



DASHBOARD

Changing News. Your Guide.

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MACROECONOMIC SNAPSHOT

Government borrowings fall by 61.2%

State borrowings dropped by more than half year-on-year in the first quarter as the government continued to trim down its external debt, data from the Bureau of the Treasury showed. The government borrowed a total of P126.189 billion in the first three months, 61.2% less than the P325.245 billion recorded in the same period last year. Majority of the debt incurred in the quarter was sourced from local creditors, as domestic borrowings comprised P122.959 billion or 97.44% of the period's debt. This total was 49.22% lower than the P242.155 billion in domestic debt recorded from January to March 2012. (BusinessWorld)

PH banking sector remained profitable in '12

The country's banking sector remained highly profitable in 2012, with the combined net income of small and big players growing by a double-digit pace as they ride on the gains of an expanding economy. The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas reported Friday that total profits of rural, thrift, universal and commercial banks in the country amounted to P122.12 billion last year—up by 17 percent from the P104.73 billion posted in 2011. Despite the world's economic problems, "the Philippine financial system continued to deliver a remarkable performance in 2012 with sustained profitability and strong capitalization," the BSP said in a report. Philippine banks are in a position to help sustain the economy's growth by extending loans to consumers and businesses, officials said. (Philippine Daily Inquirer)

EU sees deeper recession in 2013

The euro zone economy will contract by more than expected this year and budget deficits will decline more slowly, the European Commission said on Friday as it set out forecasts for the next two years. France, Spain, Italy and the Netherlands - four of the five largest euro zone economies - will be in recession through 2013, the Commission's forecasts showed, with only Germany, the largest euro zone economy, managing to eke out growth. The Commission said the euro zone economy would shrink 0.4 percent this year and grow 1.2 percent next year, revising down its projections from last February of a 0.3 percent recession and 1.4 percent growth respectively. (The Philippine Star)

FINANCIAL TRENDS

Bourse retreats from peak

The Philippine Stock Exchange faltered after exhibiting strength yesterday morning, weighed by profit taking towards closing. The Philippine Stock Exchange index (PSEi) dipped by 44.70 points or 0.62% to close at 7,170.65, while the broader all-share index slipped by 10.05 points or 0.22% to 4,479.95. (BusinessWorld)

P/\$ rate stands at P 41.915/\$1

The peso exchange rate closed slightly lower at P40.915 to the US dollar yesterday at the Philippine Dealing & Exchange Corp. (PDEX) from P40.91 last Friday. The weighted average rate appreciated to P40.865 from P40.943. Total volume amounted to \$976 million. (Manila Bulletin)

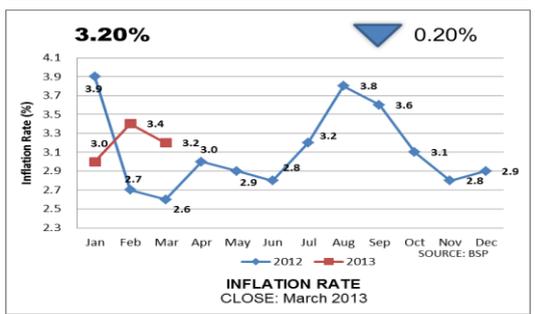
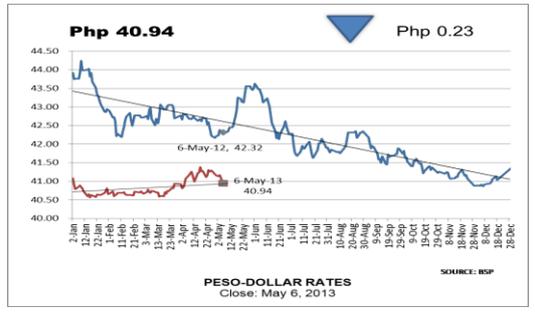
INDUSTRY BUZZ

Woman named Ford Philippines head

Ford Motor Company has announced the appointment of Kay Hart as Managing Director for Ford Philippines, effective June 1 replacing Randy Krieger, who has been appointed director for marketing and sales for Ford ASEAN. Hart will report directly to Matt Bradley, president, Ford ASEAN. Hart is currently serving as Dealer Development and Field Operations Director, Ford Asia Pacific, based in Shanghai, China. In her new role, Hart will be responsible in pursuing ongoing product-led transformation of Ford's business in the Philippines. (Manila Bulletin)

EDI to service all Peugeot models

Eurobrands Distributor Inc. (EDI), official importer and distributor of Peugeot vehicles in the Philippines, officially announced recently that all Peugeot dealerships will accept Peugeot models of any make for servicing and maintenance. "As official Peugeot importer and distributor, we at EDI understand that it is our responsibility to ensure that all Peugeot models in the country are enjoyed by their owners without worry. We therefore embrace the responsibility of keeping these vehicles roadworthy, whether or not the said vehicles were acquired by their owners through our current sales network. Our dealerships, which are all 3S, will thus service all Peugeot models brought to us," said Dong Magsajo, EDI Marketing & Communications Director. (The Philippine Star)



	Friday, 3 May 2013	Last Week	Year ago
Overnight Lending, RP	5.50%	5.50%	6.50%
Overnight Borrowing, RRP	3.50%	3.50%	4.50%
91 day T Bill Rates	0.04%	0.08%	3.85%
Lending Rates	6.91%	6.95%	7.79%

