

26 JULY 2021, MONDAY



DENR

NEWS ALERTS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



Water code, local ordinance sa Manila Bay ipatupad-Cimatu



July 25, 2021 @ 4:43 PM 14 hours ago

MANILA, Philippines – Upang maiwasang magkaroon ng polusyon ang water resources ng bansa kasabay ng pagbibigay ng seguridad sa kabuhayan ng fisherfolk communities nanawagan si Environment and Natural Resources Secretary Roy A. Cimatu sa mga opisyal ng lokal na pamahalaan sa loob ng Manila Bay region na tiyaking naipatutupad ng maayos ang Philippine Water Code at lokal na polisiya at ordinansa.

Sa press release ang pahayag na ito ni Cimatu ay inilabas matapos makita na may mga fish cages at bahay ang itinayo sa municipal waters ng Cavite na bahagi ng Manila Bay sa ginanap nito na pagbisita sa probinsiya noong Hulyo 16.

“The municipal waters are being managed by the mayor. If there are fish cages, these should have permits. Without a permit from the mayor, these are unauthorized,” pahayag ni Cimatu.

“If these fish cages are regulated, it will avoid bamboo poles from being swept to the baywalk in Manila especially during the habagat or southwest monsoon, and during the typhoon season,” dagdag pa nito.

Ang bamboo poles ay kabilang sa mga basura na inaanod at tinatangay sa shoreline ng Manila Bay.

Ayon kay Cimatu, ang mataas na coliform level sa municipal waters ay maaring nagmula sa makeshift houses na itinayo kahilera ng fish cages.

“The caretakers of the fish pens live there, thus it is possible that because of inadequate or non-availability of sanitation facilities, coliform level has exceeded the standard value,” anang Cimatu.

“While we would like to encourage their livelihood, it should not be at the expense of destroying the environment,” dagdag nito.

Kaugnay nito binigyang-diin ni Cimatu na ang mga local chief executives ay kinakailangang sumunod sa Republic Act 9275 o ang Philippine Clean Water Act of 2004 at RA 9003 o ang Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000 at kung hindi ay maari silang patawan ng suspensiyon.

“At least now, many LGUs are complying. Still, the government can file cases if needed,” sabi nito.



Umaasa din ang DENR chief na ang Manila Bay rehabilitation ay matatapos sa pagitan ng anim hanggang pitong taon ngunit ang cleanup ng bahagi ng Metro Manila ay magagawa sa katapusan ng 2021 o sa nalalabing anim na buwan ng 2022.

“We also have to deal with the informal settlers. They have to be resettled otherwise we cannot completely clean Manila Bay,” dagdag nito.

Ang Manila Bay region ay kinabibilangan ng apat na coastal provinces kabilang na dito ang Bataan, Bulacan, Cavite at Pampanga.

“What we cannot finish will be there in the plan. That is what the next administration, regardless of affiliation, must continue because it is in the continuing mandamus ordered by the Supreme Court,” pahayag ni Cimatú. **Santi Celario**



DENR asks Manila Bay LGUs to regulate fish pens, cages

BY JONATHAN L. MAYUGA JULY 26, 2021

ENVIRONMENT and Natural Resources Secretary Roy A. Cimatu on Sunday appealed to concerned local government units (LGUs) particularly in the Manila Bay region to strictly enforce environmental laws, particularly the Philippine Water Code to prevent water pollution while helping secure the livelihood of fishing communities.

The Manila Bay region consists of four coastal provinces, namely Bataan, Bulacan, Cavite, and Pampanga. Many fishing communities in coastal towns in Cavite, Bataan and Bulacan are known for raising tilapia and milkfish as well as farming mussel and oysters.

Cimatu said the proper implementation of the Philippine Water Code and local policies and ordinances is needed to protect and conserve the country's water resources, while helping secure the livelihood of families relying on fishing.

The chief of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), head of Task Force Build Back Better and the interagency Manila Bay Task Force came upon fish cages and makeshift houses built on the municipal waters of Cavite, which is part of the Manila Bay, during a visit to the province on July 16.

"The municipal waters are being managed by the mayor. If there are fish cages, these should have permits. Without a permit from the mayor, these are unauthorized," Cimatu said.

"If these fish cages are regulated, it will avoid bamboo poles from being swept to the Baywalk in Manila especially during the habagat or southwest monsoon, and during the typhoon season," he added.

The DENR chief noted that bamboo poles are among the trash that swept and washed up to the shoreline of Manila Bay.

Cimatu said the high coliform level in the municipal waters can also be traced to the makeshift houses built next to the fish cages.

"The caretakers of the fish pens live there, thus it is possible that because of inadequate or non-availability of sanitation facilities, the coliform level has exceeded the standard value," Cimatu said.

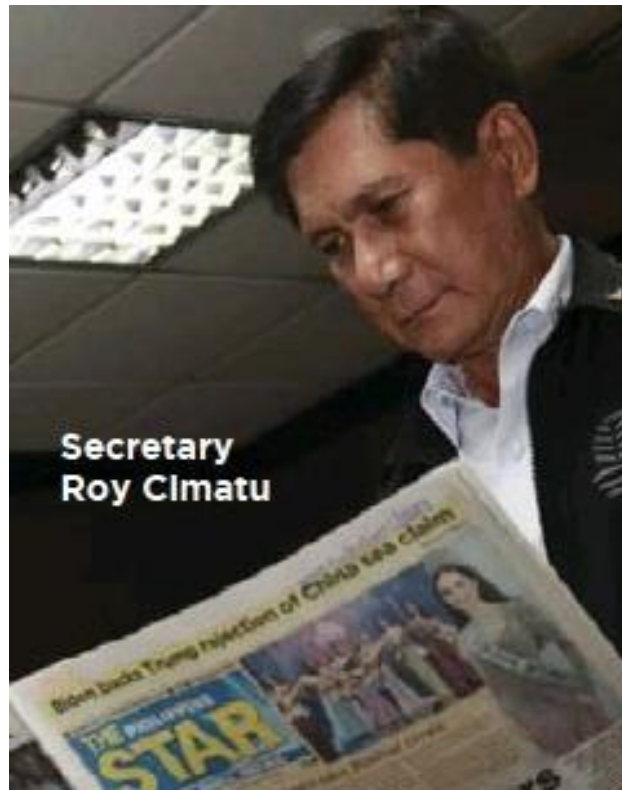
"While we would like to encourage their livelihood, it should not be at the expense of destroying the environment," he added.

Cimatu also emphasized that the local chief executives should abide by Republic Act (RA) 9275 or the Philippine Clean Water Act of 2004 and RA 9003 or the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000, or face suspension.

"At least now, many LGUs are complying. Still, the government can file cases if needed," he said.

The DENR chief remains hopeful that the Manila Bay rehabilitation will be finished in six or seven years but the cleanup in the portion of Metro Manila can be accomplished by the end of 2021 or in the remaining six months of 2022.

Source: <https://businessmirror.com.ph/2021/07/26/denr-asks-manila-bay-lgus-to-regulate-fish-pens-cages/>



Secretary
Roy Cimatu

Secretary Roy Cimatu

Roy Cimatu

“I read The Philippine STAR because it is very comprehensive and truthful. I read it ahead of other newspapers. Nandiyan na kasi lahat kaya binabasa ko from the first page up to the last page.”



DENR leads planting of 1K mangrove species in observance of National Disaster Resilience Month

July 25, 2021 14 min read

By Rjhay E. Laurea

(PHOTO: Department of Environment and Natural Resources [DENR] Undersecretary for Solid Waste Management and Local Government Units Concerns and Supervising Undersecretary for Strategic Communication and Initiatives Service [SCIS] Benny D. Antiporda [5th from left] and SCIS Director Hiro V. Masuda [extreme left] joined representatives of partner organizations after they were awarded Certificates of Recognition by Usec Antiporda in appreciation of their support in various DENR activities. The awarding ceremony was held after the mangrove planting activity in Brgy. Consuelo, Macabebe, Pampanga on July 17, 2021. The awardees were [L-R]: Easy Swim Philippine Life Saving, Inc. director Carlito San Pedro, Lions Club Multiple District 301 Philippines council chairperson Rosario “Cherry” Meneses, Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Officer-Pampanga Laudemir Salac, Macabebe, Pampanga councilor Bembong Balgan, National Bicycle Organization director Benedict Camara, and Manila Standard circulation manager Edgar Valmorida).

MANILA — The Department of Environment and Natural Resources has spearheaded the planting of some 1,000 mangrove trees in Macabebe, Pampanga recently to mark this year’s observance of the National Disaster Resilience Month.

Through the Strategic Communication and Initiatives Service (SCIS), the DENR led a total of 130 participants from the following associations: Lions Clubs Org., Easy Swim Philippine Live Savings, Inc., Manila Standard, and Barangay Consuelo, in planting the two variants of mangrove, the Philippine Rhizophora — a genus of tropical mangrove trees.

The Philippine Rhizophora species used in the planting activity consisted of bakauan-lalaki (*Rhizophora apiculata* Blume) and bakauan-babae (*Rhizophora mucronata* Lamarck). The two kinds of this variant.



DENR Undersecretary for Solid Waste Management and Local Government Units Concerns Benny D. Antiporda, alongside other DENR officials, encouraged the participants to avoid the word “compliance.” And then reminded them to serve the people without expecting something in return.

“The word ‘compliance’ is only for people who are expecting something in return after what they have done,” Antiporda said.

He emphasized that Filipinos “need not wait for the government to solve the problem, but to act on the problem and save the next generation.”

“If we don’t act on it, five years later might be too late for the next generation,” he added.

According to Antiporda, the planting of mangrove trees in Macabebe town is relevant in observing the National Disaster Resilience Month. He also cited that because Mangrove trees help, the towns and provinces will be resilient from natural disasters.

Pampanga Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Officer (PENRO) Laudemir Salac announced that they have chosen a mangrove planting site. It was the epicenter of the Manila Bay Rehabilitation Program in Region 3.

“With the daily cleanup activities that we conducted in this area, we were able to bring down the coliform level from 14,000 to 14 most probable number (MPN) per 100 milliliters,” Salac said.

