



## WEB RELEASE

### THE COLOMBO CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (Base Year 2013) – JANUARY 2020 DEPARTMENT OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS

TEL: 011-2147414

FAX: 011-2877945

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#### 1. Introduction

The Department of Census and Statistics (DCS) is the authorized agency to compile Colombo Consumer Price Index (CCPI). The base year used for compilation of CCPI from June 2011 to December 2016 was the year 2006/07. Following internationally accepted guidelines, it has been arranged to revise the base year from 2006/07=100 to 2013=100 in order to accommodate the changing expenditure patterns and in cooperate changes of goods & services available in the market. Accordingly, with respect to the new base, CCPI (Base 2013=100) will be released monthly commencing from January 2017 on the last working day of each month. It is emphasized that index numbers or inflation figures compiled under different base years cannot be compared.

The CCPI is compiled to indicate average changes in the prices of goods and services purchased by households in urban areas of Colombo district. Prices for items in the Colombo Consumer Price Index are collected from 14 selected centers located in Colombo namely Pettah, Maradana, Wellawatta, Dematagoda, Grandpass, Borella, Kirulapone, Dehiwala, Mt.Lavinia, Kotte, Nugegoda, Kolonnawa, Rathmalana, and Narahenpita and Rathmalana dedicated economic centers. Prices are collected weekly from the outlets located within each of the above market areas including Lak Sathosa and a supermarket. The consumer basket includes 392 items, which represent the typical urban household consumption expenditure. The CPI weights are derived from the Household Income and Expenditure Survey (HIES) 2012/13.

For more details on the revision of base year, please click here: [Technical Note on Base Year Revision](#)

**Table 1- Monthly Changes by main Groups of Market Basket**

Major Group*	Index Number			Monthly Changes of the Expenditure Values(Rs.)			Monthly Changes of the Index (%)		
	Jan 2019	Dec 2019	Jan 2020	Jan 2019	Dec 2019	Jan 2020	Jan 2019	Dec 2019	Jan 2020
All Items	127.4	132.4	134.3	690.47	441.32	1148.12	0.91	0.56	1.44
Food and Non Alcoholic Beverages	130.3	142.0	145.5	-572.03	558.75	602.21	-0.75	0.70	0.75
Non Food	126.3	128.7	129.9	1262.50	-117.43	545.91	1.66	-0.15	0.68
Alcoholic beverages Tobacco and Narcotic	199.9	219.2	219.9	1.04	1.49	4.54	0.00	0.00	0.01
Clothing and Footwear	141.9	149.0	149.6	54.45	1.52	7.91	0.07	0.00	0.01
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	115.7	114.9	117.8	681.25	-17.76	557.01	0.89	-0.02	0.70
Health	171.7	178.1	173.7	0.00	68.25	-116.88	0.00	0.09	-0.15
Transport	107.2	115.5	115.3	-212.84	48.55	-14.52	-0.28	0.06	-0.02
Communication	109.7	100.4	97.3	0.00	-186.10	-62.03	0.00	-0.23	-0.08
Education	161.1	165.6	169.0	654.15	0.00	118.00	0.86	0.00	0.15
Restaurant and Hotels	132.5	136.3	137.5	0.00	0.00	36.55	0.00	0.00	0.05
Miscellaneous Goods and Services	140.1	146.0	146.8	0.00	-25.44	16.90	0.00	-0.03	0.02
Other	127.2	129.5	129.4	84.46	-7.95	-1.57	0.11	-0.01	0.00

\*Note : There are 12 main groups of the market basket. Significant changes in January 2020 were noted in ten main groups, details on which are given in Table2. \*Percentages of items do not tally with overall percentage due to rounding off.

## 2. Variations in Colombo Consumer Price Index

Month on month changes in the Colombo Consumer Price Index was briefly describe below.

### 2.1 Month on Month (M on M) Change of CCPI:

The CCPI for all items for the month of January 2020 was 134.3 and it records an increase of 1.9 index points that is 1.44 percentage points compared to the month of December 2019 for which the index was 132.4. This represents an increase of expenditure value by Rs.1148.12 in the “Market Basket”.

