



PRESS RELEASE

THE COLOMBO CONSUMER PRICE INDEX – NOVEMBER 2015

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The Department of Census and Statistics (DCS) is the authorized agency to compile Colombo Consumer Price Index (CCPI). 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, 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 Co-operative store and a supermarket. The consumer basket includes 373 items which represent the typical urban households' consumption expenditure. The CPI weights are derived from the Household Income and Expenditure Survey (HIES) 2006/07.

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

The CCPI for all items for the month of November 2015 was 184.7 recording an increase of 2.6 index point or a percentage of 1.43 compared to the month of October 2015 for which the index was 182.1 This increase represents an expenditure value of Rs.729.69 in the "Market Basket".

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 (%)		
	Nov. 2014	Oct. 2015	Nov. 2015	Nov. 2014	Oct. 2015	Nov. 2015	Nov. 2014	Oct. 2015	Nov. 2015
All Items	179.2	182.1	184.7	60.51	194.55	729.69	0.12	0.38	1.43
Food & Non alcoholic beverages	206.7	211.1	217.5	132.97	199.34	727.80	0.27	0.39	1.43
Non Food	160.1	161.9	161.9	-72.47	-4.79	1.89	-0.14	-0.01	0.00
Clothing and Footwear	172.3	204.4	203.9	0.50	-8.56	-4.32	0.00	-0.02	-0.01
Housing water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	142.6	138.5	138.6	-77.40	3.78	4.32	-0.15	0.01	0.01
Other	171.8	174.9	174.9	4.44	279.65	1.89	0.01	0.55	0.00

*Note : There are 10 main groups of the market basket. Significant changes in November 2015 were noted only in three main groups, details on which are given in Table 1.

Contribution to M on M Changes:

Contributions to the increase in CCPI from October 2015 to November 2015 are given in Table 2. The index point increased by 1.43% and this was due to the increase of food items by 1.43% and increase of non-food items was insignificant.

Contribution of Food and non alcoholic beverages items: 1.43%

Significant increase in value changes in index were reported for Vegetables (0.87%), Green chilies(0.33%), Limes (0.31%),Bombay Onions (0.09%), Rice (0.07%), Red Onions (0.05%) , Potatoes (0.04%), Tamarind (0.02%) and Sugar, Dried Chilies, Chilly powder, Peper (0.01%) .

Contribution of non food items: 0%

Price decrease was reported for 'Clothing and Footwear' (0.01%) and 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other fuel' has showed a slight price increase (0.01%) due to the increase of firewood price. The 'Miscellaneous Goods & Services' showed an insignificant price increase. The total effect has led to the insignificant contribution to the non-food sub index.

**Table 2: Contribution to the increase in CCPI from October 2015 to November 2015
(Base: 2006/07=100)**

Sub Group/Commodity	Value Change			
	Rs.cts.	% change		
		Increase %	Decrease %	Net effect %
Food	727.80	1.90	-0.47	1.43
1.Rice	33.90	0.07		
2.Chicken	-32.18		-0.06	
3.Beef	-4.54		-0.01	
4.Fresh Fish	-28.91		-0.06	
5.Dried Fish	-21.49		-0.04	
6.Eggs	-15.89		-0.03	
7.Banana	-18.62		-0.04	
8.Papaw	-55.49		-0.11	
9.Mangoes	-63.05		0.12	
10.Vegetables(including leafy vegetables)	443.54	0.87		
11.Potatoes	22.70	0.04		
12.Red Onions	27.27	0.05		
13.Bombay Onions	45.76	0.09		
14.Green Chilies	169.23	0.33		
15.Sugar	6.86	0.01		
16.Dried Chilies	6.83	0.01		
17.Chilly Powder	6.41	0.01		
18. Pepper	6.37	0.01		
19.Tamarind	10.41	0.02		
20.Limes	156.01	0.31		
21.Other food items	32.68	0.06		
Non Food	1.89	0.01	-0.01	0.00
22.Clothing and Footwear	-4.32		-0.01	
23.Housing, water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	4.32	0.01		
24.Others	1.89	0.00		
Total*	729.69			1.43

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

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 3: Movements of the CCPI (Base: 2006/07=100)

