

# NAVY NEWS

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June 2018

## Chief of the Turkish General Staff visits NHQ





## Message of Chief of the Naval Staff on the occasion of World Environment Day

**World Environment Day** is celebrated globally on 5 June to mark the significance of environment, raise awareness regarding its protection and contemplate ways and means to mitigate threats to environment. Theme selected this year for the World Environment Day is "Beat Plastic Pollution". This theme seeks to urge governments, industries, communities and individuals to come together and explore sustainable alternatives and reduce the production and excessive usage of single-use plastic which are polluting our surroundings, damaging life and threatening human health.

Pakistan Navy (PN) celebrates World Environment Day to underscore the significance of environment in Pakistan and to promote awareness on protecting the marine environment. Being a major affectee of marine pollution in Karachi Harbour, PN has initiated numerous measures and actions to reduce pollution. These measures range from systematic collection of solid waste from harbour, large scale plantation of mangroves in coastal areas of Sindh and Balochistan, and sensitizing concerned Government and non Government organizations about the implications of marine pollution. While awareness remains a vital

factor, a number of activities have been planned at field level to promote awareness and inculcate a sense of responsibility among all to save and preserve the environment. I expect PN to contribute in this national obligation with dedicated efforts to make the planned events worthwhile and successful.

On this day let us commit, that we owe it to ourselves and to posterity, to be the saviour of environment that is a blessing of Allah SWT. I urge all my countrymen to join hands with PN in providing clean and better environment to ourselves and our future generations.

**Pakistan Navy Zindabad - Pakistan Paindabad**

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Patron-in-Chief:  
Cdre M Arshid Javed SI(M)

Chief Editor:  
Cdr Zakir Hussain Khan TI(M) PN

Editor:  
Cdr Abdul Jalil Adnan PN

Contributions by:  
Cdr Rashid Nazir Choudhary PN

Managing Editor:  
Lt Cdr Adnan Safdar PN

Creative & Designs  
Syed Razzaq Hamdani

Composing:  
Majid Nawaz

Circulation:  
Muhammad Safeer, Mehran Masood

Photographers:  
Abdul Jabbar, Dilawar Khan,  
Tanveer Ahmed, Babar Shahzad,  
Syed Waqas Raza

**Public Relations Directorate (Navy)  
Naval Headquarters Islamabad**



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**dprnavynews@gmail.com**

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# International Maritime Symposium 2018



*“Impact of BRI on the Geo-economics of the Indian Ocean Region (IOR); Prospects for Pakistan, the Region and Beyond”*

Institute of Maritime Affairs (IMA) Bahria University, Islamabad, organized International Maritime Symposium (IMS-2018) at Islamabad on "Impact of BRI on the Geo-economics of the Indian Ocean Region (IOR); Prospects for Pakistan, the Region and Beyond" on 07 May 2018.

Prime Minister of Pakistan was the Chief Guest of the inaugural session of symposium.

Prime Minister in his address, while referring to the importance of Indian ocean region, said that the global blue economy footprint shows major trade share of Indian Ocean Region. Given the importance of IOR and significance of globalization trends, we acknowledge and appreciate the vision of President Xi Jinping for conceptualizing and announcing BRI with the economic objectives of, "connectivity, unimpeded trade, and financial integration", complemented by policy coordination and cultural exchanges. The potential scope of BRI projects is vast and its financial scale is huge. We will have to optimize our share in BRI through CPEC projects and for this, Gwadar Port would play an all important role.

Focusing on Maritime concerns, Prime minister said that we are well aware of the security concerns of the Indian Ocean Region. There is a need for collaborative and well-coordinated response mechanism to deal with security threats so as to keep the IOR a peaceful and economically thriving region. He also commended the role of Pakistan Armed Forces in general and Pakistan Navy in particular for the initiatives it has taken to ensure maritime security of Pakistan especially the security of CPEC and Gwadar Port.

He also appreciated the role of Pakistan Navy, IMA and Bahria University for policy advocacy and raising awareness in maritime domain. He also urged all other stakeholders including academia, media, civil society organizations and private sector to join hands in such endeavors in order to effectively translate such debates into peace, prosperity and sustainable development.

Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral Zafar Mahmood Abbasi in his inaugural address, while discussing the symposium's theme said that the subject is deep rooted in the remarkable trade history of the region which has transcended various races, cultures and religions. In the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, the conceived 'Economic Networking' through Belt and Road Initiative would not only help to revive historical links but also contribute towards economic prosperity of the nations renewing transcontinental trade routes connecting Asia, Africa, Europe and even beyond.

While highlighting the significance of Indian Ocean Region (IOR) he said that IOR has been the Global geo-political chessboard and one of the core drivers of world's prosperity. However, over the past few decades it has witnessed seismic shift at the geo-strategic level. While this shift was initially security focused, the Belt and Road Initiative is an attempt to transform it into geo-economics. In this context, the BRI, including the flagship CPEC Project promises huge investments, economic development and consequent socio economic empowerment of the poverty ridden masses of the region. Nonetheless, BRI will have profound regional and extra-regional implications as it has drawn attention for competition, influence, economic gains and

**"We are well aware of the security concerns of the Indian Ocean Region. There is a need for collaborative and well-coordinated response mechanism to deal with security threats so as to keep the IOR a peaceful and economically thriving region"**

***Prime Minister of Pakistan***

**"We ought to be cognizant of the traditional and non-traditional security threats that necessitate effective security, proactive diplomacy, well considered economic policies and risk management as important ingredients to exploit and sustain the pace of development and potential growth. Pakistan Navy has formulated robust employment and development strategies to safeguard National Maritime Interests despite the numerous challenges"**

***The Naval Chief***

**"The theme of this symposium offers the opportunity to have in-depth analysis of the globally discussed Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). Although, the subject is mainly focused on the Geo-economic implications of BRI for Indian Ocean Region, the project is widely considered as an initiative which bears the potential to transform global geo-political environment as well. BRI is a shift in strategy to integrate China with the rest of Asia, Europe and Africa"**

***Director General IMA***

security interests. Integrating more and more countries and forging their stakes through an open, coordinated and inclusive arrangement however, would contribute towards a more conducive and stable security environment based on the principles of positive gains for all.

