

The Daily Dispatch

June 17, 2019
TODAY'S TOP NEWS

Lucio Tan to venture into LNG

Taipan Lucio Tan is joining the liquefied natural gas bandwagon and is planning to put up a 1,000-megawatt LNG facility in Batangas together with a foreign partner, in a move that would make the Tan Group a major power player in the country.

Tanduay to sweeten offer for Central Azucarera

Taipan Lucio Tan's Tanduay Distillers Inc. (TDI) is sweetening its offer for Central Azucarera Don Pedro Inc. after losing in an earlier round of bidding, a ranking official said. "We are gung-ho about Central Azucarera," said Gerardo Tee, head of distillery operations of the Lucio Tan Group of Companies.

Philippines foreign debt rises to \$80.4 B

The country's external debt almost booked a double-digit increase in the first quarter of the year as the government continues to borrow more from foreign lenders, the BSP reported over the weekend. BSP Governor Benjamin Diokno said the outstanding external debt of the Philippines stood at \$80.43 billion in end-March this year.

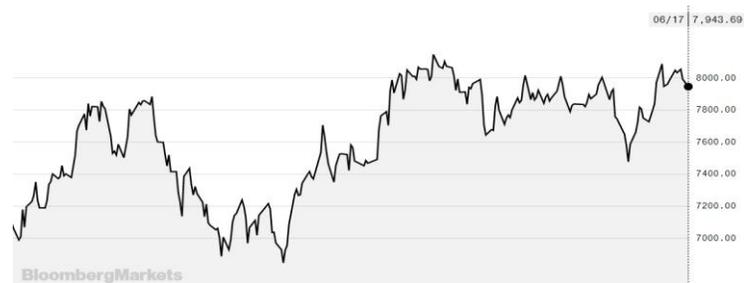
PSEi to hover around 8,000

The Philippine stock market is seen continuing with its consolidation and may just hover around the 8,000 mark. Jonathan Ravelas, chief market strategist at BDO, said last week's close at 7,990.20 highlights the market's inability to stay above the 8,000 levels.

Tanduay retains top rum for 2nd straight year

TANDUAY Distilleries Inc. said its brand has retained the world's top rum brand for the second straight year, beating known brands such as Bacardi and Captain Morgan, but the company is unsettled with the impending excise tax increases that can dampen its growth.

Philippine Stock Market Update



Previous Close:

7,990.20

Open:

7,991.78

52-Week Range:

6,790.58-8,213.71

1 Yr Return:

6.92%

YTD Return:

5.93%

Source:

Bloomberg

Foreign Exchange

As of June 14, 2019

US Dollar	Philippine Peso
1	52.05

BVAL Reference Rates

As of June 14, 2019

Tenor	Rate
1Y	5.213
3Y	5.119
5Y	5.163
7Y	5.211
10Y	5.248
20Y	5.378

Daily Quote

"There is no such thing as failure. Failure is just life trying to move us in another direction."

--Oprah Winfrey

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MORE LOCAL NEWS

Cheap loans could have filled infra gap—DOF

THE past administration missed its opportunity to take advantage of low interest rates on loans in a time it could have addressed the country's infrastructure gap by raising funds for its various programs and projects, the Department of Finance (DOF) said recently.

RWM to have most rooms in a single property

RESORTS World Manila will have the most number of hotel rooms in a single property development in the country by year-end with the opening of the Japanese-branded hotel in the second half.

PLDT tails Globe in 5G service launch

PLDT Inc. plans to launch its initial 5G service sometime in the second half of the year more than a quarter behind rival Globe Telecom Inc., which is expected to introduce its 5G product this week.

TBGI signs MOU with Chinese firm ZPI

TRANSPACIFIC Broadband Group International Inc. (TBGI) and Chinese state-owned telecom equipment supplier "ZPI" have signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) for the latter's common tower initiative in the Philippines.

Laguna skincare firm penetrates foreign markets

A dermatological company established in Laguna by a former overseas Filipino worker now exports world-class facial and skincare products to Europe, the Middle East, and Africa. "We are eyeing to become international because the brand itself is a world-class brand," says Dina Dela Paz Stalder president of the Stalder Group of Companies.

