

13 JANUARY 2022, Thursday



DENR

NEWS ALERTS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



Villar begins hearing on 2 priority environmental measures

[January 11, 2022](#) min read

By Ernie Reyes

MANILA – Senator Cynthia Villar on Tuesday has started the public hearing on two priority environmental bills in order to protect and preserve the ecosystem in the countryside amid worsening climate change.

In her opening statement during the hybrid hearing on the measures, Villar said that the first agenda is the declaration as a protected area of the Tugbo Natural Biotic Area located in Masbate City and the Municipality of Mobo, in the Province of Masbate under House Bill No. 9488 principally authored by Representative Elisa Kho and its Senate counterpart, Senate Bill No. 1711 that I filed.

The second in the agenda, she added that are the bills seeking for the reclassification of the portion of Mangabul Forest Reserve Located in Bayambang, Pangasinan into Agricultural Land Open to Disposition to Bonafide and Long-Term Farmers of the Area.

These are House Bill No. 9253 principally authored by Representative Baby Arenas, Senate Bill No. 1961 authored by Majority Leader Migz Zubiri, and Senate Bill No. 2444 authored by Senator Bong Revilla.

In Declaring the Tugbo Natural Biotic Area as a Protected Area under the ENIPAS Act, Villar, chairman of the Senate committee on the environment and natural resources said that when she became the Chairperson of this Committee in 17th Congress, she vigorously pushed for the passage of Republic Act No. 11038 or the Expanded National Integrated Protected Areas System (ENIPAS) Act of 2018, which strengthened the legal framework for the establishment, management, and maintenance of all designated protected areas in the country or those that are identified to be ecologically rich and biologically important public lands that are habitats of rare and threatened species of plants and animals, biogeographic zones and related ecosystems. (ai/mtvn)

Source: <https://www.facebook.com/2165747740135352/posts/4865280623515370/?app=fbl>



More environmental disasters than economic benefits from open pit mining

JAN 12, 2022, 10:55 AM



Rose De La Cruz
Columnist

AS I have always said in the past, open pit mining does more environmental harm than the economic benefits it would reap for the country.

It has been adopted worldwide because it is the easiest, cheapest way to mine for precious ores. But it is also environmentally harmful.

A story that appeared in a major daily recently said the return to open pit mining promises a boost to the economy but at the expense of degrading the environment and living conditions for residents surrounding the mines, a study of the University of the Philippines showed.

“From the view of sustainable development, the decision might not be right considering the impact of large-scale mining on local communities.

While there might be economic benefits that can be gained from implementing this liberal policy on mining and granting new permits, these benefits, however, have to be weighed against the long-term impact of mining activities on the environment and the lives of the people,” said political scientist Ruth R. Lusterio-Rico, associate dean of UP Diliman’s College of Social Sciences and Philosophy, who studies environmental politics.

“Some sectors have openly questioned and criticized this shift in policy particularly in light of the recent natural disaster experiences that are already considered to be related to climate change. Thus, for advocates of environmental protection, the economic benefits that could be gained now would not outweigh the consequences on the environment for the future generations,” she added.

Gina Lopez might be rudely roused from her grave

Former Environment and Natural Resources Secretary (the late) Regina Lopez—who gained much respect from global environmentalists for her strict policies on mining—could be rudely being roused from her grave with the December 23 decision of her successor at DENR, who lifted the four-year ban she imposed.

In April, President Rodrigo R. Duterte lifted the nine-year moratorium on granting mining permits.

“There were indications that the administration has softened on its stance on mining. As everyone knows, in the early period of the Duterte administration, the position of the administration, particularly the President, was strongly against mining. Evidence of this (included) his strong



[More environmental disasters than economic benefits from open pit mining](#)

statements against mining and mining companies in his State of the Nation Addresses (SONAs) in 2016 and 2017,” Lusterio-Rico said in an article from Business World.

“Duterte even directed the (Department of Environment and Natural resources) to review all mining permits and ensure compliance of mining companies to all government standards and regulations. It would be recalled that this strong position against mining was implemented by Lopez,” she added.

“After Ms. Lopez’s exit from the DENR, the position on mining gradually shifted. In his later SONAs, Duterte no longer talked about mining. The focus shifted to cleaning up Boracay and Manila Bay.”

Ensure the lives of mining communities

Lusterio-Rico said the government and miners must ensure that the lives of those in mining communities are not disrupted.

“I think the government must very carefully study the situation in the communities that would potentially be affected by mining activities, on a case-to-case basis. To be fair, there were also mining companies that practiced what may be considered ‘responsible mining.’

But knowing how communities would be affected by mining activities is very important. Aside from the long-term impact on the environment, let us not forget the consequences of mining activities on people and their communities,” she said.

“There have been several studies made on the consequences of mining on people’s lives as well as on the environment. There are communities that have been divided because of the issue of mining, primarily because there are people who gain and there are those who lose,” she added.

However, she called the consequences of open-pit mining inevitable in the event of mining accidents.

“In other words, even if the mining company can be a potential provider of employment, not everyone in the community can be hired by the mining company. There are also heavy consequences on communities, such as loss of livelihood, poor health conditions, etc. when accidents happen in mining areas,” Lusterio-Rico said.

“I suppose that the risks involved in revitalizing the mining industry cannot be overemphasized. It is very clear based on past experience and the current challenges posed by climate change that the Philippines has to be vigilant and ready to face the possible consequences of irresponsible action,” she added.

Fishers group calls benefits ‘minor’

Pambansang Lakas ng Kilusang Mamamalakaya ng Pilipinas (PAMALAKAYA), an organization of small fishermen, called the job creation benefits minor compared to the potential costs.

