

## April 23, 2025 "Trading slumbers as the Bourse barely stirs"

The Colombo Bourse closed in the red today, weighed down by heightened volatility and subdued investor sentiment. The ASPI opened strong, climbing at the outset, but eventually dipped to close at 15,544, registering a modest 12 point decline. In contrast, the S&P SL20 edged up by 0.05%, finishing the day in positive territory. LION, MELS, CFIN, NTB, and DFCC were the top draggers on the index. Investor participation was notably muted, with both retail and HNW investors largely inactive. Sentiment remained particularly weak towards the Banking sector, while the Diversified Financials and Food, Beverage & Tobacco sectors drew some attention ahead of the upcoming earnings season. The turnover stood at LKR 1.1Bn, marking a 57.4% decrease from the monthly average of LKR 2.6Bn. The topmost contributor to the turnover was the Food, Beverage & Tobacco sector, which constituted a 37% share, followed by the Diversified Financials sector at 19% and the Capital Goods Sector at 18%. Foreign investors remained net sellers, with a net outflow of LKR 32.0Mn.

