

# The Daily Dispatch

June 29, 2020  
TODAY'S TOP NEWS

## Collection of additional oil tariff ends

The collection of the additional oil import tariff to raise funds for the government's pandemic response has ended with the lapse of the Bayanihan law, the oil bureau of the Department of Energy (DoE) said on Sunday. Additional revenue from liquefied natural gas totaled P283.06 million, while naphtha reached P3,325.

## POGOs start to exit PHL

Two Philippine offshore gaming operators (POGOs) have exited the country, according to the industry regulator, with more expected to follow suit as they face difficulties in securing tax clearance from the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR).

## Weaker job market to pressure home loan approvals

Real estate loans will likely cool in the second quarter after the pandemic left many jobless and eroded job security for the rest of the workforce, making loan applicants less likely to be approved, Colliers Philippines said.

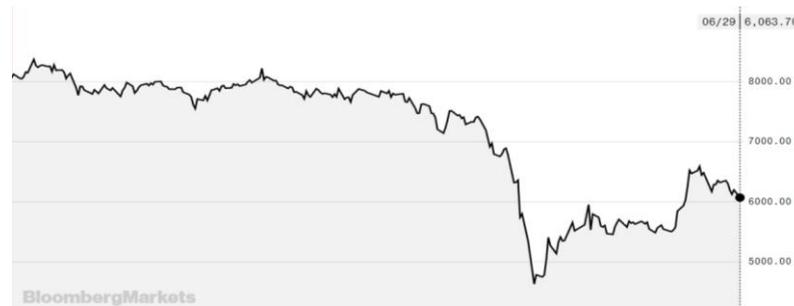
## AirAsia sees rebound in air travel demand

Asia's largest budget carrier AirAsia said it registered its highest post-hibernation sale day on June 23, with a record-breaking 41,000 seats sold in a single day across AirAsia Group, signifying a strong rebound in demand for air travel.

## Kia PHL defies pandemic with dealership expansion

In a statement on Wednesday, Kia Philippines announced it is launching four new dealerships—three in Metro Manila, one in Cagayan Valley—within the year. The decision to expand was made in spite of the difficulties surrounding the economic landscape due to the coronavirus pandemic.

## Philippine Stock Market Update



**Previous Close:**  
6,191.84

**1 Yr Return:**  
-23.00%

**Open:**  
6,125.57

**YTD Return:**  
-22.71%

**52-Week Range:**  
4,039.15 - 8,419.59

**Source:**  
Bloomberg

## Foreign Exchange

As of June 26, 2020

US Dollar	Philippine Peso
1	49.830

## PDST-R2 Rates

As of June 26, 2020

Tenor	Rate
1Y	2.5630
3Y	2.4830
5Y	2.6420
7Y	2.7640
10Y	2.9300
20Y	3.4990

## Daily Quote

“Intelligence is the ability to adapt to change.”

-- Stephen Hawking

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## MORE LOCAL NEWS

### PH nickel production likely down this year

Dante Bravo, president of Philippine Nickel Industry Association (PNIA), said that while it is hard to make forecasts in numbers for the country's nickel industry, uncertainties clearly loom for the industry "given the possible global recession and less exports of stainless steel coming from China."

### BPO firm to continue WFH until September this year

Business process outsourcing company Synchrony Global Services Philippines, which employs 3,000 in Manila and Cebu, said its workers continue working from home, and would do so until at least Sept 7, 2020. Work-at-home kits were deployed - these included computers, headsets, monitors, cables, and prepaid Internet router.

### Kantar cites consumer behavior shifts post-COVID

During a virtual media discussion, Vicky Abad, Chief Client Officer at Kantar Philippines, the world leading data, insights, and consulting group, identified the five new consumer behavior shifts in the post-COVID era as well-being, protection, connection, flow and experience.

### BSP defers new compliance rating system for banks

The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) has deferred by six months the deployment of a more forward-looking compliance rating system in assessing the compliance of banks and other financial institutions in mitigating business risk.

### DBS expects Philippine economy to shrink

Singapore-based DBS Bank Ltd. expects the Philippine economy to slump this year by as deep as four percent for the first time in more than two decades amid the high number of new cases of coronavirus disease 2019 or COVID-19, adding to an already sizeable number of existing cases.

