



**Issued By** Communications Department

**Date** 30.11.2023

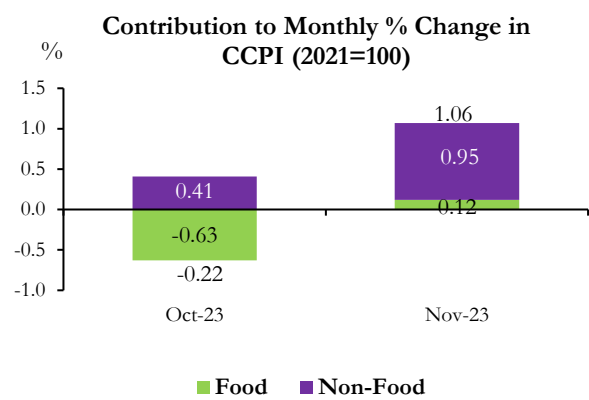
## CCPI based headline inflation increased in November 2023

Headline inflation, as measured by the year-on-year (Y-o-Y) change in the Colombo Consumer Price Index (CCPI, 2021=100)<sup>1</sup> increased to 3.4% in November 2023 from 1.5% in October 2023. This increase in the headline inflation is mostly in line with the projections envisaged by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka (CBSL) in November 2023.

The Food deflation (Y-o-Y) continued for the fifth consecutive month recording 3.6% in November 2023 from 5.2% in October 2023. Meanwhile, the Non-Food inflation (Y-o-Y) increased to 6.8% in November 2023 from 4.9% in October 2023. Monthly change of CCPI recorded at 1.06% in November 2023 due to price increases observed in items of both Food and Non-Food categories, which were 0.12% and 0.95%, respectively. The core inflation (Y-o-Y), which reflects the underlying inflation in the economy, decreased to 0.8% in November 2023 from 1.2% in October 2023.

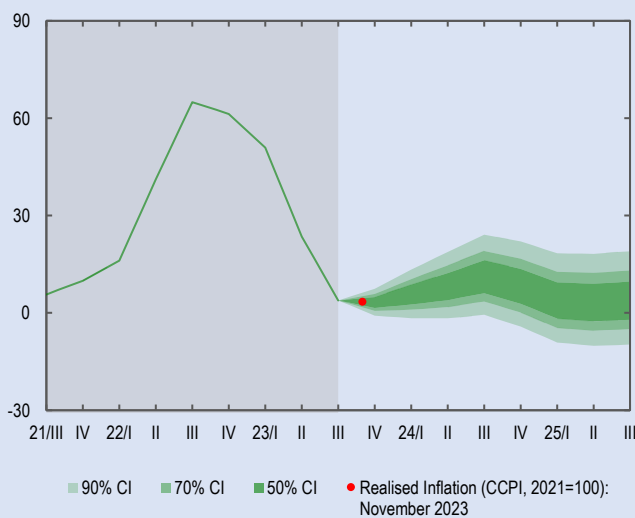
Inflation CCPI (2021=100)	October 2023	November 2023
Index Value	191.4	193.4
Monthly Change (%)	-0.2	1.0
Y-o-Y Inflation (%)	1.5	3.4

Note: As per DCS, Y-o-Y inflation and monthly change are calculated using the rounded off index numbers.



Inflation is expected to stabilise around the targeted level of 5 per cent over the medium term, supported by appropriate policy measures and well-anchored inflation expectations. Nevertheless, with the anticipated tax increases and their potential second-round impacts, together with possible upward adjustments to administratively determined prices, a transitory increase in inflation is probable in the short term.

**Headline Inflation Projections<sup>a</sup>**  
 CCPI,<sup>b</sup> quarterly average, y-o-y, %



The inflation fan chart depicted here illustrates the uncertainty surrounding the baseline projections using confidence bands of gradually fading colours. Given the prevailing domestic and global economic uncertainties and geopolitical tensions, the risks associated with the current projections are higher than in normal times. These risks arise due to the possibility of various factors deviating from the levels already internalised in projections, either explicitly or implicitly. In particular, there could be upside risks to inflation projections stemming from factors such as the possibility of increased taxes and related second-round impacts, possible wage hikes, large increases in energy prices, any larger than expected exchange rate depreciation amidst relaxed import restrictions, the impact of possible adverse weather on agricultural production and in turn on food inflation, etc. Meanwhile, downside risks to inflation projections include the possibility of a faster recovery of supply conditions and the sustained impact of diminished purchasing power of the public.

