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CENTRAL BANK OF SRI LANKA

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# Press Release

Issued By Statistics Department

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## Inflation increased in November 2018

Headline inflation as measured by the year-on-year change in the National Consumer Price Index (NCPI, 2013=100)<sup>1</sup> reversed its declining trend, recording 1.0 per cent in November 2018 from 0.1 per cent in October 2018. The increase observed in year-on-year inflation in November 2018 is mainly driven by the increase of the prices of Food items. Year-on-year Food inflation increased to -3.9 per cent in November 2018 from -6.6 per cent in October 2018. However, year-on-year Non-food inflation decreased from 5.8 per cent in October 2018 to 5.2 per in November 2018.

The change in the NCPI measured on an annual average basis decreased to 2.7 per cent in November 2018 from 3.3 per cent in October 2018.

The month on month change of the NCPI

increased by 2.2 per cent in November 2018 due to increase in the prices of the items in the Food category, particularly that of vegetables, green chillies, rice, limes and potatoes. Meanwhile, prices of the items in the Non-food category also increased during the month where Health sub-

### Headline Inflation

Year-on-year inflation : 1.0%

Annual Average inflation : 2.7%

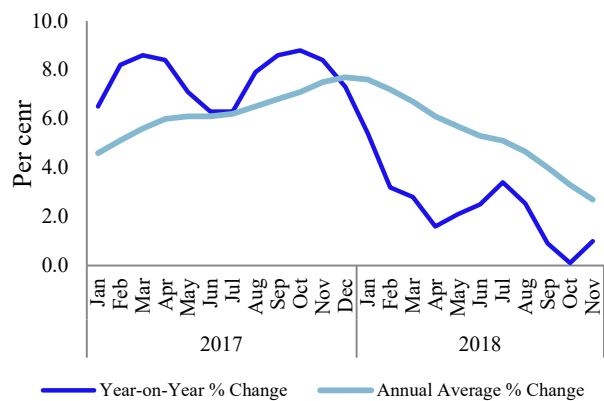
Monthly % Change : 2.2%

### Core Inflation

Year-on-year inflation : 3.1%

Annual Average inflation : 2.4%

Monthly % Change : 0.2%



<sup>1</sup>The National Consumer Price Index (NCPI, 2013=100) is compiled by the Department of Census and Statistics.

category reported the highest increase. However, prices of items in the Transport (Petrol and Diesel) sub-category reported a decrease during the month.

The core inflation, which reflects the underlying inflation in the economy, decreased to 3.1 per cent in November 2018 from 3.4 per cent in October 2018 on year-on-year basis. Meanwhile, annual average core inflation remained unchanged at 2.4 per cent in November 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
	June	126.5	125.3	1.8	0.2	2.5	1.8	5.3	2.9
	July	126.6	125.7	0.1	0.3	3.4	2.3	5.1	2.7
	August	125.4	126.3	-0.9	0.5	2.5	2.7	4.7	2.5
	September	124.4	126.9	-0.8	0.5	0.9	3.1	4.0	2.4
	October	124.9	127.3	0.4	0.3	0.1	3.4	3.3	2.4
	November	127.7	127.6	2.2	0.2	1.0	3.1	2.7	2.4

Source: Department of Census and Statistics