

18 OCTOBER 2021, MONDAY



NEWS ALERTS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



DENR ‘overwhelmed’ by public reception of Dolomite Beach

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



People continue to flock to the dolomite beach in Manila’s Baywalk along Roxas Boulevard yesterday as quarantine restrictions were eased further in the National Capital Region under Alert Level 3.

Edd Gumban

MANILA, Philippines — The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) said yesterday it is overwhelmed by the “strong public reception” of the Manila Bay Dolomite Beach when it reopened over the weekend after quarantine restrictions were eased in the National Capital Region under Alert Level 3.

“We are overwhelmed by the outpouring of support from the public, which made the reopening of the Manila Bay Dolomite Beach successful,” Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu said.

Cimatu maintained that health and safety protocols were strictly observed by the visitors, adding that DENR personnel and security marshals are manning the area.

The 140-meter beach area, which was reopened to the public on Saturday, comprises the Phase 1 of the DENR’s Manila Bay beach nourishment project.

Cimatu said aside from promoting positive mental health, the dolomite beach project also serves as another location for viewing the scenic Manila Bay sunset along the Baywalk.

“We will gradually expand the area accessible to the public for viewing in the coming weeks as we progress on with the completion of the project,” Cimatu said.

The dolomite beach briefly opened last July, with 120 visitors per batch allowed to stay for five minutes from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. and from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. daily.

This time around, Cimatu said visitors may stay as long as they want but only 300 people are allowed in the area during the adjusted visiting hours from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. and from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Cimatu said there is no need for people to be vaccinated to enter the premises, but wearing of face masks is mandatory while the use of face shield is optional.

He stressed that bathing in the area is prohibited as the level of fecal coliform in Manila Bay has not gone down to 100 most probable number per 100 milliliters, the standard level acceptable for swimming and other contact recreational activities.

Visitors are also not allowed to bring food, drinks and pets as well as pick up dolomite sand, spit and litter in the area.

Source: <https://www.philstar.com/nation/2021/10/18/2134876/denr-overwhelmed-public-reception-dolomite-beach>



Manila Bay's 'Dolomite Beach' reopens to public on first day of alert level 3

By: [John Eric Mendoza](#) - [@inquirerdotnet](#)

[INQUIRER.net](#) / 07:35 PM October 16, 2021



The artificial white sand or crushed dolomite covers the shoreline of Manila Bay near the US Embassy portion on Roxas Boulevard, Manila on September 18, 2020 as part of the government's rehabilitation plan. INQUIRER FILE PHOTO / RICHARD A. REYES

MANILA, Philippines — Manila Bay's so-called dolomite beach has been reopened to the public on the first day of implementation of alert level 3 on Saturday in Metro Manila.

The dolomite beach will now be open everyday from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m., and 3 p.m. until 6 p.m., according to reports, citing the staff in the area.

The beach attraction, which earned criticisms from some sectors, is now guarded with white picket fence with an arch greeting visitors at the entrance. The beach was earlier ordered closed to complete the redevelopment.

Last year, the government put an overlay of mounds of artificial white sand on a part of the bay's naturally gray shoreline, that is now being maintained to retain its "white sand" and cleanliness in the area.

Marshalls from the Department of Natural Resources were also deployed in the area to remind visitors of the health protocols that are being imposed.

Around 300 people are only allowed to enter at a certain time to maintain social distancing, avoid overcrowding, and abide by the limited capacity.

JPV

Source: <https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/1502751/dolomite-beach-reopens-to-public-on-the-first-day-of-alert-level-3?fbclid=IwAR0UmTGXTeYdDNU-Wwjf1UvaUi47qVlyErZQQyDSbBkgcK5yjnEK6XsBK6M>



THE still-being-constructed dolomite beach on Manila Bay is an instant hit among city dwellers who have been ensconced in their homes due to the pandemic.

PHOTOGRAPH BY BOB DUNGO JR. FOR THE DAILY TRIBUNE @tribunepht_bob



BINUKSAN sa publiko ang dolomite beach sa Manila Bay sa unang araw ng alert level 3 kaya dumagsa ang mga sabik makakita ng puting buhangin. **Kuha ni RUDY ESPERAS**



MULING dumagsa ang mga namamasyal sa Manila Bay Dolomite Beach sa ikalawang araw ng muling pagbubukas nito kahapon.
Kuha ni NORMAN ARAGA



The Manila Times

9h · 🌐



HAPPY DAY Residents and visitors relax at the newly opened Dolomite beach in Manila Bay on Sunday. PHOTOS BY MIKE ALQUINTO



👍❤️ 3.5K

405 Comments 860 Shares

Source:

https://web.facebook.com/111026632011/posts/10159045299997012/?app=fbl&_rdc=1&_rdr



DZRH News

22h · 🌐

LOOK: Dinagsa ng publiko ang Dolomite beach sa Manila Bay ngayong Linggo ng umaga, October 17. | Report at kuha ni RH5 Val Gonzales #DZRHNationwide



👍❤️😬 856

213 Comments 63 Shares



‘Nice day at the artificial dolomite beach’

October 17, 2021 1 min read

Forget about the one-meter social distance Covid-19 protocol as it is now a thing of the past as gleaned how people are closely bunched together as they enjoy a nice day at the artificial dolomite beach on Roxas Boulevard, Manila Sunday (17 Oct 2021). The controversial artificial dolomite beach reopened only on Saturday, the first day of Metro Manila’s shift from Alert Level 4 to a more relaxed Alert Level 3 on quarantine restrictions.



(Kiara Lauren Ibanez/BENJAMIN CUARESMA/ai/mtvn)

Source: <https://maharlika.tv/2021/10/17/nice-day-at-the-artificial-dolomite-beach/?fbclid=IwAR3zFRe7pmxevV-SfvgLKVxs6qQDjsDPKht4B-kvni26WCKUzkgxXAYeDE>



[DENR engages kids, youth in solid waste management initiatives](#)

OCT 17, 2021, 10:29 AM

Santiago Celario
Writer

TO spur behavioral change towards the environment and enlist public support, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) on Friday launched its nationwide Solid Waste Management Advocacy Campaign.

The program is especially designed to educate children and young people, on the importance of proper handling and disposal of solid waste.

The DENR's Strategic Communication Initiatives Service (SCIS) said the campaign was developed to fast track its collective and ultimate objective of a healthier, greener, and cleaner Philippines amid the growing environmental threats in the country and the world.

"Creating a better and healthier environment through efficient solid waste management is one of the biggest challenges that we, at the DENR, are facing today," Secretary Roy A. Cimatu said.

"We really need the support of the people, especially our youth sector. It is important, therefore, to impress to them that unless we do something right today by diligently practicing sound solid waste management, the future will be bleak," he added.

Meanwhile, to spread awareness and encourage public support to the campaign, the DENR has also strengthened partnerships and collaborations, technology, as well as information, education and communication with various stakeholders and partners from the private sector.

"While this program is intended to be a whole-of-nation approach, we designed this to be more focused on the youth who would later serve as our environmental champions," said Undersecretary for Solid Waste Management and Local Government Units (LGUs) Concerns and SCIS Supervising Undersecretary Benny D. Antiporda.

Included in the DENR's solid waste management campaign is the Basura Buster, a free, web-based game application for children ages 5 to 8 years old.



Basura Buster photo DENR

The application, which can be downloaded on Android devices through the Google Play Store, allows players to earn points by properly segregating different kinds of trash in an educational and entertaining way.

Likewise through its social media accounts, the DENR also hopes to influence behavioral change through a series of videos that show proper solid waste management practices in day-to-day situations.

These include segregating garbage, bringing of own eating utensils in restaurants, and selling trash for cash or "Pera sa Basura."

