

Corruption Perceptions Index 2023

By IASToppers | 2024-02-01 15:40:00



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The recently released Corruption Perceptions Index 2023 by **Transparency International** sheds light on India's performance in the global context.



[ref-EconomicTimes]

About Corruption Perceptions Index 2023:

Top 10 least corrupt countries

These are the least corrupt nations in the world. India, with a score of 39, ranks at 93.

Rank	Country	Score
1	 Denmark	90
2	 Finland	87
3	 New Zealand	85
4	 Norway	84
5	 Singapore	83
6	 Sweden	82
6	 Switzerland	82
8	 Netherlands	79
9	 Germany	78
9	 Luxembourg	78
93	 India	39

[ref-Tol]

- **Corruption Perception Index (CPI)** is an annual index which is released by **Transparency International**, a **global civil society**.
- The CPI **ranks 180 countries and territories** by their perceived levels of **public sector corruption**.
- The index uses a scale of **0 to 100**, where **0** indicates **high corruption**, and **100 signifies** a very clean system.

Key highlight of 2023 index:

- CPI-2023 results show that most countries have made **little to no progress** in tackling public sector corruption.
- The **CPI global average score** remains **unchanged at 43** for the **twelfth year in a row**, with more than two-thirds of countries scoring below 50.

Ranking:

- In CPI-2023, **Denmark** (with a score of 90) **topped** the index for the **sixth consecutive year**.
- **Finland and New Zealand** occupied second and third rank with scores of 87 and 85 respectively.
- **Somalia** secured the **lowest ranking**, with other countries at the bottom including Venezuela, Syria, South Sudan, and Yemen.
 - These nations have all been affected by **prolonged crises**, predominantly characterized by **armed conflicts**.

India's Global Ranking:

- India is ranked **93 out of 180 countries** in the **Corruption Perceptions Index 2023**.
- In 2022, India held the **85th position**.
- India's overall score was **39 in 2023**, slightly down from **40 in 2022**.

Key Observations:

- The report notes that **India's score fluctuations** are **relatively small**, making it challenging to draw firm conclusions about any significant change.
- Ahead of elections, India has experienced a further **narrowing of civic space**, with concerns raised about a **telecommunication bill** posing a potential **threat to fundamental rights**.

Regional Comparison:

India and its neighbouring countries

Country	Rank 2023 (Score)	Rank 2022 (Score)
 India	93 (39)	85 (40)
 China	76 (42)	65 (45)
 Pakistan	133 (29)	140 (27)

[ref-Tol]

- In South Asia, **Pakistan ranks 133**, and **Sri Lanka is positioned at 115**.
- Both countries face challenges related to **debt burdens** and **political instability** but have strong

judicial oversight.

- As **Bangladesh (149)** emerges from the **least developed country status**, it faces hindrances in the flow of information due to a **crackdown against the press**.

China's Anti-Corruption Measures:

- China (**ranked 76**) has been in the spotlight for its **aggressive anti-corruption crackdown**, punishing over 3.7 million public officials in the last decade.
- However, concerns are raised about the **heavy reliance on punishment** rather than institutional checks on power.

Asia Pacific Region Analysis:

- The **Asia Pacific region**, facing a **significant election year in 2024**, shows little progress in curbing corruption.
- The **average Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI)** score for the region has stagnated at **45 for five consecutive years**.
- Countries with high scores, such as **New Zealand (3)** and **Singapore (5)**, maintain their positions at the top.
- Fragile states with authoritarian regimes, including **North Korea (172)** and **Myanmar (162)**, are at the bottom.

Challenges Across Asia and the Pacific:

- **Seventy-one percent** of the countries in the region have a **CPI score below the regional and global averages**.
- **Weak scores reflect a lack of delivery** on **anti-corruption agendas** by elected officials, coupled with crackdowns on civil society and attacks on press freedom.