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DENR

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STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



Cimatu calls for stronger biodiversity conservation efforts in Southeast Asia

AUG 12, 2021, 7:12 PM

Santiago Celario
Writer

"We hope that our neighbors in the ASEAN region would join us in protecting our diverse flora and fauna to mark this week-long event with an environmental purpose and initiative," Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu said.

ENVIRONMENT Secretary Roy Cimatu expressed high hopes that the Philippines will be joined by its Southeast Asian neighbors in the efforts to conserve and protect the region's rich biodiversity,.

The DENR chief made the statement during the recent local celebration of ASEAN Week.

"We hope that our neighbors in the ASEAN region would join us in protecting our diverse flora and fauna to mark this week-long event with an environmental purpose and initiative," Cimatu said.

The annual celebration of the ASEAN Month and ASEAN Week is pursuant to Proclamation No. 282 signed by President Rodrigo Roa Duterte on July 31, 2017.

It amended Proclamation No. 1008, which was signed in 1997, to declare August of every year as ASEAN Month and the dates August 7 to 13 as ASEAN Week.

It also encourages all government agencies "to initiate and implement programs and activities to help generate awareness and public support in promoting the observance of ASEAN Month."

Cimatu noted that the 31st Meeting of the ASEAN Working Group on Nature Conservation and Biodiversity (AWGNCB) held on July 8-9, 2021, "has been a productive preparation for the celebration of ASEAN Week this August and a crucial step towards tackling concerns involving biodiversity conservation efforts."

"We at the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) are delighted with the outcome of the meeting and hope that the agreements will materialize into fruitful ventures to save our treasured species," Cimatu pointed out.

Serving as a platform to promote biodiversity conservation among the ASEAN member-states, the meeting tackled the implementation of the AWGNCB Action Plan, Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, mainstreaming of biodiversity and the Joint ASEAN Statement to the 15th Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), among others.



Meanwhile, DENR Undersecretary for Special Concerns and concurrent Biodiversity Management Bureau (BMB) Director Edilberto Leonardo, together with the Philippine delegation, hosted the meeting attended by fellow ASEAN member states composed of Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam.

The ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB) and dialogue partners from various development organizations also joined the meeting.

The Philippine delegation, represented by officials from the BMB, raised interventions and statements of support on various ASEAN activities.

In particular, the Philippine delegation put forward four statements of support on ASEAN initiatives and activities.

These include pushing to build on the Bangkok Declaration to Combat Marine Debris, and promoting the mainstreaming of biodiversity into various development processes in the region, which was in the draft text of the ASEAN Joint Statement to the 15th meeting of the CBD Conference of Parties.

Source: https://opinyon.net/national/cimatu-calls-for-stronger-biodiversity-conservation-efforts-in-southeast-asia?fbclid=IwAR1QJ_WOrtNN6nfBnVzKJb4gCPI2WTZOz9x8jwltuOJ1DNVZxNIEYEyL_J



DENR orders release of non-environmentally acceptable product list

August 12, 2021 | 8:23 pm



By **Angelica Y. Yang**, *Reporter*

THE ENVIRONMENT department has ordered the National Solid Waste Management Commission (NSWMC) and the Solid Waste Management Division to release the list of products deemed damaging to the environment.

Such items, known as non-environmentally acceptable products (NEAP) which will be banned in compliance with the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000.

“(The NSWMC Secretariat and Solid Waste Management Division are) hereby directed to publish the list of NEAP in two newspapers of national circulation and provide a copy of the NSWMC Resolution (declaring plastic soft drink straws and plastic coffee stirrers part of the NEAP) to the Office of the National Administrative Registry at the University of the Philippines Law Center for their information and appropriate action,” Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Undersecretary Benny D. Antiporda said in a letter obtained by *BusinessWorld*.

The letter also directed the two agencies to begin drafting the guidelines of the NEAP, including phase-out timelines, which must be issued “one year after” the release of the list.

Asked when the NEAP will be out, Mr. Antiporda said he is sure it will be released by next week. “Within next week iyan, sigurado meron na iyan (I’m sure it will be out),” he told *BusinessWorld* via Viber.

He added that the Science department is still evaluating other possible products.

DENR Secretary Roy A. Cimatu chairs the NSWMC, while Mr. Antiporda serves as the commission’s alternate chairman.

Under the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act or Republic Act No. 9003, the NSWMC must prepare the NEAP within a year of the law’s enactment and provide yearly updates.

Non-government organizations have declared their intent to press charges against the NSWMC, DENR, and other government agencies over their “inaction” on the list.

“We are preparing the lawsuit. The NSWMC or the member agencies have not responded to the notice(s) to sue,” Oceana Vice-President Gloria Estenzo Ramos told *BusinessWorld* in an e-mail Thursday.

Political will is needed for the commission to perform its 20-year-old mandate, she added.

Source: <https://www.bworldonline.com/denr-orders-release-of-non-environmentally-acceptable-product-list/>



DENR-MGB Clamps Down On Illegal, Small-Scale Miners In Nueva Vizcaya

by  **Village Connect** about 12 hours ago



The Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB) of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) led the dismantling of various illegal mining equipment during a series of operations conducted against small-scale mining activities in Quezon town, Nueva Vizcaya province from July 27 to 29.

The joint operations which were carried out by MGB-Region 2, DENR Region 2, Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office-Nueva Vizcaya, Community Environment and Natural Resources Office-Aritao, National Bureau of Investigation-Region 2, Philippine National Police, and Armed Forces of the Philippines, in coordination with FCF Minerals Corporation, cracked down on ball mills, shafting, diesel engines, pulleys, and other equipment used in illegal small-scale mining activities at Barangay Runruno.

"In the case of illegal small-scale mining, miners tend to dig and drill with no proper control on extractive operations. These unregulated mining activities pose dangers to the environment, and even to human lives," said DENR Secretary Roy A. Cimatu.

MGB-Region 2 Director Mario A. Ancheta said the absence of documents, permits, or authority in the conduct of mining operations and the transport of minerals/mineral products and by-products will be considered as prima facie evidence of illegal mining.

"This shall cause the seizure/confiscation of the minerals/mineral products and by-products and the tools, conveyances, and equipment used in the commission of the offense in favor of the government," Ancheta pointed out.

Prior to the operation, MGB-Region 2 directed an investigation of the ongoing small-scale mining operations within the Financial or Technical Assistance Agreement (FTAA) contract area of mining firm FCF Minerals Corporation.

MGB said that the said firm has not yet utilized or developed the said area. Given the location, Ancheta pointed out that the mining area cannot be declared as a "Minahang Bayan" site.

He added that despite constant dialogues and warnings, the small-scale miners, who were identified to be illegal settlers, continued to defy the MGB's order to vacate and leave the area.

The MGB-Region 2 served cease-and-desist orders against the illegal mining activities last July 7 to 9.



"I have previously proposed to these illegal miners to look for other areas that can be applied for as Minahang Bayan since this area is prohibited. However, they continue to extract the area," Ancheta said.

Charges will be filed against the miners for violation of Republic Act (RA) 7942 or the Philippine Mining Act of 1995 and RA 7076 or the People's Small-Scale Mining Act of 1991.

The implementing rules and regulations of RA 7076 state that: "No small-scale mining shall be undertaken outside a Minahang Bayan and that no entity shall engage in small-scale mining without a small-scale mining contract."

MGB-Region 2 has been monitoring the activities in the area since a landslide occurred on Nov. 13, 2020. It has previously recommended to the local government of Quezon, Nueva Vizcaya to relocate the illegal settlers.



DENR to keep nationwide ban on open-pit mining

Published August 12, 2021, 3:07 PM

by [Madelaine B. Miraflor](#)

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) opted to keep the nationwide ban on open-pit mines amid the clamor of environmental groups. This was after the government agency attempted to insert a provision in the implementing rules and regulations (IRR) of Executive Order 130 that would also lift the moratorium on the controversial mining method.



mining

A highly placed source at the DENR told Business Bulletin that it was Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu who made the direct order to remove such a provision in the IRR, which took several weeks before it was finally approved.

On Thursday morning, Business Bulletin reported that Cimatu already signed the IRR of EO 130, a copy of which was just obtained Thursday afternoon. EO 130 amended EO 79 and officially lifted the country's ban on new mining projects.

Based on the four-page IRR, which was contained in the DENR's Department Administrative Order (DAO) 25, the agency decided to take out its earlier provision that would lift the whole of DAO No. 2017-10 or the ban on open-pit mining.

Under DAO No. 2017-10, which was issued by late and former DENR Secretary Regina Paz Lopez, open-pit mines "have ended up as perpetual liabilities [on the part of the government], causing adverse impacts to the environment, particularly due to the generation of acidic and/or heavy metal-laden water, erosion of mine waste dumps and/or vulnerability of tailings dams to geological hazards".

"The big reason [for keeping the ban on open-pit mine] is the IRR. We don't want a lot of people to criticize the IRR just because of that provision. The Secretary doesn't want any trouble that's why we decided that we will not address that [in the IRR]," the source further said.

The source also said that Cimatu may no longer address this issue during this Administration. "The Secretary doesn't want to remove the ban anymore. Not now. Maybe it's the task of the next Administration".

Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB) Director Wilfredo Moncano said in a text message that AO 25 was published on August 9, 2021. This means that the IRR will take effect in two weeks.

In a statement, the Chamber of Mines of the Philippines (COMP) said the decision of the government to keep the ban on open-pit mine will "negate the spirit of EO 130 as most of the mining applications propose the use of the open pit method".



“Thousands of mines worldwide have adopted this primary method, including Australia, Canada, and the USA. There are economic, safety, and environmental considerations for employing this method,” COMP, composed of some of the country’s largest mining companies, said.

