



Opinion Poll
WORLD JUSTICE PROJECT
Perceptions of Government Accountability in Pakistan
Issue 1

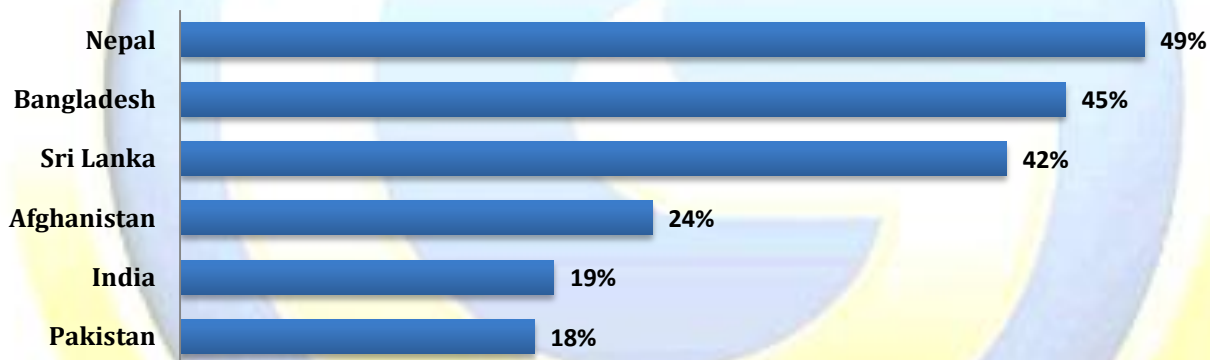
2013-2016: Majority dissatisfied with the system of accountability in Pakistan (World Justice Project and Gallup Pakistan)

Islamabad, August 22, 2017

According to the findings of the World Justice Project Report on *The Rule of Law in Pakistan* based on a Gallup Survey in urban Pakistan, Pakistan has the worst statistics for perceptions of government accountability in South Asia. Only 18% respondents to the survey in 5 major cities of Pakistan opined that in case a high ranking government officer is caught embezzling public funds, he would be prosecuted and punished.

Meanwhile, Nepal ranks the highest in South Asia, where nearly half the population opines that a fair and impartial investigation would be held against the government officer, who would be punished if guilty.

Interestingly, Afghanistan has also ranked better than Pakistan. However, it should be noted that the survey happened only in areas where Afghan National government had control.



Source: WJP General Population Poll 2016

(For complete report visit: <https://worldjusticeproject.org/our-work/wjp-rule-law-index/special-reports/rule-law-pakistan>)

In Pakistan, the surveys were conducted between May and September in 2013, 2015 and 2016 through face-to-face interviews in 2,100 households distributed proportionally across the five urban areas of Faisalabad, Karachi, Lahore, Peshawar, and Quetta.

Trend Analysis over the years: Rise in the dissatisfaction of Pakistanis with the accountability system over the past year (2014-2016).

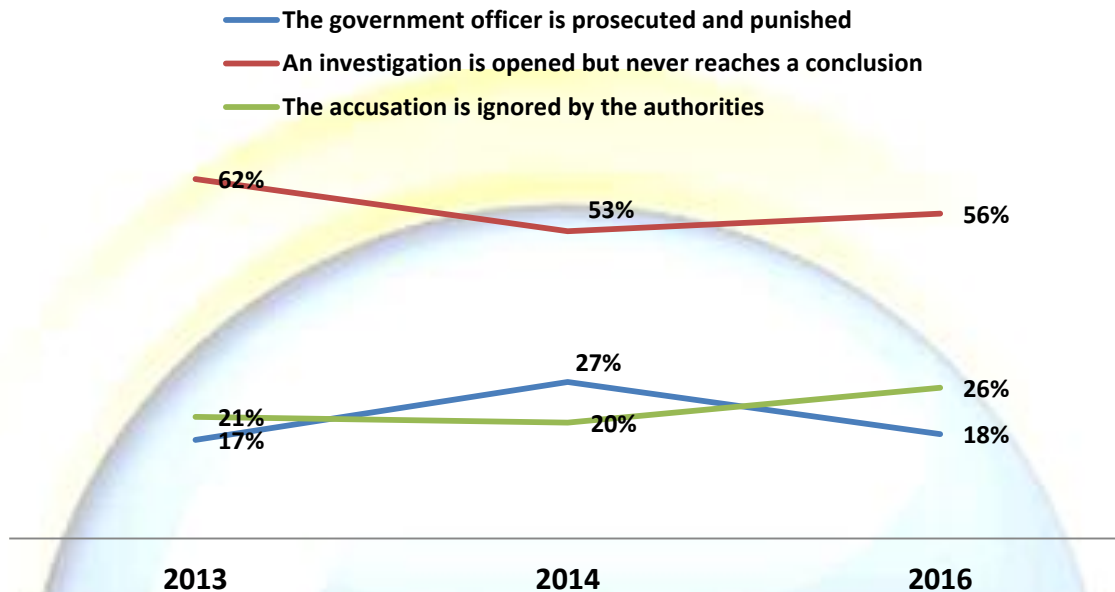
In 2013, only 17% Pakistanis said that the government official embezzling public funds would be prosecuted and punished. The figures rose to a high of 27% in 2014. This was one year after the current government came into power and there was significant hope that things would improve. However, it tumbled to 18% in 2016 when the survey was conducted again showing that general public's hope with the new government also waived.

There has been a 6% decline in the proportion of Pakistanis who said that the investigation against the accused official would be inconclusive (62% in 2013 and 56% in 2016).



On the other hand, there has been a 5% increase in the proportion of Pakistanis who said that the accused would be ignored by the authorities.

Question: What is the most likely outcome if a high-ranking government officer is caught embezzling public funds?



Source: WJP General Population Poll 2013, 2014 & 2016

(For complete report visit: <https://worldjusticeproject.org/our-work/wjp-rule-law-index/special-reports/rule-law-pakistan>)

Introduction to the series on World Justice Project:

This press release is part of a special series based on the “*The Rule of Law in Pakistan: Key Findings from the 2016 Extended General Population Poll & Justice Sector Survey*” (<https://worldjusticeproject.org/our-work/wjp-rule-law-index/special-reports/rule-law-pakistan>) report by the World Justice Project, which aims to foster an empirical understanding of the perceptions of government accountability and an analysis of Justice Sector/Rule of Law in Pakistan. It is vital to be aware of the general public perceptions, since they can help to gauge the trust of the populace in the rule of law and governance in Pakistan.

Overall, the World Justice Project report represents the voices of over 4,000 people in Pakistan and their experiences with the rule of law in their country. The General Population Poll was conducted through face-to-face interviews in 2,100 urban households distributed proportionally across the five urban areas of Faisalabad, Karachi, Lahore, Peshawar, and Quetta. This poll was designed to capture data on the experiences and perceptions of ordinary people on a variety of themes related to the rule of law, including government accountability, bribery and corruption, crime, and access to justice. The Justice Sector Survey polled 2,000 people using the same methodology as the General Population Poll and was designed to capture data on Pakistanis’ views and experiences related to dispute resolution, legal awareness, legal identity, household dynamics, and gender issues.

For detailed methodology please visit:

<https://worldjusticeproject.org/sites/default/files/documents/Pakistan%20Project%20Design%20%26%20Survey%20Methodologies.pdf>

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

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