



WEEKLY ECONOMIC BULLETIN

DEPARTMENT OF FISCAL POLICY

MINISTRY OF FINANCE

SRI LANKA

The Week in Review
16th March – 20th March 2026

REAL SECTOR

- Economy expanded by 5.0 percent in 2025.
- Price of Brent Crude Oil increased by 5.27 USD bbl and WTI decreased by 2.54 USD bbl, respectively.
- CCPI - Headline inflation (2021=100) decreased to 1.6 percent (YoY) in February, 2026 from 2.3 percent (YoY) in January, 2026.
- NCPI – Headline inflation (2021=100) decreased to 1.6 percent (YoY) in February, 2026 from 2.4 percent (YoY) in January, 2025.

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EXTERNAL SECTOR

- Sri Lankan rupee slightly depreciated to USD 1=Rs. 311.59 from USD 1=Rs. 311.04
- Exports decreased to USD 1,148.7 mn in January 2026 compared to USD 1,157.9 mn in December 2025.
- Imports decreased to USD 1,803.3 mn in January 2026 compared to USD 2,155.2 mn in December 2025.
- Trade deficit
 - USD 654.5 mn in January, 2026
- The gross official reserves stood at USD 6.8 bn as end of January 2026.
- Workers' remittances recorded USD 729.0 mn in February 2026.

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FISCAL SECTOR

Revenue (Provisional)

Jan – Dec 2025

- **Total Revenue** - Rs. 5,449.4 bn
(Excluding Grants)
- Tax Revenue - Rs. 5,049.2 bn
- Non-Tax Revenue - Rs. 400.2 bn

Expenditure (Provisional)

Jan – Dec 2025

- **Total Expenditure** - Rs. 6,230.4 bn
- Recurrent Expenditure - Rs. 5,232.4 bn
- Capital Expenditure - Rs. 998.0 bn

Debt (Provisional)

▪ End of Dec 2025

- Total Outstanding Government Debt - Rs. 29,994.7 bn

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MONETARY SECTOR

- All Share Price Index (ASPI) decreased by 4.85 percent to 20,639.73 points as at 20th March 2026 from 21,692.55 points as at 13th March 2026
- S&P SL 20 Index decreased by 5.46 percent to 5,752.19 points as at 20th March, 2026 from 6,084.65 points as at 13th March, 2026
- Credit to the private sector increased by 26.3 percent (YoY) in January, 2026

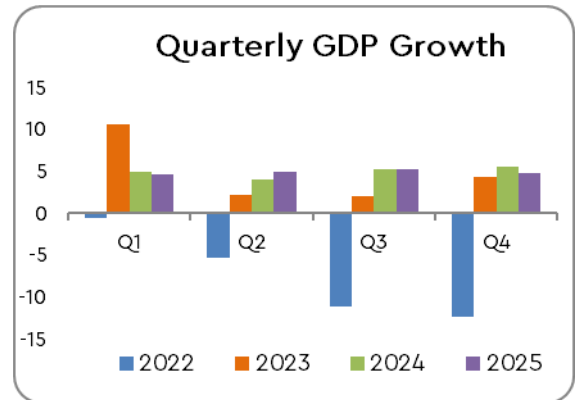
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REAL SECTOR

PRODUCTION

	1 st Q	2 nd Q	3 rd Q	4 th Q	Annual
2021	5.2	13.2	-2.1	2.7	4.2
Agriculture	4.4	11.7	-3.1	-7.0	1.0
Industry	6.6	22.7	-1.8	0.1	5.7
Services	4.4	7.3	-1.6	4.3	3.4
2022	-0.7	-5.3	-11.1	-12.4	-7.3
Agriculture	-3.7	-7.3	-8.1	2.7	-4.1
Industry	-3.7	-10.2	-21.3	-30.2	-16.0
Services	1.3	-2.0	-5.3	-4.6	-2.6
2023	-10.6	-2.2	2.0	4.3	-2.0
Agriculture	1.9	1.4	-0.7	-2.1	0.1
Industry	-24.3	-12.4	0.1	7.9	-9.2
Services	-4.5	1.6	2.8	3.0	0.5
2024	5.0	4.0	5.3	5.5	5.0
Agriculture	1.6	1.7	2.2	-2.8	0.6
Industry	11.3	9.6	10.7	13.1	11.1
Services	2.4	1.9	2.4	2.8	2.4
2025	4.7	5.0	5.3	4.8	5.0
Agriculture	-1.3	2.5	2.2	2.1	1.4
Industry	9.8	5.7	7.9	7.3	7.8
Services	2.7	4.0	3.6	3.1	3.3



GDP expanded by 5.0 % in 2025

The Sri Lankan economy experienced a growth of 5.0 percent in 2025. This expansion was observed recording a 1.4 percent, 7.8 percent and 3.3 percent growth in the agriculture, industry and service sector, respectively.

Source: Department of Census & Statistics

Note : Growth rate of value-added terms based on year 2010 up to 2021
Growth rate of value-added terms based on year 2015 from 2022

PADDY PRODUCTION

Category	Unit	2023			2024			2025		
		2022/ 2023 Maha	2023 Yala	Total	2023/ 2024 Maha	2024 Yala	Total	2024/ 2025 Maha	2025 Yala	Total
Production	Mn.Mt	2.70	1.82	4.52	2.72	1.98	4.7	2.75	2.31	5.06
	Bushels Mn.	129.2	87.1	216.3	130.5	94.7	225.2	131.6	110.63	242.23
Forecasted Production	Mn. Mt	2.62	1.83	4.45	2.63	1.77	4.4	2.57	2.27	4.48
Difference in Production	Mn. Mt	0.08	-0.01	0.07	0.09	0.21	0.3	0.18	0.04	0.22
Net Extent Harvested	Hectare s ('000)	722.5	440.3	1,162.8	702.1	429.7	1,131.8	701.5	485.0	1,186.5
	Acres ('000)	1,785.3	1,088.0	2,873.3	1,735.0	1,061.9	2,796.9	1,733.3	1,198.5	2,931.80
Average Yield	kg per ha	3,554	3,822	3,688	3,712	3,893	3,803	3,679	4,760	8,439

