

**NEWS RELEASE****THE NATIONAL CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (BASE 2021=100): October 2024****Department of Census and Statistics****Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development****TEL: 011-2147414****FAX: 011-2877945****E-mail: [prices@statistics.gov.lk](mailto:prices@statistics.gov.lk)**

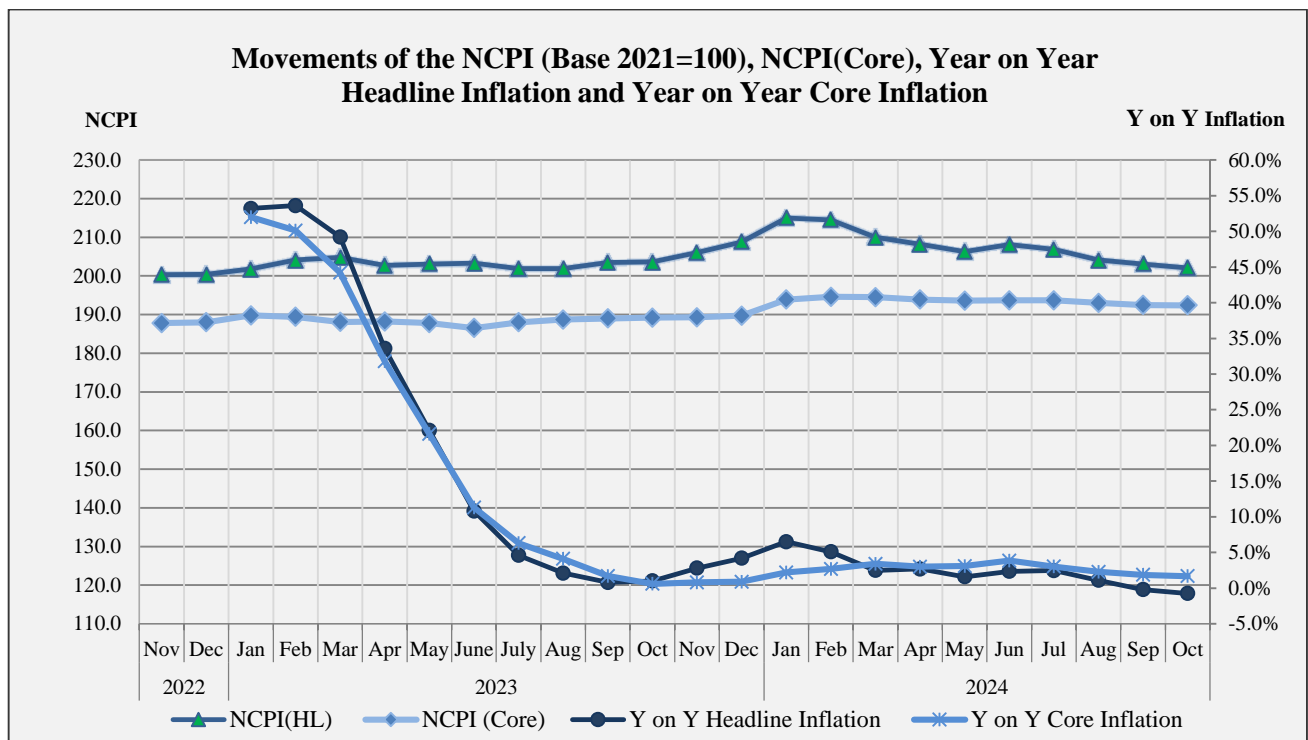
Issuing the NCPI, for the month of October 2024, the Director General of Census and Statistics said that headline inflation as measured by the Year-on-Year change (The percentage change in the current month NCPI over same month NCPI of last year) based on the NCPI has been compiled as -0.7%. The headline inflation reported for the month of September 2024 was -0.2%. Contributions to the inflation rate of October 2024 from the food group and non-food group are 0.6% and -1.3% respectively. On a monthly basis, the Year-on-Year inflation of the food group increased to 1.3% in October 2024 from 0.5% in September 2024 and the Year-on-Year inflation of the non-food group decreased to -2.3% in October 2024 from -0.7% in September 2024.

Comparing the month-on-month changes, NCPI (Base 2021=100) in October 2024 has decreased to 202.1 from 203.1 reported in September 2024. This shows a decrease of 1.0 index points or 0.50 percent as compared to September 2024. The month-on-month change was contributed by a decrease in food items of 0.16% and in non-food items of 0.35%, respectively.

Price decreases of food items were mainly reported for Vegetables, Fresh fish, Fresh fruits, Eggs, Potatoes, Green Gram, Ginger, Sugar, Infant milk powder, Bread (normal) and wheat flour. However, increases in index values were reported for Coconuts, Coconut oil, Rice, Limes, Turmeric powder, Green chilies, Tea dust /leaves, Canned fish and Mysore dhal.

The decreases in index values of non-food groups in October 2024 compared to the previous month was mainly due to the price decreases in groups of items 'Transport' (*Petrol*), 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other fuels' (*Materials for the maintenance*), 'Furnishing, Household equipment and Routine household maintenance', 'Restaurants and Hotels' and Recreation and Culture'. However, price increases in groups of items were reported for 'Health' (Purchase of medical/ pharmacy products), 'Miscellaneous Goods and Services' and 'Clothing and Footwear'. Further, very slight price increase was reported in the group of 'Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics'. Meanwhile, the price indices of 'Communication' and 'Education' groups 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 (Base 2021=100) for the month of October 2024 was decreased to 1.7% from 1.9% reported in month of September 2024.



### Movements of the NCPI (Base: 2021 = 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
2023	October	203.6	224.1	190.4	189.2	0.0	0.1	1.0	-5.2	6.3	0.6
	November	206.0	228.1	191.8	189.3	1.2	0.1	2.8	-2.2	7.1	0.8
	December	208.8	236.2	191.2	189.7	1.4	0.2	4.2	1.6	6.3	0.9
2024	January	215.0	242.4	197.3	193.9	3.0	2.2	6.5	4.1	8.5	2.2
	February	214.5	239.5	198.3	194.6	-0.2	0.4	5.1	5.0	5.1	2.7
	March	210.0	234.4	194.3	194.5	-2.1	-0.1	2.5	5.0	0.7	3.4
	April	208.2	231.1	193.4	193.9	-0.9	-0.3	2.7	3.3	2.3	3.0
	May	206.3	227.3	192.8	193.6	-0.9	-0.2	1.6	0.5	2.4	3.1
	June	208.1	232.8	192.1	193.7	0.9	0.1	2.4	1.9	2.7	3.9
	July	206.9	234.0	189.4	193.7	-0.6	0.0	2.5	2.9	2.2	3.0
	August	204.1	229.7	187.6	193.0	-1.4	-0.4	1.1	2.3	0.2	2.3
	September	203.1	227.9	187.1	192.5	-0.5	-0.3	-0.2	0.5	-0.7	1.9
	October	202.1	227.1	186.0	192.4	-0.5	-0.1	-0.7	1.3	-2.3	1.7