



ECONOMIC INDICATORS

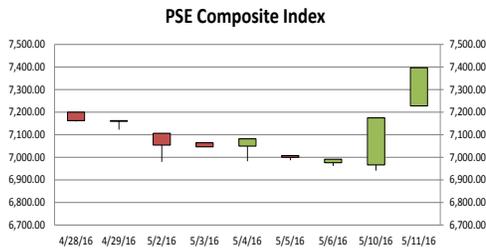
5.8 ↓ Full Year 2015 Gross Domestic Product

1.10 ↑ April 2016 Inflation Rate

-5.7 ↑ Q1 2016 Consumer Confidence

20.3 ↓ Q1 2016 Auto-buying Intention

46.55 ↑ Daily Peso – Dollar Exchange Rate



GLOBAL WATCHLIST



U.S. sets aside Duterte human rights concerns

The man set to be the next president of the Philippines has been dogged by allegations of human rights abuses. But for the U.S., what Rodrigo Duterte plans to do about the South China Sea might be more important. And as Martin Petty reports, he's already making plans.

[FULL STORY](#)

MACROECONOMIC SNAPSHOT

Global debt watchers affirm Philippine investment grade

International debt watchers are keeping the investment-grade credit rating of the Philippines amid the change in leadership as incoming president Rodrigo Duterte is expected to take over the government when President Aquino steps down on June 30.

[FULL STORY](#)



Exports in March fall for 12th straight month

The value of merchandise exports dropped for the 12th straight month last March, with the 15.1-percent year-on-year decline to \$4.6 billion also the steepest in six months amid weak global trade.



[FULL STORY](#)

FINANCIAL TRENDS

PSEi nears 7,400 on post-election euphoria

Local stocks rallied strongly to end near the 7,400 mark on Wednesday, outperforming regional markets, as post-election day euphoria extended for a second day.

[FULL STORY](#)



INDUSTRY NEWS

Auto sales zoom to new high in April

Automotive sales accelerated to a fresh record last month, fueling rollouts to rise nearly a quarter in the first four months of the year.

[FULL STORY](#)



INTERNATIONAL

Nissan planning to acquire controlling stake in Mitsubishi amidst fuel scandal

Nissan Motor Company is reportedly investing 200 billion yen (\$1.84 billion) to acquire a 34% controlling stake in embattled Mitsubishi Motors Corporation (MMC), the latter having been rocked by a scandal involving falsified fuel-economy ratings.

[FULL STORY](#)

