

Maldives falls seventeen positions in the CPI and is listed amongst highly corrupt countries

The Corruption Perception Index (CPI) 2017 was published today by Transparency International. The CPI annually scores and ranks countries by their perceived level of public sector corruption according to experts and businesspeople, using a scale of zero to 100, where zero is highly corrupt and 100 is very clean.

In this year's index, the Maldives, with a low score of 33, is among the two-thirds of countries that scored below 50. This places the Maldives among countries that have made little to no progress in their efforts to combat corruption. Out of the 180 countries assessed in this year's index, the Maldives ranks at 112. Compared with the score and rank (36 and 95, respectively) of the 2016 index, in this year's index the Maldives has fallen by three points in score and a staggering seventeen positions in country rankings.

The CPI is calculated using a composite assessment consisting of a minimum of three separate sources. In this year's index, the Maldives' score was identified by the contents and results from three international surveys: World Bank CPIA, Global Insight Country Risk Ratings, and Varieties of Democracy Project.

This year's results highlight close linkages between corruption, journalistic freedoms and civil society engagement. The results indicate that countries where crackdowns on media and civil society are widespread tend to have the worst rates for corruption.

In the past six years the Maldives has seen a gradual decline in the fundamental freedom of the press, association, and expression. There are more pronounced threats and intimidation than ever before to journalists, bloggers, social media activists, whistleblowers, and media outlets reporting on corruption, human rights violations, and bad governance.

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For more information visit: www.transparency.org/cpi

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