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GALLUP PAKISTAN POLL FINDINGS ON

SKEPTICISM ABOUT SOCIAL ROLE OF TAXATION

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SKEPTICISM ABOUT SOCIAL ROLE OF TAXATION

According to the findings of a Gallup poll, a majority of Pakistanis believe that new taxes do not necessarily help the society at large. They believe that the revenues generated by new taxes benefit only special sections of the population. A nation-wide Gallup survey posed the question: “when the government levies a new tax, who benefits from its revenues: the entire society or only a few people?”

The survey data shows 47% support the view that new taxes benefit only a few people while 29% believe that the entire society gets the benefit. 13% believe that no one gains from new taxes. 11% did not give an opinion. Further analysis of survey findings reveals that the highest and the lowest group’s income groups are most skeptical about the social welfare aspect of new taxes compared with the middle class which shows relatively greater trust in the social role of taxation.