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Pakistan Successfully Hosted SCO Summit and Improving Soft Power



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Pakistan is set to demonstrate its resilience and capacity to engage globally. We enhanced our soft image through forums such as the SCO Summit. We have a great opportunity to



improve and develop Pakistan's soft image in the region and worldwide, and we should be able to use it for diplomacy on other platforms. The event also represents a hopeful move toward economic stability following months of turmoil.

The SCO summit provided Pakistan with a chance to engage substantively with regional countries while also emphasizing the country's strategic relevance in regional partnerships. As an organization dedicated to developing political, economic, and security-related partnerships, the SCO provides a vital forum for Pakistan, particularly in terms of strengthening economic connections and resolving common regional concerns.

The SCO's beginnings may be traced back to the Shanghai Five, an organization led by China and Russia that developed a framework in 1996 with the participation of Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, and Tajikistan. When Uzbekistan joined in 2001, the organization underwent a makeover. The expansion of SCO Pakistan and India joined the regional organization in June 2017, with Iran joining in 2023 and Belarus anticipated following suit soon. This organization's expansion emphasizes its growing relevance as a

forum for regional cooperation and conversation for new member states as well as amongst nations with varied political, social, economic, and cultural interests.

Pakistan is scheduled to hold a key international diplomatic meeting on October 15-16, which has been successfully sponsored by the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO)

Council of Heads of Government. The SCO member nations jointly account for 40% of the world's population and around 32% of global GDP. This organization provides its members with an important opportunity to help shape the future direction and global order. The SCO's goals go beyond economic partnership; they include addressing

security problems, improving regional security and stability, and fostering socio-cultural links among member nations. The organization's various initiatives demonstrate its dedication to successfully



addressing issues posed by terrorism, regional tension and conflict, and other kinds of instability.

This summit brings together senior leaders from eleven regional nations and Central Asian leadership, including notable names such as Chinese and Russian prime ministers.

S. Jaishankar, India's External Affairs Minister attended the summit. The SCO summit



provides an excellent chance to promote Pakistan's soft and good image throughout the world. Pakistan has a unique chance to position itself as a critical connection in the area by enabling debate on economic cooperation, trade connectivity, cultural exchanges, youth participation, idea sharing, and discussions on regional unity and peace. However, this is an exciting chance for Pakistan to bolster its position in the SCO. Collective efforts and collaboration improve SCO measures that promote regional integration and shared prosperity. This summit provides chances for member governments to discuss critical challenges confronting the global south today, including as terrorism, extremism, security, trade barriers, and environmental sustainability.

This summit is critical for Pakistan's future, serving as both a chance and a challenge as the country navigates internal and global issues. It must accept its position as a soft power enhancer and facilitator of discussion and collaboration, laying the groundwork for a more cohesive and prosperous region. Pakistan must address the combined achievements of Pakistan and the SCO member nations.