6, 2017

Punjab University signs MoU with China's Shenyang University

Punjab University Institute of Chemical Engineering and Technology (ICET) has signed a memorandum of understanding with Shenyang University of Chemical Technology, China. The Shenyang University of Chemical Technology has agreed to provide 20 internships to 6th semester students of ICET. In this regard, they will provide opportunity to ICET students with all the expenses of boarding and lodging covered for six weeks internship every year.

The News International (Rawalpindi), April 7, 2017

UK eyeing to become key partner of CPEC

The United Kingdom has expressed its desire to become a key partner in the multibillion-dollar China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). "Britain is a country of global influence and can be an important partner for China and Pakistan in the delivery of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor which has the potential to build closer links between our countries," said UK Minister of State for International Trade Greg Hands during a business roundtable on the UK participation in the CPEC on April 5, 2017. "We have a clear ambition to increase trade with both China and Pakistan and UK businesses are well placed to capitalise on the new opportunities in the region," he added.

Speaking on the occasion, organised by the Department of International Trade at Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) London, Pakistan High Commissioner Syed Ibne Abbas said "On CPEC \$54 billion investment in four areas namely infrastructure, energy, Special Economic Zones and Gwadar port would give the necessary impetus to Pakistan's economy, thus creating enormous opportunities for the global corporate enterprises," he added.

Chinese Ambassador to UK Liu Xiaoming said relations between Pakistan and China are mutually beneficial. He went on to say that Pakistan's geographic position, demographic dividend and economic potential would continue to give the CPEC a great advantage. The China's One Belt One Road initiative is open to all and so far more than 100 countries and international organisations have expressed support for this initiative, he added.

The session came ahead of a larger CPEC conference in May which will be hosted by the UK government and the Royal United Services Institute (RUSI) to show how the Britain's world-leading expertise in areas such as financial and professional services, and energy and infrastructure can support China and Pakistan's economic vision. Other participants in the roundtable include experts from City UK, RUSI and the China-Britain Business Council. HSBC, Deloitte and Standard Chartered also discussed how they and other British firms could support the delivery of CPEC.

Pakistan Today (Islamabad), April 6, 2017

China's foreign exchange reserves rise for the second month in row

China's foreign exchange reserves rose for the second consecutive month in March, the first two-month rise since last April, offering Beijing signs of relief amid concerns about the flow of cash out the country. Data released by the People's Bank of China on April 07, 2017 showed foreign exchange reserve rose by US\$3.96 billion in March to US\$3.0091 trillion, after rising US\$6.9 billion in February. In the first quarter, the reserves fell by US\$1.4 billion compared with the end of last year, a modest change.

South China Morning Post (Hong Kong), April 7, 2017

The Chinese Tech Firms Pushing Boundaries of Artificial Intelligence

With the goal of nurturing world-class companies that can compete with the likes of Google and IBM in building intelligent machines, the Chinese leadership singled out AI as a key area of development in a report released during the National People's Congress in March. Soon after, the country's biggest technology companies -- Alibaba, Baidu and Tencent -- announced plans for AI laboratories and projects worth billions of dollars.

The market for AI-related services, from chatbots to early-stage disease diagnosis, is projected to grow to 9.1 billion yuan (\$1.3 billion) by 2020, from 1.4 billion yuan (\$203 million) in 2015.

China has already made real progress. In 2015, the country surpassed the U.S. with the number of published journals related to deep learning, a branch of AI that specialises in teaching machines to learn by themselves.

Forbes (New York), April 10, 2017



First 'Silk Road' train from Britain leaves for China

The first-ever freight train from Britain to China started its mammoth journey along a modern-day "Silk Road" trade route as Britain eyes new opportunities after it leaves the European Union. The 32-container train,

around 600 metres long, left the vast London Gateway container port laden with whisky, soft drinks and baby products, bound for Yiwu on the east coast of China.

Gulf Times (Doha), April 10, 2017

Shanghai becomes world's biggest trading city

Shanghai overtook Hong Kong and Singapore to be the largest international trading city. Official figures are suggesting Shanghai is now the world's largest international trading city due to the government's measures to encourage and upgrade trade. Imports and

exports through the city's ports were nearly 6.9 trillion yuan last year, accounting for 28.3 percent of national value and 3 percent of global trade.

