



# Islamabad Policy Research Institute



# NEWSLETTER

## INTERACTION WITH FOREIGN DELEGATION

August 2016, Vol. 4, No. 3

### ANBOUND Chinese Delegation Visits IPRI



A four-member Chinese Delegation visited IPRI on August 11, 2016. The delegation comprised of Mr. Chen Gong, Founding Partner and Chief Researcher, ANBOUND, Mr. Tang Mensheng, Director of Pakistan Research Center, Peking University, Ms. Zhang Yuan, Researcher of International Studies,

ANBOUND and Ms. Wang Yi, Director of Information Department, ANBOUND. From IPRI, Dr. Fazal-ur-Rahman, Senior Research Fellow, Mr. Muhammad Munir, Research Fellow, Mr. Khalid Chandio and Mr. Muhammad Nawaz, Research Officers, Ms. Aymen Ijaz and Mr. Khurram Abbas, Assistant Research

officers attended the meeting. ANBOUND is a renowned think tank for public policy in China with special focus on macro-economic and policy areas.

Salient points discussed during the meeting are:

- Conflicts have remained to be a key highlight of the South Asian security architecture and they have affected the ambitions of regional integration. For instance, the protracted conflict in Afghanistan and tensed relations between India-Pakistan are considered to be a threat to fragile regional security structure.
- The initiative of CPEC opens up new vistas of opportunity for trade, infrastructure, investment, capital and regional connectivity. Pakistan's geo-strategic location is of vital importance economically. There exists a consensus that completion of CPEC is a national undertaking which requires a collective effort to be protected at any cost from

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### Recent Publication by IPRI

#### EVOLVING SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN: ROLE OF MAJOR POWERS AND REGIONAL COUNTRIES

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Heart of Asia-Istanbul Process: Progress and Prospects - Farhana Asif

The Afghanistan Challenge: U.S. Troop Withdrawal and the Stability of Afghanistan - Dr Vanda Felbab-Brown

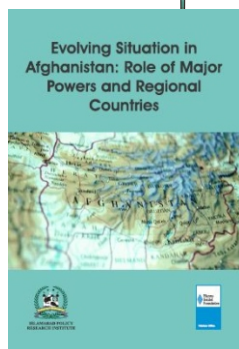
Cooperation between China and Pakistan on the Afghan Issue - Dr Wang Xu

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## ANBOUND Chinese Delegation Visits IPRI

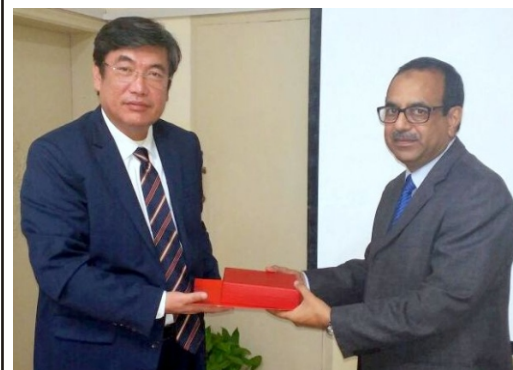
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any external plan of disruption.

- Pakistan has adopted a two pronged strategy to fight terrorism. Under hard approach, military operations have been conducted in the tribal areas followed by launch of a comprehensive National Action Plan (NAP). While, the soft approach focuses on social sector development activities and economic incentives in the tribal areas.
- Chinese delegation recommended that policy of counter-terrorism and extremism should be implemented on societal level in Pakistan. Pakistan should focus on elimination of terrorism followed by development of a comprehensive security plan in order to prevent such ideologies from gaining a stronghold. Chinese delegations appreciated Pakistan's military offensive in FATA and Tribal Areas and considered the results to be a huge success.
- It was suggested that researchers in Pakistan should focus on the fundamental aspects of terrorism such as the factors that have served as breeding ground for such ideologies. It will not only help people have a better understanding of this phenomenon but would also allay

misperceptions regarding the tribal areas of Pakistan. Terrorism has badly affected the image of tribal people and their culture. The tribes of Pakistan have a unique history, culture, norms and traditions which should be propagated globally as an integral part of national identity.

- It was said that in past 100 years of governance in China, the Chinese government has experienced the role of people very important at social and economic level to fight against terrorism. In China, the economic development has been identified as most important factor to prevent terrorism. Hence, the Chinese government enabled people to create strong spirit against terrorism through economic development. Pakistani government should also improve lives of people and provide them with equal social and economic rights. Terrorism can only be denied space by ensuring economic development and social justice.
- Pakistani media should design campaigns to mainstream the narratives of counter terrorism and extremism in order to propagate Pakistan's point of view and show unity towards anti-terrorism initiatives taken by the government.



