

# The Daily Dispatch

February 14, 2024  
TODAY'S TOP NEWS

## Japan's Tokai acquires P486-m shares in REDC

Japanese conglomerate Tokai Corp. is increasing its stake in Repower Energy Development Corp. (REDC) with the acquisition of 65.1 million common shares worth P486.3 million. Tokai said it would purchase additional 65.1 million REDC shares at P7.47 apiece. This will increase Tokai's stake in REDC to 20.1 percent.

## BPI, Mizuho renew alliance to support Japan firms

Bank of the Philippine Islands (BPI) said Tuesday it renewed its alliance with Mizuho Bank Ltd. to expand and strengthen the scope of business cooperation between the two lenders.

## DOTr, SM Prime break ground on EDSA Busway link

The Department of Transportation (DOTr) and SM Prime Holdings Inc. broke ground on Tuesday for the construction of state-of-the-art EDSA Busway Concourse. Transportation Secretary Jaime Bautista said the EDSA Busway Concourse reflects the successful partnership between the public and private sectors.

## PDIC plans to adjust maximum coverage after 15 years

State-run Philippine Deposit Insurance Corp. (PDIC) said Tuesday it is weighing an increase in the maximum deposit insurance coverage (MDIC), potentially marking the first adjustment since 2009. The agency was in talks with the BSP and the Financial Stability Coordination Council (FSCC) to study the possible increase.

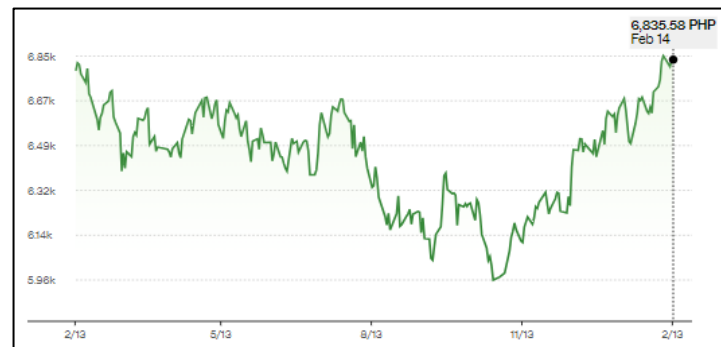
## Philippine stocks rebound on positive FDI data

Philippine stocks rose Tuesday as investors welcomed the positive news about net inflows of foreign direct investments (FDI) in the Philippines. The bellwether PSEi added 20.10 points, or 0.29 percent, to close at 6,827.92, while the broader all-shares index climbed 10.82 points, or 0.30 percent, to finish at 3,576.88.

## Special Announcement

Deloitte and Primeiro Partners join forces in the Philippines in a move to strengthen Deloitte's end-to-end M&A capability in Southeast Asia

## Philippine Stock Market Update



**Previous Close:**

6,827.92

**1 Yr Return:**

3.52%

**Open:**

6,810.64

**YTD Return:**

5.88%

**52-Week Range:**

5,920.47 - 6,931.55

**Source:**

Bloomberg

## Foreign Exchange

As of February 13, 2024

US Dollar	Philippine Peso
1	55.94

## BVAL Reference Rates

As of February 13, 2024

Tenor	Rate
1Y	6.102
3Y	6.059
5Y	6.133
7Y	6.164
10Y	6.186
20Y	6.092

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## MORE LOCAL NEWS

### Gov't raises P213B from retail bonds

The government on Tuesday raised an initial P212.719-bn from its auction of the retail Treasury bonds (RTBs), the third under the Marcos administration and the 30th overall. Meanwhile, the government is also looking to tap the offshore bond market this year to raise about \$600-mn, Finance Secretary Ralph G. Recto said.

### Green-lane certificates issued for P244b of RE projects

The Board of Investments (BoI) has issued green-lane certificates to six renewable energy (RE) projects which cost a combined P244.26-bn, the investment promotion agency said on Tuesday. Two of the endorsed projects are 1.2-gigawatt (GW) joint wind power projects of Triconti Windkraft and Sea Wind Holdings AG worth P221.6-bn.

### RE firm to study viability of micro-hydropower

Renewable energy (RE) company BPE Corp. (BPEC) is gearing up to conduct feasibility studies for micro-hydropower systems at 20 potential sites across Bulacan, Davao, and Pangasinan provinces, the company's president said. BPEC is a renewable energy company based in Pasig backed by BlueCap Hydro Group of Hague, Netherlands.

### SPNEC expects surge in investor interest

SP New Energy Corp. (SPNEC) is seeing increased interest in its stocks after being included in the MSCI Philippines Small Cap Index. Shares of SPNEC closed at P1.16 per share on Monday, the company said. SPNEC has replaced MREIT, Inc. on the roster.

