

# ArpicoAtaraxia FUNDS HOTLINE: 0115 900 700

Cash Management  
Trust Fund (CMT)



S&P-SL20 Index  
Fund (SL20)



Sri Lankan  
Bond Fund (SBF)



Repo Investment  
Fund (RIF)



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## Sri Lankan Market Wrap-Up

Thursday, March 23, 2017

Indices	Day Close	Change	% Change	Foreign Markets			
ASPI	5,979.85	-16.80	↓ -0.28%	Indices	Close	Change	%
S&P SL 20	3,411.96	-11.73	↓ -0.34%	DOW JONES INDUS. AVG	20,661.3	(6.71)	-0.03%
YTD Change			% Change	S&P 500 Index	2,348.5	4.43	0.19%
ASPI		↓	-3.99%	Nikkei 225	19,085.3	43.93	0.23%
S&P SL20		↓	-2.42%	HANG SENG INDEX	24,327.7	7.29	0.03%
Market Cap.	2,626b	↓	-4.35%	S&P/ASX 200 INDEX	5,708.0	23.44	0.41%
Turnover (LKR)			616,373,250	CAC 40 Index	4,995.0	0.26	0.01%
No. of Trades			2,612	FTSE 100 Index	7,315.5	(9.18)	-0.13%
Foreign Purchases (LKR)			476,552,768	Interest rates			
Foreign Sales (LKR)			282,551,936	Repo Rate (Avg.)		8.54%	
Net Inflow (LKR)			194,000,832	Call Market Rate (Avg.)		8.50%	
Mkt P/E			11.7X	SLIBOR		8.50%	
Mkt P/B			1.3X	GDP growth		2016 Q4 5.3%	
Dividend Yield			3.0%	Inflation (CCPI)		6.8%	

## The negative trend continued in the Colombo bourse amid rate hike fears

- The negative trend continued in the Colombo bourse keeping both indices in the red zone amid rate hike fears whilst national price levels keep increasing.
- The benchmark index, **ASPI**, ended **16.80** points or **0.28%** weaker further moving away from 6,000 index level closing at **5,979.85** whilst **S&P SL20 Index** dropped by **11.73** points or **0.34%** ending at **3,411.96**.
- CLC.N0000 (-7.41%, LKR 2.50)**, **AHPL.N0000 (-2.87%, LKR 54.10)** and **COMB.N0000 (-0.52%, LKR 133.00)** led today's 96 negative contributors whilst **CCS.N0000 (+1.35%, LKR 810.80)**, **VONE.N0000 (+4.29%, LKR 17.00)**, **LGL.N0000 (+2.84%, LKR 29.00)** and other 40 counters helped the index to minimize its losses.
- Today's turnover closed below the year's daily average turnover level of LKR 671.03 Mn reaching at LKR 616.37 Mn.
- Foreign Investors became net buyers for the third consecutive day adding a net foreign inflow of LKR 194.00 Mn
- Crossings were among **SAMP.N0000**, **HNB.N0000**, **LLUB.N0000**, **COMB.N0000** and **JKH.N0000** amounting to 59% of today's Turnover.

Top 5 Gainers				Top 5 Losers			
Stock	Price	Change	%	Stock	Price	Change	%
SEMB.X0000	0.30	0.1	50.00	HAPU.N0000	16.6	-3.4	-17.00
SFS.N0000	0.80	0.1	14.29	BFN.N0000	9.00	-1.5	-14.29
PMB.N0000	10.70	1.3	13.83	GEST.N0000	108.00	-12	-10.00
BLUE.N0000	0.90	0.1	12.50	SIL.N0000	90.00	-10	-10.00
CFT.N0000	4.60	0.5	12.20	RHL.X0000	13.30	-1.2	-8.28

Most Active Stocks			Exchange Rates		
Name	Trades	Volume	Currency	Buying	Selling
JKH.N0000	168	1,571,515	23-Mar-17		
TJL.N0000	106	161,568	0	Buying	Selling
GRAN.N0000	73	32,055	Dollar (USA)	149.95	153.8
LIOC.N0000	56	23,330	Pound (UK)	186.44	192.86
AEL.N0000	55	140,659	Euro (EU)	160.73	166.90

