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NEWS ALERTS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



DENR starts 2nd phase of Marikina River rehab

[August 2, 2021](#)

By Rjhay E. Laurea



(Photo of DENR Secretary Roy Cimatu (extreme right, Marikina City Mayor Marcy Teodoro (extreme left), and Pasig City Mayor Vico Sotto (2nd from left)

MANILA — The government's "Build Back Better" drive continued with the second phase of desiltation operations of the Marikina River that flows down to Barangay Santolan in Pasig City.

DENR Secretary and Task Force Build Back Better chair Roy A. Cimatu cited said the second phase of the river desiltation project aims to fully enhance the Marikina River's water flow and reduce the risk of floods during major weather disturbances.



Cimatu said “with the dredging operations, we can expect the water to subside faster should another flooding occur. The continuous dredging and widening of the river will help minimize flooding.”

“Once Phase 2 of this project is completed, I am confident that waterways will be restored to their original width and legal easements will be recovered resulting in safer and more resilient communities against the effects of climate change,” he added.

The DENR chief also assured that no households in the Pasig City section of Marikina River will be affected by the dredging operations.

“During our meeting with Pasig City Mayor Vico Sotto, it was made clear that other than the multi-purpose building under the Ortigas bridge, no houses will be affected by the project,” said Cimatu.

He added that TF BBB will be coordinating with the local government of Quezon City to talk about the possible aftermath of the dredging activities on the informal settler families being situated within the desiltation area, and the relocation for those who will be affected by the operations.

Cimatu also addressed the Department of Public Ways and Highways (DPWH) Secretary and TF BBB co-chair Mark A. Villar to provide the equipment needed for Marikina River and other priority areas.

He expressed confidence that the government will be able to buy the additional equipment and the operations of TF BBB will be successful as that is where the program is headed.

Cimatu correspondingly appreciated the efforts of the concerned local governments, but there are programs that need the participation of the national government.

“While we laud the efforts of LGUs to place their own adaptation and mitigation measures to reduce and manage disaster risk within their areas of jurisdiction, there are certain tasks that need a higher level of intervention,” Cimatu said.

“This will ensure sustainability and integration of different dredging activities that are part of the approved rehabilitation and recovery efforts in flood-prone areas,” he added.

For his part, Marikina City Mayor Marcelino R. Teodoro said the previously concluded dredging operations in the Olandes, part of the Marikina River, resulted in faster water flow.

“Mayor Teodoro explained the effect of what we have done on the Marikina River. He said that the velocity of water in the river is faster now than before, which means the flooding in Marikina will subside faster,” Cimatu said.



DENR starts 2nd phase of Marikina River rehab

Under Executive Order 120 signed and issued by President Duterte in November 2020, the TF BBB will supervise post-typhoon rehabilitation efforts in areas destroyed by typhoons Rolly and Ulysses, namely the Cagayan River, Bicol River, and Marikina River. (ai/mtvn)



For DENR exec, it's necessary to define 'unnecessary' when it comes to plastics

Published August 1, 2021, 4:03 PM

by [Ellson Quismorio](#)

Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Undersecretary Benny Antiporda believes that part of the solution on the issue on single-use plastics or SUPs—considered a scourge by environmentalists—is to define the word “unnecessary” as it pertains to plastic products.



DENR Undersecretary Benny Antiporda (File photo/ Screenshot from Zoom meeting)

This as Antiporda, the alternate chairman of the National Solid Waste Management Commission (NSWMC), spoke during a joint virtual conference on environment-friendly alternative plastics over the weekend.

The outspoken official emphasized during the event DENR’s objective of protecting the environment while balancing the needs of the consuming public in connection with plastic products.

Antiporda pointed out that plastic softdrink straws and plastic coffee stirrers—two products already included on the non-environmentally acceptable products (NEAP) list—are deemed unnecessary, thus their status as NEAP.

“Yours truly has been pushing that we really need to come up with a clear definition of the word ‘unnecessary’ to achieve a common ground on the single-use plastics issue. This is to assure the industry that the commission is also against the blanket statement against [single-use plastics],” he said.

“We can understand the concern of the single-use plastic industry but the primary objective of the DENR is the protection of our environment, so we need to act on it, focusing on what is doable and feasible with due regards to the provisions of the law,” he added.



For DENR exec, it's necessary to define 'unnecessary' when it comes to plastics

Antiporda further explained that, "As provided by law, we need alternatives for the items being banned; those that are deemed to be unnecessary need no alternative and can be declared as NEAP already."

As such, coming up with a black and white definition on unnecessary plastic items will aid authorities greatly in implementing the statute, which in this case is the 20-year-old Republic Act (RA) No.9003 or the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000.

The NEAP is considered the [heart and soul](#) of the law.

Section 2, Rule 12 of the implementing rules and regulations of RA No.9003 states that, "The Department of Trade and Industry, Department of Finance, among others shall encourage national and local governments to produce environmentally preferable products and services."

The joint conference was organized by the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) Department of Finance (DOF), Climate Change Commission (CCC) and DENR. It serves as a venue to see how the Philippines can move forward toward finding alternatives to SUP and see how it can provide solutions and opportunities to the industry and the Philippine society.



DENR, N. Ecija village leaders tie up on environmental protection

By Zorayda Tecson August 2, 2021, 8:09 pm



CITY OF SAN FERNANDO, Pampanga – The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) regional office here has partnered with the Liga ng mga Barangay in Nueva Ecija to engage local communities in solid waste management and river protection.

Donaver Guevarra, regional information officer of the DENR, said on Monday that local leaders from 89 villages in Cabanatuan City took part in a series of environmental education lectures in a bid to raise public awareness and knowledge on some important pressing environmental issues, and solicit support to the protection and conservation of the environment.

Guevarra said the massive information campaign is critical in the ongoing cleanup and rehabilitation of Manila Bay since Nueva Ecija is the upstream portion of the 260-kilometer Pampanga River that drains into the bay.

"Waste disposal, especially single-use plastic management, remains a challenging part of the cleanup of Manila Bay areas in the region. Educating people on proper waste segregation, the importance of our river system, and its connectivity to Manila Bay are important, so that household wastes may be prevented from reaching waterways and river systems," he said in an official social media post.

He said the Association of Barangay Captains in Cabanatuan City led by its president Christopher Lee has vowed to support the program of the DENR and will intensify their solid waste management efforts including river cleanup.

Amid the pandemic and strict quarantine measures, Guevarra said the DENR will continue to conduct information, education, and communication (IEC) activities among local leaders about their roles in promoting and implementing ecological solid waste management and river protection, especially during this *habagat* (southwest monsoon) season when garbage is often washed away in the river system and other waterways.



DENR, N. Ecija village leaders tie up on environmental protection

The DENR-Region 3 (Central Luzon) conducted last month the environmental education lecture series in 15 barangays in Mariveles town and Balanga City in Bataan; Capas and Bamban towns in Tarlac; Masinloc town in Zambales; and Sasmuan town in Pampanga, participated in by over 400 barangay officials, health workers and members of people's organizations.

"Providing the public as well as the leaders of our local government with the right information and educating them on the value and importance of our environment especially our rivers and mangrove ecosystems including environmental laws are important ways we can help save our environment," Guevarra said.

He said caring for the environment starts from understanding, and the local government is at the forefront of keeping a balance and sustainable ecosystem to make a community protected and resilient against disaster and calamity.

The environmental topics that have been discussed during the lecture series include the protection of mangroves, tips to become plastic-free, ecological solid waste management, the importance of the river system, and the Manila Bay cleanup and rehabilitation.

This year, the DENR-3 has already conducted 37 environmental education lectures using a blended approach of online platforms and face-to-face interaction participated in by more than 1,200 local government leaders and members of peoples' organizations in Central Luzon. (PNA)



Chico River Basin forest management area turns in livelihood opportunities for IPs

August 2, 2021



Intercropping of coconut, rambutan and bananas in the sloping Cordillera mountains CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

A 64,498-hectare forest management area, originally conceived to protect the watersheds of the Upper Chico River Basin, has turned in coffee and wine enterprises for the indigenous people (IP) in farflung Mt. Province, Ifugao, Kalinga and Apayao.

As the project of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) in the Chico River Basin is about to be completed, a sustainable plan is now being drafted to ensure IPs will continue to thrive in their newfound livelihood.

A revenue-sharing scheme will be a major component of the sustainable program now being mapped by DENR, according to Marilyn Malecдан, regional project coordinator of the Chico River project.

"The revenue will make sure a PO (people's organization) member gets his share from whatever activity he contributes such as growing seedlings. But the government also wants to earn from its management of the natural resource," said Malecдан.

The Chico River is one of the four river basins aimed to be protected and preserved under DENR's Integrated Resources Environmental Management Program (INREMP).



Chico River Basin forest management area turns in livelihood opportunities for IPs

"The river harnesses the major irrigation systems to water its vast rice lands. As a result, Kalinga has been promoted as a rice granary of the region," said Engr. Ralph Pablo, INREMP-CAR (Cordillera Administrative Region) project director.

While environmental protection is the primary aim, INREMP has successfully generated livelihood for the upland residents.

Through collaboration with other agencies like the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) and Department of Agriculture (DA), PO partners are able to process and market their coffee.

