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NEWS ALERTS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



[Cimatu appeals for strict enforcement of Water Code, local ordinances within Manila Bay region](#)

JUL 26, 2021, 12:47 PM



Santiago Celario
Writer

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.

Environment and Natural Resources Secretary Roy Cimatu called on local government officials within the Manila Bay region to ensure the proper implementation of the Philippine Water Code and local policies and ordinances.

Cimatu made the statement after he 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.



[Cimatu appeals for strict enforcement of Water Code, local ordinances within Manila Bay region](#)

"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.

DENR said bamboo poles are among the trash that were washed up along Manila Bay's shoreline in the past few days, after Metro Manila was hit by thunderstorms.

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, 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 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 the Duterte administration in 2022.

"We also have to deal with the informal settlers. They have to be resettled otherwise we cannot completely clean Manila Bay," he added.

The Manila Bay region consists of four coastal provinces, namely Bataan, Bulacan, Cavite, and 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," Cimatu said.



Dolomite beach intact despite monsoon rains, says Cimatu

Published July 26, 2021, 5:02 PM

by [Ellson Quismorio](#)

The dolomite beach in Manila Bay is still intact.



River warriors from the Department Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and members of Manila City Hall's Department of Public Safety collect trash and water plants washed up along Manila Bay reaching up to the edge of the dolomite beach on Thursday, July 22, 2021. (Ali Vicoy/ MANILA BULLETIN)

Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Secretary Roy Cimatu gave this assurance to the public Monday, July 26 following days worth of heavy rains that allegedly caused the white-colored dolomite sand to be flushed into the bay.

"The [DENR] assures the public that after the assessment of the beach nourishment project in Manila Bay this morning (Monday), the dolomite area as well as the geotubes and geotextiles installed as geo interventions for the project are all intact," Cimatu said in a statement.

"The dolomite sand has not been washed out and the dolomite pebbles were only pushed to the perimeter of the beach area," he added.

Metro Manila was battered by rains resulting from the southwest monsoon over the weekend. Then, pictures and videos of the garbage-littered shoreline of Manila Bay began to pop up in social media.

This caused worries as to the state of the [controversial dolomite beach](#), which is a key facet of the P389-million Manila Bay Rehabilitation Program.

"While the normal high tide level is 1.3 meters, it rose to 1.5 to 1.6 meters because of the southwest monsoon that started last week and into the weekend," noted Cimatu.



Dolomite beach intact despite monsoon rains, says Cimatú



(Ali Vicoy/ MANILA BULLETIN)

“As a result, a huge amount of trash was swept by the waves which accumulated in the area. These were traced to have come from the Pasig River and Cavite and from all the tributaries that flow to the bay,” he said.

He did that plastic cups, wrappers, and styropor were among the trash collected from the shoreline. A huge number of bamboo poles from fish pens, fish cages, and baklads/sapras were also washed ashore.

“In view of this, I have ordered Region 4A Executive Director Nilo Tamoria to conduct an inventory of all the fish pens, fish cages, baklads/sapras in Cavite, and to identify those with permits to operate. Legitimate operators will be required to repair their damaged fish pens and cages. On the other hand, those with no permits will be immediately demolished,” Cimatú said.

“Even prior to the start of the habagat or southwest monsoon, I have already directed the Regional Executive Directors of the National Capital Region, and Regions 3 and 4A to strictly implement proper solid waste management especially in their areas of jurisdiction,” he added.

The Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) carried out a [cleanup](#) operation at the bay on Monday morning.



Manila Bay dolomite beach intact despite heavy rains

By Catherine Teves July 26, 2021, 8:26 pm



(Photo courtesy of DENR)

MANILA – Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Secretary Roy Cimatu on Monday assured the dolomite-laced beach along Manila Bay's Baywalk area remains intact despite high tide and piles of trash at the height of the southwest monsoon or "*habagat*".

"The dolomite sand has not been washed out and the dolomite pebbles were only pushed to the perimeter of the beach area," Cimatu said in a statement, citing results of DENR's latest assessment.

Geotubes and geotextiles installed in the area are not damaged, he added.

Cimatu ordered DENR Region 4-A Regional Executive Dir. Nilo Tamoria to inventory all fish pens, fish cages and *baklad/sapra* installations in Cavite province and identify which of these have permits to operate, noting many bamboo poles washed ashore during "*habagat*" and accumulated in the dolomite beach.

He said legitimate operators must repair respective damaged fish pens and cages.

"On the other hand, those with no permits will be immediately demolished," he said.

Bamboo poles are commonly used in making fish pens and cages.

DENR has been drawing criticism for the dolomite beach as some people said money for this project could have been used instead in efforts to address the coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) pandemic.

It said the project is among activities for Manila Bay's rehabilitation which aims to make this water body fit again for contact recreation as Supreme Court ordered in 2008.

Cimatu noted as "*habagat*" surged, high tide rose from the normal 1.3 meters to between 1.5 meters and 1.6 meters.



Manila Bay dolomite beach intact despite heavy rains

"As a result, a huge amount of trash was swept by the waves which accumulated in the area," he said.

He called on the public to dispose trash properly, noting plastic cups, wrappers and styrofoam from Cavite and Manila Bay's tributaries also washed ashore and ended up in the dolomite beach.

"We at DENR believe that behavioral change is the key and ultimate solution to address the issue of solid waste management in the country," he said.

Cimatu thanked all volunteers as well as river and "estero" rangers who are helping rehabilitate Manila Bay by cleaning the Baywalk area and Baseco Beach.

Manila Bay borders the western Luzon-lying portions of Regions 4-A and 3, as well as Metro Manila.
(PNA)



Dolomite sa Manila Bay 'di na-washed out – Cimatu



July 26, 2021 @ 7:50 PM 10 hours ago

MANILA, Philippines – Tiniyak ni Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Sec. Roy Cimatu sa publiko na matapos ang assessment ng beach nourishment project sa Manila Bay ngayong umaga ang dolomite sa lugar gaya ng geotubes at geotextiles na inilagay sa proyekto ay nananatiling intact. At ang dolomite sand sa lugar ay hindi nawa-washed out at ang dolomite pebbles ay naitutulak lamang sa perimeter ng beach area.

Ayon kay Cimatu ang normal high tide level ay 1.3 meters at ito'y umaabot ng 1.5 to 1.6 meters dahil sa southwest monsoon gaya ng tinukoy nitong nakalipas na linggo.

Bilang resulta na malaking bilang ng mga basura na natangay ng alon ay naipon sa lugar at natukoy na ang mga basura ay galling sa Pasig River at Cavite na pawang sa tributaries na tinangay ng alon gaya ng plastic cups, wrappers at styropor ay kabilang sa mga basura na tinangay.

Ang malaking bilang ng puno ng kawayan mula sa mga fish pens, fish cages at baklads/sapras ay kabilang sa tinangay sa baybayin.

Kaugnay nito sinabi ni Cimatu bilang reaksiyon nito inutusan nito si Region 4A Executive Director Nilo Tamera na magsagawa ng inventory sa lahat ng fish pens, fish cages, baklads/sapras sa Cavite at alamin ang mga ito kung mga kaukulang permits to operate.

Ayon pa sa opisyal ang mga lehitimong operators ay required na kumpunihin ang kanilang napinsalang fish pens at cages at sa kabilang banda ang mga walang permits na napinsalang fish pens at cages ay kinakailangan i-demolis.



Dolomite sa Manila Bay 'di na-washed out – Cimatú

Samantala sinabi ni Cimatú bago magsimula ang habagat o southwest monsoon, binigyang direktiba nito ang Regional Executive Directors nng National Capital Region at Region 3 at 4A na mahigpit na magpatupad ng proper solid waste management lalo na sa kanilang nasasakupan.

Kaugnay nito pinasalamatan at binigyan halaga ni Cimatú ang lahat ng mga volunteers, river rangers at estero rangers na tumulong sa paglilinis ng Manila Baywalk at Baseco sa lahat ng basura sa pagpapatuloy ng isinasagawang rehabilitation sa Manila Bay. *Santi Celario*



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

Published on: July 26, 2021
By DENR



QUEZON CITY -- The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) on Saturday, July 17, spearheaded the planting of some 1,000 mangrove trees in Macabebe, Pampanga 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 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 Philippine *Rhizophora* species used in the planting activity consisted of bakauan-lalaki (*Rhizophora apiculata* Blume) and bakauan-babae (*Rhizophora mucronata* Lamarck).

DENR Undersecretary for Solid Waste Management and Local Government Units Concerns Benny D. Antiporda, also the Supervising Undersecretary for SCIS, encouraged the participants "to avoid the word compliance" as he reminded them "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," 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 said.



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

According to Antiporda, planting mangrove trees in Macabebe town is "relevant to the observance of the National Disaster Resilience Month because mangrove trees help towns and provinces to be resilient from natural disasters."

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 being 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.

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. (DENR)



DENR taps IPs to maintain Chico River Basin under revenue-sharing scheme



[BYJONATHAN L. MAYUGA](#)

JULY 26, 2021

4 MINUTE READ

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) has pledged to provide compensation to Indigenous Peoples (IP) who maintain the forests of the Chico River Basin.

The compensation is part of a revenue-sharing scheme to be implemented in the watershed and agro-forestry management in Cordillera, which will ensure water replenishment for the Chico River Pump Irrigation Project.

A total of 7,530 hectares of farmland depend on the Chico River Pump Irrigation Project for sustainable water supply.

"The revenue will make sure a PO [people's organization] member gets his share from whatever activity he contributes, such as growing seedlings. The government also wants to earn from its management of the natural resource," Marilyn Malecdan, regional project coordinator of the Chico River project said in a news statement.

