



Islamabad's Informal



# **CHINA STUDY CIRCLE**



Twentieth Session  
CPEC-BCIM Updates  
by Shahzad Qasim





## **CPEC projects worth \$28billin completed**

- **The planning ministry said at least 22 CPEC projects have been completed since 2014**
- **CPEC is not imposing any immediate burden with respect to loans repayment and energy sector outflows (which) will start from 2021 and spread over 20 to 25 years with a maximum in 2024 and 2025**
- **The resultant benefits of these investments to the Pakistan economy would far outweigh these outflows**
- **Infrastructure sector is being developed through interest free or government concessional loans. Gwadar port is grant-based or investment which means the government does not have to pay back the invested amount for the development of the port**



## Early arrangements to be made for Rashakai Economic Zone: CM KPK

- The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is now reaching its next stage with the establishment of SEZs. The Chief Minister of KPK, Mahmood Khan, issued a statement to the concerned authorities to prioritize work for the establishment of the Rashakai Economic Zone, at meeting with the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Economic Zone Development and Management Company. He ordered for the establishment of industries for SMEs
- Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa directed concerned quarters for making early arrangements for construction of Reshakai Industrial Zone at 1000 acres of land
- SEZ will establish Fruit /Food Packaging /Textile Sticking and Knitting industries

## China to fight Indo-US propaganda against CPEC

- The Chinese government as well as the Communist Party have taken a serious note of the negative propaganda unleashed by the Western and Indian media against the prospects of CPEC. This reflected the nefarious designs of the American and Indian leadership.
- This was stated here on Tuesday by Deputy Secretary General of the Communist Party and Director of State Council Information Ms Xi Yanchun while talking to a group of senior Pakistani editors and television anchors visiting China on an invitation of an organisation 'Understanding China Better'. The delegation is headed by Dr Zaffaruddin Mahmood, a retired diplomat who spent two-third of his life in China



## **India offers China access to northeast in BRI**

- **India has offered China connectivity through its north-eastern region to Bangladesh's Chittagong port on the Indian Ocean as part of an ambitious multilateral plan that appears to complement the BCIM Economic Corridor proposed under Beijing's BRI**
- **New Delhi has also invited for the first time "limited Chinese investment" as it sets out to establish a Bangladesh, Bhutan, India and Nepal (BBIN) sub-regional hub linking the landlocked north-eastern region with other neighbouring countries, the Press Trust of India reported earlier this month, in the clearest sign yet of a strategic shift in New Delhi's position on BRI**
- **India has so far refused to participate in the BRI**

## BCIM offers pathway for broader China-India energy cooperation

- India relies heavily on Gulf Bay for oil and gas resources. The major ports for oil and gas shipments are all located on the west coast. Pipelines have been built to transfer imported resources from west coast to the east
- Myanmar has rich oil and natural gas resources, tapped and untapped, and these are exactly what India needs. Instead of cooperating with Qatar and Indonesia, Indian can turn to Myanmar, which is closer
- As energy demand continues to expand, China and India will have to carry out deeper cooperation with Myanmar and Bangladesh. Candid communication will be the best thing for China and India. China may provide a platform for India to negotiate pipeline construction with Bangladesh

Source Link: [https://news.cgtn.com/news/3d3d414d7a597a4e79457a6333566d54/share\\_p.html](https://news.cgtn.com/news/3d3d414d7a597a4e79457a6333566d54/share_p.html)

## China-Myanmar-Economic Corridor (CMEC)

- China's BRI got a high octane boost last week, when Myanmar — facing the heat from the West because of the Rohingya refugee crisis — inked an agreement with Beijing to establish a cross border economic corridor
- The 1,700-km CMEC corridor will provide China yet another node to access the Indian Ocean besides Gwadar
- The China Myanmar Economic Corridor can become a major factor in lifting economies of landlocked southwest China, which include the Provinces of Yunnan and Sichuan, by providing those a passage to the Indian Ocean
- The CMEC will run from Yunnan of China to Mandalay in Central Myanmar. It will head towards Yangon, before terminating at the Kyaukpyu SEZ on the Bay of Bengal