The standard coliform level for coastal waters to be classified as Class SB is 100 MPN/100 ml, which means it is suitable for swimming, skin diving, and other recreational activities.

The National Disaster Resilience Month is being observed every July of each year by virtue of Executive Order 29 which was signed in 2017.

Its purpose was to emphasize the importance of disaster risk reduction management and the necessity to understand the risk during a disaster, enhancing the preparedness of the community during a disaster, strengthening the governance risk, and investing in disaster risk reduction.

With them, “Tamang Pamamahala’t Kahandaan, Kaalaman at Pagtutulongan sa Sakuna at Pandemya’y Kalasag ng Bayan,” this year’s celebration aims to emphasize the important role of risk governance during a disaster and the collaboration of all the Filipino citizens to overcome the challenges of this pandemic. And to build a green, resilient and normal community. (AI/MTVN)



DENR NANGUNA SA PAGTANIM NG 1K MANGROVE SPECIES SA NAT'L DISASTER RESILIENCE MONTH

PINANGUNAHAN ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) ang pagtatanim ng 1,000 mangrove trees kamakailan sa Macabebe, Pampanga bilang bahagi ng selebrasyon ng National Disaster Resilience Month.

Sa pamamagitan ng Strategic Communication and Initiatives Service (SCID), nanguna ang DENR sa 130 participants mula sa Lions Club International District 301-D2, National Bicycle Organization, Easy Swim Philippine Life Savings, Inc., Manila Standard at Barangay Consuelo, sa pagta-

tanim ng dalawang variant ng Philippine Rhizophora, na isang klase ng tropical mangrove trees.

Ang Philippine Rhizophora species na ginamit sa planting activity ay kinabibilangan ng bakauan-lalaki (Rhizophora apiculata Blume) at bakauan-babae (Rhizophora mucronata Lamarck).

Hinikayat ni DENR Undersecretary for Solid Waste Management and Local Government Units Concerns at Supervising Undersecretary ng SCIS Benny D. Antiporda ang mga lumahok na iwasan ang salitang "compliance" at nagpaalala pa ito na "to

serve without expecting anything in return."

"The word compliance is only for people who are expecting something in return after what they have done," pahayag ni Usec. Antiporda.

Binigyang-diin pa ni Usec. Antiporda na ang mga Filipino "need not wait for the government to solve the problem, but to act on the problem and save the next generation."

"If we don't act on it, five years later might be too late for the next generation," aniya.

Sinabi naman ni Pampanga Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Officer Laudemir

Salac na ang napiling mangrove planting site ay ang epicenter ng Manila Bay Rehabilitation Program sa Region 3.

Ang National Disaster Resilience Month ay ipinagdiriwang tuwing Hulyo ng bawat taon base na rin sa Executive Order 29 na nilagdaan noong 2017 na layuning "to emphasize the importance of disaster risk reduction management and the need to understand disaster risk, enhancing community disaster preparedness, strengthening risk governance, and investing in disaster risk reduction." **BENEDICT ABAYGAR, JR.**



NAUHAW rin ang alagang aso ni Mang Romy Agustin kaya pinainom nito ang kanyang tirang tubig sa Pasig City. Isa lamang si Mang Romy sa mga street dweller na umaasa lamang sa kaunting kita sa pangangalakal. **SCA**



1,000 mangroves planted in Pampanga to mark disaster resilience month

Alexandria Dennise San Juan July 24, 2021

Some 1,000 mangrove trees were planted by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) in Macabebe, Pampanga to mark this year's observance of the National Disaster Resilience Month.



(Photo from DENR Undersecretary Benny Antiporda Facebook Page)

DENR Undersecretary Benny D. Antiporda explained that the event is relevant to the observance of the disaster resilience month as mangrove trees “help towns and provinces to be resilient from natural disasters.”

The DENR, through the Strategic Communication and Initiatives Service (SCIS), led a total of 130 participants from Lions Clubs International District 301-D2, National Bicycle Organization, Easy Swim Philippine Life Savings, Inc., Manila Standard, and Barangay Consuelo in the planting of two variants of Philippine *Rhizophora*—a genus of tropical mangrove trees.

The species used in the planting activity were “bakauan-lalaki” or the *Rhizophora apiculata* Blume, and “bakauan-babae” or the *Rhizophora mucronata* Lamarck.

Antiporda, who is also the supervising undersecretary for SCIS, encouraged participants to avoid the word compliance and reminded them to serve without expecting anything in return.

“[We] need not wait for the government to solve the problem, but to act on the problem and save the next generation. If we don't act on it, five years later might be too late for the next generation,” he added.



For his part, Pampanga Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Officer Laudemir Salac said the mangrove planting site that was chosen is the epicenter of the Manila Bay Rehabilitation Program in Region 3.

“With the daily cleanup activities that we conducted in this area, we were able to bring down the coliform level from 14,000 to 14 most probable number (MPN) per 100 milliliters,” Salac said.

The standard coliform level for coastal waters to be classified as Class SB is 100 MPN/100 ml, which means it is suitable for swimming, skin diving, and other recreational activities.



The National Disaster Resilience Month is observed every July of each year by virtue of Executive Order 29 signed in 2017 to emphasize the importance of disaster risk reduction management and the need to understand disaster risk, enhancing community disaster preparedness, strengthening risk governance, and investing in disaster risk reduction.



 **DENR Undersecretary Benny Antiporda**
last Monday 

In observance of National Disaster Resilience Month, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Strategic Alliance and Environmental Partnership Division (SAEPD), in partnership with PENRO Region III-Pampanga, conducted a mangrove tree planting activity at Brgy. Consuelo, Macabebe, Pampanga last July 17.

DENR Undersecretary for Solid Waste Management and Local Government Units (LGUs) Concerns and Supervising Undersecretary of Strategic Communication and Initi... See More

DENR Undersecretary Benny Antiporda
Public & Government Service

With the theme, “Tamang Pamamahala’t Kahandaan, Kaalaman at Pagtutulungan sa Sakuna at Pandemya’y Kalasag ng Bayan,” this year’s celebration aims to emphasize the important role of disaster risk governance and the collaboration of all Filipinos to overcome the challenges of this pandemic and to build a green and resilient normal.



#SerbisyongBayanihan #UNTVNewsandRescue

Basura sa Manila Bay dolomite sand mula sa fish pens at ilog sa Cavite – DENR

34,715 views • Jul 22, 2021

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Ayon sa Department of Environment and Natural Resources, ang trak-trak ng sari-saring basura sa Manila Bay dolomite sand ay galing sa mga fish pen at ilog sa Cavite.

SHOW MORE

Source:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oyi4yk4W4Nc&ab_channel=UNTVNewsandRescue



Mga basura na kumalat sa Manila Bay dolomite sand nanggagaling sa ibang lugar – DENR

By **Bombo Jovino Galang**

-July 23, 2021 | 5:30 AM

Sinisi ni Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Secretary Roy Cimatu ang publiko dahil sa pagkalat ng mga basura na inanod sa Manila Bay.

Ang nasabing mga basura aniya ay siyang nakasira sa dolomite project ng DENR sa Manila Bay.

Sinabi ng kalihim na karamihang mga nahakot na basura sa Manila Bay ay galing sa ibang mga lugar.

Nakipag-ugnayan na ito sa mga iba't-ibang local government units na magpatupad ng mas mabigat na multa sa mga maaarestong magkakalat sa kanilang lugar.

Nakatakda rin silang maglunsad ng proyekto tungkol sa tamang pagtatapon ng basura at patuloy din ang kanilang gagawing mga clean up drives.



Daily Tribune

18h · 🌐

...

Watch: Members of Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) and Manila Department of Public Services (DPS) conduct cleanup operation at Manila Bay dolomite sand.

Video by: Joey Mendoza



👍 😄 98

21 Comments 4 Shares



PHOTOGRAPH BY JOEY SANCHEZ MENDOZA FOR THE DAILY TRIBUNE



DESPITE the rains, workers clean up the dolomite sands area of Manila Bay to keep its pristine look.



News5 15h · 🌐

Nagtulong-tulong ang mga kawani ng Manila DPOS sa paglilinis ng dolomite beach sa kahabaan ng Roxas Boulevard sa Maynila kaninang umaga.

Halos natambakan kasi ng mga basura ang ilang bahagi ng kontrobersyal na beach strip bunsod ng walang humpay na ulan simula pa kahapon.



👍 🤔 🗑️ Miguel Cortez and 8.9K others

3.2K Comments 230 Shares



Another day of cleaning up

ABS-CBN News

Posted at Jul 25 2021 02:57 PM



Workers from the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority, City of Manila Department of Public Safety, and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources collect trash washed up at the Manila Bay dolomite beach adjacent the US embassy along Roxas Boulevard in Manila on Sunday. Hundreds of sacks of trash have been collected in the area brought by strong winds and heavy waves as southwest monsoon continue to affect the country.

Source: https://news.abs-cbn.com/news/multimedia/photo/07/25/21/debris-clean-up-manila-bay-dolomite?fbclid=IwAR0p7lA4faQnxa_h6BiXWPVsgUDPAf9ntqEziFtFq9Zi-O8kzTO6W-W6n4Q



Dirtied dolomite

posted July 25, 2021 at 11:19 pm


by [Danny Pata](#)



Maintenance men belonging to an interagency group collect trash that were washed ashore in the Dolomite Beach near the US embassy in Roxas Boulevard in Manila on Sunday, July 25, 2021, days after relentless downpour induced by Typhoon Fabian. The government prohibits people from gathering or collecting dolomite sands and pebbles in the area.



- Headline
- Editorial
- Column
- Opinion
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 The Manila Times ✓
11h · 

People collect items that they can use or recycle from trash washed up in Manila Bay on Sunday.
PHOTOS BY J. GERARD SEGUIA



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PERA NG BAYAN INANOD KASAMA NG 'WHITE SAND'

8 hours ago [jake](#)



(FERNAN ANGELES)

HINDI umubra ang ipinagmamalaking “engineering interventions” sa patuloy at paulit-ulit na pagkaubos ng pinulbos na dolomite rocks na ginamit ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) sa layuning magmukhang Boracay ang isang bahagi ng Manila Bay sa kahabaan ng Roxas Boulevard sa Maynila.