“Where underground mining cannot be applied, the open pit method is primarily employed although there are other forms of surface mining. The shape nature and location of the ore body determine the mining method,” it added.



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PARA makatulong sa isinasagawang rehabilitasyon ng Manila Bay ay binigyang-diin at pinaalalahanan nitong si Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Secretary Roy A. Cimatu ang publiko na gawin ang kanilang bahagi para sa solid waste management at responsibilidad ng bawat isa.

Ito ang reaksyon ni Cimatu matapos na mapunta sa pampang ng Manila Bay ang tone-toncladang basura dahil na rin sa ulan dulot ng southwest monsoon o habagat.

Lumalabas sa datos ng DENR-National Capital Region West Field Office, umabot sa 12,187 sako ng basura ang nakolekta sa Baywalk area simula noong

Hulyo 16 hanggang 29 matapos ang walang tigil na pag-ulan sa Metro Manila at iba pang lugar sa Luzon.

Kabilang sa mga basurang nakolekta ay ang single-use plastic cups, plastic bottles at personal items tulad ng bag, sapatos, tsinelas at mga damit at mga health care wastes, bamboo poles, wooden planks, water hyacinths at mga patay na hayop.

Sa panig naman ni DENR Undersecretary for Solid Waste Management and Local Government Units (LGUs) Concerns Benny

D. Antiporda ang DENR ay "tightly and closely monitor the solid waste management operations of all local government units (LGUs) especially those that pollute waterways that flow to Manila Bay."

"Kaya ang mga LGUs, wag silang magpaka-kampante sa mga nakasanayan na nila. We have our eyes, ears and nose on you," sabi ni Antiporda.

Ayon kay Antiporda, lahat ng LGUs ay kinakailangang magkaroon ng "an honest-to-goodness residual waste disposal system

or face the penalties imposed by Republic Act (RA) 9003 or the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000."

Nakasaad sa Section 37 ng RA 9003 na mahigpit na ipinagbabawal ang paggamit ng open dumpsites para sa solid waste.

"Hopefully, more Filipinos will realize that we at the DENR are promoting behavioral change and responsibility because the national government through the DENR cannot do this alone," sabi pa ni Antiporda.

PAGMO-MONITOR NG DENR SA MANILA BAY REHAB

Planned dam in Philippine national park draws flak from activists, officials

A subsidiary of the San Miguel Corporation, one of the largest companies in the Philippines, has proposed a US\$500 million hydroelectric project that will overlap with a national park on Panay Island.



The Nabaoy River, site of a proposed dam, is the primary source of potable water for the resort island of Boracay as well as the residents of Malay, Aklan. Image: Nabaoy River Facebook page

By Jun N. Aguirre, Mongabay.com
Aug. 12, 2021

Activists and local government officials in the central Philippines have lashed out at a recently announced plan to build a hydroelectric plant overlapping with a national park that's home to rare and threatened species.

Strategic Power Development Corporation (SPDC), a subsidiary of Philippine mega conglomerate San Miguel Corporation, announced on July 13 its intention to build the \$500 million, 300-megawatt pump-storage hydro facility in Malay municipality on the island of Panay. The project would include the construction of two dams and reservoirs, 9.6 kilometers (6 miles) of new roads, and the upgrade of 1.8 km (1.1 mi) of existing roads.

According to SPDC, the planned project near the confluence of the Nabaoy and Imbaroto rivers would consist of a 70-meter (230-foot) lower dam on the Nabaoy, with a 10.2-million-cubic-meter (2.7-billion-gallon) reservoir; and a 74 m (243 ft) upper dam with a 4.55-million-m³ (1.2-billion-gallon) reservoir extending to the Imbaroto. The company says the plant will provide energy to the regional grid to meet current and future peak demand, will support the local economy, and is part of President Rodrigo Duterte's 2017-2040 Philippine Energy Plan.

Overall, the company says the complex would cover 122.7 hectares (303.2 acres), including 97.9 hectares (241.9 acres) of forest, of which 24.9 hectares (61.5 acres) are nominally protected land within Northwest Panay Peninsula Natural Park.

Significant biodiversity hotspot

Northwest Panay Peninsula Natural Park, which spans 12,009 hectares (29,676 acres) in the provinces of Aklan and Antique, was established in 2002 via a presidential proclamation. Home to critically endangered Visayan warty pigs (*Sus cebifrons*) and writhed-billed hornbills (*Rhabdotorrhinus waldeni*), as well as endangered Visayan hornbills (*Penelopides panini*), it has been locally recognized as a significant biodiversity hotspot since the 1990s.

The park holds some of the last remaining stands of primary lowland rainforest in the central Philippines, and serves as a key watershed providing potable water to Panay and neighbouring islands.

Activists say the hydropower project puts water supplies for local communities at risk.

“The Nabaoy River is the lone source of potable water to nearby Boracay Island and to the residents of Malay,” said Ritchel Cahilig of the Aklan Trekkers Group. Boracay Island, separated from the park by a narrow strait, is a prime beach destination, recording 2 million tourist arrivals in 2019.

“I wonder how will they supply water to the residents especially during construction phase. During construction phase, for sure, large vehicles will be damaging the forest and the company seems do not have a clear alternative on how to restore what has been damaged,” Cahilig said.

The natural park is also home to a community of Indigenous Malay Ati people, who fish in the Nabaoy River and rely on the forests for sustenance.

Activists have also questioned the need for additional electrical capacity in the area. Citing reports from the National Grid Corporation of the Philippines, Melvin Purzuelo of the Green Forum-Western Visayas noted that from July 20-26, Panay Island’s average daily electricity consumption ranged from 345-364 MW, against existing capacity of 480 MW.

“It is clear now that a huge power supply is not needed at this time especially that the world is going through the Covid-19 pandemic,” Purzuelo said during a recent webinar.

Loss of local government support

SPDC’s proposal still requires approval from local governments and the Philippine Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

“The Malay [municipal government] have set a coordination meeting with the SPDC supposedly last August 2 to clarify issues involving the project but [the meeting] has been cancelled because of the Covid-19 pandemic,” Purzuelo said.

Local officials have distanced themselves from endorsing the proposal. In a phone interview, acting Malay Mayor Floribar Bautista said the SPDC had not approached him to discuss the details of the project since he assumed his post in July 2018.

“What I know is the project was endorsed by the previous administration. When I checked the documents, it’s lacking. It seems the project may have [been] railroaded. I could not endorse the project at this time since I do not know how the project would affect our town. All they have to do is to convince me if the hydro dam project is worth it,” he said.

The village of Nabaoy is also reportedly set to cancel its previous endorsement of the project, activists say. No official cancellation had been issued as of the time this article was published; but just as in the case of the Malay municipal government, the previous leadership of Nabaoy village had endorsed the project in the early months of 2018.

Without approval from the current local governments, the project can only push through with special permission from the DENR.

Rebecca Tandug, of the Philippine Initiative for Environmental Conservation (Philincon), said her organization will maintain its opposition to the project and attempt to engage with SPDC. Eventually, she said, she hopes the company will decide to cancel the proposed plant.

This story was published with permission from [Mongabay.com](https://www.mongabay.com).

Source: <https://www.eco-business.com/news/planned-dam-in-philippine-national-park-draws-flak-from-activists-officials/>



Pagtaas ng lebel ng dagat, mas mabilis sa Pinas kaysa ibang bansa – pag-aaral



August 12, 2021 @ 11:15 AM 19 hours ago

MANILA, Philippines – Lumabas sa pag-aaral na mas mabilis ang pagtaas ng lebel ng dagat sa Pilipinas kumpara sa global average, ayon sa isang climatologist.

“The global average is 3.7 millimeters per year. In Visayas islands, in that particular study site, they found out that the sea level rise is happening four times 3.7 millimeters per year. 3.7 millimeters times four. That’s more than one centimeter every year,” ayon kay Lourdes Tibig, isang kilalang meteorologist at climatologist sa bansa.

Nangangahulugan ito na apat na beses umanong mas mabilis kaysa sa itinakdang global average sea rise ang nararanasan ng bansa o nasa mahigit isang sentimetro kada taon ang pagtaas ng lebel ng dagat at pagdating ng 2050, maaari umanong lubog na talaga ang malaking o buong bahagi ng naturang isla.

Nagbigay babala naman ang IPCC o Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change na maaaring hindi na makontrol ang paglala ng global warming sa Pilipinas at mas mararamdaman pa ang matitinding epekto nito sa mga susunod na dekada.

Maliban sa pagtaas ng lebel ng dagat sa bansa, asahan na rin umano na mas magiging mapaminsala umano ang mga darating na bagyo dahil tumitinding climate change.

“Because the projection is that while the number of tropical cyclones may not increase, the intensity will certainly increase. And you have seen how much is the destruction being wrought about by any tropical cyclone has become in recent years,” babala ni Tibig.

Nanawagan rin siya sa pamahalaan na suportahan at mas padamihin pa ang mga proyektong may kaugnayan sa paggamit ng renewable energy na mas magpapabagal sa impact ng climate change sa bansa. *RNT*



GMA News posted an episode of **Need to Know**.

14h · 🌐



SAAN KA MADALAS NAKAKIKITA NG PLASTIC?

Malaking porsyento ng mga ginagamit na plastic sa mundo ay napupunta sa landfill, dumps, at sa ating mga kapaligiran. Marami rin sa mga plastic na itinatapon ay napupunta sa mga drainage system o sa iba pang mga daluyan ng tubig. Kapag hindi napigil ang tumataas na demand sa plastics, maaaring mas marami pa ang plastic sa dagat kaysa sa mga isda sa taong 2050.

Sa Pilipinas, pumasa na sa ikatlong pagbasa ang House Bill No.9147 o proposed Single-Use Plastic Products Regulation Act na naglalayong i-phase-out na ang paggamit ng iba't ibang single-use plastic.

