

16 FEBRUARY 2022, WEDNESDAY



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STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



PH, Japan strengthen ties to protect environment

Published February 15, 2022, 3:34 PM

by [Faith Argosino](#)

To address climate change and waste pollution, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) has partnered with the Ministry of the Environment Japan (MOEJ) to conduct the first Phillippine-Japan Environmental Week.

In a statement, DENR Secretary Roy A. Cimatu said the event would strengthen the partnership between both countries, particularly on environmental innovation, development, and waste management policy.

“Without a doubt, our country continues to face environmental crises such as waste pollution and climate change amid the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Strong global partnerships and cooperation anchored upon shared vision and goals are vital towards green recovery,” Cimatu said on Feb. 14.

The virtual event — supported by the Embassy of Japan in the Philippines, Japan International Cooperation Agency, Business for Sustainable Development, and the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry — is expected to accommodate around 1,000 participants from various sectors from Mar. 2 to 4.

On Mar. 2, the department will hold the Bilateral Environmental Policy Dialogue to discuss critical environmental issues, such as climate change, waste management, and strategies to enhance cooperation between both nations.

On Mar. 3, a plenary session on “Action toward Decarbonized and Resilient Society and City to City Collaboration” and online webinars on “Climate Change —Transparency Improvement and Climate – Adaptation” will be conducted.

Interested individuals may join the event through this link:
<https://client.eventhub.jp/form/d0447214-4f74-4e19-9244-b6a373119794?isTicketSelected=true>.



PH, Japan seek ties for the environment

By [Eireene Jairee Gomez](#) February 16, 2022

THE Department of Environment and Natural Resources and the Ministry of the Environment Japan are set to discuss environmental issues and share opportunities for cooperation toward a decarbonized infrastructure and society.

The two agencies will hold an online event for the first-ever Philippines-Japan Environmental Week from March 2 to 4, 2022. It is expected to convene around 1,000 participants from the public and private sectors, research and academic institutions, international and regional organizations, and nongovernment organization.

In a statement, Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu said the event will pave the way for new opportunities for strengthened partnerships as he cited the Philippines-Japan partnership over the past years, particularly on environmental innovation and development, and waste management policy.

"Without a doubt, our country continues to face environmental crises, such as waste pollution and climate change, amid the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic. Strong global partnerships and cooperation anchored upon shared vision and goals are vital toward green recovery," Cimatu said.



PH, UK agree on work plan on climate change, environmental degradation

FEB 15, 2022, 2:40 PM

Santiago Celario
Writer

TO prepare for the effects of climate change and cushion the impending environmental degradation the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and the British Embassy Manila have agreed on a joint work plan following the conclusion of the 2nd Philippines-United Kingdom Climate Change and Environment Dialogue recently.

The agreement will serve as a guide in identifying the collaboration areas that should be prioritized by both countries.

Cabinet Cluster on Climate Change Adaptation, Mitigation and Disaster Risk Reduction (CCAM-DRR) Chair and DENR Secretary Roy A. Cimatu said that the joint work plan will "guide the priority areas of engagement including regional facilities and programs announced at the 26th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) in Glasgow, Scotland in November 2021."

"This dialogue marks another milestone event highlighting the partnership of the Philippines with the government of United Kingdom (UK). It shall also build on the earlier priorities on climate change and the environment, identified by both parties during the 1st Climate Change and Environment Dialogue held in November 2020 as part of the key pillars of the UK-Philippines enhanced partnership which focused on energy transition and nature-based solutions and adaptation," Cimatu said in a message during the event.

Meanwhile British Ambassador Laure Beaufils underscored the significance of the dialogue as it seeks to address the defining challenges of the current time, which are climate change and environmental degradation.

"The UK and the Philippines have just launched a new Enhanced Partnership in November 2021. Climate change and environmental issues constitute a key pillar of this. I'm proud of what the UK and the Philippines have already achieved together on climate-related issues and we committed to building on this success today and in the year to come," Beaufils said.

On the other hand according to Beaufils, the dialogue helped both governments agree on "joint actions to build resilience, tackle global emissions, and halt and reverse the loss of biodiversity."

Source: <https://opinyon.net/national/ph-uk-agree-on-work-plan-on-climate-change-environmental-degradation?fbclid=IwAR206Vq0EVrWzbg63lmSZVXpIIKslMo5W-UqVHsndtfTSv2Hv3f0i0ag78A>



Work plan vs Climate Change pinagtibay ng PH, UK



February 15, 2022 @ 3:05 PM 16 hours ago

MANILA, Philippines – Para malabanan ang climate change at pagkasira ng kapaligaran, nagkasundo ang Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) at British Embassy Manila sa pinagsamang work plan na magsisilbing gabay para matukoy ang mga lugar na isasaprayoridad na tugunan ng kapwa bansa.

Ito ang naging resulta ng isinagawang 2nd Philippine-United Kingdom Climate Change and Environment Dialogue nitong Pebrero 10.

Sinabi ni Cabinet Cluster on Climate Change Adaptation, Mitigation and Disaster Risk Reduction (CCAM-DRR) Chair at DENR Secretary Roy A. Cimatu na ang pinagsamang work plan ay gagabay sa “priority areas of engagement including regional facilities and programs announced at the 26th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) in Glasgow, Scotland in November 2021.”

“This dialogue marks another milestone event highlighting the partnership of the Philippines with the government of United Kingdom (UK). It shall also build on the earlier priorities on climate change and the environment, identified by both parties during the 1st Climate Change and Environment Dialogue held in November 2020 as part of the key pillars of the UK-Philippines enhanced partnership which focused on energy transition and nature-based solutions and adaptation,” dagdag pa ni Cimatu sa kanyang pre-recorded message sa ginanap na pagdiriwang.

Kaugnay nito binigyang-diin naman ni British Ambassador Laure Beaufils ang kahalagahan ng naganap na dialogue na layuning matutukan ang mga hamon sa kasalukuyang panahon tulad ng climate change at environmental degradation.

“The UK and the Philippines have just launched a new Enhanced Partnership in November 2021. Climate change and environmental issues constitute a key pillar of this. I’m proud of what the UK and the Philippines have already achieved together on climate-related issues and we committed to building on this success today and in the year to come,” anang Beaufils.

Sinabi pa ni Beaufils na ang dialogue ay nakatulong sa kapwa gobyerno na pumayag sa: “joint actions to build resilience, tackle global emissions, and halt and reverse the loss of biodiversity.” **Santi Celario**

Source: <https://www.remate.ph/work-plan-vs-climate-change-pinagtibay-ng-ph-uk/?fbclid=IwAR0r7iZH3qcJBLjpkFMqSwBhGz51bNP0qmo3WUJHf-uP0kEA13G3LEfEtcI>



[Dateless this V-Day? DENR wants you to hug a tree](#)

FEB 14, 2022, 7:54 PM

Heloise Diamante
Writer

Tree hugging shows your support for the conservation of forests, additionally, research on the benefits of nature exposure shows that it helps decrease stress and anxiety.

