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The Impact of the CEPC on Social Welfare in Pakistan

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ABSTRACT

The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor is a game-changing project signed between China and Pakistan. The corridor provides economic opportunities for the people of Pakistan. This study uses a qualitative approach to explore the short-term impact of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor project on the social welfare of the Pakistani population in the context of local people's education, health and housing. Furthermore, it is found that by 2020, Balochistan is the province with the fastest increase in social welfare in Pakistan, while Punjab is the province with the slowest increase. From the perspective of three welfare dimensions, housing has increased by 8.6%, followed by medical care by 4.74% and education by 3.85%. Finally, it is concluded that the smooth implementation of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor has greatly increased social welfare in Pakistan.

| Keywords: | CPEC, Education, Medical Treatment, Social Welfare |

Introduction

Chinese President Hu Jintao during a visit to Pakistan said China and Pakistan are "true good neighbors, good friends, good partners and good brothers (Mr. Hu Jintao's speech, 2006)". Pakistan is located at the intersection of South Asia, Central Asia and West Asia. It is China's main neighbor on the northwestern border and has important commercial, security and strategic value for China (Muzaffar & Khan, 2021; Zhang, 2011). Pakistan's unique geographical proximity to the Middle East and Central Asia, near the Persian Gulf and facing the Arabian Sea, facilitates China's access to these areas (Zhang, 2011). Arabian Sea lies between the Arabian Peninsula and the Indian subcontinent. It is connected to the Gulf of Oman to the northwest and the Gulf of Aden to the southwest. The sea creates important links between Iran, the Arabian Peninsula and Yemen, Oman, the United Arab Emirates and Pakistan. Almost 80% of China's global businesses include oil trade based on marine shipping through the state of Malacca, which is under the control of the United States (Shaikh et al., 2016). Malacca State is the weakness of China in case of any problem, which badly affects the Chinese economy (Kanwal et al., 2019b). In addition, this route is approximately 12,500 km long and takes almost 25 to 35 days. Accordingly, China has planned an alternative route with the name "CPEC" to overcome this problem and to avoid any unpleasant circumstance in the future. "CPEC" is one of the biggest projects conceived by China and implemented by Pakistan. Ultimately, the people of both countries benefit (Khetran, , 2016). Tehsin though that the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor is not a simple project name, it covers four important components: the main component relates to energy projects, the second important component is the road and rail network, and the third key component is the expansion and development of Gwadar port, which has been handed over to China on a 40-year lease. China plans to build a container-handling facility, a major highway and an international airport at Gwadar. The aim is to build Gwadar into

an international commercial city with all the comforts of modern life. The fourth important component is the establishment of special economic zones. Hussain and other scholars believe that the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor has become a key factor to stabilize Pakistan's internal economic crisis, and is also one of the favorable factors to bring industrial development to Pakistan and help Pakistan overcome the economic crisis. The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor is a fate-changing infrastructure investment project. $11 billion in public investment and $33 billion in private investment have opened the door to economic growth opportunities for the people of Pakistan. Will create 70,000 jobs for the people of Pakistan in the next 15 years. This will also provide an opportunity for other neighboring countries to join in these projects. Upon completion of these projects, Pakistan will emerge from multiple cycles of low economic growth and will improve the way of life of the Pakistani people. Similarly, the agreement will, on the one hand, allow Pakistan and China to become increasingly close in terms of trade, a game-changing project that facilitates China's oil trade in a peaceful manner. On the other hand, Kashgar, with a population of 350,000, has been brought into the ranks of China's developed provinces. This is a major development initiative of China, known as One Belt One Road, the eastern route stipulates that it goes through Gwadar - Turbat - Panjicul - Huzdar - La Todro - Rajampur - Rajampur - Khan - Multan - Faisalabad - Pindi - Bhatia - Rawalpindi - Hasanabul - and other routes; The central route is stipulated to pass through: Gwadar - Turbat - Benjigul - Khuzdar - La Todro - Cashmore - Rajampurdra - Ghazi Khan - Dera Ismail Khan - Bannu - Kohat - Peshawar - Hasanadar - etc.; The western route is suggested to pass through: Gwadar - Telbat - Benjgul - Khuzdar - Karat - Quetta - Zob - Dera Ismail - Khan Bannu - Kohat - Peshawar - Hasanadar - and other places. Shabir et al believe that economic corridor is a kind of economic development initiative, which is a naturally emerging concept. Shamsa Kanwal (2020) et al. confirmed that the support of the Pakistani people for the project is entirely dependent on whether they can profit from it, and when the people of the country benefit from the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor project, they will actively give big support to the project (Kanwal et al., 2020). Hussain and Ali (2015) argue that the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor will increase the geographical connectivity between China and Pakistan. Reduced time and distance costs increase access to community access to health care and education facilities. Shah, et. al. 2020).