Source: Department of Census & Statistics
(a) Provisional

TEA, RUBBER & COCONUT PRODUCTION

Category	Crop	December 2024	December 2025	% Change
Production	Tea (Mn. Kg)	21.8	21.4	-1.9
	Rubber (Mn. Kg)	4.5	5.0	10.3
	Coconut (Mn. Nuts)	170.1	254.5	49.6
		December 2024	December 2025	% Change
Exports (USD Mn)	Tea	131.6	105.8	-19.6
	Rubber	2.4	2.3	-1.7
	Coconut	36.0	44.4	23.4
		December 2024	December 2025	% Change
Average Gross Prices	Tea (Rs./ Kg)	1,200.09	1,219.72	1.6
	Rubber (Rs./ Kg)	760.00	700.00	-7.9
	Coconut (Rs/nut)	-	115.34	-

Source: Central Bank of Sri Lanka

FACTORY INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION INDEX (2015=100)

Item (a)	2025 January (c)	2026 January (c)	Change %
Manufacture of Food Products	97.6	107.9	10.6
Manufacture of Beverages	108.2	99.8	-7.8
Manufacture of Tobacco Products	74.1	69.3	-6.4
Manufacture of Textiles	86.1	72.1	-16.3
Manufacture of Wearing Apparel	94.0	105.8	12.5
Manufacture of Leather and Related Products	100.1	117.2	17.0
Manufacture of Wood products, except Furniture; Articles of Straw & plaiting materials	72.5	75.4	4.0
Manufacture of Paper and Paper Products	63.3	41.1	-35.1
Printing and Reproduction of Recorded Media	144.2	114.8	-20.4
Manufacture of Coke and Refined Petroleum Products	112.8	105.7	-6.3
Manufacture of Chemicals and Chemical Products	74.5	76.4	2.5
Manufacture of Basic Pharmaceuticals, Pharmaceutical preparations	51.0	69.4	35.9
Manufacture of Rubber and Plastic Products	81.1	72.0	-11.2
Manufacture of Other Non-Metallic Mineral Products	111.4	115.4	3.6
Manufacture of Basic Metals	97.3	99.7	2.5
Manufacture of Fabricated Metal Products (except machines and equipment)	57.2	90.2	57.7
Manufacture of Electrical Equipment	53.7	63.8	18.8
Manufacture of Machinery and Equipment (n.e.c)	116.4	95.7	-17.8
Manufacture of Furniture	63.9	52.6	-17.7
Other Manufacturing	56.1	65.0	16.0
Overall Factory Industrial Production Index	95.1	99.3	4.4

Source: Department of Census and Statistics

(b) The Factory Industrial Production Index (FIP) has been replaced with the Index of Industrial Production (IIP)

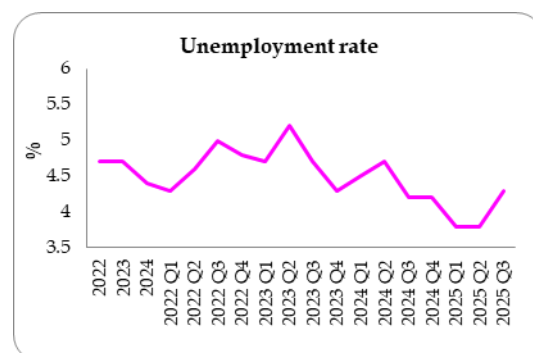
(b) Revised

(c) Provisional

LABOUR FORCE STATISTICS

Employment	2024 Q1	2024 Q2	2024 Q3	2024 Q4	2024 Annual	2025 Q1	2025 Q2	2025 Q3
Labour Force Participation Rate	47.1	47.8	46.9	47.7	47.4	49.7	49.3	49.9
Unemployment Rate	4.5	4.7	4.2	4.2	4.4	3.8	3.8	4.3
Male	3.1	3.6	2.6	2.8	3.0	2.5	2.6	3.2
Female	7.4	7.0	7.2	6.9	7.1	6.3	6.0	6.2
20-29	16.8	16.9	15.8	15.2	16.1	13.8	13.8	14.9
20-24	0.7	23.7	19.9	18.5	20.7	18.3	19.6	16.8
25-29	13.7	11.2	12.4	12.7	12.5	10.1	9.3	13.3

Source : Department of Census & Statistics



CRUDE OIL PRICES

CRUDE OIL PRICES – SINGAPORE PLATTS PRICES (USD/BBL)

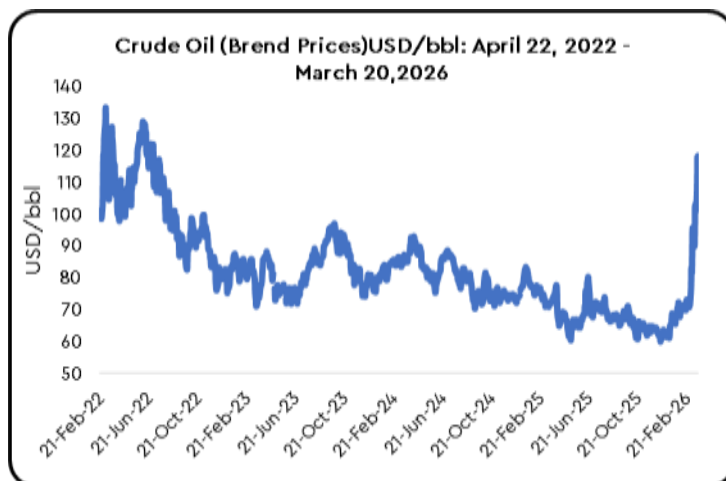
Item	Mar 16	Mar 17	Mar 18	Mar 19	Mar 20	Week Ago	Month Ago	Year Ago
Brent	104.00	103.04	102.52	112.71	105.62	100.35	71.96	71.09
WTI	98.64	96.08	94.82	98.71	93.12	95.66	66.76	67.40
Petrol	139.80	134.00	137.50	137.50	145.00	136.00	77.70	80.00
Diesel	188.61	195.91	196.09	221.58	219.67	193.91	92.51	80.65
Kerosene	199.42	200.17	198.86	225.62	212.65	199.66	92.54	85.43

