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DENR

NEWS ALERTS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



DENR shuts down open dumpsite in Cavite

By Eireene Jairee Gomez

January 17, 2021

THE Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) has ordered the closure of a 6-hectare open dumpsite in Tanza, Cavite for violating Republic Act 9003 or the “Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000.”

The DENR, together with the National Bureau of Investigation and the Environmental Management Bureau, locked up the entry points of the privately-owned open dumpsite located at Barangay Sahud-Ulan on Thursday.

RA 9003, particularly Section 37, strictly prohibits the establishment and maintenance of open dumpsites, which pose a serious threat to the environment and public health.

The operations were led by DENR Undersecretary for Solid Waste Management and Local Government Units Concerns Benny Antiporda.

He said the government will not hesitate to apprehend operators of illegal waste disposal sites and run after all open dumpsite operators in the country.

“This is how serious the government is when it comes to the illegal operation of these open dumpsites...Let’s deal with them head on; declare total war against them,” Antiporda said.

Based on the report of the DENR Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office (Penro) in Cavite, the dumpsite has accumulated a 3-meter high or 180,000-cubic meter mix of solid waste materials without securing the necessary permits from the DENR.

Among the piles of solid waste found during the operation were from industrial parks, malls, supermarkets, food chains, restaurants and food-product manufacturers.

Found in the dumpsite, two dump trucks and one backhoe were also sequestered and turned over to DENR-PENRO Cavite.

While waiting for the results of the investigation, Antiporda said the DENR will invite the local government officials of Tanza to explain the existence of the open dumpsite.

“We will investigate and look into it if they have knowledge on the operation of this open dumpsite. If found that they [were] involved in the operation of this, we will file cases against them,” Antiporda stressed.

The DENR undersecretary has also instructed the local environment office of Tanza to prepare a rehabilitation plan on the said area.

Source: <https://www.manilatimes.net/2021/01/17/news/regions/denr-shuts-down-open-dumpsite-in-cavite/828364/>



Open dumpsite sa Cavite ipinasara ng DENR



January 17, 2021 @ 8:46 AM 21 hours ago

Manila, Philippines – Dahil sa paglabag sa Republic Act 9003 na mas kilala sa tawag na Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000 ipinasara ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) ang anim na ektaryang open dumpsite sa Cavite noong Huwebes (Enero 14).

Bukod sa DENR, kasama rin sa operasyon ang National Bureau of Investigation at ang Environmental Management Bureau na nagsara sa entry points ng privately-owned open dumpsite na matatagpuan sa Barangay Sahud-Ulan.

Ang RA 9003 partikular na ang Section 37 ay mahigpit na nagbabawal ng pagkakaroon at 'pag mantine ng open dumpsite na malaki ang nagiging epekto sa kalikasan at kalusugan ng publiko.

Ayon kay DENR Undersecretary for Solid Waste Management and Local Government Units Concerns Benny D. Antiporda na nanguna sa operasyon na hindi mangingimi ang gobyerno na hulihin ang mga nagpapatokbo ng illegal waste disposal sites sa bansa.

“This is how serious the government is when it comes to the illegal operation of these open dumpsites,” saad ni Antiporda.

“Let’s deal with them head on. Declare total war against them,” dagdag pa nito.

Base sa ulat ng DENR Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office (PENRO) sa Cavite, ang naturang dumpsite ay mayroong tatlong metrong taas o 180,000 cubic meter na halo-halong solid waste materials at walang kaukulang permiso mula sa DENR.

Ayon pa sa DENR kabilang sa mga tambak ng basura na nakita sa operasyon ay nagmula sa industrial parks, malls, supermarkets, food chains, restaurants at food product manufacturers.

Kinumpiska rin ang dalawang dump trucks at isang backhoe na naabutan sa lugar na itinurn-over sa DENR-PENRO Cavite.

Habang hinihintay ang isinasagawang imbestigasyon ay sinabi ni Antiporda na iimbitahan ng DENR ang local government officials ng Tanza upang ipaliwanag ang pagkakaroon ng open dumpsite sa kanilang lugar.

Ipapaalam sa mga ito ang mga posibleng kahihinatnan sakaling mapatunayan na may kinalaman sila sa operasyon.



“We will investigate and look into it if they have knowledge on the operation of this open dumpsite. If found that they are involved in the operation of this, we will file cases against them,” paliwanag pa ni Antiporda.

Inatasan din ng DENR official ang local environment office ng Tanza na maghanda ng rehabilitation plan sa nabanggit na lugar.

Sinabi pa ni Antiporda na siya ring Alternate Chair ng National Solid Waste Management Commission na ang isinagawang operasyon ay bahagi ng selebrasyon ng Zero Waste Month at ika-20 taong anibersaryo sa pagpapatupad ng RA 9003.

Idinagdag pa nito na nagbigay na ang gobyerno sa LGUs ng sapat na panahon upang magkaroon ng sarili nilang sanitary landfills.

“There are people who say that the problem on solid waste has not been addressed despite the existence of RA 9003. On its 20th year, we will make sure that the public will witness a huge difference and we will conduct daily closures of illegal dump sites all over the country,” sabi pa ni Antiporda.

Kasama rin sa operasyon sina DENR Environmental Protection and Enforcement Task Force Director Nilo Tamoria, NBI Environmental Crime Division Chief Eric Nuqui at EcoWaste Coalition Zero Waste campaigner Eloisa Tolentino. **Santi Celario**

Source: https://www.remate.ph/open-dumpsite-sa-cavite-ipinasara-ng-dendr/?fbclid=IwAR0qA1-stH63encqujy4pdghn8zMdM0gj5n_zHvZzgMP5xnKDvmS2xwVsQU



DENR on track to complete Manila Bay rehab project

Published January 17, 2021, 10:17 AM

by [Chito Chavez](#)

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) stressed Sunday that the government is on the right track in the implementation of the Manila Bay rehabilitation project as evidenced by the accurate updates and recognition posted by the vloggers from Manila.



(JANSEN ROMERO / MANILA BULLETIN FILE)

DENR Undersecretary for Solid Waste Management and Local Government Units (LGUs) Concerns Benny D. Antiporda said that the vloggers have been continuously producing positive “vlogs” or video blogs and sharing updates since the Manila Bay rehabilitation, dubbed as “Battle for Manila Bay,” started in 2019.

“Most of their posts have been viewed by thousands of people, which have contributed in informing the public on the status of the historic bay. The vlogs about Manila Bay have proven that they are very effective in informing and educating the Filipinos,” Antiporda said.

Antiporda also thanked Manila Mayor Francisco “Isko Moreno” Domagoso for his continuous support to the projects and programs of the DENR.

In a recent meeting with the Manila-based vloggers, Antiporda updated them on the DENR’s accomplishments during the second year of the Manila Bay rehabilitation program.

These include the decrease in the bay’s fecal coliform level, establishment of a solar-powered sewage treatment plant on Roxas Boulevard, and mangrove planting activity at the BASECO lagoon in Tondo, Manila.

Antiporda also announced that the Manila Bay beach rehabilitation project is already about 30 percent complete. Saying that the overlaying of crushed dolomite along the 500-meter coastline of Manila Bay will be done in one to two months.

He also clarified that no dolomite was washed out emphasizing that what occurred is the “wash-in” of black sand which has now been removed.

In the midst of numerous criticisms, Antiporda challenged the critics to just wait for the project to finish before passing on judgment.

According to Antiporda the project is “perfect” for the people based on their studies.

Aside from the Manila Bay rehabilitation, Antiporda said that the DENR is also undertaking programs on solid waste management “one of which is the turnover of composting machines to the local government units to convert food wastes into soil conditioners.”

