

# The Daily Dispatch

September 10, 2019  
TODAY'S TOP NEWS

## Fruitas finally files for P1.2-billion IPO

The company, which for years has been considering going public, said it will offer up to 533.66 million primary common shares with an overallotment option of up to 68.34 million common shares at a maximum price of P1.99 apiece.

## NTC sees niche market for NOW Telecom

NOW Telecom Co. Inc. claimed on Monday that it is gearing up to provide mobile services in the Philippines after being granted an extension of its license to operate cellular networks, but the National Telecommunications Commission (NTC) believes that it can only provide such services in niche markets.

## Zen Rooms opens over 400 new units in NCR

POCKET-FRIENDLY Zen Rooms has opened more than 400 new accommodation units with its recent partnership with Selah Hotels, making it the biggest hospitality chain in Metro Manila.

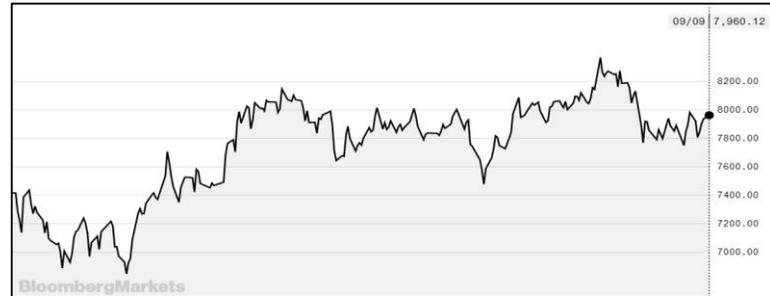
## PLDT to build two new int'l submarine cables

DIGITAL services provider PLDT Inc. plans to build two new international submarine cables to further beef up its global cabling capacity, as it anticipates the boom in data usage in the Philippines to persist over the next few years with the continued growth of the digital economy.

## PBCom Tower to use district cooling system

The company said Philippine DCS Development Corp. (PDDC) signed the deal with Philippine Bank of Communications and Filinvest Asia Corp. Under the deal, the company will provide a chilled water plant within the 52-story PBCom Tower using the build-own-operate-transfer scheme.

## Philippine Stock Market Update



**Previous Close:**

7,960.12

**1 Yr Return:**

6.07%

**Open:**

7,933.22

**YTD Return:**

6.03%

**52-Week Range:**

6,790.58-8,419.59

**Source:**

Bloomberg

## Foreign Exchange

As of Sept. 9, 2019

US Dollar	Philippine Peso
1	51.9

## BVAL Reference Rates

As of Sept. 9, 2019

Tenor	Rate
1Y	3.693
3Y	4.034
5Y	4.289
7Y	4.491
10Y	4.619
20Y	4.999

## Daily Quote

"Good is the enemy of great."

-- Jim Collins

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## MORE LOCAL NEWS

### Faster credit growth seen amid rate easing

Credit growth is expected to pick up this year amid the continued drop in interest rates due to the inflation downtrend, according to ING Bank. Nicholas Mapa, economist at ING Bank Manila, expressed hope that the projected 75 basis points rate cut by the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) this year would jumpstart corporate lending.

### PH tourism gets recognition for economic growth

The World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTC) is commending the Philippine travel and tourism sector for its significant growth in recent years, emphasizing its large contribution to the economy. The 'benchmarking' study from WTTC, compares the industry's economic impact to eight other key sectors.

### Aircon maker CIC sets window to buy back shares

The country's leading integrated cooling and refrigeration solutions provider Concepcion Industrial Corp. (CIC) has approved a three-year program to buy back shares from the local stock market. In a disclosure to the PSE on Monday, CIC said its board had approved a program to "provide price support for its shares and enhance share value."

### Renewed optimism pulls PSEi up for 4th straight day

The benchmark Philippine Stock Exchange index (PSEi) went up for the fourth straight day yesterday on the back of renewed optimism in the stock market, analysts said. The PSEi finished at 7,960.12, up 26.65 points or 0.33 percent.

### Central Bank HQ set for renovation

The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) is considering the retrofitting and renovation of its headquarters in Manila once the planned transfer of the Security Plant Complex (SPC) to the New Clark City in Capas, Tarlac is completed.

