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DENR

NEWS ALERTS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



DENR bares 'water lilies for cash' livelihood program for fisherfolk

Saturday, October 31, 2020 Cory Martinez28

HARVESTED water hyacinth or commonly known as water lily will be paid for. Benny Antiporda, Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Undersecretary for Solid Waste Management and Local Government Units Concerns, said this will be added income for fisherfolk who will be tapped to harvest water lily which have been invading water bodies in Metro Manila and nearby provinces.

Antiporda added the agency will be launching a livelihood project that would allow fisherfolk to exchange their water lily harvest for cash amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Despite efforts to clean the water bodies like the Napindan Channel, these waterlilies continue to spread. So, we at the DENR proposed this project not only to get rid of these pollutants, but also to provide an alternative livelihood for the fisherfolk amid the health crisis we are facing," Antiporda said.

Napindan Channel is where water flows from Laguna Lake to Pasig River, and eventually to Manila Bay. These water bodies were recently infested with water lilies, which are considered as pollutant and pest plants.

Water lilies allow disease spreading vector species of mosquitoes breed freely in the static waters. The decomposition of the dead plants results in an obnoxious smell, decreases the clarity of water and depletes the dissolved oxygen content of the water, making it unsuitable for human use.

Antiporda said the pilot testing for the livelihood project will be conducted in Taytay, Rizal, wherein its Mayor George Ricardo Gacula II expressed his strong support to the project.

He added that Taytay was chosen to be the pilot site for the project due to its strategic location since the municipality's surrounding water bodies eventually flow to Manila Bay via Pasig River.

Under the project, fisherfolk, who are members of the Samahan ng Mangigisda sa Lawa ng Taytay (SMALT), will gather water lilies using their nets and katig or boat outriggers and place them in sacks. The cash incentive will be based on the weight of the water lilies collected.

Gacula thanked the DENR for the initiative, saying it would be "*a great help for the fisherfolk as another source of income.*"

"*There are times that the fish they catch from the area are not enough to provide a living. At least with this program, fisherfolk would not only have an abundant supply of water lilies to gather, they would also help the DENR in cleaning the Pasig River,*" Gacula said.

If the project becomes successful, Antiporda said more fisherfolk will be tapped to continue the waterlily collection until the water bodies eventually become clean.

"*More municipalities and cities along Pasig River will eventually be included in this project if this happens,*" he added.

The livelihood project is still part of the Manila Bay Rehabilitation Project, considering that Pasig River is one of the bay's biggest tributaries.

Source: <https://journal.com.ph/news/nation/denr-bares-water-lilies-for-cash-livelihood-program-for-fisherfolk/?fbclid=IwAR04yCjgJLIVRLSscq9iwCnJFPrRXlnf5DdnTdRGAtcEcI5XqW4vgTiUWQ>



DENR boosts field offices' capability



ZAMBOANGA. The Zamboanga del Norte Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office (Penro) boosts the capability of its field offices by way of acquiring drones and motorcycles. A photo handout shows Penro head Salahudin Kaing turning over Wednesday, October 28, a drone to an environment official of the province. (SunStar Zamboanga)

October 31, 2020

THE Zamboanga del Norte Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office (Penro) has boosted the capability of its field offices in the implementation of environmental programs.

Salahudin Kaing, head of the Zamboanga del Norte Penro, has turned over Wednesday, October 28, eight units of motorcycles and four units of Mavic 2 Pro drones to the Community Environment and Natural Resources Office (Cenro) of Piñan, Manukan, Liloy and Siocon municipalities.

Kaing said the drones will be used for the monitoring of different programs being implemented by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources like the National Greening Program.

Kaing said the motorcycles will aid the Cenro personnel for easy mobility during their monitoring and surveillance works.

Kaing conducted an orientation and briefing on the proper handling, caring and proper usage of drones after the turnover ceremony. **(SunStar Zamboanga)**



Slight seas, rain seen at Manila Bay ‘white sand’ beach

Published November 1, 2020 3:38pm

By MA. ANGELICA GARCIA, GMA News

With Tropical Cyclone Wind Signal No. 4 raised over Metro Manila on Sunday morning due to Typhoon Rolly, things still appeared to be quiet at Manila Bay’s dolomite beach, according to a tweet by Super Radyo dzBB’s Isa Avendaño Umali.

At 11:30 a.m. on Sunday, rain and slight seas were seen at the “white sand” beach.

Last October 21, trash and water hyacinths washed onto the beach due to Tropical Storm Pepito.

To create the 500-meter beach along Manila Bay, the government said it spent about P28 million to fill the stretch with sand made from tons of crushed dolomite from the Visayas. —

DVM, GMA News

Source: https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/news/metro/762280/slight-seas-rain-seen-at-manila-bay-white-sand-beach/story/?utm_source=GMANews&utm_medium=Facebook&fbclid=IwAR12YH3ve0r_T-pBXV-tC7yc_kp60nrVE8I_t-vaYvOWIUbFA2aaqP5cxUc



 News5 9h · 🌐 ⋮

Mga kuha sa Manila Bay white sand beach kaninang hapon. Marami ang nangamba sa social media nitong weekend na baka tuluyang ma-wash out ang P28-M na proyekto ng DENR dahil sa Typhoon #RollyPH.



   3.6K 1.9K Comments 298 Shares

Source:

https://www.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=2256878677802207&id=163550757135020&fs=0&focus_composer=0



ONE News

11h · 🌐



The Manila Bay white sand is still here, what about your mental health? Kaya pa ba?

The P28-million white sand project in Manila Bay remains intact despite initial concerns of Typhoon #RollyPH washing the dolomite sand away.

📺: News5 / Dale de Vera



👍❤️👍 2,1K

670 Comments 258 Shares



Hanging on

posted November 01, 2020 at 10:46 pm



The P28 million 500-meter dolomite 'beach' along Manila Bay was spared from being washed out further as Typhoon Rolly changed course and headed to the southeast coast of Batangas instead.



UNTV News and Rescue

12h · 🌐

Positibo at negatibo ang naging pahayag ng maraming Pilipino sa ginagawang rehabilitasyon ng pamahalaan sa dating mala-isa ng basura sa Manila Bay at paglalagay ng dolomite artificial white sand beach. Ngunit, ano nga ba ang malalalim na mensahe ng Manila Bay para sa ating lahat?

Sumama sa isang deep within adventure at alamin kung gaano kahalaga ang pag-uugali upang maingatan ang kalikasan.

#TheDivePH #ManilaBay #iPROTECTtheOcean



YOUTUBE.COM

#iPROTECTtheOcean: Manila Bay's Wake Up Call for all Filipinos | THE DIVE

Positibo at negatibo ang naging pahayag ng maraming Pilipino sa ginagawang rehabilitasyon ...



GMA News
17h · 🌐

[As of 11:30 am] Sitwasyon sa Manila Bay partikular sa parte na may dinurog na dolomite. Mahina ang alon habang patuloy ang pag-ulan na epekto ng Bagyong #RollyPH. | via Isa Avendaño-Umali, Super Radyo DZBB 594khz

Bisitahin ang www.gmanews.tv para sa iba pang mga balita.



👍❤️ 2.9K

1.9K Comments 443 Shares



Ditch that breakwater for Manila Bay ‘white beach’

By Tita C. Valderama

November 2, 2020

SOME people in government have become experts in squandering public funds even as the coronavirus pandemic continues to make life miserable for more Filipinos.

Whoever broached the plan to construct a breakwater to protect the crushed dolomite on a portion of Manila Bay may have thought that the government has a lot of money to burn for a completely unnecessary project such as preserving that pocket of artificial white sand from being washed away by strong waves.

And whoever approved that crazy idea must have the public good at the bottom of his priorities in government service, or simply trying to save face.

Undersecretary Joan Leones of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) disclosed to the press last Thursday that they have been informed about the plan of the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) to build a breakwater, in addition to geo-tubes or huge, durable plastic filled with sand already in place along the perimeter of the shore to ensure that the crushed dolomite will remain intact despite the current.

With that plan, it is clear that the DPWH and DENR have refused to heed the criticisms that the P389-million “beach nourishment” project is a waste of scarce public funds.

According to DENR Undersecretary Benny Antiporda, the complete rehabilitation project for Manila Bay, which may take seven years to finish, was given a total budget of P47 billion by the Duterte administration. For 2020, P1.3 billion was allotted for the implementation of the Manila Bay Coastal Management Strategy.

If that’s the case, then the cost of the dumping of artificial white sand on a portion of Manila Bay adjacent to the US Embassy compound on Roxas Boulevard is a relatively small amount.

The proponent of the breakwater project to protect the disappearing white sand must be eyeing to get a chunk of the whopping rehabilitation fund for it.

