



## THE CPEC AND BALOCHISTAN: SHARE, RESERVATIONS AND POTENTIAL: HOW CAN CHINESE EXPERTISE AND INVESTMENT HELP IN HARNESS THESE POTENTIALS IN FUTURE

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### ABSTRACT

*China\_Pakistan economic corridor (CPEC) is the flagship project of projects of Chinese initiative one belt one road (OBOR) and a lustering example of all-weather friendship and strategic cooperation between both countries. While Gwadar deep seaport which is the jugular vein of the CPEC stands pivotal in regional connectivity. Undoubtedly, the CPEC could be a game changer for the province (provided that it covers the major gaps in the socioeconomic development of the province) where unemployment, marginalization, poverty, deterioration of agriculture and livestock, non\_extraction of natural resources, and paucity of resolving energy crisis have engulfed the province. As far as the projects of this multi-billion initiative are concerned, Balochistan has not gotten its due share as it deserved despite the enormous potential of the province in the agriculture, livestock, energy, information technology, and tourism sectors. This research will analyze the CPEC projects which are being constructed across the country with a particular emphasis on projects in Balochistan. In addition, the ongoing study will further shed light upon the reservations of the political leadership, experts, and the local people of the province owing to the paucity of an adequate*



*share of the province that is the crown jewel of the project. Apart from it, this disquisition will further elaborate on the potential of Balochistan in agriculture, livestock, blue economy, natural resources, energy, and other sectors and will provide pieces of evidence of Chinese progress and investment across the world in these sectors and how Chinese expertise can help harness these potentials in Balochistan. Last but not least, this investigation will further provide policy options as to how the CPEC can be a game changer (in actual terms) for Balochistan specifically and for Pakistan as a whole provided that Chinese expertise and investment are further utilized.*

**KEYWORDS.** CPEC, Balochistan, Reservations, Potential, Blue Economy, Gwadar, Mines and Minerals, Oil and Gas, Agriculture and Livestock, Infrastructure, Strategic Importance, Tourism, IT, SEZs.

## INTRODUCTION

Balochistan is located at the mouth of South and Central Asia having borders with all provinces of the country. It separates Pakistan from Iran and Afghanistan and further connects it with the Central Asian countries (CARS) through Afghanistan and the middle east, whereas, it links the Indian Ocean via the Arabian Sea in its South. Gwadar, which is the linchpin of the CPEC has a distance from the Strait of Hormuz 604 km through which 40 percent of world Oil trade passes (Which further accelerates the strategic and geo-economics importance of Gwadar). Because of its significant location, Gwadar provides an alternate route of trade to China in the case of the Malacca Strait being blocked or if China faces obstacles through the trade route of the South China Sea.

The CPEC which is the child of the mighty BRI project will have prime strategic importance for China and will have long-lasting positive impacts on the economic development of Pakistan. This gigantic project at one side will provide an edge to China in the Indian Ocean over its rivals in the field of Naval supremacy while at the same it will reduce the distance of Chinese cargo coming or going to the Middle East and Africa. Meanwhile, Pakistan will enjoy resolving its infrastructural, energy, railway, information technology, and agricultural challenges. Notwithstanding, Balochistan, which is an integral part of the project is a marginalized province having the worst socioeconomic indicators which are far away from the targets of sustainable development goals where for instance, the poverty rate according to the ADB is 47 percent, where female education is 16 and male is 32 percent. (Khetran,2022) Despite, being the jugular vein of the CPEC, the share of the province is low as the people of the province expect and deserve.

The pathetic socioeconomic indicators reflect as if the people who have been living in the medieval ages. There is no dual carriageway in the province whose paucity has labeled the highways of Balochistan as killer highways, where agriculture and livestock (the lifeline of almost two third dwellers of the province) have been devastated owing to climate change and other obstacles, where the paucity of energy has been wreaking havoc with every sector of the province, and where the dearth of investment and technology has been Himalayan impediments in the extraction of mines and



minerals and exploration of Oil and Gas. Despite this, the significant part of the CPEC investment in Balochistan is unreasonable, low, and testifies to inequalities on the part of the federal government. This situation has resulted in a sort of alienation among the people of Balochistan and has consequently provided a base for emerging reservations among them. The politicians have been echoing their voices and have been questioning the scarcity of the provincial share and royalty and its criterion which is still vague as to what percentage and on what bases will Balochistan get its share. What is needed is that the CPEC should be utilized more (in harvesting the potentials of Baluchistan) in infrastructure, energy, blue economy, extraction of natural resources, information technology, livestock, and other fields so that not only it becomes a crucial project for the socioeconomic development of the marginalized province but also for the country's economic development and for China whose demands in mines and minerals, Oil and Gas have been increasing on account of its emerging economic needs. Providing its reasonable share and economic development in the province will ultimately diminish insurgency in the province that has erupted over many grievances in which lack of share of Balochistan in the CPEC is one of them.

## LITERATURE REVIEW

Jennifer Hillman and David Sacks (2021) articulate that, "The CPEC would open up a direct route between China and the Indian Ocean, that a prosperous Pakistan would no longer be a hotbed of extremism, and that a stronger Pakistan would advantage China over its strategic competitors." This assertion carries weight as Pakistan is struggling with its energy crisis, infrastructure decline, economic meltdown, lack of expertise and investment, etc. while. China has been advancing to capture international trade markets to become one of the major naval powers for which it started the gigantic one belt one road (OBOR) initiative of which the China\_Pakistan economic corridor (CPEC) is one of that project. It is comprised of projects of a multibillion-dollar that will undoubtedly help in the economic revival of Pakistan, will reduce the energy crisis, will lift infrastructural development, will increase the reliability and viability of communication through fiber optic, will have positive impacts on social development, and will also improve modernizing the agriculture sector in Pakistan. The CPEC is being seen through the prism of hope for the development of Balochistan (which is already in the clinches of unemployment, dearth of skill development, pathetic agriculture and livestock sectors, devastated infrastructure, paucity of energy, etc.) that would reduce the socioeconomic pains of the people of the province who expect positive change in their miseries. They also hope that the province which has a high rate of poverty which according to the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the poverty rate stands at 47 percent in Balochistan (Khetran,2022)\_will minimize.

They await that Chinese expertise will be availed in this regard as a piece of pieces of evidence to testify that China has pulled out millions of its citizens from poverty owing to its holistic policies, particularly its macroeconomic sphere.

The CPEC is an integral part of the Chinese world's ambitious plan for the OBOR to come by world



trade markets and enhance its naval supremacy which will play a pertinent role in reshaping the geoeconomics and geopolitical situation of South Asia. Balochistan is the crown Jewel of the CPEC where the deep sea port of Gwadar is located will be the jugular vein of this mighty initiative. Hence, investing more in the CPEC and focusing on Balochistan would also have positive impacts on the Chinese ambitions of more trade with the world through the CPEC. Retired air vice Marshal of Pakistan Mr. Faaiz Amir writes that "China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) being the star project of OBOR, is expected to restructure the geopolitical scenario of South Asia." (Amir,2016)

The multi-billion projects that are taking place include projects in infrastructure development, energy, the development of Gwadar, fiber optics, agriculture, social security, and cultural exchange across the country. As far as the share of Balochistan in all projects is concerned, the scenario in this regard is gloomy, and Balochistan has not gotten its due share which it deserves. A mighty sum is being spent on the energy sector under the umbrella of the CPEC. For instance, according to the official website of the CPEC and planning commission of Pakistan, there are a total of 21 energy projects worth 26.37 billion USD with a generation capacity of 13810 MW through the CPEC which only two are planned in Balochistan with an estimated cost of 2.54 billion USD.(cpec.gov.pk) Apart from this, in the transmission lines and construction of grid stations, Balochistan has no share.

Another tier of the CPEC is the infrastructure development of road and railway networks in Pakistan where according to the official website of the planning commission of Pakistan there are a total of 24 infrastructural projects which will be established under the umbrella of the CPEC among which, 6 would construct in Balochistan.(cpec.gov.pk) Pathetically, the Quetta mass transit system which was included in the 6th JCC meeting was excluded from the CPEC projects on the pretext of non\_feasibility.

