

DAILY STOCK MARKET HIGHLIGHTS

Monday, 01 April 2024



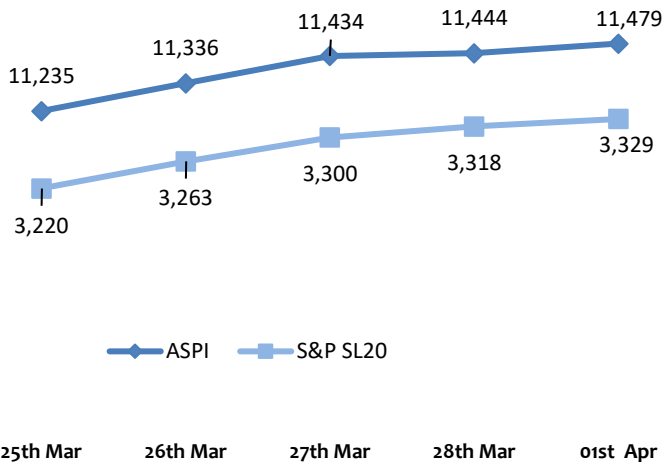
ASHA SECURITIES LTD

Sri Lanka

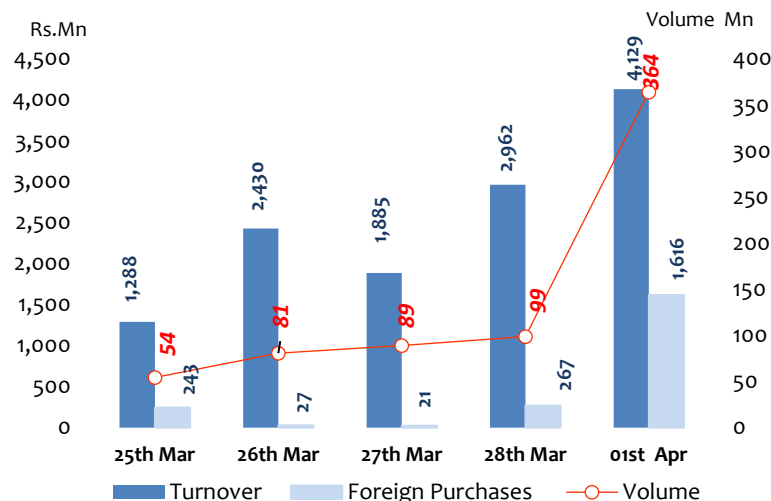
Daily Market Statistics

Index	01st Apr	28th Mar	Change	% Change
ASPI	11,479.00	11,444.38	↑ 34.62	↑ 0.30%
S&P SL20	3,329.28	3,317.62	↑ 11.66	↑ 0.35%
Market Stats (LKR, Mn)		01st Apr	28th Mar	% Change
Turnover		4,129.2	2,961.6	↑ 39.4%
Domestic Purchases		2,513.2	2,694.4	↓ -7%
Domestic Sales		3,278.9	2,776.2	↑ 18%
Foreign Purchases		1,616.0	267.1	↑ 505%
Foreign Sales		850.3	185.3	↑ 359%
Net Foreign in / (out) Flow		765.7	81.8	↑ 837%
Share Volume		363.9	98.7	↑ 269%
Trades (No.)		16,031	16,239	↓ -1%
Market capitalization (Bn)		4,543	4,535	↑ 0.2%
PER		9.89	9.87	↑ 0.2%
PBV		0.98	0.98	↓ 0.0%

Market Indices



Turnover, Volume and Foreign Purchase



Performance of the Market

➤ The Colombo Bourse opened on a subdued note as banks underwent post-dividend profit-taking. Block trades in TAP were executed at a significant discount, 25% below the previous closing price. However, speculation drove the stock price up, leading to over 20% gains by the end of the day. Renewed optimism surrounding external debt restructuring fueled strong buying interest in banks, absorbing the profit-taking and pushing the market indices positive for the fourth consecutive session.



- Benchmark index ASPI moved between 11,337.15 – 11,512.46 and settled the day at 11,479.00 with a **gain of 34.62 points (+0.30%)**.
- Off-board deal on GHLL, SAMP, LIOC, NDB, ALUM, MGT & HHL contributed 1,016Mn or 25% of the turnover.
- Major contributors for the movement in ASPI were **HNB (+15.3)**, **DFCC (+10.9)**, **NDB (+8.7)**, **HAYL (+8.2)**, & **MELS (+4.8)**, **SAMP (-15.3)**, **COMB (-8.4)**, **BIL (-2.8)**, **SPEN (-2.4)** & **SEMB (-2.3)**.
- S&P SL20 index settled the day at **3,329.28** with a **gain of 11.66 points (+0.35%)**.
- Gains recorded on 98 counters while 73 recorded declines.
- The day's total turnover was recorded as LKR 4,129Mn, increased by 39% from its previously recorded LKR 2,962Mn, foreign investors remained net buyers for the day.
- The total market capitalization stood at LKR 4.54Tn, indicating a **YTD gain** of 6.93%.
- The market PER & PBV were at **9.89x** & **0.98x**.

GICS Sectorial Overview

- Consumer Durables & Apparel stood on top providing 1,639Mn capturing 40% of the turnover.
- Consumer Services & Banks sector stood second and third providing LKR 912Mn and LKR 622Mn respectively to the daily aggregated turnover.