### ASPI and S&P Movements



### Commodities Change

COMMODITY	Unit	Price	Change	% Change
<b>PRECIOUS METALS</b>				
Gold (Comex)	USD/t oz.	1,250.80	(2.00)	↓ -0.16%
Silver (Comex)	USD/t oz.	17.62	0.04	↑ 0.24%
<b>INDUSTRIAL METALS</b>				
Copper (Comex)	USD/lb.	263.85	0.80	↑ 0.30%
<b>ENERGY</b>				
WTI Crude Oil (Nymex)	USD/bbl.	48.3	0.26	↑ 0.54%
Brent Crude (ICE)	USD/bbl.	50.90	0.26	↑ 0.51%
<b>AGRICULTURE</b>				
Corn (CBOT)	USD/bu.	358.25	(0.50)	↓ -0.14%
Wheat (CBOT)	USD/bu.	422.50	0.25	↑ 0.06%
Cocoa (ICE)	USD/mt	2156.00	(9.00)	↓ -0.42%
Cotton #2 (ICE)	USD/lb.	77.58	0.24	↑ 0.31%

## WORLD MARKET COMMENTARY

### European Stocks Hold Steady as Gain by Miners Offsets Food, Tech

European stocks were little changed, with advances in mining companies countering declines in food and beverage producers. The Stoxx Europe 600 Index was little changed at 374.11 as of 8:38 a.m. London time, after three days of losses, as the Asian stock sell-off eased. European miners climbed 0.3 percent, following metals prices higher, as the food and beverage sector dropped 0.5 percent. Technology shares declined.

### Asia Stocks Erase Dip as Gain in Financials Offsets Tech Decline

Asian shares bounced back to unchanged Thursday morning, steady after the worst decline in three months, as gains in financial and industrial stocks offset a drop in technology companies. The MSCI Asia Pacific Index was up a fraction at 147.34 at 11:56 a.m. in Hong Kong after earlier losing 0.3 percent. A gauge of information technology shares fell as Tencent Holdings Ltd. slipped 1.1 percent after reporting costs rose faster than revenue last quarter. Samsung Electronics Co. shares dropped 1.7 percent as shareholders prepare to meet for the first time since the arrest of leader Jay Y. Lee.

### Hong Kong Stocks Little Changed as China Mobile Drags on Market

Hong Kong stocks were steady after erasing earlier gains as China Mobile Ltd. and Tencent Holdings Ltd. dragged the benchmark gauge lower. The Hang Seng Index was little changed at 24,327.70 at the close. China Mobile slumped 3.4 percent after its dividend announcement disappointed investors hoping for a special payout. Tencent fell to its lowest close in almost a week after missing estimates. Ping An Insurance (Group) Co. gained after posting higher profit. China's foreign currency shares slumped, dragging the Shanghai Composite Index down as much as 0.7 percent before it closed 0.1 percent higher.

### Global Stock Selloff Eases as Yen Falls with Gold: Markets Wrap

A global equities selloff that spurred the biggest drop in shares since Donald Trump's election eased as investors stepped back before a key U.S. vote on health care. The yen halted a seven-day rally and gold retreated. European and Japanese shares were little changed while Australian and South Korean stocks rose after the S&P 500 Index nudged higher. Treasury 10-year yields were steady after four days of losses. The kiwi was flat after New Zealand's central bank kept its benchmark rate at a record low 1.75 percent. Oil futures climbed.

Source: [www.bloomberg.com](http://www.bloomberg.com)

## COMMODITIES OUTLOOK

### Oil Prices Continue to Fall on Glut Worries

Concern over a buildup of U.S. crude stockpiles. Oil prices edged lower Wednesday after weekly data showed U.S. crude stockpiles surged to a fresh record. U.S. crude for May delivery settled down 20 cents, or 0.41%, at \$48.04 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange on its first day as the front month contract. Brent, the global benchmark, fell 32 cents, or 0.63%, to \$50.64 a barrel on ICE Futures Europe.