Source: Central Bank of Sri Lanka
n. a – not available

CRUDE OIL PRICES (MONTHLY AVERAGE) (USD/BBL)

Month	Brent Europe	WTI Cushing, Oklahoma
Aug - 2024	80.36	76.68
Sep	74.02	70.24
Oct	75.63	71.99
Nov	74.35	69.95
Dec	73.86	70.12
Jan - 2025	79.27	75.74
Feb	75.44	71.53
Mar	72.73	68.24
Apr	68.13	63.54
May	64.45	62.17
June	71.44	68.17
July	71.04	68.39
Aug	67.87	64.86
Sep	67.99	63.96
Oct	64.54	60.89
Nov	63.80	60.06
Dec	62.54	57.97
Jan - 2026	66.60	60.04
Feb	70.89	64.51

Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration via FRED®



MONTHLY AVERAGE REFINED PRODUCT PRICES – SINGAPORE PLATTS PRICES (USD/BBL)

Month	Petrol	Diesel	Kerosene
Sep	78.60	78.7	84.90
Oct	79.76	81.59	87.96
Nov	79.07	82.89	89.62
Dec	81.75	82.60	86.64
Jan - 2025	83.97	88.72	92.92
Feb	85.01	86.17	91.58
Mar	79.71	80.88	85.34
Apr	76.00	76.28	81.04
May	74.61	73.46	78.15
June	80.13	81.17	84.90
July	77.91	84.20	87.23
Aug	77.76	80.08	84.27
Sep	79.53	82.96	87.08
Oct	77.16	53.49	87.49
Nov	78.88	0.00	93.22
Dec	71.96	78.73	84.22
Jan - 2026	72.50	80.55	83.53
Feb	75.28	88.98	88.81

Source: Central Bank of Sri Lanka

LOCAL MARKET PRICES OF PETROLEUM PRODUCTS (RS.)

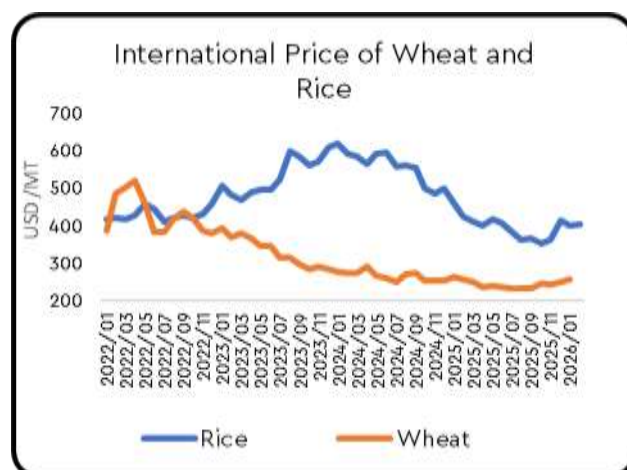
Item	Unit	End 2023	End 2024	End 2025	Current Price 2026
Auto Diesel	1 liter	329.00	286.00	277.00	303.00
Petrol (Octane 92)	1 liter	346.00	309.00	294.00	317.00
Kerosene oil	1 liter	247.00	188.00	180.00	195.00
L P Gas	12.5 kg	3,565.00	3,690.00	3,690.00	3,990.00



COMMODITY PRICES

INTERNATIONAL COMMODITY PRICES

Month	Rice Thai,25% USD/MT	Wheat (HRW) USD/MT
June - 2024	595.00	265.60
July	557.00	260.30
Aug	560.00	250.90
Sep	556.00	269.70
Oct	499.00	272.90
Nov	487.00	253.80
Dec	500.00	252.20
Jan - 2025	459.00	254.10
Feb	424.00	264.60
Mar	410.00	255.40
Apr	401.00	249.60
May	416.00	237.00
June	408.00	240.10
July	382.00	235.00
Aug	363.00	231.10
Sep	367.00	233.80
Oct	351.00	230.80
Nov	362.00	245.90
Dec	414.00	242.80
Jan - 2026	402.00	249.90
Feb	404.00	257.60



Source: FAO Web Site, Available at <https://fpma.apps.fao.org/giews/food-prices/tool/public/#/dataset/international>

Category	Commodity	Unit	Quarterly Averages				
			Oct – Dec 2024	Jan - Mar 2025	Apr – Jun 2025	Jul – Sep 2025	Oct – Dec 2025
Energy	Crude Oil average	USD/mt	72.9	74.2	65.9	67.5	62.1
Non-Energy, Agriculture, Beverages	Cocoa	USD/kg	8.29	9.56	8.51	7.33	5.78
	Coffee, Arabica	USD/kg	6.80	8.59	8.47	8.03	8.78
	Tea, average	USD/kg	3.06	2.72	2.97	3.00	2.96
	Tea, Colombo auctions	USD/kg	4.04	4.05	3.86	3.93	3.95
Food, Fats & Oils	Coconut Oil	USD/mt	1,860	2,108	2,650	2,727	2,437
	Soybean Oil	USD/mt	1,101	1,043	1,154	1,237	1,127
	Palm Oil	USD/mt	1,145	1,068	946	1,013	1,001
Grains	Maize	USD/mt	198.1	214.2	205.0	191.6	201.9
	Wheat, US HRW	USD/mt	259.6	258.0	242.2	233.3	239.8
Other Food	Meat, Beef	USD/kg	6.16	6.62	6.67	6.83	7.33
	Meat, Chicken	USD/kg	1.47	1.60	1.77	1.73	1.76
	Sugar, World	USD/kg	0.45	0.41	0.39	0.36	0.36
Raw Materials, Timber	Plywood	¢/sheets	358.4	358.3	378.0	370.2	354.3
Other Raw Materials Fertilizers	Rubber RSS3, US	USD /kg	2.44	2.38	2.16	2.16	2.03
	Phosphate Rock	USD/mt	152.5	152.5	152.5	250.0	152.5
	TSP	USD/mt	490.8	479.0	559.6	660.8	611.1
	Urea	USD/mt	359.7	403.8	399.8	488.3	398.7
Metals and Minerals	Aluminium	USD/mt	2,573	2,630	2,449	2,619	2,829
	Gold	USD /toz	2,663	2,863	3,293	3,459	4,152
	Iron ore	USD /dmt	101.4	101.6	95.5	100.1	103.5