Before the recent strong typhoons and heavy rains came, it was reported that 120 meters — out of 500 meters — of Manila Bay’s shoreline had been covered by the crushed dolomite from Cebu. Based on recent photos posted on news websites and social media, it would appear that roughly half of the sand has been washed away, or washed in, to use DENR officials’ term, noting that mud and black sand had merely covered the dolomites.

Given the situation of the “white sand” now, as strong typhoons hit the country, including Metro Manila, the government should already put this project in the back burner. It has proven Palace spokesman Harry Roque and Antiporda wrong that the project would help enhance mental health. Well, perhaps it did briefly to some of those who took time to go there and get a “Boracay” feel in the heart of Metro Manila. But is it worth the money?

If the government will keep restoring the “white sand” beach each time a typhoon or high tide pulls away the dolomites and covers the shoreline with black sand and wastes, when can it stop spending precious money for such an unnecessary cosmetic project?

Environment and fisherfolk groups have pointed out that constructing a breakwater may be able to hold some of the dolomite on the shoreline but this does not guarantee that it will effectively impede water flow and prevent the crushed dolomite rocks from being washed out.



Fernando Hicap, national chairman of the group Pamalakaya, sounds correct when he said that dumping dolomites to create the “white sand” ambiance on Roxas Blvd. was veering away from the DENR’s mandate to restore marine ecosystem, but to beautify the area.

Indeed, having that portion of the Manila Bay shoreline covered with white sand is pleasing to the eye. It may not be comparable to Waikiki Beach’s Kalakaua Avenue, but it would look really nice. However, given the government’s financial position and the country’s economic situation when millions of people have lost their jobs and more are pushed to extreme poverty during the coronavirus pandemic, it would be wiser to put this project aside and channel available resources to addressing more pressing concerns such as food security.

Public officials behind this “white beach” project should just ditch it instead of spending more money just to save face. That way, government can minimize the losses.



For Alcoy town in Cebu, dolomite is life

By: [Ador Vincent Mayol](#), [Nestle Semilla](#) - [@inquirerdotnet](#)

[Philippine Daily Inquirer](#) / 05:00 AM November 01, 2020

ALCOY, Cebu, Philippines — It was during his fishing trips five years ago that Jeffrey Dueñas first noticed that some corals in waters about a kilometer away from a dolomite quarry site in Barangay Pugalo here were covered with a white powdery substance.

He ignored the unusual sight even if it affected a fairly large area, covering about 5,000 square meters, or half a hectare. “We did not mind it because our catch wasn’t affected that much,” he said.

Now that the damage has spread and covered about 2.5 hectares, Dueñas, who gets about 3 kilograms of fish a day that he sells for P300, only wishes that his catch will not further dwindle so he can feed his family.

The seeming lack of concern shown by Dueñas reflects the general sentiment of local residents on environmental issues raised against the quarrying of dolomite rocks to beautify a portion of Manila Bay.

Dolomite, a sedimentary carbonate rock, is generally used as an auxiliary material for iron and steel; sintering agent and flux in metal processing; ingredient in the production of glass, bricks and ceramics; utilized as fertilizer and soil conditioner; and feed additives for livestock, among others.

Only a few have reacted to the discovery of the Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office that corals in the waters of Pugalo were destroyed due to heavy siltation caused by crushed dolomite that spilled into the sea while being loaded on a conveyor belt into a bulk carrier.

But many were saddened when Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu ordered on Sept. 25 the suspension of the entire operations of the two mining firms pending an investigation conducted by his department.



‘WHITE SAND’ TRANSPORT A conveyor belt transfers crushed dolomite rocks from a quarry site in Alcoy, Cebu, to a bulk carrier. An inspection by the Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office in September showed that corals covering about 2.5 hectares in Barangay Pugalo were destroyed due to heavy siltation caused by crushed dolomite spilling into the sea as these were prepared for transport. —NESTLE SEMILLA

Livelihood

It is not at all surprising because Dolomite Mining Corp. (DMC) and its sister company, Philippine Mining Service Corp. (PMSC), are the lone industries in Alcoy which have provided jobs to at least 300 residents.



Their operations also filled the coffers of not only the municipal government but also the barangay.

“They (DMC and PMSC) have been here since 1981. There may be lapses in their operations, but these produced minor effects to the people and the environment,” said Ronelo Debulosan, Pugalo village chief.

“To be honest, residents here are sad after the extraction of dolomite in our place was halted because our barangay’s development largely depends on them (DMC and PMSC). For one, our collaboration with the company led to the concreting of roads and other projects,” he added.

Alcoy, located 93 kilometers south of Cebu City, is a fifth-class municipality (annual income: not less than P25 million) with a population of 16,979 spread in eight villages based on the 2015 census.

Most of them rely on fishing, agriculture and backyard farming.

But the town has been blessed with rich natural resources. It hosts a 1,600-ha natural forest in Barangay Nug-as, the biggest among eight forested areas on Cebu Island, which has been the home to the endangered songbird locally known as “siloy,” or black shama (*Copsychus cebuensis*), as well as endemic plant species like cinnamon, blueberry and mistletoe.

Siloy population here in 2016 was pegged at 3,300, according to the International Union for Conservation of Nature.

But its number continued to decline due to rampant forest clearing by slash-and-burn farmers and illegal loggers.



MANILA BAY ATTRACTION Mounds of crushed dolomite from Cebu await to be leveled along a section of Manila Bay for the government’s beach nourishment project in this photo taken in September. The area covered by “white sand” was an instant attraction during its opening, but portions of the beach had since been washed out. —MARIANNE BERMUDEZ

Large deposit

About 15 km from the Nug-as forest lies a large deposit of dolomite rocks.

Barangay Pugalo is one of the areas in the country where “economically extractable,” or minable, deposits of dolomite can be found.

According to a report from the Cebu provincial government, dolomite has been mined here for the last 40 years and exported to Japan and Korea as raw material for the manufacture of steel and glass.

Alcoy is also the source of the crushed dolomite rocks used to transform a portion of Manila Bay—a move that was criticized by environmentalists as “ill-timed” since the P389-million project was done at a time when the country was grappling with a pandemic.

The rocks were shipped by DMC and PMSC, which have the mining claims to the 571 ha of dolomite deposits in Pugalo.

The town has tried to capitalize on its 20 pristine beaches and the Nug-as forest through bird-watching activities to generate income. But ecotourism activities have been slow, said Mayor Michael Angelo Sestoso.

Most tourists also prefer to head straight to the beach instead of going to Nug-as, about 4 km from the town center.

Alcoy’s annual income of about P300,000 a year from ecotourism activities is a drop in the bucket as it gets close to P5 million in annual taxes from mining companies and another P1.3 million in shares from the national government.

The Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB) said DMC had just been given another 25-year mineral production service agreement (MPSA) that will expire in 2030.

The raw dolomite quarried by DMC is delivered to its sole buyer, PMSC, for processing to desired sizes and marketable products.

PMSC-Alcoy Plant holds a mineral processing permit by the MGB, which will expire in 2023.



ENDANGERED The forest in Barangay Nug-as in Alcoy, Cebu, is home to the endangered black shama (*Copsychus cebuensis*), known locally as “siloy.” —CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Environmental threat

DMC’s MPSA only covers mining activities for the purpose of exporting dolomite to Japan and Korea for glass manufacturing. But PMSC began supplying dolomite as a substitute for sand and gravel locally.

By supplying the domestic market, DMC faces the possibility of going over the estimated volume it was allowed to extract, posing a great threat to the environment.

On Sept. 8, Cebu Gov. Gwendolyn Garcia disallowed the further extraction, selling and transport of dolomite locally beyond the MPSA provisions.

She said dolomite in Alcoy was sold as a substitute for sand and gravel in the domestic market without securing the necessary permits from the provincial capitol and paying the corresponding local taxes.



Garcia also cited the lack of an environmental impact study (EIS) on the extraction of minerals from the mountains of Alcoy, considered an “environment critical area.” With no EIS, she said, the extraction of dolomite for domestic use might cause harm to the environment.

She said she did not want a repeat of the massive landslide near a quarry site in the City of Naga in southern Cebu where 78 people died and many rendered homeless in September 2018.



LOCAL EMPLOYMENT Dolomite Mining Corp. and Philippine Mining Service Corp. have been providing jobs for residents of Alcoy town in southern Cebu for about four decades now. —NESTLE SEMILLA

Community employer

The Inquirer visited the mine site in Pugalo on Oct. 4 but was barred entry by personnel of the mining companies.

In an earlier statement, Antonio Castillo, the senior manager for corporate planning of PMSC, said the company would cooperate with the government and would heed whatever directive given to them. “We could not say no to their order because they are the regulating body,” he said.

But according to Pugalo village chief Debulosan, local officials and personnel of the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology have been monitoring dolomite quarrying here to make sure the mine site is stable.

“If ever there are landslides, that did not come from the mining site. As to reports that the dolomite destroyed the corals, our fishermen never had a zero catch. Maybe, there were times when they caught a few but they never said they caught nothing,” he said.