He further highlighted that we are passing through a momentous era for the maritime landscape of Pakistan. The developments of the recent past specially the CPEC have catapulted this domain to the fore-front of our national agenda. It has therefore, become imperative to undertake integrated development of the maritime sector so as to be able to contribute meaningfully in overall economy of the country. With the exploration and better utilization of marine resources, Pakistan can greatly expand its economy. The government is taking all possible steps to develop the maritime

sector which will contribute significantly to Pakistan's economy.

While discussing the security dimension of BRI and CPEC, and the ensuing expansion of maritime economic activity, Admiral Zafar Mahmood Abbasi stated that we ought to be cognizant of the traditional and non-traditional security threats that necessitate effective security, proactive diplomacy, well considered economic policies and risk management as important ingredients to exploit and sustain the pace of development and potential growth. Pakistan Navy has formulated robust employment and development strategies to safeguard national maritime interests despite the numerous challenges.

With regards to BRI implications in IOR, shift in strategy and boost in economic growth of region Director

General Institute of Maritime Affairs (IMA) said, the theme of this symposium offers the opportunity to have in-depth analysis of the globally discussed Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). Although, the subject is mainly focused on the Geo-economic implications of BRI for Indian Ocean Region, the project is widely considered as an initiative which bears the potential to transform global geo-political environment as well. BRI is a shift in strategy to integrate China with the rest of Asia, Europe and Africa, and in the process build infrastructure across these regions to boost economic growth of the region. China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), flagship project of BRI, will give impetus to the economic progress and prosperity in the IOR and beyond.

Reputed National and International speakers participated in the event. ❖❖



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## Chief of the Turkish General Staff visits NHQ

Chief of the Turkish General Staff, General Hulusi AKAR recently visited Naval Headquarters.

Upon arrival at Naval Headquarters, the visiting dignitary was received by Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral Zafar Mahmood Abbasi. A smartly turned out contingent presented him the Guard of Honour.

Later, Chief of the Turkish General Staff called on Chief of the Naval Staff in his office, where detailed discussions on professional matters and bilateral defence collaboration in diverse fields were held. General Hulusi AKAR lauded the commitment and performance of Pakistan Navy in



maintaining peace and stability in the regional maritime domain.

It is expected that the recent visit of Chief of the Turkish General

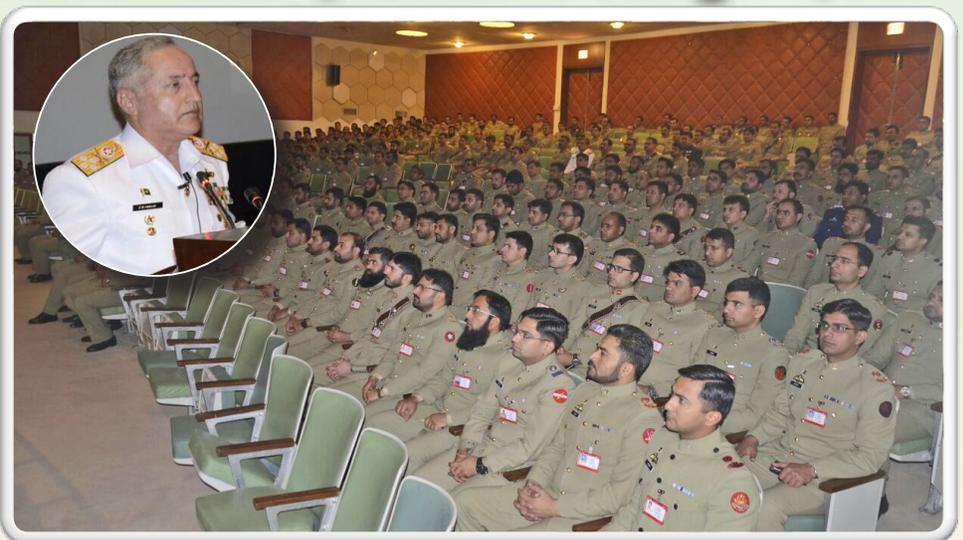
Staff will further enhance defence collaboration and defence ties between the two countries in general and Navies in particular. ☒☒

## CNS addresses Command & Staff College Quetta

Chief of the Naval Staff addressed the course participants and faculty of Command & Staff College Quetta.

Upon arrival, the Naval Chief was received by Commandant Command & Staff College, Maj General Sarfraz Ali.

The Naval Chief dilated upon the maritime security dynamics; challenges and opportunities. While highlighting the increasingly volatile security environment at international arena, Chief of the Naval Staff underscored that the foremost requirement for a unified and coherent response to address present day challenges is to put our absolute trust & faith in the Divine Ideology, acquiring worldly knowledge, adoption of high moral values and reinforcement of the spirit and ideology of Pakistan



as given in the constitution of Pakistan.

