

06 JULY 2021, Tuesday



DENR

NEWS ALERTS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



DENR crafting policy to protect watershed areas

By Jordeene B. Lagare
July 5, 2021



The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) is crafting an executive order to prioritize watershed rescue to counter effects of climate-linked calamities and ensure replenishment of irrigation and hydro-electric or geothermal energy sources.

This EO, being drafted by the DENR's Forest Management Bureau, will elevate to national strategy status its Save Our Watershed movement.

"This will pave the way for the establishment of institutional mechanisms for collaborative or whole-of-society efforts in conserving our watersheds," said Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu.

FMB Director Marcial Amaro said he expects the EO to be filed with Malacanang before the end of the year.

Energy Development Corp. (EDC) Assistant Vice President Allan Barcena said it is extremely important for watersheds - forests that are sources of water that are "shed" into rivers, lakes, and seas - to be protected.

"Protecting watersheds is not only a corporate social responsibility program for us. It is part of our business strategy. When we're protecting the watershed, it means our geothermal resource is



DENR crafting policy to protect watershed areas

sustained. If we don't protect our watershed, our geothermal steam is not sustained. So for us it's both a commitment and a business strategy and mission," said Barcena.

EDC operates 12 geothermal-powered power plant in Leyte, Bicol, Southern Negros, and North Cotabato with an installed capacity of 1,179 megawatts (MW).

Eigo Azukizawa, chief of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)-Philippines, which co-finances FMP, said the Save Our Watershed campaign hopes to avert destructive effects of calamities.

He said Typhoon Ulysses, which struck the country in November last year, affected three million people in Cagayan Valley who suffered from flooding.

The said initiative has targeted to protect 71,300 hectares of forests within the critical wastersheds of Upper Magat and Cagayan, Upper Pampanga, and Jalaur (Panay Island).

As of 2019, there are 131 critical priority watersheds in the Philippines that support water facilities, hydroelectric power plants, and irrigation systems.

For one the Cagayan River Basin irrigates around 300,000 hectares of rice fields.

The Jalaur River Basin in Iloilo with an area of 1,503 square kilometers can supply 90,611 million cubic meters of water.

The Magat Hydroelectric Power Plant, one of the largest hydro facilities in Luzon, produces a maximum output of 388 MW and draws water from the Magat River.

Some 24 subwatersheds covered by Upper Magat-Cagayan, Upper Pampanga and Jalaur River Basins lose around 1 million tons of soil amounting to P140 million per year.



DENR seeks watershed rescue EO

posted July 05, 2021 at 10:30 pm
by Abe Almirol

An executive order prioritizing watershed rescue is being pushed by forest experts to counter the effects of climate-linked calamities and ensure the replenishment of irrigation and hydro-electric or geothermal energy sources.

The Forest Management Bureau of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources is drafting an EO that will elevate to national strategy status its “Save Our Watershed” movement.

“This will pave the way for the establishment of institutional mechanisms for collaborative or whole-of-society efforts in conserving our watersheds,” Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu said during the launch of the Save Our Watershed campaign last week.

It is extremely important for watersheds – forests that are sources of water that are “shed” into rivers, lakes, and seas – to be protected, according to Energy Development Corp. (EDC) Assistant Vice President Allan Barcena.

“Protecting watersheds is not only a corporate social responsibility program for us. It is part of our business strategy. When we’re protecting the watershed, it means our geothermal resource is sustained. If we don’t protect our watershed, our geothermal steam is not sustained. So for us it’s both a commitment and a business strategy and mission,” Barcena said.

The SOW campaign is being supported by the DENR’s Forestland Management Project(FMP).

Eigo Azukizawa, chief of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)-Philippines which co-finances FMP, said the SOW campaign aims to avert destructive effects of calamities.

SOW-FMP is targeting to protect 71,300 hectares of forests within the critical watersheds of Upper Magat and Cagayan, Upper Pampanga, and Jalaur (Panay Island).

As of 2019, there are 131 critical priority watersheds in the country that support water facilities, hydroelectric power plants, and irrigation systems.



Sanitary landfill sa Cavite tugon sa problema sa basura – DENR



July 5, 2021 @ 5:40 PM 13 hours ago

MANILA, Philippines – upang matulungan ang lokal na pamahalaan ang problema sa basura, plano ni Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Secretary Roy Cimatu na magtayo ng isang compliant sanitary landfill (SLF) sa Cavite.

Sa ulat, sinabi ni Cimatu na nakipagpulong na ang DENR kay Cavite Governor Juanito Victor “Jonvic” Remulla at mga alkalde ng probinsya upang pag-usapan ang kooperasyon sa solid waste at water quality management sa anim na pangunahing ilog sa Cavite.

Sa pulong, binanggit ni DENR Calabarzon Regional Executive Director Nilo B. Tamoria ang anim na pangunahing ilog na dumadaloy sa Manila Bay. Ito ay ang Imus River, Zapote River, Rio Grande-Ylang-Ylang River, Cañas River, Labac River at Maragondon River.

“We cannot complete the rehabilitation of Manila Bay if we will not solve the garbage problem in the province. There is a very big connection between that,” sabi ni Cimatu sa mga opisyal ng Cavite sa ginanap na pulong sa Oasis Hotel sa Imus City noong Hunyo 24.

“The only way for us to solve the problem of Manila Bay is to solve the garbage problem and water quality of the rivers in Cavite,” dagdag pa nito.

Ayon sa DENR dumalo sa ginanap na pulong ang mga alkalde mula sa mga lungsod ng Cavite, General Trias, at Trece Martires, at munisipalidad ng Amadeo, GMA, Indang, Mendez, Naic, Silang, at Tanza.

Samantala kaugnay nito ayon kay Remulla, ang solid waste management ang numero unong problema ng Cavite kung ang pag-uusapan ay ang kapaligiran, sinabi pa nito na tinatayang ang 50



Sanitary landfill sa Cavite tugon sa problema sa basura – DENR

percent ng solid waste sa probinsiya ay napupunta sa mga ilog at aabot ito sa 2,000 tonelada kada araw kung saan ang 90 percent dito ay napupunta sa Manila Bay.

Ipinaliwanag pa ng provincial chief executive na 21 sa 23 lungsod at munisipalidad sa kanilang probinsiya ay walang kakayahang makapagpatayo ng sariling solid waste facility dahil na rin sa kakulangan sa lupa, kung kaya't umapela ang gobernador ng tulong mula sa DENR para makapagtayo ng SLF.

Kaugnay nito ipinaliwanag ni Cimatú na dahil na rin sa nakaraang pag-ulan, ang mga basura mula sa ilang waterways kabilang na ang galing sa mga ilog ng Cavite ay naaanod sa Manila Bay na nakasisira sa pagbabago sa Baywalk area kung ang pag-uusapan ay ang coliform level at solid waste collection.

Idinagdag pa nito na ang pagdami ng mga basura sa mga ilog ay dahil na rin sa pagpapasara sa lahat ng dumpsites sa probinsiya para sa pagpapatupad ng Republic Act 9003 o ang Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000.

“I’d like to appeal to the Mayors of Cavite to please help us,” sabi ni Cimatú kung saan ay ipinaliwanag pa nito na ang local government units (LGUs) ang responsable sa waste segregation at disposal.

Samantala, iminungkahi rin ni DENR Undersecretary for Solid Waste Management and LGUs Concerns at Cavite Cluster Task Force head Benny D. Antiporda ang ilang istrategiya na maaaring ipatupad ng LGUs upang mabigyang solusyon ang problema sa kanilang lokalidad.

Kabilang na dito ang pagkakaroon ng “environmental marshals” sa mga barangays, “influencing behavioral change, enforcement of policies and city ordinances, and checking the environmental compliance of various industries and establishments in their respective areas of responsibility.”

Ayon kay Antiporda, handa ang DENR na tulungan ang LGUs para sa kanilang isinasagawang cleanup activities tulad ng paglalagay ng trash traps, “employing additional river rangers at managing the wastes generated by informal settlers.” Santi Celario



DENR proposes sanitary landfill to address Cavite's garbage woes

BY JONATHAN L. MAYUGA
JULY 5, 2021 3 MINUTE READ



Environment Secretary Roy A. Cimatu

Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Secretary Roy A. Cimatu has appealed to local government units (LGUs) in Cavite to help address the worsening garbage problem by proposing the establishment of a sanitary landfill and improve solid waste management in the province.

Cimatu said the poor solid waste management in Cavite is affecting government's effort to rehabilitate Manila Bay, noting that uncollected garbage find their way into rivers that drain to Manila Bay.

Cimatu, chairman of the Manila Bay Task Force, along with some DENR officials met with Cavite Governor Juanito Victor "Jonvic" Remulla and several mayors in the province to appeal for the local officials' help and cooperation in addressing solid waste, as well as water quality management issues, especially in the six major river systems in the province.

The meeting was held at the Oasis Hotel in Imus on June 24. Local chief executives of the cities of Cavite, General Trias and Trece Martires, and the municipalities of Amadeo, GMA, Indang, Mendez, Naic, Silang, and Tanza also attended the meeting.



DENR proposes sanitary landfill to address Cavite's garbage woes

Also present during the meeting were City Environment and Natural Resources Officers; Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Officers; and representatives from the Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office, Manila Bay Coordinating Office, and regional offices of the DENR, Mines and Geosciences Bureau, Environmental Management Bureau, and Department of the Interior and Local Government.

During the meeting, DENR Calabarzon Regional Executive Director Nilo B. Tamoria identified Cavite's six major rivers as Imus River, Zapote River, Rio Grande-Ylang-Ylang River, Cañas River, Labac River and Maragondon River, all of which empty out into the historic bay.

"We cannot complete the rehabilitation of Manila Bay if we will not solve the garbage problem in the province. There is a very big connection between that," Cimatu said in a news statement.

"The only way for us to solve the problem of Manila Bay is to solve the garbage problem and water quality of the rivers in Cavite," he added.

Remulla said solid waste management is the No. 1 problem of Cavite when it comes to the environment, as he noted that an estimated 50 percent of solid waste in the province goes to its rivers accounting to approximately 2,000 tons a day, of which 90 percent goes to Manila Bay.

According to Remulla, 21 of the 23 cities and municipalities of the province "do not have the capacity to put up their own solid waste facility because of the limitations of land." He appealed for the DENR to help in setting up a sanitary landfill.

In January, the DENR together with the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) closed down a 6-hectare open dumpsite in Tanza, Cavite for violating Republic Act 9003 or the "Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000."

The DENR, its Environmental Management Bureau and NBI have locked up the entry points of the privately-owned open dumpsite located at Barangay Sahud-Ulan.



DENR proposes sanitary landfill to address Cavite's garbage woes

Cimatu explained that due to the recent rainfalls, trash from various waterways, including those from the rivers of Cavite drift to Manila Bay, countering the latest significant improvements in the Baywalk area in terms of coliform level and solid waste collection.

He added that the evident increase in garbage in the rivers may be attributed to the closure of all dumpsites in the province in compliance with Republic Act 9003 or the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000.

“I'd like to appeal to the Mayors of Cavite to please help us,” Cimatu pleaded.



DENR proposes sanitary landfill in Cavite

JUL 5, 2021, 5:22 PM
Santiago Celario
Writer



The Department of Environment and Natural Resources has identified six waterways in Cavite province, all of which empty out into Manila Bay, as areas of concern due to improper solid waste disposal.

Environment and Natural Resources Secretary Roy Cimatu recently bared plans to put up a sanitary landfill in Cavite province as a means of resolving the problem of solid waste in Manila Bay

Cimatu, who is also the chair of the Manila Bay Task Force, met with Cavite Governor Juanito Victor “Jonvic” Remulla and mayors of Cavite province last June 24 to discuss ways to encourage their cooperation in addressing solid waste and water quality management issues in the province’s waterways.

