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PML-N, PPP deliberate on 'sharing PM's Office for 3, 2 years each'

Monitoring Desk
LAHORE/ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) and the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) have deliberated on the possibility of appointing prime ministers from their parties for a three- and two-year term under a power-sharing formula.

The idea of appointing a prime minister for half the term was discussed during their first huddle on Sunday following the February 8 elections as part of their efforts to form a coalition government in the Centre and provinces, according to sources privy to the development. The same power-sharing formula was chalked out by the PML-N and the National Party (NP) in Balochistan in 2013 when two chief ministers from the two parties held office for half of the five-year term.

In the Sunday meeting at the Bilawal House in Lahore, the two sides agreed

in principle to cooperate for the country's political stability following the general election. The meeting was attended by PPP-Parliamentarian President Asif Ali Zardari, PPP Chairman Bilawal-Bhutto Zardari and former prime minister Shehbaz Sharif from the PML-N.

According to a joint statement issued after the huddle, the meeting was held in a cordial environment, which expressed commitment to putting the nation's interest and well-being above everything.

The leaders of both parties engaged in substantive discussions regarding the prevailing political landscape and the imperative of collaborative efforts for the betterment of the country. The PML-N delegation included Azam Nazir Tarar, Ayaz Sadiq, Ahsan Iqbal, Rana Tanvir, Khawaja Saad Rafique, Malik Ahmad Khan, Mariyum Aurangzeb and Sheza Fatima.



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar talks to National and foreign media in a press conference.

Shah Faisal mosque to be renovated: Gohar

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Federal Minister for Interior and Commerce Dr. Gohar Ijaz on Monday said that 40 years ago, the government of Saudi Arabia gave a gift of Shah Faisal Mosque to Pakistan, now the mosque would be renovated to make it more beautiful. He expressed these views on the occasion of visiting Shah Faisal Mosque along with Saudi Arabia's Ambassador to Pakistan, Nawaf Saeed Al Maliki. Federal Interior Secretary, Aftab Akbar Durrani, Chief Commissioner Islamabad and CDA officials were also present at the occasion.

The minister along with the Saudi Ambassador offered Zuhur prayer and latter visited the main hall

and spacious courtyard of the mosque. Talking to the media persons, the minister said that when he assumed charge of the minister, he offered Jumma prayer at the mosque and latter he met with the Saudi ambassador and informed him that the mosque needed to be renovated.

"We are grateful to the Saudi Ambassador who took personal interest and decided to renovate the Shah Faisal Mosque, which will begin soon," the minister said.

Nawaf Saeed Al Maliki said that the Shah Faisal Mosque was given as a gift to Pakistanis by the Saudi government.

Now the renovation work of this mosque would be started soon, he added.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Interior and Commerce, Dr. Gohar Ejaz addressing the media along with Saudi Ambassador to H.E. Nawaf bin Saeed Al Malkiy at the Faisal Mosque.

Following poll routs

Tareen exits politics, Siraj quits as JI chief

ISLAMABAD (INP): Just four days after the general election, Jahangir Tareen announced that he will step down as chairman of the Isteekam-e-Pakistan Party and leave politics altogether. Jamat-e-Islami Ameer Siraj-ul-Haq also also tendered their resignations as chief of the Jamat-e-Islami. However, Pervez Khattak denied news that he is set to step down from his party.

Tareen's announcement came through a post on X, four days after he was defeated in the general election. "I have immense respect for the will of the people of Pakistan. Therefore, I have decided to resign from my position as Chairman IPP and step away from politics altogether," he wrote.

He also congratulated his opponents on their win and thanked party workers

for their support.

"By the Grace of Allah, I will continue to serve my country to the best of my ability in a private capacity," he wrote.

"May the next few years see Pakistan prosper IA."

Jamat-e-Islami Ameer Siraj-ul-Haq has tendered his resignation over the performance of his party in the general elections.

Siraj-ul-Haq wrote in his resignation that the party had made energetic efforts in the election but results did not materialise.

The JI failed to win a single seat in the National Assembly in the 2024 election, where PTI-backed independent candidates emerged as the biggest group.

