

20 FEBRUARY 2022, SUNDAY



DENR

NEWS ALERTS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



DENR, DND to build Fort Drum Island cannon replica in Manila

Published February 19, 2022, 6:10 PM

Soon, there will be a new place for selfies and Instagrammable photos with the construction of a Fort Drum Island cannon replica in Baywalk area in Manila.

In a statement issued on Saturday, Feb. 19, outgoing Environment Secretary Roy A. Cimatu symbolizes the challenges and achievements of the “Battle for Manila Bay” rehabilitation program.



photo: DENR



Marikina Watershed, Manila Bay rehab among DENR priority programs

February 19, 2022, 5:35 pm



MANILA – Key projects of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) will continue even after the resignation of Secretary Roy Cimatu.

Among the projects are the DENR-Department of National Defense partnership for the installation of a cannon replica along the Roxas Boulevard Baywalk in Manila and the rehabilitation of the Marikina Watershed.

The completion and inauguration of the Fort Drum Island cannon near the Remedios drainage outfall will be held during the celebration of the *Araw ng Kagitingan* (Day of Valor) on April 9 to serve as a physical reminder of the DENR's commitment to rehabilitate Manila Bay.

Fort Drum Island, otherwise known as El Fraile Island, is one of the four islands located at the mouth of Manila Bay that served as line of defense and protected the capital city from naval invasion by the Spanish and during World War II.

"This landmark shall depict the three battles in Manila Bay: the Spanish-American War, Japanese-American War and now, the modern battle for Manila Bay," the DENR news release stated on Saturday.

The cannon replica will be 19.04 cubic meters, while the original barrel will be 37 feet and weighs 10 tons. It will stand on a 251.1-cubic meter concrete platform.

Marikina Watershed rehab

DENR-Calabarzon (DENR-Region 4A) likewise joined forces with various non-governmental organizations (NGOs) for the rehabilitation of the Marikina Watershed through the use of bamboo planting materials.

The program will cover 20 hectares within the Marikina Watershed, which will be distributed under the DENR's Enhanced National Greening Program.

Rotary International District 3830, the Samahang Kawayan ng Karugo Agri Farmers Association, and the Philippine Bamboo Foundation Inc., and DENR Calabarzon, led by Executive Director Nilo Tamera, signed the MOA at the central office in Quezon City on February 16 to provide program partners with bamboo production technology training and good agro-forest practices to establish bamboo social enterprises while raising crops.



“Bamboo is not just an alternative to construction materials but it also helps in mitigating climate change. This is why I am pushing for the creation of mini bamboo forests in the country which will also spur a vibrant bamboo lumber industry,” said Cimatu, who announced his resignation Friday due to health reasons.

The initial phase of the project will establish a nursery, which includes the raising of bamboo planting materials for a period of six to eight months, while the second phase involves the transplanting of grown bamboo planting materials within the 20-hectare land.

The MOA sets the protection of the land for five years.

During the signing, DENR and Rotary International District 3830 also led the turnover of checks totaling PHP1 million to the Samahang Kawayan ng Karugo Agri Farmers Association for the funding of the rehabilitation project.

The project was initiated by the Philippine Bamboo Industry Development Council and Task Force Tayo Ang Kalikasan.

The Marikina Watershed, or the Upper Marikina River Basin Protected Landscape, regulates water flow and reduces the risk of floods and landslides in downstream cities like Marikina.

Cimatu's departure

Meanwhile, Greenpeace Philippines wished Cimatu good health "as he vacates a very crucial role".

“With only a few months remaining in Mr. Cimatu's unexpired term, we are hoping that DENR, under the leadership of OIC (Officer-in-Charge) Jim Sampulna, will deliver on the agency's mandates, especially in the areas of climate action, solid waste management, and ensuring safe air quality, among others,” Greenpeace Philippines director, Lea Guerrero, said in a statement on Saturday.

“We also hope that in the next administration, the new president will appoint a DENR chief who is fit and committed to implementing policies that prioritize the well-being of communities over business interests, particularly in the face of the climate and environmental emergency. This is especially needed, with communities in (the) Visayas and Mindanao still dealing with the aftermath of Typhoon Odette.” **(PR)**



Palace wishes resigned Cimatu good health

By: [Dempsey Reyes](#), [Leila B. Salaverria](#) - [@inquirerdotnet](#)

[Philippine Daily Inquirer](#) / 05:32 AM February 19, 2022



Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu INQUIRER FILE PHOTO / GRIG C. MONTEGRANDE

Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu has resigned due to health reasons, Malacañang confirmed on Friday.

The Palace did not elaborate any further, but acting presidential spokesperson Karlo Nograles said: “We wish Secretary Cimatu good health as he transitions from his decadeslong and stellar service in government to private life.”

Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu has resigned due to health reasons, Malacañang confirmed on Friday.

The Palace did not elaborate any further, but acting presidential spokesperson Karlo Nograles said: “We wish Secretary Cimatu good health as he transitions from his decadeslong and stellar service in government to private life.”

Lopez, who died two years later, expressed support for Cimatu, saying the post of environment secretary needed “bravery.”

But his lifting only last December of Lopez’s policy banning open-pit mining drew criticism from environmentalists who called it an act of betrayal, even as the mining industry hailed that move.

In 2018, he oversaw the rehabilitation of Boracay Island, which President Duterte ordered closed for six months after describing the popular tourist haven as a “cesspool.”

