



# Brief: Bangladesh Market Monitor

## APRIL 2024

### Key Messages



The general **inflation** decreased in April 2024 slightly by 0.7 percent compared to last month hitting 9.74 percent, owing to a sharp upshift of food inflation. The month-on-month food inflation increased by 3.5 percent hitting 10.22 percent, and that of non-food inflation declined by 3.1 percent hitting 9.34 percent this month, counterbalancing the impact of high food prices over the general inflation. General inflation in April was 5.4 percent higher, and food inflation was 15.6 percent higher year-on-year. Rural food inflation hit 10.25 percent in April 2024, higher than general as well as urban food inflation.<sup>1</sup>



The national average **price of LPG** for cooking was reduced in April 2024, after 8 consecutive months since August 2023, by BDT 40 hitting BDT 1,442 per 12 kg cylinder (gas-only price). The Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission (BERC) adjusted the cooking fuel prices for the domestic market considering the variations of contract prices (CP) of importing countries like Saudi Arabia, also driven by the fluctuations in foreign exchange rates and changes in the value-added tax (VAT). Monthly LPG prices in Cox's Bazar also decreased this month by BDT 38.



In the domestic retail markets, month-on-month **prices of basic food commodities** including cereals (rice, wheat), palm oils, potatoes, and chicken increased, while prices of eggs, onion, green chili, sugar and some fresh vegetables decreased as compared to the previous month (Price details in Annex I and II).



There was no rice **import** during the ongoing fiscal year (FY) until April. For the FY 2023-24 the revised budget for the public sector importation of food grain has been fixed at 1.1 million mt, of which rice is 0.15 million mt and wheat is 0.95 million mt. However, majority of the country's foodgrain import is commissioned by the private sector. The government has waived customs duties on rice imports until mid-May 2024, aiming to enhance national availability and stabilize prices. Total foodgrain imports in this period, dominated by wheat, was 5.6 million mt, more than 9 percent higher year-on-year (Ministry of Food).



The monthly cost of a typical **food basket**<sup>2</sup> (national) remained stable at 2,844 per person per month in April 2024. Despite upward food inflation, the increase in the prices of major food commodities including basic staples (rice, wheat), poultry and potatoes was counterbalanced by the moderate reduction in the prices of eggs, onion, green chili and sugar. The composition of the food basket for Ukhiya has been revised to adjust the energy-sufficient basket since December 2023. The market prices to calculate the cost of food baskets were collected from the surrounding markets outside the camps. According to the adjusted basket value, the cost of a food basket (with normal rice) in April 2024 reached BDT 1,548, increased by BDT 20 as compared to last month mainly on the back of rising prices of certain food commodities in the basket including rice, palm oil, potatoes, poultry, red chili etc.

In April 2024, the daily wage for typical labour in the Ukhiya sub-district could buy 10.4 kg of rice from a day's wage of BDT 450.<sup>3</sup> The cost of a food basket for Bhasan Char in April 2024 was BDT 1,620 against the WFP voucher value of USD 15<sup>4</sup>, about 5 percent higher as compared to that in Cox's Bazar primarily due to the added logistics costs of sourcing food from the mainland.



WFP's mVAM **food security** survey in April 2024 showed that 28 percent of low-income households were food insecure. About 67 percent of the sample households had to adopt livelihood-based coping strategies, and 70 percent reported the rise in food prices as their deepest concern. Three in every four sample households had their expenditure increased in this month, and 10 percent of the households had members with disability.<sup>5</sup> This clearly indicates the combined impact of the global food crisis, persistent high food prices and food inflation, leading to rising food insecurity; poor people are the hardest hit.

<sup>1</sup> <http://bbs.portal.gov.bd/sites/default/files/files/bbs.portal.gov.bd/6/2023-05-03-10-42-1178a60d5a279bff7e260d6520e39dc7.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> Adopted from the Food Composition Table for Bangladesh 2013, Institute of Nutrition and Food Science, University of Dhaka, with technical support from the National Food Policy Capacity Strengthening Programme. The national food basket represents the minimum required quantity of a nutritious diet for an adult person per day offering 2,100 kcal with recommended percentage of protein and fat. The cost of the food basket was calculated per person per month at the national level. Market prices of the food items have been collected from the DAM.