Source: [www.wsj.com](http://www.wsj.com)

## TODAY'S MEDIA - Local

### Lubricant players concerned over duty hike on synthetic lubricants

Sri Lanka's lubricant suppliers are starting to pass the tax imposed on synthetic lubricants to end users, the Ceylon Motor Traders Association warned. The association said the recent 31 percent rise in duty and tax imposed by the government on synthetic lubricants effective mid-November is causing alarm in the market, a statement said. "This duty and tax hike will only result in discouraging the vehicle owners from using synthetic lubricants due to the high price." "This is not a welcome development for the country as synthetic lubricants help vehicles to perform better, when compared with conventional oils."

### New Securities Exchange Act gets Cabinet nod

The Securities Exchange Act, Economic Service Charge, Immigrants and Emigrants Bill and Foreign Exchange Bill all received Cabinet approval to be revamped yesterday as the Government worked to strengthen and update regulations within the country's legal system.

The Securities Exchange Act, containing seven parts, includes giving wider powers to the Securities and Exchange Commission to better regulate capital markets and intervene in markets to instill greater credibility, the Cabinet paper noted. The draft bill also said the existing commission would continue to function until its term expires in accordance with the savings and transitional provisions of the new draft.

### Strengthening SL-China economic relations

Ravindra Deyshappriya, Research Director of the Global Economy programme at the Lakshman Kadirgamar Institute of International Relations and Strategic Studies (LKI), recently made an invited presentation on 'Sri Lanka-China Economic Relations in Comparative Context' at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The presentation was chaired by Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Dr. Harsha de Silva, and attended by around 40 officers of the Foreign Ministry

### COMBANK named Best Bank in SL by Global Finance

The Commercial Bank of Ceylon has been named Sri Lanka's Best Bank in 2017 by US-based Global Finance, giving the bank its third international accolade in as many months. Just released by the authoritative and widely respected publication, the list of the 30 Best Banks in Asia Pacific has Commercial Bank in the company of the giants of the region, including Commonwealth Bank (Australia), ICBC (China), The Bank East Asia (Hong Kong), and State Bank of India.

Source: [www.ft.lk](http://www.ft.lk) [www.lbo.lk](http://www.lbo.lk)

## TODAY'S MEDIA - International

### Google advertising row spreads to US brands

At least four major US firms have pulled millions of dollars in advertising from Google's platform amid rows over extremist content. The Times reported that telecoms firms AT&T and Verizon, as well as car rental company Enterprise and pharmaceutical giant GSK, have withdrawn all non-search advertising. An investigation by the newspaper found major brands were appearing next to YouTube videos promoting extremist views - generating revenues for the creators. The company has apologised and promised better tools for advertisers.

### Brexit vote: Single market benefit 'largely imaginary'

The trade benefits of belonging to the European Union have been "largely imaginary", according to the social policy think-tank Civitas. Its analysis argues that exports from non-EU countries to the single market have grown faster than the UK's, since its creation in 1993. That lends weight to the argument that no EU deal is better than a bad deal, the author said. Theresa May will start talks on the UK's departure from the EU on 29 March. The prime minister will officially notify the EU of the UK's intention to leave by triggering "Article 50" and writing to European Council president Donald Tusk.

### Higher fuel prices take toll on retail sales

UK retail sales posted a modest 1.4% rise in February compared with the previous month, but higher fuel prices have begun to hit pockets. Sales volumes fell by 1.4% for the three months to February, a sharper slide than the 0.5% decline for the three months to January. That was the biggest fall recorded by the Office for National Statistics since March 2010. Fuel prices soared by 18.7% in February compared with the same month last year.

### SGX to allow e-transmission of documents to shareholders

Singapore-listed companies will be allowed to forgo paper copies of notices and documents to shareholders from March 31 in favour of electronic transmissions, the Singapore Exchange (SGX) said on Wednesday. Companies will be able to transmit documents electronically under new listing rules that will be amended from March 31. The types of documents that may be transmitted electronically will depend on the way in which shareholder approval for such transmission is obtained.

Source: [www.bbc.com](http://www.bbc.com) [www.asiaone.com](http://www.asiaone.com)

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