### World Bank OKs \$370M land title facilitation loan

The World Bank Group has approved a \$370 million loan for the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR)'s Support to Parcelization of Lands for Individual Titling Project (SPLIT), which is expected to help 750,000 individuals gain improved land tenure security and stable property rights.

### PCC exempts JVs seeking PPP projects

Joint ventures formed by private firms for unsolicited public-private partnership (PPP) projects are now exempt from the merger notification requirement under new rules issued by the Philippine Competition Commission (PCC) to streamline the review process and help accelerate the implementation of projects.

### Phinma forges ahead with expansion

Unfazed by the coronavirus pandemic, the Phinma group is proceeding with its expansion program in the education sector, aiming to be the country's largest affordable education provider.

### Cash aid distributed via GCash hits P 1.8B

Financial aid disbursements through GCash have reached more than P1.8 billion, the digital payments firm said. GCash is one of the companies tapped by the Philippine government to distribute aid to Filipinos in need during the new coronavirus pandemic. It said some 335,000 Filipinos have received aid in this manner.

### Toll road traffic volume picking up

Metro Pacific Tollways Corp., one of the country's biggest expressway operators, is seeing traffic volume return following the relaxing of strict quarantine measures last June 1.

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## MORE LOCAL NEWS

### Wilcon continues to expand, opens 60th Store

Upbeat about the Philippine economy's ability to bounce back and the resilience of the Filipino people, Wilcon Depot opened in Calumpit, Bulacan, on June 26 its 60th store nationwide.

## TODAY'S TOP ASIAN NEWS

### Japan retail sales fall sharply in May

Retail sales in Japan tumbled at a double-digit pace for the second straight month in May as the coronavirus pandemic and lockdown measures delivered a heavy blow to consumer confidence.

### SGX buys rest of platform BidFX for US\$128m in cash

Singapore Exchange (SGX) will buy the remaining 80 per cent stake in BidFX from other shareholders for about US\$128 million (S\$178 MILLION) cash, in a move that will expand its reach beyond foreign exchange (FX) futures into the global FX over-the-counter (OTC) market when the transaction is completed in July.

### China plans to grant investment banking licences

China's securities regulator plans to grant investment banking licences to commercial lenders as part of efforts to breed industry behemoths in the face of fiercer foreign competition, business magazine Caixin reported.

### Seeds Capital to put \$50m into maritime start-ups

Enterprise Singapore investment arm Seeds Capital and six co-investment partners will pump \$50 million into around 50 maritime technology start-ups here, as part of an initiative supported by the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore.

### Thai low-cost airline NokScoot closes amid losses

BANGKOK — Thailand's low-cost carrier NokScoot, which is partly owned by Singapore Airlines, said its board of directors decided to liquidate the company as the coronavirus pandemic dimmed prospects for its recovery.

## TODAY'S TOP GLOBAL NEWS

### SoftBank to repurchase \$1.9 bn of corporate bonds

Japan's SoftBank Group Corp (9984.T) said it will repurchase up to 200 billion yen (\$1.9 billion) of its domestic unsecured corporate bonds from June 30 to July 17, part of its plan to pay down debt. The tech conglomerate said it expects to record a gain of around \$5.6 billion on the sale of part of its stake in T-Mobile U.S.

### Global coronavirus deaths top half a million

The death toll from COVID-19 reached half a million people on Sunday, according to a Reuters tally, a grim milestone for the global pandemic that seems to be resurgent in some countries even as other regions are still grappling with the first wave.

### China's Luckin Coffee to delist from Nasdaq

Luckin Coffee, a Starbucks rival in China, said Saturday (June 27) it will delist from the Nasdaq following a massive fraud scandal that sent its share price plummeting.

### Huawei controversy opens field for 5G challengers

With growing pressure to keep China's Huawei out of 5G network development, it could be time for firms like Japan's NEC and South Korea's Samsung to shine. Washington has pushed allies to bar Huawei, a Chinese telecom giant, from building next-generation 5G mobile networks, claiming its equipment can be used to spy for Beijing.