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Pak women proving their mettle in business, other fields

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Arrangements for Guru Nanak birth anniversary approved



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Advise talks with Imran

SC rejects govt's request to stop PTI long march

From Our Staff Correspondent

ISLAMABAD: The Supreme Court on Wednesday rejected the federal government's request to immediately stop PTI chief Imran Khan's long march to Islamabad, with Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Umar Ata Bandial advising the govt to hold talks with the former prime minister.

The federal government filed a contempt of court plea against the PTI chairman in the Supreme Court over his long march to the federal capital. In its petition, the government said, "Imran Khan is making announcements to attack Islamabad", which it claimed was a violation of a court order. It urged the apex

court to direct the PTI chief to ensure the implementation of its orders related to protests and sit-ins. A five-member bench, headed by CJP Bandial, comprising Justice Ijaz ul Ahsan, Justice Munib Akhtar, Justice Yahya Afridi and Justice Sayyed Mazhar Ali Akbar Naqvi heard the plea. A day earlier, Khan said PTI will kick off its long march on October 28 (Friday) from Lahore.

The former prime minister said that all party workers, supporters and leaders will gather at Lahore's Liberty Chowk at 11am from where they will march towards Islamabad. In his arguments during the hearing, Additional Attorney General Aamir Rahman said that the reports of police and



MADINAH: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif offering prayer in Riaz ul Jannah, Masjid Al-Nabwi (SAW).

■ Imran using Arshad Sharif's killing for politics: Shehbaz

PM to upgrade ties with KSA in line with new realities

RIYADH: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has vowed to upgrade and enhance bilateral ties between Pakistan and Saudi Arabia in line with the requirements of the changing world.

The Prince left his delegation and took the premier to his farmhouse where they held a one-on-one meeting. They reviewed the entire gamut of bilateral relations and reaffirmed their commitment to further strengthen the fraternal bond between Pakistan and Saudi Arabia.

The Prime Minister thanked the Saudi leadership for extending assistance to Pakistan during the recent devastating floods, particularly for establishing the air bridge between Riyadh and Islamabad to provide relief goods in flood affected areas. Speaking on the occasion, Mohammed bin Salman termed the fraternal ties between Pakistan and Saudi Arabia very important for the two countries as well as for the region and the world.

Taking to his Twitter handle, Prime Minister Shehbaz wrote: "Just had excellent meeting with HRH Crown Prince Mohammed Bin Salman. We agreed to upgrade & enhance bilateral ties & fraternal bonds b/w Pakistan and Saudi Arabia to new heights in line with the requirements of changing world."

I told HRH people of Pakistan are eagerly looking forward to his visit. "Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif being warmly received by HRH Crown Prince Mohammed Bin Salman on his arrival at Royal Palace Riyadh ahead of their bilateral meeting, today."

Earlier, PM Shehbaz addressed the 'Future Investment Initiative' conference. He said that clean energy potential would be the new driver of economic prosperity and stressed upon the world community to come forward and support these joint efforts. "Nothing could be of more importance to us than this very challenge: how to ensure that our collective world of tomorrow – but to also shape it today in a manner that has the most beneficial impact on humanity," he added.

He said that they were living through truly transformational times, adding throughout history such times have triggered political, social environmental and economic changes. These changes had been powered by imagination, innovation and action. "Yes bold, decisive and consequential action. But the pace

of transformation and change was never as swift as it is today. With the power of technology driving the world towards a future few could imagine in the past, we are well positioned to harness the dynamics of change," he added.

The prime minister said tech power was a great equaliser. It could cut through social, cultural and financial barriers and empower those who were equipped to leverage it. The prime minister emphasized upon taking of innovative and bold steps in the technological fields which had brought about consequential changes in every sector of life.

Prime Minister Shehbaz further elaborated that Pakistan had experienced historic heat wave in March and torrential rains from June to August this year which led to unprecedented floods. "These rains and floods have impacted 33 million people, and more than 1,500 people have died. More than two million houses have been damaged, and over 3.5 million acres of crops have been lost, with farmlands, orchards, bridges, and road networks destroyed," he added. The prime minister expressed the resolve that they were committed to

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Forex boost: SBP receives \$1.5b from ADB, says Dar

From Our Staff Correspondent

ISLAMABAD: The Asian Development Bank (ADB) on Wednesday released \$1.5 billion for Pakistan to support the economy and rehabilitate the affected people in the wake of recent floods. The development was shared by Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Ishaq Dar on his Twitter handle.