Sa larawang naglabasan sa social media, lumalabas na muling tinangay ng malalakas na alon pabalik sa laot ang mga artificial sand na isinaboy ng DENR sa maliit na bahagi ng Manila Bay.

Sa nasabing proyektong patuloy na umaani ng batikos, gumastos na ang pamahalaan ng hindi bababa sa P654 milyon para sa Phase I and Phase 2 nito – hindi pa kasali ang mga halagang pinangtustos para sa pagsasaayos ng nasabing proyekto sa tuwing aanurin ito patungo sa laot.

At sa pananalasa ng bagyong Fabian na sinabayan pa ng Habagat, inaasahang muling kakailanganin ang panibagong pondo para “hindi masayang” ang P654 milyon na una nang ginastos dito.

Flagship Project

Ang kontrobersiyal na Dolomite Beach ay bahagi ng proyekto ng DENR sa hangaring i-rehabilitate ang Manila Bay. Pasok din sa nasabing flagship project ang regular na paglilinis ng estero at pagpapatayo ng mga sewage treatment facilities.

Batay sa pahayag ng DENR, ang pagsasaayos ng kalidad ng tubig sa Manila Bay ay isinagawa bilang tugon sa Writ of Continuing Mandamus” na ipinalabas ng Korte Suprema.

Nauna nang sinabi ni Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu na hindi dapat ibinbin pa ang proyekto bunsod na rin ng mga pag-aaral na nagsasabing nasa kritikal na antas na ang kalidad ng tubig ng nasabing laot na higit na kilala sa kakaibang tanawin sa tuwing palubog na ang araw.

Paliwanag pa ng kalihim, masyadong mataas ang fecal coliform sa mga bahagi ng laot na sakop ng Baywalk area, Estero de San Antonio Abad at Baseco sa Maynila.

Pagmamalaki pa ni Cimatu, mula nang kanilang umpisahan ang Manila Bay rehabilitation project, malaki na ang ibinaba ng antas ng fecal coliform sa bahagi ng Baywalk area. Katunayan aniya, mayroon na lamang itong antas na 2,211,833 most probable number per 100 milliliters (MPN/100ml), kumpara sa 5,666,213 MPN/100ml na naitala noong 2019.



Kumokolekta rin aniya sila ng hindi bababa sa 60 metriko tonelada ng basura araw-araw sa mga baybaying bahagi nito. Sa kanyang pagtatala, hindi bababa sa 24,471.30 metriko tonelada ng basura ang kanilang nakolekta mula 2019.

Babala ng mga Esperto

Una nang umani ng pagtuligsa ang administrasyon nang ituloy nito ang Phase 1 ng tinaguriang Baywalk project na inilunsad noong Mayo 2020 — sa gitna ng mga naghuhumiyaw na panawagan ng milyon-milyong Filipino para sa ayudang ipinangako ni Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte.

Sa kabila pa ng mahigpit na pagtutol ng mga ekspertong kasapi ng AGHAM o Advocates of Science and Technology for the People, itinuloy ang Phase 1 na nagkakahalaga ng P389 milyon habang maraming Filipino ang dumaraing ng ayuda lalo pa't hindi pinahihintulutan ng Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases na makapagbalik-operasyon ang mga negosyo, gayundin ang pagbabalik trabaho ng mga manggagawa.

Babala ng mga eksperto at inhinyero mula sa pribadong sektor, aanurin lamang ng alon pabalik sa laot ang mga ginastusang dolomite sands – na siya mismong nangyari makaraang salantain ng sunod-sunod na bagyo ang Metro Manila noong mga buwan ng Oktubre, Nobyembre at Disyembre ng nakalipas na taon.

Dahil dito, agad namang niremedyuhan ng nasabing kagawaran ang pagkasira ng proyekto sa pamamagitan ng muling pagtatambak ng pinulbos na dolomite rocks sa naturang bahagi ng Baywalk area.

Walang detalyadong paglalahad ang DENR hinggil sa halaga ng pagkukumpuni ng artificial beach sa Manila Bay, bagamat ayon sa mga inhinyero mula sa pribadong sektor, mahina ang P50 milyong gastusin sa tuwing aanurin ng alon at red tide ang depositong artificial white sand.

Ang Phase 2 ng dolomite beach project ay isinakatuparan naman nitong Abril ng kasalukuyang taon. Ang halaga – tumataginting na P265 milyon.

Sayang lang ang Salapi

Sa isang pahayag, tahasang sinabi ng agham na pagsasayang lamang ng limitadong pondo ang nasabing proyekto.

“Malinaw na nagtatapon lamang ng salapi ang gobyerno sa karagatan,” saad ng AGHAM.

Anila, mas mainam na gamitin ang pondo ng naturang proyekto para sa patuloy na dumadaming bilang ng mga pamilyang lubos na naapektuhan ng pandemyang higit na kilala bilang COVID-19.

“Ang higit na mahalaga ngayon ay ang matugunan ng gobyerno ang lumalaking suliranin ng mga Filipino dahil sa kabiguan ng government pandemic response ng administrasyong Duterte. Mas mainam kung gagamitin ang pondo ng dolomite beach project sa programa ng pamahalaan sa kalusugan,” ayon sa AGHAM.

Una nang sinabi ni presidential spokesperson Harry Roque na malaking tulong sa “mental health” ng mga Filipino ang “white sand” beach sa Manila Bay. Sagot naman ng AGHAM, isang malaking insulto sa mga Filipino ang nasabing proyekto at hindi rin umano ligtas sa anomang recreational activities tulad ng swimming ang Manila Bay na anila’y nasa “dangerous levels of coliform.”



Sapul na naman ng Bagyo

Nitong nakaraang linggo muling sinira ng malalakas na alon dulot na walang puknat na pag-ulan dala ng bagyong Fabian at sinabayan pa ng Hanging Habagat ang dolomite beach project ng DENR.

Bukod sa pagkaanod ng mga artificial beach sands, sumambulat din ang tone-toneladang basura sa mismong artificial beach ng DENR sa Baywalk area sa Maynila. Inumpisahan nang linisin ang nasabing lugar ng mga basurang inanod mula sa ibang baybaying lokalidad sa paligid ng Manila Bay, at inaasahang agad na kukumpunihin ang nasabing pasyalan upang maibalik ito sa dating anyo.

Gayunpaman, wala pang pahayag ang DENR kung magkano ang kakailanganing karagdagang pondo para ibalik ang “ganda” ng nasabing bahagi Manila Bay.

Sa tantiya ng mga eksperto, mas malaki pa sa P50 milyon dahil sa mas malawak na ito kaysa sa dati.

‘Biggest Nonsense Project’

Ganito naman inilarawan ni Deputy Speaker Lito Atienza ang dolomite project ng DENR.

Ayon kay Atienza, halos kalahating bilyon na umano ang ginastos ng gobyerno sa proyekto na ipinagpapatuloy pa rin kahit ilang beses nang inanod ang itinambak na dolomite sa Manila Bay.

Bago ang ilang araw na pag-ulan sa Metro Manila ay muling tinambakan ng DENR ng dolomite ang Manila Bay subalit noong Linggo, ipinakita sa social media na muli itong inanod at natambakan ng mga basura.

“I said it before... im saying it again! DENR is wasting people’s money in that project. Matigas ang ulo nila,” ani Atienza na kabilang sa mga tumutol sa nasabing proyekto dahil pagsasayang lamang umano ito ng pera ng bayan.

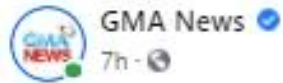
Gayunpaman, ipinagpatuloy pa rin aniya ng DENR ang proyekto kaya muling nawalan ng pera ang taumbayan matapos anurin muli ang bagong itinambak na dolomite.

Maging sa social media ay binabakbakan ng netizens ang DENR dahil imbes na gamitin umano ang pera para sa bakuna ay ipinaanod lamang ito ng nasabing ahensya.

Sinabi ng mambabatas na ang dapat gastusan ng DENR ay ang paglilinis sa tubig sa Manila Bay dahil ito ang iniutos ng Korte Suprema. Nananatili aniyang pinakamalaking pozo negro ang nasabing karagatan.

“What we should clean is the water of the bay which remains biggest pozo negro! Septic tanks of metro area still flows into the bay. Supreme Court ordered cleaning of the water of the bay and NOT creating a white sand beach!,” ayon pa sa mambabatas. (May dagdag na ulat si BERNARD TAGUINOD)

Source: http://saksingayon.com/nasyunal/pera-ng-bayan-inanod-kasama-ng-white-sand/?utm_source=ReviveOldPost&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=ReviveOldPost&fbclid=IwAR2Sh3zHDx5aZ7-unvL8IZ6xPvdwrPKRijt6iyasGRvfcobKIOYi6AXn0gs



GMA News

7h · 🌐

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Sa muling pag-ulan sa Maynila, lumutang ulit ang problema ng baha at basura, gaya sa kontrobersyal na dolomite beach. Tone-toneladang basura na ang nahakot doon at sa Roxas Boulevard.

Mag-subscribe sa GMA News Youtube ([youtube.com/gmanews](https://www.youtube.com/gmanews)) para sa pinakamalalaking balita.



