

# DAILY STOCK MARKET HIGHLIGHTS

Thursday, 28 February 2019



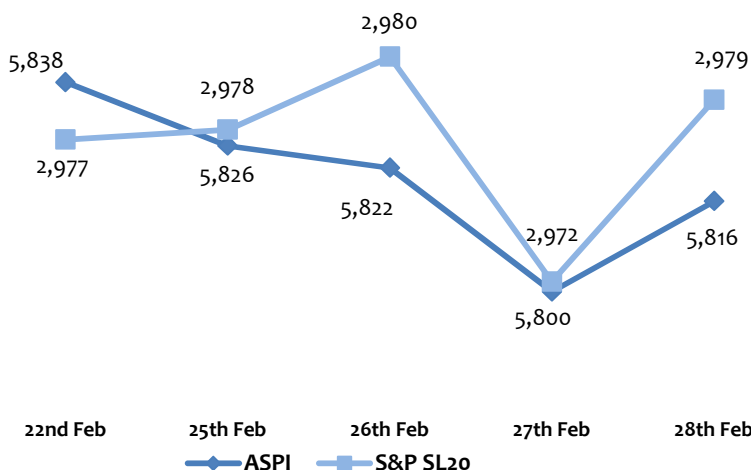
**ASHA PHILLIP  
SECURITIES LTD**

Sri Lanka

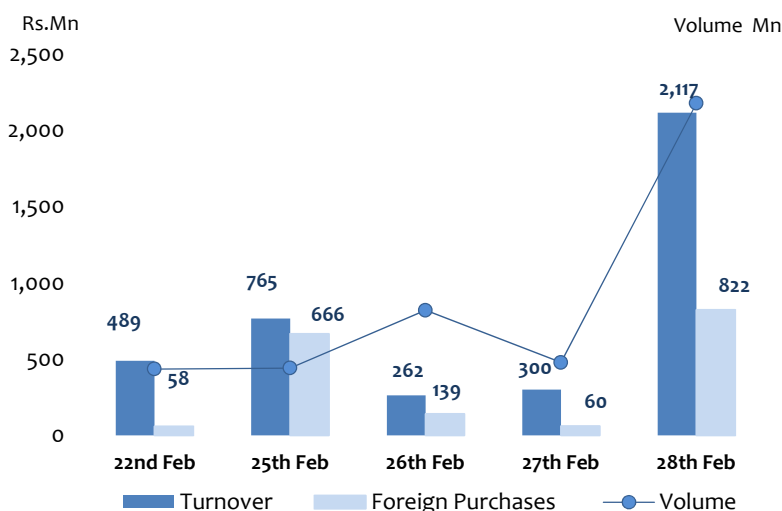
## Daily Market Statistics

Index	28th Feb	27th Feb	Change	% Change
ASPI	5,816.29	5,799.98	↑ 16.31	↑ 0.28%
S&P SL20	2,978.91	2,972.35	↑ 6.56	↑ 0.22%
Market Stats (LKR, Mn)		28th Feb	27th Feb	% Change
Turnover		2,116.62	300.30	↑ 604.8%
Domestic Purchases		1,294.73	240.68	↑ 437.9%
Domestic Sales		1,833.61	163.93	↑ 1018.5%
Foreign Purchases		821.88	59.62	↑ 1278.7%
Foreign Sales		283.01	136.37	↑ 107.5%
Share Volume		61.01	13.38	↑ 356.1%
Market capitalization (Bn)		2,718.58	2,710.96	↑ 0.28%
PER		9.10	9.07	↑ 0.33%
PBV		1.14	1.14	↓ 0.00%

## Market Indices



## Turnover, Volume and Foreign Purchase



## Performance of the Market

- Bourse was flooded with off board deals (16 counters, 44% of turnover), majority of them were among local investors; foreign investor interest on large caps helped the indices to turn positive after 8 consecutive negative closures.
- Benchmark index ASPI moved between 5,795.23-5,822.51 points and settled the day at 5,816.29 with a gain of 16.31 points (+0.28%).
- Major contributors for the movement in ASPI were **CTC (+7.7)**, **JKH (+4.2)**, **SLTL (+3.9)**, **DIAL (+3.5)**, **DIST (+3)**, **COMB (-3)**, **ASIR (-2.9)**, **CTCE (-2.8)**, **DFCC (-2)** & **UAL (-1.4)**
- S&P SL20 index followed the same trend, and settled the day at 2,978.91 with a gain of 6.56 points (+0.22%).
- The day's turnover was recorded as LKR 2,116.62Mn, up by 605% from its previously recorded LKR 300.3Mn. Foreign investors turned net buyers for the day.
- The total market capitalization stood at LKR 2.72Tn, indicating an YTD loss of 4.26%.
- The market PER & PBV were at 9.1x & 1.14x respectively.

## Top Contributors – Turnover

1. John Keells Holdings PLC (JKH) contributed 44% (925.16Mn) of the turnover. JKH traded between LKR 158.00 & LKR 159.50 and settled the day LKR 159.50 with a gain of LKR 1.50 (+0.95%); about 13% (119.03Mn) of its turnover was contributed through an off board trade of 0.79Mn shares negotiated at the price of LKR 150.10
2. Dialog Axiata PLC (DIAL) had contributed LKR 170.65Mn. DIAL traded between LKR 9.50 & LKR 9.80 and settled the day LKR 9.70 with a gain of LKR 0.20 (+2.11%); about 80% (136.42Mn) of its turnover was contributed through an off board trade of 14.99Mn shares negotiated at the price of LKR 9.10
3. Sampath Bank PLC (SAMP) contributed LKR 161.23Mn. SAMP traded between LKR 229 & LKR 232 and settled the day LKR 231.90 with a gain of LKR 2.80 (+1.22%); about 91% (147.01Mn) of its turnover was contributed through an off board trade of 0.68Mn shares negotiated at the price of LKR 217.70

**Top contributors - Traded Volume**

1. Dialog Axiata PLC traded a total of 18.55Mn shares.
2. Expolanka Holdings PLC (7.78Mn shares)
3. Access Engineering PLC (7.12Mn shares).