Ayon naman sa Greenpeace Phillipines, dapat nang isama ang single-use plastic sa listahan ng NEAPP o non-environmentally acceptable products and packaging dahil sa banta nito a kalikasan.



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ASEAN Biodiversity Center hails UPLB for discovery of bacterial species in Mt. Mayon containing potential cure for colorectal cancer

Published August 12, 2021, 6:59 PM

by [Roy Mabasa](#)

The ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity on Thursday congratulated the University of the Philippines Los Banos (UPLB) and its team of researchers following their successful isolation of 30 bacterial species from Mt. Mayon's volcanic soils that were found to have potential antibiotic and anti-colorectal cancer properties.



ASEAN Biodiversity Centre

“Solutions indeed can be found in nature,” the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity said in a statement, noting that the bacterial isolates may be turned into potentially useful antibiotics and anti-cancer drugs.

Dr. Theresa Mundita Lim, Executive Director of the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity described the discovery as a “breakthrough” for the Philippines and the ASEAN considering that colorectal cancers (CRCs) are currently the third leading site of malignancy in the Philippines.

The World Health Organization (WHO) has earlier declared antimicrobial resistance as one of the top 10 global threats to public health.

The ASEAN biodiversity official recalled that back in the early 1950s, the Philippines was also the source of a useful antibiotic, the ilosone, which was found in the soils around Iloilo City and surrounding areas. The drug later became commercially successful worldwide.

With the Philippines being a Party to the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-Sharing, it is oriented to enhance the contribution of biodiversity to development and human well-being as well as to ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits from the use of its genetic resources.

Through further research and development, Lim said the innovation could be poised to have potential commercial and non-commercial benefits that will accrue to the people living in the vicinity of Mayon Volcano and the rest of the country.

Known for its perfect shape and majestic beauty, Mt. Mayon is also rich in biodiversity, serving as home to 156 floral species, and 104 species of land vertebrates. Its valuable role as a habitat for endemic and indigenous species is among Mt. Mayon's merits in its inclusion in the tentative list of UNESCO World Heritage Sites.



The ASEAN Biodiversity Centre said the discovery also underscores the importance of mainstreaming biodiversity considerations into health while showing the need to prioritize the continuing assessment and monitoring of our soil biodiversity along the 2020-2030 International Initiative For The Conservation and Sustainable Use of Soil Biodiversity of the Convention on Biological Diversity.



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Source: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EPscPURM_nc&ab_channel=News5Everywhere



China implements climate commitments

By [Agence France-Presse](#) August 13, 2021

HAINAN: [China](#) insisted it was implementing its climate commitments while signaling no new policies following a [United Nations](#) report warning much more urgent action was needed to fight global warming.

Many world leaders responded to Monday's report - which said climate change was occurring faster than estimated - by calling for decisive and immediate moves to curtail fossil fuels.

When asked for a response to the report, China's foreign ministry emphasized the government's current policies and commitments.

"China has insisted on prioritizing sustainable, green and low-carbon development," a spokesman told [Agence France-Presse](#) in a statement. The Chinese government has set a target of reaching peak carbon emissions by 2030 and becoming carbon-neutral by 2060.

The statement referenced the carbon neutrality target, and said the global community should have full confidence in China's climate actions. China has been criticized for pushing ahead with opening dozens of new coal power plants to ensure economic growth.

The statement said President [Xi Jinping](#) intended to "strictly control" the growth of coal power plants. But it pointed to a continued increase in the next few years, saying that coal consumption would start to gradually reduce from 2026.

The report from the UN's [Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change](#) warned that global warming would reach 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels around 2030.

That level of global warming will have devastating impacts on humanity including more extreme weather events such as fires, typhoons, droughts and floods.



Earth presses hot button and we must pay attention

Published August 13, 2021, 12:02 AM

by [Manila Bulletin](#)



This week is not for good news. Aside from the rising number of COVID cases, with more being affected by the Delta variant, the world was jolted last Monday when the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (UN-IPCC) released a wake up call via a report called “Climate Change 2021: The Physical Science Basis.”

To put it in simple terms, touching only the tip of a melting iceberg, the report is an apocalyptic warning that “climate change will worsen in all places over the course of the coming years.”

“It is unequivocal that human influence has warmed the atmosphere, ocean, and land... and widespread and rapid changes in the atmosphere, ocean, cryosphere, and biosphere have occurred.” The world is now experiencing the “side effects,” starting with the wild fires in California and Australia last year, to the wild fires in Greece and Turkey this month. Though some were reportedly caused by arson, scientists have categorically said that “a warmer climate due to human-caused climate change increased the risk of more extreme fire weather, driving larger fires in more areas that are historically not at risk.”

The report, which was collaborated on by a hundred scientists worldwide and included among them our very own Dr. Faye Abigail Cruz of the Manila Observatory, revealed that at the rate that we’re going now, global warming may pass the 1.5 degree Celsius by the year 2040. This has disastrous implications not only on our way of life, but to agriculture, food production, and even animal reproduction.

In the Philippines, the Climate Change Commission (CCC) is sounding the alarm, more louder than ever with the release of the report. It said: “The report presents updated estimates of the likelihood of exceeding the 1.5 degree Celsius global warming level in the next decades, concluding that limiting warming to close to 1.5 degree Celsius, or even 2 degree Celsius, will be impossible unless greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions are reduced immediately, rapidly, and on a massive scale.”

Our country, with our islands and coastal communities, is at greater risk. There would be more extreme floods, storms, heatwaves, or drought — devastating more lives and destroying more communities. God forbid that we would soon describe these natural disasters in catastrophic terms.

The CCC along with other environment groups, said the report must serve as a “wake up call not only for the Philippines, but also for all countries and world leaders to take decisive actions on increasing warming temperatures to protect the planet and future generations from previously unimaginable scenarios.”



If there is a silver lining, all hope is not lost. The report recommends that countries must substantially and consistently reduce carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gas emissions, and start promoting clean energy and protect whatever is left of their forests. These would require cooperation, dialogues, and even a strong political will to set in stone policies that would benefit the environment.

Immediate actions are needed because whether there is a pandemic or not, the earth continues to fall deep in a precarious state. If our actions would be too late, all efforts would be futile and regret is final.

Source: <https://tribune.net.ph/index.php/2021/08/13/italian-peaks-melting-glacier-may-slam-on-village/>



Italian peak's melting glacier may slam on village

Published 2 hours ago on August 13, 2021 04:00 AM

By [Agence France-Presse](#)



PLANPINCIEUX, Italy (AFP) — Scientists on Italy's side of the Mont Blanc massif are constantly monitoring a melting glacier, where the risk of collapse due to rising temperatures threatens the valley below.

The Planpincieux glacier, at an altitude of about 2,700 meters, hangs over the hamlet of Planpincieux, underneath the south face of the Grandes Jorasses within the Mont Blanc massif in Italy's picturesque northwest corner.

Known as a "temperate" glacier, it is already at a melting point, as opposed to polar glaciers that are still frozen to bedrock.

That means the Planpincieux glacier can slide faster, via water just under its surface, making it more unpredictable and dangerous for the Val Ferret valley below, experts say.

"We've got a significant temperature rise and this causes a more rapid formation of the sub-glacial water flow, an important underground circulation of water," Valerio Segor, the Aosta Valley region's director of natural risk management, told AFP.

In years past, the Planpincieux glacier was lodged in a more stable position on the rock, and was thicker with fewer fractures, said Paolo Perret, a glacier expert at the Courmayeur-based Safe Mountains Foundation.



Black Sea oil slick worries scientists

By [Agence France-Presse](#) August 13, 2021

SAKHALIN: Russian scientists sounded the alarm on Wednesday over a huge oil slick in the [Black Sea](#) with the [World Wildlife Fund](#) (WWF), saying at least 100 tons of oil have leaked off the city of Novorossiysk.

After it emerged that the slick was much larger than initially reported, investigators launched a pollution probe and the General Prosecutor's Office said officials were studying the coast between the resort town of Anapa and Novorossiysk.

The area is home to some of the country's best beaches popular with Russian tourists. A leak occurred at a sea terminal near the southern port city at the weekend as the Greek-flagged [Minerva Symphony](#) was loading oil.

On Monday, the Caspian Pipeline Consortium ([CPC](#)), which controls the terminal, said the spill was contained, estimating that oil had spread over 200 square meters (2,150 square feet) and involved around 12 cubic meters (423 cubic feet) of oil.

By early Sunday, "the situation was back to normal" and posed no threat to either the local population or wildlife, said the consortium. CPC's shareholders include [Russia's](#) Rosneft, US oil giant Chevron and Italy's Eni.

The WWF and Russian scientists said the oil slick was much more serious than initially reported and could harm the environment. The conservation group said it had launched its own surveillance and found the slick had covered an area of 94 square kilometers by Sunday.

Greenpeace, which said it was asking for more information from officials, claimed the polluted area could be 400,000 bigger than initially reported. The WWF estimated that at least 100 tons of oil - "and most likely even more" - had been released into the Black Sea.

"Despite the prompt involvement of rescue teams, the oil spread over a colossal area," the WWF said on Facebook, adding marine wildlife could be affected.

[Aleksei Knizhnikov](#), head of the responsible industry program at WWF Russia, said the slick was drifting north, having already reached Abrau-Dyurso - famed for its wine-making industry - and might later reach the [Utrish Nature Reserve](#).

"We can say that there is no objective information about the scale of the spill on the part of regulatory authorities," he told Agence France-Presse.

The [Space Research Institute](#) of the [Russian Academy of Sciences](#) said it was also monitoring the pollution and citing data from satellite images said that the oil had spread over an area of nearly 80 square kilometers.



