## National inflation decelerates to 0.4% in December

Sri Lanka's countrywide headline inflation, measured by the year-on-year change in the National Consumer Price Index (NCPI), decelerated to 0.4 percent in December 2018, from 1.0 percent a month ago, the data released by the Census and Statistics Department showed.

The decrease is driven by the decrease of prices of items in both food and non-food

categories.

The year-on-year food inflation decreased to -4.5 percent in December, from -3.9 percent in November, while the year-on-year non-food inflation also decreased from 5.2 percent in November to 4.7 percent in December. The change in the NCPI measured on an annual average basis decreased to 2.1 percent, from 2.7 percent in November 2018.