

GALLUP PAKISTAN POLL FINDINGS ON

***PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVES ARE
SEEN AS SELF INTERESTED BUT
PERFORMANCE IS RATED
FAVOURABLY***

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According to a recent Gallup poll, members of the National Assembly are given favourable performance rating by their constituency members. But they are all the same, viewed by the public as self-interested people who are mostly concerned with their own benefits and privileges.

The survey was conducted by Gallup Pakistan in 100 statistically selected villages and 75 urban locations all over the country. The sample included a scientific cross-section of people of various regional, income, educational and age backgrounds. The results were later computer processed.

The findings of the nation-wide survey reveal that 36% of the electorate gives favourable rating for the performance of the MNAs in their own constituency. 24% rate their performance as poor, while 31% consider it reasonable. The remaining 9% did not give an opinion. Members of the Provincial Assemblies fare slightly better. 41% rate their performance as good, 21% as bad and 30% as reasonable. 8% gave no opinion.

The survey findings also reveal that by and large, members of the National and Provincial Assemblies have been active in keeping direct contact with their constituency members, which might account for their favourable rating. One quarter of the voters in their constituency claim that during the last one year they have had some contact with their representative by way of personal meeting, presenting a petition or attending a public meeting at the constituency level. However, all this has not helped change a traditional image that politics is an act of selfishness and politicians are a selfish lot. 64% of the respondents in a nation-wide Gallup survey say that members of the National Assembly are mostly self-interested and concerned with their own benefit, while 22% believe that their representatives concentrate on matters of national interest and are altruistic.