



ECONOMIC INDICATORS

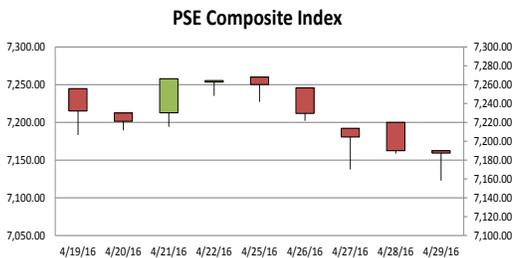
5.8 ↓ Full Year 2015 Gross Domestic Product

1.10 ↑ March 2016 Inflation Rate

-5.7 ↑ Q1 2016 Consumer Confidence

20.3 ↓ Q1 2016 Auto-buying Intention

46.89 ↓ Daily Peso – Dollar Exchange Rate



GLOBAL WATCHLIST



China puts the squeeze on foreign NGOs
China passes a controversial law putting non-profit groups under the control of police. Reuters' Michael Martin explains Beijing's justification for the clampdown.

[FULL STORY](#)

MACROECONOMIC SNAPSHOT

Reserve requirement cut expected

The Central Bank may opt to reduce the current reserve requirement for banks after the shift to an interest rate corridor (IRC) system, a senior monetary official said last week.

[FULL STORY](#)



House leader to DOF, DTI chiefs: Issue Timta IRR now

The legislature is fed up with the bickering over details to the long-delayed implementing rules and regulations (IRR) governing the newly minted Tax Incentives Management and Transparency Act (TIMTA), and compelled a key legislative leader to threaten over the weekend to haul the secretaries of finance and trade and industry before the Ombudsman for dereliction of duty.

[FULL STORY](#)



FINANCIAL TRENDS

Bank lending growth slows

Loans extended by commercial banks grew by a slower 14.8 percent year-on-year to P5.15 trillion in March, according to the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas.

[FULL STORY](#)



INDUSTRY NEWS

BIR ready to seize untaxed car imports

After today, imported vehicles without proof of tax payment from the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) will be confiscated and their owners will be sued.

[FULL STORY](#)



INTERNATIONAL

Nissan opens new research and development center in ASEAN

Nissan Motor Asia Pacific (NMAP) has opened a new R&D Test Center in Thailand. The new test center will serve as the R&D hub for ASEAN to better address customer needs in the region and to align more quickly to market requirements.

[FULL STORY](#)