DENR Calabarzon Regional Executive Director Nilo B. Tamoria identified Cavite’s six major rivers (Imus River, Zapote River, Rio Grande-Ylang-Ylang River, Cañas River, Labac River and Maragondon River), all of which empty out into the bay, as areas of concern.

“We cannot complete the rehabilitation of Manila Bay if we will not solve the garbage problem in the province. There is a very big connection between that,” Cimatu told Cavite officials during the meeting.

“The only way for us to solve the problem of Manila Bay is to solve the garbage problem and water quality of the rivers in Cavite,” he added.



DENR proposes sanitary landfill in Cavite

Remulla said solid waste management is the number one problem of Cavite when it comes to the environment, as he noted that an estimated 50 percent of solid waste in the province goes to its rivers accounting to approximately 2,000 tons a day, of which 90 percent goes to Manila Bay.

The provincial chief executive disclosed that 21 of the 23 cities and municipalities of the province “do not have the capacity to put up their own solid waste facility because of the limitations of land” of which he appealed for the DENR to help in setting up an SLF.

Cimatu, on the other hand, explained that due to the recent rainfalls, trash from various waterways including those from the rivers of Cavite drift to Manila Bay, countering the latest significant improvements in the Baywalk area in terms of coliform level and solid waste collection.

He added that the evident increase in garbage in the rivers may be attributed to the closure of all dumpsites in the province in compliance with Republic Act 9003 or the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000.

“I’d like to appeal to the Mayors of Cavite to please help us,” Cimatu said, as he pointed out that under the law, local government units (LGUs) are primarily responsible for waste segregation and disposal.

DENR Undersecretary for Solid Waste Management and LGUs Concerns and Cavite Cluster Task Force head Benny Antiporda suggested some strategies that the LGUs may implement to address the garbage problem in their respective localities.

These include having “environmental marshals” in the barangays, influencing behavioral change, enforcement of policies and city ordinances, and checking the environmental compliance of various industries and establishments in their respective areas of responsibility.

Antiporda said the DENR is committed to help the LGUs to complement their ongoing cleanup efforts like installing trash traps, employing additional river rangers, and managing the wastes generated by informal settlers. (SC)

Tags: #DepartmentOfEnvironmentandNaturalResources, #CaviteProvince, #ManilaBay, #waterpollution, #solidwastemanagement



'Landfill to bury Cavite's garbage woes'

posted July 05, 2021 at 11:00 pm
by Rio N. Araja

Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu on Monday revealed a plan to build a compliant sanitary landfill in Cavite to help manage its garbage problem that is affecting the ongoing Manila Bay rehabilitation project.

Cimatu, chairman of the Manila Bay Task Force, met with Cavite Gov. Juanito Victor Remulla and the mayors of Cavite to discuss ways to encourage their cooperation in addressing solid waste and water quality management issues in the six major river systems in the province.

"We cannot complete the rehabilitation of Manila Bay if we will not solve the garbage problem in the province. There is a very big connection between that," Cimatu said.

"The only way for us to solve the problem of Manila Bay is to solve the garbage problem and water quality of the rivers in Cavite," he added.

In a statement, Remulla said solid waste management is the Number One problem of Cavite when it comes to the environment, citing that an estimated 50 percent of solid waste in Cavite goes to its rivers accounting to approximately 2,000 tons a day, of which 90 percent goes to Manila Bay.

He said 21 of the 23 cities and municipalities of the province "do not have the capacity to put up their own solid waste facility because of the limitations of land" of which he appealed for the DENR to help in setting up a sanitary landfill.

On the other hand, Cimatu said that due to the recent rainfalls, trash from various waterways, including those from the rivers of Cavite drift to Manila Bay, countering the latest significant improvements in the Baywalk area in terms of coliform level and solid waste collection.

The evident increase in garbage in the rivers may be attributed to the closure of all dumps in the province in compliance with Republic Act 9003 or the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000, he said.

"I'd like to appeal to the mayors of Cavite to please help us," Cimatu said.



Cavite garbage problem stalls Manila Bay rehab

By Rhodina Villanueva(Philstar.com) - July 6, 2021 - 12:00am

MANILA, Philippines — The government is planning to put up a law-compliant sanitary landfill in Cavite to prevent the province's garbage problem from affecting the ongoing Manila Bay rehabilitation project, according to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

DENR Secretary Roy Cimatu, chair of the Manila Bay Task Force, recently met with Cavite Gov. Jonvic Remulla and the local mayors to address issues on solid waste and water quality management in the province's six rivers.

During the meeting, DENR-Calabarzon (Cavite, Laguna, Batangas, Rizal and Quezon) chief Nilo Tamera identified these rivers as the Imus, Zapote, Rio Grande-Ylang-Ylang, Cañas, Labac and Maragondon.

"We cannot complete the rehabilitation of Manila Bay if we will not first solve the garbage problem in the province. There is a very big connection between the two," Cimatu said during the meeting at the Oasis Hotel in Imus.

Cimatu said the only way to solve the problem of Manila Bay is to first address the garbage issues and water quality of Cavite's water tributaries.

Remulla admitted that solid waste management is a major problem in Cavite, noting that 50 percent or 2,000 tons of solid waste per day ended up in rivers.

Of the 2,000 tons of garbage thrown into the rivers per day, 90 percent goes to Manila Bay.

Remulla said that of Cavite's 23 cities and municipalities, 21 have no capacity to put up their own solid waste facility due to lack of space or land.

He said he had appealed to the DENR to help the province set up a sanitary landfill.

Cimatu said the recent heavy downpour caused garbage from Cavite rivers to drift to Manila Bay.

He said the evident increase in the rivers' garbage volume could be attributed to the closure of all dumps in Cavite, in compliance with Republic Act 9003 or the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000.

Source: <https://www.philstar.com/nation/2021/07/06/2110412/cavite-garbage-problem-stalls-manila-bay-rehab/amp/>



Cavite governor seeks DENR help in putting up a sanitary landfill facility

July 5, 2021 | 8:46 pm



DENR

CAVITE GOVERNOR Juanito Victor C. Remulla has sought help from the Environment department in building a sanitary landfill facility for the province, whose rivers contribute to the waste problem in Manila Bay.

In a statement on Monday, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) said the governor cited that 21 out of the 23 cities and municipalities in Cavite “did not have the capacity to put up their own solid waste facility because of land limitations.”

Mr. Remulla acknowledged that the province’s top environmental problem is managing solid waste, with an estimated 2,000 tons going to the province’s rivers per day. Of this volume, 90% flows to Manila Bay in the capital.

Cavite’s six major river systems are: Imus, Zapote, Rio Grande-Ylang-Ylang, Cañas, Labac, and Maragondon.

DENR and local government officials, led by Secretary Roy A. Cimatu and Mr. Remulla, recently met to discuss waste management solutions and the establishment of a sanitary landfill.



Cavite governor seeks DENR help in putting up a sanitary landfill facility

“We cannot complete the rehabilitation of Manila Bay if we will not solve the garbage problem in the province... The only way for us to solve the problem of Manila Bay is to solve the garbage problem and water quality of the rivers in Cavite,” Mr. Cimatú said.

The DENR chief explained that recent rains caused trash from waterways, including those from the Cavite rivers, to drift to Manila Bay, reversing the improvements made in the Baywalk area’s fecal coliform count and waste collection efforts.

Mr. Cimatú said the increasing presence of garbage in Cavite’s rivers may be an effect of the Environment department’s recent closure of all dumpsites in the province. — Angelica Y. Yang



DENR, planong magtayo ng sanitary landfill sa Cavite bilang tugon sa problema ng basura

By RadyoMaN Manila -Jul. 5, 2021 at 4:01pm17



Plano ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) na magtayo ng isang compliant sanitary landfill sa Cavite upang masolusyunan ang problema ng basura na nakakaapekto sa isinasagawang rehabilitasyon ng Manila Bay.

Kasunod ito ng naging pag-uusap nina Secretary Roy Cimatu at Cavite Governor Juanito Victor “Jonvic” Remulla at mga alkalde ng probinsya.

Sa pulong, binanggit ni DENR CALABARZON Regional Executive Director Nilo B. Tamorina ang problema ng basura na humahalo sa anim na pangunahing ilog na dumadaloy sa Manila Bay.

Ito ay ang Imus River, Zapote River, Rio Grande-Ylang-Ylang River, Cañas River, Labac River at Maragondon River.

Ayon kay Remulla, ang solid waste management ang numero unong problema ng Cavite.

Tinatayang ang 50 percent ng solid waste sa Cavite ay napupunta sa mga ilog at aabot ito sa 2,000 tonelada kada araw kung saan ang 90% dito ay napupunta sa Manila Bay.

Source: <https://rmn.ph/denr-planong-magtayo-ng-sanitary-landfill-sa-cavite-bilang-tugon-sa-problema-ng-basura/>



DENR nababahala sa pagtaas ng polusyon sa muling pagbubukas ng ekonomiya



July 5, 2021 @ 10:31 AM 21 hours ago

Manila, Philippines – Nababahala ang Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) na maaaring umakyat sa 70 percent ang polusyon partikular sa Metro Manila sa muling pagbubukas ng negosyo at transportasyon para muling makabangon ang bansa sa epekto dulot ng pandemya ng Covid 19.

Ayon kay DENR Undersecretary for Solid Waste Management and Local Government Unit Concerns Benny Antiporda, sa muling pagbubukas ng ekonomiya matapos ang epekto ng pandemya ay maaaring magdulot umano nito ay ang epekto sa ating hangin at kapaligiran.

Sa panayam, sinabi ni Antiporda na bagamat kailangan ng bansa ang muling pagbubukas ng ekonomiya upang muling makabango sa epekto ng pandemya dapat din natin paalalahanan ang publiko na wag kalimutan ang kalikasan.

Bunsod nito, hinikayat ng opisyal ang publiko para sa pagtanim ng mga puno at halaman upang maprotektahan ang ating kalikasan.

Nauna nang sinabi ng DENR na isa sa mabuting ibinunga ng global COVID-19 pandemic sa environment ay ang pansamantalang paghinto sa operasyon ng transportasyon at industriya, at malaki umano ang nabawas sa level ng carbon dioxide na sumisira sa ozone layer at kumonti ang basura ng naitatapon sa mga daluyan ng tubig sa pansamantalang pagtigil sa operasyon ng mga restaurants.

Hinikayat din ni Antiporda ang publiko sa pagtanim ng vertical garden sa kanilang mga bakuran na makakatulong sa ating kalikasan.



DENR nababahala sa pagtaas ng polusyon sa muling pagbubukas ng ekonomiya

Idinagdag pa nito na may plano rin ang DENR ang pagtanim ng mga puno sa paligid ng Marikina river upang maprotektahan ang ilog at maiwasan ang soil erosion.

Tinukoy rin nito ang lungsod ng Caloocan at Mandaluyong City na isa sa mataas ang polusyon sa Metro Manila dulot ng polusyon mula sa mga truck at sasakyan na bumibiyaha sa naturang lugar. (Santi Celario)



NWRB AT DENR NAGSASAGAWA NG PROJECT MANAGEMENT UNIT SA PILIPINAS



July 5, 2021 @ 9:28 AM 20 hours ago

NAPAKAGANDA ng proyektong, “Establishment of an Integrated Water Resources Management Information System for the Pampanga River Basin” dahil mayroong itong structural measures at non-structural measures alinsunod sa water use management, flood management at environment management.

Sa bahagi ng Pilipinas sa pamamagitan ng National Water Resources Board (NWRB) at Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) ay ang paglalabas ng isang special order na lalagdaan ni environment secretary Roy Cimatu para sa paglikha ng isang Project Management Unit at Project Technical Working Group.

Ang PTWG ay bubuuin ng mga eksperto mula sa NWRB, DENR, ibang mga ahensya ng pamahalaan na may kinalaman sa water resources and management, ng water concessionaires, at iba pang water stake holders.