Antiporda revealed that the DENR-Environmental Management Bureau is also planning to seek assistance from the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) “to come up with guidelines on managing food wastes.”

Source: https://mb.com.ph/2021/01/17/denr-on-track-to-complete-manila-bay-rehab-project/?utm_source=rss&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=denr-on-track-to-complete-manila-bay-rehab-project



DENR, on-track para tapusin ang Manila Bay Rehabilitation Project

By RadyoMaN Manila -Jan. 18, 2021 at 6:01am



Binigyang diin ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) na nananatiling on-track ang pagpapatupad ng Manila Bay rehabilitation project.

Ayon kay Environment Undersecretary Benny Antiporda, patuloy na naglalabas ng content ang mga Vlogger hinggil sa progress ng proyekto na pinamagatang “Battle for Manila Bay” na sinimulan noong 2019.

Ang mga Vlog sa Manila Bay ay epektibo para ipaalam sa publiko ang sitwasyon sa proyekto.

Pinasalamatan din ni Antiporda si Manila Mayor Isko Moreno sa patuloy na pagsuporta sa mga proyekto at programa ng DENR.

Sa ngayon, ang manila rehab project ay 30% nang tapos at ang pagbubuhos ng dinurog na dolomite sa 500-meter coastline ng Manila Bay ay matatapos sa loob ng isa hanggang dalawang buwan.

Nanawagan din si Antiporda sa mga kritiko na hintaying matapos ang proyekto bago ito husgahan.

Source: <https://rmn.ph/denr-on-track-para-tapusin-ang-manila-bay-rehabilitation-project/?fbclid=IwAR22iPfdZCKu0UXhRGCpldthxILk07gvORb9aw6nGPs3EhDXjAVw1TG5Oo>



DENR thanks Isko, Manila vloggers for support

Sunday, January 17, 2021 Cory Martinez



DENR Undersecretary for Solid Waste Management and Local Government Units (LGUs) Concerns Benny Antiporda

THE Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) has expressed its appreciation to the Manila City vloggers for their continuous production of positive “vlogs” or video blogs on the ongoing rehabilitation of Manila Bay.

Benny Antiporda, DENR Undersecretary for Solid Waste Management and Local Government Units (LGUs) Concerns, said the DENR is grateful to the vloggers since they regularly give the public accurate updates on the rehabilitation of Manila Bay.

“Most of their posts have been viewed by thousands of people, which have contributed in informing the public on the status of the historic bay. The vlogs about Manila Bay have proven that they are very effective in informing and educating the Filipinos, said Antiporda, who is also the Supervising Undersecretary for Strategic Communication and Initiatives Service.

Antiporda also thanked Manila Mayor Francisco “Isko Moreno” Domagoso for his continuous support to DENR programs and projects.

In his recent meeting with the Manila-based vloggers, Antiporda took the opportunity to update them on the DENR’s accomplishments during the second year of the Manila Bay rehabilitation program.

These include the decrease in the bay’s fecal coliform level, establishment of a solar-powered sewage treatment plant on Roxas Boulevard, and mangrove planting activity at the BASECO lagoon in Tondo, Manila.

Antiporda also announced that the Manila Bay beach rehabilitation project is already about 30 percent complete. The overlaying of crushed dolomite along the 500-meter coastline of Manila Bay will be done in one to two months, he said.

“Sinasabi nilang dinagdagan ang dolomite. Hindi totoo iyon. Walang ganon. Wala pong na wash-out, na wash-in po ang black sand. Ire-reiterate po namin na pumasok po ang black sand, nilinis po nila iyon.” Antiporda said.

“Maraming naririnig na haka-hakang negatibo na sinasabi, pero handa naman po kaming tanggapin. Let’s just wait for the project to be finished and that’s the time siguro na bago sila humusga. That’s the time na we will face them kung sakali talagang may pagkakamali at pagkukulang. But based on our studies, perfect po ang proyektong ito para sa ating taong bayan,” he added.



Aside from the Manila Bay rehabilitation, Antiporda also shared the programs on solid waste management, one of which is the turnover of composting machines to local government units to convert food wastes into soil conditioners.

Antiporda added that the DENR-Environmental Management Bureau is also planning to seek assistance from the Department of the Interior and Local Government to come up with guidelines on managing food wastes.



DENR starts birdwatching activities



Photo credit to DENR-Davao

[RALPH LAWRENCE G. LLEMIT](#)

January 17, 2021

THE Department of Environment and Natural Resources-Davao Region (DENR-Davao) started its birdwatching and counting activities in the different municipalities of the region to obtain information on its population and monitor the condition of the wetlands in the region.

In a press release, DENR-Davao, through its Protected Area Management and Biodiversity Conservation Section (PAMBCS), commenced with its activity as part of the Annual Asian Waterfowl Census (AWC) for migratory birds.

"This activity aims to obtain information on the population of migratory birds and monitor the status and condition of wetlands in the region at the same time. In addition, this activity also aims to encourage greater interest in waterbirds and wetlands amongst citizens," DENR-Davao said.

According to the agency, AWC was initiated in 1987 in the Indian subcontinent and has since grown rapidly to cover major regions of Asia, from Afghanistan eastwards to Japan, Southeast Asia and Australasia.

"There are nine migratory flyways in the world and one of which is the East Asian-Australasian Flyway where the Philippines is a part of. All these flyways are also conducting its census," DENR-Davao said.

In the region, PAMBCS are monitoring eight sites, namely Carmen, Panabo and Busaon in Davao del Norte; Banaybanay and San Isidro in Davao Oriental; Malalag and Sta. Cruz in Davao del Sur; and Bucana in Davao City.

The agency said the DENR-Davao team together with one of its partner bird experts and photographer Pete Simpson sighted several migratory birds including the critically-endangered Chinese Crested Tern in Carmen, Davao del Norte two weeks ago.

They said the annual bird migration season begins in September and extends until February of the following year.

As part of DENR and its partners in their global effort to monitor the population of the migratory birds, birdwatching and counting are being done during that period.

DENR-Davao said migratory birds from other countries such as Siberia, China, Korea, Japan, Australia, and New Zealand come in numbers during this period as they prefer the Philippine wetlands for their nesting, feeding, and breeding grounds while escaping the cold season from their country of origin.

To further raise awareness about the significance of migratory birds as well as the threats that pose them, the World Migratory Bird Day is being celebrated every second Saturday of May and October every year, the agency said.



Wetlands Day is also celebrated every February 2 to highlight the importance of conserving and protecting waterfowls and their habitat.

In the Philippines, volunteers from all sectors are encouraged to join this annual census for them to learn and appreciate the importance of the migration season and the flyways as stopovers for the birds.

'Prohibited'

DENR-Davao reminded the public that illegal hunting and selling of migratory birds are strictly prohibited.

The agency had previously advised not to hunt nor harm any migratory birds and to also keep distance as certain migratory birds such as wild ducks, gulls, and shorebirds may carry the avian influenza virus or avian flu.

In an advisory signed by DENR Assistant Secretary Ricardo Calderon in September 2020, hunting of migratory birds is prohibited and punishable under Republic Act 9167 or the "Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act."

Violators of the law may face maximum imprisonment of two years and one day to four years and a fine of P30,000 to P300,000.

"These birds stop briefly along wetlands -- swamps, marshes, intertidal and coastal areas, rivers, ponds, lakes, as well as forests throughout the country, to rest and refuel for their onward journey," the DENR official said in an advisory.

Calderon said any information of hunting, illegal transporting or trading of these birds, or any reported dead birds within their area must be reported immediately to DENR.



