STOCK MARKET	ASIAN MARKETS	WORLD MARKETS	PESO-DOLLAR RATES	ASIAN MONIES-US\$ RATE	WORLD CURRENCIES	DUBAI CRUDE OIL
e900 PSEi	SEPTEMBER 16, 2022 CLOSE NET %	SEPTEMBER 16, 2022 CLOSE NET	55.10 FX	SEPTEMBER 16, 2022 LATEST BID (0900GMT) PREVIOUS	SEPTEMBER 16, 2022 CLOSE PREVIOUS	FUTURES PRICE ON NEAREST MONTH OF DELIVERY 109.00 \$91.05/BBL
6780 OPEN: 6,586.91	JAPAN (NIKKEI 225) 27,567.65 ▼ -308.26 -1.11 HONG KONG (HANG SENG) 18,761.69 ▼ -168.69 -0.89	Dow Jones 30,822.420 ▼ -139.400 NASDAQ 11,448.404 ▼ -103.953	55.80 OPEN P57.350 HIGH P57.320	Japan (yen) 142.910 ▲ 143.310 Hong Kong (HK dollar) 7.849 ▼ 7.848	US\$/UK POUND 1.1412 T 1.1503	102.20
6660 V V HIGH: 6,588.25 LOW: 6.539.25	Taiwan (Weighted) 14,561.76 ▼ -108.28 -0.74 Thailand (SET Index) 1,630.40 ▼ -11.93 -0.73	S&P 500 3,873.330 ▼ -28.020	LOW P57.440	TAIWAN (NT DOLLAR) 31.289 ▼ 31.233 THAILAND (BAHT) 36.810 ▼ 36.760	US\$/Euro 1.0015 ▲ 0.9989 \$/Aust dollar 0.6720 ▼ 0.6736	95.40
CLOSE: 6,548.77	S.Korea (Kse Composite) 2,382.78 V -19.05 -0.79 Singapore (Straits Times) 3,268.29 0.31 0.01	FTSE 100 7,236.680 ▼ -45.390 EURO STOXX50 3,454.040 ▼ -51.260	CLOSE P57.430 W.AVE. P57.363	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	CANADA DOLLAR/US\$ 1.3260 1.3164 Swiss Franc/US\$ 0.9646 0.9586	88.60 V
26.90 pts. VOL.: 1.180 B 30 DAYS TO SEPTEMBER 16, 2022 VAL(P): 15.092 B	SYDNEY (ALL ORDINARIES) 6,739.10 ▼ -103.80 -1.52 MALAYSIA (KLSE COMPOSITE) * 1,467.31 ▼ -1.13 -0.08		58.60 27.00 CTVS VOL. \$900.66 M		SWISS FRANC/ 03\$ 0.9040 - 0.9300	75.00 \$2.55
SU DATS TO SEPTEMBER 10, 2022 VAL(F). 13.032 D	* CLOSING PRICE AS OF SEPTEMBER 15, 2022		30 DAYS TO SEPTEMBER 16, 2022 SOURCE : BAP			30 DAYS TO SEPTEMBER 16, 2022

MONDAY • SEPTEMBER 19, 2022 • www.bworldonline.com PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE'S 10 MOST ACTIVE STOCKS BY VALUE TURNOVER • SEPTEMBER 16, 2022 (PSEi snapshot on S1/4; article on S2/2)

P1,750.000 P35.750 P19.900 P731.500 P13.860 P120.400 P42.700 P95.000 P28.550 P121.800 P3,313,763,385 Value P1,978,941,895 Value P1,396,800,275 Value P903,251,732 Value P702,780,473 P574,917,020 Value P517,923,140 Value P487,831,753 **Value** P478,171,170 Value P457,134,276 -P0.650 ▼ -3.163% -P16.500 ▼ -2.206% -P0.640 ▼ -4.414% -P2.100 ▼ -1.714% P98.000 ▲ 5.932% -P4.150 ▼ -8.858% -P0.050 ▼ -0.175% -P3.000 **▼** -3.061% -P1.700

BSP to hike rates by 50 bps — poll

By Keisha B. Ta-asan

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THE BANGKO SENTRAL ng Pilipinas (BSP) is likely to continue its rate hike cycle on Thursday, with several analysts forecasting a 50-basis-point (bp) increase as the US Federal Reserve is also expected to further tighten policy this week.

A BusinessWorld poll last week showed 14 out of 15 analysts expect the Monetary Board (MB) to raise its benchmark interest rate at its Sept. 22 meeting.

Eleven analysts believe the central bank will deliver a hike of 50 bps, while two analysts see a 25-bp increase. One analyst expects a 75-bp hike, while another sees the BSP keeping rates unchanged.

