

Transparency Maldives calls on the Government to immediately revoke the State of Emergency and to reinstate the powers of the Constitution

Transparency Maldives considers the State of Emergency declared by President Yameen Abdul Gayoom on 5 February 2018 as unconstitutional. Invocation of the State of Emergency only exacerbates public unease, curtails the fundamental rights of people, damages the economy, and makes it more challenging to resolve political conflict using legal and constitutional means. Using the State of Emergency as a pretext, the Government had ordered the armed forces to storm into the Supreme Court building and arrest two sitting Justices including the Chief Justice, blocked entry to the Parliament and halted its functioning, and curtailed the fundamental rights and freedoms of the people unconstitutionally.

The State of Emergency is not prescribed in the Constitution as a contingency to be used whenever the Government is politically challenged.

Therefore, in order to resolve the current constitutional crisis, Transparency Maldives calls upon President Yameen to immediately revert to the folds of the Constitution. We also call upon the public to individually resist unconstitutional acts by the Government.

ENDS.

For more information, please contact Aiman Rasheed: 7908967.