

Philippines Political Pulse: Decoding 2024's Key Policy Shifts, Economic Trends

Philippines Politics · Answer Key · 15 Questions

1. In 2024, the Philippines' average inflation rate for the year was 3.2%, a significant improvement from the previous year. Which sector's inflation experienced a notable slowdown, contributing most to this decrease?

- A) Housing, water, electricity, gas, and other fuels
- B) Food and non-alcoholic beverages**
- C) Transportation
- D) Clothing and footwear

2. As of 2024, what percentage of total monthly retail payment volume in the Philippines was accounted for by digital payments, exceeding the national target set under the Philippine Development Plan 2023-2028?

- A) 52.8%
- B) 57.4%**
- C) 59.0%
- D) 60.0%

3. In October 2024, President Marcos Jr. signed the "Self-Reliant Defense Posture Revitalization Act" into law. What is a primary objective of this legislation?

- A) To increase reliance on foreign military aid for defense procurement.
- B) To foster a domestic defense industry through incentives and government-backed financing.**
- C) To exclusively focus on acquiring advanced cyber warfare capabilities.
- D) To reduce the budget allocated to the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

4. The Philippines and the United States signed a General Security of Military Information Agreement (GSOMIA) in November 2024. What is a key outcome of this agreement?

- A) It facilitates the exchange of classified military information between the two countries.**
- B) It mandates joint military patrols in the West Philippine Sea exclusively.
- C) It allows for the deployment of U.S. missile systems on Philippine soil permanently.
- D) It establishes a joint command structure for all Indo-Pacific operations.

5. In 2024, the Philippine economy experienced a GDP growth of 5.6%, which was the second fastest in Southeast Asia but fell short of the government's target. Which sector was identified as a primary driver of this growth, despite a contraction in agriculture due to adverse weather conditions?

- A) Agriculture
- B) Industry
- C) Services**
- D) Construction

6. The Department of Tourism (DOT) set an ambitious target of 7.7 million international visitors for 2024. Which country, besides South Korea and the United States, showed a notable market surge with a 22.84% growth in arrivals during 2024?

- A) China
- B) Japan**
- C) Australia
- D) Canada

7. In 2024, the Philippines enacted several landmark laws. Which of these laws aims to enhance the Bureau of Internal Revenue's authority to tax foreign digital services?

- A) Anti-Agricultural Economic Sabotage Act (RA 12022)
- B) VAT on Digital Transactions Act (RA 12023)**
- C) CREATE MORE Act (RA 12066)
- D) Philippine Maritime Zones Act (RA 12064)

8. The Philippines has set a target to increase the share of renewable energy in its national energy mix to 50% by 2040. According to Department of Energy (DOE) forecasts under the Clean Energy Scenario, what is the projected renewable energy share by 2030?

- A) 22%
- B) 35%**
- C) 40%
- D) 50%

9. In the context of the escalating China-Philippines maritime disputes in 2024, which shoal became a focal point for confrontations, with the Philippines deploying a coast guard ship as a preventive measure against suspected Chinese occupation attempts?

- A) Second Thomas Shoal
- B) Scarborough Shoal
- C) Sabina Shoal**
- D) Thitu Island

10. The "Re-Horizon 3" program, revamped in January 2024, outlines various procurement programs for the Philippine military over the next 10 years with a substantial budget. What is the allocated budget for this program?

- A) \$10 billion
- B) \$20 billion
- C) \$35 billion**
- D) \$50 billion

11. In 2024, the Philippine government enacted the Agricultural Tariffication Act (RA 12078). What is a primary aim of this legislation?

- A) To increase import tariffs on agricultural products.
- B) To boost support for farmers and safeguard consumers from unwarranted price hikes on essential goods.**
- C) To restrict the use of fertilizers and pesticides in agriculture.
- D) To promote the export of agricultural products exclusively.

12. The Philippine economy grew by 5.6% in 2024, with the services sector being a major contributor. Within the services sector, which specific sub-sector showed strong growth and contributed significantly to the overall GDP?

- A) Accommodation and Food Services
- B) Wholesale and Retail Trade**
- C) Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation
- D) Human Health and Social Work Activities

13. In December 2024, the Department of Energy announced that the fifth Green Energy Auction, scheduled for Q3 2025, would focus solely on which type of renewable energy source?

- A) Solar power
- B) Geothermal power
- C) Offshore wind**
- D) Biomass

14. As of 2024, the Philippine economy maintained a GDP per capita of USD 4,080. Which international financial institution's projection for the Philippines' GDP growth in 2025 was 5.5%?

- A) World Bank
- B) Asian Development Bank
- C) International Monetary Fund (IMF)**
- D) ASEAN+3 Macroeconomic Research Office (AMRO)

15. The Philippine Maritime Zones Act (RA 12064) and the Archipelagic Sea Lanes Act (RA 12065) were signed into law in 2024. What is the overarching purpose of these twin laws?

A) To delineate fishing rights within the Philippine Exclusive Economic Zone.

B) To assert the country's sovereign rights over the West Philippine Sea and its maritime domain.

C) To regulate international shipping traffic through Philippine waters.

D) To establish new marine protected areas for conservation efforts.