

The Daily Dispatch

July 10, 2019
TODAY'S TOP NEWS

Razon's firm stopped from taking over PECO assets

A MANDALUYONG court has declared sections of the law that granted Razon-led MORE Electric and Power Corp. a franchise as a distribution utility in Iloilo City as void and unconstitutional for infringing on the right of the area's existing electricity distributor Panay Electric Co., Inc. (PECO) to due process and equal protection of the law.

Petron puts Philippine expansion plans on hold

The listed oil refiner earlier said it is spending \$1 billion to upgrade its refinery and expand its retail network over the next three years. About \$600 million of this spending was allotted for its refinery expansion in Limay, Bataan.

Gardenia expands with new facility in Pampanga

GARDENIA Bakeries Philippines, Inc. is expecting stronger sales and volume growth this year, after it inaugurated its P2-billion bread manufacturing facility in Mabalacat City, Pampanga. He mentioned Ifugao, Tabuk, and Mountain Province of the Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR) as areas where Gardenia will focus on increasing its presence.

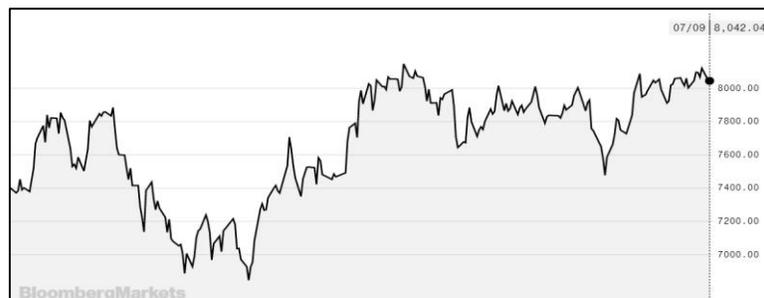
SEC OKs crowd-funding rules

Crowd-funding is now a clearer option for start-up and small medium enterprises (SMEs) seeking to raise up to P50 million for expansion as the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) recently approved the rules and regulations on this online fund-raising scheme.

Crackdown on illegal Pogo operators looms

Firms legally engaged in the booming Philippine offshore gaming operations (Pogo) will help the government crack down on fly-by-night operations that could be employing as many as 50,000 undocumented workers from China—a result of the deal sealed recently between the industry and the Department of Finance (DOF).

Philippine Stock Market Update



Previous Close:

8,042.04

1 Yr Return:

13.17%

Open:

8,051.45

YTD Return:

7.75%

52-Week Range:

6,790.58-8,213.71

Source:

Bloomberg

Foreign Exchange

As of July 9, 2019

US Dollar	Philippine Peso
1	51.405

BVAL Reference Rates

As of July 9, 2019

Tenor	Rate
1Y	4.808
3Y	4.886
5Y	4.975
7Y	5.049
10Y	5.073
20Y	5.101

Daily Quote

"Somewhere, something incredible is waiting to be known."

-- Sharon Begley

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MORE LOCAL NEWS

BSP okayed \$7.35-B public-sector loans

The Monetary Board approvals were higher by \$3.869 billion year-on-year for public sector loans. Bulk of which were bonds amounting to \$3.602 billion, followed by \$2.853 billion worth of project loans and about \$900 million of program loans.

PSEi seen to improve in H2

FIRST Metro Investment Corp. (FMIC) sees the benchmark PSEi settling the at 8,400-8,800 level by the end of the year. Cristina Ulang, FMIC research head, said corporate earnings are seen to post an aggregate growth of 10% in H2 of the year, a marked improvement from the 8.6% posted in Q1.

Philippines ranks third best country to invest in

The Philippines landed as the third best country in the world to invest in or do business for 2019, this according to the CEOWORLD magazine. It came after Malaysia in first place and Poland which took silver. Indonesia (No. 4) and Australia (No. 5) completed the top five among 67 countries.

DA taps Aboitiz for floating solar farms prototype

The Department of Agriculture (DA) has tapped SN Aboitiz Power (SNAP), a subsidiary of Aboitiz group's power arm, to develop a prototype for a floating solar farm technology in order to provide power to isolated fishing communities, especially those in the islands.

Pump prices to rise with 'fuel marking' policy

Prices at Philippine pumps will incur an increase of P0.07 per liter as a result of the 'fuel marking policy' to be instituted by the government as a measure to rid the oil sector of smuggling that have denying the State coffers of roughly P30 billion revenues annually.

