

The Daily Dispatch

June 26, 2020

TODAY'S TOP NEWS

National gov't to borrow P205b from PHL market

THE government is set to borrow more from the local debt market in July, eyeing a figure of P205b, higher than the P170b it programmed to borrow in June. The borrowing program next month was higher since there are five weeks in July which allowed the Treasury to issue more T-bills.

BSP delivers another 50-bps rate cut

The BSP announced that the Monetary Board decided to cut the interest rate on its overnight reverse repurchase (RRP) facility by 50 basis points (bps) to 2.25 percent, effective Friday, June 26, 2020. The interest rates on the overnight deposit and lending facilities were reduced to 1.75 percent and 2.75 percent, respectively.

More BPO firms to hire repatriated OFWs

The Information Technology and Business Process Association of the Philippines (Ibpap) held a virtual meeting with the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) on Thursday to discuss its plans to conduct screening and job matching of potential OFW applicants from August to November.

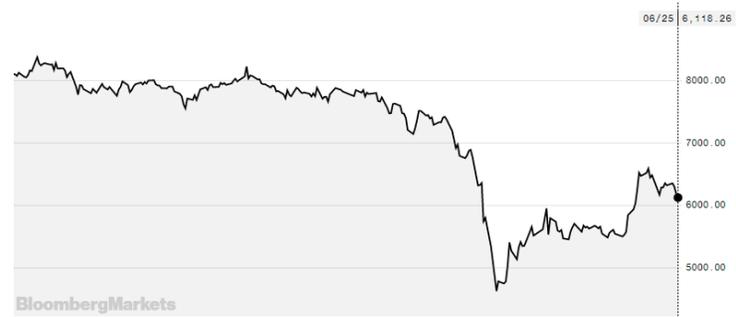
Hotels revise capex due to Covid-19

HOTEL companies are revising capital expenditures (capex) and timetables for opening of properties in the light of the Covid-19 outbreak, which has restricted the travel of their anticipated guests.

SEC wants more independent directors in exchanges

The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) is set to require exchanges and other organized markets in the Philippines to have more independent directors in keeping with international best practices and as prescribed by the Revised Corporation Code of the Philippines.

Philippine Stock Market Update



Previous Close:

6,188.26

Open:

6,137.61

52-Week Range:

4,039.15-8,419.59

1 Yr Return:

-22.44%

YTD Return:

-21.88%

Source:

Bloomberg

Foreign Exchange

As of June 25, 2020

US Dollar	Philippine Peso
1	50.02

BVAL

As of June 25, 2020

Tenor	Rate
1Y	2.5820
3Y	2.7750
5Y	3.0000
7Y	3.1660
10Y	3.3530
20Y	4.1930

Daily Quote

“When you are enthusiastic about what you do, you feel this positive energy. It’s very simple.”

—Paulo Coelho

The Daily Dispatch

MORE LOCAL NEWS

AC Energy plans new solar farm in Australia

A joint venture of Ayala-led AC Energy, Inc. in Australia is set to build a 720-megawatt (MW) renewable facility after securing a connection deal with the New South Wales' (NSW) transmission network TransGrid. The project is seen to bring clean electricity to around 250,000 households each year.

Gov't completes 14 port projects; 22 more due

The Department of Transportation (DoTr) and the Philippine Ports Authority (PPA) said Tuesday that they completed 14 port projects so far, including some that were inaugurated virtually during the coronavirus crisis.

Sun Life rolling out programs for MSMEs

Sun Life of Canada (Philippines), Inc. is looking to expand its reach to micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) and overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) affected by the fallout from the coronavirus pandemic.

AGI ramps up digital strategies

Alliance Global Group Inc. (AGI), the listed conglomerate of tycoon Andrew Tan, is ramping up digital strategies as it braces for the new normal. Kevin Tan, AGI chief executive officer, said the pandemic is accelerating the company's digitalization efforts across businesses.

Philippines bond market grows 8% in Q1

The domestic bond market grew by 7.9 percent in the first quarter as both government and corporate issuances rose on the back of positive investor sentiment prior to the declaration of a pandemic, according to the latest Asian Bond Monitor of the Asian Development Bank (ADB).