Researchers found that plastic pollutants in the ocean may be 'exciting' hermit crabs, which could lead to disrupted marine food webs

[Erin Snodgrass](#)

23 hours ago



A hermit crab on the beach. Shawn Miller

Amid the constant barrage of dire climate news and existential environmental dread, one new study from across the pond suggests the ecological crisis may be impacting a common crustacean in a stimulating way.

A team of scientists at England's University of Hull determined that a chemical leaked from plastic dumped in the ocean is eliciting "hyperactivity" in hermit crabs.

The researchers, who are studying how climate change and plastic waste in the ocean impact marine life, studied 40 crabs in waters off the Yorkshire Coast. The team found signs that oleamide, an additive found in plastic that is released into the oceans, is increasing respiration rates among the species' population — an indication of excitement and attraction.

The hermit crabs may be mistaking that plastic waste additive for a similar chemical that is naturally released by the species' food sources, researchers found, which could have harmful effects on the ecosystem.

Jack Greenshields, the lead researcher on the study, told Insider that hermit crabs, who are scavengers, smell the naturally-occurring chemical called oleic acid from decaying corpses, which draws the animals to their food sources. But because oleamide — the additive coming from plastic waste in the ocean — smells so similarly, the hermit crabs may be drawn to the pollutants, falsely thinking it's a food source.

"If they were scavenging for eating purposes, it wouldn't only waste energy, but...they could ingest the actual plastic itself, which could be toxic to the animals," Greenshields said.

He added that plastic congestion by marine animals can have an array of negative effects, including cancer.

In addition to acting as a false feeding cue for hermit crabs, oleamide has also previously been found to be a major component in the sex pheromone of cleaner shrimp, which are distant relatives of the hermit crab. As such, Greenshields said it's possible that the pollutant could also "invoke a sexual response" in the hermit crabs.



The prospect of plastic waste making hermit crabs sexually aroused has sparked widespread media coverage of the study, but Greenshields said the research cannot yet confirm that possibility.

"It's definitely an avenue that could be explored," he told Insider. "But it's not 100%."

Greenshields said the study is only the start for investigating how wide-ranging the problem of plastic truly is in marine environments. He said he hopes to continue looking into the extent of what this oleamide attraction means not just for hermit crabs, but for other marine life as well.

He also emphasized that the public can play a role in eliminating plastic waste in the oceans by not using single-use plastic, pressuring companies to use bio-degradable plastic, and making sure studies like his garner government attention.

13 AUGUST 2021, FRIDAY



DENR

NEWS ALERTS

COVID-19 NEWS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



Health workers administer COVID-19 vaccines to residents while others wait their turn inside the Valenzuela City Astrodome Mega Vaccination Hub on Aug. 10, 2021 as the local government starts their night-shift inoculation to accommodate individuals who has no time to visit during daytime due to work schedules.

The STAR/Miguel de Guzman, file

New COVID-19 cases surpass 12,000 for 2nd consecutive day

[Janvic Mateo](#), [Edu Punay](#), [Mayen Jaymalin](#) (The Philippine Star) - August 13, 2021 - 12:00am

MANILA, Philippines — For the second straight day, new coronavirus cases yesterday breached 12,000, according to the Department of Health (DOH).

The total number of confirmed COVID-19 cases nationwide jumped to 1,700,363 as the DOH recorded 12,439 new cases, the highest tally since April.

It reported 6,090 new recoveries, bringing to 1,583,161 the number of those who recovered from the illness. But the number of active cases hit 87,663 while those who died rose to 29,539, including 165 newly reported fatalities.

At least 14 cities have reached or are close to critical capacity of their local intensive care units (ICUs), illustrating the rapid rise in COVID-19 cases nationwide, OCTA Research said.

Citing data from the DOH, OCTA noted the 100-percent ICU utilization rate in the cities of Taguig and Las Piñas in Metro Manila; Bacoor and Dasmariñas in Cavite; and Meycauayan in Bulacan.

Nine other local government units (LGUs) also breached the critical threshold of 80 percent ICU utilization.

They are the cities of San Fernando, Pampanga (96 percent); Cabuyao, Laguna (91 percent); General Trias, Cavite (89 percent); Muntinlupa (89 percent), Metro Manila; Tuguegarao, Cagayan (88 percent); Iloilo City (87 percent); Imus, Cavite (86 percent); Cagayan de Oro (86 percent) and Cebu City (85 percent).

Also nearing the critical level are Quezon City with a 79 percent ICU utilization rate; Santa Rosa, Laguna (77 percent); General Santos (77 percent), and Makati (72 percent).

OCTA fellow Guido David said the situation is “more likely to get worse before it gets better.”

He said the country recorded an average of 9,745 new cases per day from Aug. 5 to 11, up by 28 percent from the 7,594 daily new cases in the preceding week.



Metro Manila had an average of 2,503 daily new cases, up 48 percent from 1,687.

But during an interview with “Sa Totoo Lang” on One PH last Wednesday, David said the early imposition of the two-week lockdown in Metro Manila and other hotspots prevented the worst from happening.

He said extending the enhanced community quarantine (ECQ) is possible, but they would rather wait and see if the trend changes.

OCTA said the reproduction number in Metro Manila has slightly gone down, but stressed that it is still too early to determine if this is the start of a decreasing trend in the number of new cases.

Delta cases

The DOH also reported the detection of an additional 177 Delta variant cases, bringing the nationwide total to 627.

Of the 177 new Delta cases, 144 were local transmissions, three were returning overseas Filipinos (ROF), and 30 still being verified.

Among the local cases, 90 had indicated addresses in the National Capital Region (NCR); 25 in Calabarzon or Cavite, Laguna, Batangas, Rizal and Quezon; 16 in Cagayan Valley; eight in Ilocos; two in Cordillera Administrative Region; two in Western Visayas, and one in Davao region.

The DOH said 173 of Delta cases have been tagged as recovered, one had died, and three were still unverified.

Other variants

It also reported the addition of 102 Alpha (B.1.1.7) variant cases, 59 Beta (B.1.351) variant cases, and 14 P.3 variant cases in the latest batch of whole-genome sequencing.

Of the new 102 Alpha cases, 94 were local transmissions while eight were still being verified. Based on the case line list, one is still active while the rest have recovered. The total Alpha variant caseload nationwide has reached 2,195.

For new Beta cases, 53 were local infections and six were being verified. One case is still active, 57 cases have been tagged as recovered, and one case has an outcome which is being verified, said the DOH. Beta variant cases in the country now total 2,421.

The DOH said 13 of the new P.3 variant cases detected were local cases and one is being verified. Two of the new cases have died while 12 have been tagged as recovered.

‘Minors underreported’

The Philippine Pediatric Society (PPS) said most children infected with COVID-19 are not being reported because their less severe condition is “managed with supportive and home care.”

“We are not getting the real picture as to milder versions of COVID. We are getting an underreporting here,” PPS official Dr. Maria Carmela Kasala said in a virtual press conference.

DOH data showed a total of 176,540 people aged 19 and below have been infected with COVID-19 as of Aug. 8. The figure included 466 deaths.



However, since COVID-19 in children manifests mild or no symptoms at all, infected children do not make up the same number of hospital admissions as adults with COVID-19, explained Dr. Mary Ann Bunyi, PPS president.

Also, most children even those manifesting COVID-19 symptoms are not getting tested due to the high cost, Bunyi said.

Although the DOH data reflect the bulk of those children infected with COVID-19 belonging to the 15 to 19 age group, Dr. Fatima Gimenez, PPS vice president, said mortality among children is higher among the very young and those with underlying conditions.

OCTA probe not 'waste of time'

Meanwhile, lawmakers seeking to investigate OCTA and its members assured that the congressional inquiry in aid of legislation will not be "a waste of time" as claimed by Deputy Speaker Rufus Rodriguez.

"We believe that any information that we could derive from this hearing and which would be translated to better policies is not a waste of time," House Deputy Majority Leader Bong Suntay told the weekly Ugnayan sa Batasan forum last Wednesday.

Like the Quezon City 4th district congressman, Deputy Speaker Bernadette Herrera of Bagong Henerasyon party-list stressed that the inquiry is not "witch hunt."

"We just want to know them (OCTA) better, and we want to know the methodology used in their analytics and for them to contextualize their pronouncements," Herrera said.

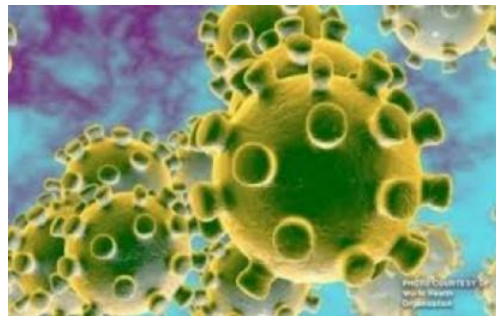
Suntay said the probe would serve as a "venue of an intellectual conversation between different groups, different agencies both of government and private sector in order to arrive at how we can join hands and help our country."

They said that DOH officials and other health experts would be called to the hearing, which would take place once the ECQ in Metro Manila is lifted.



PH logs 6K Covid-19 recoveries, tally hits 1,583,161

By Ma. Teresa Montemayor **August 12, 2021, 6:06 pm**



MANILA – The nation's overall tally of coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) patients who have beaten the disease reached 1,583,161 as 6,090 new recoveries were recorded Thursday.

The Department of Health (DOH) said the figure is equivalent to a 93.1-percent recovery rate from a total of 1,667,714 infections since the start of the pandemic last year.

The DOH also tallied 12,439 new confirmed cases, bringing the total number of active cases in the country to 87,663 or 5.2 percent of all cases.

Of the active cases, 95.3 percent are mild, 1.2 percent are asymptomatic, 1.5 percent are severe, 1.08 percent are moderate, and 0.9 percent are in critical condition.

