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GALLUP PAKISTAN POLL FINDINGS ON

Majority support devolution of power but views are sharply divided on appointing Politicians to replace Deputy Commissioners and Shifting Police authority to local government -

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MAJORITY SUPPORTS DEVOLUTION OF POWER
But views are sharply divided on appointing Politicians to replace Deputy Commissioners and Shifting Police authority to local government -
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According to a recent survey by Gallup Pakistan, a majority of the population supports devolution of power and decentralization of administrative authority: 42% supported it, 21% opposed and 37% said they are unable to give a view. However when it comes to its implementation details, the public opinion is sharply divided. Nearly one third of the national population is in favour of electing a politician to head district administration instead of the present system of running the district through a civil servant, the Deputy Commissioner. One third is opposed while the last one third is unable to give a specific response.

On the issue of a Police Force managed by the local government, 36% favoured that Police should be run by the local government, 26% favoured a Police force run by the Provincial government, as it is presently done. But 30% favoured a Police force managed by the Federal government. The remaining 8% could not give a view. The survey was conducted among a statistically selected sample of more than 1400 men and women spread across the rural and urban areas of all the four provinces of Pakistan.

The survey findings further revealed interesting variation of views among the urban and rural population. The rural population is less likely to support politicians to head district governments: only 28% of ruralites supported a politically headed district administration as compared with 38% of the urbanites. But, in the case of a locally controlled Police, the views were quite the opposite: 43% of ruralites supported a Police under local government, whereas the comparable support in the urban areas was 33%.

The survey was conducted by Gallup Pakistan, the Pakistani affiliate of Gallup International among around 1500 statistically selected households in both rural and urban 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