

BUSINES WOLL



S1/1-10 • 2 SECTIONS, 16 PAGES

STOCK MARKET	ASIAN MARKETS	WORLD MARKETS	PESO-DOLLAR RATES	ASIAN MONIES-US\$ RATE	WORLD CURRENCIES	DUBAI CRUDE OIL
PSEi 6540 6280 6020 F760 7.24 pts. 5500 30 DAYS TO JULY 14, 2022 PSEi OPEN: 6,250.06 HIGH: 6,255.96 LOW: 6,166.61 CLOSE: 6,248.13 VAL(P): 5.297 B	JULY 14, 2022 CLOSE NET %	JULY 13, 2022 Dow Jones 30,772.790 ▼ -208.540 NASDAQ 11,247.582 ▼ -17.146 S&P 500 3,801.780 ▼ -17.020 FTSE 100 7,156.370 ▼ -53.490 Euro STOXX50 3,476.070 ▼ -35.950	52.55 FX 53.60 OPEN P56.300 HIGH P55.980 LOW P56.450 CLOSE P56.150 W.AVE. P56.242 57.80 11.00 crvs 30 DAYS TO JULY 14, 2022 SOURCE : BAP	JULY 14, 2022 LATEST BID (0900GMT) JAPAN (YEN) 138.830 137.100 109.830 137.100 138.830 137.100 138.830 137.100 7.850	US\$/UK POUND 1.1851 ▼ 1.1883 US\$/EURO 1.0023 ▼ 1.0037 \$/AUST DOLLAR 0.6742 ▼ 0.6781 CANADA DOLLAR/US\$ 1.3066 ▲ 1.3005 SWISS FRANC/US\$ 0.9841 ▲ 0.9780	PUTURES PRICE ON NEAREST MOUNT OF DELIVERY 122.00 \$98.45/BBL 115.00 100.00 101.00 94.00 \$3.65 30 DAYS TO JULY 13, 2022

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PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE'S 10 MOST ACTIVE STOCKS BY VALUE TURNOVER • JULY 14, 2022 (PSEi snapshot on S1/4; article on S2/2)

-P0.200 ▼ -0.542%

URC P605.000 P186.500 **BDO** P123.000 AC P47.700 P775.500 P115.000 P36.700 GTCAP P440.000 P39.000 Value Value Value Value P403,502,020 P365,938,437 P271,901,410 Value P270,924,900 P216,901,016 P174,220,880 Value P168,240,880 P162,481,956 P155,608,870

P1.000

0.166%

P0.050

0.105%

2.585%

BSP delivers its biggest rate hike ever

P3.100

By Keisha B. Ta-asan

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P23.800

P747,075,710

Value

-P21.500 ▼ -2.698%

THE BANGKO SENTRAL ng Pilipinas (BSP) unexpectedly raised its benchmark interest rates by 75 basis points (bps) on Thursday, but left the door open for further tightening as it seeks to tame the fastest inflation in nearly four years.

BSP Governor Felipe M. Medalla said the Monetary Board raised its key rate to 3.25%, effective immediately, which brought back the rate to the March 2020 level. This latest move is the BSP's biggest rate hike ever.

P3.700 **A** 2.024%

Rates on the overnight deposit and lending facilities were also hiked by 75 bps to 2.75% and 3.75%, respec-

"In raising the policy interest rate anew, the Monetary Board recognized that a significant further tightening of monetary policy was warranted by signs of sustained and broadening price pressures amid the ongoing normalization of monetary

policy settings," Mr. Medalla said in a Facebook Live on Thursday morning.

The BSP's surprise move came ahead of its regular policy meeting scheduled on Aug. 18, and follows two 25-bp rate hikes each in May and June. The Monetary Board has raised benchmark interest rates by a total of 125 bps so far this year.

This was also the central bank's first off-cycle move since April 16, 2020, when it cut rates by 50 bps to 2.75% to support the pandemic-hit economy.

BSP, S1/3

PHL vehicle sales accelerate in June

VEHICLE SALES in the Philippines accelerated by 27% in June, driven by increased demand for commercial vehicles.

A joint report from the Chamber of Automotive Manufacturers of the Philippines, Inc. (CAMPI) and Truck Manufacturers Association, Inc. (TMA) showed total vehicle sales reached 28,601 units in June, up by 26.8% from 22,550 units sold in the same month

Month on month, total vehicle sales increased by 8.5% from May's 26,370

Commercial vehicle sales surged by 39.4% to 21,144 units in June, from 15,168 a year ago. This was driven by a 55% rise in sales of Asian utility vehicles and a 38% jump in sales of light commercial vehicles.

Passenger vehicle sales remained sluggish, inching up by 1% to 7,457 units in June from 7,382 a year ago.

"The automotive industry recovery is progressing as new motor vehicle sales reached an upward growth trajectory in June driven by the pent-up demand from consumers amid the less-than-ideal economic conditions recorded in the same period," CAMPI President Rommel R. Gutierrez said in a statement.

For the first six months, the industry sold 154,874 units, up by 16.7% from 132,767 units sold in the same period last year.

Sales of commercial vehicles rose by 28.2% to 115,871 units in the first six months, offsetting the 8% decline in passenger car sales to 39,003.

