CORRUPTION PERCEPTIONS INDEX 2023

The perceived levels of public sector corruption in 180 countries/territories around the world.

Iftekharuzzaman
Executive Director, TIB
Dhaka, 30 January 2024
Introducing CPI

• Transparency International’s flagship annual research since 1995

• CPI - International comparison on the state of corruption, mainly in public sector, focusing on two types of factors:

• Perceived state of corruption in terms of:
  • Bribery and misappropriation of government funds
  • Uncontrolled abuse of public office for private gain
  • Excessive red-tape in government work and decision-making
  • Nepotism in public sector appointments
  • State capture by narrow vested interest groups

• Mechanisms available for control of corruption:
  • Effective accountability in case of allegation of corruption in public sector
  • Integrity of institutions for effective prosecution of corruption cases
  • Law and practice of financial disclosure and conflict of interest of public officials
  • Public access to information on government activities and matters of public interest
  • Legal protection for whistleblowers (media and others who report on corruption)

• Bangladesh included in the index since 2001
Method & process

• Produced by the research team of TI-Secretariat based in Berlin in collaboration with independent external experts

• CPI 2023 methodology, as in previous years, has been developed, calculated and verified by reputed researchers and experts of:
  • Department of Statistics and Political Science of Columbia University,
  • Methodology Institute, London School of Economics and Political Science,

• The CPI has been certified as a conceptually and statistically sound index by the European Commission Joint Research Centre (JRC), which also audited it

• Survey of Surveys - Minimum three international surveys are needed for a country to be included in the index.

• Only such data that allow comparative picture are considered

• No nationally generated data including TIB research are included in CPI
Data Sources

13 international surveys – rolling data for three years

*For Bangladesh – data from 8 surveys*

- World Economic Forum - Executive Opinion Survey
- Economist Intelligence Unit - Country Risk Assessment
- World Justice Project - Rule of Law Index
- Political Risk Service (PRS) International Country Risk Guide
- Bertelsmann Foundation Transformation Index
- Global Insight Country Risk Ratings
- World Bank - Country Policy and Institutional Assessment
- Varieties of Democracy Project

CPI 2023 Data period: *November 2020-September 2023*
CPI 2023: Basic Facts

180 countries scored

43 the average score

0 very clean

0 highly corrupt

Score:
- Highly Corrupt: 0-9
- Very Clean: 90-100
- No Data
OVERALL GLOBAL RESULTS

90/100 Highest Score Denmark

11/100 Lowest Score Somalia

Score Increased 55 Countries

Score Unchanged 62 Countries

Score Decreased 63 Countries
CPI 2023: Bangladesh Result

- Bangladesh has scored 24 out of 100, which is the 10th lowest score among 180 countries. Bangladesh’s score was the 12th lowest in 2022
- The 2023 score of Bangladesh is at the lowest point since 2012
- 2023 score is also two points lower in terms of the trend for 2012-2023
  - 2023 score is one point lower than 2022, and two points lower than 2021, 2020, 2019 and 2018; Four points lower than the highest score so far of 28 in 2017
- Bangladesh’s rank in 2023 from the top is 149th among 180 countries, two steps lower than 2022
- Counting from bottom, Bangladesh is ranked at 10th from below, two steps lower than the 12th lowest score of 2022
- The performance is disappointing – Bangladesh is among 122 countries that have scored below 50 which are considered as having ‘serious corruption problem’. Our score is 19 points lower than global average of 43, and we are among 105 countries that have scored below this global average, indicating ‘very serious corruption problem’
- Our score (24) is the 10th lowest in the world and 4th lowest among 31 Asia-Pacific, better than Afghanistan and Cambodia (22), Myanmar(20) and North Korea (17)
**CPI 2023: Bangladesh Results (Contd.)**

- Among the eight South Asian countries, Bangladesh remains 2\(^{nd}\) lowest in score and rank – better than only Afghanistan, which has scored 20, and ranked 162\(^{nd}\) among 184 counties from the top
- Bangladesh’s score is 21 points less than the average of 45 for the Asia-Pacific region and lower than any other region including the lowest performing Sub-Saharan Africa (33)
- CPI 2023 Bangladesh score of 24 compared with countries by regime type (EIU):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Regime type</th>
<th>No of countries</th>
<th>Average score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full democracy</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flawed democracy</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hybrid democracy</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Authoritarian</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- CPI 2023 as per prevalence of electoral democracy (FH):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Regime type</th>
<th>No of countries</th>
<th>CPI 2023 Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Electoral democracy</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Electoral democracy</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
BANGLADESH
Result Summary

