



STATISTICAL RELEASE

MARCH - 2019

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ZANZIBAR CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI) FOR MARCH, 2019

ANNUAL HEADLINE INFLATION RATE INCREASED TO 2.8 PERCENT

Zanzibar Annual Headline Inflation rate for the year ended March 2019 increased to 2.8 percent compared to 2.6 percent recorded during the year ended February 2019. Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages inflation rate decreased to 3.0 percent in March 2019 from 3.9 percent recorded in February 2019. The overall Index increased to 108.2 in March 2019 compared to 105.2 recorded in March 2018 (**Table 1**).

TABLE 1: CHANGES IN CONSUMER PRICE INDICES FOR MARCH, 2019

(BASE JAN. 2017 = 100)

| Description | Weights | INDICES | | | % Change on last Month (February 2019 to March 2019) | % Change on same Month of previous year (March 2018 to March 2019) |
|---|--------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|--|--|
| | | March 2018 | February 2019 | March 2019 | | |
| Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages | 43.6 | 101.6 | 105.4 | 104.6 | -0.8 | 3.0 |
| Alcohol Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics | 0.2 | 103.3 | 110.2 | 110.2 | 0.0 | 6.6 |
| Clothing and Footwear | 6.9 | 105.1 | 106.7 | 105.2 | -1.5 | 0.1 |
| Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas, and Other Fuels | 18.4 | 111.4 | 112.0 | 113.1 | 1.0 | 1.5 |
| Furnishing, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance | 5.5 | 112.9 | 116.1 | 116.0 | -0.1 | 2.7 |
| Health | 2.1 | 104.5 | 108.9 | 108.9 | 0.0 | 4.1 |
| Transport | 9.6 | 110.3 | 111.4 | 111.5 | 0.0 | 1.1 |
| Communication | 4.2 | 100.3 | 99.1 | 114.8 | 15.8 | 14.5 |
| Recreation and Culture | 1.3 | 105.1 | 107.7 | 107.7 | 0.0 | 2.4 |
| Education | 1.9 | 105.3 | 109.7 | 109.7 | 0.0 | 4.2 |
| Restaurants and Hotels | 3.9 | 102.0 | 106.3 | 106.3 | 0.0 | 4.1 |
| Miscellaneous Goods and Services | 2.3 | 102.0 | 105.6 | 105.6 | 0.0 | 3.5 |
| All Items | 100.0 | 105.2 | 107.8 | 108.2 | 0.4 | 2.8 |

Source: Office of the Chief Government Statistician, Zanzibar

ANNUAL FOOD AND NON-FOOD INFLATION RATES

Annual Inflation Rate for food decreased to 3.0 percent for the year ended March 2019 compared to 3.9 percent recorded for the year ended February, 2019. The overall index for food increased to 104.5 in March 2019 compared to 101.5 recorded in March 2018, while overall index for non-food increased to 111.0 in March 2019 compared to 108.0 in March 2018. Annual inflation rate for non-food increased to 2.8 percent in March 2019 compared to 1.7 per cent in February 2019 (**Table 2**). Products contribute to increase for Annual inflation rate were Thailand Rice (16.3%), Wheat Flour (2.6%), Green Cooking Banana (6.7%), Cement (17.1%), Kerosene (2.7%) and Diesel (0.2%) (**Table 3**)

TABLE 2: FOOD AND NON-FOOD STATISTICS

| Group | Weights | INDICES | | | % Change on last Month (February 2019 to March 2019) | % Change on same Month of previous year (March 2018 to March 2019) |
|-----------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|---|---|
| | | March 2018 | February 2019 | March 2019 | | |
| Food | 42.7 | 101.5 | 105.4 | 104.5 | -0.8 | 3.0 |
| Non-Food | 57.3 | 108.0 | 109.7 | 111.0 | 1.2 | 2.8 |
| All Item | 100.0 | 105.2 | 107.8 | 108.2 | 0.4 | 2.8 |

