

### **Pro-rich tax**

AS pointed out by a recent Oxfam report, there is a worldwide pro-rich tax culture. As a result, wealth is concentrated in a few hands. Our mini-budget, as the past main budgets, is blind to real estate, agricultural incomes and assets stashed abroad.

The corrupt have the cosy feeling that ‘you can have the cake and eat it too’ provided you flee abroad.

The ill-gotten money enables the corrupt persons’ progeny to live in comfort. The army has set an example by punishing a major-general and a lieutenant-general who failed to explain the gap between their ostensible means of income (earned through smuggling during Balochistan posting) and lifestyle of their scions.

The inquiry about a sports car that crushed two other army officers, unearthed the financial trail.

Let Pakistan government create the like of India’s Central Bureau of Investigation (with forensic experts) that could enter any premises and call for explanation about declared income and visible assets.

Lest this body become just another tool for victimisation, it should be put under multiple oversights (parliament, judiciary, etc) with an iron-clad procedure.

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