Despite the easing of quarantine restrictions, we all must remain at a safe distance from one another.

This Valentine's Day, you may have a chance to finally hug someone- or something.

From February 14 to 18, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) is holding a "tree-hugging event" that is good for your heart and the tree.

Organized by the agency's Forest Management Bureau (FMB), interested participants only need to post a picture of them hugging a tree and share it with the FMB Facebook or Instagram pages.

The tree-hugging movement is a long exercised non-violent activity among tree conservators, environmentalists, and nature lovers.

The practice is said to have started in the 1973 Chipko movement in India when locals hugged trees to oppose commercial logging operations and emphasized the interdependence of humans and the environment.

Not only does hugging a tree show your support for the conservation of forests, but research on the benefits of nature exposure also shows that it helps decrease stress and anxiety.

While most of the studies were conducted in forests, an urban park with healthy trees and a well-maintained ecosystem is an alternative to us those of us living in the city.

DENR-FMB is challenging us to show our appreciation for the oxygen-providing trees in our own communities as well as an alternative to vandalizing tree trunks with election paraphernalia.

"In the observance of a free, orderly, honest, peaceful, and credible election, the public is being reminded to refrain from posting election ads on trees other than those allowed by law," they wrote.



Here are the mechanics:

1. Like the FMB Facebook page and follow their Instagram account
2. Share the event post from the FMB page or Instagram from February 14 to 18
3. Post a photo showing a creative way of hugging a tree with a short description of the importance of tree-hugging along with the hashtags #TreeHuggingDay #PunoNgPagmamahal, and #ValentinesDay

Selected participants will receive a token of appreciation from DENR-FMB.



GMA News

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Nagtulungan ang DENR Metropolitan Environmental Office-North, MMDA at ang City Environmental Management Department ng Caloocan City upang linisin ang mga water hyacinth at basura sa Estero de Maypajo.

Parte ito ng clean-up at rehabilitation ng Manila Bay kung saan naiipon ang mga water hyacinth malapit sa MMDA pumping station kaya binabara nito ang daloy ng tubig mula sa Estero de Maypajo hanggang sa Navotas River.

Kasalukuyan naalis na ang 888 sakong water hyacinth at ibang kalat sa Estero de Maypajo. Naalis na rin ang 72 cubic meters ng kalat mula sa pumping station.

📷: DENR NCR

Bisitahin ang www.gmanews.tv para sa latest news and updates ngayong araw.



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Rescued eagle sent back to habitat

By [Frederick Silverio](#) February 16, 2022



ENDEMIC SPECIES The Philippine serpent eagle that was rescued by a resident in the province of Aurora was rehabilitated and released back into the wild on Wednesday, Feb. 2, 2022. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

A **CONCERNED** citizen from Aurora province recently turned over to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) here an endemic Philippine serpent eagle.

Marivic Santos, head of the Community Environment and Natural Resources Office (Cenro) in Dingalan, Aurora on Monday said that Ryan Casim, a resident of Barangay Florida in Maria Aurora town, caught the serpent eagle in his backyard and immediately reported the incident to environment authorities.

"The bird was temporarily kept under our custody, since its health was not in good condition to be immediately released to the wild," the Cenro chief explained.

When the bird was fully recovered, Santos said they released the rehabilitated Philippine serpent eagle at the Dibalo-Pingit-Zabali-Malayay Watershed Forest Reserve in Baler, Aurora on February 2.

According to studies, the Philippine serpent eagle is a relatively small raptor that lives in Luzon and Mindanao islands. It is usually found in forest clearings, open woodlands, and sometimes in cultivated lands with scattered trees.

Based on the International Union for Conservation of Nature, the conservation status of this bird species is categorized as "least concern," which means that it has a lower risk of extinction.

DENR Regional Executive Director Paquito Moreno Jr. noted that the presence of the Philippine serpent eagle is an indication of "healthy forest areas" in Central Luzon, particularly in Aurora.

"Our biodiversity conservation and forest protection efforts bring positive outcomes in preserving the habitat of this endemic bird species," Moreno said.

He appealed to the public to immediately report to environment authorities any wildlife sighting and encounter to avert potential danger and threat to their population.

"We also encourage the public to remain vigilant in reporting any illegal trading and online selling of wildlife to help us penalize perpetrators who pose threat to our biodiversity and our environment," Moreno said.

Source: <https://www.manilatimes.net/2022/02/16/news/regions/rescued-eagle-sent-back-to-habitat/1833085>



BOC seizes 5 shipments of black ants

[Rudy Santos](#) - The Philippine Star February 16, 2022 | 12:00am



Black ants in specimen tubes are collected for inventory in a photo released by the Bureau of Customs on Monday.

Bureau of Customs

MANILA, Philippines — The Bureau of Customs (BOC) has confiscated five shipments of black ants misdeclared as children's toys at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA).

In a statement on Monday, the BOC said customs officers discovered three shipments bound for France, Singapore and Italy at the DHL warehouse.

The ants were placed in 21 small cups and 21 specimen tubes concealed in Lego boxes and declared as "Lego kids' toys."

Two similar shipments, sent by Gio Shin from Poland to resident of Valenzuela City, arrived in December 2021 and January and were intercepted at the Central Mail Exchange Center. They held black ants in 375 specimen tubes.

BOC-NAIA district collector Mimel Talusan said the importation and exportation of non-native black ants are strictly prohibited due to the danger they pose to human health and the environment.

She said studies in China show that non-native black ants are carriers of viruses, bacteria and diseases inimical to local ecology, agriculture and forestry.

The BOC-NAIA turned over the shipments to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources and subjected to seizure and forfeiture proceedings for violating the Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act and the Customs Modernization Act.



'Black ants' tinangkang ipuslit sa NAIA

By [Danilo Garcia](#) (Pilipino Star Ngayon) - February 16, 2022 - 12:00am



Ang mga black ants na tinangkang ilabas at ipasok sa bansa na nasabat ng mga tauhan ng Bureau of Customs.
STAR/ File

MANILA, Philippines — Nasa 396 na imported na 'black ants' ang tinangkang ipuslit palabas at papasok ng Pilipinas makaraang masabat ang mga ito ng mga tauhan ng Bureau of Customs (BOC) sa Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA).

Ipinasa na sa pangangalaga ng Department of the Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) ng BOC-Port of NAIA nitong Pebrero 4 ang tatlong export shipments at dalawang import shipments na naglalaman ng naturang mga imported na langgam.

