



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

46.36 ↓ Daily Peso – Dollar Exchange Rate

MACROECONOMIC SNAPSHOT

Agri research, regulation seen as weak points in DTI strategy

Agriculture has been declining, manufacturing has remained stagnant, while services have been the most important Philippine sector from the 1970s onwards, the Trade department said, as it highlighted the need to transform the agricultural sector from traditional farming into a globally competitive agribusiness. [FULL STORY HERE](#)



Iloilo economic zone wins approval from PEZA

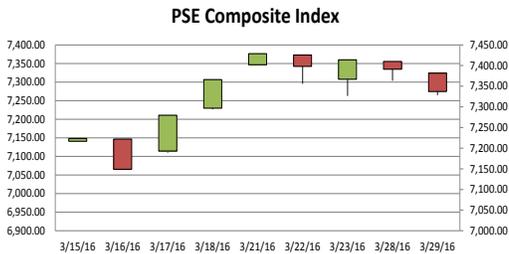
The Philippine Economic Zone Authority (PEZA) has given its endorsement for the proposed 6.2-hectare (ha) industrial zone in the town of Dumangas, about 26 kilometers northeast of Iloilo City. [FULL STORY HERE](#)



FINANCIAL TRENDS

Checkless transactions rise further in 2015 – DBM

The Department of Budget and Management (DBM) reported yesterday government transactions involving the use of expanded modified direct payment scheme (ExM-DPS) went up in 2015 as the share of checkless payment scheme to total government transactions rose to 77.6 percent from 70.7 percent in 2014. [FULL STORY HERE](#)



INDUSTRY NEWS

Honda Cars Ph now accepting reservations for the all-new Civic

Honda Cars Ph now accepting reservations for the all-new Civic. program. The compact sedan has a beefy front fascia with LED daytime running lights (DRL), a protruding front bumper, and chromed grille. It also has a coupe-like design as the rear glass swoops down smoothly from the C-pillar to the trunk giving it a sporty vibe to it. [FULL STORY HERE](#)



GLOBAL WATCHLIST



'A cautious Fed doesn't mean it's passive'

The Fed could still have room to hike rates as jobs and inflation data pick up, says Patrick Chovanec from Silvercrest AM Group. [FULL STORY HERE](#)

INTERNATIONAL

Bangkok International Motor Show 2016 Highlights

The 2016 Bangkok International Motor Show currently underway at the IMPACT Exhibition and Convention Centre in the capital city of Thailand. Manufacturers have shown high interest in the show, and have thus showcased their products in huge fanfare. [FULL STORY HERE](#)

