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DENR

NEWS ALERTS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



DENR: Manila Bay's water quality better

BY JONATHAN L. MAYUGA JANUARY 4, 2022



Three men tinker with their mobile devices along Manila Bay at dawn

THE Manila Bay Coordinating Office (MBCO) has revealed a marked improvement in water quality in Manila Bay, particularly the Baywalk area, which is a priority in the government's rehabilitation effort.

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) attributed this to the various interventions of concerned government agencies under the Manila Bay Task Force.

The geo-engineering interventions conducted by the Department of Public Works and Highways and the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority in the Baywalk area, such as the installation of HDPE (high-density polyethylene) pipes for the Padre Faura, Remedios, and Abad Outfalls, and desilting, among others, are nearing completion.

In one of the three sampling stations of Dolomite Beach, the coliform level has significantly gone down to 1,700 mpn/100 mL as of December 22, 2021, from a geomean of 1.6 million last September 2020. Other stations also recorded notable decreases in coliform levels.

According to the MBCO, there was a notable decrease in coliform levels in all its nine key stations being monitored in the area. It recorded an average of 21,100 most probable number per 100 milliliters (mpn/100mL) as of the third quarter of 2021 from 5.75 million mpn/100 mL in 2019.

On the other hand, four key stations in the Baseco beach area registered a decrease in coliform level from an overall geomean of 145,000 mpn/100 mL in 2020 to 21,500 mpn/100 mL in September 2021.

The MBCO reported that in September 2021, the Baywalk Sewage Treatment Plant (STP), which treats wastewater from the Padre Faura, Remedios, and Estero de San Antonio de Abad outfalls, was receiving an influent of 8.8 million mpn/100mL and releasing an effluent of 9.4 mpn/100ml, passing the fecal coliform standard of 100 mpn/100mL for Class SB waters.

In the same month, the fecal coliform level in Obando, Talisay, and Pampanga rivers in Region 3—which are aiming for Class C water standard of 200 mpn/100 mL—only ranged in thousands. The Cañas River in Region 4A recorded 106,000 mpn/200 mL from 9.6 million mpn/200 mL last January 2021.

Meanwhile, the coliform level of nine bathing beach areas, which aim to achieve a Class SB level across the NCR, Region 3, and Region 4A, has decreased in thousands as of MBCO's latest data.



Meanwhile, the Environmental Management Bureau in NCR, Regions 3 and 4A, and the Laguna Lake Development Authority issued Notices of Violation to 685 establishments, Cease and Desist Orders to five establishments, and Ex-Parte Orders to five establishments out of the 4,576 establishments inspected from January to September 2021 for violation of Republic Act 9275 or the Philippine Clean Water Act of 2004.

In terms of solid waste management, a total 50,618.94 cubic meters of garbage from shorelines, waterways, rivers, and beaches were collected and disposed from 19,088 cleanup activities including collection from trash traps and trash boats and declogging conducted from January to September 2021 by the DENR, involving 82,151 volunteers and Estero Rangers.

On the other hand, the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) has also collected and disposed of 17,946.1 cubic meters of solid waste.

The Task Force Water Hyacinth created in 2021 led the collection of a total of 76,224 sacks of water hyacinth in Manila Bay.

DENR Secretary Roy A. Cimatu vowed to carry on rehabilitation efforts this year in compliance with the continuing mandamus of the Supreme Court.

To recall, the DENR led the launching of the Battle for Manila Bay on January 27, 2019, two months before Covid-19 became widespread and compelled the Duterte administration to declare a national public health emergency.

“Amid the persistent Covid-19 pandemic, the DENR along with the Manila Bay Interagency Task Force persevered this year in its task to rehabilitate Manila Bay. We have accomplished so much and we vow to sustain our gains for a cleaner Manila Bay in 2022,” Cimatu said in a statement.

“As the rehabilitation continues, I call on fellow Filipinos to be part of this huge and vital task to restore Manila Bay to its pristine condition through behavioral change. It’s high time that we totally alter our habits on waste disposal as well as our attitude on taking responsibility for one’s actions. Our cleanup efforts will be in vain if these will not be sustained by the public, and especially by the new administration this 2022,” said Cimatu.



Water quality ng Manila Bay bumuti noong 2021- DENR



January 4, 2022 @ 5:50 PM 13 hours ago

MANILA, Philippines- Dahil sa matagumpay na rehabilitasyon na isinagawa ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), iniulat nito ang makabuluhang pagbuti ng water quality sa Manila Bay noong 2021 kasabay ng pangako na ipagpapatuloy ito ngayong taon bilang pagsunod sa continuing mandamus ng Supreme Court.

Sa press release ayon kay DENR Secretary Roy A. Cimatu, marami ang nagawa sa pagpapatuloy ng rehabilitasyon dahil na rin sa solid waste management strategies, geo-engineering interventions, at compliance monitoring ng mga establisyamento at iba pa, sa paligid ng Manila Bay area sa National Capital Region (NCR), Region 3 at Region 4A.

“Amid the persistent COVID-19 pandemic, the DENR along with the Manila Bay Interagency Task Force persevered this year in its task to rehabilitate Manila Bay. We have accomplished so much and we vow to sustain our gains for a cleaner Manila Bay in 2022,” ani Cimatu.

Ayon sa DENR lumalabas sa talaan ng Manila Bay Coordinating Office (MBCO) na ang Baywalk area na siyang prayoridad ng rehabilitasyon ay nakapagtala ng malaking pagbaba sa coliform level sa lahat ng siyam na key stations. Noong third quarter ng 2021, ito ay nakapagtala ng verage na 21,100 most probable number per 100 milliliters (mpn/100mL) mula sa 5.75 million mpn/100 mL noong 2019.

Sa kabilang dako, ang apat na key stations sa Baseco beach ay nakapagtala ng pagbaba ng coliform level mula sa kabuuang geomean na 145,000 mpn/100mL noong 2020 ay bumaba ito sa 21,500 mpn/100 mL noong Setyembre 2021.

Samantala iniulat din ng MBCO na noong Setyembre 2021, ang Baywalk Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) na sumasala sa wastewater mula sa Padre Faura, Remedios at Estero de San Antonio de Abad outfalls ay tumatanggap ng 8.8 million mpn/100 mL at nakapaglalabas ng 9.4 mpn/100 mL na pasado sa fecal coliform standard na 100 mpn/100 mL para sa Class SB waters.

Sa parehas na buwan, ang fecal coliform level sa mga ilog ng Obando, Talisay, at Pampanga sa Region 3 na puntirya ang Class C water standard na 200 mpn/100 mL ay naglalaro na lamang sa libo. Ang Cañas River sa Region 4A ay nakapagtala ng 106,000 mpn/200 mL mula sa 9.6 million mpn/200 mL noong Enero 2021.

Samantala, base naman sa pinakahuling data ng MBCO, ang coliform level sa siyam na bathing beach areas na layuning makamit ang Class SB level sa NCR, Region 3, at Region 4A ay bumaba na sa libo ang bilang.



Ang Environmental Management Bureau sa NCR, Regions 3 at 4A, at ang Laguna Lake Development Authority ay nakapag-isyu ng Notices of Violation sa 685 establishments, Cease and Desist Orders sa limang establishment, at Ex-Parte Orders sa limang establishment mula sa 4,576 establishments na siniyasat mula Enero hanggang Setyembre 2021 dahil sa paglabag sa Republic Act 9275 o ang Philippine Clean Water Act of 2004.

