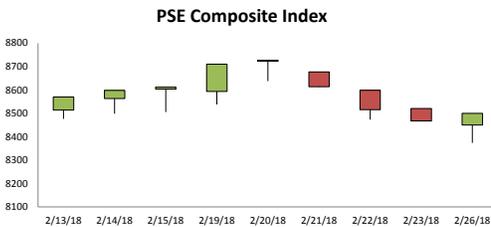




ECONOMIC INDICATORS

	6.6	4.0	
Q4 2017 Gross Domestic Product		January 2018 Inflation Rate	
	9.5	8.6	
Q4 2017 Consumer Confidence		Q4 2017 Auto-buying Intention	
51.86			
Daily Peso – Dollar Exchange Rate			



GLOBAL WATCHLIST



It's migrate or die for many Venezuelans

More than half a million Venezuelans have flooded into Colombia, many illegally, hoping to escape the grinding poverty and shortages of food and medicine that sank their country into crisis.

[FULL STORY HERE](#)

MACROECONOMIC SNAPSHOT

Report: Price spike to spur Q1 rate hike

Inflation will likely speed further to 4.5% in the next two months on the back of higher crude prices and new taxes on some basic goods, according to a monthly report that said this expectation could trigger a rate hike from the central bank by March.



[FULL STORY HERE](#)

Bangko Sentral dispels worries bank reserve cut leaves policy too loose

The cut in bank reserves is a "neutral" move as far as monetary policy is concerned, with succeeding moves to depend on how much liquidity can be mopped up by central bank operations, its chief said.



[FULL STORY HERE](#)

FINANCIAL TRENDS

Peso goes up on demand

The peso strengthened slightly against the dollar on Monday due to demand for the peso ahead of US Federal Reserve Chair Jerome H. Powell's testimony.



[FULL STORY HERE](#)

INDUSTRY NEWS

What's going on between the LTRFB, Grab, and Uber?

Recently, we attended Uber's celebration for its fourth anniversary in the Philippines. Four years might not sound like much, but it's a pretty big milestone for the ride-sharing giant. Around mid-last year, it seemed like the company's days in the country were numbered due to ongoing conflict with the government, particularly the Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTRFB).



[FULL STORY HERE](#)

INTERNATIONAL

What to Know About Daimler in China After Geely's Big Investment

Billionaire Li Shufu becoming the largest shareholder of Daimler AG is poised to shake up the dynamics of the Chinese auto industry, where local brands use partnerships with Western manufacturers to gain technology and prestige.



[FULL STORY HERE](#)