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927 Comments 97 Shares



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TINGNAN: Lagay ng panahon sa tinaguriang "dolomite beach" sa Manila Bay. | via Manny Vargas - Super Radyo DZBB 594khz



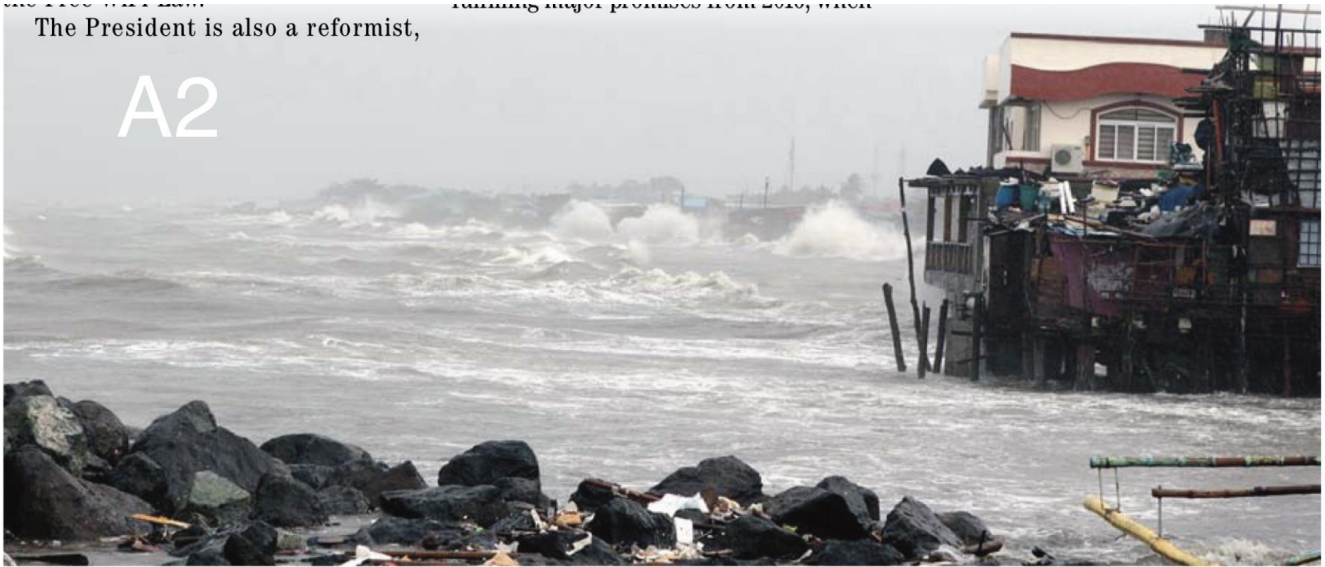
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The President is also a reformist,


A2




PHOTOGRAPH BY JOEY SANCHEZ MENDOZA FOR THE DAILY TRIBUNE

WAVES from Manila Bay batter houses along the breakwater in Naic, Cavite as southwest monsoon (*habagat*) rains spawned by typhoon 'Fabian' continue dumping water in the metropolis.






 **Philippine News Info**
July 24 at 2:03 PM · 🌐

NAWALA NA ULIT ANG DOLOMITE BEACH?
July 24, 2021
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Tarsiers rescued in Surigao Sur released back to the wild

By Alexander Lopez July 25, 2021, 3:47 pm



BACK IN THE WILD. Marslou D. Bonita (third from right), head of the DENR-CENRO in Cantilan, Surigao del Sur, leads the release of a Philippine tarsier back to its natural habitat in Barangay Hinapoyan, Carmen town on July 23, 2021. Another tarsier was also rescued and released in the province on July 21 in Barangay Adlay, Carrascal. *(Photo from DENR-CENRO Cantilan's Facebook page)*

BUTUAN CITY – Two Philippine Tarsiers (*Tarsius syrichta*) that were found and rescued by concerned individuals in the towns of Carrascal and Carmen in Surigao del Sur have been released back to their natural habitat by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources–Community Environment and Natural Resources Office (DENR-CENRO) of Cantilan town.

A statement issued by the agency on Sunday said the two primates were released on July 21 and 23 in the forested areas of Carrascal and Carmen, respectively.

An adult male tarsier was found and rescued on July 21 in Palo, Barangay Adlay, Carrascal by Romel Cubillan, a resident in the area.

“Mr. Cubillan found the tarsier after it fell from a tree. The tarsier with an approximate total length of 29.21 cm and weight of 200 grams was released back to its natural habitat in Barangay Adlay on July 21,” the statement said.

A juvenile male tarsier with a length of 14.5 cm and weighing 100 grams, was also found and rescued in Barangay Hinapoyan, Carmen on July 23.

“After assessment and found in good condition, the rescued primate was released in Barangay Hinapoyan on July 23. The release was led by DENR-CENRO Cantilan Officer Marslou D. Bonita and the local officials in the area,” the statement said.

After the release of the two primates, the DENR-CENRO Cantilan also conducted communication, education and public awareness activities in the two barangays with the aim of imparting to local residents some knowledge on the tarsier’s biology, conservation and protection.

The agency said the Philippine Tarsier is listed under Other Threatened Species (OTS) in the DENR Administrative Order No. 2019-09 or the Updated List of Philippine Fauna and their categories.



The tarsiers are considered as Near Threatened in the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), it added.

“It is therefore important to strengthen its protection to sustain its population. The DENR continuously urges the public to turn over any wildlife to proper authorities for their subsequent release back to their natural habitat,” the statement said. **(PNA)**



LOOK: Personnel of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources - Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Office and the Municipal Agriculture Office in Panglao, Bohol recovered 165 eggs of a hawksbill turtle.

They extracted the eggs from the shorelines of a resort in Barangay Tawala and transferred these to a safer area in Barangay Bolod to prevent these from being washed into sea.

In an advisory, the municipality of Panglao said hawksbill turtles dig a hole, lay 130 to 160 eggs and cover these with sand before they go back into sea. Their eggs hatch after 60 days.

The National Turtle Catalogue Project has identified the islands of Balicasag and Panglao in Bohol province as among the diving spots in the country where hawksbill sea turtles are found. | Photos courtesy of Municipality of Panglao #CDNDigital



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9 Comments 15 Shares



Palawan council tasked to ensure West PH Sea, environment protection

Published July 25, 2021, 12:50 PM

by [Roy Mabasa](#)

Addressing the security and development of the West Philippine Sea is a major concern for Palawan, which has jurisdiction over natural resources-rich islands, including some of the country's major fishing grounds such as the Kalayaan Island Group.

This burden lies on the shoulders of the Palawan Council for Sustainable Development (PCSD), the office created by virtue of Republic Act 7611 or the Strategic Environment Plan (SEP), to establish a system that controls, protects, and develops the country's so-called "last biodiversity frontier".

"On Palawan's shoulders lie that task of showing how to strike a balance between the desired social and economic growth and the preservation of the country's natural resources," PCSD Executive Director Teodoro Jose Matta said in a statement over the weekend.

Two contentious national issues recently pushed the role of PCSD under the microscope, first on Kalayaan which forms part of the West Philippine Sea. Just last week retired Supreme Court Associate Justice Antonio Carpio called on President Duterte to ban Chinese fishermen from further fishing in the Philippines' exclusive economic zone in order to protect the interest of Filipino fishermen.

"PCSD is highly involved in addressing the security and development concerns on the West Philippine Sea as it believes that the matters relating to the WPS are crucial to the well-being of Palawan, as well as national security and development," the agency said in a statement.

The second issue that the PCSD has to address is the national government's new policy pronouncements on mining agreements. On April 14, 2021, President Duterte signed Executive Order 130 lifting the moratorium on new mining agreements believing that it will usher "significant economic benefits" to the country.

"The PCSD's position of balancing interests between economic growth and sustainable use of our natural resources is an extraordinary feat laudable in the midst of health crisis and economic frailties," it said.

According to Matta, the PCSD has developed methods in order to achieve this "balance" and one of these is the creation of Environmentally Critical Areas Network (ECAN), which provides a graded system of protection and development control over the terrestrial, coastal and marine components of the province.

Recently, the ECAN maps of Palawan's municipalities of Quezon and Bataraza, known to be economically dependent on mining, were submitted for amendment.

The updated zoning classifications of the maps can potentially allow the expansion of mining activities in those areas.

However, the updates to the ECAN map will need the approval of the PCSD if the council deems them consistent with SEP law and other current guidelines.

The Philippines is considered as one of the world's richly-endowed countries in mineral resources, data from the Philippine Statistics Authority showed.



In fact, the national government recently acknowledged the significant economic benefits of the mining industry when it issued Executive Order No.130 on April 14, 2021, effectively lifting the moratorium on mineral agreements.

The PCSD said it is determined to achieve the proper balancing of interests for Palawan.



DOST, Davao-based firm join forces for medical waste management, disposal

Published July 26, 2021, 12:00 AM by [Charissa Luci-Atienza](#)

The Department of Science and Technology (DOST) has forged a partnership with a private firm in Davao City to address the country's problems on medical waste management and disposal.



(PIXABY)

DOST Secretary Fortunato "Boy" T. de la Peña reported that DOST Region XI partnered with Bluelander Environmental Services during the vaccination drive for government employees in Davao City to address problems on medical waste management and disposal.

The vaccination drive was initiated by the Association of Regional Executives of National Agencies in Region XI (ARENA XI)

The DOST chief cited that Bluelander Environmental Services, which is based in Davao, provides affordable and environment-friendly services in medical waste management and treatment to meet the needs of hospitals and clinics.

"They use a technology called "Nitro-sterile" where medical wastes such as used syringes and needles undergo thermal treatment process through sterilization," he said.

"Nitro-sterile is a US patented machine that sterilizes medical waste in an oxygen-free chamber filled with pressurized high temperature nitrogen that disinfects and shreds medical, clinical, and pathological wastes into a very fine and unrecognizable material," he explained.

De la Peña said following the sterilization process, the medical waste is disposed to a special waste cell, similar to a sanitary landfill.

"The machine can be an environment-friendly replacement to other technologies such as incinerators, autoclaves, and microwaves which are expensive, energy and water intensive, and dangerous. It is an affordable technology since it uses nitrogen, an inert gas which is cheap and readily available," he said.

"It does not use burning method and has no odor or emission," he added.

