



WEB RELEASE

THE COLOMBO CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (Base Year 2013) – NOVEMBER 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 (%)		
	Nov 2017	Oct 2018	Nov 2018	Nov 2017	Oct 2018	Nov 2018	Nov 2017	Oct 2018	Nov 2018
All Items	122.2	124.6	126.2	848.16	-153.86	979.49	1.16	-0.20	1.30
Food and Non Alcoholic Beverages	134.0	128.7	132.6	380.73	-443.77	667.55	0.52	-0.59	0.89
Non Food	117.6	123.0	123.7	467.44	289.91	311.94	0.64	0.38	0.41
Clothing and Foot Wear	128.5	137.4	137.7	3.49	6.56	4.84	0.00	0.01	0.01
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	110.5	112.0	112.1	-2.00	105.56	31.98	0.00	0.14	0.04
Furnishing Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	123.8	128.2	128.6	1.23	4.88	5.12	0.00	0.01	0.01
Health	153.0	155.7	171.7	267.09	0.00	423.10	0.37	0.00	0.56
Transport	97.8	112.5	111.8	-7.13	144.70	-43.45	-0.01	0.19	-0.06
Communication	119.2	119.2	113.7	0.00	0.00	-111.23	0.00	0.00	-0.15
Miscellaneous Goods and Services	137.9	139.8	140.1	53.14	1.31	5.47	0.07	0.00	0.01
Other	130.4	140.4	140.4	151.62	26.90	-3.90	0.21	0.04	-0.01

*Note : There are 12 main groups of the market basket. Significant changes in November 2018 were noted in eight 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 November 2018 was 126.2 and it records an increase of 1.6 index points that is 1.3 percentage points compared to the month of October 2018 for which the index was 124.6. This represents an increase of expenditure value by Rs.979.49 in the "Market Basket".

2.1.1 Contribution to M on M Changes:

Contributions to the change in CCPI from October to November 2018 were given in Table 2. An increase in the index point by 1.3% was due to the expenditure value increase of Food items by 0.89% and increase of Non Food items by 0.41%.

2.1.2 Contribution of Food and Non Alcoholic Beverages items: 0.89%

Increases in value change were reported for Vegetable (0.96%), Limes (0.08%), Potatoes (0.05%), Big Onion (0.05%), Green Chilies (0.04%), Rice (0.04%), Red Onions (0.02%), Coconut (0.01%), Eggs (0.01%) and Dhall Mysoor (0.01%).

While decreases in value change were reported for Sea Fish (0.20%), Chicken (0.07%), Banana (0.04%), Papaw (0.04%), Dry Fish (0.02%) and Sugar (0.02%).

2.4 Contribution of Non Food items: 0.41%

Among Non-Food groups, increases in value change were reported for 'Health' (0.56%), 'Housing Water Electricity Gas and Other Fuels' (0.04%), 'Furnishing Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance' (0.01%), 'Clothing and Footwear' (0.01%) and 'Miscellaneous Goods and Services' (0.01%).

While decreases in value change were reported for 'Communication' (0.15%), 'Transport' (0.06%). 'Recreation and Culture' and 'Alcoholic Beverages Tobacco and Narcotics' group showed an insignificant value change while other groups remain unchanged during the period.

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

Sub Group/Commodity		Value Change			
		Rs.Cts.	% change		
			Increase	Decrease	Net effect
Food		667.55	1.29	0.40	0.89
1	Rice	31.64	0.04		
	<i>Rice - (Kekulu white)</i>	8.64	0.01		
	<i>Rice - (Kekulu - red)</i>	9.41	0.01		
	<i>Rice - (Samba)</i>	7.54	0.01		
	<i>Rice - (Nadu-White)</i>	5.53	0.01		
2	Chicken	-55.76		0.07	
3	Sea Fish	-152.53		0.20	
4	Dried Fish	-13.66		0.02	
	<i>Sprats (dry)</i>	-6.06		0.01	
5	Eggs	4.10	0.01		
6	Coconut	9.60	0.01		
7	Banana	-30.65		0.04	
8	Papaw	-32.56		0.04	
9	Vegetables	719.52	0.96		
10	Potatoes	40.20	0.05		
11	Dhall Mysoor	4.02	0.01		
12	Red onions	11.74	0.02		
13	Big onions	38.71	0.05		
14	Green chilies	32.39	0.04		
15	Sugar	-14.24		0.02	
16	Limes	56.84	0.08		
17	Others	18.17	0.02		
	Non Food	311.94	0.63	0.21	0.41
18	Clothing & Footwear	4.84	0.01		
19	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	31.98	0.04		
	<i>Maintenance/ Reconstruction</i>	16.61	0.02		
	<i>L. P. Gas (monthly average)</i>	15.38	0.02		
20	Furnishing, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	5.12	0.01		
21	Health	423.10	0.56		
	<i>Fees to private medical practices</i>	143.08	0.19		
	<i>Payments. to medical laboratories</i>	60.56	0.08		
	<i>Payments to private hospitals/ nursing homes</i>	168.23	0.22		
22	Transport	-43.45		0.06	
	<i>Petrol and other fuel</i>	-29.74		0.04	
	<i>Diesel</i>	-19.02		0.03	
23	Communication	-111.23		0.15	
	<i>Telephone charges - mobile</i>	-111.23		0.15	
24	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	5.47	0.01		
25	Others	-3.90		0.01	
	All Items	979.49	1.91	0.61	1.30

