



## PRESS RELEASE

### THE COLOMBO CONSUMER PRICE INDEX – JANUARY 2016

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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 January 2016 was 184.9 recording a decrease of 0.3 index points or a percentage of -0.16 compared to the month of December 2015 for which the index was 185.2 This decrease represents an expenditure value of Rs.-84.52 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 (%)		
	Jan. 2015	Dec. 2015	Jan. 2016	Jan. 2015	Dec. 2015	Jan. 2016	Jan. 2015	Dec. 2015	Jan. 2016
All Items	183.2	185.2	184.9	841.80	136.85	-84.52	1.67	0.26	-0.16
Food & Non alcoholic beverages	218.5	219.3	218.1	908.14	205.03	-138.84	1.80	0.40	-0.27
Non Food	158.7	161.5	161.8	-66.34	-68.18	54.32	-0.13	-0.13	0.10
Clothing and Footwear	174.4	204.3	207.3	15.16	3.29	26.27	0.03	0.01	0.05
Housing water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	140.1	137.5	137.9	-64.42	-75.56	28.05	-0.13	-0.15	0.05
Other	170.9	175.0	175.0	-17.08	363.96	0.00	-0.03	0.70	0.00

\*Note : There are 10 main groups of the market basket. Significant changes in January 2016 were noted only in three main groups, details on which are given in Table 1.

## Contribution to M on M Changes:

Contributions to the decrease in CCPI from December 2015 to January 2016 are given in Table 2. The index point decreased by 0.16% and this was due to the decrease of food items by 0.27% and increase of non-food items by 0.10%.

### Contribution of Food and non alcoholic beverages items: -0.27%

Decrease in value changes in index were reported for Green chilies (0.23%), Big Onions (0.10%), Limes (0.09%), Vegetables (0.07%), Potatoes (0.05%), Milk powder (0.04%), Banana (0.03%), Fresh fish (0.02%), Dhal (0.01%) and Chicken (0.01%). Price increases were reported for Rice (0.05%), Eggs (0.05%), Sugar (0.05%) Papaw (0.04%), Mangoes (0.03%), Coconut Oil (0.02%), Garlic (0.02%), Dried fish (0.02%), Beef ((0.01%), Maldives fish (0.01%), Coconut (0.01%) and Red Onions (0.01%).

### Contribution of non food items: 0.10%

Increase in value changes were reported for the Groups of 'Clothing and Footwear' (0.05%) and 'Housing, water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels' (0.05%). The amount increased in 'Housing, water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels' due to the price increase of Building material (Sand, Bricks & Paints) in Maintenance & Repair of Dwellings sub group. But Kerosene oil showed a slight decrease of (0.01%).

**Table 2: Contribution to the increase in CCPI from December 2015 to January 2016  
(Base: 2006/07=100)**

Sub Group/Commodity	Value Change			
	Rs.cts.	% change		
		Increase %	Decrease %	Net effect %
<b>Food</b>	<b>-138.84</b>	<b>0.38</b>	<b>0.65</b>	<b>-0.27</b>
1.Rice	24.33	0.05		
2.Chicken	-4.98		0.01	
3.Beef	3.14	0.01		
4.Fresh Fish	-12.30		0.02	
5.Dried Fish	8.76	0.02		
6. Maldives fish	3.95	0.01		
7. Milk powder	-18.33	0.04		
9.Eggs	25.67	0.05		
10. Coconut	6.99	0.01		
11.Coconut Oil	10.90	0.02		
12.Banana	-16.34		0.03	
13.Papaw	21.23	0.04		
14.Mangoes	14.96	0.03		
15.Vegetables(including leafy vegetables)	-34.83		0.07	
16.Potatoes	-26.97		0.05	
17. Dhal	-3.27		0.01	
18.Red Onions	5.98	0.01		
19.Bombay Onions	-51.28		0.10	
20.Green Chilies	-121.65		0.23	
21.Garlic	8.90	0.02		
22.Sugar	23.58	0.05		
23.Limes	-48.02		0.09	
24.Other food items	40.72	0.08		
<b>Non Food</b>	<b>54.32</b>	<b>0.10</b>		<b>0.10</b>
23.Clothing and Footwear	26.27	0.05		
24.Housing, water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	28.05	0.05		
<i>Maintenance &amp; Repair of Dwellings</i>	34.40	0.07		
<i>Kerosene Oil</i>	-6.35		0.01	
<b>Total*</b>	<b>-84.52</b>			<b>-0.16</b>