**Sectorial Overview**

1. Diversified Holdings (DIV) sector stood on top providing LKR 1,069.43Mn capturing 51% of the total turnover.
2. Bank Finance & Insurance (BFI) sector provided LKR 505.40Mn to the daily aggregated turnover.
3. Telecommunications (TLE) sector provided LKR 170.69Mn

**Daily Foreign Transactions**

**Net Foreign Purchases**

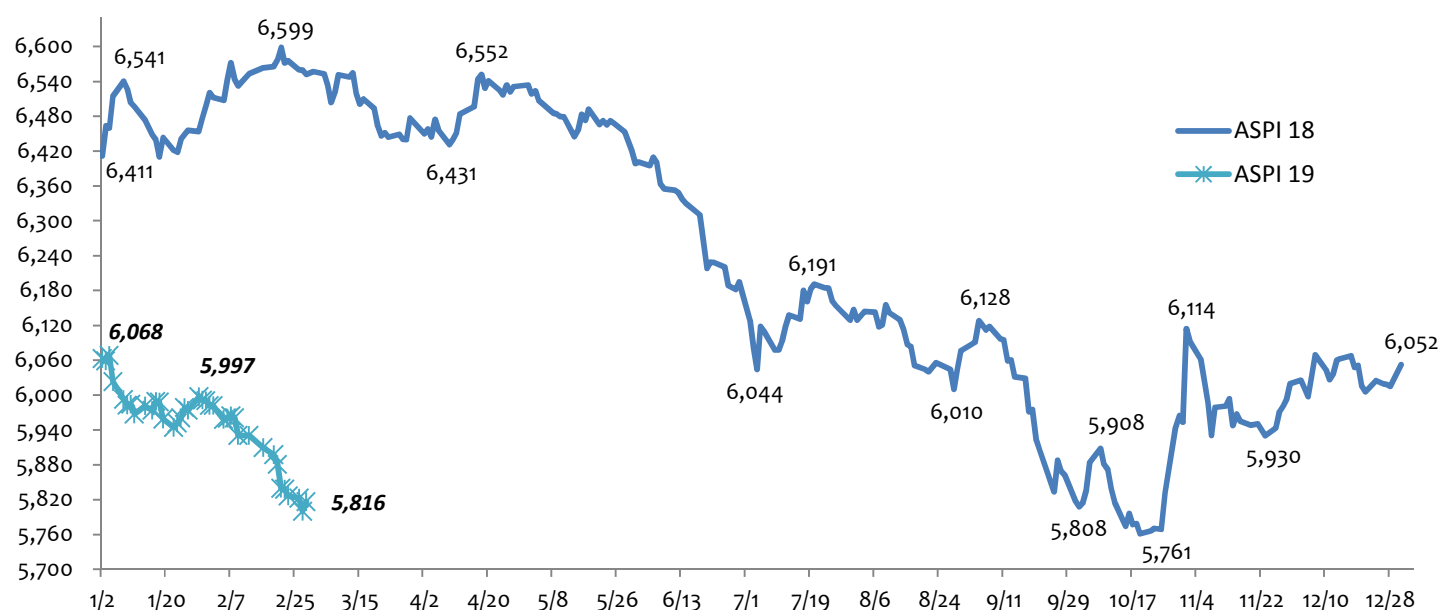
Company Name	Avg Price	Net change in Qty	Net Foreign Inflow
JKH	159.65	3,152,251	503,256,872
UNION ASSURANCE (+)	320.00	130,685	41,819,200
LION BREWERY	565.00	44,463	25,121,595
SAMPATH (+)	229.50	30,873	7,085,354
CEYLON TOBACCO (+)	1,419.10	1,241	1,761,103
LB FINANCE	123.00	4,000	492,000
HEMAS HOLDINGS	81.0	5,000	405,000
RENUKA HOLDINGS	16.00	22,295	356,720
L O L C HOLDINGS	89.00	3,930	349,770
MERCHANT BANK (+)	9.60	25,000	240,000

**Net Foreign Sales**

Company Name	Avg Price	Net change in Qty	Net Foreign Outflow
COMMERCIAL BANK (+)	105.50	(303,000)	(31,966,500)
DIALOG (+)	9.70	(500,000)	(4,850,000)
SEYLAN BANK[X.0000] (+)	38.50	(74,566)	(2,870,791)
HNB ASSURANCE (+)	127.30	(13,600)	(1,731,280)
UNION BANK (+)	11.00	(48,555)	(534,105)
LANKA WALLTILE	59.00	(5,737)	(338,483)
ROYAL CERAMIC	66.00	(1,573)	(103,818)
LEE HEDGES	75.00	(100)	(7,500)

- **Aggregate foreign buying** for the day totaled up to **LKR 821.88Mn**.
- **Foreign sales** for the day amounted to **LKR 283.01Mn**.
- **Net foreign inflow** for the day was **LKR 538.87Mn**, **YTD net foreign outflow** presently stands at **LKR 4.95Bn**.
- **JKH** notched the “Top Net Purchasers” slot with a net inflow of **LKR 503.26Mn** whilst **COMB** notched the “Top net Sellers” slot with a net outflow of **LKR 31.97Mn**.