Forex reserves soar to \$93.3 billion

The Philippines continued to beef up its foreign exchange buffer to reach an all-time high of \$93.29 billion as of end-May from \$90.94 billion a month earlier, as the government turns to the offshore debt market for more funds to soften the economic blow from the COVID-19 pandemic, according to the BSP.

TIEZA dangles tax perks for tourism

TIEZA is offering tax incentives for the renovation of tourism enterprises and lowering its permit fees to P1 as part of efforts to aid the recovery of the tourism sector. In a statement, TIEZA said its board recently approved the grant of tax incentives to tourism enterprises undertaking substantial expansion or upgrade.

RLC unit lists by introduction

Real estate firm Altus Property Ventures Inc. (APVI), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Robinsons Land Corp., is set to list by way of introduction or without immediate offering of shares, today (June 26).

PH secures \$5.76B in loans for COVID-19 response

The Philippine government has secured over \$5.758 billion in foreign loans for its response to the new coronavirus pandemic. Presidential spokesperson Harry Roque said the financing for the COVID-19 response came from the Asian Development Bank and the World Bank.

TODAY'S TOP ASIAN NEWS

Huawei loses out in Singapore 5G bid

Nokia and Ericsson have been chosen as Singapore's main 5G network providers, telecom operators said, leaving Huawei with only a minor role as the Chinese tech giant faces growing US pressure. Huawei has been dogged by allegations of stealing American trade secrets and aiding China's espionage efforts.

The Daily Dispatch

MORE ASIAN NEWS

Tencent snaps up assets of iflix in expansion drive

Tencent Holdings has agreed to acquire a range of assets from Southeast Asian streaming video provider iflix, as the Chinese gaming and social media giant steps up efforts to build a service that could rival Netflix in that region.

SoftBank's Son leaves Alibaba board following Ma

TOKYO — Masayoshi Son, the chief executive of Japanese technology company SoftBank Group Corp., said Thursday that he is stepping down from the board of Chinese e-commerce giant Alibaba.

HP plans to open 20 tech hubs for youth in SE Asia

HP plans to set up 20 tech hubs across South-east Asia by the end of this year to help youth in "underserved communities", the American technology giant said yesterday. The hubs will provide technology and entrepreneurship training for students aged 13 and older, and aim to upskill 10,000 youth by the year's end.

Snapchat parent set to open SG office this year

California-based Snap, which created multimedia messaging app Snapchat, is set to open a Singapore office later this year. It is now monitoring the coronavirus pandemic and will accelerate plans to establish a local presence once the situation eases, it said yesterday.

Sg Airlines may grab Emirates, Etihad traffic in India

The coronavirus outbreak is unexpectedly providing an opportunity to Singapore Airlines to grab a share of the lucrative Indian market held by rivals Emirates Airline and Etihad Airways through a local affiliate.

TODAY'S TOP GLOBAL NEWS

SoftBank-backed Lemonade to raise up to \$286 mn

Insurance startup Lemonade Inc, which is backed by SoftBank Group Corp said it was looking to raise up to \$286 million in its U.S. initial public offering (IPO). Lemonade's public listing comes amid a strong appetite for new stock offerings, especially those with an online-focused business against the backdrop of the pandemic.

Saudi lender NCB weighs deal for \$15b rival Samba

National Commercial Bank, Saudi Arabia's largest lender by assets, proposed to pay as much as US\$15.6 billion to acquire rival Samba Financial Group in what could become the biggest banking takeover this year. NCB offered to pay a premium of as much as 27.5 per cent to Samba's closing price on Wednesday.

Chuck E. Cheese parent files for bankruptcy

Chuck E. Cheese's parent company, CEC Entertainment, said Thursday it is filing for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection, citing the "financial strain" of mass restaurant closures due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Uber pares back digital wallet ambitions

Uber Technologies Inc's financial services head Peter Hazlehurst is stepping down as the company focuses on rides and food delivery, and ices plans to become a financial services company, Bloomberg News reported, citing an email to staff.

Apple total re-closures reaches 32

Apple Inc (AAPLO) said on Thursday that it would close 14 stores in Florida starting Friday due to a rise in COVID-19 cases, bringing its total re-closures to 32 stores in the United States.