

# The Daily Dispatch

**May 31, 2019**  
**TODAY'S TOP NEWS**

## PH among slowest in mobile internet worldwide

Mobile internet speeds in the Philippines continue to lag behind most countries in the world, ranking 11th slowest in upload speed and 16th slowest in download speed among 87 countries, according to the latest report of mobile analytics company OpenSignal.

## PAL raising capital stock ahead of re-IPO

PAL Holdings, the operator of flag-carrier Philippine Airlines, has taken off with its plans to do a re-initial public offering (re-IPO) with a move to increase its authorized capital stock. PAL yesterday secured stockholders approval to raise its authorized capital stock to P20 billion from P13.5 billion.

## JPN firms commit support to PH transport projects

Japanese companies have committed to support various transport projects and programs in the country, according to the Department of Transportation, following a series of meetings in Tokyo.

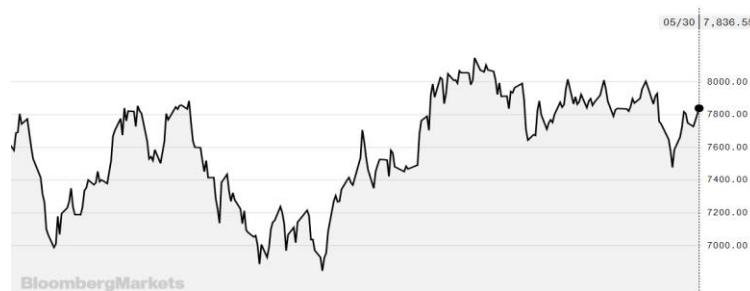
## Index gets boost from foreign buying

Foreign buying propped up the stock market yesterday, sustaining the previous day's gains. Thus, the benchmark Philippine Stock Exchange index (PSEi) rose 38.80 points, or 0.50 percent, to end at 7,836.55. Likewise, the broader All Shares index was also up by 17.27 points.

## DOE orders oil firms to break down prices

Energy Secretary Alfonso Cusi is requiring all oil companies to report a breakdown of oil prices, including profit margins despite strong opposition from industry players. With the revised guidelines, oil players will be required to report their "unbundled price adjustments".

## Philippine Stock Market Update



<b>Previous Close:</b>	<b>1 Yr Return:</b>
7,836.55	7.51%
<b>Open:</b>	<b>YTD Return:</b>
7,872.77	6.03%
<b>52-Week Range:</b>	<b>Source:</b>
6,790.58-8,213.71	Bloomberg

## Foreign Exchange

As of May 30, 2019

US Dollar	Philippine Peso
1	52.20

## BVAL

As of May 30, 2019

Tenor	Rate
1Y	5.7010
3Y	5.5640
5Y	5.6030
7Y	5.6280
10Y	5.6200
20Y	5.8070

## Daily Quote

"The pessimist sees difficulty in every opportunity. The optimist sees opportunity in every difficulty."

– Winston Churchill

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## MORE LOCAL NEWS

### RLC sees stronger growth, eyes Clark

Robinsons Land Corporation (RLC) expects its earnings to surge this year as it begins to recognize sales in its residential project in China while continuing to expand its residential and recurring income portfolio in the Philippines.

### US allows imports of young coconuts from PH

The United States (US) will now allow the entry of young coconuts coming from the Philippines, following a bilateral meeting held between the two countries last week as well as the request made by the Department of Agriculture (DA) in 2017.

### Rockwell sets P14B capex, launch P11.4B projects

Rockwell Land Corporation, a member of the Lopez group of companies, is earmarking P12 billion to P14 billion for capital expenditures (capex) this year as it gears up to launch P11.4 billion worth of real estate products in the second semester.

### Stock-market accounts breach 1mn for first time

Total stock-market accounts reached 1.08 million, up by 25 percent from the 868,810 accounts in 2017. This was spurred by a 60-percent increase in the number of online accounts to 625,763 this year from 388,864 the previous year.

### Tax perks for electric vehicles readied

The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) expects to finish within the year an incentive package for electric vehicle manufacturers, a top official said.