**Year-to-Date ASPI Movement - 2018 & 2019**



## Key Announcements

- **AIA Insurance Lanka PLC** ("CTCE") announced that it intends to **delist the Company's shares** from the official list of CSE, subject to shareholder and regulatory approval. An **Extraordinary General Meeting** ("EGM") on this matter **will be held on 27 March 2019**. The proposed delisting of the Company's shares will be based on a **revised and final offer** made by AIA Company Limited of Hong Kong of **LKR 2,500/- per share**.
- CSE said, Trading of **City Housing & Real Estate Co. PLC** (CHOU), which is on the Watch List, **will be suspended with effect from 11th March 2019** in terms of Rule 7.5 (d) (I) (9) of the CSE Listing Rules, unless the company rectifies the non-compliance mentioned below on or before 9<sup>th</sup> March 2019.  
(Note: *Auditors expressed a qualified opinion in the 31<sup>st</sup> march 2018 audited financial statements of CHOU, due to lack of supporting documents on several assets and liabilities of the company*)
- **Nations Trust Bank PLC's** (NTB) board has resolved to issue 35Mn **Listed Rated Unsecured Subordinated Redeemable Debentures** with a non-viability convertible feature as per BASEL III requirements at an issue price of LKR 100/- subject to necessary regulatory and other approvals. The Bank hopes to have the aforesaid Debentures quoted on the Colombo Stock Exchange.
- **Resus Energy PLC** (HPWR) has **amalgamated with its wholly owned subsidiaries**, Giddawa Hydro Power (Private) Limited, Upper Agra Oya Hydro Power (Private) Limited and Okanda Power Grid (Private) Limited. Registrar General of Companies has issued a certificate of amalgamation dated 27<sup>th</sup> February 2019 to this effect.

## Companies under Trading Suspension

Company	MIRA	CIFL	ESL	PCH	PCP	SING	CIFL	SFS	
From	26-Feb-15	23-Nov-17	5-Jan-16	2-Apr-18			23-Nov-17	2-July 18.	
Reason	SEC Directive	status	Weak position	as per CSE Listing Rules			CBSL	Listing Rules	
Company	LCEM	MEL	HUEJ	AINV	CFT	LLMP	PCHH	TFC	KAPI
From	7-Sep 18.	25-Sep 18.	26-Nov-18.	10-12-2018.			18-Feb-19.	14-Feb-19.	
Reason	AQO	AQO	***	Non-submission of Annual Reports			AQO	For clarification	

\*\*\*Non-submission of Interim Financial Statements 30th Jun 2018

Auditor's Qualified Opinion (AQO)

## Companies on WATCH LIST

Non Submission of Annual Reports, Financial Statements									Default Board
MIRA	LCEM	CIFL	PCH	PCP	SING	HDEV	LLMP	PCHH	SFS
SINH	LLMP	CFT	SFL						
Qualified Opinion in the Independent Auditor's Report									
AINV	ESL	EAST	MEL	JANA	HVA	PMB	MBSL	ALHP	TFC
SIRA	MSL	CHOU							
Non-compliance of CSE Listing Rules, minimum public holding & Corporate Governance									
HUEJ	LOFC	ACAP	ARPI	ASPH	BBH	COMD	CPRT	DIST	CLC
ASPM	GOOD	HPFL	INDO	KAPI	LAMB	MADU	MORI	OFEQ	NIFL
PARA	PDL	SELI	MERC	SHAL	LHCL	SLND	AFSL	AMCL	ODEL
SFCL	TAP	MERC	TFIL						

### Annual general Meetings (AGMs)

Company	Date	Company	Date
COMB	28-Mar-19	UBC	28-Mar-19
DFCC	28-Mar-19	SEYB	28-Mar-19
HASU	28-Mar-19	HNB	29-Mar-19

### EGMs

Company	Date	Company	Date
PABC	29-Mar-19	BIL	8-Mar-19
SAMP	29-Mar-19	HDFC	14-Mar-19
SEYB	7-Mar-19		
FLCH	8-Mar-19		

## Key Announcements

### Cash Dividends

CODE	DIVIDEND PER SHARE (LKR)	TYPE	XD DATE	PAYMENT DATE	CODE	DIVIDEND PER SHARE (LKR)	TYPE	XD DATE	PAYMENT DATE
TYRE	2.50	2nd Interim	21.Feb.2019	05.Mar.2019	SEYB	0.50	Final	29.Mar.2019	08.Apr.2019
KFP	4.00	Interim	22.Feb.2019	06.Mar.2019	HASU	7.00	Final	29.Mar.2019	08.Apr.2019
LLUB	1.50	4th Interim	28.Feb.2019	12.Mar.2019	CSD	1.00	First & Final	29.Mar.2019	08.Apr.2019
DFCC	3.50	First & Final	28.Feb.2019	12.Mar.2019	SLTL	1.06	First & Final	29.Mar.2019	08.Apr.2019
CONN	2.50	2nd Interim	05.Mar.2019	13.Mar.2019	OSEA	1.25	First & Final	01.Apr.2019	09.Apr.2019
NEST	25.00	Interim	05.Mar.2019	14.Mar.2019	SAMP	5.00	First & Final	01.Apr.2019	09.Apr.2019
CCS	7.00	Interim	06.Mar.2019	15.Mar.2019	HNB	3.50	Final	01.Apr.2019	09.Apr.2019
NDB	1.50	First & Final	06.Mar.2019	15.Mar.2019	NEST	25.00	Final	09.May.2019	17.May.2019
DOCK	1.50	First & Final	08.Mar.2019	19.Mar.2019	COMD	3.50	Final	16.May.2019	27.May.2019
AEL	0.25	2nd Interim	07.Mar.2019	18.Mar.2019	CTC	15.77	Final	Dates to be notified	
ASIY	0.15	Interim	11.Mar.2019	21.Mar.2019	DIAL	0.37	Final	Dates to be notified	
NEH	30.00	Interim	12.Mar.2019	22.Mar.2019	PINS	1.10	2nd Interim	Dates to be notified	
CTCE	25.00	First & Final	28.Mar.2019	05.Apr.2019					