Open- pit “only creates very small number of jobs and a paltry amount of value to the Philippine economy” at the expense of degrading the environment, PAMALAKAYA National Charmain Fernando L.Hicap said in a statement.



[More environmental disasters than economic benefits from open pit mining](#)

Greater environmental disaster

“The resumption of open-pit mining spells greater environmental destruction and disaster for farmers, indigenous peoples, and fisherfolk. We do not buy the pretext that inviting more mining companies into our land will help revive the pandemic-battered economy... There are more sustainable ways to restore the economy (than) exposing our natural resources and sacrificing our national patrimony to big mining interests,” Hicap added.

The mining industry welcomed the lifting of the ban, taking the position that the practice can be made environmentally sustainable.

“The mining method is dependent on the location and configuration of the ore body. Open-pit mining is employed for shallow or near-surface mineral deposits, where underground operations are impractical.

There are sufficient safeguards to ensure that all mining operations including open-pit are done safely and with due consideration to the environment and host communities,” the Philippine Mining and Exploration Association (PMEA) said. This is better said than done.

“We hope that this will encourage investment in mining in the future and that the government will facilitate and expedite the permitting process. This will allow the mining industry to contribute more to the country’s economic recovery from the disastrous effects of the pandemic,” PMEA added.



Philex completes Boyongan mine study

By Eireene Jairee Gomez
January 13, 2022

PHILEX Mining Corp. on Wednesday announced the completion of the In-Phase Mine Plan feasibility study and an updated mineable reserve estimate for the Boyongan deposit.

This latest development is in accordance with the 2012 Philippine Mineral Reporting Code.

In 2019, a feasibility study for a 4 million tons per year sublevel cave mining plan for the Boyongan copper porphyry deposit was completed and was then used as the basis for the In-Phase Mine Plan feasibility study. According to Philex, the in-phase plan consists of a starter sublevel cave mine that has an annual ore production of 700,000 tons or 2,000 tons per day, noting that mining will commence at the East sublevel cave because it has the highest-grade ore.

Also, the mining firm said that a new decline will be developed to access the East sublevel cave while the existing exploration decline will be rehabilitated to serve as an alternative mine access and a ventilation exhaust.

As the ore currently consists of predominantly oxide minerals, Philex said that copper, gold and silver will be recovered using copper leaching and gold leaching processes. The processing plant will produce a London Metal Exchange grade (99.999 percent) copper cathode and gold-silver ore.

Philex said that the initial capital cost to develop the starter mine is estimated to be \$224 million, which will be spent within the 2.5 years development period.

"The 2,000 tons per day starter mine will last for five years, after which in the sixth year of production, mining and processing rate will increase to 4,000 tons per day or 1.3 million tons per year. By the ninth year, ore production and processing rates will again increase to 8,000 tons per day or 2.7 million tons per year," said Philex.

This year, a copper flotation circuit will be added to the process plant as the ore mine now consists of oxide and sulfide minerals, which will produce copper concentrates with gold and silver. The final ramp up will occur in the twelfth year.

Ore production rate starting this year up to when the mineable ore will be exhausted will be 12,000 tons per day or 4 million tons per year. The life of mine for Phase 1 Boyongan is 28 years.

After incorporating standard mining factors to the mineral resource, the feasibility study has delineated 81 million tons as a mineable reserve.



Philex commences mining in Surigao after new study

Mining will commence at the East sub-level cave because it has the highest grade ore

Philex Mining Corporation will commence mining in its Silangan Copper-Gold Project in Surigao del Norte after completing the feasibility study as required by the 2012 Philippine Mineral Reporting Code.

In a disclosure, the mining firm said it had completed the In-Phase Mine Plan feasibility study and an updated mineable reserve estimate for the Boyongan deposit.

“Mining will commence at the East sub-level cave because it has the highest grade ore,” Philex said. The plan consists of a starter sub-level cave mine with an annual ore production of 700 thousand tonnes or

2,000 tons per day.

The study will develop a new decline to access the East sub-level cave. In contrast, the existing exploration decline will be rehabilitated to serve as alternative mine access and a ventilation exhaust for mine air.

Philex will recover copper, gold, and silver using copper leaching and gold leaching processes since the ore comprise oxide minerals.

The processing plant will produce a copper cathode and gold-silver ore in the London Metal Exchange (LME) grade (99.999%). Tailings from the processing plant will be piped to the Tailings Storage Facility, five kilometers to the northwest of the Boyongan ore body.

The initial capital cost to develop the starter mine is estimated to be US\$ 224 Million, which will be spent within the 2.5

years development period.

The 2,000 tonnes per day starter mine will last for five years, after which on the sixth year of production, mining and processing rate will increase to 4,000 tonnes per day or 1.3 million tonnes per year.

By the ninth year, ore production and processing rates will increase to 8,000 tonnes per day or 2.7 million tonnes per year. This year, a copper flotation circuit will be added to the process plant as the ore mined now consists of oxide and sulfide minerals, and copper flotation will produce copper concentrates with gold and silver.

The final ramp-up will occur on the twelfth year. Ore production rate starting this year up to when the mineable ore will be exhausted will be 12,000 tonnes per day or four million tonnes per year. The life of mine for Phase 1 Boyongan is 28 years.



It's not necessary to trash the environment to extract metals needed for renewable energy

January 11, 2022 | 9:35 pm

By W. Scott Dunbar, Davide Elmo, and John Steen



FREEPIK

The use of renewable energy systems, such as solar panels, wind turbines, electric cars, and hydrogen fuel cells, will minimize greenhouse gas emissions and reduce global warming. But use of these systems has to increase — and they require a lot of metal.

