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DENR wages war vs environmental criminals: Illegal loggers collared in Kalinga

SEP 19, 2021, 6:44 PM

Santiago Celario
Writer

Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu said the recent operations against illegal loggers in Kalinga province only show the DENR's resilience and resolve to go after environmental offenders.

FOUR illegal loggers in Tabuk, Kalinga province were arrested by the Environment Law Enforcement and Protection Service (ELEPS) of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) last September 2.

The operations conducted by DENR-ELEPS, together with the Kalinga Provincial and Community Environment and Natural Resources, DENR-Cordillera Administrative Region, and DENR's Anti-Illegal Logging Task Force (AILTF), also led to the confiscation of illegally cut acacia logs and a chainsaw.

The illegal loggers were identified as Vincent Dalanao, Archie Cadalina, Victor Manyaw, and Fioni Tamaw.

Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu said the operations only show the DENR's resilience and perseverance despite the threat of the coronavirus disease.

"Our dedicated men and women in enforcement arm just proved once again that we are committed to constantly protect our environment and natural resources even in the face of a deadly pandemic," Cimatu said.

The arrested suspects were charged for violating Section 77 of Presidential Decree (PD) 705, otherwise known as the Forestry Reform Code of the Philippines, as amended, and Section 7(4) of Republic Act (RA) 9175 or the Chainsaw Act of 2002

Under PD 705, offenders will be imprisoned for up to four years and pay a maximum fine of P10,000.

Meanwhile, Section 7(4) of RA 9175 states that "any person who is found to be in possession of a chainsaw and uses the same to cut trees and timber in forest land without authorization shall be penalized up to a maximum of eight years and a maximum fine of P50,000."

Last August, the DENR and the Department of Trade and Industry discussed the regulations involving the buying and selling of chainsaws through online platforms.



For his part, DENR Undersecretary for Enforcement Benito Antonio De Leon said that the DENR "aims to empower the enforcement officers to protect them amid these dangerous operations."

"We believe in the capabilities and dauntlessness of our men and women in the face of these environmental culprits. To further support their dedication and enhance their skills, we in the Department will continue training and retooling their abilities for both personal and institutional development," De Leon said.

The DENR launched on Friday (September 17), a special course on enforcement to enhance the skills of the enforcement personnel in analyzing pieces of evidence, apprehending suspects, and in following the rules of criminal procedures in environmental cases.

Source: https://opinyon.net/national/denr-wages-war-vs-environmental-criminals-illegal-loggers-collared-in-kalinga?fbclid=IwAR3GvEhyzgn2Qxufs01VkWhsaHVCRIo_y16t0OISTTcIIN09Co3F5osYJyI



Central Luzon's trash formula a huge success

posted September 19, 2021 at 11:40 pm by [Jess Malabanan](#)

The first 120 days of the government's drive to close all illegal and open dumpsites in the country proved to be a success in Central Luzon as most if not all of the affected cities and municipalities in the region have managed avoid any garbage crisis.

"If there's a will, there's a way" Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) regional executive director Paquito Moreno Jr., said this as he confirmed that there was not a single incident of garbage crisis that occurred following the DENR's sustained operations against open dumpsites in the region.

"It's like business as usual", said Moreno as he attributed the success of their operations likewise to the cooperation of local government leaders in Central Luzon.

"LGUs in Central Luzon played a significant role in the closure of open dumpsites in the region have been cooperative and supportive with the DENR campaign including implementation of Solid Waste Management Law" Moreno stressed

With the closure of all open dumpsites, LGUs have the option to bring their solid waste to existing sanitary landfills (SLF) or to a residual containment area.

For Central Luzon, the DENR continues to rely on the services of legitimate, private sector led sanitary landfills in the region.

"The presence of an engineered sanitary landfill in Tarlac contributed to the success of DENR Sec. Frank Cimatú's campaign as it ably provided the necessary facilities to accommodate a large number of wastes all over the region, said Moreno.

Moreno was apparently referring to Metro Clark Waste Management facilities in Capas, Tarlac that currently caters to cities and municipalities of Region 3 including Pangasinan province.

Metro Clark boasts of its facility as the lone engineered sanitary landfill that strictly adheres to the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000. Its current operational capacity could accommodate more than 3,000 tons of garbage daily.

DENR Undersecretary Benny Antiporda earlier announced all the dumpsites that have been closed down will have to undergo the Safe Closure and Rehabilitation Plan of Dumpsites, courtesy of EMB.

"Local government units may seek technical assistance of the Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) on how to conduct the Safe Closure and Rehabilitation Plan for the respective dumpsites in their areas of jurisdiction," Antiporda explained.

A residual containment area is a temporary storage of their residual wastes while negotiating a Memorandum of Agreement with another LGU operating an SLF, finalizing a contract with a privately operated SLF, or awaiting operationalization of their own SLF.

A total of 335 open dumpsites all over the country have been closed by the DENR.

Open dumpsites are those where solid waste is deposited without planning and consideration for environmental and health standards and are illegal to establish or operate, based on RA 900.

Source: <https://manilastandard.net/mobile/article/365332>



DENR's drive vs dumpsites successful in Central Luzon

[REYNALDO G. NAVALES](#)

September 19, 2021

THE government's drive against illegal dumpsites in the country has been successful in Central Luzon.

This, as most cities and municipalities in the region affected by the program of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) against open dumpsites managed to cope up and avoided any garbage crisis.

"If there's a will, there's a way," said DENR Regional Executive Director Paquito Moreno Jr.

The official said no single incidence of garbage crisis occurred following the DENR's operations against open dumpsites in the region.

"It's like business as usual", said Moreno.

He attributed the success of their operations to the cooperation of local government officials in Central Luzon.

"LGUs (local government units) in Central Luzon played a significant role in the closure of open dumpsites in the region have been cooperative and supportive with the DENR campaign including implementation of Solid Waste Management Law," Moreno said.

LGUs now have the option to bring their solid waste to existing sanitary landfills (SLF) or a residual containment area following the closure of the illegal dumpsites.

For Central Luzon, the DENR continues to rely on the services of legitimate, private sector-led sanitary landfills in the region.

"The presence of an engineered sanitary landfill in Tarlac contributed to the success of DENR Secretary Frank Cimatu's campaign as it ably provided the necessary facilities to accommodate a large number of wastes all over the region," said Moreno.

Moreno was referring to Metro Clark Waste Management facilities in Capas, Tarlac that currently serves cities and municipalities of Central Luzon, including Pangasinan province.

Metro Clark has engineered sanitary landfill that strictly adheres to the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000.

The facility can accommodate more than 3,000 tons of garbage daily.

DENR Undersecretary Benny Antiporda earlier announced all the dumpsites that have been closed down will have to undergo the Safe Closure and Rehabilitation Plan of Dumpsites under the supervision of the Environmental Management Bureau (EMB).

"Local government units may seek technical assistance of the EMB on how to conduct the Safe Closure and Rehabilitation Plan for the respective dumpsites in their areas of jurisdiction," Antiporda said.



LGUs may temporarily dump their waste into residual containment areas while negotiating a Memorandum of Agreement with another LGU operating an SLF, finalizing a contract with a privately operated SLF, or awaiting operationalization of their own SLF.

A total of 335 open dumpsites all over the country were closed by the DENR.



Northern Negros trekking sites closed

Published 1 day ago on September 19, 2021 12:20 AM

By [TDI](#) @tribuneph



BACOLOD CITY — The Department of Environment and Natural Resources recently ordered the temporary closure of major trekking destinations inside the Northern Negros Natural Park (NNNP) in the wake of insurgency-related clashes in nearby areas.

In Special Order 3, Community Environment and Natural Resources Officer and protected area superintendent of NNNP Joan Nathaniel Gerangaya said those temporarily closed are the ecotourism site destinations of Tinagong Dagat, Danao Sulfutara and Tinagong Bato.

“This is in the interest of the service and in order to ensure the safety of visitors, trekkers, porters and guides... due to the insurgency/armed conflict that took place in areas near the protected area,” Gerangaya said.

Meantime, minor trekking destinations will continue to operate and accept visitors which include the Mayana Peak in Barangay Prosperidad, San Carlos City; Malantan-og and Kawa Falls in Barangay Kumaliskis, Don Salvador Benedicto; and Malisbog, Dumalabdab and Pulang Tubig Waterfalls in Barangay Patag, Silay City.

“This order takes effect immediately and shall remain enforced unless revoked and amended accordingly,” Gerangaya said.

The NNNP has three entry/exit points — Barangay Patag in Silay City; Sitio Campuestohan, Barangay Cabatangan in Talisay City; and Barangay Canlandog in Murcia town.



DENR suspends entry to major trekking sites in northern Negros

September 18, 2021 2 min read

BACOLOD CITY – The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) has ordered the temporary closure of major trekking destinations inside the Northern Negros Natural Park (NNNP) in the wake of insurgency-related clashes in nearby areas.

In Special Order 3 dated September 16 and posted on Facebook on Friday afternoon, Community Environment and Natural Resources Officer Joan Nathaniel Gerangaya, protected area superintendent of NNNP, said those temporarily closed are the ecotourism site destinations of Tinagong Dagat, Danao Sulfutara, and Tinagong Bato.

