

The Daily Dispatch

October 12, 2017
TODAY'S TOP NEWS

JFC bucks House bills on mining-free zones

The JFC in the PH is opposing several House bills declaring mining-free zones and are seen to have the effect of amending the Philippine Mining Act of 1995. The JFC cited 9 House bills that are “inconsistent with the Philippine Constitution and the Mining Act and should not be considered and approved by Congress.”

Security Bank, PNB set LTNCD issues

Listed Security Bank Corp. is set to tap the debt market this month for the issuance of P20 billion in long-term negotiable certificates of deposit (LTNCD). Security Bank informed the Philippine Stock Exchange (PSE) it received last Tuesday the approval of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) for the fund raising activity.

Middle East retailer entering Philippine market

Middle East retail giant LuLu is set to make its foray into the Philippine market, seeking to enter the very competitive mall and supermarket landscape, and make the country its sourcing hub in the region. Officials from the LuLu group were in the country last Friday to discuss the group's planned entry into the Philippine market.

AGI forays into infra, plans Fort Skytrain

Tycoon Andrew Tan is joining the infrastructure bandwagon to take advantage of the government's ambitious infrastructure program. For his first project, Tan submitted an unsolicited proposal to build a two-kilometer elevated train that will link Fort Bonifacio in Taguig to the Guadalupe station of the Metro Rail Transit.

BSP to speed up OFW Bank establishment

The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) will work to accelerate the establishment of the government-owned Overseas Filipino Bank or OFW Bank, according to BSP Governor Nestor A. Espenilla Jr. “(The) BSP will be ready to fast track approval process once proposal is submitted formally,” Espenilla said.

Philippine Stock Market Update



Previous Close:

8,018.05

1 Yr Return:

-0.34%

Open:

8,015.68

YTD Return:

15.58%

52-Week Range:

6,499.00 - 8,106.74

Source:

Bloomberg

Foreign Exchange

As of Oct. 11, 2017

US Dollar	Philippine Peso
1	51.460

PDST-R2 Rates

As of Oct. 11, 2017

Tenor	Rate
1Y	2.8500
3Y	4.0268
5Y	4.5864
7Y	4.3269
10Y	4.6545
20Y	5.4464

Daily Quote

"The biggest temptation is to settle for too little."

--Thomas Merton

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MORE LOCAL NEWS

Sin taxes from JTI-Mighty raised to P40B in 2018

The Department of Finance (DOF) has raised its expected additional revenue from the new owners of Mighty brand cigarettes starting next year that will be earmarked to fund the unexpected costs of several calamities.

DBM recommends Northrail deactivation

The Budget department is recommending the deactivation of North Luzon Railways Corp. (Northrail) under a government plan to trim the number of state-owned firms. Budget Secretary Benjamin Diokno said it is currently also considering the abolition or mergers for other government-owned and –controlled corporations.

Econ managers still upbeat on investments

Foreign investors remain optimistic about the Philippines despite a continued slump in net inflows, economic managers said. Finance Secretary Carlos Dominguez 3rd claimed that President Rodrigo Duterte's foreign visits, in particular, had generated about \$59.3 billion in economic benefits for the country.

PT&T eyes comeback, seeks foreign partner

Philippine Telegraph and Telephone Corp. (PT&T) wants to regain its status as a major telecommunications force in the Philippines—revealing plans to provide high-speed internet across the country in three years and possibly tap a foreign telco partner as President Duterte calls for more competition in this sector.

SEC OKs increase of APL capital to P6B

Holding firm Apollo Global Capital Inc. (APL) has obtained approval from the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) to jack up its authorized capital by six times the current level to P6 billion to fund growth plans.

Alorica doubles down on employee recruitment

ALORICA, the largest BPO in the US and among the top 5 BPO players in the Philippines, partners with Xurpas Enterprise and STORM Technologies to accelerate talent acquisition and to increase employee engagement through an incentives-based motivational platform.

Gov't to deactivate NorthRail GOCC

The Governance Commission for Government-Owned or -Controlled Corporations (GCG) has recommended for deactivation the state-run firm that was formed to oversee the controversial NorthRail project.

