

**Planning Commission**  
**Ministry of Planning, Development & Special Initiatives**  
**Economic Policy Wing**  
**(Money, Prices & Fiscal Policy Section)**

**Consumer Price Index Report ,November 2020**

Consumer Price Index is considered the most common measure of general inflation. It measures changes in the cost of buying included in the fixed basket of goods and services and generally indicates inflation rate in the country. The current CPI covers 487 items in the basket of goods and services. The Urban CPI covers 35 cities and 356 consumer items. The Rural CPI covers 27 Rural Centres and 244 consumer items. In the new base year (2015-16) National CPI for 12 major groups is also computed by taking weighted average of Urban CPI and Rural CPI. The markets have been chosen keeping in view the volume of sales, assuming that majority of the consumers buy goods from these markets. The basket of goods and services comprises of 12 major commodity groups. the urban share in CPI is 60%, whereas the rural share in index is 40%.

**CPI Inflation General** CPI inflation General, increased by **8.3%** on year-on-year basis in November 2020 as compared to an increase of **8.9%** in October 2020 and **12.7%** in November 2019. On month-on-month basis, it increased by **0.8%** in November 2020 as compared to an increase of **1.7%** in the previous month and an increase of **1.3%** in November 2019. This indicates that intensity of CPI is easing due to corrective measures by the government.

**Sensitive Price Indicator (SPI)** on YoY increased by **9.9%** in November 2020 as compared to an increase of **12.3%** a month earlier and an increase of **20.2%** in November 2019. On MoM basis, it increased by **1.1%** in November 2020 as compared to an increase of **3.0%** a month earlier and an increase of **3.7%** in November 2019.

**Wholesale Price Index (WPI)** on YoY basis increased by **5.0%** in November 2020 as compared to an increase of **5.1%** a month earlier and an increase of **11.2%** in November 2019. WPI inflation on MoM basis decreased by **0.9%** in November 2020 as compared to an increase of **2.9%** in October 2020 and decrease of **0.8%** in corresponding month of last year.

**CPI inflation Urban**, increased by **7.0%** on year-on-year basis in November 2020 as compared to an increase of **7.3%** in the previous month and **12.1%** in November 2019. On month-on-month basis, it increased by **0.6%** in November 2020 as compared to an increase of **1.3%** in the previous month and an increase of **1.0%** in November 2019.

**CPI inflation Rural**, increased by **10.5%** on year-on-year basis in November 2020 as compared to an increase of **11.3%** in the previous month and **13.6%** in November 2019. On month-on-month basis, it increased by **1.1%** in November 2020 as compared to an increase of **2.4%** in the October 2020 and increase of **1.9%** in November 2019.

**Core Inflation Non Food Non Energy (NFNE)**

**Non-food non-energy Urban CPI** increased by **5.6%** on (YoY) basis in November, 2020 as compared to an increase of **5.6%** in the previous month and **7.5%** in November, 2019. On (MoM) basis, it increased by **0.3%** in November, 2020 as compared to increase of **0.6%** in previous month, and an increase of **0.3%** in corresponding month of last year.

**Highlights**

**CPI inflation General**, increased by **8.3%** on year-on-year basis in November 2020 as compared to an increase of **8.9%** in October 2020 and **12.7%** in November 2019

**SPI inflation** on YoY increased on YoY increased by **9.9%** in November 2020 as compared to an increase of **12.3%** a month earlier and an increase of **20.2%** in November 2019.

**WPI inflation** on YoY basis increased by **5.0%** in November 2020 as compared to an increase of **5.1%** a month earlier and an increase of **11.2%** in November 2019.

**CPI inflation Urban** , increased by **7.0%** on year-on-year basis in November 2020 as compared to an increase of **7.3%** in the previous month and **12.1%** in November 2019.

**CPI inflation Rural** increased by **10.5%** on year-on-year basis in November 2020 as compared to an increase of **11.3%** in the previous month and **13.6%** in November 2019. The **National Consumer Price Index** of November 2020 is increased by **0.82%** over October 2020 and increased by **8.35%** over

**Non-food non-energy Rural CPI** increased by **7.4%** on (YoY) basis in November, 2020 as compared to an increase of **7.6%** in the previous month and **8.4%** in November, 2019. On (MoM) basis, it increased by **0.3%** in November, 2020 as compared to an increase of **0.6%** in October 2020, and an increase of **0.5%** in corresponding month of last year .

### Core inflation (Trimmed)

**Measured by 20% weighted trimmed mean Urban CPI** increased by **6.3%** on (YoY) basis in November, 2020 as compared to **6.5%** in the previous month and by **9.5%** in November, 2019. On (MoM) basis, it increased by **0.2%** in November, 2020 as compared to an increase of **0.6%** in the previous month and an increase of **0.4%** in corresponding month of last year.

**Measured by 20% weighted trimmed mean Rural CPI** increased by **9.1%** on (YoY) basis in November, 2020 as compared to **9.5%** in the previous month and **10.7%** in November, 2019. On (MoM) basis, it increased by **0.4%** in November, 2020 as compared to an increase of **1.1%** in the previous month and an increase of **0.7%** in corresponding month of last year.

