



NEWS RELEASE
THE NATIONAL CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (BASE 2013=100): JANUARY 2022



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Issuing the National Consumer Price Index (NCPI), for the month of January 2022, the Director General of Census and Statistics said that headline inflation as measured by the Year-on-Year change (The percentage change in the current month NCPI over same month NCPI of last year) based on the NCPI has been compiled as 16.8%. The headline inflation reported for the month of December 2021 was 14.0%. Contributions to the inflation rate of January 2022 from the food group and non-food group are 11.4% and 5.4% respectively. Whilst contributions of food and non-food groups to the inflation in January 2021 were 2.7% and 1.0% respectively, resulting in a headline inflation of 3.7%. With respect to January 2021, the reported inflation for the month of January 2022 was mainly due to the higher price levels prevailed in both food and non-food groups. Accordingly, the Year-on-Year inflation of the food group increased to 24.4% in January 2022 from 21.5% in December 2021 and the Year-on-Year inflation of the non-food group increased to 10.2% in January 2022 from 7.6% in December 2021.

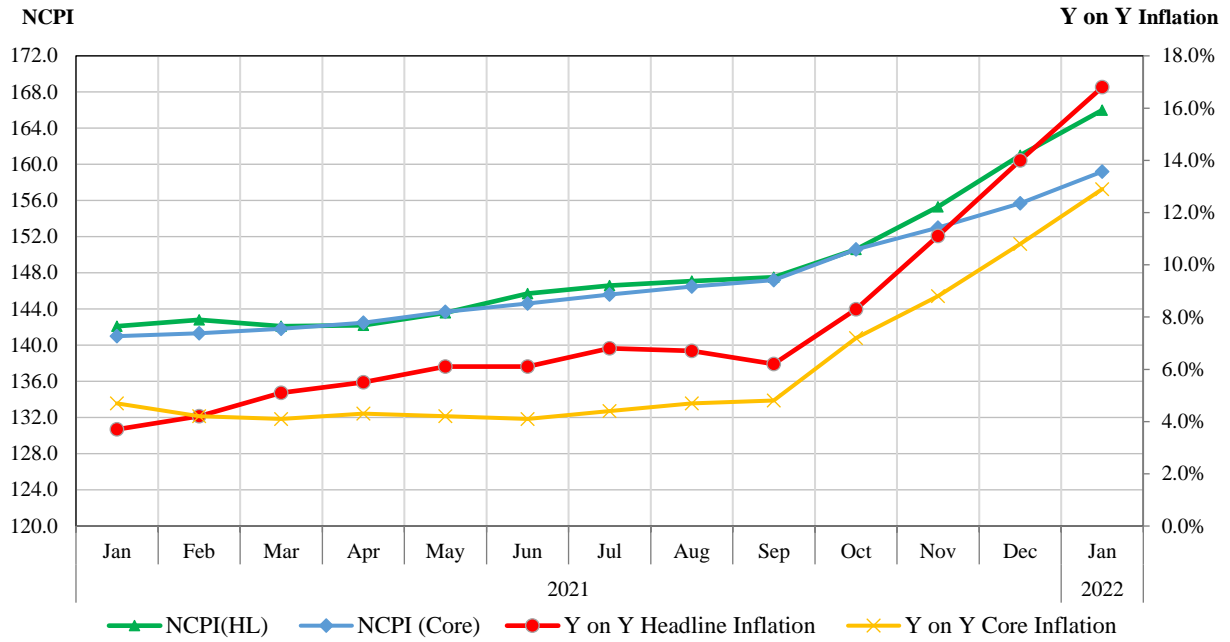
Comparing the month-on-month changes, NCPI in January 2022 has increased to 166.0 from 161.0 reported in December 2021. This shows an increase of 5.0 index points or 3.1 percentage as compared to December 2021. The month-on-month change was contributed by increases of index values of food items by 1.71% and non-food items by 1.35% respectively.

Price increases of food items were reported for Rice, Milk powder, Fresh fruits, Fresh fish, Wheat flour, Bread, Vegetables, Coconut oil, Chicken, Chilli powder, Dried chillies, Green chillies, Mysore dhal, Infant milk powder, Coconuts, Dried fish, Potatoes, Red onions and Big onions. However, decreases in index values were reported for Limes and Eggs.

The increases in index values of non-food groups in January 2022 compared to the previous month was mainly due to the price increases in groups of items 'Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics' (*Betel leaves*), 'Clothing and Footwear', 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other fuels' (*Material for the Maintenance*), 'Furnishing, Household equipment and Routine household maintenance', 'Health' (*Fees to private medical practices*), 'Transport' (*Petrol & Diesel, Bus fare*), 'Recreation and Culture', 'Education' (*Tuition fees*), 'Restaurants and Hotels' and 'Miscellaneous Goods and Services'. Meanwhile, the price indices of 'Communication' group remained unchanged during the month.

Core inflation, which reflects the underlying inflation by excluding volatile items of food, energy and transport groups in the economy as measured by the Year-on-Year change based on NCPI for the month of January 2022 was increased to 12.9% from 10.8% reported in month of December 2021.

**Movements of the NCPI (Base 2013=100), NCPI(Core), Year on Year
Headline Inflation and Year on Year Core Inflation**



Movements of the NCPI (Base: 2013 = 100)

Year	Month	Index Number				Month to Month % change of Index Number		Year on Year Inflation %			
		NCPI(HL)			NCPI (Core)	NCPI(HL)	NCPI (Core)	NCPI(HL)			NCPI (Core)
		All Items	Food	Non Food	All Items			All Items	Food	Non Food	All Items
2021	January	142.1	151.4	134.7	141.0	0.6	0.4	3.7	5.9	1.8	4.2
	February	142.8	152.8	134.9	141.3	0.5	0.2	4.2	6.9	1.9	4.1
	March	142.1	150.7	135.3	141.8	-0.5	0.4	5.1	8.8	2.0	4.3
	April	142.2	150.8	135.5	142.5	0.1	0.5	5.5	9.7	2.2	4.1
	May	143.6	153.3	135.9	143.7	1.0	0.8	6.1	10.3	2.5	4.2
	June	145.7	157.3	136.5	144.6	1.5	0.6	6.1	9.8	2.9	4.1
	July	146.6	158.5	137.2	145.6	0.6	0.7	6.8	11.0	3.2	4.4
	August	147.1	159.4	137.4	146.5	0.3	0.6	6.7	11.1	3.0	4.7
	September	147.5	159.6	137.9	147.2	0.3	0.5	6.2	10.0	3.0	4.8
	October	150.6	162.6	141.2	150.6	2.1	2.3	8.3	11.7	5.4	7.2
	November	155.3	171.5	142.6	153.0	3.1	1.6	11.1	16.9	6.2	8.8
	December	161.0	182.1	144.5	155.7	3.7	1.8	14.0	21.5	7.6	10.8
2022	January	166.0	188.3	148.4	159.2	3.1	2.2	16.8	24.4	10.2	12.9