Third PH eagle found in Maitum in Sarangani

posted January 17, 2021 at 06:40 pm

by [Manila Standard](#)

Another Philippine Eagle, the third of its kind in a span of four years, was recently found and rescued in the hinterlands of Maitum town in Sarangani province as it was trapped in the thorny rattan vines while preying on a monkey.



RESCUED. This Philippine Eagle was found near the Mt. Busa complex, a declared key biodiversity area and home to critically endangered, threatened, vulnerable and rare fowl species.

A team from the municipal government retrieved the eagle and relayed the rescue effort to the Community Environment and Natural Resources Office for the proper handling of the eagle and eventual turnover to the Philippine Eagle Foundation in Davao City.

The bird was found near Mt. Busa complex, a declared key biodiversity area and home to critically endangered, threatened, vulnerable and rare fowl species.

The two previous eagles were found on January 2, 2017 and December 13, 2019 and were likewise turned over to the Foundation for rehabilitation.

Environmental authorities attribute the frequent sightings of the country's national bird in the mountain area to the healthy biodiversity of its forests, which also host endemic flora, fauna, and hardwood species.



Batangas Customs turns over seized tusks, mineral stones to DENR

Published January 17, 2021, 5:48 PM

by [Hanah Tabios](#)

The Bureau of Customs (BOC) Port of Batangas handed over intercepted animal tusks and mineral stones to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) last week.



BUREAU OF CUSTOMS



PORT OF BATANGAS TURNS OVER 2 ANIMAL TUSKS AND 11 MINERAL STONES TO DENR

The Port of Batangas Collector Atty. Ma. Rhea Gregorio and Deputy Collector for Operations, Atty. Filemon Mendoza, Jr. handed over to Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) 2 Animal Tusks (Elephant and Rhino Tusk) and 11 Mineral Stones on January 12, 2021

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The said articles were concealed in a shipment of household goods and were seized for violation of Republic Act No. 9147 otherwise known as Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act.

Port of Batangas Collector Atty. Ma. Rhea Gregorio and Deputy Collector for Operations Atty. Filemon Mendoza, Jr. transferred to the DENR two animal tusks from elephant and rhinoceros and 11 mineral stones on Jan. 12.

The turnover ceremony was witnessed by the officials of the Port and representatives from DENR-Community Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO), Asian Terminal Inc., Philippine National Police (PNP) Maritime Police, Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency(PDEA), and the Commission on Audit (COA).



Clark investors seek reversal of DENR order on water quality

By [Ashley Manabat](#)

January 18, 2021



Clark Freeport—“Arbitrary and unnecessary.”

This was how the Clark Investors and Locators Association (CILA) has described the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Administrative Order (DAO) No. 2016-08 on Water Quality Guidelines and General Effluent Standards (GES) as it expressed its objection and apprehensions against the order.

Dr. Frankie Villanueva, former president of CILA and now chair of its foreign investment advocacy, safe and technology (FAST), said it appears that (DAO) No. 2016-08 was a “midnight” directive by then DENR secretary Ramon Paje bereft of any study, or technical research.

Villanueva said the Clark Water Corp. (CWC) is set to implement the order with the establishment of a P1.5 billion waste water treatment facility on Friday, January 15.

Villanueva explained that this will mean a possible rate increase of 100 percent by the CWC, which is “unjustifiable at this time of the raging pandemic.”

He said the DAO No. 2016-08 appears to be without basis as CILA’s request for a study were ignored.



NWRB: ALOKASYON NG TUBIG SA MWSS MANANATILI SA 46 CMS NGAYONG ENERO



January 18, 2021 @ 12:20 AM 5 hours ago

BASE sa PROVINCIAL DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (PDRPMC), noong ika-15 ng Enero, bandang alas-8 ng umaga, ang antas ng tubig sa Angat Dam ay nasa 211.40 meters.

Ayon kay Dr. Sevillo D. David Jr., Executive Director ng National Water Resources Board (NWRB), ang inaprubahang paglalaan ng tubig sa Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System (MWSS), para sa Disyembre 2020 ay itinaas sa 46 metro kubiko bawat segundo (CMS) habang ang National Irrigation Administration (NIA), ay tumatanggap ng 35 CMS.

Ngunit, sa parehong panahon, ang average ng MMWS ay nasa 81.01cms na kung saan ay mas mataas sa nabanggit na alokasyon ng tubig habang ang NIA ay lumampas din sa kanilang alokasyon na may 136.35cms average.

Para sa buwan ng Enero 2021, ang inaprubahang paglalaan ng tubig ay nanatili sa 46 CMS para sa MWSS at itinaas sa 40 CMS para sa NIA.

Ang average na na-irelease mula Enero 1 hanggang 12, 2021 ay 46.59cms para sa MWSS at 78.10cms sa NIA.

Ngayong bagong taon, sagana pa sa tubig ang mga nasa Metropolitan Manila at mga kalapit na lalawigan ng Bulacan, Rizal at Cavite na siyang mga pinaglilingkuran ng dalawang water concessionaire na Manila Water Company at Maynilad Water Services. .

Ibig sabihin nito, tuloy-tuloy ang pagdaloy ng tubig sa mga kabahayan at ospital na nangangailangan ng malinis na tubig maliban na lamang kung may ginagawang pagsasaayos sa mga tubo na isinasabay ng mga water companies.

Source: <https://www.remate.ph/nwr-b-alokasyon-ng-tubig-sa-mwss-mananatili-sa-46-cms-ngayong-enero/>



Sino ang nakikinabang sa “black sand mining” sa Cagayan?

On Jan 17, 2021



KUNG inyo pong matatandaan noong kasagsagan ng halalan ay nagkainitan ang dalawang gubernatorial candidate noon sa Cagayan sa issue ng pamamayagpag ng black sand mining sa lalawigan.

Matapos tanungin ni Congressman Randy Ting si Dating Governor Alvaro Antonio kung bakit pumayag siya ng magkaroon ng black sand mining noong panahon niya bilang gobernador na dahilan ng erosion umano ng ilang coastal towns.

Binigyan diin naman ni Antonio na siya ang nagpatigil ng black sand mining.

Tinawag din niyang sinungaling si Ting sa pahayag nitong may mga erosion sa ilang bayan sa lalawigan.

Samantala, binanatan din ng dalawa si Governor Manuel Mamba sa hindi niya pagdalo noon sa debate.

Sinabi ni Antonio na takot umano si Mamba na malaman ng publiko ang kanyang mga ginagawa na kontra sa Cagayan at sa mga Cagayanos

Ayon naman kay Ting, magaling lang umanong magsalita si Mamba na mag-isa subalit takot na makaharap ang kanyang mga katunggali.

Ang tanong, sino-sino nga ba ang nakikinabang sa black sand mining?

Samantala malaking palaisipan din sa mga taga Aparri at Cagayan kung bakit hindi pumirma noon sa Resolution No. 2019 (ss)-041a na may petsang July 29, 2019 ang Vice Mayor Rommel Alameda na ginanap sa session hall ng Sangguniang Bayan ng Aparri?

Ayon sa mga aparrianos ano ang dahilan at hindi siya pumirma sa kanilang resolusyon? Samantalang ang kanilang Mayor Bryan Dale Chan ay pumirma?

Ang natura umanong resolusyon ay humihiling sa Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Region 2 sa pamamagitan ni Atty. Antonio A. Abawag, CESO 1V Regional Executive Director ng agarang pagpapalabas ng “Cease and Desist Order” laban sa Pacific Offshore Exploration Incorporated dahil sa isinasagawa nitong “dredging operation” sa Cagayan, River.

Nakasaad din sa resolusyon ng Sangguniang Bayan ng Aparri na mismong ang provincial government ng Cagayan ay umamin na walang “dredging plan” at “dredging permit” mula sa Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) at Department of Transportation (DOTr) ang naturang kumpanyang Pacific Offshore Exploration Incorporated.



