



ශ්‍රී ලංකා මහ බැංකුව  
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

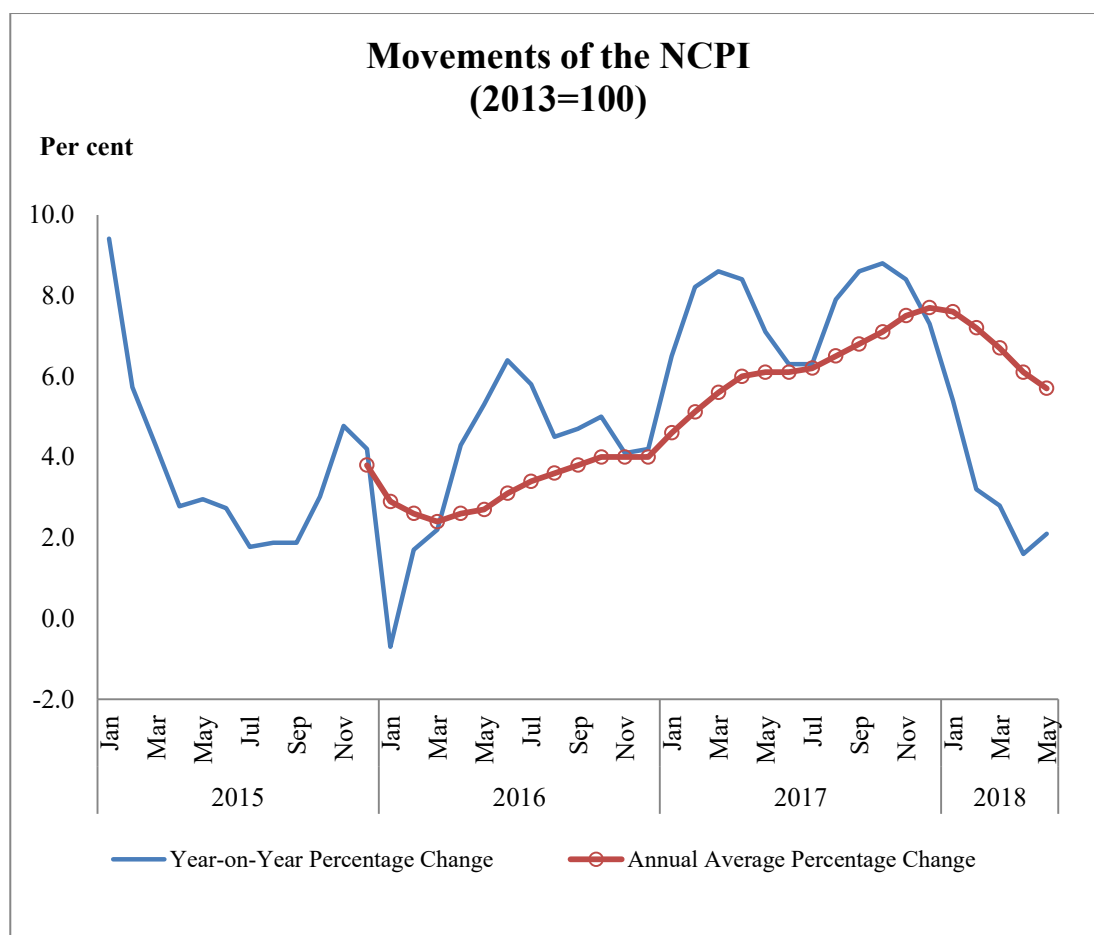
2018 -06-21

## Inflation in May 2018

Headline 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 (DCS), increased to 2.1 per cent in May 2018 from 1.6 per cent in April 2018, on year-on-year basis. The increase in the year-on-year inflation in May 2018 was mainly driven by upward price revisions to the items in the Non-food category. The change in the NCPI measured on an annual average basis decreased from 6.1 per cent in April 2018 to 5.7 per cent in May 2018.

When monthly change is considered, the NCPI increased from 122.9 index points in April 2018 to 124.3 index points in May 2018 largely due to the increase in prices of the items in the Non-food category, particularly that of Transport (upward fuel price revision); Housing Water Electricity Gas and Other Fuels (Kerosene Oil, LP Gas); and Health sub-categories. Meanwhile, price increases were observed in the items in the Food category such as vegetables, fresh fish, big onions, limes and potatoes owing to seasonal factors.

The NCPI Core inflation, which reflects the underlying inflation in the economy, decreased to 1.7 per cent in May 2018 from 1.9 per cent in April 2018 on year-on-year basis. Meanwhile, annual average NCPI Core inflation declined to 3.1 per cent in May 2018 from 3.3 per cent in April 2018.



**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) |
| 2017 | January   | 119.3        | 121.4       | 1.1                       | 0.7         | 6.5                            | 7.1         | 4.6                              | 6.2         |
|      | February  | 119.9        | 122.0       | 0.5                       | 0.5         | 8.2                            | 7.1         | 5.1                              | 6.4         |
|      | March     | 119.5        | 122.3       | -0.3                      | 0.2         | 8.6                            | 7.0         | 5.6                              | 6.6         |
|      | April     | 121.0        | 122.5       | 1.3                       | 0.2         | 8.4                            | 5.9         | 6.0                              | 6.6         |
|      | May       | 121.8        | 123.0       | 0.7                       | 0.4         | 7.1                            | 4.7         | 6.1                              | 6.4         |
|      | June      | 123.4        | 123.1       | 1.3                       | 0.1         | 6.3                            | 4.1         | 6.1                              | 6.1         |
|      | July      | 122.4        | 122.9       | -0.8                      | -0.2        | 6.3                            | 4.2         | 6.2                              | 5.9         |
|      | August    | 122.3        | 123.0       | -0.1                      | 0.1         | 7.9                            | 4.8         | 6.5                              | 5.8         |
|      | September | 123.3        | 123.1       | 0.8                       | 0.1         | 8.6                            | 4.6         | 6.8                              | 5.7         |
|      | October   | 124.8        | 123.1       | 1.2                       | 0.0         | 8.8                            | 4.1         | 7.1                              | 5.6         |
|      | November  | 126.4        | 123.8       | 1.3                       | 0.6         | 8.4                            | 2.8         | 7.5                              | 5.2         |
|      | December  | 126.6        | 123.8       | 0.2                       | 0.0         | 7.3                            | 2.7         | 7.7                              | 4.9         |
| 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         |

Source: Department of Census and Statistics