TODAY'S TOP ASIAN NEWS

Japan steel scandal grows as more carmakers hit

Top Japanese automakers said they were scrambling to assess the safety of vehicles containing products from Kobe Steel, which has admitted falsifying quality data in a growing scandal. The brewing crisis is the latest in a string of scandals to hit major Japanese businesses in recent years, undermining the country's reputation.

SG home sharing quietly grows despite rules

Sizing up the home-sharing industry in Singapore has become the economist's puzzle as the aspiring "Smart Nation" grapples with resistance to next-door strangers. Despite government rules restricting the likes of Airbnb Inc operating in Singapore, there are signs that home-sharing has become more prolific in the city state.

Nikkei index nears 21-year high amid positive data

Driven by improved earnings and optimism over the strength of its economy, Japan's benchmark Nikkei 225 Index on Wednesday hit a closing high not seen in almost 21 years. The 20,881.27-point close is the highest since December 1996, though still a distance from its all-time closing high of 38,915.87 at the end of 1989.

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MORE ASIAN NEWS

Banyan Tree marks homecoming with resort in Mandai

Singapore hospitality group Banyan Tree Holdings will open its first Singapore resort on a 4.6-hectare site near the Singapore Zoo in Mandai by 2023. This comes after more than two decades of searching "long and hard" for project opportunities on its home turf, including Sentosa, and not finding any.

JPN's MUFG to spend on acquisitions in Asia, US

Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group Inc.'s lending arm is seeking acquisitions of about 100 billion yen (\$890 million) in Asia and the U.S. to bolster its global operations, its top executive said. Japan's biggest banks are expanding abroad to make up for declining loan profitability and a shrinking population at home.

Ola readies \$2B war chest to take on Uber in IND

As its rivalry with global ride-hailing giant Uber intensifies, India market leader Ola is preparing a \$2 billion war chest to take on competition. Ola on Wednesday announced that it had raised \$1.1 billion in its latest round led by Chinese internet major Tencent Holdings Ltd and Japanese investment behemoth SoftBank.

Goldman invests in Korean bakery ingredients maker

Global investment giant Goldman Sachs' Asian private equity arm has invested \$30 million for a minority stake in South Korean bakery ingredients maker Sun-in Co., as per a report in WSJ. The company will use the financing to improve its manufacturing and distribution facilities.

Blackstone, Brookfield eye assets of Kotak Realty

Kotak Realty Fund is in talks with US-based Blackstone Group LP and two Canadian entities to sell assets from two real estate funds raised in 2007, two people aware of the development said on condition of anonymity. The Canadian entities are Brookfield Asset Management Inc. and the Canadian Pension Plan Investment Board.

TODAY'S TOP GLOBAL NEWS

World must spend \$2.7T on charging for Tesla to fly

A \$2.7 trillion chasm stands between electric vehicles and the infrastructure needed to make them popular. That's how much Morgan Stanley says must be spent on building the supporting ecosystem for EVs to reach its forecast of 526 million units by 2040.

Bitcoin is retaking its place as king of crypto

Bitcoin is so close to making a new record and it could be because it's taking market share from its smaller cousins. The largest cryptocurrency crossed \$4,500 on Monday and is now hovering right below the \$5,000 line.

Taiwan fines Qualcomm for antitrust violations

Qualcomm Inc faces an antitrust fine in Taiwan, the latest in a years-long streak of regulatory setbacks to its business model that comes as it also fights U.S. regulators and iPhone maker Apple Inc in court over many of the same legal issues.

Alibaba to overtake Amazon on cloud computing

Chinese e-commerce giant Alibaba's cloud computing business is on track to achieve its goal of surpassing US firm Amazon's Amazon Web Service (AWS) unit to become the world's top provider of cloud services, according to the head of Alibaba Cloud.

Economic Calendar

Date	Release
10.15.2017	PH: Overseas Remittances YoY
10.15.2017	PH: Overseas Workers Remittances
10.18.2017	PH: BoP Overall
10.18.2017	PH: Budget Balance
10.30.2017	PH: Bank Lending YoY

Source: Bloomberg Economic Calendar