“(This is) in the interest of the service and in order to ensure the safety of visitors, trekkers, porters, and guides... due to the insurgency/armed conflict that took place in areas near the protected area,” he added.

On the other hand, minor trekking destinations will continue to operate and accept visitors.

These include the Mayana Peak in Barangay Prosperidad, San Carlos City; Malantan-og and Kawa Falls in Barangay Kumaliskis, Don Salvador Benedicto; and Malisbog, Dumalabdab, and Pulang Tubig Waterfalls in Barangay Patag, Silay City.

“This order takes effect immediately and shall remain enforced unless revoked and amended accordingly,” Gerangaya said.

With the coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) pandemic, the DENR allowed the resumption of mountaineering activities in the NNNP in February as community quarantine restrictions started to ease.

The NNNP has three entry/exit points – Barangay Patag in Silay City; Sitio Campuestohan, Barangay Cabatangan in Talisay City; and Barangay Canlandog in Murcia town.

With the resumption of trekking activities earlier this year, only residents and foreigners legally residing in Negros Occidental have been allowed to trek for a fee of PHP300 per person.

On August 20, troops of the Philippine Army’s 79th Infantry Battalion and the New People’s Army figured in a clash in remote Hacienda Raymunda in Barangay Kapitan Ramon, Silay City, where two communist terrorists and a soldier were killed. **(PNA)**

Source: https://maharlika.tv/2021/09/18/denr-suspends-entry-to-major-trekking-sites-in-northern-negros/?fbclid=IwAR0xGCtBnJ7FGc0kD81bNQ4IM_ZJmOtcPhx_3nFcVtxmSc3K-oOC_W8MPxc



Hiking sa Northern Negros Natural Park bawal muna sa bakbakan ng militar vs rebelde – DENR



September 19, 2021 @ 12:00 PM 19 hours ago

NEGROS OCCIDENTAL – Ipinag-utos ang pansamantalang pagbabawal sa mga trekking activities at pagpasok sa anumang destinasyon nasa loob ng Northern Negros Natural Park (NANNP).

Ayon sa Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) dahil ito sa panganib na dulot ng mga biglaang bakbakan na nagaganap sa pagitan ng mga militar at rebeldeng grupo.

Kabilang sa mga isinara muna ay ang ecotourism site na Tinagong Dagat, Danao Sulfutara, and Tinagong Bato.

“(This is) in the interest of the service and in order to ensure the safety of visitors, trekkers, porters, and guides... due to the insurgency/armed conflict that took place in areas near the protected area,” paliwanag ni Community Environment and Natural Resources Officer Joan Nathaniel Gerangaya.

Sa kabilang banda, mananatiling operational naman ang mga minor trekking activities sa Mayana Peak, Barangay Prosperidad, San Carlos City; Malantan-og at Kawa Falls sa Barangay Kumaliskis, Don Salvador Benedicto; at Malisbog, Dumalabdab, at Pulang Tubig Waterfalls sa Barangay Patag, Silay City.

Ang hakbang na ito ay pag-iingat ng pamahalaan sa posibilidad ng pagkaipit sa bakbakan katulad na lamang ng naganap na engkwentro noong Agosto 20 sa pagitan ng tropa ng 79th Infantry Battalion ng Philippine Army at ng mga miyembro ng New People’s Army na ikinasawi ng dalawang rebelde at isang sundalo. RNT

Source: <https://www.remate.ph/hiking-sa-northern-negros-natural-park-bawal-muna-sa-bakbakan-ng-militar-vs-rebelde-denr/>



Newtech Pulp, Lake Lanao abaca planters forge partnership via DENR program



BY JONATHAN L. MAYUGA SEPTEMBER 20, 2021

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) has linked forest communities in Lake Lanao with abaca exporter Newtech Pulp Inc. for the supply of abaca.

The move brings hope of sustained livelihood to forest communities while conserving Mindanao's important watershed that is also the largest hydroelectric source in Mindanao.

Three people's organizations (POs)—Sunrise Producer Association, Wato Balindong Farmers' Cooperative and Sania Farmers Association—are now partners of Newtech Pulp in the supply of abaca fiber. Newtech Pulp has an abaca pulp manufacturing plant in Maria Cristina Balo, Lanao del Norte.

These POs operate in Piagapo, Balindong, and Maguing all in the Province of Lanao del Sur.

Newtech Pulp is sourcing abaca fiber from an estimated 200 hectares of abaca plantation that are under DENR's Integrated Natural Resources and Environmental Management Project (INREMP).

"These people's organization used to harvest rice and other crops like abaca, and banana just once a year. Their production in abaca is being sustained because they are now supplying directly to Newtech Pulp Inc.," Samsodin Taha, operations manager at INREMP's Lake Lanao River Basin (LLRB), said in a statement.

The LLRB within the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao is the largest lake in Mindanao. It is also known to be one of 15 ancient lakes of the world.

Lake Lanao's hydroelectric facilities provide 65 percent of Mindanao's power demand.

INREMP has integrated a Maranao Ethnic Development Plan in its natural resources program in LLRB. The Maranaos have kept their own culture in keeping with the environment as stewards of nature.

However, due to poverty, some residents have resorted to illegal resource extraction and conversion of forests into farm lands.

To address the challenges, the DENR has carried out extensive natural resource management or NRM in LLRB.

As of the end-May, NRM includes a reforestation area of 145 hectares and an agroforestry area of 1,300 hectares.

Commercial tree plantation (CTP) covers 527 hectares while conservation farming covers 110 hectares.

Forest trees planted under CTP include falcata and mahogany. For conservation farming, fruit trees, such as durian, rambutan, lanzones are planted, together with cash crops and root crops.

Agroforestry areas are planted with rice, corn, banana, and palapa or white dallion (a root crop used as appetizer) and fruit trees and forest trees. Reforestation areas are planted with narra and lauan.

The NRM at Lake Lanao has a total budget of P78 million.

DENR is looking at partnering with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Agrarian Reform (MAFAR-LDS), Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources and Energy (MENRE-LDS), and the Department of Agriculture (DA) for the future expansion of the abaca plantation.



If these three agencies will infuse investment into the abaca project, the LLRB abaca area may be expanded, Taha said.

INREMP covers rehabilitation of six subwatersheds in LLRB. These are the subwatersheds of Marawi-Saguiaran, Ramin, Malaig, West, Taraka, and Gata.

It is jointly funded by the Asian Development Bank and the Philippine government.

INREMP's livelihood enhancement includes provision of turmeric processing machine for the Mapantao-Saguiaran People's Organization and its mini warehouse.

A solar drying pavement has also been put up for Dimapatoy Farmers Association while an abaca stripping machine has been provided for the Harith Tree Planting Farmers Association.

There are six rural infrastructure projects in the LLRB site and 29 Livelihood Enhancement Support projects. Beneficiaries are a total of 41 people's organizations involved in NRM. It has a total budget of P97 million.

An ADB project profile indicated that the rural infrastructure projects include access roads, farm-to-market access facilities, and potable water supply.

DENR, Coast Guard join International Coastal Cleanup Day



COASTAL CLEANUP. The Department of Environment and Natural Resources together with the Philippine Coast Guard conduct a series of activities Saturday, September 18, on Aliguay Island, Dapitan City, Zamboanga del Norte, in celebration of the International Coastal Cleanup Day. A photo handout shows the participants posing for a souvenir photo along with the sacks of trash they collected during the activity. (SunStar Zamboanga)

September 19, 2021

THE Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) together with the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) conducted a series of activities on Aliguay Island, Dapitan City, Zamboanga del Norte, in celebration of the International Coastal Cleanup Day Saturday, September 18, 2021.

Rosevirico Tan, DENR regional information officer, said the activities include a coastal cleanup, scubasura, and communication, education and public awareness campaign on the significance of the ocean and Ecological Solid Waste Management Act (Republic Act 9003).

Tan said the event is to engage people to remove trash and debris from beaches, waterways and other water bodies, to change their behaviors that cause pollution, to have a sense of responsibility, and to increase the level of awareness and solicit support and cooperation from the community.

Tan said some 18 sacks or 112 kilograms of garbage were collected, consisting mostly of plastic bottles and other household wastes.

“These were taken barangay Material Recovery Facility for proper segregation and disposal,” he said.

The activity was participated by 52 personnel of the DENR to include those of the Zamboanga del Norte Provincial Environment and Resources Office, Community Environment and Natural Resources-Piñan, and Protected Area Management Office, PCG, village officials of Aliguay headed by Village Chief Lyn Marie Evarado and residents of the village.

The celebration of the 2021 International Coastal Cleanup Day is an annual event held every third Saturday of September.

This year’s celebration is anchored on the theme: “Understand and Beat Marine Pollution.” **(SunStar Zamboanga)**

Source: <https://www.sunstar.com.ph/article/1907739/Zamboanga/Local-News/DENR-Coast-Guard-join-International-Coastal-Cleanup-Day>

Coastal clean-up yields discarded masks

[Mitchelle L. Palaubsanon](#) - The Freeman September 20, 2021 | 12:00am



This as various national government agencies in Cebu conducted the International Coastal Cleanup (ICC) Day yesterday.

