



ECONOMIC INDICATORS

6.1 ↑ **Full Year 2015 Gross Domestic Product**

1.50 ↑ **December 2015 Inflation Rate**

-11.6 ↑ **Q3 2015 Consumer Confidence**

20.0 ↓ **Q3 2015 Auto-buying Intention**

47.65 ↑ **Daily Peso – Dollar Exchange Rate**

MACROECONOMIC SNAPSHOT

Import growth, cheap oil lure investors: DoF

The Philippines could cite robust domestic demand and depressed oil prices as selling points in attracting more investments that could subsequently cushion the possible retrenchment of overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) in the Middle East amid the oil price slump, the Finance department's chief economist said.



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Regulation of competition

The Philippine Commission on Competition (PCC) is off to a good start with the appointment of former Neda Director General Arsenio Balisacan as its chair and four other equally competent members.



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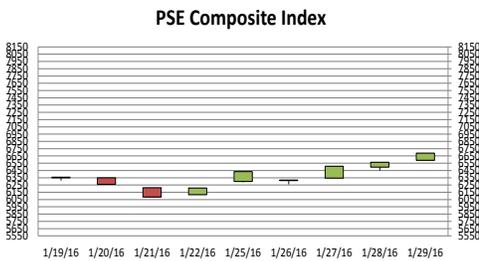
FINANCIAL TRENDS

BSP re-issues 100-piso banknotes

The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) is circulating today a new version or re-colored 100-piso banknotes in reply to public clamor to issue a more distinctive 100-piso versus the almost-similar 1,000-piso bills.



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INDUSTRY NEWS

CARS to rev engine of manufacturing

The manufacturing industry has grown by 8.1 percent over the last five years and has been a leading growth driver of the economy. To help sustain this strong growth and create more and better jobs, the government has been pursuing a new industrial policy.



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GLOBAL WATCHLIST



China's eerie silence as markets crumble

With about 2 trillion dollars wiped off the value of China shares in January, investors are seeking some kind of rescue plan from high levels authorities. But as Tara Joseph reports, Beijing has so far kept quiet.

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INTERNATIONAL

Daihatsu now wholly owned by industry giant Toyota

Alliances in the automotive industry are nothing new. Examples include Renault-Nissan, Fiat-Chrysler, and Tata buying Jaguar Land Rover. Now, you can add Toyota and Daihatsu to this esteemed list.



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