Haq tendered his resignation on Monday, but it was not accepted immediately.



ISLAMABAD: President Pakistan People's Party Parliamentarians Asif Ali Zardari, Chairman Pakistan People's Party Bilawal Bhutto Zardari chairing PPP Central Executive Committee (CEC) at Zardari House in the Federal Capital.

Allegations of rigging 'contrary to ground realities'

Won't investigate alleged electoral fraud at behest of any country: PM

For me, demand of countrymen is more important than US, UK, EU combined; Level playing field enabled independent candidates to emerge as single largest group in general elections: Congratulates nation for peaceful elections despite heavy challenges

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Monday reiterated that the caretaker set-up had provided a level playing field to all political parties during the currently concluded polls and being a 'free and fair' process, a large number of independent candidates backed by the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf emerged as the largest single group on the national and provincial assemblies seats.

He stressed that allegations of rigging were generated through social media which were based upon misconceptions and contrary to the ground realities, and said that throughout the

country's democratic history, people had always questioned the electoral process.

Such results indicated the transparency and non-interference by any quarters, he emphasised.

Addressing a presser at the PM House, the prime minister said that there might be shortcomings or other minor issues, but by and large, the elections were held in a manner in which the entire nation and the law enforcement agencies deserved kudos despite various security challenges.

"Where the PTI has public support, it got that and they have results never

dreamt of during 2018," he said, adding that the loyalists of jailed PTI leaders were emerged as returned candidates in the general elections but no one was appreciating that aspect of the neutrality of the caretaker government.

The prime minister, to a question, said that despite various threats prior to the February 8 election day and two terrorist attacks in the Balochistan province, all the stakeholders deserved appreciation over the 'big achievement' for peaceful conduct of the polls.

He also brushed aside any threats to integrity of the country due to certain

protests and agitations held by certain parties, saying "it is an absurd chronology" to relate the situation with Dhaka during 1971.

"These are the mere rhetoric. Pakistan is a very stable and responsible country. Holding of a peaceful protest is the democratic right of the people," he said, however, hastened to add that no government could allow the situation leading to chaos or anarchy.

Responding to a query, he maintained that over 60 million voters had exercised their constitutional right to elect their favourite candidates under 'a pressure free environment'.



KARACHI: Grand Democratic Alliance (GDA) Chief, Sibghatullah Shah Rashidi aka Pir Pagara addresses to media persons during press conference, at the residence of Pir Sadderuddin Shah Rashidi in Karachi.

GDA rejects poll results, announces vacating Sindh Assembly seats

KARACHI (INP): Pakistan Muslim League-Functional (PML-F) chief Pir Sibghatullah Shah, popularly known as Pir Pagara, announced on Monday the forfeiture of the two Sindh Assembly seats won by the Grand Democratic Alliance (GDA) — a coalition of political parties in Sindh — in the 2024 general elections, alleging electoral rigging.

Describing the elections as "unfair", Pagara, during a press conference, called for a peaceful protest against the rigging and announced plans for a sit-in on Feb 16 near the Hyderabad Bypass Road.

He alleged that the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) had been unfairly assigned constituencies

Nawaz Sharif makes telephonic contact with Maulana Fazl

LAHORE (Online): Former Prime Minister (PM) Nawaz Sharif has once again made telephonic contact with JUI-F chief Maulana Fazlur Rehman.

Both the leaders exchanged views on political situation. They have agreed on an early meeting.

According to sources during the meeting between Nawaz Sharif and Maulana Fazlur Rehman, overall political situation of the country and matters related to government making were discussed in the meeting.

During the telephonic talk both agreed on early meeting for completing process of consultation for government making.

Two terrorists killed in Mardan, ISPR

RAWALPINDI (Online): Security forces conducted an intelligence based operation in Mardan District, on reported presence of terrorists.

During the conduct of operation, after intense fire exchange, two terrorists were killed.

Weapons, ammunition and explosives were also recovered from the killed terrorists, who remained actively involved in numerous terrorist activities in the area.

Sanitization operation is being conducted to eliminate any other terrorist found in the area.



