



# TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL - PAKISTAN

## Help Us Stop Corruption



“Corruption is a greater threat to the business sector in Pakistan. The country bears a loss of \$133 million daily due to corruption” - World Economic Forum

### XXVVX, DEC 2016

#### Editorial



Corruption in the education sector threatens the future of young people and children in Sindh province

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#### TI Pakistan’s Activities:



This quarter marks the completion of Anti-Fraud Hotline (AFH) first quarter of the seventh year of operation.

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TI Pakistan in collaboration of USAID/OIG conducted Fraud Awareness and Prevention workshops for Government to Government (G2G) project implementing partners

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TI Pakistan conducted a Citizen Report Card (CRC) study to evaluate the state of education in government-run schools in district Jacobabad Sindh

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*“Corruption is the biggest reason for the downfall of many societies and civilizations.”  
- Abraham Lincoln*



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## Editorial: Corruption Threatens Future of Sindh's Children

If there is one point that educationists are united on, it's the fact that Sindh and Balochistan have moved slowly to embrace education reforms. Since many years, the Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) has consistently shown that both Sindh and Balochistan have the worst school infrastructure, enrollment and retention rates and students' learning outcomes compared to Punjab and Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa. However, a single visit to any public school in some of the obscure towns of the province will put the entire situation in context and reveal how Sindh is failing its children and youth.

Recently, Transparency International Pakistan conducted a Citizen Report Card (CRC) Study

focusing on education sector in district Jacobabad, Sindh. To our surprise, through this study, we have discovered how the real problems are often neglected in our discussions on education problems in Sindh.

Way too much emphasis has been laid on accessibility i.e. enrolling Sindh's 6.2 million out-of-school children into schools. But what has not been talked enough about is why parents don't send their children to school. One reason is the lack of basic facilities in government-run-schools. TI Pakistan team visited number of schools and all of them lacked even the most basic furniture such as chairs. Students were made to sit on the floor. Since there were no fans and bulbs installed in the classrooms, the class was

conducted in a veranda where students sit under direct sunlight, while some raised text books to shade their face from the scorching beams of the sun. Even sanitation facilities are not available in schools. Teachers highlight that as a result of this, many parents are reluctant to send their female students to schools.

Moreover, despite increase in the province's education budget and the government's claim of spending more on public schools, the infrastructure has seen anything but improvement. The fact also is that the largest chunk of this budget is being spent on raising teachers' salaries and the so-called "School Specific Budget" (the non-salary budget allocated to schools). There is a need to come up with a

balanced spending with equal emphasis on improving infrastructure that renders an enabling environment for learning.

Secondly, there is no mechanism to investigate whether children who are enrolled in government schools, getting stipends, free books and uniforms; are actually learning anything at all? Amongst the government schools TI Pakistan team visited, students were not able to properly read or respond, except for recounting basic alphabets in their native language. Third grade student found it difficult to answer the simple question.

"Which class are you in"?

With such an education, these children can barely be considered literate, let alone educated. With such education, we are only nurturing a generation of illiterates who will be a problem rather than a potential.

Editor: Kashif Ali. Cartoonist: Zahid Gara



*Artist's illustrates the state of education sector in Pakistan*

# USAID **Anti-Fraud Hotline**

This quarter marks the completion of Anti-Fraud Hotline's (AFH) first quarter of the seventh year of operation. AFH continued to receive allegations, reports of fraud and corruption in USAID funded projects from all over the country. Majority of the complaints pertain to quality of service in the delivery of humanitarian assistance and complaints related to major violation in the use of proper material in the construction of school, roads etc. The complaints received are assigned an allegation type based on the nature of corruption, and this helps the investigators at the Office of Inspector General (OIG) in following up the complaints. Some of the most frequent allegations include solicitation

of bribe, favors and kickbacks, service delivery issue, theft of USAID funded goods, PPRA violations or procurement frauds. In addition complaints involving administrative issues were also reported during the reporting period such as embezzlement, misappropriation of funds and procurement.

