



WEB RELEASE

THE COLOMBO CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (Base Year 2013) – JANUARY 2018
DEPARTMENT OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS

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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. 2017	Dec. 2017	Jan. 2018	Jan. 2017	Dec. 2017	Jan. 2018	Jan. 2017	Dec. 2017	Jan. 2018
All Items	116.1	122.9	122.8	880.13	378.53	-37.89	1.27	0.51	-0.05
Food and Non Alcoholic Beverages	120.5	135.7	133.1	317.03	303.15	-448.74	0.46	0.41	-0.61
Non Food	114.4	117.8	118.8	563.10	75.38	410.85	0.81	0.10	0.55
Clothing and Foot Wear	122.8	128.1	131.3	25.83	-5.36	44.92	0.04	-0.01	0.06
Health	143.6	153.0	154.3	0.00	0.00	34.14	0.00	0.00	0.05
Transport	95.1	98.6	99.0	17.11	53.78	26.12	0.02	0.07	0.04
Education	128.0	130.9	139.4	358.69	0.00	301.94	0.52	0.00	0.41
Other	114.0	116.8	116.8	161.48	26.97	3.72	0.23	0.04	0.01

*Note : There are 12 main groups of the market basket. Significant changes in January 2018 were noted only in five main groups, details on which are given in Table 2.

2. Variations in Colombo Consumer Price Index

Month on month changes in the Colombo Consumer Price Index is briefly given below.

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

The CCPI for all items for the month of January 2018 was 122.8 and it records a decrease of 0.1 index points or -0.05 percentage points compared to the month of December 2017 for which the index was 122.9. This represents decrease of expenditure value by Rs.37.89 in the "Market Basket".

2.2 Contribution to M on M Changes:

Contributions to the decrease in CCPI from December to January 2018 are given in Table 2. The decrease in the index point by 0.05% was due to the decrease of Food and Non Alcoholic Beverages items by 0.61% and increase of Non Food items by 0.55%.

2.3 Contribution of Food and Non Alcoholic Beverages items: -0.61%

Decreases in value change were reported for Coconut (0.31%), Vegetables (0.17%), Green Chilies (0.13%), Dried Fish (0.04%), Red Onion (0.03%), Big Onion (0.03%), Eggs (0.02%), Dhal-Mysore (0.02%), Limes (0.02%), Rice (0.01%), Garlic (0.01%), Sugar(0.01%) and Tea dust/leaves (0.01%) while increases in value change were reported for Sea Fish (0.14%), Papaw (0.03%), Banana (0.02%), Mangoes (0.01%) and Chicken (0.01%).

2.4 Contribution of Non Food items: 0.55%

Among Non Food groups, increases in value change were reported for 'Education' (0.41%), 'Clothing and Foot wear' (0.06%), 'Health' (0.05%) and 'Transport' (0.04%). The groups of 'Alcoholic Beverages Tobacco and Narcotics', 'Furnishing Household Equipment and Routine House Hold Maintenance', 'Recreation and Culture' and 'Miscellaneous Goods and Services' showed an insignificant value change while other groups remain unchanged during the period.

Table 02: Contribution to the change in CCPI from December 2017 to January 2018 (Base 2013=100)

Sub Group/Commodity	Value Change			
	Rs.Cts.	% change		
		Increase	Decrease	Net effect
Food	-448.74	0.22	0.82	-0.61
1 Rice	-6.92		0.01	
<i>Rice - (Kekulu - red)</i>	-4.53		0.01	
<i>Rice - (Samba)</i>	-6.68		0.01	
2 Chicken	10.56	0.01		
3 Fish	100.40	0.14		
4 Dried Fish	-29.58		0.04	
<i>Sprats (dry)</i>	-13.08		0.02	
5 Egg	-16.97		0.02	
6 Coconut (Nuts)	-229.54		0.31	
7 Banana	11.47	0.02		
8 Papaw	22.35	0.03		
9 Mangoes	5.12	0.01		
10 Vegetables	-129.49		0.17	
11 Dhal Mysore	-17.24		0.02	
12 Red onions	-23.63		0.03	
13 Big onions	-19.99		0.03	
14 Garlic	-4.03		0.01	
15 Green chillies	-97.37		0.13	
16 Sugar	-8.08		0.01	
17 Limes	-18.15		0.02	
18 Tea dust/ leaves	-7.37		0.01	
19 Others	9.72	0.01		
NON FOOD	410.85	0.55	0.00	0.55
20 Clothing and Footwear	44.92	0.06		
21 Health	34.14	0.05		
<i>spectacles</i>	24.10	0.03		
<i>Fees to Aurvadic practitioners</i>	10.05	0.01		
22 Transport	26.12	0.04		
<i>Van (other than schooling)</i>	26.12	0.04		
23 Education	301.94	0.41		
<i>Primary Tution Fee</i>	160.55	0.22		
<i>Secondary Tution Fee</i>	141.38	0.19		
24 Others	3.72	0.01		
All Items	-37.89			-0.05

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 3: Movements of the CCPI (Base: 2013=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 Months Moving Avg.		Y on Y	12 Months Moving Avg.		Y on Y	12 Months Moving Avg.
2017	January	116.1	1.2	5.5	4.3	1.6	4.5	6.4	1.1	6.0	3.5
	February	116.7	0.5	6.8	4.6	1.2	7.7	6.9	0.2	6.4	3.8
	March	116.5	-0.2	7.3	5.0	-0.7	9.2	7.4	0.1	6.5	4.1
	April	117.1	0.5	6.9	5.3	1.7	8.6	7.5	0.1	6.3	4.5
	May	118.2	0.9	6.0	5.4	2.3	9.3	7.6	0.3	4.6	4.5
	June	120.1	1.6	6.1	5.5	4.8	9.1	7.6	0.3	4.8	4.6
	July	119.4	-0.6	4.8	5.4	-1.7	4.8	7.0	-0.2	4.7	4.7
	August	118.8	-0.5	6.0	5.5	-2.5	6.9	6.9	0.5	5.7	4.9
	September	119.7	0.8	7.1	5.8	1.6	10.4	7.1	0.3	5.5	5.2
	October	120.8	0.9	7.8	6.1	2.6	12.6	7.6	0.3	5.8	5.4
	November	122.2	1.2	7.6	6.4	1.7	13.8	8.4	0.9	5.0	5.5
December	122.9	0.6	7.1	6.6	1.3	14.4	9.3	0.2	4.2	5.5	
2018	January	122.8	-0.1	5.8	6.6	-1.9	10.5	9.8	0.8	3.8	5.3

3.1 Year on Year (YoY) Inflation

The YoY inflation as measured by CCPI is 5.8% in January 2018 and inflation calculated for December was 7.1% (Table3). Since Jan 2017 the lowest inflation of 4.8% was reported for July 2017. Inflation reported for Jan 2018 (5.8%) was the next lowest. YoY inflation of Food Group has decreased from 14.4% in December 2017 to 10.5% in January 2018 and that of Non-food Group has decreased from 4.2% to 3.8% during this period.

3.2 Contribution to Y on Y inflation:

For the month of January 2018, on year to year basis, contribution to inflation by food commodities was 3.08%.

The contribution of Non Food items was 2.66%. This was mainly due to increases in value change in groups of 'Education' (0.58%), 'Restaurants & Hotels' (0.46%), 'Health' (0.41%), 'Transport' (0.36%), 'Furnishing Household Equipment's & Routine Household Maintenance' (0.33%), 'Miscellaneous Goods and Services' (0.26%), 'Clothing and Footwear' (0.17%), 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels' (0.11%) and 'Alcoholic Beverages Tobacco and Narcotics' (0.02%) while decrease in value change reported in the group of 'Communication' (0.02%).

3.3 Moving Average Inflation

The moving average inflation rate for the month of January 2018 was 6.6% and remain unchanged at the December 2017 rate.

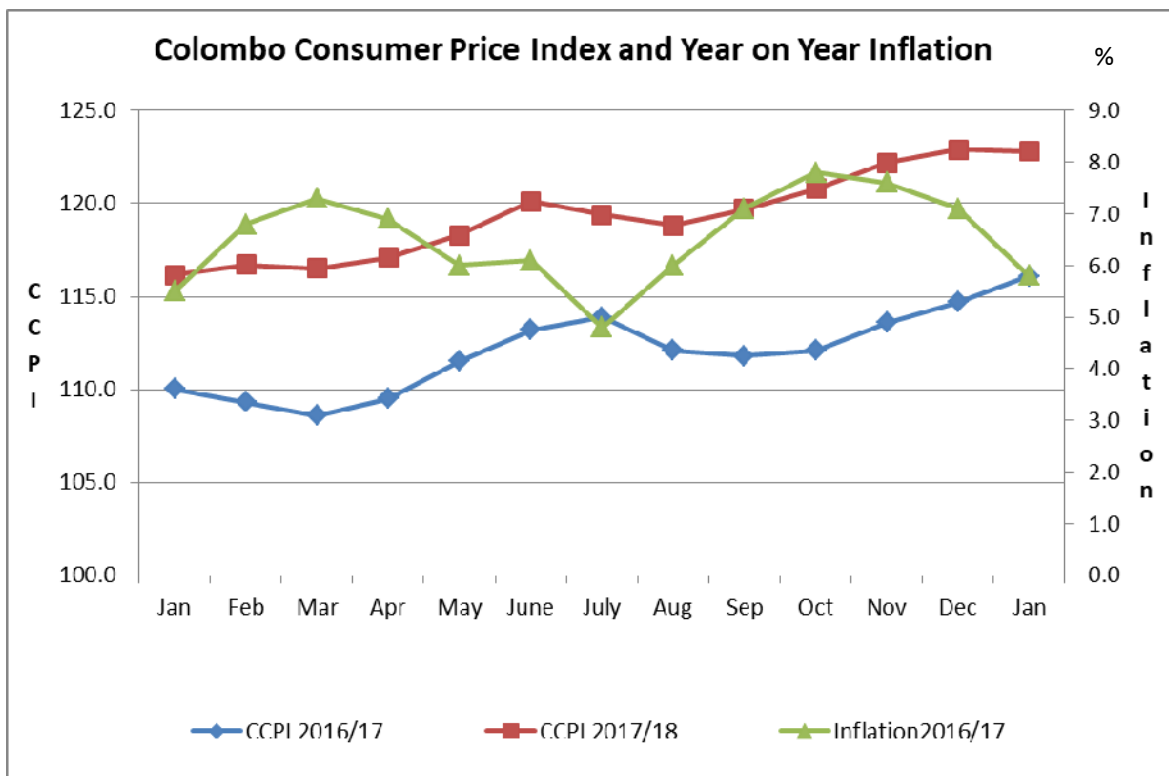


Table 4 : Monthly average open market retail prices of selected items of Colombo Consumer Price Index (January 2017, January 2018 & December 2017)

Item	Unit	Retail Prices (Rs. Cts)			Retail Price Changes (%)	
		2017 January	2017 December	2018 January	Jan.18/ Jan.17	Jan. 18 / Dec.17
1. Rice– Kekulu – Red	Kg	89.57	92.12	91.43	2.08	-0.75
2. Rice– Kekulu – White	Kg	92.54	85.54	86.09	-6.97	0.64
3. Rice –Nadu - White	Kg	95.17	88.72	89.61	-5.84	1.01
4. Rice –Nadu - Red	Kg	95.28	105.47	103.60	8.73	-1.77
5. Rice– Samba	Kg	97.29	106.40	105.86	8.80	-0.51
6. Cowpea	Kg	262.61	304.26	303.65	15.63	-0.20
7.Green Grams	Kg	232.18	249.26	251.64	8.38	0.96
8. Coconut	Each	52.82	84.93	76.02	43.93	-10.48
9. Coconut Oil	750ml	249.58	287.62	290.01	16.20	0.83
10.Chicken	Kg	444.67	480.35	485.26	9.13	1.02
11. Eggs	Each	14.61	15.08	13.76	-5.79	-8.73
12. Red Onion	Kg	137.36	455.67	416.29	203.07	-8.64
13. Big Onion	Kg	100.06	168.15	160.54	60.44	-4.52
14. Potatoes	Kg	143.22	122.18	123.61	-13.70	1.17
15. Garlic	Kg	461.05	333.73	316.53	-31.35	-5.15
16. Dried Chillies	Kg	328.69	254.68	262.43	-20.16	3.05
17. Green Chillies	Kg	264.25	794.03	428.34	62.09	-46.06
18. Sugar	Kg	100.67	112.10	109.96	9.22	-1.92
19. Pepper	Kg	1802.54	1602.36	1620.53	-10.10	1.13
Vegetables-						
20. Ash Plantain	Kg	131.85	164.99	163.71	24.16	-0.78
21. Carrot	Kg	138.70	229.19	186.30	34.32	-18.71
22. Snake Gourd	Kg	129.97	209.09	194.05	49.30	-7.19
23. Tomatoes	Kg	124.23	150.53	137.58	10.75	-8.60
24. Capsicum	Kg	239.94	406.71	360.58	50.28	-11.34
25. Beetroot	Kg	127.93	226.71	222.75	74.12	-1.75
26. Beans	Kg	182.24	317.00	306.24	68.04	-3.39
Fruits						
27. Banana	Kg	148.35	142.60	151.41	6.18	2.06
28. Papaw	Kg	105.77	100.68	111.24	5.18	10.49
29. Mangoes	Each	68.68	68.98	79.15	15.23	14.74
Fresh Fish –						
30. Seer	Kg	1368.82	1391.24	1489.05	8.78	7.03
31.Talapath	Kg	935.76	1094.80	1122.04	19.91	2.49
32.Paraw	Kg	911.75	1001.93	1073.51	17.74	7.14
Dried Fish -						
33.Katta	Kg	1188.67	1243.49	1182.33	-0.53	-4.92
34. Sprats	Kg	662.67	708.09	681.20	2.80	-3.80
Fuel -						
35. Kerosene Oil	Lt	47.04	44.00	44.00	-6.45	0.00
36 .Petrol (CPC & IOC)	Lt	117.00	117.00	117.00	0.00	0.00
37. Diesel (CPC & IOC)	Lt	95.00	95.00	95.00	0.00	0.00
38. Gas- Avg.	12.5kg	1321.00	1431.00	1431.00	8.33	0.00
Litro	12.5kg	1321.00	1431.00	1431.00	8.33	0.00
Laughs	12.5kg	1321.00	1431.00	1431.00	8.33	0.00

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