

## "Secondary market holds breath, awaiting tomorrow's monetary policy verdict"

The secondary market experienced a subdued tone prevailing throughout the day, marked by minimal trading volumes as investors remained on the sidelines, awaiting tomorrow's monetary policy review. However, amid this subdued atmosphere, notable activity was observed in 4Yr bonds, including the 15.03.28 and 15.12.28 maturities, which witnessed trades at rates of 12.08% and 12.12%, respectively. Moreover, on Friday, CBSL announced a bill auction worth LKR 80.0Bn, scheduled on the 27th of March 2024, out of which LKR 20.0Bn is to be raised from the 91-day maturity, LKR 30.0Bn is expected to be raised from the 182-day maturity, whilst another LKR 30.0Bn is to be raised from the 364-day maturity. Meanwhile, overnight liquidity continued to observe swings between positive and negative since the beginning of this year and recorded a negative liquidity position of LKR 16.8Bn today whilst CBSL holdings continued to remain stagnant at LKR 2,691.3Bn since last week. Furthermore, AWPR continued its downtrend as it shed 31bps, closing at 11.04% for the week ending 22nd Mar 2024. Moreover, foreign holdings in government securities decreased by 2.6%WoW and registered at LKR 86.4Bn as of 21st Mar 2024. On the external front, the LKR appreciated against the USD during the day, closing at LKR 303.5, compared to last week's closing rate of LKR 303.9.







96,029

88,690

86,356





93,590

99,164







hange (bps)

+13

+22

+20

+15

-5

-5

-15

-25

-58

-55

-25

-25

N/A

N/A

N/A