The development package of Gwadar is one of the main features of the CPEC. According to the official website of the planning commission of Pakistan, projects in Gwadar include the development of a free zone and port, Gwadar Eastbay, the construction of an expressway, the Construction of an Airport, freshwater networks, Pak\_China friendship hospital, 300 MW coal power plant, 1.2 MGD desalination plant, 5 MGD desalination plant, construction of breakwater, Dredging of berth areas and channels, landing Jetty and making of Fishing boats, Gwadar smart environment sanitation, and establishment of the technical and vocational institution. Moreover, in the 820 km of fiber optics lines, there is no share of Balochistan while of 9 SEZs which will be established in the country only 1 will be in Balochistan. In addition, in the sphere of social protection projects, a total of 27 projects for social development and security will be carried on through the CPEC of which only three are in Balochistan. (cpec.gov.pk)

On the other side, Balochistan has huge potential in myriad fields such as blue economy, livestock, agriculture, renewable energy, and mines and minerals. Amid paucity of investment and advanced technologies and pieces of machinery, Pakistan is unable to materialize these opportunities. There is a dire need of inviting and motivating China for harvesting these sectors under the CPEC as China



has been progressing in all these fields having huge expertise, funds, and technologies. This could be more beneficial for Pakistan, Balochistan, and China. A win-win scenario for all. For instance, Balochistan is home to producing immense solar energy. Owing to a lack of funds, investment, and technology, Pakistan cannot reap this potential. China could help in this regard because of its expertise and availability of funds. XU (2023) articulates that, "China itself is utilizing renewable energy for fulfilling its demands. It is expected that China will add 95 to 120 gigawatts (GW) of solar power in 2023."

Come to mines and the mineral sector. The ex-Director General of Pakistan geological survey Mr. Imran in 2017 said that "Balochistan is the heaven of natural resources of 50 trillion Dollars." (Times of Islamabad, 2017) It is home to 51 metallic and non-metallic minerals alongside huge deposits of Oil and Gas. Again, because of the dearth of investment and technology, and lack of funds the province is lagging in extracting these. Meanwhile, China which has the expertise, developed mediums, and technologies could help in the extraction of these resources.

At the same time, where the CPEC is a ray of hope for the dwellers of the province, the politicians and the local people of the province have been echoing their voices due to the low share of the province in the CPEC. They have reservations about losing jobs and livelihoods once, the non-local rush to the province. In 2015, Daud Khan, the then Senator from Balochistan, called CPEC "the China-Punjab Economic Corridor, because it will mainly benefit Punjab and not the other provinces." (Notezai, 2019) Notwithstanding, the local people of the province fear losing the demographic changes and losing jobs. Since the 1950s, the natural gas being produced in the province has kept the wheel of the country's economy and industry moving but even today most of its towns and villages are deprived of the benefits of the natural gas. So seems to be the case with CPEC projects. (Express Tribune, 2018, December 11) On the other side, the federal government of Pakistan and Chinese authorities have been pledging more developments in the province through the CPEC. But, the scenario regarding the increase of provincial share in the CPEC is still lustreless. More, in 2018, the federal Minister for Ports and Shipping Mir. Hasil Bizenjo revealed that 91 percent of the profits of Gwadar port will go to China. Ijaz (2018). When the reservations of all provinces were echoed the then and incumbent planning minister Ahsan Iqbal said, "Consensus was reached between the federal and provincial governments to make China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), a success for the brighter and prosperous future of the country." (CPEC.GOV.pk.)

Undoubtedly, the CPEC is a good development that would have far-reaching implications for Pakistan in handling energy crises, infrastructural meltdown, and reducing economic miseries, etc. While, at the same time, for Balochistan, it will diminish some infrastructure issues, resolve the energy crisis, and develop Gwadar. But it will not prove to be a game changer owing to the lack of provincial share in projects. And, because of its limitation to some specific parts of the province, it will not produce much better results. These have caused resentment among the people and politicians of the province who fear that they have been neglected in the CPEC despite having the prime importance of the province and Gwadar in this gigantic initiative. Their reservations look correct as in the succeeding



paragraphs, the readers will read that the provincial share of the CPEC is around 5 percent.

## **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

The research design of this study is constructed upon a case study of the CPEC and Balochistan since its inauguration. The data collected in this investigation is grounded on comparative analysis of the CPEC projects across Pakistan and Balochistan and the potential of Balochistan in different fields such as agriculture, solar energy, mines and minerals, blue economy, etc. vis a vis Chinese expertise and its investment in these sectors in different countries in the world. The data gathered in this study will analyze the share of Balochistan in the CPEC, its potential, and reservations, and will provide comprehensive policy options for harvesting these potentials. Extensive data will be collected from the different tools and research designs. In addition, data collection in this inquiry is executed through primary and secondary sources. In primary sources, the interview was conducted by experts and intellectuals. While, on the other side, research journals, books, government websites, and research articles were approached as secondary sources.

### **4. The CPEC PROJECT AND BALOCHISTAN's SHARE**

The CPEC is a project of many projects that include energy, infrastructure, fiber optics, the development of Gwadar deep seaport, agriculture, livestock, information technology, scholarships, cultural exchanges, and social sector development programs. In the succeeding paragraphs, light will be shed on these projects which are located in Balochistan.

#### **4.1 ENERGY PROJECTS OF THE CPEC IN BALOCHISTAN**

Energy projects under the umbrella of the CPEC are the lucrative part of the initiative through which to date the energy situation of the country has been improved. There are a total of 21 energy projects worth 26.37 billion USD with a generation capacity of 13810 MW under the CPEC of which only two are planned in Balochistan. (See Index 1) These two projects include a 300 MW Coal-fired power plant in Gwadar and a 1320 MW Hubco power plant in Lasbella with an estimated cost of 2.54 billion USD for both projects.(cpec.gov.pk) Apart from power plants, the CPEC will also focus on building grid stations and transmission lines. Of the 13 electricity grid stations for 500 KV transmission lines, Balochistan got none. As part of the CPEC, two 500 KV transmission lines, each 1,000 kilometers long, worth \$4 billion were approved. One line goes from Matiari district in southern Sindh to Punjab's capital, Lahore, while another goes to the nearby industrial hub of Faisalabad. Not a single kilometer provides electricity to Balochistan. (Zubair,2019)

At the same time, the province is in the clutches of severe power shortfall owing to which its agriculture sector along with the business have impacted. The electricity shortfall is because of rotten transmission lines too that cannot afford the flow of current. The need was that the province should have prioritized the transmission lines and grid stations but sadly, there is no positive development in



this regard for the province so far which has been a point of concern for the local people whose agriculture sector has been hardly affected because of the paucity of power.

#### **4.2 INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS UNDER THE UMBRELLA OF THE CPEC IN BALOCHISTAN.**

Another tire of the CPEC is transportation and infrastructure projects which will help in regional connectivity. As per the official website of the planning commission of Pakistan, there are a total of 24 infrastructural projects which will be built through the CPEC. Among these projects 6 that would construct in Balochistan would be as such (See Index 2):

- A. Mushkel\_Panjgure road
- B. Awaran\_Khuzdar road M\_8
- C. Noshki\_Mushkel Road,
- D. Hoshab\_Awaran road section M\_8,
- E. Zhob\_Quetta N\_50,
- F. Khuzdar\_Basima, N\_30. (cpec.gov.pk)

Dolefully, the Quetta mass transit train project which was approved in the 6th joint cooperation committee's (JCC) meeting was excluded later on from the CPEC projects on the pretext of non-feasibility Apart from this, the provincial governments and politicians have been raising their voices for neglecting the western route from the CPEC. A sad reality is that there is still no dual carriageway in the province which reflects the downgraded situation of road infrastructure in the province.

