



## WEB RELEASE

### THE COLOMBO CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (Base Year 2013) – JANUARY 2019 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 2018	Dec 2018	Jan 2019	Jan 2018	Dec 2018	Jan 2019	Jan 2018	Dec 2018	Jan 2019
All Items	122.8	126.3	127.4	-37.89	15.72	690.47	-0.05	0.02	0.91
Food and Non Alcoholic Beverages	133.1	133.6	130.3	-448.74	181.59	-572.03	-0.61	0.24	-0.75
Non Food	118.8	123.4	126.3	410.85	-165.88	1262.50	0.55	-0.22	1.66
Clothing and Foot Wear	131.3	137.9	141.9	44.92	2.72	54.45	0.06	0.00	0.07
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	110.5	112.1	115.7	0.00	0.00	681.25	0.00	0.00	0.89
Furnishing Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	123.9	128.6	134.1	1.57	0.00	84.46	0.00	0.00	0.11
Transport	99.0	110.6	107.2	26.12	-82.47	-212.84	0.04	-0.11	-0.28
Education	139.4	142.6	161.1	301.94	0.00	654.15	0.41	0.00	0.86
Other	135.5	141.5	141.5	36.30	-86.12	1.04	0.05	-0.11	0.00

\*Note : There are 12 main groups of the market basket. Significant changes in January 2019 were noted in six 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 January 2019 was 127.4 and it records an increase of 1.1 index points that is 0.91 percentage points compared to the month of December 2018 for which the index was 126.3. This represents an increase of expenditure value by Rs.690.47 in the "Market Basket".

#### 2.1.1 Contribution to M on M Changes:

Contributions to the change in CCPI from December 2018 to January 2019 were given in Table 2. An increase in the index point by 0.91% was due to the expenditure value decrease of Food items by 0.75% and increase of Non Food items by 1.66%.

#### 2.1.2 Contribution of Food and Non Alcoholic Beverages items: -0.75%

Decreases in value change were reported for Vegetable (0.69%), Coconut (0.17%), Limes (0.06%), Big Onions (0.05%), Potatoes (0.05%), Red Onion (0.01%), Coconut Oil (0.01%) and Mangoes (0.01%).

While increases in value change were reported for Sea Fish (0.17%), Rice (0.03%), Eggs (0.03%), Papaw (0.02%), Green Chillies (0.02%), Biscuits (0.01%), Dried fish (0.01%), Banana (0.01%) and Tea dust/ leaves (0.01%).

#### 2.1.3 Contribution of Non Food items: 1.66%

Among Non-Food groups, increases in value change were reported for 'Housing Water Electricity Gas and Other Fuels' (0.89%), 'Education' (0.86%), 'Furnishing Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance' (0.11%) and 'Clothing and Footwear' (0.07%).

While decreases in value change were reported for the group 'Transport' (0.28%). '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 December 2018 to January 2019(Base 2013=100)**

Sub Group/Commodity		Value Change			
		Rs.Cts.	% change		
			Increase	Decrease	Net effect
<b>Food</b>		<b>-572.03</b>	<b>0.31</b>	<b>1.06</b>	<b>-0.75</b>
1	Rice	23.76	0.03		
	<i>Rice - (Kekulu white)</i>	5.65	0.01		
	<i>Rice -(samba)</i>	9.39	0.01		
	<i>Rice - (Nadu-White)</i>	4.85	0.01		
2	Biscuits	7.62	0.01		
3	Sea Fish	127.91	0.17		
4	Dried Fish	7.66	0.01		
	<i>Sprats (dry)</i>	7.84	0.01		
5	Eggs	20.09	0.03		
6	Coconut	-129.45		0.17	
7	Coconut oil	-5.30		0.01	
8	Banana	9.14	0.01		
9	Papaw	18.23	0.02		
10	Mangoes	-4.12		0.01	
11	Vegetables	-522.29		0.69	
12	Potatoes	-37.86		0.05	
13	Red onions	-4.81		0.01	
14	Big onions	-38.72		0.05	
15	Green chillies	18.77	0.02		
16	Limes	-47.77		0.06	
17	Tea dust/ leaves	4.94	0.01		
18	Others	-19.83		0.03	
<b>Non Food</b>		<b>1262.50</b>	<b>1.94</b>	<b>0.28</b>	<b>1.66</b>
19	Clothing & Footwear	54.45	0.07		
20	Housing,Water,Electricity,Gas and Other Fuels	681.25	0.89		
	<i>Housing rent</i>	672.22	0.88		
	<i>Maintenance/ Reconstruction</i>	9.03	0.01		
21	Furnishing, Household Equipment and Routing Household Maintenance	84.46	0.11		
	<i>Wages to servants</i>	73.99			
22	Transport	-212.84		0.28	
	<i>Petrol and other fuel</i>	-164.02		0.22	
	<i>Diesel</i>	-29.27		0.04	
	<i>Air lines</i>	-18.76		0.02	
23	Education	654.15	0.86		
	<i>Pre-school fees (K.G)</i>	16.36	0.02		
	<i>Tuition fees</i>	637.79	0.84		
24	Others	1.04	0.00		
	<b>All Items</b>	<b>690.47</b>	<b>2.25</b>	<b>1.34</b>	<b>0.91</b>

