



ECONOMIC INDICATORS

	5.8 ↓	1.10 ↑	
▶ Full Year 2015 Gross Domestic Product		▶ March 2016 Inflation Rate	
	-5.7 ↑	20.3 ↓	
▶ Q1 2016 Consumer Confidence		▶ Q1 2016 Auto-buying Intention	
46.76 ↑			
▶ Daily Peso – Dollar Exchange Rate			

MACROECONOMIC SNAPSHOT

Import growth slows in February

Philippine purchases of foreign-made products increased at a sharply slower pace midway through the first quarter of this year.

[▶ FULL STORY](#)



Philippines found still competitive in wage terms vs China, some peers

Professionals in the Philippines receive salaries lower than counterparts in China and some Southeast Asian peers, a finding that serves a double-edged sword for the country, according to a global professional services firm.

[▶ FULL STORY](#)

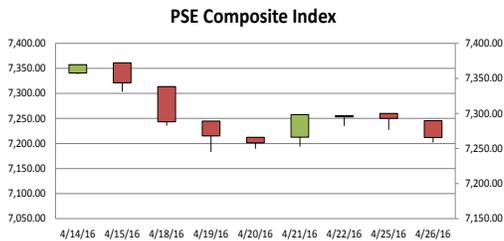


FINANCIAL TRENDS

Small banks' NPL ratio improves – BSP

The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) said the gross non-performing loans (NPLs) of rural and cooperative banks is slightly lower at 11.53 percent as of end-September 2015 compared to the previous quarter (end-June).

[▶ FULL STORY](#)



GLOBAL WATCHLIST



President Xi tightens grip on China's military

President Xi Jinping has been made commander-in-chief of a new joint command center set up to help China modernize its old fashioned military. But as Reuters' Greg Torode reports, there could be more to Xi's new appointment than meets the eye.

[▶ FULL STORY](#)

INDUSTRY NEWS

Honda launches much-awaited 10th-gen Civic

Honda Cars Philippines, Inc. (HCPI) unveiled the new 10th-generation Civic at Makati Shangri-La last night, heralding the return of one the world's most iconic cars to a position of greatness.

[▶ FULL STORY](#)



INTERNATIONAL

Chinese-made, US-bound: automakers eye exports

A gigantic robotic arm capable of lifting an entire chassis at a General Motors plant in Shanghai is the US automaker's secret weapon as it seeks to sell "Made in China" cars to America.

[▶ FULL STORY](#)

