

Weekly Economic Indicators

20 March 2015



Statistics Department

Real Sector

Inflation, as measured by the change in the Colombo Consumers' Price Index (CCPI) (2006/07=100), which is computed by the Department of Census and Statistics, decreased to 0.6 per cent, the lowest level recorded since February 2004 on a year-on-year basis. Annual average inflation also declined from 3.2 per cent recorded in January to 2.9 per cent in February 2015.

Core inflation, which reflects the underlying inflation in the economy, declined significantly from 2.1 per cent in January 2015 to 0.8 per cent in February 2015 on a year on year basis. Annual average core inflation during February 2015 was 3.2 per cent, compared to 3.4 per cent recorded in January 2015.

The economy grew by 6.4 per cent in real terms during the fourth quarter of 2014, supported by the 8.5 per cent growth of the Industry sector and 6.7 per cent growth of the Services sector, while the Agriculture Sector contracted by 3.3 percent.

During the year 2014, the tea and rubber production recorded a decrease of 0.6 per cent and 24.4 per cent respectively. Meanwhile, the coconut production showed an increase of 14.2 per cent in 2014.

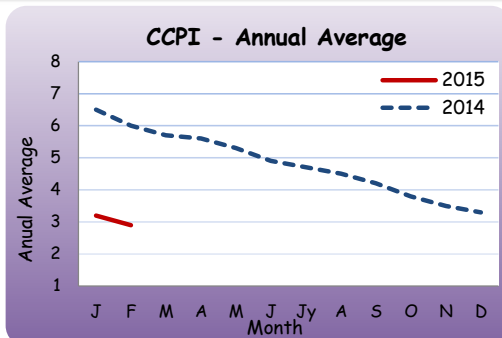
The FIPI increased by 6.9 per cent on a year-on-year basis in November 2014. This growth was mainly facilitated by increased production of wearing apparel as well as rubber and plastic products sectors. They have recorded a significant growth of 17.2 and 9.5 per cent respectively during this period. This was mainly attributed to increased domestic and international demand.

During the week crude oil spot prices showed mixed performance. At the beginning of the week, crude oil prices fell after the dollar hit fresh highs and on worries over an oil supply glut. Dollar index closed above 100 for the first time since April 2003 to hit fresh 12-year highs. U.S. crude stocks were forecast to have surged for the tenth straight week to a new record high. Price declines were further supported on signs of higher output in the U.S. and Libya and a possible nuclear deal that could end sanctions for Iran. However, prices then rose as the dollar fell after the Federal Reserve indicated it preferred a more gradual path to normalising U.S. interest rates despite being open to the first rate hike in almost a decade. However, WTI prices fell towards the end of the week, after Energy Information Administration (EIA) reported U.S. crude inventories rose by 9.6 million barrels to 458.5 million barrels last week, the highest since EIA began keeping a weekly record, and on renewed concerns about oversupply after Kuwait's oil minister said OPEC has no choice but to maintain production levels.

REAL SECTOR

1.1 Price Indices

Item	Feb 2015	Month Ago	Year Ago
(2006 / 07 = 100)			
Colombo Consumers' Price Index (CCPI)	178.9	183.2	177.8
Annual Average Change %	2.9	3.2	6.0
Year - on - Year Change %	0.6	3.2	4.2
Core Inflation - (CCPI)	172.0	173.6	170.6
Annual Average Change %	3.2	3.4	3.8
Year - on - Year Change %	0.8	2.1	3.1

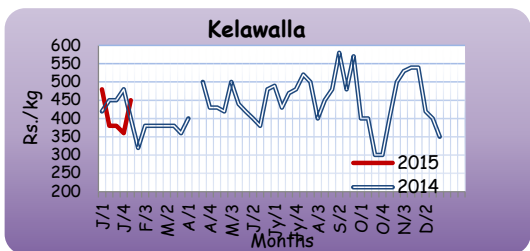
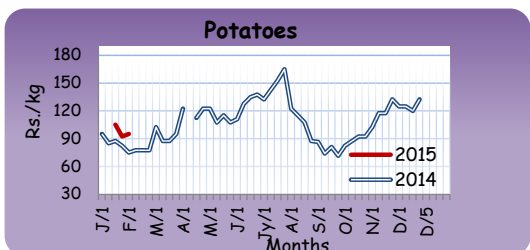
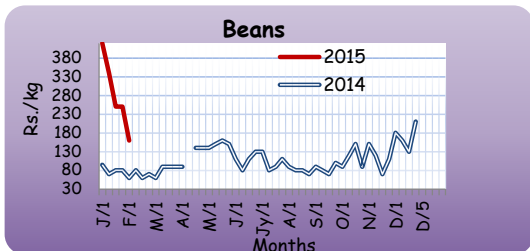
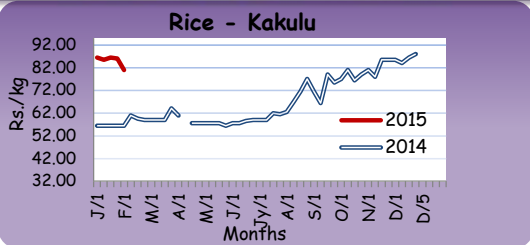


1.2 Pettah Market

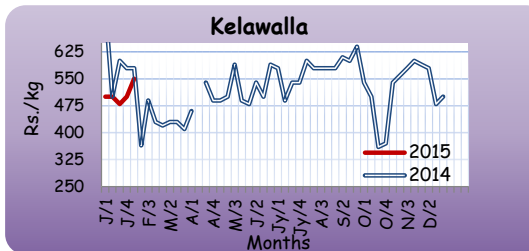
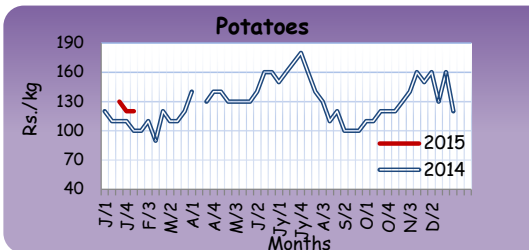
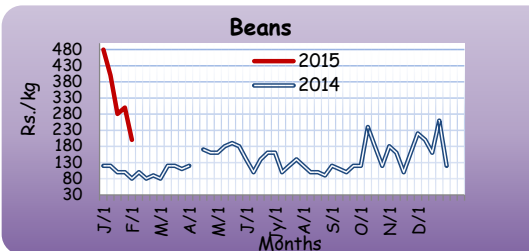
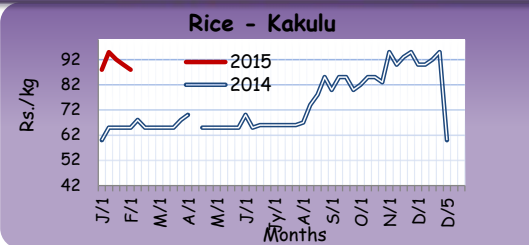
Item	Average Wholesale Prices				Average Retail Prices			
	Week Ending 19 th March 2015	Week Ago	Month Ago	Year Ago Annual Avg	Week Ending 19 th March 2015	Week Ago	Month Ago	Year Ago Annual Avg
	Rs / Kg				Rs / Kg			
Rice								
Samba	77.50	84.00	80.88	78.30	88.00	88.00	89.75	84.04
Kekulu (Red)	71.00	72.50	75.50	67.44	77.00	80.00	83.50	74.33
Vegetables								
Beans	120.00	140.00	210.00	113.17	160.00	180.00	245.00	140.96
Cabbage	60.00	55.00	107.50	61.65	80.00	100.00	145.00	90.96
Carrots	90.00	100.00	152.50	109.81	120.00	140.00	195.00	138.08
Tomatoes	70.00	60.00	190.00	90.77	100.00	100.00	230.00	122.31
Pumpkins	70.00	80.00	145.00	37.38	100.00	110.00	175.00	56.83
Snake Gourd	60.00	60.00	92.50	69.90	80.00	80.00	127.50	96.73
Brinjals	60.00	50.00	63.88	71.35	80.00	90.00	90.00	98.65
Ash-Plantains	90.00	90.00	132.50	73.65	120.00	100.00	162.50	95.96
Other Foods								
Red-Onions (Local)	77.50	62.50	72.50	79.55	120.00	110.00	106.67	109.59
Big-Onions (Local)	n.a	n.a	n.a.	75.42	n.a	n.a	n.a.	99.07
Potatoes (N'Eliya)	105.00	105.00	95.00	104.64	130.00	120.00	120.00	127.69
Dried Chilies (Imported)	210.00	210.00	225.25	193.24	260.00	260.00	265.00	230.38
Dhal (Indian)	152.00	150.00	152.25	140.94	165.00	165.00	168.75	159.23
Eggs (Red)	13.50	13.50	14.00	12.04	14.00	14.00	14.50	12.57
Coconut (Each)	47.50	47.50	45.00	38.63	60.00	60.00	53.75	50.10
Fish*								
Kelawalla	480.00	430.00	390.00	433.85	540.00	540.00	520.00	532.40
Balaya	340.00	240.00	290.00	295.00	400.00	350.00	345.00	349.04
Salaya	60.00	90.00	110.00	112.31	100.00	130.00	145.00	151.35
Paraw (Small)	380.00	460.00	375.00	435.58	450.00	520.00	425.00	487.88