Ayon kay Port of NAIA District Customs Collector Mimel Talusan, apat ang tatlong 'export parcel' na idineklarang "Lego Kid's Toys" patungo sa France, Singapore, at Italy na ipinadala ng isang "Shin Yap". Nang buksan ito, tumambad ang 21 maliit na tasa at 21 'specimen tubes' na naglalaman ng mga 'black ants' na itinago naman sa kahon ng laruan.

Samantala, dalawang kahina-hinalang parcel mula sa Poland ang isinailalim sa 'physical - examination' dahilan para madiskubre ang nasa 375 'specimen tubes' na naglalaman bawat isa ng black ants.

Ayon sa BOC, tulad ng ibang bansa ay mahigpit na ipinagbabawal ang importasyon at -eksportasyon ng 'black ants' na hindi 'native' sa ating bansa dahil sa panganib na maaaring idulot nito sa kalusugan ng tao, lokal na mga hayop at ng kalikasan.

"Studies in China show that non-native black antas are carrier of virus, bacteria and diseases inimical to local ecology, including agriculture and forestry," ayon sa BOC.

Sa kabila ng mga panganib, napakaganda umano ng hitsura ng mga Black Ants kaya paborito itong gawing alaga ng mga 'exotic pet lovers'.



396 'black ants' na posibleng may dalang virus, nasabat

[Danilo Garcia](#) - Pang-masa February 16, 2022 | 12:00am



Ang mga nasabat na black ants na nagmula sa tatlong export shipments at dalawang import shipments ay ipinasa ng BOC-Port of NAIA sa pangangalaga ng Department of the Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) nitong Pebrero 4.

PNA / Avito Dalan

MANILA, Philippines — Nasabat ng mga tauhan ng Bureau of Customs (BOC) sa Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA) ang may 396 imported “black ants” na hinihinalang nagtataglay ng virus o bacteria na nakasasama sa tao matapos tangkaing ipuslit palabas at papasok sa Pilipinas.

Ang mga nasabat na black ants na nagmula sa tatlong export shipments at dalawang import shipments ay ipinasa ng BOC-Port of NAIA sa pangangalaga ng Department of the Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) nitong Pebrero 4.

Sa ulat, naharang ang tatlong “export parcel” na idineklarang “Lego Kid’s Toys” patungo sa France, Singapore, at Italy na ipinadala ng isang “Shin Yap”. Nang buksan ito, tumambad ang 21 maliit na tasa at 21 “specimen tubes” na naglalaman ng mga “black ants” na itinago naman sa kahon ng laruan.

Samantala, dalawang kahina-hinala ring parcel mula sa Poland ang isinailalim sa physical - examination dahilan para madiskubre pa ang nasa 375 “specimen tubes” na naglalaman bawat isa ng black ants.

Ayon sa BOC, tulad ng ibang bansa ay mahipit na ipinagbabawal sa Pilipinas ang importasyon at eksportasyon ng black ants na hindi “native” dahil sa panganib na maaaring idulot nito sa kalusugan ng tao, lokal na mga hayop at ng kalikasan.

“Studies in China show that non-native black ants are carrier of virus, bacteria and diseases inimical to local ecology, including agriculture and forestry,” ayon sa BOC.

Sa kabila ng mga panganib, napakaganda umano ng hitsura ng mga black ants kaya paborito itong gawing alaga ng mga “exotic pet lovers”.

Source: <https://www.philstar.com/pang-masa/police-metro/2022/02/16/2161152/396-black-ants-na-posibleng-may-dalang-virus-nasabat>



396 itim na langgam hinarang sa airport

By Abante News — Last updated Feb 15, 2022

NEWS



Aboot sa 396 'harmful Black Ants' ang napigilang makalabas ng bansa ng mga tauhan ng Bureau of Customs (BoC) sa Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA).

Ayon kay NAIA district Customs Collector Mimel Talusan, ang tatlong magkahiwalay na shipment ng mga mapaminsalang itim na langgam na dineklarang "Lego toys" ay nakapaloob sa 396 specimen tubes.

Nabatid na ang ilegal na export shipment ng black ants ay papuntang France, Singapore at Italy at ang shipper nito ay isang nagngangalang Shin Yap.

Sinabi ni Talusan na gaya sa ibang bansa, ang importation at exportation ng 'non-native black ants' ay istriktong ipinagbabawal dahil sa panganib nito sa human health at environment.

Kaugnay nito, 2 magkaparehong pinaghihinalaang imported shipments mula sa Poland ang inilagay sa 'non-intrusive inspection' at physical examination ng customs at ito ay nakapaloob sa 375 specimen tubes na may laman ng black ants.

Sa isang pag-aaral sa China, nalaman na ang non-native black ants ay carrier ng virus, bacteria at mga sakit na mapanganib sa local ecology kabilang na ang agriculture at forestry.

Ang mga nakumpiskang black ants ay nai-turn over na ng BOC sa DENR. (Otto Osorio)

Source: <https://www.abante.com.ph/396-itim-na-langgam-hinarang-sa-airport/>

PNP nabs alleged seller of endangered giant salamander species

Robie de Guzman • February 15, 2022



An individual allegedly involved in online trafficking of critically endangered giant salamander was arrested in Valenzuela City, the Philippine National Police (PNP) said.

In a statement, the PNP identified the suspect as 36-year old Christian Jade Ponce Nualla, a resident of Navotas City.

Police said the suspect was apprehended in a joint operation conducted on February 10 by the Northern District Anti-Cybercrime Team and Manila District Anti-Cybercrime Team, PNP-Valenzuela, and Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

The suspect was arrested for illegal possession and trade of two Chinese giant salamanders.

“In partnership with a certain John Marvic Ramirez of Antipolo Rizal, the suspects offered various wildlife on different Facebook groups and utilize delivery services to ship wildlife to online buyers,” the PNP said.

Police said the operation was conducted after the poseur buyer and seller agreed to have two Chinese Giant Salamanders delivered by a motorcycle delivery service in Manila City.

Upon receiving the endangered species, police personnel conducted a supervised return delivery to the suspect’s pick-up location. The suspect was arrested after receiving the package with wildlife.

The Chinese Giant Salamander is a critically endangered species and is only naturally found in China.

The international trade is regulated by the Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species of wild fauna and flora (CITES) and it is protected under the Republic Act No. 9147 otherwise known as the Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act of 2001 and is also listed as one of China’s state priority conservation species.

According to the CITES Trade Database, there are no legal importations of the said species to the Philippines.

Authorities are investigating the source of the smuggled salamanders.

