

## GWADAR FORTHNIGHTLY DAIRY

(16 March to 31 March 2023)

**Key: HDT (Haq-Do-Tehreek in Urdu Language) as known as GRM (Gwadar Rights Movement) in English Language, both are same.**

### Security, Politics, Natural Calamity, Socio-Economic Development & Impediments

1.	<p><b>Development Of Balochistan Including Gwadar Government's Priority: PM</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Last week, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif said the development of Balochistan, particularly Gwadar, is among the priorities of the government.</li> <li>• Prime Minister, in a meeting with Member of National Assembly Aslam Bhootani, who called on him here, said Gwadar also possessed great importance with regard to China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).</li> <li>• Aslam Bhootani informed the prime minister about the problems and the ongoing development projects in his constituency also consisting of Gwadar and Lasbela.</li> <li>• PM Shehbaz assured the MNA to resolve all the problems being faced by his constituency.</li> <li>• The overall political situation of the country was also discussed in the meeting.</li> </ul> <p><b>Aslam Bhootani:</b></p> <p>In the 2018 Pakistani general election, he won NA-272 (Lasbela-cum-Gwadar) defeating the leaders of two political parties i.e. Jam Kamal Khan of the Balochistan Awami Party and Akhtar Mengal of the Balochistan National Party. He won MNA election in 2018 election for seat NA-272 after obtaining 70,000 votes which was the highest number of votes in Balochistan. Bhootani is known for his criticism of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor as he has insisted that the people of Gwadar, his electoral constituency do not currently benefit from the fruits of the multi-billion project.</p>
2.	<p><b>Gwadar Port Handled 200,000 MTs Wheat in Last 25 Days:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• According to COPHC (<b>China Overseas Ports Holding Company</b>), despite many challenges, Gwadar port with fast-track processing has handled 200,000 metric tons of wheat import from Russia over the last 25 days.</li> <li>• The rest of the wheat, to be administered at Gwadar Port is around 250000 MTs</li> </ul>

(metric ton), China Economic Net (CEN) reported.

- The official said that four vessels that include MV Lila Chennai, MV Rich, MV Veruda and MV Dorado out of a total of nine vessels bringing wheat to Gwadar port have arrived so far.

#### **Handling of Wheat**

- Gwadar port witnessed zero handling loss for the discharge and dispatch of wheat since March 2 when the first ship was anchored. All loading, offloading and transportation, he mentioned, have been handled and administered with precision.

#### **Eastbay Gwadar**

- Eastbay Expressway which exclusively connects Gwadar Port with Makran Coastal Highway bypassing city roads is the sole route being used for the movement of wheat-loaded trucks.
- According to a local transporter, previously the trucks used to squeeze through congested city roads of Gwadar not only used to add extra load on local city arteries but also used to impair the flow of movement of trucks.
- It is said that, Gwadar Port connectivity with Eastbay Express has smoothed the activity.

#### **PASSCO Storage Centre**

- The Ministry of National Food Security and Research official said that for lifting the assigned quantity of million metric tons of wheat under G2G arrangements from Gwadar Port, NLC has been transporting wheat through the shortest and most feasible route to PASSCO storage centres.
- Passco storages are located in 13 Zones and 16 Districts of the country.
- Its storage capacity comprises 29 silos (Storage Tower) and 335 godown having a covered storage capacity of 572,482 MTs. The remaining stock is being stored in open Gunjees in scientific ways and procedures.

#### **Logistic Plan**

- Ministry of National Food Security and Research official said that ECC (Economic Coordination Comity) in its meeting held on July 28, 2022, allowed the import of wheat through the Trading Corporation of Pakistan (TCP) and directed MNFS&R to submit a logistic plan of Passco for transportation of imported wheat for consideration of ECC.

#### **Agreement in between TCP & GITL**

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gwadar Port is processing the import of Russian wheat under an official agreement inked between the Trading Corporation of Pakistan (TCP) and Gwadar International Terminal Limited (GITL).</li> <li>• Gwadar International Terminals Limited official said that Gwadar port can handle 200000 MTs of wheat.</li> </ul> <p><b>Prosperity for Gwadar:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• He dubbed the import of wheat using Gwadar port a new milestone, saying wheat import will spur up trade activities in Gwadar.</li> <li>• It will also boost employability as when bustling activities get underway, skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled man forces are required to handle the entire scale of work.</li> </ul> <p><b>Gwadar Port is better than KPT &amp; Post Qasim</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All Gwadar Shipping Clearing Agents Association (AGSCAA) members said that the facts are that the Gwadar Port is more economical than any other port like KPT and Qasim Ports. Both the said ports are always congested and ships go to demurrage and the storage charges of KPT and Qasim Ports are very high. However, at the Gwadar Port, there are no demurrage and storage charges, along with the quickest stevedoring services. It can be checked by the previous record of TCP.</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b> China Overseas Ports Holding Company, Trading Corporation of Pakistan, Pakistan Agricultural Storage and Services Corporation Limited, Pakistan Customs and National Logistics Cell, Gwadar Free Zone and GITL are working in cohesion to keep all work spot-on.</p>
3.	<p><b>BRI Bearing Fruit as Women in Gwadar Start Getting Jobs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As an important development in social sector, women in Gwadar get jobs in local Garment Factory for having a respectable life in the society.</li> <li>• Gwadar Women Factory also known as Gwadar Women’s Development Employment Center is in operation since 2020 in collaboration with <b>Chinese Consulate Karachi and managed by of Gwadar Women Development Organization of China Overseas Port Holding Company.</b></li> <li>• According to Chinese Officials at Gwadar Port, <i>“such initiative like Gwadar Garment Factory for women is in line with China’s obligations to promote women mainstreaming and women empowerment within the BRI framework</i></li> </ul>