* Prices collected from the Fisheries Trade Centre, Peliyagoda.

Pettah Market - Wholesale Prices



Pettah Market - Retail Prices



1.3 Dambulla Market

Item (Rs / Kg)	Week Ending 19 th Mar 2015	
	Wholesale (Average)	Retail (Average)
Rice		
Samba	83.50	87.50
Kekulu (Red)	76.00	79.00
Vegetables		
Beans	86.00	135.00
Carrot	80.50	122.00
Tomatoes	40.50	76.00
Pumpkins	53.50	73.00
Snake Gourd	30.00	61.00
Ash-Plantains	70.50	100.00
Other Foods		
Red-Onions (Local)	57.00	86.00
Big-Onions (Local)	n.a.	n.a.
Potatoes (N'Eliya)	92.00	111.00
Dried Chilies(Imported)	216.90	265.00
Coconut (Each)	47.50	55.50

1.4 Narahenpita Economic Centre

Item (Rs / Kg)	Average Retail Prices	
	18 th Mar 2015	Week Ago
Rice		
Samba	88.00	85.00
Kekulu (Red)	80.00	78.67
Vegetables		
Beans	100.00	136.67
Cabbage	100.00	100.00
Carrots	140.00	140.00
Tomatoes	100.00	100.00
Pumpkins	116.67	140.00
Snake Gourd	236.67	120.00
Brinjals	100.00	100.00
Ash-Plantains	156.67	180.00
Other Foods		
Red-Onions (Imported)	120.00	120.00
Big-Onions (Imported)	80.00	90.00
Potatoes (Imported)	83.33	120.00
Dried Chilies (Imported)	253.33	250.00
Dhal (Indian)	170.00	160.00
Eggs (Red)(Each)	14.00	14.00
Coconut (Each)	55.00	53.33
Fish		
Kelawalla	850.00	840.00
Balaya	425.00	n.a.
Salaya	166.67	100.00
Paraw (Small)	830.00	840.00

1.5 Maradagamula Market

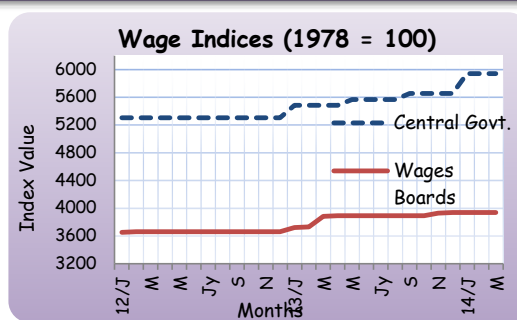
Average wholesale price of Rice

Item (Rs / Kg)	Week Ending 20 th Mar	Week Ago	Month Ago	Year Ago
Samba	75.50	76.52	76.86	75.74
Sudu Kekulu	64.50	64.10	69.53	69.11
Raw Red	76.30	76.70	78.42	67.25
Nadu	63.90	66.70	69.62	70.82

1.6 Wage rate Indices

Item	2014(a) Dec	2013 Dec	% Change
(1978 = 100)			
Central Government Employees (b)	6,653.0	5,653.3	17.7
Workers in Wages Boards Trades	4,127.0	3,938.1	4.8
Agriculture	4,734.3	4,449.0	6.4
Industry & Commerce	3,459.1	3,459.1	0.0
Services	2,313.2	2,313.2	0.0

(a) Provisional

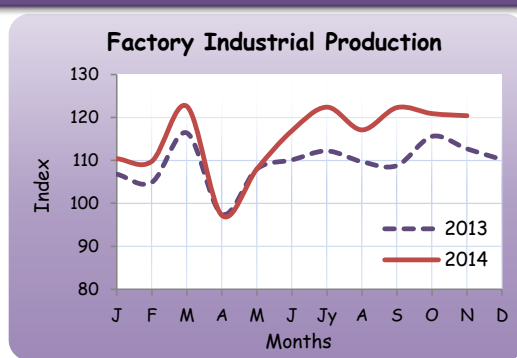


1.7 Factory Industry-Production (FIPI) (2010 = 100) (a)

Item	2014 (b) Nov	2013 Nov	% Change
Factory Industry- Production Index	120.4	112.7	6.9
Food products	107.2	102.6	4.5
Beverages	107.1	99.0	8.2
Tobacco products	84.2	103.0	-18.3
Wearing apparel	162.8	138.9	17.2
Chemicals and chemical products	85.8	84.3	1.8
Rubber and plastic products	134.1	122.5	9.5
Other non-metallic mineral products	104.9	100.8	4.1

(a) Major 7 sub divisions of FIPI out of 17 sub divisions.

