

PRODUCER PRICE INDEX GOES DOWN

The Producer price index (PPI) has declined for the fourth consecutive month this year, bringing the rate to 17.46 per cent recorded in March.

The Producer Price Index measures the average change overtime in the prices received by domestic producers for the production of their goods and services.

The head of the Economic and industrial Statistics Division of the statistical services Division, Mr Ebow Duncan, who announced this in Accra said in April, 2010, the price index with reference to the base period in September, 2006 was 191.38, after recording 190.57 in March, 2010.

He said this translated to a monthly change rate of 0.42 per cent, after recording 0.01 percents in March this year.

Mr. Duncan said the respective yearly change which was the percentage change in the ppi between April, 2009 and April, 2010 was 17.46 per cent, indicating a 1.61 percentage points lower than that for March 2010.

He said the manufacturing sector, which was the largest industrial - sector with 6.75 per cent share of all industries, recorded an inflammation rate of 19.57 per cent.

He said mining and quarrying with 13.97 per cent share of all industries recoded an inflation rate of 25.86 per cent.

He said the sub-sector also recorded the highest monthly change rate. He said utilities, which included production, transmission and distribution of electricity, collection, purification and distribution of water, recorded 0.09 per cent inflation.

Mr. Duncan said the all industry year-on-year average inflation for the first four months of 2010 was 21.25 per cent.

He said between April, 2009 and April, 2010, the mining and quarrying sub-sector exhibited the highest inflation rate, except for February 2010, when the manufacturing sector recorded the highest.

He said the utilities sub-sector continued to record the lowest price change due to the regulated pricing of its output.

Mr Duncan said in this sector, there was a substantial inflation in the manufacture of coke and refined petroleum products, while the manufacture of wood and its products and that of chemical products recorded negative inflation rates of 4.63 and 2.70 per cent respectively.

Six out of the 16 groups recorded inflation rates higher than the manufacturing sector average.

He said in the petroleum sector, change rates in this group had had a major influence on the manufacturing sector.

He said between January 2009 and October 2009, producer inflation in this industry recorded a negative rate.

He said however, recorded a positive rate thereafter, with the highest rate for the last 12 month period being December 2009

Story: Michael Donkor