#### 2.1.1 Contribution to M on M Changes:

Contributions to the change in CCPI from December 2019 to January 2020 were given in Table 2. Increase in the index point by 1.44% was due to the expenditure value increase of Food items by 0.75% and increase of Non Food items by 0.68% respectively.

#### 2.1.2 Contribution of Food and Non Alcoholic Beverages items: 0.75%

As shown in Table 02, increases in value change were reported for Vegetables (0.73%), Coconuts (0.18%), Red Onion (0.10%), Fresh fruits (0.05%), Sea Fish (0.04%), Coconut Oil (0.04%), Potatoes (0.03%), Chili powder (0.03%), Dhal- Mysoor (0.02%), Green Chilies (0.01%), Curry Powder (0.01%) and Dried Chilies (0.01%).

While decreases in value change were reported for Rice (0.13%), Chicken (0.07%), Big Onions (0.05%), Limes (0.04%), Milk Powder (0.03%) and Tea dust/ leaves (0.01%).

#### 2.1.3 Contribution of Non Food items: 0.68%

Among Non-Food groups, increases in value change were reported for the groups of ‘Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other fuels’ (0.70%), ‘Education’ (0.15%), ‘Restaurants and Hotels’ (0.05%), ‘Miscellaneous Goods and Services’ (0.02%), ‘Alcoholic Beverages Tobacco and Narcotics’ (0.01%) and ‘Clothing and Footwear’ (0.01%).

Decreases in value change were reported for the groups of ‘Health’ (0.15%), ‘Communication’ (0.08%) and ‘Transport’ (0.02%).

However, an insignificant value change were reported for the groups of, ‘Furnishing Household Equipment and routine Household Maintenance’, and ‘Recreation and Culture’.

**Table 2: Contribution to the change in CCPI from December 2019 to January 2020(Base 2013=100)**

Sub Group/Commodity		Value Change			
		Rs.Cts.	% change		
			Increase	Decrease	Net effect
<b>Food</b>		<b>602.21</b>	<b>1.24</b>	<b>0.49</b>	<b>0.75</b>
1	Rice	-106.92		0.13	
	<i>Rice - (Kekulu white)</i>	5.50	0.01		
	<i>Rice - (Samba)</i>	-70.54		0.09	
	<i>Rice - (Nadu-White)</i>	-32.11		0.04	
	<i>Rice - (Nadu-Red)</i>	-10.76		0.01	
2	Chicken	-53.23		0.07	
3	Sea Fish	29.38	0.04		
4	Milk powder	-24.39		0.03	
5	Coconut	143.55	0.18		
6	Coconut oil	33.56	0.04		
7	Fresh fruits	40.58	0.05		
	<i>Papaw</i>	27.88	0.03		
	<i>Mangoes</i>	8.03	0.01		
8	Vegetables	586.87	0.73		
9	Potatoes	23.46	0.03		
10	Dhal - Mysoor	12.13	0.02		
11	Red onions	79.86	0.10		
12	Big onions	-42.11		0.05	
13	Green chilies	8.44	0.01		
14	Chili powder	25.16	0.03		
15	Curry powder	5.76	0.01		
16	Dried chilies	4.18	0.01		
17	Limes	-33.72		0.04	
18	Tea dust/ leaves	-9.48		0.01	
19	Others	-120.86		0.15	
<b>Non Food</b>		<b>545.91</b>	<b>0.93</b>	<b>0.24</b>	<b>0.68</b>
20	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	4.54	0.01		
	<i>Betel leaves</i>	4.09	0.01		
21	Clothing & Footwear	7.91	0.01		
22	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	557.01	0.70		
	<i>Housing rent</i>	572.82	0.72		
	<i>Maintenance/ Reconstruction</i>	-7.03		0.01	
	<i>Water bills</i>	-8.79		0.01	
23	Health	-116.88		0.15	
	<i>Payments to private hospitals room charges</i>	-116.88		0.15	
24	Transport	-14.52		0.02	
	<i>Airlines fare</i>	-15.86		0.02	
25	Communication	-62.03		0.08	
	<i>Telephone charges - Home fixed phone</i>	-22.95		0.03	
	<i>Telephone charges - mobile</i>	-35.08		0.04	
	<i>Email/internet charges</i>	-4.00		0.01	
26	Education	118.00	0.15		
	<i>Pre-school fees (K.G)</i>	4.24	0.01		
	<b>Secondary Education</b>				
	<i>Tuition fees</i>	113.77	0.14		
27	Restaurants and Hotels	36.55	0.05		
28	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	16.90	0.02		
	<i>Hair cutting and shaving charges</i>	15.12	0.02		
29	Others	-1.57			
	<b>All Items</b>	<b>1148.12</b>	<b>2.17</b>	<b>0.73</b>	<b>1.44</b>

