

# The Daily Dispatch

November 16, 2017  
TODAY'S TOP NEWS

## India's Modi hails PH as 'services powerhouse'

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday, November 13, likened the Philippines to India and hailed it as a powerhouse in the services sector. Modi's praises for the Philippines as a services powerhouse come as the Philippines challenges India's dominance as the top business process outsourcing (BPO) destination in the world.

## PH GDP growth in 2017 raised to 6.7%

It turns out that the Philippine economy grew faster than initially thought from April to June this year. The Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) announced on Wednesday, November 15, that it has raised the country's gross domestic product (GDP) growth for the 2nd quarter of 2017 from 6.5% to 6.7%.

## PH is last piece of ASEAN puzzle for CIMB

The Philippines is the last country for the CIMB Group Holdings Bhd to conquer to finally claim it is present in all 10 member countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). The Malaysian banking giant, the 5th largest lender in the region, is already in 9 out of the 10 ASEAN member countries.

## Filinvest, JGS tap Changi as partner in Clark bid

The Gotianun and Gokongwei groups, which have teamed up for another proposal to develop Clark International Airport, announced they have appointed Changi Airports Int'l (CAI) as their technical partner. CAI is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Changi Airport Group, the operator of "the world's best airport," Singapore's Changi Airport.

## Russian firm, FNI to construct nickel plant

Global Ferronickel Holdings Inc. said Tuesday it signed a cooperation agreement with Russia's Vi Holding Llc. to undertake the joint processing of lateritic nickel ores. FNI said that company chairman Joseph Sy and Vi Holding chairman Valery Krasnov signed the agreement at the sidelines of the bilateral meeting during the Asean Summit.

## Philippine Stock Market Update



**Previous Close:**

8,508.49

**1 Yr Return:**

21.80%

**Open:**

8,515.40

**YTD Return:**

24.93%

**52-Week Range:**

6,499.00 - 8,605.15

**Source:**

Bloomberg

## Foreign Exchange

As of Nov. 15, 2017

US Dollar	Philippine Peso
1	51.327

## PDST-R2 Rates

As of Nov. 15, 2017

Tenor	Rate
1Y	2.8578
3Y	4.3465
5Y	5.0838
7Y	5.1900
10Y	5.4504
20Y	5.1641

## Daily Quote

"Knowing is not enough; we must apply. Willing is not enough; we must do."

--Goethe

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## MORE LOCAL NEWS

### BCDA plans to build Luzon's internet infrastructure

The Philippines is expected to have faster internet once the proposed Luzon Bypass Infrastructure Project is completed by 2019, state-run Bases Conversion and Development Authority said. The project will have a capacity of 2 terabits per second, almost equal to the current combined capacity of Globe and PLDT-Smart.

### FDC, JG Summit form \$16b airport JV

Filinvest Development Corp (FDC) and JG Summit Holdings Inc (JGS) will invest over \$16 billion in new developments of the Clark International Airport, while Global Ferronickel Holdings Inc (FNI), and Russian company Vi Holding LLC have signed a cooperation agreement for joint business projects in mining.

### Gov't taps Facebook for internet infra plan

The government partnered with Facebook in order to put up a high speed internet infrastructure in a few years time, promising a capacity that would be "almost equal" to that of the giants of the telecommunications industry.

### PH gets \$142-M Jica loan for flood control project

The Philippine and Japanese governments have signed a 15.93-billion yen (about \$142 million) loan to build a flood control project in Cavite, the Department of Finance (DOF) said. The agreement was signed in the presence of President Duterte and Japan Prime Minister Shinzo Abe.

### OFW money down 8.3% in Sept

Sustenance sent back home through banks by Filipinos working and living abroad declined 8.3 percent year-on-year to \$2.186 billion in September partly due to the closure of a number of overseas money service providers, the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) said yesterday.

## TODAY'S TOP ASIAN NEWS

### Shanghai Pharma acquires US Cardinal Health CH

State-owned Shanghai Pharmaceuticals Holding Co has agreed to acquire Cardinal Health Inc's China drug distribution business for \$557 million, as it seeks to expand its distribution and retail network nationwide.

