

GAWADAR AS A JEWEL IN THE CROWN OF PAKISTAN'S ECONOMY

Social Sciences

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ABSTRACT

"Gawadar as a jewel in the crown of Pakistan's economy" (Tanveer: 1) Gawadar is a gateway towards central Asia. Gawadar port is of the immense value due to its geo-strategic position, as a duty free-port, commercial and trade hub and it will open the new avenue for the Pakistan's economy. The gawadar is the sign of the prosperous and glorious future of Pakistan. It will be a free economic zone and is having the immense commercial worth. It is the best suitable and finest location for the developmental-projects. It will be the major attractive tourist point due to its unique beaches and different infrastructure. Gwadar is a gift of Pakistan towards the entire World. Gwadar is the princess of hope for the glorious future of Pakistan.

INTRODUCTION

"When approved, the safe Port Act will make progress toward protecting the physical infrastructure of our seaports as well as our national economy which is so clearly dependent on the commercial shipping business."(Gawadar Port: 10.09.2012)

"Gawadar is a jewel in the crown of the economy of Pakistan." (Sachkan: Special Supplement Gawadar) It will open the new door of development for Pakistan in many aspects :as a free economic zone , commercial point , best place for recreational programmes ,attractive point for investment ,capitalizing the opportunities for trade , facilities of trans-shipment activities ,transportation with Gulf countries ,the industrial zone for ship related industries ,refinery and petro-chemicals and export processing industrial zone .

This study is dependent upon the geographical and economic approach. This study will address these questions?

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- 1-How Gawadar port will boost up the Pakistan's economy by attracting the investors and commercial dealers in Pakistan.
- 2- How Gwadar deep sea port will promote the free trade by serving as the major trade link with the Central Asian Republics, Europe and Asian countries?
- 3- How it will attract the tourists from different parts of country and all over the world due to its unique tourist items and crystal beech?

1-REVIEW OF LITERATURE:

"ALLVOICES" (Global news) has written a lot about the Gawadar is a jewel in the crown of the economy of Pakistan .It is quite amazing that yesterday's small fishing village has rapidly emerged as an international Deep sea point at point today .The different training centers are establishing in Gawadar, and Baluchistan will be able to produce skilled manpower for public and private sectors, organizations and industries etc. "**(The Problem of Gawadar)**

"Ali Builders has written in the article "Building for the future" that Gawadar is a jewel in the crown of the economy of Pakistan. It is really important that the Government of Pakistan has declared Gawadar is a Duty free economic zone by keeping in view the significance of the region .This has not only enhanced its commercial worth manifold but has also accelerated the pace of development to an incredible extent .By virtue of its finest location ,developmental projects ,recreational programmes and Governmental special attention will soon turn it in to city that can be comparable with the cities like Singapore , Hong Kong and Dubai ."**(Gawadar: Pakistan Future)**

2-AIMS &OBJECTIVES:

(A)To prove that Gawadar port will bring the glorious and bright future for Pakistan being the major source of attraction for trade, investment and commercial activities.

(B)To prove that Gawadar port will be golden door and the gateway towards central Asia by opening the new door of trade with central Asian Republics, Europe and neighboring countries.

©o proves that Gawadar will serve as the major recreational and tourist point in Pakistan. **(Dawn.com: 03.08.2012)**

3-GEOGRAPHY OF GAWADAR:

Gawadar is situated at such a place which is 533 km from Karachi, and 120km from the Iranian border .It is situated on the mouth of Persian Gulf and outside

straits of Hormuz .It is 600 km long coastline along the Arabian Sea."Gawadar is developing port city on the South western Arabian Sea coast of Pakistan. It is the district headquarters of Gawadar District in Baluchistan province and has a population of approximately."(Khawaja: 06/09/2012)

"Gawadar is spread over an area of aprox 1.52 million or 15,216 square kilometers. It is one of the attractive coastal area of the region .Gawadar is bounded on the north by Kech and Awaran districts ,on the east by Awaran and Lasbella districts , on the South by the Arabian Sea ,and on the west by Iran."(Noor: Sachkan Special supplement of Gawadar)

4-HISTORY OF GAWDAR:

Gawadar is an important sea-port lies in the district of Makran .In the past, the Iranian king has also possessed their control upon this region. Alexander the Great also crossed this sea on the way from India to Macedonia. The Portuguese also captured several places in Mekran like Gawadar and Jewani. The local invaders like Rinds, Maliks, Bulaidi and Gichkis also conquered this area, but they didn't stay there. At the time of partition, the Gawadar didn't become the part of Balochistan, but it was under the control of Maskat. In 1958, Pakistan purchased the Gawadar port from Muscat.

