Philippine Stock Exchange index (PSEi) 6,690.77 ▼39.19 PTS. ▼0.58%

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2024 BusinessWorld

PSEi MEMBER STOCKS

AC	Ayala Corp.	P653.00	+P4.00	+0.62%
ACEN	ACEN Corp.	P3.98	-P0.01	-0.25%
AEV	Aboitiz Equity Ventures, Inc.	P34.70	+P0.40	+1.17%
AGI	Alliance Global Group, Inc.	P9.23	-P0.02	-0.22%
ALI	Ayala Land, Inc.	P29.00	-P0.70	-2.36%
BDO	BDO Unibank, Inc.	P155.90	+P0.20	+0.13%
BLOOM	Bloomberry Resorts Corp.	P5.59	+P0.08	+1.45%
BPI	Bank of the Philippine Islands	P128.00	-P0.50	-0.39%
CNPF	Century Pacific Food, Inc.	P41.90	-P0.55	-1.3%
CNVRG	Converge ICT Solutions, Inc.	P16.76	-P0.30	-1.76%
DMC	DMCI Holdings, Inc.	P11.10	+P0.14	+1.28%
EMI	Emperador, Inc.	P18.04	——	
GLO	Globe Telecom, Inc.	P2,074.00	-P34.00	-1.61%
GTCAP	GT Capital Holdings, Inc.	P650.00	-P8.50	-1.29%
ICT	International Container Terminal Services, Inc.	P385.20	-P10.80	-2.73%
JFC	Jollibee Foods Corp.	P262.80	+P0.80	+0.31%
JGS	JG Summit Holdings, Inc.	P21.50	-P0.70	-3.15%
LTG	LT Group, Inc.	P10.30	+P0.02	+0.19%
MBT	Metropolitan Bank & Trust Co.	P74.90	-P0.60	-0.79%
MER	Manila Electric Co.	P481.00	-P2.80	-0.58%
MONDE	Monde Nissin Corp.	P9.00	+P0.01	+0.11%
NIKL	Nickel Asia Corp.	P3.08	+P0.03	+0.98%
PGOLD	Puregold Price Club, Inc.	P30.90	+P0.10	+0.32%
SCC	Semirara Mining and Power Corp.	P33.40	+P0.50	+1.52%
SM	SM Investments Corp.	P890.00	+P7.50	+0.85%
SMC	San Miguel Corp.	P88.00	——	
SMPH	SM Prime Holdings, Inc.	P26.20	+P0.10	+0.38%
TEL	PLDT Inc.	P1,312.00	-P36.00	-2.67%
URC	Universal Robina Corp.	P76.00	-P3.60	-4.52%
WLCON	Wilcon Depot, Inc.	P13.52	-P0.42	-3.01%

SM to open 3 malls in 2025, targets 100 malls by 2027

SM SUPERMALLS, a unit of SM Prime Holdings, Inc., plans to open three new malls next year and aims to have 100 malls in its portfolio by 2027, according to its president.

"We have three mall openings for sure next year," SM Supermalls President Steven Tan told reporters on the sidelines of a media event in Mandaluyong City on Wednesday.

"That would be in Laoag, La Union, and Zamboanga," he added.

Mr. Tan said that SM may have 100 malls in its portfolio by 2027.

"We're opening... another four or five (malls) in 2026 and another five in 2027," he said.

"We should be able to reach 100, but I don't want to declare it as a sure number that we will have," he added.

In October, SM grew its domestic mall network to 87 with the launch of SM City J Mall in Mandaue City, Cebu.

On company's fourth-quarter performance, Mr. Tan said that movies have boosted SM Supermalls' results.

"Fourth quarter has been very good. We're very happy with the results. We've been monitoring November, and it has never been this good. Maybe it is because of movies like *Wicked, Moana 2*, or *Hello, Love, Again*. The malls are full of people," he said.

"The projection for December is also quite good because we still have the Metro Manila Film Festival. I'm quite confident with the December outcome. Until September, the movie industry has been a little gloomy. But then it spiked. Our numbers right now have already surpassed last year's figures," he added.

On his outlook for next year, Mr. Tan said: "2025 is going to be a good year for us; It's also election time."

SMSUPERMALLS.COM

SM Supermalls has over ten renovation and redevelopment projects planned for next year, with some nearing completion and others just beginning.

"SM Mall of Asia is already at the tail end. We will be launching the sky park, which would have the Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA)-sized football field. That will be launched early next year. We're already starting with SM Megamall," Mr. Tan said.

"SM Aura Premier is already undergoing renovation with the new food hall, and we started all the toilets. We will also start redeveloping SM City Clark," he noted.

On Thursday, SM Prime shares rose by 0.38% or ten centavos to P26.20 per share. — **Revin Mikhael D. Ochave**

FROM LEFT: SMC Tollways Corp. Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Raoul Eduardo C. Romulo, SMC Head of International Treasury & Funds Management Almira C. Dalusung, SMC Deputy CFO Joseph N. Pineda, and PDS Group President and Chief Executive Officer Antonino A. Nakpil.

