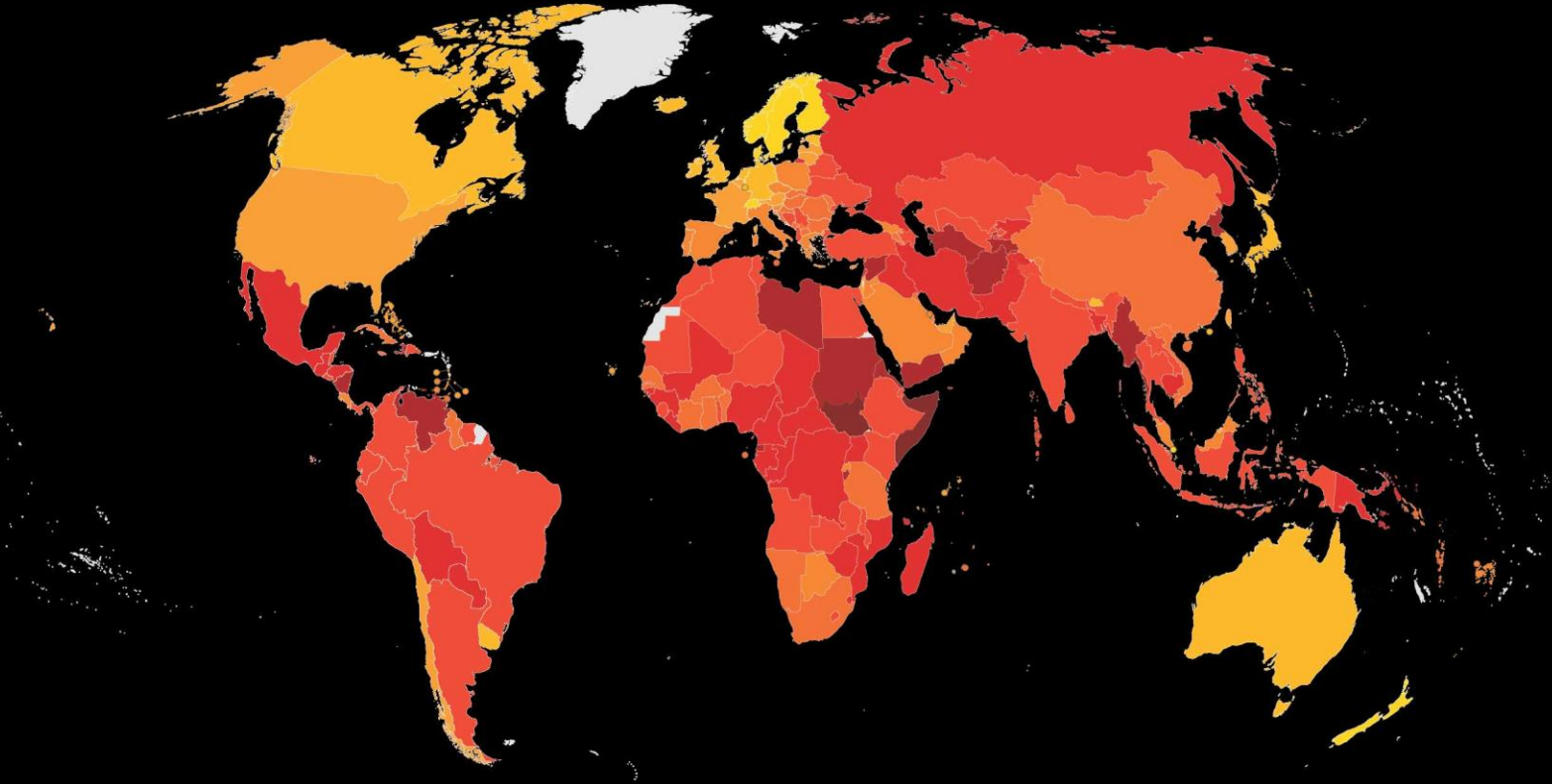


# CORRUPTION PERCEPTIONS INDEX 2025



**Iftekharuzzaman**  
Executive Director, TIB  
Dhaka, 10 February 2026

# Introducing CPI

- Transparency International's flagship annual research since 1995
- CPI - International comparison on the state of high-level (not petty) corruption, mainly in public sector, focusing on two types of factors:
  - Perceived state of abuse of power like:
    - Bribery, kickbacks and misappropriation of government funds
    - Uncontrolled abuse of public office for private gain
    - Red-tape in government work and decision-making
    - Nepotism in public sector appointments, procurement, project implementation