Para naman sa solid waste management, umabot sa kabuuang 50,618.94 cubic meters ng basura mula sa shorelines, waterways, rivers at beach ang nakolekta mula sa 19,088 cleanup activities kabilang ang mga nakolekta sa trash traps at trash boats, at declogging na isinagawa mula Enero hanggang Setyembre 2021 ng DENR kasama ang 82,151 volunteers at estero rangers.

Sa kabilang dako, nakakolekta naman ang Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) ng 17,946.1 cubic meters ng basura. **Santi Celario**



'No vax, no entry' ipatutupad sa Dolomite beach – DENR



January 4, 2022 @ 10:02 AM 21 hours ago

Manila, Philippines – Papayagan ang fully-vaccinated individuals na makapasok sa “Dolomite beach” sa Manila Bay.

Ayon kay Manila Baywalk Dolomite Beach ground commander Reuel Sorilla, concurrent head ng Environmental Law Enforcement and Protection Service (ELEPS) ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), ang naturang hakbang ay bilang pagtugon sa COVID alert level 3 sa Metro Manila.

“As per IATF (Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases) standards, only fully vaccinated persons will be allowed.”

Maaalalang binuksan ang Dolomite Beach sa publiko noong Disyembre 28 at Disyembre 29.

Hindi naman papayagang makapasok ang mga nasa edad 11 pababa dahil sa hindi pa sila bakunado.

Kailangan namang magtungo sa <http://denrnrcrsys.online> para sa online registration.

“Post-dated appointments” will not be honored.”

“We advise successful online registrants to come on time for their scheduled batch as everyone in a given batch will be required to leave the beach area upon the lapse of the one-hour period for the next batch,” dagdag pa ni Sorilla.

Narito naman ang mga schedule ng pagbisita:

6:30 a.m. – 7:30 a.m.

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Afternoon Schedule:

1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

RNT/FGDC





Unvaccinated visitors banned from dolomite beach – DENR

[Rhodina Villanueva](#) - The Philippine Star January 5, 2022 | 12:00am



Families flock at the "dolomite beach" at Manila Bay, which was opened to the public on July 18, 2021. Visitors are asked to observe strict health protocols.

The STAR / Edd Gumban, file

MANILA, Philippines — Only fully vaccinated visitors will be allowed to enter the dolomite beach in Manila, which reopened to the public yesterday, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) said.

Manila Baywalk dolomite beach ground commander Reuel Sorilla said unvaccinated individuals are prohibited from entering the man-made beach.

Under the guidelines set by the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases, Sorilla said children 11 years old and below are not allowed to enter the beach.

Sorilla said they would strictly implement the online registration for visitors one day before the scheduled visit.

Those who want to visit the dolomite beach can register at <http://denrnrcrsys.online>.

“We advise online registrants to come on time for their scheduled visit as everyone will be required to leave the beach area upon the lapse of the one-hour period for the next batch,” Sorilla said.

The DENR said walk-in visitors must bring their vaccination cards to be presented at the entrance gate. They are also required to follow health protocols such as wearing of face masks.

Entrance to the dolomite beach will be conducted in batches, with a maximum of 300 visitors per group.

The DENR advised visitors to avoid bringing their pets with them. Eating, drinking as well as taking dolomite sand are prohibited.

Sorilla also reminded the public that swimming is still not allowed on the beach.

Data from the Manila Bay Coordinating Office showed that the Baywalk area registered a decrease in coliform level in all its nine stations.



The Baywalk recorded an average of 21,100 most probable number per 100 milliliters as of last year, from 5.75 million mpn/100 mL in 2019.

Four stations in the Baseco beach area registered a drop in coliform level to 21,500 mpn/100 mL in September last year from 145,000 mpn/100 mL in 2020.

In December 2008, the Supreme Court ordered the DENR and 12 other government agencies to restore and preserve Manila Bay's water quality level to 100 mpn/100mL, which is fit for swimming and other recreational activities.



150 katao papayagang makapasok sa Dolomite Beach

January 4, 2022 1 min read

Limitado lamang sa publiko ang papayagang makapasok sa Manila Baywalk Dolomite Beach sa unang araw ng pagbubukas ngayong Martes.

Nasa 150 katao lamang ang papayagang pumasok sa beach bawat oras. Kasabay ng pagpapatupad ng Inter Agency Task Force (IATF) ang Alert Level 3 sa Metro Manila, dahil sa muling pagtaas ng kaso ng COVID-19 sa bansa. (Jhun Mabanag/BENJAMIN CUARESMA/mtvn)



Manila Baywalk Dolomite Beach, bukas na muli sa publiko

460 views • Jan 4, 2022

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Manila Baywalk Dolomite Beach, bukas na muli sa publiko; Mga bibisita sa Dolomite Beach, hinikayat na mag-register muna online

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Walk-ins allowed again at the Manila Bay dolomite beach.

Authorities let walk-ins enter the beach, saying there are not much visitors after they reopened. DENR had set up an online appointment booking system to prevent overcrowding. However, unvaccinated individuals and children aged 11 below are still not allowed. (via News5/Shyla Francisco)



Visit the COVID-19 Information Center for vaccine resources.
[Get Vaccine Info](#)



8

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DENR nabs 14 suspects for illegal quarry operation in Davao City

BY JONATHAN L. MAYUGA JANUARY 3, 2022

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) reported on Monday the arrest of 14 miners for illegal quarrying activities in Waan, Davao City.

In news a statement, DENR Secretary Roy A. Cimatu underscored the need for continuous apprehension of environmental criminals to “deter potential culprits and discourage them from violating existing environmental laws.”

Cimatu issued the statement following the successful operation of the Environmental Law Enforcement and Protection Service (ELEPS) of the DENR last December 11, 2021, in Barangay Waan, Buhangin District, Davao City that led to the arrest of 14 individuals and confiscation of 14 quarrying equipment.

“Our achievements in 2021 are further bolstered with our enforcement activities, especially when it comes to anti-illegal wildlife trading, anti-illegal logging, and anti-illegal mining and quarrying activities,” Cimatu said.

Davao City Mayor Sara Z. Duterte had issued a cease and desist order (CDO) on March 7, 2021, after the operators neglected the previous CDOs issued by the City Mining Regulatory Board from 2018 to 2020.

The operation was undertaken by ELEPS, together with the DENR-Region 11, Mines and Geosciences Bureau-Region 11, Davao City Police, Davao City Environment and Natural Resources Office, and Task Force Davao and Public Safety and Security Command.

The arrested miners will be undergoing legal procedures in violation of Republic Act (RA) 7942 or the Philippine Mining Act of 1995.

DENR Undersecretary for Enforcement Benito Antonio de Leon said that the “continual success of the ELEPS operations proves that the DENR needs an enforcement bureau to further bolster its current triumphs.”

“May our victories catch the eye of our legislators to ensure that this kind of work would continue, even beyond the current administration,” de Leon said.

In recent months, ELEPS also led the arrest of individuals involved in illegal quarrying activities, including the unauthorized operations inside the Taal Volcano Protected Area Landscape.



14 illegal miners nabbed in Davao City

JAN 4, 2022, 11:44 AM

Santiago Celario
Writer

DENR Secretary Roy Cimatu underscored the need for continuous apprehension of environmental criminals to "deter potential culprits and discourage them from violating existing environmental laws."