### UB secures funds for expansion via retail bond

Aboitiz-led Union Bank of the Philippines has raised P5.8 billion from a new offering of local retail bonds, proceeds from which will supplement its funding base and support business expansion plans.

### HSBC bullish on Philippine economy

British banking giant HSBC remains optimistic with the Philippines' growth story, thanks to the simultaneous easing of the government's monetary and fiscal policies.

### IBPAP says revenues grow in 2018

THE Information Technology and Business Process Association of the Philippines (IBPAP) said revenues picked up pace in 2018, but failed to reach its targets under the current industry road map.

### Robinsons Retail still rationalizing RSCI stores

ROBINSONS Retail Holdings, Inc. (RRHI) is looking to rationalize the store network of Rustan Supercenters, Inc. (RSCI). RRHI completed the acquisition of RSCI in December last year. The deal placed RSCI's total network of 80 stores.

### Uncertainty weighs on electronics firms' plans

THE COUNTRY has lost a "billion dollars" worth of investments for chip plant expansion due to uncertainty from plans to change tax incentives, the Semiconductor and Electronics Industries in the Philippines Foundation, Inc. (SEIPI) said on Thursday.

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## TODAY'S TOP ASIAN NEWS

### Vietnam's NutiFood launches dairy factory in Sweden

The tripartite joint venture of Nutifood, Backahill Group, and The Cooperative of Skänemejerier Ekonomisk Förening dairy farms officially announced the operation of NutiFood Sweden AB Dairy Factory on May 27. The announcement was witnessed by Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc, and Swedish Prime Minister Stefan Löfven.

### Korea's Hahn & Co to close 3rd buyout fund at \$2.5b

South Korean private equity firm Hahn & Company is expected to hold a final close of \$2.5 billion for its third buyout fund in June, according to a document from one of its limited partners.

### Melco pays \$1.3bn for 20% of AU's Crown Resorts

Australian billionaire James Packer has sold nearly half his stake in Crown Resorts casinos to Lawrence Ho, son of Macau gambling tycoon Stanley Ho, for A\$1.8 billion (US\$1.3 billion).

### Trump's Huawei ban hits Shenzhen property deals

With the escalating US-China trade war and Huawei banned from doing business in the US over security concerns, the darkening mood of the company's employees has spilled over to the property sector.

### CH threatens to cut supply of rare earths to US

Chinese state media dangled Wednesday the threat of cutting exports of rare earths to the US as a counter-strike in the trade war, potentially depriving Washington of a key resource used to make everything from smartphones to military hardware.

## TODAY'S TOP GLOBAL NEWS

### Uber loses \$1b in a quarter, to reduce promos

Uber Technologies Inc reported a \$1 billion loss on Thursday as the ride-hailing service spends heavily to build up its food delivery and freight businesses, sending revenues up 20% in its first quarterly report as a public company.

### Emso, Eight Cap buy 48% of ARC JV with JC Flower

Mumbai-based distressed assets investor, Eight Capital Management LLC and London and New York based emerging markets hedge fund, Emso Asset Management Ltd. on Thursday said that they are acquiring Ambit Capital's 47.5% stake in Ambit Flowers Asset Reconstruction Company, the ARC said in a press statement.

### NJ mulls \$100m inv in Warburg China-SEA fund

New Jersey Division of Investment, which manages investments for the \$76.51-billion state pension fund, has proposed an investment of up to \$100 million in the \$4.25-billion China-Southeast Asia-focused private equity fund of global investor Warburg Pincus.

### Stocks Slide as Trump Turns Tariff Gun to Mexico

Stocks and Treasury yields fell after President Donald Trump opened a new front in the trade war, threatening to place escalating import tariffs on Mexico in an effort to curb illegal immigration. Futures on the S&P 500 Index slumped 0.9%, heading for the worst week since the global market rout in December.

### HSBC Plans Hundreds of IB Job Cuts in Cost Push

HSBC Holdings Plc is considering eliminating hundreds of investment banking jobs as Chief Executive Officer John Flint pressures the lender's top managers to cut costs, according to people familiar with the plan. At least 500 jobs could go within global banking and markets, although formal numbers have not been communicated.