

Democracy in UK: **GENERAL ELECTION 2024:**

Sunak calls for elections on July 4, 2024

May 23, 2024

May 23, 2024: **London, UK:** “Brighter days are ahead,” said Rishi Sunak,” but only if we stick to the plan to improve economic security and opportunity for everyone.”

For the first time after many years, inflation in UK is back to normal. Sunak claimed that it was proof that his government’s plan is working and that the difficult decisions, he had taken, were paying off.



Prime Minister’s **Primary Care Recovery Plan:** Two main components of the Plan:

PHARMACY FIRST: For the first time, patients who need prescription medication will be able to get it directly from a pharmacy, without a GP appointment, for things like earache, sore throat, or urinary tract infections.

This also extends to contraception for women, who will no longer have to speak to a nurse or GP to get the oral contraceptive pill - it will be available direct from their local pharmacy.

ACCESS ONE’S MEDICAL RECORDS on the NHS APP: The new plan will give one better access to one’s own medical records.

Within the next year 90% of people will be able to access their GP records, including test results, on the **NHS APP**.

The Plan will end the 8am rush by making sure patients are either given an appointment immediately when they call,

or signposted to a more appropriate service such as NHS 111 or their local pharmacy.

LOWER INFLATION: BENEFITS TO A COMMON MAN:

1. Lower inflation supports people by maintaining the purchasing power of their money.



2. It helps **businesses grow** by providing a stable, predictable environment for them to operate in – allowing for **more job opportunities** or the ability to research new products and services.
3. Low inflation enhances the UK's competitiveness in a global market. This can bring in more money from foreign investors and make the overall economy stronger.

If inflation falls more quickly than expected, it may lead to reductions in mortgage rates offered.

EDITORIAL COMMENTS: Readers of www.DiGiNews360.com may have noted that the political system in the **United Kingdom** (UK) has been in turmoil during the last few years. Following a referendum on 23 June 2016, UK withdrew from the **European Union** (EU) at 23:00 GMT on 31 January 2020. (The process of breaking from EU is known in UK as **Brexit**.)

The world suffered from Covid-19, a pandemic, the like of which the world had not seen for the last hundred years. Before the world's economy could recover from the disruption, caused by Covid-19, two wars – the Ukraine war, which began on

February 24, 2022 and the Gaza war, which was begun by the Hamas terrorists on October 7, 2023 – caused world-wide inflation. The poor, in countries in Africa, South America and Asia, which were not well-governed, suffered badly, UK also could not escape high inflation.

www.DiGiNews360.com has seen the long period, over which UK's citizens have suffered high inflation rates. Prime Minister **Rishi Sunak** deserves credit for managing the economy well during the turbulent period of war in Europe in Ukraine and in Gaza from October 7, 2023.

According to the Office for National Statistics (<https://www.ons.gov.uk/>), inflation has fallen from a high of 8.8% in September 2022 to 3% in April 2024. (Sunak has been the Prime Minister of UK from 25 October 2022.)

Under British law, a general election needs to be held by January 2025. The Conservative Party has been in power for 14 years, the longest reign for a party in the U.K. in modern times. Rishi Sunak took office through a selection by the party after Prime Minister **Alexander Boris de Pfeffel Johnson**, commonly known as **Boris Johnson**, was brought down by high inflation and by a series of ethics scandals. **Liz Truss**, who succeeded Boris Johnson as the Prime Minister, could last for just 50 days in the job. Her brief term saw economic turmoil over unfunded tax cuts and high inflation.

Boris Johnson had become the Leader of the Conservative Party on July 23, 2019. He succeeded **Theresa May** in this role. Subsequently, on July 24, 2019, he was appointed as the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom.

At the last general election in UK, held on December 12, 2019, the **Conservative Party**, with **Boris Johnson** as its Leader, secured a landslide victory, winning 365 seats—a net gain of 48 seats—and obtaining 43.6% of the popular vote. The **Labour Party**, led in December 2019, by **Jeremy Corbyn**, won 202 seats with 32.1% of the vote. The **Scottish National Party** (SNP) secured 48 seats, and the **Liberal Democrats** won 11 seats

Boris Johnson's tenure as Prime Minister lasted until September 6, 2022, when he was succeeded by **Liz Truss**. Since then, **Boris Johnson** has continued to be an influential figure in British politics, even though he is no longer in the top leadership positions.

---- A BACKGROUNDER on ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION into UK----

Reference: <https://tinyurl.com/yxphus7r>

While the **United Kingdom (UK)** has received immigrants for centuries, it had traditionally been a **net exporter of people**. Only since 1994 has it consistently been a country of net immigration.

Continued **public opposition to migration** was a critical driver of the 2016 referendum for separating UK from the **European Union (EU)**. The vote that led to **UK's exit from EU** is known in English as **Brexit**.



Election of **Sadiq Aman Khan** (born on 8 October 1970 to a British Pakistani family) on May 9, 2016 signalled the demographic change in London due to immigration.

Other BRITISH-PAKISTANIs, who have been ELECTED OFFICERS: **Khalid Mahmood** (born 13 July 1961) is a British Labour Party politician serving as the **Member of Parliament** (MP) for **Birmingham Perry Barr** since 2001. He served on the Labor front bench as a shadow Foreign Office minister under leader Jeremy Corbyn, and a shadow Defense minister under leader Keir Starmer until his resignation in 2021. He is also the longest serving Asian MP in the current Parliament.