### Conclusion

Extremism should not be linked with any religion, nationality or civilization. Major factors causing extremism and terrorism such as unresolved conflicts, racial prejudice and discrimination, political marginalization, and exclusion from socio-economic development based on ethnicity, nationality, gender, and religion or beliefs should be properly addressed. However, government of Pakistan should ensure economic development and social justice to fight the menace of terrorism.

## ADDITION TO IPRI LIBRARY

### The Great Surge: The Ascent of the Developing World

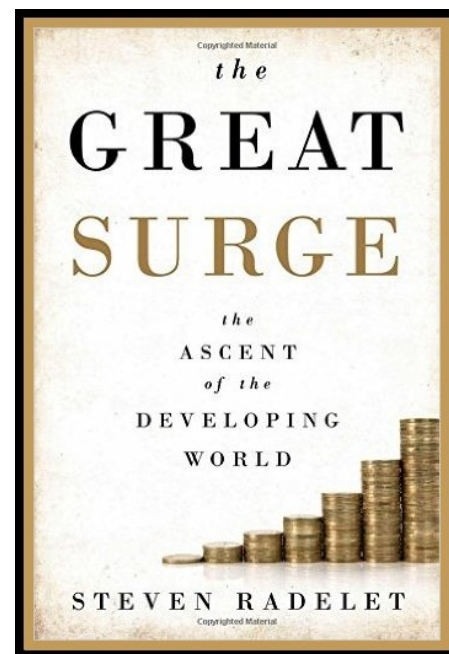
The untold story of the global poor today. A distinguished expert and advisor to developing nations reveals how we've reduced poverty, increased incomes, improved health, curbed violence, and spread democracy and how to ensure the improvements continue.

We live today at a time of great progress for the global poor. Never before have so many people, in so many developing countries, made so much progress. Most people believe the opposite: that with a few exceptions like China and India, the majority of developing countries are hopelessly mired in deep poverty, led by inept dictators, and living with pervasive famine, widespread disease, constant violence, and little hope for change. But a major transformation is underway and has been for two decades now. Since the early 1990s more than 700 million people have been lifted out of extreme poverty, six million fewer children die every year from

disease, tens of millions more girls are in school, millions more people have access to clean water, and democracy often fragile and imperfect has become the norm in developing countries around the world. The Great Surge tells the remarkable story of this unprecedented economic, social, and political transformation. It shows how the end of the Cold War, the development of new technologies, globalization, courageous local leadership, and in some cases, good fortune, have combined to dramatically improve the fate of hundreds of millions of people in poor countries around the world. Most importantly, The Great Surge reveals how we can fight the changing tides of climate change, resource demand, economic and political mismanagement, and demographic pressures to accelerate the political, economic, and social development that has been helping the poorest of the poor around the world.

#### About the Author

Steven Radelet holds the Donald F. McHenry Chair in Global Human Development at Georgetown University and is a Nonresident Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution.





## INTERACTION WITH FOREIGN DELEGATION



### Iranian Delegation Visits IPRI

An Iranian delegation consisting of five members including Dr Mohammad Kazem Sajjadpour, Deputy Foreign Minister and Head, Centre for International Research and Education, Amb. Mir Mahmoud Mousavi, Former Ambassador to Pakistan and India, Mr Alireza Khoda Gholipour, Director Asian Studies IPIS Iran, Mr Hosseini, Deputy Director II, West Asia Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Dr Gholamali Chegnizade, Professor, Faculty of Law and Political Science, Allameh Tabatabai University, Tehran visited IPRI on August 09, 2016. Mr Khurram Abbas gave a presentation on "Pakistan's Efforts on Counter Terrorism" which was followed by the discussion on the issues of Pakistan-Iran relations, situation in Afghanistan and regional security between the IPRI scholars and delegation members. Institute for Political and Regional Studies (IPIS) is an Iranian research institute focusing primarily on regional and international studies.