Ipinaliwanag din sa naturang resolusyon na kung walang dredging plan at dredging permit sa mga ahensiya ng gobyerno, malinaw umano na hindi pinag-aralan ang masamang epekto ng paghuhukay sa Cagayan River.

Kabilang sa mga barangay na apektado ng dredging operation ng naturang kumpanya na sinasabing pag-aari ng mga Tsino ay ang Barangay Bisagu, Barangay Punta, Barangay Toran at Barangay Macanaya.

Alam nyo ba na ang lalawigan ng Cagayan ang pangunahing pinagmumulan ng black sand na sinasabing dinadala sa Hong Kong para gamiting panambak sa Airport 3 Reclamation Projects na sinasabing kumikita ng \$50 milyon kada buwan?

Ang tanong, sino-sino nga ba ang nakikinabang sa black sand mining sa Cagayan?

Subaybayan natin!

Para sa inyong mga suhestyon, reaksyon at opinyon ay mag-email lang sa balyador69@gmail.com.

Samantala, laging subaybayan ang palatuntunang “walang personalan trabaho lang” mula lunes hanggang linggo 11:00am-12:00nn sa RADYO NG MASA entertainment net radio. Tuwing sabado at linggo 12:00nn-12:30pm sa DWBL 1242 kHz am band at 10:00am-11:00am sa DWXR 101.7FM – Mapapanood livestreaming via Facebook at Youtube!

Source: <https://www.policefilestonite.net/2021/01/17/sino-ang-nakikinabang-sa-black-sand-mining-sa-cagayan/?fbclid=IwAR0AqCAapW4ToFF8f9a6MBIXRPY7yOvOq8zrO4dI1MbXR9Rjny9gEuVk1kg>



Gov insists mining companies must inoculate employees

It will also lessen the burden of the provincial government of Benguet in producing funds needed for the purchase of vaccines for the rest of its residents

Published 4 hours ago on January 18, 2021 02:30 AM

By [Aldwin Quitasol](#)



Benguet Governor Melchor Diclas has asked mining companies in the province to buy vaccines for their employees.

It will ensure the safety and health of employees and their families, including members of the communities surrounding the companies, Diclas said.

“It will also lessen the burden of the provincial government of Benguet in producing funds needed for the purchase of vaccines for the rest of its residents,” he said.

Diclas is hoping big companies, like Philex Mining Corporation and Lepanto Consolidated Mining Company, will heed the call of the provincial government.

Last year, Benguet registered cases of Covid-19 infections from the mines.

The provincial government is targeting the vaccination of at least 70 percent of its total population, which is almost 450,000 as of the census five years ago. Diclas said they are in the process of looking for funds.

Baguio City Mayor Benjamin Magalong, in a recent briefing, said they will share their vaccines with neighboring towns in the Baguio-La Trinidad-Itogon-Sablan-Tuba and Tublay areas.

As of 16 January, the Cordillera Administrative Region still has 1,378 active coronavirus infections out of 9,766 total cases. Baguio had 65 new cases and Benguet 52.

Baguio also has the most number of active cases at 468, Benguet has 419 and Kalinga 224.



Manila residents lauded for waste-free Sto. Niño feast

[Elizabeth Marcelo](#) (The Philippine Star) - January 18, 2021 - 12:00am

MANILA, Philippines — Environmental watchdog EcoWaste Coalition lauded the residents of Manila, particularly of Pandacan and Tondo, for the almost waste-free celebration of the Sto. Niño feast yesterday.

“Unlike the past years, the streets of Pandacan and Tondo were not decorated with single-use plastic banderitas (buntings) that go straight to the dump after the feast,” Zero Waste campaigner Jove Benosa said.

The group said based on its monitoring from Jan. 13 to 15, Pandacan and Tondo were clear of banderitas often made of transparent plastic bags and packaging scraps as well as of “happy fiesta” tarpaulins.

“This year’s simple celebration of the Sto. Niño feast amid the COVID-19 pandemic, we hope, will be the beginning of a more environmentally-responsible observance of this faith-inspired occasion,” Benosa said.

“These single-use plastic buntings add to the street clutter and to the volume of residual waste that has to be disposed of. These synthetic decorations are seldom reused and never recycled,” he added.

The group also commended Manila Mayor Isko Moreno for issuing an executive order prohibiting street parties, stage shows, dance and singing contests, street games and similar crowd-drawing events during the celebration in Pandacan and Tondo.

Benosa said they hoped that the plastic-free celebration of the Sto. Niño feast would be the precedent in upcoming religious celebrations.

“The true essence of our faith-stirred celebrations is not measured by the length and color of plastic buntings along the streets, but on how we care for one another and for Mother Earth, especially in times of difficulties such as the COVID-19 pandemic,” he said.



Talisay tree: Planting for the future in Palayan City

By [Celso M. Cajucom](#)

January 18, 2021

IN September 2011, a group of Palayan City National High School students submitted a study entitled “Investigation of Selected Physical Properties of Talisay Seed Oil.”

The paper was presented by Maria Elaine Ramos, Niña Jemia Cortez and Rizza Mae Riaza to the regional scientific review committee as an official entry to the Science and Technology Fair (2011 to 2012).

The study concluded that “[the] oil produced from talisay nuts can be used as good-quality cooking oil as based on the tests conducted in this study.”



ONE FOR TOMORROW Talisay trees are expected to grow in a few years from seedlings such as this one, planted recently by Vianne Cuevas and many others in Nueva Ecija to mark a special day. Nuts from the tree have been found to be a good source for producing quality cooking oil. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Vianne Cuevas, the daughter of Palayan City Mayor Adrienne Mae “Rianne” Cuevas and businessman Bong Cuevas, was only 15 at the time.

Ten years later and fresh from completing her Microbiology course at Manchester University and her master’s degree at Cranfield University, both in the United Kingdom, she realized that the groundbreaking study by the three young scientists her age then would inspire her to propagate the talisay tree during the pandemic in Palayan City, the capital of Nueva Ecija province in Central Luzon.

To mark her 25th birthday on Jan. 14, 2021, Vianne decided to plant 10 trees for every year of her age. A total of 250 tree seedlings were planted, foremost of which were those of the talisay tree. Vianne invited the youth of Palayan City to join her in the tree planting.

The young Cuevas, whose major in her master’s degree was Sustainable Development, told The Manila Times that planting a tree is for her very symbolic.

It is a “symbol of one’s commitment to the future of our environment. A seedling today and a tree in the future symbolize one’s dedication to sustaining a better world for all of us,” she said.

Vianne explained that she was looking 25 years ahead when children, probably including her own, would be reminded of what their parents, brothers, sisters uncles, aunts and the youth of Palayan City partly spent their time on when countries all over the world were reeling from coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19).

One who evidently did her homework, she said, “Talisay nuts are a good source for making quality cooking oil.”



Talisay (scientific name: terminalia catappa) is a tropical almond tree with an umbrella shade.

The celebrator was joined in the activity, titled "A Seed Today, A Forest Tomorrow," at the Marcos Village Park in the city by her siblings Weiss, Yzer and Aniela.

Other city officials led by Vice Mayor Moises Carmona, Palayan City barangay (village) leaders, Sangguniang Kabataan (SK or Youth Council) leaders and volunteers from the Department of the Interior and Local Government, the Philippine National Police and the Bureau of Fire Protection joined Vianne in planting their tree for the future.

They all wore masks and face shields and observed physical distancing, among other health and safety protocols, during the event.



