



CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

MARCH 2016 REPORT



2005



2010



2015

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Statistical News for March 2016

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The headline inflation rate in March 2016 (i.e. the annual percentage change in the CPI in March 2016 compared with that of March 2015) for the country is 7.8 %. This annual rate of inflation is 0.5 index points higher than the corresponding annual rate of 7.3 % observed in February 2016.

The Month on Month inflation rate (i.e. the percentage change in the CPI in March 2016 compared with that of February 2016) is 0.8 %.

This higher headline inflation was due to increasing annual rates of change reflected in March in the price indices for:

- Food and non-alcoholic beverages which increased from 10.5% in February 2016 to 13.4 % in March 2016. Bread and cereals, milk, cheese and eggs, fruits, as well as confectionery products were the leading products that caused the increased price index.
- Clothing and footwear which increased from 4.9 % in February 2016 to 5.6 % in March 2016, where clothing materials, shoes and other footwear contributed to the increased price index.
- Furnishing and household equipment and routine maintenance which increased from 5.6 % in February 2016 to 6.4 % in March 2016.

The increasing rates were slightly counteracted by decreasing rates of growth in the price indices for:

- Miscellaneous goods and services which decreased from 9.2 % in February 2016 to 5.1 % in March 2016.
- Restaurants and hotels saw a decrease from 0.7 % in February 2016 to 0.3 % in March 2016.
- Recreation and culture which decreased from 2.9 % in February 2016 to 2.4 % in March 2016.

Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a measure of the average change in prices of a fixed market basket of goods and services, for a given time history.

Headline Inflation rate is a measure of the annual percentage change in CPI for a given time.

Month on Month inflation rate is a measure of the monthly percentage change in CPI from previous month.

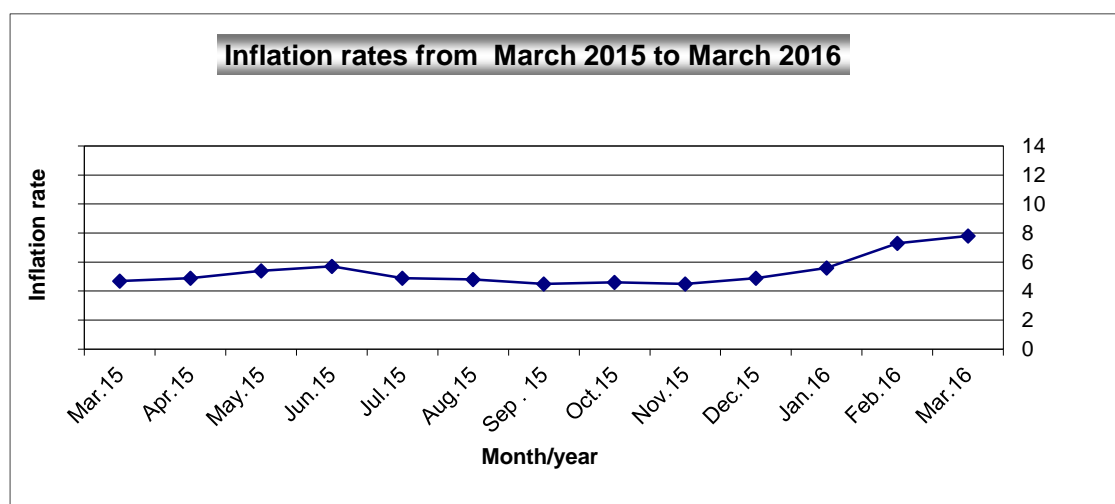
NB: Detailed statistical tables of the CPI are available on request.

A summary of the national and main group CPI and Inflation rate for March 2016 is shown in the Table as follows:

Table 1: National and main group CPI and Inflation rate for March 2016 (Base period: December 2012 = 100)

	Main Groups (COICOP classification)	Weight	CPI	Month-Month Inflation rate	Headline Inflation rate breakdown
			Mar	Mar	Mar
1	Food & Non Alcoholic beverages	29.22	126.8	2.5	13.4
2	Alcoholic beverages & Tobacco	0.39	115.2	0.6	1.8
3	Clothing & Footwear	3.42	124.2	1.1	5.6
4	Housing and Utilities	29.15	114.2	0.0	5.0
5	Furnishing and Household equipment	4.75	114.8	0.3	6.4
6	Health	3.39	114.8	0.0	0.3
7	Transport	10.50	125.2	0.2	12.2
8	Communications	2.74	106.6	0.0	7.6
9	Recreation and Culture	1.07	120.3	0.6	2.4
10	Education	9.11	130.7	0.0	4.0
11	Restaurants and Hotels	1.79	115.2	0.1	0.3
12	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.47	119.0	0.5	5.1
	National / All Items	100	120.8	0.8	7.8

Graph: Year on year inflation rates series from March 2015 to March 2016



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Table 2: All items index (December 2012 = 100) and year on year inflation rates series.

		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Aver
2011	All Index	86.09	87.03	87.75	88.59	89.25	89.43	89.59	90.45	90.65	91.23	91.50	92.37	89.5
	Inflation rate	4.3	4.2	5.5	6.6	7.1	6.4	6.4	6.1	6.1	6.0	6.4	6.5	6.1
2012	All Index	94.1	95.2	95.4	97.1	97.3	97.4	97.4	98.1	98.5	99.5	99.8	100.0	97.5
	Inflation rate	9.3	9.4	8.8	9.6	9.0	9.0	9.0	8.7	8.5	8.7	9.1	9.1	8.9
2013	All Index	100.2	101.6	101.8	102.5	102.7	102.9	103.3	103.8	104.1	104.2	104.2	104.4	103.0
	Inflation rate	6.5	6.7	6.6	5.6	5.5	5.6	5.6	6.0	5.9	5.7	4.7	4.4	5.6
2014	All Index	104.9	106.4	107.0	108.0	108.3	108.3	109.7	110.1	110.6	110.7	111.0	110.9	108.8
	Inflation rate	4.7	4.7	5.1	5.3	5.5	5.3	5.3	6.2	6.0	6.2	6.3	6.6	5.7
2015	All Index	110.7	111.7	112.1	113.3	114.1	114.6	115.1	115.3	115.6	115.8	116.0	116.3	114.2
	Inflation rate	5.6	5.0	4.7	4.9	5.4	5.7	4.9	4.8	4.5	4.6	4.5	4.9	5.0
2016	All Index	117.0	119.8	120.8										
	Inflation rate	5.6	7.3	7.8										

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