The Cordillera provinces—Mt. Province, Kalinga, Apayao, Ifugao— will host the Chico River Pump Irrigation Project touted to be one of the flagship projects of the Duterte administration.

It was originally planned to be completed by end of 2021 or early 2022 but its implementation was stalled by the Covid-19 disease pandemic that compelled community quarantines across the country.

It is estimated to irrigate farms in Tuao and Piat in Cagayan , and 1,170 hectares in Pinukpuk, Kalinga. To be benefited are an estimated 4,350 families.

The watershed management project of DENR includes a 5,056-hectare revenue-earning agroforestry sites (grown with fruit-bearing trees and vegetables).

It was approved in 2012 and was originally conceived to preserve and conserve the Upper Chico River Basin that straddles through Mt. Province, Kalinga, Apayao, and Ifugao provinces.

The project, under the Integrated Resources Environmental Management Program (INREMP), is in its final year of completion.

A sustainability plan with a revenue-sharing scheme is now being mapped to ensure the project's success.

"Chico River Basin has vast potentials for development. It has potential for electric power, irrigation, domestic purposes, and recreation. The river harnesses the major irrigation systems to water its vast rice lands. As a result, Kalinga has been promoted as a rice granary of the region," Engr. Ralph C. Pablo, INREMP-CAR (Cordillera Administrative Region) project director said for his part.

While environmental protection is the primary aim, INREMP has successfully generated livelihood for the upland residents.



DENR taps IPs to maintain Chico River Basin under revenue-sharing scheme

Through collaboration with other agencies like the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) and Department of Agriculture (DA), the PO partners are able to process and market their coffee. The DENR project provided them with coffee dehullers, roasters, grinders, and other packaging tools.

Farmers in the area are also producing muscovado sugar, wine from various fruits such as Bignay, and rice and corn. The provision of rice mills, hand tractors, and multi-purpose pavement for drying products made the lives of farmers in far-flung communities of the Cordillera easier.

“Our rural infrastructure projects have greatly helped them in transporting their products. With our project we’re able to help people in the far-flung areas that used to be inaccessible [due to mountain barriers],” she said.

INREMP’s rural infrastructure support, in partnership also with the DA, includes rehabilitated access roads of 42.32 kilometers and a foot trail of 10,000 meters.

The infrastructure support helped the natives of Cordillera to cut hauling costs and increase the productivity of the lands. Also, women were freed from the burden of fetching water from far communal water sources.

INREMP has so far established 3,701 hectares of reforestation area (deforested but replanted) and 5,056 hectares of agroforestry (vegetable and fruit crops with dipterocarp trees planted).

Tree species planted include narra, Benguet pine, and dipterocarp trees (broad-leafed, lowland tropical trees) such as white lauan.

It has also established a total of 6,533 hectares of assisted natural regeneration area—naturally growing young trees (regenerants) that are cleaned and trimmed. The areas are supported to grow trees with ring weeding, thinning to avoid crowding, fertilizer application, and planting of open spaces.

A separate 955 hectares of commercial tree plantation (CTP) has been grown by the IPs using fast-growing tree species such as Benguet pine, Gmelina, and Mahogany (harvestable from eight to 20 years).

An area called conservation farming—where contouring and other agroforestry techniques are used to eliminate soil erosion in sloping areas—now total to 690 hectares.

With the CTP, the IPs are able to generate construction materials for their own needs such as for housing, and do not have to illegally cut trees.

“Mt. Province has become the home to high-value crops yielding legumes/beans, carrots, root crops, and other cash crops. White water rafting along the Chico River is another potential attracting local as well as foreign tourists. There are still untapped prospects that include gold, sulfur, copper, gypsum, clay and gravel, and other quarry resources,” said Pablo.

INREMP is co-financed by the Asian Development Bank, allocating a restructured loan amount of \$57 million for INREMP. INREMP is receiving a grant of \$2.5 million from the Global Environment Facility.

Source: <https://businessmirror.com.ph/2021/07/26/denr-taps-ips-to-maintain-chico-river-basin-under-revenue-sharing-scheme/>



[DENR lauds allies for cleanup efforts in Manila Bay](#)

JUL 26, 2021, 5:27 PM



Santiago Celario
Writer

The event is just one of the thanksgiving activities lined up by the DENR for its partners involved in the rehabilitation of Manila Bay.

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) recently held a thanksgiving event to acknowledge the efforts of estero rangers, as well as partners from the government sector, civil society and DENR field offices for their continuous support to rehabilitate Manila Bay.

The event, held last July 14, cited the invaluable contributions of "environmental frontliners" of the Manila Bay rehabilitation project.

"I commend all the estero rangers and partners for your unwavering sacrifices and hard work to clean up Manila Bay. I truly appreciate your efforts which resulted in the success of our program," Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu said during the event.

Seventy-three estero rangers of the DENR-National Capital Region's (NCR) West Field Office (WFO) attended the event and cleanup activity at the beach area of the Manila Baywalk.

The activity was organized by the DENR-Strategic Communication and Initiatives Service led by Undersecretary for Solid Waste Management and Local Government Units Concerns Benny Antiporda.



[DENR lauds allies for cleanup efforts in Manila Bay](#)

Present during the event were representatives from the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority, Department of Public Services-Manila, Career Executive Service Board, and DENR personnel from the NCR-WFO, Manila Bay Coordinating Office (MBCO), and Task Force Tayo ang Kalikasan.

The event is just one of the thanksgiving activities lined up by the DENR for its partners involved in the rehabilitation of Manila Bay.

"The arduous task to bring back the glory of Manila Bay is a collective effort, and I'm truly grateful to our partners for remaining steadfast in our work. This rehabilitation will not only be beneficial to us but for the next generations," Cimatú said.

Data from the MBCO revealed that a total of 14,701.60 cubic meters of solid waste have been collected by DENR and MMDA from January to March 2021.

The retrieval of garbage was done through various cleanup activities in Manila Bay and connecting waterways and rivers with the use of trash traps, trash boats, and collection done by volunteers and estero rangers.

In preparation for the southwest monsoon or "habagat" season in the country, DENR-NCR Regional Executive Director Jacqueline A. Caanacan has deployed 50 estero rangers in the Manila Baywalk area and 10 marshals.

They have so far retrieved 5,131 sacks of solid waste and 408 wood and bamboo poles from June 23 to July 14.

A total of 587 estero rangers are also currently deployed by the DENR-NCR WFO in the cities of Manila, San Juan, Pasay, Mandaluyong, and Makati.

Based on the DENR's monitoring, eight out of the nine monitoring stations along the Manila Baywalk have registered lower fecal coliform levels.

The most significant decrease was noted in Padre Faura Station with a fecal coliform level of 7.61 million in 2019 to 3,300 in March 2021. (SC)



DENR pinuri ang mga katuwang sa pagsisikap na malinis ang Manila Bay



July 26, 2021 @ 7:47 PM 10 hours ago

MANILA, Philippines – Upang kilalanin ang pagsisikap ng estero rangers maging ang mga kabahagi mula sa government sector, civil society at DENR field officer sa kanilang patuloy na pagsuporta sa rehabilitasyon ng Manila Bay nagsagawa ng thanksgiving event ang Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

Ginanap ito noong Hulyo 14 na inisyatibo ni Secretary Roy A. Cimatu kasabay ng pagsasabi sa mahalagang kontribusyon ng “environmental frontliners” sa Manila Bay rehabilitation project.

“I commend all the estero rangers and partners for your unwavering sacrifices and hard work to clean up Manila Bay. I truly appreciate your efforts which resulted in the success of our program,” pahayag ni Cimatu.

Sa press release ayon sa DENR umabot sa 73 estero rangers ng DENR-National Capital Region (NCR) West Field Office (WFO) ang dumalo sa event at cleanup activity sa beach area ng Manila Baywalk.

Sinabi ng DENR ang aktibidad na ito ay inorganisa ng DENR-Strategic Communication and Initiatives Service na pinamumunuan ni Undersecretary for Solid Waste Management and Local Government Units Concerns Benny D. Antiporda.

Kabilang din sa mga dumalo sa event ang mga kinatawan mula sa Metropolitan Manila Development Authority, Department of Public Services-Manila, Career Executive Service Board, DENR personnel mula sa NCR-WFO, Manila Bay Coordinating Office (MBCO) at Task Force Tayo ang Kalikasan.



DENR pinuri ang mga katuwang sa pagsisikap na malinis ang Manila Bay

Ang naturang event ay isa lamang sa mga thanksgiving activities na nakalinya ng DENR para sa mga partners nito na kabahagi sa rehabilitasyon ng Manila Bay.

“The arduous task to bring back the glory of Manila Bay is a collective effort, and I’m truly grateful to our partners for remaining steadfast in our work. This rehabilitation will not only be beneficial to us but for the next generations,” saad ni Cimatú.

Kaugnay nito batay sa datus mula sa MBCO, umabot na sa 14,701.60 cubic meters ng solid waste ang nakuha ng DENR at MMDA mula sa Enero hanggang Marso 2021.

Sinabi pa ng DENR ang pagkolekta sa mga basura ay mula sa sunod-sunod na cleanup activities sa Manila Bay at sa mga nakakonektang waterways at ilog dito gamit ang trash traps, trash boats at matiyagang pagkuha ng mga volunteers at estero rangers.

Bilang paghahanda naman sa southwest monsoon o “habagat” season sa bansa, nagpakalat na si DENR-NCR Regional Executive Director Jacqueline A. Caanacan ng 50 estero rangers at 10 marshalls sa Manila Baywalk area.

Sa kasalukuyan, nakakolekta na ng 5,131 sako ng solid waste at 408 ng wood at bamboo poles mula Hunyo 23 hanggang Hulyo 14.