Literature Review

CPEC aims to address the major bottleneckes to the Pakistan's economic growth and development (Hussain, 2017). FDI is one of the key areas for booming economic growth especially in developing countries. It is not just a source capital formation but also contributes towards technological transformation, value addition and improves access to international markets. Net foreign investment inflows are needed by any country which faces domestic saving-investment gaps. CPEC early harvest projects have the way to attract foreign investment in Pakistan (Rashid et al., 2018). Atique et al (2004) used the data of Pakistan from 1970 to 2001 and found out that FDI's positive impact on the economic growth is further enhanced under the export promotion regime rather than the import substitution They suggest that since, Pakistan's economic growth is usually dependent on FDI inflow such regimes must highly be encouraged. Ali and Shah (2017) are strong believers of its positive economic impacts on the country. They anticipate that the project will improve the living standard and economic conditions of the local people of Pakistan specifically through provision of energy and employment opportunities. CPEC-also known as the fate changer will improve the economy through enhanced trade activities between both nations. According to the Chinese embassy spokesperson in

Pakistan, China is glad to start new projects with Pakistan and take part in operational activities regarding CPEC construction in order to nourish the economy of both countries (2016a). Pakistan famous Economist Dr. Shahid Hassan Siddiqui stated that CPEC will be a golden opportunity for Pakistan to reduce unemployment from the country. He also added that the functioning of Gwadar port will bring an economic revolution and business activities will get a much needed boost (2015). Chinese Ambassador Sun Weidong stated that successful completion of the project will provide better health, education facilities and more jobs to the people. More than 150 foreign investors are showing willingness to invest in CPEC (Aftab, 2016).

The Net Effect of Social Welfare

The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor is a game-changing project that will lift millions of Pakistanis out of poverty and misery. The project includes textile and clothing industry, construction of industrial parks, construction of DAMS, installation of nuclear reactors, construction of road network, railway lines and other projects which will create jobs for the people of Pakistan. In less developed areas, well-equipped hospitals, technical and vocational training institutions, water supply and distribution will also improve the quality of life of the masses (Abid, & Ashfaq 2015). To study the socio-economic welfare impact of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor project in different parts of Pakistan, a district-level analysis was conducted using data from the 10th Round of the Pakistan Social and Living Standards Measurement Survey 2014-15 (Pakistan, Government , 2015). The research objectives focus on education, health (including child and maternal health) and housing conditions in the overall context of the Sustainable Development Goals. The study covered 115 districts of Pakistan, namely 36 districts of Punjab, 24 districts of Sindh, 25 districts of Pashtun and 30 districts of Baluchistan. And 78,635 households across the country. According to the "Pakistan Social and Living Standards Measurement Survey 2014-2015", in terms of primary school enrolment rate, it was 70% in Punjab, 61% in Sindh, 71% in Pashtun, 56% in Baluchistan, and 67% in Pakistan as a whole. In terms of secondary school enrollment rate, 38% in Punjab, 31% in Sindh, 41% in Pashtun, 26% in Baluchistan, and 37% in Pakistan as a whole; In terms of university enrolment rate, Punjab reached 29%, Sindh reached 25%, Pashtun reached 27%, Balochistan reached 15%, and the overall university enrolment rate in Pakistan reached 27%; In terms of child immunization coverage, 70% in Punjab, 45% in Sindh, 58% in Pashtun, 27% in Baluchistan, and 60% in Pakistan as a whole; For antenatal consultation, 78% in Punjab, 72% in Sindh, 64% in Pashtun, 47% in Baluchistan and 73% in Pakistan as a whole; In terms of safe delivery facilities, Punjab (57%), Sindh (57%), Pashtun (54%), Baluchistan (36%) and Pakistan as a whole (55%); Postnatal counselling was 29% in Punjab, 33% in Sindh, 25% in Pashtun, 21% in Baluchistan and 29% in Pakistan as a whole. In terms of roofing material (RBC/RCC), it reached 24.5% in Punjab, 34.5% in Sindh, 35% in Pushh, 7% in Balochistan, and 30% in Pakistan as a whole; In terms of the qualified rate of safe drinking water, 63% in Punjab, 52% in Sindh, 61% in Pushh, 51% in Baluchistan, and 60% in Pakistan as a whole; The total amount of gas used as cooking fuel is 39% in Punjab, 56% in Sindh, 26% in Pushh, 25% in Balochistan and 41% in Pakistan.