Source: The World Bank, Available at <https://thedocs.worldbank.org/en/doc/5d903e848db1d1b83e0ec8f744e55570-0350012021/related/CMO-Pink-Sheet-September-2023.pdf>, <https://3mgas.vn/news/saudi-aramco-lpg-prices-per-metric-tonne-mt-n150.html> and <https://www.globaldairytrade.info/en/product-results/whole-milk-powder/¢= US cent USD = US dollar>

WHOLESALE PRICES
WEEK ENDING 20th March 2026 (RS /KG)

PETTAH MARKET

DAMBULLA MARKET

Average Wholesale Prices	Week Ending 20/03/2026	Week Ago	Year Ago, Annual Avg.
Rice (Rs/Kg)			
Samba	248.00	248.00	235.00
Kekulu (Red)	195.00	195.00	215.00
Vegetable			
Beans	200.00	280.00	500.00
Cabbage	100.00	150.00	230.00
Carrots	260.00	270.00	450.00
Tomatoes	88.00	96.00	240.00
Pumpkin	140.00	136.00	130.00
Snake Gourd	126.00	144.00	300.00
Brinjals	260.00	290.00	166.00
Other Foods			
Red-Onions (Local)	207.75	177.80	185.00
Big Onions (Imported)	139.20	132.40	108.00
Potatoes (Local)	316.00	292.80	312.20
Dried Chillies (Imported)	895.20	878.40	600.00
Dhal	276.20	255.40	260.00
Eggs (White) (Each)	35.80	32.00	27.40
Coconut (Each)	126.00	131.00	155.00
Green Chillies	370.00	290.00	640.00
Lime	80.00	80.00	132.00
FISH MARKET – PELIYAGODA			
Kelawalla	1,060.00	1,190.00	-
Balaya	800.00	850.00	-
Salaya	338.00	390.00	-
Hurulla	980.00	910.00	-

Source: Central Bank of Sri Lanka

Food Item	Wholesale (Average)
Rice (Rs/Kg)	
Samba	240.00
Kekulu (Red)	203.00
Vegetables	
Pumpkins	122.00
Snake Gourd	72.00
Ash Plantains	126.00
Beans	204.00
Carrots	244.00
Tomatoes	63.60
Cabbage	108.60
Other Foods	
Potatoes (Local)	249.00
Dried Chillies (Imported)	989.00
Big-Onions (Imported)	147.00
Red-Onions (Local)	161.00
Coconut (Each)	119.60

Source: Central Bank of Sri Lanka

MARANDAGAHAMULA AVERAGE PRICE OF RICE (RS/KG)

Item	Week Ending 20/03/2026	Week Ago	Month Ago	Year Ago
Samba	243.60	241.40	235.00	237.00
Kekulu (White)	195.20	187.40	195.00	214.40
Kekulu (Red)	199.20	195.60	184.00	218.20
Nadu	205.00	199.40	199.00	219.40

Source: Central Bank of Sri Lanka

WEEKLY RETAIL COMMODITY PRICES – 3rd WEEK OF MARCH 2026

Item	Unit	Week ending 20/03/2026	Week Ago	% Change	Year Ago
Rice					
Samba (Avg.)	1kg	275.87	268.22	2.8%	248.48
No. 1	1kg	256.18	253.95	0.9%	243.89
No. 2	1kg				
Nadu Red	1kg	238.18	234.58	1.5%	251.85
Raw Red (Avg)	1kg	209.34	208.36	0.5%	225.58
No. 1	1kg	218.18	219.05	-0.4%	225.58
No. 2	1kg	200.50	197.67	1.4%	0.00
Wheat Flour	1kg	183.07	182.19	0.5%	182.64
Bread	450g	132.00	132.00	0.0%	132.82
Sugar	1kg	230.90	225.56	2.4%	240.74
Maliban	400g	1150.00	1150.00	0.0%	1062.50
Anchor	400g	1150.00	1150.00	0.0%	1060.71
Pelwatta	400g	1125.00	1125.00	0.0%	1050.00
Potatoes (Import)	1 kg	206.36	214.46	-3.8%	202.08
Potatoes (Local)	1kg	387.00	376.92	2.7%	397.46
Mysore Dhal (Avg)	1kg	329.63	332.72	-0.9%	345.57
Cowpea (Avg)	1kg	913.67	937.35	-2.5%	820.36
Green Gram (Avg)	1kg	830.75	796.09	4.4%	811.64
Kadalai (Avg)	1kg	514.68	498.46	3.3%	571.50
Meat					
Beef	1kg	2992.86	2992.86	0.0%	2709.03
Chicken					
Fresh	1kg	1402.14	1365.00	2.7%	1182.58
Broiler	1kg	1180.00	1180.00	0.0%	1100.88
Fresh Fish					
Paraw	1kg	2722.94	2533.33	7.5%	2201.13
Balaya	1kg	1510.00	1503.33	0.4%	1045.35
Kelawalla	1kg	2350.00	2283.89	2.9%	1875.89
Salaya	1kg	596.50	554.29	7.6%	536.47
Dried Fish					
Spratts	1kg	1414.81	1403.57	0.8%	1065.84
Eggs	Each	37.85	36.80	2.9%	30.71
Coconut	Each	167.23	171.53	-2.5%	206.50
Coconut Oil	750ml	684.23	676.00	1.2%	609.52
Red Onions	1kg	361.53	370.33	-2.4%	442.28
B- Onions (Import)	1kg	186.29	184.34	1.1%	180.84
Brinjal	1kg	385.00	352.07	9.4%	374.01
Beans Green	1kg	528.67	505.52	4.6%	579.74
Bandakka	1kg	280.69	284.00	-1.2%	407.47
Leeks	1kg	378.67	372.67	1.6%	378.46
Beet Root	1kg	345.33	336.00	2.8%	340.73
Carrot	1kg	454.67	452.76	0.4%	850.24
Green Chillies	1kg	567.00	533.79	6.2%	1194.64
Raddish	1kg	271.85	272.14	-0.1%	278.71
Vetakolu	1kg	391.03	388.97	0.5%	521.26
Bitter Gourd	1kg	516.55	530.67	-2.7%	559.48
Snake Gourd	1kg	371.85	357.24	4.1%	426.53
Kolikuttu	1kg	375.56	372.04	0.9%	343.53
Papaw	1kg	397.20	422.73	-6.0%	337.01
Pineapple	1kg	475.38	489.63	-2.9%	473.82