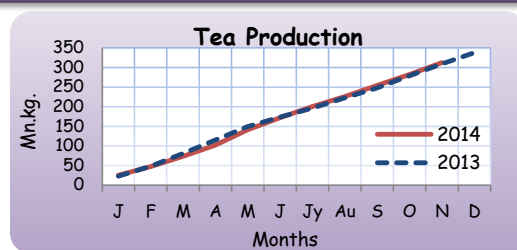
(b) Provisional



1.8 Agriculture Production

Item	Unit	2014* Jan - Dec	2013 Jan - Dec	% Change
Tea	(Mn Kg)	338.0	340.0	-0.6
Rubber	(Mn Kg)	98.6	130.4	-24.4
Coconuts	(Mn Nuts)	2,870.0	2,513.3	14.2

* Provisional



1.9 GDP by Industrial Origin at Constant (2002) Prices - Growth Rates

Item	2014* 4 th Quarter	2013 4 th Quarter	2014* Annual
Agriculture	-3.3	10.4	0.3
Industry	8.5	10.7	11.4
Services	6.7	6.5	6.5
GDP	6.4	8.2	7.4

* Provisional

Source: Department of Census and Statistics



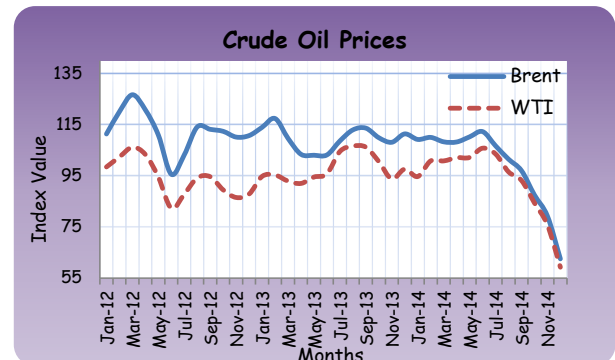
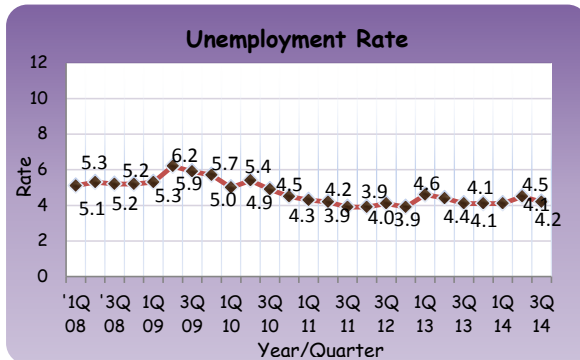
1.10 Employment (a)

Item	2014 (b) 3 rd Quarter	2013 3 rd Quarter	2013 Annual
Labour Force Participation rate	53.2	53.8	53.8
Unemployment rate	4.2	4.4	4.4
Employed Persons by Sectors % (c)			
Agriculture	28.9	28.7	29.7
Industry	26.6	26.4	26.2
Services	44.5	44.9	44.1

(a) The working age population aged 15 and above (b) Provisional

Source: Department of Census and Statistics

(c) Based on the International Standard Industrial Classification (ISIC) - Revision 4



1.11 Average Crude Oil Prices

Month	2014			2015		
	Spot Prices (US \$/bbl)		CPC Import Prices (C&F) (US\$/bbl)(*)	Spot Prices (US \$/bbl)		CPC Import Prices (C&F) (US\$/bbl)(*)
	Brent (Benchmark price)	WTI (Benchmark price)		Brent (Benchmark price)	WTI (Benchmark price)	
January	109.21	94.71	113.84	47.46	47.11	55.47
February	110.01	100.82	110.62	57.81	50.58	
March	108.28	100.82	111.17			
April	108.22	102.07	110.25			
May	110.22	102.18	109.80			
June	112.27	105.79	113.42			
July	106.73	103.54	110.30			
August	101.51	96.54	111.21			
September	97.02	93.19	100.08			
October	87.51	84.40	99.39			
November	79.28	75.79	76.82			
December	62.55	59.29	75.98			
	2014			2015		
13 March	108.36	98.57		55.45	44.88	
16 March	-	-		52.65	43.93	
17 March	107.89	98.43		52.82	43.39	
18 March	107.69	100.08		53.24	44.63	
19 March	106.85	100.71		53.61	44.02	

Sources: Reuters
Energy Information Administration
Ceylon Petroleum Corporation

(*) CPC import prices are not directly comparable with spot prices of WTI and Brent as CPC is import prices include freight charges and the price is weighted for average prices of different types of crude oil. Also Part of the imports of CPC are on a term contract basis.

Monetary Sector

Weekly AWPR for the week ending 20 March 2015 increased by 8 bps to 6.95 per cent compared to the previous week.

Broad money (M2b) expanded by 13.4 per cent in December 2014. NFA of the banking system declined by Rs. 12.1 billion in December 2014 compared to November 2014. NCG from the banking system showed an increase of Rs. 10.8 billion in December 2014 compared to November 2014, where credit to public corporations also showed an increase of Rs. 14.6 billion during the month. Credit extended to the private sector increased by Rs. 76.5 in December 2014, compared to November 2014 .

The reserve money increased compared to the previous week mainly due to increase in currency in circulation and deposits held by the commercial bank with central bank.

The total outstanding market liquidity decreased to Rs. 240.09 bn by end of the week, compared to Rs. 287.01 bn by the end of last week.

By 20 March 2015, the All Share Price Index (ASPI) declined by 0.52 per cent to 7,055 points while the S&P SL 20 Index declined by 0.77 per cent to 4,017 points compared to the previous week.

MONETARY SECTOR

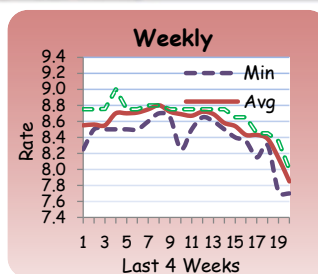
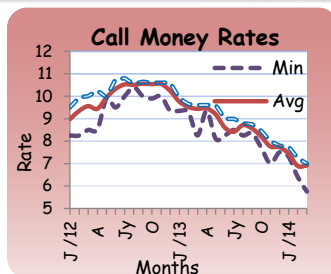
2.1 Interest Rates

Item	Week Ending 2015 Mar 20	Week Ago	Year Ago
Commercial Bank Average Weighted Prime Lending Rate (AWPR)	6.95	6.87	8.88
Treasury Bill Yield (Excluding 10% withholding tax)			
- 91 days	6.79	7.10	6.66
- 182 days	6.87	7.31	6.83
- 364 days	6.99	7.37	7.05
Standing Deposit Facility	6.50	6.50	6.50
Standing Lending Facility	8.00	8.00	8.00
Call Money Weekly Average (CMR)	6.69	6.70	6.90
Sri Lanka Inter Bank Offer Rate (SLIBOR)			
1 day	6.71	6.70	6.99
7 days	6.98	6.95	7.42
1 Month	7.19	7.21	7.91
3 Months	7.47	7.50	8.39
6 Months	7.75	7.84	8.79
12 Months	8.10	8.16	9.28
Commercial Banks	Nov 2014	Month Ago	Year Ago
Saving Deposits -	0.75-8.00	0.75-8.50	0.75-9.00
One Year Fixed Deposits -	3.95-12.00	3.95-12.00	6.00-16.00
	Feb 2015	Month Ago	Year Ago
Commercial Bank Average Weighted Deposit Rate (AWDR)	5.90	5.94	8.83
Commercial Bank Average Weighted Fixed Deposit Rate (AWFDR)	6.95	7.02	10.99
	Jan 2015	Month Ago	Year Ago
Commercial Bank Average Weighted Lending Rate (AWLR)	11.68	11.91	14.83
NSB	Nov 2014	Month Ago	Year Ago
Saving Deposits -	5.00	5.00	5.00
One Year Fixed Deposits -	6.50	6.50	10.00
Treasury Bonds Auction	(4 Y & 6 Months) 17/03/2015	(6 Y & 4 Months) 17/03/2015	(08 Y & 05 Months) 12/03/2015
Coupon rate	10.60	11.00	11.20
Weighted Average Yield (Excluding 10% withholding tax)	9.13	9.55	9.79