5-DESIGN AND METHOD/APPROACH:

The geographical and economic approach is applied to assess the economic and geographical location of deep –sea port of Gawadar. The time factor is also important in this regard that what will be the future perspective of the deep-sea port of Gawadar. The descriptive and analytical method is used in this research paper. (Lolyd: 2010: 222)

6-MAIN SUBJECTS:

PART ONE

GAWADAR AS FREE ECONOMIC ZONE

(1)GAWADAR AS A FOCAL POINT OF INVESTMENT, COMMERCIAL AND TRADE ACTIVITIES:

(A)TRADE PROLIFERATION:

Gawadar will serve as a major point for flourishing the trade activities .It will serve SEZ (Special Economic Zone) by inviting different trading partners to accelerate the trade engagements in this area .It will serve as Free

Trade Zone (FTZ) by promoting the free trade in the region, and will contribute in augmenting the free trade in the region. The magnetic force of the Gawadar port will multiply the series of trade parting by presenting itself as the Export Processing Zone (EXZ). "The trade and business activities of all kinds and quantity, from needle to ship, will also flourish at Gwadar irrespective of the cost. Import and export of all items and magnitude is possible, because the means of transportation like sea, road, railway line (in near future) are available and linked with all important countries."(Maneesha)

Trade Forecast

"The envisaged trade forecast of Gwadar port is mainly based on the cargo from Western China, Afghanistan and Central Asian Republics. The estimated cargo handling of Gwadar port based on future prospects, till year 2015 is as follows

Category	Year		
	2005	2010	2015
Dry Cargo (million tonnes)	3.96	4.74	5.77
Liquid Cargo (million tonnes)	16.62	17.54	18.77
Container (1000 TEUs)	200	241	295
Trans-shipment (1000 TEUs)	200	250	300

Central Asia's bountiful oil and natural gas reserves have made the region an increasingly important area. No wonder that all eyes are on this region. The volume of the proven energy reserves of the Central Asian region is as under:-

Proven Reserves, Central Asia			
Country	Crude Oil (Mill Barrels)	Natural Gas (Tri. Cubic Feet)	Coal (Million Tons)
Kazakhstan	5,417	65	37,479
Kyrgyzstan	40	0.2	895
Tajikistan	12	0.2	Minimal
Turkmenistan	546	101	Minimal
Uzbekistan	594	66.2	Minimal
Total	6,609 million barrels	232 trillion cu ft	38,374 million tons

(Pakistan Today: 28-11-2012)

A link road connecting Gwadar to the Indus highway at Khuzdar is also planned. The link will open up a land trade route between Gwadar port and China via the Karakoram Highway which off takes from the Indus Highway near Islamabad.

(B) FOCAL POINT OF INVESTMENT:

Gawadar will be the major source of attraction to the foreign investors and businessmen to launch their lucrative projects here. It will be like a second Dubai and Singapore by catching the attention of the various businessmen and investors.

The overseas companies are interested to make investment especially in automobile sector 15-20 billion dollars. PSA (Port of Singapore Authority) has invested only 34.3 million in Gawadar up till now. PSA has made commitment of investment of \$550 million for the Gawadar port development. "The Gawadar Development Authority (GDA) gave a report that in phase 1 had cost 298\$million and the SPA the operator of the port which had been given on lease for a long period of the time to run it efficiently, was working currently working out its investment plan for the second phase." (Syed: Asia Times online)

"Gawadar due to its strategic and economic significance, it is well-poised to unleash constructive opportunities for local as well as for foreign investment in diverse fields. Development work and business activities are going impetus at a fast pace with the Gawadar site getting transformed into an ideal destination for potential investment. Gawadar has better potential and investment opportunities" (Ibid)

The different entrepreneurs all over the world i.e. Central Asia, Afghanistan, China, Japan and Singapore are highly interested for the purpose of investment in Gawadar. Gawadar port has the exclusive significance regarding economic development and prosperity of the region, and it will promote the trade links in Persian Gulf, North Western India and United Arab Emirates.

Gawadar is blessed with the variety of fisheries and sea-food products, and it leads towards the development of fisheries industry in the region. The prawns and shrimps are the specialty of the Gawadar. The model shrimps and prawns farms can be established in the region of Gawadar.

The Ice -plant can also prove to be one of the successful and lucrative projects in future in Gawadar. The hot climate also favours such types of projects. The present ice factories and plants are not sufficient to fulfil the requirements of local population. The demand and consumption of the ice is very high at national and International level is very high.