Also logged were 165 new fatalities, raising the death toll to 29,539 or 1.74 percent of the total cases.

The DOH said 116 duplicates were removed from the total case count as 108 of those were actually recoveries.

Meanwhile, three cases previously tagged as recoveries have been validated to be active cases and 85 cases that were previously tagged as recoveries were reclassified as deaths after final validation.

According to DOH data on August 10, about 22.5 percent of 57,016 who were tested turned out positive for Covid-19.

All laboratories were operational on August 10 while two laboratories were not able to submit their data to the Covid-19 Document Repository System.

Based on data in the last 14 days, the 10 non-reporting labs contribute, on average, 0.2 percent of samples tested and 0.1 percent of positive individuals.

To date, 69 percent of 3,800 intensive care unit beds, 57 percent of 20,200 isolation beds, 60 percent of 13,300 ward beds, and 49 percent of 3,000 ventilators dedicated to patients with Covid-19 are in use nationwide.

In Metro Manila, 68 percent of 1,200 intensive care unit beds, 59 percent of 4,700 isolation beds, 62 percent of 3,800 ward beds, and 52 percent of 1,000 ventilators dedicated to patients with Covid-19 are being used. **(PNA)**

Source: <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1150270>



177 bagong kaso ng Delta variant nadagdag

By [Danilo Garcia](#) (Pilipino Star Ngayon) - August 13, 2021 - 12:00am



Health workers administer COVID-19 vaccines to residents while others wait their turn inside the Valenzuela City AstroDome Mega Vaccination Hub on Aug. 10, 2021 as the local government starts their night-shift inoculation to accommodate individuals who has no time to visit during daytime due to work schedules.
The STAR/Miguel de Guzman

MANILA, Philippines — Umakyat na sa 627 ang kabuuang kaso ng Delta variant ng COVID-19 sa Pilipinas makaraang 177 bagong kaso ang madiskubre sa isinagawang 'whole genome sequencing' ng University of the Philippines-Philippine Genome Center (UP-PGC), at ng UP-National Institutes of Health (UP-NIH).

Sa ulat ng Department of Health (DOH) kahapon, sa 177 bagong Delta cases, 144 nito ay mga lokal na kaso, tatlo ang 'returning overseas Filipino (ROFs)', at 30 ang kasalukuyang biniberepika.

Sa 144 lokal na kaso, 90 ay mula sa National Capital Region (NCR), 25 mula sa CALABARZON, 16 ang galing sa Cagayan Valley, walo mula sa Ilocos Region, dalawa sa Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR), dalawa sa Western Visayas, at isa sa Davao Region.

Umabot naman sa 173 ang gumaling na, isa ang nasawi, at tatlo pa ang inaalang kundisyon.

Samantala, umakyat nasa 2,195 ang kabuuang kaso ng Alpha variant ng madagdag ang 102 bagong kaso; 2,421 ang kabuuang kaso ng Beta nang 59 pa ang natukoy; habang 14 pang kaso ng P.3 variant ang nadiskubre rin.



Hawaan ng COVID-19 sa Pinas bumilis

By [Angie dela Cruz](#) (Pilipino Star Ngayon) - August 13, 2021 - 12:00am



Commuters waiting for a ride at the hEDSA bus carousel at Bagong Barrio Station during the Metro Manila-wide hard lockdown on Tuesday, August 10, 2021.
The STAR/Michael Varcas

MANILA, Philippines — Pumalo sa 1.41 ang reproduction number ng COVID-19 sa bansa o ang bilis ng hawahan ng virus dulot ng mataas na banta ng Delta variant.

Ayon sa OCTA Research Group, nitong August 12, ang reproduction number ay pumalo sa 1.41 at umaabot naman sa 1.76 sa Metro Manila.

Noong August 10 ay 1.33 samantalang sa Metro Manila ay 1.79 o may bahagyang pagbaba sa kalakhang Maynila.

Sa QC ay nakapagtala ng bagong kaso ng virus na 467 mula August 5 hanggang 11, sinundan ito ng Maynila, 304 cases; Cebu City, 275; Makati, 195 at Davao City, 175.

Ang MM ay nasa ilalim ng ECQ mula August 6-20 at pinag-aaralan na ng Department of Health kung iextend.

Ang ibang lugar na nasa ECQ ay ang Laguna, Cagayan de Oro, at Iloilo City mula August 6-15; Bataan mula August 8-22 at Tuguegarao ay August 12-21.

Source: <https://www.philstar.com/pilipino-star-ngayon/bansa/2021/08/13/2119632/hawaan-ng-covid-19-sa-pinas-bumilis/amp/>



DoH wary of 'fake vax news'

Published 4 hours ago on August 13, 2021 02:30 AM

By [Jom Garner](#)



The Department of Health (DoH) warned the public on fake information spreading on social media regarding the efficacy of the coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) vaccines and blasted 'irresponsible' medical professionals who make unverified statements.

This comes after a video of a certain Dr. Romeo Quijano interviewed by a radio station went viral on social media sites as he stressed that Covid-19 vaccines are more dangerous than the virus itself.

"I will never get vaccinated because the vaccines are more dangerous than the virus itself." Quijano said in an interview with DZRHTV as he discouraged the younger population to get vaccinated with Covid-19 as it contains "harmful" components.

The Health department condemned the statement made by Quijano, saying that it contained "false information" regarding life-saving interventions such as Covid-19 vaccines.

"It is especially irresponsible as the country continues to face the threat of the more infectious Delta variant," said the DoH.

It also reiterated that there is a growing amount of real-world evidence around the globe that consistently proved significant reductions in hospitalizations and deaths among vaccinated individuals.

Source: https://tribune.net.ph/index.php/2021/08/13/doh-wary-of-fake-vax-news/?utm_source=rss&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=doh-wary-of-fake-vax-news&_cf_chl_jschl_tk_=pmd_c555ec0d540bc7600a446f5c5eccc82e3232b98f-1628807147-0-gqNtZGzNAmKjcnBszQn6



Jabs priority list includes pregnant women

Published 4 hours ago on August 13, 2021 02:30 AM

By [Jom Garner](#)



The Department of Health (DoH) announced that pregnant women are now eligible to get the coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) vaccines, as they are officially part of the inoculation priority list.

Health Undersecretary Maria Rosario Vergeire said that they are revising the existing guidelines for pregnant women based on recommendations which indicate that they should be part of the expanded A3 which include persons with comorbidities and senior citizens.

She added that based on the recommendations of the DoH experts, all of the available brands of Covid-19 vaccines in the country are “generally safe” for pregnant women.

“Covid-19 vaccines are generally safe for pregnant women and getting vaccinated against Covid-19 is actively recommended during the second or third trimester,” the DoH said.

“High risk pregnant women in their first trimester may also be vaccinated provided that benefits and risks have been fully explained and upon securing medical clearance from their doctor,” it added.

Vergeire noted that most of the Covid-19 vaccines authorized in the country are safe for pregnant and breastfeeding women — except for the Russian-made Sputnik V vaccine.

“The only vaccine that should not be given to pregnant women is with Gamaleya’s Sputnik V,” she said.

Other brands of Covid-19 vaccines available in the country are Pfizer, Sinovac, Johnson and Johnson, Moderna and AstraZeneca.

The development comes after the United States’ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommended vaccination among pregnant women.

“The vaccines are safe and effective, and it has never been more urgent to increase vaccinations as we face the highly transmissible Delta variant and see severe outcomes from Covid-19 among unvaccinated pregnant people,” CDC director Rochelle Walensky said.

Meanwhile, the vaccination of the younger population against the deadly respiratory disease will be pushed in a later date as the Food and Drug Administration said the vaccination of the children will depend on how fast the government can purchase more doses of Pfizer Covid-19 vaccines.

Source: <https://tribune.net.ph/index.php/2021/08/13/jabs-priority-list-includes-pregnant-women/>



WHO mass-testing 3 potential Covid-19 treatments

Artesunate, Imatinib and Infliximab will be tested on thousands of volunteer patients.

Published 3 hours ago on August 13, 2021 04:00 AM

By [Agence France-Presse](#)



GENEVA, Switzerland (AFP) — The World Health Organization (WHO) on Wednesday announced major international trials of three drugs to find out whether they improve the condition of hospitalized Covid-19 patients.

Artesunate, Imatinib and Infliximab will be tested on thousands of volunteer patients in more than 600 hospitals in 52 countries.

“Finding more effective and accessible therapeutics for Covid-19 patients remains a critical need,” said WHO director-general Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus.

Artesunate is a treatment for severe malaria. Imatinib is a drug used for certain cancers. Infliximab is a treatment for immune system disorders such as Crohn’s and rheumatoid arthritis.

The coordinated research across dozens of countries allows the trial to assess multiple treatments using a single protocol, thereby generating robust estimates on the effect a drug may have on mortality, including moderate effects, said the WHO.

The drugs were chosen by an independent expert panel for their potential in reducing the risk of death in hospitalized Covid-19 patients.

They were donated for the trial by their manufacturers and are already being shipped out to the hospitals involved.

Previous trial’s dead end
The testing of artesunate, imatinib and infliximab on Covid-19 patients is the second stage of the WHO’s Solidarity hunt for effective treatments against the killer disease.

Previously, four drugs were evaluated by the Solidarity trial, involving almost 13,000 patients in 500 hospitals across 30 countries.

The provisional results issued in October showed that remdesivir, hydroxychloroquine, lopinavir and interferon had little or no effect on hospitalized patients with Covid-19.

The final results are due out next month.

“We already have many tools to prevent, test for and treat Covid-19, including oxygen, dexamethasone and IL-6 blockers. But we need more, for patients at all ends of the clinical spectrum, from mild to severe disease,” Tedros told a news conference.

