

Press Coverage of One-Day Conference

“Pakistan’s Global Profile: Priorities and Options”

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Conference on Pakistan’s global profile held at IPRI

By **Rasheed Khalid**

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Dr Safdar A Sohail, Executive Director, CPEC Centre of Excellence, Planning Commission, has said that keeping financial details of Pak-China Economic Corridor secret does not compromise transparency as this is a practice the world over,

Dr Sohail was answering a question of former foreign secretary, Inamul Haq, at a one-day conference on ‘Pakistan’s global profile: priorities and options’ organised by Islamabad Policy Research Institute here Thursday.

Dr Sohail said that all details about establishing infrastructure are available but economic details cannot be made public. He also did not agree with Inam-ul-Haq that Punjab government’s agreement with China regarding CPEC can be shared as it is not a private transaction.

Earlier, in his presentation, Dr Sohail said that many of the structural bottlenecks faced by Pakistan such as low FDI in manufacturing; poor investment climate, low tax to GDP ratio, the \$187 billion infrastructure deficit and even poor agricultural performance will be addressed through CPEC.

Former Ambassador Tariq Osman Hyder said that size of Pakistani Diaspora is large enough to become a socio-political constituency in itself for the overall development of Pakistan. He said that it is critical to protect the rights of all those who belong to our diaspora.

Inam-ul-Haq in his presidential remarks said that on the indexes of refugees, internally displaced persons, terrorism, number of people desiring to flee the country and religious intolerance, Pakistan's ranking is very bad in the comity of nations, which makes our image bad in other countries.

Rahim Hayat Qureshi, Director General, Policy Planning and Public Diplomacy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, said that his ministry has recognised that cultural diplomacy programmes create forums for interaction between people of different countries, thus, laying the groundwork for the forging of friendships and strong 'foundations of trust' between people of different nationalities. He said that the ministry has been expanding its public diplomacy initiatives keeping in mind the lessons learnt over the last two years, with more focus on social and electronic media and economic diplomacy initiatives to redesign the soft image of Pakistan.

Dr. Ishtiaq Ahmad, Director, School of Politics and IR, Quaid-i-Azam University, said that media is a very strong tool in persuasion of public diplomacy. Internet and social media are significant mediums in increasing the regional and global profile of a country. Healthy news talk shows, dramas and films can counter misunderstandings, ignorance, and baseless hatred that people in other countries bear towards us, he said. Highlighting that PTV has no role, he called for public-private partnership to improve our image abroad.

Ambassador (r) Sohail Amin, President, IPRI, in his opening remarks said that Pakistan has the 7th largest diaspora and the 9th largest labour force in the world. "With the phenomenon of extended life expectancy, the aging populations in the industrialised world have increased. Pakistan's existing young population can play a major role by contributing towards the growing global workforce demands," he added.

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Role in war on terror: Experts lament lack of global recognition

By [Mariam Shafqat](#)

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"Moreover, we will only progress if we have a more productive labour force, we require the availability of education in relevant fields so that we have a population of educated individuals who can contribute to the workforce," Ashraf opined.

PHOTO: AFP

ISLAMABAD: Foreign policy experts and academics gathered here at a day-long conference organised by the Islamabad Policy Research Institute (Ipri) to discuss Pakistan's global profile, lamented lack of global recognition of the country's efforts to promote peace and security internationally.

Ipri President Ambassador (retd) Sohail Amin noted that despite all the efforts undertaken towards enhancing global peace and security, Pakistan's contribution and rightful image had not been recognised internationally.

“Our role in the war on terror, the sacrifices that we have rendered, our successful anti-terrorism operations and our contribution towards peacekeeping missions have not been duly acknowledged,” Amin said.

He further elaborated that the purpose of hosting the conference was to provide a platform, where speakers could share their expertise on ways to improve the country's image at a global level.



” Geographical proximity
with resource-rich regions
makes Pakistan an important
country in terms of facilitation
of trade and transit
IPRI President Sohail Amin

Highlighting characteristics that make Pakistan an important player in regional and global affairs, Amin emphasised that it was geographical proximity with resource-rich regions that made it an important country for the facilitation of trade and transit.

Amin highlighted that Pakistan had the seventh-largest military force, the world's sixth largest population, the seventh largest diaspora, and the ninth largest labour force in the world.

He said that Pakistan was one of the only nine countries with nuclear weapons.