*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	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
	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
2018	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
November	126.2	1.3	3.3	4.6	3.0	-1.0	4.6	0.6	5.2	4.6	

3.1 Year on Year (YoY) Inflation

The YoY inflation as measured by CCPI is 3.3% in November 2018 and inflation calculated for October was 3.1% (Table3). YoY inflation of Food Group has increased from -2.3% in October 2018 to -1.0% in November 2018 and that of Non-food Group has decrease from 5.5% in October to 5.2% in November during this period.

3.2 Contribution to Y on Y inflation:

For the month of November 2018, on year to year basis, contribution to inflation by food commodities was -0.32%.

The contribution of Non Food items was 3.59%. This was mainly due to increases in value change in groups of 'Transport' (1.22%), 'Health' (0.67%), 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels' (0.42%), 'Clothing and Footwear' (0.17%), 'Alcoholic Beverages Tobacco and Narcotics' (0.11%), 'Furnishing Household Equipment's & Routine Household Maintenance' (0.10%), 'Restaurants & Hotels' (0.06%), 'Recreation and Culture' (0.04%) 'Education' (0.02%), 'Miscellaneous Goods and Services' (0.01%) and decrease in value change were reported for the group of 'Communication' (0.15%).

3.3 Moving Average Inflation

The moving average inflation rate for the month of November 2018 was 4.6%. The corresponding rate for the month of October was 5.0%.

