

STOCK MARKET	ASIAN MARKETS	WORLD MARKETS	PESO-DOLLAR RATES	ASIAN MONIES-US\$ RATE	WORLD CURRENCIES	DUBAI CRUDE OIL
PSEi OPEN: 6,208.93 HIGH: 6,237.27 LOW: 6,171.45 CLOSE: 6,236.76 VOL.: 0.326 B VAL(P): 3.831 B 13.76 Pts. 0.22% 30 DAYS TO JULY 27, 2022	JULY 27, 2022 JAPAN (NIKKEI 225) 27,715.75 ▲ 60.54 0.22 HONG KONG (HANG SENG) 20,670.04 ▼ -235.84 -1.13 TAIWAN (WEIGHTED) 14,921.59 ▲ 114.81 0.78 THAILAND (SET INDEX) 1,575.22 ▲ 22.04 1.42 S.KOREA (KSE COMPOSITE) 2,415.53 ▲ 2.57 0.11 SINGAPORE (STRAITS TIMES) 3,201.55 ▲ 9.43 0.30 SYDNEY (ALL ORDINARIES) 6,823.20 ▲ 15.90 0.23 MALAYSIA (KLSE COMPOSITE) 1,470.71 ▲ 7.02 0.48	JULY 26, 2022 Dow Jones 31,761,540 ▼ -228,500 NASDAQ 11,562,575 ▼ -220,091 S&P 500 3,921,050 ▼ -45,790 FTSE 100 7,306,280 ▼ -0,020 Euro Stoxx50 3,597,660 ▲ 15,750	FX OPEN P55.400 HIGH P55.370 LOW P55.820 CLOSE P55.680 W.AVE. P55.635 VOL. 1,007.50 M SOURCE : BAP 38.00 CYS 30 DAYS TO JULY 27, 2022	JULY 27, 2022 LATEST BID (0900GMT) PREVIOUS JAPAN (YEN) 136.700 ▼ 136.590 HONG KONG (HK DOLLAR) 7.849 ▼ 7.849 TAIWAN (NT DOLLAR) 29.934 ▼ 29.912 THAILAND (BAHT) 36.790 ▼ 36.690 S. KOREA (WON) 1,314.000 ▼ 1,308.600 SINGAPORE (DOLLAR) 1.388 ▼ 1.388 INDONESIA (RUPIAH) 15,010 ▼ 14,995 MALAYSIA (RINGGIT) 4.456 ▼ 4.454	JULY 27, 2022 US\$/UK POUND 1.2067 ▲ 1.2006 US\$/EURO 1.0143 ▼ 1.0180 \$/AUSTRALIAN DOLLAR 0.6950 ▲ 0.6943 CANADA DOLLAR/US\$ 1.2848 ▲ 1.2862 SWISS FRANC/US\$ 0.9604 ▼ 0.9665	FUTURES PRICE ON NEAREST MONTH OF DELIVERY \$104.90/bbl 114.80 107.60 100.40 93.20 86.00 30 DAYS TO JULY 26, 2022

VOL. XXXVI • ISSUE 2 THURSDAY • JULY 28, 2022 • www.bworldonline.com S1/1-12 • 2 SECTIONS, 16 PAGES

PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE'S TO MOST ACTIVE STOCKS BY VALUE TURNOVER • JULY 27, 2022 (PSEi snapshot on S1/5; article on S2/2)

URC	P110.000	BPI	P87.000	SCC	P41.000	BDO	P117.000	SMPH	P36.150	ICT	P185.000	GLO	P2,100.000	TEL	P1,649.000	SM	P780.000	DMC	P9.620
Value	P316,570,169	Value	P303,231,413	Value	P266,105,745	Value	P253,160,782	Value	P229,010,200	Value	P182,668,146	Value	P170,971,800	Value	P161,496,530	Value	P127,970,550	Value	P122,180,675
	-P3.900 ▼ -3.424%		P0.500 ▲ 0.578%		P0.800 ▲ 1.990%		P3.000 ▲ 2.632%		-P0.700 ▼ -1.900%		P0.800 ▲ 0.434%		-P28.000 ▼ -1.316%		P31.000 ▲ 1.916%		-P10.000 ▼ -1.266%		P0.070 ▲ 0.733%

NG to borrow P215B locally in Aug.

DICT eyes deployment of Starlink services to communities by Q1 2023

By Arjay L. Balinbin
Senior Reporter

THE DEPARTMENT of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) expects to deploy Starlink broadband service to geographically isolated and disadvantaged communities by the first quarter of 2023.

"Hopefully (by first quarter of 2023). We are optimistic because we are more proactive than we have been," DICT Secretary Ivan John E. Uy told reporters during a gathering on Wednesday.

