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# The Business

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Corrupt  
practices of  
Zardari,  
Sharif eras  
put Pak on  
FATF grey list



## Govt to fully implement CPEC, says Dar

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Muhammad Ishaq Dar here on Saturday reaffirmed the firm resolve of the government for successfully implementing China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) project as it will play an important role in taking local economy forward as well as cementing the bilateral relationship between both the countries.

Talking to Ambassador of the People's Republic of China Nong Rong, who called on him, the minister said that Pakistan and China were enjoying deep-rooted friendly relations which were strengthening with each passing day, said a press release. The minister further highlighted the economic challenges and policies of the present government with aim to bring

about economic and fiscal stability. He also appreciated the support extended by the Chinese leadership for flood relief and refinancing of syndicate facility of RMB 15 billion (\$2.24 billion) to Pakistan.

The Ambassador reaffirmed the Chinese Govt's continued support to Pakistan and thanked the Govt of Pakistan on facilitating Chinese companies in various projects in Pakistan.

He also assured full support and cooperation of Chinese Government in developing Special Economic Zones as part of CPEC.

The proposed visit of Prime Minister of Pakistan to China was also discussed in the meeting and both sides hoped that the visit will enhance bilateral relations between both the countries. —APP



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif addresses a press conference.

■ PM greets nation over Pakistan's exit from FATF's grey list

## COAS appointment a routine process, says PM Shehbaz

From Our Staff Correspondent

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Saturday while terming former PM and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chairman Imran Khan a 'certified thief' said that long march will not be allowed to enter in Islamabad.

Addressing a press conference in Islamabad day after the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) disqualified the PTI chairman in Toshakhana reference, the prime minister also ruled out option of holding early elections and said that the general elections were still 11 months away. He said that Pakistan has come out of the FATF grey list. "I congratulate the entire nation from the bottom of my heart, adding that it was made possible by collective efforts and vision." "Pakistan has made unprecedented sacrifices in the war against terrorism and it is the success of all individuals, institutions and authorities who worked day and night."

The Prime Minister said that the chairman who used foul language and leveled false allegations against his political opponents, now stood as the certified embodiment of falsehood, dishonesty and deceitfulness. Shehbaz

Sharif said that the decision of the ECP over Toshakhana was not a matter of rejoice, but a matter of retrospection as the person who was continuously indulged in mud-slinging had been proved as a certified thief, liar and dishonest.

Imran Niazi had been found guilty of corrupt practices by the ECP, he said, adding that the person was brought to power with the worst kind of rigging.

PM Shehbaz went on to say that Imran Niazi had illegally sold out the precious gifts given by the friendly countries which brought bad name to the country. He said with the ECP's decision, his stance had once again vindicated that the false allegations and political witch-hunting against them, during Imran Niazi's tenure, was a result of NAB-Niazi connivance.

**PM castigates Imran after disqualification in Toshakhana case**

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Friday castigated PTI Chairman Imran Khan, calling him a "certified thief" after the latter's disqualification in the Toshakhana reference for making "false statements and incorrect declaration".

He expressed the views while addressing a news conference in Lahore alongside Law Minister Azam Nazeer

Tarar and adviser Attaullah Tarar.

Commenting on Imran's disqualification, PM Shehbaz said that his predecessor had been proven to be a "certified liar and a thief". However, he cautioned that this was not a moment of happiness, but one of "reflection". He alleged that Imran came into power after the "worst rigging", adding that the PTI chief auctioned off state gifts after claiming the proceeds would go to the treasury.

"The nation would have saluted you if you had deposited money from selling state gifts in the treasury. I would've too despite being your political opponent," he said, adding that Imran had disrespected Pakistan, PM said that he had once received a letter from the Cabinet Division about being able to buy a state gift after paying a certain amount.

"I answered back to the letter saying, 'No, thank you' and deposited [the gift] in the Toshakhana." He said state gifts were now being displayed at the Prime Minister House to dispel the impression that they go missing. "Now, I have them [displayed] in PM House so the people know who sold the gifts and pocketed the money." PM Shehbaz said that disrespecting the country in this manner was a "very serious thing".

