



Special Press Release

**GALLUP PAKISTAN ELECTORAL REPOSITORY
PERCEPTIONS ON IMPARTIALITY OF POLLING STAFF**

2013 Elections Exit Poll: On the eve of the Election Day, majority voters (84%) from all across the country perceived that the polling staff was impartial on the Election Day.

Islamabad, July 18, 2018

Introduction to the series on Gallup Pakistan Electoral Repository:

This press release is part of a special press release that aims to provide the readers interesting findings from Gallup Pakistan's electoral database. Empirical analysis of elections in Pakistan is quite restricted and the Gallup Pakistan Exit Poll, on which this press release is based, is the only Exit Poll in the country providing a window into the minds of Voters on issues like who voted for whom and why? The Gallup Pakistan Electoral Repository program aims to fill this void of dearth of data in anticipation of the 11th General Elections in the country. The press releases, as part of this programme, are geared towards academics and policy makers as well as voters for the next general and provincial elections. For more information on the programme please contact Gallup Pakistan (isb@gallup.com.pk).

Abstract:

This particular press release provides an overview of the perception on impartiality of the polling staff amongst the voters in the previous election of 2013. The findings are based on interviews conducted with 4,636 men and women voters in over 200 polling station booths, spread out in all four provinces and over 75 districts of the country. The voters were randomly selected for interviews as they stepped out of polling stations after casting their vote between 9 am to 6pm on May, 11. The data is representative of over 45 million voters who voted in Pakistan's National Election 2013.

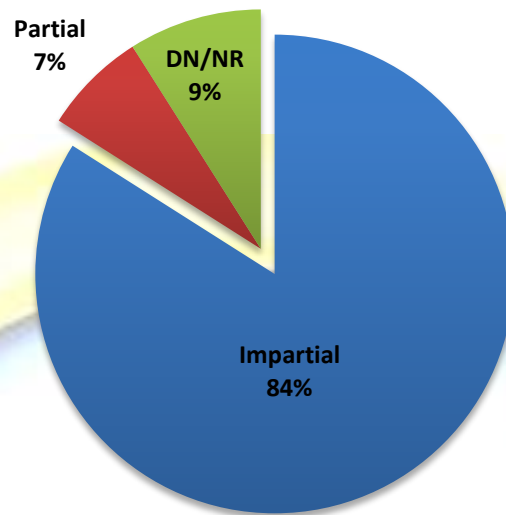
Perceptions on impartiality of polling staff:

In Pakistan, the polling staff usually comprise of officers working in BPS-16 to 21 of the education, health or other departments. The ECP claims to conduct thorough checks for ensuring their neutrality and non-affiliation with any political party before the general elections.

The important key take-away of the present press release is the significant level of confidence in 'free and fair' election process of 2013. Respondents were asked "Do you think that the polling staff at the polling station is impartial in your constituency or partial towards a particular candidate?" In response to this question, 84% said that the polling staff was impartial in their constituency, 7% said they were partial, while 9% said they did not know or wish to respond.



“Do you think that the polling staff at the polling station is impartial in your constituency or partial towards a particular candidate?”



Source: Gilani's Index of Electoral Record, based on Gallup Exit Poll data computed by Gallup Pakistan

The primary responsibility of the polling staff is to ensure that voters are able to cast their ballot in secret, free from influence and in a calm atmosphere.

Bilal I Gilani, Executive Director at Gallup Pakistan adds: “It is of course also true that after the election when votes were counted and winners announced, voters of at least one party challenged the authenticity of vote and for over 2 years continued to agitate until a judicial enquiry proved it otherwise.

General Election 2018:

Gallup Pakistan aims to conduct a similar exit poll on the upcoming election. It would be an interesting exercise to compare the Election Day (as the poll measures) and post-election day feeling of fairness for the upcoming election.



Gallup Pakistan Electoral Repository: An Introduction

The Gallup Pakistan Electoral Repository is comprised of the following sources:

1. Election Commission data on past 10 elections in Pakistan, available over each constituency. This data was acquired from Election Commission website and converted into digital database in SPSS form and is now referred to as Gilani Index of Electoral Record.
2. Gallup Exit Polls for every election since 1985.
3. Gallup pre and post-election survey record since 1985.
4. Analysis by Dr. Ijaz Shafi Gilani on elections piece by piece, as well as in combined form.

For complete access to reports or the Gallup Electoral Database, please visit the following links:

<http://gallup.com.pk/polls/gallup-pakistan-digital-libraries/digital-library-pakistan-elections/>

For definition of Gallup Electoral Territories, please visit the following link: <http://gallup.com.pk/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/Gallup-Pakistan-Electoral-Repository-3.pdf>

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