CEBU, Philippines — The Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources-7 has urged people to dispose of their used face masks properly rather than throwing them anywhere as these may end up in the coasts or in the oceans.

This as various national government agencies in Cebu conducted the International Coastal Cleanup (ICC) Day yesterday.

BFAR-7 posted this reminder as they recorded a total of 772 kilograms of garbage, including face masks, gathered from the eight separate coastal cleanups conducted in the region.

Apart from face masks, other wastes collected were plastic containers, food wrappers, glass bottles, diapers, worn-out garments, tin cans, and styrofoam.

The Mines and Geosciences Bureau-7 of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources also has a separate activity in partnership with Barangay Subangdaku in cleaning some portions of Mahiga Creek in Mandaue City.

In a clean-up summary, MGB-7 has recorded about 135 cubic feet of trash with approximate weight at 3,000-4,000 kilos at 30 square meters.

Trash items collected were mostly beverage and water bottles, beverage cans, sachets, pouches, cups and plates (foam, papers & plastics), plastic utensils, plastic food containers (bleach and oil), etc. There were also damaged appliances, toys, footwear and clothings.

Meanwhile, the Cebu Port Authority together with partners and port stakeholders collected a total of 72 sacks or 3,300 kilos of garbage along coastlines, waterways and port areas within Cebu province.

CPA said this is based on the consolidated data gathered after the conduct of simultaneous coastal clean-up activities by Port Management Offices in Cebu Baseport, Cebu International Port, Argao, Danao, Mandaue, Sta. Fe and Toledo with a total of 124 participants composed of CPA personnel, cargo handling service providers, shipping crew and Philippine Coast Guard (PCG).

Collected garbage along coastlines are mostly plastics, dunnage, food wrappers, cigarette butts, abandoned fishing nets, beverage cans, used facemasks, among others.

The ICC is celebrated yearly by virtue of Proclamation No. 470, series of 2003, observed every third Saturday of September where communities are encouraged to participate in the clearing of coastlines, rivers, lakes, creeks, canals and other waterways tributaries. — **GMR (FREEMAN)**

Source: <https://www.philstar.com/the-freeman/cebu-news/2021/09/20/2128377/coastal-clean-yields-discarded-masks>



BFAR-7 calls for proper health care waste disposal

By Minerva Newman September 19, 2021, 6:39 pm



COASTAL CLEANUP. Children of fisherfolk in Barangay Cogtong, Candijay, Bohol collect garbage and other waste materials on Friday (Sept. 17, 2021). The activity was part of the International Coastal Cleanup Day celebrated every third week of September. *(Photo courtesy of BFAR-7)*

CEBU CITY – The Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources-Central Visayas ((BFAR-7) urged the public to dispose of face masks, plastics and other medical waste properly and refrain from throwing them anywhere as they may end up in coasts and oceans and polluting seas, rivers and forests.

BFAR-7 posted the appeal on Saturday to mark the International Coastal Cleanup Day.

The agency also conducted eight coastal area cleanup activities in the region from Sept. 13 to 17.

More than 772 kilograms of garbage, collected including face masks, clinical gloves, single-use plastics, plastic containers, food wrappers, glass bottles, diapers, worn-out garments, tin cans, and polystyrene items (Styrofoam) were gathered.

Children of fisherfolk from Barangay Cogtong in Candijay, Bohol initiated their own cleanup on Sept. 17 and reported that disposable face masks made up the bulk of the waste materials collected.

The provincial fishery offices and the field facilities of BFAR-7 also celebrated the 58th Fish Conservation Week, an annual event every third week of September coinciding with the International Coastal Cleanup Day. **(PNA)**



SMC targets daily 5K MT solid waste extraction from Tullahan River with new equipment

September 20, 2021



The Tullahan River is now cleaner with San Miguel Corporation's dredging initiatives. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

[San Miguel Corp.](#)'s (SMC) massive environment sustainability and flood mitigation initiative to clean up the 27-kilometer [Tullahan River](#) system shifts to higher gear in December, as the company is set to acquire additional new equipment to double its solid waste extraction capacity to 5,000 metric tons (MT) per day.

SMC President [Ramon S. Ang](#) said the company's commitment to clean up the Tullahan river system – ranked No. 4 in the list of the world's top 10 plastic-emitting rivers responsible for global ocean plastic pollution, according to a 2021 report by research website [ourworldindata.org](#) – is stronger than ever, as SMC has made the cleanup of major rivers one of its foremost sustainability priorities.

"In just over a year, we've made significant progress with our Tullahan River cleanup project. Recently, we reached an important milestone: 414,000 metric tons of solid wastes removed from the river, as of the Sept. 11. By December 1, we're aiming to double our extraction capacity from the current 2,300 to 2,500 MT per day, to 5,000 MT per day. We are acquiring six sets of new equipment to do this," Ang said.

He added that the company's river cleanup teams have not let up on work to dredge the 27-kilometer tributary – a P1 billion undertaking fully funded by SMC – as anticipated typhoons are expected to bring heavy rains and, consequently, floods to many parts of [Metro](#) Manila.

According to Ang, SMC is waiting for the formal go-ahead from the [Department of Environment and Natural Resources](#) (DENR) and the approval of the dredging plan by the [Department of Public Works and Highways](#) (DPWH), for its [P2-billion Pasig River](#) Cleanup project.



Higit 800 gagamba nasabat sa Pasay city

On Sep 19, 2021



Nasabat ng mga tauhan ng Bureau of Customs ang 809 na piraso ng spiderlings at 17 adult spiders o gagamba sa Central Mail Exchange Center sa Pasay City.

Ayon sa BOC, nakalagay ang kargamento sa tatlong postal parcels.

Galing sa Poland ang mga kargamento at naka-consign sa mga residente sa Pasay City, Parañaque City at Batangas.

Nakabalot ang mga gagamba sa maliliit na plastic vials at foil na may bulak.

Agad naman na itinurn-over ng BOC ang mga nakumpiskang gagamba sa Department of Environment and Natural Resources Wildlife Traffic Monitoring Unit (DENR WTMU).

Hindi naman tinukoy ng BOC kung kanino nakapangalan ang mga gagamba.(Gaynor Bonilla)



De Lima calls for suspension of construction activities in Kaliwa Dam project

September 19, 2021 3 min read

By Ernie Reyes

MANILA — Opposition Senator Leila M. de Lima underscored the need to suspend all construction activities on the China-funded Kaliwa Dam project immediately until all the legal prerequisites are met by the implementing agencies and nagging issues settled.

De Lima filed Proposed Senate Resolution (PSR) No. 909 urging the Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System (MWSS) to immediately suspend construction activities in the Kaliwa Dam project following successive reports citing multiple irregularities and violations of procedural guidelines and protocols in its implementation.

“Government remains hell-bent to push forward with the project, despite credible claims that the social, cultural, environmental, and economic costs of the Kaliwa Dam Project outweigh its purported benefits,” she said.

“There is a need to determine once and for all the viability of the Kaliwa Dam Project and the impacts it will have on its primary stakeholders, particularly the local indigenous population,” he added.

This month, the COA, for the third time, flagged the MWSS for proceeding with the implementation of the Kaliwa Dam project without proof of compliance with environmental prerequisites and submission of necessary permits. The said report noted that based on the MWSS’ 2020 report on projects, programs and activities, the detailed engineering and design phase of the dam project was 92.67 percent complete at the end of the year.

“This was despite the MWSS’ failure to show proof that the preconditions set by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) under an environmental compliance certificate issued on 11 October 2019 have been complied with,” De Lima noted.

Notably, issues and controversies have surrounded the project since its inception, with critics pointing out, among others, that it is a “debt trap,” because the loan agreement is said to be unfavorably tilted towards China with its unusually high interest rate, exclusivity to Chinese contractors, and bias for Chinese laws.

The Kaliwa Dam project is expected to provide redundancy of water source and augment supply from Angat Dam and help prevent water shortage problems for the ever-growing population of Metro Manila.



In a report of the Senate Committee on Cultural Communities which held an investigation on the Kaliwa Dam project, it was stated that “laws protecting indigenous peoples’ rights did not comply within the course of implementing the project.”

The lady Senator from Bicol stressed that those who allowed such construction activities to commence in the first place, despite not having secured the necessary prerequisites including the consent of the affected Indigenous Cultural Communities/Indigenous Peoples (ICCs/IPs), must be held accountable under the Indigenous Peoples’ Rights Act of 1997 and other relevant laws.

“With the controversies surrounding the Kaliwa Dam project, there is also a need to explore alternatives to address water security so that we may not only protect the rights of ICCs/IPs to their ancestral lands but also maintain the beauty and biodiversity of our forests and mountainous regions,” she said.

