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STATISTICS RELEASE

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APRIL 2004 INFLATION RATE INCREASES

Inflation rate for April 2004 has increased. According to the National Consumer Price Index (NCPI), inflation rate for April 2004 is 6.5 percent in comparison with the figures for April the previous year. The April 2004 inflation rate has gone up by 1.7 percentage points when compared with March 2004 inflation figure, which was 4.8 percent as measured on a year - to - year basis.

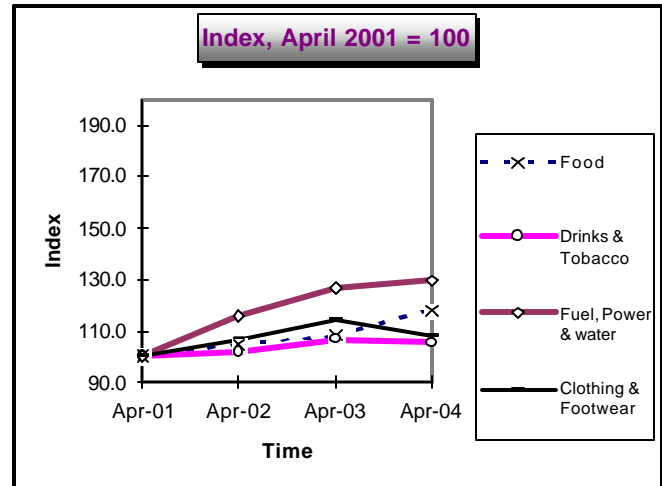
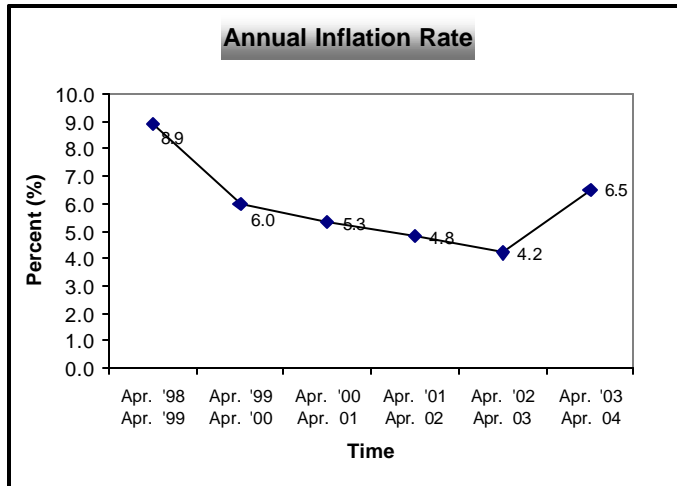
The April inflation rate as measured on a month-to-month basis, that is between March 2004 and April 2004 went up by 0.1 percent. The Overall Index increased from 263.4 in March 2004 to 263.8 in April 2004. Prices for both food and non-food items had gone up. Under the main Food Group, the sub groups that had increased prices were cereals (rice, maize grain, maize and wheat flour) and fish. Other food items, like cooking oils, fruits, groundnuts, coconuts, beans vegetables, sugar and meals from restaurants had also increased prices. Non-food items that had increased prices were kerosene, insecticides, radios and radio cassettes, TV sets, bicycles and bicycle tyres and petrol. However, prices for local brew, clothing, footwear, furniture, toilet soap, toothpaste, face and hair creams, school writing materials, secondary school uniforms, wrist watches and handbags had gone down. Details of the National Consumer Price Index for the month of April 2004 by consumption groups are tabulated below: -

NATIONAL CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (URBAN) APRIL 2004 (Base: December 1994 = 100)

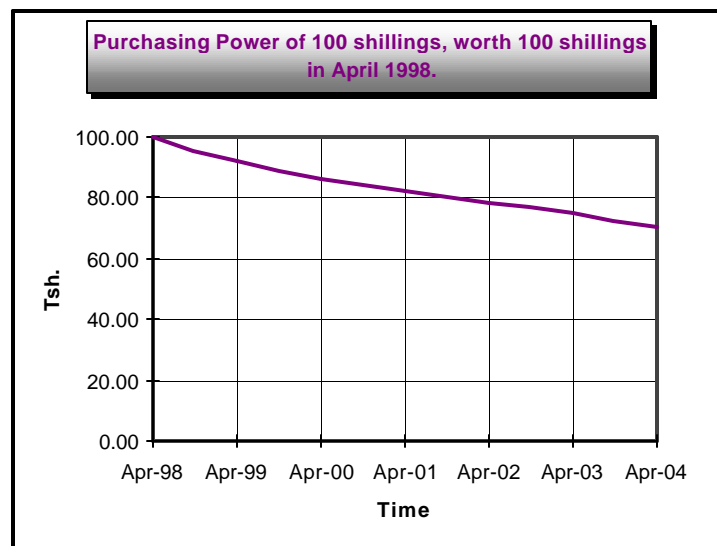
MAIN GROUP	Weight	Apr. 2004	Mar. 2004	% Change Mar. 2004 to Apr. 2004	Apr. 2003	% Change Apr. 2003 to Apr. 2004
1. Food	71.2	281.8	280.9	+0.3	259.1	+8.8
2. Drinks and Tobacco	4.4	184.0	184.4	-0.2	185.5	-0.8
3. Rents	3.9	217.3	217.3	0.0	209.2	+3.9
4. Fuel, Power and Water	4.7	354.9	354.0	+0.3	345.8	+2.6
5. Clothing and Footwear	3.7	200.8	203.2	-1.2	211.0	-4.8
6. Furniture and Household Equipment	2.5	203.5	204.8	-0.6	205.5	-1.0
7. Household Operations & Maintenance	1.5	170.5	170.3	+0.1	168.8	+1.0
8. Personal Care & Health	2.2	156.3	158.5	-1.4	160.9	-2.9
9. Recreation & Entertainment	1.2	174.7	174.3	+0.2	178.9	-2.3
10. Transportation	1.2	251.5	251.2	+0.1	252.3	-0.3
11. Education	1.5	203.1	207.2	-2.0	212.1	-4.2
12. Miscellaneous Goods and Services	2.0	157.0	158.5	-0.9	163.4	-3.9
TOTAL - ALL ITEMS INDEX	100.0	263.8	263.4	+0.1	247.8	+6.5

P.T.O.

The yearly price increases i.e. annual rate of inflation (April to April 1998 - 2004) for the last six years as well as movement in group indices from April 2001 to April 2004 are shown in the diagrams below: -



The diagram below depicts the purchasing power of the shilling in terms of consumption at different times. From April 1998, the value of 100 shillings (*and thus the purchasing power*), has been decreasing, declining to 70 shillings and 67 cents in April 2004.



The National Consumer Price Index (NCPI) covers prices collected in 20 towns in Mainland Tanzania. Prices are gathered for 212 items. All prices collected are the prevailing market prices.

The NCPI is a statistical measure of goods and services bought by persons in urban areas, including all expenditure groups and both families and single persons. It measures changes in price **not expenditure**, which are the most important cause of changes in the cost of living.

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