

# TREASURY COMMENTARY -22<sup>nd</sup> APRIL 2025

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#### LKR less volatile...

USD/LKR less volatile and traded around 298.00 – 301.00 and LKR depreciated against USD by 1.95% year to date. Excess liquidity in the Call Money market has increased from the previous day.

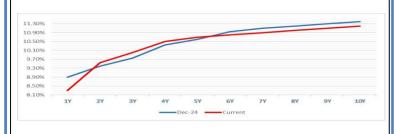
|                     | 21.04.25 |        | 17.04.25 |        |
|---------------------|----------|--------|----------|--------|
| Opening<br>Closing  | 298.80   | 299.20 | 298.70   | 299.00 |
|                     | 299.30   | 299.40 | 298.90   | 299.15 |
|                     | 21.04.25 |        | 17.04.25 |        |
| Call Money Rate (%) | 7.90     | 8.00   | 7.90     | 8.00   |
| Repo Rate (%)       | 7.95     | 8.03   | 7.95     | 8.00   |
| Liquidity (LKR)     | 81.49 Bn |        | 57.33 Bn |        |

#### TREASURY BILL latest Auction on 21.04.2025

|           | This week | Last week | Year ago |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| 03 Months | 07.59     | 07.59     | 10.10    |
| 06 Months | 07.96     | 07.91     | 10.27    |
| 12 Months | 08.31     | 08.31     | 10.27    |

| TREASURY BOND latest Auction on 10.04.2025 |          |          |  |  |  |
|--|----------|----------|--|--|--|
| Maturity date                              | 15.12.29 | 15.09.34 |  |  |  |
| Yield (w.a) %                              | 10.64    | 11.21    |  |  |  |
| Coupon rate (p.a)(%)                       | 11.00    | 10.25    |  |  |  |

#### BOND CURVE as at 21.04.25



#### **EQUITY**

|                    | 21.04.25  | 17.04.25  |
|--------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Turnover           | 1,168Mn   | 841Mn     |
| Net Foreign Inflow | 5.23Mn    | -2.07Mn   |
| S&P SL 20          | 4,621.22  | 4,624.24  |
| ASPI               | 15,599.61 | 15,626.57 |

#### **ECONOMIC INDICATORS**

|           | This Week | Week ago | Year ago |
|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|
|           | 17.04.25  |          |          |
| AWPLR (%) | 08.44     | 08.63    | 10.63    |
|           | Feb '25   | Jan'25   | Year ago |
| AWDR (%)  | 07.21     | 07.31    | 10.80    |
|           |           |          |          |

| INFLATION (%) | Mar'25 | Feb '25 | Year ago |
|---------------|--------|---------|----------|
| NCPI-YoY      | -1.9   | -3.9    | 2.5      |
| NCPI-Core     | -0.6   | -0.6    | 3.4      |
| CCPI -YoY     | -2.6   | -4.2    | 0.9      |
| CCPI -Core    | 0.7    | 0.7     | 3.1      |

| Bench Mark<br>Rates | 0/N    | 1M     | 3M     | 6M     | 12M    |
|---------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| USD SOFR            | 4.3300 | 4.3221 | 4.2793 | 4.1279 | 3.8498 |
| EUR ESTR            | 2.4180 | 2.1800 | 2.0910 | 1.9550 | 1.7850 |
| GBP SONIA           | 4.4585 | 4.3755 | 4.2512 | 4.1295 | 3.9614 |

# USD languished near its three-year low...

The dollar languished near its lowest level in three years as U.S. president unrelenting attacks on the Federal Reserve chairman further eroded investor confidence in the U.S. economy.

The U.S. dollar index (DXY) measure against six major peers stood at 98.454, after sinking as low as 97.923 in the previous session, a level not seen since March 2022.

#### EURO little changed...

The euro little changed at \$1.1502 in Early Asian Trading, after jumping to \$1.1573 for the first time since November 2021.

### GBP stable...

Sterling stable at \$1.3376 in Early Asian Trading after surging as high as \$1.3421 for the first time since September to start the week.

# CAD strengthened against USD...

The Canadian dollar strengthened against the greenback, and the yield on benchmark government debt climbed.

The loonie, trading 0.1% higher at C\$1.3837 to the greenback, or 72.27 U.S. cents, after trading in a range of 1.3782 to 1.3851.

### JPY hovering close to seven-month low...

The U.S. currency bought 140.99 yen, hovering close to seven-month low at 140.48.

#### AUD & NZD hovered near 2025 highs...

The Australian and New Zealand dollars hovered near 2025 highs, having cracked major resistance as U.S. tirade against the Federal Reserve further undermined investor trust in U.S. assets.

The Aussie was at \$0.6417, after rising 0.6% overnight to a four-month high of 0.6436

The kiwi dollar was defiant at \$0.5998, having gained 1.1% overnight to \$0.6019, the highest since early November.

# GOLD held their record rally...

Gold prices held their record rally, bolstered by concerns over U.S. criticism of the Federal Reserve chair and fears that trade tensions could stall economic growth, driving demand for safehaven assets.

# OIL prices climbed in early trade...

Oil prices climbed in early trade as investors took advantage of the previous day's losses to cover short positions, although concerns persisted over economic headwinds from tariffs and U.S. monetary policy that could dampen fuel demand.