

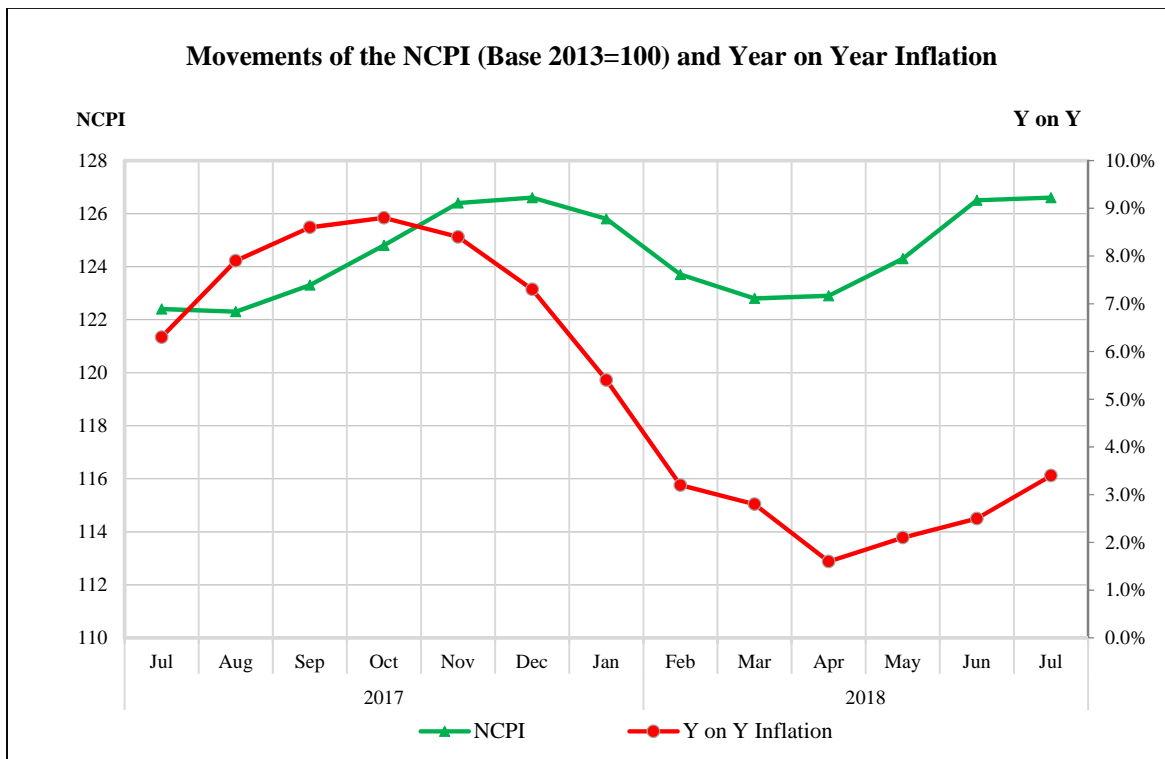
**NEWS RELEASE****THE NATIONAL CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (BASE 2013=100): JULY 2018****Department of Census and Statistics****Ministry of National Policies and Economic Affairs****TEL: 011-2147414****FAX: 011-2877945****E-mail: [prices@statistics.gov.lk](mailto:prices@statistics.gov.lk)**

Issuing National Consumer Price Index (NCPI), for the month of July 2018, Mrs. Indu Bandara, Actg. Director General of Census and Statistics said that the Year on Year inflation based on NCPI has been compiled as 3.4%. The inflation reported for the month of June 2018 was 2.5%. Contributions to the inflation in July 2018 from food group and non-food group are 1.09% and 2.31% respectively, whilst contributions of these two groups to the inflation in July 2017 were 3.7% and 2.6% respectively, resulting headline inflation of 6.3%.

When compared to month on month changes, NCPI in July 2018 has increased to 126.6 from 126.5 reported in June 2018. This shows an increase of 0.1 index points that is 0.01 percentage points in July 2018 as compared to June 2018. This month on month change was contributed by decreases of expenditure value of food items by 0.07% and increases of non-food items by 0.08% respectively.

The decreases in expenditure value of food items were reported for Coconuts, Rice, Limes, Vegetables, Sugar, Red Onion, Garlic, Gram, Dhal Misoor and Pepper. However, increases in expenditure value of food items were reported for Green Chillies, Fresh Fish, Eggs, Dried Fish, Papaw, Banana, Milk Powder, Big Onion, Infant Milk Powder, Potatoes, Pineapple and Mangoes.

The increases in expenditure value of non food items in July 2018 compared to the previous month was due to the expenditure value increases in groups of 'Transport', 'Miscellaneous Goods and Services', 'Restaurants & Hotels', 'Alcoholic beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics', 'Clothing and Footwear' and 'Furnishings, Household equipment and Routing household maintenance'. However, decrease in expenditure value was reported for group of 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels' compared to the preceding month. In the 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels' group expenditure value decrease was mainly due to decrease in prices of LP Gas and Kerosene Oil. Further, 'Communication' group recorded very slight expenditure value increases compared to the preceding month. Meanwhile, the expenditure value of 'Health', 'Recreation & Culture' and 'Education' groups remained unchanged during the month.



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

Year	Month	Index Number	Month to Month % change of Index Number	Year on Year Inflation %
<b>2017</b>	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
	December	126.6	0.2	7.3
<b>2018</b>	January	125.8	-0.6	5.4
	February	123.7	-1.7	3.2
	March	122.8	-0.7	2.8
	April	122.9	0.1	1.6
	May	124.3	1.1	2.1
	June	126.5	1.8	2.5
	July	126.6	0.1	3.4