

Gilani Research Foundation is a not for profit public service project to provide social science research to students, academia, policy makers and concerned citizens in Pakistan and across the globe.

Gilani Research Foundation is headed by Dr. Ijaz Shafi Gilani who pioneered the field of opinion polling in Pakistan and established Gallup Pakistan in 1980. Currently Dr. Gilani, who holds a PhD from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and has taught at leading universities in Pakistan and abroad, is Chairman of Gallup Pakistan.

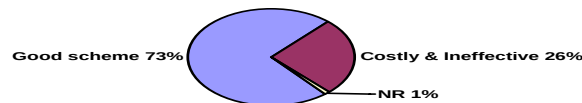
Views on Government Spending on ‘Sasti Roti Scheme’ VS ‘Higher Education for Poor Children Scheme’; People Claim to be in Need of Both: GILANI POLL /GALLUP PAKISTAN

Islamabad, February 18, 2010

According to a Gilani Research Foundation survey carried out by Gallup Pakistan, although the scheme of providing bread at a cheaper price (Sasti Roti Scheme) by Shabaz Sharif is popular and supported by 73% of all Pakistanis, if given an option between cheaper bread and higher education for poor children, only 49% claim they would choose ‘Sasti Roti Scheme’ whereas 50% would like the authorities to spend on providing higher education to the children from lower income families.

A nationally representative sample of men and women from across the country were asked “Some people believe that Shabaz Sharif’s ‘sasti roti scheme’ is a good initiative, while some believe it is costing the government way more than being beneficial to the public. What is your view point of this scheme?” Seventy three percent (73%) believe it is a good scheme to provide bread at cheap price, while 26% said that it is a costly and ineffective scheme. The remaining 1 of the respondents gave no response.

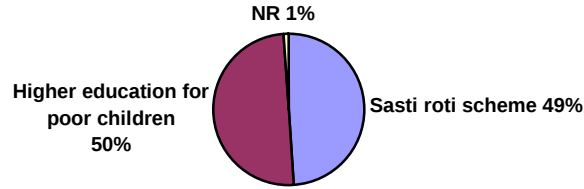
“Some people believe that Shabaz Sharif’s ‘sasti roti scheme’ is a good initiative, while some believe it is costing the government way more than being beneficial to the public. What is your view point of this scheme?”



Source: Gilani Poll conducted by Gallup Pakistan,
the Pakistani affiliate of Gallup International Association (www.gallup-international.com; www.gallup.com.pk)

In a follow up question the respondents were asked “Suppose the Chief Minister has 1 billion rupees to spend on any one of the following two causes; ‘Sasti roti scheme’ or ‘Higher education for the children of lower income households’. In your view which one of these schemes should the money be spent on?” Forty nine percent (49%) claim they would like the money to be used in providing the basic necessity for living, bread at cheaper price, while almost the same percentage (50%) claimed they would want the authorities to give higher education opportunities to the children of lower income households. The remaining 1% of the respondents gave no response. The findings show that a proportionately higher percentage of people from very poor families (with average household income up to 7000) support the ‘Sasti Roti Scheme’.

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The study was released by Gilani foundation and carried out by Gallup Pakistan, the Pakistani affiliate of Gallup International. The recent survey was carried out among a sample of 2761 men and women in rural and urban areas of all four provinces of the country, during February 2010. Error margin is estimated to be approximately $\pm 2-3$ per cent at 95% confidence level.

Gallup Pakistan proposes that its poll results be attributed as Gilani Poll conducted by Gallup Pakistan, the Pakistani affiliate of Gallup International. This is to distinguish our polls from polls on Pakistan sometimes released by other organizations not part of Gallup International Association (www.gallup-international.com) and referred to by the same title. Also please see necessary Disclaimer on our website (www.gallup.com.pk). Gallup Pakistan takes responsibility for only its own polls on Pakistan.

For more survey data on social and other issues see website www.gallup.com.pk

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