Nabatid pa sa DENR5 mayroon na ring 587 estero rangers ang ipinakalat ng DENR-NCR-WFO sa mga lungsod ng Maynila, San Juan, Pasay, Mandaluyong at Makati.

Ayon na rin sa DENR monitoring, walo sa siyam na monitoring stations sa kahabaan ng Manila Baywalk ang nakapagtala ng mababang fecal coliform level.

Ang pinakamalaking pagbaba ay naitala sa Padre Faura Station kung saan ang fecal coliform level noong 2019 ay 7.61 million at ngayong Marso 2021 ay umabot na lamang ito sa 3,300. *Santi Celario*



DENR deploys estero rangers

By [Rhodina Villanueva](#)(Philstar.com)

- July 27, 2021 - 12:00am

MANILA, Philippines — The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) has deployed over 500 estero rangers in the metropolis, including Manila's Baywalk, to help prevent floods during the rainy season.

DENR National Capital Region executive director Jacqueline Caancan said a total of 587 rangers were deployed in the cities of Manila, Makati, Mandaluyong, Pasay and San Juan.

Of the number, 50 DENR rangers and 10 marshals were assigned in Manila's Baywalk.

"They have collected from Manila Bay 5,131 sacks of waste and 408 wood and bamboo poles from June 23 to July 14," Caancan said.

The rangers were tasked by the DENR to help local government units address the waste disposal problem and improve garbage collection in Manila Bay.

Caancan said eight out of the nine monitoring stations along the bay have registered lower fecal coliform levels.

"The most significant decrease was noted in Padre Faura station, with fecal coliform level of 7.61 million in 2019 down to 3,300 last March," Caancan said.

Data from the Manila Bay Coordinating Office showed that a total of 14,701.60 cubic meters of solid waste have been collected by the DENR and Metropolitan Manila Development Authority from January to March this year.

With the help of volunteers, the DENR conducted cleanup in Manila Bay as well as connecting waterways and rivers with the use of trash traps and boats.

The DENR thanked its partners from the government sector, civic organizations and the department's field offices for their support in rehabilitating Manila Bay.

"The arduous task to bring back the glory of Manila Bay is a collective effort," Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu said.

President Duterte, in his final State of the Nation Address yesterday, ordered the DENR to continue the bay rehabilitation.



DENR deploys 600 'rangers' to boost faltering Manila Bay cleanup drive



[BYJONATHAN L. MAYUGA](#)

JULY 26, 2021

4 MINUTE READ

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) is banking on the deployment of "estero rangers" to keep Manila Bay clean and free of garbage.

The rangers are currently deployed by the DENR-National Capital Region West Field Office (NCR-WFO) in the cities of Manila, San Juan, Pasay, Mandaluyong, and Makati.

DENR, the lead agency tasked to lead the rehabilitation of Manila Bay, steps up the campaign amid heavy downpour in most parts of Luzon in recent days that saw thrash being wiped atop the dolomite beach along Baywalk in Roxas Boulevard on Saturday and Sunday.

To recognize their effort, the DENR recently held a thanksgiving event for the rangers, as well as partners from the government sector, civil society and DENR field offices for their continuous support to rehabilitate Manila Bay.

The appreciation event held last July 14 was initiated by Secretary Roy A. Cimatu, citing the invaluable contributions of "environmental frontliners" of the Manila Bay rehabilitation project.

"I commend all the estero rangers and partners for your unwavering sacrifices and hard work to clean up Manila Bay. I truly appreciate your efforts which resulted in the success of our program," Cimatu said in a news statement.

A total of 73 estero rangers of the NCR-WFO attended the event and cleanup activity at the beach area of the Manila Baywalk.

The activity was organized by the DENR-Strategic Communication and Initiatives Service led by Undersecretary for Solid Waste Management and Local Government Units Concerns Undersecretary Benny D. Antiporda.

Present during the event were representatives from the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA), Department of Public Services-Manila, Career Executive Service Board, and DENR personnel from the NCR-WFO, Manila Bay Coordinating Office (MBCO), and Task Force Tayo ang Kalikasan.

The said event is just one of the thanksgiving activities lined up by the DENR for its partners that are involved in the rehabilitation of Manila Bay.

"The arduous task to bring back the glory of Manila Bay is a collective effort, and I'm truly grateful to our partners for remaining steadfast in our work. This rehabilitation will not only be beneficial to us but for the next generations," Cimatu added.

Data from the MBCO revealed that a total of 14,701.60 cubic meters of solid waste have been collected by DENR and MMDA from January to March 2021.

The retrieval of garbage was done through various cleanup activities in Manila Bay and connecting waterways and rivers with the use of trash traps, trash boats, and collection done by volunteers and estero rangers.



DENR deploys 600 'rangers' to boost faltering Manila Bay cleanup drive

In preparation for the southwest monsoon or "habagat" season in the country, DENR-NCR Regional Executive Director Jacqueline A. Caanacan has deployed 50 estero rangers in the Manila Baywalk area and 10 marshals.

They have so far retrieved 5,131 sacks of solid waste and 408 wood and bamboo poles from June 23 to July 14.

Based on the DENR's monitoring, eight out of the nine monitoring stations along the Manila Baywalk has registered lower fecal coliform levels.

The most significant decrease was noted in Padre Faura Station with a fecal coliform level of 7.61 million in 2019 to 3,300 in March 2021.



Cleanup operations

July 27, 2021



Personnel of the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority look at the tons of trash that washed up in Manila Bay during cleanup operations on Monday. PHOTOS BY MIKE ALQUINTO



MMDA

17h



MMDA CONDUCTS CLEANUP OPERATIONS IN MANILA BAY

Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) Chairman Atty. Benhur Abalos personally supervised the agency's cleanup operations at Manila Bay earlier today, as influx of trash was swept into the bay due to heavy rains in the past days brought by southwest monsoon.

At least 70 personnel from MMDA Metro Parkways Clearing Group were deployed to clean Manila Bay.

According to Abalos, two truckloads of garbage were collected in the area yesterday, or about 40 cubic meters.

Among the trash seen from bay's shoreline were plastic bottles, pieces of styrofoam and other debris.

"Plastics are the most common trash found in Manila Bay. Undisputedly, it negatively affects the environment," Abalos pointed out.

Moreover, Abalos appealed to the public to avoid throwing discards anywhere.

"Let us start a move right now. Behavioral change among Filipinos is key to address plastic waste problem in Manila Bay. Stop the habit of indiscriminate dumping not only in Manila Bay, but also on different waterways in the metropolis," Abalos said.

The MMDA chief also expressed gratefulness to the personnel of Department of Environment and Natural Resources and City Government of Manila for their clean-up initiatives in Manila Bay.

Meanwhile, Abalos said he have sought the assistance of the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), asking help from the policemen to arrest individuals who will throw garbage in Manila Bay.

"I've already talked to DILG Secretary Eduardo Año on this matter. Those apprehended would be obliged to clean Manila Bay," Abalos stressed.

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MMDA

17h

MMDA CONDUCTS CLEANUP OPERATIONS IN MANILA BAY





2 truck ng basura nahakot sa Manila Bay

By [Ludy Bermudo](#) (Pilipino Star Ngayon)

- July 27, 2021 - 12:00am



Personal na sinamahan ni MMDA Chairman Benhur Abalos ang nasa 70 tauhan ng MMDA Metro Parkways Clearing Group kahapon ng umaga sa clean-up operations na umabot sa 40 cubic meters ang dami ng basurang napadpad sa Manila Bay.

Edd Gumban/File

Dahil sa pag-ulan dala ng habagat

MANILA, Philippines — Dalawang truck ng basura ang nakolekta ng Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) sa Manila Bay na dala ng matinding pag-ulan dulot ng southwest monsoon sa mga nakalipas na araw .

Personal na sinamahan ni MMDA Chairman Benhur Abalos ang nasa 70 tauhan ng MMDA Metro Parkways Clearing Group kahapon ng umaga sa clean-up operations na umabot sa 40 cubic meters ang dami ng basurang napadpad sa Manila Bay.

Kapuna-puna ang dami ng plastic bottles, mga piraso ng styrofoam at iba pang debris, ani Abalos.

Muling umapela si Abalos sa publiko na iwasang magtapon ng basura sa kung saan-saan na maaring mapadpad sa Manila Bay.

Nagpahayag din ng pasasalamat ang pinuno ng MMDA sa mga tauhan ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources at City Government ng Manila para sa kanilang mga pagkukusa sa paglilinis sa Manila Bay.

Samantala, sinabi ni Abalos na humingi na sila ang assistance sa Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), para tumulong sa mga pulis na arestuhin ang mga indibidwal na mahuhuli ang mga walang patumanggang pagtatapon ng basura sa Manila Bay.

"I've already talked to DILG Secretary Eduardo Año on this matter. Those apprehended would be obliged to clean Manila Bay," ani Abalos.

Source: <https://www.philstar.com/pilipino-star-ngayon/metro/2021/07/27/2115487/2-truck-ng-basura-nahakot-sa-manila-bay/amp/>



'DISHEARTENING' | Manila Bay dolomite beach filled with trash anew as monsoon rains hit

July 26, 2021 , 01:05 PM
By Beatrice Puente

(July 26, 2021) – Barely a week since its reopening, the multi-million-peso dolomite sand beach in Manila Bay is now filled with garbage due to the heavy monsoon rains and strong winds that hit the capital and other parts of Luzon for days.

Dozens of workers from the local government unit (LGU) of Manila and the Metro Manila Development Authority (MMDA) collected 13.4 tons of trash on Sunday alone, which they described as “disheartening,” in a bid to salvage anew the P28-million controversial project.

