



## WEB RELEASE

THE COLOMBO CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (Base Year 2013) – SEPTEMBER 2020

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### 1. Introduction

The Department of Census and Statistics (DCS) is the authorized agency to compile Colombo Consumer Price Index (CCPI). The base year used for compilation of CCPI from June 2011 to December 2016 was the year 2006/07. Following internationally accepted guidelines, it has been arranged to revise the base year from 2006/07=100 to 2013=100 in order to accommodate the changing expenditure patterns and in cooperate changes of goods & services available in the market. Accordingly, with respect to the new base, CCPI (Base 2013=100) will be released monthly commencing from January 2017 on the last working day of each month. It is emphasized that index numbers or inflation figures compiled under different base years cannot be compared.

The CCPI is compiled to indicate average changes in the prices of goods and services purchased by households in urban areas of Colombo district. Prices for items in the Colombo Consumer Price Index are collected from 14 selected centers located in Colombo namely Pettah, Maradana, Wellawatta, Dematagoda, Grandpass, Borella, Kirulapone, Dehiwala, Kotte, Nugegoda, Kolonnawa, Rathmalana, Narahenpita and Rathmalana dedicated economic centers. Prices are collected weekly from the outlets located within each of the above market areas including Lak Sathosa and a supermarket. The consumer basket includes 392 items, which represent the typical urban household consumption expenditure. The CPI weights are derived from the Household Income and Expenditure Survey (HIES) 2012/13.

For more details on the revision of base year, please click here: [Technical Note on Base Year Revision](#)

**Table 1- Monthly Changes by main Groups of Market Basket**

Major Group*	Index Number			Monthly Changes of the Expenditure Values(Rs.)			Monthly Changes of the Index (%)		
	Sep 2019	Aug 2020	Sep 2020	Sep 2019	Aug 2020	Sep 2020	Sep 2019	Aug 2020	Sep 2020
All Items	131.1	135.4	136.3	592.42	-22.19	520.11	0.75	-0.03	0.64
Food and Non Alcoholic Beverages	135.3	148.4	150.8	549.25	65.60	407.94	0.70	0.08	0.50
Non Food	129.4	130.3	130.6	43.18	-87.79	112.16	0.05	-0.11	0.14
Alcoholic beverages Tobacco and Narcotic	218.8	221.6	228.1	0.43	15.35	40.14	0.00	0.02	0.05
Clothing and Foot Wear	147.9	154.3	155.8	9.90	8.47	21.73	0.01	0.01	0.03
Health	177.9	172.4	171.7	0.00	-150.88	-19.11	0.00	-0.18	-0.02
Transport	115.1	117.0	117.6	-137.17	0.00	38.80	-0.17	0.00	0.05
Recreation and culture	118.7	116.5	117.5	0.00	7.29	7.62	0.00	0.01	0.01
Education	165.6	169.0	168.8	161.57	0.00	-6.90	0.21	0.00	-0.01
Restaurant and Hotels	136.3	139.1	139.6	0.00	25.61	15.26	0.00	0.03	0.02
Miscellaneous Goods and Services	146.7	148.1	148.9	8.57	3.13	14.25	0.01	0.00	0.02
Other	116.5	116.9	116.9	-0.13	3.24	0.37	0.00	0.00	0.00

\*Note : There are 12 main groups of the market basket. Significant changes in September 2020 were noted in nine main groups, details on which are given in Table2. \*Percentages of items do not tally with overall percentage due to rounding off.

## **2. Variations in Colombo Consumer Price Index**

Month on month changes in the Colombo Consumer Price Index is briefly described below.

### **2.1 Month on Month (M on M) Change of CCPI:**

The CCPI for all items for the month of September 2020 was 136.3 and it records an increase of 0.9 in index points that is 0.64 percentage points compared to the month of August 2020 for which the index was 135.4. This represents an increase of expenditure value by Rs 520.11 in the “Market Basket”

#### **2.1.1 Contribution to M on M Changes:**

Contributions to the change in CCPI from August 2020 to September 2020 were given in Table 2. The month on month change was contributed by increases of Food items by 0.5% and an increase of Non Food items by 0.14% respectively.

