

PRESS RELEASE

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Increase of Corruption in Public Sector invalidates the Good Governance in Judiciary and Armed Forces

Friday 7 May 2010; The Auditor General of Pakistan in its report of the year 2008-09 has detected financial irregularities worth over Rs323 billion, in accounts of various federal ministries and departments. An amount of Rs 2.5 billion are attributed to the accounts of Defence services, including the Pakistan Army, Pakistan Air Force and Pakistan Navy, which is only 0.63 of the total irregularities. PAC has recovered Rs 45 billion during the last two years and this amount has been deposited with the national exchequer. Minister for Law and Justice Babar Awan expressing satisfaction over the PAC reports announced to direct the National Accountability Bureau (NAB) to take action against those persons and departments who had been pointed out by the PAC for plundering of national wealth. Transparency International Pakistan has been regularly informing the government that good governance measures are needed to improve the credibility of Pakistan in the world financial institutions. Positive measure against corruption is one of the major action to regain the credibility.

The professional excellence of Pakistan Armed Forces who are fighting Pakistan survival battle is proved from the unparalleled success it achieved in Swat, Waziristan and Bajore only in 6 months of last year, which has almost crushed the backbone of terrorist in these areas. With sacrifice of thousands of soldiers, Armed Forces have protected Pakistan from these insurgents, which NATO and US Forces could not achieve in Iraq and Afghanistan in more than one decade. The Armed Forces have successfully also controlled violations of Procurement Rules 2004, which is proved in the AGP Report of 2008-2009. Anticorruption Agenda and application of Rule of Law announced by the Chief Justice on 22nd March 2009 has also been proved from the recent Judgments on BPS 22 promotions declared null and void, and Supreme Court on 28th April 2010, in the suo moto case of cancellation of award of multibillion dollar LNG contract to GDF-Suez, in which the Court announced that it is the duty of the Court to ensure the application of Public Procurement Rules 2004. TI Pakistan is of the view that the good governance measures taken by the Judiciary and Armed Forces has defiantly improved the image of Pakistan as one of the law abiding countries with one of the best armed forces in the World.

Syed Adil Gilani, Chairman TIP said that the good efforts of these two institutions are being overshadowed by the Corruption in Public Sector which has also been accepted by Minister for Law and Justice, and though TIP has been reporting all these corruptions to NAB, but under the Ministry of Law and Justice, NAB has not taken any positive action to recover the Rs 323 billion.

He also warned that the Pakistan Ranking in the Transparency International Corruption Perception Index 2010 will reflect the surveys carried out independently by the World Bank, Asian Development Bank, Economist Intelligence Unit, World Economic Forum etc, which will take into account the governance measures like delay in passing of the freedom of Information Act, formation of Independent Accountably Commission, passing of CCP Act. The increase in corruption in Public sector deducted by the Auditor General Pakistan for FY 2008 is also likely to be reflected in the National Corruption Survey 2010, an exercise undertaken annually by TI Pakistan.