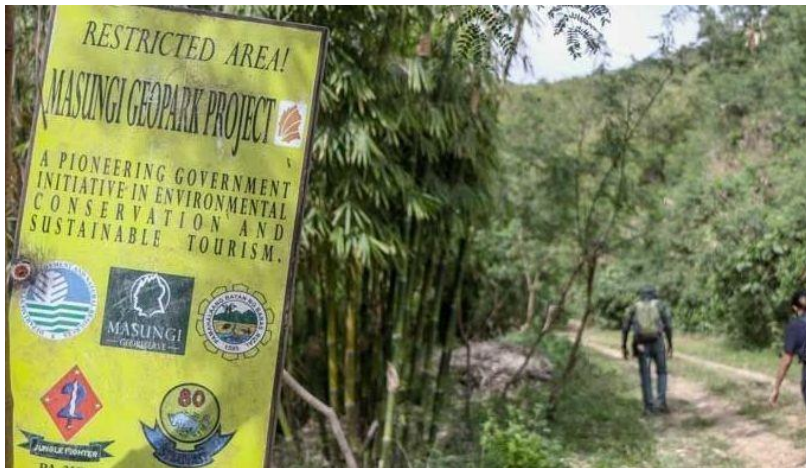
He cited that BlueLander founder and RADICOR Solutions president Roderick Dayot, an engineer by profession, was named as the Most Outstanding Invention winner during the Regional Invention Contest and Exhibit (RICE) 2015. He received the Second Most Outstanding Invention 2016 during the National Invention Contest and Exhibit (NICE).

Source: <https://mb.com.ph/2021/07/26/dost-xi-davao-based-firm-join-forces-for-medical-waste-management-disposal/>



Masungi Georeserve calls for action, protection after shooting of 2 forest rangers

By [Gaea Katreena Cabico](#) (Philstar.com) - July 25, 2021 - 2:25pm



A sign indicating the Masungi Geopark Project is a restricted area is seen in this February 6, 2021 photo.

MANILA, Philippines (**Updated 7:05 p.m.**) — Two of Masungi Georeserve's forest rangers were shot on late Saturday, the conservation organization reported as it called for urgent protection and action against illegal encroachers inside the Upper Marikina Watershed.

Masungi Georeserve said that two forest rangers stationed at its reforestation site in Baras, Rizal were shot late Saturday. One ranger was shot in the head, while the other was shot in the neck.

The shooting incident happened at a ranger station near GSB resort in Sitio San Roque in Brgy. Pinugay. The resort is one of the infrastructures said to be illegally occupying forestland in the Upper Marikina River Basin Protected Landscape.

“This was made in the dark of the night, amid the rains and the floods, but there were already untoward incidents in the past several weeks such as the men in bonnets and the theft of our cameras last week,” Masungi trustee and advocacy officer Billie Dumaliang told **Philstar.com**. In a statement, Masungi Georeserve said the organization was “devastated and enraged by this heinous act of violence and attempted murder against forest defenders.”

“We are calling for justice and protection for our team who risk their lives to defend our watersheds and forests 24/7,” it said on [Facebook](#).

To prevent further encroachments and construction activities, additional ranger stations and checkpoints were earlier installed.

‘Don’t delay justice’

Dumaliang said the two rangers are still “waiting for operation.”

She said the perpetrator/s “must be held accountable for their actions and justice must never be delayed.”

In a statement, Kalikasan People's Network for the Environment called for an immediate and independent probe into the armed attack as “the latest attack was brazen and virtually in plain sight of police personnel.” Masungi said a Special Action Forces station was “just around the corner” from the site where the attack happened.



“So long as business owners of these destructive projects are not firmly prosecuted and punished, they will continue to be emboldened to perpetuate impunity,” said Leon Dulce, national coordinator of Kalikasan PNE.

Dumaliang said police and military personnel went to the site of the incident last night. Col. Joseph Arguelles, Rizal provincial police chief, told **Philstar.com** the case is still under investigation.

The Philippines has been consistently identified by watchdog Global Witness as among the deadliest countries for land and environmental defenders.

Raps vs illegal establishments

The incident happened more than a week after the Department of the Interior and Local Government recommended the filing of criminal and administrative charges against several local officials and establishments over encroachment in the Upper Marikina Watershed.

DILG Undersecretary Jonathan Malaya said appropriate charges should be filed against responsible officials and entities for “wanton disregard and violation” of the following laws:

- Upper Marikina Protected Landscape Declaration and RA 7586 or the National Integrated and Protected Areas System (NIPAS) Act
- Revised Forestry Code (PD 705)
- Water Code of the Philippines
- DENR Administrative Order 1993-33 (Masungi Strict Nature Reserve & Wildlife Sanctuary)

Masungi earlier sought an investigation into destructive activities and encroachments inside the watershed. It also called for security reinforcement and enhanced surveillance of the protected area.

Show-cause orders were earlier issued to resort owners and establishments.

The Upper Marikina Watershed is a protected area that forms the upper part of the drainage basin of the Marikina River. It covers areas in Antipolo City, Baras, Rodriguez, San Mateo and Tanay.

For conservationists, the watershed is an important protected area as it regulates water flow, and serves as habitats of threatened flora and fauna and ancestral domains of indigenous peoples.



'Clear failure of security': Independent probe sought on shooting of Masungi Georeserve forest rangers

Published July 25, 2021, 7:19 PM

by [Ellson Quismorio](#)

Kalikasan People's Network for the Environment (Kalikasan PNE) has called for an independent investigation on the shooting of two forest rangers of the Masungi Georeserve on Saturday night, July 24, noting that the incident practically occurred under the cops' noses.



(Photo by Max Kleinen/ Unsplash)

"We join the cry for justice over these escalating attacks against Masungi's brave and dedicated forest rangers...the latest attack was brazen and virtually in plain sight of police personnel," Leon Dulce, national coordinator of the environmental group, said in a statement Sunday, July 25.

"We call for an independent probe into the clear failure of security, as Masungi Georeserve noted that a PNP [Philippine National Police] Action Force station was 'just around the corner' from the Bayog ranger station where the attack happened," said Dulce.

The 3,000-hectare Masungi Georeserve is a protected area of unique limestone formations and forests that have constantly faced pressures from conflicting land uses.

Kalikasan PNE said the Philippines has been declared by international investigative group Global Witness as the second deadliest country in the world and deadliest in Asia for land and environmental defenders last year. Since 2017, the Philippines has ranked between 1st and 2nd globally.

According to Dulce, private businesses such as GSB resort, Rublou, and Green Atom, which have "illegally encroached" into the protected watershed must also be investigated. "These businesses have clear motives as the Masungi administration has repeatedly received death threats and intimidations," he claimed.

Dulce further said that a quarrying company also tried to occupy and fence off hundreds of hectares of the park's reforestation areas.

"The Global Witness annual reports have repeatedly recommended tackling the root causes such as ensuring human rights due diligence, addressing land inequality. They have also repeatedly recommended bringing to justice perpetrators and investigating and redressing corruption behind the businesses in conflict with defenders," Dulce concluded.

Source: <https://mb.com.ph/2021/07/25/clear-failure-of-security-independent-probe-sought-on-shooting-of-masungi-georeserve-forest-rangers/>



NEWS 5 News5 15h · 🌐

Ayon sa pamunuan ng Masungi Georeserve, ilang buwan na silang nakatatanggap ng banta at harrasment mula sa land grabbers at ilang informal settlers na nakatira malapit sa lugar.
 BUONG DETALYE: <https://bit.ly/3kU65PO>

NEWS 5 DIGITAL

photo: FB/Masungi Georeserve

DALAWANG FOREST RANGERS NG MASUNGI GEORESERVE, BINARIL

Duguan ang kamay at leeg ng dalawang forest defenders ng Masungi Georeserve sa Rizal matapos ang insidente ng pamamaril sa lugar gabi ng July 24. Nananawagan ang kilalang conservation area ng security support para sa kanilang forest rangers.

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India on the frontline of climate change

By [Agence France-Presse](#) July 26, 2021



In this file photograph taken on June 2, 2019, Indian villagers lower buckets down into a well running dry to collect drinking water at Padal village of Samba District some 45 kilometers from Jammu as temperatures passed 50 degrees Celsius (122 Fahrenheit) in northern India as an unrelenting heatwave triggered warnings of water shortages and heatstroke. AFP PHOTO

NEW DELHI, INDIA: Swathes of India are battling deadly floods and landslides after heavy monsoon rains, just the latest example of how the vast country is on the frontline of climate change.

In the first seven months of this year alone, the impoverished nation of 1.3 billion people have experienced two cyclones, a deadly glacier collapse in the Himalayas, a sweltering heat wave and killer floods.

Melting glaciers

In February, a ferocious flash flood hurtled down a remote Indian Himalayan valley, sweeping away homes, a hydro plant and around 200 people. Only 60 bodies have been found.

Experts believe the cause was a massive chunk of glacier - 15 football fields long and five across - breaking off high in the mountains.

A glaciologist who investigated the site told Agence France-Presse (AFP) the catastrophe was "clearly a fallout of climate change and in itself a tell-tale of our future."

In the Indian Himalayas, about 10,000 glaciers are receding at a rate of 30 to 60 meters (100 to 200 feet) per decade as global temperatures rise.

In 2013, a flash flood in the same area killed 6,000 people.

More cyclones

Cyclones are not a rare sight in the northern Indian Ocean but scientists say they are becoming more frequent and severe as sea temperatures rise.

In May, Cyclone Tauktae claimed 155 lives in western India including dozens working on oil rigs off Mumbai. It was the fiercest storm to hit the area in several decades.

Barely a week later, Yaas, with winds the equivalent of a category-two hurricane, killed at least nine people and forced the evacuation of more than 1.5 million in the east.



With waves the height of double-decker buses, hundreds of thousands lost their houses. "I have lost my home, everything," said one survivor.

Hotter and hotter

India's average temperature rose around 0.7 degrees Celsius (1.3 degrees Fahrenheit) between the beginning of the 20th century and 2018. It will rise another 4.4 degrees by 2100, according to a recent government report.

In early July, tens of millions of people sizzled in just the latest heat wave across northern India.

India's weather department has declared a heat wave almost every year in the last decade with temperatures sometimes touching 50 C (122 F).

The Hindustan Times newspaper reported that heat waves had claimed more than 17,000 lives in India since 1971, according to top meteorologists.

Currently, just 5 percent of Indian households have air-conditioning compared with 90 percent in the United States and 60 percent in China.

But the market is forecast to boom in the coming years, driving up energy consumption in what is already the world's third-largest carbon emitter.

Monsoon floods

Torrential rains have hit India's western coast in the past few days triggering landslides and a deluge of sludge, leaving more than 75 dead and dozens missing.