Debulosan expressed hopes that the mining companies would be allowed to resume operations. “May they (government and mining sites) find a win-win solution to this issue otherwise it will trickle down to the people here,” he said.

Camila Requito, 32, a store vendor near the dolomite quarry site, said she was thankful to the mining firms for providing jobs to many residents.

“Not allowing DMC and PMSC to continue their operations will surely affect people here,” said Requito, stressing that her husband’s job at DMC enabled them to send their daughter to college.

“To be candid, the quarrying of dolomite has never affected the environment and the people of Alcoy. But now that it ceased operations, where will we get food for our family? What will happen to us?” Requito asked.

Source: https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/1354846/for-cebu-town-dolomite-is-life?utm_medium=Social&utm_source=Facebook&fbclid=IwAR398h1RbXDYkSEdlvQkOIUvpuqwmQevJiMbU24pWacpFwEjIa46zpeADzY#Echobox=1604185049



Cebu City asked to ban single-use plastics

Published 1 min ago on November 2, 2020 02:30 AM

By [Rico Osmeña](#)



SINGLE-USE plastics take thousands of years to decompose. PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF ECO-BUSINESS

Environmental organizations called on the Cebu City government to ban single-use plastics and polystyrene foam after flash floods affected the city recently.

Groups urged the city government to not just put up water bottle receptacles but to entirely ban the use of the materials to reduce plastic waste that cause flooding.

The Department of Public Services (DPS) reported that 60 percent of the 230 tons of garbage collected during the 13 October flooding were plastic products that clogged rivers and waterways.

“It is clear that this measure will not guarantee the reduction of plastic wastes but only incentivize bottled water companies to produce more plastic bottles, leaving the city with the duty of acquiring these plastic wastes and paying for their disposal instead of the manufacturers of these wastes themselves owning up to their responsibility,” the groups said in a statement.

Mayor Edgardo Labella himself admitted that plastic wastes caused the unprecedented flood, particularly in the uptown area of Cebu City along Mango Avenue.

There are also 83 illegal structures that covered waterways, creeks and rivers.

The groups said receptacles are not enough to handle the sheer volume of plastics discarded daily.

“The move to put up trash bins in key areas to facilitate collection and transportation of plastic bottles to materials recovery facilities (MRF), which we do not know for sure really exist, or if they are truly capable of absorbing the sheer volume of plastic bottles disposed daily, fails to address the plastic problem squarely,” the group insisted.

They recommended that segregation of recyclable and non-recyclable garbage must be ensured from the source in the homes and establishments up to the MRF in the designated landfills.

“Using the Environment department’s 2019 waste composition data, we can conclude that segregation coupled with waste minimization measures such as composting, recycling and reuse can potentially reduce the volume of waste for disposal to only 20 percent (biodegradables at 52.31 percent plus recyclables at 27.78 percent equals 80.09 percent),” the groups added.



“Therefore, the volume disposed from the average of 600 metric tons per day of solid waste generated by the city may be reduced to 120 tons if measures are undertaken consistent with Republic Act 9003 (Ecological Solid Waste Management Program).”

They likewise urged the city government to scrap its plans for a waste-to-energy incineration project with a private developer because this would only cause additional environmental repercussions for the city.



Group wants CH to immediately ban single-use plastics to mitigate flooding



File photo

November 1, 2020

A CIVIL society group is calling on the Cebu City Government to ban the use of single-use plastics to address plastic pollution and mitigate the flooding problem in the city.

The group composed of environmental protection organizations such as Break Free From Plastic PH Project, Philippine Earth Justice Center Inc., Philippine Movement for Climate Justice, Ecosystems Initiative and EcoWaste Coalition, among others, released a position paper on Friday, Oct. 30, 2020, where they pushed for an enforcement of a whole system approach to waste management.

Executive order

The group pointed out that the agreement between the City Government and bottled water manufacturers to put up water bottle receptacles around the city does not guarantee to solve the problem.

It instead proposed the immediate ban on single-use plastics and styrofoam food packaging.

While two proposed ordinances banning the use of single-use plastics are pending before the City Council, the group appealed to Mayor Edgardo Labella to issue an executive order banning the single-use plastics and styrofoam and segregating wastes from all offices of City Hall.

The group also flagged the waste-to-energy (WTE) incineration project the City's joint venture selection committee is negotiating with Sky Energy.

Suggestions

According to the group, it "is not a sustainable solution."

"Burning hazardous solid wastes through the WTE incinerator will transform the wastes into toxic air pollutants resulting in the release of toxic metals, such as lead and mercury, dioxins and furans, acid gases and other toxic substances to the air, water and soil," the group said.

The group suggested that the City should ensure segregation from source to final disposal and institute clear waste diversion program.

Of the 230 tons of garbage the City collected after last month's flood, 60 percent were plastic bottles.

SunStar Cebu tried to reach city officials for their comment on the group's suggestions, but to no avail. (JLL)

Source: <https://www.sunstar.com.ph/article/1875431/Cebu/Local-News/Group-wants-CH-to-immediately-ban-single-use-plastics-to-mitigate-flooding>



House leaders eye early okay of bill vs. single-use plastics

By [Jovee Marie de la Cruz](#)

November 2, 2020

THE leadership of the House of Representatives has vowed to prioritize the passage of legislation institutionalizing a nationwide ban on single-use plastic products when session resumes this month.

Bagong Henerasyon Rep. Bernadette Herrera said she filed House Bill 3338 banning the use of single-use plastic products to help curb plastic pollution.

The bill, along with several similar measures, has been pending with the House Committee on Ecology since August 2019.

“I’m glad Speaker Lord Allan Velasco and I are on the same page on the issue of plastic pollution,” Herrera said. “Having the support of no less than the Speaker, I don’t see any reason why the House should not pass the bill.”

President Duterte also expressed support for a nationwide ban on single-use plastics during a Cabinet meeting held last year.

Citing the 2015 report on plastic pollution by the Ocean Conservancy and the McKinsey Center for Business and Environment, the lawmaker said the Philippines was the third highest source of ocean plastic pollution with an estimated 2.7 million metric tons of plastic waste.

The United Nations, she added, has also estimated that land-based sources, including plastic waste blown into rivers and creeks by wind, are responsible for 80 percent of the world’s marine debris.

The lawmaker said single-use plastics, also referred to as disposable plastics, are commonly used for plastic packaging and include items intended to be used only once before they are thrown away or recycled. These include, among other items, grocery bags, food packaging, bottles, straws, containers, cups and cutlery.

Under the bill, Herrera wants the government to regulate the use of plastics by industries to save the environment.

This, as she underscored the need for an “all-encompassing nationwide policy against the use of various single-use plastic products that harm the environment.”

“By implementing a national policy against the use of single-use plastics, the state shall ensure the protection of the environment, prioritize the safety of its citizens, and prove sustainable development across all sectors,” she said.

Excise tax

The House Committee on Ways and Means has already endorsed for plenary approval the measure imposing an excise tax on single-use plastic, which could provide the government an additional P4.8 billion revenues.



However, the Philippine Plastics Industry Association Inc. (PPIA) President Willy Go told lawmakers that the proposal will hurt and eventually kill the industry.

Go said members of the industry are currently facing the negative impact of local ordinances banning the use of plastic bag in their areas.

Several local government units have already issued ordinances against the single-use plastic bags. For his part, Philippine Amalgamated Supermakets Association President Steven Cua said the proposal might hit the economy.

But Cua said big supermarkets can comply with the proposal but it will be difficult for small stores, which use thin single-use plastic bags.



'Banks' involvement key to climate change reform'

By [Bianca Cuaresma](#)

November 2, 2020

The financial sector holds a “unique” position to advance reforms in climate preparedness and sustainability, especially in the post-pandemic recovery, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) Governor Benjamin E. Diokno said.

Speaking in a recent webinar on climate risk, Diokno said banks and regulators can no longer afford to ignore climate change or sustainability issues as a governance priority.

The BSP chief also lauded local banks' recent efforts to issue so-called green bonds to include environmental agenda into their portfolio.

“Green bonds” are financial instruments issued by companies to investors, whose proceeds are used to finance projects that bring environmental benefits.

“The banks' participation in the green or sustainable finance market can send a powerful message of sustainability to the business community thereby generating greater momentum in this space,” Diokno said. “By deciding to finance sustainable projects, you can create more value to the company's stakeholders while preserving the environment and humanity,” he added.

Considerably ahead

Diokno said that while large banks are considerably ahead in being involved in sustainability investment vehicles, he is confident other financial institutions will follow soon, especially with the heightened social awareness brought by the global pandemic.

“The current Covid-19 pandemic offers a window of opportunity for reshaping the industry's future. Let us not put this once in a lifetime crisis to waste. Let us learn from it and build a climate resilient, green and sustainable economy,” he said.