The Impact of the "CEPC" on Social Welfare in Pakistan

There are huge disparities in economic development between Pakistan's regions. According to the survey, most districts in Baluchistan, namely Chagai, Kila Abdullah, Dera Bugti and Kohistan are relatively underdeveloped economically. When it comes to happiness, Baluchistan is ranked as the poorest province with 62 per cent of the

population classified as having a low standard of living (Haq &Zia, 2013). Ranjan pur, Thatta, D.Khan and Umerkot have relatively low levels of social welfare (Rashida Haq& Nadia Farooq, 2016). It is estimated that the direct impact of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor on Pakistan's economy can be seen in raising GDP growth to more than 6% in 2016-18, while the indirect impact is that substantial investment in the energy sector has the potential to boost current industrial development in Pakistan and attract private investors. The World Bank and the International Monetary Fund have also linked Pakistan's future growth rate to the successful operation of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor project (Muzaffar, et. al. 2021)

This article is based on the Pakistan Social and Living Standards Measurement Survey 2014-2015, To calculate the net impact of social welfare index in 2020 in 36 districts of Punjab (D.G.Khan, Faisalabad, Lahore, Mandi Bahauddin, Multan and RajanPur are located on three routes of CPEC), The Attock education index is 2.28%, health index is 1.86%, housing index is 3.35% and social welfare index is 2.42%. Bahawalnagar has an education index of 3.64%, a health index of 2.23%, a housing index of 6.50% and a social welfare composite index of 3.75%; The education index of Bahawalpur is 4.32%, the health index is 2.56%, the housing index is 5.73%, the social welfare composite index is 3.98%; Bhakar's education index is 3.22%, health index is 2.22%, housing index is 10.45%, social welfare composite index is 4.21%; Chakwal's Education Index is 2.19 %, health Index is 1.78 %, housing index is 3.75%, social welfare Composite Index is 2.44%; Chiniot's education index is 3.18%, health index is 2.14%, housing index is 5.68%, and social welfare composite index is 3.38%. The Education Index of D.G.Khan is 5.01 %, the health index is 4.23 %, the housing index is 11.31%, and the general Social welfare Index is 6.20%; In Faisalabad, the education index is 3.52 per cent, the health index is 3.46 per cent, the housing index is 6.61 per cent and the social welfare composite index is 4.31 per cent; The education index of Gujranwala is 2.63 %, the health index is 1.92 %, the housing index is 2.94 %, and the social welfare composite index is 2.45%. Gujrat's education index is 2.30%, health index is 1.69%, housing index is 2.99%, social welfare composite index is 2.27%; In Hafizabad, the education index is 2.90%, the health index is 2.20%, the housing index is 4.71% and the social welfare composite index is 3.11%; Jehlum's education index is 2.32 percent, health index is 1.65 percent, housing index is 3.28 percent, social welfare composite index is 2.32 percent; Jhang's education index is 3.14 %, health index is 2.77 %, housing index is 6.99 %, and social welfare composite index is 3.93%. The education index of Kasur is 3.00%, the health index is 1.94%, the housing index is 6.98%, and the social welfare composite index is 3.43%. Khanewal's education index was 3.10%, health index 2.37%, housing index 4.55%, and social welfare Composite index 3.22%. Khushab has an education index of 3.02%, a health index of 2.19%, a housing index of 6.30%, and a social welfare composite index of 3.46%. Lahore has an education index of 3.43%, a health index of 2.72%, a housing index of 3.69% and a social welfare composite index of 3.25%. The education index in Layya is 2.39%, the health index is 2.11%, the housing index is 8.37% and the social welfare composite index is 3.48%; Lodharan's education index is 3.51%, health index is 2.55%, housing index is 4.87%, social welfare composite index is 3.51%; Mandi Bahauddin's education index was 3.47%, health index 2.87%, housing index 8.16%, social welfare composite index 4.33%, Mianwali's education index 2.91%, health index 2.09%, housing index 7.39%, social welfare composite index 3.55%; Multan's education index was 4.53%, health Index 3.28%, housing index 5.56% and social welfare Composite Index 4.35%; MuzafarGarh had an education index of 3.83%, a health index of 2.69%, a housing index of 11.96% and a social welfare composite index of 4.97%, while Nankana Sahib had an education index of 2.68%, a health index of 1.71%, a housing index of 5.18% and

