

**NEWS RELEASE****THE NATIONAL CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (BASE 2013=100): SEPTEMBER 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)**

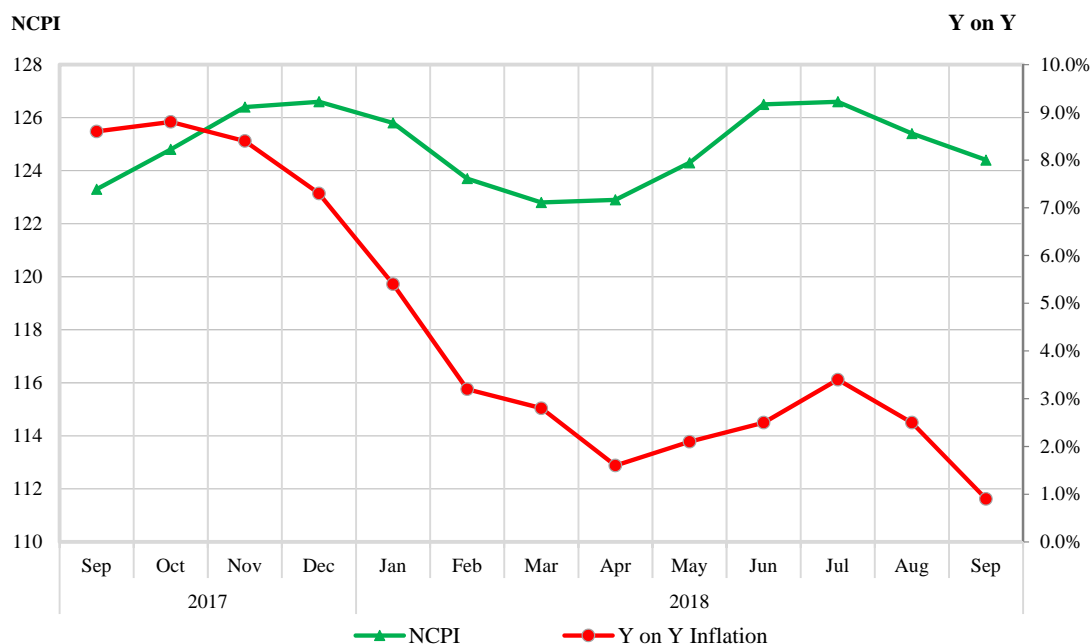
Issuing National Consumer Price Index (NCPI), for the month of September 2018, Actg. Director General of Census and Statistics said that the Year on Year inflation based on NCPI has declined to 0.9% from 2.5% in August 2018. Inflation of 0.9% reported for September 2018 is the lowest inflation reported since April 2018. Contributions to the inflation in September 2018 from food group and non-food group are -1.92% and 2.80% respectively, whilst contributions of these two groups to the inflation in September 2017 were 6.1% and 2.6% respectively, resulting headline inflation of 8.6%.

When compared to month on month changes, NCPI in September 2018 has decreased to 124.4 from 125.4 reported in August 2018. This shows a decrease of 1.0 index points that is 0.8 percentage points in September 2018 as compared to August 2018. This month on month change was contributed by decreases of expenditure value of food items by 1.09% and increases of non-food items by 0.32% respectively.

The decreases in expenditure value of food items were reported Vegetables, Coconuts, Green Chillies, Fresh Fish, Potatoes, Rice, Eggs, Red Onion, Big Onion, Ginger, Garlic and Gram. However, increases in expenditure value in index were reported for Banana, Papaw, Bread (Normal), Sugar, Wheat Flour, Mangoes, Limes, Buns/Spunchi, Chicken, Milk Powder, Canned Fish (Salmon) and Tea Dust/Leaves.

The increases in expenditure value of non food items in September 2018 compared to the previous month was due to the expenditure value increases in groups of 'Alcoholic beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics', 'Transport', 'Restaurants & Hotels', 'Education', 'Clothing & Footwear', 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels', and 'Furnishings, Household equipment and Routing household maintenance'. Further, the group of 'Miscellaneous Goods and Services' recorded very slight expenditure value increase compared to the previous month. Meanwhile, the expenditure value of 'Health', 'Communication' and 'Recreation and Culture' 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 %
<b>2017</b>	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
	August	125.4	-0.9	2.5
	September	124.4	-0.8	0.9