SWAN CAPITAL SOLUTIONS

Weekly Market Commentary (27.03.2026)

Local Highlights

The **SEMDEX** was down by 0.43% over the week, with an increase of 58.96% w/w in the total market turnover (TMT). Overall, foreigners were **net seller** to the tune of Rs 24.2m. Accounting only for SEMDEX constituents, foreigners were net seller to the tune of Rs 34.5m, with **MCBG** being the main driver of foreign sale, registering a net outflow of Rs 35.5m. Trading activity on the equity board was geared towards **MCBG**, which made up 57.1% of TMT, followed by **NMHL** (5.0%) and **NewGold-MUR** (1.6%).

On the banking front, **MCBG** fell by 0.50% to close the week at Rs 400.00. Contrastingly, **SBMH** gained 1.23% to Rs 6.58.

Within the conglomerate space, **CIEL** fell by 0.99% to Rs 8.02. **HML** also fell by 15.63% to Rs 13.50.

Amid sugar conglomerates, **TERA** gained 2.78%, closing at Rs 18.50. **ALTG** fell by 0.45% to Rs 11.15.

As for the property sector, **MSE** fell by 5.45% to Rs 52.00.

Regarding hotels, **SUN** closed the week lower by 1.92% to Rs 40.80.

As for construction stocks, **UBP** fell by 6.00% to Rs 47.00. Contrastingly, **GCL** gained 1.72% to Rs 32.50.

On the commodities side, **NewGold ETF-MUR** fell by 10.51% to close at Rs 2,000.00.

Top Performers	
Terra	+ 2.78%
Gamma	+ 1.72%
SBM Holdings	+ 1.23%
PAD	+ 0.48%
Vivo Energy	+ 0.22%

Main Detractors	
Harel Mallac	- 15.63%
NewGold ETF - MUR	- 10.51%
MCFI	- 7.41%
Moroil	- 6.25%
UBP	- 6.00%

Most Traded Stocks	% of TMT
MCB Group	57.1%
NMH	5.0%
NewGold ETF- MUR	1.6%
Terra	1.4%
Medine	1.1%

<u>Financial Results</u>- Vivo Energy Mauritius Limited YE 2025

- Revenue fell by 6.09% to reach Rs 17.84Bn in 2025. However, Gross Profit slightly increased by 0.16% y/y, standing at Rs Rs1.37Bn for the YE 2025, due to a fall in cost of sales.
- Operating Profit increased by 4.75% y/y, standing at Rs 658.5m, following a decrease in operational costs. This resulted in an improvement in Operating Profit Margin from 3.31% to 3.69%.
- Finance costs rose to Rs 29.0m in 2025, leading to a fall in interest cover from 34.0x to 22.7x
- PAT Margin improved to 2.97% as PAT rose by 2.52% to Rs 529.5m

<u>Corporate Announcements</u>

- **Vivo Energy Mauritius Limited –** Dividend Declaration

  On <u>23.03.2026</u>, Vivo Energy Mauritius Limited has declared in respect of its FY ended 31-Dec-25 a final dividend of Rs. 12.05 per share for shareholders registered at the close of business on 9-Apr-26. The dividend will be paid on or about 4-May-26.

- **Phoenix Beverages Limited –** Proposed merger of CICL and PICL into PBL

  On <u>24.03.2026</u>, the Board of PBL announced that it has decided to proceed with a capital reorganisation of PBL through a scheme of arrangement to be sanctioned by the Bankruptcy Division of the Supreme Court of Mauritius. As part of the Scheme, Camp Investment Company Limited ('CICL') and Phoenix Investment Company Limited ('PICL') shall merge with and into PBL. The Scheme is subject to the satisfaction of conditions precedent to be set out in the Scheme application documents including relevant regulatory approvals.

  More info provided in official communique.

- **Miwa Sugar Limited –** Miwa Sugar is the sole shareholder of Sucrière des Mascareignes Limited.

