



STATISTICAL RELEASE

MARCH - 2018

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ZANZIBAR CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI) FOR MARCH, 2018

ANNUAL HEADLINE INFLATION RATE DECREASED TO 4.4 PERCENT

Zanzibar Annual Headline Inflation rate for the year ending March 2018 decreased to 4.4 percent compared to the 4.8 percent recorded during the year ended February 2018. Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages inflation rate decreased to 0.4 percent for the year ending March 2018 compared to the 1.3 percent recorded during the year ended February 2018. The overall Index increased to 105.2 in March 2018 compared to the 100.7 recorded in March 2017 (**Table 1**).

TABLE 1: CHANGES IN CONSUMER PRICE INDICES FOR MARCH, 2018

(BASE JAN. 2017 = 100)

| Description | Weights | INDICES | | | Feb 2018 to March 2018 % Change | March 2017 to March 2018 % Change |
|---|--------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| | | March 2017 | February 2018 | March 2018 | | |
| Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages | 43.6 | 101.1 | 101.5 | 101.6 | 0.1 | 0.4 |
| Alcohol Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics | 0.2 | 100.0 | 103.3 | 103.3 | 0.0 | 3.3 |
| Clothing and Footwear | 6.9 | 99.9 | 105.0 | 105.1 | 0.2 | 5.2 |
| Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas, and Other Fuels | 18.4 | 100.3 | 110.9 | 111.4 | 0.4 | 11.0 |
| Furnishing, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance | 5.5 | 100.0 | 112.8 | 112.9 | 0.0 | 12.9 |
| Health | 2.1 | 100.1 | 104.5 | 104.5 | 0.0 | 4.4 |
| Transport | 9.6 | 102.4 | 110.0 | 110.3 | 0.3 | 7.7 |
| Communication | 4.2 | 100.0 | 100.3 | 100.3 | 0.0 | 0.3 |
| Recreation and Culture | 1.3 | 98.4 | 105.1 | 105.1 | 0.0 | 6.8 |
| Education | 1.9 | 100.0 | 105.3 | 105.3 | 0.0 | 5.3 |
| Restaurants and Hotels | 3.9 | 100.0 | 102.0 | 102.0 | 0.0 | 2.0 |
| Miscellaneous Goods and Services | 2.3 | 100.0 | 102.0 | 102.0 | 0.0 | 2.0 |
| All Items | 100.0 | 100.7 | 105.1 | 105.2 | 0.2 | 4.4 |

Source: Office of the Chief Government Statistician, Zanzibar

ANNUAL FOOD AND NON FOOD INFLATION RATES

Annual Inflation Rate for food decreased to 0.4 percent for the year ending March 2018 compared to 1.2 percent recorded for the year ended February 2018. The overall index for food increased to 101.5 in March 2018 compared to 101.1 in March 2017, while overall index for non-food increased to 108.0 in March 2018 compared to 100.5 in March 2017. Annual inflation rate for non-food slightly decreased to 7.5 percent in March 2018 compared to 7.6 percent in February 2018 (**Table 2**). Products contribute to decrease for Annual inflation rate were Maize Flour (29.0%), Green Cooking Banana (12.2%), Yellow Cooking Banana (7.0%), Sugar (3.8%) and Cement (3.4%). (Table 3)

TABLE 2: FOOD AND NON FOOD STATISTICS

| Group | Weights | INDICES | | | Feb 2018 to March 2018 % Change | March 2017 to March 2018 % Change |
|----------|---------|------------|---------------|------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| | | March 2017 | February 2018 | March 2018 | | |
| Food | 42.7 | 101.1 | 101.4 | 101.5 | 0.1 | 0.4 |
| Non Food | 57.3 | 100.5 | 107.8 | 108.0 | 0.2 | 7.5 |
| All Item | 100.0 | 100.7 | 105.1 | 105.2 | 0.2 | 4.4 |

