



## 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>50.15</b>		
	<a href="#">Daily Peso – Dollar Exchange Rate</a>		

### MACROECONOMIC SNAPSHOT

#### BSP sees rates steady for now

The Central Bank still has enough room to keep interest rates steady despite faster inflation in March, the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) chief said yesterday, noting that the general price uptick was still within expectations.



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#### Groups score legislative inaction on tax reform

Public-advocacy groups Action for Economic Reforms (AER) and the Foundation for Economic Freedom (FEF) fear President Duterte would not have the financial resources to pursue his plans and programs as a result of continued legislative inaction on the Chief Executive's Comprehensive Tax Reform Program (CTRP).



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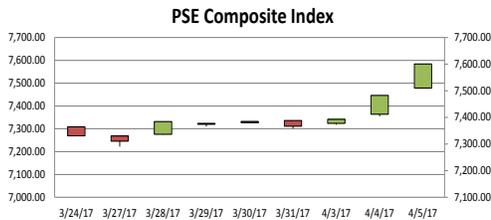
### FINANCIAL TRENDS

#### Peso up ahead of US-China meet

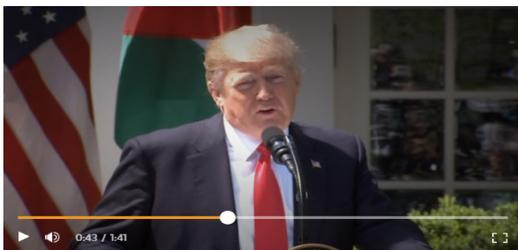
The peso strengthened on Wednesday following an economic manager's optimism on the country's economic growth for the first quarter even as traders remained cautious ahead of a meeting between US and China leaders this week.



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### GLOBAL WATCHLIST



#### Trump on Syria chemical attack: "Crosses many, many lines"

U.S. President Donald Trump says the chemical attack in Syria is an "affront to humanity" and "crosses many, many lines."

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### INDUSTRY NEWS

#### MMDA opens new emergency response facility

Residents of Metro Manila will now have easier access to information and measures regarding emergency situations in the National Capital Region with the opening of the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority's (MMDA's) newest facility designed to handle natural calamities and other crisis situations in the metropolis.



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### INTERNATIONAL

#### Britain shows the world how to deal with pollution

Even as Europe uses the most advanced diesel standard at Euro 6 – the country's baseline is currently at the gov't-mandated Euro 4. However, Britain is getting ready to crackdown on vehicles that cause air pollution, especially diesel-powered units.



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