## FATF decision a huge relief to nation, say FM, others

From Our Staff Correspondent

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue, Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar has felicitated the nation on removal of Pakistan's name from Financial Action Task Force's (FATF) grey list. In a tweet, the finance minister said that the efforts of the civil-military team under the leadership of Prime Minister, Shehbaz Sharif in achieving the goal were highly commendable.

"Heartiest congratulations to the Nation on removal of Pakistan's name today from the FATF's 'grey list'. Efforts of the civil-military team under the leadership of PM @CMShehbaz in achieving this goal are highly commendable. Pakistan Zindabad", he tweeted.

British High Commissioner to Pakistan Christian Turner has congratulated

Pakistan over the country's exclusion from the grey list of Financial Action Task Force (FATF). In a tweet uploaded on Saturday, the British envoy said that the Pakistan's removal from the grey list was the result of systemic hard work over three years to address terrorist financing and money-laundering. He tagged Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hina Rabbani Khar in his tweet.

The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) Friday excluded Pakistan from its grey list. FATF president Raja Kumar announced this in a press conference in Paris. A decision to this effect was taken in a four-day FATF Plenary session held in Paris from October 16 to 21.

The session was chaired by FATF President Raja Kumar while representatives of the 206-member global network and observer organisations

participated in the meetings. Members of the IMF, the World Bank, the UN, and the Financial Intelligence Unit also participated in the meetings. Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hina Rabbani Khar represented Pakistan at the meeting during which the global anti-money laundering watchdog discussed Islamabad's efforts to exit its grey list.

The Federation of Pakistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry's United Business Group Saturday hailing the decision of the Financial Action Task Force excluding Pakistan from its notorious grey list said it will herald an era of economic stability and boosting exports.

Chairing UBG meeting here today it's Chairman Shahzad Ali Malik, Sitara-I-Imtiaz said here on Saturday

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## Terrorism case against PTI leaders registered

ISLAMABAD: A case has been registered against local leadership of PTI Islamabad under terrorism act for staging protest against the disqualification of Imran Khan.

The case has been registered in police station i-9 at the behest of government. Amir Kayani, Qayyum Abbasi, Faisal Javed and Raja Rashid Hafiez have been named in the case. Umar Tanvir Butt, Rashid Naseem Abbasi and Raja Majid have also been nominated in the case.

As per context of FIR, PTI workers pelted stones on police, FC and administration injuring several police men and FC personnel injured. The demonstrators tried to mount vehicles on police men with the intent of killing them. They

torched the trees in Faizabad and surrounding areas besides making attempts to cause damage to government properties.

**Police book seven PTI leaders over protest**

Islamabad Police on Saturday registered an FIR against seven PTI leaders, including Senator Faisal Javed, chiefly under the Anti-Terrorism Act, for causing damage to public and private properties during their protest in Faizabad against the disqualification of former PM and their party Chairman Imran Khan by the ECP in the Toshakhana case.

Other PTI leaders, who were booked at I-9 police station of the federal capital, included Amir Kiani, Wamiq Qayyum Abbasi and Raja Rashid. —DNA

## Imran challenges ECP Toshakhana verdict in IHC

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf Chairman and former Prime Minister Imran Khan has challenged the ECP verdict declaring him disqualified in the Toshakhana reference in the Islamabad High Court on Saturday.

In his petition, Imran stated that the ECP does not have the jurisdiction to decide about the corrupt practices and disqualification. The petitioner requested the court to declare the ECP decision null and void. However, the IHC registrar raised an objection to the PTI chairman's petition saying that he did not get verified his biometrics result.

A four-member bench of Election Commission of

Pakistan headed by Chief Election Commissioner Sikandar Sultan Raja pronounced the unanimous verdict declaring former PM and PTI Chairman Imran disqualified in the Toshakhana reference and ordered criminal proceedings against him under Article 63(1)(P).

**March date to be given Thursday or Friday**

Former Prime Minister Imran Khan has said he will announce the date of the long march next Thursday or Friday.

Addressing a press conference with Senator Azam Swati, he said his party wants snap polls in the country to end prevailing uncertainty in the country. "But I am sure that the incumbent rulers will not an-

## Nawaz suggests free electricity upto 300 units

ISLAMABAD: Former prime minister and Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) supremo Nawaz Sharif on Saturday recommended free electricity to domestic consumers using up to 300 units per month.

