

SUMMARY of “Courting Controversy,” Maleeha Lodhi, Dawn, October 2nd, 2023

The interim government in Pakistan is facing unnecessary political controversies when its primary duty should be ensuring free and fair elections. Statements from the caretaker prime minister and some cabinet members have raised questions about the inclusivity of the upcoming elections. The prime minister’s comment that elections could be fair without Imran Khan and his jailed party members sparked criticism from the PTI and the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan. The interim interior minister’s remarks about arresting Nawaz Sharif also drew ire from PML-N leaders. Political parties are expressing concerns about a lack of a level playing field for the polls, questioning the impartiality of the interim government and the Election Commission. This controversy highlights a gap between the caretaker government’s role and its actions, contrary to what is prescribed by the Elections Act of 2017. The interim government should focus on its primary task of creating the conditions for free and fair elections and refrain from overstepping its mandate.

Easy/Short SUMMARY:

Pakistan’s interim government is embroiled in avoidable political controversies when its primary responsibility is ensuring fair elections. Statements by the caretaker prime minister and interior minister have raised concerns about the upcoming elections’ fairness and inclusivity. Political parties are criticizing the government for overstepping its limited mandate and not acting impartially. This controversy underscores the need for the interim government to focus on its main role of facilitating transparent elections and avoid unnecessary distractions.

SOLUTIONS of The Problem:

Ensuring Impartiality:

- **Restrict Statements:** Cabinet members should refrain from making statements on political matters or foreign policy, ensuring impartiality.

Focus on Election Preparation:

- **ECP Collaboration:** The interim government should work closely with the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) to create the necessary conditions for free and fair elections.
- **Avoid Unnecessary Publicity:** Ministers should avoid seeking unnecessary publicity and instead concentrate on their primary duty of facilitating elections.
- **Announce Election Date:** The ECP should announce the election date promptly to reduce political uncertainty.

Legal Framework: The interim government should adhere to the legal framework established by the Elections Act of 2017, ensuring impartiality and non-interference in major policy decisions.

IMPORTANT Facts and Figures Given in the article:

- The caretaker government's statements have triggered controversy and criticism from political parties.
- The interim government's role should focus on ensuring impartial and transparent elections.
- The gap between the caretaker government's actions and the legal framework is evident.
- The Election Commission of Pakistan is urged to announce the election date promptly.
- Recent amendments to election laws have not significantly expanded the caretaker government's powers.
- Political parties are concerned about the caretaker government's impartiality and its alignment with certain groups.



- Pakistan is facing multiple crises, and a timely election is seen as a way to address them.

MCQs from the Article:

1. What has raised concerns about the upcoming elections in Pakistan?

- A. High voter turnout
- B. Inclusive political campaigns
- C. Controversial statements by the interim government
- D. Swift election preparations

Answer: C. Controversial statements by the interim government

2. What is the primary role of the caretaker government during elections in Pakistan?

- A. Shaping foreign policy
- B. Facilitating free and fair elections
- C. Making major policy decisions
- D. Seeking political publicity

Answer: B. Facilitating free and fair elections

3. What has the Election Commission of Pakistan been urged to do in the article?

- A. Delay the announcement of the election date
- B. Improve its level of transparency
- C. Announce the election date promptly
- D. Restrict the role of the caretaker government

Answer: C. Announce the election date promptly

4. What is the main concern raised by political parties regarding the interim government in Pakistan?

- A. Lack of foreign policy expertise
- B. Overstepping its mandate
- C. Timely election preparations
- D. Impartiality in policy decisions

Answer: B. Overstepping its mandate

VOCABULARY:

1. **Mired** (verb) (میراں میراں): Stuck or entangled in a difficult or undesirable situation.
2. **Propitious** (adjective) (میراں میراں): Indicative of a favorable or advantageous outcome; favorable.
3. **Credible** (adjective) (میراں میراں): Able to be believed or trusted.
4. **Gratuitous** (adjective) (میراں میراں): Uncalled for; lacking good reason; unwarranted.
5. **Assertions** (noun) (میراں): Positive statements or declarations, often without proof or evidence.
6. **Inclusivity** (noun) (میراں میراں): The quality of being open to all and not excluding any group or individual.
7. **Exclusion** (noun) (میراں میراں): The process of deliberately not including or allowing someone or something to participate.
8. **Unconstitutional** (adjective) (میراں میراں): Contrary to the principles and rules established in a constitution.
9. **Ill-judged** (adjective) (میراں میراں): Lacking careful consideration or good judgment; poorly thought out.