#### **2.1.2 Contribution of Food and Non Alcoholic Beverages items: 0.50%**

As shown in Table 02, increases in value change were reported for Vegetables (0.27%), Coconut (0.26%), Fresh Fruits (0.17%), Big Onions (0.09%), Rice (0.01%), Biscuits (0.01%), Bread fruit (0.01%), Dhal Mysoor (0.01%), Papadam (0.01%) and Ice cream (0.01%).

While decreases in value change were reported for Sea fish (0.18%), Potatoes (0.07%), Coconut Oil (0.03%), Limes (0.03%), Dried Fish (0.01%), Eggs (0.01%), Green Chillies (0.01%), Chili powder (0.01%) and Pepper (0.01%).

#### **2.1.3 Contribution of Non Food items: 0.14%**

Among Non-Food groups, increases in value change were reported for the groups of ‘Alcoholic Beverage Tobacco and Narcotic’ (0.05%), ‘Transport’ (0.05%), ‘Clothing and Footwear’ (0.03%), ‘Restaurant and Hotels’ (0.02%), ‘Miscellaneous Goods and Services’ (0.02%) and ‘Recreation and Culture’(0.01%).

While decreases in value change were reported in the group of ‘Health’ (0.02%) and ‘Education’ (0.01%).

However, an insignificant value change was reported for the groups of ‘Furnishing Household Equipment and routine Household Maintenance’ and ‘Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels’ and ‘Communication’ groups remained unchanged during the period.

**Table 2: Contribution to the change in CCPI from August 2020 to September 2020(Base 2013=100)**

Sub Group/Commodity		Value Change			
		Rs.Cts.	% change		
			Increase	Decrease	Net effect
<b>Food</b>		<b>407.94</b>	<b>0.89</b>	<b>0.39</b>	<b>0.50</b>
1	Rice	6.72	0.01		
	<i>Rice - (Samba)</i>	5.95	0.01		
2	Rice flour	8.93	0.01		
3	Biscuits	5.78	0.01		
4	Sea Fish	-146.55		0.18	
5	Dried Fish	-5.76		0.01	
6	Eggs	-8.17		0.01	
7	Coconut	215.10	0.26		
8	Coconut oil	-20.46		0.03	
9	Fresh Fruits	135.42	0.17		
	<i>Banana</i>	51.46	0.06		
10	Vegetables	224.58	0.27		
11	Potatoes	-53.34		0.07	
12	Bread fruit	9.03	0.01		
13	Dhal - Mysoor	5.19	0.01		
14	Big onions	76.03	0.09		
15	Green Chilies	-7.78		0.01	
16	Papadam	9.69	0.01		
17	Ice-cream	4.18	0.01		
18	Chili powder	-7.16		0.01	
19	Pepper	-6.26		0.01	
20	Limes	-28.03		0.03	
21	Others	-9.16		0.01	
<b>Non Food</b>		<b>112.16</b>	<b>0.17</b>	<b>0.03</b>	<b>0.14</b>
22	Alcoholic beverages Tobacco and Narcotic	40.14	0.05		
	<i>Areca nuts</i>	4.24	0.01		
	<i>Bulathwita</i>	35.04	0.04		
23	Clothing and Footwear	21.73	0.03		
24	Health	-19.11		0.02	
	<i>Payments. to medical laboratories</i>	-22.56		0.03	
25	Transport	38.80	0.05		
	<i>Cost of servicing of vehicles</i>	25.30	0.03		
26	Recreation and culture	7.62	0.01		
	<i>News papers</i>	7.62	0.01		
27	Education	-6.90		0.01	
	<b>Primary Education</b>				
	<i>School fees (International)</i>	-3.24		0.004	
	<b>Secondary Education</b>				
	<i>School fees (International)</i>	-3.66		0.004	
28	Restaurant and Hotels	15.26	0.02		
29	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	14.25	0.02		
30	Others	0.37	0.00		
	<b>All Items</b>	<b>520.11</b>	<b>1.06</b>	<b>0.42</b>	<b>0.64</b>

\*Percentages of items do not tally with overall percentage due to rounding off.