Source: Office of the Chief Government Statistician, Zanzibar

MONTHLY HEADLINE INFLATION RATE IS 0.4 PERCENT IN MARCH, 2019

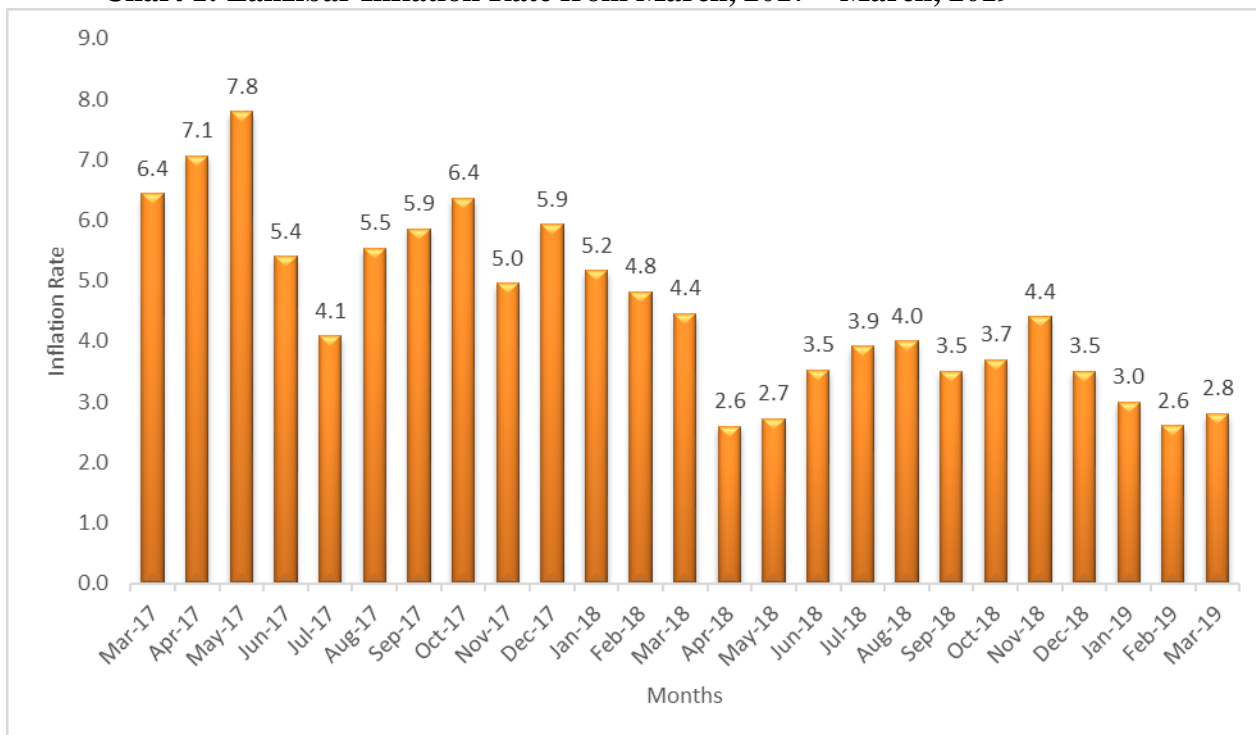
During March 2019 the monthly headline inflation rate increased to 0.4 percent compared with negative 0.4 recorded for the year ended February 2019. The monthly Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages inflation rate for the year ended March, 2019 is negative 0.8 percent compared to negative 0.1 percent for the year ended February 2019 (Table 1). The increase of monthly inflation rate was due to increase of prices of items such as Jasmi rice (1.6%), Maize Flour (2.0%), Green Cooking Bananas (7.3%), Yellow cooking Bananas (1.7%), Cement (4.4%), Kerosene (3.3%), and Diesel (2.4%) (**Table 3**).

Table 3: Monthly Average Prices for Selected Items 2018 - 2019

| Items | Unit | AVERAGE PRICES | | | % Monthly | % Annually |
|---------------------------|---------|----------------|---------------|------------|-----------|------------|
| | | March 2018 | February 2019 | March 2019 | | |
| Thailand rice | 1 kg | 1,349 | 1,569 | 1,569 | 0.0 | 16.3 |
| Mbeya | 1 kg | 2,534 | 2,306 | 2,295 | -0.4 | -9.4 |
| Jasmi Rice | 1 kg | 1,937 | 2,020 | 2,053 | 1.6 | 6.0 |
| Basmat Rice | 1 kg | 3,487 | 3,696 | 3,696 | 0.0 | 6.0 |
| Flatbread (Boflo) | 1pc | 363 | 408 | 408 | 0.0 | 12.2 |
| Maize Flour | 1kg | 1,285 | 1,052 | 1,073 | 2.0 | -16.4 |
| Wheat Flour | 1kg | 1,319 | 1,354 | 1,354 | 0.0 | 2.6 |
| Fish | 1kg | 8,464 | 8,746 | 8,012 | -8.4 | -5.3 |
| Edible cooking Oils (OKI) | 2 litre | 7,443 | 7,591 | 7,591 | 0.0 | 2.0 |
| Green Cooking Bananas | 1kg | 1,103 | 1,097 | 1,177 | 7.3 | 6.7 |
| Yellow Cooking Bananas | 1kg | 2,504 | 1,763 | 1,792 | 1.7 | -28.4 |
| White Sugar | 1kg | 1,875 | 1,787 | 1,767 | -1.2 | -5.8 |
| Cement | 50 kg | 14,748 | 16,529 | 17,263 | 4.4 | 17.1 |
| Kerosene | 1 litre | 1,646 | 1,636 | 1,690 | 3.3 | 2.7 |
| Petrol | 1 litre | 2,257 | 2,150 | 2,129 | -1.0 | -5.7 |
| Diesel | 1 litre | 2,243 | 2,195 | 2,248 | 2.4 | 0.2 |

Source: Office of the Chief Government Statistician, Zanzibar

Chart 1: Zanzibar Inflation Rate from March, 2017 – March, 2019



Source: Office of the Chief Government Statistician, Zanzibar

Explanatory Note

The CPI measures the average percentage changes over time (between two time periods) in the prices of a “basket” of consumer goods and services acquired by households (the market basket) in Zanzibar. The Zanzibar CPI covers prices of 343 items collected in 641 outlets in Unguja and Pemba urban Centers. The goods and services included in the ZCPI basket are classified according to the UN COICOP (Classification of Individual Consumption According by Purpose) with 12 divisions.

The ZCPI weights are based on both monetary and non-momentary expenditures relating to consumption for households in Zanzibar for the 2014/15 Household Budget Survey (HBS). The weight is based on expenditures of both urban and rural households. Both base price and index has reference period of January 2017.

The computation of indices at elementary level based on geometric mean of the price relative while at higher level the Laspeyres formula was to compute the aggregate indices.

**For more clarifications please contact:
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