The railway is another sector of infrastructure projects under the umbrella of the CPEC. Its projects that will be constructed through the CPEC include the Up-gradation and doubling of main line-1 (ML-1) from Karachi to Peshawar and Taxila to Havelian which is 1733 km long and the laying of a new track with improved subgrade for 160 km/h and increase in speed from 65-105 km/h to 120-160 km/h. Its Route starts from Karachi to Peshawar via Hyderabad, Nawabshah, Rohri, Rahimyar Khan, Bahawalpur, Khanewal, Sahiwal, Lahore, Gujranwala, Rawalpindi, Peshawar with an estimated Cost of 6805 million dollars. Total Jobs Opportunities during the construction of this Project are 24000. In addition, more projects include, the Orange line metro train Lahore which is 27 km with an estimated cost of 1626 million dollars, the Karachi circular railway of 43 km with an estimated cost of 1.9 billion USD, the new railway line from Boston to D\_I\_Khan 560 KM, reconstruction and up-gradation of Quetta\_Taftan Railway track of 633 KM, Gwadar\_Jacobabd Railway line 1328 KM, Havelian\_Kashi 1059 km, construction of new railway line from Peshawer to Torkham, and 1600 km long Karachi Peshawer high-speed railway line. (cpec.gov.pk) In all these projects only two projects will be constructed in Balochistan. (See Index 3)

#### **4.3 PROJECTS IN GWADAR**



In Gwadar, which is an integral part of the CPEC, many projects have been included. Owing to its prime strategic importance, Harrison observes that, "Gwadar, however, was always of strategic importance for competing nations in the region given its naturally deep warm-water port and geographic proximity to the Middle East." (Akins,2017) This deep seaport is capable of accommodating large vessels of up to 70,000 Deadweight Tonnage (DWT) as per the observation of China Overseas Port Holding Company (COPHC) Chairman Zhang Baozhong. (Express Tribune,2016) The projects in Gwadar under the umbrella of the CPEC include:

- I. Development of the free zone and port,
- II. Gwadar Eastbay Expressway,
- III. Gwadar International Airport,
- IV. Freshwater networks,
- V. Pak\_China friendship hospital,
- VI. 300 MW coal power plant,
- VII. 1.2 MGD desalination plant,
- VIII. 5 MGD desalination plant,
- IX. Construction of breakwater,
- X. Dredging of berth areas and channels, XI. landing Jetty and Fishing boats,
- XII. Gwadar smart environment sanitation
- XIII. Technical and vocational institution. (cpec.gov.pk)

#### **4.4 SHARE OF BALOCHISTAN IN FIBER OPTICS**

Another important feature of the CPEC is 820 KM lines of Fibre optics of which 18.20 KM will be laid down in Islamabad, 466.58 KM in Gilgit Baltistan, 287.65 KM in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK), and 47.56 KM in Punjab respectively. (cpec.gov.pk) Again, Balochistan has no share in it. Moreover, Fibre optics will help in numerous wavelength data services and would decrease poor connectivity services, crunchy bandwidth, and chunky speed problems transfer of data, which all prevail in Balochistan. (see Index 4)

#### **4.5 SHARE IN SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONES**

The special economic zone includes investing in industries such as dry fruits, agricultural marketing, small industries, fruit processing, pharmaceutical, electric appliances, motorbike assembling, and ceramic and other small industries. Establishing special economic zones is one of the main attributes of the CPEC that will help in industrial development. Of 9 special economic Zones (SEZs) that will be settled through the CPEC only one will be established in Balochistan in the city of Boston with an estimated area of 1000 acres. It is located at a distance of 23 KM from the provincial capital. Where different small industries will be set up. (cpec.gov.pk) Special economic zones are wheels of providing employment opportunities and industrial development. For a province like Balochistan that has been struggling with unemployment, and poverty, alongside scarcity of industrialization, where



mines and minerals are found abundantly\_\_ SEZs are crucial for modernized development. But, through the CPEC, the scenario concerning establishing the SEZs, in Balochistan is not impressive. At least, there should have been one SEZ for each division of the province.

#### **4.6 SOCIAL SECTOR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS**

In the sphere of social sector development projects that would be initiated through the CPEC are 27. The official website of the planning commission names three in Balochistan. ([cpec.gov.pk](http://cpec.gov.pk)) These projects include poverty alleviation Training, enhancing the NDMA, establishing a laboratory of agriculture providing agricultural equipment, scholarships, and more programs related to social development and science and technology \_ but the official website is silent over the share of Balochistan and it does not mention that which province will get how many shares in the social development programs? It testifies how badly Balochistan has been ignored in social development projects under the umbrella of the CPEC where the province is already lagging behind in every social indicator from the rest of the provinces.

#### **5. RESERVATIONS OF BALOCHISTAN**

Since the initial stage of the CPEC the politicians of the province have been raising their voices about the dearth of share of the province in the CPEC despite the vital position of the province in the CPEC. In 2015, the then Chief Minister of Balochistan Dr. Abdul Malik Baloch opined that “He was not taken into confidence by anyone with regard to the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).” (Dawn,2015) With time the reservations were not met down and the politicians have been repeating their concerns by echoing their voice about their grievances. In 2018 Chief Minister Jam Muhammad Kamal lamented that of 52 billion USD, presently projects worth 29 billion USD are being complemented in the country while Balochistan has no share. (Zafer,2018) A couple of months later he further said, “The share of Balochistan in the CPEC investment was 4 percent.” (Dawn,2018) Moreover, in the upper house of the country, Senator Kulsoom Parveen who belonged to the PLM (N) section of Balochistan articulated, "What progress has Gwadar seen under [the] CPEC, so far?" "The people of Balochistan have not gained anything from the project." (The Nation,2017)

A leader of the Balochistan National Party (BNP) Sanaullah Baloch argued the same reservations as the ex-chief minister Dr. Abdul Malik about the negligence of Balochistan in the decision-making process regarding the CPEC projects and observed that while CPEC inevitably affects the social, and political, economic, and cultural lives of Balochistan,s residents, Islamabad has excluded them from the decision-making, which will only accentuate their alienation.(Zubair,2019) On the other side, the federal government denies the reservations of the politicians of Balochistan. For instance, the then and present minister for the planning commission of Pakistan Mr. Ahsan Iqbal observes on energy projects that different energy projects under the CPEC would help to overcome the energy crisis by 2018 as 35\$ billion will be spent in the energy sector. Out of 35 \$billion major amount of 11\$billion will spend in Sindh while 9 \$billion in Balochistan.([cpec.gov.pk](http://cpec.gov.pk)) His statement looks ambiguous as



to how 9 billion USD are being spent on energy projects in Balochistan as it is available on the official website of CPEC of the government of Pakistan that there are only 2 projects of energy in Balochistan vis a vis 1320 MW of Hubco power plant worth 1912 million USD and 300 MW of Gwadar coal-fired power plant worth 542.2 million USD. Both these projects are equal to 2.455 billion USD and the question arises as to how Ahsan Iqbal claims to give Balochistan a share of 9 billion USD. The statement is available on the official website of the government alongside the total amount and energy projects of the CPEC as the website itself mentions 2 projects in Balochistan worth 2.445 billion USD.

Another concern that the people of Balochistan feel is that they are being neglected in the CPEC, royalty alongside the share. The people of Balochistan are still unaware of their share in royalties and transit fees of the cargoes that will pass through the province that provides 62 percent of the land route to the corridor. (Zubair,2019) It is uncertain as the provincial share will be based on the NFC award or as per article 172/3 which states that, "Subject to the existing commitments and obligations, mineral oil and natural gas within the Province or the territorial waters adjacent thereto shall vest jointly and equally in that Province and the Federal Government." (Constitution of 1973)

The ongoing share of projects in the CPEC testifies that it is based on neither the NFC formula nor it is as per article 172/3 of the constitution. At the same, as the official documents of the agreement are unavailable, the share of the province specifically in the royalty in the future is unclear. These developments make the politicians and the people of Balochistan fear losing their share in the royalty in the future too.