### Carlyle seeks to raise new \$1b energy fund

Carlyle Group, the world's largest private equity firm, is raising up to \$1 billion for a new fund to invest in oil and gas outside the United States as a stronger outlook for oil prices rekindles investor appetite, banking sources said.

### SoftBank to plan up to \$25b in Saudi investments

SoftBank Group Corp. plans to invest as much as \$25 billion in Saudi Arabia over the next three to four years as the Japanese company run by Masayoshi Son deepens investment ties with the kingdom, according to people familiar with the matter.

### Horizons backs Lofelt; Quadrant buys Timezone

In multiple developments in the Apac region, Horizons Ventures has backed Lofelt's Series A round and Quadrant has acquired 50 per cent stake in Timezone while NTT Communications has bought Secure-24.

### yMatou.com, Maimai.cn close Series C funding

The latest in the deals space in China has seen yMatou.com and Maimai.cn close significant Series C funding rounds. yMatou.com, a cross-border e-commerce company, raised over \$100 mn in Series C funding led by China Merchants Capital, while Maimai.cn, has raised \$75 mn in Series C funding in a round led by DCM Ventures.

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## TODAY'S TOP GLOBAL NEWS

### Toshiba sells TV business to Hisense

Chinese home appliance maker Hisense Group said on Tuesday that it was acquiring the television business of struggling Japanese conglomerate Toshiba for 12.9 billion yen (\$113.44 million) to further expand its overseas business.

### Stock slide pauses in Asia; Aussie bonds advance

The retreat in Asian stocks from historic highs triggered by concerns about outsized gains took a pause on Thursday. Australian bonds climbed after a rally in Treasuries spurred in part by the global equities sell-off. U.S. inflation data did little to alter the likelihood of the Federal Reserve lifting interest rates again next month.

### World's best macro fund surges 47% this year

As macro hedge funds worldwide are shaping up as the industry's worst performers this year, Singapore's PruLev Global Macro Fund is crushing rivals with a 47 percent gain. The fund's 2017 surge through October has made it the world's best performer among macro rivals with assets of more than \$100 million.

### PE giant Cerberus emerges as new DB shareholder

Deutsche Bank AG and Commerzbank AG surged after it emerged that private-equity firm Cerberus Capital Management is a top shareholder at Germany's two biggest banks. Cerberus declined to say if it has any specific plans for its 3 percent in Deutsche Bank and the 5 percent Commerzbank stake it disclosed in July.

### Amazon cuts prices again at Whole Foods

Amazon.com Inc said on Wednesday it will offer more discounts and steeper price cuts at Whole Foods Market on many organic foods and groceries popular during the holidays. The plan was announced just ahead of Thanksgiving and is on the heels of price cuts when Amazon completed its \$13.7B acquisition of Whole Foods.

### BlackBerry shifts patent strategy

Canada's BlackBerry Ltd announced the outsourcing of a significant part of its patent licensing efforts on Wednesday to a unit of the U.S.-based Marconi Group. BlackBerry said the work of sub-licensing a broad range of its patents to global smartphone manufacturers will fall to Teletry.

### Manulife prices first green bond, offering 3%

Manulife Financial Corp has priced S\$500 million of green bonds, a series of 3 per cent, 12-year notes whose proceeds the Canadian insurer will use for sustainable investments. Manulife said that the bonds are the first green bond of benchmark size issued by a life insurance company.

### Airbus seals \$50b deal to outshine Boeing in Dubai

Airbus announced the biggest commercial-plane deal in its history, securing an order valued at nearly US\$50 billion for 430 planes from its single-aisle A320neo line. The pact with US investor Indigo Partners gives Airbus the upper hand at the Dubai Air Show, where it has been trailing Boeing in orders.

### Bitcoin plunge wipes \$52b in value

Bitcoin plunged as the cancellation of a technology upgrade prompted some users to switch out of the cryptocurrency, spooking speculators who had profited from a more than 800 per cent surge this year.

## Economic Calendar

Date	Release
11.19.2017	PH: BoP Overall
11.19.2017	PH: Budget Balance
11.28.2017	PH: Money Supply M3 SRF YoY
11.28.2017	PH: Bank Lending YoY
11.30.2017	PH: Nikkei Philippines PMI Mfg

Source: Bloomberg Economic Calendar