Bankwise- AWPR	Week ending 2015 Mar 20	Week Ago
Bank of Ceylon	6.97	6.91
People's Bank	6.50	6.50
Hatton National Bank	7.36	6.52
Commercial Bank of Ceylon	6.99	6.87
Sampath Bank	6.86	6.66
Seylan Bank	7.04	7.07
Union Bank of Colombo	7.33	6.90
Pan Asia Banking Corporation	7.35	7.35
Nations Trust Bank	6.51	6.13
DFCC Vardhana Bank	6.95	6.95
NDB Bank	7.55	7.68
Amana Bank	8.81	8.65
Cargills Bank	7.50	7.24

Bankwise- AWPR	Week ending 2015 Mar 20	Week Ago
HSBC	6.88	7.04
Standard Chartered Bank	6.37	6.06
Citi Bank	6.93	6.77
Deutsche Bank	7.49	7.89
Habib Bank	5.45	5.45
Indian Bank	7.95	7.95
Indian Overseas Bank	8.45	8.45
MCB Bank	7.28	8.45
State Bank of India	8.05	8.05
Public Bank	8.00	8.00
ICICI Bank	9.09	9.09
Axis Bank	-	-

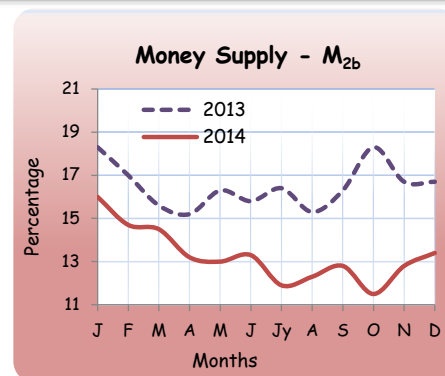
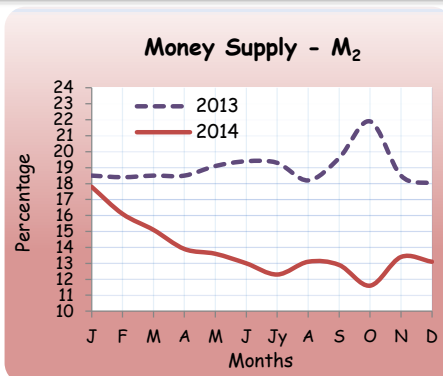
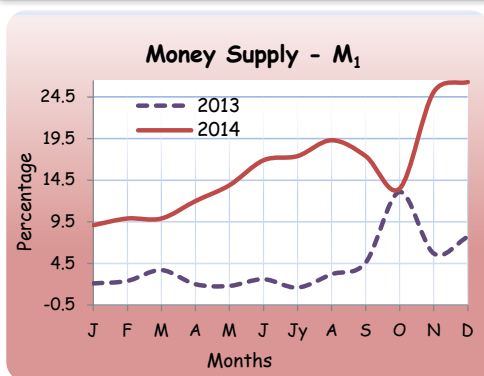
Interest Rates - Call Money



2.2 Money Supply

Item	Rs. Bn.			Annual Change (%)		
	2014 (a) December	Month Ago	Year Ago	2014 (a) December	Month Ago	Year Ago
M1	612.2	568.3	484.6	26.3	25.1	7.7
M2	3,460.6	3,398.5	3,058.8	13.1	13.4	18.0
M2b	3,875.9	3,794.8	3,417.9	13.4	12.8	16.7
Net Foreign Assets of the Banking System (b)	15.1	27.2	-76.3	119.8	142.8	-195.5
Monetary Authorities	688.0	728.1	529.1	30.0	51.7	33.5
Domestic Banking Units (DBUs)	-220.9	-247.2	-231.2	4.4	-25.3	-89.7
Foreign currency Banking Units (FCBUs)	-451.9	-453.6	-374.3	-20.7	-31.1	-24.6
Net Domestic Assets of the Banking System (b)	3,860.7	3,767.6	3,494.2	10.5	9.9	18.3
DBUs	3,266.1	3,178.4	2,996.5	9.0	7.8	17.9
FCBUs	594.6	589.2	497.7	19.5	23.0	20.4
Net Credit to Government	1,435.9	1,425.1	1,301.3	10.3	7.5	24.5
Monetary Authorities	149.7	154.6	114.0	31.3	21.0	-59.1
DBUs	1,078.1	1,062.2	995.7	8.3	5.7	57.0
FCBUs	208.1	208.3	191.7	8.6	8.3	44.8
Credit to Corporations	446.0	431.5	365.1	22.2	40.1	24.8
DBUs	192.1	185.7	164.7	16.7	49.1	80.4
FCBUs	253.9	245.8	200.4	26.7	34.0	-0.4
Credit to the Private Sector	2,758.2	2,681.7	2,534.3	8.8	6.5	7.5
DBUs	2,503.3	2,429.8	2,327.4	7.6	5.2	7.1
FCBUs	254.9	251.9	207.0	23.2	20.2	11.1
Reserve Money	577.9	551.8	488.6	18.3	16.9	0.9

(a) Provisional (b) In relation to M2b

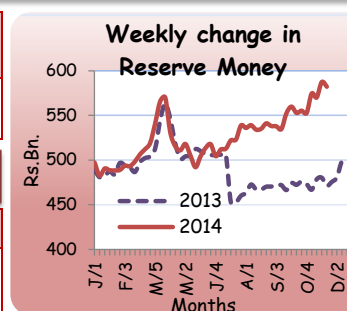


2.3 Weekly change in Reserve Money

Item	19 Mar 2015	Week Ago	Change
Reserve Money (Rs.Mn.)	604,866	595,363	9,503

2.4 Money Market Activity (Overnight)

Item	16.03.2015	17.03.2015	18.03.2015	19.03.2015	20.03.2015
Call Money Market					
Weighted Average Rate (% p.a.)	6.70	6.70	6.68	6.68	6.70
Gross Volume (Rs. Mn)	8,810	6,090	7,180	4,670	7,812
Repo Market					
Weighted Average Rate (% p.a.)	6.61	6.76	6.74	6.62	6.91
Gross Volume (Rs. Mn)	6,572	5,218	5,175	5,574	5,326



2.5 CBSL Security Portfolio

Item	16.03.2015	17.03.2015	18.03.2015	19.03.2015	20.03.2015
CBSL T-Bill Holding (Rs. Mn)	70,089	45,210	45,221	45,231	76,523

2.6 Open Market Operations

Item	16.03.2015	17.03.2015	18.03.2015	19.03.2015	20.03.2015
Short-Term Auction					
Repo Amount Offered (Rs. bn)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Reverse Repo Amount Offered (Rs. bn)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tenure (No. of Days)	0	0	0	0	0
Bids Received (Rs. bn)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Amount Accepted (Rs. bn)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Weighted Average Yield Rate (% p.a.)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Term Auction					
Repo Amount Accepted (Rs. bn)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Reverse Repo Amount Accepted (Rs. bn)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Standing Facility					
Standing Deposit Facility (Rs. bn)	88.34	49.27	60.77	52.79	103.59
Standing Lending Facility (Rs. bn)	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.81	1.16
Total Outstanding Market Liquidity (Rs. bn)	278.97	239.90	251.39	241.60	240.09

2.7 Credit Cards *

Item	2014 (a) End Oct	2014 End Sep	2013 End Dec
Total Number of Active Cards	1,008,022	997,309	951,625
Local (accepted only locally)	33,267	33,455	35,990
Global (accepted globally)	974,755	963,854	915,635
Outstanding balance (Rs. Mn.)	55,133	55,104	51,172
Local (accepted only locally)	1,249	1,232	1,260
Global (accepted globally)	53,883	53,872	49,913