A total of 14 miners were arrested by personnel of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources – Environmental Law Enforcement and Protection Service (DENR-ELEPS) for “unauthorized” quarrying activities in Waan, Davao City last December 11, 2021.

The operation was participated in by the ELEPS together with the DENR-Region 11, Mines and Geosciences Bureau-Region 11, Davao City Police, Davao City Environment and Natural Resources Office, and Task Force Davao and Public Safety and Security Command.

Authorities also seized 14 pieces of mining equipment during the operation.

In a press release, DENR Secretary Roy Cimatu underscored the need for continuous apprehension of environmental criminals to "deter potential culprits and discourage them from violating existing environmental laws."

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Source: <https://opinyon.net/national/14-illegal-miners-nabbed-in-davao-city?fbclid=IwAR2SzkTNhtVFVqFojywQaESkmUGQphMYX0sGVNy-oUBDfNBziPLSmsHqZxQ>



DENR stops 144 illegal mining ops in '21

BY JONATHAN L. MAYUGA JANUARY 3, 2022

AMID the pandemic, the government stopped 144 illegal mining operations in 2021, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) reported.

DENR Secretary Roy A. Cimatu credited the “enhanced performance” of the Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB) which led to the closure of the illegal mining operations in accordance with Republic Act 7942 or the Philippine Mining Act of 1995.

Cimatu issued the statement as the agency mandated to manage the country’s natural wealth came under heavy attack with the lifting of open-pit mining method, a reversal of an environmental policy put in place in 2017 by the late and former DENR Secretary Regina Paz L. Lopez.

According to Cimatu, the number of cease-and-desist orders issued in 2021 is up 240 percent from the original annual target of 59 stop orders of the government.

However, a total of 4,526 mining permits and contracts, which include ore transport permit and declaration of mining project feasibility, were issued last year.

The DENR chief said the “enhanced performance” of the MGB hews to the Duterte administration’s policy to address mining issues and concerns.

“With the unwavering support from the President, we were able to achieve this significant accomplishment for the year despite the challenges that the pandemic has brought to the mining sector,” Cimatu said in a statement.

The accomplishments of the DENR-MGB, Cimatu added, are a manifestation of the strengthened responsible mining campaign of the department.

“In our heightened campaign for responsible mining in the country, we are proud of our milestone in cracking down on illegal and irresponsible use of our mining resources and areas beyond the target we have set,” Cimatu said.

“On the other hand, the increase in the issuance of mining permits/contracts will compel mining companies and entities to abide by environmental laws, policies, and regulations, thus, making our mining sector more responsible,” he added.

The DENR-MGB reported that a total of P407.6 million were contributed by the mining industry from the Social Development and Management Program (SDMP) to help cushion the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Around P380 million was allocated for the procurement of personal protective equipment and medical supplies and goods for the social amelioration of communities.

The fund served almost 300,000 front liners/individuals and 1.1 million household beneficiaries.

The realignment of the annual SDMP fund and safety and health programs also aided in the purchase of Covid-19 vaccines for host and neighboring communities and mining employees and workers.

Meanwhile, the DENR-MGB has also finalized action on 164 mining applications under the “Use It or Lose It” policy by virtue of the DENR Administrative Order 2012-07 or The Implementing Rules and Regulations of Executive Order 79.



The Mines Adjudication Board of the DENR-MGB has also deliberated on 21 complaints/cases/conflicts, while 23 charges were filed with the Provincial/City Prosecutor's Offices as part of the anti-illegal mining campaign in 2021.

On geohazard assessment, the DENR-MGB continued its identification and mapping of geohazards for critical land areas where the updating of 1:10,000 scale maps and vulnerability and risk assessment benefited around 81 local government units (LGUs).

Karst subsidence assessments were also conducted in 19 LGUs nationwide.

On coastal vulnerability assessment and impact of climate change, the DENR-MGB has monitored 31 coastal municipal and city governments, topping the target 20 LGUs for the year.

Meanwhile, 52 cities and municipalities were assessed on their groundwater resource.



DENR, halos nadoble ang performance sa 'forest rehabilitation ngayong 2021

By [Angie dela Cruz](#) (Pilipino Star Ngayon) - January 1, 2022 - 12:00am



Ayon kay DENR Secretary Roy Cimatu, tumaas ng 176 percent ang nataniman ng puno ngayong 2021. [twitter.com / DENROfficial](https://twitter.com/DENROfficial)

MANILA, Philippines — Ipinagmalaki ng Environment and Natural Resources na halos nadoble nito ang 2021 performance nito sa implementasyon ng Enhanced National Greening Program.

Ayon kay DENR Secretary Roy Cimatu, tumaas ng 176 percent ang nataniman ng puno ngayong 2021.

Mula kasi sa 47,299 hectares noong 2020, umakyat sa 83,169 hectares ng plantation ang nataniman ng puno na halos 60.4 million seedlings ang naitanim ngayong taon.

Ito'y mataas ng 170 percent mula sa 37.2 million seedlings noong 2020.

Ayon kay Secretary Cimatu, ang ENGP accomplishment ngayong 2021 ay pagpapakita na nasa "momentum" ang kanilang programa kahit na may mga hadlang dulot ng pandemya.

Ayon pa sa Kalihim, natapos ng DENR ang 88 percent mula sa 2021 target nito na 94,667 hectares ng plantations. Lumalabas din na 54,895 ENGP-related jobs ang nalikha sa pagitan ng Enero hanggang Agosto ng kasalukuyang taon.

Nakinabang dito ang 9,916 indibiduwal na nabigyan ng trabaho bilang forest extension officers, mga technical workers na naatasang magbigay ng technical assistance sa NGP partners at beneficiaries sa pagsasagawa ng NGP plantation development activities tulad ng nursery management, seedling production, at enhancement planting.

Source: <https://www.philstar.com/metro/2022/01/01/2151157/denr-halos-nadoble-ang-performance-sa-forest-rehabilitation-ngayong-2021/amp/>



JFC welcomes open-pit mining ban lifting

BY JONATHAN L. MAYUGA JANUARY 4, 2022



open pit mining

AMID criticisms in the lifting of the ban on open-pit mining method by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), the Joint Foreign Chambers issued a statement supporting the DENR's decision.

"In response to a media inquiry, the President of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines [CanCham], Julian Payne, confirmed the Joint Foreign Chambers [JFC] of the Philippines supported the statement by the Foundation for Economic Freedom [FEF] welcoming the DENR decision to rescind the ban on open-pit mining," the group said in a statement.

JFC is composed of the American Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines Inc.; Australian-New Zealand Chamber of Commerce (Phils.) Inc.; Canadian Chamber of Commerce of the Phils. Inc.; European Chamber of Commerce of the Phils. Inc.; Japanese Chamber of Commerce & Industry of the Phils. Inc.; Korean Chamber of Commerce of the Phils. Inc.; and the Philippine Association of Multinational Companies Regional Headquarters Inc.

"The DENR decision will enable the metallic mining industry to contribute substantially to the longer-term growth of the Philippine economy and to benefit Filipinos, particularly those in remote mining areas where poverty and unemployment rates are high," Payne noted.

He said the additional tax revenue generated by large mining for both national and local governments could help fund much-needed environmental protection and social welfare programs, among other government activities.