“With the advent of modern technology, the illegal trade of wildlife is increasingly shifting from physical markets to online platforms as traders are now taking advantage of social media for illegal activities. As such, the PNP-ACG is closely working with other agencies and civil society in implementing measures to safeguard and protect wildlife resources particularly those that are threatened with extinction,” the PNP said.

Source: <https://untvweb.com/news/pnp-nabs-alleged-seller-of-endangered-giant-salamander-species/>



Caraga mining output up 8.9% by value on higher metals prices

February 14, 2022 | 7:54 pm



THE Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB) said the Caraga mining industry, which extracts much of the country's nickel, posted growth of 8.93% by value in 2021 due to higher metal prices.

Gross sales of Caraga shipments of mining products increased to P78.86 billion in 2021 from P72.39 billion a year earlier, the MGB said in a statement.

"The increase of the mineral sales for 2021 was mainly due to the increase of metal prices in the world market. The nickel producing mines in the region have been consistent in gaining considerable earnings even in the previous years," the MGB said.

"The Caraga mining industry has significantly contributed to the country's economic development as well as the foreign-exchange earnings through mineral exports," it added.

The value of the region's gross sales rose 21.19% to P52.75 billion in 2021.

The mining season for the majority of nickel and iron mines in the region ends in the fourth quarter every year.

Caraga in northeastern Mindanao, also supplies gold, copper, chrome, nickel, iron and limestone. — **Luisa Maria Jacinta C. Jocson**

Source: <https://www.bworldonline.com/caraga-mining-output-up-8-9-by-value-on-higher-metals-prices/?fbclid=IwAR2C4jIsrj7EjeIrBTW9XaavqZ3puUH7tT8Mi13jZ5Ooa1IIFnaAa5z6Uek>



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Pagkakalat sa mga campaign rallies, iwasan – MMDA

ni [Lolet Abania](#) | February 14, 2022



Nananawagan ang Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) sa mga supporters ng mga kandidato para sa 2022 elections na iwasan ang pagkakalat o pagtatapon ng mga basura habang nakikilahok sa mga campaign rallies.

“Ini-encourage natin ‘yung mga supporters ng atin pong mga kandidato na iwasan po ‘yung pagkakalat,” sabi ni MMDA officer-in-charge General Manager Romando Artes sa isang radio interview ngayong Lunes.

Ayon kay Artes, ang mga personnel mula sa Metro Parkways Clearing Group (MPCG) at Sidewalk Clearing Operations Group (SCOG) ng MMDA ay sinusundang linisin ang mga naiiwang mga basura sa mga katulad na aktibidad.

Una nang ipinaalala ni Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Secretary Roy Cimatu sa mga kandidato na dapat na maging environmentally conscious sa pagsisimula pa lamang ng campaign period noong Pebrero 8.

Pinaalalahanan din ni Cimatu ang mga kandidato na aniya, paghiwalayin nang maayos ang kanilang campaign materials at i-dispose ito nang tama.

Matatandaang ang DENR at mga concerned government agencies ay lumagda sa isang joint memorandum circular na hihimok sa mga political parties, party-list groups, at bawat kandidato na ipatupad ang Solid Waste Management Act of 2000 para sa pagkakaroon ng “Basura-Free Elections.”

Noong campaign period para sa 2019 elections, nakakolekta ang MMDA ng 29 truckloads o 200.37 tons ng discarded election-related materials mula Marso 1 hanggang May 16.



'Para sa kinabukasan': 'Love letter' for 2022 polls calls for better governance, climate justice

By Catalina Ricci S. Madarang - February 15, 2022 - 8:33 PM



Filipinos filling out forms in this 2019 photo. (Facebook/Comelec)

“Kaya naman sa darating na halalan, nais naming patunayan ang pag-ibig namin sayo.”

This was part of a “love letter” released by environmental group **Greenpeace Philippines** for the May 2022 national and local elections.

Through this love letter penned in time for Valentine’s Day, Greenpeace and various youth groups called on the 2022 election candidates to prove their love for the country by committing to an electoral agenda that addresses climate and environmental injustices and supports democratic governance that promotes active citizen participation.

“This FEB-ibig, consider your May vote your love letter to the country and the environment. Be part of the 52% that will define the future of the planet and the fate of the youth. #TheFutureIs52,” the group’s post on Tuesday read.

The hashtag #TheFutureIs52 refers to the 52% youth in the country’s voting population, according to the data from the Commission on Elections.

The **Commission on Elections** classifies the “youth” as Filipino voters within the 18 to 40 years old age group.

The love letter titled “Liham ng kabataan, mga kandidato, at mga mamayang Pilipino ukol sa darating na halalan” acknowledged the citizens’ failure to protect the environment.


“Ikaw at ang kalikasan ay aming napabayaan. Hinayaan naming ang mga makapangyarihan at mga makasariling interes na wasakin ang iyong mga likas na yaman. Dinumihan nila ang hangin, pinuno ng basurang plastic ang mga dagat at lungsod, at patuloy na pinalala ang krisis pangklimang nagdadala sa iyo ng taunang mapangwasak na mga bagyo, tagtuyot at kagutuman,” it said.

It also outlined the impact of the climate crisis on the candidates’ loved ones, fellow Filipinos, and respective communities.

“While we believe in bayanihan and our individual responsibilities, we can only do so much as citizens,” Rorei Asinero of the TreeBuk Project said.




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Greenpeace Philippines ✓

13 hours ago



This FEB-ibig, consider your May vote your love letter to the country and the environment. Be part of the 52% that will define the future of the planet and the fate of the youth. #TheFutureIs52

Support the call and sign the youth's love letter today: act.gp/love52

#Love52

LIHAM NG KABATAAN, MGA KANDIDATO, AT MGA MAMAMAYANG PILIPINO UKOL SA DARATING NA HALALAN

Pilipinas naming mahal,

Kaming iyong mga mandirayon, mga kabataan, naging ang mga kandidato sa apoy nangalaga, ay mas ipahayag ang aming pag-ibig sa pamamagitan ng liham na ito. Lubos ang aming pasasalamat sa mga pinagkaisang mga lider, mala sa aming mga tahanan, pagkain at tubig, hanggang ang iyong likas na kagandahang aming napagmamamayan araw-araw.

Nigunit kaakibat ng aming pagtatapat ay ang aming paghingi ng tawad, buay at ang kalikasan ay aming napatayayan. Pinayayan namin ang mga makapangyarihan at mga makasayang interes na wastahan ang iyong mga likas na yaman. Dinirahan nla ang hangin, pinuro ng basurang plastik ang mga dagat at lungsod, at patibay na pinalala ang krisis pangklimaang nagdadala sa iyo ng taunang mapangwasak na mga bulgyo, tagtuyot, at kagutuman. Ang aming mga kababayan ay nawalan ng kabuhayan at mga mahal sa buhay, habang nananatili siyong nasa pangamba.