\*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	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%
	December	185.2	0.3%	2.8%	0.9%	0.8%	4.2%	4.9%	-0.2%	1.5%	-2.5%
2016	January	184.9	-0.2%	0.9%	0.7%	-0.5%	-0.2%	3.9%	0.2%	2.0%	-2.0%

### Year on Year (YoY) Inflation

YoY inflation of Food Group has decreased from 4.2% in December 2015 to -0.2% in January 2016 while Non-food Group increased by 1.5% to 2.0% during this period. The overall rate of inflation as measured by CCPI on YoY basis is 0.9% in January 2016 and inflation calculated for December 2015 was 2.8% (Table3).

#### Contribution to Y on Y inflation:

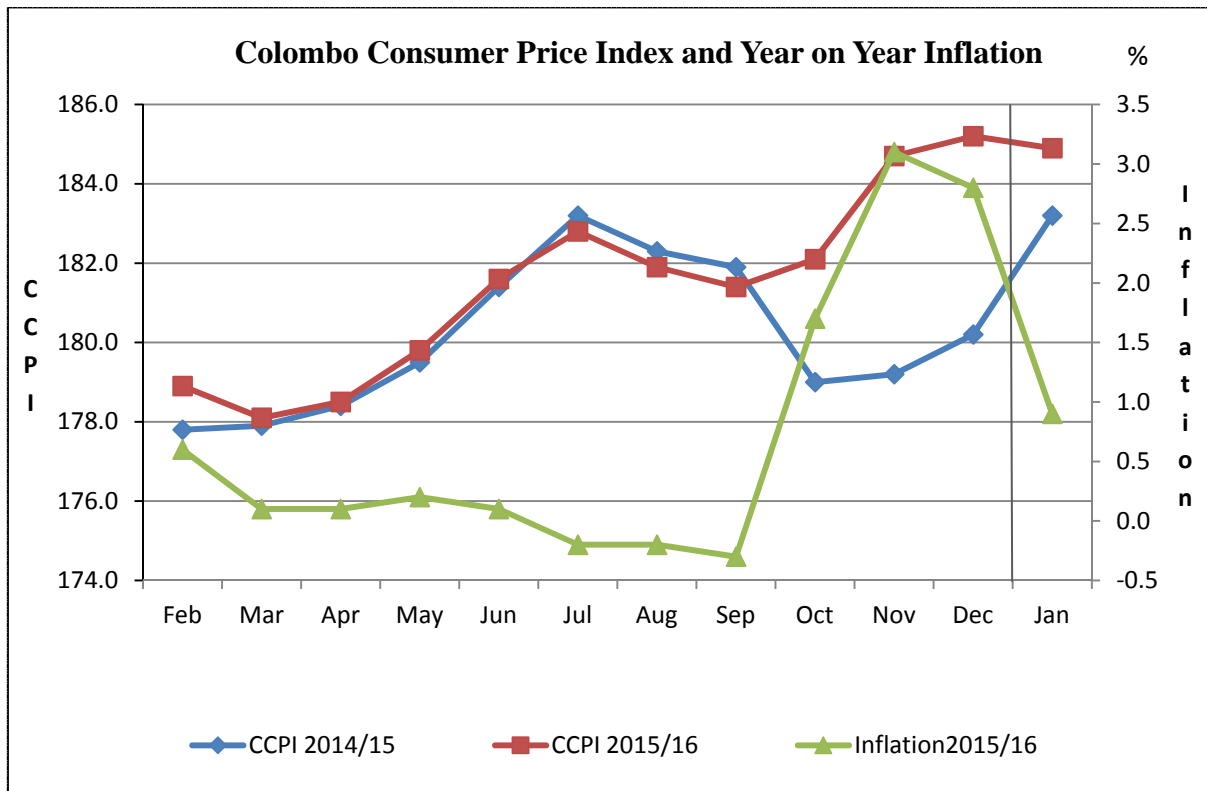
For the month of January 2016, on year to year basis, contribution to inflation by food commodities was -0.09%.

Contribution of Non food items was 1.00%. This was mainly due to value change increases in Clothing and Footwear (0.57%), Health (0.78%) and Education (0.22%) groups while value change decreases of Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels(0.28%) and Transport(0.75%) groups.