Source: <https://tribune.net.ph/index.php/2021/08/13/who-mass-testing-3-potential-covid-19-treatments/>



MGA CHOOSY SA BAKUNA NAOOSPITAL NA AT ISTRIKTONG PAGSUNOD SA PATAKARAN



August 12, 2021 @ 9:26 PM 9 hours ago

SINASABING medyo gumanda ang kalagayan ng Metro Manila sa pananalasa ng COVID-19.

Sabi nila, maglalaro na lang sa 2,500-3,000 ang hawaan bawat araw batay sa naobserbahan nila sa nagdaang mga araw.

Pero, inaamin nilang walang nakaaalam talaga kung anong meron bukas.

Ang mahalagang usapin dito, nakatulong nang malaki sa paghupa ng pandemya sa Kamaynilaan ang idineklarang enhanced community quarantine.

Nagsama ang pambansang pamahalaan at local government units sa pagdedesisyon para isailalim sa enhanced community quarantine ang rehiyon.

Siyempre pa, nakatutulong na rin nang husto ang parami nang paraming nagpapabakuna.

Kahit papaano, makaaasa ang mga bakunado na kung matamaan man sila ng COVID, bibihira na lang ang magkaroon ng severe o kritikal na kalagayan na kanilang ikaospital at ikamamatay.

Nakatutulong din sila sa bawas-hawaan lalo na kung buo silang sumusunod sa mga health protocol at uri ng kwarantana na pinairal.

CHOOSY SA BAKUNA PUMUPUNO SA MGA OSPITAL

Heto ang isang katotohanan.

Alam ba ninyo na sa ilang ospital na halos mayayaman lang ang may kakayahang magpa-confine, eh, karamihan sa mga ito ang napaka-choosy sa bakuna?

'Yun bang === mga naghihintay ng mga stateside na bakuna at ayaw nila sa iba na gawang China o India.

Hayun, 9 sa 10 ang tinamaan at dahil hindi sila bakunado, sila ngayon ang pumupuno sa ilang ospital.

Nagaganap sa kanila ang nagaganap sa United States na karamihan sa mga pumupuno sa mga ospital ay hindi bakunado.

Sa US, naghalo ang mga mayayaman at pobre at karaniwan sa kanila ang ayaw talagang magpabakuna.



Human right naman ang kinakatwiran nila.

Hindi umano pupwedeng idikta o ipilit ng gobyerno ang pagpapabakuna at gawin nila ang gusto nila, kasama ang karapatang tumanggi sa bakuna.

Pero lumalabas na marami na rin ang natatakot sa kanila na madale ng Delta variant kaya dumarami na ang nagpapabakuna.

Sabi ng mga ayaw magpapabakuna pero naoospital, "Just take that stupid shot."

Kitam?

12,000 PLUS AT MAHIGIT 100 PATAY

Nitong nagdaang mga araw, naglalaro sa 8,000-10,000 ang tinatamaan at mahigit 100 ang namamatay na sinisingitan ng mahigit 200.

Kahapon, nasa 12,021.

Kapag maraming laboratoryo ang hindi nakapagsusumite, kakaunti ang bilang ng mga nagkakasakit pero ngayong iilan lang ang hindi nakapag-report, anak ng tokwa, lumalabas na marami ang biktima.

Normal? Pwede, normal na normal.

Pero kung iisipin nating nitong nagdaang mga buwan ay naglalaro lang sa 5,000-6,000 ang mga biktima, malaking problema ang pag-abot ng bilang sa mahigit 12,000.

Lalo na kung iisipin natin na lumilitaw na ang mga problema sa suplay ng oxygen at oxygen tank sa mga ospital gaya sa Cebu.

Lumilitaw rin ang mga punuang mga ospital at pagtatayo ng mga tent na madali ring mapuno, kabilang na ang sa Philippine Red Cross.

At kung nasa 50-80 lang ang namamatay nitong nakaraang mga buwan, ngayon halos laging mahigit sa 100 at lumalagpas sa 200.

Isang tanong ang mahalaga rito: Gusto ba nating mapabilang sa libo-libong nagkakasakit o kaya'y daang namamatay?

'YANG DELTA VARIANT

Bago ideklara ni Pangulong Digong ang ECQ sa Metro Manila at iba pang lugar na inaatake ng COVID-19, nanindigan ang mga ispesyalistang doktor na miyembro ng Inter-Agency Task Force na dapat nang kumilos ang gobyerno na parang umaatake na nang malawakan ang Delta variant.

Tama sila dahil lundag na nang lundag ang pagdami ng variant na ito na mabilis makahawa sa rami ng virus na dala nito at mabilis ding pumatay gaya ng nangyayari sa India, Indonesia at maging sa United States na ngayon.

Libo pa rin araw-araw ang namamatay sa India at Indonesia at ang US, anak ng tokwa, paakyat nang paakyat ang bilang mula sa 200-300 sa 800 na ngayon.

Nasa kanila pa ngayon ang sobra-sobra sa suplay at pinakamalalakas daw na bakuna laban sa COVID gaya ng Pfizer at Moderna.

Dapat nating sabayan ang ginagawa ng gobyerno na pagliligtas sa atin sa pamamagitan ng pagbabakuna, pagpapairal ng health protocols at paglalapat ng iba't ibang uri ng kwarantana.



Kabilang sa mga isabay natin ang hindi pagiging choosy ng mga bakuna dahil hindi ganoon kadali ang pagkakaroon natin nito dahil sa hoarding dito ng mayayamang bansa.

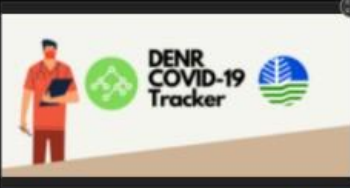
Oo nga pala, napakalaki ang ginagampanan ng mga local government unit, kasama ang mga pulis, sundalo, reserbang pwersa at mamamayan sa mga lalawigan para makontrol ang pagbiyahe ng mga tao kung saan-saan at pagkalat o hawaan kaya sa COVID-19.



#OneDENR

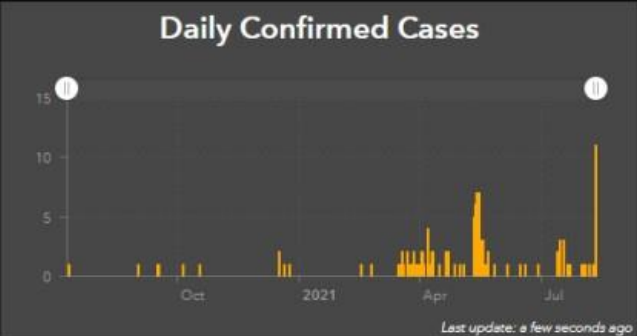
**Covid-19
Situation and Response**

DENR-CO COVID-19 Monitoring

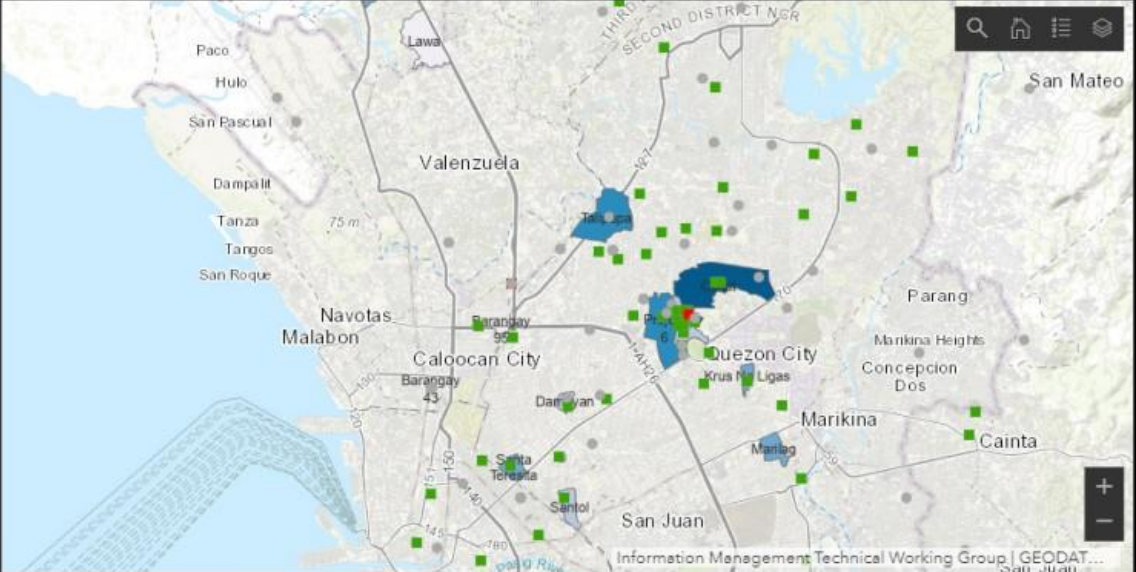


Data on COVID-19 include reported cases of DENR employees (Permanent, Contract of Service/Job Order, Support Staff (Triumph/Security)) as collected by the Contact Tracing Team of DENR Central Office.

