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Press Release



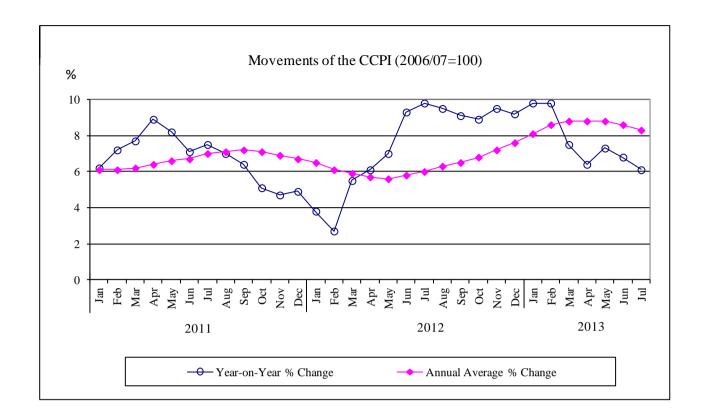
Statistics Department

2013 -07 - 31

Inflation declines further in July 2013

Inflation, as measured by the Colombo Consumers' Price Index (CCPI) (2006/07=100) computed by the Department of Census and Statistics decreased to 6.1 per cent on a year-on-year (YoY) basis in July 2013 from 6.8 per cent in the previous month. This decline was observed for the second consecutive month. The inflation rate on an annual average basis also decreased to 8.3 per cent in July 2013 from 8.6 per cent recorded in the previous month.

Core inflation on both YoY and annual average basis continued to decline to 3.1 per cent and 6.2 per cent, respectively, in July 2013 from 4.3 per cent and 6.4 per cent, respectively, in June 2013.



The CCPI increased by 0.2 per cent in July 2013 over the previous month, with the Index increasing in absolute terms to 176.8 from 176.5 in June 2013. The contribution to the monthly increase in the Index came mainly from price increases (by 0.2 per cent) in the Food and Non Alcoholic Beverages sub-category. Within the Food category the price of some varieties of vegetables, fruits and fresh fish, potatoes, big onions, red onions and limes increased during the month. However, a decrease in the price of many varieties of vegetables and fresh fish, green chillies and eggs was reported. Within the Non-Food category, increases in prices were reported in the sub-categories of Transport (by 0.5 per cent); Clothing and Footwear (by 0.2 per cent); and Miscellaneous Goods and Services (by 0.1 per cent). Meanwhile, the prices in the sub-categories of Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels; Furnishing, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance; Health; Communication; Recreation and Culture; and Education remained unchanged during the month.