Top Contributors – Turnover

Company Name	Share Vol.	Turnover	High	Low	Close	Prv. Close	Change	Change
AMBEON CAPITAL PLC	280,371,302	1,560,047,743	9.00	5.50	8.80	7.30	1.50	20.5%
GALADARI HOTELS (LANKA) PLC	27,679,629	804,253,630	19.30	16.50	18.20	16.80	1.40	8.3%
SAMPATH BANK PLC	2,410,914	185,075,280	78.50	75.20	77.90	80.00	(2.10)	-2.6%
HATTON NATIONAL BANK PLC	870,789	153,417,510	185.00	170.00	181.25	176.32	4.93	2.8%
FIRST CAPITAL	3,675,828	129,445,647	36.50	34.60	35.90	34.40	1.50	4.4%
CAPITAL ALLIANCE	2,258,230	124,497,931	57.40	53.30	56.30	53.00	3.30	6.2%

Top Contributors – Trade Volumes

Company Name	Share Vol.	Turnover	High	Low	Close	Prv. Close	Change	Change
AMBEON CAPITAL PLC	280,371,302	1,560,047,743	9.00	5.50	8.80	7.30	1.50	20.5%
GALADARI HOTELS (LANKA) PLC	27,679,629	804,253,630	19.30	16.50	18.20	16.80	1.40	8.3%
ALUMEX PLC	5,809,161	57,814,676	10.10	9.50	10.00	9.60	0.40	4.2%
SMB LEASING PLC	4,465,319	2,699,695	0.70	0.60	0.60	0.70	(0.10)	-14.3%
FIRST CAPITAL	3,675,828	129,445,647	36.50	34.60	35.90	34.40	1.50	4.4%
BROWNS INVESTMENTS PLC	3,556,562	18,934,388	5.50	5.20	5.30	5.40	(0.10)	-1.9%

Crossings

Name	Symbol	Price	Trades	T.Volume	Turnover
GALADARI	GHLL.N0000	29.50	3	26,595,192	784,558,164
SAMPATH	SAMP.N0000	78.00	2	873,293	67,743,561
LANKA IOC	LIOC.N0000	117.00	1	400,000	46,800,000
NAT. DEV. BANK	NDB.N0000	68.00	1	640,000	43,520,000
ALUMEX PLCC	ALUM.N0000	10.00	1	2,800,000	28,000,000
HAYLEYS FABRIC PLC	MGT.N0000	42.00	1	590,000	24,780,000
HEMAS HOLDINGS	HHL.N0000	80.50	1	250,000	20,125,000

Daily Foreign Transactions

Net Foreign Purchases

Company Name	Avg Price	Estimated Change in Qty	Net Foreign Inflow
AMBEON CAPITAL	5.50	120,426,451	662,345,481
HUNAS HOLDINGS	30.00	2,466,826	74,004,767
LB FINANCE	63.50	250,000	15,875,000
MELSTACORP	89.00	153,427	13,655,041
NATIONS TRUST (+)	107.75	100,714	10,851,934
AHOT PROPERTIES	63.00	154,659	9,743,492
PEOPLES LEASING	11.10	665,050	7,382,057
DFCC BANK PLC	79.80	89,818	7,167,465
ACL	84.00	25,200	2,116,840
SAMPATH (+)	77.90	25,168	1,960,553

Net Foreign Sales

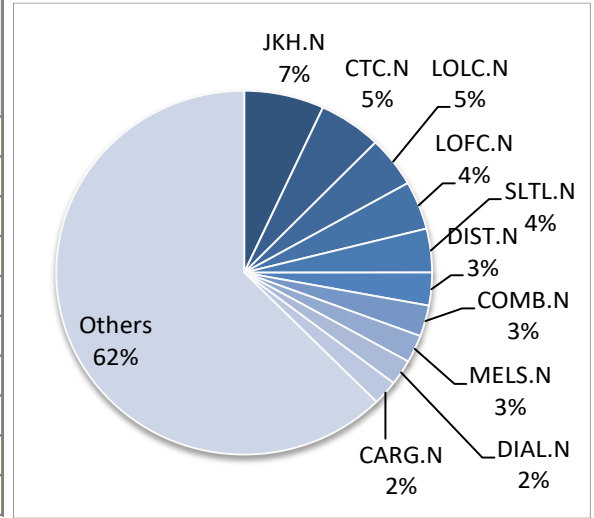
Company Name	Avg Price	Estimated Change in Qty	Net Foreign Outflow
HEMAS HOLDINGS	80.50	(500,034)	(40,252,739)
TOKYO CEMENT	51.70	(100,031)	(5,171,610)
GALADARI (+)	18.20	(153,467)	(2,793,102)
JKH	194.25	(4,294)	(834,200)
VALLIBEL ONE	50.10	(8,016)	(401,600)
CEYLON INV.	47.30	(5,207)	(246,280)
VALLIBEL	7.60	(30,000)	(228,000)
JANASHAKTHI INS. (+)	43.50	(3,318)	(144,328)
DIALOG (+)	11.60	(6,525)	(75,688)
HNB[X.0000] (+)	146.25	(398)	(58,200)

- **Aggregate Foreign Purchases** for the day were **LKR 1,616Mn**.
- **Foreign sales** for the day amounted to **LKR 850Mn**.
- **Net foreign inflow** for the day was **LKR 766Mn**; **YTD net foreign outflow** presently stands at **LKR 7,141Mn**.
- **TAP** notched the “**Top Net Purchasers**” slot with a net inflow of **LKR 662Mn** whilst **HHL** the “**Top Net Sellers**” slot with a net outflow of **LKR 40.3Mn**.