  On <u>26.03.2026</u>, the Board of Miwa Sugar announced that the buyback of all the shares held by Tereos Océan Indien in Sucrière des Mascareignes Limited (SML) has been successfully completed. Miwa Sugar is now the sole shareholder of SML.

International News – US Market

U.S. equity markets experienced a highly volatile week. On Monday, equities rebounded strongly, with the Dow (+1.38%), S&P 500 (+1.15%) and Nasdaq (+1.38%) posting their biggest gains since early February. The rally was driven by a sharp decline in oil prices (down over 10%) after President Trump announced a postponement of strikes on Iranian power plants and signalled potential diplomatic progress. This eased inflation concerns and boosted cyclical sector, such as consumer discretionary, which finished up 2.46%, while defensive sectors were weaker with healthcare finishing barely higher and consumer staples closing up 0.37%.

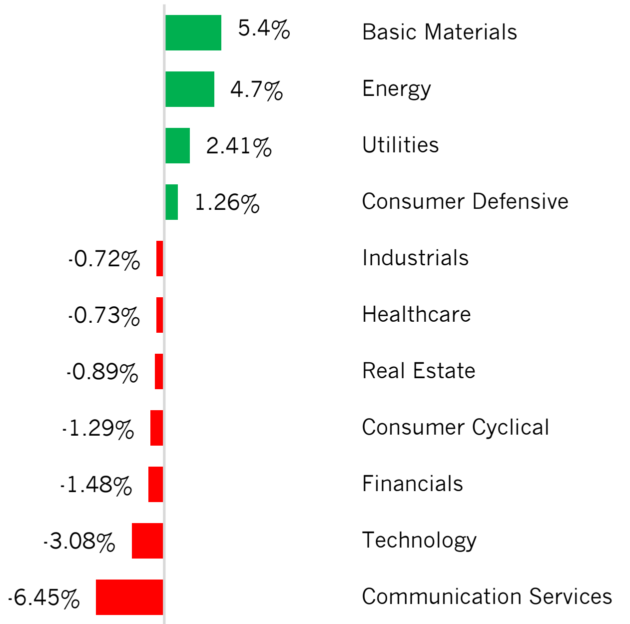
However, sentiment reversed on Tuesday, with markets turning lower amid renewed uncertainty around the conflict. The Dow (-0.18%), S&P 500 (-0.37%) and Nasdaq (-0.84%) declined as crude oil futures prices rebounded (+4%), reinforcing fears of a stagflationary backdrop. Concerns around private credit also resurfaced, while weaker U.S. business activity data pointed to slowing economic momentum. Investors remained highly headline-driven, closely monitoring developments in oil prices, geopolitical tensions and interest rate expectations.

Markets regained some ground on Wednesday, with the Dow (+0.66%), S&P 500 (+0.54%) and Nasdaq (+0.77%) advancing as oil prices eased and reports suggested Iran was reviewing U.S. proposals to end the conflict. However, Abbas Araqchi, Iran's foreign minister, added that Tehran has no intention to hold talks with Washington. Optimism around a potential de-escalation supported sentiment, although mixed signals from both sides kept volatility elevated. Gains were led by consumer discretionary and materials sectors.

Selling pressure intensified on Thursday, with the Nasdaq (-2.38%), S&P 500 (-1.74%) and Dow (-1.01%) posting sharp declines as fears of escalation resurfaced. U.S. crude futures prices surged (+4.6%), fuelling inflation concerns and further complicating the Federal Reserve's policy outlook. Energy (+1.6%) and defensive utilities (+0.2%) sectors closed in the green, while weakness in technology and communication services added to the downside. Broader uncertainty around the conflict and its impact on global growth, as highlighted by the OECD, further dampened sentiment.

The sell-off deepened on Friday, with the Dow (-1.73%), S&P 500 (-1.67%) and Nasdaq (-2.15%). Markets took little solace from Trump's announcement that he gave Iran another 10 days to reopen the Strait of Hormuz or face the destruction of its energy plants, after Iran rejected his proposals to end the war that began with U.S.-Israeli air strikes on Iran. Secretary of State Marco Rubio said the U.S. could achieve its objectives in Iran without the use of any ground troops and expected its operation to conclude in a matter of weeks, despite recent deployments of additional forces to the region. U.S. crude settled up 5.46% at $99.64 a barrel and Brent rose 4.22% to settle at $112.57 per barrel.

