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1. **CPEC Prospects and challenges**

The CPEC is a 3,000-kilometer network of roads, railways and pipelines to transport oil and gas from gwadar to kashgar city, northwestern china’s Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region, china daily reports. china and Pakistan have agreed to build One Build One Road Project more commonly known as “China-Pakistan Economic Corridor” is expected to bring about both peace and prosperity in south Asia. This trade will link between Kashgar in north-western china of Pakistan’s Gwadar port on the Arabic sea near the border with Iran via road , railway and pipelines. Expected cost was $46 billion but it increase up to $54 billion. There are many internal and external challenges for Pakistan government to implement this multi-dollars project. However, it is a game changer project which will transform the fate of Pakistan and will help Pakistan modernize. It will improve the economy and trade, enhance regional connectivity, overcome energy crisis, develop infrastructure and establish people to people contact in both the countries.

Proposed by Chinese prime minister Li Keqiang during his visit to Pakistan in may 2013, the CPEC would act as a bridge for a new maritime silk route that envisages linking three billion people in Asia, Africa and Europe.

The project links china’s strategy to develop its western region with Pakistan’s focus on boosting its economy, including the infrastructive construction of Gwader port, together with some energy cooperation and investment programs. It also involves road and railway construction including an upgrade of the 1,300-km Karakoram highways, the highest paved international road in the world which connects china and Pakistan across the Karakoram mountain.

The CPEC will reduce china’s routes of oil and gas imports from Africa and the middle east by thousands of kilometer, making Gwader a potentially vital link in china’s supply chain.

The ‘one belt one road’ concept has international strategic importance. The one belt one road initiative covers countries and regions with a total population of 4.4 billion and a total economic volume of Us$21 trillion, 63% and 29%, respectively of world.

The ‘one belt one road’ project consists of there routes, southern, central and northern route. The southern corridor begins from Guangzhou, which is the third largest city of china in south Central china. This route moves towards western parts of china and connects Kashgar with Pakistan at Kunjarab a point from where china wants to link to Gwarder ports in the Arabian sea. It is the shortest and the most feasible option for china.

The second Chinese option is the central corridor that starts from shanghai and links the country to Tashkent, Tehran and onwards to Bandar imam Khomeini ports of Iran on the Persin gulf, one of its branches goes up towards Europe. This is the longer route but could be an option, if Pakistan does not deliver on the timelines of completing its road network to become a beneficiary of the new silk road economic belt. The third Chinese option is the northern corridor that stars from Beijing, passes through Russia, and links it to European cities.

**Following are the challenges for Pakistan:**

Pakistan faces several challenges in the implementation of the china-Pakistan economic corridor project. These challenges can be identified as external and internal.

The construction of the corridor has been defined by many as a strategic moment such that Pakistan has assumed the postion of economic pivot for the whole region. This paradigm shift in circumstances is a cause of great worry for the enemies of Pakistan both within and outside. India, Israel and the US are unhappy. For India, CPEC is a thorn in its paw. They have put their heads together to work out new strategies to block the project forward march. RAW has opened a special office in Delhi and has been allotted $300 million to disrupt CPEC. Already one can notice sudden upsurge in the act of terror in the three restive regions and activation of certain NGO’S and think tanks all trying to air misgivings and create fear psychosis.

In Pakistan, some political parties like ANP, Baloch nationalist, PKMAP raised serious objection to the CPEC project. Even PTI and JUI showed inclinations to climb the bandwagon of anti-CPEC forces. Objectives were being raised despite assurances by the government that this project will provide equal opportunities to all the provinces.

Security concerns have been the most critical challenge to the CPEC and both Pakistan and china have been trying to meet these. An arc of militancy stretches from Xinjiang to Gwader consisting of groups like the east Turkestan Islamic movement (ETIM ) , tehreek-e-taliiban Pakistan (TTP ) Lashkar-e-jhangvi (LEJ ), Dasesh (ISIS ) , Balochistan liberation army (BLA ) , Balochistan Libaration front (BLF ) and the militant wing of some political parties. Most of these groups may not means to deal with the Pakistan.

The army has announced the creation of 10,000 man special for producing the development projects. The force, name the special security division, will comprise nine battalion and six wings of paramilitary forces, the rangers and the frontier corps.

