



# TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL-PAKISTAN

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Mr. Syed Adil Gilani, Chairman TI-Pakistan, Mr. Illahi Baksh Soomro, Ex Speaker National Assembly, Ms. Kaneez Fatima Senior Programme Officer SDC, Mr. Saad Rashid, Executive Director TI-P reading the pledge at the YinG Convention.

## EDITORIAL

Every Nation with an eye on the developments with in the country always focuses on the empowerment of its youth. The more the youth are skillful the more the chances of the development of the country. Knowledge is power and to empower youth with the knowledge is a gateway to democracy, nation building and social mobility. Transparency International Pakistan is striving towards this aim to enhance thinking process of the youth in a manner that they will enable them to make a mark in the society and the world at large.

Youngsters from over thirty universities from all the four provinces of Pakistan participated in the YinG National Anti Corruption Convention. I was thinking while listening to the pledge of the participants “to root out corruption at all levels from the country, so as to improve the image with in the International Community”, One day we shall be successful in our mission to make a transparent Pakistan, free form all the evils of society.

The same situation I felt at the prize distribution ceremonies of “Child’s View of Corruption”. The school students with cheerful faces were receiving their certificates and prizes with an aim and ambition to contribute in the development of the country.

We, Transparency International – Pakistan are doing our best to train, educate and extol the youth to perform a vital role in transforming Pakistan to become a model for the world. We hope to see our country a prosperous developing nation in near future by the efforts of our creative and enthusiastic youth.

The United Nations Convention against Corruption initiatives promote anti corruption efforts to make the world safer by International cooperation and technical assistance. Pakistan has ranked 42 from the bottom in the Corruption Perception Index 2007 but it has shown gradual improvement in its score from 2.2 to 2.4 points. It needs sincere efforts to apply rules and regulations to achieving the goal of reducing corruption. Transparency International – Pakistan has also formed a committee to monitor the ongoing elections in the country. The committee recommended to the government that besides engaging people from the education sector, officers from various government departments should also help in monitoring the general election, which would reduce the possibility of rigging. We hope that all our efforts for a transparent society will bear fruit.

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#### TI-P Board of Trustees

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### Transparency International Recommendations to United Nations Convention against Corruption

Transparency International (TI) called on governments to give priority to the fight against corruption and to reach consensus on concrete proposals to review whether countries covered by the UN Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) are taking sufficient action to fulfill their commitments.

“Signing up to treaties is a relatively easy step in most countries; the hard part is to ensure that words are followed by deeds. A solid review mechanism is vital if government pledges are to produce results,” said Gillian Dell, Conventions Programme Manager at Transparency International. “That means a fair, open and effective system for checking that action is taken on commitments.”

Specific proposals on the structure of the review process are included in a TI report submitted to the UNCAC Secretariat ahead of a meeting of an intergovernmental working group at the United Nations in Vienna on 29 to 31 August. The report seeks to bring governments closer to agreement on the overall structure of the review process and the assignment of powers and responsibilities in relation to it.

The recommendations for a review mechanism were compiled following wide consultations with governments, international organisations and civil society organisations over a four-month period, and call for a structure that includes a credible review body, a strong secretariat, a flexible and cost-effective system of review and an open process inclusive of civil society views.

TI’s report calls for an introductory phase for the review programme in 2008-09 involving information gathering, promotion of key articles, pilot programmes to develop methodologies for conducting reviews, technical assistance by donors to developing countries and development of procedures for cooperation with monitoring organisations for other conventions that may overlap. A successful review process also requires adequate and dependable funding and the active involvement of civil society and the private sector.

The country review process should begin in earnest in 2010, covering key points from each section of the UNCAC agreement. One aim of TI’s recommendations is to establish an inclusive roadmap to ensure that a first round of reviews covering over 140 countries is completed by the end of 2014.