The Ex\_Secretary finance and member of the NFC from Balochistan Mr. Mahfooz Ali Khan while giving a reply to my quarry was hair-raising and pessimistic about the share of Balochistan in the CPEC. He told that on one side the share is low while at the same time, it would cause a decrease in provincial share in the NFC too due to the multiplier effect of the social sector. In addition, he not only criticized the federal government for neglecting Balochistan but also the provincial government for not playing its role by bringing away due provincial share. He articulated that In CPEC's first phase, termed Early Harvest Projects out of \$45.69 billion only \$.66 was earmarked for two Gwadar-based projects i.e. Fifty bedded Hospital and a vocational training institute. Both of these do not generate any economic activity, the actual purpose of a Corridor. Now against \$ 40 billion various projects in the pipeline are less than \$3 billion for Balochistan. Not a single project has yet been completely executed. The basic underlying idea of a corridor is to create linkages, putting up economic nodes for speedy economic development. This Corridor doesn't create and viable economic hub in areas of Balochistan except for the Port and future airport. One power generation unit is being executed under CPEC in Hub. The blame doesn't lie only on the Federation but equally on the Provincial government, which failed to bring any viable project, nor created a team of experts to work as Task Force in the Province. Industry, Mines, Livestock, and other Line Departments have failed to complete tasks assigned to them. He fears that the Multiplier effect is 1:13 in Social Sector, so growth will be more in areas where there is more investment. It will affect our share in future NFC as share



also considers collection and generation of revenue.

## **6. POTENTIAL OF BALOCHISTAN IN DIFFERENT SECTORS AND CHINESE EXPERTISE AND INVESTMENT IN FUTURE**

How the CPEC can be utilized to harness the potential of Balochistan in its projects so that to subdue the marginalization of the province, enhance its socio-economic development, and help in recovering the economic fragility of the country is a matter of intense consideration that demands holistic policies and soul\_reaching strategizing. The potentials of Balochistan in numerous sectors and Chinese investment and expertise in exploiting these resources are being analyzed in the succeeding paragraphs.

### **6.1 INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS**

Balochistan covers 43 percent of Pakistan,s total area with a scattered landscape. The dismal situation of the transportation sector has been a major impediment to the supply of agricultural products and Tourism. There is a huge potential for generating revenue from agriculture and tourism provided that the issue of transportation is resolved. The CPEC could be a {game changer} if road and railway infrastructure are upgraded and if new infrastructure projects are established. Moreover, Balochistan has prime strategic importance and proximity to China and Central Asian countries via Afghanistan that can open new vistas of generating revenue for which road and Railway networks from Gwadar to Noshki, Chaman, and other borders with Afghanistan could play a pertinent role.

Once these routes are laid down it will also help in employment opportunities for the people of Balochistan who are already in the clinches of unemployment and poverty alongside pathetic social indicators. In the 21st century, there is no two-lane highway or dual carriageway in the province where the highways are being labeled as killer highways where the death ratio in the accidents supersedes those deaths which occurred because of terrorist attacks in the province.

### **6.2 ENERGY GENERATION POTENTIAL**

Owing to climate change and low cost, the world is now diverting to environment-friendly renewable energy. Although, some energy projects of the CPEC have been renewable, still a long way to go and there is a high time to focus on particularly Balochistan,s potential for renewable energy. There is a dire need to overcome the rotten transmission line, electricity loss, and shortfall. At the same time, if renewable energy's potential is exploited, Pakistan would be in a position to not only end power shortfall but also export it.

Starting from hydel energy, Balochistan has the potential to generate hydel energy but has failed to do so owing to many reasons. Balochistan has the potential to generate hydropower energy through different canal systems. However, owing to the non-availability of a reasonable head, electricity



cannot be generated from these canals. The national water resources development program for Balochistan included 8 projects, but none of them had the required head to generate electricity. (PPIB) Pathetically, at present, the generation through hydropower is 0 MW. China has a successful history of generating electricity through hydropower for instance, the existing installed hydropower capacity of the world is 1,360GW (17% of the total global capacity), out of which China has 391GW (Ali,2022) can help Balochistan through the CPEC in generating hydropower energy.

Moreover, China has huge expertise which should be approached in the construction of Dams and generating electricity from them in Balochistan. Apart from this, China should be involved to invest in tidal energy in Balochistan whereas the waters of Pasni, Gwadar, Ormara, and Jewni are suitable for tidal energy where the tides occur high from 3 to 5 meters. In addition, Balochistan has many spots of geothermal energy such as in koi\_I\_Suleman and Nokandi which are heated up to 15 to 20". These spots can be materialized through the CPEC in generating geothermal energy.

More areas of renewable energy that could be produced in Balochistan in huge amounts are Solar and Wind energy. Balochistan is home to a 772 km coastline which has huge potential for generating solar and wind energy. The provincial coastline areas of Somniani, Abghor, Gwadar, Gadani, Hubchowki, Jiwani, Winner, Kamalath, Mianihor, Korangi Creek, and the Indus Delta have ample wind speed for generating wind energy in the province. (See Index 5) At the same time, the province has an annual mean sunshine duration of 8- 8.5 hours with an average daily global insolation of 19 to 20 MJ/m<sup>2</sup>/day. (F. Muhammad,2017) which is suitable for solar energy.

A study shows that the coastal areas of Pakistan have the potential to generate more than 50,000 MW of wind power energy. (Naveed, Waqas & Jalal,2018) While, another investigation explores that, around 8.41% of the land falls into the moderate-to-excellent wind power class, and the total power production capacity in this region comes to about 146,145 MW. (Sajjad,Raheel,&Sajid,2016) Having 74 percent of the total coastline of the country, Balochistan can be a game changer in overcoming the energy crisis through wind energy. What is needed is the expansion of the CPEC towards renewable energy in Balochistan for which Chinese expertise can play a crucial part. China, itself has a plan for wind energy development to produce 1000 GW of wind energy by 2050. The roadmap foresees wind power capacity reaching 200 GW by 2020, 400 GW by 2030, and 1000 GW by 2050. (IEI,2011)

Balochistan is home to 347000 sq. km and has immense potential of generating solar energy in its different areas. Owing to a lack of investment, the province and the country have failed to utilize the solar potential. Estimatedly, around 40% of the land area of Balochistan receives direct solar insolation with an energy potential of more than 6 kWh per square meter per day, while the rest of the province receives direct solar radiation with an energy potential of 4.5 kWh per square meter per day. (Benmessaoud,2007) On the other side, China can play a vital role through the CPEC in providing mastery and investing in solar energy in the province as China itself has remarkably planned Solar energy in the country. It is expected to add 95 to 120 gigawatts (GW) of solar power in 2023, or as much as 30%, a solar manufacturing association. (XU,2023).



### **6.3 AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK**

Balochistan has huge potential in agriculture and livestock and dairy production. These sectors play a pivotal role in employment and poverty alleviation in the province. The majority of the population of Balochistan is directly and indirectly related to the agriculture and livestock sectors. Estimatedly, 67 percent of the dwellers are dependent on these sectors. Because of the lack of integrated agricultural productivity, market connectivity, scarcity of water, dearth of advanced technologies, paucity of farmers' training, and climate change, the agriculture sector in the province has been facing huge shocks owing to which its potential is not utilized properly. Farmers have very little knowledge of modern techniques of agricultural and livestock production, especially the processing, and preservation of products, new breeds, and fodder. Owing to these impediments the farmers are compromising their long-term cultivation such as Rice, Maize, and wheat to short-time cultivation. The province is home to fertile soil, a suitable environment, and a vast arable area. The agriculture sector faces challenges such as Waterlogging, soil erosion, salinity, degradation, lack of saline water testing, and high ph. level, and depletion of soil fertility. These challenges can be vanquished with the help of China which has already heeded in controlling these impediments.