Market Highlights & Statistics

Market Capitalisation

Company Name.	Symbol.	Price.	Issued Quantity (Mn)	Market Capitalisation (LKR Bn)
JOHN KEELLS	JKH.N	194.25	1,498.7	291.13
CEYLON TOBACCO	CTC.N	1,222.75	187.3	229.05
LOLC HOLDINGS	LOLC.N	400.25	475.2	190.20
LOLC FINANCE	LOFC.N	5.50	33,079.2	181.94
SRILANKA TELECOM	SLTL.N	91.00	1,804.9	164.24
DISTILLERIES COMPANY	DIST.N	26.80	4,600.0	123.28
COMMERCIAL BANK	COMB.N	94.50	1,236.5	116.85
MELSTA CORP	MELS.N	89.00	1,165.4	103.72
DIALOG AXIATA	DIAL.N	11.60	8,247.6	95.67
CARGILLS (CEYLON)	CARG.N	360.00	257.7	92.76



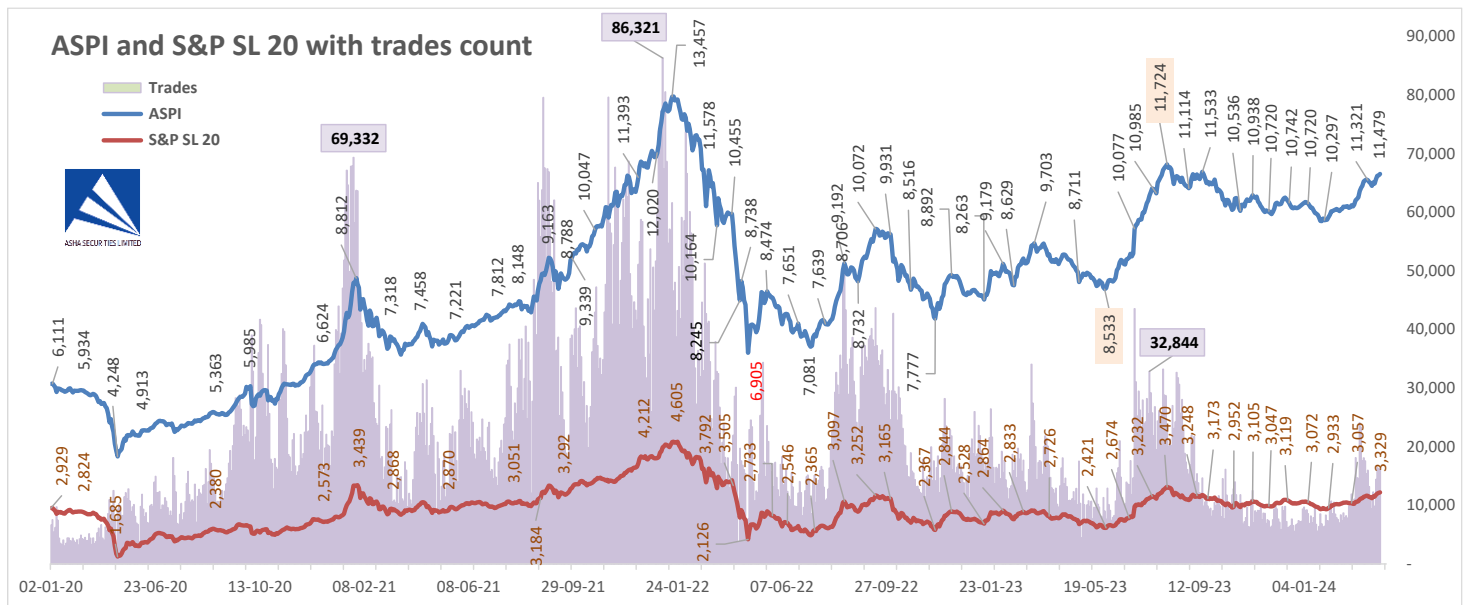
Top Gainers

Company Name	VWA Days Close	Change (LKR)	Change %	Turnover (LKR)
AMBEON CAPITAL	8.80	1.50	20.55	1,560,047,743
TESS AGRO [X]	0.70	0.10	16.67	2,676
GALADARI	18.20	1.40	8.33	804,253,623
SOFTLOGIC FIN	6.10	0.40	7.02	230,002
CALT	56.30	3.30	6.23	124,497,931
DFCC BANK PLC	79.80	3.80	5.00	80,437,249
SERENDIB HOTELS	14.70	0.70	5.00	1,341,589
LANKA VENTURES	28.00	1.30	4.87	9,856
FIRST CAPITAL	35.90	1.50	4.36	129,445,647
ALUMEX PLC	10.00	0.40	4.17	57,814,675

Top Losers

Company Name	VWA Days Close	Change (LKR)	Change %	Turnover (LKR)
S M B LEASING	0.60	(0.10)	(14.29)	2,699,695
UB FINANCE	0.70	(0.10)	(12.50)	288,578
CITRUS HIKKADUWA	4.20	(0.50)	(10.64)	434,837
HNB FINANCE [X]	5.30	(0.50)	(8.62)	9,354
TRANS ASIA	40.00	(2.60)	(6.10)	194,244
KAHAWATTE	15.60	(0.90)	(5.45)	227,217
HAPUGASTENNE	31.20	(1.70)	(5.17)	60,581
SEYLAN DEVTS	16.20	(0.80)	(4.71)	101,974
ASIA ASSET	14.40	(0.60)	(4.00)	2,284
ALPHA FIRE	7.30	(0.30)	(3.95)	3,695