Kaya sa kick-off meeting ay sinabi ng NWRB na susulatan nila ang mga ahensyang nakibahagi sa pagpupulong upang hingin ang pangalan ng nominado nitong magiging bahagi ng PTWG bilang permanent representative o alternate representative. Malaki ang kanilang magiging bahagi sa magiging resulta ng proyekto.

Ang PMU at PTWG ay magsisilbing coordination center, magsasagawa ito ng data gathering and sharing, ng mga site visits and inspections, ng mga focal group discussions (FGDs) sa mga bahagi at may kinalaman sa proyekto, at ng isang stakeholder’s consultation.



NWRB AT DENR NAGSASAGAWA NG PROJECT MANAGEMENT UNIT SA PILIPINAS

Marami pang dapat gawin para sa realisasyon ng proyektong ito. Sabi nga ni ED David, napakaraming trabaho na kailangang gawin sa loob ng apat na taon at sa susunod pang anim na taon o hanggang 2030 para maging ganap ang programa ng KOICA sa Pampanga River Basin (PRB) at sa iba pang river basins sa Pilipinas.

Bukas ang ating column para sa mga update na mangyayari kaugnay sa proyekto. Bilang bahagi ng ating pagsusulong ng “Tamang Impormasyon, Tamang Serbisyo” lalo pa’t napakaganda ng mithiin ng programang ito para sa mga naninirahan sa dinadaluyang lugar ng PRB.

Muli ang pagbati ng inyong Agarang Serbisyo Lady sa DENR sa pamamagitan ng FASPO, at ng NWRB na pinamamahalaan ng ating kaibigan na si ED David. Mabuhay ang NWRB at ang KOICA Philippines para sa pagsisimula ng ikalawang bahagi ng programang ito.



44 Families Receive Land Titles In Legazpi City

By Featuresdesk (MD)
July 5, 2021



A total of 44 families here have received the titles of the land they have been occupying for more than 50 years, under the government's "Handog Titulo" program.

The distribution held on Friday was led by officials of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) in Bicol and the city government.

In an interview on Sunday, Mayor Noel Rosal said the title distribution was in line with the city's commitment to give villagers the chance to own the public land they have been occupying for a long time.

He recognized the efforts of the city council for passing a resolution of support that expedited the land title distribution.

"Now that you are already holding the titles of your land, it means you are now the legitimate owners of your land," Rosal said, addressing the recipients, whose houses sit along the coastline of Barangay Sabang that is facing the panoramic Albay Gulf.

Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Officer (PENRO) chief, Jerry Arena, on the other hand, said the 44 recipient families belong to the first batch of the total of 90 qualified beneficiaries of the program.



44 Families Receive Land Titles In Legazpi City

“The land titles for the remaining 46 families are now in the final processing. And maybe, next month, we will notify them for the distribution of their land titles,” he said in a statement.

Arena said his office is also taking the initiative of identifying potential recipients of their “Handog Titulo” program in other barangays of Legazpi.

Qualified for land titling are residents occupying not more than 500 square meters of public land, he noted.

William Orolfo, one of the land title recipients, admitted that he never had peace of mind through the years that they had been occupying their land.

“I was always anxious that anytime, we would be evicted since we did not have proof that we were the legitimate owner of the lot we were occupying. But this time, I am very happy that at last, we are now the owner of our land. Thanks to the ‘Handog Titulo’ program of the government,” the statement quoted him as saying in the local dialect.

Aside from Rosal and Arena, also present during the handing of land titles at the village’s covered court, were DENR Regional Executive Director for Bicol Francisco Milla, Jr., Vice Mayor Bobby Cristobal, vice president of the Liga ng mga Barangay Ismael Santillan, and the city councilors. (PNA)



Stench from Inayawan ‘reaches’ Talisay City

[Mitchelle L. Palaubsanon](#) (The Freeman) - July 6, 2021 - 12:00am



CEBU, Philippines — The situation at the Inayawan trash transfer station has reportedly worsened, with the stench from the garbage pileup now reaching parts of neighboring Talisay City one kilometer away, an official of the barangay said.

Inayawan barangay administrator Vince Monterde, who visited the area yesterday, said mounds of garbage remain at the transfer station, and the rains experienced these past few days only made the smell more overpowering.

“There’s a lot of garbage and the smell was atrocious,” Monterde said in Cebuano. “The rains did not help. That’s why the stench from Inayawan has now reached as far as San Roque, Talisay City, which is a kilometer away from the transfer station.”

The Environmental Management Bureau-7 inspected the transfer station yesterday but barangay officials lamented their being “left out” from the supposed “joint ocular inspection.”

Inayawan barangay captain Kirk Bryan Repollo said that they were not informed of the ocular inspection, which he said was supposed to be “joint” with the barangay.

“They did not tell us. They did not drop by the barangay to inform us. No one coordinated with the barangay,” Repollo said.

Repollo, who was not feeling well, was unable to go to the site yesterday but instructed Monterde to proceed to the area to supposedly join the inspection.

But Monterde said that when he arrived at the transfer station, no one was there already.

He observed, though, that many garbage trucks were still queuing at the station, waiting for their turn to dump their garbage.



Stench from Inayawan ‘reaches’ Talisay City

Full report soon

Cindylyn Pepito, chief of environmental education and information at EMB-7, said that their office will release the full report on the ocular inspection once approved by DENR-7 Director Paquito Melicor Jr. who was still attending two events with DENR Secretary Roy Cimatu.

Among those who were present during the inspection were Cebu City Vice Mayor Michael Rama, City Councilor Joel Garganera, and DENR-EMB-7 solid waste management coordinator John Roy Kyamko.

Garganera said the inspection aims to check on the station’s status and the proper action take.

“Magbuhat ang taga-EMB-7 og report kabahin sa maong inspection ug mao kini ang basehan sa mga pagahimuon nga lakang alang sa transfer station,” said Garganera in a Facebook post.

Earlier, Repollo warned that the garbage in his barangay has already formed a mountain that may collapse anytime, especially with the onslaught of rains.

This, he said, is risky, especially to waste pickers in the area.

“Kuyaw og mo-landslide lang na og kalit nganha unya simbako naay mga waste pickers nga matabunan,” Repollo said.

Not over yet

Rama said that the city’s trash problem is far from over.

“We have not been over yet with the matter. We’ve only just begun,” he said after the inspection.

“Now, it’s with them (EMB) and (they will) see (it) for themselves. They are the experts on whether that area qualifies as a holding location/transfer station or not. Sila na ana,” he added.

Rama acknowledged that there are also other issues to be addressed – such as the hazardous wastes supposedly kept at nearby junk shop -- but he said they will address them one by one.

While he has not checked the area identified to have the hazardous wastes, he said it is also something that the Department of Public Services and PROBE should also look into.

As to stipulations in the contract with garbage hauler Docast Constructor that have not been allegedly complied with, Rama said the City Council should follow up on the matter.

He also said the city must work on its solid waste management plan. — Caecent No-ot Magsumbol, JMD (FREEMAN)



Editorial: Spawn



Editorial Cartoon by John Gilbert Manantan

July 05, 2021

The city's garbage problems pile up, and as the Cebu City Government hurdles yet again another heap in this sordid saga, a hospital waste sideshow momentarily steals the limelight.

Medical waste was found in a private property in Barangay Inayawan, Cebu City, in the same barangay that now hosts a garbage transfer station in the erstwhile landfill.

Acting on a complaint, the Prevention, Restoration, Order, Beautification and Enhancement (Probe), the Cebu Environmental Sanitation and Enforcement Team (Ceset), and the City Environment and Natural Resources Office (Cenro), inspected the property and found hospital waste—syringes, and intravenous needles.

The complaint pointed out a certain Ronald Abay-abay Villaver, who it turned out was a recurring name linked to similar reports earlier, as some councilors said. Cebu City Councilor Eduardo Rama Jr., committee on public services chair, said Villaver has earned some notoriety in many hospital rubbish clutter reports, one of those was the heap found near the premises of Pollution Abatement System Specialists Inc. (Passi), a firm specializing in the transport, disposal, storage of medical waste. Councilor Philip Zafra is more than relieved to have Villaver now in the limelight. "Finally, nakit-an ko na siya. Naghugaw-hugaw sad na siya's Tisa," said Zafra.



Editorial: Spawn

Probe Chief Raquel Arce said she had asked Villaver to disclose the hospital from where the stacks were sourced, but the latter was reported “uncooperative.”

Villaver, who must be slapped with the direst punishment there is for his act, is as accountable as the hospital that released the waste to him. In 2019, after medical waste was found in Lapu-Lapu City, the Environment Management Bureau (EMB) of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) rejected the hospital’s appeal, which cited its contract with the garbage collection firm, saying the hospital “cannot seek refuge by invoking its memorandum of agreement to secure and submit the Manifest Forms, and Certificates of Treatment to this Office. Respondent should have monitored and made sure that (the firm) has indeed submitted the required documents to this Office, which the former has miserably failed to do.” Simply, it is still the hospital’s responsibility to see to it that its waste is properly disposed. The EMB imposed a penalty on the said hospital in the amount of P110,000.

Meanwhile, on Villaver’s case, the Cebu City Council will hold a special session on the matter, inviting over Cenro, the barangay officials of Inayawan, the Department of Public Services, the City Health Department, the Department of Health and, yes, Villaver himself.

We condemn Villaver’s act, not only in this recent case, but in all the clutter he had committed if the councilors’ complaints are true. There is utter obscenity and evil to be playing around with a potentially harmful waste, made worse in pandemic time.



Show-cause order issued to junkman segregating hospital waste in Inayawan

By: Mae Fhel Gom-os - CDN Digital|July 05,2021 - 03:38 PM



Hospital wastes found in a private property in Barangay Inayawan, Cebu City. | Photo courtesy of CCENRO head Editha Peros

hospital waste

Hospital wastes found in a private property in Barangay Inayawan, Cebu City. | Photo courtesy of CCENRO head Editha Peros

CEBU CITY, Philippines – The Cebu City Environment and Natural Resources Office (CCENRO) has issued a show-cause order to a junkman who uses a private property in Barangay Inayawan as his junkyard for hazardous waste such as recently used hospital items allegedly from Bohol.

Engr. Editha Peros, head of CCENRO, in an interview with CDN Digital on Monday, July 5, 2021, said that they are still looking for Ronald “Abay-Abay” Villaver, who allegedly used a private property situated at the White Road in the said barangay as his junkyard for waste materials that includes hospital waste.

“Sa pagkakaran, ang kadtong among show-cause order, wala pa na-recieve. Gipangita pa namo kay pag-Friday (July 2) giadto, wala man siya sa site, so gibalikan nato karon,” she said.



Show-cause order issued to junkman segregating hospital waste in Inayawan

(As of now, our show-cause order hasn't been received. We're still looking for him because last Friday, we went there but he wasn't at the site so we went back today.)

The Prevention, Restoration, Order, Beautification and Enhancement (PROBE) team headed by Raquel Arce confirmed the presence of medical waste such as dextrose bags, specimen containers, and syringes in the said property upon their first inspection last June 26, five days after the office received a letter from the owner of the property.

The owner asked for the city's immediate assistance, saying that the garbage being collected by Villaver are from Cebu City and that they had no idea whether or not he is the city's garbage collector or sub-contractor.

The owner added that Villaver and his co-workers were segregating waste materials, including hospital waste, in the area without their consent, and that their existing fence was intentionally destroyed.

Allegedly, they reported the matter to the barangay officials, but no preventive or disciplinary action was done except the issuance of a Certificate to File Legal Action.

On June 30, Cebu City Councilor Donaldo Hontiveros, who served as the acting vice mayor that time, conducted a site inspection along with Peros, Arce, and CESET division head Grace Luardo.