- Bangladesh Score: 24/100
  - Point Lower: 1

- Counted from Lowest: 10th
  - Steps Lower: 2

- Counted from Highest: 149th
  - Steps Lower: 2

- 2012-2023 trend: 26
  - Lowest score since 2012

#cpi2023
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>CPI 2022</th>
<th>CPI 2022</th>
<th>CPI 2021</th>
<th>CPI 2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Score (100)</td>
<td>Rank from top</td>
<td>Score (100)</td>
<td>Rank from top</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bhutan</td>
<td>68 (53)</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>39 (25)</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sri Lanka</td>
<td>34 (20)</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>29 (15)</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maldives</td>
<td>39 (25)</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nepal</td>
<td>35 (21)</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
<td>24 (10)</td>
<td>149</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>147</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Afghanistan</td>
<td>20 (6)</td>
<td>162</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All South Asian countries except Bhutan have scored below the global average of 43.

(Figures in brackets indicate n\textsuperscript{th} score from below)
CPI 2023 Results: The top and the bottom

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Top ten</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Rank</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td></td>
<td>90</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finland</td>
<td></td>
<td>87</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Zealand</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norway</td>
<td></td>
<td>84</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Singapore</td>
<td></td>
<td>83</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweden, Switzerland</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td></td>
<td>79</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany, Luxembourg</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ireland</td>
<td></td>
<td>77</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada, Estonia</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bottom ten</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Rank</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bangladesh, CAR, Iran, Lebanon, Zimbabwe</td>
<td>24 (10)</td>
<td>149</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Azerbaijan, Guatemala, Honduras, Iraq</td>
<td>23 (9)</td>
<td>154</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cambodia, Congo, Guinea Bissau</td>
<td>22 (8)</td>
<td>158</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eritrea</td>
<td>21 (7)</td>
<td>161</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Afghanistan, Burundi, Chad, Comoros, D R Congo, Myanmar, Sudan, Tajikistan</td>
<td>20 (6)</td>
<td>170</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Libya, Turkmenistan</td>
<td>18 (5)</td>
<td>164</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equatorial Guinea, Haiti, North Korea, Nicaragua</td>
<td>17 (4)</td>
<td>172</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yemen</td>
<td>16 (3)</td>
<td>176</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Sudan, Syria, Venezuela</td>
<td>13 (2)</td>
<td>177</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somalia</td>
<td>11 (1)</td>
<td>180</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Figures in brackets indicate nth score from below)
### Other notable high and low performers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Other high performers (65+):</th>
<th>Same score as Bangladesh (24):</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Barbados, United States (69), Bhutan, UAE (68), Taiwan (67), Chile (66), Taiwan (67), Chile (66), Bahamas, Cape Verde (65)</td>
<td>Central African Republic, Iran, Lebanon, Zimbabwe</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Notable low performers:</th>
<th>Some other low performers above Bangladesh</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>China (42), Russia (26)</td>
<td>Liberia, Madagascar, Mozambique, Nigeria (25); Guinea, Kirgizstan, Russia, Uganda (26); Cameroon (27); Gabon, Laos, Mali, Paraguay (28)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Some Asian neighbours (beyond South Asia): South Korea (63), Malaysia (50), Vietnam (41), Thailand (35), Indonesia (34), Philippines (34), Laos (28), Cambodia (22), Myanmar (20), North Korea (17)
Global highlights & trends – Disappointments continued

• No country has scored 100 percent - Most countries have made little to no progress in tackling public sector corruption in twelve years since 2012
• 122 countries (67.77%) have scored below 50 (‘serious corruption problem’).
• 105 countries (58.33%) scored below global average of 43 (‘very serious corruption problem’), which means over 80 per cent of the world’s population live with ‘very serious corruption problem’
• Compared to 2022, overall global scores have worsened. 63 declined, 62 retained same score, 55 countries improved
• Countries that have scored lower compared to 2022 include some of the top scorers like New Zealand, Iceland and UK (-2) and Sweden, Netherlands Germany, France (-1)
• Based on a 12 year trend analysis (2012-2023): 87 declined, 80 improved, 7 unchanged (6 comparable data unavailable)
  • Prominant high-scorers among losers: Australia (-10), Canada (-8), Iceland (-10), Sweden (-6), Netherlands (-5), New Zealand (-5), Singapore (-5), Switzerland (-4), US (-4) and UK (-3)
Bangladesh Highlights Recap – CPI 2023

