CORRUPTION RISKS IN NEPAL

The national integrity system assessment shows the vulnerability of key institutions due to political uncertainty, absence of a legislature and a worrying gap between law and practice.

KEY FINDINGS

Strong political interference across institutions
Political parties’ undue influence is undermining the executive, judiciary, anti-corruption agencies and civil servants. This is impeding efforts to build a culture of transparency and integrity in the country.

Vacuum in legal framework
The absence of a legislature for almost two years has allowed governance and mechanisms of checks and balances across sectors and institutions to deteriorate.

Political party manipulation of the executive
Political parties’ use of the executive as a tool to fulfil partisan interests has resulted in their failure to hold the executive accountable for its actions.

KEY FACTS: CORRUPTION PERCEPTIONS INDEX 2013

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<th>RANK:</th>
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<td>116/177</td>
<td>31/100</td>
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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.

Source: Global Corruption Barometer 2013
WHAT NEEDS TO CHANGE?

Strengthen capacity of watchdog bodies

Governing and opposition political parties must honour the principle of an independent judiciary and not pursue a policy of power-sharing in appointments. This will strengthen the capacity of watchdog bodies, allowing them to perform their role in monitoring government more effectively.

Shield key institutions from undue political influence

The public sector and civil society need to enhance internal governance structures and ensure uniformity of codes of conduct. This will reduce their vulnerability to political influence, which will give them greater independence to play their part.

Monitor the implementation of vital laws

To strengthen the link between political parties and the people they represent, and to build trust, politicians must legitimise ways of gaining power to encourage a stronger multi-party democracy.

KEY FACTS: WHAT DO CITIZENS THINK ABOUT CORRUPTION?

90% of Nepalese believe that political parties are corrupt or extremely corrupt.

85% consider public officials and public servants to be corrupt or extremely corrupt.

72% believe that corruption in the country has increased over the last two years.

Source: Global Corruption Barometer

CONTACT US

Transparency International Nepal is a national chapter of Transparency International, a global movement with a vision to eradicate corruption in government, business, civil society and the daily lives of people. The chapter’s primary focus is to increase public accountability and curb corruption in all walks of life.

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

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“Government leaders routinely speak out against corruption. Political parties represented in the Constituent Assembly have publicly pledged to actively root it out and the government of Nepal is committed to combatting corruption, yet abuses of power for private gain are on the rise and impunity is widespread.”

Transparency International Nepal
National Integrity System Assessment:
Country Report 2014

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