EQUITY WATCH

DAILY

April 9, 2024

## "Bulls on the lead despite mixed sentiment"

Bourse remained firmly in the green zone, reflecting its bullish streak for the 10th consecutive session, driven by an increase in retail participation, with trades reaching 19,000 during the day. Initially, mixed sentiment prevailed, leading to profit booking in selected banking stocks. However, as the day progressed, bullish momentum strengthened supported by active buying in banks and heavyweight index stocks, resulting in 42 points gain to close at 11,962. Moreover, investor interest centered on CALT throughout the day, fueled by anticipation of a potential dividend announcement. Turnover remained healthy at LKR 2.6Bn, a 16% increase compared to the monthly average, driven by high net worth and institutional investors participating in off-board transactions, contributing 20% to total turnover. Both banking and consumer durables sectors collectively accounted for 40% of turnover, signaling positive market rebound and investor confidence.