MMDA chairman Benhur Abalos encouraged the public to “change their mindset” to lessen waste production that can damage rivers and other bodies of water.

“Kung malinis lahat ito, there should really come a time na mag-enjoy tayo rito (sa Manila Bay),” said Abalos. “Pero as long as ganito ito, sana ‘wag naman, magtulungan na lang tayo rito.”

Abalos lamented the large volume of styrofoam and single-use plastics they retrieved. But he said they will send these materials to recycling facilities to make them useful.

Violators of environment regulations should also be obliged to render at least five hours of community service to mobilize more people in cleaning up Manila Bay instead of paying fines or jail time, Abalos suggested.

It was not the first time that the much-maligned dolomite sand beach was affected by natural occurrences. Last October, black sand from the sea covered a large portion of the area. It also gets quickly littered with garbage during inclement weather.

Environmental groups have repeatedly called on the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) to cancel it because of dangerous impacts on nature and people’s health.

Experts from the [University of the Philippines](#) said dolomite sand can negatively affect marine life and further pollute the waters, contrary to its purpose of supposedly improving the conditions of Manila Bay. Health officials have also raised the possibility of respiratory problems when the material is inhaled.

But DENR easily brushed these off, even providing an additional P265 million for the second phase of the controversial project. It was added on top of the P389 million beautification plan of the entire Manila Bay.

Cause-oriented groups have continued to convince the government to rethink the dolomite beach sand given its drastic impact on the environment. Gloria Estenzo Ramos of Oceana Philippines said the administration should focus on more pressing matters instead of wasting taxpayers’ money.



'DISHEARTENING' | Manila Bay dolomite beach filled with trash anew as monsoon rains hit

"Many Filipinos are still without a vaccine (against COVID-19) and here comes the government trying to beautify Manila Bay by using crushed dolomite," said Ramos last May. "It's beautification against public emergency. We're basically wasting money."

Presidential spokesperson Harry Roque said it is good for mental health.

(PM | with reports from Justinne Punsalang, News 5)



Duterte: Dolomite beach to be replenished until better solution found

By [Gaea Katreena Cabico](#)(Philstar.com)
- July 26, 2021 - 8:24pm



A bulldozer is seen working on the "white sand"—actually crushed dolomite rocks—poured along the shoreline of Manila Bay on September 6, 2020.

MANILA, Philippines — President Rodrigo Duterte said Monday that the artificial white sand beach made from crushed dolomite rocks needs regular replenishment until the government thinks of a better solution to Manila Bay's environmental problems.

In his final State of the Nation Address, Duterte called on the Department of Environment and Natural Resources to sustain efforts in restoring the heavily polluted Manila Bay "to its former glory."

The chief executive also mentioned the use of artificial sand and stressed the need to replenish it when it gets washed out.

"Sometimes it disappears because of the waves. Every now and then, we still have to replenish because we cannot change the nature of our shores. It is how it is. It is not a permanent fixture there," Duterte said.

"The only way to do it is to replenish it until we can think of a good alternative of how we can process the whole things back to its normal state," he added.

Last year, the DENR undertook a beach nourishment project using crushed dolomite rocks to help rehabilitate and protect coastal resources as well as to prevent erosion.

The estimated cost of the project was P389 million, around P28 million of which was allotted for the overlaying of the fake white sand on a stretch of Manila Bay's shoreline.



Duterte: Dolomite beach to be replenished until better solution found

'Expensive, temporary effort'

The use of pulverized dolomite rocks has been met with criticism, with environmental groups and scientists saying the project is an expensive and temporary effort that will not address the bay's environmental problems.

They said the solutions to the degradation of Manila Bay include addressing the issue of solid waste management, and restoring mangrove forests and seagrass meadows.

In a statement Monday, the DENR said the dolomite area as well the geotubes and geotextiles installed as geo interventions for the project are "in tact."

"The dolomite area has not been washed out and the dolomite pebbles were only pushed to the perimeter of the beach," Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu said.

No mention of climate action

Duterte also talked about some wins in the government's effort to rehabilitate Manila Bay such as the move to close down hundreds of open dump sites near the area and the reduction of the bay's fecal coliform level.

He also hoped that "our next leaders and future generation will not squander our natural resources and fight for the integrity of our environment in a manner fiercer and more effective than my administration has ever done."

But in a SONA that lasted for almost three hours, the longest since 1986, the chief executive made no mention of other concrete actions to protect the environment and mitigate the impacts of climate change.



Manila Bay dolomite needs to be replenished, says Duterte

By LLANESCA T. PANTI, GMA News
Published July 26, 2021 7:46pm

The white dolomite at the Manila Bay will have to be replenished "because of the waves," President Rodrigo Duterte has said.

In his last State of the Nation Address, Duterte said the dolomite which makes a portion of the Manila Bay shores look like a white sand beach was only temporary "until we can think of a good alternative."

Duterte was referring to P389 million beach nourishment project by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

"On Manila Bay, iyong ginawa natin na nilagay iyang [buhangin], scattered, nawawala minsan because of the waves," Duterte said.

"We still have to replenish it because we cannot change the nature of our shores. It is not a permanent fixture there, until we can think of a good alternative," he added.

The beach nourishment project was opened to the public back in September 2020 and again this month amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

Since then, however, the dolomite sand are being eroded by rains which are fixture in our country. —NB, GMA News

Source: <https://www.facebook.com/116724526976/posts/1016024728011977/>



DENR KAKASUHAN SA DOLOMITE PROJECT

[8 hours ago jake](#)



MAGSASAMPA na ng kaso sa korte si Deputy Speaker Lito Atienza kapag itinuloy pa ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) ang pagtatambak ng dolomite sa Manila Bay.

Ito ang kinumpirma ni Atienza matapos muling anurin ang dolomite na itinambak ng DENR sa Manila Bay project ng mga ito nang manalasa ang habagat na nagdulot ng ilang araw na pag-ulan sa Metro Manila.

“Pag pinilit pa yan we go to court,” ani Atienza subalit hindi nito sinabi kung saan korte ito maghahain ng asunto at kung anong kaso ang ihahain sa DENR na pinamumunuan ni Secretary Roy Cimatu.

Ayon kay Atienza, sinasayang lang ng ahensya ang pera ng bayan sa nasabing proyekto na ayon sa kanya ay umaabot na umano sa halos kalahating bilyon ang pondong naubos.

Unang tinambakan ng dolomite ang maliit na bahagi ng Manila Bay noong nakaraang taon at binuksan ito sa publiko noong Setyembre 2020 subalit dalawang buwan matapos ito ay nanalasa ang bagyong Ulysses.

Dahil dito, natabunan ng basura ang dolomite project at naubos ang white sand na inangkat pa ng ahensya sa Cebu.

Gayumpaman, muling tinambakan ng DENR ng dolomite ang nasabing bahagi ng Manila Bay noong Abril 2021 subalit muli itong inanod dahil sa mga pag-ulan. Labis itong ikinagalit ni Atienza na tinawag na “Biggest Nonsense project” ito ng gobyerno. (BERNARD TAGUINOD)



DENR-3 ramps up geohazard assessment to protect communities

By Zorayda Tecson July 26, 2021, 3:00 pm



CITY OF SAN FERNANDO, Pampanga – The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR)-Region 3, through its Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB) regional office, has strengthened its National Geohazard Assessment and Mapping Program (NGAMP) to continuously identify areas in Central Luzon that are susceptible to geologic hazards and protect communities from disaster and calamities.

Engineer Alilo Ensomo, Jr., regional director of MGB, said in an official social media post on Monday that the NGAMP is part of the country's disaster risk reduction management program and centers on rain-induced landslides, floods, flash floods, ground subsidence or sinking, and other forms of slope instabilities that are not directly induced by earthquakes or volcanic activities.

"In Central Luzon, the MGB was able to complete its 1:10,000 scale geohazard maps in 2014, and has been conducting vulnerability and risk assessment and updating of geohazard maps to identify potential areas which may be prone to natural disasters," he said.

Ensomo said the MGB conducted coastal geohazard mapping in the eastern and western seaboard of the region and completed the assessment of 39 coastal municipalities in Central Luzon in 2018.

Starting last year, he said the MGB also conducted a detailed assessment of highly vulnerable coastal barangays in Botolan and San Narciso in Zambales.

Likewise, he said the MGB expanded its NGAMP by including karst subsidence and hazard assessment in areas underlain by limestone, such as Candelaria in Zambales, San Miguel and Doña Remedios Trinidad in Bulacan, and General Tinio in Nueva Ecija.



DENR-3 ramps up geohazard assessment to protect communities

"Let us maximize the use of these geohazard maps as fundamental tools in disaster preparation, so that potential impacts of natural calamities may be reduced and more communities will be saved from danger," Ensomo said.

Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu has described a geohazard map as a "life-saving tool" that aids susceptible communities in preparing against the destructive and life-threatening impacts of floods, landslides, liquefaction, earthquake, and other ground instabilities. (PNA)



2 Masungi Georeserve ranger nabaril; PNP nangako ng proteksyon



July 26, 2021 @ 8:31 PM 9 hours ago

MANILA, Philippines – Nangako ang Philippine National Police nitong Lunes na handa silang protektahan ang forest rangers matapos maitala ang insidente ng pamamaril sa dalawang Masungi Georeserve ranger.

Ayon kay PNP Chief Police General Guillermo Eleazar, ilulunsad nila ang ilang programang magsasanay sa mga forest ranger upang maiwasan ang ganitong klase ng insidente.

Aniya, masusing imbestigasyon na ang isinasagawa ng pamunuan sa nangyari.