Salient points of the meeting are:

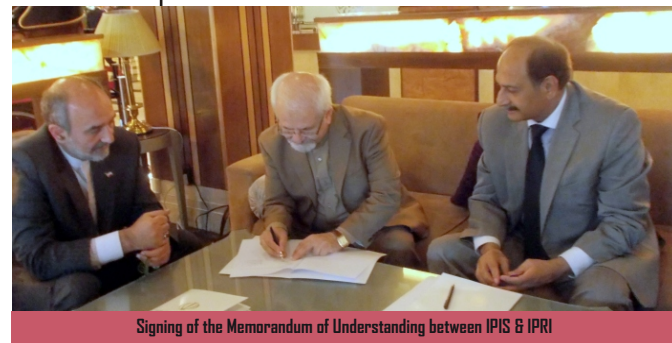
- While briefing, IPRI scholar stated that terrorism and extremism are a constant threat to the peace and stability of South Asia. Pakistan's national resolve against terrorism is appreciated globally for its sacrifices and continuous efforts against this menace. Pakistan has employed a two pronged strategy to fight terrorism i.e. by launching military operations (such as Operation Rah-e-Rast, Rah-e-Nijat and Zarb-e-Azb) and use of soft approach to engage local community

through social sector development simultaneously.

- On Afghan situation, Iranian delegation said that Afghan government and stakeholders must take decisions that are helpful in streamlining the domestic politics in Afghanistan. It was recommended that there is a need for a long term plan to be followed step by step in order to deal with the Afghan situation. All regional stakeholders must cooperate with each other in order to avoid any external interference. It was suggested that for facilitation of peace in Afghanistan; regional stakeholders should sit together in order to find a solution for Afghan situation.
- In response to their views, it was stated that Pakistan believes in a reconciliation process that ensures participation of all Afghan ethnic and political factions. It was emphasized that the peace process in Afghanistan can only be successful if it is Afghan led and Afghan owned. However, Pakistan and all the other stakeholders have to look into the situation with a pragmatic approach as constant war and violence is no solution.
- On turbulent relations between Pakistan and India,

Iranian delegation pointed propaganda to be a detrimental factor in resumption of dialogue process between India and Pakistan. It was suggested that Track II diplomacy should be resumed and both states should work to formulate a plan for regional security.

- On Pakistan-Iran relations, it was said that both states should be working together to enhance regional cooperation as it serves the national interests of both states. The improvement in Pakistan-Iran bilateral relations calls for better realization of each other's security concerns and interests. Better mutual understanding between Pakistan and Iran would help to build narratives on issues of global interest and international politics at regional level.
- A Memorandum of Understanding was also signed between IPRI and IPIS focusing on joint research and close cooperation between Iranian and Pakistani think tanks in the meeting.



Signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between IPIS & IPRI

### Conclusion

Improved Pakistan-Iran relations would strengthen the ambitions of regional integrations. Both countries should expedite completion of economic and energy projects already in pipeline. There should be sharing of literature on the issues of strategic interest and international politics between think tanks and research organizations of both the countries, to ensure informed exchange of views. Increased people-to-people context and exchange visits of academicians and research professionals between the two countries would help in harnessing a process of continuous dialogue and increased interaction.







## IPRI REVIEW MEETING

### SCO and Regional Security

Ms. Amna Ejaz Rafi, Assistant Research Officer IPRI, delivered a presentation on the topic of "SCO and Regional Security".

Salient points discussed during the meeting are:

- In the prevalent era of globalization, a number of regional organizations have emerged on world stage. These organizations have become multi-functional pursuing security and economic goals. States through these regional platforms are trying to address the transnational threats/challenges. Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) is an emerging regional grouping consisting of China, Russia and four Central Asian Republics (CARs).
- Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) is a transnational organization, with an objective to cooperate in regional security and anti-terrorism. The SCO's basic bureaucratic structure consists of two standing bodies: the Secretariat based in Beijing and the Regional Anti-Terror Structure (RATS), based in Tashkent.
- SCO has six member states China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. Pakistan and India have recently signed the memorandum of obligations for SCO membership. While, the four observer states in SCO are Afghanistan, Belarus, Iran and Mongolia.