Tourist arrivals grow 9.8% in 5 months

The Philippines continues to draw interest from international tourists as foreign arrivals nearly hit the 3.5 million mark in the first five months of the year. In a statement, the Department of Tourism (DOT) said that foreign arrivals grew 9.76 percent to 3.49 million arrivals from 3.18 million arrivals in the same period last year.

Third telco player rebrands, vows swift internet

Third telco player, formerly known as the Mislattel Consortium, has changed its name to Dito Telecommunity Corp. not only to express its arrival in the country's telecommunications market but also to urge consumers to join the network.

Lack of catalysts pull down index

The benchmark Philippine Stock Exchange index (PSEi) tumbled yesterday on lack of catalysts, closing 9.48 points, or 0.11 percent, lower at 8,042.04. Likewise, the broader All Shares gauge shed 12.73 points, or 0.25 percent, to end at 4,900.74 Most of the sectors were down except for the financials and mining and oil gauge.

Manila to host first PH-Asia gaming expo

More than 30,000 gaming entrepreneurs and 200 exhibitors from 15 countries will converge in Manila for the 3-day Phil-Asian Gaming Expo, Asia's biggest gathering of online game suppliers, product and payment solutions and industry support services. PAGE is a one-stop B2B industry platform for showcasing latest gaming industry trends

Meralco: affiliates can bid for supply contracts

Manila Electric Co. yesterday said its was not against the law for its affiliate companies to take part in a bidding for its supply contracts, reacting to calls against letting related firms to vie for such deals. Meralco is preparing to undertake competitive selection process (CSP) for several contracts in lieu of proposed PSAs

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TODAY'S TOP ASIAN NEWS

S-REITS too expensive after 18% surge this yr

Analysts and investors are questioning whether the rally in Singapore's beloved real estate investment trusts has room to run. Strategists from Morningstar to CMC Markets Singapore say Reits are starting to look overvalued and may not see such strong performance in the second half.

SE Asia-focused VCs raise funds totalling \$1.5b

Venture capital (VC) firms with a focus on Southeast Asia raised a total of \$1.58 billion for new funds in the first half of 2019, DealStreetAsia data and fund announcements show.

GOJEK secured investment from Siam Comm Bank

Ride-hailing giant Go-Jek has secured an investment from Siam Commercial Bank Pcl, the Thai lender that counts King Maha Vajiralongkorn as its biggest shareholder, according to people familiar with the matter. It's unclear how much Thailand's biggest bank is investing in Go-Jek.

TVS Capital hits second close of Fund III at \$160m

Private equity firm TVS Capital Funds Tuesday announced that it has reached the second close of its third fund – TVS Shriram Growth Fund III at Rs 1,100 crore (about \$160 million), several media reported.

Temasek counts on investments in unlisted assets

Singapore's state investment firm Temasek Holdings is counting on increased investments in unlisted businesses to counteract the ongoing US-China trade war and a global economic climate of uncertainty. Temasek said that unlisted assets, which include investments in third-party funds and privately held companies, accounted for 42% of its portfolio

Delistings outpace IPOs on SGX in 1st half of 2019

Delistings outpaced fresh offerings on the Singapore stock exchange (SGX) in the first half of 2019, suggesting the bourse may need to focus on more than attracting new listings.

TODAY'S TOP GLOBAL NEWS

Walmart got a \$10b surprise after buying Flipkart

When Walmart Inc paid US\$16 billion for control of India's e-commerce pioneer Flipkart Online Services last year, the American retail giant got a little-noticed digital payments subsidiary as part of the deal. Now the business is emerging as one of the country's top startups.

IBM closes \$34 billion deal to buy Red Hat

International Business Machines Corp said it has closed its \$34 billion acquisition of software company Red Hat Inc, as it looks to ramp up its cloud computing business. Underscoring the drive into high-margin businesses, IBM agreed to buy Red Hat, its biggest acquisition

U.S. exempts medical, electronics from CHN tariffs

The Trump administration will exempt 110 Chinese products, from medical equipment to key capacitors, from hefty tariffs, it said on Tuesday, offering relief to some U.S. firms which have said the taxes harm their bottom lines. The relatively narrow exemption list will provide relief from 25% tariffs the United States slapped

Emissions rules, electric shift to spur car M&A

A growing understanding in the car industry of the value of combustion engine technology able to meet new anti-pollution requirements is likely to fuel a wave of consolidation in the next two years, industry executives and bankers say. M&As have been stuck in a rut since Volkswagen was caught cheating pollution tests in 2015