Peros said they caught Villaver at the site on that day, which resulted to the issuance of three citations for the disposal of hazardous waste, mixing of source separated waste, and failure to clean surrounding areas five meters from unenclosed residences, vendor stalls, and commercial establishments.

She added that the junkman will be asked to fine P500 each for his three violations.

Should Villaver not comply with the show-cause order, Peros said they will prepare charges to be filed against him.

From Bohol?

Peros said they have no idea as to where Villaver got the hazardous waste, stressing that the junkman only told them that it came from his old junk shop in Barangay Tisa.



Show-cause order issued to junkman segregating hospital waste in Inayawan

“Ang iyang giingon nga kana daw nga hospital waste, dugay na daw na. Didto daw sa karaan niya nga junk shop. Pero nakit-an man gud namo nga naay June 21, 2021 nakasuwat, so bag-o pa,” she said, adding that the name of the hospital on the markings is based in Bohol.

(He said the hospital waste has been there for a long time now. It came from his old junk shop. But we saw that there were markings on the waste which read June 21, 2021, which means these are newly used items.)

Peros said they are coordinating with the Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) on what to do with the said waste since they have the capability to handle infectious waste.

Inayawan Barangay Captain Kirk Bryan Repollo, for his part, said he only found out about the matter during the special session on June 30. The day after, he directed his barangay public safety chief officer to check the area.

“It was only during the special session that I knew of it. That is why I asked the council that, when in fact they inspected the area days before the special session and saw the situation, why did they not call the barangay? Why wait for the special session to take place? We could have already jointly [done something about] it,” said Repollo.

The village chief said that one of the representatives of the lot owners informed him earlier Monday morning, July 5, that they reported the operation of Villaver to CCENRO last year, and that the said office issued a cease and desist order after an inspection.

“However, the report of the inspection team and the cease and desist order did not mention of any hospital waste,” he said, adding that the representative of the owner reportedly made a follow up report last March that operations of the junkman still continued but there was no response from the CCENRO.

Peros said she only found out about the presence of the hospital waste when Arce told her about the matter.

Read more: <https://cebudailynews.inquirer.net/386347/show-cause-order-issued-to-junkman-segregating-hospital-waste-in-inayawan#ixzz6zn3xnPx6>



Pacquiao: Gov't 'Ayuda' Tainted With Corruption

“Why is it that out of the 1.8 million Filipino beneficiaries of the SAP through Starpay app, only 500,000 people had downloaded it?” Sen. Manny Pacquiao asked, referring to the Social Amelioration Program of the government.

Cecille Suerte Felipe Sunday, July 4, 2021

Pacquiao: Gov't 'Ayuda' Tainted With Corruption Sen. Manny Pacquiao urges his colleagues on March 23, 2020 to support President Duterte by passing the Bayanihan to Heal as One Act to address the COVID-19 pandemic. Senate photo

Sen. Manny Pacquiao struck a stiff jab at the government on Saturday, July 3, claiming that P10.4 billion in financial assistance for some 1.3 million Filipinos badly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic is missing.

Speaking at a press conference via Zoom, Pacquiao addressed President Duterte as he insisted on questioning supposed corruption in the handling of funds for the government's pandemic response programs, particularly the Social Amelioration Program (SAP).

“Mr. President, why is it that out of the 1.8 million Filipino beneficiaries of the SAP through Starpay app, only 500,000 people had downloaded it?” he asked in Filipino.

The senator went on to explain that “one cannot withdraw any amount without downloading the Starpay app.”

Then he followed up by asking: “My question is, what happened to the 1.3 million people who did not download the Starpay app, but on the record, they have already received financial assistance from the government?”

Pacquiao stressed that the government had to borrow billions to provide financial assistance to Filipinos who lost their jobs and source of livelihood during the pandemic.

The allocation, he said, was P207.6 billion for the second tranche of the SAP under the Bayanihan to Recover as One Act or Bayanihan 2 law, which expired last June 30.

In exposing the apparent irregularity in the SAP disbursement through the Starpay app, Pacquiao was responding to the challenge hurled at him by Duterte to show proof of his earlier allegations of corruption in his administration.



Pacquiao: Gov't 'Ayuda' Tainted With Corruption

“Mr. President, did you know that millions were allocated by the DSWD (Department of Social Welfare and Development) for this unheralded e-wallet called Starpay which only has a paid-up capital of P62,000?” Pacquiao asked.

“That’s what I want to ask the DSWD, where did the huge amount of ayuda go? There are many people who are hungry and complaining that they haven’t received it,” he stressed.

Pacquiao did not name the owner of Starpay, but insisted: “I’m blown away by the mere mention of the issue being P10.4 billion. It’s a lot of money!”

In its website, Starpay advertises itself as: “We create avenues for micro entrepreneurs to transform their small business into a thriving commerce center.”

As he faced the media, Pacquiao showed piles of documents on his desk, which he would submit before the Senate Blue Ribbon committee for appropriate investigation on Starpay and other agencies involved in alleged questionable transactions.

The senator, who is Duterte’s partymate and acting president of PDP-Laban, said he could not reveal at this time the identities of the people who provided him with the documents.

But he named the Departments of Health (DOH) and of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) as among the government agencies he is also investigating for corruption.

Sen. Manny Pacquiao bares an alleged irregularity in the distribution of financial assistance to Filipinos amid the COVID-19 pandemic during a virtual press conference on Saturday afternoon, July 3, 2021.

DSWD reacts

Reacting to Pacquiao’s exposé, DSWD spokesperson Irene Dumlao said the agency is willing to face any investigating body to address his corruption allegations.



Pacquiao: Gov't 'Ayuda' Tainted With Corruption

Dumlao did not provide specific details on the department's response to the corruption allegations, but said they will present the necessary evidence and documents to clarify the issues raised by the senator.

"In fact, the agency has attended several congressional hearings relative to the SAP implementation," she added.

'DOH books open'

On the other hand, Health Secretary Francisco Duque III said the books of the DOH are open to public scrutiny.

In a statement, Duque noted "the DOH has always been transparent and cooperative to auditing efforts within the government."

"While we are disheartened by these baseless accusations from our government officials, we submit ourselves to inquiries from legislators as this is a part of the checks and balances in our government. I have always been a champion of good governance and the DOH has always been transparent with regard to our fund utilization," he said.

But Duque explained in a radio interview that none of the funds loaned by the government from the World Bank, Asian Development Bank and Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank went to the DOH.

He underscored the funds were released directly to the vaccine manufacturing companies.

"None of the funds that he (Pacquiao) mentioned is with us. I don't know where he got his information. We are ready to explain all of the funds received by the DOH because it is our job to report to Congress and Office of the President regarding the Bayanihan 1 (Bayanihan to Heal as One Act) and 2," he said.

"Everything is documented, there is no problem. Everything is on record. Sen. Pacquiao can actually have his staff check on them," he added.



Pacquiao: Gov't 'Ayuda' Tainted With Corruption

DENR welcomes probe

For its part, the DENR said it welcomes any probe of the agency.

DENR Undersecretary for Solid Waste Management and Local Government Unit Concerns Benny Antiporda said: "If he (Pacquiao) can present evidence, much better. Even Secretary Roy Cimatu himself said that he would not tolerate any form of corruption in the department."

However, Antiporda said "if this move would just be used for political purposes to tarnish the good name of the President, then we ask Senator Pacquiao to please spare the DENR."

"It would be unfair for the hardworking men and women of the DENR if the department would be dragged into a corruption issue without concrete evidence," he added.

'I still respect the President'

Holding the virtual press conference hours before his scheduled flight to the United States to train for his Aug. 21 world welterweight title clash with American champion Errol Spence Jr., Pacquiao said he has not lost respect for Duterte despite the alleged corruption in his administration.

"I still have respect for our President," said the fighting senator. "The information that reaches him may be wrong and I want him to know that I am not fighting him. In fact, I am still helping him expose all corruption."

Pacquiao has been on the bitter end of criticisms and foul language from the President, who has admonished him for his comments against the administration as well as his ambition to seek higher office.

"I believe that he (Duterte) also does not want corruption, the President should not be angry with me," Pacquiao said. – With Janvic Mateo, Sheila Crisostomo, Rhodina Villanueva



Gordon perplexed by Pacquiao absence during corruption probe he initiated

By JON VIKTOR D. CABUENAS, GMA News

Published July 4, 2021 7:48pm

Senator Richard “Dick” Gordon on Sunday was perplexed by Senator Emmanuel “Manny” Pacquiao’s call for a probe on alleged corruption in the government when he would not be present for the investigation.

According to Gordon, he was informed of a proposal for the Blue Ribbon Committee to investigate corruption allegations on the Departments of Health (DOH), Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), and Energy (DOE).

Gordon, who chairs the Blue Ribbon Committee, said he was also made aware that the senator — who remained unnamed in his statement — who filed for the resolution would be out of the country after the filing.

“What will be strange, if not irregular however, in this situation will be the reality is while the accuser has made an accusation, he opts not to be present when the investigation is supposed to be conducted,” Gordon said.

“The gauntlet had been thrown down, he has chosen to pick it up. He who has picked it up cannot suddenly leave and ask someone else to wage the fight in his stead,” he added.

Pacquiao over the weekend [claimed he had documents proving corruption in several government agencies](#), which will be forwarded to the Senate Blue Ribbon Committee for a formal investigation.

Pacquiao and President Rodrigo Duterte have been at odds over the past week over the corruption allegations, with Duterte [lashing out at the lawmaker](#) for his supposed criticisms.

The senator, also a boxer, has a [scheduled match against eight-division champion Errol Spence](#) in Las Vegas on August 21. He is scheduled to depart this weekend to train in the United States for the match.

“We are elected public officials, first and foremost. Our primary duty is service to those who have voted us into office. Any other duty, especially to the self, must always come second,” said Gordon. — **DVM, GMA News**



EDC wins another Gawad Tugas Award



Contributed photo

July 05, 2021

GEOHERMAL leader Energy Development Corporation's (EDC) Southern Negros Geothermal Project has once again been bestowed the Gawad Tugas award, this time for the Clean Air and Water-Power plant category, from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

The award was given to EDC Southern Negros geothermal project for going beyond compliance through its exemplary performance in environmental protection, conservation, and management.

Now on its 6th year, the prestigious Gawad Tugas award is conferred to local government units, public and private organizations that have innovated and demonstrated ingenuity and significant milestones in protecting the environment.

“We have to harness the so-called collaboration of one another for a better tomorrow. I would like to request our dear friends from the LGUs (local government units) and various companies to be a positive influence for the environment in your areas of responsibility. You should not only be working for profit and for people but also for the environment,” said former DENR Assistant Secretary Renato Rueda in his inspirational message at the awarding ceremony held at the Marco Plaza Hotel in Cebu City on June 30.



EDC wins another Gawad Tugas Award

EDC was able to share with the screening committee how it strives to elevate not only the environment but even its stakeholders, including its employees, customers, communities, suppliers and contractors, and investors as they forge collaborative pathways for a decarbonized and regenerative future, which is the company's revitalized mission.

"We thank the DENR Region 7 for recognizing our efforts to not just go beyond compliance but to even go beyond sustainability by being regenerative as we strive to provide Negros Oriental and the rest of the region with a stable source of clean, renewable power through Geo 24/7," said Engr. Debonaire Mamhot, head of EDC's Southern Negros Geothermal Facility.

Geo 24/7 is the company's brand of geothermal energy that provides reliable baseload power day or night, rain or shine as it maintains lush forests with the help of its partner communities.

The forest stands that EDC has under its care across the country absorbs over 1.7 million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO₂e) each year, allowing it to be carbon negative, with its entire operation emitting only a little over 966,000 tCO₂e.

To date, EDC has already planted over 6.5 million native tree seedlings with the help of its 192 partners from 16 regions all over the country under its Binhi greening legacy program. More than 2.5 million of these were planted on over 3,000 hectares in Negros Island with the help of EDC's over 30 local partners.