The hillside resort of Mahabaleshwar reportedly saw nearly 60 centimeters (23 inches) of rain in a 24-hour period, a record.

The neighboring resort state of Goa is reeling under its worst floods in decades, its chief minister said.

Flooding and landslides are common during India's treacherous monsoon season, which also often sees poorly constructed buildings buckle after days of nonstop rain.

But climate change is making the monsoon stronger, according to a report from the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research in April.

It warned of potentially severe consequences for food, farming and the economy affecting nearly a fifth of the world's population.



India: on the frontline of climate change

posted July 25, 2021 at 10:30 am

by [AFP and Aishwarya Kumar](#)

Swathes of India are battling deadly floods and landslides after heavy monsoon rains, just the latest example of how the vast country is on the frontline of climate change.



People wade along a waterlogged street following a heavy monsoon rainfall in Mumbai on July 16, 2021. AFP

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It warned of potentially severe consequences for food, farming and the economy affecting nearly a fifth of the world's population.

Lightning

The monsoon from June to September also brings danger from the skies. In 2019, lightning strikes killed almost 3,000 people.

Earlier this month, 76 people perished including a dozen watching a storm and taking selfies at a historic fort in Rajasthan.

But scientists say climate change may be making lightning more frequent. A recent study said strikes rose 34 percent in the past year.

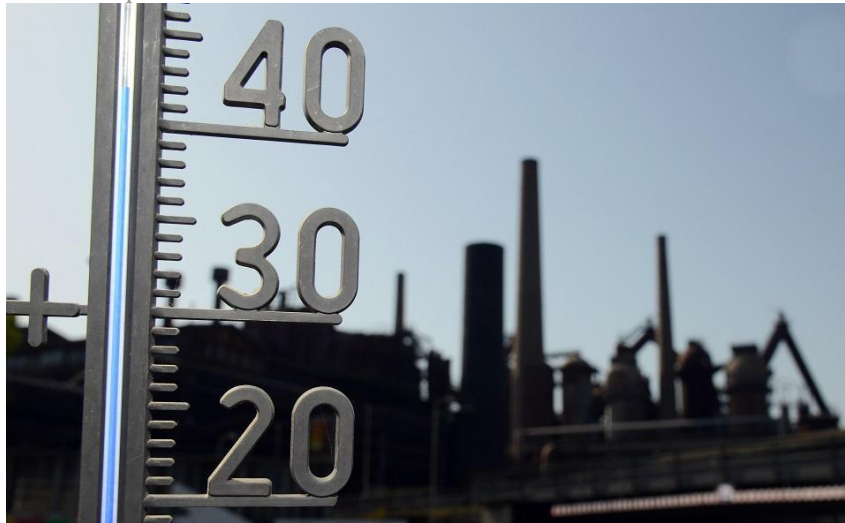
And it's not just people. In May, lightning was blamed for the deaths of at least 18 elephants in Assam.



Climate 'mysteries' still puzzle scientists, despite progress

By AMELIE BOTTOLLIER-DEPOIS, Agence France-Presse

Published July 25, 2021 11:54pm



A thermometer shows a temperature of over 40 degrees at the Volklingen Ironworks in Volklingen, western Germany on July 24, 2019. Harald Tittel/ dpa

PARIS — What worries one of the world's leading climate scientists the most?

Heatwaves—and particularly the tendency of current models to underestimate the intensity of these bursts of deadly, searing temperature.

This is one of the "major mysteries" science still has to unravel, climatologist Robert Vautard told AFP, even as researchers are able to pinpoint with increasing accuracy exactly how human fossil fuel pollution is warming the planet and altering the climate.

"Today we have better climate projection models, and longer observations with a much clearer signal of climate change," said Vautard, one of the authors of an upcoming assessment by the United Nations' panel of climate experts.

"It was already clear, but it is even clearer and more indisputable today."

The assessment, the first part of a trio of reports from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), will be released on August 9 at the end of meetings starting Monday.

It focuses on the science underpinning our understanding of things like temperature increases, rising ocean levels and extreme weather events.

This has progressed considerably since the last assessment in 2014, but so has climate change itself, with effects being felt ever more forcefully across the planet.

'Phenomenal' heat

Scientists now have a greater understanding of the mechanisms behind "extreme phenomena, which now occur almost every week around the world," said Vautard, adding that this helps better quantify how these events will play out in the future.

In almost real time, researchers can pinpoint the role of climate change in a given disaster, something they were unable to do at all until very recently.

Now, so-called "attribution" science means we can say how probable an extreme weather event would have been had the climate not been changing at all.



For example, within days of the extraordinary "heat dome" that scorched the western United States and Canada at the end of June, scientists from the World Weather Attribution calculated that the heatwave would have been "almost impossible" without warming.

Despite these advances, Vautard said "major mysteries remain."

Scientists are still unsure what part clouds play "in the energy balance of the planet" and their influence on the climate's sensitivity to greenhouse gases, he said.

But it is "phenomenal temperatures," like those recorded in June in Canada or in Europe in 2019, that preoccupy the climatologist.

"What worries me the most are the heat waves" and the "thousands of deaths" they cause, said Vautard, who is director of France's Pierre-Simon Laplace Institute, a climate research and teaching center.

With rainfall, scientists have a physical law that says water vapor increases by seven percent for every degree of warming, he said, with intense precipitation increasing by about the same amount.

But extreme heat is harder to predict.

"We know that heatwaves are more frequent, but we also know that our models underestimate the increasing intensity of these heatwaves, particularly in Europe, by a factor of two," he said.

Climate models have come a long way, even since 2014, but there is still room for improvement to reduce these uncertainties.

"Before we had models that represented the major phenomena in the atmosphere, in the oceans," said Vautard.

Today the models divide the planet's surface into grids, with each square around 10 kilometers (six miles).

But even now he said the "resolution of the models is not sufficient" for very localized phenomena.

The next generation of models should be able to add even more detail, going down to an area of about a kilometer.

That would give researchers a much better understanding of "small scale" events, like tornadoes, hail or storm systems that bring intense rain like those seen in parts of the Mediterranean in 2020.

Tipping points

Even on a global scale, some fundamental questions remain.

Perhaps one of the most ominous climate concepts to have become better understood in recent years is that of "tipping points."

These could be triggered for example by the melting of the ice caps or the decline of the Amazon rainforest, potentially swinging the climate system into dramatic and irreversible changes.

There are still "a lot of uncertainties and mysteries" about tipping points, Vautard said, including what level of temperature rise might set them off.



Currently, they are seen as low probability events, but he said that it is still crucial to know more about them given the "irreversible consequences on the scale of millennia" that they could cause.

Another crucial uncertainty is the state of the world's forests and oceans, which absorb about half of the CO₂ emitted by humans.

"Will this carbon sink function continue to be effective or not?" Vautard said.

If they stop absorbing carbon—as has been found in areas of the Amazon, for example—then more CO₂ will accumulate in the atmosphere, raising temperatures even further.

"It is a concern," said Vautard. — **AFP**



Habagat leaves 3 dead, 44,000 affected in Philippines

(Philstar.com) - July 25, 2021 - 10:12am



Photo shows Philippine Coast Guard personnel on July 24, 2021 evacuate a woman from Ternate in Cavite who just gave birth amid strong winds and rains from the southwest monsoon

MANILA, Philippines — A disaster response official on Sunday said three people were killed from rains brought by the southwest monsoon or habagat, with thousands across the country evacuated.

Flooding hit various cities and provinces in the Philippines last week from monsoon rains, enhanced by the habagat and Typhoon Fabian (In-fa) which has since left the country's jurisdiction.

A person from the Cordillera Administrative Region was killed from a fallen tree, while two were hit by lightning, according to Mark Timbal of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council.

He told dZMM's "Teleradyo" that five were also injured. Some 44,563 individuals, meanwhile, are staying across 81 evacuation sites.

In the agency's situational report this morning, it said the regions affected are: Metro Manila, Central Luzon, CALABARZON, Western Visayas, MIMAROPA and CAR.

Damage to agriculture stood at P14.59 million (\$290,350), while damage to infrastructure was at P2.41 million (\$48,106).

Timbal added that the NDRRMC recorded 21 landslide and 75 flooding incidents in different parts of the country.

As tens of thousands flee due to monsoon rains, he sought to remind that COVID-19 health protocols should still be followed even in emergency shelters.

"Let's not forget the minimum health standards because we know the Delta variant is here," Timbal said in Filipino. "We should still be wearing face masks and following physical distancing."

NDRRMC's report said some P924 million (\$18,396) worth of assistance were extended to Central Luzon, Western Visayas, and CAR.

Food packs were also since distributed to families hit by the strong rains. — Christian Deiparine

Source: <https://www.philstar.com/headlines/2021/07/25/2115072/habagat-leaves-3-dead-44000-affected-philippines/amp/>



Marikina River water level is at 16.2 meters above sea level as of 6:30 a.m. on Saturday (July 24, 2021).

Walter Bollozos

‘Rainfall volume in Marikina greater than during Ondoy’

[Neil Jayson Servallos](#) (The Philippine Star) - July 26, 2021 - 12:00am

MANILA, Philippines — Dredging operations in Marikina River that began last February prevented massive flooding in the city as the local government braces for more rains this week brought by the southwest monsoon, an official said yesterday.

The volume of rainfall that was recorded before dawn on Saturday was higher than the hourly rainfall rate of Typhoon Ondoy in 2009, Marikina’s Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office chief Dave David said.

But because Marikina River had been deepened and widened, David said waters continued to flow toward Manila Bay without spilling into communities.

“We recorded 134 millimeters of rain on Saturday in a span of only one hour. This was higher than the rainfall recorded during Ondoy,” David said. “But the river’s capacity was able to withstand that. It’s an indication of the good effects of the dredging.”

In 2009, Ondoy dumped 455 millimeters of rain over a 24-hour period.

Some 15,000 Marikina residents were evacuated on Saturday after the city government declared alarm level 2 over Marikina River as the water reached 16 meters.

As of yesterday, only 9,000 people remained at evacuation centers.

