



Supporters of Pakistani cricket star-turned-politician and head of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Imran Khan (unseen) gather at his political campaign rally for the upcoming general election in Lahore yesterday. PHOTO: AFP

### Imran barred from using inappropriate language

DAWN ONLINE

The Election Commission of Pakistan yesterday barred Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf Chairman Imran Khan from using unseemly language for his political rivals during election campaigning — a practice that Khan's counsel initially seemed to defend but eventually relented, assuring the election body that his client would abide by its instructions.

On July 12, the eve of Nawaz Sharif and Maryam Nawaz's return to Pakistan to surrender themselves to the authorities, Khan had said that whoever goes to receive the Sharifs at the airport "must be a donkey".

The ECP had taken notice of Khan's incendiary choice of words and directed him to appear before the commission. Khan did not appear before the ECP but his lawyer and PTI leader Babar Awan was at the hearing on his behalf.

The ECP then forbade Khan from using unseemly language during his campaigning, to which Awan agreed and also submitted a written statement on behalf of the PTI chairman to abide by the ECP's orders.

## No direct role of army in July 25 elections

### Pakistan military tells Senate committee

DAWN ONLINE

Pakistan's Director General of Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) Maj Gen Asif Ghafoor, reiterating his stance from a press conference held earlier this month, yesterday rejected the notion that the security forces have any direct role in how the July 25 elections will unfold.

Speaking at the special session of the Senate Standing Committee on Interior, DG ISPR clarified that the army personnel are only following the Election Commission of Pakistan's instructions.

"There were some rumours that army personnel had been issued 'different' orders — this is completely baseless," he said. "We do not have any link with the elections; we are only working on the election commission's directives to improve the law and order situation. We do not have a direct role in polls."

Major General Ghafoor then elaborated the election duty assigned to army personnel, saying: "The armed forces have always lent support to civil institutions. The security situation is being improved in the entire country to hold elections."

"Three hundred and seventy one thou-

sand army soldiers will be deployed at the countrywide polling stations. The army is also performing its duty at the printing press [for ballots]."

When asked by PML-N Senator Kulsom Parveen to disclose the number of troops being deployed in Balochistan — where a suicide blast at a political event killed around 150 people — the DG ISPR said: "Leave the planning side to us; we know how many troops have to be deployed where. We have analysed every place from a security point of view. We have made deployments as per the need in Balochistan."

Maj Gen Ghafoor, however, made it clear that the army's role in providing security for elections did not mean that it would also take direct responsibility for the well being of politicians.

"The army is not taking direct responsibility for the security of any politician," he said. "The security of political candidates is the responsibility of the government of Pakistan and the ECP. We are assisting the election commission for security during polling."

"Unfortunately, until the police's abilities improve, we will also have to do police duty."

### Ex-finance minister of India charged with graft

AFP, New Delhi

Indian police yesterday charged a top opposition leader P Chidambaram with abuse of power in a multi-billion dollar scandal when he was finance minister.

Chidambaram confirmed the charge and said he would "vigorously" contest the case filed by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) anti-corruption watchdog. The CBI accused the former minister of abusing power in allowing foreign investment by Malaysian group Maxis in telecom company Aircel in 2006.

The CBI has alleged that Chidambaram approved the half billion dollar Aircel-Maxis deal when it should have been referred to a cabinet committee.

Chidambaram served twice as finance minister and also as home minister in the Congress-led coalition which was defeated by Modi's nationalist party in 2014.

Refuses to share key security details

Says won't take responsibility of security of politicians

### WhatsApp offers tips to spot fake news

AFP, Islamabad

The hugely popular WhatsApp messaging service began a week-long publicity campaign in Pakistan Wednesday offering tips to spot fake news, days before the country holds a general election.

"Together we can fight false information," says the full-page ad in Dawn, Pakistan's leading English-language daily, listing ten tips on differentiating rumours from fact.

WhatsApp also announced the implementation in the country of a new feature allowing recipients to see if a message is original or forwarded.

## GENERAL ELECTION IN PAKISTAN

### Army's long history of political meddling

Pakistan's powerful military says it is taking "no direct role" in the July 25 election, but a history of coups and dictatorships is fuelling fears over the balance of power in civil-military relations. Here is a brief overview of Pakistan's troubled path to democracy under the shadow of military rule.

SOURCE: AFP

#### LIBERATION CHAOS AND THE FIRST COUP

Pakistan is created as a homeland for Muslims in 1947 as the subcontinent gains independence from Britain. But its founder, the venerated Mohammad Ali Jinnah, dies one year later. Over the next decade some seven prime ministers come and go before the military finally has enough of the chaos, with General Ayub Khan launching the country's first military coup in 1958. He is succeeded by General Yahya Khan in 1969 in the face of mass unrest, but Pakistan does not come back under civilian leadership until a disastrous civil war sees East Pakistan splinter away to form Bangladesh in 1971. Khan hands over the presidency to Zulfikar Ali Bhutto that same year.