### Scrip Dividends

CODE	CMP	Cash Value	Propotion : 1 Voting for	Propotion : 1 Non-Voting for	XD DATE	PAYMENT DATE
NDB	107.50	5.87	18.316095000	na	06.Mar.19	15.Mar.19
HHL	84.00	3.08	27.260781592	na	07.Mar.19	Date to be notified
COMB	106.6, 90.0	1.72	62.034884700	52.383720827	29.Mar.19	Date to be notified
SEYB	70.00, 43.00	1.72	40.8720928942	25.5813924919	29.Mar.19	08.Apr.19
HNB	200, 157	3.00	67.1096360444	52.1594765342	01.Apr.19	09.Apr.19
SAMP	240.00	9.87	24.322912170	na	01.Apr.19	09.Apr.19
NTB	90.0, 75.0	1.91	46.100184870	42.006938710		Date to be notified

### Amalgamation [A]

Transferee	Transferor	Proportion	Effective Date
[A] Browns investments PLC (BIL)	Browns Capital PLC (FLCH)	2 BIL for every 1 FLCH	29 Mar 19.

### Mandatory Offer

Type	Offeror	Offeree	Offer Closing	Offer Price per Share
Serenity Lake Leisure (Private) Limited	Hunas Falls Hotels PLC (HUNA)	To be notified	LKR 187.00	

### Sub-Division of Shares

Company	Proportion	EGM & Entitlement Date	Dealings Suspension	Trading start
On'ally Holdings PLC (ONAL)	1 for 5		To be notified	

### Rights Issues

T = Tranche

Company,	Issue Price	Issue Value	Proportion	XR Date	Letter Dispatch	Trading of Rights	Acceptance
Asia Asset Finance (AAF) T-1 @ LKR 10.0	LKR 252Mn	03 for 10	14 Feb 2019.	20 Feb 2019.	26 Feb - 06 Mar.	07 Mar 19.	
Asia Asset Finance (AAF) T-2 @ LKR 10.0	LKR 218Mn	02 for 10	3 Apr 2019.	8 Apr 2019.	12 Apr - 23 Apr.	24 Apr 19.	
Dialog finance PLC (CALF) @ LKR 40.00	LKR 764Mn	32 for 121	18 Mar 2019.	25 Mar 2019.	29 Mar - 5 Apr.	08 Apr 19.	
People's Merchant Finance (PMB) LKR 9.50	LKR 1,202Mn	3 for 2	05 Apr 2019.	10 Apr 2019.	17 Apr - 25 Apr.	26 Apr 19.	

### Rights Issues with pending dates

Company,	Issue Price	Proportion	Company,	Issue Price	Proportion
Agalawatte Plantations (AGAL)	LKR 15.3	21 for 4	Adam Investments PLC (AINV)	LKR 1.00	01 for 01
Adam Capital PLC (PCHH)	LKR 1.50	02 for 01	Blue Diamonds Jewellery (BLUE)	LKR 1.00	01 for 04
DFCC Bank PLC (DFCC)	LKR 72.00	02 for 05	On'ally Holdings PLC (ONAL)	LKR 19.00	01 for 15

## Market Highlights & Statistics

### Market Capitalisation

Company Name	Symbol	Price	Issued Quantity	Market Capitalisation	(as a % of MKT Cap.)
CEYLON TOBACCO COMPANY PLC	CTC.No000	1,419.10	187,323,751	265,831,135,044	10.56
JOHN KEELLS HOLDINGS PLC	JKH.No000	159.50	1,318,167,659	210,247,741,611	8.35
COMMERCIAL BANK OF CEYLON PLC	COMB.No000	105.40	945,943,226	99,702,416,020	3.96
NESTLE LANKA PLC	NEST.No000	1,700.00	53,725,463	91,333,287,100	3.63
DIALOG AXIATA PLC	DIAL.No000	9.70	8,143,778,405	78,994,650,529	3.14
HATTON NATIONAL BANK PLC	HNB.No000	194.00	395,451,248	76,717,542,112	3.05
DISTILLERIES COMPANY	DIST.No000	15.50	4,600,000,000	71,300,000,000	2.83
SAMPATH BANK PLC	SAMP.No000	231.90	280,902,248	65,141,231,311	2.59
CEYLON COLD STORES PLC	CCS.No000	580.10	95,040,000	55,132,704,000	2.19
MELSTACORP PLC	MELS.No000	44.00	1,165,397,072	51,277,471,168	2.04

### Highest Volume

Company Name	Turnover (Rs)	Share Vol.
DIALOG AXIATA PLC	170,651,913	18,545,559
EXPOLANKA HOLDINGS PLC	31,144,970	7,782,964
ACCESS ENGINEERING PLC	93,385,290	7,120,384
TOKYO CEMENT COMPANY (LANKA) PLC [X]	65,927,255	6,935,635
JOHN KEELLS HOLDINGS PLC	925,161,985	5,850,209
SOFTLOGIC HOLDINGS PLC	39,950,319	2,335,922
MELSTACORP PLC	55,800,527	1,334,929
ACL CABLES PLC	36,691,400	1,128,966
BLUE DIAMONDS JEWELLERY WORLDWIDE [X]	215,587	1,077,928
NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT BANK PLC	118,963,237	1,072,638

### Highest Turnover

Company Name	Share Vol.	Turnover (LKR)
JOHN KEELLS HOLDINGS PLC	5,850,209	925,161,985
DIALOG AXIATA PLC	18,545,559	170,651,913
SAMPATH BANK PLC	737,214	161,229,412
NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT BANK PLC	1,072,638	118,963,237
ACCESS ENGINEERING PLC	7,120,384	93,385,290
TOKYO CEMENT COMPANY (LANKA) PLC [X]	6,935,635	65,927,255
MELSTACORP PLC	1,334,929	55,800,527
LION BREWERY CEYLON PLC	88,927	48,829,847
UNION ASSURANCE PLC	134,803	43,132,765
SOFTLOGIC HOLDINGS PLC	2,335,922	39,950,319