Payne further stressed that JFC members also welcomed the terms set by DENR for open-pit mining operations to ensure these will be environmentally and socially sustainable.

In this respect, he added that "good practices in large-scale mining in countries such as Australia and Canada have demonstrated this is quite possible given appropriate regulatory and fiscal frameworks for mining."

Groups protest

Environmental groups, including the anti-mining Alyansa Tigil Mina, have condemned the lifting of the open-pit mining ban saying it will only lead to environmental catastrophe.

The latest to issue statements condemning the move are the Philippine Misereor Partnership Inc., the Pambansang Lakas ng

Kilusang Mamamalakaya ng Pilipinas (Pamalakaya) and Anakpawis Party-list.



PMPI said the lifting of the ban on copper, gold, silver, and complex ores open-pit mining is a blow against what it deemed a sorry state of the Philippine environment.

It says the lifting of the ban signals yet another flip-flopping of the DENR—giving high priority to opening up mining operations for income or revenues and on the other hand, public propaganda by President Duterte of ensuring the protection of the environment against mining industries with destructive practices.

For its part, Pamalakaya and Anakpawis said mining operations contribute very little to the economy, citing data of independent think tank Ibon Foundation.

The groups said that in 2020, the share of the mining industry to the gross domestic product was only 0.75 percent, while the government only collected P15.5 billion in taxes, levies and royalties from the said industry or equivalent to 0.07 percent of overall tax collections.

“The much-anticipated economic benefit from mining industry is a complete farce, as it only creates a very small number of jobs and a paltry amount of value to the Philippine economy. Our abundant forests, productive agricultural fields, and marine resources being plundered by mining companies are indeed a far greater expense than the measly amount of collected royalties and taxes from their destructive operations,” Fernando Hicap, former Anakpawis Party-list Representative, said in a statement.

Hicap, national chairman of Pamalakaya, also cited the “devastating impacts” of open-pit mining in nearby streams, rivers, and seas, affecting the livelihood of small fisherfolks. In Sta. Cruz, Zambales, the fisherfolk leader cited, as an example, the case of municipal waters turning red due to the nickel tailings from open-pit mining operations that started in 2006 until then-Environment Secretary Gina Lopez ordered their suspension in 2017.

“Nickel tailings have adversely affected the livelihood of small fisherfolk because of fish-catch depletion and environmental degradation. Traditional fish that used to thrive in the municipal waters have vanished. The contamination also resulted in the death of several reefs that used to be the breeding grounds and habitat of fish. We have been demanding accountability and just compensation from the big mining companies responsible for this environmental catastrophe but to no avail,” Hicap said.



Only for typhoon debris: DENR ok'd SRP Dump

By [Caecent No-ot Magsumbol](#)(The Freeman) - January 5, 2022 - 12:00am



Even the city's dumping at a facility in Aloguinsan town, southern Cebu and in Barangay Binaliw also allegedly had Cimatu's nod.

CEBU, Philippines — Cebu City government's "temporary" dumping of garbage at the South Road Properties and at a transfer station in Barangay Inayawan had the blessing of Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu, Mayor Michael Rama said yesterday.

Even the city's dumping at a facility in Aloguinsan town, southern Cebu and in Barangay Binaliw also allegedly had Cimatu's nod.

"Right after this problem on where and what to be done, (I and Secretary Cimatu talked). The Regional Director (of DENR-7) is also aware of this matter.

DENR is also supportive because extraordinary man ang situation," Rama told The FREEMAN yesterday.

However, Cimatu and DENR-7 only greenlighted the throwing of typhoon debris and fallen trees, not garbage, at the NOAH Complex area at the SRP.

As it stands, even household wastes have been disposed of at the area.

Because of this, Rama has already told Councilor Eduardo Rama to order the pullout of these wastes at the SRP as soon as possible.

"They already knew about (Cimatu and DENR-7) nga ang mahitabo diha ought to be katong mga kahoy, debris. Na-mix lang na. That has to be removed soon enough," said Rama.

"It's just temporary. Even ang sa Aloguinsan, temporary lang. Part of a way to have effective solid waste disposal in these extraordinary times," he added.

City Councilor Jerry Guardo, who is working alongside Councilor Rama in monitoring the clearing operations of garbage and debris, said they have already started segregating garbage at the SRP and sending it to Binaliw for final disposal.

"Karon ongoing na ang segregation. Ang among i-allow na lang gyud didto is ang mga debris and mga kahoy kay malata ra man ang mga kahoy," said Guardo.

Scavengers seeking scrap materials have also been allowed at the SRP to speed up the segregation of garbage and debris.

Guardo said the Department of Agriculture is also helping in the segregation.

He said that if the roads going to Binaliw are not passable, the city will transport some of this trash to Aloguinsan.



Guardo also said they have started moving out some of the trash stalled at a transfer station in Barangay Inayawan and brought it to disposal facilities.

“Dili maato kung adto ra tanan sa Binaliw, considering sa traffic and safety pud sa atong mga tawo,” he said.

Up to DILG

Meanwhile, with regard to some barangay officials who are reportedly not helping the city government’s clearing efforts, Mayor Rama said he will leave it to the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) to call their attention.

“The City of Cebu is really focused on what we have. It’s up to the DILG to call their attention sa mga barangay nga lukewarm or whatever and what not. Basta kami, we don’t want to be dependent (on the barangay officials),” he said.

Rama said he is not forcing barangay officials to help the city in the clearing.

“Mangapil sila, manabang sila or what, praise the Lord, hallelujah! If not, amo lang iluom, basta di lang mi molagom. Not forcing them... It can wait. Let’s first do what is available. Kung unsay kaya sa Syudad sa Sugbo. Kaya man sa Syudad sa Sugbo basta dili lang mag siging-siging ang mga tawo, kay makita man na nagtrabaho man ta,” he added.

Arce vs Repollo?

Yesterday, PROBE head Raquel Arce posted on Facebook about an unnamed barangay captain who allegedly stopped their clearing/cleaning team in the barangay.

“Kai d ka gusto nga makaingon ang taga barangay nga Team Rama maoy naka limpyo sa imong barangay?” part of Arce’s post read.

Though unnamed, Inayawan barangay captain Kirk Bryan Repollo felt alluded to in Arce’s post.

Repollo, in a lengthy counter-post, denied the allegations, saying he only asked for proper coordination from the city’s clearing team with the barangay as the activity had “caused too much traffic.”

Repollo had previously thanked the Cebu City government under Mayor Rama for taking action on his request (from the administration of the late mayor Edgardo Labella) on the “long-overdue” asphaltting of roads and, lately, the request for dump truck and assistance in the garbage disposal after Typhoon Odette. – **JMD (FREEMAN)**



Water conservation advisory issued after unusually low Angat levels

January 4, 2022 | 10:27 pm



PHILSTAR

THE National Water Resources Board (NWRB) issued an advisory to “conserve water whenever” after lower-than-usual levels at Angat Dam in Bulacan, the main source of water for Metro Manila.

On Dec. 31, water elevation at the dam was 202.80 meters, significantly below the 212 meters considered normal for the time of year.

While rainfall from typhoons can recharge dams, water levels rose only slightly with the northeast monsoon, which caused the dam to fall short of the ideal year-end elevation, the NWRB said in a statement.