Admiral Zafar Mahmood Abbasi added that it is imperative to jump-start the maritime sector which has immense potential for national development. Besides, focused on operational preparedness, Pakistan Navy is

spearheading strenuous efforts in enhancing maritime awareness at the national level amongst policy makers, intelligentsia and general populace. The Naval Chief expressed full confidence in the resilience & dynamism of the nation to optimize Pakistan's Maritime Economy. ☒☒

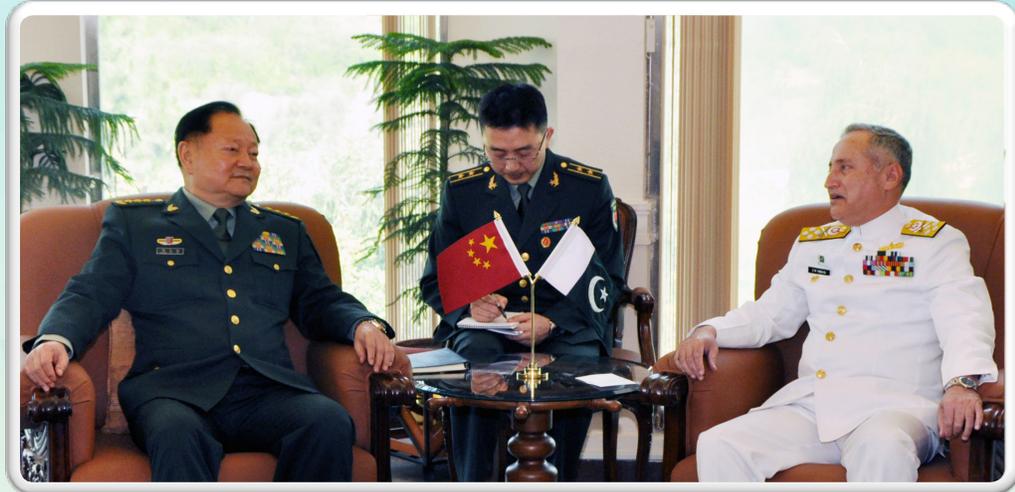
# Vice Chairman of Chinese Central Military Commission visits Pakistan

Vice Chairman of Chinese Central Military Commission, General Zhang Youxia visited Pakistan. During the visit, General Zhang Youxia visited Naval Headquarters Islamabad and various PN units at Karachi.

Upon arrival at Naval Headquarters, General Zhang Youxia was received by Admiral Zafar Mahmood Abbasi. A smartly turned out contingent presented him the Guard of Honour.

During the meeting with the Naval Chief, matters of mutual interest including CPEC, as vital part of Belt & Road initiative were discussed. The Naval Chief also highlighted close bilateral ties between Armed Forces of the two countries. Vice Chairman of Chinese Central Military Commission termed Pakistan as China's all weather strategic partner. Both the dignitaries termed the success of CPEC and related projects as tantamount to prosperity and economic empowerment of the people of the region and beyond.

The call was followed by a brief given to the visiting dignitary on Pakistan Navy's perspective on security situation in Indian Ocean Region and PN contributions



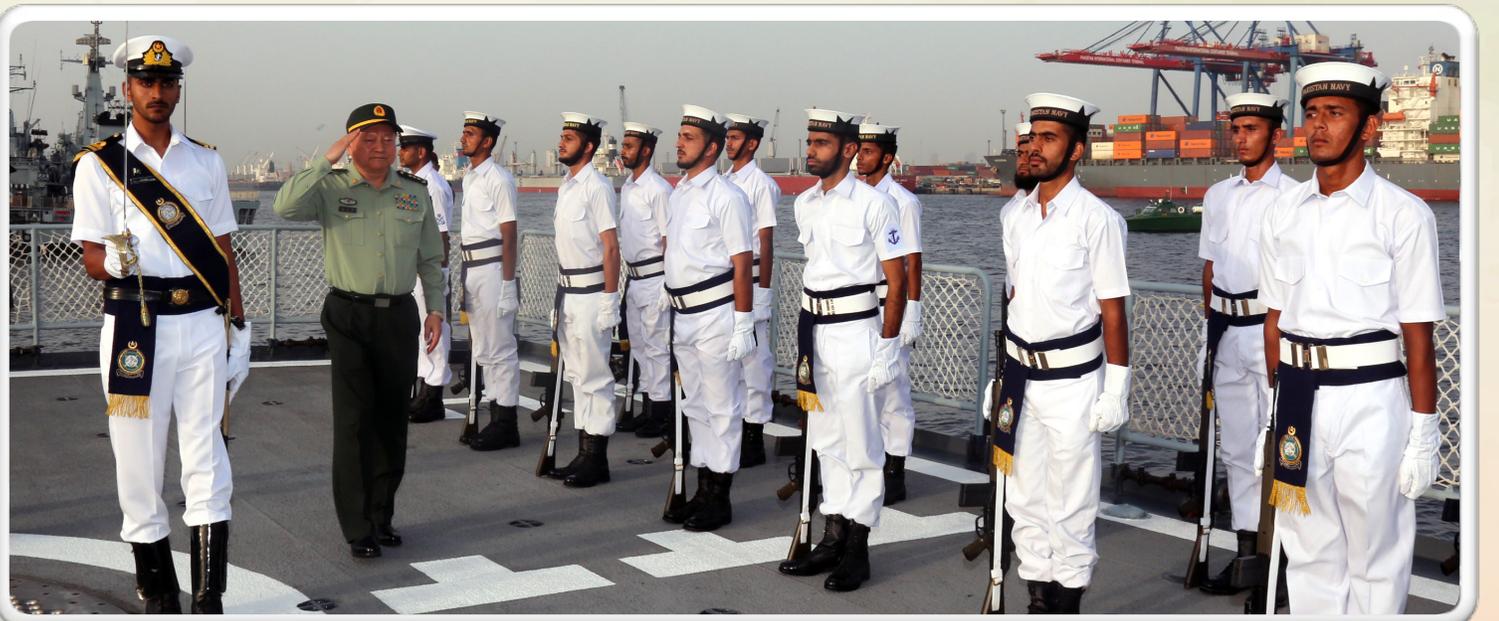
towards peace and stability in the region.