SMC Tollways lists P35-B fixed-rate bonds

SMC Tollways Corp. (SMCTC) listed its P35-billion fixed-rate bond issuance at the Philippine Dealing & Exchange (PDEx) on Thursday as part of the company's funding initiatives.

The bond offer consisted of P30 billion with an oversubscription option of P5 billion, SMCTC said in an e-mailed statement.

It was given a "PRS Aaa" with a stable outlook credit rating by the Philippine Rating Services Corp.

Proceeds from the bond issuance will be earmarked to refinance existing debt and support the Skyway System's expansion, which consists of Skyway Stage 1, Skyway Stage 2, Skyway Stage 3, and the Skyway Extension.

SMCTC is a subsidiary of San Miguel Corp.'s (SMC) infrastructure unit, which also operates the South Luzon Expressway, Southern Tagalog Arterial Road, Tarlac-Pangasinan-La Union Expressway, and the NAIA Expressway.

For the first nine months, SMC saw a 19% increase in net income to P37.1 billion as revenue increased by 11% to P1.2 trillion, led by higher sales volumes in its power, fuel & oil, food, and spirits businesses.

SMC shares were unchanged at P88 apiece on Thursday. — **Revin Mikhael D. Ochave**

Hong Kong's HGC Global seeks to boost Philippine data center connectivity

HONG KONG-BASED HGC Global Communications, Ltd. (HGC) recently introduced its new data center interconnect (DCI) solution that links eight data centers in the Philippines.

"The launch of DCI service comes in response to the growing demands for data center-to-data center connectivity from the region into the Philippines, and growing cloud and content hosting to the data centers," HGC said in an emailed statement on Thursday.

"The surge is seen by the company as closely tied to the emerging trend in advanced technologies such as AI (artificial intelligence) and cybersecurity, underscoring the critical importance of their development of digital economy and social advancement in the Philippines," it added.

The service, which provides connections between data centers, is essential for supporting real-time data processing, disaster recovery, and the growing demand for cloud services and data center-to-data center communication.

The company said that a key feature of the DCI service is the establishment of direct data center-to-data center connectivity with no other nodes in between, resulting in the "lowest latency and eliminating additional points of failure."

"This DCI cluster is poised to connect with HGC DCI clusters in Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand on single connected network and will be expanded to include more Southeast Asian countries to accommodate the latest technology trends," the company said.

This expansion is expected to bolster digital capabilities in the Philippines to elevate its status as an emerging international network hub, it also said.

The company has partnered with data centers Digital Edge, Digital Halo, STT GDC Philippines, Total Information Management, and VITRO, Inc.

"HGC has been dedicated to expanding in Southeast Asia, with a strong focus on deepening our presence in the Philippines over the past few years," said Andrew Kwok, chief executive officer of HGC.

"HGC will enhance our connectivity offerings to strengthen connection between the Philippines and other key regions, such as Hong Kong and Singapore. We will continue to invest in telecommunications infrastructure and advance AI-powered ICT services to boost digital capabilities across various sectors in the Philippines for their digital advancements," he added. — **Beatriz Marie D. Cruz**

Robinsons Malls is a Certified Green Mall Awardee

ROBINSONS NOVALICHES is now a Certified Green Mall Awardee after winning the "Excellence in Climate Action" award presented by Quezon City Mayor Josefina G. Belmonte during the recent Quezon City Green Awards.

EEI Power bags rooftop solar system deal with Mindoro Medical Center-Calapan

EEIPOWER.COM

EEI Power Corp. has signed a contract with the Mindoro Medical Center-Calapan, Inc. for the installation of a rooftop solar system on the latter's hospital in Oriental Mindoro.

Under the contract, EEI Power will install a 605-kilowatt-peak (kWp) solar photovoltaic rooftop system as part of the hospital's sustainability goals.

"This partnership with EEI Power is in line with our dedication as a healthcare institution to deliver excellent healthcare while contributing to environmental conservation and the healing of this planet," Mindoro Medical Center President Arthur Rico R. Villafuerte said in an e-mailed statement on Thursday.

The partnership seeks to utilize clean and renewable energy to power a significant amount of the hospital's operations. It also lowers the hospital's dependency on traditional electricity, resulting in savings that could be used for facility improvements and better patient care.

"Our mission of providing sustainable solutions for our clients and stakeholders while doing our share for the betterment of communities continues to inspire us at EEI Power," EEI Power Vice-President and General Manager Robert Marlon T. Pereja said.

EEI Power is the energy arm of listed construction company EEI Corp. It has business interests in the operation and management of power generating stations of several manufacturing companies as well as the packaging of Build-Operate-Transfer schemes for power plant projects in consortium with power producers.

On Thursday, EEI Corp. shares fell by 5.88% or 20 centavos to P3.20 apiece. — **Revin Mikhael D. Ochave**