Two green bonds were executed last year by the Philippine branch of the The HongKong and Shanghai Banking Corp. Ltd. The bank served as sole global coordinator in the \$410-million Green Bond by AC Energy Philippines Inc. It was also the joint lead manager in the P15 billion green bonds issued by the Rizal Commercial Banking Corp. In 2018, BDO Unibank Inc. issued its own \$150-million Green Bond.

Also, in October last year, the BSP announced its decision to invest in green bonds launched by the Bank for International Settlements.

Proactively engage

The BSP will continue to proactively engage banks to ensure that sustainability principles are incorporated into their strategy resending exercise in view of the ongoing pandemic,” Diokno said.

Just last month, Moody's Investors Service published its assessment of how environmental, social and governance risks inform their credit analysis of the Philippines.



The credit watcher said environmental considerations are material to the Philippines's credit profile, given the high incidence of climate-related disasters, as well as the relatively large, albeit declining, share of the labor force employed by the agricultural sector.

“Drought conditions associated with El Niño have led to supply-side disruptions to agricultural output in recent years, contributing to inflation volatility and dampening household purchasing power,” Moody's said.

“Overall, the severity and frequency of extreme weather events can increase the Philippines's GDP [gross domestic product] growth volatility, as well as public expenditure due to costs associated with reconstruction or rehabilitation,” it added.



Salt as environment-friendly disinfectant

Published November 1, 2020, 6:00 AM

by [Madelaine B. Miraflor](#)

Laguna Water, a subsidiary of Manila Water Company, now uses salt as the main ingredient in the production of environment-friendly and cost-effective solutions for water treatment and disinfection.

In a statement, the company said it was able to eliminate health and environmental risks after creating its own sodium hypochlorite (chlorine) with MIOX Corporation's On-Site Sodium Hypochlorite Generator (OSHG).



The on-site generated chlorine is proven to be an effective disinfectant, which improves bacterial control and thus providing better water quality while reducing capital and operation costs.

This new process also ensures the health and safety of employees as well lessen the company's carbon footprint.

Laguna Water is a water services provider created through a joint venture between the Provincial Government of Laguna and Manila Water Philippine Ventures (MWPV).

Currently, the company operates in the cities of Binan, Santa Rosa, and Cabuyao and the municipality of Pagsanjan. It also has presence in Alaminos, Calamba, San Pablo, Sta. Cruz, and Victoria.

"OSHG technology requires only electricity, water, and table salt (or brine) to create chlorine. It does not produce any by-products; hence, it is very safe and will not produce any health or environmental concerns," said Laguna Water Technical Operations Head Melissa Alcasid.

Since production of chlorine is now done on-site and only needs salt as raw material, OSHG technology increases the company's reliability and efficiency in terms of water treatment.

Further, it addresses the risk of the employees' exposure to chlorine since transportation and storage of large amounts of the substance would no longer be required.

"Before OSHG, commercially available liquid chlorine was used and being dosed to our water sources manually. Our operators need to physically go to the deepwells to adjust and monitor the chlorine that is being injected. Now, with OSHG, dosing and monitoring of chlorine is done automatically at the Laguna Well Field, our Centralized Water Distribution System," said Alcasid.

Chlorination is a water treatment process, wherein chlorine is injected to water to disinfect and kill germs.



This is an important step taken by water service providers to protect public health by ensuring that the water they provide to their customers are free from any disease-causing organism.

Currently, Laguna Water produces 17,000 liters of chlorine per day using the OSHG.

Laguna Water said it uses state-of-the art technology to produce its own cost-efficient and environment-friendly chlorine for water disinfection to ensure the health and safety of customers.



UNTV News and Rescue

9h · 🌐



Malaking hamon ang mapanatiling protektado ang UNESCO World Heritage Site na Tubbataha Reefs Natural Park ng Pilipinas. Ating kilalanin ang Tubbataha Reefs Marine Protected Area Superintendent na si Ms. Angelique "Mama Ranger" Songco, dahil sa nakita niyang nakamamanghang ganda ng Tubbataha Reefs, sumidhi ang pagnanais niyang mapangalagaan ito.



YOUTUBE.COM

Meet Tubbataha Reefs' Mama Ranger | THE DIVE

Malaking hamon ang mapanatiling protektado ang UNESCO World Heritage Site na Tubbatah...

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PAGHAHALAMAN PANLIMOT SA PANDEMYA, NEGOSYO SA IBA



November 2, 2020 @ 12:25 AM 5 hours ago

NANUMBALIK sa karamihan ang paghahalaman o pag-aalaga ng tanim, mapa-gulay man o mabulaklak. Kaya nauso ang tawagang “planttito” at “planttita” sa mga kasama natin sa bahay na ginawang libangan ang pag-tanim upang palampasin ang kaburyungan sa gitna ng pandemya nating dinaranas na nang mahigit walong buwan na ngayon.

At sa iba pa nga ay naging oportunidad ito sa kabuhayan. Kasi naman, nang mauso ang pagtanim, marami ang naghanap ng maitanim. Kaya ang mga dating naghahalaman pati na yaong mga maraming tanim na halaman ay naka-isip nang ipagbili ang kani-kanilang mga alagang halaman.

Mas mabenta nga kaysa noon ang naging bunga ng pandemya para sa mga talagang nag-aalaga ng mga halaman, lalo’t mayroon na tayong social media sa ngayon. Hindi ba’t sari-saring post ang ating makikita sa mga kaibigan at kakilala na ngayon ay nag-aalaga na rin ng mga halaman.

Pagandahan at paibahan. Ngunit kung tutuusin ay dati nang naririto ang mga halamang ngayon lang natin muling napagtuunan. Kasi nga ay wala na rin tayo halos magawa sa mahabang pagbabawal sa ating lumabas ng kanya-kanyang bahay dahil sa quarantine.

Sa mga mabibilis tumakbo ang mga kaisipan, naging magandang oportunidad ito upang pagkakitaan. Pumalo ngang bigla ang mga simpleng halaman lamang noon na dati’y balewala lamang sa ating pansin, sa libong halaga na.

Malaking bagay naman kasi rin kung gugugulan mo ng pansin ang paghahalaman kung ikaw ay nasa pamamahay lamang palagi.

Bukod sa nasusubaybayan mo ang kanilang pagyabong at paglaki, nawawala ang iyong pagka-inip nang dahil ikaw ay naka-quarantine o hindi pinapayagang makalabas dahil nga sa panganib ng COVID-19.

Halaman din naman ang sinasabi sa atin na stress reliever, kaya sa mga talagang mahilig dito, nakakaligtaan nilang tayo ay dumadanas ng pandemya.

Naiiwas din nito ang matagal nating pagtutok sa mga gadget kung saan tayo ay iniwas na makatutok sa mga likas na yaman ng ating kapaligiran.



At lumobo na nga ang presyuhan ng mga ito, dahil karamihan ay nagnanais nang magpalaki at mag-alaga ng halaman. Dahil habang ika'y nag-aalaga ng halaman, parang nadaragdagn na rin ang iyong kasama sa buhay. Parang gaya ng mga may alagang hayop. Mas mainam nga lang sa halaman, dahil tubig, araw at pataba lamang ng lupa ang kakailanganin.

Ngunit sadyang may naiiba sa atin. Dahil kung karamihan ay nawiwili na sa paghahalaman at nagagawa pang kumita dahil sa mga ito sa pamamagitan ng pagbebenta ng kanilang mga tanim, ang iba ay mapagsamantala naman.

Ito yung mga kababayan nating hawig kay "Juan "Tamad." Ang gagawin ng mga ito ay intayin lamang na ikaw ay malingat. At sa isang iglap, ang iyong alagang halaman ay wala na sa iyong harap. Pagnanakaw ang ibig kong sabihin.

Dahil ayaw nang maghirap pa sa pagtatanim at pagpapalaki ng halaman, ang iba ay nagnanakaw na lamang upang pagkakitaan ang bago nating kinahuhumalingang pag-aalaga ng halaman.

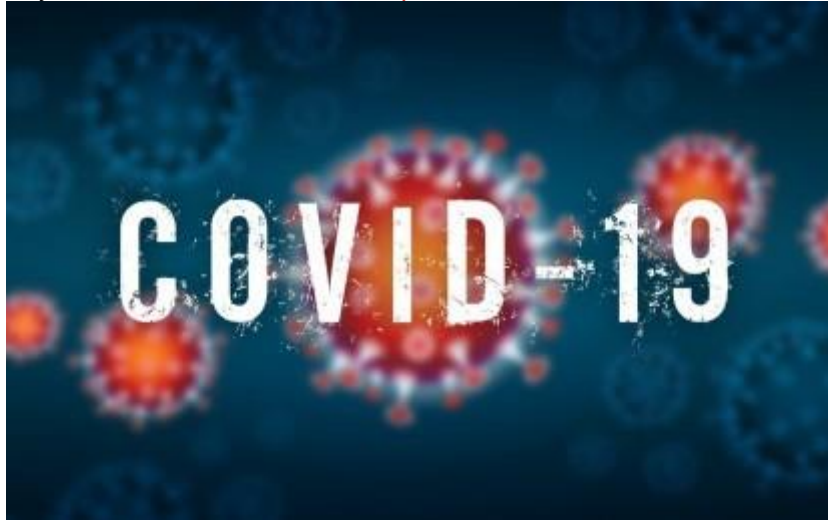
Marami pa rin talaga sa atin ang masama ang nakaugatan.

