

November 21, 2023

## "Losses extend over looming uncertainties"

Bourse closed recording the 6th consecutive loss over sidelined participation as ambiguity rose among investors on the macro front with concerns spanning on the IMF board level approval for the second tranche and the External Debt Restructuring. Although index remained on an upscale till mid-day, gradually it tailed low on the back of heightened selling on MELS, EXPO and LIOC and closed at 10,508 losing 39 points. Meanwhile, institutional interest clustered on big caps such as HAYL, SAMP, LIOC and TJL. Investor sentiment remained fairly positive on Banking counters following healthy quarter performance while Hotel sector counters gathered mild interest amid the pick up in tourist arrivals. Turnover inched 10% below the monthly average (LKR 1.0Bn) and recorded at LKR 912.5Mn dominated by a joint contribution of 52% stemming from the Capital Goods (24%), Banking (14%) and Consumer Durables (14%) sectors. Off-board transactions comprised 32% of the overall turnover led by CFLB and LIOC. Moreover, Foreign participation too slacked with investors remaining net sellers for the sixth straight day.