Former president Ayub Khan (C) at the United Nations in New York in September 24, 1966.

#### BHUTTO'S HANGING AND THE SECOND COUP

Bhutto, founder of the populist Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP), appoints a new army chief in 1976 — General Zia-ul-Haq — a surprise promotion that some say reflected the prime minister's view that Zia was no threat. If so, it proves a wild miscalculation. Not only does Zia depose Bhutto in the country's second coup in 1977, he jails the prime minister and, two years later, has him hanged. Zia's totalitarian rule sees him impose Islamic laws and organise sham elections. He remains in power until he is killed in 1988, when his Hercules C-130 aircraft mysteriously crashes in Pakistan.

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#### BENAZIR, NAWAZ, AND THE THIRD COUP

Zia's death ushers civilian rule back in under the leadership of his old nemesis Bhutto's daughter, Benazir, who becomes the first female leader of any Muslim country. She leads from 1988 until 1990, when she is ousted on corruption charges that she insinuates were fuelled by the military. She is replaced by Nawaz Sharif, in the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) leader's first stint as prime minister, setting in place a paradigm of revolving leadership between the two politicians that continues until the army, once again, loses patience. By 1999, the relationship between Sharif in his second stint as premier and then-army chief General Pervez Musharraf is rapidly deteriorating. Musharraf ousts Sharif in the country's third coup.

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This file photo taken on July 4, 1999 shows former Pakistani prime minister Nawaz Sharif (2nd R) and Pakistani army chief General Pervez Musharraf (2nd L) walking after a meeting before the departure of Sharif for Washington, at Chakiala Air Base in Rawalpindi.

#### FROM MUSHARRAF INTO DEMOCRACY?

Musharraf names himself president in 2001 while remaining head of the army. He allows parliamentary and provincial elections in 2002, with his Pakistan Muslim League Quaid-i-Azam (PML-Q) winning a majority amid allegations of massive vote fraud. General elections are finally held in 2008, weeks after Benazir Bhutto is assassinated. Musharraf concedes defeat and the PPP eventually forms a coalition government with Yousaf Raza Gilani as prime minister. Gilani is not allowed to complete his term, ousted in 2012 over contempt of court charges, and is replaced by Raja Pervaiz Ashraf. The 2013 elections represent Pakistan's first ever democratic transfer of power. Nawaz Sharif, who went into exile after the 1999 coup but returned to the country in 2007, wins the contest in his most stunning comeback yet, becoming prime minister for the third time.

#### NAWAZ VS A 'SILENT COUP'

Sharif again clashes with the military, this time over his efforts to seek better relations with arch-rival India. He is ousted by the Supreme Court following a corruption investigation in 2017, and banned from politics for life. He denies the allegations and loudly claims he is being targeted by the military. An election is called for July 25. Sharif is sentenced to 10 years in prison for corruption and later arrested. It is widely believed that Imran Khan, leader of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party, will benefit from the turmoil and may have links to the army. Media, activists and analysts decry pressure from security institutions, "unabashed" pre-poll rigging, and even a "silent coup". The military denies the claims.

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## NO CONFIDENCE MOTION IN INDIA

### Modi gets Sena's support

AGENCIES

The Shiv Sena will vote in favour of the BJP-led government during the Opposition sponsored no-confidence motion in the Lok Sabha today, according to a source close to party chief Uddhav Thackeray.

"We will support the BJP. A formal announcement will be made," the source told PTI in Mumbai on Thursday.

The no-trust vote will be the first one since the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) government was formed four years ago. Speaker Sumitra Mahajan's decision to accept the motion, moved by former BJP ally TDP and others came on the first day of the monsoon session of parliament on Wednesday.

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister and Telugu Desam Party president N Chandrababu Naidu has sought the support

of other parties for the motion, citing the NDA government's "non-fulfilment of the promise" to grant special status for the State.

Sena leader Sanjay Raut said his party would disclose its stand on the floor of the House. "A decision has been taken. We will let it be known inside the House," he said.

Under India's constitution, a no-confidence motion can be moved by any lawmaker and it can be moved only in the Lok Sabha and not Rajya Sabha, the upper House because it is the Lok Sabha which is directly elected by the people.

Rule 198 of the Rules of Procedure and conduct of Lok Sabha specifies the procedure for moving a no-confidence motion. The member has to give a written notice of the motion before 10:00am which will be read out by the Speaker in the House. A minimum of 50 members have to accept the motion and accordingly.



