

# The Daily Dispatch

April 18, 2017  
TODAY'S TOP NEWS

## GT Capital to hike stake in Metrobank

Conglomerate GT Capital Holdings Inc. will increase its interest in banking arm Metropolitan Bank and Trust Co. to 36.092 percent by buying the 9.622 percent interest held by various Ty-owned companies for P24.72 billion.

## Smart pours in P5.5 B for Voyager Innovations

Smart Communications Inc. has so far invested P5.5B in digital innovations company Voyager Innovations Inc. In a report to the Philippine Stock Exchange, PLDT said the investment was used for "Voyager's various investments, as well as capital expenditures and working capital requirements." Established less than four years ago, Voyager

## Manila Water sees resolution of case by 2018

Manila Water Co. Inc. expects an international arbitration panel to issue by next year a resolution on its case against the government. It was in December 2015 when the water company filed a notice of arbitration with the Permanent Court of Arbitration in Singapore demanding the government pay for claims amounting to P79B.

## Phoenix Petroleum appoints new COO

Phoenix Petroleum has named Henry Albert "Bong" R. Fadullon its new COO effective April 17, 2017. Fadullon will replace Romeo "Romy" B. de Guzman, who will move into his new role as vice chairman of the board of directors and the senior strategic adviser. De Guzman will work with Fadullon to ensure a smooth transition.

## Lopez insists miners should pay P2-M/ha trust fund

Despite concerns over one of her many controversial memorandums, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Secretary Regina Paz Lopez insisted that miners should really pay additional P2M per hectare before they can continue with their stockpile transport activities.

## Philippine Stock Market Update



Previous Close:

7,588.53

1 Yr Return:

6.46%

Open:

7,594.92

YTD Return:

10.72%

52-Week Range:

6,499.00 - 8,118.44

Source:

Bloomberg

## Foreign Exchange

As of April 17, 2017

US Dollar	Philippine Peso
1	49.580

## PDST-R2 Rates

As of April 17, 2017

Tenor	Rate
1Y	2.8941
3Y	4.0820
5Y	4.3000
7Y	5.3450
10Y	5.4161
20Y	5.3724

## Daily Quote

"May I never be complete. May I never be content. May I never be perfect."

--Chuck Palahniuk

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## MORE LOCAL NEWS

### 2GO profit jumps 24% in 2016

Logistics company 2GO Group Inc. reported a 24 percent increase in its 2016 income to P1.34B. Operating income grew 40 percent to P2.53B, while operating margin improved to 13 percent from 11 percent in 2015. 2GO said the increase in income was due to sustained topline growth coupled with improved cost efficiencies.

### Manila Water to expand in Myanmar, Indonesia

MANILA WATER Company, Inc. is finalizing proposals for projects in Yangon, Myanmar and Bandung, Indonesia, as part of its strategy to meet an ambitious profit target by 2020, company officials said on Monday.

### Stocks slip as Korean tensions persist

Local stocks fell yesterday as tensions in the Korean Peninsula weighed on sentiment. The benchmark Philippine Stock Exchange index shed 41.11 points or 0.53 percent to close at 7,588.53 while the broader All Shares lost 22.19 points or 0.48 percent to end at 4,530.50.

### OFW cash remittances hit \$2.169B in February

Cash remittances coursed through banks by overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) maintained their momentum, totaling \$2.169 billion in February 2017 based on preliminary data released by the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) on Monday, April 17.

### BIR reviews tax cases of Pacquiao, Lucio Tan

The chief of the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) said his office has been in talks with the camp of Senator Manny Pacquiao, who is negotiating for a compromise agreement regarding his tax liabilities. He said he is also looking into alleged tax issues involving the Prietos of Dunkin' Donuts and taipan Lucio Tan.

## TODAY'S TOP ASIAN NEWS

### 45 new skyscrapers for Tokyo by 2020 Olympics

Japan's capital will see nearly 50 per cent more new high-rise space in the next three years than it did in the preceding three. The increase was fueled by the fiscal expansion and monetary easing under Abe's economic programme, launched after his election in late 2012.