The UNCAC is a landmark global treaty that obligates governments to counter corruption through prevention, Criminalization, international cooperation and technical assistance. It contains groundbreaking provisions on asset

recovery. At the first meeting of signatory nations in 2006, governments agreed that monitoring was necessary and set up the expert working group that will meet next week to discuss the structure of the mechanism and its terms of reference. The working group is open to representatives of all interested signatories and parties. The proposals agreed upon at the working group level will then be presented, discussed and voted on at the second Conference of States Parties in early 2008.

The first session of the UNCAC Conference of States Parties took place in Jordan in December 2006, where governments agreed on the need for a monitoring process and established the working group that will meet next week to discuss the structure of the mechanism and its terms of reference. It also set up a working group on asset recovery that will meet in Vienna on 27 – 28 August. The two groups are tasked with preparing proposals for the second session of the Conference of States Parties in Bali, Indonesia from 28 January – 1 February 2008.

### **Child’s View of Corruption Prize Distribution Ceremonies, 31<sup>st</sup> August & 1<sup>st</sup> September 2007**

Prize distribution ceremonies were held for the first three positions of the poster painting, essay writing and skit competitions on 31<sup>st</sup> August and 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2007. On the first day, the schools of 9 towns of CDGK participated in the ceremony that was held at Rabia Basri School. Ms. Fakhir Karim Siddiqui, DDOs Education addressed the students. She appreciated the enthusiasm of the students who participated in the competitions. She distributed prizes and certificates to the winners. On the second day, the remaining 9 towns attended the ceremony at Maj. Ziauddin Memorial School. Mr. Iqbal, DO (Edu) Males congratulated the Transparency International – Pakistan for enhancing the awareness of evils of corruption amongst the school children. He encouraged the students to continue their efforts to make their country a corruption free state. He distributed the prizes and certificates among the participants.



**Ms. Fakhir Karim Siddiqui, Mr. Syed Adil Gilani & Ms. Naheed Fatima presenting prizes to the winners**



## Corruption Perception Index 2007

The 2007 *Corruption Perceptions Index* looks at perceptions of public sector corruption in 180 countries and territories - the greatest country coverage of any CPI to date – and is a composite index that draws on 14 expert opinion surveys. It scores countries on a scale from zero to ten, with zero indicating high levels of perceived corruption and ten indicating low levels of perceived corruption. A strong correlation between corruption and poverty continues to be evident. Forty percent of those scoring below three, indicating that corruption is perceived as rampant, are classified by the World Bank as low income countries. **Somalia and Myanmar** share the lowest score of 1.4, while **Denmark** has edged up to share the top score of 9.4 with perennial high-flyers **Finland and New Zealand**.

The divide in perceived levels of corruption in rich and poor countries remains as sharp as ever, according to the 2007 *Corruption Perceptions Index* (CPI), released today by Transparency International, the global coalition against corruption. Developed and developing countries must share responsibility for reducing corruption, in tackling both the supply and demand sides.

*“Despite some gains, corruption remains an enormous drain on resources sorely needed for education, health and infrastructure,”* said Huguette Labelle, Chair of Transparency International. *“Low scoring countries need to take these results seriously and act now to strengthen accountability in public institutions. But action from top scoring countries is just as important, particularly in cracking down on corrupt activity in the private sector.”*

Though Pakistan has shown gradual improvement its CPI Score from 2.1 ( 13<sup>th</sup> country above the most corrupt country out of 159 ) in 2005, to 2.2 in 2006, ( 16<sup>th</sup> country above the most corrupt country out of 163 ), and now to 2.4 in 2007 (40<sup>th</sup> country above the most corrupt country out of 180 ), Syed Adil Gilani, Chairman TI Pakistan said that Pakistan needs sincere efforts to apply rules and regulation across the board, to achieve the goal of reducing corruption, and to become **Asian Tiger**, Pakistan shall follow examples of Singapore and Hong Kong, who are the only Asian countries above Score of 8. He said that judicial independence, integrity and accountability must be enhanced to improve the credibility of justice system. Not only must be judicial proceedings be freed of political influence, judges themselves must subject to disciplinary rules, limited immunity and a code of judicial conduct to help ensure that justice is served. Political will, judicial independence and effective non-discriminatory accountability mechanism for those civil/defence departments not complying with the procedures including

privatization, and Public Procurement Rules 2004, as well as the public corporations and authorities, are urgently needed to successfully combat corruption which is defined as **“Misuse of Authority for personal gain”**.

