

The Daily Dispatch

September 19, 2022
TODAY'S TOP NEWS

Cautious stock market trading seen this week

Stock market analysts expect cautious trading ahead of central bank meetings scheduled this week. The US Federal Reserve will conduct its policy meeting on Sept. 20 to 21, where it is expected to announce a 75 basis point rate hike to control rising inflation. The BSP is also scheduled to hold a policy meeting this week.

PCC sets thresholds for review of M&As

“Starting September 16, 2022, mergers and acquisitions that reach a Size of Party (SoP) of P6.1 billion and a Size of Transaction (SoT) of P2.5 billion will have to be notified to the PCC for mandatory merger review,” the competition watchdog said in statement issued on Friday.

NPC bares rehab plan for Agus power plants

National Power Corp. (NPC) will pursue the rehabilitation of the Agus hydropower plants in Mindanao at a cost of P12.5 bn next month. The project will upgrade and modernize the hydro plants to restore their capacities, extend operating lives, enhance the dam’s structural integrity and ensure the safety of the power complex.

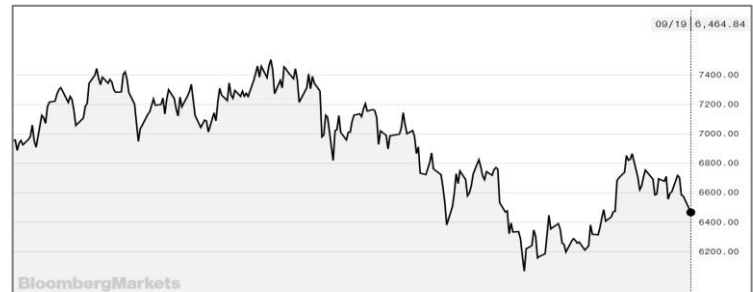
Clark air traffic surged 282% in first 8 months

Luzon International Premier Airport Development said passenger traffic at the Clark International Airport jumped 282% in the first 8 months of 2021, boosted by the recovery of travel industry. Passenger traffic reached 434,214 from Jan to Aug, with 363,878 flying to overseas destinations and 70,336 traveling to domestic sites.

Rice imports as of Sept. 8 exceed 2021 volume

The Philippines’s rice imports as of September 8 breached the 2.8 mn metric ton (MMT) mark and surpassed last year’s volume of 2.771 MMT. Bureau of Plant Industry data indicated that total rice imports from Jan 1 to Sep 8 reached 2.806 MMT, or 1.26% higher than the 2.771 MMT of rice imported by the country in 2021.

Philippine Stock Market Update



Previous Close:

6,548.77

1 Yr Return:

-5.07%

Open:

6,544.64

YTD Return:

-9.62%

52-Week Range:

6,054.79 - 7,552.20

Source:

Bloomberg

Foreign Exchange

As of September 18, 2022

US Dollar	Philippine Peso
1	57.36

BVAL Reference Rates

As of September 18, 2022

Tenor	Rate
1Y	3.915
3Y	5.564
5Y	6.110
7Y	6.457
10Y	6.721
20Y	7.056

Daily Quote

“All economic forecasts are subject to considerable uncertainty.”

– Jerome Powell

The Daily Dispatch

MORE LOCAL NEWS

Villars' PremiereREIT files P3.2-billion IPO

Villar-led Premiere Island Power REIT Corp. filed the registration statement of its P3.2-billion IPO with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Led by Manuel Paolo A. Villar, the company also known as PremiereREIT is a power and infrastructure real estate investment trust sponsored by PAVI subsidiaries.

MEG sees revenue boost from optional face masks

Megaworld Corp. (MEG) is optimistic about the government regulation on the optional wearing of face masks outdoors, which a company official said could help bring the township developer's figures to pre-pandemic levels.

SM expects fashion apparel to lead its revenues

SM Investments Corp. expects SM Store's revenue growth in the second half to be led by its fashion apparel matched with strong consumer sentiment, a company official said. SM Store reported that it saw a resurgence in its fashion department as eased mobility restrictions drew more crowds in stores and malls.

InstaPay, PESONet transactions grow

Online transactions coursed via PESONet and InstaPay rose by 43% year on year to P5.37 trillion in the first seven months, driven by state-run pension fund disbursements and the wider use of digital payment platforms, the central bank said on Thursday.

BSP to hike rates by 50 bps — poll

The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) is likely to continue its rate hike cycle on Thursday, with several analysts forecasting a 50-basis-point (bp) increase as the US Federal Reserve is also expected to further tighten policy this week.