"We anticipate this technology, so I am already preparing all the documentations and requirements as of now so it will be ready to launch," he added.

The DICT and Elon Musk's Space Exploration Technologies Corp. (SpaceX), the parent company of Starlink Internet Services Philippines, Inc., presented to journalists on Wednesday the satellite dish and router that will be used to receive signals from space.

Starlink hopes to make its broadband service commercially available in the Philippines by December, SpaceX Government Affairs Senior Manager Rebecca Hunter said during a briefing.

The Philippines is set to be the first country in Southeast Asia to experience Starlink's services, she said.

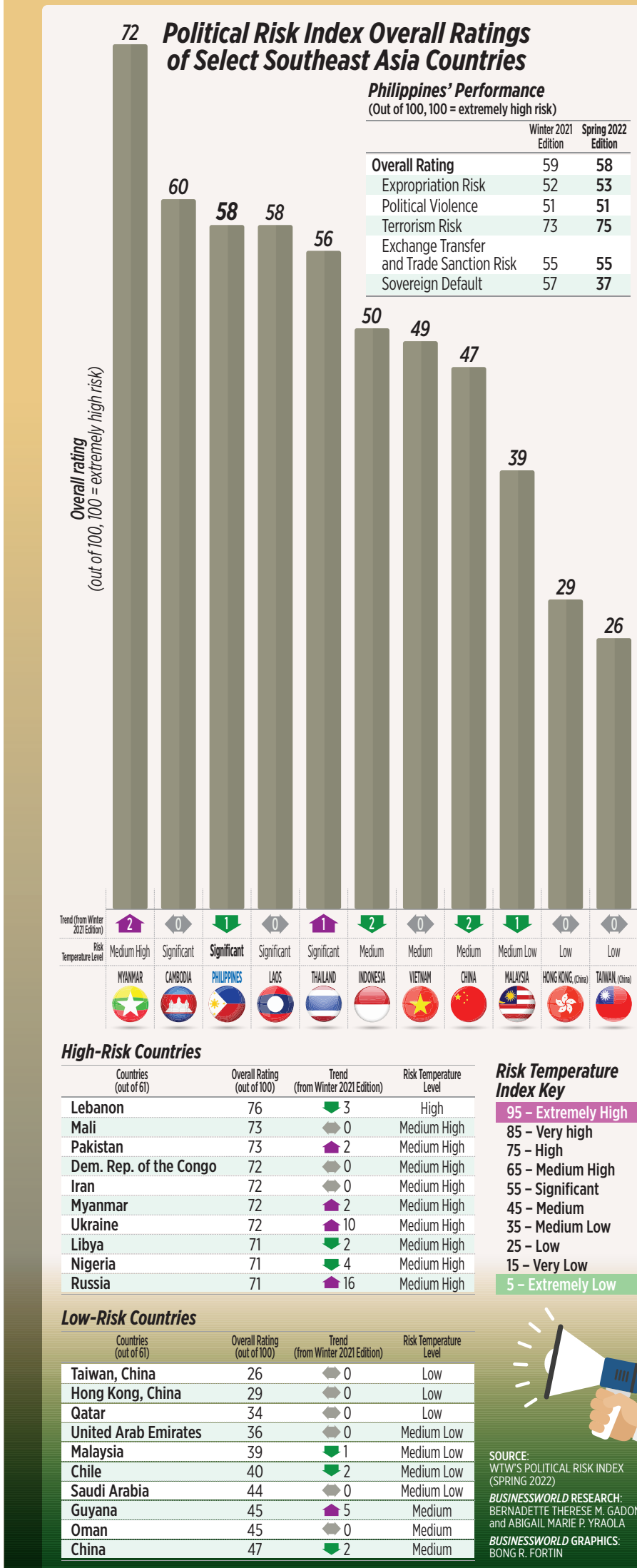
The company's broadband service uses a low-Earth orbit satellite system designed to deliver broadband internet connectivity with speeds of 100 to 200 Megabits per second to isolated and disadvantaged areas where laying fiber cables is difficult. Major telecommunications service providers regard such areas as commercially unviable because of the significant investment needed to put up infrastructure.

With Starlink's broadband service, it will be cheaper to provide connectivity to unserved and underserved areas such as mountains, islands, and remote villages, according to Mr. Uy.

Starlink, S1/9

PHILIPPINES' POLITICAL RISK REMAINS 'SIGNIFICANT'

The Philippines overall rating improved by a point to 58 (out of 100) with "significant" risk temperature level in the quarterly Political Risk Index by global advisory, broking and solutions company WTW (formerly Willis Towers Watson) in collaboration with Oxford Analytica. The index analyzes patterns in the world's most vulnerable countries, covering key political perils from expropriation to currency convertibility to political violence. The Philippines tied with Laos as the third most politically at-risk countries in Southeast Asia, following Myanmar (72) and Cambodia (60).



THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT (NG) plans to borrow P215 billion from the domestic market in August, the Bureau of the Treasury (BTr) said on Wednesday.

The August borrowing plan is 7.5% higher than the P200-billion program for July. However, the government raised just P194.81 billion from domestic borrowings this month.

The BTr will hold auctions for Treasury bills (T-bills) every week, which is projected to raise P75 billion.

Meanwhile, the auctions for Treasury bonds (T-bonds) are estimated to generate P140 billion.

National Treasurer Rosalia V. de Leon said in a Viber message that the increase in domestic borrowings is due to the additional auction date for the month.

According to the BTr, P5 billion worth of 91-day, 182-day, and 364-day T-bills will be offered on Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29.

For the long-term tenors, the Treasury is looking to raise P35 billion in three-and-a-half-year T-bonds on Aug. 2; P35 billion in seven-year debt papers on Aug. 9; P35 billion in 10-year instruments on Aug. 16; and P35 billion in five-and-a-half-year bonds on Aug. 23.

"Interestingly, there's not much offering for long-end bonds next month than initially anticipated despite the huge interest generated the past few auctions," a trader said.

In July, the government raised P140 billion as planned via T-bonds on the back of robust demand for higher-yielding longer tenors amid expectations of higher interest rates due to mounting inflationary pressures.

It also opened its tap facility three times in July, awarding an additional P5 billion, P20 billion, and P10 billion within the month.

Next month's offering was as expected with the government shifting to more domestic borrowings to minimize foreign exchange risks, said Michael L. Ricafort, chief economist at Rizal Commercial Banking Corp.

The National Government intends to raise P2.47 trillion with about 77% coming from domestic sources this year.

Earlier this month, Finance Secretary Benjamin E. Diokno also said that the government seeks to reduce its foreign exchange risks.

"The financing mix, if I remember right, is 75%-25% (in favor of domestic borrowing) and for the longer term we will try to increase this to 80-20. We will borrow domestically at 80% and 20% from foreign sources," he said.

The gross domestic borrowing program is at P1.91 trillion this year, composed of T-bills that are expected to bring in P52 billion and fixed-rate T-bonds that are seen to raise P1.86 trillion.

"However, more domestic borrowings would lead to some pickup in local interest rates than otherwise amid higher demand for funds from the National Government that could compete with other borrowers from the private sector," Mr. Ricafort said.

The government borrows from local and external sources to help fund a budget deficit capped at 7.6% of gross domestic product this year.

In June, the National Government's budget deficit widened by 43.8% to P215.5 billion from a year earlier. — **Diego Gabriel C. Robles**

At least 4 die after Magnitude 7 quake hits northern Philippines

A MAGNITUDE 7 earthquake rocked the northwestern part of the main island of Luzon in the Philippines early Wednesday morning, according to the US Geological Survey (USGS), killing at least four, damaging buildings and halting train operations in the capital Manila where the tremors were also felt.

The quake struck about 13 kilometers (km) southeast of the town of Dolores in Abra province at a depth of 10 km, the US agency said on its website. (Read full story on S1/10.)

DBM reviews phasing of devolution transition

MAJOR INFRASTRUCTURE projects and other big-ticket items should still be under the National Government for now, amid ongoing discussions on what functions and projects should be completely devolved to local government units (LGU), according to Department of Budget and Management (DBM) Secretary Amenah F. Pangandaman.

Ms. Pangandaman on Tuesday said that they are currently reviewing the phasing of the devolution of certain functions of the Executive branch to LGUs as provided for under Executive Order (EO) No. 138.

The results of the review will be presented to the Department of Interior and Local Government, Department of Finance, National Economic and Development Authority, and President Ferdinand R. Marcos, Jr. within the week, she added.

"We'll just prioritize. We'll come up with a menu and a tran-

sition plan, just the phasing of our devolution because I think there are LGUs who cannot implement other projects [yet]," Ms. Pangandaman said.

Also, the Budget chief said they will not remove any sectors that have been identified for full devolution under EO 138.

"It's just about phasing. Maybe the targets and focus will be on the National Government for now," she added.

While big-ticket items should still be with the National Government, Ms. Pangandaman said LGUs should be able to handle social protection programs and support for micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises (MSME).

At the post-State of the Nation Address (SONA) economic briefing on Tuesday, Finance Secretary Benjamin E. Diokno said they are also reviewing which spending items should be assigned to LGUs.

Devolution, S1/9