“*Kailangan natin mabigyan ng kasiguruhan ang tubig natin, partikular po na itong panahon ng tag-init, kagaya ng summer, na wala masyadong tag-ulan* (We need to ensure the availability of water, particularly with the incoming dry season when we can expect little to no rain),” NWRB Executive Director Sevilla D. David said in a separate radio-TV interview.

“PAGASA forecast that the ‘La Niña’ phenomenon, which started in October, will persist until March,” the NWRB said in a statement. “Rainfall could be enhanced by the northeast monsoon... which could provide more precipitation. This may bring rainfall to the Angat watershed.”

According to projections by the NWRB, if water usage and weather conditions continue on trend, water levels at the dam may hit the critical level of 180 meters as soon as April.

“*Mas maganda po na paghandaan natin ito, at maganda na ngayon pa lang magtipid na tayo ng tubig* (It would be best if we prepare ahead by saving water),” Mr. David said. — **Luisa Maria Jacinta C. Jocson**

Source: <https://www.bworldonline.com/water-conservation-advisory-issued-after-unusually-low-angat-levels/>



Tubig sa Angat Dam pinangangambahang bababa sa kritikal na lebel sa Abril- NWRB



January 4, 2022 @ 4:10 PM 15 hours ago

MANILA, Philippines- Maaaring bumaba ang lebel ng tubig sa Angat Dam sa kritikal pagsapit ng Abril, ayon sa National Water Resources Board (NWRB) nitong Martes.

Inilahad ni NWRB executive director Dr. Sevillo David Jr. na batay ito sa water consumption at projected weather.

“Ang critical level na sinasabi po natin ay 180 meters...baka po sa mga bandang buwan ng April ay umabot tayo doon...Ngayon nakikinita po natin by April po ay bababa siya” aniya.

Hindi naabot ng Angat Dam, na nagsusuplay ng 90 porsyento ng tubig sa Maynila, ang inaasahang lebel ng tubig na 212 metro sa pagtatapos ng 2021, base kay David.

Kasalukuyang nasa 202.8 metro ang lebel ng tubig nito, na halos siyam na metrong kapos sa kinakailangang water level, ayon pa kay David.

Dahil dito, umapela si David sa publiko na ngayon pa lamang ay magtipid na ng tubig upang hindi maiwasan ang kakulangan sa mga susunod na buwan.

Iginiit din niya ang kahalagahan ng sapat na suplay ng tubig sa gitna ng pandemya lalo na sa pagsulpot ng Omicron variant sa bansa. RNT/SA



NWRB: Lebel ng tubig sa Angat Dam, mababa pa sa normal | Saksi

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'Yan ang apela ng National Water Resources Board o NWRB.

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Abiso ng NWRB, magtipid sa tubig sa gitna ng mas mababa kaysa normal na lebel ng tubig sa Angat dam

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SMC takes coastal clean-up drive to Batangas

BYVG CABUAG JANUARY 4, 2022



Conglomerate San Miguel Corp. (SMC) on Tuesday said it has extended its coastal clean-up drive to Calatagan and Balayan in Batangas, as it prepares to start cleaning up the heavily-polluted Marilao-Meycauyan-Obando river system in Bulacan.

A total of 1,340 bags of garbage were initially collected from the coastal areas of the two towns in Batangas during the five-day cleanup effort supported by both the conglomerate and the government through the Tulong Panghanapbuhay sa Ating Disadvantaged/Displaced Workers program of the Department of Labor and Employment.

“We recognize that to be able to help save our waterways from litter, we need to address the issue of pollution at its source. But these cleanups do make a big difference especially in shaping the way people interact with the environment. Also, that one piece of trash we remove means one less litter that could end up in our waterways,” San Miguel President and CEO Ramon S. Ang said in a statement.

Apart from mobilizing volunteers, the company provided cleaning supplies, protective gear and food for the participants. It is also raising awareness among coastal communities about proper waste disposal.

San Miguel said it has committed to helping set up a materials recovery facility for five barangays in Calatagan to recover recyclable materials and significantly reduce the amount of waste that end up in the waterways of the province.

Ang said the coastal clean-up activities in Batangas will be done on a weekly basis and “with greater urgency” as the Batangas waters are close to the Verde Island Passage, a strait between Luzon and Mindoro that is known for its rich marine biodiversity.

“Keeping plastic waste from our seas and oceans will also protect our source of food and the fishermen who depend on these for their livelihood. In partnership with local and government agencies, we need to continuously educate our coastal communities on the importance of proper waste disposal as well as recycling and upcycling of waste products,” he said.

San Miguel earlier donated patrol boats to the Calatagan community task force or Bantay Dagat that enlists fishers from coastal villages to help enforce coastal and fisheries laws, particularly against the use of illegal fishing methods and illegal equipment. The company also made a larger donation of 19 motorized boats to be used by local fisherfolk groups for their livelihood.

The company also holds weekly clean-up activities in Isla Pulo in Navotas together with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources. Isla Pulo is home to the Tanza Marine Tree Park, a 26-hectare mangrove strip of an island with a 3.5-kilometer shoreline, which also serves as a natural barrier that protects nearby cities from storm surges and coastline erosion.



San Miguel's weekly clean-up draws some 80 volunteers composed of employees, residents from Barangay Tanza 1 and personnel from the local government of Navotas, Philippine National Police personnel based in Navotas, the 51st Engineers Brigade of the Philippine Army and the DENR. The group has so far removed 3,913 sacks of garbage.

These initiatives complement the company's ongoing rehabilitation programs for Tullahan River and Pasig River.

The company will also start cleanup and channel improvement project for the Marilao-Meycauayan-Obando river system, a major component of its flood mitigation initiative for Bulacan and Talipit while building the New Manila International Airport in Bulacan town.

For its P1 billion Tullahan-Tinajeros River System rehabilitation project, the company has already removed 640,384 metric tons (MT) of silt and solid waste to date.

Meanwhile, it has already collected 165,700 MT of silt and solid waste from the Pasig River as part of its P2-billion Pasig River rehabilitation project. The company recently received a \$1.5-million donation from Japanese shipping firm NYK Line for the purchase of additional dredging equipment.



SMC takes coastal cleanup drive to Batangas, to start MMORS river system rehab soon

January 4, 2022 4 min read

CALATAGAN, Batangas — San Miguel Corporation (SMC) has extended its coastal clean-up drive to this town and in Balayan, Batangas even as it prepares to start cleaning up the heavily-polluted Marilao-Meycauayan-Obando river system (MMORS) in Bulacan.

A total of 1,340 bags full of garbage were initially collected from the coastal areas of the two towns during the five-day cleanup effort supported by both SMC and the government through the Tulong Panghanapbuhay sa Ating Disadvantaged/Displaced Workers (TUPAD) program of the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE).

“We recognize that to be able to help save our waterways from litter, we need to address the issue of pollution at its source. But these cleanups do make a big difference especially in shaping the way people interact with the environment. Also, that one piece of trash we remove means one less litter that could end up in our waterways,” SMC president and CEO Ramon S. Ang said.

Apart from mobilizing volunteers, SMC provides cleaning supplies, protective gear, and food for the participants. SMC is also raising awareness among coastal communities about proper waste disposal.

Calatagan MRF

Meanwhile, SMC has also committed to helping set up a Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) for five barangays in Calatagan to recover recyclable materials and significantly reduce the amount of waste that end up in the waterways of the province.