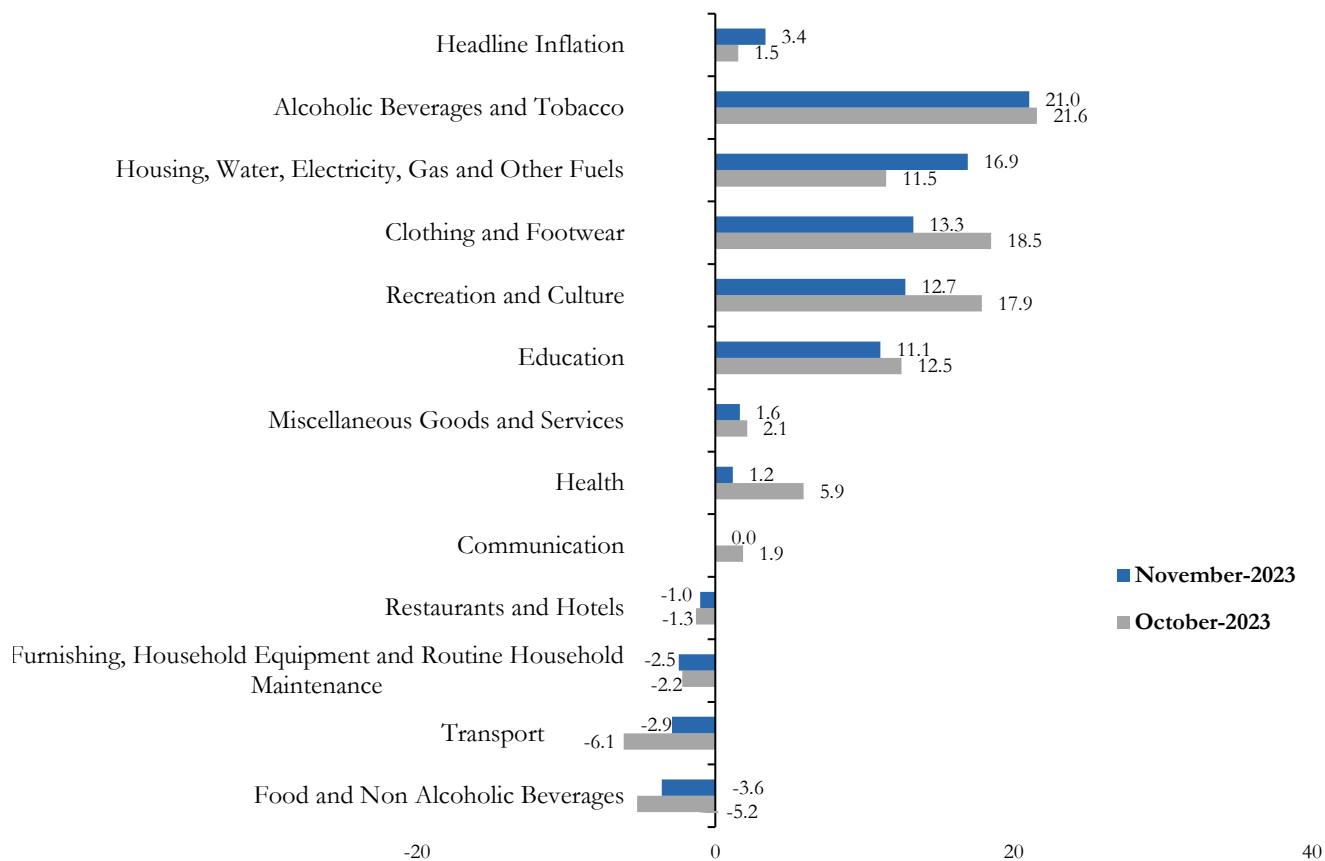
Source: Central Bank Staff Projections

a/ The projections displayed in the fan chart reflect the available data, and assumptions and judgements made at the November 2023 forecast round.

b/ Realised data up to Q4 2022 shown in the fan chart are based on the CCPI (2013=100, seasonally adjusted), while data after this period are based on the CCPI (2021=100, seasonally adjusted). Projections are based on all available data.

<sup>1</sup> The Colombo Consumer Price Index (CCPI, 2021=100) is compiled by the Department of Census and Statistics (DCS) to indicate average changes in the prices of goods and services purchased by households in urban areas of Colombo district.

### CCPI (2021=100) based Headline Inflation by Subcategory (Y-o-Y % Change)



### Movement of the CCPI (2021=100)

Period		Index Number		Monthly % Change		Y-o-Y % Change	
Year	Month	CCPI	CCPI (Core)	CCPI	CCPI (Core)	CCPI	CCPI (Core)
2022	November	187.1	171.1	-0.7	0.4	-	-
	December	187.6	171.5	0.3	0.2	-	-
2023	January	188.6	172.4	0.5	0.5	51.7	45.6
	February	189.5	172.3	0.5	-0.1	50.6	43.6
	March	195.0	171.9	2.9	-0.2	50.3	39.1
	April	192.3	171.5	-1.4	-0.2	35.3	27.8
	May	192.3	171.0	0.0	-0.3	25.2	20.3
	June	192.3	169.9	0.0	-0.6	12.0	9.8
	July	190.2	170.4	-1.1	0.3	6.3	5.9
	August	190.1	171.2	-0.1	0.5	4.0	4.6
	September	191.8	172.0	0.9	0.5	1.3	1.9
	October	191.4	172.4	-0.2	0.2	1.5	1.2
	November	193.4	172.4	1.0	0.0	3.4	0.8

Source: Department of Census and Statistics