***under international law.”***

- Equipped with relevant sewing apparatus, airy and lighted ambience, management room and store, Gwadar Women Garment Factory has become a talk of town as it is not only a new window of opportunity to train unskilled women but also letting semi-skilled female tailors to hone their stitching acumen as per modern demands.
- Gwadar Garment Factory is also being supervised by local woman Zaitoon Abdullah, who is also a social worker in Gwadar.
- All women working here are given pick and drop services free of cost and that is why their families are quite satisfied for their commutation.
- According to the local women forum, they have complete confidence in Chinese and Gwadar Port Operator, so sense always prevails that our women are safe in their workplace.
- It is to be mentioned that the last two years Gwadar Garment Factory has become at least so efficient that it has been stitching almost all uniforms of workers of Chinese companies in Gwadar Port.
- Women in Gwadar are very talented, but previously, they did not have any platform to show their skills.

**Context:**

Most of the women at the center are not much educated, while having big dreams to do something for themselves and their families, so they joined the center and work hard to see their dreams coming true. There are several vocational training institutes to teach basic stitching skills to women, but the center is the first of the kind to provide an opportunity to skilled women to generate income in an organized way.

**4. Chinese Grass Emerging as Super Food for Animals in Gwadar:**

- **“King Grass”** pioneered by Chinese Technology is emerging as super food for animals with impactful features of cash crop and land fertility in Gwadar as well as Pakistan.
- After its successful growth in the length and breadth of the Free Zone area of Gwadar Port, local enterprises are motivated to seek the assistance of Chinese JUNCAO technology to grow King Grass to boost their business profitability.
- As per the pilot project, it was grown and used to raise livestock in a cattle farm established in Gwadar Port more than two years ago.
- Throughout the time span, 80 per cent of proceeds had been utilized as food for all

	<p>breeds of goats.</p> <p><b>Benefits of the King Grass</b></p> <p>According to Free Zone Official, not only animals turned fattened but also stayed fit without suffering from any lethal disease. This grass provides many of the nutrition requirements for cattle. It has fiber, protein and good energy content. It can replace expensive feeds in the ration and therefore reduce feeding costs while maintaining good nutrition. So far, more than 500 counties across China have participated in planting Juncao or King grass. The grass significantly lowered farming costs, and reduced annual tree clearing by 20 million cubic meters in the country.</p> <p><b>Context:</b></p> <p>Gwadar area, by virtue of its arid climate, land degradation, saline or alkali soil and various other ecological challenges, was a litmus test for King Grass. Gwadar Port Operator COPHC initiated a project with the assistance of the Chinese Embassy and experts from Chinese Universities. In the early stage of 2020, King Grass was planted on 5 acres of land in Gwadar Port.</p>
5.	<p><b>100 MW Additional Electricity Project for Gwadar Completes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A project launched to supply an additional 100 MW of electricity from Iran to meet the current and future electricity needs of Gwadar has been completed.</li> <li>• According to the handout the current electricity requirement of Gwadar is 130 megawatt which could not be met with the existing resources.</li> <li>• An agreement, in this connection, was signed with Iran for the supply of 100 megawatts of additional electricity.</li> <li>• To implement the project, a 138 km long transmission line was laid from Iran border to Gwadar.</li> <li>• Handout further read that FWO ensured installation of 58 km transmission line from Iran border to Jiwani grid station and 80 km from Jiwani to Gwadar grid station in record time.</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b> This important project will ensure an uninterrupted power supply to the domestic and industrial consumers of Gwadar.</p>
6.	<p><b>CPEC &amp; Gwadar – Expectations of Local:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• According to Locals, the government made strong promises which instilled hope in</li> </ul>

