

**NEWS RELEASE****THE NATIONAL CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (BASE 2013=100): September 2022****Department of Census and Statistics****Ministry of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies****TEL: 011-2147414****FAX: 011-2877945****E-mail: [prices@statistics.gov.lk](mailto:prices@statistics.gov.lk)**

Issuing the National Consumer Price Index (NCPI), for the month of September 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 73.7%. The headline inflation reported for the month of August 2022 was 70.2%. Contributions to the inflation rate of September 2022 from the food group and non-food group are 40.9% and 32.9% respectively. Whilst contributions of food and non-food groups to the inflation in September 2021 were 4.6% and 1.6% respectively, resulting in a headline inflation of 6.2%. With respect to September 2021, the reported inflation for the month of September 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 85.8% in September 2022 from 84.6% in August 2022 and the Year-on-Year inflation of the non-food group increased to 62.8% in September 2022 from 57.1% in August 2022.

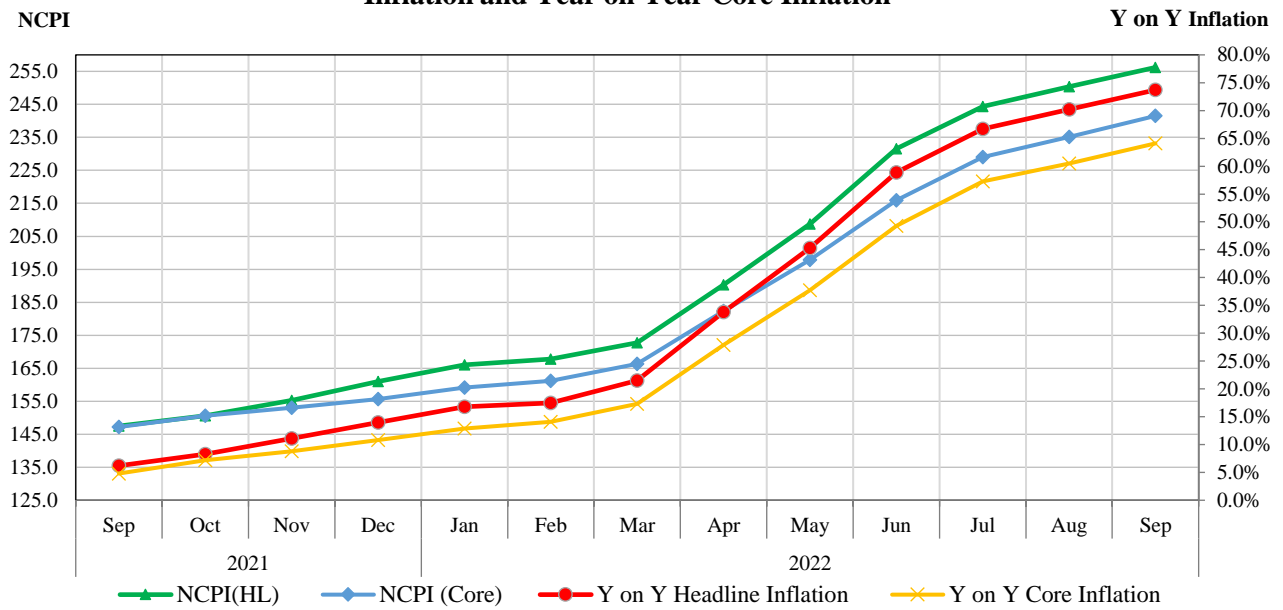
Comparing the month-on-month changes, NCPI in September 2022 has increased to 256.2 from 250.4 reported in August 2022. This shows an increase of 5.8 index points or 2.3 percent as compared to August 2022. The month-on-month change was contributed by increases of index values of food items by 0.38% and non-food items by 1.96% respectively.

Price increases of food items were mainly reported for Fresh fruits, Wheat flour, Chicken, Potatoes, Tea dust/leaves, Dried fish, Bread, Infant milk powder, Rice flour, Fresh fish, Red onions, Canned fish, Noodles, Beef and Salt. However, decreases in index values were reported for Rice, Sugar, Mysore dhal, Eggs, Coconut oil, Green chilies, Coconuts, Vegetables, Big onions, Biscuits and Dried chilies.

The increases in index values of non-food groups in September 2022 compared to the previous month was mainly due to the price increases in groups of items 'Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics' (*Cigarettes*), 'Clothing and Footwear', 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other fuels' (*Electricity bill, Water bill and Kerosene oil*), 'Furnishing, Household equipment and Routine household maintenance' (*Washing soap*), 'Health' (*Purchase of medical/ pharmacy products, Payments to private hospitals/nursing homes*), 'Transport' (*Cost of servicing of vehicles*), 'Communication' (*Telephone charges – mobile, Telephone charges - Home fixed phone*), 'Recreation and Culture', 'Education' (*School fees (International)*), 'Restaurants and Hotels' and 'Miscellaneous Goods and Services' (*Toilet soap*).

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 September 2022 was increased to 64.1% from 60.5% reported in month of August 2022.

### 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)
		All Items	Food	Non Food	All Items	NCPI(HL)	NCPI (Core)	All Items	Food	Non Food	All Items
2021	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
	February	167.8	190.6	149.8	161.2	1.1	1.3	17.5	24.7	11.0	14.1
	March	172.7	195.2	154.9	166.3	2.9	3.2	21.5	29.5	14.5	17.3
	April	190.3	218.8	167.9	182.3	10.2	9.6	33.8	45.1	23.9	27.9
	May	208.7	242.2	182.4	197.9	9.7	8.6	45.3	58.0	34.2	37.7
	June	231.5	276.6	196.0	215.9	10.9	9.1	58.9	75.8	43.6	49.3
	July	244.4	289.3	209.1	229.0	5.6	6.1	66.7	82.5	52.4	57.3
	August	250.4	294.3	215.8	235.1	2.5	2.7	70.2	84.6	57.1	60.5
September	256.2	296.5	224.5	241.5	2.3	2.7	73.7	85.8	62.8	64.1	