\*Percentages of items do not tally with overall percentage due to rounding off.

### 3. INFLATION:

The CCPI is an economic indicator constructed to measure inflation which is defined as percentage change in CCPI over the year. There are two measures of inflation in general use. One measure is Year on Year base or Point to Point inflation (The percentage change in the CPI during the last 12 months). The other measure is Moving Average Inflation (The percentage difference between the average Price Index of last 12 months & the average Price Index of previous 12 months).

**Table 03: Movements of the NCPI (Base: 2013=100)**

Year	Month	All Item				Food				Non Food			
		Index Number	% Change Month on Month	Inflation %		Index Number	% Change Month on Month	Inflation %		Index Number	% Change Month on Month	Inflation %	
				Y on Y	12 Month Moving Avg.			Y on Y	12 Month Moving Avg.			Y on Y	12 Month Moving Avg.
<b>2019</b>	January	<b>127.4</b>	0.9	3.7	4.1	<b>130.3</b>	-2.5	-2.1	2.3	<b>126.3</b>	2.4	6.3	4.9
<b>2020</b>	February	<b>126.8</b>	-0.5	4.0	4.1	<b>127.5</b>	-2.1	-1.4	1.7	<b>126.5</b>	0.2	6.4	5.1
	March	<b>126.6</b>	-0.2	4.3	4.1	<b>125.5</b>	-1.6	-1.4	1.2	<b>127.0</b>	0.4	6.7	5.3
	April	<b>127.0</b>	0.3	4.5	4.1	<b>125.6</b>	0.1	-0.9	0.9	<b>127.5</b>	0.4	6.8	5.6
	May	<b>129.0</b>	1.6	5.0	4.2	<b>131.1</b>	4.4	0.8	0.7	<b>128.2</b>	0.5	6.8	5.8
	June	<b>130.2</b>	0.9	3.8	4.2	<b>134.5</b>	2.6	-1.0	0.3	<b>128.6</b>	0.3	6.0	5.9
	July	<b>130.0</b>	-0.2	3.3	4.0	<b>133.5</b>	-0.7	-2.6	-0.3	<b>128.6</b>	0.0	5.9	5.9
	August	<b>130.1</b>	0.1	3.4	3.8	<b>132.1</b>	-1.0	-2.8	-1.2	<b>129.3</b>	0.5	6.2	6.0
	September	<b>131.1</b>	0.8	5.0	3.9	<b>135.3</b>	2.4	3.0	-1.1	<b>129.4</b>	0.1	5.7	6.0
	October	<b>131.3</b>	0.2	5.4	4.0	<b>137.4</b>	1.6	6.8	-0.4	<b>128.9</b>	-0.4	4.8	6.0
	November	<b>131.7</b>	0.3	4.4	4.1	<b>138.7</b>	0.9	4.6	0.1	<b>128.9</b>	0.0	4.2	5.9
	December	<b>132.4</b>	0.5	4.8	4.3	<b>142.0</b>	2.4	6.3	0.8	<b>128.7</b>	-0.2	4.3	5.8
	January	<b>134.3</b>	1.4	5.4	4.4	<b>145.5</b>	2.5	11.7	1.9	<b>129.9</b>	0.9	2.9	5.5

#### 3.1 Year on Year (Year on Year) Inflation

The Y-on-Y inflation as measured by CCPI is 5.4% in January 2020 and inflation calculated for December 2019 was 4.8% (Table 3). Year on Year inflation of Food Group has increased from 6.3% in December 2019 to 11.7% in January 2020 while that of Non-food Group has decreased from 4.3% in December 2019 to 2.9% in January 2020.