    - 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 2025 methodology, as in previous years, has been developed, calculated and verified by internationally reputed research institutions and experts
- 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

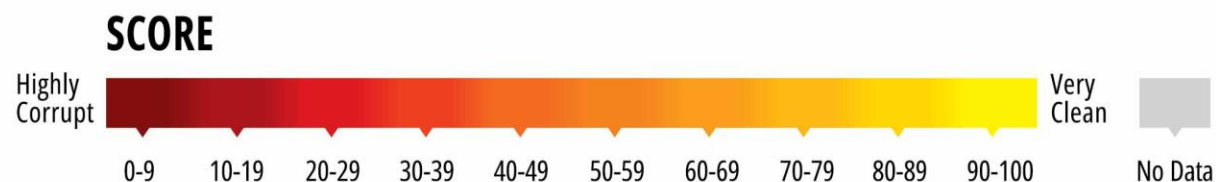
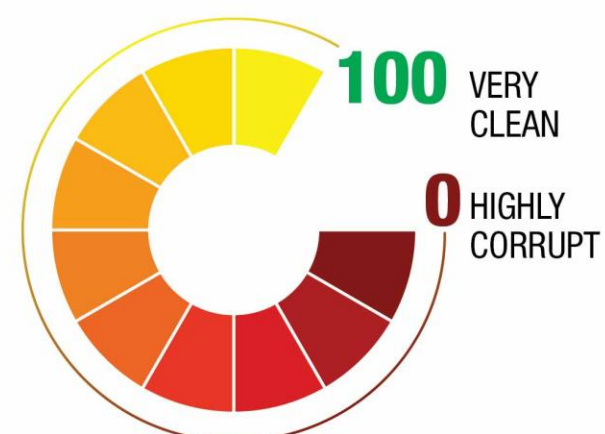
**13 international surveys – rolling data for three years**

***For Bangladesh – data from 8 surveys***

- **World Economic Forum - Executive Opinion Survey**
- **Economic 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 2025 Data period: *November 2023-September 2025***