ASPI & S&PSL20 Movement 2020 – 2023



Market Highlights & Statistics

GICS Industry Group Statistics

Industry Group	Price Index				Turnover			Sector		
	Today	Previous	Change	% Change	Value (Rs)	Volume	Trades	P/E	PBV	DY
Automobiles & Components	962	938	↑ 24	↑ 2.6%	4,541,720	63,944	51	5.4	0.9	7.0
Banks	843	839	↑ 3	↑ 0.4%	622,321,299	7,669,127	2,978	4.9	0.5	0.8
Capital Goods	1,584	1,580	↑ 5	↑ 0.3%	192,120,812	4,240,038	1,851	19.0	0.8	2.7
Commercial & Professional Services	1,174	1,144	↑ 31	↑ 2.7%	227,807	13,178	59	11.5	0.7	9.6
Consumer Durables & Apparel	1,620	1,590	↑ 30	↑ 1.9%	1,638,981,862	283,732,671	1,303	384.9	1.1	2.8
Consumer Services	430	422	↑ 8	↑ 1.8%	911,737,899	31,589,500	958	0.0	1.0	0.0
Diversified Financials	2,050	2,013	↑ 37	↑ 1.8%	378,417,659	16,287,580	3,687	5.8	0.8	3.2
Energy	2,387	2,377	↑ 10	↑ 0.4%	61,120,800	527,660	148	4.2	1.0	2.8
Food & Staples Retailing	2,093	2,076	↑ 17	↑ 0.8%	22,054	21,751	18	14.9	2.7	3.6
Food, Beverage & Tobacco	1,186	1,186	↑ 1	↑ 0.0%	86,239,465	5,487,029	1,581	7.7	1.5	8.4
Health Care Equipment & Services	1,220	1,215	↑ 5	↑ 0.4%	4,395,060	270,995	140	19.0	1.3	1.0
Household & Personal Products	1,453	1,464	↓ (12)	↓ -0.8%	26,774	1,349	7	18.9	1.5	0.0
Insurance	1,650	1,557	↑ 93	↑ 6.0%	20,771,481	1,160,384	459	6.5	0.8	3.0
Software & Services	503	472	↑ 31	↑ 6.5%	1,384,872	123,073	109	0.0	1.8	3.1
Materials	1,581	1,566	↑ 15	↑ 1.0%	164,890,046	8,562,153	1,709	6.8	1.1	5.0
Real Estate	1,025	1,021	↑ 4	↑ 0.4%	3,540,075	308,281	203	7.4	0.5	5.9
Retailing	859	847	↑ 12	↑ 1.5%	9,920,736	759,856	182	0.0	0.6	2.1
Telecommunication Services	1,239	1,240	↓ (0)	↓ 0.0%	14,579,182	877,465	143	16.1	1.7	0.2
Transportation	25,092	25,093	↓ (1)	↓ 0.0%	6,216	240	3	0.0	2.3	2.3
Utilities	922	917	↑ 6	↑ 0.6%	13,964,283	2,235,338	442	19.9	1.1	2.1

Key Announcement

- (29 Mar) **Fitch Ratings** Lanka has affirmed **AMW Capital Leasing and Finance PLC's** (AMCL) National Long-Term Rating at '**BBB (Ika)**'. The Outlook remains Negative.
- (28 Mar) **Asia Capital PLC** (ACAP) said, it has successfully **negotiated** with the **Seylan Bank** to **stop the parate action** and will be taking appropriate steps to **reschedule the debts**.
- (01 Apr) **Seylan Bank** published a **notice to recover** a loan of **Rs. 1.05Bn** from **Lanka Realty Developments (Pvt) Ltd** (ASCO) by selling their land and buildings. **ASCO assures that they are taking steps to protect their interests** and those of their subsidiary.
- (28 Mar) **Muller & Phipps (Ceylon) PLC** (MULL) further to its disclosure on 1 March 24 said, **MULL has invested a LKR 270 Mn** in its Subsidiary **Muller & Phipps (Health care) Limited** via the **conversion of LKR 154.5Mn debt** and **direct investment KR 115.5Mn**.
- (26 Mar) Previously, there were regulations limiting **non-resident investor participation in Stock Borrowing and Lending (SBL)** transactions. However, after requests from the CSE, the Central Bank's Foreign Exchange Department (DFE) has changed the rules. This means **non-resident investors can now participate in SBL transactions** carried out according to regulations set by the Securities and Exchange Commission.
- (21 Mar) **The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC)** has approved a new rule allowing **negotiation of brokerage fees for transactions valued at LKR 1 billion or more** on the Colombo Stock Exchange (CSE). This decision was made after discussions with the CSE and **aims to improve market liquidity** and **align Sri Lanka's brokerage fees with other similar markets**. The new rule takes **effect on March 31st, 2024**.

Dealings by Directors

Counter	Nature	Director / Company involved	No of Shares	Price	Date
SIRA	Disposal	Mr. D S Panditha	10,703	11.8 - 11.9	28 Mar 2024.
TYRE	Purchase	Silverstock Ltd - Mr R C D De Silva	117,884	68.0 - 70.0	26,27 Mar 2024.
VLL	Purchase	Mr. Riyaz Sangani	196,847	7.00	28 Mar 2024.
VLL. X	Purchase	Dynawash Limited- Mr. Riyazi & Mr. Shahid	16,053	5.6, 5.7	27, 28 Mar 2024.

Key Announcement

TRADING / DEALING SUSPENDED COMPANIES

Company	IDL	SHL, CSF	EXPO	ALUF	MFL	BLI	ALHP	CHOU	NAVF.U
From	08 Dec 23.	08 Dec 23.	04 Mar 24.	20 Jun 23.	14-Oct-2022.	10-Jan-22	04-May- 21.	11 Mar 19.	27-Sep-19
Reason	AQO	***	Delisting Process		AQO	***	AQO	AQO	Matured

***Non-submission of Interim Financial Statements Auditor's Qualified Opinion (AQO)

Companies on WATCH LIST

Non Submission of Annual Reports, Financial Statements or Non Compliance with Corporate Governance Requirments									
CHOU	SHL	CSF	MEL	KDL	AINS	APLA			
Qualified Opinion in the Independent Auditor's Report									
MFL	IDL	NHL	ALUF	ALHP	BLI	CHOU	SHL	MHDL	

Companies on SECOND BOARD

Non-compliance of CSE Listing Rules, minimum public holding & Corporate Governance									
AMCL	ASPM	AFSL	BFN	BBH	DIST	CALF	SLTL	ODEL	HUNA
TRAN	JAT	EDEN	LAMB	MADU	MERC	HAPU	UDPL	TAP	SINS
ONAL	CRL	LOFC	KHC	CPRT	OFEQ	PARA			

Stocks in the S&P Sri Lanka 20 in alphabetical order (Effective from 18 Dec 2023)