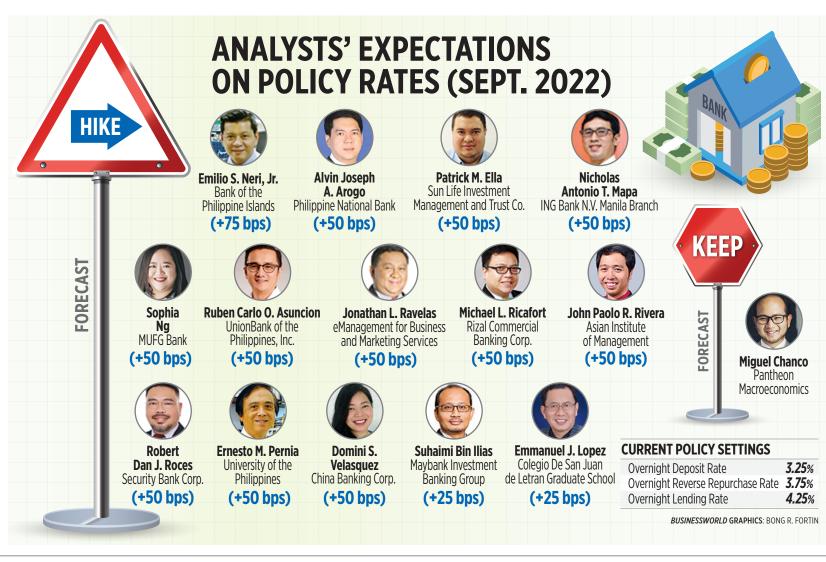
"Inflation and peso weakness will remain the key consideration in the upcoming Monetary Board meeting, and we expect it to raise interest rates by 50 bps to bring the RRP (reverse repurchase rate) to 4.25%," Security Bank Corp. Chief Economist Robert Dan J. Roces said in an e-mail.

Latest data from the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) showed the consumer price index (CPI) climbed 6.3% year on year in August, from the nearly four-year high of 6.4% in July. It remained significantly higher than the 4.4% seen in August 2021.

August marked the fifth consecutive month that inflation exceeded the BSP's 2-4% target range for the year.

"Inflation may have eased slightly to 6.3% year on year but core CPI accelerated, and the (Philippine peso) fell to new record lows against the (US dollar) in recent weeks which would raise imported inflationary pressures," MUFG Bank currency analyst Sophia Ng said in an e-mail.

Poll, *S1*/2



In Philippines, tingi thrives amid COVID pandemic, spiraling prices

By Diego Gabriel C. Robles

MA. MICHELLINE L. REYES, 55, operates a mom-and-pop store that sells shampoo in sachets, coffee in packets and other odds and ends in Marikina City near the Philippine capital.

For most of her neighbors with a limited budget, buying small amounts of just about anything is a big help amid spiraling prices and a looming global food crisis.

"Smokers typically buy five sticks of cigarettes, not the whole pack," Ms. Reyes said in a text message. "It's the same with eggs. Nobody buys a tray." The practice of buying *tingi*, or in really

small amounts, shows just how little money Filipinos have in their pockets, hence the saying "Isang kahig, isang tuka" (One scratch, one peck).

"It's not an exclusively Filipino thing since it's essentially borne of **FOCUS** poverty and poverty is certainly a universal experience," Louie C. Montemar, a professor of sociology and political science and a fellow at the Stratbase

ADR Institute said in an e-mail. "It just so happens that we have a rather 'cute' and specific term in our national lan-

guage for what could be roughly translated to English as 'retail culture,'" he added. "The term 'tingi culture' was apparently coined by Filipino author Nicomedes 'Nick' M.

Joaquin, who saw it rather condescendingly as a 'heritage of smallness." In his book Culture and History, the late author faulted the Filipino's habit of buying and selling small as an indication of a nation's

humble economic and commercial ambitions. "What most astonishes foreigners in the Philippines is that this is a country, perhaps the only one in the world, where people buy and sell one stick of cigarette, half a head of garlic, a dab of pomade, part of the contents of a can or bottle, one single egg, one single banana," he said.

"I would rather see it as a manifestation of our people's ability to adapt to poverty," Mr. Montemar said. "It shows Filipino resilience, innovativeness, creativity and entrepreneurship."

The lack of income forces households to buy things in small packets especially amid spiraling prices, according to Ateneo de Manila University economics professor Leonardo A. Lanzona.

a coping mechanism for poor individuals and households, as well as a marketing strategy of companies to tap the latent purchasing power of the bottom of the pyramid," Cid L. Terosa, a senior economist at the University of Asia and the Pacific, said in an e-mail.

"It became more intense and apparent in 2020 to 2021 because the coronavirus pandemic gravely decapitated their purchasing power," he added.

The average income of Filipino households fell by 2% year on year to P307,190 in 2021 from three years earlier, according to data from the local statistics agency. About 20 million Filipinos or 18% of the population were living in poverty as of end-2021.