Total 115 <small>Last update: a few seconds ago</small>	Active 7 <small>Last update: a few seconds ago</small>	Recovered 107 <small>Last update: a few seconds ago</small>	Deaths 1 <small>Last update: a few seconds ago</small>
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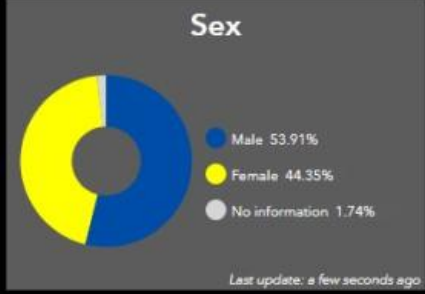
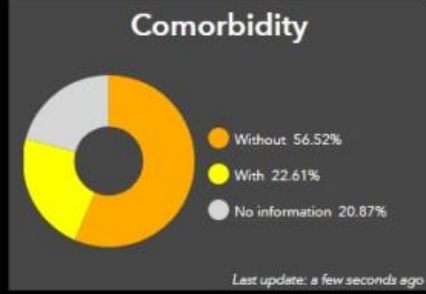
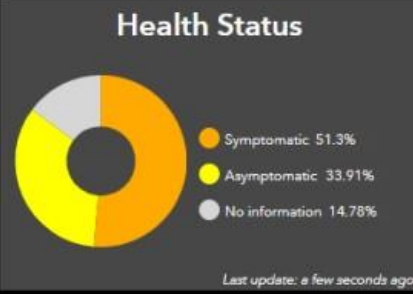
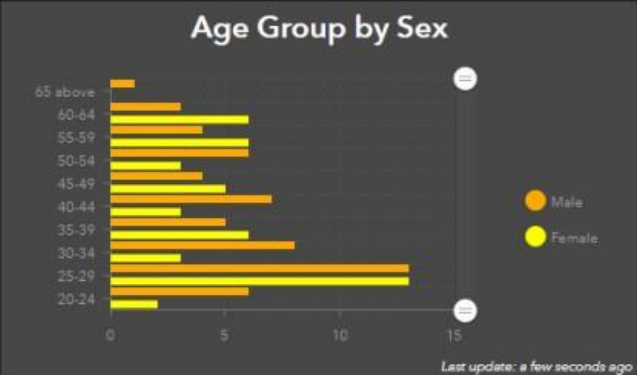
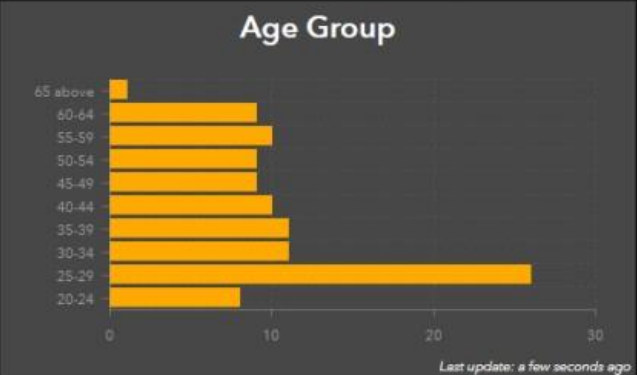


Residence of affected personnel

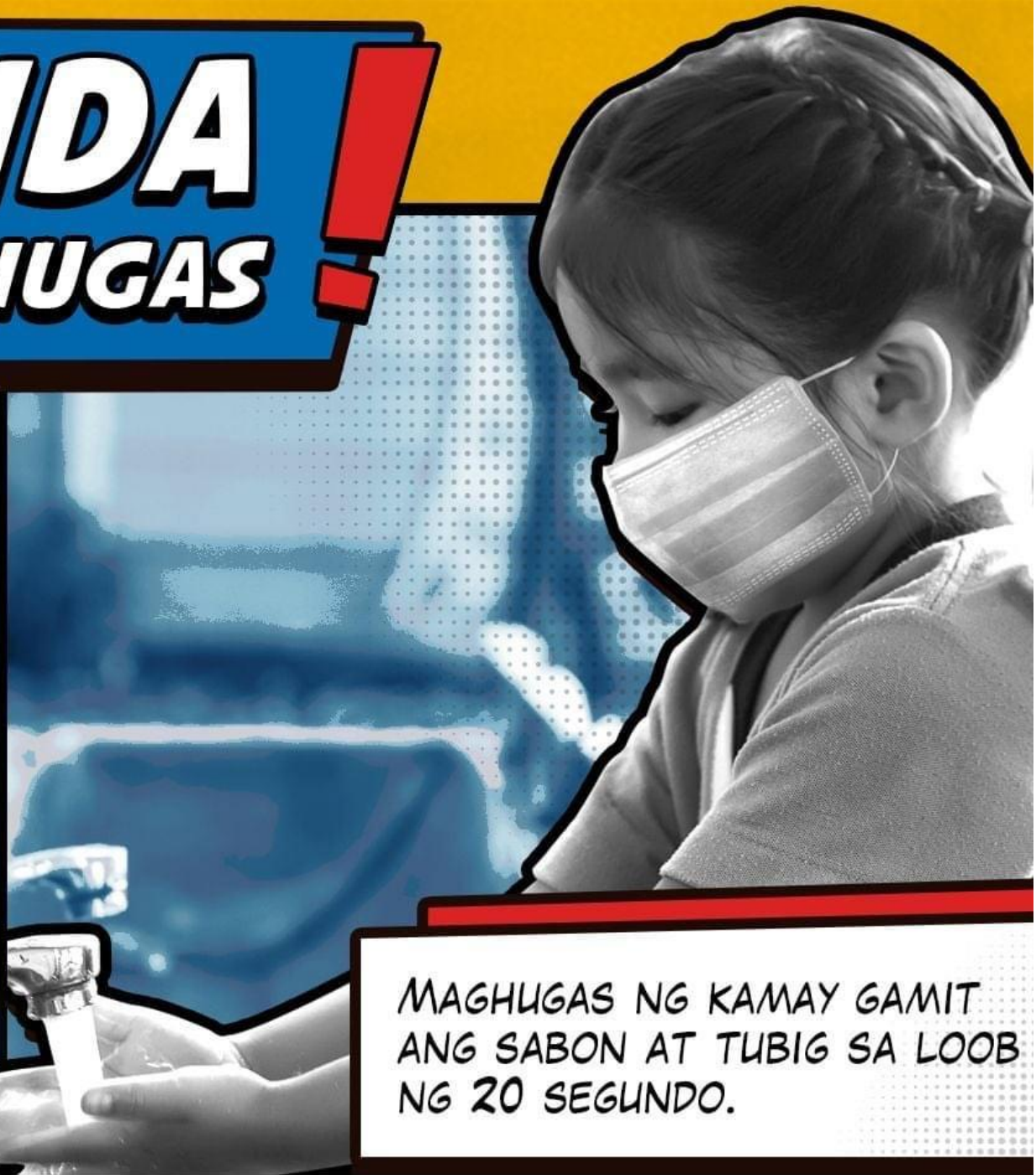


Please note that representative dots were randomly assigned within the barangay residence of the affected personnel and do not necessarily provide exact location/ addresses of the cases.

[Map](#) [Map Legend](#)



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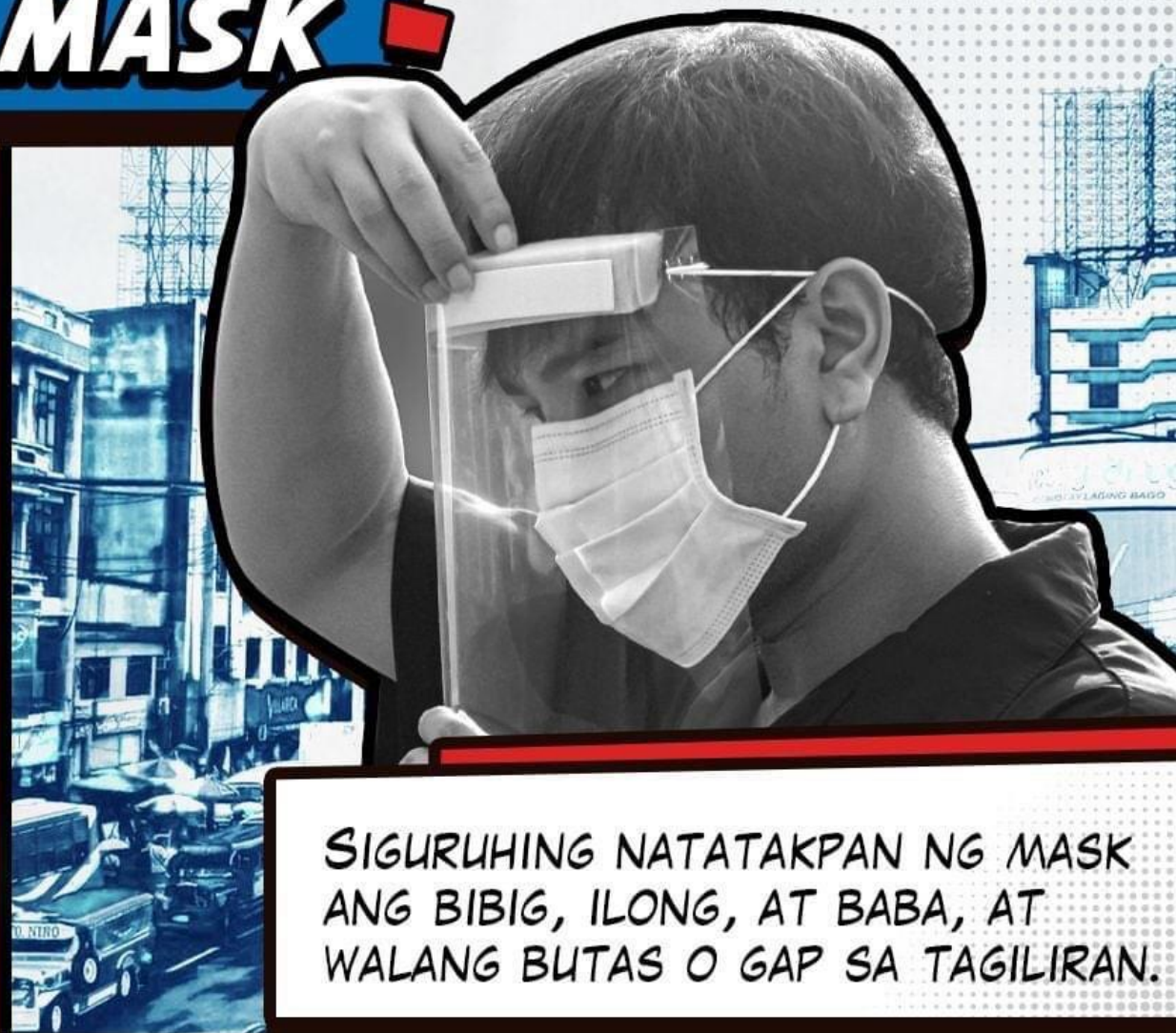


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WALANG BUTAS O GAP SA TAGILIRAN.