Source: https://opinyon.net/national/denr-engages-kids-youth-in-solid-waste-management-initiatives?fbclid=IwAR1tIEerWALpQbstNg1ndgGx-gcv9Y5Lalc2IyHP4_kOUm5pgQhaJI25q4w



Pasig River Expressway: Is PAREX a traffic solution or an environmental concern?

BY AYIE LICSI, HANNAH MALLORCA, AND SAAB LARIOS. PUBLISHED OCT 15, 2021 7:46 PM



Kang Garcia

Is the Pasig River really dead? How will PAREX actually change the transport system for Metro Manila?

With the upcoming construction of the Pasig River Expressway (PAREX), the 19.37-kilometer proposed PAREX located on the skirts of the Pasig River is feared to become Metro Manila's next "photobomber" as it reportedly adds a concrete slab on the crowded metropolis.

With heated debates among urban planners, engineers, and groups, **PhiSTAR Life** spoke with mobility and environmental advocates on the implications of the controversial expressway—and what could be the possible alternatives.

A bird's eye view of PAREX

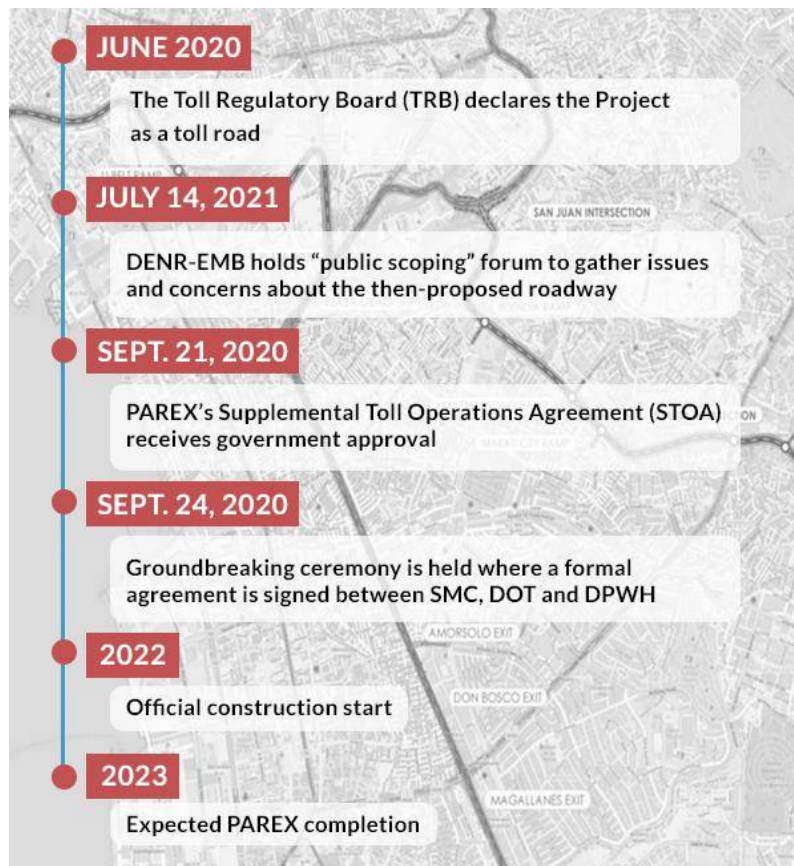
PAREX is a six-laned, 19.37-kilometer elevated expressway that will run through the banks of the Pasig River. The project proponent is San Miguel Corporation (SMC) in partnership with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

It seeks to connect Metro Manila to the province of Rizal while promising shortened travel time between Manila to Pasig, providing a link between the east and west sides of Metro Manila.

The project, which will reportedly cost SMC P95 billion, will also link up to Skyway Stage 3 from Nagtahan to Plaza Azul.

"I believe this project is bound to be one of the most impactful projects during the time of President Rodrigo Duterte, in terms of integrating the social, economic, and environmental needs of our people," SMC President Ramon Ang said during the groundbreaking ceremony on Sept. 24.

Still, many mobility and environmental groups have called out the project over the alleged haste by which it was approved and its reported environmental impact, especially upon the Pasig River.



Kang Garcia

A 'big step towards car dependency'

For public transport advocate and Move As One Coalition member Robert Siy, PAREX is “a big step toward car dependency.”

Siy echoed the concerns raised by landscape architect and urban planner Paulo Alcazaren on how building more roads like PAREX will only worsen the traffic situation in Metro Manila based on experience with urban expressways from other cities worldwide.

“If we build PAREX, the message on traffic is that you can move faster if you have a car; it motivates people to pursue greater car use. It is also only a temporary promise because more cars on PAREX will eventually congest it which sets our sustainability objectives back even further,” Siy said.

The mobility advocate also slammed [Ang's statement](#), saying that the number of vehicles would continue to rise nonetheless, with or without PAREX.

“People will migrate to cars only if we leave them no choice,” Siy said. “We need to also look at demographics: young people today have a strong preference for sustainable travel modes and would avoid using a car daily if they had a choice.”



The PAREX project outline in its entirety



- Headline
- Editorial
- Column
- Opinion
- Feature Article

AltMobility PH representative Ira Cruz also lamented the lack of transport policies in the Philippines, saying that **88%** of households living in the Metro Manila and Greater Manila Area don't have cars of their own.

"For as long as I can remember, we have been building and widening roads, building flyovers but still end up stranded on the road. PAREX will continue this cycle. Induced demand happens where demand increases as you increase supply," he said. "In this case, roads for cars. While we might experience relief at the beginning, demand will just eventually catch up."

Cruz, who is also a member of the Move as One Coalition, revealed that the local transportation agency estimated that "we need P14 billion" to create active transport facilities and "P76 billion" for service contracts.

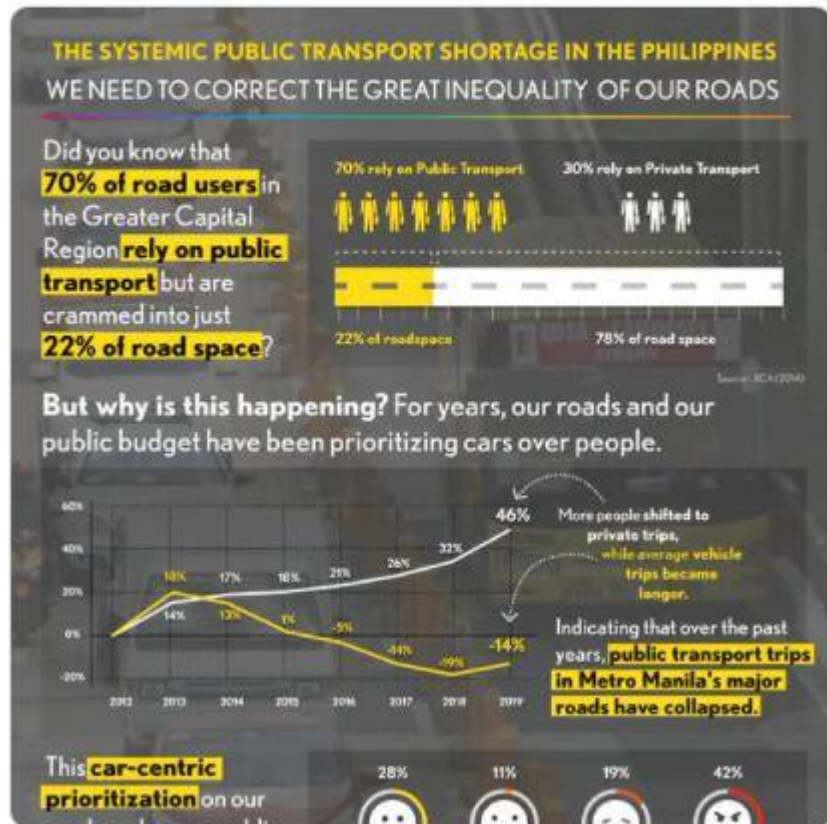
"That's a total of P90 billion - still less than the P96 billion to be spent for Parex but directly benefits the majority of the commuters without aggravating transport issues and without risking the environment and heritage," he added.