KARACHI: Women activists of Muttahida Qaumi Movement (Pakistan) hold a protest in favor of their demands outside press club in Provincial Capital.

Fissures in PPP over forming coalition govt with PML-N

ISLAMABAD (INP): Differences have developed within the PPP on Monday over the terms and conditions the party should set for the formation of governments both at the Centre and Punjab.

According to reports, some of the party members are of the view that the PPP can only get along with the PML-N if the latter agrees on making Bilawal Bhutto the country's prime minister, and that there can be no alliance with the PML-N unless this condition is met.

On the other hand, some senior PPP members have advised that the party should never form governments with the PML-N and it should better sit on the opposition benches, because any partnership with the PML-N will not go

down well with the PPP voters.

However, the final decision will be taken at the party's central executive committee meeting scheduled to be held at Zardari House in Islamabad.

Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) has reportedly offered a 'lucrative package' to the PPP in a bid to secure its support for the formation of governments at the Centre and Punjab.

The PML-N offered the PPP — Presidency, National Assembly (NA) speakership and Senate chairmanship at a meeting held between the delegations of both the parties in Lahore yesterday.

The PML-N is interested in getting the premiership and the seat of Punjab chief minister.

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ISLAMABAD: Foreign Minister Jilili Abbas Jilani, Governor Sindh Kamran Tessori, Ambassador of Iran to Pakistan Dr Reza Amiri Moghaddam, and others cutting the cake during National Day of Iran ceremony at a local hotel, in the Federal Capital.

Tessori attends 45th anniversary of Iran's Islamic Revolution celebrations

KARACHI (APP): Sindh Governor Kamran Khan Tessori attended the celebrations on the occasion of the 45th anniversary of Iran's Islamic Revolution in Islamabad.

On the occasion, Ambassador of Iran to Pakistan Dr. Reza Amiri Moghaddam welcomed the Sindh Governor, said a statement issued by the spokesperson of the Governor here on Monday. The Governor also cut the cake with the Iranian Ambassador.

Aneeq Ahmed says: Hajj pilgrims would be provided exemplary facilities this year

HYDERABAD (APP): Caretaker Federal Minister for Religious affairs and interfaith harmony Aneeq Ahmed has said that this year Hajj expense had been reduced from 1175000 Rs. to 1075000 Rs. to facilitate the intending Hajj pilgrims. He expressed these views while addressing the First Hajj training programme organized by the Directorate of Hajj Karachi here on Monday.

Federal Minister said that this Hajj was taking place in our interim setup so we will try to ensure

provision of best facilities to Hajj pilgrims which were not provided in the past.

He said that year aspirant pilgrims who were embarking for performing Hajj were fortunate and guests of Almighty Allah. He said that the Ministry of Religious affairs and interfaith harmony every year organize such Hajj training programmes in major cities like Islamabad, Lahore, Karachi and this programme arranged in Hyderabad would also be helpful to educate Hajj pilgrims.



HYDERABAD: Caretaker Minister for Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony Aneeq Ahmed addressing the intending pilgrims during 1st training program.

PTI independents in Karachi challenge election results

KARACHI (INP): Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) supported runner-up candidates have filed petitions against election results in Karachi, says in media reports.

A lawyers group headed by Jibran Nasir Advocate has filed petitions in Sindh High Court seeking suspension of winning candidates' notifications. Petitioners said that according to Form 45, they have bagged more votes than the candidates' declared winners in election.

PTI-supported candidates Aftab Jahangir,

Tariq Hussain, Rabistan Khan, Ataullah, Salehzada, Khurram Sherzaman, Ramzan Ghanchi, Murad Shaikh, Dawa Khan Sabir, Ghulam Qadir, Faheem Khan, Syed Faisal Ali, Shakeel Ahmed, Bashir Sodhar, Abdul Qadeer, M. Yasir and Shafeeq Shah have challenged the election results. The victories of Muttahida Qaumi Movement-Pakistan's Mustafa Kamal and Dr Farooq Sattar on MNA seats were challenged in the Sindh High Court (SHC) earlier on Monday.