“Hindi ito ang unang insidente ng pananakot, pananakit at pagpatay sa mga forest ranger dahil ilang mga kaparehong kaso din ang naitala ng inyong kapulisan sa Palawan at iba pang lugar sa mga nakalipas na taon,” saad ni PNP chief.

Samantala, humingi na ng proteksyon ang Masungi Georeserve Foundation sa kapulisan makaraan ngang mabaril ang dalawa nilang forest ranger na nakapwesto sa Sitio San Roque, Barangay Pinugay sa Baras, Rizal.

“One ranger was shot in the head and the other was shot in the neck. They are now being treated with first aid and are preparing to transfer to another hospital,” aniya.

“We are devastated and enraged by this heinous act of violence and attempted murder against forest defenders,” dagdag pa ng pundasyon.



2 Masungi Georeserve ranger nabaril; PNP nangako ng proteksyon

Inamin na rin ng Masungi Georeserve na nakatatanggap umano sila ng ilang banta at hinaharas ng mga taong lumalabag at hindi nasisiyahan sa kanilang lugar sa nakaraang ilang buwan.

"We beg for immediate security assistance and action against land grabbers, professional squatters, and illegal encroachers inside the Upper Marikina Watershed," sumamo ng kanilang samahan.

"We are disturbed that this atrocity could happen in an area where a Special Action Forces station is just around the corner." *RNT/Riza Guarin-trainee*



SMC removes 330,000 MT of garbage from Tullahan River

By [Catherine Talavera](#)(Philstar.com)

- July 27, 2021 - 12:00am

MANILA, Philippines — Diversified conglomerate San Miguel Corp. has removed more than 330,000 metric tons (MT) of garbage from the Tullahan River over a year since SMC started the cleanup.

In a statement yesterday, SMC said it had extracted 332,192 MT of silt and solid waste from the river as of July 22.

"The waste extracted were moved to government-approved disposal centers," SMC said.

The company said the cleanup of the Tullahan River benefited the public in the past days as floods that affected Valenzuela, Malabon and Navotas subsided quickly compared to before.

"With heavy rains brought by Typhoon Fabian and the southwest monsoon in the past few days, we monitored the flooding situation at critical sections of the Tullahan River. Despite the rains, the river did not overflow and the flashfloods in nearby areas subsided in a few hours," SMC president Ramon Ang said.

Ang said the construction of the river wall, pumping stations and dredging operations helped lessen floods in northern Metro Manila.

Valenzuela Mayor Rex Gatchalian thanked SMC for the dredging efforts that significantly reduced floods in the city.

"The floodwaters subsided quickly. Yesterday, it was gone after five hours. Before, it took the whole day," Gatchalian said.

SMC has accelerated the dredging of Tullahan River and is working on the cleanup of the 27-kilometer river system, a main tributary to Manila Bay.

The company has been undertaking the P1-billion Tullahan-Tinajeros River System cleanup project.

The Tullahan River was identified as one of the top Philippine rivers polluting the oceans with plastic waste, according to a study published by OurWorldinData.org.

Apart from the Tullahan River, SMC is also working with the Departments of Environment and Natural Resources and Public Works and Highways to finalize the permits and dredging plans needed to commence the five-year program to dredge the 27-kilometer Pasig River.



1 ton of garbage collected in coastal cleanup in Tagum City

Published July 26, 2021, 3:03 PM

by [Zea Capistrano](#)



A total of 1,000 kilograms of garbage were collected in a coastal clean up organized by the Coast Guard District Southeastern Mindanao (CGDSEM) in the coastal area of Hijo Resources Corporation (HRC) on Sunday, July 25. (Photo courtesy of CGDSEM)

DAVAO CITY – The Coast Guard District of Southeastern Mindanao (CGDSEM) and its partners collected a total of 1,000 kilograms of garbage in the coastal area in Tagum City on Sunday, July 25.

In a statement on Monday, CG Commodore Allan Corpuz, CGDSEM Commander said: "Your PCG is the frontline in upholding safer and cleaner marine environment, this is our role to preserve the bountiful marine resources of Davao region."

The coastal clean up was held in the coastal area of Hijo Resources Corporation (HRC) and was organized by the Coast Guard together with HRC, Junior Chamber International (JCI) Kadayawan, Royal Davao Eagles Club (RDEC), PENRO Davao del Norte, Perfect Milling Coporations, Vapurr, and the City Environmental and Natural Resources Office Tagum City.

The CGDSEM also planted 800 mangroves in the four-hectare of land area in HRC.

Hijo President and CEO Rosanna Tuason-Fores thanked the PCG for its initiative in protecting and preserving the marine biodiversity of the area.

Tuason-Fores also revealed that the area will soon be a diving spot that will be opened for tourists visiting Davao del Norte.

Source: <https://mb.com.ph/2021/07/26/1-ton-of-garbage-collected-in-coastal-cleanup-in-tagum-city/>

Climate action must happen 'for our people, not to them', cities say

A shift to a greener economy should bring social benefits, especially for the poorest, or 'the politics will end up against us'.



Barcelona residents sit and talk at a street corner where the city has added plants and benches to create greener, healthier neighbourhoods, in Barcelona, Spain, December 20, 2020. Image: Megan Rowling/Thomson Reuters Foundation

[Thomson Reuters Foundation](#)

July 26, 2021

Efforts to push low-carbon lifestyles and green energy to curb climate change will fail unless many people see benefits — and the poorest and most vulnerable should get the biggest gains, leading mayors and other city officials urged Friday.

"The journey to net-zero (emissions) has to happen with and [for our people](#), not to them," warned Susan Aitken, leader of the city council in Glasgow, the Scottish city that will host the COP26 UN climate negotiations in November.

"It can't be about just telling our poorest residents what they have to give up ... (It) has to show how to take advantage of this changing world," she said during an online event marking 100 days until the key talks.

More than a half-century later, Glasgow is still battling social deprivation as a result of the city's painful industrial decline starting in the 1950s, Aitken said.



Climate action must happen 'for our people, not to them', cities say

That has made clear that as a new major economic shift gets underway to try to ward off surging climate threats, “anything but a [just transition](#) we will come to regret”, she said.

Nigel Topping, Britain’s high-level climate action champion for COP26, said failure to make sure the coming green shift was fair and benefitted the poor as well as the rich would derail it.

“If we don’t do it inclusively, the politics will end up being against us,” he said during the event organised by the C40 Cities network of major cities pushing for swifter action on climate change.

[Cities](#) have been at the forefront of government climate action over the last decade, with many declaring net-zero emissions goals long before countries or businesses followed suit.

Today more than 750 global cities have pledged to reach net-zero emissions by mid-century, said David Miller, director of international diplomacy for C40.

As efforts to act more swiftly on climate threats build globally, “cities can show national governments the leadership that’s required,” said London Mayor Sadiq Khan.

Providing jobs, more affordable energy, more comfortable homes and better access to carbon-absorbing green spaces for all residents — including the poor — is a key part of that push, the mayors said.

Ada Colau, Barcelona’s mayor, pointed to efforts in her city to launch a new company to supply green electricity, resulting in both lower emissions and cheaper power for residents.

Mohammed Adjei Sowah, the mayor of Ghana’s capital of Accra, said his city’s push to cut emissions involved recognising that informal workers make up at least 75 per cent of the city’s workforce and trying to bring them into new jobs that are green and more stable.

“To ensure a truly just transition... we cannot afford to ignore the informal sector in the things we are doing,” he said.

Sharan Burrow, general secretary of the International Trade Union Confederation, said ensuring a low-carbon transition focuses as much on jobs and families as cutting emissions is vital to its success.

“We know our common security is based not just on having a healthy planet but secure jobs with decent work, where people have opportunities for themselves and the future,” she said.

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World needs to act vs climate, UN tells G20



By Xinhua

July 27, 2021

UNITED NATIONS: UN Secretary-General António Guterres on Sunday (Monday in Manila) called for leadership of the [Group of 20](#) (G20) on global climate action.

"The world urgently needs a clear and unambiguous commitment to the 1.5-degree goal of the [Paris Agreement](#) from all G20 nations. There is no pathway to this goal without the leadership of the G20," he said in a statement at the G20 ministerial meeting on environment, climate and energy.

"This signal is desperately needed by the billions of people already on the front lines of the climate crisis and by markets, investors and industry who require certainty that a net-zero climate-resilient future is inevitable," he said.

Science shows that in order to meet this ambitious, yet achievable goal, the world must achieve carbon neutrality before 2050 and cut dangerous greenhouse gas emissions by 45 percent by 2030 from 2010 levels. But the world is way off track, said Guterres.

With less than 100 days left before the [UN Climate Change Conference](#) in [Glasgow, Scotland](#), he urged all G20 and other leaders to commit to net-zero by mid-century, present more ambitious 2030 national climate plans and deliver on concrete policies and actions aligned with a net-zero future, including no new coal after 2021, phasing out fossil fuel subsidies and agreeing to a minimum international carbon pricing floor as proposed by the [International Monetary Fund](#).

The [Group of Seven](#) and other developed countries must also deliver on a credible solidarity package of support for developing countries, including meeting the \$100-billion goal, increasing adaptation and resilience support to at least 50 percent of total climate finance and getting public and multilateral development banks to significantly align their climate portfolios to meet the needs of developing countries, he said.

Guterres said he intended to use the opportunity of the upcoming UN General Assembly high-level session to bring leaders together to reach a political understanding on these critical elements of the package needed for Glasgow.



A climate agenda for the G20

This month, G20 leaders should remember that only they have the clout to put the world on the right path.



