



PRESS RELEASE

THE COLOMBO CONSUMER PRICE INDEX – APRIL 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.

DCS commenced releasing monthly National Consumer Price Index (NCPI) from October 2015 with a time lag of 21 days. However, CCPI is released on the last working day of each month. Accordingly, the NCPI for the month of March 2016 was released on 23rd March 2016 and this report is on the CCPI for the month of April 2016. (Please see the DCS website: www.statistics.gov.lk, for further details).

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

The CCPI for all items for the month of April 2016 was 184.1 and it records an increase of 2.4 index points or a percentage of 1.33 compared to the month of March 2016 for which the index was 181.7. This increase represents an expenditure value of Rs. 677.05 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 (%)		
	Apr. 2015	Mar. 2016	Apr. 2016	Apr. 2015	Mar. 2016	Apr. 2016	Apr. 2015	Mar. 2016	Apr. 2016
All Items	178.5	181.7	184.1	90.73	-595.20	677.05	0.18	-1.16	1.33
Food & Non alcoholic beverages	205.6	210.9	215.6	-266.1	-565.48	537.85	-0.53	-1.10	1.06
Non Food	159.6	161.4	162.3	356.83	-29.72	139.21	0.72	-0.06	0.27
Clothing and Footwear	193.2	202.9	201.5	110.65	-4.12	-11.51	0.22	-0.01	-0.02
Furnishing House Hold Equipment & Routine House Hold Maintenance	165.1	168.5	169.3	46.17	1.51	7.09	0.09	0.00	0.01
Transport	180.0	183.2	186.8	0.00	0.00	124.88	0.00	0.00	0.25
Miscellaneous Goods & Services	153.3	156.6	159.0	12.04	0.00	18.74	0.02	0.00	0.04
Other	149.9	150.4	150.4	187.96	-27.12	0.00	0.38	-0.05	0.00

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

Contribution to M on M Changes:

Contributions to the increase in CCPI from March 2016 to April 2016 are given in Table 2. The increase in index point increased by 1.33% was due to the increase of food items by 1.06% and increase of non-food items by 0.27%.

Contribution of Food and non alcoholic beverages items: 1.06%

Increases in value change in index were reported for Bread (0.21%), Limes (0.19%), Fresh Fish (0.18%), Chicken (0.08%), Salt (0.07%), Banana (0.06%), Sugar (0.05%), Egg (0.05%), Papaw (0.05%), Vegetable (0.05%), Big Onions (0.04%), Beef (0.01%) and Wheat Flour (0.01%) and value decreases were reported for Rice (0.07%), Mangoes (0.04%), Coconut (0.03%), Dried fish (0.02%), Red Onion (0.01%).

Contribution of non food items: 0.27%

Among non food groups Value increases were reported for Group of 'Furnishings, Household Equipment & Routing Household Maintenance'(0.01%), 'Transport' (0.25%) and 'Miscellaneous Goods and Services' (0.04%) while group of 'Clothing and Footwear' showed a value decrease of(0.02%). All other Groups remain unchanged.

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

Sub Group/Commodity	Value Change			
	Rs.cts.	% change		
		Increase %	Decrease %	Net effect %
Food	537.85	1.23	0.17	1.06
1.Rice	-36.16		0.07	
2.Wheat Flour	5.77	0.01		
3.Bread	108.39	0.21		
4.Chicken	39.48	0.08		
2.Beef	3.79	0.01		
3.Fresh Fish	89.01	0.18		
4.Dried Fish	-11.47		0.02	
5.Maldiv Fish	13.79	0.03		
6.Egg	27.78	0.05		
5. Coconut	-14.51		0.03	
6.Banana	29.13	0.06		
7.Papaw	26.73	0.05		
8.Mangoes	-20.11		0.04	
9.Vegetables	26.10	0.05		
10. Potatoes	15.04	0.03		
10.Red Onion	-5.49		0.01	
11.Big Onions	22.23	0.04		
12.Garlic	11.81	0.02		
13.Sugar	27.79	0.05		
14.Salt	37.29	0.07		
15.Limes	95.16	0.19		
16.Other food items	46.29	0.09		
Non Food	139.21	0.30	0.02	0.27
17.Clothing and Footwear	-11.51		0.02	
18. Furnishing House Hold Equipment & Routine	7.09	0.01		
18.Transport	124.88	0.25		
Cost of Servicing of vehicles	124.36	0.24		
19.Miscellanious Good and Services	18.74	0.04		
Total	677.05			1.33