Girl raises funds to save Camiguin corals

By Leander C. Domingo, TMT

January 18, 2021

The love of the sea prompted a 12-year-old girl to raise funds for the restoration of corals in Camiguin province.

Sofia Pardo said she was 10 years old and a graduating student of the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Program (PYP) when she had a project that she was most passionate about — protecting the sea.



Sofia Pardo

She shared that they would have to present the results at the PYP exhibition after finishing the project, which was based on one of the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals.

"I always loved the sea and the beach, so I chose Sustainable Development Goal 14, Life Below Water," Pardo said.

She launched her fund-raising activities in collaboration with the Sangkalikasan Producers Cooperative (SPC) through Jose Rodriguez to fund the successful micro-fragmentation and colony fusion of slow-growing massive corals to preserve reef biodiversity.

Discovery Leisure Co. was among those who answered Pardo's fundraising call. Several private individuals also sent their donations.

"Because of their donations, I was able to plant a corral bed under the name of Domuschola International School to raise awareness about coral reefs and bleaching," Pardo said.

In December last year, Alexander Hill, a British marine biologist for SPC, said they successfully restored a portion of coral reefs within the bay area of Camiguin under a privately funded experimental coral restoration project.

To accelerate coral restoration in the area, SPC employed the new technology called the process of micro-fragmentation and colony fusion of coral fragments producing results within months instead of the normal process that could take years.

Hill said the process was pioneered by Dr. Vaughn of Mote Marine Laboratory in Florida, which was applied in Cabuan Marine Protected Area in Camiguin province with the help of volunteers from Camiguin Polytechnic State College.

He explained that the process of micro-fragmentation and colony fusion differs from the more common coral restoration methods, which largely focus on branching species.

"Micro-fragmentation is used on slower-growing massive coral species. Colony fusion occurs when growing fragments from the same donor colony touch and fuse together to become one, increasing their overall surface area and consequently increasing their chances of survival," Hill said.



He added that the process vastly improved coral restoration efforts in the Philippines and in maintaining coral biodiversity that would result in “reef resilience.”

Pardo is the youngest member of SPC.

Two years ago, SPC directors couple Bunne Gamboa-Santos and Michael Santos traveled to Florida in the United States to learn and train under the Mote Institute there which pioneered the coral restoration program and came back to support and transfer the technology to SPC.

SPC Chairman Fannie Guanzon said their project’s success inspired them to propagate one million corals. They propagated their first one million corals in previous years.

The SPC also conducted coral restoration projects in Boracay Island in Aklan, Antique and Zamboanga, and in other parts of the country, Guanzon said.



Isang nasawing green sea turtle ang na-recover ng staff ng Palawan Council for Sustainable Development (PCSD) matapos itong i-turnover ng mga personnel ng Philippine Coast Guard at Philippine Ports Authority sa Puerto Princesa City, Palawan, Jan. 9.

Ayon kina PO2 Giceldy Balbino at PPO Grazelle Ann Lopez, natagpuan nila ang green sea turtle na nakapulupot sa isang lubid—dahilan ng pagkamatay nito. Ito ay may curved carapace length na 50 cm at width na 41 cm. May bigat itong 30 kg.

"Critically endangered" sa listahan ng PCSD ang green sea turtle.

📌: Palawan Council for Sustainable Development



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After vice mayor Mike Rama asks for help: IATF official returns today

By [Caecent No-ot Magsumbol](#)(The Freeman) - January 18, 2021 - 12:00am



Feliciano said he will pay the city's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) a visit. The EOC the city's command center for COVID-19.

File

CEBU, Philippines — Retired Major General Melquiades Feliciano, the chief implementer in the Visayas of the national Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) for COVID-19, will be in Cebu today, Monday, he confirmed to The Freeman yesterday.

Feliciano said he will pay the city's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) a visit. The EOC the city's command center for COVID-19.

He did not expound on the purpose of the visit but it is happening days after Cebu City registered consecutive double figures in new COVID-19 cases daily – as high as 61 cases on January 15 alone. In just the first half of January, nine have died from the virus.

Incidentally, Feliciano confirmed his visit after Vice Mayor Michael Rama said he would want Feliciano and Secretary Roy Cimatu, the IATF overseer, to check the situation in Cebu City.

As can be remembered, President Rodrigo Duterte sent Cimatu to Cebu in June 2020 to lead the enforcement of quarantine protocols when the city had to be reverted to enhanced community quarantine because of the surge in COVID-19 cases. At that point, the city was tagged as the new epicenter of the pandemic in the Philippines.

"I was calling Secretary Roy Cimatu... he should come down because the data is not good. He has to come down and General Feliciano has to come down with him," Rama told The Freeman yesterday.

"He (Cimatu) was aghast. He didn't know about it. I was bringing him the statistics," Rama said.

Government has since warned of the possible surge of COVID-19 cases by New Year if people would insist on gathering during the holidays.

As of January 16, data from the Department of Health (DOH)-7 showed that Cebu City has 570 active cases, the highest recorded number since September 4 of last year. It recorded 56 new cases that day. The piece of good news is that the city also recorded 36 recoveries on the same day.

Lapu-Lapu also recorded new cases and now has 81 active cases. Mandaue now has 100 active cases while Cebu Province has 326.



Central Visayas as a whole has 1,727 active cases as of this writing with Bohol having 11 cases, Negros Oriental with 636, and Siquijor with three.

But the EOC led by Councilor Joel Garganera and DOH led by Director Jaime Bernadas said earlier that the city and the region are still in the safe zone if one looks at critical health care units and the number of health care workers in the hospital.

In EOC's own data, Cebu City has 665 active cases with the recovery of five more patients. Right now, 53 of the 80 barangays in Cebu City have active infection, which means only 27 barangays have zeroed in transmission in the last 14 days.

"The point is, there is a concern and that concern has to be addressed, because the way we are thinking nga okay ra, that's not correct. It should never be okay," Rama said.

Rama also contended that his barometer is the NOAH Complex, which is now full with 301 asymptomatic patients in isolation. The IC3, which accommodates mild cases, has 21 patients.

"That is why, I was looking at the whole thing, how can it be okay? My barometer has always been the NOAH," Rama said.

Samboan

Meanwhile, due to the rise in COVID-19 cases, the Municipality of Samboan in southern Cebu is putting back strict guidelines in returning individuals and visitors for the rest of January beginning today, January 18.

The town officials, in coordination with the rural health unit (RHU), made the announcement following the discovery of new cases in the municipality.

Home quarantine is temporarily suspended, which means that locally stranded individuals (LSIs) and visitors will undergo a 14-day quarantine in the town's quarantine facility upon their arrival.

"LGU Acceptance is now strictly conditioned upon any returning individual to agree for a quarantine facility, otherwise, it may not yet be given for travel purposes. Those who were given already with home quarantine conditions are deemed changed and now subject to this new rule," the town's statement reads.

However, authorized personnel outside of residence (APORs) are allowed to return home provided that they will stay at home until they go back to work. But returning home on a weekly basis is discouraged for now.

Non-residents may also be refused visit for any purpose such as for parties.

To ensure that these guidelines are enforced strictly, border checkpoints will be in place again.

In addition, there will be no fiesta celebration in Barangays San Sebastian, Tangbo, Bonbon, and Cambigong.

Gatherings are also limited to only 20 persons per household in order to observe social distancing.



Existing minimum health protocols such as wearing of mask and face shield in public places and gatherings, as well as the observance of the no loitering and curfew policies will be implemented strictly.

Town officials said more rules might be added and 'extended' if needed.

As of January 14, the town logged two new cases from Barangay San Sebastian, one of whom went to a tertiary hospital in Cebu City last January 10 for medical consultation due to fever and cough. The other was a close contact of the patient.