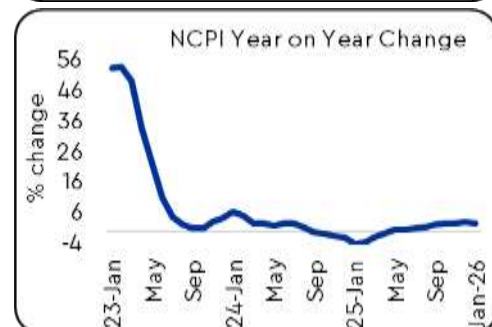
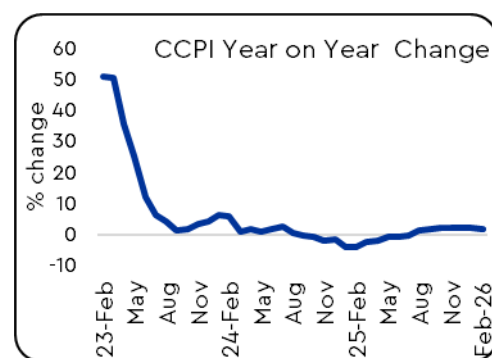
Source: Department of Census and Statistics

INFLATION

TRENDS IN INFLATION

Month	CCPI (%)			NCPI (%)		
	(2021=100)			(2021=100)		
	Index Number	% Change Month on Month	Y on Y %	Index Number	% Change Month on Month	Y on Y %
May - 24	194.1	-0.6	0.9	206.3	-0.9	1.6
June	195.6	0.8	1.7	208.1	0.9	2.4
July	194.7	-0.5	2.4	206.9	-0.6	2.5
Aug	191.1	-1.8	0.5	204.1	-1.4	1.1
Sep	190.9	-0.1	-0.5	203.1	-0.5	-0.2
Oct	189.9	-0.5	-0.8	202.1	-0.5	-0.7
Nov	189.4	-0.3	-2.1	202.4	0.1	-1.7
Dec	191.7	1.2	-1.7	204.6	1.1	-2.0
Jan - 25	192.6	0.5	-4.0	206.4	0.9	-4.0
Feb	192.2	-0.2	-4.2	206.2	-0.1	-3.9
March	191.6	-0.3	-2.6	206.0	-0.1	-1.9
April	191.2	-0.2	-2.0	206.5	0.2	-0.8
May	192.8	0.8	-0.7	207.5	0.5	0.6
June	194.5	0.9	-0.6	208.7	0.6	0.3
July	194.1	-0.2	-0.3	208.3	-0.2	0.7
Aug	193.3	-0.4	1.2	207.2	-0.5	1.5
Sep	193.7	0.2	1.5	207.4	0.1	2.1
Oct	193.8	0.1	2.1	207.5	0.0	2.7
Nov	193.4	-0.2	2.1	207.2	-0.1	2.4
Dec	195.8	1.2	2.1	210.5	1.6	2.9
Jan - 26	197.0	0.6	2.3	211.4	0.4	2.4
Feb	195.3	-0.9	1.6	209.4	-0.9	1.6

Source: Department of Census and Statistics



CONTRIBUTION OF FOOD ITEMS TO CCPI FROM FEBRUARY 2025 TO FEBRUARY 2026 (Base 2021=100)

Commodity	Value Change Rs.	Change %
Food	143.72	0.08
Rice	-209.32	-0.12
Coconut	-753.90	-0.43
Sea Fish	1186.98	0.67
Chicken	268.00	0.15
Fresh Fruits		
Vegetables	-544.21	-0.31
Dried Chillies	80.48	0.05
Eggs	23.57	0.01
Red Onions	-90.83	-0.05
Big Onions	-49.24	-0.03
Potatoes	-56.54	-0.03
Garlic	-64.70	-0.04

Source: Department of Census and Statistics

MOVEMENTS OF THE CCPI IN FOOD ITEM (2021=100)

