Pakistan SC suspends

Army chief's extension

Gen. Bajwa is set to retire on Friday

MEHMAL SARFRAZ

A notification for the exten-

sion of the tenure of Chief of

Army Staff General Qamar

Javer Bajwa has been sus-

pended till Wednesday by

the Chief Justice of the Pa-

kistan Supreme Court Asif

Foundation through Riaz

Hanif Rahi had been filed

challenging the extension.

The petitioner on Tuesday

filed a withdrawal applica-

tion, but the three-member

Bench, comprising Chief

Justice Khosa, Justice Maz-

har Alam Khan Miankhel

nicalities. The Chief Justice

On August 19, the Prime

Minister's office issued a

notification saying that the

Army Chief's tenure had

been extended for another

term of three years from the

date of completion of cur-

President's prerogative

The Chief Justice said only

the President could extend

the tenure of the Army chief

as he is the appointing auth-

ices to the Federal govern-

ment, the Defence Ministry

and Army Chief to appear

before it on Wednesday. Ar-

my Chief is set to retire on

Prime Minister Imran

Khan on Tuesday held an

emergency Cabinet meeting

following the Supreme

Court's decision. Federal

Minister for Federal Educa-

tion Shafaat Mahmood, Rail-

ways Minister Sheikh Rashid

Friday (November 29).

The court has issued not-

ority for that office.

not correct".

rent tenure.

A petition by the Jurists

Saeed Khosa on Tuesday.



U.S. officials inspect key missile system: Russia

Russia said on Tuesday it had shown Avangard nuclea missile system to U.S. inspectors for the first time, a move Moscow said showed a kev arms control treaty was still effective. Russia is due to deploy next month the system designed to sit atop an intercontinental ballistic missile. The inspection was done under the New START treaty, which came into effect in 2011. REUTERS

17 killed in car bomb explosion in Syria

A car bomb killed at least 17 people and wounded 20 others in the Turkishcontrolled region of northern Syria on Tuesday, Turkey's Defence Ministry said. The attack took place in the Tal Halaf village west of the city of Ras al-Avn, which is now controlled by the Turkish military, the ministry said. AFP

Trump's ex-aide must testify: judge

Donald McGahn told to comply with subpoena to testify in Mueller investigation

SRIRAM LAKSHMAN

Declaring that nobody is above the law, a federal judge ruled that former White House counsel Donald McGahn was not "absolutely immune" from having to testify before Congress. The ruling increases the chances that Mr. McGahn, who was considered a crucial witness in the Mueller probe into Russian meddling in the 2016 U.S. elections, will testify in the ongoing House of Representatives impeachment inquiry.

"Per the Constitution, nobody is above the law," Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson said in her 120-page opinion issued on Monday. Current and former presidential aides have to comply with "valid legislative subpoena" from a "duly authorised committee of Congress", the judge said.

The ruling pertains to a case from August, in which the House Iudiciary Committee had gone to court to get



No immunity: Donald McGahn in Washington. • AFP/FILE

Mr. McGahn to comply with a subpoena ordering him to testify in the Mueller investigation.

A memo from the Justice Department in May this year had blocked Mr. McGahn's testimony, considered crucial to investigation around whether U.S. President Donald Trump had obstructed justice in the Mueller probe. The memo had said that Mr. McGahn's immunity was broader than a claim of executive privilege, a method by which the President and members of the executive wing of government, withhold information in the public interest

'Presidents are not Kings' Monday's judgement called the Justice Department's assertion of absolute testimonial immunity "startling" and "untenable".

"Presidents are Kings", Judge Jackson said in her ruling. The court ruled that Mr. McGahn would have to assert privilege on a question-by-question basis and in person, but that he was not "absolutely immune" from being compelled to provide testimony.

The President does not have the power to excuse his aides from acting as required by the law however busy or essential the aide may be and however close they may be to sensitive projects, the judge said.

Monday's decision has potential implications beyond Mr. McGahn and could see former National Security Advisor John Bolton, his former second in command, Charles Kupperman, and Acting White House Chief of Staff Mick Mulvaney having to testify before the House in the impeachment inquiry.

