



TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL MALAYSIA

NEWSLETTER



A Nation Without Corruption, A Society With Integrity

Volume 39 (January-March 2020). KDN Permit No: 11959/03/2019 (025399)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As we marched into the year 2020, the nation and the world has been shocked with a number of events within the first three months.

In January this year TI-Malaysia released the Global Corruption Perception Index (CPI) results for 2019. Malaysia's score improved after 5 years of deterioration. In 2019 our global rank in the CPI rebounded and jumped 10 steps to be ranked 51 in 2019 compared 61 in 2018. The swift action taken against high profile cases such as 1 MDB, SRC International and the arrest of politicians for corruption had a direct impact on this improvement. Malaysia's future performance on this global index will depend on the government's commitment on institutional reforms and the implementation of the 5 year National Anti-Corruption Plan.



In late February and early March the nation was shocked due to sudden resignation of the Prime Minister YAB Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad and the appalling collapse of the Pakatan Harapan government. For almost a week Malaysians were left in intense anxiety that they could be losing a government that they voted for. Finally their fear was realized when a new coalition government Perikatan Nasional was formed under the leadership of YAB Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin as the new Prime Minister. It is yet to be seen how committed this new government is in fighting corruption and continuing the reforms started by the Pakatan Harapan government.

As the political turmoil was abating in Malaysia, the Corona Virus (Covid -19) pandemic, which started in Wuhan, China, spread across the world rapidly with more than 700,000 cases reported worldwide as of end-March. Malaysia was not spared and the country is on total lockdown with offices shut and many businesses have come to a halt. TI offices globally is also shut. While we pray to find a cure for this disease, Malaysia's new government just like many other governments globally have come up with a stimulus package to support particularly to preserve the rakyat's welfare (RM128 Billion), support businesses including SMEs (RM100 Billion), strengthen the economy (RM 2 Billion) and another RM 20 Billion from the earlier stimulus package. It is extremely important that the disbursement of these funds is done fast, transparently with the highest standard of governance. TI-Malaysia urges particularly the civil servants who are the implementers of this package to be vigilant always to protect tax payers' money and any sign of wrong doing or interference from politicians should be reported immediately without fear.

Best wishes,

Dr Muhammad Mohan

President

Transparency International-Malaysia

EDITORIAL

THE YEAR OF LIVING DANGEROUSLY

The year 2020, was envisaged as a year of hope, wherein the country was slated to achieve developed nation status. However, due to some unfortunate events like the 1MDB debacle, the vision to become be ranked amongst the developed nations of the world has sadly been derailed, thanks to the corrupt and the deep rooted patronizing and crony culture that was widely prevalent during the previous government.

Now that we are in the year 2020, some serious efforts were made to curb corruption and carry out reforms to make Malaysia an ethical and transparent country but alas, some shocking events in the 1st quarter of the year have cast serious doubts whether we can really push through the reforms that we have fought so hard for. First, there was the sudden resignation of elder statesman and Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamed, second the unexpected collapse of the Pakatan Harapan government and third the surprising appointment of Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin as the new Prime Minister, heading a coalition government comprising UMNO, PAS and a handful of minor parties including the GPS from Sarawak.

This unforeseen events surely cast a long shadow on the reform agenda of the previous government, especially with the inclusion of some dubious politicians from the deposed BN government. Add to this the devastating spread of the Covid-19 pandemic that has practically demolished the economy and brought the country to its knees. With the country in active lockdown with the implementation of the Movement Control Order for almost a month, many small businesses are in dire straits and the majority of the working class are increasing hardships and a uncertain future.

The government has responded swiftly to face the challenges and has implemented a series of actions to alleviate the sufferings of the rakyat, which is rightfully commendable and at least shows that the new government is people orientated. It has unveiled a stupendous RM 250 billion stimulus plan to help the man in the street, the business community and the economy as a whole. Added to this, there are several initiatives to source funds, one of which is the Covid-19 Fund launched by the Prime Minister. However noble a cause, one must be weary of the intentions of some the contributors to the Fund, as we notice that many of the corporate companies that have contributed have been linked to contracts awarded by the government.

So how do we classify these contributions – as contributions to a national cause or obligations for rewards rendered. But then again, during this difficult times, the country needs all the help it can get. Stay Home. Stay Safe.

Sivasangaran Nair

CORRUPTION PERCEPTIONS INDEX 2019

MALAYSIA IMPROVES 10 SPOTS

Transparency International Malaysia (TI-M) released the official results of Transparency International's Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) for the year 2019. The launch was held at Royal Selangor Club in Kuala Lumpur. CPI is the flagship of Transparency International and it is a global index that measures the perceived levels of public sector corruption in over 180 countries/territories around the world according to country experts, bankers, financial analysts and business experts. CPI uses over 13 different data sources and a minimum of 3 surveys are required to determine a country's perceived corruption level by scoring them from 0-100 (the lower the score, the higher perceived level of corruption). Malaysia was assessed based on 9 research sources for 2019.

