



PRESS RELEASE

THE INDEX OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION: MARCH 2019 DEPARTMENT OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS (DCS)

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The Index of industrial production (IIP) for the month of March, 2019 has been released by the Department of Census and Statistics. The index of industrial production has increased by 5.7% in the month of March, 2019 compared to the same month in 2018. IIP reported for the month of March 2019 and 2018 were 116.5 and 110.3 respectively.

The Department of Census and Statistics compiles number of economic indicators including IIP. The index, IIP is a vital measurement of identifying the drivers of economic growth and evaluating economic performance of the country and it is based on volume of production of manufacturing industries.

The manufacturing industries; 'Manufacture of leather and leather related products', 'Manufacture of electrical equipment' and 'Manufacture of chemical and chemical products' have shown remarkable increases of 18.1%, 10.5% and 8.0% respectively in volume of production of these industries during the month of March, 2019 compared to that of March, 2018. In addition, the volume of food products has also increased in March, 2019 by 0.2%, compared to March, 2018.

However, manufacturing industries: Volume of 'Other manufacturing' (which includes manufacturing motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers, other transport equipment, jewellery), 'Manufacture of paper and paper products' and 'Manufacture of wood and products of wood' have decreased by 49.1%, 20.7% and 17.7% respectively during this period.

The industrial production of the manufacturing sector for the **first quarter of 2019** has increased by 2.2% compared to the same quarter in 2018.

Further details on monthly IIP of March, 2019 have been published in its website: (www.statistics.gov.lk/Industries).

Index of Industrial Productions (2015=100)

Month/ Year	Index Value
March - 2019	116.5
March- 2018	110.3
Year on Year (%) Change : 5.7	
1 st Quarter 2019 : 109.9	