

## "Positive streak holds firm amid turbulent trading"

The Colombo Stock Exchange witnessed increased volatility as investors eagerly await the verdict on U.S. reciprocal tariffs, set to be announced tomorrow. The ASPI registered a 76 point gain to close at 19,642. The index experienced high volatility in the early hours, briefly dipping into negative territory as well, after which a gradual rebound was staged lifting the index higher by the close. Key positive contributors for the day were HAYL, DFCC, BIL, NDB and COCR. Today's session was supported primarily by HNW investors followed by reasonable involvement from the retail segment as well. Positive sentiment prevailed towards mid cap banks such as UBC, PABC, NDB and DFCC as quarterly results begin to roll in. Investors also diverted notable focus towards selective Plantation sector counters and Materials sector companies such as ACL, in the wake of reduced copper prices. Daily turnover amounted to LKR 5.7Bn, a 22% decrease compared to the monthly average of LKR 7.2Bn. The Banking sector dominated turnover, contributing 27%, followed by the Capital Goods sector at 24% and the Food, Beverage and Tobacco sector at 16%. Foreign investors remained net sellers with a net outflow of LKR 134.0Mn.