EDC likewise elevates its customers in Negros Island and all over the country by helping them lower their carbon footprint and even become carbon neutral not only through the clean, reliable, geothermal power or Geo 24/7 that it provides them but also through its Binhi partnership that enables them to also plant, grow, and nurture Philippine native trees for their own carbon offset.

Knowles Electronics Philippines Corporation, one of EDC's Cebu-based customers, also won a Gawad Tugas for the Clean Air and Water-Manufacturing category for its own decarbonization and sustainability programs that include getting 100 percent of its power from renewables.

In total, EDC generates over 40 percent of the Philippines' renewable energy output and serves about 10 percent of the country's overall electricity demand with its installed capacity of almost 1,500MW. The company has been powering Negros Island for almost 40 years with geothermal energy from its 222.5MW facility in its Southern Negros. (PR)



Taal's tantrums: Preemptive measures imperative

Published July 6, 2021, 12:12 AM
by Manila Bulletin

Due to the resurgence of “anomalously high sulfur dioxide (SO₂) emission” from Taal Volcano, Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (Phivolcs) has imposed Alert Level 3 to warn against the dangers posed by a “high level of volcanic unrest.” Just a notch lower than Alert Level 4 that was raised in January 2020, this has prompted the evacuation of residents from nine Batangas towns, namely: Agoncillo, Laurel, Taal, Lemery, Balete, Cuenca, Mataasnakahoy, San Nicolas, and Talisay, and Tanauan City.

Governor Hermilando Mandanas has activated the provincial disaster relief and risk reduction management council and its units in the various LGUs to ensure a prompt and orderly evacuation process — even as he laments that under a new law signed by President Duterte in 2018, the areas affected by Taal Volcano's hazards have been placed under the supervision of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR). He is referring to Republic Act Republic Act 11038 or the Expanded National Integrated Protected Area System (ENIPAS) Act. According to Governor Mandanas, he does not have the authority to order evacuations.

Field reports indicate that at least 22 evacuation centers have been set up, providing shelter to nearly 4,000 displaced residents. A total of 39 people died as a result of Taal's eruption last year despite the fact that only one death was directly caused by the January 12, 2020 eruption. The casualties perished “because they refused to follow the evacuation order or decided to return to their homes, or died in the evacuation centers of heart attacks caused by anxiety.”

Taal Volcano's strong eruption last year also forced the closure of the Ninoy Aquino International Airport, the country's main gateway and the diversion of flights to Mactan Cebu International Airport.

Barely had the affected communities returned to their homes, when a second disaster struck: the COVID-19 pandemic outbreak. Hence, thousands of families in Batangas and Cavite were hit by a double whammy of economic dislocation and illnesses. Damage to agricultural crops and fisheries was extensive, estimated at P3.1 billion and P1.6 billion, respectively. The shutdown of the local tourist and travel trade has greatly affected the livelihood and income of thousands living in the permanent danger zone in the periphery of Taal Volcano.

Amid the ongoing preemptive evacuation, the Health Secretary himself has initiated vaccination of those that are now housed at the evacuation centers. Some Metro Manila mayors also donated a portion of their vaccine supplies so that more evacuees could be inoculated.



Taal's tantrums: Preemptive measures imperative

Learning from past lessons, it is hoped that the current response will bring about a higher level of comfort and assurance to the families directly affected by Taal Volcano's latest volatility. Hopefully, turf issues such as those flagged by the Batangas governor would not impede relief efforts, nor trigger other adverse events that could magnify the consequences of Taal's tantrums on nearly half a million people living within its 14-kilometer permanent danger zone.



Climate change: Your choices matter

By Inter Press Service
July 6, 2021

TORONTO: Life is a series of choices. And choices have consequences. When it comes to climate change, some choices have bigger consequences than others, and there's a startling takeaway: your next "big" decision will play a meaningful role in our collective ability to reach net-zero by 2050.

Last month, the International Energy Agency (IEA) published a road map, describing how the global energy sector can zero-out its emissions by mid-century. In a report that includes many remarkable statements, three stand out. First, behavioral changes, such as walking instead of driving, amount to just four percent of the required reductions. Second, more than half of all decarbonization is linked to consumer choices such as installing low-carbon heating. Third, electricity sector emissions have to nosedive even as electricity demand doubles.

Two conclusions flow from this. If governments and industry follow the IEA road map, consumers won't need to modify their behavior much; the overwhelming majority (96 percent) of emissions reductions will come from other changes. This may come as a relief to many. But there's a nuance; the IEA distinguishes behavior from choices. That means - and here's our second conclusion - every choice each of us makes today that has a long-term climate impact must be made in a way that propels us toward zeroing emissions.

poster

It's hard to imagine how individual choices can affect long-term global targets; the time frame is too remote and a collective goal is too abstract. But reverse-engineering the actions required and understanding how those actions must be spread across society, accelerates and personalizes the importance of today's choices.

This is because of a concept called committed emissions. Every new 'thing' we build or buy has an expected working life. Understanding the climate impact of a 'thing' therefore requires knowing both the rate at which it generates carbon and how long (in years) it will operate. For example, cars last, on average, 15 years, while power plants can run for decades.

That means there are fewer than two generations of cars before 2050, and just one generation of power plant. In fact, the issue is more pressing than that; the IEA's roadmap requires electric vehicle sales to swell from five percent of today's market to more than 60 percent by 2030 and our carbon "budget" for new-build power plants is already compromised because of the longevity of our existing power fleet.



Climate change: Your choices matter

The startling result is your next big decision will have a meaningful impact on our collective ability to hit net-zero by 2050. Put differently, if you are fortunate enough to influence an investment in a new car or power plant, you must have a compelling reason (and there are fewer than you think) to invest in anything other than a zero-emissions-vehicle or zero-carbon-ready power plant.

Why are we focusing on cars and power plants? Shouldn't we also eat less red meat and avoid plastic bags? The answer is yes; all of it matters. But - and here's the crux - some choices have an exponentially bigger climate impact than others. To illustrate, your decision to use reusable bags at the grocery store, while admirable, means little if you drive a gas-guzzling truck to get there.

So, which choices have the most impact? Simply put, it's the choices about machines and appliances that - historically - have involved burning things and it's a short list. Power plants and cars are on it. So too are the things that heat our buildings and cook our food. Today, many of these activities involve fire and that needs to change if we are to reach net-zero by 2050.

The challenge with switching out fire for electrons (or other zero-emission technologies) involves history, bias and noise. And these are all against us. History, because past energy transitions have taken time. Bias, because we are prone to favor information that supports pre-existing beliefs. And noise, because we are bombarded with conflicting information on a daily basis.

These challenges are compounded by the fact many of our "big" choices are made under pressure, e.g., an appliance has failed and we need a new one, now. In these circumstances, we routinely rely on heuristics (mental shortcuts to make quicker decisions), which tend to disadvantage new approaches.

In the wild, that normally means a mid-winter failure of a gas furnace will result in a like-for-like replacement, even though the same job could be done by an electric heat pump. Here, no one can blame the stressed householder. Similarly, it's tough (but easier) to blame an under-pressure board that continues investing in emission-heavy technologies.

The toxic combination of history, bias, noise and pressure is worsened by information asymmetry, which is to say a Google search for "replacement furnace" yields more experts in gas heating than heat pumps. And all that is before accounting for price differences between carbon-intensive and low carbon alternatives, which can be significant.

The remedy? Getting 'climate-smart' information into decision-makers' hands. (Note: our biggest challenge is not technology.)



Climate change: Your choices matter

This requires excising historic 'truths' that weren't true in the past and aren't true now. It means correcting for bias and noise and being transparent on the true costs of carbon. It means training our workforce differently and making low-carbon alternatives cost-competitive at point-of-purchase. For the expanding electricity sector, it means developing a fleet strategy that centers on a timely shift to net-zero.

Big choices are hard. But they are pressing and critical. Bad choices today amplify tomorrow's challenges and each of us bears responsibility for that.

BY PETE RICHARDSON, IPS

Pete Richardson is a climate strategist at Manifest Climate, with a focus on energy and a drive to effect change at scale.



Climate-related lawsuits skyrocket since 2015 with big wins for activists

Most cases have been brought against governments but new arguments involving high emitters in the private sector are likely to increase moving forward.

climate litigation soars

30 climate protestors assembled on Freedom Plaza in Washington, D.C., USA on 30 June 2021. Image: Victoria Pickering via Flickr. CC BY NC-ND 2.0

Thomson Reuters Foundation

July 5, 2021

Climate-related litigation has soared globally since 2015, with governments and private firms facing unprecedented challenges over their emissions, UK-based researchers said on Friday.

Almost 55 per cent of 1,841 cases brought to 13 courts in 40 countries between 1986 and May this year were filed since 2015, the year of the Paris Agreement to limit to limit global warming to 1.5 Celsius above pre-industrial levels, the study found.

POLICY & FINANCE

As the climate crisis intensifies, lawsuits aimed at slowing greenhouse gas emissions are on the rise

Read now

“The number of ‘strategic’ cases is dramatically on the rise,” said the London School of Economics (LSE) report, referring to activist cases that aim to bring about a broad shift in policy.

“Litigation that is aligned with climate goals is on balance seeing success and there has been a run of important wins in the last 12 months.”

A Dutch court issued a landmark ruling in May, ordering Royal Dutch Shell to drastically deepen planned greenhouse gas emission cuts after environmental groups said the firm’s continued fossil fuel investments threatened human rights.

Shell vowed to appeal the ruling.

The United Nations has also predicted more court action amid growing worry about climate change, protracted wrangling over how to stop it and a mounting sense of urgency.



Climate-related lawsuits skyrocket since 2015 with big wins for activists

Most cases assessed by the LSE were brought against governments but new arguments involving high emitters in the private sector are likely to increase moving forward, LSE co-author Catherine Higham told the Thomson Reuters Foundation.

“There is more diversity in the arguments being used, incorporating, for example, themes of greenwashing and fiduciary duty. Businesses need to be aware of litigation risk,” the report said.

Of 369 decided cases, 58 per cent were favourable to climate change action, 32 per cent were unfavourable, and 10 per cent had neutral outcomes, the study found, with lawsuits brought in the United States, France, Pakistan and the East African Court of Human Rights.

Michael Hausfeld, who chairs Hausfeld, a law firm that is active on the issue, said he had seen a “crescendo” building in courts across the world.

“What we see is truly a change in the landscape — the addition and engagement of the law,” he said.

“The law has a responsibility in such a situation to enforce the principles that we believe are at stake,” he said, referring to climate goals outlined in the Paris Agreement and broader human rights issues.

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IPPF vows to save endangered 'Katala' birds in its forest land

Published July 5, 2021, 3:39 PM
by Jeffrey Damicog

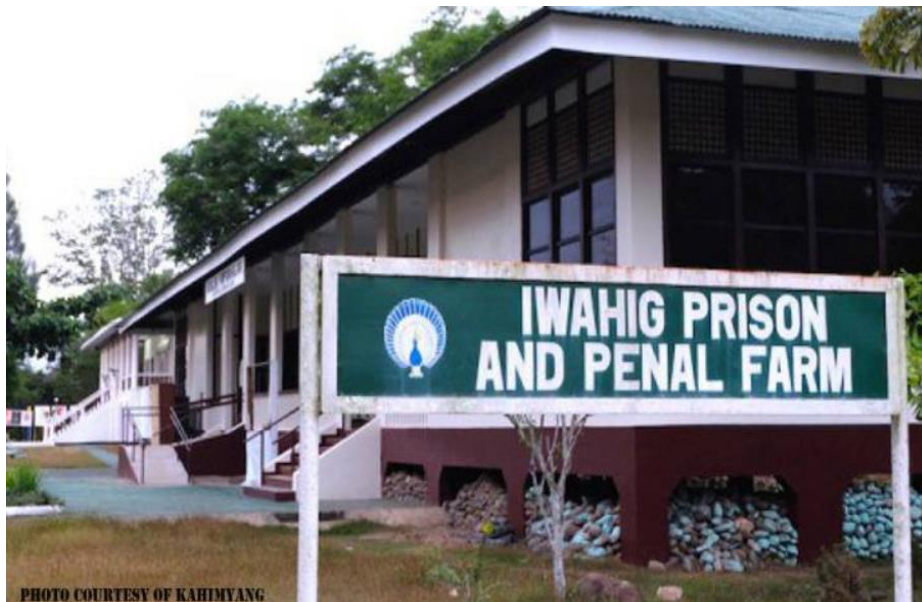


PHOTO COURTESY OF KAHIMYANG

Iwahig Prison and Penal Farm

The Iwahig Prison and Penal Farm (IPPF) in Puerto Princesa City, Palawan has vowed to protect the endangered Philippine red-vented cockatoo birds or "Katala" living within its forest land.