—
Assalamu Alaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh!



PH logs over 17K new Covid-19 recoveries, tally surges to 348,760

By Ma. Teresa Montemayor **November 1, 2020, 5:08 pm**



MANILA – A total of 17,727 new recovered cases reported on Sunday pushed the overall tally of coronavirus disease (Covid-19) recoveries nationwide to 348,760.

In its latest case bulletin, the Department of Health (DOH) also reported 2,396 new confirmed cases, bringing the total number of active cases to 27,115.

Of the active cases, about 81.6 percent are mild, 9.9 percent are asymptomatic, 3.1 percent are severe, and 5.4 percent are in critical condition.

The majority of the newly announced cases are from Davao City with 148, Quezon City with 146, Laguna with 122, Cavite with 112, and Benguet with 100 infections.

A DOH data based on October 31 report showed that 1,548 or 6.2 percent of the 25,085 who have tested turned out positive for Covid-19.

The DOH also logged 17 deaths, bringing the country's death toll to 7,238.

As of Monday, DOH said it has 21,300 total bed capacity dedicated to Covid-19 patients.

Available are about 58 percent of 1,900 intensive care unit beds; 60 percent of 13,500 isolation beds; and 67 percent of 5,900 ward beds.

About 80 percent of 2,000 ventilators are in use. (PNA)



Duterte pinakilos ang lahat ng government agencies

By [Gemma Garcia](#) (Pilipino Star Ngayon) - November 2, 2020 - 12:00am



Bukod dito, inatasan na rin umano ni Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte ang iba't ibang sangay ng gobyerno na maging alerto at maging handa sa pagresponde sa mga pangangailangan ng mga residente.

MANILA, Philippines — Siniguro ni Sen. Bong Go, na nakatutok si Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte sa sitwasyon ng bagyong Rolly.

Ayon kay Go, patuloy nilang minomonitor ng Pangulo na nasa Davao City ang lagay ng mga residenteng maaapektuhan ng bagyo.

Bukod dito, inatasan na rin umano ni Duterte ang iba't ibang sangay ng gobyerno na maging alerto at maging handa sa pagresponde sa mga pangangailangan ng mga residente.

Tulad na lang umano ng Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) na mangangasiwa sa pagkumpuni sa mga masisirang tulay at kalsada, habang ang Department of Energy (DOE) naman ay para sa pagkumpuni sa mga masisirang poste ng kuryente kapag nawalan ng supply.

Handa na rin ang search and rescue operation, ganundin ang relief at financial assistance ng Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD).

Pinasisiguro rin ni Go sa Local Government units (LGUs) na sapat ang mga evacuation center at nasusunod ang health protocols dito laban sa COVID-19.

Ang pahayag ng Senador ay ginawa sa gitna ng pag- trending sa social media ng #NasaanAng Pangulo.

Hindi nakadalo ang Pangulo sa unang major briefing ng gobyerno kaugnay sa preparasyon ng bansa sa bagyong Rolly.

Sa halip ay si Presidential Spokesperson Harry Roque ang nanguna sa briefing kahapon ng umaga kasama ang iba pang opisyal ng gobyerno at National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) sa Camp Aquinaldo.

Paliwanag ni Roque, nasa Davao City ang Pangulo at nakatakdang bumalik sa Maynila bukas, araw ng Martes.

Source: <https://www.philstar.com/pilipino-star-ngayon/bansa/2020/11/02/2053933/duterte-pinakilos-ang-lahat-ng-government-agencies/amp/>



Officials behaving badly

[Philippine Daily Inquirer](#) / 05:30 AM November 01, 2020

The recent shocking reports involving Philippine Ambassador to Brazil Marichu Mauro is the latest in what seems to be an outbreak of obnoxious behavior by public officials, following the display of arrogance some two weeks prior by Environment Undersecretary Benny Antiporda and Metropolitan Manila Development Authority spokesperson Celine Pialago, and the red-tagging of several celebrities last week by Lt. Gen. Antonio Parlade Jr., spokesperson of the National Task Force to End Local Communist Armed Conflict.

Add to that Tourism Region 1 Director Jeff Ortega's toadying introduction of Bongbong Marcos as "former senator and vice president" during a tourism event this week despite the late dictator's son losing the post in the 2016 elections, and you have a veritable epidemic of public officials behaving badly.

Mauro was caught on video maltreating her house-help, a 51-year-old Filipino domestic who has since flown home. The video, submitted by an unnamed employee who had witnessed the incidents, showed Mauro slapping, pulling the maid by her ear and whacking her with an umbrella on several occasions. Shown on Brazil TV news, the video prompted Foreign Secretary Teodoro Locsin Jr. to order the diplomat's recall, "to enable the DFA to conduct an expedient and thorough investigation into the incidents of physical abuse."

The incident was made more deplorable in that Mauro, as a representative of the Philippine government, was tasked with protecting our workers abroad. How can we expect respect for Filipino workers toiling in foreign lands when our very own officials abuse them?

Ortega's Instagram post of his controversial introduction of the Marcos scion, meanwhile, provoked outrage from netizens who pointed out that the tourism official was essentially betraying the duly-constituted government he was part of. With Leni Robredo in office for the past four years as the duly proclaimed Vice President, why would Ortega choose to follow his own version of reality? Worse, why foist what amounts to fake news on the public?

Netizens have asked Tourism Secretary Bernadette Romulo Puyat: Doesn't this show Ortega's contempt for constitutionally established authorities and disrespect for the government that sworn him into office? Puyat could only issue a limp statement reminding her officials and employees to "perform and discharge their duties with the highest degree of excellence and professionalism."

Ortega's glaring act of misinformation and revisionism while on public duty makes the best case for why the bill proposing to declare Marcos' birthdate, Sept. 11, as Ferdinand Edralin Marcos Day in Ilocos Norte should be sent to the dustbin. The bill has earned the vote of the usual suspects in the Senate, Sen. Nancy Binay purportedly among them. But in a statement, Binay — whose father, former vice president Jejomar "Jojo" Binay, was part of a lawyers' group that actively fought the Marcos dictatorship — said she did not vote for the bill and would not support any measure "that would cause historical revisionism."

Rightly so. Even now, sycophantic delusions like Ortega's are being peddled before the public (and proudly posted on social media by the perpetrator himself); an official government commemoration of the Marcos name — and by extension legacy — would only validate and fortify such baseless thinking, allowing parts of the country to live in an alternate reality and sowing further discord among citizens.



In the wake of the antics of MMDA’s Pialago, and before that the widely scorned hubris of DENR’s Antiporda — both incidents underscoring the dispiriting deterioration and wanton denigration of public office apparently happening in government — Civil Service Commissioner Aileen Lizada had to remind government officials to “take the higher ground” and “avoid any appearance of impropriety affecting the integrity of (their agency).” Government officials remain as such 24 hours a day, Lizada added, and are always seen as the face of the agencies they represent.

That principle is never more true than in the case of Ambassador Mauro, whose abusive demeanor, made public on Brazilian TV, shames the country and people she represents to the world.

Lizada’s advice is based on the Code of Conduct and Ethical Standards for Public Officials and Employees, which should be the Bible of every civil servant. According to Republic Act No. 6713, public officials and employees must “uphold the time-honored principle of public office being a public trust.” Whether ambassador, undersecretary, spokesperson, or mere giddy functionary, anyone in government who can’t live up to that principle has no business at all holding public office.



'Rolly' further weakens, now over West PH Sea

By Ma. Teresa Montemayor November 1, 2020, 9:55 pm



MANILA – Typhoon Rolly (international name Goni) continues to weaken and is now over the West Philippine Sea, the weather bureau said on Sunday night.

In its 8 p.m. bulletin, the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) said "Rolly" made landfall in the vicinity of Lobo, Batangas at 5:30 p.m. Sunday.

"Rolly" will move generally west-northwestward or westward while moving over the West Philippine Sea. It may exit the Philippine Area of Responsibility (PAR) by Tuesday morning. "Rolly" is forecast to weaken into severe tropical storm category in the next 24 hours," PAGASA said.

Despite the typhoon's exit from the country's landmass, it would bring moderate to heavy with at times intense rains over Aurora and the eastern portions of mainland Cagayan and Isabela.

Light to moderate with at times heavy rains will be experienced over Metro Manila, Calabarzon, Cordillera Administrative Region, Ilocos Region, Mimaropa, Western Visayas, Zamboanga Peninsula, Bangsamoro, Northern Mindanao, and the rest of mainland Cagayan Valley and Central Luzon.

