

**PRESIDENT'S SECRETARIAT (PUBLIC)**  
**PRESS WING**

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**(PR No. 47/2019)**

**ISLAMABAD; April 02, 2019:** President Dr. Arif Alvi has said that the new government has an ambitious, people-centric agenda for the socio-economic development of Pakistan that will drive our foreign policy. He underlined that the broad based socio-economic reforms are aimed at creating sustained growth that will lead to greater employment opportunities for our youth.

The President said this while talking to a delegation from Cornell University, USA, who called on him in Islamabad on Tuesday.

The President highlighted that the region has historically been a connector of markets, and with CPEC projects, it offers unprecedented potential for regional trade that will be a key driver for economic growth. He underscored that the government is committed to adopting an open door policy and has recently introduced a more liberalized visa regime to welcome visitors and businessmen to Pakistan. He stated that the Government will continue implementing reforms to make Pakistan a business and tourism friendly country. Furthermore, he underscored that US, being one of Pakistan's largest investors and trade partners, can also explore tremendous business opportunities in Pakistan. He also highlighted the diversity of Pakistani Diaspora that has become a productive part of American society.

The President reiterated Pakistan's desire for peace in the region and highlighted its sacrifices in the fight against terrorism. He stated that Pakistan would be a partner with US for peace in Afghanistan. He also welcomed President Trump's desire to work with Pakistan in this regard. Moreover, he underscored that Pakistan showed restraint at India's irresponsible behavior after the recent Pulwama Attack in Kashmir. In this regard, he also urged the US to play its part in persuading India to reciprocate Pakistan's repeated gestures of peace.

In the end, the President expressed his hope that such tours will provide first-hand knowledge about Pakistan's culture, people, civil society and institutions.

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