#### SCO & Regional Security

- SCO participates in the sessions of the UN General Assembly as an observer, and maintains a position on international security and stability, terrorism and trans-border crimes.
- SCO has established Regional Anti-Terrorism Structure-RATS; the functions of this body are to coordinate the efforts of SCO member states in combating terrorism, separatism and extremism. SCO member states have also adopted "Shanghai Convention on Combating Terrorism, Separatism and Extremism".
- To broaden cooperation on security, crime & drug trafficking, SCO has signed an agreement with the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO). Under the SCO framework, the member states regularly hold joint military exercises. In August 2007, SCO members signed a 'Treaty on long-term good neighborliness, friendship and cooperation', at the Bishkek Summit.
- SCO supports a peaceful/stable Afghanistan. SCO's anti-terrorism plan, announced during the 15<sup>th</sup> SCO Summit at Ufa in July 2015 called for limiting ingress of Daesh in Afghanistan and the region at large.
- The expansion of SCO, in particular the inclusion of India and Pakistan is likely to strengthen regional connectivity. As stated by former President Musharraf "Pakistan provides the natural link between the SCO states to connect the Eurasian heartland with the Arabian Sea and South Asia." The Russian Federation, China and CARs could establish a link with Gwadar via the north-south trade/energy corridor. Once the CPEC starts functioning, it will connect China, Pakistan, Central Asia, Caucasus and Russia. The regional reconnectedness through economic integration and interdependencies will also offer



possibilities of peaceful conflict resolution which is the need of this part of the world.

- At SCO platform, Islamabad and New Delhi will have an opportunity to discuss broader issues including the border issue and build much needed trust for a comprehensive bilateral dialogue.

#### SCO & Regional Prosperity

- SCO as a multilateral platform can play a vital role for the prosperity to the entire region. For instance, the resource rich Central Asian member states Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan hold approximately 40 percent of the world oil and natural gas resources which is enough to meet the energy needs in the region.
- Similarly, China has been pursuing establishment of a joint financial institution under SCO framework which advocates that SCO member states must have their own financial bank, to speed up infrastructure development projects. In the similar context, a special programme for cooperation in energy, information, telecommunications, environmental protection and comprehensive utilization of natural resources was launched by SCO in 2003. The cooperation in trade and investment facilitation was with an emphasis on building infrastructure such as roads and railways and harmonizing customs and tariffs.
- The "SCO Development Strategy 2025" approved in the summit called for cooperation in trade, ensuring regional stability and prompt responses to conflicts and crises. Cultural cooperation is also promoted within the SCO framework. A joint statement for continued cultural cooperation was signed in Beijing in April 2002.

#### Conclusion

SCO is an emerging international organization having a wide domain of political, economic, and security cooperation amongst its member countries. Acceptance of Pakistan and India as full members has expanded its zone of influence south towards the warm waters of Indian Ocean. Pakistan can also act as a link between the SCO states to connect the Eurasian heartland with the Arabian Sea and South Asia. The regional connectivity will also offer the possibility of peaceful conflict resolution which is the need in this part of the world.

## IPRI REVIEW MEETING

### Macro and Micro Dividends of CPEC: Efforts of Regional and International Players to Disrupt the Development in Region, its Ramifications and Rectifications



Ms. Maryam Nazir, Assistant Research Officer IPRI, delivered a presentation on the topic of "Macro and Micro Dividends of CPEC: Efforts of Regional and International Players to Disrupt the Development in Region, its Ramifications and Rectifications." Salient points discussed during the meeting are:

- The relationship between China and Pakistan can be best described as promising and flourishing and it has transformed itself into a strong strategic partnership with aspirations to have robust economic cooperation over the passage of time.
- China has gradually emerged as Pakistan's major trading partner both in terms of exports and imports. The trade and commercial links between the two countries exist since January 1963. The signing of US\$ 46 billion worth of CPEC related agreements between Pakistan and China is considered as a milestone in strengthening Sino-Pak relations.
- Out of total investment of \$45.69bn, \$33.79bn are allocated for energy projects, \$5.9bn for roads, \$3.69bn for railway network, \$1.6bn for Lahore Mass Transit, \$66m for Gwadar Port and a fibre optic project worth \$44mn. A sector-wise breakdown of China's investment shows that energy production tops the list of sectors for both investment and construction followed by transport sector including construction of roads, rail lines and port terminals.
- China's OBOR project is expected to open up new vistas of opportunity for trade, infrastructure, investment, capital and regional connectivity. CPEC plans to develop a new trade and transport route from Kashgar in China to the Gawadar Port accompanied by establishment of special economic and industrial zones along the routes which includes energy projects as well.
- Industrial and special economic zones (SEZs) are considered to be economic backbone in the structure of CPEC, serving the macro and micro dimensions of economy. Pakistan needs a more developed industry to lay solid ground for its economic takeoff, providing a golden opportunity to accelerate the process of high level industrialization.
- It is estimated that Chinese investments can lift Pakistan's GDP growth beyond 6% through direct impact for the financial years of 2016-18. In 2016, the industrial sector has already recorded a remarkable growth of 6.8 percent against the target of 6.4 percent and it is all time high in last eight years. Over 10,400MW of energy generation capacity is to be developed between 2018 and 2020 and total of 17,000 MW by 2030 through energy projects. Gawadar port and allied facilities can provide Pakistan with estimated annual revenue of US \$40 billion, besides generating two million jobs.
  - The corridor through Gwadar will give China shortest access to the Middle East and Africa, where thousands of Chinese firms, employing tens of

thousands of Chinese workers, are involved in development work. The corridor also promises to open up remote, landlocked Xinjiang region and create incentives for both state and private enterprises to expand economic activity and create jobs in this underdeveloped region.