This was added on January 15, as they logged three new cases of COVID-19, one of whom was an LSI from Tacloban, Leyte while two others are close contacts of a patient who tested positive earlier. — **Mae Fhel K. Gom-os , JMO (FREEMAN)**



The DOH said the total number of COVID cases reached 500,577 with 93.1 percent surviving the infection.

Philstar.com/Irish Lising

COVID-19 cases in Philippines surpass 500,000

[Mayen Jaymalin](#) (The Philippine Star) - January 18, 2021 - 12:00am

MANILA, Philippines — Confirmed COVID-19 cases nationwide have surpassed half a million as the Department of Health (DOH) reported an additional 1,895 cases yesterday.

The DOH said the total number of COVID cases reached 500,577 with 93.1 percent surviving the infection.

Additional 5,868 recoveries brought to 465,991 the number of those who recuperated from the illness.

Active cases stand at 24,691, which account for 4.9 percent of total cases. The bulk or 91.1 percent of active cases are mild and asymptomatic.

COVID-related deaths rose to 9,895 with the inclusion of 11 newly reported fatalities. The number of mortalities represents 1.98 percent of total cases.

Davao City posted the biggest number of new cases with 107 followed by Quezon City with 106 and Isabela with 65.

Pampanga logged the fourth highest number of new cases with 63 followed by Bulacan with 62.

The National Capital Region (NCR) remains on top among the country's regions with high numbers of active and new cases followed by Calabarzon (Cavite, Laguna, Batangas, Rizal, Quezon).

Davao ranked third in the list of regions with high numbers of active cases, but listed fourth in terms of new cases.

Central Luzon logged the third highest number of new cases while Eastern Visayas landed fourth.

As of Jan. 15, over 6.8 million individuals have been tested with an 8.19-percent positivity rate.



Among those who tested positive were 13,999 healthcare workers, of whom 97.7 percent or 13,675 have recovered while 76 have died.

A total of 12,721 returning overseas Filipinos (ROFs) were confirmed positive for COVID-19. Most or 12,451 of them have survived while 217 are still admitted in hospitals and six have succumbed to the illness.

Meanwhile, the DOH advised parents to spend more time with their children and allow them to go out for short spells to promote their mental health.

In a recent virtual briefing, Health Undersecretary Maria Vergeire admitted that a prolonged lockdown is no longer good for the mental health of children.

“When we talk about mental health, it is really no longer healthy for us to be unable to do our usual practices. This is especially so for children because they are more impatient than adults. They are the ones that more often look for something to do, something they can have fun with,” Vergeire explained.

She also stressed the importance of parents making children understand the need to stay at home amid this pandemic.

To ease boredom, the DOH official suggested extra activities for children since they cannot just be preoccupied with online classes.

“If possible, let them go out and get some sun in the backyard. If not possible, accompany them in seeing outside surroundings even for a while. This is very important to children at this point in our situation,” Vergeire said.



UK variant Setyembre pa tumama sa Pinas

By [Angie dela Cruz](#) (Pilipino Star Ngayon) - January 17, 2021 - 12:00am

MANILA, Philippines — Pinaniniwalaan ng OCTA Research na Setyembre 2020 pa unang tumama sa Pilipinas ang UK variant pero hindi matindi ang epekto nito sa isang taong tinamaan nito at hindi naman ito kumalat.

Ito ang sinabi ni Dr. Guido David, professor ng University of the Philippines–Institute of Mathematics at OCTA research fellow kaugnay ng pag-detect ng UK variant sa isang taga-QC na nagmula sa Dubai noong January 7.

“Feeling namin nakapasok na ang bagong variant pero hindi lamang agad kumalat o hindi lamang gaano karami ang kaso. ‘Yung mga siniquence ng Philippine Genome Center nag-sequence sila randomly ng samples pero wala pang na-detect. Pero hindi ibig sabihin wala pa talaga rito... Thirty samples ‘yun, randomly selected, pero it’s possible na hindi siya ganu’n karami based sa statistics,” dagdag ni David.

Niliwanag naman ni David na hindi dapat mag-panic ang mga tao kahit nakapasok na sa bansa ang bagong variant ng COVID-19.

“Wala naman kailangang idagdag na health protocol. Kahit walang bagong variant, dapat patuloy pa rin tayong sumunod,” sabi ni David.

Sa ngayon, ang lalaki na unang biktima ng UK variant ay may simple pneumonia at patuloy na kinakalinga at ginagamot sa Hope 3 quarantine facility ng QC. Patuloy din ang contact tracing na ginagawa ng QC sa siyam na iba pang taga-QC na nakasabay nito sa eroplano pabalik ng Pilipinas noong January 7 mula Dubai.

Ang mga kaanak naman ng biktima kahit hindi nakasalamuha ay isinailalim din sa swab testing para sa kaukulang pag-iingat. Ang biktima ay unang nailagay sa quarantine facility sa Maynila at saka dinala sa QC quarantine facility makaraang magpositibo sa UK variant noong January 8.

Source: <https://www.philstar.com/pilipino-star-ngayon/bansa/2021/01/17/2071011/uk-variant-setyembre-pa-tumama-sa-pinas/amp/>



29 SA NORWAY, 10 SA GERMANY PATAY SA PFIZER VACCINE; HANDA NA BA KAYONG MABAKUNAHAN?



January 18, 2021 @ 12:40 AM 5 hours ago

MAKARAANG lumitaw ang patay na hindi lamang 23 kundi 29 sa Norway makaraang mabakunahan ng bakunang Pfizer/bioNTech, may 10 ring namatay sa Germany dahil pa rin sa nasabing bakuna.

Mismong ang NOMA (Norwegian Medical Authority) ang nag-ulat na hindi lang 23 na naunang naiulat ang namatay kundi 29.

Ewan natin kung ninais ng Norway at Pfizer na itago ang pangyayari ngunit agad silang pumiyok makaraang ibuking ng Global Times na isang publikasyon sa China ang mga kamatayan, kasabay ng panawagang suspendihin muna ang paggamit ng Pfizer at pag-aralan ito nang husto bago ipagpatuloy na gamitin ito.

Makaraang ang balitang Norway, sumunod na ring nag-ulat ang bansang Germany ukol sa sarili nilang mga patay sa nasabing bakuna.

Mayroon ding mahigit sa 300 ang nakaranas ng mga side effect at nasa 50 ang grabe sa Germany.

MALALIMANG IMBESTIGASYON

Nagsasagawa na ang Norway at Germany ng mga malalimang imbestigasyon kung direktang bunga ng nasabing bakuna ang dahilan ng kamatayan ng mga biktima o talagang kinuha na ni Lord ang mga ito dahil sa katandaan ng mga ito at pagkakaroon ng malulubhang kalagayan.

Kasama sa direktang side effect ng Pfizer ang lagnat at pagsusuka na nakita sa mga namatay.

Ayon sa mga imbestigasyon, namatay ang mga biktima sa unang pagbabakuna pa lang at oras lang o ilang araw lang ang lumipas makaraan nito.

Sa nakalap nating mga ulat, ang mga namatay sa Norway ay pawang senior citizen na edad 80-90 samantalang nagkakaedad naman sa 79-93 ang mga namatay sa Germany.

Depensa ng Pfizer, rekomendasyon nito umano na huwag bakunahan ang mga may edad 85 pataas, lalo na kung may malubhang karamdaman ang mga ito.



Subalit isang katanungan kung naging malinaw ito dahil nagtuturok ang mga pamahalaang Norway sa mga senior na higit pa sa 85 at kahit may karamdamang malulubha ang mga ito.

Isa ring katanungan kung bakit pati ang mga edad 79 pataas ay namatay rin sa Germany.