a social welfare composite index of 2.87%; Narowal's education index is 2.36%, health index is 2.12%, housing index is 4.66%, social welfare composite index is 2.85%; Okara has an education index of 2.72%, a health index of 2.12%, a housing index of 3.77% and a social welfare composite index of 2.79%; Pakpattan's education index was 3.09%, health index 2.24%, housing index 4.17% and social welfare Composite Index 3.07%; Rahim Yar Khan's education index was 4.51%, health index 2.87%, housing index 9.45% and social welfare Composite Index 4.96%; RajanPur's education index is 5.39%, health index 3.30%, housing index 15.28%, social welfare Composite index 6.30%; Rawalpindi's education index is 3.15%, health index is 2.64%, housing index is 4.36%, social welfare composite index is 3.31%; Sahiwaal has an education index of 2.97%, a health index of 1.83%, a housing index of 4.19% and a social welfare composite index of 2.83%; Sargodha's education index is 2.81%, health index 2.08%, housing index 6.44% and social welfare composite index 3.35%; The education index of Sheikhupura is 2.77%, the health index is 1.94%, the housing index is 3.35% and the social welfare composite index is 2.62%; Sialkot's education index is 2.34%, health index is 1.80%, housing index is 3.02%, and social welfare composite index is 2.33%. Toba Tek Singh's Education Index was 2.57%, health index 2.07%, housing index 4.60% and Social welfare Composite index 2.90%; Vehari's education index was 3.14 percent, health index 2.11 percent, housing index 4.43 percent and social welfare composite Index 3.08 percent. The average value of education index was 3.18 %, the health value was 2.34%, the education value was 5.90%, and the social welfare composite value was 3.50%.

The Pakistan side of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor is comprised of 12 projects in Punjab province , they are Optical Fiber Cable from Rawalpindi to Khunjrab, Haier & Ruba Economic Zone II, Karach-Lahore Motorway (Sukkur-Multan), Joint Feasibility Study for upgradation of ML1, Upgradation of ML-1, Sahiwal Coal Fired Power Plant, Rahimyar Khan Coal Power Plant, Karot Hydro-Power Plant, Lahore Orange Line Metro Train, Matiari-Lahore Transmission Line, Matiari-Faisalabad Transmission Line, Quaid-i-Azam Solar Park in Bahawalpur. 13 in Sindh province, they are Matiari-Lahore Transmission Line, Matiari-Faisalabad Transmission Line, Port Qasim Power Plant, Engro Thar Power Plant & Surface Mine in Block II of Thar Coal Field , Dawood Wind Farm, Jhimpir wind Farm, Sachal Wind Farm,

China-Sunec Wind Farm, Upgradation of ML-1. Thar Coal Block I & Mine Mouth Power Plant,