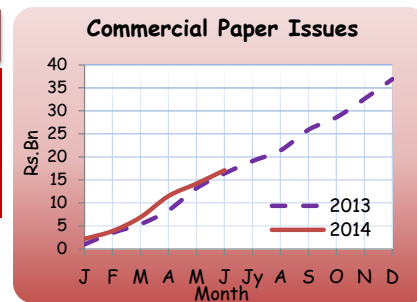
(a) Provisional * Issued by Licensed Commercial Banks

2.8 Commercial Paper Issues (1)

Item (Rs. bn.)	2014 End Oct*	2014 End Sep	2013 End Dec
Total Issues - Cumulative	7.7	7.1	28.3
Outstanding (as at end of the period)	4.2	3.9	7.4

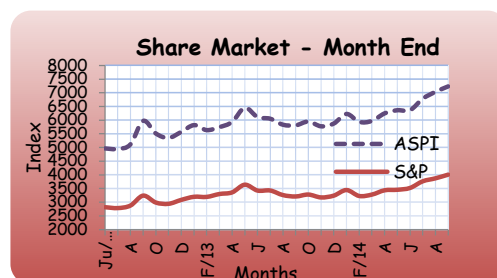
* provisional

(1) Based on the information provided by Licensed Commercial Banks and Licensed Specialised Banks



2.9 Share Market

Item	Week Ending 20 Mar 2015	Week Ago	Year Ago
All Share Price Index (1985 = 100) (ASPI)	7,055	7,091	5,915
S & P Sri Lanka 20 Index (S&P SL20)	4,017	4,048	3,232
Average Daily Turnover (Rs. Mn)	882	591	351
Market Capitalisation (Rs.Bn.)	2,990	3,006	2,471



Fiscal Sector

During the first nine months of 2014, total revenue as a percentage of estimated GDP declined marginally to 8.4 per cent from 9.1 per cent in the corresponding period of 2013. However total revenue in nominal terms increased by 5.6 per cent to Rs. 828.2 billion during the first nine months of the year from Rs. 784.2 billion recorded during the same period in 2013 reflecting increases in both tax revenue (by Rs. 41.5 billion) and non tax revenue (by Rs. 2.5 billion). However, average monthly revenue during this period was around Rs. 92 billion.

Total expenditure and net lending as a percentage of estimated GDP declined to 13.4 per cent during the first nine months of 2014 compared to 14.7 per cent recorded in the corresponding period in 2013 mainly due to decline in both recurrent expenditure and capital expenditure and net lending. In nominal terms, total expenditure and net lending increased by 3.7 per cent to Rs.1,326.7 billion during the first nine months of 2014 from Rs. 1,279.1 billion in the corresponding period of 2013.

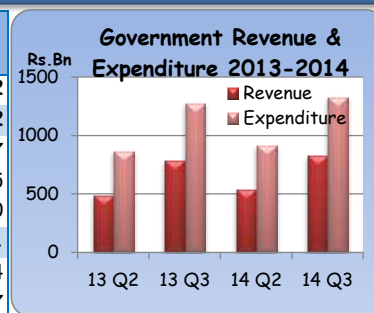
Total outstanding debt increased by Rs. 575.7 billion to Rs. 7,368.9 billion as at end September 2014 from Rs. 6,793.2 billion at end 2013. Foreign debt increased by Rs. 222.5 billion to Rs. 3,182.9 billion mainly due the issuance of International Sovereign Bond amounting to US dollars 1,000 million and US dollars 500 million in January and April 2014 respectively. Meanwhile, domestic debt increased by Rs. 353.2 billion to Rs. 4,186

The government made several changes to the Special Commodity Levy (SCL) during the month of September with a view to maintaining stable prices in the domestic market. Accordingly, SCL on the importation of rice was decreased from Rs. 5 per kg to Rs. 1 per kg for a period of three months while SCL on the importation of sugar was increased from Rs. 28 per kg to Rs. 33 per kg for a period of three months with effect from 05 September 2014. In addition, importation of fresh or chilled potatoes was suspended with effect from 06 September 2014.

FISCAL SECTOR

3.1 Government Finance (Rs.bn)

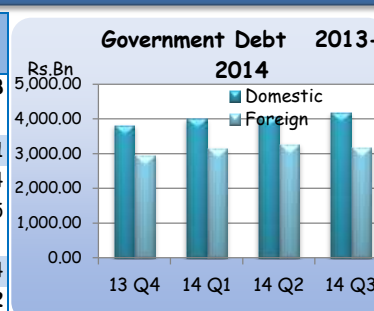
Item	2014 *	2013
	Jan-Sep	Jan-Sep
Revenue and Grants	836.9	787.2
Revenue	828.2	784.2
Tax	752.2	710.7
Non tax	76.0	73.5
Grants	8.7	3.0
Expenditure & Lending Minus Repayments	1,326.7	1,279.1
Current	962.1	920.4
Capital & Lending Minus Repayments	364.6	358.7



* Provisional **Revised

3.2 Government Debt (Rs.bn)

Item	2014*	2013
	End Sep	End Dec
Total domestic debt	4,186.0	3,832.8
of which		
Treasury bills	620.1	700.1
Treasury bonds	2,821.0	2,452.4
Rupee loans	55.5	55.5
Total foreign debt	3,182.9	2,960.4
Total outstanding govt. debt	7,368.9	6,793.2



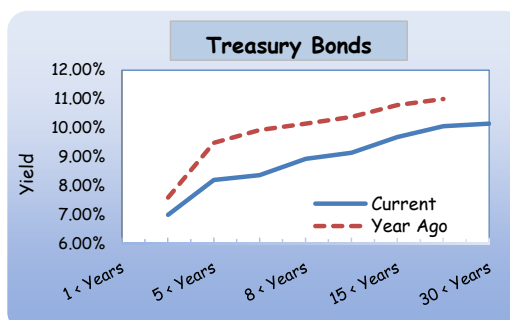
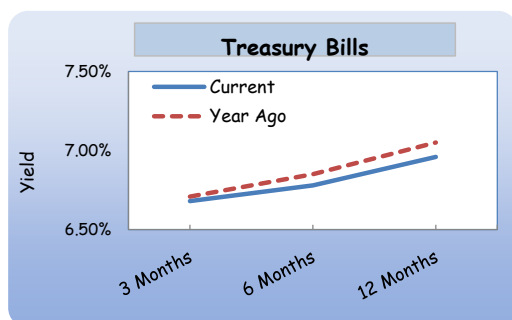
* Provisional

3.3 Government Securities - Primary and Secondary Market Yield Rates as for the week ending - 18th March 2015

Security	Maturity	Primary Market*		Secondary Market			Last Week Average
		This Week	Last Week	This Week			
				Buying	Selling	Average	
Treasury Bills	3 Months	6.79%	7.10%	7.07%	6.90%	6.98%	6.68%
	6 Months	6.87%	7.31%	7.21%	7.04%	7.12%	6.78%
	12 Months	6.99%	7.37%	7.35%	7.15%	7.25%	6.96%
Treasury Bonds	2 < Years	-	-	7.57%	7.40%	7.48%	6.99%
	5 < Years	9.13%	-	8.70%	8.53%	8.62%	8.20%
	6 < Years	9.55%	-	8.86%	8.71%	8.79%	8.36%
	8 < Years	9.79%	9.17%	9.67%	9.49%	9.58%	8.93%
	10 < Years	-	10.09%	9.89%	9.69%	9.79%	9.14%
	15 < Years	-	-	10.21%	9.93%	10.07%	9.68%
	20 < Years	-	11.20%	10.78%	10.49%	10.64%	10.06%
30 < Years	-	-	11.12%	10.82%	10.97%	10.15%	

* Primary market transactions during the week ending 18/03/2015

The secondary market yield rates of T-bonds and T-bills increased during the week compared against yield rates of the previous week.