*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	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%
	February	183.8	-0.6%	2.7%	0.9%	-1.1%	0.8%	3.2%	-0.1%	4.6%	-1.1%
	March	181.7	-1.1%	2.0%	1.1%	-2.3%	1.4%	2.8%	-0.1%	2.5%	-0.5%
	April	184.1	1.3%	3.1%	1.3%	2.2%	4.9%	2.8%	0.6%	1.7%	0.0%

Year on Year (YoY) Inflation

The YoY inflation as measured by CCPI is 3.1% in April 2016 and inflation calculated for March 2016 was 2.0% (Table3). YoY inflation of Food Group has increased from 1.4% in March 2016 to 4.9% in April 2016 while Non-food Group decreased by 2.5% to 1.7% during this period.

Contribution to Y on Y inflation:

For the month of April 2016, on year to year basis, contribution to inflation by food commodities was 2.29%.

The contribution of Nonfood items was 0.89%. This was mainly due to value change increases in groups of 'Clothing and Footwear' (0.15%), 'Furnishing HH Equipment's & Routine HH Maintenance' (0.08%), 'Transport' (0.47%), 'Recreation and Culture' (0.10%), Education (0.23%), 'Miscellaneous Goods and Services' (0.09%) while decrease in value change reported in the group of 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels' (0.23%).

Moving Average Inflation

The moving average inflation rate for the month of April 2016 was 1.3%. The corresponding rate for the month of March 2016 was 1.1%.

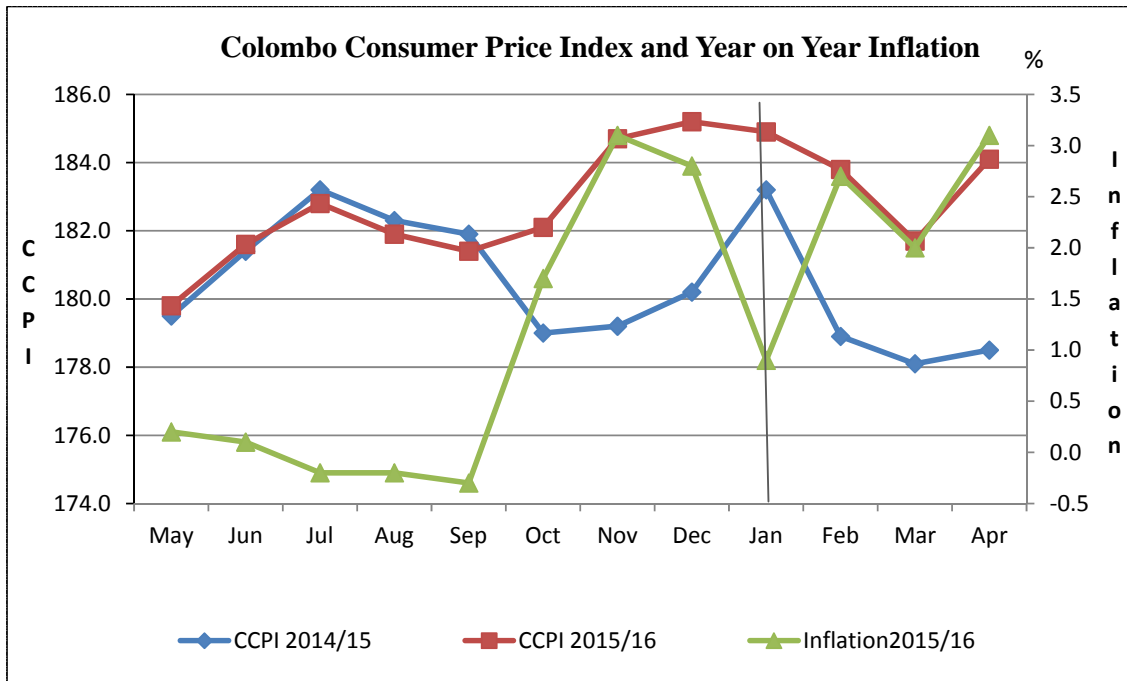


Table 4 : Monthly Average Open Market Retail prices of selected items of Colombo Consumer Price Index (April 2015, March&April2016)