Higit pa rito, naging ugat din ang isyu ng kalikasan ng maraming pang suliranin sa ating bayan. Habang inalalad ang mga sistemang kalamayan nito. Sa tulaia nito, naitata na lamang ng ating mga estasyon ang kalikasan sa oras ng krisis at kasama, siyang kailan huli na ang lahat at nagkukulang na ang aming mga pangunahang pangangailangan.

Kaya naman sa darating na halalan, nais naming patunayan ang pag-ibig namin sa iyo. Nangangako kami, bilang nagkakaisang sambayanan, na ipaglalaban ang kapakanan mo at ng ating kalikasan. Sa bayanihan ng bawat isang nakalagda sa liham na ito, ibabalik namin ang iyong pag-ibig sa pamamagitan ng pagluklok ng mga lider na makatao at makakalikasan.

Samantala, kaming mga nakalagdag kandidato sa halalan ay ay nangangako itaguyod ang masiglang demokrasyang kinakalangan para sa hustiyang pangklima at pangkalamayan.

Kung kami ang mga magpipiling magmula sa iyo, kami ay maghahan ng mga komprehensibong stratehiya upang tugunan ang krisis pangklima, tulad ng mabuting pamamahala, pagkonsulta sa taunangyaman ukol sa mga desisyon at polisiya, pagbibigay-prayondad sa mga solusyong nakabatay sa kalikasan at ngalan, pagpatalim ng mga proyekto na nahahati sa mga kamakalang nagpapalala sa estado ng kalikasan – ang pagbabay sa karapatang pantao, pagsuporta sa karapatan sa pamamahayag, dismormasyon, mga mapanirang gawain ng pamahalaan at mga korporasyon (tulad ng industriyang fossil fuel), at lahat ng uri ng diskriminasyon sa lipunan.

Bilang iyong mga mamamayan, utang namin ang aming buhay sa iyo: respeto, pangangalaga, at pagmamahal sa aming tinubuang lupa ang pinakamalit naming mababalik. Pinapangako naming isapuso ito, mahal na Inang Bayan, habang kami ay nakikilahok sa pinakamahalagang halalan para sa ating kinabukasan.

Hindi namin sasayangin ang iyong pag-asa.

Pagmamahal

Mga kabataan, mamamayang Filipino, at mga kandidato sa darating na halalan

(love52)

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➦ 14

“If these candidates truly love the country, as they say during their campaign sorties, they must show that love by protecting the Philippines and Filipinos from the worsening impacts of the climate crisis,” he added.

In view of the impacts of the climate crisis, those who will sign the love letter are urged to express their commitment to proving their love for the Philippines and the environment.

“Kaya naman sa darating na halalan, nais naming patunayan ang pag-ibig namin sa iyo. Nangangako kami, bilang nagkakaisang sambayanan na ipaglalaban ang kapakanan mo at ng ating kalikasan,” the letter read.

“Sa bayanihan ng bawat isang nakalagda sa liham na ito, ibabalik namin ang iyong pag-aaruga sa pamamagitan ng pagluklok ng mga lider na makatao at makakalikasan,” it added.

“Pinapangako naming isapuso ito, mahal na Inang Bayan, habang kami ay nakikilahok sa pinakamahalagang halalan para sa ating kinabukasan. Hindi namin sasayangin ang iyong pag-asa,” the letter ended.

The public can sign and support this love letter via this link.



Greenpeace said the letter will be sent to the candidates for their signature and commitment. The **Love, 52 Youth and Elections Movement** was participated by more than 20 organizations in Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao with different advocacies such as human rights, mental health, good governance, and the environment.

The group's campaigner Joanna Sustento emphasized the importance of their collective call for better governance in the country.

"This is not just shading on a ballot – we are talking about the future of our country and our next generations. 2022 should not just be another year of loss and statistics; it must be the year of climate justice," Sustento said.



Clean and green polls in the digital age

BY JOSEPH GAMBOA FEBRUARY 16, 2022



FINEX FREE
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Joseph Araneta Gamboa

National and local elections have been held regularly in the Philippines every three years since 1992. Over the past three decades, the amount of garbage generated by this triennial exercise has grown in volume and toxicity to the detriment of our environment.

Based on news reports, the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority collected 206.6 tons of election-related trash in 2016. Another 168.8 tons were collected by the MMDA during the 90-day campaign period of the 2019 mid-term polls, plus seven dump trucks filled with 23.4 tons of sample ballots and similar garbage on the day after the election.

Last September, environmental organizations made an appeal to the Commission on Elections (Comelec) to “proactively integrate waste and toxic prevention in the conduct of the upcoming elections.” They lamented that election-related activities have added to the problems already plaguing the nation due to plastic pollution, climate change, and the Covid-19 pandemic.

Led by the EcoWaste Coalition, the group urged then Comelec Chairman Sheriff Abas to champion policies and practices that will protect the country’s fragile environment from being further destroyed by the avalanche of partisan political activities leading to the May 2022 elections.

Among their recommendations were: the declaration of a zero waste policy; regulation of campaign motorcades; incorporation of environmental awareness in the Comelec’s public information drive; mandatory use of recyclable materials by political parties and candidates; and compulsory conduct of post-election cleanup.

But it seems their call for “clean and green elections” in the literal sense has fallen on deaf ears. Many candidates could not even wait for the official campaign season to start this month. In fact, tarpaulin banners and other election paraphernalia have sprouted all over the land since October—along with noise pollution from loudspeakers promoting those who filed their candidacies.

Except for former House Speaker Alan Peter Cayetano who is aiming for a Senate comeback, no other major candidate has bothered to shift to an eco-friendly campaign. At a recent media interview, he disclosed that his team avoids the printing and distribution of posters that would just end up in the garbage pile after May 9.

Cayetano shifted his campaign to the digital media using such platforms as Twitter and Facebook to woo voters. He encouraged fellow candidates to join him in this clean style of campaigning as well as to plant more trees or turn to urban farming to help preserve the environment.

At the same time, he is urging his supporters to stop the wasteful practice of producing printed materials and instead use social media to campaign for him. This advocacy may turn the tide in favor of eco-friendly election practices.



Considering that there are more than 45,000 candidates who are contesting some 18,000 elective government positions in May, the volume of campaign stuff that will end up in garbage dumps is seen to be massive.

Yet with 63 percent of Filipinos having access to the Internet, it is actually possible to conduct a successful virtual electoral campaign this year. And besides, an unexpected benefit of this pandemic is the acceleration of digitalization in all aspects of our daily life.

Now that we're deep into the digital age, it's about time candidates discontinue their reckless acts of leaving tons of campaign trash that contribute to the environmental degradation of the only planet we have.