Cimatu was also in charge of the multimillion-peso Manila Bay rehabilitation project, which included the much criticized move to dump crushed dolomite on its shores, amid shortfalls in the government’s spending in its pandemic response.

‘Let us thank him’ Cimatu defended the artificial white beach, saying people were enjoying the area.

Duterte himself praised Cimatu for his work on the Manila Bay.

“For so many years you had every chance to do it. Was there anybody willing to take the problem by its horn? It was only Cimatu, let us thank him,” the President said.

Cimatu, who turns 76 on July 4, was chief of staff of the Armed Forces in 2002 and one of several retired generals in Mr. Duterte’s Cabinet. He is a member of the Philippine Military Academy’s “Magiting” Class of 1970.

gsg

Source: <https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/1556780/palace-wishes-resigned-cimatu-good-health>



DENR Secretary Cimatu resigns

February 18, 2022 | 6:56 pm



THE PRESIDENTIAL Palace on Friday confirmed the resignation of Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Secretary Roy A. Cimatu who had been serving in that post since 2017.

Acting Presidential Spokesman and Cabinet Secretary Karlo Alexei B. Nograles said at a televised news briefing that the resignation letter, submitted to the President on Monday, cited health as his reason.

Environment Undersecretary Jim O. Sampulna will be designated as the officer-in-charge of the department.

Mr. Cimatu had previously served as the chief of staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines in 2022 under President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo. He was later appointed as a special envoy to the Middle East during the Iraq war.

Under the current administration, he headed the rehabilitation of both Boracay and Manila Bay. He was also assigned to oversee the coronavirus 2019 response in Cebu city, as it had the highest number of confirmed cases in the latter part of 2020. — **Alyssa Nicole O. Tan**

Source: <https://www.bworldonline.com/denr-secretary-cimatu-resigns/?fbclid=IwAR08WpMfWaxbSyvmxVq6DotJi7WTqUoU9htGRTq-DLthvRX6xUbKTbxOaV4>

DENR Chief Resigns Due To Health Reasons

Helen Flores February 19, 2022

A member of Philippine Military Academy Class of 1970, Cimatu served in the military for 37 years until his retirement as the 30th chief of the Armed Forces of the Philippines in 2002. He was appointed to DENR in 2017, replacing the late Gina Lopez.



Resigned Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu. Malacañang photo

Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu has resigned “due to health reasons,” Malacañang announced Friday, Feb. 18.

“Malacañang confirms the resignation of Roy Cimatu as secretary of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) due to health reasons,” acting presidential spokesman Karlo Nograles said in a statement.

“We wish Secretary Cimatu good health as he transitions from his decades-long and stellar service in government to private life,” he said.

Designated officer-in-charge was Undersecretary for Muslim Affairs Jim Sampulna.

“I can’t really elaborate on his health condition. What we know is that during his leadership at the DENR, the secretary has been very active and enthusiastic on implementing the department’s several programs and projects,” said Undersecretary for policy, planning and international affairs Jonas Leones on Cimatu’s resignation.

“We were just together checking the progress of the rehabilitation program for Manila Bay (on Thursday Feb. 17),” he added.

A member of Philippine Military Academy Class of 1970, Cimatu served in the military for 37 years until his retirement as the 30th chief of the Armed Forces of the Philippines in 2002.

After his retirement, he was appointed by then president Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo as special envoy to the Middle East during the Iraq war.

On May 8, 2017, President Duterte appointed him secretary of the DENR, replacing the late Gina Lopez.

The DENR under Cimatu led the closure and rehabilitation of Boracay as well as the rehabilitation of Manila Bay, which involved covering a stretch of beach with dolomite sand.

Cimatu, 75, had also served as chairman of Task Force Build Back Better, created in November 2020, to ensure post-disaster rehabilitation and recovery of typhoon-hit areas.

Recently, Undersecretary Benny Antiporda left the DENR to join the National Irrigation Administration (NIA) as senior deputy administrator.



Environmental group Alyansa Tigil Muna (ATM), meanwhile, said it was surprised by Cimatu's resignation and expressed hope his replacement will address mining-related environmental issues.

"We are surprised by Sec. Roy Cimatu's resignation as DENR secretary. We are praying he recovers from his health situation," ATM said.

"We call on Usec. Jim Sampulna to listen to mining-affected communities and open the lines for discussion on resolving mining issues and concerns," ATM said.

"We hope the DENR considers re-imposing the ban on open-pit mining and the suspension of operations of mining sites that are detrimental to communities," it added.

In December, Cimatu signed department administrative order (DAO) 2021-40, lifting the 2017 ban on open pit method for mining copper, gold, silver and complex ores in the country. – **With Catherine Talavera, Rhodina Villanueva**



DENR chief Cimatú, nagbitiw

By [Malou Escudero](#) (Pilipino Star Ngayon) - February 19, 2022 - 12:00am



Undated photo from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources shows Secretary Roy Cimatú. Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Handout

MANILA, Philippines — Kinumpirma kahapon ng Malacañang ang pagbibitiw sa puwesto ni Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Secretary Roy Cimatú.

Ayon kay Cabinet Secretary at acting presidential spokesperson Carlo Nograles, “health reasons” ang ibinigay na dahilan ni Cimatú sa pagbibitiw sa puwesto. Hindi naman nagbigay ng detalye ang Malacañang kung may karamdaman si Cimatú.

Itinalaga si Undersecretary Jim Sampulna bilang Officer-in-Charge ng DENR.

