



# TAMBULI Weekly Newsletter

The Official e-Newsletter of the  
Federation of Philippine Industries

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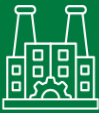
9 January 2026

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## 1. FPI 2025 Key Advocacies

### Federation of Philippine Industries (FPI) 2025 Key Advocacies




#### Industrial Policy & Manufacturing

- Warned PH risks falling behind in regional manufacturing
- Pushed Tatak Pinoy and CREATE MORE implementation




#### Trade Defense & Anti-Smuggling

- Called for tougher action vs smuggling and unfair trade
- Demanded equal standards for imports and local goods




#### Government Engagement & Governance

- Supported reform-oriented Cabinet changes
- Called for policy consistency and strong execution




#### Business Confidence & Cost Pressures

- Flagged energy costs, weak demand
- Warned uncertainty deters industrial investment




#### Industry Convening & Advocacy

- Convened FPI Business/Industry Summit 2025
- Mobilized industry around competitiveness reforms



#### Standards & Anti-Corruption

- Linked substandard products to safety and corruption
- Framed standards enforcement as governance reform



**The Voice of Industry**

Dec. 31, 2025

## 2. Manufacturers see strong 2026 as Tatak Pinoy rolls out



MANILA BULLETIN

# Business

## MANUFACTURERS SEE STRONG 2026 AS TATAK PINOY ROLLS OUT

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FULL LINK TO STORY IN THE COMMENTS SECTION

<https://mb.com.ph/2026/01/05/manufacturers-see-strong-2026-as-tatak-pinoy-rolls-out>

### **3. Rubbing salt in the wound: The terrible timing of a new excise tax - By: FPI CE, Dr. Jesus Lim Arranza**

Our lawmakers are actively proposing a significant excise tax on plastics, setting rates at P100 per kilogram. This tax will specifically target all packaging materials and raw material for plastic manufacturing. Additionally, the tax will increase annually by 4 percent starting in 2026.

Several bills—including Senate Bill 1608 and House Bill 2218—have already cleared committee approval in both chambers of Congress, signaling strong legislative momentum. These measures will have far-reaching effects on consumers and, specifically, Philippine manufacturers.

The response from the industry was swift, as manufacturers have expressed concerns about the tax burden and its potential impact on jobs and prices, which could lead to higher costs for consumers.

I don't doubt the intentions of our lawmakers in proposing these measures. However, I do take issue with the timing of their approval of bills aimed at imposing excise taxes on plastic packaging materials. It is ill-timed, especially considering that a considerable number of lawmakers are reportedly linked to ghost flood control projects and other questionable infrastructure initiatives. Are they unaware that thousands of their

countrymen are still grappling with the aftermath of severe flooding from the series of destructive typhoons that affected the country last year? The impact of these floods could have been reduced or avoided if the billions allocated for infrastructure across the country had been spent properly instead of being misappropriated.

Now, they want to add a heavy burden on low-income consumers who will shoulder the additional costs from the proposed excise tax on plastic packaging materials. This measure will only worsen the suffering of the people, effectively adding insult to injury. In fact, this is like rubbing salt in the wound.

Before taking action, lawmakers must consider that local manufacturers are still struggling with the heavy impact of the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Law. I call the EPR Law “unconstitutional” because it shifts the responsibility for garbage collection onto manufacturers. Furthermore, the associated fees and taxes under this law effectively create a situation of double taxation. (Continue reading:

<https://businessmirror.com.ph/2026/01/07/rubbing-salt-in-the-wound-the-terrible-timing-of-a-new-excise-tax/>)

### **4. 2026: Listen, act, pray - By: Ernesto M. Ordoñez**

MANILA, Philippines — To achieve significant agricultural development next year, we should listen, act and pray. Both the government and the private sector should do these. These recommendations are motivated by a description of the first Christmas, which quoted largely from Bishop Fulton Sheen.

“One night, out over the stillness of an evening breeze, out over the white chalk hills of Bethlehem, there came a cry. It was a gentle cry. The sea did not hear the cry, for the sea was filled with its own voice. The earth did not hear the cry, for the earth slept. Only two types of people heard the cry: wise men—those who know they do not

know everything and humble shepherds — those who know they know nothing. Today, only two types of people continue to hear the cry—the wise and the humble.”

#### **Government**

Today, the cry of Jesus can be likened to the cry of our farmers and fisherfolk for social justice and equity. “The sea did not hear the cry, for the sea was filled in its own voice.”