The Chinese government is highly interested to involve them in investment in deep-sea port of Gawadar .It will augment the chances and opportunities for tax –collection and contributed towards revenue generation .The Gawadar will provide the ample opportunities for the sustainable economic growth. A series of job opportunities will be created in future, and will minimize the poverty level in the region. The government will launch the macro-economic policies in the Gawadar and will be the major attention for the investors in future .The government is trying its level best to make environment friendly towards the investors .It will give the wider opportunity to mobilize domestic financial resources towards the long –term investment .

PART TWO

GAWADAR IS A GATEWAY TOWARDS CENTRAL ASIA:

Gawadar deep sea port will generate the massive economic activities between Pakistan and Central Asian Republics (CARs).Tajikistan and Pakistan had agreed to establish the Joint Business Forum by multiplying the business and commercial activities .It will serve as a Joint Economic Commission (JEC)by providing and creating the various types of opportunities of economic interest .Pakistan and Tajikistan has signed the mutual agreement that Tajikistan will supply natural gas to Pakistan via Gawdar port .Pakistan is also pondering upon the request of Tajikistan to provide the transportation facilities via Gawadar port .

Gawadar port will serve as the regional hub by providing the transportation facilities to the land-locked Central Asian Republics. It will also contribute in minimizing the energy crisis of Pakistan by getting the supply of gas; oil from CIS (Commonwealth of Independent States).The construction of highway is under process to link Gawadar with Afghanistan and Saindak to link Pakistan with these Central Asian Republics by providing the possible shortest route. It will also enhance the volume of trade by giving the passage of shipment to the different items in the global market.

Gawadar port is very important from its geo-strategic position, and it is connected with the central Asian through roads and railway links. The connectivity with central Asian republics will serve for the burgeoning economy of Pakistan.

The Central Asian Republics (Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan and Kirghizstan are situated in the North-West of Pakistan. These Central Asian Republics are land locked states and only possible and shortest route is available is through Gawadar port. Pakistan has religious,

cultural and economic relations with this Commonwealth of Independent States:

PART THREE

GAWADAR AS AN ESTATE OF INDUSTRIALISATION:

Gawadar port will attract and provide lot of opportunities for the industrial development in the region. It will be a good addition in an industrial zone .The textile industry will develop due to the availability of low cost labour .The oil and gas related processing industries e.g. Petro-chemical will develop due to the proximity to oil and gas resources. The major ship-yard industry, food processing units and fish processing industries, mineral processing units e.g. cement, export -oriented manufacturing, automobile industry and fertilizer industries will flourish and develop in the region of Gawadar. With the completion of Gawadar port, a special industrial development zone, about 30 km off the part, will also be set up on 40,000 hectares.”(Zameen.com) The Federal Government has released the amount of Rs.700 million to develop Gawadar as a Gawadar Industrial Estate, and also speed up the process of industrialization in Baluchistan.

PART FOUR

TOURISM ATTRACTION:

Gawadar is the most beautiful coastline of the world with shining blue water and marble white sand.

Gawadar is the most attractive place from the tourism point of view, due to its clear and virgin beaches. “Although Gwadar is famous for the sea faces and its port, beautiful east and west bay, every tourist has its particular images in mind, but that is only half face of Gawadar.”(Virtual Tourist) here are certain places which are worth seeing like beaches of Jewani, Asthola Island, Ormer, Malir and Daraan. There is a lot of capacity and potential for the establishment of restaurants, motels and hotels etc. The pearl continental hotel situated on the koh-e-Batil also source of inviting the tourists .An aquarium can be established by exhibiting variety of species of fishes and marine animals. The Hingol National Park is the natural forest of Asia is almost situated about the 55 Km distance from Gawadar.

Gawadar is a famous and amazing and attractive point for the tourists for the sea-faces and its parts and beautiful bays. The places of Singhar and Palm Beaches are of the immense value in the Gawadar. “Gawadar is a charming place marked by a unique collection of culture.”(Ibid)There are

certain beautiful places like Kulanch and Dashat valleys, which are source of attraction for tourists.

