



March 13, 2026

Honorable Prime Minister  
PM House, Islamabad

**Subject: Complaint against Serious threat to Public Health Due to Deficit of Federal  
Inspectors of Drugs(FIDs)**

Dear Sir,

Transparency International Pakistan has received a complaint against the allegations of serious threat to public health due to deficit of federal inspectors of drugs (FIDs).

The complainant has made the following allegations that;

1. There are approximately 5,000 stakeholders operating in Pakistan in the sectors of medical devices, health and OTC products, including pharmaceutical manufacturers, importers, distributors, and storage facilities.
2. The regulatory oversight of these stakeholders such as licensing, renewal of licenses, GMP inspections, and inspection of storage facilities falls under the jurisdiction of Federal Inspectors of drugs.
3. However, only 8-10 Federal Inspectors are currently notified across the entire country to perform these critical regulatory functions. As a result, the shortage of FIDs has created a serious gap to control substandard and spurious drugs and health products from entering the market, posing a serious threat to public health and patient safety.

**Transparency International Pakistan Comments and Recommendations**

Transparency International Pakistan has reviewed the allegations of the complaint. Prima facie, the allegations seem correct. Following are TI Pakistan comments:

1. TI Pakistan had earlier wrote to the honorable Prime Minister on the matter of the appointment of Federal Inspectors of Drugs across Pakistan (**Annex-A**)

Transparency International Pakistan requests the honorable Prime Minister to look into the allegations of the complaint, if found correct, issue directives to the Federal Minister for National Health Services, Regulations & Coordination and DRAP to appoint the necessary federal drug inspectors, and ensure stringent enforcement of pharmaceutical regulations. Decisive measures and their strict enforcement are imperative to maintain integrity of Pakistan's healthcare system.

Transparency International Pakistan is striving for across-the-board application of the Rule of Law, which is the only way to stop illegal practices and achieve Zero tolerance against corruption.

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. Federal Minister, Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations & Coordination  
Islamabad.
2. Federal Secretary, Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations & Coordination  
Islamabad.
3. CEO, DRAP, Islamabad
4. Registrar, Supreme Court of Pakistan, 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, and a three member bench in case of Mukhtar Ahmad Ali vs the Registrar, Supreme Court of Pakistan, Islamabad, headed by Chief Justice Qazi Faez Isa in the landmark judgment on 16 October 2023, in CP No. 3532/2023, has declared that

“What previously may have been on a need-to-know basis Article 19A of the Constitution has transformed it to a right-to-know, and the Access to information is no longer a discretion granted through occasional benevolence, but is now a fundamental right available with every Pakistani which right may be invoked under Article 19A of the Constitution”



**TRANSPARENCY  
INTERNATIONAL - PAKISTAN**

## Annex-A

Plot 72-F/2, 1st Floor, 9th Street, Jami Commercial,  
Phase VII, Defence Housing Authority, Karachi  
Phone: +92-21-35390408, 35311898  
Fax: +92-21-35390410  
Email: ti.pakistan@transparency.org.pk  
Website: www.transparency.org.pk

April 08, 2025

TL2025/0402/1A

Honorable Prime Minister  
PM House, Islamabad

**Subject: Complaint against Allegations of Regulatory Lapses, Violation of Drug Act 2012 and  
Non-Appointment of the Federal Inspectors of Drugs (FIDs)**

Dear Sir,

Transparency International Pakistan has received a complaint against the allegations of the violation of regulatory lapses, and the non-appointment of federal inspectors of drugs (FIDs).

The complainant has made the following allegations that:

1. Despite the official notification of the SRO 32 Medical Devices Rules in 2017, manufacturers and importers have continuously failed to apply for necessary approvals within the stipulated time frame. They also submit incomplete applications, leading to repeated deferrals and delays.
2. The pharmaceutical companies, particularly the manufacturers of medical devices, have been exploiting these regulatory delays to seek last-minute extensions each year. This practice has led to the situations to manipulate the market by creating an artificial shortage of products, enabling them to sell medical devices and drugs at exorbitant prices, which directly impacts patients and leads to profiteering.
3. The Federal Government has failed to curb the influence of the pharmaceutical industry, allowing it to operate with little oversight and accountability.
4. Despite the critical role of Federal Inspectors of Drugs (FIDs) in ensuring compliance and regulating the pharmaceutical industry, no new FIDs have been officially notified in the last two and a half years. At present, only two FIDs are operational nationwide, leaving the sector largely unmonitored and allowing the industry to operate unchecked.
5. The absence of effective regulatory oversight has allowed over 700 Drug Manufacturing License (DML) holders, 500 alternative medicine manufacturers, and numerous medical device importers and manufacturers to operate without adequate supervision.
6. The absence of inspections and regulatory scrutiny has created a dangerous environment where unregulated and potentially harmful medical products can enter the market without proper quality control.
7. Since the promulgation of the DRAP Act in 2012, there has been a persistent failure by the Federal Government to appoint a regular Director for DRAP to date.

**Transparency International Pakistan Comments**

Transparency International Pakistan has reviewed the allegations of the complaint. Prima facie, the allegations seem correct.

Transparency International Pakistan requests the honorable Prime Minister to look into the allegations of the complaint, if found correct, issue directives to the Federal Minister for National Health Services, Regulations & Coordination and DRAP to appoint the necessary federal drug inspectors, and ensure stringent enforcement of pharmaceutical regulations. Decisive measures and their strict enforcement are imperative to maintain integrity of Pakistan's healthcare system.



**T R A N S P A R E N C Y  
I N T E R N A T I O N A L - P A K I S T A N**

*Continuation Sheet No.....*

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Regards,

Advocate Daniyal Muzaffar,  
Trustee/Legal Advisor  
Transparency International Pakistan

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