

GlobBiz MAG

JANUARY - 2021

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Gwadar Builders &
Associates (Pvt.) Ltd.
Head office Lahore.**



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China terms completion of Gwadar projects a priority

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REGIONAL TRADE**

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Than Expected**

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OGDC discovers gas reserves in Balochistan

**Media must dispel rumors, negative propaganda
against CPEC: Shibli**

**CPEC projects have made a considerable
difference in Pakistan: Hua Chunying**

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CONTACT US

Landline: +92-42 111-41-42-43

UAN: +92-348-111-41-42

Mobile: +92 321/341/334-4444067

Email: globbizmag@globbizavenue.com



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FEATURE

GDA officials visited Gwadar Builders & Associates (Pvt.) Ltd. Head office Lahore.



During their visit, they had a detailed discussion with the management of GlobBiz Avenue Gwadar Ph IV for their efforts and following the directions given by Gwadar Development Authority (GDA). During the meeting discussion, respected Project Director Mr. Basit GlobBiz Avenue Gwadar Ph 4 presented a development plan to them which was highly appreciated by them and they also assured their full support from all the govt. departments.

ECONOMIC & STRATEGIC SIGNIFICANCE OF GWADAR PORT

MEDIA REPORT



In the region and global trade Deep seaport of Gwadar is poised to play a greater role as it is a flagship project of the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

In the region and global trade Deep seaport of Gwadar is poised to play a greater role as it is a flagship project of the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). With the arrival of a ship carrying 200 tonnes of fish in refrigerated containers operations have kink-started at the port. Under Pakistan-Afghanistan Transit Trade Agreement "MW Manet" the first bulk-cargo ship had reached Gwadar port in earlier June. This Cargo shi contains wheat and urea. These developments clearly show the economic potential of Gwadar Port and the confidence of the international business community and shipping lines in it.

At the time of British India, Gwadar was part of the state of Qalat. At that time daughter of Khan of Qalat get married to the royal family of Oman, Khan of Qalat gifted Gwadar to his son-in-law or to his daughter. Later in 1954, the United States Geological Survey (USGS) was engaged by the president of Pakistan Ayub Khan. It was discovered in that survey, for a new deep seaport Gwadar coastline could be a natural and suitable site. After

these findings, demand was increased to negotiate a deal with Oman so the residents of Gwadar to join Pakistan. So formally on December 08, 1958, Gwadar became a part of Pakistan. For this Pakistan paid the negotiated price of US\$ 5.5 million to Oman. Gwadar occupied a very strategic location. It is situated at the mouth of the Persian Gulf, Strait of Hormuz and the deep of Gwadar Port with its warm water make it more precious. It is 460 km west of Karachi, 75 km east of Iran, and 380 km northeast Oman. A small port was constructed at Gwadar, during the period of 1988-1992. In 2007 the port remained under Port Singapore Authority (PSA) after the inauguration by General Musharraf. In 2013 the same was handed over to China Overseas Port Holding Company (COPHC). Since then the rapid development has been done at the port of Gwadar to made it operational for regular shipments.

For Pakistan, Gwadar port has great strategic and economic significance. Gwadar is the third port of Pakistan after the

Persian Gulf, Strait of Hormuz and the deep of Gwadar Port with its warm water make it more precious. It is 460 km west of Karachi, 75 km east of Iran, and 380 km northeast Oman. A small port was constructed at Gwadar, during the period of 1988-1992. In 2007 the port remained under Port Singapore Authority (PSA) after the inauguration by General Musharraf. In 2013 the same was handed over to China Overseas Port Holding Company (COPHC). Since then the rapid development has been done at the port of Gwadar to made it operational for regular shipments.

For Pakistan, Gwadar port has great strategic and economic significance. Gwadar is the third port of Pakistan after the port of Karachi and Qasim. It is located at the cross-junction of the international sea shipping trade route for oil. Gwadar is going to be an international trade hub for Pakistan with its immense potential. The Port of Gwadar would be connected with three regions of Central Asia, South Asia, and the Middle East conveniently. This regional connectivity would bring resources of Central Asian Republics (CARs) like minerals, hydrocarbons, oil, and gas in access for trade. It is estimated that through Gwadar Port US\$ 70 billion per annum transit revenue would be generated. Huge opportunities would be created by Special Economic Zones.

Furthermore, to monitor the Sea Lines Communications (SLOCs) originating from the Persian Gulf and the Strait of Hormuz, Gwadar port would assist Pakistan. The oil sea routes and trade links of South Asia, Central Asia, the Middle East, and Africa would also be in control. There are many landlocked countries in Asia whose access to the sea via their own land is very expensive. To carry out cheaper international trade these countries are looking for the shortest possible route. We all know that the Shanghai seaport of China is 4500km away from Kashgar while Gwadar seaport is just 28km away from it. Therefore, CPEC is providing the shortest route to China to connect with Gwadar port.

For marine trade effective accessibility has been provided to landlocked Afghanistan and Central Asia through Gwadar Port. In situations of any blockade in the trade route of China through the Strait of Malacca, Gwadar port is alternate and afforded strategic advantage to China. Furthermore, 60% of oil has been imported to China from the Middle East with a distance of 16000 km, Gwadar port will reduce this distance to 5000 km and duration from 45 days to 10 days.

As a conclusion, it is finalized that in regional connectivity the Gwadar port is playing a vital role. Moreover, for Pakistan, it will play an important role in the growth of commerce, economic prosperity, and global trade.



CHINA | TERMS COMPLETION OF GWADAR PROJECTS A PRIORITY



FEATURE

DELIVERABLE PROJECTS HAVE BEEN FINALIZED AT GWADAR 5TH JOINT WORKING GROUP (GWP) MEETING OF PAKISTAN AND CHINA. BEFORE THE NEXT JOINT COORDINATION COMMITTEE (JCC) OF CPEC, THESE PROJECTS WOULD BE DELIVERED.

The JWG meeting was co-chaired by the Ministry of Planning, Development, & Mathar Niaz Rana Special Initiative Secretary and Ying Xiong Director General of National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC).

As per officials, the Director-General of NDRC said that our priority was the development of Gwadar and it would be pushed forward with vigor and zeal. By the Chinese government, continuous support extended for the development of Gwadar has been acknowledged by the PD&SI secretary.

In Gwadar, the progress of projects was also reviewed in the meeting. Over the

progress made in the development of the port, satisfaction has been expressed by both sides. In port operationalization, the support provided by Pakistan is appreciated by the Chinese side. Particularly through Gwadar enabling the Afghan transit trade. It was agreed that by this step logistic cost would reduce greatly and it will also facilitate transshipment trade.

The development of the port is explained in detail by the chairman of the Chinese Overseas Ports Company Limited (COPHCL). The Renewed interest of entrepreneurs in investing in the free zone area and Gwadar port is also highlighted by him. It was informed that in 2021 Eastbay Expressway will be completed and on priority, all pending issues have been resolved.

Port will be connected with the 2nd phase of the Free Trade Zone (FTZ) through the expressway. This connectivity will facilitate the business climate of the port and the zone alike. Other projects like M-8 Motorway, New Gwadar International Airport (NGIA) for seamless connectivity of Gwadar with the rest of the country and beyond were also discussed. The NGIA progress was noted with satisfaction.

The energy projects in Gwadar Gwadar and their progress was appreciated by the Chinese side. For the forthcoming 10th JCC the power Purchase Agreement of the 300MW Coal Power Project was made as a deliverable. Upon completion industry in Gwadar will be energized and the social and economic well-being of the local community will also be improved.

Social sector projects, Pak-China Friendship Hospital, and Vocational & Technical Institute are Gwadar also discussed in the meeting.

It was repeated that the provision of fresh clean water is the top priority for developing Gwadar as a Smart Port City. In this regard, both sides agreed to take all necessary measures in order to complete the project timely. To access the port for large vessels dredging of berthing area is important which will improve the port operations.