MANILA, Philippines — Kinumpirma kahapon ng Malacañang ang pagbibitiw sa puwesto ni Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Secretary Roy Cimatú.

Ayon kay Cabinet Secretary at acting presidential spokesperson Carlo Nograles, “health reasons” ang ibinigay na dahilan ni Cimatú sa pagbibitiw sa puwesto. Hindi naman nagbigay ng detalye ang Malacañang kung may karamdaman si Cimatú.

Itinalaga si Undersecretary Jim Sampulna bilang Officer-in-Charge ng DENR.



DENR Secretary Cimat, nagbitiw na — Palasyo

ni [Lolet Abania](#) | February 18, 2022



Photo: SC Public Information Office

Nagbitiw na sa posisyon si Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Secretary Roy Cimat, ayon sa Malacañang ngayong Biyernes.

Si Cimat, na siyang nangasiwa sa pagsasaayos ng Manila Bay at Boracay island, ay nagsabing health reasons sa kanyang resignation letter na isinumite kay Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte nitong Lunes, ayon kay Executive Secretary Salvador Medialdea.

Wala nang iba pang detalyeng ibinigay tungkol dito.

Nagsilbi si Cimat bilang chief of staff ng military noong 2002 at kalaunan ay naging special envoy para sa mga OFW at refugees. Noong 2017, napasama siya sa gabinete ni Pangulong Duterte.

Pinamunuan naman ni Cimat ang 6-buwan na rehabilitasyon ng Boracay noong 2018 at ang cleanup drive ng Manila Bay ng sumunod na taon, kabilang na ang kontrobersyal na beach na gawa sa crushed dolomite.

Ang pinakahuling nagawa ni Cimat ay nang ma-lift noong Disyembre ng nakaraang taon ang pagbabawal sa buong bansa hinggil sa open-pit mining, kung saan ang kanyang hinalinhan ay ang yumaong Gina Lopez, na ipinatupad noong 2017.



DENR Sec. Cimatu nagbitiw sa pwesto

On Feb 18, 2022



KINUMPIRMA ng Malakanyang na nag-resign na sa kanyang puwesto si Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Secretary Roy Cimatu.

Sinasabing ang isyu raw sa kanyang “health reasons” ang dahilan ng kanyang pagbibitiw.

Hindi naman idinetalye pa ang ukol sa kanyang kalusugan.

Inabot din ng limang taon sa panunungkulan si Cimatu bilang kalihim ng DENR.

Samantala naglabas na rin ng kalatas ang Office of the President na pirmado ni Executive Secretary Salvador Medialdea na nagtatalaga kay Undersecretary Jim Sampul na bilang officer-in-charge ng DENR.

Matatandaang habang nasa puwesto si Cimatu ay marami itong hinarap na mga kontrobersiyal na usapin katulad sa mining, paglilinis sa Boracay at ang pagpapatayo ng Manila Baywalk Dolomite Beach.

Una nang itinalaga si Cimatu sa DENR para palitan ang yumaong dating kalihim na si Gina Lopez, na hindi pumasa sa Commission on Appointments.

Nagsilbi rin si Cimatu na AFP chief of staff at naging special envoy to the Middle East noong panahon ni dating Presidente Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo.

Kaugnay nang pag-resign ni Cimatu ay ang paglipat naman ni DENR Undersecretary for Solid Waste Management and Local Government Unit Concerns Benny Antiporda bilang bagong senior deputy administrator ng National Irrigation Administration (NIA). (**Vanz Fernandez**)



DENR SEC CIMATU NAGBITIW

February 18, 2022 Admin



KINUMPIRMA ni Executive Secretary Salvador Medialdea na nagbitiw na si Environment Secretary Roy Cimatú.

Pebrero 14 nang magbitiw ang kalihim at health reason ang sinasabi nitong dahilan.

Sinabi naman ni Cabinet Secretary at acting presidential spokesman Karlo Nograles na si Undersecretary Jim Sampulna ang itinalagang Officer-in-Charge ng DENR.

“Malacañang confirms the resignation of Roy Cimatú as Secretary of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) due to health reasons, with Undersecretary Jim Sampulna being

designated as Officer-in-Charge of the Department,” pahayag ni Nograles.

“We wish Secretary Cimatú good health as he transitions from his decades-long and stellar service in government to private life,” dagdag ni Nograles.



Saksi Ngayon

Yesterday at 12:56 AM · 🌐



SAKSI NGAYON: CIMATU NAG-RESIGN

KINUMPIRMA ng Malakanyang ang pagbibitiw sa puwesto ni Roy Cimatu bilang kalihim ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) dahil sa health reasons.

Si Undersecretary Jim Sampulna naman ang itinalaga bilang Officer-in-Charge ng departamento.

"We wish Secretary Cimatu good health as he transitions from his decades-long and stellar service in government to private life," ayon kay acting Presidential spokesperson at Cabinet Secretary Karlo Nograles.

Samantala, "yes" naman ang naging sagot ni Executive Secretary Salvador Medialdea sa isang text message bilang pagkumpirma sa pagbibitiw ni Cimatu sa puwesto. (CHRISTIAN DALE)



Photo Courtesy of rappler

👍 🙄 🤔 16

7 Comments



Greenpeace wishes Cimatu good health as he quits DENR top post

Published February 19, 2022, 6:27 PM

by [Faith Argosino](#)

An environment advocacy group expressed optimism that the Officer-In-Charge (OIC) of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) will continue the fight against climate change and waste pollution.