<sup>3</sup> The rate of wage labourers varies between BDT 400-600 according to the 2016 government wage rate policy, on an average of BDT 450 per day for the wage labourers irrespective of skilled and unskilled classification. The rate is triangulated with every month's rice price to understand the purchasing power of the consumers

<sup>4</sup> USD 1=BDT 109.5

<sup>5</sup> [https://analytics.wfp.org/t/Public/views/mVAMDashBoard\\_V2/FoodSecurityOnePagerdownload?%3Aembed=y&%3Aiid=1&%3AisGuestRedirectFromVizportal=y](https://analytics.wfp.org/t/Public/views/mVAMDashBoard_V2/FoodSecurityOnePagerdownload?%3Aembed=y&%3Aiid=1&%3AisGuestRedirectFromVizportal=y)

ANNEX I. The retail market price of main commodities across different divisions in April 2024

Divisions	Commodity	Current price (BDT)	Price Change			Commodity	Current price (BDT)	Price Change		
			1 Month (%)	6 Month (%)	1 Year (%)			1 Month (%)	6 Month (%)	1 Year (%)
<b>National Overall</b>	Rice Coarse	<b>49.6</b>	<b>1.2% ◀</b>	<b>12.1% ▲</b>	<b>5.0% ▲</b>	Wheat Flour	<b>56.4</b>	<b>0.9% ◀</b>	<b>8.4% ▲</b>	<b>-14.4% ▼</b>
Dhaka		51.6	0.0% ◀	11.4% ▲	7.4% ▲		55.2	0.0% ◀	5.8% ▲	-16.4% ▼
Rajshahi		49.2	2.0% ◀	12.8% ▲	6.1% ▲		53.6	0.0% ◀	5.5% ▲	-15.7% ▼
Barisal		55.1	6.6% ▲	26.4% ▲	13.7% ▲		56.8	0.0% ◀	1.3% ◀	-17.1% ▼
Khulna		49.1	-0.1% ◀	12.7% ▲	2.2% ◀		55.0	0.9% ◀	2.0% ◀	-15.3% ▼
Chattogram		48.0	-0.9% ◀	10.1% ▲	-3.6% ◀		57.9	0.3% ◀	7.6% ▲	-13.9% ▼
Sylhet		47.3	0.0% ◀	6.4% ▲	4.9% ◀		62.4	5.1% ▲	44.5% ▲	-5.0% ▼
Rangpur		46.8	0.2% ◀	5.1% ▲	4.8% ◀		53.9	0.0% ◀	-0.5% ◀	-17.7% ▼
<b>National Overall</b>	Palm Oil (Loose)	<b>130.3</b>	<b>1.4% ◀</b>	<b>2.6% ◀</b>	<b>0.6% ◀</b>	Red Lentil (Imported)	<b>116.7</b>	<b>-0.1% ◀</b>	<b>5.0% ▲</b>	<b>17.7% ▲</b>
Dhaka		133.0	2.3% ◀	3.9% ◀	2.8% ◀		117.8	1.1% ◀	9.9% ▲	19.6% ▲