Last year, De Lima filed PSR No. 578 urging Congress to look into the reported deficiencies and other irregularities flagged by the COA, including the failure to obtain the consent of IPs in the construction of the China-funded Kaliwa Dam. (ai/mtvn)

Source: <https://maharlika.tv/2021/09/19/de-lima-calls-for-suspension-of-construction-activities-in-kaliwa-dam-project/?fbclid=IwAR3XHMxldtWy4q8UKM351RUIAz3WsJuYHvNj4mUFIOe91ZSlw03ysi2cqA>



Kaliwa Dam construction, itigil – De Lima



September 19, 2021 @ 4:08 PM 14 hours ago

MANILA, Philippines – Binigyang diin ni Senador Leila De Lima ang pangangailangan sa suspensiyon lahat ng aktibidad ng konstruksiyon sa Kaliwa Daw Project na pinondohan ng China sa lalong madaling panahon hanggang nakamit ang legal na pangangailangan ng implementing agencies at isyung bumabalot sa proyekto.

Sa pahayag, sinabi ni De Lima na nakapaloob ang kahilingan sa Senate Resolution No. 909 na humihiling sa Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System (MWSS) na kaagad suspendihin ang aktibidad matapos sumulpot ang ulat na may ilang iregularidad at paglabag sa procedural guidelines at protocoks sa pagpapatupad nito.

“Government remains hell-bent to push forward with the project, despite credible claims that the social, cultural, environmental, and economic costs of the Kaliwa Dam Project outweigh its purported benefits,” aniya.

“There is a need to determine once and for all the viability of the Kaliwa Dam Project and the impacts it will have on its primary stakeholders, particularly the local indigenous population,” dagdag niya.

Sa buwang iton, ikatlong beses nang pinuna ng COA ang MWSS sa pagpapatuloy ng implementasyon ng Kaliwa Dam Project na pawang walang proof of compliance sa pangangailangan sa kapaligiran at pagsusumite ng kaukulang permiso.

Aniya, pinagbasehan ng report ang MWSS 2020 report sa proyekto, programa at aktibidad, kabilang ang detalyadong engineering at design phase ng dam project na pawang 92.67 porsiyento nang kumpleto sa taong ito.

“This was despite the MWSS’ failure to show proof that the preconditions set by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) under an environmental compliance certificate issued on 11 October 2019 have been complied with,” giit ni De Lima.

Partikulara na tinukoy ni De Lima ang ilang isyu at kontrobersiya na bumabalot sa proyekto sa pagsisimula pa lamang na iginigiit ng ilang kritiko tulad ng “debt trap” dahil paborable ang loan agreement patungo sa China na may hindi makatuwirang interest rates, exclusivity sa Chinese contactors, at bias sa Chinese laws.

“The Kaliwa Dam project is expected to provide redundancy of water source and augment supply from Angat Dam and help prevent water shortage problems for the ever-growing population of Metro Manila,” ayon kay De Lima



Sa report ng Senate Committee on Cultural Communities na nag-imbestiga sa Kaliwa Dam project, inilahad na hindi natugunan sa implementasyon ng proyekto ang batas na nagbibigay proteksiyon sa indigenous peoples' rights.

Ayon kay De Lima, dapat panagutin ang sinumang pumayag sa konstruksiyon sa simula dahil hindi ito nakakuha ng kaukulang pangangailangan tulad ng pagpayag ng apektadong Indigenous Cultural Communities/Indigenous Peoples (ICCs/IPs), sa paglabag sa Indigenous Peoples' Rights Act of 1997 at iba pang mahahalagang batas.

“With the controversies surrounding the Kaliwa Dam project, there is also a need to explore alternatives to address water security so that we may not only protect the rights of ICCs/IPs to their ancestral lands but also maintain the beauty and biodiversity of our forests and mountainous regions,” aniya. Ernie Reyes

Kalibo bishop urges Catholics to oppose casino project in Boracay

ABS-CBN News

Posted at Sep 19 2021 06:38 PM

MANILA - Bishop Jose Corazon Tala-oc of the Diocese of Kalibo on Sunday urged the public to oppose the proposed casino project in Boracay Island.

In a pastoral letter, Tala-oc expressed his opposition to the plan, saying Boracay's role in the country's economy is enough as it is.

"Boracay is God's gift to Aklan and to the whole world. It has become a family destination, a venue for educational advancement and entrepreneurship. It offers a wider avenue for employment, good source of livelihood for our people and revenues for the government. There is so much that Boracay Island can offer because it is already a paradise. But why do we need to put up a gambling casino?" he wrote.

He also called on both the government and the faithful to express their opposition to the plan.

"I also appeal to our leaders in the province not to allow gambling casino that will destroy our cherished island. I also call on all our priests in the Diocese of Kalibo, with our Parish Pastoral Councils, Lay organizations, Movements, Associations and Societies to form discerning groups and say "No to Gambling Casino, No to Gambling in Boracay".

We, Aklanons, have the responsibility to take care and protect Boracay," Tala-oc added.

 **Diocese of Kalibo**
22 hours ago 

A Pastoral Letter of His Excellency Most Rev. Jose Corazon T. Tala-oc, D.D entitled "An Appeal for our People and Boracay".

No to Gambling Casino.
No to Gambling in Boracay.



wider avenue for employment, good source of livelihood for our people and revenues for the government. There is so much that Boracay Island can offer because it is already a paradise.

But why do we need to put up a gambling casino? Gambling is a game of chance which foments a culture contrary to the demands of sound reason. This is contrary to the nature of the human person whose inherent dignity precisely comes from the use of one's intellect and free will. Gambling promotes not only indolence but also dependence, contrary to the work and industry for people to earn their living and contribute to the economic development of their community. Lastly, gambling progressively creates first the habit, then the vice, and ultimately the addiction to the game of chance. This gradual takeover of the human psyche by gambling is a big personal liability that can become no less than a socio-affective disorder. It will slowly weaken and eventually destroy the moral fiber of the people.

We, therefore, strongly declare: **"No to Gambling Casino, No to Gambling in Boracay"**.

I also appeal to our leaders in the province not to allow Gambling Casino that will destroy our cherished island.

👍 179 💬 38 ➦ 692



President Rodrigo Duterte earlier said he will allow a casino to be built in Boracay, reversing his previous stance over the tourist destination because he said the government needed more funds now.



SMC gets go signal for Bulacan water project

By [Jordeene B. Lagare](#) September 20, 2021

[San Miguel Corp.](#) (SMC) has obtained the green light to commence Stage 3 of its [Bulacan Bulk Water Supply Project](#) (BBWSP).

The listed conglomerate, in a statement, said its subsidiary [Luzon Clean Water Development Corp.](#) (LCWDC), signed agreements with the respective water districts in the municipalities of Baliwag, Hagonoy, Norzagaray, Pandi, San Ildefonso, San Miguel and [San Rafael](#).

The Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System (MWSS) approved last month the updated business plan of LCWDC, a consortium of SMC and K-Water Resources Corp.

"We are targeting start of operations by January 2023. With these agreements signed with the seven water districts, and with the MWSS having approved the updated business plan, we can now start preliminary engineering design, and then construction," said SMC President and Chief Executive Officer [Ramon Ang](#).

The BBWSP Stage 3 entails the accelerated stage three system comprised of extension lines to be connected from the existing Stage 1 and 2 systems and construction of pumping station to provide supply to Pandi and Hagonoy, as well as augmentation of the supply to Sta Maria (Stage 2) and Bocaue (Stage 1) water districts.

Another component is the Norzagaray System, which involves the construction of 10 million liters per day (MLD) [Norzagaray Modular Water Treatment Plant](#) inside the MWSS Bigte Compound with pipeline connection to existing waterline to supply the beneficiary barangay (villages) of Norzagaray.

The Angat-Bustos Water Supply System involves building an initial 50 MLD water treatment plant, expandable to 100 MLD, at San Rafael, Bulacan, that will abstract raw water downstream of Bustos Dam, as well as pumping station and around 34 kilometers of primary pipelines.

This will also cover the additional water supply to meet the demand of Stages 1 and 2 Stage 3(c) Additional water supply from Bayabas-Maasim System to meet the demand of Stage 3(a) and the remaining municipalities of Bulacan.

Prior to the approval, MWSS Chairman and OIC Administrator [Reynaldo Velasco](#) said a review committee was created to ensure that the company's future directions and priorities are in consonance with the BBWSP concession agreement.

"We have to ensure that the Updated Business Plan with its strategies benefits the consumers, the people of Bulacan," said Velasco.

Velasco said the MWSS Board of Trustees was concerned with the improvement of quality of life and the assurance of continued water supply even during calamities.

LCWDC started operations of BBWSP Stage 1 and Stage 2 in January 2019 and April 2019, respectively.

The Bulacan Bulk Water Supply Project produces an average volume of 160 MLD for around 165,000 households, and has a maximum capacity of 388 million liters per day.



Since the 1920s, Bulacan has been the backbone of the MWSS water supply as the province hosts the Ipo and Angat Dams but was not benefitting from these until the Luzon Clean Water Development Corp. became the third MWSS concessionaire.

The Bulacan towns already benefitting from BBWSP are Balagtas, Bocaue, Marilao, Meycauayan, Obando and San Jose Del Monte (Stage 1); and Bulakan, Calumpit, Guiguinto, Malolos, Paombong, Paridel and Sta. Maria (Stage 2).