Balochistan is known as the fruit basket of Pakistan which produces 90 percent Cherries, Grapes, and almonds 60 percent pomegranates, Peaches, apricots, 34 percent Apples, and 70 percent Dates of the country. (Harder,2008) Despite these potentials, the province has been lagging in enhancing the agriculture sector. Rangeland and non\_arable land have been blown to the production of the agriculture sector which has hampered agricultural development in the province. The official website of the government of Balochistan mentions that "Balochistan,s most of the area is rangelands with only 5% arable. Where Livestock contributes 55% of Agriculture value added, 11.4% of the National GDP of Pakistan, and more than 47% of the economy of Balochistan. Around 93% area of the province comprises rangelands out of which just 28% are considered fair to good for livestock production" (balochistan.gov.pk,2019). Sadly, the land of the province has not been utilized yet through the CPEC. For instance, Six model forms of Red chilies have been established in Sind and Punjab with an estimated yield of 700 tonnes of dried Chilies through the CPEC. (The Nation,2023) Unfortunately, Balochistan has been neglected in these forms.

There is a huge issue of the dearth of roads in the scattered areas of the province where most agricultural activities are taking place. This scarcity affects the production and growth of this sector. It takes many days from far-flung areas for agricultural commodities to reach the capital city or the other cities of the country. When any calamity hits an area the areas specifically the hilly areas are blocked for days. Pieces of evidence prove that there is a huge linkage between infrastructure and agricultural development. The more transportation facilities are suitable the more agricultural output will be better. History testifies that the green revolution has never been possible without robust infrastructure development. There is a dire need to link the CPEC infrastructure projects to rural Balochistan which is home to most of the agriculture activities. And focus on pro\_growth, pro\_transport strategy would be beneficial.



If the formers are trained, pesticides are provided, new breeds are introduced, if steps are taken in recovering livestock diseases, if new seeds and fertilizers are provided and the issues such as transportation, climatic obstacles, and energy are resolved the agriculture and livestock sectors could revolutionize the economy of the country. Impediments in the livestock sector are diseases, paucity of vegetation on ranges, old methods by livestock farmers, the drought that further results in infertility, weight loss of animals, and inadequate marketing facilities in the province. Hundreds of thousands of land are available for new breeding, animal farming, dairy farming, cross-breeding, and meat and milk production in the province.

On the other side, China, being a big agricultural country has pulled out around 800 million population from poverty because of investment in agriculture, livestock, and industrial sectors since 1978,s successful reforms. China has enhanced the breeding capacity specifically of Sows, Pigs, hogs, Cattle and poultry farms, and fishing in a couple of years through pragmatic strategies of creating awareness among farmers, vaccination marketing, and policies. It has succeeded in producing one-fourth of the world's grain and feeding one-fifth of the world's population with less than 10 percent of the world's arable land, which is a great achievement in pursuit of food and nutrition security not only in China but also in the world. Currently, China ranks first in the world in terms of the production of cereals, cotton, fruit, vegetables, meat, poultry, eggs, and fishery products. (FAO)

Notwithstanding, China has huge investments around the world such as in North America, Europe, Latin America, Ocean, Africa, and Asia. (See Index 6) The then deputy chief of mission of the Chinese embassy in Islamabad Lijiang Zhao articulated that, "His country wanted to help improve the agriculture sector in Balochistan by imparting training to the farmers about the latest technology, proper usage of seeds, irrigation, and capacity building." (DAWN,2019) This invitation should have been entertained much before. There is an immense opportunity for Cooperation between Pakistan and China specifically Balochistan in the areas of livestock, fisheries, fruits, rice, wheat, potatoes, and horticulture. What is needed is that Chinese proficiency be materialized through the CPEC to boost the agriculture and livestock sectors of Balochistan.

#### **6.4 BLUE ECONOMY: POTENTIAL**

Another area that can revolutionize the economic situation of Pakistan is its potential for a Blue economy. Pakistan has an exclusive economic zone of 240000 sq. km which was further extended by the UNCLOS in 2015 by 50000 sq. km. (Syed,2015) Balochistan having a 772 KM coastline and being adjacent to the Arabian Sea can play a vital role in the recovery of the fragile Pakistani economy and pathetic socioeconomic indicators of Balochistan through its blue economy. Unfortunately, Pakistani authorities have failed to harness its potential owing to a lack of strategizing and holistic policies, a dearth of investment, and a paucity of advanced technology with special reference to the fishing industry. Despite having the potential to generate more than \$100 billion, Pakistan's current blue landscape is limited to generating an estimated \$1bn. (Masood,2023)



The marine industry such as marine engineering, marine tourism, marine biomedicine, salt management, chemical, electric power, seawater utilization, and scientific research can further help enter Pakistan in the index of prosperous nations by steering the country away from economic meltdown. Using new technology, promoting the fishing industry, making a cemented infrastructure, and transportation can be pivotal in generating huge sums of revenue from the blue economy. Moreover, Balochistan alongside Sind has immense species of Fish and Shrimp. Shrimp and Fish farming will be a motivating force in the blue economy provided that the government focuses on it. Even though studies have discovered that there are nearly 10 species of crabs inhabiting the coastal areas of Sindh and the coastlines of Balochistan but still the exports are very low. (Khaskheli,2020) There are 8 fish-catching islands and 25 more catching sites in the province. Apart from this, there Marine Wheal, Turtles, Dolphins, Tortoises, and loggerhead turtles that are 115 kg were seen in the Balochistan coalition in 2009 found in the province. Moreover, Balochistan contributes around 34 percent of the country's catch fish. Due to the scarcity of ice storage factories ample Catch fish is wasted. In addition, the shipbreaking industry where the Gadani shipbreaking industry is the third largest in the world, and ship cargo would further enhance the revenue generation from the blue economy of Pakistan of which Balochistan has prime importance.

In addition, Pakistan is the 6th largest country in Mangroves located on the coastline of Balochistan and Sind. Where, Mangroves in Balochistan are found in Miani Hor, Kalamat, and Gwadar Bay which are good for absorbing carbon. In addition, marine tourism, Scuba diving, skiing, surfboards, sailing, swimming, and Voyage from Gwadar to Karachi can further be beneficial in the promotion of tourism and generating revenue. Pakistan,s blue economy specifically Balochistan can further be enhanced with the help of China which has already progressed in it. In 2015, China's blue economy target was to make up 10% of the total national gross domestic product, or GDP.” (Barrech, Brohi & Abba,2021) Notwithstanding, the blue economy of China is improving rapidly in the presence of advanced technologies and commitment as currently, 10 marine satellites are monitoring its marine sector. China's gross ocean product rose to nearly 9.04 trillion yuan (about \$1.42 trillion) in 2021. It has established maritime cooperation with more than 50 countries and international organizations. (CGTN,2022) This progress of China testifies that China is an emerging power of the blue economy and it is also a litmus test for Pakistan as to how it attracts Chinese investment in this regard. It is high time that Chinese expertise is involved through the CPEC in yielding the economic potential of the blue economy of the country with a special focus on Balochistan.

## **6.5 TOURISM**

Balochistan has potential in the tourism sector too but, because of some fundamental issues such as lack of infrastructure, dearth of facilities, and security\_the province's beautiful landscape is still thirsty for tourists. Balochistan is home to ancient world heritage sites, having wildlife sanctuaries, national parks, deserts, stunning beaches, and hills. Beautiful tourist destinations such as Hanna Lake, Gadani Beach, Churna Island, Hinglaj Mata, Bolan Pass, Pir Ghaib , Quaid-e-Azam residency, Princess of Hope, and Khojak Pass all are attractive places for tourists.



The province is home to Marine tourism where there are many spots for marine sports such as swimming, canoeing, surfing, windsurfing, scuba diving, etc. Apart from this, the province can generate revenue through marine cargo and Cruise Ship voyages from Gwadar to Karachi. This could be possible only if more infrastructure projects through the CPEC are built, reasonable facilities are provided and steps are taken for the security of the province by ending the reservations. Once the CPEC is fully operationalized and trade activities are started, eventually, tourism will boost.