In the second leg of his visit, Vice Chairman of Chinese Central Military Commission visited various PN Units at Karachi.

Upon arrival onboard ship, General Zhang Youxia was received by Vice Chief of Naval Staff, Vice Admiral Kaleem Shaukat and was presented Guard of Honour by a smartly turned out contingent. The dignitary also interacted with the crew of the ship and



appreciated the professionalism of officers and men of Pakistan Navy. ❖❖



# PN War College 47<sup>th</sup> Convocation



The Convocation ceremony of 47<sup>th</sup> Pakistan Navy Staff Course was held at Pakistan Navy War College, Lahore. Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral Zafar Mahmood Abbasi graced the ceremony as Chief Guest and conferred Masters Degrees in War Studies (Maritime) to 44 graduates from Pakistan Navy, 4 each from Pakistan Army & Air force and 28 officers from friendly countries including Bahrain, Bangladesh, China, Egypt, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Malaysia, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Sri-Lanka, Sudan and UAE.

The Naval Chief while addressing on the occasion appreciated the training standards of Pakistan Navy War College and congratulated the graduating officers. He extended special compliments to the officers from friendly countries who added diversity and unique perspective to the course. The Naval Chief said that Pakistan Navy will now have 28 more Ambassadors and friends, spread all across. Chief of the Naval staff advised the graduating officers to work hard, adopt right attitude in life and besides attaining highest professional skills, nurture their character on morality and

righteousness.

Admiral Zafar Mahmood Abbasi also shed light on complex and volatile regional and extra-regional security situation. The Naval Chief underscored that we are facing an adversary whose zealous ambitions are being propped up with a desire to adopt the role of "net security provider" in the region. "Pakistan is a peace loving country and seeks harmonious and peaceful co-existence with all countries. However, we cannot be oblivious to the threats to our sovereignty and national security", Naval Chief said.





Earlier in his welcome address, Commandant PN War College, Rear Admiral Naveed Ahmed Rizvi presented the qualifying graduates to the Chief Guest. The

Commandant also summarized the professional and academic activities in which the graduating officers were imparted skills during the course.

The ceremony was attended by distinguished civilian guests and Senior Officers of the Armed Forces of Pakistan. ❖❖



Inauguration ceremony of the establishment of Pakistan Navy Recruitment and Selection Centre at Muzaffarabad, AJ&K was held at Muzaffarabad.

Vice Admiral Abdul Aleem, Chief of Staff (Personnel) was the Chief Guest on the occasion.

While addressing, the Chief Guest highlighted that this recruitment centre would not only provide round the year recruitment facilities at the door step to the youth hailing from AJ&K and adjacent area but will also promote national integration and regional harmony within Pakistan Navy.

He expressed his satisfaction on the establishment of Pakistan Navy Recruitment and Selection Centre at Muzaffarabad, AJ&K and hoped that it would go a long way in attracting/ motivating the people of this region of the country. He further highlighted that a need for establishment of Recruitment and Selection Centre at Muzaffarabad, AJ&K was strongly being felt since long as a large number of candidates to join Pakistan Navy would apply through Rawalpindi Recruitment Centre. He expected that the recruitment team would work even more diligently in motivating the youth of the area to join Pakistan Navy and increase the participation of adjacent divisions yet further.

Later Chief Guest formally inaugurated the centre and appreciated the efforts of Recruitment Directorate for establishment of PN Recruitment and Selection Centre at Muzaffarabad AJ&K in the shortest time frame. He also congratulated the populace of AJ&K who will be facilitated through this centre at

# Establishment of PNR&SC at Muzaffarabad



their door step.

Later, Vice Admiral Abdul Aleem called on Prime Minister Azad Jammu & Kashmir Raja Muhammad Farooq Haider Khan at PM house Muzaffarabad. During the meeting, matters of mutual interest including human rights violations in Indian Occupied Kashmir were dilated upon.

While showing solidarity, Chief of Staff (Personnel) reiterated the resolve that entire Pakistani nation and Pakistan Navy stand with Kashmiri brothers.

Prime Minister Azad Jammu & Kashmir praised and acknowledged the resolve, commitment and support of Armed Forces to the cause of Kashmiris. ❖❖

# Together for Education in Balochistan

Punjab Govt and Pakistan Navy signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the establishment of Bahria Model College at Gwadar Balochistan in a ceremony held at Lahore. Under the agreement, the Punjab Govt will fund the construction of Bahria Model College to impart quality education to the people of Gwadar. Upon completion, the institution will be able to provide quality education upto intermediate level.

Secretary Schools Dr. Allah Bakhsh Malik and Deputy Chief of Naval Staff (Training & Evaluation) Rear Admiral Muhammad Fayyaz Jilani signed the agreement. Punjab Chief Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif and Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Zafar Mehmood Abbasi were also present on the occasion.

In his address, Chief Minister Punjab appreciated the efforts of Pakistan Navy in promoting education and spearheading various initiatives of socio-



economic uplift, especially in coastal areas. Chief Minister added that Punjab government had planned to establish school and college in Gwardar and MoU has been signed to materialize this programme. He said that Pak Navy is the defender of our maritime boundaries and its efforts in education sector are praiseworthy. He highlighted that maritime sector is very important for strengthening the national economy.

