

The Daily Dispatch

March 27, 2017
TODAY'S TOP NEWS

Phoenix Petroleum offers to pay taxes in advance

Listed oil firm Phoenix Petroleum Philippines Incorporated told the finance department of its plans to pay in advance its taxes due for its gasoline and petroleum-based product sales in 2017, as a gesture of support for the administration's proposed tax reform package, which includes higher excise taxes.

PH asks Australia to open market for banana growers

The Philippines again urged Australia to end its "overly stringent" export requirements that have been barring local banana growers from entering the Land Down Under for two decades. PH Finance Sec. Carlos Dominguez raised the Philippines' long-standing concern in his meeting with Australian Foreign Minister Julie Bishop.

Thai agri group CP Foods commits to PHL expansion

THAI AGRIBUSINESS conglomerate Charoen Pokphand Foods (CP Foods) Public Co., Ltd. has committed to expand its business in the Philippines, with plans to invest \$500 million within a year, Trade Secretary Ramon M. Lopez said.

China Bank plans P15-billion fundraising

In a listing notice at the Philippine Stock Exchange (PSE) on Friday, the Henry Sy-led bank said it is eyeing a stock rights offering of at least P15 billion, with the bank issuing up to 497,972,164 in common shares priced at P10 apiece.

PAL says in 'advanced' talks with strategic investor

PAL HOLDINGS, Inc. said it is in advanced discussions with an airline interested in taking a "less than 40%" stake in the company, with a deal seen within the first half of the year.

Philippine Stock Market Update



Previous Close:

7,269.62

1 Yr Return:

0.44%

Open:

7,268.64

YTD Return:

6.15%

52-Week Range:

6,499.00 - 8,118.44

Source:

Bloomberg

Foreign Exchange

As of March 24, 2017

US Dollar	Philippine Peso
1	50.246

PDST-R2 Rates

As of March 24, 2017

Tenor	Rate
1Y	3.1643
3Y	3.9412
5Y	4.2900
7Y	5.2021
10Y	5.3036
20Y	5.5375

Daily Quote

"The true soldier fights not because he hates what is in front of him, but because he loves what is behind him."

— G.K. Chesterton

The Daily Dispatch

MORE LOCAL NEWS

MPIC awarded Cagayan de Oro bulk water project

METRO PACIFIC Investments Corp. (MPIC), through its unit MetroPac Water Investments Corporation (MWIC), has been awarded a P2.8-billion bulk water project in Cagayan de Oro. It will pursue the project through a joint venture company, with MWIC owning 95% and 5% taken up by the Cagayan de Oro Water District.

Razon's ICTSI to bid for Greece's 2nd largest port

INTERNATIONAL Container Terminal Services, Inc. (ICTSI) on Thursday confirmed it will make a bid for a majority stake in Greece's Thessaloniki Port on Friday.

Metro Pacific proposes QC waste-to-energy facility

A consortium led by infrastructure holding firm Metro Pacific has obtained original proponent status for an unsolicited proposal to develop a solid waste-to-energy facility for Quezon City. Apart from Metro Pacific Investments Corp. (MPIC), the consortium also includes Covanta Energy LLC and Macquarie Group Ltd.,

Biz Buzz: Betting big on logistics

Word on the street is that Davao-based businessman Dennis Uy is set to consolidate his hold over logistics firm 2GO "in the next few weeks" after a bruising boardroom battle with its "outgoing" (if the scuttlebutt is accurate) chief Sulificio Tagud.

Pinoy app readies Asean expansion

Filipino start-up and mobile app Mober Technology Inc. has disclosed plans to penetrate the delivery market of Singapore and other markets in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations. Mober founder and chief executive Dennis Ng says the company is raising at least \$1 million from pre-series A funding.

Govt backs National Steel sale

The Trade Department will likely approve the proposal of Steel Asia Manufacturing Corp. to acquire, rehabilitate and operate the mothballed mill of National Steel Corp. in Mindanao. Trade Secretary Ramon Lopez said the government was ready to extend tax incentives to Steel Asia, but would not likely grant tariff protection.