The Justice Department, which has fought Mr. McGahn's case, has said it will appeal. A lawyer for Mr. McGahn said his client would testify unless the case goes into the appeal stage, CNN reported.

"Now that the court has ruled. I expect him to follow his legal obligations and appear before the Committee," House Judiciary Committee chair Jerrold Nadler said.

Musharraf gets more time in treason case

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

In a temporary relief for former President Pervez Musharraf, the Lahore High Court on Tuesday accepted a petition from the Dubai-based ailing former Pakistani military dictator who sought to stop a special tribunal from pronouncing its verdict in the high treason case against him on Thursday.

Justice Syed Mazhar Ali Akbar Naqvi of the Lahore High Court accepted Mr. Musharraf's petition and sought replies from the federal government and the Ministry of Interior by November 28. The judge also directed the federal government and concerned officials to appear before the court on the same date.

Interestingly, the Pakistan government filed a separate plea in the Islamabad High Court on Monday to stop the special tribunal from issuing its verdict on November 28.

and Justice Syed Mansoor ASIF SAEED KHOSA Chief Justice of Pakistan Supreme court Ali Shah, rejected the withdrawal request and converted it into a suo motu under and Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Accoun-Article 184 (3) of the Constitability Shahzad Akbar held tution of Pakistan. a press conference appris-The court suspended the ing the media about Cabinotification based on tech-

maintained that the summary and approval of the **New summary** Army Chief's extension "is Shafqat Mahmood said the

net's decisions.

Cabinet has approved a new summary for the extension in the Army chief's tenure and sent it to the President for approval. He said the Cabinet also approved an amendment in Regulation No. 255 of the Army Regulations (Rules) as the court had observed how the word "extension" was not includ-

Gen. Qamar Javer Bajwa

Only the President

has the power to

extend the tenure

of the Army Chief

ed in Regulation No. 255. He clarified that under Article 243, it is the Prime Minister's prerogative to advise the President and appoint services' chiefs.

Interestingly, Law Minister Farogh Naseem voluntarily resigned on Tuesday. He, along with the Attorney General, will appear before the court to better represent the government's stand on the issue. As a Federal Minister, Mr. Naseem could not argue any case in court. Federal Railways Minister Sheikh Rashid said Mr. Naseem will appear as Gen. Bajwa's counsel.

13 French troops killed in Mali helicopter collision

Soldiers were fighting Islamist militants

REUTERS PARIS/BAMAKO

Thirteen French soldiers were killed in Mali when their helicopters collided at altitude as they swooped in at nightfall to support ground forces engaged in combat with Islamist militants

It was the biggest loss of French troops in a single day since an attack in Beirut 36 years ago when 58 soldiers died.

The ground commandos had been tracking a band of militants moving on pick-up trucks and motor-bikes. After identifying the group on Monday, the Tiger and Cougar helicopters were sent to reinforce, along with a combat jet.

French President Emmanuel Macron expressed his "deep sadness" at the loss. "The President of the Republic salutes with the greatest respect the memory of these soldiers," the Elysee Palace said in a statement. "He bows to the grief of their families and their loved ones."

France first intervened in Mali in 2013 to drive out militants who had occupied the north. It still has a 4,500strong Barkhane force countering insurgencies in the wider region.

Lam admits people's discontent

China summons U.S. Ambassador, seeks scrapping of Hong Kong Democracy Act

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Hong Kong's unpopular leader Carrie Lam acknowledged on Tuesday that public dissatisfaction with her government fuelled a landslide win by pro-democracy candidates in local elections. In China, state media

sought to downplay and discredit the weekend ballot that delivered a stinging rebuke to the financial hub's pro-Beijing establishment.

Ms. Lam admitted that the district council election result revealed public concern over "deficiencies in the government, including unhappiness with the time taken to deal with" the unrest.