The CPI 2007 is based on data primarily from the past two years, relating to perceptions that may have been formed even further in the past. This means that substantial changes in perceptions of corruption are only likely to emerge in the index over longer periods of time.

*“Partnering with civil society and citizens is another essential strategy for developing countries seeking to strengthen the accountability of government. Civil society organisations play a vital watchdog role, can help stimulate demand for reform and also bring in expertise on technical issues,”* said Cobus de Swardt, Managing Director of Transparency International. *“But, increasingly, many governments are moving to restrict the operating space of civil society.”*

In addition, many countries are unable to shoulder the burden of reform alone. In countries where public sector institutions were historically based on patronage and nepotism rather than merit, reform takes time and can require a substantial investment of resources, as well as technical assistance. As significant development assistance donors, top scoring countries play a special role in supporting greater accountability and institutional integrity in countries plagued by the highest levels of public sector corruption. Technical assistance is a key requirement of the landmark United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC), which has recently been ratified by Pakistan.

### Good governance begins at home

The poorest countries suffer most under the yoke of corruption. And it is ultimately their responsibility to tackle the problem. Low scores in the CPI indicate that public institutions are heavily compromised. The first order of business is to improve transparency in financial management, from revenue collection to expenditure, as well as strengthening oversight and putting an end to the impunity of corrupt officials.

An independent and professional judicial system is critical to ending impunity and enforcing the impartial rule of law, to promoting public, donor and investor confidence. If courts cannot be relied upon to pursue corrupt officials or to assist in tracing and returning illicit wealth, progress against corruption is unlikely.



## Major project

## YinG National Anti Corruption Convention

The third Youth in Governance Anti Corruption Convention was held on September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2007. The venue was the Kohinoor Hall of Hotel Regant Plaza, Karachi. The participants of the convention were the students of Institutions from all the four provinces of Pakistan. The gender equality was kept in mind and eight students (4 males and 4 females) from 32 Institutions attended the convention. Other guests from the SDC, Educational Institutions, media and organizations, members of TIP also attended the convention. The importance given in the convention were on the themes of “the improvement in governance in Pakistan, the effort made by the government concerning the education department, the role played by an ethical civil society, civilization, culture, community and state. Common justice, common consciousness and positive thinking were emphasized upon as building blocks for a stronger society”.

The convention was inaugurated by Mr Illahi Baksh Soomro, Ex Speaker of the National Assembly. In the inaugural session, a pledge was read out and signed as witnesses by all the participants to fight corruption. Lectures were held on ‘Building an Ethical Society’ and Human Rights by Dr M.H.Qazi, Rector, Dadabhoy Institute of Higher Education, Karachi and Mr. Ghazi Salauddin, Committee Member Human Rights Commission of Pakistan. The Sessions were chaired by Prof Dr. Tanvir Khalid, Professor Political Science Department University of Karachi and Justice (R) Saiduz Zaman Siddiqui, Ex Chief Justice Supreme Court of Pakistan.

Mr. Syed adil Gilani gave an introduction to provide knowledge to the youth on the value of Vote, Good Governance, Citizens Rights and obligations in different areas of Political and Social life. Mr. Illahi Baksh Soomro congratulated Transparency International – Pakistan to provide a platform for the students to train them to take part in the state policies and share their experiences and opinions. Dr. Qazi presented very thought provoking ideas and emphasized the importance of building an ethical society. His emphasis was on Human resource that can be developed through education. He also elaborated the role of religion as Respect, Honesty, Integrity, Trust, Love, Coexistence, Tolerance, Networking and living soulfully.