### Top Gainers

Company Name	VWA Days Close	Change (LKR)	Change %	Turnover (LKR)
TESS AGRO	0.50	0.10	25.00	60,000
SAMSON INTERNAT.	97.90	14.50	17.39	9,788
RENUKA FOODS [X]	12.50	1.40	12.61	16,499
BOGAWANTALAWA	11.20	1.00	9.80	1,131
MALWATTE [X]	4.80	0.40	9.09	480
LAXAPANA	11.30	0.90	8.65	1,130
BOGALA GRAPHITE	13.20	0.80	6.45	26,635
MARAWILA RESORTS	1.70	0.10	6.25	179
CITRUS HIKKADUWA	3.40	0.20	6.25	3,910
ELPITIYA	19.80	1.10	5.88	2,174

### Top Losers

Company Name	VWA Days Close	Change (LKR)	Change %	Turnover (LKR)
TESS AGRO [X]	0.40	(0.10)	(20.00)	24,402
SERENDIB LAND	1300.00	(181.70)	(12.26)	11,447,500
CITRUS LEISURE	3.80	(0.30)	(7.32)	22,297
SIGIRIYA VILLAGE	42.00	(3.00)	(6.67)	12,600
SIERRA CABL	1.70	(0.10)	(5.56)	1,332,664
ASIRI	21.30	(1.20)	(5.33)	717,748
HAPUGASTENNE	18.00	(1.00)	(5.26)	1,980
RAIGAM SALTERNS	1.90	(0.10)	(5.00)	620,070
RENUKA CAPITAL	3.80	(0.20)	(5.00)	78,132
CITY HOUSING	4.00	(0.20)	(4.76)	427,114

### Crossings

Symbol	Price	Trades	T.Volume	Turnover
SAMP.No000	217.70	1	675,271	147,006,497.00
DIAL.No000	9.10	1	14,991,350	136,421,285.00
JKH.No000	150.10	1	792,979	119,026,148.00
AEL.No000	13.10	1	6,960,957	91,188,537.00
TKYO.X0000	19.00	1	3,466,055	65,855,045.00
MELS.No000	41.80	1	1,334,704	55,790,627.00
LION.No000	565.00	2	88,926	48,829,267.00
SHL.No000	17.10	1	2,330,447	39,850,644.00

Symbol	Price	Trades	T.Volume	Turnover
HNB.No000	185.30	1	205,893	38,151,973.00
ACL.No000	32.50	1	1,128,964	36,691,330.00
EXPO.No000	4.00	1	7,716,250	30,865,000.00
RCL.No000	64.10	1	473,095	30,325,390.00
COMB.X0000	85.50	1	335,905	28,719,878.00
CFIN.No000	85.50	1	332,310	28,412,505.00
UAL.No000	320.00	1	70,177	22,456,640.00
JINS.No000	27.50	1	800,000	22,000,000.00



## Market Highlights & Statistics

### Sector Wise Summary

Sector	Price Index		Turnover			Sector	
	Today	Previous	Value (Rs)	Volume	Trades	P/E	PBV
BANK FINANCE AND INSURANCE	15,548.20	15,626.21	505,397,049	5,427,010	977	4.70	0.90
BEVERAGE FOOD AND TOBACCO	23,800.18	23,617.17	80,440,630	1,306,966	117	17.10	5.80
CONSTRUCTION AND ENGINEERING	1,390.58	1,382.71	93,662,400	7,164,914	75	15.40	0.50
CHEMICALS AND PHARMACEUTICALS	4,966.53	4,979.95	1,334,545	38,531	27	7.30	0.80
DIVERSIFIED HOLDINGS	1,524.07	1,516.64	1,069,427,623	17,828,609	487	10.70	0.90
FOOTWEAR AND TEXTILE	886.05	888.07	68,403	7,652	10	52.50	0.90
HOTELS AND TRAVELS	2,627.60	2,613.31	1,807,700	146,879	141	97.70	1.70
HEALTH CARE	806.17	821.79	735,009	33,696	29	16.40	1.70
INVESTMENT TRUSTS	8,892.36	8,914.43	2,243,685	121,998	56	0.00	0.40
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	24.41	24.41	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
LAND AND PROPERTY	538.57	540.64	13,215,923	213,712	169	5.40	0.60
MANUFACTURING	2,618.87	2,624.86	160,330,037	8,376,208	567	8.10	0.80
MOTORS	11,883.19	11,893.59	3,678,758	88,518	20	16.50	0.50
OIL PALMS	49,335.27	49,335.27	8,985	18	9	59.10	1.30
POWER & ENERGY	96.04	95.65	11,297,196	692,897	57	84.60	1.10
PLANTATIONS	743.08	735.79	448,807	47,314	61	24.90	0.70
STORES SUPPLIES	28,210.71	28,210.71	655	1	1	17.40	0.50
SERVICES	15,640.16	15,794.47	1,694,690	784,279	114	14.50	1.20
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	135.57	131.73	170,694,559	18,547,409	43	5.80	0.90
TRADING	10,890.35	10,887.71	132,724	186,987	24	50.00	0.60