Climate change—A risk that must not be ignored

 **BYREYNALDO A. DE DIOS** SEPTEMBER 20, 2021

Presently the focus of the world is battling the coronavirus pandemic and the disruption it is causing in all aspects of life. Surprisingly, most people are still unaware that climate change or global warming will be more devastating than the Covid-19. This was reported in a United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), stating that the world will not be able to avoid the disastrous impacts of climate change. The report also concluded that humans have caused so much emission of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gasses into the atmosphere.

Human-induced climate change is already affecting many weather and climate extremes in every region across the globe. Examples are the recent record-breaking hurricanes in the United States and the heat waves in Europe. The Panel also predicted that the enormous ice sheets in Greenland and West Antarctica will continue to melt and global sea levels will continue to rise.

The IPCC experts project that in the coming decades, climate changes will increase in all regions and for 1.5°C of global warming, there will be increasing heat waves, longer warm seasons and shorter cold seasons. At 2°C of global warming, heat extremes are more likely to reach critical tolerance thresholds for agriculture and health. But what is even more alarming is its impact on the production of water, which is vital for the farmers.

The series of climate disasters occurring are all the evidence we need to validate the warnings enumerated in the IPCC report, although some scientists deplore the fear mongering on climate change. Nevertheless, unless governments take concerted action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in accordance with the Paris Agreement, the world will have to suffer the consequences.

The private sector should also help and this campaign being done by a number of banks and financial institutions that have refrained from financing the fossil-fuel industry.

On the part of the insurance industry, they have the support of the House of Representatives in requiring environmental insurance coverage for environmentally critical projects in order to protect the country's ecology and natural resources. Deputy Speaker Rodante D. Marcoleta authored the bill. It was approved by the House and forwarded to the Senate, which was then taken up as Senate Bill 2358 sponsored by Senator Bong Go. Under the measure when signed into law, owners and operators of projects that have high potential for significant negative environmental impact are required to secure mandatory environmental insurance to compensate for damages to health and property, environmental rehabilitation, remediation and clean up costs resulting from impairment or damage to resources triggered by the projects.

The author is a risk management consultant and Editor of Insurance Philippines magazine.



'Clean-up in a Bubble' idinaos sa Navotas

September 19, 2021 11 min read

Kaugnay ng pagdiriwang ng International Coastal Clean-up Day, nagsagawa ng "Cleanup in a Bubble" ang lahat ng kawani ng mga barangay sa Navotas partikular na sa karagatan ng lungsod upang mapanatiling malinis at mapreserba ang Manila Bay at mapangalagaan ang karagatan at yamang-dagat.





(Aj Rabulan/BENJAMIN CUARESMA/ai/mtn)

Source: <https://maharlika.tv/2021/09/19/clean-up-in-a-bubble-idinaos-sa-navotas/?fbclid=IwAR2PG8KKnCwobQRD1jcsvqzS1Rs-mtg3q7PFeg0Mlz9zkKxch1yXGw48WoQ>



Face mask, shield nahalukay sa bansa sa World Cleanup Day



September 20, 2021 @ 6:15 AM

MANILA, Philippines – Kung noon ay mga plastik at bote ang karaniwang nakukuha sa mga cleanup drive sa dagat at ilog, ngayon ay may kaugnayan na ito sa COVID-19 pandemic.

Ito ay matapos na makakolekta ng sandamakmak na mga face mask at face shield ang mga lumahok sa World Cleanup Day sa iba't ibang mga dagat at baybayin sa bansa.

Halimbawa na lamang umano ay sa isinagawang coastal cleanup sa Legazpi City, Albay kung saan nakakolekta sila ng nasa 150 kilo ng mga basura, karamihan ay mga COVID-19 protective equipment.

Tambak na face mask din ang nakuha sa isinagawang cleanup drive sa Subic Bay Freeport Zone.

Hindi lamang sa baybayin, kundi mismong sa mga corals na nakita ang iba pang face mask at plastic waste na nadiskubre ng mga divers sa Batangas.

Nagpahayag ng pagkabahala ang mga residente at iba pang environmental advocate dahil tumaas ang mga nakukuhang basura sa mga anyong tubig ngayong pandemic dahil sa mga gamit na face mask, face shield at iba pang COVID protective equipment.

Sa 2021 report ng Our World in Data, 36% ng mga basura sa Asya ay nagmumula sa Pilipinas. **RNT**



Diving instructor Carmela Sevilla holds a mesh bag filled with trash during an underwater cleanup drive in Bauan, Batangas Province, Philippines, September 18, 2021. REUTERS/Peter Blaza

By Peter Blaza

MANILA (Reuters) - Divers in the Philippines pulled plastic bags, drinks bottles and fishing nets from a coral reef on Saturday, joining an annual cleanup that aims to highlight the impact of garbage on the world's oceans.

About a dozen divers cleared rubbish from the reef and nearby beaches as they marked World Cleanup Day in Batangas province, a popular spot for snorkelling and diving south of the capital, Manila.

"For every fishing line or net that you remove, you could actually prevent a turtle from dying or getting caught in it or eating a plastic bag," organiser Carmela Sevilla told Reuters, holding up a mesh bag full of garbage.

The Philippines, an archipelago of more than 7,600 islands with nearly 36,300 km (22,555 miles) of coastline, is one of the world's most marine resource-rich countries.

But campaigners say its marine resources are threatened by the neglect of local authorities and lax implementation of environmental laws.

Another of the clean-up participants, Haley Osbourne, 35, a Canadian who has lived in the Philippines five years, said all divers should do their bit by picking up any rubbish they come across while underwater.

Most of the plastic trash blighting the world's oceans comes from rivers and coastlines.

Of the total, 81% percent is estimated to come from Asia, with a third of the Asian plastic originating in the Philippines, according to a 2021 report by Our World in Data, a scientific online publication.

World Cleanup Day is held annually on the third Saturday of September.

(Reporting by Peter Blaza; Writing by Neil Jerome Morales; Editing by Helen Popper)

Source: <https://dzh.com.ph/post/philippines-divers-clear-plastic-waste-from-corals-for-world-cleanup-day>



- Headline
- Editorial
- Column
- Opinion
- Feature Article



Source: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HjKsY8-wUxc&ab_channel=GMANews

#Nakatutok24Oras

Face masks at face shields, kabilang sa mga basurang nahakot sa dagat | 24 Oras Weekend

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Ang polusyon sa ilog at dagat na delikado sa marine species, lumala ngayong pandemya. Bukod sa mga basurang plastic, marami ring nahahakot na mga face mask at face shield!

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Source: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9dsma0EUwE8&ab_channel=EagleNews

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Int'l Coastal Clean-Up, isinagawa ng iba't-ibang organisasyon sa Navotas City

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Nagkaisa ang iba't ibang organisasyon ang nakipagkaisa sa international coastal clean-up sa lungsod ng Navotas. Ito ay pinangunahan ng PNP Community Affairs Section ng Navotas City sa ilalim ng pamumuno ni PCol Dexter Ollagin katuwang ang mga miyembro ng BJMP Navotas,

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'Tipping point' for climate action

Published 1 day ago on September 19, 2021 12:21 AM

By [TDI](#) @tribuneph1



Photograph courtesy of UN In Seychelles, efforts are undertaken to improve coastal protection from flooding caused by storms and a rise in sea level due to climate change.

The temporary reduction in carbon emissions caused by global Covid-19 lockdowns did not slow the relentless advance of climate change. Greenhouse gas concentrations are at record levels, and the planet is on the path toward dangerous overheating, a multi-agency climate report published on Thursday warns.

According to the landmark United in Science 2021, there “is no sign of growing back greener,” as carbon dioxide emissions are rapidly accelerating, after a temporary blip in 2020 due to Covid, and nowhere close to the targets set by the Paris Agreement.

“We have reached a tipping point on the need for climate action. The disruption to our climate and our planet is already worse than we thought, and it is moving faster than predicted,” UN Secretary-General António Guterres underscored in a video message. “This report shows just how far off course we are,” he added.

According to scientists, the rising global temperatures are already fueling devastating extreme weather events around the world, with escalating impacts on economies and societies.

“We now have five times the number of recorded weather disasters than we had in 1970 and they are seven times more costly. Even the most developed countries have become vulnerable,” the UN chief said.

Guterres cited how hurricane “Ida” recently cut power to over a million people in New Orleans, and New York City was paralyzed by record-breaking rain that killed at least 50 people in the region.

“These events would have been impossible without human-caused climate change. Costly fires, floods and extreme weather events are increasing everywhere. These changes are just the beginning of worse to come,” he warned.

The report echoes some of the data and warnings from experts in the last year: The average global temperature for the past five years was among the highest on record, and there is an increasing likelihood that temperatures will temporarily breach the threshold of 1.5-degrees Celsius above the pre-industrial era in the next five years.

The picture painted by United in Science is bleak: Even with ambitious action to slow greenhouse gas emissions, sea levels will continue to rise and threaten low-lying islands and coastal populations throughout the world.



“We really are out of time. We must act now to prevent further irreversible damage. COP26 this November must mark that turning point. By then we need all countries to commit to achieve net zero emissions by the middle of this century and to present clear, credible long-term strategies to get there,” the UN chief urged.

The 2021 United Nations Climate Change Conference, also known as COP26, is scheduled to be held in the city of Glasgow, Scotland between 31 October and 12 November 2021. The pivotal meeting is expected to set the course of climate action for the next decade.