The World Bank estimates that about three billion tons of metals like graphite, lithium, and cobalt will be needed by 2050 to supply enough systems to keep the global temperature rise below 2°C, a goal of the 2016 Paris Climate agreement. In comparison, only about one billion tons of metals would be needed by 2050 to satisfy current usage of renewable energy systems.

Since Canada has abundant resources of most of the metals needed, can it become a global leader in the supply of materials needed for renewable energy systems?

It could, but the increase in the physical, energy, and water footprints associated with extraction of these metals to meet the metal demand could negate any gains made by the use of renewable energy systems.

Some say it's not possible to reconcile these two goals and we must make difficult choices and unfair decisions. The alternative is to find ways to adapt to global warming.

But this ignores a few things, such as the technology developments that could reduce the carbon footprint of extraction, the potential of a reorganization of the metal supply chain, and the possibility of a closer relationship between society and the metals it uses.

Can we change mining technology to reduce its footprint? There is an active community of researchers that says yes. Here are some current avenues of investigation:



It's not necessary to trash the environment to extract metals needed for renewable energy

Bacteria have been interacting with minerals for more than two billion years, decomposing the minerals and allowing the metals to dissolve into water. As a result, a mineral microbiome has evolved that could be used to develop natural ways of extracting metals and to clean up mine waste.

Greenhouse gas emissions at mining operations currently account for about 10% of global emissions. That percentage will increase if we try to meet metals demands using current methods. Some operations are implementing renewable energy systems in efforts to further reduce this emission level.

Autonomous systems, some electrified, are in use at some mines, but there is more potential. One possibility is a large number of small machines — a swarm that behaves like an ant colony. This could enable targeted metal extraction with a far smaller footprint.

Metal extraction generates enormous amounts of information on the actual behavior of a mining operation. Machine learning algorithms could find patterns in these data and use them to guide improvements to the operations and increase the recovery of mineral resources.

These are big ideas that will take time to fully develop. But we believe that a reorganization of the metal supply chain and better connections between society and the metals it uses can more quickly lead to sustainable metal supply. The first step is to unwrap the mineral resources industry to make it more transparent, visible and available to anyone.

The links in the metal value chain are suppliers who perform different services.

A mining company is one collection of suppliers. But an interesting alternative is a network consisting of several sources of metals such as mines, scrap metal, electronic waste, mine tailings and wastewater — all connected to processing plants, refineries, manufacturers, and the related suppliers of materials and services.

Networks within networks are possible, and flexibility is required. One network might specialize in processing tailings to extract metals, another on processing mineral concentrates, and another may be solely focused on recycling metals from scrap. Ownership and operation of any part of a network would be open to a company, group or community that has the knowledge and expertise.

Most innovation in the mining industry takes place among suppliers, and the presence of different suppliers in a network would be advantageous. A combination of competition among suppliers to take part in a network, and collaboration among suppliers in those networks, would promote innovation.

Many opportunities exist for the public to contribute to a flexible open metal supply network. Barriers to entry do exist, but they aren't insurmountable, and there are advantages to removing them.

For example, in Canada, many mineral deposits are located on Indigenous lands. Parts of a network related to these mineral deposits could be operated/financed by a mining company or group of companies owned by an Indigenous community.



It's not necessary to trash the environment to extract metals needed for renewable energy

Some of the metals needed for renewable energy systems reside in small deposits that are geographically dispersed. Rare earth metals used in the magnets of motors in electric cars are one example. It's too expensive to develop a mine for these deposits, but a flexible open network that uses services only as needed might be able to do economically.

Recycling is another source of metals, but the combinations of materials in some products makes it difficult to separate the metals in them.

This calls for some innovation in processing. But the logistics of recycling are cumbersome, especially for clunky items containing metals such as an aircraft engine, an electric car or a few thousand disk drives. An open network that includes communities and logistics specialists in partnership with advanced recycling operations could be a sustainable source of metals.

Reuse or refurbishment of devices that contain metals is also possible as part of the circular economy. Co-ordination between device users and manufacturers would be required. But an open network of partnerships can accomplish this.

If we want to use renewable energy to keep the atmosphere cool, then mining processes and our current relationship with metals must change. Governments should implement policies that encourage those changes. Industry can also contribute by encouraging business partnerships and engagement with communities and other interested parties.



Climate top global risk in 2022 – WEF



By [Xinhua News Agency](#)

January 13, 2022



Demonstrators gather in [Trafalgar Square](#) following a march as part of the Global Day of Action for Climate Justice in London, [Britain](#), Nov. 6, 2021. [Xinhua](#) Photo

BANGKOK: As the world enters the third year of the pandemic, the climate crisis, growing social divides, heightened cyber risks and uneven global recovery are the top global risks in 2022, the [World Economic Forum](#) (WEF) said in a new report.

The "Global Risks Report 2022" warns that five of the top 10 global risks are environment-related, including climate action failure, extreme weather and biodiversity loss.

Meanwhile, the main short-term global concerns include the erosion of social cohesion, livelihood crises and infectious diseases.

"We've seen what can happen when there is public-private collaboration, when we put our faith in science and technology, and when there is global coordination.

The result of that was developing a vaccine for Covid-19," [Saadia](#) Zahidi, the WEF's managing director, told Xinhua in a virtual interview following the release.



Climate top global risk in 2022 – WEF

"Now, if we can do that for one specific and very urgent area, we can do the same thing for other areas that require urgent attention, and that includes climate change. There are a number of technologies that are now available; it's really about making that green transition."

Now in its 17th edition, the latest annual report from the [Geneva](#)-based forum urges leaders to adopt a coordinated, multi-stakeholder response, and create policies that manage risks and resolve systemic issues.