Climate change-induced drought in Mongolia. Image: [Asian Development Bank](#), [CC BY-NC-ND 2.0](#) via Flickr



By [Luca Bergamaschi](#)
July 26, 2021

Late last year, at their summit in Riyadh, G20 leaders identified climate change as one of the most pressing challenges of the twenty-first century. “As we recover from the pandemic,” their [communiqué](#) read, “we are committed to safeguarding our planet and building a more environmentally sustainable and inclusive future for all people.” That commitment hasn’t quite materialised.

To be sure, the carbon intensity of the energy supply in G20 countries is declining. Coal use is falling, power-sector pollution is edging down, and a host of new clean-transport policies is being rolled out. G20-led initiatives to encourage businesses to disclose climate risks are [starting to bear fruit](#).

But none of this is happening fast enough to make a real dent in emissions, not least because G20 countries are also quietly funneling cash toward carbon-intensive sectors. According to [Vivid Economics](#), of the \$4.6 trillion the world’s leading economies pumped into the agriculture, industry, waste, energy, and transport sectors as part of their pandemic-relief packages, less than \$1.8 trillion was “green.”

Source: <https://www.eco-business.com/opinion/a-climate-agenda-for-the-g20/>

27 JULY 2021, Tuesday



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Philippines logs 6,664 more COVID-19 cases

(PhilStar.com)

- July 26, 2021 - 4:02pm



Residents receive a dose of Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine at FilOil Flying V Center in San Juan City on July 21, 2021.

MANILA, Philippines — Health authorities on Monday reported 6,664 new coronavirus cases, bringing the country's total to 1,555,396.

Today's numbers saw active cases up by 878 from July 25's 54,262. The Department of Health said eight laboratories failed to submit testing results.

- Active cases: 55,140 or 3.5% of the total
- Recoveries: 5,766, bringing the number to 1,473,009
- Deaths: 23, or now 27,247 in total
- Delta variant threat looming
- DOH urged [protesters](#) during President Rodrigo Duterte's final State of the Nation Address to keep following health protocols amid the threat of the Delta variant of COVID-19.
- A health official said 9 of the total [Delta](#) cases are vaccinated for COVID-19. Most showed mild to no symptoms at all, while two who died from the variant were unvaccinated.
- Government figures showed there are now [6.08 million](#) fully inoculated against COVID-19. The number is out of the total target of 70 million.
- The Quezon City government confirmed that a [resident](#) who returned from abroad had been infected with the Delta variant.

Source: <https://www.philstar.com/headlines/2021/07/26/2115339/philippines-logs-6664-more-covid-19-cases/amp/>



COVID-19 tumataas sa Metro Manila, 5 pang lugar - DOH

By [Ludy Bermudo](#)(Pilipino Star Ngayon)
- July 27, 2021 - 12:00am



Ayon kay Health Undersecretary Maria Rosario Vergeire, kabilang dito ang Metro Manila, Cagayan Valley, Central Luzon, Calabarzon, Central Visayas, at Northern Mindanao, na mula sa pagkakaroon ng negatibo, ay nakapagtala na ngayon ng positive two-week case growth rate.

MANILA, Philippines — Anim na rehiyon sa bansa ang binabantayan ngayon ng Department of Health (DOH) matapos makitaan ng pagtaas ng COVID-19 cases nitong mga nakalipas na araw.

Ayon kay Health Undersecretary Maria Rosario Vergeire, kabilang dito ang Metro Manila, Cagayan Valley, Central Luzon, Calabarzon, Central Visayas, at Northern Mindanao, na mula sa pagkakaroon ng negatibo, ay nakapagtala na ngayon ng positive two-week case growth rate.

Aniya, ang reproduction number sa Metro Manila ay nasa 1.009, 0.95 sa Cagayan Valley, 1.12 sa Central Luzon, 0.98 sa Calabarzon, 1 sa Central Visayas, at 0.91 sa Northern Mindanao.

Ang reproduction number, o ang bilang ng mga taong naihahawa ng isang pasyente ng sakit, na nasa 1 o mas mataas pa, ay indikasyon nang pagkakaroon ng sustained COVID-19 transmission.

Samantala, kinumpirma rin ni Vergeire na ang mga rehiyon ng Cordillera, na may reproduction rate na 0.96, at Ilocos, na may 1.09, ay nakakapagtala rin ng positive two-week case growth rate sa loob ng anim na linggo na.

Ang Northern Mindanao, na may reproduction rate na 0.91, at Davao region na may 0.95, ay masusi ring minu-monitor dahil sa kanilang mataas na ICU utilization rate.

Bukod pa rito ang 26 na lalawigan na nakapagtala ng mataas na average daily attack rate (ADAR) at low hanggang moderate-risk two-week case growth rate.



COVID-19 tumataas sa Metro Manila, 5 pang lugar - DOH

Hindi tinukoy ni Vergeire kung anu-anong lalawigan ang mga ito.

Kinumpirma naman ni Vergeire na ang mga kaso ng sakit sa buong bansa ay tumaas ng 1% mula Hulyo 11-24, kumpara sa mga kaso noong Hunyo 27 hanggang Hulyo 10, at ang reproduction number ay nasa 1.0059.

Sa kabila nito, nilinaw ni Vergeire na hindi pa ito matatawag na surge sa ngayon.



PH Covid-19 recoveries rise by 5K to 1,473,009

By Ma. Teresa Montemayor July 26, 2021, 5:45 pm



MANILA – The nation's overall tally of coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) patients who beat the disease have reached 1,473,009 as 5,766 new recoveries were recorded as of Monday.

The Department of Health (DOH) said the figure is equivalent to a 94.7-percent recovery rate from a total of 1,555,396 infections since the start of the pandemic last year.

The DOH also tallied 6,664 new confirmed cases, bringing the total number of active cases in the country to 55,140 or 3.5 percent of all cases.

Of the active cases, 93.6 percent are mild, 1.1 percent are asymptomatic, 2.3 percent are severe, 1.61 percent are moderate, and 1.4 percent are in critical condition.

Also logged were 23 new fatalities, raising the death toll to 27,247 or 1.75 percent of the total cases.

The DOH said 23 duplicates were removed from the total case count as nine of those were actually recoveries.

Meanwhile, 17 cases previously tagged as recoveries were reclassified as deaths after final validation.

According to DOH data on July 24, about 13.4 percent of 45,369 who were tested turned out positive for Covid-19.

All laboratories were operational on July 24 while one laboratory was not able to submit their data to the Covid-19 Document Repository System.

Based on data in the last 14 days, the three non-reporting laboratories contribute, on average, 2.3 percent of samples tested and 2.0 percent of positive individuals.

To date, 58 percent of 3,500 intensive care unit beds, 47 percent of 19,600 isolation beds, 44 percent of 12,200 ward beds, and 39 percent of 2,800 ventilators dedicated to patients with Covid-19 are in use nationwide.



PH Covid-19 recoveries rise by 5K to 1,473,009

In Metro Manila, 46 percent of 1,100 intensive care unit beds, 41 percent of 4,700 isolation beds, 36 percent of 3,500 ward beds, and 37 percent of 1,000 ventilators dedicated to patients with Covid-19 are being used. (PNA)



[Quezon City confirms first Covid-19 Delta variant case](#)

JUL 26, 2021, 5:31 PM



Santiago Celario
Writer

Quezon City Mayor Joy Belmonte expressed confidence that the entire city government is capable of handling the new case of the Covid-19 Delta variant in the city.

The Quezon City government has reported its first case of the Covid-19 Delta variant today (July 26).

In a press statement, the city government said the new case was a returning Overseas Filipino Worker (OFW) from Saudi Arabia, who is also a resident of Quezon City.

The 34-year old male OFW arrived on June 24 and stayed in a hotel in Makati for 10 days before transferring to another hotel in Manila from July 4 to 11.

He experienced a slightly itchy throat on June 28 and was swabbed on June 30.

He was considered recovered and was allowed to go home to his family on July 11.



[Quezon City confirms first Covid-19 Delta variant case](#)

However, the result of his sequenced sample was relayed to the Quezon City Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit (CESU) Sunday evening, and the unit immediately made arrangements for another round of swab tests for him and his close family contacts today.

He and his family have been under strict home quarantine since last night.

"He will undergo another swab test, along with his family, as part of our protocol even if he is considered a recovered patient. We are doing extensive contact tracing on his close contacts just to make sure," CESU head Dr. Rolly Cruz said.

Quezon City Mayor Joy Belmonte expressed confidence that CESU and the entire city government are capable of handling the case.

"We have put in place extensive measures in preparation for the Delta variant and we continue to exert all effort to contain its possible spread. What is important is that we are intensifying testing and aggressive contact tracing," Mayor Belmonte said.

Last July 14, the city government formed Task Force Delta Variant, which identified key areas to concentrate on, including revisiting the city's disease surveillance, active case finding, and contact tracing capacity; its testing capability, and the efficiency of its molecular laboratory in processing specimens; reviewing its isolation and quarantine protocols and the status and bed capacity of its HOPE facilities; and assessing equipment and manpower resources of hospitals handling moderate to severe cases.

Task Force Disiplina was also ordered to ramp up monitoring and inspection, to ensure that minimum health protocols are followed in all public places.

The city government, through CESU, is also closely coordinating with another local government unit regarding a possible local transmission of the Delta variant.

CESU learned that a male patient who resides in another city but works in a factory in Quezon City contacted the Covid-19 variant.

His pregnant wife also tested positive for Covid-19.