Joseph Gamboa is the chairman of the Finex Media Affairs Committee and director of Noble Asia Industrial Corp. The views expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the opinion of these institutions and the BusinessMirror. #FinexPhils www.finex.org.ph



Ajinomoto Philippines Corporation joins PARMS, pushes to reduce environmental impact by 50%

Tuesday, February 15, 2022 Journal Online



PARMS Founding President Crispian Lao, CENRO head Bernie Amurao, APC Group President Tsutomu Nara, APC Chief Sustainability Officer Ernesto Carlos and PARMS Vice President Bert Guevara at the PARMS Recycling Facility

Ajinomoto Philippines Corporation (APC) Group officially joins the Philippine Alliance for Recycling and Material Sustainability (PARMS) as investing partner. The initiative aims to advance the company's sustainability efforts and be part of achieving the global goal set by Ajinomoto Co, Inc. (AJICO): to help extend the life expectancy of 1 billion people around the world and to reduce overall environmental impact by 50% in FY 2030.

PARMS is a multi-stakeholder coalition anchored on spearheading holistic and comprehensive programs to increase resource recovery and reduce landfill dependence. In January 2020, PARMS along with its stakeholders made a declaration on Zero Waste to Nature Ambisyon 2030, which had now been translated into a roadmap and developed pathways to convert waste plastic packaging and products away from the open environment through Circular Economy and Sustainable Production and Consumption. To witness the organization's operations, APC Group President Tsutomu Nara and APC Chief Sustainability Officer Ernesto Carlos recently met with PARMS founding President Crispian Lao, PARMS Vice President Bert Guevara, Parañaque CENRO Head Bernie Amurao at its recycling facility in Parañaque.

"We, at the APC Group, recognize cooperation as key in solving the pollution problem. Joining PARMS is our way to strengthen our efforts and support the organization's initiatives," Chief Sustainability Officer Ernesto Carlos said. "We are optimistic that this partnership will create synergy that drives efficient results for the benefit of the environment and the people."





In 2021, the APC Group formed the Sustainability Committee, whose role is to lead the environmental efforts of the company, and examine environmental load targets with a long-term outlook.

Aside from the recent partnership, the APC Group Sustainability Committee will oversee reduction of Greenhouse Gas emissions (GHG) through sustainable energy source, lessening of plastic waste through product package size and thickness reduction, utilization of facilities for wastewater treatment and conversion of waste to fertilizer, animals feeds, etc. Ajinomoto will also continue to enjoin consumers to take part in protecting the environment and enjoy living a more sustainable lifestyle through their 'Ilabas ang SustainAbilidad' program.



“Ajinomoto and PARMS share very similar goals—making sure the environment is a much better place to live in tomorrow. We look forward to being a productive member of the organization for many years and achieve our environmental goals together,” said APC Group President Tsutomu Nara.

These initiatives reflect the Ajinomoto Group Creating Shared Value (ASV), a framework that aims to address social issues such as environmental sustainability through thoughtful initiatives that champion the health and well-being of people.

For more information about the APC Group’s sustainability initiatives, visit ajinomoto.com.ph.



PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF AJINOMOTO PHILIPPINES

Recycling thrust firmed up Ajinomoto Philippines Corporation (APC) Group officially joins the Philippine Alliance for Recycling and Material Sustainability (PARMS) as investing partner. The initiative aims to advance the company's sustainability efforts and be part of achieving the global goal set by Ajinomoto Co, Inc.: To help extend the life expectancy of 1 billion people around the world and to reduce overall environmental impact by 50 percent by 2030. From left are PARMS founding president Crispian Lao, CENRO head Bernie Amurao, APC Group president Tsutomu Nara, APC Chief Sustainability Officer Ernesto Carlos and PARMS vice president Bert Guevara at the PARMS Recycling Facility.



Million trees project nearly done with nursery, learning center

By Ben Cal February 15, 2022, 9:39 pm



(Photo courtesy of SMC)

MANILA – As the nation is caught up on the election fever and the continuous fight against the Covid-19 pandemic, the Million Trees Foundation, Inc. (MFTI) is diligently fulfilling its commitment to protect the environment.

MFTI president and executive director, Melandrew Velasco, said the first phase of the project, MFTI Tree Nursery and Eco Learning Center, is almost complete.

“We have to push for environment protection continuously despite the pandemic,” Velasco said in a recent statement.

The project is located at the the La Mesa Watershed in Novaliches, Quezon City, granted to the foundation by the government through the Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System as provided for in a memorandum of agreement.

Together with water concessionaires Maynilad Water Services, Inc. and Manila Water, they are active partners in the Annual Million Trees Challenge (AMTC), a watershed rehabilitation project launched in 2017 for the benefit of seven watersheds essential to the water supply in Metro Manila and neighboring provinces.

Supporter San Miguel Corporation has already planted 3.8 million trees since 2019.

The seedling survival rate for upland trees is 89 percent and for mangrove saplings, 91 percent.

The MFTI Nursery and Satellite Office will be the center of all activities of the AMTC.

Aside from the production of saplings, it will be the venue of trainings and seminars as well as a learning hub for environment protection.

Identified saplings to be cultivated are narra, ilang-ilang, bamboo, and other indigenous trees suitable for forest rehabilitation. **(PNA)**



First phase of million trees nursery project at La Mesa nears completion

BY JONATHAN L. MAYUGA FEBRUARY 15, 2022

AS the election fever heats up, a not-for-profit organization formed primarily to help reforest degraded watersheds in the country is diligently continuing efforts to promote environmental protection.

In a news statement, Million Trees Foundation Inc. (MTFI) President and Executive Director Melandrew T. Velasco announced that the first phase of its project, the MTFI Tree Nursery and Eco Learning Center, is almost complete.

The project is located at the La Mesa Watershed.

The area was granted to the foundation by the government through the Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System (MWSS) through a memorandum of agreement between the two entities.

“We have to push for environment protection continuously despite the pandemic,” Velasco said, adding deforestation is a major environmental concern in the country.

The MTFI Nursery and Satellite Office will be the center of all activities of the AMTC. Aside from the production of saplings, it will be the venue for training and seminars as well as a learning hub for environmental protection.

Identified saplings to be cultivated are narra, ilang-ilang, bamboo, and other indigenous trees suitable for forest rehabilitation.

According to Velasco, it is important to plant the right trees in the right places to ensure the survival of seedlings and saplings.

“Of course, there is a need to strengthen partnerships with the private sector and people’s organizations to nurture the planted seedlings,” he said.

MTFI is the nongovernment organization partner of MWSS in pursuing its Annual Million Trees Challenge even beyond its five-year duration. It aims to promote tree planting as a means of environment conservation and protection.