10. **Anti-democratic** (adjective) (مضاد للديمقراطية): Opposed to or undermining the principles of democracy.
11. **Contentious** (adjective) (مثير للجدل): Likely to cause an argument; controversial.
12. **Clarification** (noun) (توضيح): An explanation or interpretation that makes something clear.
13. **Impartial** (adjective) (محايد): Treating all parties or persons without favoritism or bias; fair.
14. **Pontificating** (verb) (تفخرف): Expressing one's opinions in an arrogant or pompous manner.
15. **Hyperbolic** (adjective) (مبالغى): Exaggerated or overstated, often to the point of absurdity.
16. **Overstepping** (verb) (تجاوز الحد): To exceed or go beyond the bounds of what is considered appropriate or acceptable.
17. **Distract** (verb) (تشتيت): To divert one's attention or focus away from what is important.
18. **Preliminary** (adjective) (مبدئى): Occurring at the beginning; introductory.
19. **Morass** (noun) (مضيق): A complex and confusing situation or event, often with negative consequences.
20. **Edifying** (adjective) (تعليمى): Providing moral or intellectual instruction or



enlightenment.

□ ***Important Notice:***

We are deeply concerned about individuals who share our summaries without providing proper credit. In life, maturity often teaches us the importance of recognizing and acknowledging the efforts of others. A level of maturity will strike you that everyone deserves credit for their work, however, it may take some time. We kindly request that you refrain from removing the attribution label affixed to this article. Considerable time, effort, resources, and expertise have been invested in its creation. It is essential to exhibit professionalism by crediting the source appropriately and acknowledging the rightful contributions. Your cooperation in sharing the original article is greatly appreciated.

Failure to comply with this request may lead to legal consequences. We maintain a dedicated team of advocates ready to address instances of unprofessional and unethical behaviour, including copyright infringement. Furthermore, we retain the prerogative to restrict access to article summaries exclusively for our registered users should these attributions be disregarded. Unauthorized use or distribution of our content may result in the removal of access for non-registered users as a consequence of such behaviour.

□ Attention Readers!

□ Get Concise Editorial Summaries, Solutions, and Vocabulary Meanings! □

□ Prepared by the Expert Team at CSSMCQs.com! □

□ Looking for a hassle-free way to stay informed about current affairs and editorial insights? We've got you covered! □

□ Introducing "Dawn Important Editorials"! □

□ Join our WhatsApp group for quick and comprehensive summaries of the latest editorials, along with well-crafted solutions and helpful vocabulary meanings. □

□ Why Choose Us? □



SUMMARY of Courting Controversy, Maleeha Lodhi, Dawn,
October 2nd, 2023

- Our team at CSSMCQs.com uses their efforts to bring you accurate and efficient summaries.
- Stay updated with the most important points from the editorials, saving you time and effort.
- Benefit from our expertly crafted solutions that offer insightful perspectives and creative ideas.
- Expand your vocabulary with our thorough explanations and translations.
- All this is at your fingertips, available in one convenient WhatsApp group!

□ Don't Miss Out! □

To receive the summaries, solutions, and vocabulary meanings directly on WhatsApp, click the link below and join "Dawn Important Editorials" now:

□
[<https://cssmcqs.com/join-our-dawn-news-important-editorials-paid-whatsapp-group/>] □

□ Register on our website [<https://cssmcqs.com/register/>] for more exclusive benefits and resources.

□ Stay informed, be prepared, and excel in your knowledge-building journey with CSSMCQs.com! □

□ Join our WhatsApp group and seize the opportunity for valuable insights! □

Looking forward to having you as part of our vibrant community!

Best regards,

<https://cssmcqs.com>