PNB increases medium-term borrowing program

Philippine National Bank, the fifth-largest lender controlled by tycoon Lucio Tan, has completed the update of its medium-term note program that includes the increase in its amount to \$2 billion from \$1 billion. The bank said the update would allow PNB to issue, offer or sell notes in the aggregate amount of up to \$2 billion

Malaysia awards oil supply deal to Petron

Petron Corp. has been chosen as one of the Malaysian government's fuel suppliers, further strengthening its operations in the Southeast Asian country. Petron president Ramon Ang said the company was picked out after joining the bidding to supply the Malaysian government's fuel needs.

Globe to build more cell sites to cut energy usage

Globe Telecom Inc. wants to build more cell sites nationwide in a bid to further reduce its annual energy consumption. "The more dense cell sites we have, the less power these cell sites consume. Allow us to build more cell sites so we can effectively manage our energy consumption," said Globe chief technology officer Gil Genio

ACSIEL seeks tie-ups with electronics firms

ACSIEL Alliance Electronique of France conducted an exploratory mission to the Philippines to check on the possibilities of forging collaboration between their 150 plus members and their Philippine counterparts in the future.

Ping An banks on tech investments to stay ahead

Ping An Insurance's OneConnect financial technology unit is leaning toward picking New York over Hong Kong for its initial public offering (IPO) in the hope of achieving a higher valuation, three people with direct knowledge of the matter said.

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TODAY'S TOP ASIAN NEWS

LaSalle construction on five new logistics parks

Real estate investment manager LaSalle Investment Management has commenced construction on five new logistics developments in China. The five logistics parks, located in Shanghai Qingpu, Suzhou, Jiaxing, Chongqing and Xi'an in China, are expected to deliver leasable gross floor area of 359,000 sq m upon completion in early 2020.

AGL Energy withdraws 2nd buyout offer for Vocus

Australia's AGL Energy Ltd withdrew a proposal to buy Vocus Group on Monday, just days after it offered \$2.08b for the telecoms firm, knocking Vocus shares down by a third. The withdrawal, which came weeks after AGL had dropped an earlier approach, made it the fourth potential suitor to back away from an offer for Vocus over the past

UEM Group to reduce stake in Indo toll road firm

Malaysia-based UEM Group is in the process of reducing its holding in Indonesia's toll road company Lintas Marga Sedayu (LMS), two people familiar with the situation said.

STI Financial eyes mid-market deals with \$150m

STI Financial – a Hong-Kong based asset manager that has been active in hedge funds, structured funds and private equity – will start readying its Asia-focused late-stage-mid market equity fund early next year. It would be a smaller debut vehicle that could raise up to \$150 million, it is learnt.

TODAY'S TOP GLOBAL NEWS

GER raises 6.5b euros from sale of 5G frequencies

Germany has raised some 6.5 billion euros (\$10 billion) from the sale of 5G frequencies to telecoms firms, the Federal Network Agency, said Wednesday, announcing the result of a three-month auction. The sale far exceeded expectations of between three billion and five billion euros.

Deutsche Bank to set up 50 billion euro bad bank

Deutsche Bank is planning to overhaul its trading operations by creating a "bad bank" to hold tens of billions of euros of assets and shrinking or shutting its U.S. equity and trading businesses, the Financial Times reported on Sunday.

U.S. chipmakers quietly lobby to ease Huawei ban

Huawei's American chip suppliers, including Qualcomm and Intel, are quietly pressing the U.S. government to ease its ban on sales to the Chinese tech giant, even as Huawei itself avoids typical government lobbying, people familiar with the situation said.

London-Shanghai share listing project goes live

Companies listed in Britain will be able to sell shares in China on Monday with the launch of a long-awaited London-Shanghai Stock Connect project that finance minister Philip Hammond called a chance to deepen "global connectivity".

GS combining its private-investing units:

Wall Street bank Goldman Sachs Group Inc is combining its private-investing arms, with the resulting new division to have about \$140 billion in assets, the Wall Street Journal reported on Sunday, citing people familiar with the matter.

Boeing says will take time to win back confidence

Chairman and Chief Executive Dennis Muilenburg said Boeing failed to communicate "crisply" with regulators and customers, but defended the broad engineering and design approach to nose-down control software at the center of probes into the accidents that led to the plane's worldwide grounding.