### GICS Industry Group Statistics

Industry Group	Price Index		Turnover			Sector	
	Today	Previous	Value (Rs)	Volume	Trades	P/E	PBV
Automobiles & Components	451.74	455.76	6,744	200	5	4.60	0.60
Banks	778.51	781.38	396,644,736	3,144,443	380	5.30	0.70
Capital Goods	825.87	822.16	1,144,807,300	17,915,466	579	10.60	0.80
Commercial & Professional Services	821.04	817.12	24,507	742	8	0.00	1.00
Consumer Durables & Apparel	752.21	742.26	10,020,278	1,798,196	179	39.00	1.00
Consumer Services	243.47	239.53	1,807,700	146,879	141	103.50	1.60
Diversified Financials	746.80	747.58	41,570,028	1,777,071	483	5.20	1.00
Energy	530.57	518.99	10,567,579	542,766	32	0.00	0.80
Food & Staples Retailing	1,253.03	1,247.97	240,337	181,897	15	22.70	2.20
Food, Beverage & Tobacco	907.84	901.68	137,602,080	3,002,707	259	16.10	2.70
Health Care Equipment & Services	865.92	882.45	735,009	33,696	29	16.50	1.80
Household & Personal Products	931.21	931.21	0	0	0	12.70	1.70
Insurance	1,991.57	2,021.06	69,706,928	1,059,702	221	3.40	1.50
Materials	493.48	495.95	82,664,296	4,285,340	295	8.00	0.90
Pharmaceuticals, Biotechnology & Life Sciences	1,585.23	1,585.23	0	0	0	4.60	1.20
Real Estate	738.46	740.39	13,224,101	210,184	180	5.10	0.60
Retailing	735.30	736.34	3,953,649	177,601	57	16.80	0.60
Technology Hardware & Equipment	0.00	-	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Telecommunication Services	708.31	688.24	170,694,560	18,547,409	43	5.80	0.90
Transportation	719.44	719.44	31,144,970	7,782,964	15	7.90	0.70
Utilities	710.62	722.71	729,617	150,131	25	10.00	0.70

## Economic Indicators & Other Statistics

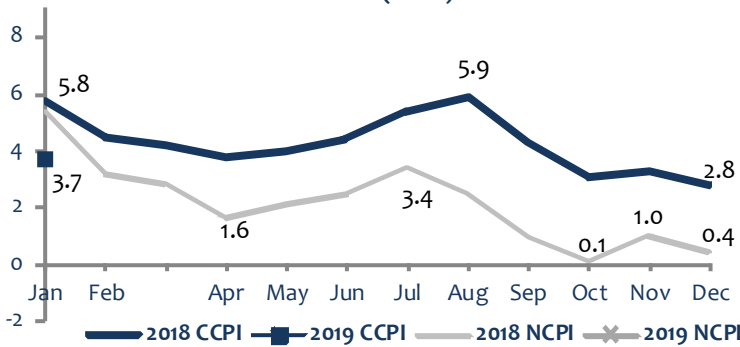
### Exchange Rates

Currency	28th Feb		27th Feb	
	Buying	Selling	Buying	Selling
Dollar (USA)	177.80	181.66	177.71	181.57
Pound (UK)	235.50	243.05	234.34	241.86
Euro (EU)	201.00	208.07	200.98	208.07
Dollar (Australia)	125.73	131.06	126.35	131.71
Dollar (Canada)	134.31	139.29	134.07	139.04
Franc (Switzerland)	176.75	183.01	176.54	182.81
Renminbi (China)	26.29	27.54	26.25	27.50
Yen (Japan)	1.5933	1.6522	1.5967	1.6556
Dollar (Singapore)	131.18	135.65	131.15	135.63

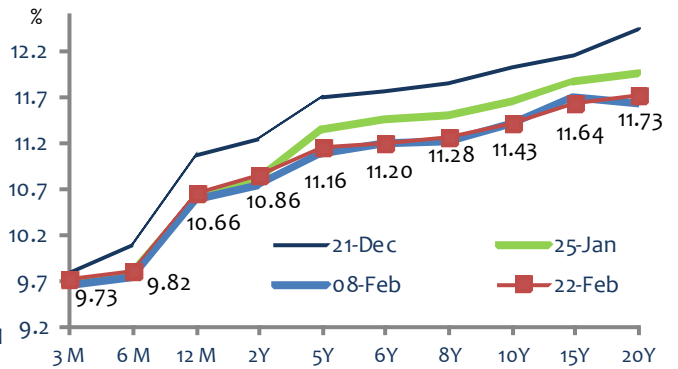
### Indicative Rates

Currency	28th Feb	27th Feb
	Ind: Value	Ind: Value
Yuan (Offshore)	26.9066	26.8865
Rupee (India)	2.5242	2.5321
Won (Korean)	0.1607	0.1609
Dinar (Kuwait)	592.1466	592.2849
Ringgit (Malay)	44.1605	44.2034
Rial (Oman)	467.0114	467.0599
Riyal (Qatar)	49.3853	49.3968
Riyal (KSA)	47.9420	47.9532
Dirham (UAE)	48.9496	48.9611