1 Week Performance



Valuation

	Forward P/E	PEG	P/FCF
Basic Materials	13.58	1.38	28.08
Communication Services	26.33	2.25	28.22
Consumer Cyclical	19.02	1.63	38.26
Consumer Defensive	19.71	2.85	24.88
Energy	15.63	1.88	18.37
Financial	12.70	1.37	10.62
Healthcare	16.29	2.02	22.36
Industrials	21.01	1.84	30.05
Real Estate	27.09	2.89	20.95
Technology	22.61	1.19	32.36
Utilities	15.81	1.84	111.13

Economic Calendar

	Time (GMT+4)	Indicator	Forecast	Prior
31.03.2026	18.00	JOLTs Job Openings	6.87M	6.946M
01.04.2026	16.30	Retail Sales MoM	0.4%	-0.2%
-	18.00	ISM Manufacturing PMI	52.30	52.40
02.04.2026	16.30	Initial Jobless Claims	212K	210K
03.04.2026	16.30	Non Farm Payrolls	55K	-92K
-	16.30	Unemployment Rate	4.40%	4.40%

The Week’s Defining Stocks

Synopsys Inc. (SNPS)

Synopsys drew market attention on Monday after Reuters reported that activist investor Elliott Investment Management had built a multibillion-dollar stake in the company. Elliott reportedly sees scope for Synopsys to increase sales and improve margins, and is expected to engage with management on ways to generate greater value from its software and services. The company, valued at over USD 80bn, has been one of the main suppliers of software used in determining how to arrange the tens of billions of transistors that make up chips from firms such as Advanced Micro Devices and Nvidia. Elliott told the Wall Street Journal that Synopsys’ financial performance does not yet fully reflect the value it delivers, particularly as AI increases chip complexity and capital investment.

Synopsys Inc.

Closing Price (27.03.2026)	$380.47
Performance	
5 Day	- 12.03%
1 Month	- 10.41%
YTD	- 19.00%
Analyst Estimates	
Average Recommendation	Overweight
Median Target Price	$539.67

Ares Management Corp. (ARES)

Ares Management came under pressure on Tuesday after capping investor withdrawals on its $22.7bn Ares Strategic Income Fund (ASIF) following a surge in redemption requests. Investors sought to withdraw 11.6% of outstanding shares in Q1, but the fund will honour only 5% (USD 524.5m). The move highlights growing stress in the private credit space amid concerns over lending standards, market pullbacks and economic disruptions linked to the Iran war. ASIF said in a letter to shareholders that most of the requests to withdraw money "were made by a limited number of family offices and smaller institutions in select geographies," which it said represents less than 1% of the fund's more than 20,000 shareholders. The fund's decision to use the withdrawal limit "aligned with what we believe are the best interests of the fund and all of our stakeholders," the letter said.

Ares Management Corp.

Closing Price (27.03.2026)	$106.28
Performance	
5 Day	- 0.78%
1 Month	- 6.25%
YTD	- 34.24%
Analyst Estimates	
Average Recommendation	Overweight
Median Target Price	$169.24

Jefferies Financial Group Inc. (JEF)

Jefferies Financial Group came into focus on Tuesday following reports of a potential takeover by Japan’s Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group (SMFG), although sources indicated that no immediate acquisition plans are in place. SMFG is not currently engaged in takeover discussions, citing regulatory hurdles and other constraints, despite earlier reports suggesting it was preparing to act if Jefferies’ declining share price created an opportunity. SMFG reiterated that Jefferies remains an “important partner,” within an existing agreement that allows it to build a stake of up to 20% while staying below a 5% voting threshold. Jefferies shares, down 36% year-to-date amid exposure to troubled firms, rose sharply in pre-market trading on Tuesday following the speculation.

Jefferies Financial Group Inc.