"Half of the world is still not vaccinated, and half of the world still does not have access to the internet," Zahidi stressed. "We're seeing a rising divergence between the developing world and the developed world."

"It's really about working out who has the best possible models that help governments move out of a constant focus on the emergency situation, towards building recovery and investing in resilience."

"That is where I think the experiences of economies and pulling together the economic, social and green agendas closer together. That's where the proof point is going to lie. And those are the models that the rest of the world have to emulate," she added.

The report, which has been developed with the WEF's strategic partners [Marsh McLennan, SK Group](#) and [Zurich Insurance Group](#), also warns that global economic recovery from Covid-19 will be uneven and potentially volatile in the coming years.

A global survey of experts found that only 1 in 6 is optimistic, and only 1 in 10 believes that global recovery will accelerate.

The economic fallout of the pandemic and diverging levels of recovery also continue to threaten cooperation on other global challenges, at a time when climate and environmental risks loom large, the report emphasizes.

Zahidi added: "[China](#) is amongst the very positive growth stories that we've seen in the world in the last 30 years, with people coming out of poverty, having new economic opportunities, and now seeing how China manages this transition, this economic and green and technological transition that is underway. That's going to provide a role model to others."

Zurich Insurance Group's chief risk officer [Peter Giger](#) says in the report: "The climate crisis remains the biggest long-term threat facing humanity."

Failure to act on climate change could shrink global GDP by one-sixth, and the commitments taken at COP26 are still not enough to achieve the 1.5 C goal."



Climate top global risk in 2022 – WEF

"It is not too late for governments and businesses to act on the risks they face and to drive an innovative, determined and inclusive transition that protects economies and people."

Last month, the WEF announced that due to continued concerns over Omicron it will defer its annual meeting, which is usually held in the Swiss ski resort of [Davos](#). Initially scheduled to take place between January 17-21, it is now planned for early summer.



Oceans warming at record level – report

GLOBAL
TIMES

By [Global Times](#)

January 13, 2022

DENVER: The world's oceans are hotter than ever before, continuing their record-breaking temperature streak for the sixth straight year, according to a new report on global ocean warming in 2021.

The research, conducted by an international research team led by the [Chinese Academy of Sciences](#) (CAS), was published in *Advances in Atmospheric Sciences* on Tuesday (Wednesday in Manila).

Temperatures in the [Mediterranean](#), [North Atlantic](#), [Southern Ocean](#) and [North Pacific Ocean](#) all hit record highs in 2021, according to the report, which summarizes two international datasets and analyzes observation of ocean heat content and its impact dating from the 1950s.

"The ocean heat content is relentlessly increasing, globally, and this is a primary indicator of human-induced climate change," said [Kevin Trenberth](#), one of the authors of the research report and a distinguished scholar at the [National Center](#) for Atmospheric Research in [Colorado](#).

"Besides heat, the ocean also absorbs 20 to 30 percent of human carbon dioxide emissions, leading to ocean acidification, but ocean warming reduces the efficiency of oceanic carbon uptake and leaves more carbon dioxide in the air," said Cheng Lijing, another of the authors and associate professor with the [International Center](#) for Climate and Environmental Sciences at IAP CAS.

He noted that monitoring and understanding the heat and carbon coupling in the future will be important in tracking climate change mitigation goals.

The researchers also assessed the role of various natural variations, such as the warming and cooling phases known as El Niño and La Niña, which greatly affect regional temperature changes.

According to Cheng, the regional analysis shows that the robust and significant ocean warming since the late 1950s has occurred everywhere, with a huge impact on marine life.

Ocean warming has a major influence on human activities and ecosystems, including raising global sea levels, increasing the probability of ocean heat waves, more severe storms and more extreme rainfall.

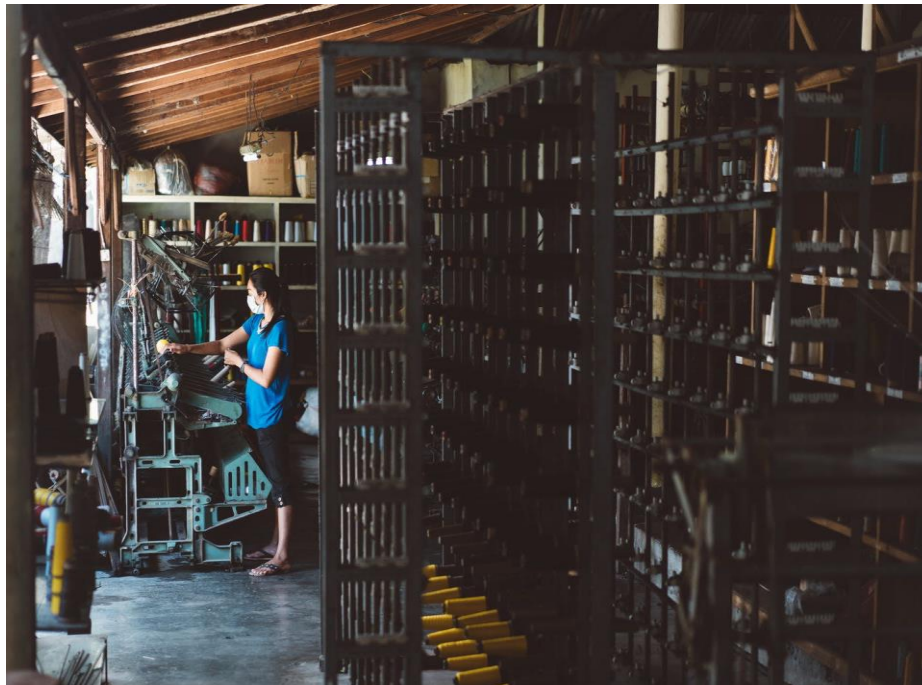
The report came at the end of the first year of the [United Nations'](#) Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development Goals, which includes 17 interlocked goals to maintain human societies and natural ecosystems around the globe, many of which are related to ocean health.