## **6.6 THE IT SECTOR**

The long-term plan (LTP 2017\_2030) of the CPEC observes that it will focus on enhancing the development of the information industry in Pakistan; build IT industrial parks and IT industry clusters in Pakistan to improve Pakistan's information technology and service outsourcing. (cpec, LTP,2017) Sadly, Balochistan which is already lagging in the information technology sector has been deprived of the projects of IT in the CPEC, and as per the official website of the planning commission of Pakistan, there is no project which will be built in Balochistan through the CPEC. Even though, the share of Balochistan in the fiber optic is nill. At present 60 pc area of the province has no internet facility. Macro Pakistani also reports that while some districts have adequate coverage, internet speeds in others are lower than the national average of 6.2 Mbits per second (cellular only). Some areas also reported a download speed of fewer than 1 Mbits. (Business Recovered,2020)

The digital policy of Balochistan 2021 focuses to provide internet facilities to all districts of the province to take steps for a digital economy, to enhance digital technology, to provide IT training to the Youth, to attract private sector investment, and establish software and IT technology parks in the province. This document remains a document. Balochistan is a big market for computers and Mobile phones which can be utilized if Chinese investment through the CPEC is ensured. These sectors have huge capabilities of employing the people of the province.

Experts believe that many parts of Balochistan are favorably capable of information technology infrastructure. China which has progressed immensely in information technology can help Balochistan,s information technology sector which would have long-lasting impacts on the socioeconomic situation of the province specifically of its youth by providing them with jobs and skill development.

## **6.7 PROSPECTS IN NATURAL RESOURCES**

Balochistan is bestowed with immense hydrocarbon resources where there are vast deposits of Oil and Gas across the province along with millions of tons of mineral resources are located. God has blessed Balochistan with 51 metallic and non-metallic minerals. According to the official website of the government of Balochistan, there are deposits of 5.87 million tons of copper in Rekodiq, 42 million ounces of Gold, 412 million tons of Copper in Saindaq, 2 billion tons of Barite, 75 million tons of Iron core, 37 million tons of Onyx Marble, 50 million tons sulphur, 26 million tons lead, and



zinc ore, 5 million tons barite, and 217 million tons of Coal in the province. (bboit.gob.pk)

Apart from the above minerals, Antimony, Basalt, Chromite, Clay, Granite, Rhyolite, Diorite, Gabbro, Sulphur, Dolomite, Nickel ore, Titanium Gypsum, Nickel, Fluorite, and Celestite, whereas Pishin, Kakar Khurassan or black Arc basin, has huge deposits of Mestine, Shale, Ochre, Saline Springs, and Mudflow with Marhene Nitrogen gas are also found in the province. (See Index 7) The ex-Director General of the Pakistan geological survey Mr. Imran in 2017 said that, “Balochistan is the heaven of natural resources of 50 trillion Dollars.” (Times of Islamabad,2017) According to him, an expensive Metal Molybdenum has been discovered in Balochistan whose 1 Ton price is worth 5 Million Dollars in the market, which is the most expensive in the world because of its usage in aircraft making. (Panache,2017)

In addition, geological surveys have proved that Balochistan has vast untapped reserves of Oil and Gas which are found in Barkhan, Musakhail, Kalat, Mari, Kohlu, and near the Balochistan border with Iran. It is estimated that out of the country’s estimated 25.1 trillion cubic feet (tcf) of proven gas reserves, 19 trillion are located in Balochistan. (Haider,2019) Notwithstanding, Sindh and Balochistan jointly produce about 94% of the total natural gas produced in the country. However, with this contribution, Balochistan has never been given fair opportunities in sharing its royalties and revenues, which has become a bone of contention between Balochistan and the central government. (Sohail, Ahmad, & Johan,2017) Moreover, according to the World Bank reports, Balochistan gas reserves are estimated at up to 19 trillion cubic feet, and crude oil is up to six trillion barrels. (Sohail, Ahmad, & Johan,2017) In another report the Dawn reports that “Balochistan has recoverable potential for six billion barrels of oil.” (Dawn,2023) On the other side, China has been investing in the extraction of natural resources in Latin America, Afghanistan, and other regions of the world. In 2007, China got a lease of 30 years in a copper mine of Mes Aynak in Afghanistan. In 2022, again it signed an investment agreement in the extraction of Oil and Gas sectors in Northwestern Afghanistan during the incumbent Taliban 2.0 regime. China has also been investing in mines in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA). For instance, in Congo and Zambia, China is investing in the copper sector, in Guinea in iron ore, in South Africa coal, and in Ghana in bauxite sectors respectively. (See Index 8) It has 345 overseas projects of mines and minerals throughout the world. (Farooki,2018)

China has the expertise, manpower, and advanced technologies in the extraction of mines and minerals and exploration of Oil and Gas. There is a dire need on the part of the federal government of Pakistan to motivate and attract Chinese investors in investing in mines and minerals and the Oil and Gas sectors of Balochistan. Investment in mines and minerals along with oil and gas exploration in Balochistan will also help China whose emerging economic demands have been increasing day by day of mines, minerals, oil, and gas and Balochistan could be a game changer for it.

## **7. POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS**

The ongoing research after providing intensive data and analysis recommends that:



A. That socioeconomic development through the CPEC and particularly, investing in the mines and minerals, and agriculture and livestock sectors can heal the wounds of the people and could diminish the intensity of insecurity in the province. This research suggests that Balochistan should be given priority in the development projects of the CPEC to overcome poverty and unemployment in the province.

B. The study investigated that the people of Balochistan fear losing their identities and might witness demographic changes. This study suggests that, while, providing the land of Gwadar or other areas on lease or any other basis, to those who do not belong to Balochistan, the reservations of the local people should be paid heed.

C. There is a gigantic imbalance in the distribution of projects in the CPEC. The majority of projects are slanted in Punjab and Sind. On one side, the province has been provided less share than its due share which it deserved. While, at the same time, the project of Quetta Mass Transit that was approved in the 6th JCC meeting was excluded. It is worth recalling that Lahore orange line train was a high-priority CPEC project. (Dawn,2018) Meanwhile, Karachi Circular Railway has also been included in the project as feasible. Such imbalance and inequality result in no fruits of unity rather it pays the way for alienation. This study proposes equality in establishing projects across the country.

D. This study offers that the reservations of the militant groups should be listened to as per the constitution of the land and the legitimate demands should be fulfilled so that the investors of the CPEC along with the Chinese government might not feel insecure in Balochistan in enhancing their investment in the province. A dialogue process must be started and any coercive means will not benefit.

E. Another aspect of reducing insecurity has been the paucity of socioeconomic development in the area. Balochistan is lagging behind every human development index (HDI) and should be prioritized in the socio-economic development programs through the CPEC so that to diminish the security of armed struggle and the youth might not tilt to take arms in their hands.

F. This study proposes that until and unless priority is given to hiring local laborers with protecting their services, the people will continue to feel alienated and incertitude. China has a tradition of bringing along its laborers in its investment projects. There is a dire need of ending mistrust and providing the dwellers of the province with jobs in all aspects from technical to nontechnical jobs based on priority. If the required employees were not available in the province, then people from other provinces could be hired. Hiring locals in the SEZs, and other projects of the CPEC will also reduce the fears of losing their distinct identities of the people of Balochistan.



G. Politicians of the province have been complaining about not taking them into confidence which shows a huge dubitation. This study suggests that the federal government should consult politicians and intelligentsia including all stakeholders of the province into confidence to erase the mistrust.

H. Balochistan coast particularly the Gwadar coast is the only source of income for fishermen of the city. The citizens of the seaport have been staging protests against illegal fishing. For promoting the fishing industry through the CPEC, there is a dire need for the formulation of laws by the federal and provincial governments to solve the issues of Fishermen and protect their businesses. This study analysis that by protecting their small fishing business and solving their reservation, the fishing industry through the CPEC would have a safer atmosphere.

