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GALLUP PAKISTAN POLL FINDINGS ON

Majority favors private schools but high fees are problematic.

Results released on: June 9, 2000



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MAJORITY FAVOURS PRIVATE SCHOOLS BUT COMPLAINS ABOUT HIGH FEES - June 9, 2000

According to a recent Gallup survey a majority (62%) of urban Pakistanis believe that the quality of education in private schools is better than in government schools. But only one quarter (26%) of them are satisfied with the fee structure, whereas 67% complain about high fees in private schools. A small number of 3% believe that fees are very low while 4% did not give a response. Nearly forty percent (40%) of urban Pakistanis also believe that all schools should be run by government, 56% said private schools should be permitted to function and the remaining did not express a view. The Gallup survey on education was conducted with parents and it asked them a series of questions on the education of their school going children. The survey findings also indicated that each year nearly one million urban children enroll themselves in urban schools and about half as many change a school within the same city or move elsewhere. Sixty-four percent (64%) of parents who admitted their children in class one said they did not face any problem; however 26% said it was quite difficult to obtain admission for a child in first grade.

The survey was conducted by Gallup Pakistan, the Pakistani affiliate of Gallup International among a representative sample of more than 1000 men and women in the major urban areas of the country. The sample included a cross section of people belonging to various age, income, education and linguistic backgrounds. The text of this report can also be seen on the internet at: www.gallup.com.pk