	<p>the people of Gwadar for a better future, but it appears that they have been let down.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In recent past, many residents have taken to the streets to express their frustration that the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) has not brought any benefits to them.</li> <li>• Instead, it has created more problems, such as a lack of employment opportunities, poor education, and insufficient traffic control.</li> <li>• Moreover, many vehicles are taking excessive amounts of fish from Gwadar's sea, causing harm to the local ecosystem and further exacerbating the difficulties faced by the people.</li> <li>• Regrettably, the situation in Gwadar is dire, and the only hope for the youth's future is to avoid the temptation of drugs and try to find alternative ways of earning income, such as fishing.</li> <li>• However, even this option is becoming increasingly challenging, as fishermen are facing hardships due to the illegal and excessive trawling by outsiders.</li> <li>• The local people have the right to prevent outsiders from entering their area, and it is the government's responsibility to protect them.</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b> It is time to fulfill the promises made to them and ensure that CPEC brings prosperity to the region as a whole.</p>
<b>SECURITY &amp; SAFETY</b>	
9.	<p><b>Gwadar Needs Attention:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The port city of Gwadar remains tense following crackdown on the Haq Do Tehreek (HDT — give rights movement) led by Jamaat-e-Islami's Maulana Hidayatur Rehman, who was arrested in January.</li> <li>• Following the lifting of Section 144 last week, hundreds of women, many clad in burqas, staged demonstrations led by a HDT leader Husain Wadela and Senator Mushtaq Ahmed to press for the release of the Maulana.</li> <li>• The movement started in September 2021, <b>organized several sit-ins and protest demonstrations, gaining massive public support for raising demands that affect the lives of local people, such as</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) an end to illegal fishing — by Sindh's trawlers and foreign trawlers</li> <li>2) removal of unnecessary security check posts</li> </ol> </li> </ul>

	<p>3) supply of clean drinking water</p> <p>4) opening of trade route to Iran</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All these issues are justified except, perhaps, the last one related as it is to wider security/diplomatic matters.</li> <li>• Last December when the situation became unmanageable, Balochistan Home Minister Ziaullah Longove and Adviser to the CM Lala Rasheed arrived in Gwadar and met with the HDT's second tier leaders.</li> <li>• Officials later said that considerable progress had been made to address the protesters' demands, claiming that eight trawlers were confiscated by the Fisheries Department while the police, and that the Pakistan Maritime Security Agency and Coast Guards would carry out joint patrolling to curb illegal trawling.</li> <li>• Maulana Rehman, however, contended that the government had failed to keep its promises, and that his movement was left with no option but to restart protests. Things took an ugly turn when the police tried to break up a protest rally.</li> <li>• In the ensuing violence a constable died from a gunshot.</li> <li>• The Maulana along with three other persons was booked for the murder, and apprehended when he appeared before a court to seek interim bail.</li> </ul> <p><b>Context:</b></p> <p>HDT leader may or may not be responsible for the tragic loss of life. That needed to be determined via due process. He has since been booked in 17 more cases. It is worth noting that when the trouble was at its peak the Quetta Corps Commander, Lt-Gen Asif Ghafoor, visited Gwadar and after meetings with political leaders and administrative officials he had acknowledged that the HDT's demands were genuine, adding though that <b>“this was not the way”</b> to make demands. Reckless resort to force by the State has consequences as seen not only in Gwadar, the centerpiece of the China Pakistan Economic Corridor, but all over that restive province.</p>
10.	<p><b>Women Rally in Favour of Public Demands to Release Maulana Hidayat Rehman from Jail:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leader of Give Rights Movement and Provincial General Secretary of Jamaat-e-Islami, Maulana Hidayat Rehman Baloch and approval of public demands, Haq Du women rally in Gwadar, Jamaat-e-Islami Senator Mushtaq Ahmad Khan along with his wife Humira Tayyaba participated.</li> <li>• In the rally, women in large numbers took out a rally from Marine Drive and</li> </ul>

	<p>demanded the release of the leader of the Haq Du movement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Addressing the women's rally, Jamaat-e-Islami leader and Senator Mushtaq Ahmed said that the women of Gwadar have made history, who have shown the way of struggle to the women of Pakistan.</li> <li>• He said that the responsibility of the state and the government is to provide bread, cloth, house, school and health facilities to the citizens and it is the responsibility of the government to protect the lives of the citizens.</li> <li>• He said that the Chief Minister of Balochistan is a dead body and no action has been taken by making an agreement with the people of Gwadar.</li> <li>• Leaders of Jamaat-e-Islami said that Maulana Hidayat-ur-Rehman has been imprisoned for public struggle, while the leader who killed several people was acquitted after a few days.</li> <li>• In the end, he said that Maulana has been kept in jail because he has spoken for the rights of Gwadar and given a voice to the residents of Gwadar.</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b> The women's rally was attended by relatives of the Baloch suspects who are under custody, they were carrying the photographs of their arrested relatives. The protesters were also demanding the release of them.</p>
11.	<p><b>ANF RECOVERS 90KG HASHISH FROM GWADAR:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) has recovered 90kg of hashish hidden in a house near Jiwani, Gwadar.</li> <li>• The drug was concealed there to smuggle abroad.</li> <li>• 90 KG Marijuana hidden underground in plastic canisters and plastic bags while operating near Gwadar in the coastal area of mekran.</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b> Case has been registered accordingly.</p>