Greenpeace Philippines (Greenpeace) issued the statement after the confirmation of the resignation of Secretary Roy Cimatu as DENR head reportedly due to health reasons.

Jlm Sampulna was named as DENR OIC.

Greenpeace Country Director Lea Guerrero said they hope that Sampulna will deliver DENR's mandates related to climate action, solid waste management, and ensuring safe air quality.

"Greenpeace Philippines wishes Mr. Cimatu good health as he vacates a very crucial role," Guerrero said on Saturday, Feb. 19.

The environmental group also hopes that the next administration will appoint a new DENR chief fit and committed to implementing policies that prioritize the well-being of communities over business interests, particularly in the face of climate and environmental emergencies.

"The next six years is a critical period where climate action must be the country's central policy plan [...] The next administration must ensure the DENR will stay true to its mandate to protect the environment and the well-being of all Filipinos," she said.



Unwritten law

[SENTINEL](#) - [Ramon T. Tulfo](#) - The Philippine Star February 19, 2022 | 12:00am

There seems to be a pattern in the ambush by armed men of some Bureau of Customs (BOC) people.

The latest fatality was Gil Cua Manlapaz, 47, an information technology operator, who was shot dead inside his car, which was parked near his house at the corner of Pedro Gil and Pasig Line streets, Manila.

The perpetrator of the murder was a lone man on a motorcycle, obviously a professional hired gun.

There seems to be a pattern in the ambush by armed men of some Bureau of Customs (BOC) people.

The latest fatality was Gil Cua Manlapaz, 47, an information technology operator, who was shot dead inside his car, which was parked near his house at the corner of Pedro Gil and Pasig Line streets, Manila.

The perpetrator of the murder was a lone man on a motorcycle, obviously a professional hired gun.

Difuntorum survived the attack.

On Jan. 7, BOC senior appraiser Eudes Nerpio was shot dead in his car in Binondo, Manila. His female companion was unharmed. Nerpio was also shot by a lone gunman who drove away on a motorcycle.

Another senior customs official, Melvin Tan, survived an assassination attempt in December last year.

Difuntorum survived the attack.

On Jan. 7, BOC senior appraiser Eudes Nerpio was shot dead in his car in Binondo, Manila. His female companion was unharmed. Nerpio was also shot by a lone gunman who drove away on a motorcycle.

Another senior customs official, Melvin Tan, survived an assassination attempt in December last year.

Difuntorum survived the attack.

On Jan. 7, BOC senior appraiser Eudes Nerpio was shot dead in his car in Binondo, Manila. His female companion was unharmed. Nerpio was also shot by a lone gunman who drove away on a motorcycle.

Another senior customs official, Melvin Tan, survived an assassination attempt in December last year.

How much were the salaries of the victims?

Who were their possible enemies within the bureau or among the people dealing with customs as importers or brokers?

Years ago, a customs official survived an ambush which was masterminded by a colleague who, as investigation later showed, was envious of the money his would-be victim was earning from brokers and importers.



The brother of the customs official, who was a multimillionaire, hired professional gunmen who killed the ambush mastermind months later.

Were the ambush victims still probably making it hard for people transacting business with customs, even after they were given their “dues?”

There’s an unwritten law among corrupt customs people and citizens they deal with: After one has received their part of the “dirty money,” they should never make it harder for the briber by asking for more.

Doing so would make one a victim of an ambush outside the customs zone.

Method thinks that’s also an unwritten law among corrupt officials and employers in other regulatory or law enforcement agencies.

* * *

Makati Regional Trial Court judge Andres Soriano, who’s handling the rehabilitation case of the bankrupt Paper Industries Corporation of the Philippines (PICOP), just sits on his butt while the idle paper plant is being plundered by thieves for scrap.

It seems Soriano – who has no relation to the firm’s original owner, Andres Soriano Jr., who also used to own San Miguel Corp. – doesn’t want to involve himself in the massive theft within the contested property because it’s still under litigation.

The more the good judge should take care of PICOP because it’s under his care while the banks and other creditors are going after the company.

All the good judge has to do is order Lt. Col. Michael Lozada, chief of police of Bislig City, Surigao del Sur, to prevent further looting of the PICOP property, but is not doing so.

The PICOP complex is located within Bislig with a 150,000-hectare forest in the background. The forest was the source of pulp and made into paper.

Even Brig. Gen. Romeo Caramat, police director of Region 13, based in Butuan City, has ordered a hands-off policy in the looting at PICOP. Because Judge Soriano and the local police are looking the other way, looters continue with their nefarious activity of cutting up machines and heavy equipment to be sold to scrap buyers.

If the plunder continues, the banks and other creditors would have nothing left.

I remember Soriano very well. He was the Bulacan judge who convicted Jeff Quesada, a quadriplegic, wrongly charged with rape, and sentenced to life in prison years ago.

A quadriplegic is a person whose four limbs – arms and legs – are paralyzed and, therefore, is wheelchair-bound.

Quesada can’t even go to the toilet without being assisted by two people. When he eats, he is spoon-fed.

Soriano should have discerned that the completely paralyzed Quesada was highly incapable of rape.

I recalled Quesada’s rape conviction by Soriano to help in knowing how this judge decides cases.

An interesting postscript was that president Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo pardoned Quesada. My program, *Isumbong kay Tulfo*, lobbied for his release.



* * *

The country has allowed foreign tourists into the country as long as they show tests that they're negative for COVID-19.

Most of these tourists will go to Boracay island in Aklan, because of its white sandy beaches, crystal-clear waters and world-class facilities for foreigners.

