



ECONOMIC INDICATORS

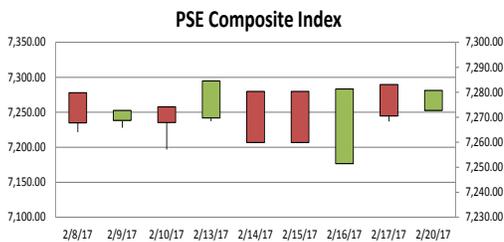
6.6 ↓ **Q4 2016 Gross Domestic Product**

2.70 ↑ **January 2017 Inflation Rate**

9.2 ↑ **Q4 2016 Consumer Confidence**

6.6 ↓ **Q4 2016 Auto-buying Intention**

50.23 ↓ **Daily Peso – Dollar Exchange Rate**



GLOBAL WATCHLIST



Why India's IT firms fear "America First"

India's \$150 billion IT industry, the cornerstone of a thriving economic partnership with the United States, is on the edge as it closely monitors how U.S. President Donald Trump's administration will manage policies around the outsourcing and movement of skilled workers. Ciara Lee reports

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MACROECONOMIC SNAPSHOT

Credit rating intact despite mining woes

The Philippines' credit rating is unlikely to take a beating from the government's crackdown on miners deemed erring, according to an analyst at Moody's Investors Service who nevertheless warned of a possible collapse in much-needed revenues and foreign investments in the already "underperforming" sector.



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ADB says reforms will make taxation more progressive, sustain growth

THE Asian Development Bank (ADB) said the focus of tax reforms on increasing the excise on key goods will make the system less regressive, helping improve the business environment while sustaining growth.



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FINANCIAL TRENDS

Peso falls to 10-year low at 50.23:\$1

The peso declined by another 23 centavos to close at its weakest level in more than a decade yesterday, spooked by prospects of higher interest rates in the US.



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INDUSTRY NEWS

PH motorcycle prod'n outpaces neighbors

The Philippines registered a robust 31 percent growth in motorcycle production in 2016, outpacing other ASEAN countries, and 18 percent increase in cars production, indicating an early traction of the government's manufacturing resurgence program.



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INTERNATIONAL

Toyota Passes Sales Milestone, Plans to Push Affordable Hybrids in U.S.

Toyota passes a milestone on hybrid-vehicle sales, saying it has moved more than 10 million of its gasoline-electric models – including plug-ins – worldwide since its iconic and market-leading Prius hit showrooms in 1997.



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