While addressing the ceremony, the Naval Chief thanked the Chief Minister Punjab, Shahbaz Sharif

for the noble cause of funding an educational institution in Gwadar. He said that this invaluable contribution will pave the way for human resource development and socio-economic uplift of the populace in the coastal areas. The Naval Chief reiterated that Pakistan Navy being the sole defenders of maritime frontier of the motherland, has always been committed to create awareness amongst the public about utilizing maritime assets of the country, by transforming it into potential blue economy. ☒☒



# PN takes over indigenously built 32 tons BP Tug



Handing over ceremony of 32 Tons BP Tug built for Pakistan Navy, was held at Karachi Shipyard & Engineering Works. Vice Admiral Kaleem Shaukat, Vice Chief of Naval Staff graced the occasion as Chief Guest.

**The 32 Tons BP Tug has a 34 meter overall length with displacement of 481 tons. It has maximum speed of 12 knots and propelled by 2 x Diesel Engines and same number of Azimuth Thrusters. It is fitted with a very robust fendering arrangement for all round tugging operation of almost all sizes of ships and crafts of Pakistan Navy.**

On the occasion, the Chief Guest Vice Admiral Kaleem Shaukat

said that it is indeed a clear manifestation of the vision of Pakistan Navy to pursue self reliance in the field of ship construction. He appreciated Ministry of Defence Production and Karachi Shipyard for their valuable contribution towards attaining goal of self-reliance in the field of ship building. He said that Karachi Shipyard is one of the few public sector industries which has made a remarkable turn-around in last decade and is playing a pivotal role in supporting all components of national maritime sector. He said that inception of CPEC project has created many opportunities for the growth of local industries. "Public sector industries like shipyard should avail this opportunity and help create more jobs and play their role in

national development", he said. Earlier, MD KS&EW, Rear Admiral Syed Hasan Nasir Shah in his welcome address thanked Pakistan Navy and MoDP for their continued support. He said that no foreign assistance has been sought for this project as it has been completed with self-sufficiency in all phases of construction. He briefed about the ongoing shipbuilding and ship-repair activities at KS&EW. He highlighted that presently KS&EW is undertaking 6x shipbuilding projects.

The ceremony was attended by high ranking officials from Government, Pakistan Navy, Corporate Sector and KS&EW. ☒☒



# Contract for acquisition of two Warships from China

Contract for acquisition of 2x warships for Pakistan Navy was signed with M/s China Shipbuilding Trading Company Ltd (CSTC), at Ministry of Defence Production, Rawalpindi. Deputy Chief of Naval Staff (Operations), Rear Admiral Faisal Rasul Lodhi was also present on the occasion.

With the conclusion of this contract, Pakistan Navy will now have a total of 4 x Type 054 A ships in its

Fleet by 2021. The induction of these Ships will substantially enhance Pakistan navy's war fighting capabilities while effectively contributing towards Maritime Security Operations in the region.

Type-054 A is an extremely potent and state of the art warship equipped with latest weapons including long range missiles and Hi-tech sensors, capable to undertake operations in

all domains of naval warfare.

The acquisition of these modern ships is certainly a value addition in Pakistan Navy which is an ardent defenders of National Maritime Interests of Pakistan.

The ceremony was attended by high ranking officials and dignitaries from China, Pakistan Navy and Government authorities. ☒☒

**Type-054 A is an extremely potent and state of the art warship equipped with latest weapons including long range missiles and Hi-tech sensors, capable to undertake operations in all domains of naval warfare.**



# HARNESSING PAKISTAN'S MARITIME OPPORTUNITIES

Vice Admiral (Retd) Taj M Khattak

Pakistan's EEZ and extended continental shelf constitutes over 35% of its land and it has a sea front of more than 1000 kilometers. More than 90% of our trade by volume and 70% by value is carried out through sea, yet the maritime sector has not been adequately exploited for accrual of optimal benefits and advantages. One important reason from amongst many for this failure is that maritime issues are not high on the national strategic thinking.

The oceans are rich in living and non-living resources and can generate wind, tidal, thermal and biomass energy. It is also a major source of food and an avenue for livelihood in such industries as fisheries, tourism, ports, shipping and ship building, to name a few. Pakistan's exploration in these areas for its economic development has been far from satisfactory. In recent times the sustainable economic activity in maritime sector has been called Blue Economy after the term was first mentioned by Gunter Pauli, a self-styled entrepreneur of Belgian origin, who published a book on the subject in 2010. He juxtaposed the huge potential and benefits of Blue Economy to those of Green Economy and



his ideas were considered so revolutionary at the time that was called 'Steve Jobs of sustainable development'. Since then there is a growing universal trend to pay more attention to world's oceans and seas. Every country which has access to sea has accelerated its efforts to harness maritime opportunities within the framework of Blue Economy.

Although Pakistan has benefitted from expanded mandate of UNCLOS and has acquired sovereign jurisdiction on sea bed beyond its EEZ, it is still lagging behind significantly in translating policy frameworks of a Blue Economy by such institutions as United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA), Global Oceans Commission, Global Partnership for Oceans. In the region around us also, a number of multilateral institutions like SAARC, APEC, East Asia Summit, and IORA (Indian Ocean Rim Association) are engaged in developing cooperative strategies and action plans towards

sustainable development of marine resources. All these bodies are constantly providing new prominence to oceans and seas. Their policy options and proposed models should be considered for new initiatives to build our national capacity. China has gone even further and initiated Five Years Development Plans for National Marine Economy which monitors progress of various marine sectors on a regular basis.

Across the globe, concept of Blue Economy is finding resonance among a number of countries. National agendas for post-2015 development plans for sustainable development of resources and economic expansion are being worked around it. At the core of this concept lies the idea of 'optimization of natural resources within ecological limits' and 'de-hyphenating socioeconomic development from environmental degradation'.

