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இலங்கை மத்திய வங்கி  
CENTRAL BANK OF SRI LANKA

## Communications Department

30, Janadhipathi Mawatha, Colombo 01, Sri Lanka.

Tel : 2477424, 2477423, 2477311

Fax: 2346257, 2477739

E-mail: [dcommunications@cbsl.lk](mailto:dcommunications@cbsl.lk), [communications@cbsl.lk](mailto:communications@cbsl.lk)

Web: [www.cbsl.gov.lk](http://www.cbsl.gov.lk)

# Press Release

Issued By Statistics Department

Date 2020-09-21

## NCPI based Inflation increased in August 2020

### Headline Inflation

Year-on-year inflation : 6.2%

Annual Average inflation : 6.1%

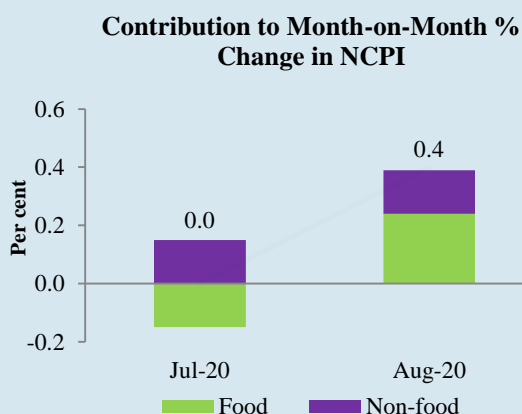
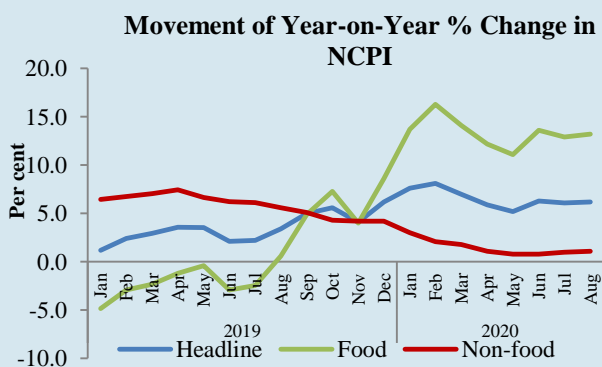
Monthly Change : 0.4%

### Core Inflation

Year-on-year inflation : 4.6%

Annual Average inflation : 4.4%

Monthly Change : 0.4%



Headline inflation as measured by the year-on-year (Y-o-Y) change in the National Consumer Price Index (NCPI, 2013=100)<sup>1</sup> increased marginally to 6.2 per cent in August 2020 from 6.1 per cent in July 2020. This was driven by the monthly increases in prices of items in both Food and Non-food categories. Meanwhile, Food inflation (Y-o-Y) increased to 13.2 per cent in August 2020 from 12.9 per cent in July 2020, whereas Non-food inflation (Y-o-Y) increased to 1.1 per cent in August 2020 from 1.0 per cent in July 2020.

The change in the NCPI measured on an annual average basis increased to 6.1 per cent in August 2020 from 5.9 per cent in July 2020.

Monthly change of NCPI recorded at 0.4 per cent in August 2020 mainly due to increases observed in prices of items in both Food and Non-food categories. Accordingly, within the Food category, increases were observed mainly in the prices of vegetables, turmeric

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

powder and coconuts during August 2020. Moreover, within the Non-food category, prices of items in the Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco sub-category recorded significant increases during the month. However, Health sub-category recorded a decline during the month with the reduction observed in payments to medical laboratory tests.

Further, core inflation (Y-o-Y) increased to 4.6 per cent in August 2020 from 4.5 per cent in July 2020, while annual average core inflation decreased to 4.4 per cent in August 2020 from 4.5 per cent in July 2020.

**Data Annexure:**

**Table 1: 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)
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
	August	129.7	133.7	0.2	0.2	3.4	5.9	2.0	5.0
	September	130.6	134.0	0.7	0.2	5.0	5.6	2.3	5.2
	October	131.9	134.4	1.0	0.3	5.6	5.6	2.8	5.4
	November	132.9	134.6	0.8	0.1	4.1	5.5	3.0	5.6
	December	135.0	134.2	1.6	-0.3	6.2	5.2	3.5	5.7
2020	January	137.0	135.3	1.5	0.8	7.6	3.9	4.1	5.6
	February	137.0	135.8	0.0	0.4	8.1	3.4	4.5	5.5
	March	135.2	136.0	-1.3	0.1	7.0	3.2	4.9	5.2
	April	134.8	136.9	-0.3	0.7	5.9	3.2	5.1	5.0
	May	135.4	137.9	0.4	0.7	5.2	3.7	5.2	4.8
	June	137.3	138.9	1.4	0.7	6.3	4.4	5.6	4.6
	July	137.3	139.4	0.0	0.4	6.1	4.5	5.9	4.5
	August	137.8	139.9	0.4	0.4	6.2	4.6	6.1	4.4

Source: Department of Census and Statistics