

CPEC has ensured tremendous Chinese investment in Pakistan

China is also keen to help improve Healthcare and Education in Pakistan-Yang Yundong

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KARACHI: CPEC has ensured tremendous Chinese investment in Pakistan which will help strengthen its economy while we are also keen to help improve healthcare and education in Pakistan. At present a large number of Pakistani students are studying in China in different fields including health sciences. This was stated by Yang Yundong Consul General of Peoples Republic of China in Karachi. He was talking to Mr. Shaukat Ali Jawaid Chief Editor of Professional Medical Publications publishers of Pakistan Journal of Medical Sciences and Pulse International who called on him on March 12th 2024. Mr. Shang Hailong, Li Chong Vice Consuls in the Chinese Consulate and Mr. Mubarak Ali Production Editor of PMP were also present on this occasion.

Mr. Shaukat Ali Jawaid apprised the Consul General that a large number of research scientists from China were contributing their manuscripts to Pakistan Journal of Medical Sciences for the last many years. Over the past few years the number of submissions has increased. We practice open peer review system and many papers get published once they are approved after peer review. He further told him that he had visited China for the first time in 1985 to attend laryngeal cancer conference in Shenyang when he also visited various medical universities in Beijing and Shanghai, offices of Chinese Medical Association in Beijing besides visiting Institute of Ophthalmology and Institute of ENT Diseases in Beijing. He again visited China in the Year 2006, 2008 and 2009 to attend medical conferences at Beijing and Shanghai. During the

current year 2024 so far Chinese researchers have submitted one hundred sixty four papers to Pakistan Journal of Medical Sciences of which sixty nine have been published and nineteen have been accepted for publication. Chinese Traditional Medicine has also made lot of progress and now numerous scientific studies are being conducted, in some cases these products are combined with allopathic drugs to treat different disorders with good results. The Consul General remarked that many students from Pakistan were also studying use of herbal drugs which are used in Traditional Chinese

Chinese government once again proved to be a great trustworthy friend and donated millions of doses of Chinese's Vaccine to Pakistan which helped to control this pandemic. Chinese Government has also built a Research Center at University of Health Sciences at Lahore which was the main center for the clinical trial of Chinese Covid vaccine.

People of Pakistan, he further stated, love China and appreciate their help and assistance in different fields. Pakistani Pharmaceutical industry imports Pharmaceutical APIs, equipment and machinery for drug manufacturing plants while medical equipment is also being imported from China. There was a need to further enhance academic collaboration between the medical professions of both the friendly countries. Many distinguished speakers from China come to



Mr. Shaukat Ali Jawaid Chief Editor Professional Medical Publications talking to the Chinese Consul in Karachi Mr. Yang Yundong during the meeting held on March 12, 2024.

Medicines. He also presented copies of Pakistan Journal of Medical Sciences and Pulse International to the Chinese Consul General.

China has made tremendous progress and at present the maximum number of scientific papers are coming from China and it is hoped that by 2025 China is expected to become Global leader in medical research and clinical trials. China, he said, has come to Pakistan's rescue at numerous critical occasions. Even during Covid19 pandemic,

Pakistan and contribute to the scientific programme of medical conferences organized by various professional societies. This collaboration needs to be further strengthened. He further apprised the Chinese Consul General that he will be visiting China in the last week of March and hope to visit various medical universities and healthcare facilities to have fruitful discussions with the healthcare professionals to discuss avenues for enhanced academic collaboration.

Few memorable days in Peoples Republic of China

I had first visited Peoples Republic of China in 1985 when China had just opened itself to the outside world. Accompanied by my friend Dr. M.H. A Baig a noted ENT Head and Neck Surgeon and Editor of Pakistan Journal of Otolaryngology in those days, we travelled to China to attend the International Laryngeal conference in Shenyang which is

in high rise multistory buildings everywhere.

The objective of the current visit which lasted from March 20th to March 28th 2024 was to enhance academic collaboration between Chinese researchers and Pakistan. We get lot of research papers from China for publication and a large number of them are not accepted for various reasons as we practice



located about a thousand miles from Beijing. During this visit, we also visited Chinese Medical Association offices, met its office bearers besides visiting Institute of Ophthalmology and Institute of ENT Diseases at Beijing. Apart from visiting the historic Great Wall and other tourist attractions like Summer Palace, the Great Peoples Hall, our next visit was to Shanghai where we also visited the Shanghai University.

My second visit to China was in the Year 2006, followed by visits during 2008 and 2009 to attend joint meeting of European Congress of Cardiology and Chinese Cardiology Society. I had a chance to visit Shanghai again after thirty-eight years in the last week of March and also went to Changsha the provincial capital of Hunan province. The country has changed a lot during all these years. The enormous development and progress it has made is reflected

open peer review system and no paper is accepted for publication which does not come up to a certain standard. Monetary benefits have never been an attraction for us and we wish to safeguard the integrity and credibility of the journal. On an invitation from my friend Alex Li who had arranged my visit, we had in depth discussions with members of the medical profession in China not only during visit to different hospitals but also at dinner meetings which some of the Chinese doctor friends had hosted in my honour. It was a great learning experience for me as well. During my presentations at Surgical Intensive Care Unit of Shanghai Xinhua Hospital in Shanghai and at Department of Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery in Changsha First Hospital in Hunan province I shared with the participants some of the useful tips which will minimize the chances of trauma to their

manuscripts submitted to Pakistan Journal of Medical Sciences. They were also informed about the types of manuscripts which we prefer for publication. Most often I had to use the services of my friend Alex Li who worked as interpreter so that myself and the Chinese participants could understand each other much better. Hence I was able to convey my message effectively and also understood their view point. During the lively discussions which followed the presentation, we discussed in detail how to further enhance our academic collaboration.

Before this visit, I had a very useful and fruitful meeting with Chinese Consul General at Karachi Mr. Yang Yundong who expressed keen desire to help Pakistan in education and healthcare as well. (The story appears in this issue on Page-3). However, since some of our "Friends" do not like this ever increasing friendship and all round collaboration with Peoples Republic of China, each one of us has to be very careful. The law enforcing agencies and intelligence agencies in particular have to be extremely alert and keep an eye on what is happening in the country and in the region in particular to foil all attempts to destroy this friendship with China which is one of our best friends in the world today helping to improve our economy as well as helping us in almost every field.

I will be sharing my observations of this eight-day memorable visit to Shanghai one of the most well developed city in China which is also their financial and business capital and an important port city, visit to Changsha in Hunan province and discussions which I had with healthcare professionals and researchers in China in a series of write-ups which will appear in Pulse International in the coming days. Those interested may follow all this.