

The Daily Dispatch

November 19, 2020
TODAY'S TOP NEWS

P90B economic loss seen from recent typhoons

In a virtual press conference yesterday, NEDA Undersecretary Rosemarie Edillon said the impact of the recent typhoons – Ulysses, Rolly, Quinta, Tonyo and Siony – which hit the Philippines in recent weeks may cause a 0.15 percentage point reduction in the country's gross domestic product (GDP).

FSCC: PH needs to prepare for 'new economy'

The country needs to prepare for the transition to a "new economy" to mitigate the systemic risks posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, according to the Financial Stability Coordination Council (FSCC). The FSCC has identified the various systemic risks faced by the country due to the economic and health crisis created by the virus outbreak.

DA sees lower 1.5% growth for agriculture

Agriculture Secretary William Dar remains optimistic about the farm sector this year despite the consecutive typhoons that battered the country. In an interview with One News' "Agenda," Dar scaled down the DA's projected growth target for the agriculture sector to 1.5 percent this year from the original two percent.

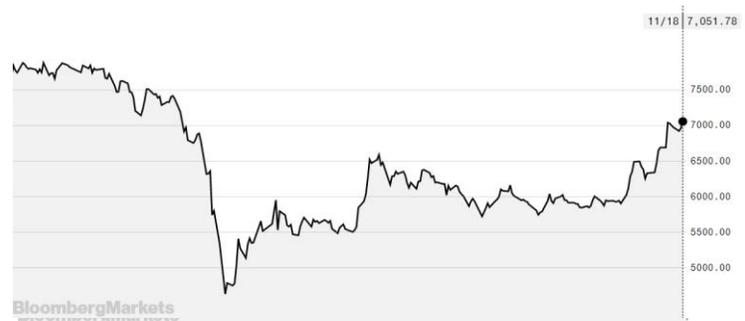
S&P: Higher provisioning to weigh on PH banks

A higher provisioning for potential loan losses, coupled with a downward pressure on margins due to uncertainties brought about by the pandemic, may weigh on the profitability of Philippine banks until next year, according to S&P Global Ratings.

Filinvest Land raises P8B from bonds

Filinvest Land, Inc. (FLI) has generated P8.1 billion from a recent bond offering which will support its pipeline of projects for the coming years. The company listed its bonds at the Philippine Dealing & Exchange Corp. (PDEX) through a virtual ceremony on Wednesday.

Philippine Stock Market Update



Previous Close:

7,051.78

1 Yr Return:

-10.03%

Open:

7,008.96

YTD Return:

-10.42%

52-Week Range:

4,039.15 - 7,912.14

Source:

Bloomberg

Foreign Exchange

As of Nov. 18, 2020

US Dollar	Philippine Peso
1	48.290

PDST-R2 Rates

As of Nov. 18, 2020

Tenor	Rate
1Y	1.785
3Y	2.314
5Y	2.751
7Y	2.945
10Y	2.989
20Y	4.037

Daily Quote

"Great creators don't necessarily have the deepest expertise but rather seek out the broadest perspectives."

--Adam Grant

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MORE LOCAL NEWS

Ayala energy arm sets tender offer

AC Energy, Inc. has called on investors on Wednesday to tap into the Ayala-led company's senior green bonds under its recently upsized \$2-billion medium-term note program. AC Energy has more than \$1 billion of invested and committed equity in renewable and thermal energy projects in the Philippines and in the region.

San Miguel to build 200-MW solar farm for airport

San Miguel Corp. (SMC) plans to construct a 200-megawatt (MW) solar farm in Bulacan to power its New Manila International Airport project, the firm said in a press release on Wednesday. SMC is looking to build the renewables farm on its 2,500 hectare-lot in Bulacan.

MSME loan approvals a fraction of funds allocated

The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) has so far extended P1.2 billion worth of loans to micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) affected by the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, much less than the funds allocated, a senator said, citing data from the department.

Globe 5G to cover 80% of Metro Manila by end-2020

Globe Telecom is targeting the rollout of fifth generation (5G) mobile services across 80 percent of Metro Manila by the end of the year, apart from select cities in Visayas and Mindanao.