Labor dep't bats expanded remote work schemes

The Department of Labor and Employment urged employers and workers to adopt remote work programs as it revised the implementing rules and regulations (IRR) of the Telecommuting Law. The DOLE said Secretary Bienvenido Laguesma signed last Friday Order No. 237, which revises the IRR of Republic Act 11165 or the Telecommuting Law.

Food prices may rise further as peso weakens

Filipinos will have to spend more as prices, particularly of food, continue to rise amid the continued weakening of the peso against the dollar. With peso depreciating to a new record low of P57.43:\$1, it will be more expensive to import finished goods and raw materials for local food production since these are paid in dollars.

DTI supports review of excise tax on pickup trucks

The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) expressed support for the review of the excise tax exemption on double cab pickup trucks, according to Trade Secretary Alfredo Pascual. According to Pascual, the TRAIN Law extended the exemption to the double-cab pickup ostensibly to support the cargo mobility requirement of MSMEs.

CCLEX sees P2 million daily toll revenue

Metro Pacific Group's Cebu-Cordova Link Expressway (CCLEX) is projected to raise as much as P2 million from toll collection daily once mobility in the province rebounds amid a property race and tourism recovery. Further, construction activities may increase trade within the cities and municipalities that CCLEX services.

Coca-Cola welcomes importing 150K MT of sugar

Coca-Cola Beverages Philippines has welcomed the Philippine government's issuance of Sugar Order No. 2 directing the importation of 150,000 metric tons of refined sugar, amid the temporary suspension of operations in some of its plants across the country. SO2 allocates 75,000 MT each to industrial users and consumers.

The Daily Dispatch

TODAY'S TOP ASIAN NEWS

Cathay Pacific raises passenger capacity forecast

HONG KONG'S Cathay Pacific Airways expects to reach a third of pre-pandemic passenger capacity by the end of the year, increasing a previous estimate of one quarter, after crew quarantine rules were lifted, it said on Friday (Sep 16).

Yogi who took on Unilever plans IPOs for \$62b

PATANJALI Group, which is run by the yoga guru Ramdev, is aiming for a combined market value of US\$62.7 billion by listing 4 more companies on Indian exchanges over the next 5 years.

Sea plans to fire 3% of Shopee Indonesia staff

Sea Limited is preparing to fire 3 per cent of Shopee employees in Indonesia, part of a broader wave of regional job cuts intended to curb ballooning losses and win back investors. The Singapore-based company is to begin notifying affected staff on Monday at its cash-burning e-commerce arm Shopee.

China Vanke's unit seeks up to \$1.1b in HK IPO

Onewo, the property management unit of real estate developer China Vanke, is planning to raise as much as about HK\$6.2 billion (S\$1.1 billion) through a Hong Kong initial public offering (IPO). The firm is offering about 116.7 million shares at HK\$47.1 to HK\$52.7 each, according to an exchange filing.

Citibank Singapore launches digital-only offering

Citibank Singapore has launched a digital wealth offering that lets customers earn interest of up to 2.8 per cent a year. The Interest Booster Account on the bank's new Citi Plus on its mobile app pays interest in five categories: spending, investing, insurance, mortgage and savings.

TODAY'S TOP GLOBAL NEWS

Intuitive Machines seeks US listing, \$1b SPAC deal

INTUITIVE Machines said on Friday (Sep 16) it plans to go public in the United States through a blank-check merger that values the space technologies provider at more than US\$1 billion.

VW puts Porsche at 70-75b euros for market launch

GERMAN auto group Volkswagen announced on Sunday that it would launch its premium sports brand Porsche on the stock market at between nearly 70 and 75 billion euros.

Uber investigating computer network breach

UBER Technologies has shut down its internal Slack messaging system as it investigates a cybersecurity breach by a hacker claiming to have accessed sensitive company data.

Wall St drops to 2-mo. lows, recession fears mount

US stocks ended in the red on Friday, falling to two-month lows as a warning of impending global slowdown from FedEx hastened investors' flight to safety at the conclusion of a tumultuous week. All three major US stock indexes slid to levels not touched since mid-July, with the S&P 500 closing below 3,900.

Crypto drops on pre-Fed jitters

Cryptocurrencies began Monday in the red, hampered by a further drop in the second-largest token Ether as well as the prospect of a global wave of monetary tightening this week spanning the United States to Europe. Ether fell as much as 3.3 per cent to a two-month low and was trading around US\$1,350 as at 9.14am in Singapore.