People's Daily China (Beijing), April 13, 2017

China's "Belt and Road" initiative delivering benefits to world

Chinese companies have invested more than 50 billion U.S. dollars and built 56 economic and trade cooperation zones in 20 countries along the routes, generating nearly 1.1 billion U.S. dollars in tax revenue, creating 180,000 local jobs and spurring the economic development of these countries. A

3.37 km water pipeline project, completed by a Chinese company, in a Jordanian township is among the latest infrastructure projects. A total of 500,000 people living in an area of extreme water shortage now have access to water 24 hours a day, thanks to the project.

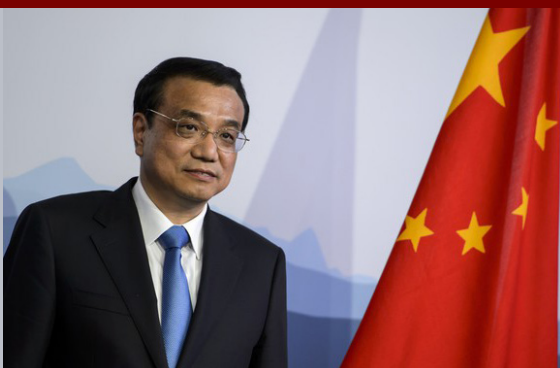
Xinhua (Beijing), April 16, 2017

China's premier stresses shift of growth engines

Chinese Premier Li Keqiang has stressed the importance of accelerating the shift from traditional economic growth engines to new ones. Prime Minister Li made the remarks at a symposium on new development ideas and developing new growth drivers at the Chinese Academy of Governance. He said, faced with a challenging world economic recovery and

relatively heavy downward pressure in the domestic economy, the old growth pattern will not be able to continue. He stressed China must speed up replacing old growth drivers with new ones to transform and upgrade the economy, Li said, adding that the key to the shift of growth drivers lies in technology.

Xinhua (Beijing), April 18, 2017



KP, Chinese firms sign 11 agreements

The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government signed 11 memoranda of understanding (MoUs) with Chinese companies for development projects in the province under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). According to a press release, MoUs were signed for five projects costing up to Rs. 60 billion. These projects are related to CPEC Tower, construction of a new bus terminal at Chamkani, Ring Road missing link, Health City at Regi Model Town, and Commercial and Residential Reconstruction Centre.

Dawn (Islamabad), April 18, 2017



UNESCO chief lauds China's efforts promoting cultural dialogues along Belt and Road

In an interview with Chinese media, Irina Bokova, Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), described the Belt and Road Initiative, proposed by Chinese President Xi Jinping in 2013, as a "fascinating

project", stressing that the UN agency commends and supports this initiative. The initiative, having already won the support of over 100 countries and international organisations, aims to build a trade and infrastructure network connecting Asia with

Europe and Africa along the ancient Silk Road routes, which were inscribed on the UNESCO World Cultural Heritage List in 2015. This goal coincides with that of the UNESCO's own Silk Road Project launched in 1988, which is to promote intercultural dialogues and establish links between different cities and civilizations along the historic trade routes, so as to achieve prosperity and harmony. *Xinhua* (Beijing), April 20, 2017

China's first cargo spacecraft Tianzhou-1 docks as planned with orbiting space lab

China's first cargo spacecraft docked successfully with the Tiangong-2 space lab on April 22. The Tianzhou-1 cargo resupply spacecraft made the automated docking process with the orbiting space lab after it had taken off on Thursday evening from the Wenchang Satellite Launch Centre in the southern island province of Hainan.

South China Morning Post (Hong Kong), April 22, 2017

China to hike annual per capita R&D spending 35% by 2020

China will hike its annual per capita spending on R&D by a whopping 35 per cent to 500,000 yuan by 2020, the government announced today as the world's second largest economy sought to tap its rich pool of researchers to emerge as an innovation giant. China will increase its annual per capita spending on R&D to 500,000 yuan (\$72,800) by 2020 from 370,000 yuan in 2014, according to the Ministry of Science and Technology.

