

Jan. inflation rises to 3.7%

■ **Price increases in non-food items pushes up inflation by 0.91% according to Colombo-based calculations**

INFLATION rose to 3.7% in January, up 0.91% from December when inflation was 2.8%, the Census and Statistics Department said yesterday, with prices being pushed up largely by non-food items.

The CCPI for all items for the month of January 2019 was 127.4 and it records an increase of 1.1 index points that is 0.91 percentage points compared to the month of December 2018 for which the index was 126.3. This represents an increase of expenditure value by Rs.690.47 in the 'Market Basket'.

An increase in the index point by 0.91% was due to the expenditure value decrease of Food items by 0.75% and increase of Non Food items by 1.66%. Decreases in value change were reported for vegetables (0.69%), coconut (0.17%), limes (0.06%), big onions (0.05%), potatoes (0.05%), red onion (0.01%), coconut oil (0.01%) and mangoes (0.01%).

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