Item	Unit	Retail Prices (Rs. Cts)			Retail Price Changes (%)	
		2015Apr.	2016Feb.	2016Mar.	Mar.16– Feb16	Mar.16– Mar.15
1. Rice– Kekulu – Red	Kg	78.87	64.60	64.84	-4.07	-17.87
2. Rice– Kekulu – White	Kg	75.85	65.73	65.94	0.32	-13.06
3. Rice –Nadu	Kg	78.43	73.52	73.01	-0.69	-6.92
4. Rice– Samba	Kg	88.36	93.37	92.03	-2.43	4.15
5. Cowpea	Kg	260.60	261.40	258.67	-1.05	-0.74
6.Green Grams	Kg	271.77	259.05	263.58	1.75	-3.02
7. Coconut	Each	50.03	43.42	42.89	-1.24	-14.28
8. Coconut Oil	750ml	210.81	205.63	206.40	0.37	-2.09
9.Chicken	Kg	441.36	427.65	447.59	4.66	1.41
10. Eggs	Each	14.30	16.54	18.45	11.58	29.06
11. Red Onion	Kg	99.33	117.58	112.89	-3.99	13.65
12. B' Onion	Kg	86.31	72.17	81.13	12.41	-6.00
13. Potatoes	Kg	114.22	103.58	111.45	7.59	-2.42
14. Garlic	Kg	237.68	369.62	401.07	8.51	68.74
15. Dried Chillies	Kg	262.93	366.08	366.95	0.24	39.56
16. Green Chillies	Kg	172.83	283.65	275.06	-3.03	59.15
17. Sugar	Kg	85.54	98.40	103.26	4.94	20.71
18. Pepper	Kg	1673.59	1730.89	1751.99	1.22	4.68
Vegetables-						
19. Ash Plantain	Kg	121.40	122.14	121.48	-0.54	0.07
20. Carrot	Kg	153.80	176.04	155.10	-11.89	0.84
21. Snake Gourd	Kg	102.12	131.71	135.71	3.04	32.89
22. Tomatoes	Kg	114.14	85.46	95.91	12.22	-15.98
23. Capsicum	Kg	222.67	288.44	266.54	-7.59	19.71
24. Beetroot	Kg	103.87	133.08	145.61	9.41	40.19
25. Beans	Kg	184.33	179.75	184.56	2.68	0.13
Fruits						
26. Banana	Each	12.01	12.79	13.88	8.50	15.52
27. Papaw	Kg	156.94	128.57	140.46	9.25	-10.50
28. Mangoes	Each	139.13	126.21	110.56	-12.41	-20.54
Fresh Fish –						
29. Seer	Kg	1095.00	1241.41	1290.77	3.98	17.88
30.Talapath	Kg	822.86	898.73	907.28	0.95	10.26
31.Paraw	Kg	748.39	864.40	866.36	0.23	15.76
Dried Fish -						
32.Katta	Kg	1064.82	1133.05	1138.09	0.45	6.88
33. Sprats	Kg	483.89	717.89	690.61	-3.80	42.72
34. Kerosene Oil	Lt	59.00	49.00	49.00	0.00	-16.95
35.Petrol (CPC & IOC Avg.)	Lt	117.00	117.00	117.00	0.00	0.00
36. Diesel (CPC & IOC Avg.)	Lt	95.00	95.00	95.00	0.00	0.00
37. Gas- Avg.	12.5kg	1596.00	1346.00	1346.00	0.00	-15.66
Shell\Litro	12.5kg	1596.00	1346.00	1346.00	0.00	-15.66
Laughs	12.5kg	1596.00	1346.00	1346.00	0.00	-15.66

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