

14th March 2023

Syed Murad Ali Shah Chief Minister Sindh CM House Karachi Piot 72-F/2, 1st Floor, 9th Street, Jami Commercial, Phase VII, Defence Housing Authority, Karachi

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TIP23/0314/1A

Subject: Complaints Received by TI Pakistan ALAC Highlight the Need for Better Drainage System and Reconstruction Efforts in District Shikarpur, Sindh in lieu of Devastating Floods

Dear Sir.

For more than a decade, Transparency International Pakistan operates Advocacy and Legal Advice Centre (ALAC). The objective of the ALAC is to promote transparency and address corruption in various sectors of the country by providing a platform to the citizens that helps them voice their opinions. The aim is to bridge the gap between citizens and authorities/institutions so that citizens can get relief. This includes assisting citizens with free legal advice to pursue their complaints while strengthening the ability of institutions to act upon the complaints.

During the recent Mobile Legal Advice Camp arranged in Shikarpur, Sindh, number of citizens registered their concerns/complaints about the lack of drainage system in Shikarpur city, Village Gul Muhammad Chakhro and Dur Muhammad Brohi U/C Jan Taluka and lack of reconstruction efforts and damaged schools infrastructure in the village Mirzapur Taluka Ghari Yaseen, Noro U/C Jahan Khan, Aqil Goth U/C Jahan Khan, Rahim Dino Mahar Taluko Lakhi, and village Jalaluddin Jafri, near Karampur, Laro district.

As per the citizens, the villages in the district still face water logging, due to which schools are also largely affected. People who visited Legal Advice Camp to seek redress for the grievances, pointed out that despite the passage of many months, the infrastructure such as houses, roads and schools affected by the floods are still in dilapidated condition.

The federal and provincial governments are at the forefront of climate initiatives to address the devastating effects of 2022 floods. In line with our international commitments, efforts must be made to swiftly address the urgent needs of the citizens in lieu of the last year's floods, including ensuring speedy rehabilitation efforts. It is equally imperative that local communities and vulnerable population have better safeguards in the ongoing climate action.

Transparency International Pakistan requests the Chief Minister Sindh to address the urgent concerns of the people of Shikarpur district and issue directives to the concerned authorities to look into the matter of the drainage system, post-flood reconstruction efforts including the re-construction of damaged schools infrastructure.

TI Pakistan is striving for across the board application of Rule of Law, which is the only way to stop corruption and achieve zero tolerance against Corruption.

With Regards,

(Advocate Daniyal Muzaffar)

Trustee/Legal Advisor

Transparency International Pakistan



Copies forwarded for the information with request to take action under their mandate to:

- 1. Prime Minister of Pakistan, PM House, Islamabad
- 2. Chief Secretary Sindh, Karachi
- 3. Chairman, National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), Islamabad
- 4. DG, PDM Sindh, Karachi
- 5. Registrar, High Court of Sindh, Islamabad

Note:

This is to clarify that Transparency International Pakistan is not a complainant, it acts as a whistleblower and operate under Article 19-A, of the Constitution of Pakistan which gives the right to public to know how government is being run by public officers. Article 19-A makes the right to access of information pertaining to a public authority a fundamental right, Justice Syed Mansoor Ali Shah in his landmark judgment in case of Ataullah Malik v. Federation of Pakistan includes following order.

Right to information is another corrective tool which allows public access to the working and decision making of the public authorities. It opens the working of public administration to public scrutiny. This necessitates transparent and structured exercise of discretion by the public functionaries. Article 19-A empowers the civil society of this country to seek information from public institutions and hold them answerable. PLD 2010 Lahore 605.