

Arrest hinders Imran's path to second Pak innings

AFP, Islamabad

Since being ousted from office by a vote of no confidence last year, former Pakistan prime minister Imran Khan has vowed he will captain the country a second time.

But yesterday, the one-time international cricket star was arrested as he appeared at Islamabad High Court to face one of a slew of cases levelled against him.

With the charismatic Khan now locked away and his legion of supporters being called out on the streets to violent protests, his political prospects -- and those of Pakistan -- are unclear.

POPULAR SUPPORT

Khan enjoyed genuine popular support when he became premier in 2018, but critics say he failed to deliver on promises to revitalize the economy and improve the plight of the poor.

His Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) overturned decades of dominance by the Pakistan Peoples Party and Pakistan Muslim League-N -- two usually feuding groups that joined forces to oust him in April 2022.

But Khan made little headway in improving Pakistan's financial situation, with galloping inflation and a feeble rupee undermining economic reform.

TIPTOED INTO POLITICS

For years Khan busied himself with charity projects, raising millions to build a cancer hospital to honour his mother. He tiptoed into politics and for years held the PTI's only parliamentary seat.

But the party grew hugely during the military-led government of General Pervez Musharraf, becoming a genuine force in the 2013 elections before winning a majority five years later.

Running the country proved more difficult than sitting in opposition, however. "I fight till the very last ball," he said in one TV interview.



Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf party activists and supporters of former Pakistan prime minister Imran Khan shout slogans next to a fire as they block a road during a protest against the arrest of their leader in Karachi, Pakistan yesterday. Inset, Pakistan security forces guard a vehicle carrying Imran Khan after his arrest at a court in Islamabad.

PHOTO: AFP, REUTERS



World at 'turning point'

Says Putin in Moscow Victory Day speech, vows Russia's military would be victorious in Ukraine

AGENCIES

President Vladimir Putin yesterday vowed Russia's military would be victorious in Ukraine and blamed Western countries for the conflict, comparing the fighting to World War II during a military parade on Red Square.

But his defiant address was overshadowed by scathing comments by Yevgeny Prigozhin, the head of the pro-Kremlin Wagner mercenary group, who accused Russia's military of repeated failures in Ukraine.

EU chief Ursula von der Leyen meanwhile arrived in Kyiv to mark the Europe Day celebration of peace and unity, a symbolic retort to Moscow's Victory Day military parade.

During his brief address, Putin also told the columns of Russian military personnel in ceremonial uniform in central Moscow that

the country's future rests on Russian soldiers fighting in Ukraine.

"Today civilisation is again at a decisive turning point," Putin said standing shoulder to shoulder with elderly veterans and soldiers from Russia's Ukraine campaign.

"A war has been unleashed against our motherland," he said, adding that "the future of our statehood and our people depend on you."

"For Russia, for our armed forces, for victory! Hurray!"

Yet the celebrations to mark the anniversary of the Soviet Union's victory over Nazi Germany 78 years ago have been overshadowed by the military's slow gains and heavy losses in Ukraine, reports AFP.

In remarks released at the same time as Putin's speech, the head of the Wagner outfit accused some Russian forces of abandoning their positions near Bakhmut, the epicentre

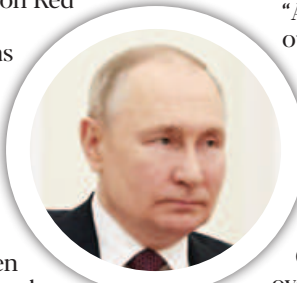
of the fighting in Ukraine.

Meanwhile, UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres said he sees no immediate possibility of reaching a comprehensive ceasefire in the war in Ukraine as both sides are convinced they can win, according to an interview published by Spanish newspaper El Pais yesterday.

Guterres, who is in Spain to receive the Charles V European Award, told El Pais the UN was instead focusing on talks with both Russia and Ukraine to solve concrete problems such as extending the Black Sea grain deal that is set to expire on May 18, reports Reuters.

In Ukraine there were no reported casualties from Russia's latest wave of air strikes on the capital. "Overnight in the 'sacred' May 9, (they) launched an attack on the territory of Ukraine," Ukraine's air force said.