### SteelAsia says IPO plans still in the pipeline

Steelmaker SteelAsia Manufacturing Corp. said that conducting an initial public offering (IPO) is still under consideration and remains part of the company's strategic plans for the future. SteelAsia is aiming to achieve over 10% revenue growth this year, led by the company's infrastructure projects.

### Government pushes P839-Bn water infra projects

During an investment forum organized by the UK government yesterday, Finance Undersecretary Catherine Fong maintained that water remains an overlooked resource in the world. She said there is a need to urgently address such challenges by forging sustainable solutions through investments in surface water sources.

### BSP eyes boosting Philippine corporate bond market

BSP Senior Assistant Governor Johnny Noe Ravallo said 80 percent of the country's market finance comes from the banking industry while only 20 percent comes from corporate bonds. He added that investing in existing corporate bonds poses less risk as most issuers have the lowest expectation of failure risk.

### ACEN gets support from Australian indigenous group

Ayala-led power unit ACEN Corp. has joined forces with Australia's First Nations Yindjibarndi people to develop renewable energy (RE) projects on Yindjibarndi Ngurra, located approximately 13,000 square kilometers within Yindjibarndi's exclusive native title land in Western Australia.

### JICA leads project to reprocess food waste

The local government of Mandaue, Cebu is working with the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and two Japanese firms for a feasibility study to convert food waste to energy, soil conditioner or animal feeds to promote a circular economy and fight climate change.

### Hotel101 to file for Nasdaq listing in April

DoubleDragon Corp.'s subsidiary, Hotel101 Global Pte. Ltd. is preparing to list on the Nasdaq Stock Exchange as it is set to file its prospectus in April. Hotel101 has already secured the ticker symbol "HBNB" at the Nasdaq Stock Exchange.

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## TODAY'S TOP ASIAN NEWS

### Korean Air wins EU's approval for \$1.4B Asiana deal

Korean Air Lines' \$1.4-bn bid for smaller rival Asiana Airlines won approval from the European Union, moving the deal one step closer to reality after the firms offered to address concerns raised over competition. The merger still requires regulatory approval from the United States.

### India plans \$9B solar push amid nearing elections

India plans to invest about \$9-bn to power 10 million homes with rooftop solar panels, boosting the weakest segment of the country's booming renewable industry. Prime Minister Narendra Modi will seek to increase the pace of the solar-power rollout with a combination of subsidies and cheaper loans.

### India's swap rates hint at late start to rate cuts

Indian debt market participants have pushed their expectations for the start of rate cuts by at least two months following the hawkish tone of the latest monetary policy statement, as reflected in the overnight index swap (OIS) market, traders said.

### Tesla rival BYD weighs EV plant in Mexico

Top Chinese electric vehicle maker BYD is considering setting up a plant in Mexico, the head of the company's local subsidiary has told Nikkei, as the automaker seeks to establish an export hub to the U.S.

### JPN life insurers poised to surge \$350b by 2028:

The Japanese life insurance industry is projected to experience a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 2.0% to \$359.5b in 2028 from \$289b in 2024 in terms of gross written premiums (GWP), according to GlobalData.

## TODAY'S TOP GLOBAL NEWS

### US stocks fall on higher-than-expected inflation

Wall Street stocks tumbled after US consumer inflation slowed less than expected in January, dampening hopes for quick interest rate cuts from the Federal Reserve. The Consumer Price Index (CPI) rose 3.1% from a year ago, while "core" inflation, stripping out volatile food and energy components, rose 3.9%

### US seeks more than \$1B from collapsed SVB for taxes

The United States Internal Revenue Service is seeking to recover about \$1.4-bn in taxes it claims are owed by Silicon Valley Bank (SVB), the regional lender that failed last year. The federal tax agency claims the California-based lender owes both corporate income and employment taxes spanning a four-year period ending in 2023.

### Boeing deliveries shrink 29% in amid safety concerns

Boeing said on Tuesday it delivered 27 airplanes in January, down 29% from the same month last year as regulators, lawmakers and customers pressured the planemaker following a MAX 9 mid-air cabin panel blowout last month. Boeing's European rival Airbus delivered 30 jets in January and reported 31 new orders.

### Walmart in talks to buy Vizio for more than \$2 bn

Walmart (WMT.N), opens new tab is in talks to buy smart-television manufacturer Vizio (VZIO.N), opens new tab for more than \$2 billion, the Wall Street Journal reported on Tuesday, a move that could bolster its advertising business and give it control of more than a fifth of the U.S. television market.

### Carbon capture tech a 'complete falsehood'

Carbon capture is not a solution for the energy transition and political leaders need to provide real, non-greenwashed, commitments to encourage investment, Andrew Forrest, executive chairman of Fortescue Metals, said on Tuesday.