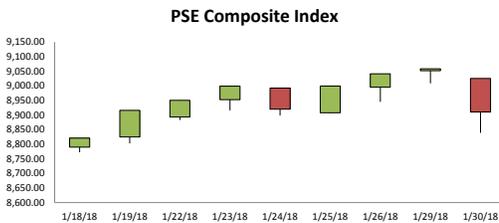




ECONOMIC INDICATORS

	6.6 ↓	3.30 ↓	
▶ Q4 2017 Gross Domestic Product		▶ December 2017 Inflation Rate	
	9.5 ↓	8.6 ↑	
▶ Q4 2017 Consumer Confidence		▶ Q4 2017 Auto-buying Intention	
	51.42 ↓		
▶ Daily Peso – Dollar Exchange Rate			



MACROECONOMIC SNAPSHOT

Inflation seen steady at 3.3% in Jan

Inflation likely remained steady at 3.3 percent in January as the drop in housing, utilities, and clothing prices was able to offset the rise in transport rates during the period, the Department of Finance (DOF) said.



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South Korea eyes improved economic ties with Philippines

South Korea plans to ramp up investments in the Philippines this year after a slowdown in 2017, with planned projects to support the government’s massive infrastructure program.



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FINANCIAL TRENDS

Peso slumps to three-month low as markets watch Yellen’s last Fed policy meet

The peso slumped further against the dollar on Tuesday, logging a three-month low, as market players remained cautious ahead of outgoing US Federal Reserve chair Janet L. Yellen’s last monetary policy meeting.



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INDUSTRY NEWS

DOTr, LTRFB will adjust 45,700 TNVS limit after a monitoring period

In a statement by the Department of Transportation, Secretary Arthur Tugade has ordered the Land Transportation Franchising Regulatory Board (LTRFB) to review the provisions in Memorandum Circular 2018-003; the MC that has set the limit of TNVS units available in Metro Manila to 45,000 all in all.



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GLOBAL WATCHLIST



How costly was Saudi’s corruption purge?

As living costs soar in Hong Kong, the city’s homeless population is growing at an alarming rate amid a widening wealth gap. Sareena Dayaram reports.

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INTERNATIONAL

VW suspends company lobbyist over ‘repulsive’ diesel fume tests

Volkswagen suspended its chief lobbyist on Tuesday in response to reports the carmaker had sponsored tests that exposed monkeys and humans to toxic diesel fumes, methods condemned by its chief executive as repulsive.



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