The US yesterday announced a new \$1.2 billion security assistance package for Ukraine to boost the country's air defenses.



STRIFE-TORN SUDAN

Over 700,000 displaced: UN

REUTERS, Khartoum

Residents of Sudan's capital reported air strikes overnight and sporadic gun battles yesterday morning amid what they call a surge in looting, with no sign of progress in ceasefire talks taking place in Saudi Arabia.

The violence has accelerated a wave of people fleeing their homes, with the number of people internally displaced inside Sudan more than doubling in a week to more than 700,000 the UN's migration agency said.

"The biggest danger is the spread of robbery and looting and the total absence of the police and the law," said Ahmed Saleh, 45, from Khartoum's adjoining sister city of Bahri. Homes, shops and warehouses have all been targeted, residents said.

The eruption of conflict between Sudan's army and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) paramilitary risks a prolonged war that could draw in outside powers and unleash a new humanitarian crisis across the region.

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The World Health Organisation also yesterday raised the confirmed death toll to more than 600, with 5,000 injured, though the true figure is thought to be much higher.

Meanwhile there has been no outward sign of progress in the talks that have taken place in Saudi Arabia since Saturday despite their limited goal of a ceasefire to allow humanitarian access. Repeated earlier truce deals have already been broken.

The army, under General Abdel-Fatih al-Burhan, and the RSF under General Mohamed Hamdan Dagalo, known as Hemedti, had joined forces in a military coup in 2021, reconfiguring a planned transition to civilian rule.

Depression may turn into cyclone today

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Rashid, meteorologist, Bangladesh Meteorological Department, yesterday.

The Indian Meteorological Department in its report last night said, "It is likely to intensify into a depression on May 9 over the same region and further into a cyclonic storm over Southeast Bay of Bengal and adjoining areas of east central Bay of Bengal and the Andaman Sea on May 10."

The bulletin also said it was likely to recurve gradually and move north-northeastwards and cross the Bangladesh-Myanmar coasts on May 14. It said on May 13 the storm could have windspeeds between 135kmph and 160kmph.

The depression was around 1,495km South-Southwest of Cox's Bazar, 1,585km South of Mongla and 1,535km South of Payra port at 6:00pm yesterday.

Maritime ports have been asked to show cautionary

signal-1, which means there is a storm out at sea with windspeeds over 61kmph.

All fishing boats were asked to stay close to shore and be cautious.

Bangladesh Meteorological Department forecast that the severe heatwave sweeping over Rajshahi, Netrakona, Khulna, Chuadanga, and Kushtia, and mild to moderate heatwave elsewhere in the country may continue.

For two days, Dhaka city has had high temperatures of 39 degrees Celsius.

The Met office recorded Dhaka's highest temperature at 39.8 degrees Celsius yesterday while the highest temperature in the country was recorded in Chuadanga, 41.2 degrees Celsius.

The Met office said the weather may remain dry with temporary partly cloudy sky over the country. It said there could be rain at one or two places in Mymensingh and Sylhet divisions.

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Date: 09.05.2023
e-Tender Notice
e-Tenders are invited in the National e-GP System Portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) by Executive Engineer, RHD, Road Division, Magura for the procurement of

বঙ্গবন্ধু শেখ মুজিবুর রহমান মেমোরিয়াম ইউনিভার্সিটি, বাংলাদেশ
১৪/৬-১৪/২৩, পাবনা, তিরশুর-২২, ঢাকা-১২১৬
ফোন: ০১৭৬২-৭২১০০৬, ফ্যাক্স-০২-৫৮০১০০৩
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নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি
গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকারের ২০১৬ সনের ৪৭ নং আইন দ্বারা প্রতিষ্ঠিত বঙ্গবন্ধু শেখ মুজিবুর রহমান মেমোরিয়াম ইউনিভার্সিটি, বাংলাদেশ-এর জন্য নিম্নবর্ণিত পূর্ণ পদদায়িত্বে কর্মকর্তা ও কর্মচারী নিয়োগের লক্ষ্যে প্রকৃত বাংলাদেশী নাগরিকদের নিম্ন উল্লিখিত শর্তাবলির আধানে করা যাবে: