



WEB RELEASE

THE COLOMBO CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (Base Year 2013) – OCTOBER 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 (%)		
	Oct 2017	Sep 2018	Oct 2018	Oct 2017	Sep 2018	Oct 2018	Oct 2017	Sep 2018	Oct 2018
All Items	120.8	124.9	124.6	705.21	-532.89	-153.86	0.98	-0.70	-0.20
Food and Non Alcoholic Beverages	131.7	131.3	128.7	568.27	-793.58	-443.77	0.79	-1.05	-0.59
Non Food	116.6	122.4	123.0	136.93	260.69	289.91	0.19	0.34	0.38
Alcoholic beverages Tobacco and Narcotic	185.8	200.4	201.3	0.72	25.28	5.50	0.00	0.03	0.01
Clothing and Foot Wear	128.2	136.9	137.4	-35.17	22.28	6.56	-0.05	0.03	0.01
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	110.5	111.4	112.0	60.73	0.00	105.56	0.08	0.00	0.14
Furnishing Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	123.8	127.9	128.2	-1.99	0.68	4.88	0.00	0.00	0.01
Transport	97.9	110.3	112.5	0.00	44.70	144.70	0.00	0.06	0.19
Restaurant and Hotels	119.1	131.8	132.5	112.65	52.04	21.40	0.16	0.07	0.03
Other	131.0	139.0	139.0	0.00	115.71	1.31	0.00	0.15	0.00

*Note : There are 12 main groups of the market basket. Significant changes in October 2018 were noted in seven main groups, details on which are given in Table2.

2. Variations in Colombo Consumer Price Index

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

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

The CCPI for all items for the month of October 2018 was 124.6 and it records decrease of 0.30 index points that is 0.20 percentage points compared to the month of September 2018 for which the index was 124.9. This represents a decrease of expenditure value by Rs.153.86 in the "Market Basket".

2.1.1 Contribution to M on M Changes:

Contributions to the change in CCPI from September to October 2018 were given in Table 2. The decrease in the index point by 0.20% was due to the expenditure value decrease of Food items by 0.59% and increase of Non Food items by 0.38%.

2.1.2 Contribution of Food and Non Alcoholic Beverages items: -0.59%

Decreases in value change were reported for Sea Fish (0.36%), Vegetables (0.19%), Eggs (0.05%), Potatoes (0.05%), Coconut (0.04%), Chicken (0.03%), Green Chilies (0.02%), Rice (0.01%), Coconut oil (0.01%), Dhall Mysoor (0.01%), Red Onions (0.01%) and Ginger (0.01%).

while Increases in value change were reported for Limes (0.09%), Banana(0.05%), Sugar (0.03%), Papaw (0.02%), Mangoes (0.01%), Chili Powder (0.01%) and Curry Powder (0.01%).

2.4 Contribution of Non Food items: 0.38%

Among Non-Food groups, increases in value change were reported for 'Transport' (0.19%), 'Housing Water Electricity Gas and Other Fuels' (0.14%) 'Restaurant and Hotels' (0.03%), 'Alcoholic Beverages Tobacco and Narcotics' (0.01%), 'Clothing and Footwear' (0.01%) and 'Furnishing Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance' (0.01%). 'Miscellaneous Goods and Services' group showed an insignificant value change while other groups remain unchanged during the period.

Table 02: Contribution to the change in CCPI from September 2018 to October 2018 (Base 2013=100)

Sub Group/Commodity		Value Change			
		Rs.Cts.	% change		
			Increase	Decrease	Net effect
Food		-443.77	0.22	0.81	-0.59
1	Rice	-4.17		0.01	
2	Chicken	-22.60		0.03	
3	Sea Fish	-273.52		0.36	
4	Dried Fish	-20.60		0.03	
	<i>Sprats (dry)</i>	-15.18		0.02	
5	Eggs	-34.77		0.05	
6	Coconut	-29.51		0.04	
7	Coconut oil	-6.55		0.01	
8	Banana	40.45	0.05		
9	Papaw	14.60	0.02		
10	Mangoes	6.75	0.01		
11	Vegetables	-140.57		0.19	
12	Potatoes	-35.95		0.05	
13	Dhal - Mysoor	-9.45		0.01	
14	Red Onions	-7.01		0.01	
15	Green chilies	-18.70		0.02	
16	Sugar	21.54	0.03		
17	Chili powder	3.95	0.01		
18	Curry powder	5.68	0.01		
19	Limes	64.67	0.09		
20	Ginger	-5.53		0.01	
21	Others	7.52	0.01		
	Non Food	289.91	0.38		0.38
22	Alcoholic Beverages Tobacco and Narcotics	5.50	0.01		
	<i>Beetle leaves</i>	5.40	0.01		
23	Clothing & Footwear	6.56	0.01		
24	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	105.56	0.14		
	<i>Maintenance/ Reconstruction</i>	13.31	0.02		
	<i>L. P. Gas (monthly average)</i>	92.24	0.12		
25	Furnishing, Household Equipment and Routing				
	Household Maintenance	4.88	0.01		
26	Transport	144.70	0.19		
	<i>Tyres, tubes and spare parts</i>	18.10	0.02		
	<i>Petrol and other fuel</i>	72.28	0.10		
	<i>Diesel</i>	11.88	0.02		
	<i>Train (other than schooling)</i>	5.14	0.01		
	<i>bus (other than schooling)</i>	32.26	0.04		
27	Restaurants and Hotels	21.40	0.03		
28	Others	1.31			
	All Items	-153.86			-0.20

*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 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	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
	February	121.9	-0.7	4.5	6.4	-2.9	6.0	9.6	0.1	3.8	5.0
	March	121.4	-0.4	4.2	6.1	-1.5	5.1	9.2	0.1	3.7	4.8
	April	121.5	0.1	3.8	5.9	-0.4	3.0	8.8	0.3	4.0	4.6
	May	122.9	1.2	4.0	5.7	2.6	3.3	8.3	0.5	4.2	4.6
	June	125.4	2.0	4.4	5.6	4.4	2.9	7.7	1.1	5.0	4.6
	July	125.8	0.3	5.4	5.6	0.9	5.6	7.8	0.1	5.3	4.7
	August	125.8	0.0	5.9	5.6	-0.8	7.5	7.8	0.3	5.1	4.6
	September	124.9	-0.7	4.3	5.4	-3.4	2.3	7.1	0.5	5.3	4.6
	October	124.6	-0.2	3.1	5.0	-0.2	-2.3	5.9	0.5	5.5	4.6

3.1 Year on Year (YoY) Inflation

The YoY inflation as measured by CCPI is 3.1% in October 2018 and inflation calculated for September was 4.3% (Table3). YoY inflation of Food Group has decreased from 2.3% in September 2018 to -2.3% in October 2018 and that of Non-food Group has increase from 5.3% in September to 5.5% in October during this period.

3.2 Contribution to Y on Y inflation:

For the month of October 2018, on year to year basis, contribution to inflation by food commodities was -0.72%.

The contribution of Non Food items was 3.84%. This was mainly due to increases in value change in groups of 'Transport' (1.29%), 'Restaurants & Hotels' (0.57%), 'Education' (0.57%), 'Health' (0.46%), 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels' (0.38%), 'Clothing and Footwear' (0.17%), 'Miscellaneous Goods and Services' (0.13%), 'Alcoholic Beverages Tobacco and Narcotics' (0.13%), 'Furnishing Household Equipment's & Routine Household Maintenance' (0.09%), and 'Recreation and Culture' (0.05%).

3.3 Moving Average Inflation

The moving average inflation rate for the month of October 2018 was 5.0%. The corresponding rate for the month of September was 5.4%.

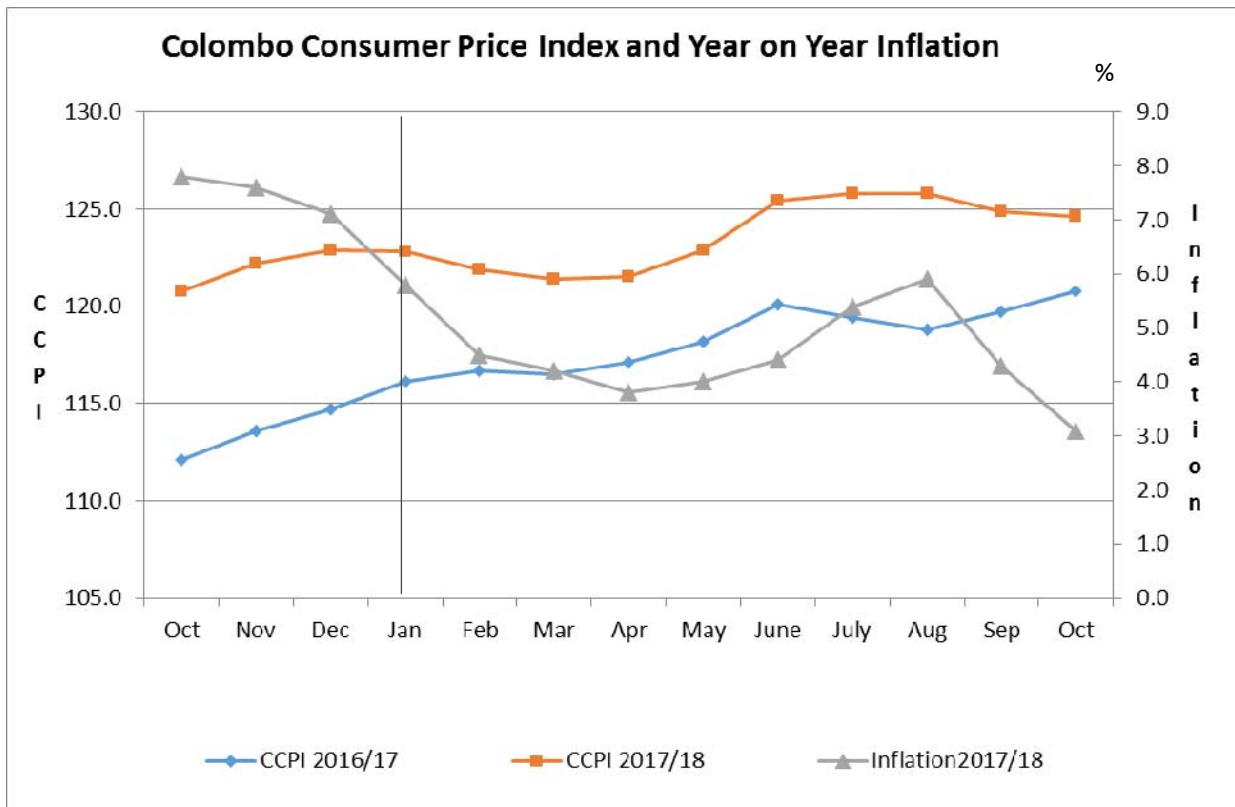


Table 4 : Monthly average open market retail prices of selected items of Colombo Consumer Price Index (October 2017, September 2018 & October 2018)

Item	Unit	Retail Prices (Rs. Cts)			Retail Price Changes (%)	
		2017 Oct	2018 Sep	2018 Oct	Oct.18/ Oct.17	Oct. 18 / Sep 18
1. Rice– Kekulu – Red	Kg	90.51	79.88	79.44	-12.24	-0.55
2. Rice– Kekulu – White	Kg	84.20	80.45	80.24	-4.70	-0.26
3. Rice –Nadu - White	Kg	94.17	85.38	85.08	-9.65	-0.35
4. Rice –Nadu - Red	Kg	100.65	95.12	95.34	-5.28	0.23
5. Rice– Samba	Kg	102.17	110.64	110.69	8.34	0.05
6. Cowpea	Kg	319.82	273.95	270.79	-15.33	-1.15
7.Green Grams	Kg	254.19	247.72	246.75	-2.93	-0.39
8. Coconut	Each	75.67	60.98	59.84	-20.92	-1.88
9. Coconut Oil	750ml	287.57	277.83	272.39	-5.28	-1.96
10.Chicken	Kg	458.37	515.40	504.88	10.15	-2.04
11. Eggs	Each	12.20	18.14	15.44	26.56	-14.87
12. Red Onion	Kg	342.76	170.87	159.20	-53.56	-6.83
13. Big Onion	Kg	127.55	104.72	103.46	-18.88	-1.21
14. Potatoes	Kg	139.50	142.64	127.87	-8.33	-10.35
15. Garlic	Kg	334.25	225.57	225.62	-32.50	0.02
16. Dried Chillies	Kg	246.01	309.54	315.59	28.28	1.95
17. Green Chillies	Kg	505.87	310.15	239.90	-52.58	-22.65
18. Sugar	Kg	111.57	105.69	111.42	-0.14	5.41
19. Pepper	Kg	1652.84	1507.16	1553.32	-6.02	3.06
Vegetables-						
20. Ash Plantain	Kg	143.76	145.61	142.11	-1.14	-2.40
21. Carrot	Kg	174.67	259.07	208.03	19.10	-19.70
22. Snake Gourd	Kg	166.84	157.09	163.44	-2.04	4.04
23. Tomatoes	Kg	201.75	99.76	95.24	-52.80	-4.53
24. Capsicum	Kg	247.46	226.91	197.68	-20.12	-12.88
25. Beetroot	Kg	142.22	157.56	138.90	-2.33	-11.84
26. Beans	Kg	267.20	232.31	226.74	-15.14	-2.40
Fruits						
27. Banana	Kg	172.50	147.85	157.21	8.29	-8.87
28. Papaw	Kg	117.75	136.98	143.88	22.19	5.03
29. Mangoes	Each	133.38	81.71	95.13	-28.68	16.42
Fresh Fish –						
30. Seer	Kg	1493.40	1621.59	1502.92	0.64	-7.32
31.Talapath	Kg	1116.81	1121.17	1090.32	-2.37	-2.75
32.Paraw	Kg	1067.59	1102.05	1005.89	-5.78	-8.73
Dried Fish -						
33.Katta	Kg	1246.76	1312.43	1309.52	5.03	-0.22
34. Sprats	Kg	719.48	760.36	729.15	1.34	-4.10
Fuel -						
35. Kerosene Oil	Lt	44.00	70.00	70.00	59.09	0.00
36 .Petrol (CPC & IOC)	Lt	117.00	147.32	152.35	30.21	3.41
37. Diesel (CPC & IOC)	Lt	95.00	120.32	123.00	29.47	2.23
38. Gas- Avg.	12.5kg	1431.00	1538.00	1705.14	19.16	10.87
Litro	12.5kg	1431.00	1538.00	1705.14	19.16	10.87
Laughs	12.5kg	1431.00	1538.00	1705.14	19.16	10.87

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