26 JULY 2021, MONDAY



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5,479 new COVID-19 cases push Philippines' total to 1.54 million

(Philstar.com) - July 25, 2021 - 4:02pm



People brave the heavy rain in Kamuning EDSA, Quezon City on July 22, 2021. Typhoon Fabian (international name Cempaka) enhanced southwest monsoon that brought heavy rain for almost a week since Monday.
The STAR/Michael Varcas

MANILA, Philippines — The Department of Health on Sunday reported 5,479 new coronavirus cases, bringing the country's total count of infections to 1,548,755. Today's numbers saw active cases down by 139 from July 24's 54,401. Authorities said three laboratories failed to submit screening results.

- **Active cases:** 54,262 or 3.5% of the total
- **Recoveries:** 5,573 bringing the number to 1,467,269
- **Deaths:** 93, or now 27,224 in total

Vaccinations amid rains

- President Rodrigo Duterte told local governments to **rethink** their inoculation programs after reports of individuals who endured the monsoon rains and floods last week just to get their COVID-19 vaccine.
- Vice President Leni Robredo said their inoculation project in Naga City was able to administer the jabs on some 6,715 residents in just **two days**. They are now fully vaccinated for COVID-19, as they received Johnson & Johnson's single-shot jab.

The NDRRMC reminded thousands in evacuation sites to continue following COVID-19 health protocols amid the threat of the highly infectious Delta variant. Some 44,000 are staying in emergency shelters following strong rains from the **southwest monsoon** or the habagat.

Source: <https://www.philstar.com/headlines/2021/07/25/2115087/5479-new-covid-19-cases-push-philippines-total-154-million/amp/>



Philippines sees 55 more Delta variant cases, total climbs to 119

By [Christian Deiparine](#)(Philstar.com) - July 25, 2021 - 5:43pm



This undated photo shows civilians in face mask crossing the pedestrian lane

MANILA, Philippines — Philippine health authorities on Sunday detected 55 more cases of the highly transmissible Delta variant of COVID-19 to bring the country's total to 119.

The Department of Health said 37 of these are local cases, while 17 are returning Filipinos from abroad.

Officials are still identifying if the last one remaining is a local case or an individual from overseas.

DOH added that, from the new local cases, 14 are from Calabarzon while eight are from Northern Mindanao.

Six, meanwhile, had indicated address in Metro Manila, another six in Central Luzon, two in Davao Region and one in Ilocos Region.

The health agency also reported that one of the additional cases has died. This brings the count of fatalities to four.

All 54 have since been tagged as recovered, with 12 active cases remaining.

The detection of more Delta cases comes as authorities officially declared local transmission of the variant at home.

DOH attributed the consecutive release of genome sequencing results in the past week to more resources for biosurveillance.

"Samples with more recent collection dates and those from areas with spikes were prioritized to determine the presence and spread of these variants in these areas," it said.

Apart from Delta infections, the Philippines also saw 179 new cases of the Beta, or the variant first detected in South Africa.

DOH also reports 179 Beta variant cases, 94 from Alpha variant, and nine more from the P.3 variant. | via [@christiandeips](#) pic.twitter.com/j0suxQqeHp

— Philstar.com (@PhilstarNews) [July 25, 2021](#)



There were also 94 more cases of the Alpha, or that first seen in the United Kingdom, as well as nine of the P.3, the homegrown since downgraded to variants "under alerts for monitoring." "With the establishment of the local transmission of the Delta variant, we need a swifter implementation of our response strategies," authorities said.

DOH also urged local governments to immediately contain observed increase in COVID-19 cases through granular lockdowns and stronger implementation of detection and isolation protocols.

The government has moved to place Metro Manila under a stricter general community quarantine along with four areas until end of the month following the development.



Delta variant causing early stage of surge in Metro Manila—OCTA

posted July 26, 2021 at 01:40 am

by [Willie Casas and Francisco Tuyay](#)

Independent researchers tracking the COVID-19 pandemic said Sunday Metro Manila is already in the early stages of a coronavirus surge most likely because of the Delta variant as the Department of Health reported 55 new cases of the more transmissible strain.

The new cases involving the virulent strain brought the total number of Delta infections to 119. Of the 55, one has died while the rest have been tagged as recovered. Seventeen involved returning overseas Filipinos, while 37 were local cases, while one is still being verified.

OCTA said on Sunday that the COVID-19 reproduction number in Metro Manila rose from 1.21 to 1.29.

COVID-19 cases further increased by 43 percent after the metropolis recorded an average of 897 new virus infections per day from July 18 to July 24, OCTA said.

“This is a cause for concern but it’s not irreversible,” said Guido David of the OCTA Research Group, in an interview with ABS-CBN’s TeleRadyo.

“If we don’t focus on this, this could escalate to a surge similar to what we saw in March [and] April,” David said.

In the National Capital Region (NCR), Valenzuela City at 1.61 has the highest reproduction number, or the number of people infected by a virus patient. It is followed by Manila at 1.43, David said.

David said Metro Manila’s placement under general community quarantine with heightened restrictions and the prohibition of children aged 5 and above from going outdoors would help in controlling the surge.

He said a curfew, border controls, and fully-vaccinated individuals may also mitigate the surge. Some 20 percent of the capital region’s population have received two doses of COVID-19 vaccine, he said.

“If we can beat the Delta variant, it would be a big victory for us,” he said, comparing this to an “Olympic victory.”

“The current trend in NCR over the past week follows the course from Feb. 14 to 21, when a surge was in its early stages,” OCTA Research warned.

The group also earlier advised the national government to implement stricter quarantine status when early stages of the surge was detected in Metro Manila.

They said that the surge could be driven by the more transmissible Delta variant.

OCTA also said the positivity rate in Metro Manila rose to 7 percent, while hospital capacity and occupancy of intensive care units remained low or below 60 percent.

For the whole country, the reproduction number (the rate an infected person can infect others) was at 1.09, with average daily cases from 5,063 to 5,817, they said.



OCTA has identified Valenzuela, Manila, Makati, Caloocan and Las Piñas as cities with increasing cases.

“Valenzuela, Makati and Las Piñas are considered high-risk areas,” the researchers said.

For Luzon, it said that Laoag in Ilocos Norte has continued to be in a near-critical state with 1.82 infection rate, 53.64 incidence rate, and 29 percent positivity rate. New cases there rose by 38 percent from 45 to 62.

On Friday, some health workers in Ilocos Norte called for a two-week timeout from the government to prevent hospitals from being overwhelmed by COVID-19 cases.

Mariveles, Bataan in Central Luzon is also at critical risk, with 1.45 infection rate, 22.53 incidence rate and 19 percent positivity rate. New cases in the town went down from 64 to 47.

Aside from Mariveles, Bataan, OCTA indicated that Cagayan de Oro in Northern Mindanao is also at critical risk from COVID-19, after it detected several Delta variant cases.

“Cagayan de Oro is now classified as a critical-risk area due to high levels of infection, ICU utilization, and positivity rate (testing),” OCTA said.

New cases in Cagayan de Oro have more than doubled from July 18 to July 24. Fresh cases went up by 109 percent from 56 to 117.

The infection rate in Cagayan de Oro rose to 1.54, incidence rate was at 16.01, utilization rate of intensive care units was at 85 percent, and positivity rate rose to 27 percent.

The Health Department recorded eight active cases of the Delta variant, of which, four were from Cagayan de Oro.

Infections in Davao City, and General Santos City slowed down but are still classified as high-risk areas, OCTA said.

While new cases in Davao decreased by 7 percent, incidence rate was still at 11.23, ICU occupancy was at 83 percent and positivity rate was at 16 percent.

In General Santos City, new cases went up by 13 percent from 60 to 68. Its infection rate was at 1.05, incidence rate at 10.51, ICU utilization rate at 69 percent and positivity rate at 26 percent.

The cities of Cebu, Lapu Lapu, and Mandaue have reported an uptick in fresh cases.

In the Visayas, OCTA warned that Cebu City is reporting a rise in fresh cases, after its reproduction number rose to 1.90.

OCTA experts found that Cebu City’s new cases grew by 82 percent from 96 to 175.

“In February 2021, Cebu City reached a peak of 220 daily cases and a peak reproduction number of 1.90, so it looks possible that this current surge will eclipse the previous surge in February 2021,” the independent research team said.

Fresh cases in Lapu Lapu City also increased by 60 percent from 47 to 75. Its reproduction number was at 1.96 and incidence rate was at 16.48.



As for Mandaue City, fresh cases climbed to 53 from 23, which increased by 130 percent. The reproduction number was at 2.16.

“Elsewhere in Visayas, the trends have slowed down in Bacolod and Iloilo City, although the latter is still considered high risk,” OCTA also said.

The Department of Health (DOH), meanwhile, said its panel of experts will meet next week to study if the Philippines needs to be placed under stricter quarantine protocols in August.

Government authorities tightened several policies earlier this week after the number of Delta variant carriers in the country tripled to about 70 people, from just 19 earlier this month.

The Delta variant is known to be more contagious than the original COVID-19 strain as one carrier could infect up to eight people at any given time, the DOH said.

The National Capital Region (NCR) and four other provinces were placed under stricter general community quarantine (GCQ) after Delta variant cases were detected in these regions.

Trade Secretary Ramon Lopez said the move to place these areas under GCQ with heightened restrictions means that non-essential activities are not allowed.

“These superspreader events are not allowed and non-essential activities should be stopped,” Lopez said, during a televised press conference with President Rodrigo Duterte and other Cabinet members.

“The opening of some areas is focused on the economy, not on non-essential activities,” he added.

Lopez said among the activities and businesses allowed to continue are operations in manufacturing, business process outsourcing and exporting.

“We are allowing economic activities to continue... As long as we follow health standards we can maintain our momentum,” he said. “Our economy is restarting. We are slowly regaining strength.”

The Philippines logged 5,479 new COVID-19 cases on Sunday, bringing the total number of infections to 1,548,755.

Ninety-three new fatalities brought the COVID-19 death toll to 27,224.

The DOH reported 5,573 persons who recently recovered, bringing the total recoveries to 1,467,269.