The people also now produce muscovado sugar, wine from various fruits such as bignay, and of course rice and corn. Provision of rice mills, hand tractors, and multi-purpose pavement for drying products made the lives of farmers in far flung communities of the Cordillera easier.



4 illegal loggers arrested, 4,000 board feet of hot lumber seized in Cagayan IATF checkpoint

Published August 2, 2021, 4:30 PM

by [Liezle Basa Iñigo](#)



THE suspects and their hot cargo after they were intercepted in Santa Ana, Cagayan.

SANTA ANA, Cagayan – Four suspected illegal loggers were arrested while more or less 4,000 board feet of sawn lumber were seized in an Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) checkpoint in Casambalangan here Sunday, Aug. 1.

Police identified the suspects as Jordan dela Cruz Ramos, 31, of Calantipay, Baliwag, Bulacan; Ariel Perez Balibalita, 21, and Robert Timbal Gac-Ang, 23, both residents of San Rafael, Bulacan; and Melchior Dignos Lee, 40, of Barangay Barangca, Baliwag.

Personnel manning the checkpoint received information that four individuals will transport assorted sawn lumber loaded in a truck and will pass through the area.

The information turned out positive as a truck loaded with illegal logs and four men passed by the area and was intercepted by the local police, Cagayan police Provincial Intelligence Unit, 4th Mobile Force Platoon of the 2nd Provincial Mobile Force Company, Regional Maritime Unit 2, Department of Environment and Natural Resources-Community Environment and Natural Resources-Aparri, and Cagayan Economic Zone Authority here.

Seized from the suspects were one Mitsubishi wing van with license plates NAP-7477 loaded with 62 fitches of sawn lumber in different dimensions and an estimated volume of 4,671.73 board feet and DENR value amounting to P255,115.6.

Since they failed to present legal documents for the lumber, they were taken into custody by the police here and a case for violation of Presidential Decree (PD) 705 or the Revised Forestry Code is being prepared against them.

Source: <https://mb.com.ph/2021/08/02/4-illegal-loggers-arrested-4000-board-feet-of-hot-lumber-seized-in-cagayan-iatf-checkpoint/>



Key legislator says mining industry fiscal overhaul crucial for recovery

August 1, 2021 | 8:00 pm



DAVID HELLMANN-UNSPLASH

A PROPOSED LAW overhauling the tax regime for the mining industry is considered critical for the economic recovery because of its potential to generate revenue for the government and make the investment climate more certain.

Albay Rep. Jose Ma. Clemente S. Salceda, chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, said the bill is important because of current “deficiencies” in how the government manages its natural wealth.

“We still need a fiscal regime for mining, as a baseline or downside protection for whatever negotiations are entered into by the government (with investors),” he said in a speech at the Philippine Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative National Conference on Thursday.

Mr. Salceda said that he sees the mining industry as “a potential job creator post-pandemic” and crucial for the economic recovery because of the tax revenue it will likely generate.

“The proposed regime will generate P7.2 billion in incremental revenues in the first year and P37.9 billion over the next five years,” he added.

The Mines and Geosciences Bureau estimates the mining sector accounted for P102.3 billion in output, equivalent to 0.6% of gross domestic product, in 2020.

However, Mr. Salceda said that there is a “lack of a coherent fiscal regime” that would set aside funds for rehabilitation and investment.

House Bill 6135 seeks to “introduce corporate governance structures” such as the imposition of royalty payments, margin-based windfall profits tax, and (will discourage) businesses’ dependence on excessive debt funding.



Key legislator says mining industry fiscal overhaul crucial for recovery

The measure also seeks to create a national resource trust fund from royalty payments of large-scale metallic mining operations outside of mineral reservations to fund projects by local government units that are affected by these activities.

"If we don't set aside anything from the mining revenue for those externalities, the costs will (manifest) in some form, sometimes in tragedy. There has to be a dependable reserve of financial resources for timely rehabilitation of mines and for mining communities," Mr. Salceda said.

Chamber of Mines of the Philippines Executive Director Atty. Ronald S. Recidoro said Friday via Viber that the group supports the proposed law, calling it necessary to "create a more stable investment environment."

"We expect this policy to impact laws such as the tax code that properly governs revenue sharing in all mineral agreements," he told BusinessWorld. — Russell Louis C. Ku



After Typhoon Rolly devastation, GMA Kapuso Foundation plants 302 trees in Catanduanes

Published August 2, 2021 9:01pm



A total of 302 Narra and fruit-bearing seedlings were planted by the Kapuso Foundation to help Catanduanes residents against typhoons.

According to a "24 Oras" report, Monday, Typhoon Rolly downed not just houses but also trees back in November 2020.

Among those greatly affected was Cheryl Arador, whose house and crops were swept by the strong rain and winds during that time.

Despite this, she stood up and continues to plant more in order to earn a living.

"Just continue planting. Even if you won't benefit from it, the future generations will," Cheryl recalled her grandmother saying in Filipino.

Cheryl currently takes care of trees that her grandmother planted back in her day.

Under the Kapuso ng Kalikasan project, the Kapuso Foundation planted seedlings such as narra, pili, lanzones, guyabano, sampalok, rambutan, and atis.

"Several years from now, they will bear fruits. It also has timber which can be utilized," said Shiela Conche, Information Officer of PENRO Catanduanes.

"Trees control soil erosion and flooding," added Juliet Araojo, Management Services Division Chief of PENRO.

The GMA Kapuso Foundation is still accepting donations through bank deposits, Pay Maya, Cebuana Lhuillier, Shopee, GCash, Zalora and Mega Mart.

For more information, visit GMA Kapuso Foundation's [website](#).

— Franchesca Viernes/MGP, GMA News

Source: <https://www.facebook.com/116724526976/posts/10160266073331977/>

Bamboo ceremonial planting for Germplasm Collection Project ginanap sa Puerto Princesa City

Published on: August 02, 2021

By Department of Agriculture – MIMAROPA



Bamboo ceremonial planting for Germplasm Collection Project ginanap sa Puerto Princesa City

LUNGSOD NG QUEZON -- Ginanap ang Bamboo Ceremonial Planting for Germplasm Collection Project ng Palawan Research Experiment Station (PRES) ng Kagawaran ng Pagsasaka - MiMaRoPa sa Palawan Agricultural Center (PAC), Puerto Princesa City.

Layunin ng proyektong ito na makakolekta ng iba't ibang uri o species ng kawayan na matatagpuan sa Pilipinas maging sa ibang bansa upang magamit sa mga pag-aaral at pananaliksik nang sa gayon ay lalo pang mapalawak ang kaalaman at magamit ito para sa pang ekonomiyang pakinabang at sa iba pang potensyal nito.

Ito ay makakatulong din upang mapalawig ang adhikain ng pamahalaan na mapanatili at mapangalagaan ang likas yaman ng ating lupain at kapaligiran. Maaari din itong magsilbing resource house for propagation at genebank o library ng bamboo collections.



Bamboo ceremonial planting for Germplasm Collection Project ginanap sa Puerto Princesa City



Pinangunahan ni Dept of Agriculture - Mimaropa Regional Director Antonio Gerundio ang isinagawang Bamboo Ceremonial Planting sa Provincial Agricultural Center sa Puerto Princesa City.

Ang Bamboo Ceremonial Planting activity ay pinangunahan ng DA MIMAROPA Regional Executive Director, Antonio G. Gerundio, Regional Technical Director, Engr. Elmer T. Ferry, RTD for Operations at DA-PRES Agricultural Center Chief III, Librada L. Fuertes. Nakipagkaisa din at nagbigay ng kanilang mensahe sa aktibidad na ito ang mga lider mula sa grupo ng Bambusa Princesa at iba't ibang ahensya ng Pamahalaang Lungsod ng Puerto Princesa na sumusulong ng Bamboo Industry Development Program.

Sa kanyang pagbibigay ng update, sinabi ng City Agriculturist, Melissa U. Macasaet na ang Lungsod ng Puerto Princesa ay may mga sinisimulan ng mga gawain upang mabalangkas ang Bamboo Development Roadmap na magiging gabay nila upang matagumpay na maisulong ang Bamboo Industry sa Lungsod. Sa tulong din ng USAID Surge ay may mga isinasagawang mga virtual na pagsasanay patungkol sa kawayan.

Ayon sa City ENRO, Atty. Carlo Gomez, napakahalaga ng proyektong ito para sa environmental protection. Saad niya "Kami po sa City Enro ay lubos na sumusuporta dahil sa proteksyon na maibibigay at tulong sa ating taong bayan".

Ang makabuluhang mensahe naman ni Dr. Carlos Fernandez, dating DA Undersecretary ay nakatuon sa pakinabang ng susunod na henerasyon.

Ayon naman sa Regional Executive Director (RED), Antonio G. Gerundio, ang proyektong ito ay katuparan ng direktiba ng Kalihim ng Kagawaran ng Pagsasaka, William D. Dar. Dahil sa maraming pakinabang ang bamboo sa ekonomiya katulad ng fuel, furniture, textile, pagkain at iba pa ay marapat lamang na simulan na ang proyektong ito para sa ikauunlad ng mga magsasaka. Dagdag pa ni RED kailangan malinaw ang patutunguhan ng proyektong ito sa pagbibigay proteksyon sa environment at pagtulong sa ating mga magsasaka nang naayon sa road map.