## The construction of BCIM vs. Myanmar

- The Myanmar government has recently announced four Dry Ports and adoption of plans for building more State highways and roads across the country to link Myanmar's projected road plans and the 1,400km India (Meghalaya), Myanmar, Thailand Highway Project, with the plans of the BCIM or OBOR and reviving of the Ledo Road
- Myanmar and China signed a 770 km crude oil and gas pipeline. The project which went into operation within a few days after signing, will annually transport up to 22 million metric tons of crude oil to China. It happens that this oil pipeline runs parallel to the Chinese gas pipeline that also runs to China. In the same occasion of signing the oil pipeline project, the Exchange of Letter on Implementation of the Deep Sea Port Project and Industrial Park Project

**Source Link:** <http://www.mizzima.com/news-opinion/construction-bcim-economic-corridor-vs-myanmar>



## Nepal-China-India trilateral cooperation

- General Secretary of India's Bharatiya Janata Party Ram Madhav welcomed 'limited Chinese investments' for the first time in North East region during his visit to China
- The ruling party leader also hinted that his government may build connectivity projects linking with India's North East region and Bangladesh, Nepal and China's Southwestern region Tibet, reported Press Trust of India
- He said that India was willing to welcome 'limited Chinese investment' in Assam, Tripura, and Nagaland
- Nepal and China are working on proposed Kerung-Kathmandu railway which could to be instrumental for diversifying Nepal's trade with China and other countries
- Nepal and India are also working to build a strategic railway line between India's Raxaul city and Kathmandu



## China's intelligent manufacturing market to exceed \$31bln by 2020

- China has built more than 200 digital or intelligent factories and has become the biggest intelligent manufacturing market in the world
- The value of system solutions in the intelligent manufacturing market reached 106 billion yuan in 2016, a year-on-year increase of 18.4 percent, and growth is expected to continue
- Four major intelligent manufacturing bases have been set up in the Yangtze River Delta, the Pearl River Delta, the area around the Bohai Sea, and the central and western parts of China, the report said

## Global Times begins cooperation with Sputnik

- Sputnik news agency and radio has signed a cooperation agreement with Global Times. The parties will exchange news and analytics in Chinese and English to provide their readers with a fuller picture of Russian and Chinese domestic and international agenda.
- Both agreed to cooperate and exchange news content. The partnership will have a positive impact on enhancing the affinity between the two nations and on the development of the major Russian and Chinese media.
- Sputnik and Global Times will be able to more promptly and accurately provide readers with diverse information about events around the world. At the same time, we will promote China's and Russia's interests and perspectives on major international events among global community

## **U.S. urge PM Modi to review data localisation policy**

- **Data localisation is an act of storing data on any device that is physically present within the borders of a particular country where the data was generated**
- **Two top American Senators have asked Prime Minister Narendra Modi to adopt a soft stance on data localisation, warning that India's policy on the issue will adversely affect American businesses in the country**
- **The Reserve Bank of India (RBI), in a circular in April, said all system providers will have to ensure that the entire data relating to payment systems operated by them are stored in a system only in India. It gave time till October 15 to comply with the mandate**

## **Pakistan likely to buy Chinese missile 'better than' Indo-Russian BrahMos: Global Times**

- Pakistan is likely among the potential buyers of a new Chinese supersonic missile tested successfully recently, which the state media said is better than the similar BrahMos rocket system developed by India and Russia
- Pakistan and Middle Eastern countries are likely to show interest given the weapon's potential to break anti-missile systems at supersonic speeds
- The HD-1 is a comprehensive weapon system consisting of missile, launch, command and control, target indication and comprehensive support systems
- The HD-1 can be adapted to aircraft and ships as well as the basic ground-based vehicle version