- With greater economic value, CPEC provides an opportunity to all regional states to make South Asia a seamless integrated region. However, the divergent and conflicting interests of some regional states are a threat to the construction of CPEC. India has made multiple claims regarding CPEC, associating territorial disputes and concerns of regional security and stability with it. India also considers the economic venture of CPEC as a balancing move to counter other strategic developments in the region. Indian growing rapprochement inside and outside the region and suspected sponsorship of terrorism are few areas of concern for Pakistan and China.



- Moreover, CPEC is geo-strategically important for a landlocked state like Afghanistan. With the extension of CPEC to Afghanistan, the country can become a major beneficiary of this project as in future the corridor will contribute to the economic development of this country by enhancing economic activities in the area, which can bring the fragile economy of Afghanistan back to normalcy.
- Similarly, there are massive opportunities of cooperation for Iran in the corridor project as well. In September 2015, Iran has considered the options to participate in CPEC. Iranian participation will help both countries improve connectivity through road and railway networks to expand the scope of trade and transportation. Similarly, Pakistan and Iran should outline the strategy to operationalize the proposed sister-port status of Gawadar and Chabahar in order to enhance connectivity.
- CPEC is a national undertaking which requires a collective effort by the government, national institutions and people to be protected at any cost. Pakistan has already dedicated a special force of 12000 personnel for the security of Chinese workers and corridor project. CPEC is considered to be an economic lifeline for Pakistan and there exists a political consensus over speedy completion of projects.
- Pakistan also needs to rebut the Indian claims regarding CPEC through diplomatic means. Pakistan should maintain cordial ties with countries such as Iran, Afghanistan, UAE and other Gulf states. To materialize the vision of CPEC, Pakistan and China should engage the concerned regional actors as partners who can gain equally from the success of CPEC.

### Conclusion

CPEC will certainly help Pakistan in achieving an economic turnaround but for that Pakistan has to work hard to complete the CPEC projects on time by ensuring its security. It is only through national consensus and collective effort that Pakistan can make CPEC a reality by resisting external power's efforts of disrupting the construction of the CPEC.

## TWO-DAY NATIONAL CONFERENCE

# CPEC: Macro and Micro Economic Dividends for Pakistan and the Region

## CONCEPT NOTE

China and Pakistan are celebrating the 65th anniversary of their diplomatic ties this year. Over the past six and a half decades, very friendly relations between Pakistan and China have evolved into an all-weather geo-strategic and economic partnership. In this age of geo-economics, both Pakistan and China substantially enhanced their geo-economic partnership in July 2013, when senior officials of both countries signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in Beijing in the presence of the Chinese Premier, Li Keqiang and the Pakistani Prime Minister, Nawaz Sharif. The MoU was aimed at enhancing regional economic integration via investments in infrastructure, energy, trade, and communications aimed at facilitating economic activity within the framework of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

After lengthy deliberations between the governments of China and Pakistan on financing and the construction of CPEC related projects, during the state visit of Chinese President Xi Jinping to Pakistan in April 2015, both signed a formal agreement to commence work on the \$46 billion mega project. The CPEC is a 15 year plan and will be completed in four phases, i.e. early harvest projects in 2018, short term projects in 2020, medium term projects in 2025 and long term projects in 2030.

CPEC related projects and the corridor connecting Kashgar city of China with Pakistan's Gwadar port by road, air and optical fibre cable has been termed as a "game changer" for Pakistan and the region, as the corridor links China, Central Asia, South Asia, West Asia, North Africa and Gulf states through economic and energy integration. Completion of CPEC will not only connect these regions but also facilitate regional connectivity in South Asia, thus giving significant strategic, macro and micro economic advantages to Pakistan and to regional countries like Afghanistan, Iran and India. The macro and micro economic advantages of CPEC will accrue to Pakistan due to heavy Chinese investment leading to creation of new jobs, addressing power shortages, and increasing production due to the availability of power to agriculture, manufacturing and services sectors. National income will also increase due to production from the new industrial zones

along the CPEC, increase in Pakistan's trade and income in the form of transit charges on other countries' trade passing through CPEC. Completion of CPEC would also be of great benefit to Afghanistan, Iran, India and other SAARC countries in terms of trade and transportation of oil and gas from Iran, Central Asian Republics (CARs) and the Gulf countries.

