

Overview of Data

Bangladesh scores very poorly for control of corruption and government effectiveness with reference to global median scores as well as in comparison to the South Asia region as a whole. Survey data and other indicators show a high likelihood of encountering corrupt transactions in the country. This includes facilitation payments, which are widespread. Six FCPA cases involving Bangladeshi officials indicate an elevated but not extreme level of enforcement activity as compared to the size of Bangladesh's economy. Enforcement matters mostly involve bribery of SOE employees in a range of sectors to obtain or retain business. Bangladesh's information environment may present challenges for collecting information on third parties.

Corruption and Governance Indicators	Bangladesh	G7 Average
Transparency International Corruption Perceptions Index	26	73
World Bank Control of Corruption Score	17	87
World Justice Project Rule of Law Score	41	76
Major Correlates of Corruption		
Nominal GDP Per Capita Percentile Rank	21	89
World Bank Government Effectiveness Score	22	89

**All indicators are scores/100 or are percentile ranks, 100=best. Some scores have been adjusted accordingly. 1-33 34-66 67-100*

World Bank Enterprise Survey Responses (2013)	Bangladesh	Top 10 Countries
Share of firms reporting at least one bribe request	48%	1.4%
Share of firms expected to give gifts to secure government contract	49%	1.9%
Share of firms expected to give gifts to officials to "get things done"	49%	1.5%
Share of businesses reporting corruption is a major constraint	50%	7.5%

Illustrative FCPA Cases (as reported)

Total FCPA Enforcement: 6 Cases

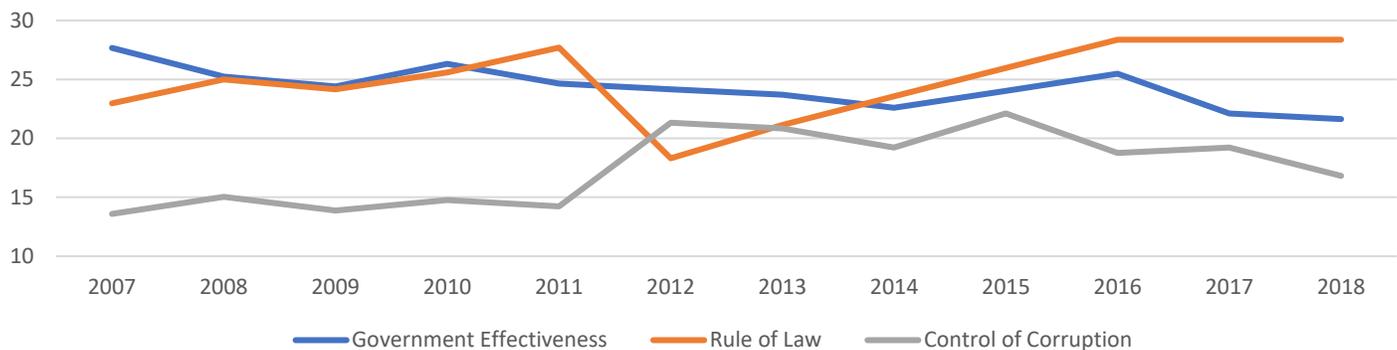
- General Cable Corporation—Global subsidiaries of the supplier of specialty cable and wire products allegedly made improper payments to employees of state-owned enterprises in multiple countries, including Bangladesh, to secure contracts. GCC self-disclosed the subsidiary conduct and settled the case in 2016 with penalties of more than USD 20 million.
- Siemens Bangladesh—As part of a larger enforcement effort against the German technology company, the DOJ alleged that Siemens Bangladesh had made more than USD 5 million in corrupt payments. The bribes allegedly went to government employees to secure favorable consideration in a mobile phone network project between 2001 and 2006. Siemens paid a USD 500,000 penalty in 2008.

Information Accessibility and Transparency

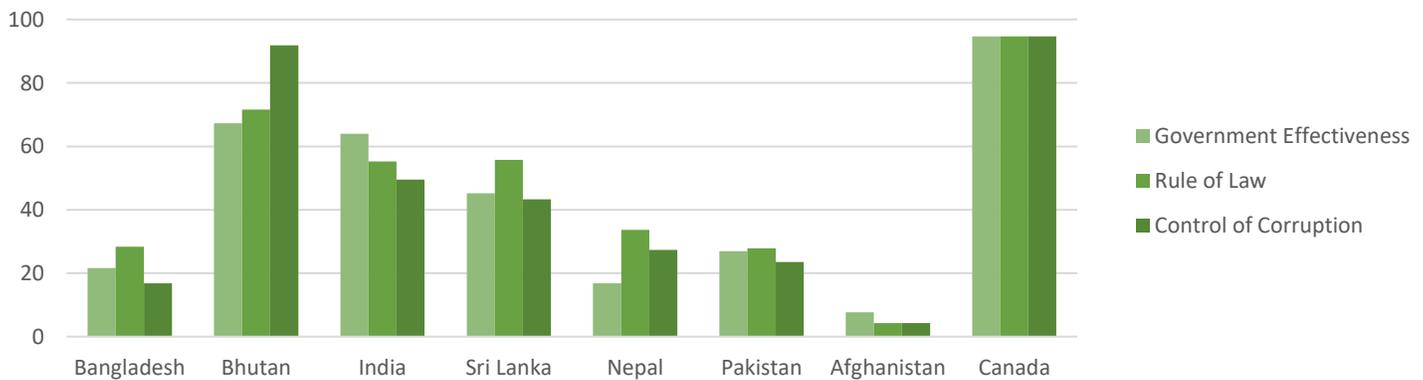
Availability of Records	●	Acquiring adequate corporate registration and litigation records may require in-country retrieval, although in some cases electronic retrieval from proprietary sources may suffice.
Freedom of Press	●	Freedom House freedom of press rating 62/100, “not free” (100=least free) Reporters Without Borders rank 150/180 (180=least free)
Language Accessibility	●	Bangla is almost universally spoken throughout the country. However, the language and its script will typically pose significant machine-translation issues.
Financial Disclosure	●	No data. (Tax Justice Network Financial Secrecy Index)

● Poor ● Moderate ● Accessible

Trendlines—World Bank Worldwide Governance Indicators (100=best)



Country Comparison—World Bank Worldwide Governance Indicators (100=best)



Context: Corruption in Bangladesh

With a Transparency International CPI rank of 149th and a 17th percentile score from the World Bank, Bangladesh is in the bottom fifth of countries for both of the major corruption indices surveyed here. Corruption is thought to be so edemic that it measurably limits Bangladesh’s already strong rate of economic growth. A burdensome yet ineffective bureaucracy creates opportunities and incentives for corrupt transactions to “speed things up” while simultaneously limiting the reach of ABC initiatives. At the same time, a lopsided balance of power between political parties limits checks on the conduct of ruling party officials. Corrupt practices are pervasive in Bangladesh across all areas of public administration, from facilitation payments for basic services all the way to the highest levels of government—former Prime Minister Khaleda Zia is currently serving a 17-year sentence for corruption. Current Prime Minister Hasina has recently initiated a high-level anticorruption initiative targeting even members of her own party, although its impact at the systemic level remains to be seen.