### 3. INFLATION:

The CCPI is an economic indicator constructed to measure inflation which is defined as percentage change in CCPI over the year. There are two measures of inflation in general use. One measure is Year on Year base or Point to Point inflation (The percentage change in the CPI during the last 12 months). The other measure is Moving Average Inflation (The percentage difference between the average Price Index of last 12 months & the average Price Index of previous 12 months).

**Table 03: Movements of the CCPI (Base: 2013=100)**

Year	Month	All Item				Food				Non Food			
		Index Number	% Change Month on Month	Inflation %		Index Number	% Change Month on Month	Inflation %		Index Number	% Change Month on Month	Inflation %	
				Y on Y	12 Month Moving Avg.			Y on Y	12 Month Moving Avg.			Y on Y	12 Month Moving Avg.
2019	August	130.1	0.1	3.4	3.8	132.1	-1.0	-2.8	-1.2	129.3	0.5	6.2	6.0
	September	131.1	0.8	5.0	3.9	135.3	2.4	3.0	-1.1	129.4	0.1	5.7	6.0
	October	131.3	0.2	5.4	4.0	137.4	1.6	6.8	-0.4	128.9	-0.4	4.8	6.0
	November	131.7	0.3	4.4	4.1	138.7	0.9	4.6	0.1	128.9	0.0	4.2	5.9
	December	132.4	0.5	4.8	4.3	142.0	2.4	6.3	0.8	128.7	-0.2	4.3	5.8
2020	January	134.6	1.7	5.7	4.5	146.5	3.2	12.4	2.0	129.9	0.9	2.9	5.5
	February	134.6	0.0	6.2	4.6	146.2	-0.2	14.7	3.3	130.1	0.2	2.8	5.2
	March	133.4	-0.9	5.4	4.7	141.6	-3.1	12.8	4.4	130.2	0.1	2.5	4.9
	April	133.6	0.1	5.2	4.8	142.2	0.4	13.2	5.5	130.2	0.0	2.1	4.5
	May	134.2	0.4	4.0	4.7	144.1	1.3	9.9	6.3	130.3	0.1	1.6	4.1
	June	135.3	0.8	3.9	4.7	147.9	2.6	10.0	7.2	130.4	0.1	1.4	3.7
	July	135.4	0.1	4.2	4.8	148.0	0.1	10.9	8.4	130.5	0.1	1.5	3.3
	August	135.4	0.0	4.1	4.8	148.4	0.3	12.3	9.7	130.3	-0.2	0.8	2.9
	September	136.3	0.7	4.0	4.7	150.8	1.6	11.5	10.4	130.6	0.2	0.9	2.5

#### 3.1 Year on Year (Year on Year) Inflation

The Y-On-Y inflation as measured by CCPI is 4.0% in September 2020 and inflation calculated for August 2020 was 4.1% (Table 3). Year on Year inflation of Food Group has decreased from 12.3% in August 2020 to 11.5% in September 2020 while that of Non-food Group has increased from 0.8% in August 2020 to 0.9% in September 2020.