I. China is emerging as an economic power with a slow but successful phase and has huge expertise in infrastructure, energy, agriculture, livestock, small industries, extraction of mines and minerals, and exploration of Oil and Gas. Balochistan which is home to billions of dollars of these untapped resources could be a game changer for both China and Pakistan provided that huge investments are done in these sectors through the CPEC. This study proposes that attracting Chinese expertise in investing in these sectors would be a positive step toward generating ample revenue through the CPEC in Balochistan.

J. Balochistan will have fewer benefits from energy projects which are being generated from the CPEC owing to a lack of grid connectivity, transmission lines, and absorption capacity. For instance, the Makran division is not connected to the national grid yet. This study vehemently proposes that for overcoming the power shortfall in the province there is an urgent need of establishing grid stations and laying down transmission lines.

K. The people of Balochistan fear that they will likely lose control over their natural resources. These apprehensions are not baseless as history testifies that Balochistan has been neglected in providing its due share of natural resources and Gas and has been facing huge injustice. The province has never gotten its share as per the resources it provides to the rest of the country as per articles 172/2 and 158. The people of Balochistan have had a bad experience with the negligence of their share in the Gas surcharge, in the Rekodiq, and Saindaq projects. This study recommends that there is an urgent need of ending these qualms in the CPEC.

L. Being the engine of the CPEC, this study strongly recommends that 50 percent of the gross revenue of Gwadar port authority should be provided to the province.

M. Last but not least, Gwadar must be developed more by providing necessities such as pure drinking water, sanitation, rural development, protection of fishing rights of the local people, etc. This research voices that the CPEC development must not be confined to only Gwadar



or Boston special economic zones rather the CPEC development projects should be enhanced to the other cities of the province. By doing so, on one side, poverty, and unemployment will reduce through socioeconomic developments, while, at the same time, the dwellers will bond in national integration by not realizing themselves disgruntled.

## **8. CONCLUSION**

The general discussion leads one to the conclusion that despite all risks and challenges the CPEC has prime importance for Balochistan. It will also help in the revival of Pakistan's economy and solve the issues of energy and infrastructure. The LTP (2017\_2030) which focuses on agriculture, livestock, cooperation in forestry, marine sector, tourism, information technology, etc. is a classic document that speaks volumes of the productivity and importance of the project for both Pakistan and China. At the same time, Balochistan which is an integral part of it, and Gwadar which is the Jugular vein of the project have been neglected immensely in the projects of the CPEC and have been deprived of their share which they deserve.

Balochistan still has immense potential in infrastructure, energy, information technology, agriculture, livestock, and mines and minerals. What is needed is that China should be urged to invest more in the above sectors and that Chinese expertise should be invited to tap the untapped potential of billions of dollars in the province. It will further cement national unity and would generate immense revenue which could alter the fate of the people of the country and Balochistan. By providing a due share in projects and royalty and investing more in the province, the people of the province will not feel alienated. While, China that is an emerging power that will need mineral resources, Oil, and Gas in the future\_ more investment in Balochistan would prove to be a game changer for her as exploration and exploitation in these sectors will benefit her too. It is high time for soul-searching, bold thinking, a holistic approach, and comprehensive strategizing.



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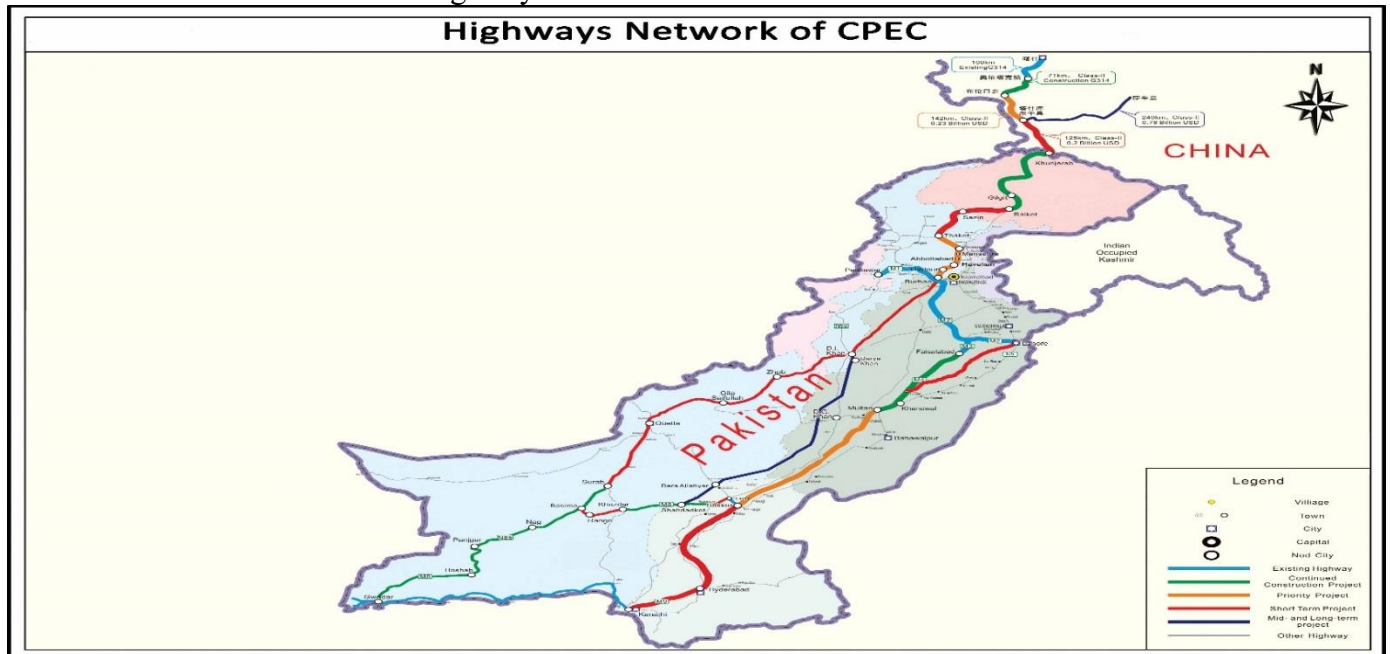


Index 1. Energy Projects in Balochistan

S.No	Projects	Location	MW	Estd.Cost (USD M)
1	Gwadar Coal Pow	Gwadar	300	360
2	HUBCO Coal Pow	HUB	1320	1940
3	Two	Balochistan	1620	2400

