

Corruption Perceptions Index

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In news— Germany based non-profit organization, **Transparency International released** the Corruption Perceptions Index 2021 recently.

About Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI)-

- Since **its inception in 1995**, the CPI has become the leading global indicator of public sector corruption.
- The Index scores 180 countries and territories around the world **based on perceptions of public sector corruption, using data from 13 external sources**, including the World Bank, World Economic Forum, private risk and consulting companies, think tanks and others.
- The CPI generally defines corruption as an **“*abuse of entrusted power for private gain*”**.
- At the top of the CPI, countries in Western Europe and the European Union continue to wrestle with transparency and accountability in their response to COVID-19, threatening the region’s clean image.
- In parts of Asia Pacific, the Americas, Eastern Europe and Central Asia, increasing restrictions on accountability measures and basic civil freedoms allow corruption to go unchecked.
- In the Middle East and North Africa, the interests of a powerful few continue to dominate the political and private sphere, and the limitations placed on civil and political freedoms are blocking any significant progress.
- In Sub-Saharan Africa, armed conflict, violent transitions of power and increasing terrorist threats combined with poor enforcement of anti-corruption commitments rob citizens of their basic rights and services.
- In its 2021 edition, the CPI ranked 180 countries and

territories by their perceived levels of public sector corruption on a scale of zero (highly corrupt) to 100 (very clean), drawing on 13 expert assessments and surveys of business executives.

- Comparatively, **India's score stands at 40 and is ranked 85**, while Bangladesh's stands at 147th position and Pakistan is ranked at 140th.
- The **CPI global average remains unchanged at 43 for the tenth year in a row**, and two-thirds of countries score below 50.
- According to the report, **the top-performing countries are Denmark, Finland and New Zealand**, followed by **Norway, Singapore and Sweden**, all of them scoring 85.
- In contrast, the **worst-performing countries were South Sudan**, followed by **Syria (13), Somalia (13, Venezuela (14) and Afghanistan (16)**.