Fishing village is also one of the major attractive places of Gawadar. Hammerhead in Gawadar is also amazing and interesting point lies in Gawadar. "Hammerhead is a projection protruding out of the ocean and looks like front of the hammerhead shark. This rocky mass was created by ancient mud volcanoes which covered this region. Majority of the mountains covered on the coastal highways are results of mud volcanoes. The hammerhead on its Southern side gives a beautiful view of the Arabian sea and on its north end of the Gawadar city."(Ibid)

Gawadar is one of the beautiful coastlines of the world with the shining blue water and marble white sand. "The nature has put its fascinating illusion in Gawadar, so as Government of Pakistan is taking its keen interest to develop Gawadar on International principles to focus the eye of tourists. Gawadar is being settled as a tourist resort as well as free port."(Ibid) The District Gawadar is a coastal area has the rich marine life and present viable opportunity for ecotourism. "Asthola Island is located at a distance of 150 Km from Gawadar Tehsil. It is an internationally recognized wetland and has numerous species of aquatic creatures."(Gwadarmasterplan.Canadian)

The different and unique type of landscape is present in the Gawadar, and that is worth seeing. The sphinx is also worth seeing."Waking up as soon as the sun rises bringing life with birds singing and flying in fresh breeze, tender enough to penetrate to freshness in your soul. It would be more of a dream comes true ----- In a healthy environment, for a better future and a pollution free environment near to Sea clear and safe to all. It's dream coming true and the ultimate reality is named "PLATINIUM SEA VIEW."

The Gwadar Plutonium city will be embodying the different variety of restaurants, play ground and mini zoo to attract the tourists.

PART FIVE:

THE DEVELOPMENTAL PROJECTS IN GAWADAR:

Multiple developmental projects are under the process of implementation in the progressing city of Gwadar.

- (1) Development work in Gwadar.
- (2) Development in Platinum city of Gwadar.
- (3) Development in Platinum Sea view Gwadar .
- (4) Development in Gwadar Gymkhana.
- (5) Client's own Development work in Projects.
- (6) Gawadar oil refinery project :

Gawadar refinery project will also be accomplished under the development scheme of Gawadar. This scheme will be launched in the port area. This project will be operational at the end of 2012. According to the survey; the Oil Company of Abu Zahbi is working on the oil refinery plan in the city of Gawadar. The ten thousands (10,000) people will be getting employment in result of establishment of this oil refinery. An agreement has been signed between Pakistani government and Abu Zahbi counterpart almost eight month ago. This oil refinery is named as "Khalifa Oil refinery "

5-MEASURES :(ASSESSMENT)

The research on Gawadar embodies lot of questions, because there is gap between theory and practice. There is lot of planning and schemes are highly attached with the future of Gawadar. The government had adopted multi-dimensional policy towards Gwadar regarding its development. The Singaporean company efficiency is not up to the mark, because the performance and efficiency is not result-oriented .The local population is confronting enormous problems in terms of water supply and lack of job opportunities etc. These problems should be solved in order to facilitate the local population.

6-ANALYSIS:

Gawadar is a golden gateway towards central Asia, Persian Gulf, Arabian countries and European countries, because its geo-strategic position is of the immense importance."The development of Gawadar port as Pakistan,s third deep water port has the potential to act as a catalyst for the development of Pakistan's economy ."(Jehanzeb:) Gwdar Port is a vision to bring the major companies from around the world to Pakistan, which is on the brink of reality."(Niazi: 2-28-2005)Gawadar having the limitless potential to investors, It will rapidly become a cosmopolitan society fusing the best of our culture and hospitality with modern technologies and facilities."(Brief on China: 2006)

7-DISCUSSIONS AND RESULTS:

The research upon Gawadar is very thought –provoking and different results can be extracted from this research:

- a- Gawadar is a mega project and very lucrative project ,and from its geo-strategic point of view Gawadar port is very important ,because it will serve as a door towards Central Asian Republics ,Asia and Europe .
- b- The Gawadar port can prove to be major and focal point of investment for the foreign companies, but if it is developed with consistency and gradual

development. The law and order situation should be satisfactory, that the maximum MNCs (Multi National Companies) should be highly attracted towards this deep sea-port.

8-OUTCOME: EFFECTS OF THE RESULTS):

1- The research paper aims at to highlight the immense significance of Gawadar port that the bright future of Pakistan is highly attached with the deep sea Gawadar port. The planning is very effective, but the effective and practical implementation is required in order to acquire the desired goals.

2- The proper monitoring of the schemes is necessary to bring the result-oriented output. The performance and efficiency of the Singapore Company is not up to mark. The time –management factor and foreign sponsorship is required to accomplish the project.

9-CONCLUSION:

The Gawadar deep sea port is the one of mega project of Pakistan, which is constructed with the collaboration of China. The bright future of Pakistan is highly attached with the Gawadar deep sea port, when it becomes operational. It will be of the immense value in terms of attracting the investment, trade, tourism and cultural activities. It will serve as a major industrial zone by establishing the various types of small, medium and heavy industries. It will be the special economic zone and free port by promoting the international trade with central Asian Republics, Asian and European countries.

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