### CH start-ups are venturing overseas in full force

While companies the world over compete for a slice of China's populous consumer market, start-ups headquartered in Asia's largest economy want to conquer not just the domestic field, but also to come out on top worldwide.

### Ezra updates bond holders as firm seeks rescue

Ezra Holdings bond holders are still unsure if their investments can be recovered despite the firm concluding an informal meeting with investors yesterday. The debt-laden offshore services group met with bond holders for the first time since it filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection in the United States last month.

### Go-Jek to raise additional \$1bn to compete

Indonesian transport service major Go-Jek, which is backed by private equity majors like KKR & Co., Warburg Pincus LLC and others, is in talks with investors to raise an additional \$1bn. The company was looking to raise capital at a pre-money valuation of around \$2bn.

### China Home Prices Rise in More Cities

China home prices rose in the most cities since October, suggesting buyers are trying to get in ahead of any further restrictions on property purchases. New-home prices gained last month in 62 of the 70 cities tracked by the government, compared with 56 in February, the National Bureau of Statistics said on Tuesday.

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## MORE ASIAN NEWS

### SG developers' private home sales soar

The latest government figures on private home sales point to a turnaround in the market. Figures released on Monday showed that, in the primary market, developers sold 1,780 new private homes last month. This was the strongest showing since the 1,806 units they moved back in June 2013.

### Super expected to delist from SGX soon

Singaporean food and beverage maker Super Group, known for its Super and Owl Coffee brands, will be ending its two-decade public listing soon after an offer from a Dutch venture fund to take it private has met a crucial threshold.

### P&G to invest in 1st SG digital innovation center

Procter & Gamble (P&G) will invest more than US\$100 million over the next five years to set up its first digital innovation centre outside the US in Singapore. The E-Centre will be pivotal to its undertaking of end-to-end digital innovation across three core areas of supply chain management, e-analytics and e-business.

## TODAY'S TOP GLOBAL NEWS

### HNA to buy stake in Brazil's 2nd busiest airport

China's HNA Airport Holding Group Co Ltd is close to buying out the stake that engineering conglomerate Odebrecht SA has in Brazil's second-busiest international airport, a person briefed on the matter said on Monday, partly solving an impasse with a government agency over licensing rights.

### Anbang takeover of Fidelity & Guaranty in US fails

The Chinese based conglomerate suffers another setback in the US as it fails to get US\$1.6 billion deal past state regulators. Fidelity & Guaranty Life terminated its US\$1.6 billion agreement to be purchased by China's Anbang Insurance Group Co. and said it will weigh other possible deals.

### Bank Brexit Exodus Seen Hastened by Reg. Scrutiny

Senior finance industry executives are concerned Bank of England and European Central Bank demands for full contingency plans may spur the relocation of activities from London to the continent, said the people, who asked not to be identified because the matter is private.

### No clear winner in sight for French election

France's presidential race enters its final stretch with no clear winner in sight as the main contenders scrap for votes in a flurry of campaign rallies. With almost a third of the electorate still undecided, and the front-runners clustered around 20% in the polls for the first round on April 23, the race is unpredictable at this point.

### Boeing to dismiss hundreds of engineers

Boeing Co. plans to lay off hundreds of engineers in Washington state and other locations -- and may eliminate more jobs later this year as the planemaker contends with slowing aircraft sales. The company's total headcount has shrunk 7.6 percent to 146,962 since March 2016.

### United beats estimates, apologizes for incident

United Continental Holdings Inc's (UAL.N) first-quarter earnings on Monday beat analysts' expectations on several key measures, and the carrier again apologized for the forceful removal of a passenger from a flight last week.

### Economic Calendar

Date	Release
04.16.2017	PH: Overseas Remittances YoY
04.18.2017	PH: BoP Overall
04.25.2017	PH: Budget Balance PHP
04.27.2017	PH: Bank Lending YoY
04.27.2017	PH: Money Supply M3 SRF YoY

Source: Bloomberg Economic Calendar