Among the distinguished attendees were the Ambassador of Norway, H.E. Mrs. Gunn Jorid Roset, Deputy Head of Mission of Italy, Mr. Pietro Tombaccini, other respective representatives from the High Commission of Canada, New Zealand, Singapore and the Embassy of U.S., Switzerland, France and Germany. Furthermore, GIACC's Special Officer to the Director General, Dato' Salim Sundar and MACC's Deputy Chief Commissioner (Prevention), Dato' Shamshun Baharin bin Mohd Jamil also attended the launch of CPI 2019.

In 2019, Denmark and New Zealand tied for first place with a score of 87, followed by Finland (86), Singapore (85), Sweden (85) and Switzerland (85) as illustrated in Figure 1.0. On the other end, Somalia became the most highly corrupted country with a score of 9, followed by slightly better scores in South Sudan (12), Syria (13) and Yemen (15) as captured in Figure 2.0. Just like CPI 2018, more than two-thirds of countries have a score below 50 and the world average for CPI remains at 43.

TOP 10 COUNTRY SCORES

87	Denmark	85	Switzerland
87	New Zealand	84	Norway
86	Finland	82	Netherlands
85	Singapore	80	Canada
85	Sweden	80	Luxembourg

Figure 1.0

BOTTOM 10 COUNTRY SCORES

18	Libya	16	Venezuela
17	North Korea	15	Yemen
16	Afghanistan	13	Syria
16	Equatorial Guinea	12	South Sudan
16	Sudan	9	Somalia

Figure 2.0

The CPI 2019 survey results indicate that Malaysia has improved exponentially as it jumped 10 ranks, from 61 (in 2018) to 51 and improved score from 47 (in 2018) points to 53 out of 100 (as in Figure 3.0). Malaysia now ranks third in the ASEAN region, just behind Singapore, and Brunei (Figure 4.0). Malaysia also comes 5th when it comes to Islamic countries, behind the UAE, Qatar, Brunei and Saudi Arabia (Figure 5.0).

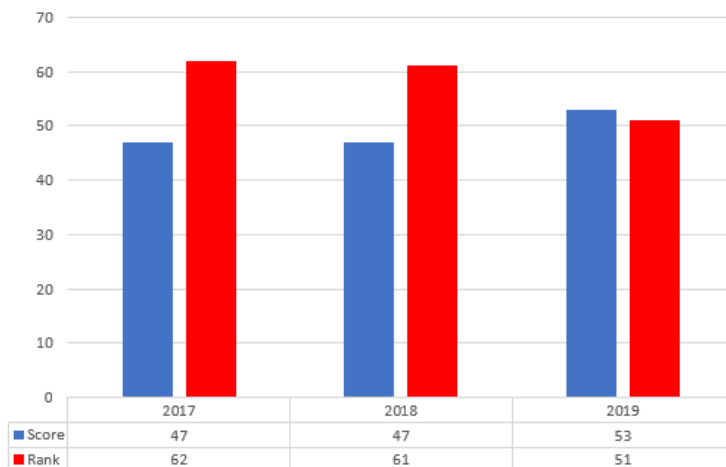


Figure 3.0

This recovery by improving 10 steps in the global ranking for Malaysia is due to the swift actions taken by the Pakatan Harapan government after coming to power to investigate corruption scandals, such as 1MDB, SRC, FELDA and Tabung Haji. This was followed by as the arrest of several political figures who were later charged by MACC for corruption and money laundering. Other factors for this improvement in the CPI ranking are due to greater media freedom, asset declaration by the ruling party members of parliament, enforcement of the Corporate Liability Provision (Section 17A) of MACC Act in June 2020 and the extensive National Anti-Corruption Plan (NACP).

ASEAN COUNTRIES	Country Score		Rank	
	2019	2018	2019	2018
Singapore	85	85	4 ↓	3
Brunei	60 ↓	63	35 ↓	31
Malaysia	53 ↑	47	51 ↑	62
Indonesia	40 ↑	38	85 ↑	89
Thailand	36	36	101 ↓	99
Philippines	34 ↓	36	113 ↓	99
Vietnam	37 ↑	33	96 ↑	117
Myanmar	29	29	130 ↑	132
Laos	29	29	130 ↑	132
Cambodia	20	20	162 ↓	161

Figure 4.0

However, TI-Malaysia still have concerns regarding the enactment of the political financing law, IPCMC bill, amendment of Whistle blower Protection Act, independence of MACC and transparency in government agencies and departments.