The former premier put forward this suggestion during Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) meeting held in Islamabad, say sources. The PML-N supremo advised the coalition government to either provide free solar panels to masses or announce free electricity for up to 300 units. "If you have to do government then provide relief to the nation," he said.

Sources said that Finance Minister Ishaq Dar said that he can bring down dollar below 200 if government completes its tenure till August. Earlier, the PDM meeting had reiterated that the general polls would be called by the government and no violent mob would be allowed to dictate the government. The unity government coalition, after their consultative session on Monday, issued a joint statement, refusing PTI Chief Imran Khan's persistent demand to announce the general polls. —DNA

## 5 Indian soldiers killed in chopper crash near border

NEW DELHI: Five Indian army soldiers were killed when their helicopter crashed near the country's disputed border with China, the defence ministry said on Saturday -- the second such fatal accident in the region this month.

The Advance Light Helicopter came down on Friday south of Tuting, a remote town near the Line of Actual Control which divides India's northeastern Arunachal Pradesh state from Chinese territory. Air traffic controllers had received a mayday call before the crash that suggested technical or mechanical failure, the ministry said in a statement.

Four bodies had been recovered and rescuers were working to retrieve the fifth and final occupant of the helicopter, the statement said. "The Indian Army offers deepest condolences (and) stands firmly with the bereaved families," it added. —AFP

## PDM reiterates resolve to hold elections on time

ISLAMABAD: Welcoming the Election Commission of Pakistan's (ECP) decision to disqualify Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan for five years, the Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) once again reiterated its resolve to conduct the general elections on time.

A meeting of the coalition was held under the chairmanship of Maulana Fazlur Rehman, wherein they expressed satisfaction over the performance of the incumbent government. Talking to the media after the meeting, Fazl said, "Today is a blessed day in the sense that the nation got rid of a big calamity in the first meeting itself."

"Imran Khan, the killer of faith, the thief of wealth, the robber of modesty, the mastermind of bad civilisation has met his end," he lambasted Imran.

## No backdoor talks for polls: Kh Asif

ISLAMABAD: Defence Minister Khawaja Asif has said that no backdoor talks are going for the early elections in the country.

Talking to the media on Saturday, he said that the govt had neither held a backdoor meeting for holding the elections in March and April nor it had established a link with the PTI. "The elections will be held on time. Under the law, the army chief will be appointed next month," he maintained. He said that a lot has to be surfaced in the Toshakhana. "It is surprising that a bbig cheater had been PM of the country," he added. The minister said that Ch Parvez will not be able to support

## CM opens mobile food labs, checking squad, food squad

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Punjab Chief Minister Ch Parvez Elahi has become active to ensure provision of quality food to the people of Punjab. CM inaugurated the Mobile Food Labs and Checking Squad consisting of 55 vehicles and motorcycles.

The inaugural ceremony of Mobile Food Labs and Bike Squad was organised at the Chief Minister Office, on Saturday, in which Chief Minister Parvez Elahi was the chief guest.

The CM inspected the vehicles and bikes included in the Mobile Food Labs and Checking Squad and talked with the staff members. He said that

mobile food labs will help to maintain the quality of food adding that with the help of mobile food labs milk, spices, carbonated drinks, water, oil along with the prompt checking of the quality of other items will enable to get quick results and take immediate action on the spot. He highlighted that the mobile food labs will eliminate the trend of adulteration in food items. CM welcomed the launching of mobile food labs in Punjab adding that unhealthy food can cause more than 200 fatal diseases. It has become an essential aspect to get knowledge and awareness about the diseases being caused due to the usage of impure and unhygienic food.

It is highly imperative to have the latest machinery in order to check the violation of the hygiene rules and measure the quality. CM disclosed that initially the mobile food project has been launched from Sargodha, Gujranwala, Sahiwal, Faisalabad and Multan adding that this project will be spread in a phased manner across Punjab. The mobile food squad will also enable the checking of edibles in the streets.

Parvez was given a briefing about the Mobile Food Labs and Biking Squad. Provincial Food Minister Hasnain Bahadar Dreshak, Provincial Adviser on Home Omar Sarfaraz Cheema, Provincial Adviser Yousof



LAHORE: Punjab Chief Minister Ch Parvez Elahi talks after inaugurating the Mobile Food Labs and Checking Squad consisting of 55 vehicles and motorcycles.