



March 22, 2021

Mr. Azam Khan,
Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister,
Government of Pakistan,
PM House,
Islamabad

(For attention of the Prime Minister)

**Sub: Procurement of COVID-19 Vaccines by the Private Sector for commercial sale in
Pakistan**

Dear Sir,

Transparency International Pakistan refers to the procurement of COVID-19 vaccine, or Sputnik V, comprising 50,000 doses, by the private sector in Pakistan. It is reported that the federal cabinet has fixed the maximum sale price of Suptnik V Russian vaccine at Rs. 8, 449 for two doses and China's Conividecia at Rs. 4,225 per injection.

Across the globe, governments are procuring vaccines and administering to the citizens for free, as it is state's responsibility. It may happen that at this inflated cost. the government may also procure vaccine. Similarly, it may also be pointed out that Pakistan is one of the first countries to allow the private sector to import and sell COVID-19 vaccines, and will provide a window of corruption as there are possibilities some of the govts vaccine may be sold to that private hospital.

The global price set for Sputnik V vaccine is \$10 per dose. This means that internationally the two doses of Sputnik V are available at \$20 (**Annex-A**). However, the approved price for its commercial sale in Pakistan is 160% higher than the international price. It may also be pointed out that in India, a single dose of Gamalya Centre/Sputnik V vaccine cost less than INR 734 (**Annex-B**). With this rate, taking into consideration the currency value difference, a single dose of Sputnik V vaccine should cost approx. Rs. 1500 in Pakistan. **This anomaly of vaccine cost at more than 150% higher than the international market price is another serious issue of overchraging.**

To ensure that the access to COVID-19 vaccine is fair, transparent and equitable, Transparency International has called upon all the governments to disclose COVID-19 vaccine related information pertaining to (**Annex-C**):

1. Which vaccines has your government acquired?
2. How many doses of each vaccine have been secured?
3. When will the vaccines be delivered to everyone in your country? When will you be vaccinated and which one will you get?
4. How much is your government paying for a dose of each vaccine
5. Does your government have a single website with all information about COVID-19 vaccines, including timelines, coverage, financial resources and contracts?



TI Pakistan requests the honorable Prime Minister to review the policy of allowing private import of Vaccine, to cancel it altogether, and consider the request to issue directives for the TI recommendations for the disclosure of above critical information about COVID-19 vaccines.

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,

Nasira Iqbal

Justice (R) Nasira Iqbal,

Vice-Chairperson

Transparency International Pakistan

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

1. Chief, National Command Operation Centre, Islamabad
2. Dr. Faisal Sultan, Special Assistant to Prime Minister on Health, Ministry of National Health Services Regulations and Coordination, Islamabad
3. Managing Director, Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (PPRA), Islamabad
4. Chairman, National Accountability Bureau (NAB), Islamabad
5. Registrar, Supreme Court of Pakistan

