

## "Hurdles in STEC"

Foreign Ministry of China, in their joint press release, has clearly mentioned that there is no compromise on political stability and security for investment to come to Pakistan. This statement came after the PM of Pakistan's recent visit to China. This statement came in response to the frequent attacks on Chinese workers in Pakistan. The most frequent one was in Besham, which TTP has claimed the responsibility. The Chinese workers are continuously attacked since the recent wave of terrorism emerged after the temporary cease fire in 2021. This contemporary scenario provides little hope for foreign investment to come.

Other countries also have the same reservation.

No country will be ready to invest in such dire state of insecurity. Saudi Arabia, UAE and Qatar, for example want to invest in agriculture industry. Pakistan has very large potential for investment in the field of agriculture. But with this state of security the potential is of no use.

Another hurdle and for investments to come to Pakistan is its political instability.

No country wants to invest in politically unstable country. The country where policy changes occur more frequently than clothes, no country wants to invest in. The issues and reservations of each party should be listened

and resolved before deciding a policy. In this case there are less chances of changing in Policy with the government change.

Lower GDP and growth rate is also a problem.

The countries with lower growth rate is not attractive to other countries for investment.

No country want to invest in the state, where people don't have money to buy things. No doubt Pakistan is in a loophole that requires foreign investment to improve growth rate, and to improve growth rate to attract foreign investment. But still Pakistan need to work on this issue. Promoting local businesses and by supporting exporters this hurdle can be removed from the way of foreign investments.

In order to make SIFC successful, Pakistan need to seriously work on these issues and also have to dealt with them very carefully in order to avoid more conflict and chaos.