SMC also holds weekly clean-up activities in Isla Pulo in Navotas together with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR). Isla Pulo is home to the Tanza Marine Tree Park, a 26-hectare mangrove strip of an island with a 3.5-kilometer shoreline, which also serves as a natural barrier that protects nearby cities from storm surges and coastline erosion.

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In Navotas, SMC’s weekly clean-up draws some 80 volunteers composed of employees, residents from Barangay Tanza 1 and personnel from the local government of Navotas, Philippine National Police (PNP) personnel based in Navotas, the 51st Engineers Brigade of the Philippine Army, and the DENR.

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(ai/mtvn)



Source: https://maharlika.tv/2022/01/04/smc-takes-coastal-cleanup-drive-to-batangas-to-start-mmors-river-system-rehab-soon/?fbclid=IwAR2QTc21hZ_xG5f0idav7C_Ih1NHo_SkIKgsPDs34ZXuplyc7nrNqoKGaE0



WWF-Philippines calls on presidential candidates bring climate crisis to the table

January 3, 2022 | 10:16 pm



AN ENVIRONMENTAL group on Monday urged Philippine presidential candidates to include the climate crisis in the 2022 national elections agenda.

Candidates must explain to the public how the Philippines under the next administration “will implement the proper actions in line with our international commitments,” WWF-Philippines said in an e-mailed statement.

“The climate, nature, and environment should be on the agenda of candidates along with our advocacies on climate justice and equity,” said Angela Consuelo Ibay, WWF-Philippines’ head of Climate and Energy.

In the UN Climate Change Conference (COP26) in Glasgow from Oct. 31 to Nov.12, the Philippines signed commitments to halt deforestation and restore forest land, pursue a clean energy transition, and take voluntary actions to reduce methane emissions.

The group called on candidates and government officials to ensure that the agreements signed in the international conference with hundreds of other countries will “become institutionalized and continue to be implemented by the next administration.”

“Beholden *dapat yung* next administration to keep up with our international commitments and international agreements,” Ms. Ibay said. “We will have to be accountable to those international commitments.” — **Kyle Aristophere T. Atienza**

Source: https://www.bworldonline.com/wwf-philippines-calls-on-presidential-candidates-bring-climate-crisis-to-the-table/?fbclid=IwAR3taiTXPZeL_6Kl92QP_TxCAXnkSKS5_dqQ5mdNk4pz2QIkcpga6E9qVw8



Russian, who killed a marine turtle in Negros Oriental in 2017, deported for fraud

Published January 4, 2022, 12:08 PM

by [Jun Ramirez](#)

The Bureau of Immigration (BI) has deported a Russian wanted by the police in Moscow for large scale fraud.

BI Commissioner Jaime Morente said 39-year-old Anton Likharev was sent back home last week aboard an Ethihad Airways flight.

Likharev is the same person who made headlines in the country in 2017 for killing a green sea turtle with a spear in Dauin, Negros Oriental. He denied that he intentionally killed the turtle and insisted that he has no knowledge that the area is a marine sanctuary.

Likharev was accompanied by two Russian policemen who fetched him at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA).

The Russian was deported after he was detained for nearly three years at the BI detention facility in Camp Bagong Diwa, Taguig City, pending requirements and clearances for his deportation.

He was arrested in March 2019 while trying to extend his stay as a tourist at the BI main office in Intramuros, Manila.

It discovered that the fugitive was on the BI's wanted list of undesirable aliens who were ordered deported by the bureau.

It was learned that Likharev was issued a summary deportation order by the BI Board of Commissioners in December 2018 based on information that he is wanted by a Russian court.

Russian authorities charged him for crimes involving acquisition of other people's property by means of deceit, in violation of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation.



EcoWaste calls for COVID-safe, trash-free Black Nazarene feast

Published January 4, 2022, 6:49 PM

by [Faith Argosino](#)

The EcoWaste Coalition urged on Tuesday, Jan 4, devotees of the Black Nazarene to follow health protocols and to keep their surroundings clean during the Jan. 9 religious activity in Manila.

In a statement, the group said devotees should ensure that they would not litter especially in Quiapo district where the devotees are expected to converge.



photo: EcoWaste Coalition

Despite the cancellation of the traditional “Traslacion” (an annual procession to commemorate the transfer of the Black Nazarene from its original shrine in Intramuros to Quiapo Church) and “pahalik” (kissing the image of Black Nazarene, which is believed to bring miracles), a number of devotees are still expected to visit the Quiapo Church on Jan. 9.

Aside from the devotees, the EcoWaste Coalition also reminded feast organizers, food givers, and vendors to observe trash-free surroundings noting that January is “Zero Waste Month” as per Proclamation 760.

“For all fiesta participants, avoid all types of fiesta waste and never abandon trash on the streets, street gutters, sidewalks, parks, and plant boxes,” the statement said.



photo: EcoWaste Coalition



Likewise, the group appealed to political candidates and their supporters to avoid putting up tarpaulin banners and posters in Quiapo.

“We call upon the followers of the Black Nazarene to keep the faith-inspired celebration COVID-safe and trash-free regardless of where they will mark the feast day – in their own homes, in local parishes, or Quiapo,” EcoWaste Coalition Zero Waste Campaigner Jove Benosa said.

“We want last year’s ‘waste-less’ celebration held amid the COVID-19 pandemic repeated for the second time,” Benosa added.

05 JANUARY 2022, WEDNESDAY



DENR

NEWS ALERTS

COVID-19 NEWS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



Philippines logs 5,434 new COVID-19 infections; active cases at nearly 30K

Philstar.com January 4, 2022 | 4:06pm



An elderly woman receives a booster shot at the Marikina Sports Complex on Monday, Jan. 3, 2022.
The STAR / Walter Bollozos

MANILA, Philippines — The Department of Health reported Tuesday 5,434 additional COVID-19 infections, the highest single-day rise since October 23, bringing the number of active cases to nearly 30,000.

Of the newly-reported cases, 99% occurred in the last 14 days. Most of the cases were reported in Metro Manila, Calabarzon and Central Luzon.

The positivity rate was at 26.2%, based on 24,855 samples processed on Sunday. The World Health Organization recommends that positivity rate should remain at 5% or lower before countries reopen.

The DOH also logged 18 deaths, raising total fatalities to 51,604.

Meanwhile, the number of recoveries increased to 2,779,706 after 611 new recoveries were recorded.

Since the start of the pandemic, the Philippines has confirmed over 2.86 million COVID-19 cases.

Currently, there are 29,809 active cases. Of the figure, nearly 91% were mild and moderate.

Authorities have attributed the spike in COVID-19 cases to increased mobility during the holiday season, lax compliance with health protocols, and the presence of the highly contagious Omicron variant.

COVID-19 cases to peak end-January

- The current spike in infections believed to be driven by the highly contagious Omicron variant **might peak by the end of January** and may surpass the previous wave caused by the Delta variant.
- The provinces of **Bulacan, Cavite and Rizal** will be placed under Alert Level 3 from January 5 to 15 due to a sharp increase in COVID-19 cases.
- Pharmaceutical company Unilab said that some of its products are temporarily out of stock in some drug stores “due to extraordinary demand.” The DOH, however, assured there is **no ongoing shortage of paracetamols** and other drugs for flu as it asked the public to refrain from panic buying.