Source: Office of the Chief Government Statistician, Zanzibar

MONTHLY HEADLINE INFLATION RATE INCREASED TO 0.2 PERCENT IN MARCH, 2018

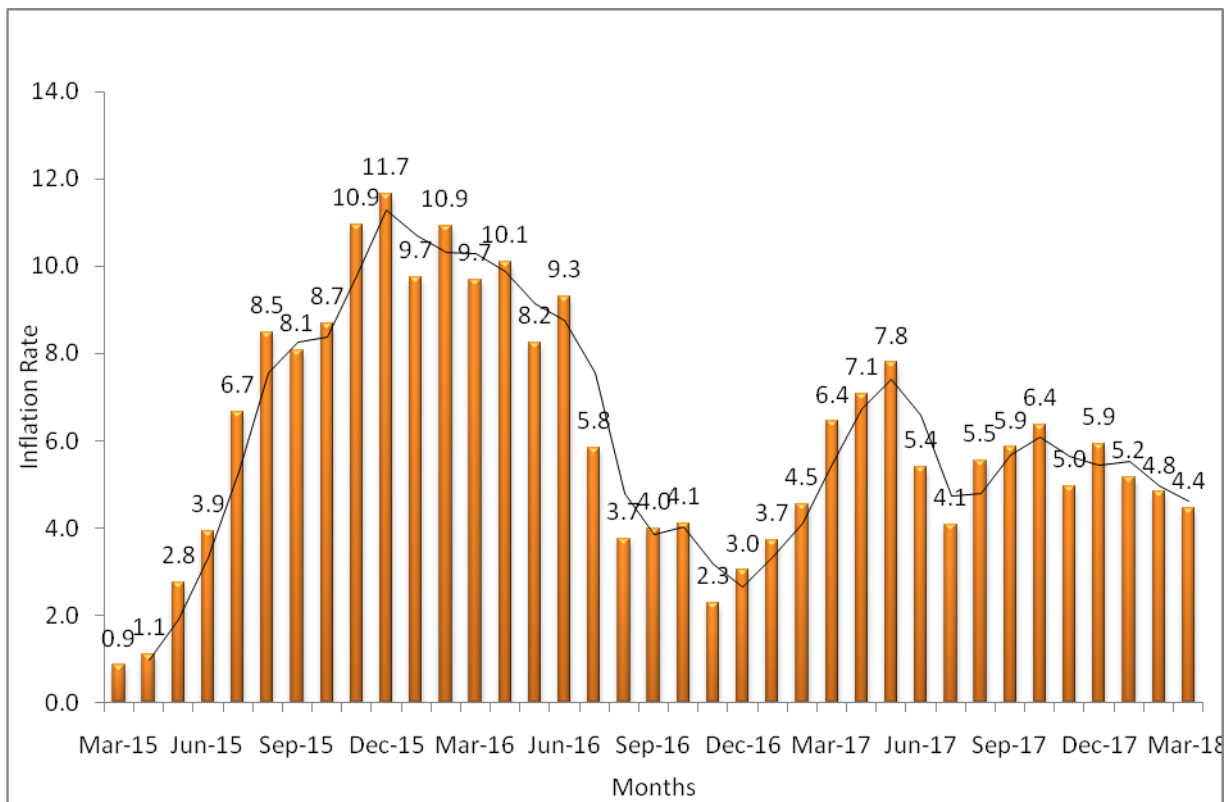
During March 2018 the monthly headline inflation rate increased to 0.2 percent compared to negative 0.1 percent recorded in February 2018. The monthly Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages inflation rate for the year ending March 2018 were 0.1 percent compared to negative 0.3 for the year ended February 2018 (Table 1). The increases of monthly inflation rate was due to increase of prices of items such as Mbeya Rice (0.1%), Yellow Cooking Banana (7.7%), Cement (1.3%), Kerosene (0.3%) and Diesel (3.1%) (Table 3).

Table 3: Monthly Average Prices for Selected Items 2017 - 2018

| Items | Unit | March 2017 | February 2018 | March 2018 | % Monthly | % Annually |
|---------------------------|---------|------------|---------------|------------|-----------|------------|
| Thailand rice | 1 kg | 1,282 | 1,355 | 1,349 | -0.4 | 5.2 |
| Mbeya | 1 kg | 2,391 | 2,533 | 2,534 | 0.1 | 6.0 |
| Jasmi | 1 kg | 1,908 | 1,937 | 1,937 | 0.0 | 1.5 |
| Basmat | 1 kg | 3,353 | 3,487 | 3,487 | 0.0 | 4.0 |
| Flatbread (Boflo) | 1pc | 363 | 363 | 363 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Maize Flour | 1kg | 1,811 | 1,285 | 1,285 | 0.0 | -29.0 |
| Wheat Flour | 1kg | 1,297 | 1,319 | 1,319 | 0.0 | 1.7 |
| Fish | 1kg | 8,255 | 8,536 | 8,464 | -0.8 | 2.5 |
| Edible cooking Oils (OKI) | 2 litre | 7,267 | 7,443 | 7,443 | 0.0 | 2.4 |
| Green Cooking Bananas | 1kg | 1,256 | 1,139 | 1,103 | -3.2 | -12.2 |
| Yellow Cooking Bananas | 1kg | 2,693 | 2,326 | 2,504 | 7.7 | -7.0 |
| Sugar | 1kg | 1,948 | 1,875 | 1,875 | 0.0 | -3.8 |
| Cement | 50 kg | 15,263 | 14,555 | 14,748 | 1.3 | -3.4 |
| Kerosene | 1 litre | 1,475 | 1,641 | 1,646 | 0.3 | 11.6 |
| Petrol | 1 litre | 2,095 | 2,256 | 2,257 | 0.0 | 7.7 |
| Diesel | 1 litre | 2,035 | 2,175 | 2,243 | 3.1 | 10.2 |

Source: Office of the Chief Government Statistician, Zanzibar

Chart 1: Zanzibar Inflation Rate from March, 2015 – March, 2018



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 products 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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