There were 54,262 active cases, of which 93.4 percent were mild, 1.2 percent were asymptomatic, 1.4 percent were critical, 2.3 percent were severe, and 1.63 percent were moderate.

Nationwide, 57 percent of the ICU beds, 47 percent of the isolation beds, 44 percent of the ward beds, and 38 percent of the ventilators, were in use.

In Metro Manila, 46 percent of the ICU beds, 41 percent of the isolation beds, 37 percent of the ward beds, and 36 percent of the ventilators, were in use.

Meanwhile, Philippine National Police (PNP) chief Gen. Guillermo Eleazar ordered local police



offices to make sure children are not out on the streets or in public areas after the national government prohibited kids from going outdoors due to the threat of the Delta variant.

Eleazar also appealed to the parents to watch their children and to not let them go outdoors.

He asked for their cooperation so that the Delta variant would not quickly spread.



Delta variant, 8 tao kayang hawaan sa loob ng 1-2 minuto

By [Ludy Bermudo](#)(Pilipino Star Ngayon) - July 26, 2021 - 12:00am



Ayon kay Dr. Edsel Salvaña, ng Inter-Agency Task Force Technical Advisory Group, higit 60 porsyentong mas nakahahawa ang Delta subalit maiiwasan ito kung susunod lamang sa health protocols tulad ng social distancing, pagsusuot ng face masks at face shields at dapat na magpabakuna.

AFP/Ted Aljibe

MANILA, Philippines — Higit na nakakatakot ang Delta variant kumpara sa iba pang variants dahil kaya nitong manghawa ng hanggang walo katao na nasa kaniyang paligid, at ang walo naman na nahawaan ay kaya ring makahawa ng walo pa bawat isa.

Ayon kay Dr. Edsel Salvaña, ng Inter-Agency Task Force Technical Advisory Group, higit 60 porsyentong mas nakahahawa ang Delta subalit maiiwasan ito kung susunod lamang sa health protocols tulad ng social distancing, pagsusuot ng face masks at face shields at dapat na magpabakuna.

“..it is three times more contagious than the original SARS COV-2 virus,” ani Salvaña sa IATF meeting kasama si Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte nitong Sabado ng gabi.

Kung dati aniya na may tatlong araw pa bago makahawa ng tao ang COVID-19 variants, ang Delta ay mas maikling oras lang o 30 oras ay puwede nang makahawa ng iba. habang ang mga sinasabi aniyang close contacts na may 15 minuto, sa Delta ay 1-2 minuto lang ay pwede nang makahawa.

Gayunman, ani Salvaña, umaasa siya na ang mga hakbang na ginagawa ng pamahalaan laban sa pagkalat ng nasabing variant ay tama.

“Face shield, face mask, physical distancing and of course we have to vaccinate everyone. We need to make sure na maglevel up ang ating compliance because the variant has levelled up,” ani Salvaña.

Dapat din aniya na tuluy-tuloy lang ang pagbabakuna laban sa COVID-19 at kung magagawang mas paspasan pa ay mas mabuti, at kasabay ng pagsunod sa health protocols ay maaring hindi matulad ang Pilipinas sa mga kalapit na ASEAN nations.

Source: <https://www.philstar.com/pilipino-star-ngayon/bansa/2021/07/26/2115203/delta-variant-8-tao-kayang-hawaan-sa-loob-ng-1-2-minuto/amp/>



EDITORIAL - Mag-ingat sa Delta variant

(Pilipino Star Ngayon) - July 26, 2021 - 12:00am



Nasa high risk ang National Capital Region (NCR) dahil sa mabilis na hawahan ng COVID-19. Ayon sa OCTA Research Group, tumaas sa 1.15 ang COVID-19 reproduction number sa NCR nang makapasok sa bansa ang Delta variant.

Ayon kay Dr. David Guido ng OCTA, mabilis ang hawahan ng COVID kapag mataas sa isa ang reproduction number. Ayon pa kay Guido, kapag nagpatuloy ang mabilis na hawahan, maaaring sumipa sa 10,000 ang kaso bawat araw ng COVID. Posible umano itong mangyari sa mga susunod na linggo o mas maaga pa.

Habang nagbababala ang OCTA sa posibleng pagdami ng kaso ng COVID, inihayag naman ng Department of Health (DOH) na may 12 pang kaso ng Delta variant ang naitala sa bansa. Mga lokal na kaso umano ang mga bagong naitalang kaso. Sa kabuuan, umakyat na sa 47 ang kaso ng Delta variant sa bansa.

Sa nangyayaring ito, nararapat na magpatupad ng ibayong paghihigpit para maiwasan ang bangis ng Delta variant, na ayon sa mga eksperto ay mas mabilis makahawa. Ang Delta variant ang kasalukuyang nananalasa sa Indonesia dahilan para umapaw ang mga pasyente sa ospital. Bago ang pananalasa sa Indonesia, ang variant ding ito ang tumama sa India noong Mayo at Hunyo na nagdulot nang maraming pagkamatay. Sa dami ng namatay sa India, sa open space na sinusunog ang mga bangkay. Ang iba naman, inilibing sa tabing dagat samantalang may pinaaanod sa Ganges River.

Kung magpapatuloy ang pagdami ng kaso ng Delta variant sa bansa, kailangan na ang todo-higpit sa border. Huwag hayaang may makapasok na dayuhan lalo kung galing sa mga bansa na may kaso ng Delta variant.

Huwag na ring palabasin ang mga bata sapagkat delikado silang mahawa ng Delta variant. Ipagpatuloy ang paghihigpit at laging ipaalala sa mamamayan na sundin ang health protocols. Magsuot ng face mask at face shield at huwag kalimutan ang social distancing. Lubusang pag-iingat ang nararapat ngayon sa mabagsik na Delta variant. Mayroon nang aral na natutuhan nang dumami ang kaso noong Marso at Abril kaya dapat alam na ang mga gagawin kapag humagupit ang Delta variant.

Source: <https://www.philstar.com/pilipino-star-ngayon/opinyon/2021/07/26/2115214/editorial-mag-ingat-sa-delta-variant/amp/>



5.5M Filipinos now fully vaccinated against COVID-19

By [CNN Philippines Staff](#) Published Jul 24, 2021 2:20:26 PM



Metro Manila (CNN Philippines, July 24) — Over 5.5 million Filipinos are now protected against COVID-19, the pandemic task force said Saturday, as the country's coronavirus shots near 500,000 per day.

"We are now past the crawl-and-walk stages, as we gradually run towards our goal of inoculating half a million Filipinos per day this quarter," National Task Force against COVID 19 Chief Implementer and vaccine czar Secretary Carlito G. Galvez Jr. was quoted as saying in a statement.

Galvez said the government was able to administer 472,356 doses across the country last Thursday — only 30,000 short of its target of at least half a million Filipinos per day this third quarter.

Around 16.4 million shots have already been administered since the rollout of the vaccination program last March.

NTF Deputy Chief Implementer and testing czar Secretary Vivencio Dizon said the figures mirrored the growing vaccine confidence in the country.

"The upward trajectory of our daily vaccination output in all priority sectors says so many things in the ongoing program — our vaccine supply inventory is expanding and the vaccine confidence of the Filipino people is increasing," Dizon said.

Dizon noted the government seeks to administer 750,000 doses of COVID-19 vaccines per day in the last quarter of 2021.

As of Friday, the Philippines has 30.98 million doses of coronavirus vaccines. Six million doses more are expected to arrive in the country next week, Galvez said.

Amid the Delta threat, Galvez urged the public to strictly follow health protocols.

"The best way to stop and limit the spread of the Delta variant, along with getting the vaccine, is diligently complying with minimum public health standards – mask, hugas, iwas. If possible, put on double masks. We need to be more conscious because the virus continues to mutate," he said.

Source: <https://cnnphilippines.com/news/2021/7/24/5.5m-filipinos-fully-vaccinated-against-covid-19.html>



Rody denies unspent Covid-19 fund claims

The Bayanihan 2, which was enacted into law to aid sectors badly-hit by the pandemic, expired on 30 June.

Published 6 hours ago on July 26, 2021 12:35 AM

By [MJ Blancaflor](#) @tribunephil_MJB



President Rodrigo Duterte has denied accusations that the government is “underspending” funds earmarked for the state’s pandemic response.

The President on Saturday night took a swipe at lawmakers for lamenting that billions-worth of funds allocated under the Bayanihan 2 were supposedly unused.

He particularly singled out Senators Panfilo Lacson and Vicente Sotto III, who announced that they are running for president and vice president in the May 2022 elections.

“I keep hearing Senator Lacson if I’m not mistaken — I forgot the others — Sotto, that we are underspending the Bayanihan (budget),” Duterte said during his televised meeting with the pandemic task force.

Lacson and Sotto did not publicly criticize the government over its unspent funds for the health crisis, but some opposition lawmakers like Francis Pangilinan have expressed frustration over the supposed failure of the Executive branch to utilize all of the budget granted by the Congress.

During the meeting, Finance Secretary Carlos Dominguez III assured Duterte and the public that around P660 billion of the money for Covid-19 response have been disbursed to concerned agencies.

“We have already released P660 billion. What they are referring to as ‘underspending’ is P6 billion or one percent of the total,” Dominguez said, citing data from the Department of Budget and Management (DBM).

Duterte, after hearing Dominguez’s response, advised lawmakers to listen to the Executive department.

“What is wrong with Congress is that they are not listening when you are talking. It would be better to give it a little shout,” the President told Dominguez.

The Bayanihan 2, which was enacted into law to aid sectors badly-hit by the pandemic, expired on 30 June.



Data from the DBM showed that P6.487 billion out of the P141.59-billion budget released for special appropriations under Bayanihan 2 remain unobligated and were reverted to the Bureau of the Treasury.

Budget Secretary Wendel Avisado has earlier said that billions-worth of funds downloaded by government agencies for the health crisis remain unspent.

He explained that each agency had their own expenditure patterns which the national government cannot control, noting that sluggish spending can only be addressed by the “implementing agencies themselves.”

Lawmakers have yet to respond to Duterte’s remarks at press time.

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
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