— **Gaea Katreena Cabico**

Source: <https://www.philstar.com/headlines/2022/01/04/2151784/philippines-logs-5434-new-covid-19-infections-active-cases-nearly-30k>



DOH projects COVID-19 cases to peak end-January, may surpass Delta spike

(Philstar.com) - January 4, 2022 - 10:46am



People visit a park in Quezon City, east of Manila on New Year's Day on January 1, 2022.

MANILA, Philippines — The current spike in COVID-19 cases assumed to be driven by the highly infectious Omicron coronavirus variant might peak by the end of the month and may surpass the previous wave of infections caused by the Delta variant, according to initial projections from the Department of Health.

"We have initial projections which state that at the end of January, cases will peak," Health Undersecretary Maria Rosario Vergeire told CNN Philippines' "The Source" on Tuesday.

Vergeire, however, refused to provide further details on the projected peak of infections, including how many more cases are expected, as their figures are only "rough estimates."

The peak during the previous wave of infections driven by Delta beginning in August hit over 26,000.

Vergeire added that they project that cases will slowly decline once they hit their peak.

The DOH's projections slightly differ from that of statistician Jomar Rabajante of the University of the Philippines COVID-19 Pandemic Response Team, who projected that the peak might happen between mid-January to the third week of February with 20,000 to 40,000 cases.

[#COVID19Ph](#) projections using SEIR... peak might happen Jan 15 (early) to 3rd week of february (late)... with peak size of around 30k reported cases [20k-40k]... 1/2 pic.twitter.com/LTbWePt0YH

— Dr. Jomar Fajardo Rabajante (@cutejgwapo) [January 1, 2022](#)

Vergeire said that projections can still change, depending on the response of the public and local governments.

"Even though there are projections, these numbers will be affected and can be prevented if we can be able to ramp up our efforts of prevention in cutting the transmission in our communities," she said.

New coronavirus infections have gone up from just 318 to 4,084 in a week, which the government blamed on the public's supposed failure to follow minimum public health standards such as wearing masks and the presence of the Omicron variant.

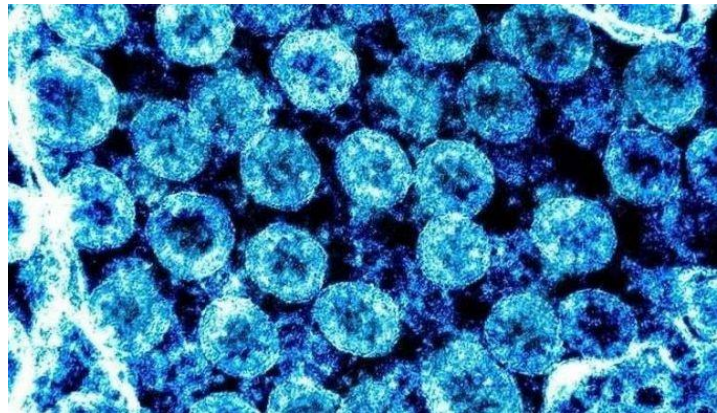
Since new cases rose, some hospitals are reporting increasing admissions of people with COVID-19 while some drugstores are saying that they no longer have stocks of cough, cold and fever medicines. — **Xave Gregorio**

Source: <https://www.philstar.com/headlines/2022/01/04/2151753/doh-projects-covid-19-cases-peak-end-january-may-surpass-delta-spike/amp/>



Omicron magiging dominant variant sa loob ng 3-4 linggo

By [Danilo Garcia](#) (Pilipino Star Ngayon) - January 4, 2022 - 12:00am



This undated National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, NIH handout photo obtained August 1, 2021, shows a transmission electron color-enhanced micrograph of SARS-CoV-2 virus particles, isolated from a patient.

Handout / National Institutes of Health / National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases / AFP

MANILA, Philippines — Inaasahan na magiging dominanteng variant ng COVID-19 sa Pilipinas ang Omicron variant sa susunod na tatlo o apat na linggo.

Ayon kay DOH Undersecretary at treatment czar Leopoldo Vega, nananatiling dominanteng variant pa rin ang Delta ngunit maaaring agad na malagpasan ito ng Omicron dahil sa ulat ng bilis ng 'incubation' nito at mas madaling maipasa sa ibang tao.

"I think in about three to four weeks, as predicted, the Omicron will be dominant in terms of 50% to 90% of the cases, overtaking the Delta virus," dagdag pa niya.

Sinabi pa ni Vega na ang COVID-19 infections ay magpi-peak pa sa mga susunod na araw, at wala pang katiyakan kung mababawasan ito.

Paliwanag niya, ang Omicron ay may mas mataas na high transmissibility rate, na nasa 30 hanggang 50%, kumpara sa Delta.

"We are preparing our health system capacity, our testing, isolation so that we are all prepared in this another ride in the wave of this Omicron virus," ani Vega.

Samantala, pinawi rin ng opisyal ang pangamba ng publiko laban sa napaulat na sakit na Florona, na kumbinasyon umano ng trangkaso at COVID-19 at unang natukoy sa isang buntis sa Israel.

Ayon kay Vega, hindi pa ito concern ngayon sa Pilipinas at maaari lamang itong mangyari kung mahina ang immunity ng isang tao at walang anumang proteksiyon laban sa mga virus.

Source: <https://www.philstar.com/pilipino-star-ngayon/bansa/2022/01/04/2151722/omicron-magiging-dominant-variant-sa-loob-ng-3-4-linggo/amp/>



Omicron evades immunity better than Delta, Danish study finds

By [Reuters](#) - January 4, 2022 - 5:47 PM



Test tubes labelled "COVID-19 Test Positive" are seen in front of displayed words "OMICRON SARS-COV-2" in this illustration taken December 11, 2021. (Reuters/Dado Ruvic/Illustration/File Photo)

- Omicron 2.7-3.7x more infectious than Delta among vaccinated
- Booster-vaccinated less likely to transmit coronavirus
- Risk of hospitalization from Omicron half that of Delta

COPENHAGEN — The Omicron coronavirus variant is better at circumventing vaccinated peoples' immunity than the Delta variant, according to a Danish study published last week, helping explain why Omicron is spreading more rapidly.

Since the discovery of the heavily mutated Omicron variant in November, scientists have been racing to find out whether it causes less serious disease and why it appears more contagious than the previously dominating Delta variant.

A virus can be more transmissible due to a number of reasons, such as the time it lingers in the air, its ability to latch onto cells, or its evasion of the body's immune system.

Investigating nearly 12,000 Danish households in mid-December, the scientists found that Omicron was 2.7 to 3.7 times more infectious than the Delta variant among vaccinated Danes.

The study, conducted by researchers at University of Copenhagen, Statistics Denmark and Statens Serum Institut (SSI), suggests the virus is mainly spreading more rapidly because it is better at evading immunity obtained from vaccines.

"Our findings confirm that the rapid spread of the Omicron (variant) primarily can be ascribed to the immune evasiveness rather than an inherent increase in the basic transmissibility," the researchers said. The study has yet to be peer-reviewed.

Seventy-eight percent of Danes have been fully vaccinated, while nearly 48% of those have received a third "boosted" shot. More than eight out of ten Danes have received Pfizer-BioNTech's vaccine.

The study also found that booster-vaccinated people are less likely to transmit the virus, regardless of the variant, than the unvaccinated.

