

## PRESS RELEASE

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## Transparency

## International Pakistan

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### Transparency International Pakistan has released Local Government District Performance Index 2024

**Karachi, Tuesday December 10, 2024:** In Sindh Local Government District Performance Index 2024, TI Pakistan has made an effort to provide a citizen centered feedback on the performance of local government in the province. Utilizing a diverse perspective of citizens from urban and rural areas of the selected districts, the LGDP Index offers a governance diagnostic assessment on the key areas of local government service delivery and opportunities for institutional reforms. The results also provide actionable recommendations for the Government of Sindh (GoS), Local Government Department and the relevant stakeholders to improve service delivery and strengthen public trust in the local governance.

They key findings include:

1. Sindh Local Government District Performance Index 2024 reveals that at the provincial level, majority of the citizens (46%) feel that the recent local government elections have not brought any administrative improvement in the province.
2. At the provincial level, the majority (57%) of the respondents across all divisions have expressed dissatisfaction with the local government's performance during the monsoon rains of 2024. The district level results reveal that the dissatisfaction with the performance of the local government during the monsoon rains of 2024 is highest in Larkana (85%), Karachi (69%) and Sukkur (61%). Whereas in Hyderabad 26% (fully satisfied) and 40% (to some extent), Mirpurkhas 6% (fully satisfied) and 48% (to some extent), and Shaheed Benazirabad 6% (fully satisfied) 48% (to some extent) are satisfied with the performance of the local government during monsoon rains of 2024.
3. At the provincial level, 56% of respondents have expressed dissatisfaction with the quality of basic services (water supply, sanitation, sewage/drainage, roads maintenance, waste management, infrastructural development and registration documents), provided by the LG as per its mandate. The district level data shows that the three districts where dissatisfaction with the quality of basic service delivery is highest are: Karachi (75%), Larkana (69%) and Sukkur (56%). Whereas, the districts with the highest "to some extent satisfaction" are: Mirpurkhas (45%), Shaheed Benazirabad (45%) and Hyderabad (39%).
4. The Sindh Local Government District Performance Index 2024 reveals that the availability of "Water Supply" is identified as the biggest problem that the respondents (25%) across all divisions want to be resolved.
5. At the provincial level, half of the respondents (51%) say that they pay informal fees for registration documents (birth, marriage, divorce, and death certificates). At the district level, the prevalence of informal fees is highest in Larkana (93%) and Hyderabad (68%). Whereas, in Karachi (54%), Mirpurkhas (52%), Shaheed Benazirabad (75%) and Sukkur (76%), the majority respondents, have not experienced paying any informal fees for registration documents.
6. At the provincial level, an overwhelming majority (87%) believe that the local government representatives do not make effective use of allocated funds.
7. 83% respondents across all divisions of Sindh reported not having access to local government records, budgets and performance reports.
8. As measures to improve the local government in Sindh, 92% respondents believe that enhanced accountability of local government representatives will improve local government. 91% support setting a minimum educational qualification of a bachelor's degree for candidates, 90% believe increasing public participation in local government decision-making, and 87% believe increasing the representation of youth in local governance will lead to improvement in local government at district level.
9. 64% of respondents reported that public meetings at UC/Tehsil/District level are not organized by LG representatives to obtain citizen feedback in local governance matters. The three divisions where local government has least engagement with the citizens are Larkana (86% respondents report that public meetings are not arranged by the LG representatives), Karachi (76% respondents report that public meetings are not arranged by the LG representatives) and Mirpurkhas (73% respondents report that public meetings are not arranged by the LG representatives). Whereas, 41% respondents in Shaheed Benazirabad and 36% in Hyderabad report that public consultations are held 'sometimes' by the local government.
10. 75% respondents at the provincial level reported that the local government representatives do not consult citizens on budget priorities.
11. 59% across Sindh reported that their UC chairperson or councilor is accessible, while 41% stated they are not accessible.

12. At the provincial level, 51% of the citizens report that they are not aware of the Functions, Roles and Responsibilities of local government in their district as defined in The Sindh Local Government (Amendment) Act, 2023.
13. 54% respondents across Sindh perceive local government system as 'good'.
14. The survey reveals that 44% of respondents across Sindh do not have access to clean drinking water.
15. Only 13% of the respondents at provincial level report that the garbage is collected daily from their area. 38% reported that garbage is not collected at all in their area. At the district level, the highest proportion of respondents in Shaheed Benazirabad (70%) and Mirpur Khas (65%) reported that garbage is not collected at all in their area. While Larkana (75%) indicated that garbage is collected once a week in their area.
16. At the provincial level, 75% of respondents across Sindh reported that cleanliness is 'bad' in their area.
17. At the provincial level, 76% across Sindh are unaware about the complaint cell of the local government where they can lodge a complaint.
18. 77% of respondents across Sindh are unaware of the Sindh Right to Information (RTI) Act 2016, which allows citizens to request information from the local government. Only 14% of the citizens have ever filed a Right to Information request.
19. At the provincial level, 85% respondents have not participated in any public consultation or feedback session organized by the local government in the past 12 months. The three districts where citizens have the least participation in any consultation are Larkana (97%), Mirpurkhas (96%) and Karachi (88%).
20. The LGDPI 2024 reveals that at the provincial level, 56% of respondents believe that the local government is not effectively fulfilling its mandate. At the district level, the highest dissatisfaction is in Larkana (81%), Karachi (70%) and Sukkur (65%) who believe that local government is not fulfilling its mandate
21. At the provincial level, 72% of citizens believe that it is not easy for ordinary citizens to contest local government (LG) elections.

Transparency International Pakistan hopes that the results of this survey will be utilized by the Government of Sindh, Local Government Department to implement reforms to enhance effectiveness of the local governance at the grassroots level.