Bamboo ceremonial planting for Germplasm Collection Project ginanap sa Puerto Princesa City

Sinabi naman ni RTD Elmer Ferry, "na patuloy tayong magsama-sama upang maging matagumpay ang proyektong ito upang makamit natin ang mataas na ani at mataas na ki ta".

Bilang pangwakas na pahayag, sinabi ni Vice Mayor, Hon. Maria Nancy M. Socrates na ang Pamahalaang Lungsod ng Puerto Princesa ay lubos na nagpapasalamat sa Kagawaran ng Pagsasaka sa simulaing ito na nagkaroon ng bamboo project sapagkat malaki ang maitutulong nito sa Lungsod ng Puerto Princesa. (DA-RFO IVB/RAFIS)



Nagbigay suporta sa Bamboo Ceremonial Planting si Puerto Princesa City Vice Mayor Nancy Socrates na inihatid ang lubos na pasasalamat sa Kagawaran ng Pagsasaka sa simulaing ito na nagkaroon ng bamboo project sapagkat malaki ang maitutulong nito sa Lungsod ng Puerto Princesa sa kabuhatan at sa kalikasan. (Photo: DA RFO MIMAROPA)



LOOK: Eco-system restoration in Batangas

Published August 2, 2021, 10:00 PM

by [Manila Bulletin](#)

An Eco-System restoration program was launched in Batangas recently.

The program is a joint project of Malampaya Foundation Inc. (MFI) and the Trees for Life Foundation (TLF) that undertakes Mission: BARAKO (Batangas Response Against Klimate Change) tree planting initiative using ecologically-important Philippine indigenous and endemic tree species, some of which are classified as critically-endangered.



The Mission: BARAKO undertaking in Tingga Falls, Batangas City. From left are: German Casulla, coordinator; Nelia Fuentebella and J. Antonio Leviste, Executive Director and President of TLF, respectively; Karen Agabin and Tony Reyes, Executive Director and Coordinator of MFI respectively.



'Plants are our allies': Chef Rodrigo Pacheco on climate-proofing food

By Nadia Leigh-Hewitson, CNN
Updated 0807 GMT (1607 HKT) August 2, 2021



Rodrigo Pacheco at his "creative permaculture" project in Ecuador.

(CNN)From farm to fork and field to plate, Rodrigo Pacheco wants to make food more sustainable.

For nine years, Pacheco has been growing and serving sustainable food at Bocavaldivia, [his restaurant and creative permaculture project](#) in Puerto Cayo, on the coast of Ecuador.

Here, he has been planting native food species amongst the indigenous plants to create what he calls an "edible forest." The result is a lush and biodiverse environment where there was once barren land. He now hopes to cultivate the biggest edible forest on the planet.

For Pacheco, food sustainability means both curtailing damaging agricultural practices and reversing the impact already felt. Over the last year, he has been a UN Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) [Goodwill Ambassador for the International Year of Plant Health](#).

Through [Call to Earth](#), CNN is reporting on the environmental challenges facing our planet, and understanding the solutions. Pacheco will be [guest editor for Call to Earth](#) as the series explores themes around food production and agriculture, lending his expertise and commissioning features on the subject.

CNN spoke to Pacheco about his love of plants, and the strong bonds between the culinary, the cultural and the climate.



'Plants are our allies': Chef Rodrigo Pacheco on climate-proofing food

This interview has been edited for clarity and brevity.



Pacheco says he draws on local and indigenous knowledge to create a means of food production that benefits the planet.

CNN: Your approach to cooking is focused heavily on sustainability. You call it "regenerative gastronomy" -- what does that mean to you?

Rodrigo Pacheco: Regenerative gastronomy is a type of gastronomy that is meant to transform -- to reconnect landscapes and people. It's about getting to know the cycle of life, of the planet, of the plant.

Climate change is here, and this is a way of gastronomy trying to contain climate change. Gastronomy plays a big role in the good health of ecosystems.

CNN: What is an edible forest, and how are they key to your work?

Rodrigo Pacheco: All the elements that work in a normal forest, we try to replicate into an edible forest. They are native species -- we're not creating artificial ecosystems. We're just gathering all the edible species and putting them together in a place.

When we arrived here it was a totally flat and empty ecosystem and ... nine years later it became a forest. We are growing especially origin species from Ecuador, such as purple potato, corn, cacao, papaya, peppers, pineapple, avocado, chillies, pumpkin.

We're here trying to do the best we can with what we have. We're using the land wisely, adapting to what is already there, but making sure that we're leaving the place much better than what we found.

'Plants are our allies': Chef Rodrigo Pacheco on climate-proofing food

CNN: Why is it important to draw on indigenous practices to improve sustainability in food production and what can we learn from ancestral traditions in food?

Rodrigo Pacheco: I learned in the Amazon that they use the papaya straw. The papaya branch is totally empty inside, so they use a huge straw to drink the chicha [a fermented yuca drink].

When I learned that, we transformed the bar of our restaurant with those straws and we have served over 40,000 of those straws since nine years ago, where we totally banned plastic straws -- so a lot of that inspiration comes from them.

Using agriculture to replace plastic elements used in hospitality, I think is amazing. And we're learning this from these ancestral cultures.



Pacheco grows edible plants within the naturally occurring ecosystem.

CNN: What are the critical issues facing agriculture right now?

Rodrigo Pacheco: If we all close our eyes and we make an x-ray of our fridges, no matter where you are in the world, we're going to find the same products. There are 1,000 types of edible plants in the world and we're using 20 of them. So, we need to rethink this model, we need to rethink and change our habits, and try to discover all these beautiful plants that have a lot to say.

[A third of the planet is being affected by desertification](#). We're losing biodiversity, we are focusing on these 20 types of crops -- I want to give my children the opportunity to make a difference on this planet.

My mission as special Goodwill Ambassador for the FAO comes from years of work, of being out here -- of being in contact with nature.



'Plants are our allies': Chef Rodrigo Pacheco on climate-proofing food

I have been following the cycle of life, of plants, of being passionate about doing research, and also about the next step -- the cooking. Cooking is a continuation of agriculture and agriculture is a bridge to connect humans and nature.

CNN: Is it possible to make food production work for the planet rather than against it?

Rodrigo Pacheco: I'm really full of hope because I see how resilient nature can be.

We need to see trees and plants as the highest technology. They are working to for us to create a better environment, a more rich environment for food. So plants are our allies.

The more plants, the more climate proof we are, the more resources we have, the more carbon we sequestrate, the more food we can get. So plants are definitely a solution for humans.

EDITORIAL

Renewable energy creates opportunities for PH, India

August 2, 2021

THE Philippines aims to attract P10-trillion worth of investments in the energy sector as well as wean the country off fossil fuels. India could help make that happen, and it seems keen on building relations with Southeast Asian nations, including the Philippines.

India is a trailblazer in developing renewable energy (RE) sources, Ramon Bagatsing Jr., the Philippine ambassador in New Delhi, said during a business forum organized by The Manila Times recently. He added that while India looks to increase its RE output in gigawatts terms, our goals are more modestly in megawatts.

The ambassador said India hopes to have 400 gigawatts generated by renewables by 2030. The Philippines, meanwhile, plans to increase the share of renewables in its energy mix to 35 percent by 2030 and improve that further to 50 percent by 2040.

The problem is that the RE's share in the energy mix has been declining despite an overall increase in green energy output. Renewables accounted for 33.9 percent of energy output in 2008, and by 2019, it was down to 20.8 percent.



A screengrab of the participants of The Manila Times virtual forum titled 'Shared Prosperity with Renewable Energy: Opportunities for India-Philippines' on July 29, 2021. First Row: The Manila Times Columnist Ben Kritz, The Manila Times President & CEO Dante Francis 'Klink' Ang 2nd, and India Sindicatum Renewable Energy Country Manager Devin Narang. Second Row: Ambassador of India to Philippines H.E. Shambhu S. Kumaran, Ayana Renewable Power Shivanand Nimbargi, WeGen Philippines President Charlie Ayco. Third Row: Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry acting President Edgardo Lacson, Avaada Energy COO Kishor Nair, Ambassador of Philippines to India H.E. Ramon Bagatsing Jr. SCREENGRAB FROM FACEBOOK LIVE



EDITORIAL

Renewable energy creates opportunities for PH, India

The prime reason for that is the cheap cost of fossil fuels, particularly coal. That is why the Department of Energy issued a moratorium on the development of new coal plants. The authorities have also diversified the energy mix and improved offers to foreign investors. For instance, the government now allows 100-percent foreign ownership of geothermal power plants.

And because investments in the local energy sector went primarily to building fossil-fuel plants, the RE technology in the Philippines has aged.

Another forum speaker, Devin Narang of Sindicatum Renewable Energy India Private Ltd. suggested that the Philippines should develop a policy specific to harnessing biomass. During his frequent visits to the Philippines, for instance, he noticed that sugar plantations were still using technology to process bagasse from sugarcanes that India had used 30 years ago.

New Delhi's ambassador in Manila, Shambhu Kumaran, said during the forum that India can share technology with the Philippines as well as collaborate on research and development and business-to-business projects. He added that India and the Philippines have been working on a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to enhance cooperation.