Source: <https://www.manilatimes.net/2022/01/13/news/world/oceans-warming-at-record-level-report/1829115>



Southeast Asia's small businesses emit more carbon than a small country: study

The latest calculation, said to be a highly conservative estimate, shows that these small and medium-sized businesses minimally emit about 29.7 million tonnes of carbon dioxide annually.



A woman working in a small garment workshop in Indonesia. Small and medium-sized enterprises form the backbone of the Southeast Asian economies. Image: [Joshua Newton](#) / [Unsplash](#)

By [Ng Wai Mun](#)

Jan. 12, 2022

A new study has found that small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in Southeast Asia have a combined carbon footprint that exceeds the total annual national emissions of Brunei or Cambodia.

SMEs in Southeast Asia are estimated to produce 29.7 million tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions annually, according to a new estimate by Singapore's ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute. The calculation, published in a [research paper](#) in the latest issue of the ISEAS Perspective, has never been done before for SMEs in the region.

SMEs form the backbone of Southeast Asian economies, as they account for more than 97 per cent of businesses in the region. Few attempts, however, have been made to gauge their relative contribution to global warming, said the researchers.

Source: <https://www.eco-business.com/news/southeast-asias-small-businesses-emit-more-carbon-than-a-small-country-study/>



Luzon, Visayas to experience cold breeze, light rains due to 'amihan'

Published January 12, 2022, 8:59 AM
by Ellalyn De Vera-Ruiz



(SCREEN GRAB FROM PAGASA YOUTUBE CHANNEL)

The northeast monsoon, locally called “amihan,” will bring cold and cloudy weather with light rains over Luzon and Visayas in the next 24 hours, the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) said on Wednesday, Jan. 12.

PAGASA weather specialist Aldczar Aurelio said the amihan extending across Luzon and Visayas will bring light rains over Batanes, Cagayan, and Babuyan Islands.

Partly cloudy to cloudy skies with isolated light amihan rains may also prevail over Metro Manila, the rest of Luzon, and Visayas, Aurelio said.

Based on the PAGASA’s monitoring, the lowest air temperatures recorded on Jan. 12 are as follows:

Baguio City — 11.8 degrees Celsius (°C)

San Jose, Occidental Mindoro — 17.1°C

Sinait, Ilocos Sur — 17.3°C

Basco, Batanes — 17.5°C

Malaybalay, Bukidnon — 17.5°C

Laoag City, Ilocos Norte — 17.6°C

Tuguegarao City, Cagayan — 18.1°C

Casiguran, Aurora — 18.2°C



Luzon, Visayas to experience cold breeze, light rains due to 'amihan'

Tanay, Rizal — 18.9°C

Iba, Zambales — 19.2°C

Meanwhile, Mindanao will have partly cloudy to cloudy skies with isolated rain showers due to localized thunderstorms in the next 24 hours.

PAGASA warned the public that severe thunderstorms may trigger flash floods or landslides particularly in areas that are highly susceptible to these hazards.

Moreover, no gale warning is in effect over the country's seaboard as of Wednesday.

Moderate to rough seas may prevail over Luzon and Visayas while slight to moderate seas may persist over Mindanao.

As such, sea travel is safe even for fisherfolk and others with small sea vessels, PAGASA said.

13 JANUARY 2022, Thursday



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STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



Philippines logs 32,246 new infections; active cases at 208,164

(Philstar.com)

- January 12, 2022 - 4:09pm



Vendors, truck drivers and other essential workers line up to receive their booster shot at the night market in Divisoria, Manila on Jan. 5, 2022.

The STAR/Miguel de Guzman

MANILA, Philippines — The Department of Health reported Wednesday 32,246 additional COVID-19 infections, bringing the number of active cases to 208,164.

The active case count is the highest so far.

In total, the Philippines has recorded 3,058,634 cases since the start of the pandemic.

The country is seeing a dramatic rise in infections this month following the detection of the hyper-transmissible Omicron variant and increased mobility during the holiday season.

According to the DOH, Metro Manila (56%), Calabarzon (22%) and Central Luzon were the regions with the most number of cases in the recent two weeks.

The positivity rate was 45.7% out of 63,903 tests. This was way above the 5-percent threshold of the World Health Organization for opening economies.

Eleven testing laboratories did not submit their data to the department.

The death toll hit 52,654 after 144 more patients died, while recoveries increased by 5,063 to 2,797,816.

Of the active cases, 6,435 are asymptomatic, 197,091 have mild symptoms, 2,872 are moderate, 1,468 have severe infection, and 298 are in critical condition.



Philippines logs 32,246 new infections; active cases at 208,164

Spikes outside Metro Manila

- DOH Secretary Francisco Duque III said [Calabarzon, Central Luzon, Ilocos region and Cagayan Valley](#) are also seeing increase in COVID-19 cases.
- There is no need to raise [Metro Manila's alert level to 4](#) as the health system can still manage the surge in COVID-19 cases, the World Health Organization said.
- The Department of Transportation has ordered a "[no vaccination, no ride](#)" policy on public transportation throughout Metro Manila, which transport groups say violates the public's right to mobility.
- The Commission on Higher Education said the colleges and universities in areas under Alert Level 3 may hold [limited face-to-face classes](#) no earlier than January 31.