Month	Index Number	% Change Month to Month	Inflation
			Y on Y
May	232.6	-1.2	0.0
June	239.1	2.8	1.4
July	239.4	0.1	1.5
Aug	234.6	-2.0	0.8
Sep	233.3	-0.6	-0.3
Oct	231.9	-0.6	1.0
Nov	231.7	-0.1	0.6
Dec	240.7	3.9	0.8
Jan - 25	241.5	0.3	-2.6
Feb	242.3	0.3	-0.2
March	239.2	-1.3	0.6
April	238.4	-0.3	1.3
May	244.8	2.7	5.2
June	249.3	1.8	4.3
July	243.0	-2.5	1.5
Aug	239.4	-1.5	2.0
Sep	240.1	0.3	2.9
Oct	240.0	0.0	3.5
Nov	238.6	-0.6	3.0
Dec	247.9	3.9	3.0
Jan - 26	249.4	0.6	3.3
Feb	242.9	-2.6	0.2

Source: Department of Census and Statistics

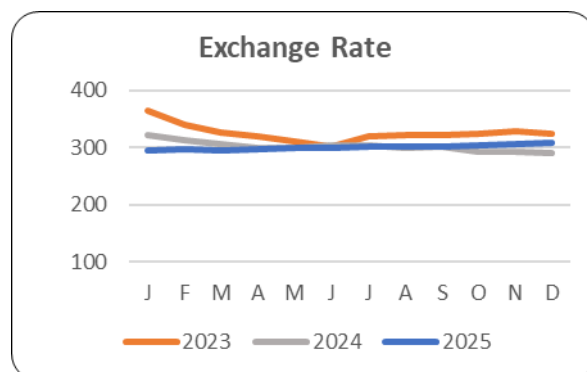


EXTERNAL SECTOR

EXCHANGE RATES (AVERAGE)

Currency	Week Ending 20 th March 2026	Week Ago	Year Ago	% Change 2025/26
US Dollar	311.59	311.04	296.44	5.11
Sterling Pound	418.04	415.32	385.68	8.39
Euro	360.41	358.18	323.41	11.44
Japanese Yen	1.97	1.95	2.00	-1.5
Indian Rupee	3.36	3.37	3.43	-2.04

Source : Central Bank of Sri Lanka



EXTERNAL TRADE

Category	January 2025 (USD mn)	January 2026 (USD mn)	Growth Rate (%)	2024 (USD mn)	2025 (USD mn)	Growth Rate (%)
Exports	1,052.8	1,148.7	9.1	12,772.0	13,581.4	6.3
Agricultural	221.7	263.5	18.8	2,774.5	3,072.0	10.7
Tea	112.7	121.8	8.1	1,435.9	1,507.2	5.0
Other	109.0	141.7	30.0	1,338.6	1,564.8	16.9
Industrial	828.3	877.2	5.9	9,946.9	10,460.8	5.2
Rubber Products	71.7	75.6	5.4	975.6	914.6	-6.2
Textiles and Garments	461.3	448.6	-2.8	5,061.0	5,313.7	5.0
Food, Beverage and Tobacco	55.9	71.1	27.2	651.5	895.5	37.4
Other	239.4	281.9	17.8	3,258.8	3,337.0	2.4
Mineral	1.1	5.3	394.0	24.5	24.2	-1.4
Unclassified	1.7	2.8	63.1	26.1	24.4	-6.7
Imports	1,785.5	1,803.3	1.0	18,841.4	21,479.9	14.0
Consumer Goods	380.2	475.0	24.9	3,465.7	5,518.3	59.2
Food and Beverages	241.4	160.8	-33.4	1,914.3	2,115.9	10.5
Other Consumer Goods	138.8	314.2	126.4	1,551.4	3,402.4	119.3
Intermediate Goods	1,061.4	934.9	-11.9	11,914.5	11,858.9	-0.5
Petroleum	417.7	253.5	-39.3	4,354.4	4,042.5	-7.2
Textiles & Textile Articles	232.7	243.0	4.4	2,847.1	2,749.1	-3.4
Other Intermediate Goods	411.0	438.4	6.7	4,713.0	5,067.3	7.5
Investment Goods	340.1	392.6	15.4	3,448.2	4,089.9	18.6
Machinery and Equipment	239.8	236.3	-1.4	2,363.1	2,513.4	6.4
Transport Equipment	17.0	72.6	327.3	154.8	555.5	259.0
Building Material	83.1	83.0	-0.1	927.2	1,016.8	9.7
Other Investment Goods	0.2	0.7	250.0	3.1	4.2	35.5
Unclassified	3.7	0.8	-79.5	13.0	12.9	-0.7
Trade Balance	-732.7	-654.5		-6,069.4	-7,898.6	

... negligible

Source: Central Bank of Sri Lanka



Highlights

- Export earnings decreased by 0.8 percent to USD 1,148.7 mn in January 2026 compared to USD 1,157.9 mn in December 2025.
- Import expenditure decreased by 16.3 percent to USD 1,803.3 mn in January 2026 compared to USD 2,155.2 mn in December 2025.
- Trade deficit narrowed to USD 654.5 mn in January 2026 compared to USD 997.2 mn in December 2025.

EXTERNAL ASSETS

External Assets (USD bn)	Dec 2024	Jan 2025	Feb 2025	Mar 2025	Apr 2025	May 2025	June 2025	July 2025	Aug 2025	Sep 2025	Oct 2025	Nov 2025	Dec 2025
Total Reserves	11.2	11.6	11.6	12.4	12.4	12.0	11.8	11.7	11.9	11.7	11.5	11.3	12.3
Gross Official Reserves	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.5	6.3	6.3	6.1	6.1	6.2	6.2	6.2	6.0	6.8

Gross official Reserves USD 6.3 bn as end April 2025.