### 3.2 Contribution to Y on Y inflation:

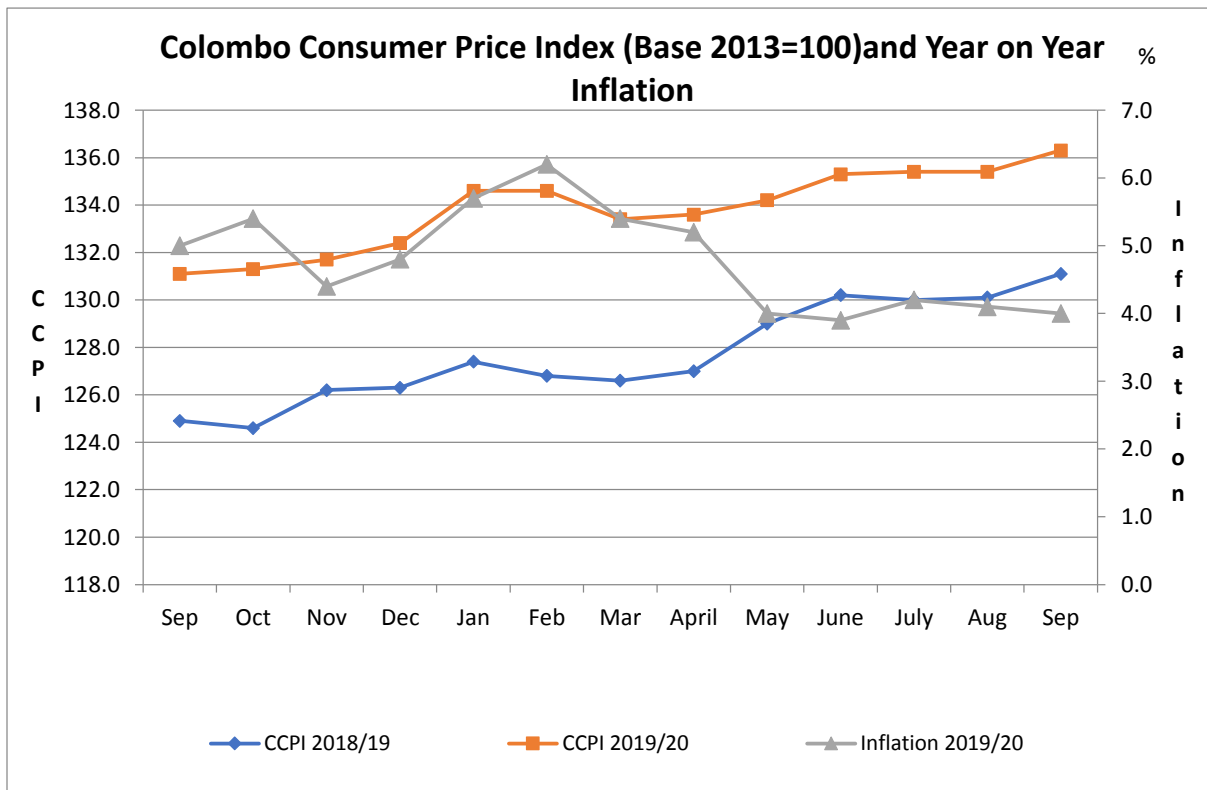
For the month of September 2020, on year-to-year basis, contribution to inflation by food commodities was 3.32%.

The contribution of Non Food items was 0.65%. This was mainly due to increases in value change in groups of 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels' (0.48%), 'Transport' (0.20%), 'Clothing and Footwear' (0.14%), 'Education' (0.14%), 'Restaurants & Hotels' (0.13%), 'Alcoholic Beverages Tobacco and Narcotics' (0.07%) and 'Miscellaneous Goods and Services' (0.05%)

Decreases in value change were reported for the groups of 'Communication' (0.31%), 'Health' (0.21%), 'Furnishing Household Equipment and routine Household Maintenance' (0.04%) and 'Recreation and Culture' (0.01%).

### 3.3 Moving Average Inflation

The moving average inflation rate for the month of September 2020 was 4.7% when compared to corresponding rate for the month of August 2020 was 4.8%.