"We need the MoU," Mr. Bagasting said. "We need the terms of reference and not just the holistic macro approach between our two countries but more specifically, to cover B2B. The framework will be made in the MoU, and we hope that can be signed."

We, too, hope that a memorandum can be signed soon.

Trade Secretary Ramon Lopez said in a recorded message that India and the Philippines signed a memorandum of agreement in 2007 to support greater engagement in RE development. That agreement included collaboration in research and development as well as discussions and demonstrations of green energy technologies.

Overshadowed

India is not difficult for Filipinos to overlook given the prominence and proximity of China and our deep connections with traditional partners such as the United States. We forget that India, like China, is a country with a billion-plus population and is a rapidly growing economy. Recently, the International Monetary Fund predicted the Indian economy to grow 9.5 percent this year. And like the Philippines, India's economy would have been more robust if not for Covid-19.

The Philippines too has downgraded its growth targets this year to between 6 percent and 7 percent. But some economists doubt that that can be achieved given new surges of Covid-19 cases that have called for stricter quarantine measures.

Like everyone else, India and the Philippines are looking for opportunities to recover from the crisis. India has been turning more to Southeast Asia for trade and investment opportunities, and the Philippines should take advantage of that.



EDITORIAL

Renewable energy creates opportunities for PH, India

Ambassador Kumaran said people cannot go back to business as usual after the pandemic. He added that in moving forward, the development focus should be on sustainability.

That should resonate in the Philippines, which needs more energy to fuel its development. And because of climate change, Filipinos want more of that energy to be environmentally friendly. Partnering with India may help us make that a reality.



[Increased killings of rhinos in South Africa](#)

AUG 2, 2021, 2:43 PM



Rose De La Cruz
Columnist

At least 249 rhinos were killed the first six months of 2021 in South Africa, the environment minister said Saturday, partly pushed by the easing of lockdown curbs that increased movement of poachers.

At least 249 rhinos were killed the first six months of 2021 in South Africa, the environment minister said Saturday (July 31), partly pushed by the easing of lockdown curbs that increased movement of poachers.

South Africa is home to nearly 80 percent of the world's rhinoceros but their horns are prized in traditional medicine in Asia, and poachers have continued to mount an onslaught on the species, the AFP reported.

The figure represents 83 more rhino killings compared with the same period in 2020.

The bulk of the slaughter happened at the famed Kruger National Park, where 132 rhinos were killed.

"From January to the end of June 2021, 249 rhinos have been poached for their horn in South Africa," said Barbara Creecy, the minister of environment, forestry and fisheries in a statement.



[Increased killings of rhinos in South Africa](#)

Creecy said lifting the stringent lockdown *"appears to have seen an increase in rhino poaching in the first six months of 2021"*, with noticeable increased poacher pressure in the Limpopo, Mpumalanga and the Free State provinces where a large number of private rhino reserves are found.

The ministry said it was monitoring the increased pressure seen on private rhino reserves as they play a significant role in rhino protection.

Rhinos are killed for their horns, highly prized across Asia for traditional and medicinal purposes.

The trade is lucrative and thousands of rhinos have been poached in South Africa over the past decade.

Usually sold in powdered form, rhino horn is composed mainly of keratin, the same substance as in human fingernails and hair.



Overflows possible in Marikina River, other waterways

By Catherine Teves August 2, 2021, 3:15 pm



(PNA file photo)

MANILA – Marikina River and other waterways in Metro Manila can still overflow even if generally fair weather is likely in the area this week.

Rain from expected thunderstorms in Metro Manila may cause the waterways' water to rise, spill over and flood surroundings, noted Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) hydrologist Edgar dela Cruz on Monday.

"Some of those thunderstorms can bring rainfall that'll significantly increase water in waterways -- making overflows there still possible," he said.

He said people must monitor PAGASA's advisories regarding thunderstorms that may affect their areas so they can prepare accordingly.

In its latest outlook for this week, PAGASA forecast generally fair weather in Metro Manila until around Friday (Aug. 6).

PAGASA, however, isn't discounting the possibility that isolated rain showers and thunderstorms may also occur in Metro Manila mostly during afternoons and evenings.

Marikina City local government unit (LGU) said Marikina River overflowed early Monday morning (Aug. 2) with water reaching the jogging lane there.

Downpour the night before significantly raised Marikina River's water level so it eventually overflowed, noted dela Cruz.

"Overflows can happen again there and even in other waterways," he said.

The downpour that affected Marikina River this week was particularly intense in Rizal province's Rodriguez municipality, he noted.



Overflows possible in Marikina River, other waterways

Formerly known as Montalban, Rodriguez lies at the foot of Sierra Madre mountain range and is where Marikina River has its headwaters.

Marikina River is among waterways under government-led rehabilitation to help improve water flow and water-carrying capacity there. (PNA)

03 AUGUST 2021, Tuesday



DENR

NEWS

ALERTS

COVID-19

NEWS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



Philippines tops 1.6 million COVID-19 cases with 8,167 new infections

(Philstar.com)

- August 2, 2021 - 4:01pm



Traffic builds up on Marcos Highway on Monday morning, Aug. 2, 2021 as new police-manned quarantine control points are set up on boundaries around Metro Manila.
The STAR/Walter Bollozos

MANILA, Philippines — The Department of Health on Monday logged 8,167 additional coronavirus cases, pushing the country's total to 1,605,762.

August 2 is the fourth straight day of authorities reporting more than 8,000 new infections. DOH said three laboratories did not turn in screening results.

- Active cases: 62,615 or 3.9% of the total
- Recoveries: 9,095, bringing the number to 1,515,054
- Deaths: 77, or now 28,093 in total

Longer curfew, more hospital admissions

- Metro Manila mayors agreed to a new [curfew](#) between 8 p.m. to 4 p.m. when the capital region shifts to enhanced community quarantine from August 6 to 20.
- The Philippine General Hospital reported a "[consistent](#)" rise in patients admitted to the country's largest COVID-19 referral facility.
- DOH said walk-in COVID-19 vaccinations will not be allowed in areas under ECQ. Community groups pressed government to provide cash and in-kind aid to informal waste workers [affected](#) by the new lockdowns amid the threat of the Delta variant.

Source: <https://www.philstar.com/headlines/2021/08/02/2117068/philippines-tops-16-million-covid-19-cases-8167-new-infections/amp/>



[As Covid-19 surges, Palace urges families to impose 'household lockdowns'](#)

AUG 2, 2021, 4:55 PM



Opinyon News Team
News Reporter

Presidential Spokesperson Harry Roque said family heads should avoid risking their loved ones' lives by letting them leave their homes unnecessarily.

As cases of Covid-19 surge once again in the Philippines, Malacañang on Monday urged families to impose "household lockdowns" or "family lockdowns" to prevent their loved ones from contracting the highly infectious Delta Covid-19 variant.

Citing Cebu City Acting Mayor Michael Rama, Presidential Spokesperson Harry Roque said heads of families should have their own lockdowns instead of relying on quarantine classifications imposed by the government.

"May magandang nasabi sa'kin si Acting Mayor Rama ng Cebu City. The best way po to implement what we want to achieve is for the head of the family to declare family lockdown," he said in a Palace press briefing Monday.

Roque said family members should only be allowed to go outside when buying food and medicines.



[As Covid-19 surges, Palace urges families to impose 'household lockdowns'](#)

"Kada pamilya na po hindi kinakailangan lumabas yung pinuno ng pamilya, tatay, nanay, lolo, lola at tiyo, mag-order, 'Walang lalabas unless bibili ng pagkain o gamot. Kung hindi kinakailangan, lahat manatili sa tahanan,'" he added.

He said family heads should avoid risking their loved ones' lives by letting them leave their homes unnecessarily.

"Nananawagan po ako sa lahat ng hepe ng pamilya.. Family heads, mag-declare na po kayo ng household lockdown. Huwag niyo nang palabsain ang inyong mga mahal sa buhay dahil baka mamatay pa 'yan sa Delta variant," he said.

Metro Manila, which is currently under a week-long general community quarantine (GCQ) with heightened and additional restrictions until Aug. 5, is scheduled to shift to the strictest enhanced community quarantine (ECQ) from Aug. 6 to 20 to prevent the spread of the Delta Covid-19 variant.

To date, there are a total of 216 cases of the Delta Covid-19 variant in the country.

The Delta Variant, which was found to be 50 to 60 percent more transmissible compared to the original variant of Covid-19, brought about the sudden surge in cases in India.

(ONT/With report from PNA)



62,615 active cases sa PH matapos madagdag ang 8,167 – DOH

By [Bombo NewsCenter](#)

-August 2, 2021 | 9:03 PM

Nasa ikaapat na araw ngayon na magkasunod na mahigit sa 8,000 ang mga bagong kaso ng COVID-19 ang naidadagdag sa Pilipinas.

Ayon sa Department of Health (DOH) nakapagtala sila ng panibagong 8,167 na karagdagang kaso ng COVID-19.

Ito ang unang pagkakataon sa pagtatala ng DOH na nangyari ang ganitong karaming kaso sa loob ng tatlong buwan.

Huling naganap ito ay noon pang buwan ng Abril hanggang Mayo ng taong kasalukuyan.

Dahil dito ang kabuuang COVID cases sa Pilipinas mula noong nakalipas na taon ay lumagpas na sa 1.6 million (1,605,762).