Gwadar-Nawabshah LNG Terminal & Pipeline, Karachi-Lahore Motorway (Sukkur- Multan) and Joint Feasibility Study for Upgradation of ML-1. 8 in Pashtun province, include, Joint Feasibility Study for Upgradation of ML-1, Establishment of Havelian Dry Port, KKH II (Havelian-Thakot), Upgradation of ML-1, KKH III (Raikot-Thakot), D.I Khan-Quetta highway (N-50), Suki Kinari Hydropower Project and Optical Fiber Cable from Rawalpindi to Khanjrab. 16 are related to Balochistan. These mega-development initiatives consist of, Khunzdar-Basima Highway (N-30), D. I. Khan-Quetta Highway (N-50), Hubco Coal Power Plant, Gwadar Power Plant, Gwadar-Nawabshah LNG Terminal and Pipeline, Gwadar Eastbay Expressway, Gwadar New International Airport, Gwadar Smart Port City Master Plan, Expansion of multipurpose terminal including Breakwater & Dredging Wastewater, Treatment Plants for Gwadar city, Gwadar Primary School, Gwadar Hospital Upgradation, Gwadar Technical & Vocational College, Gwadar Eastbay Expressway II, Freshwater Supply and Gwadar Free Zone. As mentioned earlier, the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor is not just a name, it is a project that includes infrastructure such as energy, trade, hospitals, schools, rail lines, industrial zones, transportation and tourism. The project is of great

significance to enhancing connectivity, improving people's livelihood and promoting pragmatic economic and trade cooperation between the two countries so that both sides can benefit from the project. As described by Kroenig, (2009), China generously supports Pakistan, which directly benefits the social and economic development of western and northwestern areas of Pakistan, especially the economic development of Gwadar port (Kroenig, 2009). Among the four provinces involved in this paper, Punjab is the most populous province, accounting for 55% of the country's total population, 25.8% of its agricultural population and 21% of its poor population. The province has the highest male unemployment rate of 65% in Rahim Yar Khan, 55.7% in Jhang, 58.6% in Khanewal and 53.5% in Nankana Sahib According to the statistics, in Punjab, the average social welfare is 3.5%, while the values for the three dimensions of education, health and housing (measured by roof quality, access to safe drinking water and gas for cooking fuel) are 3.18%, 2.34% and 5.9%, respectively. Compared to education and health, CPEC has had a relatively big impact on housing in the province. From the overall analysis, the impact of the project on the areas along the route in Punjab Province is relatively greater than that in other areas. Significant impact on social welfare in Rahim Yar Khan (44%), Bahawalpur (29.5%) and Kasur (30) districts of Punjab where poverty incidence is high.

According to the Pakistan Social and Living Standards Survey 2014-2015, 24 districts of Sindh (Karachi, Kashmor and Larkana are on the route) have composite indices of education, health, housing and social welfare of 4.42% in Badin, 4.42% in health, 4.42% in education and 4.42% in health, respectively. Housing index 15.17%, social welfare composite index 6.65%; Dadu's education index is 2.27%, health index is 3.35%, housing index is 6.33%, social welfare composite index is 3.63%; Ghotki has an education index of 3.61%, a health index of 9.24%, a housing index of 12.24% and a general social welfare index of 7.41%; Haiderabad's education index was 2.80%, health index 3.36%, housing index 3.73% and social welfare Composite index 3.27%. Jacobabad Education Index 3.77%, health index 8.64%, housing index 20.75%, social welfare Composite index 8.75%; Jamshoro has an education index of 3.08%, a health index of 3.86%, a housing index of 6.42% and a social welfare Composite index of 4.24%; Karachi has an Education index of 3.48%, a health index of 4.26%, a housing index of 3.62%, and a Social welfare Composite index of 3.77%; Kashmor's education Index is 6.56 per cent, the health index 13.38 per cent, the housing index 23.75 per cent and the social welfare Composite Index 12.74 per cent; Khairpur has an education index of 2.74%, a health index of 6.37%, a housing index of 13.78% and a social welfare composite index of 6.21%; Larkana has an education index of 4.15%, a health index of 6.08%, a housing index of 9.33% and a comprehensive index of social welfare of 6.16%. Matiari's education index was 3.63 percent, health index 3.72 percent, housing index 10.12 percent, and social welfare composite index 5.14 percent. Mirpur Khaas has an education index of 3.59%, a health index of 4.43%, a housing index of 10.87% and a composite index of social welfare of 5.56%; Naushehro Feroz's education index is 2.76%, his health index is 3.89%, his housing index is 9.39%, and his social welfare composite index is 4.65%; S. Benazirabad has an education index of 4.66 per cent, a health index of 4.79 per cent, a housing index of 23.97 per cent and a composite index of social welfare of 8.10 per cent; Sajwal's education index is 2.70%, health index is 4.50%, housing index is 5.27%, social welfare composite index is 4.00%; Sakhur has an education index of 3.67%, a health index of 5.60%, a housing index of 11.34% and a general index of social welfare of 6.14%; Sanghar's Education Index is 3.45%, health Index is 4.92%, housing index is 15.09%, social welfare Composite index is 6.34%; Shahdatkot's education index is 2.97%, health index is 5.36%, housing index is 10.47%, social welfare composite index is 5.50%;

