

**Movements in Colombo Consumers' Price Index (Base: 2002=100)**  
**May 2011**

**Price index:** The general price level increased marginally in May 2011 compared to the prices in the previous month. The Colombo Consumers' Price Index (CCPI) for all items for May 2011 was 234.8 as announced by the Prices Division of the Department of Census and Statistics. An increase of 1.4 index point or 0.6 percentage was noted in May 2011 from April 2011 index which was 233.4. This increase represents expenditure value of Rs. 241.18 in the "Market Basket".

**Table 1-Monthly Changes**

Major Group	Index Number			Monthly changes of the Expenditure Values (Rs.)			Monthly changes of the Index (%)		
	May-2010	Apr.-2011	May-2011	May-2010	Apr.-2011	May-2011	May-2010	Apr.-2011	May-2011
All Items.....	215.9	233.4	234.8	577.56	32.73	241.18	1.5	0.1	0.6
Food.....	227.9	254.5	255.6	436.56	-377.91	93.35	1.11	-0.90	0.22
Clothing and Footwear.....	173.6	198.1	199.8	10.16	10.32	9.20	0.00	0.02	0.02
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels .....	234.9	247.7	250.4	97.67	249.08	86.15	0.30	0.59	0.21
Furnishing, Household Equipment and Routine household Maintenance....	175.9	182.1	183.7	1.30	20.16	9.51	0.00	0.05	0.02
Health.....	227.6	231.9	233.7	4.20	0.29	13.97	0.00	0.00	0.03
Transport.....	240.5	252.1	253.6	18.00	118.14	25.80	0.00	0.28	0.06
Other.....	153.9	157.6	157.7	9.67	12.65	3.20	0.09	0.06	0.04

**Month – on – Month (MoM)**

The food items that experienced decreases in prices were most varieties of Vegetables, Coconut, Green chillies, Rice due to more supply to the Colombo from main producing areas. However, Fish and Sea food, Red onions price have increased due to less supply from main producing areas during the month of May 2011. On an average, expenditure value on items in Food group increased by Rs. 93.35.

Table 2 depicts that the contribution to the increase in CCPI from April 2011 to May 2011. It shows that all items of food and non food groups increased by 0.6 percent. It should be noted that in this basket, certain items play a more significant part than the others, depending on the weight of the items in the Market basket of household consumption.

Of the total increase of 0.6 percent, Food items account for a increase of 0.22 percent mainly due to Fish and Sea food (0.50%), Meal bought from outside(0.44%), Bread(0.13%), Red

onions(0.05%), Limes(0.05%), Maldives fish (0.04%), Potatoes (0.04%), and Plantains (0.03%).

Price increases were experienced in sub categories of Clothing and Footwear, Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels, Furnishing, Household Equipment and Routine household maintenance, Health and Transport. However Communication, Recreation and Culture and Education categories represent in the CCPI remained unchanged.

**Table 2: Contribution to the increase in CCPI from April to May 2011.**

Sub Group/Commodity	Value Change Rs.cts.	Increase %	Decrease %	Net effect %
<b>Food</b>	<b>93.35</b>	<b>1.34</b>	<b>1.12</b>	<b>0.22</b>
Rice	-4.01		0.01	
Bread	53.27	0.13		
Dhal	-6.56		0.02	
Potatoes	15.88	0.04		
Coconut	-42.52		0.10	
Coconut oil	-23.92		0.06	
Chicken	-26.16		0.06	
Eggs	-18.58		0.04	
Fish and Sea food	210.14	0.50		
Plantains	12.09	0.03		
Mango	-14.13		0.03	
Papaw	-37.32		0.09	
Vegetables	-255.90		0.61	
Sugar	-16.36		0.04	
B' onions	-14.50		0.03	
Red onions	22.21	0.05		
Green chillies	-11.45		0.03	
Limes	22.21	0.05		
Maldives fish	17.68	0.04		
Meal bought from outside	186.37	0.44		
Others	24.91	0.06		
<b>Non Food</b>	<b>147.83</b>	<b>0.35</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.35</b>
Clothing and Footwear	9.20	0.02		
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	86.15	0.21		
Furnishing, Household Equipment and Routine household Maintenance	9.51	0.02		
Health	13.97	0.03		
Other	29.00	0.07		
<b>Total</b>	<b>241.18</b>			<b>0.6</b>

### Year - on -Year (YoY)

The rate of inflation as measured by the CCPI on a Year on Year basis decreased to 8.8 percent in May 2011 from 9.8 percent recorded in April 2011 (See Table 3).

However, Sri Lanka's 12 month moving Average inflation as measured by the CCPI settled in the month of May at a single digit figure of 6.9 percent for the twenty second consecutive time since August 2009.

On a year to year basis, the highest contribution to the overall increase of around 68 per cent came from food commodities which increase by 6 percent in May 2011. The combined effects of both domestically produced and imported food commodities contributed to the increase in the food sub Index (see Table 4).