Sajid Javid, another British Pakistani, has represented Bromsgrove, a constituency in Worcestershire, from 6 May 2010. He has had ministerial responsibilities since April 9, 2014. He is a Member of the Conservative Party.

Rosena Chantelle Allin-Khan (born 10 May 1978) is a British politician and medical doctor serving as Member of Parliament (MP) for Tooting since 16 June 2016. A member of the Labour Party, she attended shadow cabinet as Shadow Minister for Mental Health from 2020 to 2023. She was previously Shadow Minister for Sport between October 2016 and January 2020.

Sayeeda Hussain Warsi, Baroness Warsi, PC (b. 28 March 1971) is a British lawyer, politician, and member of the House of Lords who served as **co-chairwoman of the Conservative Party from 2010 to 2012**. She served **in the Cameron–Clegg coalition, first as the Minister without portfolio between 2010 and 2012**, then as the **Minister of State for the Foreign and Commonwealth Office** (styled as "*Senior Minister of State*") and as the **Minister of State for Faith and Communities**, until her resignation citing her disagreement with the Government's policy relating to the Israel–Gaza conflict in August 2014.

Warsi grew up in a family of Pakistani Muslim immigrants living in West Yorkshire. She became a solicitor with the **Crown Prosecution Service** (CPS). In 2004, she left the CPS to stand, unsuccessfully, for election to the House of Commons. After being raised to the peerage in 2007, Warsi served as **Shadow Minister for Community Cohesion and Social Action**. She became **the first Muslim to serve as a Cabinet Minister** in 12 May 2010.

May 23, 2023: BIRMINGHAM and COVENTRY, UK: Mayor of Birmingham: Chaman Lal was born in **village Pakhowal** in **district Hoshiarpur** in a **Ravidassia** family. His father Harnam Singh Banga, who was in British-Indian Army and who had fought

the second world war, had moved to UK in 1954 and was later joined by his wife Jai Kaur and son Chaman Lal in 1964.

Mayor of Coventry: A British Sikh councillor, **Jaswant Singh Birdi**, based in **Coventry** has become the first turban-wearing Lord Mayor for Central England city. Birdi, who was born in Punjab and spent some time as a child in Calcutta in West Bengal, moved to Coventry 60 years ago and has served as a local **councillor in the city for 16 years.**



Chaman Lal as the Lord Mayor of Birmingham from 23 May 2023
Member of Birmingham City Council for Soho & Jewellery Quarter from 6 May 1994

March 29, 2023: GLASGOW, **Scotland**, UK: First Minister of Scotland: Humza Haroon Yousaf (b. 7 April 1985) was appointed as **First Minister of Scotland** and Leader of the **Scottish National Party** (SNP) on March 29, 2023.

He has been **Member of the Scottish Parliament** (MSP) for *Glasgow Pollok* since 5 May 2016, having previously been *a regional MSP for Glasgow* from 5 May 2011 – 5 May 2016.

He had served as a Minister in the Scottish Government since 6 September 2012.

Born to Pakistani immigrants in Glasgow, Yousaf studied politics at the University of Glasgow, before working as a parliamentary assistant for Bashir Ahmad, the first Muslim and second-generation immigrant elected to the Scottish Parliament. Following Ahmad's death in 2009, Yousaf went on to work as a parliamentary

assistant for both Alex Salmond and Sturgeon. Prior to his election at the 2011 Scottish Parliament election, he worked in the SNP's party headquarters as a communications officer.

As Justice Secretary, **Yousaf** introduced a controversial bill to parliament which ultimately became law as the **Hate Crime and Public Order** (Scotland) Act 2021.

In 2021, he was appointed Health Secretary during the later phase of the COVID-19 pandemic and was responsible for the NHS's recovery, as well as the mass roll-out of the vaccination programme which began under his predecessor. Following Sturgeon's resignation as leader of the SNP and as the First Minister, Yousaf won the 2023 SNP leadership election. Yousaf was appointed First Minister on 29 March 2023, becoming the youngest person, the first Scottish Asian, and the first Muslim to serve in office. He was sworn into the Privy Council in May 2023.

In April 2024, he formed a minority government after terminating a power-sharing agreement with the **Scottish Greens**. After facing an imminent motion of no confidence, he announced his intention to resign as First Minister and party leader on 29 April 2024.

The ISSUE OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION: Safety of Rwanda Bill: 23 April 2024: According to the Government, the legislation is for deterring vulnerable migrants from making perilous crossings and break the business model of the criminal gangs who exploit them.

If a person enters UK illegally, she will not be able to stay.

According to the Bill, all the illegal immigrants will be air-lifted to Rwanda in Africa. A judicial review of every such person will be conducted and the person will either be sent back to her home country or she may be granted a Refugee status in UK. Only those, who deserve to be granted the status of a Refugee will be sent back from Rwanda to UK.

Prime Minister **Rishi Sunak** has said that once the facility is fully operational at Rwanda and once flights, carrying illegal immigrants from UK to Rwanda start, the incentive to take a boat and cross the English Channel to land illegally into UK will vanish.