# BASIC FACTS



# OVERALL RESULTS

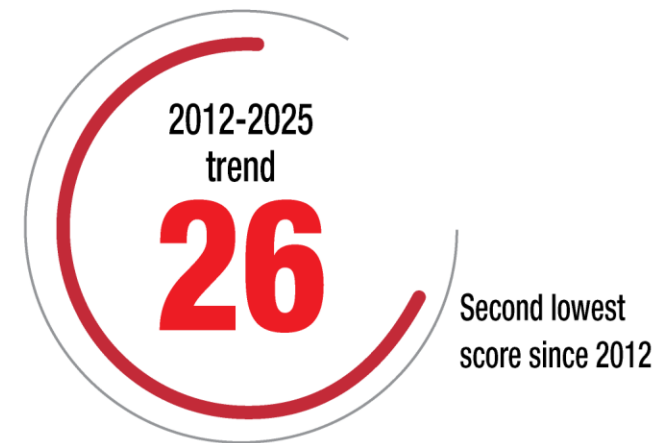


# CPI 2025: Bangladesh Result

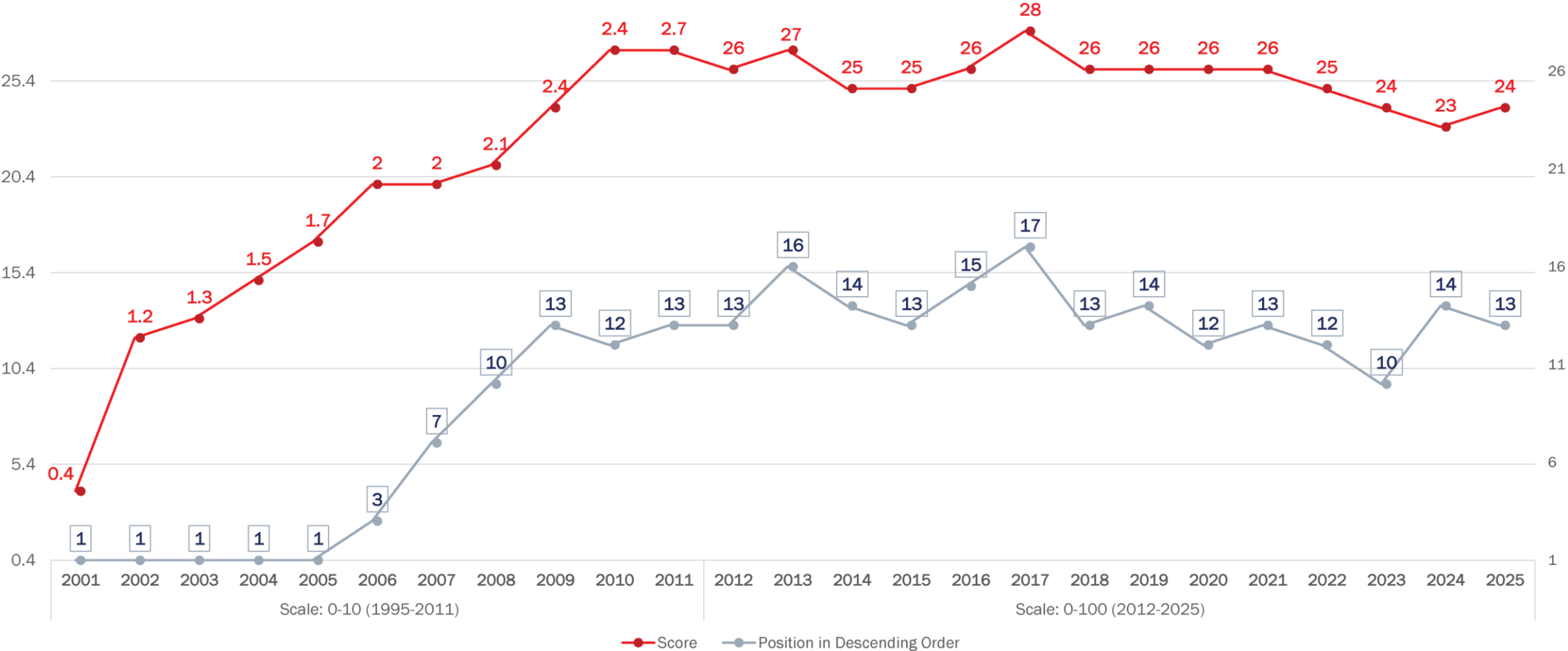
- Bangladesh has scored 24 out of 100, one point more than 2024, and placed one step higher counting from the top
- But the score is the 13<sup>th</sup> lowest in the world counted from below, one step lower than 2024
- It shows a lost opportunity:
  - Positive perception of the fall of kleptocracy
  - But negative assessment due to reform setbacks, sustained corrupt practices, deficits in transparent and accountable governance
- Bangladesh remains second lowest among 8 South Asian countries, the 4th lowest among 32 countries of Asia-Pacific region, and remains in the lowest quintile (150 among 180) which places us among countries that are “losing control of corruption”
- The 2025 score is for the second time lowest since 2012
- The 2025 score is also two points lower than our overall average for 2012-2025, and 4 points lower than the highest score of 28 achieved in 2017
- For the 2016-2025 period Bangladesh's has lost 2 points
- Our score of 24 is 18 points worse than the global average of 42 and 21 points lower than the Asia-Pacific average of 45
- The performance is extremely disappointing – Bangladesh is among 122 countries that have scored below 50 and considered to have ‘serious corruption problem’.
- With 18 points less than the global average score of 42, and we are among 96 such countries that have ‘very serious corruption problem’
- Our score (24) is 5 points less than the average for authoritarian regimes, 6 points lower than the average for countries with Closed Civic Space (30), lowest among all regional averages including the lowest scoring Sub-Saharan Africa (32)