The IPPF made the assurance after its personnel and representatives of the environmental group Katala Foundation, Inc. (KFI) found 55 cockatoos last June 30 at its Montible Sub-Colony.

"No distance or obstacle can hinder the desire and willingness of IPPF and KFI to protect and preserve these species resting in paradise inside the prison without bars," the IPPF said in a statement.

The facility noted that 55 Katalas, which were found in a Kapok tree, are believed to be among the 85 birds living in the area.

"The place became a habitat and hatching place for the cockatoo due to preserved natural environment and tall trees which could be found in the area," the IPPF said.

“Manggis, being the tallest tree in Southeast Asia which can only be found in Montible, along with other tall and prime species like Apitong trees serve as hatching place for the cockatoo,” it noted



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IPPF vows to save endangered ‘Katala’ birds in its forest land

However, the facility lamented that such trees have been “the high value target for the illegal loggers.”

The IPPF learned that since 2008 the number of Katalas has dwindled to less than 1,000.

There have been 180 Katalas found in the islands of Palawan, it said.



PrimeWater backs Cavite's second septage plant

posted July 05, 2021 at 05:00 pm
by Manila Standard Digital

PrimeWater Infrastructure Corp. has paved the way for the construction of Cavite's second septage treatment plant in Tagaytay City on June 30.

PrimeWater backs Cavite's second septage plant

"We in PrimeWater always stick with our mission to bring potable and reliable water. Aligned with that is bringing cleaner water upon this project's completion," said Engr. Romeo Sabater, PrimeWater's Vice-President, of the septage treatment tank which will bring cleaner water to the city.

Perpetuo Lucero, Tagaytay City Water District's Chairman, said the project will increase the percentage of Tagaytay's septage treatment program.

"Tagaytay's numbers are quite low," he said, pertaining to the city's domestic waste treatment. "But with the help of PrimeWater, I believe these numbers will shoot up."

The septage project is in compliance with the Clean Water Act, which mandates local water districts in coordination with local government units and other government agencies to install hygienic septic tanks.

In her speech during the groundbreaking, Tagaytay City Councilor Anabelle Solis conveyed the gratitude of the local government, underscoring how their partnership with PrimeWater has helped them segregate domestic waste in the city.

PrimeWater backs Cavite's second septage plant

Once done, the septage tank's establishment will cater to 30 cubic meter septage capacity daily that will be disposed properly, said PrimeWater's Sanitation and Wastewater head Vergel Paule.

"PrimeWater will also handle the regular dislodging, proper treatment, and disposal of domestic waste," Paule added.



GMA Network adopts one hectare of Maynilad's tree planting site

Published July 5, 2021 2:19pm

400 Narra saplings were planted at GMA's site in Mt. Balagbag, which is part of the Ipo Watershed. GMA Network, as part of its environmental advocacy project Kapuso ng Kalikasan, recently partnered with Maynilad to adopt one hectare of tree planting site in the Ipo Watershed.

Under Maynilad's 'Plant for Life' program, its partner-communities planted 400 Narra saplings at GMA's site in Mt. Balagbag, which is part of the Ipo Watershed. This initiative aims to rehabilitate and reforest Metro Manila's main sources of water supply to help prevent land erosion, flooding, and drought.

"Beyond the Network's thrust of providing quality news and entertainment to the public via our various platforms, we remain committed to helping protect our environment through one of our Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programs, Kapuso ng Kalikasan," said GMA Network Vice President and Head of Corporate Affairs and Communications Angela Javier Cruz.

"We hope that through this partnership with Maynilad, our fellow Kapuso would also be encouraged to do their part, whether big or small, in the preservation of our common home," Javier-Cruz urged.

For several years now, GMA has been working hand in hand with Maynilad by deploying employee-volunteers, dubbed GMA G.I.V.E.S. (Guide, Interact, Volunteer, Educate, and Serve), to the latter's coastal clean-up and tree planting activities.



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MC No. 8, s. 2021

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR

TO : ALL HEADS OF CONSTITUTIONAL BODIES; DEPARTMENTS, BUREAUS, AND AGENCIES OF THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT; LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS; GOVERNMENT-OWNED OR CONTROLLED CORPORATIONS WITH ORIGINAL CHARTERS; AND STATE UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES

SUBJECT : Clarification on the Use of CS Form No. 6, Revised 2020

In CSC Memorandum Circular (MC) No. 5, s. 2021 dated 28 April 2021, the Commission circularized CSC Resolution No. 2100020 dated 7 January 2021 that amended items (p), 8 to 10 and 15 to 25, Rule I and Sections 11 to 20, Rule XVI of the Omnibus Rules Implementing Book V of Executive Order (E.O.) No. 292, also known as the Omnibus Rules on Leave (CSC MC No. 41, s. 1998, as amended), which cover the provisions of the civil service rules on maternity leave, paternity leave and adoption leave and prescribed the use of the revised **Application for Leave form (CS Form No. 6, Revised 2020)** and the **Notice of Allocation of Maternity Leave form** (CS Form No. 6a, s. 2020).

The said amended policies, including the use of the revised and new leave forms took effect on 24 April 2021. However, the CSC has received requests for clarification on the mandatory use of the revised CS Form No. 6, Revised 2020 from agencies that are updating their Human Resource Information System (HRIS) to integrate the new and the revised forms or those that are using up the printed copies of the old leave form.

In view thereof, the CSC clarifies that agencies are enjoined to use the revised Application for Leave form. However, agencies that are still updating their HRIS and/or those using up their printed old Application for Leave form may use the said old form until **31 December 2021**.


ALICIA dela ROSA-BALA
Chairperson

1 July 2021

Bawat Kawani, Lingkod Bayani

CSC Building, IBP Road, Batasan Hills, 1126 Quezon City | (02) 931-7935/(02) 931-7939/(02) 931-8092 | cscphil@psc.gov.ph | www.csc.gov.ph



House leader renews call for 'reimagined' dev't of Taal area

By Filane Mikee Cervantes July 5, 2021, 8:01 pm



Taal Volcano (File photo)

MANILA – A leader of the House of Representatives on Monday renewed his call for a "reimagined" development of the area around the Taal volcano as it continues increased unrest and the threat of another eruption lingers.

House Ways and Means Committee chair Joey Salceda said there is a need for a comprehensive framework for the enhanced reconstruction of the Taal area, or the South of Manila Growth Corridor (SMGC), to encourage development outside the danger zone.

The idea, Salceda said, is to put up the necessary infrastructure support, economic incentives, and policy direction for more resilient development.

"We really need to go for more adaptive development in the area," he said.

Salceda filed House Bill 5977, or the proposed Taal Eruption Recovery Rehabilitation and Adaptation (TERRA) Act, which aims to develop a long-term socioeconomic reconstruction program for communities most directly impacted by Taal's activity, embedding adaptation in infrastructure and social investments.

"The (TERRA) plan shall be based on the principle of building back better forward which should go beyond restoring the area to its former state or condition but instead use this opportunity to



House leader renews call for 'reimagined' dev't of Taal area

leapfrog area development given its proximity to Metro Manila--the seat of economic power," Salceda said.

The bill promotes the safe, sustainable, long-term development of what shall be referred to as the SMGC through the fast-tracking of the construction of strategic infrastructure, as well as the mapping of safe areas for industrial, commercial, and residential development.

He also called on the government to make preparations on energy supply, industrial continuity, emergency response, and economic relief in response to a possible eruption of the Taal volcano.

"The most probable national challenge that could arise out of the Taal eruption is damage to the energy and manufacturing sectors. These industries are highly concentrated around the area. We have to have contingencies," Salceda said.

He noted that the energy sector is particularly at risk, as all of the country's natural gas power plants and several geothermal, coal, and biomass power plants are in Batangas.

"All in all, there are 20 power plants in Batangas. They account for 5,255.9 MW of installed capacity, or 30.9 percent of the Luzon Grid. This very high concentration of power sources in an area prone to the same set of hazards is something we need to address with power supply diversification," Salceda said.

He urged the Department of Energy (DOE) and the Board of Investments to come up with strategies to encourage power generation companies to diversify their production bases and use the Corporate Recovery and Tax Incentives for Enterprises (CREATE) Act to make such diversification financially viable.

"The tool most immediately available to us and the next administration is CREATE. Subject to industry classification in the Strategic Investment Priorities Plan, power plants could qualify for income tax holidays (ITH) of 4-7 years, plus enhanced deductions of 5 years, plus 2 years if in areas recovering from armed conflict or a major disaster, plus 3 years ITH if relocating from NCR (National Capital Region) to all other areas. That is up to 17 years of incentives," Salceda said. (PNA)



Taal continues to emit high levels of SO₂ gas

By Ma. Cristina Arayata July 5, 2021, 10:29 am



(File photo)

MANILA – Taal Volcano continues to emit high levels sulfur dioxide (SO₂) gas and steam-rich plumes in the past 24 hours, the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (Phivolcs) said Monday.

In the past 24 hours, Taal generated 17 volcanic earthquakes, including one volcanic tremor that lasted for 45 minutes, and 16 low frequency volcanic earthquakes caused by movements or eruptions of magma from the volcano.

On June 4, the SO₂ emission averaged 22,628 tonnes/day -- the highest ever recorded in Taal.

Plumes, on the other hand, rose as high as 2,500 meters. Taal Volcano has been under Alert Level 3 (magmatic unrest) since July 1 which means that there is magmatic intrusion at its main crater that may further drive succeeding eruptions.

Phivolcs reminded the public that the Taal Volcano Island is a permanent danger zone, and entry into the island as well as into the high-risk barangays of Agoncillo and Laurel towns must be prohibited due to the hazards of pyroclastic density currents and volcanic tsunami should strong eruptions occur.

Phivolcs earlier recommended complete evacuation in the TVI, Taal Lake, Agoncillo, Batangas (Banyaga, Bilibinwang), and Laurel, Batangas (Gulod, Boso-Boso, Lakeshore Bugaan East).



Taal continues to emit high levels of SO₂ gas

All activities on Taal Lake should not be allowed, Phivolcs said on Monday.

Communities around the Taal Lake shores are advised to take precautionary measures against possible airborne ash and volcanic smog, and prepare for possible evacuation should unrest intensify.