PAGASA warned the public against flash floods, rain-induced landslides, and sediment-laden streamflows like lahar which may occur during heavy or prolonged rainfall especially in areas that are highly or very highly susceptible to these hazards.

It added that destructive typhoon-force winds will be experienced in areas under Tropical Cyclone Wind Signal (TCWS) No. 3, damaging gale- to storm-force winds in areas under TCWS No. 2, and strong breeze to near gale conditions in areas under TCWS No. 1.

Storm warning signals elsewhere have been lowered or lifted.

TCWS No. 3 is hoisted in the southwestern portion of Batangas (Tingloy, Mabini, Bauan, San Luis, Taal, Santa Teresita, Alitagtag, Taal lake, San Nicolas, Talisay, Laurel, Agoncillo, Lemery, Calaca, Balayan, Tuy, Nasugbu, Lian, Calatagan) and the northwestern portion of Occidental Mindoro (Abra de Ilog, Mamburao, Paluan) including Lubang Island

TCWS No. 2 is in effect over Cavite, the rest of Batangas, the northern portion of Oriental Mindoro (Puerto Galera, San Teodoro, Baco, Calapan City, Naujan, Victoria, Pola) and the central portion of Occidental Mindoro (Santa Cruz, Sablayan)

TCWS No. 1 is hoisted in the southern portion of Zambales (San Marcelino, San Felipe, San Narciso, San Antonio, Castillejos, Subic, Olongapo City), Bataan, Bulacan, Pampanga, Rizal, Laguna, Metro Manila, the rest of Occidental Mindoro, the rest of Oriental Mindoro, Calamian Islands, Marinduque and Quezon including Polillo Islands

As of 7 p.m. Sunday, the eye of "Rolly" was located based on all available data at 120 km West of Calapan City, Oriental Mindoro with maximum sustained winds of 125 km. per hour (kph) near the center and gustiness of up to 170 kph. It is moving west at 25 kph. (PNA)

Source: <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1120424>



Rolly can be expected to trigger lahar, mud flows - PHIVOLCS

Published October 31, 2020 3:51am

The Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (PHIVOLCS) has issued a warning, considering potentially high-volume rainfall, that lahar and muddy streamflows from three active volcanoes may be expected in several areas along the path of Typhoon Rolly.

Rolly, based on the forecast made by PAGASA, will make landfall over the provinces of Aurora and Quezon and move through central Luzon as the effects would be felt in the entire island of Luzon.

"Due to its (Rolly) trajectory, current severe intensity and potentially high-volume rainfall, Rolly can be expected to generate volcanic sediment flows or lahars, muddy streamflows or muddy run-off in rivers and drainage areas on the monitored active volcanoes of Mayon, Pinatubo and Taal," according to the Lahar Advisory issued by PHIVOLCS late Friday evening.

"DOST-PHIVOLCS thus strongly recommends increased vigilance and readiness of communities in pre-determined zones of lahar and related hazards on these volcanoes," the agency stated.



The agency added that prolonged and heavy rainfall may generate post eruption lahars on major channels draining Mayon Volcano by incorporating loose materials from remnant pyroclastic density current (PDC) deposits from the January to March 2018 eruption. The bulk of the PDC deposits is expected in watershed areas, namely: Miisi, Mabinit, Buyuan, and Basud channels.

Potential lahars and sediment streamflows may occur along the following channels:

- Miisi
- Binaan
- Anoling
- Quirangay
- Maninila
- Masarawag
- Muladbucad
- Nasisi
- Mabinit
- Matan-ag
- Basud

Pinatubo lahars, meanwhile, area likely to be channel confined and occur on the upper to middle reaches of Sto. Tomas-Marella and Bucao River systems but may transition to muddy streamflows and floods that may affect the following areas:

- San Marcelino
- San Narciso
- San Felipe
- Botolan, Zambales province

Muddy streamflows may be expected along O'Donnell ad Pasig-Potrero River systems draining the Pinatubo edifice to the north and southeast affecting downstream communities in:

- Tarlac
- Pampanga

Muddy streamflow and run-off from Taal Volcano may affect the following areas in Batangas:

- Agoncillo
- Laurel

The DOST-PHIVOLCS is advising the local government units in the affected areas to continue to monitor weather conditions and to conduct pre-emptive response measures. -- **BAP, GMA News**

Source: https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/news/regions/762154/rolly-can-be-expected-to-generate-lahar-mud-flows-phivolcs/story/?utm_source=GMAnews&utm_medium=Facebook&fbclid=IwAR1Tc7h4lnFfx-5sBOLc2udHq8q7SbnBJUGi96Tg_1ly-JMhsk_piD8k1A8



United Nations mobilizes agencies for PH typhoon aid

Published November 1, 2020, 10:12 PM

by [Genalyn Kabiling](#)

The United Nations (UN) has embarked on a humanitarian mission in the Philippines to mobilize aid for communities devastated by typhoon “Rolly.”



(JANSEN ROMERO / MANILA BULLETIN)

In a statement, UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator Gustavo Gonzalez said the UN and its local humanitarian partners have started to work with concerned government agencies to provide relief assistance to typhoon-hit areas.

“We have not waited for the landfall of this typhoon to mobilize our humanitarian teams and take action,” he said.

“UN agencies and humanitarian NGOs are already working with relevant government departments and offices, Philippine Red Cross, and with private sector groups to coordinate our efforts to support the conduct of rapid needs assessments and swiftly assist the most vulnerable people caught in the typhoon’s destructive path,” he said.

The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) continues to map humanitarian and development partners in affected areas to support impact assessments, according to the UN statement.

It also said the International Organization for Migration (IOM) would extend support to local authorities in the management of evacuation centers. The World Food Programme has also received a request for logistical support for the food distribution in calamity areas.

According to Gonzalez, no one must be left behind as the disaster response and relief operations are implemented.

“The people of the Philippines are incredibly resilient, but this is a very dangerous typhoon and I call on everyone to follow the guidance being given by the authorities,” he said.

“We must prepare for the worst and be ready to save lives, while putting trust in the effectiveness of years of close collaboration on emergency preparedness and disaster risk reduction efforts such as the timely evacuation of people in low lying areas. In the next hours and days we must collectively do everything in our power to save lives and ensure that no-one is left behind,” he said.

Bicol region and other parts of the country have been battered by typhoon Rolly’s heavy rains and winds Sunday. More than 300,000 people have taken shelter in evacuation centers due to the onslaught of the strongest typhoon of the year. The death toll has reportedly risen to seven.

Source: <https://mb.com.ph/2020/11/01/united-nations-mobilizes-agencies-for-ph-typhoon-aid/>



EU open to assist in Rolly recovery effort

Published November 1, 2020 10:59pm

By JON VIKTOR D. CABUENAS, GMA News

The Delegation of the European Union in the Philippines on Sunday expressed its openness to assist in the country's recovery effort from Typhoon Rolly (international name: Goni), particularly in the Bicol Region.

Through a post on its Twitter account, the EU Delegation said the Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid was ready to assist in recovery efforts moving forward.

"The resiliency, strength, and courage of the Filipinos will persevere in these trying times," the post read.

According to the latest data from the Department of National Defense (DND), at least 10 deaths were reported in the Bicol Region, with over 390,000 individuals displaced.

Two areas in Luzon -- [Batangas and Occidental Mindoro](#) -- remain under [Tropical Wind Cyclone Signal 3](#), with Typhoon Rolly expected to weaken into a severe tropical storm within the next 24 hours. — **DVM, GMA News**

Source: <https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/news/nation/762321/eu-open-to-assist-in-rolly-recovery-effort/story/>



Heavy rains brought by tropical cyclone Rolly caused floods at the Cagsawa ruins in Albay.

Rolly causes flood at Cagsawa ruins in Albay

Published November 2, 2020 2:04am

Heavy rains brought by tropical cyclone Rolly caused floods at the Cagsawa ruins in Albay.

Photos by AJ Mirafior showed floodwaters raging near the belfry of the church that used to stand before an eruption of the Mayon Volcano centuries back.

Typhoon Rolly aftermath: Cagsawa, Daraga, Alba



Courtesy: AJ Mirafior



Courtesy: AJ Mirafior



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Courtesy: AJ Mirafior



Courtesy: AJ Mirafior



Courtesy: AJ Mirafior



Courtesy: AJ Mirafior



Courtesy: AJ Mirafior



Courtesy: AJ Mirafior



Typhoon Rolly aftermath: Cagsawa, Daraga, Alba



Courtesy: AJ Miraflor

Aside from causing the flood at the tourist spot that provide a picturesque foreground to the Mayon Volcano, the onslaught of [Rolly also killed nine in the province](#) and displaced thousands. **-NB, GMA News**

Source: https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/news/regions/762333/rolly-causes-flood-at-cagsawa-ruins-in-albay/story/?just_in



Floodwaters and mud inundating Barangay Cagsawa in Daraga, Albay in a photo posted on Facebook yesterday by AJ Miraflor.