Myanmar State Counsellor and Foreign Minister Aung San Suu Kyi pays her respects to her late father during a ceremony to mark the 71th anniversary of Martyrs' Day in Yangon on July 19, 2018. Myanmar observes the 71th anniversary of Martyrs' Day, marking the assassination of independence heroes including Aung San Suu Kyi's father, who helped end British colonial rule.

PHOTO: AFP

### Russian tourist allegedly gang-raped in India

AFP, New Delhi

Indian police were holding six men yesterday after a Russian tourist was allegedly drugged and gang-raped in a popular southern tourist town, officials said.

Media reports said the 21-year-old had bite marks on her face and arms when she was found naked and unconscious on the floor of her hostel room early on Monday.

Those in custody included the hostel manager and her tourist guide, who told police he found her on the floor hours after they had consensual sex, another investigator said.

She said the woman was being treated in hospital for a drug overdose and minor injuries, with efforts being made to record her statement.

## US offers India armed Guardian drone: report

REUTERS, Farnborough

The United States has offered India the armed version of Guardian drones that were originally authorized for sale as unarmed for surveillance purposes, a senior US official and an industry source told Reuters.

If the deal comes to fruition, it would be the first time Washington has sold a large armed drone to a country outside the Nato alliance.

It would also be the first high-tech unmanned aircraft in the region, where tensions between India and Pakistan run high.

In April, President Donald Trump's administration rolled out a long-awaited overhaul of US arms export policy aimed at expanding sales to allies, saying it would bolster the American defense industry and create jobs at home. The plan included a new drone export policy that allowed lethal drones that can fire missiles, and surveillance drones of all sizes, to be more widely available to allies.

India has been in talks to buy 22 of the unarmed surveillance aircraft, MQ-9B Guardian, worth more than \$2 billion to keep watch over the Indian Ocean. Besides potentially including the armed version of the drone, the sources said the number of aircraft

had also changed. An Indian defense source said the military wanted a drone not just for surveillance but also to be able to hunt down targets at land and sea. The military had argued the costs of acquisition did not justify buying unarmed drones.

The cost and integration of the weapons system are still issues, as well as Indian assent



to the Communications Compatibility and Security Agreement which Washington insists on as a condition for operating advanced defense systems. India, the defense source said, has shed its opposition to the agreement after an assurance from the US it would apply largely to US-produced weapons systems and not to the large Russian-origin equipment with the Indian military.

### 8 Maoist rebels killed in India

AFP, New Delhi

Eight Maoist rebels including four women fighters were killed yesterday in central India, an official said, in the latest killings in a decades-old conflict that has cost tens of thousands of lives.

Hundreds of police commandos launched a search operation in the dense forests of Chhattisgarh state after a tip-off about a large group of Maoists near Bijapur district, one of the hotbeds of the insurgency.

Police said the commandos came under fire early yesterday, triggering a gunfight lasting two hours. The rest of the rebels managed to flee, a source said.

Thousands of fighters occupy vast swathes of mineral-rich areas in the country's east and centre. They demand land, jobs and a share of the region's huge natural resources for local tribes.

## N Korea, Eritrea have the highest rate of slavery

REUTERS, New York

North Korea and Eritrea have the world's highest rates of enslaved people, said a global survey released yesterday that focused on the roles of conflict and government repression in modern slavery.

The Central African nation of Burundi also has a high prevalence of slavery, according to the 2018 Global Slavery Index published by the human rights group Walk Free Foundation.

"Each of these three countries has state-sponsored forced labor, where their government puts its own people to work for its own benefit," said Fiona David, research chair of Minderoo Foundation, which led the data collection.

More than 40 million people were enslaved around the world as of 2016, according to an estimate by the Walk Free Foundation and the International Labour Organization.

India was home to the largest total number with an estimated 18.4 million slaves among its 1.3 billion population, according to the Walk Free Foundation's 2016 index.

China, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Uzbekistan rounded out the top five nations, accounting for about 58 percent of people living in slavery globally, the Walk

Free Foundation said at the time. But North Korea had the highest percentage of its population enslaved, and that remains the case today.

"In North Korea, one in 10 people are in modern slavery with the clear majority forced to work by the state," according to the 2018 Global Slavery Index.

#### 2018 GLOBAL SLAVERY INDEX



With more than nine million people living in slavery - nearly eight in every 1,000 people - Africa had the highest rate of enslavement of any region, according to the report.

"Global slavery is embedded in our global economy," Grace Forrest, co-founder of Australia-based Walk Free, told the Thomson Reuters Foundation.