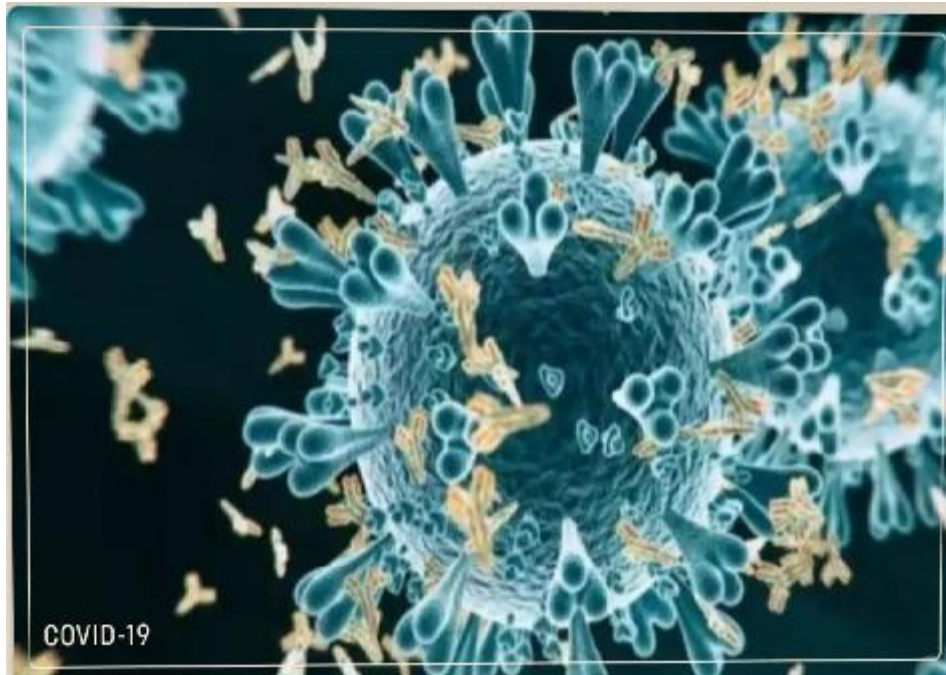
CESU has been conducting contact tracing and swabbing at his place of work since Saturday.

"There are no reported cases yet at his place of work but we are doing this as a preventive measure to make sure we contain any possible transmission this early," Dr. Cruz said.

Based on available information, the factory worker experienced shortness of breathing, colds, fever, and sore throat on July 4 and tested positive the day after.

He was admitted to the Philippine General Hospital on July 5 and was discharged on July 18. His wife, who was asymptomatic, was tested on July 8 and turned out positive the next day. She tested positive again on July 17.

They are staying at a quarantine facility in another city until the end of the month. (SC)



[Cause for concern: 55 new Delta variant cases reported](#)

JUL 26, 2021, 12:54 PM



Opinyon News Team
News Reporter

Health authorities urged the public anew to strictly adhere to stricter minimum public health standards as an additional 55 new cases of the Delta variant were reported on July 25.

Fifty-five additional cases of the more transmissible Delta variant of the coronavirus, first detected in India, were confirmed by the Department of Health (DOH) on Sunday (July 25), bringing the total number of Delta cases to 119.

Aside from the Delta variant, the DOH said in a statement that new cases of the Alpha variant (94), Beta variant (179), and Theta variant (9) were similarly detected, based on the latest whole-genome sequencing report by the University of the Philippines-Philippine Genome Center (UP-PGC), and the University of the Philippines-National Institutes of Health (UP-NIH).

Overall, 103 recovered, 12 are recuperating and four have died, including one of the 55, according to the report.

Thirty-seven of the 55 new cases were local cases with indicated addresses: 14 from Calabarzon, eight from Northern Mindanao, six from the National Capital Region, six from Central Luzon, two from Davao Region, and one from the Ilocos Region.

The remaining 17 were Returning Overseas Filipinos (ROFs), and one case was being verified whether it is a local or ROF case.



[Cause for concern: 55 new Delta variant cases reported](#)

Other variants

Of the new 94 Alpha variant cases, 87 were local cases, one ROF, and six were under verification.

Based on the case line list, one remains active, two cases have died, and 91 cases were tagged as recovered.

To date, the Alpha variant, first detected in the United Kingdom, was seen in 1,773 cases in the Philippines.

For the 179 Beta variant cases, 168 were local cases, four ROFs, and seven cases were being verified.

Two are still active, one died, 175 have recovered, and one was being verified. The total Beta variant cases is now at 2,019.

All new nine P.3 variant cases are local cases and have recovered.

While the P.3 variant has been reclassified as “alert for further monitoring”, it is still being investigated and information are continually collected to monitor its public health implication.

The total P.3 variant cases is at 244.

To date, the UP-PGC has sequenced a total of 9,351 samples.

Health authorities urged the public anew to strictly adhere to stricter minimum public health standards and continue to avoid enclosed spaces and mass gatherings with the detection of local cases with the Delta variant and other variants of concern.

(ONT/With report from PNA)



SALBABIDA KAILANGAN VS DELTA VARIANT AT KALAMIDAD



July 26, 2021 @ 1:08 PM 17 hours ago

NAKALULUNOD at nakamamatay ang mga bahang likha ng tag-ulan na dumating na sa Pilipinas at pandemyang dulot ng naman ng coronavirus disease-19 o COVID-19, partikular ang Delta variant.

Kaya naman, magsuot na tayo ng mga karampatang salbabida o proteksyon laban sa baha at pandemya.

Kung noong una, pagdating ng tag-ulan at tagbagyo, tayo'y nagsasalbabida laban sa baha, pagkawasak ng mga tahanan, pagkakasakit na taglay ng tag-ulan, landslide, storm surge, habagat, gutom at paghihirap at iba pa, ngayon, may kakambal na ang mga ito at ito na ngang COVID-19.

Alam na nating lahat kung paano iginuguho ng COVID-19 ang ating buhay gaya ng pagkawala o labis na kakulangan ngayon sa pagkakitaan at kabuhayan, pagkawala o pagkasanla ng ating mga pundar mula bahay at lupa hanggang sa mga sasakyan at gamit sa produksyon o kalakal at kabuhayan at iba pa dahil sa napakamamahal na pagkakaospital, pagkamatay at cremation, pagkakaroon ng malaking utang ang pamahalaan para sa ating kapakanan at iba pa.

SALBABIDA LABAN SA TAG-ULAN, TAGBAGYO

Siyempre pa, aktuwal na salbabida ang gamit ng mga mangingisda sa kanilang paghahanapbuhay at maging ng mga nagse-search and rescue.

Napakahalagang salbabida rin ang ating mga bangka at lahat ng gamit ng pamahalaan na sasakyang panlupa, pantubig at panghimpapawid sa mga pangkaligtasang gawain.



SALBABIDA KAILANGAN VS DELTA VARIANT AT KALAMIDAD

Ang mga evacuation center ay proteksyon din laban sa kalamidad, gutom at kahirapan.

Gayundin ang mga babala ng weather bureau at pagtatayo ng mga pambansa at local government unit ng mga sentro ng komunikasyon, internet at iba pa.

SUSING SALBABIDA

Gaya ng dati nating mga ginagawa, susing salbabida sa lahat ang mahigpit na ugnayan at pagtutulungan ng pamahalaan at mga mamamayan.

Mula sa nasa 110 milyong mamamayan, may 90 milyong mamamayang nagkakaedad ng 12 hanggang pitong milyong senior citizen na kung magtulong-tulong at makikapit-bisig sa pamahalaan, ay kaya nating labanan ang mga kalamidad na dulot ng masamang panahon.

Ang piso-piso nga lang na ihuhulog ng milyones na na mamamayan bilang ayuda tuwing may kailangan ang mga nasasalanta ay napakalaking halaga.

Huwag lang itong haluan ng korapsyon o pagsasamantala at tiyakin na makarating kahit sentimo sa mga nangangailangan.

Gaya ng alam nating lahat, ginagawa rin ng pamahalaang Duterte na ang buwis ng lahat ay babalik din sa atin na sinasalanta.

LABAN SA COVID-19

Tuwing nag-uulat ang Department of Health, laging ilang libo araw-araw ang tinataman ng pandemya, kasama ang naglalaro sa 100 na patay.

'Yang nasa 55,000 na aktibong kaso ng COVID-19 ay nakakalat sa buong bansa kaya malaking panganib ang mga ito sa lahat ng mamamayan.

Lalo ngayong may naihalo nang mga anak ng COVID-19 na mababagsik at pinakahuli rito ang Delta variant.

Alam naman natin na sa India at Indonesia, araw-araw na may mahigit 1,000 silang patay at nasa 40,000-50,000 din ang bagong kaso.

Nagaganap lahat ng ito sa pananalasa ng naghalo-halong orig na COVID-19 at mga anak nitong mga Delta mula sa India, Alpha mula sa United Kingdom at Beta mula sa South Africa.

Mabiis nang kumakalat ang Delta variant sa mahal kong Pinas na sa huling ulat ay 64 kaso na dahil higit na nakahahawa at nakamamatay ito kaysa sa orig at ibang variants at ito nga ang nagaganap sa India at Indonesia.

MGA SALBABIDA LABAN SA PANDEMYA

Naririyang pagtatag ng border control ng pamahalaan o pagharang ng mga taong pumapasok sa Pinas mula sa mga bansang India, Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Oman at United Arab Emirates.



SALBABIDA KAILANGAN VS DELTA VARIANT AT KALAMIDAD

Nariryan din ang pagbili ng bakuna kahit mahal dahil hidi sapat ang ibinibigay ng Covax facility ng World Health Organization at donasyon ng ibang bansa.

Nagpapasalamat tayo at nahaharang nang malaki ang pagpasok ng mga dayuhang may COVID-19 subalit wala tayong magawa kundi tanggapin ang mga dumarating nating kalahi na ngayo'y pinagmumulan ng maraming Delta variant.

Nagpapasalamat din tayo at may 4 milyon nang nagpabakuna nang buo at kasama ang mga ito ng nasa 14 milyong nang nabakunahan, karamiha'y unang turok.

