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Press Release

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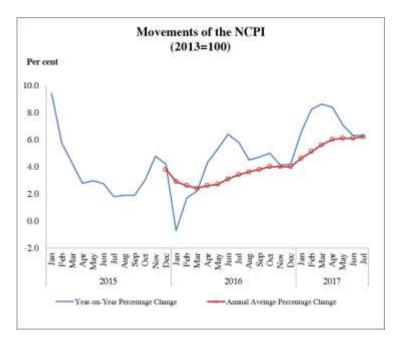
Inflation in July 2017

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), remained unchanged from the previous month at 6.3 per cent in July 2017, on year-on-year basis. Both Food and Non-food categories contributed towards the year-on-year inflation in July 2017.

The change in the NCPI measured on an annual average basis increased marginally from 6.1 per cent in June 2017 to 6.2 per cent in July 2017.

When the monthly change is considered, the NCPI decreased from 123.4 index points in June 2017 to 122.4 index points in July 2017. This monthly decrease was mainly due to the decrease in prices of the items in the Food category. Within the Food category, prices of coconuts, vegetables, fresh fish, green chillies, garlic and red onions decreased during the month. In the Non-food category, prices of items in the Health sub-category recorded a decrease during the month. Prices in Clothing and Footwear; Furnishing, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance; Transport (Bus fares) and Miscellaneous Goods and Services subcategories increased. Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco (areca nuts) sub-category also increased during July 2017. Meanwhile, prices in Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels; Communication; Recreation and Culture; Education; and Restaurants and Hotels sub-categories remained unchanged during the month.

The NCPI Core inflation, which reflects the underlying inflation in the economy increased to 4.2 per cent in July 2017 from 4.1 per cent in June 2017 on year-on-year basis. Annual average NCPI Core inflation declined from 6.1 per cent in June 2017 to 5.9 per cent in July 2017.



Movements of the NCPI Base: 2013 = 100

Base: 2015 = 100					
Year	Month	Index Number	Monthly Percentage Change	Year-on-Year Percentage Change	Annual Average Percentage Change
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
	May	113.7	1.9	5.3	2.7
	June	116.1	2.1	6.4	3.1
	July	115.2	-0.8	5.8	3.4
	August	113.3	-1.6	4.5	3.6
	September	113.5	0.2	4.7	3.8
	October	114.7	1.1	5.0	4.0
	November	116.6	1.7	4.1	4.0
	December	118.0	1.2	4.2	4.0
2017	January	119.3	1.1	6.5	4.6
	February	119.9	0.5	8.2	5.1
	March	119.5	-0.3	8.6	5.6
	April	121.0	1.3	8.4	6.0
	May	121.8	0.7	7.1	6.1
	June	123.4	1.3	6.3	6.1
	July	122.4	-0.8	6.3	6.2

Source: Department of Census and Statistics