“We must urgently secure a breakthrough on adaptation and resilience, so that vulnerable communities can manage these growing (climate) risks... I expect all these issues to be addressed and resolved at COP26. Our future is at stake,” Guterres emphasized.

“We are not yet on track toward the Paris 1.5 to 2 degrees’ limit, although positive things have started to happen and the political interest to mitigate climate change is clearly growing, but to be successful in this effort, we have to start acting now. We cannot wait for decades to act, we have to start acting already in this decade,” added Prof. Petteri Taalas, World Meteorological Organization’s secretary general.

The report also cites the conclusions of the most recent Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report: The scale of recent changes across the climate system are unprecedented over many centuries to many thousands of years, and it is unequivocal that human influence has warmed the atmosphere, ocean and land.



Climate change 'di bumagal sa pandemya – UN



September 19, 2021 @ 11:20 AM 19 hours ago

MANILA, Philippines – Kung inaakala ng mga tao na napabagal ng COVID-19 pandemic ang climate change, itinanggi ng United Nations na ganito nga talaga ang nangyayari.

Ayon sa UN hindi napababa ng pandemic ang epekto ng climate change sa mundo at nananatiling malabo pa rin ang tsansa na mapabagal ito.

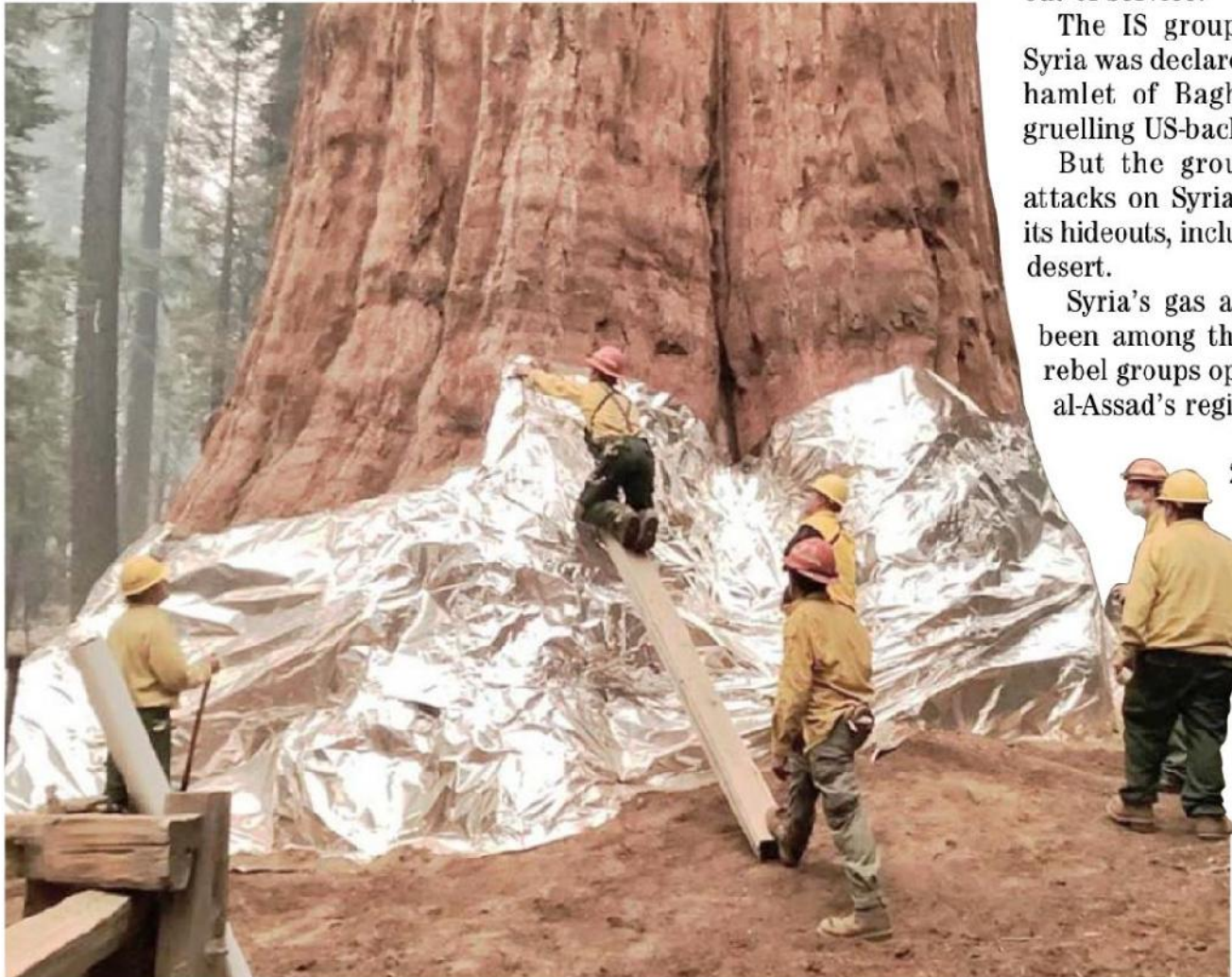
Suporta ng World Meteorological Organization (WMO) hindi sapat ang pagbaba ng CO2 emission o mga usok na nagmumula sa mga sasakyan para mapababa naman ang greenhouse gases na nasa atmosphere ngayon.

“There was some thinking that the COVID lockdowns would have had a positive impact on the atmosphere, which is not the case,” sinabi ni WMO Secretary-General Petteri Taalas.

Dagdag pa ni Taalas, hindi patungo sa tamang direksyon ang ating laban kontra climate change.

Malaki rin umano ang tsansa na hindi maabot ang target sa ilalim ng Paris Agreement na bawasan ang global warming ng 1.5 degrees Celcius.

“Unless there are immediate, rapid and large-scale reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, limiting warming to 1.5C will be impossible, with catastrophic consequences for people and the planet on which we depend,” ani Taalas. **RNT**



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE/AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

WILDLAND firefighters apply structure wrap to giant sequoias on the KNP Complex fire in the Sequoia National Park, California. The wrap aims to protect and save the world's biggest tree from wildfires ravaging the parched United States.

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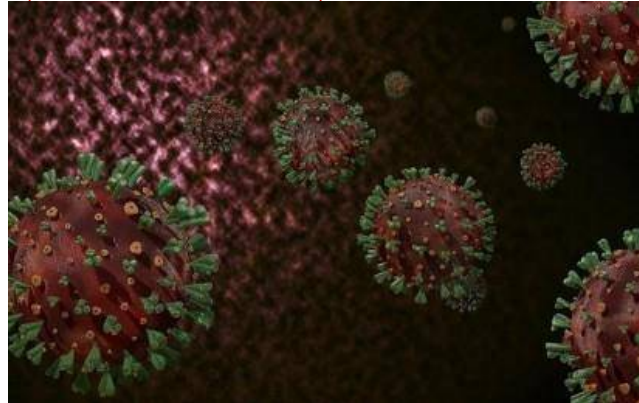
COVID-19 NEWS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



PH Covid-19 recovery tally rises by 25K to 2,151,765

By Ma. Teresa Montemayor September 19, 2021, 5:24 pm



MANILA – The nation's overall tally of recoveries from coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) has reached 2,151,765 as 25,037 new recoveries were recorded on Sunday.

The Department of Health (DOH) said the figure is equivalent to a 90.9-percent recovery rate from a total of 2,366,749 infections since the start of the pandemic last year.

The DOH also tallied 19,271 new confirmed cases, bringing the total number of active cases in the country to 178,196 or 7.5 percent of all cases.

Of the active cases, 92.3 percent are mild, 3.1 percent are asymptomatic, 2.60 percent are moderate, 1.4 percent are severe, and 0.6 percent are in critical condition.

Also logged were 205 new fatalities, raising the death toll to 36,788 or 1.55 percent of the total cases.

The DOH said 72 duplicates were removed from the total case count as 57 of those were actually recoveries.

Meanwhile, 94 cases previously tagged as recoveries were reclassified as deaths after final validation.

According to the DOH data on Sept. 17, about 25.1 percent of 70,571 who were tested turned out positive for Covid-19.

All laboratories were operational that day and two laboratories were not able to submit their data to the Covid-19 Document Repository System.

Based on data in the last 14 days, the two non-reporting labs contribute, on average, 0.7 percent of samples tested and 0.9 percent of positive individuals.

To date, 77 percent of 4,300 intensive care unit beds, 67 percent of 21,000 isolation beds, 72 percent of 15,800 ward beds, and 56 percent of 3,300 ventilators dedicated to patients with Covid-19 are in use nationwide.

In Metro Manila, 77 percent of 1,500 intensive care unit beds, 63 percent of 4,500 isolation beds, 73 percent of 4,400 ward beds, and 61 percent of 1,200 ventilators for Covid-19 patients are in use. **(PNA)**

Source: <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1153986>



19,271 new Covid-19 cases logged

Published 6 hours ago on September 20, 2021 12:12 AM

By [Jom Garner](#)



The Philippines yesterday reported a total of 19,271 new Covid-19 cases, bringing the country's total caseload to 2,366,749.

