Press Release

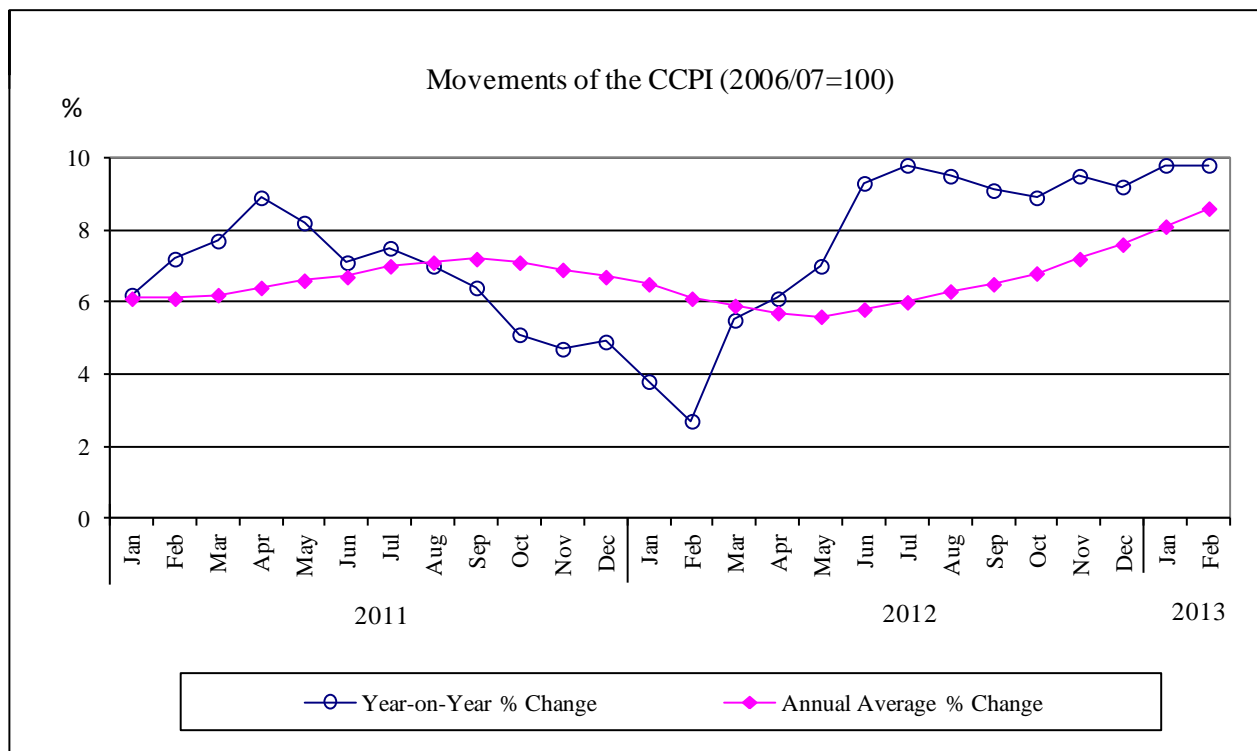| Issued By	Statistics Department
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Inflation in February 2013

Inflation, as measured by the Colombo Consumers' Price Index (CCPI) (2006/07=100) computed by the Department of Census and Statistics was 9.8 per cent on a year-on-year (YoY) basis in February 2013 which is the same rate as recorded in the previous month. The inflation rate on an annual average basis increased to 8.6 per cent in February 2013 from 8.1 per cent in the January 2013.

Meanwhile, core inflation increased on both YoY and annual average basis to 7.4 per cent and 6.3 per cent, respectively, in February 2013 from 7.3 per cent and 6.1 per cent, respectively, in January 2013.

Movements of the CCPI (2006/07=100)

The CCPI increased by 0.4 per cent in February 2013 over the previous month, with the Index increasing in absolute terms to 170.7 from 170.0 in January 2013. The contribution to the monthly increase in the Index came mainly from price increases in the Food category (by 0.6 per cent). The prices of some varieties of vegetables, fruits, dried fish, eggs, green chillies and prepared food increased during the month. However, a decrease in the price of some varieties of vegetables, fresh fish, limes, red onions, and potatoes was reported. Within the Non-Food category, prices increased in the sub-categories of Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels (by 0.4 per cent); Furnishing, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance (by 0.2 per cent); Health (by 0.2 per cent); and Miscellaneous Goods and Services (by 0.7 per cent). However, the prices in the sub- category of Clothing and Footwear recorded a decline of 0.4 per cent in February 2013. Meanwhile, the prices in the sub-categories of Transport; Communication; Recreation and Culture; and Education were unchanged during the month.