

**NEWS RELEASE****THE NATIONAL CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (BASE 2013=100): APRIL 2019****Department of Census and Statistics****Ministry of Economic Reforms and Public Distribution****TEL: 011-2147414****FAX: 011-2877945****E-mail: [prices@statistics.gov.lk](mailto:prices@statistics.gov.lk)**

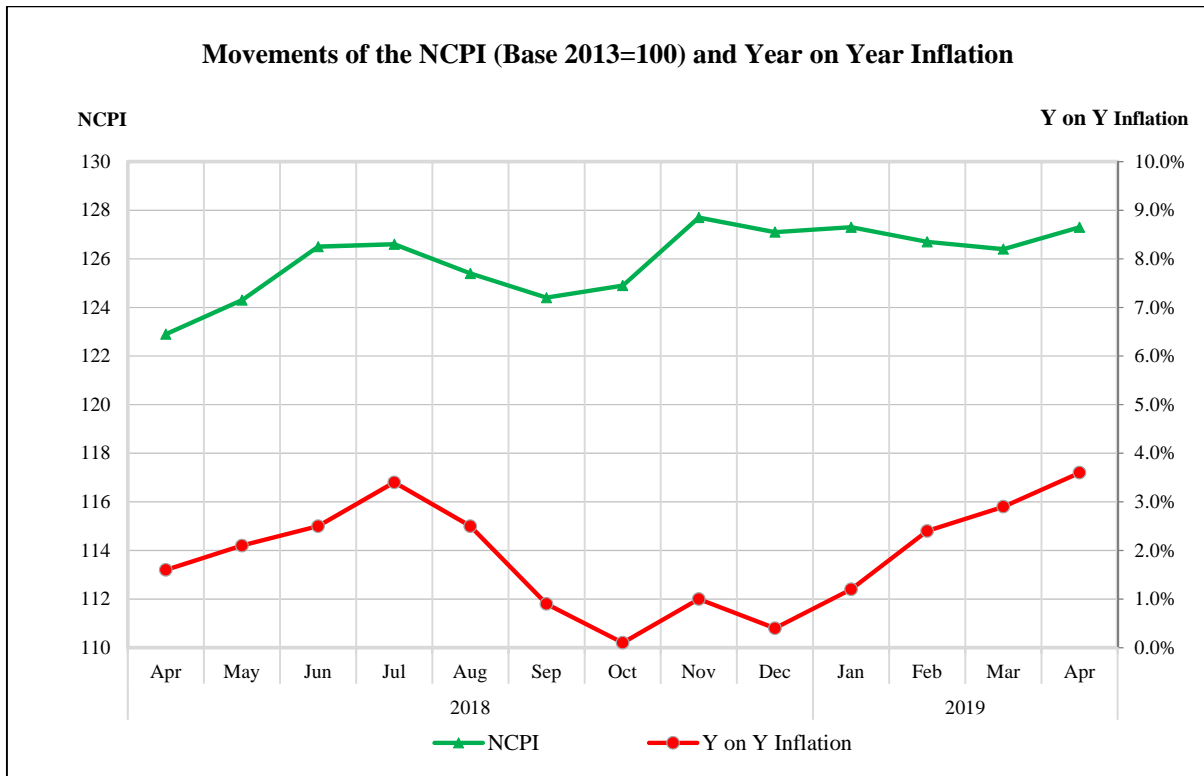
Issuing National Consumer Price Index (NCPI), for the month of April 2019, Director General of Census and Statistics said that the Year on Year inflation based on NCPI has been compiled as 3.6%. The Year on Year inflation reported for the month of March 2019 was 2.9%. Contributions to the inflation in April 2019 from food group and non-food group are -0.5% and 4.1% respectively, whilst contributions of these two groups to the inflation in April 2018 were -0.1% and 1.7% respectively, resulting inflation of 1.6%.

When compared to month on month changes, NCPI in April 2019 has increased to 127.3 from 126.4 reported in March 2019. This shows an increase of 0.9 index points that is percentage of 0.7 was reported in April 2019 as compared to March 2019. This month on month change was contributed by increases of expenditure value of food items by 0.39% and non-food items by 0.35% respectively.

The increases in expenditure value of food items were reported for Vegetables, Milk powder, Potatoes, Fresh fish, Limes, Big onions, Banana, Eggs, Chicken, Coconut oil and Sprats(dry). However, decreases in expenditure value of food items were reported for Papaw, Rice, Green chilies, Garlic and Coconuts.

The increases in expenditure value of non food groups in April 2019 compared to the previous month was due to the expenditure value increases in groups of items 'Alcoholic beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics' (Betel leaves, Cigarettes, Arecanuts and Arrack), 'Transport' (Purchase of Vehicles, Fuel prices and Airline fare), 'Miscellaneous Goods and Services', 'Clothing and Footwear', 'Health'(Payments to medical laboratory tests) and 'Furnishing, Household equipment and Routine household maintenance'. Further, very slight increases in expenditure value were reported in groups of 'Recreation and Culture' and 'Communication'. Meanwhile, the expenditure value of 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels', 'Education' and 'Restaurants and Hotels' 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 %
2018	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
	October	124.9	0.4	0.1
	November	127.7	2.2	1.0
	December	127.1	-0.5	0.4
2019	January	127.3	0.2	1.2
	February	126.7	-0.5	2.4
	March	126.4	-0.2	2.9
	April	127.3	0.7	3.6