Move As One Coalition @MoveAsOnePH

Did you know that 70% of road users in the Greater Capital Region rely on public transport but are crammed into just 22% of road space? 🤔

? BUT WHY? Our roads and our public budget have been prioritizing CARS over people.

#TuesDATA #BetterNormal #Biyahenihan #CommutersNaman



8:00 PM · Aug 10, 2021

80 1 Share this Tweet

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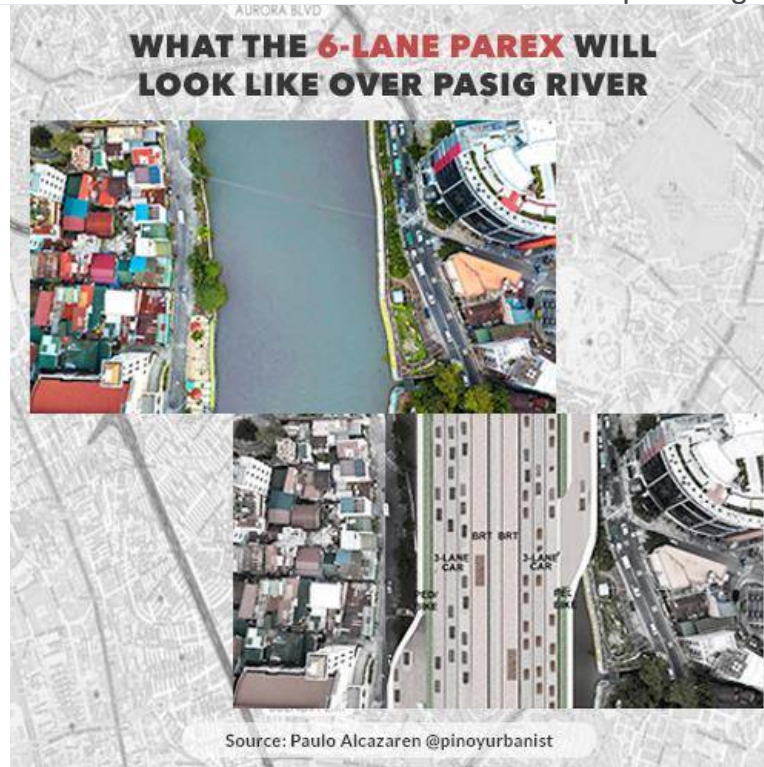


Accessibility for commuters

In answering mobility groups' concerns about PAREX only catering to a small minority of commuters—mainly private vehicle owners—Ang said PAREX will be a “hybrid expressway” that can accommodate other modes of transport, including buses, bikes, and pedestrians.

SMC's [project description](#), however, did not yet include plans for these extra pathways, which could widen the six-lane expressway and take up more of the Pasig River.

“Adding bus lanes and walking/ cycling infrastructure will add to the width of the expressway,” Siy said. “Will buses be at the median or the curbside? How will passengers access the buses?”



Kang Garcia

He also questioned how other carless commuters would be able to access PAREX. “An expressway above the Pasig would sit, in some sections, about four to six stories high to clear the height of several of the bridges. The elevation would make the expressway difficult to access and climb for pedestrians and cyclists, except for the most physically fit among us.”

“Mr. Ang is describing a very different and more complex project. If a public transport service is involved, the project will need to be reviewed by other agencies such as LTFRB,” Siy said. “If the objective is to offer quality mass transit and walking/cycling infrastructure, making them part of an elevated expressway does not make sense.”

Cruz seconded Siy's statement, as he questioned the motives behind the PAREX project. “Despite the concerns that we've raised before the Toll Regulatory Board and during the DENR-EMB Public Scoping, we're not given an opportunity for a discussion. Through the Move as One Coalition, we also reached out to SMC. We did not receive any reply,” he revealed.

Not an environmental tradeoff

Greenpeace Philippines' Liveable and Sustainable Cities Campaigner RJ Mallari shares the concern that PAREX won't necessarily aid in mobility and will ultimately take away the effort in cleaning up the Pasig River for the long run.

“We always say in urban planning: ‘putting roads is like obesity,’ Mallari said. “You don't treat obesity by loosening your belt, you solve it by lessening your food intake.”



“We believe that infrastructure development should be for the people, where people should move from one place to another, rather than moving cars.”

We always say in urban planning, ‘putting roads is like obesity.’ You don’t treat obesity by loosening your belt, you solve it by lessening your food intake.

“Greenpeace is for development, but it should not be a tradeoff of what the Pasig River can offer as an ecosystem.”

Meanwhile, Youth Strike 4 Climate co-founder and lead convenor Jefferson Estela believes there are other ways to solve the mobility and traffic crisis without compromising the environment such as investing in “more green spaces, wide sidewalks, and well-planned urban destinations” that will also serve carless commuters.

On the other hand, UP Geography Department Representative Carlo Felipe suggested that the local transportation agency and companies should “revitalize the Pasig Ferry service” since it’s more “sustainable in the long run.”

Filipino Youth Against PAREX coalition convener Jefferson Estela said a country’s waterways are considered a source of income. However, in the Philippines, they are merely seen “as polluted bodies of water rather than as front doors to development and alternative water sources.”

“We want our waterfronts to feature walkable and bikeable linear parks and promenades that everyone can enjoy, especially the communities nearby. Creating attractive public areas will motivate residents to be better stewards of our rivers,” he added.

Is Pasig River really “dead”?

One of the big arguments that SMC and Ang have made in favor of PAREX is that it will breathe new life into the “long-dead” Pasig River.

Along with the riverbanks of Davao, Iloilo, and Agno, Pasig River has also been dubbed as one of the top 50 rivers in the world that carry the most pollution into the ocean, according to non-profit organization [The Ocean Cleanup](#).

Though Pasig River has seen better days, advocates believe that an expressway would push back its restoration process.

“We need to understand how we classify water bodies in the Philippines in the first place,” Mallari said. “We all know that different water quality assessments are being done, so they classify rivers according to its basic indicator of water pollution, but then again even if they say Pasig River is dead based on the parameters, it doesn’t mean it can’t be revived.”

“Even if it’s not in the best condition, it doesn’t mean we can’t do anything. It doesn’t mean we can’t revive it,” she added.

The Greenpeace advocate also pointed out that the Pasig River is still closely connected to Laguna de Bay, as it drains excess water from the lake come the rainy season.

“Looking at this connection, how can we say a river system is dead when it connects to a river body that is beneficial to us? We may describe it as a *kanal* on the surface, but there’s more than what we can see because the Pasig River is part of an ecosystem.”

Estela also acknowledges the river’s waste management problem.



“On any given weekend, you'll see people fishing along the banks, birds flying around looking for food in the water and the hyacinths, and families enjoying the river scenery while their children play. Despite the output of plastic waste, the river is still very much alive ecologically.”

“The Pasig River is one of Metro Manila's few greens, open spaces with cool, fresh air. All of that will change if an expressway is built above the river,” he said.

What's a possible alternative?

Due to the problems raised with the project, some experts have proposed alternatives.

One such plan is from Alcazaren, who suggested the project be revised into PARES, short for Pasig River Esplanade. In this case, the esplanade running along the river may be built instead with two of 25-kilometer walkways.

Alcazaren's architectural firm PGAA Creatives worked on the Iloilo Esplanade of 2012, which revived the Iloilo River.



Photos from PGAA Creatives

“It would only cost 1.5 billion pesos to develop both sides of the 25-km long Pasig River into an esplanade like Iloilo's. The resulting green area would be larger than Rizal Park,” Alcazaren, who shared on social media a draft, said.