CHINA SEES THE GWADAR PORT'S 'GREATER ROLE' IN REGIONAL TRADE

In the regional trade, China reiterated its support of the Gwadar deep seaport for its greater role. As Gwadar deep seaport is one of the important components of the flagship project China Pakistan Economy Corridor (CPEC).

Lijian Zhao spokesperson of the Chinese Foreign Ministry said that with the appearance of the first fish load at the port of Gwadar worldwide travel exercise had begun. This activity has been performed at the Gwadar port for ahead shipment to China.

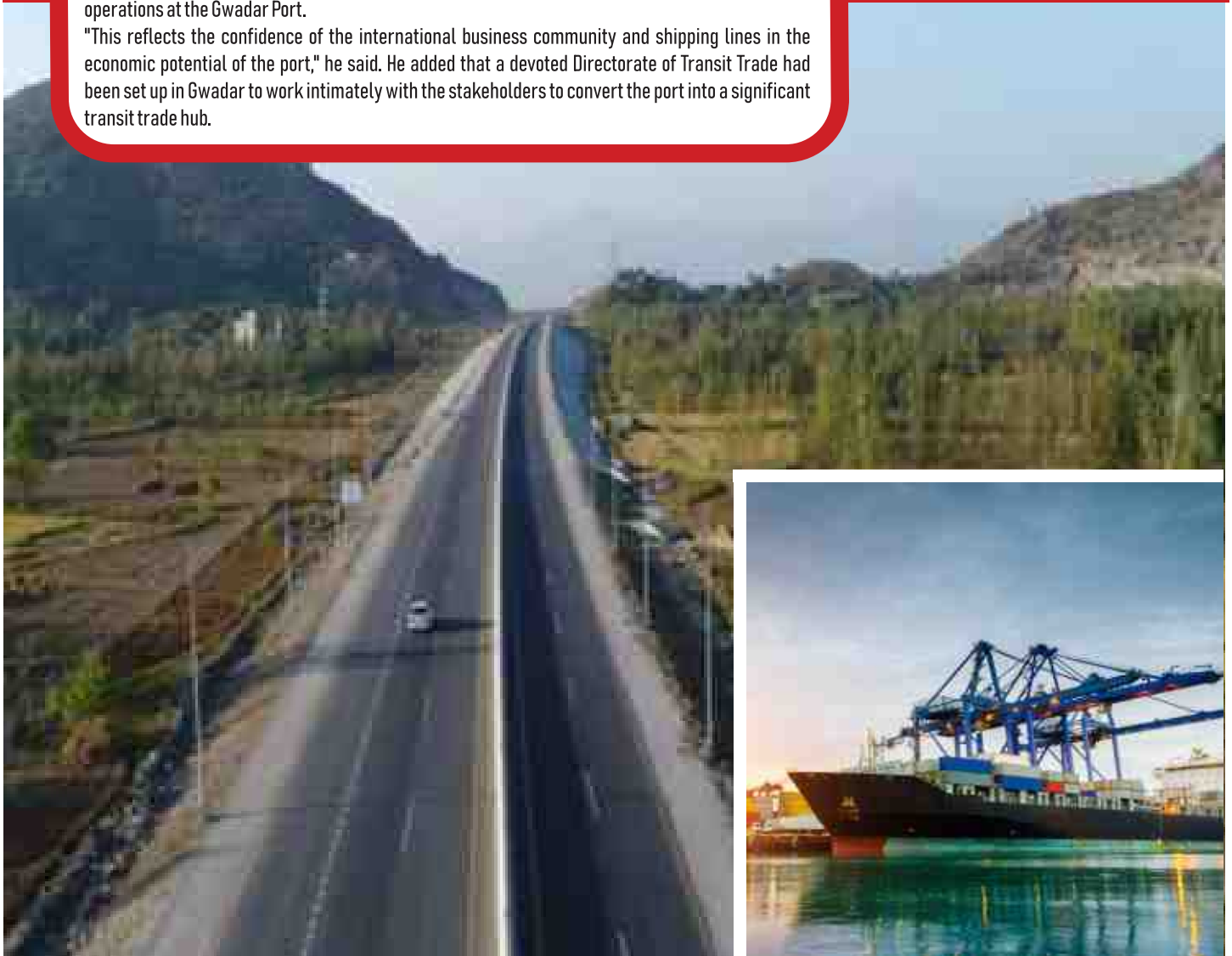
"We are happy to see a new improvement. We uphold the greater role of Gwadar port in the regional cooperation on goods and trade," Lijian stated, communicating his pleasure over the beginning of global travel exercises at the port.

It has been told by Lijai that during his posting at the Chinese Embassy in Islamabad as deputy head of mission, he visited the port of Gwadar six times. "From its building and use, I am quite impressed by the achievement at the Gwadar Port," he expressed.

He commented that the realities had proven that CPEC is not only beneficial for the people of China and Pakistan, but regional connectivity and economic cooperation also has been facilitated through it. "We are confident that with efforts from all parties, the CPEC will surely play a more positive role in helping the region achieve prosperity," Lijian added.

The spokesperson also said that the international water arrival of a ship with 200 tones of fish at the Gwadar port for onward shipment to China in refrigerated containers, was a result of a special beginning which has been taken under the guidance of Prime Minister in order to kick start operations at the Gwadar Port.

"This reflects the confidence of the international business community and shipping lines in the economic potential of the port," he said. He added that a devoted Directorate of Transit Trade had been set up in Gwadar to work intimately with the stakeholders to convert the port into a significant transit trade hub.



WHY THE GLOBAL ECONOMY IS RECOVERING FASTER THAN EXPECTED



THE FINANCIAL EFFECT OF COVID KEEPS ON ASTONISHING. IN THE SPRING, ALREADY UNFATHOMABLE CLOSURES PUSHED MONETARY ACTION TO INCONCEIVABLE LOWS.

After the underlying stun, be that as it may, maybe the greatest amazement has been the means by which fears of fundamental emergency stay unfulfilled — the underlying ricochet back was far more grounded and sooner than anticipated, and a few areas of the U.S. furthermore, different economies have seen total recuperations to pre-emergency levels of action.

The impact of coronavirus on the economy continues to wonder. Previously economic activity pushed extreme lows due to unbelievable shutdowns in the spring. However, how systemic meltdown remains unfulfilled perhaps has been the biggest surprise. From expectation, the initial bounce-back was far

stronger.

The fast recovery of the economy more than expected is aligned with the business experience of many leaders. They are still wondering what was the reason for this gap between reality and expectation — and whether it can last. To respond to these inquiries, we have to take a glance at different downturn types and their drivers, how Covid-19 fits in, and what this current cycle's characteristics are.

As the Covid constrained the economy into closure, a severe financial construction unfolded. However, the supported effect was extensively overestimated — both foundationally and consistently — as the widespread economic pessimism fueled by the power of the shock. Fundamental feelings of worry were caught in the well-known forecast of a new Great Depression, which would bring sovereign defaults, the collapse of the banking system, and deflation of price unfulfilled and never look as unsafe as in 2008. However after the stabilized of wobble prices, sovereign acquiring costs extensively across the world regardless of expansive borrowing, and a few signs of liquidity issues have been shown by the banking system. The broader systemic fears remain

INDUSTRIAL UPLIFT MUST FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH: PM



Job opportunities would increase for skilled and un-skilled local labors because of economic activities generated by the Special Economic Zones (SEZs). The 7th meeting of the board was chaired by the Prime Minister for approvals of SEZs.

For economic growth it is very essential to develop industries and SEZs would be provided all the utility services, including electricity, and gas on priority, Said Prime Minister of Pakistan Imran Khan.

It was also emphasized by him that the government is committed to providing ease-of-doing business to the investors.

It was also notified in the meeting that there will be 19 Special Economic Zones (SEZs) in the country.