"ADB has released funds \$1.5 billion to Pakistan under BRACE program for the credit of Government of Pakistan's account with State Bank of Pakistan (SBP)," said Dar. The funding will be utilised to fund the government's \$2.3 billion countercyclical development expenditure programme designed to cushion the impacts of external shocks, including the Russian invasion of Ukraine, said the Manila-based lender in a statement on Friday.

As of October 14, 2022, foreign exchange reserves held by the SBP clocked

in at \$7.6 billion, according to data released last week. Net foreign reserves held by commercial banks amounted to \$5.65 billion, taking the country's total reserves' position to \$13.25 billion. Last week, ADB had approved \$1.5 billion in financing to help the Pakistan government provide social protection, promote food security, and support employment for its people amid devastating floods and global supply chain disruptions.

The loan, provided under ADB's Building Resilience with Active Countercyclical Expenditures (BRACE), will be utilised to fund the government's \$2.3 billion countercyclical development expenditure programme designed to cushion the impacts of external shocks, including the Russian invasion of Ukraine, said the Manila-based lender in a statement on Friday.

part is part of ADB's response package to support people, livelihoods, and infrastructure in Pakistan in the wake of the recent floods which have affected over 33 million people and caused extensive damage to infrastructure and agriculture, it said. "Pakistan's recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic has been impeded by external shocks," said ADB Director General for Central and West Asia Yevgeniy Zhukov back then.

ADB releases \$1.5b to Pakistan under BRACE programme
The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has released funds worth 1.5 billion dollar to Pakistan under the BRACE programme.

Finance Minister Ishaq Dar, in a tweet on Wednesday, said that the amount has been released for the credit of Government of Pakistan's account with the State Bank of Pakistan.

Prince Salman orders release of Pakistanis

ISLAMABAD: The Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed Bin Salman Bin Abdulaziz on Wednesday ordered the release of Pakistani citizens jailed in Saudi Arabia for sloganeering at Masjid-e-Nabwi in April this year.

The decision was taken by the crown prince following a request by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, who concluded his visit to Saudi Arabia where he attended an investment summit, offered Umrah and paid respects at Roza-e-Rasool (Peace Be Upon Him). He also met Saudi Crown Prince and discussed the bilateral as well as the regional situation. The prime minister had requested the crown prince to pardon the convicted Pakistanis out of compassion.

"May Allah Almighty reward you for this," the prime minister said and thanked the crown prince for the gesture. Following the sloganeering at Masjid-e-Nabwi, a court in Madina Munawara had sentenced three Pakistanis with eight years and as many with six years imprisonment. —APP

Industry agrees to cut paracetamol products prices

ISLAMABAD: The pharma industry during a meeting with Finance Minister, Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar here Wednesday agreed to provide paracetamol products at reduced prices, tweeted the Finance Ministry. It said, the minister in a meeting with heads of main pharmaceutical companies discussed the retail price of paracetamol products.

The pharma industry agreed upon the reduced prices of paracetamol 500 mg tablet at Rs. 2.35; paracetamol extra 500mg at Rs. 2.75 and Syrup at Rs. 117.6, which is almost half of the price increase demanded by them. The ministry said, production of paracetamol products has been started. "Federal Finance Minister Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar in a meeting with heads of main pharmaceutical companies discussed the retail price of paracetamol products. —APP

Arshid Sharif murder team re-constituted

ISLAMABAD: The investigation team in connection with investigation into murder of journalist Arshid Sharif has been re-constituted. Interior ministry has issued new notification in this regard.

The new team will comprise Athar Wahid from FIA and Umar Shahid Hamid from Intelligence Bureau. PHC in Kenya will assist the team. Earlier interior minister Rana Sana Ullah had said in his statement a three members team has been framed comprising senior officers from intelligence agencies to probe into the murder of Arshid Sharif and anchor person Arshid Sharif. —APP

PTI releases long march schedule

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf on Wednesday released the schedule of its long march announced by Party Chairman Imran Khan. PTI Central Secretary General Asad Umar shared the details of the schedule of the long march on his Twitter handle. He said the march will leave Lahore on Oct 29.