Shikarpur's education index is 3.62%, health index 6.47%, housing index 12.36%, social welfare Composite index 6.60%; Tadu Alayaar's education index is 3.99%, health index is 4.32%, housing index is 8.65%, social welfare composite index is 5.29%; TandoM. Khan's Education index was 5.77%, health index 4.87%, housing index 17.03%, and social welfare Composite index 7.81%; Tharparkar's education index was 3.82%, health index 7.23%, housing index 25.14% and social welfare Composite index 8.89%; Thatta's education index is 6.10%, health index is 5.07%, housing index is 12.74%, and social welfare composite index is 7.32%; Umerkot has an education index of 3.77%, a health index of 4.24%, a housing index of 24.62% and a social welfare composite index of 7.32%; The average for education was 3.81%, the average for the health index was 5.52%, the average for housing was 13.0%, and the average for the social welfare composite index was 6.31%.

Sindh is home to 24.3% of Pakistan's population and has a poverty incidence of 44.65% (Rashida Haq& Nadia Farooq, 2016), The above data shows that social welfare increased by 6.31%, and regions with low social welfare ranking also saw a substantial increase in social welfare.

Pashtun province is located in northwest Pakistan and is the smallest province in the country. Pashtun province accounts for only 11.9% of the total population of the country. According to BISP(2016), Pashtun province has 36.9% poor population and 23.8% unemployed youth. According to the Pakistan Social and Living Standards Survey 2014-2015, 25 districts in Pashtun province (Bannu, D.I Khan and Kohat and Peshawar are the districts along the route) have composite indices for education, health, housing and social welfare of, respectively, The education index of Abbotabad is 2.74%, the health index is 3.12%, the housing index is 3.90% and the social welfare composite index is 3.21%; Bannu's education index is 4.11%, health index 10.64%, housing index 7.46% and social welfare composite index 6.87%; Batagram s education index was 4.23 percent, health index 5.67 percent, housing index 5.56 percent, and social welfare composite index 5.10 percent. Buner's education index was 3.03%, health index 4.13%, housing index 5.53%, and social welfare composite index 4.10%. The education index of Charsadda is 3.00%, the health index is 3.68%, the housing index is 5.01%, and the social welfare composite index is 3.80%. Chitral has an education index of 2.75%, a health index of 3.69%, a housing index of 6.06% and a social welfare composite index of 3.94%; D.I Khan's Education index 6.55%, health index 7.42%, housing index 15.74%, social welfare Composite index 9.12%Haripur's Education index 2.57%, health index 3.30%, housing index 4.02%, social welfare composite index 3.24%; Hungo has an education index of 3.29%, a health index of 4.06%, a housing index of 5.05% and a social welfare composite index of 4.07%; Karak has an education index of 3.57%, a health index of 6.16%, a housing index of 7.25% and a social welfare composite index of 5.41%; Kohat education index is 4.41%, health index is 5.53%, housing index is 8.55%, social welfare composite index is 5.92%; Kohistan has an education index of 7.47%, a health index of 10.18%, a housing index of 15.34% and a social welfare composite index of 10.46%; Lakki Marwat's education index is 3.15%, health index is 8.66%, housing index is 7.19%, social welfare composite index is 5.80%; The Education Index of the Lower Dir is 3.07%, the health index is 3.20%, the housing index is 5.90% and the social welfare Composite index is 3.86%; Malakand PA has an education index of 2.59%, a health index of 3.75%, a housing index of 5.20% and a social welfare composite index of 3.69%; The education index of Mansehra is 2.96%, the health index is 4.09%, the housing index is 5.93% and the social welfare composite index is 4.15%; The education index of Mardan is 2.61%, the health index is 3.32%, the housing index is 4.50%, and the social welfare composite index is