— Gaea Katreena Cabico



Active COVID-19 cases in PH hit record high at over 208,000; new daily infections at 32,246

By [CNN Philippines Staff](#)

Published Jan 12, 2022 4:11:47 PM



Metro Manila (CNN Philippines, January 12) – The country broke another coronavirus record on Wednesday, as its active case count shot up to 208,164 – its highest yet, according to the Department of Health.

This is only the second time that the number of Filipinos currently sick with COVID-19 breached the 200,000 mark. It surpassed the previous record of 203,710 reported during the case surge in April last year.

The new all-time high figure came as the DOH announced 32,246 more cases, the second sharpest increase the Philippines has seen. The biggest was on Monday, when over 33,000 more people were confirmed infected.

But according to the Health department, 11 testing laboratories have yet to submit their latest results. These facilities contributed an average of 3.3% of all samples tested and 4.5% of all positive cases in the last two weeks.

The total cases are now at 3,058,634.

Some 63,900 tests were reported on Jan. 10, the bulletin showed, with a positivity rate of 45.7%. This is also the second highest, next to Monday's 46%. It means more than 4 in 10 people tested for COVID-19 were found positive.

Of the new cases, the DOH said 17,902, or over half, came from Metro Manila. Still rounding up the top three contributing regions are Calabarzon with 6,838 and Central Luzon with 3,268.

The department also noted 453 infections occurred more than two weeks ago and had just been encoded.



Active COVID-19 cases in PH hit record high at over 208,000; new daily infections at 32,246

It further detailed that nearly 95% of the active cases are tagged as mild. Meanwhile, there are 1,468 severe cases (0.7%) and 298 critical (0.14%), and the rest are moderate (1.4%) or asymptomatic (3%) cases.

The death toll also hit 52,654 after 144 more succumbed to the disease. Only 20 of them, however, died this month. The 124 others were part of late reports from January to December of last year.

Another 5,063 survivors, on the other hand, brought the recovery tally to 2,797,816.

The DOH said 125 cases it previously declared as recoveries turned out to be deaths after final validation. It also deleted 85 duplicate entries from its data.



208,164 aktibong kaso ng COVID-19 record-high sa kasaysayan ng Pilipinas

Philstar.com

January 12, 2022 | 4:10pm



People queue outside a drug store in Quiapo, Manila on Sunday night, Jan. 2, 2022 following reports of a shortage paracetamol and other fever medicines.

The STAR/Miguel de Guzman

MANILA, Philippines — Ngayong araw naabot ang pinakamaraming bilang ng Philippine COVID-19 cases na patuloy pa ring nagpapagaling laban sa nakamamatay na sakit.

Ayon sa Department of Health (DOH), Miyerkules, aabot na sa 208,164 COVID-19 cases ang hindi pa gumagaling o binabawian ng buhay. Ito ang pinakamalaki sa kasaysayan ng bansa.

- **total cases** (3,058,634)
- **bagong kaso** (32,246)
- **total deaths** (52,654)
- **kamamatay lang** (144)
- **aktibong kaso** (208,164)

"Samantala ay mayroon namang naitalang 5,063 na gumaling," banggit ng kagawaran, dahilan para sumipa na sa 2,797,816 ang kabuuang bilang ng recoveries.

Narito matatagpuan ang karamihan sa 32,246 bagong kaso ngayong araw:

- National Capital Region (17,902)
- CALABARZON (6,838)
- Central Luzon (3,268)



208,164 aktibong kaso ng COVID-19 record-high sa kasaysayan ng Pilipinas

Sa 144 naitalang bagong patay, 20 ang nangyari nitong Enero habang ang nalalabi ay panay backlog mula pa noong taong 2021.

Sa kabila ng nagtataasang bilang ng bago at aktibong kaso, 11 laboratoryo pa ang hindi nakapagsumite ng kani-kanilang mga datos sa COVID-19 Document Repository System (CDRS).

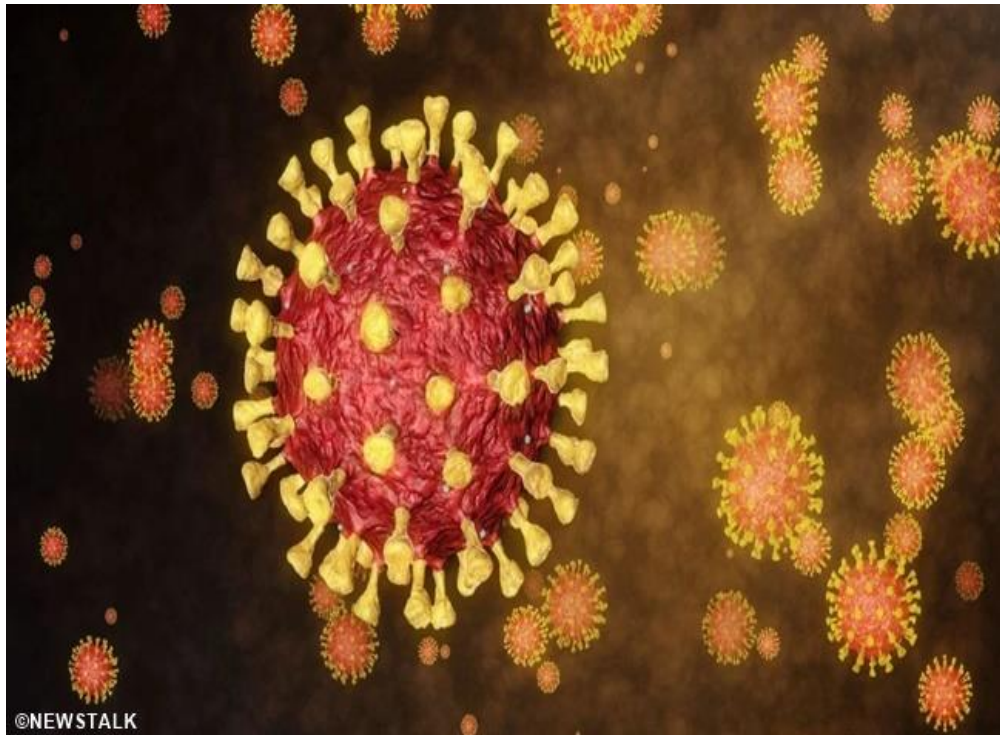
Nasa 85 duplicates naman ang tinanggal mula sa total case count. Sa bilang na ito, 68 ang recovery talaga habang isa ang namatay na.