Year	Month	Index Number	All Item			Food			Non Food		
			%Change Month to Month	Inflation		%Change Month to Month	Inflation		%Change Month to Month	Inflation	
				Y on Y	12 Month Moving Avg.		Y on Y	12 Month Moving Avg.		Y on Y	12 Month Moving Avg.
2015	November	179.2	0.1%	1.5%	3.5%	0.6%	4.9%	3.5%	-0.2%	-1.3%	3.5%
	December	180.2	0.6%	2.1%	3.3%	1.8%	7.0%	3.8%	-0.6%	-2.0%	2.8%
	January	183.2	1.7%	3.2%	3.2%	3.8%	12.0%	4.7%	-0.3%	-3.9%	1.9%
	February	178.9	-2.3%	0.6%	2.9%	-2.1%	9.5%	5.4%	-2.6%	-6.6%	0.8%
	March	178.1	-0.4%	0.1%	2.5%	-2.8%	6.3%	5.8%	1.9%	-4.9%	-0.2%
	April	178.5	0.2%	0.1%	2.1%	-1.2%	4.3%	5.9%	1.4%	-3.6%	-1.0%
	May	179.8	0.7%	0.2%	1.9%	1.5%	4.6%	5.9%	0.0%	-3.5%	-1.5%
	June	181.6	1.0%	0.1%	1.7%	1.8%	4.0%	6.0%	0.4%	-3.2%	-1.9%
	July	182.8	0.7%	-0.2%	1.3%	0.7%	2.5%	5.7%	0.7%	-2.5%	-2.3%
	August	181.9	-0.5%	-0.2%	1.0%	-1.5%	2.2%	5.5%	0.3%	-2.3%	-2.7%
	September	181.4	-0.3%	-0.3%	0.7%	-0.6%	2.0%	5.3%	0.1%	-2.2%	-3.1%
	October	182.1	0.4%	1.7%	0.7%	0.8%	2.7%	5.1%	0.0%	0.8%	-3.0%
November	184.7	1.4%	3.1%	0.9%	3.0%	5.2%	5.1%	0.0%	1.1%	-2.8%	

Year on Year (YoY) Inflation

YoY inflation of Food Group has increased from 2.7% in October 2015 to 5.2% in November 2015 while Non-food Group increased by 0.8% to 1.1% during this period. The overall rate of inflation as measured by CCPI on YoY basis is 3.1% in November 2015 and inflation calculated for October 2015 was 1.7% (Table3).

Contribution to Y on Y inflation:

For the month of November 2015, on year to year basis, contribution to inflation by food commodities was 2.48%.

Contribution of Non food items was 0.59% . This was mainly due to value change increases in Clothing and Footwear (0.57%), Health (0.80%) and Education (0.24%) sub groups while value change decreases of water bills (0.12%), L.P. Gas (0.71%), Kerosene Oil (0.19%), Bus fare (0.21%)

and Petrol & Diesel (1.00%) . The net effect of above items has led to the slight increase in Non-food sub index.

Moving Average Inflation

The moving average inflation rate for the month of November 2015 is 0.9%. The corresponding rate for the month of October 2015 was also 0.7%.