Certain powerful government officials brag about dubious achievements, not bothering to find out the enormous difficulties in agriculture today. They should instead thoroughly study our situation and move

from rhetoric to reality. They should formulate comprehensive action plans, implement them properly and hold accountable those who do not perform.

The flood control projects under severe scrutiny today have none of the above. No master plan, corrupt implementation and no accountability. The “big fish” must be put behind bars. Otherwise, this will be hypocrisy—all noise, no substance.

“The earth did not hear the cry, for the earth

slept.” In “Noli Me Tangere” and “El Filibusterismo,” Jose Rizal wrote about the silence of certain sectors, which enabled corruption and moral decay. It epitomized what Edmund Burke said: “The only thing necessary for evil to flourish is for good men to do nothing.” Those in government who see corruption firsthand should not sleep and stay silent. They should instead report this and take immediate action. (To read/view the full article follow this link: <https://business.inquirer.net/567294/2026-listen-act-pray>)

## 5. FPI in the news

**Rubbing salt in the wound: The terrible timing of a new excise tax |**

<https://businessmirror.com.ph/2026/01/07/rubbing-salt-in-the-wound-the-terrible-timing-of-a-new-excise-tax/>

**FPI lists 3 crucial strategies for PHL manufacturing in 2026 |**

<https://businessmirror.com.ph/2026/01/06/fpi-lists-3-crucial-strategies-for-phl-manufacturing-in-2026/>

**FPI notes challenge of PMI rebound |**

<https://www.manilatimes.net/2026/01/06/business/top-business/fpi-notes-challenge-of-pmi-rebound/2252994>

**Philippine manufacturers see a better 2026 |** <https://business.inquirer.net/567559/ph-manufacturers-see-a-better-2026>

**Rebound of December '25 manufacturing PMI due to stabilization – exec |**

<https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1266219>

**PH manufacturing resilience hinges on reforms, stable demand — FPI |**

<https://tribune.net.ph/2026/01/05/ph-manufacturing-resilience-hinges-on-reforms-stable-demand-fpi>

**Global trade tensions pose risks to Philippine manufacturing sector |**

[https://www.bworldonline.com/top-stories/2026/01/06/722369/global-trade-tensions-pose-risks-to-philippine-manufacturing-sector/#google\\_vignette](https://www.bworldonline.com/top-stories/2026/01/06/722369/global-trade-tensions-pose-risks-to-philippine-manufacturing-sector/#google_vignette)

**FPI: Manufacturing sector poised for growth in 2026 |**

<https://manilastandard.net/business/314687993/fpi-manufacturing-sector-poised-for-growth-in-2026.html>

**PH manufacturing resilience hinges on reforms, stable demand — FPI |**

<https://tribune.net.ph/2026/01/05/ph-manufacturing-resilience-hinges-on-reforms-stable-demand-fpi>

**Manufacturers see strong 2026 as Tatak Pinoy rolls out |**

<https://mb.com.ph/2026/01/05/manufacturers-see-strong-2026-as-tatak-pinoy-rolls-out>

**2026: Listen, act, pray |** <https://business.inquirer.net/567294/2026-listen-act-pray>

**Agriculture: 2025 performance and 2026 recommendations** | <https://business.inquirer.net/566457/agriculture-2025-performance-and-2026-recommendations>

**Reducing Taxes to Fuel Innovation in Power Industry** | <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=1992284038002894>

**Motolite Golf Master launched at FPI Invitational** | <https://www.philstar.com/sports/2025/12/19/2495419/motolite-golf-master-launched-fpi-invitational/amp/>

**FPI Golf Invitational a success at Orchard** | <https://mb.com.ph/2025/12/19/fpi-golf-invitational-a-success-at-orchard>

**From flood control to farm-to-market roads** | <https://business.inquirer.net/565259/from-flood-control-to-farm-to-market-roads>

## 6. Other news & announcements

**Managing industrial subsidies - Volume 17, No 4: October — December 2025** | <https://eastasiaforum.org/quarterlies/managing-industrial-subsidies/>

**Manila Customs intelligence chief relieved over alleged irregularities** | <https://www.msn.com/en-ph/news/news/content/ar-AA1THX6Z?ocid=sapphireappshare>

**Top 1,000 companies in the Philippines post P19.51-trillion gross revenues in 2024** | <https://www.bworldonline.com/top-stories/2026/01/06/722368/top-1000-companies-in-the-philippines-post-p19-51-trillion-gross-revenues-in-2024/>

**CARS funding veto 'breaks promises' made to investors** | <https://www.bworldonline.com/economy/2026/01/06/722670/cars-funding-veto-breaks-promises-made-to-investors/?amp>

