

Sri Lanka inflation at 5-pct in Sept 2019

Sri Lanka's National Consumer Price Index (NCPI) increased to five percent from 3.4 percent recorded in August on a year-on-year basis, the Department of Census and Statistics said.

The NCPI for all items for the month of September 2019 was 130.6.

An increase of 0.9 index points or 0.7 percentage compared to August 2019 for which the index was 129.7.

This increase represents an increase in expenditure value of Rs. 297.16 in the "Market Basket".

The increase in the index point by 0.71 percent was due to the index values increases of food items by 0.68 percent and non-food items by 0.03 percent respectively.

Year-on-Year inflation of food group has increased from 0.6 percent in August 2019 to 4.9 percent in September 2019 and that of non-food group has decreased from

5.6 percent to 5.1 percent during this month.

The contribution of non-food items was 2.87 percent.

This was mainly due to price increases in groups of 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other fuels' (1.33%), 'Health' (0.42%), 'Miscellaneous Goods and Services' (0.31%), 'Education' (0.25%), 'Clothing and Footwear' (0.17%), 'Alcoholic beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics' (0.15%), 'Furnishing, Household equipment and Routine household maintenance' (0.12%), 'Restaurant and Hotels' (0.12%), 'Recreation and Culture' (0.11%) and 'Transport' (0.08%), and However, decrease in prices was reported for group of 'Communication' (0.18%).

The moving average inflation for the month of September 2019 is 2.3 percent. The corresponding rate for the month of August 2019 was 2.0 percent.

47