

Tale of CPEC: Leading or misleading Baloch depictions

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Abstract

This study investigates the multi facets depictions of Baloch people associated with CPEC. It is the ultimate fact for every project always face uproars regarding the implementations and prospects. Besides the fact that most of the studies are focused on impact of CPEC with respect to economy of country but the impression Baloch has not yet been highlighted on larger scale. This research provides a true picture regarding the views of natives about the project through interviewing with the people. Hence, the facts revealed from this study depicts that without giving the social, cultural and economic share to Baloch the successful implementation of this project is not possible.

Key words: Depiction, Multi facets, Uproar

Introduction

This study presents a common impression of ecological influences of China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) on Baloch people of Balochistan and will endorse different depictions of natives regarding the implication of this project. CPEC is central and equally favorable project that realizes the aims and benefits of both the countries and is also projected to improve economic collaboration among several regional actors for mutual growth (Hali, 2015).

CPEC is a revolutionary sociopolitical & financial object oriented element of Pakistan in the new era. This multi-faceted venture has unbolted different views of Pakistan's rebalancing opportunities from geo-politics to geo-economics (Hussain, 2017). The venture holds the erection of textile and apparel industry, industrial park, construction of dams, the fixing of nuclear-powered vessels and generating road networks, railway line which will

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produce work opportunities and public will also take possession of these ventures (Haq, 2016).CPEC will create trade openings and enhance the prevailing trade in Pakistan and in bordering countries which improve the financial position of Pakistani society (Ali, 2017).

The Corridor is an extension of China's proposed 21st century Silk Road initiative. This is the major foreign investment by China declared so far and the corridor is projected to be functioning within three years. The corridor will be a deliberate game changer in the area and would go a long way in making Pakistan a wealthier and stronger entity (Zhang, 2016).

This study will reveal the positive and negative impression possessed by the mind of Baloch people. This research will provide a significant effort for the policy makers for building the good image and prospects related to CPEC.

Objectives

To reveal the positive depiction of Baloch natives related to CPEC.

To investigate the negative depiction of Baloch natives related to CPEC.

To investigate the economic effect of CPEC on native individuals of the Balochistan.

To identify the benefits of CPEC on Balochistan economy.

To investigate the numerous challenges of CPEC faced by the Baloch people.

Methodology

Structured interviews were conducted through native Baloch. Their view were recorded through the device in order to capture their thoughts which was transcribed into written form. Eighteen Baloch natives were selected for interviews and generated themes.

Baloch perspective

CPEC comprised of multi facets reservations of natives. Negative depiction relates to the people with the believe that this endeavor will not be beneficial for the Baloch people .there are immense insecurities and reservations about the distribution of benefits .Positive depiction is that the boom in Balochistan economy will improve the living standards and will provide the opening for new venture creation.

Negative depiction

The CPEC venture is a main example of the threats and challenges in order to reach completion that are prevalent corrupt vicinities, lack of authority and

incompetency of public directions facing the Chinese government and companies, willing to invest in Pakistan (Javaid, 2016).

According to Balach Marri (student of Govt Boys Degree College, Gawder).

“Political hindrances wreck the implementation of the CPEC project within Balochistan. All political personalities of Balochistan has consensus on the prospects of CPEC, despite of the fact allocation of the funds and route selection is the major controversial issue”

As due to route constructions and new developments individuals of Balochistan feel damage of their nurtured lands and production (Ashraf, 2017)

The famous pro-independence Baloch leaders have deprecated the destructive influence they believe the CPEC will have in Balochistan and some have even presaged China to stay away from Gwadar (Singh, 2017).

Shahak Baloch (Student of UOB from Turbat) reveled that “The lack of secrecy and transparency is another issue related with CPEC projects. The impression of native Baloch extracted that projects related to CPEC are wholly administered by federal Government, decisions are not shared to the public. Additionally, Baloch representations are not given in decision and policy making. Consequently, Baloch individuals have lots of doubts, mistrust and misconceptions about the impartial allocation of funds and resources”.

Nevertheless, CPEC is considered as a 'fortune changer' for this region, on the other hand people are still in state of doubts and controversy about the ambiguous policies.

Zahoor Baloch (student of Engineering University, Khuzdar)

“Key jobs in projects of CPEC is given to the people from outside of province, hence, the local Baloch has the feeling of frustration and deprivation for not giving their rights. Ultimately, the expression of local people turns towards the sabotaging the CPEC which builds a sense of economic obstruction and dispossession”.

This side of the picture depicts that native people contribution to any project give the sense of belongingness to the people of that region. If we want to make this project successful then sharing in employment to local people must be given on key posts. This will curb the agitation and negative feelings regarding this project.

Positive Depiction

This project had been considered as the symbol of prosperity and wellbeing of Baloch people. Balochistan province is overwhelmed with tribal

systems. Despite of the fact Allah has blessed this province with abandoned resources. The province has treasure of resources, unfortunately inconsideration of authorities and poor management is a biggest question mark in utilization of these resources. Noor Bibi from Panjgur

"Baloch persons have high expectations towards the development and progress related to CPEC. For the reason that the Baloch people will be the eventual beneficiaries of this venture ".

CPEC would be a ray of hope for the Baloch people which would address the unemployment and will turn the Baloch people to a skillful workforce through special training programs.

A resident of Makran says,

“The versatile culture of Balochistan will be projected to the rest of the world. Likewise, a local will get the awareness about the positive aspects of other’s cultures. Henceforth, apart from strategic and economic growth, CPEC will bring the glare of publicity of Baloch culture. In the same way, interaction among people will be an ultimate foundation for bridging the gap exist between native Baloch and rest of the country. Therefore, in building the national integrity this project will be a milestone.”

Accomplishment of this project on the brink of improved social culturally and economic conditions of Baloch people. This activity will improve the overall image of “Baloch”. Employment will replace the guns and anti-Pakistan activities which will bring foreign investment aswell.

According to a local of Gawader,

“Though Gawader port benevolence greater opportunities for native people of the region in terms of employment. It is a way of wide-ranging regional collaboration and will provide a contribution concerning local solidity and financial integration. The uniqueness of this deep water port will be a milestone for the eastern region”.

In recent times, sea comprised of biggest portion of world’s trade (European Sea Ports organisation, 1996). In developing nations, Ports are considered as indispensable factor for their progress. Predominantly, when trade is considered as basic element of economic growth (Luguje, 2007).

Conclusion

It has been concluded that mixed kind of feelings a native person have with refrence to CPEC.Results oriented from previous projects like Saindak and Reko Diq projects created fears and Doubts . Mishandling of these projects

wouldn't be proven a successful yield to the natives and this did not bring any change in the life of the common person.

Socioeconomic progress of CPEC will carry out the stability and peace to this region. Unambiguously, new ventures would be created and youth involvement in commercial to the restive and backward province of Balochistan by engaging youth in commercial happenings, will give the sustainability to this province. New openings will minimize poverty and will improve the living standard. Economic activities will uplift the socioeconomic position of the province by investing in health, education, health, and other social sector areas.

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