Source: Central Bank of Sri Lanka

WORKERS' REMITTANCES

Category	2025 February	2026 February	Jan – Feb 2025	Jan – Feb 2026	% Change
Inflow USD mn		548.1	729.0	1,121.1	32.0
Rs. bn		162.7	225.5	332.4	37.8

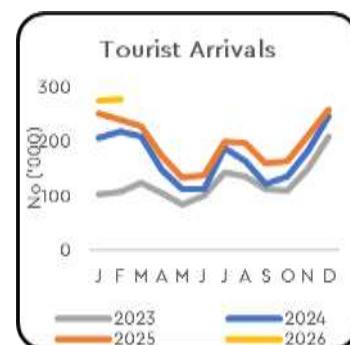
Source: Central Bank of Sri Lanka

(a) Provisional

TOURIST ARRIVALS

Month	Arrivals				Earnings USD mn			
	2024	2025	2026	% change 2025/26	2024	2025	2026	% change 2024/26
Jan	208,253	252,761	277,327	9.7	341.80	400.7	378.3	-5.6
Feb	218,350	240,217	279,328	16.28	345.70	367.6	352.0	-4.9
Mar	209,181	229,298			338.40	354.0		
Apr	148,867	174,608			225.7	256.7		
May	112,128	132,919			154.0	164.1		
Jun	113,470	138,241			151.1	169.5		
July	187,810	200,244			328.3	318.5		
Aug	164,609	198,235			282.1	258.9		
Sep	122,140	158,971			181.0	182.9		
Oct	135,907	165,193			185.6	186.1		
Nov	184,158	212,906			272.9	251.6		
Dec	248,592	258,928			362.1	308.6		
Total	2,053,465	2,362,521	556,655		3,168.6	3,219.2	730.3	

Source: Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority





FISCAL SECTOR

GOVERNMENT REVENUE (Rs. Mn)

Item	2021	2022	2023	2024 (a)	2025 (a)
Tax Revenue	1,298,019	1,751,132	2,720,563	3,704,577	5,049,192
Income Tax	302,115	534,021	911,355	1,026,199	1,139,373
VAT	308,213	463,062	694,460	1,309,680	1,746,874
Excise Duty	306,861	342,523	469,622	598,529	1,058,707
PAL	154,125	180,595	175,486	170,014	180,853
Customs Duty	64,339	50,009	105,120	111,147	275,894
SCL	55,828	40,194	51,327	115,199	164,599
CESS	75,543	70,318	57,184	81,129	90,373
SSCL	-	36,111	216,181	250,869	294,520
Other	31,429	34,712	39,827	41,812	98,000
Non-Tax Revenue	159,052	228,052	328,259	326,261	400,210
Total Revenue	1,457,071	1,979,184	3,048,822	4,030,838	5,449,402

Source: Department of Fiscal Policy
(a) Provisional

GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE (Rs. Mn)

Item	2021	2022	2023	2024 (a)	2025 (a)
Government Expenditure	3,521,735	4,472,556	5,356,591	6,130,739	6,230,415
Recurrent Expenditure	2,747,512	3,519,634	4,699,679	5,339,941	5,232,388
Salaries & Wages	845,680	956,211	939,496	1,066,048	1,163,942
Goods & Services	168,932	182,857	299,700	350,879	334,687
Interest	1,048,382	1,565,190	2,455,600	2,689,500	2,500,674
Subsidies & Transfers	684,518	815,376	1,004,884	1,233,514	1,233,085
Capital & Net Lending	774,223	952,923	656,912	790,798	998,026
Public Investments	789,636	1,014,293	932,745	817,092	1,015,825
Other	-15,413	-61,370	-275,833	-26,294	-17,798

Compiled by Department of Fiscal Policy
(a) provisional

GOVERNMENT DEBT (Rs.Bn)

	End 2023	End 2024	End Aug 2025 (a)	End Sep 2025 (a)	End Oct 2025 (a)	End Nov 2025 (a)	End 2025 (a)
Total Domestic Debt	17,051.9	18,309.66	18,679.49	18,701.46	18,653.51	18,535.75	18,675.32
Total Foreign Debt	11,644.1	10,429.04	10,980.73	10,974.34	11,018.72	11,079.53	11,319.36
Total Government Debt	28,695.9	28,738.70	29,660.22	29,675.81	29,672.23	29,615.28	29,994.69

Source: Central Bank of Sri Lanka
(a) provisional

KEY FISCAL INDICATORS 2023 -2025

Indicator	2023		2024		2025	
	Rs.bn.	% of GDP	Rs.bn.	% of GDP	Rs.bn.	% of GDP
Total Revenue	3,048.82	11.1	4,030.84	13.4	5,449.40	16.6
Tax Revenue	2,720.56	9.9	3,704.58	12.3	5,049.19	15.4
Non-Tax Revenue	328.26	1.2	326.26	1.1	400.21	1.2
Recurrent Expenditure	4,699.68	17.1	5,339.94	17.7	5,232.39	16.0
Capital & Net Lending	656.91	2.4	790.80	2.6	988.03	3.0
Public Investment	932.75	3.4	817.09	2.7	1,015.83	3.1
Budget Deficit	-2,282,267	-8.3	-2,039.93	-6.8	-744.86	-2.3
Central Government Debt	28,695.95	104.2	28,738.70	95.5	29,994.69	91.6

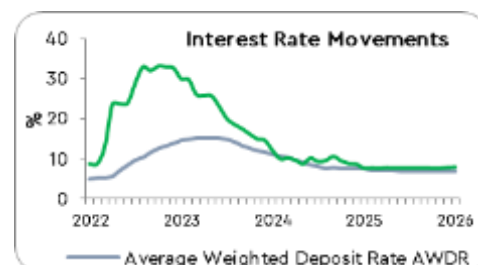
Compiled by Department of Fiscal Policy
(a) provisional