3.39%; Noshehra's education index is 2.67%, health index is 3.46%, housing index is 4.44%, social welfare composite index is 3.45%; Peshawar has an education index of 4.32%, a health index of 4.79%, a housing index of 5.59% and a general social welfare index of 4.87%; Shangla has an education index of 5.45%, a health index of 6.58%, a housing index of 8.88%, and a comprehensive social welfare index of 6.82%. Swabi's education index is 2.64%, health index is 3.90%, housing index is 4.38%, social welfare composite index is 3.55%; Swat had an education index of 2.98%, a health index of 3.56%, a housing index of 4.88%, and a comprehensive index of social welfare of 3.72%. Tank's education index is 4.58%, health index 5.61%, housing index 6.76%, and social welfare composite index 5.57%. Tor Ghar's education index is 5.65%, health index 13.15%, housing index 6.23%, and social welfare Composite index 7.60%; The Upper Dir education Index is 4.32 percent, the health index is 4.90 percent, the housing index is 11.53 percent, and the social welfare Composite Index is 6.23 percent.

In Pashtun province, the overall growth of social welfare was 5.19 per cent, education 3.79 per cent, health 5.94 per cent and housing 7.03 per cent. According to the Pakistan Social and Living Standards Survey 2014-2015, the composite index of education, health, housing and social welfare in 30 districts of Balochistan (Gawadar, Kalat and Ketch and Khuzdar, Punjgur, Quetta and Zhob are located along the route) is, respectively, Awaran's education Index was 3.89%, health Index 4.05%, housing index 9.71% and social welfare Composite Index 5.34%; Barkhan's education index was 4.00%, health index 3.86%, housing index 14.65% and social welfare composite index 6.08%. Chagai's education index is 5.43%, health index 6.46%, housing index 14.17% and social welfare composite index 7.91%; Dera Bugti has an education index of 7.26%, a health index of 16.72%, a housing index of 9.39% and a social welfare composite index of 10.42%; Gawadar has an education index of 4.05%, a health index of 5.72%, a housing index of 7.82% and a general social welfare index of 5.655%; Harnai's education index was 6.89%, health index 6.03%, housing index 8.68%, and social welfare composite index 7.11%; The education index in Jaffar Abad is 4.50 per cent, the health index 6.59 per cent, the housing index 10.34 per cent and the social welfare composite index 6.73 per cent; Jhal Magssi education index 4.32%, health index 5.37%, housing index 11.78%, social welfare composite index 6.47%; Kachi (Bolan) has an education index of 4.92%, a health index of 5.05%, a housing index of 8.93% and a social welfare composite index of 6.04%; Kalat's education index is 5.18%, health index is 6.24%, housing index is 6.64%, social welfare composite index is 5.98%; Ketch has an education index of 4.58%, a health index of 7.82%, a housing index of 10.40%, and a social welfare composite index of 7.18%; Kharan has an education index of 3.90%, health index of 4.31%, housing index of 6.19% and social welfare Composite index of 4.70%; The education index of Khuzdar is 5.19%, the health index is 9.37%, the housing index is 9.64%, and the social welfare composite index is 7.75%;

The education index of Kila Abdullah is 6.24%, the health index is 8.45%, the housing index is 9.58%, and the social welfare composite index is 7.95%. Killa Saif Ullah's education index was 4.19%, health index 5.17%, housing index 4.30% and social welfare Composite index 4.52%; Kohlu's education index was 4.86 percent, health index 6.20 percent, housing index 10.55 percent, and social welfare composite index 6.81 percent. Lasbela has an education index of 4.68%, a health index of 3.83%, a housing index of 8.13% and a social welfare composite index of 5.25%; Loralai has an education index of 3.28%, a health index of 7.73%, a housing index of 9.14% and a comprehensive index of social welfare of 6.13%; Mastung's education Index was 2.78%, health index 4.75%, housing index 4.12% and social welfare Composite Index 3.79%; Musa Khel has an