“As the aging population in the industrialised world is increasing, Pakistan’s youth can play a significant role in contributing towards the global demand for labour in the 21st century. This will not only benefit the economy of Pakistan, but of the host countries as well,” Amin said.

He said though Pakistan had faced many serious economic challenges, recent projects such as the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) had created the potential of a significant economic revival for the country.

The chief guest, Quaid-i-Azam University (QAU) Vice-Chancellor Dr Javed Ashraf said that as an economist, he had learned that elections were won less on the basis of different socio-religious ideologies, and more due to economic promises and performances made by the prospective parties.

He further stressed the need for a significant improvement in the security situation of the country, in the interest of stable growth and to project a positive image.

“Moreover, we will only progress if we have a more productive labour force, we require the availability of education in relevant fields so that we have a population of educated individuals who can contribute to the workforce,” Ashraf opined.

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Cultural-public diplomacy can help attract investment: IPRI

July 15, 2016

[AAMIR SAEED](#)

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A combination of cultural and public diplomacy is not only a powerful tool that can improve Pakistan's public image abroad, but can also help bring investments and tourism opportunities for the country. Some panellists expressed these views while speaking at a one-day conference, "Pakistan's Global Profile: Priorities and Options" here on Thursday organised by Islamabad Policy Research Institute (IPRI) - a think-tank that is dedicated to research, analysis and evaluation of strategic and emerging issues with relevance to Pakistan's national interest and policies.

"Elections are won and lost, based not on ideologies, but on how a country's economy is doing. This fact has played out in the United States and even in Pakistan," said Dr Javed Ashraf, Vice Chancellor of Quaid-i-Azam University in Islamabad. While it is easy to be an armchair critic, Pakistan's current foreign reserves have increased, the armed forces with support of the government, have helped improve the law and order, and security situation of the country, he said. Former ambassador Sohail Amin, President IPRI, said that Pakistan has the 7th largest Diaspora and the 9th largest labour force in the world. With the phenomenon of extended life expectancy, the aged populations in the industrialised world have increased.

Pakistan's existing young population can play a major role by contributing towards the growing global workforce demands, he said. Amin said Pakistan has remained one of the largest troop contributing countries for many years, which demonstrates its commitment to world peace. "At present, more than 7,500 Pakistani troops are deployed in six UN mandated missions," he said.

Tariq Osman Hyder a former ambassador speaking on the "Role of Pakistani Diaspora in Enhancing Pakistan's Global Profile" said, that remittances sent by those working abroad during 2014-15 were US \$18,454.04 million, with an increase of 16.52 percent over the previous year, despite an ongoing global recession. In the financial year July

2015 to May 2016, \$17,831.62 million were remitted, with an increase of 5.58 percent over the year before. "It is clear that our remittances are keeping our economy afloat," he said.

Discussing the 'China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and Prospects for Revival of Pakistan's Economy,' Dr Safdar A Sohail, Executive Director CPEC Centre of Excellence at Planning Commission of Pakistan said, that many of the structural bottlenecks faced by Pakistan such as low FDI in manufacturing, poor investment climate, low tax to GDP ratio, the US \$187 billion infrastructure deficit and our poor agricultural performance will be addressed by CPEC. He cautioned, however, that in order to attract investments in Pakistan utilisation of CPEC potentials to the fullest, up-gradation of technology and infrastructure is crucial, along with serious policy push and resource mobilisation. Energy is a major component of the early harvest projects of CPEC, he added, and shared that the government hopes to add ten thousand plus megawatts by 2018 to the national grids.

According to Rahim Hayat Qureshi, Director General, Policy Planning and Public Diplomacy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the ministry has recognised that cultural diplomacy programmes create forums for interaction between people of different countries, thus, laying the groundwork for the forging of bonds and strong 'foundations of trust' between people of different nationalities.

