

The Center Stance is an attempt to convey the principled position of the [Center for Research and Security Studies](#) (CRSS) on issues CRSS works on as priority areas:

- Governance
- Security

CRSS firmly believes in a politically informed and active Pakistani society that must stand for what is right on the principles of democracy. People of Pakistan must peacefully raise their voice on any practice against the basics of democratic norms – even in the name of security. An informed opinion helps shaping public stances that impact the government and this is how people of Pakistan can assert themselves in participative democracy.

Form an opinion
and
Be counted!

The Center Stance

Remove Governor's Rule – NOW

Islamabad - The existing geo-political situation on western and eastern borders and the internal economic-political crisis requires Pakistan's ruling political elite to act for the resolution of existing crisis rather than creating more. Expressing concern over the drift into anarchy following the disqualification of Nawaz and Shahbaz Sharif, the Center for Research and Security Studies (CRSS) calls on the president, Asif Ali Zardari to lift the governor's rule in Punjab henceforth and allow the Provincial Assembly perform its fundamental task of legislation and choosing its leader of the house.

“Regardless of the merits or otherwise of the disqualification (by the Lahore High Court and upheld by the Supreme Court), the imposition of governor's rule under the Article 234 of the Constitution has severely dented Pakistan's image abroad and caused another turmoil at home,” said a statement by the Centre, a non-partisan think tank, dedicated to independent research and analysis of the national and regional security issues.

“A continuation of the Governor's Rule with the implicit denial to the Provincial legislators of the right choosing their leader is a certain recipe for precipitating the existing volatile security situation and aggravating the socio-economic crisis that stems from decades of neglect and the questionable war against terrorism since 2001,” the Centre maintained.

The Centre believes that administrative actions in Punjab since February 26, when the Supreme Court finally barred Sharifs from holding public office, have certainly fuelled discontent among the people at large and provoked a reaction that will only add to Pakistan's grave crisis of governance and security.

The shoot-out in Lahore on March 3, that took several lives, also underscores the fragility of conditions in Pakistan, and point to the forces which are out to destabilize and bleed Pakistan.

The Centre notes that President Zardari, who is supposed to symbolize Federation, should not have been a source of controversy that is rooted in his refusal to abide by successive commitment he made to Nawaz Sharif and the imposition of the Governor's rule in Punjab.

“The entire situation warrants closing of ranks by all politicians who must rise above petty party considerations and initiate a grand national reconciliation process which must assuage bruised egos and remove the mistrust and bitterness that has crept in to Pakistani politics,” said the CRSS.