Pakistan appears more focused on advancing the concept of

Green Economy for sustainable development and poverty alleviation. This is understandable as only a very small percentage of country's population lives within a short distance from the sea and a vast majority is historically land oriented. But ignoring maritime sector any longer would be a grave mistake in view of its overwhelming economic benefits and fast changing global trends.

Pakistan's maritime sector is a vital component of national economic and military power and there is an inevitable linkage between economy and security. Maritime affairs all over the world are transnational by nature and Pakistan is no exception. Yet, arguably, matters of the sea are least regulated by consensual rules and instruments amongst littoral states. This has allowed the influence of militarily strong and financially better endowed to creep in. Our fishing community routinely protests about violations of the country's fishing resources by vessels from afar but doesn't



get much attention. Our lack of interest in maritime realm has painted us as a nation of weak resolve and encouraged an extraneous predatory phenomenon – this has to be checked and reversed.

If we are aspiring to be a rising Asian economic power in the decades ahead, we will have to pay more attention to developing our maritime sector especially in such aspects as ship construction, expansion of national shipping fleet, and improvement of port infrastructure for docking modern vessels with much larger cargo carrying capacity as it is happening

intensive and requires significant capital for building, operating and making it economically profitable. Once that investment has been made and infrastructure is in place, it also requires highly skilled manpower, which at the moment just doesn't have at this point of time.

It is elementary to comprehend that Gwadar is not going to be just an ordinary port – it will be the lynchpin of CPEC multi-billion strategic investment because of its location on the intersection 'Belt and Road Initiative' concept. The collective national stance should therefore be for success

understand this.

Not long ago, Karachi Shipbuilding and Engineering Works (KSEW) used to construct vessels for Pakistan National Shipping Corporation. This capability has withered away with passage of time but needs to be revived since there are positive signs for the future of global ship building industry. Gwadar will need ship repair facility in the years ahead when CPEC related traffic picks up and a beginning through development of new shipyard will suffice the needful.

Upstream, the transport system

**Pakistan's maritime sector is a vital component of national economic and military power and there is an inevitable linkage between economy and security. Maritime affairs all over the world are transnational by nature and Pakistan is no exception. Yet, arguably, matters of the sea are least regulated by consensual rules and instruments amongst littoral states. This has allowed the influence of militarily strong and financially better endowed to creep in.**



in some neighboring countries. In this regard, the recent approval of developing a shipyard at Gwadar is a good sign in foreseeable future for shipbuilding in Pakistan.

Pakistan's ambitions, however, will only be fulfilled if maritime awareness is promoted with a greater degree of seriousness to a wider spectrum of strategic community, political class and public at large. This is not to suggest any lack of sensitivity towards economic deprivation of Baluchistan but maritime sector is both financially and techno

of this project.

Apparently, there is also ignorance about the all important 'natural deep sea' characteristics of Gwadar port just when KPT and PQA are struggling to maintain dredged depths at enormous efforts and cost. The evolving global shipping environments demand deeper channels as vessels sizes increase for reasons of economy of scales and will push back shallow water ports into oblivion. Gwadar will survive the challenge of modern shipping staring us in the face and everyone needs to

from ports to hinterland will also have to be made secure and more efficient. The improved transport system will have to factor in a socio-technical approach going beyond technology. Such transitions entail co-evolution and multi-dimensional interactions between industry, technology, markets, policy, culture, and civil society. The need of the hour in today's rapidly changing world is to shift gear from identifying reasons for our past in maritime sector to finding solutions for the future through myriad opportunities at hand. ❖❖

# FIRST ON THE SURFACE AND NOW AT THE DEPTHS OF OCEANS, WE ARE PARTNERING WITH PAKISTAN NAVY



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submarines of Pakistan Navy



# THE REAL ENEMY

Capt Sohail Ahmad Azmie PN

With over 60 people dead in Karachi, when a heatwave swept across the city a few days ago, we should know that the greatest enemy of our survival is none other than the climate change. The sooner we acknowledge this unequivocal reality the better it would be for us to combat this enemy. We've witnessed the world's hottest April temperature in Nawabshah this year, which touched 50.2 degree Celsius. Pakistan's rapidly depleting forests and diminishing water reservoirs would compound the problems of negotiating with the climate change in times to come.

Some of us may question the authenticity of the phenomenon. Let's first see what actually the 'climate change' is. Climate change generally refers to a 'change in average weather conditions or

an enduring change in regional or global weather patterns, which may last for a significantly extended period of time, from a decade to millions of years'. Climate has been changing since the beginning of time, but now we more often refer this term to the change in weather patterns commencing from 1850s, when temperature records began.

We need to know that the average temperature of the Earth has been gradually increasing since 1900s due to extensive CO2 emissions. NASA's Global Climate Change notes that the CO2 level has sharply increased from 300 PPM in 1950 to 400 PPM by 2018. Whereas it remained below 300 PPM for millions of years! The current warming trend, as NASA observes, is largely (95%) because of human-induced warming. This has caused the Earth's temperature

to rise by about 1.1 degree Celsius from the 1950s. Beginning with 2001, every year has been warmer than the previous one and should this trend continue, many places around the world would become unlivable, and Karachi would be one of them.

Oceans are warming, polar ice sheets are melting, glaciers are retreating, mountain snow cover is disappearing, sea level is rising – nearly 8 inch rise has been recorded in the last century – thickness and expanse of the Arctic sea ice has significantly declined and cumulatively it is resulting into extreme weathers. Industrial Revolution (time period from 1760) added 30% acidity to oceans; because oceans are the natural absorbers of CO2 and absorb a staggering 12 billion tons of CO2 every year!