Boracay, once considered a cesspool of garbage, has been rehabilitated to world-class vacation place, thanks to the Duterte administration.

Credit should go to Environment and Natural Resources Secretary Roy Cimatu, who was the Boracay rehabilitation czar.

The former Armed Forces chief of staff has returned the island resort to its pristine beauty.

That was no mean accomplishment.



Antiporda, itinalaga bilang Senior Deputy Administrator ng NIA



February 19, 2022 @ 8:00 AM 23 hours ago

MANILA, Philippines – Kinumpirma ng Malakanyang ang pagkakatalaga kay Benny Diaz Antiporda bilang Senior Deputy Administrator ng National Irrigation Administration (NIA).

Si Antiporda ay dating Department of Environment and Natural Resources undersecretary para sa Solid Waste Management and Local Government Units (LGU) Concerns at dati ring board member ng Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority.

Papalitan ni Antiporda si Abraham B. Bagasin.

“We wish Senior Deputy Administrator Antiporda success in NIA, as it advances the government’s national irrigation program towards growth in the agriculture sector,” ayon naman kay acting Presidential spokesperson at Cabinet Secretary Karlo Nograles. Kris Jose



DENR Usec Antiporda nasa NIA na

By Abante News Online — Last updated Feb 19, 2022

NEWS



Itinalaga ni Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte si Benny Diaz Antiporda bilang bagong Senior Deputy Administrator ng National Irrigation Administration (NIA).

Ito ang kinumpirma ni acting Presidential Spokesman Karlo Nograles sa inilabas na paha-yag ng Malacañang.

Pinalitan ni Antiporda si Abraham Bagasin.

Si Antiporda ay dating undersecretary ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

“Malacañang confirms the appointment of Benny Diaz Antiporda as Senior Deputy Administrator of the National Irrigation Administration (NIA), vice Abraham B. Bagasin,” ani Nograles.

Sinabi ni Nograles na hangad ng Malacañang ang tagumpay ni Antiporda sa bagong posisyon at maisulong ang national irrigation program para sa pag-unlad ng sektor ng agrikultura. (Aileen Taliping)



Masungi rangers mobbed, 2 hospitalized

By [CNN Philippines Staff](#)

Published Feb 19, 2022 7:00:05 PM



Masungi Georeserve (FILE PHOTO)

Metro Manila (CNN Philippines, February 19) — Conservation group Masungi Georeserve on Saturday said seven of its rangers were attacked by a mob, with two ending up hospitalized.


The organization said about 30 attackers "harassed and detained" its rangers while they were just eating at a food stall Friday morning.

"When the rangers refused to be accosted without a warrant or due cause, the mob of about 30 people ganged up, clobbered, and mauled 7 rangers with fists and big rocks," Masungi said.

The group [shared footage](#) of the attack as well as photos of its personnel's injuries. It showed a scuffle, with some individuals blocking the way of the vehicle carrying the person taking the video.



Masungi Georeserve
@MasungiGeo



**!!! ILLEGAL RESORTS IN WATERSHED
ATTACK MASUNGI RANGERS**

February 19, 2022 - We deplore in the strongest terms yesterday's horrific attack on our park rangers by people associated with illegal resorts in the Upper Marikina Watershed. (1/3)




2:54 PM · Feb 19, 2022 (i)

[Read the full conversation on Twitter](#)

1.1K
 Reply
 Share

Read 15 replies



Masungi alleged that one of the attackers was an employee of a nearby resort that received a cease-and-desist order from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR). It added that another attacker was the individual earlier caught with freshly cut trees that were later confiscated and turned over to authorities.

CNN Philippines has reached out to DENR Calabarzon and the resort's management for comment.



EcoWaste supports govt's PCB-free target

By [Eireene Jairee Gomez](#) February 19, 2022

ENVIRONMENTAL group [EcoWaste Coalition](#) lauded the [Department of Environment and Natural Resources](#)' (DENR) goal to achieve the country's target of eliminating PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls) by 2025.

In a statement issued to mark the 18th year of promulgation of the Chemical Control Order (CCO) for PCBs on Feb. 16, 2004, the EcoWaste Coalition exhorted all stakeholders to rally behind the DENR's goal.

The DENR had earlier banned the importation of PCB or PCB-containing equipment since March 19, 2004 pursuant to the CCO.

"With 2025 not too far away, we urge all concerned sectors, especially electric utilities and cooperatives and other PCB owners, to remain on track and complete the phaseout of PCB use in equipment and to ensure the non-incineration destruction of our country's PCB stockpiles," said [Thony Dizon](#), chemical safety campaigner of EcoWaste Coalition.

ENVIRONMENTAL group [EcoWaste Coalition](#) lauded the [Department of Environment and Natural Resources](#)' (DENR) goal to achieve the country's target of eliminating PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls) by 2025.

In a statement issued to mark the 18th year of promulgation of the Chemical Control Order (CCO) for PCBs on Feb. 16, 2004, the EcoWaste Coalition exhorted all stakeholders to rally behind the DENR's goal.

The DENR had earlier banned the importation of PCB or PCB-containing equipment since March 19, 2004 pursuant to the CCO.

"With 2025 not too far away, we urge all concerned sectors, especially electric utilities and cooperatives and other PCB owners, to remain on track and complete the phaseout of PCB use in equipment and to ensure the non-incineration destruction of our country's PCB stockpiles," said [Thony Dizon](#), chemical safety campaigner of EcoWaste Coalition.