Based on the latest Department of Health (DoH) case bulletin, the total active cases is now at 178,196, of which 92.3 percent are mild, 3.1 percent are asymptomatic, 1.4 percent are severe, and 0.6 percent are in critical condition.

The country's Covid-19 death toll now stands at 36,788 after 205 new fatalities were recorded.

Meanwhile, the number of those who recovered has risen to 2,151,765 after 25,037 more patients recuperated from the respiratory disease.

Comparing the data from 18 and 19 September, the country's hospitalization rate is still high, ranging from 60 to 77 percent.

The country's occupied intensive care unit (ICU) beds for Covid-19 and isolation beds remain at 77 percent and 67 percent, respectively.

Meanwhile, the occupied ward beds slightly decreased from 73 percent to 72 percent, while mechanical ventilators currently in use also decreased from 57 percent to 56 percent.

In the National Capital Region, ICU beds that are currently in use stand at 77 percent, while occupied isolation beds for Covid-19 remain at 63 percent.

The occupied ward beds slightly decreased from 63 to 62 percent, while mechanical ventilators in use decreased from 62 to 61 percent.

The DoH noted 72 duplicates were removed from the total case count. Of these, 57 are recoveries.

"Moreover, 94 cases that were previously tagged as recoveries were reclassified as deaths after final validation," the agency added.

Source: https://tribune.net.ph/index.php/2021/09/20/19271-new-covid-19-cases-logged/?utm_source=rss&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=19271-new-covid-19-cases-logged



171 Metro Manila areas under granular lockdown

[Neil Jayson Servallos](#) - The Philippine Star September 20, 2021 | 12:00am



A granular lockdown has been enforced in Barangay 123 in Caloocan City starting Friday (September 17, 2021) night due to a surge in COVID-19 cases in the area.

Jesse Bustos

MANILA, Philippines — Over 100 areas in Metro Manila are under granular lockdown after the government started imposing the new COVID-19 alert level system in the region, the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) said yesterday.

In the meantime, the Department of Health (DOH) reported more than 19,000 new cases of COVID-19 yesterday, following three straight days breaching the 20,000-level.

Citing figures from the Philippine National Police (PNP), Interior Secretary Eduardo Año said in a radio interview that 171 “small areas” within several barangays across Metro Manila are under granular lockdown.

PNP spokesman Brig. Gen. Ronaldo Olay said over 244 police personnel have been sent to 93 barangays under lockdown.

The granular system enables local government units to declare lockdowns in limited public spaces and buildings like a house or a specific number thereof, housing compound or a street with high cases of COVID-19.

Metro Manila was placed under Alert Level 4 on Thursday after days of delay, because of an increasing COVID-19 caseload and high hospital utilization rates.

Under Alert Level four, restrictions have been put in place on personal care services, religious gatherings and attending wakes and burials. The curfew has been shortened from 10 p.m. to 4 a.m. and outdoor dining would be permissible at a maximum of 30 percent capacity, while indoor dining would be allowed at 10 percent.

The National Task Force against COVID-19 said over the weekend that the enforcement of Alert Level 4 in the region could be extended for two more weeks after September if it would result in lower COVID-19 infections.

“We received good feedback and the implementation of the alert level system in Metro Manila has been orderly. There have been issues but these were dealt with promptly,” Año said in an interview aired over dzBB.

Over 12,000 health protocol violators were flagged during the first day of the new COVID-19 alert level system in Metro Manila, Olay said, noting how violators were caught violating mask mandates, face shield protocols and mass gatherings.

About 50 percent of the violators were let off with warnings, 44 percent were fined and six percent brought to police stations.



Año said more police would be deployed at night to enforce the curfew.

Meanwhile, based on its case bulletin, the DOH said 19,271 new COVID-19 cases were documented yesterday, after recording 21,261 cases on Sept. 16; 20,366 cases on Sept. 17 and 23,134 on Sept. 18.

The new cases brought to 2,366,749 the total number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in the country. The bulletin showed 205 new deaths, raising the death toll to 36,788.

The DOH added, on the other hand, that there were 25,037 COVID-19 patients who recovered. This brings the number of survivors to 2,151,765.

There were 178,196 active cases, and they account for 7.5 percent of the overall tally.

The bulletin further showed that in Metro Manila, 77 percent of 1,500 ICU beds for COVID-19 patients are already occupied, while 63 percent of 4,500 isolation beds are being utilized.

Seventy three percent of 4,400 ward beds were occupied, while 61 percent of 1,200 ventilators were in use. – **Sheila Crisostomo**



Alert Level 4 sa Metro Manila posibleng palawigin

By [Mer Layson](#), [Danilo Garcia](#) (Pilipino Star Ngayon) - September 20, 2021 - 12:00am



Sinabi ni National Task Force (NTF) against COVID-19 spokesperson Restituto Padilla na magdi-depende pa rin ito sa magiging epekto ng 'granular lockdowns' sa bagong kaso ng COVID-19 at sa pag-angat ng estado ng mga negosyo.
The STAR / Boy Santos

MANILA, Philippines — Malaki ang posibilidad na humaba pa ng dalawang linggo ang ipinatutupad na COVID-19 Alert Level 4 sa National Capital Region (NCR) mula sa orihinal na pagtatapos nito sa katapusan ng Setyembre.

Sinabi ni National Task Force (NTF) against COVID-19 spokesperson Restituto Padilla na magdi-depende pa rin ito sa magiging epekto ng 'granular lockdowns' sa bagong kaso ng COVID-19 at sa pag-angat ng estado ng mga negosyo.

Ang Kalakhang Maynila ay nasa ilalim ng Alert Level 4, ikalawang pinakamataas na alert level, sa ilalim ng bagong General Community Quarantine, dahil mataas o tumataas ang case counts at tumataas ang utilization rates ng kabuuang COVID-19 beds at intensive care beds.

Bukod sa Metro Manila, may posibilidad rin na ipatupad ito sa iba pang rehiyon kung magiging positibo ang kahihinatnan ng resulta.

"Titingnan natin. Kung nakikitang maganda ang magiging resulta, maaaring magkaroon ng pagpapatupad nito sa malawakan," saad ni Padilla.

Susuriin ang resulta ng Alert Level 4 matapos ang unang linggo ng implementasyon nito.

Source: <https://www.philstar.com/pilipino-star-ngayon/metro/2021/09/20/2128312/alert-level-4-sa-metro-manila-posibleng-palawigin/amp/>



PH thanks Russia for delivery of 190K Sputnik V 2 jabs

By Ferdinand Patinio September 19, 2021, 11:19 am



COMPONENT 2. Personnel of the Bureau of Customs inspect the boxes containing the 190,000 doses of Component 2 of Sputnik V Covid-19 vaccine that arrived at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport Terminal 3 in Pasay City on Saturday night (Sept. 18, 2021). Vaccine czar Secretary Carlito Galvez Jr. said the new shipment will be distributed in areas where residents have already received their first dose or Component 1 of Sputnik V vaccine. *(PNA photo by Avito C. Dalan)*

MANILA – National Task Force Against Covid-19 (NTF) chief implementer Secretary Carlito Galvez Jr. thanked Russian Direct Investment Fund for fulfilling its promise to deliver the 190,000 doses of Sputnik V's Component 2 vaccine against Covid-19.

“We are apologizing for the delay of this Component 2 considering that we have some supply issues and as promised by Russian Direct Investment Fund that this will be delivered today, and I'm very thankful that they fulfilled their promise,” Galvez told the media during the arrival of the Sputnik V jabs at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA) Terminal 3 in Pasay City Saturday night.

Galvez said the additional Component 2 of the Sputnik V Covid-19 jab will be allocated in areas, including Metro Manila, whose residents have already received the first dose or Component 1 of the Russian vaccine.

“These vaccines will be distributed in all areas like Bohol, I believe, we have given them 4,000 (Component 1), Isabela area, Bacoor, here in Metro Manila and, some other areas in Regions 3 and 4-A. So those who have not received Component number 2 yet. All of them will be given, we're already breathing a little easier,” he said.

He said the government is working on the possible acquisition of more supply of single dose Sputnik V Light Covid-19 vaccine.

“We are pushing for Sputnik light already because it has its advantage. If we will get 9 million of that then 9 million Filipinos will be benefitted, it's like Johnson & Johnson, single dose,” he said.

Last Friday, Galvez said the Philippines is expected to receive the first batch of the government-procured 1 million doses of the Sputnik Light Covid-19 vaccine within this month.

The Food and Drug Administration approved in August the emergency use authorization of Sputnik Light from Russia.

Russian Ambassador to the Philippines Marat Pavlov confirmed that they are already considering the delivery of huge number of Sputnik Light doses to the Philippines.



“190,000 doses of Component 2 of Sputnik have just been arrived and I think it’s a good step to our collaboration. We’ll continue with other types of vaccines maybe Sputnik Light. We are discussing to send a huge amount to the Philippines,” he said.

The country has so far received a total of nearly 60 million vaccine doses from various manufacturers, including over 36 million doses procured by the government.

As of Saturday, Galvez said 22.7 million Filipinos have already received their first dose of Covid-19 vaccine while some 18.3 million are now fully vaccinated.

