

CPEC Green Corridor records remarkable agro growth

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Under the CPEC Green Corridor throughout the year 2022, the agriculture sector has recorded a remarkable growth of 4.4 per cent and surpassed the target of 3.5 per cent as well as last year's growth of 3.48 per cent during FY2022.

According to Economic Survey, the growth in the agriculture sector was recorded 4.4 per cent and surpassed the target of 3.5 per cent. This remarkable growth is mainly underpinned by China-led assistance to Pakistan of many facets relating transfer of hands-on experience in the fields of intercropping, high-yield seeds, pest control, hybrid cultivation, corporate farming, innovate irrigation technique, agri machinery training, agri research & development, the protocol for Pak agri exports to China, digital farming and agri labour skills.

According to the local media, Since Sino-Pak agriculture has continued to deepen in 2022, Pakistan's agricultural products exported to China from January to August 2022 reached \$730 million with a year-on-year increase of 28.59 per cent. Pakistan's agricultural export to China is expected to exceed a record high of \$1 billion next year.

On the back of the 2022 Agri sector's milestone achievement, the focus of next year under CPEC Green Corridor will be continuing on improving land cultivation area, water management, better access to markets for inputs (seeds, fertilizers, farm mechanisation, credit, water) and outputs, improved infrastructure including storage and cooling facilities, reduction in post-harvest losses, greater investment in research, development and extension, improved quality and fulfilment of quarantine requirements for international markets and competitiveness, greater diversification, especially minor but high-value crops, farm input and effectiveness of markets.

The announcement of three new corridors under CPEC including the China Pakistan Green Corridor (CPGC), which focuses on the agricultural environment and food security speaks volumes about the significance of agricultural cooperation in CPEC.