### SC asked to stop Meralco bidding

Bayan Muna has asked the Supreme Court to temporarily stop the public bidding for power supply contracts set this week by the Manila Electric Co. (Meralco). Bayan Muna chair Neri Colmenares and party list Rep. Carlos Zarate accused Meralco and the Department of Energy (DOE) of manipulating the bidding to favor Meralco-owned

### Local telco gets \$250M from US-based fund

Fiber internet company Converge ICT Solutions on Monday formally welcomed the entry of its 1st outside investor, US-based Warburg Pincus, one of the world's biggest private equity firms. Converge ICT founder and president Dennis Anthony H. Uy said the company raised \$250m, or P12.8b, in what was Warburg Pincus' first investment in the

### Metal production rises as China demand grows

Data from the Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB), however, showed a decline in metal prices during the period. MGB expects prices to rebound in the second semester, especially for base metals copper and nickel.

### House OKs bill lowering CIT, fixing incentives

The House of Representatives on Monday night approved on 2nd reading a bill seeking to reduce the corporate income tax (CIT) rate and rationalize incentives for businesses. The House approved substitute House Bill No. 4157, which amended the original Corporate Income Tax and Incentive Rationalization Act (CITIRA) bill.

### Infra spending to shield PH from global slowdown

President Duterte's centerpiece "Build, Build, Build" infrastructure program will provide the Philippines the stimulus it needs to keep creating jobs and open new investment opportunities as the feared global economic slowdown looms, according to the head of the administration's economic team.

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## TODAY'S TOP ASIAN NEWS

### Hong Kong Tourism Plunges 40%

As the protests in Hong Kong drag on into their fifteenth week, Bloomberg reports that the city's tourism industry has taken its biggest hit since the 2003 SARS outbreak. Tourist arrivals in the city declined almost 40% in August from a year earlier, according to Financial Secretary Paul Chan

### China's early-stage VC Sky9 Capital closes 2 funds

Chinese early-stage venture capital firm Sky9 Capital has announced the close of two new VC funds with a combined \$440 million in capital commitments. The Shanghai-based VC firm, founded by former Lightspeed China Partners director Ron Cao, said Sky9 Capital Fund IV LP and Sky9 MVP Fund LP received support from institutional investors

### Flush with funds, Indian startups on hiring spree

Bike rental startup Vogo plans to more than double the number of employees by the end of next year, unfazed by the consumption slowdown in India that has brought makers of cars to consumer goods to their knees. Bengaluru-based Vogo's chief executive, Anand Ayyadurai, wants to expand his team to 1,000 by the end of 2020 from 400

### CPPIB injects \$115m in logistics unicorn Delhivery

Canada Pension Plan Investment Board (CPPIB) Monday announced that it has invested \$115 million in SoftBank-and Carlyle-backed Indian logistics startup Delhivery Pvt Ltd, in a bid to broaden its exposure in the country's logistics sector.

### Singapore taxi firm Trans-cab revives IPO plan

Trans-cab Services Pte., Singapore's second-largest taxi operator, is reviving its plans for an initial public offering, according to people with knowledge of the matter, as the city-state prepares to tighten regulations on its ride-hailing rivals. The company is seeking a valuation of as much as S\$200 million (\$145 million)

## TODAY'S TOP GLOBAL NEWS

### Uber Eats to terminate service in S Korea

Uber Technologies Inc's restaurant delivery business will terminate its service in South Korea, Uber Eats said on Monday. Facing intense competition in the world's No.4 online food delivery market, the U.S. company is struggling to revamp its brand in South Korea.

### Elliott takes US\$3.2b stake in AT&T

Elliott Management Corp disclosed a new US\$3.2 billion position in AT&T Inc, taking on one of the nation's biggest and most widely held companies with a plan to boost the telecommunications giant's share price by more than 50 per cent through asset sales and cost-cutting.

### Shopify to buy warehouse tech provider for \$450m

Shopify Inc said on Monday it would buy warehouse technology provider 6 River Systems Inc for about US\$450 million, as it looks to accelerate growth of its fulfillment network. Shopify unveiled plans in June to spend US\$1 billion to run a warehousing network in the United States to take on the likes of Amazon. Inc and eBay.

### Big Agri wants a cut of booming fake-meat market

Bunge Ltd, one the world's biggest grain traders, recently disclosed the 1.6 per cent stake it had purchased in the fast-growing fake-meat startup Beyond Meat. The play looked smart after the stock surged more than 250 per cent since the faux burger and sausage maker's initial public offering in May.

### Saudi Aramco pursues IPO with local listing plan

Saudi Arabia plans a gradual listing of Aramco on its domestic market, sources familiar with the matter said, as it finalizes the roles banks will play in the initial public offering of the world's biggest oil company. The kingdom intends to list 1% of the state oil giant on the Riyadh stock exchange before the end of this year