**Join the PIDS Public Event in January 2026** | <https://www.pids.gov.ph/details/event/macroeconomic-prospects-and-election-year-spending-in-the-philippines>

**And the winners are...** | <https://www.philstar.com/business/2026/01/05/2498735/and-winners-are>

**10 market snapshots of 2025** | <https://www.philstar.com/business/2025/12/29/2497302/10-market-snapshots-2025>

**Inside 'Operation Absolute Resolve,' the U.S. Effort to Capture Maduro** | [https://www.nytimes.com/2026/01/03/us/politics/trump-capture-maduro-venezuela.html?unlocked\\_article\\_code=1.B1A.UhLZ.RO3YtvR1sy8r&smid=nytcore-ios-share](https://www.nytimes.com/2026/01/03/us/politics/trump-capture-maduro-venezuela.html?unlocked_article_code=1.B1A.UhLZ.RO3YtvR1sy8r&smid=nytcore-ios-share)

**Philippine manufacturing rebounded in December 2025** | <https://business.inquirer.net/567291/ph-manufacturing-rebounded-in-december-2025>

**"CYCLES OF CORRUPTION": DUTERTE, DISCAYAS, & DYNASTIES** | [https://www.youtube.com/live/a\\_M7b7RwcUI](https://www.youtube.com/live/a_M7b7RwcUI)



**Over P1-B worth of suspected smuggled cigarettes seized in Batangas City | ANC** | [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cxda8\\_Pojtl](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cxda8_Pojtl)

**Go: Economy back on track by Q1** | [https://www.bworldonline.com/top-stories/2025/12/23/720492/go-economy-back-on-track-by-q1/#google\\_vignette](https://www.bworldonline.com/top-stories/2025/12/23/720492/go-economy-back-on-track-by-q1/#google_vignette)

**More provisions in DPWH, DA budgets questioned \**  
<https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/2155747/more-provisions-in-dpwh-da-budgets-questioned>

**The Post-Neoliberal Consensus Is Here** | <https://www.project-syndicate.org/commentary/new-post-neoliberal-economic-policy-consensus-emerging-in-us-by-dani-rodrik-2025-12>

**BIR RR No. 29-2025 - Further amends the "De Minimis" benefits provisions of Revenue Regulations (RR) No. 2-98, as amended, increasing the ceiling of non-taxable benefits** | <https://bir-cdn.bir.gov.ph/BIR/pdf/RR%20No.%2029-2025.pdf>

**BIR RR No. 28-2025 - Implements the enhanced version of the Electronic Documentary Stamp Tax System** | <https://bir-cdn.bir.gov.ph/BIR/pdf/RR%20No.%2028-2025.pdf>

**BIR RMO No. 48-2025 - Streamlining of Requirements for the Application of a Certificate of Tax Exemption for Socialized and Economic Housing Projects Pursuant to Republic Act No. 7279 and Executive Order No. 226** | [Full Text](#) | [Annex 1-A](#) | [Annex 1-B](#) | [Annex 1-C](#) | [Annex 1-D](#) | [Annex 1-E](#)

**BIR RMC No. 1-2026 - Publishing the Full Text of the Data Sharing Agreement between the Bureau of Internal Revenue and the Fiscal Incentives Review Board** | [Full Text](#) | [Data Sharing Agreement](#)

**BIR RMC No. 110-2025 - Availability of the 2026 BIR Interactive Tax Calendar on the BIR Website** | <https://bir-cdn.bir.gov.ph/BIR/pdf/RMC%20No.%20110-2025.pdf>

**BIR RMC No. 109-2025 - Clarification on the Coverage of Audit Suspension Under Revenue Memorandum Circular No. 107-2025** | <https://bir-cdn.bir.gov.ph/BIR/pdf/RMC%20No.%20109-2025.pdf>

**SEC approves public offering by La Union Electric Company** | <https://www.sec.gov.ph/pr-2026/sec-approves-public-offering-by-la-union-electric-company/#gsc.tab=0>

**SEC cited for innovative financial literacy initiatives** | <https://www.sec.gov.ph/pr-2025/sec-cited-for-innovative-financial-literacy-initiatives/#gsc.tab=0>

**SEC urges private hospitals to tap capital market for funding needs** | <https://www.sec.gov.ph/pr-2025/sec-urges-private-hospitals-to-tap-capital-market-for-funding-needs/#gsc.tab=0>

