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Imran to face no-trust vote

Pakistan SC invalidates all decisions taken by PM, president after the 'unconstitutional' dissolution of assembly, orders parliament to reconvene tomorrow

AGENCIES

Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan faces being booted from office at the weekend after the Supreme Court yesterday ruled that parliament had been illegally dissolved and a no-confidence vote on his government must go ahead.

Khan's coalition lost its majority in the national assembly last week, but he avoided being dismissed when the deputy speaker blocked a no-confidence motion against him and the president dissolved parliament and ordered fresh elections.

"The advice tendered by the Prime Minister on or about 03.04.2022 to the president to dissolve the Assembly was contrary to the Constitution and of no legal effect," Chief Justice of Pakistan Umar Ata Bandial said, as he read out a 13-point order to a packed courtroom.

"The national assembly continues to remain in

session," he added, with officials saying it would sit again tomorrow. The court's judgment was broader than expected after the chief justice said earlier this week they would only rule on the legality of the

no-confidence motion being blocked. The decision -- which the court said was unanimous -- was met with jubilation by opposition supporters in the capital, with packed cars racing through the streets, sounding their horns.

There was no immediate reaction from Khan, but Shehbaz Sharif, head of the Pakistan Muslim League-N (PML-N) and likely to be the next prime minister, said the decision "has saved Pakistan and the constitution of Pakistan'

Pakistan People's Party (PPP) leader Bilawal Zardari Bhutto, who had joined forces with Sharif to oust Khan, tweeted: "Democracy is the best

Khan claimed the opposition had colluded with the United States for "regime change" when the deputy speaker -- a loyalist -- refused to allow the no-confidence motion.

Simultaneously, Khan asked the presidency -- a largely ceremonial office also held by a loyalist -- to dissolve the assembly.

President Arif Alvi has already told the feuding factions to nominate SEE PAGE 2 COL 1



A policeman driving a motorcycle against the traffic as other vehicles are at a standstill near the capital's Moghbazar level crossing yesterday. Law enforcers breaking traffic rules this way is not rare in the city. PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

SCANNING EQUIPMENT AT HSIA

Chronic pain for exporters

RASHIDUL HASAN

Poor maintenance of an explosive detection system (EDS) at the Dhaka airport has repeatedly been putting exporters in trouble.

The machine breaks down often resulting in disruption and even halt of the export of perishable goods. causing financial losses and putting the country at risk of losing out at vegetables market in Europe.

It was the lone active EDS at the

airport until yesterday when two other machines, installed around 14 months ago, were validated by the authorities in the UK, said airport officials.

Sources at the Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport said the machine went out of order four times in the last seven months.

"It last went out of service on March 9. It has not been fixed yet," an official told The Daily Star.

The airport has a total of four such machines. The other one has been

non-functional for almost five years. Talking to The Daily Star recently, exporters expressed concern over the poor maintenance of the machines.

They asked why the Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh (Caab) failed to arrange spare parts for them.

According to the UK Aviation Regulation, agricultural products scanned on any device other than an EDS are not allowed to enter the country.

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PM calls for enhancing digital security



UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina vesterday directed the authorities concerned to pay more attention to digital security in every sector of the country.

"In fact, as technology creates opportunities for us, it can also cause problems in many cases. From this aspect, we have to think afresh about our security matters," she said.

The prime minister was addressing the 3rd meeting of Digital Bangladesh Taskforce at

the Gonobhaban. She asked the authorities concerned to think about the (digital) security issue in all cases, starting from the money deposited in the bank.

Hasina said the excellence of technology will continue to increase day by day.

"We always need research. We have to do our research all the time so that we may also keep

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We Mourn



We are deeply shocked and saddened at the sudden demise of Mr. Jahangir Kabir Chowdhury. He breathed his last on April 6th, 2022 at Mt. Elizabeth Hospital, Singapore at the age of 72. He left behind his wife Mahabuba Kabir Chowdhury (Runu) & 4 children Malika (Zara), Nimat, Naseha & Nafiu & 3 grandchildren Ozair, Miraan & Alizay.

He was a freedom fighter in 1971 liberation war and a commander of Bangladesh liberation force in present Feni district. He was recognized by awarding him with Atish Dipankar Gold medal in 1983. He was a member of Bangladesh Association of International Recruiting Agencies (BAIRA). He was a former councilor and member of Dhaka Stock Exchange.

His Namaz-e-Janaza will be held at Azad Masjid, Gulshan 9th April, 2022 at 11am.



DHAKA-WASHINGTON Closer to two defence deals

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka and Washington move closer to signing is a notable progress in security cooperation in the areas of maritime, peacekeeping, counterterrorism and transnational crimes.

Discussions on the two deals were held at the 8th US-Bangladesh Security Dialogue in Washington on Wednesday night.

"The two sides had constructive discussions on defence agreements like GSOMIA and ACSA," Bangladesh embassy in Washington said in a statement yesterday.

"We will try to complete the formalities before the security dialogue next year," Foreign Secretary Masud Bin Momen told reporters after the sevenhour dialogue.

The General Security of Military Information Agreement (GSOMIA) and the Acquisition Cross-Servicing Agreement (ACSA) will enhance opportunities for defence trade, information sharing, and military-to-military cooperation between the two countries.

At the dialogue, the Bangladesh side raised deep concern regarding the sanctions on Rab and seven individuals, and urged the US side to reconsider the

It highlighted Rab's role in Bangladesh's fight against terrorism, violent extremism and transnational crimes, and stated that the sanction on the elite force was unjustified as its personnel do not enjoy any impunity.

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SAMSUNG এই ঈদ অফারে স্যামসাং হোম অ্যাপ্লায়েন্স কিনে জিতে নিন সেরা ডিল

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