



NEWS RELEASE

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

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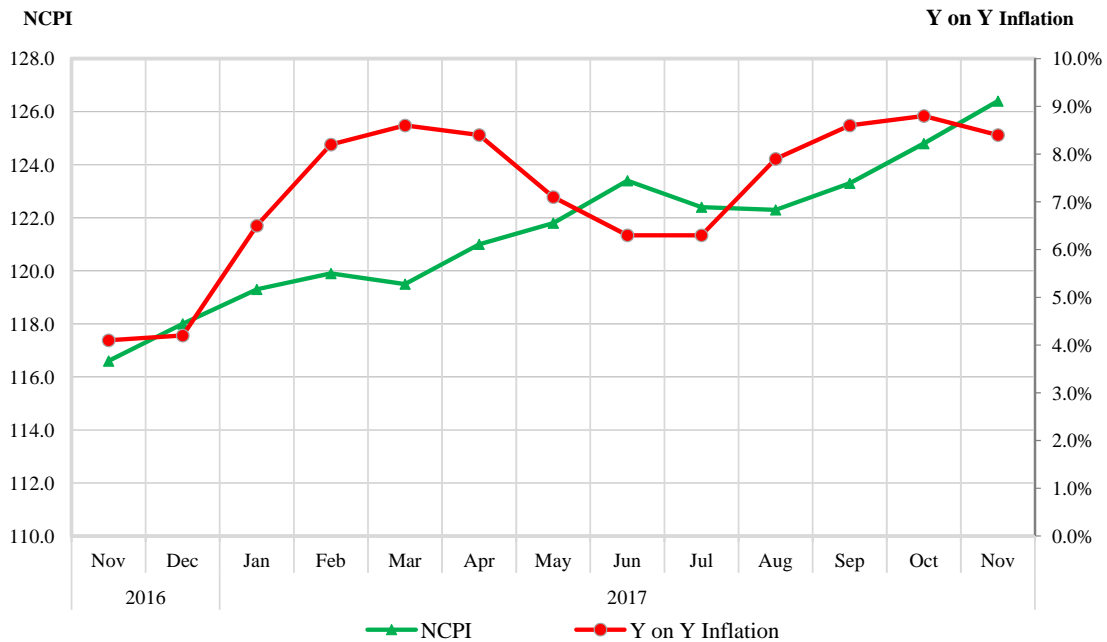
Issuing National Consumer Price Index (NCPI), for the month of November 2017, Dr. Amara Satharasinghe, Director General of Census and Statistics said that the Year on Year inflation based on NCPI has declined to 8.4% from 8.8% in October 2017. The reported inflation for the month of November 2017 was mainly due to comparatively lower price levels prevailed in November 2016 particularly, prices of coconuts, rice and vegetables. Contributions to the inflation from food group and non-food group in November 2017 are 6.9% and 1.5% respectively, whilst contributions of these two groups to the inflation in November 2016 were 0.7% and 3.4% respectively, resulting headline inflation of 4.1% which reflect prevailed comparatively lower food prices in November 2016.

However, when compared to month on month changes, NCPI in November 2017 has increased to 126.4 from 124.8 reported in October 2017. This shows an increase of 1.6 index points or 1.3 percentage points in November 2017 as compared to October 2017. This month on month change was due to the increases of expenditure value of food items by 0.95% and non-food items by 0.30% respectively.

The increase in expenditure value of food items was due to the price increases of coconuts, green chillies, vegetables, big onions, red onions, rice, eggs and tea dust. However, decreases in expenditure value in index were reported for fresh fish, banana, potatoes, papaw, limes, mangoes, dried fish, mysore dhal and coconut oil.

The increase in expenditure value of non food items in November 2017 compared to the previous month was due to the expenditure value increases in groups of 'Health', 'Miscellaneous Goods and Services', 'Recreation and Culture', 'Transport', 'Clothing and Footwear', 'Furnishing, Household equipment and Routine household maintenance' and 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other fuels'. Further, the group of 'Restaurant and Hotels' recorded very slight expenditure value increase compared to the preceding month. However, decrease in expenditure value in index reported for group of 'Alcoholic beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics'. The expenditure value of 'Communication' 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	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
	May	121.8	0.7	7.1
	June	123.4	1.3	6.3
	July	122.4	-0.8	6.3
	August	122.3	-0.1	7.9
	September	123.3	0.8	8.6
	October	124.8	1.2	8.8
	November	126.4	1.3	8.4