Among the food commodities, Vegetables, Coconut and Coconut oil which have significant weights in the CCPI basket recorded price increases on a year to year basis. Under the Non Food Category, the prices of Kerosene Oil, Petrol, Diesel and Gas rose by 20%, 9%, 10% and 8% respectively.

**Table 3: MOVEMENTS OF THE CCPI**

**(Base : 2002 = 100)**

Year	Month	Index Number	% Change Month to Month	Inflation	
				Year on Year (Pt. to Pt.)	12 Month Moving Average
2010	May	215.9	1.6%	5.3%	3.6%
	June	217.7	0.8%	4.8%	3.9%
	July	217.6	0.0%	4.3%	4.2%
	August	218.6	0.5%	5.0%	4.5%
	September	220.7	1.0%	5.8%	5.0%
	October	223.3	1.2%	6.6%	5.4%
	November	225.8	1.1%	7.0%	5.8%
	December	228.3	1.1%	6.9%	5.9%
2011	January	231.2	1.3%	6.8%	6.0%
	February	233.9	1.2%	7.8%	6.1%
	March	233.2	-0.3%	8.6%	6.2%
	April	233.4	0.1%	9.8%	6.6%
	May	234.8	0.6%	8.8%	6.9%

**Table 4 : Monthly Average Open Market Retail Prices of Selected Items Colombo  
(2010 May – 2011 May)**

<i>Item</i>	<i>Unit</i>	<i>2010</i>	<i>2011</i>	<i>2011</i>	<i>% change</i>	
		<i>May</i>	<i>Apr.</i>	<i>May</i>	<i>May11/Apr.11</i>	<i>May11/May10</i>
Rice– Kekulu – Red	Kg	60.48	58.84	59.09	0.42	-2.31
Rice– Kekulu – White	Kg	52.26	58.13	58.35	0.38	11.65
Rice –Nadu	Kg	58.77	60.09	60.04	-0.08	2.16
Rice– Samba	Kg	70.45	69.43	69.00	-0.62	-2.06
Wheat flour	Kg	61.41	82.45	85.36	3.52	39.01
Bread	450g	36.78	45.75	47.09	2.93	28.03
Gram	Kg	156.83	178.11	187.86	5.47	19.79
Green Grams	Kg	255.37	228.38	223.80	-2.01	-12.36
Coconut	Each	28.60	48.53	46.99	-3.17	64.30
Papadam(Harischandra)	Kg	371.43	482.29	507.14	5.15	36.54
Coconut Oil	750ml	156.87	264.10	251.21	-4.88	60.14
Chicken	Kg	426.71	387.97	377.08	-2.18	-11.63
Eggs	Each	13.38	12.65	11.41	-9.80	-14.72
Red onion	Kg	92.08	139.41	162.05	16.24	75.94
B' onion	Kg	55.83	59.67	56.05	-6.07	0.40
Potatoes	Kg	82.95	90.32	99.78	10.47	20.29
Tamarind	Kg	99.65	308.74	295.58	-4.26	196.63
Dried chillies	Kg	191.38	284.05	291.24	2.53	52.17
<b>Vegetables-</b>						
Cabbage	Kg	82.85	129.51	113.01	-12.74	36.40
Beans	Kg	156.02	183.37	126.94	-30.77	-18.64
Ash Plantain	Kg	84.43	116.09	93.87	-19.14	11.19
Bitter gourd	Kg	110.71	143.98	120.18	-16.53	8.55
Tomatoes	Kg	79.97	187.44	98.39	-47.51	23.04
Leeks	Kg	105.17	125.79	92.53	-26.44	-12.02
Snake gourd	Kg	82.41	87.95	71.17	-19.08	-13.64
Carrot	Kg	103.12	181.35	143.25	-21.01	38.91
Green chillies	Kg	185.10	215.06	193.55	-10.00	4.56
Mango	Each	54.79	112.55	100.30	-10.88	83.08
<b>Fresh Fish –</b>						
Balaya	Kg	498.98	421.21	468.55	11.24	-6.10
Paraw	Kg	660.40	612.19	678.06	10.76	2.67
Kelavalla	Kg	645.45	578.00	644.52	11.51	-0.14
<b>Dried Fish -</b>						
Balaya	Kg	537.65	620.88	614.13	-1.09	14.23
Keeramin/Salaya	Kg	626.10	633.78	668.52	5.48	6.78
Kerosene Oil	Lt	51.00	61.00	61.00	0.00	19.61
Petrol	Lt	115.00	125.00	125.00	0.00	8.70
Diesel (CPC & IOC Avg.)	Lt	73.00	80.50	80.50	0.00	10.27
Gas- Avg.	12.5kg	1756.50	1890.00	1890.00	0.00	7.63
Shell	12.5kg	1769.00	1890.00	1890.00	0.00	6.84
Laughs	12.5kg	1744.00	1890.00	1890.00	0.00	8.37

Source : Prices and Wages Division,  
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