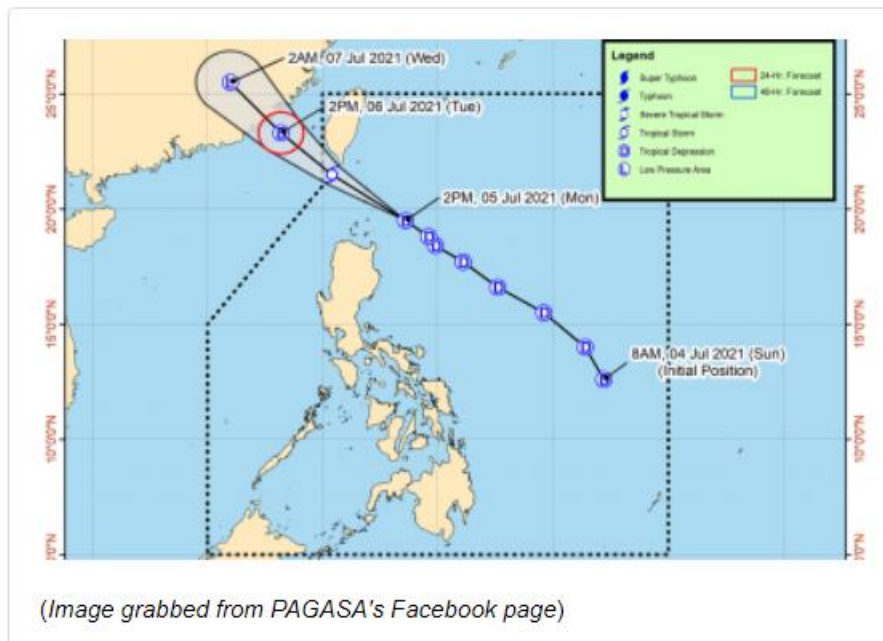
According to the United States Geological Survey, volcanic smog poses a health hazard by aggravating preexisting respiratory ailments.

Likewise, prolonged exposure to SO₂ may cause sore throat and difficulty in breathing, according to the Department of Health. (PNA)



'Emong' accelerates as it heads to Batanes-Babuyan Islands

By Ma. Cristina Arayata July 5, 2021, 7:35 pm



MANILA – Tropical Depression Emong has accelerated, moving northwestward at 45 kph towards the area of Batanes-Babuyan Islands, the weather bureau said in its 5 p.m. bulletin Monday.

It has maintained its strength, packing maximum sustained winds of 55 kph near the center, and gustiness of up to 70 kph.

"Emong" was last tracked 215 kilometers east northeast of Calayan, Cagayan, or 160 km. east southeast of Basco, Batanes.

Tropical cyclone wind signal (TCWS) no. 1 remains hoisted over Batanes and the northeastern portion of Cagayan (Santa Ana, Gonzaga) including Babuyan Island.

Batanes and Babuyan Islands will continue to experience moderate to heavy, with at times intense rains. Isolated to scattered flash flooding and rain-induced landslides are likely, especially in areas susceptible to these hazards.

Adjacent areas may also experience flooding in the absence of such rainfall occurrence due to surface runoff or swelling of river channels, the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) said.



'Emong' accelerates as it heads to Batanes-Babuyan Islands

Strong breeze to near gale conditions, rough to very rough seas will continue to prevail over the seaboard of areas under TCWS no. 1, and the remaining seaboard of Cagayan.

Sea travel is risky over these waters.

PAGASA forecast "Emong" to make landfall in the vicinity of Batanes-Babuyan Islands on Monday night. The weather disturbance is expected to exit the Philippine Area of Responsibility on Tuesday.

Meanwhile, scattered rain showers and thunderstorms will prevail over the Ilocos Region, Apayao, the rest of Cagayan, Metro Manila, the Visayas, Calabarzon, Mimaropa, the Bicol Region, the Zamboanga Peninsula, Northern Mindanao, Caraga, the Davao Region, and Zambales due to the trough of "Emong" and the southwest monsoon.

The rest of the country will have isolated rain showers caused by localized thunderstorms, PAGASA said. (PNA)



PANDARAMBONG SA VATICAN AT KALUPITAN SA CANADA



July 5, 2021 @ 9:32 AM

NAKAPANININDIG-balahibo ang nagaganap ngayon sa Vatican City at sa Canada na kaugnay ng Simbahang Katolika.

Kapain natin ang mga nagaganap.

CARDINAL, PARI NILILITIS SA MULTI-BILYONG PERA

Binasbasan mismo ni Pope Francis ang paglilitis kay Cardinal Angelo Becciu na dating mataas na opisyal sa Vatican City dahil sa paglustay o pagbalsa nito, kasama ang mga kamag-anak niya at iba pa, ng nasa 350 milyong Euro o 20.4 bilyong piso.

Nauna rito, mismong si Pope Francis ang nagpwesto kay Becciu bilang Cardinal noong Hunyo 28, 2018 pero sinibak siya ng Santo Papa noong Setyembre 24, 2020 sa katiwalian, pang-aabuso sa tungkulin, pagbibigay-pakinabang at pwesto sa mga kapatid at kamag-anak nito.

Sa napakaikling panahon ni Cardinal sa gobyernong Vatican, anak ng tokwa, nagmadali siyang madyikin ang pondong Vatican na ang kalakhan ay mula sa koleksyon sa mga mananampalataya.

Malamang na nadamay pati ang share ng Vatican City sa mga koleksyon ng Simbahang Katolika sa Pilipinas.

MODUS SA RAKET

Ayon mismo sa mga bintang laban kay Becciu, secretary nitong si Fr. Mauro Carlino na may kaso ring pangngikil, at mga kasabwat nila, sari-saring modus ang paglantak nila ng salapi.

Pangunahin bintang kay Cardinal ang paglalabas ng pera patungo sa kanyang mga kapatid na may kontrol sa ilang kompanya at charitable institutions sa kanilang lugar sa Sardinia, Italy.



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Nagpabili rin si Becciu ng mahal na commercial at residential building sa 60 Sloane Avenue sa South Kensington district sa London, United Kingdom.

Pinalakad ang dalawang broker na sina Gianluigi Torzi at Raffaele Mincione para mabili ang nasabing ari-arian sa halagang 200 milyong euro at nakuha nila ang 45% na halaga nito at dito umano nagkapera sina Cardinal.

Si Cecilia Marogna, 40, na empleyada ni Becciu, nakatanggap din ng 575,000 euro para umano sa ransom na hinihiling ng kinikidnap na missionaries sa Africa pero nabuko siyang kumabig din ng malaki nang makita siyang naging biglang-yaman.

Naglagak dinng mga salapi sina Becciu sa apat na kompanya: dalawa sa Switzerland, isa sa United States at isa sa Slovenia.

NAHAHARAP SA PAGKABILANGGO

Ginamit ni Becciu ang kanyang kapangyarihan bilang may hawak ng Secretary of State na siyang nangangasiwa ng pera ng Vatican City.

Ni-raid ng Vatican police ang Secretary of State makaraang mabunyag ang iskam sa pagbili ng mga gusali sa London at lumitaw na rin ang iba pang mga kaaliwaswasan ng Cardinal at mga kamag-anak at kasabwat nito.

Hindi magtatagal, hihimas-himas na sila ng rehas na bakal.

MGA SIMBAHAN SINUSUNOG SA CANADA

Nagwawala ang mga katutubo sa Canada sa natatagpuan nilang mga sementeryo na pinaglibingan ng mga batang katutubo sa nakalipas na 110 taong paghawak sa nasabing bansa ng Simbahang Katolika, ka-partner ng pamahalaang itinayo ng mga dayuhang Pranses at British.

Pitong Simbahang Katolika ang sinunog ng mga galit na katutubo sa nakalipas na dalawang linggo at iba pa ang mga sinira nila.

Nagalit ang mga katutubo nang madiskubre nila ang mga hiwa-hiwalay na sementeryo sa tatlong eskwelahang pag-aari ng Simbahang Katolika na naglalaman ng mahigit 1,000 kalansay at iba pang palatandaan ng mga batang patay.

Naniniwala ang mga miyembro ng First Nations o katutubo na pinagpapatay ang mga bata makaraan ang mga pang-aabuso, rape at iba pang krimen.

Umabot umano sa 150,000 ang mga batang inihawalay sa mga magulang ng simbahan at pamahalaan para matuto sa Katolisismo at kalimutan ang mga katutubong kultura ng mga ito.

Naganap ang pangyayar sa pagitan ng 1880 hanggang 1996.

MGA ESTATWA NA MANANAKOP SINIRA RIN

Pinagtutumba rin ang mga imahe nina Queen Victoria at Queen Elizabeth na nakatayo sa harapan ng Manitoba legislature at sinabuyan pa ang mga ito ng mga pulang pintura.

Ang estatwa ni Captain James Cook na isang kapitan ng British Navy at bayani sa pananakop ng Britain sa Canada ay tinumba rin saka itinapon sa pier ng Victoria, British Columbia.



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PANDARAMBONG SA VATICAN AT KALUPITAN SA CANADA

Itinaon ang mga galit na pagkilos sa panahon ng pagselebra ng Canada ng Independence Day nito.

PAGHINGI NG PATAWAD O PAGSASABING I'M SORRY

Pinangunahan na mismo ni Prime Minister Justin Trudeau ang panghihingi ng patawad para sa parte ng gobyerno, kasabay ng pagkondena nito sa nakaraang gawain ng mga awtoridad.

Naghayag naman mismo si Pope Francis ng kalungkutan subalit hinihintay pa ng mga ang panghihingi nito ng sorry o patawad.

Gayunman, pareho ang Simbahang Katolika at pamahalaang Canada na kumikilos ngayon para ituwid ang mapait na kasaysayan ng bansa.

Sey n'yo, mga Bro?

06 JULY 2021, Tuesday



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DOH sees ‘population protection’ by November

By Sheila Crisostomo(Philstar.com) - July 6, 2021 - 12:00am



MANILA, Philippines — The Department of Health (DOH) is hopeful that the country will achieve “population protection” against COVID-19 in the National Capital Region (NCR) by November, an official said yesterday.

Asked at a press briefing if achieving population protection is doable in NCR four months from now, DOH Undersecretary Maria Rosario Vergeire said yes.

“Based on speed and scale on how we do vaccination in NCR, it is possible,” she said, noting the target can be met if sectors most vulnerable to COVID-19 are inoculated against the virus.

Population protection pertains primarily to the administration of jabs to health workers, senior citizens and people with comorbidities.

Vergeire also said that the long-haul effects observed among those infected with SARS-CoV-2 include headaches and shortness of breath.

Aside from this, there are individuals who reported having intermittent coughing after they recovered from COVID-19.



DOH sees ‘population protection’ by November

“There are anecdotal and official reports coming from our regional offices about these effects... All of these are being compiled and consolidated and there are different groups in the country doing these studies already,” she added.

Vergeire claimed that a “cohorting study” is underway where individuals will be observe for a long time.

Based on the vaccination statistics released by DOH, 11.7 million individuals have received their first dose of the COVID-19 jab as of July 4.

Of this, however, only 2.86 million are fully vaccinated with the required two doses.

For health care workers, 1.7 million were given first dose while 1.1 million have gotten their second dose.

On the other hand, 2.99 million people with comorbidities were administered their first dose but only 897,719 are now fully vaccinated.

For senior citizens, 2.5 million got their first shot but only 788,630 have returned for their second dose.

Data showed that for frontline economic workers, 1.3 million got their first dose while 26,109 received their second dose.

Of the 256,431 indigent population given their first dose, 227 have received their second dose.

Vergeire asked those who missed their second dose to complete their vaccination to achieve protection against severe COVID-19 and death.

She said that while vaccines have different intervals for the first and second dose, “accordingly up to six months you can get the second dose of the vaccine.”



DOH logs 5,392 new COVID-19 cases, total at 1.44 million

(Philstar.com) - July 5, 2021 - 4:01pm



MANILA, Philippines — The Department of Health on Monday said 5,392 more individuals contracted the COVID-19, bringing the country's total count to 1,441,746.

Today's numbers saw active cases down by 1,114 from July 4's 52,708. Authorities said 10 laboratories did not submit screening results.

Active cases: 51,594 or 3.6% of the total

Recoveries: 6,477, bringing the number to 1,364,960

Deaths: 43, or now 25,192 in total

What's new today?

Official figures showed the country has administered over 11.7 million COVID-19 vaccine doses as of July 4. Some 2.86 million have completed their shots, while 8.83 million have received their initial dose.