We, the humans, have the sole responsibility for such an ominous warming of our planet. We've been burning fossil fuel since the Industrial Revolution and producing huge amount of CO<sub>2</sub>, which is the major greenhouse gas besides methane and nitrous oxide, entrapping the solar heat inside the Earth's atmosphere. While the forests are lessening, therefore, it is extremely hard for the plants to turn the CO<sub>2</sub> into oxygen. The amount of CO<sub>2</sub> keeps building every single day and it continues to trap more heat on Earth consequently making it warmer than the previous year.

We, in Pakistan, may not be one of the biggest contributors to the global climate change, but we, definitely, are in the process of destroying our country's resistance to such a change. Pakistan's current forest cover is merely 1.91% of its total landmass, which is being reduced at a rapid pace – 42000 hectares or 2.1% every year – and if it continues, we'd have no forests by 2070. United Nations suggest a country must have at least 25% of its area covered with forests. Seeing this recommendation juxtaposed Pakistan's negligible forests, one wonders we really are at the cross roads of a climatic destruction!

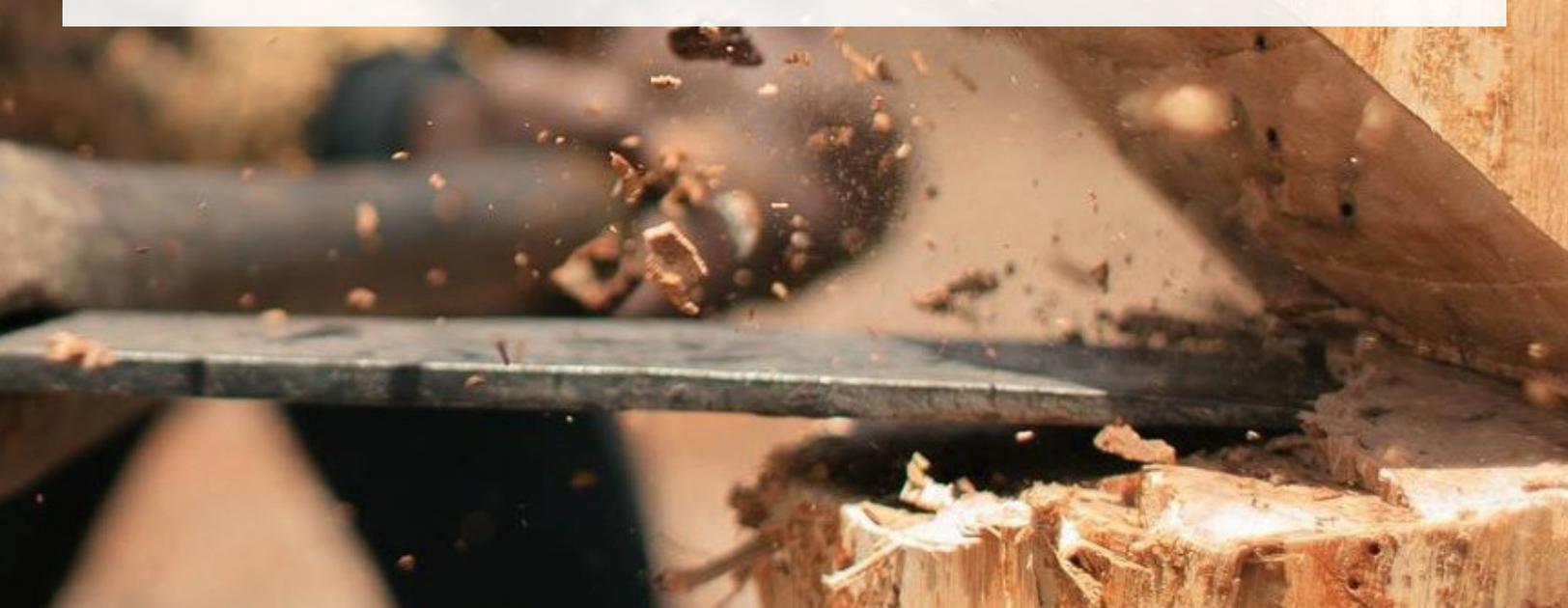
Scott Moore, at the National Interest magazine, paints a disturbing picture of Pakistan's looming water crisis – something we have not considered it even a problem. Pakistan's urbanization is occurring at very high rate of 3% per year, which asks for provision of clean drinking water, which the provincial and city management are unable to do. Only in Sindh, 83% water supplies are contaminated with sewage and industrial waste; whereas 90% water in Karachi is unsuitable for human consumption. Pakistan has done nothing to little to construct water storage facilities or dams. In recent times, people in Karachi besides enduring unbearable heat are also wandering in the cities like zombies to look for water. Karachi, now ranks as the 5<sup>th</sup> most polluted city in the world, which releases 472 million gallons of untreated sewage into the sea gravely impacting the ocean ecology.

Pakistan ranks 3<sup>rd</sup> among the countries facing serious water shortages, yet we see no emergency within the halls of the Government or other institutions. In absence of a policy-implementation mechanics to manage water, it's being wasted in huge amounts every day. People are free to dig wells or bores and use the subsoil water with complete impunity.

Pakistan's subsoil water is likely to completely dry up by 2030. Reasonable river flows and even having a good monsoon season, we are just unable to conserve a lot of water, which according to IRSA is worth US \$ 21 Billion, is dumped into the Arabian Sea every year. Despite an issuance of National Water Policy in March 2018, its implementation is not even visible!

