# Criticism for Prime Minister Sunak and Labour Party candidate selection controversy at Milton Keynes event



Prime Minister Rishi Sunak faced criticism during a Q&A session at a factory near Milton Keynes on 30 May 2024. A factory employee asked Sunak how he could be trusted, referencing the "Partygate" scandal during the COVID-19 pandemic. The employee highlighted his inability to visit his dying mother in 2020, while parties were happening at Downing Street. Sunak apologized for attending a gathering during that period and discussed the support measures, like the furlough scheme, he implemented during his time as Chancellor.

Separately, the Labour Party barred Faiza Shaheen, a left-wing academic, from standing as a candidate in the next general election. The decision was based on her liking of potentially offensive social media posts, including a clip from Jon Stewart’s "The Daily Show." Stewart criticized the Labour Party's decision. Shaheen announced plans to challenge the ruling, accusing Labour of racism, Islamophobia, and bullying. She pointed out the party's double standards and the impact on her mental health. Labour’s internal power dynamics and the control of candidate selection by the National Executive Committee were also highlighted.