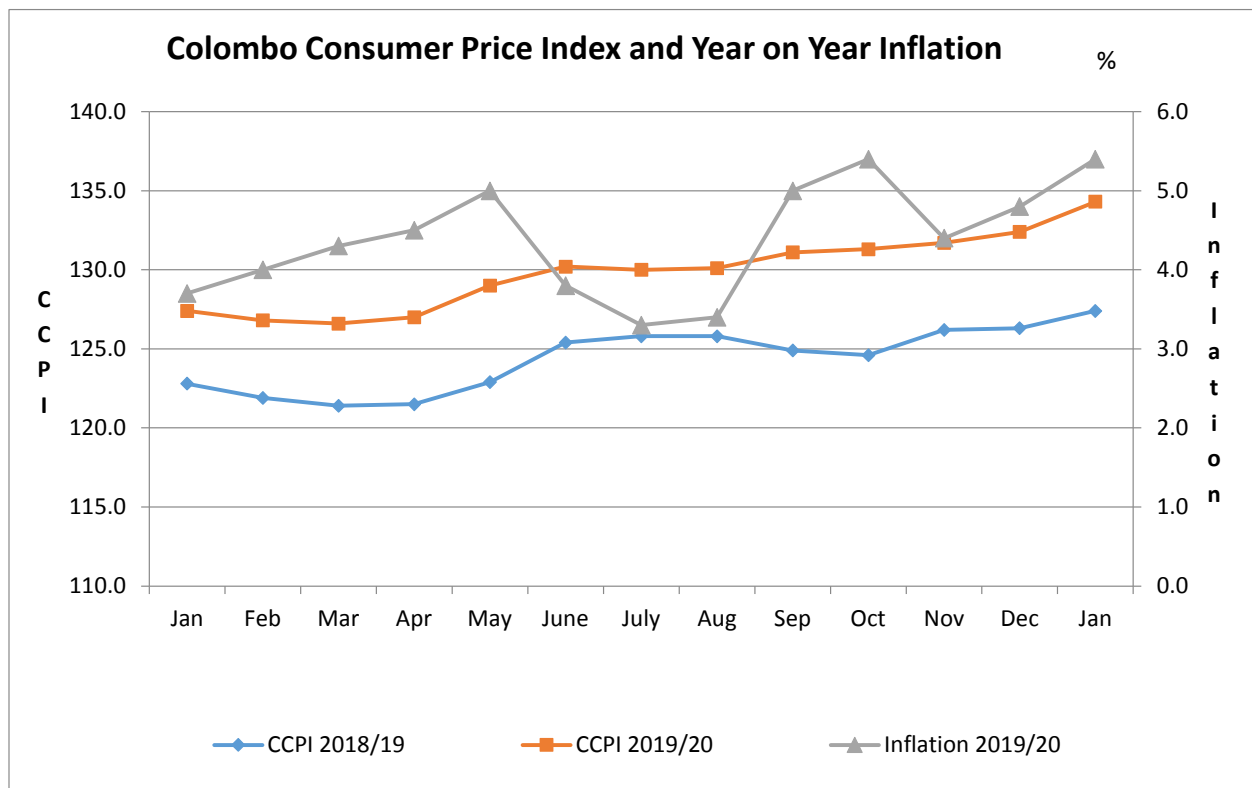
### 3.2 Contribution to Y on Y inflation:

For the month of January 2020, on year-to-year basis, contribution to inflation by food commodities was 3.38%.

The contribution of Non Food items was 2.06%. This was mainly due to increases in value change in groups of 'Transport' (0.67%), 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels' (0.54%), 'Education' (0.36%), 'Restaurants & Hotels' (0.20%), 'Miscellaneous Goods and Services' (0.17%), 'Alcoholic Beverages Tobacco and Narcotics' (0.16%), 'Clothing and Footwear' (0.14%), 'Health' (0.07%), 'Furnishing Household Equipment's & Routine Household Maintenance' (0.03%) and 'Recreation and Culture' (0.03%) and decrease in value change was reported for the group 'Communication' (0.32%).