Vehicle, S1/3

Debt-to-GDP ratio

-P1.800 ▼ -1.541%

By Diego Gabriel C. Robles

Finance Secretary Benjamin E. Diokno said the debt-to-gross domestic product (GDP) ratio is "not assessing the economy's health.

Mr. Diokno told reporters that the country's debt-to-GDP ratio. which stood at 63.5% as of end-

He made the statement after sharing Bloomberg's Sovereign Debt Vulnerability Ranking, which included countries with debt-to-GDP ratios lower than the Philippines such as Nigeria (37.4%), Tur-

The Philippines was not on the ist of 25 countries with the high est default risk this year.

The Department of Finance (DoF) chief said macroeconomic fundamentals, demographic profile, resiliency, and quality of political institutions should also be considered in assessing an

fers," Mr. Diokno said.

Economic managers are aiming to bring down the debt-to-GDP ratio to 61.8% by yearend. The debt-to-GDP ratio is expected to steadily drop to 61.3% by next year all the way to 52.5% by 2028.

Mr. Diokno also noted the country's economic prospects are "bright" and external sector remains robust.

"[Our] gross international reserves [are] more than enough and there is a steady structural inflow of foreign exchange [from] OFW remittances, BPO receipts, [and] rising exports," he added.

Preliminary data from the BSP showed the country's gross international reserves stood at \$101.983 billion at end-June, falling 3.5% from the record \$105.762-billion level seen in June 2021.

Overseas Filipino workers' OFWs) remittances jumped by 3.9% in April to \$2.395 billion.

Meanwhile, exports rose by 6.2% year on year to \$6.310 billion in May but were offset by imports that grew by 31.4% annually to \$11.989 billion.

The Development Budget Coordination Committee (DBCC) retained this year's export growth target to 7%, but increased import growth goal to 18% from 15% previously.

The economy is expected to grow by 6.5-7.5% this year, and by 6.5-8% annually from 2023 to 2028.

Debt, S1/3

still manageable — DoF

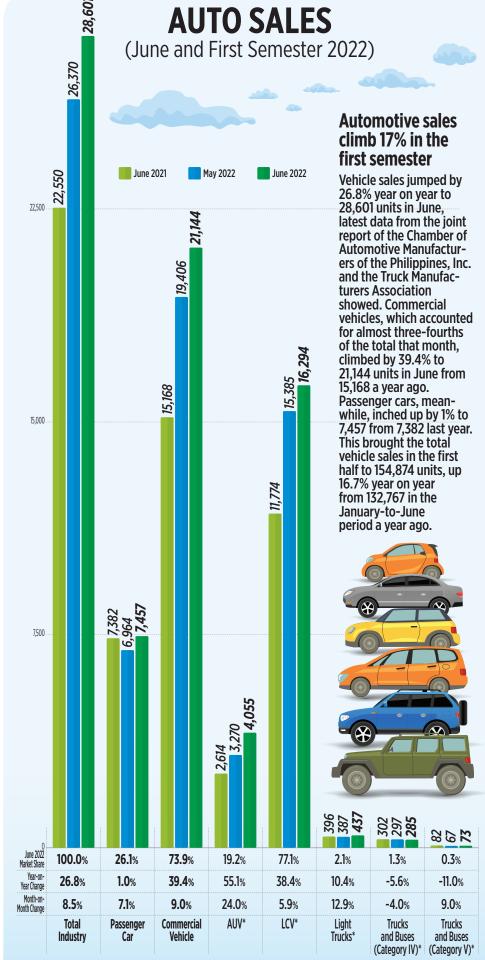
AMID CONCERNS over the Philippines' ballooning debt, the sole criterion that matters" in

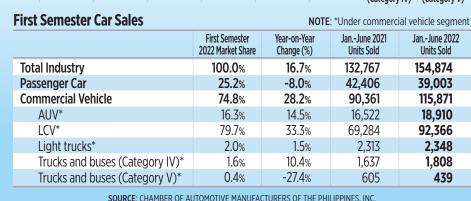
March, is still manageable.

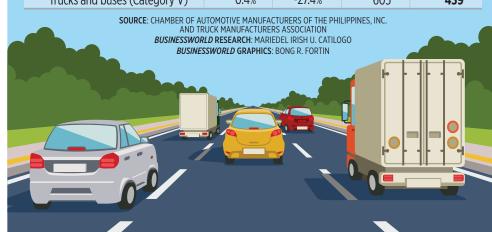
key (43.7%) and Mexico (58.4%).

economy's health.

"The fiscal and monetary authorities are in control. The debtto-GDP ratio is manageable. The banking system is sound and more than adequately capitalized; [nonperforming loans], which [are] low, continues to fall. The banking industry has [built] in enough buf-









Emperador lists in Singapore

Emperador, Inc., a global whisky and brandy conglomerate headquartered in the Philippines, on Thursday became the first PSE-primary listed company to conduct a secondary listing on the Main Board of the Singapore Exchange Securities Trading Limited (SGX-ST). Leading the historic milestone for Emperador were (left to right): George Schulze, Dalmore whisky expert in Asia for Emperador; Bryan Donaghey, head of whisky business for Emperador and CEO of Whyte and Mackay; Loh Boon Chye, CEO of SGX; Dr. Andrew L. Tan, chairman of Emperador; Gerard Ho, Singapore Ambassador to the Philippines; and Kevin L. Tan, CEO of Alliance Global Group, Inc., the holding company of Emperador. (Related story on S1/4)