



NEWS RELEASE

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

Department of Census and Statistics

Ministry of National Policies and Economic Affairs

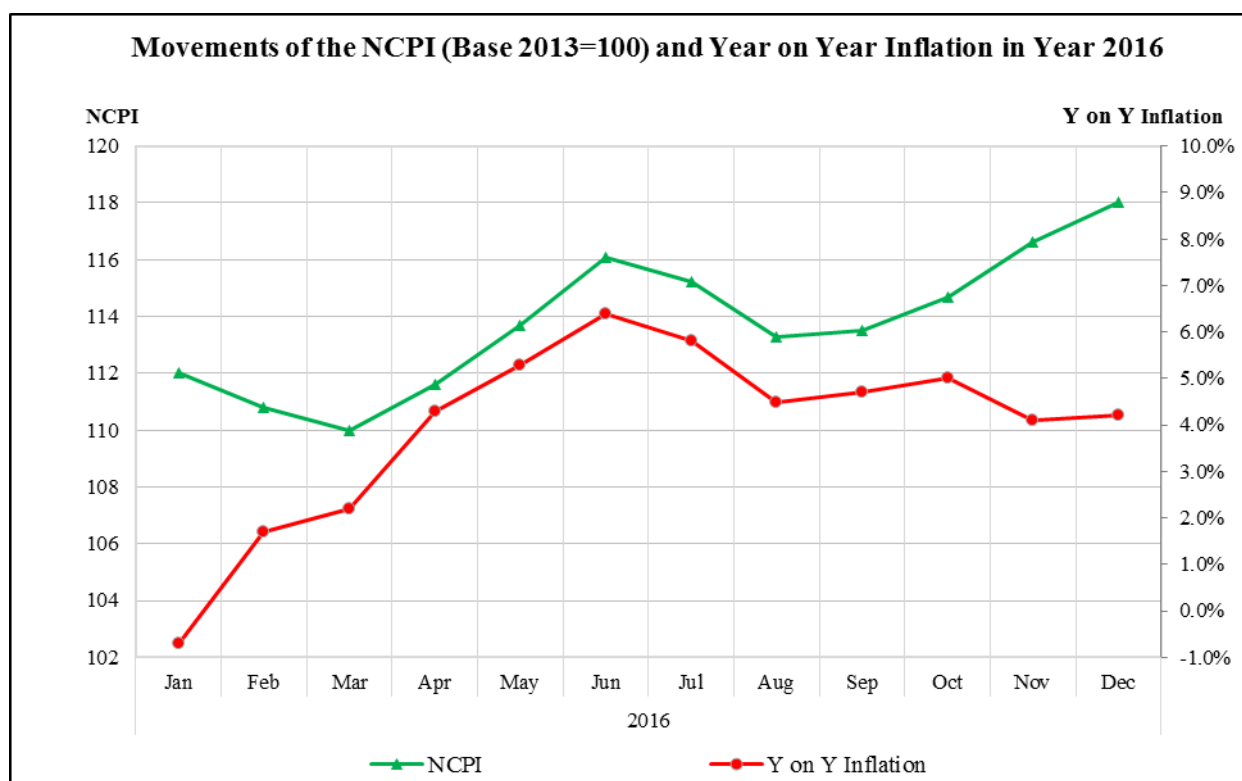
In a communiqué issued on National Consumer Price Index (NCPI), Dr. Amara Satharasinghe, Director General of Census and Statistics said that the Year on Year inflation based on NCPI for the month of December 2016 has been calculated as 4.2%. Inflation of November 2016 was 4.1%. In December 2016 contribution to the inflation from food group and non-food group are 1.06% and 3.18% respectively.

The Department of Census and Statistics has released the National Consumer Price Index (NCPI) for the month of December 2016. NCPI has been calculated as 118.0 for December 2016. This shows an increase of 1.4 index points or a percentage of 1.2 compared to the previous month's (November) index of 116.6. This monthly change was due to the increase of expenditure value of food items by 1.25% and decrease of expenditure value of non-food items by 0.08%.

The increase in expenditure value of food commodity group in December 2016 compared to that of November 2016 was due to the price increases in rice, coconut, fresh fish, big onions, potatoes, papaw, vegetables, eggs, coconut oil, green chilies and beef. However, price decreases were reported for limes, chicken, banana, mangoes, dried chilies, pineapple and dried fish.

The decrease in expenditure value of non food commodity group in December 2016 compared to the preceding month was due to the expenditure value decreases in groups of 'Alcoholic beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics', 'Recreation and Culture' and 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other fuels'. However, expenditure value increases were observed for groups of 'Restaurant and Hotels', 'Furnishing, Household equipment and Routine household maintenance', 'Transport' and 'Clothing and Footwear'. Further, very slight increase in expenditure value was reported for group of 'Miscellaneous Goods and Services' compared to the previous month. The expenditure value of 'Health', 'Communication' and 'Education' groups remain unchanged during the month.

Movements of the NCPI (Base 2013=100) and Year on Year Inflation in Year 2016



MOVEMENTS OF THE NCPI (Base : 2013 = 100)

Year	Month	Index Number	Month to Month % Change of Index Number	Year on Year Inflation %
2015	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
	August	113.3	-1.6	4.5
	September	113.5	0.2	4.7
	October	114.7	1.1	5.0
	November	116.6	1.7	4.1
	December	118.0	1.2	4.2

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Contact No: 011-2147001 / 011-2147020