Carrie Lam

In a rout, candidates opposing control by China seized an overwhelming majority of 452 elected seats in the city's 18 district councils, historically dominated by a pro-Beijing establishment. Since the polls, pro-de-

to meet key demands such as direct popular elections for the city's leadership and legislature, and a probe into alleged police brutality against demonstrators. But in her weekly press briefing, Ms. Lam sides-

mocracy politicians have

stepped up calls for Ms. Lam

tepped those calls, instead denouncing street violence and repeating earlier pledges to step up a cross-party dialogue on the root causes of the turmoil. On Monday, China sum-

moned U.S. Ambassador Terry Branstad to voice a "strong protest" over a U.S. legislation backing Hong pro-democracy

movement, urging Washington to scrap Hong Kong Human Rights and Democracy Act or "bear all the consequences"

The Hong Kong Bill await-President Donald Trump's signature supports human rights and democracy in the city, while threatening to revoke the territory's special economic status. Meanwhile, Officials at a

Hong Kong university, where police and protesters clashed violently a week ago, said on Tuesday they had searched the entire campus and found just one remaining holdout in a sign the campus siege may be near

'An 'affront' to 26/11 victims that perpetrators roam free'

SRIRAM LAKSHMAN

Speaking on the 11th anniversary of the Mumbai terror attacks, U.S. Secretary of State Michael Pompeo said that it was an "affront" to the victims and their families that the perpetrators have still not convicted.

"We remember the 166 innocent victims, including six Americans. The brutality of the attack shocked the entire world," Mr. Pompeo said at a State Department

"It is an affront to the victims and the families that those who planned the

Mumbai attacks have still not been convicted," the Se cretary said.

The U.S., like India, wants Hafiz Saeed, leader of the Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Taiba (now 'Jamaat-ud-Dawah' or JuD, prosecuted.

Saeed is currently under house arrest in Pakistan. However, while the country has taken steps to crack down on the activities and financial assets of Saeed and his associates in the past, those actions have not been "sustained and irreversible", a characterisation of the type of action the U.S. has sought from Pakistan on the anti-terror front.

41 dead after heavy rain pounds Congo

Forty-one people died in the DR Congo capital Kinshasa after torrential overnight rains, with some swept away by landslides, a top city official said on Tuesday, giving a provi-

sional toll. At least two bridges collapsed as well as a part of a major road in the capital, Kinshasa's Vice Governor, Neron Mbungu, said, adding that the dead included a child who was electrocuted.

Fatal floods and rains are frequent in Kinshasa.

20 dead in Albania earthquake

Rescuers scoured rubble into the night on Tuesday in search of survivors trapped in buildings toppled by the strongest earthquake in decades, with at least 20 lives lost and hundreds of people injured.

Soldiers, police and emergency workers sifted through the debris of shredded apartment blocks and hotels in towns near Albania's northwest Adriatic coast, close to the epicentre of the 6.4 magnitude earthquake that hit the country before dawn.

THE HINDU CROSSWORD 12791

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Corbyn unfit to be PM: U.K.'s chief rabbi

Ephraim Mirvis says 'poison' of anti-Semitism has taken root in Labour party

Britain's chief rabbi said opposition Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn was unfit to be Prime Minister because he had failed to stem anti-Semitism "sanctioned from the top" and now gripping his party.

His comments stirred up campaigning ahead of a December 12 election, in which the United Kingdom faces a stark choice between Prime Minister Boris Johnson, promising to complete Britain's departure from the EU, and Mr. Corbyn, proposing a radical socialist vision for the

largest world's fifth economy.

Chief Rabbi Ephraim Mirvis, in an article in The Times newspaper, questioned how complicit in prejudice an opposition leader would have to be to be considered unfit for office. "It is a failure of leader-

ship. A new poison sanctioned from the top has taken root in the Labour Party," wrote Rabbi Mirvis.

Ever since Mr. Corbyn, a veteran campaigner for Palestinian rights, shocked the establishment by becoming Labour leader in 2015, he has been dogged by criticism



Jeremy Corbyn

that he has failed to tackle anti-Semitism from elements within its ranks.



