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GALLUP PAKISTAN POLL FINDINGS ON

80 % Attribute Dry spell to Allah's unhappiness:

Results released on: February 23, 2001



H-45, St.52,F-7/4, Islamabad, Pakistan. Tel +92-51-2655630, Fax +92-51-2655632,

Email: isb@gallup.com.pk

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80% ATTRIBUTE DRY SPELL TO ALLAH'S UNHAPPINESS

Islamabad, February 23, 2001

According to a recent survey conducted by Gallup Pakistan nearly 80% of Pakistanis believe that the recent drought and dry spell of weather is a sign of Allah's unhappiness with Pakistani people while 20% attribute it to global change of climate. The survey was conducted among a statistically representative sample of more than 1500 men and women from the rural and urban areas of all the four provinces of Pakistan. The respondents were also asked whether they expected any effect of the dry spell on their personal income in the forthcoming year. Sixty percent (60%) of the rural and 40% of the urban population believed the dry spell would have a negative effect on their incomes. The remaining believed that it would not affect them personally.

The analysis of survey findings further show that more people are attributing the dry spell to Allah's unhappiness this year compared to previous years. In a similar survey two years ago, the comparable figure was approximately 10 percentage points lower. There are also some difference in the perceptions of rural and urban population. In the urban areas approximately 30% attributed the dry spell to global climatic change while in the rural areas, the figure was around 10%.

The survey was conducted by Gallup Pakistan, the Pakistani affiliate of Gallup International among more than 1500 statistically selected men and women in both urban and rural areas of all the four provinces of Pakistan. The sample comprised a cross section of various income, education and geographic segments. The text of this report can also be seen on the internet at: www.gallup.com.pk.