The Board approved SEZ Zone Enterprise Admission and Sale/Lease of Plot Regulations, 2020.

Launching of Online SEZ Management Information System was approved in the meeting, the approval process would be streamlined and digitalized. It would ensure transparency and act as a one-window for investors.

The SEZs Board also approved the award of the status of Sole Enterprise Special Economic Zones to Siddiqsons Tin Plate in Balochistan and Service Long March Tyre in Sindh SEZs





ALLAMA IQBAL INDUSTRIAL CITY TO ATTRACT HUGE INVESTMENT: KASHIF ASHFAQ

MEDIA TALK

Domestic and foreign investors will be provided with equal opportunities through Allama Iqbal Industrial City, said Mian Kashif Ashfaq chairman of Faisalabad Industrial Estate Development & Management Company (FIEDMC). To setting up industrial units in Allama Iqbal Industrial City, 2,300 acres have been dedicated in this regard and most of its land has been sold out. However, 3,200 acres of additional land will be provided due to rising demand from investors. Furthermore, he said that youth will get a lot of opportunities due to industrial activities in this special economic zone.

Mian Kashif Ashfaq chairman of FIEDMC said that Allama Iqbal Industrial City is included in the Special Economy Zone of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). While addressing a meeting Kashif said that both foreign and domestic investors and the business community will get full support. If they will invest in Allama Iqbal Industrial City then they will get special incentives. "As many as 2,300 acres in Allama Iqbal Industrial City have been allocated for setting up industrial units and most of this land has been sold out," he said.

He emphasized that the same facilities and incentives will be provided to the local investor which will be available for foreign companies in this city. He further explained that within the next two years, production will be started by more industries in Allama Iqbal Industrial City. National export would get increase significantly through this production, and it would hopefully be the forerunner of a new era in Pakistan for the development of the industry.

Mian Kashif further said that M# Industrial City and Allama Iqbal Industrial City were connected to M4 Motorway Sahiwal Interchange. It is also informed by him that the entire land of M3 Industrial City has been sold out. Investors from Pakistan and from other countries like China, Saudi Arabia, UK, Turkey, Korea, France, UAE, and many other countries invest in this city. He also said that plants in M3 Industrial City have been completed and they are selling their products all over the world as well as in Pakistan.

CPEC is a great opportunity for the development of Pakistan but youth should acquire technical expertise and different required skills. He added that the establishment of a technical university near Allama Iqbal Industrial City and M3 Industrial City is planned by FIEDMC. It will help our youth to enhance technical education and skills. Various programs based on mechanical technology, civil technology, information technology, food processing technology, auto diesel, automobile, industrial management, Chinese language, electrical technology, etc will offer by the university.



FEATURE

THE BEST SCENARIO FOR THE ECONOMY IS STILL BLEAK

In December the government had a hard time trying to boost the economy. Because the lockdown was likely to be extended to the end of November, the focus of the government was on the second half of the last month of the year.

In 2020 the shrinkage of the economy 2020 will be considered a success. In order to achieve such a bleak result, it is not affordable to drop below 30 billion euros at the 2019 level in December earning. Already it has been accepted that figure for this year will be €6-8 billion lower, as a result, the total drop in income of between €50-52 billion for the year.

The main focus of authority is commerce, both discount and retail. A year ago, €11 billion has been earned through this sector, in addition to an expected €2-3 billion that were not recorded in receipts. In earning a decrease of 20% will mean a minor drop of €2.5 billion or 1.5% of GDP.

For hotels, there is little hope, which is already unsure from a dreadful summer, on the heels of the spring lockdown. Anyhow, to increase the earnings substantially they were not considering the month of December so fruitful.

The outlook for restaurants is also not good, the entire amusement and industry of arts. Indeed, even if there is no lockdown, it is sure that the activity of these organizations will be restricted by inflexible rules as to the number of clients permitted and authority will be watching out for any violation.

For earnings telecoms and manufacturing are two other significant areas, yet their performance for the late-year is less certainty.

To protect the economy government is doing whatever it can do, but consumers want to save their money instead of spending it. It seems that it is not possible to stop this trend as long as the coronavirus vaccine will not be available on a wide range.



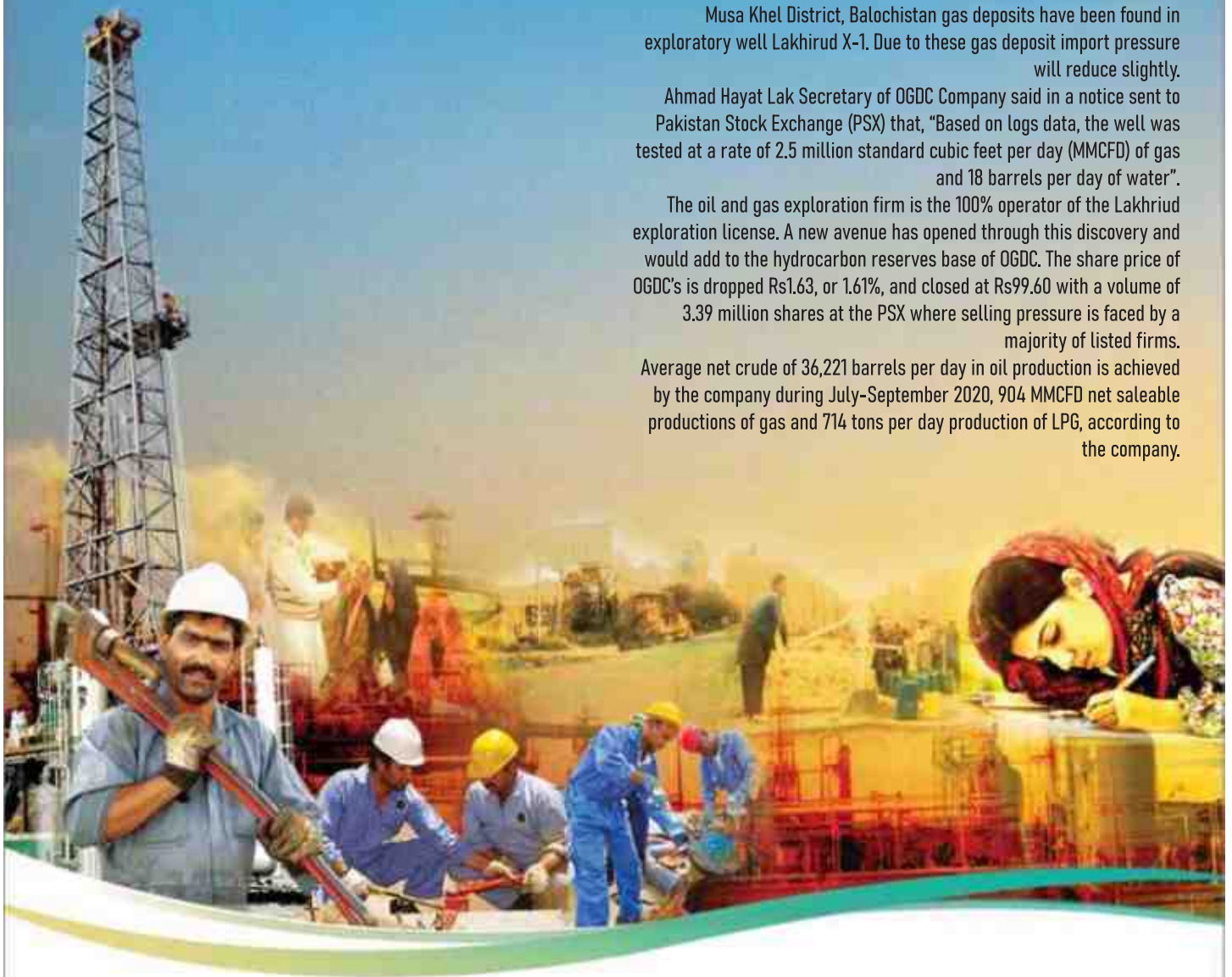
OGDC DISCOVERS GAS RESERVES IN BALOCHISTAN

It has been reported by Oil and Gas Development Company (OGDC) that in Musa Khel District, Balochistan gas deposits have been found in exploratory well Lakhirud X-1. Due to these gas deposit import pressure will reduce slightly.