Rajshahi		127.7	0.9% ◀	3.5% ◀	1.6% ◀		109.4	0.1% ◀	0.9% ◀	10.6% ▲
Barisal		131.5	1.9% ◀	2.3% ◀	-0.4% ◀		118.2	-0.2% ◀	4.0% ◀	17.4% ▲
Khulna		129.5	1.5% ◀	2.9% ◀	1.8% ◀		110.9	-0.8% ◀	8.3% ▲	17.1% ▲
Chattogram		128.7	0.6% ◀	0.9% ◀	-2.6% ◀		115.5	-0.5% ◀	2.4% ◀	15.2% ▲
Sylhet		133.4	0.8% ◀	2.3% ◀	-0.6% ◀		131.5	1.2% ◀	0.8% ◀	28.2% ▲
Rangpur		128.1	1.6% ◀	2.1% ◀	1.8% ◀		113.8	-1.9% ◀	10.7% ▲	15.5% ▲
<b>National Overall</b>	Potato (Holland-White)	<b>44.2</b>	<b>36.8% ▲</b>	<b>-3.8% ◀</b>	<b>83.1% ▲</b>	Soybean Oil	<b>153.7</b>	<b>-0.6% ◀</b>	<b>-2.5% ◀</b>	<b>-9.8% ▼</b>
Dhaka		46.6	32.8% ▲	-2.4% ◀	73.5% ▲		153.0	-0.7% ◀	-2.8% ◀	-9.2% ▼
Rajshahi		37.8	43.8% ▲	-10.9% ▼	105.2% ▲		150.1	-0.5% ◀	-1.2% ◀	-8.4% ▼
Barisal		42.7	33.7% ▲	-8.4% ▼	55.8% ▲		150.6	-1.4% ◀	-3.0% ◀	-9.9% ▼
Khulna		43.8	33.7% ▲	-9.3% ▼	74.9% ▲		153.7	0.1% ◀	1.1% ◀	-8.1% ▼
Chattogram		46.9	36.3% ▲	-0.2% ◀	72.1% ▲		156.2	-0.2% ◀	-2.8% ◀	-10.2% ▼
Sylhet		54.4	62.8% ▲	15.8% ▲	121.5% ▲		161.6	-1.2% ◀	-5.3% ▼	-13.3% ▼
Rangpur		37.4	20.6% ▲	-12.7% ▼	91.0% ▲		151.1	-0.6% ◀	-3.5% ▼	-9.6% ▼
<b>National Overall</b>	Chicken Broiler	<b>214.9</b>	<b>6.6% ▲</b>	<b>21.6% ▲</b>	<b>1.4% ◀</b>	Egg	<b>10.3</b>	<b>-2.7% ◀</b>	<b>-16.7% ▼</b>	<b>-3.7% ◀</b>
Dhaka		223.2	5.7% ▲	19.2% ▲	1.6% ◀		10.9	0.6% ◀	-13.8% ▼	1.5% ◀
Rajshahi		219.7	4.6% ◀	16.8% ▲	-0.1% ◀		9.7	-4.6% ◀	-19.0% ▼	-5.7% ▼
Barisal		223.2	9.0% ▲	29.1% ▲	1.9% ◀		10.4	-3.5% ◀	-14.9% ▼	-5.8% ▼
Khulna		212.8	3.4% ◀	17.7% ▲	1.2% ◀		10.1	-3.5% ◀	-18.2% ▼	-5.6% ▼
Chattogram		206.8	12.6% ▲	24.9% ▲	4.2% ◀		10.7	-1.3% ◀	-16.0% ▼	-2.5% ◀
Sylhet		209.5	4.3% ◀	24.8% ▲	7.9% ▲		10.8	-3.2% ◀	-16.6% ▼	-3.5% ◀
Rangpur		219.0	6.7% ▲	18.9% ▲	-6.1% ▼		9.8	-4.2% ◀	-18.6% ▼	-4.1% ◀
<b>National Overall</b>	Onion (Imported)	<b>53.6</b>	<b>-46.7% ▼</b>	<b>-22.0% ▼</b>	<b>51.3% ▲</b>	Garlic (Imported)	<b>209.0</b>	<b>11.5% ▲</b>	<b>8.5% ▲</b>	<b>51.0% ▲</b>