In the Human Rights session Mr. Ghazi Salauddin clearly emphasized on the role of youth to take part in the human rights activities of Pakistan. He said that in Pakistan youth is the great force that can be use for the development of the country. The chair of the session Justice Saiduz Zaman Siddiqui addressed the students the historical perspective of Human Rights and the Fundamental Rights in the 1973 constitution of Pakistan these are: Security of life and liberty, safeguards against arrest and detention, prohibition against slavery and forced labor protection against double

punishment, freedom of movement, freedom of assembly, freedom of association, freedom of trade, freedom of speech, freedom to profess religion and to manage religious institution etc. A lively interaction of students and speaker s took place at the end of every session. Ms. Kaneez Fatima M. Kasim appreciated the unique program of Transparency International – Pakistan to educate youth about their role and responsibilities for the betterment and enlightenment of the country in her “conclusion of YinG Project” address. Mr. Saad Rashid presented vote of thanks.

### Pledge at the National Anti Corruption Convention

**WE, THE YOUTH OF PAKISTAN**, being the participants at the Conference being held on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2007.

**RECOGNISING** the damage that is being done by corruption at all levels of the Public and Private Sector harming not only the economy of the country but especially the poor.

**ACKNOWLEDGING** that for years corruption has been impacting, and is continuing to impact, negatively on economic growth, in turn retarding economic and social development at all levels of our society;

**ACUTELY AWARE** of the poor image of our country in the International Community and realizing the utmost urgency of the task of countering corruption both effectively and in a sustained manner;

**AND RECOGNISING** that continued international support for our country is largely dependent on a comprehensive image Building Process and a prompt and effective National Anti-Corruption Strategy,

**DO HEREBY SLOEMNLY PLEDGE TO THE PEOPLE OF PAKISTAN :-**

1. That as the future leaders of our country, we are deeply conscious of our duty to the people of Pakistan to combat the scourge of corruption that is a serious problem in many countries, and regretfully a very serious problem in our own beloved country.

2. All of us commit ourselves and pledge in a non-partisan manner to adopt and implement ways and means to fight corruption in all its manifestations, along lines developed jointly by the stakeholders.

3. On a personal level and on behalf of the Institutions that we represent, each of us give our individual pledge that we are dedicated to serving the interests of our people and our country before self and with the highest levels personal integrity.

**AWARE** that the corruption crisis must be tackled openly by all, we invite all present today, to unite and witness a joint determination to rid our country of corruption at all levels so as to improve our image with the international community.

## TI-Pakistan Projects

### Transparency International Pakistan advocates the Publishing of Computerized Electoral List on ECP website

Transparency International Pakistan has sent a letter on 16<sup>th</sup> July 2007 to the Chief Election Commissioner, Pakistan requesting the ECP to publish the Computerized Electoral List on ECP website.

Transparency International Pakistan has said that as the voters list has become controversial due to drastic reduction in the numbers of voters, from 72 million in 2002 to about 52 million in 2007, it has become imperative that Transparency should prevail. It has been stated in the letter that the Computerized Electoral Rolls System (CERS) is one of the US \$ 18.9 million project, "Supporting fair and competitive elections is a key step in Pakistan's democratic development", funded by multiple donors--including USAID--and administered by UNDP.

Transparency International Pakistan has stated that this information is to be provided to the citizen of Pakistan under the **Article No. 6 of Freedom of Information Ordinance 2002**, Computerization of records. 'Each public body shall endeavor within reasonable time and subject to availability of resources that all records covered by the provisions of this Ordinance are computerized and connected through a network all over the country on different system so that authorized access to such records is facilitated'.

TI Pakistan's request also is based on the commitment of placing all USAID funded Projects in Pakistan on USAID website, including the purpose of the project, made by the US Ambassador in August 20, 2003 at the Conference organized by TI Pakistan and BOI on Combating Corruption in the Public and Private Sectors, in Islamabad. The American Ambassador Ms Nancy Powel categorically said in her speech on the signing of the Pledge from Public & Private Sector to Combat Corruption; **"That I believe that one tool to which an ever increasing number of citizens have access - the Internet -- can help all of us -- donors, recipients, and independent observers alike -- to keep better track of where funds are actually going. Later this year, USAID will begin posting the content of our programs on the Internet - a significant move towards greater transparency"**. TI Pakistan also informed the Prime Minister in the meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> July 2007, and the Prime Minister agreed with the TI suggestion.