Ahmad Hayat Lak Secretary of OGDC Company said in a notice sent to Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) that, "Based on logs data, the well was tested at a rate of 2.5 million standard cubic feet per day (MMCFD) of gas and 18 barrels per day of water".

The oil and gas exploration firm is the 100% operator of the Lakhirud exploration license. A new avenue has opened through this discovery and would add to the hydrocarbon reserves base of OGDC. The share price of OGDC's is dropped Rs1.63, or 1.61%, and closed at Rs99.60 with a volume of 3.39 million shares at the PSX where selling pressure is faced by a majority of listed firms.

Average net crude of 36,221 barrels per day in oil production is achieved by the company during July-September 2020, 904 MMCFD net saleable productions of gas and 714 tons per day production of LPG, according to the company.



The average net realized price of crude oil sold was \$38.75 per barrel as against \$52.69 per barrel during the corresponding period of last year. The average net realized price of natural gas sold was Rs411.16 per million cubic feet against Rs386.60 during the corresponding period of last year. OGDC registered net sales worth Rs59.528 billion.

Net profit after taxation during the period was recorded at Rs23.427 billion, translating into earnings per share of Rs5.45



UPGRADATION OF \$8.2BN ML1 RAILWAY PROJECT TO START WITHIN THREE MONTHS

Though commitment has been shown by the government to start work on one of the most important projects of China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) rehabilitation and up-gradation of railway Main-Line 1 (ML1) from Karachi to Peshawar by March, it has claimed that the work will be initiated within the next three months.

Briefing the standing Committee on Planning of National Assembly, Development and Reform. It has been claimed by the officials of the planning ministry that the paperwork of the Pakistan Railway project ML-1 has been started within the next three months. The chairmanship of MNA Abdul Majeed Khan Khanankhail held the meeting of the committee. With China, the framework agreement has been signed and the feasibility study of the project has already been finalized. Both countries declare this project as a strategic project of the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). This project will improve the connectivity between both countries. During the next five years, the project will be completed.

As per the framework agreement which has been signed between China and Pakistan, China is fully agreed to finance this project. On reasonable interest and conditions, China will provide the loan for the project.

As per the agreement, the total estimated cost of the project was \$8.2 billion, told by official sources in the ministry of planning. They also said that by this up-gradation speed of the train will increase from 100 kilometers per hour to 140 kilometers per hour, and the capacity of the train will be an increase from the current 32 to 171 trains per day.

Upgrade and overhaul the infrastructure of ML-1 under the framework of CPEC has been planned by Pakistan railway, including bridges, signaling, track, buildings, tunnels, track maintenance system, and telecommunication system.

To increase the speed up the process of implementation on this mega project the committee later directed the ministry of planning. Feasibility study for the construction of 1000 meter long new terminal with 5 additional berths has been completed by China Overseas Port Holding Company (COPHC), Official informed it while discussing another agenda of the meeting. With the capacity of two lac gallon, a sanitation plant has been installed by the Chinese company in Gwadar.



MEDIA MUST DISPEL RUMORS, NEGATIVE PROPAGANDA AGAINST CPEC: SHIBLI



Shibli Faraz the Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting said that in dispelling negative propaganda and rumors against China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) media of Pakistan should play a positive role.

A seminar with the title 'CPEC: Challenges and Opportunities' was organized by the National Parliamentary Task Force on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Senate Special Committee on National Cohesion. While addressing this seminar information minister said that "CPEC is a flagship undertaking for road infrastructure, as well as cultural and political integration, with a plethora of development projects including energy and infrastructure".

While highlighting the CPEC major infrastructure projects, Shibli said that the 2,700 km Gwadar-Khanjrab road and up-gradation of ML-1 project with multiple power projects and road infrastructure along with Special Economic Zones are a game-changer for Pakistan.

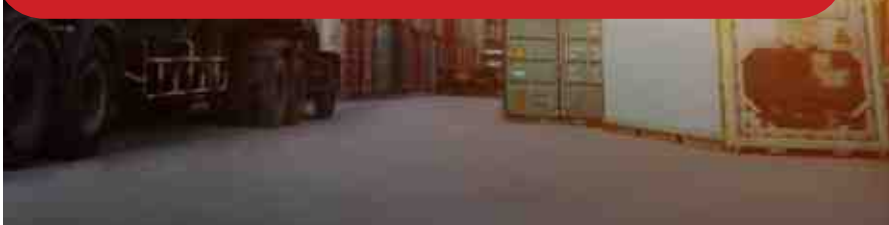
"For an annual rise in GDP of Pakistan CPEC will prove a milestone with thousands of new job opportunities for youths in Pakistan. Socio-economic development for Pakistan will be ensured by the projects associated with CPEC. It will not only in the perspective of cultural modernization but it also will provide an environment to join working groups from Pakistan and China," he further said.

He also explained that through CPEC Pakistan will be connected with 65 countries from South Asia, Africa, South East Asia, and the Middle East.

Sher Ali Arbab the Chairman Parliamentary Committee on CPEC said that for Pakistan CPEC is an energy boost. As Pakistan moving toward prosperity and development so the Chinese model of development will help Pakistan in this regard. He continued that along CPEC the Special Economic Zones are being established. These SEZs will become the hub of job opportunities for the people and the hub of economic activities in the country.

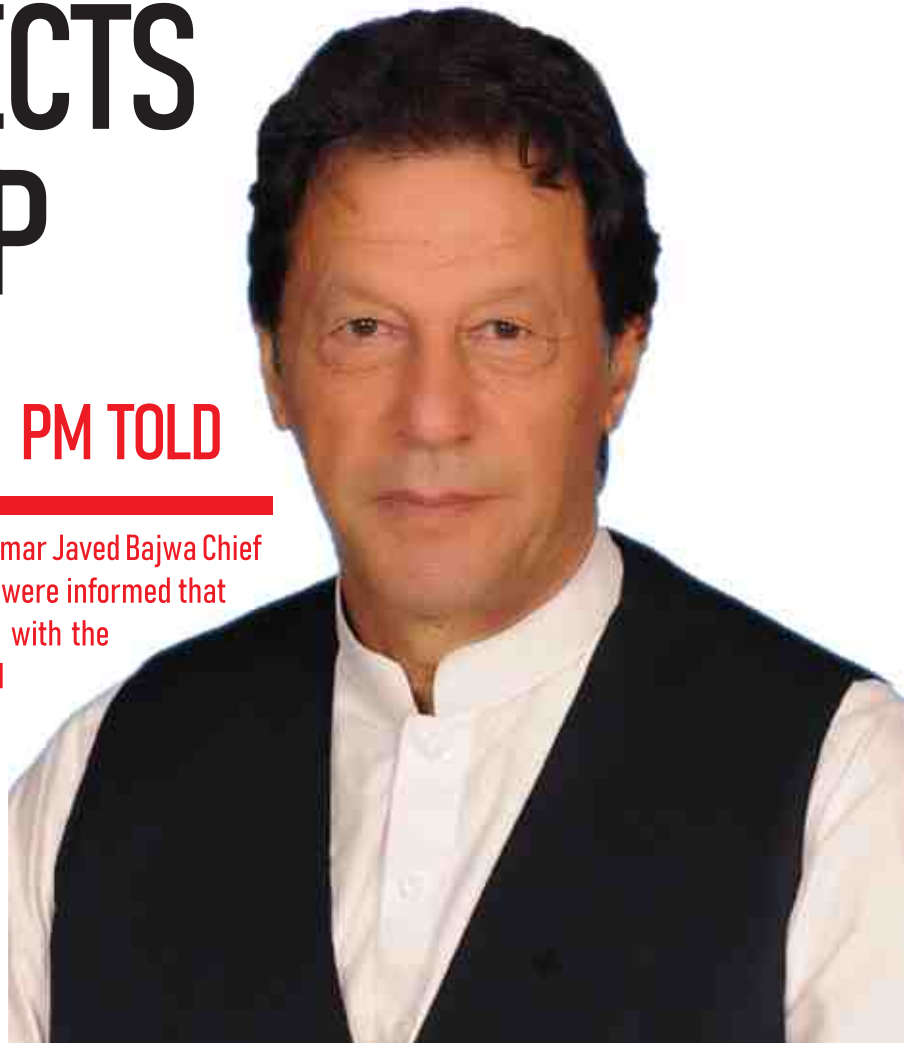
For any country growth of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is linked with the industrialization and export of a country. This is why these sectors under CPEC should be prioritized by the government, said Arbab.