Siy shares Alcazaren's sentiment, saying “definitely, the way to go is to develop riverside esplanades or promenades.”

“Beautiful green public space along both sides of the Pasig would make our metropolis so much more livable. We need to believe this is possible.”

On the other hand, Mallari said that addressing the problem of traffic and environment is “not a one solution fits all” issue, with esplanades serving as a solution for the people, but not the environment wherein Pasig River resides.

“People are the most experts in their localities, they should be the ones that should be consulted,” she said.

Meanwhile, Felipe added that the government should take notes from the Cheonggyecheon restoration project in Seoul, South Korea. The project centered around revitalizing the Cheonggyecheon Stream that used to be covered by a highway overpass.

“Other countries have already learned their mistakes from building elevated highways on top of waterways. They have already begun dismantling these highways and are now reaping the benefits of rehabilitating their rivers and focusing on pedestrian-friendly and people-centric infrastructure,” he added.



Amid the appearance of the hashtags [#NoToPAREX](#) and [#YesToPARES](#) on social media, a [Change.org petition](#) titled “Stop the proposed Pasig River Expressway!” with over 10,00 signatures has also been put up.

Amid the rising chorus of critics, SMC has maintained that it remains committed to building an environmentally sound project that aims to help solve Metro Manila's traffic woes.

What's next for PAREX, then?

Though SMC has secured approval from the relevant government agencies last month, actual construction may only start once it receives a "notice to proceed" from the government. SMC is hoping to start building early next year if and when it secures the clearance, even amid mounting opposition.

With construction set to start in 2022 and be completed in 2023, the project may still have a long way to go before it sees the light of day, if at all.

Online shopping rise brings phenomenal volume of plastic wastes

By: [Kurt Dela Peña](#) - Content Researcher Writer / [@inquirerdotnet](#)

[INQUIRER.net](#) / 06:17 PM October 15, 2021



Materials for recycling are transported in Marikina City. FILE PHOTO

MANILA, Philippines—A recent report by Kantar, a leading data company, showed that Filipinos are making “significant strides” in being responsible consumers because 75 percent preferred eco-friendly brands.

The report said while there are still Filipinos who find it difficult to reduce their carbon footprints because eco-friendly products are hard to find or expensive, there are those who witnessed a change in mindsets especially in becoming responsible consumers.

The Southeast Asia Trender Report of 2020 by online seller Zalora also made the same conclusions, saying that 61 percent of Filipinos were willing to buy products that had been made without destroying the environment.

The Philippines was next to Singapore with 63 percent of consumers preferring eco-friendly products. Malaysia had 56 percent and Indonesia had 55 percent. The Zalora report said that over the years, the threat of global warming paved the way for people to “live green”.

CONSUMPTION BY PRODUCT



**Volume of plastic
packaging waste
every person in
PH generates per year**

SOURCE: GREENPEACE

INQ

Graphic by Ed Lustan

The World Business Council for Sustainable Development said that globally, 50 percent of consumers “tend to agree” to pay more for products that are ecologically-friendly while 25 percent said they “totally agree”.

However, as the e-commerce industry boomed, especially when COVID-19 lockdowns were imposed in 2020, products delivered on people’s doorsteps find themselves wrapped in plastic packaging.



Shopify Plus said globally, 72 percent of consumers wanted their orders “sustainably packed” because “today’s consumers want shipping to be not only fast and free, but also environmentally conscious”.

This was one of the reasons Youth Strike 4 Climate Philippines (YSCP), an environmental advocacy group led by young people, launched a petition to ask the two biggest online markets in the Philippines—Lazada and Shopee—to “integrate zero-waste systems into their businesses,” saying that there’s a need to initiate “sustainable practices”.

The campaign, which was backed by 14,625 Filipinos, asked Lazada and Shopee to reveal estimated data on their wastes, lessen the present waste production by introducing “reduction targets,” and redesign present systems.

Ecowaste Coalition told INQUIRER.net that the thousands who signed were proof of the popularity of the appeal to end the practice of needless plastic packaging waste, “especially now that more Filipinos become aware of the present plastic and climate crisis”.

“Global e-commerce sales are expected to double by 2022. If e-commerce giants continue to disregard calls to lessen their plastic packaging, this will only worsen the already alarming state of plastic crisis in the country,” the Ecowaste Coalition said.

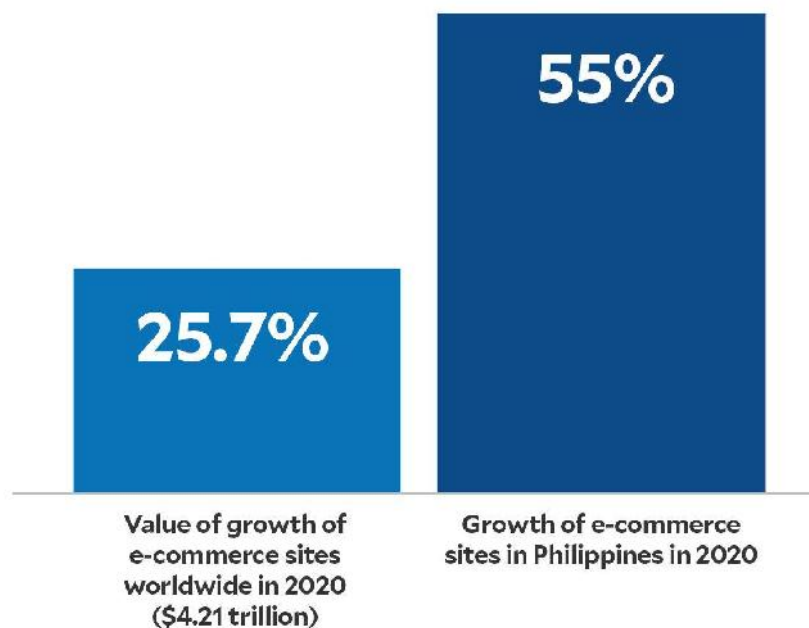
“The e-commerce industry also has to do their part and listen to the call of their consumers. The development of the e-commerce industry should not be at the expense of the environment; thus, the call for Lazada and Shopee to reveal, reduce, and redesign,” it said.

Rise with trillions

The e-commerce industry in the Philippines is on a phenomenal rise. In 2020, it grew by as much as 55 percent, especially with the emergence of online shopping apps like Lazada and Shopee, said Greenpeace Philippines.

PANDEMIC-INDUCED

Hundreds of millions of people worldwide, kept at home by COVID protocol, turned to e-commerce for their needs and cravings, driving phenomenal growths in online transactions.



SOURCES: INSIDER INTELLIGENCE AND GREENPEACE



Graphic by Ed Lustan



Last year, Shopee, at its 12.12 sale, sold 12 million items in less than 30 minutes, including one million products that were bought in a single minute. Lazada, at its 11.11 sale, sold 1 million items in a single hour.

The Insider Intelligence’s Global E-commerce Forecast said that in 2020, the industry grew by 25.7 percent—or \$4.21 trillion in value—and was expected to grow further by 16.8 percent or a value of \$4.92 trillion in 2021.

However, when packages reach their destinations, Greenpeace Philippines said problems with environmental impacts emerge because “it only takes 12 minutes for a plastic packaging to move from the hands to the bin.”

SPLURGE



INQ

Graphic by Ed Lustan

Jefferson Chua, the group’s campaign staffer, explained that the high sales “point to an astounding-and unsustainable—rise in plastic packaging,” saying that “yet, there’s no public data of exactly how much waste these companies produce.”

The YSCP and Greenpeace Philippines said that yearly, each Filipino contributes almost 12.4 kilos of packaging waste, most of which end up in landfills and left to decompose slowly.

The World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) said plastic bags, which pose one of the greatest threats to wildlife, take 20 years to degrade, explaining that its pieces have devastating effects, especially on ocean wildlife.