### 3.3 Moving Average Inflation

The moving average inflation rate for the month of January 2020 was 4.4%. The corresponding rate for the month of December 2019 was 4.3%.



**Table 4 : Monthly average open market retail prices of selected items of Colombo Consumer Price Index (Jan, Dec 2019 & Jan 2020)**

Item	Unit	Retail Prices (Rs. Cts)			Retail Price Changes (%)	
		2019 Jan	2019 Dec	2020 Jan	Jan20/ Jan19	Dec19/ Jan20
1. Rice– Kekulu – Red	Kg	82.20	102.75	102.90	22.18	0.15
2. Rice– Kekulu – White	Kg	84.35	104.51	105.69	23.30	1.13
3. Rice –Nadu - White	Kg	88.88	106.56	98.34	10.65	-7.71
4. Rice –Nadu - Red	Kg	96.55	107.71	96.45	-0.10	-10.45
5. Rice– Samba	Kg	112.21	106.67	100.94	-10.04	-5.37
6. Cowpea	Kg	273.42	284.43	287.29	5.07	1.01
7. Green Grams	Kg	253.39	284.50	292.13	15.29	2.68
8. Coconut	Each	53.62	53.78	59.35	10.68	10.35
9. Coconut Oil	750ml	266.20	272.93	300.81	13.00	10.21
10. Chicken	Kg	484.50	506.93	482.16	-0.48	-4.89
11. Eggs	Each	20.66	20.38	20.34	-1.58	-0.22
12. Red Onion	Kg	187.34	480.74	613.81	227.66	27.68
13. Big Onion	Kg	103.52	184.68	168.65	62.91	-8.68
14. Potatoes	Kg	137.45	180.24	189.87	38.13	5.35
15. Garlic	Kg	236.59	399.37	403.55	70.57	1.05
16. Dried Chilies	Kg	325.27	501.81	539.76	65.94	7.56
17. Green Chilies	Kg	585.43	422.33	454.01	-22.45	7.50
18. Sugar	Kg	106.13	106.33	106.81	0.64	0.45
19. Pepper	Kg	1538.02	1361.70	1386.30	-9.86	1.81
<b>Vegetables-</b>						
20. Ash Plantain	Kg	143.95	165.53	183.57	27.52	10.90
21. Carrot	Kg	192.29	268.19	421.46	119.18	57.15
22. Snake Gourd	Kg	165.85	209.81	237.66	43.30	13.27
23. Tomatoes	Kg	180.70	172.38	338.47	87.31	96.34
24. Capsicum	Kg	351.12	358.49	431.58	22.92	20.39
25. Beetroot	Kg	207.16	245.49	301.74	45.65	22.91
26. Beans	Kg	266.05	323.99	425.94	60.10	31.47
<b>Fruits</b>						
27. Banana	Kg	146.08	155.86	144.57	-7.24	-1.04
28. Papaw	Kg	139.32	102.92	116.13	-16.65	12.80
29. Mangoes	Each	70.11	64.74	80.69	15.10	24.63
<b>Fresh Fish –</b>						
30. Seer	Kg	1594.04	1662.95	1762.35	10.56	5.98
31. Talapath	Kg	1146.31	1216.85	1213.40	5.85	-0.28
32. Paraw	Kg	1070.81	1103.85	1129.90	5.52	2.36
<b>Dried Fish -</b>						
33. Katta	Kg	1315.13	1463.29	1467.15	11.56	0.26
34. Sprats	Kg	745.42	757.83	757.03	1.56	-0.11
<b>Fuel -</b>						
35. Kerosene Oil	Lt	70.00	70.00	70.00	0.00	0.00
36. Petrol (CPC & IOC)	Lt	128.29	139.50	139.50	8.74	0.00
37. Diesel (CPC & IOC)	Lt	100.29	104.00	104.00	3.70	0.00
38. Gas- Avg.	12.5kg	1733.00	1493.00	1493.00	-13.85	0.00
	Litro	1733.00	1493.00	1493.00	-13.85	0.00
	Laughs	1733.00	1493.00	1493.00	-13.85	0.00

Director General  
Department of Census and Statistics