

CPEC And Geo-Strategic Paradigm of Gawadar

**Dr. Hussan Ara magsi¹ & Dr. Zaib-un-Nisa Magsi²
& Dr. Fida Bazai³**

Abstrac

CPEC is a key project to make Pakistan a very uplifted country in the region . Gawadar carries the pivotal importance due to its geo-strategic position .Gawadar is a gateway towards central Asia,it is an air door and a golden door .The important straits :straits of Mallaca and straits of hormuz are present in Gawadar .CPEC Is one of mega project of Pakistan .Gawadar is a jewel in the crown of economy of Pakistan in new international economic scenario .The road connectivity ,OBOR (One belt –one road) is the major mission to be achieved . In this research paper geographic –economic approach will be applied to gauge the geo-strategic significance of Gawadar in term of CPEC project .The qualitative and descriptive methodology will be applied in this research paper .The data will be collected through secondary sources ,interview and documentaries etc .The major objectives of his research paper to highlight the various developmental aspects of CPEC which contributes towards enhancing the significance of Gawadar . Apart from this Gawadar is an important international trade route and hub of commercial whalings . Gwadar Port as a project aimed at improving regional and economic cooperation and it will be a hub connecting the region's land and maritime routes. CPEC is a visible and progressive project envisages the economic take-off and rise of Pakistan. This project has multiple dimensions to generate energy and power and to construct infrastructure and alleviate poverty by providing them employment opportunities. The China-Pak is affiliated in promoting the national interests and they also safeguard their maritime interests. The Gawadar port can serve the purpose for joint patrolling in Indian ocean. CPEC is a harbinger of regional change and a symbol of progress and will serve as a transit trade .CPEC is a catalyst for an economic acceleration and regional stability .The road connectivity will provides the linkages towards Central Asian states

¹ Assistant Professor. Deptt of political Science. Email – hussanara.uob@gmail.com.
Cell no- 0313-8215564.

² Associate professor, Bolan Medical College, Quetta.

³ Department of International Relations, University of Balochistan, Quetta

,Iran ,Russia ,Turkey And European countries .It will serve the hub of economic activities .CPEC has a strong potential to revive the old Silk road .

KEY WORDS : Gawadar. CPEC. Geo-strategic importance .International trade route .

Introduction

“The CPEC will act as a game changer for the whole region by proliferating trade ,commercial activity and commercial whalings .It will open the new chapter for both friendly country of Pakistan and China .”(Ahmed 2012)

“It is said that foreign policy of any country starts and ends at the border of its state .”(Tanveer)The geography of a country determines its role in the world affairs .The country of Pakistan is important due to its geo-strategic position . Pakistan is situated at the juncture of energy proficient to the energy deficient .Gawadar is an important port and key shipping point can play role in ensuring China,s energy security as it provides a much shorter route than present route .

The concept of “one belt ,one road “ is used by china for economic and political cooperation in Asia .The OBOR consists of two element : the New Silk route for region and a 21st century maritime Silk Road through road connectivity within Asia .CPEC is a joint venture to connect China with Gawadar .There are four parts of CPEC ;Infrastructure ,communication Gawadar and industrial zone etc .Gawadar is called as gateway towards central Asia .The CPEC project will serve as linkages between China and Central Asia ,Middle East and South Asia .

CPEC is highly economical project by changing the geo-economic dynamics of Sino-Pak relations by accelerating the trade activity .It will ensure economic growth , resolve energy crisis ,generate employment opportunities ,attract foreign investment development of infrastructure ,promotion of tourism and other activities etc .The different countries including regional actors are interested to investment in Pakistan and take benefit from CPEC project .

The CPEC will improve the lives of the people of Pakistan and China by building economic cooperation and enhancing regional connectivity. Despite of this, it will integrate transport and IT system ,communication channels ,agricultural developments and poverty alleviation etc .Despite of this it will augment financial cooperation ,Human resource Development and other progressive activities etc .

Objectives

1-The major objectives of his research paper to highlight the various developmental aspects of CPEC which contributes towards enhancing the significance of Gawadar.

2-Apart from this Gawadar is an important international trade route and hub of commercial whalings. Gawadar port will serve as hub of trade proliferation, economic activities and it will contribute towards the development of this region.

3- To give an analysis that how CPEC can contribute towards enhancing the geo-strategic significance of Gawadar .And Gawdar deep-sea port can contribute towards the development of this country and this region .