It also has been noted by the Minister of Science and Technology Fawad Chaudhary that bilateral ties have strengthened between Pakistan and China with the infrastructure development and road networks. He further said that through value-added technology with the assistance of Chinese companies estimated export volume of Pakistan is US\$37 billion and Pakistan can further increase its exports.



100 PROJECTS UNDER KTP FINALIZED, PM TOLD

Prime Minister of Pakistan Imran Khan, Gen Qamar Javed Bajwa Chief of Army Staff (COAS), and many key ministers were informed that under the Karachi Transformation Plan (KTP) with the worth of 1.1 trillion more than 100 projects had already been planned. Prime Minister emphasizes that these projects should be completed in a timely manner. He said that for the problems of Karachi a permanent solution was imperative. He further said that due to illegal construction on the nullahs the metropolis faces a lot of damage by rainwater in the monsoon.



A massive flood in Karachi came into being during the rainy season of 2020. During this season drainage and sewerage issues of the city came into national focus. Due to record-breaking rains, widespread devastation and dozens of deaths occurred.

A high-level KTp meeting is chaired by the Prime Minister, it was attended by the federal ministers Asad Umar, Sheikh Rashid Ahmed, Faisal Vawda, Dr. Abdul Hafeez Sheikh Prime Minister Adviser in Finance, and Army Chief Gen Bajwa.

It is directed by Prime Minister Imran Khan during the meeting that before removing the encroachments for the deserving residents of Karachi, alternative arrangements should be made in advance. Under the planning, the ministry to formulate a recommendation to enhance the capacity and utility of the K-4 project to supply water to the city the formation of a technical committee is directed by him. It has been informed in the meeting that in three phases projects would be completed.

A meeting on the Ravi Urban Development Authority (RUDA), and the Pakistan Island Development Authority (PIDA) was also separately chaired by Prime Minister. Governor of Sindh Imran Ismail, chairmen of both authorities, and senior government officials also attend this meeting.

The representative of AWTEC, a Dutch company showed their interest in the projects, with an investment of \$1.3 billion they proposed to build a desalination plant and waste energy plant in Karachi. Keen interest in the establishment of a renewable energy plant in Lahore and the Ravi project is also shown by the company.

Technology would be developed in Pakistan which will be used in these projects. This would create technology transfer and job opportunities in the country said an official. He further explained that the steam generated from the project can also be used in industries. It has been said in this regard that between the government and AWTEC an MoU will be signed soon.

Imran said that due to the lack of a waste management system, day by day

problems in Pakistan were increasing. He further said that the water resources of Pakistan especially the coastal belt were affected mostly by it. To provide world-class housing facilities these projects would help.

In the meantime, Imran Khan also chaired a meeting on a weekly basis of the Construction and Development, National Coordinating Committee for Housing. This meeting was attended by the Ishrat Hussain Adviser of Prime Minister, Governor of Sindh, and others. While senior officials and chief secretaries from all provinces also attend this meeting through a video link. Participants have been informed by the Housing and Works secretary about the Pakistan Quarters housing project. This project is to be built in Karachi.

6,000 apartments would be constructed under the project, for which consultations were underway with the government of Sindh and with other concerned departments. Over the next three months at a cost of Rs 4 billion work would be started on 700 residential units, in the first phase of the project.

After the meeting official statement released, stated that Prime Minister Imran Khan was informed that "the ministry, after approval, auctioned five private plots in Islamabad for more than Rs 13 billion, which would provide an investment of Rs50 billion and provide employment to 10,000 people."

Imran also clear during the meeting that currently there is no presently there is the shortage of electricity in the country so in providing new connections there was no justification. He also stated that an additional financial burden should not be imposed on those who take loans for building their homes from banks. He said that providing shelter to all is the aim of the government.

The long process should be made easy for getting approvals for obtaining different utility services, directed by Imran. He also directed the chairman of the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) to other agencies concerned to provide facilities to overseas investors. He emphasized that all the barriers should be removed in the participation in domestic business activities for the Pakistani living abroad, as they are the most valuable assets for Pakistan.



CHINESE ENVOY AND SHIBLI VOW TO HIGHLIGHT CPEC BENEFITS THROUGH MEDIA



Senator Shibli Faraz who is the Minister of Information and Broadcasting emphasized the need to boost up the cooperation in the field of media and culture between Pakistan and China. He highlighted it in a meeting with Nong Rong the Chinese Ambassador. He said that cooperation in the film sector required special attention.

Senator Shibli Faraz has said that "To promote the values and cultural heritage of any society film is one of the vital media so in the field of the film we should strengthen the cooperation"

The minister also showed his desire that to discuss film cooperation a meeting should be held with the Film Producers Association of Pakistan with the Chinese ambassador.

Shibli said that CPEC is the main project to promote and strengthen regional connectivity. CPEC is an important project for both countries (Pakistan and China). He said that the Prime Minister of Pakistan was keen to accelerate different CPEC projects.

For the general public, the benefits of CPEC was also highlighted by the minister. The minister said, "We are eagerly looking forward to the projects under the second phase of CPEC; particularly those related to the agriculture sector".

He also added that We would like to benefit from the expertise of China and should know how to enhance crop yield and develop our agriculture sector. Agriculture sector development would contribute to food security.

For training of media personnel in modern media concepts the minister also put proposals. Nong Rong the Chinese Ambassador said that China will provide all possible cooperation to enhance media ties. He also said that once the epidemic subsided China will invite a delegation of Pakistani media to visit different Chinese cities.

To rebut the negativities about the projects of the CPEC Chinese ambassador emphasized close coordination between the media of both countries.

In the fields of media and information, the Chinese counterpart has been invited by Shibli Faraz to visit Pakistan to explore avenues. Both sides emphasized the need to be in constant collaboration to strengthen ongoing cooperation. The senior officials of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting also attend the meeting.

CPEC PROJECTS HAVE MADE A CONSIDERABLE DIFFERENCE IN PAKISTAN: HUA CHUNYING

Many major projects have been completed under the framework of the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) especially the projects of energy and infrastructure.

In Macao Special Administrative Region at the 11th International Infrastructure Investment and Construction Forum (IIICF), Hua Chunying spokesperson of the Chinese Foreign Ministry said in a response to a question about the speech of Gen (r) Asim Saleem BAJWA Chairman of CPEC Authority that, "To build the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) CPEC is an important pilot program in China and Pakistan joint efforts. There has been major progress recently especially in infrastructure and energy projects".

She added that "Many roads were built creating job opportunities and boosting economic development in the relevant area and benefiting the people there. In Pakistan it has been applauded by people".

After the outbreak of COVID-19, the projects of CPEC went on as usual playing an important role in the economic growth of Pakistan, said Hua Chunying. She also added that "The two sides attach importance to this project and work together to implement our leaders' consensus and vow to carry out good jobs with existing projects, focus more on livelihood, agriculture and industrial cooperation".

