



ECONOMIC INDICATORS

6.1 ↑ Full Year 2015 Gross Domestic Product

1.30 ↓ January 2016 Inflation Rate

- 11.6 ↑ Q3 2015 Consumer Confidence

20.0 ↓ Q3 2015 Auto-buying Intention

47.08 ↑ Daily Peso – Dollar Exchange Rate

MACROECONOMIC SNAPSHOT

Services seen to counter exports decline in 2016

The expected double-digit growth in the services sector in 2015, which account for 30 percent of the country's total exports, is expected to arrest the decline in the country's exports to at most a negative two-digit growth.



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Inclusive growth a work in progress – Palace

The government has applied political will to implement reforms towards inclusive growth but conceded such progress cannot be attained within the term of President Aquino.



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FINANCIAL TRENDS

Bourse crawls back to positive territory

After a turbulent start, the Philippine stock market clawed its way back to positive territory for the year, but the upside may be capped at the 7,000 mark for now as external concerns persist, equity analysts said.



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INDUSTRY NEWS

E-vehicle industry enters talks to supply Thai counterparts

The Philippine and Thai electric vehicle sectors yesterday announced the potential for trade links between the two countries, with Manila ready to export "bulky" vehicle parts as early as this year to take advantage of zero tariffs within the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Economic Community.



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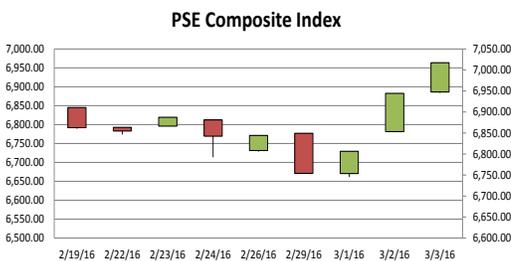
INTERNATIONAL

U.S. February auto sales jump 7 percent, no slowdown yet

U.S. February auto sales soared to a 15-year high for the month, carmakers reported on Tuesday, in the latest sign of continued consumer confidence.



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GLOBAL WATCHLIST



Employment trends still strong: Economist

Jim O'Sullivan from High Frequency Economics says February non-farm payrolls will be around the monthly average of 220,000.

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