Robinsons Land, Apex formalize agreement

Leading property developer Robinsons Land Corp. signs a lease agreement with Apex for one of Robinsons Land's upcoming office buildings—Zeta Tower, a LEED Silver Pre-certified green building located within Bridgetowne, a mixed-use complex located along C-5 Road, Ugong Norte, Quezon City.

Min. coops. say their views on WESM disregarded

In a news conference here Friday, the Association of Mindanao Rural Electric Cooperatives, Inc. (AMRECO) said one of their main proposals is establishing an "independent" market that will be managed by local industry stakeholders and not the Philippine Electricity Market Corp. (PEMC).

TODAY'S TOP ASIAN NEWS

Unexplained 85% fall nothing new for HK stocks

One of the most striking things about the 85 percent plunge in Huishan Dairy Holdings Co.'s stock on Friday was how little it surprised market observers in Hong Kong. The mysterious crash, the indefinite trading halt - it was all too familiar for traders who've had to navigate at least 3 similar episodes in the past 2 years.

SGD bulls are gathering in the swap market

Singapore's interest-rate markets are signaling gains for the local dollar as bets grow the nation's central bank will avoid easing policy next month and some economists are starting to forecast tightening in October. The city-state's two-year swap has fallen below its US counterpart this year, at its lowest level since June 2012.

The Daily Dispatch

MORE ASIAN NEWS

Uber, millennials drive Asia's best telco stock

Uber driver Akhmad Andy Riyanto spends about three times more than the average user on his mobile phone service in Jakarta - and it's helped PT XL Axiata become Asia's best-performing telecom stock. XL Axiata has rallied 42 percent this year, the top stock in the MSCI AC Asia Telecommunication Services Index.

CH banks feel pinch from falling interest income

Of the Big Five state-owned banks, Agricultural Bank of China is expected to post the largest profit decline, of 2 percent, to 177.3 billion yuan (US\$25.8 billion), according to a poll of 21 analysts by Bloomberg. This will mark the lender's first earnings drop since 2010.

Grab said to be targeting \$2b in funding

Grab, Uber Technologies' largest rival in South-east Asia, plans to raise more than US\$1.5 billion (S\$2.1 billion) in a new funding round backed by SoftBank Group, people familiar with the matter said.

HNA buys \$446M stake in Old Mutual's U.S. unit

Chinese conglomerate HNA Group Co. agreed to buy a 25 percent stake in Old Mutual Plc's U.S. asset management unit for about \$446 million, adding to a \$30 billion spending spree since last year.

Inflows rise to bridge India deficit

Economists are betting that India has seen the back of the impact of its unprecedented cash ban, prompting foreigners to pour in investment that's crucial to help bridge a widening current account deficit.

TODAY'S TOP GLOBAL NEWS

Oil producers eye extension of output cuts

OPEC and non-OPEC producers said on Sunday, March 26, at a meeting in Kuwait they were looking into extending an output cuts deal aimed at stabilizing the market, as compliance with the milestone pact increases. The cuts aim to reduce world oil supplies and boost prices that have slumped since mid-2014.

Toshiba's Westinghouse may file bankruptcy Tuesday

Westinghouse Electric Co, the U.S. nuclear unit of Japan's Toshiba Corp, could file for bankruptcy protection as early as Tuesday and is seeking support from South Korea's Korea Electric Power Corp, the Nikkei said on Monday.

Trump to sign order easing energy regulations

President Donald Trump will sign an order on Tuesday aimed at making it easier for companies to produce energy in the United States, administration officials said on Sunday. Under Trump, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is aiming to aggressively roll back Obama-era environmental regulations.

Tax plan does not have to be revenue neutral

U.S. Representative Mark Meadows, chairman of the conservative House Freedom Caucus, said on Sunday there is a possibility that his group could support a tax reform plan that is not revenue neutral. A fiscal conservative, Meadows had said that tax reform depended on the repeal of Obamacare in order to offset the likely cost of tax cuts.

Economic Calendar

Date	Release
03.20.2017	PH: BoP Overall
03.23.2017	PH: BSP Overnight Borrowing Rate
03.30.2017	US: GDP Annualized QoQ
03.31.2017	PH: Money Supply M3 SRF YoY
03.31.2017	PH: Bank Lending YoY

Source: Bloomberg Economic Calendar