**Table 4 : Monthly average open market retail prices of selected items of Colombo Consumer Price Index September 2019, August & September 2020**

Item	Unit	Retail Prices (Rs. Cts)			Retail Price Changes (%)	
		2019 September	2020 August	2020 September	Sep20/ 19-Sep	Sep 20 / 20-Aug
1. Rice– Kekulu – Red	Kg	81.57	98.04	97.81	19.92	-0.23
2. Rice– Kekulu – White	Kg	87.53	96.21	97.07	10.90	0.89
3. Rice –Nadu - White	Kg	91.74	99.91	99.36	8.31	-0.54
4. Rice –Nadu - Red	Kg	92.45	105.99	106.40	15.09	0.38
5. Rice– Samba	Kg	94.77	102.95	103.43	9.15	0.47
6. Cowpea	Kg	287.90	393.89	397.18	37.96	0.84
7.Green Grams	Kg	281.20	342.33	339.75	20.82	-0.75
8. Coconut	Each	47.74	68.78	77.12	61.53	12.13
9. Coconut Oil	750ml	247.97	345.33	329.25	32.78	-4.65
10.Chicken	Kg	514.33	522.35	523.45	1.77	0.21
11. Eggs	Each	20.16	22.30	21.66	7.44	-2.84
12. Red Onion	Kg	159.34	218.58	214.77	34.79	-1.74
13. Big Onion	Kg	142.45	103.74	132.67	-6.87	27.89
14. Potatoes	Kg	183.00	202.72	180.81	-1.20	-10.81
15. Garlic	Kg	406.38	316.14	305.81	-24.75	-3.27
16. Dried Chillies	Kg	386.10	548.39	533.06	38.06	-2.80
17. Green Chillies	Kg	349.33	368.41	339.19	-2.90	-7.93
18. Sugar	Kg	106.71	135.69	135.67	27.14	-0.01
19. Pepper	Kg	1351.89	1326.30	1283.30	-5.07	-3.24
<b>Vegetables-</b>						
20. Ash Plantain	Kg	152.83	159.99	172.38	12.79	7.74
21. Carrot	Kg	148.73	171.28	190.71	28.22	11.35
22. Snake Gourd	Kg	171.38	168.19	190.72	11.29	13.40
23. Tomatoes	Kg	150.55	122.79	165.72	10.07	34.97
24. Capsicum	Kg	230.71	328.52	395.51	71.43	20.39
25. Beetroot	Kg	142.70	171.11	174.99	22.63	2.27
26. Beans	Kg	281.70	273.92	302.84	7.51	10.56
<b>Fruits</b>						
27. Banana	Kg	166.65	168.01	178.15	6.90	6.04
28. Papaw	Kg	140.83	107.09	144.47	2.58	34.90
29. Mangoes	Each	127.83	120.65	136.73	6.97	13.33
<b>Fresh Fish –</b>						
30. Seer	Kg	1899.16	1927.36	1695.67	-10.71	-12.02
31.Talapath	Kg	1260.04	1302.00	1273.72	1.09	-2.17
32.Paraw	Kg	1195.01	1278.58	1265.02	5.86	-1.06
<b>Dried Fish -</b>						
33.Katta	Kg	1468.41	1510.98	1499.53	2.12	-0.76
34. Sprats	Kg	757.91	701.60	695.42	-8.24	-0.88
<b>Fuel -</b>						
35. Kerosene Oil	Lt	70.00	70.00	70.00	0.00	0.00
36 .Petrol (CPC & IOC)	Lt	140.80	137.00	137.00	-2.70	0.00
37. Diesel (CPC & IOC)	Lt	104.00	104.00	104.00	0.00	0.00
38. Gas- Avg.	12.5kg	1733.00	1493.00	1493.00	-13.85	0.00
Litro	12.5kg	1733.00	1493.00	1493.00	-13.85	0.00
Laughs	12.5kg	1733.00	1493.00	1493.00	-13.85	0.00