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## Consultations on reducing electricity prices underway with army chief and allies: PM Shehbaz

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Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has announced that consultations with the Army Chief and political allies to devise a comprehensive plan to reduce electricity prices were underway.

Speaking at an Ulema and Mashaikh Conference in Islamabad, Sharif emphasised the unprecedented cooperation between the political government and constitutional institutions, stating it is crucial for the country's best interests. The Prime Minister addressed the nation's economic challenges, highlighting the need to combat internal threats and misinformation on social media. He condemned the disrespect shown to military martyrs and the divisive actions of certain groups, referencing the tragic events of May 9 and historical incidents from 1971. While referring to Jamaat-e-Islami protests, the Prime Minister urged religious leaders to oppose

societal divisions and promote national prosperity. He acknowledged the burden of high electricity costs on households consuming 200 to 500 units and stressed the importance of ongoing efforts to alleviate this burden. PM Shahbaz mentioned recent discussions with Nawaz Sharif, the Army Chief, and political leaders, revealing that a detailed plan is in progress. Despite the challenges, PM Shahbaz expressed hope for relief from high electricity prices and announced that Punjab and Sindh would soon make relevant declarations. He reiterated the necessity of the IMF programme to achieve economic stability and underscored the commitment of the political government, institutions, and the Army Chief to resolve the country's economic difficulties.