Press Trust of India (New Delhi), April 24, 2017





China's Exim Bank to be operational by December in Pakistan

The proposed Export-Import Bank (Exim Bank) will be operational by December and Rs. 7 billion has already been released in this regard, the Senate Standing Committee on Commerce was informed.

Dawn (Islamabad), April 27, 2017

China Mobile to cut roaming charges along Belt and Road

China Mobile, China's leading telecom services provider, announced that it will lower roaming charges in 64 countries and regions along the Belt and Road. Starting May 1, roaming fees for calls made by China Mobile users in these areas will fall to 0.99 yuan, or less than 15 U.S. cents, per minute, BaoJianyi, a marketing executive with the Beijing-based company, said at a press conference.

Xinhua (Beijing), 27 April, 2017

China launches first domestically developed aircraft carrier

China officially launched its second and the first domestically developed aircraft carrier on April 26, in Dalian, Liaoning province. The ship is the largest and most sophisticated surface vessel China has ever built. The new carrier will start the fitting-out process in the next stage, in which the ship's interior equipment and electronic systems, as well as its weaponry will be installed. At the same time, mooring trials

will be conducted to verify the carrier's overall design and equipment. The aircraft carrier will have a displacement of about 60,000 metric tons and a conventional propulsion system. China's self-made J-15 fighter jets and other ship-borne aircraft will operate from the carrier in the future.

China Daily (Beijing), April 27 2017

CPEC generation capacity to be kept at 11,000MW

In order to address a major bottleneck to sustainable economic growth, Pakistan and China have retained electricity generation capacity at 11,000MW in the revised priority list of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). The Energy Expert Group (EEG) has agreed upon a readjusted list of the projects,

which ensures that the power generation is not less than 11,000MW, said the Chinese embassy officials in a background briefing on the CPEC.

The Express Tribune (Islamabad), April 27, 2017

China eyes upgrades to manufacturing industry

China will make unwavering efforts in upgrading its manufacturing industry as the nation transitions to an economy that relies more on innovation and high value-added products. "China's manufacturing sector is tasked with challenges including a downshift in growth, structural adjustment and a shift in growth engines," said Miao Wei, Minister of

Industry and Information Technology. China is determined to roll out more policies to optimize the investment environment and tap investment potential of businesses in a bid to support the development of advanced manufacturing.

China Daily (Beijing), April 25, 2017

Comments By CPSC

'Moving From Washington to Beijing Consensus',
Ume Farwa
All China Review (Beijing),
April 2017

'The Xi-Trump Summit'
Dr Ahmad Rashid Malik
The Nation (Islamabad),
10 April 2017

'The Xi-Trump Summit at Mar-a-Lago'
Dr Ahmad Rashid Malik
Pakistan Today (Islamabad),
13 April, 2017

The US Strategic Patience with North Korea'
Dr Ahmad Rashid Malik
Daily Times (Lahore),
20 April 2017

'Role of Sufism and Taoism in China- Pakistan Relations'
Ume Farwa
The Nation (Islamabad),
24 April 2017

'OBOR Goes Global'
Dr Ahmad Rashid Malik
The Nation (Islamabad),
25 April 2017



President Mamnoon Hussain welcoming Yu Zhengsheng, Chairman of National Committee of Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) upon his arrival at Aiwan-e-Sadr, Islamabad on April 6, 2017.



Urdu language edition of the book Xi Jinping: The Governance of China launched

The Urdu language edition of the book Xi Jinping: The Governance of China was launched on April 14, 2017 at Islamabad and the launching ceremony was attended by around Pakistani and Chinese officials, academicians and researchers. Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif and Jiang Jianguo, Vice Head of the Publicity Department of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, participated in the ceremony. In his speech, Prime Nawaz Sharif said the rich content of the book is both enlightening and inspiring and Chinese President Xi Jinping shares his experiences and thoughts with wisdom, empathy, and kindness.
Xinhua, (Beijing) April 15, 2017