



DASHBOARD

Changing News. Your Guide.

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MACROECONOMIC SNAPSHOT

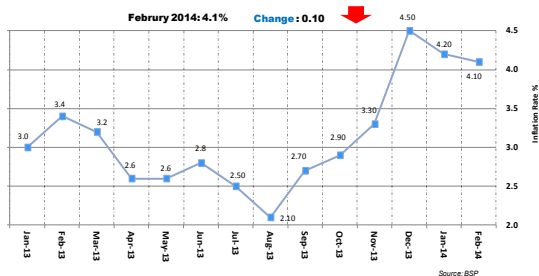
PSE COMPOSITE INDEX



Peso-US Dollar Rate



Inflation Rate



KEY INTEREST RATES

Overnight Lending, RP	5.50%
Overnight Borrowing, RRP	3.50%
91 Day T Bill Rates	0.87%
Interbank Call Loan Rate	2.00%

GLOBAL WATCHLIST



Bleak Outlook for 'Darlings of Davos'?

In 2014, the World Economic Forum embraced optimistic outlook for the emerging markets: Philippines, China and Nigeria. All of which are expected to hit growth of 6 to 7 percent. However, other BRIC economies such as Brazil and Russia are expected to slow down due to prolonged political weakness.

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Phl needs to attract more foreign investments – HSBC

MANILA, Philippines - Despite strong public infrastructure spending, the Philippines still needs to double its efforts in attracting more foreign investments to grow the economy by seven to nine percent, a Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corp. Ltd. economist said. "Unless we get a really sharp improvement in the investment climate, the long term growth will sort of be around five to six percent," Frederic Neumann, HSBC's co-head of Asian economic research, said in a briefing yesterday. (Philippine Daily Inquirer)



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Oil prices ease in Asian trade

SINGAPORE — Oil prices fell in Asian trade Wednesday ahead of the weekly US stockpiles report that will give an indication of demand in the world's biggest economy. New York's main contract, West Texas Intermediate (WTI) for April delivery, dipped 61 cents to \$99.42 in afternoon trade, and Brent North Sea crude for April eased 27 cents to \$108.28. The US Department of Energy will release its report later in the day and analysts expected inventories to have risen two million barrels in the week ending March 7 as the severe winter weather draws to an end, leading to weaker demand for heating oil. (Philippine Daily Inquirer)

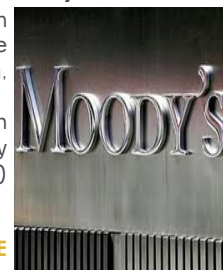


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FINANCIAL TRENDS

Asian banks 'well-placed' to deal with Fed taper -- Moody's

ASIAN banks, including the Philippines, are in a better position than other lenders elsewhere in the world to deal with any fallout from the Federal Reserve's continued reduction of its massive stimulus program, according to Moody's Investors Service. In its report titled "Fed Tapering Will Lead to Greater Credit Differentiation in Asia" released yesterday, Moody's said Asia will be less affected by a potential sudden stop in cross-border capital flows. (Business World)



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INDUSTRY BUZZ

Japan earmarks P215-M ODA for e-vehicles

JAPAN has committed P215 million in official development assistance for electric and hybrid vehicles. "Japanese Ambassador Toshinao Urabe and [Philippine] Secretary of Foreign Affairs Albert F. Del Rosario exchanged notes for the 'Non-Project Grant Aid (Next-Generation Vehicle Package)' amounting to ¥500 million (approximately P215 million) on March 12," read a statement from the Japanese Embassy yesterday. The package aims to contribute to a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions in the Philippines by providing "products" based on the government's requests. (Business World)



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INTERNATIONAL

GM offers \$500 discount, free loaners to owners of recalled cars

DETROIT -- General Motors is offering the 1.37 million U.S. owners of cars recalled for a faulty ignition switch a \$500 cash allowance toward the purchase or lease of a new car, and is advising dealers to offer loaners to concerned customers. In a March 4 notice to dealers, posted today on the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Web site, GM said the cash offer is good toward any 2013-2015 model year Chevrolet, Buick, GMC or Cadillac. (autonews.com)



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