The publication of the electoral list would be the first step to a transparent, free and fair election.

### Capacity Building & Training Workshop

A one day workshop on PPRA Public Procurement Rules 2004 was held on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> August, 2007 at Marriott Hotel Karachi by Transparency International Pakistan.

The workshop was attended by Government of Sindh Officers including Local Government Departments from all over Sindh Province, AG Sindh, CDGK, NAB Sindh. Participants form Secretariat of Govt. of Sindh – Mr. Khalid Mahmood Soomro (Managing Director Sindh PPRA), Syed Fazeelat Mehdi (Deputy Secretary), Government of Sindh Auqaf, Religious, Ministries Affairs, Zakat & USHR Department – Dr. Muhammad Ali (Secretary), Office of the Executive District Officer Works and Services Department Tharparkar at Mithi, Govt. of Sindh Cooperation Department, Govt. of Sindh Environment & Alternative Energy Department, Office of the District Coordination Officer District Matiari, Govt. of Sindh Home Department, Govt. of Sindh Agriculture Department, Govt. of Sindh Health Department attended the Workshop

Managing Director Sindh PPRA Mr. Khalid Mahmood Soomro chaired the workshop. In his address the Managing Director appreciated Transparency International Pakistan for their services in Capacity Building Efforts to Sindh Province. He advised all participants to strictly follow the new rules.

Chairman Transparency International Pakistan, Syed Adil Gilani gave a detailed presentation and Mr. Saad Rashid Executive Director, Transparency International Pakistan briefly described the role of Transparency International Pakistan and its efforts in making the rules and its application.



Chairman TI-P, Syed Adil Gilani, Mr. Saad Rashid Executive Director TI-P, Managing Director Sindh PPRA Mr. Khalid Mahmood Soomro



## Awareness Program (YinG Club)

**Essay of Umm-e-Aiman, student of M.Phil Biotech, NWFPAgriculture University Peshawar, who got 1<sup>st</sup> Position in Second YinG Essay Competition.**

### What strategy would be effective to tackle corruption in our country?

“Corruption” comes from the Latin verb “corruptus” (to break); it literally means broken object. Conceptually, corruption is a form of behavior which departs from ethics, morality, tradition, law, and civil virtue. Corruption can be defined as:

“Corruption evolves such behavior on the part of office holders in the public or private sector whereby they improperly and unlawfully enrich themselves and/or those close to them, or induce others to do so, by misusing the position in which they are placed.”

Corruption is the major cause and result of poverty around the world, at all levels of society from governments, civil society, judiciary functions, military and other services, and so on. The impact of corruption in poor countries on the poorer members of those societies is even more tragic. Corruption and poor governance have been the major causes of regimes failures in the sub-continent.

Since Pervaiz Musharraf took over in 1999, he established the National Accountability Bureau (NAB) in Pakistan to ferret out the corrupt of the past and fight endemic corruption in the present. The culprits whoever they were would be held accountable; the money they had looted would be recovered. NAB’s mission statement has since been compromised, mostly by plea bargains on whose pretext dozens of white-collared criminals walked free. This loophole in the regulations allowed both accusers and accused to engage in a corrupt embrace that undermined the whole concept of accountability as envisaged by the president when NAB was established. The situation since seven years has however improved considerably at mega levels but the situation at the grass- root level is not enviable.

### Causes of corruption in Pakistan

The following have been major causes of corruption in Pakistan:

- a) Lack of serious programme of combating corruption in the country.
- b) Abuse of power by the public office holders.
- c) Political leader’s incompetence.
- d) Lack of transparency.
- e) Poorly paid salary structure in the public sector.
- f) Absence of adequate internal/external controls to prevent bribery.
- g) Poor legislative accountability is consistently a problem and runs the risk of hindering prospects for enacting long-term anti-corruption reforms.
- h) Weaknesses in the judicial system.