**SEC issues new sustainability reporting guidelines in line with global practices** | <https://www.sec.gov.ph/pr-2025/sec-issues-new-sustainability-reporting-guidelines-in-line-with-global-practices/#gsc.tab=0>

**SEC AT PSTD MENTORING SUMMIT: GOVERNANCE, LEADERSHIP DEV'T KEY TO INSTITUTIONAL EXCELLENCE** | <https://www.sec.gov.ph/pr-2025/sec-at-pstd-mentoring-summit-governance-leadership-devt-key-to-institutional-excellence/#gsc.tab=0>

**SEC issues revised rules for beneficial ownership declaration |**  
<https://www.sec.gov.ph/pr-2025/sec-issues-revised-rules-for-beneficial-ownership-declaration/#gsc.tab=0>

**SEC MC No. 01, series of 2026 - REVISIONS TO SEC MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO.1, SERIES OF 2020 OR THE REVISED IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9856, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT TRUST (REIT) |**  
<https://www.sec.gov.ph/mc-2026/sec-mc-no-01-series-of-2026/#gsc.tab=0>

**SEC MC No. 16, series of 2025 - ADOPTION OF PHILIPPINE FINANCIAL REPORTING STANDARDS (PFRS) ON SUSTAINABILITY DISCLOSURES AND ISSUANCE OF REPORTING GUIDELINES FOR PUBLICLY LISTED COMPANIES AND LARGE NON-LISTED ENTITIES |**  
<https://www.sec.gov.ph/mc-2025/sec-mc-no-16-series-of-2025adoption-of-philippine-financial-reporting-standards-pfrs-on-sustainability-disclosures-and-issuance-of-reporting-guidelines-for-publicly-listed-companies-and-large-non/#gsc.tab=0>

**SEC MC No. 15, series of 2025 - REVISED BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP DISCLOSURE RULES |**  
<https://www.sec.gov.ph/mc-2025/sec-mc-no-15-series-of-2025revised-beneficial-ownership-disclosure-rules/#gsc.tab=0>

**SEC CERTIFICATION EXAMINATIONSCHEDULES IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 2026 AT THE SEC HEADQUARTERS AND APPLICATION PROCEDURE |**  
<https://www.sec.gov.ph/cmp-notice-2026/sec-certification-examinationschedules-in-the-first-quarter-of-2026-at-the-sec-headquarters-and-application-procedure/#gsc.tab=0>

**SEC - USE OF THE iMESSAGE ONLINE TICKETING SYSTEM FOR ALL INQUIRIES AND REQUESTS CONCERNING eFAST OR eSEARCH AND SECONDARY REPORTS |**  
<https://www.sec.gov.ph/notices-2026/use-of-the-imessage-online-ticketing-system-for-all-inquiries-and-requests-concerning-efast-or-esearch-and-secondary-reports/#gsc.tab=0>

**REQUEST FOR COMMENTS ON THE PROPOSED GUIDANCE FOR REGULATED ENTITIES ON ESTABLISHING AND MAINTAINING A CYBER RESILIENCE FRAMEWORK |**  
<https://www.sec.gov.ph/notice-rfc/request-for-comments-on-the-proposed-guidance-for-regulated-entities-on-establishing-and-maintaining-a-cyber-resilience-framework/#gsc.tab=0>

**BOC CMO 01-2026 - Creation of the Commissioner's Strategic Advisory Office (CSAO) under the Office of the Commissioner |**  
<https://customs.gov.ph/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/2026CMO-01-2026.pdf>

**BOC Marked a Year of Measured Gains and Meaningful Reforms in 2025 |**  
<https://customs.gov.ph/boc-marked-a-year-of-measured-gains-and-meaningful-reforms-in-2025/>

**BOC Implements ePay System to Optimize Digital Payment Processing |**  
<https://customs.gov.ph/boc-implements-epay-system-to-optimize-digital-payment-processing/>

**Commissioner Ariel F. Nepomuceno Inspires Newly Licensed Customs Brokers |**  
<https://customs.gov.ph/commissioner-ariel-f-nepomuceno-inspires-newly-licensed-customs-brokers/>

**BOC Highlights Full Digital Adoption of Origin Management System at National Exporters' Week 2025** | <https://customs.gov.ph/boc-highlights-full-digital-adoption-of-origin-management-system-at-national-exporters-week-2025/>

## **20TH CONGRESS COMMITTEE HEARINGS/MEETINGS**

- [Senate of the Philippines Committee Hearings/Meetings](#)
- [House of Representatives Committee Meetings](#)

***“That in all things God may be glorified”***