

The Daily Dispatch

August 07, 2017
TODAY'S TOP NEWS

BSP completes BPI inquiry; no sanctions yet

The BSP has wrapped up its investigation on the glitch that paralyzed the nationwide operations of Ayala-led BPI last June. BSP Deputy Governor Chuchi Fonacier said the central bank's SES has completed its inquiry into the supposed internal data processing error that affected the operations of BPI last June 6.

Gatchalian bats for creation of energy policy

Gatchalian is batting for the creation of a national energy efficiency and conservation policy framework as an innovative approach to securing viable and affordable power nationwide. Gatchalian sponsored Senate Bill 1531, stressing that "energy efficiency and conservation strategies cover all three fronts of the 3S vision."

Insular Life rolls out local currency fund

Insular Life has launched a new product that allows the local investors to diversify into global markets through the local currency. Called the Peso Global Equity Fund, it aims to achieve long-term growth and capital appreciation by investing majority of its assets in instruments w/exposure in income-producing equities.

DOF to revise IRR on attrition law

The DOF said it will introduce revisions to the implementing rules and regulations (IRR) governing the system of reward and punishment for officials and employees of the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) and the Bureau of Customs (BOC) while waiting for Congress to amend Republic Act 9335 or the lateral attrition law.

BRF seeks clarification on import ban

Brazilian firm BRF S.A., one of the world's top poultry exporters, is asking the Philippine government to clarify its decision to stop accepting shipments from three of its accredited meat-packing plants.

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 August 4, 2017

US Dollar	Philippine Peso
1	50.240

PDST-R2 Rates

As of August 4, 2017

Tenor	Rate
1Y	2.8744
3Y	3.8868
5Y	4.6286
7Y	4.7786
10Y	4.9600
20Y	5.1537

Daily Quote

"Obstacles can't stop you. Problems can't stop you. Most of all, other people can't stop you. Only you can stop you." --Jeffrey Gitomer

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MORE LOCAL NEWS

Globe launches GoPay mobile QR payment system

Ayala-led Globe Telecom has begun its rollout of new digital financial projects following its partnership with Jack Ma's Ant Financial. Mynt, Globe's digital payments arm, announced over the weekend the launch of the Philippines' first QR payment system via smartphone.

Philippine inflation in July edges up

Philippine inflation – the movement of prices of basic goods and services – has slightly picked up pace in July, which closed higher at 2.8% from the revised 2.7% in June, due to higher prices of housing, utilities, transport, education, and other miscellaneous services.

Manny Pangilinan to eventually divest from Inquirer

Manuel "Manny" Pangilinan said he has talked with the Rufino-Prieto family and has agreed to divest and sell all his shares in the group of Philippine Daily Inquirer. For Pangilinan, the intention of his divestment in Inquirer group is likely to give 100% ownership to Ang.

Lopez pushes Asean zero tariff regime

Asean 2017 Economic Ministers chairman and Trade Secretary Ramon Lopez again called on all Asean member countries to make an effort to open up at least 92 percent of their markets to zero tariff as part of their commitment to partially conclude the discussions on the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP).

MPIC to start Mactan bridge

The tollway unit of Metro Pacific Investments Corp. said it expects to start the construction of the P27.9-billion road and bridge connecting Cebu City to Mactan Island via Cordova by the second half of the year. Metro Pacific Tollways Corp. said the 8.25-km Cebu-Cordova Link Expressway was expected to be completed by 2020.

Phoenix gets nod for Petronas purchase

Oil distributor Phoenix Petroleum Philippines Inc. said it has secured approval from the Philippine Competition Commission (PCC) for its acquisition of Petronas Energy Philippines, Inc. (PEPI) which will bolster its liquefied natural gas (LNG) portfolio.

Metro Pacific mulls IPO for hospital unit in 2019

METRO PACIFIC Investments Corp. (MPIC) is considering an initial public offering (IPO) for its hospital unit in 2019, as it looks at various options to fund its expansion, a top official said on Friday.

