



NIMA-ISSI hold joint seminar on 'Challenges to Maritime Trade'

ISLAMABAD

The National Institute of Maritime Affairs (NIMA) Islamabad, in collaboration with the Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI), organized 2nd seminar of the series on Blue Economy, titled "Challenges to Maritime Trade." It was centered around regional connectivity initiatives including BRI, global & regional security imperatives, latest technological & climate stimuli, etc.

In his opening remarks, Vice Admiral (Retd) Ahmed SaeedHI(M), President NIMA, while welcoming the guests, outlined the key themes of the topic. The Guest of Honor Captain. Naeem Sarfraz, emphasized the importance of inclusion of subject-matter experts in the policy-making hierarchy. He also advised to adopt cheap, safe and green inland water transportation system.

Renowned scholars Dr. Anjum Sarfraz, Dr. Hassan Daud and Dr. Maliha Zeba Khan set the stage for ensuing panel discussions.

The panelist included renowned experts, i.e. Ambassador Nadeem Riyaz, Dr. Sha-

bana Fayyaz, Dr Salma Malik, Dr Faiz Hussain, Dr Khurram Iqbal, and Dr Usman Chohan. They offered further insights into Pakistan's missing links of maritime vision, policy, strategy and its implementation plan. There is a need to interlace maritime diplomacy with global maritime industry.

The participants

also lauded the efforts of Pak Navy in expanding the scope of 'Exercise Aman' by introducing PIMEC initiative to integrate world maritime industry into the national economy. It was a concerted view that maritime trade generates economic activities, that eventually contributes to national power; therefore, its an established historical

fact that trade sprouts the major powers' status.

The Chief Guest, Vice Admiral Ahmad Tasnim HI(M), SJ & BA R S.Bt (Retd), appreciated the quality input by all experts. He suggested to the country's economic policy-makers to shift the 'Center of Gravity' of the economy from north to south.—PR