Inspired by the success of AMTC, it is forging partnerships with other government agencies and civic organizations to help reforest watersheds located throughout the country, especially those in DENR’s list of critical watersheds.

Meanwhile, retired Gen. Rey Velasco, the prime mover of AMTC, is chairman emeritus of MTFI. He is also the co-founder of the Philippine National Police Retirees Association Inc. (PRAI), a party-list seeking a congressional seat in the 2022 elections.

PRAI aims to provide a dignified life after service for all military and uniformed employees and their dependents. It pursues programs that not only benefit its members but also provide them opportunities to be of service to the country even after retirement. One of these programs is on environmental protection.

PRAI endeavors to become defenders of Mother Earth. It is fostering partnerships with environmental protection organizations such as MTFI.

Source: <https://businessmirror.com.ph/2022/02/15/first-phase-of-million-trees-nursery-project-at-la-mesa-nears-completion/>



Plastic, chemical pollution beyond planet's safe limit

By [Agence France-Presse](#) February 16, 2022



In this file photo taken on September 23, 2019 workers collect garbage, including plastic waste, at the Matias Hernandez River in Costa del Este, Panama City. The torrent of man-made chemical and plastic waste worldwide has massively exceeded limits safe for humanity or the planet, and production caps are urgently needed, scientists have concluded for the first time. Luis ACOSTA / AFP

STOCKHOLM: The torrent of manmade chemical and plastic waste worldwide has massively exceeded limits safe for humanity or the planet, and production caps are urgently needed, scientists have concluded for the first time.

There are an estimated 350,000 different manufactured chemicals on the market and large volumes of them end up in the environment.

"The impacts that we're starting to see today are large enough to be impacting crucial functions of planet Earth and its systems," Bethanie Carney Almroth, co-author of a new study, told Agence France-Presse in an interview.

The study, by the Stockholm Resilience Centre, comes ahead of a UN meeting in Nairobi at the end of the month on tackling plastic pollution "from source to sea," UN Environment Program head Inger Andersen said on Monday.

Chemicals and plastics are affecting biodiversity, piling additional stress on already stressed ecosystems.

Pesticides kill living organisms indiscriminately and plastics are ingested by living things.

"Some chemicals are interfering with hormone systems, disrupting growth, metabolism and reproduction in wildlife," Carney Almroth said.

While greater efforts are needed to prevent these substances being released into the environment, scientists are now pushing for more drastic solutions, such as production caps.

'Enough is enough'

Recycling has so far yielded only mediocre results.

Less than 10 percent of the world's plastic is currently recycled, even as production has doubled to 367 million tons since 2000.

Today, the total weight of plastic on Earth is now four times the biomass of all living animals, according to recent studies.



"What we're trying to say is that maybe we have to say, 'Enough is enough'. Maybe we can't tolerate more," the Sweden-based researcher said.

"Maybe we have to put a cap on production. Maybe we need to say, 'We can't produce more than this'."

For several years, the Stockholm Resilience Centre has been conducting studies on "planetary boundaries" in nine areas that influence Earth's stability, such as greenhouse gas emissions, freshwater usage and the ozone layer.

The aim is to determine if mankind is in a "safe operating space" or if the limits are being exceeded and threaten the future of the planet.

The impact of so-called "novel entities" — or manmade chemical products such as plastics, antibiotics, pesticides, and non-natural metals — has until now been a big question.

And the answer is complex.

"We are only beginning to understand the large-scale, long-term effects of these exposures," Carney Almroth said.

Not only are there thousands of these products but the data on the risks they pose is often non-existent or classified as corporate secrets.

Additionally, the chemicals are relatively recent, most of them developed in the past 70 years.

"And we're talking about 350,000 different substances," Carney Almroth said.

"We don't have knowledge on the vast majority of those, in terms of how much is produced or their stability. Or their fate in the environment or their toxicity."

"We know what some of them are. For most of them, we have no clue."

Even the most comprehensive databases, such as the European Union's Reach inventory, only cover 150,000 products, and only a third of those have been the subject of detailed toxicity studies.

'No silver bullet'

As a result, the team of researchers focused on what is known, and this partial information was enough to draw an alarming conclusion.

"Looking at changes over time and trends in production volumes lost in the environment... and connecting that to the little bit we do know about impacts, we could say that every arrow is pointing in the wrong direction," Carney Almroth said.

There is still "time to revert this situation" but it will take "urgent and ambitious actions... at an international level," she added.

Furthermore, "there's no silver bullet."

"No one answer is going to solve all of this, because a lot of these chemicals and materials are things that we use and that are necessary for our lives as of right now," she said.

Regardless of how much effort is made during the production or waste management phase, production volumes need to come down, she stressed.

"This seems very obvious to say but it's only recently accepted as truth: The more you produce, the more you release."

Source: <https://www.manilatimes.net/2022/02/16/news/national/plastic-chemical-pollution-beyond-planets-safe-limit/1833153>



Plastic, chemical pollution beyond planet's safe limit: study

Marc Preel, Agence France-Presse

Posted at Feb 16 2022 01:31 AM



A woman picks up plastic cups along the riverbank of Pasig river, in Manila, Philippines, June 10, 2021. *REUTERS/Lisa Marie David//File Photo*

STOCKHOLM — The torrent of man-made chemical and plastic waste worldwide has massively exceeded limits safe for humanity or the planet, and production caps are urgently needed, scientists have concluded for the first time.

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Source: <https://news.abs-cbn.com/spotlight/02/16/22/chemical-pollution-over-earths-safe-limit-study-shows>

16 FEBRUARY 2022, WEDNESDAY



DENR

NEWS ALERTS

COVID-19 NEWS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



PH new Covid-19 cases fall below 3K for 2nd straight day

By Raymond Carl Dela Cruz **February 15, 2022, 5:31 pm**



(Infographic courtesy of DOH)

MANILA – The number of daily coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) cases this year dropped to another record low, with only 2,010 new infections reported on Tuesday.

This is the second straight day the country has recorded less than 3,000 fresh infections, after Monday's 2,730 infections.

Active cases also dropped to 72,305 from Monday's 76,609.

In its Covid-19 bulletin, the Department of Health (DOH) said of the active cases, 66,093 have mild symptoms, followed by those with moderate symptoms at 2,961, the asymptomatic at 1,498, those with severe symptoms at 1,441, and those in critical condition at 312.

Another 6,293 recoveries bring the recovery tally to 3,514,489 out of a total of 3,641,940 confirmed infections since the pandemic started in March 2020.

The death toll has reached 55,146 with an additional 52 deaths.

In total, 93.5 percent of active cases in the country are mild and asymptomatic cases.

Based on the latest testing data, there were 20,084 Covid-19 tests administered on Sunday with a positivity rate of 10.4 percent.