ISLAMIC COUNTRIES	Country Score		Rank	
	2019	2018	2019	2018
UAE	71	70	21	23
Qatar	62	62	30	33
Brunei	60	63	35	31
Saudi Arabia	53	49	51	58
Malaysia	53	47	51	62
Oman	52	52	56	53
Jordan	48	49	60	58
Senegal	45	45	66	67
Tunisia	43	43	74	73
Bahrain	42	36	77	99

Figure 5.0

To make real progress against corruption in Malaysia, TI-M calls on the government, private sector and society at large to do the following:

- Ensure successful implementation of the National Anti-Corruption Plan and make disclosures on the progress of the 115 initiatives.
- Re-opening of past cases by the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission to be done without fear or favor.
- Strong political will for institutional and legal reform.
- Enact the Freedom of Information Act across all states, to replace the Official Secrets Act.
- Provide greater transparency when public projects are awarded (Mega Projects).
- Amendment to the Whistleblower Protection Act 2010 to widen the reporting channels for the public and strengthen the protection for whistleblowers.
- Enactment of the asset declaration law to compel all lawmakers including the opposition and public officials to declare their assets and made accessible to the public.
- Make provision in the current MACC Act to incorporate provisions to compel companies to declare the Ultimate Beneficial Ownership.

(Full report available at www.transparency.org.my)



Dr Muhammad Mohan (TI-M President) and Mr Raymon Ram (TI-M Secretary General) announcing the Corruption Perceptions Index 2019 results



President of TI-M with the distinguished guests



Representative from Media, Consulates, MACC, Prime Minister's Department, Civil Societies Organisations.

MEDIA SNIPPETS

The Malaysian Reserve

Home » Economy » News
» Malaysia jumps 10 spots in TI's Corruption Perceptions Index

Malaysia jumps 10 spots in TI's Corruption Perceptions Index



Friday, January 24th, 2020 at, Economy | News

The country scores 53 points in the 2019 index – an increase of 6 points from the previous year – ranking it the 3rd-best among Asean states

By ALIFAH ZAINUDDIN / Pic by RAZAK GHAZALI

News

Malaysia moves up 10 spots in corruption index

Ravin Palanisamy
Updated 1 month ago · Published on 23 Jan 2020
1:30PM · 0 Comments



Dr. Muhammad Mohan

Transparency International Malaysia (TI-M) president Dr Muhammad Mohan presenting the latest corruption perception index findings today. Malaysia's 53 points are its best results since 1996. – The Malaysian Insight pic by Afif Abd Halim, January 23, 2020.

astro AWANI

BERITA | MALAYSIA

Indeks Persepsi Rasuah meningkat, Malaysia kini di tangga 51

Fareez Azman, Astro Awani | Januari 23, 2020 12:59 MYT



Menurut Presiden Transparency International Malaysia (TI-M), Dr Muhammad Mohan, Malaysia mencatatkan skor sebanyak 53 daripada 100 peratus berbanding skor sebanyak 47 pada tahun sebelumnya. - Foto Astro AWANI

malaysiakini



Corruption perception index: M'sia sees marked improvement, hits 8-year high

Geraldine Tong

FMT

Malaysia jumps 10 spots in corruption perception index

Sean Augustin - January 23, 2020 1:25 PM



TI-M president Muhammad Mohan says everyone has a role to play to ensure Malaysia keeps improving on its ranking.

BH ONLINE

BERITA » Nasional
Khamis, 23 Januari 2020 | 1:43pm



CPI 2019: Malaysia lonjak ke tangga 51

malaymail

HOME / MALAYSIA

TI-M: Malaysia up 10 spots in corruption perception index after 'swift action' to address scandals

Thursday, 23 Jan 2020 03:03 PM MYT
BY JERRY CHOONG

Sinar Harian

malaysia | 27 Mac 2020

Indeks Persepsi Rasuah 2019: Malaysia lonjak 10 anak tangga

BERNAMA | 24 Januari 2020

A+ A+

INDUKS PERSEPSI RASUAH (CPI) TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL 2019

MALAYSIA LONJAK 10 ANAK TANGGA

GLOBAL			RANTAU ASEAN		
Skor	Negara	Kedudukan	Skor	Negara	Kedudukan
87	Denmark	1	85	Singapura	4
87	New Zealand	1	60	Brunei Darussalam	35
86	Finland	3	53	Malaysia	51
85	Singapura	4	40	Indonesia	85
85	Sweden	4	37	Vietnam	96
85	Switzerland	4	36	Thailand	101
84	Norway	7	34	Filipina	113
82	Belanda	8	29	Laos	130
80	Jerman	9	29	Myanmar	139
80	Luxembourg	9	20	Kemboja	162
53	Malaysia	51			