The spokesperson also remarked that both countries China and Pakistan are committed to turn CPEC into a demonstration project for the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and bring greater benefits for both countries as well as for the region.

Over the past five years, under the framework of CPEC, there were 22 projects of construction, railway, covering roads, thermal power, airport, renewable energy, hydropower, special economic zones, Gwadar Port, and other areas."

He also added: "In face of the novel coronavirus, all CPEC projects have been moving forward, bringing hope for a future of peace and economic growth." For reviving the jobs market and national economies construction and investment in infrastructure projects would play a key role.



EXPERT CALLS FOR ESTABLISHING LIVESTOCK BUSINESSES ALONG CPEC ROUTES TO ADDRESS THE POVERTY ISSUE



In a report shared by Gwadar pro, it is mentioned that China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) can provide support to the livestock sector of Pakistan. The CPEC has three thousand kilometers long road network. Along with this road network, there are multiple areas that have the potential exists to develop the livestock sector and to establish the business in farming, quoting Hafiz Wasi Muhammad Khan, executive member of the Pakistan Agriculture Scientist Forum and renowned agriculture expert in Pakistan.

Was said to highlight the importance of the development of a new regional economy along the route of CPEC as an effort to address issues of underdevelopment and poverty. Wasi also suggests that it may be considered by China to provide machinery and technology for the development of this area, especially for the development of livestock. For CPEC it will create a positive image and an economic cycle will be created by it, which will be good for both China and Pakistan.

Underprivileged people will get employment gainfully through economic activities that would be generated by CPEC, and they also will be the beneficiaries of this project as well. These regions will also lead to the

reduction of poverty.

It is important for Pakistan to do a lot of Internal reforms to get long-term benefits from CPEC. Once Pakistanis will be aware of the need of China in the livestock sector then they can introduce regulatory measures to export products in the market of China more efficiently.

Improvement of the agriculture sector with the help of China is also the priority. It also introduced far-reaching reforms in enhancing its agricultural productivity. It is a good achievement that a Joint Working Group (JWG) on Agriculture has already been established between China and Pakistan.

To revitalize the agricultural economy of Pakistan JWG should examine it keenly. If Pakistan is able to meet the quarantine regulation of China that Pakistan will gain a huge scope to grow and open up export million-dollar opportunities in its livestock and agriculture sector.

He added, "the CPEC is slowly changing the economic and poverty profile of Pakistan. It is built along a long area, which could see tremendous economic growth in the years ahead. Due to this mega project, another area getting a lot of attention in the desert and mountain agriculture."





MEDIA REPORT

FIVE DECADES AFTER MANGLA AND TARBELA, PAKISTAN WILL HAVE TWO BIG DAMS: PM IMRAN

Five decades after the construction of Mangla and Tarbela dams country is going to have two new big dams very soon, said the Prime Minister of Pakistan Imran Khan.

A video is posted by the premier of the under-construction Mohmand dam on his official Twitter account. The progress of construction and different sides of projects have been shown in the video.

After the construction of the Mangla and Tarbela dam, five decades later Pakistan is going to have two big water resources in the form of the dam, Mohmand dam, and Basha dam. 800 megawatts of hydroelectricity will be generated by the Mohmand dam. It will irrigate over 16,000 acres of land. Mohmand dam heavily contributed to the socio-economic uplift of the region.

It was reported that the progress on construction work on the Multi-purpose Mohmand Dam and hydropower project is going on day and night and the project is going ahead at a good pace.

A meeting was held at the Wapda Complex and the participants of this meeting were informed that to start the construction mobilizing to the project site is started by the contractors of Diamer-Basha Dam.

The construction of these two new dams will be completed in a few years. It will increase water storage in the country and all mitigate floods downstream.



MEDIA TALK

PAKISTAN AND CHINA TO STRENGTHEN CPEC COOPERATION: ASAD UMAR



Asad Umar, Minister for Planning, Development, and Special Initiatives mentioned that to take the CPEC to its higher level for the mutual prosperity of both nations and to make it strengthen Pakistan and China will work together.

To take the mega-project China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) to new heights Pakistan and China would work together, said Minister of Planning Development and Special Initiatives Asad Umar.

He said in his tweet, "The great nations of Pakistan and China will work together to strengthen CPEC to take it to a higher level for the mutual prosperity of both nations". He also informed that he himself will hold meetings to address all the issues outstanding in the project of CPEC.

Earlier, the Chinese Embassy in Pakistan said through its official account of Twitter that under the guidance of both governments Chinese companies are committed to the second phase of CPEC cooperation. It also appreciated Asad

"The great nations of Pakistan and China will work together to strengthen CPEC to take it to a higher level for the mutual prosperity of both nations".

Umar and Asim Bajwa Chairman of CPEC Authority for meeting with representatives from CPEC projects to discuss ways forward.

A meeting was held by the minister with all the companies who are working on coal to gas and coal to liquid projects. During the meeting, Asad Umar said induction of this new technology would unlock vast local energy reserves and go a long way in enhancing the energy security of Pakistan and for this purpose, a policy framework was being developed.



MEDIA REPORT

BALUCHISTAN INTEGRAL PART OF PAKISTAN, SAYS BALUCH TRIBAL LORD



Leaders of several Baluch tribes said that Baluchistan is an integral part of Pakistan and it will remain the same. They said that everyone is aware of the current circumstances in the province. Mir Shafiq-ur-Rehman who is the leader of a Baluch tribe said that in the ambit of the Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM), the agents of spy agency RAW of India were trying to execute their agendas. He also said that different opinions and differences in politics are part of democracy but carry the agenda of the enemy could not be supported by any means.

Mir Shafiq-ur-Rehman also said that the rally of PDM is not beneficial for the people of Baluchistan. Upon the insult of martyr's blood, he condemned the leadership of PDM. He added that Baluchistan is an integral part of Pakistan and the people of Baluchistan always prove it through their sacrifices for Pakistan. Mir further said that such kind of rallies is not beneficial for the people of

Baluchistan.

The tribal leader of Baluchistan stated that some Baluch Sardar was responsible as they implement wrong agendas just for the sake of their interests. He further said that Lashkar Baluchistan Long March Movement turned into a death squad, thousands of people were killed in that march. Due to which few hypocrites were trying to blame Pakistan Army for their losses.

The Baluch leader further said that on the blood of martyrs same people are trying to play politics, adding that they are the same who misled Nawab Akbar Khan Bugti. Shafiq added that these are the same Sardars who have been making the relationship with Punjabis and on the other hand killing them as well just to carry on their politics.

Mir Shafiq-ur-Rehman added that Shaheed Raisani had proven his courage, as



MEDIA REPORT

COVID-19 SECOND WAVE

The government appeared to treat the second influx of the Coronavirus pandemic as a reason to stop rallies by its opponents in politics, despite the fact that their Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) rally was held in Peshawar in spite of the refusal. It has been seen broadly that the boycott concurred with enormous social events, and gathering for politicians, these gatherings are commonly bigger than anything suggested by epidemiologists, however at which no SOPs were noticed at all. It should take note that even Sweden, which kept away from any lockdown in the initial wave of the pandemic in the previous winter, is currently facing a lot of trouble, with a record number of new infections, the death rate is rising as well. That endeavor at accomplishing group invulnerability has gone no place, there is no motivation to accept that Pakistan would do any better.

During the first wave luckily infection rate was low due to which the

government may be pleased but it should not be considered as triumphant and should not be complacent that luck will be repeated. We should keep in mind that we have overcome the first wave of the pandemic due to lockdown. It will be a useless argument if we say that lockdown did not play any role in the limitation of infection. Imposing lockdown on the areas where the number of infections has been increased from a certain amount, though it is attractive politically. The government should take strict action to impose SOPs strictly. As a nation, it is a great responsibility for everyone to follow the instruction issued by the government in order to protect from the pandemic.