DIIN SA KALUSUGAN

Bilang leksyon sa mga pangyayari, sinabi ni Steiner Madsen, medical director ng Norwegian Medicines Agency, na kailangan nang tingnan muna ang mga kalagayang pangkalusugan ng lahat ng taong nakasalang sa pagbabakuna upang matiyak na mapigilan ang kamatayan o kaya'y grabeng pagkakasakit.

Ito'y sa gitna ng pahayag ni Sigurd Hortemo, chief physician ng Norwegian Medicines Agency na maaaring namatay ang mga pasyente dahil na rin sa matitinding side effect ng bakuna.

Ganito rin ang posisyon ng Germany.

HINDI PUPWEDENG PALAGPASIN

Kaugnay ng mga pangyayari, sinasabi ng pamahalaang Norway na naaayon sa inaasahan nila ang kamatayan ng mga biktima.

Umaayon naman ang Pfizer/bioNTech dito sa pagsasabing hindi maiiwasan ang grabeng resulta ng bakuna sa mga nagkakaedad at may malubhang sakit at sinasabi nitong nagbigay ito ng kaukulang abiso.

Sabi pa ng pamahalaang Norway, maliit lang ang bilang mga biktima kaya "irrelevant" ang mga ito, lalo na kung titigan ito sa puntong talagang nagbibilang na rin ng araw tungo sa kamatayan ang mga ito.

May 400 umanong namamatay sa kani-kanilang sakit ang mga matatanda sa Norway bilang patunay na maaaring namatay na talaga ang mga nabakunahan ng Pfizer/bioNTech sa sakit at edad o natuluyan ang mga ito dahil sa mga side effect ng bakuna.

Para sa ating Uzi, hindi pupwedeng basta palagpasin ang katwiran ng nasabing pamahalaan, maging ang Pfizer.

Lalo na kung darating ang mga araw na may mamatay ring hindi senior citizen.

Dapat talagang tingnan na matindi ang side effect ng Pfizer at hindi imposibleng may mamatay na hindi senior citizen.

Lalo nating hindi palalagpasin ang usaping ito dahil sa pagpipilit ng mga kritiko at oposisyong pulitikal na dapat mauna si Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte na maturukan.

Oo nga't nasabi noon ng Pangulo na mauuna siya subalit malinaw na umatras ito para mauna sa listahan ng mga benepisyaryo ang mga ordinaryong mamamayan at kanyang hiniling na rin na sa huli na lang ang lahat ng opisyal ng pamahalaan.

BAKUNANG PFIZER/BIONTECH DAPAT HARANGIN

Sinasabi nating hindi dapat palagpasin ang pagiging delikado ng bakunang Pfizer/bioNTech dahil binigyan na ito ng Emergency Use Authority ng ating Food and Drug Administration bilang kauna-unahang may EUA.



Nagpahayag na nga ang kompanya rito na gumagawa na ng paraan para makapagbiyahe ng bulto-bultong bakuna para gamitin sa mahal kong Pinas sa pinakamadaling panahon.

Ngayon, mga Bro, kung paano inihayag mismo ng pamahalaang Duterte na hindi nito ipipilit ang Sinovac kung hindi ito makaabot sa pamantayan ng ating FDA, malamang na hindi rin nito basta pahihintulutan ang Pfizer na ibakuna sa mga Filipino ngayong naglalabasan ang katotohanang nakamamatay ito.

Imadyin na lang, kasisimula pa lang na maibakuna ito ngunit may mga namamatay na.

Naitatanong tuloy ng ating Uzi kung pupwede ang bakunang ito na gamitin sa pagpapatupad ng death penalty sa ilalim ng lethal injection.

Para sa mga kritiko, itong Pfizer/bioNTech ang isa sa mga gusto nilang maibakuna sa Filipino dahil napatutunayan na umanong ligtas at mabisa sa porsyentong nasa 90-95.

Hindi umano katulad ito sa Sinovac na gawang China na may bisang 50.4% sa Brazil, 65% sa Indonesia at 91% sa Turkey.

Dahil sa mga kamatayang dulot ng Pfizer'bioNTech, kakapit ba ang mga kritiko at oposisyong-pulitikal sa paniniwala ng mga dayuhan at mismong nasabing kompanya na naayos sa inaasahan nila ang kamatayan ng mga Norwegian at German?

TAMA PA RIN ANG GOBYERNONG DUTERTE

Panay ang kutya ng mga kritiko, oposisyong-pulitikal at iba pang naggagaling-galingan sa pamahalaang Duterte.

Sinasabi ng mga ito na sobrang bagal at mabagal pa sa pagong ang pagkilos ng pamahalaan sa pagbili ng mga bakuna, lalo na ang mga gawang Amerikano at Europa gaya ng Pfizer vaccine.

Wala umanong duda na mabisa at ligtas ang mga ito kumpara sa mga gawang China o Russia kaya.

May nagsasabi pang baka may gustong kumita rito kaya nagkakandaloko-loko ang pagbili natin ng bakuna.

Nagsimula na umanong magbakuna ang mga kalapit nating mga bansa subalit naiwan tayo sa kangkungan.

Ngayong lumitaw kung gaano pumapatay ang Pfizer na ilang oras o apat na araw lang matapos ang pagbabakuna ay namamatay na ang nababakunahan, magmamadali pa kaya ang mga walang magawa kundi kutyain at siraan mismo ang Pangulo at ang administrasyon nito?

Isang malaking hamon ngayon sa mga kritiko, oposisyong-pulitikal at naggagaling-galingan na sila ang maunang mabakunahan total ligtas at mabisa para sa kanila ang Pfizer at iba pang gawa ng mga Kano at Europeo.



EDITORIAL - I-educate ang publiko sa bakuna para di-mangamba

(Pilipino Star Ngayon) - January 16, 2021 - 12:00am



MARAMING fake news sa social media ang naglalabasan ukol sa mga vaccine laban sa COVID-19. Ang mga maling balita na ito ang naghahatid ng pangamba at takot sa mamamayan. Ligtas nga ba ang bakuna? Hindi kaya sila mapahamak kapag sinaksakan ng bakuna?

Maraming video na kumakalat sa Facebook na mayroon daw namatay na sa US makaraang bakunahan laban sa COVID. Bigla na raw bumagsak mula sa kinauupuan ang babaing nurse at namatay. Kumalat ang balita dahil maraming nag-share nito. Lumalabas na fake news ang kumalat sa FB. Ang intensiyon nang nagpakalat ay takutin ang mga tao.

Sa survey ng Pulse Asia noong Enero 7, lumabas na 32 percent ng mga Pilipino ang ayaw magpabakuna. Marahil ay dahil sa mga maling balita na kumakalat sa social media kaya marami ang natatakot. Masyado silang apektado kaya marahil ayaw nilang magpabakuna.

Isa pang maaring dahilan ng pagkatakot ng mga tao sa bakuna ay dahil sa nangyaring kontrobersiya ukol sa Dengvaxia noong 2016 kung saan marami umanong bata ang namatay makaraang turukan. Ayon sa report, ang dapat lamang turukan ng Dengvaxia ay mga nagka-dengue na subalit pati ang mga hindi nagka-dengue ay binakunahan din. Hindi ito ipinaliwanag ng Sanofi (maker ng Dengvaxia) kaya malaking pagkakamali ang nangyari. Inihinto ang dengue vaccination dahil sa nangyari. At ngayon, tila multong nagbabalik ang kontrobersiya ng Dengvaxia dahilan para maraming matakot.