# BANGLADESH

## Result Summary



# BANGLADESH



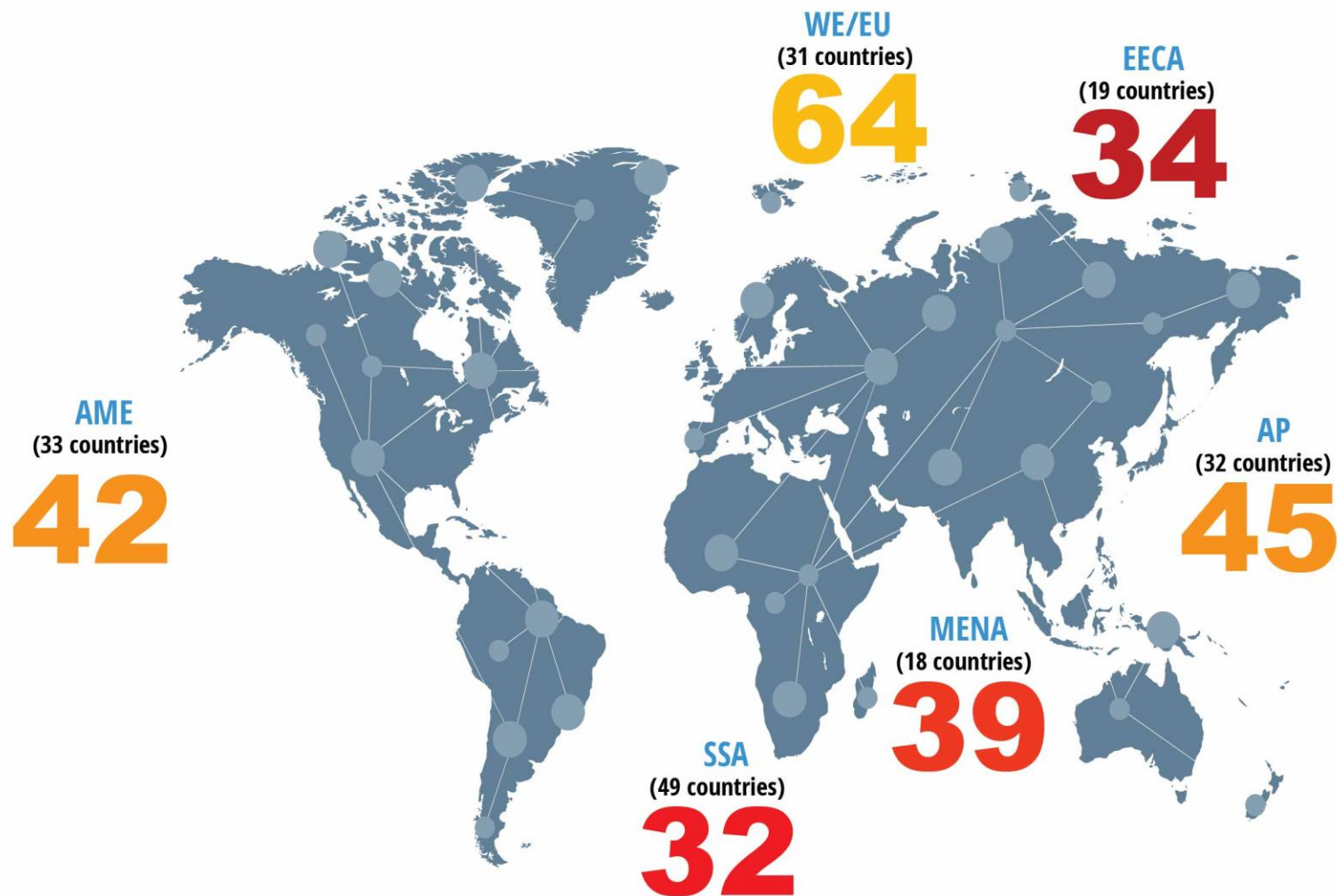
CPI 2025: Bangladesh Result compared by Region, Regime, Civic Space

