

PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION

B/216

The Honourable First Member for Port Louis South and Port Louis Central
(Mr Uteem)

To ask the Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of Home Affairs, External Communications and National Development Unit, Minister of Finance and Economic Development –

Whether, in regard to the Corruption Perceptions Index 2018 published by Transparency International, he will state if he has taken cognizance thereof, including, the ranking of Mauritius therein?

REPLY

Madam Speaker,

Let me at the very outset point out that Transparency International assesses the **perceived** level of corruption in the public sector of a country and **not the level of corruption** per se.

It is important to note that Transparency International uses indicators to formulate its score such as:

- (i) The Global Corruption Barometer which measures people's perceptions and experiencing corruption.
- (ii) The Global Corruption Report which explains corruption issues in detail for a specific topic/sector.

Transparency International itself recognizes that the Corruption Perceptions Index does not tell the full story of corruption in a country and it is limited in scope, capturing perceptions of the extent of corruption in the public sector, from the perspective of business people and country experts.

Madam Speaker,

I have taken cognizance of the Corruption Perceptions Index 2018 which was released on 29 January 2019 by Transparency International.

According to the Corruption Perceptions Index 2018, Mauritius has been allocated a score of 51 and ranked 56th out of 180 countries. I must also add that Mauritius is in the 6th position in the Sub-Saharan Africa region.

Madam Speaker,

I wish to point out that according to the Economist Intelligence Unit Report 2018, Mauritius is ranked 17th worldwide among 167 countries, as a “full-democracy” with a score of 8.22 out of 10 and is ranked first in the Sub-Saharan African region. It is to be noted that only countries with scores above 8 are categorized as “full democracies” and Mauritius is one among them, implying that it is effectively tackling issues relating to Transparency, Accountability and Corruption.

On the other hand, according to the Ibrahim Index of African Governance, which is published by the Mo Ibrahim Foundation and which provides, *inter alia*, a quantifiable tool to measure and monitor governance performance in African countries, in 2018 Mauritius has been ranked first, out of a total of 54 countries, with the highest overall score of 79.5.

Madam Speaker,

Mauritius is a country reputed for sustaining full democracy, rule of law and leaving no stone unturned to combat fraud and corruption. The

Corruption Perceptions Index 2018 should therefore not be taken as a reference to negate what other institutions like the Economist Intelligence Unit or Mo Ibrahim Foundation have reported on Mauritius.