### Strategy to tackle corruption in Pakistan

The following strategies should be applied to eliminate corruption:

- 1) The democratic system and freedom of speech are real mechanisms that allow to effectively struggle against corruption.
- 2) Accountability has to be a judicial process; only the judiciary can apply the laws of the land to sustain the credibility of the institution ( i.e. NAB) in democratic eyes. A retired armed forces officer of the rank of

lieutenant general (or equivalent) could also serve to sustain the process in an organized and effective manner. Judges of the Supreme Courts and Armed forces officers, serving and retired, should also be held accountable like anyone else.

- 3) Educating the people to play an active role in the fight against corruption at all levels, and creating awareness of ill effects of corruption, in this way we can mobilize public support in the fight against corruption.
- 4) Head of the institutions and other leaders should be selected on the basis of merit and honesty and they should also be equally held accountable like anyone else.
- 5) Reduction of corruption from the highest levels.
- 6) Fear of accountability.
- 7) Adequate salaries.
- 8) Establishment of credibility.
- 9) Students can play an active role in the fight against corruption. They can create awareness among students of their own institutions by arranging seminars, debate competitions, poster competitions, group discussions, and direct interactions with the higher authorities. The students of different institutions can work together to combat corruption effectively.

As one of the leading columnists says “Corruption is not a natural disaster: it is a cold, calculated theft of opportunity from men, women and children who are least able to protect themselves. Leaders must go beyond lip service and make good on their promises to provide the commitment and resources to improve governance, transparency and accountability.”

Clearly, corruption is not something abstract: it is just a mechanism that regulates the relationship between people in the system of state power. These people are personally interested in operation of this system, and their interest is quite material. Graft and bribe have become a mandatory element in relationship among people. Bribe is a basis for those relationships. If one starts a “mutiny” against those relations, the fate will be unenviable: and one is destined to go from one official door to another for life. The principle is simple: to create conditions, where it is easier for the person to give a bribe than to go through the myriad of bureaucratic tangle. But the most awful is that graft has turned into a norm, a kind of moral imperative.

The mixing of money and politics continues to be a recipe for corruption in countries both rich and poor, and yet some nations have shown that even limited resources, political will, and strong leadership can prove effective in addressing governance challenges.

Extensive research shows that foreign investment is lower in countries perceived to be corrupt, which further thwarts their chance to prosper. When countries improve governance and reduce corruption, they reap a “development dividend” that according to the World Bank Institute can include improved child mortality rates, higher per capita income and greater literacy.

In contemporary times there is a great emphasis on good governance. One of the pillars of good governance is independent, impartial and honest judiciary. Further, true democracy is the hallmark of good governance. Therefore, until and unless a foundation for true democracy and independent, impartial and honest judiciary is laid in this country, the prospects of elimination of corruption, corrupt and corrupt practices will be a tall order.

## TI-Pakistan Engagements

### July 2007

**July 10<sup>th</sup> 2007.** The annual members meeting was held at the Hotel Sheraton, at 530 pm. 24 members attended the meeting. TI-P secretariat made a presentation regarding the past and future activities. An advisory committee was formed comprising of five members. It was decided that TI-P should monitor the forthcoming elections. A committee to monitor elections was selected who would be meeting regularly to develop methods and recommendations for monitoring.

**July 14<sup>th</sup> 2007.** The Prime Minister of Pakistan invited TI-P to a meeting at the PM Secretariat. The TI-P team comprised of Mr Syed Adil Gilani, Mr Arshad Zuberi and Ms Yasmin Lari. The Prime Minister was assisted by about twelve officials of the Government. The TI-P team informed him about the implementation of PPRA rules across the board, the signing of Integrity Pact in contracts above Rs 50 million. The PM issued directives to the concerned department that as these rules were in force the Government should ensure that they are followed. TI-P team also apprised the PM the need to have transparent, fair and free elections and the decision of TI-P to monitor it.