Dhaka		54.1	-47.5% ▼	-22.5% ▼	50.2% ▲		218.0	15.4% ▲	7.4% ▲	55.8% ▲
Rajshahi		49.0	-49.4% ▼	-24.2% ▼	41.3% ▲		213.3	14.0% ▲	10.2% ▲	47.1% ▲
Barisal		54.1	-46.4% ▼	-23.0% ▼	55.2% ▲		209.4	13.0% ▲	6.8% ▲	49.2% ▲
Khulna		35.0	-66.1% ▼	-50.7% ▼	16.8% ▲		205.6	6.9% ▲	2.2% ◀	39.9% ▲
Chattogram		68.9	-33.4% ▼	-3.1% ◀	61.4% ▲		200.3	16.1% ▲	15.8% ▲	54.4% ▲
Sylhet		60.0	-39.4% ▼	-10.7% ▼	60.3% ▲		202.2	13.1% ▲	12.7% ▲	57.6% ▲
Rangpur		54.1	-44.7% ▼	-19.0% ▼	67.2% ▲		214.0	3.4% ◀	5.7% ▲	-
<b>National Overall</b>	Sugar	<b>136.1</b>	<b>-1.6% ◀</b>	<b>4.4% ◀</b>	<b>17.4% ▲</b>	Green Chili	<b>52.1</b>	<b>-14.1% ▼</b>	<b>-70.9% ▼</b>	<b>-23.3% ▼</b>
Dhaka		139.2	-0.4% ◀	6.4% ▲	18.8% ▲		62.4	-7.9% ▼	-65.4% ▼	-20.7% ▼
Rajshahi		135.3	-2.8% ◀	4.5% ◀	16.4% ▲		46.7	-16.3% ▼	-72.3% ▼	-25.2% ▼
Barisal		139.9	-0.6% ◀	6.0% ▲	20.5% ▲		54.4	-2.6% ◀	-69.5% ▼	-26.8% ▼
Khulna		139.2	-0.7% ◀	6.7% ▲	21.2% ▲		50.6	-22.3% ▼	-69.6% ▼	-29.7% ▼
Chattogram		138.1	-1.6% ◀	4.8% ◀	17.5% ▲		54.9	-6.2% ▼	-70.3% ▼	-25.1% ▼
Sylhet		125.4	-2.1% ◀	-1.4% ◀	10.8% ▲		55.9	-11.8% ▼	-71.9% ▼	-12.9% ▼
Rangpur		135.7	-3.2% ◀	3.4% ◀	16.6% ▲		39.8	-31.6% ▼	-77.5% ▼	-21.9% ▼
<b>National Overall</b>	Bottle Gourd	<b>32.8</b>	<b>-13.1% ▼</b>	<b>-30.4% ▼</b>	<b>18.7% ▲</b>	Malabar Spinach	<b>23.4</b>	<b>-11.4% ▼</b>	<b>-19.1% ▼</b>	<b>-8.9% ▼</b>
Dhaka		37.3	-11.8% ▼	-30.2% ▼	32.4% ▲		24.2	-16.4% ▼	-22.4% ▼	-18.2% ▼
Rajshahi		26.9	-20.3% ▼	-30.1% ▼	-5.9% ▼		21.9	-0.5% ◀	-15.7% ▼	-18.5% ▼
Barisal		36.6	-15.2% ▼	-34.7% ▼	41.4% ▲		25.0	-12.8% ▼	-10.1% ◀	24.2% ▲
Khulna		28.3	0.6% ◀	-22.8% ▼	16.5% ▲		20.7	-9.0% ▼	-12.6% ▼	-17.6% ▼
Chattogram		35.1	-14.3% ▼	-30.8% ▼	23.7% ▲		26.2	-3.5% ◀	-24.0% ▼	-8.3% ▼
Sylhet		38.8	-6.1% ▼	-27.9% ▼	29.2% ▲		25.2	-16.0% ▼	-31.7% ▼	-8.2% ▼
Rangpur		26.7	-22.8% ▼	-34.9% ▼	-5.4% ▼		20.4	-18.4% ▼	-8.4% ▼	-7.0% ▼