3.4 Government Securities - Weekly Summary of Primary and Secondary Market Transactions (Week Ended - 18th March 2015)

Item	Volume in Rs Mn	
	This Week	Last Week
Outstanding Stock of Government Securities		
Treasury Bills	836,629.19	810,771.30
Treasury Bonds (a)	3,312,226.48	3,302,342.85
Total	4,148,855.67	4,113,114.15
Government Securities held by Foreigners	455,610.40	455,943.22
Sri Lanka Development Bonds (SLDB)	447,641.75	465,716.15

Outstanding stock of T-bills and T-bonds increased with new issuances during the week.

Primary Market Activities	Volume in Rs Mn	
	This Week	Last Week
Treasury Bills		
Amount Offered	16,000.00	20,000.00
Total Bids Received	75,961.00	90,532.00
Total Bids Accepted	23,913.00	32,642.00
Treasury Bonds		
Amount Offered	34,000.00	30,000.00
Total Bids Received	108,202.00	125,842.00
Total Bids Accepted	55,109.00	51,837.00

T-bill and T-bond auctions were substantially oversubscribed during the week, illustrating the improved investor preference for government securities.

Secondary Market Activities	Volume in Rs Mn	
	This Week	Last Week
Treasury Bills		
Outright Transaction (Sales / Purchases)	48,423.48	37,028.06
Repo Transaction (Sales / Purchases)	227,890.79	161,042.12
Treasury Bonds		
Outright Transaction (Sales / Purchases)	148,075.64	34,600.98
Repo Transaction (Sales / Purchases)	734,653.26	558,788.97

Increased activities are observed in the secondary market during the week.

a) Excludes Treasury bonds amounting to Rs.4,397 million issued to CWE in November 2003, Rs. 78,441 million issued to settle dues to CPC in January 2012, Rs. 13,125 million issued to capitalize Sri Lankan Airlines in March 2013.

3.5 Two way Quotes (Treasury Bills) - 20/03/2015

Remaining Maturity	Average Buying Price	Yield %	Average Selling Price	Yield %	Buying & Selling Spread
1-7 Days	99.87	6.66	99.88	6.36	0.01
1 Month	99.44	6.76	99.47	6.48	0.02
2 Month	98.87	6.86	98.91	6.61	0.04
3 Month	98.29	6.94	98.34	6.74	0.05
4 Month	97.71	6.96	97.78	6.76	0.07
5 Month	97.13	6.99	97.21	6.78	0.08
6 Month	96.53	7.04	96.63	6.84	0.10
7 Month	95.92	7.09	96.04	6.87	0.12
8 Month	95.32	7.11	95.47	6.88	0.15
9 Month	94.71	7.15	94.87	6.93	0.16
10 Month	94.11	7.17	94.31	6.92	0.20
11 Month	93.50	7.19	93.74	6.92	0.24
12 Month	92.91	7.21	93.15	6.96	0.25

3.6 Two way Quotes (Treasury Bonds)- 20/03/2015

Treasury Bond By Series	Maturity Period (Years)	Maturity Date (DD/MM/YY)	Days to Maturity	Average Buying Price	Yield %	Average Selling Price	Yield %	Buying & Selling Spread
06.20%2015B	4	15-Jun-15	87	99.85	6.74	99.89	6.55	0.05
06.50%2015A	5	15-Jul-15	117	99.86	6.87	99.92	6.69	0.06
11.00%2015A	6	1-Aug-15	134	101.43	6.95	101.50	6.75	0.07
11.00%2015B	6	1-Sep-15	165	101.71	7.04	101.80	6.82	0.10
12.50%2015A	2	20-Sep-15	184	102.64	7.04	102.71	6.90	0.07
08.50%2015A	3	1-Nov-15	226	100.76	7.19	100.91	6.94	0.15
07.25%2016A	6	1-Apr-16	378	99.89	7.36	100.10	7.14	0.21
08.00%2016B	4	1-Jun-16	439	100.15	7.85	100.40	7.63	0.25
06.40%2016A	6	1-Aug-16	500	98.51	7.56	98.81	7.32	0.30
08.00%2016A	5	1-Sep-16	531	100.37	7.72	100.58	7.56	0.21
06.40%2016B	6	1-Oct-16	561	97.68	8.03	97.87	7.90	0.19
08.00%2017A	5	1-Jan-17	653	100.12	7.92	100.49	7.69	0.37
05.80%2017A	6	15-Jan-17	667	96.20	8.08	96.42	7.94	0.22
08.25%2017A	3	1-Mar-17	712	100.36	8.04	100.81	7.79	0.45
08.75%2017A	4	15-May-17	787	101.24	8.10	101.66	7.89	0.43
08.00%2017B	5	15-Jun-17	818	100.18	7.90	100.61	7.69	0.43
05.80%2017B	6	15-Jul-17	848	95.67	7.87	96.11	7.65	0.44
08.50%2018A	15	1-Feb-18	1,049	101.28	7.98	101.75	7.80	0.47
08.50%2018C	5	1-Apr-18	1,108	100.35	8.36	100.81	8.19	0.45
08.50%2018D	5	1-Jun-18	1,169	99.75	8.58	100.09	8.46	0.34
08.50%2018B	15	15-Jul-18	1,213	101.02	8.14	101.46	7.99	0.43
07.50%2018A	15	15-Aug-18	1,244	97.05	8.51	97.61	8.32	0.56
08.00%2018A	6	15-Nov-18	1,336	98.39	8.52	98.64	8.43	0.26
05.65%2019A	8	15-Jan-19	1,397	91.27	8.36	91.64	8.24	0.37
08.50%2019A	10	1-May-19	1,503	100.81	8.26	101.47	8.07	0.66
10.60%2019A	5	1-Jul-19	1,564	106.44	8.76	107.20	8.55	0.76
10.60%2019B	5	15-Sep-19	1,640	106.96	8.69	107.50	8.55	0.55
08.00%2019A	8	1-Nov-19	1,687	98.22	8.47	98.93	8.28	0.71
08.00%2020A	8	1-Jun-20	1,900	95.96	8.98	96.30	8.90	0.33
06.20%2020A	10	1-Aug-20	1,961	89.91	8.58	90.51	8.43	0.61
09.00%2021A	8	1-May-21	2,234	100.75	8.84	101.63	8.65	0.89
11.00%2021A	7	1-Aug-21	2,326	110.07	8.89	110.49	8.81	0.43
08.00%2022A	10	1-Jan-22	2,479	96.30	8.73	97.21	8.55	0.91
11.20%2022A	9	1-Jul-22	2,660	111.28	9.05	112.34	8.86	1.05
10.00%2022A	8	1-Oct-22	2,752	103.45	9.35	104.09	9.23	0.64
09.00%2023A	10	1-Sep-23	3,087	98.02	9.34	98.70	9.22	0.68
11.20%2023A	9	1-Sep-23	3,087	108.68	9.67	109.42	9.55	0.74
07.00%2023A	20	1-Oct-23	3,117	85.93	9.44	87.09	9.22	1.16
11.40%2024A	10	1-Jan-24	3,209	109.97	9.68	112.07	9.35	2.10
06.00%2024A	10	1-Dec-24	3,544	76.15	9.88	76.80	9.75	0.65
10.25%2025A	10	15-Mar-25	3,648	101.16	10.06	102.34	9.88	1.18
09.00%2025A	12	1-May-25	3,695	93.41	10.05	94.61	9.85	1.21
09.00%2026A	13	1-Feb-26	3,971	93.55	9.98	95.55	9.67	2.01
05.35%2026A	15	1-Mar-26	3,999	68.70	10.15	70.12	9.88	1.42
09.00%2028B	15	1-May-28	4,791	93.10	9.95	96.01	9.54	2.90
09.00%2028A	15	1-Jul-28	4,852	89.35	10.50	92.82	9.98	3.47
13.00%2029A	15	1-Jan-29	5,036	118.32	10.46	122.20	9.99	3.88
13.00%2029B	15	1-May-29	5,156	115.19	10.87	118.79	10.43	3.59
08.00%2032A	20	1-Jan-32	6,131	78.72	10.76	80.27	10.53	1.55
09.00%2032A	20	1-Oct-32	6,405	84.92	10.95	89.04	10.37	4.12
09.00%2033A	20	1-Jun-33	6,648	86.29	10.73	88.09	10.48	1.80
13.25%2033A	20	1-Jul-33	6,678	119.56	10.78	121.88	10.53	2.32
09.00%2033B	20	1-Nov-33	6,801	85.49	10.83	87.45	10.55	1.97
13.25%2034A	20	1-Jan-34	6,862	118.95	10.86	121.51	10.59	2.56
11.50%2035A	20	15-Mar-35	7,300	104.84	10.90	107.41	10.60	2.57
09.00%2043A	30	1-Jun-43	10,300	81.24	11.20	83.41	10.90	2.18
13.50%2044A	30	1-Jan-44	10,514	115.85	11.58	122.86	10.88	7.01
13.50%2044B	30	1-Jun-44	10,666	118.89	11.28	121.95	10.98	3.06
12.50%2045A	30	1-Mar-45	10939	108.04	11.54	111.03	11.21	2.99