Edd Gumban

Rolly pummels Southern Luzon

[Helen Flores](#) (The Philippine Star) - November 2, 2020 - 12:00am

Typhoon spawns lahar flows, landslides

MANILA, Philippines — Super Typhoon Rolly (international name Goni) the world's strongest tropical cyclone so far this year pounded Southern Luzon yesterday with ferocious winds and intense rains, killing at least seven people.

As Rolly continued to plow through parts of Luzon, Tropical Storm Siony (Atsani) entered the Philippine area of responsibility, but state weathermen said it is unlikely to affect the country in the next two to three days.

Torrential rains spawned by Rolly triggered lahar flow from Mayon Volcano and massive flooding in Albay, while storm surges hit parts of Quezon.

Metro Manila also experienced light to moderate with occasional heavy rains and strong winds as the eye of Rolly passed near the capital.

The typhoon was expected to cross the Batangas-Cavite area late afternoon through evening yesterday, bringing destructive winds and intense rainfall.

Rolly was forecast to be 70 kilometers south of Metro Manila between 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. It was expected to exit the landmass of mainland Luzon and move toward the West Philippine Sea last night.

With peak winds reaching 225 kilometers per hour, Rolly is the strongest cyclone to hit the Philippines since Super Typhoon Lawin in 2015, the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) said.

But the US' Joint Typhoon Warning Center (JTWC) estimated Rolly's maximum sustained winds to be 195 miles per hour or 315 kph, matching the peak wind speed of Super Typhoon Haiyan (Yolanda) in November 2013 that killed 6,300 people in Eastern Visayas.

PAGASA said Yolanda had maximum sustained winds of 235 kph.

PAGASA and the JTWC use different standards in classifying cyclones. The JTWC uses one-minute average readings for a cyclone's wind speed, while PAGASA has lower figures as it uses 10-minute readings.



Rolly weakened into a typhoon after making landfall over Bato, Catanduanes and Tiwi, Albay yesterday morning and in San Narciso, Quezon at around noon.

Signal No. 5 – the highest tropical cyclone wind signal – was raised over parts of the Bicol region early yesterday.

Rolly's maximum sustained wind, however, weakened to 165 kph as of 4 p.m.

As of 5 p.m., signal No. 3 was hoisted over the southern portion of Zambales, Bataan, southern portion of Pampanga, southern portion of Bulacan, Rizal, Quezon including Polillo islands, Metro Manila, Cavite, Laguna, Batangas, Marinduque, northwestern portion of Occidental Mindoro including Lubang island, and the northern portion of Oriental Mindoro.

Signal No. 2 was raised over the rest of Zambales, the rest of Pampanga, the rest of Bulacan, southern portion of Tarlac, the rest of Occidental Mindoro, the rest of Oriental Mindoro, and the southern portion of Nueva Ecija.

Signal No. 1 was up in mainland Cagayan, Isabela, Apayao, Kalinga, Mountain Province, Ifugao, Abra, Ilocos Norte, Ilocos Sur, La Union, Benguet, Nueva Vizcaya, Quirino, the rest of Aurora, the rest of Nueva Ecija, the rest of Tarlac, Camarines Sur, Camarines Norte, Burias Island, Romblon and Calamian Islands.

As of 4 p.m., the eye of Rolly was located at 50 kms. south southwest of Tayabas, Quezon, packing winds of 165 kph near the center and gustiness of up to 230 kph.

It was forecast to move west at 25 kph.

Rolly was forecast to exit the Philippine area of responsibility tomorrow.

Meanwhile, PAGASA weather forecaster Chris Perez said Siony was expected to remain over the Philippine Sea in the next 24 to 48 hours.

As of 10 a.m., the center of Siony was spotted 1,365 kms east of Central Luzon, packing winds of 75 kph and gustiness of up to 90 kph.

It is forecast to move west northwest at 30 kph.

The National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) said that between 19.8-million to 31.1-million individuals, or about a third of the country's population, lived in the areas directly along the 120-kilometer radius of Rolly's track.

Of this number, about 2.4 million were considered to be from the poor sector and about 221,000 households lived in houses made of light materials.

As of yesterday noon, around 96,000 families or more than 346,000 individuals were in evacuation centers in Region 5.

NDRRMC executive director Ricardo Jalad said that power and communication lines went down in some areas as winds by Rolly were capable of bringing down trees and posts in its path.



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Deaths, lahar warning

Rolly has left at least seven people killed in its wake in the province of Albay, according to the NDRRMC.

There was one death each reported in the municipalities of Daraga, Guinobatan, Oas, Polangui and Tabaco City.

There were two deaths in the municipality of Malinao.

The NDRRMC said they are still awaiting details on the cause of deaths for each of the incidents.

Yesterday, Albay Gov. Al Francis Bichara said they accounted for four of the seven deaths in the province, three of which were due to a broken dike.

This includes a five-year-old child who he said may have been swept away by the heavy current.

The other person was killed due to a fallen tree.

Bichira said they have also noted lahar flows from Mount Mayon, which he likened to an avalanche.

The Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology earlier warned that Rolly was expected to generate lahar in the active volcanoes of Mayon, Pinatubo and Taal.

Plane, train operations stop

The Manila International Airport Authority (MIAA) in a late advisory Saturday night, announced the 24-hour closure of the Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA) to all types of flight operations from 10 a.m. yesterday to 10 a.m on Nov. 2.

MIAA general manager Ed Monreal also informed air travelers that, for the duration of the 24-hour closure, NAIA terminals will be closed, and likewise appealed to passengers not to go to the airport. He advised passengers to immediately coordinate with their airlines to get instructions about their new flight schedules. Airlines were also told to make sure that their customer service hotlines are ready to take in the expected surge of calls from passengers.



The Clark Airport management also advised all passengers, with scheduled flights to and from the Clark International Airport from yesterday and today, to coordinate with their airlines prior to proceeding to the airport for any possible flight delay or cancellation.

Meanwhile, operations of the LRT-1, LRT-2, MRT-3, and PNR were also suspended yesterday morning.

PNR's Bicol Commuter Train system did not open for train trips yesterday, while the region was being battered by Rolly.

The Department of Transportation (DOTr) said passengers and employees who were already on trains and stations were ferried to their destinations.

Power outages

Based on the monitoring of the National Electrification Administration (NEA) Disaster Risk and Reduction and Management Department as of 8 a.m. yesterday, provinces in the Bicol region under the coverage areas of 10 electric cooperatives (ECs) are without power due to Super Typhoon Rolly.

"These are the provinces of Catanduanes, Camarines Sur, Camarines Norte, Albay, Sorsogon and Ticao Island in Masbate. Power restoration efforts are ongoing," the NEA said.

The affected ECs include FICELCO in Catanduanes; CASURECO I-IV in Camarines Sur; CANORECO in Camarines Norte; ALECO in Albay; TISELCO in Masbate, and SORECO I and II in Sorsogon.

'Monitoring'

President Duterte has been monitoring the situation in areas hit by Rolly and has ordered agencies to help affected communities, Malacañang said yesterday, as critics questioned his absence during the government's first high-level meeting on the typhoon.

Presidential spokesman Harry Roque Jr. said Duterte, who has been in Davao City since Oct. 21, was scheduled to return to Manila on Tuesday. The President was also expected to deliver a public address on the typhoon yesterday or today, he added.

"The President has been monitoring and he has ordered us to hold a press briefing. We will be with all secretaries of agencies that are providing help to our countrymen," Roque said during a meeting of the NDRRMC in Camp Aguinaldo.

"The President ordered us to hold this meeting in NDRRMC to ensure that all the needs of our countrymen who were affected by the typhoon would be provided immediately. All secretaries are on call especially the heads of departments involved in the giving of assistance," he added.

Roque maintained that the President was updated on the situation in affected areas. "He is not unreachable. He has been monitoring and continues to give us instructions. As I said, we are arranging the address of the President anytime either today (yesterday) or tomorrow (Nov. 2)," Roque said.



President Duterte is expected to visit today the provinces in Bicol that were ravaged by Rolly to get briefing on the extent of damage and determine what assistance the national government could extend.

Public assurance

Sen. Bong Go sought yesterday to assure the public that President Duterte is closely monitoring the situation as Typhoon Rolly pounded Southern Luzon.

Go said Duterte has given directives to concerned government agencies to ensure preparedness and proper response to the effects of the typhoon.

“We continue to monitor with President Duterte the status of this typhoon. The President made sure that government agencies are always prepared to give immediate assistance to places affected by the typhoon,” the senator said in Filipino.

He said Duterte is in Mindanao but he could return to Metro Manila as soon as possible when weather permits.

