



ECONOMIC INDICATORS

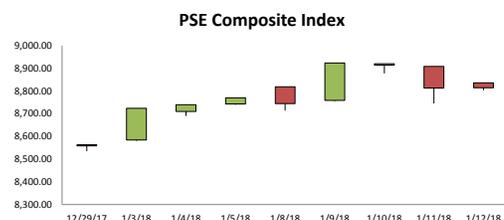
6.9 ↑ **Q3 2017 Gross Domestic Product**

3.30 ↓ **December 2017 Inflation Rate**

10.2 ↓ **Q3 2017 Consumer Confidence**

7.6 ↓ **Q3 2017 Auto-buying Intention**

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



MACROECONOMIC SNAPSHOT

Special Report: US, Korea investments falter in 2017, as China-Japan rise

American and Korean investments in the Philippines plunged in 2017 behind security and other business concerns, while China came roaring back to life due to its renewed friendship with the country, and Japan continued to view Southeast Asia's fastest growing economy as a favorable investment destination.

[FULL STORY HERE](#)



OFW remittance growth may have slowed in Nov.

Remittances from overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) likely grew at a slower pace in November ahead of an expected surge the following month, HSBC Global Research said, adding that the indicator is on track to post another record for 2017.

[FULL STORY HERE](#)



FINANCIAL TRENDS

Market likely to test 9,000 level

The bears have started to make their presence felt in the stock market last week but this was not enough to discourage investors, traders said. They said the market may still try to test the 9,000 mark sooner-than-expected.

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GLOBAL WATCHLIST



U.S. holiday spending surges to 12-year high

U.S. holiday spending jumped in the biggest gain since 2005 - spurred by stronger employment and, rising consumer confidence, the National Retail Federation said on Friday.

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INDUSTRY NEWS

Tax exemption to push EV market

Carmakers will be pushing their electric cars and electric vehicle (EV) platforms in the Philippine market very soon following the favorable tax treatment of these vehicles under the Tax Reform for Acceleration and Inclusion (TRAIN).

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INTERNATIONAL

What 2018 holds in store for the global auto industry

Toyota has recently done a significant U-turn by announcing a new strategy that, while focusing on hybrids and plug-in hybrids, will also include all-electric models, which until recently the company claimed weren't a viable option for the short and medium term.

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