\*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.
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
	November	126.2	1.3	3.3	4.6	3.0	-1.0	4.6	0.6	5.2	4.6
	December	126.3	0.1	2.8	4.3	0.8	-1.5	3.3	-0.3	4.7	4.6
2019	January	127.4	0.9	3.7	4.1	-2.5	-2.1	2.3	2.4	6.3	4.9

#### 3.1 Year on Year (YoY) Inflation

The YoY inflation as measured by CCPI is 3.7% in January 2019 and inflation calculated for December was 2.8% (Table3). YoY inflation of Food Group has decreased from -1.5% in December 2018 to -2.1% in January 2019 and that of Non-food Group has increase from 4.7% in December to 6.3% in January during this period.

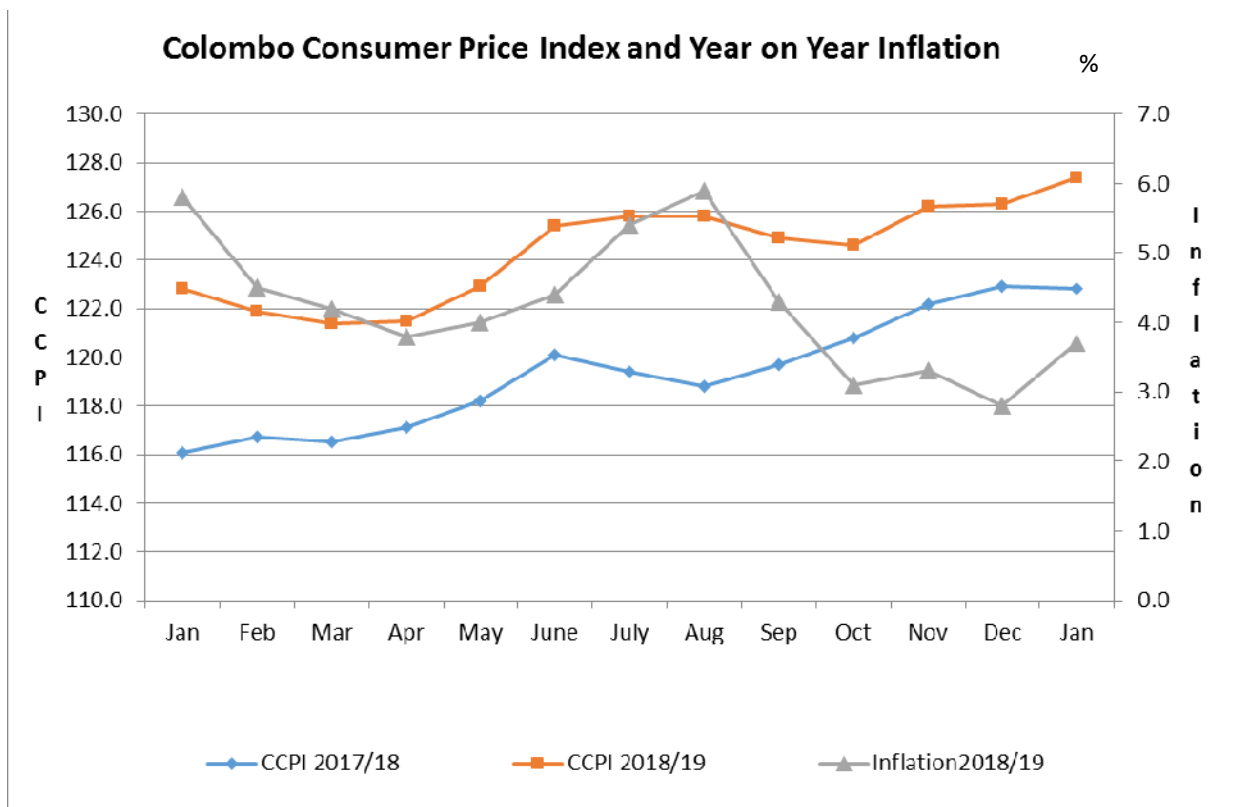
### 3.2 Contribution to Y on Y inflation:

For the month of January 2019, on year to year basis, contribution to inflation by food commodities was -0.65%.

