



NEWS RELEASE
THE NATIONAL CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (BASE 2013=100): October 2022
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Issuing the National Consumer Price Index (NCPI), for the month of October 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 70.6%. The headline inflation reported for the month of September 2022 was 73.7%. Contributions to the inflation rate of October 2022 from the food group and non-food group are 38.5% and 32.1% respectively. Whilst contributions of food and non-food groups to the inflation in October 2021 were 5.4% and 2.9% respectively, resulting in a headline inflation of 8.3%. With respect to October 2021, the reported inflation for the month of October 2022 was mainly due to the higher price levels prevailed in both food and non-food groups. Anyway, on a monthly basis, the Year-on-Year inflation of the food group decreased to 80.9% in October 2022 from 85.8% in September 2022 and the Year-on-Year inflation of the non-food group also decreased to 61.3% in October 2022 from 62.8% in September 2022.

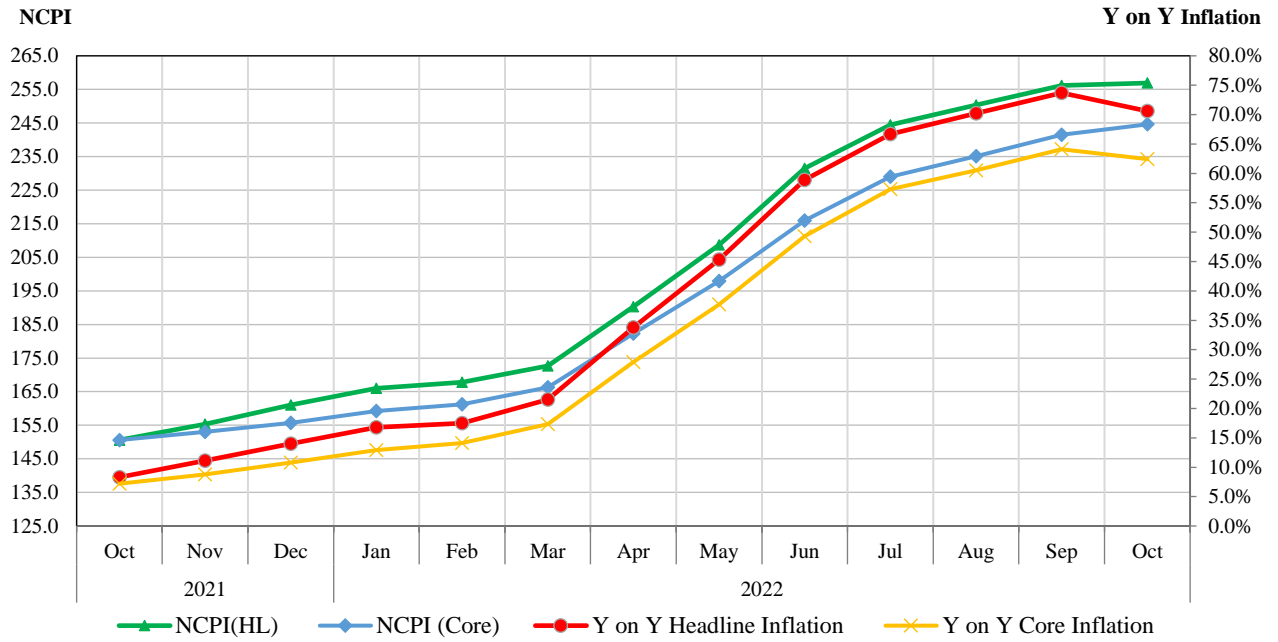
Comparing the month-on-month changes, NCPI in October 2022 has increased to 256.9 from 256.2 reported in September 2022. This shows an increase of 0.7 index points or 0.3 percent as compared to September 2022. The month-on-month change was contributed by a 0.41% decrease in index value for food items and a 0.69% increase in index value for non-food items.

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

The increases in index values of non-food groups in October 2022 compared to the previous month was mainly due to the price increases in groups of items 'Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics' (*Arrack*), 'Clothing and Footwear', 'Furnishing, Household equipment and Routine household maintenance' (*Washing soap*), 'Health' (*Purchase of medical/ pharmacy products, Payments to private hospitals/nursing homes*), 'Communication' (*Telephone charges – mobile and home fixed phone*), 'Recreation and Culture' (*Exercise books and stationeries*), 'Education' (*Tuition fees*), 'Restaurants and Hotels' and 'Miscellaneous Goods and Services' (*Toilet soap*). However, price decreases in groups of items were reported for 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other fuels' (*Materials for the Maintenance*) and 'Transport' (*Petrol and Diesel*).

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 October 2022 was decreased to 62.4% from 64.1% reported in month of September 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	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
October	256.9	294.1	227.7	244.6	0.3	1.3	70.6	80.9	61.3	62.4	