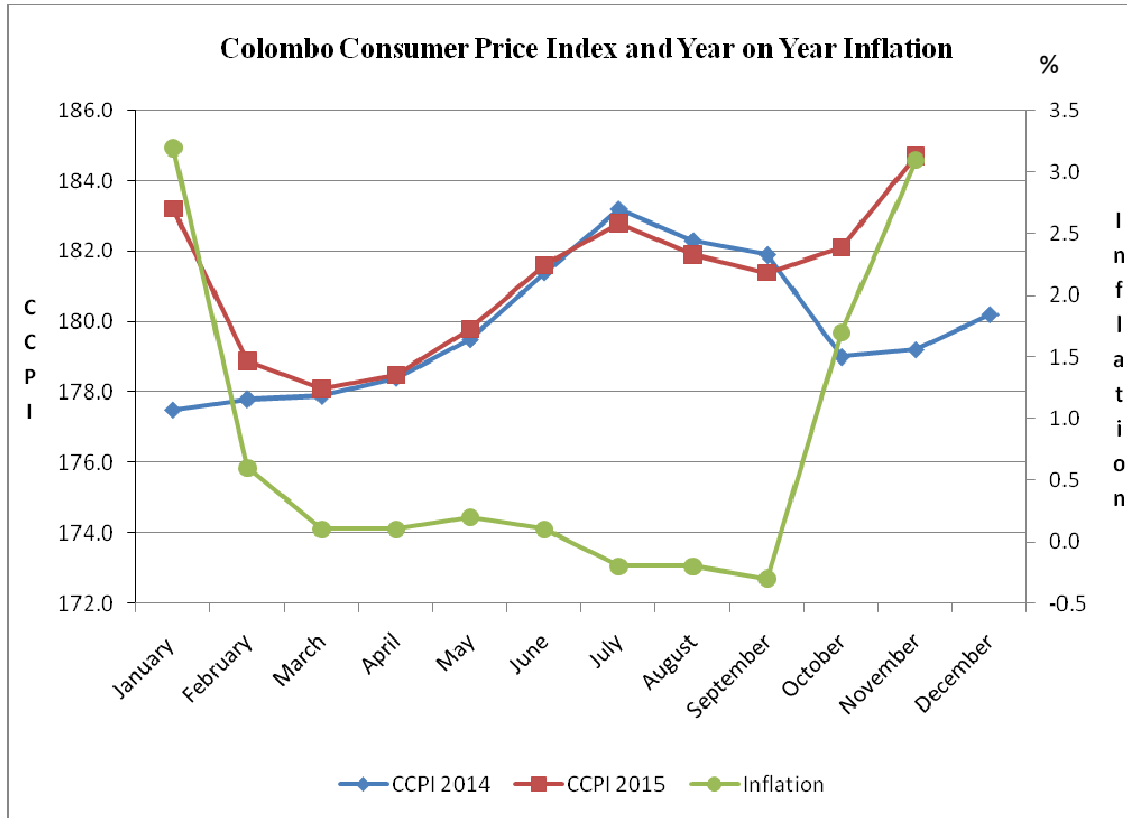


Table 4 : Monthly Average Open Market Retail prices of selected items of Colombo Consumer Price Index (November 2014, October & November 2015)

Item	Unit	Retail Prices (Rs. Cts)			Retail Price Changes (%)	
		2014 Nov.	2015 Oct.	2015 Nov.	Nov.15 - Oct 15	Nov.15 - Oct.14
1. Rice– Kekulu – Red	Kg	88.92	69.79	70.06	0.39	-21.21
2. Rice– Kekulu – White	Kg	85.96	68.77	71.52	4.00	-16.80
3. Rice –Nadu	Kg	87.32	73.37	76.15	3.79	-12.79
4. Rice– Samba	Kg	90.27	91.32	92.14	0.90	2.07
5. Cowpea	Kg	231.93	273.72	269.15	-1.67	16.05
6. Green Grams	Kg	308.28	256.40	255.17	-0.48	-17.23
7. Coconut	Each	42.79	43.18	43.18	0.01	0.93
8. Coconut Oil	750ml	202.80	199.32	200.26	0.47	-1.25
9. Chicken	Kg	402.92	464.01	447.76	-3.50	11.13
10. Eggs	Each	11.43	14.98	13.88	-7.32	21.50
11. Red Onion	Kg	106.50	113.72	136.99	20.46	28.63
12. B' Onion	Kg	75.63	116.46	134.90	15.83	78.37
13. Potatoes	Kg	107.14	126.54	138.41	9.38	29.18
14. Garlic	Kg	215.69	276.01	293.13	6.20	35.90
15. Dried Chilies	Kg	242.39	316.30	351.00	10.97	44.81
16. Green Chilies	Kg	239.81	289.66	681.04	135.12	183.99
17. Sugar	Kg	100.50	91.62	92.82	1.31	-7.65
18. Pepper	Kg	1693.89	1649.64	1693.74	2.67	-0.01
Vegetables-						
19. Ash Plantain	Kg	129.23	127.55	133.55	4.70	3.35
20. Carrot	Kg	148.81	130.21	221.21	69.90	48.66
21. Snake Gourd	Kg	125.02	130.31	141.55	8.62	13.21
22. Tomatoes	Kg	132.05	102.37	163.82	60.03	24.06
23. Capsicum	Kg	164.07	189.81	365.05	92.32	122.49
24. Beetroot	Kg	133.17	101.62	155.49	53.00	16.76
25. Beans	Kg	200.82	186.02	286.57	57.05	42.70
Fruits						
26. Banana	Each	11.45	13.25	12.56	-5.24	9.60
27. Papaw	Kg	76.53	107.90	83.21	-22.88	8.74
28. Mangoes	Each	91.60	144.24	95.13	-34.04	3.85
Fresh Fish –						
29. Seer	Kg	1038.49	1290.80	1213.99	-5.95	16.90
30. Talapath	Kg	831.73	877.61	870.96	-0.76	4.72
31. Paraw	Kg	734.45	886.20	909.68	2.65	23.86
Dried Fish -						
32. Katta	Kg	1054.22	1132.58	1135.82	0.29	7.74
33. Spratts	Kg	564.52	705.43	664.77	-5.76	17.76
34. Kerosene Oil	Lt	86.00	59.00	49.00	-43.02	-16.95
35. Petrol(CPC & IOC Avg.)	Lt	162.00	117.00	117.00	-27.75	0.00
36. Diesel (CPC & IOC Avg.)	Lt	121.00	95.00	95.00	-21.49	0.00
37. Gas- Avg.	12.5kg	2396.00	1496.00	1496.00	-37.56	0.00
Shell\Litro	12.5kg	2396.00	1496.00	1496.00	-37.56	0.00
Laughs	12.5kg	2396.00	1496.00	1496.00	-37.56	0.00

DCS commenced releasing National Consumer Price Index (NCPI) from October 2015 with a time lag of 21 days. Accordingly, the NCPI for the month of October 2015 was released on 23rd November 2015 (Please see the DCS website: www.statistics.gov.lk, for further details).

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