MONETARY SECTOR

REAL INTEREST RATES

Month	CCPI (2013 =100)	CCPI Point to Point Change	CCPI Annual Average Change	91 Days T Bill Rate
July - 2024	194.7	2.4	2.8	9.14
Aug	191.1	0.5	2.5	9.49
Sep	190.9	-0.5	2.4	10.49
Oct	189.9	-0.8	2.2	9.35
Nov	189.4	-2.1	1.7	8.73
Dec	191.7	-1.7	1.2	8.55
Jan - 2025	192.6	-4.0	0.4	7.93
Feb	192.2	-4.2	-0.5	7.57
Mar	191.6	-2.6	-0.8	7.50
Apr	191.2	-2.0	-1.1	7.65
May	192.8	-0.7	-1.2	7.55
June	194.5	-0.6	-1.4	7.55
July	194.1	-0.3	-1.6	7.62
Aug	193.3	1.2	-1.5	7.58
Sep	193.7	1.5	-1.4	7.57
Oct	193.8	2.1	-1.2	7.52
Nov	193.4	2.1	-0.8	7.52
Dec	195.8	2.1	-0.5	7.74
Jan - 2026	197.0	2.3	0.0	7.84
Feb	195.3	1.6	0.5	



Sources : Central Bank of Sri Lanka and Department of Census and Statistics
From July 2024 CCPI & NCPI (2021=100)

INTEREST RATE MOVEMENTS

Category	Week Ending 20 th of March 2026	Week Ago	Year Ago
Overnight Policy Rate (OPR)	7.75	7.75	8.00
Standing Deposit Facility	7.25	7.25	7.50
Standing Lending Facility	8.25	8.25	8.50
Average Weighted Call Money Rate (AWCMR)	7.59	7.60	7.96
Treasury Bill (Yield rate)			
91 Days	7.61	7.61	7.50
182 Days	7.91	7.91	7.84
364 Days	8.23	8.23	8.25
Average Weighted Prime Lending Rate (AWPR)	9.26	9.18	8.44
	Jan	Month ago	Year ago
Average Weighted Deposit Rate (AWDR)	6.81	6.78	7.31

Source : Central Bank of Sri Lanka

MONEY SUPPLY AND CREDIT GROWTH

Item	Jan 2026	Oct 2025	Sep 2025	Aug 2025	Dec 2024	Jan 2025	Growth 2025 Jan/2026 Jan (%)
M ₁	2,251.9	2,129.6	2,119.4	2,123.1	1,925.6	1,889.3	19.2
M ₂	14,200.4	13,641.4	13,641.4	13,512.8	12,660.6	12,725.2	11.6
M _{2o}	16,069.0	15,577.8	15,465.0	15,367.9	14,321.7	14,439.1	11.3

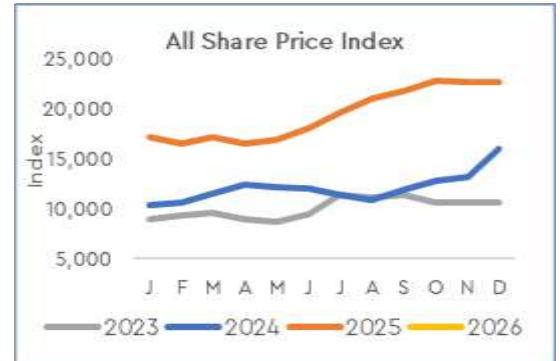
Source: Central Bank of Sri Lanka

CREDIT TO PRIVATE SECTOR (RS. bn.)				
Item	Jan 2026	Month Ago	Year Ago	Growth 2025 /2026 (%)
Credit to Private Sector	10,294.8	10,212.2	8,151.4	26.3
DBUs	9,738.9	9,630.4	7,556.0	28.9
OBU	555.9	581.8	595.5	-6.6

SHARE MARKET

Indicator	Week Ending 20 th March - 2026	Week Ago	Year Ago
All Share Price Index (ASPI) (1985 = 100)	20,639.73	21,692.55	15,662.93
S & P Sri Lanka 20 Index (S & P SL20)	5,752.19	6,084.65	4,700.14
Average Daily Turnover (Rs.Mn)	4,385.68	5,267.49	3,670.64
Market Capitalization (Rs.Bn.)	7,356.33	7,724.22	5,544.46

Source: Colombo Stock Exchange



EQUITY TRADING STATISTICS

Indicator	Feb 2026	Feb 2025	Jan - Feb 2026	Jan - Feb 2025
Turnover -Equity (Rs. Mn.)	106,706.6	58,416.4	241,514.8	198,848.5
Domestic (Rs. Mn.)	92,558.2	52,379.5	220,016.5	184,348.1
Foreign (Rs. Mn.)	14,148.5	6,036.9	21,498.3	14,500.3
Market Days	19	17	38	37
Daily Turnover Avg. Equity (Rs. Mn.)	5,616.1	3,436.3	6,355.7	5,374.3
Trade Equity	743,926	384,823	1,628,851	1,157,212
Domestic	734,935	376,379	1,610,082	1,135,605
Foreign	8,991	8,444	18,769	21,607
Shares Traded _Equity (Mn)	4,334.8	2,004.2	8,273.7	7,887.8
Domestic (Mn.)	3,970.4	1,854.5	7,790.8	7,463.7
Foreign (Mn.)	364.4	149.7	482.9	424.1
Companies Traded	271	268	273	269
Companies Listed	289	289	284	-

Source: Colombo Stock Exchange

MARKET INDICATORS

Price Indices	Feb 2026	Jan 2026	Dec 2025
ASPI	23,734.06	23,812.31	22,624.31
S&P SL 20	6,635.97	6,641.15	6,157.38
Total Return Indicators			
ASTRI	36,165.68	36,232.67	34,385.16
S&P SL20 (TRI)	13,588.00	13,583.87	12,577.43
Market PER	11.66	11.30	10.73
Dividend Yield	2.62	2.49	2.62
Market Capitalization (Rs.Bn.)	8,425.24	8,498.37	8,068.62

Source: Colombo Stock Exchange

STOCK MARKET - FOREIGN PURCHASES AND FOREIGN SALES

Indicator	Jan 2026	Jan 2025
Purchases by Foreigners (Rs. Mn)	9,469.6	4,740.4
Sales by Foreigners (Rs. Mn)	18,827.3	7,333.4
Net Foreign Purchases (Rs. Mn)	-9,357.7	-2,593.0

Source: Colombo Stock Exchange