Items often come with a bubble wrap which the Green Citizen said takes 10 to 1,000 years to decompose. “It is made up of low-density polyethylene film [and] 240,000 miles of bubble wrap are produced yearly,” it said.

The YSCP said that with COVID-19 lockdowns, the problem is “magnified,” saying that plastic packaging waste was estimated to increase by as high as 300 percent.

Bearing the weight

“Filipino taxpayers pay for the cost of managing e-commerce waste. These companies need to come clean, take responsibility, and do their part to ensure their businesses do not continue to create pollution,” Chua said.



In 2018, the World Bank revealed that in low-income nations, the costs of waste management comprise an average of 19 percent of a local government's budget.

TOP OCEAN POLLUTERS

The Philippines is in bad company as a source of plastic wastes in the oceans.



SOURCES: STATISTA

INQ

Graphic by Ed Lustan

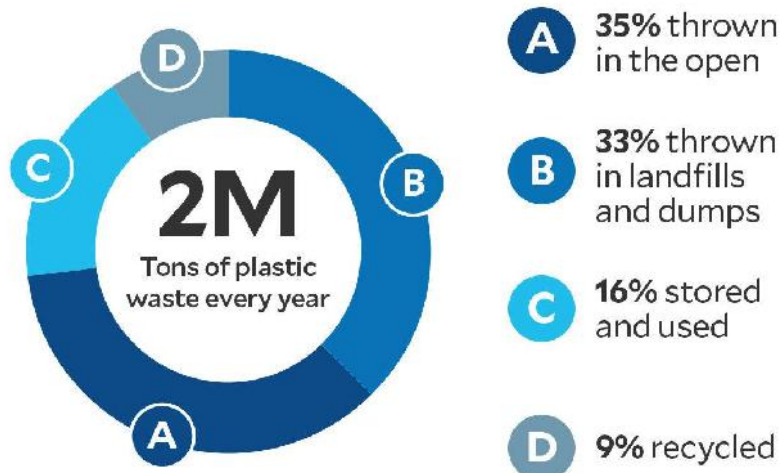
It said that the Philippines, the third largest contributor of plastic waste in the oceans, generates 2.7 million tons of plastic waste every year and 20 percent ends up in oceans.

In the Philippines, 20 years since the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act was enacted into law, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources said there are only 108 landfills nationwide, or 10 percent of what was required – 1,700.

The Eco-Business previously cited Crispin Lao, head of the Philippine Alliance for Recycling and Materials Sustainability, as saying that 70 percent of Filipinos have no access to disposal facilities, including landfills.

WHERE DOES THE WASTE GO?

Management of plastic wastes continues to leave much to be desired in the Philippines.



SOURCE: WWF

INQ



Chua explained, “As much as consumers are responsible for waste disposal, so too are corporations accountable for the plastic they end up producing, especially needless plastic packaging.”

“With every sale they hold, Lazada and Shopee rack up record profits while leaving Filipinos to shoulder cleanup for the tons of plastic packaging they caused,” he said.

According to Greenpeace International, plastic production intensifies climate change by releasing greenhouse gases and “places vulnerable populations further at risk”.

Dismayed

Last Sept. 10, Greenpeace Philippines sent a letter to Lazada and Shopee to bring to them the appeal for “sustainable” business practices. This included a plea from a certain James, who signed the letter because “I care for my kids’ future.”

A month later, however, the group expressed dismay over the companies’ “continuous refusal” to start lessening their plastic packaging waste despite calls from Filipinos and small businesses.

It said neither of the two has so far responded to the issues raised – a public relations agency for Lazada only acknowledged the letter while Shopee “completely ignored”.

As the world marked Earth Day 2021, Lazada hosted a roundtable discussion and identified five tracks for sustainability, but the coalition said “we have yet to see these applied in the Philippines.”

Shopee, that time, likewise had a campaign backing eco-friendly brands, but “there haven’t been pronouncements on company-wide sustainability efforts.”

“All we are asking for is a commitment for these companies to start reducing the plastic they use by working with sellers to review their plastic usage and implementing a business policy to halt the use of inessential plastic packaging,” Chua said.

He asked, “How hard could that be?” saying that Lazada and Shopee should invest in sustainable solutions shown by several enterprises that cater to the needs of consumers, especially in the midst of lockdowns, without affecting the environment.

What to do?

The Ecowaste Coalition said, “while we recognize the role e-commerce industries play during the pandemic, their lack of accountability and initiatives to be more sustainable is only worsening the plastic crisis.”

In an interview with INQUIRER.net, Chua said that while Greenpeace understands the need for Lazada and Shopee to deliver products “safely and damage-free,” the companies should listen to concerns on plastic packaging waste.

In its campaign, the YSCP listed the following things that businesses, including Lazada and Shopee, should do:

1. Reveal corporate accountability and transparency on plastic packaging to address the problem. See the big picture and understand how much plastic packaging waste is discarded which always begins from the source—the company.
2. Show and strengthen internal mechanisms, if there is any, that ensure the environmental sustainability of the company.



3. Develop policies that ensure the rational reduction of needless plastic packaging since consumers have noted that some parcels do not warrant excessive bubble wrap, or multiple layers of plastic which have no use, other than being reused again by some environmentally-minded consumers and vendors.
4. Set targets for the reduction of plastic packaging waste.
5. Empower small- to medium-sized eco-friendly vendors to also incentivize those who try not to make use of plastics by adopting biodegradable and compostable packaging and encouraging home composting.
6. Begin thinking about “reuse” models for packaging.

Greenpeace Philippines said it will continue to call for a dialogue with Shopee and Lazada to explore immediate actions to protect Filipinos from the rise of plastic pollution.

TSB



50 Tayud fishermen hold protest at sea against Consolacion reclamation project

By: Futch Anthony Inso - Multimedia Correspondent - CDN Digital|October 17,2021 - 06:20 PM



Fishermen hold a protest at sea on their wooden outriggers off the coast of Barangay Tayud, Consolacion town in northern Cebu to oppose the planned reclamation project in the area. | Futch Anthony Inso

LAPU-LAPU CITY, Philippines — At least 50 fishermen in Sitio Bagacay, Barangay Tayud, Consolacion town in northern Cebu today held an-hour long protest at sea against the planned reclamation project on their shoreline.

At least 10 wooden outrigger boats with fishermen holding placards aboard gathered near the area where the planned project was supposed to be constructed.

Some of their placards read “Ayaw Tabuni ang Dagat kay wala nami Panginabuhian,” “Dunay Daghang Isda ug Kinhason ang Dagat,” “No to Seafront Reclamation Project,” “Mayor Alegado dunay daghang Isda ug Kinhason sa Dagat.”

The fishermen refuted claims of town officials that fish and marine resources in the area were already scarce.

One of the protesting fishermen, Gerardo Gabayan, even showed his catch early in the day, five pieces of fish that he caught using a fishing line aboard his small wooden banca or outrigger boat.

“Kung tabunan wala na mi panginabuhian sa dagat dinhi. Mamasol ra man mi diri,” Gerardo Gabayan said.

(If they will cover this area then our livelihood will be gone. We only catch our fish here.)

Gabayan said that he had been fishing in the area since he was 15-years old and that even his father and grandfather were fishermen.

Another fisherman, Gerald Lobitaña, 25, also said that fishing had always been his livelihood since he was 5-years old.

He said that he learned to fish when he would always accompany his father to catch fish in the sea during his childhood.

“O, naa gyud mi madala (nga isda),” Lobitaña said, adding that the town officials should reconsider their plan in reclaiming the area.

(We could always catch fish here.)



Aside from the fishermen's claims about the sea in the area still abundant with marine life, they also said that they were not consulted by the town officials on the project.

But earlier, Vice Mayor Teresa "Nene" Alegado said that the fisherfolk and residents in the area were consulted by the municipal government.

