

**NEWS RELEASE****THE NATIONAL CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (BASE 2013=100): November 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**

Issuing the National Consumer Price Index (NCPI), for the month of November 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 65.0%. The headline inflation reported for the month of October 2022 was 70.6%. Contributions to the inflation rate of November 2022 from the food group and non-food group are 33.9% and 31.0% respectively. Whilst contributions of food and non-food groups to the inflation in November 2021 were 7.8% and 3.3% respectively, resulting in a headline inflation of 11.1%. With respect to November 2021, the reported inflation for the month of November 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 69.8% in November 2022 from 80.9% in October 2022 and the Year-on-Year inflation of the non-food group also decreased to 60.4% in November 2022 from 61.3% in October 2022.

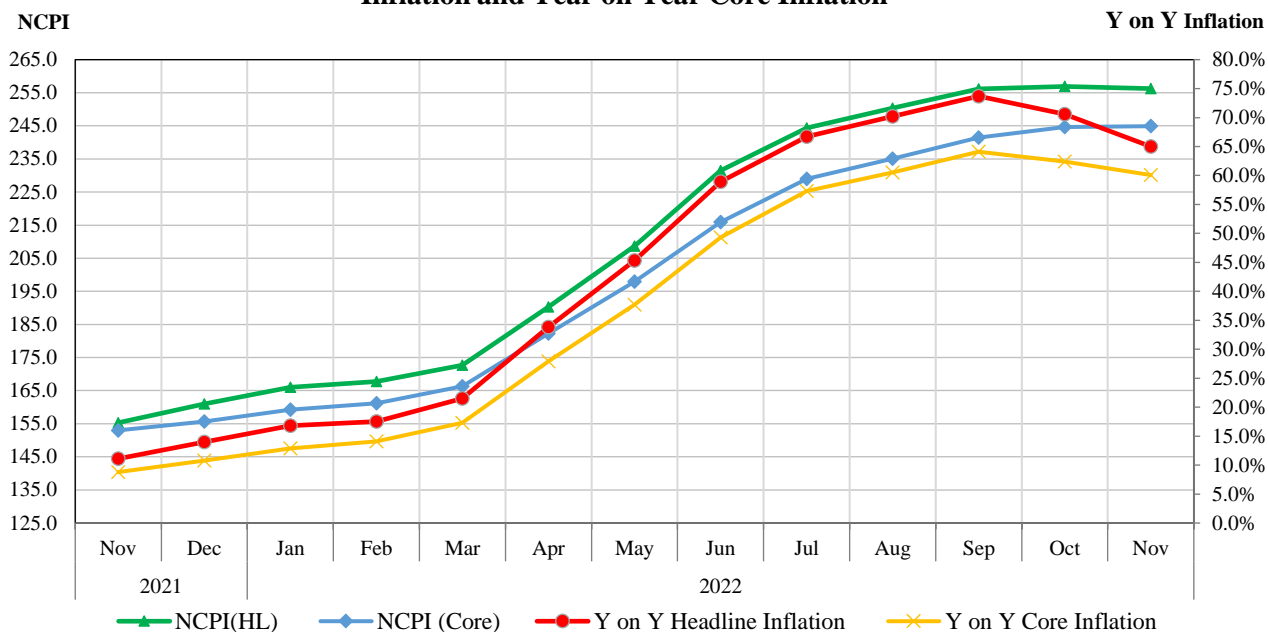
Comparing the month-on-month changes, NCPI in November 2022 has decreased to 256.3 from 256.9 reported in October 2022. This shows a decrease of 0.6 index points or 0.2 percent as compared to October 2022. The month-on-month change was contributed by a 0.49 percent decrease in index value for food items and a 0.23 percent increase in index value for non-food items.

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

The increases in index values of non-food groups in November 2022 compared to the previous month was mainly due to the price increases in groups of items 'Clothing and Footwear', 'Furnishing, Household equipment and Routine household maintenance' (*Energy saving bulbs, Washing soap, Washing powder*), 'Health' (*Purchase of medical/pharmacy products, Payments to private hospitals/nursing homes*), 'Communication', 'Recreation and Culture' (*Books*), 'Education' (*Course fees-Higher education*), 'Restaurants and Hotels' and 'Miscellaneous Goods and Services' (*Toilet soap*). However, price decreases in groups of items were reported for 'Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics' (*Betel leaves, Arecanuts*), 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other fuels' (*Materials for the Maintenance*) and 'Transport' (*Petrol*).

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 November 2022 was decreased to 60.1% from 62.4% reported in month of October 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	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
November	256.3	291.2	228.7	244.9	-0.2	0.1	65.0	69.8	60.4	60.1	