Chevron Lubricants Lanka PLC (LLUB)	Hayleys PLC (HAYL)	National Development Bank PLC (NDB)
CIC Holdings PLC (CIC)	Hemas Holdings PLC (HHL)	Nations Trust Bank PLC (NTB)
Commercial Bank of Ceylon PLC (COMB)	John Keells Holdings PLC (JKH)	Royal Ceramics Lanka PLC (RCL)
DFCC Bank (DFCC)	Lanka IOC PLC (LIOC)	Sampath Bank PLC (SAMP)
Dialog Axiata PLC (DIAL)	LOLC Finance PLC (LOFC)	Softlogic Life Insurance PLC (AAIC)
Distilleries Company of Sri Lanka PLC (DIST)	LOLC Holdings PLC (LOLC)	Vallibel One PLC (VONE)
Hatton National Bank PLC (HNB)	Melstacorp PLC (MELS)	

Annual General Meetings (AGMs)

Company	Date	Company	Date	Company	Date
HASU	2-Apr-24	LVEN	22-Apr-24	CBNK	26-Apr-24
BOGA	10-Apr-24	OSEA	24-Apr-24		

EGMs

Company	Date	Company	Date
CITW	1-Apr-24	ABL	1-Apr-24
CITH	1-Apr-24	COCO	19-Apr-24
UAL	1-Apr-24		

Please find our **Earnings Updates (Dec 2023 and earlier)** on the following link

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1QK2Do_bru8DDHGf5gfor9lrkzCPfgef?usp=sharing

Key Announcements

Cash Dividends (LKR)

CODE	DIVIDEND PER SHARE	TYPE	XD DATE	PAYMENT DATE
CTC	31.00	4th Interim	12 Mar 2024.	02 April 2024.
UAL	8.75	1st & Final	12 Mar 2024.	02 April 2024.
AAIC	3.75	Interim	14 Mar 2024.	04 April 2024.
PARQ	0.50	1st Interim	14 Mar 2024.	04 April 2024.
LWL	4.00	1st Interim	14 Mar 2024.	04 April 2024.
TILE	5.00	1st Interim	14 Mar 2024.	04 April 2024.
NAMU	13.00	1st Interim	15 Mar 2024.	04 April 2024.
KGAL	3.50	1st Interim	15 Mar 2024.	04 April 2024.
RCL	2.00	1st Interim	18 Mar 2024.	08 April 2024.
LFIN	2.25	1st Interim	19 Mar 2024.	09 April 2024.
JKL	2.90	1st Interim	19 Mar 2024.	09 April 2024.
PACK	0.37	2nd Interim	20 Mar 2024.	10 April 2024.
MERC	20.00	Interim	25 Mar 2024.	04 April 2024.
REXP	12.00	Interim	25 Mar 2024.	16 April 2024.
NDB	2.00	Final	26 Mar 2024.	18 April 2024.
FCT	4.50	2nd Interim	26 Mar 2024.	18 April 2024.
COMD	4.00	Final	28 Mar 2024.	22 April 2024.
CERA	2.50	1st Interim	28 Mar 2024.	22 April 2024.
HNB	4.00	Final	01 April 2024.	16 April 2024.

CODE	DIVIDEND PER SHARE	TYPE	XD DATE	PAYMENT DATE
PABC	0.25	1st & Final	01 April 2024.	24 April 2024.
SAMP	5.85	Final	01 April 2024.	24 April 2024.
SEYB	1.00	1st & Final	01 April 2024.	24 April 2024.
COMB	4.50	1st & Final	01 April 2024.	24 April 2024.
PAP	0.20	1st Interim	02 April 2024.	25 April 2024.
HASU	3.90	1st & Final	03 April 2024.	30 April 2024.
ETWO	0.50	2nd Interim	05 April 2024.	30 April 2024.
DIPD	0.25	3rd interim	09 April 2024.	25 April 2024.
HAYC	1.00	3rd interim	09 April 2024.	29 April 2024.
TPL	4.00	3rd interim	09 April 2024.	26 April 2024.
HOPL	0.40	2nd Interim	09 April 2024.	25 April 2024.
MGT	0.25	3rd interim	09 April 2024.	26 April 2024.
KVAL	2.50	3rd interim	09 April 2024.	29 April 2024.
CFVF	5.00	2nd Interim	09 April 2024.	03 May 2024.
HAYL	5.35	1st Interim	10 April 2024.	25 April 2024.
OSEA	1.25	1st & Final	25 Apr 2024.	14 May 2024.
CINS	48.00	Final	22 May 2024.	31 May 2024.
DIAL	1.34	Final	14 Jun 2024.	08 Jul 2024.

Scrip Dividends

CODE	Consideration	Value	Propotion : 1 Voting for	Propotion : 1 Non-Voting for	XD DATE	Listing Date
DFCC	78.80	2.00	39.400000267	N/A	29 Feb 2024.	18 Mar 2024.
NTB	102.73	2.50	48.308808000	50.161475000	06 Mar 2024.	25Mar 2024.
NDB	63.47	3.00	24.890196836	N/A	26 Mar 2024.	TBN
HNB	163.00	4.00	47.941179261	40.882359789	01 April 2024.	TBN
SEYB	44.40	1.50	34.823530724	27.294118554	01 April 2024.	TBN
COMB	90.60	2.00	53.294118081	47.235294619	01 April 2024.	TBN

