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CENTRAL BANK OF SRI LANKA

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# Press Release

Issued By Statistics Department

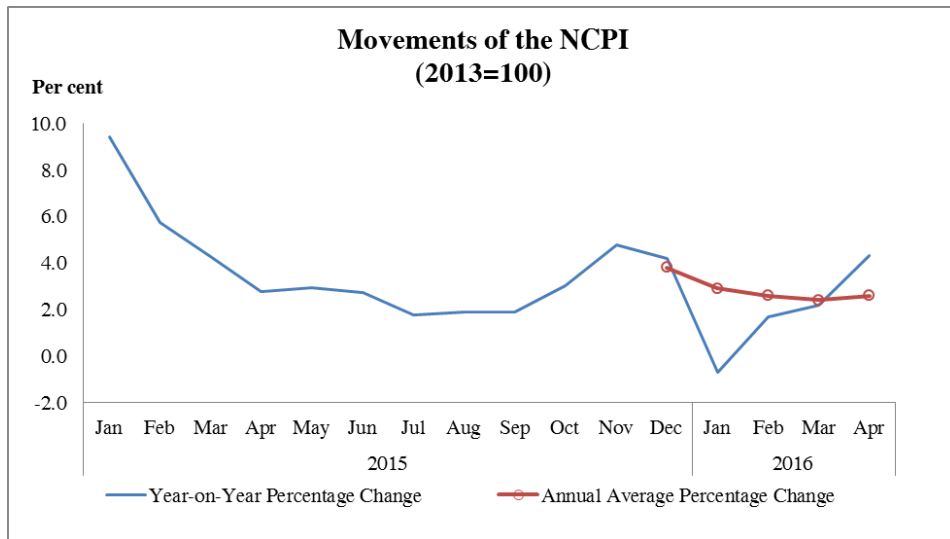
Date 2016 -05-26

## Inflation in April 2016

Inflation, as measured by the change in the National Consumer Price Index (NCPI) (2013=100), which is compiled by the Department of Census and Statistics, increased to 4.3 per cent in April 2016 from 2.2 per cent in March 2016, on year-on-year basis. Food and Non Alcoholic Beverages; Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco; Clothing and Footwear; Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance; Health; Transport; Recreation and Culture; Education; Restaurants and Hotels and Miscellaneous Goods and Services sub categories contributed towards the year-on-year inflation in April.

The change in the NCPI measured on an annual average basis increased to 2.6 per cent in April 2016 from 2.4 per cent recorded in March 2016.

When the monthly change in the NCPI is considered, the NCPI increased by 1.5 per cent from 110.0 index points in March 2016 to 111.6 index points in April 2016. This monthly increase was mainly due to the increase in prices of the items in the Food and Non Alcoholic Beverages category. Prices of fresh fish, salt, rice, some fruits, potatoes, sugar, chicken, eggs and bread increased during the month. Prices in Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco; Clothing and Footwear; Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas, and Other Fuels; Furnishing, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance; Transport; Restaurants and Hotels and Miscellaneous Goods and Services sub-categories increased during April 2016. Meanwhile, prices in Health; Communication; Recreation and Culture and Education sub-categories remained unchanged during the month. The change in NCPI in April does not include the direct impact of recent changes in Value Added Tax (VAT) and Nation Building Tax (NBT), which were effected from May 2016.



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

Year	Month	Index Number	Monthly Percentage Change	Year-on-Year Percentage Change	Annual Average Percentage Change
2014	January	103.1			
	February	103.0	-0.1		
	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	
	December	113.2	1.1	4.2	3.8
2016	January	112.0	-1.1	-0.7	2.9
	February	110.8	-1.1	1.7	2.6
	March	110.0	-0.7	2.2	2.4
	April	111.6	1.5	4.3	2.6

Source: Department of Census and Statistics