Closing Price (27.03.2026)	$39.85
Performance	
5 Day	+ 0.76%
1 Month	- 12.55%
YTD	- 35.69%
Analyst Estimates	
Average Recommendation	Overweight
Median Target Price	$53.20

Estee Lauder Cos. Cl A. (EL)

Estée Lauder came under pressure on Tuesday after confirming it is in discussions with Spanish beauty group Puig regarding a potential merger, although no agreement has been reached. The company stated that no final decision has been made, with limited financial details disclosed. Market reaction was negative, with Estée Lauder’s shares falling nearly 8% following the announcement, while Puig’s stock rose around 3%. The development comes as Estée Lauder continues to navigate operational challenges, including tariff headwinds and an ongoing restructuring under its “Beauty Reimagined” turnaround plan. The company previously indicated that tariffs could reduce full-year profitability by approximately USD 100m.

Estee Lauder Cos. Cl A.

Closing Price (27.03.2026)	$67.23
Performance	
5 Day	- 15.21%
1 Month	- 32.90%
YTD	- 35.80%
Analyst Estimates	
Average Recommendation	Overweight
Median Target Price	$106.09

Destiny Tech100 Inc. (DXYZ)

Destiny Tech100 (DXYZ) surged on Wednesday after reports that SpaceX could file its IPO prospectus as early as this upcoming week, with the offering potentially raising more than USD 75bn. As SpaceX represents the fund's largest holding, the stock jumped nearly 18% in premarket trading on Wednesday, with spillover gains also seen across the broader space sector. The move highlights DXYZ's positioning as one of the few public-market vehicles offering exposure to late-stage private tech companies. However, the rally has further widened the gap between its market price (around USD 30) and its last reported NAV of USD 19.97, implying a premium of roughly 50%. While the fund's NAV has risen strongly, driven by revaluations in private holdings, its elevated premium and limited liquidity continue to introduce additional volatility and downside risk.

Destiny Tech100 Inc.

Closing Price (27.03.2026)	$28.03
Performance	
5 Day	+ 15.54%
1 Month	- 0.32%
YTD	- 9.38%

Meta Platforms Inc. (META)

Meta Platforms came under pressure on Thursday after its shares fell around 7% following two U.S. court verdicts holding the company liable for harm to young users. While the financial penalties were limited to a few hundred million dollars, investors are concerned the rulings could open the door to a wave of litigation targeting platform design, potentially bypassing existing legal protections for user-generated content. This could expose Meta to thousands of lawsuits and billions in potential damages, while also forcing changes to its core business model. The verdicts add further uncertainty at a time when the company is investing heavily in AI.

Meta Platforms Inc.

Closing Price (27.03.2026)	$525.72
Performance	
5 Day	- 12.97%
1 Month	- 19.56%
YTD	- 20.36%
Analyst Estimates	
Average Recommendation	Buy
Median Target Price	$860.47

Carnival Corp. (CCL)

Carnival came under pressure on Friday after cutting its full-year profit forecast due to rising fuel costs linked to the Middle East conflict. The company now expects full year adjusted EPS of around USD 2.21, below its previous guidance of up to USD 2.48, reflecting higher energy expenses as disruptions to oil flows through the Strait of Hormuz pushed prices higher. Carnival, which typically does not hedge fuel, is particularly exposed to these cost increases. Shares fell nearly 5% on the day and are down 20% year-to-date. Despite margin pressures, management highlighted resilient demand, with 2026 bookings up double digits and a record booked position for the remainder of the year. The company expects nearly $150 million in operational gains from higher yields and lower non-fuel costs to help offset more than $500 million in higher fuel expenses. Strong bookings also helped Carnival beat first-quarter revenue and profit estimates. The company announced a $2.5 billion share buyback.

Carnival Corp.

Closing Price (27.03.2026)	$24.19
Performance	
5 Day	- 4.95%
1 Month	- 16.99%
YTD	- 20.79%
Analyst Estimates	
Average Recommendation	Buy
Median Target Price	$35.71

All the stocks mentioned in this report are available for trading through Swan Securities Ltd

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