Annex 1. Retail market price of main commodities across different divisions

ANNEX II. Cox's Bazar retail market price of main commodities across different sub-districts in April 2024

Sub-District	Commodity	Current price (BDT)	Price Change			Commodity	Current price (BDT)	Price Change		
			1 Month (%)	6 Month (%)	1 Year (%)			1 Month (%)	6 Month (%)	1 Year (%)
<b>Overall</b>	<b>Rice BR29</b>	<b>48.0</b>	<b>0.0%</b> ◀	<b>-15.3%</b> ▼	<b>-12.2%</b> ▼	<b>Soybean Oil</b>	<b>165.0</b>	<b>0.0%</b> ◀	<b>0.0%</b> ◀	<b>-10.4%</b> ▼
Cox's Bazar Sadar		48.0	0.0% ◀	-20.0% ▼	-12.2% ▼		165.00	0.0% ◀	3.1% ◀	-10.5% ▼
Teknaf		48.0	0.0% ◀	-12.7% ▼	-12.7% ▼		165.00	0.0% ◀	-1.8% ◀	-10.3% ▼
Ukhiya		48.0	0.0% ◀	-12.7% ▼	-11.8% ▼		165.00	0.0% ◀	-1.2% ◀	-10.3% ▼
Bhasan Char		60.0	-12.4% ▼	#DIV/0!	7.1% ▲		125.00	-24.7% ▼	#DIV/0!	0.0% ◀
<b>Overall</b>	<b>Red Lentil</b>	<b>110.0</b>	<b>0.0%</b> ◀	<b>6.1%</b> ▲	<b>9.8%</b> ▲	<b>Onion</b>	<b>68.3</b>	<b>-40.1%</b> ▼	<b>-11.1%</b> ▼	<b>54.1%</b> ▲
Cox's Bazar Sadar		110.0	0.0% ◀	7.3% ▲	10.0% ▲		70.00	-37.8% ▼	-6.7% ▼	57.0% ▲
Teknaf		110.0	0.0% ◀	7.8% ▲	8.9% ▲		70.00	-36.4% ▼	-12.5% ▼	57.0% ▲
Ukhiya		110.0	0.0% ◀	3.3% ◀	10.4% ▲		65.00	-45.8% ▼	-13.9% ▼	48.4% ▲
Bhasan Char		65.0	-40.9% ▼	#DIV/0!	-38.1% ▼		0.00	-100.0% ▼	#DIV/0!	0.0% ◀
<b>Overall</b>	<b>Sugar</b>	<b>140.0</b>	<b>-4.5%</b> ▼	<b>1.2%</b> ◀	<b>19.5%</b> ▲	<b>Salt</b>	<b>40.0</b>	<b>0.0%</b> ◀	<b>0.0%</b> ◀	<b>0.0%</b> ◀
Cox's Bazar Sadar		140.0	-3.4% ◀	3.7% ◀	19.7% ▲		40.0	0.0% ◀	0.0% ◀	0.0% ◀
Teknaf		140.0	-3.4% ◀	0.0% ◀	19.1% ▲		40.0	0.0% ◀	0.0% ◀	0.0% ◀
Ukhiya		140.0	-6.7% ▼	0.0% ◀	19.7% ▲		40.0	0.0% ◀	0.0% ◀	0.0% ◀
Bhasan Char		92.5	-38.3% ▼	#DIV/0!	0.0% ◀		27.50	-32.9% ▼	#DIV/0!	0.0% ◀
<b>Overall</b>	<b>Garlic</b>	<b>203.3</b>	<b>-3.2%</b> ◀	<b>10.9%</b> ▲	<b>44.9%</b> ▲	<b>LPG</b>	<b>1455.0</b>	<b>-2.6%</b> ◀	<b>6.3%</b> ▲	<b>12.3%</b> ▲
Cox's Bazar Sadar		200.0	-4.8% ◀	17.6% ▲	41.8% ▲		1450.00	-2.0% ◀	5.5% ▲	11.9% ▲
Teknaf		210.0	0.0% ◀	5.0% ▲	50.0% ▲		1460.00	-2.7% ◀	5.8% ▲	12.7% ▲
Ukhiya		200.0	-4.8% ◀	11.1% ▲	42.9% ▲		1455.00	-3.0% ◀	7.8% ▲	12.2% ▲
Bhasan Char		0.0	-100.0% ▼	#DIV/0!	0.0% ◀		1600.00	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!
<b>Overall</b>	<b>Broiler Chicken</b>	<b>243.3</b>	<b>12.3%</b> ▲	<b>35.2%</b> ▲	<b>1.7%</b> ◀	<b>Tilapia</b>	<b>205.0</b>	<b>0.8%</b> ◀	<b>-3.9%</b> ◀	<b>15.1%</b> ▲
