



NEWS RELEASE

“Inflation remained at 6.3% in July”

THE NATIONAL CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (BASE 2013=100): JULY 2017

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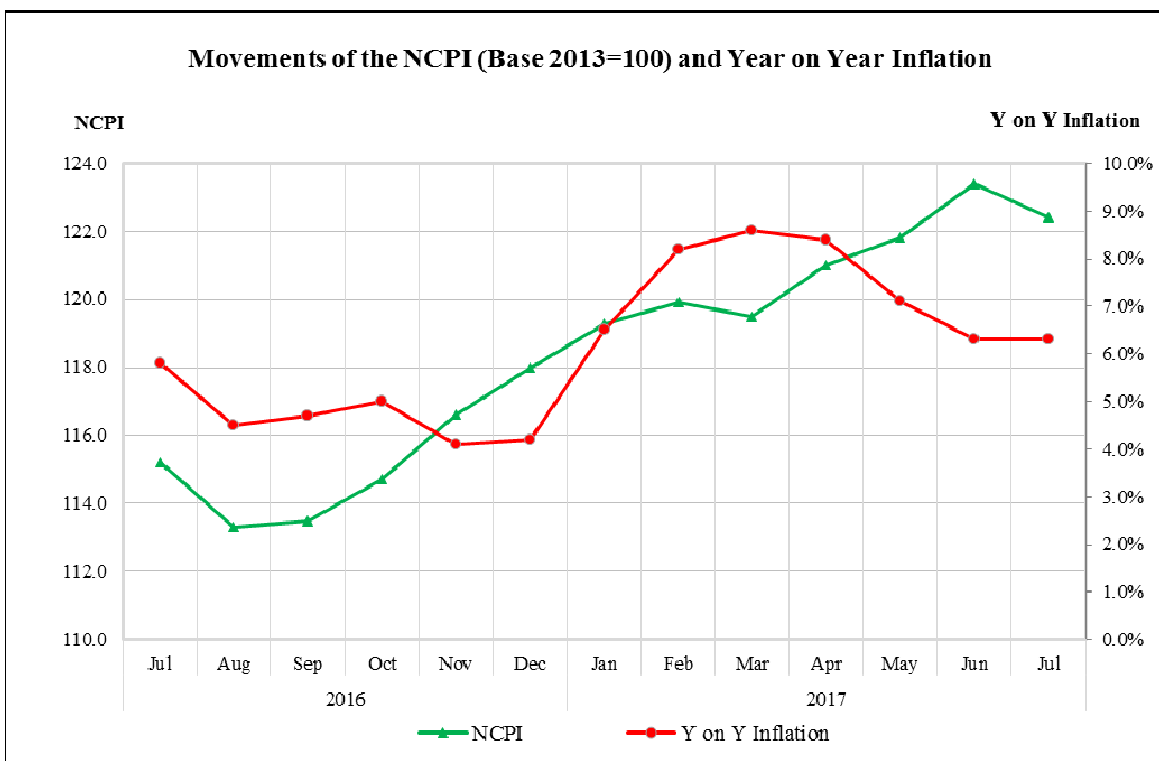
Issuing National Consumer Price Index (NCPI), for the month of July 2017, Dr. Amara Satharasinghe, Director General of Census and Statistics said that in July 2017, Year on Year inflation based on NCPI remained at 6.3% as was reported for June 2017. Contributions to the inflation from food group and non-food group in July 2017 are 3.7% and 2.6% respectively, whereas contributions of these two groups to the inflation in June 2017 were 3.9% and 2.4% respectively.

However, when compared to month on month changes, NCPI in July 2017 has decreased to 122.4 from 123.4 reported for June 2017. This shows a decrease of 1.0 index points or 0.8 percentage points in July 2017 compared to previous month: June 2017. This month on month change was due to the decrease of expenditure value of food items by 0.90% and increase of expenditure value of non-food items by 0.06%.

The decrease in expenditure value of food items was due to the price decreases in vegetables, fresh fish, coconuts, mysore dhal, red onions, big onions, green chilies, coconut oil and garlic. However, increases in expenditure value in index were reported for rice, sprats(dry), eggs, banana and tea.

The increase in expenditure value of non food items in July 2017 compared to the previous month was due to the expenditure value increases in groups of ‘Transport’, ‘Miscellaneous Goods and Services’, ‘Alcoholic beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics’, ‘Furnishing, Household equipment and Routine household maintenance’ and ‘Clothing and Footwear’. Further, the group of ‘Restaurant and Hotels’ recorded very slight expenditure value increase compared to the preceding month. However, decrease in expenditure value was reported for non food commodity group of ‘Health’ compared to the previous month of June 2017. The expenditure value of ‘Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other fuels’, ‘Communication’, ‘Recreation & Culture’ and ‘Education’ groups remained unchanged during the month.

Movements of the NCPI (Base 2013=100) and Year on Year Inflation



Movements of the NCPI (Base : 2013 = 100)

Year	Month	Index Number	Month to Month % change of Index Number	Year on Year Inflation %
2016	July	115.2	-0.8	5.8
	August	113.3	-1.6	4.5
	September	113.5	0.2	4.7
	October	114.7	1.1	5.0
	November	116.6	1.7	4.1
	December	118.0	1.2	4.2
2017	January	119.3	1.1	6.5
	February	119.9	0.5	8.2
	March	119.5	-0.3	8.6
	April	121.0	1.3	8.4
	May	121.8	0.7	7.1
	June	123.4	1.3	6.3
	July	122.4	-0.8	6.3