Indeks 2019: Tempai ke 61 dengan 47 mata

SKALA CPI 100 paling bersih
0 tinggi rasuah

- CPI menilai 180 negara & wilayah berdasarkan tahap persepsi rasuah dalam sektor awam, menurut pakar & komuni perniagaan
- 2/3 negara cipta mata bawah 50
- Marah purata: 43/100

Transparency International Malaysia (TI-M) berkata peningkatan kedudukan Malaysia adalah hasil tindakan segera kerajaan dalam menanggapi rasuah

Sumber: Transparency International | Infografik Bernama

Indeks Persepsi Rasuah 2019: Malaysia lonjak 10 anak tangga

TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL MALAYSIA



SPUR 2-1 NORWICH CITY • MANCHESTER UNITED 0-2 BURNLEY FC • SEPARUH AKHIR AFCB

INDUKS PERSEPSI RASUAH 2019

MALAYSIA LONJAK KE TANGGA-51

3 KEPADA news@tv3.com.my • LANGGANI YOUTUBE BULETIN TV3 UNTUK LIVE BULETIN DAN KLP

THE STRAITS TIMES

ASIA » East Asia SE Asia South Asia Australia

3 Days Bursa Malaysia Tips
Venza Research

Malaysia rises 10 spots, improving ranking in annual global corruption index

astro AWANI



INDUKS PERSEPSI RASUAH 2019

RANKING 53 51

malaysiakini



On the right track in fighting corruption

Syahredzan Johan

BERNAMA.COM

Get It Right

AM

Malaysia lonjak ke kedudukan 51 dalam indeks persepsi rasuah

INDUKS PERSEPSI RASUAH (CPI) TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL 2019

MALAYSIA LONJAK 10 ANAK TANGGA

GLOBAL			RANTAU ASEAN		
Skor	Negara	Kedudukan	Skor	Negara	Kedudukan
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SYMPOSIUM ON GENDER MAINSTREAMING & WOMEN EMPOWERMENT TO FIGHT CORRUPTION

ADVANCE WOMEN IN THE ANTI-CORRUPTION WORK

On 11-12 February 2020, TI-M participated in the Symposium on Gender Mainstreaming & Women Empowerment to Fight Corruption which was held in Marriott Hotel, Putrajaya. The Symposium was organized by the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Anti-Corruption and Transparency Working Group and Policy Partnership on Women and the Economy, focused on advancing the gender perspective and women empowerment in the fight against corruption.



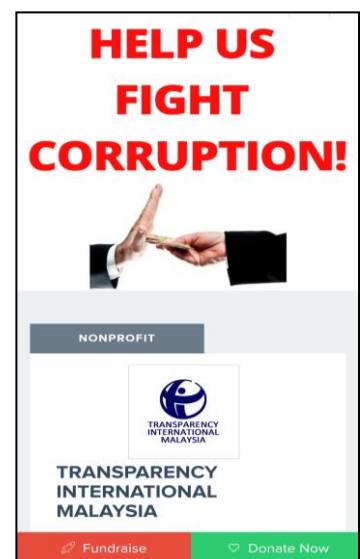
Corruption affects everybody, women are not excluded. The impact of corruption is far-reaching and devastating. According to the United Nations Development Programme, the impact of women can be greater, especially when the currency of bribes comes in the form of sexual extortion or sextortion. Hence, there is a need to strengthen the cross-border engagement and sharing of best practices between women's groups and agencies to facilitate capacity building.

LAUNCH OF CROWDFUNDING PLATFORM INITIATIVE TO RAISE FUND

TI-M launched an online crowdfunding with a fundraising organization called Simply Giving on 23 March 2020. As a non-profit organization, this is the first time TI-M will be using crowdfunding approach for the public to donate and support us in the course of fighting corruption.

No one has ever become poor by giving. Made your donation now!

<https://www.simplygiving.com/nonprofit/ti-m>



COVID-19 ALERT

In light with the current pandemic of COVID-19, TI-M urges the public to give full cooperation and follow the guidelines from the Ministry of Health. Protect yourself by:



Washing
your hands
regularly



Covering your
mouth and
nose when you
cough or
sneeze



Practice
social
distance



Stay at
home

CALLING FOR TRAINERS!

We are collecting data on relevant speakers for training programs organized by TI-Malaysia, and would like to invite all members to send in your profiles consisting of:



1. Subject matter expertise
2. Background
3. Training track record and relevant supporting documents

Kindly email all the relevant documents to the Secretary General, Mr Raymon Ram at raymon@transparency.org.my.