After passing through Muridke, Kamonki, Gujranwala, Daska, Sialkot, Sambrial, Wazirabad, Gujrat, Lala Musa, Kharian, Jhelum, Gujranwala and Rawalpindi, Imran Khan (with marchers) will in Sha Allah reach Islamabad on Nov 4. All the caravans from across the country will reach Islamabad on the same day. In his earlier tweet, Asad Umar said, "On the first day of the march i.e. Oct 28, the procession will start from Liberty Chowk, Lahore and it will trudge through Ferozepur Road, Ichhra, Mozang, Data Databar and will reach Azadi Chowk. And the next day, the marchers will take GT Road to start their journey towards

PSX plunges by 1.54pc over political noise

From Our Staff Correspondent

KARACHI: Political uncertainty hit the Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) on Wednesday as the index nosedived 1.54 percent to close below 42,000.

Selling pressure remained evident throughout the session, pulling the market lower. As a result, the KSE-100 Index fell 650 points or 1.54% to close at 41,540.03. Across the board sell-off was witnessed at the bourse that stemmed from the announcement of another "long march" by PTI Chairman Imran late on Tuesday. The 'Haqiqi Azadi March' is set to begin from Lahore on Friday and will make its way to Islamabad.

Trading kicked off with

a drop and the market reported losses in the first half of the session. In the second half, the KSE-100 Index remained largely range-bound and closed in the red. All index-heavy sectors ending the day at a negative note. "This was expected after the long march announcement by PTI," Sana Tawfik, Vice President of Research at ArifHabib Limited (AHL) told Business Recorder.

"The ongoing political noise is very strong and despite results season, the uncertainty is expected to persist in the market," she added. The market expert said that despite recent positive developments including the removal of Pakistan from the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) grey list, "political uncertainty is over-

Pouring out onto streets for revolution: IK

From Our Staff Correspondent

SIALKOT: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman and former prime minister Imran Khan on Wednesday said that he is taking out to the streets, not for the long march but to bring revolution.

Addressing an event, the former premier went on to say that his long march is all set to kick off from Friday (October 28), adding that he will pour out onto the streets to bring actual freedom to the county. Saying that it is unfortunate that Pakistan has not managed to get actual freedom, Imran urged his supporters to come out for the sake of their children's future. Giving a message to his

followers, Imran said, "I will salute those people who will stand behind me till the last moment. Both old and new workers should get united as the long march is not meant for waging the political war. I will carry on my struggle, until the masses get their rights to elect leader of their own choice."

Imran challenges EC order of disqualification
PTI chairman Imran Khan has challenged the order of cancellation of his membership of NA in IHC.

The IHC removed objection over the application filed by Imran Khan against his disqualification. Imran Khan has presented verified copy of EC decision regarding his disqualification in IHC.



LAHORE: Punjab Chief Minister Chaudhry Parvez Elahi meets with Pakistan Tehrik-e-Insaf Chairmen Imran Khan.

Imran, Parvez discuss Long March, political situation

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Chairman PTI Imran Khan met with the Chief Minister Punjab Chaudhry Parvez Elahi at 90-SQA on Wednesday in which matters pertaining to mutual interest, political situation, administrative affairs of Punjab and long march came under discussion.

They discussed Punjab Ehsas Riayat Programme along with providing relief to the people of the province also came under discussion. Imran Khan and CM Parvez Elahi demanded an impartial and a transparent judicial investigation over the martyrdom incident of Arshad Sharif and

urged that the Government of Pakistan should fulfil its responsibilities with regard to murder of Arshad Sharif.

They expressed their heartfelt sympathy and grief with the mother, widow and other family members of Arshad Sharif. Chairman PTI Imran Khan said that the incumbent federal government has miserably failed on every front adding that long march is a 'Jehad' for the 'haqeeqi azadi' and the zeal as well as fervour of the people indicate that the long march will write a new history.

The CM stated that the people of Pakistan are standing with Imran Khan and long march will wipe out the imported govt.

CM orders ownership rights to Faisalabad slum-dwellers

A meeting of MNAs and MPs of the Faisalabad Division, held under the chair of CM Punjab Chaudhry Parvez Elahi, pondered over parliamentarians' proposals for carving out new tehsils while the parliamentarians appreciated the welfare-oriented vision of CM Parvez Elahi.

PTI delegation calls on CM
Chief Minister Punjab Chaudhry Parvez Elahi has said that the government was striving to provide relief and facilities to the people to bring ease in their lives. He was talking to the PTI delegation which called on him at his office.