

WORLD NEWS
US

- The Trump administration declassified its strategy to ensure continued dominance over China, which focuses on accelerating India's rise as a counterweight to Beijing and the ability to defend Taiwan against an attack. National Security Advisor Robert O'Brien on Tuesday announced the publication of the document, titled "United States Strategic Framework for the Indo-Pacific." Approved by President Donald Trump in February 2018, it provided the "overarching strategic guidance" for U.S. actions the past three years and was released to show the U.S. commitment to "keeping the Indo-Pacific region free and open long into the future," O'Brien said in a statement.

Europe

- French carmaker Renault and U.S. hydrogen specialist Plug Power have joined forces to develop hydrogen-powered light commercial vehicles (LCV), they said on Tuesday. The companies have signed a memorandum of understanding to launch a France-based 50-50 joint venture by the end of June, targeting a more than 30% share of the fuel cell-powered LCV market in Europe, a joint statement said.
- Spanish telecom company Telefonica said on Wednesday it agreed to sell its mobile phone masts in Europe and Latin America to U.S.-based telecom infrastructure operator American Towers for EUR7.7bn.

Asia & Emerging Markets

- Malaysia's king declared a nationwide state of emergency on Tuesday to curb the spread of COVID-19, a move that the opposition decried as an attempt by Prime Minister Muhyiddin Yassin to retain control amid a power struggle.
- Mexico's health ministry on Tuesday published rules to regulate the use of medicinal cannabis, a major step in a broader reform to create the world's largest legal cannabis market in the Latin American country. The new regulation was signed off by President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador, and will now allow pharmaceutical companies to begin doing medical research on cannabis products.

Others

- Affirm Holdings Inc., which provides installment loans to online shoppers, priced its U.S. initial public offering above its marketed range to raise USD1.2bn. In the first major U.S. technology listing this year, Affirm sold 24.6 million shares for USD49 each.

LOCAL NEWS

SEMDEX closed flattish at 1,655.50 points, with the total market turnover standing at MUR32.2m. For the session, investment stocks Alteo, ENL Limited and Policy closed higher at MUR21.75 (+2.4%), MUR15.40 (+1.7%) and MUR4.12 (+0.5%) respectively. Moreover, commercial stock PBL shed MUR1.00 (-0.2%) to close at MUR590.00 on 20k shares exchanged.

Other notable movers for the session were: BlueLife (-6.7% to MUR1.25), Lottotech (-2.4% to MUR8.78), Medine (-2.4% to MUR40.00), Gamma (+1.9% to MUR32.00), Fincorp (+2.8% to MUR18.50) and Omnicane (+3.9% to MUR16.00).

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CHANGE

Indices	Value at Close	Day on Day	YTD	YTD(Rs)
MSCI World	2,734.40	0.16%	1.65%	1.39%

US

S&P 500	3,801.19	0.04%	1.20%	0.94%
DOW JONES	31,068.69	0.19%	1.51%	1.25%
NASDAQ	13,072.43	0.28%	1.43%	1.17%

Europe

FTSE 100	6,754.11	-0.65%	4.54%	4.81%
CAC 40	5,650.97	-0.20%	1.79%	0.89%
DAX	13,925.06	-0.08%	1.50%	0.60%

Asia

NIKKEI 225	28,164.34	0.09%	2.62%	1.96%
HANG SENG	28,276.75	1.32%	3.84%	3.43%
SENSEX	49,517.11	0.50%	3.70%	3.48%

Mauritius

SEMDEX	1,655.50	0.03%	0.43%
SEM-10	310.29	0.12%	0.19%
SEMTRI	6,391.86	0.03%	0.44%
DEMEX	228.69	1.35%	6.95%

CHANGE

Currencies	Value Today	Day on Day	YTD
USD/MUR*	39.25	0.00%	-0.25%
GBP/MUR*	53.64	1.23%	0.25%
EUR/MUR*	47.87	0.55%	-0.89%
AUD/MUR*	30.58	0.87%	0.61%
ZAR/MUR*	2.59	2.37%	-4.25%
GBP/USD	1.37	1.08%	-0.04%
EUR/USD	1.22	0.46%	-0.07%
AUD/USD	0.78	0.97%	1.01%

Central Bank Rates

USD	0.00-0.25%
GBP	0.10%
EUR	0.00%
AUD	0.10%
MUR	1.85%

CHANGE

Commodities	Value at Close	Day on Day	YTD
Oil (NYMEX)	53.21	1.84%	9.67%
Gold	1,854.77	0.59%	-2.30%
CRB	174.95	1.29%	4.26%

* Foreign Currency Rates against the Mauritian Rupee are MCB's mid-rates. For transactions purposes, kindly contact your Private Banker.

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Source: WSJ, Bloomberg, Reuters, FT