External Sector

During the year so far (up to 20 March 2015) the rupee depreciated against the US dollar (1.39 per cent). Given the cross currency exchange rate movements, the Sri Lanka rupee appreciated against the euro (12.30 per cent) and the pound sterling (3.97 per cent) and depreciated against the Japanese yen (0.22 per cent) and the Indian rupee (2.78 per cent) during this period.

Exports increased by 7.0 per cent to US dollars 11,118 million in 2014 compared to 6.4 per cent growth recorded in the previous year reflecting significant improvements in Textiles and Garments, Coconut Products and Tea exports.

Major export destinations during 2014 continued to be USA, UK, Italy, India and Germany accounting for around 50 per cent of total exports. However, exports to both traditional and emerging markets increased in 2014.

Expenditure on imports which contracted in 2012 and 2013 increased moderately in 2014 mainly due to the substantial increase in import expenditure during the last quarter of 2014. Expenditure on imports in 2014 increased by 7.8 per cent to US dollars 19,415 million, from US dollars 18,003 million in 2013 reflecting increases in expenditure on consumer and intermediate goods imports. The relative share of investment goods to total imports decreased by 2.2 per cent to 21.4 per cent in 2014, increasing the share of intermediate and consumer goods. During 2014, the main import origins were India, China, UAE, Singapore and Japan accounting for about 59 per cent of total imports.

An increase in export prices and reduction in import prices resulted in a significant improvement in the terms of trade in 2014. The export price index increased marginally by 1.8 per cent year-on-year to 105.4 index points, while the import price index declined by 1.5 per cent to 108.1 index points.

Accordingly, the terms of trade improved by 3.4 per cent to 97.5 index points in 2014 from 94.3 index points in 2013.

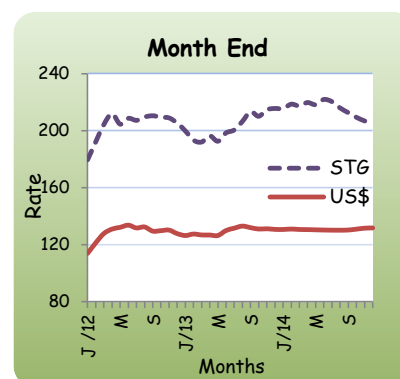
India, UK, China, Germany and Russia were the top five sources of tourist arrivals in January 2015, accounting for 43.3 per cent of total tourist arrivals during the month.

The average price of tea increased to US dollars 3.37 per kg (in the Colombo auction) in December 2014 from US dollars 3.08 per kg in November 2014 but recorded a decline compared to December 2013.

EXTERNAL SECTOR

4.1 Exchange Rates

Item (Rs Per Unit)*	Week Ending - 20 Mar 2015			Average Rate	
	Buying Rate	Selling Rate	Average Rate	Week Ago	Year Ago
US\$	131.89	134.72	133.31	133.27	130.58
STG	194.08	199.64	196.86	198.25	215.95
Yen	1.09	1.12	1.10	1.10	1.28
Euro	140.03	144.71	142.37	141.34	180.46
INR(1)			2.13	2.12	2.14
SDR (As at 19 Mar 2015)			183.16	182.19	201.64
Central Bank purchases and sales** (US\$ Mn.)			January 2015	Month Ago	Year Ago
Purchases			0.00	4.00	73.75
Sales			173.81	195.10	50.45



	Week Ending 20 Mar 2015	Week Ago	Year Ago
Average Daily Interbank Volume (US\$ Mn.) (spot, tom and cash transactions among commercial banks)	22.19	16.87	26.75
Forward Transactions			
Forward Rates (US\$) ⁽²⁾			
1 Month	133.69	133.79	131.20
3 Months	134.66	134.70	132.06
Average Daily Interbank Forward Volume (US\$ mn)	32.64	25.76	18.43
Outstanding Forward Volume (US\$ mn) (As at 19 Mar 2015)	1,151.71	1,135.51	957.08

*Commercial Bank Avg. Middle Rate (prevailing at 9.30a.m.)

**Central Bank purchases and sales of foreign exchange from commercial banks at market rates total for the Month

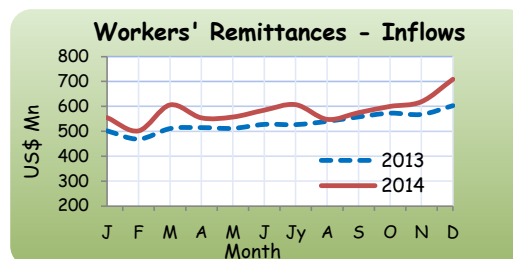
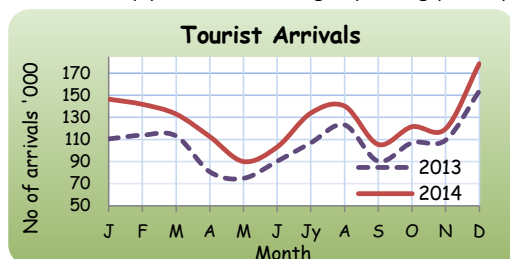
(1) Central Bank indicative rate (2) Weekly average based on actual transactions.