Research Methodology

In this research paper geographic –economic approach will be applied to gauge the geo-strategic significance of Gawadar in term of CPEC project. The qualitative and descriptive methodology will be applied in this research paper. The data will be collected through secondary sources, interview and documentaries etc

Data analysis procedure

Data collection

The data collection took place through various secondary sources: reports, documentaries, research journals, newspapers and news channels etc.

Data Preparation

The data was prepared by thoroughly studying all the available material in form of books, reports, newspaper and internet websites . The web sketch was draft by giving proper shape to the research paper. The paper was divided in different segments or part .It includes introduction , objectives , literature review ,significance of study ,data analysis and conclusion . The data was arranged to fill these segments of research work.

Data Exploration

The whole accumulated notes were studied and they were sorted out according to the requirement of research paper. The important themes and references were sorted out.

Data Reduction

The data reduction stage plays a significant role in coding of the data.

Data Interpretation

In this stage the data were interpreted under themes. The different themes were elaborated according to the research requirement.

Significance of Study

This research carries lot of significance in international politics, because the geo-strategic position of Gawadar carries pivotal importance especially in terms to accelerate the CPEC project. The CPEC project will augment the significance of Gawadar that it provides the path of connectivity in promoting the trade and commercial whalings all over the world.

LITERATURE REVIEW

“CPEC (China –Pakistan Economic Corridor is a project of immense importance, by promoting the bilateral relations Between two neighboring. Both countries also keeps in to consideration the security paradigm of the region. The CPEC project is launched to boost up Pakistan, s economy and to improve the standard of living of people . .The CPEC has lot of apprehension and its risks are aggravating political tension .(Wikipedia, 10 09, 2012)

Geography of Gawadar

“Gawadar port existed very adjacent to Karachi port ,which are very close to the Iranian border .It is situated across the Persian Gulf .It is almost 600 km long along the Arabian Sea .”(Salma Waheed,)

“Gawadar,s district is extended approximately 15,216 square kilometers .It is the coastal belt with scenic beauty .The Gawadar district is surrounded by Kharan And Awaran districts on the north districts ,and is adjacent to Awaran and Lasbella districts in The Eastern side ,on The Southern side by the Arabian Sea ,and from Western side by Iran .”(Salman, 2015)

Geography of CPEC

CPEC is a very lucrative project. It is fully funded by Chinese government to develop their infrastructure to promote the road connectivity. It involves the estimate of US \$ 46 billion. This Gawadar deep sea port is owned by Pakistan, s government’s Gawadar Port Authority and it is operated by state-run Chinese firm China Overseas Port Holding Company (COPHC)till 2041 .

CPEC is a part of china BRI (Belt and Road Initiatives) and OBOR (One Belt ,One road) .It is an important route by connecting both trading partnership by further developing their maritime linkages . Gawadar is located near to Arabian or Persian Gulf, and it is close to strait of Hormuz ,which is an important route of supply of oil resources towards China and all over the world .Gawadar is a gateway towards Central Asia .

CPEC And Significance of Gawadar

CPEC is a futuristic sociopolitical and economic object oriented dimension of Pakistan in the 21st Century. CPEC is a mega project. it will open the open avenue for industrial development and economic in the region. Gawadar is a port that only ensures the positive impacts upon Pakistan,s economic development ,but ensures prosperity of region. Gawadar carries the pivotal importance from each and every angle. It is said that Gawadar is jewel in the crown of economy of Pakistan. It is gate way towards central Asia. It is golden door and air door. Gawadar plays an important role in uplifting the economy of Pakistan. It will develop the regional connectivity in the region.

Gawadar port is emerged as a regional trade and energy transportation hub. strategic Gawadar is very important, because it is located across oil – rich Westren Asia, South Asia and Central Asian Republics. The Gawadar port on the Arabian Sea is located which is close to Iran .It includes the road connectivity which consists of 13,00 –km on Karakoram Highway ,and it will be considered an international route in the entire world .Gawadar has been declared as a duty free Zone for commercial whalings .