DOH said it would send additional COVID-19 jabs and antigen test kits to evacuation centers in Taal amid the continued volcanic unrest in the area.

The Philippine National Police told its offices and units to be on the lookout for persons who would fake documents to show they are now fully vaccinated for COVID-19.

DOH denied it purchased medicines nearing expiration dates, as it sought to refute claims made by Sen. Manny Pacquiao.

Source: <https://www.philstar.com/headlines/2021/07/05/2110332/doh-logs-5392-new-covid-19-cases-total-144-million/amp/>



Over 11.7M now vaccinated in PH

By Lade Jean Kabagani July 5, 2021, 6:49 pm



File photo

MANILA – A total of 11,708,029 individuals have been vaccinated against the coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) in the Philippines, the National Task Force (NTF) against Covid-19 said on Monday.

The latest NTF data shows a total of 8,839,124 individuals have received their first dose while 2,868,905 others have completed their two doses of Covid-19 vaccine as of July 4.

In the past 18 weeks of the national vaccination program, the government has reached a record high of 1,778,989 doses being administered.

The average daily vaccination rate in the last seven days is at 254,141 doses, with 1,197 average number of active reporting vaccination sites.

The NTF reported that 1,714,313 health care workers have already received their first shot of the Covid-19 vaccine while 1,156,220 are fully vaccinated.

Some 2,524,204 senior citizens under A2 category of priority groups, 2,993,197 persons with comorbidity (A3), and 1,350,979 essential sector (A4) and 256,431 indigents (A5) have received their first dose.

On the other hand, some 788,630 of A2, 897,719 of A3, 26,109 of A4, and 227 of A5 are now fully vaccinated against the disease.



Over 11.7M now vaccinated in PH

The government urged other eligible populations belonging to priority groups A1 to A5 to register for the Covid-19 vaccination program.

Those who received their dose are encouraged to complete the required number of doses as scheduled.

The public is also urged to keep practicing the minimum public health standards as the transmission of infections is still possible regardless of vaccination status. (PNA)



DOH reports 2 new cases of Delta COVID-19 variant in PH

ABS-CBN News

Posted at Jul 05 2021 10:28 PM

Lambda COVID-19 variant not yet detected in PH: DOH

MANILA — The Department of Health on Monday said it has logged two more Delta (B.1.617.2) variant cases in the Philippines.

According to the DOH, the two cases are Filipino migrant workers who arrived from Saudi Arabia.

"Both arrived in the Philippines on May 29, 2021 and have completed the requisite 10-day isolation period. They have been discharged from the quarantine facility after being tagged as recovered," the department said in a statement.

DOH Undersecretary Maria Rosario Vergeire earlier said the Philippines needs to be more vigilant against the entry of the Delta variant in the country as it is 2 times more infectious than the Alpha, a COVID-19 mutation that is 60 percent more contagious than the virus' original strain.

Nineteen cases of the variant, which was first detected in India, have been logged in the Philippines, as of July 4, 2021.

Philippines extends travel ban vs Delta COVID-19 variant

The DOH also detected additional 132 Alpha (B.1.1.7) variant cases, 119 Beta (B.1.351) variant cases, and three Theta (P.3) variant cases. All of the Theta variant patients have already recovered.

The department noted most of the new variant cases were returning Filipino migrant workers.

Vergeire meanwhile said the Lambda COVID-19 variant has not yet been detected in the Philippines. She explained that they tested 7,000 samples for the C.37 variant, which was first detected in Peru.

"Rest assured that this variant is continuously being monitored by our experts. Currently, there is no evidence that it is more deadly compared to other VOIs (variants of interest) or VOCs (variants of concern)," she said.

According to Vergeire, the Lambda variant has a number of mutations in its spike protein, including the L452Q mutation in the same region as the L452R mutation of the Delta variant.



DOH reports 2 new cases of Delta COVID-19 variant in PH

The DOH said only 20 COVID-19 variant cases, mostly Alpha, remain active.

"The DOH reminds all fully vaccinated individuals to continue following the prescribed minimum public health standards to ensure that transmission of COVID-19 is minimized," the department said.



2 more Delta variant cases detected among returning Pinoys

Published July 5, 2021 10:04pm

The two additional Delta variant cases were from Filipinos who returned from Saudi Arabia. Both arrived in the Philippines on May 29, 2021 and have completed a 10-day isolation period.

The Philippines on Monday detected two more cases of the more transmissible Delta variant in returning overseas Filipinos.

In a statement, the Department of Health (DOH) said the new cases were detected by University of the Philippines Philippine Genome Center (UP-PGC), and the University of the Philippines National Institutes of Health (UP-NIH) after a genome sequencing of 7,878 COVID-19-positive samples.

The two additional Delta variant cases were from Filipinos who returned from Saudi Arabia. Both arrived in the Philippines on May 29, 2021 and have completed a 10-day isolation period.

"They have been discharged from the quarantine facility after being tagged as recovered," DOH said.

These new cases raised the total Delta variant cases in the country to 19.

The health department previously said there are still no local infections of the more contagious Delta variant.

Aside from this, health authorities also discovered 132 more Alpha (B.1.1.7) variant cases, increasing the tally to 1,217.

Of the 132 new cases, 125 are local cases, one returning Filipino, and six with unknown origin.

15 cases of the Alpha variant have so far died and 117 cases were classified as recovered.

Meanwhile, Beta variant cases in the country soared to 1,386, with 119 new ones. Of these, 111 are local cases, two are returning overseas Filipinos, and the remaining six cases are still being verified.



2 more Delta variant cases detected among returning Pinoys

"Based on the case line list, three cases are currently active, 104 cases have been tagged as recovered, and 12 cases have died," DOH indicated.

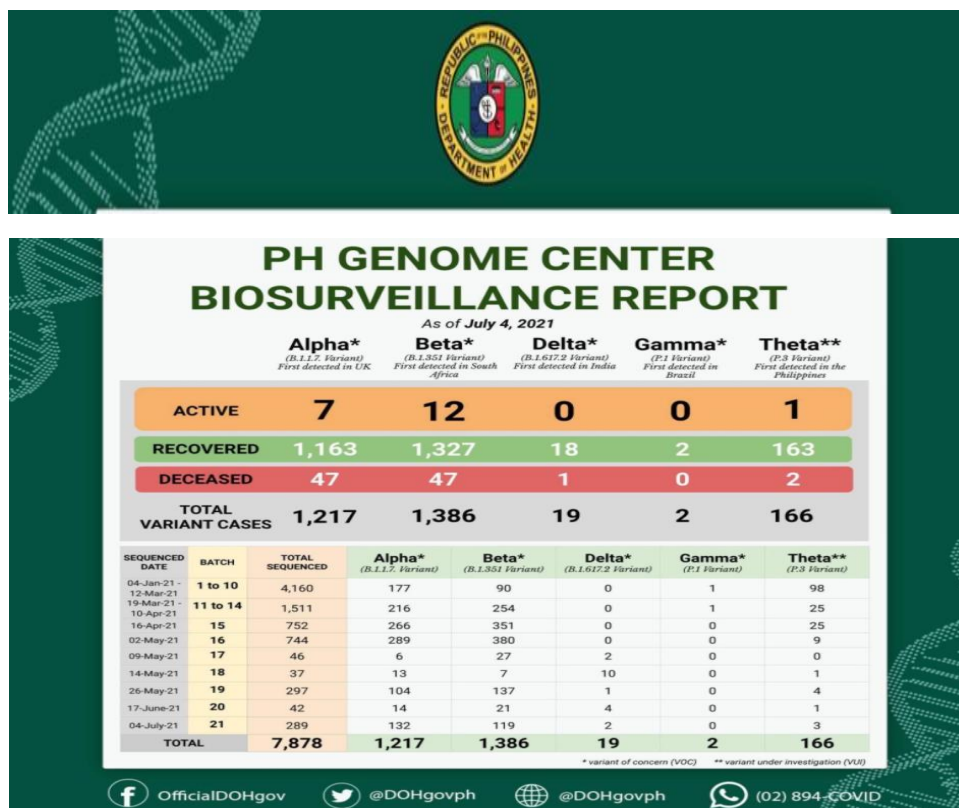
Meanwhile, the case tally for the Theta variant—or the P.3 variant, first detected in the Philippines—reached 166, with three additional cases. The three are local cases that have been classified as recoveries.

"Currently, the Theta variant is not identified as a variant of concern (VOC) since more data is needed to conclude whether the variant will have significant public health implications," the DOH also said. — Consuelo Marquez/BM, GMA News



Bilang ng active COVID-19 variant cases sa bansa, nasa 20

By Angellic Jordan July 05, 2021 - 08:39 PM



Umabot na sa 7,878 COVID-19-positive samples ang dumagan sa sequencing ng Philippine Genome Center (PGC) at UP National Institutes Of Health (UP-NIH).

Mula sa nasabing samples, 2,790 ang naitala ang kabuuang variant cases base sa datos ng PGC Biosurveillance Report hanggang July 4.

Nasa 20 variant cases naman ang nananatiling aktibo.

Sa nasabing bilang, pito ang aktibong Alpha variant o B.1.1.7 (unang na-detect sa United Kingdom), 12 sa Beta o B.1.351 (unang na-detect sa South Africa), at isa sa P.3 (unang na-detect sa Philippines).

Muling binigyang-diin ng Department of Health (DOH) na maiiwasan ang pagkalat ng nakakahawang sakit sa pamamagitan ng istriktong pagpapatupad ng border control at quarantine protocols, pagsunod sa minimum public health standards, tuluy-tuloy na implementasyon ng PDITR strategies ng mga LGU, at ang pagbabakuna.

Hinikayat din ng kagawaran ang publiko na magpabakuna na laban sa COVID-19.

Read more: <https://radyo.inquirer.net/295831/bilang-ng-active-covid-19-variant-cases-sa-bansa-nasa-20#ixzz6zmneES34>

06 JULY 2021, Tuesday



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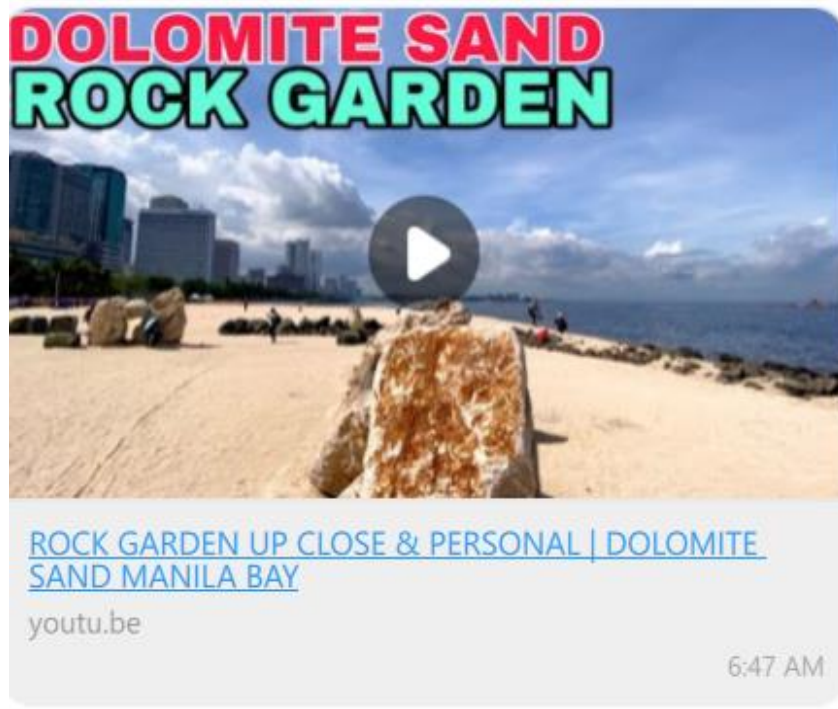
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