4.2 Tourism & Workers' Remittances(a)

Item(a)		2014 Jan (a)	2015 Jan(b)	2013 Jan-Dec	2014 Jan-Dec(a)	% Change
Tourist Arrivals	Number	146,575	156,246	1,274,593	1,527,153	19.8
Earnings from Tourism	US\$ Mn.	233.3	248.7	1,715.5	2,431.10	41.7
	Rs.bn.	30.5	32.7	221.7	317.5	43.2
Workers' Remittances (Inflows)		2014 Jan	2015 Jan	2013 Jan-Dec	2014 Jan-Dec	% Change
	US\$ Mn.	555.5	523.5	6,407.0	7,017.8	9.5
	Rs. bn.	72.6	68.9	827.7	916.3	10.7

(a) Revised

(b) Provisional and may be revised based on Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority survey results on average stay period and average spending per day estimates for 2015



4.3 Official Reserve Assets as at 28th February 2015^(a)

Official Reserve Assets (USD Mn)	7,428.90
(1) Foreign currency reserves	6,484.90
(2) Reserve position in the IMF	67.40
(3) SDRs	8.90
(4) Gold	866.00
(5) Other reserve assets	1.70

(a) Provisional

4.4 International Reserves & Foreign Currency Liquidity as at 31st January 2015 ^(a)

Official Reserve Assets (USD mn)				
Official Reserve Asset		7,252.43		
(1) Foreign currency reserves		6,272.15		
(a) Securities		2,963.62		
(b) Total currency and deposits with		3,308.53		
(i) other national central banks, BIS		1,252.86		
(ii) banks headquartered inside the reporting country of which located abroad		1.01		
(iii) banks headquartered outside the reporting country of which located in the reporting country		2,054.66		
(2) Reserve position in the IMF		67.47		
(3) SDRs		8.91		
(4) Gold		902.96		
(5) Other reserve assets		0.94		
Predetermined Short-Term Net Drains on Foreign Currency Assets ^(b)				
Item	Total	Maturity breakdown (residual maturity)		
		Up to 1 month	More than 1 and up to 3 months	More than 3 months and up to 1 year
1. Foreign currency loans, securities, and deposits				
outflows (-) Principal	-2,813.13	-81.75	-818.00	-1,913.39
Interest	-983.19	-26.87	-166.56	-789.77
inflows (+) Principal				
Interest				
2. Aggregate short and long positions in forwards and futures in foreign currencies vis-à-vis the domestic currency (including the forward leg of currency swaps)				
(a) Short positions (-) ^(c)	-2,111.17	-381.49	-704.75	-1,024.93
(b) Long positions (+)				
3. Other (specify)	-0.05	-0.05		
inflows related to reverse repos (+)				
other accounts payable (-)	-0.05	-0.05		

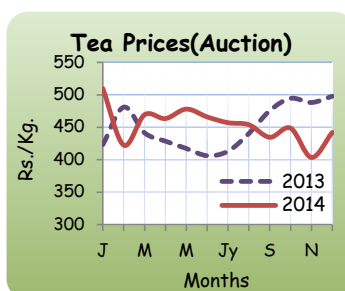
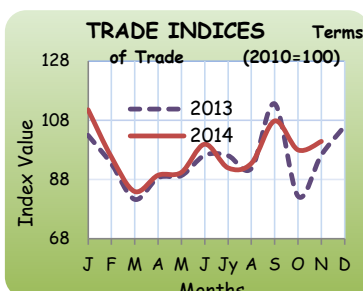
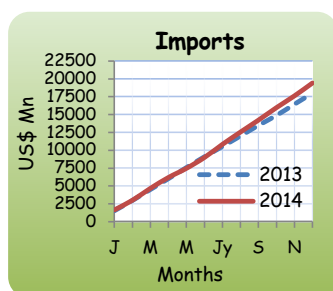
(a) Provisional

(b) This mainly includes only the predetermined outflows

(c) A major share of SWAP outstanding will be rolled over. This mainly includes SWAP arrangements with state banks which mobilised long-term foreign finance from international bond issuances

4.5 External Trade

Item	US\$ Bn			Rs Bn		
	Jan-Dec 2014	Jan-Dec 2013	% Change	Jan-Dec 2014	Jan-Dec 2013	% Change
Exports	11.12	10.39	7.0	1,451.55	1,344.05	8.0
Agricultural	2.79	2.58	8.2	364.76	333.94	9.2
Industrial	8.25	7.75	6.5	1,077.10	1,001.81	7.5
Food, Beverages and Tobacco	0.29	0.24	23.0	37.77	30.43	24.1
Textiles and Apparel	4.93	4.51	9.4	643.69	583.05	10.4
Petroleum Products	0.34	0.43	-21.0	44.13	55.13	-19.9
Leather, Rubber etc	1.03	0.96	6.6	134.30	124.75	7.7
Other	1.66	1.61	3.1	217.21	208.46	4.2
Mineral	0.06	0.05	15.3	7.76	6.73	15.4
Other	0.01	0.01	20.7	1.92	1.58	22.0
Imports	19.42	18.00	7.9	2,535.16	2,323.13	9.1
Consumer Goods	3.85	3.18	21.1	503.02	411.00	22.4
Intermediate Goods	11.40	10.55	8.0	1,488.09	1,361.74	9.3
Investment Goods	4.15	4.25	-2.4	542.17	548.60	-1.2
Other	0.01	0.01	4.1	1.88	1.79	5.3
Trade Balance	-8.30	-7.61	9.1	-1,083.61	-979.07	10.7

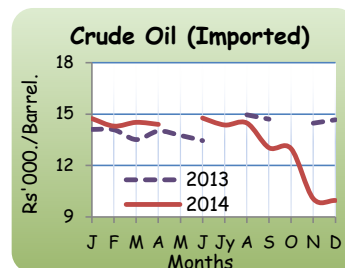
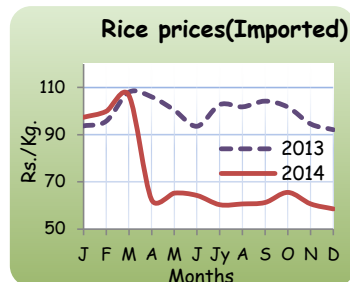


4.6 Trade Indices (2010= 100)

Item	2014**	Month Ago	Year Ago
	Nov	Ago	Ago
Total Exports			
Value	128.19	125.05	143.61
Quantity	117.22	119.18	121.17
Unit Value	109.37	104.93	118.52
Total Imports			
Value	147.39	156.64	140.48
Quantity	135.89	146.23	114.04
Unit Value	108.46	107.12	123.18
Terms of Trade	100.84	97.96	96.22

* In US\$ Terms

** Provisional



4.7 International Commodity Prices

Item	Dec 2014	Dec 2013	% Change	Dec 2014	Dec 2013	% Change
Colombo Auction Price	US\$ / Kg			Rs / Kg		
Tea Prices	3.37	3.81	-11.30	442.16	497.97	-11.20
Imports (C I F)	US\$ / MT			Rs / MT		
Rice	446.74	704.00	-36.50	58,532.13	92,102.85	-36.40
White Sugar	481.48	480.75	0.20	63,083.79	62,895.08	0.30
Wheat	300.95	310.85	-3.20	39,431.33	40,668.40	-3.00
	US\$ / Barrel			Rs / Barrel		
Crude Oil	75.98	112.13	-32.20	9,955.38	14,670.19	-32.10