First Gen still interested in LNG 'megaproject'

FIRST GEN Corp. remains keen on working with state-led Philippine National Oil Co. (PNOC) to build an integrated liquefied natural gas (LNG) project after the government said it is open to accepting unsolicited proposals for the facility.

5,000 elite jobs in BPO sector at risk

The Philippines stands to lose around 5,000 top caliber and financially rewarding jobs in a subsector of the business process outsourcing (BPO) industry if the government insists on removing a perk under the first package of its tax reform program, an industry source said.

Aclara buys GE's majority stake in Meralco JV

US-based Aclara, an affiliate of private equity firm Sun Capital Partners Inc, has acquired General Electric's majority equity position in its joint venture with Manila Electric Co. The JV firm, General Electric Philippines Meter & Instrument Co Inc is touted as the market leader for electric meters in the country.

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TODAY'S TOP ASIAN NEWS

Globalization thrives in Asia as exports buoy growth

For all the talk of globalization's retreat amid the mercantilist rhetoric of Donald Trump, it's proving to be a very different story in Asia. Exports are resurgent, governments are pursuing free-trade deals, and rather than bringing jobs back home, American automakers are planning new facilities in China.

WeWork to pump \$500M into SEA, South Korea

WeWork Cos., the world's largest provider of shared work spaces, will invest \$500 million in Southeast Asia and South Korea, as the New York-based company steps up its expansion in global markets. WeWork, said to be valued at about \$20 billion, is seeing robust growth in South Korea since opening its office less than a year ago.

Aboitiz buys Vietnamese animal feeds company

Conglomerate Aboitiz Equity Ventures Inc. has expanded its animal feeds business in Vietnam with the acquisition of a controlling stake in Europe Nutrition Joint Stock Co. (Eurofeed). Through wholly-owned subsidiary Pilmico International Pte., AEV is buying 70 percent of Vietnam-based Eurofeed for \$3.7 million.

CH merger and acquisition deals in US down in H1

Merger and acquisition (M&A) activity by mainland Chinese companies in the United States dropped in the first half to just 22 per cent of the combined value of such deals a year earlier, due to the double whammy of Washington's protectionist leanings and Beijing's tighter capital outflow scrutiny, according to an industry report.

Asean economies face common challenges

While ASEAN economies remain among the most dynamic and resilient in the world, the regional bloc must be wary of the "political consequences" of its economic relationships, a local think tank said. Stratbase ADR Institute (ADRI) chairman Albert del Rosario said "ASEAN members have shown a skillfulness in exploiting economic niches."

TODAY'S TOP GLOBAL NEWS

Saudi Arabia builds cities to take economy past oil

After relying on oil to fuel its economy for more than half a century, Saudi Arabia is turning to its other abundant natural resource to take it beyond the oil age -- desert. The kingdom is converting thousands of square kilometers of sand into new cities as it seeks to diversify away from crude, create jobs and boost investment.

Venezuela's leaders begin march toward control

Members of President Nicolás Maduro's governing party marched triumphantly into Venezuela's Capitol building on Friday, calling to order a 545-member body with plans to rewrite the Constitution and consolidate their power over the nation.

UK prepared to pay 40B-euro Brexit bill

Britain is prepared to pay up to 40 billion euros (\$47.1 billion) to the European Union to settle its accounts when it leaves the bloc, the Sunday Telegraph newspaper reported. It is the first time the British side has put a figure on its so-called Brexit bill — although the sum falls well short of the 100-billion-euro sum discussed in Brussels.

Keppel keen to explore infra investments in PH

Keppel Group of Companies plans to explore investment opportunities in the country's infrastructure sector despite the crisis in Marawi City and martial law in Mindanao, a top Keppel official said on Thursday. Keppel is looking at the possibility of exploring investment opportunities under the Philippines' PPP program, specifically in infrastructure.

Economic Calendar

Date	Release
08.03.2017	PH: CPI YoY
08.06.2017	PH: Foreign Reserves
08.09.2017	PH: Trade Balance
08.10.2017	PH: BSP Overnight Borrowing Rate
08.14.2017	PH: Overseas Remittances YoY

Source: Bloomberg Economic Calendar