

Award Ceremony of the Karot Project Medical Team

(02 November 2021)

H.E. Mr. Hong Wenhao, Vice President of CTG

The dignitaries from Foreign Affairs Offices of Hubei Province and Yichang

The leaders and Medical Team of Yichang People's First Hospital

Ladies and Gentlemen,

- It is my great honour and privilege to attend this special award ceremony to warmly welcome the heroic medical team of Yichang People's First Medical Hospital which returned Hubei Province from Pakistan after serving more than one-year at Karot.
- I sincerely thank the China Three Gorges Corporation for organizing this long-awaited event to honor our heroes. Initially, it was planned to be held at the Embassy in July. However, it had to be postponed in view of unavoidable circumstances of COVID-19.

Dear Friends,

- I vividly remember that during my visit to Yichang People's First Hospital in April, we had an opportunity to interact online with these heroes. At that time, their family members were there as well. Those were very emotional moments. It brought tear to my eyes as well. Today, I have the privilege to meet them face to face.
- Each one of this team is a shining star and an Ambassador of China-Pakistan friendship and solidarity. With their courageous and fearless efforts, their selfless and dedicated services, they have deeply touched our hearts. These heroes have written a golden chapter of solidarity between our two countries and their great services during the most difficult times will be remembered for long. On behalf of the Government and the people of Pakistan, I want to convey our sincere gratitude to all the members of this medical team and also pay tribute to their parents and families for raising these brave sons and daughters.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

- China-Pakistan Friendship is unique and special. It is unique because it is deeply rooted in the hearts of peoples of both countries. It is special because it always stands the test of time.
- Pakistan and China strong support to each other during Covid-19 pandemic is yet another shining example of our iron brotherhood. It has once again shown to the world that Pakistan and China are

reliable and trusted friends which stand by each other despite all challenges.

- At the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, Pakistan sent all its masks to China to support China's anti pandemic drive. Later on, China supported Pakistan with dispatch of critical medical supplies and then vaccines. More than 90% of our vaccination drive is based on Chinese vaccine. This support which is saving lives is greatly valued by the people of Pakistan.
- I take this opportunity to appreciate the efforts of the China Three Gorges Corporation in development of infrastructure in Pakistan. During the pandemic, CTG not only ensured that the work on the projects continued, but it also provided a great support to the workers and local people during pandemic. I am fully confident that hydropower projects like Karot and Sukki-Kinari will be a great success and greatly contribute to progress and prosperity of Pakistan.
- This year, we are commemorating the 70th anniversary of establishment of diplomatic relations between Pakistan and China. More than 100 events have already been held. Today's event is also a part of our bilateral commemorative events as it is dedicated to honor the heroes of the medical team. Their efforts and services deserve our appreciation and praise. Lets clap together to acknowledge and recognize their valuable contributions to our all-time cherished friendship.

(Long-Live Pakistan-China Friendship.)
(Ba-zhong Youyi Wan Sui)