Rights Issues

Company	Issue Price	Issue Value	Proportion	XR Date	Letter Dispatch	Trading of Rights	Acceptance
Citrus Leisure (REEF)	LKR 4.20	LKR 1.59Bn	143 for 101	26 Mar 2024.	02 April 2024.	08 - 17 April 2024.	24 April 2024.
Hikkaduwa Beach Resort (CITH)	LKR 3.50	LKR 902Mn	19 for 21	02 April 2024.	08 April 2024.	16 - 24 April 2024.	30 April 2024.
Waskaduwa Beach Resort (CITW)	LKR 1.80	LKR 678Mn	35 for 52	02 April 2024.	15 April 2024.	19 - 29 April 2024.	06 May 2024.
RENUKA FOODS PLC (COCO)	LKR 10.00	LKR 600Mn	1 for 2	22 April 2024.	03 May 2024.	09 - 16 May 2024.	22 May 2024.
RENUKA FOODS PLC (COCO.X)	LKR 8.00	LKR 19.5Mn	1 for 2	22 April 2024.	03 May 2024.	09 - 16 May 2024.	22 May 2024.
Lanka Ventures PLC (LVEN)	LKR 26.30	LKR 219Mn	1 for 6	24 April 2024.	06 May 2024.	10 - 17 May 2024.	27 May 2024.
Anilana Hotels & Properties (ALHP)	LKR 0.20	LKR 359Mn	5 for 7			To be notified	
ODEL PLC (ODEL)	LKR 12.15	LKR 3.31Bn	01 for 01			To be notified	
Ceylon Hospitals PLC (CHL)	LKR 112.50	LKR 436Mn	1 for 7			To be notified	
Ceylon Hospitals PLC (CHL.X)	LKR 90.00	LKR 114Mn	1 for 7			To be notified	
LVL ENERGY FUND PLC (LVEF)	LKR 4.00	LKR 466Mn	1 for 5			To be notified	
RENUKA AGRI FOODS PLC (RAL)	LKR 2.50	LKR 571Mn	2 for 5			To be notified	
UB FINANCE PLC (UBF)	LKR 0.60	LKR 254Mn	2 for 13			To be notified	

De-listing Offer

OFFEROR	OFFEREE	Announced	Offer Open	Offer Close	Payment	OFFER PRICE
Advantis project & Engineering	Unisyst Engineering (ALUF)	19 July 23.		To be notified		LKR 6.00
SG Holdings Global Pvt Ltd	Expolanka Holdings (EXPO)	01 Mar 24.		To be notified		LKR 185.00

Economic Indicators & Other Statistics

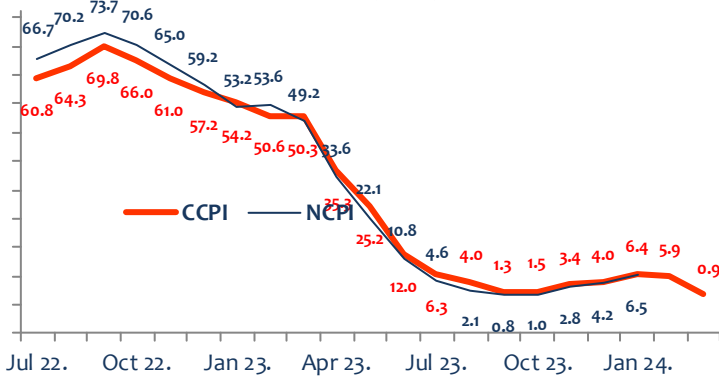
Exchange Rates

Currency	01st Apr		28th Mar	
	Buying	Selling	Buying	Selling
Dollar (USA)	295.58	305.10	295.54	305.33
Pound (UK)	371.57	386.95	371.85	387.24
Euro (EU)	317.12	330.87	318.32	332.11
Dollar (Australia)	190.74	201.00	191.33	201.50
Dollar (Canada)	217.01	226.97	216.40	226.35
Franc (Switzerland)	324.80	341.34	324.10	340.61
Renminbi (China)	40.04	42.73	40.08	42.77
Yen (Japan)	1.9448	2.0266	1.9451	2.0278
Dollar (Singapore)	217.26	227.91	217.57	228.23

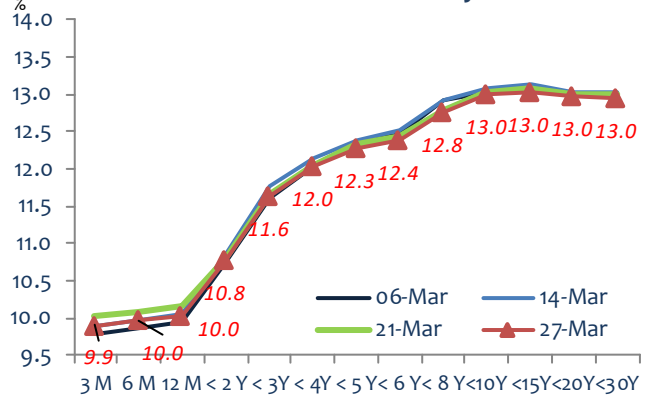
Indicative Rates

Currency	01st Apr	28th Mar
	Ind: Value	Ind: Value
Yuan (Offshore)	41.425	41.557
Rupee (India)	3.605	3.615
Won (Korean)	0.223	0.224
Dinar (Kuwait)	976.429	979.173
Ringgit (Malay)	63.599	63.635
Rial (Oman)	780.311	782.295
Riyal (Qatar)	81.525	82.584
Riyal (KSA)	80.095	80.303
Dirham (UAE)	81.802	82.015

Inflation - Colombo Consumers' Price Index (CCPI) & National Consumer Price Index (NCPI)