Samantala, nasa 125 kasong unang iniulat na gumaling ang ni-reclassify bilang deaths matapos ang pinal na validation. — **James Relativo**



OMICRONT VARIANT, MALAPIT NANG MAGING PREDOMINANTE SA PILIPINAS

written by [DWIZ 882](#) January 12, 2022



Malapit nang maging predominante ang Omicron variant ng covid-19 sa Pilipinas kapalit ng delta variant.

Ayon kay World Health Organization (WHO) Representative to the Philippines Dr. Rabindra Abeyasinghe, hindi na nakakagulat ang pagkalat ng omicron variant sa bansa dahil sa mataas na antas ng transmisyon nito.

Sa huling sample ng sequencing mula sa National Capital Region (NCR) at sa mga Returning Overseas Filipinos (ROFS), nakitaan ang omicron variant na pinakadominanteng variant.

Tinatayang nasa 43 kaso na ng omicron variant ang mayroon ang Pilipinas at 8,497 kaso ng delta variant. –Sa panulat ni Abby Malanday

Source: <https://www.dwiz882am.com/index.php/omicront-variant-malapit-nang-maging-predominante-sa-pilipinas/>



Omicron may soon replace Delta as dominant variant in PH: WHO

By Ma. Teresa Montemayor January 12, 2022, 5:32 pm



World Health Organization country representative Dr. Rabindra Abeyasinghe (PNA photo by Joey Razon)

MANILA – The Omicron variant of the coronavirus may soon replace Delta as the dominant variant in the Philippines, World Health Organization country representative Dr. Rabindra Abeyasinghe said Wednesday.

Abeyasinghe noted that it would be difficult to determine soon which variant is predominant because of "very few" sequencing results from other regions.

"We believe that in the near future, Omicron will displace Delta variant as the predominant variant as it has done in several other countries," Abeyasinghe said in a televised public briefing.

"The last batch of samples were largely from NCR (National Capital Region) and from returning overseas Filipinos who tested positive and so, it's not surprising that among the ROFs and also in NCR that we are seeing now Delta variant being displaced by the Omicron variant," Abeyasinghe added.

Earlier, Philippine Genome Center chief, Dr. Cynthia Saloma, said many Delta variant cases were still detected in the sequencing run last December.

Abeyasinghe added that it was difficult to identify whether the country is now at the height of a case surge or further increase in cases can be expected.

"We are seeing that the incubation period in Omicron is lower than with the Delta and with the various type. And so, this progresses much faster and develops much faster," he said.

As of Wednesday 4 p.m., the Department of Health logged 32,246 new coronavirus infections, pushing the country's overall tally to 3,058,634 with 208,164 active cases.

Abeyasinghe said the country would continue to see an increase in cases as the virus spreads to other regions like Central Visayas, Region 4-A (Calabarzon), and Region 5.



Omicron may soon replace Delta as dominant variant in PH: WHO

“Even in Visayas and Mindanao. So, this is inevitably going to happen, but we need to be careful in assessing and jumping to conclusions,” he added.

He reminded the public to curb the spread of the virus by strictly adhering to the minimum public health standards. *(PNA)*



NAKO-COVID, AYAW MAGPAOSPITAL AT WALA NANG LIBRENG RT-PCR TEST



January 12, 2022 @ 10:43 AM 19 hours ago

NAKAKIKILABOT ang sinasabi ng mga nako-COVID-19 na ordinaryo at mahihirap na mamamayan. Kahit tinatamaan na ang buong pamilya, ayaw pa ring magpaospital dahil sa kawalan ng panggastos. Gayundin na nakakikilabot ang pagtugon ng ilang Rural Health Unit sa mga nagkakasakit na ordinaryo at mahihirap ding mamamayan.

Halos hindi na nga sila tumutugon, sinasabi rin nilang wala nang libreng COVID test, lalo na ang reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction.

WALANG PANGGASTOS

May mga libreng bigay ng mga pampublikong ospital, hawak man ng gobyernong nasyunal o local. Halimbawa ang napakamamahal na professional fee ng mga doktor sa hanay ng mga pribadong ospital at karaniwang nagkakahalaga ng P100,000 bawat isa.

Karaniwang sabay-sabay na hahawak sa pasyente ang tatlo o apat o limang ispesyalista at naniningil ng P100,000 bawat isa gaya ng para sa puso, hyblood, diabetes, bata at iba pa.



NAKO-COVID, AYAW MAGPAOSPITAL AT WALA NANG LIBRENG RT-PCR TEST

Libre rin ang oxygen at iba pang serbisyo.

Subalit marami rin ang mga gastos gaya ng mga gamot at gamit ng mga pasyente na pinabibili sa mga pamilya ng pasyente.

Kabilang dito ang mga gamot pang-COVID na nagkakahalaga ng mula P12,000 hanggang sa P50,000, oximeter, iba't ibang hose, swero, laboratory fee, x-ray at iba pa.