### Inflation Colombo Consumers' Price Index (CCPI) & National Consumer Price Index (NCPI)



### Government Securities - Secondary Market Yield



### Central Bank's Policy Rates

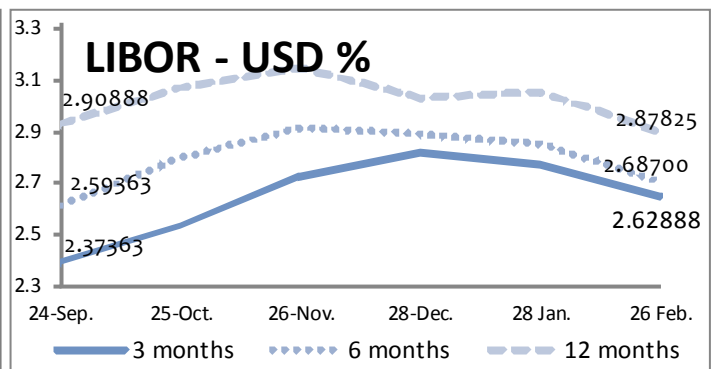
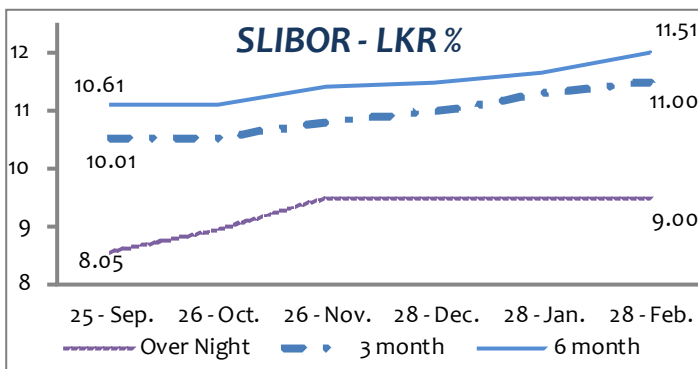
Description	Present	Previous		27.02.2019	20.02.2019	13.02.2019	06.02.2019
Standing Deposit Facility (SDF)	8.00%	8.00%	91 Days %	na	na	na	9.55
Standing Lending Facility (SLF)	9.00%	9.00%	182 Days %	na	9.87	na	9.87
Bank Rate	15.00%	15.00%	364 Days %	10.67	10.73	10.72	10.69
Statutory Reserve Ratio (SRR)	5.00%	6.00%	Amount	24Bn	22.5Bn	21Bn	24Bn

### Treasury Bill Issuance

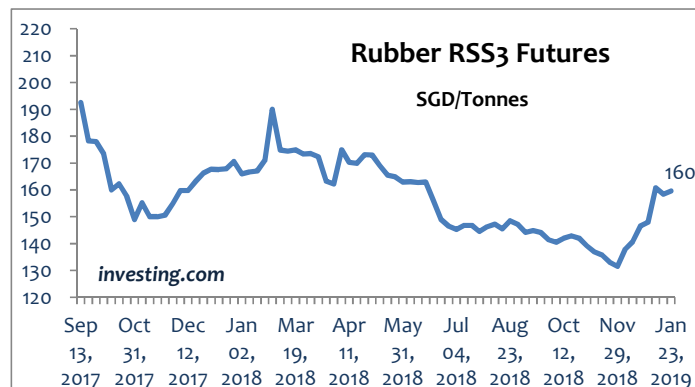
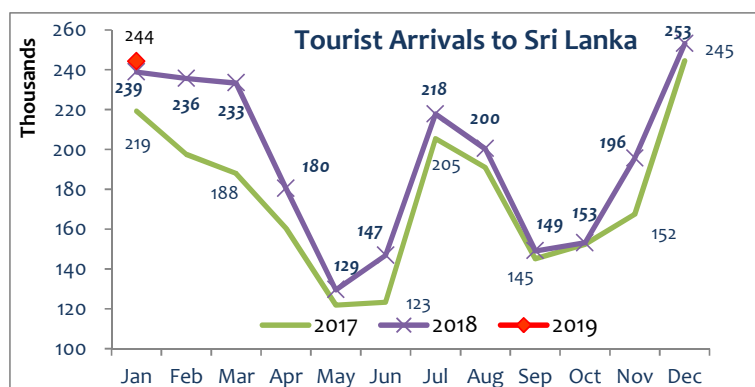
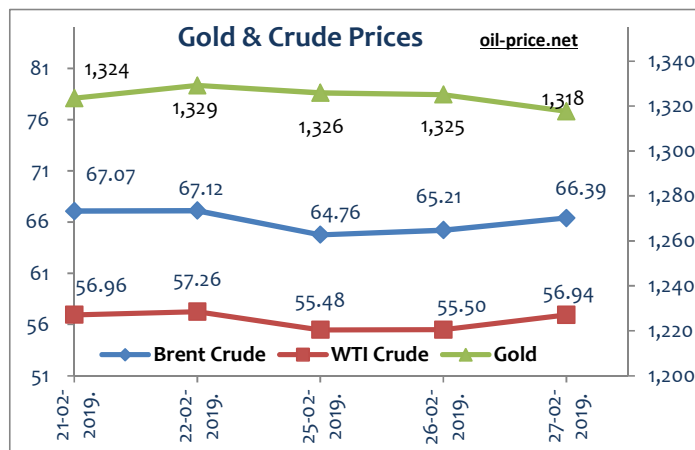
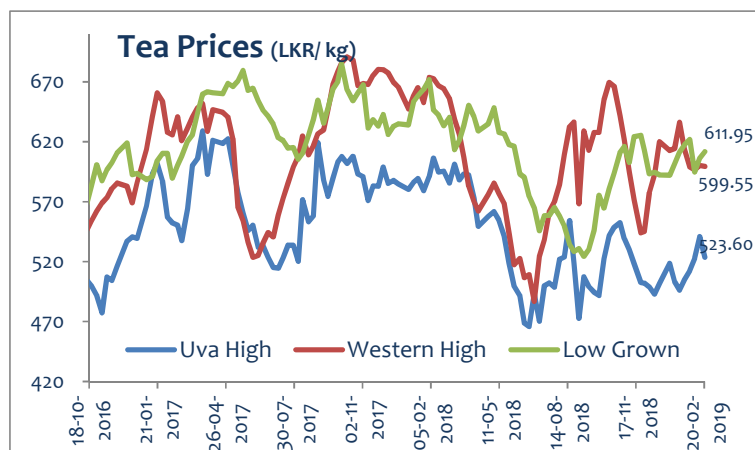
Date	05.02.2019	17.07.2016	11.01.2019	17.07.2016	17.09.2018	05.02.2019	11.01.2019	15.10.2018
Maturity	3 Years	4 Years	5 Years	6 Years	7 Years	8 Years	10 Years	15 Years
Current Yield	10.85	11.14	11.58	11.21	10.32	11.30	11.73	11.90
Previous Auction	13.12.2018	15.06.2017	15.10.2018	15.06.2017	16.07.2018	13.12.2018	15.08.2018	16.07.2018
Previous Yield	11.88	11.37	11.69	11.38	10.53	12.23	10.20	10.88