### Period Average and Y-o-Y % Change

INDEX	Average July- November			November over		
	% changes			% changes		
	2020-2021	2019-2020	2018-2019	2020-2021	2019-2020	2018-2019
<b>CPI (National)</b>	8.76	10.8	6.07	8.35	12.67	5.66
<b>CPI(Urban)</b>	7.38	10.8	6.37	6.95	12.07	6.28
<b>CPI(Rural)</b>	10.86	10.8	5.65	10.46	13.6	4.73
<b>SPI</b>	11.97	14.2	1.99	9.90	20.22	0.82
<b>WPI</b>	4.18	13.5	16.99	5.00	11.19	18.62

**The National Consumer Price Index of November 2020** is increased by **0.82%** over October 2020 and increased by **8.35%** over corresponding month of the last year.

Group	Group Weight (%)	Indices			% Change Nov 2020 Over		Impact (In % points) Nov 2020 Over	
		Nov 2020	Oct 2020	Nov 2019	Oct 2020	Nov 2019	Oct 2020	Nov 2019
		<b>General</b>	100.00	141.83	140.67	130.90	0.82	8.35
Food & Non-alcoholic Bev.	34.58	152.63	149.76	132.57	1.92	15.13	0.71	5.30
<i>Non-perishable Food Items</i>	29.60	146.28	144.88	124.71	0.96	17.30	0.29	4.88
<i>Perishable Food Items</i>	4.99	190.28	178.73	179.25	6.47	6.16	0.41	0.42
Alcoholic Bev. & Tobacco	1.02	143.42	143.03	135.44	0.27	5.89	0.00	0.06
Clothing & Footwear	8.60	140.03	138.08	127.94	1.41	9.45	0.12	0.79
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Fuels	23.63	132.81	132.92	129.43	-0.09	2.61	-0.02	0.61
Furnishing & Household Equipment Maintenance	4.10	134.62	133.91	125.04	0.53	7.67	0.02	0.30
Health	2.79	146.35	145.42	135.99	0.64	7.62	0.02	0.22
Transport	5.91	136.68	139.82	142.55	-2.25	-4.12	-0.13	-0.26
Communication	2.21	107.42	107.06	106.78	0.34	0.61	0.01	0.01
Recreation & Culture	1.59	123.57	123.11	118.64	0.38	4.16	0.01	0.06
Education	3.79	143.71	143.71	141.91	0.00	1.27	0.00	0.05
Restaurants & Hotels	6.92	137.90	136.59	126.19	0.96	9.28	0.06	0.62

Miscellaneous	4.87	147.18	146.22	131.48	0.66	11.95	0.03	0.58
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The table above shows that the average increase in prices of perishable food items group stood at 6.16% in over corresponding month of last year, Prices of non-perishable food items group increased by 15.1% over a year ago.

The **Urban Consumer Price Index of November 2020** increased by **0.64%** over October 2020 and increased by **6.95%** over corresponding month of the last year. The following items prices witnessed increase as compared to previous month;

#### **Food Items**

**Prices Increased:** Chicken (21.36%), Tomatoes (15.68%), Potatoes (8.79%), Onions (5.81%), vegetables (5.63%), Dry fruits (4.38%), Eggs (2.83%), Butter (2.61%), Condiments and Spices(2.6%) and Fish(1.89%).

**Prices Decreased:** Wheat flour (4.83%), Wheat (4.1%), Pulse moong (3.54%) and Pulse gram (1.94%).

#### **Non-food Items**

##### **Prices Increased:**

LPG (10.31%), Readymade garments (8.85%), Cotton cloth (3.75%), Woolen cloth (2.33%), Furniture and furnishing (1.65%) and Marriage Hall Charges (1.14%).

**Decrease:** Transport services (6.41%), Electricity charges (3.2%) and Motor fuel (1.76%)

**The Rural Consumer Price Index of November 2020** increased by **1.09%** over October 2020 and increased by **10.46%** over corresponding month of the last year. The rise in following food items prices over last month contributed to increase in rural inflation;

#### **Food Items**

**Prices Increased:** Chicken (20.76%), Potatoes (15.8%), Tomatoes (9.29%), Onions (6.56%), Sugar (5.39%), Eggs (5.23%), Condiments and Spices (3.05%) and Butter (1.46%).

**Decreased:** Gur (5.06%), Besan (2.28%), Pulse Moong (2.26%), Fruits (2.21%), Wheat Flour (1.92%), Pulse Mash (1.82%), Pulse Gram (1.76%), Beans (1.17%) and Fish (1.12%).

#### **Non-food Items**

**Increased:** Liquified Hydrocarbons (8.74%), Woolen Readymade Garments (3.49%), Clinic Liquified Hydrocarbons (8.74%), Woolen Readymade Garments (3.49%), Clinic Fee(2.35%), Construction Items(1.69%), Woolen Cloth(1.57%) and Textiles(1.00%).

