# UK Prime Minister Faces Criticism Over 'Partygate' Scandal as Tory Party Sees Defections



On May 30, 2024, Rishi Sunak, the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, faced criticism from Nick Fox, an employee at Niftylift cherrypicker factory in Milton Keynes, regarding the "Partygate" scandal. Fox, whose mother died of COVID-19, questioned Sunak's trustworthiness to lead after attending a gathering during the pandemic. Sunak apologized, citing his early arrival at a meeting as the reason for his police fine.

On the same day, Mark Logan, a Conservative MP for Bolton North East, defected to Labour, calling the Tory party unrecognizable and likened the election to Tony Blair's 1997 victory. This added to Sunak's challenges, following defections by Natalie Elphicke, Dan Poulter, and Christian Wakeford, as well as the outgoing Tory MP Lucy Allan supporting Reform.

Meanwhile, Lib Dem leader Sir Ed Davey, known for his humorous campaign stunts, advocated for stricter regulations on water companies during an event at Lake Windermere and a slip 'n slide stunt in Somerset. Sir Keir Starmer of Labour also faced light-hearted moments during a campaign event with student nurses.