To date, there are 3,900 beds at intensive care units (ICU) in the whole country at 34 percent occupancy, 20,500 isolation beds at 28 percent occupancy, 14,900 ward beds at 25 percent occupancy, and 18 percent of 3,100 ventilators are in use.

In the National Capital Region (NCR) alone, there are 1,200 ICU beds at 32 percent occupancy, 4,600 isolation beds at 23 percent occupancy, 4,200 ward beds at 27 percent occupancy, and 17 percent of 1,000 ventilators are in use. **(PNA)**



Duque: 'New normal' scenario in NCR seen under Alert Level 1, de-escalation possible by March

By [CNN Philippines Staff](#)

Published Feb 15, 2022 11:07:04 AM



Metro Manila (CNN Philippines, February 15) — Metro Manila will likely de-escalate to Alert Level 1 in the first week of March depending on the capital region's level of compliance with the government's safety seal certification program, Health Secretary Francisco Duque III said Tuesday.

"The safety seal program will have to be assessed this coming Thursday and see how the establishments, both public and private sector, are complying with the safety seal program," Duque told CNN Philippines' *The Source*, saying the objective of the program "is to ensure that all establishments will have very minimal or low to no risk for those who will enter those establishments."

"*Yan ang titingnan natin.* If the safety certification is up to par by Thursday, hopefully by first week of March, *baka pwede na tayong magde-escalate* to Alert Level 1," he added.

[Translation: That is what we will be assessing. if the safety certification is up to par by Thursday, hopefully by first week of March, we can de-escalate to Alert Level 1.]

OCTA Research fellow Guido David said the positivity rate in Metro Manila is now at 6.8%, inching closer to the 5% or below benchmark set by the World Health Organization.

"Ang tingin natin patuloy pang bababa ang positivity rate over the next few weeks... Safely by March 1 I think naabot na natin ang 5%. Most likely before March 1," he said in the government-hosted Laging Handa briefing.

[Translation: We believe the positivity rate will continue to go down over the next few weeks. I think we can safely say that we will reach 5% by March 1, but it will most likely happen before that.

David also believes Metro Manila will reach the low or very low risk COVID-19 classification by the start of March, meaning the rate of transmission will be minimal, therefore reducing the risk of another case spike.

Duque also noted that Alert Level 1 will likely be considered the "new normal" scenario until the state of public health emergency is lifted in the country. However, the public must still continue observing the minimum health standards even after the government finalizes its new normal action plan.



"*Yan na po ang pinakamababa* (That's the lowest level) while we are in a state of public health emergency. Once the President lifts the state of public health emergency, the alert levelling will be set aside," Duque said, noting that the scheme will only be brought back once a new and potentially threatening COVID-19 variant enters the country.

"*Yun na yung direksyon na papunta tayo* (That's the direction we are headed to)," he added.

Metro Manila and some areas will still be under Alert Level 2 until end of February, while the government observes how recent gatherings and political activities will affect the next COVID-19 figures, Duque said.

OCTA: Positivity rate in Metro Manila down to 6.8%, nears WHO benchmark

February 15, 2022



*Motorists endure bumper-to-bumper morning traffic along Commonwealth Avenue in Quezon City on Jan. 24, 2022.
(PNA photo by Joey O. Razon)/ File*

By Pearl Gumapos

The OCTA Research Group on Tuesday (Feb. 15) reported that the positivity rate in Metro Manila is now down from 8.5% to 6.8%.

“Iyong 8.5% noong isang araw, as of yesterday. In-update namin iyong positivity rate. Nasa 6.8% nalang sa Metro Manila, so, magandang balita iyan. Patuloy na bumababa. Medyo malapit na tayo doon sa 5% na benchmark ng World Health Organization for positivity rate,” OCTA member Dr. Guido David said during the Laging Handa public briefing.

“Basta sumunod tayo sa health protocols ay tingin natin na tuloy-tuloy na pababa ang bilang ng kaso over the next two weeks. Safely, by March 1 ay I think naabot na natin iyong 5%. Most likely before Mar. 1,” he said.

Meanwhile, the average daily attack rate in NCR is now at 3.96[%].

“Sa ngayon, nasa 3.96 iyong ADAR sa Metro Manila. Doon sa indicators na aming tinitignan, possible by next week or two weeks at the latest ay bababa ito sa low risk iyong ADAR,” David said.



#OneDENR

**Covid-19
Situation and Response**



DOH COVID-19 CASE BULLETIN # 703

PEBRERO 15, 2022

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

PORSYENTO NG AKTIBONG KASO

2.0%

TOTAL NG AKTIBONG KASO
72,305

PORSYENTO NG GUMALING

96.5%

TOTAL NG GUMALING
3,514,489

PORSYENTO NG NAMATAY

1.51%

TOTAL NG NAMATAY
55,146

MGA BAGONG KASO **2,010**

MGA BAGONG GUMALING **6,293**

MGA BAGONG NAMATAY **52**

KABUANG BILANG NG KASO **3,641,940**

MGA NAGPOSITIBO HULING PEBRERO 13

DATOS NGAYONG PEBRERO 15
AYON SA REPORTS NOONG PEBRERO 13

10.4%

PORSYENTO NG MGA
NAGPOSITIBO

20,084

BILANG NG
TINEST

HALOS
93.5%
ANG MILD AT
ASYMPTOMATIC
NA KASO!

BAWAL
WALANG
FACE MASK

KABUANG PILIPINAS

PUNO NA BA ANG ATING MGA OSPITAL?

ICU BEDS (3.9K TOTAL BEDS)
34% Utilized

ISOLATION BEDS (20.5K TOTAL BEDS)
28% Utilized

WARD BEDS (14.9K TOTAL BEDS)
25% Utilized

VENTILATORS (3.1K TOTAL VENTILATORS)
18% Utilized

NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION

PUNO NA BA ANG ATING MGA OSPITAL?

ICU BEDS (1.2K TOTAL BEDS)
32% Utilized

ISOLATION BEDS (4.6K TOTAL BEDS)
23% Utilized

WARD BEDS (4.2K TOTAL BEDS)
27% Utilized

VENTILATORS (1.0K TOTAL VENTILATORS)
17% Utilized

KALAGAYAN NG MGA AKTIBONG KASO

1,498 Asymptomatic

66,093 Mild

2,961 Moderate

1,441 Severe

312 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](https://www.doh.gov.ph)

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

16 FEBRUARY 2022, WEDNESDAY



DENR

NEWS

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VLOGS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



Please click this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4zsRU6n51MA>

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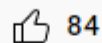
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MANILA BAY PHASE2 DOLOMITE PEBBLES HINUKAY! Miz July

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