

Weekly Paragraph Writing Task

① Sharing tax resources is a bone of contention between center and province. It was only in 2010 when this friction subsided temporarily. As soon as the center replaced the single-factor population-based formula to multifactor formula and handed over sales tax services to provinces, the more equitable formula was applied. But, the long-standing demand of equal distribution of resources could not last long. Soon, the center, even though it was bargained to raise tax-to-GDP ratio from 5% to 15% ^{during} in the next five years, blamed financial difficulties. Therefore, today, population has 82% weightage in the formula (Distribution criteria, Dawn, 2023), and the case of State-NFC-Award - is still creating mess between center and provinces.

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In Pakistani politics what goes around comes around. Today, PML-N supporters are exulting in the manner PTI is being cut down to size. Perhaps, it has forgotten PTI is not the first party which is bearing this one-sided war of attrition. Before 2018 ^{general} elections, the PML-N has experienced the same brutality (Fear tactics, Daw, May 2023). Thus, if history is any indicator, what we are seeing going around today is not going to take too long to come around.

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Banning PTI cannot enable shadow state to achieve its desired objectives. It was on May 9 when military installations and monuments of martyrs were vandalized by arsonists. And, senior leaders of PTI were put behind the bars alleging them that they and their leaders were the mastermind behind this heinous terrorist occurrence. Now, the intent is to ban the PTI. Indeed, even by doing so the PML-N cannot win votes. For, even not only PTI supporters but also opponents are condemning the way in which the state handling this matter (Banning PTI, Dawn, 2023). Thus, weakening legitimacy of the PML-N moves is further infuriating the masses and this volcano will erupt during general election. Thus is how, banning the PTI will enable the PML-N to achieve its desired goals.

AD Qadir's First case has unveiled the real face of PTI leader. On 9 May, Imran Khan was detained by NAB since the probe had proved the corruption of Imran Khan. Rs 460 million penalty was adjusted by the proceeds received from NCA - National Crime Agency. But, despite attempting to pull ~~put~~ the wool over the nation's eyes, this time the gift of the gab cannot protect ^{the PTI} it because all evidences are against him. He himself indulged in this matter; he did not undertake litigation; ~~ago~~ ^{to his cabinet} he did not enlighten his cabinet members regarding this matter; above all, ^{he} adjusted the penalty of tycoon by this amount (Smoke and mirrors, Dawn, 2023). In short, this case has revealed the corrupt practices of PTI chief.

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It is still doubtful whether the PDM government will conduct elections in October or not. The PDM government left no stone unturned for delaying the May 14 elections. And it succeeded — ~~succeeding~~ ^{ed} in achieving its aim by putting behind the bars almost all the PTI lieutenants after May 9 Incident. Nevertheless, the ECP petition to the Supreme Court regarding ^{the} polls clearly indicates that

the government is not going to conduct elections. For, the chief justice of Pakistan observed that as per election commission, there was no sign of polls being held in October (Election Uncertainty, Dawn, 2023). Hence, the government is going to remain in power even after October.