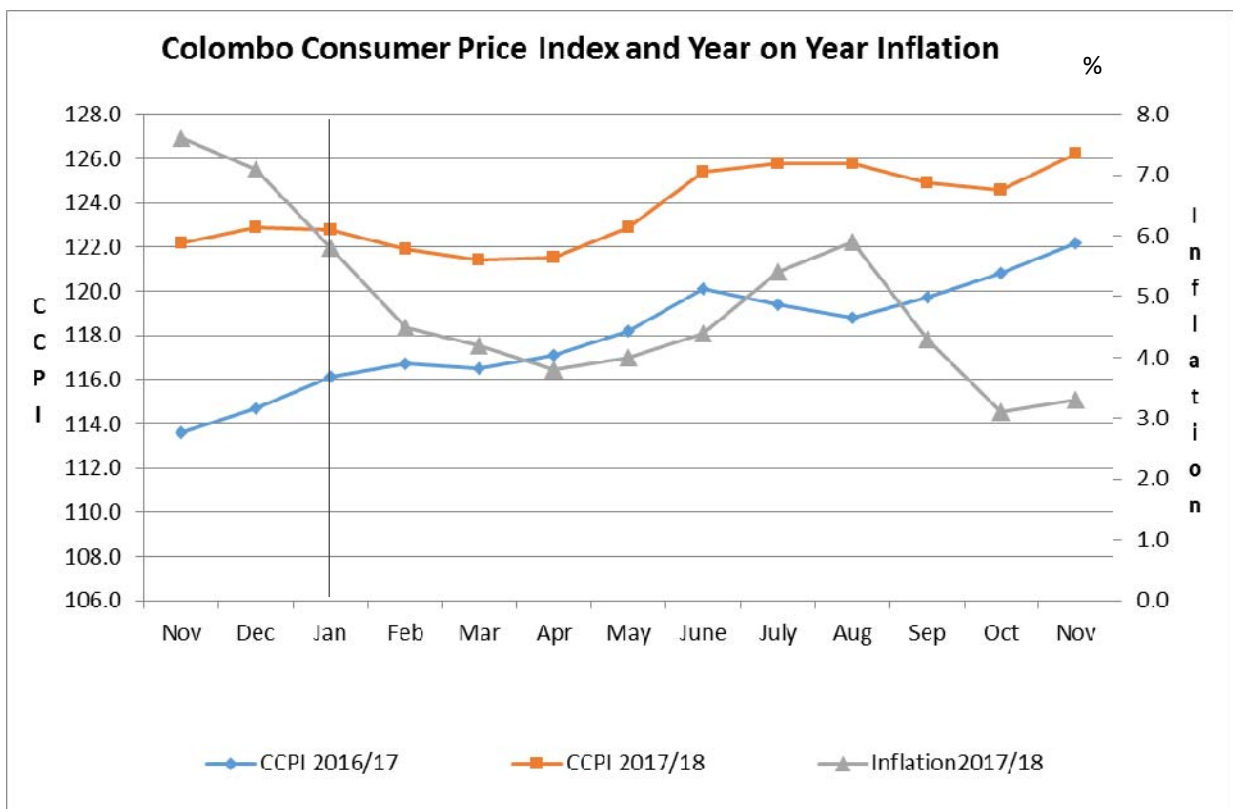


Table 4 : Monthly average open market retail prices of selected items of Colombo Consumer Price Index (November 2017, October 2018 & November 2018)

Item	Unit	Retail Prices (Rs. Cts)			Retail Price Changes (%)	
		2017 Nov	2018 Oct	2018 Nov	Nov.18/ Nov 17	Nov. 18 / Oct 18
1. Rice– Kekulu – Red	Kg	92.21	79.44	80.87	-12.30	1.80
2. Rice– Kekulu – White	Kg	83.96	80.24	82.09	-2.23	2.31
3. Rice –Nadu - White	Kg	87.46	85.08	86.50	-1.10	1.66
4. Rice –Nadu - Red	Kg	104.21	95.34	95.89	-7.98	0.58
5. Rice– Samba	Kg	105.77	110.69	111.30	5.24	0.55
6. Cowpea	Kg	321.55	270.79	271.63	-15.52	0.31
7.Green Grams	Kg	257.08	246.75	248.13	-3.48	0.56
8. Coconut	Each	83.99	59.84	60.21	-28.32	0.62
9. Coconut Oil	750ml	286.14	272.39	271.30	-5.19	-0.40
10.Chicken	Kg	466.91	504.88	478.92	2.57	-5.14
11. Eggs	Each	13.32	15.44	15.76	18.28	2.06
12. Red Onion	Kg	431.75	159.20	178.77	-58.60	12.29
13. Big Onion	Kg	167.90	103.46	118.19	-29.61	14.24
14. Potatoes	Kg	129.53	127.87	144.39	11.47	12.91
15. Garlic	Kg	328.32	225.62	235.90	-28.15	4.56
16. Dried Chillies	Kg	249.39	315.59	312.92	25.47	-0.85
17. Green Chillies	Kg	762.60	239.90	361.56	-52.59	50.71
18. Sugar	Kg	110.68	111.42	107.63	-2.76	-3.40
19. Pepper	Kg	1639.57	1553.32	1565.80	-4.50	0.80
Vegetables-						
20. Ash Plantain	Kg	154.25	142.11	159.96	3.70	12.56
21. Carrot	Kg	217.68	208.03	304.06	39.68	46.16
22. Snake Gourd	Kg	183.29	163.44	213.07	16.25	30.37
23. Tomatoes	Kg	186.79	95.24	256.81	37.49	169.65
24. Capsicum	Kg	349.45	197.68	365.24	4.52	84.76
25. Beetroot	Kg	161.13	138.90	203.06	26.02	46.19
26. Beans	Kg	256.45	226.74	376.61	46.86	66.10
Fruits						
27. Banana	Kg	161.43	157.21	151.33	-3.74	-6.26
28. Papaw	Kg	95.02	143.88	128.50	35.23	-10.69
29. Mangoes	Each	74.32	95.13	95.03	27.86	-0.11
Fresh Fish –						
30. Seer	Kg	1360.35	1502.92	1569.91	15.40	4.46
31.Talapath	Kg	1105.15	1090.32	1128.82	2.14	3.53
32.Paraw	Kg	999.73	1005.89	990.11	-0.96	-1.57
Dried Fish -						
33.Katta	Kg	1250.56	1309.52	1300.38	3.98	-0.70
34. Sprats	Kg	710.93	729.15	716.69	0.81	-1.71
Fuel -						
35. Kerosene Oil	Lt	44.00	70.00	70.00	59.09	0.00
36 .Petrol (CPC & IOC)	Lt	117.00	152.35	150.28	28.44	-1.36
37. Diesel (CPC & IOC)	Lt	95.00	123.00	118.71	24.96	-3.49
38. Gas- Avg.	12.5kg	1431.00	1705.14	1733.00	21.10	1.63
Litro	12.5kg	1431.00	1705.14	1733.00	21.10	1.63
Laughs	12.5kg	1431.00	1705.14	1733.00	21.10	1.63