Government Securities - Secondary Market Yield

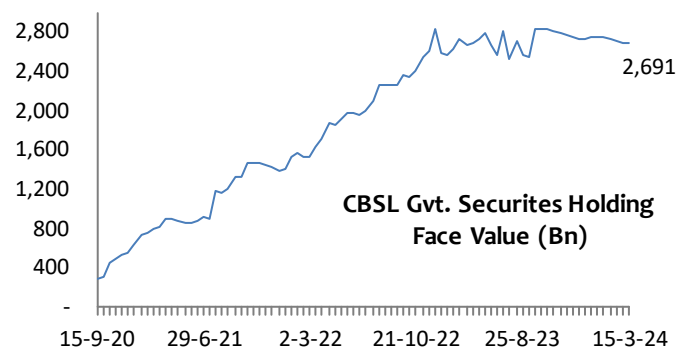
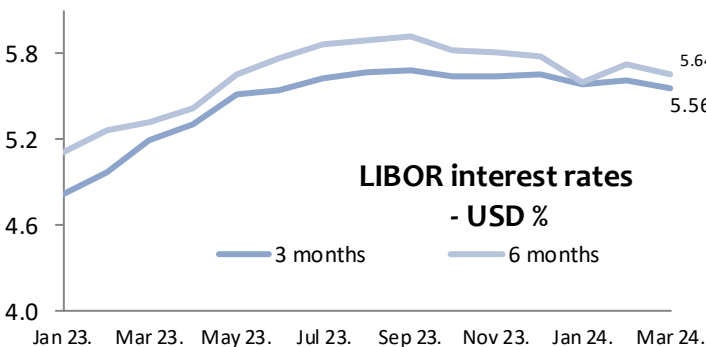


Central Bank's Policy Rates

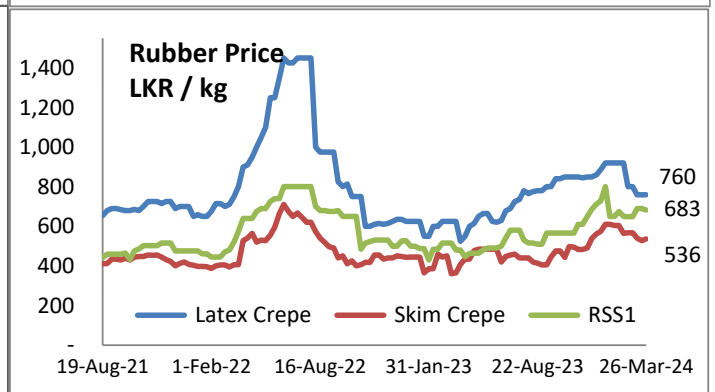
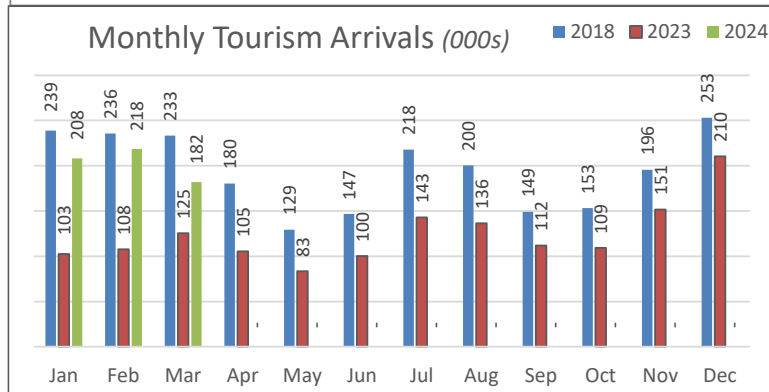
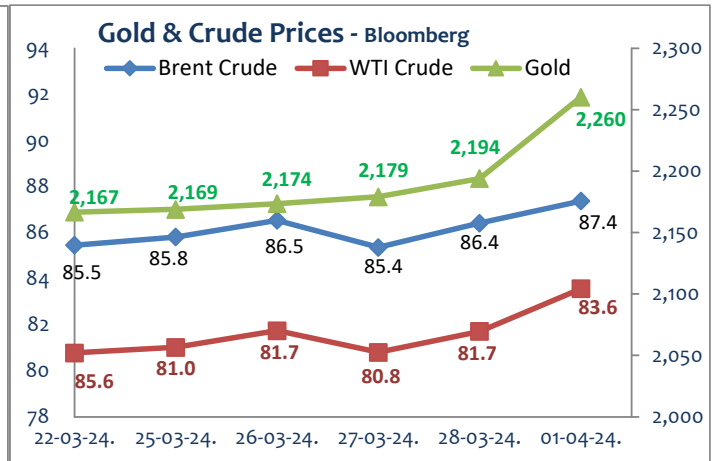
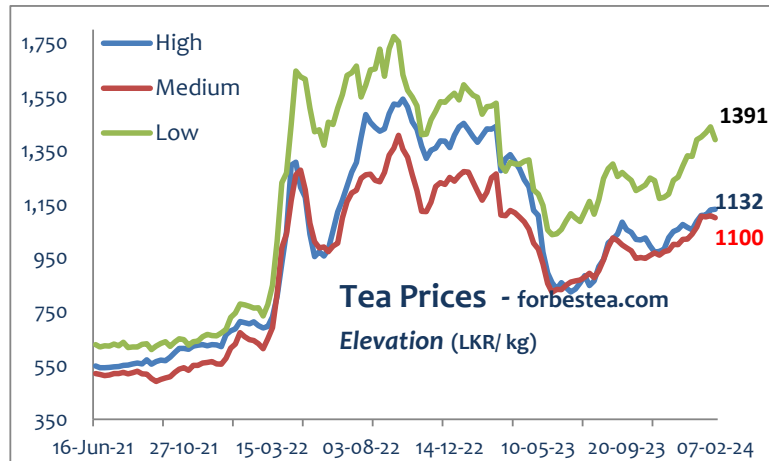
Description	26-03-2024.	23-01-2024.	24-11-2023.	05-10-2023.	09-08-2023.	06-07-2023.	01-06-2023.
Standing Deposit Facility (SDF)	8.50%	9.00%	9.00%	10.00%	11.00%	11.00%	13.00%
Standing Lending Facility (SLF)	9.50%	10.00%	10.00%	11.00%	12.00%	12.00%	14.00%
Statutory Reserve Ratio (SRR)	2.00%	2.00%	2.00%	2.00%	2.00%	4.00%	4.00%