After the completion of CPEC, Pakistan may be come the trade hub in the region after Gwadar port starts functioning fully and duty-free economic zones are set up. Many center states have also expressed interest in becoming part of the corridor. This strategic partnership between Pakistan and china has upset India that openly voiced its opposition and even premier Narendra Modi pressed the president of china during his visit to Beijing to drop the plan of developing the corridor. However, china did not cave in to the pressure and vowed to push ahead with work on the project.

The CPEC and the construction period from 2014 to 2030 have integrated relationship with the Chinese one built one road, and an extension of Chinese proposed 21st century silk road initiative. The CPEC project have been divided into three phases the short-term project is estimated to be completed till 2017 a mid-term project by 2025 long term project 2030.

CPEC is not only the name of road, port and railway system but a multi-dollar mega project which will bring peace and prosperity in all the provinces of Pakistan. The chairman of the Gwader port, Dostain khan Jamaldini said that the CPEC would not only benefit Balochistan but also prove beneficial for the country’s three other provinces.

**2) A policy post 9/11 critical analysis of Pakistan’s foreign**

Pakistan is a major participant in the global efforts to curb transnational terrorism initiated after the terrorist attacks in the united states in September 2001. This enhanced Pakistan’s strategic relevance for the major powers, especially the united states, which cultivated Pakistan for combating terrorism and ensuring peace and stability in the post-Taliban Afghanistan. They also wanted that the territory with the support of their Pakistani Sympathesizers.

Pakistan has not always been so relevant to global politics. Its strategic relevance has been varied over time which had implications for Pakistan’s role at the international level and the foreign policy options available to its policy makes.

Pakistan recognizes that it is neither possible nor advisable to stay in isolation in the present day interdependent and complex international system. It needs to interact with other states, international and regional organizations and supranational actors in order to protect and promote its national interest and sovereign identity. Pakistan also collaborates with other states in order to cope with the issues of global dimensions like environment, population, poverty and underdevelopment , energy, human migrations and refugees, drugs, and terrorism.

**The major phases of Pakistan’s foreign policy are** :

**(a )** 1947-53 :exploration and friendship with all

**(b )** 1953-62 alignment with the west

**(c )** 1962-71 transition

**(d )** 1972-79 bilateralism and nonalignment

**(e )** 1980-90 Afghanistan and partnership with the U.S

**(f )** 1990-2001 post –cold war era and Pakistan’s dilemmas

**(g )** onwards Pakistan and counter terrorism

The terrorist attacks on U.S on September 11,2001 had such far reaching implications for the international that one can talk on international politics in term of before and after these effective measures for countering terrorism by non-state and transnational entities on the highest priority basis. Most other states supported this efforts. The UN General Assembly condemned the terrorist attacks and called upon its members to join the global effects for combating terrorism and not to allow their territories to be used for such activities.

The US reciprocated by withdrawing three categories of economic sanctions against Pakistan in October- November 2001 and took steps to receive bilateral relations in various fields of mutual interest, including the economy, trade and investment , socio-economic development and military modernisation and supply of weapon and military equipment. Direct U.S assistance to Pakistan has focused on fiscal support, technical and commodity assistance, enhance trade, financial and technical support for several sectors like health, education, food democracy promotion, child labour elimination, and counter-narcotics. The U.S is extending economic and technological assistance to strengthen border security (mainly Pakistan- Afghanistan border ), capacity building for dealing with law and order situation and especially terrorism, improvement of communication and road building in the tribal areas and greater record keeping and control of the people leaving or entering the country through different entry-exit points. The U.S economic assistance during 2002-2003 included US $600 million as fiscal support and over US $455 million for different development programs. Furthermore, Pakistan also received payment for the use of Pakistani facilities by American troops.

Pakistan began with an independent foreign policy in 1947. However, it tilted towards the west in a period 7 years due serious economic and security pressures. It maintained a policy of close interaction the security and economic fields with the west in the general and the US in particular in the mid and late 1950s the 1980s and now since September 2001. It pursued independent to non-aligned foreign policy from mid-60s to the end of the 1970s and assigned a great importance to its interaction with the Muslim states and the issues and problems of the developing world. Pakistan is currently an active player in the global efforts for combating religious extremism and terrorism with a policy that extremism and terrorism pose serious threats to global security as well to Pakistan’s internal peace, stability and economic development. Pakistan has made some difficult decision in pursuing counter terrorism and for ensuring peace and stability in the immediate neighbourhood in order to boost its image at the international level, restore international confidence in the ability of the Pakistani state and government to put their socio-economic house in order, and shape up as a democratically oriented, modern and enlightened Muslim polity that does not allow its territory to be used by extremist groups.