Panama Paper's Impact on Pakistan

What is the issue?

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A three-member Bench of the Supreme Court disqualified Nawaz Sharif from PM's office.

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What is the case?

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- In the recently unearthed Panama Papers scandal, Nawaz Sharif, Pakistan's Prime Minister was accused.
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- He was acting as a director in a company registered in the UAE while he was heading the government.
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- The decision is based on the report by a Joint Investigation Team (JIT) established by the orders of the court to investigate Mr. Sharif and his family's assets in offshore companies.
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- Mr. Sharif should not hold office as per Article 62 (1) (f) of the 1973 Constitution as he would be declared as not being sadiq (truthful) and ameen (honest).
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What will be the impact?

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- Nawaz Sharif resigned from office.
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- There will not an election soon due to the need for a new delimitation of constituencies based on the recently held census.
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- His two sons and a daughter are also named in the Panama leaks. If the

entire family is disqualified, there will be infighting in the party for grabbing the power.
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- It is not that lack of accountability is not a huge problem in Pakistan but that accountability has always been used as a political tool to punish rivals.
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- In the absence of the enactment of a strong law or principle of the rule of law, even courts are perceived by the common man as either corrupt or highly political.
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Quick Fact

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Panama Papers leak

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- It is a huge leak of documents that exposed how the rich and powerful use tax havens to hide their wealth.
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- The files were leaked from one of the world's most secretive companies, a Panamanian law firm called Mossack Fonseca.
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Source: The Hindu

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