**July 17<sup>th</sup> 2007.** The fifth steering committee of the ACPP met at the Transparency International – Pakistan's office to review the progress of the January to June 2007 period. Ms Kaneez Fatima, Senior Programme Officer SDC, Mr Syed Adil Gilani, Chairman Board of Trustees TI-P and Mr Saad Rashid, Executive Director, TI-P were present.

**July 26<sup>th</sup> 2007.** Ms Umaira Samreen attended the seminar on 'Road Safety' organized by the Sindh Education Foundation at Hotel Pearl Continental.

**July 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>, 2007.** Ms Rashida Dohad and Mr Ashish Thapa, members of the External Evaluation Team, on behalf of SDC to evaluate the performance of TIP visited the TIP's office in Karachi. Subsequently they also visited Pakistan Steel, PQA, CDGK, University of Karachi, Gulshan Town, Project Director Dept of Irrigation & Power GOS and interviewed them regarding their association of TIP.

**July 30<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup>, 2007.** The External Evaluation Team visited the offices of CBR, PPRA, Dy. Auditor General Pakistan, Procurement Specialist World Bank, National Accountability Bureau in Islamabad and interviewed them regarding their association of TIP.

### August 2007

**August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2007.** Mr Syed Adil Gilani & Saad Rashid visited the office of Swiss Agency for Development & Cooperation, Islamabad to attend presentation of the Aide Memoir by Ms Rashida Dohad & Mr Ashish Thapa.

**August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2007.** A workshop was held for the officials of the Government of Sindh and National Accountability Bureau on the Sindh Government Public Procurement Rules at Hotel Marriot, Karachi. The workshop was chaired by the Managing

Director Sindh Public Procurement Authority. It was attended by over 70 officials from all over Sindh.

**August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2007.** The prize distribution ceremony for the first three positions of the poster painting, essay writing and skit competitions for the schools of 9 towns of CDGK was held at Rabia Basri School, FB Area, Karachi. The ceremony started with a presentation by a school band. Ms Fakhr Karim Siddiqui distributed the prizes.

### September 2007

**September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2007.** The prize distribution for the poster painting, essay writing and skit competitions for the first three positions of the remaining 9 towns of the CDGK schools was held at Maj Ziauddin Memorial Secondary School, Nazimabad Karachi. Mr Iqbal, DO (Edu) Males distributed the prizes.

**September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2007.** The Third Youth In Governance Convention was held at Hotel Regent Plaza, Karachi. Over 40 institutions participated in the Convention from all the four provinces of the country. There was an equal representation of the male and female students. The convention was inaugurated by Mr Illahi Baksh Soomro, Ex Speaker of the National Assembly. In the inaugural session, a pledge was read out and signed as witnesses by all the participants to fight corruption. Lectures were held on 'Building an Ethical Society' and Human Rights by Dr M.H.Qazi and Mr Ghazi Salauddin. The Sessions were chaired by Prof Dr Tanvir Khalid and Justice (R) Saiduz Zaman Siddiqui.

**September 15<sup>th</sup> 2007.** Ms Shirin Gul, Ms Sanam Hamid Qureshi of UNDP Islamabad and Mr Phil Matsheza of UNDP New York, visited TI-P office. Mr Syed Adil Gilani and Mr Saad Rashid gave a brief presentation of the activities of TI-Pakistan. They discussed the programmes on which the two organization could work together on the anti corruption theme.

**September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2007.** Mr Syed Adil Gilani presented the TI Corruption Perception Index 2007 at a press conference at the Karachi Press Club. On their invitation 40 reporters and 12 TV Channels covered the presentation. Two TV channels GEO and AAJ held separate interviews with Mr Syed Adil Gilani.



