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Press Release

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Inflation in November 2015

The Department of Census and Statistics (DCS) released a new consumer price index on November 23, 2015. Since 1953, the Colombo Consumers' Price Index remained as the official price index in Sri Lanka, and rebased subsequently in 2002 and 2006/07. The Colombo Consumer's Price Index (CCPI) (2006/07=100) covered only the behavior of prices observed in the Colombo urban areas. The National Consumer Price Index (NCPI), which replaces CCPI (2006/07=100), is computed covering all provinces in the country. The compilation of the NCPI is in line with internationally accepted practice to rebase consumer price indices periodically to reflect more recent changes in the patterns of consumption and expenditure with a broader coverage. The item list and quantities consumed in the NCPI are based on consumption information collected from the Household Income and Expenditure Survey (HIES) conducted from July 2012 to June 2013 covering all nine provinces in Sri Lanka, constitutes of 407 items.

Accordingly, inflation as measured by the change in the NCPI (2013=100) increased to 4.8 per cent in November 2015, compared to 3.0 per cent recorded in October 2015, on an year-on-year basis.

The NCPI increased by 2.6 per cent from October to November 2015. This monthly increase was mainly due to the increase in prices of the items in the Food and Non Alcoholic Beverages category. Prices in Clothing and Footwear; Furnishing, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance; Transport; Health; and Miscellaneous Goods and Services categories also increased during the month. Prices of Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics; and Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas, and Other Fuels categories decreased.

Meanwhile, prices of Communication; Recreation and Culture; Education; and Restaurants and Hotels sub groups remained unchanged on average.

Dusc • 2015 – 100				
Year	Month	Index Number	Monthly % Change	Year-on-Year % Change
2014	January	103.1		
-011	February	103.0	-0.1	
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	March	103.2	0.2	
	April	104.1	0.9	
	May	104.9	0.8	
	June	106.2	1.2	
	July	107.0	0.8	
	August	106.4	-0.6	
	September	106.4	0.0	
	October	106.0	-0.4	
	November	106.9	0.8	
	December	108.6	1.6	
2015	January	112.8	3.9	9.4
	February	108.9	-3.5	5.7
	March	107.6	-1.2	4.3
	April	107.0	-0.6	2.8
	May	108.0	0.9	3.0
	June	109.1	1.0	2.7
	July	108.9	-0.2	1.8
	August	108.4	-0.5	1.9
	September	108.4	0.0	1.9
	October	109.2	0.7	3.0
	November	112.0	2.6	4.8

Movements of the NCPI Base : 2013 = 100

Source: Department of Census and Statistics