

## **Chinese development is a result of careful economic planning**

**Aarish U. Khan**

ISLAMABAD: “Careful planning coupled with investment in education and research is the secret of Chinese development,” said Mr. Aarish U. Khan, Research Analyst at the Institute of Regional Studies (IRS), during a roundtable discussion organized by his institute here on Tuesday. Mr. Khan was sharing his thoughts and experiences with the research staff of IRS upon return from a two-week “Know China” visit organized by the Chinese People’s Association for Peace and Development (CPAPD). He shared that during a visit to the South China Agriculture University in Guangzhou, China, it was revealed to him that the university had received around \$ 40 million for research in 2010-11.

Mr. Khan attributed the fast-paced economic growth of China to careful economic planning. He shared that China had announced its 12<sup>th</sup> Five-year Plan in March 2011, and that it had already evaluated the progress on its targets in the initial six months of the plan on indicators such as control of inflation, creation of jobs, reduction in carbon-emission, and reforestation. He added that after the rapid economic development of the past couple of decades, it was now concentrating on equitable geographical distribution of wealth as well as restoration of environment affected by the development process.

At the commencement of the discussion the President of IRS, Mr. Ashraf Azim, also paid his condolences on the death of Begum Nusrat Bhutto, the Mother of Democracy in Pakistan. Mr. Azim said that Begum Bhutto was an icon of democracy and human rights, and that she was always at the forefront in the struggles against military dictatorships in Pakistan. *Fateha* was also offered for the eternal peace of the departed soul of the great lady.