



ECONOMIC INDICATORS

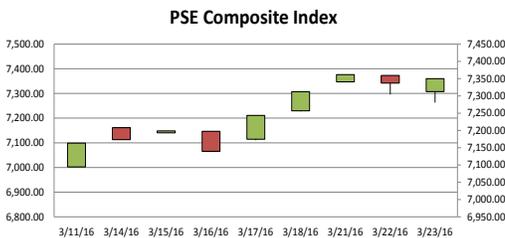
6.1 ↑ Full Year 2015 Gross Domestic Product

0.90 ↓ February 2016 Inflation Rate

-5.7 ↑ Q1 2016 Consumer Confidence

20.3 ↓ Q1 2016 Auto-buying Intention

46.40 ↓ Daily Peso – Dollar Exchange Rate



GLOBAL WATCHLIST



Why the Fed takes global factors into consideration
John Williams from the San Francisco Fed explains that what happens globally will inevitably have an impact on the Fed's domestic mandate.

[FULL STORY HERE](#)

MACROECONOMIC SNAPSHOT

Moody's lauded PH economy as more stable than neighbors' – gov't

The Philippines' stable macroeconomic profile would enable the country to withstand external shocks better than most of its neighbors could, debt watcher Moody's Investors Service said.



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Challenges face Philippine trade, investments

Economic restrictions, poor infrastructure and bureaucracy remain the major concerns pulling back Philippine trade and investment from reaching their full growth potential, according to a report by the Nordic Business Council Philippines (NBCP).



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FINANCIAL TRENDS

Index seen to breach 7,300 level this week

The benchmark Philippine Stock Exchange index (PSEi) is expected to range between 7,000 and 7,350 level next week, said Jonathan Ravelas, chief market strategist at Banco de Oro.



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INDUSTRY NEWS

Ayala eyes major automotive investment

Ayala Corp. is preparing to be a bigger player in local automotive manufacturing, ready to pour billions of pesos in an industry long dwarfed by peers in the region but henceforth seen to benefit from rising consumer affluence and new sweeteners offered by the government's comprehensive automotive resurgence strategy (CARS) program.



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INTERNATIONAL

Toyota begins production at efficient new engine plant in Indonesia

Toyota Motor Manufacturing Indonesia (TMMIN), Toyota Motor Corporation's vehicle production subsidiary in Indonesia, recently completed construction of a new engine plant, with production beginning from the end of February.



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