



NEWS RELEASE

THE NATIONAL CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (BASE 2013=100) :- DECEMBER 2015

Department of Census and Statistics

Ministry of National Policy and Economic Affairs

The latest Consumer Price Index (CPI) released by the DCS is National Consumer Price Index (NCPI). DCS commenced releasing National Consumer Price Index (Base 2013=100) from October 2015 with a time lag of 21 days.

The Department of Census and Statistics has released the National Consumer Price Index (NCPI) for the month of December 2015. NCPI has been estimated as 113.2 for December 2015. This shows an increase of 1.2 index points and also a percentage of 1.1 compared to the previous month's (November) index of 112.0. This change is due to the value change increases of food items by 0.9% and non-food items by 0.1% respectively.

For December 2015, the value change increase of food items was mainly due to the price increases in Vegetables, Green chilies, Rice, Fresh fish, Yoghurt, Eggs, Coconuts, Garlic and Red Onions compared to the previous month (November). However decrease in value changes were recorded for Big Onions, Limes, Potatoes, Sprats-dry, Chicken, Dhal -Mysoor, Mangoes, Banana and Milk powder due to its price decreases compared to the previous month (November).

The non food commodity groups have increased by 0.1 percent in December 2015 compared to November 2015. This was mainly due to the value change increases in non food commodity groups of 'Alcoholic Beverages Tobacco & Narcotics' and 'Transport'. The value change increase in 'Transport' group has been totally due to the increase of airline fee in December 2015 compared to the previous month (November). A decrease in value change was reported for 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels' group and it has mainly been due to the decline of prices of L.P Gas and Kerosene oil in December 2015 compared to the previous month (November).

In a communiqué issued on NCPI, Dr. Amara Satharasinghe Director General of Census and Statistics said that Year on Year inflation based on NCPI for the month of December 2015 was calculated as 4.2% and inflation calculated for November 2015 was 4.8%.

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