### Treasury Bond Issuance

Date	05.02.2019	17.07.2016	11.01.2019	17.07.2016	17.09.2018	05.02.2019	11.01.2019	15.10.2018
Maturity	3 Years	4 Years	5 Years	6 Years	7 Years	8 Years	10 Years	15 Years
Current Yield	10.85	11.14	11.58	11.21	10.32	11.30	11.73	11.90
Previous Auction	13.12.2018	15.06.2017	15.10.2018	15.06.2017	16.07.2018	13.12.2018	15.08.2018	16.07.2018
Previous Yield	11.88	11.37	11.69	11.38	10.53	12.23	10.20	10.88



## Economic Indicators & Other Statistics



## Local News

### NEC proposes regulatory authority for microfinance

The National Economic Council (NEC) is planning to establish a regulatory authority for the microfinance industry as a long term measure to tackle rampant indebtedness. NEC Secretary General Prof. Lalith Samarakoon told reporters yesterday that the measure was essential to address regulatory gaps in the present system that has resulted in over Rs. 160 billion in debt being accumulated through microfinance. He noted that even though efforts had been made to regulate microfinance companies, less than 46 of them had submitted applications to be registered but reports indicate thousands are in existence. Establishment of the authority was discussed during the NEC meeting that was chaired by President Sirisena.

“About Rs. 60 billion of the debt is under registered companies. Non-performing loans have increased last year after the Government announced a debt write-off. But clearly that is not a solution, we cannot expect taxpayers to bear the burden. The authority should expand due diligence processes that are currently being done by conventional banks and the financial literacy of people must also be increased. The authority will also accept complaints from people who have been trapped by unscrupulous microfinance companies,” he said. (ft.lk)

### Maersk mulls increasing container handling in Sri Lanka

ECONOMYNEXT - Maersk A/S, the world’s biggest container shipping line, is considering increasing its container handling business in Sri Lanka, the office of President Maithripala Sirisena said. The announcement followed talks between Maersk Chief Executive Officer Soren Skou and President Sirisena at the Presidential secretariat Thursday. Skou briefed Sirisena on the line’s expansion plans for container handling, a statement said. President Maithripala Sirisena said that the government would facilitate multi-national companies such as Maersk A/S to expand container transshipment through the Port of Colombo as that would be of immense help to Sri Lanka’s economy, it said.



**Prima to increase investments in Sri Lanka**

ECONOMYNEXT- Prima Ceylon (Pvt.) Ltd, Sri Lanka's largest flour mill, is hoping to increase its investments after 40 years of operation, officials said. "Our current investment in Sri Lanka amounts to 240 million US dollars," Group General Manager Tan Beng Chuan said. "It is one that we are proud of, and we will continue to explore new opportunities to develop our operations here," he said at a media briefing in Trincomalee held to celebrate the firm's 40th anniversary in Sri Lanka. Officials said there are plans to upgrade the mill over the next two years.

**Fitch revises outlook on HNB Assurance, HNB General Insurance to positive**

(LBO) – Fitch Ratings has revised the Outlook on the National Insurer Financial Strength (IFS) Ratings of life insurer HNB Assurance and its fully owned non-life subsidiary, HNB General Insurance, to Positive from Stable and affirmed the ratings at 'A(lka)'.  
Fitch expects the insurers to maintain satisfactory financial performance, despite changes introduced through the new Inland Revenue Act that came into effect in April 2018, including a higher effective tax liability for life insurers. However, we expect the impact on HNBA's profitability to be limited due to its ability to utilise some brought-forward tax losses to offset its future taxable income. The Inland Revenue Department of Sri Lanka, through a transitional provision, permits companies to setoff future taxable income using unutilised tax losses for a period of six years from April 2018.

## Foreign News

**Global stocks fall for third day as investors dial down trade hopes**

Global stocks retreated for a third straight day on Thursday as investors reduced their optimism over U.S.-Sino trade talks, while an early end to a U.S.-North Korean summit in Vietnam and weak economic data out of China also hit sentiment.

The Japanese yen and the Swiss franc - both safe-haven currencies - gained after the United States and North Korea failed to reach an agreement on denuclearization of the Korean peninsula after two days of meetings.

U.S. President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un had constructive discussions on denuclearization, the White House said, but news of the summit's early break-up triggered flight-to-quality bids in safe assets.

Riskier assets took a hit, with stocks across the board lower in Europe after the start of trading. The pan-European STOXX 600 index fell more than half a percent. That followed a retreat in Asian equities, which took a hit on a lack of progress on trade issues between China and the U.S. and data showing factory activity contracting to a three-year low in China. The Shanghai Composite Index fell 0.7 percent.

Global equities scaled a four-month high earlier this week helped by upbeat expectations towards U.S.-China trade talks, before pulling back after Lighthizer spoke.

Global stock markets in 2019 will at best only recoup losses from the deep sell-off late last year, according to equity market analysts in Reuters polls, who reckon the risk is skewed more toward a sharp fall by mid-year.

In currency markets, the dollar index against a basket of six major currencies fell 0.1 percent at 96.041. The dollar dipped 0.2 percent to 110.80 yen.

Oil prices fell on Thursday amid weakening factory output in China and Japan and record U.S. crude output, although markets remained relatively well supported by supply cuts led by producer club OPEC. U.S. crude oil futures slipped 0.25 percent to \$56.79 per barrel, losing a bit of steam after surging 2.5 percent on Wednesday. Brent was half a percent lower at \$66.03. ([reuters.com](http://reuters.com))

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