CORRUPTION RISKS IN INDIA

Political corruption is the root cause of scandals and scams which taint the image of the world’s largest democracy and prevent it from realising the potential of its people.

KEY ISSUES

Benefits of new Lok Pal Act to be realised
Government has passed Lok Pal (ombudsman) Act but a plan for implementation has yet to be seen.

Pending anti-corruption laws slowing progress
The pending Public Procurement Bill 2012, along with several other critical bills, is delaying potential progress in tackling corruption.

Private sector continues to enjoy impunity
Anti-corruption legislation such as the Whistleblower Protection Act and the Prevention of Corruption Act do not directly cover the private sector.

KEY FACTS: CORRUPTION PERCEPTIONS INDEX 2013

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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.

Governments failing to fight corruption

- Pakistan: 69%
- India: 68%
- Nepal: 67%
- South Asia: 56%
- Maldives: 56%
- Sri Lanka: 47%
- Bangladesh: 32%

Percentage of people in South Asian countries who thought their government’s efforts to fight corruption were ineffective.

Source: Global Corruption Barometer 2013
WHAT NEEDS TO CHANGE?

Lok Pal Act needs concrete action

Appointment of the ombudsman and framing of the rules within the act need to be realised within 100 days of the newly elected government taking office.

Resolution of critical laws

The government must pass the pending anti-corruption bills according to international standards in order to move forward effectively. This particularly includes the:

1. Judicial Standards and Accountability Bill
2. Prevention of Bribery of Foreign Public Officials and Officials of Public International Organizations Bill
3. Public Procurement Bill
4. Prevention of Corruption (amendment) Bill
5. Right of Citizens for Time-bound Delivery of Goods and Services, and Redressal of their Grievance Bill

Private sector must be brought into the ambit of anti-corruption mechanisms

Legislation must be improved to include anti-corruption provisions for private sector, to ensure whistleblowers are protected and corruption can be contained.

KEY FACTS: WHAT DO CITIZENS THINK ABOUT CORRUPTION?

86% of Indians believe political parties are corrupt or extremely corrupt.

71% of Indians believe that corruption in the country has increased over the last two years.

47% of Indians believe that corruption in the public sector is a serious problem.

Source: Global Corruption Barometer 2013

CONTACT US

Transparency International India is a national chapter of Transparency International, a civil society organisation dedicated to curbing both international and national corruption. Our chapter’s vision is to create a corruption-free India, so that the poor do not lose their voice to corruption.

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

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"...Widespread corruption and impunity across sectors and institutions is hindering India’s potential and adversely affecting the most vulnerable."

Ashutosh Kumar, Executive Director
Transparency International India