Explosive population growth, unchecked urbanization and mushroom development of housing schemes is another form of a threat, which in my view, should not be taken anything less than a national security risk. In times to come, Pakistan would not find it easy to manage its hugely over-populated cities, where the criminal gangs might rule the streets in absence of law and order. Losing agriculture lands due to absolutely unmonitored and unsupervised housing societies is a worrying sign that the Government is not prepared to tackle. NOCs are issued for conversion of superior agriculture land into housing schemes without due regard to stresses it would put on basic facilities, the environmental impact and the management problems.

It is, perhaps, time to truly recognize who the real enemy is. It's not the ballistic missiles or the nuclear



triad of the next door neighbour or not even the terrorism but the climate change and our inept, inadequate and inapposite response to it. Our inability to consider the depleting forests, vanishing water reservoirs and disappearing agriculture land as national security threats would cost us a great deal in the not too distant future. Our lack of planning & strategy to check the massive population growth, high urbanization and increasing pollution would bring us closer to an enemy – the climate change –

done, but because our brains have been hardwired into wasting water, using plastic and abusing trees. It's the mindset we must target and then the rest would follow. At organizational level, tree plantation campaigns can be launched – and here I must mention Pakistan Navy's contribution in reviving the mangroves along the coastal belt. Pakistan Navy also significantly contributed in fighting the polluted seas off Karachi. Pakistan Navy's awareness campaign also included a strategy to stop the industrial waste and treatment of sewage

reduce the population growth rate and reverse the urbanization trend. Focus on renewable energy needs to be paid to avoid producing more CO2 gas, which is speedily eroding our environment. Stringent measures are essential to curb on unbridled housing schemes and a swift conversion of agriculture land into non-agricultural uses.

What I have seen is that people living among the trees and in the forests have scant regard for these invaluable gifts of the Earth. And there are illiterate and low

### **WHO THE REAL ENEMY IS?**

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whom we may never be braced to embattle.

What we can do then? At the individual level, plant trees, save water and stop pollution. Educate our children, friends and family members the value of forests and the pricelessness of water and a life without these treasures of Nature. In our homes, we can try and make our home as a 'plastic free home', the proposition of doing such things would not be easy. Not because it cannot be

water before dumping into the sea.

At the Government level, the implementation of National Water Policy must be done forcefully. Policy to save forests, a strategy to revive forests and a campaign to plant more trees must be orchestrated meaningfully and not just through speeches on environment days. The Government needs to build more dams to store the precious water, which is wasted every year. Workable strategy is needed to

educated lot, who are ready to cut down the trees for petty gains not realizing the impact of their acts. These people need to be educated. But it doesn't stop here; because if one visits a public park, for instance, the Japanese Park in Islamabad, the lack of education, civility and culture is highly visible. We are not destroying but collectively murdering our environment and aiding our enemy – the climate change – to win a war we have no idea is upon us! ❖❖

# World Oceans Day

*The ocean is calm, the ocean is blue,  
It has no expression, it cannot be true*

*Its tear are hidden beneath the waves  
Its heart is sinking, though once it was brave*

*Oh people oh people! Do not destroy me!  
This plastic and waste is going inside me*

*My breathing is labored with the waste that you throw  
I cough and I spit and I cannot flow*

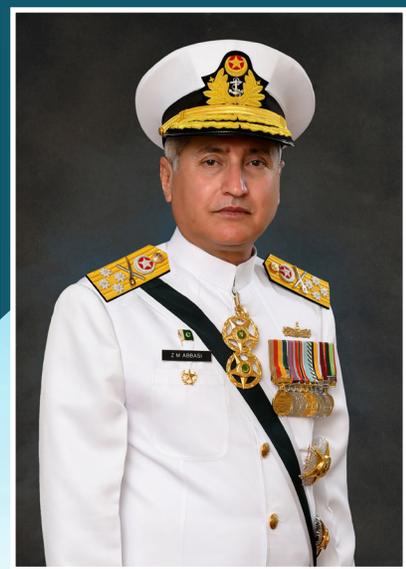
*Your days and years are full for fun,  
But your happiness is leading to my days of glum*

*Oh please help me and set me free!  
Bring back my good days when I was me*

Contributed By  
Begum Rear Admiral Moazzam Ilyas

JUNE 8 2018





## Message of Chief of the Naval Staff on the occasion of World Oceans Day

World Oceans Day is celebrated worldwide to signify the importance of oceans and promote awareness for the sustainable use of oceans and marine resources. This day makes us realize that we all are in one way or the other connected to the oceans and seas. The theme selected this year to promote the spirit of the day is "Preventing Plastic Pollution and Encouraging Solutions for a Healthy Ocean". Oceans are an essential component of the Earth's ecosystem and healthy oceans are critical to sustain a healthy planet. Oceans also play a vital role in sustaining life on land. They help to regulate the climate, strengthen ecosystem,

regulate nutrients through natural cycles and provide wide range of resources that sustain life on the planet.

Pakistan is blessed with a long coastline, a large Exclusive Economic Zone and Continental Shelf with abundance of living and non-living resources. Our waters are home to immense web of marine life and a huge reservoir of natural resources. However, the marine life in our seas is endangered due to over exploitation, illicit practices and ever increasing marine pollution. Pakistan Navy has embarked upon a comprehensive Maritime Awareness Campaign Plan

to enhance the understanding of general populace regarding oceans and huge potential of our Blue Economy. We have always remained cognizant of the need for sustainable use of oceans so that our future generations can also benefit from this treasure. An active and forthcoming participation by all will help promote the essence of the day.

On this Day, let us re-affirm our commitment to protect, preserve and conserve every aspect of marine environment. I urge all countrymen to join hands with PN and contribute to provide clean oceans to our future generations. ❖❖

**Pakistan Navy Zindabad - Pakistan Paindabad**