Noong una, pangunahing salbabida natin ang ma health protocol gaya ng pagsusuot ng face mask, face shield, social distancing, paghuhugas ng kamay, contact tracing at iba pa.

Bakuna na ngayon ang pangunahin pero laging kulang dahil nakikipag-agawan tayo nito sa ibang mga bansa.

Kaya naman, gawin nating pantay ang halaga ng mga health protocol at bakuna dahil kahit nabakunahan na tayo, pwede pa rin tayong mahawa at makahawa ng iba.



Duterte says PH may go back to 'early days' due to Delta threat

By [CNN Philippines Staff](#)

Published Jul 26, 2021 8:44:41 PM

Updated Jul 26, 2021 11:30:00 PM



Metro Manila (CNN Philippines, July 26) — While the country cannot afford more lockdowns, it may go back to the “early days” if the threat of the Delta variant persists, President Rodrigo Duterte said Monday.

“We cannot afford more lockdowns, lest our economy bleeds to the point of irreversible damage,” Duterte said in his final State of the Nation Address.

“Delta, if ever it will spread, we have it here now, I hope it will not go any further, but if something wrong happens, I’ll have to be strict... There will be (lockdowns) just like what happened in the early days,” he added.

Early last year, Duterte placed Luzon under enhanced community quarantine for two months to help stem the spread of the coronavirus.

Duterte admitted he does not know how to handle the Delta variant, adding that he is awaiting the recommendation of local health experts on what measures to take.

“I really do not know what to do. I have to listen to the task force. This is a group of people... [who] would give you advice collectively,” he said.

The Philippines so far has recorded 64 Delta variant cases.

The Department of Health earlier confirmed there is already a local transmission of the highly contagious Delta variant. Healthcare workers warned the Philippines may not be able to handle its severe impact, similar to what Indonesia is experiencing. The government, however, said it has been increasing the capacity of local hospitals as it prepares for a “worst-case scenario.”



Duterte says PH may go back to 'early days' due to Delta threat

Center for disease control

Duterte also appealed to Congress to pass a law creating the country's own center for disease control and a virology institute.

"We have to pursue the creation of public entities dedicated to managing emerging and re-emerging diseases," he said.

Several bills establishing the country's CDC have been filed in Congress.

Senator Richard Gordon, one of the proponents of the measure, said the creation of a CDC and a virology institute should have been done decades ago.

"That is a step in the right direction, but should have been done 20 years ago," he told CNN Philippines.

"It is time to have a machinery na talagang titignan [that will look] 20 years from now, where are we headed and we fine tune as we go along."

For now, the President urged Filipinos to get vaccinated, as well as complete the recommended doses as scheduled.

He also asked for understanding from those who are next in line to receive the COVID-19 shots as he assured them that more vaccines will arrive in the country.

The government is expecting the arrival of a total of 36 million vaccine doses this month, he said.



#OneDENR

Covid-19
Situation and Response



Presidential Communications (Government of the Philippines) ✓

...

22h · 🌐

Kahit may ilang lugar na sumasailalim na sa General Community Quarantine o GCQ, pinapaalalahanan pa rin ang lahat na patuloy na sundin ang minimum public health standards tulad ng paghuhugas ng kamay, pagpapanatili ng safe physical distancing, at pagsusuot ng face mask at face shield upang hindi mahawa sa COVID-19.

Panoorin ang video na ito upang malaman ang mga alituntunin na ipinatutupad sa mga lugar na nasa ilalim ng GCQ.

#BuhayGCQ
#LagingHandaPH
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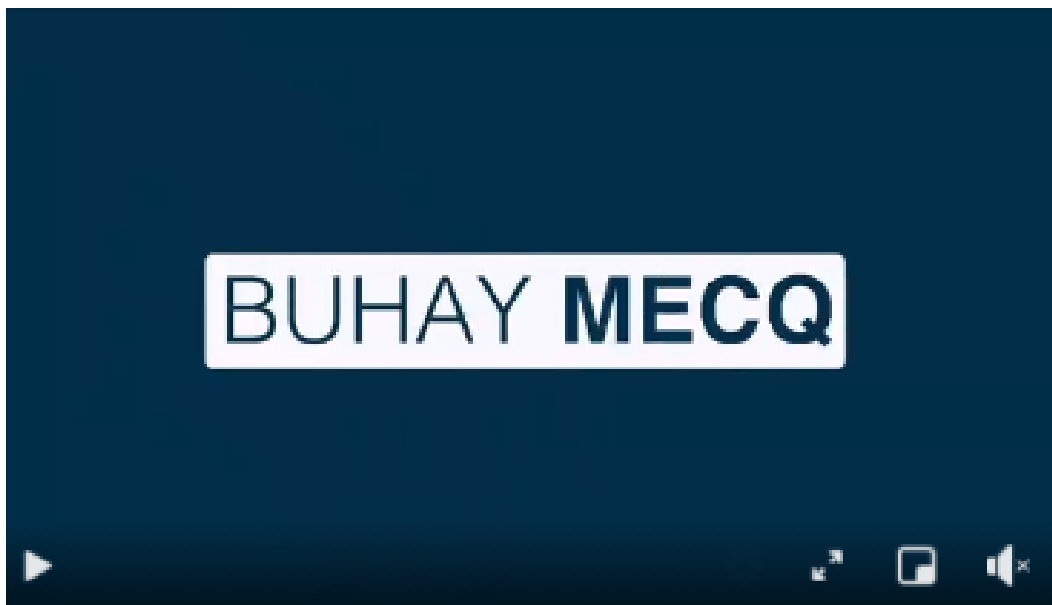
Presidential Communications (Government of the Philippines) 



23h · 

Ang Modified Enhanced Community Quarantine ay ang transition phase sa pagitan ng ECQ at GCQ. Ibig sabihin, bahagyang luluwagan ang ilang quarantine measures pero hinihikayat pa rin ang publiko na manatili sa loob ng bahay. Sundin ang minimum public health standards tulad ng tamang paghuhugas ng kamay, pagsusuot ng facemask o faceshield at pagpapanatili ng safe physical distancing.

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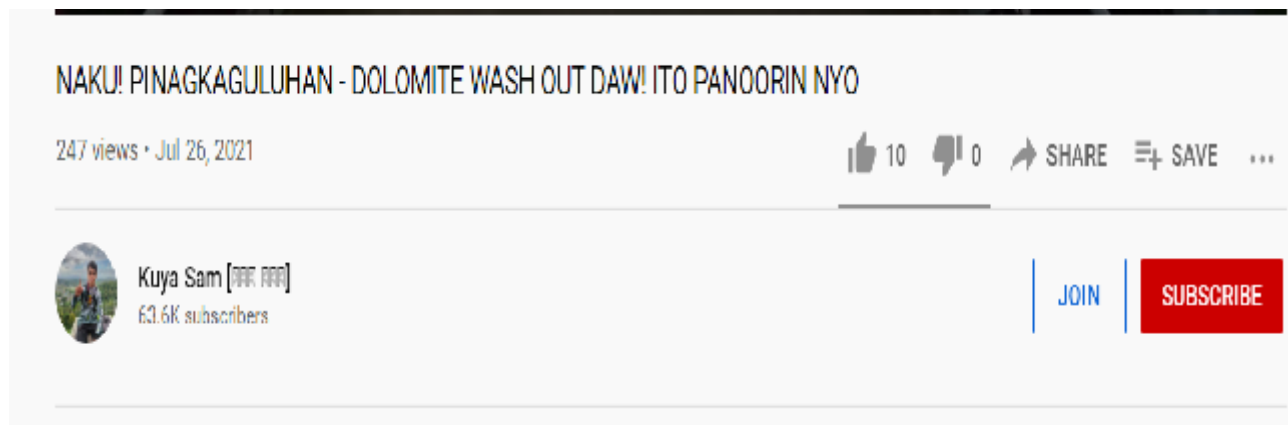
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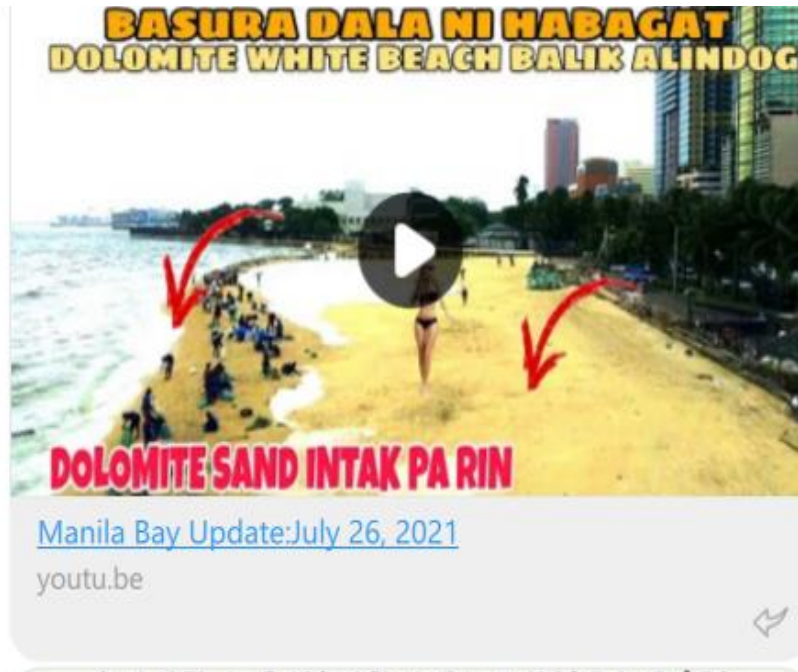
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