Region	No of countries	CPI score 2025
AME	33	42
AP	32	45
ECA	19	34
MENA	18	39
SSA	49	32
WE/EU	31	64
Bangladesh	-	24





Civic Space	No of countries	CPI score 2025
Open	28	67
Narrowed	39	50
Obstructed	34	38
Repressed	50	32
Closed	29	30
Bangladesh		24

Regime type	No of countries	CPI score 2025
Full democracy	25	71
Flawed democracy	46	47
Hybrid regime	36	36
Authoritarian	59	29
Bangladesh	(4.44/10)	24

## REGIONAL AVERAGES



# South Asia: CPI Scores and Ranks 2012-2025

Country	CPI 2025		CPI 2024		CPI 2023		CPI 2022		CPI 2021		CPI 2012
	Score 100	Rank from top	Score 100	Rank from top	Score (100)	Rank from top	Score 100	Rank	Score 100	Rank	Score 100
Bhutan 	71	18	72	18	68	26	68	25	68	25	63
India 	39	91	38	96	39	93	40	85	40	85	36
Sri Lanka 	35	107	32	121	34	115	36	101	37	102	40
Pakistan 	28	136	27	135	29	133	27	140	28	140	27
Maldives 	39	91	38	96	39	93	40	85	40	85	36
Nepal 	34	109	34	107	35	108	34	110	33	117	27
Bangladesh 	24	150	23	151	24	149	25	147	26	147	27
Afghanistan 	16	169	17	165	20	162	24	150	16	174	8

*All South Asian countries except Bhutan have scored below the global average of 42.*

# CPI 2025 Results: The top and the bottom

Top Ten Scores and Ranks			Bottom Ten Scores and Ranks		
Country	Score	Rank	Country	Score	Rank
Denmark	89	1	Guinea Bissau, Mozambique	21	161
Finland	88	2	Cambodia, Comoros, D.R. Congo	20	163
Singapore	84	3	Tajikistan	19	166
New Zealand, Norway	81	4	Burundi, Turkmenistan	17	167
Sweden, Switzerland	80	6	Afghanistan, Haiti, Myanmar	16	169
Luxembourg, Netherlands	78	8	Equatorial Guinea, N Korea, Syria	15	172
Germany, Iceland	77	10	Nicaragua, Sudan	14	175
Australia, Estonia, Hong Kong, Ireland	76	12	Eritrea, Libya, Yemen	13	177
Canada	75	16	Venezuela	10	180
Uruguay	73	17	South Sudan, Somalia	9	181

## Other highlights: Global economy of corruption

### *Some more high performers (65+):*

Bhutan, Japan (71), UK (70); Austria, Belgium, UAE (69); Barbados, Seychelles, Taiwan (68); France (65)

---

### *Notable “BIG” low performers:*

USA (64), China (43), India (39), South Africa (41), Argentina (36), Russia (22 – less than Bd)

---

### *Some other notables (beyond South Asia):*

South Korea (63), Qatar (58), Saudi Arabia (57), Portugal (56), Cyprus, Spain (55), Malaysia (52), Oman (52), Bahrain (50), Kuwait (46), Vietnam (41), Indonesia (34), Thailand (33), Philippines (32), Turkey (31), Iraq (28), Lebanon, Iran (23)

### *Same score as Bangladesh (24):*

Central African Republic, Paraguay

***Global economy of corruption:** Performance of Top Beneficiaries of Bangladesh’s Money Laundering: **Rank** from Top (Score)*

Singapore: **3** (84)

Switzerland: **6** (80)