Ito ngayon ang marahil ay nasa isipan nang marami ukol sa COVID vaccine. Sa ganitong sitwasyon, dapat ma-educate ang marami sa bakuna laban sa COVID-19 lalo pa't ayon sa pamahalaan, malapit nang dumating sa bansa. Ayon sa report, sa susunod na buwan ay mayroon nang unang batch ng bakuna. Dahil dito, kailangang maihanda ng pamahalaan ang lahat para maging matiwasay ang isipan at huwag katakutan ang bakuna. Mariin namang sinabi ng Food and Drugs Administration (FDA) basta dumaan sa kanila ang bakuna, hindi dapat mangamba ang mamamayan dahil ligtas ito. Walang bakuna o kahit gamot na dumaan sa kanila ang magdudulot ng panganib sa sinumang gagamit nito.

Source: <https://www.philstar.com/pilipino-star-ngayon/opinyon/2021/01/16/2070712/editorial-i-educate-ang-publiko-sa-bakuna-para-di-mangamba/amp/>



Nations failing to fund climate adaptation – UN

By [Agence France-Presse](#)

January 17, 2021

PARIS: The world is falling short of promises made under the Paris climate deal to help the most vulnerable nations deal with the increasingly devastating impacts of climate change, according to the United Nations.

Adaptation — reducing the fallout among communities and increasing their capacity to deal with climate-related disasters such as floods and drought — is a pillar of the landmark 2015 accord, which aims to chart a path away from catastrophic warming.

The deal requires signatories to implement adaptation measures through national planning, but also through funding to at-risk countries.

The UN Environment Program Adaptation Gap report found that the current finance levels of around \$30 billion annually for adaptation fell far short of the annual cost in developing nations of \$70 billion. It said the true cost of adapting to climate impacts in these nations could be as high as \$300 billion every year by the end of the decade and \$500 billion by mid-century.

“The hard truth is that climate change is upon us,” said Inger Andersen, UNEP executive director. “Its impacts will intensify and hit vulnerable countries and communities the hardest — even if we meet the Paris Agreement goals of holding global warming this century to well below 2C.”

UNEP called for a drastic scale-up of public and private finance for adaptation, as well as increased investment in nature-based solutions such as protecting and sustainably restoring ecosystems.

Limit losses

With just over 1C of warming since the start of the industrial era, Earth is already experiencing more intense and frequent extreme weather such as droughts and flooding, as well as storms supercharged by rising seas.

Much of the devastation wrought by climate-linked disasters falls on developing nations, and despite promises to help out financially, richer countries still aren’t hitting their adaptation funding targets.

UNEP said funding for adaptation currently represented just five percent of all climate finance.

With the cost of natural disasters set to skyrocket this century, hard-hit nations are finding it difficult to secure the finance to rebuild after extreme events.

Mozambique, which was battered by twin cyclones in early 2019, said that one year since the disasters it had received less than a quarter of the estimated \$3 billion it needed to recover.

The UN report found that cutting greenhouse gas emissions will provide a long-term economic benefit by reducing the costs associated with climate change.

Achieving the 2C Paris Agreement temperature rise limit could curb losses in annual growth to 1.6 percent, compared with 2.2 percent for 3C of warming — the current trajectory if nations’ current Paris pledges are upheld.

Under the deal’s “ratchet” mechanism, countries are supposed to file new emissions reduction plans — known as nationally determined contributions, or NDCs — every five years.



The deadline for the first round of new NDC submissions was December 31, 2020. However just 71 countries representing under a third of global emissions have done so.

UNEP says global emissions must fall 7.6 percent annually this decade to keep the more ambitious Paris temperature target of 1.5C in play. AFP



Air pollution within legal limit 'for first time'

By Kevin Keane
BBC Scotland's environment correspondent
Published 13 hours ago



Hope Street in Glasgow is the most polluted street in Scotland but has remained below European limits this year

Air pollution in Scotland has remained within legal limits for the first time, according to environmental campaigners.

Friends of the Earth Scotland (FoES) say effects of the March 2020 lockdown were enough to keep overall pollution levels low for the entire year.

They are urging ministers to work with councils to ensure the reductions can be maintained sustainably.

The Scottish government says air pollution levels had been improving even before the pandemic. The sudden fall last year came when the first lockdown removed most vehicles from city centres where air quality levels are monitored.

But the easing of restrictions quickly brought traffic back to near normal levels.

Hope Street in Glasgow remains the most polluted street for nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) at 36 micrograms per cubic metre (MCG).

The legal limit set by the European Ambient Air Quality Directive is 40 MCG.

Salamander Street in Edinburgh is the dirtiest street for levels of particulate matter, which is another measured pollutant.

But at 16 MCG they are just below the legal level of 18 MCG.

Scotland's highest nitrogen dioxide levels

Location	NO ₂ annual mean (µg/m ³)
Hope Street, Glasgow	35.87
Dundee Lochee Road	31.09
Perth Atholl Street	27.62
Dundee Seagate	27.6
Inverness Academy Street	26.99

Source: Friends of the Earth Scotland



FoES air pollution campaigner Gavin Thomson said: "Temporary improvements in air quality arrived at an enormous cost to our communities and societies. There was no intention or concerted political action to reduce emissions, which is why the falls were not maintained when restrictions eased.

"We need a just and green recovery, including investment in our public transport and more options for safe walking and cycling, to improve the air we breathe permanently."



Salamander Street in Edinburgh is the dirtiest street for levels of particulate matter

Last year NO2 levels on Hope Street in Glasgow were 60 MCG which is 1.5 times the legal limit. Some charities have criticised the Scottish government's 'Cleaner Air for Scotland' strategy which they feel contains very few ideas for reducing pollution.

Low Emissions Zones (LEZs) are still to be expanded in Glasgow and introduced in Edinburgh, Dundee and Aberdeen.

Scotland's highest levels of particulate matter

Location	PM10 annual mean (µg/m3)
Salamander Street, Edinburgh	15.93
Bainsford Main Street, Falkirk	12.2
Irvine High Street	11.35
Wellington Road, Aberdeen	11.29
Cupar, Fife	11.28

Source: Friends of the Earth Scotland



A Scottish government spokeswoman said: "The LEZs will set the highest emission standard possible for diesel vehicles within our cities and will lead to a significant reduction in emissions of harmful air pollutants.

"Our recent programme for government committed over £500m for large-scale active travel infrastructure projects and, as part of our Climate Change Plan update we have committed to phase out the need for new petrol and diesel cars and vans and reduce car kilometres by 20% by 2030."



Rare video of albino giant panda

Published 4 hours ago on January 18, 2021 02:30 AM

By [Agence France-Presse](#)



BEIJING, China (Global Times) — A giant panda reserve in China on Friday released rare videos of the world's only known albino giant panda roaming its natural habitat in Wolong, Southwest China's Sichuan. The giant panda is believed to be three years old and has started an independent life.

The Sichuan Wolong National Nature Reserve Administration said that the two videos recorded in February 2020 and released on Friday were the second time in more than a year the albino panda had been spotted by infrared trigger cameras.

In the first video, the panda is seen roaming in the snow, sitting with its back to the camera close to the tree where the camera is installed.

Three days later, it passed through dense forests and crossed small rivers and was recorded by another camera on a mountain ridge a kilometer away. It was seen in the video for about 10 minutes.

The panda was shown to have bright white fur, steady steps, a strong body, leading experts to determine it is healthy and about three years old.

While extremely rare, albinos can occur in numerous groups of vertebrate animals, according to Li Sheng of the IUCN Bear Expert Group and the Peking University School of Life Science.

Source: https://tribune.net.ph/index.php/2021/01/18/rare-video-of-albino-giant-panda/?utm_source=rss&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=rare-video-of-albino-giant-panda

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