**Participants at the National Anti Corruption Convention**

## TI-Pakistan in Media Focus

**Transparency International report Independent judiciary termed vital to end corruption** (*The News September 27,2007*)

An independent judiciary is imperative to end corruption and the culture of impunity as implementation of current mechanisms, such as the National Accountability Bureau (Nab), was 'selective,' resulting in a negligible reduction of these ills in public sector organizations. The eradication of these evils would ultimately lead to economic improvement in terms of restoring confidence of the investors, said Transparency International (TI), Pakistan here on Wednesday. "An independent and professional judicial system is critical to ending impunity and enforcing the impartial rule of law, to promoting public, donor and investor confidence," said Syed Adil Gilani, Chairman TI Pakistan while launching the TI corruption perception index 2007 at the Karachi Press Club. He opined that if courts cannot be relied upon to pursue corrupt officials or to assist in tracing and returning illicit wealth, progress against corruption is unlikely.

**TIP holds 'Youth in Governance National Convention'** (*Financial Post September 9,2007*)

KARACHI, Sept 8: Ex-speaker of the National Assembly, Illahi Baksh Soomro on Saturday inaugurated the 'Youth in Governance National Convention' here in a local hotel organized by the Transparency International Pakistan (TIP). The convention was attended by large number of students from more than 30 institutions from all over the country. Speaking on the occasion, Blahi Baksh Soomro lauded the efforts of TIP and emphasized that more such events be staged to involve the youth in important activities like anti corruption. He also stressed upon youngsters to involve themselves in the community and work for the betterment of the country.

**Workshop on procurement rules held** (*Business Recorder August 26,2007*)

KARACHI: A one-day workshop on PPRA Public Procurement Rules 2007 was held on Saturday, August 25, 2007 at Marriott Hotel, Karachi, by 'Transparency International Pakistan'. It was attended by Sindh Government Officers, including Local Government Departments from all over Sindh Province. PPRA Managing Director Khalid Mahmood Soomro presided over the workshop. In his address, the Managing Director appreciated Transparency International Pakistan for its services in capacity building efforts for Sindh province. He advised all participants to strictly follow the new rules. Participants also included officers from NAB and AG Sindh. Transparency International Pakistan Chairman Adil Gilani gave a detailed presentation, and Saad Rashid, Executive Director, Transparency International Pakistan, briefly described the role of Transparency International Pakistan and its efforts in making and its application.

**Transparency hallmark of government policies: Shaukat Aziz** (*Associated Press of Pakistan July 15,2007*)

ISLAMABAD, Jul 14 (APP): Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz on Saturday said the government has introduced transparency in its decisions in order to improve governance and reduce corruption. He was talking to a delegation of Transparency International Pakistan (TIP) who called on him here. The Prime Minister said the government will ensure application of Public Procurement Rules, 2004 at all the federal government ministries, as the Public Procurement Rule Authority (PPRA) has been asked to send monthly compliance report, which shall include non-complying departments' tenders. He said transparency is the hallmark of the government's policies and it is promoting E-government for more openness and to minimize processing times. Syed Adil Gillani, Chairman TIP briefed the Prime Minister about the composition and functioning of TIP.

**TIP forms body to monitor pre-election arrangements** (*Financial Post July 11,2007*)

KARACHI. July 10: Transparency International Pakistan (TIP) has decided to form a committee to review and monitor the arrangements for the upcoming general election. The committee would give recommendation to the government for holding free fair and transparent elections. The aforementioned decision was taken during a meeting held here on Tuesday. which attended by Elahi Bux Soomro; Former Interior Minister. Gen. (Retd.) Moinuddin Haider; Central Vice President Pakistan Tehrik-e-Insaaf. Dr Arif Alvi; Chairman TIP. Syed Adil Gillani: Executive Director TIP Saad Rashid; Executive Director. Heritage Foundation Pakistan. Ms. Yasmin Lari; Wajid Jawad and other TIP members.

**TI-P Forthcoming Events**
**Child's View of Corruption Prize distribution ceremony**

A ceremony for the Prize distribution of Child's View of Corruption for the town & city winner shall be organized by December.

**YinG Club Debate Competition**

A debate Competition "Is corruption justified in case of need" will be held on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2007 by YinG Club.

**Seminar on Anti Corruption Day**

A Seminar on United Nations Anti Corruption Day will be arranged on December 09, 2007.

**Play on "Evils of Corruption"**

Play on "Evils of Corruption" will be held in December 2007.