



CORRUPTION RISKS IN BANGLADESH

A dysfunctional parliament, all-powerful executive, exploited judiciary, and an increasingly politicised bureaucracy and police force have essentially eroded systems of checks and balances in the country.

KEY FINDINGS

Watchdog bodies lack independence and credibility

Watchdog bodies such as the Election Commission and Anti-Corruption Commission, and especially the judiciary, are subjected to political manipulation, raising serious questions as to their independence and credibility.

Police are failing to uphold the rule of law

The police force has been used by major political forces for political gain. In exchange the police force enjoy political patronage and impunity and are therefore failing to uphold the rule of law.

Laws are not implemented to their fullest capacity

Laws relating to integrity and accountability are not being properly enforced, further reducing the likelihood of any positive impact they may yield.

KEY FACTS: CORRUPTION PERCEPTIONS INDEX 2013

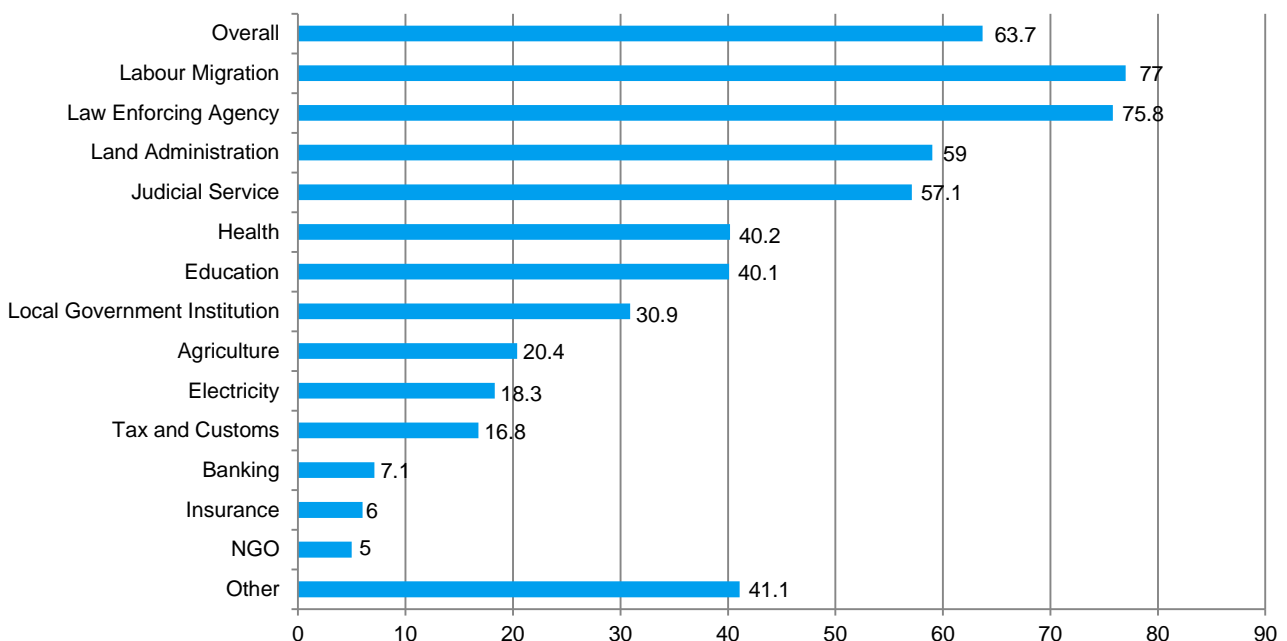
RANK: 136/177

SCORE: 27/100

What does this mean?

The Corruption Perceptions Index measures the perceived levels of public sector corruption, scoring from 0 (highly corrupt) to 100 (very clean). A score of less than 50 indicates a **serious corruption problem**.

Percentage of households who experienced corruption



Source: Transparency International Bangladesh, National Household Survey on Corruption in Service Sectors 2012

WHAT NEEDS TO CHANGE?

Measures to effectively hold the executive to account

Practice of parliamentary boycotting must be stopped by law to allow for debate and to be more effective in holding government to account.

Better implementation of vital laws

The Anti-Corruption Act, Right to Information Act and whistleblower protection need to be better utilised to allow corrupt officials to be brought to justice and empower citizens to monitor government.

Bring the guilty to justice

Laws must be enforced and conditions created to stop impunity that has been practised by the powerful in Bangladesh.

KEY FACTS: WHAT DO CITIZENS THINK ABOUT CORRUPTION?

64% of Bangladeshis feel the **police force** is **corrupt or extremely corrupt**.

64% of Bangladeshis **experienced corruption** in 2012 in the **service sector**.

Burden of petty corruption is estimated to be over a **tenth** of Bangladesh's annual national budget.

Source: Global Corruption Barometer 2013 and Transparency International Bangladesh

CONTACT US

Transparency International Bangladesh is a national chapter of Transparency International, a civil society organisation dedicated to curbing both international and national corruption. Our chapter's primary mission is to catalyse a participatory social movement to promote and develop institutions, laws and practices for combating corruption in Bangladesh.

To find out more about our work and how you can help, get in touch:

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"...change is possible as long as there prevails a strong will to initiate the change."

*Transparency International Bangladesh
National Integrity System Assessment:
Country Report 2014*