The amount of decrease in 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels' has been mainly due to the price decline of L.P. Gas (0.59%) and Kerosene Oil (0.22%). Also the amount of decrease in 'Transport' has been mainly due to the price decline of Bus fare (0.21%) and Petrol & Diesel (0.76%). The net effect of above items has led to the increase in Non-food sub index.

### Moving Average Inflation

The moving average inflation rate for the month of January 2016 is 0.7%. The corresponding rate for the month of December 2015 was also 0.9%.



**Table 4 : Monthly Average Open Market Retail prices of selected items of Colombo Consumer Price Index (January 2015, December & January 2016)**

Item	Unit	Retail Prices (Rs. Cts)			Retail Price Changes (%)	
		2015 Jan.	2015 Dec.	2016 Jan.	Jan.16 - Dec15	Jan.16 - Jan.15
1. Rice– Kekulu – Red	Kg	92.26	71.48	71.72	0.33	-22.27
2. Rice– Kekulu – White	Kg	86.06	73.44	73.15	-0.40	-15.00
3. Rice –Nadu	Kg	87.74	78.47	79.28	1.03	-9.64
4. Rice– Samba	Kg	93.86	94.89	96.57	1.77	2.89
5. Cowpea	Kg	236.89	268.91	267.20	-0.63	12.79
6. Green Grams	Kg	313.19	253.32	253.15	-0.07	-19.17
7. Coconut	Each	45.40	43.36	43.62	0.60	-3.91
8. Coconut Oil	750ml	216.22	200.49	205.28	2.39	-5.06
9. Chicken	Kg	424.03	439.07	436.56	-0.57	2.95
10. Eggs	Each	13.94	14.95	16.72	11.84	19.89
11. Red Onion	Kg	121.15	144.03	149.14	3.54	23.10
12. B' Onion	Kg	94.24	100.09	79.42	-20.65	-15.73
13. Potatoes	Kg	128.20	122.25	108.14	-11.54	-15.65
14. Garlic	Kg	242.03	305.56	329.27	7.76	36.04
15. Dried Chilies	Kg	272.61	359.70	363.88	1.16	33.48
16. Green Chilies	Kg	775.00	967.48	686.14	-29.08	-11.47
17. Sugar	Kg	100.19	91.17	95.29	4.52	-4.89
18. Pepper	Kg	1714.81	1685.29	1731.82	2.76	0.99
<b>Vegetables-</b>						
19. Ash Plantain	Kg	185.81	139.42	139.52	0.07	-24.91
20. Carrot	Kg	269.75	279.88	289.57	3.46	7.35
21. Snake Gourd	Kg	181.21	146.35	150.11	2.57	-17.16
22. Tomatoes	Kg	227.09	212.52	141.99	-33.19	-37.47
23. Capsicum	Kg	459.27	483.50	469.64	-2.87	2.26
24. Beetroot	Kg	266.93	213.22	258.97	21.46	-2.98
25. Beans	Kg	292.95	327.50	305.22	-6.80	4.19
<b>Fruits</b>						
26. Banana	Each	11.41	12.53	11.92	-4.87	4.45
27. Papaw	Kg	78.75	75.92	85.36	12.44	8.39
28. Mangoes	Each	90.61	58.93	70.59	19.78	-22.09
<b>Fresh Fish –</b>						
29. Seer	Kg	1089.57	1259.90	1241.02	-1.50	13.90
30. Talapath	Kg	845.70	875.08	883.07	0.91	4.42
31. Paraw	Kg	774.08	905.02	894.71	-1.14	15.58
<b>Dried Fish -</b>						
32. Katta	Kg	1077.87	1105.24	1117.18	1.08	3.65
33. Sprats	Kg	573.93	591.29	594.78	0.59	3.63
34. Kerosene Oil	Lt	81.00	49.00	49.00	0.00	-39.51
35. Petrol(CPC & IOC Avg.)	Lt	150.00	117.00	117.00	0.00	-22.00
36. Diesel (CPC & IOC Avg.)	Lt	111.00	95.00	95.00	0.00	-14.41
37. Gas- Avg.	12.5kg	2396.00	1496.00	1496.00	0.00	-43.82
Shell\Litro	12.5kg	2396.00	1496.00	1496.00	0.00	-43.82
Laughs	12.5kg	2396.00	1496.00	1496.00	0.00	-43.82

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 December 2015 was released on 21st January 2016. (Please see the DCS website: [www.statistics.gov.lk](http://www.statistics.gov.lk), for further details).

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