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CENTRAL BANK OF SRI LANKA

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# Press Release

Issued By Statistics Department

Date 2019-08-21

## Inflation increased in July 2019

### Headline Inflation

Year-on-year inflation : 2.2%  
Annual Average inflation : 1.9%  
Monthly Change : 0.2%

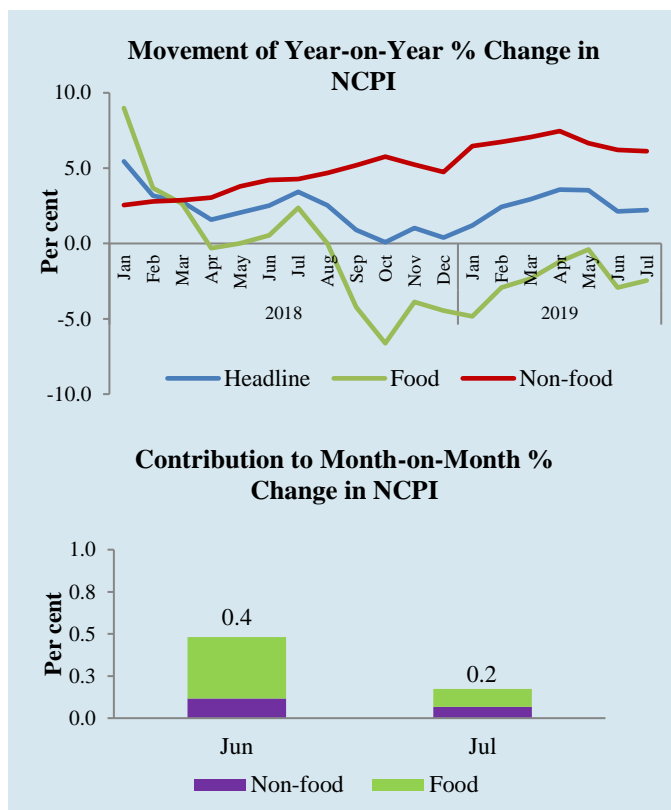
### Core Inflation

Year-on-year inflation : 6.1%  
Annual Average inflation : 4.7%  
Monthly Change : 0.3%

Headline inflation as measured by the year-on-year change in the National Consumer Price Index (NCPI, 2013=100)<sup>1</sup> increased marginally to 2.2 per cent in July 2019 from 2.1 per cent in June 2019 due to the monthly increases of prices of items in both Food and Non-food categories. Meanwhile, in July 2019, year-on-year Food and Non-food inflation recorded -2.5 per cent and 6.1 per cent respectively.

The change in the NCPI measured on an annual average basis decreased to 1.9 per cent in July 2019 from 2.0 per cent in June 2019.

When monthly change is considered, the NCPI increased by 0.2 per cent in July 2019 with the increases observed in the prices of the items in both Food and Non-food categories. Within the Food category, prices of green chillies, fresh



<sup>1</sup>The National Consumer Price Index (NCPI, 2013=100) is compiled by the Department of Census and Statistics.

fish and potatoes recorded increases. Moreover, within the Non-Food category, prices of the items in Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels; and Recreation and Culture sub-categories increased during the month.

The core inflation, which reflects the underlying inflation in the economy, remained unchanged at 6.1 per cent in July 2019 on year-on-year basis. However, annual average core inflation increased to 4.7 per cent in July 2019 from 4.4 per cent in June 2019.

**Movements of the NCPI**  
**Base: 2013 = 100**

Year	Month	Index Number		Monthly Percentage Change		Year-on-Year Percentage Change		Annual Average Percentage Change	
		NCPI	NCPI (Core)	NCPI	NCPI (Core)	NCPI	NCPI (Core)	NCPI	NCPI (Core)
2017	June	123.4	123.1	1.3	0.1	6.3	4.1	6.1	6.1
	July	122.4	122.9	-0.8	-0.2	6.3	4.2	6.2	5.9
	August	122.3	123.0	-0.1	0.1	7.9	4.8	6.5	5.8
	September	123.3	123.1	0.8	0.1	8.6	4.6	6.8	5.7
	October	124.8	123.1	1.2	0.0	8.8	4.1	7.1	5.6
	November	126.4	123.8	1.3	0.6	8.4	2.8	7.5	5.2
	December	126.6	123.8	0.2	0.0	7.3	2.7	7.7	4.9
2018	January	125.8	123.9	-0.6	0.1	5.4	2.1	7.6	4.5
	February	123.7	124.4	-1.7	0.4	3.2	2.0	7.2	4.1
	March	122.8	124.6	-0.7	0.2	2.8	1.9	6.7	3.6
	April	122.9	124.8	0.1	0.2	1.6	1.9	6.1	3.3
	May	124.3	125.1	1.1	0.2	2.1	1.7	5.7	3.1
	June	126.5	125.3	1.8	0.2	2.5	1.8	5.3	2.9
	July	126.6	125.7	0.1	0.3	3.4	2.3	5.1	2.7
	August	125.4	126.3	-0.9	0.5	2.5	2.7	4.7	2.5
	September	124.4	126.9	-0.8	0.5	0.9	3.1	4.0	2.4
	October	124.9	127.3	0.4	0.3	0.1	3.4	3.3	2.4
	November	127.7	127.6	2.2	0.2	1.0	3.1	2.7	2.4
	December	127.1	127.6	-0.5	0.0	0.4	3.1	2.1	2.4
2019	January	127.3	130.2	0.2	2.0	1.2	5.1	1.8	2.7
	February	126.7	131.3	-0.5	0.8	2.4	5.5	1.7	3.0
	March	126.4	131.8	-0.2	0.4	2.9	5.8	1.7	3.3
	April	127.3	132.6	0.7	0.6	3.6	6.3	1.9	3.7
	May	128.7	133.0	1.1	0.3	3.5	6.3	2.0	4.0
	June	129.2	133.0	0.4	0.0	2.1	6.1	2.0	4.4
	July	129.4	133.4	0.2	0.3	2.2	6.1	1.9	4.7

Source: Department of Census and Statistics