



## ECONOMIC INDICATORS

	<b>6.6</b>	<b>3.40</b>	
<a href="#">▶ Q4 2016 Gross Domestic Product</a>		<a href="#">▶ March 2017 Inflation Rate</a>	
	<b>9.2</b>	<b>6.6</b>	
<a href="#">▶ Q4 2016 Consumer Confidence</a>		<a href="#">▶ Q4 2016 Auto-buying Intention</a>	
	<b>50.18</b>		
<a href="#">▶ Daily Peso – Dollar Exchange Rate</a>			

### MACROECONOMIC SNAPSHOT

#### Inflation up 3.4% in March

Inflation accelerated to its fastest pace in nearly two-and-a-half years, the government reported this morning. The Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) said that headline inflation increased to 3.4% last month from 3.3% in February and 1.1% recorded in March 2016.



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#### House targets approval of first tax reform package next month

The first package of the government's tax reform program could bag committee and plenary approval in the House of Representatives next month, according to the head of the chamber's Ways and Means committee, even as the Department of Finance (DoF) had hoped to get the Senate's green light as well by June.



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### FINANCIAL TRENDS

#### Index rallies on rosy growth prospects

The stock market rallied yesterday on the back of rosy first quarter economic growth figures, analysts said.



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### INDUSTRY NEWS

#### MMDA chief Orbos to car manufacturers: Help us

Acting Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) chairman Tim Orbos was cordial about his new confession. Initially, Orbos said he took the big increase in vehicles sales in the country last year with mixed feelings.



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### GLOBAL WATCHLIST



#### Dalai Lama's controversial visit to the India-China border

The Dalai Lama embarks on a controversial journey to the disputed border between India and Tibet. It's a trip being made in the name of spirituality, but as Doug Busvine explains, there are political forces at work, regardless of his intentions.

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### INTERNATIONAL

#### Brazil lawmakers vote to regulate Uber, other apps

Brazil's Lower House of Congress voted on Tuesday to give cities greater power to regulate ride-hailing app Uber and other transportation apps, paving the way for local governments to charge taxes, require insurance and pension benefits for drivers.



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