Gawadar is an important international trade route and hub of commercial whalings

Gawadar is a centre of trade and economic activities .”There are various vital straits and choke points are existing which provides the direct accessibility towards Indian ocean .Almost 100,000 ships and 70% ships world,s oil passes yearly from this route .It is the major route of 65% of world,s raw material . (Ghazala Musawar, 2016)

“Gawadar port has tremendous potential to promote as regional trade centre and energy transportation hub . The geo-strategic position of Gawadar is very important because it is located across the oil-rich Westren Asia ,South Asian region and Central Asian Republics .The idea of” one belt ,one road” has attained international strategic importance .It is highly lucrative project consists of 21 trillion \$ US and will be implemented on almost 4.4 billion population .This project includes trade proliferation , Investment ,mining and to promote the energy sector .”(*Rakisits, Claudel, 2015*))

The geo-strategic position of Gawadar is very important because it is close of Gulf of Oman and it directly make its accessibility to Persian of Gulf ,which is so close to Karachi .This road is linked to several ports along coasts i.e. Omara ,pasni and Gawadar which are extended till the Iranian border etc

Pakistan and China had developed economic assistance and collaboration for a very long period of time China is trading partner in both

imports and exports .Both countries have developed their commercial whaling's in the area of investment and enterprise.CPEC is under process mega-project which aims at to achieve political and economic objectives. It is necessary to augment trade and economic ties for mutual regional benefit and strength.

Gawadar as a challenge for dubai and Chabahar

The deep –sea port of Gawadar will be formidable challenge for Dubai, Singapore and Chabahar port.These ports are emerging rivals for each other in future .If tomorrow Gawadar port is becoming operational , the Dubai and Chabahar ports will collapse ,because Gawadar deep sea port is important due to its geo-strategic position and presence of various straits .

Gwadar – The Game Changer:

The Gawadar is a game changer and it will bring the prosperity to Pakistan and as well as to the entire region. It will lay the positive impact upon country,s economy . It will contribute towards proliferation of trade, overcome the energy crisis and to promote the regional connectivity. Sino-Pak friendship is ideal in the entire world in terms of promotion of economic interests, and CPEC will further consolidate this friendship. The CPEC is the guarantor of Pak- China friendship and will promote the stability and prosperity in the region.

CPEC is a game changer: Removal of poverty:

CPEC is a highly lucrative project and it will provides lot of benefits to various people .It will alleviate the poverty of million of people by generating lot of employment opportunities and it will uplift the people,s standards of living .This project includes the construction of dams ,roads and railway network ,hospitals and vocational centers and establishment of textile and garment center etc .It will also contribute towards local economic development .The multi-national companies are highly willing to invest in this area ,and it will attract to local people . This CPEC is very important project and it is a new concept of diplomacy and will improve the lot of people and will prosperity in this area .It is jewel project and Gawadar is a jewel in the crown of economy of Pakistan ,and it will serve as a “ model smart port city .”

CPEC is a whole encompassing idea which is moving in to various phases and steps .It will be established as an industrial zone and will contribute towards the socio-economic development .According to World Bank report “it is a “web of Transport Corridors in South Asia “and will prosperity and alleviate poverty .

Challenges and Apprehension

CPEC is a lucrative project, but there is an apprehension regarding exploitation of the local population of the Gawadar city. The Balochistan province will not get the direct benefits from CPEC project. The CPEC is increasing the greiances of the local population of local people by neglecting them and exploiting them . There is a possibility that the indigenous people will be transformed in to minority .The Balochistan province will not get direct financial and commercial benefits from Gawadar port and CPEC project .There is a visible apprehension that this zone might be transformed in to military zone by displacing the indigenous people and by depriving them with economic livelihood.In Sindh,s Tharparkar district , the coal –based CPEC power project is not only damaging the environment by emitting lethal gases of CO₂ and CO ,but it will contribute towards displacing the locals from their homes .

Conclusion

CPEC is a very result-oriented project ,which will contribute its benefits to this region .Gawadar and CPEC are very important projects on account of multi-dimensional approach for Pakistan and for region .There are various components of this programme : infrastructure development ,energy exploration ,economic uplift and trade proliferation .It is a game changer by providing multiple opportunities and alleviating poverty and inviting various investors to invest their lucrative projects .The geo-strategic position of Gawadar is very important that it direct make its accessibility towards Central Asian Republics ,Asia and Europe .The concept of OBOR “One Belt ,One Road “is key to connect Gawadar till Kashghar .The OBOR is connected with Silk Route and International Maritime path .It is a guarantor of regional progress and to augment this region importance all over the world .

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