



**NEWS RELEASE**

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

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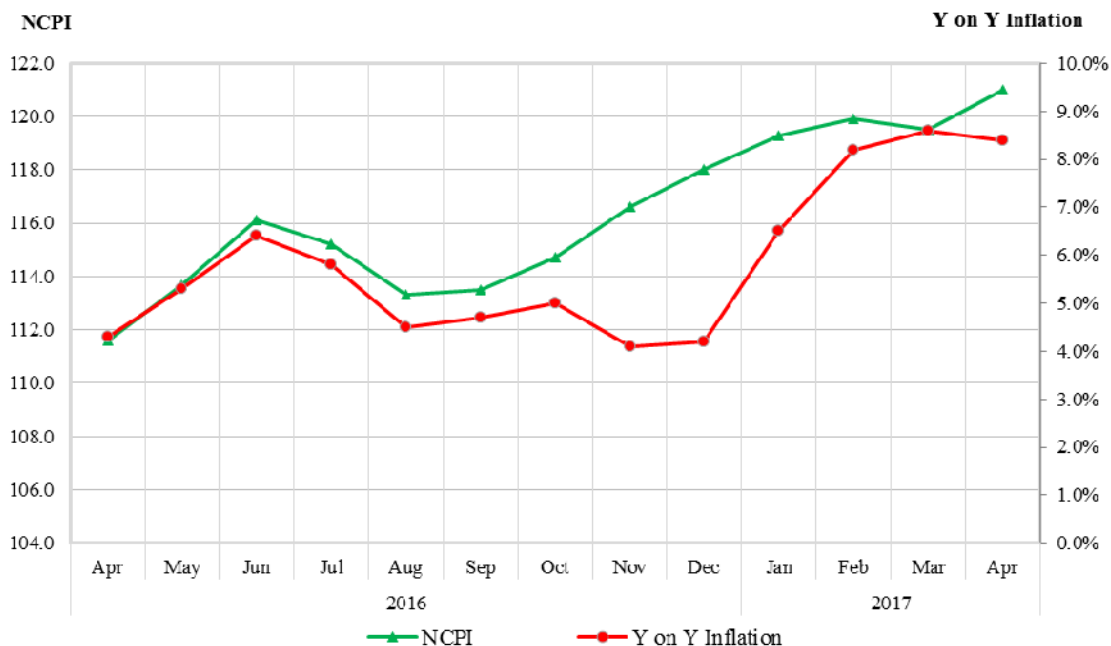
In a communiqué issuing on National Consumer Price Index (NCPI), for the month of April 2017, Dr. Amara Satharasinghe, Director General of Census and Statistics said that the Year on Year inflation based on NCPI has decreased to 8.4% in April 2017 from 8.6% in March 2017. Contributions to the inflation from food group and non-food group in April 2017 are 5.2% and 3.3% respectively, whereas contributions for each of these two groups to the inflation in April 2016 was 2.1% reflecting prevailed comparatively lower price levels especially in food prices in April 2016.

However, when compared to month on month changes NCPI in April 2017 has increased to 121.0 from 119.5 reported for March 2017. This shows an increase of 1.5 index points or 1.3 percentage points in April 2017 compared to previous month; March 2017. This monthly change was due to the increases of expenditure value of food items by 1.23% and non-food items by 0.04% respectively.

The increase in expenditure value of food items was due to the price increases in vegetables, coconuts, banana, fresh fish, red onions, potatoes, chicken, green chilies, coconut oil, sugar, dried fish and rice. However, decreases in expenditure value in index were reported for papaw, mysore dhal and dried chilies.

The increase in expenditure value of non food items in April 2017 compared to the previous month was due to the expenditure value increases in groups of 'Alcoholic beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics', 'Clothing and Footwear', 'Miscellaneous Goods and Services' and 'Furnishing, Household equipment and Routine household maintenance'. Further, very slight increases in expenditure value were reported for groups of 'Restaurant and Hotels' and 'Transport' compared to the previous month. The expenditure value of 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other fuels', 'Health', 'Communication', 'Recreation & Culture' and 'Education' groups remained 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	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
	February	119.9	0.5	8.2
	March	119.5	-0.3	8.6
	April	121.0	1.3	8.4