She said that the project would also complement to upcoming International Container Port which was a national government project.

The 234.80-hectare mixed-use Seafront City Project will be implemented in Barangay Tayud. Aside from fisherfolk, some shipyard owners and workers in the area are also opposing the reclamation project.



Filipino cave guides explore Samar sinkhole; KMJS shows footage from inside for first time on nat'l TV

Published October 17, 2021 10:22pm

Last month, the world stood mesmerized at the images of “Well of Hell,” a sinkhole in Yemen, but did you know there’s also another one that lay unexplored in the Philippines?

Hidden on the mountains of Hinabangan, Samar, is another intriguing sinkhole that appears to have punctured the ground, waiting to be explored.

For the first time ever, what’s inside the sinkhole was shown on national television via “Kapuso Mo, Jessica Soho,” as local cave guides explored just how big and deep it is.

According to Joni, a cave guide in Samar, locals call vertical caves “bito” and usually refer to the sinkhole as the Bito Cave.

After hearing about the big sinkhole in Hinabangan for years, he decided to finally explore it.

After reaching Barangay Canano and hiking on the mountain for 1.5 hours, Joni’s group reached the sinkhole that is 320 feet above sea level.

They later discovered that it is 150 meters wide and 180 meters deep.

“Makikita mo siya parang cathedral siya. Kahit eroplano doon na magla-landing doon sa sinkhole pwede talaga siyang pumasok doon,” Joni said.

[It’s almost like a cathedral. Even an airplane can land inside the sinkhole.]

It took them about 30 minutes to descend to the sinkhole. Inside, they discovered trees, limestones, and an entrance to another cave.

Joni said the sinkhole could possibly be connected to the other caves that they discovered in the area, adding that it could be part of a “50-kilometer cave system.”

The Local Government Unit of Hinabangan, Samar, however, clarified that while the sinkhole in Samar was an intriguing landform, it was not a tourist attraction because it was too dangerous.

Although not many people would be able to go inside the sinkhole and see it for themselves, Joni expressed his happiness over their discovery, even though they were yet to explore the hidden cave inside.

“Masaya ako dahil nakita ko na 'yung bunganga ng cave. Nakita na natin 'yung butas, confirmed na na mayroong cave. So 'yung final natin for exploration na lang,” he said.

[I’m happy that we saw that we were able to confirm that there’s a cave inside the sinkhole. Our final task is to explore it.] – Kaela Malig/RC, GMA News

Source: https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/lifestyle/hobbiesandactivities/807245/filipino-cave-guides-explore-samar-sinkhole-kmjs-shows-footage-from-inside-for-first-time-/story/?utm_source=GMAnews&utm_medium=Facebook&fbclid=IwAR1JWlxG1Xu50icWL91kTFzkXBridesheS18vR8sCv6KAHb14u-NR1F2OIQ

Greta Thunberg says COP26 unlikely to lead to 'big changes'

posted October 17, 2021 at 07:00 am

by [AFP](#)

Swedish activist Greta Thunberg on Saturday said upcoming climate talks in Glasgow, billed as humanity's last chance to avoid catastrophic global warming, were unlikely to "lead to big changes".



Swedish climate activist Greta Thunberg stands with an umbrella as she protests with her placard reading "School strike for climate" as part of her Fridays for Future protest in front of the Swedish Parliament Riksdagen in Stockholm on October 15, 2021. AFP

Thunberg, whose Fridays For Future movement has inspired massive street protests around the world, said activists needed to keep on "pushing" for real change.

"As it is now, this COP will not lead to any big changes, we're going to have to continue pushing," she told AFP on the sidelines of a climate concert organised in Stockholm.

"My hopes are, of course, that suddenly we will realise that we are facing an existential crisis and act after that," she added.

The COP26 meeting in Scotland, being held from October 31 until November 12, will be the biggest climate conference since landmark talks in Paris in 2015, and is seen as a crucial step in setting worldwide emissions targets to slow global warming.

Thunberg said that international summits like COP26 "have a potential of changing (things) since they gather so many people together.

"So we may need to make sure that we use that opportunity to actually change things," she said.

Thunberg stressed the need to "switch the focus from trying to create loopholes" to "actually saving the planet".

The Glasgow gathering will try to persuade major developing economies to do more to cut their carbon emissions, and get the rich world to cough up billions more to help poorer countries adapt to climate change.



Climate change a double blow for oil-rich Middle East — experts

By FRANK ZELLER, Agence France-Presse

Published October 17, 2021 11:56pm



Flames are seen at the production facility of Saudi Aramco's Shaybah oilfield in the Empty Quarter, Saudi Arabia, May 22, 2018. REUTERS/ Ahmed Jadallah/ File

PAPHOS, Cyprus — The climate crisis threatens a double blow for the Middle East, experts say, by destroying its oil income as the world shifts to renewables and by raising temperatures to unliveable extremes.

Little has been done to address the challenge in a region long plagued by civil strife, war and refugee flows, even as global warming looks likely to accelerate these trends, a conference heard last week.

"Our region is classified as a global climate change hotspot," Cyprus President Nicos Anastasiades told the International Conference on Climate Change in the Eastern Mediterranean and Middle East.

Home to half a billion people, the already sun-baked region has been designated as especially vulnerable by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and the UN's World Meteorological Organization.

Yet it is also home to several of the last countries that have not ratified the 2015 Paris Agreement—Iran, Iraq, Libya and Yemen—weeks before the UN's COP26 climate conference starts in Glasgow.

When it comes to climate change and the Middle East, "there are terrible problems," said Jeffrey Sachs, who heads the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network.

"First, this is the center of world hydrocarbons, so a lot of the economies of this region depend on a fuel that is basically anachronistic, that we have to stop," said Sachs of New York's Columbia University.

"Second, obviously, this is a dry region getting drier, so everywhere one looks, there is water insecurity, water stress, dislocation of populations," he told AFP.

Sachs argued that "there needs to be a massive transformation in the region. Yet this is a politically fraught region, a divided region, a region that has been beset by a lot of war and conflict, often related to oil."



The good news, he said, is that there is "so much sunshine that the solution is staring the region in the face. They must just look up to the sky. The solar radiation provides the basis for the new clean, green economy."

Like 'disaster movie'

Laurent Fabius, the former French foreign minister who oversaw the Paris Agreement, pointed out that in this year's blistering summer, "we had catastrophic wildfires in Cyprus, Greece, Turkey, Israel, Lebanon."

"There were temperatures over 50 degrees Celsius [122 degrees Fahrenheit] in Kuwait, Oman, the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Iran. We have drought in Turkey, water stress in different countries, particularly Jordan.

"These tragic events are not from a disaster movie, they are real and present."

Cyprus, the EU member closest to the Middle East, is leading an international push involving 240 scientists to develop a 10-year regional action plan, to be presented at a summit a year from now.

The two-day conference last week heard some of the initial findings—including that the greenhouse gas emissions from the region have overtaken those of the European Union.

Already extremely water-scarce, the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) has been warming at twice the global average rate, at about 0.45 degrees Celsius per decade, since the 1980s, scientists say.

Deserts are expanding and dust storms intensifying as the region's rare mountain snow caps slowly diminish, impacting river systems that supply water to millions.

By the end of the century, on a business-as-usual emissions trajectory, temperatures could rise by six degrees Celsius—and by more during summertime in "super- or ultra-extreme heatwaves"—said Dutch atmospheric chemist Jos Lelieveld.

'Future conflicts'

"It's not just about averages, but about the extremes. It will be quite devastating," Lelieveld of Germany's Max Planck Institute for Chemistry told AFP.

Peak temperatures in cities, so-called 'heat islands' that are darker than surrounding deserts, could exceed 60 degrees Celsius, he said.

"In heat waves, people die, of heat strokes and heart attacks. It's like with corona, the vulnerable people will be suffering—the elderly, younger people, pregnant women."