Since the signing of the CPEC agreement between Pakistan and China and the commencement of work on various projects, a debate has started among domestic stakeholders and civil society regarding the economic benefits of this project to Pakistan and the regional countries. In this context many questions have been raised regarding the projected macro and micro economic benefits accruing as a result of the completion and subsequent use of CPEC.

To answer some of these important questions and provide recommendations to the Government and informed input to the civil society of Pakistan, IPRI is holding a two day national conference in collaboration with the Hanns Seidel Foundation on "CPEC: Macro and Micro Economic Dividends to Pakistan and the Region" on 20-21 September 2016 at Islamabad Hotel, Islamabad. Renowned economists and other experts will be invited to the conference as speakers on selected topics, to educate the audience on the projected macro and micro economic benefits of CPEC for Pakistan and the region.


The major themes and sub-themes for the Speakers of the conference are:

- **CPEC: An Introduction and Cumulative Advantages to Pakistan and China**
  1. CPEC: Project Details and Plan of Construction
  2. Overall Advantages of CPEC to China
  3. Cumulative Dividends of CPEC to Pakistan
- **CPEC: Macroeconomic Dividends to Pakistan**
  1. Impact of CPEC on Pakistan's Growth, Employment Opportunities and Fiscal Position
  2. Implications of CPEC on Domestic and Foreign Investment
  3. Implications for Domestic and Regional Trade


**UPCOMING TWO-DAY NATIONAL CONFERENCE**

On

**CPEC: Macro and Micro Economic Dividends for Pakistan and the Region**




Organized by



Islamabad Policy Research Institute (IPRI)

in Collaboration with



Hanns Seidel Foundation (HSF), Germany (Pakistan Office)

Date: September 20-21, 2016  
Venue: Islamabad Hotel, Islamabad

- **CPEC: Microeconomic Dividends to Pakistan**
  1. Dividends to the Industrial Sector, an Industrial Unit and Labourers
  2. Dividends to the Agriculture Sector, Farm Owners and Farm Workers
  3. Dividends to Services Sector, Entrepreneurs and Workers
- **CPEC: Economic Advantages of the CPEC to the Region**
  1. Advantages of CPEC to India
  2. Advantages of CPEC to other SAARC countries
  3. Advantages of CPEC to Afghanistan and Iran

Participants interested in attending the conference may contact:

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# ARTICLES BY OUR SCHOLARS

**Asghar Ali Shad,**  
Research Fellow

"League of Nations Aur Aqwaam-e-Mutehdda" (Daily Pakistan)  
"RAW Ka Yeh Makroo Ghehra" (Nawai-i-Waqt)



**Muhammad Munir,**  
Research Fellow

"The situation in Afghanistan" (Pakistan Observer)



**Asiya Mahar,**  
Assistant Research Officer  
"Turkey's rapprochement measures" (Daily Times)



**Air Cdr (R) Khalid Iqbal,**  
Non Resident Consultant

"The knotty trio" (The Nation)  
"Dynamics of countering terrorism" (The Nation)  
"The grim reality" (The Nation)  
"Two Independence Days" (The Nation)  
"Nexus bares its teeth" (The Nation)



**Muhammad Nawaz Khan,**  
Research Officer

"Pakistan: The CPEC Dividends for Balochistan" (The London Post)



**Aymen Ijaz,**  
Assistant Research Officer  
"SAARC meeting: Twined in Differences!" (Pakistan Observer)



**Col (R) Muhammad Hanif,**  
Research Fellow

"Who is sponsoring terrorism?" (Pakistan Observer)



**Saman Zulfqar,**  
Assistant Research Officer  
"Ruthless suppression in IHK" (Pakistan Observer)



**Khurram Abbas,**  
Assistant Research Officer  
"Power and Olympics" (Daily Times)  
"Democracy or dynasty: what Pakistan really needs" (Daily Times)



## EID GREETINGS

**IPRI EXTENDS GREETINGS TO ITS READERS ON THE OCCASION OF EID-UL-ADHA**

## IPRI'S NEW LOCATION



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