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PRESS RELEASE

President Participated to the 9th Meeting of the High Level Working Group of ECO Container Train on Islamabad-Tehran-Istanbul (ITI) Route

President H.E. Javaid Aslam participated to the 9th Meeting of the High Level Working Group of ECO Container Train on Islamabad-Tehran-Istanbul (ITI) Route, which was held on 12 July 2017 in Islamabad at the Ministry of Pakistan Railways.



The delegates from enroute member states i.e. the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, the Republic of Turkey, Representatives from the Islamic Development Bank, the ECO Trade and Development Bank and the ECO Secretariat attended the meeting to discuss the possibility of financing infrastructure projects along the Pakistani section of Islamabad-Tehran-Istanbul (ITI) route.

One of the proposed projects was the restoration and renovation of the 612 km Quetta-Taftan railway track which is an important section that can open a new era for Pakistan Railways as the Minister of Railways, H.E. Saad Rafiq stated.

Underlining the importance of having a “timetable” for the project, the President of the ECO Bank, Mr Javaid Aslam further noted that there was a need to think beyond the ITI Container Train, notably about Passenger Train services as well.

Mr Aslam also said that infrastructure on those railway tracks for making the route operational and viable was a must.

The Quetta-Taftan Railway Line, also referred as "Main Line 4" or "ML-4", starts from Quetta and ends at Koh-e-Taftan and there are 23 railway stations between the subject stations. The line then crosses into Iran and extends to Zahedan.