

“OPENING CEREMONY OF FIRST BATCH OF PAKISTANI STUDENTS SELECTED UNDER CRBC SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM HELD AT SOUTH EAST UNIVERSITY CHINA”

An official Opening Ceremony to welcome the first batch of Pakistani students selected under the China Road and Bridge Corporation (CRBC) sponsored fully funded scholarship program was held at the main campus of South East University China on 30th October 2017. Prof. Dr. Arshad Ali, Executive Director, Higher Education Commission, Islamabad graced the occasion as the chief guest of the ceremony. The first batch of ten students was selected through a highly competitive selection process jointly coordinated by HEC Islamabad, CRBC China and South East University China. The students selected under the program will study for a two-year postgraduate course “Masters in Transportation Engineering” at South East University China as part of a commercial sponsorship program by CRBC to offer full scholarships for Pakistanis in the coming years. In this regard, a Document of Understanding has already been signed between HEC and CRBC.



Prof. Dr. Arshad Ali, Executive Director, HEC presenting shield to Mr. Lu Shan, Chairman CRBC

During the Ceremony, the China Road and Bridge Corporation (CRBC) and The South East University, China (SEU) also signed Strategic Cooperation Agreement aiming to jointly carry out talent training, exchange of teachers and scientific research based on “BELT and ROAD” Initiative. Following the “BELT and ROAD” Initiative and constant deepening of CPEC construction, the requirement of high end technical and management professionals along the Belt and Road countries increases continually. Under the great support of Education Department of China and Pakistan, CRBC in this year has launched “INHERIT OF PAK-CHINA FRIENDSHIP, HUNDRED TALENTS STUDY FINANCING PROGRAM” and will fully fund 100 in-service staff from federal/provincial government, technical persons and prominent graduates to study for higher education in China. The program aims to develop high end professionals in transportation field in Pakistan.

During his speech on the occasion, the Executive Director of HEC, Prof. Dr. Arshad Ali thanked CRBC for its tremendous support for development in Pakistan. He said that Pakistan is located at the junction of South, Central and West Asia which is also the junction of “Belt and Road” Initiative. Chinese and Pakistani people have long standing and well established friendship ties. Both countries, being the all-weather strategic cooperation partners, have carried out deep cooperation in many fields including education, economy and military. The Executive Director HEC desired that the selected students will become the young generation inheritor and promoter of Pak-China Friendship and also devote themselves to the development of Pakistan after completing their study and contribute to the nation-building.



Group Photo

The President of South East University, Mr. Zhang Guangjun said that SEU attaches high importance to cooperate with Belt and Road Countries based on Belt and Road Initiative. He said that he looks forward to these Pakistani students to become the ambassador of science and technology innovation and deepening of friendship between China and Pakistan and will devote themselves to promote the sustainable development in both countries.

During his address, Chairman/Secretary of the Party Committee of CRBC, Mr. Lu Shan said that China and Pakistan have a long history of friendship. CRBC in the time of devoting itself to CPEC infrastructure construction – hard connectivity, is even more emphasizing on soft connectivity of people from both countries. He added that during the 1960s, CRBC, then known as the foreign aid office of ministry of transportation, constructed the only land route between Pakistan and China- the Karakoram Highway Road where more than 700 engineers lost their lives. After half century, CRBC once again has taken the responsibility to construct the KKH Improvement and Phase-II project. He pointed that CRBC has also donated more than 100 million USD for relief and rescue purpose.