



NEWS RELEASE

THE NATIONAL CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (BASE 2013=100): JULY 2016

Department of Census and Statistics

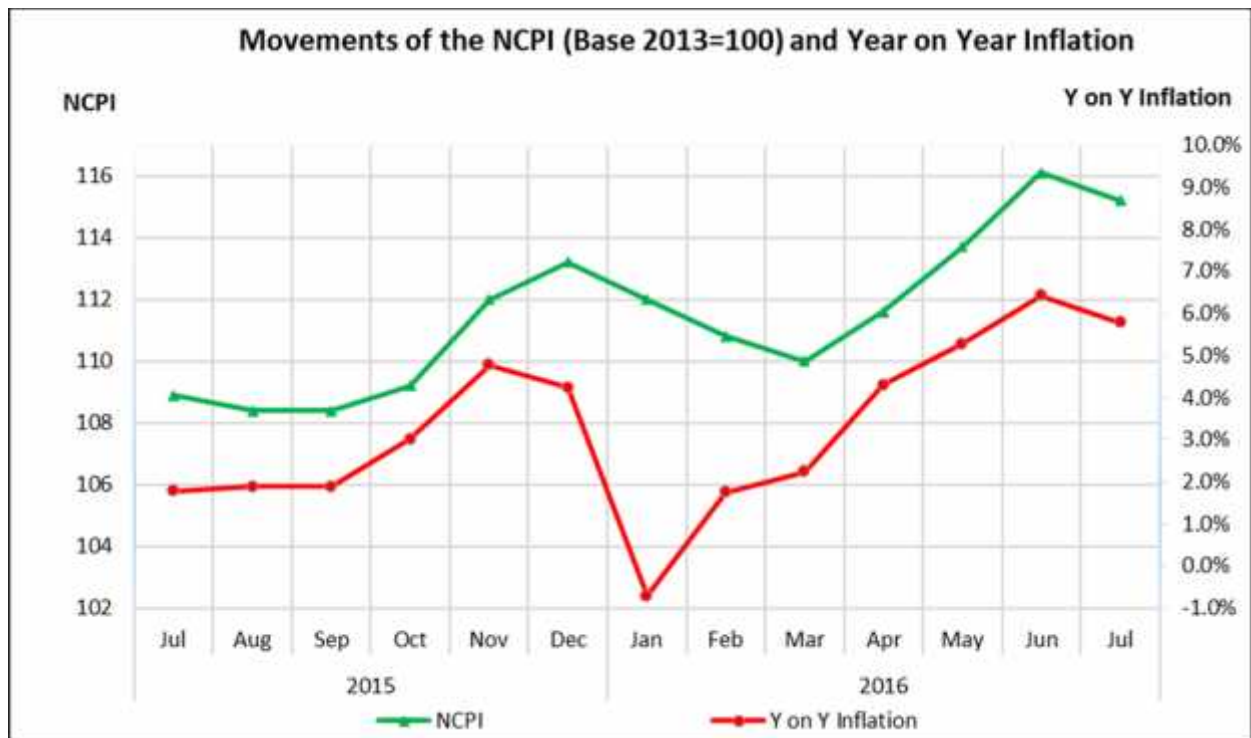
Ministry of National Policies and Economic Affairs

In a communiqué issued on National Consumer Price Index, Dr. Amara Satharasinghe, Director General of Census and Statistics said that the Year on Year inflation based on NCPI has declined from 6.4% in June 2016 to 5.8% in July 2016. In July 2016 contribution to the inflation from food group and non-food group are 3.0% and 2.8% respectively.

The Department of Census and Statistics has released the National Consumer Price Index (NCPI) for the month of July 2016. NCPI has been calculated as 115.2 for July 2016. This shows a decrease of 0.9 index points or a percentage of 0.8 compared to the previous month's (June) index of 116.1. This monthly change is due to the decreases of expenditure value of food items by 0.7% and non-food items by 0.1%.

The expenditure value of food commodity group has decreased by 0.7 percent in July 2016 compared to June 2016. The decrease in expenditure value of food commodity in July 2016 compared to June 2016 was due to the price decreases in vegetables, coconut, fresh fish, sugar, limes, sprats (dry), red onions, dhal-masoor, rice, garlic and wheat flour compared to the previous month (June). However, price increases were reported for eggs, banana, green chilies, chicken, mangoes, papaw, chilly powder, potatoes, pineapple and gram during this period.

The expenditure value of non food commodity group has decreased by 0.1 percent in July 2016 compared to June 2016. This was due to the expenditure value decreases in non food commodity groups of 'Communication', 'Health' and 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels' compared to the previous month. Further, very slight decreases in expenditure value was also reported for groups of 'Recreation and Culture' and 'Clothing and Footwear' compared to the previous month. However, increases in expenditure value was reported for non food commodity groups of 'Miscellaneous Goods and Services', 'Transport', 'Alcoholic Beverages Tobacco & Narcotics', 'Furnishing, Household Equipment & Routine Household Maintenance' and 'Restaurant and Hotels' compared to the previous month (June). The expenditure values of 'Education' group remained unchanged during the month. The expenditure value decreases in 'Communication', 'Health' and 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels' groups was due to removal of recently introduced VAT rates.



MOVEMENTS OF THE NCPI (Base : 2013 = 100)

Year	Month	Index Number	Month to Month % Change	Year on Year Inflation %
2015	July	108.9	-0.2	1.8
	August	108.4	-0.5	1.9
	September	108.4	0.0	1.9
	October	109.2	0.7	3.0
	November	112.0	2.6	4.8
	December	113.2	1.1	4.2
2016	January	112.0	-1.1	-0.7
	February	110.8	-1.1	1.7
	March	110.0	-0.7	2.2
	April	111.6	1.5	4.3
	May	113.7	1.9	5.3
	June	116.1	2.1	6.4
	July	115.2	-0.8	5.8

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