Australia, Hong Kong: **12** (76)

Canada: **16** (75)

UK: **20** (70)

UAE: **21** (69)

United States: **29** (64)

Malaysia: **54** (52)

India : **91** (39)

Bangladesh: **150** (24)

## CPI 2025 – Worldwide disappointments continue

- No country has scored 100 percent - Most countries have made little or no progress in tackling corruption since 2012
- 122 countries (67.03%) have scored below 50% ('serious corruption problem').
- 96 countries (52.74%) scored below global average of 42 (which is 1 point lower than the average for more than a decade. This means **over 80 per cent of the world's population live with 'very serious corruption problem'**)
- Overall global scores have worsened compared to 2024. 68 (37%) declined; 48 (26%) improved; and 64 (35%) retained same score
- Longer term trend: Significantly worsened or stagnated
  - 27.41% countries (50/182) have significantly worsened since 2012:
    - Asia-Pacific: 6 out of 32; Americas: 12/33; Eastern Europe & Central Asia: 6/19; Middle East & North Africa: 3/18; Sub-Saharan Africa: 10/49; WE&EU: 13/31
  - 61% (111/182 countries) have remained stagnated since 2012
  - **However, 11.53% (21/182) have significantly improved since 2012**
    - Asia-Pacific: 8 out of 32; Americas: 2/33; Eastern Europe and Central Asia: 7/19; Middle East & North Africa: 0/18; Sub-Saharan Africa: 7/49; Western Europe & EU: 7/31

# CPI 2025 – Key global messages

- Corruption situation is worsening globally, even in countries claiming to be democracies, as standards of compliance and enforcement weaken
- Worsening corruption is also accompanied by a pattern of increasing restrictions on media and civic space; increasing barriers against openness in public interest decisions, lack of transparency and accountability
- Globally public frustration is increasing with corrupt leadership, inequality, and failing public services; young people are taking to the streets against this evil
- Corruption is not inevitable – many countries have shown that progress is possible, if political leaders and governments:
  - Act with integrity and take action to tackle corruption beyond rhetoric
  - Implement robust institutional and political reforms for transparent and accountable governance
  - Effectively prosecute the corrupt, esp political, governmental and corporate
  - Ensure end attacks on media and civic space
  - Close secrecy that let corrupt money move within and across borders

# Interpreting Bangladesh's poor result in CPI 2025 – Lost Opportunity

- Score one point higher, rank one step lower: Optimistic assessment of the fall of the authoritarian and kleptocratic rule:
  - positive perception of the transformative reforms prospects in the wake of July Movement (data sources on transformation upto January 2025)
- The result represents missed opportunity to build the foundations against corruption that have since been unfolding:
  - sustained corrupt practices in political and governance space nationally and locally
  - Interim Government's failure to set foundations or even almost no example of governmental transparency, integrity and accountability
  - Setbacks and derailment of the reform process that unfolded subsequently.
- Bangladesh's result contrasts poorly with the of many countries which had earlier comparable or even lower than Bangladesh's score, e.g., Nepal, Laos, Vietnam, Timor-Leste, Ukraine, Angola, Sri Lanka (recently) but successfully managed to improve their CPI standing thanks to:
  - Sustained efforts to push comprehensive and strategic institutional reforms; End-to-end digitalisation of public service, in tandem with effective prosecution of high level corruption, especially political, governmental and corporate

# Bangladesh: factors behind lost opportunity

- No strategic approach in determining strategic reform agenda in general and anti-corruption in particular, no reform implementation plan
- No risk-analysis and risk mitigation strategy
- State reform foundation fragile due to ad-hocism, political & bureaucratic resistance and pick & choose approach
- Eyewash for anti-corruption reform, ACC's independence, accountability and effectiveness remains pipe-dream
  - Interim Government's failure to set examples of transparent, accountable and conflict of interest-free governance
  - Lack of firm stance to walk the talk of the Interim Government
  - Inaction or even resistance of Anti-corruption Commission
  - Bureaucratic resistance to strategic items of reforms
- Widespread extortionist capture of politico-governance space nationally and locally unfolding "Our turn" syndrome