Treasury Bill Issuance

	27.03.2024	20.03.2024	13.03.2024	06.03.2024	28.02.2024	21.02.2024	14.02.2024	07.02.2024
91 Days %	10.07	10.23	10.10	9.96	9.87	9.78	9.79	10.96
182 Days %	10.23	10.35	10.21	10.08	9.95	9.86	9.86	11.07
364 Days %	10.28	10.38	10.24	10.14	10.05	10.02	10.02	10.73
Acceptance -Phase I	80Bn	139.8Bn	167Bn	160Bn	104Bn	104Bn	135Bn	145Bn
Acceptance -Phase II	8.0Bn	6.1Bn	168.4Bn	2.6Bn	2.0Bn	3.1Bn	33.8Bn	36.3Bn



Economic Indicators & Other Statistics



Local News

Construction sector activities gather momentum as infrastructure projects return

Daily Mirror - The construction sector, which picked up at the start of the year, is seen gathering pace as the Purchasing Manager's Index (PMI) compiled only for the sector showed continued expansion in February. The widely watched index which provides a close barometer of how vibrant the construction sector activities are, recorded 57.1 index points for February, up from 52.9 index points in January. The respondents who participated in the monthly survey conducted by the Central Bank had attributed this to the current conducive business environment and the resumption of several temporarily suspended projects. They in particular singled out the large scale infrastructure projects, particularly the ones which are foreign funded are now coming for bidding at the tenders.

Sri Lanka optimistic about a positive outcome with bondholders: Minister

ECONOMYNEXT – Sri Lanka is engaging with bondholders and is optimistic about a positive outcome, while efforts were underway to finalize in-principal deals with official creditors, State Minister for Finance Shehan Semasinghe said. Sri Lanka was expected to meet International Monetary Fund debt restructuring requirements in the second quarter for a review to be passed by the lender's board, he said. President Ranil Wickremesinghe has said he expected debt restructuring to be wrapped up by June–July before any elections are conducted. Discussions with bondholders and commercial creditors are going on, and advisors are engaging he said. China has also assured that they will work with other creditors and the IMF to support Sri Lanka's debt restructuring efforts and economic recovery, he said. Reforms under an IMF program, and credible economic management and decision-making by President Ranil Wickremesinghe, are bearing fruit, he said.

Litro Gas prices reduced

Ada Derana - The price of Litro domestic LP gas cylinders have been slashed with effect from today (April 01), the Chairman of Litro Gas Muditha Peiris announced. Accordingly, the price of the 12.5 kg cylinder has been reduced by Rs. 135 to Rs. 4,115 while the price of the 05 kg cylinder has been reduced by Rs. 55 to Rs. 1,652. Meanwhile, the price of the 2.3 kg cylinder has been reduced by Rs. 23 with the new price of Rs. 772.

Sri Lanka current account in US\$1.6bn surplus in 2023

ECONOMYNEXT – Sri Lanka has recorded a surplus of 1,559 million dollars in the external current account by end 2023, official data show, amid reserve collections by the central bank and private banks repaying debt. In the December 2023 quarter Sri Lanka recorded a current account surplus of 237 million US dollars. Sri Lanka started to record a current account surplus from the third quarter of 2022, with monetary stability also being restored around the same time and the overall balance of payments also going into surplus with deflationary monetary policy. The current account surplus is roughly the mirror image of the financial (and capital) accounts, subject to errors and omissions (a balancing item). The financial account was about 1.3 billion US dollars in deficit in 2024 before errors and omissions.

Prime rate falls below 11.0%, lowest since CB's jumbo policy rate hike in 2022

Daily Mirror - In a sign of further declining market lending rates, the average prime rate fell by a further 35 basis points last week bringing the benchmark rate to settle below 11.0 percent, lowest since April 2022 when the Central Bank raised policy rates by a bumper 700 basis points to rein in the runaway inflation at the time. According to the latest data, the prime rate, the benchmark lending rate used by the licensed commercial banks to price the loans to their most prime clients for loans, settled at 10.69 percent for less than three months, compared to 11.04 percent a week ago. It appears that the banks have received the message loud and clear that they are going to go in to a lower interest rates era once again and thus need to step up their game. The Central Bank repeatedly said including in their latest policy statement that they want the banks to swiftly pass down the benefit of the easing monetary policy to the borrowers.

Global News

China shares soar, Japan slides as yen pinned near intervention zone

Reuters - Chinese shares led a rally around most of Asia on Monday amid a broadly optimistic global economic backdrop, but Japanese shares tumbled with the yen pinned near levels that have traders on guard for a currency intervention.

U.S. stock futures also pointed firmly higher following a market holiday on Friday, when the Federal Reserve released data showing their preferred inflation measure indicated price pressures are further easing, bolstering bets for a June interest rate cut.

Expectations for easier U.S. monetary policy lifted gold to a fresh record high, while crude oil remained firm amid a tighter supply-demand picture, with China's economy improving and expectations of OPEC+ output cuts.

Mainland Chinese blue chips rallied 1.39% as of 0600 GMT, leading regional markets higher after a private survey showed the country's manufacturing activity expanded at the fastest pace in 13 months in March, reinforcing official data on the weekend that showed the first expansion in six months in March.

However, Japan's Nikkei tumbled 1.4% as of the close, weighed down by worries about yen-buying intervention that would hurt exporter profit outlooks and returns for foreign investors.

A corporate survey showing a worsening mood among big manufacturers gave another reason to sell stocks on the first day of Japan's new fiscal year, with analysts saying investors took the opportunity to book profits with the Nikkei still close to the record peak reached just over a week ago.

U.S. S&P 500 futures added 0.33% and tech-focused Nasdaq futures gained 0.54%.

Many markets are closed on Monday for Easter holidays, including Australia and Hong Kong in Asia, and the United Kingdom and Germany.

Brent crude rose 29 cents, or 0.3%, to \$87.29 a barrel after rising 2.4% last week. U.S. West Texas Intermediate crude was at \$83.48 a barrel, up 31 cents, or 0.4%, following a 3.2% gain last week.

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