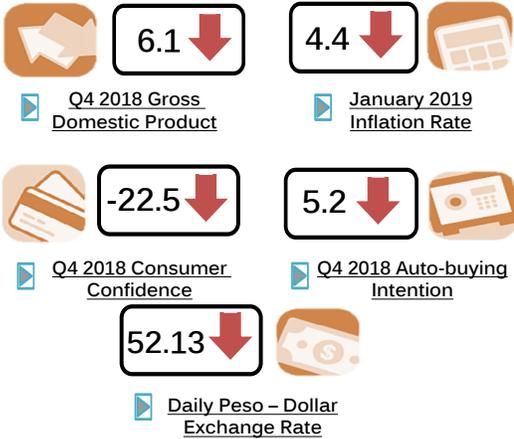




ECONOMIC INDICATORS



MACROECONOMIC SNAPSHOT

Budget gap widens, exceeds ceiling

The government breached its budget deficit ceiling in 2018 as it spent beyond the amount programmed for public goods and services.



[FULL STORY HERE](#)

WB pushes 4.5% of GDP infrastructure spending

Developing countries like the Philippines should invest more to improve living conditions and contribute to global efforts against climate change, the World Bank said.



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FINANCIAL TRENDS

Peso weakens anew versus dollar

The peso dropped against the dollar on Thursday after news of a Chinese port banning Australian coal imports hit the latter's currency.



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INDUSTRY NEWS

It's Final! Metro Manila Subway Groundbreaking to be Held on February 27

It's finally set. After months and months of delays, the Metro Manila Subway, which is also known as Mega Manila Subway, is set for its official groundbreaking this February 27.



[FULL STORY HERE](#)

GLOBAL WATCHLIST



Remain or leave? Carmakers confront hard Brexit choices

With Brexit just over a month away, carmakers are preparing for risk and potential opportunities offered by Brexit. Francis Maguire reports.

INTERNATIONAL

40 countries agree cars must have automatic braking

Forty countries led by Japan and the European Union — but not the U.S. or China — have agreed to require new cars and light commercial vehicles to be equipped with automated braking systems starting as soon as next year, a U.N. agency said Tuesday.



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