ENVIRONMENTAL group [EcoWaste Coalition](#) lauded the [Department of Environment and Natural Resources](#)' (DENR) goal to achieve the country's target of eliminating PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls) by 2025.

In a statement issued to mark the 18th year of promulgation of the Chemical Control Order (CCO) for PCBs on Feb. 16, 2004, the EcoWaste Coalition exhorted all stakeholders to rally behind the DENR's goal.

The DENR had earlier banned the importation of PCB or PCB-containing equipment since March 19, 2004 pursuant to the CCO.

"With 2025 not too far away, we urge all concerned sectors, especially electric utilities and cooperatives and other PCB owners, to remain on track and complete the phaseout of PCB use in equipment and to ensure the non-incineration destruction of our country's PCB stockpiles," said [Thony Dizon](#), chemical safety campaigner of EcoWaste Coalition.

Source: <https://www.manilatimes.net/2022/02/19/business/green-industries/ecowaste-supports-govts-pcb-free-target/1833434>



Church, sectoral groups reiterate stance vs lifting of ban on open-pit mining in South Cotabato

Published February 19, 2022, 3:31 PM

by [Keith Bacongco](#)

DAVAO CITY – The Diocese of Marbel and multi-sectoral groups have reiterated their stance opposing the amendment of the provision of the local environment code that bans open pit mining in South Cotabato .

In a statement sent to the media, the Diocese of Marbel in Koronadal, South Cotabato, chided the public consultation on Feb. 18, 2022, initiated by the Sangguniang Panlalawigan, as it was geared towards the lifting of the open pit mining ban.

“The lifting of the ban will open our province to all the mining methods including the large scale open pit mining operations with huge and irreversible impacts to the environment and the communities, not only in our province but also to the neighboring provinces and municipalities,” read the statement from the Social Action Center of the diocese.

The Environment Code, which was enacted in 2010 , closed the door on open-pit mining projects in the province, and stalled the plans of Sagittarius Mines, Inc. (SMI) to extract huge gold and copper deposits in Tampakan town.

SMI’s Financial and Technical Assistance Agreement (FTAA) covers 23,571-hectares that spans across the provinces of South Cotabato, Sultan Kudarat, Sarangani and Davao del Sur.

According the reports, the deposits has an estimated 12.8 million metric tons of copper, and 15.2 million ounces of gold.

But 11 years later, the provincial government under Gov. Reynaldo Tamayo Jr. reconsidered the review of the local code in a hope to lift of the ban on open-pit mining

This moved prompted the Diocese of Marbel to launch a signature campaign to oppose the lifting of the ban.

The campaign earned a total of 93,453 signatures and submitted their position to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan in December last year.

“We are dismayed by the statement of Board Member Larry de Pedro VI that the signatures are not specifically supporting Section 22 (b) banning open pit mining in the province. Such statement is a disrespect to the rights of the thousands of signatories calling for the SP to protect the Environment Code,” the statement added.

The Social Action Center also urged the provincial legislators to conduct more public hearings in other municipalities within the province. “The SP members have to listen to the voice of the people and ensure that this legislative process is towards protecting the people of the present and the generations to come and providing all with a balanced ecology to live with,” it said.

Source: <https://mb.com.ph/2022/02/19/church-sectoral-groups-reiterate-stance-vs-lifting-of-ban-on-open-pit-mining-in-south-cotabato/>



World must protect seas from climate crisis

Published 6 hours ago on February 20, 2022 01:30 AM

By [TDI](#) [@tribunephil](#)



Warmer temperatures mean melting sea ice, increasing ocean temperatures, and warmer water – affecting ecosystems and global weather patterns. / Photograph courtesy of WMO

The planet is facing the triple crises of climate disruption, biodiversity loss and pollution, United Nations (UN) Secretary-General António Guterres told the recent One Ocean Summit, warning that “the ocean shoulders much of the burden.”

As the ocean serves as a giant carbon and heat sink, it is growing warmer and more acidic, causing its ecosystems to suffer.

“Polar ice is melting and global weather patterns are changing,” the UN chief said in his video message to the conference, which took place in the northern French coastal city of Brest.

Ripple effect

The communities who rely on the ocean are hurting as well. He added, “More than three billion people depend on marine and coastal biodiversity for their livelihoods.”

He painted a grim picture of dwindling marine species, dying coral reefs and coastal ecosystems turned into “vast dead zones,” as they serve as dumping grounds for sewage, and nutrients and seas choked by plastic waste.

Moreover, fish stocks are being threatened by over and destructive fishing practices, along with illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing.

“We must change tack,” Guterres underscored.

Adhering to the law

It is 40 years since the signing of the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea. “The importance of legal certainty in the ocean is paramount” the UN chief said.

He upheld the second UN Ocean Conference, which will be held in Lisbon from 27 June to 1 July this year, is “an opportunity to cement the role of the ocean” in global efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and implement the Paris Agreement on climate change.

Blue economy

The UN chief stressed intensified efforts must be made to protect the ocean, saying that a “sustainable blue economy can drive economic progress and job creation,” while protecting climate.

“We need more and more effective partnerships to address land-based sources of marine pollution... urgency in the deployment of offshore renewable energy, which can provide clean power and employment, and... (less) fossil fuels in the ocean economy,” he said.