AFH also caters to complaints that are not related to USAID initiatives in Pakistan, but may be regarding fraud in projects of other international donors that are carrying out developmental or relief related initiatives in the country or may also be against local organizations. These complaints were referred to the respective organizations, as OIG has signed a Memorandum of



This quarter AFH received approximately 3,000 calls, and as a result 67 complaints were registered. Since its inception in January 2011, AFH has handled over 80,000 calls

understanding with them. Complaints that are solely related to Pakistan and do not involve funding of international donors are referred to TI Pakistan's Advocacy and Legal Advice Center (ALAC).

AFH continued to adhere to complainants with care and concern to ensure that the complaints that are received contain all the elements that may assist OIG in identifying the issues and assist in their investigations. AFH's multilingual complaint officers are prepared and skilled to understand the complainant's need and to extract critical information for complaint formulation before it is passed on to the OIG. AFH complaint officers adhere to the guidelines provided by OIG as to the information necessary for successful complaint launch.

The Hotline remained the primary source of complaint generation, whereas other contact mediums such as emails, sms, whatsapp also contributed a fair share in this process. Complaints received from various mediums are dealt with strict confidentiality. Analysis and progress is communicated to USAID/ OIG on weekly and quarterly basis.

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## FRAUD AWARENESS AND PREVENTION WORKSHOP

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Nov 16, 2016:

The workshop was aimed at raising awareness among the representatives of organizations and Government departments that are implementing USAID funded G2G projects regarding corruption and the measures that can be adopted to curb corruption in USAID funded projects

## TI PAKISTAN'S MEETINGS

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Nov 17, 2016:

TI Pakistan team visited the office of USAID Pakistan and held meetings with its representatives from different sections to learn about the workings of USAID

Nov 21, 2016:

World Bank team visited TI Pakistan office to discuss the role of Transparency International Pakistan as an observer to \$200 million loan for the rehabilitation of Guddu Barrage, Sindh



## Citizens' Voice Against Corruption

CVAC is a flagship program of TI Pakistan which empowers citizens to act against corruption

In this quarter, Transparency International Pakistan organized four Right to Information training workshops in Sindh and KPK provinces. These workshops intended to equip citizens with required skills to request access to public information and raise an understanding and awareness about RTI legislation among general public.

Similarly, TI Pakistan's flagship program Advocacy and Legal Advice Centre (ALAC) also arranged two Mobile ALACs. On 1st November 2016, the first Mobile ALAC was conducted in district Swabi. While, the second Mobile ALAC was held on 27th December 2016 in district Jaffarabad. A good number of people visited these camps and were rendered free legal advice to approach the concerned government department

and seek redress for their complaints.

To discuss these complaints with the relevant government authorities, TI Pakistan in collaboration with the Sudhar Development Organization arranged two meetings with local government representatives in Multan and Burewala.

In district Mardan, a meeting was set up with Community Police Officer to discuss citizens' complaints. Similar meetings were held with Executive District Officer (Education), Staff of a Basic Health Unit in Tehsil Thul, Vice Chairman Municipal Committee Thul, Jacobabad, Town Municipal Tehsil Usta Muhammad, district Jaffarabad.

## Promoting Social Accountability – Citizen Report Card

In this quarter, Transparency International Pakistan conducted a Citizen Report Card study to evaluate the state of education in government-run schools in district Jacobabad. TI Pakistan is in process of finalizing a report to present the findings of the study and help raise awareness about the problems of infrastructure and the learning outcomes in public schools. The second Citizen Report Card study was conducted in district Mardan with an aim to analyze citizen response to the quality of the police services.

Similarly, TI Pakistan's flagship program Advocacy and Legal Advice Centre (ALAC) team is also working with Civil Society Organizations to enhance our relationship and partnership with likeminded CSOs. Recently, we have included three more NGOs in our network from Sindh, Balochistan and KPK provinces.

As these partner organizations have on ground presence at the grass root level, it helps TI Pakistan to expand its anti-corruption efforts in different areas of Pakistan.



*CRC aims to seek feedback on the performance of public agencies from the actual users of public services*

## GLIMPSES FROM ALAC ACTIVITIES