## Way ahead to perform better

- Implement recommendations of the Anti-Corruption Reform Commission, with a focus on proposals related to:
  - Make ACC independent, accountable, corruption-free and effective
  - Engage the whole of the state and society through a National Anti-corruption Strategy
  - Beneficial Ownership Transparency Act and Public Register
  - Common Reporting Standards
  - Conflict of interest management policy
  - Transparency in political and electoral finance
- Set examples of concrete success in holding corruption to account, especially at high level on a priority basis
- Depoliticize all professions and all state institutions to ensure professional integrity and institutional effectiveness especially judiciary, bureaucracy, law-enforcement and intelligence agencies
- Ensure freedom of media and civic space
- Transform political and bureaucratic culture and practice to stop treating political and public position as license to private gain

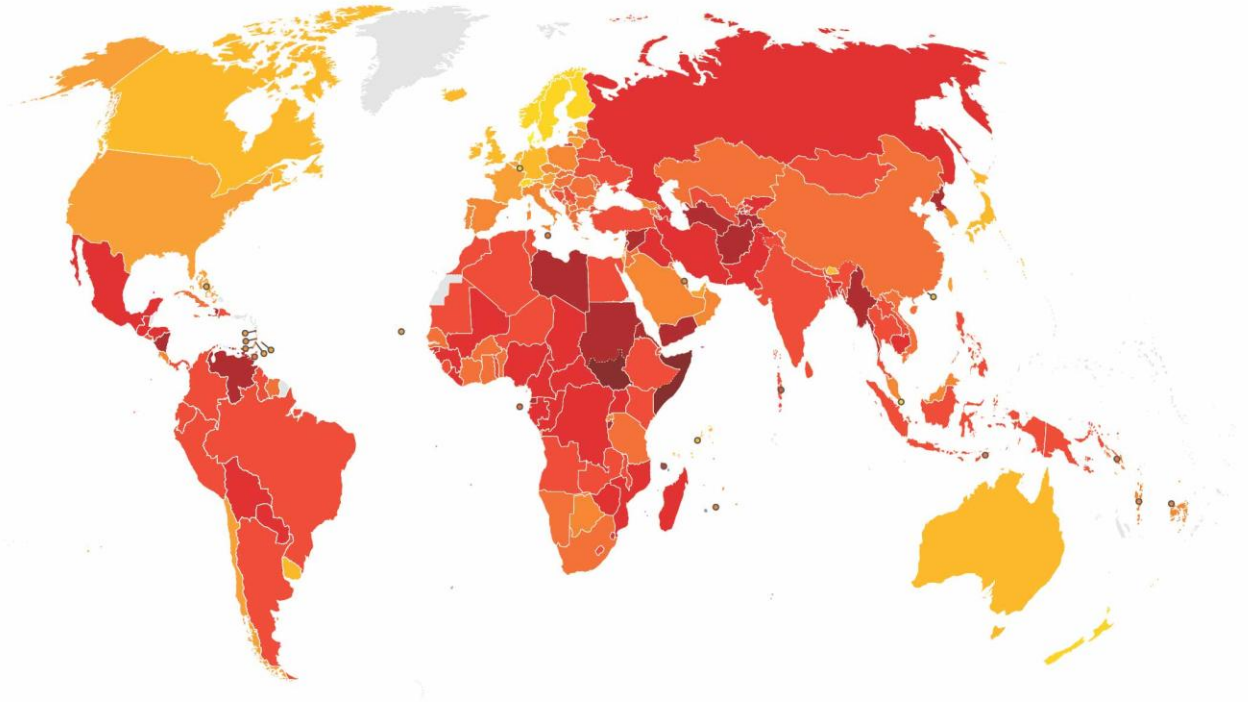
# CORRUPTION PERCEPTIONS INDEX 2025

---

#cpi2025

<https://ti-bangladesh.org/cpi>

---



**Thank You**