Private firms deny roles in Magat Dam operation

The National Grid Corp. of the Philippines (NGCP) and SN Aboitiz Power Corp. (SNAP) denied any involvement in the operation of Magat Dam, which straddles the boundary of Ifugao and Isabela provinces, amid heavy flooding in downstream towns after the onslaught of Typhoon "Ulysses."

Reporting framework for banks gets nod

The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) has approved an industry-specific framework for the preparation of the audited financial statements of banks and other financial institutions under the supervision of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP).

Aon generated nearly 15% of total premiums in 2019

THE local office of Irish-domiciled insurance broker Aon Plc. generated nearly 15 percent of the total P75.38 billion in premiums produced last year, the Insurance Commission (IC) said on Wednesday. The IC said in a statement that insurance brokers also earned P8.48 billion in commissions as of end-2019.

ANI extends Pay8 due diligence period

AgriNurture Inc. (ANI), the agribusiness arm of businessman Antonio Tiu, said it is extending the due diligence period for its planned acquisition of Pay8 Inc., a unit of DFNN Inc. In its disclosure, the company said it was able to complete its due diligence on Pay8 Inc. as provided for under the memorandum of agreement signed

PSALM: 3 firms keen on real estate assets

Three power firms have signified interest to join the second round of public auction for the sale of 3 real estate assets of the Power Sector Assets and Liabilities Management Corporation (PSALM). PSALM said Sta. Clara Power Corp., SPC Power Corp. and Cagayan Electric Cooperative II (CAGELCO II) participated in the pre-bid conference

Saudi firm pursuing \$30-M pharma project in PH

A Saudi pharmaceutical firm is pursuing its plan to manufacture basic medicines in the country with investments of \$30 million, according to the Philippine Economic Zone Authority (PEZA).

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TODAY'S TOP ASIAN NEWS

CapitaLand and Tong Eng secure green loans

Green loans have been gaining popularity among Singapore property developers building sustainability-related properties. The latest to use such facilities is CapitaLand, which has obtained its first three green loans in India, totalling 17 billion rupees (S\$307 million) from DBS Bank India and HSBC India.

New Jiangsu centre to help Sg biomed firms tap China

A centre has been launched in the China-Singapore Suzhou Industrial Park (SIP), providing more opportunities for biomedical firms in Singapore to expand into the Chinese market.

Temasek in food tech innovation venture with A*Star

Temasek has signed an agreement with the Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A*Star) to establish the Food Tech Innovation Centre, a facility to accelerate the commercialisation of food technologies.

China targets frozen food imports over virus fears

Chinese health officials said on Wednesday, November 18, that two cold-chain storage workers in the port city of Tianjin were infected with COVID-19, as the country shifts focus to contaminated imports after a number of outbreaks linked to frozen food.

TODAY'S TOP GLOBAL NEWS

RSA agrees to £7.2b takeover by overseas rivals

British insurance group RSA is backing a £7.2 billion cash offer from Canada's Intact Financial and Denmark's Tryg in one of Europe's biggest financial takeover bids this year. Insurers have become an attractive proposition since the coronavirus crisis despite reputational damage from disputes over business interruption claims.

Virgin Australia to position as mid-market airline

Virgin Australia will position itself as a mid-market airline targeting around a one-third share of the domestic aviation market under the ownership of US private equity firm Bain Capital, the airline's new chief executive said on Wednesday (Nov 18).

Google to integrate bank accounts in payments app

A Google bank account? The internet giant said on Wednesday (Nov 18) it would be partnering with commercial banks and credit unions starting next year to allow users to manage mobile-based accounts through the Google Pay platform, in the latest move by tech giants into consumer finance.

No-deal Brexit would halve UK economic recovery

Britain's economic recovery from the coronavirus pandemic will more than halve should the country fail to strike a post-Brexit trade deal with the European Union (EU), KPMG forecast on Wednesday, November 18.

European car sales swerve lower

European car sales swerved lower again in October, industry data showed on Wednesday, November 18, as countries began to tighten restrictions on businesses to battle the spread of coronavirus infections.

Largest crypto investment manager tops \$10B in assets

The world's largest digital currency asset manager Grayscale said on Wednesday its assets under management soared to a record \$10.4 billion, bolstered by the continued rise in investment inflows as well as the surge in the price of bitcoin.