Ang mga aktibong kaso ngayon o nagpapagaling na mga pasyente ay mataas pa rin na nasa 62,615.

Nasa 93.9% sa mga aktibong kaso ay dumaranas naman ng mild cases.

Samantala marami naman ang mga bagong gumaling na umaabot sa 9,095.

Sa kabuuan ang mga nakarekober na sa bansa ay umaabot na sa 1,515,054 o katumbas yan ng 94.4%.

Sa kabila nito meron namang mga bagong namatay na nasa 77.

Ang mga pumanaw sa buong bansa dahil sa deadly virus ay kabuuang 28,093 na.

Meron namang tatlong mga laboratoryo ang bigong makapagsumite ng kanilang datos sa COVID-19 Document Repository System (CDRS).

“Sa kabuuang bilang ng mga naitalang kaso sa bansa, 3.9% (62,615) ang aktibong kaso, 94.4% (1,515,054) na ang gumaling, at 1.75% (28,093) ang namatay,” ayon sa statement ng DOH. “Ayon sa pinakahuling ulat, 1 laboratoryo ang hindi operational noong July 31, 2021 habang mayroong 3 laboratoryo na hindi nakapagsumite ng datos sa COVID-19 Document Repository System (CDRS). Base sa datos sa nakaraang 14 na araw, ang kontribusyon ng 4 labs na ito ay humigit kumulang 1.5% sa lahat ng samples na naitest at 1.0% sa lahat ng positibong mga indibidwal.”



NCR to impose strict border control, curfew hours during ECQ

By Raymond Carl Dela Cruz August 2, 2021, 6:04 pm



Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) Chair Benjamin "Benhur" Abalos Jr. (PNA file photo)

MANILA – There will be longer curfew hours and stricter border control across the National Capital Region (NCR) for the duration of the two-week enhanced community quarantine (ECQ) beginning Aug. 6, Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) Chair Benjamin "Benhur" Abalos Jr. said on Monday.

During the virtual Palace presser, Abalos said Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) Secretary Eduardo Año has already set up checkpoints outside NCR, with plans to activate checkpoints within the region during the ECQ period from Aug. 6 to 20.

"He's now imposing certain controls outside of Metro. *Pero pagdating po ng ika-sais ng ECQ, ito pong border controls natin ay within NCR na po* (But on the sixth of August, our border controls will be within NCR)," Abalos said.

He said the Metro Manila Council (MMC) -- composed of the 17 mayors in NCR -- have unanimously agreed to extend curfew hours in the region during ECQ period the present 10 p.m. to 4 a.m. to 8 p.m. to 4 a.m.

Abalos said while the curfew hours will be uniform across the region, each local government unit (LGU) will decide whether to ban liquor within their jurisdiction.

"*May mga LGUs na nagsasabi na wala silang liquor ban kamukha ng Makati, Taguig, Pasig, at Las Piñas. At sa nakikita namin, ang Valenzuela, Mandaluyong, Parañaque, Pasay, Navotas, Pateros, Quezon City at San Juan may mga liquor ban* (There are LGUs that decided against a liquor ban like Makati, Taguig, Pasig, and Las Piñas. And so far, Valenzuela, Mandaluyong, Parañaque, Pasay, Navotas, Pateros, Quezon City, and San Juan have banned alcoholic drinks)," Abalos said.



NCR to impose strict border control, curfew hours during ECQ

Quarantine pass

To ensure the public's access to essential goods and continued service of health workers and other essential personnel, he said quarantine passes will again be issued to eligible persons by their respective LGUs.

"Yun pong quarantine pass, kung ano ang practice nung araw ng LGUs, yun na rin po muna ang gagawin namin ngayon, Kasi mabilisan po ito eh (For the quarantine pass, whatever was the practice in past by LGUs, that's what we're going to do now. Because we are going to move fast), we're just talking of about five more days from now," Abalos said.

He noted that for the coming two weeks, the LGUs will be issuing quarantine passes, giving out assistance from the social amelioration program, and accelerate the government's vaccination program against Covid-19.

"Ang ginagawa namin ngayon nag-uusap kami about procedures, what we have implemented before during the last ECQ, try to refine it, i-improve namin po ito (What we're doing now is we're discussing procedures, what we have implemented during the last ECQ we'll refine it, we will improve it)," Abalos said.

Depending on how many Covid-19 vaccine doses the national government will provide, he said LGUs are preparing to vaccinate as many as 250,000 individuals per day compared to the 110,000-daily average about two weeks ago.

Last week, Malacañang announced the imposition of the strictest ECQ classification over NCR from Aug. 6 to 20 based on the recommendation of the MMC and health experts. (PNA)



[Community transmission of Delta variant already happening?](#)

AUG 2, 2021, 12:51 PM



Opinyon News Team
News Reporter

OCTA Research Fellow Dr. Guido David said the numbers indicate that there may already be a lot of individuals who have contracted the delta variant through local transmission.

The sudden surge in Covid-19 cases in the Philippines in the past few days means that the highly-transmissible Delta variant may have already spread in the country, according to OCTA Research.

This, as the Philippines recorded a new spike in Covid-19 cases, prompting government officials to impose a two-week enhanced community quarantine (ECQ) in various areas in the country.

In a media interview Sunday (August 1), OCTA Research Fellow Dr. Guido David said the numbers indicate that there may already be a lot of individuals who have contracted the delta variant through local transmission.

"Hindi naman dadami ng ganyan na lahat 'yan galing sa ibang bansa. Ibig sabihin, talagang...meron na at marami na," he noted.

Last Sunday, the Philippines reported 8,735 additional Covid-19 cases, the third consecutive day that health officials have tallied more than 8,000 new cases.



[Community transmission of Delta variant already happening?](#)

Moreover, there are now 63,646 active Covid-19 cases.

1,700 of these new cases were reported in Metro Manila, the highest since May 10 when the National Capital Region was placed under the enhanced community quarantine.

"May nakausap kaming mga local government, may isang household, clustering. 18 na tao sa isang household, nahawaan lahat. 'Yung mga ganyan kabilis, malamang, baka Delta variant 'yan," said David.

OCTA Research has classified 13 areas as high-risk: Caloocan, Las Piñas, Makati, Malabon, Marikina, Muntinlupa, Navotas, Parañaque, Pasig, Pateros, Quezon City, San Juan, and Valenzuela.

The group warned that the occupancy rate of intensive care units could rise to as much as 70 percent in the next three weeks if there are no changes in the quarantine restrictions.

The reproduction number has also risen to 1.52, versus 1.29 earlier in July.

"Kailangan talaga nating gumawa na ng hakbang kasi ang hirap talaga kapag napasukan tayo ng delta variant. Hindi natin ma-control ang transmission dahil manghahawa talaga kaagad 'yan," Health Undersecretary Leopoldo Vega said in the same report.

Metro Manila has been placed under enhanced community quarantine (ECQ) from August 5 to 20, while the provinces of Apayao, Laguna and Aklan were placed under modified ECQ from August 1 to 15.



[Bringing the vaccine to the people](#)

AUG 2, 2021, 9:07 AM



OpinYon Editorial
Writer

PRESIDENT Rodrigo Duterte, in his final State of the Nation Address (SONA) last July 26, has given a tall order to all local government units "speed up the distribution of Covid-19 vaccines".

Time is of the essence now, especially due to concerns that the more transmissible Delta variant threatens to upset not only our healthcare system but also the country's economic recovery.

The question is, how will we speed up the vaccination campaign?

It's becoming clear that simply adding more vaccination sites is not enough.

For one, some residents cannot afford to travel to these sites, either due to financial constraints or comorbidities.

Two, there's a clear danger of these sites unwittingly becoming "superspreader" venues that, instead of protecting our people from the virus, can infect them – especially if health protocols were breached.

It's truly commendable, therefore, what the local government of Binan City, Laguna did when it brought the vaccine to the people.

Last week, the Biñan City LGU launched a "vaccine on wheels" program, which intends to bring the city's Covid-19 vaccination program to the barangays farthest to the vaccination sites.



[Bringing the vaccine to the people](#)

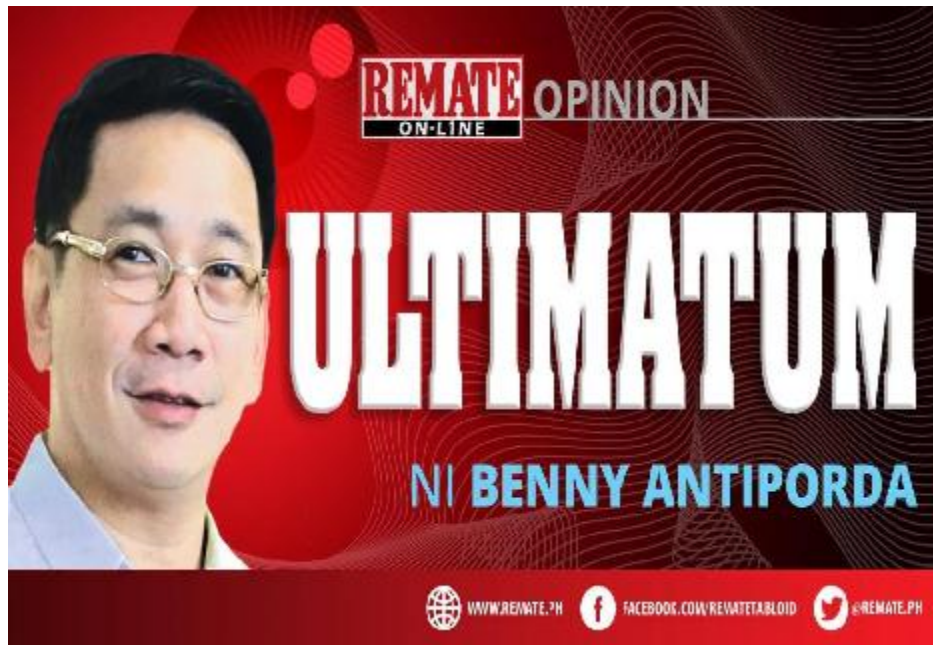
Residents – especially senior citizens – no longer have to endure long commutes or long lines just to get themselves protected against this virus.