While more transmissible, the Omicron variant does seem to induce less serious disease, SSI's technical director, Tyra Grove Krause, told local media on Monday.



“While Omicron will still be able to put pressure on our healthcare system, everything indicates that it is milder than the Delta variant,” she said, adding the risk of being hospitalized with Omicron was half of that with Delta.

That echoes the results of some other studies into Omicron.

Out of a total of 93 people admitted to hospital due to COVID-19 from Omicron in late December, less than five were receiving intensive care, Danish data showed.

“This may be what is going to lift us out of the pandemic, so that this becomes the last wave of corona,” Krause said. —Reporting by Nikolaj Skydsgaard Editing by Mark **Potter**



MGA HINDI BAKUNADO IKAKANDADO NA



January 4, 2022 @ 7:17 PM 12 hours ago

NAGAGANAP na sa ating bansa ang nangyayari sa ibang mga bansa ukol sa mga hindi bakunado.

Sa ibang mga bansa gaya ng Hungary, Germany, Czech Republic, Italy at Slovakia, istrikto na sila sa pagpapatupad ng hindi paglabas-labas ng bahay nang walang sapat na dahilan ang mga hindi bakunado.

Sa ibang salita, buo na hindi pinapayagan sa Austria ang mga hindi bakunado na lumabas ng bahay habang sa ibang bansa, kailangan mong magpakita ng vaccine passport o sertipiko ng pagsusuri na negatibo ka sa COVID upang makasakay ka ng pampublikong sasakyan, makakain sa restoran at makapasok sa trabaho.

Sa United States naman, hindi pupwedeng makipagtransaksyon sa gobyernong pederal ang mga kompanyang may empleyadong nasa 100 katao pataas hangga't hindi bakunado ang mga empleyado ng mga ito.

Katwiran ng mga pamahalaan, hindi pupwedeng i-hostage ng mas kakaunting bilang na hindi bakunado ang higit na nakararaming bakunado.

'Yun bang === hindi pupwedeng madamay sa kawalan ng kalayaan at karapatan ang mga bakunado dahil lamang sa mga ayaw magpabakuna sa anomang kadahilanan.

NAGSIMULA NA SA PINAS

Ang totoo, may nagaganap nang paghihiwalay ng mga hindi bakunado sa mga hindi bakunado sa ating bansa.

Sa mga restoran, halimbawa, hindi pupwedeng kumain sa loob ang mga hindi bakunado at hindi pupwedeng magsilbi ang mga waiter at waitres na hindi bakunado.

May mga local government unit naman na nagbabawal sa mga hindi bakunado na pumasok sa mga opisina nila.

Meron ding iba pang mga establisimyento, gaya ng mga hotel, na hindi pupwedeng pumasok ang mga hindi bakunado.

LALONG INISTRIKTUHAN

Kahapon lamang, bumalangkas na ang Metro Manila Council na bibubuo ng lahat ng mayor sa mga lungsod at bayan ng patakaran sa mga hindi bakunado na pupwedeng isakatuparan ng mga local government unit.



Tatandaan na halos 100% ang mga bakunado sa marami sa mga lungsod at bayan dito at wala nang dahilan upang hindi magpabakuna ang iba upang masama sila sa mga bakunadong magkakaroon ng kalayaan at karapatan sa maraming bagay.

Heto ang mga patakaran sa mga hindi bakunado:

1. Mananatili sa kanilang mga tahanan sa lahat ng oras maliban lang kung bibili sila ng mga mahahalagang bagay at serbisyo.
2. Magkagayunman, pupwede silang lumabas ng tahanan sa paligid lamang nila.
3. Bawal silang pumasok sa mga restoran at kumain sa loob at labas ng mga ito.
4. Bawal din silang pumunta sa mall, hotel, lugar na may okasyon, palaruan at country club.
5. Bawal din silang magbiyahe para mamasyal at maglibang gamit ang mga pampublikong sasakyan.
6. Kailangan naman ang mga obrero na pumapasok sa trabaho na magpakita ng RT-PCR test na negatibo ang resulta at gastos nila ang pagpapa-test.

O magpabakuna na para sa ating kaligtasan lahat sa COVID at makapagsimula na tayo ng normal na buhay sa mga susunod na araw.

1



#OneDENR

Covid-19
Situation and Response



DOH COVID-19 CASE BULLETIN # 661

ENERO 4, 2022

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

PORSYENTO NG AKTIBONG KASO

1.0%

TOTAL NG AKTIBONG KASO
29,809

PORSYENTO NG GUMALING

97.2%

TOTAL NG GUMALING
2,779,706

PORSYENTO NG NAMATAY

1.80%

TOTAL NG NAMATAY
51,604

MGA BAGONG KASO **5,434**

MGA BAGONG GUMALING **611**

MGA BAGONG NAMATAY **18**

KABUUNANG BILANG NG KASO **2,861,119**

MGA NAGPOSITIBO HULING ENERO 2

DATOS NGAYONG ENERO 4
AYON SA REPORTS NOONG ENERO 2

26.5%

PORSYENTO NG MGA
NAGPOSITIBO

25,704

BILANG NG
TINVEST

HALOS

83.6%

ANG MILD AT
ASYMPTOMATIC
NA KASO!

ALAMIN
ANG TAMANG
IMPORMASYON

KABUUNANG PILIPINAS

PUNO NA BA ANG ATING MGA OSPITAL?

NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION

PUNO NA BA ANG ATING MGA OSPITAL?

KALAGAYAN NG MGA AKTIBONG KASO

ICU BEDS (3.5K TOTAL BEDS)
26% Utilized

ISOLATION BEDS (19.0K TOTAL BEDS)
27% Utilized

WARD BEDS (12.2K TOTAL BEDS)
19% Utilized

VENTILATORS (3.0K TOTAL VENTILATORS)
14% Utilized

ICU BEDS (1.3K TOTAL BEDS)
35% Utilized

ISOLATION BEDS (4.6K TOTAL BEDS)
32% Utilized

WARD BEDS (3.8K TOTAL BEDS)
36% Utilized

VENTILATORS (1.0K TOTAL VENTILATORS)
20% Utilized

889 Asymptomatic

24,026 Mild

3,020 Moderate

1,546 Severe

328 Critical

DOH HOSPITAL HOTLINES

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

bit.ly/DOHHospitalHotlines

DOH ONE HOSPITAL COMMAND CENTER (OHCC) HOTLINES

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

bit.ly/OHCCHotline

DOH TELEMEDICINE CONTACT DETAILS

bit.ly/DOHTelemedicine

SeeYouDoc
✉ seeyoudoc.com
📞 SeeYouDoc

KonsultaMD
✉ konsulta.md
📞 KonsultaMD

CloudPx
✉ cloudpx.ph/

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

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

TelAventusMD
✉ TelAventusMD@aventusmedical.com.ph
📞 TelAventusMD

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



Manatiling ligtas!

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



Walang internet or load?
Report via SMS

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



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

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

MAYROON PANG KATANUNGAN? SUMANGGUNI LAMANG SA SUMUSUNOD:

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

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

doh.gov.ph

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

05 JANUARY 2022, WEDNESDAY



DENR

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Please click this link:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XpMUIbRertU&ab_channel=MizJuly

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MANILA BAY BAGONG AABANGAN LUMUTANG NA! Miz July
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