- In sum the Bangladesh performance in 2023 is disappointing:
  - 2023 score of 24 is the 10\textsuperscript{th} lowest in the world; in 2022 it was the 12\textsuperscript{th} lowest
  - \textit{Rank from top:} (2023): 149\textsuperscript{th}, (2022): 147\textsuperscript{th} (two steps worse)
  - \textit{Rank from bottom:} (2023): 10\textsuperscript{th}, (2022): 12\textsuperscript{th} (two steps worse)
  - 2023 Score of 24 is at the lowest point for Bangladesh since 2012 and two points lower compared to the twelve-year trend score of 26 for 2012-2023
- Among South Asian countries Bangladesh remains the second worst – better than only Afghanistan, which has scored 20, the sixth-lowest
- Bangladesh has scored the 4\textsuperscript{th} lowest among 31 Asia-Pacific countries followed by Cambodia (22), Afghanistan and Myanmar (20) and North Korea (17)
- Bangladesh was earlier placed at the very bottom in 2001-2005. Then in 2006 3rd, in 2007 (7), 2008 (10), 2009 (13), 2010 (12), 2011 (13), 2012 (13), 2013 (16), 2014 (14), 2015(13), 2016 (15), 2017 (17), 2018 (13), 2019 (14\textsuperscript{th}), 2020 (12\textsuperscript{th}), 2021 (13\textsuperscript{th}), 2022 (12\textsuperscript{th}), 2023 (10\textsuperscript{th})
- Bangladesh has performed lower than the average level for countries ruled by the worst regime types as per Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) classification and worst electoral democracy type as per Freedom House (FH) classification
CPI 2023 – Beyond scores and ranks

• The main message of CPI 2023 is that corruption and injustice are interrelated and feed each other. Corruption breeds injustice, while injustice breeds further corruption, creating the vicious circle.

• CPI 2023 also shows that countries that have democratic regimes where civil and political rights are protected and respected have a better possibility of effective corruption control.

• With declining democracy and rising authoritarianism worldwide, justice systems are getting weakened leading to reduced accountability and increased corruption and impunity of the corrupt.

• When bribery and political interference infiltrate the justice sector, the legal processes are manipulated, and the perpetrators are protected from accountability while the victims suffer more.

• All these benefit small sections of wrongdoers at the expense of public interest and vast majority of the people.
Factors behind Bangladesh’s continued disappointing result

- The data period for CPI 2023 witnessed no strategic initiatives to transform the rhetoric of zero tolerance against corruption into practice.
- Widespread public sector corruption further intensified especially in public contracting and project implementation.
- No effective action against endless exposures of money laundering. Mixed signals in judicial process – call for action contradicted with lack or freeze of action.
- State institutions mandated to control corruption including ACC increasingly under political and bureaucratic influence, which is a key factor behind protection and promotion of corruption, especially of the powerful.
Factors behind disappointing results

- Corruption in public institutions services continue unabated especially:
  - Bribery and misappropriation of government funds
  - Abuse of public office for private gain
  - Excessive red-tape
  - Nepotism and partisan influence in public sector appointments
  - Protection and rewarding of alleged abuse of power, breach of integrity and violation of laws
- Political and government positions treated as a license for abuse of power
- Policy capture for abuse of lobby power especially in the banking sector ravaged by loan default and related swindling, financial fraud and money laundering
- Sustained control and intimidation of media and civil society; surveillance, intolerance and reprisal of disclosure and reporting on corruption
Way forward: What is needed to perform better?

• Challenge impunity effectively and bring the corrupt, especially the powerful, to justice irrespective of status or identity – be truthful to election manifesto

• Depoliticize state institutions to ensure professional integrity and independence, especially ACC, bureaucracy, law-enforcement and judicial service

• Salvage the strategically crucial sectors of public interest from the clutches of policy capture, conflict of interest and partisan political influence especially in public procurement, banking, trade, power and energy, health, education, land and infrastructure projects

• Ensure freedom of media, civil society and people at large for unrestricted disclosure, reporting and commenting on corruption

• Bring a paradigm shift in political culture free from treating political and public position as license to personal gains
THANK YOU

TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL
the global coalition against corruption

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Thank You

www.ti-bangladesh.org/cpi

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