**Decreased:** Transport Services (3.45%), Electricity Charges (3.2%) and Motor Fuels (2.03%)

### **GLOBAL COMMODITY PRICE TREND**

In energy commodities, crude oil average price for November 2020 increased from \$39.9/bbl to \$42.3/bbl. Natural Gas Index raised to 58.9% in November 2020 from 54.2 index points in October 2020.

In non-energy commodities, global average price of Tea fell from \$ 3.00 per kg to \$ 2.80 in November 2020, Palm Oil increased from \$819 Mt to \$918 Mt during November, Wheat US

HRW unchanged to \$198.4 Mt during November 2020 and Wheat US SRW increased from \$ 245.2 Mt to \$ 247.9 Mt, Sugar world price increased from \$ 0.30 per kg to \$ 0.31 per kg in November (around Rs. 50 per Kg), Cotton price increased from \$1.65 per kg to \$1.71 per kg, global price of Chicken Meat during November increased from \$ 1.50 per kg to \$ 1.70 per kg (Rs. 272); Beef Meat decreased from \$ 4.42 per kg to \$ 4.40 per kg in the month of November.

Provincewise Margin Comparison of Wholesale and Consumer Prices [November 2020]								
S #	Item	Unit	Margins %					
			Islamabad	Punjab	Sindh	KPK	Balochistan	Pakistan
1	Tomatos	KG	46.0	26.0	30.3	5.2	4.9	25.0
2	Garlic	KG	88.4	30.5	12.2	21.9	6.4	16.8
3	Apple	KG	119.8	55.4	84.8	22.4	19.8	55.5
4	Onions	KG	24.9	27.2	27.8	18.1	8.2	22.0
5	Banana	DOZ	105.0	23.1	39.3	34.7	-	31.4
6	Masoor	KG	32.6	15.6	9.8	9.4	4.9	13.4
7	Besan	KG	31.2	20.6	30.5	20.3	5.4	24.3
8	Gram	KG	27.5	19.0	18.5	9.5	6.3	19.5
9	Beef	KG	13.5	8.5	-	4.2	5.9	4.6
10	Potatoes	KG	-	-	35.3	-	14.9	69.2
11	Mash	KG	25.8	15.0	11.2	9.1	-	8.6
12	Moong,	KG	19.7	19.6	19.8	-	4.2	17.3
13	Fish Rahu	KG	154.0	42.1	29.2	32.9	-	44.9
14	Mutton	KG	10.4	8.3	1.2	-	13.1	2.7
15	Wheat Flour,	KG	1.7	7.5	3.3	5.3	-	4.7
16	Fresh Milk	LTR.	12.9	15.1	11.6	7.2	9.1	12.6
18	Wheat Flour,	KG	6.7	3.9	7.7	-	-	1.5
19	Eggs Farm	DOZ	6.7	3.6	4.4	5.1	9.1	5.4
20	Sugar	KG	22.4	1.0	8.3	7.5	8.3	5.7
22	Chicken	KG	8.6	0.8	1.7	2.3	6.5	5.2
23	Wheat Flour	20 KG	2.9	-	-	43.0	-	1.7
24	Wheat	10 KG.	-	1.8	5.0	-	-	2.4

The above table shows province wise margin comparison of wholesale and consumer prices. The comparison reveals that in most of items margins are higher in Islamabad, whereas these are lower in Baluchistan. Besides there is a difference considerable difference in whole sale inflation (5 %) and CPI (8.3 %). These differences merits attention of administrative authorities to maintain strict check on wholesale and retail markets to relieve burden of inflation on masses.

## **CONCLUSION**

The national Consumer Price Index (CPI) of November decelerated to 8.3% over the corresponding month of last year mainly due a slight decrease in the prices of perishable items. The Urban Inflation was recorded at 7.0% on year-on-year basis in November 2020, while rural inflation stood at 10.5 %. The gap between rural and urban CPI inflation could be attributed to high weightage of food items in rural food baskets, distance of rural markets from farms, the composition of supply chain of food items to rural markets.

Food inflation in Nov 2020 stood at 15.13 % followed by clothing and footwear prices with an increase of 9.45%, hoteling 9.28%, health charges 7.62%, charges of utilities (housing, water, electricity, gas and fuel) increased by 2.61%. Over the last month, chicken prices increased by 21.36%, tomatoes 15.68%, potatoes 8.79%, Onions 5.81%, eggs 2.83%, and fish 1.89%. It is

expected that food prices will reduce as the government had started importing wheat and sugar to bridge the shortfall in supplies and strict monitoring of prices. Meanwhile, the Sensitive Price Indicator (SPI), which gauges rates of kitchen items on weekly basis, increased by **9.9%** in November 2020 as compared to an increase of **12.3%** a month earlier and an increase of 20.2% in November 2019. The Sensitive Price Indicator (SPI) inflation for the last week of November, for the combined consumption group, witnessed a decrease of **0.92%** compared to last week.