> Between 2018 and 2021, the income of 2.32 million more people fell below the per capita threshold, with many of them having been forced to work fewer hours amid coronavirus lockdowns. About 3.5 million Filipinos from 492,000 families fell into poverty.

The amount needed by an average Filipino to meet his monthly basic needs increased to P2,406 last year from P2,151 in 2018. For a family of five, the amount rose to P12,030 from P10,756 a month.

Small entrepreneurs are also suffering amid rising prices. An Asian Development Bank (ADB) study found that the sales of 82.7% of informal businesses dove, though more than three-quarters of these managed to stay open.

Ms. Reyes said her sales were halved at the height of the pandemic after she was forced to close amid strict lockdowns that were one of the longest and strictest in the world.

Filipinos are unlikely to shake off buying sachets - blamed for pollution caused by plastic wastes - any time soon, said Samuel Cabbuag, assistant professor at the University of the Philippines Department of Sociology.

"They will not go to supermarkets and wholesale stores to buy the bigger version of those goods because many of them still could not afford it," he said. "While prices of these sachet goods are increasing, many people still buy them. At the end of the day, consumption is social."

Inflation eased to 6.3% in August, bringing the eight-month average to 4.9%, still above the Philippine central bank's 2-4% target.

BUSINESSWORLD B-SIDE



The birth of the Filipino nation

IN THIS B-SIDE episode, playwright, historian, and educator Dr. Paul

A. Dumol talks about the birth of the Filipino nation, a relatively new concept that emerged at the beginning of the 20th century. In this conversation with BusinessWorld reporter Diego C. Robles, Dr. Dumol touches on the writing of National Hero Jose P. Rizal, author Nicomedes "Nick" M. Joaquin, and historian Teodoro A. Agoncillo to answer the questions: Who was the Filipino then? Who is the Filipino now? Where are we, the Filipinos of today, headed as a nation? "What does 'being Filipino' mean," Dr. Dumol said in the vernacular. "I think it means, at the very least, love for everybody else." >>> https://spoti.fi/3QMFHDL

WHAT'S INSIDE

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IT-BPM firms' move to BoI will be seamless, says Trade department

By Revin Mikhael D. Ochave Reporter

TRADE SECRETARY Alfredo E. Pascual vowed a seamless transfer of the registration of information technology and business process management (IT-BPM) firms from the Philippine Economic Zone Authority (PEZA) to the Board of Investments (BoI).

"The procedure for transfer of registration from PEZA to BoI will be seamless — to be carried out expeditiously," Mr. Pascual said in a statement sent to reporters over the weekend.

Mr. Pascual, who is also the chair of both PEZA and BoI, said up to 100% work-from-home (WFH) arrangements would also be available to IT-BPM firms that will be registered for tax incentives in the future.

"From the beginning, our priority has been to secure a solution for the sector's WFH setup, which has become the new normal postpandemic," Mr. Pascual said.

His assurance comes after the Fiscal Incentives Review Board (FIRB) announced last week that registered IT-BPM firms in economic zones (ecozones) can implement full WFH arrangements and still enjoy fiscal incentives by transferring their registration to the BoI, in a bid to address the issue without violating existing laws.

Republic Act No. 11534 or the Corporate Recovery and Tax Incentives for Enterprises (CREATE) mandates registered business enterprises (RBEs), including IT-BPM firms, to conduct activities within the ecozone in order to avail of fiscal incentives.

The FIRB earlier announced that the 70% on-site work and 30% WFH arrangement ratio currently enjoyed by IT-BPM firms has been extended until Dec. 31 this year to give time for the transfer. This is also in accordance with the state of calamity extension under Proclamation No. 57 recently signed by President Ferdinand R. Marcos, Jr.

S1/1-12 • 2 SECTIONS, 20 PAGES

Registered IT-BPM firms should inform the PEZA of their intention to transfer registration, the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) said.

"The PEZA will then endorse the request to the BoI for the issuance of a Certificate of Registration, which will indicate the remaining incentives. PEZA shall administer the incentives and continue monitoring the transferee firms' compliance," the DTI said.

Tereso O. Panga, PEZA officerin-charge and deputy directorgeneral for policy and planning, said that a law should be passed to make this permanent.

"The paper transfer is just an interim arrangement to preserve the incentives of the IT locators while availing of WFH arrangement in their designated IT centers," Mr. Panga said in a Viber message.

"A more permanent solution is the bill that will allow the PEZA IT locators to avail of WFH with incentives that will put them on an equal footing with the BoI RBEs and following the lead of India to make the Philippines more attractive especially to global ICT investors," he added.

Mr. Panga cited pending measures such as Senate Bill (SB) No. 135 filed by Senator Emmanuel Joel J. Villanueva and SB No. 643 filed by Senator Maria Imelda "Imee" R. Marcos that seek to amend Section 309 of the CREATE Act to allow WFH while allowing IT-BPM firms to enjoy tax incentives.