Sources:<https://cpec.gov.pk/progress-update>

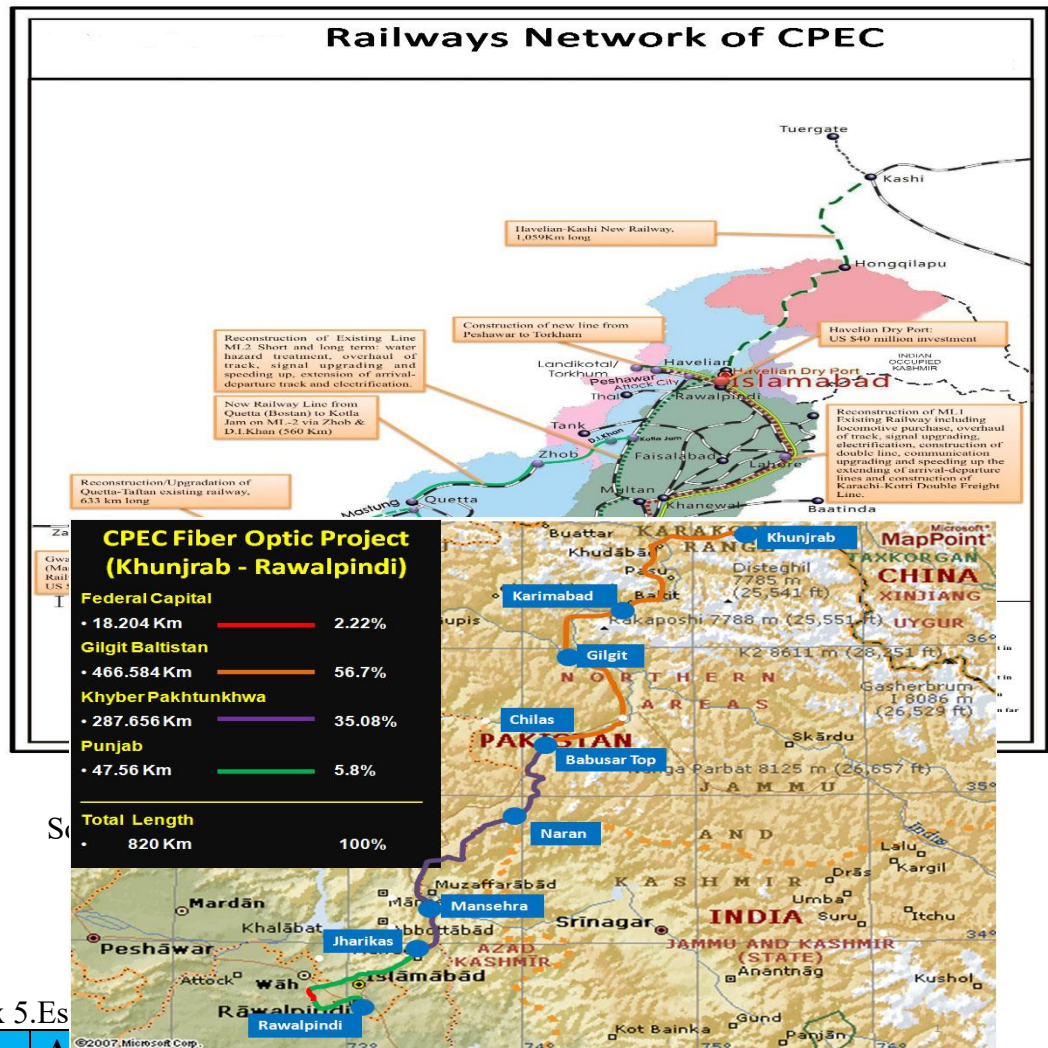
Index 2. Highways Network of CPEC In Balochistan



Source:<https://cpec.gov.pk/progress-update>



Index 3. Railway Project Under CPEC and Balochistan



Source: ]

**CPEC Fiber Optic Project (Khunjrab - Rawalpindi)**

Province	Length (Km)	Percentage
Federal Capital	18.204 Km	2.22%
Gilgit Baltistan	466.584 Km	56.7%
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	287.656 Km	35.08%
Punjab	47.56 Km	5.8%
<b>Total Length</b>	<b>820 Km</b>	<b>100%</b>

Index 5. Es

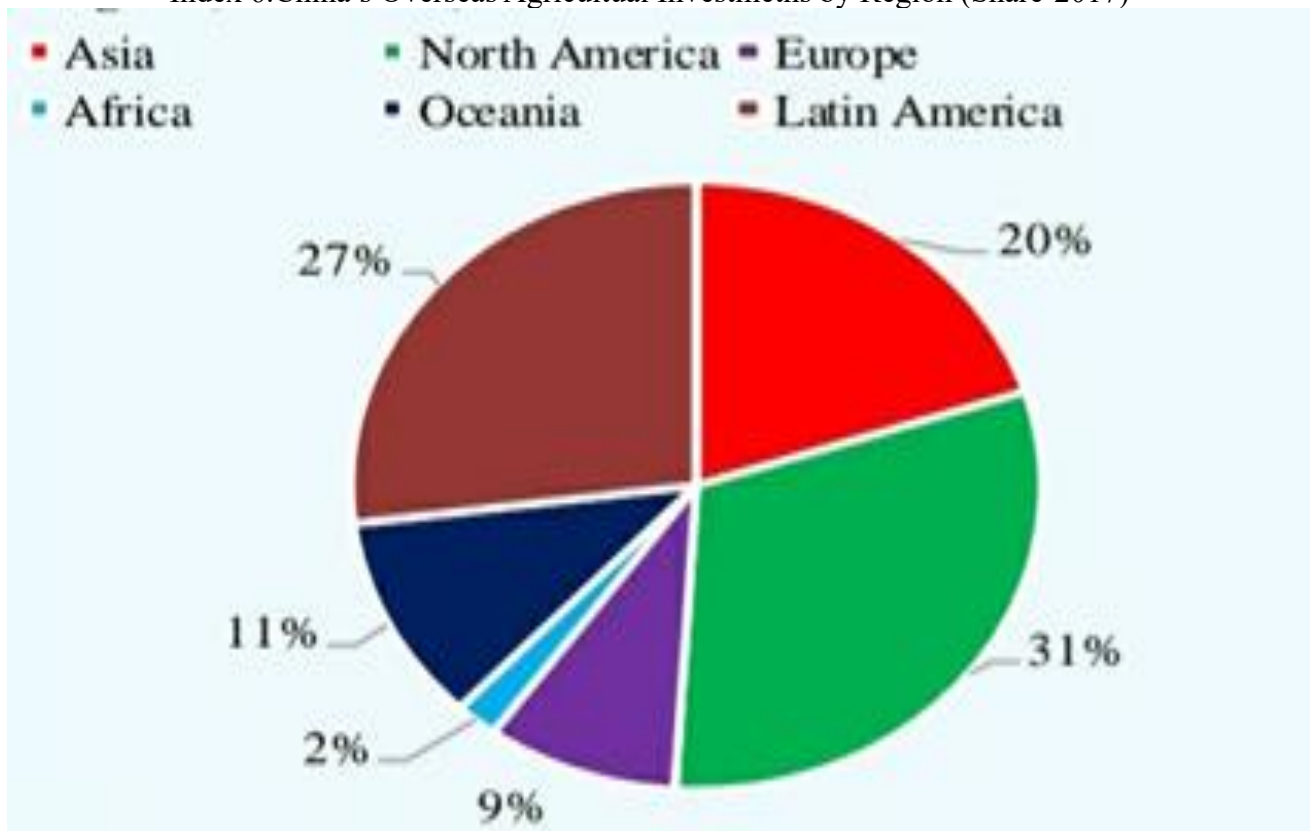
Parameters	Agri	Govt	Health	Education	Industry	Other



Wind Speed (m/s)	5.5	4.9	3.6	5.0	3.7	4.9
Standard Deviat	2.7	3.0	2.5	2.6	2.4	9
Wind Power Den	173.5	170.5	80.4	139.1	78.4	160.7

Source:Pakistan Meteorological Department

Index 6.China's Overseas Agricultural Investmetns by Region (Share-2017)



Sources:USDA and IHS Market

Index 7. Map of Mines and Minerals in Pakistan





Sources:<https://www.researchgate.net/profile/MSadiqMalkani/publication/305942087/figure/fig1/A-S:597839751155713@1519547512799/A-Map-of-Pakistan-showing-mineral-localities-B-Dilband-iron-ore-with-right-lateral.png>

Index 8. Number of China's Overseas assets ( Project and Mines)

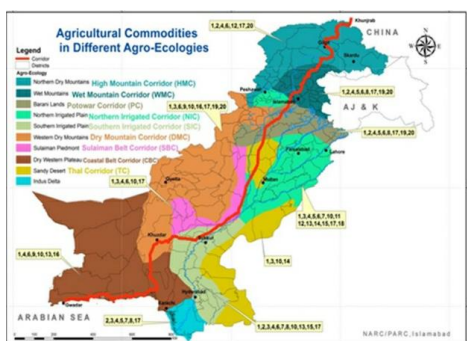
Commodity	Total assets	% Inactive
Coal	48	25
Copper	62	48
Gold	63	32
Iron ore	71	56
Nickel	17	41
Uranium	25	60
Zinc	13	38
<b>Total</b>	<b>345</b>	<b>43</b>

Source:S&P Global Market Intelligence September 2017

























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