Cox's Bazar Sadar		240.0	14.3% ▲	33.3% ▲	0.8% ◀		205.00	2.5% ◀	-6.8% ▼	14.2% ▲
Teknaf		250.0	13.6% ▲	38.9% ▲	4.2% ◀		200.00	-4.8% ◀	-9.1% ▼	12.0% ▲
Ukhiya		240.0	9.1% ▲	33.3% ▲	0.0% ◀		210.00	5.0% ▲	5.0% ▲	19.1% ▲
Bhasan Char		285.0	26.7% ▲	#DIV/0!	11.3% ▲		250.00	6.4% ▲	#DIV/0!	13.6% ▲
<b>Overall</b>	<b>Egg</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>0.0%</b> ◀	<b>-16.3%</b> ▼	<b>-0.2%</b> ◀	<b>Green Papaya</b>	<b>35.0</b>	<b>-8.7%</b> ▼	<b>5.0%</b> ▲	<b>4.5%</b> ◀
Cox's Bazar Sadar		10.0	0.0% ◀	-15.5% ▼	0.0% ◀		35.00	-12.5% ▼	16.7% ▲	3.9% ◀
Teknaf		10.0	0.0% ◀	-16.7% ▼	-0.5% ◀		35.00	0.0% ◀	0.0% ◀	2.9% ◀
Ukhiya		10.0	0.0% ◀	-16.7% ▼	0.0% ◀		35.00	-12.5% ▼	0.0% ◀	6.9% ▲
Bhasan Char		13.0	15.6% ▲	#DIV/0!	0.0% ◀		50.00	17.6% ▲	#DIV/0!	0.0% ◀
<b>Overall</b>	<b>Red Chilli</b>	<b>443.3</b>	<b>0.8%</b> ◀	<b>-0.6%</b> ◀	<b>-0.2%</b> ◀	<b>Potato</b>	<b>50.0</b>	<b>25.0%</b> ▲	<b>3.4%</b> ◀	<b>80.0%</b> ▲
Cox's Bazar Sadar		440.0	0.0% ◀	0.6% ◀	-1.2% ◀		50.00	25.0% ▲	0.0% ◀	81.2% ▲
Teknaf		440.0	0.0% ◀	-2.2% ◀	-1.3% ◀		50.00	25.0% ▲	0.0% ◀	80.5% ▲
Ukhiya		450.0	2.3% ◀	0.0% ◀	1.9% ◀		50.00	25.0% ▲	11.1% ▲	78.3% ▲
Bhasan Char		0.0	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	-100.0% ▼		60.00	46.3% ▲	#DIV/0!	100.0% ▲
<b>Overall</b>	<b>Green Chilli</b>	<b>45.0</b>	<b>-10.0%</b> ▼	<b>-77.5%</b> ▼	<b>-43.8%</b> ▼	<b>Banana</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>-14.3%</b> ▼	<b>17.1%</b> ▲	<b>-18.1%</b> ▼
Cox's Bazar Sadar		40.0	-20.0% ▼	-80.0% ▼	-48.4% ▼		8.00	-20.0% ▼	14.3% ▲	-15.8% ▼
Teknaf		50.0	0.0% ◀	-75.0% ▼	-38.3% ▼		8.00	0.0% ◀	14.3% ▲	-20.0% ▼
Ukhiya		45.0	-10.0% ▼	-77.5% ▼	-44.8% ▼		8.00	-20.0% ▼	23.1% ▲	-18.4% ▼
Bhasan Char		80.0	0.0% ◀	#DIV/0!	-20.0% ▼		12.00	33.3% ▲	#DIV/0!	26.3% ▲
<b>Overall</b>	<b>Spinach/ Puihak</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>-8.3%</b> ▼	<b>-36.5%</b> ▼	<b>29.9%</b> ▲	<b>Bottle Gourd (Lau)</b>	<b>15.0</b>	<b>0.0%</b> ◀	<b>-47.1%</b> ▼	<b>-3.7%</b> ◀
Cox's Bazar Sadar		10.0	-16.7% ▼	-60.0% ▼	20.5% ▲		15.00	0.0% ◀	-62.5% ▼	-3.2% ◀
Teknaf		12.0	0.0% ◀	-20.0% ▼	41.2% ▲		15.00	25.0% ▲	-25.0% ▼	-3.8% ◀
Ukhiya		11.0	-8.3% ▼	-8.3% ▼	27.9% ▲		15.00	-16.7% ▼	-40.0% ▼	-4.2% ◀
Bhasan Char		0.0	-100.0% ▼	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!		50.00	81.8% ▲	81.8% ▲	0.0% ◀

Annex 1. Retail market price of main commodities in different sub-districts