Source: <https://tribune.net.ph/index.php/2022/02/20/world-must-protect-seas-from-climate-crisis/>

20 FEBRUARY 2022, SUNDAY



DENR

**NEWS
ALERTS**

**COVID-19
NEWS**

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



DOH logs lowest Covid-19 cases this year at 1,923

By Joyce Ann L. Rocamora February 19, 2022, 6:28 pm



COVID UPDATE. Jail Officer 1 Karen Joy Manalo, assistant unit jail nurse of Metro Bacolod District Jail-Female Dormitory, administers an AstraZeneca booster shot on a person deprived of liberty on Monday (Dec. 27, 2021). The Department of Health on Saturday (Feb. 19, 2022) posted a total of 1,923 new Covid-19 cases, the lowest single-day tally for 2022. *(File photo courtesy of Metro Bacolod District Jail-Female Dormitory)*

MANILA – The country on Saturday posted a total of 1,923 new coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) cases, the lowest single-day tally for 2022.

This is the lowest number of daily infections since December 30, 2021 with 1,623 new cases recorded.

The tally is also the sixth straight day with cases below 3,000 and the first time the number was less than 2,000.

In its latest case bulletin, the Department of Health (DOH) said there are now 62,533 active cases while there are 3,532,608 who recuperated with the addition of 5,158 recoveries.

At least 57,104 of the active infections are undergoing treatment as mild cases, 851 are asymptomatic, 2,854 are moderate, 1,420 are severe, and 304 are critical.

Meanwhile, DOH recorded 198 new fatalities, higher than the 79 logged from the previous day. The Covid-19 death toll totals 55,607.

The country's positivity rate is 7.9 percent based on the 27,761 individuals tested for SARS-CoV-2 last February 17.

Nationwide, coronavirus patients fill at least 29 percent of the 3,800 intensive care unit beds; 26 percent of 20,600 isolation beds; and 20 percent of 14,700 ward beds dedicated for pandemic response.

In Metro Manila, 26 percent of the 1,200 ICU beds are occupied, including 25 percent of the 4,600 isolation beds, and 25 percent of the 4,200 ward beds for Covid-19 patients. **(PNA)**

Source: <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1168149>



DOH: Cases may drop to 83 daily mid-March

by [Manila Standard](#) February 20, 2022, 1:10 am

The country's daily COVID-19 cases could drop to as low as 83 by mid-March for as long as Filipinos continue to observe health protocols and a fresh surge in infections is avoided.

Department of Health spokesperson Maria Rosario Vergeire made the statement as the country logged 1,923 new cases on Saturday, the sixth day that daily cases fell below 3,000.

The DOH said 198 new fatalities and 5,158 recoveries were recorded.

The positivity rate has significantly dropped to 7.9 percent, bringing it closer to the 5 percent benchmark set by the World Health Organization, while active cases stood at 62,533.

"Our daily cases nationally may be as low as 83 cases only by March 15 if our vaccination rate continues to rise and if our mobility and compliance to minimum public health standards can be retained at the current level," Vergeire said.

She, however, warned that based on the same DOH study, infections could rise to as many as 7,748 cases daily by March 15 if compliance to public health standards would be reduced.

"Once mobility increases or if there is complacency, the number of cases can rise again because we know that the virus is still here," she said,

The government has vaccinated at least 3.5 million individuals against COVID-19 at the end of the third wave of the "Bayanihan, Bakunahan" program that ran from February 10 to 18.

Vergeire said the number of vaccinated individuals during the mass vaccination drive fell short of the government's target of five million.

"Even though we did not achieve our five million target, we are still glad we have achieved 3.5 million, which boosted the vaccination rate in the entire country," she added.



#OneDENR

**Covid-19
Situation and Response**



DOH COVID-19 CASE BULLETIN # 707

PEBRERO 19, 2022

Para sa kumpletong detalye at impormasyon,
bisitahin lamang ang aming pampublikong site:
<https://ncovtracker.doh.gov.ph/>

PORSYENTO NG AKTIBONG KASO

1.7%

TOTAL NG AKTIBONG KASO
62,533

PORSYENTO NG GUMALING

96.8%

TOTAL NG GUMALING
3,532,608

PORSYENTO NG NAMATAY

1.52%

TOTAL NG NAMATAY
55,607

MGA BAGONG KASO **1,923**

MGA BAGONG GUMALING **5,158**

MGA BAGONG NAMATAY **198**

KABUANG BILANG NG KASO **3,650,748**

MGA NAGPOSITIBO HULING PEBRERO 17

DATOS NGAYONG PEBRERO 19
AYON SA REPORTS NOONG PEBRERO 17

7.9%

PORSYENTO NG MGA
NAGPOSITIBO

27,761

BILANG NG
TINIST

HALOS
92.7%
ANG MILD AT
ASYMPTOMATIC
NA KASO!

BAWAL
WALANG
FACE MASK

KABUANG PILIPINAS

PUNO NA BA ANG ATING MGA OSPITAL?

ICU BEDS (3.8K TOTAL BEDS)
29% Utilized

ISOLATION BEDS (20.6K TOTAL BEDS)
26% Utilized

WARD BEDS (14.7K TOTAL BEDS)
20% Utilized

VENTILATORS (3.1K TOTAL VENTILATORS)
16% Utilized

NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION

PUNO NA BA ANG ATING MGA OSPITAL?