The contribution of Non Food items was 4.39%. This was mainly due to increases in value change in groups of 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels' (1.33%), 'Education' (1.03%), 'Transport' (0.71%), 'Health' (0.62%), 'Restaurants & Hotels' (0.37%), 'Furnishing Household Equipment's & Routine Household Maintenance' (0.21%), 'Clothing and Footwear' (0.2%), 'Alcoholic Beverages Tobacco and Narcotics' (0.11%), 'Miscellaneous Goods and Services' (0.04%) and 'Recreation and Culture' (0.02%) and decrease in value change were reported for the group 'Communication' (0.26%).

### 3.3 Moving Average Inflation

The moving average inflation rate for the month of January 2019 was 4.1%. The corresponding rate for the month of December was 4.3%.



**Table 4 : Monthly average open market retail prices of selected items of Colombo Consumer Price Index (January, December 2018 & January 2019)**

Item	Unit	Retail Prices (Rs. Cts)			Retail Price Changes (%)	
		2018 Jan	2018 Dec	2019 Jan	Jan.19/ Jan 18	Jan.19 / Dec.18
1. Rice– Kekulu – Red	Kg	91.43	81.64	82.20	-10.10	0.69
2. Rice– Kekulu – White	Kg	86.09	83.14	84.35	-2.02	1.46
3. Rice –Nadu - White	Kg	89.61	87.64	88.88	-0.82	1.41
4. Rice –Nadu - Red	Kg	103.60	96.38	96.55	-6.81	0.18
5. Rice– Samba	Kg	105.86	111.44	112.21	6.00	0.68
6. Cowpea	Kg	303.65	273.16	273.42	-9.96	0.09
7.Green Grams	Kg	251.64	250.91	253.39	0.70	0.99
8. Coconut	Each	76.02	58.65	53.62	-29.46	-8.56
9. Coconut Oil	750ml	290.01	270.60	266.20	-8.21	-1.63
10.Chicken	Kg	485.26	485.00	484.50	-0.16	-0.10
11. Eggs	Each	13.76	19.11	20.66	50.16	8.16
12. Red Onion	Kg	416.29	195.36	187.34	-55.00	-4.11
13. Big Onion	Kg	160.54	118.26	103.52	-35.52	-12.46
14. Potatoes	Kg	123.61	153.00	137.45	11.20	-10.16
15. Garlic	Kg	316.53	249.66	236.59	-25.25	-5.24
16. Dried Chilies	Kg	262.43	316.62	325.27	23.94	2.73
17. Green Chilies	Kg	428.34	514.94	585.43	36.68	13.69
18. Sugar	Kg	109.96	106.93	106.13	-3.48	-0.74
19. Pepper	Kg	1620.53	1566.97	1538.02	-5.09	-1.85
<b>Vegetables-</b>						
20. Ash Plantain	Kg	163.71	156.02	143.95	-12.07	-7.73
21. Carrot	Kg	186.30	301.93	192.29	3.21	-36.31
22. Snake Gourd	Kg	257.73	201.47	229.84	-10.82	-17.59
23. Tomatoes	Kg	137.58	336.64	180.70	31.35	-46.32
24. Capsicum	Kg	360.58	415.53	351.12	-2.62	-15.50
25. Beetroot	Kg	222.75	242.76	207.16	-7.00	-14.66
26. Beans	Kg	306.24	382.15	266.05	-13.12	-30.38
<b>Fruits</b>						
27. Banana	Kg	154.97	144.67	146.67	0.97	-5.73
28. Papaw	Kg	111.24	130.71	139.32	25.24	6.59
29. Mangoes	Each	79.15	78.30	70.11	-11.42	-10.46
<b>Fresh Fish –</b>						
30. Seer	Kg	1489.05	1608.39	1594.04	7.05	0.89
31.Talapath	Kg	1122.04	1108.94	1146.31	2.16	3.37
32.Paraw	Kg	1073.51	1029.90	1070.81	-0.25	3.97
<b>Dried Fish -</b>						
33.Katta	Kg	1182.33	1317.72	1315.13	11.23	-0.20
34. Sprats	Kg	681.20	729.30	745.42	9.43	2.21
<b>Fuel -</b>						
35. Kerosene Oil	Lt	44.00	70.00	70.00	59.09	0.00
36 .Petrol (CPC & IOC)	Lt	117.00	139.70	128.29	9.65	-8.17
37. Diesel (CPC & IOC)	Lt	95.00	106.89	100.29	5.57	-6.17
38. Gas- Avg.	12.5kg	1431.00	1733.00	1733.00	21.10	0.00
Litro	12.5kg	1431.00	1733.00	1733.00	21.10	0.00
Laughs	12.5kg	1431.00	1733.00	1733.00	21.10	0.00

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