“The number of Filipinos that are fully vaccinated is very high. We are at 18.3 million and we want to finish 20 million by the end of the month,” he said.

A total of 961,000 doses of Moderna vaccine also arrived on board China Airlines flight CI 703 at the NAIA Terminal 1 on Saturday afternoon.

Of the number, 712,800 doses are for the Philippine government and 248,200 doses were acquired by International Container Terminal Services, Inc. (ICTSI). **(PNA)**

3-M newly-produced Sinovac doses arrive in PH

September 19, 2021



A crate containing Sinovac vaccines is set to be loaded into a refrigerated truck at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport Terminal 2 on Sept. 19, 2021. (Screenshot from PTV live feed)

The Philippines received an additional three million doses of government-procured Sinovac COVID-19 vaccines on Sunday, Sept. 19.

The Chinese-manufactured vaccines landed at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA) Terminal 2 at around 6:00 PM.

According to the National Task Force (NTF) Against COVID-19 Chief Implementer Secretary Carlito Galvez, the new batch of vaccines has yet to receive its Certificate of Analysis (COA) as they are “newly-produced” vaccines.

Also, another 2,020,590 doses of Pfizer COVID-19 vaccines from the COVAX Facility are expected to arrive at NAIA Terminal 3 on Sunday around midnight.

Galvez further added that about 20 million individuals here may be fully vaccinated by the end of September.

Meanwhile, data from the latest COVID-19 Vaccine Inventory released on Saturday (Sept. 18) showed that the country has already received a total of 59,359,810 COVID-19 vaccine doses. –

Report from Rod Lagusad / CF – bny



Jabs for 12-17: DOH needs parents' consent

posted September 20, 2021 at 01:00 am

by [Macon Ramos-Araneta and Rio N. Araja](#)

The government could start vaccinating minors aged 12 to 17 against COVID-19 by October, a Health official said Sunday.

In an interview with radio dzBB, Health Undersecretary Myrna Cabotaje said the government's panel of experts has approved COVID-19 jabs for this age group but has yet to determine when these inoculations should start.

She said policies and guidelines were being set and said those with comorbidities should be given priority.

Cabotaje said the consent of the parents and the children would be needed before the jabs are administered.

The Philippines has administered 41,247,552 doses of COVID-19 vaccines nationwide as of Sept. 18, the National Task Force Against COVID-19 (NTF) reported on Sunday.

Based on the National COVID-19 vaccination dashboard data, 22,771,602 Filipinos have received the first dose while 18,475,950 are now fully protected against the dreaded disease.

The average daily doses administered in the last seven days stood at 374,612 doses.

The Philippine National Police (PNP), meanwhile, has offered its camps and other facilities as vaccination sites for minor dependents of its uniformed and civilian personnel.

PNP chief Gen. Guillermo Eleazar said he directed Administrative Support for COVID-19 Task Force head Lt. Gen. Joselito Vera Cruz to begin the listing of the PNP personnel's minor dependents.

Based on the PNP-Administrative Support for Covid-19 Task Force data, more than 131,000 PNP personnel have already been fully vaccinated while more than 80,000 others have already received their first dose.

Eleazar said they intend to vaccinate the entire 222,711 PNP personnel before the end of this year as only 1,554 of them have yet to receive their first dose of a COVID-19 vaccine.

He said using police camps and other facilities at least for children and other dependents of the PNP personnel would help decongest the vaccination sites of the local government units once the vaccination of people 12 to 17 years old starts.

On Saturday, the country received 961,000 doses of the Moderna vaccine and 190,000 Sputnik V jabs.

With the latest shipment, Moderna has now shipped 5 million doses of its vaccine to the Philippines.

Of the new doses, 712,800 will go to the national government and 248,000 will go to the private sector, Cabotaje said.

Ted Herbosa, special adviser to the National Task Force Against COVID-19, said most of the jabs will be allocated to Central Luzon, Calabarzon, Cebu, and some portions of the Visayas and Mindanao.

He also said a small portion of Moderna will be allocated to Metro Manila residents who will receive their second jabs of the Moderna vaccine.

The delivery is part of the 2 million expected Moderna vaccine arrivals this month.

At the same time, Cabotaje said those who had received their first jab of Sputnik V could still get the second dose, despite the delay in its arrival.

She said unlike other COVID-19 vaccine brands, Russia's Gamaleya Institute uses different components for its first and second doses.

Vaccine czar Carlito Galvez said the Component 2 Sputnik vaccines will be distributed in areas where the first doses were first delivered, particularly in Bohol, Isabela and Bacoor, the National Capital Region and some areas in Region 3 and Region 4-A.

Cabotaje said they are also seeking an increase in supply of the one-dose Johnson & Johnson vaccine from the COVAX facility because senior citizens, the most vulnerable group, prefer the jab.

She added that the J&J shots are also better suited for some Muslim communities that are "nomadic in nature."

"Badjaos might not be tracked again for a second dose because they are always moving from place to place," she said.

Galvez thanked the Russian Direct Investment Fund for fulfilling its promise to deliver the 190,000 doses of Sputnik V's Component 2 vaccine against COVID-19.

"We are apologizing for the delay of this Component 2 considering that we have some supply issues and as promised by Russian Direct Investment Fund that this will be delivered today, and I'm very thankful that they fulfilled their promise," Galvez said during the arrival of the Sputnik V jabs at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA) Terminal 3 in Pasay City Saturday night.

Also on Sunday, Senior Citizen party-list Rep. Rodolfo Ordanes said he favored booster shots for those at high risk and most vulnerable among the A1, A2, and A3 groups.

"I am in favor of giving COVID booster shots but initially only to those who are most vulnerable because of advanced age (65 years or older), comorbidities, including children and teens with serious medical vulnerabilities, and of course our heroic health-care frontliners in high-risk direct exposure in hospitals, isolation facilities, and temporary care facilities," he said in a statement.

Meanwhile, Manila Mayor Francisco "Isko Moreno" Domagoso appealed to the public against attempts to get "booster shots" in the city's vaccination sites.

Domagoso and Vice Mayor Honey Lacuna, who were both earlier tested positive for COVID-19, said this would amount to depriving others of the much-needed protection from the coronavirus.

Domagoso said booster shots are still not allowed, in fact, he said the country is still preparing to vaccinate the minors, or those aged 12 to 17.



#OneDENR

**Covid-19
Situation and Response**



DOH COVID-19 CASE BULLETIN # 554

SETYEMBRE 19, 2021

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

PORSYENTO NG AKTIBONG KASO

7.5%

TOTAL NG AKTIBONG KASO
178,196

PORSYENTO NG GUMALING

90.9%

TOTAL NG GUMALING
2,151,765

PORSYENTO NG NAMATAY

1.55%

TOTAL NG NAMATAY
36,788

MGA BAGONG KASO **19,271**

MGA BAGONG GUMALING **25,037**

MGA BAGONG NAMATAY **205**

KABUANG BILANG NG KASO **2,366,749**

MGA NAGPOSITIBO HULING SETYEMBRE 17

DATOS NGAYONG SETYEMBRE 19
AYON SA REPORTS NOONG SETYEMBRE 17

25.1%

PORSYENTO NG MGA
NAGPOSITIBO

70,571

BILANG NG
TINVEST

HALOS
95.4%
ANG MILD AT
ASYMPTOMATIC
NA KASO!



KABUANG PILIPINAS PUNO NA BA ANG ATING MGA OSPITAL?

ICU BEDS (4.3K TOTAL BEDS)	77% Utilized
ISOLATION BEDS (21.0K TOTAL BEDS)	67% Utilized
WARD BEDS (15.8K TOTAL BEDS)	72% Utilized
VENTILATORS (3.3K TOTAL VENTILATORS)	56% Utilized

NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION PUNO NA BA ANG ATING MGA OSPITAL?

ICU BEDS (1.5K TOTAL BEDS)	77% Utilized
ISOLATION BEDS (4.5K TOTAL BEDS)	63% Utilized
WARD BEDS (4.4K TOTAL BEDS)	73% Utilized
VENTILATORS (1.2K TOTAL VENTILATORS)	61% Utilized

KALAGAYAN NG MGA AKTIBONG KASO

Mild	92.3%
Asymptomatic	3.1%
Critical	0.6%
Severe	1.4%
Moderate	2.60%



UPDATE AND MESSAGE OF THE DAY

Adhikain nating lahat ang malampasang ligtas ang pandemyang COVID-19, at tungo dito, ang ating **Minimum Public Health Standards** ang pangunahing kasangga para sa ating kaligtasan. Katambal nito ang pagiging alisto sa mga sintomas, at ang agad na pakikipag-ugnayan sa ating **BHERTS** o **One COVID Referral Center** upang protektahan ang ating mga tahanan. Maabot 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



Manatiling ligtas!

I-download ang StaySafe App

O Gamiting ang WEBAPP

at pumunta sa Staysafe.ph

MAYROON PANG KATANUNGAN? SUMANGGUNI LAMANG SA SUMUSUNOD:

OfficialDOHgov

@DOHgovph

doh.gov.ph

(02) 894-COVID / 1555

20 SEPTEMBER 2021, MONDAY



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
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



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



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