education index of 4.13%, a health index of 6.28%, a housing index of 11.23% and a composite index of social welfare of 6.61%; Nasir abad has an education index of 5.58%, a health index of 7.38%, a housing index of 16.00% and a composite index of social welfare of 8.68%; Noshki's education index is 3.78%, health index is 5.69%, housing index is 4.13%, social welfare composite index is 4.45%; Pishin's education index is 5.08%, health index 5.38%, housing index 4.67%, social welfare composite index 5.03%; Punjgur's education index is 4.92%, health index 7.52%, housing index 12.88% and social welfare Composite index 7.79%; Quetta's education index is 4.54%, health index is 4.92%, housing index is 5.84%, social welfare composite index is 5.06%; Sheerani's education index is 5.19%, health index is 5.13%, housing index is 10.59%, social welfare composite index is 6.54%; Sibbi has an education index of 4.47%, a health index of 3.73%, a housing index of 5.44% and a social welfare Composite index of 4.48%; Washuk had an education index of 3.98%, a health index of 8.72%, a housing index of 12.46% and a social welfare composite index of 7.55%; The education index of Zho is 6.57%, the health index is 6.04%, the housing index is 16.37%, and the social welfare composite index is 8.64%. Ziarat has an education index of 3.84 percent, a health index of 5.31 percent, a housing index of 10.63 percent, and a social welfare composite index of 5.99 percent.

Baluchistan province, in southwestern Pakistan, has 44% of the country and only 5% of the population According to BISP(2016), 44% of the population is poor. The industrial base of this province is backward, and the distribution of mineral resources is less than that of other provinces of Pakistan. The implementation of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor and large amount of investment in this region have resulted in the growth rate of social welfare composite index of 6.42%, education index of 4.74%, health index of 6.33% and housing index of 9.4%.

Conclusion

The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor is an important part of the Belt and Road project (Kanwal, 2019), It is the most important "economic change project" in Pakistan (Ali, S., 2015). The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor connects Pakistan with western parts of China, Kashgar and Xinjiang provinces through Gwadar Port, Baluchistan, Punjab, Pashtun and other regions. The theme of this game-changing project is to bring economic development to both countries and expand Chinese production to markets in every corner of the world (Ahmed, A., 2017), At the same time, it will provide Pakistan with a favourable opportunity for industrial development and overcoming the economic crisis, since Pakistan's economy is a key factor in stabilizing and mitigating the internal crisis.

According to Makhdoom (2018), the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor is not only the name of the commercial route between Pakistan and China, but also a whole set of industrial, educational, economic and infrastructure development projects 2016). The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor projects are roughly divided into three major projects: Gwadar port, road transport infrastructure and energy development. The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor is a game-changing project for Pakistan, which has the potential to raise the lowest level of economy in Pakistan and create thousands of new jobs for the Pakistani community. The net impact of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor project is expected to be a win-win initiative that will increase geographical connectivity and create millions of jobs for local people, thereby increasing household income

This study provides suggestions for CPEC officials on the perception of local communities in Pakistan. At the same time, it has increased the knowledge of ordinary Pakistanis about the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor plan. The smooth implementation and operation of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor project cannot be achieved without the support of the local community. If local residents have a positive view of the development of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, they will be enthusiastic and contribute to the development. As for the level of support from local residents, it varies with the increase in benefits. The study shows that the growth rate of social welfare in Pakistan by 2020 is 5.21%, education 3.85%, health 4.74% and housing 8.60%. All three net contributors to social welfare (education, health, housing) have increased, and the project looks promising in Baluchistan, where poverty rates are relatively high, especially the Gwadar mega port project. The first and most important initiative of the port will bring huge infrastructure changes to many parts of the Gwadar region including Baluchistan. Similarly, the development of Gwadar as a hub for import and export trade will also lead to the development of income inequality between the people of Gwadar and the rest of the province. In order to eliminate the income gap, the government should respond to this future trend of economic inequality by establishing small industries and developing infrastructure in other parts of the province so that the quality of life of the people can be improved. Therefore, it can be concluded that the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor can promote the increase of social welfare in the country.

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