This program, already being implemented by some LGUs in Metro Manila – is an innovative way of ensuring that our targets of “herd immunity” will be realized by the end of the year.

This is a project that is worth emulating – and imitating, especially now that we are in a race against a variant that is more transmissible and, according to health experts, poses a more serious health hazard.



BAKUNADO SUPERSREADER NA NG COVID-19



August 2, 2021 @ 10:01 AM 19 hours ago

PINANINIWALAANG magiging superspreader na ng coronavirus disease-19 o COVID-19 ang mga may kumpletong bakuna laban sa nasabing sakit.

Nag-ugat ito sa pag-aaral ng United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention na magkasindami ng dalang COVID virus ang mga bakunado at hindi bakunado.

Kaya naman kung nahawa ang may kompletong bakuna at malayang-malaya na pumunta kahit saan at makihalubilo sa iba, magkakalat siya ng lagim na katulad ng hindi bakunado.

Sa ganyang sitwasyon, hindi ba magiging superspreader ang bakunado?

Ginawa ang pag-aaral sa mga daan-daang nagkasakit sa isang tourist spot sa Provincetown, Massachusetts makaraang maghapon at magdamag silang mag-party noong Independence Day ng US nitong Hulyo 4, 2021.

Sa pagselebra nila, kinalimutan ng mga Amerikano ang social distancing at pagsusuot ng face mask.

Makaraan ang ilang araw at linggo, daan-daan na sa mga nag-party ang nagkasakit ng COVID-19.

900 TAO TINAMAAN

Nasa 900 tao ang tinamaan ng COVID-19 sa selebration na selebrasyon din sa kalayaan ng Amerika mula sa pandemya.

Ipinangako kasi noon ni Pangulong Joe Biden na sa Hulyo 4, 2021 pwede na siyang makakasama, maging ng mga matatanda, na mamapak ng barbecue nang walang sagabal gaya ng pagsusuot ng face mask at social distancing.



BAKUNADO SUPERSPREADER NA NG COVID-19

Batay ito sa milyon-milyon kada araw na nababakunahan upang makamit nila ang herd immunity pagdating ng Hulyo 4.

Subalit iba ang nagaganap ngayong lumalaganap na ang Delta variant dahil parehong tinatamaan ang mga bakunado at hindi bakunado.

Hayun na nga, mga Bro, sa 900 na tinamaan sa tourist spot lang na iyon, nasa 80 porsyento umano sa mga kumpletong bakunado ang nayari.

Dahil dito, may kampanya na ang CDC na lahat dapat magbalik-face mask, bakunado man o hindi upang hindi mahawa at makahawa.

Mismong si Biden ay nagsabi nang lahat ng nasa 4 milyong empleyado ng gobyerno niya ay magpakita ng pruwera na bakunado na sila at kung hindi, dapat silang magpa-COVID-test kada linggo.

Inatasan din nito lahat ang mga kompanyang may kontrata sa kanyang gobyerno na tiyaking bakunado na ang mga obrero ng mga ito.

ANTI-FACE MASK SIRAULO

Dahil sa pananalasa sa US ng Delta variant na bumubuo na ng 83 posyento ng may COVID-19, lumalala rin ang away ng mga politiko.

Ang Republican kongresman na si Kevin McCarthy na bata ni ex-Pang. Donald Trump ay nagsasabing wapek ang pagsusuot ng face mask sa COVID-19 at patunay rito ang paglaganap muli ng pandemya.

Tinawag naman siyang moron o siraulo ni Nancy Pelosi na kapartido ni Pang. Biden.

Nag-away ang dalawa nang iutos ng doktor ng Kamara nila na lahat ng mga nasa Kamara at maging sa mga miting ng mga komite ay magsuot ng face mask na medical grade.

Bunsod ito ng kampanya ng USCDC na magsuot muli ang mga Amerikano ng face mask dahil sa Delta variant.

SA PINAS KAYA?

Minsan nang may hindi pagkakaintindihan sa health protocol ngunit hindi sa face mask kundi sa face shield.

Sabi ng isang lokal na opisyal at ilang senador na wala umanong siyentipikong batayan ang pagusuot ng face shield makaraang iutos mismo ni Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte na mag-face mask na, mag-face shield pa tayo paglabas ng bahay, lalo na kung bumiyahe o pupunta tayo sa mga establisimyento o pampublikong lugar.

Pero lumamig din ang isyu at pinalitan ito ng ibang problema gaya ng sa ayuda kung mag-enhanced community quarantine.



BAKUNADO SUPERSPREADER NA NG COVID-19

May utos kasi ang Pangulo sa Inter-Agency Task Force na hindi ito magdedekla ng ECQ nang walang maibibigay na ayuda sa pinakamahihirap na sakop ng pinakaistriktong community quarantine.

PATAAS NANG PATAAS

Medyo pataas nang pataas ngayon ang bilang ng mga nagkaka-COVID sa mahal kong Pinas at baka abutin pa raw ng 30,000 araw-araw sa darating na Setyembre mula sa 6,000-8,000 ngayon at mahigit 100 patay rin.

Ang mga bansang Thailand at Malaysia ay doble ang mga biktima kumpara sa atin sa mga araw na ito habang grabe ang Indonesia na umaabot sa 50,000-60,000 ang biktima araw-araw at may umabot pa ng mahigit 2,000 patay nitong Hulyo 27.

Hiling lang natin ngayon na huwag mag-away-away ang mga lider ng bansa kundi magtulungan sa halip habang magpabakuna tayo lahat kung may suplay at sumunod sa mga health protocol at pinaiiral na community quarantine.

Sa bakuna, alalahanin nating mahirap ang suplay dahil matindi na ang agawan ng mga bansa sa bakuna dulot ng Delta variant.

Alalahanin nating ipinagbawal ng US, India at Europe ang pagpapalabas sa mga teritoryo nila ang mga gawa nilang bakuna sa kasagsagan ng COVID-19 ilang buwan na ang nakalilipas.



Active COVID-19 cases in NCR could reach about 500K by end-September without ECQ — DOH

By: [Cathrine Gonzales](#) - Reporter / [@cgonzalesINO](#)
[INQUIRER.net](#) / 10:55 AM August 02, 2021



FILE PHOTO: Filipinos use their smartphones while queuing for free vaccination against the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) at San Andres Sports Complex in Manila, Philippines, July 21, 2021. REUTERS/Eloisa Lopez

MANILA, Philippines — Active COVID-19 cases in Metro Manila could balloon to almost 500,000 by the end of September if an enhanced community quarantine (ECQ) will not be imposed, the Department of Health (DOH) said Monday.

“Based on the projections that were done by our experts, if we did not go into ECQ and we will just have four weeks of GCQ with heightened restrictions, by the end of September 30, we will have almost 500,000 active cases,” Health Undersecretary Maria Rosario Vergeire told ABS-CBN News Channel.

“With four weeks of ECQ, the active cases by the end of September will just reach about 19,000. And with our current state that we are having right now with one-week GCQ with heightened [restrictions] and another two weeks or three weeks [of ECQ] after that, we will have active cases by the [end of September at around 30,000](#),” she added.

Vergeire told INQUIRER.net in a text message that the “initial estimates” only cover Metro Manila.

Metro Manila will be placed under ECQ, the most restrictive quarantine classification, from August 6 to 20 following the proposal of the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases and mayors of the capital region to [arrest a full-blown surge of coronavirus cases](#) due to the Delta variant.



Active COVID-19 cases in NCR could reach about 500K by end-September without ECQ — DOH

Metro Manila will stay under [general community quarantine with heightened and additional restrictions](#) until August 5 where indoor and al fresco dining are prohibited.

Australia's east coast battles rising COVID-19 cases

Vergeire said the government will closely monitor the trend of [COVID-19 cases in the NCR](#) and will assess if the ECQ should be extended or downgraded to a lower quarantine status.

Metro Manila has 13,335 active cases of COVID-19 as of Sunday, based on the COVID-19 tracker of the DOH. Nationwide, the number of active cases is already at 63,646.

Read more: <https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/1467610/active-covid-19-cases-in-ncr-could-reach-about-500k-by-end-september-without-ecq-doh#ixzz72QWdG6QM>

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PTV

Philippines state-controlled media · August 1 at 4:06 PM · 🌐

TINGNAN:

Ang listahan ng mga indibidwal na pinapayagang lumabas ng bahay simula Agosto 1, bilang paghahanda sa mahigpit na pagpapatupad ng enhanced community quarantine (ECQ) sa National Capital Region (NCR).