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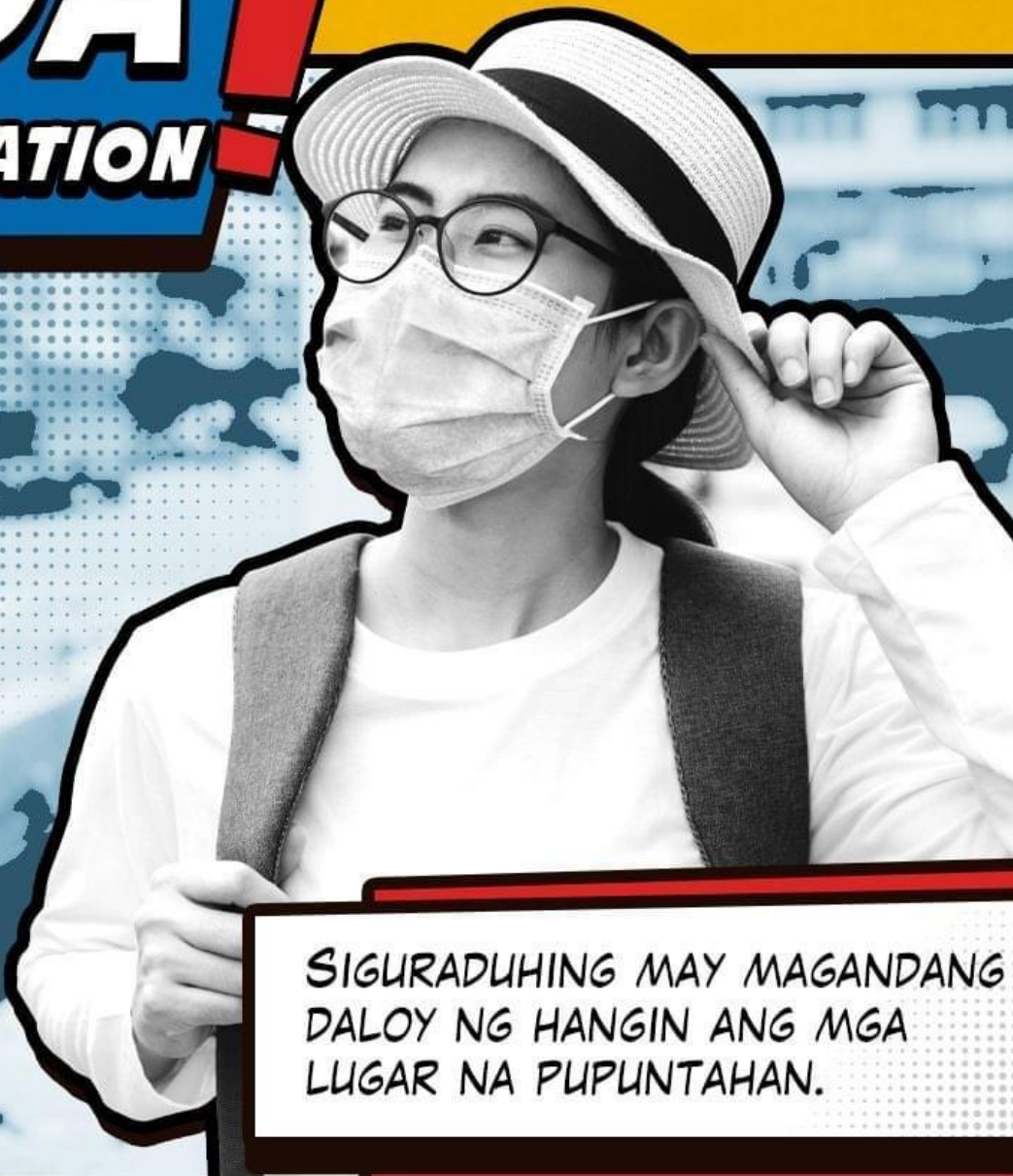
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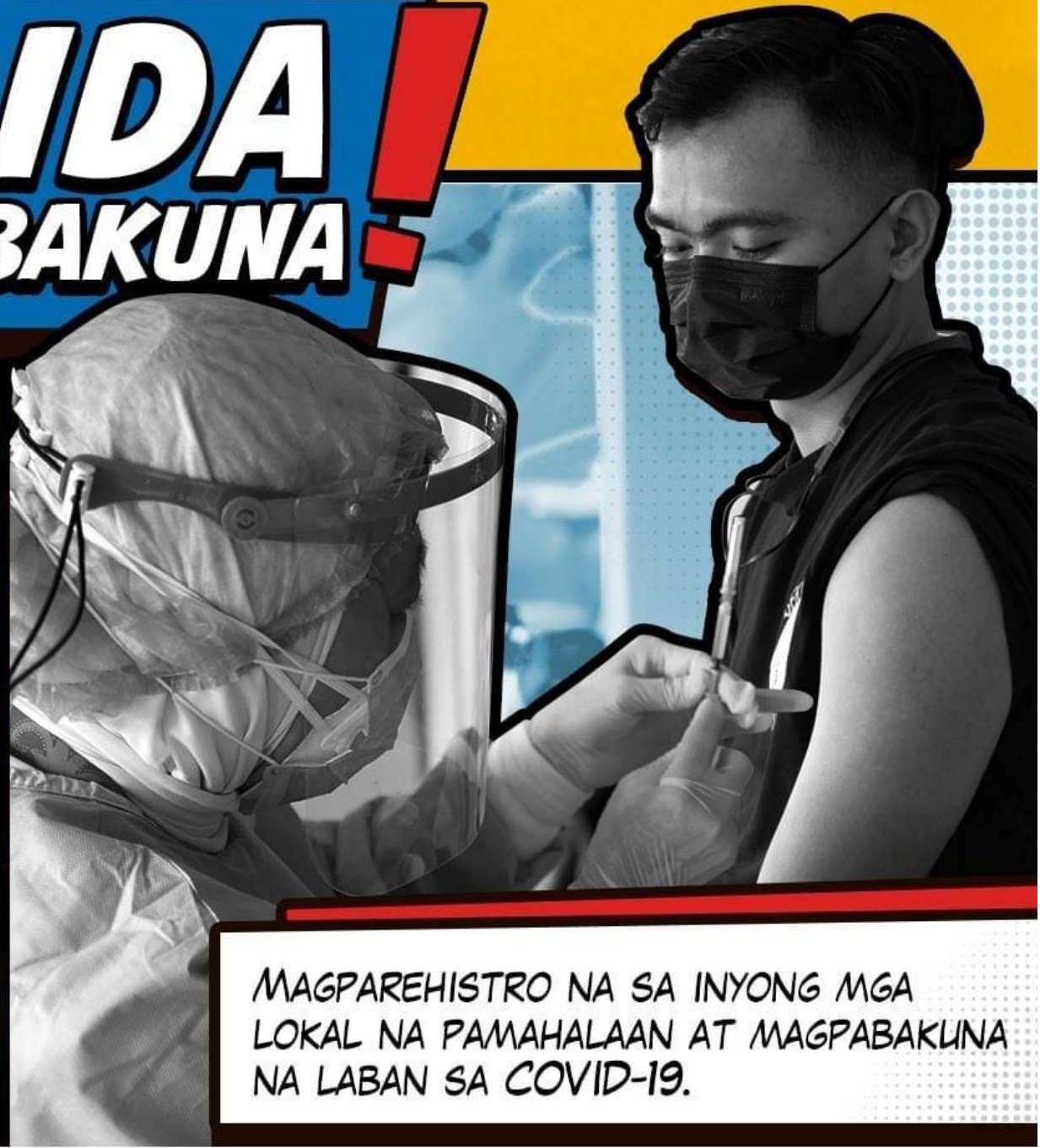


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MAGPAREHISTRO NA SA INYONG MGA
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LIGTAS ANG PAMILYA, LIGTAS ANG BAYAN
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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs) UKOL SA VACCINATION HABANG ECQ



Kailangan ba magrehistro bago magpabakuna?

Oo. Mahigpit na susundan ang pagkuha ng iskedyul at pagpaparehistro para maiwasan ang pagkukumpulan at paghahawaan ng COVID-19.



Maaari ba mag-walk-in para magpabakuna?

Hindi. Subalit maaaring payagan ng mga LGU ang mga senior citizen magpabakuna kahit hindi nakapag-register, basta masusundan pa rin ang mga minimum public health standards.



Saan ako pwedeng magrehistro?

Maaaring magrehistro online gamit ang iba-ibang plataporma ng mga LGU o makipag-ugnayan sa LGU para sa manual registration. Alamin ang link ng online registration ng inyong LGU sa bit.ly/VaccineRegistrationDirectory.



Source: Department of Health

13 AUGUST 2021, FRIDAY



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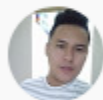
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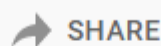
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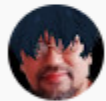
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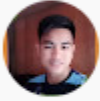
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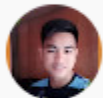
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