In a speech at the presentation of Labour's "race and faith" manifesto on Tuesday, Mr. Corbyn strongly con-

any shape or form or in any

place whatsoever in modern Britain, and under a Labour government it will not be tolerated in any form, whatsoever, I want to make that clear," he said. British Prime Minister Bo-

ris Johnson said it was a "serious business" when the chief rabbi criticised Mr. Corbyn for failing to root out anti-Semitism from the Labour

SUDOKU



Solution to puzzle 12790 Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

957436281 8 6 3 1 2 7 5 9 4 1 2 4 8 9 5 6 3 7 296354718 371982465 5 4 8 7 6 1 9 2 3 6 1 2 5 7 8 3 4 9 7 8 9 2 4 3 1 5 6 4 3 5 6 1 9 8 7 2

FAITH

Efficacy of Divya Nama

In Kali Yuga it is believed that chanting the Lord's sacred name is sure to lead to salvation. One can be aware of His omniscience, omnipresence and omnipotence by knowing His names and constantly thinking about their import. His Nama is easy to utter and is sweet on the tongue. In fact, many devotees have experienced the invaluable effect of His Nama as having greater currency than His very presence, pointed out Kalyanapuram Sri Aravamudhachariar in a discourse. The Lord may be anywhere but His name is always with us. It is like the difference in possessing a gold ornament that can be worn and is handy rather than solid gold. His name is useful like the food packet that one carries on the journey through life.

Purandara Dasa is overwhelmed by the Lord's names such as Adhimoola, Narasimha, Krishna, Narayana and Rama that have saved Gajendra, Prahlada, Draupadi, Ajamila, Valmiki respectively. Thyagaraja sees Rama Nama as the very Taraka Mantra capable of protecting one through the present life and also leading one to salvation. The Lord's many names remind one of His innumerable auspicious qualities, says Koorathazhwar in the Narayana Ashtakam. When He protects Prahlada, His Vatsalya stands dominant; in the case of Vibhishana, the Lord's promise of refuge is outstanding. His help to Gajendra shows how unfailing He is in removing the sufferings of people. The help He renders to Draupadi is proof of His kindness.

Many devotees have strengthened their devotion by harking back to these instances of the Lord's help and feel sure that they will also be guided in the right path to salvation from the dense thickets of samsara that poses problems continuously in some form or other.

M ND-NDE

To play an interactive version of this crossword online, scan the QR code

ACROSS

1 One way to ride a horse sporting a fashion look (8)

5 Brown back to look around legislative body (6)

9 Half a newspaper article to cover Eastern clash (7)

10 Boy endlessly expresses fury over herbs (7)

13 Task list: Hurry-scurry (2-2)

11 One taking shots appeared

12 Stupid, I left you finally in

disgrace (5)

with artist after fight (3,6)

14 Once leader's gone, ahead of a long period, there's moral decline (9)

17 No forced entry in this kind of crime (6,3) 19 Introductions to absolutely

frightening, rigorous, odd hairstyle (4) 23 Directions to youth are full of

information (5) 24 Decorated seats broken -

Labour leader took charge (9) 25 Glorify learner and clear the air

26 Radical once broke up meter

27 Strip study due for restoration

28 Excessive adoration adroitly placed here and there (8)

DOWN

1 Talk spitefully about second

(set by Gridman) 2 Let go pseudo Alex caught by

3 Report curb of wedding (6) 4 Met men cheered wildly because of alcoholic drink

the Communist (7)

(5,2,6)

6 For example, urges Prince to leave through these? (8)

7 A no-good priest beginning to change? Very good! (7)

8 Tries at literary compositions

10 Don't be on a tight leash have nothing to do

(2,2,1,5,3)

15 Exalt and almost mark up how one has become used to life in Chennai (8)

16 Fighters join closely around

one youth leader (8) 18 Perhaps monoform of a heavenly sight (3,4)

20 Fine, brite display around

large tree (7)

21 Bounder, stripped, catches boy in nude form (6) 22 Match large Roman priestess