Authorized Person Outside of Residence (APOR) under the Omnibus Guidelines:

- 1. Health and emergency frontline services and uniformed personnel;**
- 2. Government officials and employees on official travel;**
- 3. Duly-authorized relief and humanitarian assistance actors;**
- 4. Persons travelling for medical or humanitarian reasons;**
- 5. Persons going to and from the airport;**
- 6. Anyone crossing zones for work in permitted industries;**
- 7. Public utility vehicle operators.**

Only APOR shall be allowed to enter and leave the NCR Plus area starting today, August 1, 2021

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Department of Health (Philippines) ✓

17h · 🌐

...

[VACCINE ROLLOUT UPDATE: 02 August 2021]

As of 01 August 2021, 6PM, a total of 20,863,544 doses have already been administered. 11,747,581 have received their first doses while 9,115,963 have already gotten the complete protection of the COVID-19 vaccines.

The total doses administered in the 22nd week of our national vaccination reached 3,661,123 doses with an average of 523,018 daily administered doses.

Our defense against COVID-19 and its variants is by following the minimum public health standards and getting vaccinated. Let's remember to properly wear our masks and face shields, observe physical distancing, wash our hands, and ensure there is ventilation when we are indoors.

Also, let's get vaccinated when it's our turn and get the second dose as scheduled. Together, we can beat COVID-19!



VACCINE STATISTICS

As of August 01, 2021

Coverage: March 1, 2021 - August 1, 2021 [Issue #29]

TOTAL DOSES ADMINISTERED

20,863,544

1ST DOSE

11,747,581

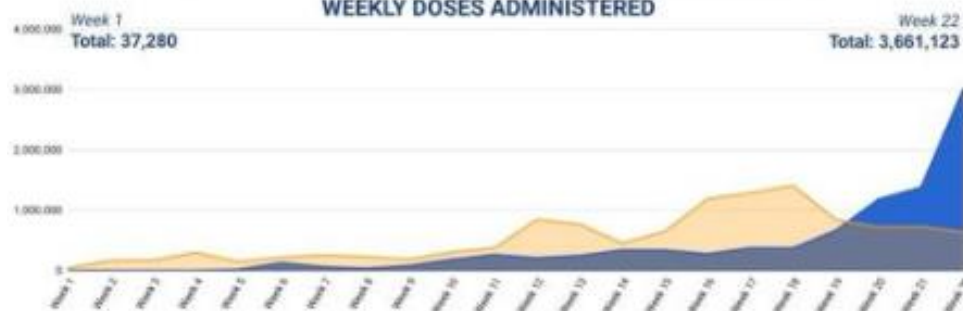
FULLY VACCINATED

9,115,963

AVERAGE DAILY ADMINISTERED DOSES IN THE LAST 7 DAYS: 523,018

AVERAGE NUMBER OF ACTIVE REPORTING VACCINATION SITES IN THE LAST 7 DAYS: 1,465

WEEKLY DOSES ADMINISTERED



PRIORITY POPULATION	A1 Frontline Healthcare Workers	A2 Senior Citizens	A3 Persons with Comorbidities	A4 Frontliners in Essential Sectors	A5 Indigent population
1ST DOSE	1,995,926	2,884,325	3,770,784	2,623,263	473,283
FULLY VACCINATED	1,571,843	2,616,273	3,327,621	1,295,610	304,616



Halina't mag-pabakuna, at sama-sama tayong sa **BIDA BAKUNATION!**



OfficialDOHgov @DOHgovph doh.gov.ph (02) 894-COVID / 1555



EJ Munsayac and 57K others

4.7K Comments 4K Shares



Global COVID-19 death toll now more than 4.2M

Published August 2, 2021 10:23pm



Based on latest reports, the countries with the most new deaths were Indonesia with 1,568, followed by Russia with 785 and Brazil with 464. The United States is the worst-affected country with 613,228 deaths from 35,003,546 cases.

PARIS, France - The novel coronavirus has killed at least 4,227,765 people since the outbreak emerged in China in December 2019, according to a tally from official sources compiled by AFP on Monday.

At least 198,247,050 cases of coronavirus have been registered.

The vast majority have recovered, though some have continued to experience symptoms weeks or even months later.

The figures are based on daily reports provided by health authorities in each country. They exclude revisions made by other statistical organisations, which show that the number of deaths is much higher.

The World Health Organization estimates that the pandemic's overall toll could be two to three times higher than official records, due to the excess mortality that is directly and indirectly linked to COVID-19.

A large number of the less severe or asymptomatic cases also remain undetected, despite intensified testing in many countries.

On Sunday, 7,236 new deaths and 455,312 new cases were recorded worldwide.

Based on latest reports, the countries with the most new deaths were Indonesia with 1,568, followed by Russia with 785 and Brazil with 464. The United States is the worst-affected country with 613,228 deaths from 35,003,546 cases.



Global COVID-19 death toll now more than 4.2M

After the US, the hardest-hit countries are Brazil with 556,834 deaths from 19,938,358 cases, India with 424,773 deaths from 31,695,958 cases, Mexico with 241,034 deaths from 2,854,992 cases and Peru with 196,438 deaths from 2,113,201 cases.

The country with the highest number of deaths compared to its population is Peru with 596 fatalities per 100,000 inhabitants, followed by Hungary with 311, Bosnia-Herzegovina with 295, the Czech Republic with 284, and North Macedonia with 264.

Latin America and the Caribbean overall has 1,375,285 deaths from 40,901,761 cases, Europe 1,203,546 deaths from 58,536,165 infections, and Asia 675,820 deaths from 44,999,056 cases.

The United States and Canada has reported 639,828 deaths from 36,434,778 cases, Africa 170,998 deaths from 6,746,432 cases, the Middle East 160,907 deaths from 10,543,800 cases, and Oceania 1,381 deaths from 85,064 cases.

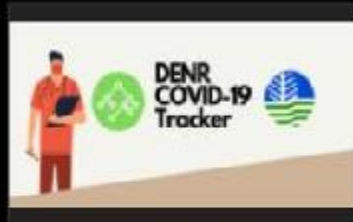
As a result of corrections by national authorities or late publication of data, the figures updated over the past 24 hours may not correspond exactly to the previous day's tallies. -- Agence France-Presse



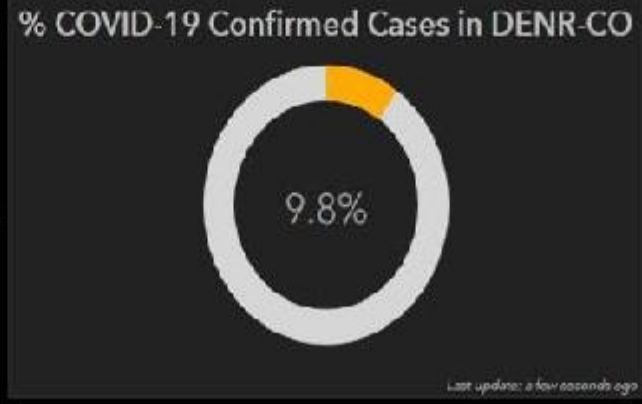
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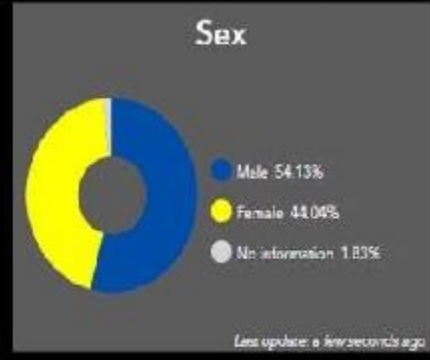
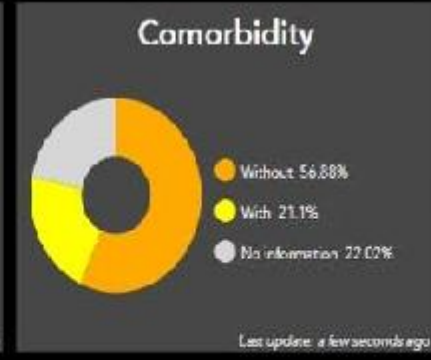
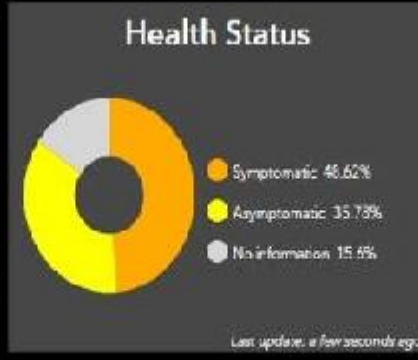
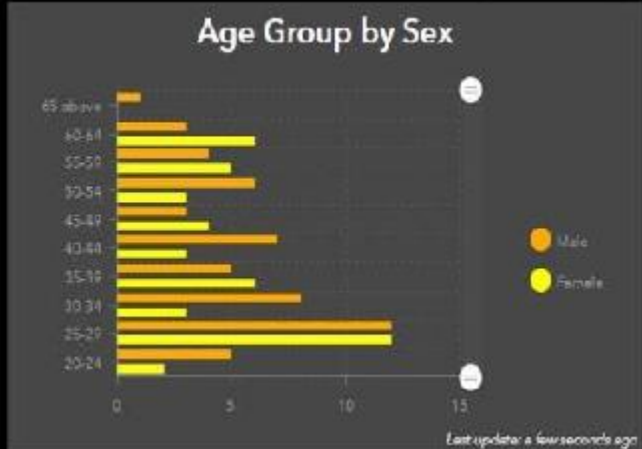
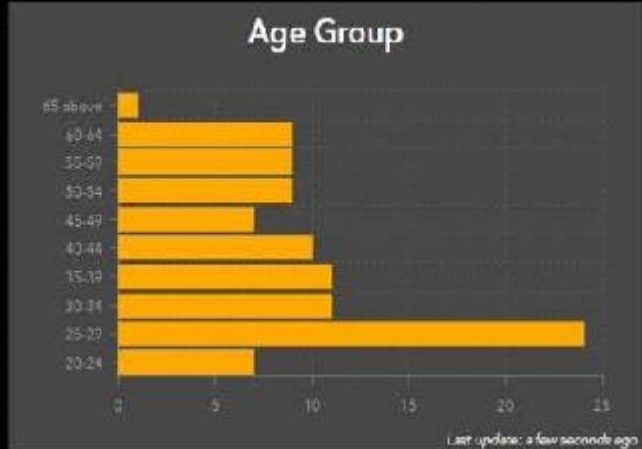
Data on COVID-19 include reported cases of DENR employees (Permanent, Contract of Service/Job Order, Support Staff (Triumph/Security)) as collected by the Contact Tracing Team of DENR Central Office.