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جنگ

راولپنڈی ایڈیشن

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روزنامہ جنگ راولپنڈی جمعہ المبارک 15 جولائی 2016ء

سی پیک سے استفادہ کیلئے ٹیکنالوجی اپ گریڈ کرنیکی ضرورت ہے، پالیسی ریسرچ انسٹیٹیوٹ

امن وامان کی صورتحال بہتر ہوئی ہے، ڈاکٹر جاوید اشرف، امن کیلئے پاک فوج کا کردار نمایاں ہے، سہیل امین

پاکستان کو بہت سے چیلنجز کا سامنا ہے، صدر سہیل، طارق عثمان حیدر اور دیگر کا کانفرنس سے خطاب

اسلام آباد (کامرس رپورٹر) پاک چین اقتصادی راہداری (سی پیک) سے بھرپور استفادہ کیلئے پاکستان کو انفراسٹرکچر اور ٹیکنالوجی کو اپ گریڈ کرنے کی ضرورت ہے، زرمبادلہ کے ذخائر بڑھ رہے ہیں اور پاک فوج کی مدد سے ملک میں امن وامان کی صورتحال بہتر ہو چکی ہے، وزارت خارجہ اور بیرون ملک پاکستانی سفارتخانے ملک کا مثبت امیج اجاگر کرنے کیلئے کوشاں ہیں، ان خیالات کا اظہار تھنک نینک اسلام آباد پالیسی ریسرچ انسٹیٹیوٹ کے زیر اہتمام مقررین نے پاکستان کا گلوبل پروفاکل، مواقع اور اقدامات کے موضوع پر ایک روزہ کانفرنس سے خطاب کرتے ہوئے کیا، کانفرنس سے خطاب کرتے ہوئے قائد اعظم یونیورسٹی اسلام آباد کے وائس چانسلر پروفیسر ڈاکٹر جاوید اشرف نے کہا کہ پاک فوج کی مدد سے ملک میں امن وامان کی صورتحال بہتر ہوئی ہے، آئی پی آر آئی کے صدر سابق سفیر سہیل امین نے کہا کہ نوجوان نسل ملک کی ترقی کیلئے اہم کردار ادا کر سکتی ہے، دنیا میں امن قیام امن کیلئے پاکستان کی فوج کا کردار سب سے نمایاں ہے، سابق سفیر طارق عثمان حیدر نے کہا کہ پاکستان کا مہاجرین کے حوالے سے کردار نے پاکستان کے قد کاٹھ کو بڑھایا ہے۔ سی پیک سینٹر آف ایکسیلنس کے ایگزیکٹو ڈائریکٹر ڈاکٹر صدر سہیل نے کہا کہ پاکستان کو بہت سے چیلنجز کا سامنا ہے، وزارت خارجہ کے پالیسی پلاننگ اور پبلک ڈپلومیسی کے ڈی جی رحیم حیات قریشی نے کہا کہ مختلف ممالک کے ساتھ تعلقات کے فروغ کیلئے وزارت خارجہ ثقافتی پروگراموں کا انعقاد کرے گی، قائد اعظم یونیورسٹی کے سکول آف پالیٹکس کے ڈائریکٹر ڈاکٹر اشتیاق احمد نے کہا کہ موثر سفارتکاری کیلئے میڈیا اہم کردار ادا کر سکتا ہے، سابق سفیر ڈاکٹر انعام الحق نے کہا کہ دنیا میں پاکستان کا منفی تاثر بدلنے کیلئے اقدامات کی ضرورت ہے۔

اسلام آباد (کامرس رپورٹر) پاک چین اقتصادی راہداری (سی پیک) سے بھرپور استفادہ کیلئے پاکستان کو انفراسٹرکچر اور ٹیکنالوجی کو اپ گریڈ کرنے کی ضرورت ہے، زرمبادلہ کے ذخائر بڑھ رہے ہیں اور پاک فوج کی مدد سے ملک میں امن وامان کی صورتحال بہتر ہو چکی ہے، وزارت خارجہ اور بیرون ملک پاکستانی سفارتخانے ملک کا مثبت امیج اجاگر کرنے کیلئے کوشاں ہیں، ان خیالات کا اظہار تھنک نینک اسلام آباد پالیسی ریسرچ انسٹیٹیوٹ کے زیر اہتمام مقررین نے پاکستان کا گلوبل پروفاکل، مواقع اور اقدامات کے موضوع پر ایک روزہ کانفرنس سے خطاب کرتے ہوئے کیا، کانفرنس سے خطاب کرتے ہوئے قائد اعظم یونیورسٹی اسلام آباد کے وائس چانسلر پروفیسر ڈاکٹر جاوید اشرف نے کہا کہ پاک فوج کی مدد سے ملک میں امن وامان کی صورتحال بہتر ہوئی ہے، آئی پی آر آئی کے صدر سابق سفیر سہیل امین نے کہا کہ نوجوان نسل ملک