ICU BEDS (1.2K TOTAL BEDS)
26% Utilized

ISOLATION BEDS (4.6K TOTAL BEDS)
25% Utilized

WARD BEDS (4.2K TOTAL BEDS)
25% Utilized

VENTILATORS (1.1K TOTAL VENTILATORS)
19% Utilized

KALAGAYAN NG MGA AKTIBONG KASO

851 Asymptomatic

57,104 Mild

2,854 Moderate

1,420 Severe

304 Critical

DOH HOSPITAL HOTLINES

For health concerns and emergencies, you may access
here the DOH hospital hotlines across the country:

bit.ly/DOHHospitalHotlines

DOH ONE HOSPITAL COMMAND CENTER (OHCC) HOTLINES

• 1555 • 0915-777-7777
• 02-886-505-00 • 0919-977-3333

bit.ly/OHCCHotline

DOH TELEMEDICINE CONTACT DETAILS

bit.ly/DOHTelemedicine

SeeYouDoc
✉ seeyoudoc.com
📞 SeeYouDoc

KonsultaMD
✉ konsulta.md
📞 KonsultaMD

CloudPx
✉ cloudpx.ph/

Telimed and Medgate
✉ medgate.ph/shop/telimedplan/purchase

MedCheck
✉ medcheck.com.ph/find-a-doctor/SeeYouDoc

TelAventusMD
✉ TelAventusMD@aventusmedical.com.ph
📞 TelAventusMD

HealthNow
📞 healthnow.ph/
✉ help@healthnow.ph
📱 HealthNow



Manatiling ligtas!

I-download ang StaySafe App
o gamitin ang WEBAPP
at pumunta sa Staysafe.ph



Walang internet or load?
Report via SMS

2158-5779 (for Globe users)
225-655-779 (for other users)



May tanong ukol sa COVID-19?
I-chat na si KIRA!

VIBER: Kira Kontra COVID by DOH
MESSENGER: Department of Health PH
KONTRACOVIDPH: kontracovid.ph

MAYROON PANG KATANUNGAN? SUMANGGUNI LAMANG SA SUMUSUNOD:

[OfficialDOHgov](https://www.facebook.com/OfficialDOHgov)

[@DOHgovph](https://twitter.com/DOHgovph)

[doh.gov.ph](https://www.doh.gov.ph)

[\(02\) 894-COVID / 1555](tel:(02)894-COVID)

20 FEBRUARY 2022, SUNDAY



DENR

NEWS ALERTS

VLOGS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



Please click this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K16aGQiMGTA>

MANILA

DOLOMITE BEACH MAY DUMATING MANILA BAY UPDATE

9,077 views • 19 Feb 2022

275 DISLIKE SHARE SAVE ...



KUYARONS TV
99.7K subscribers

SUBSCRIBE

DENR Sec. Roy Cimatu dumating sa Manila Baywalk Dolomite Beach.

#manilabay
#dolomitesand

SHOW MORE



Please click this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hvN2CkupnKE>

MANILA BAY

Manila Bay Update February 19, 2022

5,009 views • 19 Feb 2022

156 DISLIKE SHARE SAVE ...



Kuya Bok Tv
127K subscribers

JOIN

SUBSCRIBE

#manilabay #savemanilabay #battleformanilabay #whitesand #whitebeach #dolomitesand #dolomitebeach #dolomitewhitesand #DENR #sea #seaslug #seasnake #kalikasan #tayoangkalikasan #nature

SHOW MORE



Please click this link:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vrb1btUI_DA

#manilabay #dolomotesand #dolomitpebbles

OMG! SEA SNAKE SEA SLUG AT TALABA NAGLABASAN SA MANILA BAY ANO ANG PAHIWATIG NITO?
FEB 18,2022

973 views • 18 Feb 2022

👍 20 🗨 DISLIKE ➦ SHARE ⌵+ SAVE ...



JANICE LLANDER Vlog
42.2K subscribers

SUBSCRIBE

#manilabay#dolomotesand#dolomitpebbles#denr#seasnake

SHOW MORE



Please click this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4vfkfIzSO00>

#manilabay

MANILA BAY UPDATE FEBRUARY 19, 2022

6,628 views • 19 Feb 2022

200

DISLIKE

SHARE

THANKS

SAVE

...



BTV Pinas

JOIN

SUBSCRIBE

#manilabay

SHOW MORE



Please click this link:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xcnwof_D9Hc

#ManilaBayUpdate #BasecoBeach #BattleForManilaBay

TAPANG AT MALASAKIT NI TATAY DIGONG SA BASECO!

4,670 views • 19 Feb 2022

197 DISLIKE SHARE SAVE ...



enr. berto

193K subscribers

JOIN

SUBSCRIBE

#ManilaBayUpdate #BasecoBeach

#BattleForManilaBay

SHOW MORE



Please click this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7GSRE1rTjb4>

#manilabay #basecobeach #baseco

BASURA NOON ISDA NA NGAYON, BASECO LAGOON UPDATE

492 views · 19 Feb 2022

19 DISLIKE SHARE SAVE ...



Charlie Amor

39.5K subscribers

SUBSCRIBE

#manilabay #basecobeach #baseco

BASURA NOON ISDA NA NGAYON, BASECO LAGOON UPDATE

SHOW MORE



Please click this link:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=21XV_qGT6Oc

#rehabilitation #manilabay #philippines

Manila Bay Update: February 19, 2022

8,577 views • 19 Feb 2022

👍 225 🗨 DISLIKE ➦ SHARE ≡+ SAVE ...



PINOY BLOGGER PH
28.1K subscribers

JOIN

SUBSCRIBE

#rehabilitation #manilabay #philippines #manila #battleformanilabay

SHOW MORE