

India ranks 81 on the Corruption Perception Index 2017

According to Transparency International, India's ranking in the annual corruption index fell to 81 in 2017 from 79 in 2016

According to Transparency International, this year's Corruption Perceptions Index highlights that the majority of countries are making little or no progress in ending corruption, while further analysis shows journalists and activists in corrupt countries risking their lives every day in an effort to speak out.

The index, which ranks 180 countries and territories by their perceived levels of public sector corruption according to experts and businesspeople, uses a scale of 0 to 100, where 0 is highly corrupt and 100 is very clean. This year, the index found that more than two-thirds of countries score below 50, with an average score of 43. Unfortunately, compared to recent years, this poor performance is nothing new.

This year, New Zealand and Denmark rank highest with scores of 89 and 88 respectively. Syria, South Sudan and Somalia rank lowest with scores of 14, 12 and 9 respectively. The best performing region is Western Europe with an average score of 66. The worst performing regions are Sub-Saharan Africa (average score 32) and Eastern Europe and Central Asia (average score 34).

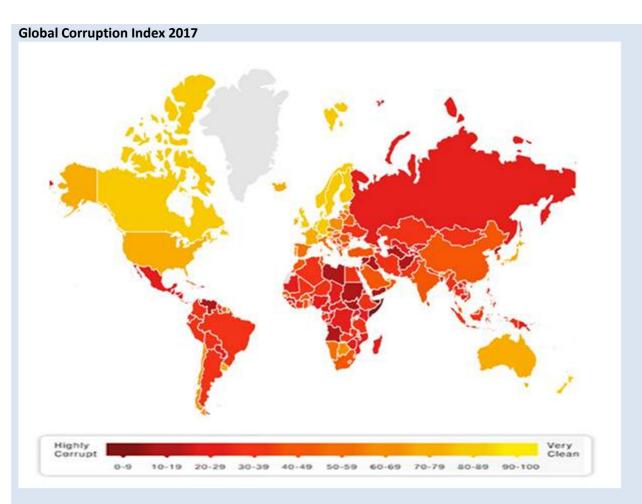
S.No.	Country	Rank
1	New Zealand	1
2	Denmark	2
3	Finland	3
4	Norway	3
5	Switzerland	3
6	Singapore	6
7	United Kingdom	8
8	Germany	12
9	Australia	13
10	USA	16
11	Japan	20
12	South Africa	71
13	China	77
14	India	81
15	Brazil	96
16	Indonesia	96
17	Pakistan	117
18	Syria	178
19	South Sudan	179
20	Somalia	180

Ranking of select countries on the Global Corruption Index 2017

Source: PHD Research, Compiled from Corruption Perception Index 2017, Transparency International

Though India's score remained intact at 40 points, the Corruption Perception Index 2017 has singled out India as one of the "worst offenders" in the Asia-Pacific region. In 2016, India was in the 79th place among 176 countries. India's ranking in the index had plummeted in 2013 and 2014. The ranking has improved since then, but seems to be showing signs of weakening.

The regional analysis suggests that rather than focussing solely on scores, rankings and methods, countries across the region should decide where to make substantial changes that will bring about real improvements in their countries. The report suggests that a comprehensive approach is necessary, otherwise in the coming years, the governments will continue to make only marginal improvements at best or deteriorations at worst.



The report recommends that the governments and businesses must do more to encourage free speech, independent media, political dissent and an open and engaged civil society. The governments must minimise regulations on media and international donors should consider press freedom relevant to development aid or access to international organisations. The civil society and governments should promote laws that focus on access to information which would enhance transparency and accountability while reducing opportunities for corruption. Further, activists and governments should take advantage of the momentum generated by the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to advocate and push for reforms at the national and global level.

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Warm regards,

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