



## **NEWS RELEASE**

### **THE NATIONAL CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (BASE 2013=100): JANUARY 2017**

**Department of Census and Statistics**

**Ministry of National Policies and Economic Affairs**

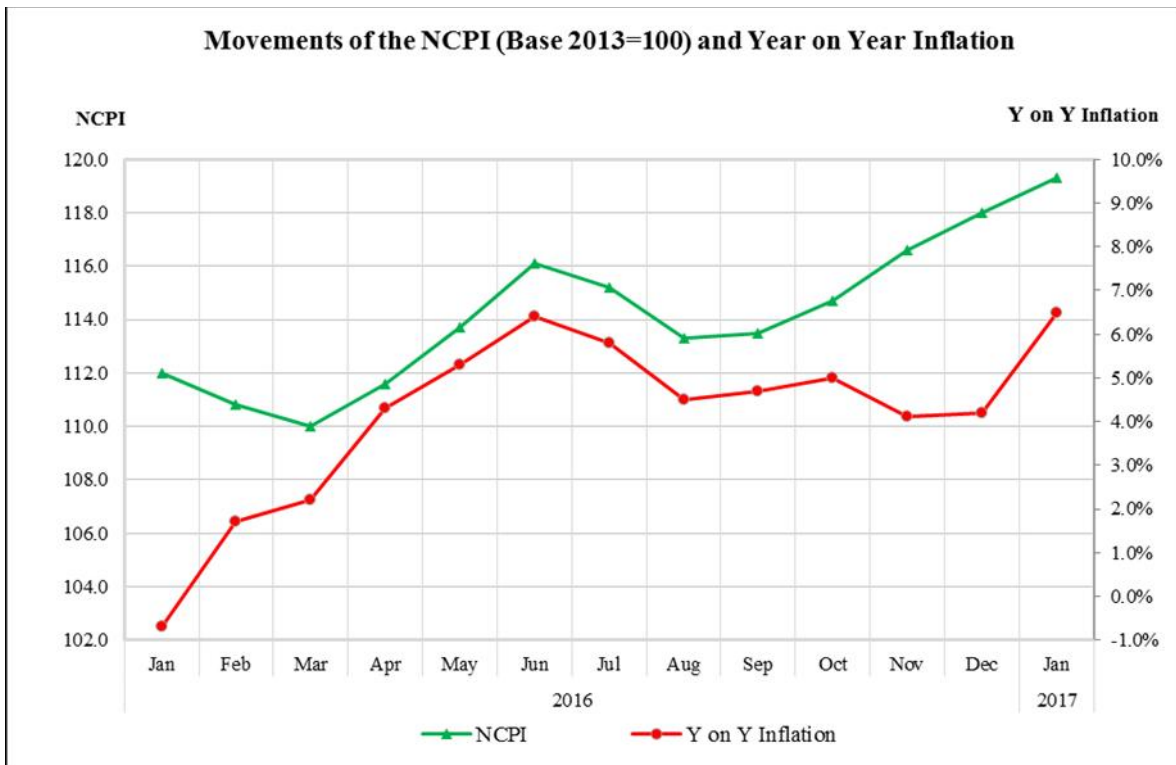
In a communiqué issued on National Consumer Price Index (NCPI), Dr. Amara Satharasinghe, Director General of Census and Statistics said that the Year on Year inflation based on NCPI has increased to 6.5% in January 2017 from 4.2% in December 2016. The reason for increase in inflation was due to the comparatively lower price levels prevailed in January 2016. In January 2016 contribution to the inflation from food group was -1.9% and non-food group was 1.2%. Nevertheless, in January 2017 contribution to the inflation from food group and non-food group are 2.9% and 3.6% respectively.

The Department of Census and Statistics has released the National Consumer Price Index (NCPI) for the month of January 2017. NCPI has been calculated as 119.3 for January 2017. This shows an increase of 1.3 index points or a percentage of 1.1 compared to the previous month's (December) index of 118.0. This monthly change was due to the increases of expenditure value of food items by 0.78% and non-food items by 0.35% respectively.

The increase in expenditure value of food commodity group in January 2017 compared to that of December 2016 was due to the price increases in rice, coconuts, banana, coconut oil, green chilies, sugar, fresh fish, papaw, dried fish, potatoes and garlic. However, price decreases were reported for vegetables, limes, chicken, eggs, big onions, red onions, mangoes and dried chilies.

The increase in expenditure value of non food commodity group in January 2017 compared to the preceding month was due to the expenditure value increases in groups of 'Miscellaneous Goods and Services', 'Transport', 'Restaurant and Hotels', 'Recreation and Culture', 'Education' and 'Clothing and Footwear'. However, expenditure value decreases were observed for groups of 'Alcoholic beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics' and 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other fuels'. Further, very slight increase in expenditure value was reported for group of 'Furnishing, Household equipment and Routine household maintenance' compared to the previous month. The expenditure value of 'Health' and 'Communication' groups remain unchanged during the month.

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



### Movements of the NCPI (Base : 2013 = 100)

Year	Month	Index Number	Month to Month % change of Index Number	Year on Year Inflation %
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
2017	January	119.3	1.1	6.5

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