The only way to take out sail from the storm of COVID is to gain the confidence of the public in order to handle the pandemic. Thousands of tests have been conducted across the country in order to prevent COVID-19.

MEDIA TALK

WHO SAYS COVID-19 IMPACT WILL BE FELT FOR DECADES TO COME

A record rise in new cases is reported by India and the Philippines due to which world health body warned of long drawn out virus pandemic. According to an AFP tally, the novel coronavirus has killed more than 680,000 people and more than 17.5 million get infected by this pandemic. A global emergency is declared by the World Health Organization (WHO).

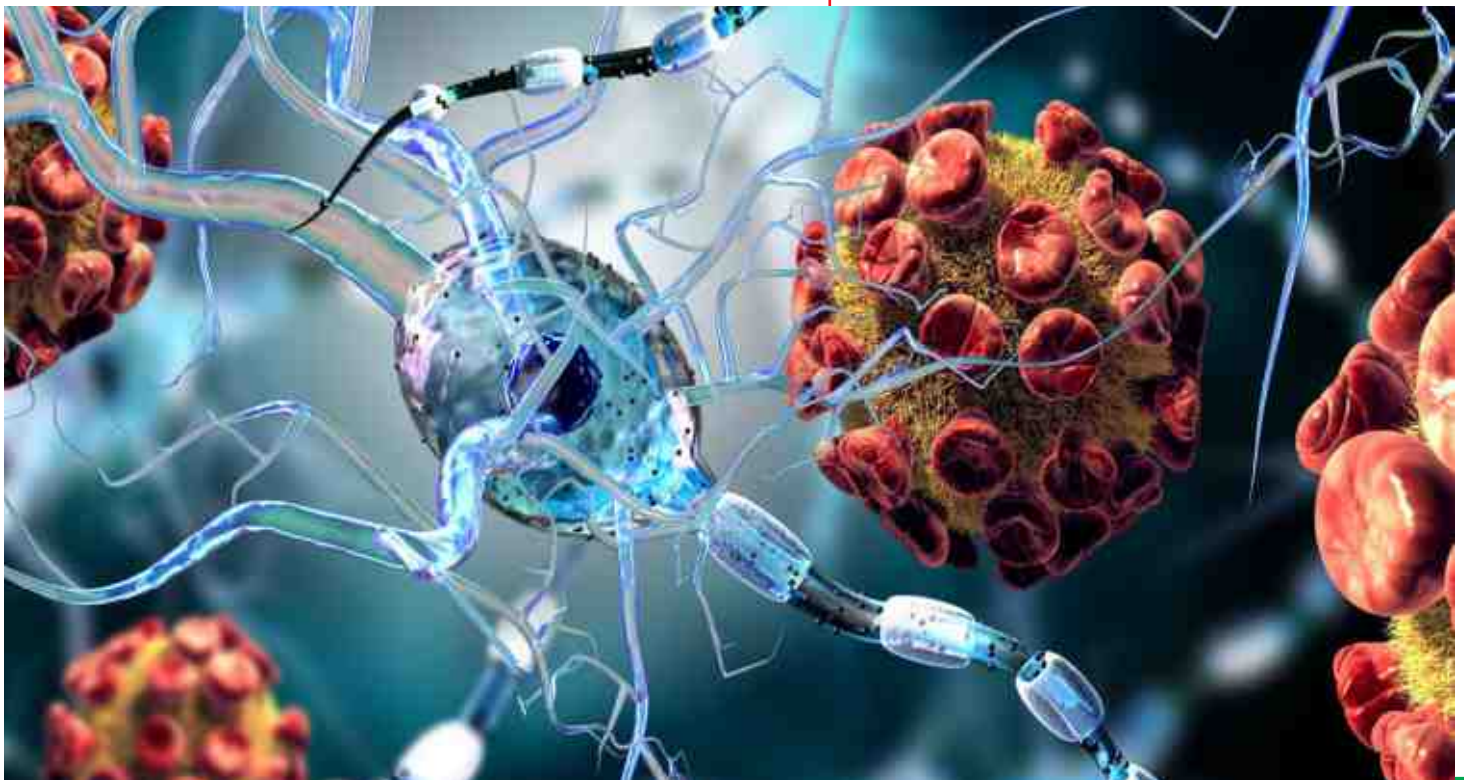
After Brazil and the USE, Mexico overtook Britain and became the third hardest-hit country for deaths due to the virus with over 46,600 fatal cases. Pandemic is reviewed by an emergency WHO committee "highlighted the anticipated lengthy duration of this COVID-19 pandemic, noting the importance of sustained community, national, regional, and global response efforts".

Continue to assess the global risk level of COVID-19 to be very high by WHO. A new



lockdown is announced by Western Europe and historic economic slumps are reported, WHO also said that the effects of the pandemic will be felt for decades to come.

In Asia outlook was bleak as well. In new daily infections, an increased record is reported in India and the Philippines. An open letter signed by 80 Filipino medical associations in which it is said that "We are waging a losing battle against COVID-19, and we need to draw up a consolidated, definitive plan of action".





PAKISTANI DOCTOR DEVELOPS SMARTPHONE-BASED COVID-19 TEST

By using a smartphone instant diagnostic test of COVID-19 has introduced by a Pakistani doctor based in Toronto. For this extraordinary achievement, Dr. Nageeb Khalid has been congratulated by Raza Bashir Tarar The Pakistan High Commissioner to Canada.

In a video conversation, the high commissioner said that the idea led by Dr. Nageeb Khalid for a diagnostic test of COVID-19 through a smartphone was noble and laudable. The high commissioner also expressed that to overcome the current pandemic and fighting viruses such, hassle-free, affordable, quick, and accessible inventions would be grateful for humanity.

For the COVID-19 test, the invention would prove its effectiveness in the clinical trial and pave the way for necessary approvals before being put to use at the mass level. Best wishes have been conveyed by the High Commissioner to Dr. Nageeb Khalid and his brother Najeeb Khalid who cooperate with him in this invention due to his experience and background in a broad range of engineering and science disciplines.

Dr. Nageeb Khalid told the high commissioner that his innovation displayed the result instantly on any smartphone and can also communicate or save the results along with the time and GPS information as it is based on a digital platform. He also told that before getting experience in the invention of medical devices and systems he graduated from King Edward Medical University in 1983.





MEDIA REPORT

UET LAHORE DEPLOYS THE COUNTRY'S FIRST SMART CLASSROOM WITH CHINA'S HELP

While expressing gratitude to the state-of-art facility, Pakistani student khan noted that "China's smart classroom has improved our learning efficiency and enriched our learning methods and content amid the pandemic."

The First smart classroom with the name Weidong Smart Classroom has been deployed successfully with the help and academic backing from the Chinese Southern University of Science and Technology (SUSTECH) and University of Engineering and Technology (UET) situated in Lahore, Pakistan. It was fully sponsored by China's Weidong Cloud Education Group. For higher education innovation it is also a flagship project under the auspices of UNESCO (UNESCO-ICHEI) Shafqat Mahmood Minister of Pakistan Education had instructed to close all the educational institutions across the country from November 26-2020 till January 10-2021. He also asked for holding online classes due to the increase in COVID-19 cases.

In Pakistan during the first outbreak of the pandemic, from UET Lahore 15,000 students had conducted distance learning activity at home through the platform. As in Pakistan, the wave of COVID-19 is holding its grip, in this situation smart classroom has become an important aid to local students and teachers when it comes to distance learning.

Naeem a Pakistan IT teacher said, "We used to lecture students one by one on IT, but this offline teaching was extremely inefficient, and some

might be dissatisfied with our teaching. With the help of China's smart classroom, we could record our classes and share them with more students. Besides, we could interact with students during this pandemic time; it did help a lot." He also added that through this system homework can also be given online and from home, and education can continue.

