



NEWS RELEASE

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

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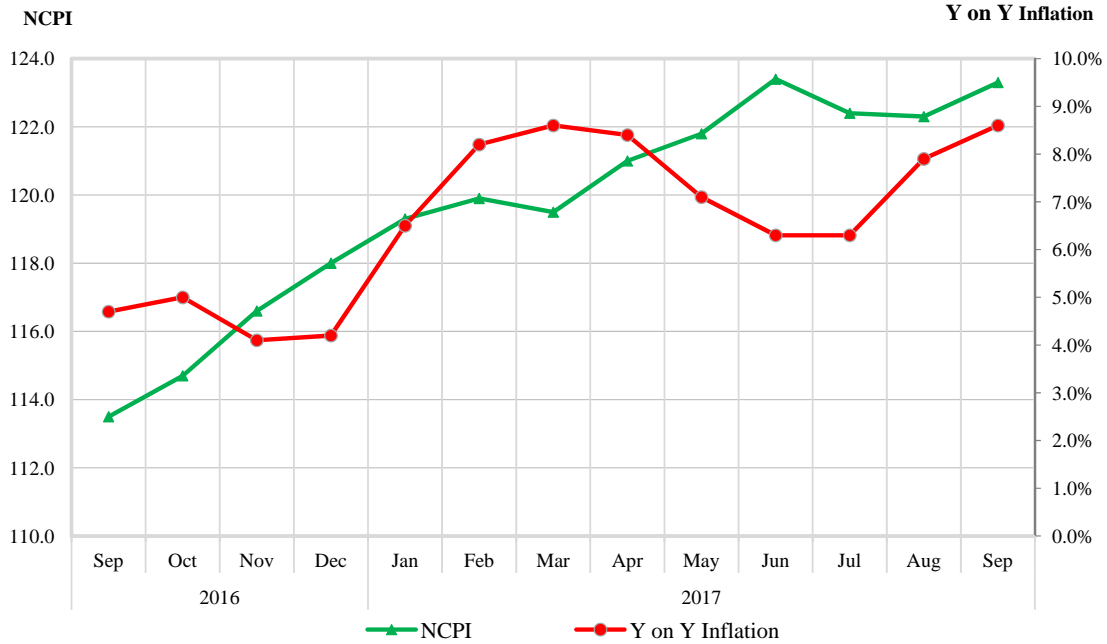
Issuing National Consumer Price Index (NCPI), for the month of September 2017, Dr. Amara Satharasinghe, Director General of Census and Statistics said that the Year on Year inflation based on NCPI has been compiled as 8.6%. The inflation reported for the month of August 2017 was 7.9%. For the month of September 2017, the reported increase in inflation is mainly because of the comparatively lower price levels prevailed in September 2016. Contributions to the inflation from food group and non-food group in September 2017 are 6.1% and 2.6% respectively, whilst contributions of these two groups to the inflation in September 2016 were 2.1% and 2.7% respectively reflecting prevailed comparatively lower food prices in September 2016.

However, when compared to month on month changes, NCPI in September 2017 has increased to 123.3 from 122.3 reported in August 2017. This shows an increase of 1.0 index points or 0.8 percentage points in September 2017 compared to August 2017. This month on month change was due to the increases of expenditure value of food items by 0.80% and non-food items by 0.07% respectively.

The increase in expenditure value of food items was due to the price increases in rice, coconuts, red onions, big onions, sugar, limes, banana and papaw. However, decreases in expenditure value in index were reported for vegetables, fresh fish, mysore dhal, green chilies and garlic.

The increase in expenditure value of non food items in September 2017 compared to the previous month was due to the expenditure value increases in groups of 'Alcoholic beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics', 'Education', 'Clothing and Footwear', 'Miscellaneous Goods and Services' and 'Furnishing, Household equipment and Routine household maintenance'. Further, the group of 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other fuels' recorded very slight expenditure value increase compared to the preceding month. However, expenditure value decrease was observed for group of 'Communication' due to removal of telecommunication levy on internet charges with effect from 01 September, 2017. The expenditure value of 'Health', 'Transport', 'Recreation and Culture' and 'Restaurant and Hotels' 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	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
	August	122.3	-0.1	7.9
	September	123.3	0.8	8.6