At siyempre pa, malaking gastos din ang pagbiyahe-biyahe, may sasakyan man o wala ang pamilya, dahil sa mahal na gasolina o pag-arkila nito.

Ang pagkain at pamasaha ng mga bantay, mahal din at imadyinin na lang natin na 14 araw o higit pa ang uubusin na may halong gastos araw-araw.

Kaya naman, ayaw nang magpaospital ang maraming ordinaryong mamamayan at ipinaubaya na lang nila lahat sa Diyos o kapalaran ang kanilang buhay.

PARALISADO AT WALANG LIBRENG COVID TEST

May mga local government unit gaya ng mga barangay, lungsod at bayan na mabilis na rumesponde sa panawagan ng tulong mula sa mga nagkaka-COVID.

Dito natin pinasasalamatang ang mga barangay official na mabilis na rumeresponde, gaya ni Guyong Punong Barangay Graciano Gravador at mga opisyal at empleyado niya sa Sta. Maria, Bulacan.

Mabilis nilang ginagampanan ang tungkulin na ipaalam sa Rural Health Unit ng Sta. Maria ang mga nagkaka-COVID.

Pinasasalamatang din natin ang mga Task Force COVID-19 dahil mabilis silang tumutugon, halimbawa, sa pagtakbo sa mga ospital ng mga pasyente basta't may tiyak na ospital at rekomendasyon ng mga LGU.

Pero napupurnada ang mga kilos ng mga opisyal ng barangay at Task Force COVID-19 sa pagsablay ng mga bayan at lungsod, partikular ang mga RHU ng mga ito.

May mga RHU na hindi tumutugon sa panawagan ng tulong hanggang sa madala sa ospital at mamatay ang pasyente.

At ang uso ngayon, anak ng tokwa, kung na-COVID ka o ang pamilya mo, bungad sa iyo ng mga taga-RHU, wala nang libreng swab test, lalo na ang reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction.

Ang masama pa, higit nilang inginunguso ang mga pribadong private testing center para mabilis umano ang resulta kaysa sa mga pampublikong testing center.

Negosyo at may nangongomisyon?

Sana naman wala!

Source: <https://www.remate.ph/nako-covid-ayaw-magpaospital-at-wala-nang-libreng-rt-pcr-test/>



#OneDENR

**Covid-19
Situation and Response**



DOH COVID-19 CASE BULLETIN # 669

ENERO 12, 2022

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

PORSYENTO NG AKTIBONG KASO

6.8%

TOTAL NG AKTIBONG KASO
208,164

PORSYENTO NG GUMALING

91.5%

TOTAL NG GUMALING
2,797,816

PORSYENTO NG NAMATAY

1.72%

TOTAL NG NAMATAY
52,654

MGA BAGONG KASO **32,246**

MGA BAGONG GUMALING **5,063**

MGA BAGONG NAMATAY **144**

KABUANG BILANG NG KASO **3,058,634**

MGA NAGPOSITIBO HULING ENERO 10
DATOS NGAYONG ENERO 12
AYON SA REPORTS NOONG ENERO 10

45.7%

PORSYENTO NG MGA
NAGPOSITIBO

63,903

BILANG NG
TINEST

HALOS
97.8%
ANG MILD AT
ASYMPTOMATIC
NA KASO!

D UMISTANSYA NG
ISANG METRO AT LIMITAHAN
ANG PISIKAL NA
INTERAKSYON SA IBA

KABUANG PILIPINAS
PUNO NA BA ANG ATING MGA OSPITAL?

NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION
PUNO NA BA ANG ATING MGA OSPITAL?

KALAGAYAN NG MGA
AKTIBONG KASO

ICU BEDS (3.4K TOTAL BEDS)
43% Utilized

ISOLATION BEDS (20.0K TOTAL BEDS)
45% Utilized

WARD BEDS (13.4K TOTAL BEDS)
43% Utilized

VENTILATORS (3.1K TOTAL VENTILATORS)
18% Utilized

ICU BEDS (1.1K TOTAL BEDS)
56% Utilized

ISOLATION BEDS (4.8K TOTAL BEDS)
55% Utilized

WARD BEDS (4.4K TOTAL BEDS)
67% Utilized

VENTILATORS (1.1K TOTAL VENTILATORS)
24% Utilized

6,435 Asymptomatic

197,091 Mild

2,872 Moderate

1,468 Severe

298 Critical

DOH HOSPITAL HOTLINES

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

bit.ly/DOHHospitalHotlines

DOH ONE HOSPITAL COMMAND CENTER (OHCC) HOTLINES

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

bit.ly/OHCCHotline

DOH TELEMEDICINE CONTACT DETAILS

bit.ly/DOHTelemedicine

SeeYouDoc
seeyoudoc.com
SeeYouDoc

KonsultaMD
konsulta.md
KonsultaMD

CloudPx
cloudpx.ph/

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

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

TelAventusMD
TelAventusMD@aventusmedical.com.ph
TelAventusMD

HealthNow
healthnow.ph/
help@healthnow.ph
HealthNow



Manatiling ligtas!

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



Walang internet or load?
Report via SMS

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



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

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

MAYROON PANG KATANUNGAN? SUMANGGUNI LAMANG SA SUMUSUNOD:

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

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

doh.gov.ph

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

13 JANUARY 2022, Thursday



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[#SaveManilaBay](#)

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Miz July

66.9K subscribers

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Hanggang weekend mae-enjoy ang malamig na panahon dala ng Amihan hindi lang sa Metro Manila maging sa ibang bahagi pa ng Luzon at Visayas.

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