Pakistani student khan also expresses that, during the second wave of COVID-19 they can freely communicate with their teachers and classmates, and also they can take their lesson wherever and whenever they want. He said that it is feared by global and local experts that the situation will be worse during winter. Furthermore, they are powered by more resources of education as they can play different lectures repeatedly as per their need.

As per the operators from Weidong Cloud Education Group, the digital transformation is promoting by the Higher Education Commission of Pakistan (HEC) to seek the way toward development. Through the field of information and communication technology (ICT) teachers, students, technicians, administrators will be able to exchange their idea and will also be able to communicate with each other.



FEATURE

CHINA CENTER AND CPEC TOWER TO BE CONSTRUCTED IN LAHORE

skyline to the friendship of Pakistan and China said Asim Saleem Bajwa and added Pakistan will benefit in the sector of agriculture with the experience of China. "CPEC-related tasks have not been paced up and there is a tremendous potential in the area of agriculture. At the event, Chairman Board of Investment Pakistan Atif Bukhari, Punjab Finance Minister Hashim Jawan Bakht, Advisor to CM Dr. Salman Shah, Chairman Punjab Investment Board Sardar Tanveer Ilyas, Chief Secretary, Senior Member Board of Revenue, and Secretary Bol were present as well.



Lt-Gen (r) Asim Saleem Bajwa chairman of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) Authority met with Sardar Usman Buzdar Chief Minister of Punjab. In this meeting issues of common interest have been discussed between them. In this meeting, both showed their mutual interest to build China Center and CPEC tower in Lahore. Furthermore, it has been decided by them to promote the development of seed and research work in the sector of agriculture. CM Buzdar emphasized that the government should support to improve the environment of business for foreign investors. On this occasion, Asim Saleem Bajwa said that due to CPEC bilateral relations between Pakistan and China have further been improved.

In this gathering Lt-Gen (R) Asim Saleem Bajwa and Usman Buzdar also talked about the different continuous projects in the province. CM Usman Buzdar has guaranteed to help and encourage foreign investors alongside regularizations and transparency for setting up industries in Punjab. CPEC has given another



CDA DECIDES TO ENFORCE ZONING REGULATIONS

It has been decided by the Capital Development Authority (CDA) that make it sure to strictly enforce the Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) Zoning Regulations and make sure the implementations of these regulations by the developers of private housing societies.

A few days ago offices of different housing schemes is sealed by the civic agency. In which offices of Ayesha Town, Gulf Residencia, Islamabad Cooperative Housing Scheme, Royal City, Dreamland City, Royal Residencia, Ideal Residencia, Babar Enclave, Yar Muhammad Society, and Rawal Enclave are included.

The purpose of sealing these offices by CDA is just to discourage the establishment of illegal housing projects, said CDA officials. They also reminded that under ICT zoning regulations 1992 the federal capital was divided into five zones. Planning and development in sector E-11 of Zone-I, Zone-II, and Zone V were allowed to the housing schemes under the

regulations.

Law was amended by the civic agency later in 2010 and included Zone-IV. This Zone-IV further split into its sub-zones, and along with other schemes Anglo Farm Scheme was permitted, said by officials.

Currently, in Islamabad, two directorates of CDA are regulating the planning and development of private housing schemes. The housing department regulates Zone-II and Zone-V while Zone-IV is regulated by Regional Planning Directorate. To stop the illegal housing scheme establishment different recommendations are considering by the CDA board.



WILL THERE BE A TURN IN THE TECHNOLOGY OF GAME FOR PAKISTAN IN 2021?

MEDIA REPORT

In the world of today, it has become very important to stay up to date with technology. Technology in the form of laptops, smartphones, and other gadgets is being used by people excessively on daily basis. Especially in this era of the pandemic, digital technology has been used at an increased rate as people have diverted to its use. Though someone wants to be socialized with friends, or having chat with family, or have to attend an online meeting, everything is shifted to smartphones. In this case, people prefer to engage more in the online game in their leisure instead of going outside.

MediaTek is the fourth largest marvelous semiconductor company in the world. Recently it has been announced that from the leading smartphone brands in Pakistan the next wave of gaming devices will be powered by its G-series chipsets. The gaming-focused G series will consist of the new MediaTek Helio G95. The launching of the G-series smartphone is expected soon.

Director MEA Mr. Rami Osman shared the plans of MediaTek for Pakistan. He shared it with the representatives of media in a recent interaction. In the country, to increase its presence in the market all mandatory efforts shall make by the company. Globally MediaTek has a good reputation and now it shall aim to flourish in Pakistan. It would generate healthy competition in the market.

With a population of over 200 million and a 12 million unit market, for tech investments, Pakistan is an important hub. A huge proportion is a user of the smartphone, as almost everyone uses a cell phone. The world of technology has evolved from 2G to 4G and now moving toward the fasted network 5G.

More innovative chips shall bring by the company like Helio P, G series, and their flagship Dimensity series to support the connectivity of 5G in Pakistan. It will bring seamless connectivity by introducing more power-packed and

flagship features, voice, and video quality which will be affordable. To ensure long battery life and power efficiency, optimal power efficiency will offer by these chips with an advance 12nm FinFET production process.

Fueling the local brands and operators for the migration of 2G to 4G and 5G shall be a huge step in creating unique propositions. This would be a great revolution is MediaTek keeps its promises and can deliver these ideas effectively in Pakistan.

The minister said that the central government would keep on consulting the common governments to organize different activities under the umbrella of CPEC.

He expressed gratitude toward the chief minister for proactively seeking after the execution of different activities.

During a gathering with federal Ministers Asad Umar, Murad Saeed, Umar Ayub, and Special Assistant to PM Nadeem Babar, the Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Mahmood Khan talked about the incorporation of uber extends under CPEC in KPK. Top priority projects were Peshawar to D.I. Khan Motorway, Dir Motorway, Swat Motorway, and Mega Hydel Power Projects of the territory. It has been assured to the Chief Minister of KPK by the ministers that these projects will be part of CPEC.



PAKISTAN'S TOURISM INDUSTRY IS SEEING AN UNPRECEDENTED BOOST, PROTECTING SITES IS NECESSARY.

PM IMRAN KHAN

MEDIA REPORT



Prime Minister of Pakistan Imran Khan said that for the first time in history tourism industry of Pakistan is seeing a boost. He also added that the protection of sites through eco-friendly policies is mandatory for the country.

Prime Minister Imran Khan expressed his review during a launch ceremony of an eco-tourism agreement. This agreement has been signed between the government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Nestle Pakistan, and the World Bank. The logo of Travel Responsibility for Experiencing Ecotourism in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (TREK) is unveiled by the Prime Minister of Pakistan during the ceremony.

Need for eco-tourism in Pakistan

Imran Khan said that many attractive and beautiful touristic sites of Pakistan are destroying due to improper disposal of waste, unplanned development, and irregular tourism. All these issues become so mandatory to make bio laws and eco-friendly tourism. It is the need of today for protection of nature and touristic sites.

Quoting the example of Murree, Naran, and Nathia Gali PM said that many buildings are unplanned and have been constructed in the resort towns. These buildings are affecting tourism negatively there.

"We have to safeguard these sites from turning into concrete jungles, otherwise, no one will come here," he said. If we make sure that our touristic sites are clean, they will attract more tourism."

Tourism must benefit local people

Nagy Benhassine Country Director of the World Bank for Pakistan said on an occasion that the Group World Bank is firm to continue supporting Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Punjab in their efforts to provide employment opportunities to the youth in the sector of tourism.

By agreeing with the statement of Benhassine, Prime Minister said that tourism of a country cannot be successful until or unless local people are able to benefit from it.

He also said that many countries like the Maldives and Kenya are employing the science of ecotourism to protect their sites. Though this act more and more tourists visit their countries



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✉ info@globbizavenue.com 🌐 www.globbizavenue.com