Fabius, like other speakers, warned that as farmlands turn to dust and tensions rise over shrinking resources, climate change can be "the root of future conflicts and violence."

The region is already often torn over freshwater from the Nile, Jordan, Euphrates and Tigris river systems that all sustained ancient civilizations but have faced pressure as human populations have massively expanded.

Sachs pointed to the much-debated theory that climate change was one of the drivers behind Syria's civil war, because a 2006-2009 record drought sent more than a million farmers into cities, heightening social stress before the uprising of 2011.



"We saw in Syria a decade ago how those dislocations of the massive drought spilt over, partially triggered and certainly exacerbated massive violence," he said.

Some of the MENA region's highest use of solar power is now seen in Syria's last rebel-held area, the Idlib region, which has long been cut off from the state power grid and where photovoltaic panels have become ubiquitous. — ADB

18 OCTOBER 2021, MONDAY



NEWS ALERTS

COVID-19 NEWS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



DOH logs over 10K new survivors; PH recovery tally now 2.6M

By Ma. Teresa Montemayor October 17, 2021, 5:38 pm



MANILA – The nation's total number of recovered coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) cases has reached 2,598,052 after 10,237 new recoveries were reported on Sunday.

In its latest case bulletin, the Department of Health (DOH) said recoveries account for 95.5 percent of the total case count which has reached 2,720,368 since the start of the pandemic last year.

Meanwhile, some 6,913 new infections brought the total number of active cases nationwide to 81,641.

About 82 percent of these active cases are mild, 5.5 percent are asymptomatic, 1.6 percent are critical, 3.8 percent are severe, and 7.13 percent are moderate.

Moreover, 95 new deaths were reported, bringing the total death toll due to the coronavirus to 40,675.

According to DOH data on October 17, about 12.5 percent of 53,669 who were tested turned out positive for Covid-19.

"About 54 duplicates were removed from the total case count, and of these, 35 are recoveries," it added.

All laboratories were operational on October 15 while three laboratories were not able to submit their data to the Covid-19 Document Repository System.

The DOH said the seven non-reporting laboratories contribute, on average, 0.5 percent of samples tested, and 0.5 percent of positive individuals based on data in the last 14 days.

To date, 62 percent of 4,300 intensive care unit beds, 47 percent of 20,700 isolation beds, 47 percent of 14,900 ward beds, and 46 percent of 3,300 ventilators are utilized by patients with Covid-19 nationwide.

Meanwhile, 59 percent of 1,500 intensive care unit beds, 39 percent of 4,800 isolation beds, 43 percent of 4,200 ward beds, and 44 percent of 1,000 ventilators dedicated to patients with Covid-19 are in use in the National Capital Region. **(PNA)**



DOH logs 6,913 new COVID-19 infections, but three labs without data

Philstar.com October 17, 2021 | 4:00pm



A health worker looks at the lists during vaccination of minors at the Pasig City General Hospital on Oct. 15, 2021. The hospital is one of the sites for the pilot run of vaccinations for children ages 12 to 17 years old.

The STAR / Michael Varcas

MANILA, Philippines — Health authorities reported 6,913 more coronavirus infections on Sunday, bringing the national caseload to 2,720,368.

In its latest bulletin released Sunday afternoon, the DOH reported a positivity rate of 12.5% out of 53,669 tests.

- **Active cases:** 81,641 or 3.0% of the total
- **Recoveries:** 10,237 new additions, bringing the number to 2,598,052
- **Deaths:** 95, now 40,675 in total

According to the Department of Health, three labs were not able to submit their tallies for Sunday's final count.

However, the DOH added that the three labs only accounted for 0.5% of all samples tested and 0.5% of all positive individuals.

The country continues to battle a resurgence in cases driven by the hyper contagious Delta variant, which has also spread in neighboring countries.

It has been 579 days since the first enhanced community quarantine was hoisted over some parts of Luzon.

What's new today?

- As of Sunday morning, the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council has listed 611,705 individuals as being affected by the aftermath of Severe Tropical Storm Maring.
- Per data from the Philippine National Police, 581 areas are under granular lockdown across the country, leading to 6,136 households or 22,024 individuals under lockdown.
- The Trade Union Congress of the Philippines condemned what it called the "inhuman and illegal" imposition of a "no vaccine, no salary" scheme by some employers and urged the labor department to take action.



- Bulacan, Apayao and Capiz will be under general community quarantine from October 18 to October 31, 2021, presidential spokesperson Harry Roque announced earlier Sunday.
- Joint personnel of the PNP, Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency, National Intelligence Coordinating Agency, Bureau of Customs, and Armed Forces of the Philippines confiscated some P1.656 billion worth of shabu during a buy-bust operation in Dasmariñas City, Cavite.



5K-6K arawang COVID-19, posible na – OCTA

By [Mer Layson](#), [Danilo Garcia](#) (Pilipino Star Ngayon) - October 18, 2021 - 12:00am



Residents of Quezon City head on to the Commission on Elections Office in the city on Oct. 11, 2021, the first day of the extension period of registration for the May 2022 national election.

MANILA, Philippines — Bababa pa ng mula 5,000 hanggang 6,000 na lamang ang mga bagong kaso ng COVID-19 na naitatala kada araw sa bansa pagsapit ng katapusan ng Oktubre.

Ayon kay Dr. Guido David, ng OCTA Research Group, tuluy-tuloy ang pagbuti ng mga datos sa COVID-19 nitong mga nakalipas na araw dahil hindi na umaabot ng 10,000 ang bilang ng mga bagong kaso.

Posible pa rin naman aniyang umabot ng hanggang 10,000 ang maitatalang kaso ngunit ito'y dulot lamang ng backlog at pansamantala lamang.

Sa ngayon ay nasa 0.64 na lang ang reproduction number sa buong bansa, o yaong bilang ng tao na maaaring maihawa ng isang pasyente ng COVID-19.

Ang seven-day average cases aniya sa bansa ay nasa 8,400 na lamang.

Sa National Capital Region (NCR) naman, patuloy pa rin ang pagbaba ng mga kaso ng sakit.

Sinabi ni David na ang seven-day average sa NCR ay nasa 1,681 na lamang ngayon habang ang reproduction number ay nasa 0.58 na lamang.

Batay aniya sa datos ng Department of Health (DOH) ay bumababa na rin ang hospital utilization rate, at sa Metro Manila ay nasa 47% na lang ito.

Gayunman, mataas pa rin ang intensive care unit (ICU) utilization rate sa rehiyon, kahit sa mga kalapit na rehiyon gaya ng Calabarzon at Central Luzon.

Ipinagpapalagay naman ni David na ang mas nakahahawang Delta variant ang sanhi ng marami pa ring ICU cases sa ngayon.

Pero paglilinaw niya, maging ang ICU utilization rate ay bumababa na rin sa ngayon.

Source: <https://www.philstar.com/pilipino-star-ngayon/bansa/2021/10/18/2134844/5k-6k-arawang-covid-19-posible-na-octa/amp/>



Covid won't compromise UHC

Published 6 hours ago on October 18, 2021 12:30 AM

By [Joshua Lao](#) @tribunephil_lao



Photo Courtesy of dof.gov.ph

The implementation of the Universal Health Care or UHC “will not be compromised” by the current health crisis, Finance Secretary Carlos Dominguez III said.

“We are committed to the successful implementation of the (UHC). For 2022, we propose an allocation of P80 billion for the premium subsidies for indirect contributors under the UHC law,” Dominguez said.

“PhilHealth (Philippine Health Insurance Corp.) still has around P164 billion in its reserve fund for the implementation so UHC will not be compromised by the Covid-19 pandemic,” he added.

Still, the Finance chief earlier said that they are looking at the financial problems of PhilHealth and will work on with its officials to put the state insurer on a solid footing to fully implement the UHC.

