PRESS RELEASE

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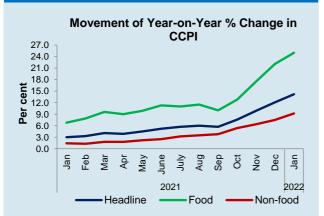
CCPI based annual average headline inflation rises to 6.9 per cent, while Y-o-Y inflation increases to 14.2 per cent in January 2022

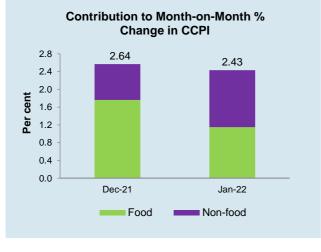
Headline Inflation

Annual Average inflation : 6.9% Year-on-year inflation : 14.2% Monthly Change : 2.43%

Core Inflation

Annual Average inflation : 5.0% Year-on-year inflation : 9.9% Monthly Change : 1.9%





Headline inflation, as measured by the year-on-year (Y-o-Y) change in the Colombo Consumer Price Index (CCPI, 2013=100)¹, increased to 14.2 per cent in January 2022 from 12.1 per cent in December 2021. Meanwhile, on an annual average basis, the CCPI increased to 6.9 per cent in January 2022 from 6.0 per cent in December 2021.

Inflation was driven by monthly increases of prices of items in both Food and Non-food categories. Subsequently, Food inflation (Y-o-Y) increased to 25.0 per cent in January 2022 from 22.1 per cent in December 2021, while Non-food inflation (Y-o-Y) increased to 9.2 per cent in January 2022 from 7.5 per cent in December 2021.

Monthly change of CCPI recorded at 2.43 per cent in January 2022 due to price increases observed in items of both Food and Non-food categories which were 1.15 per cent and 1.28 per cent, respectively. Accordingly, within the Food category, prominent increases were observed in prices of rice, fresh fruit, milk powder, and bread. Further, prices of items in the Non-Food category recorded increases mainly due to price increases observed in the Transport (Petrol, Diesel, Bus fare), Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other fuel (Housing Rent, Maintenance/Reconstruction), Education (Course fees for higher education and vocational training), and Restaurant and Hotels subcategories during the month.

The core inflation (Y-o-Y), which reflects the underlying inflation in the economy, increased to 9.9 per cent in January 2022 from 8.3 per cent in December 2021. Moreover, annual average core inflation increased to 5.0 per cent in January 2022 from 4.4 per cent in December 2021.

¹The Colombo Consumer Price Index (CCPI, 2013=100) is compiled by the Department of Census and Statistics.

Data Annexure:

Year	Month	Index Number		Monthly Percentage Change		Year-on-Year Percentage Change		Annual Average Percentage Change	
		ССРІ	CCPI (Core)	ССРІ	CCPI (Core)	ССРІ	CCPI (Core)	ССРІ	CCPI (Core)
2020	January	134.6	136.5	1.7	1.1	5.7	3.0	4.5	5.3
	February	134.6	136.9	0.0	0.3	6.2	3.2	4.6	5.1
	March	133.4	136.9	-0.9	0.0	5.4	2.9	4.7	4.9
	April	133.6	137.2	0.1	0.2	5.2	3.1	4.8	4.7
	May	134.2	138.1	0.4	0.7	4.0	2.9	4.7	4.4
	June	135.3	138.6	0.8	0.4	3.9	3.1	4.7	4.2
	July	135.4	138.9	0.1	0.2	4.2	3.2	4.8	4.0
	August	135.4	138.9	0.0	0.0	4.1	3.2	4.8	3.8
	September	136.3	139.1	0.7	0.1	4.0	2.9	4.7	3.6
	October	136.5	139.2	0.1	0.1	4.0	3.0	4.6	3.4
	November	137.1	139.6	0.4	0.3	4.1	3.0	4.6	3.2
	December	138.0	139.7	0.7	0.1	4.2	3.5	4.6	3.1
2021	January	138.7	140.2	0.5	0.4	3.0	2.7	4.3	3.1
	February	139.1	140.4	0.3	0.1	3.3	2.6	4.1	3.0
	March	138.9	141.1	-0.1	0.5	4.1	3.1	4.0	3.0
	April	138.8	141.3	-0.1	0.1	3.9	3.0	3.9	3.0
	May	140.3	142.5	1.1	0.8	4.5	3.2	3.9	3.0
	June	142.4	143.1	1.5	0.4	5.2	3.2	4.1	3.0
	July	143.1	144.1	0.5	0.7	5.7	3.7	4.2	3.1
	August	143.5	144.6	0.3	0.3	6.0	4.1	4.3	3.2
	September	144.1	146.0	0.4	1.0	5.7	5.0	4.5	3.3
	October	146.9	147.9	1.9	1.3	7.6	6.3	4.8	3.6
	November	150.7	149.4	2.6	1.0	9.9	7.0	5.3	4.0
	December	154.7	151.3	2.7	1.3	12.1	8.3	6.0	4.4
2022	January	158.4	154.1	2.4	1.9	14.2	9.9	6.9	5.0

Table 1: Movements of the CCPI

Base: 2013 = 100

Source: Department of Census and Statistics