Residence of affected personnel



Please note that representative data were randomly assigned within the berengery residence of the affected personnel and do not necessarily provide exact location/ addresses of the cases.



03 AUGUST 2021, Tuesday

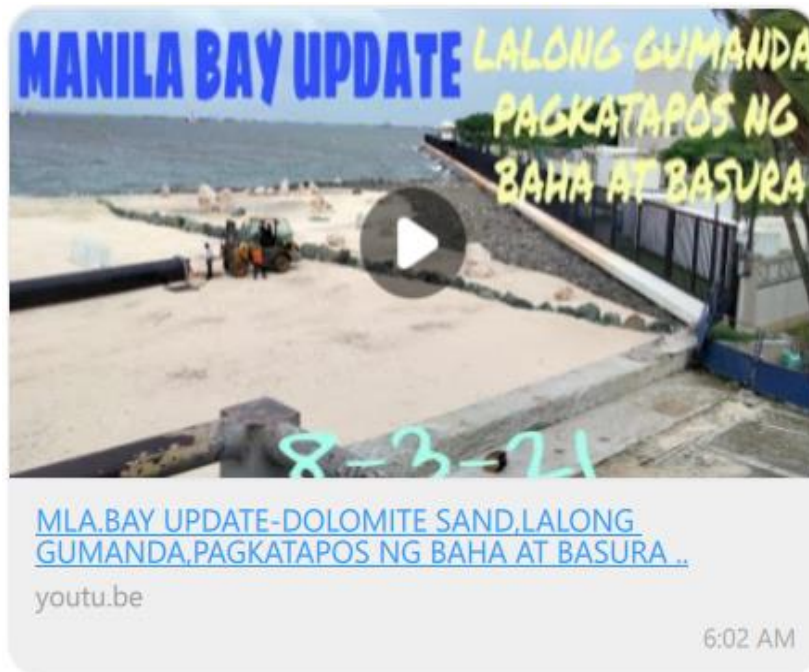


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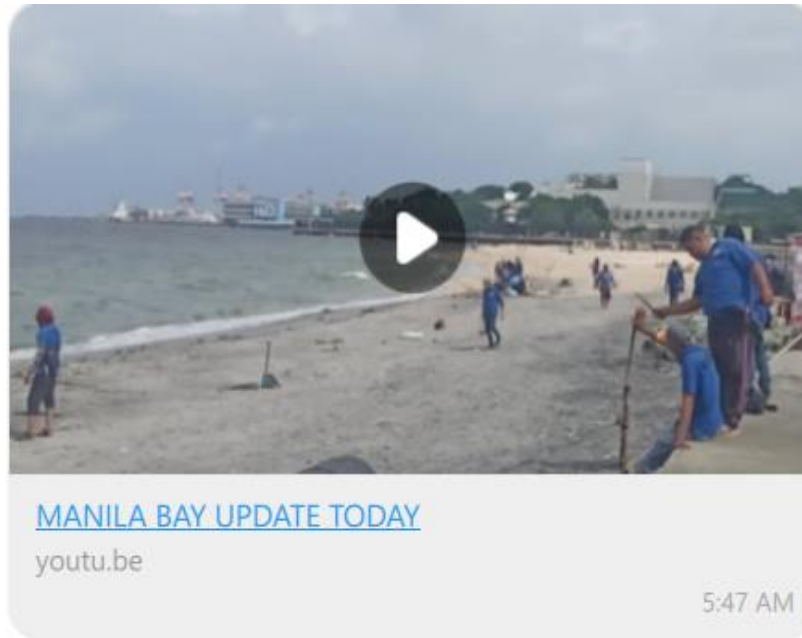
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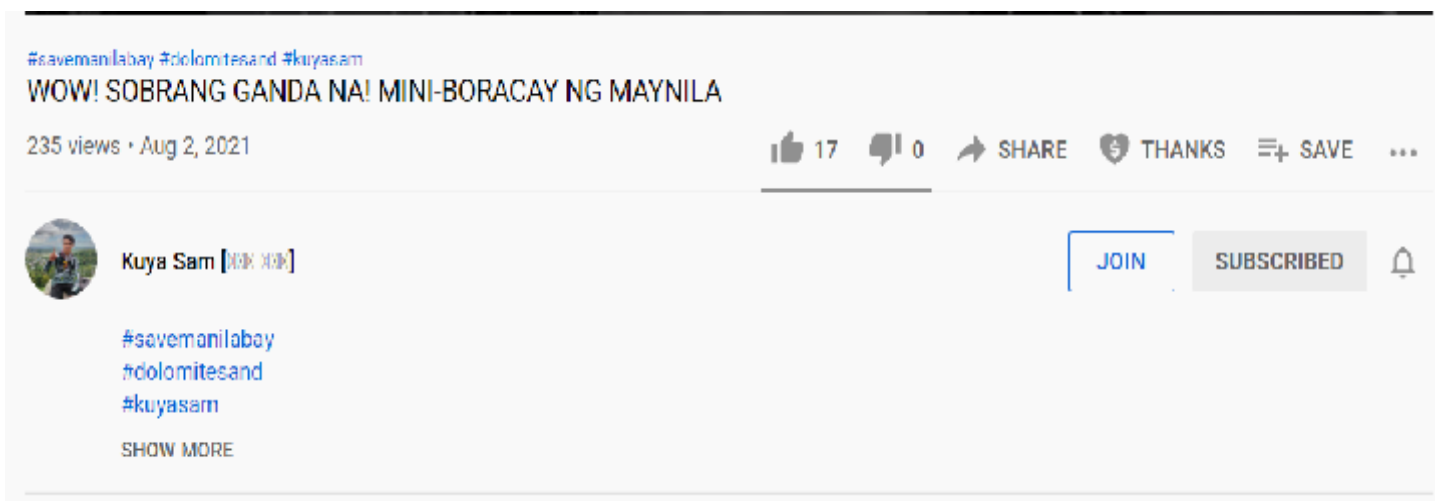
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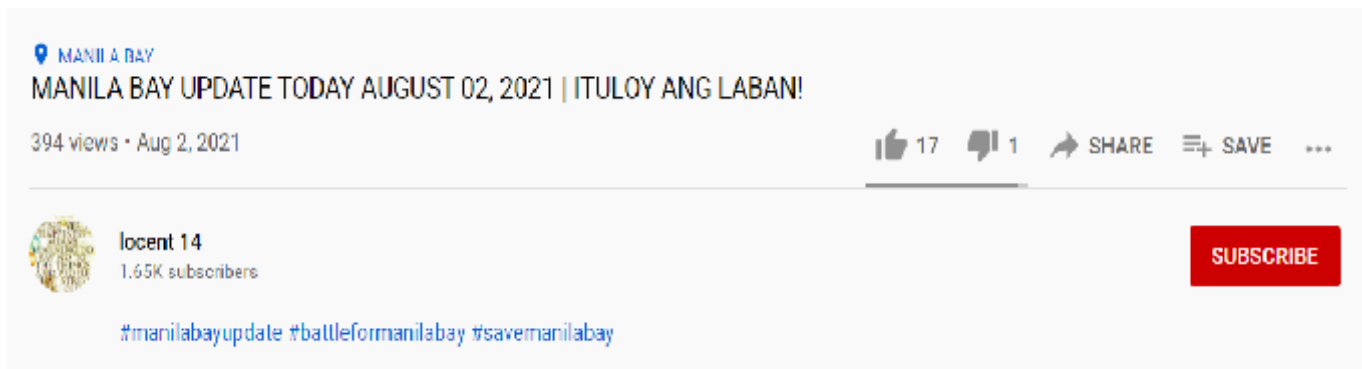
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