Nevertheless, Dominguez recognized the decline in PhilHealth’s revenues in terms of contributions owing to the pandemic coupled with the rise in its expenditures.

“Fundamentally, in the future, we will really face a serious problem and that problem is the fact that the collections are going to be lower than the payouts in a few years and the capital will be quickly depleted,” he explained.

“We have to really think about how to recapitalize PhilHealth or else how to probably rationalize the amounts provided. Because of the Covid-19 situation and its impact on employment, you had a drop in revenues. At the same time, you have an increase in expenditures,” he added.

Fitch Solutions said in its recent report that the UHC might face a delay as the Covid-19 pandemic continues to overwhelm the Philippines’ healthcare system.

According to Fitch, funding sources for the UHC program are under pressure as excise taxes — which are used to subsidized such, are expected to go down amid the health crisis.



Tawa-tawa, lagundi shown to ease mild COVID-19 symptoms

[Rainier Allan Ronda](#) - The Philippine Star October 18, 2021 | 12:00am



Rowena Cristina Guevara, DOST undersecretary for research and development, said that the UP Manila clinical trial team led by Dr. Cecilia Nelia Maramba-Lazarte finished its study which showed that lagundi tablets administered to mild COVID-19 cases without comorbidities had relieved the various symptoms of patients.

Philippine Council for Health Research Development

MANILA, Philippines — The Department of Science and Technology (DOST)-funded clinical trials on lagundi as an adjunct therapy for COVID-19, conducted by University of the Philippines Manila researchers, have successfully shown the herbal medicine's symptomatic relief benefit to mild coronavirus cases.

Rowena Cristina Guevara, DOST undersecretary for research and development, said that the UP Manila clinical trial team led by Dr. Cecilia Nelia Maramba-Lazarte finished its study which showed that lagundi tablets administered to mild COVID-19 cases without comorbidities had relieved the various symptoms of patients.

"That's their conclusion, that it brought symptomatic relief to the mild cases of the disease especially those with no taste and smell," Guevara told The STAR in a phone interview over the weekend.

The two-stage clinical trial, Guevara said, involved 19 to 55 year olds with mild COVID-19 cases without comorbidities.

The DOST official said the next step for the UP Manila researchers was to check for the antiviral properties of mild and moderate cases with comorbidities.

In an interview over Manila-based radio station dzBB, Guevara said that the herbal medicine was shown to be able to "decrease symptoms" of mild COVID-19 cases.

"So, they were able to prove that lagundi lessens the symptoms, especially loss of smell, and gives overall relief from discomfort due to the symptoms," she said.

Guevara said that another clinical trial funded by the DOST on tawa-tawa also yielded good feedback from respondents with mild to moderate cases.

"Of the 172 random COVID-19 positive respondents who took two tawa-tawa 1,950 mg capsules three times a day for 10 days, their symptoms disappeared within three to five days," Guevarra said.

She clarified that tawa-tawa was given as food supplement. Also, she emphasized that lagundi is a herbal medicine, and tawa-tawa is a herbal supplement. "They are different," she added.



Symptoms that disappeared with the use of tawa-tawa included fevers, chills, body aches and cough, Guevarra said.

“One respondent said after taking tawa-tawa, their general well-being improved – including their breathing. Another experienced increased appetite, better bowel movement, and their cough was alleviated,” she said.

Generally, lagundi and tawa-tawa have yielded good results.

Guevara added that the DOST is looking at studying the anti-viral effect of lagundi for mild and moderate COVID-19 cases with comorbidities.

Asked if lagundi and tawa-tawa would be advisable for those who self-medicate, she said, “It’s okay, there’s no harm expected from lagundi and tawa-tawa.”

The DOST-funded lagundi clinical trials for COVID-19 began last year and enrolled participants from the Quezon Institute and the Philippine National Capital Region Police Office quarantine centers.

The DOST has approved the P4.9-million funding for the lagundi clinical trials.



#OneDENR

**Covid-19
Situation and Response**



DOH COVID-19 CASE BULLETIN # 582

OKTUBRE 17, 2021

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

PORSYENTO NG AKTIBONG KASO

3.0%

TOTAL NG AKTIBONG KASO
81,641

PORSYENTO NG GUMALING

95.5%

TOTAL NG GUMALING
2,598,052

PORSYENTO NG NAMATAY

1.50%

TOTAL NG NAMATAY
40,675

MGA BAGONG KASO **6,913**

MGA BAGONG GUMALING **10,237**

MGA BAGONG NAMATAY **95**

KABUANG BILANG NG KASO **2,720,368**

MGA NAGPOSITIBO HULING OKTUBRE 15

DATOS NGAYONG OKTUBRE 17
AYON SA REPORTS NOONG OKTUBRE 15

12.5%

PORSYENTO NG MGA
NAGPOSITIBO

53,669

BILANG NG
TINEST

HALOS

87.5%

ANG MILD AT
ASYMPTOMATIC
NA KASO!

**SANITIZE ANG
KAMAY AT IWASAN
ANG KULOB NA LUGAR**

KABUANG PILIPINAS

PUNO NA BA ANG ATING MGA OSPITAL?

ICU BEDS (4.3K TOTAL BEDS)
62% Utilized

ISOLATION BEDS (20.7K TOTAL BEDS)
47% Utilized

WARD BEDS (14.9K TOTAL BEDS)
47% Utilized

VENTILATORS (3.3K TOTAL VENTILATORS)
46% Utilized

NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION

PUNO NA BA ANG ATING MGA OSPITAL?

ICU BEDS (1.5K TOTAL BEDS)
59% Utilized

ISOLATION BEDS (4.8K TOTAL BEDS)
39% Utilized

WARD BEDS (4.2K TOTAL BEDS)
43% Utilized

VENTILATORS (1.0K TOTAL VENTILATORS)
44% Utilized

KALAGAYAN NG MGA AKTIBONG KASO

Mild 82.0%

5.5% Asymptomatic

1.6% Critical

3.8% Severe

7.13% Moderate



UPDATE AND MESSAGE OF THE DAY

Ang pagpapaigting ng ating pagsunod sa **Minimum Public Health Standards** ang susi sa muling pagbangon ng buong bansa. Sa lahat ng lugar, sitwasyon, at oras, iwasang maging kampante. Sa oras na makaramdam ng anumang sintomas ng COVID-19, agad na makipag-ugnayan sa ating **BHERTS o One COVID Referral Center** para mapigilan ang higit pang pagkakahawa. Maaabot ang One COVID Referral Center sa **1555, (02)886-505-00, 0915-777-7777, o sa 0919-977-3333.**

Para sa iba pang pangangailangang medikal, puntahan ang <http://bit.ly/DOHTelemedicine> upang malaman kung papaano maabot ang serbisyo ng ating **Telemedicine Service Providers**, at ang <http://bit.ly/DOHHospitalHotlines> para maabot ang ating mga ospital sa lalong mabilis na panahon.



Ihahanap ka namin ng lugar para mag-isolate o magpagamot, tumawag lang sa sumusunod:

SMART: 0919 977 3333
GLOBE: 0915 777 7777
TEL NO: (02) 886 505 00



May tanong ukol sa COVID-19?

I-chat na si KIRA!

VIBER: Kira Kontra COVID by DOH

MESSANGER: Department of Health PH

KONTRACOVID PH: kontracovid.ph



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18 OCTOBER 2021, MONDAY



NEWS ALERTS

VLOGS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



Please click this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-U7pCV3QdG0>

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#dolomitesand #manilabayupdate #dolomite







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#manilabaydolomitesand #manilabay #manilaupdate

NAKAKAANTIG ng DAMDAMIN na mga TAGPO sa MANILA BAY | MAGPAMILYA AT MAGKAIBIGAN ENJOY SA DOLOMITE

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
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