

Argentina has most corrupt judiciary

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A Transparency International report says Russia and Argentina have the most corrupt judicial systems among the world countries.

In its latest report, Berlin-based corruption watchdog said in over 30 countries around the world more than 30% of households said bribery was involved in getting a "fair outcome in court". Also, in 25 countries around the world, one, out of ten households, has to pay bribes to be heard in court.



Transparency International says corruption is undermining justice

"When courts are corrupted by greed or political considerations, the scales of justice are tipped, and ordinary people suffer," said Head of Transparency International Huguette Labelle.

"In corrupted judicial systems, the long-suffering people are not heard in courts while the wrongdoers are acquitted," she added.

"Despite considerable attempts made for safeguarding the independence of the judiciary, the courts are still being pressured for political reasons. International standards and political impartiality are totally ignored in countries such as Russia and Argentina. Political interference in judicial process has risen dramatically in these countries and the Russian and Argentinean presidents are now under fire over their authoritarian tendencies," the report added.

The report also cited the example of a judge appointed by the former Argentinean President Carlos Menem who ruled that excessive campaign spending by the ruling party had not breached the law.

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