Gov’t agencies on alert

The Department of Health (DOH) has placed all government-run hospitals in Calabarzon under blue alert to ensure availability of health services for residents affected by the super typhoon.

DOH-Calabarzon director Eduardo Janairo said the regional office is working closely with local government units (LGUs) and taking measures with the aim of a zero-casualty target.

DOH has readied some P26.5 million worth of drugs and other medical supplies for distribution to areas affected by the super typhoon.

Health Secretary Francisco Duque yesterday reported that there are also P21.7 million worth of medical commodities available for immediate mobilization at the DOH Central Office warehouse.

According to Duque, COVID-19 patients and health workers in Temporary Treatment and Monitoring Facilities (TTMFs) have already been evacuated.

Patients and staff of Mega TTMFs – such as the ones at the Ninoy Aquino Stadium, Rizal Memorial Coliseum, Filinvest Temporary Treatment and Monitoring Facilities, and Philippine Arena – were transferred to various hotel isolation facilities in the National Capital Region (NCR).

The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) said all its disaster response teams along the track of Typhoon Rolly are now activated, and on alert status to respond to any eventuality that may occur due to the weather disturbance.

As of last Saturday, DSWD maintains stockpiles and standby funds amounting to more than P884 million.



Of the P884 million, more than P304 million are standby funds available at the Central Office and Field Offices. Moreover, 260,164 family food packs were also prepositioned in strategic areas across the country.

In a related development, the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) had prepositioned its equipment and personnel to critical sections of national roads.

AFP, PNP, Coast Guard ready

Police forces nationwide were ordered to implement measures against the spread of COVID-19 in evacuation centers as more people were taken to safety in precaution against the onslaught of Rolly, the quarantine enforcement arm of the government's coronavirus task force said yesterday.

PNP chief Gen. Camilo Cascolan has also ordered the deployment of more police officers and patrol vehicles in affected areas to assist in forced evacuation procedures and other disaster preparedness measures.

Meanwhile, Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) chief of staff Gen. Gilbert Gapay said a total of 4,860 personnel were deployed in joint task forces in the NCR, Southern and Northern Luzon command (SOLCOM, NOLCOM), and Central Visayas.

The Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) reported that as of noon yesterday, they recorded a total of 1,960 passengers, truck drivers and cargo helpers who were stranded by Rolly when it was still super typhoon category.

These were recorded in the regions Bicol, Southern Tagalog, NCR and Eastern Visayas.

Donations

With the massive strength and destruction expected from Typhoon Rolly, Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines-National Secretariat for Social Action (CBCP-Nassa) made a global appeal to help those who would be affected.

Donations can be sent to the CBCP Caritas Filipinas Foundation Inc.-NASSA through its Bank of the Philippine Islands (BPI) account no. 4951 0071 08.

They also have a US dollar account: CBCP-Caritas Filipinas Foundation Inc. with Metrobank Account No. 632 2 632 00293 3.

Their Euro account name: CBCP Caritas Filipinas Foundation Inc. with Metrobank Account no 632 2 63260023 7. – **Romina Cabrera, Rudy Santos, Richmond Mercurio, Michelle Zoleta, Ghio Ong, Catherine Talavera, Mayen Jaymalin, Rainier Allan Ronda, Evelyn Macairan, NeilJayson Servallos, Alexis Romero, Paolo Romero**



Rolly makes fourth landfall in Lobo, Batangas

Published November 1, 2020 7:10pm

Typhoon Rolly made its fourth landfall in Lobo, Batangas late Sunday afternoon, according to PAGASA.

PAGASA weather forecaster Lorie Dela Cruz said Rolly made its fourth landfall at 5:30 p.m.

“At 5:30 kaninang hapon ay nagkaroon po ito ng fourth landfall, kumbaga pang-apat na beses na lumapat ‘yung sentro niya sa lupa sa Lobo, Batangas,” she said in a radio interview.

Dela Cruz added that Rolly is no longer expected to pass through the north of Metro Manila.

“Ine-expect po natin hindi po ito sa north ng Metro Manila dadaan. Sa south na po ito. South na rin po e-exit at sa ngayon, ang nakikita po natin ang closest approach is tonight na ‘yan around 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at most,” she said.

The weather forecaster also said rains are no longer expected to prevail over Metro Manila.

“Hindi dumadating sa atin ang malalakas na hangin dahil humina na ang bagyo although nasa typhoon category pa rin,” Dela Cruz explained.

PAGASA earlier [raised Tropical Cyclone Wind Signal No. 3 over 13 areas](#) across the country as Rolly made its way to the Batangas-Cavite area. — **Julia Mari Ornedo/BM, GMA News**



La Mesa, Ipo Dam alerto kay 'Rolly'

By Abante News Online — Last updated Nov 1, 2020

METRO



Photo Courtesy of PIA-NCR



13 0

Dahil sa bagyong 'Rolly', nakaalerto ang mga dam sa Luzon, kabilang ang La Mesa at Ipo.

Kahapon ng umaga, nagbabala ang pamunuan ng Ipo Dam sa mga residente na malapit dito dahil sa pagpapakawala ng tubig Ayon sa Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical, and Astronomical Services Administration (Pagasa) Hydrometeorology Division, inaasahang magpakawala ng 47 cubic meters per second sa nasabing dam. Naunang sinabi ng state weather bureau na umabot na sa 100.58 meters ang water level sa Ipo Dam at tataas pa ito dahil sa pag-ulan. Ang normal na high water level para sa Ipo Dam ay 101 meters.

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Inabisuhan ng Pagasa ang mga residente na nasa mababang lugar at malapit sa Angat River gaya ng Norzagaray, Angat, San Rafael, Bustos, Baluiag, Pulilan, Plaridel, at Hagonoy na maging handa sa paglikas sakaling umakyat ang water level.

Samantala, una nang nagpahayag ang Pagasa na posibleng umapaw ang antas ng tubig sa La Mesa Dam sa Quezon City dahil din sa bagyo. Sabado pa lang ay naka-red alert na ang dam. (SDC)

"May posibilidad ang overflowing sa La Mesa Dam. Naka-red alert po tayo sa La Mesa Dam dahil sa pagdaan ng Rolly," pahayag ng Pagasa sa isang online press conference.



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LOOK | Massive lahar flow from the Mayon Volcano made its way down the barangays of Travesia and San Francisco in Guinobatan, Albay.

👤: Albay Rep. Fernando Cabredo



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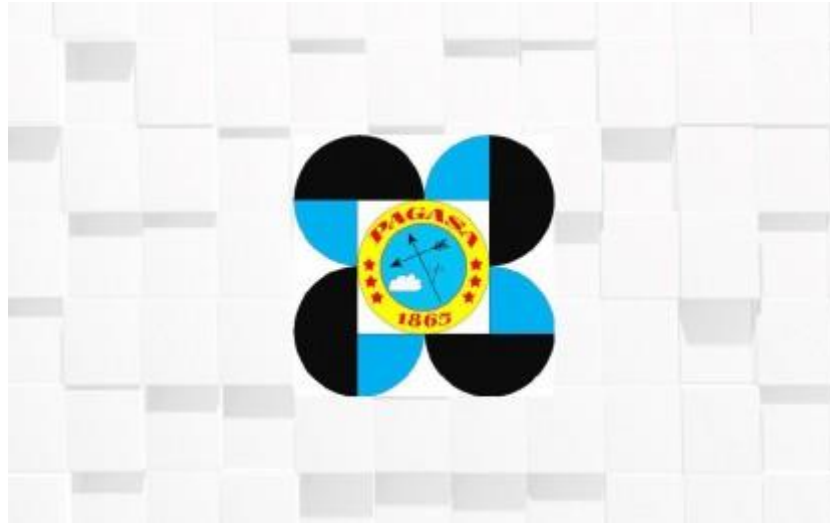
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"Siony" slightly weakens but remains tropical storm over PH Sea

November 2, 2020, 12:33 am



MANILA – Tropical Storm “Siony” is forecast to continue moving west-northwestward tonight until Monday night before it will slow down and become almost stationary Monday night until Tuesday evening, the weather bureau said.

In its severe weather bulletin issued at 11 p.m. Sunday, the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) said “Siony” will then move west-southwestward or westward towards Extreme Northern Luzon.

“Siony”, which has joined Typhoon “Rolly” in the Philippine Area of Responsibility, will likely remain in the tropical storm category within the next 36 to 48 and almost stationary on Nov. 3, PAGASA added.

Though “SIONY” remains less likely to directly affect the weather and coastal water conditions in the country over the next 2 to 3 days, PAGASA advised the public and disaster managers, especially those situated in Northern Luzon, to continue monitoring for updates on this tropical cyclone.

As of 10 p.m. Sunday, the center of Tropical Storm “SIONY” was estimated at 990 km East of Northern Luzon with maximum sustained winds of 65 km/h near the center and gustiness of up to 80 km/h. It is moving west-northwestward at 30 km/h. (PNA)